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A NEW

ENGLISH DICTIONARY

ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES.

VOLUME VII. O, P.

HENRY FROWDE, M.A.
PUBLISHER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
LONDON, EDINBURGH, NEW YORK
TORONTO AND MELBOURNE

A NEW

ENGLISH DICTIONARY

ON HISTORICAL PRINCIPLES;

FOUNDED MAINLY ON THE MATERIALS COLLECTED BY

The Philological Society.

EDITED BY

SIR JAMES A. H. MURRAY,

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WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MANY SCHOLARS AND MEN OF SCIENCE.

VOLUME VII. O, P.

PART II. PH TO PY.

By J. A. H. MURRAY.

OXFORD:

AT THE CLARENDON PRESS.

1909.

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PREFACE TO VOLUME VII.

THIS volume contains the words beginning with the letters O and P. Including the Main words, to which separate articles are allotted, the special Combinations or compounds, explained and illustrated under the Main words, and the Subordinate entries of obsolete and variant forms entered in their alphabetical places, with a reference to the Main words under which they are treated and illustrated, the number of words amounts to 41,667. The Combinations of simple and obvious meaning, of which lists are given under the Main words, without separate explanation, but in most cases with illustrative quotations, number 7,203, raising the actual total of words and compounds recorded in the volume to 48,870.

These words are thus distributed among the letters:

	Main words.	Subordinate words.	Special Combinations.	Obvious Combinations	Total No. of Words.	No. of Quotations.
O (356 pages)	7,118	1,198	692	2,173	11,181	38,675
P–Pf (404 ,,)	7,208	1,811	1,281	1,470	11,770	41,880
Ph–Py (896 ,,)	15,974	3,384	3,001	3,560	25,919	94,575
Total	30,300	6,393	4,974	7,203	48,870	175,130

Considered as to their status in the language, the Main words are distinguished approximately into those which are native or fully naturalized, and still *current*, those now *obsolete* (marked †), and those considered to be *alien* or imperfectly naturalized (marked ‖), although in the case of both the latter it is often difficult to draw the line. The distribution of the 30,300 Main words is approximately as follows:

	Current.	Obsolete.	Alien.	Total.
O	5,347	1,506	265	7,118
P–Pf	5,471	1,201	536	7,208
Ph–Py	12,302	2,628	1,044	15,974
Total[1]	23,120	5,335	1,845	30,300

Etymologically considered, the O section and the P section of the English vocabulary differ greatly in the proportions of their elements. O is in this respect an ordinary letter, containing a good proportion of words of Anglo-Saxon derivation, beside those of later adoption, from Scandinavian, Old French, Latin, and Greek, and more distant languages. Among the words that go back to Old English use are the prepositions *of* (to the lexicographer the longest and most difficult of English prepositions, the treatment of which in this Dictionary occupies 18 columns), *off*, *on*, *over*, the adverbs *off*, *oft*, *often*, *out*, the conjunction *or*, the numeral and pronoun *one* with its derivatives *once*, *only*, etc., the pronominal words *other*, *our*, *own*, the verbs *ought*, *owe*, *own*: all of great interest to the student of the historical grammar of the language. There are also numerous well-known substantives, as *oak*, *oakum*, *oar*, *oat*, *oath*, *ooze*, *ordeal*, *oven*, *owl*, and important adjectives as *old* and *open*. To these must be added the words compounded with *out* (1,250, including 775 Main words), and *over* (2,173, including 1,413 Main words). The *out-* and *over*-compounds occupy more than a fourth of O. The words from Latin include the compounds in *ob-* and its phonetic variants, *oc-*, *of-*, *op-*, and important words such as *order* and its family. Among the words from Greek are the numerous compounds in *ortho-*, and the chemical terms related to *oxygen*.

In P, on the other hand, the words that go back to Old English are a very small company. Of the 23,000 Main words here dealt with, about 80 appear in the Anglo-Saxon Dictionary, of which, however,

Adding these to the words in Volumes I–VI, we have for the portion of the alphabet from A to P the following figures:

Main words.	Current.	Obsolete.	Alien.	Subordinate words.	Special Combinations.	Obvious Combinations.	Total.
160,519	146,134	11,197	3,188	40,440	30,139	33,819	264,917

For the letters O and P, the comparative scale of this work and of certain other Dictionaries is shown by the following figures:

	Johnson.	Cassell's Encyclopædic.	'Century' Dict.	'Funk's Standard.'	Here
Words recorded	4,485	19,873	25,685	27,097	48,870
Words illustrated by quotations	3,661	6,337	8,368	2,379	38,365
Number of illustrative quotations	12,111	9,642	20,340	3,243	175,130

The quotations in Richardson's Dictionary in O and P are 9,640.

50 were borrowings from Latin, leaving only about 30 really 'native', most of them found in other Germanic languages. Among the chief of these are *pan, path, penny, pith, play, plight, plough, pock, pool, pretty, prick, puff, pull, put.* Of these the two last scarcely appear in Old English, but have since become verbs of great importance; the article PUT is, after GO, the longest as yet in the Dictionary, and has proved one of the most difficult. From causes stated in the article on the letter P, this was the rarest initial consonant in Old English, occupying in Bosworth-Toller's Anglo-Saxon Dictionary only one-fifth of the space of O. But its constant accessions from other languages, and apparently its aptitude to form onomatopœic words, have made it in the modern dictionary next in compass to S and C, with which it forms a triad of gigantic letters, containing together considerably more than a fourth of all the words in the language. The accessions began with the 50 words from Latin already mentioned, some, like *pile, pit,* and *pound,* of West Germanic age, but most of them only pre-Conquest English, either ecclesiastical, as *pall, pope, priest, prime,* or names of foreign plants and animals, as *parsley, pear, pease, pepper, pea(cock).* The accessions continued with the words from Old French, in origin mostly Latin, and subsequently with words formed directly from Latin (sometimes ultimately from Greek), and also, from the 16th century, in the terminology of philosophy and science, from Greek directly. From the 16th century, words began to crowd in from other European and more distant tongues, until now there are to be found in the P division of this volume representatives of more than 50 languages. To these have been added a considerable number of words of unknown origin, many no doubt onomatopœias of English or its dialects. The compass of the letter has been greatly enlarged by the words formed with the Latin prefixes *per-, post-, pre-, pro-* (with its OF. form *pur-*), and with the Greek prefixes *para-, peri-, pro-,* and the formatives *pan-, panto-, philo-, poly-, pseudo-, pyro-,* etc. The words in PH are an alien group, representing (with few exceptions) Greek words in Φ, for which Roman spelling substituted PH, and which thus come in between PE- and PI-, at once to swell the P vocabulary and to increase its Greek elements. Of the 23,000 Main words in P, nearly 7,900—more than one-third of the whole,—are of Greek derivation, or are formed with a Greek prefix or first element. This is a proportion much larger than obtains in the language as a whole.

The material collected up to 1885 for O to OM- was arranged chronologically and in part sub-edited by Miss Margaret Haig, of Blairhill, Stirlingshire (now Mrs. Alexander Stuart). The section OO- to OPPROBRIUM was skilfully sub-edited by the late Rev. W. J. Löwenberg, of Starkies, Bury, 1887–96, who died in 1899, before seeing any part of O in type. The section OPPUGN to OW- was sub-edited 1895–6 by Mr. James Bartlett, of Cloverlea, Bramley, Guildford, who after more than 20 years' voluntary work at the Dictionary, during which he sub-edited also G, parts of M, R, and S, died on 15 August, 1908. The very technical section from OX to OZ- was arranged and sub-edited by Mr. H. A. Nesbitt, B.A. in 1895. For PA-, the material collected by the Philological Society had, in consequence of the death of the person who undertook its sub-editing, been nearly all lost or destroyed. It had in consequence to be collected anew, which was largely done by the late Mr. E. S. Jackson, M.A., Plymouth; as it accumulated, it was arranged, and finally sub-edited, 1882–7, by the late Miss J. E. A. Brown, of Cirencester. The slips for PE- to PELY- were sub-edited in 1884 by Mr. James Britton, F.L.S.; those for PEM- to PERP- by Mr. R. M'Lintock, of Liverpool, in 1885 and 1893–6; and those for PERS- to PIL- by Mr. W. J. Anderson, then of Markinch, who died in February, 1900. The large section PIM- to PROF- was laboriously sub-edited by Miss J. E. A. Brown, one of the most devoted and enthusiastic of our volunteer helpers, between 1900 and her sudden death on 19 February, 1907. Her work was ably continued, PROFIT to PRY, by the late Mr. C. B. Winchester, in 1907–8. The earlier material for PR- to PU- had been put in order by the late Mr. P. W. Jacob in 1885. The whole section PE- to PHY- was revised, with much new material, 1901–4, by our valued coadjutor the Rev. C. B. Mount, M.A., who also sub-edited, with much original research, the last section PS- to PYXIS in 1904–7. The generous and, in many cases, long-continued services of these voluntary collaborators, so few of whom, alas! survive, call for the fullest and most grateful recognition.

In the revision and improvement of the work in the proof stage, continuous and indefatigable help has been rendered by Misses E. P. and Edith Thompson, of Lansdown, Bath, whose investigations of the sense-history of difficult words, have been most fruitful and valuable; also by the Rev. Canon Fowler, D.C.L., Durham, the Rev. J. B. Johnston, B.D., Falkirk, Mr. A. Caland, of Wageningen, Holland, Monsieur F. J. Amours, Glasgow, and in later parts by Professor F. E. Bumby, Nottingham. Assistance with the proofs has been only a small part of the gratuitous services rendered to the Dictionary by Mr. R. J. Whitwell, B.Litt. Oxon., who has contributed to the history of legal, historical, and other words by special investigations in the Bodleian and Codrington Libraries, the British Museum, and the Public Record Office. Many of our earlier illustrations for such words are the fruit of his researches. Five of our zealous helpers in this department have been removed by death during the preparation of this volume: the Right Hon. Lord Aldenham, who had sub-edited parts of C and K for the Philological Society, and had read our proofs from the beginning, died in September, 1907, Dr. W. Sykes, F.S.A., who supplied

most of our quotations for recent medical terms, died in September, 1906; Mr. E. L. Brandreth, who had sub-edited portions of H, K, and N, besides reading our proofs, and verifying references in the British Museum Library, died in December, 1907; Mr. C. B. Winchester, who, as reader, sub-editor, and, after the death of Mr. Brandreth, collater of quotations in the British Museum, was the most valued of our later volunteer coadjutors, died in December, 1908; Mr. Chichester Hart, of Curraghblagh, Portsalon, Donegal, who added to the proofs many quotations from 16th and 17th century dramatists, died in 1908.

The scholars and men of science who have given their assistance in the present volume include nearly all those who have been named in the Prefaces to volumes V and VI, to whom again grateful thanks are recorded. More especially must mention be made of etymological and philological help rendered by Monsieur Paul Meyer, Membre de l'Institut, Paris, and Professor Eduard Sievers, of Leipzig, both Honorary Fellows of the British Academy. Assistance on points of Etymology and Philology has also been received from Professors Napier, Wright, R. Ellis, Bywater, Margoliouth, Driver, Sanday, Rhŷs, Macdonell, Morfill, Bullock, and from the Readers in Turkish, Persian, Hindustāni, Tamil, and Burmese, in the University of Oxford; from Professors Skeat, and E. G. Browne, and the late Sir R. Jebb, Cambridge; Professors Rhys Davids, Manchester; Weekley, Nottingham; Mackinnon, Edinburgh; Murphy, Dublin; Morris Jones, Bangor; Professors Brandl, Berlin; Kluge, Freiburg; J. 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JAMES A. H. MURRAY.

THE SCRIPTORIUM, OXFORD,
31 *August*, 1909.

ADDITIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Obliterature. = OBLITERATION;—1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Christ. Priesth.* (1847) II. 50 A perfect obliterature of all injuries.

Obscure, *a.* 7 and *v.* 1. Earlier examples:—1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 55 There be other names of cites founde in cronicles obscure to the intellecte. *Ibid.*, That kynge dreamed that . . the bloode of hym obscurede and hidde the sonne.

Obstinative, *sb.* An obstinate tendency;—1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglioni's Courtyer* (1577) I. D ij b, And of these errors there are diuers other causes and among other the obstinatiues of princes.

†**Obsu·rd,** *v. Obs. trans.* To make dull of hearing, deafen:—1639 J. WELLES *Soules Progr.* 109 Old age .. dimmed with blindness, obsurded with deafenes.

O·ccupable, *a. rare.* Capable of being occupied:—1851 WHEWELL *Grotius* I. 256 In things which are properly no-one's, two things are occupable; the lordship, and the ownership.

Octagonian, *a.* Earlier example:—1598 [see HEXAGONIAN].

Ogive. Early example:—1357–8 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* 1907 II. 180 In Lvj pedibus de oggifs empt. per pede iijd. ob. $16^s.$ $4^d.$

Okapi (okā·pi). *African.* A quadruped allied to the giraffe, discovered by Sir Harry Johnston in 1900:—1901 RAY LANKESTER in *Times* 18 June 2/3 After an examination of the skulls I am of opinion that the 'Okapi' (the native name by which the new animal is known) . . must be placed in a new genus.

Omnium 1, **Omnium gatherum.** Quot. 1775 should be dated 1761.

Otherkin. Delete quot. *a* 1275, which reads 'A þre cunne'.

Oudemian. Earlier example:—*a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 345 To meete as that night at Mantinea, in the Oudemian streete, at Charitas vncles house.

Out-be. To be beyond, excel:—1613 B. JONSON *To Earl of Somerset* (ed. Cunninghams III. 465/2) May she . . Outbee that Wife in worth thy friend did make.

Out-dweller. Earlier example:—1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 40 Anie stranger or out-dweller.

Outputter 1. Insert after sense 1:—Publisher. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 587 Sellaris and outputtaris of thair saidis buikis.

Owmawt. *Etym.* For *úmegna* read *úmætta.*

Pachyntic, *a.* Earlier example:—1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pachuntick* Medicines.

Package 1. Earlier example:—1540 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1837) VII. 48 Certain leade . . was stayed at London by the packer for lack of payment of package money.

Pagan. *Etymol.* The explanation of L. *pāgānus* in the sense 'non-Christian, heathen', as arising out of that of 'villager, rustic', given by Orosius (a Spaniard) *c* 417, has been shown to be chronologically and historically untenable, for this use of the word goes back to Tertullian *c* 202, when paganism was still the public and dominant religion, and even appears, according to Lanciani, in an epitaph of the 2nd cent. The explanation is now found in the L. use of *pāgānus* as = 'civilian, non-militant', opposed to *miles* 'soldier, one of the army'. The Christians called themselves *milites* 'enrolled soldiers' of Christ, members of his militant church, and applied to non-Christians the term applied by soldiers to all who were 'not enrolled in the army'. Cf. Tertullian *De Corona Militis* xi, 'Apud hunc [Christum] tam miles est paganus fidelis quam paganus est miles infidelis'. See also GIBBON xxi. *note.*

Pamp. For further evidence of this word: see POMP *v.*[2]

Paper. Earlier (in Latin context) in *Ely Sacr. Rolls* 1341–2 papyr; 1359–60 paper.

Parabolic, *a.* 1. Early example:—*c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* (1860) II. 533 Signified bi likenes in parabolik speche.

Parapet 3. Earlier example:—1795 *Gen. Hist. Liverpool* 73 The foot paths here called parapets.

Parchmenter. Delete 'cf. PASSEMENTER'.

Parliament, *sb.* 5 b. Earlier example:—1583 *Cal. Inner Temple Recds.* (1896) I. 102 Parliament-house.

Particulate, *a.* In reference to organic matter, introduced 1871 by SIR J. BURDON SANDERSON (paper) *On Origin of Bacteria.*

Pelfry. Quots. 1480, 1496, 1565 are removed to PILFER *sb.* In their place insert 1485 *Promp. Parv.* 391/1 (MS. S.) Pelfrey, *spolium.*

Petty, *a.* 1. *Obs. add*: exc. in special collocations: see 5.

-phil. Delete 'Hence also -PHILOUS, q. v.'

Philosophic, *a.* 1 b. Add **Philosophic cotton:** see COTTON 7.

Pintle 2 a. Delete 'fixed erect . . small boats)' the ordinary practice in all cases being to have the pintles on the rudder.

Pleromorph, Plerophory. In etym., correct πληρής to πλήρης.

Plucky 2. Literary example:—1891 G. P. MERRILL *Stones for Build.* 39 Fine grained compact rocks . . break into concave and convex shell-like surfaces . . such stones are called *plucky* by the workmen.

Plump, *sb.*[2] Earlier example:—1477 NORTON in Ashm. *Theat. Chem.* 83 In Plomps . . Where heavie Water ariseth after Ayre.

Podike: see POWDIKE.

Polymicrian (s.v. POLY- 1). Delete '*nonce-wd.*' Earlier example:—1838 *Bagster's Catal.* 22 Polymicrian series of New Testaments [etc.] 32 mo. size.

Pommel, 6 b. Should be a distinct word, a. F. *paumelle* in same sense. Earlier example:—1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 377 The pommel (*paumelle*) is so called because it clothes the palm of the hand.

Port, *sb.*[6] Earlier example:—1543–4 (Jan. 11) *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 92 (Rypper's Depos.) The sayd [ship] mighte have layed his helme a porte.

Portitor. Later example:—1737 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* Lists 213/2 Portitor and Taylor to the great Wardrobe, Mr. John Mills.

Postnares. Read: So **Postnarial** *a.* (*a*) situated behind the nostril: 1866 [see PRENARIAL[2]]; (*b*) belonging to the postnares.

Pourallee. For definition ¶, substitute: b. Subsequently used in the sense PURLIEU, as more fully shown under the form PURALÉ, q. v.

Prehalteres. Earlier:—1840 see *pseudhalteres*: s. v. PSEUDO- 2.

Previdence. In etym. read 'Late Latin'. Early example:—*c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. vi. 83 (Sk.) For which it nis nat y-cleped prevídence, but it sholde rather ben cleped purviaunce.

Principal, *sb.* Earlier examples:—[1 c] 1438 *Early Chan. Proc.* (P. R. O.) 75/11 One Roger Grey, Clerk, principalle of Brasenoce in Oxynforde. [2 d] 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 39 ¶ 24 The Principals put on their Pumps.

Procatalectic, Substitute for definition 'Catalectic in its former colon'. 1843 T. F. BARHAM tr. *Hephæstion* 195.

KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION.

I. CONSONANTS.

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z *have their usual values.*

g as in *g*o (g^{o}u).
h ... *h*o! (h^{o}u).
r ... *r*un (rʊn), ter*r*ier (te·riəɹ).
ɹ ... her (həɹ), far*th*er (fäːɹðəɹ).
s ... *s*ee (sī), *c*ess (ses).
w ... *w*en (wĕn).
hw ... *wh*en (hwen).
y ... *y*es (yes).

þ as in *th*in (þin), ba*th* (baþ).
ð ... *th*en (ðen), ba*th*e (bē^{ə}ð).
ʃ ... *sh*op (ʃɒp), di*sh* (diʃ).
tʃ ... *ch*op (tʃɒp), di*tch* (ditʃ).
ʒ ... vi*s*ion (vi·ʒən), dé*j*euner (deʒöne).
dʒ ... *j*u*dg*e (dʒʊdʒ).
ŋ ... si*ng*ing (si·ŋiŋ), thi*nk* (þiŋk).
ŋg ... fi*ng*er (fiŋgəɹ).

(FOREIGN.)
ã as in *French nasal*, *environ* (ãvi·roñ).
l^{y} ... It. se*r*aglio (se·ä·l^{y}o).
n^{y} ... It. *gn*ore (s*i*n^{y}ō·re).
χ ... Ger. a*ch* (aχ), Sc. lo*ch* (loχ, loχ^{w}).
χ^{y} ... Ger. *ich* (iχ^{y}), Sc. ni*cht* (nĕχ^{y}t).
γ ... Ger. sa*g*en (zä·γĕn).
γ^{y} ... Ger. le*g*en, re*g*nen (lē·γ^{y}ĕn, rē·γ^{y}nĕn).

II. VOWELS.

ORDINARY.

a as in Fr. *à la* mode (a la mod^{y}).
ai ... aye=*y*es (ai), Isa*i*ah (əizai·ə).
æ ... m*a*n (mæn).
ɑ ... p*a*ss (pɑs), ch*a*nt (tʃɑnt).
ɑu ... l*ou*d (lɑud), n*ow* (nɑu).
ɒ ... c*u*t (kɒt), s*o*n (sɒn).
e ... y*e*t (yet), t*e*n (ten).
e ... surv*ey* s*o*. (sə·rve), Fr. attach*é* (ataʃe).
‖ɐ ... Fr. ch*e*f (ʃɐf).
ə ... ev*e*r (evəɹ), nat*i*on (nə·ʃən).
əi ... *I*, *eye*, (əi), b*i*nd (bəind).
‖ɔ ... Fr. eau de vie (ō dɔ vī·).
i ... s*i*t (sit), m*y*stic (mistik).
i ... Psy*ch*e (səi·ki), r*e*act (ri|æ·kt).
o ... ach*o*r (ē·koɹ), m*o*rality (moræ·liti).
oi ... *oi*l (oil), *boy* (boi).
o ... her*o* (hī·ro), z*o*ology (zo|ɒlŏdʒi).
ɒ ... wh*a*t (hwɒt), w*a*tch (wɒtʃ).
ɒ, ɒ* ... g*o*t (gɒt), s*o*ft (sɒft).
‖ö ... Ger. *K*ö*l*n (köln).
‖ö ... Fr. p*eu* (pö).
u ... f*u*ll (ful), b*oo*k (buk).
iu ... d*u*ration (diurē·ʃən).
u ... unt*o* (ə·ntu), fr*u*gality (fru-).
iu ... Matth*ew* (mæ·þiu), virt*ue* (və·itiu).
‖ü ... Ger. M*ü*ller (mü·lĕr).
‖ü ... Fr. d*u*ne (dün).
* (see ī^{o}, ē^{o}, ō^{o}, ū^{o}) } see Vol. I, p. xxiv, note 3.
i, u (see ē^{i}, ō^{u}) }
' as in able (ē·ib'l), eaten (ēt'n) = voice-glide.

LONG.

ā as in *a*lms (ām), b*a*r (bāɹ).
ə̄ ... c*u*rl (kə̄ɹl), f*ur* (fə̄ɹ).
ē (ē^{ə}) ... th*e*re (ðē^{ə}ɹ), p*ea*r, p*a*re (pē^{ə}ɹ).
ē (ē^{i}) ... r*ei*n, r*ai*n (rē^{i}n), th*ey* (ðē^{i}).
ɐ̄ ... Fr. f*ai*re (fɐ̄r').
ō ... f*ir* (fōɹ), f*e*rn (fōɹn), *ea*rth (ōɹþ).
ī (ī^{ə}) ... b*ie*r (bī^{ə}ɹ), cl*ea*r (klī^{ə}ɹ).
ī ... th*ie*f (þīf), *s*ee (sī).
ō (ō^{ə}) ... b*oa*r, b*o*re (bō^{ə}ɹ), gl*o*ry (glō^{ə}·ri).
ō (ō^{u}) ... *so*, *sow* (sō^{u}), *soul* (sō^{u}l).
ɒ̄ ... w*a*lk (wɒ̄k), w*a*rt (wɒ̄ɹt).
ɒ̄ ... sh*o*rt (ʃɒ̄t), th*o*rn (þɒ̄ɹn).
‖õ ... Fr. *c*o*eu*r (kõr).
‖õ ... Ger. G*ö*the (gõtĕ), Fr. j*eû*ne (ʒõn).
ū (ū^{ə}) ... p*oo*r (pū^{ə}ɹ), m*o*orish (mū^{ə}·riʃ).
iū, ^{i}ū ... p*u*re (piū^{ə}ɹ), l*u*re (l^{i}ū^{ə}ɹ).
ū̃ ... *two* m*oo*ns (tū mūnz).
iū̃, ^{i}ū̃ ... *few* (fiū̃), l*u*te (l^{i}ūt).
‖ũ̄ ... Ger. gr*ü*n (grũ̄n), Fr. j*us* (ʒũ̄).

OBSCURE.

ă as in *a*mœba (ămē·bă).
ă̈ ... *a*ccept (ă̈kse·pt), mani*a*c (mē·ni·ă̈k).
ŏ ... datum (dē·tŏm).
ĕ ... mom*e*nt (mō^{u}·mĕnt), several (se·vĕrăl).
ĕ ... sep*a*rate (*adj.*) (se·părĕt).
ė ... add*e*d (æ·dėd), *e*state (ėstē·t).
ĭ ... van*i*ty (væ·nĭti).
ĭ ... r*e*main (rĭmē·n), b*e*lieve (bĭlī·v).
ŏ ... th*eo*ry (þī·ŏri).
ŏ ... v*io*let (vəi·ŏlėt), p*a*rody (pæ·rŏdi).
ǫ̆ ... *au*thority (ǫ̆þo·rĭti).
ǫ̆ ... c*o*nnect (kǫ̆ne·kt), amaz*o*n (æ·măzǫ̆n).
ĭŭ, ^{i}ŭ verd*u*re (və·ɹdiŭɹ), meas*u*re (me·ʒ^{i}ŭɹ).
ŭ̈ ... altog*e*ther (ōltŭ̈ge·ðəɹ).
iŭ ... circ*u*lar (sə·ɹkiŭ̈lăɹ).

ŏ the *o* in *s*oft, of medial or doubtful length.

‖ Only in foreign (or earlier English) words.

In the ETYMOLOGY,

OE. *e*, *o*, representing an earlier *a*, are distinguished as ę, ǫ (having the phonetic value of ę and ǫ, or ǫ above); as in *ęnde* from *andi* (OHG. *anti*, Goth. *andei-s*), *mǫnn* from *mann*, *ǫn* from *an*.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, &c.

a. [in Etymol.] ... = adoption of, adopted from.
a (as *a* 1300) ..... = *ante*, before.
a., adj., adj..... = adjective.
absol., absol. ..... = absolutely.
abst. ..... = abstract.
acc. ..... = accusative.
ad. [in Etymol.]... = adaptation of.
adv., adv. ..... = adverb.
advb. ..... = adverbial, -ly.
AF., AFr. ..... = Anglo-French.
Anat. ..... = in Anatomy.
Antiq. ..... = in Antiquities.
aphet. ..... = aphetic, aphetized.
app. ..... = apparently.
Arab. ..... = Arabic.
Arch. ..... = in Architecture.
arch. ..... = archaic.
Archæol. ..... = in Archæology.
assoc. ..... = association.
Astr. ..... = in Astronomy.
Astrol. ..... = in Astrology.
attrib. ..... = attributive, -ly.
bef. ..... = before.
Biol. ..... = in Biology.
Boh. ..... = Bohemian.
Bot. ..... = in Botany.
Build. ..... = in Building.
c (as *c* 1300) ..... = *circa*, about.
c. (as 13th c.)..... = century.
Cat. ..... = Catalan.
catachr. ..... = catachrestically.
Cf., cf. ..... = *confer*, compare.
Chem. ..... = in Chemistry.
cl. L. ..... = classical Latin.
cogn. w. ..... = cognate with.
collect. ..... = collective, -ly.
colloq. ..... = colloquially.
comb. ..... = combined, -ing.
Comb. ..... = Combinations.
Comm. ..... = in commercial usage.
comp. ..... = compound, composition.
compl. ..... = complement.
Conch. ..... = in Conchology.
concr. ..... = concretely.
conj. ..... = conjunction.
cons. ..... = consonant.
Const., *Const.* ... = Construction, construed with.
Cryst. ..... = in Crystallography.
(D.) ..... = in Davies (Supp. Eng. Glossary).
Da. ..... = Danish.
dat. ..... = dative.
def. ..... = definite.
deriv. ..... = derivative, -ation.
dial., *dial.* ..... = dialect, -al.
Dict. ..... = Dictionary.
dim. ..... = diminutive.
Du. ..... = Dutch.
Eccl. ..... = in ecclesiastical usage.
ellipt. ..... = elliptical, -ly.
e. midl. ..... = east midland (dialect).
Eng. ..... = English.
Ent. ..... = in Entomology.
erron. ..... = erroneous, -ly.
esp., esp. ..... = especially.
etym. ..... = etymology.
euphem. ..... = euphemistically.
exc. ..... = except.
f. [in Etymol.] ... = formed on.
f. (in subordinate entries) ..... = form of.
fem. (*rarely* f.) ... = feminine.
fig. ..... = figurative, -ly.
F., Fr. ..... = French.
freq. ..... = frequently.
Fris. ..... = Frisian.
G., Ger. ..... = German.
Gael. ..... = Gaelic.
gen. ..... = genitive.
gen. ..... = general, -ly.
gen. sign. ..... = general signification.
Geol. ..... = in Geology.
Geom. ..... = in Geometry.
Goth. ..... = Gothic (= Mœso-Gothic).
Gr. ..... = Greek.
Gram. ..... = in Grammar.
Heb. ..... = Hebrew.
Her. ..... = in Heraldry.
Herb. ..... = with herbalists.
Hort. ..... = in Horticulture.
imp. ..... = Imperative.
impers. ..... = impersonal.
impf. ..... = imperfect.
ind. ..... = Indicative.
indef. ..... = indefinite.
inf. ..... = Infinitive.
infl. ..... = influenced.
int. ..... = interjection.
intr. ..... = intransitive.
It. ..... = Italian.
J., (J.) ..... = Johnson (quotation from).
(Jam.)..... = in Jamieson, Scottish Dict.
(Jod.)..... = Jodrell (quoted from).
L. ..... = Latin.
(L.)(in quotations) = Latham's edn. of Todd's
lang. ..... = language. [Johnson.
LG. ..... = Low German.
lit. ..... = literal, -ly.
Lith. ..... = Lithuanian.
LXX. ..... = Septuagint.
Mal. ..... = Malay.
masc. (*rarely* m.) = masculine.
Math. ..... = in Mathematics.
ME. ..... = Middle English.
Med. ..... = in Medicine.
med.L. ..... = mediæval Latin.
Mech. ..... = in Mechanics.
Mitaph. ..... = in Metaphysics.
MHG. ..... = Middle High German.
midl. ..... = midland (dialect).
Mil. ..... = in military usage.
Min. ..... = in Mineralogy.
mod. ..... = modern.
Mus. ..... = in Music.
(N.) ..... = Nares (quoted from).
n. of action..... = noun of action.
n. of agent ..... = noun of agent.
Nat. Hist. ..... = in Natural History.
Naut. ..... = in nautical language.
neut. (*rarely* n.) = neuter.
NF., NFr. ..... = Northern French.
N. O. ..... = Natural Order.
nom. ..... = nominative.
north. ..... = northern (dialect).
N. T. ..... = New Testament.
Numism. ..... = in Numismatics.
obj. ..... = object.
Obs., *obs.*, obs. ... = obsolete.
occas. ..... = occasional, -ly.
OE. ..... = Old English (= Anglo-Saxon).
OF., OFr. ..... = Old French.
OFris. ..... = Old Frisian.
OHG. ..... = Old High German.
OIr. ..... = Old Irish.
ON. ..... = Old Norse (Old Icelandic).
ONF. ..... = Old Northern French.
Opt. ..... = in Optics.
Ornith. ..... = in Ornithology.
OS. ..... = Old Saxon.
OSl. ..... = Old Slavonic.
O. T. ..... = Old Testament.
OTeut. ..... = Original Teutonic.
orig. ..... = original, -ly.
Palæont. ..... = in Palæontology.
pa. pple. ..... = passive or past participle.
pass. ..... = passive, -ly.
pa. t. ..... = past tense.
Path. ..... = in Pathology.
perh. ..... = perhaps.
Pers. ..... = Persian.
pers. ..... = person, -al.
pf. ..... = perfect.
Pg. ..... = Portuguese.
Philol. ..... = in Philology.
phonet. ..... = phonetic, -ally.
phr. ..... = phrase.
Phren. ..... = in Phrenology.
Phys. ..... = in Physiology.
pl., *pl.* ..... = plural.
poet. ..... = poetic.
pop. ..... = popular, -ly.
ppl. a., ppl. adj.... = participial adjective.
pple. ..... = participle.
Pr. ..... = Provençal.
prec. ..... = preceding (word or article).
pref. ..... = prefix.
prep. ..... = preposition.
pres. ..... = present.
Prim. sign. ..... = Primary signification.
priv. ..... = privative.
prob. ..... = probably.
pron. ..... = pronoun.
pronunc. ..... = pronunciation.
prop. ..... = properly.
Pros. ..... = in Prosody.
pr. pple. ..... = present participle.
Psych. ..... = in Psychology.
q.v. ..... = *quod vide*, which see.
(R.) ..... = in Richardson's Dict.
R. C. Ch. ..... = Roman Catholic Church.
refash. ..... = refashioned, -ing.
refl., refl. ..... = reflexive.
reg. ..... = regular.
repr. ..... = representative, representing.
Rhet. ..... = in Rhetoric.
Rom. ..... = Romanic, Romance.
sb., *sb.* ..... = substantive.
Sc. ..... = Scotch.
sc. ..... = *scilicet*, understand or supply.
sing. ..... = singular.
Skr. ..... = Sanskrit.
Slav. ..... = Slavonic.
Sp. ..... = Spanish.
sp. ..... = spelling.
spec. ..... = specifically.
subj. ..... = subject, subjunctive.
subord. cl. ..... = subordinate clause.
subseq. ..... = subsequently.
subst. ..... = substantively.
suff. ..... = suffix.
superl. ..... = superlative.
Surg. ..... = in Surgery.
Sw. ..... = Swedish.
s.w. ..... = south western (dialect).
T. (T.) ..... = in Todd's Johnson.
techn. ..... = technical, -ly.
Theol. ..... = in Theology.
tr. ..... = translation of.
trans. ..... = transitive.
transf. ..... = transferred sense.
Trig. ..... = in Trigonometry.
Typog. ..... = in Typography.
ult. ..... = ultimate, -ly.
unkn. ..... = unknown.
U.S. ..... = United States.
v., vb. ..... = verb.
v. str., or *w.* ..... = verb strong, or weak.
vbl. sb. ..... = verbal substantive.
var. ..... = variant of.
wd. ..... = word.
WGer. ..... = West Germanic.
w. midl. ..... = west midland (dialect).
WS. ..... = West Saxon.
(Y.)..... = in Col. Yule's Glossary.
Zool. ..... = in Zoology.

Before a word or sense.
† = obsolete.
‖ = not naturalized.

In the quotations.
* sometimes points out the word illustrated.

In the list of Forms.
1 = before 1100.
2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200).
3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300).
5–7 = 15th to 17th century. (See General Explanations, Vol. I, p. xx.)

In the Etymol.
* indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred.
:— = extant representative, or regular phonetic descendant of.

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

PH, a consonantal digraph, having usually the phonetic value of F. It was the combination used by the Romans to represent the Greek letter Φ, φ or φ, named φῖ, *Phī*. This letter, cognate with Skr. *bh* (and so with Germanic *b*), was in early Greek written ΠΗ, and was a real aspirated *p*; it was subsequently often written ΠΦ, πφ, and had then prob. nearly the same sound as German *pf*; but by the second century B. C. it had sunk into a simple sound, prob. the *bilabial* spirant (the sound made in blowing through the lips). As the Roman F was dentilabial, like mod. Eng. *f*, the Romans in earlier times represented the Greek Φ not by F, but by PH; in the time of the Emperor Severus, however, the two began to be confused, and from *c* 400 were treated as identical. Hence in late popular and mediæval Latin, and in the Romanic languages, *f* was often substituted, as it is now regularly in Italian and Spanish (e. g. *fantasia, filosofia, Filippo, fotografico*). This was also the case to a great extent in Old French, and in Old and early Middle English (see PHARISEE, PHILISTEE, PHANTOM, PHEASANT); but here, under the influence of the Latin forms, most words so written were subsequently altered back to *ph*, the preponderance of which is particularly notable in Gower. Exceptionally the *f* remains in mod. Eng., as in *fancy* (= *phantasy*), *fantastic*. In all modern words of Greek derivation (e. g. in *phano-, philo-, phospho-, photo-, phyto-*) *ph* is alone found.

One consequence of these conditions was that in the 15th, 16th, and 17th c., *ph* was frequently substituted for *f* in words not of Greek origin, esp. in words that were somewhat rare, the scribes apparently taking *ph* as a more learned, and thus presumably more correct, spelling. Many instances of this will be found under F, and among the cross-references given below, as in *phalucco, phan, phane, phang, pharman, philaser, philhorse, philimot*, etc. This spelling is often retained in *philabeg* = *filibeg*, and in certain interjections, *phew! pho! phoo!* where perhaps it may have been adopted to express the simple bi-labial ('lip-breath') consonant (the sound made in blowing) as distinct from the labio-dental *f*. Modern phonologists, e. g. Mr. A. J. Ellis in his 'Palæotype', have used *ph* as the symbol of the bi-labial sound. Greek had the initial combination *φθ-*, in Roman spelling *phth-*. This was difficult for the Romanic nations, and in the only early word of this class, *phthisicus*, was reduced to *pht*, *th*, or simple *t*. See PHTHISIC, etc. In mod.F. words in *phth* are now normally pronounced *ft-*; in Eng. the *ph* is generally mute and the *th* pronounced; but in scientific words many scholars pronounce fþ-, a combination which is quite as easy as sf- in *sphere*.

Ph (pronounced f) is also used to represent Hebrew פ (without dagesh), and even initial פּ (according to the Masoretic pointing, with dagesh) in proper names which have come to us through a Greek form with Φ: see PHARAOH, PHILISTINE, SERAPH. In the Roman spelling of Indian languages *ph* represents the true aspirated *p* (फ of Sanskrit), and this is occasionally the origin of *ph* in alien words: cf. PHULKARI.

Phacellate (fǽsĕlĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *phacellus*, pl. *-i*, ad. Gr. *φάκελος* bundle + -ATE 2.] Having *phacelli* or groups of filaments within the central gastric cavity, as certain Hydrozoa.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phacochœre (fæ·kŏkĭəɹ). *Zool.* Also **-chere.** [= F. *phacochère* (Littré), ad. mod.L. *phacochœrus*, f. Gr. *φακός* lentil, wart + *χοῖρος* pig.] A wart-hog.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 246/2 In the locomotive organs the true hogs and the Phacochœres bear the greatest resemblance to each other. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 85 The range of the South African phacochœre, or Vlacke Vark, does not appear to be precisely determined.

So **Phacochœ·rid** (-cher-), an animal of the family *Phacochœridæ*; **Phacochœ·rine** (-cher-) *a.*, belonging to the family *Phacochœridæ*; **Phacochœ·roid** *a.* = *phacochœrine*; *sb.* = *phacochœrid*.

In modern Dictionaries.

Phacocyst (fæ·kŏsist). *Bot.* Also **phako-.** [ad. mod.L. *phacocystis*, f. Gr. *φακός* lentil + *κύστις* CYST.] The lenticular nucleus of a cell.

1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) II. 234 Each cell contains two phakocysts. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phacocyst.*

Phacoid (fæ·koid), *a.* ● *rare*—°. [ad. mod.L. *phacoïdes* (applied by Vesalius to the crystalline lens), in F. *phacoïde*, f. Gr. *φακός* lentil: see -OID.] Lentil-shaped. Hence **Phacoi·doscope** = PHACOSCOPE.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phacoides*..resembling a lentil in shape: phacoid. 1864 tr. *Donders' Anom. Accomm. Eye* Note 16, I have given to it in this form the name of phacoidoscope, which word fully expresses its object.

Phacolite (fæ·kŏlăit). *Min.* Also **phako-.** [ad. Ger. *phakolit* (Breithaupt), f. Gr. *φακός* lentil + *λίθος* stone.] A colourless variety of CHABAZITE, occurring in crystals of lenticular form.

1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 219 Levyne (? Phakolite) occurs in double six-sided prisms. 1880 *Academy* 21 Aug. 139/1 The occurrence of the zeolites, phacolite, and phillipsite, in cavities of basaltic rocks containing liquid.

Phacometer (fækŏ·mĭtəɹ). In quots **phako-.** [mod. f. Gr. *φακός* lentil, lens + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the power of lenses.

1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* 117. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phakometer*.

Phacoscope (fæ·kŏskoup). Also **phako-.** [mod. f. as prec. + -SCOPE.] An apparatus for observing the changes in form of the crystalline lens of the eye in accommodation to objects at different distances.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Phæacian (fĭ,ēɪ·ʃăn). [f. L. *Phæacia*, Gr. *Φαιακία*, the isle of Scheria (Corcyra) + -AN.] One of the inhabitants of Scheria, noted for their luxury; hence (= L. *Phæax*, Horace), a gourmand.

1788 LEMPRIÈRE *Classical Dict.* (1826) 510/2 The Phæacians ..were naturally dull, effeminate, and so affectatious, that the ancients gave them the name of parasites. 1899 *Speaker* 28 Oct. 85/1 He was a bon vivant, declined into a fat Phaeacian..and latterly did nothing.

Phæism (fĭ·iz'm). *Biol.* [f. Gr. *φαι-ός* dusky + -ISM.] A dusky or dark variety of coloration, which falls short of melanism.

1891 *Athenæum* 12 Dec. 804/3 Mr. Jenner-Weir exhibited two dark specimens of *Zygæna minos*..[he] expressed an opinion that the specimens were not representatives of complete melanism, and suggested that the word 'phæism' ..would be a correct word to apply to this and similar departures from the normal coloration of a species. 1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 337.

Phænigm, erron. spelling of PHŒNIGM *Obs.*

Phænocarpous (fĭnŏkā·ɹpəs), *a. Bot. rare*—°. [mod. f. Gr. *φαινο-* showing + *καρπός* fruit + -OUS.] 'Bearing a fruit which has no adhesion with surrounding parts' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phænocarpus*..phenocarpous.

Phænogam, phe- (fĭ·nŏgæm), *Bot.* [f. mod. L. *phænogama*, sc. *vegetabilia* (Willdenow 1804), or *phænogamæ* (sc. *plantæ*), f. Gr. *φανο-* showing + *γάμος* marriage, sexual union; in Ger. *phänogamen* sb. pl. (Rudolphi 1807).] A flowering plant; = PHANEROGAM. So **Phænoga·mian, Phænoga·mic** (phe-) *adjs.* = PHANEROGAMIC; **Phæno·gamous** *a.* (the earliest word of the group), producing flowers, flowering; = PHANEROGAMOUS.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* Pref. 17 The substitution of the words Monocotyledons,.. Cryptogams, *Phænogams, etc., for Monocotyledones,..Cryptogamæ, Phænogamæ, &c. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 8. 13 The word Phænogams is very generally used as a collective term for flowering plants. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Phenogamian*, having the essential organs of fructification visible. 1841 DOUGLAS in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 249 Additions to the *phenogamic Flora of the district. 1814 R. BROWN *Bot. Terra Austral.* 4 *Phænogamous plants. 1821 S. F. GRAY *Nat. Arr. Brit. Pl.* I. 43 Phenogamous..the sexual organs very distinct and visible. 1830 SIR W. HOOKER (*title*) British Flora, comprising the Phænogamous, or Flowering Plants, and Ferns. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 3 Division of the vegetable Kingdom..into..Phanerogamous (or Phanerogamous) or Flowering, and Cryptogamous or Flowerless Plants.

Phænology, Phænomenon: see PHENO-.

Phænozygous (fĭnŏ·zigəs), *a. Anthropol.* Also **pheno-.** [mod. f. Gr. *φαινο-* showing + *ζυγόνα* joining + -OUS.] Of a skull: Having the zygomatic arches visible from immediately above the centre; of a person: having such a skull.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. iii. 288 When the angle is positive, the zygomatic arches are called phenozygous. 1888 *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* Aug. 7 The male is distinctly phænozygous, but the female is not.

Phæodarian (fĭ,ōdē·ɹĭăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Phæodāria* neut. pl. (Haeckel), f. *phæōdium*, f. *phaios* dusky + *-odium* (see -ODE).]

a. *adj.* Belonging to the *Phæodaria*, a division of Radiolarians characterized by a mass of dark pigment (*phæodium*), containing rounded granules (*phæodellæ*), surrounding the central capsule. b. *sb.* A radiolarian of this division.

1880 *Nature* XXI. 450/1 The extra-capsular soft substance of all Phæodaria is distinguished by..the mass of Phæodella or 'dark pigment granules' which it contains. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 875 The spicules being..disposed..radially only in the Phæodarian family *Aulocanthida*. 1900 *Jrnl. Quekett Micros. Club* Apr. 265 The central capsule is generally almost entirely imbedded in the phæodium.

Phæophyll (fĭ·ŏfil). *Bot.* [mod. f. Gr. *φαιός* dusky + *φύλλον* leaf: after CHLOROPHYLL.] Name proposed for the brown colouring-matter, composed of phycophæin and phycoxanthin, found in sea-weeds of the orders *Fucaceæ* and *Phæosporeæ*.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phæophyll*, the brown colouring-matter of the Fucoideæ; also called *Phyllophæin*.

Phaeton (fē·ĭtŏn, fē·ĭtən). [a. Gr. *φαέθων* shining, used in Gr. mythology as proper name of the son of Helios and Clymene, famous for his unlucky driving of the sun-chariot.]

†**1.** *allusively.* A rash or adventurous charioteer like Phaethon; any charioteer; something that, like Phaethon, sets the world on fire.

1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 242 That hee should talke of gnashing of teeth, yong Phaetons, yong Icari, yong Chorebi, young Babingtons. 1629 *Leather* 13 Euerie priuate Gentleman now is a *Phæton*, and must hurrie with his thundring Caroch along the Streetes. 1692 WATSON *Body of Div.* 862 Sin is the Phaeton that sets the World on Fire. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 94 If the hackney-man should grumble, I fear our Phaeton must tumble.

2. A species of four-wheeled open carriage, of light construction; usually drawn by a pair of horses, and with one or (now generally) two seats facing forward; but applied to carriages variously modified and distinguished as *Stanhope, Mail, Park, Dog-cart, Pony phaeton*, etc.

[1735 *Machines approuvées par l'Acad. Sc.* VI. 3 Chaise de Poste dont on peut faire un Phaeton.] 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 819 Like Nero,..drives his phaeton, in female guise. 1747 MISS TALBOT *Lett., to Miss Carter* 18 Aug. (1809) I. 201 A fashionable post chaise or phaeton. 1794 FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 68 The sizes and constructions of Phaetons are more various than any other description of carriages. 1844 *Act* 7 & 8 *Vict.* c. 91 Sched., Every horse..drawing any coach,..barouche, chaise, phaeton, vis-a-vis, calash. 1872 BLACK (*title*) Strange Adventures of a Phaeton. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* II. 16 Are you going to drive your phaeton this afternoon?

†**3.** A name for the planet Jupiter. (So in French.)

1631 WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 11 Jupiter is a bright Plannet ..being neere the earth, of which he is called Phaeton.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. v. (1713) 125 Fancy gets the ascendant, and Phaeton-like, drives on furiously and inconsistently. 1883 *Standard* 7 Feb. 2/5 The carriage was described as a phaeton-wagonette.

Hence **Phaetonee·r** [cf. *charioteer*], the driver of a phaeton; **Phaet(h)o·nian** = sense 1; **Phaetho·nic, †Phaetho·nical, †Phaetho·ntal, Phaetho·ntic, †Phaetho·ntical** *adjs.*, belonging to, characteristic of, or resembling, Phaethon (see etymology above).

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Aug. 244/1 A merry time had our *phaetoneer. 1784 MACNEILL *Poet. Wks.* (1812) I. 69 No female *Phaetonians then Surpassed the boldest of our men In gesture, look and straddle. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 7. 2/2 Or would'st with *Phaetonick Pride, Within the Solar Chariot Ride? *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 45 (1810) 52 Which *phæthonical fact of his deserves the name of Nody. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 37 Po burns no more with *Phaetontal fire. 1658 J. JONES tr. *Ovid's Ibis* 1st Ded., How *Phaetontick spirits break their necks. 1829 LAMB *Let. to Gilman* Dec., I fear their steed, bred out of the wind without father..hot, phaetontic. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 509 Achmat..is left at this present to manage the Horses of this *Phaëtonticall Chariot.

‖**Phagedæna, -ena** (fædʒĭdī·nă, fægi-). *Path.* Also 7 *erron.* **phagadena.** [L., a. Gr. *φαγέδαινα* an eating ulcer, cancer, f. *φαγεῖν* to eat, devour.] An eating sore; an ulcer that spreads and corrodes the neighbouring parts; spreading erosion occurring in an ulcer or sore.

1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Phagadena*, a running canker or pock. 1676 WISEMAN *Surgery* II. x. 193 *Phagedæna*,..is an Ulcer with swelled Lips, that eats the Flesh and neighbouring Parts in the bottome and edges of the Ulcer. 1891 *Lancet* 3 Oct. 751 Formerly diseases peculiar to a hospital were the terror of the surgeon. Phagedæna attacked wounds even of the most trivial kind.

Phagedænic, -enic (fædʒĭdī·nik, -ē·nik, fægĭ-), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *phagedænic-us*, Gr. *φαγεδαινικ-ός*, f. *φαγέδαινα*: see prec.]

1. *Path.* Of the nature of, characterized by, or affected with, phagedæna or spreading ulcer.

[1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 65 It..is approued in eatynge vlcers called Phagedenica, &c.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Phagedenick*. 1754 GOOCH in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 815 He had an ulcer upon his leg, of the phagedænic kind. 1816 A. C. HUTCHISON *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 194 On hospital gangrene, and the sloughing phagedenic ulcer, which occurs on board ships of war and in naval and military hospitals. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 618 The great prevalence there of phagedænic ulcers.

†**2.** *Med.* Applied to a corrosive liquid preparation used for destroying proud flesh, or for cleansing ulcers. Also *elliptically*, as *sb. Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Phagadenick Water*, is made by dissolving a Dram of Sublimate Corrosive in a Pound of Lime Water. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Phagedænic medicines..are used to eat off fungous, or proud flesh. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Poll-evil*, Some wash with the phagædenic water. 1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict.*, *Phagedænics*, medicines that destroy fungous flesh.

So †**Phagedæ·nical** (-den-), **Phagedæ·nous** *a.* 1635 READ *Tumors & Ulcers* 273 A..phagedænicall and cancerous ulcer of the head. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wounds*, It is called by Farriers..the Phagedenical Water. 1659 HICKMAN *Justif. Fathers* 15 Phagedænous and eating sores. 1895 *Times* 18 Feb. 13/5 The phagedenous ulcer has, by some miracle, become the source of nourishment.

Phagocyte (fæ·gŏsəit). *Physiol.* [mod. f. (Metschnikoff) Gr. *φαγο-* eating, devouring + -CYTE.] A leucocyte (white-blood-corpuscle or lymph-corpuscle) which, under certain conditions, has the power of absorbing and destroying pathogenic microbes by a process of intracellular digestion, and thus of guarding the system against infection.

1884 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* XXIV. 110 Amœboid cells were frequently budded off from the ectoderm to join the other devouring cells (phagocytes) in the body. 1888 E. RAY LANKESTER *Adv. Sci.* (1890) II. App. A. 112 [Metschnikoff's] theory is that by accustoming these corpuscles, which he calls 'phagocytes', to tolerate a weak form of the poison produced by pathogenic Bacteria, we 'educate' them, so that they are able subsequently to resist and eventually to attack and destroy the same pathogenic Bacterium..in a stronger and deadly form. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* i. 26 This body [the flagellated organism of malaria] seems to have a powerful attraction for the phagocyte.

Hence **Phagocytal** (-səi·tăl), **Phagocytic** (-si·tik), **-ical** *adjs.*, pertaining to, or having the nature or function of, a phagocyte; **Phagocytism** (fæ·gosəitiz'm), **Phagocytosis** (fæ·gosəitōu·sis), the action of phagocytes; the absorption and destruction of pathogenic microbes by phagocytes; **Phagocy·toblast**, the embryonic form of a phagocyte.

1892 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLI. 631 Influences which are associated in aiding *phagocytic action. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 87 Inflammation is to be regarded, on the whole, as a phagocytic reaction of the organism against irritants. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Dec. 298 *note*, To attribute very direct *phagocytical properties to the outer layer of trophoblast cells. 1888 *Nature* 24 May 91/2 '*Phagocitism'—that is, the intracellular digestive process. 1891 *Times* 13 Aug. 5/2 Dr. Metschnikoff had elaborated and supported by great research his theory of **phagocytosis*, according to which there was a veritable struggle for existence, a battle *à outrance* between the cells of the body and the invading micro-organisms.

Phagology (fægɒ·lŏdʒi). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. φαγο- eating + -LOGY.] The subject of eating or feeding; dietetics.

1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLII. 231 His having so accurately studied the phagology of robins.

-phagous, *suffix*, f. L. *-phag-us*, Gr. *-φαγ-os* eating (in F. *-phage*) + -OUS: as *anthropophagous, ichthyophagous, phytophagous, sarcophagous*; also in humorous nonce-words. Also **-phagy**, ad. Gr. *-φαγία* eating (*sb.*); as *anthropophagy, ichthyophagy.*

† **Phagy·phany.** *Obs. rare* −1. [prob. repr. a med.L. **phagyphania*, f. Gr. φαγ-εῖν to eat, *-φαγ-os* eating + *-φανια*, see -PHANY.] The festival of the miraculous feeding of the five thousand, celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent.

14.. *Ephyphanye* in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 121 With loves v, ..Fyve thousand..he dyd fede; Of the whych myracle.. Thys day is named Phagyphanye, Lyke as hyt was fyrst called Ephyphanye. For thys word *phagy*.. Is seyd of fedyng or ellis refeccion.

Phah (fa), *int.* [Cf. PHO, PHOO, FAUGH.] An ejaculation expressing contempt or disgust.

1592–3 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 118, I wonder, his owne mouth can abide it without a phah.

Phaine, variant of PHANE.

† **Phairse, pheirs.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **phraisse, phrasse, frais.** [Variant forms of *fairss, fairce* = FARCE, partly with metathesis of *r*.] A farce, in earlier sense: = INTERLUDE 1.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 379 Great treumph and blythnes of phrassis and playis maid to hir at hir hame comming..Wpoun the eist syde thair was maid to her ane trieumphant frais [*MSS.* pheirs] be Schir Dawid Lyndsay of the Mont. *Ibid.* 381 Greit triumph, phraissis maid and playis wnto the queins grace. *Ibid.* II. 125 Singing, playing dansing and pheirsis.

Phako: see PHACO-.

‖ **Phalæna** (fălī·nă). *Entom.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *φάλαινα*, prop. *φάλλαινα* a moth.] A moth: used by Linnæus as a generic name for all moths; afterwards for all below the *Sphingina*, or for the *Geometrina*; not now used with any entomological value.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 958 There are those that interpret this Phalaina to be the Cicindela or Glow-worm, but not rightly. *Ibid.* 1110 The Phalenæ that come from thence stick by the feet to the roofs of houses. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 77 The antennæ of the Phalæna are attenuated to the point...The species of this genus are very numerous. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 5/2 The phalæna, a species of which is to be found in a treatise published in France on foreign butterflies.

Hence **Phalæ·nian** *a.*, of or pertaining to a phalæna; *sb.* one of the *Phalænæ*, a moth, esp. a geometrid moth; **Phalæ·noid** *a.*, akin to a phalæna; moth-like; *sb.* a moth-like insect.

1887 *Science* Apr. 318/2 Some of the Phalaenian larvae have 12 legs, and some even 14. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 928/1 Phalenoid.

Phalænopsid (fælīnɒ·psid). *Bot.* [ad. mod. L. *Phalænopsis*, f. Gr. *φάλαινα* moth + *ὄψις* appearance.] An orchid of the East Indian epiphytic genus *Phalænopsis*; a moth-orchid or moth-plant.

[1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 181 Order LII. Orchidaceæ.. Genera..iii. Vandeæ...Phalænopsis.] 1880 BURBIDGE *Gard. Sun* iv. 54 The phalænopsids and other epiphytes are less ambitious. 1882 *Garden* 11 Feb. 97/1 The Phalænopsids at Rendlesham are specially distinguished by the size and number of their leaves. *Ibid.*, Fine plants of Phalænopsis are in full bloom.

Phalangal (fălæ·ŋgăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *phalanx, phalang-*, PHALANX + -AL.] = PHALANGEAL. Also **Phala·ngar** *a.*

1848 QUAIN *Elem. Anat.* (ed. 5) I. 174 The last two phalangal bones of the little toe. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phalangar process* [in the organ of Corti]. *Ibid.*, The phalangar bar on the outside of the ring in which lies the head of the twin cell of Corti.

Phalange[1] (fæ·lændʒ). Also 6 **falange, fallange**; **phalangue, 7 phalang.** [a. Fr. *phalange*, in 13th c. *phalenge* (Hatz.-Darm.), = It. *falange*, ad. L. *phalange-m*, acc. of PHALANX.]

† **1.** = PHALANX 1. *Obs.*

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* (1573) 29 b, Calld, of the Romanes, a Legion; of Greekes, a Fallange. 1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. xxxix. 90 He placed..the Elephantes.. before the Phalange or maine battail. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iii. 73 The Macedonian Phalangue. 1689 PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Commander*, etc. 29/1 The Macedons still march'd in great Phalanges, And kept that order several Parasanges.

2. = PHALANX 3, 4.

1864 H. SPENCER *Biol.* III. § 135 Here is a digit with its full number of phalanges, and there a digit, of which one phalange has been arrested in its growth. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 25 Feb., The delicate and taper finger of woman is plunged up to its topmost phalange into every political pie. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phalange*...Also, in *Entomol.*, a joint of the tarsus in Insecta. Also, in *Bot.*, a mass of stamens partly joined together by their filaments.

Phalange[2]. Also 6 **phalanga, phalang.** [= F. *phalange*, It. *falangio*, ad. L. *phalangium*, a. Gr. *φαλάγγιον*, in same senses.]

† **1.** = PHALANGIUM 1. *Obs.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. D iv, Good against the bytinges of phalanges & scorpiones. 1587 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 112 He that is venomed by the *Phalanga*, feeleth such painefull passions, as he runneth mad. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 82 Other kinds of great Flies ..in these Islands, and which some call Phalanges. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxvii. (1737) 265 Phalangs, Sloe-worms, Horn-worms.

2. An arachnid of the genus PHALANGIUM, or family *Phalangidæ*; a phalangid.

1876 E. SCHUYLER *Turkistan* xi. II. 123 The phalange (*Solpuga araneoides* and *S. intrepida*) is of a yellowish or reddish brown, also with long hair, and when walking seems as large as one's two fists.

Phalangeal (fălæ·ndʒĭăl), *a. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *phalange-us*, f. *phalanx, phalang-* + -AL.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a phalanx or phalanges (PHALANX 3).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 159 The anterior or phalangeal extremity of this bone,..also named the head. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 179 The disease involves the last phalangeal joint or bone. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phalangeal process*, the same as *Phalangar process.*

Also **Phala·ngean** *a. rare*−0.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Phalanger (fălæ·ndʒəɹ). *Zool.* [a. mod.L. (Buffon), also mod.F., f. Gr. *φαλάγγιον* 'spider's web', in reference to the webbed toes of the hind feet.] A quadruped of the genus *Phalangista*, or of the subfamily *Phalangistinæ*, Australian marsupials of arboreal habits, containing numerous genera and species, usually of small size, with thick woolly fur; the typical genera (Australian 'opossums') have prehensile tails; the *flying phalangers* (called also *flying-opossums, flying-squirrels*, or *petaurists*) have non-prehensile tails and a flying-membrane or parachute.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VII. i. 515 The Phalanger, so-called by Mr. Buffon,..about the size of a rat, and has .. been called the Rat of Surinam. 1780 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1785) VII. 175 We have called it the phalanger, because its phalanges are very singularly constructed. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 13 July 375/2 The native bear, the vulpine phalanger, the wombat. 1885 M. R. O. THOMAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 727/2 Buffon gave to a pair of cuscuses examined by him the name..'Phalanger', on account of the peculiar structure of the second and third toes of the hind feet, which are united in a common skin up to the nails. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xxvii. 249 The rustle of the phalangers and the smaller marsupials.

Phala·ngial, *a. rare*−0. = PHALANGEAL.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Phalangian (fălæ·ndʒiăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [In sense 1, f. Gr. φάλαγξ, φαλαγγ- PHALANX; in 2, f. mod.L. (PHALANX 3) + -IAN; in 3, f. PHALANGIUM + -AN.]

1. *Gr. Antiq.* Belonging to a (military) phalanx; see PHALANX 1.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 696 The long spear of the phalangian soldier.

2. *Anat.* = PHALANGEAL. *rare*−0.

1853 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

3. *Zool.* Belonging to the arachnid genus *Phalangium* or order *Phalangidea*; as *sb.* = PHALANGID.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xv. 39 Some [crabs] imitating spiders, and others phalangians.

Phalangic (fălæ·ndʒik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. φάλαγξ, φαλαγγ- PHALANX + -IC.]

1. Pertaining to or of the nature of a (military) phalanx.

1846 H. W. TORRENS *Rem. Milit. Hist.* 45 A modern tactician much given to prize the phalangic or columnar formation for troops.

2. *Anat.* = PHALANGEAL. *rare*−0.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phalangicus*...of or belonging to the *phalanges*: phalangic. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phalangic*, belonging to the *Phalanges.*

Phalangid (fălæ·ndʒid). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Phalangidæ*, f. PHALANGIUM: see -ID 3.] An arachnid of the family *Phalangidæ* or order *Phalangidea* (typical genus *Phalangium*), related to the mites, but more resembling spiders, without spinnerets or poison-glands, and usually with very long and slender legs; the common species are known as *harvest-spiders* or *harvestmen*, and in U. S. as *daddy-long-legs.* So **Phala·ngidan; Phalangi·dean** *a.*, belonging to the *Phalangidea.*

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 303 The Class consists of two Orders..Pseudo Scorpions and Phalangidans.

1875 CAMBRIDGE in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 278/2 Phalangids .. popularly known by the name of 'Harvest-men'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 528 A Scorpion has been found in Silurian strata, and a Phalangid in the Solenhofen slates (Mesozoic).

Phala·ngiform, *a. Bot.* and *Anat.* [f. PHALANX or PHALANGIUM + -FORM.] Having the form of a phalanx.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phalangiformis..Bot.*, applied by Nees von Esenbeck to vegetable hairs which are provided with transverse *septa* with a contraction at the outside of the *septa*, as in the *Tradescantia*: phalangiform. 1875 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 710/2 The rest of the second post-oral is reduced to .. an elegant ridged phalangiform basi-hyal.

Phala·ngigrade, *a. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phalangigrad-us*, f. as prec. + L. *gradus* step; cf. DIGITIGRADE, PLANTIGRADE.] Walking on the phalanges; belonging to the (now disused) division *Phalangigrada*, comprising the camel and llama.

1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* ii. 50 Two forms, to which the terms 'phalangigrade' (as the Camel) and 'subplantigrade' (as in most Carnivora) are applied.

† **Phala·ngious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *phalangi-um* + -OUS.] Of the nature of a PHALANGIUM (sense 1).

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxvii. 177 Red Phalangious spiders like Cantharides mentioned by Muffetus.

Phalangist (fălæ·ndʒist, fælă·ndʒist). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phalangista*, substituted by Cuvier 1800 for Buffon's term *Phalanger.*] = PHALANGER.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 159 The phalangists, or flying opossums. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 5/6 The Sooty Phalangist—the brown opossum from Tasmania.

So **Phala·ngistine** *a.*, belonging to the subfamily *Phalangistinæ*; *sb.* a marsupial of this subfamily, a phalangist.

Phalangite (fæ·lændʒəit). [ad. L. *phalangīta* or *-ītes*, a. Gr. φαλαγγίτης, f. φάλαγξ PHALANX: see -ITE.] A soldier belonging to a phalanx.

[1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. cxl. 967 Hee had of Macedonians sixteene thousand footemen, heavily armed after their manner, called *Phalangitæ*.] 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlviii. VI. 147 The phalangite soldier wore the usual defensive armour of the Greek heavy infantry. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 77 The phalangites were drawn up in files generally of sixteen deep, each called a Lochus.

‖ **Phalangium** (fălæ·ndʒiŏm). Pl. **-ia.** [L., a. Gr. φαλάγγιον a kind of venomous spider, also a plant, spiderwort.]

† **1.** Name for venomous spiders of various kinds.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 360 These venomous spiders Phalangia, which the Greeks distinguish .. by the name of Lupus. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1061 Grievous symptomes follow the bitings of Pismire Phalangium. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3002 Whether the Tarantula be not a Phalangium (that is, a six-eyed skipping Spider)?

b. *Zool.* A genus of non-venomous arachnids having very long slender legs: see PHALANGID.

1848 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 292 This mite lives on the Phalangia..or long-legged spiders.

† **2.** A former name for various liliaceous and iridaceous plants. *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 208 June .. Flowers in Prime, or yet lasting .. Phalangium Allobrogicum. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* 380 Asphodels, Phalangiums, Smilax.

† **Phala·ngy.** *Obs.* Anglicized form of PHALANGIUM (sense 1).

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 770 There be many sorts of Spiders found in very cold Countries, but no Phalangies at all. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1701) 480/2 Athenagoras..felt no Pain at the biting of Scorpions, or Phalangies.

† **Phalanque,** obs. form of PALANK.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2055/2 This day the Enemy have abandoned a Phalanque.

‖ **Phalanstère** (falanstɛ·r). [mod.F., arbitrarily composed of *phalanx* with the ending of *monastère* monastery.] = PHALANSTERY.

1844 HENNELL *Soc. Syst.* 203 Mr. Owen's community is to be located in a Parallelogram, Fourier's in a Phalanstère. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. viii, Tracts which .. substituted in place thereof Monsieur Fourier's symmetrical phalanstere, or Mr Owen's architectural parallelogram.

Phalanste·rial, *a.* [f. as next + -AL.] = next, A.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 811 Should .. the Phalansterial system of Fourier preferably suit their taste, they will be entitled to enter into the 'phalanx of harmony'.

Phalansterian (fælănstī·ĕriăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *phalanstérien*, f. *phalanstère* : see -IAN.]

A. *adj.* Of, pertaining or relating to a phalanstery, or the system of phalansteries.

1844 HENNELL *Soc. Syst.* 211 Two thousand colonists who intended to establish a Phalanstèrian Society at St. Catherine. 1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 186 Unless children are to be afterwards reared and educated like chickens in an Egyptian oven upon Phalansterian principles.

B. *sb.* **a.** A member of a phalanstery. **b.** An advocate of the system of phalansteries; a Fourierist.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 341 Members of secret societies, clubbists, phalansterians. 1895 LAYARD in *19th Cent.* June 1069 Now, we are not Phalansterians. Phalansteries have been tried and failed.

Hence **Phalanste·rianism,** the phalansterian system, Fourierism; so **Phalansteric** (-e·rik) *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by phalansteries; **Pha·lansteri·sm** = *phalansterianism*; **Pha·lansteri·st** = *phalansterian*, B. b.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 706 The world once fixed, and

*phalansterianism universally adopted, Fourier's first care is to pay the English national debt. 1884 G. Allen *Strange Stories* 320 The final outcome..of all our modern *phalansteric civilization. 1877 *Echo* 28 Sept. 1/4 *Phalansterism or Fourierism. 1882 *Standard* 2 Aug., Social *phalansterists, who look upon all forms of aristocracy as deplorable survivals of a dark age.

Phalanstery (fæ·lǽnstĕri). [Anglicized form of F. *phalanstère* (mod.L. type **phalansterium*).] In Fourier's scheme for the reorganization of society, A building or set of buildings occupied by a *phalanx* or socialistic community; hence, such a community itself, numbering about 1,800 persons, living together as one family, and holding property in common.

a 1850 Marg. Fuller *Life Without* (1860) 148 Visions of phalansteries in every park. 1852 Hawthorne *Blithedale Rom.* II. ii. 26 One of our purposes was to erect a Phalanstery..after Fourier,.. where the great and general family should have its abiding-place. 1882 Brace *Gesta Christi* 415 Christianity..has no sympathy with Socialism.. in..its methods of dividing the returns from labour, or its phalansteries or communities.

attrib. 1884 G. Allen *Strange Stories* 301 They sat together in a corner of the beautiful phalanstery garden.

b. *transf.* Applied allusively to associations or groups of persons, or the places where they dwell.

1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* viii, Every room..held its family, or its group of families—a phalanstery of all the fiends. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Lamb* Wks. (Bohn) II. 15 England is a huge phalanstery, where all that man wants is provided within the precinct. 1883 Hyndman *Hist. Basis Socialism* xiii. 449 The tendency now exhibiting itself to turn workhouses into wholesome phalansteries.

Phalanx (fæ·lǽŋks). Pl. **pha·lanxes**, ‖**pha·langes** (fălæ·ndʒīz). Also 7 **falanx**. [a. L. *phalanx*, *-angem*, Gr. *φάλαγξ*, *-αγγα*.]

1. *Gr. Antiq.* A line or array of battle; *spec.* a body of heavy-armed infantry drawn up in close order, with shields joined and long spears overlapping; especially famous in the Macedonian army. Hence b. sometimes applied to a compact body of troops in later times.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* iv. (1565) 95 The square (whiche the Macedons call phalanx). *a*1619 Fletcher *Bonduca* ii. iv, Youth and fire Like the fair breaking of a glorious day Guilded their Falanx. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* iii. vi. II. 63 The Macedonians..; Their Phalanx is describ'd by Polybius to be a square Battail of Pike-men, consisting of sixteen in Flank, and five-hundred in Front. 1766 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* (1869) I. i. 26 The strength of the phalanx was unable to contend with the activity of the legion. 1838-42 Arnold *Hist. Rome* xxxvii. (1846) II. 491 The phalanx when once broken became wholly helpless. 1874 Reynolds *John Bapt.* vi. i. 367 Amid the serried phalanxes of Rome.

b. 1814 *Columbian Centinel* (Boston) 15 June 2/3 On Monday the Charlestown Warren Phalanx paraded. 1862 Grattan *Beaten Paths* I. 185 Noble veterans.., the remnant of those phalanxes which maintained the pride and power of England in so many a hard-fought field.

attrib. 1838 Arnold *Hist. Rome* I. 71 The phalanx order of battle was one of the earliest improvements in the art of war. 1861 Musgrave *By-Roads* 305 They massed them in phalanx form.

2. a. *transf.* A compact body of persons or animals (more rarely things) massed or ranged in order, as for attack, defence, united movement, etc.

1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 108 Who forms the phalanx [of migrating storks], and who points the way? 1785 Cowper *Needless Alarm* 48 The sheep..All huddling into phalanx, stood and gaz'd. 1837 W. H. Ainsworth *Crichton* I. 237 A dense phalanx of cavaliers and dames of every age and rank. 1891 'L. Falconer' *Mlle. Ixe* 25 Sheltered from the north by high red walls and a phalanx of elms.

b. *fig.* A number or set of persons, etc., banded together for a common purpose, esp. in support of or in opposition to some cause; a 'united front'; the union or combination of such (in phr. *in phalanx*, unitedly, in combination, 'solidly').

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 239 To encounter this Hispanised Camelion Parsons, with all his Africanian phalanges and Iesuiticall forces. 1772 *Pol. Reg.* XI. 168 The ministerial phalanx, it seems, is to be irreparably weakened by your loss. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. i. 32 On this occasion, the crown lawyers opposed in phalanx.

c. In Fourier's social organization, A community of persons living together in a Phalanstery, q. v.

1843 [see Phalansterial].

3. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Each of the bones, arranged in series or rows, forming the distal segment of the skeleton of each limb, beyond the metacarpus or metatarsus; each bone of the digits (fingers and toes, or homologous parts). Usu. in pl. *phalanges* (rarely *phalanxes*).

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phalanx*, the Order and Rank, observed in the Finger-Bones. 1741 Monro *Anat. Bones* (ed. 3) 271 Their Articulations with the first *Phalanx* of the Fingers is by *Enarthrosis*. *Ibid.* 274 Three *Phalanges*. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 347 It was necessary to amputate the phalanges of the fingers. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 375 Certain animals can, without clavicles, lay hold of objects with the digital phalanxes. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* iv. 152 Each digit consists of three rather elongated bones termed phalanges.

b. *Entom.* Each joint of the tarsus of an insect.

c. *Anat.* Each of certain processes in the organ of Corti in the internal ear; a phalangar process.

4. *Bot.* A bundle of stamens united by their filaments.

1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 519 The stamina..divided into five distinct phalanges, or bundles. 1880 Gray *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 3 (ed. 6) 205 Phalanges or united stamen-clusters.

5. *Taxonomy.* A group in classification, higher than a genus, but of no fixed grade.

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 313 We should find it difficult..to place many that lie at the out-skirts of this phalanx. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 209 These are of another phalanx, having five petals to the corolla.

†6. = Phalangium I. *Obs.*

1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 769 The Phalangium or Phalanx Spider. *Ibid.*, This kinde of Phalanx is often found among Spiders webs.

Hence **Pha·lanxed** (-ŋkst) *a.*, drawn up or ranged in a phalanx; also in *comb.*, as *close-phalanxed*.

1766 G. Canning *Anti-Lucretius* iv. 245 The close-phalanx'd order of its course. 1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. lxxx, Though now one phalanxed host should meet the foe. 1904 A. Austin in *Standard* 13 Oct. 2/5 A pall of smoke penetrated only by phalanxed chimneys.

†**Phala·ric**, *Rom. Antiq. Obs.* [a. F. *falarique*, ad. L. *phalāric-a*, erroneous spelling of *falārica* (in same sense), deriv. of *fala* (said to be Etruscan) a scaffolding from which missiles were thrown in sieges.] A javelin or dart wrapped in tow and pitch, set on fire, and thrown by the catapult or by hand, in order to set fire to a fortified place, a ship, etc.

1608 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 964 With Brakes and Slings, and Phalariks they play, To fire their Fortresse, and their Men to slay. [1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* I. xlviii. (1711) I. 440 They called a certain kind of *Javeline*..*Phalarica*.]

†**Phala·rical**, *a. Obs. rare.* erron. **Phalerical**. [f. *Phalaris* (see Phalarism) + -ical.] Like that of Phalaris; inhuman: cf. next.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 245 How many millions of men, women, and children, they haue there murthered: and that with such inhumane barbarousnesse, and much more then Phalericall cruelty.

†**Pha·larism.** *Obs.* Also 7 **phalerism.** [ad. Gr. *φαλαρισμ-ός* cruelty like that of Phalaris, the tyrant of Agrigentum, who caused those condemned to death by him to be roasted alive in a brazen bull, the maker himself being the first victim.] Inhuman cruelty; pleasure in the infliction of torture.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 278 b, This so great slaughter and bootchery,.. so execrable Phalarisme and Tyranny. 1604 Parsons *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng., Relation Trial* 47 Two bookes of the Atheismes, and Phalerismes..of the ghospellers of our tymes. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* Pref. 41 There's a certain Temper of Mind, that Cicero calls *Phalarism*, a Spirit like Phalaris's.

Phalarope (fæ·lărōup). *Ornith.* [a. F. *phalarope* (Brisson 1760), irreg. ad. mod.L. *Phalaropus* (ibid.), f. Gr. *φαλαρίς* a coot (*φαλᾱ́ρος* having a patch of white) + *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot, intended to render Edwards's designation *Coot-footed* Tringa (1741).] A name applied to several small wading and swimming birds of the family *Phalaropodidæ*, order *Limicolæ*, related to the snipes. They include the Grey or Red P., *Phalaropus fulicarius*, noted for its great seasonal changes of plumage, the Red-necked or Northern P., *P.* (*Lobipes*) *hyperboreus*, both occasional in Great Britain, and Wilson's P., *P.* (*Steganopus*) *Wilsoni*, of America.

1776 Pennant *Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 413 Phalarope [*ed.* 1 Grey scollop toed Sandpiper].. This is about the size of the common Purre, weighing one ounce. 1843 Yarrell *Hist. Birds* III. 48 In its habits the Red-necked Phalarope very closely agrees with the Grey Phalarope, but is..much more rare in England, and more common on the northern islands of Scotland. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 712 In the Phalaropes, as in the Dotterel and the Godwits, that sex [the male] undertakes the duty of incubation.

‖**Phalera** (fæ·lĕră). *Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.* Also 7 **phaler.** [L. *phalera*, in pl. *phaleræ*, orig. *-a*, a. Gr. *φάλαρα* pl., in same sense.] A bright metal disk or boss worn on the breast as an ornament by men, or used to adorn the harness of horses.

1606 Holland *Sueton.* 193 Attended..with a multitude of Mazaces and Curreurs gaily set out with their bracelets and riche Phalers. 1886 *Athenæum* 31 July 148/3 Four large bronze phalerae such as are usually supposed..to belong to horse-harness.

†**Pha·lerate,** *a. Obs.* In 8 **phalarate.** [ad. L. *phalerāt-us*, pa. pple. of *phalerāre* to adorn with trappings, f. *phaleræ*: see prec.] Ornamented, decorated. In quot. *fig.*

1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* IV. iv. (1852) 93 A sort of harangue finely laced and guilded with such phalarate stuff as plainly discovers the vanity of them that jingle with it.

So †**Pha·lerated** *a. Obs.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Phalerated*,..trapped, or dressed with Trappings, as horses use to be.

Phaleucian (fălĭū·siăn), *a.* Also 6 **-sian.** [f. L. *Phaleucius*, properly *Phalæci-us* (f. *Phalæcus*) + -an.] Of or pertaining to Phalæcus, an ancient Greek poet: applied to an ancient metre consisting of a spondee, a dactyl, and three trochees.

1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* vi. 1 As if a man woold terme it a Saphicke, or Phaleusian verse. 1639 Shirley *Maids Revenge* I. i. B iij b, I can..sting with Phaleucians [*printed* Phalenciums], whip with Saphicks. 1658 Phillips, *Phaleucian verse.* 1836 Landor *Pericles & Aspasia* Wks. 1846 II. 373, I think she has injured the phaleucian verse, by transposing one foot, and throwing it backward. 1903 *Scott. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 38 The fourth epitaph is described as in 'Phaleucian verse' that is in lines of eleven syllables.

So †**Phaleu·cic, -eu·sic, -eu·ciac** *a. Obs.*; = prec.; also absol. as *sb.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 308 [He] neuer left intreating her, til she had (taking a *Lyra Basilius* held for her) sung these Phaleuciakes. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Phaleusick Verse* (*phaleuceum carmen*).

‖**Phallalgia** (fælæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [f. Gr. *φαλλ-ός* penis + -algia.] (See quots.) Hence **Phalla·lgic** *a.*

1853 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Phallalgia.* 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Phallalgia*..term for pain in the *membrum virile*: phallalgy.. *Phallalgicus*.. of or belonging to *Phallalgia*: phallalgic.

Phallephoric (fælĭfo·rik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *φαλληφορία* the phallus-bearing (f. *φαλλός* + *-φόρος* bearing) + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the bearing of the phallic emblems.

1876 A. Wilder in *R. P. Knight's Symbolic Lang.* 55 *note*, Venus Erycina..worshipped by the Roman women, who every first of April made a phallephoric procession to her temple.

Phallic (fæ·lik), *a.* [mod. ad. Gr. *φαλλικός*, f. *φαλλός* penis: in F. *phallique* (*Dict. Acad.* 1878).] Of or relating to the phallus or phallism; symbolical of the generative power in nature.

1789 Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* 72 Those *Phallic* songs, which, in many cities, remain still in use. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 446 The exuberant revelry of the phallic festival and procession. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 118 The Phallic Hymn, from which comedy took its origin, was a mad outpouring of purely animal exultation. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* (1892) 368 Myriads of loose white flints in bulbous, cusped, and phallic shapes.

So **Pha·llical** *a.*

1900 W. Senior *Pike & Perch* 11 Among the fishes of fancy are..a phallical pike with golden fins; a pike begotten by the west wind.

Phallicism (fæ·lisiz'm). [f. prec. + -ism.] The worship of the phallus, or of the organs of sex, as symbols of the generative power in nature.

1884 H. Jennings *Phallicism* iii. 38 It expressed deified phallicism in perplexing but convincing forms. 1890 A. H. Lewis in *Outlook & Sabb. Quarterly* (U. S.) 145 Phallicism ..was the lowest phase of that cult [sun-worship].

So **Pha·llicist,** one who studies, or is versed in, phallicism.

Phallism (fæ·liz'm). [f. Gr. *φαλλ-ός* Phallus + -ism.] = Phallicism.

1879 McClintock & Strong *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 55 The religion of Baal, openly denounced by the prophets, was a sort of phallism..which the Jews too often imitated.

So **Pha·llist** = Phallicist.

‖**Phallitis** (fæləi·tis). *Path.* [f. Phall-us + -itis.] (See quot.)

1853 in Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1867 C. A. Harris *Dict. Med. Terminol.*, *Phallitis*, inflammation of the penis.

Phalloid (fæ·loid), *a.* [f. Phallus + -oid.]

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phalloid*.. resembling the penis in appearance.

‖**Phallus** (fæ·lŏs). Pl. **-i.** [L. *phallus*, a. Gr. *φαλλός* penis: so in mod.F. (1835 in *Dict. Acad.*).]

1. An image of the male generative organ, symbolizing the generative power in nature, venerated in various religious systems; *spec.* that carried in solemn procession in the Dionysiac festivals in ancient Greece. In later times commonly worn as an amulet or protection against the evil eye.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 79 Two substantiall witnesses, besides others, affirming the same, namely two Phalli, or Priapi (huge Images of the priuie part of a man). *Ibid.* 579 This yard, which they called Phallus, was vsually made of Figge-tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 266/2 *Phallus*, among the Egyptians, was the emblem of fecundity. 1895 Elworthy *Evil Eye* 148 In compounded amulets the commonest of all objects was the phallus or some other suggesting the ideas conveyed by it.

2. *Bot.* A genus of gasteromycetous fungi, so called from their shape; of which one species, *F. impudicus*, is the common stink-horn.

1857 Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* § 636 In *Phallus* the volva is more strikingly developed.

3. *Comb.*, as *phallus-worship.*

1880 Stallybrass tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* I. 213 *note*, Phallus-worship..must have arisen out of an innocent veneration of the generative principle.

†**Phalucco,** obs. erroneous form of Felucca.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 227 A Phalucco arriueth at the place.

†**Phan,** obs. erroneous spelling of Fan.

1839 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for a phan a[t] Baluerley ixd.

‖**Phanar** (fæ·nar). [Turkish *fanar*, ad. Gr. *φανάριον* (mod.Gr. *φανάρι*) lighthouse, lantern (dim. of *φανός* torch, lamp, lantern).] A quarter of Constantinople (so called from a lighthouse on the Golden Horn), which became the chief Greek quarter after the Turkish Conquest; hence put for the Greek official class under the Turks, through whom the affairs of the Christian population in the Ottoman Empire have been largely administered.

1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 3 May 6 All candidates for the post who did not show Russophile tendencies have been eliminated. Whoever is appointed, he will be hostile to pretensions of the Phanar.

Hence **Phanariot** (fănæ·riɒt). [ad. mod.Gr. *φαναριώτης*: see prec. and -OT[2]], a resident in the Phanar quarter of Constantinople; one of the class of Greek officials residing there; also as *adj.*

1852 G. FINLAY in W. R. W. Stephens *Freeman's Life & Lett.* (1895) I. 281 If..phanariots and the nominees of diplomatists are not intruded. 1880 DONALDSON in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 125/2 Many of them were phanariots, accustomed to double dealing, ambitious and avaricious. 1899 in *Daily News* 20 July 6/4 A masterpiece of Phanariot perfidy.

Phanatic, -ik, -ique, etc., obs. ff. FANATIC, etc.

Phancie, -y, obs. forms of FANCY.

Phane, an early spelling of FANE *sb.*[1] 2 = VANE.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. i. (Skeat) I. 23 Some saine that loue shulde be in windy blastes, that stoundemele tourneth as a phane. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6180 They turne nat as doth a phane With vnwar wynde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 95 This fals faitȝeand warld..That ever more flytis lyk ane phane. 1601–2 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge II.* 629 For a phaine for the peremint of the Coundite.

Phane, obs. erron. form of FANE *sb.*[2]

†**Phanekill.** *Sc. Obs.* [dim. of FANE *sb.*[1] 1.] A little flag or vane.

1538 *Aberdeen Regr.* XVI. (Jam.), The ferd part of vj elnis of tapheit, quhilk wes maid ane phanekill of.

Phanelle, obs. form of FANNELL.

†**Pha·nerite,** *a. Geol. Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. *φανερ-ός* (see next) + -ITE[1].] (See quots.)

a 1857 J. FLEMING *Lithol. Edinb.* v. (1859) 51 The Phanerite series consists of deposits produced by causes in ordinary operation, and respecting the circumstances under which they have been produced little obscurity prevails. 1859–65 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Phanerite Series*..the uppermost stage of the modern epoch, as consisting of deposits.. whose origin is evident, as compared with the brick-clays and boulder-clays..which lie beneath.

Phanero- (fæ·nĕro), before a vowel **phaner-,** combining form of Gr. *φανερός* visible, evident (opposed to CRYPTO-): used in a few technical terms.

Phanerobra·nchiate *a.*, having evident *branchiæ* or gills; **Phaneroca·rpous** *a.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit] (see quots.); **Pha·nerocodo·nic** *a.* [Gr. *κώδων* a bell], bell-shaped: said of the gonophores of hydrozoans, when possessing a developed umbrella; **Phanerocry·stalline** *a.*, of evident crystalline structure; **Phaneroglo·ssal, -glo·ssate, -glo·ssous** *adjs.* [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue], having a distinct tongue: used of a family of Frogs; **Pha·nero·merous** *a.* [Gr. *μέρος* part], **Pha·neropneu·monous** *a.* [Gr. *πνεύμων* lungs] (see quots.).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phanerocarpus*..applied by Eschenholtz to a section..of the Acalepha Discophora, comprehending those in which the reproductive corpuscles are perceived across the body: *phanerocarpous. 1871 ALLMAN *Gymnobl. Hydroids* 195 The *phanerocodonic and the adelocodonic gonophores. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 72 *Phanero-crystalline or distinctly crystalline. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phaneroglossus*.. *phaneroglossous. 1888 TEALE *Petrography* Gloss. 443 **Phaneromerous*..a term applied to coarse crystalline rocks. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phanéropneumonous*..applied by Gray to an Order..of the *Gasteropodophora*, which corresponds..to the *Pulmonea Operculata* of Férussac: *phaneropneumonous.

Phanerogam (fæ·nĕrogæm). *Bot.* [a. F. *phanérogame* (*adj.* Ventenat 1799, De Candolle 1813; *sb.* Brongniart 1828), in mod.L. *phanerogam-us* adj. f. Gr. *φανερό-s*, PHANERO- + *γάμος* marriage, sexual union.] A phanerogamic or flowering plant. (Opposed to CRYPTOGAM.) Chiefly in plural.

In pl. *phanerogams* = mod.L. *Phanerogamæ, plantæ phanerogamæ* (Humboldt, *Nova Gen. et Sp. Plant.*, 1815).

1861 L. STEPHEN tr. *Berlepsch's Alps* 47 The weak soft cellular tissue of nearly all the other phanerogams. 1889 J. S. VAN CLEVE in *Literature* (N. Y.) 2 Feb. 261 The flora ..includes 1080 phanerogams and 1800 cryptogams.

‖**Phanerogamia** (fæ·nĕrogæ·miă). *Bot.* [mod. L., sing. fem. abstr. f. *phanerogam-us*: see prec.] A primary division of the vegetable kingdom, comprising plants having obvious reproductive organs, i. e. stamens and pistils; the sub-kingdom of flowering plants: opposed to CRYPTOGAMIA.

Actually a noun singular, but often erron. treated as pl., after such Zoological neuter plurals as *Mammalia*, = *phanerogams*: for this some have used a plural form *phanerogamiæ*; but the only L. plural is *phanerogamæ*: see prec.

1821 *Elem. Philos. Plants* (tr. De Candolle & Sprengel) 87 Plants whose parts of fructification are manifest, Phanerogamia. [1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* p. vi, The acknowledged division of plants into those with stamens and pistils, Phanerogamiæ, and those without, Cryptogamiæ. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* xv. (1872) 553 The gemmæ of Phanerogamia may be developed in connexion with the parent structure.] 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 395 The vegetable kingdom. Subkingdom I. Phanerogamia, or flowering plants.

Hence **Pha·neroga·mic** *a.*, of or belonging to the division *Phanerogamia*; = next.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 123 In the continent of India.. the proportion of ferns to the phanerogamic plants is only as one to twenty-six. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 198 These latter islands..show no essential difference in their phanerogamic flora. 1894 *Naturalist* 93.

Phanerogamous (fænĕrŏ·gămŏs), *a. Bot.* [f. F. *phanérogame* adj. or mod.L. *phanerogam-us* (see PHANEROGAM) + -OUS.] Having stamens and pistils; flowering. (The earliest word of the group in Eng.: opposed to CRYPTOGAMOUS.)

1816 J. BIGELOW in *N. Eng. Jrnl. Med. & Surg.* V. 335 Humboldt affirms that .. the phanerogamous plants, which have been recognized as natives of the tropical regions of both continents, are extremely few. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 264/2 The phanerogamous Flora of Silesia.

Phanero·pterid, *a., sb. Zool.* a. *adj.* Belonging to the genus *Phaneroptera* [f. PHANERO- + Gr. *πτερόν* wing] or family *Phaneropteridæ* of grasshoppers. b. *sb.* A grasshopper of this family.

1895 *Camb. Nat. Hist.* V. xiii. 323 Two specimens of a little Phaneropterid..brought from the Soudan.

Phang, Phanged, obs. erron. ff. FANG, FANGED.

†**Phangle,** obs. erron. form of FANGLE *sb.*[1]

1648 E. SPARKE in *Shute's Sarah & Hagar* Pref. b j, Any new Phangles of these wilder times.

Phansie, -y, early forms of FANCY.

‖**Phansigar** (pʰä·nsigār). [Hindī *phānsigār* strangler, noose-man, f. *phānsi* noose.] An East Indian professional robber and assassin, one of a gang who strangled and robbed travellers and others; a thug.

1813 J. FORBES *Orient. Mem.* IV. xxxvii. 13 A tribe called *phanseegurs*, or stranglers. 1841 C. MACKAY *Mem. Pop. Delusions* I. 371 Murderers, who, under the name of Thugs, or Phansigars, have so long been the scourge of India.

Phantascope (fæ·ntăskoup). [irreg. f. Gr. *φαντ-ός* visible + -SCOPE: cf. PHANTOSCOPE.] A name independently given to different optical instruments.

1. A contrivance for exhibiting phenomena of binocular vision by an arrangement of slit cards, through which two figures seen at a certain distance converge into one combined image.

1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 880/1 *Phantascope*, the name given by Professor Locke, of the United States, to an apparatus for enabling persons to converge the optical axis of the eyes, or to look cross-eyed, and thereby observe certain phenomena of binocular vision. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1677/2 *Phantascope*..A pair of objects on the base-board is viewed through the perforations of both cards, and by viewing the index the optical axes of the eyes are converged and the objects are reduplicated, and eventually a merged image appears in the central position.

2. = PHENAKISTOSCOPE.

1876 BERNSTEIN *Five Senses* 117 The persistence of these incidental images is the basis of..the phantascope or magic disc, on which various figures are seen in motion. 1881 *Oracle* 12 Nov. 306 The optical toy, which has been variously called Phantascope, Phantasmascope, and Phenakistoscope.

Phantasia, another form of FANTASIA.

Phantasiast (fæntē·ziæst). [ad. eccl. Gr. *Φαντασιασταί*, pl. of *φαντασιαστής*, f. *φαντασία* appearance: see FANTASY.]

1. *Eccl. Hist.* A name given to those of the Docetæ (also called *Phantasiodocetæ, Φαντασιοδοκηταί*) who held that Christ's body was only a phantasm, not a material substance.

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* xxxiv. 57 Phantasiasts. 1852 BP. FORBES *Nicene Cr.* 221 The Docetae, or Phantasiasts, and those who asserted our Lord was only in appearance dead. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. *Interlude* v. 51 The creed of the Phantasiasts, For whom..Christ [was but] a phantom crucified!

2. One who deals in or treats of phantasies.

1855 SMEDLEY, etc. *Occult Sc.* 88 Ben Jonson, who had some experience as a phantasiast, thus invokes the fairer creations of this power in his 'Vision of Delight'.

Hence **Phantasia·stic** *a.*, of or characteristic of the Phantasiasts; of the nature of a phantasm.

1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 102 *note*, The same line of argument is adopted by Tertullian against Marcion and his phantasiastic brethren. 1838 — *Inquiry* 176 The Manichæans..denied that Christ had any proper material body; the form, which was seen, having been purely phantasiastic.

†**Phantasim(e.** *rare.* [Cf. It. '*fantasima* or *fantasma*' (Florio 1611).] A fantastic being.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 101 This Armado is a Spaniard that keeps here in court A Phantasime, a Monarcho, and one that makes sport To the Prince and his Booke-mates. *Ibid.* v. i. 20, I abhor such phanaticall phantasims, such insociable and poynt deuise companions.

Pha·ntasist. *rare.* [f. *phantasy*, FANTASY; or a. F. *fantaisiste*, f. *fantaisie*.] = FANTAST I.

1864 ALGER *Future Life* 660 The 'Vision of Annihilation' depicted by the vermicular, infested imagination of the great Teutonic phantasist.

Phantasm (fæ·ntăz'm). Forms: α. 3 **fantesme,** 5–7 **fantasme,** 7, 9 **fantasm.** β. 6– **phantasm,** (7–8 **phantasme**). [Orig. a. F. *fantasme* (OF. also *-esme*), ad. L. *phantasma*, a. Gr. *φάντασμα*: see next. From 16th c. gradually conformed to the Latin spelling with *ph-*.]

I. 1. a. *gen.* Illusion, deceptive appearance. Cf. PHANTOM 1. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Louerd, seið Dauid, wend awei mine eien vrom þe worldes dweole, & hire fantesme [cf. Ps. cxix. 37]. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1432 Wyth fantasme, and fayrye, Thus she blerede hys yye. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 289/1 The deuylle appered to them in guyse of a maronner in a shippe of fantasme. 1696 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 303/1 Phantasm is that, to which we are attracted by that frustraneous attraction, which happens in Melancholy, or Mad persons. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Illusions* Wks. (Bohn) II. 446 'Tis all phantasm.

b. With *a* and *pl.* An illusion, an appearance that has no reality; a deception, a figment; an unreal or imaginary being, an unreality; a phantom.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10890 Yt are but fantasmes that ye speke. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 175 b/2 He [St. Germayn] dyd so many myracles that yf his merytes had not goon before they shold haue ben trowed fantasmes. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. xi. § 8 They beleeve, and they beleeve amisse, because they be but Phantasmes or Apparitions. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 10 Or else it was a fantasm bred by the feaver which had then seis'd him. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. § 8. 68 The Minds of men strongly possess'd with Fear, especially in the Dark, raise up the Phantasms of Spectres, Bug-bears, or affrightful Apparitions to them. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. xxx. 156. I will not afflict you with the melancholy phantasms of my brain. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. i, Peopled with mere vaporous Fantasms. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 119 The allegorical phantasms of his religion, no doubt, gave a direction to the Aztec artist, in his delineation of the human figure.

c. An illusive likeness (*of* something), a 'ghost' or 'shadow'; a counterfeit.

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 113 It is fit to stay ones selfe upon the true vertue, and not to follow the vaine Phantasmes of holinesse. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* xxvi. (1700) 297 If these are no true Sacraments which they take for such, but only the Shadows and the Phantasms of them. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xlviii, There is only one Church and only one religion, all other forms and phrases are mere phantasms. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lviii, Every phantasm of a hope was quickly nullified by a more substantial obstacle.

†d. One who is not what he appears or pretends to be; a counterfeit, an impostor. *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 24 The People were in furie, entertayning this Airie bodie or phantasme [Lambert Simnel] with incredible affection. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 229 Farre from being a Plagiary, [he] refuseth that which is his own, and suffers a Phantasme, to receive those acclamations and praises which belong to himselfe. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* 23 Rather to make this phantasme an expounder, or indeed a depraver of Saint Paul, then Saint Paul an examiner, and discoverer of this impostorship.

2. An apparition, a spirit or supposed incorporeal being appearing to the eyes, a ghost. Now only *poet.* or *rhet.*

c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Myrr.* xxvii. (1510) H iij b, The discyples supposynge that it had ben a fantasme cryed for drede. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xiv. 26 His discipils seing him walking on y^e see weer trobled saieng, y^t it was a phantasm. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 37 That those phantasms..do frequent Cemeteries, Charnel-houses, and Churches, it is because these are the dormitories of the dead. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 744 Why..thou call'st Me Father, and that Fantasm call'st my Son? 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 7 Like the erring phantasm of a man Slain traitorously and cast into the deep.

b. *Psychics.* The supposed vision or perception of an absent person, living or dead, presented to the senses or mind of another.

1884 *Proc. Soc. Psychical Research* I. v. 44 Phantasms, as we call them, in order to include under a term more general than phantoms, impressions which may be not visual only, but auditory, tactile, or purely mental in character. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 35 We propose..to deal with all classes of cases where..the mind of one human being has affected the mind of another .. by other means than through the recognized channels of sense. 1887 C. L. MORGAN in *Mind* Apr. 281 Where..the phantasm includes details of dress or aspect which could not be supplied by the percipient's mind, Mr. Gurney thinks it may be attributed to a conscious or sub-conscious image of his own appearance..in the agent's mind, which is telepathically conveyed as such to the mind of the percipient.

II. 3. *Philos.* A mental image, appearance, or representation, considered as the immediate object of sense-perception: as distinct (*a*) from the external thing represented, or (*b*) in Platonic philosophy, from the true form or essence, perceptible by thought only and not by sense.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* iv. (1596) 38 Brute beasts with the temperature of their braine, and the fantasmes which enter thereinto by the fiue sences..partake those abilities. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 108 Memorie is a facultie of retaining well the phantasmes of things. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. i. 19 Homer, and Hesiod .. busied themselves about the phantasmes or pictures of Truth, but regarded not the Truth it self. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 221 It is then on these permanent phantasms that the human mind first works. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* I. i. 25 When they are objects of memory and of imagination, they get the name of phantasms. 1880 *Academy* 26 June 469 The phantasm or idea which awakens feeling in accordance with an appetence is not abstract but concrete and generally single.

†b. An idea, a concept. *Obs.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ii. § 8 (1622) 210 God is a fantasme, that can fill the fantasie.

†4. Imagination, fancy. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxii. 80 She saw also, to her semynge, two sonnes shynynge one by another, that presente hemself by symulacyon wythin the fantasme of her entendement. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 252 Proceeding from a melancholic Phantasme. 1689 EVELYN *Let. to Pepys* 4 Oct., Y^e subject of my wild phantasme..naturally leading me to something which I lately mention'd.

b. An imagination, a fancy: now always with emphasis on its unreality (cf. 1 b).

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 17 His Female Friends were irrationally curious so strictly to examine his Dreams, and in this low state to hope for the Fantasms of Health. 1738 H. BROOKE *Tasso* I. 60 Ambitious phantasms haunt his idle brain. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. Pref. 5 Is it well to recal from Limbo the phantasms of forgotten dreamers?

5. *attrib.*

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii, Visible and tangible objects in this phantasm world. 1843 — *Past & Pr.* III. i, From highest Phantasm apex to lowest Enchanted basis. 1871

MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 180 Why then should not the royalist assume..that the Protector was a usurper and a 'phantasm captain'?

Phantasma (fæntæ·zmă). Also 7 fantasma. Pl. **-as, -ata** (7 **-aca**). [a. It. *fantasma* = L. *phantasma*, a. Gr. *φάνταομα* appearance, mere appearance, phantom, image, f. *φαντάζ-ειν* to make visible, present to (or as to) the eye, f. *φαντ-ός* visible, f. stem *φαν-* of *φαίν-ειν* to show, appear, bring or come to light. See also PHANTASM and PHANTOM, which are forms of the same word through Fr.] **a.** An illusion, vision, dream; **b.** an apparition, a spectre: = PHANTASM 1 b and 2.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 338 Round about the Desart Op, where oft By strange Phantasma's Passengers are scoft. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* In Lect. prorsus indignos, Shall this Fantasma, this Colosse peruse And blast with stinking breath my budding Muse? 1607 — *What you Will* Introd., Wks. 1856 I. 221 Skru'd about With each slight touch of od phantasmatas. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 149 He shall see..strange phantasmaes. 1631 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Turn Fort. Wheel* Pref., Dreames and phantasmas full of contradictions. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 227 All was a phantasma, and a hideous dream of incoherent absurdities. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* x, At length these crude phantasmata arranged themselves into something more regular. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. IV. ix. (1876) 78 These were all an illusion and a phantasma, a thing that appeared, but did not really exist.

Phantasmagoria (fæntæzmăgō·riă). [f. Gr. *φάνταομα* PHANTASM + (?) *ἀγορά* assembly, place of assembly.

(But the inventor of the word prob. only wanted a mouth-filling and startling term, and may have fixed on *-agoria* without any reference to the Greek lexicon.)]

1. A name invented for an exhibition of optical illusions produced chiefly by means of the magic lantern, first exhibited in London in 1802. (Sometimes erroneously applied to the mechanism used.)

In Philipstal's 'phantasmagoria' the figures were made rapidly to increase and decrease in size, to advance and retreat, dissolve, vanish, and pass into each other, in a manner then considered marvellous.

1802 *Gentl. Mag.* June 544 Dark rooms, where spectres from the dead they raise—What's the Greek word for all this *Goblinstoria*? I have it pat—It is Phantasmagoria. *Ibid.* (end of vol.), An awful sound proclaims a spectre near, And full in sight behold it slow appear..Such are the forms Phantasmagoria shows. 1805 MRS. CREEVEY in *C. Papers*, etc. (1904) I. 67 The Baron is preparing a phantasmagoria at the Pavillion. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* IV. 80 An exhibition depending on these principles was brought out by M. Philipstal in 1802, under the name of the Phantasmagoria...Spectres, skeletons, and terrific figures..suddenly advanced upon the spectators, becoming larger as they approached them, and finally vanished by appearing to sink into the ground. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 807 Philipstal gave a sensation to his magic lantern entertainment by lowering unperceived, between the audience and the stage, a sheet of gauze, upon which fell the vivid moving shadows of phantasmagoria.

b. Extended to similar optical exhibitions, ancient and modern.

1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* ii. 59 The Almighty substituted, for the phantasmagoria intended by the witch, the spirit of Samuel. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. v. 98 Machines by which phantasmagoria and oracular prestiges were played off. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* II. IX.

2. A shifting series or succession of phantasms or imaginary figures, as seen in a dream or fevered condition, as called up by the imagination, or as created by literary description.

[1803 *Europ. Mag.* XLIII. 186 'The Phantasmagoria' (title of a series of articles consisting of sketches of imaginary characters).] 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 345/2 The army seemed a phantasmagoria. 1835 W. IRVING *Newstead Abbey* in *Crayon Misc.* (1863) 347 Such was the phantasmagoria that presented itself for a moment to my imagination. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* II. xii. (1878) 133 Milton's genius has filled the atmosphere with a brilliant phantasmagoria of contending angels.

3. *transf.* A shifting and changing external scene consisting of many elements.

1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. v. (1869) 121 A huddled phantasmagoria of feathers, spangles, etc. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* ix. (1856) 68 The wildest frolic of an opium-eater's revery is nothing to the phantasmagoria of the sky tonight. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* XXIII, Without was a phantasmagoria of terrible bright colours, and within a mental chaos and disorder without a clue.

b. A phantasmagoric figure, or something compared thereto.

1821 BYRON *Vis. Judgm.* LXVII, The man was a phantasmagoria in Himself—he was so volatile and thin.

4. *attrib.*

1841 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. viii. 130 There was no background to form a phantasmagoria deception, since the part plainest to be seen was the figure as it rose and sank above the paling. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 295/1 By the aid of a gas microscope attached to a powerful phantasmagoria lantern the image can be reflected on to a screen.

Hence † **Phantasmagoriacal** (-əi·ăkăl), **Phantasmago·rial** (whence **-ally** *adv.*), **Phantasmago·rian, Phantasmagoric** (-gŏ·rik), **Phantasmago·rical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a phantasmagoria; hence, visionary, phantasmal; **Phanta·smago·rist**, one who produces or exhibits a phantasmagoria.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 537 Deucalion sees a *phantasmagoriacal shadow of what..forms the history of the ancient world. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 17 Apr., In this *phantasmagorial place [London], the objects of the day come and depart like shadows. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 86 A thousand other scenes..come up *phantasmagorially or panorama-wise before us. 1827 *Examiner* 212/2 The Will-o'-the-wisp is painted..with shadowy and *phantasmagorian power. 1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XIV. 180 It will ever elude his grasp like.. the phantasmagorian images on the canvas. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 139 All Rabelais' personages are *phantasmagoric allegories. 1883 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* i. (1900) 5 The phantasmagoric brilliancy of shows at Court. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* Pref. (1879) 6 To establish a theatre..where the creatures of his brain may play their *phantasmagorical antics. 1816 J. LAWRENCE in *Monthly Mag.* XLII. 298 Whether..it can possibly be worth while.. for our chemists, or rather for our *phantasmagorists to repeat any of the old palingenesian experiments? 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* lxxi, Those arch phantasmagorists, the philosophers who would leave nothing in the universe but their own delusions.

Phantasmagory (fæntæ·zmăgori). [Cf. F. *phantasmagorie*.] = PHANTASMAGORIA.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. iv, This dim Phantasmagory of the Pit. 1865 — *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iii. (1872) IX. 304 The thing is reality; but it reads like a Phantasmagory produced by Lapland Witches. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 79 The phantasmagories of more prodigal and wild imaginations.

Phantasmal (fæntæ·zmăl), *a.* [f. PHANTASM or PHANTASMA + -AL.] Of the nature of a phantasm; spectral; having no material existence, unreal, imaginary; passing like a phantasm.

1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* VI. 192 All that chequers the phantasmal scene That floats before our eyes in wavering light. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* vii. (1882) 56 The phantasmal chaos of association. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 230 No confirmation has been found for the story, fathered on a certain phantasmal Mr. Buckley. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. xvi. 320 With such phantasmal imaginations he filled Inglesant's ears.

b. *Psychics*: see PHANTASM 2 b.

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 65 Between the moment of death and the phantasmal announcement thereof to a distant friend.

Hence **Phantasma·lian** *a.*, relating to what is phantasmal; **Phantasma·lity**, the quality of being phantasmal.

1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* III. viii, The idea grows up, a horrid phantasmalian monomania. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* II. II. ii. § 38. 45 Between the reality of our waking sensations, and the phantasmality of our dream perceptions ..the contrast is marked. 1903 *Critic* XLIII. 354/1 His is the spirit that cries for delivery from the tyranny of his senses, the phantasmality of the world.

Phanta·smally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a phantasmal manner or form; as a phantasm.

1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 103 The belief that this causation descends into the sensible world, and takes place therein not phantasmally, but actually. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II. 530 Persons are phantasmally seen or heard very soon before their actual appearance in the flesh.

Phantasmascope (fæntæ·zmăskoup). [irreg. f. PHANTASMA + -SCOPE.] = PHENAKISTOSCOPE.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. App. 350 They appear as if..a hundred [legs] were revolving and so form a kind of natural Phantasmascope. 1844 OLMSTED *Rud. Nat. Philos.* viii. 558 The Phantasmascope consists of disks bearing on their margin a variety of figures, which are so related to each other, that each..figure shall afford a continuation of the preceding. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 77/2.

Phantasma·tic, *sb. Eccl. Hist.* [f. Gr. *φαντασματ-* (see PHANTASMA) + -IC.] = PHANTASIAST, 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 322 The Phantasmaticks..who pretended that Christ had not a true Body.

Phantasma·tic, *a.* [as prec.] = next.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phantasmaticus*.., of or belonging to Phantasma: phantasmatic.

† **Phantasma·tical**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec.: see -ICAL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a phantasm; phantasmal. Hence † **Phantasma·tically** *adv.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes Q ij, In our corporeall spirit: For that is the matter that the soul raiseth her phantasmaticall forms in. 1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* VII. 364 The Angels moving..with a locall motion, by the phantasmaticall body which they took [etc.]. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* IV. i. (1731) 143 So are the Cogitations that we have of Corporeal things usually both Noematical and Phantasmatical together, the one being as it were the Soul, and the other the Body of them. *Ibid.* 144 By a Rose considered thus Universally and Phantasmatically, we mean a Thing which so affects our Sense in respect of Figure and Colour.

Phanta·smato·graphy. *rare*—°. [f. as prec. + -(o)GRAPHY.] (See quot.)

1730-6 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Phantasmatography*, .. a Treatise or Discourse of celestial Appearances, as the Rainbow. 1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.* 1864 in WEBSTER.

Phantasmic (fæntæ·zmik), *a.* [f. PHANTASM or PHANTASMA + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a phantasm; unreal; imaginary. So **Phanta·smical** *a.*

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIII. 185 His shadowy monarch is assailed by ideal conspirators, and their phantasmic high treason he will have atoned for by substantial flesh and blood. 1857-8 SEARS *Athan.* VI. 49 The spectacle..was not phantasmic, but real. 1863 A. B. DAVIDSON *Bibl. & Lit. Ess.* (1902) 16 A species of Doketism akin to giving Christ a phantasmical body.

Phanta·smist. *rare*—¹. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who maintains something to be a phantasm; a PHANTASIAST.

1823 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 6 Jan., It was real blood,..and not a mere celestial ichor, as the Phantasmists allege.

Phanta·smogenesis. *rare*. [f. Gr. *φάνταομα* PHANTASM + GENESIS.] The causation or origination of phantasms.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

So **Phantasmogenetic** (fæntæ·zmoˌdʒĕne·tik) *a.*, producing phantasms or apparitions; *esp.* creating or producing a phantasm (sense 2 b). Hence **Phanta·smogene·tically** *adv.*

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* II. 279 A Phantasmogenetic impulse conveyed directly from mind to mind. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Phantasmogenetically.* 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss., *Phantasmogenetic centre*, a point in space so modified by the presence of a spirit that it becomes perceptible to persons materially present near it.

Phantasmo·gnomy. [f. as prec. + Gr. *γνώμη* means of knowing: cf. *physiognomy*.] (See quot.)

1855 SMEDLEY, etc. *Occult Sc.* 296 Phantasmognomy.. teaches men to foresee and to foretell future or distant events from the images which fancy presents to the mind.

Phantasmo·logy. [f. as prec. + -LOGY.] The scientific study of phantasms. Hence **Phantasmo·lo·gical** *a.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phantast, -ic, -ical, etc., obs. or rare variants of FANTAST, -IC, -ICAL, etc.

Phantasy, variant of FANTASY (where see the Note, as to its frequent use in some senses).

† **Phantic, -ike.** *Obs. rare.* [? Syncopated for *phanatick*, FANATIC 2.] A possessed person.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 234 So doth the Phantike (lifting vp his thought On Sathan's wing) tell with a tongue distraught Strange Oracles. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Phantick.*

Phantom (fæ·ntəm), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4-7 **fantosme, 4-8 -om(e,** (4 **-oum, -eme, -ime, -umme, -on, faintum,** 4-5 **fantum,** 6 **fantone**). *β.* 6-8 **phantome,** (7 **-ôm(e),** 7-8 **phantosme,** 7- **phantom.** [ME. *fantosme, fantome*, a. OF. *fantosme* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Pr. *fantasma, -auma*, Cat. *fantarma*, Sp., It. *fantasma*:—L. *phantasma*, a. Gr. *φάνταομα*: see PHANTASMA. (The *o* of the Fr. (and Eng.) form has not been satisfactorily accounted for.)]

† **1.** Illusion, unreality; vanity; vain imagination; delusion, deception, falsity. *Obs.*

α 1300 *Cursor M.* 55 Hit neys bot fantum [*v.rr.* fanton, fantom] for to say, To day it is, to moru away. *Ibid.* 22160 Wip iugulori þai sal be wroght, And fantum [*v.rr.* faintum, fantom] be, and elles noght. *α* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* iv. 3 Whi love yhe fantom [L. *vanitatem*] and lighinge speke? *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* I. 493 (Fairf. MS.) Fro Fantome, and Illusion Me save. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 172 Josaphat was in gret doute, And hield fantosme al that he herde. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref., Copyed has þis Sauter ben of yuel men of lollardry:..Hur fantom hath made mony a fon. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xli. 311, I byleue it is but fantosme or spyryt werke of this woman. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccxliv. (1714) 481 The whole Entertainment of his Life was Vision and Phantome.

† **b.** With *a* and *pl.* An instance of this; an illusion, a delusion; a deception; a figment, a lie. *c* 1325 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1341 Honoured he not hym þat in heuen wonies, Bot fals fantummes of fendes, formed with handes. *α* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter*, etc. 505 þe deuyl sayd,.. i. sall take þaim wiþ snarys of sere temptacions, and many fald errours & fantoms. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* ii, This is no fantum, ne no fabulle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 122/2 A Fantum, *fantasma*. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 155 The tricks And Fantosmes wherewithall our Schismaticks Abuse themselves and others. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 50 The Express which they assure us to have been dispatched ..is a meer Fantome.

2. Something that appears to the sight or other sense, but has no material substance; an apparition, a spectre; a spirit, a ghost.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiv. 26 Thei, seeynge hym walkynge aboue the see, weren distourblid, seyinge, For it is a fantum. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xli. 311 It is som spyryt, som fantosme or Illusyon that thus hath abused me. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* IV. ii. 265 An Abbesse in Spaine, whose place a phantosme held in the Church .. while shee lay with a wicked spirit that maried her. 1693 SMALLRIDGE *Jul. Cæsar* in *Dryden's Plutarch* IV. 484 The Phantôm which appear'd to Brutus. 1746 SMOLLETT *Tears Scot.* 31 The pale phantoms of the slain Glide nightly o'er the silent plain. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1016 Hark the Phantom of the house That ever shrieks before a death. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* VI. 292 The phantoms are thin apparitions, clothed in a vain Semblance of form.

b. Something having the form or appearance, but not the substance, of some other thing; a (material or optical) image *of* something.

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 325 When a Body is.. reduc'd into Ashes, we find again in the Salts, extracted from its Ashes, the Idea, the Image, and the Phantom of the same Body. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. XXXIII. 5 As twin phantoms of one star that lies O'er a dim well, move, though the star reposes. 1819 — *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 52 The forms Of which these are the phantoms. 1856 T. B. BUTLER *Philos. Weather* IV. 63 (Funk) The thirsty wanderer is deluded by the phantom of a moving, undulating, watery, surface. 1882 P. G. TAIT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 582/1 Another curious phenomenon..the phantoms which are seen when we look at two parallel sets of palisades or railings, one behind the other...The appearance..is that of a magnified set of bars..which appear to move rapidly as we slowly walk past.

c. *fig.* Applied to that which is a 'vain show', or to a person, institution, etc., that has the name and show of power but none of the substance, or to one which remains a 'ghost of his (or its) former self'; a cipher. Cf. GHOST *sb.* 9.

1661 EVELYN *Tyrannus* 23 Exorcising these Apparitions and Fantosm's of a Court and Country. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 75 The Husband is only a Fantom. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 260 The caprice of the Barbarians .. once more seated this Imperial phantom [Maximus] on the throne. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) II. vi. 131 They annihilated the phantom of authority which still lingered with the name of Khalif at Bagdad. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. §6. 530 'If I granted your demands', replied Charles, 'I should be no more than the mere phantom of a king'. 1901 C. B. MOUNT in *N. & Q.* 15 June 465 This little phantom of a village [Temple, Cornwall]..dwindled to nothing..in the eighteenth century.

3. A mental illusion; an image which appears in a dream, or which is formed or cherished in the mind; also, the thought or apprehension of anything that haunts the imagination.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 47 Who wondrous things concerning our welfare, And straunge phantomes doth lett us ofte foresee. 1706 ADDISON *Rosamond* II. i, Farewel sorrow, farewel fear, They're fantoms all! 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 32 ¶ 11 We suffer phantoms to rise up before us, and amuse ourselves with the dance of airy images. 1804 WORDSW. *'She was a Phantom'*, She was a Phantom of delight When first she gleamed upon my sight. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* III. v, Sister unknown..a thousand times, amongst the phantoms of sleep, have I seen thee entering the gates of the golden dawn. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Stud. Germ. Lit.* 127 There is the phantom of an implacable Fate behind all those dreadful deeds.

b. The mental image or concept of an external object (considered as having a merely subjective existence).

1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. (1682) 3 The notion they have of him is but a phantôme and conceit. 1842 EMERSON *Lect., Transcend.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 289 How easy it is to show him [the Materialist] that he also is a phantom walking and working amid phantoms. 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xxv. 270 When you contemplate many similar objects, one and the same ideal phantom or Concept is suggested by all.

4. The visible representative, image, or figure of some incorporeal person or body politic.

1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xiii. § 151 So [the supreme executor of the law] is to be consider'd as the Image, Phantom, or Representative of the Commonwealth.

5. Technical uses. a. A model of an infant used in obstetric demonstrations; cf. MANIKIN 2 c.

1882 in OGILVIE. 1902 *Rep. Gen. Med. Council on Exam. Univ. Durham* 17 Candidates were required to demonstrate on the 'phantom' the application of the forceps. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 605 A good description is given of the various forms of 'phantom'.

b. *Angling.* An artificial bait made to resemble live-bait.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 52 Patent Soleskin Phantoms, and Artificial Baits. 1892 G. R. LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 181 The 'phantom' had still less effect. *Ibid.* 207 Of a phantom the boss had no opinion at all.

6. *appositive* or *adj.* That is a phantom; merely apparent, spectral, illusive. (Sometimes hyphened.)

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. xviii. 2206 Syne þai herd, þat Makbeth aye In fantown Fretis had gret Fay. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1861 Þe fantom fyre it vanyst sone. 1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 478 To assert their phantosme or feigned soveraignty. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XXII. 233 The adverse host the phantom-warrior ey'd. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xix. (1833) 344 Such phantom similes are mere witticisms. 1822-56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. 1897 III. 284 Phantom cavalry careered, flying and pursuing. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* ii, Phantom ship to skim aërial waves Or desert mirage. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* ii. 47 That phantom-god who, as we are told, is only a pale reflection of human vanity.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *phantom-land*, *-nation*, *-shape*, *-tribe*, *-warning*; b. similative, as *phantom-fair*, *-white* adjs.; also *phantom-like* adj. and adv.

1855 TENNYSON *Daisy* 65 *Phantom-fair Was Monte Rosa. *a* 1849 MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 42 Roams the *phantomland for ever. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy*, *Venice* 141 *Phantom-like, vanish with a dreadful scream. 1860 T. MARTIN *Horace* 55 Before thee evermore doth Fate Stalk phantomlike. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 627 The *Phantome-nations of the dead. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy* (1839) 70 Two *phantom-shapes were sitting side by side. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* VI. lxxix, Oberon, the silver-scepter'd fay, That rules his *phantom-tribes with gentle force. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xcii, Tho' the months..Should prove the *phantom-warning true.

8. Special combinations and collocations: **phantom corn, phantom corpuscle**: see quots.; **phantom-fish**, the transparent young of the common conger; **phantom flesh**: see quot.; **phantom-larva**, the transparent larva of a dipterous fly of the genus *Corethra*; **phantom minnow** (cf. 5 b); **phantom tumour**, a rounded abdominal swelling of temporary nature having the appearance of an actual tumour.

1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, **Fantome corn*, lank or light Corn...Phantosme Corn is Corn that has as little bulk or solidity in it as a Spirit or Spectre. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 258 They [i. e. red-blood corpuscles in urine] may retain their proper form, or they may appear as pale yellowish rings (*phantom corpuscles of Traube). 1879 *Bull. Essex Inst.* (Cent. Dict.), Conger eels and their curious transparent young—*phantom fish—are occasionally seen. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words*, **Fantome flesh*, when it hangs loose on the Bones. 1900 MIALL & HAMMOND *Harlequin Fly* ii. 78 The *phantom-larva (Corethra), which poises itself in the middle depths of clear water. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 212 Flexible Minnows..Caledonian Minnows..*Phantom Minnows. 1900 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 8/2 A bewildering 'eenstrument', as the Highland gillie called a phantom minnow. 1857 SIR T. WATSON *Princ. & Pract. Physic* (ed. 4) II. lxvii. 415 The tumour which she had presented to the notice of the surgeon was what has been called a *phantom tumour. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1137.

Hence (mostly *nonce-words*) **Pha·ntom** *v. trans.*, to haunt as a phantom; **Phantoma·tic** [cf. *phantasmatic*] *a.*, phantom-like, unreal; **Phanto·mic, Phanto·mical** *adjs.*, of the nature of or resembling a phantom; **Phanto·mically** *adv.*, as or in the form of a phantom; **Pha·ntomish** *a.*, akin to or suggestive of phantoms; **Pha·ntomishly** *adv.* (in 5 **fantomysliche**), in the manner of or by means of phantoms; **Pha·ntomry**, phantoms collectively; **Pha·ntomship**, the personality of a phantom.

1899 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 356, I had tried..the cure-all of hard work, but there was that ghost of the heart *phantoming everything sadly. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 177 The love of Adam and Eve in Paradise is..not *phantomatic, and yet removed from every thing degrading. 1877 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* (1878) 63 Their libraries of volumes..are but *phantomic. 1687 MRS. BEHN *Emperor of Moon* II. i, Whether they appear'd in solid bodies, or *fantomical, is yet a question. 1882 *Gd. Words* 602 Thus she appeared *phantomically [*pr.* -mimically] to her slumbering parents. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* May 803/1 The time was late, the place was *phantomish. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* st. 1142 Þus visiones nere not *fantomysliche ydo. 1835 ANSTER tr. *2nd Pt. Faustus* III. (1887) 159 Did the anguish of my spirit Shape the wild *phantomry? 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 22 Of her *Phantomship requested, To learn the Name of that close Dwelling. 1853 MISS E. S. SHEPPARD *Ch. Auchester* xvi. (1875) 68 This ghost of an aphorism stalked forth from my brain,..and to lay its phantomship, I am compelled to submit it to paper.

Pha·ntomist. [f. prec. + -IST.] One who professes some doctrine or theory as to phantoms; in quot., one holding the Docetic theory of Christ's body, a phantasiast. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1895 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 212 The reality of Christ's sufferings, which those who held the phantomist theory denied.

Pha·ntomize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans. lit.* To make a phantom of, reduce to a phantom; in quots. used polemically for, To explain away by interpreting in a 'spiritual' or figurative sense. Hence **Pha·ntomizer.**

1860 WOLFF *Trav. & Adv.* I. xii. 377 The system of interpreting..unfulfilled prophecy in a phantomizing, or, what is commonly called spiritual manner. *Ibid.* 379 Against the spiritual interpreters, that is, the phantomizers, of the 3rd and 4th verses. *Ibid.* II. 121 Christians who phantomize the clear sense of prophecy.

[**Phantomnation,** error for *phantom nation*: see *List of Spurious Words.*]

†**Pha·ntomy,** *sb. Obs.* In 5 **fantomye.** [f. PHANTOM + -Y: cf. *villainy*, etc.] Illusion; fantasy; the practice of illusion, deception.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xcii. 421 (Add. MS.) Now ye mow se the sothe, that it is false and vntrew, and fantomye.

Pha·ntomy, *a. rare.* [f. PHANTOM + -Y.] Of the nature of or characteristic of a phantom; phantasmal; *dial.* thin, reduced to a 'shadow'.

1877 E. LEIGH *Cheshire Gloss.* (E. D. D.), Horses are very phantomy at this time of year. 1893 *Temple Bar Mag.* XCVII. 240 A phantomy pair of thick black brows.

Phantoscope (fæ·ntŏskōup). [f. Gr. *φαντός* visible + -SCOPE: cf. PHANTASCOPE.]

1. A modification of the kaleidoscope.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 8/1 This new invention, called the phantoscope, and patented by Mr. W. S. Simpson, differs from the traditional kaleidoscope as .. any object whatever can, through an aperture at the end, be placed within it—a bee, for instance, a butterfly, a spray of maidenhair fern, or a sprig of heather, producing a complex vision of quite inconceivable beauty.

2. = PHANTASCOPE.

1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

†**Phanun,** obs. form of FANON.

c 1475 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 755/27 *Hic Phano*, phanun.

-phany, repr. Gr. *-φανία*, *-φάνεια* appearance, manifestation, f. stem *φαν-* of *φαίν-ειν* to show, appear; as in *angelophany*, *epiphany*, *theophany*.

†**Phaometer** (fēi·ǫ·mĭ·tər). *Obs.* [f. Gr. *φάος* light + -METER.] An apparatus for determining the intensity of light; a photometer.

1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 495 M. de Buffon, being asked if it might be possible to invent a Phaometer, or Machine for measuring the Intensity of Light.

Pharaoh (fē·ə·rō). Forms: 1 **Pharaon**, 4 **Pharaone, Pharaoe, Farao**, 4–7 **Pharao**, 7 **Pharoh**, 8 **Pharoah**, 7– **Pharaoh**. [orig. ad. L. *Pharaō*, *Pharaōn-em* (whence F. *Pharaon*), a. Gr. *Φαραώ*, a. Heb. פַּרְעֹה *parcōh*, ad. Egypt. *pr-'o* great house. The later Eng. spelling takes the final *h* from Heb.]

1. The generic appellation of the ancient Egyptian kings; an Egyptian king, *esp.* that one under whom Joseph flourished, and those in whose time the oppression and Exodus of Israel took place.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. iv. § 2 Hiora þeaw wære þæt hi ealle hiora cyningas hetan Pharaon. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 150 Hit fel as þe Fader seide In Pharaones tyme. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 1 After two 3eer Pharao [1388 Farao] sawe a sweuen. *a* 1555 LATIMER *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 177 After that he came at the Red sea, Pharao with his power followed at his back. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 73 The Egyptian Kings in holy writ vntill Salomons time are all calld Pharaoh's. It was no proper name, but a title which euery one of them had. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xiv. 385 Rameses the Second..remains to this day the representative Pharaoh of a line of monarchs whose history covers a space of fifty centuries.

b. *fig.* Used as a name for any tyrant or taskmaster.

c 1630 SANDERSON *Serm. Prov.* xix. 21 § 34 Scattering such proud Pharaohs in the imagination of their hearts. 1846 MRS. GORE *Sk. Eng. Char.* (1852) 69 The Sundays..by permission of his Pharaoh of the mill, were usually spent in wandering with his sisters about the green lanes by Gadesbridge, or Gaddesden.

†2. (Also **Pharaon, Pharoan, Pharo.**) A gambling game played with cards: = FARO 1. *Obs.*

1717 GAY *To Pulteney* 79 Nannette last night at tricking Pharaon play'd. 1739, 1748 [see FARO 1 1]. 1782 [T. VAUGHAN] *Fashionable Follies* II. cclxii. 212 She..spent whole days, and even nights, at whist and pharoan. 1792 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes Import., Resignation* xii, Behold, a hundred coaches at her door, Where Pharo triumphs in his mad career.

attrib. 1721 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Artifice* 1, He belongs to a Pharaoh-table, I us'd to see him tally sometimes. 1729 GAY *Polly* II, For some time I kept a Pharaon bank with success. 1796 COLQUHOUN *Police of Metropolis* p. x, [Houses] where Pharo Banks are kept. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1849) IV. 416 A party were at the pharo-table.

†3. A kind of strong ale or beer; also known as 'Old Pharaoh', 'Stout Pharaoh'. Cf. FARO 2. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1683 G. MERITON *Praise Yorks. Ale* (1685) 3 Lac'd Coffee, Twist, Old Pharoh, and Old Hoc, Juniper, Brandy and Wine de Langue-Dock. 1702 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* Wks. 1760 II. 286 A morning's draught of three-threads and old Pharoah. 1839 W. H. AINSWORTH *J. Sheppard* II. v, Don't muddle your brains with any more of that Pharaoh.

4. In names of animals, plants, etc.; as **Pharaoh's ant**, the little red ant (*Monomorium pharaonis*); **Pharoah's beans**, nummulites found in the rock of the pyramids, etc.; **Pharaoh's chicken**, the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*); **Pharaoh's corn**, *Triticum compositum*, the grains of which have been found in mummy-cases; mummy-wheat; **Pharaoh's fig**, †(*a*) some species of the genus *Musa*; (*b*) *Sycomorus antiquorum*; **Pharaoh's hen** = *Pharaoh's chicken*; **Pharaoh's mouse, or rat**, the ichneumon; **Pharaoh's pence** = *Pharaoh's beans*; **Pharaoh's serpent** [cf. Exod. vii. 9], a chemical toy composed of sulpho-cyanide of mercury, which fuses in a serpentine form; **Pharaoh's worm** = GUINEA-WORM.

1884 *Leisure Ho.* 236/1 Those round discs..known as *Nummulites*, and which Strabo was informed were petrified beans—'*Pharaoh's beans'. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* III. 166 *Neophron percnopterus*, the white neophron. Egyptian vulture. *Pharaoh's chicken. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., **Pharaoh's Fig*,..a genus of plants called by authors *musa*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Sycomorus antiquorum*, Pharaoh's Fig. 1876 *Helps Study Bible, Birds* s. v. *Eagle*, The 'Egyptian vulture' or '*Pharaoh's hen', common in Asia and all parts of Africa. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 427 The Indian Mouse, or *Pharaohs Mouse (as some learned later Writers do write) is no other then the Ichneumon. 1598, 1886 *Pharaoh's rat [see RAT *sb.*1 1 b]. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Nov. 5, I have found that one half of a *6d.* *Pharaoh's serpent is sufficient to poison a large sized rabbit.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Pharaoh-like* adj.

1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 84 That I may seasonably drown this Pharaoh-like procrastination in the sea of repentance. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Nov. 3/1 For a while he shows a Pharaoh stubbornness.

Hence †**Pharaonian** (fēərei·ōu·niăn), **Pharaonic** (-o·nik), †**Pharao·nical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to, of the nature or character of, or like Pharaoh.

1673 PENN *The Chr. a Quaker* xviii. 577 *Pharaonian Task-Master. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 387 Barriers, grander and more massive than the *Pharaonic rubbish of the Ramesium. 1899 SAYCE *Early Israel* v. 149 The Pharaonic Egyptians are the Egyptians of history. *c* 1528 *Impeachm. Wolsey* in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 352 Where he dyd well, thowe doste Amys by thy *pharon[i]call mynde. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 266 It was a Pharaonical thing to deny her choice of a midwife.

Pharbitin (fāɹbəi·tin). *Chem.* [f. Bot.L. *Pharbīt-is* + -IN.] A purgative resin obtained from the KALADANA resin-plant *Pharbitis* (or *Ipomœa*) *Nil*; also called **Pharbi·tisin.**

1873 DRURY *Usef. Plants Ind.* 337 Dr. G. Bidie prepared a resin from the seeds called *Pharbitisin*, which is a safe and efficient purgative. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 389. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pharbitin.*

Phare (fēə1). [a. F. *phare* (1553 in Hatz.-Datm.), ad. L. *phar-us*, a. Gr. *φάρος*: see PHAROS.]

1. A lighthouse; = PHAROS 1 2. Also *fig.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Phare*,..a Tower or high place by the Sea coast, wherein were continually lights and fires, which served Seamen to see the Haven. 1668 SMITH *Voy. Constantinople* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 23 On the Sandy Banks stands the Phare or Watch-tower. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* v. 386 Sun!..what care If lower mountains light their snowy phares At thine effulgence, yet acknowledge not The source of day? 1845 — *Lett.* (1899) I. 18 Like the

light in those crazy Mediterranean phares I have watched at sea.

†**2.** A strait or channel lighted by a pharos; the Strait of Messina: cf. FARE *sb.*3 *Obs.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 228 The Phare of Messina (for so these streights are now called of the Lanterne that stands on the point of Pelorus). 1652 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. Proem, The flames thereof flew ore the Phare of Messina into Calabria. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6176/1 Near the Phare of Messina.

Phareis, pl. of *pharie*, obs. form of FAIRY.

†**Pharian** (fē·riăn), *a. Obs.* [f. L. *Phari-us* of Pharos, Egyptian.] Of or pertaining to the island of Pharos; *poet.* Egyptian, Nilotic. b. *sb.* An Egyptian.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 500 The Ephesian Temple and high Pharian Tower. 1624 MILTON *Paraphr. Ps.* cxiv, And past from Pharian fields to Canaan land. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* x. 778 He chears the drooping Pharians with success. *a* 1729 CONGREVE tr. *Ovid's Art of Love* III. Wks. 1773 III. 271 If pale, let her the crimson juice apply; If swarthy, to the Pharian varnish fly.

Pharisæan (færisī·ăn), *a.* Also **-ean.** [f. L. *Pharisæ-us* PHARISEE + -AN.] = next, 1.

1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 367 All of them Pharisæan disciples, and bred up in their Doctrin. 1891 CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* viii. 415 The Second Book of Maccabees approaches much more closely to the Pharisæan theology.

Pharisaic (færisē·ik), *a.* [ad. L. *Pharisaïc-us* (Jerome), a. Gr. *φαρισαϊκ-ός*, f. *φαρισαῖ-ος*: see PHARISEE and -IC. Cf. F. *Pharisaïque* (Calvin).]

1. Of or belonging to the Pharisees.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. vi, He..removes the Pharisaick mists rais'd between the Law and the peoples eyes. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 4. 6 The Pharisaick Sect amongst the Jews. 1879 C. GEIKIE *Christ* 22 The bitterest persecutions of the Pharisaic party.

2. Resembling the Pharisees in being strict in doctrine and ritual, without the spirit of piety; laying great stress upon the external observances of religion and outward show of morality, and assuming superiority on that account; hypocritical; formal; self-righteous.

The particular connotation varies according as one or other of the aspects in which the Pharisees appear in the Gospels is emphasized; the present tendency being to emphasize that of self-righteousness.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Alls not gold* xxiv, Wee are so Punctuall and Precise In Doctrine (Pharisaik-wise). 1771 FLETCHER *Checks* Wks. 1795 II. 13 He sets up pharisaic self, instead of Christ. 1795 SOUTHEY *Soldier's Funeral* 56 O my God! I thank thee, with no Pharisaic pride I thank thee, that I am not such as these. 1884 *Congregational Year Bk.* 86 There is something worse than Pharisaic respectability. There is Pharisaic pride.

Pharisaical (færisē·ikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] †**1.** = PHARISAIC 1. *Obs.*

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1604 As Cayphas ones sayd in counsell pharysaycall. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 124 The want of which office Christ obiected to another of his Pharisaicall hostes. 1831 BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* viii. (1845) 189 The Pharisaical part of the Council declared him to be innocent.

2. = PHARISAIC 2.

1532 TINDALE *Exp. 1 John* ii. 3 (1537) 37 Our pharisaycall doctours haue no doctrine to knowe when a man is in the state of grace. 1625 BACON *Ess., Superstition* (Arb.) 347 The Causes of Superstition are:..Excesse of Outward and Pharisaicall Holinesse. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xx. 371 The pharisaical self-sufficiency of the modern infidel. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. xi. 161 There are vast multitudes of Pharisaical hypocrites among baptized Christians.

Hence **Pharisa·ically** *adv.*; **Pharisa·icalness.**

1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 21 So farre houen with surquedrie and self-loue,..Pharisaically..to annihilate all others. 1679 PULLER *Moder. Ch. Eng.* xvii. 489 Their many kinds of Superstitions, and Pharisaicalness. 1884 *Bookseller* 6 Nov. 1177/2 He, pharisaically, in the interests of morality, gets the thief, whom he taught, committed to prison.

Pharisaism (færisē·izm). [f. mod.L. *Pharisaïsm-us*, in 16th c. F. (Calvin) *Pharisaïsme*, f. Gr. *φαρισαῖ-ος* PHARISEE + -ISM.]

1. The doctrine and practice of the Pharisees; the fact of being a Pharisee.

1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* iv. 9 Paul was (ἀφωρισμένος) separated, which some would haue allude to his Pharisaisme. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pharisee*, Pharisaism is still the prevailing doctrine in the Jewish religion. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 519 It was the desire to preserve that Law intact which..formed the nobler side of Pharisaism.

2. The character and spirit of the Pharisees; hypocrisy; formalism; self-righteousness.

1602 W. WATSON *Impart. Consid.* (1831) 27 You should not be seduced by Pharisaism, hypocrisy, and plausible persuasions. 1711 *Reflect. on Wall's Hist. Inf. Bapt.* 351 What at length, do you find, but a kind of men mad with Pharisaism, bewitching with traditions? 1874 PUSEY *Lent. Serm.* 167 Of all the Pharisaisms of the day, our Church-going seems to me the masterpiece. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* iii. I. 46 When we speak of Pharisaism we mean obedience petrified into formalism, religion degraded into ritual, morals cankered by casuistry.

Pharisean: see PHARISÆAN, PHARISIAN.

Pharisee (færisī), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1–2 **fari-, phariseus**, 3 **pharisewus, farisew**, 4 **phariseu, -isew, -ysu, fariseu**, 5 **pharysew.** *β.* (3 **pharise**), 4 **far-**, 4–6 **pharise, -isey**; 4– **pharisee.** *γ. pl.* 5 **pharisen, -ysen.** [*a.* OE. *fari-, phariseus* (gen. sing. *-ees*, pl. *-eas*), in 13th c. *pharisewus*; thence ME. *farisew, pharisew, -eu*, etc. (cf. HEBREW). *β.* ME. *pharise, -ee*, a. OF. *pharise* (13th c. in Godef.). The OE. and OF. were both ad. L. *pharisæus, -ēus*, a. Gr. *φαρῑσαῖος*, pl. *-αῖοι*, ad. Aramaic פְּרִישָׁיָא *p'rīshaiyā* emph. pl. of פְּרִישׁ *p'rīsh* = Heb. פָּרוּשׁ *pārūsh*, separated, hence separatist.]

1. One of an ancient Jewish sect distinguished by their strict observance of the traditional and written law, and by their pretensions to superior sanctity.

*a. c*897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlvii. 362 Ða Fariseos ȝeliefdon ðære æriste. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vii. 37 He sæt on þæs fariseus [*c* 1160 *Hatton* farisees] huse. *Ibid.* xi. 43 Wa eow fariseum [*Hatt.* fariseen, xiv. 3 farisean]. *Ibid.* xviii. 11 Ða stod se fariseus [*Hatt.* pharisee]. *c* 1200 ORMIN 16862 Forr Farisew bitacneþþ uss Shædning onn Enngliss spæche. *Ibid.* 19658 Þa laþe Farisewess. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 328 Nout ase was þe Pharisewus þet tolde his god deden. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13588 Þaa phariseus [*v. rr.* -eseus, -aseus] þat war ful fell. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11647 Do nat as þe pharysu Preyde Gode asens hys pru. 1340 *Ayenb.* 175 Zuyche weren þe farizeus of þe godspelle. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxiii. 215 Herke, sere pharysew, and sere scrybe.

β. [*c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 365/27 Among men of pharise þat luþere weren, he cam.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 223 Cunne we wel Goddis lawe, and loke wher Fariseis grounden hem in it. *Ibid.* II. 36 Essey, Saducey and Pharisey. 1382 — *Luke* xviii. 10 Oon a Pharise [1388 a Farisee] and the tothir a pupplican. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 14 The Scribe and ek the Pharisee. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xiii. 117 (MS. 1607) To the pharisies these wordes say [*v. rr.* pharaseres, pharasittes]. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vii. 36 He cam in to the pharises housse. 1590 GREENWOOD *Collect. Sclaund. Art.* E iv b, He was a Pharisey. *Ibid.* F iij b, Blynde Pharesies. 1673 MILTON *True Relig.* 6 The Pharisees and Saduces were two Sects. 1841 TRENCH *Parables, Two Debtors*, The true spirit of a Pharisee betrays itself.

γ. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6893 Upon the chaire of Moyses.. Sitte Scribes and Pharisen.

2. A person of Pharisaic spirit or disposition; a self-righteous person; a formalist; a hypocrite.

1589 G. HARVEY *Advt. Pappe Hatchet* Wks. (Grosart) II. 168 Reprobates,..tyrants, pharises, hypocrites, false prophets. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 193 Though he play the Pharisie neuer so in iustifying his owne innocence, theres none will beleeue him. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 8 Not the nation, but the affection makes a Pharisee. 1682 TATE *Abs. & Achit.* II. 788 Whom laws convict, and only they, shall bleed, Nor Pharisees by Pharisees be freed. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 59 The peacock, see—Mark what a sumptuous Pharisee is he! 1901 'LUCAS MALET' *Sir R. Calmady* II. iii, I was a self-righteous little Pharisee—forgive me.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1611 COTGR., *Pharisien*, hypocriticall, Pharisie-like. 1822 J. MACDONALD *Mem. J. Benson* 153 Did he Pharisee-like bless God that he was not as other men? 1874 PUSEY *Lent. Serm.* 24 His may have been a respectable, decorous, Pharisee religion. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 25 Perhaps.. I did not mix the ingredients in their proper quantities: a little too much Pharisee-tincture, I expect.

†**Pha·risee,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To play the Pharisee; *refl.* to take credit to oneself for piety.

1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 51, I loue not I to pharisie, nor praise My selfe, for to her owne selfe I appeale. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* I. 30 Some of them .. acknowledge the Scripture, but .. only .. to Pharisee themselves, and Publican all the world besides.

Phariseeism (færisī·iz'm). [f. PHARISEE + -ISM.] = PHARISAISM.

1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xv. 7. 355 There remained no phariseeisme in Paul. 1865 L. OLIPHANT *Piccadilly* VI. (1870) 221 The force and despotic power of the Phariseeism of the present day.

†**Pharisian.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **farisen, -ysen**, 6 **pharisean, -esian(e, -isan**, 6–7 **-isian(e.** [In earlier forms a. F. *pharisien* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.); subseq. conformed to L. types *Pharisæān-us, -iānus*: see PHARISÆAN.] A Pharisee.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 486 He..founded hem on Farysens feyned for gode. *Ibid.* 547 Beþ nouȝt þise i-lyke Fully to þe Farisens in fele of þise poyntes? 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 108 Yᵉ phariseans and pyntid ypocritis quhilk vald mak thair selff richtwis throw thair aune varkis. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 63 The pridful Pharisiane. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 193 Wo be to ȝow, Pharesianis, That Regnis ȝit lyke hie Capitanis.

†**Pha·rmacal,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *pharmac-um*, a. Gr. *φάρμακ-ον* poison, drug + -AL.] Of the nature of, or dealing with, drugs; pharmaceutical.

1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 22 Our pharmacall compositions. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 214 Brandy ..too often is used in its stead, by the Pharmacal Artist.

Pharmaceutic (fārmăsiū·tik, -kiū·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *pharmaceutic-us*, a. Gr. *φαρμακευτικ-ός*, f. *φαρμακευτής* = *φαρμακεύς* poisoner, druggist, f. *φάρμακ-ον* poison, drug, medicine.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining or relating to pharmacy; pharmaceutical. Now *rare.*

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 164 Medecine is of five kinds. Pharmaceutic, cureth diseases by application of Medecine. 1775 SIR E. BARRY *Observ. Wines* 356 The pharmaceutic cure of several diseases. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 403 A user of pharmaceutic enchantments.

B. *sb.* (Usually in pl. **Pharmaceutics.**) The science of pharmacy; that branch of medical science which relates to the use of medicinal drugs.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A j b, The parties of the art of Medycyne (yᵗ is to wyt dyetyke, pharmaceutyke, and cyrurgery). 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 67 Whosoever shall enquire into the ill consequences of the two Pharmaceutics, will say, that..the Galenical..is always the most safe. 1869 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 442 General Pharmaceutics.

Pharmaceu·tical (see prec.), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -AL.] Pertaining to or engaged in pharmacy; relating to the preparation, use, or sale of medicinal drugs.

1648 PETTY *Adv. Hartlib* 16 Some good pharmaceuticall, Botanick and Chymicall Institutions. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 108 Remarks on the concentration of vinegar, and on some pharmaceutical preparations formed from this acid. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 24 The foundations of chemical science are to be found in the medical and pharmaceutical writers of the sixteenth century. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 121 It shall be unlawful for any Person to..use the title 'Chemist and Druggist'..unless such Person shall be a Pharmaceutical Chemist. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 26 Feb. 9/6 The 'Pharmaceutical Journal', which is the official organ of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

B. *sb.* A pharmaceutical preparation; a medicinal drug.

1881 B. S. PROCTOR in *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 219 The association of trade in pharmaceuticals from extraneous sources with the practice of pharmacy and trade in pharmaceuticals made at home is a matter of convenience both to the pharmacist and the public.

Hence **Pharmaceu·tically** *adv.*, in relation to, or from the point of view of, pharmacy.

1770 *New Dispens.* p. v, Many .. articles I have examined pharmaceutically. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 116 A solid mass is produced, rendering the combination pharmaceutically incompatible. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* LI. 109 No alcohol has been administered..either dietetically, pharmaceutically or medicinally.

Pharmaceu·tist (see above). [irreg. f. Gr. *φαρμακευτ-ής* (see PHARMACEUTIC) + -IST: ? after *chemic, chemist.*] A pharmaceutic practitioner; a pharmacist, druggist.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 193 M. Leroux, a pharmaceutist of Vitry-le-Français. *c* 1865 WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 20/2 This..has been taken advantage of by sugar-refiners and pharmaceutists.

†**Pharma·cian.** *Obs.* [f. late L. *pharmacīa* PHARMACY + -AN, app. after F. *pharmacien* (17th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] = next.

1720 BLAIR in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 31 By the unanimous Consent of all Physicians and Pharmacians.

Pharmacist (fā·rmăsist). [f. PHARMACY + -IST: cf. *botanist.*] A person skilled or engaged in pharmacy; one who prepares or dispenses medicines; a druggist or pharmaceutical chemist.

1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. ii, Unskilful pharmacists! pleasure and study are not elements to be thus mixed together. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 437 He used two samples of the alkaloid prepared by different pharmacists. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 29 The Pharmacopœia, generally a stickler in legality, speaks of 'pharmacists', which, strictly speaking, chemists and druggists are not.

†**Pha·rmacize,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To treat with drugs, to 'physic'.

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 108 That Religion should bee Pharmacized with such Drugs.

†**Pha·rmack.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. obs. F. *pharmaque* (Cotgr.), ad. med.L. *pharmacum*, a. Gr. *φάρμακ-ον* drug, medical or poisonous.] A drug, a medicine.

1643 *Decl. Lords & Com., Reb. Irel.* 39 It is one sicknesse, and one Pharmack will suffice.

Pharmaco-, repr. Gr. *φαρμακο-*, comb. form of *φάρμακον* drug, medicine, poison, a formative of technical words, as in the following:

Pha·rmacodyna·mic *a.*, relating to the powers or effects of drugs (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); so **Pha·rmacodyna·mics** *sb. pl.*, the science or subject of the powers or effects of drugs. **Pharmacognosy** (fāmăkŏ·gnŏsi) (also in L. form **-gno·sia**, and less correctly **-gno·sis**), the knowledge of drugs, pharmacology; esp. as a branch of natural history relating to medicinal substances in their natural or unprepared state; so **Pharmacogno·stical** *a.*, pertaining to pharmacognosy (whence **Pharmacogno·stically** *adv.*); **Pharmacogno·stics** = *pharmacognosy.* **Pharmaco·graphy,** a description of drugs (Ogilvie 1882). **Pha·rmacoma·nia,** a mania or craze for using or trying drugs (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1853); so **Pha·rmacomani·acal** *a.*, madly or irrationally addicted to drugs (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Pharmaco·mathy** = *pharmacognosy* (Ogilvie 1882). **Pharmaco·meter,** a vessel or contrivance for measuring medicines. **Pharmacomo·rphic** *a.*; see quot.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharmacodynamics*, a division of pharmacology which considers the effects and uses of medicines. 1867 R. HUGHES (*title*) Manual of Pharmacodynamics. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharmacognosia*, a division of pharmacology, which treats of simples or unprepared medicines. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 190 Special Botany, *pharmacognosis, inorganic botany. 1901 tr. Dieterich (*title*), Analysis of Resins, Balsams and Gum-resins: their Chemistry and Pharmacognosis. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pharmacognostical.* 1884 F. B. POWER (*title*) The Cinchona Barks *pharmacognostically considered. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pharmacognostica* .. *pharmacognostics. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pharmacognosy.* 1901 *Chemist & Druggist* 7 Sept., Pharmacopedia is..a commentary on the

botany, chemistry, pharmacognosy, and pharmacy of the medicines recognised by the British Pharmacopœia. [1874 Flückiger & Hanbury *(title)* *Pharmacographia: a History of the Principal Drugs of Vegetable Origin met with in Great Britain and British India.] 1830 *Edin. Rev.* L. 516 Impossible to light upon proper *pharmacometers. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* II. 326 **Pharmacomorphic*, pertaining to the form or appearance of drugs.

Pharmacolite (fɑːmăkɒlaɪt). *Min.* [Named by Karsten 1800, f. Gr. *φάρμακο-ν* poison + -LITE.] Hydrous arsenate of calcium, occurring usually in silky fibres. *Magnesian pharmacolite*, a synonym of Berzeliite (Dana *Min.* (1844) 239).

1805 R. Jameson *Syst. Min.* II. 483 Pharmacolite..occurs as a coating. 1815 W. Phillips *Outl. Min. & Geol.* (1818) 27 Lime combined with the arsenic acid, forms a mineral called Pharmacolite. 1850 Dana *Min.* (ed. 4) 220 Picropharmacolite of Stromeyer..is probably impure pharmacolite.

Pharmacology (fɑːmăkɒ'lŏdʒi). [ad. mod. L. *pharmacologia* (W. Harris 1683): see Pharmaco- and -logy.] That branch of medical science which relates to drugs, their preparation, uses, and effects; the science or theory of pharmacy.

1721 Bailey, *Pharmacology*, a Treatise concerning the Art of preparing Medicines. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 576 This work..answers the requisites of a good practical Pharmacology. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 17 *Pharmacology* is the general term employed to embrace these three divisions [Pharmacy, Therapeutics, Materia Medica]. 1883 *Nature* XXVII. 542/2 The knowledge of the action of remedies, or Pharmacology.

Hence **Pharmacolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining or relating to pharmacology (whence **Pharmacolo·gically** *adv.*); **Pharmaco·logist**, a person versed in pharmacology.

1851-9 Hooker in *Man. Sci. Eng.* 421 Upon *pharmacological subjects Lindley's *Flora Medica*..will be found valuable. 1873 J. W. Legg in *St. Barth. Hosp. Rep.* IX. 163 Operations..done in the pharmacological laboratory. 1900 *Lancet* 8 Dec. 1644/2 The aldehydes are *pharmacologically active. *a* 1728 Woodward *Fossils* (J.), The osteocolla is recommended by the *pharmacologists as an absorbent and conglutinator of broken bones. 1881 Huxley in *Nature* XXIV. 346/2 Sooner or later, the pharmacologist will supply the physician with the means of affecting, in any desired sense, the functions of any physiological element of the body.

Pharmacopedia (fɑːmăkɒpīdiă). Also in anglicized form **pharmacopedy** (-kɒ'pĭdi). [mod. f. Pharmaco- + Gr. *παιδεία* instruction: cf. *cyclopædia*. (Introduced in 1901-2 as a substitute for Materia medica in sense 2: see *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 29 Mar. 1902, p. 254.)] The art of imparting instruction or information about drugs, or a work containing such information; the sum of scientific knowledge concerning drugs and medicinal preparations. So **Pharmacope·dic** (-pīdik) *a.*, relating to the study of drugs; **Pharmacope·dics** *sb. pl.*, the scientific study of drugs and medicinal preparations.

1901 E. White & J. Humphrey *(title)* Pharmacopedia. 1901 *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 28 Dec. 730/1 *Pharmacopedics, as the scientific study of drugs and medicinal preparations may fitly be termed. *Ibid.*, A valuable addition to pharmacopedic literature. 1902 *Ibid.* 1 Mar. 177/2 Pharmacopedy (*materia medica*), galenic pharmacy, prescription reading, and dispensing. *Ibid.* 26 Apr. 346/2 Works on chemistry or pharmacopedy.

Pharmacopœia (fɑːmăkɒpīă). Also 7 **-pea**, (erron. **-pœa**, **-pœia**), 7-8 **-pœa**, 8-9 **-peia**. [mod. L., a. Gr. *φαρμακοποιία*, the art of a *φαρμακοποι-ός* or preparer of drugs, f. *φαρμακο-* Pharmaco- + *-ποιος* making, maker.]

1. A book containing a list of drugs, with directions for their preparation and identification; *spec.* such a book officially published by authority and revised at stated times.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iv. I. i, That infinite variety of medicines which I find in every Pharmacopea. *Ibid.* II. v. I. iii. 466 Our new London Pharmacopœa. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Life* (1886) 55 Pharmacopaeias or antidotaries of several countries. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 98 The medicine obtained a place in the Pharmacopeia of the Swedes. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* II. 881/1 Previous to the year 1863, three Pharmacopœias were extant in Great Britain, viz. those of the Colleges of Physicians of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin. In 1863 a British Pharmacopœia was compiled by the Medical Council of the kingdom, and sanctioned as a substitute for its predecessor. 1868 A. K. H. Boyd *Less. Mid. Age* 37 All the doctors in Britain and all the medicines in the pharmacopœia could make nothing of such a case.

2. A collection or stock of drugs. Also *fig.*

1721 Bailey, *Pharmacopœa*, a Dispensary or Collection of Medicines. 1807 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* xx. (ed. 5) II. 246 Then moistens her dewlaps With..each panacea From the Pharmacopeia. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xxiv, An opiate draught administered by the old Highlander from some decoction of herbs in his pharmacopeia. 1877 F. Heath *Fern W.* 42 Ferns have..a greater repute as items in the pharmacopoeia of the herbalist.

†**3.** A chemical laboratory. *Obs. rare*—°.

1864 in Webster. Hence in later Dicts.

Hence **Pharmacopœ·ist**, the compiler of a pharmacopœia.

1900 H. G. Graham *Soc. Life Scot. 18th C.* (1901) II. 480 The Pharmacopaeist of 1737 protests against the worthless farragoes made and sold in the shops.

Pharmacopœ·ial, *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Pertaining to a pharmacopœia; *spec.* recognized in, or prepared, administered, etc. according to the directions of, the official Pharmacopœia.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1864 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 435 Two only..reached the standard of pharmacopœial strength. 1881 *Times* 14 Apr. 6/3 He was in the habit of treating his patients..with pharmacopœial remedies in ordinary pharmacopœial doses.

Pharmacopœian (-pī·ĭăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. as prec. + -an.]

A. *adj.* †**a.** Versed in the pharmacopœia; acquainted with the use of drugs. *Obs.* **b.** = prec.

1670 Maynwaring *Physician's Repos.* 77 The Pharmacopœian Physicians are but very few. 1890 *Daily News* 8 May 5/5 The spirit used in many of the pharmacopœian tinctures is rectified.

†**B.** *sb.* A person versed in the pharmacopœia.

1668 Maynwaring *Compl. Physician* 83 The most renowned Physitians..were Pharmacopœians..diligent and careful in the preparing of their own Medicines. 1671 — *Anc. & Mod. Pract. Physick* 25 He that is not a Pharmacopœian, is but half a Physician, and the worst half.

†**Pharmacopoie·tic**, *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. Pharmaco- + Gr. *ποιητικός* making, productive.] Pertaining to the making or compounding of drugs. Also †**Pharmacopoie·tical** *a. Obs.*

1670 Maynwaring *Physician's Repos.* 86 Pharmacopoietick operations and tryals of Medicines. *Ibid.* 88 For want of knowledge in the Pharmacopoietical part.

†**Pharmacopo·le.** *Obs.* Also 8 **-pol**, and 6 in L. form **-pola**. [ad. L. *pharmacopōla*, a. Gr. *φαρμακοπώλης* dealer in drugs: see **-pole**. So in Fr. (Furetière 1690).] = Pharmacopolist.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A j b, With the apotycaries, wherof they haue y^e^ name of pharmacopoles. 1597 1*st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. i. 241 The carle lyeth here, att the house of this Pharmacopola. 1790 E. Darwin *Lett.* (1879) 39 Thus have I emptied my quiver of the arts of the Pharmacopol.

So †**Pharmacopo·lic** (-pɒ'lik) *a.*, drug-selling; †**Pharmacopo·litan** [irreg. after *metropolitan*, etc.] = next.

1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* CXXXIII. (1783) IV. 207 With the assistance of our pharmacopolic friends. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 153 Something that neither the Pharmacopolitan's shops nor gardens afford.

Pharmacopolist (fɑːmăkɒ'pŏlist). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ist.] A seller of drugs; an apothecary, a druggist.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 64 The family of Pharmacopolists. 1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. i, Not only a pharmacopolist, or vender of drugs, but likewise a chirurgeon. 1822 Scott *Nigel* ii. 1852 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* II. xxiv. 440 That self-sufficient air and tone of pedantry of which the pharmacopolists of Europe were formerly accused.

†**Pharmacopoly.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. Pharmacopole + -y, as if from a F. **pharmacopolie*.] A place where drugs are sold; an apothecary's shop.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 498 Simple Syrup is made in every Pharmacopoly.

Pharmacosiderite (fɑːmăkɒsəi'dĕrəit). *Min.* [Named by Hausmann, 1813, f. Gr. *φάρμακον* in sense 'poison' + *σίδηρ-os* iron + -ite.] Hydrous arsenate of iron, occurring in minute greenish or brownish crystals of cubic or tetrahedral form; also called *cube-ore*.

1835 C. U. Shepard *Min.* II. 102 Pharmacosiderite. (See Cube-Ore.) 1877 *Min. Mag.* I. 17 The pharmacosiderite occurs in the usual cubical forms.

‖**Pharmacothe·on.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. type **φαρμακοθεῖον* (f. *φάρμακον* medicine + *θεῖον* divine), in med. or mod.L. *pharmacothēum*, 'medicamentum divinum' (Jos. Laurentius *Amalthea Onomastica* 1640).] A divine medicine.

a 1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 113 By a generall Pharmacotheon, when he gave his Body full of all these vertues in the Sacrament, to make his Sufferings ours.

Pharmacy (fɑːmăsi). Forms: 4-5 **fermacie**, **-cye**, 5 **farmasye**, (**formacie**), 7 **pharmacie**, 8- **pharmacy**. [a. OF. *farmacie* (13-14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *pharmacie* (16th c.), a. late L. *pharmacīa* (Cælius Aur., Isidore), a. Gr. *φαρμακεία* the practice of the *φαρμακεύς* or druggist.]

†**1.** A medicine or medicinal potion. *Obs. rare*—¹.

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1855 Somme hadden salues and somme hadden charmes, Fermacies of herbes.

2. The use or administration of drugs or medicines. (Now chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*, or as a vague extension of next sense.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 83 A walkynge vlcus is heelid wiþ fleobotomie & formacie [*v.* ●ffarmasye]. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* Pref., We ought not to be so eager after Courses of Pharmacy in all Cases. 1718 Pope *Iliad* XVI. 38 Their pain soft arts of pharmacy can ease. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 40 They..did slowly..waste away for lack of pharmacy. 1895 Elworthy *Evil Eye* 445 Pharmacy consisted in divination by means of medicated drugs.

3. The art or practice of collecting, preparing, and dispensing drugs, esp. for medicinal purposes; the making or compounding of medicines; the occupation of a druggist or pharmaceutical chemist. (The leading current sense.)

[1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* I b/1 *Pharmacia* instructed vs how to compownde our medicaments.] 1651 Wittie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* I. xi. 40 A physician ought ..to be skilfull in Pharmacie, which consists in choice, preparation, and composition of simple Medicaments. 1717 Garth *Ovid's Met.* XIV. 275 So nice her Art in impious Pharmacy! 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 112 The vaunts of Paracelsus..and his open condemnation of the ancient pharmacy. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 76 A substance long known in pharmacy as 'red precipitate'.

attrib. 1882 *Chemist & Druggist* 1 Feb. 51/1 The Poison Schedule of the Pharmacy act.

4. A place where medicines are prepared or dispensed; a drug-store or dispensary.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 321 Attached to the church..is a pharmacy, where medicine is dispensed gratis. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 494 The 'Pharmacy' is large, airy, and well-filled with ancient blue and white jars. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 554 Bonjean's ergotin is that usually kept in our pharmacies.

†**Pharman, -maund, -mond**, early forms of Firman.

1598 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 115 The Pharmaund (or Charter) granted..from their Emperors. *Ibid.* 354 If the Petition be granted, he wears the Pharmond open in his Turbat.

Pharo, pharoan: see Pharaoh 2.

†**Pharol.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. It. *farolo*, 'the lanterne of a galley or ship; also a beacon' (Florio), dim. of *faro*, *pharo*, Pharos 1.] A ship's light (lantern or lamp).

1660 Howell *Parly of Beasts* 10 His ears are the two chief scuttles, his eyes are the pharols, the stowage is his mouth.

Pharology (fēərɒ'lŏdʒi). *erron.* **pharonology**. [f. Pharos 1 + -logy.] The art or science which treats of lighthouses and signal lights.

1847 A. G. Findlay in *Trans. Soc. Arts* LV. 262 The term Pharology was first introduced by the late Mr. Purdy. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pharonology* denotes the study of, and acquaintance with light-houses. 1879 Webster *Suppl.*, *Pharology*.

Pharos 1 (fēərɒs). Also 6-7 (9) **pharus**, 7 **pharo**, **-oe**, (**faro**); *pl.* 7 **phari**, 9 **-oses**. [a. L. *Pharos*, *-us*, a. Gr. Φάρος; It. *faro* (occas. in Eng.).]

1. The name of an island off Alexandria, on which stood a famous tower lighthouse, built by Ptolemy Philadelphus; hence the lighthouse itself.

1575 Laneham *Lett.* (1871) 48 Az it wear the Egiptian Pharos relucent vntoo all the Alexandrian coast. 1601 Holland *Pliny* V. xxxi. I. 110 The second [island] is Pharus, which is joined to Alexandria by a bridge:..now by fires from a watch-tower saylers are directed in the night, along the coast of Ægypt. *Ibid.* XXXVI. xii. II. 578 A great name there is of a tower built by one of the kings of Ægypt within the Island Pharos, and it keepeth and commaundeth the haven of Alexandria. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 141 A most high Tower, like to the Pharo of Alexandria, out of which light was hung out by night, to direct the ships. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 52 We saw the Pharos of Alexandria.

2. Any lighthouse or beacon to direct mariners.

a 1552 Leland *Itin.* IV. 81 This Towre is a Pharos to all Partes about from the Hilles. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 70 Lanternes or light-towers standing by haven sides—commonly called Phari. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 4 Her high peak Teyda..serves as an excellent Pharoe, exceeding those at Cayro on the other side of Nylus. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) I. 177 Dover Castle is very large, and situated upon a Rock..But the greatest Curiosity is the Pharos, or Roman Watch-tower. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* IX. 13 Each high pharos double flames provides. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 296 (ed. 2) 333 The Harbours of the ancients,..with their moles, pharoses, outer bays and inner basins.

attrib. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* iv. 153 Like Pharos-lights which deceived and wrecked the vessels they were meant to save.

b. *fig.*

1596 Fitz-Geffray *Sir F. Drake* B ij b, Fames stately Pharus, map of dignitie. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Trophies* 894 Their eyes sweet splendor seems a Pharos bright. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* II. i. (1713) 140 Repentance is the Pharos or watch-tower, which gives light by night to those who are bewildered by their own vanity. 1795 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Warn.* I. ix. 137 To be held up as a pharos to warn unthinking youth of the miseries attending a too hasty connexion. 1896 W. K. Leask *Boswell* I. 14 Henry Dundas,..that Pharos of Scotland, as Lord Cockburn calls him.

3. *transf.* Applied to any conspicuous light; a ship's lantern; a candelabrum; a lamp.

1759 Falconer *Descr. Ninety-gun Ship* 26 Her stern displays, And holds a Pharos of distinguish'd blaze. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vi. 244 *note*, The *pharus* was a contrivance for the suspension of lights in the church. 1862 J. Thrupp *Anglo-Sax. Home* vii. 212 Above [the altars] ..were suspended three rows of nine lamps in a pharus of the largest dimensions. 1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* (1886) 49, I could see these tiny pharoses..flash out.

‖**Pharos** 2 (fēərɒs). [a. Gr. *φᾶρος*.] A cloak.

1871 Browning *Balaust.* 685 Suppose a rider furls a cloak About a horse's head,..he goes his gait To journey's end; then pluck the pharos off!

Pharsang, obs. var. Farsang, Parasang.

Phary, obs. Sc. f. Fairy; variant of Fary *Obs.*

Pharyngal (fărĭ'ngăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. mod.L. *pharynx* Pharynx + -al.] = next. (Applied in quot. 1887 to those vowel sounds produced by resonance in the pharynx; hence as *sb.* = pharyngal vowel.)

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. x. 303 The wheel animals in which Ehrenberg detected pharyngal ganglions. 1867 A. J. Ellis *E. E. Pronunc.* I. iii. 71 The widening of the pharyngal aperture. 1887 Benson *Univ. Phonogr.* 11 The vowels [may be divided] into Five Pharyngals: Five

Orals: Five Diphthongs. *Ibid.* 12 The Pharyngals in Et, At, Aht, Ot, Ut, are heard. *Ibid.* 13 All these Pharyngal vowels are best uttered with the mouth quite open.

Pharyngalgia: see PHARYNGO-.

Pharyngeal (fărĭnʤĭ'ăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. mod.L. *pharynge-us* (f. *pharynx, pharyng-em*) + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with the pharynx.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 445 Maxillary front teeth conical, the pharyngeal blunt. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 70/2 The..pharyngeal muscles. 1884 F. J. NOTT in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 443/2 Nasal, pharyngeal, laryngeal, and bronchial catarrh.

B. *sb.* Short for *pharyngeal artery, bone*, etc.: esp. applied to the pharyngeal bones in fishes.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 210 The inferior pharyngeals strongly dentated. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 23 Fishes with the lower pharyngeals coalesced into one bone.

Pharyngectomy (færĭnʤe'ktŏmi). [f. Gr. *φάρυγξ, φαρυγγ-* PHARYNX + *ἐκτομή* cutting out.] Excision of the pharynx.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pharyngic (fărĭ'nʤĭk), *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of the pharynx; = PHARYNGEAL.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 110 Pharyngic quinsy.

‖**Pharyngitis** (færĭnʤəi'tĭs). *Path.* [mod.L., f. as prec. + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the pharynx.

1844 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 451 Simple acute pharyngitis..is an affection of frequent occurrence.

Hence **Pharyngitic** (-i'tik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with pharyngitis.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pharyngo- (fărĭ'ŋgo), before a vowel sometimes **pharyng-**, combining form of PHARYNX, in various terms of anatomy, pathology, zoology, etc.

‖**Pharynga'lgia**, also **pha'ryngalgy** [Gr. *-αλγία* pain], pain in the pharynx; hence **Pharynga'lgic** *a.* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Pha'ryngobranch** (-brænk) *a.*, belonging to the *Pharyngobranchii* (or *Leptocardii*), the lowest group of vertebrates, characterized by the pharynx being perforated by the branchial slits; *sb.* an animal of this group, an *Amphioxus* or lancelet; so **Pharyngobra'nchial** *a.*, (*a*) = prec. adj.; (*b*) see quot. 1846; **Pharyngobra'nchiate** *a.* = *pharyngobranch* adj. **Phary'ngocele** (-sēl) [Gr. *κήλη* tumour], an abnormal enlargement at the base of the pharynx or top of the œsophagus, in which food sometimes lodges. **Phary'ngo-epiglo'ttic** *a.*, pertaining to the pharynx and epiglottis: applied to a fold of mucous membrane on each side of the epiglottis, continuous with the wall of the pharynx. **Phary'ngo-glo'ssal** *a.* [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue], pertaining to the pharynx and the tongue; glossopharyngeal. **Pha'ryngognath** [Gr. *γνάθος* jaw] *a.*, belonging to the order *Pharyngognathi* of fishes, having the inferior pharyngeal bones ankylosed; *sb.* a fish belonging to this order; so **Pharyngognathous** (færĭŋgo'gnăþəs) *a.* **Pharyngography** (færĭŋgo'grăfi) [-GRAPHY], a description of the pharynx; hence **Pharyngographic** (fărĭ'ŋgogræ'fik) *a.*, pertaining to pharyngography (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pharyngo-laryngeal** (-lărĭ'nʤĭăl) *a.*, pertaining to the pharynx and larynx: applied to the lower cavity of the pharynx, below the soft palate. **Pharyngology** (færĭŋgo'lŏʤi) [-LOGY], that part of physiology which treats of the pharynx; hence **Pharyngological** (fărĭ'ŋgolo'ʤikăl) *a.*, pertaining to pharyngology (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phary'ngona'sal** (-nē'zăl) *a.*, pertaining to the pharynx and nose: applied to the upper cavity of the pharynx (*nasopharynx*), above the soft palate. **Phary'ngo-œsopha'geal** *a.*, pertaining to the pharynx and œsophagus (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖**Phary'ngo-œso'phagus**, a structure combining or representing pharynx and œsophagus. **Phary'ngo-o'ral** *a.* [L. *ōs, ōr-is* mouth], pertaining to the pharynx and the mouth: applied to the middle cavity of the pharynx (*oropharynx*), into which the mouth opens. **Phary'ngo-pa'latine** *a.*, pertaining to the pharynx and the palate; palato-pharyngeal. **Pharyngo'pathy** [-PATHY], disease of the pharynx. **Phary'ngople'gy** [Gr. *πληγή* stroke], paralysis of the muscles of the pharynx; hence **Phary'ngople'gic** *a.* **Phary'ngopleu'ral** *a.* [see PLEURAL], pertaining to the pharynx and the lateral body-wall (of *Amphioxus*). **Phary'ngopneu'stal** *a.* [Gr. *-πνευστ-ος*, f. *πνέ-ειν* to blow, breathe], of or pertaining to the *Pharyngopneusta*, a group proposed by Huxley, comprising the ascidians and the *Enteropneusta*. **Phary'ngo-rhino'scopy** [Gr. *ῥίς, ῥίν* nose, *σκοπεῖν* to view], 'visual examination, by means of a small mirror, of the posterior nares and upper part of the pharynx' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phary'ngoscope** [-SCOPE], an instrument for inspecting the pharynx; so **Pharyngoscopy** (færĭŋgo'skŏpi), inspection of the pharynx. **Phary'ngospa'sm**, spasm of the pharynx (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Phary'ngotome** [Gr. *-τομος* cutting], an instrument for making an incision into the pharynx; so **Pharyngotomy** (færĭŋgo'tŏmi), incision into the pharynx. **Phary'ngo-ty'phoid** *a.*, applied to typhoid fever combined with an affection of the pharynx.

1846 OWEN *Comp. Anat. Vertebr.* 116 To the epi-branchial of the second and third arches is commonly attached a shorter and broader bone beset with teeth, the *pharyngo-branchial. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharyngocele.* 1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 57 It has been ..termed a hernia of the mucous membrane (pharyngocele). 1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 51 From which is given off on either side a *pharyngo-epiglottic fold of mucous membrane. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharyngo-glossal.* 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* 21 He [Günther]..omits..the soft-finned *Pharyngognaths of Müller. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharyngography*, anatomical description of the pharynx. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pharyngo-laryngeal cavity.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 802 Tickling sensations..in the pharyngo-laryngeal region. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pharyngology.* 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pharyngo-nasal cavity.* 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 346 The arches of the palate hang very low down, the glosso-palatine higher than the *pharyngo-palatine. 1872 COHEN *Dis. Throat* 133 The pharyngo-palatine muscles. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pharyngopathia* ..*pharyngopathy. *Ibid.*, *Pharyngoplegia*..*pharyngoplegy. *Ibid.*, *Pharyngoplegicus* ..*pharyngoplegic. 1888 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 184/2 The fluted *pharyngo-pleural membrane. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 679 The Tunicata and the Enteropneusta .. constitute the *Pharyngopneustal Series. 1870 T. HOLMES *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 2) IV. 516 Moura-Bourouillon describes, in his treatise on Laryngoscopy, an instrument which he names the '*Pharyngoscope'. 1863 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 297 Rhinoscopy and *Pharyngoscopy. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), **Pharyngotomy.* 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pharyngotomy*, some authors have used this word synonymously with œsophagotomy...It means, also, scarification of the tonsils, or an incision, made for opening abscesses there. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 840 Thyrotomy, or subhyoid pharyngotomy..offers the best chance of getting rid of the whole disease. 1896 *Ibid.* I. 833 *Pharyngo-typhoid, laryngo-typhoid..instances of mixed infection.

Pharynx (fæ'rinks). *Anat.* Also 8 **pharinx**. [a. mod.L. *pharynx, pharyng-em*, a. Gr. *φάρυγξ, φάρυγγ-α* throat, pharynx: cf. *φάραγξ* cleft, chasm. So F. *pharynx* (Paré 1560).] The cavity, with its enclosing muscles and mucous membrane, situated behind and communicating with the nose, mouth, and larynx, and continuous below with the œsophagus; forming a passage from the mouth for the food and drink, and from the nasal passages for the breath.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pharynx*, the upper part of the Gullet, consisting of Three pair of Muscles. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 100 This destroying of manhood..has a considerable influence..on the pharinx, the glands and muscles of the throat. 1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1802) I. 49 When the pharinx is irritated by agreeable food, the muscles of deglutition are brought into action by association. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* iv.(1872) 176 The teeth of fishes are often set..upon the surface of the palate and even in the pharynx or swallow. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 50 The resonance of the air..in the cavity behind the tongue, comprehending the pharynx and larynx.

b. A more or less corresponding cavity in many invertebrates, forming a continuation of the mouth or beginning of the alimentary canal.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 359 *Pharynx*... The opening into the gullet. 1828 *Ibid.* xxxiv. 456 On the upper side of the tongue..is the pharynx, or aperture by which the food passes from the mouth to the œsophagus. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 103 The pharynx [of an Ascidian] has thus a respiratory function. *Ibid.* 633 (Rotifera) The mouth leads into an œsophagus, followed.. usually directly by a muscular pharynx or mastax.

Phasalle, obs. form of VASSAL.

‖**Phascogale** (fæskǫ'gălē), **phascologale** (fæskolǫ'gălē). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φάσκωλ-ος* leathern bag, purse + *γαλῆ* weasel.] A genus of small insectivorous marsupials of the family *Dasyuridæ*, diffused over Australia and New Guinea, commonly known as pouched or kangaroo mice.

1836 WATERHOUSE in *Trans. Zool. Soc.* (1841) II. 152 The skull of *Myrmecobius*, however, differs in several points from that of *Phascogale*. 1852 J. WEST *Hist. Tasmania* I. 324 The Phascogales are small insectivorous animals, found on the mountains and in the dense forest parts of the island.

Phascolome (fæ'skolom). *Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *Phascŏlomys*, f. as prec. + Gr. *μῦς* mouse.] An animal of the marsupial genus *Phascolomys*, containing the three species of the WOMBAT.

1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 705/2 The phascolome, a species of rat from Australia, which possesses an abdominal pouch. 1842 OWEN in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* XI. 7 The largest fossil..indicating rather an extinct gigantic Phascolome.

Phase (fēz). [ad. mod.L. *phasis*, a. Gr. *φάσις*: see PHASIS; = F. *phase* (Furetière *a* 1688), Sp., It. *fase*, Pg. *phase*, Ger. *phase*. In Eng. originally used in L. form *phasis*, pl. *phasēs*. The English use of *phase* appears to have arisen in the 19th c. from taking mod.L. pl. *phasēs* (which was more in use than the sing.) for an Eng. plural, and deducing from this a sing. *phase*; which would be natural to any one who knew that the French forms are *phase, phases*.

It results from this that *phases* is the written pl. both of *phasis* and of *phase*, and that in many instances it is not possible to say to which singular it is meant to belong.]

1. Each of the aspects or appearances presented by the moon or any planetary body, according to the amount of its illumination: = PHASIS 1.

Thus the crescent moon, half moon, gibbous moon, and full moon, are phases; but the term is commonly applied to the points of new moon, first quarter, full moon, and last quarter.

1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xxx. 295 The period of the Moon's phases. *Ibid.* xxxv. 350 To the greatest phase, that is, to the greatest quantity of the eclipsed disk. 1854 MOSELEY *Astron.* lxii. (ed. 4) 187 All those varieties of phase which characterize the changes of the moon. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* iii. § 229 Let us now explain what are called the phases of the Moon.

2. Any one aspect of a thing of varying aspects; a state or stage of change or development; = PHASIS 2.

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* I. x. 78 These clay-formed hills..are..subjected to continual phases, more or less, until ultimately their decomposition ceases. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* III. ii, He saw her in the most attractive phase of her character. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* III. iii. 190 Unfolding the successive phases of their mighty career. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 226 To enter into each successive phase of the discussion which turns up. 1883 LEIFCHILD in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 54 Shakespeare has painted every phase of antagonism to the world.

3. *Physics.* A particular stage or point in a recurring sequence of movements or changes, e. g. a vibration or undulation.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1874 SPOTTISWOODE *Polaris. Lt.* iii. 32 The distance whereby one set of waves is in advance of another is called the difference of phase. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 101/2 Two particles which are in the same stage of vibration..and are moving in the same direction and with equal velocities, are said to be in the same phase. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 54 The Phase of a simple harmonic motion at any instant is the fraction of the whole period which has elapsed since the moving point last passed through its middle position in the positive direction. 1892 *Lightning* Spec. Suppl. 3 Mar. *Gloss. Electr. Terms* s.v., The phase of an alternating current or electro-motive force, is the proportion of the whole period which has elapsed since last alternating into the direction considered positive.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1898 *Daily News* 12 May 6/3 The features of Mr. Wood's phase reversal and silver zone plates. 1904 A. FINDLAY (*title*) The Phase Rule and its Applications. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 12/2 Roozeboom, who applied the phase doctrine to all kinds of equilibrium, is the founder of a new branch of physical chemistry.

Phase, obs. erron. form of PASCH, PACE *sb.*^{2}; an error in various Dicts. (Webster 1828–64, etc.) for PHASE, *Min.*

Phase, erroneous spelling of FAZE *v.*, to discompose, disturb.

1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* (Tauchn.) II. 154 His spirit—why, it wasn't even phased. 1898 R. B. TOWNSHEND in *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 2/1 It don't seem to 'phase' him in the very slightest.

Pha'seal, *a.* [irreg. f. PHASE + -AL.] = PHASIC.

1847-9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 667/1 The law..is one of a phaseal quantitative degradation.

Phaseless (fē'zlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. PHASE + -LESS.] Having no phases, of unchanging aspect.

a 1849 POE *Ragged Mount.* Wks. 1865 II. 311 A phaseless and unceasing gloom.

†**Phasels, phaselles, phasiols**, var. FASELS *Obs.*, kidney-beans.

1562 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* II. 13 Take .. Peason, Phasiols, Lintelles, and such like. 1562 TURNER *Baths* 5 b, All kindes of pulse as beanes, peasen, phaselles and ciches. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxix, Beans, Pease, Phasels or Long-peasen.

Phaseolite (fāsī'ŏlait). *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Phaseolites*, f. *phaseolus* kidney-bean: see -ITE^1 2 a.] (See quot.)

[1849 PAGE *Geol. Terms* (1865), *Phaseolites*,..a genus of leguminous plants found in the Tertiary fresh-water formation of Aix.] 1882 OGILVIE, *Phaseolite.*

†**Phase'olous**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *phaseol-us* (see prec.) + -OUS.] Related to the kidney-bean or scarlet runner.

1681 GREW *Musæum* II. 233 It is neither of the Phaseolous, nor Fabaceous, but of the Peas-kind.

Phaseomannite (fē'sĭomæ'nəit). *Chem.* [f. *phaseo*(*lus* (see above) + MANNITE.] Another name of INOSITE.

1859 *Fownes' Man. Chem.* 355 *Inosite*..is identical with phaseomannite, which occurs in unripe beans (*Phaseolus*). 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 783.

Phaseometer (fē'zi,ǫ'mĭtəɹ). *Electr.* [f. Gr. *φάσις*, gen. *φάσε-ως* PHASE + -O)METER.] An instrument for indicating the phase of an electric current.

1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 142/2 A Direct Indicating Phaseometer..which resembles a double Watt-meter, with two movable bobbins.

Phasianic (fē'siæ'nik), *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. *φασιαν-ός* pheasant + -IC.] Of or pertaining to pheasants.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Apr. 4/2 The formation of coverts, food and management, and all other points and details of phasianic economy.

So **Phasianid** (fē'siănid) *a.*, of or pertaining to

the *Phasianidæ* or pheasant family of gallinaceous birds; **Phasianine** (fē·siănəin) *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Phasianinæ*, a sub-family of the *Phasianidæ*, including the pheasants proper; **Pha·sianoid** *a.*, allied in form to the pheasants, phasianid; **Phasianomorphic** (fē·siē·nŏ·mō·rfĭk) *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Phasianomorphæ* [Gr. *μορφή* form], in Sundevall's classification of birds, a cohort of *Gallinæ* containing some of the *Phasianidæ* with the *Turnicidæ* (*Hemipodii*).

1868 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 14 May 299 The great series of Galline, Pavonine, Phasianine, and Tetraonine birds.

Phasic (fē·zik, -sik), *a.* [f. Gr. *φάσ-ις* PHASE + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a phase or phases; presenting phases.

1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Sept. 588/2 It is not .. the mere phasic change of the moon that influences the weather. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 417 The number (of lymphocytes) in the blood undergoes phasic variation.

Phasiolis: see PHASELS, FASELS.

‖ **Phasis** (fē·zis, fē·sis). Pl. **phases** (fē·zīz, fē·sīz). [mod.L., a. Gr. *φάσις* appearance, phase, f. root *φα-*, *φαν-* of *φαίν-ειν* to show, appear.

As *phases* is the plural both of *phasis* and *phase*, it is often impossible to allot it to its proper singular. But all instances before 19th c. necessarily belong to *phasis*.]

1. Each of the aspects presented by the moon or any planetary body, according to the extent of its illumination. Now usually *phase* (PHASE 1).

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxxiii. 242 May vary according to..the phases of the Moon. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 69 This Author cannot conceive, how Saturn could..have no difference in its Phasis. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. vi. 341 The Figure that discovers the Phasis of the Moon. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Moon*, The earth will present all the same phases to the moon, as the moon does to the earth. *Ibid.* s.v. *Phases*, To determine the phasis of an Eclipse for any given time. 1792 SIBLY *Occult Sci.* I. 138 One phasis contains ten degrees, and every sign three phases.

b. The first appearance of the new moon.

1880 *Ch. Times* XVIII. 855 The phasis or reappearance of the moon after her conjunction with the sun takes place in about eighteen hours. 1899 *Expositor* Nov. 363 After the phasis, i.e. after the first appearance of the moon's disk.

2. The aspect presented by a person or thing; appearance; *esp.* any one aspect of a thing of varying appearances; a state or stage of change or development. Now usually *phase* (PHASE 2).

1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* Address 20 The Phasies of the Universe. *c* 1800 H. K. WHITE *Time* 406 Through every phasis still 'Tis shadowy and deceitful. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* (1835) 4 This agreeable scene assumed a new phasis at every turning. 1836 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 268 Some exercise, and consequently develope, perhaps, one faculty on a single phasis. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XI. i. (1872) IV. 15 A second and contemporaneous phasis of Friedrich's affairs. 1886 BLACKIE in *19th Cent.* Apr. 528 It is..only a new phasis of an old thing.

Phasm (fæ·z'm). [ad. L. *phasma*, a. Gr. *φάσμα* spectre, apparition, phantom, f. *φάω* I shine, give light, or *φαίν-ειν* to show, pass. to appear. At first in Gr.-L. form **phasma**, pl. **phasmata**.]

† **1.** An extraordinary appearance, esp. of brilliant light in the air; a meteor. *Obs.*

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 82 Fierie [Meteors]..such as onely seem to burn, which are therefore called Phasmata. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1701) 253/2 Hence are also Phasmes, such as are called gulfs, chasmes, bloody colours, and the like. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 358 What have we to say of Phasmes and Apparitions in the Air?

2. Anything visionary or imaginary; a phantom, apparition. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxxiii. 20 Splendid nothings, meer phasmes. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 374 After a small space the lights .. extinguish, and .. the Phasma having assumed a bodily shape or other false representation accompanies her. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* v. § 18 Such phasmes, such apparitions are most of those excellencies which men applaud in themselves. 1822 W. TENNANT *Thane Fife* II. 64 Flinging their phasms fantastically high.

‖ **Phasma** (fæ·zmă). [See prec.]

1. Earlier form of PHASM, q. v.

2. *Zool.* A genus of cursorial orthopterous insects, typical of the family *Phasmidæ*, known from their appearance as Spectre-insects, or Walking-sticks. Hence **Pha·smid**, any insect of the *Phasmidæ*.

1872 DOMETT *Ranolf* xiii. 209 A span-long Phasmid then he knew, Stretching its fore-limbs like a branching twig. 1888 BELT *Nat. in Nicaragua* xxi. 382 Another insect..had a wonderful resemblance to a piece of moss...It is the larval stage of a species of *Phasma*. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 2/2 Another singular-looking group are the Phasmidæ, which bear a remarkable resemblance to vegetable structures. Some..look exactly like sticks or stems of grass; some might be mistaken for moss-grown twigs.

† **Pha·ssachate.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *phassachātēs*, f. Gr. *φάσσα* ring-dove, cushat + *ἀχάτης* agate.] The lead-coloured agate.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Phassachates*, in the natural history of the antients, the name of a species of agate.] 1828 WEBSTER, *Phassachate*. Hence in mod. Dicts.

† **Phat(e**, obs. erron. form of FAT *sb.*[1], vat.

1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1063 As the Brine runs from the Salt after it is laded out of the Phats.

† **Pha·tagin.** *Obs.* Also **phataguin.** [f. Gr. *φαττάγης* a beast mentioned by Ælian, supposed to be a species of *Manis* or pangolin.] The Short-tailed or Five-fingered Pangolin (*Manis brachyura*).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VI. iii. 469 Of this animal [the Pangolin] there is a variety which is called the Phatagin, much less than the former.

† **Phaune,** obs. erron. form of FAWN *v.*[1]

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Sick Men* 75 b, Thei will..phaune upon theim, waggyng their tailes.

Pheal (fīăl). Also **pheale, pheeal.** [Imitative.] The cry of the jackal when hunting.

1879 F. POLLOK *Sport Brit. Burmah* I. 117 The peculiar cry of the jackal, which is generally called the 'pheale', so unlike the unearthly nightly howl of that animal. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 176 It was what they call in the Jungle the Pheeal, a kind of shriek that the jackal gives when he is hunting behind a tiger.

Phear(e, var. FERE *sb.*[1], companion, mate.

† **Phearse,** var. FERS *Obs.*, the queen in chess.

a 1577 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. (1587) 45 Prepare hymselfe to saue his pawne, or else to leese his phearse.

Pheasant (fe·zănt). Forms: α. 3, 6 **fesaund,** (4 *pl.* **-auns**), 4-6 **-aunt, -e,** 4-7 **-ant,** 5 **-antt, -annte, -awnt, -awante, -auntt, fasand, feisaunt, feysaund, -aunt,** *pl.* **-aunce,** 5-6 **fesande, -aund(e, -ante**; 6 **faysanne, -sant, feisant, fezant, feasaunt, -e,** *Sc.* **fasiane**; 6-7 **feasant,** 7 **feasan,** 9 (*dial.*) **fezen, fezzan.** β. 4, 7-8 **phesant,** 6 **phesaunt, -ante,** 7 **phasi-, phais-, pheis-, pheys-, pheazant,** 6- **pheasant.** [ME. a. AF. *fesant, fesaunt*, OF. *fesan* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *faisan* = Pr. and Sp. *faisan*, It. *fagiano*:—L. *phāsiān-us*, Gr. *φᾱσιᾱνός* (sc. *ὄρνις*) the Phasian bird, sb. use of *φᾱσιᾱν-ός* or pertaining to *Φᾶσις*, the Phasis, a river of Colchis, whence the pheasant is said to have spread into the west. The final *-t* is found also in OHG., MHG. *fasant* (also *fasān*, Ger., Da., Sw. *fasan*), Du. *fazant*, all of Romanic origin.]

1. The name of a well-known game-bird, *Phasianus colchicus*, long naturalized in Britain and other parts of Europe; by extension, applied to all the species of *Phasianus*, and to some related genera. (See 2.)

[1059 *Inv. Sanctæ Crucis apud Waltham* (1861) 16 Unicuique canonico..ii. perdices aut unus phasianus.]

α. 1299 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) II. 498 In xxvj perdicibus et uno fesaund empt. *c* 1320 *Orfeo* 296 Of game they fonde grete haunt, Fesaunt, heron, and cormerant. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 183 Wiþ fesaunes & feldfares and oþer foules grete. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 158 In a mornyng, Come four Fasandis full fair. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 322 With fesauntes fayre, theyr were no wane. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 124 Dyuerse pertryches and feysauntes. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* i, The crane, the fesant, the pecocke and curlewe. 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 370 It is a more goodly beinge..of a goodly Fesaund. 1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. vi. vii. 75 Of chyckens, of hennes, of capones, of faysannes. 1588 KYD *Househ. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 246 For the desire of Feisants or Partrich. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 39 Sumthing les than the fasiane. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 321 Patridges and Feasants are common. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 122 None shall take Fesants or Partridges with Engins. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Fezzan*, a pheasant.

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 76 A Phesant cam before here yhe. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Phesaunt a byrde, *faisant*. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 268 The Phesant and Partridg. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 770, I haue no Pheazant, Cock nor Hen. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* I. Comm. 41 Figured like a Wood-hen or shee-pheasant. 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 37 Fair as the Phasiant. *a* 1653 — *Idyll., Landskip* 5 Fame, a peircht Phaisant and the Quest of Kings, Keepes her at Bay. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 48 A wicked imp..Bewitch'd the children of the peasants,..And suck'd the eggs, and kill'd the pheasants. 1873 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Wooing o't* xxvii, She enjoyed occasionally startling a pheasant as it rose with a sudden whirr.

b. Locally applied to various birds of other families, as the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellata*) of the U. S.; the Mallee-bird (*Lipoa ocellata*) of Australia.

1637 T. MORTON *N. Eng. Canaan* (1883) 194 A kinde of fowles which are commonly called Pheisants, but whether they be pheysants or no, I will not take upon me to determine. 1766 W. STORK *Acc. East Florida* 51 The pheasant is in size like the European, its plumage like that of our partridge. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 31 Killed three prairie hens, and two pheasants. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* v. 20 He..Heard the pheasant, Bena, drumming. 1883 C. F. ADAMS in *T. Morton's N. Eng. Canaan* 194 *note*, The Pheasant of Morton and other early writers has been supposed by ornithologists to be the Prairie Hen or Pinnated Grouse (*Cupidonia cupido*). 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 541 Known in England as the Mallee-bird, but to the colonists as Lowan and 'Native Pheasant'—the *Lipoa ocellata*.

c. The bird or its flesh as an article of food.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 455 He fedde hem with no venysoun ne fesauntes ybake. 14.. *Chaucer's Dreme* 354 The second apple..You nourishes in pleasaunce, Better than partridge or fesaunce. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 29 b, Fesaunt excedeth all fowles in swetenesse and holsomnesse. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 114 One part makes up the prince and peasan, Though one eat roots, the other feasan. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* II. 472 To what would he on Quail and Pheasant swell That even on tripe and carrion could rebel?

2. *Ornith.* With defining words, applied to particular species of the genus *Phasianus* and allied *Phasianinæ* (as *Thaumalea, Euplocamus*), and *Pavoninæ* (as *Polyplectron, Argus*); also to some other birds in some way resembling the pheasant.

(Lady) Amherst's P., of Szechuen, China, *Thaumalea amherstiæ*; **Argus P.,** *Argus giganteus*: see ARGUS 2; **Bar-tailed P.** = *Reeves's P.*; **Blood P.,** the Sanguine Partridge, *Ithaginis geoffroyi*; **Cheer P.,** of N. India, *Phasianus wallichii*; **Copper P.,** of Japan = *Sæmmering's P.*; **Eared P.,** of China and Tibet, any species of the genus *Crossoptilon*; **Elliot's P.,** of China, *Phasianus ellioti*; **Firebacked P.,** of the Malay archipelago, etc., *Euplocamus ignitus*; **Gold** or **Golden P.,** of China and Tibet, *Thaumalea picta* or *Chrysolophus pictus*; **Lyre-** or **Lyre-tailed P.,** of Australia = LYRE-BIRD; **Peacock-P.** or **Pea-P.,** any species of *Polyplectron*, akin to *Pavo*; **Reed-P.,** the bearded Titmouse, *Panurus panarmicus*; **Reeves's P.,** of N. China, *Phasianus* or *Syrmaticus reevesi*; **Ring-necked P.,** of China, *Phasianus torquatus*; **Siamese P.,** *Euplocamus prælatus*; **Silver P.,** of China, *Euplocamus nycthemerus*; **Snow P.** = *Eared P.*; **Sœmmering's P.,** of Japan, *Phasianus sæmmeringii*; **Swamp P.,** the Pheasant Coucal of New South Wales, *Centropus phasianus*; **Water P.,** the pheasant-tailed Jacana, *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*.

1819 *Pantologia* s.v. *Phasianus*, *Argus pheasant...Inhabits Chinese Tartary, and is as large as a turkey. 1743 G. EDWARDS *Hist. Birds* 69, I have three Sorts of *Chinese Cock Pheasants, and the Hens of two of them. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 716 Two other species of Pheasant have been introduced to the coverts of England, *P. reevesi* from China, remarkable for its very long tail, white with black bars, and the *Copper Pheasant, *P. sæmmerringi*, from Japan. 1796 SIR G. L. STAUNTON *Macartney's Embassy China*, Plates, No. 13 The *Fire-backed Pheasant of Java. 1770 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 97 A *gold pheasant was sold for 20 guineas. 1819 *Pantologia* s.v. *Phasianus*, The *golden pheasant of China, the most beautiful of this genus. 1885 'WANDERER' *Beauteous Terr.* 60 And have we no visions pleasant Of the playful *lyre-tailed pheasant? 1864 JERDON *Birds of India* II. II. 508 Near the Peafowl should be placed the genus *Polyplectron*, or *Pea-pheasants; often called Argus pheasants. 1770 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 98 A *peacock pheasant [was sold] for 40 guineas. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xiv. 137 The species and sub-species of Polyplectron ..so far resemble this bird [peacock] that they are sometimes called peacock-pheasants. 1831-48 *Reed pheasant [see REED *sb.*[1] 14]. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 779 Reed-pheasant is the local name in East Anglia for the unhappily called Bearded Titmouse. 1834 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* II. 34 A second male specimen of the *Reeves's Pheasant, *Phasianus veneratus*, Temm., had also been sent to the Menagerie by John Reeves, Esq. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 610/1 The *ring-pheasant (*Ph. torquatus*), characterized by a more or less completed circle of white around the lower portion of the neck. 1819 *Pantologia* s.v. *Phasianus*, *Ringed pheasant. Collar white. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 610/1 The gold and *silver pheasants of our aviaries. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 61/2 The rare and elegant *Sœmmering's Pheasant..a native of Japan. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* iii. 60 A Centropus phasianellus (the *Swamp pheasant of Moreton Bay) was shot.

b. Sea Pheasant, † (*a*) the Turbot; (*b*) the Pintail Duck, *Dafila acuta*.

1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* I. xxi. 89 Turbot is eeldeth good and wholesome nourishment .. and is called therefore by some the Sea-pheasant. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Water Fowl* 96 The Sea Pheasant: *Anas caudacuta*. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 180/1 *Dafila caudacuta*. The Pintail Duck. This is..the Sea Pheasant, or Cracker, of Willughby.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pheasant-colour, -driving, -mew, -poult, -rearer, -shooting*; *pheasant-plumed, -tailed* adjs.; **pheasant-cock,** the male pheasant; **pheasant-coucal, -cuckoo** = *Swamp Pheasant* (see 2); **pheasant-duck** = *Sea Pheasant* (*b*) (see 2 b); **pheasant-finch,** *Astrilda undulata*, of Africa; **pheasant-grouse,** ? a species of Sharp-tailed Grouse, *Pediœcetes phasianellus*; **pheasant-hen,** the female pheasant; **pheasant-Malay,** a variety of the domestic fowl; **pheasant-wood** = PARTRIDGE-WOOD 1.

? *c* 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 168 Partrich, fesaunt hen, and *fesant cocke. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 36 Þo fesaunt kok, but not þo henne. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 852 The Peacocke, and Phesant-Cocke, and Gold-Finch-Cocke, have glorious and fine Colours. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 42 The beauty of the breed is with the hens, which are of a *pheasant-color in all parts of the body, with a velvety-black neck. 1846 J. L. STOKES *Discov. Australia* I. vi. 125, I enjoyed some very fair sport; especially with the *pheasant-cuckoo. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 224 *Pheasant-driving is pursued .. for the object of obtaining sporting shots. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xiv. 101 The black-cock, capercailzie, *pheasant-grouse .. are, as is believed, polygamists. ? *c* 1325 *Fesaunt hen [see *pheasant cock*]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xlviii. I. 296 The Fesant hens of Colchis. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 28 The cross between the *pheasant-Malay and the Spanish produces a particularly handsome fowl. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 392 A county..which..has degenerated..into a mere hare-warren and *pheasant-mew. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 41 The dark *pheasant-plumed breed, both of Bantams and common poultry. 1575 E. HAKE *Newes out of Powles Ch.-yd.* iv. D ij b, Fat *Pheasaunt Powt, and Plouer base for them that after come. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lix. (1737) 243 Phesants, and Phesant poots. 1819 *Pantologia*, *Pheasant-pouts*, young pheasants. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Jacana*, The *pheasant-tailed jacana of India, *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*..has a very long tail. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, **Pheasant-wood*, another name for Partridge-wood.

Pheasant-eye: see PHEASANT'S EYE 3.

Pheasant-eyed (fe·zănt,əi·d), *a.* [Parasynthetic f. *pheasant-eye* + -ED[2].] Marked like the eye of a pheasant: applied to certain flowers.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Caryophillus*, The Damask Pink,..Pheasant's ey'd Pink. 1754 *Catal. Seeds* in *Fam.*

Rose Kilravock (Spalding Cl.) 428 Annuals to be sowed in the open ground in the spring..Columbine. Sea ragwort. Pheasant-eyed Pink [etc.]. 1899 *Daily News* 19 May 5/2 The..pheasant-eyed narcissus.

Pheasantry (fe'zəntri). [f. PHEASANT + -RY.] A place where pheasants are reared or kept.

1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6360/2 His Majesty's Pheasantry in Bushy-Park. 1856 W. WHITE *On Foot thro' Tyrol* xiv. 300 There are pleasant woods behind the palace, and a pheasantry.

Pheasant's eye. A name of certain plants: cf. PHEASANT-EYED.

1. The common name of plants of the genus *Adonis*, esp. *A. autumnalis*: = ADONIS 2.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Adonis*, or *Flos Adonis*, Bird's-Eye, or Pheasant's-Eye. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 209 The pheasant's eye,..with its bright scarlet flowers.

2. The common white Narcissus (*N. poeticus*).

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 362/2 The Pheasant's eye (*Narcissus poeticus*). 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/1 The 'pheasant's eye' narcissus grows wild upon these vine-covered hill-sides.

3. (also **pheasant-eye, pheasant's eye pink**): the ring-flowered variety of the Garden Pink (*Dianthus plumarius* var. *annulatus*).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, App., Pheasant's-eye Pink. 1824 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) 860 The pink is considered.. to have proceeded from *D. deltoides*,.. and the pheasant-eye pinks from *D. plumarius*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Pink, Pheasant's-eye.

Pheasant-shell. A shell of the gastropod genus *Phasianella*, of the Australian seas; named from the brilliantly coloured and polished surface.

Pheeal, variant of PHEAL.

Pheer, variant of FERE *sb.*[1], companion, mate.

Pheering, var. FEERING *vbl. sb.*, marking out of land for ploughing.

1812 SOUTER *Agric. Surv. Banffs.* App. 4 (Jam.) There ought to be a small interstice left between the two furrows, to facilitate the next pheering. 1896 J. LUMSDEN *Poems* 23 It stands as plain's a pheerin pole.

Pheese, pheeze, obs. forms of FEEZE *sb.*

Pheidiac, -an: see PHID-.

Pheirs, var. PHAIRS, obs. Sc. f. FARCE *sb.*[2]

† Pheldifare, obs. or dial. form of FIELDFARE.

1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* II. x, Pit-falls for the Larke and Pheldifare.

Phellandrene (felæ'ndrĭn). *Chem.* [f. Bot. L. *Phellandr(ium* + -ENE.] A terpene occurring in the seeds of the Water Hemlock, *Phellandrium aquaticum*, and other plants.

1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phellandrene*, name given by Pisci to a terpene occurring in Elemi, in the seeds of *Phellandrium aquaticum* [etc.]. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 50.

Phello- (fe'lo), combining form of Gr. *φελλός* cork. **Phe'lloderm** *Bot.* [Gr. *δέρμα* skin], a layer of parenchymatous cells containing chlorophyll, formed in the stems of some plants from the inner cells of the phellogen; hence **Phellode'rmal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the phelloderm. **Phe'llogen** *Bot.* [see -GEN], the layer of meristematic cells from which the cork-cells are formed, the cork-cambium; so **Phellogene'tic** *a.*, producing cork, of the nature of phellogen; **Phelloge'nic** *a.*, of the nature of or pertaining to phellogen.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 90–1 In some cases the phellogen of the periderm gives rise not only to cork-cells.. but..[to] permanent parenchyma-cells containing chlorophyll..which Sanio terms the suberous cortical layer (Phelloderm)...In such cases the phellogen lies between the periderm and the phelloderm, the outer of its daughter-cells producing cork-cells, the inner phelloderm. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 545 The periderm consists of the phellogenetic meristem [= phellogen], and the tissues..derived from it, which..include a..stratum of Cork-cells..to which usually, but not always, phellogenic or peridermal parenchyma, the Phelloderm of Sanio, is added. *Ibid.* 549 The number of the phellodermal layers..is in most species very small, in comparison with the cork-layers which appear in the same space of time.

Phellopla'stic. [See prec. and PLASTIC.] A cork model or figure; the art of cutting figures or models in cork (also **Phellopla'stics**).

1802 W. TAYLOR *Let.* 26 July in Robberds *Mem.* I. 416 In print, in copper-plate, in painting or in fello-plastic (you have seen the cork-model of Rome). 1848 RICHTER *Levana* 13 An intellectual imitation in cork (a *phelloplastic*, according to Böttiger's retranslation into Greek). 1864 WEBSTER, *Phelloplastics*, the art of forming models in cork.

Phen-, pheno-, formative element in *Chem.*, (for *phæn(o-)* f. Gr. *φαιν-* shining, *φαίν-ειν* to bring to light, cause to appear, show; *φαίν-εσθαι* to come to light, appear. First used by the French chemist Laurent, 1841, in 'hydrate de phényle' and 'acide phénique', names which he applied to the substance subsequently called PHENOL. These names referred to the fact that the substance was a coal-tar product, arising from the manufacture of *illuminating* gas. Hence *phen-, pheno-* was gradually used as the basis of the names of all the bodies derived from benzene (i. e. phenyl hydride, which French chemists proposed to call *phène*). See PHENE, PHENIC, PHENOCOLL, PHENOL, PHENOMETHOL, PHENYL; also the following:

Phenacetin (fĭnæ'sĭtin), the acetyl derivative of phenetidin, the ethylic ether of paramidophenol, hence called also *para-acet-phenidin*, $C_6H_4{\cdot}OC_2H_5{\cdot}NH(CH_3CO)$; it occurs in white shining crystals, without taste or odour, and is used as an antipyretic. **† Phenamide** (fe'nămoid), a synonym of phenylamide or aniline. **† Phena'mylol**: see quot. **Phena'nthraquino'ne**, a substance, $(C_6H_4{\cdot}CO)_2$, related to phenanthrene, crystallizing in shining orange yellow needles. **Phena'nthrene**, a solid hydrocarbon, $(C_6H_4{\cdot}CH)_2$, prepared from crude anthracene (with which it is isomeric), crystallizing in colourless shining laminæ. **Phe'nazine**, $C_6H_4{\cdot}N_2{\cdot}C_6H_4$, crystallizing in long yellowish needles. **Phe'nazon**, a febrifuge prepared from coal-tar, called also antipyrin. **Phene'tidin**, the ethyl derivative of amidophenol. **Phe'netol**, ethyl phenyl ether, or phenate of ethyl, $C_2H_5{\cdot}OC_6H_5$, a volatile aromatic-smelling liquid; hence *phenetol red* = COCCININ, $C_{14}H_{12}O_3$.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Apr. 3/1 The coal-tar 'analgesic'.. *Phenacetin, a..white powder, which has direct action on ..neuralgia, and which presumably is a narcotic. 1891 *Lancet* 3 Oct. 771. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 242 The newer analgesics—antipyrin, antifebrin, and phenacetin. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 570 Phenate of amyl, *Phenamylole. 1881 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 433/1 On the Action of Aldehydes on *Phenanthraquinone in presence of Ammonia. 1882 *Ibid.* 16 Dec. 818/2 A new acid and a new compound,.. the desoxybenzoïn of *phenanthrene. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 751 Some of the synthetic analgesics—*phenazone or phenacetin—are of value. 1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 377 The probability..is enhanced by the production by the same chemist of '*Phenetidine', an epibase containing C_2H_5 more than Anisidine. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 401 The presence of phenetidin may be shown by changing it [the urine] into its diazo compound. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 570 Phenate of ethyl, or *Phenetole.

Phenacite (fe'năsəit), **-kite** (-kəit). *Min.* [Named, 1833, f. Gr. *φέναξ*, *φένακ-α* cheat (on account of its having been mistaken for quartz) + -ITE[1].] A silicate of glucinum, occurring in quartz-like transparent or translucent crystals, colourless, wine-yellow, or brown.

1834 *Phil. Mag.* Ser. III. V. 102 Phenakite, a new mineral from the Ural. 1861 H. W. BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 282 Phenacite..transparent to opaque. 1879 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 304 The precious stones in the 'Iron Pen' are a white Phenacite from Siberia, a yellow zircon from Ceylon, and a red Tourmaline from Maine. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 89/2 The rare mineral phenakite..sometimes used as a gem.

Phenakism (fe'năkiz'm). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *φενακισμός* deception, f. *φενακίζειν*: see next.] Deception, cheating, trickery; equivocation.

1818–60 WHATELY *Commpl. Bk.* (1864) 135 At least they regard phenakism as a peccadillo. *Ibid.* 170 Who avow and openly defend the system of what is called, in modern phraseology, phenakism, double-doctrine, economy, or reserve.

Phenakistoscope (fenăki'stŏskoup). [mod. f. Gr. *φενακιστ-ής* cheat, impostor, f. *φενακίζ-ειν* to cheat, trick + -SCOPE.] A scientific toy, consisting of a disk with figures upon it arranged radially, representing a moving object in successive positions; on turning it round rapidly, and viewing the figures through a fixed slit (or their reflexions in a mirror through radial slits in the disk itself), the persistence of the successive visual images produces the impression of actual motion.

1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 160 The ingenious improver of that beautiful instrument called the Phenakistoscope. 1838 BREWSTER in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 512/2 The phenakistoscope..was, we believe originally invented by Dr. Roget, and improved by M. Plateau, at Brussels, and Mr. Faraday. 1882 *Life J. C. Maxwell* ii. 36 A scientific toy..called by the names phenakistoscope, stroboscope or magic disc.

Phenate: see under PHENIC.

† Phene (fīn). *Chem. Obs.* [a. F. *phène*: see PHEN-.] An early name proposed for BENZENE. So **Phe'nene**, in same sense; **Phe'nenyl**, the radical C_6H_3 of phenylene compounds.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 564 Benzole; Benzine, or Phene. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 35 Here..we have the series of aromatic hydrocarbons:—C_6H_6 Phenene, C_7H_8 Benzoene. *Ibid.* 94 Both phenene C_6H_6, and phenol or carbolic acid C_6H_6O, are producible by transmitting the vapour of alcohol or fusel oil through red-hot tubes.

Phenetidin, Phenetol: see PHEN-.

Phengite (fe'ndʒəit). *Min.* Also 8 **fengite**; and in Gr.-L. form **phengites** (fendʒəi'tīz), also corruptly **fingites**. [ad. L. *phengītēs*, a. Gr. *φεγγίτης* phengite, selenite, or crystallized gypsum, f. *φέγγο-ς* light, lustre, moonlight: see -ITE[1] 2 b.]

1. A transparent or translucent kind of stone known to the ancients; 'probably crystallized gypsum or modern selenite' (Dana *Min.* (1868) 640).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXVI. xxii. II. 592 In which regard (for that it is so resplendent) it hath found a name to be called Phengites: of this stone the said Emperour [Nero] caused the Temple of Fortune to be built called Seia. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 103 Fingites, is of a white Colour, hard as Marble, and transparent like Alabaster. 1776 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* lxiii, The gallery is illuminated with pieces of the transparent marble called Phengites, fixed in the wall in square compartments, and shedding a yellow light. 1828 WEBSTER, *Phengite*, a beautiful species of alabaster, superior in brightness to most marbles.

2. A modern name for muscovite, a strongly doubly-refractive species of mica.

1868 DANA *Min.* Index, Phengite, 309. *[*Ibid.* 309 Muscovite. Common Mica; Potash Mica..Phengit *v. Kob.* Taf., 62, 1853.] 1882 OGILVIE, *Phengite*, same as *Muscovite*.

Phenic (fī'nik, fe'nik), *a. Chem.* [f. PHENE + -IC; in F. *phénique* (Laurent 1841).] Pertaining or related to phenyl or to benzene; = PHENYLIC. *Phenic acid*, another name of PHENOL or carbolic acid. Its salts are **Phe'nates**.

1852 *Chemical Gaz.* X. 136 St. Evre suspected a connexion between his acid and phenic acid (phenole, phenylous acid) $C^{12}H^6O^2$. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 564 Benzole..belongs to a group called the phenic series. *Ibid.* 570 Phenic or carbolic acid..Phenate of methyl, or anisole. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxix. 336 Phenol..dissolves in the alkalies, forming a phenate. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 354 It is the first of the Phenic series. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal* 96/1 Phenate of Soda solution. An antiseptic application for burns, scalds, &c.

Phenicine, -in (fe'nisəin, -in). *Chem.* [Etymologically *phœnicin(e*, f. Gr. *φοῖνιξ* a purple-red, purple, or crimson, lit. a Phœnician (in reference to Tyrian purple) + -IN.] A colouring matter produced by the action of nitro-sulphuric acid on phenylic alcohol; indigo carmine.

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. x. 282 From the property, possessed by this substance, of becoming purple coloured on the addition of certain salts, Mr. Crum terms it phenecin. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 379 Acids have no effect in preventing the precipitation of phenicin by salts. 1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 388 Phenicine..dyes silk and wool without the intervention of a mordant.

Phenix, variant of PHŒNIX.

Phennig, -ing, obs. forms of PFENNIG.

Pheno-, formative element: see PHEN-.

Phenocoll (fī'nokŏl). *Chem.* [f. PHENO- + ending of GLYCOCOLL.] A derivative of phenacetin (= *amido-aceto-para-phenetidin*); in pharmacy, applied to the hydrochloride, as a febrifuge.

1891 *Lancet* 9 May 1060/2 A new antipyretic, hydrochlorate of phenocoll, a white crystalline powder which is readily soluble in water. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* vi. 121, I have never seen benefit in any way approaching that of quinine from..phenocol, parthenium,..or any of the many drugs..recommended in malaria.

Phenocryst (fī'nŏkrist). [ad. mod.F. *phénocryste*, irreg. f. Gr. *φαίνειν* to show + *κρύστ(αλλος* crystal.] Each of the large or conspicuous crystals in a porphyritic rock.

1893 GEIKIE *Textbk. Geol.* II. (ed. 3) 155 Two phases of consolidation..to be observed, the first (porphyritic) marked by the formation of large crystals (phenocrysts) which were often broken and corroded by mechanical and chemical action. 1903 H. B. GUPPY in *Daily Chron.* 7 Nov. 3/3 The pyroxene phenocrysts usually are represented by separate crystals of the monoclinic as well as the rhombic type.

Phenogam, etc., variants of PHÆNOGAM, etc.

Phenol (fī'nŏl). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *φαινο-* (see PHEN-) + -OL 1 (= alcohol).] A hydroxyl derivative of benzene, $C_6H_5(OH)$, commonly known as CARBOLIC *acid*, q. v. (also *phenic* or *phenyli acid*, *phenyl hydrate*).

1852 [see PHENIC]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 561 Phenic, or Carbolic Acid..Phenole..is the most abundant acid product of the distillation of pit-coal. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 123 Castoreum..contains phenol, or coal-tar kreosote. 1878 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 338 If one atom of hydrogen [in benzene] be replaced by hydroxyl an alcohol like substance termed phenol is obtained. *Ibid.* 341 Phenol is sometimes called phenyl-alcohol, but it differs from a true alcohol in several respects;..it is not readily oxidized and yields neither an aldehyde, a ketone, nor an acid. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept., The important and universally-known antiseptic and disinfectant, carbolic acid, or phenol.

b. In pl. **phenols**, the hydroxyl derivatives of the aromatic or benzene series of hydrocarbons; also, applied to derivatives of phenol, in which one or more of the hydrogen atoms are replaced by other radicals, the names of which are usually prefixed; e. g. *bromophenols* or *bromophenic acids* (C_6H_3BrO, etc.), *chlorophenols*, *iodophenols*, *nitrophenols* ($C_6H_5(NO_2)O$, etc.), *diazo-nitrophenol* ($C_6H_3N_3O_3$), etc.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 568 The so-called phenol or alcohols derived from hydrocarbons of the benzene series by the displacement of an atom of hydrogen in the C_6 group by the group OH. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 477 These latter compounds, including the hydroxyl-derivatives of benzene, are called Phenols. *Ibid.* 478 Monatomic Phenols... The phenols exhibit acid as well as alcoholic characters. *Ibid.* 488 Eight-carbon Phenols.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 948 An antidote to phenol poisoning. *Ibid.* IV. 33 Phenol compounds. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 240 When the volatile fatty acids and phenol group have passed over in the process of distillation. *Ibid.* vii. 346 A considerable portion of phenol-forming substance.

d. In comb. with other chemical terms, denominating substances containing or derived from phenol, as *phenol-sulphuric* acid, $C_6H_5{\cdot}SO_4$, *phenol-sulphate* of potassium, $C_6H_5{\cdot}K{\cdot}SO_4$, *phenol-sulphonic* acid, $C_6H_4{\cdot}SO_3{\cdot}OH$, etc., *phenol-phthalein*, phenol combined with phthalein, forming a white or yellowish-white crystalline powder, or triclinic crystals, $C_6H_4{\cdot}(CO{\cdot}C_6H_4{\cdot}OH)_2$.

1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 977 Phenol-phthalein. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 356 Dry powder of phenol-sodium. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 237 Phenol-sulphuric acid. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVI. 99 Phenol naphthaline changed color both with acids and alkalies. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 287 For testing the alkalinity of sulphites...The best [indicator] is phenol-phthalein in alcoholic solution.

Phenolic (fĭnǫ·lĭk) *a. Chem.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of the nature of, or belonging to, phenol; carbolic.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 916 Phenolic ethers. 1880 FRISWELL in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 16 Apr. 446 A naphthol was substituted for the phenolic or amido portion of the molecule. 1898 *Naturalist* 183 Antiseptic tannic and phenolic bodies.

Phenological (fĭnolǫ·dʒĭkăl), *a.* Also phæn-. [f. *pheno-* (in *phenomenon*) + *-logical* (in *meteorological*, etc.): rendering Ger. *phänologisch*, used by Dr. C. Fritsch *in Jahrb. d. k. k. Central-Anstalt für Meteorologie*, 1853, Vienna 1858.] Of or pertaining to phenology or to the objects of its study. So **Phenology** (fĭnǫ·lŏdʒi), the study of the times of recurring natural phenomena (see quot. 1884), esp. in relation to climatic conditions; **Pheno·logist**, one who studies phenology.

1875 (*title*) Instructions for the Observation of Phenological Phenomena, published by the Council of the Meteorological Society. 1883 *Nature* 4 Jan. 234/2 The most important feature of the phenological year was the mild winter. 1884 *Ibid.* 9 Oct. 558/2 Phenology, the observation of the first flowering and fruiting of plants, the foliation and defoliation of trees, the arrival, nesting, and departure of birds, and such like, has attracted the attention of naturalists from time to time for nearly 150 years. 1894 *Naturalist* 241 Phenological notes and statistical tables of rainfall and temperature. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Pl.* I. 155 The study of the periodic phenomena of vegetation...is termed *phaenology*.

† **Phe·nomen, -mene.** *Obs. rare.* Anglicized form of PHENOMENON [= F. *phénomène*].

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxi. § 2. 271, I apply them to the seuerall Phoenomens which Mr. Hall shewed me. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 44 These fancies and phenomenes in their braine.

Phenomenal (fĭnǫ·mĕnăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also phæn-. [f. PHENOMEN-ON + -AL: so mod.F. *phénoménal* (1875 in Littré).]

1. Of the nature of a phenomenon; consisting of phenomena; cognizable by the senses, or in the way of immediate experience; apparent, sensible, perceptible. (Opposed to *real, absolute*, etc., and in Philosophy to *noumenal*.) Also *absol., the phenomenal*, that which is cognizable by the senses.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 205 The Mosaic narrative thus interpreted gives a just and faithful exposition of the birth and parentage and successive movements of phenomenal sin (*peccatum phænomenon; crimen primarium et commune*). 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Idealism* Wks. (Bohn) II. 165 Seen in the light of thought, the world always is phenomenal. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. iii. § 7 All that we know is therefore phænomenal—phænomenal of the unknown. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) II. 534 If a path of transit from the phenomenal to the noumenal world could be found..should we not then be quickly in possession of the truth? 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. i, The ideal is the subjective, the phenomenal the objective. 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* II. iii. 120 The Phenomenal is the Real: there is no other real that we can distinguish from it. 1881 [see PHENOMENALIZATION]. 1884 J. VEITCH *Mind in Matter* (1892) 3 When the positivist demands acceptance of the phenomenal as the ultimate, the position is felt to be inadmissible.

b. Of, relating to, or concerned with phenomena, esp. with the phenomena of any science.

1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sc.* x. ii. § 4. II. 103 Descriptive or Phenomenal geology. *Ibid.* § 7. 109 We must have a Phenomenal science preparatory to each Ætiological one. 1888 A. J. BALFOUR in *Pall Mall G.* 2 Oct. 1/2 The belief in a future state is one of the most striking differences between phenomenal and supernatural religion.

c. as *sb. pl.* Things of the nature of phenomena.

1878 G. D. BOARDMAN *Creative Week* 289 (Cent.) In the matter of elementals, the new earth will be identical with the old; in the matter of phenomenals, the new earth will be different from the old.

2. Of the nature of a remarkable phenomenon (PHENOMENON 3); very notable or remarkable, extraordinary, exceptional; 'prodigious'.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 23 To afford a glimpse of the phenomenal fact that the bosom of the Church was indeed for a time the refuge of this shorn lamb [Cecco]. 1862 J. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. II. ix. 190 Others have been found, showing that the tree is not phenomenal in its appearance. 1882 *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 19/2 The success of Miss Kate Greenaway's 'Birthday Book' was phenomenal.

Pheno·menali·sm. [f. prec. + -ISM.]

a. That manner of thinking which considers things from the point of view of phenomena only.

b. The metaphysical doctrine that phenomena are the only objects of knowledge, or the only realities; externalism.

1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. i, I shall call then by the name of 'phenomenalism' that notion of the various objects of knowledge which go to make up the universe which belongs to the point of view of physical science. 1865 *Reader* 8 July 29 It seems..to have no clear superiority over the law of gravity, or any other generalization of phenomenalism. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. ix. 402 Kant's Phenomenalism...The doctrine that the objects of our knowledge are merely phenomenal.

So **Pheno·menalist**, one who holds or advocates phenomenalism; hence **Phenomenali·stic** *a.*

1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* I. ii. II. § 1. 83 We must conclude that both the materialist and phenomenalist are wrong. 1880 T. C. MURRAY *Orig. & Growth Ps.* ix. 285 He [G. H. Lewis] differs from the modern phenomenalist alone in his result. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 92 A view more or less phenomenalistic is natural from the first to our manner of existence here.

Phenomena·lity. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ITY.] The quality of being phenomenal; something that is phenomenal, a phenomenon.

1882 J. B. STALLO *Concepts & The. Mod. Physics* 201 Phenomenalities are the deliverances of sense. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 380 With respect to the Phenomenality of Space, I have argued..that the appearance both of Space itself and of the changes which take place in it, is to be referred to real events which *do not take place* in Space.

Pheno·menalize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To render phenomenal; to conceive or represent as phenomenal. Hence **Pheno·menaliza·tion**, the action of phenomenalizing.

1870 J. C. SIMON in *Contemp. Rev.* XIII. 405 This doctrine [of Hegel] that the Whole of Being is phenomenal—consisting of the process which we commonly call Thought or Thinking, and which .. we may call Phenomenalization. 1881 FRASER *Berkeley* 73 Phenomenalisation not being possible in the absence of sense-conscious spirits, the world, it is argued, could not have existed before man .., if its reality is only phenomenal. *Ibid.* 112 Berkeley phenomenalises finite things, but not finite persons.

Phenomenally (fĭnǫ·mĕnăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a phenomenal manner or degree.

a. In relation to phenomena.

b. Extraordinarily, notably, surprisingly.

1826–7 DE QUINCEY *Lessing* Wks. 1859 XIII. 291 Fixed bodies..or individual things he [Homer] paints only phenomenally, or through their participation in these fluent actions. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Mar. 5/4 Describing the weather as phenomenally severe for the season.

Phenomene: see PHENOMEN.

† **Phenome·nic,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also phæn-. [f. PHENOMEN-ON + -IC.] Of the nature of a phenomenon: = PHENOMENAL 1. So † **Phenome·nical** *a. Obs.*, relating to phenomena: = PHENOMENAL 1 b.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 497 The 'palpable' is not the 'real', but the 'actual',—the 'phænomenic', if you must needs have a big, vague Latin or Greek word for it. 1858 W. R. PIRIE *Inquiry Hum. Mind* ix. 503 The mind in sleep being directed rather to its phenomenical states..than to its own subjective existence.

Phenomenism (fĭnǫ·mĕniz'm). *Philos.* Also phæn-. [f. PHENOMEN-ON + -ISM.] = PHENOMENALISM b. So **Pheno·menist**, a holder or advocate of phenomenism; hence **Phenomeni·stic** *a.*

1830 J. DOUGLAS *Errors Relig.* 231 His philosophy was still phenomenism. 1852 BP. FORBES *Nicene Cr.* 107 Some have maintained a pure idealism, others a pure materialism, and a third party pure phaenomenism. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 182 The notion of an unknowable noumenism with which phænomenism..is contrasted. 1871 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 1 English philosophers ..may be divided into two sharply contrasted classes, whom we may call objectivists and phenomenists respectively. 1893 W. WARD *W. G. Ward & Cath. Revival* 328 We would thus..address some phenomenistic opponent.

Pheno·menize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To make phenomenal or apparent to the senses or mind; to treat as a phenomenon.

1860 J. YOUNG *Prov. Reason* 33 The ego of consciousness is only the manifested, the phenomenized ego. *Ibid.* 245 Phenomena are phenomena of something actual behind them, which they phenomenize, and thereby reveal.

Phenomenology (fĭnǫmĕnǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. PHENOMENON + -LOGY.]

a. The science of phenomena as distinct from that of being (ontology).

b. That division of any science which describes and classifies its phenomena.

1797 J. ROBISON in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Philosophy* § 47 This part of philosophy may be called Phenomenology. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* vii. (1877) 121 If we consider the mind merely with the view of observing and generalising the various phænomena it reveals..we have one..department of mental science; and this we call the phænomenology of the mind..; we might call it phænomenal psychology. 1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* x. ii. (1847) II. 464 Each Palætiological Science, when complete, must possess three members: the Phenomenology, the Ætiology, and the Theory. 1875 MANSEL *Gnostic Heresies* i. 3 Between the real and the apparent, between ontology and phenomenology.

Hence **Pheno·menolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to phenomenology.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 26 Phenomenological, as opposed to ontological. 1891 tr. *De La Saussaye's Man. Sc. Relig.* i. 8 We proceed to treat the phenomenological facts.

Phenomenon (fĭnǫ·mĕnǫn). Pl. -a. Forms: *Sing.* 7 phain-, 7–9 phæn-, 7– phenomenon; (*β. erron.* 8–9 -omena). *Pl.* α. 7– -omena; β. 7–9 -omenons; γ. *erron.* 7–8 -omenas (-a's). [a. L. (post-cl.) *phænomenon*, pl. *-a*, a. Gr. *φαινόμενον*, pl. *-μενα* (absol. use of pr. pple. passive of *φαίνειν* to show, pass. to be seen, to appear) appearing, apparent (to the senses or mind), hence *τὰ φαινόμενα* things that appear, appearances, phenomena. Cf. F. *phénomène* (1570 in Hatz.-Darm.), It., Sp. *fenomeno*, Pg. *phenomeno*; Ger. *phänomen*.]

1. In scientific and general use: A thing that appears, or is perceived or observed; an individual fact, occurrence, or change as perceived by any of the senses, or by the mind: applied chiefly to a fact or occurrence, the cause or explanation of which is in question.

a 1639 WOTTON *Life Dk. Buckhm.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 102 Somwhat I must note in this strange Phainomenon. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 203 The most considerable phænomenon belonging to terrestrial bodies is the general action of gravitation. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 45 Observing an unusual and surprising phenomenon, viz. a star at Noonday, moving in a particular orbit. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* 618 That every phaenomenon must have a cause, was always taken for granted. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 63 Any phenomenon, the beginning or end of which is seen at the same instant by observers under different meridians, affords the means of determining the difference of longitude. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 75 Every one is familiar with the common phenomenon of a piece of metal being eaten away by rust.

β. (*erron.*) 1576 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* IV. 79 The landlady being so strange a phaenomena as to be Conscientious. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 285 A phenomena of pregnant importance.

b. Plural.

α. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ix. § 1 It is not repugnant to any of the *phainomena*. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. v, Those more large Phænomena of Day and Night, Winter and Summer. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iii. 104 The shifting phenomena of sensation.

β. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 55 The efficient Cause of the several Phænomenons. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 102. 2/1 The two Phænomenons, which you question. 1735 JOHNSON tr. *Lobo's Voy. Abyssinia* x. 105 How many empty Hypotheses and idle Reasonings, the Phænomenons of this River [Nile] have put Mankind to the expence of. 1865 [see 3].

γ. (*erron.*) 1635 (*title*) Atlas Cœlestis, Containing the Systems and Theoryes of the Planets,..and other Phenomenas of the Heavens. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 17 In the Ascension of Water in Pumps, and in other Phænomena's of that kind. 1751 *Guide to Stage* 29 Phenomena's which have appear'd nowhere but upon our theatres. 1767 MRS. S. PENNINGTON *Lett.* III. 13 All the phenominæ of Nature.

† c. Phr. *To save* (or *salve*) *the phenomena* (tr. Gr. *σώζειν τὰ φαινόμενα*): to reconcile the observed and admitted facts with some theory or doctrine with which they appear to disagree. *To solve a phenomenon*: to explain or account for an observed fact (so *solution of a phenomenon*). *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Superstition* (Arb.) 345 Like Astronomers, which did faigne Eccentricks and Epicycles, and such Engines of Orbs, to save the Phenomena; though they knew, there were no such Things. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* I. i, To save the phenomenon of our Saviours answer to the Pharises. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii, Conceits of eminent use to salve magneticall Phenomena's. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 9 To solve the Phænomena of nature. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 214 The Phenomena of Government cannot be salved. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* ix. (1709) 105 An original solution of this Phaenomenon. 1748 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 134 The solution of their phænomenon is obvious.

2. In philosophical use: That of which the senses or the mind directly takes note; an immediate object of perception (as distinguished from substance, or a thing in itself). Opposed to NOUMENON.)

1788 REID *Active Powers* I. vi. 43–7. 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Idealism* Wks. (Bohn) II. 160 It is the uniform effect of culture in the human mind..to lead us to regard nature as phenomenon, not as substance. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iv. 184 Self, therefore, is not a phenomenon, nor yet a bundle of phenomena. 1895 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Mar. 536 The doctrine that the subject-matter of knowledge is limited to phenomena..is common to all I have mentioned [Hume, Berkeley, Locke]. 1895 A. J. BALFOUR *Found. Belief* (ed. 2) 7 Its leading doctrines are that we may know 'phenomena' and the laws by which they are connected, but nothing more [etc.].

3. Something very notable or extraordinary; a highly exceptional or unaccountable fact or occurrence; *colloq.* a thing, person, or animal remarkable for some unusual quality; a prodigy.

1771 *Junius Lett.* lvii. (1772) II. 257 From whatever origin your influence in this country arises, it is a phænomenon in the history of human virtue. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 605 Here, such occurrences are considered as phenomena. 1803 WELLINGTON in *Gurw. Desp.* (1837) II. 411 In short, the only conclusion to be drawn..is, that, the British Government in India is a phenomenon. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiii, 'This, Sir', said Mr. Vincent Crummles, bringing the maiden forward, 'this is the infant phenomenon — Miss Ninetta Crummles'. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* May 631 People do not usually feel the same affection for phenomenons, however curious, that they do for perfectly commonplace human creatures. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* (1884) App. I. iii. § 8 *note*, The perversion of this word 'phenomenon' into the sense of 'prodigy'. Even educated people may be found speaking of a remarkable occurrence as 'Quite a phenomenon'.

† 4. That which appears or seems to a person to be the correct view; one's (own) notion, opinion, or theory. *Obs. rare.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 21 Self love produceth in us al a fond conceit of and regard unto our own phænomena and principles. *Ibid.* 22 Dogmatising opiniatretie, which makes men to abandon Truth for the preservation of their own Phænomena.

† **Phenomenous,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. + -OUS.] = PHENOMENAL 2.

1754 FIELDING *J. Wild* II. xii, To account for many occurrences of the phænomenous kind.

† **Phenome·thol.** *Chem.* [f. PHENO- + METH(YL + -OL I.] An obs. name of ANISOL.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 492 If anisic acid be distilled with an excess of caustic baryta, it yields a compound termed *anisole*, or *phenomethole*.

Phenose (fī·nōus). *Chem.* [f. PHEN- + -OSE².] A sweetish amorphous deliquescent compound formed by the action of hypochlorous acid on benzene, and having the general formula $C_6H_{12}O_6$ of the carbohydrates.

1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 402 Phenose, as this body is termed, is not fermentible, but if its production..be hereafterwards confirmed, it is of the greater importance, since it directly connects the so-called carbohydrates with the benzene series and with the fatty acid series. 1892 MORLEY & MUIR *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 838 Phenose $C_6H_{12}O_6$. Formed by the action of aqueous ClOH on benzene in the dark,..also by the electrolysis of toluene mixed with alcohol and dilute H_2SO_4.

Phenozygous, variant of PHÆNOZYGOUS.

Phenyl (fī·nil, fe·nil). *Chem.* [f. PHEN- + -YL, lit. 'radical of benzene (*phene*)'.]

1. The monovalent organic radical C_6H_5 (also symbolized Ph), which exists in the free state as DIPHENYL, $H_5C_6{-}C_6H_5$, and enters as a radical into benzene (*phenyl hydride*), phenol (*phenyl hydroxyl*), aniline (*phenylamine*), and a very extensive series of organic compounds.

1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 238 A compound radical called phenyle, a name given by Laurent to the supposed base of the volatile liquid, obtained by compressing oil gas, which was first examined by Faraday, and denominated by him benzole. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 563 Compounds .. have been formed, which appear to contain oxide of phenyl in combination with acids. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 441 On some applications of Carbolic Acid or Oxide of Phenyle. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 220 Phenyl .. wants but one atom of hydrogen to become benzene.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *phenyl acetate, carbonate, cyanide, ether, ketones, oxide, phosphate, sulphide*; *phenyl compounds, derivatives*, etc.; **phenyl-blue**, dimethyl-amido-phenylimide of quinone; **phenyl-brown**, a colouring matter, possessing explosive properties.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 123 This relationship of salicic and phenyl compounds. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 928 Phenyl carbonate. .. Phenyl phosphates [etc.]. 1875 *Ibid.* VII. 945 The explosive character of the phenyl-brown is.. due to the dinitrophenol. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 400 The exhibition of salol (phenyl-æther of salicylic acid).

b. Freely combined (hyphened or written connectedly) with other chemical terms, denominating compounds into which phenyl enters as a radical, often replacing hydrogen or other monovalent element or group; such are, e. g.

Phenylacetamide = ACETANILIDE. **Phenyl-acetic** *a.*: see quot. 1877. **Phenyl-acetylene**: see quot. 1872. **Phenyl-glycol**, a diatomic alcohol, $C_6H_5{\cdot}CHOH.CH_2OH$. **Phenyl-hydrazine**: see quot. 1902. **Phenyl-sulphuric** *a.*, sulpho-carbolic: see quot. 1880.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 418 *Phenyl-acetamide or Acetanilide..Produced by the action of aniline upon acetic anhydride or chloride of acetyl. 1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 205 Antifebrin (..phenyl-acetamide) is said to be more useful, more agreeable, and more safe than any. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 528 Alpha-toluic or *phenyl-acetic acid, $C_6H_5{\cdot}CH_2{\cdot}CO_2H$. 1885 KLEIN *Micro-Organisms* 73 Antiseptics, such as carbolic acid..strong solutions of phenyl-propionic acid and phenyl-acetic acid. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 920 *Phenyl-acetylene. Syn. with Acetenyl-benzene. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) p. ix, Phenyl-acetylene and Derivatives. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 213 The property of *phenyl-hydrazin to form with grape-sugar a characteristic crystalline compound called phenyl-glucosagon. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 721/2 E. Fischer [in] 1884, made the all-important discovery of phenylhydrazine, $C_6H_5{\cdot}NH.NH_2$ or $Ph.NH.NH_2$. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 177 Sulphocarbolic or *phenylsulphuric acid is formed by the direct union of pure carbolic acid with sulphuric acid.

Hence **Phenylamic** *a.* = ANILIC. **Phenylamide** = ANILIDE. **Phenylamine**, the systematic name of ANILINE (*monophenylamine*), $NH_2{\cdot}C_6H_5$, and of a large series of compounds of the same type, 'organic bases derived from ammonia by the substitution of one or more atoms of phenyl for an equivalent quantity of hydrogen' (Watts); e. g. *diphenylamine*, $NH(C_6H_5)_2$, *triphenylamine*, $N(C_6H_5)_3$; so *azophenylamine*, $NH_2{\cdot}C_6H_2N$, *bromophenylamine*, $NH_2{\cdot}C_6H_4Br$, *chloro-, iodo-, nitrophenylamine*, etc. **Phenylate**, a salt of phenylic acid. **Phenylene**, the hydrocarbon C_6H_4; hence *phenylene-diamine*, $C_6H_4(NH_2)_2$; etc. †**Phenylia**, obs. synonym of *phenylamine* (aniline). **Phenylic** (fīnī·lik) *a.*, of or derived from phenyl; *phenylic acid, alcohol*, other names for Phenol or Carbolic acid; also formerly called **Phenylous** *acid*. **Phenylimide** (IMIDE): see quot. 1866. **Phenylurea** = CARBANILAMIDE.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 419 **Phenylamic acids*. Anilic acids. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 255 Aniline, Kyanol, *Phenylamide, Phenylia, Crystalline, or Benzidam ($C_{12}H_7N$). ..This remarkable base may be prepared from several sources, and by a variety of reactions. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxix. 338 Aniline has been called *Phenylamine .. but it cannot be prepared like an amine. 1880 FRISWELL in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 16 Apr. 442/1 The earliest violets obtained by artificial means were those produced by the action of pure aniline, or phenylamine, on roseine. 1880 *Athenæum* 27 Nov. 713/1 The authors..have thus prepared aluminic methylate,..*phenylate, &c. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 480 *Phenylene. C_6H_4. A liquid having this composition and boiling at 91° was found by Church among the products of the distillation of phenylic chloride with sodium-amalgam. 1876 *Athenæum* 16 Dec. 806/1 'Phenylene-diamine' obtained from dinitro-benzene by the action of reducing agents. 1857 *Phenylia [see *phenylamide*]. 1858 THUDICHUM *Urine* 339 *Phenylic acid was discovered, by Runge, in tar obtained by the distillation of coal. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 944 Carbolic acid is obtained from phenic acid or phenylic alcohol, a product of coal-tar distillation. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 419 *Phenylimides or Anils, tertiary monamides .. which .. may be regarded as aniline in which 2 atoms of H[ydrogen] are replaced by a diatomic radicle: e. g. $C_6H_5{\cdot}(C_1H_1O_2)''{\cdot}N$, phenyl-succinimide. 1852 *Phenylous acid [see PHENIC]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 616 *Phenyl-urea (carbanilamide).

Pheon (fī·ən). Also 5 **feon**. [Origin unknown. Identity has been suggested with OF. *foine, foene*, mod.F. *fouine*, a pitchfork, or trident for catching fish, etc., the regular Eng. repr. of which is FOIN; but the *pheon* is never a fork, and the *fouine* is not essentially barbed.]

1. *Her.* 'A charge representing a broad barbed arrow, or head of a javelin' (Fairholt). Either identical with the figure called the broad arrow, or differing only in being engrailed on the inner edge.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* B v, Feons be calde in armys brode arow hedys. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 175 A Pheon Azure, whiche signifieth the hedd of a Darte. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xiv. (1611) 228 The pheon is the head of an instrument of the missile sort which we call a dart. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* ix. 49 Unless the contrary be specified, the point of the Pheon is blazoned to the base.

2. As the name of an actual weapon: see quots.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* IV. 599 Canst thou his Skin with barbed pheons pierce? [1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Pheon*, a barbed javelin, carried by sergeants-at-arms in the king's presence as early as Richard I's time.]

Phere, var. FERE *sb.*¹ companion, *sb.*² company.

Pherecratean (fe·rĭkrătī·ăn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Gr.* and *Lat. Pros.* [f. L. *Pherecratius*, a. Gr. *φερεκράτειος* (f. *Φερεκράτης* name of a Greek poet) + -AN.] Name of a logaœdic metre or verse consisting of three feet, normally a spondee, dactyl, and spondee (or trochee), but admitting of some variations. Also called **Pherecratian** (-krē·ʃĭăn), **Pherecratic** (-kræ·tik).

1788 LEMPRIÈRE *Classical Dict.* (1826) 511/1 He [Pherecrates] invented a sort of verse, which from him has been called *Pherecratian*. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 456/2 Pherecrates .. was author of a kind of verse called, from his own name, *Pherecratick*...This verse of Horace (..*Quamvis pontica pinus*) is a Pherecratick verse. 1861 HADLEY *Greek Gram.* § 921 Pherecratean verses are sometimes combined in systems: but much more frequent are Glyconic systems closing with a Pherecratean.

†**Pheretrer**, obs. form of FERETRAR.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 77 Certaine Pheretrers, whose facultie it is to sette for the burialles.

†**Phese**, obs. form of FEEZE *v.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 215 And a be proud with me, ile phese his pride.

Phesike, obs. form of PHYSIC.

Phesycion, Phetonesse, Pheuterer, obs. ff. PHYSICIAN, PYTHONESS, FEWTERER.

Phew (fiū, fiu), *int.* (*v.*, *sb.*) Also 7 (**pheut**), pfew, 8 **phu**, 9 **phugh**: see also PHO, PHOO. [Representing the action of puffing or blowing away with the lips.] A vocal gesture expressing impatience, disgust, discomfort, or weariness.

1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* I. iv, Pheut, I'll not shrink. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* IV. i, Phew, sir, do not stand upon that. 1727 VANBR. & CIB. *Journ. Lond.* I. i, Phu! a fig for his money. 1856 BOKER *Poems* (1857) II. 133 As for your share,—phew! 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Phew-ew! Jermyn manages the estate badly, then. 1892 H. HUTCHINSON *Fairw. Isl.* 16 'Phugh! and isn't it hot?'

b. (*nonce-uses*) as *vb. intr.* to utter the exclamation 'phew!'; as *sb.* an utterance of this.

1858 FARRAR *Eric* II. ii, Eric only 'phewed' again two or three times, and thought of Montagu. 1904 ADA CAMBRIDGE *Sisters* 70 Soon Rose heard sighs and phews, and sudden rustlings and slappings.

Phi-: see PHY-.

Phial (fəi·ăl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **fiol**, 4-5 **fyole**, 5 **fyoll(e, fialle**, 6 **fyol**, 7 **fiole**. *β.* 4 **phyall(e**, 6 **phiall**, 7 **phiole, phyal**, 7- **phial**. See also VIAL. [ME. a. F. *fiole* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), also *phiole* (13th c. in Littré), in Cotgr. *fiole, phiole* = Pr. *fiola*, It. *fiala*, ad. late L. *phiola*, L. *phiala*, ad. Gr. *φιάλη* a broad flat vessel.]

A vessel for holding liquids, esp. drinks; formerly variously applied; now usually a small glass bottle, esp. for liquid medicine. †*Leyden phial* = Leyden jar: see LEYDEN. *Bologna phial*: see BOLOGNA.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1476 Fyoles fretted with flores & fleez of golde. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* vii. 84 Silueren fiols [1388 viols] twelue, golden morters twelue. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 129/2 A Fialle, *ampulla, fiola*. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 47 The fyole fulle of the holi libacion. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Amos* vi. 6 You..that drinke wine in phials [1611 bowls]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Phial*, a plain pot with a wide mouth, whereout a man might drink enough. 1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* II. (1682) 12 A Glass Phial filled with Mercury. 1747 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1840 V. 394 Set the electrified phial on one, and then touch the wire. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 433 Very little of it will be lost, provided the phial be properly shaken. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 235 The phial was suddenly corked and inverted. 1846 JOYCE *Sci. Dial.* VII. vi. (1849) 461 We will describe what is usually called the Leyden phial. 1873 DALE *In His Name* iii. 16 What is the elixir in your phial?

b. *fig.* (See Rev. v. 8, xvi. 1.) Cf. VIAL.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. xi. 12 That my Prayers being..presented in the Phial of the Saints may ascend .. Where thy glory dwells. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 53 The Phial of thy Vengeance, pour'd On this devoted Head. *a* 1881 ROSSETTI *House of Life* xc, Wait the turning of the phials of wrath For certain years.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *phial-book, -glass*; *phial-like* adj.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 81 Eggs .. of a long phial-like form. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* June 688 The homœopathist pulling out..his phial-book.

Hence **Phi·al** *v. trans.*, to store or keep in a phial, to bottle up; **Phi·alful**, as much as fills a phial.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Love & Hon.* 164 Full on my fenceless head its phial'd wrath May Fate exhaust. 1769 LANE in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 219 The liquor being shaken, and another phial-full taken up soon after.

Phialine (fəi·ălin, -əin), *a. rare.* [f. PHIAL *sb.* + -INE².] Resembling a phial or that of a phial.

1881 H. B. BRADY in *Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Jan. 62 A thin peripheral border, surmounted by a stout sessile phialine lip.

Phidiac (fəi·diæk), *a.* Also **Pheidiac**. [ad. L. *Phīdiac-us*, Gr. *Φειδιακός*, f. *Φειδίας*, Phīdias.] Of, pertaining to, or like the work of Phidias, the most famous sculptor of ancient Greece. So **Phidi·acan** *a.*; also **Phi·dian** (Phei·dian) *a.*

1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* iiii, Let Aberdeen and Elgin .. Waste useless thousands on their Phidian freaks. 1823 — *Juan* XIII. cx, Phidian forms cut out of marble. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* xi. 271 Features that explain the Phidian sculpture. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 175 Throughout all the works of Pheidiac art which have come down to us. 1885 F. B. VAN VORST *Without a Compass* 8 He had endeavoured to breathe into that most refractory of all materials..Phidiacan forms.

Phife, obs. form of FIFE.

Phil-, form of PHILO- used before a vowel or *h*.

-phil (fil), **-phile** (fəil), combining element repr. Gr. *φίλος* loving, dear. In Greek, found only in certain personal names, where it means 'dear, beloved', as *Δίφιλος* (dear to Zeus), *Θεόφιλος* (dear to God). In med. and mod.L. often used as a second element in form *-philus, -phila*, with sense 'lover, loving' (e.g. *botanophilus* (Linn.) lover of plants, amateur botanist, *Animophila*, generic name). Hence in French words *-phile*, in Eng. *-phile* or later *-phil*, as *Anglophil(e, Russophil(e, Slavophil(e, Turcophil(e*, for which forms with the prefix PHILO- are more correct etymologically; so *conchophil(e* (shell-loving), *gastrophil(e, oxyphil(e*, etc. Hence also **-PHILOUS**, q.v.

Philabeg, erroneous form of FILIBEG, a kilt.

Philadelphian (filădē·lfiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [In sense 1, f. Gr. *φιλαδελφία* brotherly love (f. *φιλάδελφος* loving one's brother or sister, f. PHILO- + *ἀδελφός* brother, *ἀδελφή* sister) + -AN; in sense 2 in part, and in 3, 4, f. Gr. *Φιλαδέλφεια, Philadelphia* (i. e. the city of Ptolemy Philadelphus).]

A. *adj.* 1. Brother-loving; loving the brethren.

1615 BYFIELD *Exp. Coloss.* i. 10 We must get that philanthropian love of men into our hearts, but especially philadelphian, the love of the brethren. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 13 June 778/2 His unfortunate brother must..suffer for the blasphemous philadelphian piety of his profane advocate.

2. Of or pertaining to the Philadelphians: see B. 2, and cf. Rev. iii. 7-13.

1693 BEVERLEY *True St. Gosp. Truth* Pref. A ij, That Philadelphian State, to which Christ hath opened a Door, which none can shut. 1697 (*title*) *State of Philadelphian Society. Ibid.* 5 Where are these Pillars of the Philadelphian Temple? 1764 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (1844) II. 282/2 A notion that her [Jane Leadley's] Philadelphian society was the true kingdom of Christ. 1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects*, etc. (1886) s.v., The Philadelphian Society contributed largely to the spread of that mystical piety which is so conspicuous in the works of..William Law, and which affected in no small degree the early stages of Methodism.

3. Of or pertaining to the ancient city of Philadelphia, to Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, or to any other place of the name.

4. Of or pertaining to Ptolemy Philadelphus.

B. *sb.* 1. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Philadelphia*, a womans name, and signifies brotherly or sisterly love. And lovers of Brothers or Sisters, are stiled *Philadelphians*.

2. (*pl.*) A religious society or party organized in England towards the end of the 17th c. under the name of the *Philadelphian Society*.

The name appears to have combined a reference to the sense of the Gr. *φιλαδελφία* brotherly love, with one to the church of Philadelphia, Gr. *Φιλαδέλφεια*, in Rev. iii. 7-13.

1693 BEVERLEY *True St. Gosp. Truth* Pref. A ij, That .. none should take their Crown, who are true Philadelphians. 1697 *Princ. Philadelphians* 1 There has lately appeared in England..a Sect or certain number of People, who attribute to themselves an extraordinary Sanctity. .. They seem to derive themselves from a Sect long since started up .. the Family of Love, now stiling themselves Philadelphians, or the little Virgin Church of Philadelphia. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict.*

Cant. Crew, Philadelphians, a new Sect of Enthusiasts, pretenders to Brotherly Love. 1710 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 257 ¶10. 1860 J. GARDNER *Faiths World* II. 654/2 A small body of Philadelphians existed for a short time also in Holland.

Hence **Philade·lphianism** (from sense 2).

1697 *State Philadelph. Soc.* 5 If You please to read the Charter of Philadelphianism in the Epistle to that Church.

Philadelphite (filăde·lfəit). *Min.* [Named 1880, from Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, near which it is found; see -ITE¹ 2 b.] A kind of vermiculite akin to jefferisite.

1880 H. C. LEWIS in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Philad.* 313. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*, *Philadelphite*, a brownish-red, micaceous mineral, closely related to jefferisite.

†**Philade·lphy.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *φιλαδελφία*: see above.] Brotherly love.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. x. 152 That charity, which in respect to others is called philanthropy..in regard to [Christians] is named philadelphy (or brotherly affection).

Philagrain, -green, -grin, obs. forms of FILIGRANE. **Philamort, -mot,** obs. ff. FILEMOT.

Philander (filæ·ndəɹ), *sb.* [ad. Gr. *φίλανδρος* adj., loving or fond of men, (of a woman) loving her husband, f. *φιλο-*, PHILO- + *ἀνήρ, ἀνδρ-α* man, male, husband; hence used as a proper name in story, drama, dialogue; in later use esp. for a lover (perh. misunderstood as = a loving man).

Thus in Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso*, Filandro was the youth beloved and ruined by the lustful Gabrina; and in Beaumont and Fletcher's *Laws of Candy*, one of the personages is 'Philander Prince of Cyprus, passionately in love with Erota'; but the name seems to have been more particularly matched with *Phillis*, as in quot. 1682. Cf. PHILLIS.]

†**1.** A lover; one given to making love. *Obs.*

[*a* 1682 (*title of Ballad*) The faithful Lovers Downfal: or, The Death of Fair Phillis Who Killed her self for loss of her Philander. *Ibid.*, Philander, ah Philander! still the bleeding Phillis cries, She wept awhile, And she forc't a Smile; then clos'd her eyes and dyes.] 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. i, I'll couple you! yes, I'll baste you together, you and your Philander. [1709 TATLER No. 13 ¶1 Enter'd Philander, who is the most skilful of all Men in an Address to Women.] 1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 99 Those philanders of former times once led Captivity Captive, too happy to be bound in her fetters. 1813 MOORE *Post-bag* viii, Bring thy best lace, thou gay Philander!

2. A name given to certain marsupial animals (also FILANDER).

[From the name of *Philander de Bruyn*, who saw in 1711 in the garden of the Dutch governor of Batavia the species named after him (in a), being the first member of the family known to Europeans. (Morris *Austral Eng.*)]

a. A small wallaby (*Macropus brunnii*) first described by Philander de Bruyn. **b.** A South American opossum (*Didelphys philander*). **c.** An Australian bandicoot (*Perameles lagotis*).

1738 [see FILANDER³]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Didelphis*, the name by which Linnæus calls the animal called philander by other writers. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* (ed. 9) 215 *Didelphys philander*, .. Philander Opossum.

†**Philander,** obs. f. FILANDER¹, intestinal worm in hawks.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* D iv, You feare shee hath the philanders.

Phila·nder, *v.* Also 9 filander. [f. PHILANDER *sb.*; lit. 'to act or do the Philander'.]

1. *intr.* To make love, especially in a trifling manner; to flirt; to dangle after a woman.

1737 [implied in PHILANDERING]. 1788 *Disinterested Love* I. 53, I must disguise my sentiments, or I shall get none of the pretty fools to philander with. *a* 1805 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 92, I passed the day..between disputing with my landlord, and walking about and philandering with the ladies. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. i, The military M.P. fled to the drawing-room to philander with Mrs. Grey. 1875 MRS. RANDOLPH *W. Hyacinth* I. iii. 58 You surely don't expect me to go philandering about the woods playing Corydon to my cousin Phyllis. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* I. 191 [To] cure him of this inclination to philander.

†**2.** *trans.* To pay court to, make love to. *Obs.*

1792 *Elwina* II. 61, I could have Philandered the daughter, and complimented the father.

Hence **Phila·ndering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1737 MRS. A. GRANVILLE in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* I. 597, I was extremely diverted with the philandering you gave me an account of..Bath is not a place to keep lovers a secret. 1860 THACKERAY *Four Georges* ii. (1876) 48 Henrietta Howard accepted the noble old earl's philandering. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 7 June 736/2 Sham piety and philandering religiousness.

Phila·nderer. [f. prec. + -ER¹.] One who philanders; a male flirt.

1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* I. v. 136 The imputation of being a dangler, a Philanderer. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* x. (1878) 80 Worse still, a philanderer—a professor of the fine art of flirtation.

†**Phila·nthropal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. *φιλάνθρωπ-os* (see next) + -AL.] Beneficent or friendly to mankind.

1648 J. RAYMOND *Il Merc. Ital.* Introd. 21 A Rimarra is a Philanthropall creature in forme like a Lyzzard. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Philanthropal*, ful of love to mankind.

Philanthrope (fi·lănθrōup). [ad. Gr. *φιλάνθρωπ-os* (adj.) loving mankind (said of gods, men, animals), humane, benign or useful to man, f. *φιλο-*, PHILO- + *ἄνθρωπος* man. Cf. F. *philanthrope* (in *Dict. Acad.* 1762; Oresme *a* 1400, has *philantropos* pl.).] = PHILANTHROPIST.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 44 He had a goodness of nature..in so great a degree that he may be deservedly styled a philanthrope. 1810 BERESFORD *Bibliosophia*, &c. 22 Calling on the Philanthrope to counteract their balefulness. 1883 R. F. BURTON in *Academy* 26 May 366/3 If only we govern like men, not like philanthropes and humanitarians.

†**Philanthro·pian,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. (post cl.) *philanthrōpia* + -AN.] Of the nature of philanthropy; philanthropic.

1615 BYFIELD *Exp. Coloss.* i. 10 [see PHILADELPHIAN *a.* 1].

Philanthropic (filænθrɒ·pik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. F. *philanthropique* (Mirabeau, 18th c.), f. Gr. *φιλάνθρωπ-os* (see PHILANTHROPE) + -IC (cf. Gr. *ἀνθρωπικ-ός*, f. *ἄνθρωπος*).] Characterized by philanthropy; actuated by love of one's fellow-men; benevolent; humane.

1789 (*title*) First Report of the Philanthropic Society instituted in London, Sept. 1788, for the prevention of Crimes. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 263 The philanthropic intentions of a man so zealous in the cause of humanity. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 507 The eloquent Burke.. in his eulogium of the philanthropic Howard. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* x. § 1. 716 The religious and philanthropic movement, which bears the name of Wesley.

B. *sb.* (*nonce-uses.*) A philanthropic person or practice: = PHILANTHROPIST, PHILANTHROPY.

a 1845 HOOD *Smithfield Market* xv, Great philanthropics! pray urge these topics! 1899 *Daily News* 11 Apr. 2/3 The Councils may be led astray in their philanthropics.

Philanthropical (filænθrɒ·pikăl), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Relating to or concerned with philanthropy; = PHILANTHROPIC *a.*

1818 in TODD. *a* 1845 HOOD *Black Job* iii, A knot of very charitable men Set up a Philanthropical Society. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* IV. 1016 Romney's school Of philanthropical self-sacrifice.

Philanthro·pically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a philanthropic manner; benevolently, humanely.

1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 29 *note*, The author is here philanthropically amiable. 1803 GODWIN *Chaucer* liv. II. 535 Philanthropically disposed.

Philanthropine (filæ·nθrɒpin). [ad. Ger. *Philanthropin* (latinized *-inon, -inum*), a. Gr. *φιλανθρώπιν-ον*, neuter of *φιλανθρώπιν-os* adj., rare parallel form of *φιλάνθρωπος* philanthropic (after *ἀνθρώπινος* human).] Anglicized form of the name given to the school founded in 1774 by John Bernhard Basedow or Bassedau (1723–90) at Dessau, Germany, for the education of children by his 'natural system', in the principles of philanthropy, natural religion, and cosmopolitanism; also any similar institution.

1802 tr. *De Luc's Lett. conc. Educ. Infancy* in *Guardian of Educ.* 26 Establishments .. afterwards multiplied in Germany under the title of *Philanthropines*; a specious name. 1805 MRS. TRIMMER in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 135 M. De Luc..gives there the history of the origin of the Philanthropines, which have done so much mischief. 1865 M. PATTISON *Ess., F. A. Wolf* 356 These reformers,.. setting up an institution of their own—the Philanthropinum at Dessau... Education was no longer to bear the stamp of the convent.

Hence **Philanthro·pinism** [ad. Ger. *philanthropinismus*], the educational system of the philanthropine. 1842 in BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc.

Philanthropinist (filænθrɒ·pinist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. prec. + -IST.] An advocate of the 'natural system' of education of Basedow; also, a pupil at a philanthropine. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or pertaining to philanthropinism.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 920/2 The influence of the labours of the Philanthropinists has undoubtedly entered largely into the modern system of education. 1865 M. PATTISON *Ess., F. A. Wolf* 358 Trapp was..himself one of the Philanthropinists. 1868 QUICK *Educ. Reformers* vi. 152 It would soon be seen what was the value of Philanthropinist Latin. *Ibid.* 156 Philanthropinists, when they left school, were not in all respects the superiors of their fellow-creatures.

Philanthropism (filæ·nθrɒpiz'm). [f. as next + -ISM.] The profession or practice of philanthropy; a philanthropic theory or system.

1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 102 A time of Tithe Controversy, Encyclopedism, Catholic Rent, Philanthropism, and the Revolution of Three Days! 1849 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 301 The more enlightened philanthropism of England resorts to the formation of charitable societies, to district-visiting, distribution of tracts, and teaching in charity schools. 1859 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* II. xci. 68 'Philanthropism' then is up again, and all Reformers are Philanthropists, and all Philanthropists Reformers.

Philanthropist (filæ·nθrɒpist). [f. PHILANTHROPY + -IST.] One who practises philanthropy; one who from love of his fellow-men exerts himself for their well-being. Formerly, with the more general sense of 'friend or lover of man', and so applied to the Deity, and also to friendly animals.

1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Philanthropist*, .. a lover of mankind. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 602 Thou great Philanthropist! Father of Angels! but the Friend of Man! 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 49 The Dolphin..was celebrated in the earliest time for its fondness of the human race, was honored with the title of the Sacred Fish, and distinguished by those of Boy-loving and Philanthropist. 1797 *Anti-Jacobin* 11 Dec. (1852) 19 Tom Paine the philanthropist. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 209 The man of letters, philosopher, and philanthropist. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* vii. 178 The spirit that should actuate a Christian philanthropist. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 44 A great philanthropist has astonished the world by giving it large sums of money during his lifetime.

Hence **Philanthropi·stic** *a. rare*, pertaining to or characteristic of a philanthropist; of the nature of philanthropism.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. v, Mere darkness with philanthropistic phosphorescences, empty meteoric lights.

Philanthropize (filæ·nθrɒpəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To play or perform the part of the philanthropist; to practise philanthropy.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 464 Why do they not buy all the land in a single island, and missionize and philanthropize at their own expense? 1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVI. 71 Away she went philanthropising till nine in one place, playing three-card loo till twelve in another.

2. *trans.* To treat philanthropically; to make (persons) objects of philanthropy.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 563 A convention..met for the purpose of philanthropising the blacks. 1859 W. CHADWICK *De Foe* iv. 236 De Foe again returns to the attack upon Sir Humphrey Mackworth's bill for philanthropizing the poor by deceiving and robbing the rich. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 2/3 Till they get them [votes], we look jealously at these attempts to philanthropise woman *malgré lui*.

3. To make philanthropic in character, cause to become a philanthropist.

1891 B. E. MARTIN *Footpr. C. Lamb* 61 Basil Montagu, the philanthropized courtier.

†**Phila·nthropos.** *Herb. Obs.* [a. Gr. *φιλάνθρωπος* cleavers (from its sticking to men).] An old name of Cleavers (*Galium Aparine*); by some applied to Agrimony (*Agrimonia Eupatoria*).

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 306 Đas wyrt man phylantropos nemneþ, þæt ys on ure ȝeþeode menlufiȝende, forðy heo wyle hrædlice to ðam men ȝeclyfian. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCXXX. 575 Agrimonie..Named..of some *Philanthropos*, of the cleauing qualitie of the seedes, hanging to mens garments. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 273 It is ready to catch hold of folkes clothes as they passe by, and to stick unto them [*Marg.*] Whereupon they cal it *Philanthropos*, i. a louer of man.

Philanthropy (filæ·nθrɒpi). Also 7 in L. form **philanthro·pia.** [ad. late L. *philanthrōpia* (in earlier Eng. use), a. Gr. *φιλανθρωπία* love to mankind, f. *φιλάνθρωπος*: see PHILANTHROPE. So F. *philanthropie* (1567 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Love to mankind; practical benevolence towards men in general; the disposition or active effort to promote the happiness and well-being of one's fellow-men.

a. [1607–12 BACON *Ess.*, *Goodness* (Arb.) 198 The affecting of the Weale of Men: which is that the Græcians call Philanthropia.] 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 781, I should first begin with the commendation of their.. *Philanthropia*. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 133 That orient pearl, that Cyrus in his time so highly delighted in..to attain the study of a due philanthropia (for that was his own very word) toward all.

β. 1623 COCKERAM, *Phylanthropie*, Humanitie. *c* 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Serm., Matt.* v. 20 Wks. 1831 III. 255 That godlike excellency, a philanthropy and love to all mankind. 1693 DRYDEN *Charac. Polybius* in Shears *Polyb.* I. B v b, This Philanthropy (which we have not a proper word in English to express) is every where manifest in our Author. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Philanthropy*, is a generous Love for Mankind in General, or an Inclination to promote Publick Good. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. i, In friendship, in parental and filial affection, and indeed in general philanthropy, there is a great and exquisite delight. 1827 LYTTON *Falkland* I. 26 While I felt aversion for the few whom I knew, I glowed with philanthropy for the crowd which I knew not. 1849 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Holy Bapt.* (1850) 23 He first taught the lessons of universal Philanthropy.

†**b.** *spec.* The love of God to man. *Obs.*

[Cf. *Titus* iii. 4 ἡ χρηστότης καὶ ἡ φιλανθρωπία .. τοῦ σωτῆρος ἡμῶν θεοῦ, 1611 The kindenesse and loue of God our Sauiour toward man.]

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* i. 4 His Philanthropie and good will to Man, which our Sauiour Christ especially manifested. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xvi. 10 He is oft (out of his meer Philanthropie) found of them that sought him not. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 112 The blessed Three..In co-immense Philanthropy conspire.

c. *pl.* Philanthropic actions, movements, or agencies.

1884 R. R. BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 776/1 To be.. the head of a great hospital and many philanthropies, demands .. devotion. 1890 *Spectator* 24 May, Tedious toil in connection with all manner of philanthropies.

Philarchaist, etc.: see PHILO-.

Philarea, obs. erron. form of PHILLYREA.

†**Phila·rgyry.** *Obs.* Also 7 **-gury.** [ad. Gr. *φιλαργυρία*, n. of quality from *φιλάργυρ-os* fond of money, f. *φιλ(ο-*, PHIL(O- + *ἄργυρος* silver, money.] Love of money; avarice, covetousness.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 249 The Popes laboured more and more with this incurable disease of Philargyrie. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xviii. 320 That Philargury or love of money which is called Covetousnesse. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 212 In matter of philargyrie, or love of money.

So †**Phila·rgyrist,** a lover of money, a covetous person; †**Phila·rgyrous** (**-gurous**) *a.*, money-loving, covetous.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 18 If he did hoard up his knowledge, as a..philargyrist his coin, we might still be poor. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 138 They were thought Philargyrous, and over solicitous of filthy lucre. 1663 STILLINGFL. *Shecinah* Ded., The progging attempts of an ambitious phylargyrist.

Philaser, obs. form of FILACER.

Philately (filæ·tĭli). [ad. F. *philatélie*, f. Gr. φιλ(ο-, PHILO- + ἀτελής free from tax or charge, ἀτέλεια exemption from payment (ἐξ ἀτελείας without payment, free, *franco*). Proposed by M. Herpin, a postage-stamp collector, in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-poste* (15 Nov. 1864).

(When a letter was 'carriage-free' or carriage-prepaid by the sender, it was formerly in various countries stamped FREE, or FRANCO; the fact is now indicated by the letter bearing an impressed receipt stamp, or its substitute an adhesive label (commonly called a postage-stamp), for the amount; the Greek ἀτελής, being a passable equivalent of *free* or *franco*, has for the purpose of word-making been employed to express the *freimarke*, *franco-bollo*, franco-mark, frank-stamp, or 'postage-stamp', and so to supply the second element in *philatélie*.)

The pursuit of collecting, arranging, and studying the stamped envelopes or covers, adhesive labels or 'postage-stamps', postcards, and other devices employed in different countries and at different times, in effecting the prepayment of letters or packets sent by post; stamp-collecting.

1865 *Stamp-Coll. Mag.* 1 Dec. 182/2 He [M. Herpin] proposes the word *philatélie*, which we anglicise into 'philately'...Twelve months have glided on..and the French terms *philatéle* and *philatélie*, as well as their English equivalents 'philately', 'philatelist', and 'philatelic'..have become household words in the postage-stamp collecting world. *Ibid.* Advts., The works of the Philatelic Society of France. 1867 *Philatelist* I. 37 A poser to the non-initiated in philately. 1881 *Athenæum* 1 Oct. 431/2 It is possibly a question whether the science should properly be called philately or timbrophily.

Hence **Philatelic** (filătelik) *a.*, relating to or engaged in philately; so **Philatelical** *a.*; hence **Philately** *adv.*; **Philatelism**, philately; **Philatelist**, a person devoted to philately, a stamp-collector (whence **Philatelistic** *a.*); **Philatelomaniac**, one with whom stamp-collecting has become a mania.

1865 Philatelic, Philatelist [see above]. 1866 (*title*) The Philatelist: An Illustrated Monthly Magazine for Stamp Collectors. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Suppl. Apr. 7/1 A manuscript Philatelic Magazine. 1871 E. L. PEMBERTON in *Stamp-Coll. Mag.* IX. 130 The faults..incident to American philatelism. 1872 — (*title*) The Philatelical Journal. 1882 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Apr. 472/2 Many a parent.. will now hasten to provide him instead with the records of philatelism. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 26 July, It is valued at about $1000 by philatelomaniacs. 1890 *Times* 20 May 5 On May 19, 1890, an exhibition was opened of postage stamps collected by the London Philatelic Society. 1890 *Standard* 25 Apr. 5/6 The philatelistic scholar. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Oct. 3/1 Of the exhibition itself..we shall not attempt to speak..philatelically.

Philaterie, -ory, obs. ff. PHYLACTERY.

†**Philautty.** *Obs.* Also in Gr. form **philautia.** [ad. Gr. φιλαυτία, n. of state f. φίλαυτος loving oneself, f. φιλ(ο-, PHIL(O- + αὐτόν oneself.] Self-love; undue regard for oneself or one's own interests; self-conceit; selfishness.

c 1525 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* Pref., Wks. (1573) 103 They will say yet more shamefully, that no man can vnderstand the Scriptures without Philautia, that is to say Philosophy. A man muste first bee well seene in Aristotle, yer he can vnderstand the Scripture, say they. 1564–5 LEDINGTON *Let. to Cecil* 28 Feb. in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 401 Phylautye which maketh us fancy too much our own conceptions. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807) II. 148 There we see philautie or selfe-love, which rageth in men so preposterouslie. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, III. ii, Such as giue themselues to Philautia, as you do, maister. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 72 And will have philautie to be natures first-born. 1721 BAILEY s. v. *Geese*, This Proverb intimates that an inbred Philauty runs through the whole Race.

Philazer, obs. form of FILACER.

Philberd, -bert, -bud, obs. forms of FILBERT.

-phile: see -PHIL.

†**Philed**, obs. form of FILED.

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery, Lover approv. Lady unkinde*, Your Phrases fine philed, did force mee agree.

Philemort, obs. f. FILEMOT = FEUILLEMORTE.

Philery, Philet(t, obs. ff. PHILLYREA, FILLET.

Philharmonic (filhaamo·nik), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *philharmonique* (1739), after It. *filarmonico*, f. Gr. φιλ(ο-, PHIL(O- + ἁρμονικός HARMONIC.]

A. *adj.* Loving harmony; fond of or devoted to music.

Philharmonic Society, name of various musical societies, *esp.* that founded in London in 1813 for the promotion of instrumental music; hence *Philharmonic concert*, one given by the Philharmonic Society.

1813 *Philharmonic Soc.* I. 1 Several Members of the Musical Profession have associated themselves, under the title of The Philharmonic Society; ..to procure the performance, in the most perfect manner possible, of the best and most approved Instrumental Music. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 127 The most philharmonic ear is at times deeply affected by a simple air. 1862 *Times* in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 700/2 The successful completion of the 50th year of the Philharmonic Society. *Ibid.* 701/1 The forty-ninth series of the Philharmonic Concerts.

B. *sb.* a. A lover of harmony; a person devoted to music. b. *colloq.* Short for *Philharmonic Society, Philharmonic concert*: see above.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 86 The place in which the society or academy of the philharmonics assemble. 1843 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 239 A Philharmonic of blackbirds and thrushes. 1862 *Times* in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 701/1 Mr. Sterndale Bennett—an old member of the 'Philharmonic'. 1880 *Ibid.*, At the close of the season of 1866 Professor Bennett resigned the conductorship, and his place at the Philharmonic was filled by Mr. W. G. Cusins.

Philhellene (fi·lhelĭn), *a.* and *sb.* Also **-en.** [ad. Gr. φιλέλλην adj., loving the Greeks, f. φιλ(ο-, PHIL(O- + Ἕλλην HELLENE, Greek; so mod.F. *philellène*.] a. *adj.* = PHILHELLENIC. b. *sb.* = PHILHELLENIST. (In quot. 1827, A lover of Greek language or literature.)

c 1825 MOORE *Ghost Miltiades* 23 And, poor, dear ghost, how little he knew The jobs and the tricks of the Philhellene crew! 1823 J. SYMMONS in Barker *Parriana* (1828) I. 547 As a Philhellen, I was received, entertained, and introduced into the house. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Aug. 11/2 If nobody were to talk about Greece, there would be no philhellenes. 1882 *Athenæum* 5 Aug. 172/3 He is enthusiastically Philhellene as to the present inhabitants of the country.

Philhellenic (filhelĭ·nik, -e·nik), *a.* [f. as prec. + HELLENIC.] Loving, friendly to, or supporting the cause of, Greece or the Greeks (esp. in relation to national independence). So **Philhellenism** (filhe·lĭniz'm), the principle of supporting the Greeks; **Philhellenist** (filhelĭ·nist), a friend or supporter of Greece (also *attrib.*).

1830 MAUNDER *Dict.*, **Philhellenic.* 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 96 So emphatically did he [Klearchus] pledge himself for the good faith and philhellenic dispositions of the satrap. 1862 G. FINLAY in *Freeman's Life & Lett.* (1895) I. 281, I feel again a return of *philhellenism. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 364 The suggestion was .. decried as striking at the root of all Phil-hellenism. 1811 BYRON *Rem. on Romaic* Wks. (1846) 793/2 The reply of the *Philellenist I have not translated. 1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* 98 But if by chance an Attic voice be wist, They grow softhearted straight, philhellenist.

Philhippic, -hymnic: see PHILO-.

Philhorse, obs. f. *fill-horse*: see FILL *sb.*2

Philiamort, philimot, var. FILEMOT. **Philibeg**, var. FILIBEG. **Philibert**, obs. f. FILBERT. **Philigrain, -grin**, obs. ff. FILIGRANE.

Philip (fi·lip). Also 5 **phelipp**, 6 **phylyp**, 7 **phillip.** [A personal name, in F. *Philippe*, L. *Philippus*, a. Gr. Φίλιππος, lit. lover of horses.]

1. A man's name: well known as that of the king of Macedon, father of Alexander, referred to in the expression 'to appeal from Philip drunk to Philip sober': see quot., and cf. Valer. Max. VI. ii. [Cf. 1509 BARCLAY *Skyp of Folys* (1874) I. 95, I am no traytoure, apele I woll certayne From dronken Alexander tyll he be sober agayne. 1568 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* IV. xviii. (1582) 439 After he had geuen iudgement..against a poore widow woman, she aunswered streight..I appeale to king Philip which is now drunk: yᵗ when hee is sober, he returne to geue sentence.] 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Paston Carew* I, Not even appealing from Philip drunk to Philip sober.

b. Philip, the Evangelist: see Acts viii. 26–40.

1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 299 God encrease the number of such Philips, and make vs all such as the eunuch was in this particular.

†2. Name of certain old French, Spanish, and Burgundian coins, of gold and silver, issued by kings or dukes of this name. *Obs.*

1482 *Cely Papers* (1900) 126 Item an phellypus..iij^{s} iiij^{d} fls. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 286 A Rhenish Gold Gulden .. the siluer Phillips Doller, was of the same value. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 454 Eleauen Philippoes or Ducatons. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 135/2 The damage as yet is estimated at four millions of philippis.

3. A name formerly given to a sparrow: also PHIP (perh. in imitation of its chirp). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*: also *dial.* applied to the hedge-sparrow (Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds*).

a 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 26 Nothynge it auayled To call Phylyp agayne, Whom Gyb our cat hath slayne. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 231 *Gour.* Good leaue good Philip. *Bast.* Philip, sparrow, Iames. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-Cap* (1877) 103 Let chirping Philip learne to catch a flie. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 36 The house-sparrow is still in many parts Skelton's 'Philip', the Philip of the Elizabethan dramatists, and of Cartwright.

†4. *Philip and Cheyney.* a. An expression for two (or more) men of the common people taken at random (cf. 'Tom, Dick, and Harry'). Also *Philip, Hob, and Cheyney. Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. *Pompeius* 280 It was not his entente to bryng vnto Silla philip and cheiny moo then a good meiny, but to bryng hable soudiours of manhood approued and well tryed. *a* 1563 BECON *Display Popishe Masse* Wks. III. 47 Ye praye for Philippe and Chenye, mo than a good meany, for the soules of your great grand Sir and of your olde Beldame Hurre. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* Ep. Ded. (1878) 8 Loiterers I kept so meanie, Both Philip, Hob, and Cheanie.

†b. Name for a kind of worsted or woollen stuff of common quality (erroneously *Phillipine, Cheny*): see CHEYNEY. *Obs.*

c 1614 FLETCHER, etc. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* II. i, Thirteene pound. ..'Twill put a Lady scarce in Philip and Cheyney, With three small Bugle Laces, like a Chamber-maid. 1633 in *Nawworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 298, 12 yeardes of Philip and cheyney..for a coate for Mrs. Marie Howard. 1641 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (MS.), Peter Donnaing .. Phillipp and Chainey weaver. 1650 *Will of J. Brooke* (Somerset Ho.), My red bed of Phillipp and China. 1668 HEAD *Eng. Rogue* II. xii. (1671) 112 [To] muster up the names of their stuffs,..there's your Parragon, Burragon, Phillipine, Cheny, Grogrum, Mow-hair.

Philip, obs. f. FILLIP. **Philipende, Philipendula**, obs. erron. ff. VILIPEND, FILIPENDULA.

Philippic (fili·pik), *sb.* (*a.*) [ad. L. *Philippic-us*, a. Gr. φιλιππικός, f. Φίλιππος Philip (of Macedon). So mod.F. *philippique*.]

1. Name for the orations of Demosthenes against Philip king of Macedon in defence of Athenian liberty; hence applied to Cicero's orations against Antony, and *gen.* to any discourse of the nature of a bitter attack, invective, or denunciation.

1592 G. HARVEY *Foure Lett.* iii. Wks. (Grosart) I. 210 What honest Eloquence is not furnished with Catilinaries and Philippiques against Vice? 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Wds., Invective orations made by Demosthenes .. against Philip king of Macedony, ..heereupon all invectives may be called Philippicke, as those were of M. Tullius Cicero against Antonie. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Sat.* x. (1697) 255, I rather wou'd be Mævius..Than that Philippique fatally Divine, Which is inscrib'd the Second, should be mine. 1798 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 227 Mr. Harper and Mr. Pinckney pronounced bitter philippics against France. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) X. 443 Then follows the usual Philippic against England. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 29 *note*, Lord North, sound asleep during one of Burke's philippics on him.

†2. Used to render Gr. φιλίππειον, 'a gold coin coined by Philip of Macedon, worth £1 3*s.* 5*d.* of our money' (Liddell & Scott). *Obs.*

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. viii. 99 Æsops picture was sold for two talents, when himself was made a slave at the price of two Philippicks. 1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 462 Some..have supposed the Roman Aureus to have been heavier than the Greek Philippic.

B. *adj.* a. Of or pertaining to any person called Philip (in quot. 1650, Sir Philip Sidney); b. of Philippi; c. of the nature of a philippic or invective.

a 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-deceiving* (ed. 8) 356 Though the Phillippick Preachers preached of enuy and vaine-glory, yet..what was that to Paul? 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 16 She survived the Philippick Battaile sixty-four yeares. 1650 MILTON *Eikon.* i. (1770) 29 What I tell them for a truth, that this philippic prayer is no part of the Kings goodes. 1707 TOLAND (*title*) A Philippick Oration to incite the English against the French.

Hence **Philippicize** (-səiz) *v. intr.*, to utter a philippic or invective; also *trans.*, to bring or put *into* some condition by doing this.

1799 SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 21 Dec. in *Life* (1850) II. 33 However, I need not philippicise, and it is too late to veer about. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 173 We have Philippicized ourselves into a perspiration.

†**Philippical**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of or belonging to Philip (in quot. Devoted to Philip II of Spain).

1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* I. viii. 191 All loue of that king to her Maiestie, which this philippical parasite so much pretendeth, was altogether extinguished.

Philippina (filipī·nă), **philopœna.** Also **phillipina, philopena, philippine, fillipeen, philopœne.** [Understood to repr. Ger. *vielliebchen*, dim. of *vielliēb* much loved, very dear (cf. *liebchen* darling), altered into *Philippchen*, whence F. *Philippine*, Du. *filippine*, Da. *filipine*, Sw. *filipin*, Eng. *fillipeen, philippina*, etc.] A custom or game reputed to be of German origin: see quot. 1848. Also applied to the double nut or kernel, and to the present claimed or given, as mentioned.

The greeting in German is *Guten Morgen, Vielliebchen!* in F. *Bon jour, Philippine!* See Flügel, Muret-Sanders, Littré.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Fillipeen* or *Phillipina.* There is a custom common in the Northern States at dinner or evening parties when almonds or other nuts are eaten, to reserve such as are double or contain two kernels, which are called fillipeens. If found by a lady, she gives one of the kernels to a gentleman, when both eat their respective kernels. When the parties again meet, each strives to be the first to exclaim, Fillipeen! for by so doing he or she is entitled to a present from the other. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* ix, 'Miss Ida', said Charles Dana, across the table, 'Will you eat a philopœna with me?' [*a* 1857 Remembered in England with the form *Philippine.*] 1864 WEBSTER, *Philippine*, the same as *Philopena.* 1879 G. F. PENTECOST *Vol. of the Book* x, Bibles which somebody gave you..for a philopœna present. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 14 Feb. 4/7 In those days Valentines were as expensive as philopœnes.

Philippist (fi·lipist). *Ch. Hist.* [f. PHILIP = Gr. Φίλιππ-ος + -IST.] A follower of Philip Melanchthon; one of the party of moderate Lutherans or ADIAPHORISTS. Also *attrib.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Philippists*, a sect or party among the Lutherans; the followers of Philip Melanchthon. 1764 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Ch. Hist.* (1844) II. 90/1 Matthew Flacius, the virulent enemy of Melancthon, and all the Philippists. 1873 MCCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* V. 670/1 In 1574 the Philippist party was overthrown in Electoral Saxony, and its heads imprisoned.

So **Philippism**, the doctrine or practice of Melanchthon or the Philippists; **Philippistic** *a.*, like or pertaining to the Philippists.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1042/1 Hunnius..contributed much to suppress all Philippistic traditions [at Wittenberg]. *Ibid.* III. 1827 The elector did so, not from any preference for Philippism, but [etc.].

†**Philippize**, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. φιλιππίζειν (see next) + -ATE 3.] = next.

1612 *North's Plutarch* 1134 Demosthenes had it often in his mouth, that the Prophetes [Pythia] did Philippizate, to wit, fauoured Philips affaires.

Philippize (fi·lipəiz), *v.* [ad. Gr. *φιλιππίζειν* (Demosthenes), f. *Φίλιππος* Philip: see -IZE.] *intr.* To favour, or take the side of, Philip of Macedon (cf. PHILIPPIC); also *gen.* to speak or write as one is corruptly 'inspired' or influenced: see quots.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 40 What jugling there was therein, the Orator plainely confessed, who .. could say that Pythia Philippised. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. Appeal* I. 26 Demosthenes said Apollo's Priestess did Philippize: as .. if he had said, Philip had corrupted the Oracle, and put words into the Prophetesses mouth. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 13 Caballers .. set him up as a sort of oracle; because, with the best intentions in the world, he naturally philippizes .. in exact unison with their designs. 1831 De Quincey *Whiggism & Lit.* Wks. 1857 V. 124 If the oracle at Hatton philippized, the oracle of Göttingen philippized no less. 1875 Helps *Ess., Advice* 46 The oracles will Philippize, as long as Philip is the master.

¶ Erron. used for: To utter a philippic; also *trans.* to utter a philippic against.

1804 D. Webster *Let.* 17 Sept., Priv. Corr. 1857 I. 179, I philippize against that employment now. 1837 *Tait's Mag.* IV. 163 What a certain set of young literateurs have been lately philippizing against me. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* iii. (Cent.), He argued with us, philippized us, denounced us.

Hence **Phi·lippizing** *ppl. a.*; also **Phi·lippizer**, one who philippizes, a partisan of Philip.

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 358 An Æschines, or a Midias, or the other Philippizers. 1853 Grote *Greece* II. lxxxviii. XI. 455 The philippising party in that city [Olynthus]. 1856 *Ibid.* xcvi. XII. 484 He acted with Æschines and the Philippizers.

Philippy: see PHILO-.

† **Philiser**, obs. form of FILACER.

1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 138/2 To be entrid ther of Recorde, by the Philiser of the Shire.

† **Philiste·an**, *a. Obs.* Also **Phy-**. [f. L. *Philist(h)æus* (see next) + -AN.] = PHILISTINE *a.*

1623 Cockeram, *Phylistean embrace*, is to picke ones purse, and cut his throat. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 1061 So rose .. Herculean Samson, from the Harlot-lap Of Philistean Dalilah, and wak'd Shorn of his strength.

† **Philistee.** *Obs.* Also 5 **Phil-**, **Filistei**, 6 **Phylystee**. [ad. L. *Philisthæ-us* (Vulg.), Gr. *Φιλιστιαῖος*: see PHILISTINE.] = PHILISTINE *sb.* 1.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Sam.* xvii. 3 And Philisteis [1388 Filisteis, Vulg. *Philisthiim*] stoden vpon the hil. *Ibid.* 23 That bastard man, Goliath by name, Philistee of Geth [Vulg. *Philisthæus*]; 1388 a Filistei of Gath]. — 1 *Chron.* x. 1 Philisteis [1388 Filisteis] forsothe foustен aзeinus Yrael. 1508 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* vi. Wks. (1876) 4 Whan Israhell sholde make batayle agaynst the phylystees.

‖ **Philister** (fili·stĕr). [The German word for Philistine, f. L. *Philistæus, -ēus* or Heb. *p'lishtī*.] A name applied by the students at German universities to the townsmen, or to all persons not students; an outsider; hence, an unenlightened uncultured person; = PHILISTINE *sb.* 3, 4.

Said to have originated at Jena in 1693, in a sermon from the text *Philister über dir, Simson!* 'The Philistines be upon thee, Samson!' preached by Pastor Götze at the funeral of one of the students, who had been killed by the townsmen in a quarrel between 'town and gown'. (See *Quarterly Rev.*, Apr. 1899, 438 note.)

1828 Carlyle *Let.* 7 Mar. in Froude *Biog.* I. xxii. 425 He went to Mill (the British India Philister). 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 658 Need is there that compassion should be had on the poor infatuated philister! 1859 Helps *Friends in C.* Ser. II. (ed. 2) II. 136 If there were a stupid man amongst us, or what the Germans call a Philister.

Philistia (fili·stiă). In 6 **Philistea.** [med. L. *Philistia* = late L. *Philistæa* (*-thæa*) in Jerome = Gr. *Φιλιστία, -ιαῖα*; ult. repr. Heb. פְּלֶשֶׁת *p'lesheth*: see PHILISTINE.]

1. The country occupied by the Philistines, in the south-west of Palestine. Also, the people or nation of the Philistines.

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lix. [lx.] 8 Philistea shal be glad of me. 1611 Bible *Ps.* lxxxvii. 4 Behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia.

2. The class or community of 'Philistines', i.e. unenlightened or commonplace people; or the locality they inhabit. Cf. PHILISTINE *sb.* 4.

1857 Kingsley *Two Y. Ago* x, Yet have Philistia and Fogeydom neither right nor reason to consider him a despicable or merely ludicrous person. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 31 July 3/2 The homage paid by virtue to vice, or, rather, by Philistia to Bohemia. 1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 June 473/2 The requirements of a novel as understood by literary Philistia.

Philistian (fili·stiăn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 3–4 **Philistien**, 4– **-an**. [a. OF. *Philistien*, ad. med. L. *Philistiān-us*, f. PHILISTIA: see -AN.]

† **A.** *sb.* = PHILISTINE 1, 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7091 Vnder philistiens þan war þe Iuus halden, þat si-quar. *c* 1340 *Ibid.* 7150 (Cott.) Agh i for to haue na wite, To do philistens [*other texts* -iens] despite. 1375 (MS. *c* 1487) Barbour *Bruce* IV. 653 Quhen saull abasit [wes] Of the philistianis [*MS. E.* (1489) felystynys] mycht. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Sam.* xvii. 4 A bastard man wente out fro the tentis of Philistiens [1388 Filisteis, *Vulg.* Philisthinorum]. *c* 1656 *Roxb. Ball.* VII. 492 'Tis neither Pagan, Turk, nor Jew, nor any proud Philistians [*rime* Christians].

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Philistia or the Philistines.

1671 Milton *Samson* 1371 But who constrains me to the Temple of Dagon, Not dragging? the Philistian Lords command. 1836 Keble in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 198 By proud Philistian hosts beset.

Philistine (fi·listəin, -tin, fili·stin), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 4 (**Philisten, Palisten, -estine**), 4–6 **Philistyne**, (5 **Felystyne**, 7 **Philistin**), 6– **Philistine**. *β.* 6–7 **Philistim** (*pl.* **-im, -ims**), 7 **-thiim, -time.** See also PHILISTEE, PHILISTIAN. [a. F. *Philistin*, ad. late L. *Philistīnus*, usually in pl. *Philistīnī* (*-thīnī, thīim, Palæsthīnī*, all in Vulg.), ad. late Gr. *Φιλισταῖοι, Παλαιστῖνοι* (both in Josephus); found beside L. *Philisthiim* = Gr. *Φυ-, Φιλιστιείμ* (LXX in Hexateuch), ad. Heb. פְּלִשְׁתִּים *p'lishtīm* (or *-iim*). Cognate with פְּלֶשֶׁת *p'lesheth*, PHILISTIA, Palestine, Assyrian *Palastu, Pilistu*. (The word has been very doubtfully explained as = 'wanderers, immigrants'; but was more probably a native name of the people, appearing in Egyptian as *Palusata* or *Purusati*.)

The Gr., L., Eng. forms in *-είμ, -im*, directly represent the Heb. pl.; with *Philistims* cf. *Anakims, cherubims*, etc. Several other forms appear, e. g. late Gr. *Φιλιστιαῖοι* (Aquila), *Φυλ-* (Symm.), L. *Philistæi, -thæī, -tīi, Phyl-*, ME. Philistee; late L. *Philistiānī*, OF., ME. *Philistien*, Eng. PHILISTIAN. (The pronunciation fili·stin occurs chiefly in U. S.)]

A. *sb.* **1.** One of an alien warlike people, of uncertain origin, who occupied the southern sea-coast of Palestine, and in early times constantly harassed the Israelites. Also *fig.*

[*c* 1340 Philisten; **1375–1489** Felystynys: see PHILISTIAN.] 1382 Wyclif *Amos* IX. 7 Wher Y made not Yrael for to stye vp of .. Egypt, and Palistens of Capadocie [1388 Palestines; *Vulg.* Palæstinos; 1611 the Philistines from Caphtor]. — *Zech.* IX. 6 Y shal distruye the pride of Philistynes [1388 Filisteis, *Vulg.* Philisthinorum]. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xvii. 10 Am not I a Philistyne? 1611 Bible *Ibid.* 26 Who is this vncircumcised Philistine? 1812 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 40, I feel a little like 'The Philistines are upon thee, Samson'.

β. 1560 Bible (Genev.) 1 *Sam.* v. 1 Then the Philistims toke the Arke of God. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* xlvii. 8 He .. rooted out the Philisthijms. 1620 Bp. Hall *Hon. Mar. Clergy* II. § 9 Like a Philistim, he hath pulled out the eyes of this Samson. 1637 R. Ashley tr. *Malvezzi's David Persecuted* 217 The Philistimes pitch their tents in Shunem. 1642 Cudworth *Lord's Supper* i. (1676) 4 Concerning the Philistims when they had put out Sampson's eyes.

2. *fig.* Applied (humorously or otherwise) to persons regarded as 'the enemy', into whose hands one may fall, e. g. bailiffs, literary critics, etc.; formerly, also, to the debauched or drunken.

1600 Dekker *Gentle Craft* D iij b, Looke here Maggy help me Firk, apparrel me Hodge, silke and satten you mad Philistines, silke and satten. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* II. 2 Times are mended well Since late among the Philistines you fell. 1688 Miege *Fr. Dict., Philistins*, for lewd (or drunken) people, *des Debauchez*. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Philistines*, Serjeants Bailiffs and their Crew; also Drunkards. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 14 They say, you went to Court last Night very drunk; Nay, I'm told for certain, you had been among Philistines. 1752 Fielding *Amelia* v. vi, If he had fallen into the hands of the Philistines (which is the name given by the faithful to bailiffs). 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* v. i, Above all, there is that blood thirsty Philistine, Sir Lucius O'Trigger. 1777 *N. Jersey Archives* Ser. II. I. 392 On Monday last we had a brush with the Philistines, killing three lighthorsemen, four Highlanders, and one Lieut. Colonel. 1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles in Air* I. 286 [To] be pinched and kicked, in order to afford sport for the Philistines.

3. = PHILISTER, applied by German students to one not a student at a university.

1824 J. Russell *Tour Germ.* (1828) I. iii. 128 The citizens he denominates Philistines. 1826 Beddoes *Let.* Poems (1851) p. lix, A little inn with a tea-garden, whither students and Philistines (i. e. townsmen who are not students) resort on Sundays. 1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVIII. 737 The people read it with great interest, from the fiery youths to the cautious old Philistines. [1863 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Heine* (1865) 157 Efforts have been made to obtain in English some term equivalent to *Philister* or *épicier*: Mr. Carlyle has .. 'respectability with its thousand gigs' .. well, the occupant of every one of those gigs is, Mr. Carlyle means, a *Philistine*.]

4. Hence: A person deficient in liberal culture and enlightenment, whose interests are chiefly bounded by material and commonplace things.

But often applied contemptuously by connoisseurs of any particular art or department of learning to one who has no knowledge or appreciation of it; sometimes a mere term of dislike for those whom the speaker considers 'bourgeois'.

1827 Carlyle *Misc. Ess.* (1872) I. 58 [The partisans of Illuminism] received the nickname of *Philistern* (Philistines) which the few scattered remnants of them still bear. 1827 *Examiner* 702 If Germans require that species of assistance, the obtuseness of a mere English Philistine we trust is pardonable. 1831 [see PHILISTINISM]. 1839 A. H. Everett *Addr. Germ. Lit. at Hanover, U.S.A.* 40 Released from the importunity of this Philistine [Wagner],—to use an expressive German term,—Faust relapses into his former gloom. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* I. vii. (1872) 41 At other times, Philistines would enter, what we call bores, dullards, Children of Darkness. 1864 Froude *Short Stud., Sci. Hist.* 31 A professor at Oxford .. spoke of Luther as a Philistine .. meaning an .. enemy of men of culture or intelligence such as the professor himself. 1869 M. Arnold *Cult. & An.* 20 The people who believe most that our greatness and welfare are proved by our being very rich, and who most give their lives and thoughts to becoming rich, are just the very people whom we call the Philistines. 1879 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* III. 306 In common phraseology he [Macaulay] is a Philistine—a word which I understand properly to mean indifference to the higher intellectual interests. 1890 T. B. Saunders tr. *Schopenhauer's Wisd. Life* (1891) 44 A man who has no mental needs, because his intellect is of the narrow and normal amount, is, in the strict sense of the word, a philistine—.. one who is not a son of the Muses.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the people of Philistia.

1842 Longf. *Warning* 6 The Israelite .. at last led forth to be A pander to Philistine revelry.

b. *transf.*

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 132 So did he by that Philistine Poem of *Parthenophill and Parthenope*, which to compare worse than it selfe, it would plunge all the wits of France, Spaine, or Italy.

2. Characteristic of, or of the nature of, the modern 'Philistine'; uncultured; commonplace; prosaic. (Of persons and things.)

1831 Carlyle *Germ. Poetry* in *Misc. Ess.* (1872) III. 241 To a German we might have compressed all this long description into a single word. Mr. Taylor is simply what they call a *Philister*; every fibre of him is Philistine. 1848 T. Sinclair *Mount* 57 The philistine division of our own critics. 1869 Swinburne *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 216 Byron .. had in him a cross of the true Philistine breed. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. Notes 235 Critics consider that he symbolizes the Philistine element in German life,—the hopelessly material, prosaic and commonplace.

C. *Comb.*

1817 Coleridge *Fire, Famine*, etc. Apol. Pref., Afterward this philistine-combatant went to London, and there perished of the plague. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 4/1 What purpose some of them serve would be but a Philistine-like question.

Hence **Phi·listinely** *adv.*, like or after the manner of a social Philistine. Also **Philistinian** (-ti·njăn) *a.* = B. 1; **Philistinic** (-ti·nik) *a.* = B. 2; **Philistinish** (fi·listəinij, -inij) *a.* = B. 2.

1881 *Society* 1 June 9/2 A dress of black cashmere, *philistinely tight. 1773 J. Ross *Fratricide* I. 636 (MS.) The *Philistinean stride of him of Gath. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1829 The name of the Philistine harbor, Majuma, is entirely Egyptico-Philistinian. 1869 Black *In Silk Attire* I. 114 The audience .. applauding *Philistinic politics over their raw chops. 1883 *Gd. Words* Aug. 493/1 There are some among us, nowadays, who sneer at all common-sense as philistinic. 1881 *Standard* 30 Aug. 5/2 Unhappily, we live in *Philistinish times. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 407 His work sometimes lacks distinction .. but it is never Philistinish.

Philistinism (fi·listiniz'm, fili·stiniz'm). [f. PHILISTINE + -ISM.] The opinions, aims, and habits of social Philistines (see prec. A. 4); the condition of being a social Philistine.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. v, One 'Philistine'; who even now, to the general weariness, was dominantly pouring-forth Philistinism (*Philistriosităten*). 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 248 The Romanticists were .. the sworn foes .. of that low-minded, prosaic narrowness which Germany calls *Philistinism*. 1863 M. Arnold *Ess. Crit., Heine* (1865) 157 Philistinism! we have not the expression in English. Perhaps we have not the word because we have so much of the thing. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Nov. 760/2 British Philistinism is extremely overbearing. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 438 'Philistinism', after all, stands for two great habits, decency and order.

So **Philistinize** (fi·list-, fili·stinəiz) *v. trans.*, to render Philistine; to imbue with the tastes, habits, and opinions of those termed Philistines.

1880 G. Meredith *Tragic Com.* xvi. (1892) 224 Children .. are secretly Philistinizing the demagogue, .. turning him into a slow-stepping Liberal. 1891 Zangwill *Bachelors' Club* 164 She has not been philistinised by a refined education.

Philizer, obs. form of FILACER.

Phillaber, obs. f. PILLOW-BERE. **Phillarea, phillerey:** see PHILLYREA. **Phillet,** obs. f. FILLET. **Phillibeg,** var. FILIBEG. **Philliberd,** obs. f. FILBERT.

† **Phillida,** variant of FILLADY *Obs.*

1620 J. Mason *Newfoundland* 4 The fowles are .. Butters, blacke Birds with redd breastes, Phillidas.

Philligree, Phillip, obs. ff. FILIGREE, FILLIP.

Phillipine: see PHILIP 4 b.

Phillipsite (fi·lipsəit). *Min.* [Named 1825 after the English mineralogist, J. W. Phillips: see -ITE 1.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium, calcium, and potassium, found in cruciform twin crystals of a white colour.

1825 *T. Thomson's Ann. Philos.* Ser. II. X. 362, I propose the name of phillipsite in honor of Mr. J. W. Phillips. 1850 Dana *Min.* (ed. 3) 306 Phillipsite occurs in large translucent crystals.

Phillis (fi·lis), *sb.* Also 9 **Phyllis.** [a. L. *Phyllis*, a girl's name in Virgil, Horace, etc., a. Gr. *Φυλλίς* female name, lit. foliage of a tree, f. *φύλλον* leaf. The English spelling appears to be influenced by association with words in *phil-, philo-*.] A generic proper name in pastoral poetry for a comely rustic maiden, or for a sweetheart (cf. PHILANDER); also applied (after Milton) to a pretty or 'neat-handed' table-maid or waitress.

1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 86 Hearbs, and other Country Messes, Which the neat-handed Phillis dresses. *a* 1700 Sedley *Song* Wks. 1778 I. 94 Phillis is my only joy, Faithless as the Winds or Seas. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 116 At the Bar the good Man always places a charming Phillis or two. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 574 Having perpetually filled their head with ideas of Strephons and Phillises, 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire* 11, As his Patients came in, certain soft-handed Phyllises Were at once set to work on their legs, arms, and backs. 1848 Thackeray *Van, Fair* xxiv, If you have any Phillis to console.

Hence † **Phi·llis** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to address in pastoral verses.

1699 GARTH *Dispens.* I. 148 He pass'd his easie Hours, instead of Prayer, In Madrigals, and Phillising the Fair.

Phillosella, Philly, erron. ff. FILOSELLA, FILLY.

Phillygenin (fili·dʒĭnin). *Chem.* [f. PHILLYRIN with ending of *saligenin.*] A resinous crystallizable substance ($C_{21}H_{24}O_6$), polymeric with saligenin, obtained from phillyrin by boiling with hydrochloric acid, or by lactic fermentation.

1862 [see PHILLYRIN].

‖ **Phillyrea** (filiˑrĭă, filirˑĭă). *Bot.* Also 7 phillyræa, phyl(l)area, phyleria, 7–8 phylleræa, philarea, 8 phyl(l)yrea, -ræa, phillarea, phyllirea, -ra, philyræa, -rea; also β. in anglicized forms: 7–8 philery, phillerey, (8 fflleroy). [Bot. L. *phyllyrea* (Tournefort; Linnæus *Philos. Bot.* 175), erroneously for *philyrea*, a. Gr. φιλυρέα (Theophr.), app. a deriv. of φιλύρα linden tree. There are many erroneous spellings in *phyll-* and *phyl-*. Also F. *phillyrée* (1572 in Godef.); cf. Cotgr. '*phillyrée*, mocke-priuet; a shrub'; thence the β-forms.]

A genus of ornamental evergreen shrubs (N.O. *Oleaceæ*), natives of the Mediterranean region and the East, with opposite leaves and inconspicuous greenish-white flowers in axillary clusters; also called *jasmine-box* or *mock privet*. *P. latifolia* is considered to be the φιλυρέα of Dioscorides and Theophrastus.

Cape Phillyrea, a name for the S. African shrub *Cassine capensis* (N.O. *Celastraceæ*). (Treas. Bot. 1866.)

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxiv, All the Phillyreas are yet more hardy. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Philyræa*, see Privet. 1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæol.* XII. 188 In his garden he has four large round philareas, smooth clipped. 1699 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 210 Lentiscus's and Phylarea's in as great abundance, as Hazel or Thorn with us. 1706 J. GARDINER tr. *Rapin's Gardening* II. 89 Line The walls with Phylyrea fresh and fine. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 71 Cut box and fflilereo and Lawrell. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. I. xx. 112 Against the stone walls are planted Phillereys. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 207 This shrub [Alaternus] is frequently confounded with Philyrea, from which it may be known at all times by the position of the leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Phillyrea*, evergreen shrubs and trees introduced from the shores of the Mediterranean.

attrib. *c* 1665 LADY MARY WARWICK in C. F. Smith *Life* (1901) 325 Upon the phillerea hedge that grew before the great parlour door. 1683–4 WOOD *Life* Jan.–Feb. (O.H.S.) III. 88 Frost .. killed laurel, bayes, philery hedges. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 107 Gargle often with Phyllyrea leaves boiled with a little Allum. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1749) III. xvii. 100 The rushing of a little dog..through the phillerea hedge.

Phillyrin (fi·lirin). *Chem.* [f. prec. + -IN 1.] A white crystallizable bitter substance ($C_{27}H_{34}O_{11}$) obtained from the bark of *Phillyrea latifolia*.

1858 *Penny Cycl.* and Suppl. 135/1 *Phillyrine* is a non-azotised compound, crystallising in silver scales and of a bitter taste. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 568 Phillyrin .. when submitted to lactic fermentation yields phillygenin and sugar, phillygenin containing the elements of 3 atoms of saligenin.

† **Philm** (e, obs. erron. form of FILM.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* II. 18 A skinne, pellicle, or philme. 1730 BURDON *Pocket Farrier* (1735) 48 A Philm grows over the Eye.

Philo- (fi·lo), before a vowel (or *h*) usually **phil-** (fil), repr. Gr. φιλο-, φιλ-, combining form from root of φιλ-εῖν to love, φίλ-ος dear, friend (cf. μισο-, *miso-*, from μῑσ-εῖν to hate, μῖσ-ος hate, hatred). The number of compounds so formed in Greek was very great; usually they were adjs., having derived sbs. and other words, and capable themselves also of being used as sbs.; e. g. φιλό-σοφος loving wisdom, a lover of wisdom, whence φιλοσοφία, φιλοσοφικός, φιλοσοφεῖν to philosophize, etc.; φίλορνις fond of birds, φιλορνῑθία fondness for birds, etc. Among these were some formed on national names, as φιλέλλην loving the Hellenes or Greeks, φιλολάκων loving the Lacedæmonians. Many of the Greek compounds have come down (frequently through Latin, and usually with formative suffixes) into English; and, on the model of these, *philo-* (*phil-*) has been employed to form new compounds, the second element of which is properly Greek, but often Latin, and even, esp. in nonce-words, English or in Eng. use. *Philo-* has thus become a living element, esp. with national names, as *philo-German*, *philo-Russian*, *philo-Turk*, and the like.

Examples are: *phil-aristocracy*, *-athletic* [cf. Gr. φιλαθλητής], *-hymnic* [Gr. φίλυμνος] (loving hymns), *-orthodox*; *philo-botanic*, *-botanist*, *-cathartic*, *-catholic*, *-dramatic*, *-dramatist*, *-felon*, *-garlic*, *-mathematic(al*, *-musical*, *-mystic*, *-mythology* (love of fables), *-mythy* [Gr. φιλομυθία love of talk], *-pagan*, *-peristeronic* (pigeon-fancying), *-pig*, *-poet*, *-publican*, *-radical*, *-tadpole*, *-theorist* [cf. Gr. φιλοθέωρος], etc. Among those formed on national names are *phil-African*, *-Arabian*, *-Arabic*, *philo-Athenian* [cf. Gr. φιλαθήναιος], *-French*, *-Gallic* (*-ism*), *-German* (*-ism*), *-Greek*, *-Hindoo*, *-Jew*, *-Laconian* [Gr. φιλολάκων], *-Peloponnesian*, *-Pole*, *-Polish*, *-Slav*, *-Teuton* (*-ism*), *-Turk* (*-ish*, *-ism*), *-Yankee* (*-ist*), *-Zionist*, etc. Among humorous nonce-words are *philo-destructiveness*, *-financitive*, *-foxhuntingness*, *-legislativeness*, in ridicule of the phrenological *philoprogenitiveness*. Also **Philarchaist** (-ā·ɹkeɪist) [see ARCHAIST, and cf. Gr. φιλάρχαιος], a lover of what is ancient, an antiquary. **Philhi·ppic** *a.* [Gr. ἵππος horse: cf. Gr. φίλιππος], fond of or interested in horses; so **Phili·ppy** [after *philanthropy*: cf. Gr. φιλιππία], love for or kindness to a horse or horses. **Philobru·tish** *a.*, characterized by love of or kindness to the brutes or lower animals; so **Philobru·tist**, a lover of brutes. **Philocalist** (filɒ·kălist) [Gr. φιλόκαλος, f. καλός beautiful], a lover of beauty; so **Philo·caly**, love of beauty. **Philo·comal** *a.* [cf. Gr. φιλόκομος, f. κόμη hair], characterized by love of or attention to the hair. **Philo·cubist** [Gr. φιλόκυβος fond of dice (Aristophanes)], a lover of dice-play. **Philocynic** (-si·nik) [Gr. κύων, κυν- dog: see CYNIC; after *philanthropic*] *a.*, loving dogs, fond of dogs; *sb.* a lover of dogs; so **Philocy·nical** *a.*; **Philo·cynism, Philo·cyny**, love of dogs. **Philodemic** (-de·mik) *a.* [Gr. φιλόδημος, f. δῆμος the people], loving the people. **Philode·ndrist** [cf. Gr. φιλόδενδρος tree-loving, f. δένδρον tree], a lover of trees. **Philoepiorcian** (-epiˌɔ·ɹsiăn) *a.* [Gr. ἐπιορκία false oath], loving false oaths. **Philofelist** (filɒfī·list) [L. *fēles*, *-is* cat], a lover of cats. **Philo·galist** [Gr. γαλέη, γαλῆ pole-cat, taken as = cat], = prec. **Philoga·stric** *a.* [Gr. γαστήρ belly], loving the stomach, indulging the appetite. **Philogenitive** (-dʒe·nitiv) *a.* [see GENITIVE], inclined to procreation, or to sexual indulgence; hence **Philoge·nitiveness. Philokle·ptic** *a.* [Gr. κλέπτης robber], fond of thieves or robbers. **Philome·lanist** [Gr. μέλαν black] a negrophile. **Philomuse** (fi·lomiūz) *a.* [Gr. φιλόμουσος], loving the Muses. **Philonoist** (filɒ·nɒist) [Gr. νόος, νοῦς mind, understanding], a lover of knowledge. † **Philoplu·tary** [cf. Gr. φιλόπλουτος], a lover of wealth; so † **Philopluto·nic** *a.* (erron. for **philoplutic*), loving wealth. **Philopo·gon** [Gr. πώγων beard], a lover of beards. **Philopole·mic** *a.* [cf. Gr. φιλοπόλεμος, f. πόλεμος war], fond of war or strife; so **Philopole·mical** *a.* **Philopo·rnist** [cf. Gr. φιλόπορνος, f. πόρνη harlot], a lover of harlots. **Philorchida·ceous** *a.*, fond of orchids. **Philo·rnithic** (-ɹnɪ·þik) *a.* [cf. Gr. φίλορνις, f. ὄρνις, ὀρνῑθ- bird], fond of birds. **Philothaumaturgic** (-þɒ̆mătʊ·ɹdʒik) *a.* [see THAUMATURGIC], loving works of wonder. **Philotheism** (fi·lɒþɪˌizm) [cf. Gr. φιλόθεος; f. Θεός God], love of God; so **Phi·lotheist**, a lover of God; hence **Philothei·stic** *a.* † **Philoxygenous** (-ɒksi·dʒĭnəs) *a.*, having an affinity for oxygen (*obs.*). **Philozoic** (-zō·ik) *a.* [Gr. ζῷον animal, after *philanthropic*], loving or showing kindness to animals; so **Philozo·ist** (erron. **-zoonist**), a lover of animals.

1897 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo, N. Y.) VII. 224 The *Phil-african Liberators' League is an association .. to work for the extinction of the African slave trade. 1750 *Student* I. 42 The *Phil-Arabians think that..theirs [Arabic]..may be made very instrumental in illustrating the present Hebrew text. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 211 New Palestine, as the Kirkomanetick *Philarchaists would have it [Scotland] called. 1820 *Examiner* No. 612. 1/1 Ready to put a grave panegyrical face on his elderly Odes and *philaristocracy. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 14 The *Phil-athletic club at Harrow. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Dec. 672/1 Every sport known to the philathletic Briton. 1886 *World* 24 Feb. 11 The state-carriage horses..excited much admiration in a very *philhippic population. 1861 *Longman's List* Oct., Hymnologia Christiana: Psalms and Hymns..Selected or Contributed by *Philhymnic Friends. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* II. 146 The old Welchman in pure *philippy, took his horse out of the road. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxi. (1862) V. 343 The tone of feeling in Lesbos had been found to be decidedly *philo-Athenian. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) Pref., To volunteer as gate-opener to other fields of *Philobotanic Literature. 1824 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 543, I am glad to hear your master has turned *Philo-Botanist at last. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 137 These days of *philo-british refinement. *Ibid.* XVII. 124 The *Philobrutists may carry their humanity too far. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1862) 353 This poor..creature was a *philocalist: he had a singular love of flowers and of beautiful women. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Jan. 113/2 His '*philocaly' is..destitute of vigour. 1822 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 2/1 If..the apothecary, the druggist, and the physician, all called upon him to abandon his *philocathartic propensities. 1893 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 108 The *philocatholic whiggery of Macaulay and Tom Moore. 1869 *Daily Tel.* 14 Jan. 5/4 To consider the present state of the *philocomal art. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 179 You Amynias there—hist!—A *philocubist?—Miss'd. 1815 MOORE *Life Byron* (1833) III. 143 *note*, You, who are one of the *philocynic sect. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 21 May 720/2 The philanthropic and the philocynic zeal of Lord Harrowby and Lord Mount-Temple. *c* 1843 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* (1875) 87, I admired my ingenious friend's *philo-cynical treaty with Mr. William Sykes. 1865 *Spectator* 4 Mar. 240/2 Miss Baker's *philocynism rose into a passion for a particular bull-dog. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 478 Our *philocyny developed itself at the earliest possible period. 1870 LOWELL *Study Windows* 44 This..does too much mischief to the trees for a *philodendrist to take unmixed pleasure in. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 101 The organ of *philo-destructiveness would have been found strongly developed. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 42 James Smith may indeed be well called a *philo-dramatic poet. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1882) 274 The enlightened and patriotic assemblage of *philodramatists. 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 239 They must have borrowed their *philoepiorcian maxim from some lurking remnant of the Priscillianists, who flourished in Spain in the time of Augustine. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor*, *Fragm.* (1848) 681/2 The Laureate, Dr. Southey, who is known to be a *philofelist, and confers honours upon his Cats according to their services. *Ibid.* 684/2 He made himself acquainted with all the philofelists of the family. 1831 — in *Q. Rev.* XLIV. 277 A monument .. of Jeremy's philosophico-*philofelon philanthropy. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 743 Never having heard of a *philo-financitive bump, we fear it can be nothing better than acquisitiveness. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 271 An impression on the organ of *philo-foxhuntingness..not very easily to be effaced. 1894 in *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/6, I believe he is not so much *philo-French as Prussophobe. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 240 You, Grosvenor, who are a *philogalist, and therefore understand more of cat nature than has ever been attained by the most profound naturalists. 1870 *Daily News* 19 Nov., Mr. Carlyle's fierce philo-Germanism is as dangerous a sentiment as the blind *philo-Gallicism against which he lifts up his voice. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Spanish Nun* ix, With these *philo-garlic men Kate took her departure. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 16 Dec. 7/3 The *philogastric propensities of boys. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. I. 255 If he be given to mystery, Or fond of individuality, Or *philo-genitive, or whatsoe'er His passion be. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. xxii, I say, methinks that '*Philo-genitiveness' Might meet from men a little more forgiveness. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 482 No sentimental *philo-Hindoo. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 22 June 9 What will the Italian Government say to such a *philokleptic proceeding on our part? 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxi. (1862) V. 345 The active *philo-Laconian party. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 733 Sawing through your organ of *philolegislativeness. *c* 1670 SETTLE in Johnson *L. P., Dryden* (1781) II. 36 Poor Robin, or any other of the *philomathematicks, would have given him satisfaction in the point. 1700 MOXON *Math. Dict.* 67 The Philo-Mathematick Reader. 1734 BERKELEY *Analyst* Query 55 Those *philomathematical physicians, anatomists, and dealers in the animal economy. 1833 DE QUINCEY *Rev. Greece* Wks. 1862 X. 120 *note*, The original (or *Philomuse society).. adopted literature for its ostensible object. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* (ed. 3), **Philomusical.* 1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Montagu* I, A true born Englishman and *philomystic. 1612 T. SCOT (*title*) *Philomythie, or *Philomythologie, wherein Outlandish Birds, Beasts, and Fishes, are Taught to Speake True English. 1804 COLERIDGE *Lett., to R. Sharp* (1895) 448 Philologists, *Philonoists, Physiophilists, keen hunters after knowledge and science. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxi. (1862) V. 343 The *philo-Peloponnesian party. 1828 SOUTHEY *Epistle to A. Cunningham* 336 Who in all forms Of pork, baked, roasted, toasted, boil'd or broil'd,.. Profess myself a genuine *Philopig. *a* 1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sk.* (1879) II. 72 He likes to outdo his *philoplutonic brethren in his wife's rank and silks, in the splendour of his house. 1720 SWIFT *Lett. Yng. Poet.* 1 Dec., Wks. 1841 II. 300/2 A multitude of poetasters, poetitoes, parcel-poets, poetapes, and *philo-poets. 1875 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* (1876) I. 205 Whatever absurdity in hair may be demanded by the trichotomists and *philopogons of modern Europe. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias* III. 242 She [Minerva] is called ..*Philopolemic, as uniformly ruling over the opposing natures which the world contains. 1827 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 127/2 The increasing arrogance of the Americans, and our own *philopolemical folly. 1893 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 122 To the mealy-mouthed modern *philopornist the homely and hardy method of the old poet ..may seem rough and brutal. 1896 A. B. BRUCE in *Expositor* Sept. 225 They called Him a drunkard, a glutton and a *philo-publican. 1884 *World* 30 Apr. 6 A *philorchidaceous peer. 1862 *Ibis* July 289 The smart game-bags and neat bird-cages testify at least to the *philornithic taste of the natives in one direction or another. 1888 J. H. OVERTON & ELIZ. WORDSW. *Chr. Wordsworth* 387 The love which you, so noble, so *philorthodox, so philhellenic, have displayed. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Dec. 2/2 We see the real cause..and realize some hidden dangers which have nothing to do with *Philo-Slavism or Slavo-philism. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. 80 The thing was done, the tails were cropped, And home each *philotadpole hopped. 1892 ABBOTT *Philomythus* ix. 235 Useless to the *philothaumaturgic soul. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 82 Baudelaire always kept in mind that Christianity..was not and could not be a creature of philanthropy or *philotheism, but of church and creed. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 506/1 Polemics can never be philosophers or *philotheists. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ccxiii. (1848) 577 The speculation, or conception (as the *Philotheistic philosopher himself called it) of Giordano Bruno. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 176, I distinguish, first, those whom you indeed may call *Philotheorists, or Philotechnists, or Practicians, and secondly those whom alone you may rightly denominate Philosophers, as knowing what the science of all these branches of science is. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIV. 132 Mr. Urquhart..is a *philo-Turk. 1895 *Eclectic Mag.* Oct. 565 An anti-Russian and *philo-Turkish policy. 1799 BEDDOES *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 223 Should it be discovered that oxygen enters into their composition the terms *philoxygenous and misoxygenous must be changed. 1818 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 166, I .. believe that I am to the full as much a *Philoyankeeist as you are. 1897 *19th Cent.* Oct. 628 The *Philo-Zionists recognise the mission: but they recognise the misery as well. 1868 *Daily News* 15 Oct., The Society..is animated by, as we cannot say philanthropic, let us say *philozoic

motives. 1887 Huxley *Ess., Progr. Sc.* I. 122 Unless the fanaticism of philozoic sentiment overpowers the voice of humanity. 1831 *Examiner* 219/2 That *philozoonist would certainly have introduced into his bill against 'cruelty to animals' a special clause. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* May 140 Inconsistent *philozoists.

Philobiblic (fɪlōbi·blɪk), *a.* [f. Gr. *φιλό-βιβλος* fond of books (f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *βίβλος* book) + -IC.] Fond of books; devoted to literature. Cf. *Philobiblon*, name of book by R. de Bury, 1344, and of a modern society. So **Philobi·blian**, *a.*; **Philobi·blist**, a lover of books. (All more or less *nonce-wds.*)

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 86 ¶ 2 My method has since been to visit the Philobiblian libraries. 1824 J. Cole (*title*) Bibliographical .. Tour .. to the Library of a Philobiblist. 1845 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) I. xiii. 200, I am rather surprised that a 'De Bury' club has not yet been established by Philobiblists. 1864 Bohn *Bibliogr Manual* (Lowndes) VI. 82 *Philobiblon Society.* Composed of Persons interested in the History, Collection, or Peculiarities, of Books. Instituted in London, 1853. 1885 *Spectator* 23 May 676 It has been known in philobiblic circles..for some years.

Philobi·blical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL: in sense b, after *biblical.*] a. = prec. b. Devoted to the study of the Bible.

1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 475/1 [Hermann von der Hardt] had founded at Leipsic a philobiblical society, with the object of determining the sacred text. 1896 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 253 The philobiblical physician has always his favourite prescription.

Philobotanic to -dendrist: see PHILO-.

‖ **Philodendron** (fɪlōde·ndrŏn). *Bot.* Also **-um.** [mod.L. (Schott 1830), a. Gr. *φιλόδενδρον*, neuter of *φιλόδενδρος* fond of trees (f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *δένδρον* tree), in reference to its climbing upon trees.] A genus of tropical American climbing shrubs (N. O. *Araceæ*), some species of which are cultivated as stove-plants.

1877 F. W. Burbidge *Propag. Cult. Pl.* 190 Some hybrid Philodendrons and Anthuriums. 1899 Rodway *Guiana Wilds* 28 Everywhere were long cords dangling from the rosettes of philodendrums, which had to be waved aside.

Philode·spot. *rare.* [ad. Gr. *φιλοδέσποτ-ος* adj., loving one's master, f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *δεσπότης* master; in b. directly f. PHILO- + DESPOT.] †a. (See quot. 1656.) *Obs. rare*—°. b. One who favours despots or despotism (quot. 1796).

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Philodespot*.., he that loveth his Master. 1796 Coleridge in Mrs. Sandford *T. Poole & Friends* (1888) I. 140 As bad as the most..rampant Philodespot could wish in the moment of cursing.

Philodine (fɪ·lŏdəin). *Zool.* [f. PHILO- + Gr. *δῖνος* whirling, rotation.] A rotifer of the genus *Philodina* or family *Philodinidæ*. So **Philodi·nid**; **Philodi·noid** *a.*, resembling this family.

1883 H. J. Slack in *Knowledge* 15 June 358/2 The Philodines, of which the common Rotifer, *R. vulgaris*, is the most abundant. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*; *Philodinid*.. *Philodinoid.*

Philodox (fɪ·lŏdɒks). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *φιλόδοξ-ος* adj. (Plato), loving fame or glory, f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *δόξα* glory (also opinion, etc.).] Properly, One who loves fame or glory; but taken (after *orthodox*) as = One who loves his own opinion; an argumentative or dogmatic person. So **Philodo·xical** *a.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 303 No people are lesse Philosophers..than Platoes Philodoxes, or lovers of their owne opinions. 1852 Davies & Vaughan tr. *Plato's Republic* v. (1866) 196 Philodoxical rather than philosophical, that is to say, lovers of opinion rather than lovers of wisdom. 1872 *Nonconf.* 27 Mar. 326/2 The lover of argument, the *philodox*—to revive an old word—..is less likely to listen to it.

Philo-dramatic to-Germanism: see PHILO-.

Philogenesis, -genetic, etc. erron. ff. PHYLO-.

Philograph (fɪ·lŏgraf). [f. Gr. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *-γραφος* writing, writer, delineator.] A device for facilitating the production of an outline drawing.

1892 *Echo* 9 Feb. 2/4 By the use of an instrument called the 'Philograph', an absolutely correct representation can be obtained of any organic form. 1892 G. Hake *Mem.* 80 *Years* lxviii. 292 Photographs in my early days were not in use, so philographs must be produced in their stead. 1894 *Times* 1 Mar. 6/5 The philograph, in which an exact picture was sketched on glass or celluloid of the objects seen through it, was useful and accurate, and excellent in its perspective.

†**Philogro·bolise**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *philogroboliser.*] (See quot.)

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* II. x, All-to-be-dunced and philogrobolised in their braines.

Philogynist (fɪlo·dʒɪnɪst). [f. Gr. *φιλογύν-ης*, in pl. *-γύναικ-ες*, fond of women, *φιλογυνία* love of women, f. *φιλο-* + *γυνή* woman.] A lover or admirer of women. So **Philogynæcic** (-ī·sɪk), **Philo·gynous** *adjs.*, fond of women; **Philo·gyny** (also irreg. **Philogyne·ity**), love of women.

1870 *Sat. Rev.* 2 July 24/2 The philanthropic or *philogynæcic brain of one of the most benevolent of mortals. 1884 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. X. 277, I would object to much of philanthropy, but I must say that such *philogyneity as this closely borders on the ridiculous. 1865 Huxley *Lay Serm.* (1870) 21 There are *philogynists as fanatical as any 'misogynists'. 1892 M. O'Connor Morris *Memini* p. xxxv, Dean Swift was most *philogynous. 1623 Cockeram, **Philoginie*, a doating on women. 1754 Fielding *Jonathan Wild* I. x, We will..draw a curtain over this scene, from that philogyny which is in us. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Feb. 2/1 False demagoguy and sentimental philogyny.

Philo-Hindoo, Philoklleptic, etc.: see PHILO-.

Philologaster (fɪlɒlogæ·stəɹ). *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *philolog-us* (see below) + -ASTER.] A petty or would-be philologist. So **Philologa·stry**, petty or blundering philology.

1880 F. Hall in *19th Cent.* Sept. 442 The doings of American philologasters are, in truth, a curious study. 1893 — in *Nation* (N. Y.) 16 Feb., He is quite capable of such an enormity of philologastry.

Philologer (fɪlɒ·lŏdʒəɹ). [f. PHILOLOGY + -ER: cf. *astrologer.*]

1. = PHILOLOGIST 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 63 Antiquaries, philologers, schoolemen, and other learned discoursers. 1659 Heylin *Examen Hist.* I. 129 John Selden, of the Inner Temple,.. that renown'd Humanitian and Philologer, sometime a Commoner of this House. 1706 Phillips, *Philologer*, an Humanist, a Man of Letters. 1847 J. W. Donaldson *Vind. Protest. Princ.* 96 All competently educated and impartial philologers would derive, from a careful examination of the whole Jewish and Christian Scriptures, the views which we have now set forth respecting the person of the Deity.

2. = PHILOLOGIST 2.

1660 Howell *Lexicon* Pref. *heading*, To the tru Philologer, Touching the English (or Saxon) with the three Sororian Toungs, French, Italian, and Spanish. 1755 Johnson, *Philologer*, one whose chief study is language; a grammarian; a critick. 1840 Arnold *Let.* in Stanley *Life* (1858) II. 174 Donaldson, the author of the new Cratylus, and almost the only Englishman who promises, I think, to be a really good philologer. 1882 Freeman in *Longm. Mag.* I. 83 The word 'American', as applied to language, means, in the mouth of a comparative philologer, the native languages of the American Continent.

Philologian (fɪlolō·ʊdʒĭăn). [f. L. *philologia* PHILOLOGY + -AN.] = PHILOLOGIST 2.

1830 Pusey *Hist. Enq.* II. x. 349 Philologians we have perhaps not a few, and not unlearned. 1844 J. Cairns *Let.* in *Life* viii. (1895) 165 The brothers Grimm, the philologians. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* ii. (1873) 42 The researches of the philologian into dead and existing tongues.

Philologic (fɪlolɒ·dʒɪk), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *philologic-us*, f. *philologia*: see -IC. Cf. F. *philologique* (1668 in Hatz.-Darm.).] = next.

1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. Introd. 2 Their choisest Notions and Contemplations, both Philologic and Philosophic. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. 225 *note*, The common foundation of most modern philologic systems, etymologies. 1847 De Quincey *Secret Soc.* Suppl. Note, Wks. VI. 305 Depositaries of all the erudition—archæologic, historic, and philologic—by which a hidden clue could be sought.

Philological (fɪlolɒ·dʒɪkăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, concerned with, or devoted to the study of, philology (in the wider or, now usually, the restricted sense: see PHILOLOGY).

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 9 You are much vpon the by, to bring in your Philologicall obseruations. 1659 Bp. Walton *Consid. Considered* 230 Though the controversy [about the Hebrew points] be in itself grammatical, or philological, yet it had its rise from a question theological. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. xx. § 26 Those studies which are wont to be called philological, such as history, language, grammar, rhetoric, poesy, and criticism. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 486 The Philological Society, at Bath, for educating and placing out the sons of poor clergymen and mechanics (instituted in 1792). 1832 (*title*) Philological Museum [Contents of Vol. I] On the names of the Days of the Week. On the number of Dramas ascribed to Sophocles. On the early Ionic Philosophers. 1842 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 7 The author considered the adoption of an improved system of orthography by the Editors of the Philological Journal (Camb. 1832) an example worthy of imitation on the part of the Philological Society. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. I. 185 Philological relations traceable between Cymri and Gael.

Hence **Philolo·gically** *adv.*, in accordance with or in relation to philology.

1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* (1661) 263 See learned *Hieron. Mercurialis* in his books *De Arte Gymnastica*: where this matter is fully handled, both Physically..and Philologically. 1794 Mathias *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 332 There is no passage.. which will not at last admit of such an illustration or explanation, I mean philologically or critically, as may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. 1884 H. D. Traill in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 442/1, I have never yet met a man.. who was philologically qualified for a seat on the bench.

Philologist (fɪlɒ·lŏdʒɪst). [f. PHILOLOGY (? or Gr. *φιλόλογ-ος*) + -IST.] A person versed in or devoted to philology.

1. One devoted to learning or literature; a lover of letters or scholarship; a learned or literary man; a scholar, *esp.* a classical scholar. Now *less usual* (cf. PHILOLOGY 1).

1648 E. Sparke in *Shute's Sarah & Hagar* Pref. b j, For his Method, let no nice Philologist distaste it, as too Calvinistical. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts, Plants Script.* § 25 Why the Rods and Staffs of the Princes were chosen for this decision Philologists will consider. 1799 Mrs. J. West *Tale of Times* III. 388 Philologists dispute the revealed will of God. 1841 Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 125 This labour..is least irksome to the professed philologist, who, in the purity of the style and the bold structure of the versification, can forget the weary barrenness of the matter.

2. A person versed in the science of language; a student of language; a linguistic scholar.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 12 He pass'd for an Excelling Philologist, especially as to the Greek Roots. 1770 Baretti *Journ. fr. London* I. 160 Old Facciolati the philologist. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* ii. 15 We know so little about the origin of language, that even the greatest philologists are forced..to avoid the subject altogether. 1865 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) I. i. 21 The Comparative Philologist ignores altogether the division of languages according to their locality.

Philologize (fɪlɒ·lŏdʒəiz), *v. rare.* [f. Gr. *φιλόλογ-ος* + -IZE.] *intr.* To play the philologist; to deal in philology (i. e. either literary scholarship, or linguistic science). Also *trans.* to bring *into* some condition by philologizing.

1664 Evelyn *Sylva* III. vi, It is not here that I design to enlarge, as those who have philologiz'd on this occasion *de Sycophantis*, and other curious Criticismes. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VIII. 165 It cannot be criticized or philologized into nothingness, like written record. 1877 F. Hall *On -able and reliable* 25, I have spoken of the unscientific philologizing which has recently become so rife.

Philologue (fɪ·lŏlɒg). *rare.* Also 7 **-log, -loge.** [a. F. *philologue* (Rabelais 16th c.), ad. L. *philolog-us* man of letters, a. Gr. *φιλόλογ-ος*: see PHILOLOGY.] = PHILOLOGIST. Also *attrib.* or *adj.* (quot. 1611) = PHILOLOGICAL.

1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 110 b, Philologves or serchers of antiquitie, and proprietie of tongues. 1611 Chapman *Paneg. Verses to Coryat's Crudities*, To the Philologe Reader. 1646 Gillespie *Male Audis* A iij, Great philologs will tell him that *maledico* is taken in a good sense as well as in a bad. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* Prol. (Rtldg.) 17 Homer,..the paragon of all philologues. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* I. iv. (1872) 29 One cannot..conceive of Sterling as a steady dictionary philologue. 1862 R. G. Latham *Elem. Comp. Philol.* II. i. 704 The effect of some philological force which it is the business of philologues to elucidate.

Philology (fɪlɒ·lŏdʒi). [In Chaucer, ad. L. *philologia*; in 17th c. prob. a. F. *philologie*, ad. L. *philologia*, a. Gr. *φιλολογία*, abstr. sb. fr. *φιλόλογος* fond of speech, talkative; fond of discussion or argument; studious of words; fond of learning and literature, literary; f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *λόγος* word, speech, etc.]

1. Love of learning and literature; the study of literature, in a wide sense, including grammar, literary criticism and interpretation, the relation of literature and written records to history, etc.; literary or classical scholarship; polite learning. Now *rare* in *general* sense.

[*c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 490 Hoold thou thy pees thou poete Marcian That writest vs that ilke weddyng murie Of hire Philologie and hym Mercurie. (Martianus Capella, 5th cent. wrote 'De nuptiis Philologiæ et Mercurii'.)]

1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* Ded. A ij, This of Mine dealing with *Verum* chiefly, in matter of Storie and Philologie. 1637 Heylin *Antid. Lincoln.* II. 108 Your Grammer learning being showne, we must next take a turne in your Divine and Theologicall Philology. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* I. (1662) 26 Philology properly is Terse and Polite Learning, *melior literatura*...But we take it in the larger notion, as inclusive of all human liberal Studies. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. x. 50 Philologie, according to its original, and primitive import..implies an universal love, or respect to human Literature. 1776 G. Campbell *Philos Rhet*, I. I. v. 125 All the branches of philology, such as history, civil, ecclesiastic, and literary: grammar, languages, jurisprudence, and criticism. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* IX. ii, Philology, or the principles of good taste, degenerated through the prevalence of school-logic. 1892 *Athenæum* 25 June 816/1 The fact that philology is not a mere matter of grammar, but is in the largest sense a master-science, whose duty is to present to us the whole of ancient life, and to give archæology its just place by the side of literature.

†**2.** Rendering Gr. *φιλολογία* love of talk, speech, or argument (as opposed to *φιλοσοφία* love of wisdom, philosophy). *Obs.*

1623 Cockeram, *Philologie*, love of much babling. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 195 Whereas hee [Seneca] complaineth Philosophy was turned into Philology; may not we too sadly complain, most of our Christianity is become Discoursive noise? 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 387 By which Means Philosophy is now turn'd to Philology.

3. *spec.* (in mod. use) The study of the structure and development of language; the science of language; linguistics. (Really one branch of sense 1.)

Comparative Philology: see COMPARATIVE 1 b.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 102 Harduin has there several eruditè Remarks upon Philology: especially upon the Pronunciation and Dialects of the Greek Tongue. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iii. 353 Philology, or the Knowledge of Words, and their Significations. 1838 Winning (*title*) Manual of Comparative Philology. 1843 H. H. Wilson in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 22 The publication of the grammar of the late Sir Charles Wilkins constitutes an important era in the annals of Sanskrit philology. 1852 Blackie *Stud. Lang.* 7 Philology unfolds the genesis of those laws of speech, which Grammar contemplates as a finished result.

Philomath (fɪ·lŏmæp). Now *rare.* [ad. Gr. *φιλομαθής* fond of learning, f. *φιλο-* PHILO- + *μαθ-*, root of *μανθάν-ειν* to learn: cf. MATHEMATIC.] A lover of learning; a student, esp. of mathematics, natural philosophy, and the like; formerly popularly applied to an astrologer or prognosticator.

a 1643 W. Cartwright *Loves Convert* IV. ii, I hate a scholar:..I'm only a Philomath, sweet Lady. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. v, An Entertainment for all the Philomaths, and Students in Physick and Astrology, in and about London. 1751 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1774) III. ccxii. 132 Ask my friend, L'Abbé Sallier, to recommend to you some meagre philomath to teach you a little geometry and astronomy. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 99 ¶ 1 Complete Ephemerides &c. drawn up by Partridge .. and the rest of the sagacious body of

Philomaths and Astrologers. 1873 Doran *Lady of last Cent.* vii. 192 The aged philomath might have been the original of the legendary mathematician.

So **Philoma·thic** [= F. *philomathique*], **Philoma·thical** *adjs.*, devoted to learning; of, pertaining to, or consisting of 'philomaths' (in quot. 1828, 'mathematical'); also, astrological; **Philomathy** (filǫ·măpi) [Gr. φιλομάθεια, *-μαθία*], love of or devotion to learning. (All now *rare*.)

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 462 Girod Chantrans read lately to the *Philomathic Society of Paris, an observation which he had made on the *conferva bullosa*. 1839 Lady Lytton *Cheveley* (ed. 2) I. x. 221 His work .. was meant to be statistical, philological, .. philomathic, and political. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 11 ₱ 5 Partridge .. is dead and gone, who .. *Philomathical as he was, could not read his own Destiny. 1828 T. C. Croker *Fairy Leg. S. Ireland* II. 86 Too much whiskey .. might occasionally prevent his walking the chalked line with perfect philomathical accuracy. 1623 Cockeram, **Phylomathie*, the loue of learning. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 Sept. 5/6 With a pure view to philomathy, I should much like some veracious 'average' husband to inform your readers what he does .. to alleviate the insufferable monotony .. of the 'average' domesticated wife.

Philomel (fi·lǫmel), **Philomela** (filǫmī·lă). *poet.* Forms: 5–6 **phylomene**, 6 **Philumene**; 6 **Philomele**, 7– **Philomel**; 6– **Philomela**. [a. F. *philomèle*, ad. L. *philomēla*, a. Gr. φιλομήλα the nightingale, supposed to be f. φίλο- Philo- + μέλος song, with vowel lengthened; but cf. φιλόμηλος fond of apples. The early form in *-mene* appears to have been due to some error.] A poetic name for the nightingale. (In later use always as proper name, with capital P, usually with reference to the ancient myth of Philomela metamorphosed into a nightingale. Hence properly feminine, and involving the error of attributing song to the hen bird.)

[*c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2274 That Philomene his wyfes suster myghte On Proigne hys wyfe but ones haue a syght. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 326 The ferst into a nyhtingale Was schape, and that was Philomene.] 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cx, Vnlike the cukkow to the phylomene. 1576 Gascoigne *Philomene* 129 To vnderstande the notes of Phylomene (For so she hight, whom thou calst Nightingale). 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 141 And Philomele her song with teares doth steepe. 1591 — *Daphn.* 475 But I will wake and sorrow all the night With Philumene, my fortune to deplore. 1599 *Pass. Pilgr.* 8, While Philomela sits and sings. 1634 Milton *Il Pens.* 56. *a* 1639 Wotton *Descr. Spring* 12 The Groves already did rejoyce In Philomels triumphing voyce. *c* 1790 Cowper *Catharina* vi, By Philomel's annual note To measure the life that she leads. 1798 Coleridge *Nightingale* 39 O'er Philomela's pity-pleading strains.

Hence **†Philome·lian** *a. poet. Obs.*, pertaining to the nightingale.

1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* (1708) 101 The winged choristers of night .. sweetly warbling out Their philomelian air.

Philomot, obs. erroneous form of Filemot.

Philomuse, Philomystic, etc.: see Philo-.

Philonian (fəilōu·niăn), *a.* [ad. L. *Philōniān-us*, f. *Philo*, *-ōn-em*, ad. Gr. Φίλων, a man's name: see *-an*.] Of or pertaining to the Jewish philosopher Philo, who flourished at Alexandria about the beginning of the Christian era. So **Philonic** (fəilǫ·nik) *a.*, in same sense; **Philonism** (fəi·lǫniz'm), the system of Philo; **Phi·lonist**, a follower of Philo; **Phi·lonize** *v. intr.*, to imitate Philo.

1874 *Supernat. Relig.* II. III. i. 288 The *Philonian Epistle to the Hebrews. 1892 E. P. Barrow *Regni Evang.* 51 Hebraic, Philonian or Gnostic teaching. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Quot. & Orig.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 214 Reverence .. claimed for it [the Bible] by the prestige of *philonic inspiration. 1900 R. T. Drummond *Apost. Teaching* vi. 224 The Philonic resolution of Old Testament personages, events and rites into philosophic abstractions. 1883 *Athenæum* 23 June 793/3 The Egyptian city where Platonism and *Philonism had imbued Christianity with a peculiar character. 1833 J. H. Newman *Arians* I. iv. (1876) 101 The discriminative view of heathen philosophy which the *Philonists had opened. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* XVII. xx. *Vives' note*, It was a proverbe, Philo either Platonized or Plato *Philonized. 1812 J. Adams *Wks.* (1856) X. 18 The opinions .. appear to me to resemble the platonizing Philon, or the philonizing Plato, more than the genuine system of Judaism. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1832 Either Philo platonizes, or Plato philonizes, says Suidas.

†Philo·pater. *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. φιλοπάτωρ loving one's father, or φιλόπατρις loving one's fatherland.] A lover of one's father, or (*transf.*) of one's country.

1641 R. Harris *Abner's Funerall* 21 Wise, Learned, Pious, Philosopher, Philopater, and the like. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* Ded. A ij, Eternally Renowned Senators, and most cordiall Philo-paters to Your bleeding, dying dearest Country. *Ibid.* I. Pref. (ed. 2) A ij b, The cordiallest Endevours, of a reall unmercenary Philo-pater.

Philoplutary to **-pornist**: see Philo-.

Philoprogene·ity. *rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. Philo- + L. *progeniēs* Progeny, with ending of *homogeneity*.] Love of progeny or offspring: cf. next.

1888 *Science* 14 Sept. 124/1 Sexual differentiation, including philoprogeneity, hybridity, etc.

Philoprogenitive (fi·lǫprǫdʒe·nitiv), *a.* [irreg. f. Philo- + L. *progenit-*, ppl. stem of *progignĕre* to beget + *-ive*.]

1. Inclined to production of offspring; prolific.

1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lvii. 41 To assimilate him to the philoprogenitive Gods of the heathen. 1884 *Public Opinion* 11 July 33/1 Its ['native' oyster's] place will be taken by the less philoprogenitive but not less delicate bivalve of Baltimore or of Portugal.

2. *Phrenol.* Loving one's offspring; of or pertaining to love of offspring.

1876 H. Spencer *Princ. Sociol.* III. xi. (1879) 767 Among brutes the philoprogenitive instinct is occasionally suppressed by the desire to kill, and even to devour, their young ones. 1894 D. C. Murray *Making of Novelist* 183 The pellet .. hit him .. on the philoprogenitive bump, and he swore audibly.

Phi·loproge·nitiveness. *Phrenol.* [f. as prec. + *-ness*: see quot. 1815.] Love of offspring; the instinct or faculty of love for one's children, or for children (and animals) in general. Its organ is located by phrenologists just above the middle of the cerebellum.

1815 J. G. Spurzheim *Physiogn. Syst.* Pref. 10, I am aware that the name .. ought to indicate love of producing offspring. As however progeny means offspring; philoprogeny, love of offspring, and Philoprogenitiveness, the faculty of producing love of offspring, I have adopted that term. 1826 *Edin. Rev.* XLIV. 269 Why therefore should we not have a separate principle of Philoprogenitiveness? 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 425 The nurse was a kind-looking old negro woman, with, no doubt, philoprogenitiveness well developed.

Philorchidaceous, -ornithic, etc.: see Philo-.

Philosoph, -ophe (fi·lǫsǫf, -zǫf). *Obs.* or only as Fr. Forms: 1 **philosoph**; 4 **filosǒfe**, **-zofe**, **-sophe**; 8–9 **philosoph(e**. [In OE. ad. L. *philosoph-us*, a. Gr. φιλόσοφ-ος lover of wisdom, philosopher, f. φίλος loving + σοφός wise, a sage; in ME. a. OF. *filosofe*, *philosophe* ad. L.] = Philosopher 1; now often = Philosophist 2.

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* III. vii. § 2 Þæm stro[n]gan cyninge & þæm gelæredestan philosophe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 77 Alle the wyse clerkes, and þe greate filosofes. *Ibid.* 126 Filozofes. *Ibid.* 164. 1721 Ramsay *Content* 404 Two Busbian philosophes put in their claims. 1827 Praed *Poems* (1865) II. 214, I danced with a female philosophe, Who was not quite a bore. 1868 W. Whitman *Poems* 87 See .. superior judges, philosophs, Presidents, emerge dressed in working dresses.

Hence **Philoso·phedom**, the domain or realm of philosophs.

1833 Carlyle *Misc.*, *Diderot* (1857) III. 216 They entertain their special ambassador in Philosophedom, their lion's-provider to furnish spiritual Philosophe-provender.

†Philo·sophable, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *philosophable*, ad. med.L. type **philosophābilis*, f. *philosophārī*: see Philosophate.] Able to philosophize.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 Panne comes to him a strengh shewable, or Philosophable [*in Fr. transl.* force demostrable ou philosophable], þat byholdys shappys vndirstandable.

Philosophaster (filǫsfæ·stəɹ). [a. L. *philosophaster*, in It. *filo-*, *philosofastro*, f. L. *philosoph-us*: see *-aster*.] A shallow or pseudo-philosopher; a smatterer or pretender in philosophy.

1611 Florio, *Philosofastro*, a smatterer in Philosophy, a foolish, pedanticall Philosophaster. 1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 72 Superficiall Philosophasters. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 95 A Philosophaster, or Quack-Doctor. 1894 Huxley *Evolution & Ethics* 26 The philosophy of philosophasters and .. the moralizing of sentimentalists.

Hence **Philosopha·stering** *ppl. a.*, acting the philosopher, philosophizing pretentiously; **Philosopha·stry**, shallow or pseudo-philosophy.

1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 355 His philosophastering or martial strains are at best neutral. 1904 Saintsbury in *Daily Chron.* 22 Sept. 3/3 You cannot bridge the gulf that a God has set by any philosophastering theory. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 104 A little of the old leaven, pedantry and philosophastry. 1899 M. M. Snell in *Dublin Rev.* July 41 Victories over the philosophast[r]y of the Encyclopædia.

†Philo·sophate, *v. Obs.* Also 7 **-phat**. [f. L. *philosophāt-*, ppl. stem of *philosophārī* to do the philosopher, philosophize, f. *philosoph-us*: see Philosoph. Perh. immed. f. F. *philosopher* in Montaigne: see *-ate* 3 6.]

1. *intr.* To reason as a philosopher; to philosophize.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. iii. (1632) 193 If as some say, to philosophate be to doubt. 1649 H. Lawrence *Some Considerations* 15 These .. perhaps could Philosophate as mysteriously as their neighbours. 1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxxviii, So I sat me down upon a bench by the door, philosophating upon my condition.

2. *trans.* To philosophize upon (a thing).

1649 H. Lawrence *Some Considerations* 34 These Sectaries .. even so Philosophating the Gospel, as they made it [etc.].

Hence **†Philo·sophating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **†Philosopha·tion**, philosophizing.

1644 G. Plattes in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 204 There need no other or further philosophation concerning the same. 1649 H. Lawrence *Some Considerations* 3 A carnall and vaine Philosophating about spirituall things. 1681 Glanvill *Sadducismus* I. (1726) 78 Our Philosophations touching an Incorporeal Being. 1802 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VI. 244 Jobbing may be associated with [the ideas] of fame and honour in our philosophating age!

Philosopheme (filǫ·sǫfīm). [ad. late L. *philosophēma* (Boethius), a. Gr. φιλοσόφημα a demonstrative syllogism, philosophical doctrine or principle, f. φιλοσοφεῖν to love or pursue knowledge, philosophize, f. φιλόσοφ-ος: see Philosoph.] A philosophic conclusion or demonstration; a philosophical statement, theorem, or axiom.

1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 51 An evasion, which not only Reason and Scripture but even Pagan Philosophemes contradict. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. ix. § 2 Perhaps you may derive some useful philosophemes or theorems, for your own entertainment. 1804 W. Taylor in *Crit. Rev.* Ser. III. III. 540 Only sagas and philosophemas, which .. contain no pure history. 1818 J. Brown *Psyche* 115 Without our running to extremes, Or deeming flights philosophemes. 1862 F. Hall *Hindu Philos. Syst.* (1897) 152 This passage bears upon more than one Hindu philosopheme.

Philosopher (filǫ·sǫfəɹ). Forms: *a.* 4 **philosofre**, **-zofre**, **filosofre**, **-sophre**, (**philisophre**), 4–5 **philosophre**, (5 **phili-**, **philesofre**, 6 **phylosophre**). *β.* 4 **filosopher**, **philosipher**, **phylozopher**, 4– **philosopher**, (4 **fylesǒfer**, 5 **philosoffer**, **-sofer**, **-sofyr**, **-sophir**, **-sophyr**, **-saphir**, **phylosofer**, **-sophyr**; **phili-**, **fili-**, **fylysofer**; **philsophir**, **fylzofyr**, 5–6 **philosophier**, 5–7 **phylosopher**, 6 **-phar**, **philosephur**). *γ.* 4 **phylosy-**, **philysophere**, 5 **philosophere**, **philesofere**, **fillosophere**, **filis(o)phere**. *δ.* 5 **filo-**, 5–6 **phylosophour**. [In 14th c. *philosophre*, *filo-*, *-sofre*, an Anglo-Fr. or OF. var. of *philosophe* Philosoph (cf. *legiste*, *legistre*, etc.), the ending being subseq. identified in Eng. with that of agent-nouns in *-er*; sometimes with those in *-our*, *-or*. The original stress was *philosofre*, which prevailed to the close of the ME. period, in which however there are also instances of the later stressing; *philosophour* is certain in Dunbar *c* 1500, and *philosopher* appears to have prevailed from the 16th c.]

1. A lover of wisdom; one who devotes himself to the search of fundamental truth; one versed in philosophy or engaged in its study; formerly in a wide sense, including men learned in physical science (physicists, scientists, naturalists), as well as those versed in the metaphysical and moral sciences, but now chiefly confined to the latter. Also with defining word, as *moral philosopher*, *political philosopher*; *natural philosopher* (= physicist).

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 5 This philosofres us doth towyte, Ase we findeth ywryte. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1901 Bot þe payn of dede þat al sal fele A philosopher þus discrived wele. *Ibid.* 7567 Als a gret philosiphir þat hyghe Rabby Moyses telles ryght. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1070 In fablus of philozofrus olde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 89 A phylosyphere of gret renowne þat cratone hecht. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xvii. 18 Forsothe summe Epicureis, and Stoycis, and philosofris [1388 filosofris] disputiden .. with him. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xxiii. 38 Filosofres for-soken welthe, for þei wolde be neody. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1484 Of hȝ sonnes .. the fourth was a philosoffer, a fyne man of lore. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 272 And that I recorde of all philosophres That lytyll store of coyne kepe in her cofres. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1450 There was purtred in ston The fylesoferus everychon. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xl. 159 (Harl. MS.) Amonge the wiche was master Virgile, þe philesofere. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. iii. 14 Hethen philsophiris bi her studie in natural witt founden .. alle hem to be doon. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 680/32 *Hic philosofus*, a fylysofer. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 2 The sayynges or dictis of the Philosophers. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 230/2 A Filosophur, *philosophus*. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxiii. 5 Divinouris, rethoris, and philosophouris, Astrologis, artistis, and oratouris. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 4 The old and antique phylosopharys .. applyd themselfys to the secrete studys and serchyng of nature. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1549) 136 Numa Pompilius .., beyng an excellent philosophier, .. was chosen to be kyng. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. ii. 53, I feare hee will proue the weeping Phylosopher [Heraclitus] when he growes old. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Pref. 18 Without some such Mechanical Assistance, our best Philosophers will but prove empty Conjecturalists. 1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 2, I drew up the following papers, to give a general notion of our great philosopher's [Newton's] notions. 1734 Pope *Ess. Man* IV. 390 Thou wert my Guide, Philosopher, and Friend. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* I. i. (1869) I. 11 Philosophers or men of speculation, whose trade is not to do anything, but to observe everything, 1809 Coleridge *Friend* (1866) 290 Pythagoras .. is said to have first named himself philosopher or lover of wisdom. 1827 Whately *Logic* IV. iii. § 2 The Philosopher's [business is] to combine and select known facts or principles, suitably for gaining from them conclusions which though implied in the Premises, were before unperceived. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* lxvii, A philosopher fallen to betting is hardly distinguishable from a Philistine under the same circumstances.

† b. *The Philosopher*, spec. applied to Aristotle.

[1340 *Ayenb.* 120 Huerof þe filosofe zayþ þet yefþe is yeuynge wyþoute ayen-yefþe.] *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 381 This is the sentens of the philysophre, A kyng to kepe hise lygis in iustise. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* III. v, For the philsophir feelid bettir than so, seiyng that richessis ben instrumentis of vertu. 1672 Wilkins *Nat. Relig.* 41 It is laid down by the philosopher as the proper way of reasoning from authority, that what seems true to some wise men, may upon that account be esteemed somewhat probable. [*a* 1850 Rossetti *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 108 This the Philosopher says in the Second of the Metaphysics.]

†2. An adept in occult science, as an alchemist, magician, diviner of dreams, weather-prophet, etc.

In ME. often not separable from sense 1, the notions being popularly identified.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 351 With clerkes also Han no beliefue to þe lifte, ne to þe lore of philosofres. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 299 But al be that he was a Philosophre,

Yet hadde he but litel gold in cofre. — *Frankl. T.* 833 Allas that I bihighte Of pured gold a thousand pound of wighte Vn to this Philosophre [*v.r.* -ofre]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. iv. 165 The kynge..was sore abasshed of this dreme And sente anone for a wyse philosopher commaundynge to telle hym the sygnyfycacion of his dreme. [1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. ii. 327 Many great families [in Rome] kept a philosopher.]

3. One who regulates his life by the light of philosophy and reason; one who speaks or behaves philosophically.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 35 For there was neuer yet Philosopher That could endure the tooth-ake patiently. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* II. iii, I'll beat him with the temper of a philosopher. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. iv. ix, Be mine a philosopher's life in the quiet woodland ways. 1871 E. F. BURR *Ad Fidem* ix. 165 Most men are not philosophers. *Mod.* He was too great a philosopher to be disturbed by this incident, unexpected though it was.

†**4.** Phrases. *Egg* (or *eye*) *of philosophers* = PHILOSOPHERS' STONE: see also *philosophers' egg* in 5 b. *Oil of philosophers* = *brick oil* (BRICK *sb.*1 3).

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 87 Of þe stoon, þe Eye of Philosophers. *Ibid.* 88 þe Eyrn, þat ys to say þe Eye of Philosophers. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* 20 To anoynt the stomake with the oyle of Philosophers, named in latin *Oleum philosophorum*. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 81 Oil made out of Tile-stones called the Oile of Philosophers. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Oil of Philosophers*, a Chymical Preparation of pieces of Brick heated red hot, soak'd in Oil of Olives, and afterwards distill'd in a Retort.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly appositive, as *philosopher-courtier*, *-king*, *-poet*, *-politician*; also *philosopher-like* adj. and adv.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. vi. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 140 Than Phylosopher-lyke usyd ys hyt. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 44 To speake Laconian-like, was to be Philosopher-like. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* IV. vi. 508 The Gentleman Atheist or Philosopher Infidel. 1885 PATER *Marius* III. xv, Under the full sanction of the philosopher-pontiff.

b. Combinations with *philosophers'*, *-'s*: †**philosophers' egg**, a medicine used to cure the plague, compounded of yolk of egg and saffron; †**philosophers' game** (L. *ludus philosophorum, Arithmomachia, Rythmomachia*), an intricate game, played with men of three different forms, round, triangular, and square, each marked with a number, on a board resembling two chess-boards united; called also **philosophers' table**; †**philosophers' tower**, a chemical furnace in the form of a tower; †**philosophers' tree** = *Tree of Diana*: see DIANA 2, ARBOR 2; **philosophers' vinegar** (L. *acetum philosophorum*), the supposed universal solvent; †**philosophers' wheel** (*Wheel of Philosophy, of Elements*, etc.): see WHEEL; †**philosophers' wool** (L. *lana philosophica*), oxide of zinc, deposited as a fine flocculent powder, during the combustion of the metal; †**philosophers' work** = PHILOSOPHERS' STONE.

c 1500 *MS. Sloane* 1592, lf. 151 b [154 b], A proved medicine againste the pestilence called A *philosophres Egge. Take Firste an egge and breake a hole in one ende and do out the white..take hole safron and fille the shelle therewith by the yolcke [etc.]. [Cf. 1653 C'TESS OF KENT *Choice Manual* (ed. 2) 139.] [*c* 1407 LYDGATE *Reson & Sens.* 2414 The play he kan of Ryghtmathye (*margin* Rihtmachia est ludus philosophorum et consistit in arsmetrica et proporcionibus numerorum).] 1563 FULKE (*title*) The Most Ancient and learned Playe called the *Philosophers Game invented for the honest recreation of Students. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. IV. (1676) 172/2 The ordinary recreations which we have in Winter..are Cards, Tables and Dice, Shovelboord, Chess-play, the Philosophers game. 1787 TWISS *Chess* 65 The board of this Philosopher's game, is eight squares in breadth, and sixteen in height. There are twenty-four men on a side, represented as flat pieces of wood, cut in the form of circles, triangles, and squares. The king is a square on which is a triangle and a circle. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XI. x. (1886) 159 A childish and ridiculous toie, and like unto childrens plaie at *Primus secundus*, or the game called The *philosophers table. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. XX. (Roxb.) 228 The *Philosophers Tower,..a kind of Tower furnace, wherewith a man may distill both water and oyle with one only fire. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, **Philosophers Tree*, see *Diana's Tree.* 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Philosophers Tree*, a chymical preparation, called also *arbor dianæ*, *diana's tree.* *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 191/2 A flocky-white powder, which has been called '*philosophers' wool'. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, *Svb.* ..Ha' you set the oile of Luna in kemia? *Fac.* Yes, sir. *Svb.* And the *philosophers vinegar? *Fac.* I. *Ibid.* I. i, Paines Would twise haue won me the *philosophers worke.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Philo·sophercraft** (-kraft), after *priestcraft*; **Philo·sopherling**, a young or embryo philosopher, a smatterer in philosophy.

1865 DE MORGAN *Budget of Paradoxes* (1872) 378 There is philosophercraft as well as priestcraft, both from one source, both of one spirit. 1833 LYTTON *Eng. & Engl.* IV. x, He is Snap, the academical philosopherling. *Ibid.*, Nine times out of ten our philosopherling is the son of a merchant.

Philosopheress (filǫ·sŏfəres), **-phress** (-frĕs). [f. prec. + -ESS 1.] A female philosopher; also, the wife of a philosopher; = PHILOSOPHESS.

1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* v. i, She's a Philosophresse, Augure, and can turne Ill to good as well as you. 1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 27 The philosopher dies, and leaves the philosopheress his wife to the protection of a friend. 1851 ROBERTSON in *Life & Lett.* (1882) II. 31 Thou meditatest, mighty philosopheress! on nitrogen and carbon.

Philosophership (filǫ·sŏfəʃip). [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The office or function of a philosopher; also, the personality of a philosopher.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* D iv b, His too muche philosophership made hym odious and hatefull to the people. 1874 HUXLEY in *Daily News* 3 Aug. 2 He held the duties of his manhood and the duties of his citizenship to be vastly superior to those of his philosophership.

Philosophers' stone. [tr. med.L. *lapis philosophorum*, the stone of the philosophers (see PHILOSOPHER 2), also *lapis philosophicus*, *-icalis*; in F. *pierre philosophale*, Ger. *der Stein der Weisen*. See Note below.]

1. A reputed solid substance or preparation supposed by the alchemists to possess the property of changing other metals into gold or silver, the discovery of which was the supreme object of alchemy. Being identified with the ELIXIR, it had also, according to some, the power of prolonging life indefinitely, and of curing all wounds and diseases.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 309 The Philosophres stoon, Elixer clept, we sechen faste echoon. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 219 The Philosophers stone to turne mettles into gold is yet to seeke. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 3 Men talke..of the Philosophers stone, that it turneth copper into gold. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 44 Henry VI..did then grant 4 successive Patents and Commissions to several Knights..and Mass-priests..to find out the Philosophers stone. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Transmutation of Metals*, among Alchymists, is what they call the Grand Operation or Secret of finding the Philosophers-Stone, which they give out to be so curious an Universal Seed of all Metals, That if any Metal be melted in a Crucible, and then a little of this Stone or *Powder of Projection*, be put into the melted Metal, 'twill immediately change it into Gold or Silver. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 79 How many profitable discoveries in chymistry have taken birth from that whimsical notion of finding the philosopher's stone? 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 145 He was in search of the philosopher's stone.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, I will haue A booke, but barely reckoning thy impostures Shall proue a true philosophers stone, to printers. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 46, I am half of opinion that Antichrist is the Philosopher's Stone in Divinity. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. 94 [Behmen] declared that the true Philosopher's Stone .. was 'the new life in Christ Jesus'.

2. An artificial gem so called.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 310/1 France is clever at producing..shams, and a perfect thing called the *philosopher's-stone* which .. has a very beautiful and gem-like appearance, is imported from there.

[Note. *Lapis philosophorum* occurs in works attributed to Raymund Lully (1234–1315), and in those of Arnoldus de Villa Nova (1240–1314). Probably it was used earlier; it appears in various mediæval works of uncertain age or doubtful authenticity; e. g. in the *Clavis Majoris Sapientiæ* attributed to Artefius or Artesius, whose date has been put by some *c* 1130. In some of these also we find *lapis philosophicus*, *l. philosophicalis*. But the earlier works (e. g. the mediæval Latin *De Investigatione Perfecti Magisterii*), passing as translated from Geber (Abu Musa Ja'far al-Sufi), usually refer to it simply as *Lapis* 'the Stone', or *noster lapis* 'our stone'. Albertus Magnus (1205–82), who doubted the transmutation of metals, refers to it as *lapis quem philosophi laudant ubique*, 'the stone which the philosophers everywhere laud', and *lapis quem honorant philosophi*. It is thus possible that *philosophorum* originated later, as an identifying adjunct to *lapis*, as if 'the Stone, of which all the philosophers speak', 'the Stone of the philosophers', and that the descriptive phrase grew at length into a specific name or title. It will be seen that the correct form is not *Philosopher's*, but *Philosophers' stone*.]

Philosophess (filǫ·sŏfes). [a. F. *philosophesse* (*a* 1518 in Godef.), f. *philosophe*: see PHILOSOPH and -ESS.] = PHILOSOPHERESS.

1668 ST. SERFE *Tarugo's Wiles* 23, I hope none..will be offended that my neighbour here Clubs his cloven Philosophess. 1821 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XCIV. 497 Remember me to my philosophess. 1875 M. COLLINS *Midnight to Midn.* II. ii. 222 There were peers and peeresses; there were philosophers and philosophesses.

†**Philosophiant.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *philosophiant*, pr. pple. of *philosophier* to practise philosophy; but perh. altered from OF. *philosophien* (L. type **philosophiān-us*) a philosopher.] = PHILOSOPHER 1.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 Oure fflader Hermogenes, þat ys full fayr in Philosophie and wel faire Philosophiant.

Philosophic (filǫsǫ·fik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. post-cl. L. *philosophic-us*, a. Gr. **φιλοσοφικ-ός* (implied in *φιλοσοφικῶς* adv.), f. *φιλοσοφία* PHILOSOPHY: see -IC. Cf. F. *philosophique* (*c* 1500 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to philosophers or philosophy: = PHILOSOPHICAL 1.

1644 MILTON *Areop.* 24, I have sat among their lerned men, ..and bin counted happy to be born in such a place of Philosophic freedom as they suppos'd England was. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 415 They went to Megara, where Euclid who had been a Disciple of Socrates, had erected a Philosophick School. *a* 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Guildford* (1742) 284 This resignation to philosophic studies spoiled the lawyer. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Diss. I. 303 In the proper philosophick Sense of the Word *same*. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xiv. 110 Questions, which he..imagined scarcely admitted of philosophic doubt. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 9 Philosophic candour and intelligence. 1879 A. J. BALFOUR (*title*) A Defence of Philosophic Doubt, being an Essay on the Foundations of Belief.

b. = PHILOSOPHICAL 1 b; scientific. Now *rare*. *Philosophic stone, wool*: see PHILOSOPHERS' STONE, *philosophers' wool* (PHILOSOPHER 5 b).

1686 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Chym.* I. xiii. (ed. 3) 340 Antient Chymists have given the Epithete Philosophick to all preparations wherein they have used Brick. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 113 Every saint has to himself alone The secret of this Philosophic stone. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 229 Philosophic Tube, That brings the planets home into the eye Of Observation. 1825 *Inscr. on statue of Jas. Watt in Westm. Abbey*, An original genius, early exercised in philosophic research. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 886/1 *Philosophic Wool.*

2. Of persons, etc.: = PHILOSOPHICAL 2.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 ¶ 6 He is a Clergyman, a very Philosophick Man, of general Learning. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 15 For the discovery..we are indebted to that celebrated philosophic artist Mr. Wedgewood. 1845 GRAVES *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 735/1 The history of legal systems is a subject of great interest to philosophic minds. 1890 E. R. LANKESTER *Adv. Sc.* 286 Speculations which have a historical value for the philosophic biologist.

3. = PHILOSOPHICAL 3.

a 1700 DRYDEN (J.), Among mankind so few there are, Who will conform to philosophick fare. 1700 W. KING *Transactioneer* 34, I call him the Philosophick Sancho, and he me Don. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 429 What early philosophic hours he keeps.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*) Studies, works, or arguments pertaining to philosophy.

a 1734 NORTH *Life Sir D. North* (1744) 200 So much Latin as to make him take pleasure in the best classics, especially in Tully's philosophics. 1867 'OUIDA' *Idalia* xiv. 190 A woman had enthralled him, and his philosophics were dead.

Philosophical (filǫsǫ·fikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. (perh. immediately from F. *philosophique*) + -AL: see -ICAL.]

1. Of or pertaining to a philosopher or philosophy; of the nature of, consonant with, or proceeding from philosophy or learning; in earlier usage including 'scientific', but now restricted in the same way as PHILOSOPHER and PHILOSOPHY, q.v.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxv. 11 The naturall science philosophicall. 1530 PALSGR. 320/2 Phylosophycall, belongyng to a phylosopher, *philosophal*. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 21 Phylosophycal resonys out of nature drawne. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *iij, This most subtile and frutefull, Philosophicall Conclusion. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 32 In the valley ..towards the City [Heidelberg], is a pleasant walk, of the sweetnes called the Phylosophicall way. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 299 Capable of being stated and fixed according to a Philosophical method. 1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* I The manner, in which Sir Isaac Newton has published his philosophical discoveries. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Diss. I. 303 A strict and philosophical Manner of Speech. 1775 JOHNSON *Western Isl.* Wks. X. 406 The cuddy is a fish of which I know not the philosophical name. 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 30 Apr., My mind is in a state of philosophical doubt as to animal magnetism. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. lxvii. 537 He has treated history on a large scale and in the philosophical spirit.

b. Pertaining to, or used in the study of, natural philosophy, or some branch of physical science; physical, scientific. Now *Obs.* or *arch.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref. iv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 125 The second Water phylosophycall. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 17 A philosophicall contrition of oiles. 1651 tr. *Glauber* (*title*) Description of New Philosophical Furnaces, or a New Art of Distilling. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 110 This we must..call pure water; but even this is far short of the pure, unmixed, philosophical element. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 136/2 *note*, Young Watt .. exhibiting a box of philosophical toys to the students .. at Glasgow. *Mod.* A Philosophical Instrument-maker.

2. Of persons, or their faculties, etc.: Skilled in or devoted to philosophy or learning (formerly including science); learned.

Formerly common, and still retained in the titles of scientific societies, institutions, journals, etc., e. g. the *Philosophical Transactions* (of the Royal Society), the *American Philosophical Society*, the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, a *Literary and Philosophical Institution*, etc.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1857 (Campsall MS.) O moral Gower, þis boke I directe To þe, and þe Philosophical Strode. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 8 The same to a philosophical head is apparent by suche ryches and presentes. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *iv b, Such as haue modest and earnest Philosophicall mindes. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 2 They say miracles are past, and we haue our Philosophicall persons, to make moderne and familiar things supernaturall and causelesse. 1682 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 12 Some of the wisest and most Philosophical men of Greece and Rome. 1798 (*title*) The Philosophical Magazine. *a* 1810 in *Sir J. Sinclair's Corr.* (1831) II. 43 Like our American Philosophical Society, it is voluntary, and unconnected with the public. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* i. (1814) 26 A philosophical chemist would probably make a very unprofitable business of farming. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xii. 137 He also attacked several doctrines of his philosophical contemporaries or predecessors.

3. Characterized by practical philosophy or wisdom; befitting or characteristic of a philosopher; wise; calm; temperate; frugal.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 203 His patience was more Philosophicall than his Intellect. 1717 POPE *Let. to Lady M. W. Montagu* June, What with ill-health and ill-fortune, I am grown so stupidly philosophical as to have no thought about me that deserves the name of warm or lively. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* ii. 18 Alexander gazed with a grave countenance of philosophical curiosity.

4. In special collocations:

†*Philosophical candle* or *lamp*, a lighted jet of hydrogen; †*p. egg*, a kind of alembic or retort; †*p. oil* = *brick oil* (BRICK *sb.*1 3); †*p. stone* = PHILOSOPHERS' STONE; †*p. tree* = Tree

of Diana: see DIANA 2, ARBOR 2; †*p. vinegar*=*philosophers' vinegar*: see PHILOSOPHER 5 b.

1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 51 On this principle is constructed the *philosophical candle, which cannot be easily blown out. Fill with hydrogen gas, a bell glass, furnished with a capillary tube; compress the gas, .. apply a lighted taper to the upper extremity of the tube; the gas will take fire, and exhibit a candle, which will burn till all the gas is exhausted. [1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Philosophic candle.] [1611 COTGR. s.v. *Oeuf, Oeuf des Philosophes*, the vessell wherein Alchymists put the stuffe which they hope will yeeld the Philosophers stone.] 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xx. 144 A great Glass-bubble, with a long neck; (such as Chymists..call a *Philosophical Egg). 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 443 Oil, thus distilled, was formerly distinguished by the name of *philosophical oil. 1638 MARCOMBES in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 283 Euery one thinks yt because I belong to my Lord of Corke I must haue yᵉ *Philosophical stone. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Six Follies Sc.*, The Quadrature of the Circle; the Multiplication of the Cube; the Perpetual Motion; the Philosophical Stone; Magic; and Judicial Astrology. 1706 PHILLIPS, **Philosophical Tree.* See Diana's Tree. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 568/2 That Vinegar which Quercetan calls in his Writings, *Philosophical Vinegar.

†**B.** *sb.* (in *pl.*) The subjects of study in a course of philosophy. Cf. LOGICALS. *Obs.*

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 10 John Colet .. spent seven years in Logicals and Philosophicals. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit. II.* 328 He was educated in Grammaticals in Wikeham-School near Winchester, in Logicals and Philosophicals in New College Oxon.

Philoso·phically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a philosophic or philosophical manner; according to philosophical rules or principles; as befits a philosopher; from a philosophical point of view.

1580 G. HARVEY *3 Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 64 Partly Philosophically, partly Theologically set downe. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 717 If I have written anything over-much philosophically that dissenteth from the true professed Religion. 1741–3 WESLEY *Extract of Jrnl.* (1749) 81 Who will either disprove this fact or philosophically account for it. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1887) 12 But, though philosophically in the wrong, we cannot but believe that he was poetically in the right. 1888 *Daily News* 16 July 4/7 Philosophically indifferent as to the question of who are in power.

Philoso·phicalness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being philosophical.

1661 RUST *Origen* in *Phenix* I. 8 According to the Philosophicalness of his excellent Spirit. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 481 The Philosophicalness of this present Age.

Philosophica·tion. *nonce-wd.* [f. assumed **philosophicate* vb., f. *philosophic* (cf. *sophisticate*): see -ATION.] The action of philosophizing.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 237 Philosophications meaningless as the melodious moanings of the Æolian harp.

Philosophicide (filɒsɒ·fisəid). *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *philosophus* philosopher + -CIDE 1.] One who would put an end to philosophers or philosophy.

1804 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* (1895) 465 This dim-headed prig of a philosophocide. 1812 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 149 Philosophists on one side..and..philosophicides on the other.

Philoso·phico-, combining adverbial form of Gr. **φιλοσοφικό-s* PHILOSOPHIC, PHILOSOPHICAL: = philosophically-, philosophical and..; as in *philoso·phico-chorogra·phical* (pertaining to physical geography), *philosophico-histo·ric, -juri·stic, -le·gal, psycholo·gical* adjs.

1743 PACKE *Ancographia* (title-p.), The Origine .. Of all The Valleys, Hills, Brooks and Rivers of East-Kent, as an explanation Of a New Philosophico-Chorographical Chart. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* ix. (1870) 157 The Roman Stoic or philosophico-juristic notion of *jus*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 406 Developed from a specially philosophico-psychological point of view. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 20 Mar. 3/2 The International Association of Academies has..agreed to the admission of the association [British Academy] as a constituent Academy in the philosophico-historic section.

Philosophing: see PHILOSOPHYING.

Philosophism (filɒ·sɒfiz'm). [a. F. *philosophisme* (1690 in Littré), f. Gr. **φιλόσοφ-os** (see PHILOSOPH); cf. *sophism.*] Philosophizing, or a philosophizing system; usually, in a hostile sense, affectation of philosophy; applied esp. to the system of the French Encyclopædists.

1792 R. VALPY *Progr. Morality* (1793) 47 *note*, Would the philologer .. be offended, if the term *Philosophism* were hazarded, to express the abuse, or the reverse, of Philosophy? 1799 KETT *Prophecy* (1805) II. 206 The power which trained in the Schools of Philosophism, assumed the dress of mildness, virtue, and religion. 1799 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* (1895) 307 And so philosophisms fly to and fro, in series of imitated imitations. 1813 EUSTACE *Class. Tour* (1821) III. ix. 353 To replace the bullion of ancient wisdom by the tinsel of Gallic *philosophism*. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* IV. i, The Dry-asdust Philosophisms and enlightened Scepticisms. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* I. ix. (1858) 62 His father had always held up Pope's Universal Prayer to him as a pattern specimen of shallow philosophism.

Philosophist (filɒ·sɒfist). Now *rare.* [In form, a deriv. of *philosophize*; but app. in sense 1, from L. *philosophia* or PHILOSOPHY + -IST: see -IST 2. In sense 2 = F. *philosophiste* (1760 in Littré).]

†**1.** = PHILOSOPHER 1. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iv. (Arb.) 25 As they [Poets] were the first obseruers of all naturall causes and effects.. they were the first Astronomers and Philosophists.

2. In depreciative use: One who philosophizes or speculates erroneously; applied polemically to the French Encyclopædists, and hence to rationalists and sceptics generally.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXVI. 529 With the rash ridicule of a French philosophist, who does not.. hesitate to extinguish hope, to withdraw consolation, or to abolish restraint. 1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 44 The same allurement .. which was employed by the first philosophist to the first sinner—Knowledge. 1829 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* I. *Godefridus* 9 Infidel philosophists and men of the new wisdom who know of nothing beyond the senses and their little reign. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 266 Let the Yankee-Gallico-philosophists work their will in the House of Commons and the Court of Chancery, they can hardly make them much worse than they have been.

†**Philo·sophister.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. prec. + -ER, after earlier words in *-istre*, -ISTER.] = prec. 2.

1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 103 What would they have said to the Philosophisters of the present day? *Ibid.* 257 Mr. Paine, and our other vaunting Philosophisters.

Philosophistic (filɒsɒfi·stik), *a.* [f. PHILOSOPHIST + -IC; cf. *Calvinist-ic*, etc.] = next.

1828 in WEBSTER.

Philosophistical (filɒsɒfi·stikăl), *a. rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Of the nature of or pertaining to philosophists; rationalistic, sceptical.

1805 T. HARRAL *Scenes of Life* I. 22 In the garden of Eden—if our philosophistical gentry will admit that such a place ever existed. 1812 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 80 Against this Goliath of the philosophistical Canaanites, Mr. Malthus stept forth. 1820 — *Wesley* II. xxvi. 401 He brought away a taint of that philosophistical infidelity which was then beginning to infect half-learned men.

Philosophistry (filɒ·sɒfistri). *nonce-wd.* [f. PHILOSOPHIST + -RY: cf. *sophist-ry, casuistry.*] The 'trade' or method of philosophists; shallow philosophy.

1880 W. M. TORRENS in *19th Cent.* Nov. 777 Whereupon philosophistry curls its official lip.

Philo-so·phistry. *nonce-wd.* [f. PHILO- + SOPHISTRY.] Love of sophistry.

1894 *Nat. Observer* 6 Jan. 199/1 Nor are Burton's notes.; always to be taken for genuine .. any more than his 'chaff' and his philo-sophistry.

Philosophization (filɒ·sɒfəizē··shən). [f. next + -ATION, after *civilization*, etc.] The action of philosophizing; philosophical treatment.

1800 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 347 In the choice of the subject-matter of philosophization, the principle of utility..has been my guide. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 800/2 We..find her philosophization of Browning scanty.

Philosophize (filɒ·sɒfəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. **φιλόσοφ-os** philosopher: see PHILOSOPH and -IZE 1.]

1. *intr.* To play the philosopher; to think, reason, or argue philosophically; to speculate, theorize; to moralize.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 27 To the end the reasonable soule may discourse and Philosophize. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xii. (1662) 125 My intent is not to Philosophize concerning the nature of Spirits, but onely to prove their Existence. 1690 BURNET *Th. Earth* III. 44 It is a great question whether..Moses did either philosophize or astronomize in that description. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* I. iii. 234 When men first began to Philosophize it was very natural for them to indulge conjecture. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* iv. (1859) I. 65 Man philosophises as he lives. He may philosophise well or ill, but philosophise he must. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 654 Bacon..presumed not to establish a philosophy, but to show how we should philosophize.

b. *trans.* To bring (*into*) by philosophizing.

1737 *Wks. of Learned* I. 67 He endeavoured to philosophize himself into a Belief, that Animals were mere Machines. 1844 *North Brit. Rev.* I. 71 To philosophize our starving operatives into a quiet endurance.

2. *trans.* To render philosophic; to conform to the principles of philosophy; to explain, treat, or construct philosophically.

1800 COLERIDGE in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) II. 19, I wish you to philosophize Horne Tooke's system. 1806 FESSENDEN *Democr.* I. 72 To kill one half mankind were best, And then philosophize the rest. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 154 [Dante] philosophized the religion and Christianized the philosophy of Italy. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. III. iv. 77 This endeavour to philosophise superstition.

Hence **Philo·sophized** *ppl. a.*, **Philo·sophizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Philo·sophizer,** one who philosophizes.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 95 This manner of Philosophising will not sticke much in the soul. 1676 H. MORE *Remarks* Contents, The fond humour of the Philosophizers of this age. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 148 Nothing else but a certain modified mass of Philosophizing matter. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 544 That philosophised orator who suspected [etc.]. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 250 Simplicity of expression in which these French philosophizers excel. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (1854) 27 This early form of..philosophized Christianity. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. (1864) V. 380 No philosophising Christian ever organised or perpetuated a sect. 1856 MASSON *Ess.* 455 The philosophizings of a Spinoza.

†**Philosophling.** *Obs? rare.* [f. PHILOSOPH or F. *philosophe* + -LING.] A petty philosopher; a tyro in philosophy; = PHILOSOPHASTER.

1815 JAS. GILCHRIST *Labyrinth Demolished* 8 Bewildered bewildering Aristotelian philosophlings. *Ibid.* 24 If the intellectual philosophling trouble the world with any more of his familiar notions.

Philospho·bia. [f. Gr. **φιλόσοφ-os** + -PHOBIA.] Dread of philosophy or philosophers.

1853 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* (1873) 235 The greatest sufferer from philosophobia.

Philospho·cracy. [f. as prec. + -CRACY.] Government by philosophers; the rule of philosophy.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 110 That philosophocracy, the live-long hope of the sage, and still the pursuit of the philanthropist.

Philosphress, variant of PHILOSOPHERESS.

Philosophu·ncule. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. type **philosophuncul-us*, dim. of *philosophus* philosopher; cf. *homuncle*, and see -UNCLE, -UNCULE.] A petty or insignificant philosopher. So **Philosophu·nculist.**

[1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 470 The sagacity of the sapient philosophunculi.] 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 588 The unsettled races of the north..are Scotch philosophunculists and Irish savages.

Philosophy (filɒ·sɒfi), *sb.* Forms: 3 philosofie, 4 -fye, 4–6 -sophye, 4–7 -sophie, 5–6 -sophi, 6–7 phylosophy(e, -sophie, 6– philosophy. β. 4 filosofie, -zofe, 5 -sofi, -sophi, -sofye, 5–6 filo-, fylosophye. [ME. a. OF. *filosofie* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *philosophie* (13th c.) = Pr., Pg. *philosophia*, Sp. *filosofia*, It. *filosofia* (also Du. *filozofie*, Ger. *philosophie*, Da., Sw. *filosofi*), ad. L. *philosophia*, a. Gr. **φιλοσοφία**, n. of condition f. **φιλόσοφ-os** philosopher: see PHILOSOPH.]

1. (In the original and widest sense.) The love, study, or pursuit of wisdom, or of knowledge of things and their causes, whether theoretical or practical.

The definition of Cicero, *De Officiis* II. ii. § 5, was considered authoritative: Nec quicquam aliud est philosophia, si interpretari velis, praeter studium sapientiae; sapientia autem est rerum divinarum et humanarum causarumque quibus eae res continentur scientia. Cf. quot. 1586.

1340 *Ayenb.* 126 Vor filozofé is ase moche worþ ase loue of wysdome. *Ibid.* 251 Þet is þe heȝeste wyt of man, wel to knawe his sseppere and him louie mid al his herte. Vor wyþoute þise filosofie alle oþre wyttes ys folye. *Ibid.* 164 Filozofie. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 175 With philosophres speke of philosophie. 1483 *Cath. Angl.*, Filosophi, *philosophia*. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 38 Philosophie is a love or desire of wisedome: or otherwise, it is a profession, studie, and exercise of that wisedome, which is the knowledge of divine and humane things. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 804 Aristotle and Theophrastus, with the Peripateticks,..divide Philosophie in this maner; namely, into Contemplative and Active. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Atheism* (Arb.) 330 Certainely a little Philosophie inclineth to Atheisme, but depth in Philosophie bringeth Men about to Religion. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. x. 50 Al human wisdome may be reduced to these two Heads of Philologie, and Philosophie. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 247 Philosophy, taking its name from the love of wisdom, and having for its end the investigation of truth, has an equal regard both to practice and speculation.

†**b.** Sometimes used especially of practical wisdom. *Obs.* Cf. 9.

From the time of the post-Aristotelian philosophy of the Stoics and Epicureans this had become a usual employment of the Gr. and L. word.

1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* III. l. 332 The chiefe of all philosophy consisteth to serve God, and not to offend men. 1679 PENN *Addr. Prot.* I. viii. (1692) 37 Famous for her Virtue and Philosophy, when that word was understood not of vain Disputing but of Pious Living. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 750 The original meaning of the Word Philosophy was rightly applied to moral Wisdom.

2. That more advanced knowledge or study, to which, in the mediæval universities, the seven liberal arts were recognized as introductory; it included the three branches of *natural, moral*, and *metaphysical philosophy*, commonly called *the three philosophies*. Hence the degree of *Doctor of Philosophy*.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 54 Philosophie is knowinge of deuinly and manly thinges ioyned with studie of good liuing...The firste spece of Philosophye is naturel...The seconde spece is morall, whiche in order of liuing maners techeth..Prudence, Justice, Temperaunce, and strength...The thirde spece tourneth in to reason of vnderstanding, al thinges to be said soth and discussed, and that in two thinges is deuided: one is art, another is rhetorique. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 115 Doctours of decree..That shoulde þe seuene ars conne .. Bote þei faille in fylosophye. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. v. § 2 Out of which several inquiries there do arise three knowledges, divine philosophy, natural philosophy, and human philosophy, or humanitie. 1895 RASHDALL *Univ. of Europe in Mid. Ages* II. 452 At Oxford..importance was attached to keeping up the theory that a University Arts course included the *Trivium* and *Quadrivium* of the earlier Middle Ages, as well as the 'three Philosophies' introduced by the rediscovery of Aristotle in the thirteenth century.

3. (= *natural philosophy.*) The knowledge or study of nature, or of natural objects and phenomena; 'natural knowledge': now usually called *science*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2748 Þe clerkes sede þat it is in philosofie yfounde, þat þer beþ in þe eyr an hey ver fram þe grounde, As a maner gostes wiȝtes as it be. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* V. XXV. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 154 No Multeplyers but Phylosophers callyd wyll they be, Whych naturall Phylosophye dyd never rede nor see. 1681

Ray *Corr.* (1848) 130, I hope you [the naturalist Dr. Sloane] persist in your resolution of making your discoveries and observations public, for..the advancement of real philosophy. 1728 Emberton *Newton's Philos.* 2 It is..to be wished, that the whole of his [Newton's] improvements in philosophy might be universally known. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 712 Where finds Philosophy her eagle eye [telescope], With which she gazes yon burning disk Undazzled? 1813-26 (*title*) Annals of Philosophy; or Magazine of Chemistry, Mineralogy, Mechanics, Natural History, Agriculture and Arts.

†b. *spec.* (In early use) Magical or occult science; magic; alchemy. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 505, I wol yow teche pleynly the manere How I kan werken in Philosophie. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris Berwik* 406 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 298 Ane man of gret science,..Hes brocht ws heir throw his knawlege in filosophie.

4. (= *moral philosophy.*) The knowledge or study of the principles of human action or conduct; ethics.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5664 In Boece of Consolacioun, Where it is maked mencioun Of our countree pleyn at the eye, By teching of philosophye. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* III. xii. 160 After cam Boece..And compiled..plente of fair volumes aourned of hye and noble philosophye. 1556 G. Colville (*title*) The boke of Boecius, called the comforte of philosophye, or wysedome. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 55 Ile giue thee Armour to keepe off that word, Aduersities sweete milke, Philosophie, To comfort thee, though thou art banished. 1634 Milton *Comus* 476 How charming is divine Philosophy! *a* 1751 Bolingbroke *Stud. & Use Hist.* ii. (1777) 25 History is Philosophy teaching by example. 1816 Shelley *Alastor* 71 The fountains of divine philosophy Fled not his thirsting lips.

5. (= *metaphysical philosophy.*) That department of knowledge or study which deals with ultimate reality, or with the most general causes and principles of things. (Now the most usual sense.)

1794 J. Hutton *Philos. Light*, etc. 121 Now, philosophy is that general knowledge by which the works of nature are understood in seeing the wisdom of design. 1852 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* 622 The Philosophical Society of Cambridge ought not, however, to be so entitled, if we take the word Philosophy in the meaning attached to it everywhere out of Britain. 1857 Fleming *Vocab. Philos.* 381 Underlying all our inquiries into any of these departments [God, nature, or man], there is a first philosophy, which seeks to ascertain the grounds or principles of knowledge, and the causes of all things. Hence philosophy has been defined to be the science of causes and principles. It is the investigation of those principles on which all knowledge and all being ultimately rest. 1862 H. Spencer *First Princ.* § 37 Philosophy is completely-unified knowledge. 1865 J. Grote *Explor. Philos.* xi, Philosophy, by which I mean the study of thought and feeling..as we understand, think, feel them of ourselves and from within. 1880 J. Caird *Philos. Relig.* 2 Whatever is real is rational, and with all that is rational philosophy claims to deal. .. So far from resting in what is finite and relative, the peculiar domain of philosophy is absolute truth. 1887 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 95 That philosophy only means psychology and morals, or in the last resort metaphysics, is an idea slowly developed through the eighteenth century, owing to the victorious advances of science. 1891 Ladd *Introd. Philos.* i. 27 Philosophy—we define to be—the progressive rational system of the principles presupposed and ascertained by the particular sciences, in their relation to ultimate Reality. 1902 H. Sidgwick *Philos.* 10, I regard Philosophy then..as the study which 'takes all knowledge for its province'.

6. Sometimes used especially of knowledge obtained by natural reason, in contrast with revealed knowledge.

(Cf. Ger. *Weltweisheit* opp. to *Gottesweisheit.*)

1388 Wyclif *Col.* ii. 8 That no man disseyue 3ou bi filosofie [1382 philosofye] and veyn fallace, aftir the tradicioun of men, aftir the elementis of the world and not aftir Crist. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. i. 7 Se 3e that no man bigile 3ou bi philosophi and veyn falsnes. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. vi. § 1 Concerning Divine Philosophie, or Naturall Theologie, It is that knowledge..concerning God, which may be obtained by the contemplation of his Creatures. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* IV. xci, Let Phylosophy not be asham'd to be confuted. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* liii, Hold thou the good: define it well: For fear divine Philosophy Should push beyond her mark, and be Procuress to the Lords of Hell.

†b. *spec.* of the sceptical or rationalistic views current in France and elsewhere in the 18th c. *Obs.*

1749 Smollett *Gil Blas* IV. viii, Our mistress is also a little tainted with philosophy. 1790 Han. More *Relig. Fash. World* (1791) 16 Philosophy..(as Unbelief..has lately been pleased to call itself) will not do nearly so much mischief to the present age, as its great apostles intended. 1795 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 308 He is certainly a man of parts; but one who has dealt too much in the philosophy of France.

7. With *of*: The study of the general principles *of* some particular branch of knowledge, experience, or activity; also, less properly, of those *of* any subject or phenomenon.

1713 Steele *Englishman* No. 7. 48 What Beau knows the Philosophy of the Perfume which emboldens him to appear amongst the Ladies? 1791 Burke *Let. to Member Fr. Nat. Assembly* Wks. VI. 32 The great professor .. of the philosophy of vanity [Rousseau]. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 385 The different problems which ought to be solved by a Philosophy of Nature. 1835 Ure (*title*) The Philosophy of Manufactures: or, an Exposition of the Scientific, Moral, and Commercial Economy of the Factory System. 1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* v. 87, I believe I understand the philosophy of reform. 1878 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* II. v. 73 To trace the causes, whether for good or ill, that have made nations what they are is the true philosophy of history. 1880 J. Caird *Philos. Relig.* 1 A philosophy of religion starts with the presupposition that religion and religious ideas can be taken out of the domain of feeling or practical experience and made objects of scientific reflection.

8. A particular system of ideas relating to the general scheme of the universe; a philosophical system or theory. (With *a* and *pl.*)

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 48 Of Tholome thastronomie, Of Plato the Philosophie. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 10 Mi chefist propositions against Aristotles philosophi. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 167 There are more things in Heauen and Earth, Horatio, Then are dream't of in our Philosophy. 1674 Grew *Disc. Mixture* § 1, I shall endeavour to conform to the Phylosophy, which this Society doth profess; which is, Reasoning grounded upon Experiment, and the Common Notions of Sense. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* I. 237 The Indian philosophy resembles that of the earlier rather than of the later Greeks. *a* 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xvi. (1870) 249 The special doctrines of other philosophies.

9. a. The system which a person forms for the conduct of life. **b.** The mental attitude or habit of a philosopher; serenity under disturbing influences or circumstances; resignation; calmness of temper.

1771 Chesterf. *Lett., to Bp. Waterford* 12 Aug., Philosophy, and confidence in the mercy of my Creator, mutually assist me in bearing my share of physical ills. 1774 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* 12 May, My own infirmities, the account of the return of yours, and the public news coming altogether have put my utmost philosophy to the trial. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. v, Philosophy has become another name for mental quietude. 1877 Sparrow *Serm.* ii. 26 And as to philosophy, alas! it may answer some of the lighter purposes of life, but can never pillow the soul in death.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *philosophy-dreamer, -hater*; †**philosophy-game**: see Philosopher 5 b.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. i. iv. 348 The like I may say of Cl. Bruxers Phylosophy game. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* (1652) 18 To turn the barren Philosophy precepts into pregnant Images of life. 1653 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 19 This Gentleman..is desirous to have the place of Philosophy Professor at Breda. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* II. v. 236 Proceeding to publick Lectures, he became Philosophy Reader. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. 159 Here, methinks, the ridicule turns more against the philosophy-haters than the virtuosi or philosophers. 1796–1803 Coleridge *Let.* (in *Sotheby's Catal.* 20 Nov. (1899) 17), Your philosophy dreamers from Toth, the Egyptian, to Taylor the English Pagan.

Hence †**Philosophyship** *Obs.*, a mock title for a philosopher.

1798 Charlotte Smith *Yng. Philos.* III. 13 Is your philosophyship disinterested enough to give a letter of recommendation to your elder brother? *Ibid.* IV. 47, [I], of whose libertinism his philosophyship has such terrible ideas.

†**Philosophy,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 **philosofien.** [f. prec. sb.: cf. obs. F. *philosophier* (15–16th c. in Godef.).] *intr.* = Philosophize *v.* 1.

1382 Wyclif *Bible* Pref. Ep. vi. 67 Other..among 3ong wymmen philosofien of holi lettres [1388 talken as filosoferes of hooly lettris among 3onge wymmen]. 1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xv. xxxiii. (1886) 383 Salomon did philosophie about all things. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* ii. § 2 (1644) 46 Ambrose Philosophying divinely in a contemplation of Bees. 1654 Flecknoe *Ten Years Trav.* 134 You see.. how I Philosophy on every thing.

Hence †**Philosophying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 1113 Those townes by reason of y° Philosophying [L. *philosophantibus*; edd. 1587–92 Philosophing] Leuites, were called Leuitical. 1591 Sparry tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* Ep. Ded. A ij, By the philosophying upon the compilation, lines, and proportion of the handes. 1648 H. Gresby tr. *Balzac's Prince* 250 A most perfect manner of Philosophying.

†**Philostorgy** (fi·lǒstǒ̄ɹdʒi). *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *φιλοστοργία* tender love, f. *φιλόστοργος* tenderly loving, f. *φιλο-* Philo- + *στοργή* affection.] Natural affection, such as that of parents and children.

1623 Cockeram, *Philostorgie*, parents loue towards their children. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*

Philotechnic (filote·knik), *a.* [f. Gr. *φιλότεχνος* fond of art, f. *φιλο-* Philo- + *τέχνη* art: so mod.F. *philotechnique* (*Dict. Acad.* 1835).] Fond of or devoted to the arts, esp. the industrial arts.

1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 348/2 British Philotechnic Society. Proposals have been issued for the establishment of a society under the above title. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Oct. 11/1 Organization of popular education in the evenings in Paris:—III.—The Philotechnic Association.

So **Philote·chnical** *a.* (*rare*—°) = prec.; **Philote·chnist,** a lover of the practical arts.

1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) III. 176, I distinguish, first, those whom indeed you may call Philotheorists, or Philotechnists, or Practicians, and secondly those whom alone you may rightly denominate Philosophers. 1846 Worcester, *Philotechnic, Philotechnical*, fond of the arts; friendly to the arts.

Philothaumaturgic, etc.: see Philo-.

Phi·lo-theoso·phical *a. rare.* [f. *philo-* (*sophical* + *theosophical.*] Relating to philosophy and theosophy.

1876 W. R. Cooper *Archaic Dict.* 10 *Abibaal.* King of Berytus (Beirout), to whom Sanchoniathon dedicated his philo-theosophical writings.

†**Philotimy.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. Gr. *φιλοτῑμία*, n. of quality f. *φιλότῑμος* loving honour, f. *φιλο-* Philo- + *τιμή* honour.] Love of honour or distinction; ambition.

1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 24 These honourable Rulers approued their Princely Magnificence, and Philotimy in a braue maner. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*

Philo·xenist. [f. Gr. *φιλοξενίζειν* (f. *φιλόξενος* loving hospitality, f. *φιλο-* Philo- + *ξένος* stranger): see -ist.] A lover of hospitality to strangers.

1822 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* II. 179 And Nicostratus trips, For I see that his lips To themselves are philoxenist framing.

So †**Phyloxeny, -ie.** *Obs. rare*—°.

1623 Cockeram, *Phyloxenie*, loue of hospitalitie.

Philoxygenous to **Philozoonist**: see Philo-.

Philter, obs. form of Filter: var. Philtre.

Phi·lterer. *rare.* [f. Philtre *sb.* or *v.* + -er¹.] One who makes or administers philtres.

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 105 What more consonant to this Etymon, than a Poysoner, Philterer, Jugler, Cheater, or Deceiver. *Ibid.* 106.

Philtre, philter (fi·ltəɹ), *sb.* Also 7 **filtre**; 7–8 in L. form **philtrum** (pl. -a or -ums). [a. F. *philtre* (1568 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *philtrum*, a. Gr. *φίλτρον* love-charm, love-potion, f. *φιλ-*, stem of *φιλεῖν* to love, *φίλος* dear, loved, loving + *-τρον*, suffix of instrument.]

1. A potion or drug (rarely, a charm of other kind) supposed to be capable of exciting sexual love, esp. towards a particular person; a love-potion or love-charm. Sometimes *loosely*, a potion or drug to produce some magical effect, a magic potion. Also *fig.*

? 1587 Newton *Tryall Man's owne selfe* (1602) 116 in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1870) III. 261 By any secret sleight or cunning, as Drinkes, Drugges, Medicines, charmed Potions, Amatorious Philters, Figures, Characters, or any such like paltering Instruments, Devises, or Practises. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* IV. i. (1620) I, If I should make 'hem all in loue with thee afore Night! *Daup.* I would say thou had'st the best Philtre. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maydens Blush* 798 The hellish Philtree made of Stygian Wave. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. iii, They can make friends enemies, and enemies friends, by philters. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 347, I threw all over-board, for fear some trick or philter should have been play'd with them. 1868 Tennyson *Lucretius* 16 A witch Who brew'd the philtre.

β. c 1610 Randolph *Eclogue Two Doctors* Wks. 1875 II. 604 Love-sick Amyntas, get a philtrum here, To make thee lovely to thy truly dear. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VI. § 25 That demons..assist in making philtrums and charms.

†**2.** See quots. *Obs.* [So It. *philtro* (Florio 1598), F. *philtre* (Cotgr. 1611).]

1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 278 A mole on the philtrum or hollow of the upper lip, under the nostrils. 1706 Phillips, *Philter* or *Philtrum*...Among some Anatomists, it is taken for the Hollow that divides the upper Lip.

3. Comb., as *philtre-bred, -charmed* adjs.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 511 Not philtre-charm'd nor by Busiris prest. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* IV. xxxii. (heading), The philtre-bred passion of Tristan.

Phi·ltre, phi·lter, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To charm with a philtre or love-potion; *fig.* to bewitch.

1674 *Govt. Tongue* vi. § 34 Let [them] not..shew themselves philter'd and bewitch'd by this. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 378 Hearts philtred by Concupiscence impure. 1888 Lowell *Endymion* II. 32 Soon, like wine, Her eyes, in mine poured, frenzy-philtred mine.

2. *intr.* To prepare a philtre or magic potion.

1768 [W. Donaldson] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xxv. 213, I thought my chymical chiromancers were philtering to charm the devil.

†**Philtrous** (fi·ltrəs), *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ous.] Of the nature of a philtre.

1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 57 With Philtrous powders and such drugs he works upon their persons. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* II. I, xii. 276 *heading*, That it is a Philtrous Cup.

Philyrea: see Phillyrea.

‖ **Phimosis** (fəimō·usis). *Path.* Also 7 **phy-**. [mod.L., a. Gr. *φίμωσις* muzzling. So in Fr. (16th c. in Paré).] Contraction of the orifice of the prepuce, so that it cannot be retracted.

1674–7 J. Molins *Anat. Obs.* (1896) 22, I cut the Phymosis, and he did well. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 20 With the dysuria he had a complete phimosis. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 161 Phimosis is a congenital affection.

Hence **Phimosed** (fəi·mōuzd) *a.*, affected with phimosis; **Phimotic** (fəimo·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of phimosis.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 837 The irritation of retained smegma beneath a phimosed prepuce. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 47 Phimotic Phlegmon.

Phinnock, phinoe, obs. ff. Finnoc *Sc.*, white trout. **Phioll,** variant of Filiole¹ *Obs.*

†**Phip.** *Obs.* An imitation of the chirp of a sparrow; hence formerly used as name for a sparrow. Also Philp.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 41 'Ȝee, farewel phippe [C. XII. 310 fyppe]!' quod fauntelte. *a* 1529 Skelton *Ph. Sparowe* 138 And whan I sayd, Phyp, Phyp, Than he wold lepe and skyp. *a* 1577 Gascoigne *Praise P. Sparrow* Wks. (1587) 285 As if you say but Fend cut Phip, Lord, how the peat will turne and skip.

Phiph(e, -er, obs. ff. Fife, Fifer. **Phirman, phirmaund,** var. Firman. **Phiscall,** obs. f. Fiscal. **Phisick, Phisician, -itian,** etc., obs. ff. Physic, Physician. **Phisionomy, phisnomy,** etc., obs. ff. Physiognomy.

Phit (fit). An imitation of various sounds, esp. that made by a rifle-bullet.

1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 420/2 He [a bear] gave a soft

'phit!' of startled recognition, pricked up his ears and turned his head askew. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 25 Aug. 3/5 The pert crack of the Lee-Metford, the 'phit' of whose bullet is lost in the whirr of a lead-coated stone from the Matabele arsenal. 1898 Doyle *Trag. Korosko* iv. 80 The air was full of the phit-phit-phit of the bullets.

Phiton, -es, etc., obs. ff. Python, -ess, etc.

Phiz (fiz). *humorous colloq.* Also 7 **phis**, 7–8 **phyz, phys**, 8 **phizz**, (**fiz**). [Colloq. abbreviation of *phiznomy*, Physiognomy.] Face, countenance; expression or aspect of face.

1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* v. i, In deed your magnanimous Phyz is somewhat disfigur'd by it, captain. 1691 *New Discov. Old Intreague* xxvii, Next Cousin Will,..With Aukward Phys. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* iv. viii, What a furious phiz I have! 1762 Churchill *Ghost* iv, Savour'd in talk, in dress, and phyz, More of another World than this. 1774 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 21 Grave phizes are grinned out of countenance. 1868 W. S. Gilbert *Bab Ballads, Only Dancing Girl*, And her painted, tainted Phiz.

b. *Comb.*, as *phiz-maker*, one who makes 'faces' or grimaces.

1742 J. Yarrow *Love at first Sight* Prol., Mass John the Phiz-Maker with zealous Cant.

Phiz, phizz, obs. ff. Fizz. **Phizitian, Phizonomye**, obs. ff. Physician, Physiognomy.

Phleam, obs. form of Fleam *sb.*[1]

Phleb-, before a consonant Phlebo-, combining form of Gr. *φλέψ, φλεβ-* vein, an element in terms of physiology, pathology, etc.

‖ **Phlebectasia** (flebekte·ĭziă), ‖ **Phlebectasis** (flĭbe·ktăsis), **Phlebectasy** (flĭbe·ktăsi) [Gr. *ἔκτασις* extension], abnormal dilatation of a vein, varix. **Phlebectopy** (flĭbe·ktŏpi) [Gr. *ἐκ* out of, *τόπος* place], displacement or abnormal situation of a vein.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, **Phlebectasia*, dilatation of a vein, or portion of a vein. 1849–52 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1397/2 *Phlebectesis may conveniently be divided into several forms. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 938/2 *Phlebectasy ..*Phlebectopy.

Phlebenterate (flĭbe·ntĕrĕt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phlebenterāta*, f. Gr. *φλέψ, φλεβ-* vein + *ἔντερον* intestine: see -ate[2] 2.] Belonging to the *Phlebenterata*, a former division of gastropod molluscs, characterized by processes of the alimentary canal extending into processes of the body-wall. **b.** *sb.* One of the *Phlebenterata*. So **Phlebenteric** (flebente·rik) *a.*, characterized by such processes as those of the *Phlebenterata*; **Phlebenterism** (flĭbe·ntĕriz'm), the condition of having processes of the alimentary canal extending into processes of the body-wall, as in the *Phlebenterata*, or into the legs, mandibles, etc., as in the *Pycnogonidæ*; the opinion that such processes have a circulatory function.

1857 E. C. Otté tr. *Quatrefages' Rambles Nat.* I. 351 Phlebenterism was declared to be entirely exploded, and characterised as a mere chimera.

‖ **Phlebitis** (flĭbəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φλέψ, φλεβ-* vein: see -itis.] Inflammation of the walls of a vein.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 11 The inflammation of veins, by some writers called Phlebitis, has of late occupied more attention. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 425 Phlebitis is the chief evil to be feared from an injury to a vein.

Hence **Phlebitic** (flĭbi·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with phlebitis.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 170 Paget..contended for the primarily phlebitic nature of thrombosis in gout.

Phlebo-, combining element: see Phleb-.

Phlebogram (fle·bŏgræm) [-gram], a diagram (sphygmogram) of the pulsations of a vein (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1893). **Phlebograph** (fle·bŏgraf) [-graph], an instrument (sphygmograph) for recording diagrammatically the pulsations of a vein. **Phlebography** (flĭbɒ·grăfi) [-graphy], a description of the veins; hence **Phlebographical** (flebŏgræ·fikăl) *a.*, pertaining to phlebography. **Phlebolite** (fle·bŏləit), **Phle·bolith** (-liþ) [Gr. *λίθος* stone: see -lite], a morbid calcareous concretion in a vein, a vein-stone; hence **Phlebolitic** (-li·tik), **-lithic** (-li·þik) *a.*, of the nature of, or pertaining to, a phlebolite. **Phlebology** (flĭbɒ·lŏdʒi) [-logy], that part of physiology or anatomy which treats of the veins; hence **Phlebological** *a.*, pertaining to phlebology. ‖ **Phlebometritis** (fle·bŏmĭtrəi·tis) [Gr. *μήτρα* womb: see -itis], inflammation of the veins of the womb (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Phleborrhagia** (flebŏrē·dʒiă), **Phleborrhage** (fle·bŏrĕdʒ) [Gr. *-ραγία*, from *ῥήγνυναι* to burst; cf. *hæmorrhage*], hæmorrhage from rupture of a vein. ‖ **Phleborrhexis** (flebŏre·ksis) [Gr. *ῥῆξις* bursting], rupture of a vein (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1842). ‖ **Phlebosclerosis** (fle·bŏsklĭrō·sis) [Gr. *σκλήρωσις* induration, f. *σκληρός* hard], morbid thickening and hardening of the wall of a vein; hence **Phlebosclerotic** (-rɒ·tik) *a.*, pertaining to phlebosclerosis. ‖ **Phlebostenosis** (fle·bŏstĭnō·sis) [Gr. *στένωσις* contraction], abnormal contraction of a vein or veins (Dunglison 1853). ‖ **Phlebothrombo·sis**, thrombosis in a vein. Also Phlebotomy, etc.

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 June 1571 Dr. J. Mackenzie will demonstrate his Clinical Polygraph and *Phlebograph. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Phlebographical*, belonging to Phlebography. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, **Phlebography*, description of the veins. *Ibid.*, **Phlebolite*, a loose concretion, varying in size from a currant to that of a pea, occasionally found in the veins. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Org.* 217 Certain concretions found in the dilated veins..and known as phlebolites. 1847–9 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 89/2 *Phleboliths originate in clots in the interior of the vessels. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 939/2 *Phlebolithic, *Phlebolitic. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Phlebological*, belonging to Phlebology. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, **Phlebology*, the part of anatomy which treats of the veins. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 6), **Phleborragia*, the breaking of a Vein. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Phleborrhagia*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 331 The sclerotic process may affect the veins also—**phlebo-sclerosis*. *Ibid.* 220 *Phlebo-sclerotic thrombosis. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Phlebothrombosis*, venous thrombosis.

Phleboidal (flĭboi·dăl), *a.* [f. Phleb- + -oid + -al.] Resembling a vein or veins: see quot.

1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 87/1 The tissue composed of these moniliform vessels has been denominated *phleboidal*.

† **Phlebo·tomer.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 -thomer. [f. Phlebotomy + -er.] = Phlebotomist.

1564–78 Bulleyn *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 26 Let vs..take our Phlebothomer with us to let hym bloud.

Phlebotomic (flebɒtɒ·mik), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *φλεβοτομικός* (*φλεβοτομική* sb., the phlebotomic art), f. *φλεβοτομία* Phlebotomy.] Of or pertaining to phlebotomy. So **Phleboto·mical** *a.*; hence **Phleboto·mically** *adv.*, in relation to phlebotomy.

1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 148 President of the phlebotomic college. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 940/2 Phlebotomical. 1869 E. C. Rye in *Student* II. 185 The 'mosquito' cannot be said to exist specifically, though phlebotomically it has an entity.

Phlebotomist (flĭbɒ·tŏmist). [f. Phlebotomy (or its source), see -ist: cf. F. *phlébotomiste* (1732 in *Dict. Trévoux*).] One who practises phlebotomy; a surgeon who bleeds patients; a blood-letter.

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 256 A just reward for a butcherlike Phlebotomist. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 63 The cupping glasses of the phlebotomist.

Phlebo·tomiza·tion. [f. next + -ation]. The action of phlebotomizing; blood-letting.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 49/2 We may not, in Phlebotomization, be to timorouse and fearfull. 1837 Sir F. Palgrave *Merch. & Friar* v. (1844) 199 A general phlebotomization at stated and regular periods.

Phlebotomize (flĭbɒ·tŏməiz), *v.* Also 6 **-thomize.** [a. F. *phlébotomise-r* (16th c.), in med.L. *flebotomizāre* (Du Cange), f. *phlebotom-us*, Gr. *φλεβότομος*: see next and -ize.] **a.** *intr.* To practise phlebotomy; to let blood by opening a vein. **b.** *trans.* To bleed (a person, or a part of the body); also *transf.* and *fig.* **c.** *intr.* for *pass.* To undergo phlebotomy, to be bled (quot. 1652).

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) III. 12 Phlebothomize them, sting them, tutch them. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 27 b/1 To phlebotomize aright, is oftentimes a difficulte matter. 1644 Howell *England's Tears* in *Dodona's Gr.* etc. 160 Body politiques, ..as well as the frayle bodies of men..must have an evacuation for their corrupt humours, they must be phlebotomiz'd. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* xi. xxiv. 196 Post for physick's skill Phlebotomize he must, and take the vomit pill. 1796 J. Anstey *Pleader's Guide* Poet. Wks. 192 *Bother.* You took some blood, Sir, from him. *Tench.* Plenty—Phlebotomiz'd him ounces twenty. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iii. 135 The while I blister and phlebotomize! 1876 R. F. Burton *Gorilla L.* I. 131 At night the mosquitoes phlebotomized us.

Hence **Phlebo·tomized** *ppl. a.*; **-izing** *vbl. sb.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 2 b/2 Phlebotomisinge or blood-lettinge. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* v. 36 Yea, they would..make Bread and Cates of the Blood of their Phlebotomized bullockes. 1835 Anster tr. *Faust* (1887) 292 For spirits sinking, spirits rising The one cure is phlebotomising. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Aug. 11 These phlebotomizing days are now, however, long gone by.

Phlebotomy (flĭbɒ·tŏmi). Forms: 5 fleobotomie, -ye, flo-, flabotomye), 5–6 flebotomye, (9 -y), 6 fleubothomy(e, **flebothomie, -y, phlebothomy, -tomye**, 6–7 **-tomie**, (7 **-thomie**), 6– **phlebotomy**. [a. OF. *flebothomie* (13th c. in Godef.), mod.F. *phlébotomie*, It. *flebotomia*, ad. L. *phlebotomia*, a. Gr. *φλεβοτομία*, the opening of a vein, f. *φλεβότομος* that opens a vein, f. *φλεβο-* Phlebo- + *-τομος* -cutting, -cutter.]

1. The action or practice of cutting open a vein so as to let blood flow, as a medical or therapeutical operation; venesection, blood-letting, bleeding.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 83 A walkynge vlcus is heelid wiþ fleobotomie [*v. r.* flebotomye] & formacie. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxii. (1859) 24 The nature of thy maladye wyl aske sothely a flobotomye. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxiii. (1870) 287 Clense it with stufes or by fleubothomye. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. v. 1. ii. (1651) 384 Phlebotomy is promiscuously used before and after Physick. 1780 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Aug., Gentle purges, and slight phlebotomies, are not my favourites; they are pop-gun batteries, which lose time and effect nothing. 1877 Khory *Princ. Medicine* 60 Marks of leech bites, and of phlebotomy.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* The drawing of blood in any way (*lit.* or *fig.*); *esp.* bloodshed (i. e. scourging, slaughter, etc.), or other violent or destructive means used for the cure of moral, social, or political disorder; 'bleeding' in purse or pocket.

1589 [? Nashe] *Almond for Parrat* 3 b, O it is a haire-brande whooresonne, and well seene in Phlebotomie. 1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 151 Warre is the Phlebotomy of the Body Politique. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. ii. 539 Fiscal Phlebotomy was unknown, as a science, to our ancestors.

† **3.** An instrument for phlebotomy; a lancet. *Obs.* [Gr. *φλεβότομον.*]

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 Ypocras..holding in his honde a flabotomye of munycion for latyng blood.

‖ **Phlegethon** (fle·gĭþɒn, fle·dʒ-). *Gr.* and *Lat. Myth.* Also 4 **Flegeton**, 6 **Phlegeton**. [a. Gr. *Φλεγέθων, -οντ* = lit. 'burning, blazing', hence as here.] Name of a fabled river of fire, one of the five rivers of Hades.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 164 He wolde swere his commun oth, Be Lethen and be Flegeton. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 50 Nor damned ghoste In flaming Phlegeton does not so felly roste. 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 299 'Tis certain, that the Pagans, who first used the word Phlegethon, denoted by it not a River of the Elysian Fields ..but of Hell and the Place of Torments. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 391 No phlegethon could be found that would burn him.

Hence **Phlegetho·ntal, Phlegetho·ntic** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to Phlegethon; burning, fiery.

1600 Tourneur *Transf. Metam.* Prol., To feele the smart of Phlegetontike sight. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 34 Blaz'd with phlegethontal fires. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 121 Phlegetontal and direfull evils. 1821 Byron *Juan* iv. liii, Cogniac! Sweet Naïad of the Phlegethontic rill!

Phlegm (flem). Forms: see below. [ME. *fleem, fleume, fleme*, a. OF. *fleume, flemme* (13th c. in Littré), mod.F. *flegme* (dial. *fleume, flême, flume*) = Pr. *flegma, flemma*, Cat. *fleuma*, Sp. *flema*, It. *flemma*:—L. (post-cl.) *phlegma* clammy humour of the body, phlegm, a. Gr. *φλέγ-μα* inflammation, heat, morbid clammy humour (as the result of heat), f. *φλέγ-ειν* to burn, blaze. In 16–17th c. conformed in spelling to Gr.-L. original.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–6 **fleume, flewme**; 4 **fleem**, 5–7 **fleme**, 6–7 **fleame, fleam**, 8 **fle'me.**

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 147 Þey hadde moche fleem. 1390–1563 Fleume [see B. 1 a]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* iv. ix. (Add. MS. 27944), Flewme is an humour kyndeliche colde & moiste. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 245 Agarik Purgyth fleme and malencoly. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 91 Ane bag full of flewme. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 904 The fleame, *le flegme*. 1586 Bright *Melanch.* ii. 4 The second is fleume, next to bloud in quantitie. 1645 Milton *Colast.* 12 What if fleam and choler..come instead? 1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* 130 They answered prudently and with fleme. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 662 Our Critics..judge with fury, but they write with fle'me.

β. 6–7 **flegme, fleagm**(e, 7 **fleugme**, 7–8 **flegm.**

1547–64 Bauldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 44 The rest of him flegme & cholier. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* x. (1592) 141 Agarick purgeth Fleagme. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Sceptick* in *Rem.* (1651) 8 Abounding with Fleagm. 1621 Sanderson *3rd Serm., 1 Kings* xxi. 29 § 26 Abundance of melancholy, tough flegm. 1659 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. ii. 134 Hence are generated Choler and Flegme. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 24/2 The superfluous Flegm and Humidity.

γ. 6 **phleume, phleugme**; 6–7 **phlegme**, 7–**phlegm**; 7–8 **phleam, phleme.**

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terapeut.* 2 Giv, To purge ye humours coleryke or melancolyke, or els phleume. 1565–73 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Consisto, Cursus pituitae consistit*, the course of the phleugme is stayed. *a* 1592 Greene *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 223 The naturall constitution of women is Phlegme, and of men Choller. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. vii. 29 A certaine watry elementary phleme. 1617 *Fanua Ling.* 100 Phleame expelleth choler. 1660– Phlegm [see B. 2]. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 5 Phlegme distilled from Salt of Tartar. 1684 Earl Roscom. *Ess. Transl. Verse* (1709) 301 Write with Fury, but correct with Phleam.

‖ *δ.* 6 **flegma**, 7 **phlegma.**

1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B vij, Onely the flegma of the grene herbes is dystylled. 1610 Phlegma [see B. 2]. 1657 *Physical Dict., Phlegma*..is used for any distilled water which hath no spirit, as rose-water.

B. Signification.

1. The thick viscid fluid or semifluid substance secreted by the mucous membranes, esp. of the respiratory passages; mucus.

a. In old physiology, regarded as one of the four bodily 'humours', described as cold and moist, and supposed when predominant to cause constitutional indolence or apathy.

1387 [see A. *α*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 99 The moiste fleume with his cold Hath in the lunges for his hold Ordeined him a propre stede. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) iv. xxvii. 328 An armony..of the foure humours, that is to knowe of ye blode, of the colour, of the fleume, and of ye malancoly. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* I. i. (1541) 8 b, Natural fleume is a humour cold and moyst, whyte and swete, or without taste. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Rivers* lxvi, They turned theyr blud to melancholick fleume. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 72 Fleame hath the predominancy in his complexion. 1731 Arbuthnot *Aliments* VI. vii. (1735) 188 Phlegm amongst the Ancients signified a cold viscous Humour, contrary to the Etymology of the Word. 1860 Whewell *Philos. Discov.* IV. vi. 35 The doctrine of the Four Humours (Blood, Phlegm, Yellow Bile and Black Bile).

b. In modern (or corresponding early) use; esp. when morbid or excessive, and discharged by cough, etc. Now chiefly in popular use, and no longer applied to the mucus of the nasal passages. So mod.F. *flegme* (dial. *fleume, flume*).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vj b, And makyth flewme fall owte of the brayne. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 274 Ane hair hogeart, that hostit out flewme. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67 Ysope, that is gude to purge congelit fleume. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 277 Wormwood..dischargeth the brest of tough fleagme. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments* 267 To dissolve viscid Phlegm, and excite a Cough. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 229 The principal annoyance the patient suffers is in getting up the phlegm in the morning. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (1894) 400 The discharge of various substances, technically termed expectoration or *sputum*, and popularly known as phlegm.

†c. With *a* and *pl.* A collection or mass of phlegm, or of any mucous secretion. *Obs.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 15 If thou wilt..purge the head and breste..of all slymye fleumes and fylth. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cxxxiv. (1636) 136 [It] doth take away Flewmes of the Eyes. 1688 MIEGE *Fr. Dict.* s.v. *Bring*, To bring up a phlegm, *cracher*. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 16 A phlegm sticking in my throat, I happened to hem pretty loud.

†d. In figurative use. *Obs.*

1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 153 In danger to be choaked with the flegme & humour of his sins. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Church-porch* xvi, O England! full of sinne, but most of sloth; Spit out thy flegme, and fill thy brest with glorie. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* II. *Proffer* viii, Spit out their phlegm, And fill thy brest with home.

e. See SALSE-PHLEGM.

†2. *Old Chem.* One of the five 'principles' of bodies, also called *water*; any watery inodorous tasteless substance obtained by distillation. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. iv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 140 Fyrst wyth moyst Fyre and after wyth the dry: The flewme by Pacyence owt drawyng. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, Rectifie your menstrue, from the phlegma. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 130 Seeds steeped.. in Spirit of Urine mixt with phlegm of Elder-berries. 1686 HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Chym.* 5 Water which is called Phlegm ..comes in distillation before the Spirits when they are fixt, or after them when they are volatile. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 335 Three Principles of which all things are form'd; that is to say, the Flegm, the Grease and the Ashes. The Flegm is the Mercury. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 9 Phlegm or Water, is the common Vehicle or Diluter of all solid Bodies. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. v. 78 The gall-nut yields, by distillation, a limpid phlegm. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 51 The attempts made to analyse vegetable substances previous to 1720 merely produced their resolution into the supposed elements of the chemists of those days—viz. salts, earths, phlegm and sulphur.

3. The character supposed to result from predominance of phlegm (sense 1 a) in the bodily constitution; phlegmatic temperament or disposition; want of excitability or enthusiasm; coldness, dullness, sluggishness, apathy; coolness, calmness, self-possession, evenness of temper.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 198 There are few nations of so much fleame or sufferance [as the Mexicans]. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 52 He that hath to deale with that Nation, must have good store of Phlegme and patience. 1668 TEMPLE *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1731 II. 50 Monsieur de Wit defended their Cause..with great Phlegm, but great Steddiness. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 223 A man of more phlegm, and not so sensibly touched. 1836 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 281 The mathematical genius requires much phlegm, moderation, attention and circumspection. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xvi, The patience of the people was creditable to their phlegm.

Phlegmagogue (fle·gmăgŏg). [a. F. *phlegmagogue*, OF. *fleumagogue* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *phlegmagōgus*, a. Gr. φλεγμαγωγός, f. φλέγμα PHLEGM + ἀγωγός drawing forth.] A medicine for expelling phlegm. Now *rare*.

[1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Phlegmagogon*, purgers of flegm.] 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. li. 570 Electuary of Jallap..is a good Phlegmagogue. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 248 Phlegmagogues or those [medicines] which draw off pitious Matter or Phlegm by Stool.

So **Phlegmagogal** (-gōu·găl) *a.*, having the property of expelling phlegm; **Phlegmagogic** (-gŏ·dzik), *a.* = prec.; *sb.* = *phlegmagogue*.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 115 Some are called Phlegmagogall which purge Phlegme. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* 144 Mercury..with..some phlegmagogick Extract.

‖ **Phlegmasia** (flegmē·siă, -ziă). *Path.* Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L., a. Gr. φλεγμασία (Hippocr.) inflammation. Cf. F. *phlegmasie*.] Inflammation, *esp.* inflammation accompanied by fever.

Phlegmasia dolens, or *phlegmasia alba dolens*, inflammation of the veins of the leg, with severe pain, swelling, hardness, and whiteness, occurring in women after childbirth; also called *milk-leg* or *white-leg*.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Phlegmasia*, an Inflammation. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Phlegmasiæ*, a word used by some of the medical writers for an inflammation. 1800 J. HULL (*title*) An Essay on Phlegmasia Dolens. 1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 1 The mucous tissue..is also the seat of very different kinds of phlegmasiæ.

Phlegmatic (flegmæ·tik), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: see PHLEGM; also 4–6 **flum-**, 6–7 **flugm-**; 4–6 **-etyke, -ytyck(e, -ytek.** [ME. *fleumatike*, a. OF. *fleumatique* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *phlegmatic-us*, a. Gr. φλεγματικός, f. φλέγμα, φλεγματ-: see PHLEGM.]

1. Of the nature of or abounding in phlegm.

a. (In sense pertaining to PHLEGM 1.) Of the nature of the 'humour' or secretion called phlegm; mucous. Of the human body, its organs, etc.: Having a predominance of phlegm in the constitution or 'temperament' (see also 2). Of diseases, etc.: Characterized or caused by excess of phlegm. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 157 Þe dyevel .. asayleþ stranglakest þane colrik mid ire and mid discord .. þane fleumatike: mid glotonye and be sleaupe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. ix. (Tollem. MS.) A verry flewmatike man is in the body lustles, heuy and slow. *Ibid.* VII. lix. (Bodl. MS.), As þe brayne dischargeþ hym silfe of flewmatike humoures and of fumosite. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 86 If it be yn tokenynge ffleumetyke. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* F ij, To spette and putte oute the flegmatyke matter. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* viii. (1870) 245 A flemytycke man may slepe .ix. houres or more. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 3 b, It is good in the meates of them whiche be Flugmatike. 1563 T. GALE *Antid.* II. 84 In phlegmaticke bodyes they maye forbeare their supper. 1741 BETTERTON *Eng. Stage* v. 63 Persons of a flegmatic Constitution are slow in turning of their Eyes. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 22 The phlegmatic person is no more easily moved by medicinal than by other agencies.

†b. (In sense pertaining to PHLEGM 2.) Of the nature of the 'principle' called phlegm; watery and insipid. Of bodies in general: Abounding in 'phlegm'; and hence, producing phlegm (PHLEGM 1 a or b) when taken as food, etc. *Obs.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 172 For as mych as all fisshes aftir water ben flewmatike therfore they be better rost than soden. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 2 b, Where colde with moysture preuayleth, that body is called Fleumatike, wherein water hath preeminence. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 77 She [the Carp] is of very soft flesh and phlegmatike. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 5 Standing Waters..by reason of the constant waste of the Phlegmatique vapour that constantly rises from it. 1747 LANGRISH in *Phil. Trans.* (1748) XLIV. II. [4] The watery or phlegmatic Principle abounds so much as to be nearly $\frac{19}{18}$ Parts of the whole Mass.

2. Having or showing the mental character or disposition formerly supposed to result from predominance of phlegm among the bodily 'humours'; not easily excited to feeling or action; lacking enthusiasm; cold, dull, sluggish, apathetic; cool, calm, self-possessed.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* 30 The Numantines of their naturall condition, were more flegmatike than cholerike. 1622 MASSINGER *Virg. Mart.* IV. i, Cold, phlegmatike bastard, th'art no brat of mine. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. v. 276 Raphael never received a more flegmatic Eulogy. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* IV. i. (1879) 288 Cold and phlegmatic must he be who is not warmed into admiration by the surrounding scenery. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iv, Selina resumed her knitting in a most phlegmatic manner.

†B. *sb.* A phlegmatic person. *Obs. rare.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* M iij, The fleumatykes, & them that are wont to diseases of colde maladyes. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 120 He contemned Iulian, as an abject Fellow: and Niger as a dull Flegmaticke.

So †**Phlegma·tical** *a.* = *phlegmatic*; **Phlegma·tically,** †**Phlegma·ticly** *adv.*, in a phlegmatic manner; **Phlegma·ticness,** the quality of being phlegmatic.

1586 Q. ELIZ. in *Leycester Corresp.* (Camden) 243 What *flegmaticall reasons soever were made you. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 235 They that have a phlegmatical Ague. 1828–32 WEBSTER, **Phlegmatically.* 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. § 76 The most phlegmatically impudent of the whole school. 1870 *Daily News* 5 Oct., The videttes phlegmatically continued their circling. 1673 *S' too him Bayes* 56 This is..so hal'd in, and so *phlegmatickly apply'd. 1727 WARBURTON *Prodigies* 80 All the rest [of the story] is phlegmatickly past over. 1659 FELTHAM *Low-Countries* 42 Being full of humours, that is her cradle, which luls and rocks her to a dull *phlegmatickness.

Phle·gmatism. *rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] Phlegmatic character. So †**Phle·gmatist** [-IST], a person of phlegmatic constitution.

1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* D vijb, Pistake Nuts... In cold weather, for flegmatists. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* 436 The phlegmatism of..Sir Robert Walpole's..conduct.

Phle·gmatous, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -OUS.] 'Inflamed or much inflamed' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 133, I have already spoken of peripheral phlegmatous troubles.

Phlegme, erron. form of FLEAM *sb.*[1], lancet.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 11 Phlegmes..to launch and cut the gums. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 99/1 Before starting I gave Johannus my phlegme, and a hasty lesson in the art of bleeding.

†**Phlegmed** (flemd), *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PHLEGM + -ED[2].] Imbued with 'phlegm' (sense 2).

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 503 This [oil of Vitriol] as highly phlegm'd..as any usually is.

Phlegmless (fle·mlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Devoid of or free from phlegm.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. vii. 175 One distillation..will bring it over from Wine it self, so pure and phlegmless, as to burn all away. 1768 J. Ross *Ode on loss of Friend* Wks. 224 (MS.) Philomel, Whose shrill harmonious note So swells her phlegmless throat.

Phlegmon (fle·gmŏn). *Path.* Also 4–7 **fleg-**. [ME. *flegmon*, a. L. *phlegmon* or *phlegmona* (Plin.), a. Gr. φλεγμονή inflammation, a boil, deriv. of φλέγ-ειν to burn: cf. OF. *fleugmon* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = mod.F. *phlegmon*.] An inflammatory tumour, a boil or carbuncle; inflammation, esp. of the cellular tissue, tending to or producing suppuration; an acute local inflammation with marked redness and swelling.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lix. (Bodl. MS.), Suche swellinge hatte Apostema, & sumtyme it comeþ..of a semple humoure as of blood and hatte flegmone. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terapeutyke* 2 B ij b, Yf ecchymosis, or vlcere, or erisipelas, or putryfaction, or phlegmone be in any parte. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 364/1 [A prescription] For the Flegmone or Felon of the Fingers. 1651 WITTIE *Primrose's Pop. Err.* II. 81 It may also be a phlegman, or erysipelas of some part. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* 14 These parts..may be subject to .. phlegmon. 1788 J. C. SMYTH in *Med. Commun.* II. 191 The Phlegmon is the inflammation of the cellular membrane. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 256 This bacillus is identical with one subsequently found..in gaseous phlegmons.

Hence **Phlegmonic** (flegmɒ·nik), **Phle·gmonous** *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phlegmon; **Phle·gmonoid** *a.*, resembling a phlegmon.

1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 170 A Man.. had a *Phlegmonick Erysipelas upon the Right Arm. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 185 In phlegmonic inflammation, pulsation has been felt, as from an aneurism. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 12 It appeared more like the erysipelatous than *phlegmonoide kind. 1835–6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 455/2 External inflammation resembling phlegmonoid erysipelas. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* xi. (1672) 31 It's..generated ..out of the dregs and remainder of a *Phlegmonous or Oedematick tumour. 1849–52 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 850/2 Phlegmonous inflammation of the areolar tissue.

Phlegmy (fle·mi), *a.* Forms: see PHLEGM. [f. PHLEGM + -Y.]

1. Of the nature of or consisting of phlegm, mucous; containing or characterized by phlegm.

c 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* I j, The stoppynges of the leuer that comethe of grosse and fleymy humors. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 57 It..breedeth a clammy, and fleamy nourishment. 1678 ANNE BRADSTREET *Poems* (1875) 16 The flegmy constitution I uphold. 1739 R. BULL tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 209 Now from thy Lungs hawk up the phlegmy Load. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 5/5 A cold, accompanied by a phlegmy cough.

†b. Watery; moist: cf. PHLEGM 2. *Obs.*

1599 H. BUTTES *Diets Drie Dinner* P iv, [The mid-air] spits out watry reums amaine, As phleamy snow, and haile, and sheerer raine. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 83 The gross phlegmy part of Grass.

2. Of mental disposition: = PHLEGMATIC 2.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* I. 25 Such as out of their flemye womanishnesse seeke for such secrets. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 362 Rather then spend words with this fleamy clodd of an Antagonist. 1894 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 1/2 Mild as milk, they hobnob with the phlegmy Saxon.

Phleme, variant of FLEAM *sb.*[1], lancet.

Phlobaphene (flŏ·băfīn). *Chem.* Also **-en.** [a. F. *phlobaphène*, f. Gr. φλό-ος = φλοι-ός bark + βαφή dye + -ENE.] Name for a class of brown or red colouring matters, of complex composition, occurring in the bark of various trees and shrubs.

1880 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII, 1568 *Phlobaphene*,..name.. applied to certain red bodies, formed, together with glucose, when many tannins are heated with dilute sulphuric acid. 1887 *Athenæum* 10 Dec. 787/2 It [tannin] is decomposed into glucose, gallic acid, and a substance analogous to phlobaphen. 1895 *Naturalist* 23 It [the hawthorn] yields a phlobaphene with acids.

Phloem (flōu·em). *Bot.* [mod. (Nägeli in Ger.) f. Gr. φλόος = φλοιός bark + -ημα, passive suffix.] Collective name for the cells, fibres, and vessels forming the softer portion of the fibrovascular tissue, as distinct from the *xylem* or woody portion; the bast with its associated tissues. Also *attrib.*, as *phloem-bundle, -layer, -sheath*, etc.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 94 The different forms of tissue of a differentiated fibro-vasculär bundle may be classified into two groups, which Nägeli calls the *Phloëm*- (Bast) and *Xylem*- (Wood) portion of the bundle. ..In many bundles the phloëm is formed on one, the xylem on the other side of the procambium. *Ibid.* 95 These horizontal elements ..may be generally designated as rays; within the xylem they are called xylem-rays, within the phloëm, phloëm-rays. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 85/2 Found in the bast or phloëm layers of ordinary trees. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 440 [In Ferns] A single layer or several layers of cells may often be found at the periphery of the phloëm lying just inside the true bundle-sheath. Russow regards this structure as belonging ..to the ground tissue, and he terms it the phloëm-sheath.

Phlogistian (flŏ,dʒi·stiăn). [f. PHLOGISTON + -IAN.] A believer in the existence or theory of phlogiston.

1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 67 The phlogistians were obliged to consider all combustible bodies as combinations of different..substances with the undemonstrated phlogiston.

Phlogistic (flŏ,dʒi·stik, -gi·stik), *a.* (*sb.*) [In sense 1, mod. f. PHLOGISTON: cf. mod.L. *phlogisticus*, F. *phlogistique* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*); in senses 2, 3, immediately f. Gr. φλογιστ-ός inflammable, inflamed + -IC.]

I. 1. *Chem.* Of the nature of or consisting of phlogiston; †containing phlogiston, combustible (*obs.*); connected with or relating to phlogiston.

1733 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 63 [In Phosphorus] The Phlogistic Part is so slightly connected with the other Principles, that the least..Friction or Warmth, sets it on

fire. 1774 PRIESTLEY *Observ. Air* I. 188 Common air..deprived of its fixed air by phlogistic processes. *Ibid.* 50 Plants imbibing the phlogistic matter with which it is overloaded. 1789 HIGGINS (*title*) Comparative View of the phlogistic and antiphlogistic Theories. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxi. 400 Bodies that are eminently luminous..contain a certain species of matter..this is called phlogistic inflammable or combustible matter. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. iv. 300 The phlogistic doctrines of Beccher and Stahl.

† b. as *sb.* A phlogistic principle or substance.

1733 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 61 This red Earth retains so much of an unctious Phlogistic, that [etc.].

II. 2. *Path.* Inflammatory.

1754-6 *Connoisseur* No. 53 ¶ 9 Blotches and breakings out .. owing to a kind of a phlogistic humour in her blood. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 71 Cases of acute or active inflammation preceded by what is called the phlogistic diathesis. 1854 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* (1875) 321 The phlogistic process in the pericardium.

†**3.** Burning, fiery, heated, inflamed (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.* (Chiefly in rhetorical use.)

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 136 Ethereal Powers! you..Gem the bright Zodiac, stud the glowing pole, Or give the Sun's phlogistic orb to roll. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas' Trav.* (1812) I. 83 The phlogistic mountains of that neighbourhood. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 407 A sorry imitator of that wholesale dealer in phlogistic curses. 1855 SMEDLEY, etc. *Occult Sc.* 59 Much phlogistic correspondence was discovered.

Phlogi·sticate, *v. Chem. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. prec. + -ATE[3]: cf. F. *phlogistiquer.*] *trans.* To render phlogistic; to combine with phlogiston. Chiefly in **Phlogi·sticated** *ppl. a.* [F. *phlogistiqué.*]

†*Phlogisticated air* or *gas*, names for nitrogen in the phlogistic theory. †*Phlogisticated alkali*, name for prussiate (hydrocyanate) of potash.

1774 PRIESTLEY *Observ. Air* I. 178 *note*, It might not be amiss to call air that has been..made noxious by any of the processes above mentioned..by the common appellation of *phlogisticated air.* 1776 — in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 242 The nitrous air..lost a great proportion of its power of diminishing, that is, phlogisticating, common air. 1789 *Ibid.* LXXIX. 146 It is also natural to suppose, that..the dephlogisticating principle .. [being] expelled, the phlogisticating principle should enter. 1805 W. SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 160 Almost intirely phlogisticated air, or, as it is now termed, azotic gas. 1846 GROVE *Contrib. Sc.* in *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1874) 325 Priestley..was led to believe that water was convertible into nitrogen (phlogisticated air).

So †**Phlogistica·tion** [also in Fr. 1777], combination with phlogiston: the name in the phlogistic theory for the process now called *deoxidation.*

1774 PRIESTLEY *Observ. Air* (1775) I. 189 This air..without any previous phlogistication, is purified by agitation in water. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 86 The power of the loadstone ..is increased by cooling, by a regeneration of iron, or phlogistication of its calx, and by the action of acids upon iron. 1801 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 432 In the precipitation of copper by silver, [we see] an instance of de-oxidation (or phlogistication) by negative electricity.

Phlogi·ston (flo,dʒi·stɒn, -gi·stɒn). *Chem.* [mod.L., a. Gr. φλογιστόν, neuter of φλογιστός burnt up, inflammable, vbl. adj. from φλογίζ-ειν to set on fire, f. φλόξ, φλογ- flame, ablaut deriv. of φλεγ-, root of φλέγ-ειν to burn.] A hypothetical substance or 'principle' formerly supposed to exist in combination in all combustible bodies, and to be disengaged in the process of combustion; the 'principle of inflammability'; the matter of fire, conceived as fixed in inflammable substances.

This use of the term and the theory connected with it were introduced by Stahl in 1702, in his ed. of Beccher's *Physica Subterranea* of 1669. The phrase '*esse* φλογιστὸν' had been used by Sennert (in 1619) in the sense of 'the being inflammable', inflammability or combustibility as a *quality* of some substances, but not regarded as a substance or principle. The existence of phlogiston was denied by Lavoisier in 1775, and though stoutly maintained by Priestley, the belief in it was generally abandoned by 1800.

[1619 SENNERTUS *De Chym. Consensu ac Dissensu* 283 At Colores, Odores, Sapores, esse φλογιστὸν & similia alia, mineralibus, metallis, gemmis lapidibus, plantis, animalibus insunt. 1702 STAHL *Spec. Beccherianum* I. I. xvi. 19 in *B.'s Phys. Subterr.* (1732), Ad substantiam ipsam mixti, ut ingrediens..ut materiale principium, et pars totius compositi constitutiva, concurrit, materia et principium ignis, non ipse ignis: Ego Phlogiston appellare cœpi.]

[1730 GODFREY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 288 By the Solution of crude Mercury united with the *Phlogiston Vini*, or other Vegetables.] 1733 A. G. HANCKEWITZ *ibid.* XXXVIII. 69 We produce the Phlogiston out of fat Substances, and from the Phlogiston a Fuligo, or Soot, and from the Fuligo an urinous Salt. 1750 *Elaboratory laid Open* Introd. 74 The sulphureous principle, or phlogiston, which is the proper essence of all oils. 1774 PRIESTLEY *Observ. Air* (1775) I. 65 Considering inflammable air as air united to or loaded with phlogiston. 1785 — in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 280 Mr. Lavoisier is well known to maintain, that there is no such thing as what has been called phlogiston. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. ix. 360 Phlogiston..may be considered as a treasure..of light and heat, to be dispensed in the absence of the sun. 1794 J. HUTTON *Philos. Light*, etc. 12 There is truly in bodies a substance, which may be properly named phlogiston, as being the cause of that light and heat which accompany burning. 1800 PRIESTLEY (*title*) The Doctrine of Phlogiston established, and that of the Composition of Water refuted. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 98 The existence of phlogiston is no longer believed in. 1861 WILSON & GEIKIE *Mem. E. Forbes* iv. 117 Jameson [left college 1802] had heard the last dying echoes of the battle between the partisans of the phlogiston and the antiphlogiston camp.

† b. *fig.* Energy, 'fire'. *Obs.*

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 171 Moni. Faujas pleases me much; the liveliness, vivacity, phlogiston of his character, do not run into pertness, foppery, or affectation.

Phlogogenetic (flɒ:go,dʒɪne·tik), *a. Path.* [f. Gr. φλογο-, comb. f. φλόξ flame + -GENETIC.] Producing inflammation. Also **Phlogogenic** (-dʒe·nik), **Phlogo·genous** *adjs.* in same sense.

1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phlogogenic .. Phlogogenous.* 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 156 There are several species [of bacteria] which are phlogogenetic. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 1508 Certain species of bacteria..possess in their cell bodies a phlogogenic poison.

Phlogopite (flɒ·gɒpəit). *Min.* [Named 1841 (in Ger. *Phlogopit*), f. Gr. φλογωπός fiery (f. φλογ- flame + ὤψ, ὠπ- face, look) + -ITE[1].] A magnesia mica, found in crystalline limestone and serpentine, usually of a brownish-yellow or brownish-red colour, with pearly, often submetallic (coppery) lustre.

1850 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 359 It agrees in atomic proportions with the phlogopite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 135 Phlogopite crystallises in the same system, and has the same cleavage as muscovite.

‖ **Phlogosis** (flogō·sis). *Path.* Pl. **-es** (-īz). [mod.L., a. Gr. φλόγωσις inflammation, f. φλόξ, φλογ- flame. In F. *phlogose.*] Inflammation.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phlogosis*, the same that *Phlegmone.* 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 284 Sometimes..the Mercury..causeth a great Phlogosis..in the Part. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 299 A circumstance which..characterizes the phlogoses.

Hence **Phlogosed** (-ōu·zd) *ppl. a.*, affected with phlogosis, inflamed; **Phlogosin** (-ōu·sin) *Chem.*, name for a product of cultures of certain bacteria, which produces acute local inflammation; **Phlogotic** (-ɒ·tik) *a.*, of the nature of or tending to phlogosis, inflammatory.

1872 GROSS *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 5) II. 884 The..*phlogosed condition of the penis. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 521 Leber obtained *phlogosin from the staphylococcus aureus. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 41 A mark of high entonic health, or a *phlogotic diathesis. *Ibid.* 50 Like the push [the boil] is found in persons of an entonic or phlogotic habit.

†**Phlome.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Bot.L. *Phlomis*, a. L. *phlomis, phlomos* (Plin.), a. Gr. φλομίς, φλόμος mullein.] A plant of the genus *Phlomis* (N. O. *Labiatæ*), comprising herbs and shrubs with wrinkled leaves, often thick and woolly.

(*Phlomis fruticosa* is Jerusalem Sage; *P. Lychnites* is Lamp-wick.)

[1706 PHILLIPS, *Phlomis*, a kind of Flower, which some take for a Primrose.] 1715 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 243 These Leaves differ from the Broad Phlome in being thicker.

Phloramine to **Phloretin**: see PHLORO-.

Phlorizin (florəi·zin, flɒ·rizin). *Chem.* Also †**phlori·dzin**(e. [f. Gr. φλό-ος, φλοι-ός bark + ῥίζα root + -IN.] A bitter substance ($C_{21}H_{24}O_{10}$), crystallizing in silky needles, obtained from the bark of the root of the apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees. Also formerly called †**Phlori·dzite.** Hence **Phlorizein** (florəi·zi,in), a bitter reddish-brown uncrystallizable solid ($C_{21}H_{30}N_2O_{13}$), a combination of oxygen and ammonia with phlorizin.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 714 The bark of apple-tree root..yields about 3 per cent. of phloridzite. *Ibid.*, Phloridzite thus obtained, has a dull white colour, with a shade of yellow, and is crystallized in silky needles. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 98/2 Phlorizin is by various processes, described by M. Stass, converted into phlorizein, phloretin, and phloretic acid. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 641 Phlorizin is a substance bearing a great likeness to salicin. 1895 *Naturalist* 26 There is no..phlorizin (the glucoside of the apple tree) in any part of the organism.

Phloro-, before a vowel **phlor-,** used in *Chem.*, to form names of substances connected with PHLORIZIN, as

Phloramine (flɒ·rămən) [AMINE], the amine ($C_6H_7NO_2 = C_6H_3O_2{\cdot}NH_2$) obtained in thin shining films by the action of ammonia on phloroglucin (Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 488). **Phloretin** (flōe·rətin), a sweet crystalline substance ($C_{15}H_{14}O_5$) produced by the action of dilute acids on phlorizin; hence **Phloretic** (flore·tik) *a.*, applied to an *acid* ($C_9H_{10}O_3$) obtained from phloretin by the action of potash; also to ethers (*phloretic ethers*) in which an organic radical takes the place of 1 atom of hydrogen in phloretic acid (Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 491). Its salts are **Phlo·retates. Phloroglucin** (flɒroglɪ·sin) [Gr. γλυκ-ύς sweet + -IN[1]: cf. GLUCOSE], also **phloroglu·cinol, phloroglu·col**, a colourless or yellowish crystalline, intensely sweet substance ($C_6H_6O_3$) obtained from phloretin, and occurring widely distributed in plants; also a derivative of this, as *nitrophloroglucin*, etc.; hence **Phloroglu·cic** *a.*, **Phloroglu·cide**: see quots. **Phlorol** (flɒ·rɒl), a phenol, an oily substance ($C_8H_{10}O$) obtained from salts of phloretic acid, or from creosote. **Phlorone** (flɒ·rōun), a yellow crystalline substance ($C_6H_8O_2$), homologous with quinone, obtained by distillation of beech-wood and coal-tar.

1840 *Phloretic, *Phloretin [see PHLORIZIN]. 1866-77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 489 Phloretic acid [is] produced, together with phloroglucin, by the action of caustic potash on phloretin. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 511 Phloridzin, when boiled with weak acids, is decomposed into grape sugar, and a resinous matter termed *phloretin.* Phloretin crystallizes in microscopic almost insoluble plates. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1572 **Phloroglucic Anhydride*, or **Phloroglucide*, $C_{12}H_{10}O_5$..is obtained: 1. by the action of heat on phloroglucol. 1866-77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 495 *Phloroglucin is sweeter than common sugar,..permanent in the air at ordinary temperatures. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phloroglucin*..is found widely distributed in nature, mainly in combination as the complex body phloroglucide, but partly also in the free state. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1570 **Phloroglucol*, $C_6H_6O_3$.. *Phloroglucin.* 1895 *Naturalist* 24 A red-brown phlobaphene which fused with potass gives protocatechnic acid and phloroglucol. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 928 *Phlorol or phloryl alcohol..is one of the constituents of beech-tar creosote. 1873 — *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 798 Phlorol, an oily liquid obtained by the dry distillation of the barium salt of phloretic or oxethylbenzoic acid. 1881 — *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1572 *Phlorol.. This phenol, first noticed as a constituent of beech-tar creosote. 1866-77 *Ibid.* IV. 496 **Phlorone.* $C_8H_8O_2$. 1872 *Ibid.* VI. 928 Phlorone crystallises in golden-yellow oblique rhombic prisms, which when heated give off a pungent odour.

Phlox (flɒks). *Bot.* [a. L. *phlox* (Plin.), a. Gr. φλόξ a plant (prob. *Silene*), lit. flame. Taken into Bot. as a generic name by Dillenius.] A North American genus of herbaceous (rarely shrubby) plants (N.O. *Polemoniaceæ*), with clusters of salver-shaped flowers of various colours, usually showy; many cultivated forms are found in gardens.

[1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 92 The Panse, called in Latine Flammea, and in Greeke Phlox, I meane the wild kind onely.] 1706 PHILLIPS, *Phlox*,..a Flower of no Smell, but of a fine Flame-colour. 1788 REES *Chambers' Cycl.*, *Phlox*, lychnidea, or bastard lychnis, in Botany, a genus of the pentandria monogynia class. 1856 BRYANT *Maiden's Sorrow* iii, There, in the summer breezes, wave Crimson phlox and moccasin flower. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.* etc. II. 887/1 The garden Phloxes being all productions of the florist, and of a most ornamental character. 1895 MRS. H. WARD *Bessie Costrell* i. 8 Phloxes and marigolds grew untidily about their doorways.

b. *attrib.*, as **phlox family, phloxworts** (Lindley), names for the Natural Order *Polemoniaceæ*; **phlox-worm**, the larva of an American moth, *Heliothis phlogophagus*, which feeds upon phloxes.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 635 Order ccxliii. Polemoniaceæ, Phloxworts. 1863 J. H. BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 952 Polemoniaceæ, the Phlox family. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. xiii, Among the geraniums, phlox-beds, and French marigolds.

Phloxin (flɒ·ksin). *Chem.* [f. Gr. φλόξ flame + -IN[1].] A red coal-tar dye-stuff resembling eosin.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 210 This observer recommends that the nutrient medium be stained with phloxin-red or benzo-purpurin.

Phlyaro·logist. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. φλύαρο-ς silly talk + -LOGY + -IST.] A talker of nonsense.

1867 *Athenæum* 12 Oct. 459/1, I would not meddle with such a phlyarologist.

‖ **Phlyctena, -æna** (flɪktī·nă). *Path.* [mod. L., a. Gr. φλύκταινα a blister (Hippocr.), f. φλύειν, φλύζ-ειν to swell.] An inflammatory vesicle, pimple, or blister upon the cuticle or the eye-ball.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phyctæna*, a Pimple in the Skin; also a little Ulcer in the corneous Tunick of the Eye. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 511 The cuticle often separates in some points from the skin, and the vesications termed phlyctenæ are formed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 466 The vesication may be so..complete, as to rise from the skin like a pemphigus, bulla, or phlyctena.

Hence **Phlycte·nar, Phlycte·nous** (-æn-) *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phlyctena; characterized by or affected with phlyctenæ; **Phlycte·noid** (-æn-) *a.*, resembling a phlyctena; **Phlycte·nophtha·lmy**, phlyctennular ophthalmia (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858); ‖ **Phlycte·nula** (-æn-), pl. **-æ** [mod.L. dim. of *phlyctena*], also in anglicized form **Phlycte·nule,** a small phlyctena, esp. upon the conjunctiva or cornea of the eye; whence **Phlycte·nular** (-æn-) *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or characterized by phlyctenules.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Phlyctenoid. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 107 An eruption..phlyctenoid in character. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 342 He adds to the two varieties of red and white miliaria a third, which he distinguishes by the name of *phlyctenous. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Phlyctænula.* 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 33 One or more small phlyctenulæ close upon the margin of the cornea. 1843 SIR T. WATSON *Princ. & Pract. Physic* xix. I. 309 For relieving strumous or *phlyctenular ophthalmia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 746 Similar *phlyctenules appear on the mucous membrane of the mouth, tongue, and palate.

‖ **Phlyzacium** (flizē·ʃiəm, -siəm). *Path.* Also **-ion**; pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., a. Gr. φλυζάκιον a little blister (Hippocr.), f. φλύζ-ειν to swell.] A red, usually large, pustule on a hard inflamed base and terminating in a dark scab; also = PHLYCTENA. Hence **Phlyzacious** (-ē·ʃəs) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phlyzacium.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phlysacium*, the same with *Phlyctæna.* 1818-20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 330 An eruption of the inflamed pustules, termed phlyzacia. 1870 T. HOLMES *Surg.* (ed. 2) I. 704 The phlyzacious pustules induced by the external application of tartar emetic. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phlyzacion*,..was Willan's term for the largest of his four varieties of Pustules.

Pho, phoh (fō, fōh), *int. rare.* [A variant of PHEW, PHOO, representing the action of blowing away. See also FOH.] An exclamation expressing contemptuous rejection or making light of anything.

1601 MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* IV. 166 *Sir Ed.* Daughter, giue mee your hand. With your consent I giue you to this gentleman. *Came.* Marie, phoh! Will you match me to a foole? 1738 G. LILLO *Marina* II. ii. 32 Pho! those are our best customers. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 56 Pho! pho! there is no fear of their knowing any thing of the matter.

† **Phob**, obs. erron. f. FOB *sb.*2, small pocket.

a 1687 COTTON *Poet. Wks.* (1765) 133 And brought his Gods away in 's Phob.

Phobanthropy (fǒbæ·nθrŏpi). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *φόβ-os* fear + *ἄνθρωπος* man: cf. *philanthropy.*] Morbid dread of mankind.

1848 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 164 The evil of Ireland..is her seven millions of a cottier population—and the phobanthrophy (to coin a word) of the other, not over-wise, noble lords.

-phobe, a. Fr. *-phobe*, ad. L. *-phob-us*, a. Gr. *-φόβος* -fearing, -dreading, adj. ending, f. *φόβος* fear; as in *ὑδροφόβ-ος*, *hȳdrophob-us*, *hydrophobe*, lit. 'one who has a horror of water'. Also in modern words formed in Fr. or Eng. by analogy, as *Anglophobe*, *Russophobe.*

-phobia, a. L. *-phobia*, a. Gr. *-φοβία*, forming abst. sbs. from the adjs. in *-φόβος* (see prec.) with sense 'dread, horror'; as in *ὑδροφοβία*, *hydrophobia* 'horror of water'. Also in modern words formed in Eng. by analogy, as *Anglophobia*, *Gallophobia*, *Germanophobia*, *Russophobia*, some of them imitating Fr. forms in *-phobie.* The following exemplify the uses to which *-phobia* has been put:

1547- [see HYDROPHOBIA]. 1803 Gallophobia [see GALLO-*in comb.*]. 1803 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 94 He is a very laconic personage, and has upon him the penphobia. 1824 SOUTHEY in *Life* (1849) I. 125 She laboured under a perpetual dustophobia; and a comical disease it was. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 245 That powerful..writer..depicts the same regiphobia as raging among the Parisian *Charlatanerie.* 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* i. 41 The account given me by my correspondent of the Fife swinophobia is as follows. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Dec. 1/1 Confounding it with 'Germanophobia', 'Francophobia', or as many 'phobias' as you like! 1890 *Cent. Dict., Phobophobia*, morbid dread of being alarmed. 1895 tr. *Max Nordau's Degeneration* 242 It was unnecessary for Magnan to give a special name to each symptom of degeneration, and to draw up in array..the host of 'phobias' and 'manias'. *Agoraphobia* (fear of open space), *claustrophobia* (fear of enclosed space), *rupophobia* (fear of dirt) [etc.]. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 2/2 The cycling craze has produced the antagonistic disease of cyclophobia. 1902 *Ibid.* 21 Oct. 2/3 There were symptoms in the City attitude of a certain amount of L.C.C.-phobia [= dread of the London County Council].

Hence **-pho·bic** forming *adjs.*, **-pho·biac**, **-phobist** forming *sbs.*

1900 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 3/1 The professional Anglophobiac. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 13 Oct. 5/5 Several Anglophobic deputies have announced their intention of appearing in their official scarves.

Phobia (fō·biă). Also 9 **phoby.** [The prec. suffix used as a separate word.] Fear, horror, or aversion, esp. of a morbid character.

1801 COLERIDGE in *Sir H. Davy's Rem.* (1858) 92, I..have a perfect phobia of inns and coffee-houses. 1875 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 409 Against management by phobies, either Tory phobies or popular phobies. 1887, 1895 [see *-PHOBIA*]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 157 Specific means ..to dissipate the 'phobias' or the obsessions.

So **Pho·bist** *nonce-wd.*, one who has a horror of or morbid aversion to anything.

1883 *Church Quarterly* XV. 394 Men, who refuse to give up their liberty at the dictation of 'phobists' of any denomination.

‖ **Phoca** (fō·kă). *Zool.* Pl. **phocæ** (fō·sē), **phocas.** [L. *phōca*, a. Gr. *φώκη* seal: so It., Sp. *foca*, F. *phoque.*] A seal (chiefly in transl. from Latin or Greek); any aquatic mammal of the *Phocidæ*, or seal and walrus family of *Carnivora*; in modern zoology, restricted to the genus typified by the Common Seal, *P. vitulina.*

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxii. (Bodl. MS.), þe fissche þat hatte Foca & þe fissche þat hi3t Delphinus.] 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 57 Neptunes phocases that scard the horses of Hippolitus. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* I. i, Here monstrous phocæ panted on the shore. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* IV. 493 The Phocæ also rising from the waves. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 389 M. Riegels intends successively to treat ..on rats, the phocas, the mole, the frog and lizard. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXX, A *phoca* or seal lying asleep on the beach. — *Ibid.* XXXV, XXXVIII. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 429 The deepest tones are struck by animals that have the largest glottis, as the phoca, the ox, the *ardea stellaria.*

Hence **Phoca·cean** *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Phocidæ* or seal family; *sb.* a member of this family; **Phoca·ceous** *a.*, of the nature of a seal; phocacean; **Pho·cal** *a.*, of or pertaining to a seal.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* etc., *Phocaceans*, ..the name of the family of carnivorous and amphibious Mammals of which the seal (Phoca) is the type. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Phocaceous. 1860 GOSSE *Romance Nat. Hist.* 351 This is ..in favour of a mammalian, and of a phocal nature.

Phocænine (fōsī·nəin), *a. Zool.* [f. Zool. L. *Phōcæna* (a. Gr. *φώκαινα* porpoise, deriv. of *φώκη* seal) + -INE 1.] Of or pertaining to the *Phocænina*, a group of Cetacea containing the true porpoises; resembling a porpoise. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phocenic (fōsī·nik, -se·nik), *a. Chem.* [For **phocænic*, f. Zool. L. *Phōcæna* (see prec.) + -IC.] Applied to an acid obtained by Chevreul in 1817, from porpoise- or dolphin-oil, originally called DELPHINIC, and subsequently identified with VALERIC acid, $(CH_3)_2.C_2H_3.CO_2H$. So **Pho·cenate**, a salt of phocenic acid; **Pho·cenil**, **Pho·cenin**, glyceryl valerate, or trivalerin, $C_3H_5(C_5H_9O_2)_3$ = DELPHIN *sb.* 2.

1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 234/2 When this oil is saponified, it yields..a peculiar volatile acid..termed phocenic acid. *Ibid.*, The phocenate of baryta forms efflorescent prismatic crystals. *Ibid.*, Phocenine is a peculiar fatty substance contained in the oil of certain species of porpoise. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 99/1 Many of the animal oils ..contain a volatile fat, which gives them their peculiar odour. In..whale and seal oils, this is called phocenine.

Phocic, Phocin, *Chem.*, = PHOCENIC, PHOCENIN.

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 189 The oil of the porpoise ..contains..much more phocine. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 36 Diatomic Fatty Acid Series. $C_5H_{10}O_3$ Phocic. *Ibid.* 120 Phocine.

Phocid (fō·sid). *Zool.* [f. Zool. L. *Phōcidæ*, f. *phōca*: see -ID 3.] Any member of the *Phocidæ* or seal family. So **Pho·ciform** *a.*, having the form or structure of a seal, phocoid; **Pho·cine** *a.*, pertaining to the sub-family *Phocinæ*, containing the seals proper; *sb.*, a member of this sub-family; **Pho·coid** *a.*, allied in structure to the seals.

1846 WORCESTER, *Phocine* (citing *Penny Cycl.*).

Phocodont (fō·kŏdǫnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Gr. *φώκη* seal + *ὀδούς*, *ὀδοντ-* tooth.] Of or pertaining to the *Phocodontia*, an extinct sub-order of *Cetacea*, furnishing connecting links with the *Phocidæ* or seals. b. *sb.* Any member of the *Phocodontia.* So **Phocodo·ntic** *a.* = PHOCODONT *a.*

Phocomele (fō·kōmēl). *Teratology.* [mod. f. Gr. *φώκη* seal + *μέλος* limb. So in Fr. (Littré).] A monster having limbs so short as to resemble or suggest the flappers of a seal.

1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 404.

Hence **Phocome·lous** *a.*

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Mar. 672 Whether the Harpy owes its origin to the occurrence of a phocomelous fetus.

‖ **Phœbades** (fī·bădēz), *sb. pl.* [L. pl. of *Phœbas*, a. Gr. *Φοιβάς*, pl. *-βαδες*, priestess of Phœbus.] Priestesses of Phœbus or Apollo; persons possessed by a spirit of divination.

1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvi. 16. 394 They said that those who wer possessed wer inspired with the spirit of Python, and peradventure they wer thervpon called Phoebades in honor of Apollo. 1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court, Description*, Attir'd like Virginean Priests, by whom the Sun is there ador'd; and therfore called the Phœbades.

Phœbe 1 (fī·bē). *poet.* [a. L. *Phœbe*, a. Gr. *Φοίβη*, fem. of *φοίβος* bright, radiant: cf. PHŒBUS.] The name of Artemis or Diana as goddess of the moon; the moon personified.

[1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 110 Thus this lusti Cephalus Preide unto Phebe and to Phebus The nyht in lengthe forto drawe.] 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 209 To morrow night, when Phœbe doth behold Her siluer visage, in the watry glasse. 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 28 Nor yet does Phœbe with her silver horns..Push into crowded tides the frighted waves.

Phœbe 2 (fī·bē). [A name imitative of the bird's call, but accommodated in spelling to prec.] A small bird (*Sayornis phœbe* or *fuscus*) common in the eastern U. S. Also *Phœbe-bird.* Also called PEWIT (3), PEWEE.

1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 19 Another of our feathered visitors..is the Pe-wit, or Pe-wee, or Phœbe-bird; for he is called by each of these names, from a fancied resemblance to the sound of his monotonous note...They arrive early in the spring...Their first chirp spreads gladness through the house. 'The Phœbe-birds have come!' is heard on all sides. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 765/2 Plain, dull-colored peewee or phœbe, sitting on the housegable or on a dead branch..catching insects, or reiterating his own name, 'phœbe, phœbe'.

Phœbean (fībē·ăn), *a.* Also 7 **-ian.** [f. L. *Phœbēus*, a. Gr. *Φοίβειος* adj., f. *Φοίβος* Phœbus + -AN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Phœbus or Apollo as the god of poetry.

a 1621 B. JONSON *Leges Convivales* Wks. (Rtldg.) 727/2 'Tis the true Phœbian liquor, Cheers the brains, makes wit the quicker. 1632 SHIRLEY *Changes* Prol., Able to distinguish straines that are Cleare, and Phebean, from the popular. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* Ser. I. ii. (1877) 43 His long Phœbean locks.

Phœbus (fī·bŭs). Forms: 4–9 **Phebus**, 6– Phœbus. [a. L. *Phœbus*, a. Gr. *Φοίβος*, lit. bright, shining, radiant.] A name of Apollo as the Sun-god; the sun personified. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 11 By the shadwe he took his wit That Phebus which þat shoon so clere and brighte Degrees was fyue and fourty clombe on highte. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxii, Till phebus endit had his bemes bryght. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 54 Phebus with his golden beames. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 15 Phœbus arise, And paint the sable skies With azure, white, and red. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 30 With riper beams when Phœbus warms the day. 1742 GRAY *Death of West*, Redd'ning Phœbus lifts his golden fire.

b. Apollo as the god of poetry and music, presiding over the Muses: hence, the genius of poetry.

1776 G. CAMPBELL *Philos. Rhet.* (1801) II. 63 The figure which the French Phebus is capable of making in an English dress.

Phœnicean (fīni·sĭăn, -i·shăn), *a.* [f. L. *phœnīce-us* (Plin.) (a. Gr. *φοινίκεος* adj., f. *φοῖνιξ* purple-red, crimson: see PHŒNICIAN) + -AN.] = next.

1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 579 The wings are of a phoenicean colour, that is to say, reddish verging upon fulvous.

Phœniceous (fĭni·shəs), *a.* Also **phenicious.** [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Applied to a bright red.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. XXV. (1495) 877 Colour that highte *Phenicеus*: therwyth the cheyf and pryncypall letters of bokes ben writen.] 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Phœniceous*, pure lively red, with a mixture of carmine and scarlet.

Phœnician (fĭni·shăn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4 **Feniceonne, Phenicien**, 7– **Phœnician**, 9 **Phenician.** [a. F. *phénicien*, f. L. *Phœnīcia* (sc. *terra*), synon. with L. *Phœnīcē*, Gr. *Φοινίκη* the country, f. *Φοῖνιξ*, *Φοίνῑκ-*, *sb.* and *a.* Phœnician: see -AN.

Gr. *φοῖνιξ* also meant 'purple-red or crimson' (*a.* and *sb.*), the PHŒNIX, and the date (fruit and tree). It is generally held that these are all senses of the same word; but their mutual relations and the primary sense are uncertain. Some start with *Φοῖνιξ*, Phœnician, as a foreign ethnic name; others take the primary sense as 'red', and see in *φοινίκη* 'the red land', perh. the land of the sunrise, or in *Φοῖνιξ* 'a red man'. *Phœnicia* could hardly be (as some have suggested) 'the land of the date'.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A native or inhabitant of Phœnicia, an ancient country consisting of a narrow strip of land on the coast of Syria, to the north-west of Palestine, which contained the two famous cities of Tyre and Sidon; also of any Phœnician colony (of which there were many on the shores of the Mediterranean).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 129 For Pheniciens were þe firste fynderes of lettres, 3it we writeþ capital lettres wiþ reed colour. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* ibid., Phenix the sonne of Agenoris toke to these Feniceonnes somme redde letters. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 65 Let th' Egyptians And the Phœnicians go a ducking. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 438 Astoreth, whom the Phœnicians call'd Astarte, Queen of Heav'n. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 40 Cadmus was a Phœnician, but went from his own country and settled in Greece, where, as they say, he built the city of Thebes, ..having brought 16 letters of the Greek alphabet among them. 1808 MITFORD *Hist. Greece* X. § 1 Britain, .. excepting the Phenicians, unknown among civilized nations. 1843 THIRLWALL *Greece* liii, Many..costly and useful productions of India..were very early known in the west, chiefly..through the commercial activity of the Phœnicians.

2. The language spoken by this people.

1836 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIII. 834 The Phœnician is only known from a few coins and inscriptions found chiefly in Cyprus and Malta.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to ancient Phœnicia, or its inhabitants or colonists; hence, Punic, Carthaginian.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 100 All that sea yet, which beateth vpon that coast, beareth the name of the Phœnician sea. 1808 MITFORD *Hist. Greece* X. § 1 The large projection of Africa, over-against Sicily, could not fail..to fix the attention of the Phœnician navigators. 1878 GLADSTONE *Homer* (*Primer*) vii. 96 It appears that the Phœnician name in Homer stands to a great extent for that of foreigner in general.

Hence **Phœni·cianism**; also **Phœnicize** (phen-) *v.*, to make Phœnician in language, nationality, etc.

1878 GLADSTONE *Homer* (*Primer*) vii. 96 There is in Homer a very general and pervading association between a group of marks of which a portion are Phœnicianism [etc.]. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. xviii. 453 Strabo describes these towns, as altogether phenicised.

Phœnicine, *Chem.*, variant of PHENICINE.

Phœnicistic (fīnisi·stik), *a. Path.* [f. mod. L. *phœnicismus*, name given by Plouquet to Rubeola or measles (f. Gr. *φοῖνιξ* purple-red, crimson): see -ISM, -ISTIC.] Of or pertaining to measles.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Phenicistic. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phoenicistic.*

Phœnicity (fĭni·sĭti). [ad. med. Schol. L. *phœnīcitās* (in Wyclif *fēnicitās*), f. *phœnix*, *phœnīc-em* PHŒNIX: see -ITY.] The quality or condition of being a phœnix.

1901 DZIEWICKI in *Wyclif's Repl. de Univers.* 136 *margin*, Suppose there is but one phœnix in the world; there are the universal and the singular phoenicities, the former naturally prior to the latter, which is neither Phoenicity in itself nor not. For if it were, then it would be the same as the Universal on which it depends; and if it were not, there would be more than one phoenicity, which contradicts the hypothesis.

Phœnicle. *rare*−1. [ad. med. or mod.L. *phœniculus.*] Contemptuous dim. of PHŒNIX.

1710 tr. *Werenfels's Disc. Logom.* 140 He introduces Heinsiolus (as he ridiculously calls..the great Heinsius) as the Phœnicle (not the Phœnix..) of the Age.

Phœnicochroite (fĭnikǫ·krōɪəit). *Min.* [Named 1839, f. Gr. *φοῖνιξ*, *φοινικο-* purple-red, crimson + *-χροος* -coloured + -ITE 1.] Basic chromate of lead, found in deep red tabular crystals.

1849 J. NICOL *Min.* 388 Phoenikochroite..occurs in veins in limestone. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 630 As the color is red, ..Glocker changed it [the name] to Phoenicochroite.

Phœnicopter (fĭnikǫ·ptəɪ). *Ornith.* [ad. F. *phœnicoptère* (Rabelais) or ad. L. *phœnicopterus*

(Plin.), a. Gr. *φοινικόπτερος* flamingo, lit. red-feathered, f. *φοῖνιξ*, *φοινικ-* crimson + *πτέρον* feather, wing.] Adapted form of the Greek and Latin name of the flamingo of Southern Europe (*Phœnicopterus roseus* or *antiquorum*).

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 83/2 Some daies his [Heliogabalus'] companye was serued at meale with..a straunge fowle called Phenocapterie. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 388 The fowle which they [Romans] specially hunted and most delighted in were phœnicopters, peacockes, thrushes, and pigeons. [1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xii. 136 The luxurious Emperour..had at his table many a Phœnicopterus.] 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxxvii, Flamans, which are phœnicopters or crimson-winged sea-fowles. 1692 SOUTH *Serm., Prov.* i. 32 (1718) IV. 79 Their Lucrinian oysters, their phœnicopters, and the like. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lvi. (1877) 452 It was for their rarity only that peacocks and nightingales and the tongues and brains of phœnicopters (possibly flamingoes) could be regarded as delicacies.

Hence **Phœnico·pterid** *Ornith.*, any bird of the *Phœnicopteridæ* or flamingo family; **Phœnico·pteroid** *a.*, resembling the flamingo in structure; **Phœnico·pterous** *a.*, related to the flamingoes; also in *Entom.*, having red wings (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, 1858).

Phœnicu·rous, *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *φοινίκουρος* red-tailed, spec. the redstart.] Having a red tail.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

†**Phœnigm.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *phœnigmus*, a. Gr. *φοινιγμός* irritation of the skin by rubefacients, f. *φοινίσσειν* to redden, f. *φοῖνιξ* crimson: cf. F. *phénigme*.] Reddening of the skin; also, a medicinal application causing this.

[1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 109 Which Topically applied become a Phœnigmus or Rubifying medicine.] 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 203 It is called a Phœnigm, that is, a rubrifying medicament. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. xii. 71 The Ancients frequently used Phœnigms and Sinapisms. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 359 It is a.. Phaenigm which the Antients used much. [1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phœnigmus*.]

Phœnix[1], **phenix** (fī·niks). Forms: 1, 4–6 **fenix**, 4–6 **fenyx**, 5 **phenes**, 6 **phenex**, **-yx**, **fenyce**, 6– **phœnix**, **phenix**, (7 **phœnix**). [OE. and OF. *fenix*, a. med.L. *phēnix*, L. *phœnix*, a. Gr. *φοῖνιξ* the mythical bird, identical with *φοῖνιξ* Phœnician, purple-red, crimson: see Note below. In OF. also *fenis*, *feniscs*; Sp. *fenix*, It. *fenice*; Du. *feniks*, MLG. *fenix*, Ger. *phönix*, Da., Sw. *fønix*. The Eng. spelling was in 16th c. assimilated to the L. (*fenyce* was after It.).]

1. A mythical bird, of gorgeous plumage, fabled to be the only one of its kind, and to live five or six hundred years in the Arabian desert, after which it burnt itself to ashes on a funeral pile of aromatic twigs ignited by the sun and fanned by its own wings, but only to emerge from its ashes with renewed youth, to live through another cycle of years.

(Variations of the myth were that the phœnix burnt itself on the altar of the temple at Heliopolis: and that a worm emerged from the ashes and became the young phœnix. See also PHŒNIX[2].)

a 900 *Phœnix* 86 in *Exeter Bk.*, Done wudu weardaþ wundrum fæger fuzel feþrum se is fenix haten. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 70 *Hic Fenix* (swa hatte an fuzel on arabiscre ðeode, se leofað fif hund ȝeara and æfter deaðe eft arist ȝeedcucod). 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xv. (Bodl. MS.), Þis brid Fenix is a brid wiþoute make and leueþ þre hundred oþer fyue hundred yere. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 25 A fewle þat men calles Fenix; and þer es bot ane..þis fewle liffes fyue hundreth ȝere; and at þe fyue hundreth ȝere end he commes to þe forsaid temple and apon þe awter he brynnes him self all to powder. 14.. *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 702/17 *Hic phenix*, a phenes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 202 b, There is one byrde called a Fenyce, & but onely one of that kynde in the worlde. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 216 The Phenyx the which I knowe no man that euer hath seene. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 35 My ashes, as the Phœnix, may bring forth A Bird, that will reuenge vpon you all. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. iv. I. 387 The bird Phœnix, which is supposed to haue taken that name of this Date tree (called in Greeke *φοῖνιξ*) for it was assured to me, that the said bird died with that tree, and reuiued of it selfe as the tree sprung againe. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 23 A liuing Drolerie: now I will beleeue That..in Arabia There is one Tree, the Phœnix throne, one Phœnix At this houre reigning there. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Birds..the fabulous are, the gryphin, harpie,.. phœnix, cinnamologus. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Metam.* XV. 527 All these receive their Birth from other Things; But from himself the Phœnix only springs: Self-born, begotten by the Parent Flame In which he burn'd, Another and the Same. 1809 BYRON *Eng. Bards & Scotch. Rev.* 961 And glory, like the phœnix 'midst her fires, Exhales her odours, blazes, and expires. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 103 He [Clemens Romanus] illustrates [the] possibility [of the Resurrection] by natural analogies, especially by the existence and history of the Phœnix! 1885 BIBLE (R. V.) *Job* xxix. 18 Then I said, I shall die in my nest, and I shall multiply my days as the sand [*margin*, Or, the phœnix].

2. *transf.* and *fig.* **a.** A person (or thing) of unique excellence or of matchless beauty; a paragon.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 430 Now for synglerte o hyr dousour We calle hyr fenyx of Arraby. *c* 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 982 Trewly she was to myn eye, The Soleyn Fenix of Arabye. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 b, This Prince [Henry V] was almost the Arabicall Phœnix. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 42 For goddes loue, let not him be a Phenix, let him not be alone. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) Ded., Her late sacred Majestie, ..the rare Phœnix of her sex, who now resteth in glorie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 128 The Phœnix of Astronomy Ticho-Braghe. 1775 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 50 He seems to think himself a mere Phenix. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. iii. § 96. 209 Picus of Mirandola.. so justly called the phœnix of his age.

b. That which rises from the ashes of its predecessor.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 93 From their ashes shal be reard A Phœnix that shall make all France affear'd. 1632 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Iron Age* I. Ep. Ded., Out of her ashes hath risen two the rarest Phœnixes in Europe, namely London and Rome. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* XVI. (1870) 329 The phœnix of new institutions can only arise out of the conflagration and ashes of the old.

3. The figure of the phœnix in Heraldry, or as an ornament.

Heraldically represented as rising in the midst of flames.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 810 A fenyx on hys helme stood. So forthe gan he fare. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Oct. 13/2 The button is surrounded by seven gold phœnixes, of which each is inlaid with seven large and twenty-one small pearls and a cat's eye.

4. *Astr.* One of the southern constellations.

1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* I. iii. § 10 (ed. 3) 19 Twelve Constellations .. added by Frederico Houtmanno .. who.. named them as follows, 1 The Crane, 2 The Phenix, 3 The Indian [etc.]. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* I. v. 51 When it appears in a horizontal Line with the Foot of the Cross, or the Head of the Phenix. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 335.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: (*a*) simple attrib. (of the phœnix), as *phœnix life*, *nest*, *plume*, *pride*, *wing*; (*b*) appositive (that is a phœnix: sense 2) passing into adj. (= phœnix-like), as *phœnix bride*, *family*, *grace*, *mercy*, *opinion*, *parson*, *queen*, *sect*, *she*; (*c*) parasynthetic, as *phœnix-feathered* adj.; also **phœnix-like** *a.* and *adv.*, like or after the manner of a phœnix; †**Phœnix-man**, a fireman in the employ of the old Phœnix Insurance Office (founded 1681: see quot. 1700, also Phillips, ed. Kersey 1706).

1814 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* II. 289 The Earl..was too austere, cold, and misanthropic to be a meet companion for his *Phœnix bride. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) II. 141 That *phœnix family the Rosevilles—alias the Dickenses. 1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 21 Into whose soule sweete Sidney did infuse The essence of his *Phœnix-feather'd Muse. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. of Life* ii. 32 Faith is the *Phenix-Grace, as Christ is the Phenix-Mercy. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. iii. *Phenix like They dide in perfume. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 544 Abraham saw..a Phœnix-like Resurrection of his Son, as possible with God. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 11 When from the ruins of a State, Phœnix-like, a new one arises. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, **Phenix-men*, the same as *Fire-drakes*. [*Fire-drakes*, men with a Phenix for their Badge, in Livery, and Pay from the Insurance-Office, to extinguish Fires.] 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 62 Her high exalted sunne beames haue set the *phenix neast of my breast on fire. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 113 The Pope himselfe shall gratifie him with a *Phenix plume. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 8 Such a vertuous Ladie and *Phenix Queene. *a* 1720 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) 132 That *Phenix-She deserves to be beloved. 1657 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Sept., Habits of curiously-colour'd and wrought feathers, one from the *phœnix wing as tradition goes.

Hence **Phœnixity**, *nonce-wd.*, the quality of being a phœnix or unique.

1886 G. B. SHAW *Cashel Byron* (1889) 268 She, poor girl! cannot appreciate even her own phœnixity.

[*Note.* The relation of *Phœnix* to other senses of Gr. *φοῖνιξ* is obscure: see note to PHŒNICIAN. It could hardly be 'the Phœnician bird', since it was at Heliopolis in Egypt, where the cult of the phœnix (in Egypt. *bennu*) was coeval with the city, that Herodotus learned the legend about it. It might perh. be 'the red', with reference to the prevailing colour of its body (*τὰ μὲν χρυσόκομα τῶν πτερῶν, τὰ δὲ ἐρυθρὰ ἐς τὰ μάλιστα*, Herod. II. 73), or, as some think, as an emblem of the sun in its perpetual setting and rising again. See Roscher *Lexikon d. griech. u. röm. Mythologie*, s. v.]

‖ **Phœnix**[2] (fī·niks). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), a. Gr. *φοῖνιξ* the date palm, a date: see PHŒNICIAN.

Various speculations connecting the date-tree with the mythical bird, PHŒNIX[1], were current from the time of Pliny or earlier: see quots. here, also 1601 in PHŒNIX[1] 1, and the Latin *Carmen de Phœnice*, attributed to Lactantius (*a* 325). Some have supposed a much earlier connexion: the Egyptian name of the phœnix was *bennu*, that of the date (fruit and tree) *benr* or *benra*, whence Coptic *benne*. But Egyptologers hold the two words to be unconnected. Some would explain *φοῖνιξ* the date, as 'the red fruit'.]

The name of a genus of palms, distinguished by their pinnate leaves; the most important species is *P. dactylifera*, the Date Palm.

[*a* 900 *Phœnix* 174 in *Exeter Bk.*, Beam..þone hatað men fenix on foldan of þæs fuzles noman. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* (Bodl. MS.) XVII. cxvi. For he [*palma*] dureþ & is grene .. longe tyme, perfore þi liknes of þe brid Fenix þat lyueþ longe tyme þere, hatte Fenix amonge þe Grees. *Ibid.* (1495) 679 In the south countree is a manere palme that is alone in that kynde: and none other spryngeth ne comyth therof: but whan this palme is so olde that it fayleth all for aege: thenne ofte it quyknyth and spryngyth ayen of itself; therfore men trowe that Fenix that is a byrde of Arabia hath the name of this palme of Arabia, for he dieth and quiketh efte as the foreseide palme dothe, as Plinius seith. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Hence the Phœnicians gave the name *phœnix* to the palm-tree, by reason when burnt down to the very root, it rises again fairer than ever.] 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Apr. 1/3 To sit under the waving feathers of the date and phœnix palms.

Pholad (fōu·lăd). *Zool.* [Anglicized form of PHOLAS.] A mollusc of the *Pholas* family, *Pholadidæ*. So **Phola·dean**, **Pho·ladid**, one of the *Pholadidæ*; †**Pho·ladite**, a fossil pholad or the like; **Pho·ladoid** *a.*, resembling the genus *Pholas*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 245 The *Pholads or stone-borers. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., **Pholadeans*, ..the family of Lamellibranchiate Bivalves of which the genus Pholas is the type. 1858–32 WEBSTER, **Pholadite*, a petrified shell of the genus Pholas. *Jameson*.

‖ **Pholas** (fōu·lăs). Pl. **pholades** (fōu·lădīz). *Zool.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *φωλάς*, *φωλαδ-* adj. lurking in a hole (*φωλεός*), hence, a mollusc inhabiting holes in stone.] A genus of boring bivalve molluscs; an animal of this genus, a piddock.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 241 Pholas..They are pleasant to the pallate, but of evil juyce..They live in hollow places, and so amongst stones, that they can hardly be perceived. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 68 Thus immured, the pholas lives in darkness, indolence, and plenty. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Th.* 452 The marble columns of the temple of Serapis..are..perforated by pholades, to the height of sixteen feet above ground. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* V. 101 One of the British species, the Paper Pholas..has a peculiarly thin and delicate shell.

Pholcid (fo·lsid). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pholcidæ*, f. *Pholcus*, a. Gr. *φολκός* bandy-legged.] A spider of the family *Pholcidæ* (typical genus *Pholcus*), having long legs, and inhabiting dark places. So **Pholcoid** (fo·lkoid) *a.*, allied to the genus *Pholcus*.

Pholerite (fo·lĕrəit). *Min.* [a. F. *pholérite* (named 1825), irreg. f. Gr. *φολίς*, *φολιδ-*, horny scale: see -ITE[1].] A hydrous silicate of aluminium closely allied to or identical with KAOLINITE, occurring in minute scales with a pearly lustre.

1826 *Q. Jrnl. Lit.*, etc. XXI. 406 Pholerite or silicate of Alumina. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 686 Pholerite has been separated..but there can be little doubt of its identity with kaolinite.

Pholidolite (foli·dəlait). *Min.* [Named 1890, f. Gr. *φολίς*, *-ιδ-* scale + -LITE.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium, magnesium, and potassium, occurring in minute scales.

1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XLIV. 335 Pholidolite, a mineral allied to the chlorites.

‖ **Pholidosis** (fɒlidōu·sis). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φολίς*, *φολιδ-* scale + -OSIS.] Arrangement of the scales, esp. in *Reptilia*.

1884 *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Aug. 117 The classifications ..founded to a great extent on characters of pholidosis and physiognomy.

Pholidote (fo·lidōut), *a. Zool. rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *φολιδωτ-ός*, f. *φολίς*, *φολιδ-* scale.] Covered with scales, scaly. Also **Pholido·tous** *a.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 945/2 Pholidotous. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pholidote*.

Pholque (fɒlk). *Zool. rare.* [= F. *pholque*, ad. mod. Zool. L. *Pholcus* (Walckenaer 1805), a. Gr. *φολκός* bandy-legged.] A spider of the genus *Pholcus*: see PHOLCID.

1835–6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 201/2 The thorax of a pholque.

Phonal (fōu·năl), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + -AL.] Pertaining to vocal sound; phonetic.

1868 MAX MÜLLER *Stratif. Lang.* 42 The Tibetan is near [the Chinese] in phonal structure as being tonic and monosyllabic. 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways of Lit.* xi. 227 Family life requires a minimum of phonal breath.

Phonascetics (fōunăse·tiks), *sb. pl. rare*—°. [f. Gr. *φωνασκητ-ής* one who exercises the voice, f. *φωνασκεῖν* to exercise the voice, f. *φωνή* voice + *ἀσκεῖν*: see ASCETIC.] (See quots.)

1864 WEBSTER, *Phonascetics*, a method of treatment for restoring the voice. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Phonascetics*, systematic practice for strengthening the voice; treatment for improving or restoring the voice.

Phonate (fōu·nēit), *v. Physiol.* [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + -ATE[3].] *intr.* To utter vocal sound; to produce the tone which constitutes voice by vibration of the vocal cords; *trans.* to sound vocally.

1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 475 Undue expenditure of breath during forcible expiration, as when the patient attempts to phonate or coughs. 1894 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 May 81/2 The patient could phonate, but not articulate. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 783 On phonating 'eh! eh!' the vocal cords should come into symmetrical apposition in the middle line.

Phonation (fonēi·ʃən). *Physiol.* [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + -ATION: in mod.L. *phonātio*, F. *phonation* (Littré).] The production or utterance of vocal sound: usually, as distinguished from *articulation*, or the division of the tone so produced into the elements of speech by the other vocal organs; sometimes *gen.* vocal utterance, voice-production.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Phonation*, the physiology of the voice. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 285 Movements concerned in phonation. 1879 LEWES *Study Psychol.* 29 Aphasia may be due to a defect of Phonation. 1892 R. L. GARNER *Speech Monkeys* iv. 41 The phonation of a species is generally uniform.

Phonatory (fōu·nătəri), *a.* [f. PHONATE: see -ORY.] Pertaining or relating to phonation.

1895 WOLFENDEN tr. *Joal's Respiration in Singing* 137 These two muscular groups..in their phonatory functions. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 814 Both vocal cords are very apt to become fixed more or less in the phonatory position.

Phonautograph (fonɔ̄·tŏgraf). [= F. *phonautographe* (1855), f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + *αὐτο-* self + -GRAPH -writer (i. e. recorder).] An apparatus for automatically recording the vibrations of sound, by means of a membrane set in vibration by the sound-waves, and having a point attached which makes a tracing upon a revolving cylinder.

1859 *Times* 22 Sept. 9/2 (Brit. Assoc.) Section A. Phonautograph [*misprint* -anto-], or Apparatus for the Self-Registering of the Vibrations of Sound. By Messrs. Scott and Kœnig... These splendid results of the powers of the phonautograph were never seen before the Aberdeen meeting. 1879 tr. *Du Moncel's Telephone* 11 This telephone..is based on the vibrating membrane of which Mr. L. Scott made use in his phonautograph, in 1855. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 67 For some time I carried on experiments with the manometric capsule of Kœnig and the phonautograph of Léon Scott. 1894 DICKSON *Edison* 124 The phonautograph, a machine used for the delineations of the sound waves.

Hence **Phonau·togram** [cf. *telegram*], a record or tracing made by a phonautograph; **Phonautogra·phic** *a.*, of or pertaining to a phonautograph; **Phonautogra·phically** *adv.*, by means of a phonautograph.

1877 *Nature* 3 May 12/2 The capabilities of various membranes of taking impressions from vocal sounds for phonautographic purposes. 1888 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Jan. 53 The method .. of reproducing sounds recorded phonautographically. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Phonautogram.*

Phone (fōun), *sb.*[1] *Phonetics.* [ad. Gr. *φωνή* voice.] An elementary sound of spoken language; a simple vowel or consonant sound.

In quot. 1892 used for one of the sounds uttered by monkeys, supposed by the writer to express certain ideas (corresponding to *words* in human speech).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1892 R. L. GARNER *Speech Monkeys* xiii. 137 There is a difference in the phones of all different genera. 1896 R. J. LLOYD in *Jrnl. Anat. & Physiol.* XXXI. 233 The movable units of which the sounds called words are composed may be called phones...A phone which either by itself constitutes a syllable or is the strongest phone in a syllable is called a vowel. The weaker connective phones are called consonants. 1899 — *North. Eng.* § 2 A logical alphabet has one letter for each phone and one phone for each letter.

Phone, *sb.*[2] and *v.* Colloq. abbreviation of TELEPHONE *sb.* and *v.*

1884 *Sci. Amer.* 19 July 43/2, I made a telephone as shown in the *Scientific American*, Supplement, No. 142. The phones are made of ebony, and are perfect. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Apr. 2/1 The receiver of this 'phone' consisted of a horizontal cylinder divided vertically by a diaphragm which projected several inches beyond the front orifice. 1900 *N. B. Daily Mail* 3 Jan. 6 In the matter of calling up the Exchange and ringing off, the Postmaster General says these should be done by taking off and hanging up the phone. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 8 (Advt.) Wire, phone, or write Publisher, 'Westminster Gazette', Tudor House, Tudor Street, E.C. 1901 *Ibid.* 4 Sept. 4/2 Mr. Higgins was promptly 'phoned'. 1903 *Architect* 24 Apr. Suppl. 28/2 'Jersey City is on the 'phone'.

Phoneidoscope (fonəi·dŏskoup). [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + *εἶδο-s* form, figure + -SCOPE. Cf. *kaleidoscope.*] An instrument for exhibiting the colour-figures produced by the action of sound-vibrations upon a thin film, e. g. of soap-solution.

1878 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* 576/1 By means of a recently constructed instrument known as the Phoneidoscope. 1893 *Athenæum* 4 Feb. 159/1 Prof. Sedley Taylor..produced an instrument he unhappily named the 'Phoneidoscope', which was contrived to exhibit the 'crispations' of a soap film set in vibration by a vocal sound.

Hence **Phoneidoscopic** (-skɔ̄pik) *a.*

1880 *Nature* 8 Jan. 243/1 M. Guébhard..proceeded to show that..the fleeting films condensed from the breath may exhibit phoneidoscopic properties.

†**Phonel,** obs. erron. form of FUNNEL.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12988 He me gaff..Thys sak also, and thys phonel Wyth wych my wynes I vp tonne.

Phoneme (fonī·m). *rare.* [= F. *phonème*, ad. Gr. *φώνημα* a sound, f. *φωνεῖν* to sound.] = PHONE *sb.*[1]

1894 G. DUNN in *Classical Rev.* Mar. 95/1 The problem remains to determine whether there are any Phonemes which may be regarded as the representatives of these hypothetical and analogically deduced long sonants.

Phonendoscope (fonendŏskoup). [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + *ἔνδον* within + -SCOPE.] An apparatus for rendering small sounds in the human body, or in solid bodies in general, more distinctly audible.

1895 *Specif. Patent* No. 10223 (p. 1, l. 35) If this 'phonendoscope' be brought into contact with any solid body..the tone-vibrations in that solid body will communicate themselves to the point of contact. 1897 L. ROBINSON *Wild Traits in Tame Anim.* 262, I took my phonendoscope (..a form of stethoscope somewhat on the microphone principle).

‖ **Phonesis** (fonī·sis). [a. Gr. *φώνησις* a sounding, f. *φωνεῖν* to sound.] Utterance of vocal sounds.

1878 LATHAM *Outl. Philol.* 55 Accent underlies the Monosyllabic system, and belongs to Phonesis. 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways of Lit.* xi. 221 The same principles involve consonantal phonesis in a perpetual diversity.

Phonetic (fonē·tik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *phōnētic-us* (Zoega 1797), a. Gr. *φωνητικός* adj., f. *φωνητός* to be spoken, f. *φωνεῖν* to utter voice, speak. In F. *phonétique* (Dict. Acad. 1878).]

1. Representing vocal sounds: applied to signs or characters which represent the sounds, esp. the individual or elementary sounds, of speech, or which express the pronunciation of words.

Applied *spec.* a. to characters in ancient writing (orig. Egyptian) representing sounds, opposed to the *ideographic* or *pictorial*; and b. to systems of spelling in which each letter represents invariably the same spoken sound, e. g. to systems proposed for reform of English spelling, as opposed to the traditional (*historical* or *etymological*) method.

a. [1797 G. ZOEGA *De Origine et Usu Obeliscorum* 454 Superest quinta classis notarum phoneticarum, quem ad aenigmaticam referri posse jam monui.] 1826 *Edin. Rev.* XLV. 104 The picture-writers, seeking for the first time to express sounds, and so to render their work Phonetic. 1831 M. RUSSELL *Egypt* xi. (1853) 434 To George Zoega also belongs the merit of employing (1797) the term phonetic. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. iv. 285 The derivation of..phonetic symbols from a primitive system of pictorial writing. 1879 RENOUF *Orig. Relig.* 16 The key to hieroglyphic decipherment [consists] in the knowledge of the simultaneous use of both phonetic and ideographic signs.

b. 1848 A. J. ELLIS (*title*) A Plea for Phonetic Spelling. 1848 — *Esenſalz ov Fonetics* p. ii, Key to the Phonetic spelling employed in this work...A copious account of the English phonetic alphabet is furnished..pp. 87–108. 1864 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* II. iii. 108 A new system of 'Brief Writing and True Spelling', best known under the name of the *Phonetic Reform.* 1864 *Soc. Sci. Rev.* 223 The Phonetic alphabet..consists of thirty-four letters, twenty-two being consonants and twelve vowels. These .. fairly represent every important sound in our language.

2. Of, pertaining or relating to the sounds of spoken language; consisting of vocal sounds.

1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* I. ii. 40 Two processes which should be carefully distinguished. ..—1. Dialectical Regeneration. 2. Phonetic Decay. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *As a Flower* xiii. 125 A whistle, from which unfeminine phonetic exercise she however refrained. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 53 This..is itself an example of phonetic change. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 183 Advanced languages are 'evolved' chiefly by plagiarism and by phonetic corruption.

b. Involving vibration of the vocal cords (as opp. to mere breath or whisper). Cf. PHONATE.

1880 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 443 His voice was weak, but phonetic.

†3. *Entom.* Applied to the collar or prothorax of hymenopterous insects when its posterior angles cover the mesothoracic or so-called vocal spiracles.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 331 Collar...5. Phonetic.. When its posterior angles approaching the wings, cover the vocal spiracles. Ex. *Hymenoptera.*

Hence **Phone·tical** *a.* (*rare*), phonetic; **Phone·tically** *adv.*, in a phonetic manner; in relation to vocal sound; according to sound or pronunciation; **Phoneti·cian** (fōunĕti·shăn), one versed in speech-sounds, a phonetist; **Phoneticism** (fone·tisiz'm), phonetic quality, or the phonetic system, of writing or spelling; **Phone·ticist** (-sist), an advocate of phonetic spelling; **Phone·ticize** (-saiz) *v. trans.*, to render phonetic, to write phonetically.

1845 ELLIS *Plea Phonotypy & Phonography* 4 *note*, In this pamphlet, we only recommend Phonography upon the score of its giving a correct *phonetical representation of the English language. 1867 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (1873) I. v. 188 By a distinct phonetical and grammatical pedigree. 1826 *Edin. Rev.* XLV. 120 Characters employed by the Egyptians..*phonetically in representing foreign combinations of sound. 1876 T. HILL *Order Studies* 108 Bad spelling .. usually arises from an attempt to spell phonetically with the common alphabet. 1848 A. J. ELLIS *Esenſalz ov Fonetics* 88 A practist *fonetiſan. 1849 A. HOLBROOK *Normal Meth.* 34 The most approved views of Phoneticians have been made subservient. 1877 SWEET *Handbk. Phonetics* 20 The first and indispensable qualification of the phonetician is a thorough practical knowledge of the formation of the vowels. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 423 To the consistent *phoneticist, we need only observe that the new code .. would be as arbitrary as the old. 1848 A. J. ELLIS *Esenſalz ov Fonetics* Pref., Mr. Isaac Pitman first propounded the idea..of *phoneticizing the English language. 1881 J. FRYER in *Nature* XXIV. 54/2 [To] phoneticise the foreign term, using the sounds of the Mandarin dialect.

Phonetico- (fone·tiko), combining form (on Greek analogy) of PHONETIC, as in **Phone·tico-gramma·tical** *a.*, relating to the phonetic part of grammar; **Phone·tico-hieroglyphic** *a.*, of or belonging to hieroglyphics with a phonetic value.

1879 WHITNEY *Sanskrit Gram.* p. x, A number of phonetico-grammatical treatises. 1826 *Edin. Rev.* XLV. 141 The high antiquity of the phonetico-hieroglyphic system in Egypt.

Phonetics (fone·tiks), *sb. pl.* [See PHONETIC and -ICS.] That department of linguistic science which treats of the sounds of speech; phonology; the phonetic phenomena (of a language or dialect).

1841 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* II. ii. 113 Phonetics..determines (amongst other things) the systematic relation of Articulate Sounds..Between sounds like *b* and *v*, *s* and *z*, there is a connexion in Phonetics. 1848 A. J. ELLIS (*title*) Esenſalz ov Fonetics [=Essentials of Phonetics]. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 138 Provincial phonetics go still further, and call a gown *gound.* 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 60 Phonetics, as a branch of linguistic science.

Phonetism (fōu·nĕtiz'm). [f. Gr. *φωνητός* (see PHONETIC) + -ISM.] Phonetic representation; reduction to a phonetic system of writing or spelling.

1879 RENOUF *Orig. Relig.* 16 *note*, Champollion strongly insists upon the necessity of phonetism, for otherwise how could foreign names, for which no symbolism existed, be expressed in writing? 1880 *Address Philol. Soc.* 38 They had no scruple in sacrificing exact phonetism, if they could thereby express their sense more distinctly. 1891 A. B. EDWARDS *Pharaoh's Fellahs* 241 Pictorial phonetism registers the second stage in the art of writing.

Phonetist (fōu·nĕtist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. A person versed in phonetics; one who studies the sounds of speech; a phonologist.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 73 The phonetist is never able to put himself in an 'à priori' position. 1896 *Voice* (N. Y.) 20 Aug., The phonetists of to-day make a careful distinction.

2. An advocate or user of phonetic spelling; a phoneticist.

1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 475 We do not remember ever to have seen the case of the phonetists so happily and strongly put. 1878 J. A. H. MURRAY in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 396/1 The author of the *Ormulum* was a phonetist, and employed a special spelling of his own to represent not only the quality but the quantities of vowels and consonants.

Phonetize, *v. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To write or spell (a word) phonetically.

1875 LOWELL *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 347 *note*, Just as one would spell it who wished to phonetize its sound in rural New England.

Hence **Phonetiza·tion,** the representation of vocal sounds by phonetic characters.

1860 WORCESTER cites *The Athenæum.*

Phonic (fŏu·nik, fo·nik), *a.* (*sb.*). [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice + -IC. Cf. F. *phonique* (Dict. Acad. 1835).]

1. Of or pertaining to sound in general; acoustic.

1823 WHEATSTONE in *Ann. Philos.* Aug. 81 On the Phonic Molecular Vibrations. 1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phonic*, of or belonging to sound or the voice...The point where is found either the person who speaks, or the body which emits the sound is called the *phonic* centre. 1878 *Smithsonian Inst. Rep.* 492 The axis of the phonic ray will be deflected upwards. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Phonic Apparatus.*

2. Of or pertaining to vocal sounds: = PHONETIC 2.

1843 (*title*) The First Phonic Reader. *Ibid.* 101 Under the phonic method, the sound of each letter is taught by means of an object in which that sound occurs. 1844 CROKER in *Q. Rev.* June 38 With no other guide than Dr. Kay Shuttleworth's 'Phonic Lessons', we are perfectly satisfied that no child could ever learn at all. 1875 T. HILL *True Order Stud.* 104 Pronounce the phonic elements ..separately. 1896 R. J. LLOYD in *Jrnl. Anat. & Physiol.* XXXI. 234 The usefulness of a vowel depends also upon its distinct phonic character.

b. *Physiol.* (*a*) Applied to a nerve-centre which excites the organs of speech. (*b*) Produced or accompanied by vibration of the vocal cords: = PHONETIC 2 b.

1878 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 650 This reflex centre .. we shall term the basial phonic centre. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 851 The cough and sometimes the laugh are phonic.

†B. *sb.* A body that emits sound, a sonorous body. *Obs.*

1823 C. WHEATSTONE in *Ann. Philos.* Aug. 81 Bodies, which, being properly excited, make those sensible oscillations, which have been thought to be the proximate causes of all the phenomena of sound. These bodies .. I have termed Phonics. *Ibid.* 82 The points of division in linear phonics are called nodes. 1836–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* II. 565/1 The body by which the sound is produced, denominated by Professor Wheatstone a *phonic*, occasions in the surrounding air vibrations or oscillations, corresponding in number and extent to those which exist in itself.

Phonics (fŏu·niks, fo·niks), *sb. pl.* ? *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ICS.]

1. The science of sound in general; acoustics.

1683–4 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 473 Three parts of our Doctrine of Acousticks: which are yet nameless, unless we call them Acousticks, Diacousticks, and Catacousticks, or (in another sence, but to as good purpose) Phonicks, Diaphonicks, and Cataphonicks. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. vii. 191 We are neither giving a treatise of optics or phonics, but a history of our own perceptions. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc. s.v., The science [of] direct, reflected, and refracted sound. In allusion to the corresponding branches of optics, these have been denominated phonics, cataphonics, and diaphonics.

2. The science of spoken sounds; phonetics.

1844 CROKER in *Q. Rev.* June 26 (*title of article*) Shuttleworth's Phonics. 1870 C. G. SMITH tr. *Domesday Bk.* p. xlvii, Their knowledge of phonics must have guided them in spelling.

†3. 'The art of combining musical sounds' (Busby *Dict. Mus.* 1811). *Obs.*

Phono- (fŏuno), before a vowel **phon-**, combining form of Gr. *φωνή* voice, sound, used as a word-element in Gr., as in *φωνασκός* 'one who exercises the voice', *φωνόμιμος* 'that imitates voice or voices', and extensively employed in recent technical terms, as PHONOGRAPH, PHONOLOGY, etc.; also in the following:

Phonodynamograph [cf. DYNAMOGRAPH] (see quot.). †**Phonomime** [cf. Gr. *φωνόμιμος* adj., imitating voice], a musical instrument imitating a chorus of voices; so **Phonomi·mic** *a.* [F. *phonomimique*], applied to a system of teaching in which each of the elementary sounds of speech is associated with an appropriate onomatopœic gesture. **Phonomo·tor** [MOTOR], a scientific toy in which the force of sound-vibrations, acting through a diaphragm and spring, is caused to drive a wheel. **Pho·nophote** [Gr. *φώς, φωτ-* light], an electrical apparatus by which sound-vibrations are converted into light. ‖ **Phono·rganon, phono·rganum** [mod.L., f. Gr. *ὄργανον*: see ORGAN], an instrument imitating the sounds of the voice, a speaking-machine.

1882 *Nature* XXVI. 331/1 Mr. W. B. Cooper has lately brought before the Franklin Institute a device for increasing the dynamic effect of the vibrations of diaphragms..called a *phonodynamograph. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 389 A very singular musical instrument has been lately invented by a mechanic at Vienna. This instrument..is called a *phonomime..the inventor has found a method, by means of numerous pipes and machinery, to cause it to emit the sound of a fine chorus of male voices. 1835 *Musical Library* Suppl. II. 19 The phonomime and performers were placed in a room adjoining...Every one thought that the piece was sung by an excellent choral band. 1884 J. C. GORDON in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* Apr. (1885) 135 Each of the 32 sounds of the French language is associated with an appropriate gesture...This process for teaching children to read was called by Mr. Grosselin [the inventor] the *Phonomimic method. 1888 PAYNE tr. *Compayre's Hist. Pedagogy* (1888) § 146. 135 Is not this already the very essence of the phonomimic processes brought into fashion in these last years? 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp., *Phonomotor, *Phonophote. 1892 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Phonorganon.

Phonocamptic (fōunoˌkæˈmptik), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. PHONO- + Gr. *καμπτ-ός, -τικ-ός*, f. *κάμπτειν* to bend; see -IC. In F. *phonocamptique* (Littré).] Having the property of reflecting sound, or producing an echo; relating to the reflexion of sound, cataphonic. Hence **Phonoca·mptics**, that part of acoustics which treats of reflected sounds; cataphonics, catacoustics.

1668 EVELYN *Let. to Dr. Beale* 27 Aug., Besides what the Masters of the Catoptrics, Phonocamptics, Otacoustics, &c., have don. 1694 R. BURTHOGGE *Ess. Reason*, etc. 155 In the Phonocamptick Center. 1857 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 946/1 The phonocamptic centre is the situation where is placed the ear destined to receive reflected sounds. *Ibid.*, *Phonocamptica*..a branch of Physics which treats of the phænomena of the reflection of sound; phonocamptics.

Phonogram (fōuˈnŏgræm). [f. PHONO- + -GRAM; in sense 2, after *telegram*.]

1. A written character or symbol representing a spoken sound; *spec.* a letter or symbol of (Pitman's) Phonography.

1860 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonography* (ed. 10) § 17. 21 *Phonogram*, a written letter or mark, indicating a certain sound, or modification of sound; as —*h*, ' *ah*. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. i. 22 It is probable that the..step by which the advance was made from ideograms to phonograms arose out of the necessity of expressing proper names. 1895 HOFFMAN *Beginn. Writ.* 173 A phonogram is the graphic representation of a sound. An alphabetic character is a phonogram.

2. The sound-record or tracing made by a phonograph, or the sounds reproduced or reported by means of it; a phonographic record or message.

1884 *Jrnl. Educ.* XIX. 267 Dr. Zintgraff..will use the instrument to obtain foil phonograms of the speech and melodies of the natives [of Africa]. 1887 *Spectator* 22 Oct. 1407 The phonograph reports music with absolute exactness, and..the phonogram will keep for a hundred years.

Hence **Phonogramic** (-græˈmik) *a.* [irreg. f. prec. + -IC], of the nature of a phonogram, or consisting of phonograms (sense 2); **Phonogra·mically** *adv.*, by means of phonograms; **Phonogramma·tic** *a.*, consisting of phonograms (sense 1) = PHONOGRAPHIC 1.

1861 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* VIII. 279 A phonogrammatic system of telegraphic symbols. 1888 *Times* 27 June 12/1 In the several long phonogramic communications. 1888 *Standard* 17 Sept. 2/7 All new music worthy of reproduction will be thus phonogramically published.

Phonograph (fōuˈnŏgraf), *sb.* [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice (see PHONO-) + (in sense 1) *-(ό)γραφος* written, (in sense 2) *-γράφος* writing, writer: see -GRAPH.]

†1. A character representing a sound: = PHONOGRAM 1. *Obs. rare.*

1835-40 HINCKS *On Hieroglyphics* (MS. B.M., Egypt. Antiq., 19 *e*), Hieroglyphic characters are either ideographs, that is, representations of ideas, or phonographs, that is, representations of sounds. 1845-57 PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* 19 *Phonograph*, a written letter, or mark, indicating a certain sound, or modification of a sound; as, ' *e*, —*h*. (Later called *phonogram*.)

†2. Another name for the PHONAUTOGRAPH. *Obs.*

b. *Electro-magnetic phonograph*: see quot.

1863 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 16 Oct. 747/1 *Electro-magnetic phonograph.* This machine is capable of being attached to pianofortes, organs, and other keyed musical instruments, by means of which they are rendered melographic, that is, capable of writing down any music..played upon them.

3. (spec. *talking phonograph*.) An instrument, invented by Thomas A. Edison in 1877 (patented 30 July), by which sounds are automatically recorded and reproduced.

The aerial sound-vibrations enter a mouth-piece, and cause vibration in a thin metal diaphragm having attached to it a steel point, which makes tracings (as in the PHONAUTOGRAPH) upon a sheet of soft metal or hard wax fixed upon a revolving cylinder; by means of these tracings the diaphragm, whose vibrations originally produced them, may be caused (by again turning the cylinder) to repeat these vibrations, and thus reproduce (more or less perfectly) the original sounds.

1877 *Sci. Amer.* 17 Nov. 304 Whoever may speak into the mouthpiece of the phonograph. 1877 EDISON *Specif. U. S. Patent* 24 Dec., Improvement in phonograph or speaking machines. 1878 *Examiner* 2 Mar. 283/1 The Phonograph is now in England; all doubts as to the reality of the invention are at an end. The instrument has spoken in our hearing. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 306 The talking phonograph is a natural outcome of the telephone. 1885 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* (1886) 178 The old man's laugh..comes up to us as out of a phonograph.

b. *fig.* Applied to a person or thing that exactly reproduces the utterances of some other.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Apr. 1/2 All those whose humble office it is to act as phonographs of the tittle-tattle which forms the staple of the ordinary conversation of Society. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 29/2, I heard it all in memory's wondrous phonograph.

c. *Comb.*

1891 F. M. WILSON *Primer on Browning* 214 That phonograph-like conservation of force, heredity.

Hence **Pho·nograph** *v. trans.* a. to report in (Pitman's) phonography; b. to record or reproduce by or as by a phonograph.

1857 J. H. GIHON *Geary & Kansas* 219 It is a great loss to the world that their speeches were not phonographed and preserved for future generations. 1883 G. ROGERS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxix. 2-4 Whether it be so or not, they are phonographed in the mind of God.

Phonographer (fŏnǫˈgrăfəɹ). [f. PHONOGRAPHY + -ER 1.]

1. One who writes according to sound, i. e. spells phonetically; a phonetist. *rare*—1.

1851 TRENCH *Study Words* vii. 215 The word 'temps'; from which the phonographers eject the *p* as superfluous.

2. *spec.* One who uses phonography (sense 2); a shorthand writer (in Pitman's system).

1845 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* 49 Phonographers who wish to become reporters, should, from the commencement, cherish reporting habits. 1863 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 99 The ..phonographers that reported its deliberations were sworn to secrecy.

3. 'One who uses or is skilled in the use of the phonograph' (*Cent. Dict.*). *rare.*

Phonographic (fōunogræˈfik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC: see -GRAPHIC.]

1. Representing, or consisting of characters representing, spoken sounds; phonetic.

1847 WEBSTER, *Phonographic, phonographical*, descriptive of the sounds of the voice. 1866 *Reader* No. 164. 177/1 Chinese phonographic devices. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* I. i. 6 Although our own writing has reached the alphabetic stage, yet we still continue to employ a considerable number of phonographic and ideographic signs.

2. Of, pertaining to, or using phonography (Pitman's system of phonetic shorthand).

1840 I. PITMAN *Phonography* 6 The Phonographic signs for the simple articulations. 1842 — *Man. Phonogr.* 5 The pupil should first learn the Phonographic Letters, taking them in the natural order of pronunciation. 1853 — (*title*) Phonographic Reporter's Companion.

3. Of, pertaining to, or produced by a phonograph. Also *fig.*

1878 T. A. EDISON in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 532 They are required to do no more by the phonographic method. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 2/3 The Vienna Academy of Sciences is..going to set up phonographic archives. There are to be three sections of phonograms.

So **Phonogra·phical** *a. rare*—0.

1846 WORCESTER, *Phonographic, Phonographical.*

Phonogra·phically, *adv.* [f. PHONOGRAPHIC: see -ICALLY.] In a phonographic manner.

1. According to or by means of phonography (Pitman's system of shorthand).

1845 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* 42 If we write phonographically, we must, at least, name our letters phonetically.

2. By means of the phonograph. Also *fig.*

1879 *Sat. Mus. Rev.* 6 Sept. 568/2 Mr. Sankey's voice in 'Hold the Fort', phonographically preserved on a sheet of tinfoil. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1446 A volume of his sermons, phonographically reported.

Phonographist (fŏnǫˈgrăfist). [f. next + -IST.] = PHONOGRAPHER 2.

[1847 WEBSTER, *Phonographist*, one who explains the laws of the voice.] 1864 *Ibid.*, *Phonographist*, one who is versed in phonography; a phonographer. 1897 *Daily News* 20 Feb. 10/6 Young lady seeks Engagement as Typist and *Phonographist, Remington or Caligraph. Speed 60 and 100.

Phonography (fŏnǫˈgrăfi). [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice (see PHONO-) + -GRAPHY.]

1. The art or practice of writing according to sound, or so as to represent the actual pronunciation; phonetic spelling. ? *Obs.*

1701 J. JONES (*title*) Practical Phonography: or, the new Art of Rightly Spelling and Writing Words By the Sound thereof, and of Rightly Sounding and Reading Words By the Sight thereof. 1851 TRENCH *Study Words* vii. 215 The same attempt to introduce phonography has been several times made.

2. *spec.* The system of phonetic shorthand invented by Isaac Pitman in 1837: so named by him in 1840; Pitman's shorthand.

1840 I. PITMAN (*title*) Phonography, or writing by sound; being a natural method of writing, applicable to all languages, and a complete system of short hand. 1847 — *Hist. Shorthand* in *Man. Phonography* § 15 (1889) 8 Phonography is not adapted to the wants of the reporter alone, but is ..well suited for letter-writing and general composition.

3. The automatic recording of sounds, as by the PHONAUTOGRAPH, or the recording and reproduction of them by the PHONOGRAPH; the construction and use of phonographs.

1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xxi. 247 Savage..was explaining to Sawyer..a new discovery termed phonography, by which sounds or vibrations of air are to be taken down, as they arise, upon the principle of the photograph. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Phonography*...3. The art of using, or registering by means of, the phonograph; the construction of phonographs.

†4. The scientific description of sound, or of the voice; = PHONOLOGY. *Obs. rare*—0.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Phonolite (fōuˈnŏləit). *Min.* Also -lyte (Dana). [f. PHONO- + -LITE; in F. *phonolithe* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Name for various volcanic rocks which ring when struck; clinkstone.

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Phonolite*, sounding stone; a name proposed as a substitute for *klingstein* (jingling stone). 1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 251 Rolled masses of trachyte, phonolite, basalt, or volcanic cinders. 1868-80 DANA *Min.* 359 *Phonolyte* (or clinkstone), a compact grayish rock, often containing crystals of glassy feldspar, and having a zeolite in the base along with orthoclase.

Hence **Phonolitic** (fōunoliˈtik) *a.*, pertaining to or consisting of phonolite.

1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 99 The phonolitic ejections of the Peak of Teneriffe. 1875 A. SMITH *New Hist. Aberdeen.* I. 644 Clinkstone or phonolitic felspar.

Phonology (fŏnǫˈlŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *φωνή* voice (see PHONO-) + -LOGY. So F. *phonologie* (Littré).] The science of vocal sounds (= PHONETICS), esp. of the sounds of a particular language; the study of pronunciation; *transf.* the system of sounds in a language.

1799 E. FRY *Pantographia* (title-p.), Specimens of all well-authenticated oral languages; forming a comprehensive digest of phonology. 1828 in WEBSTER. 1845 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* IV. 168 Observations on General Phonology and alphabetical notation. 1862 MARSH *Eng. Lang.* 64 In our enquiries into extinct phonologies we have no such guide. 1879 *Addr. Philol. Soc.* 1 Contributions to Old English Phonology and Etymology.

Hence **Phono·loger** (*rare*—0) = *phonologist*; **Phonolo·gic, Phonolo·gical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining or relating to phonology, phonetic; **Phonolo·gically** *adv.*, in respect of phonology, phonetically; **Phono·logist**, one learned in phonology, a phonetist.

1864 WEBSTER, **Phonologer*, one versed in phonology; a phonologist. 1846 WORCESTER, **Phonologic*. 1875 A. J. ELLIS *E. E. Pronunc.* xi. 1336 Indian Phonologic Alphabet. 1828 WEBSTER, **Phonological*, pertaining to phonology. 1880 E. L. BRANDRETH in *Academy* 19 June 459/2 The Prakrits..are separated from Sanskrit by very important phonological and other changes. 1888 *Athenæum* 26 May 657/3 Modern Kentish ..is strikingly different *phonologically from the language of the same district as written in the fourteenth century. 1846 WORCESTER, **Phonologist*. 1880 R. G. WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 137 Alexander Ellis, whose preeminence as a phonologist is questioned by no one.

Phonometer (fŏnǫˈmĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *φωνή* sound (see PHONO-) + *μέτρον* measure. Cf. F. *phonomètre* (Dict. Acad. 1878).] An instrument for measuring or automatically recording the number or force of sound-waves.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 20 We should not be surprised to see this uncertainty brought, in time, under mathematical controul, by the invention of a musical Phonometer, to indicate the precise strength of sound. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) V. 268 [Mentioned..among the inventions of Edison]. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 6 June, The Ministry are the most perfect phonometer in the world. Their decisions faithfully record the comparative strength of the noise that can be made by either of two conflicting sections.

So **Phonometric** (fōunomeˈtrik) *a.*, pertaining to a phonometer, or to the measurement of sound.

Phonophore (fōuˈnŏfoəɹ). *Physiol.* [f. PHONO- + -PHORE.] Name for the small bones of the ear, or auditory ossicles, as transmitting the vibrations of sound to the labyrinth or internal ear.

1882 COUES in *Amer. Jrnl. Otology* IV. 19.

So **Phonophorous** (fŏnǫˈfōrəs) *a.*, transmitting sound-vibrations, as the auditory ossicles.

Phonopore (fōuˈnŏpoəɹ). [f. PHONO- + Gr. *πόρος* passage.] Name of an apparatus by means of which electrical impulses produced by induction, as in a telephone, may be used to transmit messages along a telegraph wire, without interfering with the current by which ordinary messages are simultaneously transmitted.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 27 May 3/1 The phonopore, the principle of which consists in employing the electrical 'induction noises' as motive power to work telegraph instruments, or transmit the voice, or do both at once, is far more remarkable. 1891 C. LANGDON-DAVIES *Explan. Phonopore* 14, I..called the cable coil instrument a Phonopore (or sound passage). 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Apr. 7/2 By means of the phonopore,..the carrying capacity of the existing telegraph wires can be..increased tenfold.

Hence **Phonoporic** (-pǫˈrik) *a.*, of or pertaining to the phonopore.

1886 *Manch. Exam.* 31 May 5/5 So completely is the phonoporic current under control. 1889 *Times* (weekly ed.) 29 Mar. 5/2 Phonoporic messages can be transmitted and received through an ordinary line wire by the phonopore [*printed* -phoric, -phore]. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Apr. 7/2 The phonoporic system is as applicable to telephony as it is to telegraphy. By its means a phonopore telephone service may be established on any existing telegraph wire on which ordinary telegraph instruments are already at work, without the two systems in any way interfering with one another.

Phonoscope (fōuˈnŏskoup). [f. PHONO- + -SCOPE.]

1. An apparatus for testing the quality of musical strings, shown by M. Koenig at the International Exhibition, in 1862.

2. Name for various instruments or devices by means of which sound-vibrations are indicated or represented in a visible form.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Phonoscope*, an instrument invented by Henry Edmunds for producing figures of light from vibrations of sound. It consists essentially of three parts, an induction coil, an interrupter, and a rotary vacuum tube. 1888 *Amer. Ann. Deaf* Jan. 84 *Forchhammer's Phonoscope.* Mr. E. Walther..says that it solves the problem of the optical representation of the pitch of the voice in the simplest and clearest manner. The instrument is of service in correcting the unnatural pitch of the voice in which some pupils speak. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Phonoscope*, a machine for recording music as it is played or sung.

3. = MICROPHONE.

Phonotype (fō·nŏtəip), *sb.* [f. PHONO- + TYPE.] A character or letter of a phonetic alphabet adapted for printing; (without *a* or *pl.*), phonetic print or type. Hence **Pho·notype** *v. trans.* to print in phonotype; **Phonotyper** = *phonotypist*; **Phonotypic** (-tĭ·pik), **-ical** *adjs.*, pertaining or relating to phonotype or phonotypy (whence **Phonoty·pically** *adv.*); **Pho·notypist** (-təipist), an advocate or user of phonotype; **Pho·notypy** (-təipi), a method or system of phonetic printing.

1844 *Phonotypic Jrnl.* III. 2 Aspirate *h*, as in *heap*; *Phonotype—H. 1845 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* 19 *Phonotype*, a printed letter, or sign, indicative of a particular sound, or modification of sound. 1848 A. J. ELLIS *Esenf. Fonetics* 241 Pica phonotypes. 1881 *Kansas Hist. Coll.* II. 162 Phonotype was with him both a theory and a practice. 1850 *Fonetic Jrnl.* 133/2 The only way to preserve the language from further arbitrary changes is to *phonotype it. 1845 A. J. ELLIS *Plea Phonot.* 28 The *phonotyper ..having acquired a habit of reading phonotypy..will soon be able to read heterotypy with ease. 1843 (*title*) The *Phonotypic Journal. 1858 *N. Y. Tribune* 2 July 3/2 Many of those who are interested in the Phonotypic 'movement' advocate the entire abandonment of the old orthography. 1845 A. J. ELLIS *Plea Phonot.* 5 The *phonotypical representation of the sounds. 1875 — *E. E. Pronunc.* 1182 *note*, Phonetic Essays which I published in [the Phonotypic] Journal .. 1846 (all printed *phonotypically). 1850 *Fonetic Jrnl.* 74/1 The Spelling Reform which Phonographers and *Phonotypists are endeavouring to effect, would confer incalculable benefits on society. 1844 ELLIS in *Phonotypic Jrnl.*, A Key to *Phonotypy or printing by sound. 1880 *Academy* 9 Oct. 255 It is printed in semi-phonotypy—in a system of spelling intended to bridge over the transition.

Phoo (fū, fu), *int.* [Another form of PHEW, PHO.] A vocal gesture expressing contemptuous rejection.

1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* IV. i. (Arb.) 105 Phoo! that is to raise the character of Drawcansir. — *Chances* v. iv. (1682) 61 Phoo! y' are always abusing me. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 20 Phoo! reply'd a Friend of the Transprosers.

Phooka, the same as POOKA.

‖ **Phoolwa**, variant spelling of FULWA.

c 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 95/1 Similar fats are obtained from the seeds of *Bassia latifolia*,..and *Bassia butyracea*, ..the latter [is named] *Phoolwa*, or *vegetable butter.*

Phoonghie, -gyee, etc.: see POONGHIE.

-phore (fōəɹ), in F. *-phore*, mod.L. *-phorus*, *-phorum*, a. Gr. *-φόρος*, *-ον* bearing, bearer, f. *φέρ-ειν* to bear. A formative of various technical and scientific words, as *carpophore*, *semaphore*, *gonophore*, *phonophore*. Hence -PHOROUS, q. v.

‖ **Phorminx** (fǫ·ɹmiŋks). [mod.L., a. Gr. *φόρμιγξ*.] A stringed instrument of the harp class; a kind of cithara or lyre used by the ancient Greeks as an accompaniment to the voice.

1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* I. 344 The cithara may in ancient times have been thought inferior to the *phorminx*, as the modern guitar is esteemed at present a trivial and effeminate instrument, when compared with the double harp. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 979 We beat the phorminx till we hurt our thumbs.

‖ **Phormium** (fō·ɹmiŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *φορμίον* a species of plant.] A genus of liliaceous plants (suborder *Hemerocalleæ*), comprising a single variable species, *P. tenax*, the New Zealand flax; see FLAX *sb.* 2 b.

1852 DE BOW *South. & West. States* I. 84 The phormium would doubtless succeed in the rich bottoms of the Mississippi Valley.

Phorone (forōu·n). *Chem.* [Shortened (by Gerhardt) from CAMPHORONE.] †a. A substance, $C_9H_{14}O$, obtained by distilling calcium camphorate; now called *camphor-phorone*; b. An isomer of this substance, *diisopropylidene acetone*, a colourless oil with aromatic odour.

1859 FOWNES *Man. Chem.* 527 *Phorone* contains $C_{18}H_{14}O_2$. 1863–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 733 *Camphorone*, Phorone (Gerhardt) .. $C_9H_{14}O$ .. a colourless or yellowish oil, very mobile, lighter than water.

Hence **Phoro·nic** *acid*, $C_{11}H_{18}O_5$, a crystallizable acid obtained from camphic acid.

1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1574.

• **Phoronomy** (forǫ·nŏmi). *Physics.* [ad. mod.L. *phoronomia* (Hermann 1716) = Ger., F. *phoronomie*, f. Gr. *φορά* motion (f. *φέρ-ειν* to bear, carry) + *-nomia*: cf. *astronomia* ASTRONOMY.] The purely geometrical theory of motion; the branch of mechanics that treats of the motion of bodies considered absolutely; kinematics.

[1716 HERMANN (*title*) *Phoronomia*, seu de Viribus et Motibus Corporum solidorum et liquidorum.] 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xii. 489 Matter quantitatively defined, is the moveable in space. In this point of view it is the object of a science we may call 'Phoronomy'. 1892 *Nature* 24 Mar. 486/2 The letter of Dr. Besant..suggests strong reasons for employing the word phoronomy in the place of kinematics.

Hence **Phorono·mic** *a.*, of or belonging to phoronomy, kinematic; **Phorono·mics** *sb.* = *phoronomy*; **Phorono·mically** *adv.*, in respect of or in relation to phoronomy; kinematically.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* etc., *Phoronomia* or *Phoronomics*, a term sometimes used to denote the science of motion. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 946/2 Phoronomic. 1893 MCCORMACK tr. *Mach's Sc. Mechanics* 166 Phoronomically similar structures.

Phoroscope (fǫ·rŏskoup). [f. Gr. *φορό-s* adj. bearing + *σκόπος* view, sight.] An instrument for reproducing a visual image at a distance by means of electricity. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

-phorous (fŏrəs), combining element, f. mod.L. *-phor-us*, Gr. *-φόρ-os*, F. *-phore* + -OUS, forming adjs. related to sbs. in -PHORE, with the sense '-bearing'; synonymous with -FEROUS, but properly used only in words derived from Gr., e. g. *carpophorous*, *cladophorous*, *oophorous*, *phonophorous*, *phragmophorous*, etc.

Phorozo·oid. *Zool.* [f. Gr. *φορό-s* bearing + ZOOID.] One of the 'foster forms' in the sexual generation of Ascidians of the order *Thaliacea.*

1888 HERDMAN in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 615/2 Foster forms (phorozooids), which .. do not become sexually mature, but ..are set free as cask-shaped bodies with eight muscle bands and a ventral outgrowth..formed of the stalk by which the body was formerly united to the nurse.

†**Phos-.** *Chem. Obs.* [a. Gr. *φῶς* light.] Used by Sir H. Davy, to form names of chemical compounds, into which he considered light to enter as an element. Such were **phosa·cid**, **phosmu·riate**, **phosmuria·tic** *a.*, **phosni·tric** *a.*, **phoso·xyd**, **phoso·xydable** *a.*, **phoso·xydate** *v.*, **phoso·xygen**, **phoso·xygenate** *v.*, etc.: see the quots.

1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 89 All the combinations of phosoxygen that have acid properties are denoted by the names of phosacids. *Ibid.* 90 The different quantities of phosoxygen entering into the composition of the phosoxyds and phosacids. *Ibid.* 96 It is evident..that phosnitric acid is a compound of light, oxygen and nitrogen. *Ibid.* 108 Phosmuriate of Potash is compounded of phosmuriatic acid and potash. *Ibid.* 71 The phosoxydable base remains pure. *Ibid.* 116 Gold becomes phosoxydated by attracting light and oxygen from the muriatic phosacid. *Ibid.* 109 Muriatic acid is never phosoxygenated. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 314/2 'Phosoxygen' (such was the name he [Davy] put upon the ordinary oxygen of the atmosphere).

Phos, phoss, also **phos.**, **foss**, slang or colloq. abbreviation of PHOSPHORUS: now esp. applied to phosphorus necrosis: see PHOSSY.

1811 *Lex Balatr.*, *Phos bottle*, a bottle of phosphorus: used by housebreakers to light their lanthorns. *Ding the phos*; throw away the bottle of phosphorus. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Foss* or *phos*, a phosphorus bottle used by cracksmen to obtain a light. 1892 *Star* 18 Jan. 2/5 The manager denied she had 'got the phos.' and refused any money.

Phosgene (fǫ·sdʒin). *Chem.* Also **-gen** (-dʒen). [f. Gr. *φῶς* light + *-gene*, -GEN (in *hydrogen*(*e*, etc.). In F. *phosgène.*] A name for the gas carbon oxychloride, $COCl_2$, originally obtained by exposing equal volumes of chlorine and carbonic oxide to the sun's rays. Also called *phosgene gas.*

1812 J. DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* 6 Feb. 151 It will be necessary to designate it by some simple name. I venture to propose that of phosgene, or phosgene gas; from *φως*, light, and *γινομαι*, to produce, which signifies formed by light. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 362 Being produced by the agency of light, it was called by Dr. [John] Davy phosgene gas, but as it exhibits distinctly acid properties, it has since been better termed *chloro-carbonic acid.* 1898 G. MCGOWAN tr. *Meyer's Hist. Chem.* 425 Carbon oxychloride or phosgene..was first prepared by Davy in 1811.

Phosgenite (fǫ·sdʒinəit). *Min.* [Named 1820; f. prec. + -ITE 1.] A mineral consisting of nearly equal parts of carbonate and chloride of lead, occurring in tetragonal crystals.

1849 NICOL *Min.* 379 Phosgenite, Breithaupt; Corneous lead, Jameson. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 703 Phosgenite.. Dissolves with effervescence in nitric acid. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*, *Phosgenite*, chloro-carbonate of lead, occurring in brilliant, white or yellow crystals.

Phosmuriate to Phosoxygen: see PHOS-.

Phosph- = PHOSPHO-, combining form of PHOSPHORUS in Chem.; hence *phospham*, *-ate*, *-ide*, *-ine*, *-ite*, *-onium*, *-ure*, *-uret*, *-yl*, etc.

Phospham (fǫ·sfæm). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH- + AM(MONIA).] The nitril of phosphoric acid (PHN_2); a white, reddish, or yellowish-red powder.

1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 497 Phospham .. is a bulky powder, white if moisture has been carefully excluded during its preparation, reddish in the contrary case.

Phosphate (fǫ·sfēt). *Chem.* Also 8–9 **phosphat.** [a. F. *phosphate* (G. de Morveau *Nomencl. Ch.* 1787), f. PHOSPH- + -ATE 4.] A salt of phosphoric acid.

1795 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 335 The siderite of Bergman; which is now believed to be phosphate of iron. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 280 The phosphat of mercury has long been known as a chemical preparation. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 590 Phosphate of lime derives importance from its being the principal ingredient of animal bones, of which it constitutes about 86 per cent. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 219 Calcium phosphate, or bone phosphate.

b. In *pl.* applied esp. to the phosphates of lime or iron and alumina, as constituents of cereals, etc.

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 32 One great source of the value of guano,..and many artificial manures, is the phosphates they supply to the soil. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 37 Soils derived from rocks devoid of phosphates cannot produce cereals. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phosphates*, *saccharated wheat*,..the organic phosphates and cerealin dissolved out of bran, and mixed with milk-sugar.

Phosphated (fǫ·sfētèd), *a. Min.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Converted into a phosphate; combined with or containing phosphoric acid.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 551 Sulphat and sulphite...I should propose to render these terms into the adjectives sulphated and sulphitous; [so] phosphat and phosphite will form phosphated and phosphitous. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1888 *Nature* 20 Dec. 192/1 On the phosphated deposits of Montay and Forest. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phosphated*,.. applied in Mineralogy to a base that has become converted into a phosphate by combining with phosphoric acid.

Phosphatic (fǫsfæ·tik), *a.* [f. PHOSPHATE (or mod.L. *phōsphāt-um*) + -IC.]

1. Of the nature of, characterized by the presence of, or containing a phosphate.

P. diathesis, a bodily condition predisposing to the excretion of phosphates in the urine; cf. PHOSPHATURIA. *P. nodules*, hard rounded lumps containing phosphate of lime, of fossil origin, found in certain strata, now used as manure.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* iv. 50 Certain derangements of the urinary functions, such as the phosphatic and lithic diatheses. 1847–9 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 83/2 The tonsils are not unfrequently the seat of phosphatic deposit. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* x. (1878) 287 The presence of phosphatic nodules..in some of the lowest azoic rocks, probably indicates life at these periods. 1866 *Reader* 7 July 635 The dark phosphatic nodules are usually named coprolites.

†2. *Phosphatic acid*, 'a name applied to the syrupy mixture of phosphoric and phosphorous acids, produced by the slow combustion of phosphorus in moist air', formerly supposed to be a distinct acid; also called *hypophosphoric acid. Obs.*

1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 370 The acid thus obtained is a mixture of phosphorous and phosphoric acids, &c. Dulong..believes it to be a distinct compound, for which he has proposed the name of phosphatic acid. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 489. 1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 499.

Phosphatize (fǫ·sfătəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To reduce to the form or condition of a phosphate; to treat with phosphates.

1883 *Nature* XXVIII. 433/2 The majority of the Jurassic fossils are not phosphatised at all. 1884 *Science* 76 May 587/1 These fossils are phosphatized more or less completely.

Hence **Phosphatiza·tion**, the action of phosphatizing; the fact or condition of being phosphatized.

1883 *Nature* XXVIII. 433/2 That the phosphatisation of the Upware coprolites was effected at some distance from their present billet.

‖ **Phosphaturia** (fǫsfătiū·riă). *Path.* [f. PHOSPHATE (or mod.L. *phōsphāt-um*) + *-ūria*, f. Gr. *οὖρον* urine.] A morbid state evidenced by the excess of phosphates in the urine. Hence **Phosphatu·ric** *a.*

1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 92 Hydrochloric acid may be used in phosphaturia. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 254 Much the same symptoms as the polyuric and phosphaturic classes. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 378 A phosphatic sediment does not imply phosphaturia.

Phosphene (fǫ·sfīn). [mod. (F. *phosphène*) irreg. f. Gr. *φῶς* light + *φαίν-ειν* to make to appear.] An appearance of rings of light produced by pressure on the eyeball, due to irritation of the retina.

1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* ix. 222 Pressure on any part of the retina produces a luminous image, which lasts as long as the pressure, and is called a phosphene. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* I. iv. 67 Press the finger into the internal corner of the eye: you perceive a brilliant colored spectrum in the field of view on the opposite or external side,..[having] a deep-steel-blue center, with a brilliant yellow border...These colored spectra have been called phosphenes.

Phospher, obs. form of PHOSPHOR.

Phosphethyl (fǫ·sfe·pil). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH- + ETHYL.] A compound of phosphorus and ethyl. Hence **Phosphethy·lic** *a.*

1859 *Fownes' Man. Chem.* 387 Phosphethyl.—The compounds of ethyl and phosphorus. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 147 On decomposing this salt cautiously by the addition of sulphuric acid, the phosphethylic acid is liberated. 1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 589 Ethylphosphoric Acid, also called *Phosphethylic* or *Phosphovinic acid*, $C_2H_7PO_4$.

Phosphide (fǫ·sfəid). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH- + -IDE.] A combination of phosphorus with another element or a radical. (Earlier name *phosphuret.*)

1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 65 *Phosphides.*—Compounds of phosphorus with the other elements are very numerous. *c* 1865 WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 371/2 It may be.. prepared from the phosphide of calcium. 1881 *Metal World* No. 12. 186 The phosphide of iron only begins to be decomposed after all silicon and carbon is gone.

Phosphine (fǫ·sfoin). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH- + -INE 5, used to form a term analogous to AMINE.]

1. A name for phosphuretted hydrogen gas, PH_3 (as an analogue of ammonia, NH_3).

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed 11) 225 Phosphine is analogous in some of its chemical relations to ammoniacal gas.

2. A phosphorus ammonia; a compound having the structure of an *amine*, with phosphorus in place of nitrogen: e.g. *monoethyl phosphine*, $C_2H_5{\cdot}P{\cdot}H_2$, *diethyl phosphine* $(C_2H_5)_2{\cdot}P{\cdot}H$, *triethyl phosphine* $(C_2H_5)_3{\cdot}P$, etc.

1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxi. 340 The following table shows the similarity between amines and phosphines. *Ibid.*, Phosphine iodide, $PC_2H_5H_3I$. 1898 G. MCGOWAN tr. *Meyer's Hist. Chem.* 469 The phosphines and phosphonium bases first became known through the classical and comprehensive researches of A. W. Hofmann.

Hence **Phosphi·nic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or derived from phosphine; in *phosphinic acid*, any one of various acids formed from the primary and secondary phosphines by fixation of 3 and 2 atoms of oxygen respectively.

1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 956 *Phosphinic acids.* 1881 *Ibid.* VIII. II. 1581 The phosphinic acids of the fatty series have already been described.

Phosphite (fɒ·sfəit). *Chem.* [a. F. *phosphite* (G. de Morveau *Nomencl. Ch.* 1787), f. PHOSPH- + -ITE [1].] A salt of phosphorous acid.

1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict., Phosphites*,..salts formed by the combination of the phosphorous acid with different bases; thus, *aluminous phosphite, ammoniacal phosphite*, &c. 1808 SIR H. DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 88 In one case sulphurets, and sulphites, and in the other phosphurets, and phosphites of potash, are generated. 1868 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (ed. 5) 203 The phosphites differ considerably in their characters from phosphates. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 133 Phosphorous acid, or hydric phosphite, H_3PO_3.

Phospho- (fɒ·sfo), before a vowel PHOSPH-, combining form, shortened from PHOSPHORUS.

Phosphocha·lcite *Min.*, = PHOSPHOROCHALCITE; **Phosphogly·cerate**, a salt of phosphoglyceric acid = *glycerophosphate*; **Phosphoglyce·ric** *acid* = *glycerophosphoric acid* (see GLYCERO-); **Phospholite**, synonym of **Phosphomoly·bdate**, a salt of phosphomolybdic acid; **Phosphomoly·bdic** *acid*, or *permolybdic phosphate* ($2P_2O_5{\cdot}48MoO_3{\cdot}6H_2O$), a lemon-yellow salt produced by the action of molybdic trioxide on phosphoric acid; **Phosphotu·ngstic** *acid*, an acid of the form $P_2O_5{\cdot}xWO_3{\cdot}yH_2O$; †**Phosphovi·nic** *acid*, old synonym of *ethylphosphoric acid*, $(C_2H_5)H_2PO_4$, a colourless, inodorous, viscid oil, with a biting sour taste, produced by the action of phosphoric acid on alcohol or ether. **Phospho-wolfra·mic** *a.* = *phosphotungstic.*

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 7/2 Aged patients..dosed with glycerophosphate of sodium and *phosphoglycerate of lime and other chemical combinations. 1857 W. A. MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 378 *Phosphoglyceric acid exists ready formed in the yolk of the egg. 1856 *Ibid.* II. 783 The *Phosphomolybdate of Soda is an extremely delicate test for the presence of salt of ammonium in solution. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 207 A mixture of sulphuric and nitric acids with *phosphomolybdic acid. 1884 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 584/3 With regard to strychnine..*phosphotungstic acid will give a distinct precipitate with one-two-hundred-thousandth of a grain. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 369 Kreatinin is a base which forms highly characteristic compounds with acids, such as phosphotungstic and phosphomolybdic. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 186 Phosphovinate of barytes was the salt which M. Pelouze chiefly studied, and by means of which, he determined the composition of *phosphovinic acid. 1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 589 Ethylphosphoric Acid, also called *Phosphethylic* or *Phosphovinic acid.* 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 276 By precipitation of its hydrochloric acid solution with *phosphowolframic acid.

Phosphonium (fɒsfō·niŭm). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH(ORUS + ending of AMMONIUM.] A combination of hydrogen and phosphorus, PH_4, analogous to ammonium, entering as a monovalent radical into many compounds, as *phosphonium iodide*, PH_4I; also applied to compounds in which the hydrogen is replaced by organic radicals, as *tetramethylphosphonium*, $P(CH_3)_4$, *tetrethylphosphonium*, $P(C_2H_5)_4$, *methyltriethylphosphonium*, $P(CH_3)(C_2H_5)_3$, etc.

1866–77 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 607 Monophosphoniums, of the type R_4PI, analogous to iodide of tetrethylammonium. *Ibid.* 615 (*heading*) Ethylphosphoniums. *Ibid.* 620 Diphosphoniums. 1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xxxi. 339 Obtained..by acting upon phosphonium iodide, PH_4I, with ethyl iodide in presence of zinc oxide.

Hence **Phospho·nic** *a.* [cf. *sulphonic*], in *phosphonic acid*, any one of several compounds derived from phosphoric acid by the replacement of hydroxyl (OH) by a hydrocarbon group: e.g. *benzene phosphonic acid*, $C_6H_5{\cdot}P(OH)_2O$. Sometimes called *phosphinic*, or *phosphenilic* acid.

Phosphor (fɒ·sfɔ), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 7 **-pher**, **-fer**, 8 **-phore**. [ad. L. *phōsphor-us* PHOSPHORUS. Cf. F. *phosphore* (1680 in Hatz.-Darm.), Ger. *phosphor.*]

1. (With capital P.) The morning star; the planet Venus when appearing before sunrise; Lucifer. Also *fig.* Now only *poet.*

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. 763 They saw this Phosphors infant-light, and knew It bravely usher'd in a Sun as New. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 178/2 *Plato's Epigram on Aster*, A Phospher 'mongst the Living, late wert thou, But Shin'st among the Dead a Hesper now.

1734 WATTS *Relig. Jwv.* (1789) 257 Still Phosphor glitters, and still Syrius burns. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxxi, Bright Phosphor, fresher for the night. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* I. x. 309 That which men have seen in early skies, Ere Phosphor in the abyss of perfect purple dies.

†**2.** Anything that phosphoresces, or emits light without sensible heat: = PHOSPHORUS 2. *Obs.*

1705 HAUKSBEE in *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 2131 Shewing that it requires not so thin a Medium, as..in the Torricillian Experiment, to produce the Mercurial Phosphore. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 288 No Light was there but what the Phosphors raise. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* 152 Her eyes in torture fix'd, and anguish drear, .. Flashed phosphor and sharp sparks.

3. = PHOSPHORUS (sense 3); esp. in *phosphor-bronze, -copper, -tin, -zinc*, alloys of phosphorus with the metals named: see BRONZE, etc.

†**B.** as *adj.* Light-bearing, light-giving; phosphorescent. *Obs.* (Also *hyphened.*)

1804 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Conversations*, etc. I. 127 Steady and clear thy phosphor brilliance burns. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 185 Some gleams of phosphor-light it shews. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Como* 21 And now appear as on a phosphor-sea Numberless barks.

†**Pho·sphorami·de.** *Chem. Obs.* = PHOSPHAMIDE.

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 17 If we replace them by amidogen we obtain phosphoramide.

†**Phosphora·na.** *Chem. Obs.* Term applied by Davy to a combination of one part of phosphorus with two of chlorine (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*). So †**Phosphorane**, a compound of one part of phosphorus with one of chlorine.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 111 Phosphorus burnt in chlorine in excess, forms a white volatile substance, which I have named *phosphorana.* 1815 W. HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. xv. 14 Both these compounds were discovered by Sir H. Davy, who has termed the latter *phosphorane* and the former *phosphorana.*

†**Pho·sphorate,** *sb. Chem. Obs.* = PHOSPHATE.

c 1865 in *Circ. Sc.* I. 334/2 We find in this liquid..phosphorates..of the alkalies.

Phosphorate (fɒ·sfŏreit), *v. Chem.* [f. PHOSPHOR-US + -ATE [3].] Orig. and chiefly in *ppl. a.* **Pho·sphorated** (= F. *phosphoré*).

1. *trans.* To combine or impregnate with phosphorus.

1789 WALKER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 210 The frigorific mixture..composed of phosphorated natron and nitrated ammonia dissolved in the diluted nitrous acid. 1791 PEARSON *ibid.* LXXXI. 334 The liquid..seemed to contain a little phosphorated lime. 1836 SMART, *Phosphorate* v. 1838 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phosphorated*,..having or imbued with phosphorus. 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. To render phosphorescent.

1827 *Perils & Captivity* (Constable's Misc.) 59 Aware that the sea is sometimes phosphorated.

Phosphoreal (fɒsfō·riăl), *a.* Also 9 (less correctly) **-ial.** [f. (doubtful) L. *phōsphore-us* (f. *phōsphor-us*) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to phosphorus; resembling that of phosphorus. Also *fig.*

1745 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 479 The kindling the phosphoreal Fire in them. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. xlix. 331 Its smell is strongly phosphoreal or sulphureous. 1816 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 329 Phosphorial lustre beaming from their hair. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xix, Delphica's phosphorial enthusiasm for our galaxy of British Poets.

Phosphorent (fɒsfŏrĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. PHOSPHOR-US + -ENT.] = PHOSPHORESCENT *a.*

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 25 Where, shining as brightly as phosphorent ling, The forefinger flashes the Fisherman's ring.

Phospho·reous, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Of the nature of phosphorus; resembling that of phosphorus; phosphorescent.

1777 PENNANT *Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 26 The Mollusca..by their phosphoreous quality illuminate the dark abyss, reflecting lights to the heavens. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 187 Their phosphoreous effulgence..drew our admiration.

Phosphoresce (fɒsfŏre·s), *v.* [f. PHOSPHOR-US + L. *-ēscĕre*, formative of inceptive vbs.; perh. inferred from *phosphorescent*, found earlier.] *intr.* To emit luminosity without combustion (or by gentle combustion without sensible heat); to exhibit phosphorescence; to shine in the dark.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. App. 546 Fluats.. when heated, phosphoresce. 1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 76 When the *Pelagia* phosphoresces, it seems like a great globe of fire in the water. 1879 DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 58 When powdered and thrown on a shovel heated nearly to redness, it phosphoresces brightly.

fig. 1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXVIII. 182 Luminous trains of idea which kindle and phosphoresce along its track. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. vii. I. 618 Mines of native Darkness and Human Stupidity, capable of being made to phosphoresce and effervesce.

Hence **Phosphore·scing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 79 It has not the phosphorescing quality. 1895 *Times* 21 Jan. 15/1 Able to dissipate..luminosity of a phosphorescing body.

Phosphorescence (fɒsfŏre·sĕns). [f. next: see -ENCE. Cf. F. *phosphorescence* (in Buffon, *a* 1788; *Dict. Acad.* 1835).] The condition or quality of being phosphorescent; the action of phosphorescing or shining in the dark without combustion or sensible heat.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 27 [Internal characters of earths and stones:] Phosphorescence. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* x. 125 All the meteors left luminous traces,..the phosphorescence of which lasted seven or eight seconds. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 627 When two pieces of sugar are rubbed against each other in the dark, a strong phosphorescence is visible. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* 303 A large proportion of the lower classes of aquatic animals possess the property of luminosity...The phosphorescence of the sea...is due to this cause. 1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 192 This power of shining in the dark after having been exposed to light is termed phosphorescence.

Phosphorescent (fɒsfŏre·sĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PHOSPHOR-US: see -ESCENT. So in Fr. (*Dict. Acad.* 1835).] Having the property of shining in the dark; luminous without combustion or without sensible heat; self-luminous.

1766 DA COSTA in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 39 It detonates with small phosphorescent sparks. 1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 313 Fluor-spar, when heated, becomes phosphorescent, or occasionally exhibits this property after having been exposed to the sun's rays. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvi. (1859) 421 The sea in our neighbourhood was strongly phosphorescent. 1881 SPOTTISWOODE in *Nature* 13 Oct. 571/1 Certain parts of the interior surface of the tube become luminous with phosphorescent light.

fig. 1855 I. TAYLOR *Restor. Belief* 19 A man sits surrounded with the books of all ages; among these he has passed the best years of his life..the books are phosphorescent in the view of their possessor. 1859 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* I. 194 Dim, phosphorescent, frightful superstitions.

B. *sb.* A phosphorescent substance.

1863 ATKINSON tr. *Ganot's Physics* VII. vii. 465 The best phosphorescents are .. diamonds .. fluorspar [etc.]. 1889 *Philos. Mag.* Ser. v. XXVIII. 428 All of them fusible at the temperatures at which the phosphorescents are prepared.

Hence **Phosphore·scently** *adv.*

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, The buttons sparkled phosphorescently in the feeble rays. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 308/2 Content with such political and judicial lights as gleam, as it were phosphorescently, from the decayed and rotten *caput mortuum* of eight centuries ago.

Phosphoret, -etted *Chem.*, obs. var. PHOSPHURET, -ETTED.

Phosphoretic (fɒsfŏre·tik), *a. rare.* [f. PHOSPHORET or mod.L. *phosphorēt-um* + -IC.]

†**1.** = PHOSPHORESCENT *a. Obs.*

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxi. 395 Oyster-shells possessed the phosphoretic quality. *Ibid.* 396 A phosphoretic appearance, produced by putrefied materials from fish and vegetables.

2. Of the nature of a phosphuret; combined with phosphorus.

1883 *Daily News* 19 Sept. 3/2 Adapting the phosphoretic Cleveland ores to the making of steel.

Phosphorgummite (fɒsfŏrgʊ·məit). *Min.* [Named 1859, f. Ger. *phosphor* phosphorus + *gummit* GUMMITE.] A gummite or hydrate of uranium containing phosphorus.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) Index, *Phosphorgummite*, 179. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min., Phosphorgummite.*

Phosphorial: see PHOSPHOREAL.

Phosphoric (fɒsfɒ·rik), *a.* [ad. F. *phosphorique*: see PHOSPHOR and -IC.]

1. Pertaining to or of the nature of a phosphorus (sense 2); phosphorescent. [F. *phosphorique* 1765.]

1784 MORGAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 209 Phosphoric bodies are very different..a shell may be made to lose all its light by exposure to heat. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 120 Those phosphoric meteors that glimmer by night in places of interment. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 292 They [violet snails] are vividly phosphoric in the night. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lvii, A phosphoric light glittered in her Hellenic eyes.

fig. 1830 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 56 A thousand phosphoric sparks of poetry leaping about in my mind. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr.* ii. (1857) 27 The phosphoric light of genius. 1900 *Pilot* 16 June 497/1 That phosphoric brilliance of decay which brightened the court of the second Charles.

2. *Chem.* Of or pertaining to the element phosphorus; *spec.* applied to compounds in which phosphorus has its higher valency (pentavalent), as opp. to PHOSPHOROUS; esp. in *phosphoric acid* = trihydrogen phosphate, $H_3PO_4 = P(OH)_3O$, a colourless, inodorous, intensely bitter acid [F. *acide phosphorique, Nomencl. Chimique*, 1787].

Phosphoric anhydride = phosphorus pentoxide, P_2O_5, a white amorphous powder. *Phosphoric chloride* = phosphorus pentachloride, PCl_5, a yellowish solid substance. *Phosphoric glass*: see quot. 1807.

1791 TENNANT in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 182 When phosphoric acid is combined with calcareous earth, it cannot be decomposed by distillation with charcoal. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 65 Nitrous gas almost always detects some hundredth parts of oxygen contained in the residuum of the phosphoric eudiometer. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 181 At a red heat it assumes the form of a transparent liquid, and when cooled resembles the purest crystal. In this state it is known by the name of phosphoric glass. This glass is merely phosphoric acid totally deprived of water. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 64 Phosphoric anhydride may be readily obtained by burning phosphorus in dry air or oxygen. 1881 LOCKYER in *Nature* 25 Aug. 397 Complex groups..like phosphoric chloride.

†**Phospho·rical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Light-bearing.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Column, Phosphorical column*, a light-house; or a hollow column, built on a rock, ..or other eminence, to serve as a lantern to a port.

Phosphoriferous (fɒsfŏri·fĕrəs), *a. rare.* [f. PHOSPHOR-US + -(I)FEROUS.] Yielding or containing phosphorus.

1881 *Metal Worker* No. 12. 186 After the removal of the phosphoriferous cinder, spiegeleisen was..added, in order to reduce any oxide of iron..dissolved in the fluid metal.

Phosphorism (fɒ·sfŏriz'm). [a. F. *phosphorisme* (Buffon, *a* 1788): see -ISM.]

†**1.** = PHOSPHORESCENCE. *Obs.*

1790 *Monthly Rev.* III. 547 (Mem. Phil. Soc., Lausanne) On the Phosphorism of Fossil Substances, excited by Friction. 1792 in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 28 From this time I find nothing relative to the phosphorism of bodies, till the beginning of the sixteenth century.

2. *Path.* A diseased state of the system caused by phosphorus; chronic phosphorus poisoning.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 921 Phosphorus poisoning may be acute or chronic. The latter malady, known as *phosphorism*, is principally met with in those who are engaged in the manufacture of matches. *Ibid.* 924 Children of parents engaged in the manufacture of matches and tainted with phosphorism.

Phosphorist (fɒ·sfŏrist). [ad. Sw. *fosforist*, f. Sw. *fosforos* PHOSPHORUS + -IST: see quot.] One of a school of poetic, idealistic, and romantic Swedish writers at the beginning of the 19th century.

1887 GOSSE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 757/1 These young men had at first to endure bitter opposition..but they..answered back in their magazines '*Polyfem*' and '*Fosforos*' (1810–13). They were named 'Fosforisterna' (Phosphorists) from the latter. .. Among the Phosphorists, Atterbom was the man of most genius.

Phosphorite (fɒ·sfŏrəit). *Min.* [Named 1796, f. PHOSPHOR-US + -ITE[1].] A name originally applied by Kirwan to APATITE, or native phosphate of lime; now restricted to a non-crystallized variety from Estremadura, Spain, and elsewhere.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* I. 129 1st Family. Phosphorite, Apatite of Werner. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Org. Nat.* I. 43 The phosphate of lime exists .. under two forms —namely, apatite and phosphorite. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xi. 196 The system yields..phosphorite containing 45 to 64 per cent phosphate of lime. 1882 *Academy* 27 May 382/1 Mammalian remains found in the phosphorite deposits of Quercy.

Hence **Phosphori·tic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of phosphorite. 1858 in MAYNE.

Phosphorize (fɒ·sfŏrəiz), *v.* [a. F. *phosphoriser* (Lavoisier), f. PHOSPHOR-US: see -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To combine or impregnate with phosphorus; orig. and chiefly in *ppl.a.* **Pho·sphorized.**

1799 Sir H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 143 The luminous appearance .. which Lavoisier supposed to be occasioned by phosphorised hydrogen. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 393 This phosphorized alcohol exhales the odour of phosphureted hydrogen gas. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 185 He has..seen benefit derived from frictions with phosphorized ointment. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 7/1, I had just come from the bedside of a girl .. whose breath was phosphorised and so offensive as to prevent her family living in the same room.

2. To make phosphorescent; to cause to phosphoresce. Hence **Pho·sphorizing** *vbl. sb.*

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 59 He did not, like Sterne, bid the 'lights of science' phosphorize corruption. 1895 *Daily News* 21 Jan. 2/3 Experiments to prove the phosphorising of non-phosphorescent materials by immersion in liquid air at low temperature were made in the dark.

Phosphoro-, combining form of PHOSPHORUS, entering into the formation of chemical and other terms: e. g. **Phosphorochalcite** (fɒ·sfŏrokæ·lsəit) *Min.* [Gr. χαλκ-ός copper], hydrous phosphate of copper, closely related to Dihydrite and Ehlite. **Phosphorogenic** (-dʒe·nik), *a.*, causing phosphorescence; *spec.* applied to those rays of the spectrum which excite phosphorescence in certain objects. **Phosphorograph** (fɒ·sfŏrəgra:f) [-GRAPH], an evanescent picture obtained by projecting a luminous image upon a phosphorescent surface; used in particular to obtain an impression of the invisible rays of the spectrum; hence **Phosphogra·phic** *a.*; **Phosphoro·graphy**, the process of making phosphorographs.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 569 Pseudomalachite of Hausmann is the earliest of the names of this species, and is as short and as good as the later *Phosphorochalcite of Glocker. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 96 The *phosphorogenic rays of an electric spark..are intercepted by glass. 1863 ATKINSON *Ganot's Physics* VII. iv. 408 The phosphorogenic rays..have the property of rendering certain objects self-luminous in the dark after they have been exposed for some time to the light. 1881 *Smithsonian Inst. Rep.* 368 J. W. Draper has obtained what he calls a *phosphorograph of the solar spectrum, and has compared it with a photograph of the same spectrum. 1886 *Nature* 4 Mar. 431/2 *Phosphorographic studies for the photographic reproduction of the stars. 1886 *Athenæum* 18 Sept. 375/2 Mr. Ch. V. Zenger brought before the Academy of Sciences on August 30th a paper entitled '*Phosphorography applied to the Photography of the Invisible'.

Phosphoroscope (fɒ·sfŏrŏskōup). [-SCOPE.] **a.** An apparatus for observing and measuring the duration of phosphorescence in such substances as emit light for a very short period; **b.** A scientific toy consisting of an arrangement of glass tubes containing various phosphorescent substances, each of which glows with a different coloured light.

1860 W. A. MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) I. 152 An ingenious instrument has been devised by E. Becquerel for the purpose of observing phosphorescence of very brief duration. .. This *phosphoroscope*, as he terms it. 1869 *Academy* 11 Dec. 77/2 M. Becquerel has modified his phosphoroscope in order to examine the phosphorescence caused by rays of various refrangibility. 1881 J. E. H. GORDON *Electr. & Magn.* II. 116 Alumina..glowing with a rich red colour in the phosphoroscope.

Phosphorous (fɒ·sfŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. *phōsphorus* PHOSPHORUS + -OUS; in sense 2, ad. F. *phosphoreux* (*Nomencl. Chimique* 1787): see -OUS c.]

1. = PHOSPHORESCENT *a.*

1777 PENNANT *Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 50 Their phosphorous quality is well known; nor was it overlooked by the antients. 1883 C. F. HOLDER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 185/2 MM. Edoux and Soulezet collected some of the phosphorous substance.

2. *Chem.* Abounding in phosphorus; *spec.* applied to compounds into which phosphorus enters in its lower valency (trivalent), as opp. to PHOSPHORIC; esp. in *phosphorous acid* = trihydrogen phosphite, H_3PO_3 = $P(OH)_3$, obtained from phosphorus, usually in the form of a thick uncrystallizable syrup, but also in crystalline form.

Phosphorous anhydride = phosphorus trioxide, P_2O_3, a white non-crystalline powder, produced by the slow combustion of phosphorus in the air; *phosphorous chloride* = p. trichloride, PCl_3, a colourless strongly fuming liquid.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 259 All urine contains some animal earth, or lime combined with phosphorous acid. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 440 The spontaneous combustion of phosphorus at the temperature of the atmosphere, forms, in the first instance, phosphorous acid, which contains less oxygen than the phosphoric; but as phosphorous acid acquires an additional quantity of oxygen from the atmosphere, it is speedily converted into the phosphoric. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xv. 133 Phosphorous Anhydride..forms a white non-crystalline powder which combines with great energy with water, forming thereby phosphorous acid.

‖ **Phosphoruria** (fɒsfŏrĭū·riă). *Path.* [mod. L., f. PHOSPHOR-US + *-uria*, f. Gr. οὖρον urine.] **a.** = PHOSPHATURIA. **b.** A morbid condition of the urine, which is phosphorescent on emission.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phosphorûria*,..term for the presence of phosphorus in the urine. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phosphoruria*...1. Photuria. 2. Phosphaturia.

Phosphorus (fɒ·sfŏrŏs). Also 7–8 **-os.** [a. L. *phōsphorus* the morning star (Mart.), a. Gr. *φωσφόρος* adj. (f. *φῶς* light + *-φόρος* bringing); hence as sb. (sc. *ἀστήρ*) the morning star. Sense 2 was taken independently from the Gr. adj., and thence sense 3.]

1. (with capital P): The morning star: = PHOSPHOR 1. Also *fig.* Now *rare.*

1629 T. ADAMS *Medit. Creed* Wks. (1630) 1209 John Baptist was that Phosphorus or Morning Starre, to signifie the Sunnes approching. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 7 Though it be not the sun, yet it is the Phosphorus to it. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* II. i, He wants nothing but a blue ribbon and a star to make him shine the very phosphorus of our human sphere. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 39 Throughout the whole Protestant Reformation, whereof he [Erasmus] was the brightest Phosphoros. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. iii. 290 It [Venus] was known to the ancients by the names of Hesperus and Phosphorus.

2. Any substance or organism that phosphoresces or shines of itself (naturally, or when heated, etc.); *esp.* (in later use) a substance that absorbs sunlight, and shines in the dark. Pl. †**phosphoruses**, †**-'s**, **phosphori**. Now *rare.*

Baldwin's phosphorus, calcium nitrate that has been strongly heated: discovered by Baldwin in 1674. *Bolognian* or *Bononian phosphorus*, *Montalbano's phosphorus*, barium sulphide or heavy spar from Monte Paterno, which becomes phosphorescent by calcination; its property was discovered in 1602 by Casciolorus, a shoemaker of Bologna. *Canton's phosphorus*, calcium sulphide that has been strongly heated; its phosphorescence was discovered by Marggraf in 1750, who obtained it by calcining gypsum with combustible matter; Canton prepared it in 1768 by igniting oyster shells with sulphur. *Homberg's phosphorus*, calcium chloride that has been fused; its property was discovered by Homberg in 1693. *Mercurial phosphorus*: see quot. 1710.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* May, Dr. Montalbano .. he who invented or found out the composition of the *lapis illuminabilis*, or phosphorus. He shew'd me their property..being to retain the light of the sun for some competent time, by a kind of imbibition, by a particular way of calcination. 1680 BOYLE *Aerial Noctiluca* Wks. 1772 IV. 380 Phosphoruses may well be distinguished into two sorts; those that may be stiled natural, as glow-worms, some sorts of rotten wood and fishes .., and those that are properly artificial. 1705 HAUKSBEE in *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 2129 Several Experiments on the Mercurial Phosphorus, made before the Royal Society. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Mercurial Phosphorus*, is a Light arising from the shaking of Mercury in *Vacuo*. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Natural Phosphori* are matters which become luminous at certain times. 1753 — *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., There is a vast variety of *phosphori* in the animal kingdom. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 406 A kind of amethysts, which may be used as a phosphorus, if laid on a hot stove: and I do not question, but that, with a suitable process, a sort of Bononian stone may be made of them. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxi. 396 Phosphori .. may be considered as bodies giving light; though more properly they are those bodies which give a faint light, visible only in the dark. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 52 Bodies, gifted with this property [of absorbing the rays of light in their totality] are called *solar phosphori*. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. iii. 533 When thus reduced to a submuriate, it has the property of shining in the dark, as Homberg first observed: hence it has been called the phosphorus of Homberg. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxviii. (1849) 326 Sulphuret of calcium, known as Canton's phosphorus. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.* etc. II. 139 *Homberg's Phosphorus*. 1898 Sir W. CROOKES *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 23 The energy thus absorbed reappears in the form of light, and the body is said to phosphoresce...The best known *phosphori* belong to certain well-defined classes, such as the sulphides of the alkaline-earthy metals, and some of the so-called rare earths.

3. *Chem.* One of the non-metallic elements, a yellowish translucent substance resembling wax, widely distributed in nature in combination with other elements; it is extremely inflammable, undergoing slow combustion at ordinary temperatures, and hence appearing luminous in the dark. (Chemical symbol P.)

Accidentally obtained from urine in 1669 by Brandt, an alchemist of Hamburg, in the course of his search for the philosophers' stone. He communicated his discovery and method of obtaining it to the chemist Kunkel; hence the early name *Kunkel's phosphorus*, the substance being classed with the phosphorescent bodies in sense 2. The method of its production was not made public till 1737. About 1750 it began to be named *phosphorus* par excellence.

1680 BOYLE *Aerial Noctiluca* Wks. 1772 IV. 381 This substance [shown by Mr. Daniel Kraft, a German chemist] ..was at least as yielding as bees-wax in summer..On the score of its uninterrupted action, it is called by some in Germany, the constant noctiluca; which title it does not ill deserve, since this phosphorus is much the noblest we have yet seen. 1681 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 9 Concerning the Noctiluca or Phosphoros of Dr. Kunkelius. 1685 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Dec., This matter or phosphorus was made out of human blood and urine, elucidating the vital flame or heate in animal bodys. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 34 From the Marine Acid combined with a Phlogiston results a kind of Sulphur..that..takes fire of itself upon being exposed to the open air. This combination is called English Phosphorus, Phosphorus of Urine, because it is generally prepared from urine, or, only Phosphorus. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 175 In the dark they send forth a kind of shining light resembling that of phosphorus. [1787 DE MORVEAU *Nomencl. Chimique* 131 Nom ancien, *Phosphore de Kunkel*: Nom nouveau *Phosphore*.] 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 173 Sulphur and phosphorus merely attract oxygen; they form in this combination peculiar acids, and thereby disengage..heat and light which appear in the form of flame. 1827 E. TURNER *Elem. Chem.* II. 224 It is remarkable that the slow combustion of phosphorus does not take place in pure oxygen, unless its temperature be about 80° F. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. § 2 Phosphorus abounds more in the brain than in any other tissue. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.* etc. II. 890/2 As a result of exposure to heat or light, phosphorus sometimes acquires a red colour, and this red substance is allotropic or amorphous phosphorus. Schrötter made the discovery of this variety of phosphorus in 1848. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 529 Fatty degeneration..is sometimes observed..in poisoning by phosphorus.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *phosphorus cachexia, liver, matches, poison, poisoning*; in Chem. = of phosphorus, as *phosphorus oxychloride, pentachloride, trichloride, trihydride*; *phosphorus-containing* adj.; **phosphorus-bottle**, †(*a*) a bottle containing phosphorus, used for igniting sulphur matches; (*b*) a bottle containing a small quantity of phosphorus dissolved in olive oil, which emits light on being uncorked in the dark; †**phosphorus box**, a box containing matches tipped with chlorate of potash, with phosphorus on which to ignite them; †**phosphorus-lamp** = *phosphorus-bottle* b; **phosphorus necrosis**, gangrene of some part of the jaw-bone, due to the fumes of phosphorus, a disease affecting persons engaged in the manufacture of lucifer matches; **phosphorus paste**, a paste containing phosphorus, used to kill vermin.

1814 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 324 Brimstoned matches, and *phosphorus boxes were fireworks. 1881 G. W. CABLE *Mme. Delphine* xi. 62 She softly laid the phosphorus-box out of her hands. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 930 So long as profound *phosphorus cachexia remains. 1896 *Ibid.* I. 165 Certain *phosphorus-containing substances in the body. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 118 Acting upon *phosphorus iodide with water. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 396 The typical *phosphorus-liver leads to alimentary glycosuria. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 3/3 If the manufacture of yellow *phosphorus matches can be proved to be fatal, nay, even injurious to human life,..then let the Government take action. *Ibid.* 3 June 4/3 Forty-seven cases of *phosphorus necrosis have developed among our workpeople. 1860 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 5) III. 439 *Phosphorus paste, for the destruction of rats and mice. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 227 *Phosphorus Pentachloride or Phosphoric Chloride, is formed when phosphorus is burned in excess of chlorine. 1898 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 539 Necrosis of the jaws, as a result of the *phosphorus poison, is now rarely seen. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Mar. 9/2 Death was due to phosphorus poison. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 923 In Pardieu's second form of *phosphorus poisoning the symptoms are referable from the outset to the nervous system. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 225 *Phosphorus Trihydride is analogous in some of its chemical relations to ammoniacal gas.

Phosphosiderite (fɒsfŏ|si·dĕrəit). *Min.* [Named 1890, f. PHOSPHO- + SIDERITE.] Hydrous ferric phosphate, found in transparent red prismatic crystals.

1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XL. 336 Phosphosiderite ..is orthorhombic and occurs in prismatic crystals.

Phosphuranylite (fɒsfiuræniləit). *Min.* [f. PHOSPH(O- + URANYL + -ITE.] Hydrous phosphate of uranium, occurring as a yellow pulvernlent incrustation.

1879 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XVIII. 153 A new species

called by the describer phosphuranylite. 1892 DANA *Min.* 859 Phosphuranylite..occurs as a pulverulent incrustation.

†**Pho·sphure.** *Chem. Obs.* Also 8 **phosphur.** [a. F. *phosphure* (*Nomencl. Chimique* 1787), f. PHOSPH(O-: see -URE.] = PHOSPHIDE: cf. next.

[1787 DE MORVEAU, etc. *Nomencl. Chimique* 205 Phosphure, *Phosphoretum*: combinaison de phosphore non oxigéné, avec différentes bases.] 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 304 This compound..some of my chemical friends have called fulminating hepar of phosphorus...In the new system of chemistry it will be called *phosphur of lime*. 1799 W. CLAYFIELD in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 438 Both barytes and strontian combine with phosphorus and exhibit similar appearances to the phosphure of lime. 1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 527 Bertrand Pelletier..made several experiments on metallic phosphures.

†**Phosphuret** (fǫ·sfiŭret). *Chem. Obs.* Also **-oret.** [ad. mod.L. *phosphorētum*; altered to *phosphuret* after F. *phosphure*: see prec. and -URET.] = PHOSPHIDE.

1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict., Phosphurets...*, combinations of phosphorus, not oxygenated, with different bases, as *phosphuret of copper, phosphuret of iron*, &c. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 49 Phosphuret of cadmium has a grey colour and a feeble metallic lustre. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phosphoret*, old term for *Phosphide*.

Phosphuretted, -eted (fǫ·sfiŭretèd), *a. Chem.* Also **phosphor-.** [f. prec. + -ED.] Combined chemically with phosphorus.

Phosphuretted hydrogen = PHOSPHINE, phosphorus trihydride, PH_3, a poisonous gas of disgusting smell, produced by the decomposition of animal substances. When arising from water, it contains traces of the vapour of a liquid hydride, and is then spontaneously inflammable, giving rise (it is believed) to the phenomenon known as *ignis fatuus* or *Will o' the wisp*.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 41 Phosphureted hydrogen gas is emitted, which takes fire as soon as it comes to the surface of the water. 1808 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (ed. 5) 205 Phosphuretted hydrogen gas. 1826 — *Elem. Chem.* II. 510 No mixture..of oxygen, nitrous oxide, or chlorine with phosphureted hydrogen. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 32 During the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances, they enter into combination with hydrogen, forming sulphuretted and phosphuretted hydrogen.

β. 1865-72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 200 Spontaneously inflammable phosphoretted hydrogen. 1880 BASTIAN *Brain* ii. 28 These tissues..are composed, in the main, of water, of phosphoretted fats, and of protein compounds.

‖ **Phosphu·ria.** *Path.* = PHOSPHORURIA.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phosphuria*, see *Phosphoruria*. 1885 W. H. DICKINSON *Renal & Urinary Affect.* III. xxi. 1233 (Running title) Phosphuria.

Phosphyl (fǫ·sfil). *Chem.* [f. PHOSPH- + -YL.] The univalent radical PO_2.

1898 G. MCGOWAN tr. *Meyer's Hist. Chem.* 462 Organic compounds containing the group phosphyl (PO_2) were also prepared a few years ago.

Phossy (fǫ·si), *a. colloq.* Also **fossy.** [f. PHOS, colloq. abbreviation of *phosphorus* + -Y.] Characterized or affected by the presence of phosphorus; in **phossy jaw**, the popular name of the disease phosphorus necrosis of the jaw.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Apr. 2/3 The public knows nothing of the 'fossy jaw' which is one of the familiar dangers of life to the East-end match girl. 1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 Apr. 706/1 The match girls' 'leprosy' and phossy jaw demand our attention. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 928 The work people suffer from necrosis of the bone, sometimes called in this country 'phossy jaw' and in France 'mal chimique'...The 'mixers' and 'dippers' are particularly liable to suffer from 'phossy jaw'.

‖ **Phota.** *Obs.* Also 7 **foota.** [a. Pers. فوطه *fūṭah* loin-band, bathing-cloth.] An East Indian fabric, included in lists of piece-goods; cf. LUNGI.

1616 B. FARIE *Let.* in *E. Ind. Comp. Rec.* (1900) IV. 306 If you have..lunges and footaes..ship them away for this place [Ayuthia (Siam)]. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz...Herba Taffaties,..Photaes. 1813 MILBURN *Orient. Comm.* II. xxi. 221 Piece goods form the staple commodity of Bengal...The following are the kinds imported...Percaulahs, Photaes, Pulicat handkerchiefs.

Photal (fō·tăl), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. φῶς, φωτ- light + -AL.] = PHOTIC.

1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iii. (1884) 121 Physical forces—gravitation, cohesion, molecular vibration, photal vibration, and so forth.

Photelectric: see PHOTO-ELECTRIC.

Photic (fō·tik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. φῶς, φωτ- light + -IC.] Pertaining or relating to light (in quot. applied to a supposed 'fluid' constituting the matter of light; cf. *electric fluid*). So †**Pho·ticated** *a. Obs.*, ? impregnated with 'photic fluid'; **Pho·tics** *sb. pl.*, (*a*) the science of light and its intrinsic properties (sometimes used instead of *optics*, which properly denotes the science of sight); (*b*) see quot. 1875.

1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVIII. 47 The photic fluid may be regarded as the base of all other traversing fluids. *Ibid.* 6 The photicated ether..I presume to pervade all nature. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Photica*, term for the doctrine of the nature and appearance of light: photics. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Photics*...the term originated in the United States Patent Office, and is there applied to that class of mechanical inventions embracing lamps, gas-light arrangements, and illuminating apparatus generally.

Photinian (fǫtĭ·niăn), *a.* and *sb. Ch. Hist.* [ad. late L. *Photīniānī* (pl.), Isidore 5th c., f. *Photīnus*, in Gr. Φωτεινός, a man's name (from φωτεινός shining, bright, luminous).] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Photinus, Bishop of Sirmium, who held that Jesus Christ was not essentially divine, but became so by a divine emanation which descended upon him: his doctrines were condemned by various councils between 336 and 351. **b.** *sb.* A follower of Photinus.

1648 OWEN *Toleration* Wks. 1851 VIII. 179 [Grotianus] granted liberty to all sects but Manichees, Photinians and Eunomians. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 9 A celebrated Writer abroad, has openly espoused this Photinian Notion. 1853 M. KELLY tr. *Gosselin's Power Pope in Mid. Ages* I. 79 In this edict he condemns by name the Photinians, Arians, and Eunomians. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vi. (1889) 82 It was becoming more and more alienated from the West by the Photinian schism. 1884 EDNA LYALL *We Two* xxiv, A few years ago he was an atheist, now he's a more Photinian.

Hence **Photi·nianism,** the doctrine or heresy of the Photinians.

1655 OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Wks. (1853) XII. 8 Of the Socinian religion there are two main parts: the first is Photinianism, the latter Pelagianism. 1865 *Union Rev.* III. 440 Socinus, the reviver of a modified Arianism or rather Photinianism in the West.

Photism (fō·tiz'm). *Psychics.* [ad. Gr. φωτισμός illumination, f. φωτίζειν to shine, illuminate, f. φῶς, φωτ- light.] A hallucinatory sensation or vision of light.

1902 *Athenæum* 19 July 82/3 The alleged accompanying vision of a great light, a 'photism' Mr. James calls the phenomenon. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss. s. v. *Secondary Sensations*, With some persons every sensation of one type is accompanied by a sensation of another type; as, for instance, a special sound may be accompanied by a special sensation of colour or light (*chromatisms* or *photisms*). 1903 A. LANG *Valet's Trag.* 205 Her [Jeanne d'Arc's] thoughts..presented themselves in visual forms..attended by an hallucinatory brightness of light (a 'photism').

Photi·stic, *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. Gr. φωτιστικ-ός enlightening, f. φωτιστής an enlightener, f. φωτίζειν: see prec.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of illumination.

1885 J. MARTINEAU *Types Eth. Th.* II. II. i. 356 When, from the dull sense..the photistic thrill disengages itself as something different from the rest, it will not be denied that this is a perceptive gain, i.e. an accession not only to the creature's sensory store, but to his life-relations with reality.

Photo (fō·tǫ).

1. Colloquial abbreviation of PHOTOGRAPH.

A. *sb.*

1870 Miss BRIDGMAN *Ro. Lynne* II. x. 215, I should like her photo. 1877 PRINCESS ALICE in *Mem.* (1884) 357, I send you the last photos done of the children. 1893 ROMANES in *Life* 313 The photos..make me realise what splendid work the buildings are.

Comb. 1879 Mrs. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 27 Odds and ends in the way of photo-stands [etc.]. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 5 Sept., Fancy leather and photo-frame work.

B. *vb.*

1870 CARLYLE *Let. Anderson* 20 Mar., No mask that has it not..can be accepted to engrave from or be thought worth photoing. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* xviii. 201 We had no objection to being photo'd full-length.

2. Colloquial (technical) abbreviation for PHOTOGRAPHIC: see also PHOTO- 2.

1889 *Nature* 31 Oct. 647/2 Corrected for photo work. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 271, I have written so often to the various year books and photo papers on this subject.

Photo- (fōtǫ), before a vowel properly **phot-** (but often in full form *photo-* in Eng. compounds), repr. Gr. φωτο-, combining form of φῶς, φωτ- light.

1. Words in which *photo-* simply denotes 'light'.

Photo-æsthe·tic *a.* [see ÆSTHETIC], perceptive of light. ‖ **Photobacte·rium,** a phosphorescent bacterium. **Photobiotic** (-bəiǫ·tik) *a.* [see BIOTIC], *Bot.*, 'living in the light; an epithet for certain vegetable cells' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Photoderma·tic** *a.* [Gr. δέρμα skin], having a skin sensitive to light. **Pho·todrome** [Gr. -δρομος -running, -runner, f. δρόμος running], an instrument for producing optical effects by flashes of light thrown upon revolving disks bearing figures or devices (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Supp. 1884). **Pho·todyna·mic, -dyna·mical** *adjs.* [see DYNAMIC], pertaining or relating to the energy of light; so **Pho·todyna·mics,** that part of physics which deals with the energy of light, esp. in relation to growth or movement in plants. **Photo-e·pinasty** *Bot.*, 'epinasty consequent upon exposure to bright light' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); hence **Pho·to-epina·stic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of photo-epinasty; **Pho·to-epina·stically** *adv.* **Pho·to-equili·brium,** state of equilibrium in regard to the vibrations of light. **Photo-hy·ponasty** *Bot.*, 'hyponasty consequent upon exposure to intense light following upon an arrest of growth' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); hence **Pho·to-hypona·stic** *a.*, **Pho·to-hypona·stically** *adv.* ‖ **Photolysis** (fǫtǫ·lisis) *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. λύσις loosening: cf. *electrolysis*], general term for the movements of protoplasm (esp. that containing chlorophyll-granules) under the influence of light, distinguished as APOSTROPHE and EPISTROPHE. **Pho·tomagne·tic** *a.*, applied to certain rays of the spectrum having, or supposed to have, a magnetic influence; so **Photoma·gnetism,** photomagnetic property or character; that branch of physics which deals with the relations between light and magnetism. **Photo·pathy** [Gr. -πάθεια, πάθος suffering], the behaviour of an organism towards light, in moving towards or away from an illuminated region; hence **Photopa·thic** *a.* **Photoperi·meter** = PERIMETER 2. **Pho·tophil** *a.* [-PHIL], loving light, tending towards a lighted region. **Photophob, -e** *a.* [-PHOBE], having an aversion to light, given to retreating into the darkness. **Pho·tophosphore·scent** *a.*, 'becoming phosphorescent from the action of light' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Photophy·sical** *a.*, belonging to the physical effect of light (opp. to PHOTOCHEMICAL). **Pho·topile,** an apparatus, resembling a thermopile, sensitive to light, as the sensitive selenium cells in the receiver of a photophone. **Pho·topolari·meter,** a special form of polarimeter invented by Cornu in 1885. ‖ **Pho·topsia, pho·topsy** [Gr. ὄψις vision], 'a subjective sensation of light' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pho·totacho·meter** (-tăkǫ·mĭtəɹ) [Gr. τάχος swiftness, ταχύς swift: see -METER], an apparatus for determining the velocity of light; so **Pho·totachome·tric, -ical** (also **-tachy-**) *adjs.*, relating to the measurement of the velocity of light; **Pho·totacho·metry,** the measurement of the velocity of light. **Pho·totele·graphy,** 'electric reproduction of pictures, writings, etc., at a distance; telephotography' (Funk *Stand. Dict.*). **Phototelephone** = PHOTOPHONE. **Pho·totherapeu·tic** *a.* [see THERAPEUTIC], pertaining to **Pho·totherapeu·tics** or **Photothe·rapy,** a system of treatment of certain skin diseases by exposure to particular light-rays, introduced by N. R. Finsen of Copenhagen. **Photothe·rmic** *a.* [Gr. θέρμος heat], pertaining to the heating effect of light-rays. **Pho·tovolta·ic** *a.*, relating to a voltaic current as affected by light.

1880 ALLMAN in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XV. 137 Ascribing to the marginal bodies of the Hydroid Medusae a *photo-aesthetic function. 1900 *Lancet* 13 Oct. 1087/1 The peculiar greenish glow seen upon stale haddocks and other sea fishes is produced by this remarkable *photobacterium...By protracted exposure they [photobacteria] may be photographed by their own light. 1889 *Nature* 15 Aug. 384/2 Although these mollusks possess no eyes, they display extreme sensibility to light...It also appears that the *photodermatic (receptive) function is stimulated by luminous vibrations from without. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Photodynamic*, belonging to the energy of light-rays. 1890 GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *Sachs' Hist. Bot.* III. iii. 535 The movements of swarm-spores..must be ranked with these *photodynamical phenomena. *Ibid.* 554 [Normal growth and the movements of protoplasm] two phenomena which also fall within the province of *photodynamics. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Photo-epinastic*. ..**Photo-epinastically*. ..**Photo-epinasty*. 1898 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 948/2 **Photomagnetic*. 1864 WEBSTER, **Photomagnetism*, the relation of magnetism to light. *Faraday*. 1897 C. B. DAVENPORT *Exper. Morphol.* I. 185 A phototactic or *photopathic response has not hitherto been certainly observed in this group. 1897 *Ibid.* 180 Control of the Direction of Locomotion by Light—Phototaxis and *Photopathy. [*Note.*] The second includes the wandering of organisms into a more or less intensely illuminated region. *Ibid.* 181 According as the migration is towards or from the more intensely illuminated area, we can distinguish positive (+) and negative (−) photopathy; and correspondingly we..speak of the organisms themselves as *photophil or *photophob. In this nomenclature I follow Graber. *Ibid.* 194 Among Echinodermata, Asteracanthion rubens..appears to be photophil, and Asterina gibbosa..to be photophob. 1888 MELDOLA *Chem. Photogr.* I. (1889) 8 *Photo-physical changes requiring more or less time for their completion. 1889 *Athenæum* 26 Oct. 562/3 The author discriminates between photo-physical changes, that is, those in which the chemical composition of the substance exposed to light is in no way altered, and photo-chemical changes. 1884 C. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 180/1 The resistance of the whole *photopile is reduced to a minimum. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp. 675 (title of Fig. 1908) Bell's Photopile of Receiver. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Photopsia*. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 649/1 Photopsy. 1889 *Lancet* 28 Dec. 1331/1 In the optic nerve these conditions cause photopsia or flashes of light, flames, sparks, and stars. 1886 *Athenæum* 3 July 21/1 An account of Prof. Newcomb's determination..of the velocity of light. The apparatus employed, to which the name of '*phototachometer' was given. 1882 HARKNESS in *Nature* 30 Nov. 117/2 The solar parallax..cannot be regarded as exactly known until the results obtained from trigonometrical,..and *phototachymetrical methods are in perfect harmony. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 26 Sept. 5/5 Further experiments in *phototherapeutics dealt with the bactericidal effects of concentrated violet rays in cases of lupus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 796 The latest addition to our practical resources is the '*phototherapy' of Finsen of Copenhagen. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 June 9/1 The new cure of lupus by phototherapy has been most successful. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 359 The *photothermic energy in the luminous spectrum.

2. Words in which *photo-* indicates connexion with photography, or some photographic process; being sometimes (esp. in *nonce-wds.*), practically equivalent to PHOTOGRAPHIC, as in *photo-chart, -cyclist, -equipment, -miniature, -process, -revolver, -survey, -tracing, -transfer.*

Photo-a'quatint ? see quots. **Pho'to-biblio'graphy,** description of books by the aid of photography. **Pho'to-cera'mic** *a.*, ceramic (work) decorated by photographic processes; also as *sb.* (*pl.*); hence **Photo-ce'ramist,** an artist in photoceramic work. **Photo-co'llotype:** see quot. **Photocray'on** *a.*, produced by a photographic process giving the effect of crayons, or by crayon-work on a photographic groundwork: see quot. **Pho'to-ele'ctrotype:** see quot.; so **Pho'to-ele'ctrotyping. Photo-e'tch** *v. trans.*, to etch by a photographic process, as in photogravure; so **Photo-e'tching. Photo-fi'ligrane:** see quot. **Photoga'stroscope,** 'an arrangement for photographing the inside of the stomach' (Woodbury *Encycl. Phot.* 1892). **Photoge'latin** *a.*, applied to any photographic process in which gelatin is used. **Photogra'photype,** a method of producing blocks for letter-press printing by the aid of photography and electrotyping. **Photo-hy'alotype** = HYALOTYPE. **Pho'to-i'nk** *a.*, produced by photography so as to be printed in ink. **Pho'to-inta'glio** (-a'lyo), a design in intaglio produced by a photographic process; also *attrib.* **Photo-li'thotype,** a picture produced by photolithography. **Photo-ma'pping,** the mapping (of the stars, etc.) by photography; so **Photo-ma'pper,** an instrument for this. **Pho'to-meta'llograph,** a photozincograph or analogous engraving; so **Pho'to-metallo'graphy. Photome'zzotype** (also abbrev. **photo-mezzo**), a photomechanical printing process similar to collotype; a print produced by this. **Photo-ne'phograph** [Gr. *νέφος* cloud: see -GRAPH], an apparatus for taking a succession of simultaneous photographs of a cloud from two points at some distance apart, in order to ascertain the height and movement of the cloud; also called **Photo-ne'phoscope. Pho'to-papy'rograph,** a plate or print made by **Pho'to-papyro'graphy,** a modification of photolithography, in which paper is used as the support, instead of a stone or a metal plate. **Pho'tophane:** see quot. **Pho'to-pri'nt,** a print produced by a photo-mechanical process; so **Pho'to-pri'nting. Pho'to-relie'f,** an image in relief produced by a photographic process; also *attrib.* **Photo-ro'cket:** see quot. **Photo-scu'lpture** *sb.*, a process in which the subject is photographed simultaneously from a number of different points of view all round, and the photographs are used to trace successive outlines on a block of modelling clay, which is afterwards finished by hand; hence **Photo-scu'lptural** *a.*, pertaining to or produced by photo-sculpture; **Photo-scu'lpture** *v. trans.*, to produce by photo-sculpture. **Pho'to-spectro'scopy,** the application of photography to spectroscopy; so **Pho'to-spectrosco'pic** *a.*, pertaining to photo-spectroscopy. **Photo-te'lescope,** a telescope with photographic apparatus, used for photographing stars or other heavenly bodies. **Pho'totheo'dolite,** an instrument for the performance of triangulation by means of photographs. **Pho'totint,** a photo-mechanical printing process similar to collotype, used *c*1875 (Woodbury *Encycl. Phot.*). **Photo-vi'trotype** [L. *vitrum* glass: see TYPE], a photograph printed on glass. **Photo-xylography** (-zəilɒ'grăfi) [XYLOGRAPHY], a process of employing photography in the preparation of wood blocks for printing from.

1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 503 **Photo-Aquatint*,* a process for printing pictures from intaglio copperplates. 1897 *Daily News* 4 Oct. 6/4 The bichromate process, to which has been given the name 'Photo-Aquatint' because there is practically nothing used but pure water-colour fixed by the effect of light acting through a negative. 1878 H. STEVENS (*title*) *Photo-Bibliography, or a Word on Printed Card Catalogues of Old, Rare, Beautiful and Costly Books, etc., with reduced facsimiles of some famous Works issued during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries. 1891 *Athenæum* 10 Jan. 53/2 The subject of photo-bibliography was one of his [H. Stevens's] pet hobbies. 1895 *Daily News* 9 May 3/6 The Princess of Wales has consented to lend her Collection of *Photo-Ceramics to the Exhibition of Photography. 1894 *Amer. Ann. Photog.* 143 A *photo-ceramist of no ordinary merit. 1894 *Athenæum* 4 Aug. 165/3 Comparing the present *photo-charts [of stars] with others obtained by the same processes after the lapse of several years. 1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* 186 By a *photo-collotype process is meant a 'surface printing' process, by which prints are obtained from the surface of a film of gelatine, or other kindred substance. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 270/1 *Photo-Crayon Portraits. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 503 *Photo Crayon Process,* a photographic transparency on glass..[was] afterwards backed up with white paper, on which a number of lines, hatchings, or stippling were lithographed, giving the portrait the appearance of a crayon work. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 8/1 A *photo-decorated tile company in Staffordshire. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-electrotype,* a process in which a photographic picture is produced in relief so as to afford, by electro-deposition, a matrix for a cast, from which impressions in ink may be obtained. 1865 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Photogr.* (1872) 118 An improved *photo-electrotyping process. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 427 A dozen African explorers could be fitted out with the now indispensable *photo-equipment. 1889 *Photo-etch* [see PHOTO-ENGRAVING]. 1900 *Athenæum* 21 July 92/1 The plates..have been photo-etched from the author's drawings. 1896 *Daily News* 19 Dec. 3/5 A skilful *photo-etching ..after the picture of 'The Ferry'. 1883 *Athenæum* 27 Jan. 124/2 A new process..named '*photo-filigrane', for producing the water-mark in paper by a photographic process. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-gelatine Process,* one in which gelatine, prepared chemically, usually by the bichromate of potash, is made to receive a photographic image. 1874 (*title*) Specimens of *Photo-Graphotype Engraving. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-hyalotype.* 1888 *Athenæum* 14 July 69 Reproduced, with no remarkable success, by the *photo-ink process. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-intaglio Engraving,* a process in which, by photographic means, lines are etched in a plate to be subsequently filled with ink and printed by the copperplate printing-press. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 181 An early photo-intaglio process. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Feb. 243/1 A process well worth attention..its result may be called a *Photo-litho-type. 1870 H. M. PARKHURST *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XLIX. 38 The motion of the diaphragm may be produced..by the star-key of my star-mapper; and this constitutes the *Photo-mapper. *Ibid.* 39 In *photo-mapping I place the prism always in the meridian. 1899 *Daily News* 6 June 8/4 The photo-mapping of the heavens by the Astrographic Equatorial. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-metallograph,* see *Photozincograph.* 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Feb. 242/2 *Photo-metallography. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 6/2 A *photomezzotype of Mrs. General Booth. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 428 That perfected form of collotype which the company has christened 'photomezzotype'. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 13 July 34/1 The..photomezzotype plates give us pictures of the Great Barrier Reef..of the greatest beauty. 1890 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 408/2 Reference was..made to Mr. J. B. Jordan's form of sunshine recorder, and to Capt. Abney's *photo-nephograph. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XIV. 53 Plans reduced by photography, photozincographs, and *photopapyrographs. 1862 SCOTT & JAMES *Photo-zincography* Pref. 6 The discovery of the art of *Photo-papyrography was the result of an accident. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 427 *Photophane is a photo-mechanical process allied (but superior) to collotype. 1888 LD. R. GOWER (*title*) 'Bric-a-brac', or some *Photoprints illustrating Art Objects at Gower Lodge, Windsor. 1889 *Athenæum* 20 July 91/2 The book is embellished with six photoprint illustrations. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp., **Photo-printing Process.* 1875 *Ibid.*, **Photo-processes.* 1897 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/4 Photo-process classes for the instruction of all comers actually engaged in any branch of the photo-mechanical, photographic, designing, lithographic, engraving, and printing crafts. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* XV. 230 The Production of *Photo-Reliefs. 1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* XXVII. 186 Mr. Dallas..has produced photo-relief blocks for the reproduction of half-tone prints. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 538 The Woodbury process is often termed a photo-relief one. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 10/1 Instantaneous photographs of Russian life, taken by the *photo-revolver invented by K. Brandil, photographer to the Warsaw Imperial University. 1889 *Ibid.* 11 Jan. 6/2 A curious photographic apparatus, in which a camera is raised by a rocket and lowered by a parachute...For securing bird's-eye views the *photo-rocket offers several important advantages over balloon photography. 1883 *Ibid.* 6 Dec. 5/1 Comparing some of the originals with the *photosculptural copies. 1863 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Photogr.* (1872) 70 [This invention (of François Willèms) relates to] *photo-sculpture. 1864 *Round Table* 18 June 12/2 Busts and figures in clay, modeled by a new process called Photosculpture, exhibiting a new and charming development of heliographic art. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* XV. 231 This photo-sculpture, as it is called, can only be carried out imperfectly. 1881 ABNEY *Photogr.* 282 The spectroscope and camera are rigidly connected one with another...This completes the *photo-spectroscopic arrangement. *Ibid.* 263 *Photo-spectroscopy ..has two aspects: in one it is the study as to the sensitiveness of compounds to the influence of different portions of the spectrum; in the other, the study of the spectrum itself. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 236 Join a society which has undertaken the '*photo-survey' of its district, and do your part. 1893 FICHEL in *Chatauquan* XIII. 318 The photo-connecting lens of 33 inch diameter being placed over the 36 inch telescope, thus turning it into a *phototelescope. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Feb. 183/2 The Compton 8-inch photo-telescope has been used for photographing stars suspected of variation. 1892 *Ibid.* 5 Mar. 311/3 A *photo-theodolite, an instrument equally well adapted for geodetic and astronomical measurements, and invaluable for taking panoramic views of mountain regions. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 531 A little *photo-transfer ink is mixed with turpentine. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Photo-vitrotype.* 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 510/1 **Photo-Xylography,* is the application of photography to wood-engraving.

3. Prefixed to the names of chemical salts, etc., and of chemical processes, to express the effect of light in changing the molecular constitution of the salt, etc. (by virtue of which it is capable of being employed in photography). Thus: **Pho'to-sa'lt,** a general term for any salt so modified by light; so **photo-bromide, photo-chloride, photo-iodide; photo-sulphate,** etc. **Pho'to-decomposi'tion,** decomposition due to the action of light; so **photo-oxida'tion, photo-redu'ction,** etc.

1887 CAREY LEA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* 352 As these substances have been hitherto seen only in the impure form in which they are produced by the continued action of light on the normal salts, it might be convenient to call them photosalts, photochloride, photobromide, and photoiodide, instead of red or coloured chloride, etc. 1888 MELDOLA *Chem. Photogr.* (1889) 24 Photo-reduction may mean either a liberation of oxygen or of some other negative element, such as chlorine. *Ibid.* 52 It is known that moisture accelerates the photo-decomposition. *Ibid.* 269 The photo-oxidation of lead compounds, of mercurous oxide,..and of sulphides, proceeds more rapidly in the red than in the violet rays. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 395 Photo-sulphate of iron solution was for a long time the only developer used.

Photo-æsthetic to **-biotic:** see PHOTO- 1.

Photochemical (fōu·to,ke·mikăl), *a.* [f. PHOTO- + CHEMICAL.] Of or pertaining to the chemical action of light.

1859 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Feb. 242/1 The use of that bichromate of potassium to which we alluded before as the foundation of so many of these ingenious combinations of photochemical changes and mechanical inventions. 1888 MELDOLA *Chem. Photogr.* I. (1889) 7 By a photo-chemical action must be understood a chemical change produced by the action of light.

Hence **Photoche'mically** *adv.* So also **Photoche'mist,** one versed in photochemistry; **Photoche'mistry,** that part of chemistry which deals with the chemical action of light.

1867 M. CAREY LEA in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. 2. XLIV. 71 The nature of the action of light upon iodid of silver,.. the most important..of all the facts of photochemistry. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 5/6 It works photo-chemically.

Photo-chloride: see PHOTO- 3.

Photochromatic (fōu·to,krōmæ'tik), *a.* [f. PHOTO- + CHROMATIC.] Of or pertaining to the chromatic or colouring action of light; pertaining to or produced by photochromy.

1888 MELDOLA *Chem. Photogr.* viii. (1889) 322 Other investigators..have confirmed the general result that silver chloride can be made susceptible of *photochromatic impressions. *Ibid.* 324 The photochromatic property apparently belongs to the reduction product, which we now have good reasons for believing to be an oxychloride.

So **Pho'tochrome,** name for a coloured photograph; **Pho'tochromo'graphy,** a method of colouring photographs, or of producing photochromes; **Pho'to-chromoli'thograph,** a chromolithograph in the production of which photographic processes have been used; **Photochro'moscope,** an optical apparatus by which photographic or stereoscopic views are exhibited in their natural colours; **Photo-chro'motype** *sb.*, a picture in colours printed from plates prepared by a photo-relief process; also = *photo-chromotypy*; whence **Photo-chro'motype** *v. trans.*, to reproduce in photo-chromotype; **Photo-chro'motypy,** the art or process of producing pictures in this way; **Pho'tochromy,** (*a*) the art or process of colouring photographs; (*b*) the art of photographing objects in their natural colours; colour-photography.

1880 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Jan. 82/1 The new invention of *photo-chrome will cause a revolution in the art of portrait-taking. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Jan. 3/1 Judging by a series of photochroms sent to us..it is now possible to reproduce, photographically, all the most striking tints in a landscape. 18.. M.C.C. *Photo-Chromography* 4 *Photo-Chromography ..will..maintain the foremost place amongst the various modes of painting photographs. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 428/2 Mr. Griggs has..applied photo-lithography successfully to the production of *photo-chromolithographs. 1881 *Eng. Mechanic* 27 May 294/3 Five-guinea *Photochromoscope,..adds Nature's beauteous tints to any glass transparency. 1893 *Brit. Journ. Photogr.* XL. 798 Which could be used like the stereoscope or the photo-chromoscope. 1895 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo) V. 963 By means of an instrument to which has been given the name 'photochromoscope', a stereoscopic effect is produced in which the original tints stand out faithfully. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* 24 July 49/3 [They] produce by a new process colored prints, so-called '*photo-chromotypes', which are made in the printing press. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 239/1 A design for a Christmas annual, which is to be reproduced in 'photochromotype'. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 53 *Photo-chromotypy is in its experimental stage, but no doubt there is a great future before it. 1888 MELDOLA *Chem. Photogr.* (1889) 326 To deal with the chemical principles of *photochromy. 1891 *Daily News* 15 May 7/1 An exhibition illustrative of photochromy, or the science of producing colour in combination with photography.

Photochronograph (fōu·to,krɒ·nŏgraf). [f. PHOTO- + CHRONOGRAPH, or (in a.) from the Gr. elements of this.] **a.** An instrument for taking a series of instantaneous photographs at regular short intervals of time; also, each of the photographs so taken. **b.** An instrument by which a beam of light is caused to produce a photographic image at some precise instant of time, e. g. so as to show the exact time at which a star crosses the meridian. So **Pho'tochronogra'phic** *a.*, pertaining to photochronography; **Pho'tochronogra'phically** *adv.*, by means of photochronography; **Pho'tochronography** (-krɒnɒ'grăfi), the art or process of taking instantaneous photographs at regular intervals (see a. above).

1887 *Nature* 15 Sept. 480/1 Photochronography applied to the dynamic problem of the flight of birds, by M. Marey. *Ibid.*, On the photochronograph are measured all the displacements of the mass of the bird on the wing, together with the velocity of these movements. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 13 July 6/3 The photo-chronograph..causes a star to record the time of its own transit across the meridian. 1892 *Ibid.* 14 Oct. 5/1 The Jesuit Father Fargis,..the inventor of the photochronograph for measuring star transits. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 6/2 At the receiving end the polarising photochronograph of Lieutenant Squier and Professor Crehore completes the work, allowing a beam of light to register itself on a rapidly revolving sensitive plate.

Photo-collotype to **-dynamics:** see PHOTO-.

Pho:to-ele'ctric, *a.* Also **photelectric.** [f. PHOTO- + ELECTRIC.] †**a.** = PHOTO-GALVANIC. *Obs.* **b.** Pertaining to, furnishing, or employing electric light. **c.** Of or pertaining to photo-electricity (see below); producing an electric effect by means of light. **d.** Used for taking photographs by electric light.

a. 1863 *Boston Commw.* (U.S.) 30 Oct., A specimen of what is called the 'Photelectric engraving', according to a new art called 'the Dallas process'. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 14 Mar. 3/7 The early photo-electric engravings by the Pretsch process are not half a century old.

b. 1863 ATKINSON *Ganot's Physics* VII. v. 441 Photoelectric Microscope. This is nothing more than the solar microscope,..illuminated by the electric light. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1679/1 *Photo-electric Lamp*, a name for the electric lamp.

c. 1880 *Athenæum* 20 Nov. 679/1 Prof. Minchin showed by experiment the photo-electric current set up by a beam of light falling on a sheet of tinfoil immersed in a solution of acid carbonate of calcium. 1903 A. R. WALLACE *Man's Place in Universe* 290 Experiments on the Electrical Measurement of Starlight by means of a photo-electric cell.

So **Pho:to-ele'ctrical** *a.* = *photo-electric* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Pho:to-electri'city,** electricity generated or affected by light.

1877 *Nature* 25 Oct. 558/2 Some interesting experiments on the photo-electricity of fluorspar.

Photo-electrotype: see PHOTO- 2.

Pho:to-engra'ving. [f. PHOTO- + ENGRAVING.] A common name for processes in which, by the action of photography, a matrix is obtained from which prints in ink can be taken; also, a print or engraving so made. (Usually restricted to those cases in which the matrix is in relief, as distinguished from PHOTOGRAVURE, in which it is usually in intaglio.) Also *attrib.* So **Photo-engra've** *v. trans.*; **Photo-engra'ver,** one who practises photo-engraving.

1872 *Nature* 8 Feb. v. 285/2 Some results of early photo-engraving. 1881 *Times* 4 Jan. 3/6 The very first true photographic process discovered by Niépce .. is again practised for photo-engraving. 1881 *Athenæum* 19 Mar. 401/3 A photo-engraving..enlarged from a photograph.., which is a fine example of photo-engraving. 1889 *MacKellar's Amer. Printer* (ed. 17) 37 Three distinct methods of photo-engraving are employed in the United States; namely, swelled gelatine, photo-etching, and wash-out. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 506 Producing photo-engraved plates by the bitumen process. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 Mar. 3/4 Her drawings should give the photo-engraver no trouble.

Photo-epinastic to -filigrane: see PHOTO- 1, 2.

Pho:to-galva'nic, *a.* [f. PHOTO- 2 + GALVANIC.] = PHOTO-GALVANOGRAPHIC; cf. PHOTO-ELECTRIC a.

1852 JOUBERT in *Journal Soc. Arts* 26 Nov. in *Circ. Sc.* (*c* 1865) I. 241/1 This process will be found extremely valuable..for photogalvanic plates.

Pho:to-galvano'graphy. [f. PHOTO- 2 + GALVANOGRAPHY.] A process of obtaining from a positive photograph on glass or paper, or a drawing on translucent paper, by means of a gutta-percha impression from a relief negative in bichromated gelatine, an electrotype plate capable of being used as in copper-plate printing.

See *The Engineer* 25 Apr. 1856, 227; *Art Jrnl.* VIII. 245. The name was given by Mr. D. C. Dallas, by whom the process, invented by Mr. Paul Pretsch of Vienna, was perfected in 1855.

Hence **Pho:to-galva'nograph,** a print thus formed; **Pho:to-galvanogra'phic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or produced by photo-galvanography.

1855 (*title*) The Patent Photo-galvanographic Company. 1856 P. PRETSCH *Paper before Soc. Arts* 23 Apr., The name of 'photo-galvanography, or engraving by light and electricity' has been given to the new art by Mr. Duncan Campbell Dallas. *Ibid.*, The impressions from the photo-galvanographic plates. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 7 Jan. 405/3 Previous to the invention of the photo-galvanographic process by Herr Paul Pretsch, no satisfactory permanent prints in carbon from plates had been obtained by means of photography. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1679/2 *Photogalvanograph.*

Photogastroscope, -gelatin: see PHOTO- 2.

Photogen (fō'utŏdʒĕn). [f. Gr. *φῶς, φωτ-* light (PHOTO- 1) + -GEN, used as = 'producing'. In mod.F. *photogène.*]

1. Name for a kind of paraffin oil; kerosene.

a 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, &c. (1865) 93 Wagenman applied himself to the oils derivable from turf, Crown coal, and bituminous slate, from which he obtained photogen, solar oil, and paraffin. 1880 *Pall Mall G.* 10 May 12/1 The American raw petroleum gave about two-thirds of its weight of photogen, while the Russian only gives about one-third photogen, but a greater proportion of fatty oils.

2. See quot.

1858 *Soc. Arts Jrnl.* VI. App. I. Catalogue 10th exhibit. inventions 31, No. 166 Patent Photogen, or Light Generator, to be used for taking Photographs at Night.

3. A light-producing organ in an animal.

1896 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* II. 296 In *Tomopteris* there is.. a brightly-coloured spherical organ, which for a long time was regarded as an eye, but from its structure appears to be a 'photogen'.

Photogene (fō'utŏdʒĭn). [mod. f. Gr. type **φωτογενης* light-produced: see PHOTO- 1, -GEN 2.]

1. *Physiol.* A visual impression (usually negative, i.e. having the complementary colours and shades) continuing after the withdrawal of the object which produced it; an after-image.

1864 H. SPENCER *Bial.* § 62 In youth, the visual apparatus is so quickly restored to its state of integrity, that many of these photogenes, as they are called, cannot be perceived.

†**2.** A 'photogenic drawing', photograph. *Obs.*

1851 CRABB *Techn. Dict.* 541/2 *Photograph*, .. also called *photogene*, ..signifying what is generated or delineated by the help of light.

Photogenetic (fō:utodʒĕne'tik), *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PHOTO- 1 + GENETIC.] Having the property of producing or emitting light, luminiferous.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 530 The phosphorescence observed on the surface of sea-water, or on decomposing meat or fish, is due to photogenetic bacteria.

Photogenic (fō:utodʒe'nik), *a.* [f. as PHOTOGENE + -IC: in F. *photogénique* (Talbot in *Comptes Rendus* VIII. 341, 4 Mar. 1839). (In sense 3, not etymologically used.)]

1. Produced or caused by light. *rare.*

1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* III. iv. 310 The darkening of the skin caused by long exposure to sunshine... In transparent and semi-transparent creatures any such photogenic effect must pervade the whole body.

†**2.** *spec.* Produced by, or pertaining to, the chemical action of light on a sensitized surface; an earlier word for *photographic. Obs.*

Photogenic drawing, the term originally used by W. H. Fox Talbot for photography, or for a photograph; *spec.* a photograph of a flat translucent object (as a drawing on translucent paper, a leaf, etc.), obtained by placing it under glass in contact with a sensitive film. (Hence F. *photogénique.*)

1839 (Jan. 31) TALBOT in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 120 (*title*) Some account of the Art of Photogenic Drawing, or the Process by which Natural Objects may be made to delineate themselves without the aid of the Artist's Pencil. 1839 *Athenæum* 2 Feb. 96/2 Mr. Talbot proposes for this new art the name of Photogenic Drawing. 1839 TALBOT in *Lond. & Edin. Philos. Mag.* Mar. 1839 This paper, if properly made, is very useful for all ordinary photogenic purposes. 1839 *Proc. Scot. Soc. Arts* 27 Mar. in *Edinr. New Phil. Jrnl.* XXVII. 418 Dr. Fyfe V. P. described Mr. Talbot's process of Photogenic Drawing. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 113 *Photogenic drawings*, facsimile representations of objects produced according to the recent discovery of M. Daguerre. 1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 200 Many improvements in these photogenic drawings, as they have been termed, have been effected more especially by Mr. Fox Talbot, Sir John Herschel, and Mr. Alfred Taylor. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 388 They were having their portraits taken by the photogenic process. 1849 FROUDE *Nemesis of Faith* 124 Like the prepared mirror of the photogenic draughtsman. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 157 On this screen is placed a sheet of photogenic paper.

3. = PHOTOGENETIC.

1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 310 There are Grecian and Gothic lighthouses,..but even then we forget these absurdities in contemplating the beauty and perfection of their photogenic arrangements. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 49 A surrounding envelope of photogenic matter. 1876 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* 711 Those portions of the Moon's surface which are illumined by a very oblique ray from the Sun possess so little photogenic power that [etc.]. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 440 According to Schulze the males of *Lampyris splendidula* possess two photogenic organs.

Hence **Photoge'nically** *adv.*; also †**Pho:togenize** *v. trans.* = PHOTOGRAPH *v.* (*obs.*); **Photogenous** (fotŏ'dʒĭnəs) *a.* = PHOTOGENETIC; †**Photo'geny** = PHOTOGRAPHY (*obs. rare*).

1839 MEMES tr. *Daguerre's Photogenic Drawing* (ed. 3) 53 It was I [Daguerre] who first pointed out iodine .. as the sensitive coating upon which the image was to be created photogenically. 1841 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 297, I found grouped..upon the grass before the house, Kit Talbot, Lady E. Fielding, Lady Charlotte and Mrs. Talbot, for the purpose of being *photogenized by Henry Talbot, who was busy preparing his apparatus. 1888 *Nature* 20 Sept. 512/2 To reconcile their theory of *photogenous fermentation with the hypothesis of the oxidation of a phosphorated substance. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 113/1 *Photogenic Drawings*, facsimile representations of objects produced according to the recent discovery of M. Daguerre...Such apparatus is named after its inventor the Daguerreotype, and the process itself either *photogeny, photography, or heliography (sun-drawing).

Photoglyph (fō'utŏglif). [f. PHOTO- 2 + Gr. *γλυφή*: see GLYPH.] An engraved plate, such as can be printed from, produced by the action of light. So **Photogly'phic, Photogly'ptic** *adjs.*; **Pho:toglypho'graphy, Pho:toglyphy,** the art or process of engraving by means of the action of light and certain chemical processes; the production of photoglyphic plates and photoglyphs or photogravures.

1852 TALBOT in *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 444 The liquid [solution of perchloride of iron] penetrates the gelatine wherever the light has not acted on it, but it refuses to penetrate those parts upon which the light has sufficiently acted. It is upon this remarkable fact that the art of photoglyphic engraving is mainly founded. 1856 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 511/1 Photo-Glyphography is a process, invented by Mr. Fox Talbot, for etching a photograph into a steel plate. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Jan. 97/2 (*title*) Phototypes and Photoglyphs. *Ibid.* 98/1 To review the points in which these various processes of photoglyphy and phototypy concur. *Ibid.* 26 Feb. 242/1. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 517 Photoglyphic Engraving, a process of photo-etching invented by Fox-Talbot [1852].

Photogram (fō'utŏgræm). Now *rare.* [f. PHOTO- 2 + -GRAM (as in *telegram*): see etym. note to PHOTOGRAPH *sb.*] = PHOTOGRAPH.

1859 LUARD in *Archæol. Cantiana* II. 4 A lithographic drawing, from a photogram. 1859 (*title*) Photograms of an Eastern Tour, including Greece, Palestine, Egypt. 1874 H. T. GRIFFITH in *Cowper's Poems* I. Introd. 15 Not reproduced with the mechanical and soulless exactitude of the photogram. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 144/2 Portraits like these, such perfect photograms.

Photogrammeter (fō:utogræ'mĭtəɹ). [f. prec. + -METER.] A photographic camera combined with a theodolite, for use in surveying, or for taking pictures for use in map-making; a photo-theodolite.

1891 *Nature* 3 Sept. 426/2 One other instrument, quite recently added to the apparatus of the surveyor, is the photographic camera, converted for his especial benefit into a photogrammeter. 1893 *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 737/3 With respect to [lunar distances] the camera or photogrammeter yields more trustworthy results than does the sextant. 1898 *Nature* 14 Apr. 563/1 In the earliest form of surveying camera or photogrammeter,..the instrument consisted of little more than an ordinary bellows camera, set on a horizontal circle, and moving about a vertical axis.

So **Photogra'mmetry,** the art of surveying or mapping with the help of photography or a photogrammeter; hence **Photogramme'trical** *a.*, of or pertaining to photogrammetry.

1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xiv. 170 All these circumstances militate against the application of photogrammetry, as this mode of measurement has been called by Meyenbauer. 1891 *Athenæum* 11 July 67/1 He maintains that every explorer should provide himself with a photogrammetrical apparatus. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 55 Balloon photogrammetry.

Photograph (fō'utŏgrɑf), *sb.* [f. Gr. *φῶς, φωτο-* light (PHOTO- 1) + *-γραφος* written, delineated (cf. AUTOGRAPH, PARAGRAPH): as to origin, see PHOTOGRAPHY. Cf. Ger. *photograph*, F. *photographe*, photographer, f. Gr. *-γράφος* writer, delineator: see -GRAPH.

English has also in *telegraph* (from Fr.) and its likes, examples of *-graph* (Gr. *-γραφος*) in the agent sense, which have been complemented by forms in *-gram* (e.g. *telegram*) in the passive or resultant sense; influenced by which, some have used PHOTOGRAM, after *telegram*, instead of *photograph*; but this has not found general acceptance.]

A picture, likeness, or facsimile obtained by photography.

1839 (Mar. 14) SIR J. HERSCHEL in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 132 Pure water will fix the photograph by washing out the nitrate of silver. [*Note*, Twenty-three specimens of photographs, made by Sir John Herschel, accompany this paper; one a sketch of his telescope at Slough fixed from the image in a lens.] 1840 (Mar. 5) *Ibid.* 207 Hence are deduced..secondly, the possibility of the future production of naturally coloured photographs. 1841 TALBOT *Specif. Patent* No. 8842. 4 It is possible to strengthen and revive photographs. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 238 As evanescent as a photograph, which grows faint and fainter in tint the longer it remains exposed to the sun and air. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xiv. 158 A photograph taken from a photograph is never so fine as an original picture. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 649/1 The first man to obtain a permanent photograph, in the modern sense of the word, was Nicephore Niepce, a Frenchman, who died in 1833.

b. *fig.* A picture, *esp.* a mental or verbal image or delineation; a description having the exact detail of a photograph.

1852 BAILEY *Festus* XX. (ed. 5) 336 A photograph of pre-existent light Or Paradisal sun. 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* x. 94 [In the gospels] you have four photographs of Our Lord in different postures. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 403 While Domesday gives us a photograph, the compilers of codes give us an artistic picture.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *photograph album, book, camera, frame*; *photograph-like* adj.

1858 *N. Y. Tribune* 4 Nov. 1/2 The first number of *The Photograph News* appeared last Friday. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 3/2 The inimitable sketches of life in that little country town were at once recognised for their photograph-like fidelity. 1900 *Daily News* 19 Apr. 7/1 The photograph camera can be the biggest liar on the face of the earth.

Photograph (fō'utŏgrɑf), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To take a photograph of.

1839 SIR J. HERSCHEL *MS. Mems.* (on 2 Negatives) 'Photographed Feb. 17/39. Hyp. Sod.'—'Hyp. So., Hy. Su.; J. F. W. H. Photogr. Feb. 17/39'. *a* 1846 *Monthly Rev.* cited in WORCESTER. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 25 Mons. Souquet has photographed it. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 201 When a distant landscape is photographed, a large number of rays of light are concentrated upon the film. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. vi, One Raxton fair-day I induced Winnie to be photographed.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To practise photography, take photographs. (*fig.* in quot.)

1861 CARLYLE *Let.* in *Trench's Lett. & Mem.* (1888) I. 332 That charming bit of 'Diary'...It is..faithful as a picture by the sun; ..*photographing* for us in that manner.

c. *intr.* (for *passive*). To undergo being photographed; to 'take' (well or badly).

1893 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 28 Oct. 676/1, I do not photograph at all well.

2. *trans. fig.* To portray vividly in words; to fix or impress on the mind or memory.

1862 LADY MORGAN *Mem.* I. 21 These wild, incredible, and apparently fabulous scenes..are indelibly photographed on a memory from which few things..have been effaced. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* III. v. 296 In the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew He photographs the transaction in a scene of judgment.

Hence **Pho'tographed** *ppl. a.*, **Pho'tographing** *vbl. sb.*

1864 *Daily Tel.* 14 June, Who are all these photographed people? *c*1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sc.* I. 140/2 All attempts at photographing must..fail. *Ibid.* 157/2 The contrast of light and shade, on which depends the beauty of all photographed productions. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 241/2 Albums of photographed hands are fashionable. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 149 Photographing, or 'Light drawing' is both a physical and a chemical process.

Photographable (fōu·tŏ·grɑfăb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being photographed.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 July 2/3 When Thought is photographable! 1897 O. North in *Strand Mag.* XIV. 513 It would not have been photographable.

Photographee (fōu:tŏgrɑfī'). [f. as prec. + -EE: correl. to next.] The person who is photographed.

1859 *All Year Round* No. 30. 79 Picking up sorry crumbs as photographees, sitting as models. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 21 When there is a contract between the photographer and the photographee.

Photographer (fotŏ·grăfəɹ). [f. PHOTOGRAPHY + -ER[1]: cf. *geographer*, etc.] One who takes photographs; *esp.* one who practises photography as a profession or business. Also *attrib.*

1847 [J. E.] *Photography* 43 Photographers have seldom operated therewith for portraits. 1862 B. Taylor *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 387 A photographer on board took two or three views. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 1 To train a special body of men as photographers. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 July 4/2 There is no training-school for the photographer-journalist.

Photographic (fōu·tŏgræ·fik), *a.* [f. as PHOTOGRAPHY + -IC: see -GRAPHIC. (As to origin, see PHOTOGRAPHY.)] Of, pertaining to, used in, or produced by photography; engaged or skilled in photography.

1839 (Mar. 14) Herschel in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 131 His attention was first called to the subject of M. Daguerre's concealed photographic process, by a note dated the 22nd of January last. 1839 (April 10) A. Fyfe in *Edin. New Phil. Jrnl.* XXVII. 147 The use of the camera obscura for Photographic purposes. 1841 Talbot *Specif. Patent* No. 8842. 4 It should be taken on common photographic paper. *a* 1845 Hood *Daguerr. Portrait* i, Her nose, and her mouth, with the smile that is there, Truly caught by the Art Photographic! 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 74 He insisted on my photographic friends..dining with him. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 39 It is gradually formed in the Photographic Nitrate Bath.

b. *fig.* Accurately portraying life or nature; minutely accurate; mechanically imitative.

1864 *Reader* 26 Nov. 665/3 Amongst novels of the photographic order we should assign a very high place to 'Broken to Harness'. 1883 Ruskin *Art of Eng.* 30 Ouida's photographic story of 'A Village Commune'. 1890 *Chicago Advance* 24 July, Not..to be taken as pragmatical, photographic prose.

Photographical (fōu·tŏgræ·fikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Dealing with or relating to photography.

1846 in Worcester. 1871 Proctor *Light Sc.* 294 At a recent meeting of the Photographical Society.

Photographically (fōu·tŏgræ·fikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a photographic manner; by means of or in reference to photography; from a photographic point of view.

1847 [J. E.] *Photography* 45 The object..photographically pictured. 1856 *Engineer* 25 Apr. 227/2 The possibility of producing photographically..a printing surface of relievo and intaglio parts. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 118 The solution which renders the ivory photographically sensitive. 1882 Young *Sun* 262 Violet rays, which are photographically the most active.

fig. 1862 M. B. Edwards *John & I* xx. (1876) 159 This afternoon I have seen my life photographically, as it were. 1869 T. W. Wood in *Student* II. 83 The chrysalides of butterflies.., their shells being photographically sensitive for a short time after the caterpillars' skins have been shed, so that each individual assumes the colour most prevalent in its immediate vicinity.

Photographist (fotŏ·grăfist). Now *rare.* [f. PHOTOGRAPHY + -IST: cf. *geologist*, *botanist*, etc.] = PHOTOGRAPHER.

1843 W. H. T. *Photogr. Manip.* 3 One of the chief endeavours of the Photographist. 1848 *Art-Union Jrnl.* Jan. 18 The greatest difficulty the photographist has to contend with. 1872 Talmage *Serm.* 71 There are some faces so mobile that photographists cannot take them. *fig.* 1851 E. Hitchcock *Relig. Geol.* xii. 393 What if it should turn out that sable night..is an unerring photographist!

Photographize (fotŏ·grăfəiz), *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* = PHOTOGRAPH *v.*

1860 Kingsley *Misc.* II. 8 Nothing is possible but to photographize everybody and everything.

Photographometer (fōu:tŏgrăfŏ·mĭtəɹ). [f. as PHOTOGRAPH + -(O)METER, -METER.]

1. An instrument for ascertaining the degree of sensitiveness of photographic films to the chemical action of light; an actinometer.

1849 *Art Jrnl.* 96 With the photographometer of Mr. Claudet this is easily ascertained. 1853 R. Hunt *Man. Photogr.* 149 M. Claudet turned his attention to contrive an apparatus by which he could test at the same time the sensitiveness of the daguerreotype plate and the intensity of light. This instrument he called a Photographometer.

2. A photographic apparatus for automatically recording the angular position of objects around a given point.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 673/2.

Photographophone (fōu·tŏgræ·fŏfōun). [f. as PHOTOGRAPH + Gr. *φωνή* sound, voice, *-φωνος* sounding.] An instrument for recording and reproducing sounds by means of kinematographic photographs of a sensitive flame which are caused to affect a selenium cell, with telephones attached.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 June, Dr. Ruhmer, of Berlin, has invented what he calls a 'photographone', a new scientific marvel, with which he expects to be able to record a series of sounds of the human voice. 1902 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 498 Another invention..known as the photographophone.

Photographotype: see PHOTO- 2.

Photography (fotŏ·grăfi). [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, PHOTO- + *-γραφία* writing, delineation: see -GRAPHY.

So far as is known, *photography* was introduced, along with *photographic* and *photograph*, by Sir John Herschel, in a paper read before the Royal Society on 14 March 1839. (They may have suggested themselves to him as combining the approved elements of Talbot's *photo*genic and Niepce's *héliographie* and as being more suitable than either.) They gradually took their place as the general terms: in French, *art photographique* appears in the *Comptes Rendus* of the *Académie des Sciences*, VIII. 714, 6 May 1839; *photographie* and *photographique* were the terms used for the subject generally, by Arago, in his *Rapport* to the Chamber of Deputies on the project of Daguerre's pension, 3 July 1839; they are in common use in tome IX of the *Comptes Rendus* (July to Dec. 1839): see the Table des Matières.]

The process or art of producing pictures by means of the chemical action of light on a sensitive film on a basis of paper, glass, metal, etc.; the business of producing and printing such pictures.

1839 (Mar. 14) Herschel in *Proc. R. Soc.* IV. 131 Note on the Art of Photography, or the application of the Chemical Rays of Light to the purpose of Pictorial Representation. 1839 (Mar. 27) A. Fyfe in *Proc. Scot. Soc. Arts* 419 Paper smeared with the solution [of lunar caustic] is darkened. ..Hence the process of photogenic drawing [as pub. in May, in *Edin. New Phil. Jrnl.* XXVII. 145, altered to Hence the art of *Photography*]. 1839 *Ed. N. P. J.* XXVII. 156 (*Article*) Notes on Daguerre's Photography. By Sir John Robison. [Word not used in article.] 1840 (Mar. 5) Herschel (as above) IV. 206 A method of precipitating on glass a coating possessing photographic properties, and of accomplishing a new and curious extension of the art of photography. 1841 Talbot *Specif. Patent* No. 8842. 7 For the purposes of economy in the processes of photography. 1864 H. Spencer *Biol.* I. i. § 13 Light .. which works those chemical changes utilized in Photography. 1872 Proctor *Ess. Astron.* xxxiii. 395 Within the last few years solar photography has made a progress which is very promising.. as an aid to exact astronomy. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 796 Just now a great deal of attention is being given to chromo-photography, in which transparent colours are necessary.

Photograver (fōu·tŏgrā·vəɹ). [f. PHOTO- 2 + GRAVER.] A photo-engraver; an artist in photogravure.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Dec. 3/1 The Typographic Etching Company,..the photogravers of these and many other choice volumes.

Photogravure (fōu:tŏgrăviūə·ɹ), *sb.* [a. F. *photogravure*, f. PHOTO- + *gravure* engraving.] Photo-engraving; *esp.* the process of preparing a plate or matrix by transferring a photographic negative of a drawing, painting, or object to a metal plate, and then etching it in; a picture produced by this process. Also *attrib.*

1879 *Daily Tel.* 28 July 2/4 Photogravure reproductions in course of publication. 1880 A. S. Murray in *Academy* 4 Dec. 411 The perfection of photogravure with which the plates have been executed. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Nov. 3/2 Several photogravures of the graceful recent pictures of Sir Frederick Leighton. 1890 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 19 Dec. 72 Both painter and public.. must prefer a photogravure to the hard, formal..character of the line engraving.

Hence **Photogravu're** *v. trans.*, to reproduce by photogravure; **Photogravu'rist**, an artist or operator in photogravure.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Nov. 9/1 The work will be taken to Paris to be photogravured. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 251 A lithographer, or photogravurist, steps in and robs me of the result of my thought, skill and labor, without saying 'by your leave'.

Photoheliograph (fōu·tŏhē·liŏgrɑf). [f. PHOTO- + Gr. *ἥλιος* sun + -GRAPH: cf. HELIOGRAPH.] A photographic telescope adapted for taking photographs of the sun: = HELIOGRAPH 2.

1861 W. Fairbairn *Address Brit. Assoc.*, The careful registering of the appearances of the sun by the photoheliograph of Sir John Herschel. 1884 *Brit. Almanac*, Comp. 20 The great photoheliograph with which Mr. De la Rue took sun-pictures during the eclipse in Spain in 1860. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 8/2 This novel instrument will be practically a horizontal photo-heliograph, giving images of the moon exceeding a foot in diameter.

So **Pho·toheliogra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to a photoheliograph or to **Pho·tohelio·graphy**, the art or process of taking photographs of the sun; **Photo-he·lioscope** [see -SCOPE] = *photoheliograph.*

1865 *Reader* No. 141. 292/1 Perfection attained in photoheliography. 1871 Herschel *Outl. Astron.* (ed. 11) 261 Photographic representations of the spots have been made.. with a 'photohelioscope' at Kew. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Photoheliographic.* 1905 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 535/1 The volume of 'Greenwich Observations' for the year 1902..together with..'Magnetical and Meteorological Observations', and 'Photoheliographic Results'.

Photo-hyalotype to **-iodide**: see PHOTO-.

Photolith, Photolitho, abbreviations of PHOTOLITHOGRAPHIC *a.*

1864 *Autographic Mirror*, *Shaks. No.*, A Photo-Litho Portrait of Shakspeare, taken from the print by Martin Droeshout. 1870 *Holbein Soc. Publ.* (*title*) The Mirrovr of Maiestie, or Badges of Honovr Conceitedly Emblazoned, a photo-lith facsimile reprint from the only perfect copy in existence..A. D. 1618.

Photolithograph (fōu·tŏli·thŏgrɑf), *sb.* [f. PHOTO- 2 + LITHOGRAPH.] A print produced by photolithography.

1855 *Civil Engineer & Architects Jrnl.* 390 Prof. Ramsay ..described a process by which Mr. Robert Macpherson, of Rome, had succeeded in obtaining beautiful photo-lithographs. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 428/2 Much has been done..to aid the production..of photo-lithographs. 1877 *Archæol. Journal* XXXIII. 305 The greatly reduced scale of the photolithograph.

Hence **Photoli'thograph** *v. trans.*, to produce or copy by photolithography.

1864 (*title*) Shakespeare's Much Ado about Nothing, 1600. Photo-lithographed by R. Preston. 1872 Proctor *Ess. Astron.* xxviii. 346 This chart is now completed.. with photolithographed keymaps. 1874 Max Müller *Addr. Congress of Orientalists* Sel. Ess. II. 30 Three valuable MSS..have been photolithographed at the expense of the Indian Government.

Photolithographer (fōu:tŏli|thŏ·grăfəɹ). [f. PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY, after LITHOGRAPHER.] One who practises photolithography.

1857 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XIII. 514/2 Specimens which we have seen by photo-lithographers in Paris, Munich, and Rome. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xix. 281 We see very few heliographers and photolithographers.

Photolithographic (fōu:tŏli|thŏgræ·fik), *a.* [f. as prec., after LITHOGRAPHIC.] Pertaining to or produced by photolithography.

1867 Murchison *Siluria* xi. (ed. 4) 251 *note*, I received.. photolithographic representations. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 289/1 A photo-lithographic impression of a negative. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 358 A reduced photolithographic reproduction of Tunstall's 'Ornithologia Britannica'. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* 24 July 49/3 From the original or negative ..a photo-lithographic plate is taken.

Photolithography (fōu:tŏli|thŏ·grăfi). [f. PHOTO- 2 + LITHOGRAPHY.] The art or process of producing, by photography, designs upon lithographic stone (or a similar substance), from which prints may be taken as in ordinary lithography.

1856 W. A. Miller *Elem. Chem.* II. Index, Photolithography. 1858 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* VI. 328 Specimens of photo-lithography executed by Mr. Rehn of Philadelphia. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xv. 251 Photography..entered into competition with lithography. It was Poitevin who allied the two by inventing photo-lithography.

Photo-lithotype: see PHOTO- 2.

Photology (fotŏ·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, PHOTO- 1 + -LOGY.] The science of light; optics. Hence **Photolo·gic, Photolo·gical** *adjs.*, pertaining to photology, optical; **Photo·logist**, one versed in photology.

1828 Webster, *Photologic, Photological..Photology* (citing Mitchill). 1833 Herschel *Absorption of Light* in *Fam. Lect. Sc.* (1866) 477 The phœnomena of absorption..have always appeared to me to constitute a branch of photology *sui generis*. *Ibid.* 479 The question 'What becomes of light?' which appears to have been agitated among the photologists of the last century. *a* 1866 — *Light* ibid. 265 The painter should never forget that his notion of colour (as compared with that of the photologist) is a negative one. 1865 *All the Year Round* 11 Mar. 149/1 Photological phenomena are made known to us by..the sense of sight.

Photolysis to -magnetism: see PHOTO- 1.

Pho·to-magnetograph (-mægnē·tŏgrɑf). [f. PHOTO- 2 + MAGNETOGRAPH.] An instrument by which records of the fluctuations of the magnetic needle are obtained photographically.

1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 228 Facts of magnetic perturbations taken from the photo-magnetographs of the United States Naval Observatory. *Ibid.* 230 A magnetic storm described as very strong was also recorded by the photomagnetographs.

Photo-mapper to **Photo-metallography**: see PHOTO- 2.

Pho·to-mecha·nical, *a.* [PHOTO- 2.] Combining a photographic and a mechanical process.

1889 [see *Photophane*, PHOTO- 2]. 1892 Woodbury *Encycl. Phot.* 533 The term photo-mechanical is applied to all processes in which the action of light upon chemical substances becomes the means of preparing printing surfaces from which many impressions can be made without any further assistance of light.

Photometer (fotŏ·mĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, PHOTO- + -METER: in mod.L. *photometrum*, 1760.] The name of instruments (of many kinds) for measuring the intensity of light, or for comparing the relative intensities of light from different sources.

[1760: see PHOTOMETRY.] 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 487 We wish for an Hygrometer, an Electrometer, a Photometer. 1793 Rumford *ibid.* LXXXIV. 73, I have now brought the principal instrument to such a degree of perfection, that, if I might without being suspected of affectation, I should dignify it with a name, and call it a photometer. *c* 1865 Letheby in *Circ. Sc.* I. 92/2 Leslie and Wheatstone have also invented photometers. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 811 Very many different patterns of photometers have been introduced and used during the last thirty years.

Photometric (fōutŏme·trik), *a.* [f. PHOTOMETRY + -IC.] Of or pertaining to photometry.

1849 *Lit. Gaz.* 24 Feb. 132/1 He [Grove] had tested by the photometric method of equality of shadows the intensity of the light as compared with a common wax candle. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 175 Interesting photometric experi-

ments..on the relative light of the principal stars. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 663.

So **Photome·trical** *a.*, dealing with photometry; made or measured by a photometer; = **Photome·trically** *adv.*, according to photometry, by means of a photometer; **Photometrician** (-i·shăn), **Photometrist** (-ǫ·mĕtrist), one who practises photometry.

1833 Herschel *Astron.* xii. 375 A numerical estimate, grounded on precise *photometrical experiments, of the apparent brightness of each star. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 26 Sept., The photometrical standard [of gas-light] is more than twice as high in many other places than it is in London. 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* v. 95 In measuring *photometrically the light of these three different structures. 1883 *Athenæum* 16 June 766/2 Method of determining the magnitudes of stars photometrically. 1870 Proctor *Other Worlds* v. 143 The estimates of Zöllner, the eminent *photometrician, serve to show..that Jupiter sends more light to us..than a planet of equal size and constituted like Mars, the moon, or the earth, could possibly reflect to us if placed where Jupiter is. 1867 W. R. Bowditch *Coal Gas* iii. 67 The best way for a *photometrist to be certain of his instruments is to test them himself.

Photometry (fŏtǫ·mĕtri). [ad. mod.L. *phōtometria* (1760), f. Gr. *φῶς*, *φωτο-* light, Photo- + *-μετρία* measuring, -metry.] Measurement of light; comparison of the intensity of light from different sources; the use of a photometer.

[1760 Lambert *Photometria* 7 Optandum certe esset, ut excogitaretur Photometrum thermometro analogum, quod lumini expositum ejus intensitatem atque claritatem indicaret.] 1824 R. Watt *Biblioth. Brit.* s.v. *J. H. Lambert*, Photometry. 1830 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) *Prelim. Dissert.* 637/2 The eighteenth century created a new branch of optical science, destined to measure or compare the intensities of different lights, and therefore termed Photometry. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 24 Nov. 4/6 So far as photometry is concerned, the metropolitan [gas] companies have usually complied with the law. 1876 G. F. Chambers *Astron.* vi. i. 480 The subject of the photometry of stars..has received but little attention from practical astronomers.

Photo-mezzotype: see Photo- 2.

Photomicrograph (fōu·tǫ,mai·krŏgrɑf). [f. Photo- 2 + Gr. *μικρό-s* small, Micro- + -graph: cf. Micrograph.] A photograph of a microscopic object on a magnified scale. So **Photomi·crogram** in same sense; **Photomicro·grapher**, one who takes photomicrographs; **Pho·tomicrogra·phic** *a.*, pertaining to photomicrography; used for taking photomicrographs; **Pho·tomicro·graphy**, the art of obtaining photographs of microscopic objects on a magnified scale.

1858 G. Shadbolt in *Sutton's Photogr. Notes* III. 208 The word microphotograph originated, I believe, with myself, and is applied, I think correctly, to very small photographs, not to photographs of small objects, which would more correctly be photomicrographs. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xiv. 53 A photo-micrographic camera..for taking photographs of..microscopic objects. 1865 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 510/2 Photo-Micrography consists in the enlargement of microscopic objects, by means of the microscope, and the projection of the enlarged image on a sensitive collodion film. 1866 J. J. Woodward *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XLII. 190 The paper..is illustrated by photomicrographs reproduced by photolithography. 1870 R. J. Fowler in *Eng. Mech.* 4 Feb. 501/3 By uniting the photomicrographic object glass..with the eyepiece .., the apparatus becomes a dioptric compound microscope. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 156 The admitted advantage which Photomicrography offers to the microscopist for recording the images seen under the microscope. 1893 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Aug. 487 Illustrated by..photomicrographs of affected nerves. 1896 *Nature* 24 Sept. 490/1 Excellent stained preparations of bacteria, taken by..well-known photomicrographers. 1903 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 May 417/1 It would have been better..to keep the photomicrograms and the delineations of the trunk-bark separate.

Pho·tomicrosco·pic, *a.* [Photo- 2.] Produced on a microscopic scale by photography.

1870 *Daily News* 7 Dec., The thousands..of private photomicroscopic telegrams from all parts of the country brought in [to Paris] by pigeon post.

Photo-nephograph to **Photophobe**: see Photo- 1, 2.

‖ **Photophobia** (fōutǫfōu·biă). *Path.* Also anglicized **-phoby.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῶς* light, Photo- + -phobia.] Dread of or shrinking from light, esp. as a symptom of diseases of the eyes.

1799 Hooper *Dict. Med.*, *Photophobia*, such an intolerance of light, that the eye, or rather the retina, can scarcely bear it's irritating rays. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Photophobia*, ..photophoby. 1869 G. Lawson *Dis. Eye* (1874) 15 The lids are then red, swollen, and spasmodically closed, from the excessive photophobia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 708 The retina [in albinos] is unprotected, and there is consequent photophobia.

Hence **Photophobic** (-fǫ·bik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with photophobia; dreading light; ‖ **Pho·tophobophthalmia** (-fǫbǫfθæ·lmiă) [mod. L.], ophthalmia attended with photophobia.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, Photophobophthalmia. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Photophobicus*, of or belonging to Photophobia: photophobic. *Ibid.*, Ophthalmy, with excessive intolerance of the light: photophobophthalmy. 1878 T. Bryant *Pract. Surg.* I. 89 The affection is attended with photophobic pain about the orbit and sclerotic injection.

Photophone (fōu·tǫfōun). [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, Photo- + *-φωνος* sounding, sounder, *φωνή* voice, sound.] Any apparatus in which sounds are transmitted by light; *esp.* that invented by A. Graham Bell and Sumner Tainter in 1880, by means of which sound-vibrations are conveyed to a distance by means of a beam of light reflected from a mirror and received upon a sensitive selenium cell by means of which the sounds are reproduced. See Radiophone.

1880 A. Graham Bell in *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* CX. 246 We have named the apparatus for the production and reproduction of sound in this way 'The Photophone', because an ordinary beam of light contains the rays which are operative. 1880 *Athenæum* 25 Sept. 405/2 The sensibility of the metal selenium to the action of the solar spectrum recommends it as the most favourable substance for use in the 'photophone', as the new instrument is called. 1889 Preece & Maier *Telephone* 104 Bell and Sumner Tainter have constructed an apparatus, to which they gave the name of 'photophone', which enabled them to reproduce words at a distance by the aid of luminous rays.

Hence **Photophonic** (-fǫ·nik) *a.*, pertaining to or produced by the photophone; **Photophony** (fōtǫ·fŏni), the use of the photophone; the conveyance of sound-vibrations by means of light.

1880 A. Graham Bell in *Athenæum* 4 Dec. 747/3 (*title of paper*) On Methods of preparing Selenium and other Substances for Photophonic Experiments. 1881 S. P. Thompson in *Nature* 17 Feb. 366/2 An elegant series of researches in photophony. 1882 *Nature* 16 Feb. 377/1 Yielding radiophonic and photophonic sounds when illuminated by intermittent beams of different kinds.

Photophore (fōu·tǫfōɹ). [mod.ad. Gr. *φωτοφόρος* light-bearing or -bringing: see Photo- and -phore.]

1. An apparatus with an electric light, used for examination of internal organs of the body and for other purposes.

1885 *Athenæum* 12 Dec. 773/3 Mr. J. Mayall, jun., exhibited the Helot-Trouvé electric photophore, which had been recommended as an excellent illuminant for microscopical purposes. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Photophore*, the name for an electric light for use in laryngoscopy, adapted to a forehead-band, so as to be reflected by the laryngoscopic mirror into the mouth and throat under examination.

2. A luminiferous organ in certain animals.

1898 *Nature* 23 June LVIII. 192/1 The new bathybial fish from Lord Howe Island, ...*Æthoprora perspicillata*, ..distinguished..by the presence of a pair of supernumerary photophores between the upper angle of the eye and the ante-orbital.

Photophosphorescent to **-salt**: see Photo-.

Photoscope (fōu·tǫskǫup). [f. Photo- + -scope.] **a.** A means of examining light, e. g. for purposes of analysis. **b.** An instrument for measuring the intensity of light by means of the varying electrical resistance of some substance sensitive to light, such as selenium. **c.** (See quot. 1896.) **d.** [with *photo-* taken as = *photograph*.] A lens or apparatus with lenses, through which photographs are viewed.

1872 tr. *Schellen's Spectr. Anal.* xli. 230 The solar spectrum is the most perfect photoscope that in the present state of science can be imagined. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1690/1 *Photoscope*, an instrument or apparatus for exhibiting photographs. 1896 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo) VI. 16 An instrument called a 'photoscope'..to examine certain internal parts of the human body..with the aid of sunlight only.

Photoscopic (-skǫ·pik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ic.] **a.** Pertaining to the examination of light. **b.** Belonging to a photoscope.

1872 tr. *Schellen's Spectr. Anal.* xli. 230, I..recommend to the scientific investigator a camera obscura specially adapted to these photoscopic observations.

Photo-sculptural to **-spectroscopy**: see Photo- 2.

Photosphere (fōu·tǫsfīɹ). [f. Photo- + Gr. *σφαῖρα* ball, Sphere.]

1. A sphere or orb of light, radiance, or glory. (In mod. use only as *fig.* from 2.)

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* iii. § 15. 503 Though .. Christ be surrounded with Gleams and Raies of inaccessible Light and Glory, which envelop his Body, ..yet if any mortal could get within this so refulgent Photosphere (as I may so call it) or Orb of glory and brightness [etc.]. 1878 Symonds *Shelley* v. 97 The central motive of *Laon and Cythna* is surrounded by so radiant a photosphere of imagery and eloquence that it is difficult to fix our gaze upon it. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* II. xiv, Her hopes mingled with the sunshine in an ideal photosphere which surrounded her as she bounded along the soft south wind.

2. *Astron.* The luminous envelope of the sun (or a star), from which its light and heat radiate.

1848 Herschel *Ess.* (1857) 287 A self-luminous nebulous matter, of a vaporous or gaseous nature, of which these photospheres, and, perhaps, some entire nebulæ, may consist. 1861 W. Fairbairn *Addr. Brit. Assoc.*, The remarkable discoveries of Kirchoff and Bunsen require us to believe that a solid or liquid photosphere is seen through an atmosphere containing iron, sodium, lithium, and other metals in a vaporous condition. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 137 That envelope of glowing clouds surrounding the Sun which we call the photosphere.

Photospheric (fōutǫsfe·rik), *a. Astron.* [f. prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the photosphere.

1865 *Reader* 7 Jan. 16/3 Photospheric clouds affecting forms reminding one of the flocculent mass of an incandescent metal, in suspension in a liquid. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* III. ii. 266 Above the photospheric layer [of the sun] lies an atmosphere of a very complex nature. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 196 The selective absorption of photospheric light.

Photo-sulphate to **-tachometry**: see Photo-.

Phototactic (fōutǫtæ·ktik), *a. Biol.* [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, Photo- 1 + *τακτικ-ός* fit for ordering or arranging.] Of cells or organisms: Characterized by arranging themselves in some particular way under the influence of light.

1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 62/1 Protoplasmic masses which respond to the directive action of light are said to be 'phototactic'. 1901 G. N. Calkins *Protozoa* 296 The most phototactic forms are the flagellated cells.

So ‖ **Photota·xis** *Biol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *τάξις* arrangement], spontaneous arrangement of cells or small organisms under the influence of light.

1893 in *Athenæum* 16 Sept. 375/3. 1901 G. N. Calkins *Protozoa* 296 Light as well as heat rays frequently have a similar directive effect upon Protozoa, a phenomenon called *phototaxis* by Strasburger. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 4 May 1070 The phototaxis of certain algæ.

Phototelegraphy to **-tint**: see Photo-.

‖ **Phototonus** (fōtǫ·tŏnŭs). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῶς*, *φωτο-* light (see Photo-) + *τόνος* tension, Tone.] Name given by Sachs to the normal condition of sensitiveness to light in leaves and other organs, maintained by continued exposure to light, as opposed to the rigidity induced by long exposure to darkness. Hence **Phototonic** (fōutǫtǫ·nik) *a.*, exhibiting phototonus; sensitive to light.

1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 678 The power of movement in plants is lost when they have remained in the dark for a considerable time..; in other words, they become rigid by long exposure to darkness..; the exposure to light must continue for a considerable time..before the motile condition which I have termed 'Phototonus' is restored. *Ibid.* 790 Changes in the intensity of the light produce the same effect as irritants, but only on healthy phototonic plants; leaves which have become rigid from exposure to the dark show no irritability to variations in its intensity until they have again become phototonic from long-continued exposure to light.

Photo-trichroma·tic, *a.* [f. Photo- 2 + Trichromatic.] Of or pertaining to three colours used in colour-photography, or to colour-photography in which three colours are used.

1896 C. G. Zander (*title*) Photo-trichromatic printing. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 May 9/3 The photo-trichromatic inks of commerce are not optically the true complements of the red, violet, and green, which are the primary colour sensations.

Phototropic (fōutǫtrǫ·pik), *a. Bot.* [f. Photo- + Gr. *-τρόπος* turning + -ic: cf. Gr. *τροπικός* of or pertaining to turning.] Bending or turning under the influence of light: a more accurate substitute for Heliotropic. So **Phototro·pically** *adv.*, **Photo·tropism.**

1899 C. B. Davenport *Exper. Morphol.* II. 437 Effect of Light upon the Direction of Growth—Phototropism. [*Note.*] On some accounts it is unfortunate to accept this word rather than the older, more familiar term 'heliotropism'; but..the latter is obviously unfitted to our broader view of the subject. *Ibid.* 438 Aquatic plants..are only very slightly phototropic. *Ibid.* 440 Etiolated willow shoots, upon which ..the more strongly refractive rays only act phototropically. 1900 *Nature* 4 Jan. 219/1 The comparative effects of flash light and steady light in producing phototropism in seedling plants.

Phototype (fōu·tǫtaip), *sb.* [f. Gr. *φῶς* light, Photo- + -type.] A plate or block for printing from, produced by a photographic process, or by a combination of photography with etching or some mechanical process; also, the process by which such a plate is produced, or a picture, etc., printed from it. Formerly, name of a process of carbon printing invented by M. Joubert. Also *attrib.*

1859 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Feb. 242/1 The term Phototypes being reserved for such as yield impressions that may be taken off from a flat surface by a mechanical method of printing, analogous to that of the lithographer or of the anastatic printer. 1867 *Athenæum* 20 July 90/1 The process generally employed has been that of lithography from the phototype. 1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 441 A phototype portrait of the late Thomas A. Scott. 1888 *Academy* 16 June 405/1 The phototypes are frequently too dark and sombre. 1902 Wall *Dict. Photogr.* 503 *Phototype*, a mechanical printing process in which a gelatine film itself is used to print from.

Hence **Pho·totype** *v. trans.*, to reproduce (a picture, MS., etc.) by means of phototypy; **Phototypic** (-ti·pik) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phototype; **Phototy·pically** *adv.*, by means of a phototype; **Pho·totypist**, a maker of phototypes; **Pho·totypy**, the art or process of making phototypes.

1859 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Jan. 98/1 Each of the phototypic methods at present before the world..seeks to attain this object by acting upon one and the same fundamental chemical fact. *Ibid.*, Various processes of photoglyphy and phototypy. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 17 Dec. 385/1 A combined albumen and asphalt process of phototypy. 1888 *Athenæum* 11 Aug. 198/3 May Prof. Brunn and his editor, his phototypist and his subscribers, live for ever. 1891 *Chicago Advance* 16 July, Phototypically. *Mod.* The MS. is being phototyped.

Phototypography (fōu·tǫtaipǫ·grăfi). [f. Photo- + Typography.] Printing from an engraving in relief produced by a photo-mechanical process. Hence **Phototypographic** (fōutǫ,tipǫgræ·fik) *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of phototypography.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Phototypographic*. 1892 Woodbury *Encycl. Phot.* 540 Phototype..is now applied to a method

of Collotype or Albertype printing and to blocks produced by any photo-typographic process. *Ibid.*, *Photo-typography*, a general term applied .. to a large number of processes in which printing surfaces are made by the aid of light.

Photovitrotype to **-xylography**: see PHOTO-.

Photozinco (fō·tozĭnk), **Photozi·ncо**, abbrev. of PHOTOZINCOGRAPHIC *a.*

1884 *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 88/3 From the Ordnance Survey photozinc facsimile of the original charter. 1892 WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 540 Photo-zinco Engraving = Photo-zincography.

Photozincography (fō·tozĭnkŏ·grăfi). [f. PHOTO- + ZINC + -GRAPHY.] The art or process of producing by photographic methods a design on a zinc plate from which prints can be taken (analogous to PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY). Hence **Photozi·ncograph** *sb.*, a plate, or a picture or facsimile, produced by photozincography; **Photozi·ncograph** *v. trans.*, to produce or copy by photozincography; **Pho·tozincogra·phic, -ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to, of the nature of, or produced by photozincography.

1860 (Feb. 4) Sir H. JAMES *Rep. Progr. Ordnance Survey* 6 (Parl. Papers XXIII. 400) We have also tried a method.. by which the reduced print is in a state to be at once transferred to stone or zinc, from which any number of copies can be taken, as in ordinary lithographic or zincographic printing. ..I have called this new method Photo-zincography. 1860 — *Photo-zincography* 5 By the term Photo-Zincography is meant .. the art of producing a photographic facsimile of any subject, such as a manuscript, a map, or line engraving, and transferring the photograph to zinc, thereby obtaining the power of multiplying copies in the same manner as is done from a drawing on a lithographic stone, or on a zinc plate. 1861 (*title*) Domesday Book: Cornwall. Photo-Zincographed .. at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton. 1862 SCOTT & JAMES *Photo-zincography* Pref. 4 This was the first Photo-zincograph ever taken here or elsewhere. *Ibid.* 1 The Photo-zincographic and Analogous Processes practised at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 11/1 With large photo-zincographical plates prepared at Southampton under the superintendence of Sir Henry James. 1866 *Contemp. Rev.* III. 520 The reproduction of facsimiles by the photo-zincographic process. 1877 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. Introd. 50 The process of photozincography is available. 1895 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 56 The sheets..are photozincographed.

Photozi·ncotype. [f. PHOTO- + ZINCOTYPE.] A plate for printing from, produced by photo-zincography. So **Photozincotypy** (-zĭŋkŏtəipi), printing from photozincotypes; photozincography.

1886 *Sci. Amer.* 24 July 49/2 (*heading*) Photo-zincotypy and other Photographic Printing Methods for the Printing Press...In place of wood cuts, photo-zincotypes are very often used.

‖ **Photuria** (fŏtiŭ·riă) *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῶς, φωτ-* light + *οὖρον* urine.] Phosphorescence of the urine (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1853).

‖ **Photuris** (fŏtiŭ·ris). *Entom.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῶς, φωτ-* light + *οὐρά* tail.] A genus of American coleopterous fire-flies of the *Lampyridæ* or glowworm family; *esp.* the common firefly or lightning-bug of the eastern United States (*P. pennsylvanica*).

1883 C. F. HOLDER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 190/2 In the foliage..the brilliant green light of the photuris appears.

‖ **Phragma** (fræ·gmă). *Nat. Hist.* Pl. **-ata.** Rarely anglicized as **phragm.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *φράγμα, -ματ-* fence; in mod.F. *phragme* (Littré).] A partition, septum: *spec.* **a.** *Entom.* A transverse partition separating the prothorax from the mesothorax, found in some insects, as the Mole-cricket.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 368 Phragma (the Phragm). The Septum that closes the posterior orifice of the Prothorax in Gryllotalpa. *Ibid.* xxxv. 582 The phragm, or septum of the prothorax is most conspicuous in the mole-cricket (Gryllotalpa), in which it is a hairy ligament attached to the inside of the upper and lateral margins of the base of that part: inclining inwards, it forms the cavity which receives the mesothorax.

b. *Bot.* See quot. 1866.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 136 Tribulus has the fruit separating into spiny nuts, with transverse phragmata. 1863 J. H. BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 447. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Phragma*, a spurious dissepiment in fruits, i. e. one which is not formed by the sides of carpels; a partition, of whatever kind.

Hence **Phragma·tic** *a.* (see quot.).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phragmaticus*, .. applied to cattle, etc., which suffer from colic or obstruction of the bowels: phragmatic.

Phra·gmocone. *Zool.* Also *erron.* **phragma-.** [f. Gr. *φραγμό-ς* fence (or *φραγμο-* = *φραγματο-*: see prec., and cf. *σπερμο-*) + *κῶνος* CONE.] The conical chambered internal skeleton of a fossil belemnite; also, by extension, the corresponding spiral or otherwise shaped part in other fossil cephalopods.

1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 141 (*Actinocamax*) The species..had no true alveolar cavity or phragmacone. 1851-6 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 48 Its phragmocone is but the representative of the calcareous axis (or splanchno-skeleton) of a coral. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 451 [In Belemnites] a small chambered cone, called the phragmocone..which has a siphuncle. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 457 The chambered shell ..known in *Belemnitidae* as 'phragmacone'.

Hence **Phragmoco·nic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of the phragmocone of a belemnite.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phragmo·phorous, *a. Zool.* [ult. f.. Gr. *φραγμο-* (see prec.) + *-φόρος* bearing + -OUS.] Having a phragmocone; belonging to the *Phragmophora*, a section of decacerous cephalopods, having a phragmocone. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phraisse, var. PHAIRS, obs. Sc. f. FARCE *sb.*[2]

Phrampell, obs. form of FRAMPOLD.

Phrantic, -ick, obs. forms of FRANTIC.

Phrasal (frē·zăl), *a.* [f. PHRASE + -AL.] Of the nature of or consisting of a phrase.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 445 Often we see that we are obliged to translate a flexional Greek adverb by a phrasal English one. *Ibid.* § 529 A third series .. are the phrasal prepositions, consisting of more than one word.

Phrase (frēz), *sb.* Also 6 in form **phrasis**; 6 **phraze, phrais**; *Sc.* (chiefly in sense 4) 7–9 **frase**, 8–9 **fraise**, 8 **fraze.** [ad. late L. *phrasis*, a. Gr. *φράσις* speech, way of speaking, phraseology, f. *φράζ-ειν* to point out, indicate, declare, tell; possibly through F. *phrase* (which however is not cited before Montaigne *c*1575), also *frase*; so It., Sp. *frase*, OSp., Pg. *phrase*; Du., Ger. *phrase.*]

1. Manner or style of expression, esp. that peculiar to a language, author, literary work, etc.; characteristic mode of expression; diction, phraseology, language.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 39 Of the differences of phrasys betwene our tong and the frenche tong. .. The phrasys of our tong and theyrs differeth chefely in thre thynges. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 38 Yt is the comon phrase of scripture to saye *spiritus sanctificationis pro spiritu sancto* [etc.]. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* Pref. (1556) 3 Conforme the stile thereof with the Phrase of our Englishe. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 207 From Paules I went, to Eaton sent, To learn streight waies the latin phraies. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 137 So I would have abiect and base phrase eschewed. 1593 DRAYTON *Eclogues* iv. 19 These men..press into the learned troop With filed Phraze to dignifie their Name. *a*1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xliv, 3it, as I dar, my deutie sall be done With more affectione nor with formall phrais. *a*1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 20 The Bible is rather translated into English Words, than into English Phrase. The Hebraisms are kept, and the Phrase of that Language is kept. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* vi. (1840) II. 6 Adam Davie writes in a less intelligible phrase than many .. antient bards. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle Palms* iv. 619 Her Mary tells in simple phrase Of wildest perils in former days. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* vii. 205 The supreme felicity of phrase in which he has no equal.

2. A small group or collocation of words expressing a single notion, or entering with some degree of unity into the structure of a sentence; an expression; esp. one in some way peculiar to or characteristic of a language, dialect, author, book, etc.; an idiomatic expression.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 42 The table of verbes where all suche phrasys be set out at the length. *Ibid.* 814/2 Whan all is doone and sayd, *pour tout potaige*, a phrasis. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 64 b, By the mistaking of wordes, or by false vnderstanding of phrases. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. xi. (1614) 59 The liquid pitch floateth on the top of the water, like clouted creame, to vse his owne phrase. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., Some words or phrases of ancient usage. 1697 W. POPE *Bp. S. Ward* 104 My lord, I might bear you in hand; a western frase, signifying to delay or keep in expectation. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 13 This phrase, *a priori*, is in common most grossly misunderstood. 1875 HELPS *Ess., Advice* 50 'If I were you' is a phrase often on our lips. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 334 The phrase 'it would have been', is a dangerous phrase to use in the study of history.

† b. Applied to a single word. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 79 Accommodated, it comes of *Accommodo*: very good, a good Phrase. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 33 Conuay: the wise it call: Steale? foh: a fico for the phrase. 1699 COTES tr. *Dupin's Hist. O. & N. Test.* I. I. i. 3 St. Jerom is one of the first who absolutely us'd the Phrase of *Canon* to denote the Catalogue of the Sacred Books.

c. *Grammatical Analysis*: see quot. 1865.

1852 MORELL *Anal. Sent.* § 17 The predicate may be extended in various ways:—1. By an adverb, or an adverbial phrase. 1865 DALGLEISH *Gram. Anal.* 15 A phrase is a combination of words without a predicate; a clause is a term of a sentence containing a predicate within itself, as *Phrase*, spring returning; *Clause*, when spring returns. 1904 C. T. ONIONS *Adv. Eng. Syntax* 13 Adverb-equivalents: (1) A Phrase formed with a Preposition—He hunts *in the woods*. ..(4) A Clause—*When you come*, I will tell you. *Ibid.* 15 Two or more Sentences, Clauses, Phrases, or Single Words, linked together by one of the Conjunctions *and, but, or, nor, for*, are called co-ordinate .. [as] A youth *to fortune* and *to fame* unknown; *To be* or *not to be*—that is the question.

3. A peculiar or characteristic combination of words used to express an idea, sentiment, or the like in an effective manner; a short, pithy, or telling expression; sometimes, a meaningless, trite, or high-sounding form of words.

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 1 b, These be their sweete and amiable wordes, and lovely phrases. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 166 A man in all the worlds new fashion planted, That hath a mint of phrases in his braine. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 19 Thus man degrades himselfe, and (according to the phrase, *Apoc.* 19. 20) receives ..the mark of the beast. 1780 COWPER *Let. to Hill* 16 Mar., To use the phrase of all who ever wrote upon the state of Europe, the political horizon is dark indeed. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, Greyhounds .. who were wont, in his own phrase, to fear neither dog nor devil. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 578 The phrase was tossed about till it bore no certain meaning. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xii. 164 He called him, in the Senate, 'the saviour of the world'. Cicero was delighted with the phrase. 1899 *Daily News* 20 July 6/4 Humanity is the slave of phrase, and the phrase, 'Integrity of the Turkish Empire', is as much a matter of course to the English as 'Britannia rules the waves'.

4. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Exclamatory or exaggerated talk; an outburst of words, whether in wonder, admiration, boastfulness, praise, or flattery; 'gush'; esp. in *to make* (*a*) *phrase*, to express one's feelings in an exclamatory way, to 'gush', to make much ado about a person or thing (sometimes implying mere talk); *to make muckle* or *little phrase about*, to talk or express one's feelings much or little about.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, He may indeed, for ten or fifteen days Mak muckle o' ye, with an unco fraise. *Ibid.* v. iii, I ne'er was good at speaking a' my days, Or ever lov'd to make o'er great a frase. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* III. 105 Gin that's the gate, we need na mak gryte fraze. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxiv, An honest lad that likit you weel, though he made little phrase about it. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House w. Green Shutters* 175 He made a great phrase with me.

5. *Mus.* Any (comparatively) short passage, forming a more or less independent member of a longer passage or 'sentence', or of a whole piece or movement.

1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* IV. 27 More forms or phrases of musical recitation still in use, may be found in Peri and Caccini, than in Monteverde. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* iii. 82 A phrase extends over about two bars, and usually contains two or more motives, but sometimes only one. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. *Notes* 228 In the overture to *Don Giovanni* a certain musical phrase occurs which is not repeated till the finale. 1880 SIR C. H. PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 706/1 The complete divisions are generally called periods, and the lesser divisions phrases. The word is not and can hardly be used with much exactness and uniformity.

6. *Fencing.* A continuous passage in an assault without any cessation of attack and defence.

Common in mod. French, and occasionally used by recent Eng. writers on Fencing. (Sir F. Pollock.)

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *phrase-coiner, -composition, -compound, -Latin, -repeater, -type*; **phrase-book**, a book containing a collection of idiomatic phrases used in a language, with their explanation or translation; also *attrib.*; † **phrase-like** *adv.*, phrase by phrase; **phrase-maker**, a maker of telling or fine-sounding phrases; **phrase-mark**, a sign in musical notation to indicate the proper phrasing: see sense 5; **phrase-monger**, one who deals in or is addicted to fine-sounding phrases; so **phrase-mongering, -mongery.** Also PHRASEMAN.

1600 NASHE *Summer's last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 149 Hang copies, flye out *phrase books, let pennes be turnd to picktooths. 1723 [see *phrase-Latin*]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Oct. 2/1 You must have a phrase-book knowledge of the language. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 17 May 3/2 Professional *phrase-coiners. 1902 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* 70 *Phrase-composition..is alike active in slang and in law-abiding speech. *Ibid.* 188 Native *phrase-compounds are *beside,..betimes,..undershot, overlord* [etc.]. 1723 S. MORLAND *Spec. Dict. Eng. & Lat.* 5 There have..been some Phrase Books put out into the World, and esteemed as a Supplement to Dictionarys..'Twas my Father's Opinion, that to these we owe the Introduction of a thing call'd *Phrase-Latin. 1549 W. BALDWIN (*title*) The Canticles or Balades of Salomon, *phraselyke declared in Englysh Metres. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 291 This *phrase-maker Hath ta'en thy very senses. 1901 *Academy* 23 Mar. 247 All the characters are phrase-makers and epigrammatists. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 149 The ineffable little old *phrase-monger. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 122 If Robespierre had been a statesman instead of a phrase-monger, he had a clear course. 1879 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* iii. (1886) 73 The jackanapes *phrasemongering of some Osric of the day. 1830 *Examiner* 508/2 We have commenced with his *phrase-mongery, and from it we shall proceed to some specimens of his philosophy.

Phrase, *v.* Also 6–7 **frase.** [f. prec. sb. Cf. F. *phraser* (1755 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *intr.* To employ a phrase or phrases.

*a*1550 *Image Hypocr.* III. 475 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 439 Thoughe ye glose and frase Till your eyes dase. 1888 [see PHRASING *ppl. a.*].

2. *trans.* To put into words; to find expression for; to express in words or a phrase, esp. in a peculiar, distinctive, or telling phraseology; to word, express. *To phrase it*, to express the thing, to 'put it'.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 55/2 Clement .. who .. was adioyned with Paule .. dyd phrase them ['Epistle to the Hebrues'] in his style, and maner. 1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Caesar* 64 So Ezechiel phraseth it. *a*1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vi. 295 The Seventy..have much varied the manner of phrasing things from the original. 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* III. ii, Nor can I phrase my speech in apt Expression, To tell how much I love and honour you. 1771 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 7 July, He has had, as he phrased it, 'a matter of four wives'. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* X. v. (1883) 388 The free spirit of the Mosaic law.. inspired their poets with strains that yet phrase the highest exaltations of thought.

3. To describe (a person or thing) by a name, designation, or descriptive phrase; to call, designate; † to signify.

1585-7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* (Parker Soc.) 230 The papists.. phrase the preachers to be uncircumcised Philistines. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 34 When these Sunnes (For so they phrase 'em). 1614 CAMDEN *Rem.* (ed. 2) 205 To poore man ne

to priest the penny frases nothing. Men giue God aie the least, they feast him with a farthing. 1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* 36 The Scripture..never phrasing him a Bishop, nor giving him that Title. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* IV. (1864) 105 Phrasing the conduct and doings of men. 1902 KIPLING in Monkshood & Gamble *Life* 49 He is supremely original: which makes it quite difficult to phrase him comparatively.

4. with *adv.* To do (a thing) *away*, do (a person) *out of*, etc., by phrases or talk.

a 1718 PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 471 If People will be phrased out of their Religion they may. 1830 *Examiner* 81/1 The Monarch is not permitted to phrase away his people's troubles.

5. *intr. Sc.* To 'make a phrase' (prec. 4), to talk exaggeratedly or 'gushingly', esp. in appreciation or praise. Also *trans.* To make much of in words.

1786 BURNS *Ep. to G. Hamilton* 3 May, To phrase you and praise you, Ye ken your laureate scorns. 1808 J. MAYNE *Siller Gun* IV, In vain his heralds fleech'd and phrased.

6. *trans. Mus.* To divide or mark off into phrases, esp. in execution; to perform according to the phrases. Also *absol.* (See also PHRASING *vbl. sb.* 2.)

1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 332 The air should be phrased and symmetric. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* VI. 279/1 She phrases naturally and her intonation is admirable.

Phrased (frēⁱzd), *a.* [f. PHRASE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Expressed in phrases, worded; characterized by phrases (of a specified kind).

1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Prol. A ij b, Suche, so straunge, and high phrased was the matter whiche he talked of. 1886 A. W. TUER in *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 2/2 The quaintly phrased advertisements are genuine.

Phra·seless, *a.* [f. PHRASE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a phrase or phrases; in quot. app. 'which there is no phrase to describe'; but cf. 'his speechless hand' in *Coriol.* V. i. 67 (Schmidt).

1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 225 O, then, aduance of yours that phraseles hand, Whose white weighes downe the airy scale of praise.

Phraseman (frēⁱ·zmăn). [f. PHRASE *sb.* + MAN.] A man successful in making or using telling phrases; a phrase-monger.

1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 111 The poor wretch.. Becomes a fluent phraseman. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* VIII. 153 Ye..of the fluent phraseman make your King.

Phraseogram (frēⁱ·ziŏgræm). [irreg. f. Gr. *φράσις* + -GRAM: see PHRASEOLOGY.] A written character or symbol representing a phrase; *spec.* in phonography or other shorthand system, a conventional combination of signs or letters standing for a phrase.

1847 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* (ed. 8) 63 An extensive list of phraseograms is given in the 'Reporter'. 1868 *Ibid.* 15 *Phraseogram*, a combination of shorthand letters representing a phrase or sentence. 1895 W. E. A. AXON in W. Andrews *Curious Ch. Customs* 251 There are phraseograms for 'in the name of the Lord', 'wherefore said the psalmist', etc.

Phraseograph (frēⁱ·ziŏgrɑf). *Shorthand.* [f. as prec. + -GRAPH.] A phrase for which there is a phraseogram. So **Phraseogra·phic** *a.*, of the nature of a phraseogram, written in phraseography. **Phraseo·graphy** [see -GRAPHY], **a.** the representation of phrases or sentences by abbreviated characters in writing, esp. in systems of shorthand; the use of phraseograms; **b.** written phraseology.

1845 I. PITMAN *Man. Phonogr.* 52 Phraseography. To promote expedition..the advanced phonographer may join two or more words together, and thus sometimes express a phrase without removing the pen. 1847 *Ibid.* (ed. 8) 64 It is not safe to write the phrase, *I cannot*, as a phraseograph. 1881 — *Phonographic Phrase Bk.* Pref., With very little practice..the phraseographic combinations are found to be quite as legible as the ordinary Phonography. 1888 — *Man. Phonogr.* 11 *Phraseograph*, a phrase that is written without lifting the pen. 1899 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 198 The..task of rendering it [the chorography] into modern phraseography.

Phraseolo·gic, *a. rare.* [f. PHRASEOLOGY (or its mod.L. orig.) + -IC.] = next, 2.

1828–32 in WEBSTER.

Phraseological (frēⁱzi,ŏlŏ·dʒikăl), *a.* Also 8 phrasio-. [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. Using phrases or peculiar expressions; expressed in a special phrase or phrases.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* To Rdr., A Rude, uncivil, uncharitable, phraseological Form of railing against such Things or Persons as are..Sacred. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. lxxxi. 344 He said, in his phraseological way, that one story was good till another was heard. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* viii, Her father professed an elaborate phraseological love for her.

2. Of or pertaining to phraseology; dealing with phrases, or with the phraseology of a language, etc., or that peculiar to an author or work.

1664 GOULDMAN (*title*) A Copious Dictionary.. With .. Etymological Derivations, Philological Observations, and Phraseological Explications. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3037/4 Phraseological Books..published. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 3 Jacobus Billius's Greek Phrasiological Collection. 1860 ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* viii. 157 The correction of a barbarism or phraseological vice. 1899 H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scot. in 18th C.* (1901) VIII. i. 26 *note*, A phraseological peculiarity of these tracts.

Phraseolo·gically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a phraseological way; with the use of a phrase.

1867 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Jan. 9/1 When the verb *faire* is used phraseologically with a substantive. 1884 *W. Chester* (Pa.) *Local News* XII. No. 44. 3 Phraseologically speaking, it is a 'cold day' when our Justices of the Peace don't have a scene at their offices.

Phraseologist (frēⁱzi,ŏlŏ·lŏdʒist). [f. next + -IST.] **a.** One who treats of phraseology. **b.** A maker or user of phrases; one who uses striking or sounding phrases, esp. in an indiscriminate manner; a phrase-monger.

1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 39 ¶ 14 The author..is but a mere phraseologist. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Phraseologist*, an Explainer of elegant Expressions in a Language. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. i. (1849) 201 To borrow a favorite .. appellation of modern phraseologists. 1899 in *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 3/2 There is something..which in time perverts its advocate into a mere phraseologist.

Phraseology (frēⁱzi,ŏlŏ·lŏdʒi). [mod. mod.L. *phraseologia*, Gr. *φρασεολογία*, erroneously formed by M. Neander (see quot.) from Gr. *φράσις* + *-λογία*, -LOGY; the correct Gr. form (used in mod. Gr.) is *φρασιολογία* **phrasiology*: cf. *φυσιολογία* physiology, etc.

Neander appears to have had in his mind the genitive case *φράσεως*; and the erroneous form has perh. been perpetuated in Eng. under the influence of *phrase*.]

†**1.** A collection or handbook of the phrases or idioms of a language; a phrase-book. *Obs.*

[1558 M. NEANDER (*title*) ΦΡΑΣΕΟΛΟΓΙΑ ΙΣΟΚΡΑΤΙΚΗ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΛΑΤΙΝΗ. Phraseologia Isocratis Græcolatina: id est, Phraseon siue locutionum, elegantiarumue Isocraticarum Loci, seu Indices. 1682 W. ROBERTSON (*title*) Phraseologia generalis...A Full, Large, and General Phrase Book.] 1776 BARETTI (*title*) Easy Phraseology, for the use of young Ladies who intend to learn the colloquial part of the Italian Language.

2. The choice or arrangement of words and phrases in the expression of ideas; manner or style of expression; the particular form of speech or diction which characterizes a writer, literary production, language, etc.

1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* IV. § 6 The Conclusions or Phraseologies of the School-Divines touching this Point. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. x. 96 Such is the incomparable Majestie of the Scripture stile, and Phraseologie. 1714 *Spectator* No. 616 ¶ 1 That ridiculous Phraseology, which is so much in Fashion among the Pretenders to Humour and Pleasantry. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 254 Men, according to their habits and professions, have a phraseology of their own. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* 6 Religious phraseologies from which religious ideas have been expunged. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* IV. 130 Parmenides..is the founder..in modern phraseology, of metaphysics and logic.

†**3.** (See quots.) *Obs. rare*—⁰.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Phraseology*, a speaking of Phrases, or of the proper form of Speech. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Phraseology*, (Greek) a Discourse of Phrases, or an uttering of Phrases in common Speech.

†**4.** *Mus.* Arrangement of phrases. *Obs.*

1789 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* IV. 571 The want of symmetry in the phraseology of his melodies.

Phraser (frēⁱ·zəɹ). [f. PHRASE *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. F. *phraseur* (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] One who uses phrases, or expresses himself in a peculiar or striking manner; a phrase-monger.

1637 J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 212 According to this English Phraser. 1878 J. THOMSON *Plenip. Key* 19 And though he speaketh much,—beyond demur, No phraser, but a trusty messenger. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* V, Like all rapid phrasers, Mrs. Mountstuart detested the analysis of her sentence.

†**Phra·sical,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. Gr. *φράσ-ις* PHRASE *sb.* + -ICAL.] Of the nature of a phrase; idiomatic.

1615 T. ADAMS *Eng. Sickn.* Wks. 1861 I. 395 'Daughter of my people'..This is an abstractive phrase..Here it is phrasical, and therefore not to be forced.

†**Phra·sify,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *phrasi-s* PHRASE *sb.*: see -FY.] *intr.* To use a phrase.

1633 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 267 That which the Def. neglected, the Rejoynder taketh to supplie, *least we should bragge*, as it pleaseth him to phrasifie. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 191 To disgrace the Calvinists, by calling them Gospellers; For thus he phrasifieth.

Phra·siness. *colloq.* [f. PHRASY + -NESS.] The quality of being of the nature of a phrase: see PHRASE *sb.* 3; proneness to use phrases.

1892 *Review of Rev.* 14 Apr. 376/1 The Germans are heartily sick of the phrasiness of their ruler. 1896 W. W. PEYTON in *Contemp. Rev.* June 837, I use the word 'communication' of design to release the idea of communion from religious phrasiness.

Phrasing (frēⁱ·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PHRASE *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. PHRASE; manner or style of verbal expression; phraseology, wording.

1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 11 Wee haue not tyed ourselues to an vniformitie of phrasing, or to an identity of words. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. iv. 238 He says, in his usual way of phrasing, that he'll make it as easy to you as a glove. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ix. (1890) 325 Milton .. mixes the extremest vernacular with the most exquisite and scholarly phrasing.

2. *Mus.* The rendering of musical phrases. Also *attrib.* as *phrasing slur*, a slur indicating the proper phrasing.

1880 SIR H. PARRY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 706/2 Just as the intelligent reading of a literary composition depends upon two things, accentuation and punctuation, so does musical phrasing depend on the relative strength of the sounds, and upon their connection with or separation from each other. 1886 *Academy* 17 July 48/3 He aroused the sympathy and interest of his audience by his soft and liquid tone, his neat playing, and by his delicate and finished phrasing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 3/2 Where it has seemed desirable, phrasing slurs have been added.

Phra·sing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That phrases; using phrases; in *Sc.*, loudly or exaggeratedly expressing one's feelings or sentiments.

1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* ii, In sic phraisin terms ye've penn'd it, I scarce excuse ye. 1888 STEVENSON *Across the Plains, Beggars* iv. (1892) 268 A..tale of some worthless, phrasing Frenchman.

Phrasy (frēⁱ·zi), *a. colloq.* Also erron. **phrasey.** [f. PHRASE + -Y.] Abounding in phrases; characterized by great use of phrases.

1849 *Ecclesiologist* IX. 125 They resemble what is familiarly known as a piece of phrasy Latin. 1871 *Daily News* 11 Mar., The document smacks overmuch of the phrasey, and is less redolent of the vigorous than of the lachrymose.

Phrator (frēⁱ·tɔɹ). [a. Gr. *φράτωρ*, another form of *φράτηρ* clansman: cognate with Skr. *bhrātā*, Zend *bhrātar*, L. *frāter*, Goth. *brôþar* BROTHER.] A member of a Grecian phratry; also *transf.* a fellow-clansman.

1847 GROTE *Greece* II. x. III. 87 If a man was murdered, first his near relations, next his gennêtes and phrators, were both allowed and required to prosecute the crime at law. 1881 L. H. MORGAN *N. Amer. Ethnol.* IV. 11 To preserve some degree of equality in the number of phrators in each.

Phratriac (frēⁱ·triæk), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *φρᾰτριακ-ός*, f. *φρᾰτρία* PHRATRY: see -AC.] = next.

1884 *Athenæum* 21 June 795/3 In Attica there were also two great organizations, one based originally on locality, and another whose sole qualification was that of birth—the demotic and the phratriac.

Phratric (frēⁱ·trik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *φρᾰτρικ-ός*, f. *φρᾰτρ-α* = *φρᾰτρία* PHRATRY + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a phratry or clan; consisting of phratries.

1847 GROTE *Greece* II. x. III. 75 The phratric union, binding together several gentes, was less intimate [than the gentile union]. 1881 L. H. MORGAN *Contrib. N. Amer. Ethnol.* IV. 11 The phratric organization has existed among the Iroquois from time immemorial.

Phratry (frēⁱ·tri). [ad. Gr. *φρᾰτρία*, f. *φράτηρ*: see PHRATOR. In F. *phratrie* (Littré).]

1. *Ancient Gr. Hist.* A politico-religious division of the people, which took its first rise from the ties of blood and kinship; in Athens, each of the three subdivisions into which the phyle was divided; a clan.

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Phratriarchus*, among the Athenians, a magistrate that presided over the phratria, or third part of a tribe. He had the same power over the phratria, that the phylarchus had over the tribe.] 1833 THIRLWALL in *Philol. Museum* II. 307 The desire of the higher classes to keep aloof from the rustics .., who had been admitted into the phratries. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 231 A family Zeus, and a Zeus guardian of the phratry. [1884 *Athenæum* 21 June 795/3 No deme coincided with a phratria or with any subdivision of a phratria.]

2. *transf.* Applied to tribal or kinship divisions existing among primitive races, as the Indians of North America, aborigines of Australia, etc.

1876 L. H. MORGAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 65 It is.. ..probable..that the Mound-Builders were organized in gentes, phratries, and tribes. 1882 H. SPENCER *Pol. Inst.* 549 Not only where descent in the male line has been established, but also where the system of descent through females continues, this development of the family into *gens*, phratry, and tribe is found. 1891 WESTERMARCK *Hist. Hum. Marriage* (1894) 298 The Seneca tribe of the Iroquois was divided into two 'phratries', or divisions intermediate between the tribe and the clan.

†**Phrayes,** obs. illit. form of FROISE, FRAISE.

1686 *Oldbury Parish Reg.* in *Blakeway MS.* (Bodl.) 3. 72, 2 gamon of Bacon and phrayes made of yᵉ egges.

Phreatic (frĭ,æ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. *φρέαρ*, *φρέατ-* well, cistern + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a well: applied to water from deep wells.

1892–3 *14th Rep. U. S. Geol. Surv.* II. 16 'Phreatic water'. [*Note*] This term was coined by Hay, in the course of the recent artesian and underflow investigation .., as a convenient designation for 'underground waters which can be, or which it is hoped may be, reached by wells or other subground works'.

‖ **Phren** (frĕn). Pl. **phrenes** (frē·nīz). [mod. L., a. Gr. *φρήν* midriff, in pl. *φρένες* parts about the heart, breast; heart, mind, will.]

1. *Anat.* The diaphragm; the upper part of the abdomen: anciently supposed to be the seat of the mind.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Phrenes*,..the Membranes about the Heart; also the Diaphragm or Midriff. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phren*,.. the diaphragm; also, the epigastrium.

2. *Philos.* The seat of the intellect, feelings, and will; the mind.

Phrenalgia: see PHRENO-.

†**Phrene·siac,** *a. Obs.* [f. Gr. *φρένησις* (see next), taken as = *φρενησία* (cf. It. *frenesia*) + -AC.] = PHRENETIC *a.* 1.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xliii, Like an hypochondriac person, or, as Burton's Anatomia hath it, a phrenesiac or lethargic patient.

‖ **Phrenesis** (frĕnē·sis). *Path.* [L. *phrenēsis* delirium, a. late Gr. *φρένησις*, f. *φρήν*, *φρεν-*: see next, and cf. FRENZY.] = PHRENITIS.

1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* lvii. 26 In the head may be many infirmities, as the Apoplexie, the Scotomy, the Megrym, the Sood, the Phremyses [1598 phrenises]. 1551 Ascham *Let.* 18 May, Wks. 1865 I. ii. 288 The prince of Spain..is this day fallen sore sick of a phrenesis. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apothec.* 5 An apostemacion in the braynes of some litle skinnes, that enuiron the braynes, the same are called Phrenesis. 1800 Lamb *Let. to Manning* 27 Dec., At last George Dyer's phrenesis has come to a crisis; he is raging and furiously mad.

Phrenetic (frĭne·tik), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: *α.* 4 frenetyk, 4–6 -ike; 5 frena-, 6 frenetyke, -ik, 6–7 -ick, 7 frenitick, 9 frenetic. *β.* 6 phrenetike, 6–7 -ique, 7 -icke, 7–8 -ick, 9 -itic, 7– phrenetic. [a. OF. *frenetike* (*Dial. S. Greg.* 12–13th c.), ad. L. *phrenēticus*, a. late Gr. *φρενητικός* (Epict.), for *φρενῖτικός* afflicted with *φρενῖτις* delirium, f. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* heart, mind. Formerly stressed *phre·netic*, whence Phrentic, Frantic.]

†**1.** Of persons: Delirious; mentally deranged; insane; crazy: = Frantic *a.* 1. *Obs.*

α. c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* v. 206 (Camps.) And in his browes frenetyk [*v. r.* frentyk] and madde He curssed Ioue, Appollo, and ek Cupide. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. x. 6 To flatereres or to folis þat frantyk [*v. r.* frenetike] ben of wittes. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 193/1 Saynt marcial heled one that was frenatyke. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* viii. 84 Donald and quha with him appeiret frenetik.

β. 1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 11 The foolishe, madde and phrenetike shal gouerne the discrete. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iii. xxxiv. 215 Those that became Phrenetique, Lunatique, or Epileptique. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* iii. (1754) 139 They [Persons bit by the Tarantula] are Phrenetic and delirious. 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 206 All that survived..were to the highest degree phrenetic and outrageous.

2. *transf.* Affected with excessive excitement or enthusiasm, esp. in religious matters; furious; frantic; fanatic. Cf. Frantic *a.* 2.

a. c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 109 This.. restrained the rude raginge of the frenetick Scotts. 1657 Hawke *Killing is M.* 40 The foolish dictates of such frenetick Impostor. 1819 Wiffen *Aonian Hours* (1820) 109 Frenetic zealots. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Oct. 1 Some of the more frenetic of the franc-tireurs of Liberalism.

fig. 1872 Browning *Fifine* v, How the pennon from its dome, Frenetic to be free, makes one red stretch for home!

β. 1565 Calfhill *Answ. Treat. Crosse* 23 It is to be feared greately, least their arise some phrenetike persons, which will bragge and boast..that they be Prophetes. 1660 Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* v. 138 He esteems Prophetick Visions only as Dreams of phrenetick men. 1858 *Times* 4 Nov. 6/4 The chivalrous and phrenetic Montbar, whose name was a cry to hush infants. 1878 J. P. Newman in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 321 When inspired, their individuality was intact. They [sacred writers] were never..phrenetic.

3. †**a.** Of a disease: Consisting of or attended by delirium or temporary madness: = Frantic *a.* 3 a. *Obs.* b. Of actions, etc.: Insane; erratic; passionate: = Frantic *a.* 3 b.

a. a 1529 Skelton *Agst. ven. Tongues* viii. 10 Ye are so full of vertibilite, And of frenetyke folabilite. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* ii. iii. 50 Sometimes he shuts up [the man] as in frenetick, or infectious diseases. 1816 Keatinge *Trav.* (1817) I. 198 [Of Mohammedanism] Its frenetic might, enthusiasm, too, evaporating in the diffusion of conquest. 1895 Marie Corelli *Sorrows Satan* 378 They run up the gamut of baffled passion to the pitch of frenetic hysteria.

β. 1595 Daniel *Civ. Wars* iv. v, Impotent, By means of his Phreneticque maladie. 1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* 139 Rending the membranes, cause all our motions to be head-strong and giddy, our sensations phrenetick and mad. 1754 O. in *Connoisseur* No. 28. P 1 Tom Dare-Devil..was carried off last week by a phrenetic fever. 1815 Mary A. Schimmelpenninck *Demolit. Monast. Port Royal* III. 268 He struck every one who approached him, with the most phrenitic violence. 1860 T. Martin *Horace, Odes* I. xvi, Clashing again And again their wild cymbals, such fervour phrenetic.

¶ **4.** *Catachrestic* for Phrenic *a.* 1.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Phrenetick Nerves*, are those which are called also *Stomachick*.. These descend between the Membranes of the *Mediastinum*, and send forth Branches into them. 1706 in Phillips.

B. as *sb.* A madman: = Frantic *sb.*

a. 1693–4 Molineux *Let.* 17 Feb. in *Locke's Lett.* (1708) 75 How comes it to pass that want of consciousness cannot be proved for a drunkard as well as for a frenitick? 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. i. iv, All men's minds may go mad, and 'believe him', as the frenetic will do, 'because it is impossible'.

β. [1607 Marston *What you will* ii. i, A company of odd phreneteci Did eate my youth.] 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xvii, [They] made this poore King.. euen as a Phrenetique, comit what posterity receiues now amongst the worst actions..of Princes. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* ii. (1723) 99 A common Fold of Phreneticks and Bedlams. 1881 W. R. Smith *Old Test. in Jew. Ch.* x. 281 The visions of poor phrenetics.

Hence **Phrene·ticness**, madness (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

†**Phrene·tical**, *a. Obs.* Also 6 phræ-, 6–7 fre-. [f. as prec. + -al.]

1. = Phrenetic *a.* 1 and 2.

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 34 Do they not..proceede from some odde vaine phantasticall, or phreneticall braines? 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* (1673) 122 Dæmoniacks and phrenetical people. 1674 Owen *Holy Spirit* (1693) 195 Some Persons Phrenetical and Enthusiastical, whose Madness is manifest to all.

2. = Phrenetic *a.* 3.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 65 b, Thether came Isabell, the Frenche Quene, because the kyng her husband was fallen into his old freneticall desease. 1602 T. Fitzherbert *Apol.* 62 The phantastical or rather phrenetical opinions of these new fangled fellowes. 1696 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Exod.* x. 170 Another raving fit or phrenetical symptom.

Phrenetically (frĭne·tikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a frenzy; frantically.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. ii. ii, If all mobs are properly frenzies, and work frenetically with mad fits of hot and of cold. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Jan. 3/1 We welcome his sober prose and phrenetically applaud his common sense.

Phreniatric (frenəi,æ·trik), *a.* [f. Gr. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* mind + Iatric.] Of or pertaining to the treatment of mental disease. In mod. Dicts.

Phrenic (fre·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *phrenicus* or a. F. *phrénique* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. Gr. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* diaphragm, mind: see -ic.]

1. *Anat.* and *Path.* Of, pertaining to, or affecting the diaphragm; diaphragmatic.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Phrenick Vessels*, are the Veins and Arteries that run through the Diaphragm, Mediastinum, and Pericardium. 1741 Monro *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 19 Press one or both the phrenic Nerves. 1832 J. Thomson *W. Cullen* I. 441 The Phrenic or Epigastric Centre. 1842 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* 350 The Phrenic veins return the blood from the ramifications of the phrenic arteries. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 649 Phrenic neuritis.

†**2.** Of or relating to the mind; mental. *Obs.*

1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 126/2 The nerves of animal, or, better, of phrenic life. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 27 The Theosophs were right in separating entirely the mind from the soul, in considering them..as different principles, as the physic and the phrenic. 1847 Medwin *Shelley* I. 149 Two sorts of dreams, the Phrenic and the Psychic.

B. *sb.* (absolute use of A.)

1. *Anat.* Short for *phrenic nerve.*

1776 Cruikshank in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 187 The possibility of having divided only one of the phrenics. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 209 It gives off a long and very slender branch, called the superior phrenic.

2. *Med.* A remedy or medicine for mental disease.

1853 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Phrenica*, diseases affecting the intellect..Also remedies that affect the mental faculties —Phrenics.

3. *pl.* **Phrenics**: That branch of science which relates to the mind; psychology.

1841 R. Park *Pantology* ii. iii. (1847) 82 We would apply the term Phrenics to Mental Philosophy; or to that branch of knowledge, which treats of the faculties of the human mind, and their laws of action. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phrenics* ..also metaphysics.

‖ **Phreni·cula.** *Path.* [mod.L., f. as prec. + dim. suffix: see -cule.]

1799 M. Underwood *Dis. Children* (ed. 4) I. 282 What he [i.e. Dr. Paterson] calls a phrenicula, or diminutive species of phrenitis. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phrenicula*, term used by Rust for Brain-fever.

Phrenism (fre·niz'm). [f. Gr. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* mind + -ism.] Thought-force: see quot.

1871 Cope *Origin of Fittest* v. (1887) 205, I discard the use of the term 'Vital Force', what was originally understood by that term being a complex of distinct ideas. The *Vital forces* are (nerve-force) *Neurism*, (growth-force) *Bathmism*, and (thought-force) *Phrenism.*

Phrenitic (frĭni·tik), *a. Path.* [ad. Gr. *φρενῖτικ-ός*, f. *φρενῖτ-ις* Phrenitis: see -ic.] Affected with or suffering from phrenitis; subject to fits of delirium or madness.

1771 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 24 He indulged his phrenitic patients in the use of wine. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 453/2 *Phrenitic*, a term used to denote those who, without being absolutely mad, are subject to such strong sallies of imagination as in some measure pervert their judgment. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phrenitic*, belonging to phrenitis.

†**Phreni·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. Phrenitis.] Frenzy; rage.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. iii. viii, The fourth of furious fashion Phrenition hight, fraught with impatiencies.

‖ **Phrenitis** (frĭnəi·tis). *Path.* [Late L. *phrenītis*, a. Gr. *φρενῖτις* delirium, f. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* mind + -itis. Cf. F. *phrénite*.] Inflammation of the brain or of its membranes, attended with delirium and fever; brain fever.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. i. I. iv, *Phrenitis*,..is a disease of the mind, with a continual madness or dotage,..or else an inflammation of the brain. 1684 Boyle *Porousn. Anim. & Solid Bod.* iii. 28 Oftentimes the matter,..being discharged upon some internal parts of the Head, produces a Delirium or Phrenitis. 1841 Brewster *Mart. Sc.* iii. ii. (1856) 187 His wife was seized with fever, epilepsy and phrenitis.

Phreno-, before a vowel **phren-**, a. Gr. *φρενο-* (combining form of *φρήν*, stem *φρεν-*, midriff, mind), an element of Greek compounds, and of modern scientific and technical words, usually in sense of 'the mind, mental faculties'.

Phrena·lgia [Gr. *ἄλγος* pain], acute mental distress; psychalgia; melancholia. **Phrenoco·lic** *a.* [Gr. *κόλον* Colon 1], pertaining to both the diaphragm and the colon, as in *phrenocolic* (also *pleurocolic*) *ligament* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1893). **Phrenoga·stric** *a. Anat.* as in *phrenogastric ligament*, = Gastrophrenic *a.* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858, *Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phre·nogram**, the curve or tracing made by the phrenograph (Webster 1902). **Phre·nograph**, (*a*) an instrument for recording the movements of the diaphragm in respiration; (*b*) a phrenological description or 'chart' of a person's mental characteristics. **Phreno·graphy**, the observation and description of phenomena in comparative psychology. **Phrenohy·pnotism** (see quot. and Hypnotism). **Phrenoma·gnetism**, the excitation of the phrenological organs by magnetic influence; hence **Phrenomagne·tic** *a.* **Phreno-me·smerism**, the excitation of the powers of the brain by mesmeric influence. **Phrenonarco·sis** [Gr. *νάρκωσις* a benumbing], Schultz's term for a dulling of the senses or intellect; a state of stupor (Mayne, *Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phreno·nomy** [Gr. *-νομια* distribution, management], the deductive and predictive part of comparative psychology. **Phrenopara·lysis** = *phrenoplegy* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phreno·pathy** [-pathy] disease of the mind; so **Phrenopa·thic** *a.* **Phrenophysio·gnomist**, one skilled in phrenophysiognomy. **Phrenophysio·gnomy**, a combination of phrenology and physiognomy. **Phrenoplegy** [Gr. *φρενοπλήξ*, *-πληγ-* stricken in mind, f. *πληγή* stroke], sudden failing of the mind; disturbance of mental balance (Mayne, *Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Phrenosple·nic** *a. Anat.*, of or pertaining to the diaphragm and the spleen (Mayne, *Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Phrenalgia.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 361 Melancholia and Hypochondriasis, Syn[onyms]—In the older English writers Lypemania and Phrenalgia. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Phrenograph*..Rosenthal's lever..he used it to demonstrate the stoppage of those movements produced by faradisation of the cut end of the vagus nerve. 1896 *Voice* (N.Y.) 13 Feb. 6/6 A phrenograph of a famous French actress, lately in this city. 1881 *Smithson. Inst. Rep.* 501 Observing and descriptive stage..*Phrenography..Inductive and classifying stage..Phrenology..Deductive and predictive stage..Phrenonomy. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 368/2 Adding to the magnetizer's equipment the extravagant doctrine of *phreno-hypnotism: the excitation of the phrenological organs by pressing various points on the heads of hypnotized subjects. 1845 G. Moore *Power of Soul over Body* (1846) 161 Assuming all that is related of *phreno-magnetism and neurypnology to be true. 1854 Huxley *Lay Serm.* v. (1870) 99 The simple physiological phænomena known as spirit-rapping, table-turning, phrenomagnetism. 1855 Smedley, etc. *Occult Sc.* 240 *note*, It was not necessary to resort to *phreno-mesmerism. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Phreno-Magnetism, Phreno-Mesmerism*, terms for a combination of two assumed branches of science embracing the rationalities of Phrenology and more questionable pretensions of Mesmerism. 1881 *Phrenonomy [see *phrenography*]. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Phrenopathia*, ..*phrenopathy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 197 The various types and classes of the phrenopathies. 1892 Miss A. J. Oppenheim in *Daily News* 4 Aug. 6/6 A scientific *phreno-physiognomist..To explain *phreno-physiognomy from a scientific point of view.

†**Phreno·loger.** *Obs.* [f. Phrenolog-y + -er 1.] One who practises phrenology, a phrenologist.

1846 in Worcester (citing *Phren. Jrnl.*). 1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* xiv. (1874) 265 Low-minded materialists and shallow phrenologers.

Phrenologic (frenolo·dʒik), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ic. In mod.F., *phrénologique.*] Of or belonging to phrenology.

1821 *Joseph the Book-Man* 12 For learned Phrenologic lore Were needful such a man t' explore. *a* 1845 Hood *Craniology* iii, These men I say, make quick appliance And close, to phrenologic science.

Phrenological (frenolo·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -al.] Of or pertaining to phrenology; connected with or relating to phrenology.

1823 (*title*) Phrenological Journal. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* I. App. ii, When I publish the results [of my enquiry] they will disprove a hundred times over all the phrenological assertions in regard to the cerebellum. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* xvii, As to the phrenological formation of the backs of their heads.

Hence **Phrenolo·gically** *adv.*

1838 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 44 Phrenologically speaking, he must be fully and equally furnished with the bumps of ideality and causality. 1846 Poe *G. Bush* Wks. 1864 III. 23 The forehead, phrenologically, indicates causality and comparison, with deficient ideality.

Phrenologist (frĭnɒ·lŏdʒist). [f. Phrenolog-y + -ist. In mod.F. *phrénologiste* (1875 in Littré).] One skilled in phrenology.

1815 T. Forster in *Pamphleteer* V. 222 The Phrenologist admits an arrangement of certain organs, which gives us free-will. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* i, Call it..conformation of the brain..if you are..a phrenologist. 1876 C. M. Davies *Unorth. Lond.* 33 A collection of heads that would have delighted a phrenologist.

Phrenologize (frĭnɒ·lŏdʒaiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -ize.]

1. *trans.* To treat or locate phrenologically. b. *humorous.* To produce 'bumps' or protuberances (on the head) by blows.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 262 You emerged with a broken hat, and a head phrenologised by a blacking bottle. 1858 J. W. Donaldson *Lit. Greece* III. 13 He not only made the soul a mere function of the body, but even phrenologized it by placing it in the forehead.

2. To examine or analyse phrenologically.

1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* viii, It only remained to be phrenologized. 1895 *Daily News* 22 Nov. 4/7 Burns's skull was phrenologised.

Phrenology (frĭnǫ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* mind + -LOGY; lit. 'mental science'; in F. *phrénologie* (Gall 1818, Hatz.-Darm.), Ger. *phrenologie*.] The scientific study or theory of the mental faculties (quots. 1815, 1881); *spec.* (and in ordinary use), the theory originated by Gall and Spurzheim, that the mental powers of the individual consist of separate faculties, each of which has its organ and location in a definite region of the surface of the brain, the size or development of which is commensurate with the development of the particular faculty; hence, the study of the external conformation of the cranium as an index to the development and position of these organs, and thus of the degree of development of the various faculties.

1815 T. FORSTER (*title pamph.* in *Pamphleteer* V. 219), Sketch of the new Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain and Nervous System of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim, considered as comprehending a complete system of Phrenology. *Ibid.* 222 The objection therefore falls to the ground, which accuses the new Phrenology of supporting the doctrine of Fatalism. [When reprinted in the same year, 'Phrenology' was altered to 'Zoonomy'.] 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 367 The word Craniology is an invention of Spurzheim's enemies. It is not of the bone he treats, but of the manifestations of the mind as dependent on organization. Phrenology would be a more appropriate word. 1819 G. COMBE *Ess. Phrenol.* Introd., The real subject of the system is the Human Mind: I have therefore adopted the term 'Phrenology'..as the most appropriate, and that which Dr. Spurzheim has for some years employed. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Nature* Wks. (Bohn) I. 228 Astronomy to the selfish becomes astrology;..and anatomy and physiology become phrenology and palmistry. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 896/1 By forcing the inductive method of enquiry into mental philosophy, phrenology has laid the foundations of a true mental science. 1881 *Smithsonian Inst. Rep.* (1883) 499 Again, we find this being [man] endowed with a set of faculties called intellectual, allied in certain particulars to those of the lower animals, but so far transcending them as to form a separate branch of study, requiring totally diverse methods and machinery of observation, and enlisting an entirely different set of investigators. To all these studies we have given the name of Comparative Psychology or Phrenology.

Phre·nosin. *Chem.* [f. Gr. *φρήν*, *φρεν-* mind + -OSE + -IN[1] (after *myosin*).] A substance ($C_{34}H_{67}NO_3$) obtained from the brain.

1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* xv. 305 To the first of these Thudichum reserves the name of cerebrine, the second he terms phrenosine, and the third kerasine.

Phrensical, Phrensy, -zy, etc., var. of FRENZICAL, FRENZY.

†**Phrentic, -ick(e,** obs. syncopated f. PHRENETIC = FRANTIC *a.* and *sb.*

a. 1547–94 [see FRANTIC *a.*]. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 121 To moue his phrenticke passions to remorse. 1702 FLOYER *Cold Bathing* I. iv. (1709) 143 A Phrentick Fever..cured by Bathing the Head with Cold Water. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Arianism* 56 When this Phrentick Arian had published his Original Evidence.

b. 1565–1695 [see FRANTIC *sb.*]. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 109 The Pulse of the Phrentic is small.

‖ **Phronesis** (frǫnī·sis). [a. Gr. *φρόνησις* thinking, understanding, intelligence, perception, practical sense, etc., f. *φρονεῖν* to think, be in one's senses, etc., f. *φρον-*, ablaut of *φρεν-*, stem of *φρήν* mind.] Understanding, practical judgement.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Phrone·tal, *a. Biol.* [mod. f. Gr. type **φρονητής* thinker (f. *φρονεῖν* to think: see prec.) + -AL.] (See quot.)

1904 J. MCCABE tr. *Haeckel's Wonders of Life* 14, I propose to call the sensory-cells or sense-centres *æsthetal cells*, and the thought-cells or thought-centres *phronetal cells*.

Phrontist (frǫ·ntist). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *φροντιστής* a deep thinker (Aristoph. *Nub.* 267), f. *φρόντιζειν* to be thoughtful, f. *φροντίς* thought.] One who is devoted to meditation and study; a deep thinker: by Aristophanes ironically applied to Socrates.

1822 T. MITCHELL *Comm. Aristoph.* II. 18 Wieland is led to conclude, that before Aristophanes applied the term *phrontist* to Socrates and his friends, the word itself was not in common use.

Phrontistery (frǫ·ntistĕri). Often in Gr. or Latinized forms **phrontiste·rion, phrontiste·rium** (7 fron-). [ad. Gr. *φροντιστήριον*, f. *φροντιστής*: see prec.] A place for thinking or studying; a 'thinking-shop': a term applied by Aristophanes in ridicule to the school of Socrates; hence applied to modern educational institutions.

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* I. iii B iij b, 'Tis the learn'd Phrontisterion Of most Divine Albumazar. 1624 BP. HALL *Gt. Impostor* Wks. 501, I know where I am; in one of the famous Phrontisteries of Law, and Iustice. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking-Gl.* III. i, 'Twill be the great Gymnasium of the realme, The Frontisterium of Great Britany. 1672 D. T. *Answ. Eachard's Cont. Clergy* 136 England's grand Phrontisteries, Seminaries and Seed-plots of Learning,..Oxford and Cambridge. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 583/1 The maps and geometrical instruments which the old Athenian found in the phrontisterium. 1881 CHURCH *MS. Let.* 12 May, In the first brilliant days of Oriel..it used to be called half in compliment and half in sneer the *φροντιστήριον*. 1888 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* IX. 344 As to the scenery [in the old Greek comedies], he holds that the inside of the phrontistery is never seen.

‖ **Phryganea** (frigē·niă). *Entom.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φρυγανίς* or *φρύγανον* a dry stick, in reference to the stick-like appearance of the larva-cases.] A genus of neuropterous insects, typical of the family *Phryganeidæ* or caddis-flies.

1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 159 As the caddis-baits appear at the top of the water as alder-flies and sedge-flies (*Phryganeæ*).

Hence **Phryganeid** (frigănī·id) *a.*, of or pertaining to the caddis-flies; *sb.*, any member of the *Phryganeidæ*; **Phryga·neoid** *a.*, resembling or akin to the *Phryganeidæ*.

Phrygian (frī·dʒiăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *Phrygiān-us*, f. *Phrygia*: see -AN.] Of or pertaining to Phrygia, an ancient country of Asia Minor, or its inhabitants.

Phrygian Mode (*Mus.*): (*a*) One of the ancient Greek modes, of a warlike character, supposed to have been derived from the ancient Phrygians; (*b*) The second of the 'authentic' ecclesiastical modes, having its 'final' on E and 'dominant' on C.

1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 27 The..Musitian playd the Phrygian melodie. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 59 The Phrygian Mood was a more warlike and couragious kind of Musick, expressing the Musick of Trumpets and other Instruments of old, exciting to Arms. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* v. xxiii. 534 In music.. there were four principal *νόμοι* or modes; the Phrygian, the Lydian, the Doric, and the Ionic..The Phrygian mode was religious. 1826 ELMES *Dict. Fine Arts, Phrygian Marble*, called likewise Synnadique, was either white or red. *Phrygian Stone*, a substance..employed..in the process of dyeing.

b. Applied to a conical cap or bonnet with the peak bent or turned over in front, worn by the ancient Phrygians, and in modern times identified with the 'cap of liberty'.

1796 STRUTT *Dresses & Habits of Eng.* I. i. i. 12 The cap, most commonly worn by the Saxons..bears no distant resemblance to the ancient Phrygian bonnet. 1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume* (1860) 50 Figure 2 gives us the Phrygian-shaped cap, borrowed from classic costume. *Ibid.* 482 A head of Paris in the Phrygian cap has been copied.

B. *sb.* a. A native or inhabitant of Phrygia. b. One of a Christian sect of the second century, a CATAPHRYGIAN.

1585–7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* (Parker Soc.) 158 This truth is gainsaid by the Phrygians. 1837 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XV. 426/2 *Montanists*..are sometimes styled Phrygians and Cataphrygians.

Phrygianize (frī·dʒiănəiz), *v.* [f. prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make Phrygian in character.

1893 W. M. RAMSAY *Ch. Rom. Emp.* xvii. 438 The natural tendency of the Phrygians to Phrygianise their beliefs.

2. *fig.* To frizzle.

1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Aspasia* liii. Wks. 1846 II. 376/1 But whenever an obvious and natural thought presents itself, they either reject it for coming without imagination, or they *phrygianize* it with such biting and hot curling-irons, that it rolls itself up impenetrably. 1869 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* (1890) 182 He [Landor] never Phrygianized (to borrow his own word) an obvious and natural thought.

†**Phry·gic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. assumed L. **Phrygic-us* for *Phrygius* PHRYGIAN.] = PHRYGIAN.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 125 The Bells, brasse Cimbals, kettle musick and whistles, stowning such a Phrygick discord.

Phthalic (fθæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [Abbreviated from NAPHTHALIC.] Of, pertaining to, or obtained from naphthalene, as *phthalic anhydride*, etc. *Phthalic acid*, a white crystalline compound ($C_8H_6O_4$) produced by the action of nitric acid on naphthalene, alizarin, purpurin, etc. Also called ALIZARIC *acid*.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 575 Phthalic or Naphthalic Acid..is produced by the long-continued action of nitric acid upon naphthalin. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 766 The xylenes are converted into Phthalic acids. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 244 We may select either the three xylenes or the three phthalic acids.

So, from base **Phthal-: Phthalamic** (fθălæ·mik) *a.* [see AMIC], derived from or containing phthalic acid and ammonia: in *Phthalamic acid*, a crystalline acid ($C_8H_7NO_3$) produced by the action of aqueous ammonia on phthalic anhydride, **Phtha·late,** a salt of phthalic acid. **Phthalein** (fθæ·lĭ,in) [see -IN[1]], one of a series of organic dyes produced by combining phthalic anhydride with the phenols, with elimination of water. **Phthalide** (fθæ·lid) [-IDE, here short for *anhydride*], the anhydrous form of phthalic acid, a white crystalline substance, $C_8H_4O_3 = C_6H_4(CO)_2O$, obtained by distilling the acid. **Phtha·limide** [see IMIDE], a derivative of ammonia in which two atoms of hydrogen are replaced by phthalyl; a colourless crystalline inodorous and tasteless body, $C_8H_4O_2{\cdot}NH$. **Phthalin** (fθæ·lin) [see -IN[1]], a colourless crystalline substance obtained from phthalein (see quot.). **Phthalyl** (fθæ·lil) [see -YL], the radical of phthalic acid ($C_8H_4O_2$).

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 231 *Phthalamic acid (amidated phthalic acid). 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 627 *Phthalamic acid*.. crystallizes in a mass of fine flexible needles, forming an acid solution with water. *Ibid.* 628 **Phthalates*, Phthalic acid is dibasic, forming acid salts, $C_8H_5MO_4$, and neutral salts, $C_8H_4M_2O_4$. 1875 *Ibid.* VII. 977 Potassium phthalate is easily decomposed (by an electric current). 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 499 **Phthaleins*..compounds formed, with elimination of water, by the combination of phenols with phthalic anhydride. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 Jan. 3/6 Aniline blues and violets were followed by phthaleïne and the great group of azo and cotton dyes. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 231 **Phthalimide*, $HN.C_6H_4O_4$. 1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 977 By the action of nascent hydrogen the phthaleins are converted into colourless compounds called **phthalins*, which by oxidation in the air, are reconverted into phthaleins. 1866 *Ibid.* IV. 633 Chloride of **phthalyl*.

Phthanite (fθæ·nəit). *Min.* [a. F. *phthanite*: named by Haüy 1822 (*phtanite*), f. Gr. *φθάν-ειν* to anticipate + -ITE[1], 'because its thick schistoid texture and argillaceous character seem to announce beforehand its passage into schist' (*Traité de Mineral* (ed. 2) IV. 546). Dana spells it *-yte*, as being the name not of a mineral but of a rock.] A hard compact rock, consisting essentially of cryptocrystalline silica.

1868 DANA *Min.* 195 Cryptocrystalline Varieties [of Quartz] ..13. *Basanite, Lydian Stone* or *Touchstone*, a velvety black siliceous stone..passes into a compact fissile, siliceous, or flinty rock, of grayish and other colors, called siliceous slate, and also Phthanyte.

†**Phtha·rtic,** *a. Med. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *phthartic-us*, a. Gr. *φθαρτικ-ός* destructive, f. *φθείρειν* to destroy.] Destructive, deadly.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phthartic*, deadly, deleterious. Formerly applied to poisons.

Phthinode (fθi·nōud). *Path.* [ad. Gr. *φθινώδης* consumptive, f. *φθινο-* wasting, decaying: see -ODE.] One subject to or suffering from phthisis. So **Phthi·noid** *a.*, of or pertaining to phthinodes.

1870 S. GEE *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. ii. 14 The thorax of phthinodes (persons predisposed to phthisis) is, as Galen says, narrow and shallow. *Ibid.* 16 The phthinoid chests are natural deformities.

Phthinoplasm (fθi·nǫplæz'm). *Path.* [f. Gr. *φθινο-* wasting, decaying + -PLASM.] (See quot.)

1871 C. J. WILLIAMS *Pulmon. Consumpt.* i. 6 All are due to the presence of various kinds of *phthinoplasm*, a withering or decaying modification of the proper plasma or formative material of the body. [*Note*] I have found it necessary to coin this word,..to give expression to one of the leading ideas of this book, and to avoid the common use of the word *tubercle*.

‖ **Phthiriasis** (fθ-, pəiri·ə·sis). *Path.* Also 9 **phtheir-**. [L., a. Gr. *φθειρίασις* lousiness, morbus pedicularis, f. *φθειριᾶν* to be lousy.] A morbid condition of the body in which lice multiply excessively, causing extreme irritation; pediculosis.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 507 But with the griefs that charge our outward places Shall I account the loathsome Phthiriasis? *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 245 Calisthenes..fell there sick of the Phthiriasis, or lowsie disease. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. i. iv. 458 The Phthiriasis.. Herod, Antiochus Epiphanes,.. Cassander, Callisthenes, and Sylla, all died of this disorder. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VI. i. 295 Lice of Sick Persons —Pediculus Tabescentium...This name has been proposed for a louse which gives rise to a disease termed Phthiriasis.

Phthirophagous (fθ-, pəirǫ·făgəs), *a.* Also **phtheiro-, ctrron-, phthirio-.** [f. mod.L. *phthīrophagus sb.*, f. Gr. *φθείρ* louse + *-φάγος* eating: see -PHAGOUS; in F. *phthirophage*.] Louse-eating.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 951/1 Phthiriophagous. 1886 GUILLEMARD *Cruise Marchesa* II. 263 These Alfuros were phtheirophagous, going over the dense mat adorning their heads with the most praiseworthy perseverance. 1899 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 4 Nov. 1278 Lice..caused little inconvenience and afforded employment to the phtheirophagous natives.

Phthisic (ti·zik), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **tysyk, tisyk,** -**ik(e,** 5 **tyseke,** -**ik,** 6 **tysyc,** -**ike, tisicke, tissike,** 7 **tissick(e,** -**ique, tisick, tizzick, tysick(e, thisicke.** *β.* 5 **ptisike,** 6 **ptisique, ptysyke,** 6–7 **ptisicke,** 7 **ptysick, pthysic(k,** -**isicke,** 7–8 **ptisick,** 8 **ptysic.** *γ.* 6 **phthisik(e,** -**icke,** 6–8 -**ick,** 7 -**ysique, phtisique,** -**ick,** 8 **phthysick,** 8– **phthisic.** [ME. *tisik(e* sb., a. OF. *tisike, -ique*, later *ptisique, thisique* = It., Sp. *tisica* consumption, phthisis, repr. a Romanic *phthisica, thisica* sb. fem., absolute use of *phthisicus, -a, -um* adj., a. Gr. *φθισικ-ός* consumptive, f. *φθίσις* PHTHISIS. OF. had also the adj. *tisike, tesike* (11th c. in Littré, 13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *ptisique*, mod.F. *phtisique, phthisique*; the F. sb. is now *phthisie*. The current pronunciation has come down from the ME. *tisik*.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A wasting disease of the lungs; pulmonary consumption.

α. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 701 Many yvels..Als fevyr, dropsy, and Iaunys, Tysyk, goute and other maladys. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 164 Men þat ben hurt in þe lungis fallip in þe tisik. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Fiv b, It is also good for the tysyc. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 536 The milk of a sow..is also good against the bloudy flux and tissick. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 41 Hectick Feavers and Tissicks. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 44 But count all Reprobate.. Whom he, when Gout or Tissick Rage, shall curse.

β. *c* 1450 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxxi. (Bodl. MS.), Ptisike is consumcioun and wasting of kinde humours of þe bodie. Euerich þat haþ tisike haþ etike. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* Pref. 2 Some with Ptisique, Stone, Strangurie, [etc.]. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 297 The North-wind..is injurious to the Cough, Ptisick, and Gout. 1762–71

38934

H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 225 Being troubled with a ptysic, he retired to Marybone.

γ. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 58 The Phthisick or Sore in the lunges with a Consumption of all the bodie. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 1002 Of the various Kinds and Causes of the Phthisick. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 367 A variety of pulmonic phthisics. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 199 If he left off without having thrown himself into a phthisic.

† **2.** Loosely applied to various lung or throat affections; a severe cough; asthma. *Obs.*

?*a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merch.* 315 Drye tisyk is withal partable. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 51 A drye tysik makith old men ful feynt. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 287 Herode Ascalonite..was vexede.. with vermyn commenge from his secrete membres, with a stynche intollerable, and with a violente tisike. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 8 When liberty of speaking..was girded and straight lac't almost to a broken-winded tizzick. *a* 1741 CHALKLEY *Wks.* (1766) 286 A sore Fit of the Asthma or Phthysick.

B. *adj.* = PHTHISICAL *a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxii. (Bodl. MS.), Tisike men alwey cowȝeþ for þe boch of þe lunges. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1627) 263 They wil haue the disease of the lights, which is, to bee pursie and ptisicke. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* II. xii. (1639) 90 You must prescribe to those that be ptisick, a convenient diet. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 280 In Hectick, Phthisick, and Asthmatick cases. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 372 His colleague's accordion is suspended in the midst of a phthisic wheeze.

Phthisical (tiˑzikăl), *a.* Forms: 7 **tizicall, ptisical**(l, **phthysical**, 7–8 **tissical**, 7– **phthisical**, 8 **pht-, pthisical**. [f. prec. + -AL.] Of the nature of or pertaining to phthisis.

1611 COTGR., *Phtisique*, Tysicall. 1658 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 40 Half of them who dye in London, dye of phthisicall and pulmonicall distempers. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 174 When Tissical distempers stopt my Breath. 1793 BEDDOES *Consumpt.* 135 The phthisical inflammation may so alter the structure of the lungs. 1839 RAMADGE *Curab. Consumpt.* (1861) 52 There was old phthisical disease in the summit of both lungs.

b. Of persons: Affected with or having a tendency to phthisis; consumptive. Of a house: where phthisis exists.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* ii. 50 This Water..is very good for those that are ptisicall. 1709–10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 121 ¶ 1 Poor Cupid..has always been Phtisical, and.. we are afraid it will end in a Consumption. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii. 283 You will frequently find that he will die phthisical. 1899 *Times* 14 Jan. 8/6 The visitation of phthisical houses was not only practicable, but was of as great importance to the public weal as similar visits in houses where fever or enteric fever had occurred.

c. *fig.*

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* iii. 28 He will bestow on us a pretty modell of himselfe: and sobs me out halfe a dozen ticicali mottoes where ever he had them. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* (1850) II. 254 His wasp-stung wits were grown so quaint and phthisical. 1887 *Fortn. Rev.* Sept. 427 That phthisical Idealism which claimed the empire in despite of Nature.

Phthisicky (tiˑziki), *a.* [f. PHTHISIC + -Y.] Phthisical, consumptive; asthmatic; wheezy.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3322/4 Stolen by a Ptisicky middlesized Man. 1722 *Ibid.* No. 6119/3 He..has a Ptysicky Cough. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 382 Found successful in pthisicky complaints. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 594/1 Diminutive and phthisicky mules, wheezing for breath.

Phthisiology (fθ-, θiziˌɒlŏdʒi). *Med.* [f. PHTHISI-S + -(O)LOGY.] The science or study of phthisis, or a treatise thereon.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Phthisiology*, a treatise on phthisis. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Phthisiology*, the scientific study of Phthisis.

‖ **Phthisis** (θəiˑsis, fθiˑsis). *Path.* Also 6 **ptisys, -is**, 7–8 **pthisis**, 8 **phthysis**. [L. (Celsus), a. Gr. *φθίσις* wasting, consumption, f. *φθίνειν* (root *φθι-*) to decay, waste away. In mod.F. *phthisie*.] A progressive wasting disease; *spec.* pulmonary consumption: see quot. 1873.

[1525 tr. *Brunswyke's Surg.* L iij b/2 Dothe the parsone falle in ptisym and to outdryeng of the naturall moystnes. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* D j, Ptisim, that is a brethe comynge of the longues.] 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* (1586) 448 Phthisis, in greke signifieth wasting.. a consumption as we call it. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 728 Another kind of disease with which birds are troubled, is called the subtle disease, Pthisis. 1793 BEDDOES *Consumption* 130 The inconsiderable number of sailors who die of phthisis. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 300 By pulmonary phthisis is understood a disease of the lungs which is characterized by progressive consolidation of the pulmonary texture, and by the subsequent softening and disintegration of the consolidated tissue.

attrib 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med* V. 157 In several towns the phthisis death-rate had undergone a notable decrease since the introduction of an improved system of sewerage. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 2/1 A number of phthisis patients.

b. With defining word, applied to tuberculosis of various organs.

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 92, I made an analysis of pus which was discharged with the urine in a case of] phthisis vesicæ. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Abdominal Phthisis*..1. Intestinal tuberculosis..2. Peritoneal tuberculosis. *Ibid., Dust Phthisis*, a variety of fibroid phthisis set up by..dust..in certain industries.

c. *fig.*

1881 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.*, etc. (1891) IV. 302 The delirium of passion, the grasp of cupidity, the phthisis of romance.

Phthisozoics (θaisozōˑiks). *rare.* [erron. for *phthirozoics*, f. Gr. *φθείρ-ειν* to destroy + *ζῷον* animal.] The art of destroying noxious animals.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* 50 *Phthisozoics*,.. the art of destroying such of the inferior animals, as, in the character of natural enemies, threaten destruction, or damage, to himself, or to animals [useful to him]. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* (1847) VII. ccxxviii. 325 A science which Jeremy the thrice illustrious Bentham calls Phthisozoics.

Phthongal (fθ-, θɒˑŋgăl), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *φθόγγ-ος* a sound, the voice + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a sound; consisting of a sound; vocal.

1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 62 These are their sonant (or vocal, phthongal, intonated) counterparts.

Phthongometer. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -METER.] A measurer of the intensity of vowel sounds.

1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) II. 266 We may ..consider this instrument as a phthongometer, or measure of vowel quality. 1848 in SMART *Supp.*, and in later Dicts.

† **Phthore.** *Obs. Chem.* [a. F. *phthore*, ad. Gr. *φθορά* destruction, f. *φθείρ-ειν* to destroy, corrupt.] Old name for the element FLUORINE, because of the corrosive action of hydrofluoric acid. Hence † **Phthoˑric** *a.*, fluoric; † **Phthoˑrine**, fluorine.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phthoricus*.. applied by Guibourt to..binary compounds, in which..fluor, or fluorine, performs the part of a negative element: phthoric. *Ibid., Phthorina, Chem.*, term for the presumed base of fluoric acid..: phthorine. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Phtor.*

† **Phu.** *Obs.* [a. F. *phu*, a. L. *phū* (Plin.), a. Gr. *φοῦ* valerian.] The Garden Valerian or Cretan Spikenard, *Valeriana Phu.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 86 Phu, which som call also wild Spiknard, groweth in Pontus, and it hath a lefe lyke vnto.. Alexander. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 81 The herb Valerian (commonly called Phu). *Ibid.* 532 Mingle..these hearbs following, Agrimony, Rue, Phu, Scabious, Betony. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl., Phu*, in botany, a name by which some authors call the great garden valerian.

‖ **Phulkari** (pʰūˑlkari). *East Ind.* [a. Hindī *phūlkarī* a tissued flower on cloth, etc., f. *phūl* a flower + *-kārī*, suffix of agent.] A kind of flower embroidery; a cloth or shawl so embroidered.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 YOUNGSON 40 *Yrs. Punjab Mission* ii. 11 Phulkaries, or shawls of coarse cloth tastefully adorned with silk by the women, are worn.

Phulwara: see FULWA. **Phusee, phusy**, obs. erron. ff. FUSEE [2], wheel of a watch.

Phut (fʊt). [Echoic; cf. PHIT.] An imitation of a sound: see quot.

1898 STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 143 Thud! went the first gun, and phutt! came faintly back, as its shell burst on the zariba. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* July 57/2.

† **Phuz**, erron. f. FUZZ, loose volatile matter.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Arianism* 60 One continu'd Phuz of Canting Contradictions and sad Aspersions.

Phy, obs. erron. form of FIE *int.*

Phycic (fəiˑsik), *a. Chem.* [f. Gr. *φῦκ-ος* fucus, seaweed + -IC.] In *phycic acid*, a crystalline body extracted from *Protococcus vulgaris* by alcohol, colourless, somewhat unctuous to the touch, tasteless, inodorous, and permanent in the air.

1864–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 504 The mother-liquor of the phycic acid which is deposited on cooling, separates. 1866–8 *Ibid.* IV. 633 Phycic acid dissolves in strong sulphuric acid, and is reprecipitated by water.

Phycite (fəiˑsəit). *Chem.* [f. as prec. + -ITE [1] 4.] A sweet-tasting crystalline substance ($C_4H_{10}O_4$) extracted from *Protococcus vulgaris*; also called *erythromannite*. Hence in extended sense (see quot. 1866–8).

1864–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 504 The substance from *Protococcus vulgaris* was originally called phycite. 1866–8 *Ibid.* IV. 633 The term phycite has lately been extended by Carius to the series of tetratomic alcohols..homologous with natural phycite.

Phyco- (fəiˑko), combining form of Gr. *φῦκος* (L. *fucus*) seaweed, used in the formation of modern scientific terms relating to seaweeds or algæ.

Phycochrom (fəiˑkŏkrǫm), a species or individual of the order *Phycochromaceæ* or *Cryptophyceæ* of *Algæ* or seaweeds; so **Phycochromaˑceous** *a.*, of or pertaining to this order. **Phycochrome** (fəiˑkŏkrōm), the bluish-green colouring matter of some algæ, being chlorophyll modified by an admixture of phycocyanin. **Phycocyan** (fəiˑkoˌsəiˑăn), **Phycocyˑanin, Phycocyaˑnogen**, the blue colouring matter which is combined with chlorophyll in certain algæ, as *Phycochromaceæ*, and gives to them their bluish-green colour. **Phyˑcoˑerythrin**, the red colouring matter found similarly in *Florideæ*, and giving to them their reddish colour. **Phycoˑgraphy** [-GRAPHY], systematic description of seaweeds (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1886). **Phycohæˑmatin** (see quot.). **Phycoˑlogy** [-LOGY], the branch of botany treating of seaweeds or algæ; algology; so **Phycoˑlogist**, a student of phycology; an algologist. **Phycomater** (fəikǫmēiˑtəɹ); see quots. **Phycomycetous** (fəiˑkoˌməisīˑtəs) *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Phycomyceteæ*, a division of Fungi, mostly parasitic, of which the genus *Phycomyces* is the type. **Phycophæˑin** [Gr. *φαιός* dusky], a reddish-brown pigment found in the olive-brown seaweeds, as the *Fucaceæ* and *Phæosporeæ*. **Phycoxaˑnthin** [XANTHIN], a yellow colouring-matter, = DIATOMIN.

1888 *Amer. Naturalist* Aug. 671 The *Phycochroms never reach as great a size as do members of each of the other sections. 1873 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* 221 The cultivation of *phycochromaceous gonidia obtained from lichens of a different nature. 1880 *Nature* 26 Feb. 391/1 Desmideae, Diatomaceae, and phycochromaceous forms furnish no less than 600 out of the total of 794 species. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 12 The green matter originally arises within the primary chlorophyll- or *phycochrom-bearing cellule. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 273 Certain parasitic Ascomycetes penetrate them [certain Algæ]..and often form an intimate attachment with those..cells which contain phycochrome (as *Plectospora, Omphalaria*). 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 633 **Phycocyan*, and *Phycoerythrin*, these names are applied by Kützing to a blue and red colouring matter, apparently of the same composition, existing in several red sea-weeds. 1873 H. C. SORBY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXI. 464 Phycocyan gives a spectrum with a well-marked absorption-band in the orange, and has a very intense red fluorescence. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 216 The *phycocyanine is diffused from dead or ruptured cells, and thus produces, for example, the blue stains on the paper round herbarium specimens of *Oscillatoriæ*. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1637 *True *Phycocyanogen*, with a distinct absorption-band in the orange, and a narrow one in the red, imparting to the solution a very intense red fluorescence. 1873 H. C. SORBY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXI. 464 **Phycoerythrine Group*...I..call one pink phycoerythrine and the other red phycoerythrine. Neither are fluorescent, and both are soluble in water. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 633 **Phycohæmatin*, a red colouring matter, obtained by Kützing from *Rytiplæa tinctoria*. It is extracted from the fresh alga. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Phycologist*. 1901 *Nature* 14 Feb. 377/1 The great Swedish phycologist. 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., **Phycology*. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 10 Nov. 360/3 *Algology*, another hybrid, is honored with a definition..while *Phycology*, the preferable word linguistically, is given only as a synonym. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Phycomater*, the gelatine in which the sporules of Algaceous plants first vegetate. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Phycomater*, term for a single cell resting on semi-liquid substance, possessing the power of producing other cells similar to itself in form and composition out of the organic substances in which it grows. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Phycomycetous*. 1900 *Nature* 27 Sept. 540/1 The phycomycetous Fungi, and the siphonaceous Algæ ..the vegetative body of which does not consist of cells. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 295 Analogous pigments extracted by water from algae of colors other than red have received the following names,—*phycophæine (brownish), phycocyanine (bluish), phycoxanthine (yellowish-brown). 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 330 The cells of the Phæophyceæ ..contain a brown pigment, phycophæin. 1873 H. C. SORBY in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXI. 457 *Phycoxanthine. This name was first proposed by Kraus for a substance he obtained from *Oscillatoriæ*. 1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 216 The peculiar bluish- or brownish-green colour which the Nostocaceæ share with the Chroococcaceæ, is caused by a mixture of true chlorophyll with phycoxanthine and phycocyanine.

Phygogalactic (fiˑgoˌgălæˑktik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *φυγο-* shunning (*φεύγειν* to flee, shun) + *γαλακτ-* milk: see GALACTIC.] **A.** *adj.* Preventing the secretion of milk, and promoting the reabsorption of milk already secreted. **b.** *sb.* A subsfance or drug having these qualities.

In mod. Dicts.

† **Phyˑlacist.** *Obs. rare*—[0]. [ad. L. *phylacista* (Plaut.), ad. Gr. *φυλακιστής* jailer, f. *φυλακή* prison.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Phylacist*, the keeper of a prison.

† **Phylaˑcter.** *Obs.* [a. Gr. *φυλακτήρ* guard; cf. F. *phylactère*: see next.] = PHYLACTERY.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 225 Their Phylacters.. serving as Locall memories of the Law. 1604 DRAYTON *Owl* 621 Then of his knowledge in the cabalist,..Then of Philacters what their vertue be. 1647 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 44 Who place Religion in their Velam-eares; As in their Phylacters the Iewes did theirs. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* II. ii. 27 Ensigned with a Mytre,..and the Phylacters. [See PHYLACTERY 4.]

Hence † **Phylaˑctered** *ppl. a.*, furnished with a phylactery; in quot. *fig.*

1738 MATT. GREEN *Spleen* 19 Who for the spirit hug the spleen, Phylacter'd throughout all their mien.

Phylacterian (filæktiˑəriăn). [f. L. *phylactēri-um*: see next + -AN.] (See quot.) So **Phylacteric** (-eˑrik), **-ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to phylacteries; **Phylaˑcterize** *v.* [ad. late Gr. *φυλακτηρίζειν*], *trans.* to guard or protect with a phylactery.

1616 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. x. (1625) 54 In the yeere of our Lord, 692. certaine Sorcerers were condemned for the like kind of Magick[' hanging the beginning of Saint Iohns Gospell about their necks'] by the name of *φυλακτηριοι*, that is, Phylacterians. 1698 L. ADDISON *Chr. Sacr.* 128 (R.) In their private or phylacterical prayers, it [Amen] was omitted. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vii. (1642) 406 Εαυτους φυλακτηριζουσιν, ἱνα τῶν δαιμονων οὐδεις ἐφαψηται, They phylacterize, or blesse and defend themselves that no ill Spirit or Divell annoy them.

Phylactery (filæˑktĕri). Forms: 4 **fil-, philaterie**, 6 **-eri, -ery, -ory, phylatorye, philacterie**, 6–7 **philactery**, 7– **phylactery** (6–7 **-ie**). Also in med.L. forms **philateria, -um, phil-, phylacterium**. [ME. ad. L. *fyl-, phylactērium* (Vulg.), a. Gr. *φυλακτήριον* a watchman's post, a safeguard, an amulet, f. *φυλάκτήρ* a guard, f. stem *φυλακ-* of *φυλάσσειν* to guard. Cf. OF. *filatiere* (12th c.), mod.F. *phylactère*.]

1. A small leathern box containing four texts of Scripture, Deut. vi. 4–9, xi. 13–21, Ex. xiii. 1–10, 11–16, written in Hebrew letters on vellum and, by a literal interpretation of the passages, worn by

Jews during morning prayer on all days except the sabbath, as a reminder of the obligation to keep the law. Cf. Deut. xi. 18 'Ye shall bind them [my words] for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes.'

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 61 In stede of philateries men maken gret volyms of newe lawes. 1382 — *Matt.* xxiii. 5 Thei alargen her filateriȝs [*gloss* that ben smale scrowis]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 325 þey bere scrowes in her forhedes and in hir lift armes and cleped þe scrowes philateria; in þe scrowes were þe ten hestes. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 5 They sett abroade there philateris. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xxiii. 5 They walke vp and doune bearyng about brode Philacteries. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 823 They ware in their foreheads scrowles of parchment, wherein were written the tenne commaundements giuen by God to Moses, which they called Philaterias. 1616 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. (1641) 42 There were.. Phylacteries for the head, or frontlets, reaching from one ear to the other, and tied behind with a thong; and Phylacteries for the hand fastned upon the left arme above the elbow on the inside, that it might be neer the heart. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxx, A broad girdle inscribed with characters like the phylacteries of the Hebrews. 1879 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xv. 156 Pharisees, with broad phylacteries.

b. *fig.* A reminder; a religious observance or profession of faith; an ostentatious or hypocritical display of piety or rectitude, a mark of Pharisaism; a burdensome traditional observance. Phrase: *to make broad the phylactery* (from Matt. xxiii. 5), *to vaunt one's righteousness.*

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Introd. Addr. Parlt., I send him back again for a phylactery to stitch upon his arrogance. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 21 Trust not to thy Remembrance in things which need Phylacteries, *Ibid.* III. § 10 To thoughtful Observators the whole World is a Phylactery, and every thing we see an Item of the Wisdom .. of God. Happy are they who..make their Phylacteries speak *in* their Lives. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 399 And Fathers, Counsels, Church, and Church's head, Were on her reverend Phylacteries read. 1847 LD. COCKBURN *Jrnl.* II. 189 Five statutes.., each of which tends in its way to disentangle us of the phylacteries of the feudal system. 1893 MORLEY in *Daily News* 3 Mar. 5/5 Mr. Russell..has worn his broadest phylacteries, used his most pharisaical language.

c. Erroneously applied to the fringe or the blue ribbon, which the Israelites were commanded to wear as a remembrancer (Num. xv. 38, 39); hence extended to a fringe or border generally.

1576 N. T. (Tomson) *Matt.* xxiii. 5 *note*, Phylacteries.—It was a thread, or ribband of blewe silke in the fringe of a corner, the beholding whereof made them to remember the Lawes and ordinances of God: and therefore was it called a phylacterie, as you would say, a keper. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. II. xiv. 97 The Flames had rambled to the Borders and the Phylacteries (as it were) of this Obelisk. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. iii. 112 She walks, And droops her loosed phylacteries in the dust.

2. An amulet worn upon the person, as a preservative against disease, etc.; also *fig.* a charm, safeguard.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phylacterium*, a sort of Amulet, for the cure of Venomous Diseases.] 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. vii. (Rtldg.) 355 Very good books,..a never-failing phylactery against the blue devils [F. *une ressource assurée contre l'ennui*]. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 436 (ed. 2) 628 The figure of Serapis was a customary phylacterion. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 585 Phylactery..properly denotes a preservative, such as pagans carried about to preserve them from evils, diseases, and dangers; for example, stones or pieces of metal engraved under certain aspects of the planets. 1860 — *Lives Abps.* I. v. 223 The bishops..were required..to put down pagan observances, auguries, phylacteries, and incantations.

3. A vessel or case containing a holy relic.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXVIII. (Add. MS. 27944) Philaterium is a litel vessel of glas oþer of Cristal in þe whiche holy relikes ben ikepte. 1520 in *Archæologia* LIII. 14 One phylatorye siluer and gylte..contenyng w'yn a bone of sayntt Stephen. 1536 in *Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 194 One Philatory, long, ornate with silver,..standing on four feet,..and containing a tooth of St. Macarius. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. App. 686 Harold is shown swearing between two chests or phylacteries.

4. In mediæval art, The inscribed scroll proceeding from a person's mouth or held by him, to indicate his words; *fig.* a record, a roll. Also, the label or infula of a mitre.

1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* ii. 74 The legends painted upon the phylacteries in painted glass. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 423 Here is the phylactery of his vices—wily, wary, cold, calculating, indirect, faithless.

Hence **Phyla·cteried** *a.*, furnished with phylacteries; also *fig.*

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 277 Without any phylacteried display of Independence and Non-intrusion oratory.

† **Phyla·ctic.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *φυλακτικός* adj., having the quality of guarding, f. stem *φυλακ-* (see prec.).] A preservative; a prophylactic.

1706 CARY (*title*) A Physician's Phylactic, Against a Lawyer's Venefic: or, An Answer to a Book, abusively Entitled, *The Rights of the Christian Church, Asserted.*

Phyla·ctocarp. *Zool.* [f. Gr. *φυλακτός*, vbl. adj. f. *φυλάσσειν* to guard + *καρπός* fruit.] A 'fruit-case'; a receptacle in certain hydroids protecting the gonothecæ. Hence **Phylactoca·rpal** *a.*

1883 ALLMAN in *Challenger Rep.* VII. III. 10 The term phylactocarp may be used as a .. general expression for the various forms under which the apparatus destined for the protection of the gonangia shows itself in the phylactocarpal Plumularidæ... The commonest and longest known form of phylactocarp is the corbula of *Aglaophenia.* 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 759.

Phylactolæ·matous, *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Phylactolæmata* (f. Gr. *φυλακτο-*, f. *φυλάσσειν* to guard + *λαιμός* throat + L. *-āta* (pa. pple)) + -OUS.] Belonging to the *Phylactolæmata*, an order of Polyzoa, having the lophophore bilateral, and the mouth overhung by a small ciliated mobile lobe, the epistome.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 461 Between the bases of the arms there is a rounded or pentagonal disk with raised and ciliated edges, which occupies the place of the epistoma in the phylactolaematous Polyzoa.

Phylarch (fəi·lārk). Also 7–8 **phil-**. [ad. L. *phȳlarchus*, a. Gr. *φῦλαρχος* chief of a tribe, f. *φῦλή* tribe + *-αρχος*, f. *ἄρχειν* to rule. Cf. F. *phylarque.*]

1. The chief or ruler of a phyle or tribe in ancient Greece; hence, a tribal chief generally.

1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 56 Moses chose able men .., and made them heads over the people; (Tribunes ..or Phylarches, that is) Princes of the Tribes. 1659 — *Lawgiving* II. ii. (1700) 400 These Degrees were of two sorts: first, Phylarchs or Princes of Tribes; and secondly, Patriarchs, or Princes of Familys. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iii. 32 One of the Numidian petty Princes, called by Greek Authors Philarchs, and by the Arabs &c. Sheikhs. 1861 W. MUIR *Mahomet* Introd. 183 The Romans recognized as kings or phylarchs of the Syrian Arabs the chiefs of the Bani Salih.

2. In ancient Attica, An officer elected to command the cavalry of each of the ten phylæ.

1830 tr. *Aristoph., Birds* 214 Diitrephes, with only wicker wings, was chosen Phylarch,—next, Hipparch. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. viii. II. 607 The tribe appears to have been the only military classification known to Athens, and the taxiarch the only tribe officer for infantry, as the phylarch was for cavalry, under the general-in-chief.

3. The title given to certain magistrates in the ideal commonwealths of Plato, More, etc.; in Harrington's *Oceana* given to the magisterial body.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. iii. (1895) 135 Euerye thyrty families or fermes chewse them yearlye an offycer, whyche in their olde language is called the Syphograunte, and by a newer name the Phylarche [*phylarchum*]. 1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 76 All and every one of these Magistrates, together with the Justices of Peace: and the Jury-men of the Hundreds, .. are the Prerogative Troop or Phylarch of the Tribe. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 407 During twenty years the chief employment of busy and ingenious men had been to frame constitutions.. All the nomenclature .. of the imaginary government was fully set forth,.. Phylarchs, Tribes [etc.].

Hence **Phyla·rchic, -a·rchical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to phylarchs or to tribal government; consisting in the rule of great families; **Phy·larchy,** the office of a phylarch, tribal government.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 640 Feelings of decent reverence for the old *phylarchic aristocracies of England. 1861 W. MUIR *Mahomet* I. Introd. 146 The national tradition and poetry of the Arabs,..with respect to genealogical and *phylarchical events. 1928 EARBERY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* II. 56 The twelve Aposules and the twelve patriarchs joined together, or the *phylarchies of the Jews. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 9 July 11 A Bedawin phylarchy, in which the chief is the political and religious ruler of the nation.

‖ **Phyle** (fəi·lē). Pl. **-æ.** *Ancient Gr. Hist.* [a. Gr. *φῦλή* tribe.] In ancient Greece, a clan or tribe, based on supposed kinship; in Attica, after the reforms of Clisthenes, a political, administrative, and military unit, the division of the people into ten phylæ being mainly geographical; also the cavalry brigade furnished by an Attic tribe.

1863 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 290 The Greek Eupatrid or the Roman Patrician, who had to court the votes of his Phyle or of his clients. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* (ed. 7) 389 The tribes or phylæ [of Attica] were divided ..each into three phratriæ. *Ibid.* 390 All foreigners admitted to the citizenship were registered in a phyle.

Phylembryo (fəile·mbrio). *Biol.* [f. PHYL-UM + EMBRYO.] The ancestral embryo form of a race of animals or plants. Hence **Phylembryo·nic** *a.*

1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* 464 The ancestral form of this group, the phylembryo, has been found in Paterina, whose adult represents the youngest stage, the beak of the shell, of other Brachiopods. 1902 WEBSTER *Suppl.* s.v. *Phylo-*, Phylembryonic.

Phyletic (fəile·tik), *a. Biol.* [ad. Gr. *φυλετικός*, f. *φυλέτης* a tribesman, f. *φῦλή* a tribe.] Of or pertaining to a phylum or race; racial.

1881 *Science Gossip* No. 203. 249 Presenting a picture..of phyletic development (that is, the changes through which the species has passed in its development). 1892 MIVART *Ess. & Crit.* 457 The growth of the species, or phyletic growth. 1893 tr. *Weismann's Germ-Plasm* I. i. 56 The entire phyletic transformation of a species does not by any means alone depend on its intra-cellular variation.

Hence **Phyle·tically** *adv.*, as regards the phylum, racially.

1893 tr. *Weismann's Germ-Plasm* ii. 115 Salamanders..are much younger phyletically, and much more highly organised.

Phyllarea, -erea, obs. erron. ff. PHILLYREA.

Phyllary (fi·lări). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *phyllārium*, a. Gr. *φυλλάριον*, dim. of *φύλλον* leaf.] Each of the small leaves or bracts constituting the involucre of a Composite flower.

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 122 In the Compositae..the bracts form an involucre the parts of which are sometimes called phyllaries. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 182.

† **Phyllet,** obs. erron. form of FILLET.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22339, I háue knyues, phyllettys, callys.

Phyllidiobranchiate (filidiobræ·ŋkiĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. next + L. *branchia*: see BRANCHIATE.] Belonging to or having the characters of the *Phyllidiobranchia*, a division of gastropod molluscs, in which the ctenidia are replaced by lamellæ (the *phyllidia*) within the fold of the mantle.

1883 LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 656/1 Dorsal and ventral view of *Pleurophyllidia lineata* (Otto), one of the Phyllidiobranchiate Palliate Opisthobranchs.

‖ **Phyllidium** (fili·diŏm). *Biol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύλλ-ον* leaf + *-ιδιον* dim. suffix.] One of the rudimentary ctenidia or *lamellæ* of certain gastropod molluscs, called by E. R. Lankester *capitopedal bodies.*

Phylliform (fi·lifōim), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. *φύλλον* leaf + -FORM.] Leaf-shaped, leaf-like.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 37 Four phylliform ovaries.

Phyllirea, obs. erron. variant of PHILLYREA.

‖ **Phyllirhoe** (fili·rŏi). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *φυλλορρόος* shedding leaves, f. *φύλλ-ον* leaf + *-ροος*, from *ῥοή* flow.] A genus of degenerate gastropod molluscs, having no cerata nor ctenidium, and of thin translucent body, without shell, gills, or foot, the general surface being respiratory in function; usually called from their appearance ocean-slugs.

The species *P. bucephalus* is highly phosphorescent.

1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 339 These gills are atrophied in many Opisthobranchiata, when the whole of the integument takes on the respiratory function (Phyllirhoe).

Hence **Phyllirhoid** (fi·liroid) *a.* and *sb. Zool.*; **a.** *adj.*, akin to the genus *Phyllirhoë*; having the characters of the family *Phyllirhoidæ*; **b.** *sb.*, a mollusc of this family, an ocean-slug.

Phyllis: see PHILLIS.

Phyllite (fi·ləit). [f. Gr. *φύλλον* a leaf + -ITE[1].]

1. *Min.* **a.** A species of magnesia-mica, occurring in small scales in argillaceous schist or slate. **b.** A rock consisting of an argillaceous schist or slate containing scales or flakes of mica.

See A. R. Hunt *Notes on Petrolog. Nomencl.* in *Geol. Mag.* Jan. 1896, 31–35.

a. 1828 THOMSON in *Ann. N. Y. Lyceum Nat. Hist.* III. 47 Phyllite .. will probably constitute a new species. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* vi. 77 The ottrelite has been called phyllite. 1892 — *Min.* (ed. 6) 642.

b. 1881 *Rep. Geol. Expl. N. Zealand* 128 A series of less altered rocks (phyllites) form the northern part of the Eyrie Mountains. 1886 GEIKIE *Class-bk. Geol.* 223 By increase of its mica-flakes a clay-slate passes into a phyllite. 1892 TEALL in *Proc. Somerset Archæol. Soc.* 211 A schistose rock intermediate between a phyllite and a mica-schist.

2. *Geol.* A general name for a fossil leaf. ? *Obs.*

1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. & Min.*, *Phyllite*, a petrified leaf.

Hence **Phyllitic** (fili·tik) *a.*, consisting of or having the character of phyllite.

1888 *Nature* 8 Nov. 31/1 Generally the slates are schistose, phyllitic, and chlastolitic.

Phyllo- (filo-), repr. Gr. *φυλλο-*, combining form of *φύλλον* leaf, in various scientific terms.

Phyllochromogen (-krōu·mŏdʒen) *Chem.* [see CHROMOGEN], a constituent of chlorophyll, supposed by Liebermann to give rise, by oxidation or reduction, to the various colouring-matters of flowers. **Phyllocyanic** (-səi,æ·nik) *a. Chem.* [see CYANIC 2], in *phyllocyanic acid* = next. **Phyllocyanin** (-səi·ānin) *Chem.* [see CYANIN], a blue or bluish-green substance supposed by Frémy to be a constituent of chlorophyll (see *phylloxanthin* below). **Phy·llocyst** (-sist) *Zool.*, a cyst or cavity in the hydrophyllium (see HYDRO-) of certain Hydrozoa; hence **Phyllocy·stic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phyllocyst. **Phyllogen** (fi·lŏdʒen) [-GEN] = *phyllophore.* **Phyllogenetic** (-dʒĭne·tik) *a.* [-GENETIC], pertaining to the production of leaves. **Phyllogenous** (filo·dʒĭnəs) *a.* [-GEN 2 + -OUS], growing upon leaves. ‖ **Phyllomania** *Bot.* [mod.L.; cf. Gr. *φυλλομανεῖν* to run wildly to leaf], an abnormal development of leaves. **Phyllomorphic** (-mō·rfik) *a.* [Gr. *μορφή* form], leaf-shaped; in quot., characterized by imitation of the forms of leaves; so **Phyllomo·rphous** *a.*, leaf-shaped; **Phy·llomorphy,** metamorphosis of other organs into leaves (= PHYLLODY). **Phyllophæin** (-fī·in) *Chem.* [Gr. *φαιός* dusky: see -IN[1]] = PHÆOPHYLL. **Phy·llophore** (-fōəi) *Bot.* [Gr. *φυλλοφόρος* leaf-bearing], the growing-point or terminal bud from which the leaves arise, esp. in palms; so **Phyllophorous** (-fo·rŏrəs) *a.*, leaf-bearing; in *Zool.*, bearing parts resembling leaves, as the nose-leaf of certain bats. **Phylloporphyrin** (-pō·rfirin) *Chem.* [Gr. *πορφύρα* purple dye], a black substance obtained by decomposition of chlorophyll; its aqueous solution is purple (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*, citing Geissler and Möller). **Phylloxanthin** (filǫksæ·nþin) *Chem.* [a. F. *phylloxanthine*

(Frémy), f. Gr. *ξανθός* yellow], a yellow constituent of chlorophyll, also called XANTHOPHYLL.

1879 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 452 The basic component [of chlorophyll], *phyllochromogen, is capable of assuming the most various colours under the influence of oxidising and reducing agents. 1881 *Ibid.* 1637 Chlorophyll .. When digested with hydrochloric acid it splits up into phylloxanthin, a brown substance,..and Frémy's *phyllocyanic acid, an olive-green substance. 1881 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 744 M. Frémy..has ascertained that it [chlorophyll] is composed of two colouring principles,—one a yellow, which he has termed *phylloxanthine*; and the other a blue, which he has called **phyllocyanine*. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 291 Frémy's later researches have led him to regard the so-called phyllocyanin as really an acid (*phyllocyanic*). 1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 14 They always contain a diverticulum of the somatic cavity, or *phyllocyst. 1877 — *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 139 Phyllocyst or cavity of hydrophyllium with its process. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Phyllogen.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898 *Nature* 26 May 74/2 Theories of *phyllogenetic development. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllogenus*,..that which grows upon leaves..: *phyllogenous. 1670 E. TONGE in *Phil. Trans.* V. 2073 Whether the delay of Sap, staying Fruit and Blossoms, as is supposed, by tying, will cure the *Phyllo-mania, as Cross-hacking? 1856 GRINDON *Life* viii. (1875) 97 No plant can suffer from phyllomania and be fruitful at the same moment. 1882 *Academy* 4 Feb. 76 It [Celtic art] was zoomorphic, but not *phyllomorphic. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 669 Classified under the head of the Walking Leaf, or *Phyllomorphous insects. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Phyllomorphy*, the same as *Phyllody*. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 954/1 The dusky or brown colouring matter of the leaves of plants: *phyllophein. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Phæophyll*, the brown colouring-matter of the Fucoïdeæ; also called *Phyllophæin*. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 227 The growing point, or **phyllophore* [of Mirbel]. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 132 That portion of a palm-stem which lies above the lowest active leaves..is of a conical shape..often much elongated, and carries all the new and forming leaves. It is known as the *Phyllophore*. 1828 WEBSTER, **Phyllophorous*. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 954/2 The yellow colouring matter of the leaf of a plant: *phylloxanthin. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 745 The experiments of M. Frémy show, that the yellow leaves of autumn contain no phyllocyanine, and hence that their colour is entirely due to the phylloxanthine, either in its original condition or in an altered state.

‖ **Phyllobranchia** (filobræ·ŋkiă). *Zool.* Pl. **-æ**. [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύλλον* leaf + *βράγχια* gills.] Each of the leaf-like, foliaceous, or lamellar gills of certain crustaceans. **Phyllobra·nchial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a phyllobranchia; **Phyllobra·nchiate** *a.*, having phyllobranchiæ.

1878 HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 4 June 782 The structure ..which obtains in *Gebia* and *Callianassa*, which are truly phyllobranchiate. 1880 — *Crayfish* v. 271 The prawn's gills are..phyllobranchiæ;..the central stem of the branchia ..bears only two rows of broad flat lamellæ. 1880 E. R. LANKESTER in *Nature* XXI. 355/2 Crayfishes..differ from prawns..in..being 'trichobranchiate' in place of 'phyllobranchiate'.

Phylloclade (fi·lokleid). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. phyllocladium (filokle·i·diŭm) (also in Eng. use), f. Gr. *φύλλον* leaf + *κλάδος* branch.] A branch of an enlarged or flattened form, resembling or performing the functions of a leaf, as in Butcher's Broom or the *Cactaceæ*.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllocladium*,..a term proposed by Bischoff for the *Phyllodium*, produced by a branch enlarged and flattened in the form of a leaf. 1883 *Athenæum* 3 Mar. 283/3 There is a curious *Exocarpus* with phyllocladia. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 301 This arrangement is found..also in the phylloclades of Ruscus and Myrsiphyllum. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Pl.* I. 181 Stems ..with long shoots transformed into flat green expansions, which act as leaves, whilst the true leaves are reduced to scales..are termed *phylloclades*.

Hence **Phyllocla·dioid** *a.* [-OID], resembling a phylloclade (in quot. misused as if = having phylloclades); **Phyllo·cladous** *a.* [-OUS], having phylloclades.

1883 *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Bot.* XX. 249 A phyllocladioid Exocarpus..an oblanceolate thick rigid phylloclade. 1895 KERNER & OLIVER *Nat. Hist. Plants* I. 334 The most striking forms of phylloclados plants.

Phyllode (fi·lōud). Also in L. form *phyllo·dium*. [a. F. *phyllode*, ad. mod.L. **phyllōdium** (filō·diōm), also in Eng. use, f. Gr. *φυλλώδης* leaf-like, f. *φύλλον* leaf: see -ODE.]

1. *Bot.* A petiole or leaf-stalk of an expanded and (usually) flattened form, resembling and having the functions of a leaf, the true leaf-blade being absent or much reduced in size, as in many Acacias.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 297 The curious transformation undergone by the petiole when it becomes a phyllode. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 175 To such a petiole the name of phyllodium or phyllode has been applied. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 347 All the eight species of this genus [Sarracenia] have hollowed *phyllodia*, which form slender pitchers or urns.

2. *Zool.* = PETAL 2.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 557 In the *Cassidulidae* the peristomial ends of the ambulacra dilate into petala or phyllodes, forming a figure known as *Rosecella*.

Hence **Phyllo·dial** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phyllode; **Phyllodi·neous, Phyllo·dinous** *a.* [irreg.], bearing phyllodes; also = prec.; **Phyllodinia·tion**, formation of phyllodes.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllodialis*, applied to the cup of an ascidiated leaf..when it is formed by the *phyllodium*, or the petiole enlarged in the form of a leaf, as in the *Saracenia purpurea*: *phyllodial. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 307 Among the *phyllodineous Acacias. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* 307 Australian affinities are shewn..by a *phyllodinous Acacia. *a* 1850 R. BROWN cited in Cassell for **Phyllodiniation*.

Phyllody (fi·lodi). *Bot.* [f. prec. + -Y.] **a.** The condition in which certain organs, esp. parts of the flower, are metamorphosed into ordinary leaves. **b.** The condition in which the leaf-stalk is metamorphosed into a phyllode.

1888 HENSLOW *Orig. Floral Struct.* xxx. 302 Phyllody of the Carpels and Ovules.

Phylloid (fi·loid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *phylloīdes*, f. Gr. *φύλλ-ον* leaf: see -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling a leaf; foliaceous. **b.** *sb.* A part in lower plants, analogous to or resembling a leaf.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phylloides*,..applied by Mirbel to parts which have the form of leaves, that is, which are flattened and herbaceous, as the stem of the *Cactus phyllanthus*: phylloid. *Ibid.* s. v. *Phyllosoma*, A crustaceous animal with phylloid or bladder-like sacs attached to the hinder part of the body. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 211 For the sake of finding an expression for these relationships in Algæ..the leaf-like appendages might be termed Phylloids, the root-like appendages Rhizoids.

So **Phylloi·dal, Phylloi·deous** *adjs.* = prec. a.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Phylloideous*, the same as Foliaceous. 1888 HENSLOW *Orig. Floral Struct.* xxx. 302 The ovules then undergo phylloidal changes of different degrees.

Phyllome (fi·lōum). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *phyllōma*, f. Gr. *φύλλωμα* foliage, clothing of leaves, f. *φυλλοῦν* to clothe with leaves, f. *φύλλον* leaf. (But *-ome* has here rather the mod. sense of 'formation' as in *caulome, rhizome*.) So in mod.F.]

1. The general name for a leaf or any organ homologous with a leaf, or regarded as a modified leaf (as a sepal, petal, stamen, carpel, bract, etc.).

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 130 If now we accept ..Thallome, Stem (Caulome), Leaf (Phyllome), and Hair (Trichome), in the senses indicated. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* 6 *note*, The German botanists use..*Phyllome* in this sense.

2. (See quot.) *rare*—°.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phylloma*. Herschel terms thus..the whole of the germs destined to produce the leaves which come from the bud..when it is developed: a phyllome.

Hence **Phyllomic** (filō·mik) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a phyllome.

1886 *Nature* 6 May 17/2 Even on this explanation the true stamen is phyllomic.

Phyllophagan (filo·făgăn). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *phyllophaga* pl., a. Gr. type **φυλλοφάγα*, f. *φύλλον* leaf + *-φάγος* eating.] A member of the *Phyllophaga*, a name applied in different classifications to various groups of animals which feed on leaves: viz. (*a*) a tribe of marsupials, including the phalangers; (*b*) a group of edentates, comprising the sloths; (*c*) a group of lamellicorn beetles, including the chafers; (*d*) of hymenopterous insects, including the saw-flies. So **Phyllo·phagous** *a.*, leaf-eating; belonging to the *Phyllophaga*.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., **Phyllophagans, Phyllophaga*, the name of a tribe of Marsupials, including the Phalangers, Petaurists, and Koala; also of a tribe of beetles, including those which live by suction of the tender parts of vegetables, as the leaves and succulent sprouts. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, s. v. 1868 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* § 332 III. 451 The thick epithelium continued over the inner surface of that part in the Phyllophagous species.

Phyllopod (fi·lopɒd), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [f. mod. L. *Phyllopoda* pl., f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] **a.** *sb.* A member of the *Phyllopoda*, a group of entomostracous crustaceans, having lamellate or foliaceous swimming feet; a leaf-footed crustacean. **b.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Phyllopoda*; leaf-footed.

1863 RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* v. (1878) 63 Also a phyllopod crustacean. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1983. 571/2 The little modest ostracods and phyllopods. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 239 The form of the Phyllopod foot.

So **Phyllopodal** (filɒ·pŏdăl), **Phyllo·podan, Phyllo·podous** *adjs.* = prec. b; **Phyllopodiform** (filɒpɒ·difŏm) *a.*, having the form of a phyllopod.

1878 tr. *Claus* in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 650/2 *note*, The maxilla of the Decapod larva is a sort of *Phyllopodal foot. 1869 W. S. DALLAS tr. *F. Müller's Facts fr. Darwin* 84 A *Phyllopodiform Decapod. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 14 These *Phyllopodous species seem..to be recent representatives of ancient forms, the Trilobites.

Phyllopode (fi·lŏpoud). *Bot.* [mod. f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] Name for the dilated sheathing-base of the leaf in *Isoëtes*, analogous to a petiole in Phanerogams.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 420 The structure of the leaves of Isoëtes varies according as the species grow submerged in water, in marshes, or on dry ground...In the third case..the basal portions of the dead leaves (phyllopodes) form a firm black coat of mail round the stem.

Phyllorhine (fi·lŏrəin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phyllorhīn-us*, f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *ῥίς, ῥῑν-* nose.] **a.** *adj.* Of a bat: Having a nose-leaf, or leaf-like appendage to the nose; leaf-nosed; *spec.* belonging to the *Phyllorhininæ*, a subfamily of the *Rhinolophidæ* or horseshoe-bats. **b.** *sb.* A leaf-nosed bat; *spec.* one of the *Phyllorhininæ*. Also **Phyllorhi·nine** *a.* and *sb.*

Phylloscopine (filɒ·skŏpəin), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Phylloscop-us* (f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *-σκοπός* viewing) + -INE¹.] Of or related to the genus *Phylloscopus* containing the chiffchaff and warblers.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* cites H. SEEBOHM.

Phyllosome (fi·lŏsōum). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phyllosōma*, f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *σῶμα* body: see quot. 1858.] The larval form of certain macrurous crustaceans (formerly supposed to be adult forms constituting a separate group); a glass-crab.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xv. 59 The most remarkable animals belonging to the order [Stomapods] are the Phyllosomes of Dr. Leach. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllosoma*, name of a crustaceous animal with phylloid or bladder-like sacs attached to the hinder part of the body: a phyllosome.

Phyllostome (fi·lostoum). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Phyllostoma*, f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *στόμα, στοματ-* mouth.] A bat of the genus *Phyllostoma* or family *Phyllostomatidæ*, having a nose-leaf or other appendage of the snout. Also **Phyllosto·matid, Phyllo·stomid.** So **Phyllosto·matoid, Phyllosto·matous, Phyllo·stomine, Phyllo·stomoid, Phyllo·stomous** *adjs.*, belonging to or having the characters of the *Phyllostomatidæ*.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllostomatus, Phyllostomus*, applied by Goldfuss, Gray [etc.] to a Family (*Phyllostomata*) of the *Cheiroptera*, having the nose or mouth encumbered with a simple leaf. *Phyllostomatous*: phyllostomous. 1866 *Athenæum* No. 2002. 339/1 Genera of phyllostomine or leaf-nosed bats.

‖ **Phyllotaxis** (filotæ·ksis). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *τάξις* arrangement.] The arrangement or order of leaves (or other lateral members, e. g. scales of a pine-cone, florets of a composite flower, etc.) upon an axis or stem; the geometrical principles of such arrangement. Also **Phy·llotaxy.**

The principal kinds of phyllotaxis are (1) the *cyclical* or *verticillate*, in which a number of leaves (two or more) stand at the same level, forming a pair or whorl; and (2) the *spiral* or *alternate*, in which each leaf stands singly, their points of insertion forming a spiral (the *genetic spiral*) round the stem; in the latter case the phyllotaxis is expressed by a fraction denoting the angle (or portion of one turn of the spiral) between two successive leaves; thus in a $\frac{2}{5}$ phyllotaxis there are 5 leaves in every 2 turns of the spiral.

1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 60 A particular study of those laws has been pursued, under the name of Phyllotaxy. 1863 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 51 Do you remember telling me that I ought to study Phyllotaxy? 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 173 In a $\frac{2}{5}$ phyllotaxis..the 6th member stands over the 1st, the 7th over the 2nd, and so on.

Hence **Phyllota·ctic, Phyllota·ctical** *adjs.*, belonging or relating to phyllotaxis.

1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 140 [In the Flower] the leaves, arranged according to the general phyllotactic laws, are more or less changed in form and texture. 1888 HENSLOW *Orig. Floral Struct.* xxxii. 339 From phyllotactical reasons, it is clear that the origin and arrangements of the floral members are entirely foliar.

‖ **Phylloxera** (filɒksī·ră). *Entom.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύλλο-ν* leaf + *ξηρός* dry.] A genus of *Aphididæ* or plant-lice; *esp.* the species *P. vastatrix*, also called *vine-pest*, which is very destructive to the European grape-vine, infesting the roots and leaves, and causing the death of the plant.

The genus *Phylloxera* was named in 1834 to include a plant-louse which was observed to dry up the leaves of the oak in Provence; in 1868 Planchon showed that the vine disease was caused by a new species, which was constantly found on the roots of affected vines, and which he named *P. vastatrix*. (See *Comptes Rendus* 1868 II. 588.)

1868 *Gard. Chron.* 31 Oct. 1138. 1869 *Ibid.* 30 Jan. 109 M. Signoret .. considered that the insect belongs to the genus Phylloxera. 1880 *Athenæum* 11 Sept. 340/3 All the vineyards within reach flooded during winter, as a protection against the ravages of the phylloxera. 1886 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 367 In 1865 the first appearance of the phylloxera in France occurred in the plateau of Pujant, near Roquemaure, on the right bank of the Rhone. 1888 A. E. SHIPLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 239/1 The Phylloxera has spread to Corsica; it has appeared here and there amongst the vineyards of the Rhine and Switzerland.

fig. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 1/3 Spite of his rosy cheeks, '*la maladie des désabusés*', that phylloxera of the mental vineyard, holds him in its deadly grip.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *phylloxera outbreak, visitation*; **phylloxera-mite**, a minute acarid, *Tyroglyphus phylloxeræ*, which infests the phylloxera.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Jan. 8/1 The stocks..being larger than they have been at any time since the phylloxera visitation. 1902 *Ibid.* 7 Jan. 2/3 The failure of the vines, due to the phylloxera outbreak in the sixties.

Hence **Phylloxeral**(-ī·ĕrăl), **Phylloxeric** (-e·rik) *adjs.*, pertaining or relating to the phylloxera; **Phyllo·xerated, Phyllo·xerized** *ppl. adjs.*, infested with the phylloxera.

1881 *Nature* 6 Oct. 552/1 Treatment of phylloxerised vines by the use of sulphide of carbon and sulpho-carbonate of potassium. 1882 *St. James' Gaz.* 6 Apr. 4/2 Getting rid of the few phylloxerated spots which appeared there six years ago. 1886 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 378 The inspector of the phylloxeric service reports that unless energetic measures are taken the vineyards of Portugal will be ruined. 1902 *Speaker* 20 Sept. 646/2 Thanks to the beneficent influence of the phylloxeral crisis.

‖ **Phyllula** (fi·lŭlă). *Bot.* Also **phyllule.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύλλ-ον* leaf + *οὐλή* scar.] The scar left on a branch by the fall of a leaf.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Phyllula*,..term by Zuccarini for the cicatrix which, after its fall, each leaf leaves upon the bark at the place of its insertion: the phyllule. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Phyllyrœa, -rea, obs. erron. ff. Phillyrea.

Phylo-, before a vowel **phyl-**, combining form of Gr. *φῦλον*, *φυλή* a tribe (see Phyle, Phylum), used in mod. scientific terms, mostly of biology. **Phy·locycle,** the cycle or whole course of the development of a phylum; hence **Phylocy·clic** *a.* **Phylogero·ntic** [Gerontic] *a.*, of or pertaining to the old age or stage of decay of a race or type of organisms. **Phylonepio·nic** *a.* [Gr. *νήπιος* infant], of or pertaining to the nepionic stage of phylogenesis, or that following the embryonic (cf. Phylembryonic). **Phylo·pterous** *a.* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing], of or pertaining to the *Phyloptera*, in some classifications a superorder of insects, containing the *Neuroptera*, *Pseudoneuroptera*, *Orthoptera*, and *Dermaptera*.

1893 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXVI. 109 It is proposed to use .. *phylocycle or phylocyclon for [the cycle] of the phylum. *Ibid.* 124 Possibility of the simultaneous origin of phylocycles discussed. *Ibid.* 90 The oldest stages of different individuals of a species, and the corresponding *phylogerontic types of different groups arising from the same common ancestor, resemble each other. 1902 Webster *Suppl.* s. v. *Phylo-*, *Phylonepionic.

Phylo·genal, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. Phylogeny + -al.] = Phylogenetic.

1890 *Nature* 6 Feb. 316/2 He has..confounded ontogenal steps of growth with phylogenal phases of plan.

Phylogenesis (fəi,lo,dʒe·nĭsis). *Biol.* [mod. f. Phylo- + -genesis.] The genesis or evolution of the tribe or race; the evolution of any organ or feature in the race; = Phylogeny 1.

1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darw.* 217 The families within which we have as yet been able to compare Ontogenesis with Phylogenesis, constantly approximate in their origin. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. i. 7 Phylogenesis is the mechanical cause of Ontogenesis: The Evolution of the Tribe..effects all the..Evolution of the Germ or Embryo. 1881 S. V. Clevenger in *Amer. Nat.* July 513 Certain aspects in the phylogenesis of the spinal cord.

Phylogenetic (fəi·lo,dʒĕne·tik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -genetic.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of phylogenesis or phylogeny; relating to the race history of an organism or organisms.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* Introd. 41 The validity of phylogenetic conclusions, deduced from the facts of embryology alone. 1885 W. A. Herdman *(title)* A Phylogenetic Classification of Animals (for the Use of Students). 1897 *19th Cent.* May 793 From these ontogenetic details to see what deductions may be drawn in regard to the phylogenetic origin of Languages.

So **Phylogene·tical** *a. rare.* Hence **Phylogene·tically** *adv.*, with reference to phylogenesis; in or as regards the evolution of the race.

1872 Elsberg in *Microsc. Jrnl.* July 185 A chain of gradations .. through which higher organisms have passed phylogenetically, and do pass ontogenetically. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 413 The earliest characters of the embryonic head, or of its equivalent in all Vertebrata, point to its being phylogenetically, the most ancient portion of the body. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. vii. 150 First, observe the facts of Ontogeny and then attach their phylogenetical significance to them. 1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXIII. 479 The morphological and phylogenetical study of the higher plants.

Phylogenic (fəilo,dʒe·nik), *a.* [f. as next + -ic.] Of or pertaining to phylogeny; phylogenetic.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 669 *note*, A great variety of surprising phylogenic speculations. 1878 Foster *Phys.* iv. v. 556 This .. has a morphological or phylogenic, as well as a physiological or teleological, significance.

Phylogenist (fəilo·dʒĕnist). [f. next + -ist.] One versed or skilled in phylogeny.

1881 *Gardeners' Chron.* 17 Sept. 364/3 Phylogenists have agreed on a few main points. 1885 *Athenæum* 18 Apr. 507/1 The principle of archaic forms..started by the father of phylogenists.

Phylogeny (fəilo·dʒĕni). *Biol.* [ad. mod.Ger. *phylogenie* (Haeckel 1866), f. Gr. *φῦλον* race, phylum + *-γενεια* birth, origin.]

1. The genesis and evolution of the phylum, tribe, or species; ancestral or racial evolution of an animal or plant type (as distinguished from *ontogenesis*, the evolution of the individual).

1872 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* (ed. 5) xiv, Professor Häckel in his Generelle Morphologie..has recently brought his great knowledge and abilities to bear on what he calls Phylogeny, or the lines of descent of all organic beings. 1872 [see Ontogeny]. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 451 The phylogeny..of a few of the cephalic bones is as yet unknown. 1903 C. W. Salesby in *Academy* 13 June 594/1 Von Baer's law may be stated thus: 'Ontogeny is the recapitulation of phylogeny'.

2. The history or science of evolution or genealogical development in the phylum, tribe, or species; the race history of an animal or vegetable type; tribal history.

1875 Dawson *Dawn of Life* viii. 218 Science fails to inform us, but conjectural 'phylogeny' steps in. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* Introd. 41 A special branch of biological speculation termed phylogeny. 1894 Drummond *Ascent of Man* 77 Phylogeny—the history of the race.

3. A pedigree or genealogical table showing the racial evolution of a type of organisms.

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xxv, 'Phylogenies', or hypothetical genealogical pedigrees, reaching far out of modern periods, are likely to remain in the very highest degree arbitrary and problematical. 1888 Dawson *Geol. Hist. Plants* 269 It is easy to construct a theoretical phylogeny of the derivation of the willows from a supposed ancestral source. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 27 Oct. 325/3 The phylogenies given by the different authors are usually regarded by students as subjects for all sorts of changes and revisions.

Phylological (fəilolo·dʒikăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Phylo- + -logical: after *philological.*] Of or pertaining to the history of the evolution of races.

1891 G. J. Romanes in *Monist* Oct. 67 For, archaic though they be in a philological sense, in a phylological sense they are things of yesterday.

‖ **Phylum** (fəi·lŏm). *Biol.* Pl. **-la.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *φῦλον* race, stock.] A tribe or race of organisms, related by descent from a common ancestral form; a series of animals or plants genetically related; a primary division or subkingdom of animals or plants supposed to be so related.

1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creation* II. xvi. 42 By *tribe*, or *phylum*, we understand all those organisms of whose blood-relationship and descent from a common primary form there can be no doubt, or whose relationship, at least, is most probable from anatomical reasons, as well as from reasons founded on historical development. 1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* p. xvii, I have arranged the chief phyla first of all in the form of a genealogical tree. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 578 The classes..collectively termed Vermes do not constitute a phylum..comparable..to the phyla Mollusca or Echinodermata.

‖ **Phyma** (fəi·mă). *Path.* Pl. **-ata.** [L. *phȳma* (Cels.), a. Gr. *φῦμα*, *φῦματ-* swelling, tumour.] An inflamed swelling, of various kinds; an external tubercle; in nosological systems variously applied to orders or genera of diseases.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Phyma*, a Swelling: There are Five sorts. 1739 Huxham in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 668 An exceeding painful Phyma near the Verge of the Anus. 1799 Hooper *Med. Dict.*, *Phyma*, tubercles in any part of the body. 1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Phyma·tic** *a.*, of or pertaining to phyma; **Phy·matoid** *a.*, resembling phyma.

Phy·matin. *Chem.* [f. Gr. *φῦμα*, *φῦματ-*, Phyma + -in 1. Cf. F. *phymatine.*] An organic substance obtained from tubercle.

1847-9 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 107/1 Phymatin is described as a peculiar extractive matter.

Phymosis, erron. form of Phimosis.

†**Phynx.** *Obs. rare.* [var. of Sphinx: cf. Bœotian *Φίξ phix.*] = Sphinx.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 9/1 Pallas [is drawn] with an Helmet..and..on her Helmet a Phynx or Cock. *Ibid.* 201/2 The Phynx, or Sphynga, or Sphynx .. are .. in the shape of Women.

‖ **Phyogemmarium** (fəi·o,dʒemē·riŭm). *Zool.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *φύ-ειν* to produce + L. *gemmārius* adj., f. *gemma* a bud.] A small reproductive bud, in certain Hydrozoa.

1861 J. R. Greene *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 105 Numerous small gonoblastidia, which resemble polypites, and are termed 'phyogemmaria'. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 83 The limb is traversed by .. canals, which..communicate with the cavities of the phyogemmaria.

‖ **Physa** (fəi·să). *Zool.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *φῦσα* bellows.] A small freshwater gastropod.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Physa*, a genus of freshwater snails; so called from the thinness and inflated appearance of the shell. 1855 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* xx, Freshwater strata .. filled .. with Valvata, Paludina, Planorbis, Limnæus, Physa, and Cyclas. 1902 Cornish *Naturalist Thames* 16 Tiny physas and succineas, no larger than shot.

Physagogue (fəi·săgŏg), *a.* (*sb.*) *Med.* [f. Gr. *φῦσα* flatulence + *ἀγωγός* drawing forth.] Expelling flatus. b. *sb.* A medicine having this effect.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Physalia** (fəisē·liă). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῦσαλέος* inflated with wind, *φυσαλλίς* bladder, bubble.] A genus of oceanic hydrozoa; the Portuguese man-of-war: see Man-of-war 4. Hence **Physa·lian** *a.*, belonging to this genus; also *sb.*, a species of Physalia.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Physalis*, or *Physalia*, the name of a hydrostatic Acalephan, commonly called the Portuguese man-of-war. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. v. iii. 521 Oceanic Hydrozoa which .. have long pendant tentacles, such as Physalia. 1861 Hartwig *Sea & Wond.* xv, The *Physalia caravella* or Portuguese man-of-war, is the mariner's admiration. On a large float-bladder ..rises a vertical comb [etc.].

Physalin (fəi·sălin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Phȳsalis* (ad. Gr. *φῦσαλλίς* bladder) + -in 1.] A yellow bitter amorphous substance ($C_{14}H_6O_3$), the active principle of the winter cherry, *Physalis Alkekengi.*

1863 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 457 All parts of the plant [*Physalis Alkekengi*] possess a strong bitter taste which is probably due to a crystalline principle, named physaline. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 634.

Physaliphore (fəisæ·lifoɹ). *Biol.* [ad. Ger. *physaliphor* (Virchow), f. Gr. *φυσαλλίς* a bladder + *-φόρος* bearing: see -phore.] A cell containing vesicles (*physalides*) which produce daughter-cells.

1876 Bristowe *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 73 They not unfrequently become vacuolated, or hollowed out here and there into globular cavities, which are termed by Virchow 'physaliphores', and are regarded by him as reproductive cavities.

Physalite (fi·săləit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *physalith* (Werner 1817), shortened from *pyrophysalith* Pyrophysalite.] A variety of topaz: see quots.

1819 W. Phillips *Min.* (ed. 2) 69 Pyrophysalite, physalite. 1821 R. Jameson *Man. Min.* 190 Physalite, or Pyrophysalite. .. Colours greenish-white and mountain-green. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 377 Physalite or pyrophysalite is a coarse nearly opaque variety [of topaz] in yellowish-white large crystals from Finbo; it intumesces when heated, and hence its name.

†**Phy·sbuttocke.** [f. Fise, Fizz + Buttock: cf. Fizgig.] A contemptuous term for a coxcomb.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 159/6 Physbuttocke, *trossulus.*

Physcony (fi·skŏni). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *physconia*, f. Gr. *φύσκων* pot-belly, f. *φύσκη* sausage, f. *φυσᾶν* to blow up. Cf. F. *physconie.*] A tumour or swelling of the abdomen; parabysma.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 5 Those vast formations of pus which are sometimes found in parabysmic tumours or physconies. *Ibid.* IV. 53 A physcony of the abdomen, accompanied with peculiar feelings.

Hence **Physco·nic** *a.* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858).

Physem (fəi·sem). *Phonetics.* [ad. Gr. *φύσημα* the action or product of blowing, f. *φυσᾶν* to blow.] A name applied by A. J. Ellis to elements of speech produced by 'the bellows-action of the lungs'; comprehending the ordinary aspirate (*h*) in its varieties, and the 'wheeze', Arabic ح 'arising from suddenly forcing breath through the cartilaginous glottis'.

1887 A. J. Ellis in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 382/2. *Ibid.* 386/2 [In Palæotype] (h) when no letter, and, at most, some sign precedes, [is] used for the unanalysed physem.

Physemarian (fəisĭmē·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Phȳsēmāria* pl., f. Gr. *φύσημα* bubble.] a. *adj.* Belonging to the *Physemaria*, a name applied by Haeckel to a group of Metazoa; now abandoned. b. *sb.* One of the *Physemaria.*

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xii. 678 The spheroidal, free-swimming monad aggregates..are in many respects comparable to Physemarian or Poriferan embryos. *Ibid.* 681 That common form, when the special characters..are eliminated..would be exceedingly similar to a Physemarian.

Physeter (fəisĭ·təɹ). [a. L. *phȳsētēr* a cachalot (Plin.), a. Gr. *φῦσητήρ* a blower, a whale, f. *φῦσᾶν* to blow.]

†1. A large blowing whale. *Obs.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 109 When on the surges I perceiue from far Th' Ork, Whirlpoole, Whale, or puffing Physeter. 1706 Phillips, *Physeter*, the Whirl-pool, puffing or spouting Whale. 1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 444 These bones belonged to physeteres or respiring fishes.

2. *Zool.* The generic name of the cachalots or larger sperm-whales.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The physeter with the upper jaw longer than the under one..The head of this fish is so large, that it is half as long as the body, and thicker than the thickest part of it. 1806 Home in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 100 The oil of the physeter, which crystallizes into spermaceti. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 298 The Physeter or cachelot whale..is remarkable for having teeth.

3. A filter acting by air-pressure.

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Physeter*, a filtering machine, consisting of a tub, with an air-tight perforated stage half-way up. The feculent liquid to be filtered is put above the stage, and a syringe, by withdrawing the air from below the stage, occasions the clear part of the liquid to pass through, owing to the pressure of the atmosphere above it.

Hence **Physe·terine, Physe·teroid** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the sperm-whales; *sbs.* A member of this group.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 393/2 Almost all the other members of the suborder range themselves under the two principal heads of Ziphioids (or Physeteroids) and Delphinoids.

Physetoleic (fəisĭtolī·ik), *a. Chem.* [f. Physeter 2 + Oleic.] In *physetoleic acid*, an unsaturated fatty acid ($C_{16}H_{30}O_2$), obtained by saponification of spermaceti; isomeric, if not identical, with hypogæic acid.

1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* III. 419 *Physetoleic acid* was obtained from the oil of the ordinary sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*). 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 635 Physetoleic acid crystallises in stellate groups of colourless needles.

Phys-harmonica (fəis-, fisɦaɹmo·nikă). [f. Gr. *φῦσα* bellows + Harmonica.] A primitive form of harmonium, in which metal springs are set in vibration by a current of air; invented by Häckel of Vienna in 1818, and originally made to be attached to a piano. b. A kind of reed-stop on the organ, imitating the tone of this.

1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 476/2 *Physharmonica*, a musical instrument, in which the immediate sonorous bodies are springs of steel or of brass, thrown into vibration by a current of air impelled against them. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 101 Phys-harmonica is a newly-invented reed-register, with a soft, agreeable tone. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 176 Musical tones of this description are those of..phys-harmonica (harmonium, concertina, accordion) [etc.].

Physia·nthropy. [f. Gr. *φύσις* nature + *-ανθρωπία*, f. *ἄνθρωπ-ος* man.] (See quots.)

1828-32 Webster, *Physianthropy*, the philosophy of human

life, or the doctrine of the constitution and diseases of man, and the remedies. 1885 Mrs. C. L. Wallace (*title*) Physianthropy, or the Home Cure and Eradication of Disease.

Physiatric (fizi,æ'trik). [a. Ger. *physiatrik*, f. Gr. *φύσις* nature + Iatric.] The doctrine or system of nature-cure (Ger. *naturheilkunde*); the application of natural agencies in medicine. Also **Physia'trics**. Hence **Physia'trical** *a.*

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 956/1 Physiatrics..Physiatrical. 1901 Bilz *Nat. Meth. Healing* 5, I now come to speak of physiatric (Science of nature cure).

Physic (fi'zik), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–4 **fisyke**, 4 **fisyk**, **fizike**, 4–5 **fisik(e**, **fysik**, **fysyk(e**, 5 **fisykke**, **fesike**, 5–6 **fesyk**. *β.* 4 **phisek**, **phesike**, 4–6 **phisik(e**, **-yk(e**, 4–7 **phisique**, 5 **phisikke**, **phesyk**, 5–6 **phisyque**, **physyk(e**, 5–7 **phisick(e**, **-ik(e**, 6 **-yoke**, 6–7 **physike**, 6–8 **-ick(e**, 7 **-iq(ue**, 7– **physic**. [ME. *fisike*, a. OF. *fisique* (12th c.), ad. L. *physica*, a. Gr. *φυσική* (*ἐπιστήμη*) the knowledge of nature: see Physic *a.*]

1. Natural science, the knowledge of the phenomenal world; = Physics 1. Now *rare*.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 186 And eke alle the seven ars. The first so was grammarie..Rettorike, and ek fisike. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 89 Phisique..Thurgh which the philosophre hath founde To techen sondri knowlechinges Upon the bodiliche thinges, Of man, of beste, of herbe, of ston. 1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 57 But it is not so in the Phisick of Mines. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 72 Physike, which is the studie of naturall things: metaphysike, which is of supernaturall things. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Cor. ii, True Physick is the Knowledge of the knowable Works of God, and God in them. 1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 645 Physic of Metaphysic begs defence, And Metaphysic calls for aid on Sense! 1883 A. Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* 171 This is the only form in which the question of mind and matter has any meaning to Physic, for Physic knows nothing of either mind or matter except as objects and physical phenomena.

2. The knowledge of the human body; *esp.* the theory of diseases and their treatment; medical science, medicine. *arch.*

[1125 W. Malmesb. *De Gestis Regum Angl.* II. Prol., Physicam quæ medetur corporis valetudini.] *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 411 Wib vs ther was a Doctour of Phisik, In al this world ne was ther noon hym lik To speke of phisik and of Surgerye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 23 For in Phisique this I finde, Usage is the seconde kinde. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 62 Of phisike it is the properte To ayde the body in every sekenes. 1542 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 40 The science of phisicke dothe comprehend, include, and conteyne, the knowledge of surgery as a speciall membre and parte of the same. 1662–3 Pepys *Diary* 27 Feb., To Chyrurgeon's Hall..where..we had a fine dinner and good learned company, many Doctors of Phisique. 1758 Blackstone *Study of Law* I. in *Comm.* (1765) I. 14 The gentleman of the faculty of physic. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 468 To admit 'certificates from schools of physic may prevent the possibility of ascertaining a regular education'.

3. The art or practice of healing; the healing art; the medical profession.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3162 Sub þe monekes abit on him he let do, And nom wiþ him spicerie þat to fisyke drou. 1340 *Ayenb.* 54 Hit iualþ ofte þet þe ilke þet be fisike leueþ be fizike sterfþ. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xii. 36 Phisyke..is a mestier or a crafte that entendeth to the helthe of mannes body. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 3 Suffred to excercyse or practyse in Physyk. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 4 Any service suitable to my profession, which was Physick. 1813 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* Introd., The practice of Medicine has long been divided into two departments, Physic and Surgery. 1871 Sir T. Watson *Princ. & Pract. Physic* Introd. Lect., This art of Physic..needs to be begun under the protecting eye..of a master in the craft.

b. The medical faculty personified; physicians.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 256, I dar legge bope myn Eres, þat Fisyk schal his Forred hod for his foode sulle. 1576 Gascoigne *Steele Gl.* 984 That Phisicke thriue not ouer fast by murder. 1672 Sir T. Browne *Let. Friend* § 20 Amply satisfied that his Disease should dye with himself, nor revive in a Posterity to puzzle Physick. 1764 Gray *The Candidate* 5 'Lord, sister', says Physic to Law, 'I declare [etc.]'.

† **c.** Medical treatment or regimen. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1902 Ffarewel Phisik; go ber the man to chirche. 1471 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 7 My leche crafte and fesyk..hathe cost me sythe Estern Day more then v *li.* 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 36 § 1 The same Sir William..lay both at Surgery and Fesyk..by the space of ii yeres and more. 1568 Bible (Bishops') *Ecclus.* xviii. 18 Goe to phisicke or euer thou be sicke. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IX. § 83 The Lord Goring being not then well, but engaged in a course of Physick. 1700 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 194 An end will soon be made beyond y^e^ remedy of physic and repentance.

4. = Medicine *sb.*[1] 2. (Now chiefly *colloq.*)

1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Pref., Tasso..likeneth Poetrie to the Phisicke that men giue vnto little children when they are sick. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* v. iii. 47 Throw Physicke to the Dogs, Ile none of it. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* civ. 14 Herbs, for Man's use, of various Pow'r, That either Food or Physick yield. 1730 Wesley *Wks.* (1830) I. 11 A little money, food or physic. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* II. vi, And, Janey, you'll take the physic, like a precious lamb: and heaps of nice things you shall have after it, to drive the taste out. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* x, As bad as the wrong physic,—nasty to take, and sure to disagree.

b. *spec.* A cathartic or purge.

1617 Abp. Abbot *Descr. World* (1634) 303 The people..doe vse it [Tobacco] as Physicke to purge themselues of humours. 1624 Donne *Serm.* xvii. (1640) 170 Affliction is my Physick; that purges, that cleanses me. 1831 Youatt *Horse* iv. 56 The spring grass is the best physic that can possibly be administered to the horse. It carries off every humour which may be lurking about the animal.

† **5.** *fig.* Wholesome or curative regimen or habit.

c 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 18 Atempree diett was al hir phisik. 14.. in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* etc. 49 Erly to ryse is fysyke fyne. 1591 Greene *Farew. to Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 239 Dinner being done, counting it Phisicke to sit a while, the old Countesse [etc.]. 1699 Dryden *To J. Driden* 116 Who, nature to repair, Draws physic from the fields in draughts of vital air.

† **b.** Mental, moral, or spiritual remedy. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 349 The wofull peine of loves maladie, Ayein the which mai no phisique availe. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 6876 If I here kyssid, I think, so god me save, It were the best fisykke that I cowde haue. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. vii. (1634) 160 To crave the Phisicke of grace that is in Christ. 1656 *Burton's Diary* 16 Dec. (1828) I. 150 He is a madman. It is good physic to whip him. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. v. 4 Sorrow for sin is physick on earth, but it is food in hell.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *physic-craft*, † *-god*, † *-rack*, † *-word*; *physic-taking* adj.; **physic-ball**, medicine in the form of a ball or bolus for administration to a horse, dog, etc.; † **physic-bill**, a medical prescription; also a medical advertisement; **physic-box**, a medicine-chest; † **physic-finger** = Physician *finger*; † **physic-school**, a medical school. Also Physic garden. (In some of these, *physic* may have originally been the adj.: see Physic *a.* 2 for similar uses.)

1831 Youatt *Horse* xxiii. 398 The most effectual and safest *physic ball. 1845 — *Dog* vi. 118 A physic-ball was given him in the evening, and on the following morning. 1614 T. Adams *Divell's Banket* 19 It is..a *physick-bill of hell, that they must not wash till they have drunk. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac., Misc.* v. iii. (1737) III. 340 To..be scrupulous in our choice, and (as the current physick-bills admonish us) beware of counterfeits. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* ii. 23 No babes they leave behind. Big Lyde's *physick-box can this ne're gain. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* II. 217 The incorporated bands of the *physic-craft that call themselves the college of physicians. 1621 Molle *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* v. ii. 321 The Ring-finger or *Physicke-finger. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 93 Hee was their Æsculapius or *Physicke-god. 1706 Baynard in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 280 Brought to the *Physick-Rack, viz. Bleedings,..Diet-drinks, Oyntments. 1677–8 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 24 The *Physick schooles. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 371 A man, who was executed, and dissected in the physic-schools. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 165 The valetudinary, consumptive, and *physic-taking..fall victims of the ship's motion. 1843 Miall in *Nonconf.* III. 637 That definition which makes man 'a physic-taking animal'. *a* 1658 Cleveland *Gen. Poems*, &c. (1677) 164 'Εκλείπεσθαι is a *Physick-word, and signifies the Labour of a Disease.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) † **Phy'sicklike** *adv.*, medicinally; † **Phy'sicship**, humorous title of a medical authority; † **Phy'sicster**, contemptuous term for a medicinal practitioner.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xi. (1887) 60 Musick..was vsed in the olde time Physicklike, to stay mourning and greife. 1689 G. Harvey *Curing Dis. by Expect.* xviii. 137 The description..ought to be razed by their Physickships out of their Pharmaceutic Records. *Ibid.* xvii. 128 If any young Physickster has an itch to experiment.

Physic (fi'zik), *a.* Now *rare*. [a. F. *physique*, ad. L. *physic-us*, a. Gr. *φυσικός* natural, f. *φύσις* nature, f. *φύειν* to produce.]

1. Physical, natural.

1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 23 A phisicke experiment of Democritus. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. ii. 14 Some Physic Contemplations of Job. *Ibid.* II. viii. 99 There are three Kinds of Theologie; the first is called Mythic..another Physic. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* IV. 455 O'er great, o'er small extends his physic laws. *c* 1811 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* iv. (1848) 439 Invisible physic and metaphysic ideas.

b. Belonging to physics or natural philosophy.

1883 J. B. Thomas in *Homilet. Monthly* (N. Y.) 8 Jan. 204 Sensitive, nutritive, physic, and chemic phenomena.

† **2.** Medical; medicinal. *Obs.* (= Physic *sb. attrib.*, Physical *a.* 4, 5.)

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 144 Libral Sciencis.., as gramer, arte fisike, astronomye, and otheris. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 217, I axst a mayster of fysyke lore, what wold hym drye and dryve away? 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. vi. (1895) 216 My companion..caried with him phisick bokes, certein smal woorkes of Hippocrates, and Galenes Microtechne. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 52 b, When you haue seuered..your Physicke Hearbes by themselues, and your Potte hearbes and Sallets in another place. 1577 Mountain *Gardener's Labyrinth* Title-p., The physick benefit of each herb, plant, and flower. *a* 1617 Hieron *Wks.* I. 25 The physick potion..is cleane against the stomacke. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* ii. 28 Red wine is..good for physicke vses, to stop cholericke vomitings. 1704 Ray *Creation* II. 252 The chief Physick Herbs. 1736 *N. Jersey Archives* XI. 446 A Root call'd Physick Root, filarie or five leaf'd Physick.

Physic (fi'zik), *v.* Inflexions **physicked**, **physicking**. [f. Physic *sb.* 3–5.]

1. *trans.* To dose or treat with physic or medicine, esp. with a purgative. Now *colloq.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 321, I may wel suffre..That frere flaterer be fette and phisike (C. xxiii. 323 fysyke) 3ow syke. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 279 The Italians order of phisicking his hawke. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 92, I will physicke your rancknesse. 1733 Cheyne *Eng. Malady* I. vi. § 2 (1734) 50 The Animals..are physick'd almost out of their Lives. 1831 Youatt *Horse* xxiii. 382 In physicking a horse, whatever is to be done, should be done at once. 1876 Fox Bourne *Locke* II. xii. 258 Locke laid down the rule ..that children ought to be physicked as little as possible.

b. *fig.* To treat with remedies, relieve, alleviate.

1589 Nashe *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 7, I wold perswade them to phisicke their faculties of seeing and hearing. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. iii. 55 The labour we delight in, Physicks paine. 1641 Milton *Reform.* I. (1851) 12 Then was the Liturgie given to a number of moderate Divines, and Sir Tho. Smith a Statesman to bee purg'd, and Physick't. 1763 Churchill *Duellist* I. 34 Vice, within the guilty breast, Could not be physic'd into rest. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. xix, A mind diseased no remedy can physic.

2. *slang.* To punish in purse or pocket.

1821 Egan *Life Lond.* II. v. (Farmer), You may be most preciously physicked in your clie. 1823 Bee *Dict. Turf* 134 Winning a man's blunt at cards, or other wagers, is 'giving him a physicking'. 'The physicking system' was put in force at the Doncaster St. Leger, 1822.

3. *Metallurgy.* To treat (molten iron, etc.) with an oxidizing body, which combines with and eliminates phosphorus and sulphur.

1876 Heeley in Ure *Dict. Arts* (1878) IV. 475 If with their present plants they could not effectually eliminate sulphur by puddling, ought they not to try to do so by physicking?

Hence **Phy'sicking** *vbl. sb.*; also **Phy'sicker**, one who administers physic.

1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 16. ii. (1669) 187/1 He hath undertook the physicking of his Saints. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 415 Dr. Tubb..bleeder, shaver, and physicker of man and beast. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* viii, 'Now', said Squeers, ..'is that physicking over?'

Physical (fi'zikăl), *a.* Also 5–7 **phis-**, 6 **phus-**; 5 **-ycal**, **-ichal**, 6–7 **-icall**. [ad. med.L. *physicālis*, f. *physica*, Physic *sb.*: see **-al**.]

I. 1. Of or pertaining to material nature, or to the phenomenal universe perceived by the senses; pertaining to or connected with matter; material; opposed to *psychical*, *mental*, *spiritual*.

Often in such collocations as *physical cause*, *energy*, *power*; *physical possibility*, *impossibility*, etc.: see also 7.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvii. § 4 Sacraments..are not physicall but morall instruments of saluation. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. viii. 99 In naturall and phisicall things, we must not seeke out infallible and mathematicall rules, but that which is ordinary and tried by experience. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (1667) 7 Whether or no the Shape can by Physicall Agents be altered. 1695 Alingham *Geom. Epit.* 86 If..the line E.. be moved parallel to it self, through every phisical point in the line A, it will produce the rectangle AE. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. xxi. 215 As to physical causes, I am inclined to doubt altogether of their operation in this particular. 1832–4 De Quincey *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 14 Everything physical is measurable by weight, motion, and resistance. *c* 1860 Faraday *Forces Nat.* i. 16 Some of the more elementary, and, what we call, physical powers. 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* i. 2 The physical structure of the earth and stars. 1885 *Lyell's Elem. Geol.* 100 There may be a physical break—unconformity—and also a palæontological break, between two successive groups of strata.

absol. 1836 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 36 The dreamy days of boyhood, when I knew and worshipped nothing but the physical. 1883 Edersheim *Life Jesus* II. 200 An attempt to shift the argument from the moral to the physical.

b. Belonging or relating to Natural Philosophy or Natural Science; of, pertaining or relating to, or in accordance with, the regular processes or laws of nature.

1580 G. Harvey *Three Proper Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 48 With great Physicall, and Naturall Reason. 1587 Greene *Euphues to Philautus* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 204 Neyther can fishermen tell the Phusicall reasons of the motions of the Sea. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 497 Of some general laws of nature...We shall divide these Laws into Laws physical and Laws moral. 1808 J. Webster *Nat. Philos.* 7 It is an object worthy of attention to instruct the youthful mind in physical knowledge. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* II. ii. 98 The law of gravitation is a physical axiom. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 304 The most interesting feature in the physical history of the Calabrias, is the frequency of their earthquakes. 1865 Mozley *Mirac.* (ed. 2) Pref. 11 None of them are or profess to be physical explanations of miracles, i. e. reductions of them to laws of nature in the scientific sense of that term.

c. Of persons: Dealing with or devoted to natural science (in quot. 1768, materialistic).

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 391 Out of whom, according to the Physical Empedocles, proceed all things that were, are, and shall be, viz. Plants, Men, Beasts and Gods. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 5 (*Calais*) Every power which sustained life, perform'd it with so little friction, that 'twould have confounded the most Physical *precieuse* in France: with all her materialism, she could scarce have called me a machine. 1898 *Harper's Mag.* XCVI. 623 The foremost physical philosophers of the time came to the aid of the best opticians.

2. Belonging to the forces of nature and properties of bodies, other than chemical and vital; belonging to the science of physics: see Physics 2.

1734 *Keill's Exam. The. Earth* 267 His excellent Observations, both Astronomical and Physical. 1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 2 Physical characters are those physical phenomena which are exhibited by the mutual action of minerals and other bodies; such as magnetic properties [etc.]. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 47 The internal and external parts will vary both in their physical and chemical properties. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 104 The physical properties of matter may be altered without affecting its deeper chemical constitution.

3. Of the body, and bodily members or faculties (as distinct from the mind); bodily, corporeal.

1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xiv. § 3 Suppose for example the physical desire has for its object the satisfying of hunger. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 259 Milton has got rid of the horns and tail, the vulgar and physical insignia of the

devil. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. xii. 358 Physical or natural persons..In this instance 'physical' or 'natural'.. denotes a person not fictitious or legal. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 104 The man gave me the impression of physical strength. 1885 E. GARRETT *At any Cost* i. 10 Mrs. Sinclair .. had long parted from the last bloom of physical youth. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 108 We take no physical exercise, except riding. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 5/1 The lads..went through a course of physical drill with wonderful precision.

b. as *sb.* (*pl.*) = physical powers. *colloq. rare.* 1824 *Examiner* 26/2 He lacks physicals for swagger. 1842 G. A. MCCALL *Lett. fr. Frontiers* (1868) 394 Disease, and the wear and tear incidental to the exposure of the physicals in such a country as this.

II. 4. Of or belonging to medicine; medical. Now *rare.* † *Physical garden* = PHYSIC GARDEN.

c 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 1803 Sleep .. from these seknessys the boody doth Recure, Which previd is by phisichal prudence. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 225 He shall learne to be skilfull in the art Geometrical, Arithmeticall, Musicall, Cheyrurgicall, Physical. 1679 *Trials of Wakeman*, etc. 49 There is only that part of it which is the Physical Prescriptions. 1739 JOHNSON *L. P., Boerhaave* Wks. IV. 343 His profession of botany made it part of his duty to superintend the physical garden. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. *Cambr.* 94 Furnishing a Physical Hospital. 1799 (*title*) The Medical and Physical Journal. 1826 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 311 Physical books being the most dangerous that any person can take to perusing—except metaphysical ones.

† **b.** Of persons: Practising medicine; medical. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xlv. 296 These cursed physical folks can find out nothing to do us good, but what would poison the devil. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Bl.* II. iv. P 2, I resumed my physical dress, and..visited several patients. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 44 Which their..Friends, the top of the Physical Faculty can verify. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* IV. 274 The physical men who attend her seem to think not.

† **c.** *Physical finger* = PHYSICIAN *finger*. *Obs.* 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* I. v. 49 To this Physicall finger a veine answereth.

† **5.** Used in medicine, medicinal. *Obs.* 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Demetrius* (1895) V. 391 Phisicall herbes, as Helleborum, Lingewort and Beares foote. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* II. i. v. (1635) 22 The red Rose is not..so tender as the Damaske, yet it is much more Phisicall, and oftner used in medicine. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 86 Medea was the first that invented Physical baths. 1692 TRYON *Good House-w.* xxvi. (ed. 2) 208 This sort of drink [coffee] ought not to be used, but in a Physical way. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 412 Angelica .. is one of their physical greens. 1828 WALKER *Dict., Guaiacum*, a physical wood.

† **b.** Beneficial to health; curative, remedial; restorative to the body, good (*for* one's health). Also *fig. Obs.* 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 13, I cowde as weel bothe forge and fyle As cowd Boyce in hys phisycal consolacyoun. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 251 Is Brutus sicke? and is it Physicall To walke vnbraced, and sucke vp the humours Of the danke Morning? 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xl. 318 They say moreover, that this wooll..is phisicall for other indispositions, as for the gowt. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2212 With mediocrity..To take Tobacco thus were phisicall. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 113 A physicall Banket for our Soules.

† **c.** Of the nature of or like medicine (in taste, smell, etc.); as bad as medicine. *Obs.* *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 63 All other herbs..give it a physical taste. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 5 The Tree hath a pretty Physical smell like an Apothecaries Shop. 1706 T. BAKER *Tunbr. Walks* II. 1, Wretched hatchet-fac'd things that are physical to look at 'em.

† **6.** In need of medical treatment, sick; under medical treatment. *Obs.* 1633 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* III. iv, What meanes this Apothecaries shop about thee, art Physicall? — *Bird in Cage* III. ii, Thou lookst dull and Phisicall me thinkes. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 388 In the latter [hospital] are near 300 physical patients, and about 60 chirurgical ones.

7. In special phrases and collocations.

Physical astronomy, that branch of astronomy which treats of the motions, masses, positions, light, heat, etc. of the heavenly bodies. **Physical atom**: see quot. **Physical chemistry**, that branch of chemistry which deals with the structure of molecules. **Physical force**, material as opposed to moral force; in politics, the use of armed power, to effect or repress political changes; also *attrib.* **Physical geography**, that branch of geography which deals with the natural features of the earth's surface, as distinct from its political divisions, commercial or historical relations, etc. **Physical geology**, the study of the formation and history of strata and eruptive rocks, apart from palæontology. **Physical horizon**: see HORIZON I. **Physical laboratory**, a laboratory for experiments in physical science. **Physical mineralogy**, that which treats of the physical properties of minerals, apart from their chemical composition. **Physical optics**, that branch of optics which deals with the properties of light itself (as distinguished from the function of sight); sometimes restricted to that part which relates to the undulatory theory and the phenomena specially explained by it, as interference, etc. **Physical point**, a point conceived as infinitely small, and yet a portion of matter. **Physical science** or **philosophy** = PHYSICS. **Physical sciences**, the sciences that treat of inanimate matter, and of energy apart from vitality; opposed to the biological or to the moral sciences. **Physical sign**, a symptom of health or disease ascertainable by bodily examination. **Physical theology**: see THEOLOGY.

1903 AGNES M. CLERKE *Astrophysics* I Kepler first speculated on the causes of celestial movements, and introduced the term '*physical astronomy'. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* v. (ed. 2) 147 [Dumas] proposes to designate that description of molecular groups into which bodies are resolved by heat, *physical atoms. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1014 A mechanism of the atoms, or, as it has come to be called in Germany, a *physical chemistry, was developing. 1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 362 It was a combat of argument, and they have taken shelter under the shield of *physical force. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 165, I do wish our physical-force men would hire a steamer and take a trip up the Rhine. 1897 J. MCCARTHY in *Daily News* 27 May 6/1 He was entirely opposed to any attempt at rebellion by physical force, because he held..that there was no chance for a physical-force struggle. [1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. i. (1635) 4 The object in *Geographie is for the most part Physicall, consisting of the parts whereof the Spheare is composed.] 1852 A. K. JOHNSTON (*title*) Atlas of Physical Geography. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 898/1 Physical geography is the history of the earth in its material organisation. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 2/5 To find funds for the foundation and maintenance of a national *physical laboratory. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* vii. 66 *Physical Optics is that branch of the science which treats of the physical properties of light. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. vii. 343 The business of *physical philosophy is, to explain external phenomena with a view to their prediction. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 60/1 That part of Grammar..is evidently Physical, and of course follows the common laws of *Physical Science. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 212 In the course of a few years Sir Isaac Newton changed the surface of physical science. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 107 The *physical signs pointed to fluid at the left base, and to enlargement of the right lobe of the liver.

Hence **Phy·sicalist**: see quots.; **Physica·lity**, physical condition; also † *humorously* as a title for a medical man; **Phy·sicalness**, the quality of being physical. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* i. (1864) 23 *Physicalists, who, without pretending to deny Christianity, value themselves on finding all the laws of obligation..in the laws of the body and the world. 1864 WEBSTER, *Physicalist*, one who holds that human thoughts and acts are determined by the physical organization of man. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 241 Receiue some notes as touching his *phisicallity deceased. He had his Grace to be Doctor ere he died. 1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* I. IX. 131 When we followed that Medicinal way..we could never (by that kind of Physicallity)..perceive any thing well founded. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Physicalness*, Naturalness, also Medicinalness. 1857 J. HINTON *Let.* in *Life* vii. (1878) 133 The inertness, the evil, that is added by our physicalness.

Physically (fi·zikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a physical manner or way.

1. According to nature or the material laws of nature; materially; according to physics or natural philosophy or science; not intellectually, morally, or spiritually. *Physically impossible*, impossible from the nature or laws of material things. 1581 E. CAMPION in *Confer.* III. (1584) V iv, You reason physically: but we must not be led by senses in these misteries. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* (1667) 7 It is Physically impossible that it [matter] should be devoid of some Bulk or other, and some determinate Shape or other. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 48 It is not deni'd Physically, but Morally. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 417 The swelling of the ocean, by the joint attraction of the sun and the moon, is less physically intelligible, than the periodical effusions of the polar ices. 1855 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 3) 182 An atom or molecule physically indivisible. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 217 It would be physically impossible for many of them to surrender themselves in time. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. ix. 264 It is physically impossible that any permanent rise in wages should take place without a corresponding diminution of profits. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* ii. 13 Nothing can physically exist corresponding to a general notion.

† **b.** Naturally, essentially, intrinsically. *Obs.* 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 58 Justification..the forme whereof is relatiue and not physically inherent in vs. 1684 T. HOCKIN *God's Decrees* 200 The will is physically ours, and the deed is also ours, but 'tis morally Gods. 1793 D. STEWART *Outl. Mor. Philos.* II. ii. § 322 Not to demonstrate that the soul is physically and necessarily immortal.

† **c.** Practically. *Obs.* 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 450 It is a Body, though Physically Round, yet full of uneven Asperities. 1757 AKENSIDE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 324 The velocity of the fluids, in the remoter series of vessels, will be, physically, nothing.

2. As regards the body; in body; in bodily constitution; corporeally. *c* 1600 *Timon* v. iv. (Shaks. Soc.) 87 Hee's an asse logically and capitally, not phisikallie and animallie. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 179 It may be the child's Action Morally, and in Law-sence, when it is only the Father's Action Physically. 1846 J. E. RYLAND in *J. Foster's Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 107 Unless physically disabled. 1877 A. B. BRUCE *Training Twelve* XXV. 425 Not till I become invisible physically shall I be visible to you spiritually. 1882 MRS. PITMAN *Mission L. Greece & Pal.* 194 These fellaheen are physically adapted to the climate.

† **3.** Medically; medicinally; by medical rules. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. CXV. 139 Then shall be finished the solution of Iron Physically, the whiche thou maiest giue safely. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 208 To make it a Proverb, *Qui Medicè vivit, miserè vivit*, (i.e.) He that lives Physically, lives miserably. 1712 M. HENRY *Sober-mindedness* Wks. 1853 I. 70 Then it [mirth] must be used like a medicine,—must be taken physically.

† **Phy·sicary**. *Obs. rare.* [f. PHYSIC *sb.* + -ARY B. 2.] Medicinal preparations; materia medica. 1620 tr. *Boccaccio's Decameron* 109 A Quacksalver..one that deales in drugges and physicarie.

† **Physic garden.** *Obs.* [See PHYSIC *sb.* 6, *a.* 2: cf. F. *jardin de pharmacie.*] A garden for the cultivation of medicinal plants; hence, a botanic garden; also *physical garden*, PHYSICAL 4. 1637 *Lease fr. Magd. Coll. to Univ. Oxford* 17 Apr., [Ground] for a Physicke Garden. [Referred to in a petition of 5 July 1626 as 'the Phisitions Garden'.] 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Oct., Pisa.—We went to the Colledge...To this the Physiq Garden lyes. 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 63 Rare and non-descript Plants, ✤. cultivated either in publick Physick-Gardens, or those of private curious Persons. 1756 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 314 A very curious physic-garden, which contains the choicest exotics. 1814 *Hist. Univ. Oxford* II. 241 In 1715, John Robinson .. presented many curious exotic plants to the Physic Garden. 1879 *Handbk. Univ. Oxford* 59 The Botanic Garden, formerly known as the Physic Garden, was founded in the year 1622.

Physician (fizi·ʃăn), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 **fisicien**, 4–5 **-ian(e**, 4 **fiscician**, **-en**, **fycisciens**, 5 **fis-**, **fic-**, **fys-**, **-isian**, **-issyan**, **-isyen**, **-esyen**, 5–6 **fysician**, **visicion**; *β.* 4–5 **fesician(e**, 5 **-isyan**, **(-en)**, **-sessian**, 6 **-ycien**, **-ysyan**, 5 **phesicyen**, 6–7 **-ycion**, **-icion**; *γ.* 4–6 **phisicien(e**, 5 **-ycien**, 5–7 **-ician**, 6 **-icyon**, 6–7 **-itian**, **(-on)**, **-icion**, 7 **phizitian**, 4–5 **physicyen**, 5 **-icien**, 5–6 **-icion**, 6 **-ycyen**, **(phycyssyon)**, 6–7 **physitian**, **-ycyan**, **(-on)**, 6– **physician.** [ME. *fisicien*, a. OF. *fisicien* (Wace 12th c.), f. L. *physic-a*, F. *physique*: see PHYSIC and -ICIAN.]

† **1.** A student of natural science or of physics. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4363 Ne folose we na ficesyens, ne philisophour scolis, As sophistri & slik thing, to sott with þe pepill. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 30 Naturall and humane dreames, the interpretation whereof belongeth vnto physicians and philosophers. [1833 J. MARTINEAU *Misc.* (1852) 6 An analysis of Dr. Priestley's character as a theologian, a *physicien*, a metaphysician.]

2. One who practises the healing art, including medicine and surgery. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Auh, monie ancren,..þet schulden one lecnen hore soule mid heorte bireousunge & flesshes pinunge, uorwurðeð fisiciens & licomes leches. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1552 His fisicians he clupede & suor is oþ anon Bote hii made him mid childe he wolde hom sle echon. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 60 Man may spende al þat he haþ aboute oþir fisicians. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXIII. 176 A fisician with a forrede hod. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. ii, I am a leche, and with al a good phesycyen. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* iv. 23 Visicion heale thy silfe. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 40 Forasmuche as the science of phisicke dothe comprehend..the knowledge of surgery as a speciall membre and parte of the same, therefore be it enacted that anny of the said company or felawship of Phisitions..may ..exercise the said science of Phisick in all and every his membres and partes. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 278 b, The physicians dooe not fall to cuttyng, except all other meanes and wayes afore proved. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* V. i. 82 More needs she the Diuine, then the Physitian. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 17 P 7 The anatomical novice .. styles himself physician, prepares himself by familiar cruelty ..to extend his arts of torture..which he has hitherto tried upon cats and dogs. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxxii. 128 Physician is the title of all medical practitioners in the United States. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 28 Physicians to cure the disorders of which luxury is the source.

b. One legally qualified to practise the healing art as above; *esp.* as distinguished from one qualified as a surgeon only.

In the United Kingdom, every medical practitioner is now required to have a qualification as Physician and also as Surgeon; so that a general practitioner usually describes himself as 'Physician and Surgeon'. The use of 'Physician' or 'Surgeon' alone usually implies that the person so styled is in practice a specialist in that branch. So especially with the designation 'Consulting Physician'.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 298 O lord, whi is it so greet difference bitwixe a cirurgian & a phisician. 1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 42 In medicyne the most practicianis, Lechis, surrigianis & phisicianis. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 9 The physicians of the bodyes haue practicioners and poticaries that dooe ministre their art vnder them. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref. (1639) B j, The more learned sort are justly stiled by the title of Physicians, and the more experienced sort are called Chirurgions or Surgeons. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 27 Your President of the Colledge of Phisitians..himself is no more than a Doctor of Physick. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Eng.* III. 550 Physicians in Ordinary to her Majesty's Person..Apothecaries..Chirurgeons. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* Introd. 15 It is from the separation produced by these two decrees [issued by Pope Boniface the Sixth, and Clement the Fifth, at Avignon], that we ought, I conceive, to date the true origin of the distinction between physician and surgeon, such as it has existed in modern times; a distinction unknown in the practice of the ancients. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xviii, To obscure the limit between his own rank as a general practitioner, and that of the physicians, who, in the interest of the profession, felt bound to maintain its various grades. 1895 W. MUNK *Life Sir H. Halford* 135 The appointment of physician-extraordinary to the king.

c. *Proverbs.* 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1867) 67 Feed by measure, and defie the physicion. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton., Tiberius* lxviii. *Annot.*, Whereupon might arise our English proverbe, A foole or a physition. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 254 We see the Prouerbe to be true, That the vnknowne disease putteth out the Physitians eye. 1721 [see FOOL *sb.*1 1 d].

3. *transf.* and *fig.* A healer; one who cures moral, spiritual, or political maladies or infirmities. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 Efterwardes he was a phisiciene of saules. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 8 b, Woordes and talke is the physician of a mynde beeyng diseased and sicke. 1687 NORRIS *Hymn*, '*Long have I viewed*' ii, I'll trust my great Physician's skill. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) III. 262 Time must be her physician. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CXL. vi, That thorny cares may yield sweet fruits, And comforts be physicians.

4. *Comb.*, as *physician-accoucheur, -author, -founder*; †**physician finger**, the third or ring-finger; = LEECH-FINGER: cf. FINGER I.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* I. v. 48 Rings of gold are worne by noble persons on the medicinall finger of the left hand called by the Latines *Digitus medicus*... Aulus Gellius, ..declareth, that a small and subtile arterie..proceedeth from the heart, to beate on this Physition finger. 1828 D. LE MARCHANT *Rep. Claims to Barony of Gardner* 71, I have been physician-accoucheur since 1817. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 6 Dec. 4/4 The regulations which the physician-founder drew up.

Hence **Physi·cian** *v.*, *trans.* (*a*) to make into a physician; (*b*) to put under the care of a physician; **Physi·cianary** *a.*, of or pertaining to a physician; **Physi·ciancy**, the office or position of physician; **Physi·cianed** *a.*, qualified or licensed to act as a physician; **Physi·cianer** *dial.* = PHYSICIAN 2; **Physi·cianess**, a female physician: also *fig.*; **Physi·cianless** *a.*, without a physician; **Physi·cianly** *a.*, befitting a physician; **Physi·cianship** = *physiciancy*; also the personality of a physician.

1839 G. WILSON *Let.* in *Life* (1860) iv. 205 The mystic medicating cap has not yet *physicianed me. 1896 D. SLADEN in *Dominion Illustr.* Christmas No., The travellers bestormed were straight put to bed and physicianed. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men* i, He..has a somewhat family-*physicianary way of putting things. 1881 *Times* 13 Jan. 11/3 The *Physiciancy to the Queen in Ireland. 1891 N. MOORE in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXV. 94/2 His assistant discharged the duties of the physiciancy till his formal election as physician..on..14 Oct. 1609. 1758 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 10 Feb., Dr. Lucas, a *physicianed apothecary. 1815 MRS. PILKINGTON *Celebrity* I. 78 *Physicioners were sent for. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, A man of much skill and little substance, who practised the trade of a physicianer. 1836-48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph. Clouds* I. iv, Brave Thurian prophets, physicianers rare. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 171 If nature the *Physitianesse of her self, can overcome diseases by her own goodnesse. 1786 H. WALPOLE *Let. to H. More* 9 Feb., I might send for you as my physicianess. 1888 TALMAGE in *Voice* (N. Y.) 6 Sept., He died *physicianless. 1888 J. CLIFFORD in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 503 Real knowledge of man and of men,..is indescribably rich in *physicianly force. 1732 FIELDING *Mock Doctor* viii, I shall bind his *physicianship over to his good behaviour. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 251/2 A promise of succeeding on the first vacancy to the physicianship in ordinary. 1888 T. WATTS in *Athenæum* 17 Mar. 340/2 Latham..was.. elected to the physicianship of the St. George's and St. James's Dispensary.

Physicism (fi·zisiz'm). [f. PHYSIC *sb.* + -ISM.] A doctrine of physical phenomena; *esp.* one which refers all the phenomena of the universe, including life itself, to physical or material forces; materialism.

1869 HUXLEY *Lay Serm., Sci. Aspects Positivism* (1877) 163 In the progress of the species from savagery to advanced civilization anthropomorphism grows into theology, and physicism (if I may so call it) developes into Science. 1879 ESCOTT *England* II. 391 Physicism, in its present shape, can scarcely hope to supplant religion. 1880 GOLDW. SMITH in *Atlantic Monthly* No. 268. 204 A probability .. which physicism, in its hour of triumph, will do well to take with it in its car.

Physicist (fi·zisist). [f. PHYSIC *sb.* + -IST.]

†**1.** One versed in medical science. *Obs. rare.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 12 Anatomists, Naturalists, Physicists, Medicinists.

2. A student of physics (PHYSICS 2).

1840 WHEWELL *Philos. Induct. Sci.* Pref. 71 We might perhaps still use physician as the equivalent of the French *physicien*..but probably it would be better to coin a new word. Thus we may say that..the Physicist proceeds upon the ideas of force, matter, and the properties of matter. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 524 The word *physicists*, where four sibilant consonants fizz like a squib. 1869 PHIPSON tr. *Guillemin's Sun* (1870) 146 The method known to physicists as 'spectral analysis'.

b. A student of nature or natural science in general (cf. PHYSICS 1).

1858 KINGSLEY *Lett.* 24 Dec., This Christmas night is the one of all the year which sets a physicist, as I am, on facing the fact of miracle. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 23 There remained then for the English physicist the honour of depicting by an admirable generalization the true features of the African interior.

3. One who holds the theory of a purely physical or material origin of vital phenomena; a believer in physicism: opposed to *vitalist*.

1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 229 The excessive pretensions and unwarranted certitudes of the physicist. 1872 NICHOLSON *Introd. Study Biol.* i. 16 No physicist has hitherto succeeded in explaining any fundamental vital phenomenon upon purely physical and chemical principles.

Physicky (fi·ziki), *a.* [f. PHYSIC *sb.* 4 + -Y.] Having the taste, smell, or other qualities of physic or medicine; influenced by physic.

1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 520 *note*, The flowers have a physicky smell. 1849 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 242 Dear Sara's letter is very charming—not at all physicky. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 533 The cheeses from France, in Pliny's day, had a physicky flavour. 1886 FENN *Devon Boys* xxx. 263 'I rather like it', said Bob, with a rather physicky face.

Phy·sic-nut. [f. PHYSIC *sb.* 4 + NUT.] The fruit of the euphorbiaceous shrub *Jatropha Curcas* L. (*Curcas purgans*), of tropical America, used as a purgative; the Barbadoes- or purging-nut; also the plant itself, more fully *physic-nut bush* or *tree*.

Sometimes applied to species of the allied genus *Croton*. *French Physic-nut*, the species *Jatropha multifida*.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbados* 67 They gathered all the physick nuts they could. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 71 *Physick-Nuts* as Seamen call them are called here *Pineon*. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 348 French Physic Nut. The plant is much raised in Jamaica, and forms no small ornament of their flower-gardens. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, The French Physic-nut, with its hemp-like leaves, and a little bunch of red coral in the midst.

attrib. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 115 The physic-nut-tree. This is generally a knotty shrubby tree. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 88 The *croton lacciferum*, or physic nut bush, bears a seed which..acts as a powerful emetic. 1865 F. SAYER in *Fortn. Rev.* No. 5. 617 Even the street lamps [in Madeira] are lighted with physic-nut oil.

Physico- (fi·ziko), combining form of Gr. φυσικός natural, physical, used generally as an adverbial or adjectival qualification of the second element, 'physically', 'physical' (see -O 1); also, sometimes expressing any relation, as simple combination or contact of the things or notions named in the two elements (see -O 2). The following are among the less important combinations:

Phy·sico-astrono·mical *a.*, of or pertaining to physical astronomy: see PHYSICAL 7. **Phy·sico-geogra·phical** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or dealing with physical geography. **Phy·sico-intelle·ctual** *a.*, combining the physical with the intellectual. **Phy·sico-lo·gic**, logic illustrated by physics; hence **Phy·sico-lo·gical** *a.* †**Phy·sico-me·dical** *a.*, physical and medical. **Phy·sico-me·ntal** *a.*, pertaining to both body and mind, or physical and mental phenomena. **Phy·sico-mira·culous** *a.*, of the nature of a natural miracle. **Phy·sico-mo·rphic** *a.* (opposed to *anthropomorphic*), having the form of or embodied in material nature; so **Phy·sico-mo·rphism.** **Phy·sico-philo·sophy**, the philosophy of nature, natural philosophy; hence **Phy·sico-philoso·phical** *a.* **Phy·sico-physiolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to the physics of physiology. **Phy·sico-psy·chical** *a.*, combining or intermediate to the domain of psychology and of physics. †**Phy·sico-theoso·phical** *a.*, belonging at once to natural science and to theosophy. Also PHYSICO-CHEMICAL, etc.

1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Hist. Astron.* xvi. 82/2 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) The *physico-astronomical system of Descartes. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* 385 An excellent *physicogeographical monograph of the island of Cyprus. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 3/1 Long isolation .. brought about partly by physico-geographical, partly by political causes. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Style* Wks. 1862 X. 162 At the head of the *physico-intellectual pleasures, we find a second reason for quarrelling with the civilisation of our country. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Introd., Wks. 1760 I. 27 This *physico-logical scheme of oratorial receptacles or machines contains a great mystery. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2468/4 A *Physico-medical Essay concerning the late frequency of Appoplexies. *a* 1849 POE *Cockton* Wks. 1864 III. 461 A tingling *physico-mental exhilaration. 1870-9 SIR R. CHRISTISON in *Life* (1885) I. 91 The physico-mental gratification experienced in piercing the thin clear air of a Highland-mountain. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Superstit.* Wks. 1862 III. 295 The faith in this order of the *physico-miraculous is open alike to the sceptical and the non-sceptical. 1886 A.B. BRUCE *Mirac. Elem. Gosp.* i. 29 The Agnostic..sets up in his room a *physico-morphic divinity. *Ibid.* 28 The charge of anthropomorphism is met by a counter-charge of *physico-morphism. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 511 In the pieces of neurons usually employed for *physico-physiological study, the wave of disturbance..is propagated without alteration in height, length and speed. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 144 Purely Psychical or Thelematic; and mixed *Physico-psychical, Anthropophysiurgic or Psychothelematic. Under one or other of these heads will all original sources of motion ..be found to be comprehended. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial., Schol.* (1713) 565 The Mercava of Ezekiel [bears a triple meaning], viz. Ethico-political, *Physico-theosophical, and Literal.

Physico-chemical (fi·ziko,ke·mikăl), *a.* [See PHYSICO-.] Of or belonging to physical chemistry; of or pertaining to physics and chemistry.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 65 These several Physico-Chymical operations. 1731 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 252 It appears with all the Parade of a Physico-Chemical Experiment. 1835-6 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* I. 124/1 The general physico-chemical laws that dominate the rest of the universe. 1851 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 420/2 Sir John Herschel proposed the epithet of Actino-Chemistry for this new branch of physico-chemical science.

So **Phy·sico-che·mist**, one skilled in physics and chemistry, or in physical chemistry.

1866 *Athenæum* No. 1999. 236/1 The physico-chemist with his prism.

Phy·sico-mathema·tical, *a.* [See PHYSICO-.] Of or pertaining to the application of mathematics to physics or mixed mathematics.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3070 The Experiments and the Reasons thence deduced for the Substantiality of light, approach very near to a Physico-Mathematical evidence. 1802 HELLINS in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 449 Mathematical and physico-mathematical problems. 1852 J. DAVIDSON *Pract. Math.* (ed. 5) Introd. 1 The Mixed [Mathematics] consist of physical subjects investigated and explained by mathematical reasoning, comprehend Mechanics, Astronomy, Optics, &c. These are sometimes styled the Physico-Mathematical sciences.

Phy·sico-mecha·nical, *a.* [See PHYSICO-.] Of or pertaining to the dynamics of natural forces, or the mechanical branch of natural philosophy.

1661 BOYLE (*title*) New Experiments Physico-Mechanical, touching the Spring of the Air, and its effects. 1674 — *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 171 The physico-mechanical instruments of working on nature's and art's productions being happily invented. 1709 HAUKSBEE (*title*) Physico-Mechanical Experiments on various subjects, containing an account of surprizing Phenomena touching Light and Electricity. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) v. § 271 The immense physico-mechanical power of this agent called heat.

Phy·sico-theo·logy. [See PHYSICO-.] A theology founded upon the facts of nature, and the evidences of design there found; natural theology.

1712 DERHAM (*title*) Physico-Theology: or, a Demonstration of the Being and Attributes of God from His Works of Creation. 1776 PENNANT *Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 603 This is a mixed species of study (when considered as physico-theology). 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 333, I more than fear the prevailing taste for books of natural theology, physico-theology, demonstrations of God from Nature, evidences of Christianity, and the like. 1855 BADEN POWELL *Ess.* 309 A physico-theology supplies no such idea of the Deity as can offer any antecedent contradiction to the representations of his nature and attributes.

So **Phy·sico-theolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to natural theology; **Phy·sico-theo·logist,** one versed in natural theology.

1675 BOYLE *Reconcileablen. Reason & Relig.* ii, Some Physico-Theological Considerations about the Possibility of the Resurrection. 1688 — *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 111. 1825 COLERIDGE in *Rem.* (1836) II. 341 The Saturnian χρόνοι ὑπερχρόνιοι.. to which the elder physico-theologists attributed a self-polarizing power. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 633 The Physico-theological argument, the argument from design.

Phy·sics. [Plural of PHYSIC *a.* used *subst.*, rendering L. *physica* neut. pl., a. Gr. τὰ φυσικά lit. 'natural things', the collective title of Aristotle's physical treatises; as an Eng. word, plural in origin and form, but now construed as a singular: cf. *dynamics, mathematics*, etc.]

1. Natural science in general; in the older writers *esp.* the Aristotelian system of natural science; hence, natural philosophy in the wider sense. Also, a treatise on natural science, as *Aristotle's Physics*.

The application of the term has tended continually to be narrowed. It originally (from Arist.) included the study of the whole of nature (organic and inorganic); Locke even included spirits (God, angels, etc.) among its objects. In the course of the 18th cent. it became limited to inorganic nature, and then, by excluding chemistry, it acquired its present meaning: see 2.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37 Neither is there almost any poeticall fygment wherein there is not some thing comprehended, taken out..of the Physicks or Ethicks. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxv. (1612) 313 Nor wanted thear..that did relye On Physickes and on Ethickes, and..a God deny. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 56 Whereof some are contemplatiue, as Mathematikes, Physikes, Metaphysikes. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 388, I have given to this part the title of *Physics*, or the *Phenomena of Nature*. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iv. 170 That great Restorer of Physicks, the illustrious Verulam. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Physicks*, or Natural Philosophy, is the Speculative Knowledge of all Natural Bodies (and Mr. Lock thinks, That God, Angels, Spirits &c. which usually are accounted as the Subject of Metaphysicks, should come into this Science), and of their proper Natures, Constitutions, Powers, and Operations. 1710 J. CLARKE *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* I. i. 1756-82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* iii. § 38 [Aristotle's] Physicks contain many useful observations, particularly his history of animals. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 181 If we consider medicine as a science, or as a system of rules, it..forms a principal department of physics, or experimental philosophy. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 645/1 Then arose.. Roger Bacon, and mathematics, chemistry, and physics generally became as much the studies of Christians as they had already been of the Mahometans. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Physics*, term for that science which treats of the nature of the qualities which beings derive from birth, in contradistinction to those acquired from art—of the whole mass of beings comprising the universe—and of the laws which govern those beings; natural philosophy.

2. In current usage, restricted to The science, or group of sciences, treating of the properties of matter and energy, or of the action of the different forms of energy on matter in general (excluding Chemistry, which deals specifically with the different forms of matter, and Biology, which deals with vital energy). See quots. 1900.

Physics is divided into *general physics*, dealing with the general phenomena of inorganic nature (dynamics, molecular physics, physics of the ether, etc.), and *applied physics*, dealing with special phenomena (astronomy, meteorology, terrestrial magnetism, etc.). There is a tendency now to restrict the word to the former group.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. Auth. Pref. 2 The Celestial Physics, or Physical Astronomy, hath .. the preference in Dignity of all Enquiries into Nature whatever. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxxii. (1849) 361 These motions come under the same laws of dynamics and analysis as any other branch of physics. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. ix. 272 M. Agassiz is a naturalist, and he appears to have devoted but little attention to the study of physics. 1892 G. F. BARKER *Physics* I. § 8. 6 Physics regards matter solely as the vehicle of energy..physics may be regarded as the science of energy, precisely as chemistry may be regarded as the science of matter. 1900 J. B. STALLO *Concepts & The. Mod. Physics* (ed. 4) 27 The science of physics, in addition to the general laws of dynamics and their application to the interaction of solid, liquid, and gaseous bodies, embraces the theory of those agents which were formerly designated as imponderables—light, heat, electricity, magnetism, etc.; and all these are now treated as forms of motion, as different

manifestations of the same fundamental energy. 1900 W. WATSON *Textbk. Physics* 2 We are led to define Physics in its most general aspect as a discussion of the properties of matter and energy. It is, however, usual..to exclude the discussion of those properties of matter which depend simply on the nature of the different forms of matter (Chemistry), as also the properties of matter and energy as related to living things (Biology). The line of demarcation separating Physics and Chemistry has never been very clear, and of late years has practically vanished.

†**3.** The science of, or a treatise on, medicine. *Obs. rare.*

1626 R. HARRIS *Hezekiah's Recovery* (1630) 33 For the second, Health: great Salomon hath written a Physicks for us. 1785 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 467 When college education is done with..he must cast his eyes (for America) either on Law or Physics.

Physiform (fəi·sifɔm), *a. Zool.* [f. PHYSA + -FORM.] Having the form of the gastropod PHYSA.

†**Physiner,** a corrupt or erroneous form of PHYSICIANER: cf. PHYSION.

1616 SIR R. BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 100 Lent Mr. Shea of Kilkenny the phisiner iiij^{li} x^{s}.

Physio- (fi·zio), combining element, representing Gr. *φυσιο-*, f. *φύσις* nature, as in *φυσιογνώμων* 'judging of a man's nature', *φυσιολόγος* discoursing upon nature, *φυσιοσκοπεῖν* to observe nature; used as a formative with the sense 'nature' or 'natural', as in PHYSIOCRACY, PHYSIOGNOMY, PHYSIOGRAPHY, PHYSIOLOGY, etc.; also in the following less important compounds (in some of which it is treated as an abbreviation of *physiology* or *physiological*):

Phy·sio-che·mical *a.*, pertaining to physiological chemistry. †**Phy·siogly·phic** [after *hieroglyphic*] (see quot.). **Phy·siogno·stic, Physio·gnosy** [Gr. *γνῶσις* knowledge] (see quots.). **Phy·siome·dical·ism,** the system of 'natural' medicine which uses vegetable drugs, only discarding those which are poisonous (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); so **Phy·siome·dical** *a.*; **Phy·siome·dicalist. Phy·siopa·thic** *a.*, of or pertaining to physiopathy. **Phy·siopatholo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to a pathological state influenced by physiology. **Physio·pathy** [Gr. *-παθεία*, f. *πάθος* suffering] (see quot.). **Physio·philist** [Gr. *φιλεῖν* to love], a lover or student of nature. **Phy·siophy·ly** [see PHYLUM] (see quot.). **Phy·siopla·stic** *a.*, formed by nature. **Phy·siosco·pe** [Gr. *-σκόπος* viewing] (see quot. 1846). **Physio·scopy,** the rendering of the physical appearances and conditions in a painting. **Phy·sio-sociolo·gical** *a.*, combining physiology and sociology. **Physio·sophy** [Gr. *σοφία* wisdom], an assumption of knowledge of nature; hence **Phy·sioso·phic** *a.* **Phy·siotype,** a process for taking an impression direct from a flat object, on prepared paper; also an image made by such process. **Phy·sioty·py,** printing from plates made by various processes direct from natural objects; nature-printing.

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkal.* 5 The presence of the alkaloid might be owing to *physio-chemical action after death. 1844 UPTON *Physioglyphics* 101 In a literal hieroglyphic, therefore, or what I shall now more aptly term a *physioglyphic, no name must be involved. 1635 PERSON *Varieties* II. 60 The Meteorologians answer not so fully satisfactorie as theirs, who treate of spirits, whom I may well call *Physiognosticks. 1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 284 Natural History..which..may more aptly and expressively, it should seem, be designated by the term *Physiognosy. 1880 C. A. CUTTER *Classif. Nat. Sc.* in *Library Jrnl.* June, A similar word, Fysiognosy..supplies a name which was wanted for the natural sciences collectively. 1885 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 226 It should consist of three parts or sections, first Statical Geognosy or Physiognosy. 1800 COLERIDGE in C. K. Paul *W. Godwin* (1876) II. 3 Your poetic and *Physiopathic feelings. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 777 We cannot even say if it.. be of a *physio-pathological character, or a specific germ. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Dis.* XXVI. 413 Certain physio-pathological qualities predisposing to the disease may be inherited. 1797–1803 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 212 What may be called *physiopathy, a faculty of pervading all nature with one's own being. 1804 COLERIDGE *Lett., to R. Sharp* (1895) 448, I have met with several genuine Philologists, Philonoists, *Physiophilists, keen hunters after knowledge and science. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. i. 24 *Physiophyly. The tribal history of the functions, or the history of the palæontological development of vital activities. 1811–31 BENTHAM *Logic* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 284/1 In their *physioplastic state, in the state in which, fashioned by the hand of nature, they [bodies] are found in the bosom of nature. 1846 JOYCE *Sci. Dial., Optics* xxii. 332 What is the opaque microscope?..Very much the same sort of thing as the magic lantern; except that the light, instead of passing through the object, shines upon it, and is reflected off through the lenses, and so onward to the screen...The *physioscope is the same instrument, employed to depict 'the human face'.. in colossal dimensions upon the screen. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 64/2 The physioscope is a modification of the magic lantern. 1886–94 H. SPENCER *Autobiog.* II. xlvi. 193 *note*, Under '*physioscopy' I propose to include the rendering of the phenomena of linear perspective, of aerial perspective, of light and shade, and of colour in so far as it is determined not by artistic choice, but by natural conditions. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 2/1 The average medical man cannot afford the leisure for the systematic study of the *physio-sociological problems that lie in his path. 1886 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 437/1 Morphological facts are entirely superseded by fanciful ideas of the vaguest kind of *physiosophy. 1904 *Daily News* 23 June 11 A remarkable invention is..called 'The *Physiotype'. A leaf, piece of lace, or other flat object is pressed upon a piece of prepared paper, but there is no visible mark made; the paper then has a powder..brushed over it, and the structure of the leaf or the pattern of the lace immediately appears in black.

Physiocracy (fizio·krăsi). [ad. F. *physiocratie* (1767 in Hatz.-Darm.): see PHYSIO- and -CRACY.] Government according to natural order; *spec.* the doctrine of the physiocrats.

1875 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 882 The doctrine that all wealth is formed out of the materials of the globe may be called Physiocracy. 1895 L. F. WARD in *Forum* (N. Y.) Nov. 304 If we had a pure physiocracy or government of nature, such as prevails among wild animals.

Physiocrat (fi·zio,kræt). Also in Fr. form **-crate.** [a. F. *physiocrate*, f. *physiocratie*: see prec. and -CRAT.] One of a school of political economists founded by François Quesnay in France in the 18th c.; they maintained that society should be governed according to an inherent natural order, that the soil is the sole source of wealth and the only proper object of taxation, and that security of property and freedom of industry and exchange are essential: = ECONOMIST 4 c.

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 352 About the year 1774, the philosophic sect of Physiocrates was already organized into a political body. 1804 — in *Crit. Rev.* Ser. III. I. 21 The only merit of the *economistes*, or physiocrates, consists in arguing well against legal interference, and legal restraint. 1896 *Athenæum* 19 Sept. 390 Questions..as to the relation of Adam Smith to the physiocrats.

Physiocratic (fi·ziokræ·tik), *a.* [f. as PHYSIOCRAT + -IC.] Of or pertaining to physiocracy or the physiocrats.

1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 324 Much is said of the theory of the physiocratic sect. 1888 W. L. COURTNEY *J. S. Mill* 96 The physiocratic theory begins with the idea of a *Jus Naturæ*, a simple..and beneficial code established by Nature.

So †**Physiocra·tical** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 141 The *economistes*, in their writings, speak much of an experiment he made in their Physiocratical rubbish.

Physiocratism (fizio·krătiz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] **1.** = PHYSIOCRACY. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. In Kant's use, The doctrine that all causality is dependent on nature.

Physiog, humorous colloquial abbreviation of PHYSIOGNOMY (sense 3).

1865 E. C. CLAYTON *Cruel Fortune* I. 145 Glad to behold your distinguished physiog.

Physioge·nesis. *Biol.* [f. as next + Gr. *γένεσις* GENESIS.] = next, b.

1887 COPE *Primary Factors Org. Evol.* 488 Changes may be effected in the weight, colour, and in functional capacity by temperature, humidity, food, &c., thus exhibiting physiogenesis.

Hence **Phy·siogene·tic** *a.*, of or pertaining to physiogenesis.

Physiogeny (fizio·dʒĕni). [ad. mod.L. *physiogenia*, f. Gr. *φυσιο-* PHYSIO- + *-γένεια* -GENY. Cf. Ger. *physiogenie.*] †**a.** The genesis of natural bodies. *Obs.* **b.** *Biol.* The genesis of vital functions; the development or evolution of the functions of living organisms, which are the province of physiology; the science or history of this.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Physiogenia*, term for the operations of nature, according to Rumpf, of the formation of bodies from original elements: physiogeny. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 24 *Physiogeny*, the germ-history of the functions, or the history of the development of vital activities in the individual. *Ibid.* II. 461 So will Physiogeny..make a true recognition of functions possible, by discovering their historic evolution.

Hence **Physiogenic** (-dʒe·nik) *a.*, of the nature of physiogeny.

†**Physio·gnomer.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 fisnomier, phisnamour, phisiognomier, -yer, 7- physiognomer. [f. PHYSIOGNOMY + -ER[1]: cf. *astronomy, astronomer.*] = PHYSIOGNOMIST.

a 1500 P. JOHNSTON *Thre Deid Pollis* 42 This questioun quha can obsolue, lat see, Quhat phisnamour, or perfyt palmester. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 19, I beleue nat the reders of dremes and fisnomiers. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Table Xij b, Arte and profession of Phisiognomyers. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 55 When a Phisiognomer by chance.. came into the forum of Athens, he declared by the view of diuers mens faces, the diuersity of their conditions. 1656 H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* 35 That Sanguine was the Complexion of David George, the foregoing description of his person will probably intimate to any Physiognomer. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Physiognomer* or *Physiognomist.*

Physiognomic (fiziogno·mik, fi·ziono·mik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *physiognōmic-us* (Fulgentius, *c* 550), corruption of Gr. *φυσιογνωμονικ-ός*, f. *φυσιογνωμονία*: see PHYSIOGNOMY and -IC. In OF. *physionomique* (15th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), in mod. F. *physiognomonique* (*Dict. Trévoux* 1732).]

1. Of the nature of physiognomy; relating to the face or form as indicating character; characteristic.

1755 JOHNSON, *Physiognomic*, drawn from the contemplation of the face. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* II. xxii. 166 The very spirit which gives the physiognomic expression to all the works of nature. 1856 KINGSLEY *Lett.* 26 Feb., It is sad to see how much faults of character seem to depend on physiognomic defects. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 75 Currents of thought and feeling which are physiognomic of the atmosphere he lives in.

2. Of, pertaining to, or skilled in physiognomy; 'conversant in contemplation of the face' (J.).

1755 in JOHNSON. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 146 There is great physiognomic tact in Sterne. 1885 COUPLAND *Spirit Goethe's Faust* i. 11 Such physiognomic science [is] lighter than a water-bug.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*) See quots.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Physiognomica*, Signs whereby we conjecture something by the Countenance.] 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Physiognomicks*,..a Term used by some Physicians and Naturalists for such Signs as are taken from the Countenance of Persons, to judge of their Dispositions and Temper. 1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1828 in WEBSTER, and in later Dicts.

Physiogno·mical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. Pertaining to, dealing with, or skilled in physiognomy; indicative of character.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. viii. 43 b, Divers physionomicall conjectures, as that of Martiall. *Crine ruber, niger ore, brevis pede.* 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 72 Hence Physiognomicall Philosophers..doe easily discerne the differences. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. vi. 113 Had the physiognomical predicter examined the two portraits .. he might have augured a happier fate. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 264 All that a man does is physiognomical of him.

2. Of or pertaining to the face or form (properly) as an index of character, but often used simply in reference to personal appearance. (In quot. 1815 earlier term for *phrenological.*)

1811 LAMB *Danger Confound. Mor. w. Personal Deformity*, To distinguish between that physiognomical deformity which I am willing to grant always accompanies crime, and mere physical ugliness. 1812 R. H. in *Examiner* 28 Dec. 828/1 The analogy..that appears between the physiognomical and intellectual .. character. 1815 (*title*) The Physiognomical System of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim, founded on an ..Examination of the Nervous System in general, and of the Brain in particular. [transl. of French ed. 1810.] 1861 *Times* 16 Oct., Certain original physiognomical types peculiar to himself.

Hence **Physiogno·mically** *adv.*, in a physiognomical manner; according to the rules of physiognomy; as regards characteristic features.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 640 The one and other are thus Physiognomically described by the Poet. 1797 COLERIDGE *Wks.* (1893) p. xxxiv. *note*, My eyes, eyebrows, and forehead are physiognomically good. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 521 County differed from county physiognomically. 1882 *Academy* 14 Jan. 24/3 A charmingly etched and evidently characteristic portrait .. confirms physiognomically the popular estimate of his character.

Physiognomist (fizio·gnŏmist, -o·nŏmist). [a. OF. *physionomiste* (1557 in Godef. *Compl.*), f. *physionomie*: see -IST.] One skilled in physiognomy; one who reads character or disposition (or, formerly, professed to foretell destiny) from the face.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* c iv, The Anatomistes will restore to you, some part: The Physiognomistes, some. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXV. x. 539 A certaine Physiognomist or teller of fortune. 1788 REID *Active Powers* II. iii. 540 The physiognomist saw, in the features of Socrates, the signatures of many bad dispositions. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xv. 123 By no means a good physiognomist, much less a good judge of character. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, Her remarkable powers as a physiognomist.

Hence †**Physiognomi·stic, -ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to a physiognomist; †**Physio·gnomistry,** the art or trade of the physiognomist.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 98 To be seen with Physiognomisticall corporall eyes. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 66. 2/1 We may include Palmistry, Physiognomistry, etc.

Physio·gnomize, *v.* [f. PHYSIOGNOMY + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To examine or study physiognomically; to deduce the character of from physiognomy.

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1701) 372/1 Before he had physiognomized the man what he were. 1796 SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 24 Feb. in *Life* (1849) I. 269, I defy you or Mr. Shandy to physiognomise that man's name rightly. 1869 — *Lett.* (1856) II. 173 That good lady who, as you remember, physiognomised me so luckily for 'a man of sorrow and acquainted with woe'.

†**2.** To assume the physiognomy or characteristic appearance of. *Obs. rare.*

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b j b, Archangel physiognomising the fingers. *Ibid.* b ij, Divers plants physiognomize the horns of Beasts, as Cornop, Plaintain.

Physiognomonic (fizio·gnomo·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [ad. med.L. *physiognōmonic-us*, a. Gr. *φυσιογνωμονικός* adj., f. *φυσιογνωμονία*: see PHYSIOGNOMY and -IC. In F. *physiognomonique.*] The etymologically correct form for PHYSIOGNOMIC.

1755 JOHNSON, *Physiognomonick* adj. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* iv. 118 The chapter is concluded by the physiognomonic doctrine of the nose. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Physiognōmonica*,..physiognomonics. 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Physiognomonical (fizio·gnomo·nikăl), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Etymological form for PHYSIOGNOMICAL.

1668 G. C. in *H. More's Div. Dial.* Pref. (1713) 6 In the Character of which Person the Dramatist seems to have been judicious even to Physiognomonical Curiosity. 1737 FIELDING *Tom Thumb* (ed. 3) Pref., Affirmed by our English Physiognominical writers. 1805 T. HOLCROFT *Bryan Perdue* II. 114 Not having yet completed my course of physiognomonical experiments. 1814 *Phil. Mag.* XLIV. 305 Demonstrative Course of Lectures on Drs. Gall and Spurzheim's Physiognomonical System.

Physiognomy (fizi·gnŏmi, -·nŏmi). Forms: see below. [ME. *fisnomye, fis-, phisonomye*, etc., a. OF. (13th c.) *fiz-, phis-, phizonomie, -anomie*, in mod.F. *physionomie* = Pr. *phizonomia*, Sp. *fisonomía*, Pg. *physionomia*, It. *fisio-, fisonomia*, ad. med.L. *phisonomia, physionomia*, **physiognōmia*, ad. Gr. *φυσιογνωμονία* the judging of a man's nature (by his features), f. *φύσις* nature (PHYSIO-) + *γνώμων, γνωμον-* judge, interpreter: wrongly written *φυσιογνωμία* in Stob. Ecl. (Liddell and Scott), whence the med.L. form. As will be seen, the word shows contraction in all the Romanic langs., and still more in Eng., where in vulgar use it has even been abridged to *physiog., phizog.*, and *phiz*. The pronunciation (fizi·nŏmi) which formerly prevailed (see A. γ, quots. 1783, 1840) is now somewhat old-fashioned.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–5 **fysnomye, -namye, fyss-**, 5–6 **fisnamy, phis-, physnomie**, 5–7 **-nomy**, 6 **phis-, phys-, fis-, fys, fiz-, -nomy, -namy** (**-ye, -ie**), **phisnami**, (**-nom, physnome**), 6–7 (9) **visnomy, -ie**, 7 **fisnomie**.

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1114 He feyed his fysnamye with his foule hondez. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 38 The mervelous science of ffysnomye. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* xiii. (*Frog & Mouse*) viii, Ane thrawart will, ane thrawin phisnomy. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2765 His fysnamy restaured to his kynde agayne. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* ix. 3 His face, whiche before seemed not to diffre from the common phisnami of others, shone as brighte as the sunne. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting w. Polwart* 490 With flirting and flyring, their physnome they flype. *a* 1652 BROME *Love-sick Court* v. i, I can read guilty lines Palpably on this villans visnomy. 1660 J. S. *Andromana* IV. v. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 253 If he have not rogue writ in great letters in's face, I have no physnomy. [1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant Corr.* (1823) 245 A pun is reflected from a friend's face as from a mirror. Who would consult his sweet visnomy, if the polished surface were two or three minutes..in giving back its copy?]

β. 4–6 **phisonomie, 5 phiso-, phizo-, physonomye**, (**physynomye, fysenamye**), 6 **vysonamy, visenomy**, 6–7 **phisognomie, -y**, 7 **-gminy**.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 5 Thou scholdest be Phisonomie Be schapen to that maladie Of lovedrunke. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1072 The childe couthe of fysenamye That he saw evyl with hys eye. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. x. 27 By the phizonomye of ye yongmen..they knowe whiche were moost able. 1532 TINDALE *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 127 The false prophets do well to paint God after the likeness of their own visenomy. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 33 A dosyn of other maskers,..with visors of good proporcion of vysonamy. 1642 S. W. *Parl. Vind. agst. Pr. Rupert* 3 Not new in Phisognomy. 1678 W. STROTHER in *Lauderdale Papers* (1885) III. xciii. 161 We think Welsh was amongst them, by the discription of his phisogminy.

γ. 6– **physiognomy**, (6 **phisionomie, visionogmi**, 6–7 **phisio-, physiognomie**, 6–8 **phisio-**, 7 **visiognomy**).

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 50 b, Physiognomie..doth presume that shee is able to finde out..by vewing of the whole bodie, the dispositions of the minde and body. 1660 *A. Durer Revived* 2 The Visiognomy or Circumference of a Face. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 Oct., Physiognomy, as it is a Greek word, ought to sound the G; but..G, I think, is sounded in formal, and sunk in familiar language. 1840 A. R. WEBSTER *Oxf. Songs, Town & Gown*, You'll find it bad economy To carry home a tattered gown and battered physiognomy.

B. Signification.

I. 1. The art of judging character and disposition from the features of the face or the form and lineaments of the body generally.

1390 [see A. β]. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 219 One lyght manere and general of Phisnomye is to deme vertues and maneris of man aftyr the conpleccion. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2467 The excellent science..I mene phisonomye, Be which thou shalt..knowe disposicion in ech degree and signe, Of al thy peple. 1591 GREENE *Farew. Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 327, I haue not..such assured sight in Phisognomie, as I dare auouch it for truth. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 19 The reputation of my skill in Physnomie and Prognosticating. *a* 1720 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 60 An illustrious exception to all the common rules of Physiognomy. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* vii. (1876) 60, I want your opinion. We know your skill in physiognomy... Read that countenance.

† **b.** *transf.* A judging of the form of a living body from the skeleton. *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* ii. 30 Since Bones afford .. Figure unto the Body, it is no impossible Physiognomy to conjecture at Fleshy Appendencies.

† **2.** The foretelling of destiny or future fortune from the features and lines of the face, etc.; the fortune so foretold: *loosely*, fortune foretold (or character divined) by astrology. *Obs.*

1531 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 4 Physyke, Physnamye, Palmestrye or other craftye scyences wherby they beare the people in hande that they can tell theire destenyes deceases & fortunes. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. x. (1877) I. 220 Roges..practisers of physiognomie and palmestrie, tellers of fortunes [etc.]. 1589 NASHE *Martins Months Mind* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) I. 146 For that it seemeth you have some skill in Astrologie,..let vs haue a glimpse at the least of the fooles phisnomies. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 242 According to my little skill in Physiognomy, I hope he may live yet many a yeer.

II. 3. The face or countenance, especially viewed as an index to the mind and character; expression of face; also, the general cast of features, type of face (of a race); vulgarly, the face or countenance (formerly very common, esp. in the α form, now rare).

c 1400 *Beryn* 3196, I knowe wele by thy fisnamy, thy kynd it were to stele. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 39 Dyuers peoples of sondry phisonomy and shape. 1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 98 Eies glaunceinge, fisnamy smirkinge. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. I. ii. (1651) 605 She did abhorre her husbands phisnomy. 1623–33 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night-Walker* v. i, I haue seen that physiognomy: Were you never in prison? *a* 1718 ROWE *Biter* II. i, That Blow upon your Forehead has decompos'd your Phisiognomy strangely. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. ii. 8 The grace which that people call *Physiognomy*, and we may call Expression. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 21 Each religious sect has its physiognomy. The Methodists have acquired a face; the Quakers, a face; the nuns, a face. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 305 The distinctive Greek physiognomy was no longer to be found.

† **b.** A representation of a face; a portrait. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 339/2 Oure lord..toke fro the payntour a lynnen clothe and set it upon his vysage and enprynted the very physonomye of his vysage therin. 1587 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 52 *note*, One little Flower of gold with a frogg thereon, and therein Mounsier his phisnamye. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 130 Apelles would not loose a day without shadowing a phisnomie.

4. *transf.* The general appearance or external features of anything material; e. g. the contour or configuration of a country.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 7 Efestides [a kind of stone] is in colour and Phisiognomie verie shamefast and childish. 1819 SHELLEY *Let.* Pr. Wks. 1888 II. 294 Its physiognomy indicates it to be a city, which..yet possesses most amiable qualities. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 362 The most grand and original feature in the physiognomy of Etna. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 159 The old highways.. adapted themselves..to the physiognomy of the country.

5. *fig.* The ideal, mental, moral, or political aspect of anything as an indication of its character; characteristic aspect.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 494 There is a Kind of Physiognomy in the Titles of Books, no less than in the Faces of Men, by which a skilful Observer will as well know what to expect from the one as the other. *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 91 The moral physiognomy of certain sections of the United States. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iii. (1878) 93 You may discover the physiognomy, that is in speech, as well as in face. 1879 *Echo* No. 3374. 2 The utter change in the political physiognomy of the new Landtag.

Physio·gnotype. [f. PHYSIOGN(OMY + Gr. *τύπος* impress, print, model.] 'A machine for taking casts and imprints of human faces or countenances' (Worcester).

a 1846 WORCESTER cites *Observer*. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. iii. 296 A craniograph, which must have been suggested by the physio[g]notype of Huschke, and reminds one of the circular band used by hatters.

Physiogony (fizi·gŏni). [f. Gr. *φύσις* nature (see PHYSIO-) + *-γονία* begetting, production.] The generation or production of nature.

a 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 158 Their physiology imbrangled with an inapplicable logic and a misgrowth of..substantiated abstractions; and their physiogony a blank or dream of tradition. 1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 103 The distinctive..aim..of physiogony is to present the history of Nature as preface and portion of the history of man.

Physiographer (fizi·grăfəɹ). [f. PHYSIOGRAPH-Y + ER[1].] One versed in physiography; a physical geographer.

1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XXX. 261 The same eminent..physiographer, in his paper on the Ocean, remarks [etc.]. 1902 C. LENNOX *J. Chalmers* vi, A belt of very shallow water suggesting to the physiographer that it had once formed part of the continent.

Physiographic (fi:ziogræ·fik), *a.* [f. mod.L. *physiographia* PHYSIOGRAPHY + -IC.] Of or belonging to physiography: cf. next.

1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 104 The physiographic details which form the main body of these lectures. 1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 7 Physiographic Geology,—a general survey of the earth's surface-features.

Physiographical (fi:ziogræ·fikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Dealing with or treating of physiography; pertaining to physiography.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 56 Other literary societies are formed at Upsala, Gottenburg, &c., and a physiographical one at Lund. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VII. 910 The branch of geological enquiry which deals with the evolution of the existing contours of the dry land is termed Physiographical Geology. 1890 *Q. Rev.* July 88 The Vosges interested him profoundly, but from a purely physiographical point of view.

Physiography (fizi·grăfi). [mod. f. Gr. *φύσις* nature + *-γραφία* description, -GRAPHY: cf. F. *physiographie* (1812).]

1. A description of nature, or of natural phenomena or productions generally.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Physiography*, a description of nature, or the science of natural objects. *Journ. of Science.* *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 158 The ignorance of natural science, their physiography scant in fact, and stuffed out with fables. 1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 101 The office of..Physiography is to enumerate and delineate the effects and products of nature as they appear. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* Pref. 6, I undertook to deliver twelve lectures on natural phenomena in general; and I borrowed the title of 'Physiography'..for my subject, inasmuch as I wished to draw a clear line of demarcation, both as to matter and method, between it and what is commonly understood by Physical Geography. 1892 E. HULL (*title*) Physiography: an introduction to the Study of Nature.

2. A description of the nature of a particular class of objects (in quot., of minerals).

[1873 ROSENBUSCH (*title*) Mikroskopische Physiographie der petrographisch wichtigen Mineralien.] 1888 J. P. IDDINGS (*title*) Microscopical Physiography of the Rock-making Minerals:..By H. Rosenbusch. Translated and abridged.

3. Physical geography.

1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xiii. 176 To restore the physiography of the land during successive stages of the glacial epoch. 1877 — *Elem. Lessons in Phys. Geog.* 3 *note*, This term [physical geography] as here used is synonymous with Physiography, which has been proposed in its stead. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Nov. 353 Physiography on the other hand treats of the science of earth-sculpture, viewed in the light of systematic processes.

Physiolater (fizi·lătəɹ). [f. as prec. + Gr. *-λατρης* worshipper.] A worshipper of nature. So **Physio·latry** [-LATRY], nature-worship.

1860 MAX MÜLLER *Hist. Sanskrit Lit.* (ed. 2) Introd. 32 The primæval physiolatry which was common to all the members of the Aryan family. 1879 *Scribner's Mag.* May 145 Physiolatry, or the worship of natural objects of awe, such as rivers, mountains, etc. 1882 L. F. WARD in *Internat. Rev.* May, These modern physiolaters are among the most eminent teachers of science and philosophy.

Physiologer (fizi·lŏdʒəɹ). Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7 **phis-**. [f. PHYSIOLOGY (or L. *physiolog-us*, a. Gr. *φυσιολόγος*, one who discourses on nature, f. *φύσις* nature + *-λόγος* -speaking) + -ER[1].]

1. A student or teacher of natural science; *spec.* a philosopher of the Ionic sect.

1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* II. 199 Astrologers, Physiologers, Optickes, Paynters. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Physiologer*, he that searcheth out, or disputes of Natural things, a Natural Philosopher. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 9 Democritus and most of the Physiologers here commit a very great Absurdity, in that they make all Sense to be Touch. *a* 1688 — *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 105 The very same with that which Aristotle imputes to the antient Physiologers as a Paradox, that Black and White were not without the Sight. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 145 The famous Bacon, and several Physiologers assure, that 'tis easy to have Roses so backward, as not to blow till towards the End of Autumn. 1867 MAURICE *Patriarchs & Lawg.* ii (1877) 53 The belief which a very large body of physiologers, not believers in the Bible, resolutely maintain.

2. = PHYSIOLOGIST 2.

1680 J. AUBREY in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 620 His head was of a mallet forme, approved by the physiologers. 1831 W. GODWIN *Thoughts Man* 8 An important remark, suggested to me many years ago by an eminent physiologer and anatomist. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. viii. § 36 Willis, a physician at Oxford,..his bold systems have given him a distinguished place among physiologers.

† **Physio·loget.** *Obs.* In 3 **fisiologet.** [dim. (perh. in OF.) f. PHYSIOLOG-US + -ET. Cf. PAMPHLET.] A diminutive or pet appellation for a physiologus or book on natural history.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 307 Þus it is on boke set ðat man clepeð fisiloget.

Physiologian (fi:ziōlō·dʒiăn). *rare*[−1]. [f. L. *physiologia* PHYSIOLOGY + -AN: cf. *theologian*.] = PHYSIOLOGIST 2.

1825 BEDDOES *Let.* Sept., Poems (1851) p. xlvii, Blumenbach,..is, I fancy, of the first rank as mineralogist, physiologian, geologist, botanist, natural-historian, and physician.

Physiologic (fi:ziōlo·dʒik), *a.* [ad. L. *physiologic-us*, a. Gr. *φυσιολογικός* adj., f. *φυσιολόγος*: see PHYSIOLOGER and -IC. Cf. F. *physiologique* (G. Budé, 16th c.).]

† **1.** Of or belonging to natural science. *Obs. rare.*

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. Introd. 3 Thales..informed himself touching..the Chaos, and other Physiologic Contemplations. 1677 *Ibid.* II. III. 32 Our Gospel..has availed more to the Knowledge of God than al their Physiologic Contemplations. 1736–44 H. COVENTRY *Lett. Phil. to Hyd.* v. (T.), It may ascertain the true era of physiologic allegory.

2. = PHYSIOLOGICAL 2.

1828 in WEBSTER. 1838 MILLIGEN *Curios. Med. Exp.* (1839) 565 To elucidate obscure parts of physiologic enquiry. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 553 No method is more alluring, in physiologic studies, than this of accurate measurement and description. 1884 J. W. POWELL in *Science* IV. 472/2 In early society, incest laws do not recognize physiologic conditions, but only social conditions.

Physiological (fi:ziōlo·dʒikăl), *a.* Also 7 **phi-**. [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.]

† **1.** Relating to the material universe or to natural science, physical; belonging to the Physiologers as students of nature. *Obs.*

1610 HEALEY *Vives' Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* v. ix. (1620) 196 This opinion is Physiologicall and imbraced by Alexander, one of Aristotles interpreters. 1662 H. MORE *Def. Philos. Cabbala* App. i. (1712) 114 The Mosaical Philosophy, in the Physiological part thereof, is the same with the Cartesian. 1673 RAY (*title*) Observations Topographical, Moral, and Phisiological, made in a Journey through part of the Low Countries, Germany, Italy, and France. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 348 The laws of gravitation, attraction, and impulse, and other objects of physiological science. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* II. x. (1818) III. 188 With these secret schools of physiological theology the mythical poets were doubtless in connection.

2. Pertaining or relating to physiology; relating to the functions and properties of living bodies.

1814 D. STEWART *Philos. Mind* II. iv. VI. 465 One of the

most noted physiological works which have lately appeared on the Continent. 1845 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 100 The General Physiological Chemistry of the Blood. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (1870) 1 Physiological Botany treats of plants, and their organs, in a state of life or action. 1873 Ralfe *Phys. Chem.* Introd. 13 The term Physiological Chemistry is generally limited to the study of the chemical phenomena attendant upon the life of Animals. 1880 Richardson in *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* 70 The physiological action of alcohol.

Physiologically (fiːziǫlǫ·dʒikăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a physiological manner; according to the principles of physiology; from a physiological point of view.

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* VI. viii. 246 But these things, say they, are all to be interpreted naturally and Phisiologically..as though we..sought Nature, and set God aside. 1775 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 395 This animal may be considered, both anatomically and physiologically, as divided into two parts. 1874 P. Bayne in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 697 The child..was physiologically a wreck,—damaged irretrievably in body and mind.

Physiologist (fiziǫ·lŏdʒist). [f. Physiology + -ist. Cf. F. *physiologiste* (1757 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†**1.** A natural philosopher; a naturalist; = Physiologer 1. *Obs.*

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 72 The Physiologist also may gather something from the former Observations, touching the nature of Colours. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 31 Socrates..perceiving how much his Predecessors, Thales &c. (who were generally Physiologists) had abused Physics. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 50 Priestley, Black, Cavendish, and Macbride, had opened to physiologists a sort of new creation. 1827 R. P. Ward *De Vere* viii. (ed. 2) 145 Questions..which as they seem to depend upon a particular sort of air, we must leave to physiologists.

2. One versed in animal (or vegetable) physiology; a student or teacher of the science of the functions and properties of organic bodies.

1778 A. Reid *Inquiry Suppress. Urine* (M.), The most skilful anatomist and physiologist. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXV. 312 This distinguished surgeon and physiologist has done more than all who preceded him to illustrate his subject. 1881 Burdon-Sanderson in *Nature* 8 Sept. 440/2 The subjects of experiment used by the two last-mentioned physiologists were themselves; the work done was the mountain ascent from Interlaken to the summit of the Faulhorn.

Physio·logize (-dʒəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

†**1.** *intr.* To speculate or reason on nature; to inquire into natural causes and phenomena. *Obs.*

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* Pref. 7 Divers of the Italicks, and particularly Empedocles—before Democritus—physiologized atomically. *Ibid.* I. iii. 120 They who first theologized, did physiologize after this manner. 1730-6 Bailey (folio) Pref., *Physiologize*, to Study, Discourse or Reason on the Nature of Things.

†**2.** *trans.* To explain in accordance with physical or natural science. *Obs.*

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 450 Unless we would rather with Macrobius, Physiologize them all Three, and make Minerva to be the Higher Heaven, Jupiter the Middle Ether, and Juno the Lower Air and Earth, all Animated; that is, One God, as acting differently in these Three Regions of the world. 1819 G. S. Faber *Dispensations* (1823) I. 234 Much the same remark is made by Eusebius on the humour of physiologising the religious system of the Egyptians.

3. *intr.* To act the physiologist; to form physiological conclusions or theories. *rare.*

1866 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* (L.), The somewhat capricious appearance of the gall-bladder in vegetarian mammals discourages such attempts to physiologize.

Hence **Physio·logizing** *vbl. sb.*

1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. i. 17 Al which Poetic Physiologisings were but corrupt imitations of.. Moses's description of the Creation.

‖ **Physiologus** (fiziǫ·lŏgŏs). [L., a. Gr. *φυσιολόγος*, natural philosopher (see Physiologer): used by Epiphanius as the name of his work on Natural History with moral and theological applications, whence the mediæval use.] A Bestiary: see quot.

1898 Stopford Brooke *Eng. Lit.* xiii. 203 The three first [Old Eng. poems, the *Whale*, the *Panther*, and the *Partridge*] must be taken together, and form part..of an English *Physiologus*. A *Physiologus* in the literature of the Middle Ages was a collection of descriptions of beasts, birds, or fishes, of their life and habits..each..followed by a religious or moral allegory based on this description.

Physiology (fiziǫ·lŏdʒi). Also 6-7 **phi-**. [ad. L. *physiologia*, a. Gr. *φυσιολογία* (Arist.), natural philosophy, natural science; f. *φυσιολόγ-ος*: see Physiologer, and -logy; perh. immed. a. F. *physiologie* (1547 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†**1.** The study and description of natural objects; natural science or natural philosophy; also, a particular system or doctrine of natural science. *Obs.*

1564 *Bauldwin's Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) II. i. 73 That it may be knowen what they beleued of god, of themselues, and of his woorkes, all which they them selues call Phisiologie. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1346 Certeine Epicureans.. standing much upon this their goodly and beautifull Physiologie forsooth (as they terme it). 1662 H. More *Def. Philos. Cabbala* App. i. (1712) 113 Whence there must be no small affinity betwixt this ancient Moschical, or rather Mosaical Physiology, and the Cartesian Philosophy. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Physiology*, *Physicks*, or Natural Philosophy, is the Science of Natural Bodies. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 18/1 Re-action, in physiology, the resistance made by all bodies to the action or impulse of others that endeavour to change its state whether of motion or rest.

2. The science of the normal functions and phenomena of living things.

It comprises the two divisions of *animal* and *vegetable physiology*; that part of the former which refers specially to the vital functions in man is called *human physiology*.

[1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 1 b/1 *Physiologia* handelethe and treatethe of the structure and situatione of mans bodye. 1611 Cotgr., *Physiologie*,..also..that part of Phisicke which treats of the composition, or structure of mans bodie.] 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 289 Amongst the new writers Fernelius the best learned Physitian of them all, in the 7. book of his Phisiologie, proueth that this bloud is not Alimentarie. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Physiology*, is by some also accounted a Part of Physick, that teaches the Constitution of the Body so far as it is sound, or in its Natural State; and endeavours to find Reasons for its Functions and Operations, by the Help of Anatomy and Natural Philosophy. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iv. Concl. 511, I..bring some Arguments from Physiology and Pathology. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 244 The anatomy and physiology of the nervous system. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. vi, A Peasant unacquainted with botanical Physiology. 1831 Brewster *Optics* XXXV. 393 This important truth in the physiology of vision. 1860 Huxley *Lay Serm.* xii. 284 That part of biological science which deals with form and structure is called Morphology—that which concerns itself with function, Physiology. 1871 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* ix. 482 Hales, whose beautiful experiments laid the foundation of vegetable physiology.

fig. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 26 As a contribution to the physiology of genius no other book is to be compared with the *Vita Nuova*. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 June 3/2 The amateur statistician may know something of the anatomy of commerce, but he knows nothing of what I may call its physiology—its circulating..and..digestive system[s].

†**Physion, phision,** corrupt or erron. forms of Physician (perh. only typographical errors).

c 1580 Lodge *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Hunter. Cl.) 5 That they like good Phisions: should so frame their potions. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 3 The Scripture is..a Physions-shop (Saint Basill calleth it).

Physionomy, obs. spelling of Physiognomy.

Phy·sio·philo·sophy. [transl. of Ger. *Naturphilosophie*, i. e. philosophy of nature, in the title of Oken's *Lehrbuch der Naturphilosophie* 1808–11, called in the Eng. transl. 'Elements of Physiophilosophy'.] A name for the philosophic system of nature of Oken, who 'aimed at constructing all knowledge *a priori*, and thus setting forth the system of nature in its universal relations'.

1847 Tulk tr. *Oken* (*title*) Elements of Physiophilosophy. 1856 R. A. Vaughan *Mystics* (1860) II. 254 He [Oken] imagined that he wrote his *Physio-philosophy* in a kind of inspiration. 1887 Cope *Orig. Fittest* 8 The disfavour in which physiophilosophy was held secured to evolution a cold welcome.

Hence **Phy·siophi·losoph, Phy·siophilo·sopher** [= Ger. *Naturphilosoph*], an adherent of the system of Oken; **Phy·siophiloso·phic, -ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to this system.

1887 Cope *Orig. Fittest* 8 The *physiophilosophs became extravagant and mistook superficial appearances for realities. 1861 G. Moore *Lost Tribes* 127 Here..it is that the *physio-philosophers have supposed mankind to have originated. 1865 tr. *Strauss' Life Jesus* I. I. XXX. 247 The allegorical interpretation..applied to Homer and Hesiod in order to extract *physiophilosophical ideas out of the Gods and their histories.

Physique (fizīk). [a. F. *physique* sb. masc., absolute use of *physique* physical, i. e. that which is physical.] The physical or bodily structure, organization, and development; the characteristic appearance or physical powers (of an individual or a race).

1826 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 384 You must allow that this describes his physique admirably. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Manners* Wks. (Bohn) II. 47 So much had the fine physique and the personal vigour of this robust race worked on my imagination. 1864 R. F. Burton *Dahome* II. 64 The masculine physique of the women enabling them to compete with men in enduring toil, hardships, and privations. 1881 A. G. C. Liddell in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 478/2 They..had tremendous physiques, though rather fleshy.

Physique, obs. form of Physic.

Physitheism (fiːzipi,iːzm). [f. Gr. *φύσι-ς* nature + *θεός* God + -ism: cf. *polytheism*.] The deification of the powers or phenomena of nature. So **Phy·sithei·stic** *a.*

1891 J. W. Powell in *Chautauquan* Dec. 291 (Funk) Physitheism is the theology and religion of the barbaric world. In this religion the weather-producing agents and the phenomena of the weather are personified and deified. 1889 G. Mallery in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXVI. 208 The prophets tried to pull the Israelites too rapidly through the zoötheistic and physitheistic stages into monotheism.

Phy·sitism. *rare.* [f. Gr. *φύσι-ς* nature + -ite + -ism.] A system of nature-worship.

1885 Duns in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XIX. 396.

Physiurgic (fizi,ə·ɹdʒik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *φύσι-ς* nature + *ἔργον* work + -ic: cf. *theurgic*.] Produced or acted upon solely by nature.

1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* 187 Applied to bodies..in their natural, or say physiurgic, state—human art—or say elaboration by human art—has two distinguishable objects. 1843 Bowring *Introd. Bentham's Wks.* I. 16/2 Natural History and Natural Philosophy are respectively represented by Physiurgic Somatology, and Anthropurgic Somatology.

So **Physiurgosco·pic** *a. rare.*

1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 86 Division of Somatology, or Somatics at large, into *Physiurgic* (Physiurgoscopic) and *Anthropurgic* (Anthropurgoscopic).

Physnamy, -nomy, obs. ff. Physiognomy.

Physo- (fəisǫ), repr. Gr. *φῡσο-*, combining form of Gr. *φῦσα* bellows, bladder, bubble, in a few Gr. compounds, and in many modern scientific terms.

Physocarpous *a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], having an inflated or bladder-like fruit (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Phy·socele** (-sīl), *Path.* [Gr. *κήλη* tumour], a tumour or hernia distended with gas. **Physograde** (fəi·sǫgrēd), *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Physograda*, f. *-gradus* going], **a.** *adj.* moving by means of a hollow vesicular float or buoy; of or pertaining to the *Physograda*, a group of oceanic hydrozoa furnished with such floating organs; **b.** *sb.* a member of this group; hence **Physo·gradous** *a.* ‖ **Physometra** (fəisǫmī·tră), *Path.* [Gr. *μήτρα* womb], the presence of gas in the uterus, uterine tympanites. **Physonect** (fəi·sǫnekt), *Zool.* [Gr. *νήκτης* a swimmer, f. *νήχειν* to swim], a member of the *Physonectæ*, a suborder of siphonanthous siphonophores; hence **Physone·ctous** *a.* **Physopod** (fəi·sǫpǫd) [Gr. *πούς, ποδ-* foot], a mollusc of the section *Physopoda* or *Thysanoptera*, rhipidoglossate gastropods, with a sort of sucker on the foot.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, **Physocele*, a word used by many authors to express a wind-rupture. 1811 Hooper *Med. Dict.*, *Physocele*, a species of hernia, whose contents are distended with wind. 1898 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 37/1 The principal organ of locomotion in the *physograda is the air-filled vesicle or bladder. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 957/2 Animals..characterized by their body being provided with an aëriform dilatation of the intestinal canal, serving for a swimming organ: *physogradous. 1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 434 Emphysema uteri. Inflation of the Womb..This is the *physometra of Sauvages and later nosologists. 1875 Jones & Siev. *Pathol. Anat.* (ed. 2) 759 Physometra is sometimes observed after severe labours. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Physopod.

Physoclist (fəi·sǫklist), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [f. mod.L. *Phȳsoclistī* (pl.), f. Gr. *φῦσα* bladder + -κλειστ-ος shut, closed.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Physoclisti*, a group of teleost fishes having the duct between the air-bladder and the intestine closed: cf. Physostome. **b.** *sb.* A member of this group. So **Physocli·stic, Physocli·stous** *adjs.*, having the air-bladder so closed or cut off.

1887 Heilprin *Distrib. Anim.* 303 Both the *physoclist and physostome types appear..very nearly simultaneously in the same deposits. *Ibid.*, The severance of the bladder in the physoclists being the result of the disuse of parts. 1883 Lankester in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 671/1 The parallel cases [of the secretion of gas] ranging from the Protozoon Arcella to the *Physoclistic Fishes. 1887 Cope *Orig. Fittest* 327 The descent of the *Physoclystous fishes has probably been from Holostean ancestors, both with and without the intervention of Physostomous forms.

Physodin (fəi·sǫdin). *Chem.* [f. specific name *phȳsōd-ēs* (cf. Gr. *φῡσοειδής* bladder-like) + -in¹.] A neutral substance ($C_{12}H_{12}O_8$), a white loosely-coherent mass, occurring in a lichen, *Parmelia ceratophylla* or *physodes*.

1866–8 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 635 Physodin behaves to water like a resin, not being wetted thereby.

‖ **Physophora** (fəisǫ·fŏră). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῦσα* bladder + *-φορος* bearing, borne.] A genus of oceanic hydrozoa, the species of which float by means of numerous vesicular organs. So ‖ **Physophoræ** *pl.* (sometimes **Physophora**), a suborder or division of *Siphonophora* (an order of *Hydrozoa Craspedota*), having the proximal end modified into a pneumatophore or float; **Physo·phoran** *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Physophoræ*; *sb.*, a member of this division; also **Physophore** (fəi·sǫfōəɹ). ‖ **Physopho·ridæ** *pl.*, the family containing the genus *Physophora*; **Physophorous** (fəisǫ·fŏrəs) *a.*, of the nature of the *Physophoræ*, having pneumatophores or swimming-bells (Mayne 1858).

1869 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* (1871) 13 At other times it is owing to .. the *Physophora, trailing their tresses all spangled with stars like those of Berenice in the firmament. 1870 Hartwig *Sea & Wond.* xv, The Hydrostatic Acalephæ, or *Physophoræ..were formerly supposed to be a special class of animals, but have been proved by Sars and other naturalists to be merely alternating generations of the bell-shaped Acalephæ. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 774 In the *Physophores *Forskalia* and *Agalma* the single ovum is arrested in the endoderm, and surrounded by the spadix. 1860 H. Spencer in *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 103 In the *Physophoridæ, a variety of organs similarly arise by transformation of the budding polypes. 1878 tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 97 The greater development of these bladders, which in most Physophoridæ are rather small.

‖ **Physostigma** (fəisǫsti·gmă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *φῦσα* bladder + *στίγμα* Stigma.] *Bot.* A genus of leguminous plants, the flower of which has a spiral keel, and a bent style continued into an oblique hood above the stigma; the only species is *P. venenosum*, producing the highly poisonous Calabar bean. Hence, The Calabar bean or its extract as a drug.

1864 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 428 Dr. Fraser has used the physostigma internally in cases of erysipelas. 1878 A. Hamilton *Nerv. Dis.* 118 Physostigma, aconite, and other

cardiac sedatives may be mentioned as other anæmiants. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 322 The..administration of an appropriate dose of physostigma.

Hence † **Physosti·gmia, Physosti·gmine** *Chem.*, the alkaloid $C_{15}H_{21}N_3O_2$, constituting the active principle of the Calabar bean.

1865 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 447 Jobst and Hesse.. have succeeded in isolating the active principle of the Calabar bean, to which they give the name physostigmin. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 228 It is in this way that strychnine and physostigmine respectively stimulate and depress the spinal cord.

Physostome (fəi·sŏstoum), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [f. mod. L. *Physostomī*, f. Gr. *φῦσα* bladder + *στόμα* mouth, *-στομος* -mouthed.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Physostomi*, a group of teleost fishes, in which the air-bladder is connected with the alimentary canal by an air-duct: cf. PHYSOCLIST. **b.** *sb.* A member of this group. So **Physosto·matous, Physo·stomous** *a.*, having the air-bladder opening into an air-duct.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 199 [In] the Cretaceous group.. Physostomes and Plectognaths are likewise well represented. 1887 Physostome, Physostomous [see PHYSOCLIST, PHYSOCLISTOUS].

† **Physy,** obs. f. FUSEE[2], wheel of a watch.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 39 Some Watches..are made with four Wheels..some have Strings and Physies, and others none.

Physyk, obs. form of PHYSIC.

Phyt- (fəit, fit), combining form used before a vowel for PHYTO-.

Phytalbu·min, vegetable albumin. **Phyta·lbumose,** a form of albumen occurring in plants. **Phyteco·nomy,** vegetable economy. **Phytœco·logy** [Gr. *οἶκος* abode: see -LOGY], the science which treats of plants in relation to their environment or habitat; so **Phytœco·logist.**

1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* viii. (ed. 4) 405 The products of bacterial life, toxines, and *phytalbumins appear also to play an important part in the process of suppuration. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Phytalbumose. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 520 Ricin and abrin, phytalbumoses obtained from the seed of the castor-oil plant. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2154. 920 The action of some of the phytalbumoses. 1898 *Naturalist* 180 If soils are a factor in its *phyteconomy. 1899 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 99 One of the general views of *phytoecology is that the forms of plants are modified to adapt them to the conditions under which they exist. 104 The phytoecologist to-day watches his subject as it grows.

-phyte, a terminal element representing Gr. *φῦτόν* a plant, and denoting a vegetable organism, as *microphyte, protophyte, saprophyte.* See also ZOOPHYTE (= animal plant).

Phytiform (fəi·tifōim, fi·ti-), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + -FORM.] Plant-like, phytoid.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Phytiphagan, -ous, incorrect forms of PHYTOPHAGAN, -OUS.

Phytivorous (fəiti·vŏrəs, fit-), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [irreg. f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + -VOROUS.] Feeding on plants or vegetable substances.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. § 4. 144 Birds may be distinguished by..their food..into.. Carnivorous; feeding chiefly on Flesh. Phytivorous; feeding on Vegetables. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 851 All which last are Herbivorous or Phytivorous Animals. 1798 *Ibid.* LXXXVIII. 46, I have not found the uric oxide in the urinary concretions of any phytivorous animal. 1833 MANTELL *Geol. S. E. Eng.* 394 The teeth and jaws of two other phytivorous saurians.

Phyto- (fəi·to, fi·to), combining form of Gr. *φῦτόν* a plant, lit. that which has grown, f. *φύειν* to produce, pass. and intr. to grow; used in forming scientific words, chiefly botanical.

As the *υ* in Gr. *φυτόν* is a short vowel, the etymological pronunciation of *phyt-* in all the following words is (fit); but the general tendency in English to view *y* as a long *ī*, as in *my, cry*, etc., has made the (etymologically erroneous) pronunciation (fəit) all but universal: it is adopted in all the pronouncing dictionaries from Walker onward.

Phytobio·logy, the biology of plants; hence **Phytobiolo·gical** *a.* **Phytobranchiate** (-bræŋkiĕt) *a. Zool.* [see BRANCHIATE], of a group of isopodous crustaceans: having leaf-like gills. **Phytoche·mistry,** the chemistry of plants; so **Phytoche·mical** *a.* † **Phyto·chimy** [F. *chimie* chemistry] = *phytochemistry* (Webster 1847). **Phy·tochlore** [Gr. *χλωρός* green] = CHLOROPHYLL. **Phy·tochrome** [see CHROME]: see quots. **Phytoco·llite** *Min.* [Gr. *κόλλα* glue + -ITE[1]], name proposed for certain jelly-like hydrocarbons found in peat. **Phytogelin** (-dʒe·lin) [GEL(ATIN) + -IN[1]], the gelatinous matter of Algæ (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). **Phytoglyphy** (fəitǫ·glifi, fit-) [Gr. *γλυφή*: see GLYPH], nature-printing, as originally used for plants; hence **Phytogly·phic** *a.* **Phytoma·nia** *nonce-wd.*, a mania for collecting plants. **Phytomelin** (-me·lin) [Gr. *μέλι*, L. *mel* honey (in reference to its colour and appearance)] = RUTIN. **Phyto·nomy** [see -NOMY], the science of the laws of plant-growth. **Phy·to|palæonto·logy,** vegetable palæontology, study of fossil plants; hence **Phy·to|palæonto·logist. Phy·topatho·logy,** (*a*) the study of the pathology or diseases of plants; (*b*) the pathology of diseases due to vegetable organisms, as fungi; mycology; hence **Phy·to|patholo·gical** *a.*; **Phytopatho·logist,** one versed in phytopathology (a). **Phyto·philous** *a.* [Gr. *φίλος* friendly], plant-loving: esp. of insects. **Phytophthirian** *Entom.* (-fəi·riăn) [Gr. *φθείρ* louse] **a.** *adj.*, pertaining to the *Phytophthiria* or plant-lice; **b.** *sb.*, a member of this group, a plant-louse. **Phy·to|phylogene·tic** *a.*, relating to the phylogeny of plants. **Phy·tophysio·logy,** vegetable physiology. **Phytosco·pic** *a.* [Gr. *σκοπεῖν* to view], caused by sight of plants: said of the effect of surrounding vegetation on the colour of a larva. † **Phyto·scopy:** see quot. **Phyto·sophy,** knowledge of plants; botany (Oken). **Phyto·sterin** [Gr. *στερεός* solid]: see quot. 1881. **Phy·totaxy** [Gr. *τάξις* arrangement], systematic botany. **Phy·toterato·logy,** vegetable teratology. **Phy·tovite·llin** [L. *vitell-us* yolk], a globulin occurring in many seeds, and agreeing in all its reactions with vitellin from egg-yolk.

1887 *Athenæum* 26 Feb. 292/3 Sir J. Lubbock read the second part of his *phytobiological observations. 1890 *Ibid.* 1 Mar. 278/3 There remains a large collection of memoirs on general botany and *phyto-biology. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 959/1 *Phytochemical. 1846 WORCESTER, **Phytochemistry*, vegetable chemistry. *Philos. Mag.* 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 636 Phytochemistry, the Chemistry of Plants. The most comprehensive treatise on this subject is that of Rochleder, published at Leipzig in 1854. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Phytochlore*, green colouring matter; chlorophyll. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Phytochrome*, a name for chlorophyll. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Phytochrome*, yellow pigment of plants. 1881 H. C. LEWIS in *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XX. 117 *Phytocollite. 1864 WEBSTER, **Phytoglyphic*, .. relating to phytoglyphy. **Phytoglyphy*, .. the art of printing from nature, by taking impressions from plants, or other objects. 1855 E. R. LANKESTER *Macgillivray's Nat. Hist. Dee Side & Braemar* 63 This risk incurred for the mere chance of finding a few rare plants..one can hardly designate it by any other name than *Phytomania. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 636 **Phytomelin* or *Plant-yellow.* A name proposed by W. Stein for rutin, on account of its wide diffusion in the vegetable kingdom. 1864 WEBSTER, *Phytonomy. 1883 *Science* 6 Apr. 252 The nature of some impressions described by *phytopaleontologists as remains of fossil Algæ. *Ibid.* 253 The evidence..renders great service to *phytopaleontology. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Phytopathologist. 1893 ELEANOR ORMEROD in *Autobiog. & Corr.* XX. (1904) 218 One of our leading European Phytopathologists. 1864 WEBSTER, **Phytopathology*, .. an account of diseases to which plants are liable. 1880 *Nature* 12 Feb. 364/1 On the method and data of *phyto-phylogenetic research. 1854 H. SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 115 Biology, Organosophy, Phytogeny, *Phyto-physiology, Phytology. 1892 POULTON in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* X. 294 The effect cannot be phytophagic in the strict sense of the word, but rather *phytoscopic, inasmuch as the colour of the surface of the leaf rather than its substance acts as the stimulus. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), **Phytoscopy*, .. a viewing and contemplating or considering plants. 1854 H. SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 115 He [Oken] says..'Biology, therefore, divides into Organogeny, *Phytosophy, Zoosophy'. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. II. 1624 *Phytosterin, $C_{26}H_{44}O$... A neutral substance, identical or homologous with cholesterin, obtained from Calabar beans by extraction with petroleum-ether. 1897 *Naturalist* 47 Various higher alcohols and phytosterin being present therein as bases. 1883 L. F. WARD *Dynamic Sociol.* I. 120 *Phytotaxy. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* I. 154 The study of the abnormal development of plants is called *Phytoteratology.

Phytobiology to **-gelin:** see above.

Phytogenesis (fəito|dʒe·nĭsis, fito-). [f. PHYTO- + -GENESIS.] The generation or evolution of plants. So **Phytogene·tic, Phytogene·tical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to phytogenesis; **Phytogene·tically** *adv.*; also **Phyto·geny** = *phytogenesis.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Phytogenesis*, term by Dupetit-Thouars for germination..phytogenesy. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 904 In the latter case we have the end, in the former the beginning of *phytogenetic series. 1881 WILLIAMSON in *Nature* 27 Oct. 607/1 Minute, but *phytogenetically important forms of plant-life. 1854 H. SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 115 Biology, Organosophy, *Phytogeny.

Phytogenic (fəito|dʒe·nik, fito-), *a. Geol.* and *Min. rare.* [f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + -GEN 2 + -IC.] Of vegetable origin. So **Phyto·genous** *a. rare.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 959/2 Under the name of *phytogenous substances*, Haüy has formed an Appendix to the *Combustibilia*, comprehending those of which the origin is evidently vegetable. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 352 Phytogenic deposits are such as consist chiefly of vegetable substances.

Phy·togeography. [f. PHYTO- + GEOGRAPHY.] The geographical distribution of plants.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1881 *Nature* 13 Oct. 556/1 The numerous writings on phytogeography of the late Prof. A. Grisebach. 1896 J. THOMSON *African Explorer* xiv. 343 The phytogeography of Central Africa.

Hence **Phy·togeo·grapher,** one who is versed in phytogeography; **Phy·togeogra·phic, -gra·phical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to phytogeography, dealing with the geographical distribution of plants.

1889 *Nature* 30 May 98/1 Apart from the value of the work to the systematist and *phytogeographer, it possesses an interest for a wide circle. 1885 W. B. HEMSLEY in *Challenger Rep., Bot.* I. 6 For *phyto-geographical purposes Insular Floras may be divided into three categories based upon their endemic element. 1883 THISELTON DYER in *Nature* 4 Jan. 224/2 A right understanding of the phyto-geographical facts of the north temperate flora. 1886 *Athenæum* 5 June 750/2 Phyto-geographical Map of Europe.

Phytoglyphic, -glyphy: see PHYTO-.

† **Phyto·gnomy.** *Obs.* [Formed on the analogy of *physiognomy*, after the mod.L. *Phytognomonica* of J. Baptista Porta (1583): see PHYTO- and GNOMIC.] The alleged art of discovering the qualities of a plant from its appearance; vegetable physiognomy. Hence † **Phytogno·mical** *a.*

[1583 PORTA (*title*) Phytognomonica..in quibus nova facillimaque affertur methodus, qua plantarum..ex prima extimæ faciei inspectione quivis abditas vires assequatur.] 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 2, I hold moreover that there is a Phytognomy, or Physiognomy, not onely of men, but of Plants, and Vegetables. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 93 Whoever shall peruse the signatures of Crollius, or rather the Phytognomy of Porta. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b ij, In Phytognomical Physiognomie we may observe certain plants resembling the heads of Animals.

Phytography (fəitǫ·grăfi, fit-). [ad. mod.L. *phytographia*: see PHYTO- and -GRAPHY.]

1. Description of plants; descriptive botany.

[1691 PLUKENET (*title*) Phytographia, seu Stirpium illustrium et minus cognitarum Icones.] 1696 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 202, I shall..put down what I find in.. Plukenet's Phytography. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Phytography*,..a Treatise or Physiological Description of Plants and Vegetables. 1836 HENSLOW *Phys. Bot.* Introd. 3 A third..department is styled 'Phytography', in which a full description of plants themselves is given. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 3 Phytography or Descriptive Botany.

2. = PHYTOGLYPHY.

Hence **Phyto·grapher,** an expert in or writer on phytography; **Phytogra·phic, Phytogra·phical** *adjs.*, pertaining to phytography.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Phytographer. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 618 A new Set of *Phytographick Tables. 1888 *Nature* 5 July 220/1 The introductory narrative..enables a phytographic botanist to apprehend the nature of the country [Afghanistan] and climate. 1828-32 WEBSTER, **Phytographical*, pertaining to the description of plants.

Phytoid (fəi·toid, fit-), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + -OID. Cf. Gr. *φυτώδης* plant-like.]

A. *adj.* Plant-like; esp. in *Zool.* of an animal.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

B. *sb. Bot.* (See quot.)

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 397 In order to distinguish between the separated buds of plants and animals, those of the former have been called phytoids, and the latter zooids.

‖ **Phytolacca** (fəito-, fitŏlæ·kă). [mod.L. (Tournefort 1700), f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + mod.L. *lacca* crimson lake.] *Bot.* The genus of plants including the Pocan, Virginian Poke, Pokeweed, or Red-ink plant (*P. decandra*), and several other tropical or sub-tropical species, chiefly American; also various preparations of the Poke used medicinally. Hence **Phytolaccin** (-læ·ksin) *Chem.*, a neutral crystalline compound obtained from the Virginian Poke.

1753 *Scots Mag.* June 283/2 Give purges..with the phytolacca decoction. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 179/3 Several other Phytolaccas are widely distributed throughout the Tropics. 1864 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 441 The dose of the concentrated preparation (phytolaccin).

† **Phy·tolite, phy·tolith.** *Obs.* [f. PHYTO- + -LITE, -LITH. In F. *phytolithe.*] A fossil plant.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 175 The former are called zoophytes; the latter phytolites. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xvi. 402 The so-called 'transition' and 'grauwacke' phytolites described by various German authors.

Hence † **Phy·tolitho·logy,** vegetable palæontology; † **Phy·tolitho·logist,** a writer on this subject. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Phytological (fəitolǫ·dʒikăl, fito-), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. as PHYTOLOGY: see -LOGICAL. Cf. F. *phytologique.*] Relating to the study of plants; botanical.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iii. 79 Priapus..the greatest Herbalist in the World..This Phytological Deitie. 1673 GREW *Anat. Roots* Ep. Ded., The promotion of Phytological Science is one Part of Your Work. 1673 — (*title*) An Idea of a Phytological History propounded. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 332 The zoological and phytological characters of the same formations were far more persistent than their mineral peculiarities.

Phytologist (fəitǫ·lŏdʒist, fit-). Now *rare.* [f. PHYTOLOGY + -IST.] One versed in phytology; a botanist.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 138 Charles Hatton Esq. to whom all our Phytologists and Lovers of Horticulture are oblig'd. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Phytologist*, a Botanist, one who treats of Plants. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* Pref. (1828) 5 If he be a Phytologist of research, or, still more, a Planter of experience. 1881 ROUTLEDGE *Science* ii. 34 There was a botanical garden for the phytologist.

Phytology (fəitǫ·lŏdʒi, fit-). Now *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *phytologia*, f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + *-λογία*: see -LOGY. Cf. F. *phytologie* (d'Holbach 1753).] The science of plants; botany.

[1647 G. DUVAL (*title*) Phytologia; sive, Philosophia Plantarum.] 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* Ep. Ded. to N. Bacon, We pretend not to multiply vegetable divisions by Quincuncial and Reticulate plants; or erect a new Phytology. 1819 *Pantologia, Phytology*, that part of Natural History which treats on plants. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* XIV. (1874) 264 He calls into court Astronomy, Geology, Phytology and Zoology.

Phytomania, -melin: see PHYTO-.

Phytomer (fəi·təmə(r), fi·t-). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *phytomeron*, pl. *-a*, f. Gr. *φυτό-ν* plant + *μέρος* part.] = PHYTON.

1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 7 *Phytomera*,..equivalent to plant-parts...In English, the singular may be shortened to Phytomer. *Ibid.* 9 The plant begins as a single phytomer.

Phyton (fəi·tɒn, fi·tɒn). *Bot.* [a. F. *phyton*, a. Gr. *φυτόν* a plant, f. *φύειν* to produce.] A plant-unit; = prec.: see quot. 1898.

1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 88 The several phytons comprising the first bud or plumule. 1854 BALFOUR *Outl. Bot.* I. iii. 267 The dicotyledonous embryo then is composed of two leaves or two unifoliar phytons..united together so as to form one axis. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 7 These ultimate similar parts..which are endowed with or may produce all the fundamental organs of vegetation, were by Gaudichaud called *Phytons*. 1898 BAILEY *Plant Lessons* lxxiii. 380 The propagation-unit in vegetative multiplication is the smallest part of root, stem or leaf which will grow when severed from the parent (although this is not a morphological or structural unit in the plant-body); and, for the purpose of terminology, this part may be called a phyton.

Phytonisse, obs. form of PYTHONESS.

Phytonomy to **Phytopathology**: see PHYTO-.

Phyto·phagan, *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Phytophaga* (see PHYTOPHAGOUS) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Phytophaga* in any sense. **b.** *sb.* A member of the *Phytophaga*, a vegetable-feeding animal of any class or order. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phytophagic (fəitofæ·dʒik, fito-), *a. Zool.* [f. as next + -IC.] Of or pertaining to phytophagy; derived from or caused by phytophagy: said of variation of the colouring of insect larvæ attributed to the plants on which they feed.

1866 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (ed. 4) 55 These cases he [B. D. Walsh] has fully described under the terms of Phytophagic varieties and Phytophagic species. 1885 POULTON in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXXVIII. 313 Such effects are entirely inexplicable by the simple theory of phytophagic influence, .. it would be wiser to abandon the term 'phytophagic', at any rate in the sense of producing these changes. The term still holds good for the broad fact that pigments derived from the food-plant play a most important part in larval coloration. 1887 J. T. GULICK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Zool.* (1890) XX. 226 The innumerable cases where phytophagic varieties..of insects exist.

Phytophagous (fəitɒ·făgəs, fit-), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *φυτό-ν* plant + *-φάγ-ος* eating + -OUS (see -PHAGOUS): cf. mod.L. *Phytophaga*, *-phagi*.] **a.** Feeding on plants or vegetable substances: chiefly said of insects, molluscs, and the like. **b.** Belonging to the *Phytophaga*, a name given to various groups and divisions of animals, e. g. (*a*) leaf-beetles and their allies, (*b*) sawflies and horntails, (*c*) certain cyprinoid fishes, (*d*) the plant-eating edentates, (*e*) the plant-eating placental mammals.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlix. IV. 479 Out of a list of ..8000 British insects..3724 [might be called] phytiphagous. *Note.* We employ this term, because the more common one, 'herbivorous', does not properly include devourers of timber, fungi, etc. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II 143 It may deprive a large number of phytophagous animals of their food. 1876 D. WILSON *Preh. Man* (ed. 3) I. xv. 374 This phytophagous cetacean [the Manatee]..is found only in tropical waters. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 371 Some of the true slugs are carnivorous instead of phytophagous.

Phytophagy (fəitɒ·fădʒi, fit-). [f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant + *-φαγία* eating.] The habit of feeding on plants or vegetable matter. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phytophilous to **Phytoteratology**: see PHYTO-.

Phyto·tomist. [f. PHYTOTOM-Y + -IST.] One who is versed in vegetable anatomy.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 16 This admirable phytotomist.

Phyto·tomous, *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *φυτό-ν* plant + *-τόμος* cutting + -OUS.] Plant-cutting, leaf-cutting, as an insect or bird. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Phytotomy (fəitɒ·tŏmi, fit-). [f. Gr. *φυτό-ν* plant + *-τομία* a cutting.] The dissection of plants; vegetable anatomy.

1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v. *Anatomy, Phytotomy* is the anatomy of vegetables. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 799/1 Vegetable Anatomy or Phytotomy. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) Introd. 2 *Phytotomy*, or *Vegetable Anatomy*, the study of the minute structure of vegetables as revealed by the microscope.

Phytovitellin: see PHYTO-.

‖ **Phytozoon** (fəitozō·ɒn, fito-). Also **phyto·zo·um**. Pl. **-zo·a**. [f. Gr. *φυτό-ν* plant + *ζῷον* animal; lit. 'plant-animal'; cf. *zoophyte*.]

1. *Zool.* A plant-like animal or zoophyte; a single polyp in a zoophyte. (The pl. *Phytozoa* has been variously applied in different classifications to animals supposed to be plant-like in some way, but is not a term of modern Zoology.)

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Phytozoons*, *Phytozoa*,..this term is applied by various naturalists to different sections of the sub-kingdom *Zoophyta* of Cuvier. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* i. (1848) 7 *note*, Ehrenberg has proposed to substitute *phytozoa*, derived from the same roots [as Zoophyte]..and phytozoum refers only to a single polyp. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phytozoum*, applied by Eichwald to a type of the animal kingdom comprehending animals in which (*Polypi*, *Hydræ*, *Coralliа*) the inorganic texture gives place to that of vegetables, the exterior only presenting the character of animality in the homogeneous mass which constitutes it. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes fr. Nat.* 31 This granular matter..is resolved into a mass of apparently living animalcules called *phytozoa*.

2. *Bot.* A male generative cell, a spermatozoid.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 370 Minute cells called spermcells,..in which are developed spiral ciliated filaments,.. termed spermatozoids or phytozoa.

Phyz, variant of PHIZ, face.

PI (pəi), *sb.* The name of the Greek letter *π* (in Gr. *πῖ*, pī): used in *Math.* to express the ratio of the circumference or periphery (*περιφέρεια*) of a circle to its diameter: see P (the letter) II.

[1748 EULER *Introd. in Anal. Infinit.* I. viii. (1797) I. 93 Satis liquet Peripheriam hujus Circuli in numeris rationalibus exacte exprimi non posse, per approximationes autem inventa est .. esse = 3,14159 [etc., to 128 places], pro quo numero, brevitatis ergo, scribam *π*, ita ut sit *π* = Semicircumferentiæ Circuli, cujus Radius = 1, seu *π* erit longitudo Arcus 180 graduum. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 186/1 This number *π* must be the same for all circles *Ibid.* 186/2 This measure of Archimedes gives 3·14286 for the approximate value of *π*, the ratio of the circumference to the diameter.]

Pi (pəi), *a.* (*sb.*) *Public School* and *Univ. slang.* [abbrev. of PIOUS.] Pious, religious, sanctimonious. Also *absol.* = a pious person; and as *sb.* = pious exhortation, etc.

c 1870 [at Eton], 'What did your tutor say to you?' 'Oh, he gave me a pi; asked me how I could reconcile my behaviour with my duty to God and my parents'. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-bk.*, *Pi*, virtuous, sanctimonious. He's very pi now, he mugs all day. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Sept. 8/1 The man who regularly affects the 'pi' and who 'plays up', with ready catholicity of spirit, the 'special missions' of every religious denomination in turn.

Pi, variant of PIE *sb.*[4] and *v.*[2] (disordered type, etc.); also of PIE *sb.*[5] (Indian copper coin).

Pia[1] (pəi·ă). *Anat.* Short for PIA MATER.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 111 The successive coverings of the brain, hairy scalp, periosteum, calva, dura (ental periosteum), arachnoid, and pia. *Ibid.*, The ental surface of the pia. 1901 W. OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 4) 28 The most intense congestion of the cerebral and spinal pia.

‖ **Pia**[2]. Also pya. A Polynesian name for species of the monocotyledonous genus *Tacca*, some of which, esp. *T. pinnatifida* and *T. maculata*, are cultivated for their tubers, from which South-sea or Tahiti arrowroot is produced.

1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 765 *Tacca oceanica*, a native of the Sandwich Islands, yields a similar product [arrowroot] and is there called pya. [1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 254/1 *Tacca pinnatifida*, Otaheita Salep-plant, Pi-plant, South-Sea-Arrow-root-plant.]

Pia-arachnoid, piarachnoid. *Anat.* [f. PIA[1] + ARACHNOID.] The pia mater and the arachnoid, considered as one structure. Also *attrib.*

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 111 The presence on the ental surface of the piarachnoid of a pial fold, the *ruga*. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 662 Acute inflammation of the pia-arachnoid. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 20 Aug. 371 An increase of pia-arachnoid fluid.

‖ **Piaba** (pi¡ă·bă). [Tupi *piaba*, also *piav'*, *piau*.] A small fresh-water fish of the size of a minnow, found in Brazilian rivers.

[1648 MARCGRAVE *Hist. Nat. Brasil.* 170 Piaba Brasiliensibus; magnitudine nostratis Eldrize .. pisciculus 2 aut 3 digitos longus.] 1686 RAY & WILLOUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* 269. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Piaba*,..the name of a small fresh-water fish .. in the Brasils .. a well-tasted fish, and much esteemed by the Natives. 1846 G. GARDNER *Trav. Brazil* 126. 1869 R. F. BURTON *Highl. Brazil* II. 13 They can catch half-a-dozen sprat-like 'piabas' or 'piaus' by heaving up a calabash full of water.

Piaçaba: see PIASSABA.

‖ **Piache** (pi¡ă·tʃe). Also 6–7 piace. [Tamanac (on the Orinoco) *piache*, in Accaway *piatsan* = Carib *piai* PEAI; in Sp. *piache*.] A medicine-man or witch-doctor among the Indians of Central and South America; a PEAI-*man*.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 181 The professours of this secte were called Piaces. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 826 They call their Priests Piaces. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 248 A resin very much sought after by the Piaches, or Indian sorcerers. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho* xxiv, The Piache from whines rose to screams and gesticulations, and then to violent convulsions.

Piacle (pəi·ăk'l). Now *rare.* [a. OF. *piacle* or ad. L. *piāculum*, f. *piāre* to appease: see -CULE.]

† **1.** Expiation; expiatory offering. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 103 Telle her .. that she brynge wyth her..the shepe..wyth the other pynacles [F. orig. *pinacles*] dedycated to the sacryfice. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xvi. (S. T. S.) I. 194 We..mycht nocht haue purgit ws þarof bot alanerlie be þe sacrifice of piacle [orig. *piaculum*]. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* VIII. 126 A Piacle for the sin committed. 1711 G. HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 164 The LXX..called the scape-goat.. the piacular goat, because he was offered to be a piacle.

2. A wicked action which calls for expiation; a sin, crime, offence.

1644 HOWELL *Eng. Teares* 178 To glut themselves with one another's bloud..can there be a greater piacle against nature? 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 77 Any Crime, Villany, or Piacle whatever. 1880 F. HALL *Doctor Indoctus* 52 Talk of regicide, of cannibalism..or any other patibulary piacle.

† **b.** Offence, guilt. *Obs.*

1619 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 11 *Apr.* 52 May I without piacle forget..what hee then did? *a* 1657 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 213 One proclaims it piacle to be sad.

Piacular (pəi¡æ·kiźlăr), *a.* [ad. L. *piāculār-is* expiatory, f. *piāculum* PIACLE: see -AR[1]. Cf. F. *piaculaire* (1752).]

1. Making expiation or atonement; expiatory.

1647 OWEN *Death of Death* Wks. 1852 X. 267 He made his Soul an offering for sin—a piacular sacrifice. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Matt. xx. 28 Their piacular victims were ransoms for the life of the offender. 1818 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* II. 239 *note*, [They] do not seem..to have sufficiently attended to the distinction between *eucharistic* and *piacular* sacrifices. 1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xi. 143 The great brazen altar of burnt-offering, where piacular or bloody offerings were alone presented.

2. Requiring or calling for expiation; sinful, wicked, culpable.

1620 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* 79 If it were not piacular for you to reade ought of his. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* xx. 175 They held it piacular to eat with sinners. 1728 R. NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 16 To add to or alter the instruments, or modes, was almost piacular. 1857 DE QUINCEY *Whiggism* Wks. VI. 53 He..left no stone unturned to cleanse his little..fold from its piacular pollution.

Hence **Piacula·rity**, the quality of being piacular: (*a*) expiatory character, (*b*) criminality; **Pia·cularly** *adv.*, as an expiatory or atoning sacrifice; **Pia·cularness** = *piacularity*.

1702 H. DODWELL *Apol.* § 16 in S. Parker *Cicero's De Finibus*, That Philosopher makes the Piacularness of a violent Death to consist in its being without the consent of the Guardian Genius. 1818 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 260 The goat..was devoted as a sin-offering..by its being piacularly slain. *Ibid.* 268 The essence of its being a sacrifice does not consist in the outward act of burning; but in the piacularity of the intention. 1864 WEBSTER, *Piacularity*, ..criminality, badness. *De Quincey*.

† **Pia·culary**, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *piāculār-is*: see -ARY[2].] **a.** *adj.* = PIACULAR. **b.** *sb.* = PIACLE.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 59 Enjoyning her Majesty..to make a progresse to Tyburn, there to present her devotions: A most impious piaculary. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 102 This was his Piaculary Heresie.

† **Pia·culous**, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *piācul-um* PIACLE + -OUS.] = PIACULAR 2.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xxi. 266 For piaculous it was unto the Romanes to pare their nayles upon the nundinæ. 1658 *Ibid.* III. xxv. 211 Unto the ancient Britains it was piaculous to tast a Goose. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xv. 139 We think it so piaculous, to go beyond the Ancients.

‖ **Pia·culum.** *Obs.* [L. *piāculum*.] = PIACLE.

1601 A. COPLEY *Answ. Let. Jesuited Gent.* 107 Their martyrdomes being to them as a *præmium* for the one, and ..a sufficient *Piaculum* for the other. 1646 J. BENBRIGGE *Usura Accom.* 21 These .. count it a *Piaculum* to live in seiled houses of their owne, whilest the Lords house lies wast. 1678 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 422 'Tis a grand piaculum not to beleive the worst of reports.

Piaffe (piæf), *v. Horsemanship.* [a. F. *piaffer* (16th c.) to strut, make a show. Cf. *piaffe* sb., ostentation. Ulterior origin uncertain.]

intr. To advance the diagonally opposite legs (e.g. the right fore leg and the left hind leg) simultaneously, placing them on the ground and resting momentarily while the other two legs are advanced with the same movement; to move with the same step as in the trot, but more slowly.

1761 EARL PEMBROKE *Equitation* (1778) 72 To piaffe in backing is rather too much to be expected in the hurry which [etc.]. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lviii, He *piaffed* away..to the head of Fergus's regiment. 1820 — *Monast.* xv, Pressing and checking his gay courser, forcing him to piaffe, to caracole, to passage. 1884 *Jaunt in a Junk* xi. 180 Our seafarers saw Neptune's white horses piaffing..around them.

Hence **Pia·ffe** *sb.*, an act of piaffing.

1899 P. ROBINSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 800 It [a rabbit] diverts itself with queer sidelong cavorts, piaffes, jinklings, and somersaults.

Piaffer (piæ·fər), *sb. Horsemanship.* [f. F. *piaffer* to piaffe, infin. taken sbst.] The action of piaffing; a movement in which the feet are lifted in the same succession as in the trot, but more slowly.

1862 K. GARRARD *Nolan's Syst. Train. Cav. Horses* 65 The slow 'piaffer' is obtained by the slow and alternate pressure of the rider's legs. The quick 'piaffer' by quickening the alternate pressure of the leg. 1884 E. L. ANDERSON *Mod. Horseman.* II. xvii. 147 In the piaffer the horse should move the diagonal legs together and in perfect unison. *Ibid.* 148 A very slow passage to the front, side, or rear is often called the piaffer; but if there is any movement out of place it is not the piaffer.

† **Pia·ffer**, *v. Obs.* [a. F. *piaffer* pres. inf.: see PIAFFE *v.*] *intr.* = PIAFFE *v.*

1761 EARL PEMBROKE *Equitation* (1778) 51 To piaffer.. advancing gently, and well into the corners, is a very good lesson. 1785 R. CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 84 III. 232 Pacing and piaffering with every body's eyes upon him.

Piage, variant of PEAGE *Obs.*, pedage.

Pial (pəi·ăl), *a.* [f. PIA[1] (*pia mater*) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the pia mater.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 111/1 [see PIA-ARACHNOID]. *Ibid.* 524/1 In some cases also the appropriate adjectives are employed, e.g. pial, dural. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 502 In general paralysis the invasion is always from the pial surface and vascular tracts. *Ibid.* VII. 246 Nerve-fibres ramifying over the pial vessels.

‖ **Pia mater** (pəi·ă mē·tər). *Anat.* [med.L.; a somewhat incorrect rendering of the Arabic name أم رقيقة *umm raqīqah* 'thin or tender mother (Ibn Duraid, A.D. 933): cf. names of other investing membranes in *umm* mother, esp. DURA MATER.

(Fanciful explanations of the name are frequent in western writers: cf. quot. 1548.)]

A delicate fibrous and very vascular membrane which forms the innermost of the three *meninges* enveloping the brain and spinal cord; the other two being the *arachnoid* and the *dura mater*. In quots. 1593, 1606 *transf.* = brain.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 112 Pia mater enuyrounneþ al þe brayn, & departiþ him into iij celoles þat ben chaumbris. 1525 [see DURA MATER]. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* iv, It is called Piamater..for because it is so softe and tender ouer the brayne, that it nouriseth the brayne and feedeth it, as doth a louing mother vnto her tender childe. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 272 Thou turmoilst thy pia mater to prove base births better than the ofspring of many discents. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 78 His Piamater is not worth the ninth part of a Sparrow. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 116 An inflammation of the pia mater, which had produced a most furious delirium. 1854 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* (1875) 232 The arachnoid is entirely dependent for its supply of blood upon the pia mater.

fig. 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 35 It becomes the very ligament and sinews of Government, a pia mater to the sacredness of Authority.

Hence **Pia-ma·tral** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pia mater; = PIAL.

1887 *H. Gray's Anat.* (ed. 11) 805 Between the pia-matral and the arachnoid sheath.

Pian (pi,æ·n, ‖ pyañ). Also **epian**, and in pl. **pians**. [= Sp., Pg. *epian* and *pian*, F. *pian*, a. Galibi (Rio de Janeiro) *pian* (Roulin in Littré, suppl.). Cf. Guarani *pia* 'bubas, granos' (Montoya). Cf. Jas. Platt in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. I. 5.]

A contagious tropical skin disease, occurring among negroes, the same as FRAMBŒSIA or YAWS, q. v. (The names *pians* and *yaws* have occasionally been applied to two alleged forms of *Frambœsia*. See quots.) Hence **Pia·nic** *a.*

[1768 F. B. DE SAUVAGES *Nosol. Method.* II. 554 Frambæsia; Yaw Guineesium; Epian vel Pian Americanorum.] 1803 T. WINTERBOTTOM *Sierra Leone* II. viii. 139 The Yaws..is called by the Portuguese on the Coast Boba and by the French Pianes. *Ibid.* 145 Professor Sprengel has..made a similar division of this disease into Yaws and Pians. 1874 T. H. BURGESS *Man. Dis. Skin* 233 The American disease called *Pian* or *Epian* seems to be identical with that denominated yaws in New Guinea. 1828 *Lancet* 15 Mar. 876/1 The pianic ulcers..furnish an acrid matter.

Piane, obs. form of PEONY.

Pianet, variant of PIANNET, magpie.

Pianette (pi,ănē·t). [f. PIANO *sb.*[2] + -ETTE.] 'A very low pianino or upright pianoforte' (Grove); orig. applied to a form introduced into England in 1857; subsequently to other small forms.

1879 WEBSTER Suppl., *Pianette*, a small piano-forte. 1887 MISS E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 89 'I can play any accompaniment you like —glancing at the piannette in the corner. 1894 FLORA A. STEEL *Potter's Thumb* I. 127 The pianette at which Rose sang her Scotch songs.

Pianino (pi,ănī·nō). [a. It. *pianino*, dim. of *piano*: see PIANO[2].] A name originally given to an upright pianoforte, as being smaller than the grand; now esp. applied to a small upright or cottage piano.

1862 *Illustr. Catal. Intern. Exh.* II. 99 A Pianino, or Small Cottage Pianoforte..an example of the cheapest upright instrument. 1880 MRS. RIDDELL *Myst. Palace Gard.* ii. (1881) 19 Get a little pianino and stand it against the wall.

Pianism (pī·ănĭz'm). [f. PIANO[2] + -ISM.] The art of pianoforte playing, especially in its technical aspect; execution on the piano.

1844 H. F. CHORLEY *Music & Manners* III. 52 Will M. Liszt found a college of poetical pianism? 1883 *American* VII. 158 The reverent student of Beethoven, who would never for a moment subordinate the musical idea to mere 'pianism'. 1889 *Athenæum* 26 Oct. 569/1 A link between the pianism of the Hummel school and that of Franz Liszt.

‖ **Pianissimo** (pyanĭ·ssĭmo, pī,ănĭ·sĭmo), *a.* (*adv.*) *sb. Mus.* [It.:—L. *plānissim-us*, superl. of *plānus*: see PIANO.] **a.** *adj.* Very soft. **b.** *adv.* Very softly. **c.** *sb.* A very soft passage. Abbrev. *pp.* or *ppp.*

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Pianissimo*, or *PPP*, is extream Soft or Low. 1771 P. PARSONS *Newmarket* I. 36 Suffer me with a voice (*piano*) of the gentlest humility, to beg your opinion—but for pity's sake (*pianissimo*) let it be compassionate. 1867 J. HATTON *Tallants of B.* vi, In *pianissimo* passages of solo or chorus. 1883 ANNA K. GREEN *Hand & Ring* x, The last note of the song was dying away in a quivering *pianissimo*. 1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mlle. Ixe* i. (1891) 21 She played something which was rather monotonous, and never rose above pianissimo. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 7/1 All gradations of tone from loudest forte to tenderest pianissimo.

Pianist (pī·ănist). [ad. F. *pianiste*, It. *pianista*: see PIANO[2] and -IST.] A player on the pianoforte.

1839 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 336 Hear that Schlesinger, the great pianist in New York, is dead. 1842 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Vis. Italy* I. xx. 333 Talberg, the Paganini of pianists. 1887 *Academy* 7 May 333/3 The pianist..proving himself a good executant and a sound musician.

b. *Pianist's cramp*, hyperkinesis of the forearm, due to excessive piano-playing.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 539 The so-called 'Professional hyperkineses' (writer's cramp, histrionic spasm, pianist's cramp, telegraphist's cramp &c.) admit of a similar explanation.

‖ **Pianiste** (pi,ănī·st). [Fr.] = prec.; but often used in Eng. as if the feminine form.

1841 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. xxii. 409 A delightful musician here,—a Miss Sloman,—a pianiste of great talent. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 3/3 This gifted pianiste is never so happy as when interpreting the music of his famous compatriot. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* III. 58 I improving herself as a singer and a pianiste. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* xviii, I wish some pianiste of the thundering school would attack the piano now.

Pianistic (pĭănĭ·stik), *a.* [f. PIANIST + -IC.] Of, belonging to, or characteristic of, a pianist.

1881 *London Figaro* 2 July 7/2 [She] has shared with M. Rubinstein the pianistic honors of this very prolific season. 1893 *Athenæum* 10 June 743/1 Scholastic contrapuntal devices..combined with the most modern pianistic treatment.

Piannet, pianet (pəi·ănet). Now *dial.* Forms: 6–7 **pieannet, pi-, pyannet**, 6–9 **pianot, 7 pie-annit, py-annot, pye-annat, pyanit**; *dial.* 8 **pianet, pynot**, 9 **pie-annet, piannot, pianet, pianate, pienet**, etc. [The first element is PIE *sb.*[1]; the second, in early examples, appears to be treated as orig. a distinct word, as if *Annet* or *Annette*, dim. of *Ann*; cf. the dial. synonym *pie-nanny*, and the etym. of *maggot-pie, magpie*, also from female names; but in mod. dial. use it is reduced to a mere suffix (pəi·ənet, pəi·net), with which cf. F. *pionet* the spotted woodpecker (where *-on-et* is double dim. suffix). See also PIENET.

(*Annet* alone occurs as a local name of the common gull, and of the kittiwake.)]

1. A local name of the magpie.

1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. Dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 76 Nor would I haue..men..looke a snuffe like a piannets taile, for nothing but their tailes and formall lockes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 285 There haue been seen Pyannets with long tailes, party coloured and flacked. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* I. II. v. (1635) 139 From the annoyance of Pye-annats, and such like great birds. 1618 LATHAM *2nd Bk. Falconry* (1633) 99 The Pie-annit, the brauing and chattering Iaye. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 249/2 A Mag-Pye .. is termed a Pye and a Pye-Annat, from its cry or chattering note. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 50, I know Pynots ar os cunning Eawls os wawk'n oth' Yeorth. 1766 PENNANT *Zool.* I. 171 Pianet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pyannet, Pynet*, a magpie. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pianot*, a magpie.

b. *fig.* Applied to a person: A chatterer.

1594 W. PERCY *Sonn. Coelia* v, Ho, Muses blab you? Not a word Pieannets, or I will gag you.

c. *Comb.*

1600 *Look About You* vi. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 408 Your pianot-chattering humour.

† **2.** Applied to the lesser spotted woodpecker [F. *pionet*]. *Obs.* (Perh. an error of Phillips.)

1706 PHILLIPS, *Piannet*, the lesser Wood-pecker, a Bird speckled with Black and White on the Wings.

‖ **Piano** (pyā·nō), *a.* (*adv.*) *sb.*[1] [It. *piano*:—L. *plān-us* flat, in later L. of sound, soft, low.]

I. *Mus.* **1. a.** *adj.* Of the expression: Soft, low (also *fig.* gentle, mild, weak). **b.** *adv.* Softly, in a low tone or voice. Abbrev. *p.*

1683 PURCELL *Sonnatas in 3 Parts* Pref., The English Practitioner..will find a few terms of Art perhaps unusual to him, the chief of which are..*Piano.* 1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Piano*, or the Letter *P*, signifies Soft or Low. 1762 COLMAN *Musical Lady* I. 11 O Piano, my dear Lady Scrape, Piano. 1856 MRS. C. CLARKE tr. *Berlioz' Instrument.* 5 Chords of three or four notes.. produce rather a bad effect when played *piano*. 1884 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 782/2 The cry for peace will probably become very piano. 1886 BYNNER *A. Surriage* xiv. 157 The music lapsed from *piano* to *pianissimo*.

2. *sb.* A passage or series of notes sung or played softly; a soft or gentle tone.

1730 in Rimbault *Hist. Pianoforte* (1860) 149 An harpsichord, on which..may be performed..either in the *forts* or *pianos*. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, That soft and irresistible piano of voice. 1859 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* II. xcvii. 83 A musical performer, who filled his composition with *pianos*.

II. 3. *sb.* A flat or floor in an Italian dwelling-house, hotel, etc.

1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* v, He ascended from story to story,..until the glories of the first piano were exchanged ..for a sort of Alpine region. *Ibid.* vii, At the Palazzo Cenci, third piano.

Piano (pi,æ·no), *sb.*[2] [a. It. *piano*, shortened from PIANOFORTE or FORTEPIANO. So in Fr., Sp., Pg., Du., Da., and Sw.]

1. A musical instrument, the PIANOFORTE.

1803 E. S. BOWNE in *Scribner's Mag.* II. 175/2 There is scarcely a house..without a Piano-forte; the Post Master has an elegant grand Piano. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 172 To hear a lady give lectures on the piano. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* ii, The notes of pianos and harps float in the evening time round the head of the mournful statue. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 718/2 Erard.. in 1796..accomplished the making of a grand piano. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Feb. 2/1 The first piano brought to England was made at Rome, and belonged to Fanny Burney's friend Samuel Crispe.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *piano-case, -cover, -key, -keyboard, -leg, -lesson, -master, -music, -packing-case, -rack, -stool*; **b.** objective and obj. genitive, as *piano-buying, -maker, -player* (person or instrument), *-playing, -pounder, -strumming, -tuner*; *piano-playing* adj.; **c.** instrumental, etc., as *piano-distracted, piano-practising* adjs.; **d.** special combs.: **piano-action**, the mechanism by which the impulse of the fingers upon the keys is communicated to the strings; **piano-failure**, pianist's cramp; **piano-monitor**, a bar of metal placed a few inches above and before the keys of a piano, on which to rest the wrists of learners; **piano-school**, a school for the teaching of piano-playing; also, a method of instruction on the piano.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 2/3 Probably more neighbours are *piano-distracted than annoyed by marital disagreements. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 12 In cases of *piano-failure, I always examine carefully the extensors of the wrist and fingers. 1863 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 16 Oct. 747/2 The mere motion of a *piano key, without any alteration in the touch required. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 151 Their hands have not lost their cunning on the piano-keys. 1898 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 3/1 Shooting rapidly from one end of the *piano-keyboard .. to the other. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvi, Devoted to her mamma and her *piano-lesson. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., **Piano-Monitor.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 12 Cases of break down in *piano-players. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* xxi, Speaking of her *piano-playing. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 6 Perfection in any complicated manipulations such as writing, knitting, or piano-playing. 1883 HOWELLS *Register* ii, Some *piano-pounder is there. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXI. 273/1 On the *piano-rack stood the song she had taught him.

Hence **Pia·no** *v. nonce-wd.*, to play the piano.

1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* xli. 284 She pianos and I do a little in a mild way on the flute.

Pianoforte (pi,æ·no,fō·rte, -fō·ət). [a. It. *piano-forte*, earlier *piano e forte* (*pian e forte*) 'soft and strong', occurring in 1598 as the name of a musical instrument of unknown action, and afterwards used by Cristofori in the descriptive name *'gravecembalo col* (or *di*) *piano e forte'*, i.e. harpsichord with soft and loud, expressing the gradation of tone which it enables the performer to produce, as contrasted with the unvarying tone of the ordinary harpsichord. So F. *pianoforte*. Formerly also called (in It., Fr., and Eng.) FORTEPIANO, and now generally PIANO[2.] A musical instrument producing tones by means of hammers, operated by levers from a keyboard, which strike metal strings, the vibrations being stopped by dampers; it is commonly furnished with pedals for regulating the volume of sound (see PEDAL *sb.* 1 b). The pianoforte (the invention of which is usually ascribed to B. Cristofori of Padua *c* 1710) is essentially a dulcimer provided with keys and dampers, but in other respects imitates the harpsichord and clavichord, of which it has taken the place.

Grand pianoforte or *piano*, a large pianoforte, harp-shaped like the harpsichord, and having the strings horizontal and at right angles to the keyboard. *Square p.*, rectangular like the clavichord, having the strings horizontal, but parallel to the keyboard. *Upright* or *Cabinet p.*, rectangular upon edge, having the strings vertical. *Oblique, Boudoir*, or *Cottage p.*, upright but lower, having the strings ascending obliquely or diagonally.

1767 *Play-bill of Theatre Royal* Covt. Gard. 16 May, At the end of Act I., Miss Brickler will sing a favourite song from 'Judith', accompanied by Mr. Dibdin, on a new instrument, called Piano Forte. 1767 STERNE *Lett.* lxxxv. Wks. (1839) 770/1 Your pianoforte must be tuned from the brass middle string of your guitar, which is C. 1768 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* Aug., He asked papa if he play'd much on piano fortes. 1774 *Specif. Jo. Merlin's Patent* No. 1081 The kind of harpsicord called piano forte. 1799 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 135 Take one of the lowest strings of a square piano forte. 1802 ROFF in *Naval Chron.* VIII. 169 He had been employed..to make a grand piano forte. 1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 73 When the hammers of a dulcimer are connected with levers called 'keys', we call it a pianoforte.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pianoforte-maker, -making, -manufactory, -player, -playing, -tuner.*

1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 13 Apr., A lady whose pianoforte-playing I have heard extolled by all here. 1783 *Specif. J. Broadwood's Patent* No. 1379 John Broadwood, of Great Pulteney Street..piano forte maker. *a* 1814 *Last Act* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 386 A pianoforte-playing lady. 1862 *Illustr. Catal. Intern. Exh.* XVI. 89 Patent pianoforte hammer-rails, keys, actions, mouldings, fret carvings, etc. 1876 tr. *H. von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XI. 352 Piano-forte player's spasm is of no uncommon occurrence.

Hence **Pianofo·rting** *vbl. sb. nonce-wd.*, playing on the pianoforte.

1822 COLERIDGE *Lett., Convers., &c.* II. 159 Piano-forting, which meets one now with Jack-o'-lantern ubiquity in every first and second story in every street.

Pianofo·rtist. *rare.* [f. prec. + -IST.] One who plays on the pianoforte; a pianist.

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXV. 400 [This] prevented any debate on the part of the pianofortist. 1893 T. FOWLER in

Class. Rev. VII. 371 He was an accomplished pianofortist and much interested in the history and theory of music.

Pia·nograph. [f. PIANO[2] + -GRAPH.] An instrument which automatically records the notes played on a piano; a form of melograph or music-recorder. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Pianola (pĭ,ănō·ŭ·lă). [app. intended as a dim. of PIANO *sb.*[2]] Proprietary name of a mechanical contrivance which when attached to a piano can be made to play tunes upon it: see quot.

1901 *Scotsman* 5 Mar. 7/1 The pianola..is..a mechanical attachment to the piano..a small cabinet..easily adjustable to the keyboard of the piano and, being fed by a perforated roll of paper, and furnished with wind-power by means of bellows, can play the most difficult music without the performer..touching the keyboard. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 11 Oct. 1/5 The word Pianola is a Registered Trade Mark.

Pia·no-o·rgan. A mechanical piano constructed in the manner of a barrel-organ.

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* (1856) I. vi. 47 Jack had hired..a piano-organ. 1882 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* I. i. 2 The new piano-organs are grinding away mercilessly at the corner of every street. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Oct. 8/2 The communal administration of Ixelles, near Brussels, has decided to lease the right of piano organ-grinding in the streets.

‖ **Pia·no pia·no, pianpiano,** *adv. Obs.* [It., softly, softly.] Softly, gently, in a quiet leisurely manner, little by little.

1601 A. COPLEY *Answ. Let. Jesuited Gent.* 116 Our good men must goe as they may, *pean, peano,* and beare their quips the while. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 39 That Tyger of a Man being come down *Pian Piano.* 1741-70 ELIZ. CARTER *Lett.* (1808) 5, I go on piano piano with my history of the Incas.

Pianot: see PIANNET, magpie.

‖ **Pia·no-violi·n.** [A combination in which the two elements are arranged in French order, *violin* qualifying *piano.*] A keyed instrument, like the harmonichord, producing tones resembling those of the violin: see quot.

1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 746/1 Chladni much favoured the idea of a piano violin, and under his auspices one was made in 1795 by von Mayer of Görlitz... At last, in 1865, Hubert Cyrille Baudet introduced one in Paris capable of rapid articulation,..patenting it in England as 'Piano-Violin'...The strings are of wire..and attached to a nodal, or nearly nodal, point of each, is a piece of stiff catgut.

Piarachnoid: see PIA-ARACHNOID.

Piarist (pəi·ărist). [f. mod.L. title *patres scholarum piarum* fathers of the religious schools, the Piarists being the regular clerks of the *Scuole Pie* or religious schools.] A member of a Roman Catholic secular order, founded at Rome by St. Joseph Calasanctius shortly before 1600. They devote themselves to the gratuitous instruction of the young.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Piarists* (Patres Scholarum Piarum). They still continue to superintend a great number of schools in Hungary, Poland, Bohemia, etc. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) 661 The Piarists appear to have never entered ..any country outside the limits of Europe. 1901 *N. Y. Even. Post* 7 May 4/3 One of the large religious communities in Hungary, the Piarists, has just refused to admit Jesuit teachers within any of its colleges.

‖ **Piarrhæmia** (pəi,ărĭ·miă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πίαρ* fat + *αἷμα* blood.] The presence of fat in the blood, as a normal or as a pathological condition.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Piarhæmia. 1860 C. T. COOTE in *Lancet* 15 Sept. 259/2 Piarrhæmia consists in an excess of saponifiable fat in the blood, not in the mere liberation of fat from its combinations. 1875 T. H. TANNER *Pract. Med.* I. 24 Piarhæmia is also a physiological result of digestion, pregnancy, lactation, and hybernation.

‖ **Piassaba** (pĭ,ăsā·bă). Also **piassava, piaçaba.** [a. Pg. *piassa·ba, piassa·va, piassá* (Michaelis *Pg. Dict.* 1893), a. Tupi *piaçába* (Martius *Dict. Tupi* 1867). (Wrongly stressed in many dictionaries as *pia·ssaba,* which is impossible in Tupi.)] A stout woody fibre obtained from the leaf-stalks of two Brazilian palm-trees, *Attalea funifera* and *Leopoldinia Piassaba,* and imported for the manufacture of coarse brooms, brushes, etc. (Also *piassaba fibre.*) Sometimes applied to the tree.

[1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 54/1 *Attalea funifera,* called by the natives piaçaba... The best cordage in America, for naval purposes, is manufactured from the fibres of the leaf-stalks and other parts.] 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* 394 The bristle-like Piassaba fibres, used for brooms, are from *Leopoldinia Piassaba.* 1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 759 That fibre, resembling whalebone,..called in commerce Piassaba fibre, Monkey Grass, or Para Grass. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Para piassaba,* a finer and more valuable kind of Piassaba, obtained from *Leopoldinia Piassaba.*

‖ **Piast** (pyast). [Polish, after *Piast,* the name of the good peasant (reputed to have lived in the 9th c.) from whom the Polish kings were said to be descended.] A native Pole of regal or ducal rank; hence, a man of genuine Polish descent.

[1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iv. 59 He Advised them rather wholly to lay aside those Foreign pretensions, and chuse a *Piasti,* that is, some Nobleman of their own Countrey.] 1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV,* I. 2 None but Piasts, or Polish Noblemen, born of Catholic fathers and mothers, could pretend to the crown. *c* 1830 TENNYSON *Sonn.* in J. C. Collins *Early Poems* 307 O for those days of Piast, ere the Czar Grew to this strength among his deserts cold. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* i. 11 Poland had, under the last Piasts, allied itself more closely to the Western States, in order to obtain protection from a similar subjugation.

attrib. 1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1847) V. 14 The kings of the Piast race made frequent and able efforts to create a gradation of rank in the midst of that democracy.

Piastre, piaster (pi,æ·stəɹ). Forms: 7 (piastra, -o), **pyaster,** 7– **piaster, piastre.** [a. F. *piastre* (1611 Cotgr.), ad. It. *piastra* 'any kind of plate or leafe of mettall' (Florio); as applied to a coin, short for *piastra d'argento* 'plate of silver', applied to the Spanish silver *peso,* whence also to the Turkish coin derived from it.

Piastra represents a late Lat. or Romanic **plastra* for L. *emplastra* (Gell.), by-form of *emplastrum* plaster (cf. It. *piastro* plaster), a. Gr. ἔμπλαστρον (Galen), var. of ἔμπλαστον plaster, f. ἐμπλάσσειν to daub on.]

1. A name, of Italian origin, for the Spanish *peso duro,* piece of eight, or dollar, and its representatives in Spanish America and other countries.

[1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 291 At Venice..the Spanish piastro of siluer is giuen for sixe lires.] 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* iii. 5 Pyasters, Chicqueenes and Sultanies, which is gold and silver. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Piaster,* a Coyn in Italy, about the value of our Crown. 1776 *Ann. Reg.* 119 At Lisbon..the king..immediately ordered her 20,000 piastres. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 650 The happiness of a people is not to be estimated by the piastres of their traders. 1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893) 227 The Spanish Piastre is synonymous with the dollar or duro, sterling value 49·478*d. Ibid.* 228 The Spanish Piastre for exchange purposes is an imaginary coin of 5 pesetas or francs = 47·578 pence. *Ibid.,* The Piastre or Mocha Dollar is the unit of value in Arabia, and is worth nearly 3*s.* 5*d.*

2. The English (French, German, etc.) name (It., Sp. *piastra*) of a small Turkish coin, called in Turkish *ghŭrūsh,* $\frac{1}{100}$ of a Turkish pound, having in Turkey, in 1900, a circulating value of about 2*d.*, in Egypt about 2½*d.*, and in Tunis about 6*d.*

Originally the Spanish dollar, introduced into the Levant by the Venetians, but rapidly depreciated, being worth in 1618, 5*s.*; in 1775, 2*s.* 6*d.*; in 1818, 9½*d.*; in 1877, 2½*d.*; in 1903, 2*d.*

1611 COTGR., *Piastre,* a Turkish Coyne worth about iiijs. sterl. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 276 In Turkey..The coynes.. most esteemed..are the siluer ryals of Spaine (which the Italians call *Pezzi d'otto,* and *Pezzi di quattro,* pieces of eight, and pieces of foure, and the Turks call piastri, and halfe piastri). 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* v. 16 A piaster is about half a crown English. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxxv, The sole of many masters Of an ill-gotten million of piastres. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* ix. 241 Two silver piastres, or about fivepence English. 1899 J. AIRD in *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Mar. 7/2 At Assouan..They get between three and four piastres a day, amounting to about a penny an hour, or five shillings a week.

Piat, variant spelling of PIET, magpie.

Piation (pəi,ē·ĭ·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. *piātiōn-em,* n. of action from *piāre* to appease.] Expiation, atonement.

1623 COCKERAM, *Piation,* a purging by sacrifice. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Piation,*..a sacrificing or purging by Sacrifice. 1824 J. SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agam.* 22 The first piation of the wind-bound fleet.

Piaya (pĭ,ā·yă): see PEAI.

1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* IV. (1783) II. 180 The Piayas, the..diviners and charmers in other parts of America.

Piazza (pi,æ·zză). Also 6–7 **piazzo,** 7 **piaza, piatza, piatzza, piatzo,** (8 **piadza**). [a. It. *piazza* (pya·ttsa) square, market-place (= Sp. *plaza,* Pg. *praça,* F. *place,* Eng. PLACE):—Com. Rom. type **plattia,* for *platia,* L. *platea* broad street, later courtyard, a. Gr. πλατεῖα (ὁδός) broad street.]

1. A public square or market-place: originally, and still usually, one in an Italian town; but in 16th to 18th c. often applied more widely to any open space surrounded by buildings, as the parade ground in a fort or the like.

1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 1786/2 Wolfe came to Chalenors chamber [at Ratisbon], and prayed him familiarly to go walke with him abroad to yᵉ Piazza or marketstead: which he gladly graunting so did. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 131 Place the Ensignes with their garde of Halberdes..in the Piazza or void place, where the Ensigne is to be managed. 1599 SIR J. HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 284 For the syte, it is so overtopped by a imminent height, not distant from it more than 150 paces, that no mann can stande firme in the piazza of the forte. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 246 There are two very faire and spacious Piazzaes or market places in the Citie. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 218 Forum Romanum: the Roman piatza, where.. they had their exchange, courts of justice [etc.]. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. viii. (1715) 39 The Περιστύλιον, or Piazza, which was a large Place Square, or sometimes oblong in the middle of the Gymnasium. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 202 The Length of the Area or Piazza taken within the Walls, which circumscribe it. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* ii. (1883) 33 A figure such as may often be encountered in the streets and piazzas of Rome. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* iv. 46 Of all the open spaces in the city, that before the Church of St. Mark alone bears the name of Piazza. 1875 H. JAMES *R. Hudson* xi. 402 The Villa..stood directly upon a small grass-grown piazza, on the top of a hill.

attrib. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* XC. I. 161 But lurking guilt midst Rome's piazza gloom, Now lowers with death.

fig. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 40 Sometimes 5 Imprimatours are seen together dialogue-wise in the Piatza of one Title page.

2. Erroneously applied to a colonnade or covered gallery or walk surrounding an open square or piazza proper, and hence to a single colonnade in front of a building; an ambulatory with a roof supported on the open side by pillars. Now *rare.*

This arose from the Italian custom of constructing colonnades round open squares or courts, and appears to have begun with the vulgar misapplication of the name to the arcade built after the designs of Inigo Jones on the north and east sides of Covent Garden, London, instead of to the open market-place or area.

[1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 127 The Buzzar is also a gallant fabrick;..tis cover'd atop, archt, and (in piazza sort) a kinde of Burse.] 1642 *London Apprentices Declar.* in *Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 571/2 Desiring all the Subscribers to meet at the Piazza's in Covent-Garden. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., The close walks in Covent-Garden are not so properly the Piazza, as the ground which is inclosed within the Rails. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1777/4 Mr. Ralph Smith, Bookseller, at the Bible in the Piazza of the Royal-Exchange. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* iii. (1750) 163 The Houses are built as at Padua and Bern, so that one walks all the Town over cover'd under Piazzas. 1695 in *Miscellanea* (Surtees, No. 37) 54 They live in one of the Piazzas in Covent Garden. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Nottingham,* The sessions and courts..are kept in the town-hall, which is a grand fabric on piazzas. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 201 All four sides of the area display continuous rows of open arcades; in England termed piazzas. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 21 Nov., You may ask why I do not at once call this colonnade by its universally recognised name of a 'piazza'. I humbly submit that the term 'piazza', as English people and Americans usually apply it, is entirely a misnomer.

fig. a 1657 LOVELACE *To Chloris* v, Each humble princesse then did dwell In the Piazza of her hair.

b. (Chiefly in U.S.) The verandah of a house.

1787 M. CUTLER in *Life,* etc. (1888) I. 225 A large, well-built house, with a piazza extending the whole length of the front. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xviii. 55 When he makes his appearance under the piazza of his house. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow* (1865) 429 One of those spacious farmhouses..the low projecting eaves forming a piazza along the front, capable of being closed up in bad weather. 1838-9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 29, I was summoned into the wooden porch or piazza. 1867 MOTLEY *Let. to Wife* 20 Aug., He has put a broad verandah (what we so comically call a piazza) all around the house. 1884 H. P. SPOFFORD in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/2 He enjoys..resting on the piazza of the hotel.

Hence **Pia·zzaed** (-ăd) *a.*, having a piazza or piazzas; **Pia·zzaless** *a.*, having no piazza; ‖ **Piazzetta** (pyattse·tta) [It. dim.], a little piazza or square (in Italy); **Pia·zzian** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a piazza.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 74 Towards the Market appears a State-house *Piatzed, where the Governour convocates the Fidalgos. 1714 MACKY *Journ. thro' Eng.* (1724) II. ii. 12 He..hath an open Gallery piazza'd from his House to the End of his Garden. 1775 JEKYLL *Corr.* 12 Apr. (1894) 9 The Place Royal,..a square piazz'd all round, with an equestrian statue. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 362 Bologna: a piazzaed town; cold, dull, and monastic. 1903 MARY E. WILKINS *Wind in Rose-bush* 9 Now the cottage was transformed by..a bay window on the *piazzaless side. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* v. iv, The Piazza and *Piazzetta of Saint Mark's. 1819 KEATS *Lam.* I. 212 Where in Pluto's gardens palatine Mulciber's columns gleam in far *piazzian line.

Pibald, obs. variant of PIEBALD.

Pibbil, -ble, pible, obs. forms of PEBBLE.

‖ **Pi·bcorn.** *Obs.* [app. for Welsh *pib gorn* horn-pipe (Owen Pugh), lit. 'pipe of horn'; but the compound *pibgorn* would mean 'horn with a pipe', pipe-horn. The name appears to be a rendering of Eng. *hornpipe.*] A form of the horn-pipe formerly used in Wales: see quots.

(Never really an Eng. word, but admitted into Dictionaries from Crabb.)

1770 DAINES BARRINGTON *Mus. Instrum. Wales* in *Archæol.* III. (1775) viii. 33 Another very rude musical instrument..scarcely used in any other part of North Wales, except the island of Anglesey, where it is called a Pib-corn, and where Mr. Wynn of Penhescedd gives an annual prize for the best performer..The name of it signifies the *hornpipe* (*Note.* Literally the *Pipe-horn*). 1794 E. JONES *Rel. Welsh Bards* 116 Pib-gorn!. 1815 ROBERTS *Cambrian Pop. Antiq.* 145, I suppose the Scotch Pipe, like the Welsh Pibgorn, had but six finger-holes. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Pib-corn, (Mus.)* the Hornpipe. 1852 W. WICKENDEN *Hunchback's Chest* 214 Here and there a shepherd was seated on a grassy knoll playing his pigborn [*error for* pibgorn]. 1870 *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. VI. 512.

[Pibling, error in Nares for *pipling*: see PIPPLE *v.*]

Pibroch (pī·brŏχ). Also 8–9 **pibrach.** [ad. Gael. *piobaireachd* the art of playing the bagpipe, f. *piobair* a piper (f. *piob* a pipe, a. E. *pipe*) + *-achd,* suffix of function, quality, etc.] In the Scotch Highlands, a series of variations for the bagpipe, founded on a theme called the *urlar.* They are generally of a martial character, but include dirges.

1719 *Hardyknute* in Maidment *Scott. Ball.* (1868) I. 19 While playand pibrochs, minstralls meit Afore him statly strade. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 3 Sept., The pipers playing a pibroch all the time. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 275 A certain species of this wind music, called pibrachs, rouzes the native Highlander in the same way that the sound of the trumpet does the war-horse. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xv, Some pipe of war Sends the bold pibroch from afar. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. IX. iv. 636 They cheered and charged with the bayonet, the pipes sounding the pibroch.

fig. 1860 C. SANGSTER *Hesperus*, etc. 81 The storm..shouts its mighty pibroch o'er some shipwrecked vessel's grave.

¶ It has been erroneously used as if = bagpipe.

‖ **Pic**[1]. *Obs.* [=F. *pic* or ad. Sp. *pico* a peak. See PEAK *sb.*[2], PIKE *sb.*[3]] A peak. (Orig. in *Pic of Teneriffe*.)

a 1667 COWLEY *Ess., Greatness* Wks. (1688) 124 When it is got up to the very top of the Pic of Tenariff, it is in very great danger of breaking its neck downwards. 1669 BOYLE *New Exp. Spring Air* xxiii. App., Navigators and travellers ..do almost unanimously agree that the pic of Teneriff is the highest mountain hitherto known in the world. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 229 The signal was at first erected on the highest summit of Pichincha; but afterwards removed to another station at the foot of the pic. 1784 COOK *Voy.* I. iii, The Pic of Teneriffe, one of the most noted points of land with Geographers. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 133 Near the centre there rises a pic, very steep, which seems to be elevated at least 100 feet above the hill on which it stands.

‖ **Pic**[2], **pike** (pīk). Also 7 **pick**, 8 **peek**, 9 **pik**. [=F. *pic*, a. Turk. *pik*, ad. Gr. *πῆχυς* ell, cubit.] A measure of length, used for cloth, etc., in the Turkish Empire and in the Levant generally, and varying from about 18 to 28 inches, there being a long and a short standard.

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 249 Nineteene and a halfe pikes of cloth, which cost in London twenty shillings the pike. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 158 The Pic is a Measure of six Hands breadth. 1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipelago* 39 A pettycoat..that had above 40 pikes of dimity, which is about 30 yards; some have above 60 pikes. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Pike*, is also the name of an Ægyptian measure, of which there are two kinds, the large and the small. The larger pike, called also the pike of Constantinople, is 27·92 English inches. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 602 The daily increase [of the Nile] continues to be proclaimed, till it has attained the height of 16 peeks. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pic, Pik*, a variable Turkish cloth-measure, ranging from twenty-eight inches the long pic, to eighteen inches the short pic. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 8/1 A full Nile is represented by from 23 to 24 pics. 1893 *Whitaker's Almanac* 674/2, 1 Pike Nili = 21·287 inches.

Pic, obs. form of PICK, PIKE, PITCH.

Pica[1] (pəi·kă). [med. (Anglo-) L. *pica* (cf. *pīca* PIE, magpie), found in sense 1, beside the Eng. *pye*, PIE, from end of 15th c. It does not appear which of these was a rendering of the other; but the equation of *pica* with *pie* shows that the name was commonly identified with that of the bird. Sense 2 is generally supposed to have been derived from sense 1 (cf. *brevier, canon*), although no edition of the *pica* or *pie* in 'pica' type appears to be known.]

†1. A collection of rules showing how to deal with the concurrence of religious offices resulting from the variability of Easter and other movable feasts; = PIE *sb.*[3] 1, q. v. *Obs.*

1497 PYNSON *Directorium Sacerdotum* (incipit), Liber presens, directorium sacerdotum, quem pica Sarum vulgo vocitat clerus. 1555 *Breviary of Sarum* in Rowe Meres *Eng. Founders* 23, Incipit ordo breviarij seu portiforij secundum morem & consuetudinem ecclesie Sarum Anglicane: vna cum ordinali suo quod vsitato vocabulo dicitur Pica sive directorium sacerdotum in tempore paschali.

†b. =PIE *sb.*[3] 2. *Obs. rare.* (Only in Dicts.)

1847 WEBSTER, *Pica, pye*, or *pie*,..also, an alphabetical catalogue of names and things in rolls and records. [Hence in later Dicts.]

2. *Typogr.* (also 7 **pique**). A size of type, next below English, and between Cicéro and St. Augustin, in French type sizes, of about 6 lines to the inch, or 12 American points = 11·33 Didot. Used also as a unit of measurement for large type, leads, borders, etc. *Small pica*, a size of about 11 points, between long primer and pica. Also *attrib.*

This is Pica type.

This is Small Pica type.

Two-line pica, the size of type having a body equal to two lines of pica. *Double pica* (prop. *double small pica*), a size of type equal to two lines of small pica.

1588 in *Udall's St. Ch. Eng.* (Arb.) Introd. 13 A presse with twoo paire of cases, with certaine Pica Romane, and Pica Italian letters. 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* xiii. 89 The Long-primer, the Pica, the Italica. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, Let him put all the Thumps in Pica Roman And with great Tees. 1629 C. BUTLER *Oratoria* A iv b, Genera literarum varia sunt: quæ corporum proceritate distinguuntur: Primier, Pique, English: & supra hæc, Great Primier, Double Pique, Double English: atque quod omnium maximum est, Canon. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Pica Letter*, a term among Printers being the Sixth Character in order of magnitude from Pareil, Small Pica being a degree less, and Double Pica a third degree beyond it. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 2 Most Printing-Houses have .. Pearl, Nomparel, Brevier, Long-Primmer, Pica, English, Great-Primmer, Double-Pica, Two-Lin'd-English. 1755 *Flyleaf* in *Whole Duty of Man*, A Large Quarto Bible, printed on a new Pica Letter and Royal Paper. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 226 The difference betwixt Two Lines Pica and Double Pica as well in Face, as Body, is but inconsiderable. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 26 The number of each sort cast to a bill of Pica, Roman and Italic. 1850 W. IRVING *Goldsmith* 232 Eight volumes, each containing upwards of four hundred pages, in pica. 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Vocab., Pica*,..the body usually taken as a standard for leads, width of measures, etc.—it is equal to two Nonpareils in body.

‖ **Pica**[2] (pəi·kă). *Path.* [mod. or med.L. *pica*, a. L. *pica* magpie, probably rendering Gr. *κίσσα, κίττα* magpie, jay, also false appetite (the magpie being a miscellaneous feeder). So F. *pica* (Paré 16th c.).] A perverted craving for substances unfit for food, as chalk, etc., symptomatic of certain diseases, and also occurring during pregnancy.

1563 T. GALE *Treat. Gonneshotte* 4 That sickenesse whiche is called Pica. 1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 49 When one is oppressed with the disease Pica, so that hee can not eate anie thing but pitche. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6152 The cause of the pica or unnatural appetite in young women, and others. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 115. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1043 Perverted appetite —pica or geophagy, as it is sometimes called—is a common occurrence in this as in other forms of intestinal helminthiasis. *fig. a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 218 Suppose then one that is sick, should have this Pica, and long to be Annoiled? Why might not a Lay-Friend Annoil, as well as Baptize?

Hence **Pi·cal**, **Pi·cary** *adjs.*, belonging to or of the nature of pica; depraved, vitiated (in appetite).

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 123 They helpe their picarie affections. 1660 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* (1661) 40 Through the depravement of their canine and pical Appetites.

Pica, variant of PIKA, a small rodent.

‖ **Picador** (pikădō·r). [Sp., lit. 'pricker', f. *picar* to prick, pierce.] In a bull-fight, A mounted man, who opens the game by provoking the bull with a lance.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 771/2 The bull..has to contend first against the picadores, combatants on horseback, who, dressed according to the ancient Spanish manner.. wait for him, each being armed with a long lance. 1865 F. SAYER in *Fortn. Rev.* No. 5. 616 Miserable hacks..that a picador would be ashamed to ride in a bull ring. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 257 The picador prods the bull in the back to weaken him while he is goring the horse.

b. *fig.* An agile debater, one who engages in a skirmish of wit.

1876 J. WEISS *Wit, Hum. & Shaks.* iii. 86 Then there is that picador of a clown, who plants in Malvolio's thin skin a perfect quick-set of barbed quips. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Dec. 19/1 He steps hither and thither..like a literary picador amid a troop of huge, blundering cattle.

Picage, variant of PICKAGE.

Pical: see PICA[2].

Picamar (pi·kămār). *Chem.* [mod. (Reichenbach) f. L. *pix, pic-em* pitch + *amārus* bitter.] An intensely bitter thick transparent oil, obtained in the distillation of wood-tar.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 202 The last product is creosote unalloyed by eupione, picamare, water, or other matters. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 143/2 Picamar. *a* 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 90 Picamar was discovered by Reichenbach, with creosote, in the heavy oil of tar.

Pican, obs. form of PISANG.

Picaninny: see PICCANINNY.

†**Picard, pickard, piker.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **pyker, pycar**, 4–6 **picarde**, 5 **piccarde, pycard, pykkert**, 6 **picarte, pickard(e, pyckarde, pekart, pycker**, (7 **piker**). [app. from Fr.: origin and etymological form unascertained.

The form agrees with *Picard*, a native of Picardy; also with OF. *picart, pik-, pick-, piccart, pikar, picquar, piccar*, sharp, pointed, *sb.* a kind of nail; but connexion with either of these is as yet unproved.]

A large sailing-boat or barge formerly used for coast or river traffic.

1357 *Act* 31 *Edw. III*, Stat. II. c. 2 Et qe nul vessel, appelle Pyker de Londres, ne de nulle part aillours, nentre deinz le dit haven [Jernemuth] pour encherer la feyre. 1483 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 364 All manner of men that occupieth shippes, piccardes, scaffes, and lighteres, in and unto the haven of the cite of Dyvelyn. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 378 In the Towne of Air, giffin for vj dosan of burdis .. to be grath to the Lord Kennydeis pykkert. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Picardes and other greate botes with fore mastes of the burden of xv. toon and so to xxxvj toonne. *Ibid.* § 2 That no persone or persones ..shall enbote or lade..any Wheate..in any picarde bote or other Vessell at any creke pille banke or elswhere upon the Severne streme betwene the Keye of the Citie of Gloucestre, and the saide Citie or Towne of Bristoll. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* II. 105 Picartes and other smaul Vessels cum up by a Gut out of the Haven to the other Bridge on the Causey at Plymtun Townes Ende. 1565 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 108 With the said Captain and his company many fine trim and tall pickards from Liverpool and the coast. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 11 Uppon payne to forfaite theyr Catch Monger Pycker or Vessel, with the Tackle and al the Fysh in the same. 1599 in *Stirling Nat. Hist. & Arch. Soc. Trans.* (1902) 29 To ye pekart at ye controllar command 1 lib bouter.

Picaree, variant of PECCARY.

Picaresque (pikăre·sk), *a.* Also **pickaresque**. [ad. Sp. *picaresco* roguish, knavish, f. PICARO: see -ESQUE; so in mod.F. (Littré).] Belonging or relating to rogues or knaves: applied esp. to a style of literary fiction dealing with the adventures of rogues, chiefly of Spanish origin.

[1810 J. BALLANTYNE *Life De Foe* in *De Foe's Wks.*, Works of fiction in the style termed by the Spaniards *Gusto Picaresco*]. *Ibid.*, We could select from these *picaresque* romances a good deal that is not a little amusing. 1829 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Feb., *Memoirs of Vidocq*..a pickaresque tale..a romance of roguery. 1837–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. viii. § 48 This [the Lazarillo de Tormes by Mendoza] is the first known specimen in Spain of the picaresque, or rogue style. 1895 H. B. M. WATSON in *Bookman* Oct. 19/2 He exalts Disraeli. ..He loves a trickster; the picaresque amuses him.

Picarian (pəikē·riăn), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Picāri-æ* (f. *pīcus* woodpecker) + -AN.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling the *Picariæ*, an order of non-passerine land-birds, formed by Nitsch (1820) for the reception of the woodpeckers, cuckoos, parrots, etc., but now to a great extent discarded.

†**Picari·ni**. *Obs.* A bird, the AVOCET.

1770 PENNANT *Zool.* IV. 69 Avosettas .. are found..near Foss-dyke wash in Lincolnshire, called there Yelpers, on account of their noise; and sometimes Picarinis. [Hence 1833 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* (ed. Rennie), *Picarani.*]

‖ **Pi·caro**. *Obs.* [Sp. *picaro* roguish, knavish, a rogue, knave, sharper = It. *piccaro* rascal, beggar: of doubtful etymology; perh. related to Sp. *picar*, It. *piccare* to prick: cf. It. *piccante* sharp. See Diez s. v. *Picco.*] A rogue, knave, vagabond.

1623 MIDDLETON *Span. Gipsy* II. i. (1653) C ij, Basenes! the arts of Cocoquismo, and Germania us'd by our Spanish Pickeroes (I meane Filching, Foysting, Niming, Jilting. *c* 1626 *Dick of Devon.* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 12 That word heard By any lowsy Spanish Picardo [*sic*] Were worth our two neckes. 1626 SHIRLEY *Brothers* V. iii. (1652) 62, I am become the talk Of every Picaro and Ladron. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 227 Poets, Pimps, Prentices, and poor Piacros [*sic*].

Picaroon (pikărū·n), *sb.*[1] Also 7– **pick-**, 7 **(pich-), picqu-, piqu-**, 8– **picc-**; 7 **-aroone, -aroune, -eroone, -eron**, 7–8 **-eroon**. [a. Sp. *picaron*, augm. of PICARO, rogue.]

1. A rogue, a knave; a thief; a brigand. (Sometimes playfully as a term of endearment: cf. *rogue.*)

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* viii. 85, I answered, that he looked like a Picheron. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 164 Your diamond hat-band which the Picaroon snatched from you in the coach. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* II. i, Are you there indeed, my little Picaroon? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xxiii. 127 Thou who art worse than a pickeroon in love. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xx, I see in thy countenance something of the pedlar—something of the picaroon.

2. A pirate, sea-robber, corsair. Also *fig.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 184 Meeting a French Piccaroune .. hee .. tooke from them what hee liked. *c* 1681 HICKERINGILL *Trimmer* Wks. 1716 I. 355 A Letter of Mart against the Common-Piqueroon of all good Mens Reputations. 1700 tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 191 The Streight of Sunda was very much infested with Pickaroons. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 242 Somewhat of a trader, something more of a smuggler, with a considerable dash of the pickaroon. 1881 W. WALLACE in *Academy* 15 Oct. 289 A crew of social picaroons.

3. A small pirate ship; a privateer or corsair.

1625 *Impeachm. Dk. Buckhm.* (Camden) 11 Theis Picaroones..will ever lye hankering upon our coaste. 1658 R. HADDOCK in *Camden Soc. Misc.* (1881) 5 Heere escaped out a small pickeron of 4 or 6 guns. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pickaroon*, a very small Privateer. 1775 JEFFERSON *Let.* Writ. 1892 I. 496 Montgomery had proceeded in quest of Carleton and his small fleet of 11 pickeroons. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 21 May 5/3 Strong exception is taken by the advocates of privateering to such words as corsair, picaroon, and the like being applied to a vessel armed with the authority of a letter of marque.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 28 Dec., The very Ostend little pickaroon men-of-war do offer violence to our merchant-men. 1858 *Athenæum* 1 May 556 What was the end of this picaroon woman? 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 224 That lean, rakish, long-sparred, picaroon-like craft.

Picaroo·n, *sb.*[2] *Canada.* [?F. *piqueron* a little pike, a javelin, dart, prick, goad (Cotgr.), f. *pique* pike, *piquer* to prick.] An instrument like a boat-hook, used in mooring timber.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Picaroon (pikărū·n), *v.* [f. PICAROON *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To play the pirate or brigand; to cruise about, skirmish, or keep watch for a prize. Also *fig.*

1675 CROWNE *Country Wit* III. i, These Night-corsairs and Algerines call'd the Watch, that pickaroon up and down in the streets. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Pickeroon*,..to skirmish as light horsemen do, before the main battle begins. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 71. 492 The gates were strictly guarded, the spies pickarooning at every corner. 1894 RALPH in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 337 Some of these raiders called their peculiar work by the name of 'picarooning'.

2. *trans.* To act piratically towards; to prey upon, pillage; in quot. *fig.*

1681 HICKERINGILL *Char. Sham Plotter* Wks. 1716 I. 212 He is the Land-Pirate, that Pickaroons Men's Lives and Estates, by putting out false Colours.

Hence **Picaroo·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1625 *Impeachm. Dk. Buckhm.* (Camden) 220 The Admirall of France .. is only ruld and led by these picqueroning Captaines. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pickering, Pickerooning*,.. going a plundering; also Skirmishing. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Picqueering, Pickeering*, or *Pickerooning*, a little flying war, or skirmish, which the soldiers make when detached from their bodies, for pillage, or before a main battle begins. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* July 36/1 A summer's picarooning off Flores.

Picary, *a.*: see PICA[2].

Picary, Picas(e, obs. ff. PECCARY, PICKAX.

†**Pica·tion**. *Med. Obs.* [ad. med. or mod.L. *picātio*, n. of action f. L. *picāre* to bedaub with pitch, f. *pic-em* pitch; cf. obs. F. *pication* 'a pitching, or bepitching' (Cotgr.).] The application of warm pitch to the skin.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 473 If..Sulphureous Bathes..do not succeed, we must proceed to Pication.

Picayune (pikăyū·n), *sb.* and *a. U. S.* [In Louisiana, a. Pr. *picaioun*, mod.F. *picaillon* (1750 in Hatz.-Darm.), name of an old copper coin of

Piedmont, now in Fr. 'halfpence, cash, money': of uncertain origin (Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *sb.* The name formerly given in Louisiana, Florida, etc., to the Spanish half-real, value 6¼ cents or 3 pence; now to the U. S. 5-cent piece or other coin of small value; hence *colloq.*, a person or thing considered small, mean, or insignificant.

1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xx, From him she got many a stray picayune, which she laid out in nuts and candies. *Ibid.* xxxix, Our chance wouldn't be worth a picayune. 1903 *Scribner's Mag.* XXXIII. 508 A pack of jealous picayunes, who bickered while the army starved.

B. *adj.* Mean, contemptible, paltry. *colloq.*

1856 H. Greeley in *Greeley or Lincoln* 127 The infernal picayune spirit in which it is published has broken my heart. *a* 1859 *New York Herald* (Bartlett), There is nothing picayune about the members of St. George's [Cricket] Club. 1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 8 Nov. 4/3 Do you want another picayune Congress with all its stupidity and folly?

Picayunish (pikăyū·nij), *a. U. S. colloq.* [f. prec. + -ish 1.] Of little value or account, insignificant, paltry, mean. Hence **Picayu·nishness.**

a 1859 *Blackw. Mag.* (Notes on Canada) (in Bartlett), That boat..belongs to that darn picayunish old coon, Jim Mason, and he'll run her till she sinks or busts up. 1887 *Springfield Republican* (U. S.) 14 Oct., A sad commentary on the political picayuneishness that allows [etc.]. 1889 *Chicago Advance* 4 Apr. 267 Mr. Jos. Chamberlain's turn came, and then the occasion became literally and truly picayunish.

† Pi·ccadill, pi·ckadill. *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 7 **pickadel(l, picadell; picca-, pica-, pickadil, -dill(e; pickedaille; pecca-, pecadill, -dile; pacadile; pickar-, picardil(l).** *β.* 7 **picca-, picka-, peccadillo.** *γ.* 7 **picka-, picca-, pecca-, pickydilly.** [a. F. *pica-, piccadilles* (*a* 1589 in Godef.) 'the seuerall diuisions or peeces fastened together about the brimme of the collar of a doublet' (Cotgr. 1611), app. answering to a Sp. **picadillo*, dim. of *picado* pricked, pierced, punctured, slashed, minced (cf. *picada* a puncture, *picadillo* minced meat, hash, *picadura* ornamental gusset); cf. Du. (with dim. *-ken*) *pickedillekens* 'laciniæ' (Kilian).

Generally understood to be the origin of the name (originally a popular nickname) 'Pickadilly Hall', given before 1622 to a house in the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, London, and now perpetuated in the street called Piccadilly. As to the connexion of 'Pickadilly Hall' with this word, various conjectures were current already in the time of Blount, 1656, who mentions two: either 'because it was then the outmost or *skirt* house of the Suburbs that way', or 'from this, that one Higgins a Tailor, who built it, got most of his Estate by Pickadilles, which in the last age [= generation] were much worn in England'. See full account in *Athenæum*, 27 July 1901, pp. 125–7.]

1. a. A border of cut work or vandyking inserted on the edge of an article of dress, esp. on a collar or ruff. **b.** The name was app. transferred to the expansive collar fashionable in the early part of the 17th c., which usually had a broad laced or perforated border.

a. 1607 Dekker *Northw. Hoe* III. i. Wks. 1873 III. 37 A short Dutch waist with a round Catherine-wheel fardingale, a close sleeue with a cartoose collour and a pickadell. *c* 1614 Drayton *Moon Calf* in *Agincourt*, etc. (1627) 165 In euery thing she must be monstrous: Her Picadell aboue her crowne vp-beares; Her Fardingale is set aboue her eares. 1614 in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 253 A pickadell of white Sattin xxx*s*. 1616 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 144 Buittis, schone, pantenes, and pickedaillis. 16.. B. Jonson *Underwoods* xxxii. Wks. (Rtldg.) 698/2 Ready to cast at one whose band sits ill, And then leap mad on a neat picardill. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* (from Cotgr.), *Pickadil*, the round hem, or the several divisions set together about the skirt of a Garment, or other thing; also a kinde of stiff collar, made in fashion of a Band. 1658 Phillips, *Pickadil*, (from the Dutch word Pickedillekens) the hem about the skirt of a garment, also the extremity or utmost part of any thing.

β. 1648–60 Hexham, *Pickedillekens*, Pickadilloes, or small Edges. *attrib.* 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xi, Wayland Smith's flesh would mind Pinniewinks's awl no more than a cambric ruff minds a hot piccadilloe needle.

γ. 1611 Rich *Honest. Age* (1615) 20 He that some forty or fifty yeares sithens, should haue asked after a Pickadilly, I wonder who could haue vnderstood him. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 59 Great Cutwork Bands and Piccadillies (a thing that hath since lost the name) crouded in and flourished among us. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* VI. 15 Taking two Eggs.. which he did th[r]ow at his face, and spoiled his worshipfull Pickadilly, which was set forth like a Peacocks tail. 1695 Thoresby *Diary* (ed. Hunter) I. 389 To..view his..curiosities; he presented me with his grandfather's pickadilly.

2. A stiff band or collar of linen-covered pasteboard or wire, worn in the 17th c. to support the wide collar or ruff. [Cf. obs. F. *piccadille* 'porte-rabat' (Godef.).]

1611 Cotgr., *Carte*,..also, a Pickadill, or supporter, of Pasteboord couered with linnen. 1611 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 91 [No apprentice to wear] any piccadilly or other support in, with, about the collar of his doublett. 1619 Purchas *Microcosmus* xxvii. 265 Larger Fall's borne vp with a Pickadillo; or scarsly Peeping out ouer the Doublet Coller. 1670 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. 191 The other half [of his band] was made of coarse lawne startched blew and standing out upon a pickydilly of wyer. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 95/2 A *Pacadile*, a thing put about Man or Womans Neck to support and bear up the Band, or Gorget. *Ibid.* 237/2 Their Gorget standing up being supported by Wyers and a kind of Roll which they called a Pecadile.

3. *transf.* Applied humorously to a halter, etc.

1615 Sir E. Hoby *Curry-Combe* v. 237 Wee must beleeue..

Picadillo, obs. f. Peccadillo: see also prec.

Piccage, variant of Pickage.

Piccalilli (pi·kălili). In 8 **piccalillo, pacolilla.** [Origin unascertained; ? a trade term fancifully made on *pickle*.] A pickle composed of a mixture of chopped vegetables and hot spices; also formerly called *Indian pickle*.

1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 357 To make Indian Pickle or Piccalillo. 1796 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xix. 307 To make Paco-lilla, or Indian Pickle. 1845 Bregion & Miller *Pract. Cook* 285 Piccalilli consists of all kinds of pickles. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Mar. 2/1 Because of our meagre liver-action, piccalilli and black walnuts are falling out of favour.

Piccaninny, pickaninny (pi·kăni·ni), *sb.*, (*a.*). Also 7 **pickaninnie, picko-,** 8 **pickaniny, piga-,** 9 **pica-, pickininny; piccaniny, pick'ny;** (in S. Africa) **piccanini, piccanin, picannin.** [A West Indian Negro deriv. of Sp. *pequeño* or Pg. *pequeno* little, small (prob. a diminutive: cf. esp. Pg. *pequenino* very little, tiny), which has been carried by Europeans to other parts of the world. See Note below.]

A little one, a child: commonly applied in the West Indies and America to negro and coloured children; in South Africa to the children of Kafirs, Mashonas, etc.; in Australia to those of the aborigines; in the latter cases introduced by Europeans, but often adopted by the natives themselves. Also *attrib.* **a.** In the West Indies and America.

1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 48 When the child is borne, (which she calls her Pickaninnie) she [a neighbour] helps to make a little fire nere her feet... In a fortnight, this woman is at worke with her Pickaninny at her back. 1681 *Will of Jas. Vaughan* (of Antigua) in *Misc. Gen. & Her.* Ser. II. IV. 253 To my sister Mrs. Hannah Bell, four negroes and one Pickoniny [*printed* Pickoning] boy. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. lii, Their children call'd *Piganinnies* or rather *Pequenos Ninnos*, go naked till they are fit to be put to clean paths, bring firewood [etc.]. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 93 The pickeniny gang consisted of the children who were taken to the field. 1833 Hood *Doves & Crows* iii, Bring all your woolly pickaninnies dear. 1867 Lydia M. Child *Rom. Repub.* ii. 16 The negroes at their work, and their black picaninnies rolling about on the ground.

b. In Australia, and South and Central Africa.

1830 R. Dawson *Australia* 12 (Morris) 'I tumble down pickaninny here',..meaning that he was born there. 1847 Leichhardt *Jrnl.* xv. 520 Bilge introduced several old warriors..adding always the number of piccaninies, that each of them had. 1889 Mrs. C. Praed *Rom. of Station* 16 Three or four half-naked gins, with their picaninnies slung on their tattooed backs. 1893 *Voice* (N. Y.) 14 Dec., Even the pickaninnies and pygmies of the Congo valley are.., entitled to protection from drink. 1900 S. Chambers *Rhodesians* 50 Attended by a sable piccanin.

c. *humorously.* A child, in general. (Also *fig.*)

1785 Grose *Dict. Vulgar T., Pickaninny*, a young child, an infant; negroe term. 1817 Scott *Fam. Lett.* May (1894) I. xiii. 425 The little pickaninny has my kindest wishes. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* lxviii, A little box at Richmond or Kew, and a half-score of little picaninnies. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 12/1 She's Britannia's Picaninny, If she isn't very big! She's a Daughter of the Empire,..Natal!

B. *adj.* Very small; tiny, baby.

[1796 Stedman *Surinam* (1813) II. xxvi. 268 Small, *peeheen*—Very small, *peeheeneenee*. 1849 Pichardo *Diccion. Prov. Voces Cubanas, Piquinini*..una persona ó cosa pequeña. 1896 J. T. Bent *Ruined Cities Mashonaland* 58 Anything small, whether it be a child, or to indicate that the price paid for anything is insufficient, they [Kaffirs] term *piccanini*.] 1876 J. R. Green *Lett.* (1901) 439 A series which begins in the thirteenth century is a very young and pickaninny series. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 353/1, I soon discovered a pickaninny, or baby walrus. 1903 R. Bedford *True Eyes* lxi, By pickaninny daylight the mounted men were in motion.

[*Note.* Our earliest examples (17th c.), being from the formerly Spanish West Indies, with the existing Cuban Spanish *piquinini* (Pichardo *Dicc. Voces Cubanas*, 1849), suggest Spanish derivation; on the other hand, the Surinam form is more naturally derived from Portuguese, which moreover has the recognized dim. *pequeninо*, not used in Spanish. Stedman gives *peeheen, peeheeneenee* in Eng. phonetic spelling; the Dutch of Surinam is '*pikien*, klein, weinig, jong; kind, jong, kroost' (Focke, *Neger-Engelsch Wbk.* 1855). But, wherever first used, the word was prob. soon carried from one colony to another; it may even have arisen in the Portuguese possessions in Guinea, and have been carried by slaves to various parts of America; witness the readiness with which it has been adopted by natives in Africa and Australia, in the 19th c. The Cape Dutch form *pikanini* may have been brought from the Dutch West Indies, or acquired from English, or from Portuguese (to which also some attribute the Rhodesian use). Some have suggested that the word is not a dimin., but a combination, = Sp. *pequeño niño* little child, or Pg. *pequeno negro*, now in Surinam *pikien-ningre* 'negerkinderen, kreolen' (Focke). But the word is not confined to children, being essentially an adj. meaning 'very little, tiny'.]

Piccant, obs. form of Piquant.

† Picche, *v. Obs. rare.* App. a by-form of Pick *v.*1

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 105 My plow-fote shal be my pyk-staf [*A.* pyk, *B.* pikid staf], and picche atwo þe rotes [so 1393 C. IX. 64; A. VII. 96 and posshen atte [*v. rr.* putte at þe; picche vp þe; to posse at þe] Rootes]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 387 þey wolde somtyme wiþ scharpe egged tool picche and kerue here owne bodies, and make þeron dyuers figures and schappes.

Picche, obs. form of Pitch *sb.*1 and *v.*1 and 2.

Piccolo (pi·kŏlo). [a. It. *piccolo* small; hence absol., a small flute.]

1. (orig. *piccolo flute.*) A small flute, an octave higher in pitch than the ordinary flute; also called the *octave flute*.

1856 Mrs. C. Clarke tr. *Berlioz' Instrument.* 121 Piccolo flutes are strangely abused now-a-days. 1864 Leech in J. Brown *Horæ Subsecivæ* (1882) 45 Thackeray..playing on the piccolo. 1900 *Chr. Progress* Mar. 44 When in the great orchestra the little piccolo did not do its part in the rehearsal.

2. An organ stop having the tone of the piccolo.

1875 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* (1898) 360/2 *Piccolo*, an organ stop of 2 ft. length—the pipes are of wood, the tone bright and piercing.

3. (for *piccolo piano.*) A small upright pianoforte.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Piccolo*, a small pianoforte. 1880 Hipkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 751/1 The 'piccolo' was finished to stand out in the room away from the wall.

Hence **Pi·ccolo,ist,** one who plays on the piccolo.

1881 *Pennsylv. Sch. Jrnl.* XXX. 125, I was his successor as picoloist.

‖ **Pice** (pais). Also 7 **pise, peise, peyse,** 8 **pyce,** 9 **pyse.** [ad. Hindī *paisā* (in all the Gaudian langs.), a copper coin, the fourth part of an *ānā*: supposed by some to be a deriv. of *pā'ī* or *pa'ī*:—Skr. *pad, padī*, quarter. See also Pie *sb.*5] A small East Indian copper coin equal in value to one-fourth of an anna.

1615 W. Peyton in Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 530 Pice, which is a Copper Coyne; twelve drammes make one Pice. 1616 Terry *ibid.* II. 1471 Brasse money, which they call Pices, whereof three or thereabouts counteruaile a Peny. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 205 The Company's Accounts are kept in Book-rate Pice,..80 Pice to the Rupee. *c* 1813 Mrs. Sherwood *Stories Ch. Catech.* XV. 125 Every pice that I could lay hold of went for liquor. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* II. IV. ii. 76 If by so doing they can gain a few pice.

Hence **Pi·ceworth,** as much as a pice purchases.

1832 Morton *Bengali & Sanscrit Prov.* 127 A thousand crows crowding about a pice-worth of sauce. 1904 *Nineteenth Cent.* Aug. 289 A piceworth of your horse's grain.

† Picea·ster. *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *piceastre* 'the wild Pitch tree' (Cotgr.), f. L. *picea* the pitch-pine: see -aster.] The pitch-pine.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 55 The Piceaster (a wilder sort of Pine) out of which the Pitch is boil'd.

Piceo-, combining form of L. *piceus*, Piceous, pitchy, pitch-, as in **piceo-ferru·ginous** *a.*, of a colour between reddish-black and rust-coloured; **piceo-testa·ceous** *a.*, of a colour between piceous and dull brick-red.

1847 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 239 Antennæ black, the apex piceo-ferruginous. *Ibid.* 243 The joints and tarsi piceo-testaceous, or..tinged with yellow and piceous.

Piceous (pi·sĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *pice-us* pitchy (f. *pix, pic-em* Pitch *sb.*1) + -ous.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling pitch: **a.** Inflammable, combustible; **b.** Pitch-black; brownish or reddish black.

1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 100 Comets, which blaze as long as their piceous substance remaines, and then vanish. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 282 *Piceous*.. shining reddish black. The colour of pitch. 1847 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 236 Antennæ black, piceous towards the apex.

Picescent (pise·sĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -escent.] Approximating to piceous in colour.

1847 Hardy in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 245 Anterior coxæ picescent.

Piche, obs. form of Pitch, Pike, Pyche.

Picher, Pichet, obs. forms of Pitcher, Piquet.

‖ **Pichey** (pi·tʃi). Also **pichiy, pichy.** [Local name in the Spanish of Argentina: app. the native name in Guarani.] The Little Armadillo, *Dasypus minutus*, of La Plata.

1827 Griffith tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 293 The pichiy of D'Azara is more like the hairy armadillo than any other species. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 196 The pichy..often tries to escape notice by squatting close to the ground. 1864 Wood *Nat. Hist.* I. 770 The little Pichey Armadillo is only fourteen inches in length.

‖ **Pichiciago** (pitʃi,sya·gō). [ad. Sp. *pichiciego*, f. (?) Guarani *pichey* (see prec.) + Sp. *ciego* (:—L. *cæcus*) blind.] A small burrowing edentate animal of Chili, *Chlamyphorus truncatus*, allied to the Armadillos; its back and head are covered with a hard leather-like shell attached only along the spine, and dipping abruptly over the haunches.

1825 R. Harlan in *Ann. Lyceum N. York* 235 The animal is a native of Mendoza, and in the Indian language is named Pichiciago. 1893 Mivart *Types Anim. Life* (1894) 259 A small, very rare, and peculiar kind is the pichiciago.

Picht, obs. form of Pict, Pight, Pitched, Pite

Pichuric (pitʃu·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. next + -ic.] Of, pertaining to, or derived from pichurim beans: *Pichuric acid*, a synonym of Lauric *acid*.

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 636 *Pichuric acid*,..Lauri Acid. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N.Y.) VIII. 716 Lauri acid, also called..pichuric acid,..first described by Maisso in 1842,..in the solid fat and volatile oil of pichurim beans.

‖ **Pichurim** (pi·tʃurim). The native name o

a lauraceous South American tree, *Nectandra Puchury* (*Laurus Pichurim* of Richard).

Hence *Pichurim bean*, the aromatic cotyledon of the seed of this tree, used in cookery and medicinally; *pichurim camphor*, see quot.; *pichurim oil*, a yellowish-green odorous oil obtained from pichurim beans.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Pichurim bean*, an oblong heavy seed brought from Brazil, and used medicinally in the cure of colic. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 636 *Pichurim-oil*. Pichurim beans,..yield by distillation with water, a yellow oil, smelling like bay and sassafras oil. *Ibid.* 637 *Pichurim-camphor*..Pichurim-oil is resolved by cold alcohol into a strong-smelling elæoptene and a nearly inodorous camphor.

Piciform (pīˈsifōrm), *a.*[1] *rare.* [ad. mod.L. type **piciformis*, f. *pix*, *pic-em* PITCH *sb.*[1]: see -FORM.] Of the nature of or resembling pitch; pitchlike.

1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xx. 423 According to its texture and composition as fibrous, papyraceous, earthy, and piciform.

Piciform (pəiˈsifōrm), *a.*[2] [ad. mod. Ornith.L. *piciformis*, f. *pīc-us* woodpecker: see -FORM.] Having the form or structure of, or resembling, a woodpecker; of or pertaining to the *Piciformes*, a group of picarian birds.

1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 476 The nearest relatives of the Piciform Birds are the Capitonidæ or Scansorial Barbets.

Picine (pəiˈsəin), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *pīc-us* woodpecker + -INE[1].] Of, pertaining to, or allied to the woodpeckers.

1890 *Ibis* Jan. 31 In comparison with the Galline arrangement of the plantars and its modifications, the Picine arrangement appears to be quite distinct.

Pick (pik), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4 pikk, 4-6 pyk(k, 4-8 pic, 5 pikke, pykke, 6 pict, pycke, 6-7 picke, 7 pik, 6- pick. [app. a collateral form, with short vowel, of PIKE *sb.*[1] (Cf. the collateral forms *pick* and *pike* in PICK *v.*[1]) *Pick* is the form in general English use in senses 1, 1 b; in other senses it is either obs., or only in local use in names of tools or implements. In senses 1, 1 b, 4 a, a dial. variant is *peck* (PECK *sb.*[2]).]

I. 1. A tool consisting of an iron bar, usually curved, steel-tipped, tapering squarely to a point at one end, and a chisel-edge or point at the other (but sometimes blunt at one end), attached through an eye in the centre to a wooden handle placed perpendicularly to its concave side; a pickax, mandril, mattock, 'slitter': used for loosening and breaking up stiff or hard ground or gravel, splitting up compact masses of rock, and the like. The pick and spade are the ordinary excavating or mining tools. (= PIKE *sb.*[1] 1, PECK *sb.*[2] 1, which still exist as dial. forms.)

1340 *Ayenb.* 108 Þanne nymþ he his pic and his spade and beginþ to delue and to myny. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 541 Then war the wiffys thyrland the wall With pikkis. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 726/30 *Hec liga, vel mera*, a pyk. 1496 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 291 For mendyng of ij. pykkes to digg down gravell. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 45 A pick and a spade to make graves with. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 Ane hundrith schulis, xl pickis and mattokis. 1653 MANLOVE *Lead Mines* 207 (E. D. S.) No miners..Pick.. May be removed from their ground. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 42 [It] would be Dangerous for two persons to Work together, least they should strike their Coal-Pics into one another. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xxvi. 128 The arm that wields a pick or drives a spike. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., In salt-mining the picks used are of a somewhat special construction,..the head is straight but tapering at each end, with sharp steel points.

b. A pointed or edged hammer used for dressing millstones (also formerly stone shot); a mill-pick; also a pointed hammer for stone-cutting and for breaking coal.

(= PIKE *sb.*[1] 1, PECK *sb.*[2] 1, which occur as dial. forms.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 A Pykke of A Milnere. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxvi. (1748) 372 The mill-stones from the quarr with sharpen'd picks could get. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scott.* (1806) IV. 407 [In splitting blocks of granite] they..dig a row of little oblong grooves..by means of a weighty tool like a hammer, drawn to a blunt point at both ends, and highly tempered at the point. This they call a pick. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Pick*, a hammer for dressing the stones of a flour mill. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Pick*,..a sharp-pointed mason's tool for facing limestone. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss., Pick*, or *Peck*,..a pointed hammer for breaking coal.

II. †2. A spike, a sharp point, as the pointed or piked end of a staff, a hedgehog's prickle or spine, or the like; the spike in the middle of a buckler: = PIKE *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxii, The yrchyn.. his skynne is closyd abowte wyth pickys [*MSS.* pikes] and pryckes. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 318, I had..then come in with a cross blow, and over the pick of his buckler two ells long, it would have cried twang, twang, metal, metal. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Rev.* IV. iii, Take down my Buckler, and sweep the Cobwebs off: and grind the pick ont. 1614-15 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 296 Item for guilding the Iron pickes in the greate posts xv[s]. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. xiv. § 10 (1670) 55 The reason of man hath many visages: it is a two-edged Sword, a Staff with two picks. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 313/1 A strong thick Staff..Hooped with Iron at both ends; into one is fastned a long Pin or Iron pick.

†3. A pikestaff: = PIKE *sb.*[1] 3. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 2241 And to þe gate Beues 3ode..pyk and skrippe be is side. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 192 Though he tip them the piks, they nap him agen.

4. The name of various pointed or pronged instruments: **†a.** for cutting or gathering peas, beans, etc. = PECK *sb.*[2] (quots. 1784-1813). [Cf. obs. Du. *picke* falx frumentaria, messoria, falx qua frumentum inciditur (Kilian).] *Obs.*

1423 in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* III. 548, 2 Pikkys for hacking peas.

b. A pitchfork, a hay-fork (= PIKE *sb.*[1] 3 b); a fork-rake for collecting sea-weed. *dial.*

[1410, 1472: see PIKE *sb.*[1] 3 b.] 1777 in *Horæ Subsec.* 325 (E. D. D.). 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* (1811) 263 *Prong or pick*, a fork for the stable, or for haymaking. 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Pick* or *Pikle*, a hay-fork. 1895 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 33 He [the kelper] is armed with a 'pick', an implement resembling a very strong hay fork, but with prongs set, like those of a rake, at right angles to the handle. With this pick..he grapples the tumbling seaweed and drags it up to the beach.

c. 'A sort of Tool us'd by Carvers' (Phillips 1706). (See PIKE *sb.*[1] 2 c.)

d. *Fishing.* A kind of gaff; an eel-spear; an instrument for detaching limpets. *dial.*

1875 G. C. DAVIES *Rambles Sch. Field-Club* XXXV. 262 'Stand by with the pick, it is a big 'un', and a fine codling was hauled in. The 'pick' was a rude kind of gaff. 1883 — *Norfolk Broads* XXXI. (1884) 244 The [eel-spear] in use on the Yare and Bure is the 'pick', formed of four broad serrated blades or tines, spread out like a fan; and the eels get wedged between these. 1898 *Shetland News* 22 Jan., He took his cuddie an' pick an' guid i' da lempit ebb.

5. An instrument for picking: chiefly in Comb., as EAR-PICK, TOOTHPICK, etc. **b.** Also short for (*a*) TOOTHPICK; (*b*) PICKLOCK (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* I. ii, Undone without Redemption; he eats with picks. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pick*,.. a toothpick. *colloq.*

III. †6. (See quot. 1688.) *Obs.* (= PIKE *sb.*[1] 5.)

1585 *Rec. Leicester* (1905) III. 217, xi lands viz. viii in the midle of the furlong, ii picks of the south side, and on hadland. [*Ibid.*, 4 lands 23 pikes lying south upon Knighton Mere.] 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 137/1 *Pick of land*, is a parcel of Land that runs into a corner. 1775 ASH, *Pick*,.. a small parcel of land, an odd bit of land.

IV. 7. The diamond in playing-cards. Also *transf.*: see quot. 1828. Now *north. dial.*

1598 FLORIO, *Quadri*, squares, those that we call diamonds or picts vpon playing cardes. 1611 COTGR., *Quarreau*,..a Diamond, or Picke, at Cardes. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 48 Those picks or diamonds in the card, With peeps of harts, of club and spade. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 16 The common people, in a great part of Yorkshire, invariably call diamonds, *picks*. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Picks*, the suit of diamonds at cards. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Pick*, 'Picks and hearts', red spots on the shins occasioned by sitting too near the fire.

V. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pick-carrier, -handle, -shaft, -sharpener, -sharper, -shop, -work*; *pick-bearing, -nosed* adjs.; **pick-dressing**, in masonry, a pitted facing produced by a pointed tool, broached hewn-work; **pick-hammer**, (*a*) 'a pointed hammer for dressing granite' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858); (*b*) 'a hammer with a point, used in cobbing' (Raymond *Mining Gloss.* 1881); **pick-hole**: see quot.; **pick-money, -pence**: see quot.

1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 86 The grimy, sweating, cardigan-jacketed, ammunition-booted, *pick-bearing ruffian turns into a well-kept English gentleman. 1888 W. E. NICHOLSON *Gloss. Coal-Trade Terms Northumbld.*, *Pick-carrier. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Pick* sb.[1], *Pick-carrier*, a boy employed to carry the blunt 'picks' to the pick-shop to be sharpened. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, **Pick-dressing*, a tooling of the face of a stone with a sharp pick or hammer. 1894 HESLOP *Northumbld. Wds.*, **Pick-hole*, a wound made by the point of a pick. A miner's term. *Ibid.*, **Pick-money, pick-pence*, the money paid by the hewer to the 'pick sharper'. 1888 W. E. NICHOLSON *Gloss. Coal-Trade Terms*, *Pick-pence. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 349 Item, giffin to ane hors to bere *pykschaftis, spadis, and sic stuf.. vs. xjd. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 86 [He was] batted out by the men with their pickshafts. 1892 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) II. 825 He obtained employment..as a *pick-sharpener. 1888 GREENWELL *Coal Trade Gloss.* 61 The colliery smith (called the *pick sharper). 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 112 When the ground requires some *pick-work..it costs more. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Terms Coal-mining, Pickwork*, cutting coal with a pick.

†Pick, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 picke, *pl.* pykkis. A collateral form, chiefly *Sc.*, of PIKE *sb.*[5], F. *pique*, the military weapon.

Push and pick: hand to hand combat, hand-grips. *To pass the picks* = to pass the pikes: see PIKE *sb.*[5] 2.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iii. 24 All the rowtis of Awsonyanis,.. Furth thryngis at the portis full attonis, With lancis lang and pykkis for the nonis. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 12 The dichting and heding of my lord governouris speris and pikkis. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Chron.* 220 b, Being kept backe with pickes and Iavelyns. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 150 Offering their liues to the push and picke of present death. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Elstride* l, How I past the pickes of painfull woe. 1639 BAILLIE in *S. Boyd's Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 45, I furnished to half-a-dozen..fellows, musquets and picks.

Pick, *sb.*[3] [f. PICK *v.*[1], in various detached uses.]

1. An act of picking; a stroke with something pointed.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ix. 64 The auld waiklie..A dart did cast, quhilk, with a pik, can stynt On his harnys. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i, I'll..take a pick at your head with the boat-hook. 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss., Pick or Bang*, a way of deciding which side is to go in first in any game. A stick is thrown up, and if it falls upright it is *pick*, and *bang* if it falls flatling.

2. The picking *of* a quarrel.

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 38 He understood this expostulation to be nothing but the pick of a Quarrel to assist the French.

3. An act of choosing or selecting; *transf.* that which is selected; the best or choicest portion or example of anything; the choicest product or contents.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 58, I might have my pick and choice of all the..dukes in the nation. 1826 D. ANDERSON *Poems* (ed. 2) 44 (E. D. D.) Purchase goods at Lon'on town Whare he wad get his pick an' wale. 1829 DARWIN in *Life* I. (1887) 177 Letting —— have first pick of the beetles. 1855 BROWNING *Up at a Villa* ix, You get the pick of the news. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 421 The chiefs are the pick and flower of the whole Greek array. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xi, Mamma—I wish you would not say 'the pick of them'..it is rather a vulgar expression. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 6. 90 Customers had to wait..till the buyers of the Abbot had had the pick of the market. 1874 [see BASKET *sb.* 1 d]. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* iv. 117 These young men..were the very pick of the parish. 1896 GRAHAM *Red Scaur* 23 The lad..he's the pick of the basket.

4. The taking of a bit or mouthful *of* food; a slender or sparing meal. Now *dial.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 253/1 He [the cock] *is to be* fed..Every meal having 12 picks, or Corns of Barley. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 30 See, here's my dish, come tak' a pick o't, But, deed, I fear there's scarce a lick o't. 1835 J. D. CARRICK *Laird of Logan* 275 (E. D. D.) There were few in our house could tak ony dinner that day: I took my ordinar pick. 1890 P. H. EMERSON *Wild Life* 96 (E. D. D.) I'm gettin' scrannish [hungry] and could do a pick. 1899 MACMANUS *Chimney Corners* 99 Won't ye sit down and have a pick of dinner with us?

5. The quantity or portion of any crop (as hops, peas, etc.) picked or gathered at one time or turn; a gathering.

1887 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 2/4 American and Californian hops are being gradually cleared off the market,..the second pick is now selling at proportionate value.

6. *Painting.* See quot. and PICK *v.*[1] 17 a.

1836 SMART, *Pick*,..that which is picked in, either by a point or by a pointed pencil. 1882 in OGILVIE; and in later Dicts.

7. *Printing.* **a.** A speck of hardened ink or dirt that gets into the hollows of types in forme and causes a blot on the printed page. **b.** An intrusive bit of metal on an electrotype or stereotype plate.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 387 When..pieces of the,.Film that grows on Inck with standing by, or any dirt, get into the Hollows of the Face of the Letter, that Film or Dirt will fill or choak up the Face of the Letter, and Print Black; and is called a Pick; because the Press-man with the Point of a Needle, picks it out. 1731 BAILEY (ed. 5), *A Pick* (among Printers), a Blot occasioned by Dirt on the Letters. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 352 It will be a Pick, and print black, and deface the work. 1882 J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Printing* (1884) 14 Foreign matter that adheres to the face of a type..causes a blotch in the impression. This is called pick. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Pick*, .. little drops of metal on stereotype plates.

†8. Each of the spots on dice; = PIP *sb.*[2] 1. *Obs. rare.*

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xii. 222 The square, which alwaies falleth right howsouer it be cast, is the Embleme of Constancy, but the vncertainety of the Picks, is the very Type of inconstancy, and mutability.

9. A local name of the bar-tailed godwit.

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 198 Bar-tailed Godwit..Pick (Norfolk), Prine (Essex). From its habit of probing the mud for food.

Pick, *sb.*[4] *north. dial.* [f. PICK *v.*[2]]

1. An act of throwing or pitching, a cast, throw; a push or thrust; = PITCH *sb.*[2]

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 423 He adventured four hundred thousand Sesterces upon every pick of the dice. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., He gave him a pick, and over he went..'Give him a pick-ower'. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Pick*, a sudden push.

2. *Weaving.* A cast or throw of the shuttle; the stroke that drives the shuttle: taken as a unit of measurement in reckoning the speed of the loom.

1851 L. D. B. GORDON in *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. viii**/2 The new looms can be driven at 220 picks per minute. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1696/2 The pick is the blow which drives the shuttle, and is delivered upon the armed head of the shuttle by the *picker-head* on the end of the oscillating *picker-staff*. 1894 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 194 Our Lancashire weaver attends on an average 3.9 looms running 240 picks a minute.

b. *transf.* In textiles, A single thread of the weft (produced by one pick of the shuttle): esp. used in reference to the number of threads in the inch, as determining the fineness of the fabric.

Double pick loom, a loom in which two shots or picks of weft are inserted together into the shed or opening of the warp.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) s.v., The relative quality of cotton cloth is denoted by the number of picks it has to the inch. 1876 HOLDSWORTH (*title*) Ready Reckoner for Hanks in Worsted Pieces, being Tables giving the net yarn in hanks required in pieces from five to fifty picks per quarter inch. 1878 A. BARLOW *Weaving* xxxi. 318 The warp is eight of black and four of white, the filling is pick and pick, black and white. 1898 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 2/1 Most classes of goods have hitherto been made with a

change of shed for each pick of weft put in by the shuttle. The weft in this double Pick Loom is carried on two bobbins placed in a shuttle of the same length as the ordinary one, and such is the nature of the arrangement that the weft is carried through the shed, and one end laid behind the other with the greatest ease.

3. That which is pitched or thrown, as a flat stone in the game of PICKIE. *dial.*

1898 ALICE B. GOMME *Games* II. 451 The pick (a small flat stone) is pitched into No. 1 bed..The player must hop and use the foot on the ground to strike 'pick'.

4. An emetic. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pick*, an emetic. 1880 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. I. 344 The doctor gave him a pick.

Pick, *sb.*[5] *north. dial.* [ad. F. *pique* spade in cards, prop. 'pīke'.] The spade in playing-cards.

1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Picks*, spades; from piques, French. *N. Pick-Ace*, the ace of spades. *N.* 1819 J. BURNESS *Tales* 286 (Jam.) He then laid out the ace o' picks. 1825 JAMIESON, *Picks*, the suit of cards called spades. *Mearns, Aberd.*

Pick, *sb.*[6], northern form of PITCH *sb.*[1]

Pick, *sb.*[7], obs. form of PIKE, mountain peak.

Pick, *sb.*[8], obs. and Sc. variant of PIQUE.

Pick, *sb.*[9], obs. form of PIO [2], the measure.

Pick, *a. colloq.* [attrib. use of PICK *sb.*[3] 3.] Picked, chosen, best.

1819 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 302 We had the pick and choice singers of the two great operas. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 6/4 It is the pick week of the season.

Pick (pik), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1? pic(i)an, 4 **pyken** (5 -yn), **piken**, 4–9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **pike**, **pyke**. *β.* (?4–6 **pik**), 5–7 **picke**, 6 **pycke**, **picque**, *Sc.* **pyk**, **pikk**, 6– **pick**. [This vb. is found with long and short *i*, *pīken*, *pik(k)en*, *pike*, *pick*, of which the former is app. the earlier, but the latter the surviving form in Standard Eng., though *pike* (pəik) survives in the same senses in northern and some midland dialects. The earliest known trace of the word is in the vbl. sb. *picung* (? *ī* or *ĭ*), a gloss on L. *stigmata*, in Corpus Gloss. *c* 725, implying a vb. *pician* (*ī* or *ĭ*) or *pican* to puncture. MS. F. of the OE. Chronicle has, anno 796, a verb uncertainly read *pycan* or *pytan*, more prob. the latter. Otherwise no examples have yet been found before 1300. In sense 1 there is evident connexion with PICK *sb.*[1] 1, PIKE *sb.*[1] 1, and (esp. in 1 b) some agreement of sense with F. *piquer* (which is similarly related to *pic*); but the sense-development in Eng. is very different from that of F. *piquer* and the cognate Pr., Sp., Pg. *picar* and It. *piccare*, which adhere always more or less closely to the sense 'puncture, pierce, prick, sting', a notion which in Eng. barely enters into sense 2, and is entirely absent from the other senses. On the other hand, verbs akin in form and meaning occur in the Middle and Modern stages of the Teutonic langs.: cf. late ON. (13th c.) *pikka*, *þjakka* 'to peck, prick' (Vigf.), Norw. *pikka*, Sw. *picka*, Da. *pikke* to pick, peck, pierce with pointed tool, also to beat, palpitate, throb; MLG., LG., E.Fris. *pikken* to pick, peck, MDu. *picken* to pick, peck as a bird, pierce or strike with beak, cut with sickle or scythe (Kilian); Du. *pikken* to pick, peck; mod.Ger. (from LG.) *picken* to peck as a bird, pick or puncture with a sharp tool (also *pīken*, *pieken*). Compare also Welsh *pigo*, Corn. *piga* 'to prick, sting, pick, peck' (said e.g. of a pin, a thorn, a bird), which goes with *pīg* sb. fem. 'anything pointed, sharp point, beak, bill, neb', with similar forms in Breton, and a large family of derivatives and connected words, from the root *pik-*. All these words in the various languages go back to earlier forms in *pīk-*, *pik-*, *pikk-*; but the question of their ulterior history and relations is involved in obscurity and conflicting difficulties. The Romanic verbs point to an original form **pīccāre*, related to **pīccus*, Sp. *pico*, F. *pic*, for conjectures as to the origin of which see PIKE *sb.*[1], note. In OE., *pīcung* is supported by the sb. *pīic*, *pīc*, PIKE; but there are no cognate words in the other Teutonic languages in their early stage. In Welsh and Cornish, however, *pīgo*, *pīga*, appear to be native words; going back, with the cognate sb. *pīg*, to a Brythonic root *pīk-*, corresponding perhaps to a proto-Celtic **qīk-* (see PIKE *sb.*[1], note). The modern Irish and Gaelic *pic*, *pioc*, and their derivatives are, of course, from English.

The two forms *pick* and *pike* might have been treated as separate words, as in the sbs. PICK[1], PIKE[1]. But in the inflected forms of the vb. in early quots., the length of the *i* is often doubtful, so that the separation would be difficult; and in modern times, *pike* exists only as a dialect form of *pick*. It is therefore most convenient to combine the two under the current literary form *pick*, separating the examples, where possible, under *α* and *β*, and stating in what senses *pike* continues in dialect use. Sometimes there is differentiation: in S. E. Scotch, *pike* is distinct from *pick*, and used only in senses 2, 2 b, 3, b, c; but in other Sc. and Eng. dialects, and in earlier Sc., *pike* is used in other senses also.]

I. 1. *trans.* To pierce, penetrate, indent, dig into, or break the surface of (anything) by striking it with something sharp or pointed, as to break up (ground, a road, etc.) with a pick, to indent the surface of (a millstone); † rarely, to hoe. Also *absol.*, to ply the pick, mattock, pickax, etc.

α. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 272 Pikit him, & dikit him, on scorne said he, He pikes & dikes in length, as him likes, how best it may be. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 17 And..hath þe londe to ferme..to pyken it and to weden it. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 424/1 To whome the..bysshop gafe of his wode as moche as he myght pyke & delue & throwe doun with hys owne handes.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus minor*) 754 He saw a wal wes fow thyke; & his mynowris þare gert he pyke, In entent to caste it done [*for* thyk, pyk, *or* thykke, pykke]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 68, I grapit graithly the gyll, Every modywart hyll, Bot I mycht pyk thair my fyll Or penny com out. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 135 A Mill-stone, though it be lifted vp to be picked and beaten..remaineth parcell of the Mill. 1756 J. LLOYD in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 51, I have often desired the Grinder not to pick his Mill so often with the sharp Pikes. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 369 There is an immense body of ore in sight which can be easily picked and shoveled up. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Terms Coal-mining*, *Pick*.., to dress with a pick the sides of a shaft or other excavation. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Pick the flint*, formerly, to freshen the striking surface of a gun-flint to insure ignition: now used figuratively; as, to pick one's flint and try again. 1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 40 The same lad..can see as far through a millstone as the man picked it. *Mod.* The ground is so hard, that it will be necessary to pick it.

† **b.** Of a bird: To pierce or strike with the bill, to peck; of an insect: to puncture. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 53 Isopes frogges to whom ..Iupiter sent a hearon to picke them in the hedes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 b, Small..wormes, which with their billes and stinges picking the other figs, sodaynely after they are picked, they come to..perfect rypenesse. 1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.*, *Picar*, to picke or pecke... Also to pricke or picke as with a pin or needle. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 107 Shall a silly bird picke her owne brest to nourish her yong ones? 1645 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 45 Or like the Falcon, knit Vnto the Perch..I picke my Iesses; and assay For Libertie, in everie way.

c. To make or form by picking: in phrase *to pick a hole* or *holes in* something. *To pick a hole in a person's coat*: see HOLE *sb.* 9.

1648–1898 [see HOLE *sb.* 9]. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 6 Saint Hierom was the first that ever pickt a hole in the Scriptures. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* XXIX. 503 The most envious and observing eyes..could not pick a hole..in any of his words or actions. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 314 We of the civilized countries have still so much of the savage left in us, that we fall..picking holes in characters, manners, and sentiments. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Pike*, Thou's ollas piking a hole i my cooat. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* IX, Not being able to pick a hole in poor Miss Fotheringay's reputation.

2. To probe or penetrate with a pointed instrument, or the like (e. g. with the finger-nail, or a bird with its beak, etc.), so as to remove any extraneous matter: e. g. *to pick the teeth, the nose, the ear, the nails.*

α. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Stans Puer* 12 in *Babees Bk.* 27 Pike not þi nose; & moost in especial..to-fore þi souereyn cratche ne picke þee noust. *Ibid.* 42 þi teeþ also at þe table picke with no knyf [*v.r.* ne pike not with thi knyff]. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 204 Have yee not seene one..sitting..where yee sitt, pyke his nailes, and pull doun his bonnet ever his eyes, when..vices were rebooked?

β. *c* 1430 (see *α*). 1607 TOPSELL *Hist. Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 239 It is good toward night to pick, cleanse, and open his hoofs, with some artificial instrument. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* III. 36 Like the bold bird upon the banks of Nile, That picks the teeth of the dire crocodile. 1768 LADY M. COKE *Jrnl.* 13 Aug. (1889) II. 336 He picked his Nose, which you know is neither graceful or royal. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 627 He picks clean teeth, and, busy as he seems With an old tavern quill, is hungry yet. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* XXXIV, The Portuguese picked their teeth with their forks.

b. Applied to using the finger-nails to remove or relieve a pimple, scab, or sore place.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* II. X. 193 An *Herpes exedens*..being heated by scratching or picking with their Nails will terminate corrosive. 1854 *Hooper's Physician's Vade Mecum* (ed. 4) 590. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 837 An itching or tingling which induces the patient to pick or scratch the part.

II. 3. To clear or cleanse (a thing), with the fingers or the like, of any extraneous or refuse substance, as to pick a fowl (of its feathers), to pick fruit, as currants, strawberries, etc. (of their stalks, calyx leaves, etc.); to cleanse (anything) by removal of refuse, dirt, or unsuitable parts. *A crow to pick* (properly *pluck*): see CROW *sb.*[1] 3 b.

α. *c* 1325 *W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 153 Eschuvet flatour [*gl.* losenjour] ke seet flater, Trop seet ben espeluker [*gloss* piken]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 162 He satte him thanne doun and pyketh, And wyssh his herbes in the flod. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/2 Pykyn, or clensyn, or cullyn owte the on-clene, *purgo*. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 428 Take flesh of a Roo and pyke hit clene. 1530 PALSGR. 657/1, I pyke or make clene, *je nettoye*... I prye you, pyke my combe. *Ibid.*, I pyke saffrone or any floure or corne, whan I sorte one parte of them from another.

β. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 154 Gather your gooseberries..pick and bottle them. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 226 Put in three sets of goose giblets well picked. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 179/1 To say nothing of all the crows which he finds to pick with his author on his own account. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 273 There was only one thing he could really do properly, and that was, pick birds. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Terms Coal-mining*, *Pick*..3. To remove shale, dirt, &c., from coals.

b. *To pick a bone*, to clean it of all adherent flesh (which in this case is the valuable part); so *to pick a carcass*, etc.: with various constructions. Hence, *fig.* to strip or rob *a person* of all he has, to reduce to starvation or indigence. *To have a bone to pick with any one*: see BONE *sb.* 6 c.

α. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 To Pike A bane, *opisare*, *opicare*. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xxiii, Sum thanes their tennants pykt and squeist. 1737 — *Scot. Prov.* (1776) 33 He's unco fou in his ain house that canna pike a bane in his neighbour's. 1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorks. Dial.*, You can pike that bone.

β. 1579 [see BONE *sb.* 6 c]. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 37, I wrong the Devil, should I pick their bones. 1676 W. Row *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 462 Pick a bishop to the bones, he'll soon gather flesh and blood again. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 33 The Cannibal Mancatchers..that..pick the Bones of all the Paupers that fall into their Clutches. 1730 SWIFT *Death & Daphne* 34 Bare, like a carcase pickt by crows. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 110 [Vultures] pour down upon the carcass; and, in an instant, pick its bones as bare and clean as if they had been scraped by a knife. 1799 SOUTHEY *God's Judgem. Wicked Bishop* xix, They have whetted their teeth against the stones, And now they pick the Bishop's bones. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* i, He could pick the wing of a fowl. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* iv. 35 A leg of mutton..fit for the most delicate lady in Ireland 'to pick'. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* iv, I consider that I have got a bone to pick with Providence about that nose.

c. *intr. Sc.*

c 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* A ij, And cast thee forth a bone to pike vpon. 1565 [see BONE *sb.* 6 c]. 1794 BURNS *Amang the Trees* ii, The hungry bike did scrape and pike Til we were wae and weary, O.

† **4.** To cleanse, make trim or neat, trick out, prank; to deck, adorn; of a bird: to preen (its feathers). Also *absol. Obs.* (Cf. APYKE *v.*)

α. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11191 Þenne come chamberleyns & squiers, Riche robes of mani maners, To folde, to presse, & to pyke [*rime* strike]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 2011 He kembeth hym, he preyneth hym and pyketh. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lv. 237 (Harl. MS.), She lovide ande pikide, fedde, ande tawȝte this childe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 189 b/2 Saynt loye..made clene theyr heedes & wysshe them and them that were lowsy and ful of vermyne he hym self wold pyke and make them clene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B vij b, Then after when she [an hawke] begynnyth to penne, and plumyth, and spalchith and pikith her selfe. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* v. 27 Though she was disteyned before tyme..he clensed her, he pyked her, and made her perfectly trimme in euery poynt. 1552 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Como*, to kembe or decke the busshe:.. to trymme, to attyre, to pyke. [*arch. a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) B vij b, Cembeth thy self, and pyketh now thy self; Sleeketh thy self.]

β. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 243 But the woman..decked and picked herselfe in the hartiest manner. 1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* I. i. (1668) 12 Hounds love naturally to stretch them, and pick themselves in the Sun. 1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 31 A common pond..wherein..Geese, Ducks, do daily duck and pick themselves. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 989 To pick or prain, as a bird doth herself. [*a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* ii. *Garlands*, The Ægyptians..beside the bravery of their garlands, had little birds to peck their heads and brows.]

III. 5. To detach and take, esp. with the fingers, (anything) from the place in which it grows or adheres, or from that which contains it; to pluck, gather, cull (growing flowers, fruit, etc.); said also of a bird, with its beak. See also 18, 19.

α. *c* 1325 *Gloss W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 156 Autre foyȝe le lyn eslyseȝ flax [*gl.* pik thi flax]. *c* 1380 [see *Pick away*, 16]. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II, A iv, Arnold bishop of Metis..at layser made the king to go pike a salet. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Pike*, to pick or take up, to gather.

β. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 23 That the moldywarpe-billes be spredde, and the styckes cleane pycked out of the medowe. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 89 b, Hole nuttes lately pikked from the trees. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 9 Wherefore on a Bricke wall haue I climb'd into this Garden, to see if I can eate Grasse, or picke a Sallet another while. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. v. 15 Wee may picke a thousand sallets ere wee light on such another hearbe. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 229 Pick the female barberries clean from the stalks. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 33 As the gardener's hand Picks from the colewort a green caterpillar. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* I. 12 Tom..longed..to get over a gate, and pick buttercups. 1875–81 To pick hops [see HOP[1] 1, HOP-PICKER]. 1896 H. FREDERIC *Illumination* 117 She picked some of these [pinks] for him.

fig. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 246 The women there are wise, the men craftie: they will gather loue by thy lookes, and picke thy minde out of thy hands. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 48 And how much honor [would then be] Pickt from the chaffe and ruine of the times, To be new varnisht. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (J.), Hope, that he should out of these his enemies distresses pick some fit occasion of advantage. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 130 He picks a living out of others gaines. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1751 Full seldom doth a man repent, or use Both grace and will to pick the vicious quitch Of blood and custom wholly out of him.

† **b.** *fig.* To 'gather' or 'draw' with the mind; to infer, deduce, make out. *Obs.*

1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* (Parker Soc.) 104 And truly, if we mark the place itself, much better doctrine may be pyked of it, than to prefigurate I wot not what manner

of Cross unto us. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 100 Trust me sweete, Out of this silence yet, I pickt a welcome. 1593 — *Lucr.* 100 But she that never coped with stranger eyes, Could pick no meaning from their parling looks. 1621 QUARLES *Div. Poems, Esther* (1717) 104 'Twas not the sharpness of thy wandring eye, (Great King Assuerus) to pick Majesty From out the sadness of a Captive face.

6. Of birds, and some beasts: To take up (grains or small bits of food) with bill or teeth; also, of persons, to bite or eat in small bits or delicately; *colloq.* to eat. Cf. PECK *v.*[1] 4.

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. i. (1558) 20 b, Milke white doues which that piked greine. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 717 Lay before her flies, or little wormes, which by their crauling will stir vp the bird to picke them. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* IV. iv, I'd fain pick a bit with you. 1786 CAPT. T. MORRIS *Songs, Lyra Urban.* (1848) I. 80-2 (Farmer), I hope from their budget they'll pick out a song, While I'll pick a little more dinner. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XXV, 'I think, young woman', said Mrs. Gamp,..'that I could pick a little bit of pickled salmon'. 1862 BORROW *Wild Wales* xlviii. (1901) 154/1 A few miserable sheep picking the wretched herbage. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 167, I picked a meal in fear and trembling. 1893 — *Catriona* 22 We'll pick a bit of dinner.

b. *intr.* To eat with pecking or small bites; of a person, 'to eat slowly and by small morsels' (J.), to eat fastidiously or daintily; *slang* or *colloq.* to take food, to eat. Cf. PECK *v.*[1] 4.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxiii. (1636) 222 For (as it is said) children and chicken, would bee alwayes picking. 1648-78 HEXHAM, *Picken als de vogels*, to Pick as Birds doe. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius' Sat.* III. 231 Why stand'st thou picking? Is thy Pallat sore? 1786 CAPT. T. MORRIS *Songs, Lyra Urban.* (1848) I. 80-82 (Farmer) For me I protest, if it wasn't for shame, I could pick till to-morrow at dinner. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 178 Rather picking than eating any thing, because she affected ill health. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii. 18, I could never do mair than pyke at food. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 74 The milch goats were browsing, and the poultry picking about.

IV. 7. To choose out, select carefully, cull; cf. *pick out*, 19 b. Now chiefly in *to pick one's men, one's words*, etc.

a. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 296 Rathere, if it mihte hir like, The beste wordes wolde I pike. *Ibid.* II. 90 Hou that men schal the wordes pike After the forme of eloquence. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1622) 402 Let us pike our good from out much bad. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. l. 505 He either wholly omitted Nowel's sayings..[or] here and there piked what he thought good. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pike*, v., to pick, to select, to chuse. Dut. *picken*.

β. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 188 [They] purged the olde and corrupt lawes, and picked out of them a certain..most profitable for the commons. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 243 From thence the best Poets ordinarily pick their comparisons to pourtraite the rarest beauties. 1689 I. MATHER in *Andros Tracts* II. 6 They have caused Juries to be pick'd of Men who are not of the Vicinity. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 273 Heav'n..Picks from each sex, to make the Fav'rite blest, Your love of Pleasure, our desire of Rest. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. i. (1869) 29 You can pick your society no where but in London. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1028 Geraint, dismounting, pick'd the lance That pleased him best. 1897 *Evesham Jrnl.* 25 Sept. (E. D. D.), This player was not picked at the committee meeting.

b. Phr. *To pick one's way, steps*: to choose a way carefully through dirty or dangerous ground, in order to avoid its difficulties, etc.

1714 GAY *Trivia* I. 239 Deep through a miry lane she pick'd her way, Above her ancle rose the chalky clay. 1781 CRABBE *Library* 294 While judgment slowly picks his sober way. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, A treacherous place to pick one's steps in. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. iv. 93 The dashing stream Stays not to pick his steps among the rocks. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxxii, She..picked her way between the heather and bracken.

† **c.** To search through (a place). *Obs. rare.*

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 38, I picke hell, you shall not find such reasons.

d. *intr.* To search with some selection.

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xli, A vast collection of letters, ..amongst which she picked for some time..for the missive in question. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 7/1 A bran tub .. from which they will pick for a present.

e. *To pick and choose* (or † *cull*), to select fastidiously or nicely. Often *absol.* or *intr.*

a. c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6032 Noght but golde and stonys Chose and piked for the nonys.

β. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. vii. 80 [They] are 300...chosen and picked out of the most .. excellent archers amongst the Ianissaries. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 37 So little was the resistance he found as he had the liberty to pick and choose. 1666 W. BOGHURST *Loimographia* (1894) 90 Out of which you may pick and choose which you like best. 1705 ADDISON *Prot. to Steele's Tend. Husb.* 17 Our Modern Wifes are forc'd to pick and cull, And here and there by Chance glean up a Fool. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 171 P 3, I shall always pick and cull the Pantry for him. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* II. lxvi. 351 If Men were at Liberty to pick and chuse what they please in the Offices of the Church. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* IV. v. (1873) 290 Picking and choosing the words which are used. *Mod.* Take them as they come; you must not pick and choose.

8. To seek and find an occasion of; as *to pick a quarrel with* († *against, at, to, unto*) a person, † also formerly *to pick fault, to pick (an) occasion of* (offence, etc.) or *occasion to do* (something), etc.

a. c 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 87 The seyde parsone..hathe pekyd a qwarell to on Mastyr Recheforthe. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* x. (*Fox & Wolf*) xxix, Ane wickit man.. pykis at thame all quarrellis that he can. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 17 In his presence they piked a quarrell to the Lorde Richard Graye. 1530 PALSGR. 657/1, I pyke a quarell, or fynde maters to fall out with one for. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* III. vi. (1541) 138 b, They medle with other folkes busines..exhort and giue preceptes, rebuke and correcte, pyke fautes. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 156 b, From whence doth he pike this quarell? 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* IV, Yet some will quarrell pike, And common bruit will deem them all alike.

β. a 1529 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 314 Fyrste pycke a quarell, and fall oute with hym then. 1530 PALSGR. 656/2, I pycke no mater, or I pycke no quarrell to one. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 270 Then is there a causeless quarrel picked against the Popes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 811 Neyther the Lion, nor the Bore shall picke any matter at anye thing here spoken. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 132 Every day some quarrelling matter or other was pickt against him. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. ii. 111, I sall quit you with gud leue, as I may pick occasion. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 182 They..picke what matter they can against him. 1623 LAUD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 242 They..have picked all the occacions they could to detract from mee. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthusiasm* 29 [They] raised Cavils and pickt Quarrels against it. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 367 He will..doubtless, pick new Quarrels at the Definition. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. lvii. 581 These did too often (where they could pick occasion) use rigor towards such as more sincerely and earnestly served God. 1785 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 449 The question is..with whom the Emperor will pick the next quarrel. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. xiv. 325 Some of the men began to pick quarrels.

† **b.** Phrase. *To pick a thank (thanks) of (with)* (a person): to curry favour with, as by sycophancy or tale-bearing; also *absol.*, to play the sycophant or tale-bearer. Cf. PICKTHANK.

a. c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3048 A þank to pike, His lordys wil and witte he iustifieth. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Pet.* 17 False prophetes..whiche eyther to pyke a thanke at yᵉ princes hande or elles..for hatred of other, prophecied the thinge, whiche the spirite of God spake not. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 5 b, Manye of those wryters seke to pike a thanke.

β. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 347 Thinkinge thereby too picke a thanke, and get a rewarde of David. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 55 Least I should seeme either to picke a thanke with men, or a quarel with women. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. xxvi. 235, I will not..pick my selfe a privat thanke for a publike benefit. 1611 COTGR., *Escornifler*, ..to pick a thanke or carry tales for victuals. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Mag.* ii. (1657) 134 Doeg to pick a thank with his Master,..told tales of David and Abimelech. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 481 Some..that would now perchance pick them thank without desert. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 989 To pick thanks, *sycophantari*.

† **c.** *To pick* (*acquaintance* or *chat with*): to seek occasion of, cultivate, make gradually. *Obs.*

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xviii, The doctor was made the first to pick acquaintance. 1770 J. ADAMS *Diary* 19 Aug., Mr. Royal Tyler began to pick chat with me.

V. 9. To rob, plunder (a person or place); to rifle the contents of (anything); † to take by robbery, to steal (goods, etc.). Now only in phr. *To pick* a person's *pocket* or *purse*, also *fig.*, his *brains*.

a. c 1300 *Song of Husbandman* 25 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 150 Thus me pileth the pore and pyketh ful clene. 1301 [see PIKER[1] 1]. *c* 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 178 He [Death] comeþ so baldely, to pike his pray. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2467 *Phillis*, [He] pikid of hire al the good he myghte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 367 He..thoghte he wolde be som weie The tresor pyke and stele aweie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1371 The Grekes..Prayen and pyken mony priuey chambur. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 66 Ther we piken but seely pans Thi secte pikith poundis. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXVIII. 335 Thi close [clothes] so can [= gan] thai fro the pyke. *a* 1476 *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 530/1 If ony be founde..pikeyng purses or other smale thynges. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Pap.* 678, I did persaue, quhen preuelye ȝe did pyke Ane chekin frome ane hen, vnder ane dyke. 1612 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* I. III. 106 To cause youre Officers..pyke shillings from poore Skottismen. [1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 19 An' min' and no pyke the things i' the chop (= shop).]

β. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* (1537) 8 He were a foole which wolde trust hym..that hath pycked his purse before his face. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle of Facions* App. 338 Lette him that shall haue picqued either Golde or Siluer paye the double. 1591 GREENE *Maidens Dreame* x, Delaying law, that picks the client's purse. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, III. iii. 94 Shall I not take mine ease at mine Inne, but I shall haue my Pocket pick'd? 1612 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav.* Wks. (1872) 35 One of them held the good wife with a tale, the whilst another was picking her chest. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. vi, He hath as fine a hand at picking a pocket as a woman. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VII. v, His success in picking the brain of Mr. Onslow of a secret encouraged him. 1879 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXV. 112 A person may very readily pick my pocket of my purse. 1885 T. A. GUTHRIE *Tinted Venus* 89 Want to pick my brains?

b. *intr.* or *absol.* In later use felt as a kind of euphemism for: To practise petty theft, to pick up 'unconsidered trifles', to appropriate small things or portions of things such as it is thought will not be noticed; to pilfer, to filch. Chiefly in phr. *pick and steal*, familiar from the Church Catechism, and now app. associated with sense 5.

a. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 351 This proverbe is evere newe, That stronge lokes maken trewe Of hem that wolden stele and pyke [*v.r.* pile]. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Owen Glendour* iii, The suttle Fox doth pyke.

β. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catech.*, To kepe my handes from picking and stealing. 1552 LATIMER *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 87 Many folks..exhort themselves to do wickedly, to steal, to pick, and to do all lewdness. 1552 HULOET, Picke craftelye, *Manticulor* [printed *Mantiscinor*]. [1565-73 COOPER, *Mantiscinor, aris*, to steale craftily.]

10. To open (a lock) with a pointed instrument, a skeleton key, or the like; to open clandestinely. (Usually with implication of intended robbery.)

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 81 She mynded..To picke the..locke. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 576 Were beauty under twenty locks kept fast, Yet love breaks through and picks them all at last. 1757 R. LLOYD *Ep. Poet.* Wks. 1774 I. 101 If chests he breaks, if locks he picks. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxi, O'Brien pulled out his picklocks to pick it. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xiv, The lock of resolution which neither Time nor Temptation has..picked. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1494 When a key is lost, and the door happens to be locked, a smith will pick it, as it is technically called, with a piece of bent wire.

transf. 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-ways Lit.* viii. 150 (Funk) Cassius..picks Brutus open as easily as he would an oyster.

VI. 11. To separate by picking, to pull or comb asunder: usually with defining adv. or phrase: as *pick to pieces* (also *fig.*); but simply in *pick oakum, pick cotton* or *wool*.

1536 [*implied in* wulpiker: see PICKER[1] 1 f]. 1538 ELYOT *Lat. Dict., Carminarii*, they that do pike [*ed.* 1545 picke] or make clene wulle, or carde. 1565-78 COOPER *Thesaurus, Carminatio*, the picking or carding of wull...He or she that picketh or cardeth wull. 1683 in *New Mills Cloth Manuf.* (S. H. S.) 55 For piking scribbling and oyll. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1694) 105 The girls may be employed in mending the clothes of the aged...The boys in picking okam. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 23 Easy Labour at first, such as picking of Wool or Cotton, teasing of Ockam. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. iv. 83 Power of picking what I say to pieces. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew*, etc. lxxxi. (1878) 449 They'll pick you to pieces a little among themselves. 1874 *Punch* 14 Mar. 110/1 Picking oakum in penal servitude.

b. *intr.* for *pass.* To admit of being picked.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 62 The yarn..will pick into oakum.

12. To pluck the strings of a musical instrument, as the banjo. *U. S.*

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) s.v., In the South, to pick the banjo or guitar, means to play upon these instruments. Comp. the French *pincer*. 1891 *Century Mag.* Nov. 52 He could pick the banjo in a way no one had ever heard it picked before. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 485/1 The strings [of a Polynesian instrument] are strummed, rather than picked.

13. Short for *pick out*, 19 g.

1892 *Cath. News* 23 Jan. 3/2 Picturesque green sashes, picked with black crape.

VII. Intransitive uses with prepositions.

14. *To pick at* —: **a.** To aim at picking, make a motion to pick (in various prec. senses).

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. xlii. 131 This byrde sawe hymselfe so well fethered..he began to waxe prowde, and.. pycked and spurred at them. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 17 Some curious head..may pick at a Moate, and ask me two or three questions out of this Narration. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 143 Muscular tremors, picking at the bedclothes..appear in bad cases [of scarlatina].

b. *fig.* To find fault with, gird at, nag at; to carp or cavil at. Now only *dial.* and *U. S.*

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 9 The second thing calld culpable in him, but was not, was pick'd at by the cross humours of some in the end of Q. Elizabeth's reign. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 605 The Emperor, the Empress, and the Venetians seem all to be picking at the Turks. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxiii, The rising generation began to pick and dab at him. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Pick at*, v. to quarrel with. 'They're always picking at teean t'other', at each other. 1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* ii, When the papers have nothing else to find fault with, they pick at West Point. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 430/2 I'm always being picked at. I wish I was dead.

15. *To pick on, upon* —: = prec. b. Now *U. S. dial.*

c 1370 *Robert Cicyle* 269 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 215/2 Alle men on him gon pike, For he rod oþer vnlike. 1890 MARY E. WILKINS *Mod. Dragon* in *Humble Romance*, etc. (1891) 100, I don't see..what makes you girls for ever pick on each other. 1899 B. W. GREEN *Virginia Word-bk., Pick upon*, to annoy; the other boys always *pick upon* this one.

VIII. In combination with adverbs.

16. Pick away: see senses 1 and 5, and AWAY.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 103 Þe fendis may..pike awey þe seed. 1618 BRATHWAIT *Descr. Death* viii, Fleshie He was, but it is pickt away. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 508 When the membrane had been picked away the optic thalami could be made out.

17. Pick in. a. To work in or fill in, in a painting or drawing.

1836 [see PICK *sb.*[3] 6]. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* ii. 24 Then the shadows are 'picked in' by assistants.

b. *dial.* To pick or take hold of and bring in.

1891 QUILLER COUCH *Noughts & Crosses* 251 My landlady was out in the garden, 'picking in' her week's washing from the thorn hedge. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 3/4 The man..who gets his boat broadside across the lock's entrance, and is superciliously 'picked' in by the..assistant.

18. Pick off. a. See sense 5 and OFF.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1466 Þay prudly hade piked of pom-garnades. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 19 These..just pick'd off from a Taylor's Shop-board. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 588 When the scales are picked off, the apertures of the hair-sacs are seen to be dilated.

b. To shoot with deliberate selection and aim, to shoot one by one. Also *fig.*

1810 *Scandeleur's Lett.* 1 Nov. (1894) 17 Our men are capital shots. I could see them pick the fellows off one at a time just as day began to appear. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 316 The corps of political riflemen..employed in picking off

place after place, however important or serviceable. 1885 *Scribner's Mag.* XXX. 396/1 Partisan rangers..picking off an English officer with as little ruth as they felt in shooting a stag.

19. Pick out. a. To extract by picking (senses 1, 2, 5); to dig out, peck out. Also *fig.* In quot. 1843, to undo by extracting the stitches one by one.

α. *c*1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 401 ȝif þin iȝe sclaundre þee, pyke it out. *c*1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 28 Ye must.. diligently clodde it, pyke out stones. 1530 Palsgr. 657/1, I pyke out, as a ravyn dothe a deed beestes eye. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* Pref., The like..Allegories I could pike out of other Poeticall fictions. 1861 Ramsay *Remin.* Ser. II. 74 Corbies winna pike out corbies' een.

β. 1388 Wyclif *Prov.* xxx. 17 Crowis of the stronde picke [1382 pecken] out thilke iȝe, that scorneth the fadir. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. iii. 276 Go too sir, you were beaten in Italy for picking a kernell out of a Pomgranat. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 824 They shewed them the vse..to pick out thornes in their feet. 1725 B. Higgons *Rem. Burnet* Hist. Wks. 1736 II. II. 120 To breed up young Presbyterians with the Money of the Church of England, to pick out her Eyes. *a*1756 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* (1771) 64 Pick the mussels out from the shells. 1843 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 246 Picking out her sewing has been such sorrowful work. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 555 Small plugs of horny epidermis can be picked out, leaving pits behind.

b. To select, to choose out with care or deliberation; in recent use said also of natural agents, as diseases.

1530 Palsgr. 657/1, I can pyke out the best and I were blyndefelde. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 122 The most general thyngys..wych among infynyte other, I haue pykyd out. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 403 Could the World picke thee out three such Enemyes againe? 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 291 ¶ 10 He then bid him pick out the Chaff from among the Corn. *a*1758 Ramsay *Fables* xvii. 20 Take the canniest gate to ease, And pike out joys by twas and threes. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iv. II. 316 A guide..can almost always pick out at a glance the most practicable line of assault. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 710 These fibres in the peripheral nerves which when picked out by disease give rise to incoordination of movement.

† c. To extract or gain with effort, to acquire; = *pick up*, 20 c. *Obs.*

1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 174 The good husband by cherishing of them [Bees], picketh out many times a good peece of his liuing. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* II. Wks. 1873 II. 295, I picke out a poore liuing amongst em: and I am thankefull for it.

d. To distinguish from surrounding objects, etc., with the senses.

1552 Latimer *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 30 He will not forget us, for he seeth us in every corner; he can pick us out, when it is his will and pleasure. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* Ind. i. 24 Why Belman is as good as he my Lord, He ..twice to day pick'd out the dullest sent. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* xv, Now and then Bell picked out the call of a thrush or a blackbird. 1873 — *Pr. Thule* i, An eye accustomed to pick out objects far at sea.

e. To make out or gather (sense or meaning); to piece out and ascertain (facts) by combining separate fragments or items of information.

1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) A iij, Because euerye body shall picke out the ways of liuing out of these mens authoritie. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xviii. (Arb.) 198 We dissemble againe..when we speake by way of riddle (Enigma) of which the sence can hardly be picked out. 1607 Beaumont *Woman Hater* I. iii, He brings me informations, pick'd out of broken words, in men's common talk. 1678 (ed. 2) Bunyan *Pilgr.* (1847) 129 Hopeful ..called to Christian (for he was learned) to see if he could pick out the meaning..'Remember Lot's Wife.' 1882 M. Arnold *Speech at Eton* in *Irish Ess.* 185 Goethe..did not know Greek well and had to pick out its meaning by the help of a Latin translation.

f. To identify the notes of (a tune) and so play it by ear.

1893 Stevenson *Catriona* v. 55 She picked it out upon the keyboard, and..enriched the same with well-sounding chords. 1901 H. Harland *Com. & Errors* 97 If I were to pick it out for you on the piano, you would scoff at it.

g. To deck out, to adorn; now *spec.* to lighten or relieve the ground colour of (anything) by lines or spots of a contrasted colour following the outlines, mouldings, etc.

*c*1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 621 Thay had graces of whilk thaire pride thai myght pike out. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) I. 193 The picking out to a carriage is the ornamenting the ground with various contrasted colours, which is to lighten the appearance, and shew the mouldings to advantage. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* VIII. v, The ceiling.. was richly gilt and picked out in violet. 1882 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 257 A few are 'picked out', as a coach painter might say, with bright scarlet.. 1897 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 2/2 Every arch and capital..was outlined, and as the expression is 'picked out' by holly, ivy, laurustinus, &c.

20. Pick up.

a. To break up (ground) with a pick; to extract from the ground by picking; to take up.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 104 And summe, to plese perkyn, pykeden [B. VI. 113 piked] vp þe weodes. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 37 A pike for to pike them [fitchis] vp handsom to drie. 1894 *Times* 21 May 4/4 A gang of men was sent..to pick up and relay the part of Onslow-gardens.

b. To take up with the fingers or beak; to lay hold of and take up (esp. a small object) from the ground or any low position; to lift lightly, smartly, or neatly; in *Knitting*, to take up (stitches) with a knitting-needle or wire. *To pick oneself up*, to recover oneself smartly from a fall, etc.

*c*1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 237 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 334 He doth the wif sethe a chapoun and piece beof,..The best he piketh up himself, and maketh his mawe touht. *a*1704 Locke (J.), The acorns he picked up under an oak in the wood. 1721 Budgell *Spect.* No. 77 ¶1 Will. had picked up a small Pebble. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 338 Its common food should be mixed with ants, so that when the bird goes to pick the ants it may pick up some of that also. 1809 Roland *Fencing* 99 Pick up his foil and deliver it politely to him. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ii, Tom picked himself up, and settled himself on his bench again. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xxi, Picks up her feet nicely, doesn't she? 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 32 Pick up the side loops for right-hand gusset, cast on the same number of loops as were on the needle before the heel began to be turned (28), and pick up the loops for the left-hand gusset. 1898 *Spectator* 3 Dec. 837 The broken cable of 1865 was picked up and repaired.

transf. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 258 The condenser..framed with the view of picking up the greatest number of rays from the source of light.

c. To acquire, attain, gain, earn, collect, gather, or get possession of as chance or opportunity offers; to come upon and possess oneself of; to make (a livelihood) by occasional opportunity.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. Prol. 35 This text is full of storyis euery deill, Realmes and landis, quharof I haue na feill..To pike thame wp perchance ȝour eene suld reill. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. ii. 36 If in our youths we could pick up some pretty estate, 'twere not amiss to keep our doors hatched. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 102 This ridiculous fable which Plato had pick'd up. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. I. 167 By this Trade the Freemen of Malacca pick up a good livelihood. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 159 ¶1 When I was at Grand Cairo, I picked up several Oriental Manuscripts. 1750 H. Walpole *Let. to Mann* 10 Jan., If you can pick me up any fragments of old painted glass.. I shall be excessively obliged to you. 1788 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 209 Exhibiting them in every capital town, he picked up some money. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* (1850) I. 227 During his residence in Cuba [he] had picked up some acquaintance with the Castilian. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* lv, He spoke but little..but listened to pick up their characters. 1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 80, I picked it up for a song. 1886 J. R. Rees *Pleas. Bk.-Worm* I, 'I picked it up' has become a recognised phrase in all kinds of collecting manias. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 84 There were many ways of picking up a livelihood by these gentlemen. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 673 The white child..is not so quick in picking up parlour tricks.

d. To seize, snap up, capture (a vessel), as on a cruise; to capture in detail. Now *rare.*

1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 110 The Christian Corsairs pick up several of them [vessels] now and then. 1779 F. Hervey *Nav. Hist.* II. 148 Blake was very active in the Channel, in picking up their merchantmen. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 265 A fishing boat, which..had been picked up by the French for the sake of intelligence. 1885 U. S. Grant *Personal Mem.* xxii. I. 309 He had.. scattered the little army..so that the most of it could be picked up in detail.

e. To take (a person or thing overtaken or fallen in with) along with one, into one's company, or into a vessel or vehicle; also said of a vehicle, a ship, etc.

1698 Vanbrugh *Prov. Wife* IV. iii, So—now, Mr. Constable, shall you and I go pick up a whore together? 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5474/4 Whoever has pickt her [a lost bitch] up,.. shall receive 10s. Reward. 1820 J. W. Croker *Diary* 10 Mar., Lord Yarmouth..came over to pick me up on our way to town. 1834 Pringle *Afr. Sk.* vi. 200 Picked up in their boats by a vessel homeward bound. 1839 W. Chambers *Tour Belgium* 73/1 One of the many omnibusses which drive round to pick up passengers from the hotels. 1840 Marryat *Poor Jack* xiii, He was picked up by a gentleman ..in a wherry, holding on to the wool of a sheep which.. was swimming. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* (1900) 139/1 To walk to the first station onward, and let the train pick him up there. *Mod.* (Train) Stops to pick up passengers for London.

f. To come upon, find (a path, etc.), *esp.* to recover, regain (a track, trail, etc. lost or departed from); to catch sight of (a light, signal, etc.). *To pick up a wind*: see quot. 1867. *To pick up the range* (of a rifle or gun).

1857 Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 210 It was now time to run down West and pick up the land. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 30 No stranger should attempt to pick up the..Light in thick weather, nor enter the port at night. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pick up a wind*,..to run from one trade or prevalent wind to another, with as little intervening calm as possible. 1876 G. F. Chambers *Astron.* 658 Suppose that the observer suddenly picks up an unknown comet. 1880 Sutherland *Tales Goldfields* 58 He was fortunate enough to pick up the track. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 209 The advance guard could ..pick up the trail on more favourable ground. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 10/1 If the fireman as well as the driver had been picking up the Slough signals there would have been no accident. 1901 *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 5/6 They considered that their system was just as useful, if not better, for picking up the range.

g. Phrases: *To pick up one's crumbs*: see Crumb *sb.* 4. *To pick up flesh*: to regain flesh, put on flesh again. *To pick up* (*one's*) *spirit, courage*, etc.: to 'pluck up' heart; also *transf.* of restoratives, etc.: to restore to health or energy. *To pick up a room* (U. S.): see quot. 1889.

*c*1645–1888 [see Crumb *sb.* 4]. 1730–6 Bailey (folio), *To Pick up One's Crums*, to gather strength. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 79 He has pick'd up his Flesh, and promises to enjoy a good Habit of Body. 1790 J. Bruce *Source of Nile* I. 195, I picked up courage, and..said..without trepidation, 'What men are these before?' 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* iii, She had so far picked up her spirits. 1872 *Punch* 29 June 269/1 The process of pulling myself together and picking myself up. 1889 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under Arms* xlii, I suppose a decent dinner will pick me up. 1889 Farmer *Dict. Amer.* s.v. *Pick, To pick up a room*, is a New England phrase for putting it in order.

h. *intr.* To recover health, strength, or energy after an illness; to grow well again; to recover, improve, 'look up', after any check or depression.

1741 Richardson *Pamela* I. 237 Now this Woman sees me pick up so fast, she uses me worse. 1751 Gray *Lett., to Wharton* 10 Oct., His College, which had much declined for some time, is picking up again. 1804 Scott in Lockhart *Life* 21 Aug., He was sent down here..in a half-starved state, but begins to pick up a little. 1849 C. Sturt *Exp. Centr. Australia* I. 262 The fact of the natives having crossed the plain confirmed my impression that the creek picked up [*i.e.* recovered itself] beyond it. 1864 Geo. Eliot in Cross *Life* II. 389 He is wonderful for the rapidity with which he 'picks up' after looking alarmingly feeble. 1896 *Indianap. Typogr. Jrnl.* 16 Nov. 404 Business in our trade is rapidly picking up.

i. To enter into conversation, make acquaintance or companionship *with* (some one casually met).

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Aug. 3 On the railway to Cologne he had picked up with Jones. 1884 G. Allen *Philistia* I. 13 Herbert..had picked up at once with a Polish exile in a corner. *Ibid.* 45 So you've let your Polly go and pick up with some young man from town.

Pick (pik), *v.*[2] Also 4 **pykke, pik(ke,** 6–7 **picke,** 6 **pycke.** Now only *dial.* or *techn.* [A collateral form of Pitch *v.*[1]

In ME. known only in Petyt MS. of R. Brunne (exc. l. 9939, where *pykke* may be Pick *v.*[1]).]

†1. *trans.* To fix, stick, plant (something pointed) in the ground, etc.; to pitch (a tent or the like). *Obs. rare.*

*c*1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4645–6 þey..pyght [*Petyt MS.* piked] þeym pauylons & tente. Right als þey picched [*Petyt* piked] þer pauylons, Cam Cassibolan. [*Ibid.* 9939 He dide hewe tres & pykke, & palysed hit aboute ful þykke.] *Ibid.* 12512 His paulons, his penceles, þykke Nought fer fro þenne had þey don wyk [*Petyt MS.* pikke]. *a*1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 106 [They] picked stakes before every Archer, to breke the force of the horsemen. 1597–1602 *Transcr. W. Riding Sessions Rolls* (Yorks. Archæol. Assoc.) 118 Sett in the Stocks..with feathers picked in his apparaile.

2. To thrust, drive; to pitch, hurl; to throw. Now *dial.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. clxiii. 201 The frenche squyer dyd pycke his swerde at hym, and by happe strake hym through both the thyes. ?15.. *Flodden F.* 316 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 332 He..keeped me within his woone till I was able of my selfe both to shoote & picke the stone. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 184 Seeking to ouerthrowe him & to picke him on his nose. *Ibid.*, To catch him vpon the hip, and to pick him on his neck. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* I. i. 204 As high As I could picke my Lance. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 989 To pick or throw, *projicere*. 1762 Comyns *Digest Laws Eng.* (1780) I. 190 I'll have thee picked over the Bar [cf. Bar *sb.*[1] 24]. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., He tried to pick me down. 1870 Axon *Folk Song Lanc.* 15 Hoo pick'd him o' th' hillock. [In many northern and north-midl. dial. glossaries.]

b. *spec.* To throw (hay or corn) with a pitch-fork (upon a cart or stack). *dial.*

1880 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Pich*,..to lift up sheaves of corn to the stack.

3. *intr.* To throw, cast; *spec.* (also *pick over*) to throw the shuttle across the loom. Cf. Pick *sb.*[4] 2.

1530 Palsgr. 657/2, I pycke with an arrowe, *je darde*... I holde a grote I pycke as farre with an arowe as you. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 120/28 To Pick, *iaculari*. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 333 To Picke, or cast. 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *M. Barton* iv, He ne'er picked ower i' his loife. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss.* s.v., To pick also means to throw the shuttle, and the thread thus laid is called a 'pick'...'To pick a pick' is to throw the shuttle once across.

4. *intr.* To pitch or fall forward, as in † *to pick over the perch*: cf. Peak *v.*[1] 1 b.

1591 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 95 If anie pearch higher than in dutie they ought, I would they might sodenly picke over the pearch for me. 1883 Gresley *Gloss. Terms Coal-mining*, *Pick away*, to *dip* rapidly.

5. *trans.* Of animals: To bring forth prematurely (= Cast *v.* 21). Common in *dial.* and rustic use.

1790 Mrs. Wheeler *Westmld. Dial.* 55 We hed twoa Kaws pickt Coaf. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 191 Lord Strathmore's Heroine..picked twins by Remembrancer, a short time since. 1849 Stephens *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 221/2 Ewes in lamb..kept in a wet lair, will pick lamb, that is, suffer abortion. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 326 Two of my cows picked calf.

6. (Chiefly *pick up.*) To vomit, 'cast up', 'throw up'; † formerly also *intr.* to come up, be vomited. Now only *north. dial.*

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1704/1 His meate woulde not go downe, but rise & picke vp agayne. 1566 Drant *Wail. Hierim.* K iv, My lyver pyckte up, through great force, tremblyng on grounde dyd tumble. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pick*, to vomit. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, *To Pick up*, to vomit or pitch up.

7. *Pick on*, to pitch upon, fix upon, choose. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 267 The first twa that he picked on War Rab and Jock the Tar. 1883 Mrs. F. Mann *Parish of Hilly* xi. 135 She .. picks upon the most beautiful thing she knows, and shapes her angels accordingly. 1894 W. G. Stevenson *Puddin* iii. 52 He picked on one of the porters waiting at the gate for a job.

Pick, *v.*[3], north. dial. form of Pitch *v.*[2]

Pick, picke, obs. forms of Pique.

Pick- in *Comb.* Mostly the stem or imperative of PICK *v.*[1] with an object, forming sbs.

Pick-a-bud *dial.*, the bullfinch; **pick-cheese** *dial.*, the great and blue tits; the fruit or cheese of the mallow; †**pick-fault** *sb.*, a fault-finder; *adj.* fault-finding; †**pick-harness**, one who strips the slain of their armour; †**pick-mote**, one who draws attention to trivial faults in others; †**pick-penny**, one who greedily collects or steals money; †**pick-point**, some obsolete game for children; **pick-shelf**, a pilferer of provisions; †**pick-straw**, a trifler: cf. *to pick straw* s. v. STRAW *sb.*; **pick-thong** *dial.*, a kind of apple. Also †**pick-free** *a.*, safe from picking or plundering. See also PICK-A-TREE, PICKLOCK, PICKPOCKET, PICKTHANK, etc.

1852 *P. Parley's Ann.* 182 The bullfinch has got a very bad character, and gardeners have a great dislike to what they call the '*Pick-a-bud'. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, **Pick-cheese*, the tit-mouse. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2186 *Parus major* and *cæruleus* are both known by the name of 'pick-cheese'. 1863 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* (1864) 229 They was mostlings thae blue-caps or pick-cheeses. 1895 EMERSON *Birds* 64 Tree-mallows or 'pick-cheese trees', as they are locally called. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) A ij, I neuer intended nor yet doo entende to satisfie yᵉ mindes of any suche *pikefautes. 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 120 The Manichees, busy pickefault heretikes of that age. *a* 1652 BROME *Court Beggar* Epil., You wil secure their Purses cut-free, and their pockts *pick-free. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 261 Alle other in bataille ben yholde bribours, Pilours and *pykehernois [1393 C. xxiii. 263 pyke-herneys]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* II. 37 How! pike-harnes, how! com heder belife! 1549 LATIMER 3*rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 80 Kinges haue clawe backes and docter *pyke mote and his fellowe aboute them. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/1 *Pykepeny, *cupidinarius*. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* ix. 143 [The Pope] sending out..his hungry Pick-peny's throughout the whole Pastorage of the Empire. 1801 STRUTT *Sp. & Past.* IV. iv. § 16 *Pick-point, Venter-point, Blow-point, and Gregory, occur in a description of the children's games in the sixteenth century. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 295 The ship's cat..an incorrigible thief and *pick-shelf, and bent on making the most of us while we last. 1580 G. HARVEY *Let. Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 72, I know what peace and quietnes hath done with some melancholy *pickstrawes in the world. 1871 T. HARDY *Desperate Remedies* I. viii. 274 We are only just grinden down the early *pick-thongs.

Pi·ck-a-back, *adv. phr.* (*a.*, *sb.*) Forms: *α.* 6–7 **a pick back**, 6–9 **pickback**, 8– **a pick-a-back, pick-a-back** (*dial.* 9 **pack-a-back, picki-, picky-back**). *β.* 6–7 **on pick-pack(e, 7 a pick-pack, a pick-a-pack**, 7–9 *dial.* **pick-pack, pick-a-pack**. *γ.* 8 **on pig back**, 9 *dial.* **pig-aback, pigga-back, pig-back, piggy-back**. [Origin and form uncertain; the earliest examples have *back*, but the usual 17th c. forms had *pack*, which still occurs in some dialects; the primitive form was perh. either *a pick back* or *a pick pack*, whence, by dropping *a*, the later *pick-, pick-a-, pig-, pig-a-*, etc.

The evidence does not show whether the expression originally referred to a *pack picked* (pitched) on the back or shoulders, or to the *back* on which it is pitched; nor does it appear whether *a pick* answered to the F. *à pic* 'vertically, perpendicularly', was due to reduplication as in *tip-top*, etc., or had some other source. Cf. Ger. *huckepack* in same sense, found in Low and Middle Ger. from 18th c., which Schambach refers to *pack* the bundle carried (see Grimm s. v.). Whatever the origin, it is evident that popular etymology analysed it in various ways from a very early date.]

On the shoulders or back like a pack or bundle: said in reference to a person (or animal) carried in this way.

α. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* 42 b, To easy..is that way to heauen, whereto we may be caried a pickbacke on a Roode. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 12/1 [The pope] being caried pickbacke on mens shoulders. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 72 For as our modern Wits behold, Mounted a Pick-back on the Old. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1185 One of the leopards was carried by his keeper a pick-a-back. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxviii, If I find it necessary to carry you away, pick-a-back. 1884 M. G. HUMPHREYS in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 842/2 They..bring the men pick-back triumphantly to shore. 1896 E. A. KING *Ital. Highways* 114 Pulcinello..travels pick-a-back on the shoulders of a lean old woman.

β. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xxxix. xlvii, Now Brandimart ..leaps behind, a pick pack, on his backe, And holds his armes. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. vi, By this light, I'le carry you away o' my backe [*Stage-direction.* He gets him vp on pick-packe]. 1655 *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 222 'Tis now the new fashion for Maydens in toun to ride a Pick Pack. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 75 St. Christopher carried Christ a Pick-pack over an Arm of the Sea. 1682 tr. *Selden's Eng. Janus* Auth. Pref., Such creatures as carry the Goddess Nemesis on pickpack. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccxlviii. (1714) 263 Ina Hurry..carries the Other a Pick-a-Pack upon her Shoulders. 1858 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* iv. § 2 (1860) 205 Like a cottage perched pick-a-pack on a church roof. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 438/2 [In China] we overtook a beggar and his wife traveling pick-a-pack along the stone road.

γ. 1783 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* (ed. Morell) s. v. *Back*, To carry on pig back, *humeris. ferre. a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pig-back*, on the back. 1888 *Voice* (N. Y.) 31 May, To see us perched 'piggy-back' crossing the stream.

b. quasi-*adj.* and *sb.*

(With quot. *c* 1590 cf. BACK *sb.* 23 d.)

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ii. 89 Mary sir, hee'le straight bee on your pickpacke to know whether the feminine or the masculine gender be most worthy. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *New Year's Coming of Age*, E'en whipt him over his shoulders pick-a-back fashion. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. ii. 89 A pickaback ride through the surf in a dirty fellow's grasp.

Pi·ckable, *a.* [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] Capable of being picked.

1895 *Naturalist Mag.* No. 241. 225 The Journal..furnishes the key to this lock hardly pickable by the general.

Pick-a-bud: see PICK-. **Pickadevant,-aunt, pick-a-divant,** var. PICKE-DEVANT *Obs.*

Pickadil, -adilly, -ardil, var. ff. PICCADILL.

Pickage, piccage (pi·kėdʒ). Forms: 4 **pyk-**, 5 **pyck-**, 7–8 **pic-**, 7– **pick-, piccage**. [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -AGE. In AF. *picage* (Calais 1376), med.(Anglo-) L. *picāgium* (Du Cange), f. F. *piquer*: cf. PICK *v.*[1]] A toll paid for breaking the ground in setting up booths, stalls, tents, etc. at fairs.

1364 in *Cal. Letters City Lond.* (1885) 105 [They are and ought to be quit of] pykage. [1376 *Rolls of Parl.* II. 359/1 (Reply to Burgesses of Calais) Lastallage..et auxint le picage en la Marche.] *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 29 To paye toll, pyckage, murage, or grondage. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* III. iv. 70 Immunities and Exemptions from ..Pontage, Picage, Murage. 1627 F. LITTLE *Mon. Chr. Munif.* (1871) 31 The pickage, stallage and tolls usually paid by buyers and sellers to the lord of the fair. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Hitchin*, Paying piccage and stallage to the lordship of the manor. 1864 *Leeds Mercury* 30 May, On Saturday, the pickage and stallage of the Wigan market were let by tender for twelve months, for the sum of £560. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 246 All tolls, dues, piccage, stallage, and other profits..to such market..belonging.

Pickande, -ant, -ante, obs. ff. PIQUANT.

Pickaninny, variant of PICCANINNY.

†**Pi·ckard.** *Obs.* [For *pick-card*, f. PICK *sb.*[1] 2 + CARD *sb.*[1]] A card with iron spikes or teeth, for raising a nap on cloth, as distinguished from a green or thistle-card (of teasel).

1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 1 Noe person shall..occupye anye yeron cardes or pyckardes in rowninge of anye sett-Clothe..upon payne to forfeyte..the saide Yeron cardes or pickardes. 1619 DALTON *Countrey Just.* xi. (1630) 43. 1801 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 456 For a machine..for dressing or dubbing cloths, either wet or dry, otherwise than by green cards and pickards.

Pickard, Pickaroon, var. PICARD, PICAROON.

Pickaternie, var. PICTARNIE, the common tern.

Pickatevant, var. PICKE-DEVANT *Obs.*

Pick-a-tree, pickatree. Chiefly *north.* Also 7 **picktree, pictree.** [f. PICK- in comb. + TREE.] The great green woodpecker.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 134 A nimble Squirrell or a picke-a-tree. 1647 J. HALL *Poems* I. *Satire* 62 Pictrees feed the devil nine times a day. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 276/1 A Wood-pecker, or Wood-spite,.. in the North of England Pickatrees. 1831 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 372 *Pick-a-tree*, a name for the Popinjay. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 100.

Pickax, pickaxe (pi·kˌæks), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4 **pyk-, pycoys(e, pykois(e**, 4–5 **picois, pikoys, 5 pikoise, pic(k)oys, -oss, pycos(s, pykoys, pecoyse, pyquoys, pycows**. *β.* 4–5 **pykeys, 5 pikeys, pykeis, -as, picas, peyckes, 6 pykes**. *γ.* 5 **pek-ex, picaxse**, 5–7 **pykax, pykeaxe, 6 pikeax**, 6–7 **pickeax(e, 7– pickax**, 8– **pickaxe**. [ME. *pikoys, picois*, a. OF. *picois* pickax (11th c.), med. L. *picosi-um*, connected with OF. *pic*: see PIKE *sb.*[1] The later form arose from confounding the suffix with AX *sb. Pickis, peckis* survive in s.w. dial.]

A tool consisting of a curved iron bar with two sharp points at the ends and a handle set at right angles in the middle, used for digging or breaking up hard ground, stones, etc.; a miner's, quarryman's, or digger's pick: = PICK *sb.*[1] I. In early use often identified with a mattock.

[1157–8 *Grt. Rolls of Pipe* 2–4 *Hen. II* (1844) 168 In Picosiis .xiii. s. & .v. d. 1292 in J. Stevenson *Histor. Doc., Scotl.* (1870) 344, iiij testes de pykoys.]

α. 1329–30 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 17, j pykoys.. emend. pykoss' molendini. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 307 Eche man to pleye with a plow, pykoys or spade. 1382 WYCLIF *Joel* iii. 10 Bete .. 3our plowis in to swerdis, and 3our pikoysis [*gloss* or mattokis] in to speris. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1153 Yit toles moo The mattok, twyble, picoys forth to goo. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 627/20 *Ligo*, pycows. 1458 in Leland *Itin.* (1769) VII. 80 The peple preved her power with the pecoyse [*rume* noyse]. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* xcii. 142 Grete plente of pyquoys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 31 A Byll or A pickoss, *fossorium*, *ligo*. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xiv. 37 Pycosis, sawes, axes, nayles.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 941 Mattok is a pykeys, Or a pyke, as sum men seys. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 387 Every man Shulde withe Pikeys or with bille The Wallis over throwe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/1 Pykeys, mattokke, *ligo, marra*. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xxxv. 31 b/1 He founde neyther pykeys ne shouel for to make a pytt or graue. 1495 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamb. Cases* 54 Item j peyckes iiij*d*. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 150 A pykas & ij pyles shoue weying xiij lb. 1497 *Ibid.* 84 Picases..Shovills..Scopes. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Poems agst. Garnesche* Wks. 1843 I. 122 A pykes or a twybyll. 1842 PULMAN *Rustic Sketches, E. Devon* (1853) 18 (E.D.D.) Wi' shoulder'd shule and peckiss. 1887 DAWSON *Bp. Hannington* vi, At 7 a.m. we all turned out with pickisses, two-bills, crowbars and spades.

γ. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 266 Of þe howe or a pek-ex wherwyth 3e muste stubbe out þe grauel. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxviii. 361 We shall take eche of vs a pykeaxe.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxix. 48 With a Pykax or Mattoke, with his owne hande, breke the grounde. *Ibid.* VII. 497 With longe pycaxes and sharpe, approched them vnto the wallys. 1530 FALSGR. 254/1 Picke axe, *picq, hoiau, pique de fer.* 1578 T. N. *Conq. W. India* 332 Twelve labourers with pikeaxes and shovels. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit., Irel.* II. 151 An yron toole, to wit, a Pykax. 1611 COTGR., *Picquois*, a Pickax. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 43 ₱ 10 A single stroke of the pick-ax. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 138 Solid rock, so hard and so thick, as to bid defiance to the pick-axes and the mattocks of our labourers. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 354 The weapons by which the Highlanders could be most effectually subdued were the pickaxe and the spade.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **Pickax team,** a pair of horses with a third horse in front, a unicorn team.

1878 in J. Philipson *Harness* (1882) 51, I have driven pick-axe teams..but although safer than a tandem, I cannot say I like that single leader. 1882 *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 25 The pickaxe-beaked starling. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 108 The things his pick-axe beak might steal. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 7/1 Her jaw has a pickaxe-like motion.

Pi·ckax, pi·ckaxe, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] **a.** *trans.* To break with a pickax. **b.** *intr.* To work with or use a pickax.

1887 FRITH *Autobiog.* II. 83 The workmen..pickaxing away the lava and ashes. 1892 *Temple Bar Mag.* Nov. 417 The cliff has been blasted and pickaxed away.

Pickback, variant of PICK-A-BACK.

Pick-cheese: see PICK- *in comb.*

Picked (pi·kėd), *a.* [f. PICK *sb.*[1] 2 + -ED[2].]

1. Having a pike or sharp point; acuminated, pointed, spiked; = PEAKED *a.* 1, PIKED *a.* 1. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 61 Harpe & giterne þere may y leere, And pickid staffe & buckelere, þere-wiþ to plawe. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 3 They have for the mark and stamp of their Money, the three picked Mace, which is the sign of Neptune. 1628 *World Encomp. by Sir F. Drake* 25 Picked rockes like towers. 1669 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 70 The shield is to be made picked at both ends. 1686 tr. *Livy* I. xliii. 25 But their Arms were changed..a Javelin, and a picked Dart like a Spit. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 30 Nov. (O. H. S.) II. 316 Twas triangular, but picked & sharp at top. 1763 GRAY *Let.* in W. Mason *Mem.* (1807) II. 184 The tall picked arches, the light clustered columns. *a* 1845 HOOD *Lost Heir* 84 To..be poked up behind with a picked pointed pole, when the soot has ketch'd, and the chimbly's red hot. 1863 PRIOR *Pop. Names Brit. Plants* (1879) 90 Gad is still used in our Western counties for a picked stick. 1863 J. R. WISE *New Forest* Gloss. 284 'A picked piece' means a field with one or more sharp angular corners. 1887 S. H. A. HERVEY *Wedmore Chron.* I. 327 (E. D. D.) Children still use 'picked' of a pencil with a good point to it.

b. In names of animals, etc.: Having prickles or spines, spiny; as *the picked dog-fish* (*Spinax acanthius*): cf. PIKED *a.* 1 b.

1758 *Descr. Thames* 235 Fins, on..which are placed two Spines or Thorns, from whence he is called the Picked Dog-Fish. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 1975 Picked Dog, Spear Dog, *Spinax acanthius*. 1862 WOOD *Reptiles, Fishes*, etc. 74 The Picked Dog-fish derives its name from the powerful.. weapons with which it is armed..the word Picked is a dissyllable, and must be pronounced Pick-ed.

†**2.** Peaked, tapering to a thin end. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Pycked head, whiche is sharpe about lyke a suger lofe, *argutum caput*. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 63 Yellow or red slip-shooes, picked at the toe. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 156 Sorrel has a..three-square seed, which is picked at both ends. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 25 The top of this Mountain seems to be very picked. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Dec., Dragoons..habited after the Polish manner, with long picked caps. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3237/4 John Symons, Maltman.., with a picked Chin. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 150 The head of a man, with a hat and picked beard.

Picked (pikt, *formerly* and *poet.* pi·kėd), *ppl. a.* Forms: *α.* 4, 6–7 **pyked**, 5 **i-pikid**, *Sc.* **pykit**, 5–7 **piked**. *β.* 5–6 **pycked**, 6– **picked**; 6–7 **pickt**, 7 **piet**, 7–8 **pick'd**; *Sc.* 6 **pickit**, 8 **-et**. [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Cleaned or cleared with a pick or toothpick; made bare or bald by picking; cleared of stalks, husks, or refuse parts. See PICK *v.*[1]

a 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xliii, Hym nedeth to haue whyte teeth & sharpe & well pycked that sholde byte of this ghostly brede. 1508 KENNEDY *Flyting w. Dunbar* 548 Hangit, mangit, eddir-strangit, stryndie stultorum .. Pickit, wickit, conuickit, lamp Lollardorum. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dialogues* ii. Wks. 1874 VI. 120 Thin his haire,..his crowne Picked. 1790 A. SHIRREFS *Poems* 358 Nae doubt his hoose is thacket, But..I think it unco poor and picket, And far frae bonny. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 2 Nov. 1/1 For sale..Riga picked flax. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 178 A gill of picked shrimps.

†**2.** Adorned, ornate, trimmed; exquisitely fashioned or apparelled, spruce, refined, exquisite, nice, finical, particular, fastidious. *Obs.*

The exact sense is often doubtful.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1035 Vch pane of þat place had þre patez,..þe portalez pyked of rych platez. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1734 The Ches was al of yvery, the meyne fressh & newe I-pulsshid, & I-pikid, of white, asure, & blewe. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* vii, In his faire latyne tong, So full of fruyte, and rethorikly pykit. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 19 Piked he was, and handsome in his weede. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 148 Contemning the milder and more piked kinde of writing. 1613 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. xviii, Gay, fresh and piked was she.

β. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 349 A more curious and picked style, *accuratius & exquisitius dicendi genus*. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 33 Certayne quaint, pickt, and

neate companions, attyred..*alla mode de Fraunce*. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 151 The Age is growne so picked, that the toe of the Pesant comes so neere the heeles of our Courtier, that hee galls his Kibe. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* v. iv, 'Tis such a picked fellow, not a haire About his whole Bulke, but it stands in print. 1635 LAUD in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 377 In this nice and picked Age, you have ended all things canonically. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 759/1 When the words are proper and apt, their sound sweet, and the phrase neat and picked. [1892 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 5/1 Words..somewhat blunter in expression than our 'picked' age..would care to entertain.]

3. Chosen out, selected, esp. for special excellence or efficiency, or for a definite purpose.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 89 b, For feare of hym, or his picked armie. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Corpus, Delecta Corpora*,..chosen and pyked men. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 157/1 The best & pikedst thyngs chosen out of many churches. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 247 At pickt leisure..I'le resolue you,..of euery These happend accidents. 1626 G. HAKEWILL *Comparison*, etc. 27 The pict choice men of the land. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 209 As pick'd a man as could have been..found out in a whole Kingdome. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 538 Picked ewes from the Ochill flocks. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 8 Only a few picked craftsmen can manage it. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 250 The highest assay made from picked rock yielded $1,560.41 per ton.

† **b.** *Cricket.* Chosen from outside. *Obs.*

1772 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 88, Sept. 28 was played at Egerton, a match at wicket..Egerton had two picked men on their side. 1773 *Ibid.* 98 The gentlemen of that place and one picked man.

† **4.** Contrived, provoked, designedly brought about; as, *a picked quarrel. Obs.*

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) xix, Syne vexis him..With pykit querrellis, for to mak him fane To flit. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 68 Poysoning and Assassinating by pickt Quarrels or otherwise.

5. With adv. *out, up*: see PICK *v.*[1] 19, 20.

1771 J. ADAMS *Diary* 9 June, We had a picked up dinner. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 80 Groups of picked-up straws. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 22 Aug. 3/2 Native seamen yelling and singing..coiling the picked-up cable.

Hence **Pi·ckedly** *adv.* (also 6 **pykedly**), †neatly, trimly, elegantly, daintily, fastidiously (*obs.*); **Pi·ckedness** (also 7 **pikednesse**), † adornment, elegance, trimness, spruceness (*obs.*).

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* I. xvi. (1557) 57 b, Maids..goodly and *pykedly araied. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Cura, Curiose loqui*, to speake curiously, or pykedly. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 154 Their houses, so pickedly and neately must be trickt vp,..as if..they were to receiue Angels. 1598 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.*, Heauenly and secret wisdom,..which..can[not] neede the *pickednes and entisement of wordes. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 74 Negligent though hee were in all manner of pikednesse, for combing and trimming of his head so carelesse. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* III. xl. § 1 (1670) 517 Neither affected uncleannesse, nor exquisite pickednesse [in dress]. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov., De Mollibus* Wks. (1692) 706 Too much pickedness is not manly.

† **Picke-devant, pique devant.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 **pique de vant, pickede vaunt, pickerdevant, (pickenovant)**; 6–7 **pike-devant, pickadevaunt, -devant, -ante**, 7 **picadevant, pick-a-divant, pickatevant, pickitiva(u)nt, pickydevant, peake devant**, 7–8 **picke-devant.** [A phrase app. made up of Fr. words, but itself unknown in Fr., and found only in Eng. (from *c* 1587 to 1630 or later). App. either for *pique* (or ? *pic*) *devant*, meant for 'peak in front', or for *piqué devant*, 'peaked in front'. The various spellings *pickede, picka-, picker-, picki-, picky-, pick-a-* seem to suit the latter, though the forms in *pick, pike*, and *peake* app. imply the sb. (Cf. also F. *pique* a spade at cards.) *Pickenovant* might be meant for *pique en avant*.]

A short beard trimmed to a point; a peaked or Vandyke beard: fashionable in England in the latter part of the 16th and earlier part of the 17th c.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. vii. (1877) I. 169 Our varietie of beards, of which some are shauen from the chin..; some made round like a rubbing brush, other with a *pique de vant* (O fine fashion !), or now and then suffered to grow long. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 28 Take away this beard, and giue me a pickede vaunt. 1592 LYLY *Midas* v. ii, And here I vow by my concealed beard, if euer it chaunce to be discouered to the worlde, that it maye make a pike deuant. 1594 *Taming of Shrew* (1844) 22 You haue many boies with such Pickadeuantes. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 5 Twice double his patrimonie hath he spent in carefull cherishing and preseruing his pickerdeuant. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XXV. vi. 270 Wearing his beard..with a sharpe peake devant. 1618 *Owles Almanacke* 49 The pickydeuant..will be the cutt. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. 619 To turne vp his Munshato's, and curle his head, prune his Pickitivant. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 108 Hee consists wholly of a Pickedevant and two Mustachoes. [1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 391/1 The Pick-a-devant Beard..ends in a point under the chin. 1709 *Poor Robin* (N.), Entreaties upon such an account, are as ridiculous as pickedevant beards, or trunck-breeches.]

1594 *2nd Rep. Dr. Faustus* xvii. G iv, He takes the greate slaue by the tip of his pickenouant.

b. *transf.* A man with a picke-devant.

1636 HEYWOOD *Challenge* v. i. Wks. 1874 V. 68 Point me out the man. That Picke-devant that elbowes next the Queene.

Hence † **Pickedevanted** *a. Obs.*, having a picke-devant.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XLI. 349 *note*, Seldome goeth deuotion with youth, be it spoken without offence of our Peckedeuaunted Ministers. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. iv. 578 A young pickitiuanted [*ed.* 1676 pittivanted], trimbearded fellow saith Hierome, will come with a company of complements.

† **Picked-hatch.** *Obs.* Also **pickt-, pict-, pick-hatch.** [f. PICKED *a.* + HATCH *sb.*[1]] *lit.* A hatch or half door, surmounted by a row of pikes or spikes, to prevent climbing over; *spec.* a brothel; as proper name, see quot. 1832.

[Cf. 1616 E. S. *Cupid's Whirligig* F iij, Set some pickes vpon your hatch, and I pray professe to keepe a Bawdy-house.]

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 19 Goe..to your Mannor of Pickt-hatch. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. xi, Did euer any man ere heare him talke But of Pick-hatch, or of some Shoreditch baulke? 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, The decay'd Vestalls of Pickt-hatch..That keepe the fire a-liue, there. 1616 — *Ep. Man in Hum.* I. ii, From the Burdello it might come as well, The Spittle: or Pict-hatch. 1832 TOONE *Gloss., Pickt hatch*, this was a cant word, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, for a part of the town, supposed to be Turnmill Street, Clerkenwell, then noted for houses of ill fame...The term was derived from the hatch or half door, in houses of this description, being guarded with iron spikes, as the houses of sheriffs' officers are at this time.

attrib. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. C vj, His old Cynick Dad Hath forc'd him cleane forsake his Pickhatch drab. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 89 These bee your picke-hatch curtesan wits. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking-gl.* IV. iii. (1638) 72 My Pick-hatch grange, And Shoreditch farme, and other premises Adjoyning.

Pickeer (pikī·ɹ), *v. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: *a.* 7–8 **picke·re, picqueer, picqueer·re, pickqueer, pickeaer, pekeer**), 7– **pickeer**, (8 **piquier, pickueer**, 8–9 **piqueer**; *β.* 7 **pickquer, picquer**, 7–8 **picker.** [Derivation obscure: perh. an unexplained alteration of F. *picorer* (16th c.) to forage, maraud, pillage, plunder, pilfer, f. *picorée* foraging, marauding; according to Hatz.-Darm., ad. Sp. *pecoréa*, vbl. sb. from *pecorear* to steal or carry off cattle, f. L. *pecus*, pl. *pecora* cattle: cf. med. or mod.L. *pecorare*, pr. pple. *pecorantes* 'pillagers of cattle', cited by Littré, and *pecoria* ('duo prædia, quæ secundum linguæ suæ (Flandricæ) consuetudinem *pecorias* appellant' *Chron. Afflegemiense* c. xx), in Du Cange.

The chief difficulty in thus accounting for the word is the final stress, proved by rimes, and by the spellings *-eer, -eere, -ere, -ear, -ier*. The occasional later *picquer'd, pickering* suggest indeed the pronunciation *pi·cker-*; but *pickering* in D'Urfey 1719 is *picke·ring* from *picke·re*. Moreover, the Fr. word is not cited in the maritime sense; nor have we much evidence for the Eng. vb. in the sense 'to forage'.]

† **1.** *intr.* To maraud, pillage, plunder; to practise privateering or piracy. *Obs.*

[*c* 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 12 The restlesse spirits, weary of rest, went out a pickquering every day, and seldome returned without pray or prisoner.] 1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 18 A rush Candle purchas'd by pickeering. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Hants.* II. (1662) 10 Our Coasts were much infested with French-piracies. There was a Knight of Malta..who liv'd by pickeering, and undoing many English Merchants. 1678 E. SMITH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 51 The French Ambassador..said they were a fine company of men for picqueering and forrageing. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 111 Your Lordship has forbid pickeering from island to island for plunder.

2. *trans.* To skirmish, reconnoitre, scout (in war); to bicker (*with* the enemy).

c 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 6 The scot[c]h hors Picquering a while close by the wals on the east, drew of, after they had faild in snapping Col. Grayes small regement of hors at Stanwick. *Ibid.* 20 Ye Scots sent out 6 or 7 horse to pickere with the other three scouts. 1652 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 290 The Garrison of Simancas,..went almost every daie Pekeering to the gates of Valladolid. *a* 1657 LOVELACE *Lucasta* II, Poems (1864) 203 So within shot she doth pickear, Now galls the flank, and now the rear. 1658 PHILLIPS, To *Pickear* (French *piquer*), is when particular persons fight between two Armies before the main Battle is begun. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Pickeer* (from the Ital. *Picare*), to skirmish, as Light-horsemen do. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2686/3 Several of our young Gentlemen passed over towards the Enemies Camp, and picquer'd with some of the French. 1705 SIR E. WALKER *Hist. Disc.* i. 65 Every Day to see ours and their Parties piquier from their Guards. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) I. 141 When bold Dragoons have been pickering there. 1728 GORDON *Tacitus, Annals* XIII. 335 Tiridates, on his side, pickeer'd about, yet never approach'd within the throw of a dart. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. xii. (1872) V. 122 South of us..are the Enemy, camped or pickeering about.

3. *fig.* **a.** To reconnoitre, to scout.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* lvi, Soe..may wee see A Flea pickeere vpon a Lady's hand. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) II. I. 82 The Pharisees who were always pickering for occasions of finding fault. 1878 STEVENSON *Edinburgh* (1889) 65 Slinking..and pickeering among the closes. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Mar. 345/1 The Front Opposition Bench had sent out the Irresponsibles to 'piqueer', as an agreeable word in classical English has it.

† **b.** To skirmish playfully or amorously; to dally, flirt. *Obs.*

1651 CLEVELAND *Senses Festival* vi, Two souls pickearing in a kiss. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* V. Wks. 1720 I. 403 There's a Lady hovering about you, and longs to pickeer with you. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* I. Dram. Wks. 1874 III. 272 There was never such an open and general war made on virtue; young ones at thirteen will pickeere at it. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 120 She at first designed Pickueering for Adoration, only to please her Lord.

† **c.** To wrangle; to bicker in verbal strife. *Obs.*

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 448 No sooner could a hint appear, But up he started to pickere [18th c. *edd.* piqueer, picqueer]. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) II. 25 He said to me, he had often picqueered out (that was his word) on Sheldon and some other bishops. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 6. 32 Pamphlets pickering and pecking at one another from the Press.

Hence † **Pickee·r** *sb.*, a military skirmish.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. xi. § 3. 276 Skirmishing, Fray, Velitation, pickeer. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 187/1 Pickeering or firing in Picceer: is a kind of fighting betweene small parties..which is by fireing one at another in their galloping in and out.

Pickeerer (pikī·rəɹ). *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. prec. vb. + -ER[1].] A skirmisher; *fig.* one who provokes assault; a contentious or cavilling person.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *London Lady* 20 The Club Pickeerer, the robust Church Warden Of Lincolne's Inn back-corner. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. i. § 19 What the end will be of these piqueerers in impudence, who thus put their vertu on the forlorn hope. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. § 145 He is now a Picquerer, relates Nothing but by Way of Cavil.

Pickee·ring, *vbl. sb. Obs.* or *arch.* [-ING[1].]

1. Skirmishing: see quot. 1894.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* VII. 76 The Prince of Orange..being entertained with some pickeering (for Alva was resolved not to venture a battaile). 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* I. (1747) 15 Still running over..Mines, Counter-mines, Pickeering, Pioneers, Centinels, Patrols, and others. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vi. IV. 579 All hitherto has been pickeering. [1894 LD. WOLSELEY *Life Marlborough* II. lxx. 237 What our soldiers called 'pickeering'..the practice common amongst the volunteers and other gentlemen who followed both head-quarters, of riding out in front to fire their pistols at one another.]

2. *fig.* Wordy, playful, or amorous skirmishing; wrangling, bickering, petty quarrelling.

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 137 His particular temptations to sin are but inconsiderable, less successful picqueerings in comparison. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 2 Salmon's Pickeerings with the Colledge of Physicians. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* (1740) II. v. 139 At last, after all their piqueering, Jesus was pleased to ask them a question. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. ii. (1872) V. 30 Mere pickeerings and beatings about the bush.

So **Pickee·ring** *ppl. a.*

1661 OGILBY *Relat. Entertainm.* 18 Give Fire, Bounce, Bounce, Pickeering Villains trounce.

† **Pickehorn.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. ? corrupt form of BYCORNE.

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* III. iii. 71 in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), Hermafrodites, pickehornes, and lestrigoni.

Pickel, var. PIKEL. **Pickell**, obs. f. PICKLE, PIGHTLE. **Pickenovant**: see PICKE-DEVANT.

Picker[1] (pi·kəɹ). [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. *generally.* A person who picks.

a. One who picks, plucks off, or gathers (fruit, flowers, roots, hops, cotton, potatoes, etc.); one who picks up or collects (rags, refuse, etc.). Also a second element in numerous combinations, as *fruit-, hop-, potato-, rag-, rag-and-bone-picker*, etc.

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 152 A Shed,..which will both defend your Pickers from the Sun, and your Hops. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lx. 256 Pickers ready to gather up the roots as fast as they are thrown up by the spade. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 630 Such potatoes as may have escaped the pickers. 1861 *Illustr. Times* 5 Oct. 221 The festoons [of hops]..already destined to the picker's bin. 1884 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Feb. 156/2 The pickers, who are mostly Italians, gather £150,000 worth [of rags] yearly in the streets and roads. 1893 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 5/6 Forty-five thousand men and women..subsisting on pickings from household rubbish...There are pickers and pickers, grades, aristocrats and plebeians in this profession as in every other.

b. One who steals, esp. small things that may be readily picked up. *Pickers and stealers* (see PICK *v.*[1] 9 b, PICKING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2), *allusively*, hands.

[1301–1549: see PIKER[1].] 1526 TINDALE *Tit.* ii. 10 The servauntes exhorte to be obedient..nether be pickers. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 21 Shall we call you pickers or hid theeves? 1552 HULOET, Pycker or priuye stealer, *furax, cis.* 1580 *Orders for Orphanes* A iv, If any womanchilde..be a common Picker. 1591 *Art. conc. Admirality* 21 July § 42 Petite transgressors, or pickers, which haue stollen..Anchors, Cables,..girdles, Shirts, Breeches, or other small things whatsoeuer. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 348 So I do still, by these pickers and stealers. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* x. I. 108 Their pickers and stealers were at liberty, to secrete certain portable moveables. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* Introd. Epistle, These unhappy pickers and stealers.

c. One who seeks occasion, as *a picker of quarrels*.

d. One who chooses out or selects. **e.** One who picks a lock: see PICK *v.*[1] 10.

1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 92 He is a comyn pyker of quarrells. 1564 RASTELL *Confut. Jewell's Serm.* 107 b, Peekers of quarells are abrode. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A Picker of quarrels, *qui ansam captat litigandi ansam, & venatur.* 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 216 It [the coffee-berry] is then winnoed, and goes into the hands of the pickers. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* I. 64 One who was no picker of paths. 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. l. 17 There are pickers and choosers of God's word. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* xxi, The law..is, moreover, itself a picker of locks.

f. In various trades and occupations, a person who picks, in technical senses: e. g. (*a*) a wool-carder, a wool-picker; (*b*) one who touches up or removes slight defects in electrotypes; (*c*) a

quarryman who uses a pick; (*d*) a fisherman who catches eels with a pick: see PICK *sb.*[1] 4 d.

(*a*) [1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Weavers, tokers, spynners, diers, and wulpikers haue bene..withoute worke.] 1552 HULOET, Pickers or toosars of wolle, *carminarij*. (*b*) 1882 J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Print.* (1884) 600 The pickers are those who have the work of touching up electros. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 216/2 The picker's first duty is to chip down the 'whites' of the plate, so that they shall not take the ink in printing. (*c*) 1883 *Stonemason* Jan., The face of the rock is first disturbed by a 'picker' who, standing on a stage, clears away by blows from a pick delivered horizontally, a space..about 5 feet through. (*d*) 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Nov. 673/1 The Norfolkmen mostly use 'picks' formed of four broad blades.. mounted on long slender poles to enable them to be thrust into the mud. The 'picker' notices the..bubbles.

2. A tool or instrument for picking.

a. In agriculture: (*a*) A sort of mattock or pickax; (*b*) a tool for taking up turnips; (*c*) the part of a potato-digging and picking-machine which separates the potatoes from the soil; (*d*) a machine for gathering cotton in the field. Often in *comb.* as *potato-picker*, *turnip-picker*.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 192 Having with an Iron Picker cleared away all the Earth out of the Hills, so as to make the Stock bare to the principal Roots [of the hops]. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 750 A tool which has the title of a picker. 1884 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Feb. 189/2 The shaker or picker separates the tubers from the soil and delivers them to the rear of the machine. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 69 A handy turnip hoe or picker, for picking up the shells of the roots.

b. In the textile industries: (*a*) A machine for separating and cleaning the fibres of cotton, wool, and the like; (*b*) an implement for burling cloth.

1795 *Edin. Advert.* 6 Jan. 15/3 Five common carding engines, one waste engine, four pickers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 379 The first machine..for the further clearing of the particles [of cotton] is called a picker. 1879 TIMBS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 128/2 The separate materials are first passed through a machine called a picker and blower.

c. In *Mining* and *Metallurgy*: in Cornwall, a miner's hand-chisel; a miner's needle for picking out the tamping of an unexploded charge. In *Founding*, a light pointed steel rod, used for lifting small patterns from the sand into which they have been rammed; a tool for piercing a mould.

1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* (1875) 62 The pickers used in the Western mines are longer and narrower. They are used, as the name implies, to pick out the small fragments of loose rock which wedge in larger portions in some situations. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Picker* or *Poker*, a hand chisel for *drhuing*, held in one hand and struck with a hammer.

d. The name of various tools; e. g.

A toothpick; a tool for picking stones from a horse's foot; a tool for clearing out small openings, as in a lamp or a powder-flask; a priming-wire for clearing the vent of a gun; a tool for scraping clod-salt from the bottom of a salt-pan; in brick-making, one of two spike-toothed horizontal shafts which revolve in opposite directions, and disintegrate the raw clay; a picklock; a needle for making anglers' flies; a tool, like a graver, used in touching up electrotypes.

1624 *Harington's Schoole Salerne* II. xi. 44 After meat taken ..clense the teeth either with Iuory..or some picker of pure siluer or gold. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 208 Euery hand Of accident doth with a Picker stand, To scale the wards of Life. 1678 J. COLLINS in *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1063 Clod-Salt, which grows to the bottoms of the Phats..is digged up with a picker (..made like a Masons Trowel, pointed with Steel and put upon a short staff). *c* 1785 in *Daily Chron.* 9 Dec. (1904) 4/6 Two of us..when alone would with pickers pick the mortar out of the bricks till we had opened a hole big enough to go in. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 837 The rubbish is withdrawn as it accumulates, at the bottom of the hole, by means of a picker. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 221 Mane-comb, picker.

3. A young cod, too small to swallow bait. *Sc.* and local *U. S.*

1895 MRS. F. A. STEEL *Red Rowans* x. 153, I believe.. pickers or suckers is really only the local name [Sc.] for young codlings, lythe, or cuddies. In fact for all young fish.

4. With adv. as **picker-up**, one who picks up or gathers; a man employed to collect the game shot by a shooting party; in Australia, the man who gathers the fleece when it is shorn from a sheep.

1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* I. x. 140, I dislike a picker-up of old words worse than a picker-up of old rags. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* II. xvi. 217 A mere picker-up of trifles. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/7 As the fleece drops off, a soft woolly whole, the 'picker up', of whom there is one to about eight shearers,..gathers it up with the 'locks' and 'pieces'.

5. *Comb.* **Picker-bar**, a toothed bar for discharging the ashes and cinders from the grate in a mechanical stoker.

Picker[2] (pi·kəɹ). *Weaving.* [f. PICK *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] In a loom, the small instrument which travels backwards and forwards in the shuttle-box and drives the shuttle to and fro through the warp.

[1831: see PECKER 2 c.] 1841 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XXI. 824/2 The two ends of this shuttle-race are closed up at the sides, so as to form short troughs, in which two moveable pieces of wood, called pickers, or peckers, traverse along pieces of wire. *Ibid.*, Formerly the shuttle was thrown by the hand, but about one hundred years ago, the picker, or fly-shuttle, was invented by one John Kay of Bury, in Lancashire. 1865 *Public Opinion* 4 Feb. 132 The principle upon which the new loom acts is that of discharging a jet of compressed air from the valves of the shuttle-box, upon the end of the shuttle, at each pick or stroke, and thus substituting for the imperfect motion of the 'picker' the pneumatic principle, simply applied. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1697 *Picker*..the upper or striking portion of a picker-staff, which comes against the end of the shuttle and impels it through the shed of the warp. 1886 HARRIS *Techn. Dict. Fire Insurance*, *Pickers*, made of buffalo hide, and used for throwing the shuttles backwards and forwards in cotton-weaving.

b. *Comb.*, as *picker-cord*, *-maker*, *-manufacturer*, *-strap*; **picker-bend** (see quot. 1858); **picker-motion**, the mechanism involved in impelling the shuttle to and fro; **picker-staff**, the oscillating bar which imparts motion to the shuttle.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Picker-bends*, pieces of buffalo hide..imported for the use of power-loom weavers, who attach them to the shuttle. 1864 *Times* 12 Mar., O. & S., Halifax, picker makers. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* v. 81 The two pickers are connected together by a slack cord to the centre of which the 'picking stick' is attached. Two short cords are connected to the picker cord to keep it suspended and free to work. *Ibid.* xxv. 271 The pickers are fixed upon the ends of the sticks. In this plan the picker straps and spindles are dispensed with.

Picker[3], anglicized f. PIQUEUR, huntsman.

1863 LD. LYTTON *Ring Amasis* II. II. II. viii. 100 He turned round to take the horn and the hunting-knife from the picker.

Picker *v.*: see PICKEER *v.*

Pickerdeuant, variant of PICKE-DEVANT *Obs.*

Pickerel[1] (pi·kərĕl). Forms: 4–6 **pyk-**, 4–7 **pikerel**(**le**, 5 **pykrelle**, **pyckerylle**, 5–6 **pekerell**(**e**, 6 **pykarelle**, 6–7 **pikrel**(**l**, 6–8 **pickrel**(**l**, **-erell**, 6– **pickerel**, (7 **-il**, **pikrill**, 9 **pickarel**). [dim. of PIKE *sb.*[4], either of Anglo-Fr. origin, or formed in ME. on OF. analogies: cf. COCKEREL and -REL. (Fr. has *picarel*, 16th c. in Godef., as a local name for a salt-water fish on the Mediterranean coast.)] A young pike, especially at a certain stage of its growth: cf. quot. 1587.

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 35 In quatuor pykerells empt. ix*d.* *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 175 Bet is..a pyk than a pykerel. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 641/25 *Hic lucellus*, pyckerylle. 1462 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 562 My master put in the said pond in smale pekerelles, xx. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 12 *Lu*[*c*]*es*, *becques*, *becquets*, luses, pikes, pikerellis. 1579 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 402 No pickerell is lawfull eyther to be taken or solde not beinge in length tenne ynches fishe. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. iii. (1878) II. 18 The pike as he ageth, receiueth diuerse names, as from a frie to a gilthed, from a gilthed to a pod, from a pod to a iacke, from a iacke to a pickerell, from a pickerell to a pike, and last of all to a luce. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 671 To sundry fishes..as to the Tench, Pike or Pikerel. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 281 A small pickerel..contained no fewer than 25,800 eggs. 1891 E. FIELD *West. Verse*, *Long Ago* 196, I knew the rushes near the mill Where pickerel lay that weighed a pound.

b. In U. S. and Canada, The name of several species of *Esox*, esp. the smaller species; about the Great Lakes, the true pike; also the pike-perch, wall-eye, or glass-eye (*Stizostedion vitreum*).

1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. v. 465 Pickrel, bream, pearch, and other freshwater fish. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* 50 [They] used to go and fish through the ice for pickerel every winter. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 512 The principal catch is pickerel, which can be taken even by an unskilful fisherman. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 435/2 What we termed 'pickerel' (wall-eyed pike) were better table-fish.

Pickerel[2]. [? dim. f. PICK. Cf. DOTTEREL.] A bird: the common name in Scotland of the dunlin (*Tringa alpina*).

1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 144 Dunlin.. *Provincial.* Purre, Least Snipe..Pickerel. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 193 Dunlin..Pickerel (Scotland generally). A name applied to all small waders.

Pickerel-weed. [f. PICKEREL[1] + WEED.] **1.** A name locally applied to certain weeds, found in still waters, amongst which pikes breed, and which formerly were popularly supposed to breed them; most commonly to species of *Potamogeton* or Pondweed.

1653 WALTON *Angler* vii. 148 His feeding is..sometime a weed of his owne, called *Pikrel-weed*, of which..some think some Pikes are bred. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, *Pickarel-weed* is..well known in Suffolk and Cambridge—and the idea that the sun's heat helps the breeding of pike in it, is common. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 250 The Pickerell-weeds throw out their oval or elliptical leaves that float so lightly on the surface.

2. In N. America, Any species of *Pontederia*, lacustrine plants, with sagittate leaves, and spikes of blue flowers. Also *Pickerel-flower*.

1836 EMERSON *Nature*, *Beauty* Wks. (Bohn) II. 146 In July, the blue pontederia or pickerel-weed blooms in large beds in the shallow parts of our pleasant river. 1867 — *May-Day*, etc., ibid. III. 419 Through gold-moth-haunted beds of pickerel-flower. 1868 LOSSING *Hudson* 21 This in the books, is called Pickerel Weed (*Pontederia cordata*..), but the guides call it moose-head.

Pickeridge (pi·kəridʒ). [f. PICK *v.*[1] + RIDGE, back.] 'One of the varieties of warbles; a swelling occurring on the backs of cattle' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1882 in OGILVIE; and in later Dicts.

Pickering. *Obs.* exc. *U. S.* = PICKEREL[1].

1528 in T. D. Whitaker *Hist. Craven* (1812) 307 Item, in great pike, & pickering, 6 score. 8. l.

Pickeringite. *Min.* [Named 1844 after John Pickering, President of the American Academy: see -ITE[1].] A hydrous sulphate of aluminium and magnesium, found in Peru and Nova Scotia, in masses of silky white fibres, and as acicular crystals.

1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XLVI. 360 Pickeringite a native magnesian alum.

Pickeroon, variant of PICAROON.

Pickery[1] (pi·kəri). Also 6 **pikry**, **pikery**, **pykery**, **picory**, *Sc.* **pikary**, 6–7 **pykrie**, **-ry**. [f. PICKER[1], PIKER[1]: see -ERY.] Petty theft. Still a term of Scotch law.

1508 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. *53 [Convicted of common Theft and] Pikry. 1522 in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 683 Prevy picory. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 107 He conquest his leving on thift and pikary. 1553 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1598) I. 266 For pickerie ducked at yardes arme, and so discharged. 1613–17 in R. M. Fergusson *Alex. Hume* (1899) 200 For..preventing of the grite stewthe and pykrie that daylie incressis. *a* 1765 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1773) IV. iv. § 59 The stealing of trifles, which in our law-language is styled *pickery*, has never been punished by the usage of Scotland, but with imprisonment, scourging, or other corporal punishment. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlii, A trifle stolen in the street is termed mere pickery. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.*, *Pickery*, is the stealing of trifles, which has never been punished in any other way than by an arbitrary punishment.

† **Pickery**[2], obs. form of PECCARY.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pickery*, an American Beast like a Hog.

Picket (pi·kĕt), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 7 **picquett**, 8 **piquett**, 8– **picquet**, **piquet**; *β.* 7– **picket**. [a. F. *piquet* pointed stake, also in other senses, f. *piquer* to prick, pierce, with dim. suffix: see -ET.]

I. 1. A pointed stake, post, or peg, driven into the ground; used for various purposes, e. g.

a. in the construction of a stockade or fence (fence picket = pale); **b.** to hold in position gabions, fascines, and other means of fortification; **c.** to mark positions in surveying, etc.; **d.** to fasten a rope or string to, esp. in order to tether a horse or other animal, also to secure a tent; **e.** sharpened also at the upper end, as a defence against cavalry or other assailants.

1702 *Military Dict.*, *Picket*, or *Piquet*, is a Stake sharp at the end, which serves to mark out the Ground, and Angles of a Fortification, when the Ingenier is laying down the Plan. They are commonly pointed with Iron. There are also large *Piquets*, which are drove into the Earth, to hold together the Fascines, or Faggots, in any Work cast up in haste. *Pickets* are also Stakes drove into the Ground, by the Tents of the Horse in the Field to tye their Horses to. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4871/2 Most of the Horses..breaking loose from their Pickets..some were taken. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxi. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* I. 487 One end of the cable must be..fixed to a picket or to any thing firm. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 57 Sometimes pickets, or staves with flags, are set up as marks or objects of direction. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 88 The small branches cut from an abatis may be rendered useful by making pickets of them. 1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 96/1 Marking the middle line, or axis of the road, by stakes or pickets, placed at equal intervals apart. *Ibid.* 98/1 The fascines are laid in alternate layers crosswise and lengthwise, and the layers..connected by pickets. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 218 Each horse standing at picket. 1869 PARKMAN *Discov. Gt. West* (1883) 20 A square fort of cedar pickets. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* iv. 63 A lurking thief had cut the pickets of the horses. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 208/2 Fence posts are made .. and after these the rough split fence pickets so commonly used in this part of the State.

f. A stockade. *rare.*

1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* I. xi. 81 The piquet is composed of timbers..eighteen feet high set firmly in the ground at sufficient distances from each other to admit of guns and other missiles to be fired between them.

2. A stake with pointed top, used in a military punishment in vogue in the 17th and 18th c.: see quot. 1706. Hence, a name for this punishment, and for similar forms of torture.

1690 *Royal Proclam.* in Starke *Obs. Milit. Punishm.* (1901) 5 If a trooper he shall stand three several times on the Picquett. 1702 *Military Dict.* s. v. 1706 PHILLIPS, *To Stand upon the Picket*, is when a Horseman for some Offence, is sentenc'd to have one Hand ty'd up as high as it can reach, and then to stand on the Point of a Stake with the Toe of his opposite Foot; so that he can neither stand, nor hang well, nor ease himself by changing Feet. 1806 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Leonora* xlv, If I put a poor fellow on the picket. 1843 R. R. MADDEN *United Irishmen* Ser. II. II. xvi. 353 The tortures of the lash, the picquet and the knotted cord. 1862 LD. STANHOPE *Pitt* III. 116 Many of these unhappy men underwent the military punishments of the lash and the picket—this last consisting in being made to stand with one foot upon a pointed stake.

† **3.** A peg, pin, plug. *Obs. rare.*

1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. on Munitions War* 14 (Boxer ammunition), The bullet has a picket of wood running through its centre half-way from the apex of the cone towards the base. *Ibid.* 16 The bullet, as in the Boxer, has the wooden picket through half its longer axis, and the clay plug in the base for expansion.

II. 4. *Mil.* A small detached body of troops, sent out to watch for the approach of the enemy or his scouts (*outlying picket*), or held in quarters in readiness for such service (*inlying picket*); also applied to a single soldier so employed. In the Army Regulations spelt *piquet*.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 105 A vanguard, composed of the piquets which were formed into battalions and squadrons, for securing the head of their cantonments. 1781 in Simes *Milit. Guide* (ed. 3) 8 [The Adjutant-general] may..visit them at their posts, and always see that the piquets are in

good order. 1799 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* I. 22 The advanced picquets of the British army were attacked by the enemy. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 1 If an Officer's Tour of Duty happen when he is on the Inlying Piquet,..his Tour upon the Piquet is to pass him. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 384 The village of Yuva..was guarded by a strong picquet of cavalry and infantry. 1861 MRS. E. BEERS *All Quiet along the Potomac*, Now and then a stray picket Is shot as he walks on his beat to and fro. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 26 July 126/2, 600 Chasseurs of the Imperial Guard.. attacked our picquets, but were repulsed.

b. A camp-guard, sent out to bring in men who have exceeded their leave.

1787 *Gentl. Mag.* LVII. II. 1199/2 The piquets and double patroles abandoned their officers, and joined their mutinous comrades. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* iv. 135 A sergeant and piquet of soldiers entered the room. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Oct. 9/1 A serious military riot..occurred in the streets of Aldershot..last evening...The military police and pickets had to be reinforced.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* A party of watchers or sentinels, an outpost; an outlying post.

1847–8 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xiv. (1857) 228 Two insulated outliers, that..form the outer piquets of the newer and higher system. 1860 G. H. K. in *Vac. Tour* 173 There, two miles off, are lying deer,..pickets of keen eyed and keener scented hinds thrown out in every direction. 1866 NEALE *Seq. & Hymns* 52 The picquets of the Spirit-host.

5. (usually *pl.*) Applied to men acting in a body or singly who are stationed by a trades-union or the like, to watch men going to work during a strike or in non-union workshops, and to endeavour to dissuade or deter them.

1867 *Times* 22 Aug. 8/3 The pickets kept their places from early morning till night; they reviled the workmen who went in and out; they forced women to call upon the police for protection; they threatened that those who took work..should have none when the Union was triumphant. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Aug. 1 We will assume .. that they issue positive orders to the pickets to resort to nothing in the shape of coercion. 1885 *Even. Standard* 19 Dec., The strikers have posted pickets at all stations. 1886 *Globe* 2 Feb. 6/5 In connection with a strike, the defendant acting as a 'picket'. 1891 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 17 Jan. 4/1 To..prevent the pickets of the strikers from indulging in demonstrations against the loyal men.

III. 6. An elongated rifle bullet, with a conoidal front; a cylindro-conoidal bullet.

(Said in E. S. Farrow, *American Small Arms* (1904) 56, to have been 'made for Col. Pickett, the well-known grizzly bear killer'.)

1858 DEANE *Hist. & Sc. Fire-arms* 263 A form of conical projectile used and called a 'picket' in the United States, and also used in several of the German states. 1859 J. SCOFFERN *Projectile Weapons* (ed. 4) 219 *note*, The Americans term the new elongated projectile conoids 'pickets'; and a very good term it is. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 402/1. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 177 The regulation Martini-Henry rifling would send a long-range picket clean through an elephant. 1901 T. F. FREMANTLE *Bk. Rifle* 38 The pointed bullet with a flat base, known as a 'flat-ended picket'.

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *picket-fence, -gate, -machine, -pin, -rope, -strap*; (senses 4, 5) *picket duty, system, trench*; **picket-boat, -launch, -ship**, a vessel employed for reconnoitring, or scouting in advance of the fleet, or on a river in military operations; **picket-clamp**, a clamp for holding fence-pickets while being pointed; **picket-guard**, an inlying picket, also a picket protecting a position; **picket-header, -pointer**, a machine for pointing fence-pickets; **picket-house**, in a garrison, the building where a picket is stationed; **picket-launch**: see *picket-boat*; **picket-line**, (*a*) a tether; (*b*) a line held by pickets; **picket-ship**: see *picket-boat*.

1885 *Daily News* 23 Jan. 6/2 He will have with him [on the Nile] the *picket boats commanded by Lieutenants Montgomerie and Tyler. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June 2/1 The large steam-launches known in the navy as 'picket-boats' are perfectly adapted for the purpose. 1867 *Times* 23 Aug. 9/2 Flood and nearly all the rest of the prisoners did *picket duty there. 1871 *Daily News* 18 Jan., This extra piquet duty from other companies forms a separate roster. 1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* ix. 207 Cottages .. surrounded by either stone walls or bamboo *picket fences. *Ibid.* xiv. 317 The streets of Hakodadi .. are subdivided into various wards by means of *picket-gates. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3923/2 Our *Piquet Guard was..ordered out to attack them. 1866 LONGF. *Killed at Ford* ii, As we rode along.. To visit the picket-guard at the ford. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 268/2 Planers, shingle machines, *picket headers. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Mar. 6/1 A draft of about fifty men..in Guernsey..attacked the *picquet house on the pier at St. Peter's Port. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 105 The opposing lines were not more than two hundred yards apart, and between these were the *picket lines, about one hundred yards from one another. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 19/1 It was no easy matter to handle them on the picket-lines, and to provide for feeding and watering. 1867 *Times* 23 Aug. 9/2 Many of the *picket men had behaved illegally. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iv. 28 The *picket-pins [were] driven home. 1859 MARCY *Prairie Trav.* iii. 91 The picket-pins, of iron, fifteen inches long, with ring and swivel at top. 1898 *Daily News* 9 May 6/3 It is supposed ..that the Spanish fleet was probably following its *picket ship. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* x. 165 Each horse was furnished with..a long leathern thong as a *picket strap. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 59 The victims of the *picket system are..men who are outside the pale of the Trades Unions.

Picket, *sb.*[2] · A local name of the tern: cf. PICTARNE.

1831 *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 508 Tern..*Provincial.* Pirr. ..Kirmew. Picket.

Picket (pi·kĕt), *v.* [f. PICKET *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To enclose or secure with pickets or stakes; to palisade; to fix *down* by means of pickets.

1745 *Jrnl. Siege Louisburg* in W. Shirley *Let.* (1746) 18 A Blockhouse..picketted without, and defended by eight Cannon. 1847 *Nation. Cycl.* I. 10 The trees are picketed to the ground. 1884 *Mil. Engineering* (ed. 3) I. II. 55 The hides are laid on the ground and picketed firmly down; the sandbags are then built up..to such a height as to allow each hide to be drawn well over the top row and round the ends, which are then picketed into the parapet.

b. To tether (a horse, etc.) to a picket or peg fixed in the ground.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlvi, Their horses, saddled and picqueted behind them. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* vii. 138 The goat is picketed to a stake in the bottom [of a pit]. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* § 872 The guards of the Cavalry will be mounted, and the horses picketed.

2. To punish or torture with the picket. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 252 Others..act the part of their own tormentors: they even picquet themselves, and call it amusement. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xxi, I would be picquetted to death, cried the corporal,..before I would suffer the woman to come to any harm. 1839–1860 [see PICKETING].

3. *Mil.* To post as a picket. **b.** *intr.* (for *refl.*) To post oneself as a picket; to act on picket duty.

1775 J. BROWN in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 462 They have intrenched and picketed out some distance from their other works. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 154 To encamp and picket expeditiously. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* IV. xxii. 201 These men were picketed in the town.

4. In a labour dispute: **a.** *intr.* To act as a picket; **b.** *trans.* To beset or molest with pickets. See PICKET *sb.*[1] 5 and PICKETING b.

1867 *Times* 22 Aug. 11/1 His employer's shop was picketed by about two or three men in the morning. *Ibid.*, He recognized the defendants..in company with others, picketing daily. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 21 Oct. (Cassell), They picketed the men coming to and going from Mr. R.'s shops.

Hence **Pi·cketed** *ppl. a.*; **Pi·cketer**, a man engaged in picketing during a strike.

1818 SCOTT *Rob R.* xxxii, The appearance of the *picqueted horses, feeding in this little vale. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* vi. 121 There is a great deal of enchantment in a chestnut rail or picketed pine boards. 1885 *Even. Standard* 4 Nov. (Cassell), The old picketed and bastioned forts are disappearing. 1867 *Times* 23 Aug. 9/1 Even if all the gaols of the country were filled with *picketers the system must be continued. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 4/1 A stronger contingent of picketers arrived on the spot to relieve the sandwich-men.

Picket, pickette, obs. forms of PIQUET.

† Picket-beard. [See PICKED[1] 2, PIKED *a.* 2.]

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 73 A great dispute.. betwixt a certain Picket-beard (as they call them in Italy) or Protestant,..and a Catholick.

Picketee, obs. form of PICOTEE.

Picketing (pi·kĕtiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [See -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PICKET; **a.** see PICKET *v.* 2; *spec.* **b.** in a labour dispute, the posting of men to intercept non-strikers on their way to work and prevail upon them to desist.

a. 1753 Miss COLLIER *Art Torment.* 15 Punishments for faults, such as whipping and picketing amongst the soldiers. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 306 The commanding-officer .. replied, that he would be hung up by his thumbs till he fainted—a variety of piquetting. 1842 R. R. MADDEN *United Irishmen* I. xi. 335 The picketings and half-hangings, and other modes and instruments of torture. 1860 H. GOUGER *Imprisonment in Burmah* xiii. 141 On this button the culprit stood with bared foot at the manifest risk of being lamed for life. This torture was called picketting.

b. 1867 *Times* 22 Aug. 8/3 Baron Bramwell said..that if picketing were done in such a way as to excite no reasonable alarm or not to annoy or coerce those who were the subjects of it, it would be no offence in law... The picketing which Mr. Druitt and his friends organized .. was intimidation, and nothing less. 1891 *Guardian* 11 Mar. 377/2 In theory picketing is merely the use of fair argument to dissuade men from becoming 'blacklegs'. In practice the force of the argument is found to depend very largely on the numbers and demeanour of those who employ it.

Pick-fault: see PICK- in *Comb.*

Pi·ckfork. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 3 pic-, 5 pykk-, pik-, pyke-, 5–6 pyk-, 6 picke-, 6 (9 *dial.*) pike-, pick-fork. [Origin of the first element obscure: occurring as *pic, pik, pyke*, it appears to be identical with PICK *sb.*[1], PIKE *sb.*[1], as if 'a fork with pikes or sharp points'; but the word, with its variant PITCHFORK, seems to have been at length associated with the vb. PICK[2], PITCH[1], from the use of the implement in pitching sheaves, etc.] ⇒ PITCHFORK. (The sense in the quot. from Layamon is doubtful.)

c 1205 LAY. 21597 Wið heore pic-forcken, Heo ualden heom to grunde. 1410 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 546/2, 3 pyk forkes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/1 Pykkforke, *merga.* 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 95 The men of the village cam out..with flaylis and pikforkes. 1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 246 Paid..to a smyth for makyng of a grete pykefork.. þat was broken with þe ice. ij d. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 25 If the grasse be very thycke, it wolde be shaken with handes, or with a short pykforke. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) 1 *Sam.* xiii. 21 Yet they had a file for the shares, and for the mattockes, and for the pickeforkes [1535 COVERD. forckes, 1539 (Great) dong forckes] & for the axes. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 31 Clods must alwaies broken be with pick-forks turnd therein. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* ii. (1664) 11 Some made long pikes and lances light, Some Pike-forks for to joyn and thrust. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* K iij, One of the Horse-keepers..did..belabour him with a Pikefork. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pick-fork*, a hay fork. 1885 WESTALL *Old Factory* xxi. (E. D. D.), Chaps..as I wouldn't touch with a pikefork.

Pick-goose, corrupt f. PEAK-GOOSE *Obs.* **Pick-harness:** see PICK-. **Pickhill:** see PIGHTLE.

† Pickieman. *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 **peckoaman.** [f. PICK *v.*[1] + MAN.] A miller's assistant, whose duty was to pick the millstone: cf. PIKEMAN[2] 2.

1604 *Court Bk. Barony Urie* (1892) 3 Sum tennentis..wald nocht content thame selffis with the serwice of the Peckcaman. 1808 JAMIESON, *Pickie-man*, the name formerly given to a miller's servant, from his work of keeping the mill in order. 1825 *Ibid.*, *Pikman, Pikeman, Pikieman*, the same as *Pickie-man*, and pron. as three syllables.

Pickietar, dial. f. PICTARNE, the common tern.

Pickill, obs. f. PICKLE *sb.*[2], a grain, corn.

Picking (pi·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Also **piking,** etc.: see PICK *v.*[1] [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of PICK *v.*[1] in various senses.

a. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 273, & þou has for þi pikyng, mykille ille likyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/2 Pykynge, or clensynge, *purgacio.* 1531 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 100 Conspiryces.., and pykyn of quarells day by day.

β. 1548 ELYOT *Lat. Dict., Carminatio*..the pickyng or cardynge of woull. 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 234 Without any such picking and chusing amongst them, as may bend the laws to make them suitable to our own interests. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 80 Picking or culling of Fruits. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 25 This opening of the matted cotton is first partially effected by the process of 'picking'..Women and children partially disentangle the cotton. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 174 The inspiriting picking of the banjo.

b. With adverbs. Also *attrib.*

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 606 The stopping and picking-out tools are made of polished steel. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Oct. 7/2 A grapnel was lowered over the bows by means of a long rope, the end of which was taken under the dynamometer to the picking-up drum. 1904 H. BLACK *Pract. Self Culture* iv. 105 The picking up of crumbs of knowledge is not in itself education.

2. *spec.* **a.** Stealing, theft; in later use, petty theft, pilfering; esp. in *picking and stealing*: see PICK *v.*[1] 9 b.

α. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 66 That almes is pykyng, y fynde it in thi boke. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* III. (*Cock & Fox*) iv, In pyking of pultrie baith day and nycht. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible* Ded., His pestilent pykynge of Peter pens out of youre realme.

β. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catech.*, To kepe my handes from picking and stealing. 1753 *Scots Mag.* May 260/2 He had been in a continual practice of picking and stealing. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* III. 437 Sheep.. carried away, if above the number seven..[M'Gregor] styled lifting; if below seven, he only considered it as a picking.

b. *Weaving.* A finishing process of cloth-making: see quot. 1875. **c.** *Metallurgy.* Rough sorting of ores. **d.** The finishing of an electrotype plate by removing picks or defects. **e.** *Masonry.* Dabbing: see DAB *v.*[1] 1, quot. 1876.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 812 The mechanical preparation of ores, including picking, stamping, and different modes of washing. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1698/1 *Picking Cloth*... It is subjected to a strong light, and all blemishes removed from its surface by tweezers. Spots which have escaped the action of the dye are touched with dye by a camel's-hair brush. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Piking.* See *Cobbing.* 1890 *Cent. Dict., Picking*..6. Removing picks..in electrotype plates with the tools of an electrotype-finisher.

3. *concr.* **† a.** A mark produced by pricking; a prick. (Only OE.)

This is the earliest known trace of a verb corresp. to *pike* or *pick* in OE.; see etymology of PICK *v.*[1]

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S. 572 *Stigmata*, picung.

b. That which is or may be picked, or picked up; the produce of picking, the amount picked; a scraping, a scrap; *pl.* gleanings of fruit, remaining scraps of food, or portions of anything worth picking up or appropriating.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* xii. Wks. 1851 III. 321 The Vulturs had then but small pickings. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 531 Then reason began to open; and we gathered by little pickings the ideas of good and mischievous, of right and wrong. 1808 H. HOLLAND *Cheshire* 62 These pickings [from salt pans] were analysed...He found 480 parts..to contain 40 of muriate of soda, 60 of carbonate, and 380 of sulphate of lime. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xi, The scanty pickings I had now and then been able to glean at Lowood. 1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 115 At 4 o'clock each evening the day's 'picking' is carried to the factory. 1893 [see PICKER[1] 1 a]. *Mod.* (Kent) The boy was sent to jail for stealing apples, but they were only a few peekings.

c. Chiefly *pl.* Perquisites privately picked up, or dishonestly come by; pilferings.

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 10 Rich as an Indian governor. Heaven knows how he came by it... Pretty pickings, I warrant, abroad. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. P 12 The pretty pickings to be made out of this juggle. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd., But heir or no heir, Lawyer Jermyn had had his picking out of the estate. 1893 W. P. COURTNEY in *Academy* 13 May 413/1 It must be confessed that the pickings of the office [of Paymaster-General] were enormous.

4. a. (See quot.) **b.** *pl.* 'Pounded oyster shells for gravel walks' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858).

c 1858 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.* II. 140/1 The same sort of brick if burnt a little harder, is called a *paver*, and if rather softer than it ought to be, and of pale colour, a *picking*.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *picking-season, -table, -time*, etc.; **picking-bed,** a bed in a quarry that is picked away; **picking-ground,** ground capable of being picked; **picking salt**: see quot.

1883 *Stonemason* Jan., Of this the top 12 inches is used as a *picking-bed, so that blocks 6½ feet deep can always be obtained when required. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 514 The removal in blasting-ground of 200 cubic feet, and in soft *picking-ground .. of 800 cubic feet. 1884 *Chester Gloss.*, **Picking salt*.., the first salt made after a pan has been 'picked', that is, has had the scale taken off the bottom. 1874 *Chambers' Encycl.* s.v. *Cotton*, From the date of blooming to the close of the *picking season, warm dry weather is essential. 1901 *Scotsman* 15 Oct. 4/8 After being thoroughly screened, the lump coal is carried on to *picking tables. 1682 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* II. 418 He was too warm on *Picking-work to dwell.

Pi·cking, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PICK *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The action of PICK *v.*[2]

1. *Weaving.* The driving of the shuttle to and fro in a loom; esp. *attrib.* as in †*picking peg* (obs.) = PICKER[2]; *picking cord, lever, motion, shaft, staff, stick*, names of parts employed in this action: cf. PICKER[2] b.

1827 *Edin. Rev.* XLVI. 4 Mechanical contrivance technically denominated a picking peg. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1285 He lays hold of the picking-peg in his right hand, and, with a smart jerk of his wrist, drives the fly-shuttle swiftly from one side of the loom to the other... The plan of throwing the shuttle by the picking peg and cord is a great improvement upon the old way of throwing it by haad. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1698/1 In one form of hand-loom, the picking-peg is drawn by a cord. In the power-loom the driver is on a vibrating staff. *Ibid.*, *Picking-stick* (*Weaving*), the picker-staff for driving the shuttle of a power-loom. 1878 BARLOW *Weaving* XXV. 269 (*heading*), Shuttles and picking motions. *Ibid.* 271 This plan was to affix inclined planes to the peripheries of fly-wheels—one at each end of the crank shaft, so as to strike against a stud fixed upon a picking-shaft connected to each picking-stick. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Jan. 7/2 For shafts he has used a lot of the hickory picking staffs used in power looms.

2. *Spinning.* 'The travelling of the bobbin up and down the spindle in the process of being filled, so that it may be equally full all over' (McLaren).

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 152 The spool ..requires a triple motion; a very short one at first filling the lower end, during which time the bobbin only moves a little way up and down, and then a longer 'picking'..up and down, with the constantly lowering motion the same as for the tube.

3. The action of pitching or throwing sheaves, etc. Also *attrib.*, as **picking-fork,** a hay-fork, pitchfork; **picking-hole,** a window or door aloft in a barn or hayloft, through which hay or sheaves are pitched; **a pitch-hole.** *north. dial.*

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Picking-hole.* 1854 'TOM TREDDLEHOYLE' *Bairnsla Foak's Ann.* 25 Made it into hay, an thrawn it throo t' pickin-hoyle. 1873 CORDEAUX *Birds of Humber* 14 One of the picking-holes at the north end of the barn.

Picking (pi·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* Also 6 **pyking,** *Sc.* **-and.** [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -ING [2].]

1. That picks, in the senses of the verb; *spec.* thievish.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 2657 Sic pykand peggrall theifis ar hangit. 1550 LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 38 Pickinge theft, is lesse than murtheryng robrye. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) T viij, The ouerwealthy .. waxe stiffe necked and recklesse, the poore, desperate and pyking. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus, Diætarij*, picking fellowes looking into chambers or parlours..onely of purpose to steale. 1894 KIPLING *Jungle Bk.* 52 Nothing but foolish words and little picking thievish hands.

†**2.** Dainty; fastidious; trifling, nice. *Obs.* Perh. *vbl. sb.* used *attrib.*

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 3 If thy mill stones be not worne too blunt, for want of pecking, there is picking meat for thee. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. i. 198 The King is wearie Of daintie, and such picking Grieuances. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* Auth. Apol. (ed. 2) 227 Dost thou love picking meat?

Pickitivant, corrupt f. PICKE-DEVANT, *Obs.*

Pickle (pi·k'l), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 **pekille, pykyl, pikkyll, pykulle,** 6 **(pegyll, pigell), pycele, pikle, pykle,** 6–7 **pickel(l,** 6– **pickle.** [app. a. MDu. *pekel(e, peeckel* (*a* 1473 in *Teuthonista*) or MLG. *pēkel*, LG., Du. *pekel*, E.Fris. *pekel, pākel*, mod.Ger. *pökel* brine, pickle. Ulterior origin obscure.

(Verdam suggests that Du. *pekel* was a deriv. of verbal root *pik-, pek-*, in sense 'that which pricks or is piquant'.)]

1. A salt or acid liquor (usually brine or vinegar, sometimes with spices) in which flesh, vegetables, etc., are preserved. (In early use, also applied to certain sauces eaten with flesh as a relish.)

a 1440 *Morte Arth.* 1027 Sevene knave childre, Choppid in a chargour of chalke whytt sylver, With pekille and powdyre of precious spycez. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/2 Pykyl, sawce, *picula*. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 77 Pikkyll pour le Mallard. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 189 To make a Pigell to kepe freshe Sturgen in. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyccle sauce, *savlmure*. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 29 Keping it in a certayne pickle. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. li. 349 A pickle..made of two parts of vineger, and one of salt brine. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 66 Thou shalt be whipt with Wyer, and stew'd in brine, Smarting in lingring pickle. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 63 Make a Pickle of Vinegar, Salt, whole Pepper, Cloves, Mace, and boil it, and pour it on the Mangoes. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvi. 132 The strength of the water being now such as to constitute it a brine or pickle.

fig. 1649 *Woodstock Scuffle* xi. in Scott *Woodst.* App. I, Nothing else is history But pickle of antiquity. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 62 He was in the sea o'r head and ears: At last he rais'd his head above the pickle.

b. *In pickle* (*fig.*), kept in preparation for use; esp. in phr. *a rod in pickle*, a punishment in reserve, ready to be inflicted on occasion: see ROD.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Ej b, I but he hath..arguments that haue been these twentie yeres in pickle. 1625 B. SPENSER *Vox Civitatis* 26, I feare God hath worse rods in pickell for you. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., This is a threatening admonition for an idle or truant boy. 'There's a stick i pickle for thee my lad'. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* II. vii, It was only after the last good word of glad tidings had been said that the rod was taken out of the pickle. 1885 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/2 He will return to the tranquil enjoyment of his 1,000,000 dollars now in pickle, it is said, in the English funds.

2. Some article of food preserved in pickle; usually (*pl.*) Vegetables (as cabbage, cauliflower, onions, cucumbers, walnuts, mangoes, etc.) pickled, and eaten as a relish.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 26 The Keys of the Ash are a good Pickle while young and tender; and when near ripe. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 255 ¶ 2 Conserves [are] of a much colder Nature than your common Pickles. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 24 Received a present of pickles from Miss Pilcocks. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 64 Mallows.. occupied one of the first ranks among pickles.

3. An acid solution, or other chemical preparation, used for cleansing metal or wood, or for other purposes.

1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 38 Filtre it through paper; keep it in a bottle closely corked, and call it the pickle. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 860 These plates, while still warm, are rubbed over with a dilute acid or pickle. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 299/2 A dipper had .. left a quantity of work all night in the 'pickle' or cleansing solution.

4. *fig.* A condition or situation, usually disagreeable; a sorry plight or predicament. (Usually with defining word.) Now *collog.*

[Cf. Du. *in de pekel zitten, iemand in de pekel laten zitten.*]

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 157 Freilties pickell. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 125 Reape barlie with sickle, that lies in ill pickle. 1585 FOXE *Serm. on 2 Cor.* v. 21 In this pickle lyeth man by nature, that is, all wee that be Adams children. *a* 1620 J. DYKE *Worthy Commun.* (1645) 382 Who could have..embraced a person in so filthy a pickle? 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 77, I warrant, added she, he was in a sweet pickle! 1823 BYRON *Juan* VIII. xliii, The Turkish batteries thrash'd them like a flail, Or a good boxer, into a sad pickle. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 291, I could see no way out of the pickle I was in.

b. *gen.* Condition, trim, guise. *rare.*

1706 PHILLIPS, *Accoutrement*, Dress, Garb, Pickle. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* I. ix. 190 It is difficult to conceive how he keeps himself in any decent pickle.

5. A person, usually a boy, who is always causing trouble: cf. PICKLED[1] 2 b; a troublesome or mischievous child; †a wild young fellow. *colloq.*

1788 *Hist. Schoolboy* 72 He told Master Blotch he was a pickle, and dismissed him to his cricket. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xvii. ¶ 6 If the little gentleman is a pickle, they will lay all the blame on your bad management. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Pickle*, an arch waggish fellow. 1828 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 23 Apr. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. 416 The Duke of Cumberland was there, and his son Prince George. This little pickle is about nine. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* (1850) 55 Young Sam Tyler, Jem's eldest hope, a thorough Pickle. 1885 [see PICKLESOME].

†**b.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* = PICKLED *ppl. a.*[1] 2 b.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 278 His son, a pickle young dog.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pickle-barrel, -boiler, -bottle, -dealer, -farm, -jar, -pot, -room, -shop*; **pickle-cured** *a.*, cured or preserved in pickle; **pickle-leaf,** an ornamental dish, in the form of a leaf, for pickles, etc.; **pickleman,** one who makes or sells pickles; **pickle-worm** *U. S.*, the caterpillar of a moth (*Phacellura nitidalis*), which destroys young cucumbers, etc.; **pickle-yard,** the yard in which meat is pickled for the navy.

1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 14 A Cooper and a *Pickle-Boiler being two distinct Employments. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 21 A wide-mouthed *pickle-bottle, with air-tight cork. 1791–3 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) I. 116 A *Pickle-dealer and an Italian Fidler. 1890 *Daily News* 20 Sept. 3/1 A *pickle-farm at the present time of year, with its peeling and brining processes, is an interesting sight. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 13 A man whose work consisted of covering *pickle-jars with bladder. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* ii. (1860) 41 Melon table-plates, green *pickle-leaves, and such like articles. 1731 *Lond. Even. Post* 9 Nov., John Potts, *Pickleman in Gracious Street. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 43 Put them into *pickle pots; when the liquor is cold pour it upon the oysters. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. xlvi. 132 From the water-rooms, it is drawn into a second range of vats or rooms, called *pickle-rooms. 1773 GOLDSMITH 13 Apr. in Boswell *Johnson*, The very next shop to Northumberland-house is a *pickle-shop. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 22, I..was..made inspecting Cooper of the *Pickle-yard.

Pickle (pi·k'l), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Origin unknown.

The two senses are not generally felt to be the same word in Scotch; but cf. the use of *grain* in 'I hae-na a grain o' saut i' the hoose'; 'A man without a grain o' sense'.]

1. A single grain or corn of wheat, barley, or oats, e. g. a *barley-pickle*, a barley-corn. **b.** Formerly, also, a single grain or particle (of sand, dust, etc.).

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 204 As breid is maid of mony pickillis of corne. 17.. *Song, O gin my Love* ii, O gin my love were a pickle of wheat, Awa' wi' that pickle o' wheat I wad flee. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 557 The ears are found to have alternately a plump well-filled *pickle* and an empty husk. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, *Pickle*, a single grain or kernel; of corn, rice, or the like.

b. 1632 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. xxii. 87 Ye shall run out your glass even to the last pickle of sand. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 150 Rotten, and dissolved into innumerable pickles of dust.

2. A small quantity or amount (of fluid, powder, or anything quantitative); a little. (Followed by sb. without *of*.)

a 1724 in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 9 Sick's I ha'e ye's get a pickle. 1724 RAMSAY *I have a Green Purse* i, I have a green purse, and a wee pickle gowd. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 16 I've spun a pickle yarn. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, I wad get my pickle meal and my soup milk. 1822 GALT *Provost* XXXVIII. 210 A pickle tea and sugar. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* 75 Ye'll have.. to think a wee pickle less of your dainty self.

Pickle (pi·k'l), *v.*[1] [f. PICKLE *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. (*a* 1479), Du., MLG. *pekelen*, Ger. *pökeln*.]

1. *trans.* To put into or steep in pickle; to preserve in pickle. (Sometimes, To preserve with salt, to salt, as butter.)

1552 [see PICKLED[1] 1]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/1 To Pickle flesh, *condire, salire*. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 110 They vse to pickle them with vineger and salt. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 220 Salmon.. If pickled it's like Sturgian. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 14 A physician, who, having pickled half a dozen embryos [etc.]. 1768 COWPER *Let. to Y. Hill* 3 May, MRS. Rebecca Cowper's receipt to pickle cabbage. 1893 KATE SANBORN *Truthf. Wom. S. California* 28 The processes of pickling olives.

b. To fill (a vessel) with pickle or brine for preserving meat.

1757 WOOD in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* 12 The Casks to be always drove and pickled in Time.

2. *Naut.* To rub salt, or salt and vinegar, on the back after whipping or flogging: formerly practised as a punishment.

1706 *Inq. Naval Miscarriages* in *Harl. Misc.* (Park) I. 574 The whipping and pickling of seamen (a barbarous practice which has been much used of late) has likewise been a great hindrance to the manning of our fleet. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 90 Pickling, that is to say, throwing salt and vinegar on the back after the whipping. 1887 J. K. LAUGHTON in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XII. 205/1 It was acknowledged that [in Corbet's ship, *c* 1808] the number of men flogged was very great;..and that the backs of the sufferers were habitually pickled.

3. To steep in or treat with some acid, or other chemical preparation, for cleansing or other purpose, in various manufactures, etc.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 503 Seed-wheat should be *pickled*, that is, subjected to a preparation in a certain kind of liquor, before it is sown. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 219 'Pickled' is the term also used to describe the process, which is simply eating away the softer metals from around the steel or harder material. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 103 The sheets to be galvanised are pickled, scoured, and cleaned. 1887 GUMMING *Electricity* 213 The objects are first 'pickled' in a bath of mixed dilute nitric and sulphuric acids. 1889 *Standard* 22 Oct. 2 The ordinary dressings with which seed-corn is 'pickled', to prevent bunt or smut.

b. 'To prepare, as an imitation, and sell as genuine; said of copies or imitations of paintings by the old masters. *Art Jour.*' (Webster 1864).

4. *transf.* and *fig.* in various applications.

c 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 18 For this our eyes are pickled up with teares, That are most brinie. 1651 CLEVELAND *Elegy on Abp. Canterbury* 36 Not to repent, but pickle up their Sin. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 47 A theory, pickled in the preserving juices of pulpit eloquence. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 8/2, I think you are pickling a rod for your own back.

Pi·ckle, *v.*[2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [dim. or freq. of PICK *v.*[1]]

†**1.** (?) To pick clean, cleanse by minute picking.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/1 Pykelynge, *purgulacio*. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 286 The Wren..Into his [the crocodile's] mouth he skips, his teeth he pickles Cleanseth his palate.

2. *trans.* and *intr.* To pick in a small way, or a little at a time; to peck, nibble; to eat sparingly or delicately. Also *fig.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *dial.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 158 Phebus red fowle.. Pykland his meyt in alleis quhar he went. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/2 To Pickle, eat nicely, *edere minutim*. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* i. 6 Whensoeuer we haue..but pickled vpon the doctrine without suffering it to work any true liuelinesse in vs. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 727 Lick where I laid, and pickle of that pye. 1793 T. SCOTT *Poems* 325 (Jam.) Robin Routh and Marion Mickle, Wha baith contentitlie did pickle Out o' ae pocke. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* XXVIII, Aweel, lass,..then thou must pickle in thine ain poke-nook, and buckle thy girdle thine ain gate. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Pickle*,..to eat or pick but a small quantity at a time, as sickly cattle are said only to pickle a bit out of the hand at once.

b. To deal with in a minute way, to PIDDLE (*obs.*); see also quot. *a* 1825.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 158 To busie my selfe in pickling about these small pointes of Grammer. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pickle, v.* to glean a field a second time, when, of course, very little can be found.

Pickle, obs. var. PIGHTLE; local var. of PIKEL.

Pickled (pi·k'ld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. PICKLE *v.*]

1. Preserved in pickle; steeped in some chemical preparation: see PICKLE *v.*[1] 1, 3.

1552 HULOET, Pykled or bryned, *muriaticus.* 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. ii, My wife..longs For nothing but pickled cucumbers. 1757 W. THOMPSON *R. N. Advoc.* 9 Pickled, unpickled, and undrained Casks rolled away together. 1876 SCHULTZ *Leather Manuf.* 19 Pickled hides should be kept separate from Salted. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 7/2 The vessel was loaded with pickled sleepers.

b. *Pickled herring*: see PICKLE-HERRING.

2. *fig.*: see PICKLE *v.*[1] 4.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VI. lxiii, With lips confession and with pickled cries. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* IV. xii, My pickled eyes did vent Full streames of briny teares. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Christ's Hosp.*, In lieu of our half-pickled Sundays. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* XXV, The poor pickled electors were driven back to their inn in dudgeon.

†b. Of a person: Thoroughly 'imbued' with mischief; mischievous, roguish. *Obs.*

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 343 Most impudent and pickel'd youths. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* v. vii, His poor boy Jack was..a pickled dog, I shall never forget him. 1804 COLLINS *Scrip-scrap, Epit. on Foote* 3 Here a pickled rogue lies, whom we could not preserve, Though his pickle was true Attic Salt.

†Pi·ckled, *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* Also 5 **pykeled.** [? Early variant of PECKLED.] Variegated, speckled.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 593/15 *Liridus, i. diversi coloris,* pykeled. *Ibid.* 610/23 *Dicitur gallina lirida scou,* pykeled hen show. *c* 1620 W. LAUSON in Arb. *Garner* I. 194 Wings of a feather of a mallard, teal, or pickled hen's wing.

Pi·ckle-he·rring. Now *rare.* [Found first as *pickled herring*, f. PICKLED *ppl. a.*; somewhat later *pickle-herring*, after MD. or early mod.Du. *peeckel-harinck* (1567 Junius *Nomenclator*), MLG. *pekel-herink* (Lübben-Walther), both in sense 1, mod.Du. *pekel-haring*, mod.G. *pickelhäring.*]

†1. *lit.* A pickled herring. *Obs.*

a. c 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 75 For feare of meeting with a pickled hearing And mountaynes made of matters frivolous. 1598 MERES *Pallad. Tamia* II. 286 b, Robert Greene died of a surfet taken at Pickeld Herrings, & Rhenish wine. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 260 Those which are caught far to the North, known, in Holland, by the name of pickled herrings.

β. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* H 405 A pickle Herring, *halec conditanea.* 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* vi. 77 Taken with a Pickle-herring or two, As Flemmings at Saint Katherines vse to do. 1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 76 Hee had..shortened his dayes by keeping company with pickle herrings.

2. A clown, a buffoon, a merry-andrew.

This application of the term originated in German. It appears in 1620 in *Engelische Comedien vnd Tragedien .. sampt dem Pickelhering*, where it is the name of a humorous character in one of the plays, and of the chief actor in a series of 'Pickelhärings-spiele' and 'Singspiele' (= JIG *sb.* 4). One of the latter is a version of R. Cox's *Singing Simpkin*, and a Dutch version of this, from the German, as *Singende klucht van Pekelharingh in de Kist*, 1648, is the first known evidence of the use in Dutch, to which Addison attributed it in 1711—the first mention in English. (Grimm's Dictionary is in error in ascribing to it an English origin.)

a. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 47 ¶6 A Set of merry Drolls.. whom every Nation calls by the Name of that Dish of Meat which it loves best. In Holland they are termed Pickled Herrings; in France, Jean Pottages; in Italy, Maccaronies; and in Great Britain, Jack Puddings. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* (ed. 5) 8 Content your selves with being Zanies, Pickled-Herrings, Punchionellos.

β. 1716-20 *Lett. fr. Mist's Frnl.* (1722) I. 81 Pickle-Herring was then in the Heighth of his Archness, Activity, and Grimaces. 1790 *Bystander* 134 Making a Merry-Andrew of himself, in imitation of the other Pickle-herring. 1849 tr. *Meinhold's Sidonia the Sorceress* II. 232 People think it must be pickelherring, or some such strolling mummers come to exhibit to the folk during the evening.

attrib. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode to eight Cats* ix, She mounteth with a pickle-herring spring, Without th'assistance of a rope. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ix, Their high State Tragedy..becomes a Pickleherring-Farce to weep at, which is the worst kind of Farce.

Pickler[1] (pi·klǝɹ). ? *Obs.* [f. PICKLE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] a. One who picks a little at a time, or who eats sparingly. b. See quot. 1718.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 46 The diet..must be small, as nature is a pickler, and requires but small pittaunce. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 14. 90 A pernicious Sect of Animals called Picklers; who take upon themselves .. to ridicule every Thing that does not square with their own Humours.

Pi·ckler[2]. [f. PICKLE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. A vegetable (cucumber, onion, etc.) grown for pickling.

1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 166 The latter crop of cucumbers, commonly called picklers. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 174 In Essex..onions are grown largely in field culture...Picklers are grown upon poor, light ground, to keep them small.

2. A person or thing that pickles (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1865 SIR P. WALLIS in Brighton *Life* (1892) 265 The Droitwich saline baths..powerful picklers indeed they are. 1883 *Daily News* 29 May 8/3 To Picklers, Laundrymen, and Others.—Convenient Premises to Let.

Picklesome (pi·k'lsǝm), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PICKLE *sb.*[1] + -SOME.] Of the character of a 'pickle' (PICKLE *sb.*[1] 5); inclined to mischief.

1885 *Century Mag.* XXX. 380/2 Violet Carmine was a pickle... A residence of five months in .. New York had not by any means tended to make her less picklesome.

Picklet, obs. variant of PIKELET I.

Pi·ckling, pi·cklin, *sb. dial.* Also 6 **pyglyng.** [Origin doubtful.] See quots. 1825, 1868.

1545 *Rates of Customs* c j b, Pyglyng the C. elles contey. xii score elles xxs. 1583 *Ibid.* D vij, Pickling the c, contayning xii, xx. elles iiid. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Picklin*, a sort of very coarse linen, of which seedsmen make their bags, dairy maids their aprons, etc. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Pickling*, a kind of fine canvas, used for covering meat-safes, and other like objects.

Pickling (pi·kliŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PICKLE *v.*[1]] The action of PICKLE *v.*[1], in various senses.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. ix, The Dutch way of Pickling of Herrings. 1734 BERKELEY *Let. to T. Prior* 30 Apr., Wks. 1871 IV. 227 A good cook, and understands pickling and preserving. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 220/1 Cabbages for Pickling are now coming to heart. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Pickling*, a mode of salting naval timber .. to insure its durability. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Pickling*, cleaning sheet-iron or wire by immersion in acid.

b. *attrib.* Used for pickling; of vegetables, grown for pickling, intended to be pickled.

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 326 Wheat must have as much lime put upon it, as soon as it comes out of the pickling tub, as will dry it quickly. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 23 Dec. 3/6 Half a dozen pickling-jars. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 37 To obtain small pickling onions.

Pickling, *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.*: see PICKLE *v.*[2] 1.

Picklock (pi·klɒk), *sb.*[1] and *a.*[1] [f. PICK *v.*[1] + LOCK *sb.*[2]: see PICK-.]

A. *sb.* 1. A person who picks a lock; *spec.* a thief who opens a door by picking the lock.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 76 b, I haue one..to whom there is no cofer lockt, nor dore shut.., meanyng that he was a picklock, and a false verlet. 1651 CHARLETON *Ephes. & Cinnm. Matrons* II. (1668) 9 Locking the door behind him, with as little noise as a Pick-lock. 1889 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 7/2 She called him a 'picklock' and a 'Paul Pry'.

fig. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* III. v, Talke with some crafty fellow, some picklocke o' the Law! 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 37 Sir Thomas Bolen..was called the Pick-lock of Princes.

2. An instrument for picking locks.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Ganzua*, a false keye, a pickelocke. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 18 We take him to be a Theefe..for wee haue found vpon him..a strange Picklock. 1683 CROWNE *City Politiques* v. i, I have a picklock in my pocket. 1828 W. SEWELL *Oxf. Prize Ess.* 63 A vile Laconian lock, with three stout wards, Which no picklock or nail can reach to open. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 244/1 The..most ingenious picklock ever seen.

fig. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 393 b, By which picklockes they locke fast the gates of hell, and open the gates of heaven to whom they list. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 72 Money is the very pick-lock that opens the way into all Cabinets and Councils.

B. *adj.* Used for picking a lock; *esp.* in *picklock key* = A. 2. Also *fig.*

1607 ROWLANDS *Guy Warw.* 75 Hell's picklock powder was unknown to men. 1670 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 446/4 A bunch of picklock keys. 1693 C. DRYDEN in *Dryden's Juvenal* vii. (1697) 174 The well-lung'd Civilian .. opens first the Cause, Then with a Pick-lock Tongue perverts the Laws. 1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 32 He thought it would be impossible to pick them..by any picklock keys.

Picklock, *sb.*[2] and *a.*[2] *Wool Manuf.* [f. PICK *a.* or *v.*[1] 7 + LOCK *sb.*[1]] Name for the highest quality of English wool.

1794 FOOT *Agric.* 61 (E.D.D.) The dearest class of wool, called 'picklock', is estimated at thirty-two pence a pound. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 114, I have .. divided them [wools] into six classes, ..1st class—the pick-lock and prime. 2nd class—the choice and super. ..5th class—livery and short coarse. 6th class—pick-lock, grey, &c. &c. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 17 In the woollen trade the following names are common for English wool:—picklock, which, as the name implies, is the choicest of all; prime, which is very similar; choice, a very little stronger; super, from the shoulders [etc.].

Pickman. [In sense 1, f. PICK *sb.*[1] + MAN.]

1. A labourer who works with a pick; e. g. a miner or collier who uses a pick, a hewer.

1856 *Househ. Words* XIII. 544 Miners from Cornwall,.. Muckshifters, Pickmen [etc.]. 1878 URE *Dict. Arts* IV. 631 (*Ozokerite*), Five or more gangs work at a time, each consisting of four or five men, one pickman cutting the ground, one for drawing stuff to the shaft bottom, two at the windlass.

2. A raker who rakes the hay into rows. *dial.*

1863 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* Gloss. s. v. *Haymeaken*, In raking grass into double rollers, or pushing hay up into weals, the fore raker or pickman is said to *rake in* or *push in*, or *row* or *roo*, and the other to *close.*

3. = PICKMAW. *dial.*

1899 PREVOST *Cumberland Gloss., Pickman*, the tern.

Pickman, obs. form of PIKEMAN[1].

Pickmaw. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 9 *Northumb.* **picki-maw.** [Second element MAW[3], gull; first uncertain (some conjecture *pick*, PITCH).] A common name in Scotland of the Black-headed Gull, *Larus ridibundus*: see GULL *sb.*[1]

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 183 Parfytlye thir Pikmawis, as for priouris, With thar party habitis present tham thar. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1808) 224 The lav'rock, the peasweep, an' skirlin pickmaw. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* XXV, The very pick-maws and solan-geese out-by yonder at the Bass hae ten times their sense! 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* 529 Peewit Gull..also called *sea'crow*, and *pick-i'-ma* [on p. 583 erron. *picima*].

Pi·ck-me-up. *colloq.* [A phrase used as *sb.*: see PICK *v.*[1] 20, and PICK-.] *orig.* A stimulating drink serving to restore vigour after exhaustion; extended to beverages, medicinal preparations, etc., supposed to have restorative and tonic qualities.

1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 80 Who could induce the American loafer to drink home-brewed ale..instead of pick-me-ups. 1871 *Standard* 13 Feb., A good trade in 'foaming pick-me-ups', .. was done at the various American bars. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Apr. 4/1 The land of cocktails and pick-me-ups. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Feb. 5/2 Incautious use of a pick-me-up in which strychnine was an ingredient.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Anything serving to restore strength or vigour, or having a bracing effect.

1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vii. 217 To Society the Père Hilarion was only a sort of mental liqueur, as Jenny Léa was an American 'pick-me-up'. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 278 Dr. Doseman's lively wrath proved a pick-me-up to his. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 102 The pick-me-up we saw administered was a small dose of spiegeleisen from a furnace close by. 1891 M. O'RELL *Frenchm. in Amer.* 43 This man is in constant need of moral support and pick-me-up.

[Pickmire, an erroneous book-name for the PICKMAW: prob. a copyist's or printer's error.

Appears in Bewick's *Brit. Birds*, 1808, vol. II (not by Bewick) 226, whence in Montagu *Ornith. Dict.* 1812, Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* (E. D. S.), who erroneously locates it in Roxburghshire (where *pick-maw* is the name).]

Picknick, -er, -ing: see PICNIC, etc.

Pickoss, -oys, obs. forms of PICKAX.

Pickpack: see PICK-A-BACK; **Pickpenny,** *Obs.*: see PICK-.

Pickpocket (pi·kpɒkėt), *sb.* [f. PICK *v.*[1] 9 + POCKET: see PICK-.]

1. One who steals from or 'picks' pockets; a thief who follows the practice of stealing things from the pockets of others.

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* Pref. (1592) 2 The picke-pockets and cut-purses, are nothing so dangerous to meete, as these coosning Cunny-catchers. 1668 ROLLE *Abridgm., Action sur Case* XX. 73 Si home dit de A. He was a Pick-pocket, and he picked my pocket, and took 12*s.* of money out of my pocket. Nul Action gist. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 78 ¶4 It was only a Pickpocket, who during his Kissing her stole away all his Money. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. iv, He did not wish to..turn shoeblack or pickpocket.

transf. and *fig.* 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 272 The pickthanke of vanity, the pickpocket of foolery, the pickpurse of all the palteries, and knaueries in Print. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Old Margate Hoy*, The nibbling pick-pockets of your patience.

attrib. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 29, I do not mean the auricular pick-pocket confession of the Papists. 1764 GRAY *Candidate* 6 Such a sheep-biting look, such a pick-pocket air! 1823 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 12/2 His mission to the fifth or pickpocket quarter of the globe.

2. *dial.* Given as a name to various weeds which impoverish the land, as Shepherd's Purse, Corn Spurrey, etc.: cf. next 2 and see Eng. Dial. Dict.

1875 *Sussex Gloss., Pickpockets*, Shepherd's purse.

Hence **Pi·ckpo·cket** *v.*, usually as *vbl. sb.*; **Pi·ck-po·cketing,** stealing from pockets; **Pick-po·cket-ism,** the practice of picking pockets; also *transf.*; **Pickpo·cketry** = prec.: in quot. 'plagiarism'.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 5 They will dextrously *pick pocket. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XLIII, A *pick-pocketing case, your worship. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Sept. 4/1 Pickpocketing is merely another form of gambling. 1830 *Examiner* 612/1 The *pick-pocketism above alluded to cannot be defended. 1803 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 238 The crime of pedantry, stupidity, jackassness, and *pickpocketry.

†Pi·ckpurse. *Obs.* [See PICK-.]

1. One who steals purses or from purses; a pick-pocket.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1140 Ther saugh I first..The pykepurs [*v. r.* pykpurs]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 370 A dosen harlotes Of portours and of pykeporses. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 121 b, The pikepurses and stealers of apparell. 1543 in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XVIII. II. 316 All pickpurses' ears are not set on the pillory as yet. 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devill* 47 The pick-purse .. doth not so much hurt as this general robber. 1727 SWIFT *Dreams* Wks. 1755 III. II. 234 His fellow pick-purse..Fancies his fingers in the cully's fob.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* lxxiv, I am no pick-purse of anothers wit. *a* 1602 W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1619) 332 Inordinate and affected care is commonly a great pickpurse. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Argent*, Good cheape commodities are notable picke-purses.

c. *attrib.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 114 Pynit pykpuirs pelour. *c* 1550 *Dice-Play* B v, Hyghe law [signifieth] robbery, Figginge lawe, picke purse crefte. 1612 *Pasquil's Night-Cap* (1877) 8 To see a pilfring and a pick-purse knaue,..Diue to the bottome of a true mans purse.

d. *Purgatory pickpurse, pickpurse purgatory*: a dyslogistic term of 16th c. controversy, used orig. app. by Latimer, in reference to the use made of the doctrine of purgatory to obtain payments for masses for departed souls, etc.

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc.* D ij, They that begotte and brought forth, that one old ancient purgatorie pycke pourse. *c* 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 63 Your pardons, your bulles, your purgatory pyckepurse. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 81 b, That most gayneful fornace of the popes pikepurce Purgatorie. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Arrow agst. Ath.*

(1622) 60 It may be well and justly called Purgatorie Pick-purse;..wealth and great riches of the clergy, was the only mark they aimed at. 1712 M. HENRY *Popery* Wks. 1853 II. 346/2 'Purgatory pick-purse', so it has been called.

2. A name of Shepherd's Purse, *Capsella Bursa-pastoris*, from its impoverishing the land. Also of Corn Spurrey, *Spergula arvensis*. Cf. prec. 2.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxiii. § 2. 215 Shepheardes purse is called..in the North part..Pickepurse, and Caseweede. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, *Pickepurse* an hearbe so called.. *Shepheards purse* or *Shepheards Pouch*. 1787 W. MARSHALL *E. Norfolk* Gloss., *Pickpurse*, or *Sandweed*, *spergula arvensis*, common spurrey.

†Pi·ck-quarrel. *Obs.* [See PICK-.]

1. One given to picking quarrels; a quarrelsome person.

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 264 He hath been all his life a pick-quarrel. 1532 *Ibid.* 27 Cursed be the peace-breakers, pick-quarrels, whisperers, backbiters. 1588 E. AGGAS tr. *Pres. Estate France* 56 All the pickquarrels, all the porters of Paris..are at thy becke.

2. An occasion of quarrel; a cause of dispute.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 54 If all these pretences and demands were cancelled, and Callis forgotten, which hath beene the continuall picke-quarrell betwixt these two Realmes.

Pickquet, Pickrel, Pickroon, obs. ff. PIQUET, PICKEREL, PICAROON.

Picksome (pi·ksŏm), *a.* [f. PICK *v.*[1] + -SOME.] Choice, fastidious, dainty; particular.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 190 Trouts are picksome and hard to please. 1888 BESANT *Fifty Yrs. ago* viii. 136 We were not quite so picksome in the matter of company as we are now. 1899 *19th Cent.* 608 The Committee should be very picksome and particular. [Halliwell's sense 'Hungry, peckish' was app. a mistake.]

Hence **Pi·cksomeness,** daintiness.

1881 BESANT & RICE *Captain's Room* i, Cucumber readily adapts itself to all palates save those set on edge with picksomeness.

Pickstaff, obs. form of PIKESTAFF.

Pickthank (pi·kþæŋk), *sb.* and *a. arch.* and *dial.* [f. the phrase *to pick a thank* or *thanks*: see PICK *v.*[1] 8 b, and PICK-.]

A. *sb.* One who 'picks a thank', i. e. curries favour with another, esp. by informing against some one else; a flatterer, sycophant; a tale-bearer, tell-tale.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 43 To be a pykthank I wald preif. 1551 *Gray's N.-V. Gift to Somerset* 86 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 423 Refuse those pikethanckes that Imagyn lyes! 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Delător*,..a secrete accusour or complayner: a tell tale: a picke thanke. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 25. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 289 These speeches that pick-thank reported to Antipater, with exaggerations of his own to make them more odious. 1710 L. MILBOURNE *Resist. Higher Powers* 24 When other pick-thanks might be ready to inform against them. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* vi, I had been called *pickthank* and *tale-pyet*. 1879 SALA *Paris herself again* (1880) I. xvii. 279 What a pickthank..that simple party of English people might have thought me.

B. *adj.* (attrib. use of *sb.*) Given to 'picking thanks'; flattering, sycophantic; tale-bearing; basely officious.

1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* 14 This is a pickthanke knaue, that would make his Maister beleue that the Cowe is woode. 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 15 He sets more discord in a noble house, By one daies broching of his pick-thanke tales, Than can be salved again in twentie yeares. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* XVI. xvi. (1733) 446 He..never fail'd of some pick-thank Story or other to carry away with him. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* xii. (1860) 200 An effeminate parader of phrases of endearment and pickthank adulation.

Hence **†Pi·ckthankly** *a.*, of the character of a pickthank; **†Pi·ckthankness,** the quality or character of being a pickthank.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xiii. (1852) 410 The Arch-Bishop, instead of being offended as the pick-thankly reporter hoped he would have been, fell a laughing heartily. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 284 But for the pickthankness of some of the Clergy, who will alwayes presume to have the thanks and honour of it.

Pi·ckthank, *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To play the pickthank, curry favour *with* (a person); †*trans.* to obtain by sycophancy (*obs.*). Hence **Pi·ckthanking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

Sometimes app. misused for to *pick faults*, *pick holes*.

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 43 While he did credit pickthanking Counsellors. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 308 Many there bee who..to flatter and pickethanke with their Masters..do great things. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 95 (1740) 278 He did it to pick-thank an Opportunity of getting more Money. [1830 *Examiner* 132/2 The most fastidious and pick-thanking critic. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* v. 131 How constantly Shakespeare releases himself from the pick-thanking of his critics.]

Picktooth (pi·kˌtūþ), *sb.* and *a.* Now *rare.* Pl. **picktooths**; sometimes erron. **pickteeth.** [f. PICK *v.*[1] 2 + TOOTH: see PICK-.]

A. *sb.* **1.** An instrument for picking the teeth; a toothpick.

1542 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. *321 For ane Pennare of silver to keip Pyke-teithe in, to be Kingis grace. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Wks., Hearbes, Weedes*, etc. (1587) 154 As with a piketooth byting on your lippe. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 73 Small Iuniper stickes, with sharpe points like picketoothes. 1685 LLOYD in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) I. 29 Now he gave him his case of pick-teeth. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 20 Dec., I was afraid you would think I had sent you a bundle of pick-toothes, insted of pines and firs. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* VI. xxxii, Guest and hostess backward leaning, all Their picktooths now were plying.

2. The umbelliferous plant *Ammi Visnaga*, also called Toothpick Bishopweed; so called from the use made of the dry stalks of the umbels.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Pick-tooth, *Daucus*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Picktooth, *Ammi Visnaga*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Pick-tooth, *Daucus Visnaga*.

3. *attrib.*, as *picktooth case*.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/4 A Pick-Tooth Case wrought. 1711 PUCKLE *Club* (1817) 74 Accoutred with a large muff.. snuff-box, diamond-ring, pick-tooth-case, silk handkerchief. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 237 His milk-white hand Could pick tooth case and box for snuff command.

B. *adj.* Idle, indolent, easy, leisurely (like a person resting and picking his teeth after a meal).

1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* II. i, My Lord and I, after..dinner, sat down by the fire-side, in an idle, indolent, pick-tooth way. 1767 MRS. S. PENNINGTON *Lett.* III. 39 We breakfast..with Aristotle, and pass our pick-tooth hours with Orpheus. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. ix. ¶ 3 The pick-tooth carelessness of a lounger. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 29 May 1 That easy, picktooth air of fashion, with which the noble Marquis is good enough to transact the business of the nation.

Pickueer, obs. form of PICKEER.

Pick-up, *sb.* (*a.*) [f. the phr. *to pick up*: see PICK *v.*[1] 20.]

a. The act of picking up; *spec.* in Cricket, the picking up of the ball, in order to return it. **b.** That which picks up, as a railway-train. **c.** That which is picked up, as a pick-up meal (see B); one who is picked up, a chance passenger, acquaintance, etc. **d.** An informal game between sides picked on the spot. **e.** *Printing.* 'Standing matter that comes into use and is counted as new matter'.

a. 1886 *Daily News* 27 July 3/2 [A cricketer] conspicuous for the quickness of his pick-up and the accuracy of his return. 1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 262 Pick-up and return must be one action, or the batsman will steal a sharp run.

b. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., The last train at night which runs..from Sheffield to New Holland, is called the Pick up. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Oct. 6/2 The experiments for Mr. Edison's new electric tramcar were conducted at his laboratory at West Orange, New Jersey. .. Its chief feature is the 'pickups' which take the current from one line of rails. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 18 June 220/3 Those [lights] of slow goods trains and 'pick-ups' are distinguished by a single green light..placed over the left-hand buffer.

c. 1860 [see B]. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* 311 She..will be a grand pick-up for somebody when he goes. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s. v. *Pick* vb., *Pick-up*, (Slang) a woman whose acquaintance is made on the street; especially, a street-walker. 1898 WOLLOCOMBE *Morn till Eve* ii. 15 Each driver was anxious to get the first chance of pick-ups on the road.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **a.** = that picks up or is used in picking up, as in *pick-up apparatus*, *circuit*, *water-trough*, etc.; **b.** = picked up for the nonce, as in *pick-up crew*, *dinner*, *game*, *team*.

a 1859 *Maj. Downing in London* (Bartlett), They had only a pick-up dinner. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), A *pick-up dinner*, called also simply a *pick-up*, is a dinner made up of such fragments of cold meats as remain from former meals. 1876 PREECE & SIEVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 274 The faulty section of the through wire is thrown out until the fault is removed. In its place is substituted the section CD of the 'pick-up' circuit. Communication is thus preserved between A and E. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 106 The tenders attached to the engines have a 'pick up' apparatus, provided with a scoop, which can be lowered into the trough while the train is passing over it at full speed, and the trucks are filled with water in a few seconds. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Jan. 5/1 A pick-up goods train driver and fireman experienced a shock as if the locomotive had struck some hard substance lying on the rails.

Pickwick[1] (pi·kwik). [See PICKWICKIAN.] Trade name for a cheap kind of cigar.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 441 The last time I sold Pickwicks and Cubers a penny apiece with lights for nothing, was at Greenwich Fair. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 15 July 79/1 Smoking his pipe or his pickwick where he will. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. ii. 92 By your Lordship's leave I'll smoke a pickwick.

Pi·ckwick[2]. [See PICK-.] A pointed instrument for pulling up the wick of an oil-lamp.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Pickwickian (pikwi·kiăn), *a.* [f. *Pickwick*, surname in Dickens's *Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club* (1837).] Of or pertaining to Mr. Pickwick, or the Pickwick Club; chiefly *humorous* in phr. *in* (*a*) *Pickwickian sense*, *language*, in a technical, constructive, or conveniently idiosyncratic or esoteric sense; usually in reference to language 'unparliamentary' or compromising in its natural sense.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* i, The Chairman felt it his imperative duty to demand..whether he had used the expression.. in a common sense. Mr. Blotton had no hesitation in saying that he had not—he had used the word in its Pickwickian sense. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. i. vi. 100 Out it comes..with no mincing of phrase, and no Pickwickian or Congressional explanations afterwards. 1902 CHAMBERLAIN *Sp. B'ham* 17 Nov., In every case it had only a political, perhaps I might say a Pickwickian, meaning.

Hence **Pickwi·ckianism,** a statement made in a Pickwickian sense; **Pickwi·ckianly** *adv.*, in a Pickwickian sense.

1887 *Chicago Advance* 14 Apr. 229/1 Dr. Arthur Little discussed almost convincingly, albeit somewhat pickwickianly, 'the Advantages of Presbyterianism'. 1894 *Ibid.* 28 June, This author does not mean his assertions to be taken as facts, but only as bits of critical pickwickianisms.

Picky, Sc. and north. dial. var. PITCHY.

Pickydeuant, variant of PICKE-DEVANT *Obs.*

Pickydilly, Picle: see PICCADILL, PIGHTLE.

Picnic (pi·knik), *sb.* Also 8–9 **pique-nique, pick-nick, pic-nic, pic nic.** [Occurs (in reference to foreign countries) from 1748, but app. not before *c* 1800 as an English institution; ad. F. *pique-nique*, stated by Ménage *Dict. Etymol.* (1692) to be of recent introduction; in *Dict. Acad.* 1740. In use in Germany *a* 1748, in Sweden *a* 1788 (Widegren's *Dict.*). See Note below.]

1. Originally, A fashionable social entertainment in which each person present contributed a share of the provisions; now, A pleasure party including an excursion to some spot in the country where all partake of a repast out of doors: the participants may bring with them individually the viands and means of entertainment, or the whole may be provided by some one who 'gives the picnic'.

The intermediate stage is seen in quot. 1868. The essential feature was formerly the individual contribution; now, it is the *al fresco* form of the repast.

1748 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* (in Germany, app. Berlin) 29 Oct., I like the description of your *Pic-nic*; where, I take it for granted, that your cards are only to break the formality of a circle. 1763 LADY M. COKE *Lett., to Lady Strafford* 23 Sept. (1889) I. 7, I was last night at a Subscription Ball which is called here [Hanover] Picquenic. *c* 1800 MISS KNIGHT *Autobiog.* I. 45 We stayed here [at Toulon] till the 17th [Feb. 1777] and on the previous day went to a 'pique-nique' at a little country house not far from the town. 1802 *Ann. Reg.* 169 The rich have their sports, their balls, their parties of pleasure, and their *pic nics*. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xv. Introd., She's so full of Fête and Pic-nic and Opera. 1826 [J. R. BEST] *Four Yrs. France* 289 Parties..establish a pic-nic, and pass the day together. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. iv, Nature had intended the spot for pic-nics. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* iii. 35 They held impromptu pic-nics on breezy heights above the level of the sea. 1868 LATHAM *Johnson's Dict.*, *Picnic*, open air party, in which a meal, to which each guest contributes a portion of the viands, is the essential characteristic. 1873 *Hobgoblins* 39 After the picnic had been eaten, a dance was improvised. 1886 MRS. EWING *Mary's Meadow* 21 We had a most delightful picnic there.

†b. *By picnic*: by contributions from each member. *Obs.* [Cf. F. 'l'ancienne tournure adverbiale *à pique-nique*' (Genin in Scheler).]

1832 *Examiner* 324/2 A sort of *pasticcio*, made up apparently by picnic from the performances of the performers.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1887 L. J. BEAUCHAMP in *Voice* (N. Y.) 28 Apr. 3/2 For that length of time the dogs had a picnic. 1900 *Daily News* 20 Oct. 5/7 We go about and keep the Boers on the run..I think everything points to the end of this picnic.

†2. A member of the Picnic Society: see 3. *Obs.*

1802 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VI. 197 One famous *Pic-Nic* indeed..came forward and said, they were 'a harmless and inoffensive society of persons of fashion'. *Ibid.* 198 Nor was the public amazement lessened, when they were informed, that Pic-Nics were men who acted plays and wrote plays for their own amusement. 1830 H. ANGELO *Remin.* II. 5 General A...was the most prominent pic-nic of our dramatis personæ. 1878 W. H. HUSK in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 82 A fashionable association termed the Pic-nics, who had burlettas, vaudevilles and ballets on a small scale performed there.

3. *attrib.* Pertaining to, or of the nature or character of, a picnic; in earlier use with reference to contributions made by each member of a party or company, as at a 'picnic' in the original sense.

†*Picnic Society*, name of a society of people of fashion in London about the beginning of the 19th c., for social entertainments, private theatricals, etc., to which each member contributed his share. †*Picnic supper*: see first quot. [cf. F. *souper à pique-nique* (Genin in Scheler)].

1802 *Times* 16 Mar., A Pic-Nic Supper consists of a variety of dishes. The Subscribers to the entertainment have a bill of fare presented to them, with a number against each dish. The lot which he draws obliges him to furnish the dish marked against it, which he either takes with him in his carriage, or sends by a servant. 1802 Pic-nic Society [see PICKNICKIAN]. 1802 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VI. 200 Fat capons, prize-beef, ham and chickens,..Ye Gods, what pretty Pic-Nic pickings! 1802 *Ann. Reg.* 376 This season has been marked by a new species of entertainment, common to the fashionable world, called a Pic Nic supper. Of the derivation of the word, or who was the inventor, we profess ourselves ignorant, but the nature of it..is [etc.]. 1807 *Director* I. 267 A pic-nic conversation, where each contributes in his turn from his stores of reading and observation. 1815 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1876) IV. lxiv. 305 We boarded and lodged by pic-nic contract with the Princesse. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng., Catech. Exam.* 81 [The history] of the pic-nic formation of this Creed by its putative fathers the Apostles, may be found in their proper places. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 225 A pack of hounds..got together..in a sort of pick-nick manner by a few gentlemen in London. 1851 W. W. COLLINS *Rambles beyond Railw.* ix. (1852) 183 The girls and young men of the pic-nic party are dancing merrily. 1889 HENTY *With Lee in Virginia* (1890) 129 The whole party sat down to a picnic meal on the ground.

†4. as *adv.* In the way of a picnic; by contributions from each person. *Obs.*

1803 J. Davis *Trav. U. S.* 176 A sum that may enable him to ask a friend to dine with him pic nic.

[*Note.* The chronology of the word in French and English, with the fact that our earliest instances refer to the Continent, and are sometimes in the French form *pique-nique*, show that the word came from French (although some French scholars, in ignorance of these facts, have, in view of the obscurity of its derivation, conjectured that the French word was from Eng.). Hatzfeld-Darmesteter merely say 'Origin unknown: the Eng. *picnic* appears to be borrowed from French'. Scheler mentions several conjectures, amongst others that of Boniface (18..) 'repas où chacun *pique* au plat pour sa *nique* (*nique* taken in the sense of "small coin")'. Others think it merely a riming combination formed on one of its elements. In Foote's *Nabob* (1772) Act 1, one of the characters uses *nick-nack* for *pick-nick*; intended perhaps to show that *pick-nick* was still a little-known word, liable to be confounded or associated with better known native words or combinations, such as *knick-knack*. But cf. Picknickery quot. 1803, 'pick-nickery and nick-nackery'.]

Picnic (pi·knik), *v.* Inflexions **picnicked, picnicking.** [f. prec.

(As to the spelling of the inflexions, and of the following words, see remarks under C and K.)]

1. *intr.* To hold, or take part in, a picnic.

1842 Tennyson *Audley Court* 2 Let us picnic there At Audley Court. 1861 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* I. viii. (1875) 212 Lay..musing on the beach, or pic-niced among the ruins of the Castle. 1861 Thornbury *Turner* (1862) I. 371 He has drawn people riding and pic-nicking. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* iv. III. 238 We picnicked on the grass outside the monastery.

†**2.** *trans.* To furnish (provisions) by contributions from each person, as at a picnic. *Obs.*

1821 Moore *Mem.* (1853) III. 268 The Villamils and I picnicked our provender.

3. To entertain (a person) with picnics.

1884 H. Collingwood *Under Meteor Flag* 77 We were balled, fêted, picniced, and generally made much of.

Hence **Pi·cnicking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1842 Mrs. F. Trollope *Visit Italy* I. xix. 312 The description of one of the pic-nicing days. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr., Yet can green, picnicking Simla ever wrest the crown away from Calcutta? 1883 H. P. Stofford in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 578/2 Mr. Claxton suggested their picnicking. 1888 W. R. Carles *Life in Corea* iii. 25 The hill is used as a lounge and picnicking place.

Picnicker (pi·knikəɹ). [f. Picnic *v.* + -er1.] One who picnics, or takes part in a picnic.

1857 De Quincey *R. Bentley* Wks. VII. 171 *note*, He will not be able without a glass to see the gay party of pic-nickers. 1865 Miss Braddon *Sir Jasper* xxiv, The kind of day that all picnickers would demand of Providence. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 19 July 7/1 The samovar (the tea-urn) enabled the picnicers to turn out a delicious cup of tea.

Picni·ckery. [f. Picnic *sb.* + -ery.] †**a.** See quot. 1803: apparently alluding to the dramatic performances of the original Picnic Society: cf. quots. in Picnic *sb.* 2. †**b.** A collection of things contributed from various sources, like the provisions at a picnic. **c.** *pl.* The requisites for a picnic.

1803 *Times* 4 Jan., We are induced to contend against any thing so contemptible as the pick-nickery and nick-nackery—the pert affectation, and subaltern vanity of rehearsing to an audience that cannot understand, in a language one cannot pronounce. 1822 Mrs. E. Nathan *Langreath* III. 66 The pick-nickery of sea stock brought on board by the different passengers. 1830 H. Angelo *Remin.* I. 290 Gillray let fly..with his double-barrelled gun, charged at pic-nickery, with his crayon and etching tool. 1852 *Aquatic Notes Camb.* 4, 2 kettles, 9 plates, 4 dishes, a charcoal bag, with a host of other picniceries.

†**Picni·ckian.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ian.] †**a.** A member of the Picnic Society (see Picnic 3). **b.** One who takes part in a picnic.

1802 Cutspear *Dram. Rights*, etc. 45, I am not of the Pic-nic Society, therefore not a *Pic-nickian*. I only wish to prove that, if the Pic-nickians choose to have a Pic-nic supper, they have an undoubted right to do so. 1853 Reade *Chr. Johnstone* 166 The other discontented Pic-nician was Christie Johnstone.

Picnicky (pi·kniki), *a. colloq.* [f. as prec. + -y.] Belonging to or characteristic of a picnic.

1870 *Standard* 26 Nov., Occupied in a pleasant pic-nicky way in getting ready their breakfast before the start. 1885 *Fortnt. in Waggonette* 2 To do everything in such an entirely rustic and picnicky fashion.

Picnid, Picnometer, bad spellings of Pycn-.

‖**Pico** (pī·ko). *Obs.* [Sp. *pico*: see Peak *sb.*2 II.] A peak, the pointed top of a mountain; a conical mountain. (Originally applied to the Peak of Teneriffe: see Peak *sb.*2 5, Pic1, Pike *sb.*3)

1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 4 This high Pico rises from the middle part of the Isle [Teneriffe]. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 171 An exact relation of the Pico Teneriff. *Ibid.*, These calcined rocks lie for three or four miles almost round the bottom of the Pico. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* viii. 290 As high as the Pico of Teneriff. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 206 Yet there is one of them [Cheviot Hills] a great deal higher than the rest, which, at a Distance, looks like the Pico-Teneriffe, in the Canaries.

Picoid (pəi·koid), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *pīcus* woodpecker + -oid.] Resembling the *Picidæ* or Woodpeckers in form.

Picoideous (pəikoi·dĭəs), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod. L. *picoide-us* Picoid + -ous.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the *Picoideæ*, a subordet of birds including Woodpeckers, Honey-guides, Barbets, Toucans, Jacamars, and Puff-birds. So **Picoi·dean**, a member of the *Picoideæ*.

Picoise, obs. f. Pickax. **Picol**: see Picul.

Picoline (pi·kŏləin). *Chem.* [mod. f. L. *pix, pic-em* pitch + *ol-eum* oil + -ine5: so in mod.F.] A colourless liquid compound (C_6H_7N) obtained from bone-oil, coal-naphtha, tar, peat, etc., having an intensely powerful smell.

1853 *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 134 The sulphates of..picoline, petinine are..insoluble. 1857 Miller *Elem. Chem.* III. 260. 1865 Mansfield *Salts* 263 The double series of isomeric compounds, of which Aniline and Picoline are respectively members: both of these bodies have the composition $C_{12}H_7N$.

Pico-passerine (pəiko,pæ·sĕrəin), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *pic-us* woodpecker + *passer* sparrow + -ine1.] Of or belonging to the *Pici-* or *Pico-passeres*, an order proposed by Seebohm to include Picine and Passerine birds.

1890 *Ibis* Jan. 33 Each of these six characters appears in every Pico-Passerine bird..but the combination of the six ..never..outside the limits of the Pico-Passeres.

†**Pi·cory.** *Obs.* Also -ie, -ee. [ad. F. *picorée* (16th c. in Littré) marauding, ad. Sp. *pecorea*: see Pickeer.] Plundering or pillage by armed force; foraging, marauding; looting.

[1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 9 b, In stead of pay haue suffered them to goe *alla picoree*, that was, to robbe and spoyle the Boores their friends.] 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 13 If otherwise they be not prouided by forrage or Picorée. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Leys le Roy* 45 He chastised such as failed, or were giuen to picory. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* Ep. Ded. 4 It became not the former fortune in which I once liued, to goe iourneys of picorie. [1903 *Blackw. Mag.* July 29/1 Smith alone having saved by care in picory some moneys.]

‖**Picot** (pi·ko). [F. *picot*, dim. of *pic* peak, point, prick.] A small loop of twisted thread, larger than the pearl or purl, one of a series forming an ornamental edging to lace, ribbon, or braid; also, in embroidery, a raised knot similarly formed to represent a leaf, petal, ear of corn, etc.

1882 Caulfeild & Saward *Dict. Needlework* 391/1 *Picots*.. are little Loops or Bobs that ornament Needle-made Laces of all kinds, and that are often introduced into Embroidery. 1891 *Weldon's Pract. Needlework* VI. No. 69. 14/1 The term 'worms'..is..not nearly so euphonious as the time-worn appellations of 'twisted stitch' or 'bullion', 'roll picot'..all different names for the same stitch. 1893 *Ibid.* VII. No. 90. 11/1 The raised picots of which this leaf is composed are worked something after the manner of French knots.

b. *attrib.*, as *picot-edge, ribbon, stitch.*

1886 *St. Stephen's Rev.* 13 Mar. 14/1 A bow of yellow picot ribbon. 1887 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 3/1 Some ingenious manufacturer conceived the happy idea of embellishing the edges of the ribbon with a small loop of silk. The idea was developed, and ribbons with a *picot* edge became the order of the day. 1891 *Weldon's Pract. Needlework* VI. No. 69. 3/1 The daisy loops—which also are known as leaf-stitch and picot stitch.

‖**Picotah, picottah** (pikǫ·tă). Also pa-, **picota, paecottah.** [Hindī, etc., a. Pg. *picota* a pump-brake (in a ship).] The name applied in parts of India to a device for raising water, consisting of a beam, resting on an upright support, which is weighted at one end and has a bucket suspended from the other; the operator stands upon it and uses his own weight to dip and raise the bucket; the same as the Shadoof of the Nile.

1807 F. Buchanan *Journ. Mysore* I. 15 In one place I saw people employed in watering a rice field with the *Yatam*, or *Pacota*, as it is called by the English. 1885 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 91/2 Termed a *paecottah* or *picota* in Bengal.

‖**Picoté** (pīkote), *a.* [F., pa. pple. of *picoter* to peck, etc.: see Picotee.] **a.** *Her.* Spotted, speckled. **b.** Furnished with picots: see Picot.

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Picoté*, a French term, which signifies speckled.

Picotee (pikŏtī·), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 8 **picketee, -ttee, -tty,** 9 **piquoté, picootee.** [a. F. *picoté, -ée*, pa. pple. of *picoter* to prick often, mark with pricks or points, f. *picot*: see Picot.] A florists' variety of the carnation (*Dianthus Caryophyllus*), the flowers of which have a light ground, the petals being marked or edged with a darker colour.

The early variety had a white ground marked with specks of colour.

1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Carnation*, Each of those Tribes are very numerous, but chiefly the Picketees, of which, he says, he had seen above an hundred different Sorts in one Garden. 1808 Sir J. E. Smith in *Mem.* (1832) I. 565 Your Piquoté (I never knew before how to spell that word, neither do I know its etymology now) pink is a curious plant. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 617 By what process gooseberries may be made gigantic, and piccotees enriched with piedness. 1887 *G. Nicholson's Dict. Gardening* III. 123 Picotees are only distinguished from Carnations by the markings of their flowers. The petals of..the Picotee have a ground colour, and are edged with a second colour.

B. *adj.* Applied to colours resembling those of the flowers or leaves of the picotee.

1899 *Daily News* 7 Oct. 8/6 Fine late tulips. Picotee, white, with picotee red edge. *c* 1900 *Needlecraft* Ser. I. No. 34. 9/2 The shading and grass upon the bank,..work in dark picotee greens.

Picotite (pi·kŏtəit). *Min.* [a. mod.F., named 1812 after Picot, Baron de la Peyrouse (1744–1818), who described it: see -ite1.] A black variety of spinel containing chromium, occurring in minute grains and crystals in lherzolite.

1814 T. Allan *Min. Nomencl.* 37. 1832 C. U. Shepard *Min.* I. 246 Picotite. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* xiii. 264 The picotite appears, under the microscope, in very irregular brown, or .. deep olive-green, patches or grains. 1892 Dana *Min.* (ed. 6) 221 Picotite or chrom-spinel.

Picoys, obs. f. Pickax. **Picquancy, Picquant,** etc.: see Pic-. **Picque,** obs. f. Pick *v.*1 **Picqué**: see Piqué.

Picqueer, picquerer, Picqueroon, Picquet: see Pickeer, Picaroon, Picket, Piquet.

Picqueter (pi·kĕtəɹ). [f. F. *piquet* (*de fleurs*) bunch (of artificial flowers, for hats) + -er1.] One who arranges artificial flowers in bunches.

1898 *Daily Chron.* 24 Sept. 10/6 Artificial flower mounters, picqueters, jet hands, wanted. 1901 *Ibid.* 9 Apr. 10/4 Artificial Flower Picqueters.—Improvers wanted.

Picquier, obs. form of Pickeer, Piquier.

Picquois, obs. form of Pickax.

‖**Picra** (pi·kră). *Pharmacy.* [Short for Hiera picra (Gr. πικρά bitter).] A bitter cathartic powder or paste: = Hiera picra.

1860 Bushnell in *Life* xxi. (1880) 439, I used to have a certain pride in taking picra without crying.

Picrate (pi·krĕt). *Chem.* [f. as Picric + -ate1.] A salt of picric acid: used as an explosive.

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 403 The metallic picrates are mostly crystallisable, bitter, and of yellow colour. They explode when strongly heated. 1870 *Daily News* 27 July 6 The entrances east and west are closed by *torpilles* charged with picrate of potass.

Hence **Picra·ted** *ppl. a.*, containing or partly composed of a picrate: applied to certain fireworks.

Picric (pi·krik), *a. Chem.* [mod. f. Gr. πικρ-ός bitter + -ic.] In *Picric acid*, also called *trinitrocarbolic* or *carbazotic acid, artificial indigo-bitter*, a yellow intensely bitter substance ($C_6H_3N_3O_7 = C_6H_3(NO^2)^3O$), crystallizing in yellow shining prisms or laminæ, first observed by Hausmann in 1788, used in dyeing and more recently in the manufacture of explosives.

1852 *Chemical Gaz.* X. 137 Thus picric acid is phenylous acid..in which a substitution of 3 equivs. NO_4 for 3 equivs. H has taken place...Picric acid is consequently trinitrophenylous acid. 1860 O'Neill *Chem. Calico Print.* 256 *Picric Acid.*—This is only lately introduced as a dyeing material for silks and woollens: it has no affinity for cotton. 1890 *Nature* 4 Sept. 444 The relative value of violent explosive agents, like picric acid or wet gun-cotton.

Picrite (pi·krəit). *Min.* Also **-yte.** [mod. f. Gr. πικρ-ός bitter + -ite1.] A dark grey-green rock consisting mainly of chrysolite (see quots.).

1814 T. Allan *Min. Nomencl.* 9 Crystallized muricalcite, bitterspath, picrite. 1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* xiii. 265 Picrite is a blackish-green crystalline rock with a compact, black matrix, containing porphyritic crystals and grains of olivine. 1896 Chester *Dict. Names Min.*, *Picrite*, an obs. syn. of dolomite, bitter-spar.

Picro- (pi·krǫ), before a vowel sometimes **picr-**, combining form of Gr. πικρός bitter, used to form scientific terms, (*a*) in the sense 'having a bitter taste or smell', esp. in the names of magnesium minerals, because magnesium salts have often a bitter taste; (*b*) in names of derivatives of Picric acid, as *picramic acid, picramine, picrammonium, picro-acetate of lead, picro-carbonate of ammonia.*

Among these are **Picrocarmine,** a red staining fluid used in histologic microscopy; picro-carbonate of ammonia. **Picroerythrin** *Chem.* [Erythrin] (see quot. 1866). **Picroglycion** *Chem.* [Gr. γλυκύς sweet], a crystalline substance obtained from the bittersweet; = Dulcamarin. **Picrolite** *Min.* [Gr. λίθος stone] (see quots.). **Picromel** [Gr. μέλι honey], a bitter-sweet substance obtained from bile. **Picromerite** *Min.* [Gr. μερίς, μεριδ- a part], sulphate of magnesium and potassium found in white crystals and crystalline crusts. **Picronitrate** *Chem.* = Picrate. **Picropharmacolite** *Min.* (named by Stromeyer, 1819), a mineral resembling pharmacolite, but containing magnesium. **Picrophyll** *Min.* [Gr. φύλλον a leaf], a massive, fibrous, or foliated greenish-grey variety of pyroxene. **Picrophyllite** = prec. (Webster 1864). **Picrosmine** *Min.* [Ger. *picrosmin*, named by Haidinger, 1824, f. Gr. ὀσμή odour], a greenish-white, dark-green, or greyish fibrous hydrous silicate of magnesium, which emits a bitter and argillaceous odour when moistened. **Picrotin** *Chem.* [f. *picrotoxin*], a bitter crystalline substance existing with picrotoxin in the *Cocculus indicus*. **Picrotoxic** *a. Chem.* [f. next: see -ic], of, pertaining to, contained in, or derived from picrotoxin. **Picrotoxin** *Chem.* [cf. Toxin], formerly **picrotoxia,** the bitter poisonous principle ($C_{12}H_{14}O_5$) of the seeds of the *Cocculus indicus*.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 406 *Picramic [or] Dinitrophenamic..Acid..Produced by the action of sulphide of ammonium or of ferrous salts on picric acid. *Ibid.* 640 *Picramine, or hydrate of *picrammonium, cannot be isolated on account of its ready oxidability. *Ibid.* 404 A *picro-acetate of lead..is deposited..when a boiling mixture of potassic picrate and an excess of lead-acetate is left to cool. 1880 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* XX. 230 By using osmic acid, followed by *picrocarmine, it is easy to preserve the eto-derm with its clothing of cilia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 551 The picrocarmine reaction shows that decalcification is taking place. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 541 *Picro-erythrin .. is a colourless substance...It has a very bitter taste. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 641 *Picroerythrin* ($C_{13}H_{16}O_7$), a body produced, together with orsellinic ether, by the action of boiling water on erythrin. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Picroglycion, Picroglycium*.. Name by Pfaff for a particular substance first obtained by him from the *Solanum dulcamara*. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 642 *Picroglycion. Dulcamarin.* 1816 R. JAMESON *Min.* (ed. 2) I. 536 *Picrolite. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 642 *Picrolite*, a fibrous dark-green variety of serpentine, somewhat resembling asbestos; found in Silesia [etc.]. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min., Picrolite*, .. a fibrous or columnar var. of serpentine. 1815 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 332 *Picromel. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 307 Picromel is obtained from bile. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 2 Thenard.. obtained a body which he named picromel from its taste. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 642 **Picromerite*, potassio-magnesic sulphate..crystallised from solutions of saline crusts. 1868 DANA *Min.* 642. 1875 *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* III. 642 Picric acid in the form of *picronitrate of potassa and soda. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Min.* (ed. 3) 178 The analysis..of *picropharmacolite has been published. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 387 Picropharmacolite from Riechelsdorf .. is probably pharmacolite having the lime partly replaced by magnesia. *Ibid.* 643 **Picrophyll*,..from Sala in Sweden... It is perhaps an altered augite. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 406 Pyrallolite..Picrophyll..These are names of pyroxene in different stages of alteration, between true pyroxene and either serpentine or steatite. 1825 HAIDINGER tr. *Moh's Min.* III. 137 *Picrosmine. 1852 C. U. SHEPARD *Min.* (ed. 3) 148 Picrosmine..[occurs] at the Greiner in Tyrol. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Picrotoxin*..can be split up into the two bodies *Picrotoxinin* and **Picrotin*. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 305 **Picrotoxia*,..name given to the acrid narcotic principle residing in the cocculus indicus. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 643 **Picrotoxic acid*, the name given by Pelletier and Couerbe to picrotoxin, because it unites with metallic oxides. 1815 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 254 *Picrotoxine. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 147/1 Picrotoxin..is intensely bitter. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 813 The first and most important step in the treatment of picrotoxin-poisoning.

Picryl (pi·kril). *Chem.* [f. Gr. πικρ-ός bitter, or immed. f. PICR-IC + -YL.] (See quot.)

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 644 *Picryl* or *Cripin*, a substance formed, together with others, by submitting to dry distillation the crude product of the action of sulphydrate of ammonium on bitter-almond oil...Picryl is also used as synonymous with trinitrophenyl, $C_6H_2(NO_2)_3$, the radicle of picric acid.

Pict (pikt), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 *pl.* **Peohtas, Pehtas, Pih-, Pyhtas,** 4 **Peghttes,** 5 *sing.* **Peght(e,** *pl.* (*Sc.*) **Peychtis Pightis,** 6 *sing.* **Peight,** 6- **Pecht,** (8 **Peht,** 9 **Peght, Piht**). *β.* 4–6 *pl.* **Pictes, -is,** 5 **Pyctes,** 7- *sing.* **Pict.** [In late L. *Pictī*, identical in form with *pictī* painted or tattooed people, which may be the meaning; but the L. may be merely an assimilated form of a native name: cf. *Pictavi, Pictones* in Gaul. The OE. *Peohtas* represents an earlier *Pihtas*, which would answer to a foreign *Pict-* (cf. *Wiht* for L. *Vectis*); its direct descendant is the Scottish *Pecht*; *Pict* is from L.]

1. One of an ancient people of disputed origin and ethnological affinities, who formerly inhabited parts of north Britain. According to the chroniclers the Pictish kingdom was united with the Scottish under Kenneth MacAlpine in 843, and the name of the Picts as a distinct people gradually disappeared.

In Scottish folk-lore, the *Pechts* are often represented as a dark pygmy race, or an underground people; and sometimes identified with elves, brownies, or fairies.

Picts' houses, the name given to underground structures attributed to the Picts, found on the east coast of Scotland and in Orkney. *Picts' wall*: see quot. 1753 in *β*.

a. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 28 Ða ferdon Peohtas in Breotone, & ongunnon eardigan þa norðdælas þyses ealondes...Mid þy Peohtas wif næfdon. *Ibid.*, Þridde cynn Scotta Breotone onfeng on Pehta dæle. *a* 900 *O. E. Chron.* an. 449 (Parker MS.) Se cing het hi feohtan agien Pihtas, & hi swa dydan. *c* 1122 *Ibid.* (Laud MS.), Heo þa fuhton wið Pyhtas. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4126 Peghttes and paynymes .. disspoylles our knyghttes. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xix. 1757 A company Out of þe kynrik of Sithi Coyme of Peychtis [*Wemyss MS.* Pightis] in Irlande. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 272/2 A Peghte (*A.* A Pecht or Pigmei), *pigmeus*. 1566 T. STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewel* iii. 129 The forrain inuasions of the Scottes and Peightes or Redshankes. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. 198 The Pechtes..called a counsel. 1789 PINKERTON *Enquiry* I. III. x. 367 The common denomination among the people of Scotland, from the Pehts Wall in Northumberland to the Pehts houses in Ross-shire, and up to the Orkneys, is Pehts. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* ii. *note*, The ancient Picts, or, as [the inhabitants of the Orkneys] call them with the usual strong guttural, Peghts. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 415/2 He [Arthur] received intelligence of the revolt of Modred, who had allied himself with the Saxons, Scots, and Pihts. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 398 A stranger..whom the most knowing man ..pronounced to be a 'Pecht', for he was small and black and had all the characteristics of the traditional 'Pecht'.

β. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 147 Þei beeþ i-cleped Pictes by cause of peyntynge. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 48 Pictis, and Scottys, and Hyrysshe also. 1753 J. WARBURTON (*title*) Vallum Romanum; or, the History and Antiquities of the Roman Wall, Commonly called the Picts Wall, in Cumberland and Northumberland, Built by Hadrian and Severus.. Seventy Miles in Length, to keep out the..Picts and Scots. 1813 J. GRANT *Orig. Gael* (1814) 292 The Picts of Albinn.. inhabited the whole range of low country from the Frith of Forth, northward. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxvii, One of those dens which are called Burghs and Picts-houses in Zetland. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. iv. 116 These structures, for which—we retain the popular name of Picts houses..are erected on the natural surface of the soil and have been buried by an artificial mound heaped over them. *attrib.* *a* 1856 in G. Henderson *Pop. Rhymes* 8 Grisly Drædan sat alane By the cairn and Pech stane. 1897 H. TENNYSON *Mem. Ld. Tennyson* II. xiv. 280 We had a drive of ten miles to Maeshowe, a Pict burial-mound.

† **2.** *humorous.* One who paints the face. *Obs.*

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 41 ¶ 4, I have..distinguished those of our Women who wear their own, from those in borrowed Complexions, by the Picts and the British. 1892 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 5/1 Men must be tolerant of 'Picts', as the old 'Spectator' calls them, or Picts would not be so prevalent.

Pict, *v. rare.* [f. L. *pict-*, ppl. stem of *ping-ĕre* to paint.] *trans.* To paint; to depict, represent. Hence **Pi·cted** *ppl. a.*, painted.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/1 They ne shold fro thens forthon pourtrayne nor pycte the forme or fygure of the crosse. 1866 J. B. ROSE *Virg. Ecl. & Georg.* 79 Races .. From picted Gelon to Arabian. 1866 — tr. *Ovid's Fasti* VI. 428 In picted vestments and in open hall.

Pict, obs. f. PICK *sb.*[1] 7; obs. var. PICK *v.*[2]

Pictareen, erroneous form of PISTAREEN.

Pictarne. *Sc.* ? *Obs.* Also 9 **pickietar.** [Of uncertain origin: but cf. PICKMAW and TERN.] = next.

1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife* II. iii. 46 *Hirundo Marina, Sterna Turneri*: Our People call it the *Pictarne*. 1771 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in* 1769. 65 Great Terns, called here *Pictarnes*. 1851 T. EDWARDS in *Zoologist* IX. 3080, I observed several parties of pickietars busily employed in fishing in the Firth.

Pictarnie (piktā·rni). *Sc.* Also 9 **pic-, picke-tarney, pickaternie, (piccatarrie).** [dim. of prec.: see -IE.] The common tern, *Sterna fluviatilis*. Also locally, the Arctic tern, *S. macrura*.

1802 G. MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* (1833) 508 Common Tern ..Provincial, Pirr..Tarney or Pictarney. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxxix, 'It's but a sea-maw.' 'It's a pictarnie, sir', said Edie. 1835 D. SMITH *Emigrant's Farew.* 17 Wild ducks and pictarnies may play on the stream. 1899 *Shetl. News* 14 Jan. (E. D. D.), The graceful and elegant tern, the 'piccatarrie' of our beaches and lochs.

Pictel, obs. form of PIGHTLE.

Picthatch, variant of PICKED-HATCH.

Pictish (pi·ktiʃ), *a.* [f. PICT *sb.* + -ISH.] Of or pertaining to the Picts.

1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 140 Abernethie, where is a Church and Steeple, reckoned to be Pictish work. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 274 The old fortress..is supposed to have belonged to the Pictish Kings.

Pictland (pi·ktˌlænd). [f. PICT + LAND.] The land of the Picts: a name for Scotland north of the Forth.

[1701 J. BRAND (*title*) A Brief Description of Orkney, Zetland, Pightland-Frith, and Caithness.] 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 225 The inhabitants of this district, the Caledonians of Tacitus, were afterwards known by the name of Picts; and from them the country was for some centuries called Pictland. *Ibid.* 425 In the third century, the terms Picts and Pictland began to be substituted for Caledonians and Caledonia. 1860 SHAIRP *Sk.* (1887) 36 To convert Pictland and plant the Church there.

Pictograph (pi·ktŏgrɑf). [mod. f. L. *pict-us* painted + -GRAPH.] A pictorial symbol or sign; a writing or record consisting of pictorial symbols (the most primitive form of records).

1851 SCHOOLCRAFT *Ind. Tribes* I. 416 Plate 60 Pictograph A. Chippewa Petition to the President of the United States. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 277 We know enough of the Indian pictographs, to guess how a fancy..came into the poor excited creature's mind. 1894 A. J. EVANS in *Academy* 25 Aug. 136/2 Some of them..belonged to that interesting class of pictographs which is rooted in primitive gesture language. 1900 SAYCE *Babylonians & Assyrians* x. 209 In Egypt the hieratic or running-hand of the scribe developed out of the primitive pictographs.

Hence **Pictogra·phic** *a.*, of, belonging to, or of the nature of, picture-writing; **Picto·graphy,** picture-writing; the recording of ideas or events by pictorial symbols.

1851 SCHOOLCRAFT *Ind. Tribes* I. 333 Indian Pictography. *Ibid.*, The Pictographic Method of Communicating Ideas by Symbolic and Representative Devices of the North American Indians. 1862 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. xiv. 316 Genuine specimens of American pictography. 1896 A. J. EVANS in *Academy* 18 July 53/3 A beautiful 'pictographic' seal of red cornelian.

Pictoresque, obs. form of PICTURESQUE.

Pictorial (piktō·riăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. late L. *pictōri-us* (f. *pictor* a painter) + -AL. (Used by Sir T. Browne (in sense 1), but not in general use before 1800.)]

1. Of, belonging to, or produced by the painter; of or pertaining to painting or drawing. Now *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 170 Sea-horses.. are but Crotesco deliniations which fill up empty spaces in Maps, and meere pictoriall inventions, not any Physicall shapes. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pictorial*, produced by a painter. [Quotes Browne, and remarks] 'A word not adopted by other writers, but elegant and useful.' 1810 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XIV. 205 Royal Academy Dinner. A pictorial vision. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. IV. Comm. p. xii, Attention to the laws of perspective, which is, in fact, but a pictorial optic, will instruct the reader. 1833 J. MARTINEAU *Misc.* (1852) 32 Conception..is emphatically the pictorial faculty needed by the illustrating artist. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xii, 'Far be it from me to say that the pictorial calling is not honourable', says Uncle Charles.

2. Consisting of, expressed in, or of the nature of, a picture or pictures.

1807 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 329 Not the wealthy ..who exhibit in their boudoirs and drawing rooms, new publications in the luxury of pictorial ornaments. 1861 STANLEY *East. Ch.* ix. (1869) 305 Pictorial communications are probably the chief sources of religious instruction imparted to the..Russian peasantry. 1876 BIRCH *Egypt* 8 The hieroglyphs or pictorial forms were used..above one thousand years after they ceased to represent the vernacular or spoken language of Egypt.

3. Containing or illustrated by a picture or pictures; illustrated.

1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. i, Taught at home on the new system, by a pictorial alphabet. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 49 Its features being such as are common on the pictorial Dutch tiles. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* II. xii. 253 At the beginning of 1836, the first number of 'The Pictorial Bible' was issued. *In hitting upon the word 'Pictorial'* I felt that I was rather daring in the employment of a term which the Dictionaries pronounced as 'not in use'.

4. *fig.* Like a picture; representing as if by a picture; picturesque, graphic.

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Marvel & Bp. Parker* Wks. 1853 II. 116/2 He has given us such a description of Eve's beauty as appears to me somewhat too pictorial, too luxuriant. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 477 Of all poets Spenser excelled in the pictorial faculty. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 262 If God is spoken of as having hands, arms, feet, and so on, those, he says, must be simply looked upon as pictorial phrases.

B. as *sb.* A journal of which pictures are the main feature.

1880 (*title of periodical*) The Lady's Pictorial. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 10/1 In the case of magazine articles, pamphlets, &c.,..and of periodicals and 'pictorials'.

Hence **Picto·rialism,** the practice of a pictorial style (*lit.* and *fig.*), the use of pictorial representation; **Picto·rialist,** one who practises a pictorial style; **Picto·rialize** *v.*, to represent in, or as in, a picture; to illustrate with pictures; hence **Picto·rializa·tion; Picto·rialness,** pictorial quality, graphic character.

1869 *Pennsylv. School Jrnl.* Feb. 218 Sensationalism and *pictorialism, and the imaginings of sensuousness and sentimentality. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 4 Feb. 3/5 Unfaithful to the traditions of pictorialism. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 530 Not by the minute pencilling of the *pictorialists. 1901 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 36 The impulse towards the *pictorialisation of nature. 1870 *Daily News* 20 Dec., We have been eulogised and *pictorialised to an extent almost incredible. 1888 CAVE *Inspiration O. Test.* vi. 309 There is no pictorializing, there is no idolizing of deity. 1876 EDERSHEIM *Jew. Life Days Christ* vii. 103 The multiplicity and *pictorialness of the expressions. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXII. 148 This group adds immensely to the pictorialness of the picture.

Pictorially (piktō·riăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a pictorial manner.

1. By means of a picture or pictures.

1843 tr. *Custine's Empire of Czar* II. 257 Russia is less known than India: it has been less often described and pictorially illustrated. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civilia.* ii. (1875) 44 It is indeed but a step to record pictorially some particular hunt.

2. In the manner of a picture; as a picture, or as the subject of a picture.

1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1879) I. v. 50 That partial light which..is the just requisite towards seeing objects pictorially. 1883 T. HARDY in *Longm. Mag.* July 259 Like the men, the women are, pictorially, less interesting than they used to be.

Picto·ric, *a. rare.* [f. L. *pictor* painter + -IC: cf. ORATORIC.] Of painting or drawing; pictorial.

1902 B. KIDD *Western Civiliz.* vi. 187 The standard of taste in the plastic and pictoric arts.

Picto·rical, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Concerned with painters or painting; pictorial. Hence **Picto·rically** *adv.*, in the manner of a painter, from the point of view of painting.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 20 Since this travel we have been both poetical and I musical and pictorical. 1656 [see PICTURAL]. 1761 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. v, He must have redden'd, pictorically and scientintically speaking, six whole tints and a half, above his natural colour. 1883 SCHAFF *Hist. Ch.* II. XII. 1 xxi. 637 He is fond of the historical present..of pictorical participles and of affectionate diminutives.

Pictour(e, obs. form of PICTURE.

‖ **Pictura** (piktiū·ră). *Zool.* [L. *pictūra* painting.] The arrangement and effect of coloration of an animal.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Pictura differs from coloration in noting the disposition and effect of coloring, not the color itself.

Picturable (pi·ktiŭrăb'l), *a.* [f. PICTURE *v.* + -ABLE.] Suitable for representation in a picture, capable of being painted or pictured.

1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 72 A fine..view of the Estuary and its banks: broad, but grand, and picturable.

1801 *Monthly Rev.* XXXV. 275 The rich..[might build] small picturable habitations for their labourers. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. iv. 79 He..stalked,..in the most melancholic manner picturable, to his cabin.

Hence **Pi·cturableness.**

1883 MOMERIE *Personality* ii. (1886) 60 *Picturableness* is not necessary to the existence of a concept.

Pi·ctural, *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [f. L. *pictūra* PICTURE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to pictures; pictorial.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pictorical, Pictorian, Pictural,* of or belonging to a Picture; garnished, painted, gaily or trimly set forth. *Dr. Br.* 1799 T. GREEN *Diary Lover of Lit.* (1810) 177 Writing, he deduces, from pictural representations, through hieroglyphics .. to arbitrary marks .. like the Chinese characters and Arabic numerals. 1828 *Q. Rev.* XXXVII. 304 Horace Walpole has traced the history of gardening, in a pictural sense, from the mere art of horticulture to the creation of scenery.

†**B.** *sb.* A picture, a pictorial representation. *Obs. rare.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 53 Whose wals Were painted faire with memorable gestes Of famous Wisards; and with picturals Of Magistrates.

Picture (pi·ktiŭr, -tʃəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 **pict-, pyctour(e, pycture,** 5– **picture,** (6 **pyghtur,** 6–7 **pictor, -ur**). [ad. L. *pictūra* painting, f. *pict-*, ppl. stem of *pingĕre* to paint. Cf. It. *pittura.*]

†**1.** The action or process of painting or drawing; the fact or condition of being painted or pictorially represented; the art of painting; pictorial representation. *Obs.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1767 The furst behynde the yn pycture ys prouydyd. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 352 There were the armes of Lusynen wel shewed and knowen in pycture. 1606 PEACHAM *Art of Drawing* 3 Certain Festival dayes were yearely appointed at Corinth for the exercise of Picture. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. (1692) 707 Picture took her feigning from Poetry. 1693 DRYDEN *To Sir G. Kneller* 36 By slow degrees the godlike art advanced; As man grew polished, picture was enhanced. 1744 COLLINS *Epist. to Sir T. Hanmer* 108 O might some verse with happiest skill persuade Expressive Picture to adopt thine aid! 1844 L. HUNT *Imag. & Fancy* (1846) 104 That subtler spirit of the art [poetry], which picture cannot express.

2. The concrete result of this process. †**a.** Pictorial representations collectively; painting.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1865 The pycture also yeueth clere intellygence Therof. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 120 The riche is shitte withe colours and picture, To hide his careyne stuffid withe foule ardure. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 338 Picture, worke of wood, stone, or mettall finelie set in diuers colours, as in chesse boords and tables.

b. An individual painting, drawing, or other representation on a surface, of an object or objects; *esp.* such a representation as a work of art. (Now the prevailing sense.)

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xv, A pyctour, where as a man had victory ouer a lyon. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xi. (1870) 302 To holde a crosse or a pyctour of the passyon of Cryste before the eyes of the sycke person. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 23 Pictures are curtaind from the vulgar eyes. 1653 WALTON *Angler* To Rdr. 2 He that likes not the discourse, should like the pictures of the Trout and other fish. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Pref., Accounts of Pictures, Statues and Buildings. 1839 *Sat. Mag.* 13 Apr. 139/2 The photogenic picture being formed, requires fixing. 1852 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 71 Every noble picture is a manuscript book, of which only one copy exists, or ever can exist. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. 88 This means of taking actinic pictures. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 3/2 A picture, using the word as language is ordinarily used, is a picture of something, and it is rather important to the artist that it should be a picture of something he can paint.

c. *spec.* The portrait or likeness of a person. Now *rare.*

1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 271 In case that the said yonge quyn were here ye shuld have the pictor of hir with yow. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 120 To thentent he might..visite and see his daughter and also take her picture. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 228 Heere, weare this Iewell for me, 'tis my picture. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 3 May, At the goldsmith's, took my picture in little..home with me. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 328* P 1 She..draws all her Relations Pictures in Miniature. 1790 COWPER (*title*) On the receipt of my Mother's Picture out of Norfolk.

†**d.** By extension, An artistic (in quot. 1771 natural) representation in the solid, esp. a statue or a monumental effigy; an image. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* 40/227 O Lorde! thogh that I be nothynge worthe To see the fassion of thi most presseose pyctore. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* i. (Percy Soc.) 6 This goodly picture was in altitude Nyne fote and more, of fayre marble stone. 1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 49 He.. did erect vnto them pictures of Alabaster. 1590 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. ii. 192 Thow art accusit for the making of twa pictouris of clay. 1608 HEYWOOD *Rape Lucrece* v. vi, Thy noble picture shall be carv'd in brass, And fix'd.. In our high Capitol. 1682 R. BURTON *Admirable Curios.* (1684) 132 But K. Henry 7. afterward caused a Tomb to be set over the Place, with his Picture in Alabaster. 1771 LANGHORNE *Fables of Flora* ix, I sought the living Bee to find, And found the picture of a Bee.

e. A group of persons, generally motionless, picturesquely arranged and posed, representing a scene, or mimicking an action; a tableau; *spec.* in the drama, at the end of an act or play. Also *living picture* (F. *tableau vivant*).

1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 59 Imitation of actions, or 'pictures in the air'. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 Dec. 8/5 The great excitement comes when four of the girls are called upon to practise the 'picture'. In this language of the dance a 'picture' means the moment when the dance is stopped, and the dancers get into a most uncomfortable attitude and pretend to enjoy it.

f. A visible image *of* something formed by physical means, as by a lens.

1668 HOOKE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 741 A Contrivance to make the Picture of any thing appear on a Wall, ..or within a Picture-frame, &c. in the midst of a Light room. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* ii. 15 The image of any object is a picture of it formed either in the air, or in the bottom of the eye, or upon a white ground, such as a sheet of paper.

g. A person so strongly resembling another as to seem a likeness or imitation of him or her; = IMAGE *sb.* 4. Const. *of.*

1712 *Spect.* No. 520 P 1 My daughter, who is the picture of what her mother was. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 109 The sons are the very picture of their father. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 258 'Lydia', says his lordship, 'it [a boy] is your picture to the utmost resemblance'.

h. *fig. colloq.* A very beautiful or picturesque object.

Mod. The little girl is a picture. Her hat is itself a picture.

3. *transf.* A scene; the total visual impression produced by something; hence extended to a vivid impression received by the other senses, or produced by intellectual perception; a mental image, a visualized conception: = IDEA 8.

Clinical picture: the total impression or apprehension of a diseased condition, formed by the physician.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 6 In her brest Imprinted stack his wordes, a pictures forme. 1837 SYD. SMITH *Ballot* Wks. 1859 II. 316/1, I have often drawn a picture in my own mind of a Balloto-Grotical family voting and promising under the new system. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. iv. § 12 (1864) 603 A botanist can readily form to himself the picture of a new plant from the botanical description. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 179 The vigorous imagination of the north..creating a stately dreamland, where it strove to blend, in a grand world picture,..the influences which sustained both the physical and moral system of its universe. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 771 In such cases the disease of the liver may be dominant in the clinical picture.

4. *fig.* A graphic description, written or spoken, capable of suggesting a mental image, or of imparting a notion, of the object described; also *abstr.* word-painting, figurative language.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 38, I am compar'd to twenty thousand fairs. O he hath drawne my picture in his letter. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 44 Two of your acquaintances have their picture drawne in it [*Hudibras*]..to the lyfe. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. (1874) 31 To afford the poets very apt allusions to the flowers of the field in their pictures of the frailty of our present life. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* Introd. § 6 Chaucer says [etc.] The picture is perfect, when referred to his own time. 1819 STARK (*title*) The Picture of Edinburgh. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. xi. 139 The details of the miracles contain many interesting pictures of old English life.

5. A symbol, type, figure; the concrete representation of an abstraction; an illustration.

1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 49 Mans soule is Gods temple, and picture. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Butler* Wks. II. 190 Of the ancient Puritans...Our grandfathers knew the picture from the life. 1792 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 182 The best picture I can give of the French nation is that of cattle before a thunder storm. 1863 MARY HOWITT *F. Bremer's Greece* I. vii. 246, I had before me daily..a beautiful picture of the life of the Greek grand seigneur on his native island.

b. With *of* and abstract sb.: An object, esp. a person, possessing a quality in so high a degree as to be a symbol or realization of that quality.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 312 Behold England, wher Camilla was borne, the flower of courtesie, the picture of comelynesse. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. ii, Upon these words, Jones became in a moment a greater picture of horror than Partridge himself. 1871 *Punch* 15 July 17/2 He looks the picture of health. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. iii. 331 Those rooms were the very picture of disorder.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** attrib. Concerned in the painting, disposal, etc. of pictures, as *picture-art, -craft, -critic, -knowledge, -merchant, -ring, -shop,* etc.; consisting of or expressed in a picture or pictures, as *picture-dialect, -language, -poem, -puzzle, -story, -word*; adorned or illustrated with a picture or pictures, pictorial, as *picture-cover, -paper, -sheet, -sign, -table, -tile*; having a character resembling a picture or suitable for one, as *picture dress, house, sleeve.* **b.** Objective and objective gen., as *picture-borrowing, -buying, -cleaning, -dealing, -hanging, -making, -painting, -taking, -viewing* sbs. and adjs.; *picture-cleaner, -dealer, -drawer, -gazer, -keeper, -maker, -restorer, -seller,* etc. **c.** Instrumental, as *picture-broidered, -hung, -pasted* adjs., *-lesson, -thinking.*

1879 N. MICHELL *Palenque* in *Poems Places, Br. Amer.,* etc. 149 Their gorgeous buildings..Their *picture-art, and creeds of gloom and fear. 1904 T. S. MOORE *Ode to Leda* etc. p. x, Thy *picture-broidered train might be a book. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xx, To instruct you in the art of *picture-buying at Paris. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 36 Canada Balsam..much used by *Picture-cleaners for their Varnishes. 1894 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* xii. (1902) 146 He won't get the colouring from the *picture-cover [of a book] in his mouth. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 207 *note*, An adept in all the arts of *picture-craft. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 8 If the *picture-critics would only write their verdicts after dinner, many a poor victim would find his dinner prospects brighter. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. lvi, There was a *picture-dealer. 1805 M. A. SHEE *Rhymes Art* (1806) 83 And patronage in *picture-dealing dies! *Ibid.* 93 *note*, By some ingenious picture-dealing anecdote. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 Dec. 8/1 With this *picture-dialect at your command, why trouble to learn Sicilian? 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Feb. 5/2 These are '*picture dresses', called so..on account of the fact that their salient features are copied from the paintings of Lawrence, Reynolds, Gainsborough, and other masters of the last century. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 24 Painted Nigrina with the *picture face. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 12 The nooses..should be made of *picture-hanging wire. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 72 What a dear old *picture house! 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 181 One *Picture-keeper, Mr. Henry Norris. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. v. 180, I had advanced in *picture knowledge since the Roman days. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* Note E. 69 They are figures (as in what is plainly *picture-language). 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* III. vi. 305 The natural world..is taken up and framed into a picture-language, and thus made to represent the things which are invisible. 1882 R. W. DALE in *Gd. Words* Apr. 262 It was the gospel..taught in *picture-lessons. 1589–90 *Rec. Borough Leicester* (1905) III. 263 Affabell Watson of Markefyld *picture maker. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* II. ii, Where dwells the picture-maker? 1755 JOHNSON, *Limner,* a painter; a picture-maker. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 118 Any one who has a glimmering of the science of *picture-making. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 June 8/2 The value of bromide paper as a picture-making medium. 1760 D. WEBB *Beauties of Painting* Pref. 11 An idle art more useful to a *picture-merchant, than becoming a man of taste. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 3/2 It would be interesting to make..a *picture-painting artist out of a creative milliner or dress-maker. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 9 Scandalous *picture-papers. 1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 183 An artist of the picture-paper school. 1887 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia* (1893) 144 The *picture-pasted walls of her house. 1893 W. B. WORSFOLD in *19th Cent.* Apr. 290 We have at least learnt to be grateful for Rossetti's *picture-poems and poem-pictures. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 6/3 We believe that this is the right word for this kind of *picture-puzzle. 1831 *Edin. Rev.* 166 The rude hands of *picture-restorers. 1885 H. PEARSON *Browning* 13 Only the position of the *picture-rings determines whether the thing shall be hung upside, downside, or endwise. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 20 June, Thence to Faythorne, the *picture-seller's. 1732 SAVAGE *Author to be let* Wks. 1775 II. 268, I wish my portrait might shine in a mezzotinto through the glass windows of *picture-shops. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Aug. 7/7 On the other side of the highway..is the *picture-sign of the house. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Oct. 5/3 *Picture sleeves, finished with a flounce of silk and chiffon. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* (Tauchn.) 208 He left the *picture-story with Kadlu, who lost it in the shingle. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 10 An artificiall indented *picture-table. 1879 A. B. BRUCE in *Expositor* X. 143 We have before us..*picture-thinking in which these nations are used symbolically. 1896 *Daily News* 30 July 2/3 Furnishing and decorating with *picture tiles a ward which is now being added to this hospital. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* Note F. 63 Passages..in which the words 'Door' and 'Husbandman' are figurative, metaphorical, *picture-words.

d. Special combs.: **picture-board,** a decoration consisting of a plank shaped and painted to resemble some object; employed especially in the 18th c.; **picture-book,** a book consisting wholly or partly of pictures, esp. for children; **picture-card,** a court-card in a pack of cards (see also PICTURED 2 b); also short for *picture postcard*; **picture-coffin,** a name suggested for leaden coffins of early 17th c. date, somewhat resembling in shape the outer case of an Egyptian mummy, and bearing a mask of the deceased; **picture-documents,** *Anthrop.,* records wholly or (in later times) partly in picture-writing, such as were used by the ancient Mexicans, and continued in use for certain purposes long after the Spanish conquest; **picture-frame,** a framé (see FRAME *sb.* 12), often of an ornamental character, forming a border round a picture; also *attrib.*; **picture gallery,** a hall or building containing a collection of pictures; the collection itself; **picture hat,** a lady's wide-brimmed hat, generally black and adorned with ostrich-feathers, after a fashion celebrated in the paintings of Reynolds and Gainsborough; **picture-lens,** a large double-convex lens of long focus, mounted in a frame, and used for viewing pictures; **picture-miniature,** a miniature the subject of which is other than a portrait, e. g. genre; **picture-mosaic,** mosaic consisting of pictures instead of geometrical designs, as Roman mosaic and the styles derived from it; **picture-moulding,** a horizontal wooden moulding, parallel to the ceiling of a room, for hanging pictures; **picture-nail,** a strong nail for picture-hanging, having an ornamental head, which is attached after the nail is in position; **picture postcard,** a postcard having on the back a picture (esp. a view) printed, photographed, or otherwise produced; **picture-rail, -rod,** a rod occupying the position and serving the purpose of a *picture-moulding*; **picture-tree**: see quot. Also PICTURE-DRAWER, -WRITING.

1854 (*title*) *Picture Book for a Noah's Ark: Description of 200 Animals. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 148 A man's action is only a picture-book of his creed. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* XXV, He.. offered to cut any gentleman..for the first *picture-card, at a shilling a time. 1884 E. PEACOCK in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. IX.

218/2, I suggested at the time, and still think, that it may have been part of a *picture-coffin. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* v. 96 It is to this transition-period that we owe many .. of the *picture-documents still preserved. 1668 *Picture-frame [see PICTURE *sb.* 2 f]. *a* 1790 POTTER *New Dict. Cant., Picture frame*, the gallows, or pillory. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 16/2 In a .. picture-frame waistcoat, i. e. .. trimmed with broad gold lace. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* v. 29 Arranged along their walls in their perriwigs and picture-frames. 1761 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 11 May, One side of it is a *picture gallery. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 85 At this moment, almost every great house has its sumptuous picture-gallery. 1887 *Daily News* 20 July 6/1 A large '*picture' hat in black velvet is to be worn with an all-white dress and black gloves. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June 3 It seems not improbable that the wearing of picture hats with evening frocks .. may get its chance. 1903 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 10/2 A private view of *picture-miniatures painted by Mr. Charles Sainton. 1899 *Daily News* 18 July 5/1 Every method has been placed in the service of the *picture post-card industry, and much has been produced which in its artistic execution may lay claim to lasting value. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 10/1 The exhibition of picture postcards .. opened in the Rue Bonaparte at Paris contains no fewer than 150,000 examples from all parts of the world. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 4/7 There has been some discussion of late as to who invented the picture postcard, and the fad has been traced back to a German .. it is said, in 1872. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 145 One variety [of Euphorbiaceæ] which bears green leaves, and yellow and white markings, is called the 'geographical-tree', or sometimes the '*picture-tree'.

Hence **Pi·ctureful** *a.*, full of pictures; **Pi·ctureless** *a.*, without a picture or pictures; **Pi·cturely** *a.*, like a picture; so **Pi·ctury** *a.* (depreciative).

1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* II. 255 My recollections seem to take very *pictureful forms. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Mrs. Battle on Whist*, With their naked names upon the drab pasteboard, the game might go on very well, *picture-less. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Sept. 293/1 Empty niches are as meaningless decorations as pictureless frames. 1832 W. BARNES in *Gentl. Mag.* CII. 216/2 To preserve so interesting and *picturely an object. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 175 That *picture-looking glare and freshness which distinguishes the scenery at our theatres.

Picture (pi·ktiŭr, -tʃəɹ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.: cf. It. *pitturare.*]

1. *trans.* To represent in a picture, or in pictorial form; to draw, paint, depict; *transf.* to reflect as a mirror. Also with *out*.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* XXV. 512 Margarys .. bare in his armes a dragon pyctured wyth an horryble figure. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIX. XXXVII. JJ v/2 He that pictureth ymages and lyknesse of thynges is callyd a payntour. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 274 We haue seene and eaten of many more [fowl], which for want of leasure .. could not be pictured. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 23 b, Hee was pictur'd out in the religious garment of a Monke. 1632 MASSINGER *Emperor East* I. ii, A cunning painter thus .. would picture Justice. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 61 On the ceiling .. he has pictured Antony earl of Shaftsbury, in the character of Faction, dispersing libels. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 64 Its pure, still glass Pictures all earth-scenes as they pass.

b. To figure, to represent symbolically or by sensible signs.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 49 b, What these graces be, it is more playnly pictured & set forth in this tree folowyng. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. vi, The anxiety of his mind was strongly pictured upon his face. 1857 PUSEY *Real Presence* ii. (1869) 232 When the people were so much taught by the eye, it pictured to them the mysteries of the Redemption.

2. To describe graphically, depict in words. Also with *out, forth.*

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* To Gent. of Inner Temple, She pictureth out their base and seruile conditions. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 98 Horace in his art of Poetrie doth pensill and picture out an old man in this manner. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 26 Feb., I think this last sentence pictures him exactly. 1838 CARLYLE *Misc., Scott* (1869) V. 217 To picture-forth the life of Scott. 1894 BESANT *Equal Woman* 122 Such a woman as you have pictured is rare indeed.

3. To resemble as a picture or image.

1850 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Petticoat Govt.* 138 Never, perhaps, did a child more accurately picture a parent, than Judith did her mother.

4. To form a mental picture of, to imagine. Often *to picture to one's self.*

1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* II. 182 Imagination pictures all the scenes. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* VIII. 101 He had pictured to himself the settlement. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* I, He seemed to doubt the very love, the happiness of which he pictured so brightly. 1869 HUXLEY in *Sci. Opinion* 28 Apr. 487/1 Kant pictures to himself the universe as once an infinite expansion of formless and diffused matter. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* VIII. § 1. 449 We must not .. picture the early Puritan as a gloomy fanatic. *Mod.* Picture to yourself the predicament in which I found myself.

Pictured (pi·ktiŭd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Represented or depicted in or as in a picture; painted, drawn.

1738 GRAY *Propertius* ii. 50 Pictured horrour and poëtic woes. 1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* XII, The examination of the artist's pictured treasures. 1894 F. N. RAGG *Quorsum* XIII. 139 They downwards gazed to see the pictured heaven, And pictured light, which dark-hued waters hold.

2. Adorned or illustrated with a picture or pictures, or *fig.* with word-painting.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 866 A pictured and wrought coate. 1754 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 109 Bright ey'd Fancy, hovering o'er, Scatters from her pictured urn Thoughts that breathe, and words that burn. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* I. x, The pictured roof and marble floor. 1818 — *Ch. Har.* IV. lxxxii, Alas for Tully's voice, and Virgil's lay, And Livy's pictur'd page!

b. *Pictured card*, a card bearing a picture, a court-card or picture-card; the king, queen, or knave. *Devil's pictured books*, a hostile name for playing-cards.

1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 226 They .. Pore owre the devil's pictur'd beuks. 1812 BUCHAN in Singer *Hist. Cards* (1816) 361 Each honour, or pictured card, is considered as equivalent in value to ten. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xiii. 442 A pack contains 52 cards, divided into four equal suits, into 12 pictured and 40 plain cards.

Pi·cture-draw·er. One who draws a picture; in 17th and early 18th c., the regular word for *portrait-painter.*

1586–7 in Jeaffreson *Middlesex County Rec.* (1886) I. 173 Edmund Barton picture drawer. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 115 The Philosophers (humanities picture-drawers) have indeede drawne many pictures. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 24 Sir Anthony Vandike, the famous picture drawer. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 280 One Mr. Blemwell, a picture-drawer.

So **Picture-drawing.**

1625 in Rymer *Foedera* (1726) XVIII. 111 Wee, haveing experience of the Facultie and Skill of Daniel Mittens in the Art of Picture draweing, of Our especiall Grace .. have given [etc.].

Pi·cturer. Now *rare.* [f. PICTURE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who pictures; a painter of pictures; a painter.

1608–9 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1897) XII. 446 Benedickt Horsley, a pictorer and painter. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. iv. (1650) 200 Not meerly a pictoriall contrivance or invention of the Picturer, but an ancient tradition and conceived reality. 1690 WOOD *Life* 30 Jan. III. 323 'An illustrator', or 'picturer of great letters in books'.

Picturesque (piktiŭre·sk), *a.* Also 8 **pittor-, pictoresque, picturesk.** [ad. F. *pittoresque*, ad. It. *pittoresco* (F. Redi *a* 1664), f. *pittore*:—L. *pictōr-em* painter: see -ESQUE; prop. 'in the style of a painter' (cf. quot. 1810 in sense 1); but in Eng. assimilated to *picture*, giving the sense 'in the style of a picture'. *Pittoresque* appears to have been in French early in 18th c. (cf. quot. 1712 from Pope), but the earliest evidence in Hatzfeld-Darmesteter is for *pittoresquement* in 1732.]

1. Like or having the elements of a picture; fit to be the subject of a striking or effective picture; possessing pleasing and interesting qualities of form and colour (but not implying the highest beauty or sublimity): said of landscape, buildings, costume, scenes of diversified action, etc., also of circumstances, situations, fancies, ideas, and the like.

1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* IV. (1723) 141 That Circumstance may be very Picturesque. 1712 POPE *Let. to Caryll*, Mr. Philips has two lines, which seem to me what the French call very *picturesque*. 1727 — *Iliad* X. Note liv, The marshy Spot of Ground, .. the Tamarisk .., the Reeds that are heap'd together to mark the Place, are Circumstances the most Picturesque imaginable. 1749 U. RHYS *Tour Spain & Port.* 86 The Ends of their Veils .. tied in so pretty a Manner, as to render their Figures extremely pittoresque. 1768 W. GILPIN (*title*) An Essay upon Prints: containing remarks upon the principles of picturesque beauty. 1773 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 8 July (1896) IV. 186 The *Cours* was a very picturesk scene. 1810 D. STEWART *Philos. Ess.* II. I. v. 273 Picturesque properly means what is done in the style, and with the spirit of a painter. 1864 BAGEHOT *Lit. Studies* (1879) II. 341 Susceptible observers .. say of a scene 'How picturesque'—meaning by this a quality distinct from that of beauty, or sublimity, or grandeur; meaning to speak .. of its fitness for imitation by art. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* II, Most girls become acquainted at some time or other with a little picturesque misery.

b. *Picturesque gardening*, the arrangement of a garden so as to make it a pretty picture; the romantic style of gardening, aiming at irregular and rugged beauty.

1816 T. L. PEACOCK *Headlong Hall* III, Mr. Milestone was a picturesque landscape gardener of the first celebrity. 1843 *Gray's Corr.* 191 *note*, That Johnson should have no conception of the value or merit of what is now called picturesque gardening we cannot wonder, as he was so extremely short-sighted, that he never saw a rural landscape in his life.

2. Of language, narrative, etc.: Strikingly graphic or vivid; sometimes implying disregard of fact in the effort for effect.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* Pref. (1740) 7 He goes on in the same pittoresque Vein. 1758 JORTIN *Erasm.* I. 483 An account of a conversation with Longolius, which is picturesque. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 128 Picturesque accounts have often been repeated of a scene where Douglas .. brought the Admiral to an elevated spot. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 401 Picturesque history is seldom to be trusted. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* i. 63 The highly picturesque language of the primitive Aryan people.

†3. Marked as if with pictures. *Obs. rare.*

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 41 Others [marbles] .. are Picturesque, or marked with all manner of figures, &c. *Ibid.* 42 *Oculus mundi* .. by polishing receives a beautiful lustre, and is partly spotted or striped, partly picturesque.

†4. Having a perception of or taste for picturesqueness. *Obs.*

1795 R. ANDERSON *Johnson* 7 Had he not possessed a very picturesque imagination. 1818 RHODES *Peak Scen.* I. 5 To the picturesque traveller they are therefore comparatively of but little value. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* iii. (1887) 39 They came round to the side of the camp where the picturesque gentleman was sketching.

5. *absol.* as *sb. The picturesque*, that which is picturesque; the picturesque principle, element, or quality; picturesqueness.

1794 U. PRICE (*title*) An Essay on the Picturesque, as compared with the Sublime and the Beautiful. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* x, No, no; stay where you are. You are charmingly grouped .. The picturesque would be spoilt by admitting a fourth. 1812 COMBE (*title*) Dr. Syntax's Tour in Search of the Picturesque. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 79 The ancients, whether Greeks or Romans, had no eye for the picturesque.

Hence **Picture·squish** *a.*, somewhat picturesque; also (rare and jocular nonce-words) **Picturesquie·scity**, growing picturesqueness; **Picturesquifica·tion**, a making picturesque; **Picture·squize** *v.*, to 'do' or pursue the picturesque.

1812 COMBE *Picturesque* XVI. 176 Nor had the way one object brought That wak'd a picturesquish thought. 1815 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* II. 455 The engineer .. is not to lose his time in zoologizing, entomologizing, botanizing and picturesquizing. 1828 ELMES *Metrop. Improv.* 89 The master mark of currency among the people of picturesquiescity. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 233 From the pages of Rousseau .. Leman, Uri, and Zurich have undergone their sentence of picturesquification.

Picture·sque, *v. rare.* [f. prec.] a. *trans.* To make or render picturesque. b. *intr.* To pose picturesquely. c. *To picturesque it*, to practise or pursue the picturesque.

1795 C. MARSHALL *Review Landscape* 45 If .. he plant trees of size round the building to be picturesked. 1812 COMBE *Picturesque* I. 130 I'll prose it here, I'll verse it there, And picturesque it ev'ry where. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 733/1 His parents .. sometimes dream of Dick as standing behind my lady's chair, in the suit of blue and silver, &c., picturesquing. 1892 *Punch* 6 Aug. 49/1 With out-of-fashion toilet sets .. She picturesques her cabinet's Quaint heterodoxies.

Picture·squely, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a picturesque manner.

1796 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Lett.*, etc. 139 In a recess of the rocks was a clump of pines, amongst which a steeple rose picturesquely beautiful. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 41 Alive with the picturesquely attired peasantry. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* II. 86 The shallow streamlet came tumbling picturesquely over gray stones.

Picturesqueness (piktiŭre·sknės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being picturesque.

1794 U. PRICE *Ess. Picturesque* I. 38 Grandeur and beauty have been pointed out and illustrated by painting as well as picturesqueness. [*Note*] I have ventured to make use of this word, which I believe does not occur in any writer. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 13 Picturesqueness is that quality in objects which fits them for making a good picture. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 64 There is little or nothing, however, of poetry or picturesqueness in Feltham's writing. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Deserts S. France* I. 136 A bridge that surpasses even that of Prague in picturesqueness.

Pi·cture-wri·ting.

1. The method of recording events or expressing ideas by pictures or drawings which literally or figuratively represent the things and actions; *concr.* a writing or inscription consisting of pictorial symbols.

Such were the picture-writing of the Mexicans and the hieroglyphs of the Egyptians in their earliest form.

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* IV. iv. II. 69 The first Essay towards Writing was a mere Picture. We see this remarkably verified in the Case of the Mexicans, whose only Method of recording their Laws and History, was by this Picture-Writing. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 300 If we suppose Picture-writing to be of divine Original. 1862 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. xiv. 316 The little that is known of the picture-writing of the Indian tribes. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 232 Chinese writing is picture-writing, with the pictures degenerated into dashes.

2. *transf.* Any expression of notions by pictures, as in a comic or satirical paper.

1896 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 4/7 Forain is the jester of a society in its old age .. His work is the picture-writing of sordid cynicism, and it robs life of all joy by robbing it of all ideal.

Pi·cturing, *vbl. sb.* [f. PICTURE *v.* + -ING 1.] The making of a picture; depicting; also *concr.* a pictorial representation, a picture.

1559 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 66 They labour .. by incantation, magic, sorcery and witchcraft, to consume, kill, and destroy the Lord's anointed by picturing, &c. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 90. 184 Things .., which Christians in S. Austins time held abominable, (as the picturing of God). 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 185 They can be friends with .. picturings by pencill, or embroyderies. 1836 F. MAHONY *Rel. Father Prout, Songs France* iii. (1859) 270 The painter David .. whose glorious picturings of 'The Passage of the Alps by Bonaparte' [etc.] shed such radiance on his native land.

b. Picturesque description in words; formation or expression of a mental picture; imagining to oneself or describing to others.

1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* XLIX. III. 262 We here close our picturings of the Rocky mountains and their wild inhabitants. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* XXXVIII, It was akin to the boy's and girl's picturing of the future beloved.

Pi·cturing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That pictures (in any sense of the verb).

1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 503 The grave melodious stanza and the picturing invention of Spenser.

Picucule (pi·kiŭkiŭl). *Ornith.* Also erron. **piculule.** [a. F. *picucule* (D'Aubenton, *a* 1780, Plate 621 in Buffon (etc.) *Oiseaux*), name given to

a bird of the genus *Dendrocolaptes*, f. L. *pīcus* woodpecker + *cuculus* cuckoo.] (See quots.)

1829 Griffiths *Cavier's Anim. Kingd., Aves* II. 350 Picucule Creeper, Climbing Grackle. *Lath.* 1875 Newton in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 743/2 The Picucules [*misspelt* Piculules] (*Dendrocolaptidæ*) with as many genera, and over 200 species. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds*, *Picucule*, 'a name.. adopted for want of a better, as that of the large Family of *Tracheophonæ*, *Dendrocolaptidæ*, which is so highly characteristic of the Neotropical Region.

‖ **Picul** (pi·kʊl). Forms: 6 pyco, 6–7 pico, 7 picull, peecull, 7–8 pecul, 7–9 picul, picol, 8–9 pekul, 9 pikul. [Malay-Javanese *pikul* a man's load (Yule); in Sp. *pico*.] A measure of weight used in China and the East generally, equal to 100 catties, i. e. about 133⅓ lbs. avoirdupois.

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 367 One pyco of rice. 1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* I. (Hakl. Soc.) I. 149 Every Pico is 66⅔ Caetes. 1618 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 3, 30 pico silk..30 picull of silk. 1625 Purchas *Pilgrims* I. 369 The Peecull, which is one hundred Cattees, making one hundred thirtie pound English subtill. *Ibid.* 390 Foure Peeculls. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. (1669) 106 A hundred Picols of black Lacque, at ten Thails the Picol. 1771 J. R. Forster tr. *Osbeck's Voy.* I. 262 A Pekul or Idaam as the Chinese call it. 1838 Capt. P. P. King in *Penny Cycl.* XII. 271/1 If each vessel returns with 100 picols of trepang, her cargo will be worth 5000 dollars. 1862 St. John *Forests Far East* II. 31 Obtained two pikuls more of sago. 1888 Little *Yangtse Gorges* 279 The coal is sold for 130 cash..per picul of 133 pounds.

Picule (pi·kiul). *rare*—°. [dim. f. L. *pīcus woodpecker.*] = next. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Piculet (pi·kiulĕt). *Ornith.* [f. as prec. + -ET dim.] A bird of the subfamily *Picumninæ*; a small soft-tailed woodpecker.

1849 G. R. Gray *Genera Birds* II. 432 *Picumninæ* or *Piculets* have the Bill short, straight; the sides compressed towards the tip [etc.]. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 720.

[**Pi·cy** (in *Piquet*): see Pique *sb.*[2]]

Piddle (pi·d'l), *v.* [Origin obscure. The form is that of a dim. or freq. vb. Cf. the synonymous Peddle *v.* 3, Paddle *v.*[1] 2, 3, Pittle *v.* Of these the first two seem to be corruptions of *piddle*, erroneously confused with *peddle*, *paddle* in their proper senses. *Pittle* was an inconsiderable variant. (It is questionable if sense 2 here and in Pittle *v.* are the same word as 1.)

Words corresponding in form and sense are used in some German dial: viz. Hessian *piddeln* (v. Pfister *Nachtr. z. Vilmar's Idiotikon v. Hessen*, 1886, p. 204); Westerwald *putteln*, *pütteln* (Schmidt *Westerwäld. Idiot.* 1800, p. 138); Jülich and Berg *pötteln* (*ibid.*). The first two, if old, may go back to an orig. **puddilan* or **puddildn*, which would also give an OE. **pyddlan* and Eng. *piddle*; but the late appearance of the Eng. word, with absence of evidence as to the age of the Ger. dial. forms, leaves their relation doubtful. Even if related, the ulterior etymology (of root **pudd-*) is unknown.]

1. *intr.* To work or act in a trifling, paltry, petty, or insignificant way; to trifle, toy, dally; = Peddle *v.* 3. (Always depreciatory.) Now *rare*.

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 117 Neuer ceasynge piddelynge about your bowe and shaftes whan they be well. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 182 Such as I haue marked to be good practitioners, do all piddle somewhat in the art of versifying, and raise not vp their contemplation verie high. 1602 — *Cornwall* 65 b, Very few among them make use of that opportunity..for building of shipping, and trafficking in grosse: yet some of the Eastern townes piddle that way. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. i. (Bullen *O. Pl.*), My head must devise something, while my feet are pidling thus. *a* 1619 Fletcher *Wit without M.* I. ii, She .. begins to piddle with Philosophie. 1752 H. Walpole *Lett. Mann* (1834) III. 15, I am always piddling about ornaments and improvements for Strawberry-Hill. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 7 P 2 During our conversation he was .. piddling with her fingers, tapping her cheek, or playing with her hair. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* IV. vii. (1869) II. 205 Instead of piddling for the little prizes..they might then hope..to draw some of the great prizes. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Piddle*, to be employed in trifles or to do things ineffectually; to take short steps in walking. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* lxxxviii, Fussily feeble, harmless..Piddling at so-called satire.

b. Said of a bird: To move the bill about, feeling for food in a hole, heap of refuse, etc.

1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 225 As he [Mahomet] was preaching..there commeth a Dove flying towards him, and alighteth upon his shoulder, and pidleth in his eare looking for meate, having used her before to feede in his eare for the same purpose. 1651 Ogilby *Æsop* (1665) 63 This [Stork] piddles with his bill While young Sir Reynard did whole Rivers swill. 1799 J. Struthers *To Blackbird* vii, Beware in that caff heap to piddle.

c. To trifle or toy with one's food; to pick at one's food instead of eating heartily.

a 1620 J. Dyke *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 292 Diseases..that make them eate nothing at all, or else they doe but piddle and trifle. 1660 Swinnock *Door Salv. Op.* 177 If thou shouldst sit at table and see a man pidling at his meat, picking and chusing. *a* 1761 Cawthorn *Poems* (1771) 112 Is there a saint that would not laugh to see The good man pidling with his fricassee? 1785 Mrs. Montagu in Doran *Lady of last Cent.* xiii. (1873) 330 The lovers sigh'd and look'd..and piddled a little on a gooseberry tart. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. lxvi, And 'entremets' to piddle with at hand.

d. *trans. Piddle away*, to trifle away.

1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1822) I. 143 A house where she used to piddle away her leisure hours.

2. *intr.* To make water, urinate. *colloq.* or in childish use.

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *To Piddle*, to make water: a childish expression. 1836 Smart *Walker's Dict.* (ed. 3), *Piddle*,..this word is now scarcely used except as a child's word in the sense of to make water.

fig. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. iv. i. 232 Fountain jets .. There grandly shooting upwards from the middle, While round the sides a thousand spirt and piddle.

Piddle, variant of Pightle.

Piddler (pi·dlə1). [f. Piddle *v.* + -er 1.] One who piddles; a poor ineffectual worker; a dabbler, toyer, trifler: see the verb.

1602 Middleton *Blurt, Master-Constable* II. ii. 129 These flaxen-haired men are such pulers, and such piddlers. *a* 1625 Fletcher & Massinger *Elder Bro.* IV. iv, I'm but a pidler, A little will serve my turn. 1646 N. B[arnet] *Regenerate Man's Growth Grace* 42 We are but Pidlers in his service, we can do nothing to any purpose. 1779 J. Lovell in *J. Adams's Wks.* (1854) IX. 490 If this was not the piddler, it might be the oddity of Virginia. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 360 He was a mere piddler compared to me.

Piddling (pi·dliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of Piddle *v.*; trifling, toying, etc.

1573 Tusser *Husb* (1878) 127 If hops looke browne, go gather them downe. But not in the deaw, for piddling with feaw. 1655 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 37 The French Ambassadour makes a pidling still. 1760 C. Johnston *Chrysal* (1822) I. 87 This dissipated pidling soon gave way to the serious business of the evening. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xii, No piddling .. but that steady and persevering exercise of the jaws which is best learnt by early morning hours.

Pi·ddling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] Trifling, insignificant, petty, paltry.

1559 Aylmer *Harborowe* Q ij b, You haue the pidlyng Scottes, whiche are alwayes Frenche for their lyues. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 14 Pidlinge and driblinge Confuters, that sitt all day buzzing vpon a blunt point, or two. 1675 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camd.) 41 We have two or three small pidleing things printeing here. 1735 Pope *Prol. Sat.* 164 Yet ne'er one sprig of laurel grac'd these ribalds, From slashing Bently down to pidling Tibalds. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 342 The man of business has not time for such piddling work. 1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. i, For the piddling concern of a few shillings. 1866 A. L. Perry *Elem. Pol. Econ.* (1873) 524 The country is too large for the petty, piddling processes of 'protection'.

Piddock (pi·dŏk). Also **piddick**. [Origin unascertained. It has the form of a dim. in *-ock*.] A bivalve mollusc of the genus *Pholas* or family *Pholadidæ*, which burrow in soft rock, wood, etc.; *esp.* one of the common species, such as *P. dactylus*, with a long ovate shell, which are used for bait.

1851 *Zoologist* IX. 3175 Notes on the Pholas dactylus, or Sussex Piddick. 1868 Wood *Homes without H.* v. 99 Our next example of the burrowing molluscs is the well known Pholas, popularly called the piddock (*Pholas dactylus*).

Pide, Pidgeon, obs. forms of Pied, Pigeon.

Pidgin, pigeon (pi·dʒin, -ən). Also **pidjin, pidjun, pidgeon**. A Chinese corruption of Eng. *business*, used widely for any action, occupation, or affair. Hence **Pidgin-English**, the jargon, consisting chiefly of English words, often corrupted in pronunciation, and arranged according to Chinese idiom, used for intercommunication between the Chinese and Europeans at seaports, etc. in China, the Straits Settlements, etc.; also *transf.* (quot. 1891).

1850 Berncastle *Voy. China* II. 65 The Chinese not being able to pronounce the word 'business', called it 'bigeon', which has degenerated into 'pigeon', so that this word is in constant use. 1859 *All Year Round* I. 20 '*Piece of China*', A-tye will row you out, because she can speak pigeon English. 1872 A. D. Carlisle *Round World* x. 106 The dialect..current between Englishmen and Chinamen..goes by the name of Pigeon-English. 1873 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 45 [Article]. 1876 Leland *Pidgin English Sing Song* 3 Pidgin is with great ingenuity made expressive of every variety of calling, occupation, or affair 1876 Besant & Rice *Gold. Butterfly* xiv, He had a ghost story of his own—an original one in pigeon English. 1891 *Argus* (Melbourne) 7 Nov. 13/4 That ridiculous pigeon-English which the whites have used ..throughout Queensland..as their medium of communication with the blacks. 1901 A. Lang *Magic & Relig.* 37 His rude *lingua franca*, or pidgin English. (See also *N. & Q.* 10th s. V. 90/2.)

Pid-pad. [Echoic: cf. Pad *sb.*[5]; the two different vowels suggesting alternation, as in *zigzag*. Cf. Pit-pat.] Imitation of the dull sound of footsteps.

1900 'Headon Hill' *Plunder Ship* iii. 31, I..heard the pid-pad of bare feet. *Ibid.* xxiii. 214 There was..a pid-pad of sandals on the deck.

Pidrero, variant of Pedrero, a small gun.

Pie (pəi), *sb.*[1] Also 4–8 **pye**, 5–6 **py**, (6 **pee**). [a. OF. *pie* (13th c. in Littré) = Pr. *piga*, It. *pica*:—L. *pīca* magpie.]

1. The bird now more usually called Magpie.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 126 Þat pie and crowe hit todrowe. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 355 Beleue nouȝt yn þe pyys cheteryng. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 165 It is a foul þing þat prestis speken as pies. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XII. i. (Bodl. MS.), Alle foules of rauen kinde as chogghes crowes rokes rauens and pies. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 22 Ther was a woman that had a pie in a cage. ?*c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 47 (text of Copland *c* 1550), The woodwale, The pee, and the Popiniaye. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 85 Pies will chatter and Mice will pepe. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) N iv, The Fox descrye the crowes and chaterynge Pyen. 1646 J. Hall *Poems* 4 Pies Do ever love to pick at witches eyes. 1713 Swift *Salamander* Wks. 1755 III. ii. 75 Pyes and daws are often stil'd With christian nick-names like a child. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 219 Birds of the Pie Kind. 1853 C. Bronte *Villette* xiii, Chattering like a pie to the best gentleman in Christendom.

2. *fig.* Applied to † a. a cunning or wily person: esp. in phr. *wily pie* (*obs.*); b. a chattering or saucy person, a 'chatter-pie' (= Magpie 2).

[*c* 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 478 (527) Dredles it clere was in the wynd From euery pye and euery lette game.] 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 321 b, One Accius..a wylie pye, and a feloe full of shiftes. *c* 1554 *Interlude of Youth* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 22 Ye be a little pretty pye! i-wis, ye go full gingerly. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs* vii. (Arb.) 60 Than cownt you them for chatring Pies Whose tongs must alwayes walke. 1579 Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 47 Maister Heskins like a wilie Pye, obiecteth this article of the resurrection. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 523 Salmasius, that French chatt ring Pye. 1886 Mrs. Lynn Linton *P. Carew* xl, 'She was no more a hussy than you, you bold pie!' said Patty in a fume.

3. With defining words, applied locally to various other birds, usually having black-and-white ('pied') plumage: see quots. (See also Sea-pie.)

1883 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* (ed. 8) 283 *Dendrocitta vagabunda*, Wandering Tree-Pie...*D. sinensis*, Chinese Tree-Pie. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 30 Dipper... The white breast and blackish upper plumage have caused it to be called..River pie (Ireland). *Ibid.* 31 British Long-tailed Titmouse..Long-tailed pie. *Ibid.* 47 Great Grey Shrike..Murdering pie. *Ibid.* 209 Black-headed Gull.. Scoulton pie, or Scoulton peewit. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The smoky pie, *Psilorhinus morio*.

b. *French pie, rain-pie, wood-pie*: applied to various species of woodpecker. [Here perh. = OF. *pi* (mod.F. *pic*, but *pivert*, *pi vert* great green woodpecker):—L. *pīc-us* woodpecker; if so, really a distinct word. But *French Pie* in quot. 1677 may be the Shrike or Butcher-bird, F. *pie cruelle, pie grièche grise*; cf. *murdering pie* above.]

1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* II. (ed. 2) 161 Of the Short-winged Hawks there are these:..The Sparrow-hawk and Musket, Two sorts of the French Pie. 1783 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* (ed. Morell) II, *Picus*..a woodpecker, a speckt, a hickway, or heighhould; a French pie, a whitwall. 1837–40 Macgillivray *Hist. Brit. Birds* III. 80 Greater spotted woodpecker..wood-pie, French-pie. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 98 Great Spotted Woodpecker..Wood pie (Staffordshire; Hants)...Lesser Spotted Woodpecker.. Little wood pie (Hants). *Ibid.* 99 Green Woodpecker.. Wood pie (Somerset). *Ibid*, 100 The constant iteration of its cry before rain..gives it the names Rain bird; Rain pie.

4. Applied to a pied or parti-coloured animal (cf. F. *pie* = *cheval pie*, Littré): in quot. to a pied hound. Cf. 5 b.

1869 *Daily News* 7 Aug., A couple of those beautiful lemon pyes, Nosegay and Novelty..just beat the flower of the Brocklesby 'lady pack'.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. In compounds relating to the bird, as *pie-pecked* adj.; † **pie-maggot**, a magpie (= Maggot 2).

1597 J. King *On Jonas* Ep. Ded. (1618) ¶ iij b, We all write, learned and vnlearned, crow-poets and py-poetesses. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 296 *margin*, The Deuill take thee, or, the Rauens peck out thine eies, or I had rather see thee Pie pekt. 1602 *Contention Liberality & Prodigality* IV. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 366 O thou vile, ill-favoured, crow-trodden, pye-pecked rout! 1628 Layton *Syons Plea* (ed. 2) 21 [The bishops are] Rauens and Pye-Maggots to prey upon the State. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exchange* V. i. Wks. 1873 III. 537 What are thou..thus Piepickt, Crow-trod, or Sparrow-blasted?

b. In compounds denoting 'parti-coloured', 'of various colours' (like the black-and-white plumage of the magpie: cf. Pied 1), as *pie-coated, -coloured* adjs. See also Piebald.

1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 11 To display thy pie-coloured flag of vanity. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 291 The pye-duck sought the depth of the main 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* ii, The liveries of these pie-coated retainers.

c. *Friars of the Pie*: see *Pied friars*, Pied *a.*

Pie (pəi), *sb.*[2] Also 4–9 **pye**, 6 **py**, (7 **paye**). [Occurs (in Latin context) in 1303; evidently a well-known popular word in 1362. No related word known outside Eng. (exc. Gaelic *pighe*, from Eng. or Lowland Sc.). Being in form identical with Pie *sb.*[1] (known half a century earlier), it is held by many to have been in some way derived from or connected with that word. See Note below.]

1. A dish composed of meat, fowl, fish, fruit, or vegetables, etc., enclosed in or covered with a layer of paste and baked.

The *pie* appears to have been (*a*) at first of meat or fish; doubtful or undefined uses (*b*) appear in 16th c.; *fruit pies* (also called, esp. in the north of England and Ireland, in Scotland, and often in U. S., *tarts*) appear (*c*) before 1600, the earliest being Apple-pie, q.v.

(*a*) 1303 *Bolton Priory Compotus* lf. 68 b, Frumentum expenditum..In pane..pro Priore Celerario et aliis..et in pyis et pastellis per annum 9 qr. 1 bus. di. 1304 *Ibid.* lf. 82 In pane furnato .. et in pyes et pastellis, 33 qr. 2 bus. di. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 104 Cookes and heore knaues cryen 'hote pies, hote! Goode gees and grys, Gowe dyne, Gowe!' *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 384 He koude rooste and sethe and boille [*v.r.* broille] and frye, Maken Mortreux and wel bake a pye. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 662/26 *Hec artocria* [Gr. ἀρτόκρεας bread and meat], a pie *de pundio*. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 53 Pyez de parez [p. 75 of Paryś].—Take and smyte faye buttys of Porke, and buttys of Vele, to-gederys [etc.]..; þan caste þer-to 30lkys of Eyroun [etc.]..; þen make fayre past, and cofynnys, & do þer-on; kyuer it, & let bake, & serue forth. *c* 1440 *Promp.*

Parv. 395/2 Pye, pasty, *artocrea, pastillulus.* **1511** FABYAN *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 9 If it happen the saide obite to fall in Lent, than..for the peces of beeff abovesaid..be ordeyned pyes of elys, or som other goode fysh mete. *a* **1568** *Nyne Ordour of Knavis* 66 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 448 He thrawis and he puttis fast at his vly pyiss. **1624** HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* IX. 444 Burnt alive, for killing young infants and salting their flesh and putting them into pyes. **1784** COOK *Third Voy.* IV. xi. II. 495 A pye made in the form of a loaf..inclosed some salmon, highly seasoned with pepper. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, It's a pity to cut the pie if you're not hungry..Will you try a bit of the beef?

(*b*) **1530** PALSGR. 254/1 Pye a pasty, *pasté.* *a* **1568** '*In somer quhen flouris will smell*' 35 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 400 It is lyk that ye had eitin pyiss, Ye are so sweit. **1577** WHETSTONE *Life Gascoigne* xviii, Spight foule Enuies poysoned pye. **1694** CROWNE *Regulus* II. 12 A man all vertue, like a pye all spice, will not please. *c* **1710** CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 242 He weares a great Velvet cap.. like a Turbant or great bowle in forme of a great open pye. **1765** GRAY *Shakespeare* 24 Glorious puddings and immortal pies. *a* **1839** PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 58 And lords made love,—and ladies, pies. **1853** SOYER *Pantroph.* 284 All pass away whether they be temples, columns, pyramids, or pies.

(*c*) **1590–1861** [see APPLE-PIE]. **1706** PHILLIPS, *Pie*, a well known Dish of Meat, or Fruit bak'd in Paste. **1864** SALA in *Daily Tel.* 18 Aug., There it is; pumpkin pie, blackberry pie, whortleberry pie, huckleberry pie—pie of all kinds.

b. With defining word, usually denoting the essential ingredient, as *apple-pie, eel-pie, game-pie, meat-pie, mince-pie, pigeon-pie, plum-pie, pork-pie, rhubarb-pie, venison-pie,* etc. (see these words); also *Christmas pie* (see CHRISTMAS 4), *French pie* (see quot. 1611), *Périgord pie* (see PÉRIGORD).

1602 *2nd Pt. Ret fr. Parnass.* v. ii. (Arb.) 66 A black Iack of Beere, and a Christmas Pye. **1611** FLORIO, *Carne ne tegami*, meate stewed between two dishes, which some call a French pie. **1698** in Warrender *Marchmont* (1894) 184 Could pigeon paye. *a* **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Superstitious-Pies*, Minc'd, or Christmas-Pies, so Nick-nam'd by the Puritans, or Precisians. **1769** MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 155 Send it up hot without a lid, the same way as the French pye. **1798** FREERE & CANNING in *Anti-Jacobin* No. 23. 120 Youthful Horner..Cull'd the dark plum from out his Christmas pye. **1834** SOUTHEY *Doctor* cix. (1848) 266/2 The great goose-pye, which in the Christmas week was always dispatched by the York coach to Bishopsgate Street. **1872** CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* (1881) 21 But I shrink from thee Arab! Thou eat'st eel-pie.

c. Phr. *To have a finger* (†*hand*) *in the pie*: to have a part or share in the doing of something (often implying officious. intermeddling). *Cold pie*: see COLD *a.* 19. See also HUMBLE PIE.

1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) I. iii. 105 Bring me in credyte, that my hande be in the pye. **1604** DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 171 My hand was in the Pye, my Lord, I confesse it. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 52 The diuill speed him: No mans Pye is freed From his Ambitious finger. **1649** *Man in Moon* No. 33. 262 We heare Jermyn and the Lord Culpepper had a finger in the pye. **1659, 1886** [see FINGER *sb.* 3 c]. *a* **1845** MOORE *Fragm. Character* xi, Whatever was the best pye going, In that Ned..had his finger.

2. Applied to something resembling a pie. *Bran-pie*, a tub full of bran with small articles hidden in it to be drawn out at random, at Christmas festivities, etc. See also CLAY-*pie*, DIRT-PIE, MUD-*pie*.

1842 ORDERSON *Creol.* ii. 14 The Jews..still withheld their unleavened pie..a simple crust covering a pretty round sum. **1873** GARDNER *Hist. Jamaica* 199 The governor's purse was called a pie. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 27 Feb. 3/2 The bran-pie..is the receptacle of second-rate presents: gifts not quite showy enough to be displayed upon a Christmas tree.

3. Applied to a collection of things made up into a heap; *spec.* a shallow pit, or heap of potatoes or other roots, covered with straw, earth, etc. for storing and protection from frost; also, a heap of manure stacked for maturing. *local.*

1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 227 Item, that the Pye of Coales be abridged to the one halfe that theretofore had been served. **1791** *Trans. Soc. Arts* IX. 42 [The potatoes] were taken up, and a large pye made of them, which is laying them in a heap and covering them with straw. **1848** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 514 Mangolds .. stored 'in pies' on the level surface. **1886** *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., Potatoes or other roots placed in a hole,..against the winter,..are said to be 'pied down' or..'in pie'. **1887** *Daily Tel.* 4 Apr. 2 Making 'pies' of the green fodder just as dung pies are made.

4. *fig.* Something to be eagerly appropriated; a prize, a treat; a bribe. *U. S. slang.*

1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 436/1 Green dogs are pie for him [the racoon]. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 3/1 Sometimes he is 'pie' for the cartoonist to an unfortunate extent.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pie-baker, -eater, -feast, -gaudy* (GAUDY *sb.* 5), *-maker, -meat, -pan, -paste, -plate, -shop, -tin*; **pie-board**, a board on which pies are made, baked, or carried; **pie-dish**, the deep dish in which a pie is made; **pie-house**, a house at which pies are sold, a pie-shop; **pie-lass**, a girl who sells pies; **pie-plant**, any plant yielding fruit, etc. used for pies; *spec.* (*U. S.*) garden rhubarb; also locally applied to the wild *Rumex hymenosepalus*, which is similarly used (*Cent. Dict.*); †**pie-wife**, **pie-woman**, a woman who sells pies. See also PIE-CRUST, PIEMAN.

1379 in Riley *Memorials* (1868) 432 *Pie bakere. c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 395/2 Pye baker, *cereagius.* **1594** R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 28 b, Prepared and dressed by Cookes and pybakers. **1709** *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 70. 3/2 The Puny Author who supplies still The Cooks, and on their *Pye-boards lies still. **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxix, She tripped downstairs into the kitchen for the flour, then for the pie-board. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 38 Scanty ablutions of the morning in my *pie-dish. **1864** *Soc. Science Rev.* 37 A pie-dish and decanter take the place of jug and bason at the washing stand. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept. 4/6 New Englanders, those champion *pie-eaters of the world. *c* **1550** *Lusty Juventus* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 78 Will you go to the *pie-feast? **1659** HEYLIN *Certamen Epist.* 136 The suppressing of so many Gaudies, and *Pie-Gaudies, to the destruction of the hospitality and charity of the noble foundation. **1589** RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1087 A *pie house, *artocrearium.* **1836–48** B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Knights* III. i, Why, that he'll seize on the *pie-lass, And rob her and render her pieless. *c* **1450** *Dict. Garlande* in Wright *Voc.* 127 *Pastillarii* [gloss] *pye-makyers. **1598** *Epulario* Cij b, Mince it ..like *Pie meat. **1847** WEBSTER, **Pie-plant*, *Pie-rhubarb*, the garden rhubarb, used as a substitute for apples in making pies. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav., Cambridge*, His pie plants..blanched under barrels, each in his little hermitage, a vegetable Certosa. **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. (ed. 3) 105 Cover your Bason with a *Pye-plate. **1593** NASHE *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 283 To .. cosen poore victuallers and *pie-wiues of Doctours cheese and puddinges. **1817** J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 343 An old *Pie-woman carried them provisions, but never saw them.

[*Note.* Prof. Skeat suggests 'from the miscellaneous nature of its (i. e. the dish's) contents' which might recall the black and white or piebald appearance of the bird; others have thought of the habit which the magpie has of picking up and forming accumulations of miscellaneous articles. In this connexion, the similarity between the forms of the words HAGGIS and HAGGESS (F. *agace, agasse*) magpie, has also been pointed out. The quotations for the word afford no light, exc. that in one place in a late 14th c. L. poem *Modus cenandi* (Furnivall, *Babees Book*, II. 36) l. 51, 'sint inter fercula pice, Pastilli cum fartulis', appears to mean, 'let there be served between the dishes, pies, pasties' as if the writer identified *pie*, the dish, with *pica* the *pie* or magpie. On the other hand, in two early 14th c. quotations the Eng. word is used in Latin context, as if not identified with *pica*.]

Pie, pye, *sb.*[3] Now only *Hist.* [The Eng. word answering to med.L. *pica*; thus both in L. and Eng. identical in form with the name of the bird: see PIE[1], and PICA[1].]

1. A collection of rules, adopted in the pre-Reformation Church, to show how to deal (under each of the 35 possible variations in the date of Easter) with the concurrence of more than one office on the same day, accurately indicating the manner of commemorating, or of putting off till another time, the Saints' days, etc., occurring in the ever-changing times of Lent, Easter, Whitsuntide, and the Octave of the Trinity. (Cf. Blades *Caxton*, 1882, 240.)

c **1477** CAXTON *Advertisement* (*Broadside*), If it plese ony man spirituel or temporel to bye ony pyes of two and thre comemoracions of salisbur vse enpryntid after the forme of this present lettre whiche ben wel and truly correct, late hym come to westmonester in to the almonesrye at the reed pale and he shal haue them good chepe. **1498** *Will of Thomson* (Somerset Ho.), My boke callid a pie. **1507** *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 129 Payd for a Masboke and a pye..xj^{s}. vi^{d}. **1548–9** (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., The nombre and hardnes of the rules called the pie, and the manifolde chaunginges of the seruice, was the cause, y^{t} to turne the boke onlye, was so hard and intricate a matter, that many times, there was more busines to fynd out what should be read, then to read it when it was founde out. **1549** *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 1 All Books called..Manuals, Legends, Pies, Portuasses, Primers..shall be..abolished. *a* **1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 136 If he..could turne his Portresse and pie readilie. **1852** HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 585 The pie was the table used before the Reformation to find out the service for the day. It may be referred to the Greek *πίναξ* or *πινακίδιον*. But the Latin word is *pica*, which perhaps came from the ignorance of the friars, who have thrust many barbarous words into the liturgies. **1879** MARQUIS OF BUTE tr. *Roman Breviary* I. p. xii, As to anything else, see the Chapters of the Pye treating specially of each detail.

b. Hence app. COCK AND PIE, q. v.

†**2.** (Usually **pye book.**) An alphabetical index to rolls and records. *Obs.*

There are 'Pye Books' to Indictments extending as far back as 1660; but there is nothing to show when the term first came into use. It was in use in the Court of King's Bench early in the 18th century. It was also pretty generally used in the Courts of the Palatinate of Lancaster, the Indexes to the Affidavits, Declarations, and Sessional Papers being each styled 'Pye Books' (J. J. Cartwright, Sec. Publ. Rec. Office).

1788 *Chambers' Cycl.* (ed. Rees) s. v., In much the same sense the term was used by officers of civil courts, who called the calendars or alphabetical catalogues directing to the names and things contained in the rolls and records of their courts the Pyes.

Pie (pəi), *sb.*[4] *Printing.* Also 7 **py**, 7–9 **pye**, (*U. S.*) **pi.** [Origin obscure: supposed by some to be a transferred use of PIE *sb.*[2], in reference to its miscellaneous contents; others think of PIE *sb.*[3], and the unreadable aspect of a page of the pie.] A mass of type mingled indiscriminately or in confusion, such as results from the breaking down of a forme of type.

1659 HOWELL *Vocab.* li. (Printing terms), A Corrector, a proof, a revise,..pye all sorts of letter mixed, *Correctore*, &c. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 370 Breaking the orderly Succession the Letters stood in, in a Line, Page, or Form, &c. and mingling the Letters together, which mingled Letters is called *Py.* **1771** FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1887 I. 144 Having impos'd my forms..one of them by accident broke, and two pages reduced to pi, I immediately distributed and compos'd it over again before I went to bed. **1845** CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. Introd. II. 12 This same Dictionary ..gone to pie, as we may call it. **1847** WEBSTER, *Pi* [app. after Franklin]. **1882** J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Print.* (1884) 80 If composed matter gets..into a state of confusion, it is 'pie'.

b. *transf.* A disintegrated and confused mass; a jumble, medley, confusion, chaos; a 'mess'.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iv, Your .. Arrangement going all (as the Typographers say of set types, in a similar case) rapidly to pie! **1841** CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. xli. 53 We were thrown into 'pie' (as printers would say) in an instant of the most appalling alarm. **1870** *Daily News* 30 Nov., It was the merest luck..that the bones of the kings were not made inextricable 'pie' of. **1888** MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Fortn. Rev.* Oct. 532 Witness the 'pie' he made of his finances. **1897** *Spectator* 30 Jan. 162/2 To make pie of the European arrangements for securing peace.

‖ **Pie** (pəi), *sb.*[5] Also **pai, pi.** [a. Hindī, Marāṭhī, etc. *pāʾī*, from Skr. *pad, padī*, quarter, being 'originally, it would seem, the fourth part of an anna, and in fact identical with *pice*' (Yule).] The smallest current Anglo-Indian copper coin, the twelfth part of an anna; before the depreciation of the rupee, about one-eighth of a penny.

1859 LANG *Wand. India* 69 He would tell you the interest due on such sums as three rupees, five annas, and seven pie, for twenty-one days, at forty-one three-fourth per cent. **1879** MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 49 The copper coins—1 anna = 4 pice. 1 pice = 3 pie. **1883** F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* xii. 261 Several coins, both rupees and pais. **1904** *Mission Field* June 64 The charge of a small fee, six pies (one cent) for the first prescription.

Pie, variant of PEE *Obs.*, kind of coat or jacket.

†**Pie,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *pie*, fem. of OF. *pi, pis, piu, pif*:—L. *pi-us* PIOUS.] Pious.

c **1450** *Mirour Saluacioun* 786 Sho was ouer craft to telle humble pie [*v. r.* mercifull] and devoute.

†**Pie,** *v.*[1] *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PIE *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To repeat like a magpie.

1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 74 Yea, to Pie and Parrat out our Tongues, Degrees, and Learning of the University.

Pie, *v.*[2] *local.* Also **pye**; *vbl. sb.* **pying.** [f. PIE *sb.*[2] 3.] *trans.* To put (potatoes, etc.) in a pit or heap and cover them with straw and earth, for storing and protection from frost.

1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* IX. 44 Weeding potatoes, getting them up, and pyeing them. **1817–18** COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 164 He may pie them [potatoes] in the garden..but he must not open the pie in frosty weather. **1845** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 326 This system of pyeing turnips is a very common one in Norfolk. **1886** [see PIE *sb.*[2] 3].

Pie, *v.*[3] *Printing.* [f. PIE *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To make (type) into 'pie'; to mix or jumble up indiscriminately.

1870 [see PIED[2]]. **1889** *Daily News* 17 June 7 (Advt.), The ..delay..in printing offices, caused by what is technically called 'pyeing'. **1893** *Linotype Company's Prospectus*, In the economy of this machine...To pye matter is impossible. **1903** *Brit. & Col. Printer* 19 Nov. 15/4 Nearly all the cases are empty and those that have anything in are pied.

Pie-annet: see PIANNET.

Piebald (pəi-bɔ̄ld), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 6 **pibald, pibauld,** 6–7 **py(-)bald,** 6– **pie(-)bald,** 7 **pye(-)bald, pyebald,** 7–8 **pye-balled** (**-ball'd**), 8– **pye(-)bald.** [f. PIE *sb.*[1] + BALD *a.* 5: cf. BALL *sb.*[3]] Of two different colours, esp. white and black or other dark colour (like the plumage of a magpie), usually arranged in more or less irregular patches; pied: usually of animals, esp. horses. Loosely used of other colours (cf. SKEWBALD) or of three or more colours; parti-coloured.

1594 BARNFIELD *Aff. Sheph.* I. xxviii, I haue a pie-bald Curre to hunt the Hare. **1610** MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. x. 26 His colour is either a milke white, a yellow dun, a kiteglewd or a pyedball. **1622** MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 328 Signified by the Pybald horse whereon hee was mounted. **1626** *Faithful Friends* I. i, Millions..lavished in excessive sports, And piebald pageantry. **1676** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1135/4 A white Gelding..having pye-bald marks on both flanks of bluish colour. **1789** MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 20 [At Naples]. Yesterday..shewed me what I knew not had existed—a skew-ball or pyeballed ass. **1802** *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 97 There are Negroes, (Albinoes) born white, some are party coloured or pie-bald. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 542 Individuals thus motley coloured are commonly called piebald negroes, or are said to have piebald skins. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xi. (1852) 233 Dusky woods, piebald with snow. **1871** — *Desc. Man* II. xvi. 230 Piebald birds..for instance, the black-necked swan, certain terns, and the common magpie.

b. *fig.* Composed of parts or elements of dissimilar or incongruous kinds; of mixed characters or qualities (always in bad sense); motley, mongrel.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 13 Leaue thrumming thy Pibauld Iestes with Scripture. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 96 A Babylonish Dialect, Which learned Pedants much affect. It was a Parti-colour'd Dress Of patch'd and Pye-ball'd Languages. **1763–5** CHURCHILL *Candidate* 716 Shall hurl his piebald Latin at thy head. **1815** W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 58 *note*, To produce such a pyebald style of composition. **1878** BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* ii. 27 In the piebald character of the man.

B. *sb.* A piebald animal, esp. horse. **b.** *fig.* A person or thing of mixed character, a 'mongrel'.

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* II. Wks. 1799 II. 26 The right honourable Peer..calls me..Plebeian, and says if we have any children, they will turn out very little better than pye-balls. **1842** TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 104 As quaint a four-in-hand As you shall see—three pyebalds and a roan.

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 53 Strabo..had an idea that Spanish piebalds..changed colour if taken out of Spain.

Hence **Pie·balding**, becoming piebald, development of patches of different colours; **Pie·baldism, Pie·baldness**, the quality of being piebald; **Pie·baldly** *adv.*, in a piebald manner, with patches of different colours.

1886 ROMANES in *Life & Lett.* (1896) III. 175 The young ones show no signs of *piebalding. 1881 *Standard* 8 Sept. 5/3 Domestication tends to produce irregular colour, or what is commonly called *piebaldism. 1613 CAMPION *Relat. Entertainm. Ld. Knowles*, A strawn hat, *piebaldly drest with flowers. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Apr. 375/2 Glaring *piebaldness. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Human Boy* 120 The piebaldness of the rat was the great feature.

Piece (pīs), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 pece (3–5 pees, 4 pise, 4–5 pice, peis, 5 pes, peyce, peese, 5–6 pes(e, pesse); 5– piece, (5 pyece, 5–8 peace, 6 pease, peise, peyss, (*Sc.* peax), pysse, 6–7 peece, 6–8 peice). Plural in ME. sometimes the same as the sing. [ME. *pece*, in 15th c. *piece*, a. OF. *pece* (1241 in Godef.), *piece* (Roland, 11th c.), mod.F. *pièce* = Pr. *peza, pessa*, Sp. *pieza*, Pg. *peça*, It. *pezza* piece of cloth, rag, beside *pezzo* 'piece' in other senses. The Romanic forms point to late L. types **pettia*, **pettium*: cf. early med.L. *pecia, petia*, also *pecium, petium*, 'broken piece, fragment', also 'piece of land'. Ulterior origin obscure: see Note below. The sense-development is in many points uncertain, though most of the senses occur also in French: the following arrangement is to a great extent provisional.]

I. In general sense; or followed by *of*.

1. A separate or detached portion, part, bit, or fragment of anything; one of the distinct portions of which anything is composed.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 122 Þe scourgen [were] smerte & kene; Bi peces þe flesch orn adoun, þe bones were isene. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1086 His swerd brak in þe fiȝt And in morauntes brain Bileued a pece briȝt. *a* 1450 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 601/11 *Pecia*, a pece, or lytyl part of a thyng. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 That day..is roosted a whole Oxe.. a piece whereof is serued to the Emperours table. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 48/15 A Peece, *pars, partis*. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 189 In delivering of livery and seisin a peece of the earth is taken. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 108, I think the best [rods] are of two pieces. 1713 M. HENRY *Catech. Youth* Wks. 1853 II. 169/1 Gave them a piece of a honeycomb to eat. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 603 The tegumentary skeleton of Insects, that is to say, the hard skin of these animals... We see in it a great number of pieces, which are sometimes soldered (as it were) together; whilst in other instances they are united by soft portions of the skin. *Ibid.* § 605 The head is formed only by a single piece.

fig. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Imperfect Sympathies*, They are content with fragments and scattered pieces of Truth.

b. *In pieces*: broken, divided, disintegrated, in fragments: *fig.* divided, at variance. *In, into,* †*on,* †*a pieces*: into fragments, asunder. *To take in pieces*: to separate the parts of, to analyse.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 375 Is scolle to brec in peces manion. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1456 Eft þat spere tok he;..It brast on peces þre. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2999 A-two peces he hadde him gurd. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5591 Þe stede ful doun on peces tweye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 244 He kut it into peces twelve. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 62 *note*, The wal of þe temple to-cleef euene a two peces. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10305 Hir heer was rent & torne In pes. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 38 Men..paynd þam to breke þe stane in pecez. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxiii. 71 But the swerd of the knyght smote kyng arthurs swerd in two pyeces. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxiv. 227 Ther man myght see hir baners displayed hakked in to pyeces. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdias* Pref. 9 The forther that the bowe is drawen, the sooner it flies in pieces. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 133 The butchers cut their flesh a peeces, and sell it by weight. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 480 This takes in pieces your whole form. *c* 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* Wks. 1716 I. II. 154 If we offer to tear them apieces. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 169 A fair large Church.. where..the Body of St. Catherine is in pieces. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 21 We are all in pieces: we were in the midst of a feud, when you arrived. 1761–2 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxi. 566 The instrument of government was taken in pieces, and examined, article by article. 1843 MACAULAY *Lays Anc. Rome, Virginia* 264 Must I be torn in pieces? 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 193 When they submitted, their army..at once fell in pieces.

c. *To pieces*: into fragments, asunder; also *fig.* *To go* or *come to pieces*: to break up, dissolve, lose cohesion. *To take to pieces*: to separate into its parts. *To hit, huff, puzzle, vex*, etc., *to pieces*: to bring by such action to a state of distraction, disorganization, confusion, or rout.

By omission of *come, gone, torn*, or other pple., *to pieces* is sometimes='in pieces': see quots. 1622, 1690.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 46/24 And to-brak it al to smale peces. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6542 (Cott.) To pees [*Gött. etc.* in pecis] he þam brak right þar. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8386, I schal ȝow hewe al to pece. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxvii. 419 Our shyp brast all to pecys. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virgin Martyr* II. iii, The smock of her charity is now all to pieces. 1661 BOYLE *Exam.* ii. (1682) 6, I thus take Mr. Hobbs his Argument to pieces. 1690 J. WILSON *Belphegor* IV. i, They [friends] 're all to pieces. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 253 Pulling the Building to pieces after it is begun. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 73 The flat-bottomed boat..he had taken to-pieces. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 144 She has huffed poor Mr. Williams all to-pieces. 1765 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. I, I am puzzled to pieces about it.

1832 FR. A. KEMBLE *Jrnl.* in *Rec. of Girlhood* (1878) III. 215, I thought I should have come to pieces in his hands, as the housemaids say of what they break. 1883 R. BUCHANAN *Love me for Ever* I. ii. 28 A large ship had gone to pieces on the Wantle reef. 1890 *Daily News* 11 July 3/6 The Oxonians went all to pieces after passing the post. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Aug. 3/6 To analyse anything implies..the taking it to pieces in a chemical sense.

†**2.** A part *of* a whole, marked off, ideally separated, or considered as distinct; a portion *of* an immaterial thing. (Now superseded by *part, portion.*)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 48 Þanne was it a pece of þe pater-noster, fiat voluntas tua. 1534 MORE *Passion* Wks. 1303/1 That he might steale a peece of the pryce. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 24 In the fourthe peise [= paragraph] of his pistle. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 116 Roberte Rile the younger neuer promysid her any pease of the lease of the house where her husband nowe dwellis, nor nothinge els. *a* 1639 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1651) 438 One of the most fastidious pieces of my life, as I account,..the week of our Annuall Election of Scholers. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 182 Now in a word, for the other peece of the question. 1699 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 292 For other Saxon books, I have copied large pieces of them. 1755 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 161 After waiting a day and piece in Winchester.

b. A limited portion *of* land, enclosed, marked off by bounds, or viewed as distinct. (An early sense of med.L. *petia, petium.*)

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 88 A man that was called Nabot, the whiche had a good pece of wyne. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 31 There is vij acres lond lying..not ferre from Herdwyk wich vij acres lieth in ij pecys. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xxiv. 32 The bones of Ioseph..buried they at Sichem, in the pece of the londe, yt Iacob boughte of the children of Hemor. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xiv. 18, I haue bought a piece of ground. 1772 *MS. Award, Winterton, Lincs.*, All that other peice or parcel of Ground. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) II. xxix. 367 The planting ground ..is divided into large square pieces. 1808 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 13, I went into a piece of potatoes..without a dog. 1897 J. W. CLARK *Barnwell* Introd. 10 A list of the different pieces of property, with their yearly values.

c. A portion *of* a road, rope, line, linear distance.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. K ij b, Accompaninge the Pope a peece of the way. *Mod.* A weak piece in a rope. A piece of the road is now under repair.

d. Phrase. *A piece of one's mind*: something of what one thinks; one's candid opinion; a rebuke, scolding. Cf. BIT *sb.*[2] 4.

1572 SANDYS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 24 Thus am I bolde to unfolde a peece of my mynde. 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* II. i, I have told her a piece of my mind already. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* II. xiii. (1888) 233 The justice was giving her a 'piece of his mind'.

†**e.** *fig. A piece of* (*a scholar, logician, surgeon, philosopher*, etc.): somewhat of; 'a bit' of; one who partakes to some extent of the character mentioned. *Obs.* Cf. BIT *sb.*[2] 4.

[1552 ELYOT *Dict., Frustum hominis*, a litle pretie felow, that semeth to be but a peece of a man. Plaut. *Petit bout d'homme: moitié de homme.*] 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 19 If I had not beene a peece of a Logician before I came to him. 1633 J. CLARKE *Second Praxis* 12 Hoo! would you faine be thought a piece of an Astronomer now? *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 57 Being a good piece of a Schollar. 1743 in Howell *State Trials* (1813) XVII. 1172 He is a piece of a surgeon. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 101 If I am a piece of a philosopher.

3. A portion or quantity *of* any substance or kind of matter, forming a single (usually small) body or mass; a bit; as 'a piece of lead, granite, ice, bread, dough, cloth, paper'; also, *piece of water*, a small detached sheet of water, a small lake.

Such a 'piece' is, in fact, often a portion of a larger mass, but this is not thought of in the use of the word, the notion being rather that of so much of the substance or material in question forming one body of finite dimensions, which may be either a small or a large piece. It is a separate part or portion of the whole existing stock of the substance.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 297 Mai no peny Ale hem paye, ne no pece of Bacun. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 272/2 A Pece of leder..or of clathe. 1530 PALSGR. 252/2 Pece of steele. 1535 COVERDALE I *Sam.* ii. 36 For a syluer peny and for a pece of bred. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 26 Our Generall caused our Queenes armes to be drawne on a peece of lead. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 43 A hard peece of wood. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 224 Like a red-hot piece of Iron upon an Anvil. 1769 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 24 Aug., Pieces of water that surround it. 1831 MACAULAY *Civ. Disabilities Jews* Ess. 146 The scrawl of the Jew on the back of a piece of paper.

b. In this sense *piece* is commonly used in *Sc.* without *of* (cf. Ger. *ein Stück Brod*). Cf. BIT *sb.*[2] 9.

1580 J. HAYE in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 59 That we adore ane peace bread for God. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 106 There a piece of beef, there a piece cheese lyes. 1787 [BEATTIE] *Scoticisms* 73 A piece cheese, bread, &c. 1876 WHITEHEAD *Daft Davie* (1894) 205 (E.D.D.) She had a piece bread and cheese in her pouch. *Mod.* Give me a small piece paper.

c. *Piece of money, of gold, of silver*: A coin.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvi. 15 And they apoynted vnto hym [Judas] thyrty peces of syluer [WYCLIF 1382 thritti platis of seluer, 1388 thretti pans of siluer]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 143 To pay these .iiii. peses of golde yerly. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 A piece of flemmishe money called an Englyshe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 b, His Purse..chatcheth vp the other thinkyng to haue a pece of money. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* 302 Look, as the worth and value of many pieces of Silver, is to be found in one piece of Gold. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, My purse with nine large pieces of gold. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* III. 6, I..amassed three thousand pieces of silver.

d. *Piece of flesh*, applied to a living person, a human being; *piece of goods*, applied humorously or contemptuously to a woman or child. Now *dial.*

1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 30 Oh, she is a tall peece of flesh. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 127 Why should we be tender, To let an arrogant piece of flesh threat vs? *a* 1759 SIR C. H. WILLIAMS *Song* VII. in Locker *Lyra Eleg.* (1867) 163 This beautiful piece Of Eve's flesh is my niece. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. ii. 56 She seemed a pretty piece of goods enough. 1895 PINNOCK *Black Country Ann.* (E. D. D.), Her's a nice piece o' goods to be a skule guvness.

e. Of something non-material, as *a piece of poetry, of prose, of music.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 2 Giue me some Musick..that peece of song, That old and Anticke song we heard last night. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xlv, Here doth lye Ben Ionson his best piece of poetrie. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, He sat down to the piano, and rattled a lively piece of music. *Mod.* A piece of nervous prose.

4. A (more or less) definite quantity in which various industrial products are made or put up for sale or use.

a. A length (varying according to the material) in which cloth or other textile fabric is woven; also, a length *of* wall-paper as made (in England, generally 12 yards). Often used *absolutely*: cf. 15 c.

A *piece* of muslin is 10 yards; of calico, 28 yards; of Irish linen, 25 yards; of Hanoverian linen, 100 double ells, or 128 yards. (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858.)

1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 7 Every peace of Worstede Sayes or Stamyns to be made withyn any of the said Townes. 1588 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 54 Item j pece tawnye buffing xxs. Item ij pece blacke buffing, xxiiijs. 1622 E. MISSELDEN *Free Trade* (ed. 2) 9 Ther they goe at Twelve Gilders eight stivers the piece. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Piece*,..a certain Number of Ells or Yards of Cloth, Stuff, Silk, etc. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) II. 200 Some of those rich stuffs..with such irregular work, and contrary colours, as look'd ill in the pattern, but mighty natural and well in the piece. 1810 J. T. in *Risdon's Surv. Devon* p. XXVI, The..trade took off..about 35,000 pieces, each piece containing 26 yards. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 48 A 'piece' of cotton cloth varies from twenty-four to forty-seven yards in length, and from twenty-eight to forty inches in width. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1639 A 'piece' of English paper is 12 yards long and a piece of French paper about 9½ yards.

b. A half-pig *of* lead.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 63 Blocks of lead..called pigs.. being found too heavy to be easily managed, as they weighed three hundred weight..are now commonly made in Derbyshire into two pieces. 1820 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 81 The pieces, or half-pigs of lead are not of any certain weight, though the smelter endeavours..to approach as near to 176½ lbs. as he can.

5. A cask *of* wine or brandy, varying in capacity according to the locality, but generally equivalent to the butt, or to two hogsheads. [Fr. *pièce.*]

c 1490 *Paston Lett.* III. 364, I sen my lady a lytyll pes of Renysch wyne of the best, of x. gallons. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccii. 238 They wanne the good town of Athyen..and there they founde mo than a hundred peces of wyne. 1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* VIII. x, Home, Launce, and strike a fresh piece of wine; the town's ours. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2223/4, 76 Pieces of Conyack Brandy in 32 Lotts. 1705 *Ibid.* No. 4089/3 One hundred and eighty Pipes or Pieces, of double Spanish Brandy. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 4 There are tuns which can contain from 12 to 15 pieces of wine. 1840 T. A. TROLLOPE *Summer in Brittany* II. 281 A 'piece'..of the best brandy, consisting of four hundred bottles, may be purchased at Bordeaux for two hundred and fifty francs. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 3/2 Forty to fifty basketfuls [of grapes] are put upon the press at one time, and yield from ten to twelve pieces of wine.

¶ For the sense 'cup, wine-cup', see PECE *Obs.*

6. A single object or individual forming a unit of a class or collective group, as *a piece of furniture, of plate, of artillery* or *ordnance, of luggage*; †a head of cattle or game (*Sc. obs.*). See also 18.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9504 Syluer and Sarrigold sadly þai grippet,..Pesis of plates plentius mekyll. 1473 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 102, I most have myn instrumentes hydder, whyche..I praye yow and Berney..to trusse in a pedde, and sende them me hyddre in hast, and a byll ther in how many peces. 1523 EARL SURREY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 216 Dyvers other good peces of ordynaunce for the feld. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 237 Ane brasin pece of artailyerie, ten irn pecis. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5336/2 A Piece of Plate of the value of 100 Ducats. 1792 *Gentl. Mag.* 12/2 A statue or a piece of plate require inscriptions very different from a monument. 1832 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* III. 319 A regiment..succeeded in taking two pieces of cannon. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 62, I can almost always see the shot of a piece of ordnance when I fire it myself. 1886 MARY LINSKILL *Haven under Hill* I. xv. 201 It was a handsome piece of furniture. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 10/1 It handled last year 6,214,447,000 pieces of mail matter. 1899 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 7/5 It had at our ports been deemed sufficient to take about one 'piece' of luggage in five for examination. But when the dynamiters came.. the inexorable order went forth that every 'piece' was to be searched.

7. *Piece of work*: **a.** A product of work, a production, a (concrete) work. **b.** A task, difficult business; *fig.* a commotion, ado (*colloq.*).

a. *c* 1540 HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 363 Here is an eye-tooth of the Great Turk. Whose eyes be once set on this piece of work, May happily lese part of his eyesight. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 941 The Kings Chapell at Westminster,..one of the most excellent peeces of worke, wrought in stone, that is in Christendome. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 315 What a piece of worke is a man! how Noble in Reason! how infinite in faculty! in forme and

mouing how expresse and admirable! 1638 USSHER *Incarnation* (1649) 2 Most admirable peeces of work.

b. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 103 It were an infinit peece of worke. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 462 It would be a tedious Piece of Work to take out the two component Parts with their Signs. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 76 It would be a long piece of work. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 262 He kept jawing us, and making a piece of work all the time. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxx, What are you making all this piece of work for? 1872 'OUIDA' *Fitz's Election* (ed. Tauchn.) 194 How do you expect to get along..when it's such a piece of work to make you shake hands?

8. An individual instance, exemplification, specimen, or example, *of* any form of action or activity, function, abstract quality, etc.

a. Applied to a concrete thing.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 104 The conference of these two places, conteinyng so excellent a peece of learning, as this is. 1657 SIR W. MURE *Hist.* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 235, I have adventured to offer this small peace of labour to posteritie. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 58 These puny automata, and exsanguineous pieces of Nature. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 398 A..delicate Piece of Architecture. 1705 J. TAYLOR *Journ. Edinb.* (1903) 71 A noble Monument of its former Grandeur, being one of the finest pieces of ruin in the Kingdom. 1723 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 74, I think it is the worst piece of portrait that ever in my life I saw. 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* Pref. 7 A piece of religious literature.

b. Applied to an abstract thing.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2279/1 What a peece of Gods tender prouidence was shewed of late ypon our English brethren and countrey men. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 51 Making a peece of reverence unto him. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 211 They want the use of footmen, to whom these peeces of service doe properly belong. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxv. (1674) 84 It being an hateful piece of petulancy to envy great Princes. 1692 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 112 Eminent pieces of Self-denial. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 407 It would have been a piece of imprudence. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* xiii. 123 Some fresh piece of bad news. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* I. iii. 139 A rare piece of luck. 1884 SIR F. NORTH in *Law Times Rep.* 22 Mar. 122/2 Another piece of carelessness on the part of the auctioneer.

† c. Applied to a person in whom some quality is exemplified or realized. *Obs.*

1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. v, The master of this little piece of mischief. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 38 Sir Nicholas Bacon, An arch-piece of Wit and Wisdom. 1648 GOODWIN in Jenkyn *Blind Guide* i. 6 Green-head, young peece of presumption, Prelaticall peece of Presbytery,..swelling peece of vanity. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. i, One of your affected curt'sying pieces of formality. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxx. 182 As to the little Louisa, tis such a pretty piece of languor.

II. Absolute uses (elliptical, contextual, or conventional), without *of* and specification of the substance, etc.

9. A person, a personage, an individual. *arch.* and *dial.* a. Applied to a man.

In early use often = One of a multitude, army, or company; in 17th c. tending to be dyslogistic: cf. b.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7314 He at stod vpe þe brugge mid an ax alone,..A stalwarde pece þat was, nou god cuþe is soule loue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11058 Til Ion were born, a wel god pece. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 156 In his buke has Dares demed, Both of Troie & of Grece, whatkyns schappe was ilka pece. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4446 That fel faire for men of Grece, Thei hadde elles dyed euery pece. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. iv, Hee is another manner of peece then you think for. 1651 ISAACKSON in *Fuller's Abel Rediv., Andrewes* (1867) II. 161 King James ..selecting him as his choicest piece, to vindicate his regality. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 171 She having so untoward a piece to her Husband, was undone by him. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 179 Say & Sele was a seriously subtil piece. 1736 CHANDLER *Hist. Persec.* 346 Bancroft.. was, as the historian calls him, a sturdy Piece. 1746 in *Leisure Hour* (1880) 117 An old nasty grunting bishop.. who plagues me out of my life, he is such a formal piece.

b. Applied to a woman or girl.

Now mostly with depreciatory attribute.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 192 A precios pyece in perlez pyȝt. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 157 b, Faire Helena, that passing peece. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 441 Stately, proude, and disdainefull peeces. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. v. 27 All Princely Graces That mould vp such a mighty Piece as this is [Queen Elizabeth]. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. i. (1651) 143 A waspish cholerick slut, a crazed peece. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulb. Gard.* III. ii, She is a tender Piece. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables, Life Æsop* 5 Xanthus having a kind of a Nice froward Piece to his wife. 1783 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes to Roy. Acad.* vi, Think of the Sage, who wanted a fine piece.. *Mod. dial.* She is a forward piece.

10. a. A piece of armour; † esp. in the phrase *armed at* (*of*) *all pieces*, at all points, completely [F. *armé de toutes pièces*] (*obs.*). Also in comb., as *head-piece, shoulder-piece, thigh-piece*, etc.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 181 Knightes, Armyt at all peses, able to were. *Ibid.* 12878 Armet at all pes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 248 Thenne toke he his armures & armed hym of al pieces. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXI. 799 The regiment of the footmen .. came but slowly forward, by reason they were heauily armed at all peeces. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 157 Deadora..arming herself at all peics, ranne to the prore.

† b. A fortified place, fortress, stronghold. *Obs.*

1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 160 The demaundes made by Mons^r. de Buren for the Duchie of Burgon, and diverse other gret peaces in Fraunce. 1527 *Ibid.* 187 With the revocacion of tharmye, and rendicion of Genes, and other peces, whiche the Frenche King shulde rendre. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 83 He receyued againe all the holdes and peeces which his father had lost. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 136 They set wide open their gates, and made a sudden salie out of the peece. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lviii. (1612) 254 This Guise bereft vs Calice, and in France our Peeces all. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 3 Ostend..is most regularly and exactly fortified, so that it seemed to us one of the strongest Pieces in all the Low-Countries. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. v. 288 A commission..to repair..to the town of Calais and to certain other pieces on that side of the seas.

† c. A sailing or rowing vessel. *Obs.*

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 809 Capitaynes and leaders of His Highnes rowyng peces. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1004/1 To go and see the Royal James,..and several other pieces built by Commissioner Deane.

11. A weapon for shooting, fire-arm. a. A piece of artillery; a cannon, gun.

a 1550 *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 68 He hath three-score peece on ether side. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 To mak bullettis for small pecis. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiv. 65 b, Diuers great and little peeces aswell of brasse as of yron. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* IX. liv, So from a piece two chained bullets flie. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 67 To know what Shot and Powder is meet for every Piece. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pieces*, (in Warlike Affairs) signify Cannon or great Guns, as Battering-Pieces which are us'd at Sieges..: Field-pieces. 1875 CLERY *Min. Tactics* x. (1877) 123 Part of the attacking force should be directed against the covering party and part against the pieces.

b. A portable fire-arm, hand-gun; as a musket, carbine, pistol, fowling-piece.

1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discip.* I. 44 Such must haue..a good and sufficient peece, flaske, touch bore, pouder, shot, &c. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 42 *margin*, The inuention of artillery, powder, shot, and small peeces of fire was not first in Germanie. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 76 The stocke of his piece is not made caliever wise but..somewhat like a fowling piece. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 332 Taught to handle all manner of weapons, but especially the bow, the peece, and the Scimetar. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4044/3 Our Grenadiers .. put their Bayonets in the Muzzles of their Pieces. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lx. 475 Considering how many arrows might be drawn before one piece could have been loaded and discharged. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 674 Five hundred grenadiers rushed..to the counterscarp, fired their pieces, and threw their grenades. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralph Skirl.* III. 254 He knelt on one knee, and levelled his piece direct at William's head.

† c. A crossbow. *Obs.*

1590 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 60 Quod dictus Fabianus non sagittabit in aliquo le peece ad aliquam rem vivam. 1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* (1606) T iv b, The Crossebowe... Once in a yere, there is in each city a shooting with the Peeces at a Popingay of wood. *Ibid.* T v, By this practise.. he groweth more ready and perfit in the vse of his Peece.

12. Each of the pieces of wood, ivory, etc., also called 'men', with which chess is played; technically restricted to the superior 'men' ('pieces of honour', 'dignified pieces'), as distinguished from the pawns. Also extended to those with which draughts, backgammon, etc., are played. [So It. *pezzo*, Sp. *pieza*, F. *pièce*.]

In the Continental use of the word, traces of its restriction in chess to the eight superior 'men' are found already in the 16th c.

[1497 LUCENA *Arte de Axedres* A j b, Sabiendo como juega cada pieza. *c* 1570 *B. M. Add. MS.* 28710 lf. 360 a, Todas las pieças y peones salvo el Rey.] 1562 ROWBOTHUM *Play Cheasts* A iv, The principle is to knowe the pieces, to wit, the name, the number, and the seat of euery one. As for the fashion of the pieces, that is according to the fantasie of the workman. 1591 FLORIO *Sec. Fruites* 262 *A*. Doth it pleese you then to play at the chesse..? *S*. Order your peeces. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Epist.* Wks. (1711) 146 In this case they [pawns] are surrogated in those void rooms of the pieces of honour, which, because they suffered themselves to be taken, were removed off the board. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 67/1 What peice or man soeuer of your owne you touch or lift from its place, you must play it for that draught where you can. 1778 C. JONES *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 139 If..you find a Prospect of Success, rush on boldly and sacrifice a Piece or two. 1788 *Chambers' Cycl.* (ed. Rees) s. v. *Chess*, In this game each player had eight dignified pieces..and also eight pawns...These pieces are distinguished by being painted in white and black colours. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) s. v. *Chess*, In order to begin the game, the pawns must be moved before the pieces. 1870 HARDY & WARE *Mod. Hoyle, Chess* 37 Eight pieces of different denominations and powers, and eight Pawns, are allotted to each competitor... The pieces are named..King, Queen, Bishop, Knight, Rook. *Ibid., Draughts* 139 The antagonist can insist on this being done or huff the piece. 1898 CULIN *Chess & Playing Cards* 836 Set of thirty-two domino pieces of teak wood. *Ibid.* 841 *Jeu de l'Oie*..the pieces are moved according to the throw.

13. A piece of money (see 3 c); a coin. Often with defining word, as *seven-shilling piece, crown piece, threepenny piece, twopenny piece, penny piece, five-franc piece*, etc.

1575 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 455 To be payit all in half merk pecis. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 289 They coyne any peece, of which they can make gayne. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 106 He must be a foole who really can satisfie himselfe in counters as if they were peeces. 1658 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 241 A peice of p(ope) Jo(hn) the 23, and also a French peice. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4748/4 A Queen Elizabeth Piece of 35s. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 102 The Gold Piece found in St. Gyles's Field. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* III. xvi. 134 These pieces were not called *farthings*, but *farthing tokens*. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 5 The value .. of any individual piece is very uncertain.

† b. *spec.* Popularly applied to an English gold coin; orig. to the *unite* of James I, and afterwards to the sovereign, and guinea, as the one or other was the current coin. Hence *half-piece. Obs.*

The *Unite* was issued in 1604 as = 20 shillings; but was raised in 1612 to 22 shillings.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. i. 5 I'll warrant you for halfe a piece. *Ibid.* III. iii. 83 What is't? a hundred pound? ..No, th' Harpey, now, stands on a hundred pieces. 1618 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xxxii. (1636) 426 All our crownes and soveraines, and pieces, and halfe pieces, and duckatts and double duckatts are currant but to the brim of the grave. 1659-60 PEPYS *Diary* 14 Mar., Here I got half-a-piece of a person of Mr. Wright's recommending to my Lord to be Preacher of the Speaker frigate. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Job*, a Guinea, Twenty Shillings, or a Piece. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Examp.* III. i. 34 Fifty Pieces are 50 Pound, 50 Shillings, and 50 Six-pences: I know what they are well enough, and you too. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Coin*, Guinea, or piece.

c. *Piece of eight*, the Spanish dollar, or *peso*, of the value of 8 *reals*, or about 4*s*. 6*d*. It was marked with the figure 8.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iii. 15 Round trunkes, Furnish'd with pistolets, and pieces of eight. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 97 The Spaniards..paid for what things they bought in good Pillar pieces of Eight. 1679 OLDHAM *Sat. upon Jesuits* ii, Strange I..What charity pieces of eight produce. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Piece of Eight* or *Piece of eight Ryals*, a Spanish Coin; of which there are several sorts. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* I. 9 His annual Allowance is 7,000 Pieces of Eight. 1882 ARBER *Garner* V. 227 *note*, *Peso*..was the monetary Unit of Central America; afterwards known as the Piece of Eight, and is the Mexican dollar of the present day.

14. A portion of time or space. Now *dial.*

a. A portion or space of time; *esp.* a short space of time; a while.

(Occurs in OF. in 13th c., and in AF. in Britton II. iii. § 12 Cum il avera esté graunt pece en seisine.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7063 Þe wer lasted sa lang a pece. 14.. In *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 245 About þis a pece I wyl spede, þat I myth þis lettrys rede. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Piece*, a little while. 'Stay a piece and then aw will'. *c* 1825 in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. III. 330 A piece back, three tides came up the Trent on one day.

† b. Here probably belongs *o pece, opece, opese* (*a peace*), in *still opece* (erron. *still a peace*), continually, continuously, constantly: see STILL *adv. Obs.*

c 1440 *Generydes* 1385 He wold not leve, butt stille alway opece Dede all that he cowde to hurt Generydes. *Ibid.* 3391 And euer more in prayours still opese; Vnto the tyme she knew it shuld goo. *Ibid.* 5254 Haue here a ryng and kepe it still opece, To the tyme that ye come onto Clarionas. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 294 How she from thre yeres of age .. remained ther [in the temple] seruing God stil a peace.

c. A portion of the way or distance between two points; a short distance. *dial.*

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 230 By practice, euery day going a piece, and oft reading ouer and ouer, they will grow very much, to your great ioy. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 151 He told us we must go west a piece..and then incline to the north. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 59 Then I would run a piece off,..and again I would delay, and stop. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 231 I'll make my brother Adam carry it piece about with you. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, I've walked quite a piece to-day, in hopes to get to the ferry.

15. A (small) portion of some specific substance.

a. A small portion, scrap, or cutting, of cloth, leather, or the like; esp. as used to repair a hole or tear: a patch. Cf. PIECE *v.* 1.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 Þei may pese hem [clobis] aȝen or cloute hem of sacchis & obere pecis. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 452/1 The same Clothe to be sold for a remenaunt, or for a pece and nat for a Clothe. [1526 TINDALE *Matt.* ix. 16 Noo man peceth an olde garment with a pece [ἐπίβλημα, *commissuram*, WYCL. medlynge, clout] off newe cloothe.]

b. Short for 'piece of bread' (with or without butter, etc.); *spec.* such a piece eaten by itself, not as part of a regular meal. *Sc.* and *Eng. dial.* (Northumb. to Shropsh., and Cornwall).

1787 A. SHIRREFS *Bess & Jamie* IV. i, Neither tak' her siller nor a piece. 1881 GREGOR *Folk-Lore* 93 Pieces, however, were ordinarily given. 1883 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 2/6 On one occasion defendant gave her a bit of bridescake, on another a jelly piece. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xvi. 185, I..took the road again on foot, with the piece in my hand and munching as I went. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 2/1 When they get off at mid-day to eat their 'piece', there is talking and laughing among the field workers. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Wigtown), A dry piece is plain loaf bread or oat cake, without butter, jam, or treacle. *Ibid.* (Cornwall), If a child tells you she had 'nothing but a piece all day', you know she means bread and butter.

c. A length of cloth, wall-paper, etc.: see 4 a.

d. *Whaling.* A section or chunk of blubber, more fully called *blanket-piece*.

e. *Bookbinding.* A tablet of leather which fills a panel on the back of a book, and receives the title (*lettering-piece*).

f. *Malting.* A quantity of grain steeped and spread out at one time: = FLOOR *sb.* 1 6 b.

1832 W. CHAMPION *Maltster's Guide* 43 The turning of his floors or pieces. 1876 WYLLIE in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 268/2 It is of importance to the maltster that the law allows him to sprinkle water over the 'pieces' on the floor.

g. pl. *pieces*. An inferior quality of crystallized sugar obtained in the manufacture of crystals and crushed sugar.

1867 *Produce Markets Rev.* 13 July 161/1 The character of the Pieces Sugar made in London retrogrades rather than improves as a whole. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 948 The first crystallisation is called 'crushed' and the second 'pieces', the drainage from which goes by the name of 'syrup'. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 4 Sept. 6/5 Sugar .. London pieces, rather quiet, steady.

16. A separate article or item of baggage or property in transit. (Chiefly *U. S.*)

1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 15 The freight of a canoe..consists in sixty pieces, or packages, of merchandize, of the weight of from ninety to a hundred pounds each. *Ibid.* 24 The method of carrying the packages, or pieces, as they are called, is the same with that of the Indian women. 1890 COOLEY, etc. *Railways Amer.* 253 The cases in which pieces go astray are astonishingly rare. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 10/1 The postal establishment of the United States..handles more pieces, employs more men, spends more money..than any other human organisation, public or private.

17. A production, specimen of handicraft, work of art; a contrivance; = *piece of work* (7 a). *Obs.* in general sense. See also MASTERPIECE.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. viii. 349 They buried with them much wealth, as golde, silver, stones, ..bracelets of gold, and other rich peeces. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. i, It were a piece Worthy my night-cap, and the Gowne I weare, A Picklockes name in Law. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 15 Ruder heads stand amazed at those prodigious pieces of Nature, Whales, Elephants, Dromidaries and Camels. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* I. vii. (1662) 121 Surely were it not for Eternity, I should think a man a silly piece. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 517 He busied himself in making a Chest..he was as proud of it as if it had been the rarest piece in the World. 1698 A. BRAND *Emb. Muscovy to China* 71 Several rare pieces made at Augsburgh, that moved by the help of Clock-work.

b. A painting, a picture; † a portrait.

1574 *Appius & Virginia* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 125 O fond Apelles, prattling fool, why boasteth thou so much, The famous't piece thou mad'st in Greece? 1594 PLAT *Jewell-Ho.* III. 51 To refresh the colours of olde peeces that bee wrought in oyle. 1662–3 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Feb., There is also a very excellent piece of the King, done by Holbein. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 173, I was all alone in my apartment, busie in painting a small Piece. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 183/1 The painter valued himself upon the celerity and ease with which he dispatched his pieces. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. xii, The walls..were thickly covered, chiefly with family pictures:..now and then some Dutch fair,.or battle-piece. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 Among the portraits which hung above were two allegorical pieces by Master Hans Holbein.

† **c.** A piece of statuary or sculpture. *Obs.*

1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 634, I do so honour auncient images, that I make as great account of a peece of Nero,.. as I do of Constantius. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 61 Most of the fairest Peeces in all the Citie, perisht in these flames.

d. A literary composition, in prose or verse, generally short.

1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Pref., Wks. 930/1 Vnto one little piece, one greate cunning man had made a long aunswere, of twelue whole shetes of paper. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 20 That Villain and Secretary of Hell, that composed that miscreant piece *Of the Three Impostors.* 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 32 There is a Posthumous piece extant, imputed to Cartes. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Advice Author* iii, That exteriour Proportion and Symmetry of Composition, which constitutes a legitimate Piece. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 22 May, I am not sorry that you read Boswell's journal. Is it not a merry piece? 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* I. 529 He printed most of Archbishop Cranmer's pieces. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxix, A poet also, author of a piece Printed and published.

e. A drama, a play.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 47 In the last scene, all the Actors must enter to compleat and make up the Catastrophe of this great peece. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, On the first night of a new piece they always fill the house with orders to support it. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* v. (1876) 315 To supply himself with [money]..he began to write theatrical pieces. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. 252 Arnulf, as usual, appears as the villain of the piece. 1885 *Bath Herald* 17 Jan. 3/2 The usage was to engage stars for the run of the piece.

f. A musical composition, usually short, either independent or forming an individual part of a larger work.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 95 Nobody can bear to hear..a favourite piece over and over again the same night. 1856 *Amy Carlton* 208 Amy..played the piece that she was learning. 1880 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 751 *Piece.* This word .. has since the end of the last century been applied to instrumental musical compositions as a general and untechnical term.

III. Phrases. (See also 1 b, c, 2 d, 10 a, 14 b.)

18. *A piece, the piece, each* (Sc. *ilk*) or *every piece*: each piece of a number of pieces; each unit of a number, set, or company; each of them or these: esp. in stating the share or price of each unit or individual member (see sense 6). Hence, *adverbially*, APIECE, q.v., *the piece, per piece.* [F. *la pièce.*]

A piece can still be said of persons as well as things (so *the piece* in Sc. and north dial.).

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5474 Lamprays of weȝt Twa hundreth pond ay a pece. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 47 The good candelmaker Gyueth foure talow candellis For one peny the pece [F. *le piece*]. 1489 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 131/1, xiij. horss and meris, price of þe pece xl.*s.* 1529 in *Wills Doctors Commons* (Camden) 18, xiij^{xx} peerles at iiij*d.* the peace. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 267/1 The Pope .. set vp in Rome a stewes of xx. or xxx. thousand whores, taking of euery pece tribute yearly. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 35, xij*d.* a peice. 1553 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 150 Thai had payit ane grott for the heid off ilk peax [of cattle] for thair poindlaw. 1566 *Ibid.* 493 The soum of ten markis for ilk pece of xxv. oxin. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 289 Horses..sold againe for fortie and sometimes for fiftie ducates a piece. 1637 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 169, I giue .. John Mount and John Muske *xs.* peece, Margaret Texall *xxs.* 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. s.v. *Bowes*, Bowes, vocat. stone-bowes of steel, the piece *x.s.* *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 81 The bischopis had causit imprint thir bookis..and sould haue gottin fra ilk minister four pundis for the peice. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 355 Sold for five hunder'd Crowns a piece. *a* 1692 POLLEXFEN *Disc. Trade* (1697) A vij b, Fat Oxen were often sold at 6*s.* per piece. 1797 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIX. 48 A fine of a cow the piece [=each person]. *Mod. Sc.* He gae them twa shillin' the piece for helpin' him.

19. *By the piece*: at a rate of so much for a definite amount or quantity; according to the amount done. *On the piece*: at piece-work.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 23 These Posts are..made by the Piece, viz. *id.*..per Post. 1807 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* II. 209, I think such work is good enough to be paid by the piece. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iii. 23, I could not ascertain whether they worked by the day or by the piece. 1879 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 40 An employer is not bound to provide constant work for a man on the piece. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Oct. 4/2 Most pottery workers are paid by 'piece'.

20. *In* or *of one piece*: consisting of a single or undivided piece or mass.

[1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* XXXVII. 22 The knoppes & braunches ..were all one pece of fyne beaten golde.] 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. XVI. 50 [An] obelisquie of coloured stone all of one peece 50. cubits high. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 317 The whole is cast in one piece in bell-metal. 1864 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 32 Finished to-day the revision and copying..the translation of the *Purgatorio*, so as to have it all of one piece with the rest. 1885 BIBLE (R.V.) *Exod.* XXXVII. 8 Of one piece with the mercy-seat made he the cherubim at the two ends thereof.

21. *Of a piece*: of one piece, in one mass (= 20); often *fig.* of one and the same kind or quality; uniform, consistent; in agreement, harmony, or keeping. [F. *tout d'une pièce.*]

1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. iii, I have seen and heard all..and wish heartily You were all of a piece. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Wom.* II. 23 Those Nations who make their Doublet and Shirt all of a peece. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xii § 3. 102 To moue all of a piece. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 448 He and his Horse were of a Piece, One Spirit did inform them both. 1700 DRYDEN *Pref. Fables* Wks. (Globe) 503 He writes not always of a piece, but sometimes mingles trivial things with those of greater moment. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, One of them was covered, and seemed all of a-piece. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* vi, After all, things were not of a piece. 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 51 The harness..second-hand, one horse in plated, another in brass harness, and, in short, all of a piece.

b. *Of a piece with.*

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. ii. (1848) 176 None appear'd more of a piece with the Earth than he. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 256 P 3 It is not of a Piece with the rest of his Character. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 233 All their proceedings were of a piece with this demand.

† **c.** *O pece, opece, opese*: see 14 b.

22. *Piece by piece* († *piece and piece*, Sc. obs.): one piece or part after another in succession; a piece at a time, piecemeal, little by little, gradually. [F. *pièce à pièce.*]

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Ezek.* xxiv. 6 Bring it out piece by piece. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 115 Peece by peece they dropt upon the ground. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 65 Had the calm Weather held I should have brought away the whole Ship Piece by Piece. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 208 The great architect unrolls his drawings piece by piece.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. iii. (S. T. S.) I. 252 Fra thens þe pepill began Ilk day pece & pece to convaless in þare bodyis fra all maledyis. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 273, I felt My hart within my bosome melt, And pece and pece decay. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 121 Then piece and piece they dropt away, As ripe plumbs in a rainy day. 1721 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 550 Piece and piece as your leisure allows, pray send me what hath been remarkable as to religion and learning this last year.

IV. 23. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **piece-compositor**, a compositor who is paid by the piece; **piece-dyed** *a.*, of cloth, dyed after it is woven; so **piece-dyeing**; **piece-fraction**, in *Typog.* (see quot.); **piece-hall**, an exchange where cloth is sold by the piece; **piece-knife** (see quot.); **piece-labour**, labour paid by the piece; **piece-looker**, an inspector of cloth woven in definite lengths; **piece-maker, -man** = PIECE-WORKER; **piece-market**, the market for cloth sold by the piece; **piece-master**, a middleman who acts between the employer and the employed in the giving out of piece-work; † **piece-money**, money distributed to recipients at so much apiece; **piece-mould**, in *Sculpture*, a plaster-of-Paris mould, removed in pieces, and then fitted together; also, a mould consisting of separate pieces of metal, etc., which are fitted and beaten together upon the model; **piece-patch**, a piece inserted as a patch; **piece-patched** *a.*, patched up; **piece-payment**, payment by the piece; **piece-price**, a price paid for piece-work; **piece-rate**, rate of payment for piece-work; **piece-stuff**, lumber or timber in pieces; **piece-trade**, the trade in pieces of cloth; **piece-velvet**, velvet made in the piece of various widths (as distinguished from narrow ribbon-velvet, etc.); **piece-wage**, a wage paid by the piece of work. See also PIECE-BROKER, -GOODS, etc.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 July 10/1 It took time, and time to the *piece compositor..means bread. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 97 The wool being always dyed either in the state of wool, before spinning, or after being woven. This gives rise to the distinction between 'wool-dyed' cloth and '*piece-dyed' cloth. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Dec. 8/1 The Bradford *piece-dyeing trade. 1900 DE VINNE *Pract. Typogr.* 174 *Piece fractions, or split fractions in two pieces, or on two bodies, are not proper parts of the font, and are sold in separate fonts at higher rates. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 119 Instead of having a cloth-hall or a *piece-hall of its own, its productions are sent to one or other of those two towns for sale at the piece-halls. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* iv, The tradesman in the Piece Hall, i. e. the Cloth Exchange. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 17 The *piece-knives, or sportsmans' knives, as those complex articles containing saws, lancets, phlemes, gun-screw, punches, large and small blades, &c. used to be called. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 252 For the most part day labour. The other two are *piece labour. 1867 *Address to J. Bright* in *Morn. Star* 28 Jan., J. Moloney, *piece looker. 1895 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 3/1 To obtain a piecework statement to be based upon a *piecemaker's average. *Ibid.* 11 Mar. 3/3 The Union notice to the *piece-men being circulated. 1883 *Ibid.* 28 Sept. 2/7 The *piece market is without material alteration. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 256 The abolition of the middleman, whether 'sweater', '*piece-master', 'lumper' or what not, coming between the employer and employed. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Mar. 7/1 The present sweating piece-master system. 1610 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Item payd in *pesse mony xvijs. vjd. 1642 *Ibid.*, Payed to 38 brothers and sisters for peesmoney xix*s.* 1895 *Daily News* 20 June 6/3 A *piece-mould is made upon the statue itself, and from this a hollow wax statue is cast. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 27 A straight stitch 6 or 8 threads deep on each *piece-patch and material. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Bro.* II. i, This *piece-patcht friendship, This rear'd-up reconcilement on a billow. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 11 July 3/7 London daily newspapers are..produced on a *piece payment system. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 2/2 The question which underlies all surface disputes is that of fixing *piece-prices for the new machinery which is being introduced into the trade. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 27 July 1/2 A reduction in the *piece-rates per ton at certain furnaces. 1881 *Chicago Times* 14 May, The cargo .. consisting of short length *piece-stuff. 1891 *Times* 5 Oct. 4/3 There is no change to note in the *piece trade. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 246 The *piece-velvets and the linens smote her to the heart. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 17 Buy also some piece-velvet, silk, ribbon, flowers, feathers, net,..bonnet and cap wire. 1900 *Fabian News* Sept. 28/2 This 'log'.. is 'a remarkable effort to adjust a *piece-wage rate on a time-wage basis'.

24. *Piece* is often the second element in a combination, in various senses, e. g. *back-piece, base-piece, bodice-piece, breech-piece, catch-piece, ear-piece, eye-piece, franc-piece, head-piece, penny-piece*, etc. See the first element.

Hence (*rare* or *nonce-wds.*) **Pie'celess** *a.*, without pieces or parts; **Pie'cely** *adv.*, in pieces; **Pie'cewise** *adv.*, by pieces.

a 1631 DONNE *To C'tess Bedford* Poems (1650) 181 In those poore types of God (round circles) so Religions types the peecelesse centers flow. 1552 HULOET, Piecelye, or in pieces, *concise, frustatim.* 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 107 Whether wholewise or piece-wise?

[*Note.* L. *Pecia*, in sense of 'fragment', occurs in the Salic Law (*a* 596, MSS. 5 and 6, *c* 800) lx, (Ibi iiii Fustes alninos super caput suum frangere debet et illos in quattuor pecias [*earlier and later recensions* partes] per quattuor angulos iactare debet); *petia, petium*, in sense 'piece of land', appear in Muratori *Ant. Ital.* A.D. 730 'et alia petia', 757 'uno petio de terra' (Diez); see also many later med.L. instances in Du Cange. The ulterior source has been the subject of much research: see Diez s. v. *Pezza*; Scheler, Littré, Hatz.-Darm. s. v. *Pièce*; Körting s. v. *pett-* (7106); Thurneysen s. v. *Pezza.* The prevalent opinion is that late pop.L. **pettia, -ium*, were derived from a Brythonic stem *pett(i-*, represented by Breton *pez* a piece, Welsh and Cornish *peth* a part, cognate with proto-Celtic **quett(i-*, whence **cotti-*, in OIr. *cuit*, genitive *cota*, mod. Gaelic *cuid* part, share; but there are many difficulties. A very frequent early sense in OF. was that of 'portion or space of time' (see Godef.) = 14 above. The sense 'person', found so early in Eng., is not met with in French till late in 16th c.]

Piece (pīs), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

I. 1. *trans.* To mend, repair, make whole, or complete by adding a piece or pieces; to patch.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 41 Þei may pese hem aȝen or cloute hem of sacchis & obere pecis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 388/2 Pecyn, or set pecys to a thynge, or clowtyn, *repecio*, .. *sarcio, reficio.* 1530 PALSGR. 655/1, I pece a thyng, I sette on a pece..If it be broken it muste be peced, *sil est rompu il le faut piecer.* 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 63 Petruchio is comming .. with .. one girth sixe times peec'd, and a womans Crupper..heere and there peec'd with pack-thred. 1601 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 135 For picing a bell clapper that brake when Andrew Hawkins was buried, xij*d.* 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 28 Feb., She was piecing a blue and white tissue with a large patch of black silk! 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 306 It's nothin' but play, piecin' quilts.

b. *fig.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 45, I will peece Her opulent Throne, with Kingdomes. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. i, To paint the world, and piece the length'ning day.

2. To join, unite or put together, so as to form one piece; to mend (something broken) by joining the pieces; also *absol.* in spinning, to join or piece up threads, to work as a PIECER.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 272/2 To Pece, *assuere.* 1559 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 90 Payd for a rope to pysse the

lyttelle belle-rope. 1637 Suckling *Aglaura* v. i, There is no piecing Tulips to their stalks When they are once divorc'd by a rude hand. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 138, I found the seamen..employed in piecing the ground cable, which..had again parted. 1819 *Evidence fr. Rep. Committee Ho. Lords*, 'How do they get their breakfast and afternoon meal?' '..When the machinery is moving, they eat it as they are piecing'. 1859 Mrs. Gaskell *Round the Sofa* 35, I cannot piece the leg as the doctor can.

b. *fig.* To put together, join, unite; *refl.* to join oneself *to*, unite *with*.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Loue* Ep. Ded. *iij b, To peece vnto themselues this their broken Religion. 1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* III. i, *Item.* I heard they were out. *Nee.* But they are pieced, and put together again. 1652-62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 5/2 This Prusias, when the Romans became so considerable..pieced himself with them. 1656 — *Surv. France* 214 She hath peeced her self to the strongest side of the State. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 661 His judgment yet his memory did excel, Which pieced his wondrous evidence so well. 1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* xxiv, Piecing fragments of empty signification.

†3. *intr.* To unite, come together, assemble; to come to an agreement, agree; to join on. *Obs.*

1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 23 It pieced better and followed more close and handsomely vpon the bruit of Plantagenet's escape. 1625 — *Ess., Innovations* (Arb.) 526 New Things peece not so well. 1636 Sir H. Wotton in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) III. 260 Owre Schoole Annually breaketh vp two weekes before Whitsontyde and peeceth agayne a fortnight after. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antig.* xvi. viii. (1733) 434 Telling him..that things would mend in Time, and Friends piece again, if they could but come to.. a fair Understanding.

II. In combination with adverbs.

4. Piece in. a. *trans.* To join in, add by insertion; †b. *intr.* to join in (in action), unite (*obs.*).

a 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 247 He that can comply, and peice in with all occasions, and make an easie forfeiture of his honesty. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* II. 187 The.. Officers..pieced in some Troops with those Regiments.

5. Piece on. *trans.* and *intr.* To fit on (as the corresponding piece).

1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* iv. (1874) 45 The super-occipital bone..pieces on to the superior frontal. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 218 It is so hard to fix the date of the event, or to piece it on in any way to the undoubted facts of the history, that [etc.].

6. Piece out. *trans.* To complete, eke out, extend, or enlarge by the addition of a piece.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xiv. (Arb.) 138 Ye may note..how much better some bissillable becommeth to peece out an other longer foote then another word doth. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xxix. (1840) 232 Like a cordial given to a dying man, which doth piece out his life. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 18 He..pieces out the defect of one by the excess of the other. 1728 Young *Love Fame* V. 436 The motion of her lips, and meaning eye, Piece out the idea her faint words deny. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 133 The old Pons Emilius..has recently been pieced out by connecting a suspension bridge with the old piers.

7. Piece together. *trans.* To join together, combine (pieces or fragments) into a whole; to make up of pieces so combined.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. ix. (Arb.) 168 To peece many words together to make of them one entire, much more significatiue than the single word. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 235 Himselfe..peeceth together no lesse an army than the former mad-man. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 134 Cut out of the natural Rock..though it seem to be of five Stones pieced together one upon another. 1865 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxiii. 65 Our account of his exploits..must be..pieced imperfectly together.

8. Piece up. *trans.* To make up (esp. that which is broken); to repair by uniting the pieces, parts, or parties; to patch up.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 75 Let these..constraine thee..whilst there is yet but one craze..in the touch-stone of thy reputation, piece it vp & new flourish again by a great excellency. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Unity Relig.* (Arb.) 429 When it is peeced vp, vpon a direct Admission of Contraries. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 368 All being now piec't up betweene them. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. IV. xx. (1650) 124 'Tis thought the French King will peece him up again with new recruits. 1794 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 213 They will of course endeavour to piece up their own broken connexions in England. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Nov. 3/2 Arranging, disposing, and piecing up these fragments.

b. *intr.* To make up matters, come to an arrangement.

1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 212 By all means it was necessary to piece up with Alanson.

‖ **Pièce** (pyes). The French for 'piece'; occurring in French phrases, more or less in current Eng. use.

a. A document used as evidence; esp. in *pièce justificative*, a document serving as proof of an allegation; a justification of an assertion.

1789 Han. More in W. Roberts *Mem.* (1834) II. III. iv. 160 You will think me a great brute and savage..till you have read my *pièce justificative.*

b. *Pièce de résistance* (pyes də rezistãs): the most substantial dish in a repast; also *fig.* the chief item in a collection, group, or series; in quot. 1860, used for 'a means of resistance'.

[1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 7 Our appetite demands a *piece of resistance.*] 1839 Lockhart *Scott* xix. III. 214 *note*, In answer to her host's apology for his *piece de resistance.* 1840 Thackeray *Misc. Ess., Pict. Rhapsody* (1885) 184 To supply the picture-lover with the *pièces de résistance* of the feast. 1860 Jowett in *Essays & Reviews* 335 This authorized text is a *pièce de résistance* against innovation. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 149/2 The *pièce de résistance* of the entire ride lies between Poughkeepsie and Yonkers.

Piece-broker. (See quot. 1756.)

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3304/3 One Gawen Hardy.., Piece-Broker, was..Indicted for Felony.., for paying and putting off Counterfeit Milled Money. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. IV. vii. 118/2 Hollowel Street..a Place inhabited by divers Salesmen and Piece-Brokers. 1756 Rolt *Dict. Trade, Piece-broker*, is a shopkeeper in London, who buys the shreds and remnants of all materials that go through the hands of the taylor, and sells them again to such persons as want them for mending cloaths; being generally decayed taylors, or some cunning men who have crept into the secrets of the trade. 1770 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 143/2 Mr. Muzere, aged 90, many years an eminent piece-broker, who never trusted any money out at interest, but put it into an iron chest. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Piece-broker* [as in Rolt].

Pieced (pīst), *ppl. a.* [f. Piece *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Composed or made up of pieces joined together.

1420 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 42 To Robard Leget my pesid Bowe. [*Ibid.*, A Bowe wyth-owte pecis.] 1569 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 305 Also I gyue to ffrancis walker my peaced bowe. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* II. xxvii. (1631) 21 A pieced stuffe of divers colours of divers ragges. 1785 Sarah Fielding *Ophelia* II. vi, To descend..down a pieced ladder, appeared..terrible. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* I. viii. § 11 A larger number of solid and perfect small shafts, or a less number of pieced and cemented large ones.

2. Mended, patched, made up. Also *fig.*

1542-5 Brinklow *Lament.* 6 b, Is Christ a peced God, or a patched Redeamer? 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* I. i, A poxe of her autumnall face, her peec'd beautie. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 4 Three Marble pillars..one of them is peeced for one foot.

3. With adverbs: see Piece *v.* II.

1635-56 Cowley *Davideis* I. 313 The infected King..started back at piec'd up shapes, which fear And his distracted Fancy painted there. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 16 Oct. 3/3 A mere pieced-together book.

Piece-goods, *sb. pl.* Textile fabrics, such as calico, shirtings, mull, etc., woven in recognized lengths (see Piece *sb.* 4 a) for sale; a term formerly applied to Indian and other Oriental fabrics exported to Europe, but now chiefly applied to Lancashire cotton goods exported to the East.

1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 12/1 A Fregat of the Eastern Squadron, hath sent in a Vessel laden with Wax, Pitch, Tar, and Piece-goods. 1722 *Ibid.* No. 6045/9 All Piece Goods, as Bays, Cloaths, Stuffs, or any other Manufactury. 1785 in Seton-Karr *Select. Calcutta Gaz.* (1864) I. 82 That the Captains and Officers of all ships that shall sail from any part of India, after receiving notice hereof, shall be allowed to bring eight thousand pieces of piece-goods, and no more. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* I. I. iii. 45 *note*, Piece goods is the term..chiefly employed by the Company and their agents to denote the muslins and wove goods of India and China in general. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* i. 36 The cotton yarn is woven into piece-goods either by the hand-loom or the power-loom. 1886 Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s. v., Lancashire..has recently procured the abolition of the small import duty on English piece-goods in India. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 6/3 Combination of the worsted piece-goods dyers.

Pie·ce-lace. Lace made in broad pieces, which can be cut and used like cloth.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3806/8 A new Piece-Lace Head.., and a loop'd Flanders Lace Head. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Mar. 3/1 Some amazingly good imitations of Irish lace—..being but a few shillings per yard—for piece lace, that is. 1901 *Ibid.* 12 July 3/1 These coats are made mainly from piece laces with lace flouncing rippling round the edge.

Piecemeal (pī·smīl), *adv.* (*sb., a.*) Forms: see Piece *sb.* and Meal *sb.*2 [ME. f. *pece*, Piece + *-mêle*, -meal. Taking the place of OE. *stycce-mælum*; *pece-mêle* being a later word has not the OE. form in *-mælum*, nor an early ME. in *-mêlen*. The later amplification *by pece-mele* follows other words in *-mele* with *be, by* (e. g. Dropmeal, Flock-meal, Footmeal, Heapmeal), and introduces the quasi-sb. use B. The example in *-s* (1 *β*) was prob. due to the plural notion rather than an instance of the adverbial genitive.]

1. One part or piece at a time; piece by piece, gradually, by degrees; separately, by pieces.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5624 Þat folc to drou Þat traytour, ech lime pece mele. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 151 Þei etyn a man noȝt al hole, but pece-mele. 1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 85 Miles Forest at sainct Martens pecemele [*a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 28 by pece meale] rotted awaye. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 125/1 Now it remaineth that we looke peecemeale vnto these wordes. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 5 The stone couering him is compassed with a grate, least it should bee broken and carried away peece-meale by Passengers. 1773 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 423 The business will be done covertly and piecemeal. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xvii, He means to conquer England piece-meal. 1885 Sir J. Pearson in *Law Rep.* 29 Ch. Div. 453 A party is not allowed to bring his case before the Court piecemeal.

β. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* IV. 424 To have taken him Piecemeals, Paragraph by Paragraph, and to have consider'd every single Objection distinctly.

b. With *by* (rarely *in*). (Transitional to B.)

1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* 100 Lette it be cut out by pese mele. 1566 Drant *Horace* To Rdr. 3, I..haue dispatched it by piece meale, or inche meale. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* Pref., Wks. 1851 VIII. 5, I am forced to write by piece-meal, and break off almost every hour. 1693 W. Freke *Sel. Ess.* xix. 114 They that can bear Pedantry in Piece-meal, will be even sick when they peruse his Masse of it. 1796 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 130 It is better to do the whole work once for all, than to be recurring to it by piece-meal. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. viii. 129 After previous alienations by piecemeal.

†c. *In piecemeal:* piece by piece, in detail. (Cf. B.) *Obs.*

1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) R v, To reason thus in-peecemeale of these rules..were a taking of an infinite matter in hand. *Ibid.* IV. V iij b, [To] vnderstand in peecemeale whatsoeuer belongeth to hys people.

2. Piece from piece; into or in pieces or fragments: with *break, tear, cut*, etc.

1570 Googe *Pop. Kingd.* I. (1880) 7 Who rather will be peecemeale torne than once their prince forsake. *c* 1580 Sidney *Ps.* II. 21 Bruse Thou shalt and peecemeale breake These men like potshards weake. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 751 I'll be torn piece-meal by a Horse, E'er I'll take you for better or worse. 1712 E. Cooke *Voy. S. Sea* 75 Hewing them Piece-meal, and delighting in their Blood. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* viii, To be now pulled asunder, broken piecemeal and reduced.

†b. With *in*. *Obs.* (Cf. B.)

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 40 The fishmongers were forced to hacke it in gobbets, and so to carrie it in peecemeale throughout the countrie. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faust.* xiii. 69 Revolt, or I'll in piece-meal tear thy flesh. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* ix. 178 Is any Student tearing his Straw in piece-meal, Swearing and Blaspheming?

†B. quasi-*sb.* (with *pl.*) A small piece, portion, or fragment; chiefly in phrase *by piecemeals*, also *at, in, into piecemeals. Obs.*

1577 Whetstone *Life Gascoigne* xxviii, By peece meales care so wrought me vnder foot. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 268 *Buccellatio* is dividing into gobbets, or by peece-meals. 1616 J. Maitland in *Scot. Hist. Soc. Misc.* (1904) 171 He choosit rather to blame, tax and charge my father..in hidlings and at peece-male. 1642 T. Goodwin *Zerubbabels Enc.* 17 That..perfection of light which the Apostolicall times had..by piece-meals and degrees. 1651 R. Vaughan in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 562 To register any thing to the purpose..that I could come by, (some few piecemeals excepted). 1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 294 Being torn into piece-meales. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. iii, Those are falling..by piece-meals to decay.

C. *adj.* (*attrib.* use of the adv.). Consisting or done in pieces or by instalments; done bit by bit.

1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* vi. 75 A pox of peecemeale drinking. 1713 Derham *Phys. Theol.* To Rdr., None..have done it otherwise than in a transient, piece-meal Manner. 1768-74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 640 What tortures and piecemeal executions have not been practised by tyrants and persecutors. 1831 J. W. Croker in *Croker Papers* 9 Oct., Giving no opinion on piecemeal reform. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 184 Our history just at this time has to be put together in so piecemeal a way.

Pie·cemeal, *v.* Now *rare.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To divide or distribute piecemeal; to dismember. Hence **Pie·cemealing** *vbl. sb.*

1611 Cotgr., *Emmenuiser*, to make small, to peecemeale, to reduce into little parcels, or peeces. *Ibid.*, *Parceler*, peecemealed; cut, or made, into parcels. 1632 Heywood *1st Pt. Iron Age* v. i. Wks. 1874 III. 338 My seuen-fold Targe With thousand gashes peece-meald from mine arme. 1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* I. 20 The glory of the work shall not be crumbled, and peice-mealed out, some to God, and some to the Creature. *a* 1700 *Oxford Laureat* in Johnson *L. P., Valden*, Had he ta'en the whole ode, as he took it piece-mealing, They had fin'd him but ten-pence at most. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 21. 144 The Piece-meal'd Quarters..exposed to the four Corners of the Earth. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XIII. i, The heavy, unread, folio lump, which long had dozed on the dusty shelf, piece-mealed into numbers, runs nimbly through the nation. 1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 259 The division, the piece-mealing of Germany, is the strength of Russia.

†**Pie·cemealwise,** *adv. Obs. rare*−1. [See -wise.] = Piecemeal 1.

1594 Carew *Tasso* (1881) 78 The Christians force peece-male-wise to impair.

Piecen (pī·s'n), *v. local* or *techn.* [f. Piece *sb.* + -en 5 2.] *trans.* To join, to piece; chiefly, to join broken threads or ends in spinning.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 180 The children have..to piecen their slubbing ends with double rapidity. *Ibid.* 223 With the covers has been also introduced a new method of piecening or joining on any end.., namely, by splicing it to the adjoining roving. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* i. 18 The plan of 'piecening', by which time is saved in spinning cotton. 1887 *19th Cent.* Dec. 820 The building..has been piecened and enlarged from time to time.

Piecener (pī·s'nəɹ). [f. prec. + -er 1.] One who pieces or piecens; a piecer; *spec.*, a child or young person employed in a spinning-mill to keep the frames filled with rovings, and to join together the ends of threads which break while being spun or wound; formerly, also, to join the cardings or slivers for the slubber, a work now done by machinery: see Piecer 2.

1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 178 The cardings..are taken up by the children, called pieceners, from the nature of their work, being to piece or join those porous rolls together, to fit them for being drawn into a continuous thread. 1839 Mrs. F. Trollope *M. Armstrong* I. viii. 191 *note*, The children whose duty it is to walk backwards and forwards before the reels, on which the cotton, silk, or worsted is wound, for the purpose of joining the threads when they break, are called piecers, or pieceners. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 552/1 A child, called a 'piecener', takes the cardings from the carding machine...The pieceners are employed and paid by the slubber.

Piecer (pī·səɹ). [f. Piece *v.* + -er 1.]

1. *generally.* One who pieces; a patcher.

1836 L. Hunt in *New Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 70 Fancy's the wealth of wealth, the toiler's hope, The poor man's

piecer-out. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 155 The English are blunderers here, piecers and patch-workers. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 46 The piecers, who say that there were originally a number of Iliadic or Odyssean songs, afterwards made up into the poems such as we now have them.

2. *spec.* In a spinning-mill: see PIECENER.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 384 The pieces are joined by children, called piecers, who are in attendance on each mule, to join any yarn that may be broken in the act of stretching or twisting. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 3 You earn as much as a piecer as some do at a hand-loom. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* Introd. 3, I was put into the factory as a 'piecer'. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Piecers*, assistants to the mule spinner or minder, with the special duty of keeping the frames filled with 'rovings'. They derive their name from their work of piecing up the broken threads.

Piece-work (pī·sˌwɒɪk). Work done and paid for by the piece: see PIECE *sb.* 19.

1795 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 58 The new have gone more into the execution of it by contracts, and piece work. 1830 *Cumb. Farm Rep.* 60 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Labourers are easily obtained here, either for piece-work or by the day. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* viii. 74 Some trades-unions endeavour to prevent their members from earning wages by piece-work.

attrib. 1890 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 3/2 This is one of the last of the piece-work jobs in Victoria Dock under the agreement of last November.

Hence **Pie·ce-wo·rker**, a workman who does piece-work, or is paid according to the amount done.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 625/1 With a piece-worker, time is literally money. 1891 *Times* 7 Oct. 4/6 Piece-workers are supposed to earn, on the average, from one-fourth to one-third more than their rating.

Piecing (pī·sɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PIECE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PIECE; patching, mending or completing by joining pieces.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 168 Ffor þei ffor þe pesinge paieth pens ten duble That þe clope costened. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 127 Peecynge of a shafte with brasell and holie..is to make the ende compasse heauy. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* IV. ii. Wks. 1863 VII. 374 The piecing up of these domestick breaches betwixt husband and wife. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 303 Rhime is like Lace, that serves excellently well to hide the Piecing and Coarseness of a bad Stuff. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 281 Piecing of Rules is often attended with considerable trouble. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 312 The pieceing is soon over, as the carriage does not stop an instant at the frame. 1884 *Athenæum* 1 Nov. 562/3 An infinite piecing of minute facts.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1545 *Rates of Customs* c iij, Pesing threde the dossen pound xiis. iiiid. 1594 *Acc.-Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 347, i *li.* pecinge thred, iis. vjd. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 170 Whited brown or pieceing thread. 1881 JACOBI *Printer's Vocab.* 100 *Piecing leads*, in wide measures of type the leads required are usually pieced.

Piecrust (pī·krʌst). [f. PIE *sb.*2 + CRUST.] The baked paste forming the crust of a pie.

1582 HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* III. liii. 75 Ye shall not eate.. Butter, Milke, Cheese, or Pie crustes, or suche like thynges. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. i, One that..preserues himselfe, Like an old hoary Rat, with mouldy pye-crust. 1817 SCOTT in Lockhart *Life* (1837) IV. 98 The posts, which are as cross as pye-crust, have occasioned some delay. 1869 *Hazlitt's Eng. Prov.* 320 Promises are like pie-crust, made to be broken.

b. *fig.* (in reference to hardness or dryness).

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xlii, I will work it out by myself, you pie-crusts. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* xviii. 322 The dry season baked it into a pie-crust.

c. *attrib.*; proverbially and humorously of promises lightly broken (see quot. 1869 above), as *piecrust pledge, promise*; of the colour of piecrust, as *piecrust hair, straw.*

1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 162 Then all the Vengeance of the Gods invoke, In Case this Pye-crust Promise should be broke. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Dec. 11/1 Having laid to Mr. Smith's charges another piecrust pledge. 1889 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy*, etc. (1892) 98 The pie-crust hair had not been placed in mourning.

Pied (pəid), *ppl. a.*1 Also 6–7 pide, 6–8 pyed, 7 py'd, pyde, (6 *Sc.* pyet). [As if pa. pple. of a verb *pie*, f. PIE *sb.*1: see -ED.]

Parti-coloured; originally, black and white like a magpie; hence, of any two colours, esp. of white blotched with another colour; also of three or more colours in patches or blotches. Also, wearing a parti-coloured dress.

1382 [see c]. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 134 With a hood, a bell,..and a lagge; In a pyed cote he rode brygge a bragge. 1575 *Brieff Disc. Troubles Franckford* (1846) 203 To weare the pied coate off a foole. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 904 Dasies pied, and Violets blew, And Cuckow-buds of yellow hew. 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. iii. 80 That all the eanelings which were Streakt and pied Should fall as Iacobs hier. 1611 COTGR., *Pecile*, a pide, or skude colour of a horse. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* xviii, The wing of a pyde Butterflee. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 366 In a town within the territories of Brunswick, they had hired a pyed piper to conjure away all the rats and mice, that much infested him. [Cf. quot. *c* 1645 in f.] 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 16 Zebræ or Pide-horses. 1774 LAMBERT in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 493 The bullock is pyed, white and red. 1839 YOUATT *Horse* 376 The pied horse is one that has distinct spots or patches of different colours, but almost invariably of white with some other colour. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. xli. 58 Others [horses] were pied, containing a variety of colours on the same animal.

b. Construed as *pa. pple.* = variegated.

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 75 Meadows trim with Daisies pide, Shallow Brooks, and Rivers wide. 1671 MARTEN in *Acc. Sev. late Voy.* II. (1694) 79 In the middle, they are white pyed with black. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E.-Bord.* I. 122 A garment pied with daisies, and buttercups, and dandelions. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* v. 566 A Thracian courser with white all dappled and pied.

† **c.** *Pied Friars, Friars of the Pie*: orig. name of a small order of friars: see quot. 1904; in *P. Pl. Crede* app. applied to the Carmelites or White Friars (whose dress was a brown tunic and a white cloak): see Skeat *Student's Pastime* § 53. *Pied Monk*, a Bernardine or Cistercian, from their white tunic and large black scapular. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1382 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 262 With an O and an I, fuerunt pyed freres; Quomodo mutati sunt rogo dicat Pers. [*c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 65 Sikerli y can nouȝt fynden, who hem first founded, But þe foles foundeden hem-self, freres of the Pye. *c* 1440 WALSINGHAM *Hist. Angl.* (Rolls) I. 182 Cadaver..in quodam veteri cœmeterio, quod fuerat quondam Fratrum quos 'Freres Pyes' veteres appellabant,.. projecerunt.] 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyed monke, *barnardin*. 1537 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 63 An Abbott condam of Fountens, of the order of pyed monkes. 1904 GASQUET *Eng. Monast. Life* xi. 242 Pied Friars, or Fratres de Pica, ..had but one house in England, at Norwich, and..were obliged by the Council of Lyons [1245] to join one or other of the four great mendicant Orders.

d. In the specific names of many birds and other animals characterized by variegated colouring; as **Pied antelope** = BONTEBOK; **pied blackbird**, any Asiatic thrush of the genus *Turdulus* (Webster 1890); **pied brant** = HARLEQUIN *brant*; **pied duck**, the extinct *Somateria labradoria*; **pied finch**, the chaffinch, *Fringilla cœlebs*: cf. PIEFINCH; **pied flycatcher** (*Muscicapa atricapilla*); **pied goose** = MAGPIE *goose*; **pied grallina**, the Magpie Lark of Australia (*Grallina australis* or *picata*); **pied hyena**, the spotted hyena (*H. crocuta*); **pied hornbill**, species of *Anthracoceros*; **pied kingfisher**, *Ceryle rudis*, a native of India and Africa; **pied seal**, the Mediterranean Seal (*Monachus albiventer*); **pied starling**, an extinct starling of Réunion (*Fregilupus varius*); **pied wagtail**, the common Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*); **pied wigeon**, (*a*) the Garganey (*Anas querquedula*); (*b*) the Golden-eye (*Clangula glaucion*); (*c*) the Goosander (*Mergus merganser*) (Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 1885); **pied wolf**, a pied variety of the American wolf.

1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* IX. 119 The extinct '*Pied Duck'..was black, with white head, neck, chest [etc.]. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Magpie-Goose*..called also *Swan-goose*, and **Pied-goose*. 1865 W. BOYD *Swartzen* 72 Robes of striped or *pied hyena. 1901 *Nature* 10 Jan. 254/2 A notable loss is the handsome crested *pied starling..which is believed to have become extinct about the middle of the [19th] century. 1837 GOULD in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* N. S. I. 460, I was..surprised to find that the sprightly and *pied wagtail..could not be referred to any described species.

e. *fig.*

1600 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Misc. P.* xxiii, Not wearing moods, as gallants do a fashion, In these pied times. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* I. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 120 Noe speckl serpent weares More spotts than her pide honor. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* II. Pref. (1673) K v, Py'd and contaminated constructions. *Ibid.* 166 This pied Goddess [Fortune].

f. *Comb.* (parasynthetic), as *pied-billed*, *-coated*, *-coloured*, *-faced*, *-winged*, etc.

1595 CHAPMAN *Coronet Mistr. Philos.* vi, The Protean rages Of pied-faced fashion. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 276 These pide-winged Butterflyes, *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. vi. xlix. (1650) 241 The said Town of Hamelen was annoyed with Rats and Mice; and it chanc d, that a Pied-coated Piper came thither. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxiii. 236 Eighteen great horses, all of them pyed coloured. 1888 TRUMBULL *Bird Names* 82 *note*, The Pied-billed Grebe..familiar to us all.

Pied (pəid), *ppl. a.*2 *rare.* [f. PIE *v.*3 + -ED 1.] Converted into printers' pie; mixed up, confused.

1870 *Daily News* 2 Oct., Since then matters stand as above described, in a curiously pied condition.

Piedestal(l, -istal, piedstal, -stoole, obs. ff. PEDESTAL.

Piedly (pəi·dli), *adv. rare.* [f. PIED *a.*1 + -LY 2.] In a pied manner; in clothes of divers colours.

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 70 How pyedly goo thei lyke mommers, disgysed from the common peple.

Piedment, obs. form of PEDIMENT.

Piedmontite (pī·dmɒntəit, pyē·m-). *Min.* [Named 1853, f. *Piedmont* (It. *Piemonte*, lit. Mountain-foot), its locality + -ITE 2 b.] A brownish red or reddish black silicate of aluminium, iron, manganese, and calcium, resembling epidote; often called manganese epidote.

1854 DANA *Min.* Index, Piedmontite. 1894 *Min. Mag.* X. 261 In the rhyolites the manganese-epidote, Piedmontite, is widely distributed.

Piedness (pəi·dnės). [f. PIED *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being pied; or parti-coloured.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy* III. 269 For their likenesse and vniformity in roundnesse, orientnesse, and pidenesse of many excellent colours. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* III. 142 Superfluous Fare and Pydenesse in Attyre. 1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 617 By what process goose-berries may be made gigantic, and piccotees enriched with piedness.

Pie-dog: see PYE-DOG.

‖ **Piedouche** (pyedu·ʃ). [F. *piédouche*, ad. It. *pieduccio*, dim. of *piede* foot.] A small pedestal.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Piedouche*, in Architecture, is a little Square Base smoothed, and wrought with Mouldings, which serves to support a Bust or Statue drawn half way, or any small Figure in Relief. 1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, and in mod. Dicts.

‖ **Piedra** (pye·drā). *Path.* [Sp. *piedra* stone:—L. *petra.*] An epiphytic affection of the hair, prevalent in certain parts of Colombia, in S. America.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 8/1 Dr. Unna recognised the disease as 'piedra', which is chiefly met with in Colombia. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 587 Piedra is supposed by some to be induced by the mucilaginous hair applications in vogue among the Colombians.

‖ **Piedroit** (pyedrwa). *Arch.* [F. *pied droit*, lit. 'straight foot', the vertical wall supporting an arch, also as below.] A square pier or pillar attached to a wall, which differs from a pilaster in having neither base nor capital.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Piedroit* [*ed.* 1706 *Pied-droit*], a square Pillar, that is partly within the Wall. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pied-droit*, in Architecture, is a Square Pillar, differing from a Pillaster in this respect, that it hath no Base nor Capital: It is taken also for part of the Jaumbs of a Door or Window. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 38 Cornices which terminate the Piedroits of Portico's.

Piefinch (pəi·finʃ). [f. PIE *sb.*1 5 b + FINCH.] A local name of the chaffinch.

1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2191 In Warwickshire, as elsewhere,.. the chaffinch [is] a 'piefinch'.

Piejamah, variant of PYJAMA.

Piel (pīl). *Sc.* 'An iron wedge for boring stones' (Jamieson, 1808). (North of Scotl.)

1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.* Hence 1864 in WEBSTER, etc.

Piel, Pielage, Pieled, Pieler, pieller, obs. ff. PEEL, PILLAGE, PILED, PEELED, PEELER 1.

Pieless (pəi·lės), *a.* [f. PIE *sb.*2 + -LESS.] Without a pie; having no pies.

1836–48 WALSH *Aristoph.*, *Knights* III. i, Why, that he'll seize on the pie-lass, And rob her and render her pieless. 1901 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 5/1 We think we would sooner pay our money..and go pieless.

Pielet (pəi·lėt). [See -LET.] A small pie.

1881 WILMINGTON in *Delaware Morn. News* IV. No. 44. 2 It..was too much like a dinner in tarts and pielets. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 2/3 Extend to it the caution you bestow on pielets of mince and puddings of plums.

† **Pielf,** variant of PELF *v. Obs.*, to pilfer.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 105 A poore sely folle that hath percase pielfed away tenne grotes. *Ibid.* 126 The one partie had pielfed, or embesleed away a thyng of the others.

Piemag (pəi·mæg). [f. PIE *sb.*1 + MAG *sb.*2] A local name of the Magpie.

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 75–6 Magpie.. Pye Mag (Hundred of Lonsdale). Pie nanny, do.

Pieman (pəi·mæn). A man who makes pies for sale; a vendor of pies.

c 1820 *Nursery Rime*, Simple Simon Met a Pyeman, Going to the Fair; Says Simple Simon To the Pyeman, Let me taste your ware. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 508 The flying pieman ceases his call. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 204/2 Beware of cheap cook-shops and itinerant piemen.

Piement, -mento, var. of PIMENT, PIMENTO.

Piend (pīnd). *Arch. local.* [Origin unascertained.] The edge or angle formed by the meeting of two surfaces. Also *attrib.*, as *piend check, joint, rafter, stone, tree.*

1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Piend*, an arris; a salient angle; a hip. It is a northern appellation. *Ibid.*, *Piend Check*, the rebate formed on the piend or angle at the bottom of the riser of a stone step of a stair, to catch upon the angle formed at the top of the under step. 1881 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict.*, *Pien, Peind* or *Piend*, a term used in the south-west districts of Scotland, being the hip rafter of a roof. It is sometimes called 'pien-tree'. *Pien stone*, the stone covering the rafter in continuation of the ridge stones.

Piend, dial. form of PEEN *sb.*

1882 in OGILVIE.

Pienet (pəi·nėt). *local.* [A deriv. of PIE *sb.*1: perh. the same as PIANNET.]

1. A name of the sea-pie or oyster-catcher.

1833 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 351 Oyster-catcher.. provincial, Pienet, Olive. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 188 Pienet.

2. A local form of Piannet, the magpie.

1900 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Pianet*, Pienet, *W. Yorksh.*

Piep, obs. form of PEEP *v.*1

Piepowder (pəi·pʌudəɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 3 (*adj.*) **pepoudrous, -rus,** *Sc.* **piepowdrous, pipouderous, -rus, pipuderous,** 5 **pypoudrus**; (*sb.*) 4 **pipoudre,** 5–6 **pepowder,** 5–9 **pipowder,** 6 **pipoulder,** 6–8 **pye(-)powder,** 7 **pye-poulder, -pouldre, pi-, pie-, pypouder, pypoudre,** 7–8 **py(-)powder,** 7– **pie(-)powder,** 8– **pie(-)poudre.** [Anglo-Fr. had in 13th c. *piepuldrus, -pouldrous, -poudrous* = F. *pied-poudreux* adj., sing. and pl., = med.(Anglo-)L. *pede-pulverōsus* dusty of foot, dusty-footed, also as sb., a dusty-footed man, a DUSTYFOOT, a wayfarer, itinerant merchant, etc.; found also in 15th c. English, and in 15–16th c. Scottish versions of the Burgh Laws. ME. had *pie-poudres, pie-powders* sb. pl., wayfarers, esp. in the designation *Court of Piepowders* = Court of wayfarers or travelling traders, whence through the attrib. use in *Piepowder Court* came the less correct *Court of Piepowder.*]

1. (*Piepoudrous*, etc.) *adj.* 'Dusty-footed'; wayfaring, itinerant; *absol.* as *sb. sing.* and *pl.* = **2.**

1220–1 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 67 Terminare querelas transeuntium per villam qui moram non poterunt facere, qui dicuntur *pepoudrous*. *a* 1267 Bracton v. I. vi. § 6 (Rolls) 126–7 Propter personas qui celerem habere debent justitiam, sicut sunt mercatores quibus exibetur justitia pepoudrous [*v.r.* pepoudrus]. *a* 1300 *Leges Burg.* xxix. in *Stat. Scotl.* I. App. v. 361 De placito inter piepoudrous [*Skene*, pede pulverosum et alios]. Si quis extraneus mercator.. vagans qui vocatur piepowdrous [*Skene*, piepouldreux] hoc est anglice dustifute [tr. *a* 1500 Ony stranger man merchand .. beand vagabund in þe contre þe quhilk is callit pipouderus]. *Ibid.* xxxi. *ibid.* 362 Burgenses qui sunt mercatores et pedepuluerosi [*tr.* Burges or merchandis or pipouderous]. *a* 1436 *Domesday Ipswich* in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 23 The plees be twixe straunge folk that men clepeth pypoudrus, shuldene ben pleted from day to day. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Burrow Lawes* 136 Ane stranger merchand..vaigand fra ane place to ane other, quha therefore is called *piedpulcreux*, or dustifute.

†**2.** (*Piepowder*) *sb.* A travelling man, a wayfarer, *esp.* an itinerant merchant or trader. Chiefly used in *Court of Piepowders*, a summary court formerly held at fairs and markets to administer justice among itinerant dealers and others temporarily present.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 319 To ben of conceill ffor causis þat in þe court hangid, And pledid pipoudris alle manere pleyntis. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 187 To iche of the same Feyres is of right perteynyng a Court of Pepowders. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* I. vii. (1638) 13 To every fair and market is incident..a Court of Pipowders. 1614 B. Jonson *Bart. Fair* II. i, Many are the yeerely enormities of this Fayre, in whose Courts of Pye-pouldres I haue had the honour during the three dayes sometimes to sit as Iudge. 1658 Phillips, *Piepouders Court* [*ed.* 1678 *Pie-Powders* Court; 1706 *Pie-Powder Court*]. *a* 1735 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. xvi, Dost think, that John Bull will be tried by Piepowders?

b. *attrib.* and *sb. sing.* esp. in *Piepowder Court, Court of Piepowder* = *Court of Piepowders* (in 2).

1574 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 335 That the citie, by auncient usage have a Pipoulder Courte, commonly called the Courte of Delyverannce, for thexpedition of strangers. 1631 Brathwait *Whimzies, Pedlar* 138 His pypouder court is his onely terror. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. II. 306 To..Have its Proceedings disallow'd, or Allow'd, at fancy of Py-powder. 1671 F. Phillips *Reg. Necess.* 180 The Steward of the Sheriffs Turn, or a Leet, or of a Court of Piepowder. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. iv. 32 The lowest, and at the same time the most expeditious, court of justice known to the law of England is the court of *piepoudre, curia pedis pulverizati*. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Geo. II* (1847) II. iii. 113 Such poor little shifts and evasions might do in a pie-poudre court. 1881 *Newcastle Proclam. of Fair* in *Antiquary* Oct. 180/2 Notice is Hereby Further Given, That a Court of Piepowder will be holden during the time of this Fair, that is to say, one in the forenoon, another in the afternoon. 1896 *Daily News* 21 July 8/3 The government of the town [Hemel Hempstead] at present ostensibly rests in a Bailiff, Bailiff's Committee, and Court of Pie Poudre, though in reality in the Parish and District Councils.

†**Pier**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *piere, pierre* stone :—L. *petra*, Gr. πέτρα rock.] A stone: in *fraunche pier*, F. *franche pierre*, Freestone; *precious pier*, F. *pierre précieuse*, precious stone.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 4356 Ne nouthire housing we haue, ay quils we here duell Bot at is fetid of flesch & of na fraunche piers. *Ibid.* 5270 Onycles & orfrays & orient perles ..with þire precious piers of paradise stremes.

Pier[2] (pīəɹ). Forms: 2–4 per, 4–8 pere, 5–8 peer, (6 þiere, pyre, pyerre), 6–7 peere, peir, pire, (8 peor), 6– pier. [In 12th c. *per*, rendering med.L. *pera* (prob. *pēra*), of unknown origin.

It was suggested by Lambard, Spelman, and Du Cange, that *pera* was derived from OF. *piere* or L. *petra* stone, but this satisfies neither the phonetics nor the signification. There is an OF. (Picard and Flamand) word *pire* (rarely *piere* Godef.), meaning a breakwater or barricade of piles, a weir on a river, a boom defending a harbour, which might perh. have given the sense, but it is difficult to equate the form with *pēra* and *pēr*.]

1. One of the supports of the spans of a bridge, whether arched or otherwise formed.

(Appears in 12th c. and then not till end of 14th; examples not numerous till 17th c.)

c 1150 *Rochester Bridge-bote Charter* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 657 Primum ejusdem civitatis episcopus incipit operari in orientali brachio [pontis] primam peram de terra: deinde tres virgatas planeas ponere, & tres sulinas .i. tres magnas trabes supponere... Secunda pera pertinet ad gillingeham & de cætham [etc.]. *Ibid.* 659 [*OE. version*] Ærest þære burge biscop fæhð on þone earm to wercene þa land peran & þreo gyrda to þillianne, & iii sylla to lyccanne... Donne seo oþer per gebyraþ to gyllingeham & to Cætham [etc.; nine examples of *per*]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1682 Sixty pers [*error for* arches, F. *xxx ars*] þar buþ þar-on þat buth grete & rounde. *Ibid.* 1684 Oþon ech pere þar stent a tour [F. *x bretesques y a, chascune sor piler*] enbataild wyþ queynte engynne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 394/1 Pere, or pyle of a brygge, or other fundament, *pila*. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 238 Pilasters must not be..too Dwarfish and grosse, lest they imitate the Piles and Peers of Bridges. 1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* IV. 24 A stable Bridge runs cross from Side to Side, .. And jutting Peers the wint'ry Floods abide. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 133 The harbour of Puzzuolo .. is formed by fourteen pjers, or pilasters, rising above the surface of the water, which were anciently joined together by arches. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 333 Tuesday, June 23. The first stone of the first pier of Black-Friars bridge, was laid. *a* 1842 Arnold *Later Hist. Rome* (1846) II. xii. 419 The emperor Hadrianus..took away all the upper part of the bridge, and left merely the piers standing. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.* II. 902/2 An abutment pier in a bridge is that next the shore; and, generally, this is made of a greater mass than the intermediate piers.

2. A solid structure of stone, or of earth faced with piles, extending into the sea or a tidal river to protect or partially enclose a harbour and form a landing-place for vessels; a breakwater, a mole; in modern times, also of iron or wood, open beneath and supported on columns or piles, forming a pleasure promenade and place of resort, or combining this purpose with that of a landing-place; also, a projecting landing-stage or jetty on the bank of a river or lake, as the piers on the Thames in London.

[1390 *Pat. Roll* 14 *Rich. II*, II. m. 44 Concessimus vobis in auxilium construccionis cuiusdam pere per vos iam nouiter pro saluacione et defensione nauium et batellorum in Conuerso vocato Crowemere.] 1453 in W. Rye *Cromer* (1889) 56 *note*, [Will of John Bound, leaving] sustentacioni fretisfragii alias vocati le pere viij.s. 1487 *Ibid.*, [Will of Rich. Fenne] emend' le peer [3s 4d]. 1511 *Regist. Mag. Sig. Reg. Scot.* (1882) 764/1 Rex..concessit preposito [etc.] burgi de Edinburgh..le Newhavin..libertate, et spatio, ad edificandum et prolungandum munitionem, viz. le pere et bulwark ejusdem. 1515 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) 94 To the reparatioun and biggin of thar common peir and key. 1530 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 300 (*Will of J. Ledum, Whitby*) Also to the peir, if it go furthwardes, xls. 1530–1 in *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 123 Also the pere that standeth in the Fishers gapp, must be new made. 1545 *Act* 37 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 (Preamble) Shippes Bootes and Vesselles..within the Key or Peere in the Haven of Scardburghe. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 39 To pass to the mercat croces of Edinburgh .. Quenisferrie, pere and schore of Leith, Dunde,.. and uthair places neidfull. 1551 in W. Rye *Cromer* (1889) 57 The same Inhabytantes hathe..defended the same by makyng of grete peeres. 1559 *Acts Privy Council* (1893) VII. 82 Sent to Dovour to vieu..the state of the blacke Bulwerke and pyerre there. 1559 *Contn. Fabyan's Chron.* VII. 706 The toune of Lithe also, and the hauen and pire destroied. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 65 The mole or pere whiche Alexander the great had caused to bee made agaynste the citie of Tyre. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. x. 26 b, There is a certain Piere or recife wheron the sea doth beat. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* III. iii, Our Castle, our cinque-Port, Our Douer pire. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 658 Timber..some are best for..Peers, that are sometimes Wet and some-times dry. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Peere*,..seems properly to be a Fortress made against the force of the Sea. 1677 Otway *Cheats of Scapin* II. i, We went to walk upon the Pier. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 52 There wants a Peor, as at Whitby and Burlington. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 33 He then resolv'd to square and compleat his Jetties, or Peers. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 121 To carry out a Pier into the Sea in order to fortifie a Port. 1823 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 239, I have been all the morning on the Chain Pier [Brighton], which is delicious. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 160 They..offered to land us at any pier we liked. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 119 The boats to be at the pier at noon.

transf. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 161 This [beaver] dam, or pier, is often four score or an hundred feet long, and ten or twelve feet thick at the base. 1853 Phillips *Rivers Yorks.* iv. 143 Nature has run out immoveable piers of hard lias shale with a long deep channel between them.

†**b.** *transf.* A haven. *Obs.*

a 1552 Leland *Itin.* (1711) II. 60 [This] makith the Fascion of an Havenet, or Pere, whither Shippelettes sumtime resorte for socour. *Ibid.* III. 9 The Pere [at Pendinas] is sore chokid with Sande. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVIII. vi. 671 It maketh a shew of a double peere or haven [*portus*], opening upon two divers mouths, but in very truth, ther is not..a worse harborogh, & a more daungerous rode for ships. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 239 The cittie .. hath also a pere in itselfe for small barkes; at full sea it may have some sixe or seaven foote water, but at low water it is drie. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 110 Preventing the rolling of the Beach from choaking up the Entrance into the Peer. *Ibid.* 114 Scowering away the Beach from the Mouth of the Peer.

3. *Arch.* and *Building.* A solid support of masonry or the like designed to sustain vertical pressure: **a.** A square pillar or pilaster; **b.** The solid masonry between doors, windows, or other openings in a wall; **c.** Each of the pillars from which an arch springs; **d.** Each of the pillars or posts of a gate or door; **e.** A solid structure of masonry or ironwork supporting a telescope or other large instrument.

1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 44 So must well proportioned window-cases be,..that the peeres of Brick or Stone between them, will fall to be of a fit width. 1666 *Act* 18 & 19 *Chas. II*, c. 8 § 6 That there shall be Partie walls and Partie peeres sett out equally on each Builders ground. 1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Peer*..also a solid Wall between two Doors or Windows; also a sort of square Pillar. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II. *Peers*, in Architecture, are a kind of Pilasters or Buttresses for Support, Strength, and sometimes Ornament. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Greenhouse*, The Front [of a greenhouse] towards the South should be all of Glass,.. there ought to be no Peers of Brick-work, or Timber in the glaz'd Part, for they cast more Shade into the House. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 291 The mode, now commonly adopted, of constructing arches between piers of stone. 1836 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* (1845) I. 283 *Pier*,..this name is often given to the pillars in Norman and Gothic architecture, but not very correctly. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* § 2734 The composition..of gates and their piers. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 140 The Saxon [tower] lay in ruins, save the piers. 1879 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* I. iii. 135 The piers destined to bear several arches divide themselves into as many columns as there are arches. 1883 *Knowledge* 15 June 357/2 To mount to the top of the pier and lubricate..the joints of the giant [telescope].

f. *transf.* and *fig.*

1611 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 113 By the King's summons to the parliament..as piers and strong rocks in the commonwealth. 1889 J. M. Duncan *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* xxii. (ed. 4) 188 It lies between the posterior pier of a labium and the adjoining tuber ischii.

†**4.** Short for Pier-glass. *Obs. rare.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 49, I dashed the piers and jars to shivers.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 2) *pier-crane, -fishing, -man, -master, -shed, -warden*; (in sense 3) *pier-mullion, -order, -stone*; *pier-supported* adj.; **pier-arch**, an arch springing from piers; so **pier-arcade**; **pier-cap**, the cap of a gate-pier; **pier-looking-glass, -mirror** = Pier-glass; †**pier-reeve**, the officer in charge of a pier, a pier-master; **pier-table**, a low table or bracket occupying the space between two windows, often under a pier-glass.

1879 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* I. 117 The triforium was united with the *pier-arcade. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., **Pier Arch*, an arch springing from a pier. 1843 *Ecclesiologist* II. 51 A single arch of the same breadth as the pier-arch. 1897 *Daily News* 3 June 3/3 Charged..with wilfully damaging a *pier-cap. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 5/3 At South Shields the *pier-crane was washed away. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxii. (1841) I. 207 Two large *pier looking-glasses, and one chimney-glass are in the shop. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Nov. 5/2 One *pierman.. declared..that last night was the highest tide he had known. 1901 P. M. Johnson in *Archæol. Jrnl.* Mar. 64 The east window consists of two broad lancets divided by a wide *pier-mullion. 1879 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* II. 76 An arch-order may be moulded or otherwise decorated, while the corresponding *pier-order may remain square. 1591 *Replication* in Rye *Cromer* (1889) p. lviii, He was lately *Pereive of the said Peire. *Ibid.* p. lix, Perereves. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 68 *Peer-stones on both sides the Building, fronting high and principal Streets. 1828–32 Webster, *Pier-table. 1856 Mrs. Hawthorne in *N. Hawthorne & Wife* (1885) II. 90 In front of a golden pier-table over which hung a vast mirror. 1657 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1862) XIV. 96 That all persons..bring the same [timbers, etc.] unto the *Peere Wardens.

Pierage (pīəɹrēdʒ). [f. Pier[2] + -age.] †**a.** The use of, or privilege of using, a pier or wharf (*obs.*). **b.** The toll or fee paid for this; wharfage.

c 1599 in J. J. Cartwright *Chapters Hist. Yorks.* (1872) 273 The fees due for anchorage and perage. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Peerage*, which word may also signifie an Imposition for maintenance of a Sea-peer. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 134 *Pierage*, money paid for the use of a pier or wharf. 1894 *Manch. Even. News* 7 Nov. 2/7 Vessels entering the port..will only be charged a moderate pierage.

Pierce (pīəs), *v.* Forms: α. 3–6 perce, (4 parse), 4–6 perse, *Sc.* perss(e, 5 peerce, peerse, 6 *Sc.* peirs(e, pers, pairse, 6–7 pearce, pearse, pierse, 6–8 peirce, 6– pierce. β. 4–5 persche, persshe, perisse, -ische, perisshe, -issche, 4–6 perch(e, perish(e, 5 pershe, perysche, 5–6 perysshe, 6–7 (9 *dial.*) pearch. [a. OF. *percer*, earlier *percier* (11–12th c., also *persier* 13th c.), ONF. *perchier*, mod. Picard *percher*; ulterior etymology uncertain.

Ménage, Diez, Burguy, Hatz.-Darm. take *percer* as:—L. type **pertusiāre*, deriv. of L. *pertundĕre* to thrust or bore through (pa.pple. *pertūsus*, n. of action *pertūsio*), although the contraction *pertusier, pert'sier, percier* is violent, and there are the full forms F. *pertuiser*, Pr. *pertusar*, It. *pertugiare*. For other conjectures see Littré and Scheler. The β-forms appear to have been confused with those of *perish* v.]

1. *trans.* To penetrate, or run through or into (a substance), as a sharp-pointed instrument does; of an agent: to thrust (anything) through *with* such an instrument; to stab, prick, puncture.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9019 Þei it ne percede noȝt þat yre þat blod vaste adoun drou. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* (E.E.T.S.) i. 2209 Þo hand and fet and al hys lymes I-persed were ine payne. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIV. 292 Scottis men ..perssit thar armyng. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVI. viii. 675 Thenne they came to gyders with suche a raundon that they perced their sheldes and their hauberkes. 1526 Tindale *John* xix. 37 They shall loke on hym, whom they pearsed. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi. 43 They perst both plate and maile. 1596 Shaks. *1 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 59 If Percy be aliue, Ile pierce him: if he do come in my way. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Piercing*, among farriers.—*To pierce a horse's shoe lean*, is to pierce it too near the edge of the iron.—*To pierce it fat* is to pierce it further in. 1784 Cowper *Task* III. 201 Pierce my vein, Take of the crimson stream meand'ring there, And catechise it well. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ix. 62 The mighty Aiguilles piercing the sea of air. *Ibid.* II. xi. 290, I pierced the ice with the auger, drove in the stake, and descended.

β. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl. B.* XVII. 189 Were þe myddel of myn honde ymaymed or ypersshed [*v.rr.* ypersed, I-perisshed]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5301 Þe nayles three, & þe croune, þat perschede cryst on ys passyoune. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxi. 94 So þat þe bark be perched; and þan commez oute a licour thikk. *c* 1500 *Joseph Arim.* (W. de W.) 31 His.. handes & feet perysshed with the spere & nayles.

absol. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 288 Men stable in bileue ben a þick walle to turnen aȝen þis þondir þat it persiþ noȝt. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 118 It is..as commendable to pearce to the bone, as to pare the skinne.

fig. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 256 b, It myght not swage the malyce of the iewes, ne..pearse theyr pryde. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) 1 *Tim.* vi. 10 They erred from the faith, and perced them selues throwe with many sorowes.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*; *spec.* said of the penetrating action of cold, etc.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 294, I telle him schent, If he mai perce him with his tunge. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Induct.* 4 With chilling cold had pearst the tender green. 1697

Dryden Virg. Georg. III. 673 A scabby Tetter on their Pelts will stick, When the raw Rain has pierc'd them to the quick. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* iii. 44 Gusts of wind..piercing her with cold through her scanty raiment.

absol. 1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Dial. Soarnes & Chir.* 2 Colde weather draweth nere,..Borias perseth.

c. With various constructions and extensions.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3675 þe thinnest was a nynche thicke quen þai ware burȝe persed. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9477 Paris ..Waited the wegh in his wit ouer, In what plase of his person to perse of his wede. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 99 I shall not spare..with sharpe sword to perse them all bare. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Kings* xviii. 21 This broken staffe of rede ..which who leaneth vpon, it shall go in to his hande, & pearse it thorow. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 153 His only son..was pierced through the heart by a javelin. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* VII. lvii. 216 Neoptolemus..pierced him in the groin. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 104 Could I so stand by And see my dear lord..pierced to death?

2. To make a hole, opening, or tunnel into or through (something); to bore through, perforate; to broach (a cask, etc.).

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1148 In a thousand stede he let the tonne perce. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 3 The moder of thin Astrelabie is þe thikkeste plate, perced with a large hole. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IX. 160 This must be doon by persyng the mountayn The water so to lede into the playn. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 231 Marcus pereschenge the walle of the cite [Trevisa, made an hole þorwe þe wal]. 1579 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 429 Any suche butte or hogsed..pearched or drauin. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 211/2 Whensoever he pierced a Vessel of Wine, it was sowred before he spent it. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 200 A neat Brazen Door..pierced through to let in light from above. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 14 Apr. 2/4 Le Ceres, French ship privateer pierced for 14 guns. 1849 Curzon *Visits Monast.* (1897) 140 The mountain of Quarantina..is pierced all over with the caves excavated by the ancient anchorites. 1853 Hobbs & Tomlinson *Locks* xi. 159 The process of piercing the key consists in making the pipe or barrel.

b. To make (a hole, etc.) by piercing.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 127 Yitte may we, by the persed holes well,..Behalde and see, that [etc.]. 1538 Elyot, *Foro*..to perce or boore a hole. 1703 [see Piercer 4]. 1859 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 281 Narrow loopholes, pierced through the immensely thick wall. 1884 Bagshawe in *Law Times* 14 June 120/2 Valliant .. pierced a doorway between the forge and the adjacent cottage.

3. To force one's way through or into; to succeed in penetrating; to break through or into; to break (an enemy's line). Also *fig.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 391 Corineus .. made is wey bi eiþer side & percede þe route. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 302 Suche lewide iottis Percen wiþ a pater noster þe paleis of heuene. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 95 Alexander persynge the costes of Ynde in xij. yere. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 136 Nature..made the rayne droppes rounde for quicke percynge the ayer. *Ibid.* 138 These [arrow] heades be good..to perche a wynde wythal. 1555 Eden *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 51 Neyther dydde any of his shyppes..perce the Ocean. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. Prol. 11 Steed threatens Steed, in high and boastfull Neighs Piercing the Nights dull Eare. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 84 His magnificence and liberality..pierced the eyes of the people, and made him commendable. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 356 Where the might of Gabriel fought, And with fierce Ensignes pierc'd the deep array Of Moloc furious King. 1731 Medley *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* I. 83 Some of them.. had pierc'd the country several ways by command. 1878 H. M. Stanley *Dark Cont.* II. xii. 334 The wide wild land which, by means of the greatest river of Africa, we have pierced.

4. To reach or penetrate with the sight or the mind; to see thoroughly into, discern. (Not now used with a personal or concrete obj. as in q. 1640.)

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5537 Þat he miȝt..with his seȝt persee Ane & othire & all þing. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 318 Ernes..Quhilk in the firmament..Perses the sone, with thar sicht selcouth to herd. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* Pref. 2 The hard names of medicines by oft reding will be persed. 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* II. (1634) 374 [This] is wide of Saint Paul's meaning, so farre as my weak understanding can pierce it. 1640 *Prerog. Parl. in Eng.* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 244 My lord, learn of me, that there is none of you all, that can pierce the king. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 64 Attentive..to..pierce each scene with philosophick eye! 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* XXVIII. liii, Contemplating, I fail to pierce the cause. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. iii. (1872) 36 He pierced the mysteries of nature.

† **b.** To 'go into' (a matter), to examine. *Obs.*

1640 Yorke *Union Hon., Battels* 12 Presently a Parliament was called at London, where matters being pierced againe, the King's side grew stronger dayly.

5. To penetrate with pain, grief, or other emotion; to wound or affect keenly; to touch or move deeply. In *pierce the heart*, the notion is often more or less physical.

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* Prol. 8 Rude wordes and boystous percen the herte of the herer to the inrest point. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5158 It miȝt a persid any hert to here how scho wepid. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xix. (Percy Soc.) 88 O lady clere! that perste me at the rote. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 126 Can no prayers pierce thee? 1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* III. (1634) 27 Cyrus being pierc't with Crœsus answer. 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* XI. 323 While pierc'd with grief the much-lov'd youth he view'd. 1833 Tennyson *Fatima* v, My heart, pierced thro' with fierce delight.

6. *intr.* To enter, penetrate, or pass, as something sharp-pointed, *into* or *through*; † to make one's (or its) way *into*, *to*, *through*; *transf.* to project or jut sharply, have direction. Also *fig.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 85 Som of þe Iewes parsed among oþere and come with ynne þe paleys gate. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2965 Thorough owt ye harnes persid ye spere. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Luke* ii. 35 Yea and a sword shal pearce through thy soule. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 9 They haue not pearst into the maine lande. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* II. i. 242 So high a hope, that euen Ambition cannot pierce a winke beyond. 1629 R. Hill *Pathw. Piety* (ed. Pickering) I. Pref. 4 True prayer .. pierceth thither, whither flesh cannot come. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* III. xiii. (1840) 137 King Richard..intended to pierce through Germany by land, the nearest way home. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 99 Where wounds of deadly hate have peirc'd so deep. 1698 Keill *Exam. The. Earth* (1734) 241 It is suppos'd .. that .. the heat of the Sun must have peirced thro' the Crust of the Earth, and reached the Abyss. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 89 My lord Craven..pierced in with us, fighting gallantly in the breach. 1872 Black *Adv. Phaeton* XXI, Narrow promontories, piercing out into the water.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To penetrate with the mind or the sight *into* (anything); to see *into*.

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 15 Ye cleaue to the litterall meanyng onely, and pearce not to the spiritual sence therof. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 242 So farre foorth as my dimme and darke eyesight is able to pearce into the view of his vertues. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 68, I cannot tell What Heauen hath giuen him: let some Grauer eye Pierce into that. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. iii. 66 There was no piercing with the eye .. into the plantation. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. xvi. (1866) 269 It was reserved for One to pierce with the glance of intuition.

Pierce, *sb. rare.* [f. prec.] The act or process of piercing; a hole made by piercing.

1613 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Perforation*, hole, or pierce through. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 89/2 *Pearses*.., the holes in the [horse] shooe. 1819 Keats *Isabella* xxxiv, Like a lance, Waking an Indian from his cloudy hall With cruel pierce.

† **Pierce,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Pierce *v.*; in quot. perh. with punning allusion to the name *Percy*.] Piercing, sharp, keen, fierce.

1593 B. Barnes *Parthenophil & Parthenophe* Sonn. xliv. in Arb. *Eng. Garner* V. 365 That Saints divine, are known Saints by their mercy! And Saint-like beauty should not rage with pierce eye! *Ibid.* xlvi. *ibid.* 366 Ah, pierce-eye piercing eye, and blazing light!

Pierce-, the verb-stem or sb. in comb., as in **pierce-free** *a.*, free from perforations, or wounds made by piercing; **pierce-work**, work (in metal, etc.) done by piercing or perforation.

1628 Gaule *Pract. The.* (1629) 176 Men neyther shrinke, nor shrike, that their Cloathes are beaten, or rent, when they perceiue their Bodies pierce-free, or paine-free. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 195 In the production of ordinary pierce-work.

Pierceable (pĭəˑɹsăb'l), *a.* [f. Pierce *v.* + -able.] That may be pierced; penetrable.

1552 Huloet, Perceable or penetrable, or whyche may be perced, *penetra[bi]lis*. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 7 Loftie trees .. Not perceable with power of any starr. 1615 Daniel *Hymen's Tri.* IV. iii. 58 The woman .. hauing veynes of nature, could not bee But peircible. 1859 Lewes in *Cornh. Mag.* I. 72 Between the segments of the insect's armour, a soft and pierceable spot is found.

Pierced (pĭəɹst, *poet.* pĭəˑɹsĕd), *ppl. a.* Forms: see Pierce *v.* [f. Pierce *v.* + -ed 1.] Punctured, perforated, penetrated, etc.: see the verb.

c 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* 703 So was he pyned fram prime with persched sides, Tolle þe sonne doun soȝt. 1552 Huloet, Perced, *fossus, foratus*. 1693 in *Dryden's Juvenal* IV. (1697) 87 Mark the pointed Spears That from thy Hand on his pierc'd Back he wears! 1835 J. Coldstream in J. H. Balfour *Biog.* III. (1865) 103 Soothing and cheering the agitated and pierced mind. 1848 Rickman *Archit.* App. 43 Plain parapets are common, and perhaps pierced parapets.. still more so. 1858 C. F. Alexander *Hymn*, '*When wounded sore*' i, One only hand, a pierced hand, Can salve the sinner's wound.

b. *spec.* in *Her.* (*a*) Said of a charge represented as perforated with a hole (of different shape from the charge itself: cf. Voided), so that the tincture of the field appears through. (*b*) Said of an animal used as a charge, represented as having an arrow, spear, etc., fixed in its body but not passing through it (cf. Transfixed).

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. vii. 70 He beareth Sable, a Crosse couped, Pierced, by the name of Grill. 1658 Phillips, *Pierced*,.. in Heraldry, as a crosse pierced, i. e. bored in the middle. 1725 Coats *New Dict. Her.* s. v., If a Cross have a square Hole, or Perforation in the Center, it is blazon'd, *Square pierced*.. When the Hole, or Perforation is round, it must be express'd, *Round pierced*. 1823 Rutter *Fonthill* p. xxi, Three Cinque-foils, Ermine, pierced of the field. 1882 Cussans *Her.* iv. 63 If only that part [of a cross] where the limbs are conjoined be removed, it is termed Quarterly-pierced.. A Cross with a square aperture in its centre, smaller than the last, is Quarter-pierced.

Piercel (pĭəˑɹsĕl). *dial. rare*—°. [f. Pierce *v.* + -el 2.] = Piercer 2.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade Prod., Piercel, Piercer*, a kind of awl or gimlet for giving vent to casks of liquor.

Pierceless (pĭəˑɹslĕs), *a. rare.* [f. Pierce *v.* + -less; cf. *dauntless, quenchless*, etc.] Incapable of being pierced; impenetrable. So **Pierceless-ness**, impenetrability.

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 108 We cannot tear from it piercelessness or impenetrability, which is the closest sticker to a body. 1755 J. G. Cooper *Tomb Shakspeare* Sel. Poems (1762) 149 Sharp spears in pierceless phalanx reared.

Pierˑcent, *a. rare.* = Percean t.

1829 *Examiner* 470/2 The spiked gauntlet of indignation, and the piercent spear of invective are both seen and felt.

Piercer (pĭəˑɹsəɹ). Forms: 5–6 persour, percer, (5 persor, -ore, -owre, -owyr, -ure, -ere, parsoure, perescher), 6 perser, -ar, parser, pearser, pierser, 6–7 pearcer, 7– piercer. [Orig. a. Anglo-F. *perceour, persour* = F. *perceur*, f. *percer* to pierce: see -er 1 2.]

1. *gen.* One who or that which pierces. Also *fig.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 357 This myȝhty Hercules was the tamer of the worlde, the victor of þe Amazones, the perescher of Ynde [Higden *Indiæ penetrator*]. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 578 Vnneth any creature..could holde either hand close, or purse shut, such a strong percer is monie. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1590) 223 b, Basilius,.. not the sharpest pearcer into masked minds. 1777 Pennant *Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 128 Teredo. Piercer. .. Penetrates into the stoutest oak plant, and effects their destruction. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xix, 'It must be a piercer, if it finds its way through your heart', said Mr. Sikes.

b. *colloq.* or *slang.* Applied to an eye having a keen, piercing, or penetrating glance.

1752 Foote *Taste* I. Wks. 1799 I. 11 She had but one eye, indeed, but that was a piercer. ?1782 H. Walpole *Lett., to Mason* (1846) VI. 164 How much more execution a fine woman could do with two pair of piercers! 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 743 Her eyes were piercers.

2. An instrument or tool for piercing or boring holes, as an auger, awl, gimlet, stiletto, etc.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 399, j persour. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 395/1 Persowre (or wymbyl), *terebellum*. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* vi. 120 With this axe that I beare, This percer, and this nawger,.. I have wonne my meate. 1533 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For persars iijd. ob. 1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 687 Such tooles as persers, augers, sawes, and suche other. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 213 Pearcer; 310 Pierser. 1602 R. T. 5 *Godlie Serm.* 185 Except the Lord boare our eares with the piercer of his spirit. 1616 Surflet & Markh. *Country Farme* 610 Hee must pearce it .. with a pearcer. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 19 The Sand will set upon your Piercer or Augre. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 48 The man.. provided with a 'gavelock' or 'piercer'—a strong iron bar rounded and sharpened at the heavy end—makes holes at intervals of eight or ten feet for the reception of the stakes.

b. A bodily organ (in an insect, or the like) used in piercing, as a sting or an ovipositor.

1691 Ray *Creation* II. (1692) 78 The hollow Instrument (*terebra*, he calls it, and we may English it piercer) wherewith many Flies are provided. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. VI. i. 294 Rostrum [of the Head-louse]..*c*, piercer, formed of four capillary threads.

3. A person employed or skilled in perforated wood or metal work.

1736 Byrom *Jrnl. & Lit. Rem.* (1856) II. i. 43 Went to Mr. Joyce's the piercer..he had made a specimen or two of etching and piercing. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 24 Sept. 10/6 Saw Piercer wanted, one used to leaf work. 1902 *Ibid.* 20 Feb. 8/7 Silver Piercer.—Young lady requires Situation.

4. *attrib.* or *Comb.* (in sense 2), as *piercer-bit, -blade, -iron.*

1421–2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 228 Et in persouryrnes et ij fenestris vitreis pro parvo celario de Wytton, xivd. 1530 Palsgr. 253/2 Percerblade, *estoc.* 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 155 They Pierce holes, with a Piercer-Bit.

† **Piˑerce-stone.** *Obs.* [f. Pierce *v.* + Stone *sb.*] A name for the herb Samphire.

1600 Surflet *Countrey Farme* I. xvi. 223 (*heading*) Of.. pearcestone [Fr. *perce-pierre ou christe-marine*]. (*margin*) Pearce stone or sampier [Fr. *Christe-marine*]. 1688 R. Holme *Armory* II. vi. 100/1 *Sampire*, or *Rock-Sampire*, the stalk is tender and green. ..It is called *Pearceston*.

Piercing (pĭəˑɹsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Pierce *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Pierce; perforation, boring, penetration, etc.: see the verb.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* 151 Ouer that an haubergeon ffor percynge of his herte. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 393/2 Peercynge, or borynge,..*perforacio*. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. vii. 70 Piercing is a Penetration or Perforation of things that are of solid substance: and it is threefold: That is to say Round, Losengwaies, Quadrate. 1611 Bible *Prov.* xii. 18 There is that speaketh like the pearcings of a sword. 1685 Dryden *Hor. Odes* III. xxix. 4 Make haste to meet the generous wine, Whose piercing is for thee delay'd. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 17 Borings or Piercings into the Bed of the River. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 3/3 The piercing of the bed of coal at the Shirebrook Colliery.

b. A hole or perforation.

1887 E. Peacock in *Athenæum* 9 July 54/2 These ornamental piercings..were like church windows. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 4 The tower was famous..for..height, and proportion, and piercings.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1792 Osbaldistone *Brit. Sportsm., Farriery* 255 Make the nails..answerable to the piercing-holes. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 195 The plate..having been prepared by rolling and planishing .. is brought to the piercing-shop. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1699/2 *Piercing-file*, a sharp and narrow file to enlarge a narrow drilled hole. *Piercing-saw*, a thin blade fastened by screw-clamps in a light frame, and used for piercing gold and silver smiths' works.

Piercing (pĭəˑɹsiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That pierces in various senses: see the verb.

1. Perforating, penetrating, as a sharp-pointed instrument or weapon.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. vi. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 42/2 Harded with stele trenchaunt or percinge. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 157 Their Armour made full of sharp pricks or piercing piked Nailes. 1742 Gray *Eton* 70 Sorrow's piercing dart.

b. Having a physical effect resembling or suggesting the action of a pointed instrument; sharp, keen and penetrating; *esp.* of cold and sound.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clii, With the stremes of 3our percyng

lyght. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 12 Not with..the trickling water of Helicon, but with piercing Aqua fortis. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 21 There is nothing more hurtfull for yong trees than piercing drought. 1767 SIR W. JONES *Sev. Fountains* Poems (1777) 34 Ten comely striplings..Blew piercing flutes. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Pearching*, cold to a degree of intensity. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 8 A piercing shriek rang through the silent..air.

c. Having an analogous effect on the feelings or mind; penetrating; keenly or painfully affecting; deeply distressing.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 132, I made mine othe with percing influence, Unto them all for to remayne full true. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* (1823) LXIX. iv, The shott of piercing spight. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 71 This most humble and piercing Supplication. 1791 MRS. INCHBALD *Simp. Story* IV. 142 A state of the most piercing inquietude. 1832 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* II. 283 Piercing misfortunes and troubles.

2. Able to 'see into' a thing; having penetration; sharp, keen. Said of the eyes, sight, or mind (formerly also of a person or animal); also of the appearance or expression of the eyes.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clv, The percyng lynx. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* iv. (1637) 31 If the pearcing eyes of the living God should prie into us. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 243 Wherein he sharpned his wits to the piercingest point. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 12 A most subtil sharp and pearching wit. 1704 S. SLATER in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xcvii. 2 Men of the largest and most piercing intellectuals. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* (1789) I. xxix. 242 The most piercing eyes I ever beheld are those of Voltaire. 1805 FOSTER *Ess.* I. v. 60 The piercing and immense intelligence that can know, or.. assume, that there is no God. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* x, Piercing black eyes as bright as diamonds.

3. *Comb.*, as *piercing-sighted* adj.

1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 667 There is none so piercing-sighted as to see to the very end of the line.

Piercingly (pī·ɹsiŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a piercing manner or degree; penetratingly, keenly (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v, An olde boore ..smyteth gret strokes but not so persynglich as a yonge boore. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 96 [They] sing sweetly, glance piercingly, play on Lutes rauishingly. 1781 H. DOWNMAM tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* I. 81 Doubt is a torment piercingly severe. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ix. 309 A piercingly cold night.

Piercingness (pī·ɹsiŋnės). [See -NESS.] Piercing quality; penetrativeness, keenness.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 254 The edge, and piercingnesse of her judgment. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 220 His eie..had a strange piercingness. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. i. 303 The prodigious Quickness and Piercingness of its Thought. 1888 E. W. RICHARDSON *Son of Star* III. xiii. 231 A voice..deadly in its piercingness.

† **Pie·rcive,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **persiue.** [f. PIERCE *v.* + -IVE: cf. *coercive.*] Having the quality of piercing; penetrative.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 63 b, The fift or odde Crane in maner of a persiue sterne..flieth all alone before. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 257 Two sparkling eyes pierciue as Diamond. 1631 — *Eng. Gentlew.* (1641) Ded., Upon approvement of his more piercive judgement.

Piere, obs. form of PEER *sb.*

Pierelle (pi·ere·l). [app. ad. F. *pierraille* a shapeless heap of stones, f. *pierre* stone + pejorative suffix *-aille.*] (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1699/2 *Pierelle*, a mass of stones filling a ditch and covered with clay.

Pier-glass (pī·ɹglɑs). [f. PIER[2] 3 + GLASS *sb.* 8.] A large tall mirror; orig. one fitted to fill up the pier or space between two windows, or over a chimney-piece.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3889/4 Lost..7 Peer Glasses, 2 in Black Frames, and 5 in Japan'd Frames with cross Bars. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 95 P 9 The room above stairs is.. furnished with large peer-glasses for persons to view themselves in. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 655 It begins to be fashionable to place in front of every pier-glass a marble guardian. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1699/2 *Pier-glass*, a large looking-glass between windows, frequently standing on a pier-table.

Pier-head. [f. PIER[2] 2 + HEAD *sb.* 18 b.] The outward or seaward end of a pier.

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Wks.* (1836) I. 346 At a competent distance from the peere head. 1779 G. KEATE *Sk. fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 199 Half Margate thronged the Pier-Head. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* I. (1856) 487 Our noble friend Henry Grinnell was the first to welcome us on the pier-head.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Pier-head Jump*, the act of joining a ship as she is leaving the dock, owing to some of the (signed) crew not fulfilling their engagements. 1899 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 7/5 A pier-head man..hearing a crash through the pier, hastily dressed, and..rowed to the spot.

Pierian (pəi,ī·ɹiăn), *a.* [f. L. *Pīerius* adj. (cf. *Pieria*, a. Gr. Πιερία) + -AN. So F. *Piérien.*]

1. Belonging to Pieria, a district in N. Thessaly, the reputed home of the Muses; *spec.* an epithet of the Muses; hence allusively in reference to poetry or learning.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 394 Whom the Pierian sacred sisters loue. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 119 Of old a people called Pieres..dwelt vnder Parnassus, of whom it was called the Pierian Mountaine, and the Muses were called Pierides. 1623 COCKERAM, *Pierean maids*, the Muses nine. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 216 A little learning is a dang'rous thing; Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 75 Pierian Muses! hear my prayer.

2. *Entom.* = next.

Pieridine (pəi,e·ridəin), *a. Entom.* [ad. mod. L. *Pieridīn-æ*, f. *Pieris*, name of the typical genus.] Belonging to the family *Pieridæ*, or subfamily *Pieridinæ* of *Papilionidæ*, typified by the genus *Pieris*, containing the cabbage butterflies.

Pierie, var. PERRIE *Obs.*, jewellery; obs. f. PIRRIE, a squall. **Pierk,** obs. f. PERK *v.*[1]

Pierless (pī·ɹlės), *a.* Having no pier.

1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 378 Wretched pierless ferries, let to poor cottars, who rowed, or hauled, or pushed a crazy boat across. 1893 *Daily News* 23 May 2/3 Dover..the chief of the Cinque Ports has hitherto remained in the ordinary sense pierless. .. The something wanting was a promenade pier with pavilion and band.

Pierpoint, corruption of PARPEN.

1891 H. FISHWICK *Hist. St. Michaels-on-Wyre* 91 The church was built of brick, but afterwards faced with pier-points.

† **Pie·rrerie.** *Obs.* In 5 perrierie, 5–6 pyerrerye. [a. F. *pierrerie* (pyɛrəri·), in 14th c. *perrerie*, f. *pierre* stone: see PIER[1] and -ERY.] Jewellery; = PERRIE.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1670 A sete rioll, Pight full of perrieris & of proude gemys. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xli. 62 b/1 Vppon her was seen noo thynge but golde and sylver and ryche pyerrerye. *c* 1503 *Marriage Jas. IV & Marg.* in Leland *Collect.* (1770) IV. 300 She..had on a ryche Coller of Pyerrery...Hys churte was bordered of fyne Pierrery and Pearles.

‖ **Pierrette** (pi̯ĕre·t, pyɛrɛ·t). [F., fem. dim. of *Pierre* Peter, corresponding to PIERROT.] A female member of a company of pierrots.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Mar. 6/1 His pierrettes, his ballet-girls, and his eighteenth-century Sir Roger-de-Coverley dancers. 1889 *Ibid.* 7 Mar. 3/1 (*Carnival at Nice*) Mysterious dominoes and masks, excited pierrots and pierrettes, pretty figures, short skirts..have been the order of the day.

Pierrie, -rye: see PERRIE, jewellery; PIRRIE, a squall.

‖ **Pierrot** (pi̯ĕro, pyɛ·ro). [F. *pierrot*, dim. of *Pierre*, a peasant's name, applied to a 'clown' or buffoon:—L. *Petrum*, nom. *Petrus* PETER.]

1. A typical character in French pantomime: now, in English, applied to a buffoon or itinerant minstrel having, like the stage *Pierrot*, a whitened face, and loose white fancy dress.

1741–70 ELIZ. CARTER *Lett.* (1808) 61 He was one of the oddest fellows I ever saw..and in all his gestures extremely like a *pierrot.* 1838 THOMS in *Bentley's Misc.* III. 620 The more immediate relative .. of the modern clown, is the Pierrot, ..now very rarely introduced upon the stage. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 309/2 [An etching of] a little boy, dressed as a white Pierrot. 1904 *Daily News* 12 July 6 Niggers at the seaside have..given place to pierrots.

2. A kind of sleeved basque (see BASQUE 4) with a low neck, worn by women late in the 18th c.

1794 *Residence in France* (1797) II. 329 The lady of the house in a nankeen pierrot.

Hence **Pie·rrotism,** the action of a pierrot.

1734 *Prompter* 20 Dec. 2/2 The graceful Motion of fine Dancers, and mute Harlequinery, and Pierrotism.

Piert, obs. or dial. form of PERT.

Pies, var. PIZE *Obs.*, a form of imprecation.

Piet, pyet, pyot (pəi·ət). Chiefly (now only) *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 3, 6–7 **piot,** 5–9 **pyot,** (6 -ott), 6–9 **pyet, pyat,** (9 -att), (8 **peyet**), 9 **piet, (piat).** [In ME. *piot*, f. PIE *sb.*[1] + -OT[1], in later use written with better known suffix -ET: cf. F. *piette* the dipper, dim. of *pie* magpie.]

1. The magpie: = PIE *sb.*[1] 1.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Ane kikelot [*MS. C.* piot] þet cakeleð hire al þat heo isihð, oðer iherеð. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 176 Thar was Pyotis and Partrikis and Pluwaris. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 16 The pyet .. Fenzeis to sing the nychtingalis not. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 89 The piottis and nicht-crawis faucht with the ravinnis. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* v, The pratling pyet matchis with the Musis. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 301 The Piot ordinarily brings forth nine Piannets. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, Here cometh the worthy prelate, as pert as a pyet. 1829 CUNNINGHAM *Magic Bridle* in *Anniversary* 138 Words specked and spotted like a pyat.

b. The dipper or water-ouzel. Also *water-piet.*

1839 JARDINE *Brit. Birds* II. 67 The common Water Crow, or Pyet, as it is familiarly termed in Scotland. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 30 Dipper (*Cinclus aquaticus*). ..The white breast and blackish upper plumage have caused it to be called Piet...Water piet (Scotland).

2. A piebald horse.

1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 27 The Duke of Marlborough had a sett of peyets, very prettily marked.

3. *fig.* (from 1). Applied to a talkative or saucy person. Cf. *Tale-piet*, tattler, tell-tale. (*Sc.*)

1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 372 Archie Crosar callit the Pyott. 1814 CHALMERS *Let.* in Hanna *Mem.* I. 340 From the great officers of State at St. James's,..down to the little female piets who were taught to squall what they did not understand, 'No fanatics!' 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., 'A pawky young pyet', a saucy young person.

4. *attrib.* a. Resembling a magpie in appearance; pied, piebald.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 114 Ane pyot hors giffin to the King. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 256 Thirteen score of volunteer guards-royal..all in..beautiful pyet plumage.

b. Like a magpie; chattering.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 82 Quhen ȝe ȝourselfis ar daft and ȝoung, And hes nocht but ane Pyat toung.

Hence **Pi·ety, pi·otie, py·oty** *a. Sc.*, piebald.

1811 W. AITON *Agric. Surv. Ayrs.* 462 (Jam.) The butter will acquire a freckled or cloudy appearance, or in the language of the district, become *pyotty.* 1825 JAMIESON, *Pyat, Pyatie, Pyotie, Pyotty* .., variegated like a magpie,.. as, 'a *pyatie* horse', one whose skin has large spots of white, completely separated from those of black, brown, etc.

‖ **Pietà** (pyeta·). [It.:—L. *pietāt-em* PIETY.] A representation, in painting or sculpture, of the Virgin Mary holding the dead body of Christ on her lap.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Apr., On one side, is the statue of the Virgin Mary or Pieta, with the dead Christ in her lap. 1715 J. RICHARDSON *The. Painting* 85 In a *Pietà* of Van-Dyck. 1859 MRS. JAMESON *Early Ital. Paint.* 187 In 1500, .. he [Angelo] produced the famous group of the dead Christ on the knees of his Virgin Mother (called the Pietà). 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* xxvii, The fifteenth-century stained glass, the sculptured Pietas, and the choir stalls.

Pieteous, pietious, var. PIETOUS *Obs.*

Pietic (pəi,e·tik), *a. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. PIETY: see -IC.] Characterized by piety or pietism; pious; pietistic. So **Pie·tical** *a.*

1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 175 Her father has imbued a heap of his parsonical, pietical notions into her head. 1865 in *Pall Mall G.* No. 166. 11/1 The sober or pietic side of the jubilee.

Pietifull, obs. form of PITIFUL.

Pietism (pəi·ətiz'm). [ad. Ger. (mod.L.) *Pietismus*, formed after PIETIST: see -ISM.]

1. *Ch. Hist.* Name for the movement (originated by Spener late in the 17th century) for the revival and advancement of piety in the Lutheran church (see next, 1); the principles or practices of the German Pietists.

1697 *State Philadelph. Soc.* 11 The first Motion or Eruption of it may be said to have been in Germany, where it has spread it self..under the Name of *pietism.* 1705 *A. H. Franck's Pietas Hallensis* Introd. 21 Dr. Spener..Wrote and Published a Book, long before the name of Pietism was brought into use...Among which ..he caused to appear again such Mystical and Spiritual Books of the best note. 1716 C. MATHER *Let.* 6 June in *Harvard Stud.* (1897) V. 63 I believe y^e^ American puritanism to be much of a piece with Frederician pietism. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 123 Say what you will of Pietism, no one can deny the real worth of the characters which it formed.

2. Devotion to religious feeling, or to strictness of religious practice; pious sentiment; often implying an affectation or exaggeration of piety.

1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* ii. (1867) 30 Genuine humility would shake the towering structure of this enthusiastic pietism. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Purit.* ii. 227 The attempt.. to cover Charles' delinquencies by an appeal to his..diligent pietisms. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* vi. 272 The stimulators of an emotional pietism.

Pietist (pəi·ətist). [a. Ger. *Pietist*, f. L. *pietās* PIETY + -IST. Applied in derision to the followers of Spener, in reference to the *collegia pietatis*, or unions for mutual religious edification, formed by them, and adopted at Leipsic, *c* 1690, by some of Francke's congregation.]

1. *Ch. Hist.* A member of the party of reformers in the Lutheran church which originated from a movement begun by Philipp Jakob Spener at Frankfort about 1670 for the deepening of piety and the reform of religious education.

1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 185 There is a Sect like unto these [Quietists] rose up in Germany, call'd Pietists. 1705 *A. H. Franck's Pietas Hallensis* Introd. 25 Dr. Spener's Work..for which he was also by the Adversaries in way of Derision called, *The Patriarch of the Pietists. Ibid.* 27 The Professors of Divinity there, by the World called Pietists. 1733 *Oxf. Methodists* 19 He compares them to the Pietists in Saxony and Switzerland. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 123 A clergyman who was a leader among the pietists.

2. A person characterized by or professing special piety; one who cultivates, or lays stress on, depth of religious feeling or strictness of religious practice, esp. as distinct from intellectual belief; one who is emotionally, mystically, or exaggeratedly pious.

1767 R. DEAN *Future Life Brute Creatures* 72 Numbers of them [dumb creatures] make as great a Point of attending at Church on public Service Days, as the most rigid Pietists do. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 136 The ultra pietists make a terrible outcry. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iii. (1862) 161 William Cowper, that delicate wit, that trembling pietist, that refined gentleman. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 142 St. John..was wholly unlike the effeminate pietist of Titian's or of Raphael's pictures.

3. *attrib.* (in sense 1 or 2). That is a pietist; pertaining to or characteristic of pietists; pietistic.

1705 *A. H. Francks Pietas Hallensis* Introd. 41 The Industrious Zeal of the (so called) *Pietist-Divines.* 1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 133 Religious writers of Pietist tendencies. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 648 The celebrated Pietist leader [Spener] so completely drew around himself all that there was of religious movement in his generation, that his life is a history of the Lutheran Church during the latter half of the seventeenth century.

Pietistic (pəi,ətistik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to pietists or pietism (in either sense of these words); characterized by pietism; emotionally or affectedly pious.

1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* II. 293 The Ordinance, with regard to Pietistic books, was enacted also in the same year. 1856 MISS WINKWORTH *Tauler's Life & Serm.* (1857) 110 The Pietistic movement of Spener and Franke. 1884 SEELEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 665 The 'Beautiful Soul' represents the pietistic view of life.

So **Pieti·stical** *a.*; hence **Pieti·stically** *adv.*

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* X. 319 The multiplicity of the pietistical rhapsodies would weary even Saint Theresa. 1884 VERN. LEE *Euphorion* II. 17 A great art cannot..be pietistically self-humiliating.

‖ **Pieton.** *Obs.* [OF. *pieton* (F. *piéton*) foot-soldier, f. L. type **peditōn-em*.] A foot-soldier.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. i. E j b, I shal begynne first at the first pawn,..they be al named *pietons* that is as moche to say as footmen. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 91 (1877) 85 ,iiii^{m}, men of armes, and a great nombre of pietons.

Pietose (pəi·ētōus), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *pietōs-us* (It. *pietoso*) full of piety, f. *pietās* PIETY: see -OSE.] Marked by affectation of piety; pietistic.

1893 *Nat. Observ.* 15 Apr. 542/1 Certain verbose and pietose lines of lamentation.

† **Pietous,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 pyetous, 6 *Sc.* pietuous, -ious, -eous. [a. OF. *pietous, piteus*:—late L. *pietōs-us*, f. *pietās* PIETY: see -OUS, -ITOUS.] An early form of PITEOUS, q.v.

(In Chaucer and Gower, of three syllables *pi-et-ous*, but in 16th c. Sc. writers pronounced *pit-ous* or *piet-e-ous*, and so passing into PITEOUS.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1395 (1444) (Corpus) As thoughte him tho, for pietous [*v.rr.* piteous, pitous] distresse. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 193 Bot wher a king is Pietous [*v.rr.* pitous, -eous, -euous], He is the more gracious. *Ibid.* 202 Fro which he hath with strengthe prived The pietous [*v.rr.* pitous, piteuous] Justinian. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii. 17 Fiers to his enemyes, pyetous to them that be vainquisshed. 1490 — *Eneydos* ii. 15 It were a thynge inhumayne to beholde theym wythoute pyte, but yet more pyetous to telle it lyke as it was doon in dede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. viii. 49 Wyth hyr peteus [*ed.* 1553 pietuous] reuthfull complayntes sayr The hevynnis all scho fillit and the ayr. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 36 With voice full pietious. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 14 Ane pieteous spreit appeirit to my thocht.

Hence † **Pietously** *adv. Obs.*, piteously.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. D v, Thou emperour gouerne the peple pyetously. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 473 The four sones of aymon..that so many tymes have praied for it humbly & full pyetously.

† **Pietranel.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *pietranello* PETRONEL.] = PETRONEL b, PETRONELLIER.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Table Y iv b, *Pistollier*, a French word; and is the souldier on horse backe, armed as the Pietranell, weaponed with a pistoll.

Piety (pəi·ĕti). Forms: 4 (6 *Sc.*) piete, 5–7 pietie, 7– piety. [a. OF. *piete* (12th cent.), ad. L. *pietās* dutifulness, piety, f. *pius* PIOUS. (The popular form in Fr. was *pité* PITY.)]

I. † **1.** An early form of PITY, in various senses.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxx. 89 For he that dude is body on tre, Of oure sunnes have piete. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 268 Paul þe apostel, þat no pite [*MS. I* piete] hadde cristene peuple to culle. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xix. (S. T. S.) II. 26 Virgineus petuislie praying þame to haue piete erare of him and his dochter, þan to haue ony piete of þe Claudianis. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commination*, Thou art a mercifull God..and of a great pietie. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 266 Of your gracious Piety (which I know I shall hardly obtaine).

II. The quality or character of being pious.

2. Habitual reverence and obedience to God (or the gods); devotion to religious duties and observances; godliness, devoutness, religiousness.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Pietie*, godlinesse, holines. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epigr.* 10 A woman of rare pietie. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Piety*, a Moral vertue which causes us to have an affection and esteem for God and Holy Things. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 691 'Is virtue, then, and piety the same?'—No; piety is more; 'tis virtue's source. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 176 True piety is cheerful as the day. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* xi. 295 Piety is the filial affection of the sons of God. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* i. 19 'Piety', says Cicero, 'is justice towards the gods'.

3. Faithfulness to the duties naturally owed to parents and relatives, superiors, etc.; dutifulness; affectionate loyalty and respect, esp. to parents.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 103 Ah Lucilla, thou knowest not the care of a father, nor the duetie of a childe, and as farre art thou from pietie as I from crueltie. 1580 *Ibid.* 338 If she be voyd of pitie, why shoulde I not be voyde of pietie? 1611 BIBLE 1 *Tim.* v. 4 Let them learne first to shew pietie at home, and to requite their parents. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Revenge for Hon.* Plays 1873 III. 309 Though he could put off paternal pietie, 't gives no priviledg for us to wander from our filial dutie. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1701) 228/1 Her Picture, Aristotle, in piety to her [his mother's] Memory, caused to be made by Protogenes. 1729 SWIFT *Libel on Dr. Delany* 77 Pope..Whose filial piety excels Whatever Grecian story tells. 1857 [see FILIAL 1 a]. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* ix. 230 The word piety in its original meaning signifies the natural affection which parents have for their children and children for their parents.

† **b.** *Our Lady (of) Piety*: the Virgin Mary represented with the dead body of Christ on her lap: cf. PIETÀ. *Obs.*

1542 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 58 Ane antepend of blak velvot broderrit with ane image of our Lady pietie upoun the samyne. *c* 1600 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees) 38 Y^{e} piller next adioyning to y^{e} Lady of Pieties alter.

c. *Mount, mountain of piety*: see MOUNT *sb.*, MOUNTAIN. *Pelican in her piety*: see PELICAN.

4. with *a* and *pl.* (in sense 2 or 3). An instance of religious devotion or affectionate loyalty; a pious act, observance, or characteristic.

1652 SPARKE *Prim. Devot.* (1673) 617 The pieties of the church and laws of the land. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 12 Persons..more ready to be advanced by impressions from above, and christianized unto pieties. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* (1879) I. xiii. 134 This great burden of stony memories which the ages have deemed it a piety to heap upon its back. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* 431 Inextricably woven with all the pieties of childhood.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1830 in *W. Cobbett's Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 317 St. Botolph ..must lament that the piety-inspiring mass has been.. supplanted by the monotonous hummings of an oaken hutch. 1893 E. BELLASIS *Mem. Serjt. Bellasis* 158 A complete *razzia* was made upon the piety shops for rosaries, medals, &c.

Pievish, Pievit, obs. ff. PEEVISH, PEWIT.

Piewe, obs. form of PEW.

† **Pieze,** obs. form of PEISE *v.*, to weigh out.

1634 PEACHAM *Gentlem. Exerc.* II. vii. 125 An indifferent arbiter betweene the day and night, piezing to each his equall houres.

Piezo- (pəi·ēzo), used as a combining form from Gr. *πιέζειν* to press, squeeze; as in **Pi·ezo-electri·city**, electricity generated by pressure, as in certain crystals.

1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* i. § 13 Compression of a crystal of tourmaline along its morphological axis also produces electrification (*piezo-electricity*).

Piezometer (pəi,ēzo·mĭtəɹ). [mod. (J. Perkins 1820) f. Gr. *πιέζ-ειν* to press + -(o)METER. So F. *piézomètre.*] An instrument for measuring pressure (or something connected with pressure).

An instrument a. for measuring the compressibility of water or other liquid under varying pressures; b. for measuring the pressure of water at any point in a water-main; c. for measuring the pressure of gas in the bore of a gun; d. for measuring the sense of pressure on different parts of the surface of the body. e. A sounding apparatus for measuring the depth of water by means of the compression of air in a tube.

1820 J. PERKINS in *Phil. Trans.* 324 Having believed for many years, that water was an elastic fluid, I was induced to..ascertain the fact..by constructing an instrument which I call a piezometer. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Piezometer*, an instrument for ascertaining the compressibility of liquids. 1882 OGILVIE, *Piezometer...2.* An instrument consisting essentially of a vertical tube inserted into a water-main, to show the pressure of the fluid at that point, by the height to which it ascends in the tube of the piezometer. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp. 678/2 *Piezometer ..*, an instrument to measure the sense of pressure...The sense of pressure is strongest on the forehead, tongue, and cheek... An instrument to ascertain the pressure set up in the bore of a gun when a charge of powder is fired. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 132/1 Thermometer..Piezometer..Hygrometers.

Piff (pif), *int.* An imitation of various sounds, as of that made by the swift motion of a bullet through the air. Cf. PHIT, PHUTT. So *piff-paff.*

1775 GARRICK *Bon Ton* 8 Present, fire, piff-pauff—'tis done. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 2/1 Some of them think we're only a part of his dream, and that we shall all go 'piff' when he wakes up. 1902 *Words Eyewitness* 190 Piff, piff, piff, skip the little projectiles amongst the naval guns.

‖ **Piffero** (pi·fero). Also 8 -aro. [It. *piffero* = Sp. *pifaro*, F. *fifre*, a fife or pipe, ad. OHG. *pfifari* piper, f. *pfifa* PIPE, FIFE.] (See quots.)

1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Piffaro*, is an Instrument somewhat like a Hautboy. *Ibid., Piffero*, is a small Flute or Flagelet. 1880 W. H. STONE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 753 *Piffero*..in the *Dizionario della Musica*, is described as a small flute with six finger-holes and no keys. But the term is also commonly used to denote a rude kind of oboe, or a bagpipe with an inflated sheepskin for reservoir, common in Italy..the players being termed *Pifferari.*

Piffle (pi·f'l), *v. dial.* and *slang.* Also 9 *dial.* pifle, pyfle. [? Onomatopœic, with dim. ending: cf. also Sc. *pifer, pyfer*, in cognate sense.] *intr.* To talk or act in a feeble, trifling, or ineffective way. Hence **Pi·ffling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pifle*, to be squeamish or delicate. 1864 MRS. E. LYNN LINTON *Lake Country* 309 Pyklin an' pyflin, thoo gits nowt doon. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 May 2/3 He seems..to have convinced himself that he is an old man, and settled down to a piffling eld. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Mary Gloster* (1897) 146 They piddled and piffled with iron; I'd given my orders for steel! 1897 *Sunday Times* 2 Jan. 6/7 Their defence is sound, and their attack altogether good, save a tendency to 'piffle' in front of goal at times.

Hence **Pi·ffle** *sb.*, foolish or formal nonsense; twaddle; trash. **Pi·ffler,** a trifler, a twaddler.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Feb. 152/2 If there is..a certain amount of the 'piffle' (to use a University phrase) thought to be incumbent on earnest young princes in our century, there is a complete absence of insincerity. 1900 O. ONIONS *Compl. Bachelor* ii. 18 He'd talk a lot of piffle, wouldn't he? 1892 *Star* 14 July 1 The nervousness of the other juvenile and titled piffler. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Dec. 2/1 Lord; but this chap is dull...Dull! he's a perfect piffler.

Pig (pig), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–7 pigge, 4–6 pygge, 5 pygg, 5–8 pigg, 6 pyg, (7 bigg), 6– pig. [Early ME. *pigge*:—prob. OE. **picga*, **pigga.* Etymology obscure.

In formation, **picga* wk. masc. corresponds to other animal names, *docga*, ME. *dogge* dog, *frocga, frogga*, ME. *frogge* frog, *hogga*, ME. *hogge* hog. The word is perh. found in *picbred*, ? for **picg-bréad*; for the shortening cf. *gum-cynn, sunn-bēam*, etc.; for *pic-* instead of *picg-*, cf. *bric-bot* = *brycg-bot* (Laws of Æthelred, 11th c.), *wic-cræft* = *wicg-cræft*, etc. *Pigman* is cited by Bardsley as a name *temp.* Richard I, 1189–99. Low G. and early mod.Du. have, in same sense, *bigge*, Du. *big* a young pig; MDu. *vigghe*; but the phonology is difficult: see Franck.]

I. 1. The young of swine; 'a young sow or boar' (J.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 þe Suwe of ȝiuernesse, þet is, Glutunie, haueð pigges þus inemned. *Ibid.*, þus beoð þeos pigges ieuruwed. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 358 And in the floor with nose and mouth to-brok They walwe as doon two pigges in a poke. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 237 A white sowe wiþ þritty pigges [*triginta porcellis*]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vi. 71 The Sarazines bryngen forth no Pigges, nor thei eten no Swynes Flessche. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 395/2 Pygge, gryce, *porcellus*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 121 And if thy sowe haue moo pygges than thou wilt rere, sel them, or eate them. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 149 Euery Pigge doth know his owne Pappe. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 512 As in English we call a young Swine a Pig. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 180/1 In English we call a young Swine a Bigg; a sucking or weaning Bigg. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. ix. 196 Three sows big with pig. 1828 WEBSTER, *Pig*, the young of swine, male or female. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xvii, Two farrows of pigs ready for the chapman. 1905 J. P. STILWELL in *N. & Q.* 10th s. IV. 512 About here [in Hants] a pig is a pig from birth till six or eight months old, when it becomes a boar, a hog, or a sow.

† **b.** Applied to the young of the badger. *Obs.*

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 183 There are foxes and theyr cubbes, and badgerdes and theyr Pigges.

2. By extension: A swine of any age; a hog.

(Clear examples of this use are rare before the 19th c.)

[1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 b, Let vs syng or say our seruice distinctly..not syngynge in y^{e} nose as pygges. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 47 Some men there are loue not a gaping Pigge.] 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 472 Not onely Horse, but Cows, Nay Pigs, were of the elder house. 1784 in *Boswell's Johnson* (1887) VI. 373, I told him (says Miss Seward)..of a wonderful learned pig. *Ibid.* 374 'Certainly (said the Doctor): but how old is your pig?' I told him, three years old. 18.. SOUTHEY *Ode to a Pig*, And when, at last, the closing hour of life Arrives (for pigs must die as well as men). 1820 SHELLEY *Œdip. Tyrann.* I. *Chorus of Swine* 3 Under your mighty ancestors, we pigs Were blessed as nightingales on myrtle sprigs. *Ibid., Semichorus* iii, Happier swine were they than we, Drowned in the Gadarean sea.. Alas! the Pigs are an unhappy nation! 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* 23 The domesticated species comprise the dog, horse, ass, pig, goat, sheep, and several bovine races. 1867 D. G. MITCHELL *Rur. Stud.* 63 The pig can hardly be regarded as a classic animal.

b. Applied to a wild swine or hog; also used *collectively* = wild swine in the mass.

1889 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 67, I have even seen a pig break its leg in..the act of jumping down a small bank. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* (U.S.) XXV. 328/2 There is much to be seen—deer in herds, a sounder of pig, perchance, scurrying away.

c. The figure of the animal used as an ornament, etc. *Sussex pig*, a drinking vessel in the form of a pig.

1884 *Mag. Art* Jan. 102 A popular vessel is the 'Sussex pig'. When filled, this quaint, uncouth utensil is..set upright on the brute's tail; empty, it stands on all-fours. In Sussex these 'pigs' were, and still are, brought into use at weddings.

3. The animal or its flesh as an article of food.

Usually referring to a young or sucking pig; otherwise only *humorous*, the regular name for the meat being *pork*, dial. also *pig-meat*; cf. also *bacon, ham, griskin*, etc.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Broche þin Pygge; þen farce hym, & sewe þe hole, & lat hym roste. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 103 Heate wherewith Pigg or Goose is Scalded. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Tit.* 28 They feare to be contaminate yf they eate eyther porke or pigge. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 66 The Pigge quoth I, is burn'd. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd. 161 Some start at Pigg, slight Chicken, love not Fowl. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I., A Dissertation upon Roast Pig.

4. Applied with distinguishing epithet to various species of the family *Suidæ*, as *bush-pig, wood-pig*; also extended to include animals in some way resembling the pig, as **sea-pig**, (*a*) the porpoise; (*b*) the tunny. See also GUINEA-PIG.

1664 [see GUINEA-PIG]. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparrman's Voy. Cape G. H.* II. 279 We had the good luck to catch a young wood-pig. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 387 Driving about an unhappy porpoise in a wheelbarrow, and showing it at two-pence a head, under the name of a sea pig. 1896 KIRBY (*title*) In Haunts of Wild Game,..Reedbuck and Small Game, Bush-pigs, Leopards. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 613, I deeply regret not having been able to bring home a Bobia pig...These.. are black in colour, as indeed is common in African pigs, two-thirds head, and after a very small and very flat bit of body, end in an inordinately long tail.

5. Applied, usually contemptuously or opprobriously, to a person, or to another animal. (Cf. F. *cochon.*)

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 65 What, byd me welcome pyg. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1629) 360 The pretie pigge, laying her sweet burden about his necke. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* XV, Knew him well, the selfish old pig. 1891 H. S. CONSTABLE *Horses, Sport & War* 46 He is usually called a sulky pig of a horse.

6. *slang.* † **a.** A sixpence (*obs.*). † **b.** A police officer (*obs.*). **c.** A pressman in a printing-office.

1622 FLETCHER *Beggars Bush* III. i, Fill till't be sixpence, And there's my pig. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pig*, Sixpence. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Pigs* or *Grunters*, police runners. 1821 EGAN *Life in London* I. i. (Farmer), Do not frown upon me,..thou bashaw of the pigs, and all but beak! 1841 SAVAGE *Art Printing* s.v., Pressmen are called pigs by compositors, sometimes by way of sport, and sometimes of irritation. 1857 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. IV. 192/1

Compositors are jocosely called mokes or donkeys, and pressmen pigs. These nicknames..were well understood in the early part of the last century.

II. Technical uses.

7. An oblong mass of metal, as obtained from the smelting-furnace; an ingot.

In this connexion *sow* is found earlier: viz. of lead 1481, of silver 1590, of iron 1612; *sow-iron* 1608, *sow-metal* 1674. The original differentiation of *sow* and *pig* (if there was any) was prob. in the size, the smaller masses being called *pigs*. The modern explanation, i.e. that the *sow* comes from the main channel, and the *pigs* from derivative channels into which the liquid metal is run from the furnace (applicable only to iron) is a later adaptation of the terms to the development of the iron-industry, of which the earliest indication is in quot. 1686 in d, where however 'sow' and 'piggs' may in themselves refer merely to size.

a. Generally. (Not now of gold or silver.)

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* Wks. III. 65/1 Ships..That bring gold, siluer, many a Sow and Pig. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1873/3, 150 Piggs of Silver. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 312 We return'd for what we had of him some bales of coarse broad cloth,..some piggs of copper. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 820 Cast into oblong pieces called pigs, which are broken up, roasted, and melted with a portion of charcoal... Malleability is here conferred upon the copper..by stirring [etc.]. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 372 This Pig of Tin is well known and has often been engraved. 1894 *Times* 16 Aug. 6/4 Zinc in blocks or pigs, one cent per pound.

b. Of lead (the earliest use): now usually of a definite weight; see quot. 1823.

1589 J. WHITE in Capt. Smith *Virginia* (1624) 15 We found ..many barres of Iron, two pigs of Lead,..and such like heauie things throwne here and there. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornful Lady* v. ii, Lusty Boys to throw the Sledge, and lift at Pigs of Lead. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 260/2 A Pig or Sow of Lead, is generally about three hundred Pounds apiece. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* I iv, Amongst Lead Merchants it [a Fodder] is nine Pieces or Piggs of Lead. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 405 The moulds..take a charge of metal equal to one hundred and fifty-four pounds; these are called in commerce, pigs, or pigs of lead. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxvi. 206 Inscriptions on pigs of lead, &c. refer to the reigns of Claudius.

c. Of iron (now the chief use): see quots. Also, in mod. use (without *a* or plural), short for *pig-iron*. *Pig of ballast*, a pig of iron (rarely of lead) used as ballast.

1674 RAY *Words, Iron Work* 126 The lesser pieces of 1000 pound or under they call Pigs. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 934 From these Furnaces, they bring their Sows and Pigs of Iron (as they call them) to their Forges. 1769 GRAY *Let. to Nicholls* 24 June, The iron is brought in pigs to Milthrop by sea from Scotland, &c. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 218 Pigs of ballast, to sink the lower part. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 82 A pig of iron is three feet and a half in length, and of one hundred pounds weight. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* liv, Get up a pig of ballast. 1866 *Reader* 8 Sept. 778 The changes which have to be effected in the crude cast-iron, called pig, in order to convert it into malleable or bar-iron. 1871 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining Eng.* I. 149 White pig is made with a slag ranging from 40 to 48 per cent. 1883 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 2/6 Metals... Scotch pigs quiet, closing at 47*s.* for m.n. warrants.

d. Applied to the moulds or channels in the pig-bed.

[1685 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 162 They make one larger furrow than the rest,..which is for the Sow, from whence they draw two or three and twenty others (like the labells of a file in Heraldry) for the piggs.] 1805 [see PIG-IRON 1]. 1856 RICHARDSON *Suppl.* s. v., When the lead is tapped from the smelting furnace, it runs down a straight channel, technically called the *sow*, from which branch off on each side some smaller channels, called *pigs*. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 23 The iron..is..run into rough moulds or channels made in sand, and to which the name of 'pig' is given.

8. In various technical and local uses: **a.** A bundle of hemp-fibre of about 2½ lb. weight. **b.** A block or cube of salt. **c.** A segment of an orange or apple. **d.** See quots. *a* 1843, 1902.

c 1825 CHOYCE *Log Jack Tar* (1891) 33 This [rock salt] they cut out into square pigs weighing about sixty pounds which they send to Guacho on mules. *a* 1843 in Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 417 Your man beat his antagonist by a pig and an apple-pie. *Note.* A pig is still a provincial term for an apple puff. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 57 It [hemp] is then weighed into small parcels called 'pigs', weighing about 2½ lbs. each. 1870 VERNEY *Lettice Lisle* vi. 75 'What beautiful fruit', said he, beginning to eat the 'pigs' into which she was cutting it [an apple]. 1877 *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. VII. 134/1. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Oct. 8/4 'Pigs in Blankets' the Americans call oysters wrapped in bacon. We..term them 'Angels on Horseback'.

9. In the names of various games.

Pigs in clover, a game which consists in rolling a number of marbles into a recess or pocket in a board by tilting the board itself. *Placing* (or *chalking*) *the pig's eye, putting on the pig's tail*: see quot. 1903.

1898 *Daily News* 3 May 6/2 Those games and pastimes by which the patrons of the Peninsular and Oriental Company are wont to beguile time. Of such are the 'Game of Buckets', 'Playing Bull', 'Placing the Pig's Eye', and the 'Cigarette Race'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 2/2 All those who have played 'Pigs in Clover' will know the exasperating way in which, when you have safely wriggled one pig into position another immediately wriggles itself out. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 4 Feb. 5/1 'Putting on the pig's tail' is a familiar game on board ship. A tailless pig is drawn in chalk upon the deck. Each passenger is blindfolded, turned round three times, and then proceeds to put the tail on the pig—usually yards away from the animal.

III. Proverbial phrases.

10. †**a.** *When the pig is offered, to hold open the poke*: to seize upon one's opportunities. (And variants of this.) **b.** *To buy* (or *sell*) *a pig in a poke* (or *bag*): to buy anything without seeing it or knowing its value. †**c.** *To give any one a pig of his own* (or *another's*) *sow*: (*a*) to give any one a part of his own (or another's) property; (*b*) to pay any one back in his own coin, treat him as he has treated others. **d.** *Please the pigs*: please the fates; if circumstances permit; if all's well. [Here some have suggested a corruption of *pyx* or of *pixies*, but without any historical evidence.] **e.** *To carry pigs to market*: to try to do business or attain to results. *To drive* (or *bring*) *one's pigs to a fine, pretty*, etc. *market*: (usually ironical) to be disappointed or unsuccessful in a venture.

a. *c* 1530 R. HILLES *Common-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 When ye proffer the pigge open the poke. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 579 *Quod datur accipe*, when the pig is offered, hold ope the poake. *a* 1620 SIR T. THROCKMORTON *Life & Death Sir N. Throckmorton* xci, To profferd Pig each man doth ope his Poke. **b.** 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 139, I will neuer bye the pyg in the poke. 1679 G. R. tr. *Boaystuau's Theat. World* 201 Buying, as they say, a Pig in a Bag. 1785 *Rolliad* 74 Except, indeed, when he essays to joke; And then his wit is truly pig-in-poke. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. CXXXVI. 108 The reason the parliamentary jobber hates the Ballot, is because he does not like buying a pig in a poke. **c.** 1553 BALE *Gardiner's De vera Obed.* G iij, I thought it not mete..to make men thinke I had geuen them a pigge of another mannes sowe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 155 Syr ye gyue me a pyg of myne owne sowe. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Chemise*, To giue one a pig of his owne sow; to affoord him helpe out of his owne meanes. 1731 FIELDING *Grub St. Op.* III. xiv, If you come to my house I will treat you With a pig of your own sow. **d.** 1702 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* Wks. 1760 II. 198 I'll have one of the wigs to carry into the country with me, an't [*printed* and] please the pigs. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 115 The expression I mean is, *An't please the pigs*, in which .. *pigs* is most assuredly a corruption of *Pyx*. 1800 SOUTHEY *Let. to Lieut. Southey* 15 June in *Life* (1850) II. 83. 1825 T. HOOK *Say. & Doings* Ser. II. I. 183, I know what I will do, and that is, please the Pix, I'll marry Louisa to her cousin George. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* June 819/1 There I'll be, please the pigs, on Thursday night. **e.** 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xv, Strap.. observed that we had brought our pigs to a fine market. 1771 — *Humph. Cl.* 19 May, Let. ii, Roger may carry his pigs to another market. 1873 *Punch* 21 June 262/2 Government finds that in producing the competition Wallah, it has driven its pigs to a pretty market.

11. In various other phrases and locutions.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 84 Who that hath either of these pygs in vre, He hath a pyg of the woorse panier sure. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 209 Like Goodyers pig, never well but when he is doing mischief. *Chesh.* 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 62. 3/2 Whom all the Town follow, Like so many St. Anthony's Pigs. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 440 You'd have sworn he had got the wrong pig by the ear. 1808 SCOTT *Let. to Ellis* 23 Dec. in *Lockhart*, I believe.., that when he [Sir A. Wellesley] found himself superseded [after Vimeiro], he suffered the pigs to run through the business. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VII. lxxxiv, Ask the pig who sees the wind! 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., 'To drive pigs', to snore. 1837 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* 21 Nov., Gibson Craig .. rose, stared like a stuck pig, and said nothing. 1845 MRS. CARLYLE *New Lett., to Carlyle* 20 Aug., I 'did intend' that you should have had plenty of Letter to-day, but the pigs have run through it—and be hanged to them. *c* 1860 *Proverb*, Pigs may fly; but they are very unlikely birds. 1903 S. HEDIN *Centr. Asia* II. 318 The sleeping men .. went on driving their pigs to market for all they were worth.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Cf. those in HOG *sb.*[1] VI.)

12. a. attributive, as *pig-belly*, *-boy*, *-broth*, *-butcher*, *-eye*, *-feast*, *-hutch*, *-leather*, *-life*, *-man*, *-meat*, *-merchant*, *-pen*, *-philosophy*, *-swill*, *-trough*, *-tub*, *-yard*; from sense 7, *pig ballast*, *trade*, etc.

1797 S. JAMES *Voy. Arabia* 201 The boat..full of *pig ballast..was always half full of water. 1622 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Span. Curate* II. i, No man would think a stranger such as I am Should reap any great commodity from his *pigbelly. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* Induct., The language some where sauours of Smithfield, the Booth, and the *Pigbroath, or of prophaneness. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5274/11 A little swarthy Woman, hath small *Pig Eyes. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 520 The mallet-pate, pig-eye Chinese. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* iv. 127 He lodges to his mind in any *pighutch or doghutch. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 304 His legs..in strong *pig-leather boots. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 666/1 The *pigman ..had caught the five piglings. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 743 It prevented the preservation of meat, and especially of *pig meat. 1895 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. IV. 512 [In Hants] The spare-rib and griskin of a bacon hog or sow are called pig-meat, whether large or small. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 790 In most cases the infected food has been pig meat. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1887) I. 33 A *pig-merchant of Megara. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XXVII, There are two cow-pens between the main-deck guns..converted into *pig-pens. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jnd. Gwynne* I. i. 8 The *pig-philosophy of 'rest and be thankful'. 1889 A. SIDGWICK in *Jrnl. Educ.* Feb. 117 We began with Delectus—an awful institution; no more reading than a *pigtub is food.

b. objective and obj. genitive, as *pig-buyer*, *-dealer*, *-driver*, *-eater*, *-feeder*, *-jobber*, *-killer*, *-stealer*, *-taker*; *pig-breeding*, *-dealing*, *-driving*, *-eating*, *-feeding*, *-keeping*, sbs. and adjs.

1891 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Dec. 2/1 Ballybricken is..chiefly remarkable as the place of residence of the *pig-buyers. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 359/2, I also entered into the *pig-dealing line. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. v. 57 Like Bartholemew Faire *pig-dressers. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2234/4 John Williams a Welshman, a *Pig driver. 1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to Catch Old One* IV. i, Convey my little *pig-eater out. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 109 Industrious peasants pursuing their morning labours—some milking—some *pig-feeding. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 250 Breadman had been a great *pig-stealer in his day.

c. instrumental, parasynthetic, etc., as *pig-bribed*, *-haunted*; *pig-backed*, *-chested*, *-eyed*, *-footed*, *-haired*, *-jawed*; *pig-fat*, *-proof*, *-tight*, adjs.

1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* xi. 42 Nothing can be more annoying than to see books lop-sided, *pig-backed. 1880 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 16/2 The latter animal [a goat] is slightly pig-backed. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* v. iii, Why kneel you to such a *pig-bribed fellow? 1895 *Review of Rev.* Aug. 162 A sickly boy, '*pig-chested'. 1835 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 228 **Pig-eyed* is a rude epithet when speaking of eyes that are small and deeply seated in the head. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* iii. 74 Pig-eyed hideous beings. 1897 *Cavalry Tactics* ii. 8 Not..that the troop horse is useless if he is not *pig fat. 1884 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 272/1 The *pig-footed bandicot is another curious variety seen here. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 12/2 The immense number of wild pigs makes cultivation impracticable without *pig-proof fences.

13. Special Comb. (cf. HOG *sb.*[1] 13): **pig brass**, brass as it is cast after the first fusion; **pig-cheer**, viands made from the flesh or viscera of swine; **pig-dog**, a dog used in hunting wild pigs in Australia; **pig-hole**, an aperture in a steel furnace through which fresh supplies of pig-iron may be introduced; **pig-hull**, *dial.* = PIGSTY; **pig-lifter**, one employed in moving pig-iron: see quot.; **pig-louse**, the wood-louse or HOG-LOUSE, *Oniscus*; **pig-maker**, a manufacturer of pig-iron; **pig-market**, (*a*) a market held for the purchase and sale of swine; (*b*) a name vulgarly given to the Proscholium or ante-chamber of the Divinity School at Oxford: see quot. 1681; **pig-mould**, one of the channels in a pig-bed; **pig-plate** = PIG-IRON 2; **pig-potato**, a small potato used to feed swine = *hog-potato* (HOG *sb.*[1] 13); also *fig.*; **pig-ring**, a ring or strip of metal fixed in the snout of a hog to prevent it from grubbing, a hog-ring; **pig-root** *v.*, to root or grub in the earth like swine; **pig-stone**, a concretion occurring in the intestines of the wild boar; **pig-trotter**, the foot of a pig, as an article of food; †**pig-woman**, a woman who sold roast pig at fairs, etc.; **pig-wool**, the finer hair of the swine, used in making flies for anglers; **pig-yoke**, (*a*) = HOG-YOKE; (*b*) a sextant or quadrant (*slang*). See also PIG-BED, etc.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 938 Those who remelt the *pig brass, and are called 'founders'. 1871 *Archæologia* (1873) XLIV. 208 Christmas was formerly, as now, the principal season for '*pig-cheer'. 1845 E. J. WAKEFIELD *Adv. in N. Zealand* II. i. 6 The *pig-dogs are of rather a mongrel breed. 1877 GILLIES in *Trans. N. Z. Inst.* X. 321 A pig-dog of the bull-terrier breed. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), **Pighul*, a pig cote or stye. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, **Pig-lifters*, also called 'metal-carriers'.. those who take the pig-iron out of the troughs of sand into which it has been placed to cool, and stack it on the trucks used in conveying it away for sale. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 111 It is commonly called *Pig-louse, Wood-louse, Millepede. 1891 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 2/7 *Pigmakers are complaining of the exceedingly high prices of coke. 1681 WOOD *Life* 11 Feb. (O. H. S.) II. 517 Note that the Divinity Schoole hath been seldome used since altered and changed (but before 'twas a *pig-market). 1853 E. BRADLEY *Verd. Green* v, They made their way to the classic 'Pig-market', to wait the arrival of the Vice-Chancellor. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 754 The smelter runs off the lead into the *pig-moulds. 1787 J. FARLEY *Lond. Art Cookery* (ed. 4) 35 Having spitted your pig, sew it up, and lay it down to a brisk, clear fire, with a *pig-plate hung in the middle of it. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxvi. 244 These roots are tuberous, flattish, small,..not unlike *pig-potatoes. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxviii, Not very big or fine, but a second size—a pig-potato, like. 1862 WILDE *Catal. Antiq. in R. Irish Acad.* 18 A small portion had been cut out..to make a *pig-ring. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xix, *Pig-rooting a man's very prospecting claim, as if it was 'old ground'. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 18/2 The..*pig-trotter women will give you notice when the time is come. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. vi, Smoak'd like the back-side of the *Pig-woman's Booth, here. 1892 *Gentlewomen's Bk. Sports* I. 20 His fly-book of silk-bodied, *pig-wool, red or orange feathered flies. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiv, Old Smallsole could not do better with his '*pig-yoke' and compasses. 1885 *Athenæum* 10 Oct. 468 The pig yoke was a wooden frame which was fastened around the necks of pigs to hinder them from forcing a way through hedges.

b. In names of animals and plants: as **pig-cony**, the guinea-pig; **pig-deer**, the Babiroussa; **pig-face**, **pig's face**, a plant: see quot. 1846; **pig-fish**, a popular name in America and Australia of various fishes; **pig-lily**, a popular name in S. Africa of the Arum lily, *Richardia æthiopica*, the root of which is eaten by porcupines; **pig-mouse**, the water-shrew; **pig-pea**, a variety of field pea. (Cf. HOG *sb.*[1] 13 c, d.)

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 88 Indian little *Pig-cony. I received the picture of this beast from a certain Noble-man. 1834 ROSS *Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 133 (Morris) *Pig faces; called by the aborigines...canagong. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 526 The natives of Australia eat the fruit of *M[esembryanthemum] æquilaterale* (Pig-faces, or Canagong). 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, Pig-face, Pig-faces, and Pig's face, or Pig's-faces. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Sea-robin*, From the croaking or grunting noise it makes when caught, it is sometimes called *Pig-Fish. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Pig-fish*, name given to the fish *Agriopus leucopœcilus*,..in Dunedin; called also

the Leather-jacket...In Sydney it is *Cossyphus unimaculatus*,..a Wrasse, closely related to the Blue-groper. In Victoria, *Heterodontus phillipi*,..the Port Jackson Shark. 1880 *Silver & Co.'s S. Africa* (ed. 3) 148 Associated by name with the Lilies is what is known as the *Pig Lily. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* 44 Thousands of white arum lilies,—pig-lilies they call them there. 1905 *Standard* 8 Feb. 2/5 The '*pig mouse' of the cress farmer is the water shrew. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Pease*, The common white pea, the gray pea, the *pig pea, and some other large winter peas.

c. Combinations with *pig's*: as *pig's cheek, cote, eye, fry, hair*; **pig's face**: see *pig-face* in b; **pig's foot**, † (*a*) a dipping-pail used in brewing, and also for carrying dry articles; (*b*) a kind of crow-bar; **pig's meat**, food for swine; also *fig.*; **pig's whisper**, (*a*) a very brief space of time (*slang*); (*b*) a low whisper (*dial.*); **pig's whistle**, *U. S. slang* = *pig's whisper* (*a*). Also PIG'S-WASH.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 242 The heads should be cut off one after the other, and eaten as green *pig's-cheek. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xix, With a sleek pale face, small *pig's eyes, and an enormous turban. 1848 WESTGARTH *Australia Felix* ix. 132 The *pig's face is an extremely common production of the Australian soil. 1467 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 120 Payd for a *pyggsfote to bare cols, j^{d}. 1790 PENNANT *London* (1813) 322 That resistless species of crow, well known to housebreakers by the name of the Pig's-foot. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* (1895) 105 His twiddling little footle *pig's-hair brush. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* xxxv. 233 A pail of *pigs' meat in her hand. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, You'll find yourself in bed, in something less than a *pig's whisper. 1883 *Gd. Words* 84 He confided his secret, wrapped up in a pig's whisper to the earth. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3) s.v., 'I'll do so in less than a *pig's whistle'.

Pig (pig), *sb.*[2] Now *Sc.* and *Northumbld.* Forms: 5 **pygg**, 6 **pyg, pigge**, 9 **pigg**, 6– **pig.** [Origin unknown; see also PIGGIN.]

1. An earthenware pot, pitcher, jar, or other vessel; especially one that has no specific name; a crock. Rarely a vessel of tin or wood (*obs.*).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 340 Euerilk day .. was broght vnto hym a lofe of bread and a pygg with wyne & a light candyll. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 79 Deliuerit be Dene Robert Hog, channoune of Halirudhous, to the Thesaurare, tauld in presens of the Chancellare, Lord Lile..in a pyne pig of tyn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xiv. 25 Furth of ane payntit pyg, quhair as he stude, A gret river defundand or a flude. 1588 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 312, j litle wood coup, j paer of muster quernes of wood, j litle wood pigge, iiij wood dishes, j earthen panne. 1673 *Wedderburn's Vocab.* 13 (Jam.) *Urna*, a pitcher or pig. 1724 in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 A pig, a pot, and a kirn there ben. 1818 Miss FERRIER *Marriage* II. 187, I would send him one of our hams, and a nice little pig of butter. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlix, It wad be better laid out on yon bonny grass-holms, than lying useless here in this auld pigg. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 170 She that gangs to the well wi' an ill-will, either the pig breaks or the water will spill.

† b. Applied to a cinerary urn. *Obs.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 244 Syne all his bodie brint wes untill ass..Syne in ane pig wounderfullie wes wrocht, Tha war put in and to the tempill brocht. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 346 Ane pig craftely ingravin, in quhilk was found certane bonis wound in silk.

c. A chimney-pot (of earthenware). *rare.*

1822 GALT *Provost* xxiv. 177 Pigs from the lum-heads came rattling down like thunder-claps.

d. Earthenware as a material; also, a pot-sherd or fragment of earthenware such as children use in some games. *Sc. dial.*

1808–18 in JAMIESON. *Mod. Sc.* Made o' common pig, not o' cheenie. The wee lassie was playan' wi' her pigs on the grund.

e. *Pigs and whistles*, fragments; trivialities; *to go to pigs and whistles*, to be ruined.

1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 161 Discoursing of their Pigs and whistles, And strange experiments of Muscles [*wote*, Pigs and whistles, *Gimcraks*]. 1786 *Har'st Rig* xlviii. (1801) 18 So he to pigs and whistles went And left the land. 1862 Mrs. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 125 Curious what a curative effect a railway journey has on me always, while you it makes pigs and whistles of!

2. *Comb.* (all *Sc.*): **pig-ass**, an ass which draws a **pig-cart**, a cart filled with crockery for sale, a mugger's cart; **pig-man**, a seller of crockery, a mugger; **pig-shop**, a crockery shop; **pig-wife**, a female vendor of crockery.

1787 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 79 Frae Phoebus' beams ye apes retire, Wi' your *Pig-asses. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 2/1 Sometimes the clanging of a '*pig-cart' bell is heard far down the street. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 120 Wallace, Who in a *pig-man's weed, at Bigger Espied all the English league. 1896 'IAN MACLAREN' *Kate Carnegie* 226 His father keepit a *pig chop [=shop]. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 79 *note*, Some ape Poets may be said rather to lead *Pig Wives' cripple Asses. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 423 Already has the 'Pig Wife's' early care Mark'd out a station, for her crockery ware.

Pig, *v.* [f. PIG *sb.*[1]]

1. Of a sow: To bring forth pigs; to farrow. (Cf. *to child, kid, lamb, foal*, etc.) Also *transf.* and *fig.* a. *intr.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 952 To pygge as a sowe, *pourceler*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 532 A Sow which hath once pigged. 1660 *Peters Last Will* in *Harl. Misc.* (Park) VII. 135 The bed that Pope Joan pigged in. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 698 A sow..about to pig ..will carry straw in her mouth, and collect it in a heap in some retired corner of a shed.

b. *trans.*

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 150 When his dame dothe pigge him, [the bore] hath as many teeth as euer he will haue whyles he liueth. 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 199 This is not halfe the littour of inckehorn-isme, that those foure pages haue pigd. 1699 E. TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 432 This Monster was pigged alive. 1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 117/1 A large sow..has pigged 21 pigs at one litter. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1194 The litters which are pigged in June..should always be reared.

2. *intr.* To huddle together in a disorderly, dirty, or irregular manner; to herd, lodge, or sleep together, like pigs; to sleep in a place like a pigsty. Also *to pig it.*

1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 52 When I pig'd with mine own Dad. 1697 VANBRUGH *Provok'd Wife* v. ii. 65 So, now you being as dirty and as nasty as myself, we may go pig together. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XIV. i, The only hole in which you can pig for the night. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), 'To *pig* together', to lie, like pigs, two or three together. 1857 *Ecclesiologist* XVIII. 312 The six-and-thirty Irish families who pig in the adjoining alley. 1889 G. ALLEN *Tents of Shem* ii, You'd have to pig it with the goats and the cattle.

b. *trans.* To crowd (persons) together like pigs.

1882 SCHOULER *Hist. U. S.* II. 276 Pigging travellers together in the same chamber if not in the same bed. 1882 *Daily News* 20 May 2/2 Women and children were often found in them 'pigged' into small rooms.

† 3. *Glove-making.* To hang many skins together.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 86/2 *Pigging* is hanging of many skins together. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* s.v. *Wet-glover.*

Hence **Pi·gging** *vbl. sb.*, farrowing; huddling.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 518 An easie and safe pigging. 1898 B. BURLEIGH *Sirdar & Khalifa* xii. 191 The 'pigging' in Soudan dirt and heat.

Pigage, erron. obs. form of PYGARG.

Pig-back, dial. form of PICK-A-BACK.

Pi·g-bed. [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + BED *sb.*]

1. A place where a pig lies, a pigsty, a pig's lair.

1821 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1825) 17 Their dwellings are little better than pig-beds.

2. The bed of sand in which pigs of iron are cast.

1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 254/2 The first 2 or 3 cwt. of iron..sometimes will have to be poured into a pig-bed. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 99 On another pig-bed we see the next operation in progress; the men are with sledge-hammers breaking apart the pigs from the sows, and knocking them into separate existence.

3. *Comb.*, as **pig-bedman**: see quot.

1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Pig-bedmen*, term synonymous with 'pig-lifters'.

Pi·g-cote. Also **pigs-cote.** [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + COTE *sb.*[1]] A pig's house or pigsty.

1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 94, I will not leaue S. Paul or Burgundy A bare pigs-cote to shroud them in. 1605 in Halliwell *Shaks.* (1887) II. 142 Warning to Henry Smyth to plucke downe his pigges-cote which is built nere the chapple wall. 1810 *Hull Improv. Act* 53 Any hogstie or pigscote. 1888 C. KERRY in *Yrnl. Derby Archæol. Soc.* X. 20 A stone from this wall formerly decorated the gable-end of a pig-cote.

attrib. 1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 144 Throwing his arms upon the pig-cote wall.

Pigdom (pi·gdəm). *nonce-wd.* [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + -DOM.] The condition of a pig; the realm of pigs.

1879 SALA *Paris Herself Again* I. iii. 41 Every phase of human hoggishness developed by excess into an unmitigated pigdom is there illustrated. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* I. 301 No doubt a very refined and cultivated specimen of pigdom.

Pigell, obs. form of PICKLE.

Pigeon (pi·dʒən), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **pejon**, 5-**oun, pegion, -geon, -gon, pyjon**, 5–6 **pygeon**, (6 **pegyn, -gyon**, 6 **pigin, -gen, -gion, pygion, -gon**), 7 **pidgion, pydgion, (pigeing)**, 7–9 **pidgeon**, 5– **pigeon.** [ME. *pyjon, pejon*, a. OF. *pijon* (13th c.), *pyjoun* young bird, esp. young dove, dove, mod.F. *pigeon* (whence the mod.Eng. spelling), = Pr. *pijon*, Sp. *pichon*, It. *piccione*:—late L. (3rd c.) *pīpiōn-em* (*pīpio*) a young cheeping bird, squab, f. *pīpire* to chirp, cheep.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* xlviii. (1780) 29 Peions ystewed. Take peions and stop hem with garlec ypylled and with gode erbes ihewe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* (E. E. T. S.) 58 Pyionys. *Ibid.* 109 Mynce þe rostid peiouns. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 68 Peions rosted. 1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 399 Item, [my mastyr spent] in vij.^{xx} peyre pegones, xj.*s.* viij.*d.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 277/2 A Pigeon, *pipio*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A iv, The mawe of a pegeon. *Ibid.* C viij, The gut of a pegion. 1502 *Will of Moore* (Somerset Ho.), A Welsh pygon. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 911 The pygions, *les pigeons*. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xli. (1541) 31 Pygeons be easily digested. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 68 For kecheynge of pegyns in the nyght. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 168 For breeding of Pigions. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* (1627) 273 Pigins dung, and hennes or poultry dung. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 5 O ten times faster Venus Pidgions flye. 1663 Pidgeon [see B. 2]. 1808 A. PARSONS *Trav.* v. 137 In shooting wild pidgeons.

B. Signification.

I. † 1. A young dove. *Obs.*

(Cf. Suff. dial. *pigeon-gull* = a young gull.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 396/1 Pyione, yonge dove, *columbella*. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 128 A pejon as law doth devyse Sche schuld eke offur as for hur trespace. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 58 Had goten two pygeons [Flemish orig. *twee ionghe duuen*] as they cam first out of her neste. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pygion a byrde, *pigon, colombette*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 165/34 A Pigion, *pipio*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 171 Turtle Doues..the olde ones be not so good, as neither the Pigion is. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxxiv. 290 As well the male as the female be carefull of their young pigeons and love them alike.

2. A bird of the family *Columbidæ*, a dove, either wild or domesticated.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 445, vi. peions for a peny, a fatte goos for .ii.*d.*, a pygge for a peny. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* ii. 24 A payre off turtle doues or ij yonge pigions [νεοσσοὺς περιστερῶν, pullos columbarum, WYCLIF twey culuere briddis]. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* IV. (1880) 53 b, On Whitsunday, whyte Pigeons tame, in strings from heauen flie. 1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* XXXII. xlvii, As Noah's Pigeon, which returned no more. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Oct., The Queene ..was so ill as to be shaved, and pidgeons put to her feet, and to have the extreme unction given her by the priests. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 306 At Modena..pigeons are taught to carry letters to a place appointed, and bring back answers. 1790 *Bystander* 376 The doctor was putting the pigeons to the feet of an old miser. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1858) I. ix. 578 No Frenchman..could keep pigeons, unless he were a noble.

b. Many varieties and breeds are distinguished, the pigeon being a noted object of fancy breeding; as *Barb* or *Barbary pigeon*, CARRIER-PIGEON, *homing pigeon, nun pigeon, pouter pigeon, tumbler pigeon*, etc.: among the distinct species are the **bronze-, bronzed-**, or **gold-winged p., crown, crowned**, or **goura p., fruit p., ground p., nutmeg p., partridge p.**, PASSENGER-P., **rock p., tooth-billed p., wild p., wood-pigeon**: for the more important of which see the qualifying word; cf. also DOVE *sb.* 1. Applied also with defining word to other birds, as **Cape, Hill**, or **Mountain pigeon**, a small species of petrel, *Procellaria* or *Daption capensis*, abundant at the Cape of Good Hope; **Diving** or **Sea pigeon**, the Black Guillemot or DOVEKIE.

1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 84 The first Diving Pigeon I got..at Spitzbergen. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* I. 261 Pigeons or Doves are of several sorts,..as Wood-pigeons, Rock-pigeons, Stock or Ring-doves, Turtle-doves, Dove-coat-pigeons. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 89, I found a kind of wild Pidgeons, who built not as Wood Pidgeons in a Tree, but rather as House Pidgeons, in the Holes of the Rocks. 1731 MEDLEY *Kolben's C. G. Hope* II. 158 Call'd at the Cape the Hill or Mount Pigeon. 1819 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* XI. I. 11 Red-Crowned Pigeon (*Columba rubricapilla*)..Native of Antiqua in the Isle of Panay. 1832 J. BISCHOFF *Van Diemen's Land* II. 31 By far the most beautiful birds in the island..are called bronze-winged pigeons. 1884 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Melb. Mem.* II The lovely bronze-wing pigeons were plentiful then amid the wild forest tracks of Newtown. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 2 Chequered blue dragon pigeons.

3. *fig.* † a. A young woman, a girl; a sweetheart; also, a coward. *Obs.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 80 *Antaphrasis*, when a word scornefully deliuered, is vnderstood by his contrary, as..of a blacke Moore woman to say: Will yee see a faire pigeon? 1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 223 [When] they had spent vpon her what they had..then forsooth, she and her yoong Pigion [her daughter] turne them out of doores like prodigall children. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i. Wks. 1873 II. 20 Sure hee's a pigeon, for he has no gall. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 13 He had left her in the Lurch..And under colour of Religion Courted another pretty Pigeon.

b. *slang.* One who lets himself be swindled, esp. in gaming; a simpleton, dupe, gull; esp. in phrase *to pluck a pigeon*, to 'fleece' a person. [= F. *pigeon* in same sense, in allusion to its harmlessness, and to pigeon-catching.]

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 245 As wily a pigeon, as the cunning Goldsmith, that accused his neighbour, and condemned himselfe. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 112 This pigeon being not of full age, could not contract it without the consent of his mother. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* 187 Nor is Sancho behind him for a Pigeon; both deluded commit equall errors. 1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 47, I was instantly looked up to as an impending pigeon..and every preparation was made for the plucking. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IV. vii. P 4 A flatterer may play what game he likes against the pigeons of high life! 1862 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv, He was a famous pigeon for the play-men; they lived upon him.

† c. A sharper of a particular kind: see quot. *Obs.*

[Allusion to *carrier-pigeon.*]

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 101 *Pigeons.*—Sharpers who, during the drawing of the lottery, wait ready mounted, near Guildhall, and as soon as the first two or three numbers are drawn, which they receive from a confederate..ride with them..to some distant insurance office..where there is another of the gang, commonly a decent looking woman.. to her he secretly gives the numbers, which she insures for a considerable sum.

4. A flying target, used as a substitute for a real pigeon; also, a toy consisting of an imitation propeller which is made to fly in the air.

Clay pigeon, a saucer of baked clay thrown into the air from a trap, as a mark at shooting-matches.

b. *To fly the blue pigeon* (*Naut. slang*): to heave the deep-sea lead.

1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 77 'I'll learn you how to fly the Blue Pigeon. Shooo!'..The lead sang a deep droning song as Tom Platt whirled it round and round.

II. *attrib.* and *Comb.* 5. a. attributive, in sense 'of a pigeon', 'of pigeons', as *pigeon-dung, -egg, -gun, -louse, -racing*; 'for, used by, or inhabited by pigeons', as *pigeon-basket, -box, -cote, -hutch, -loft, -room, -roost, -tower*; 'containing or made of pigeons', as *pigeon-pie*; b. objective and obj.

gen., as *pigeon-eating, -feeder, -keeper, -killer, -shooter, -shooting*; **c.** instrumental, as *pigeon-haunted* adj.; **d.** similative, as *pigeon-tinted* adj.

1750 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 II. 206, I had .. nailed against the wall of my house a *pigeon-box that would hold six pair. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 402 There was Wheat, steeped in Water..mixed with *Pigeon-Dung. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 77 Thou halfpenny purse of wit, thou *Pidgeon-egge of discretion. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 258 The *pigeon-feeder fills his own mouth with a watery mixture of canary-seeds and vetch seeds. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 131 Nor is it assumed that they alone can make good shooting *pigeon-guns. 1842 SIR A. DE VERE *Song of Faith* 207 *Pigeon-haunted chestnuts musical. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 453 A *pigeon-hutch fastened against one of the walls. 1879 L. WRIGHT (*title*) Practical *Pigeon Keeper. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 220 Thus from th' Idæan height, Like air's swift *pigeon-killer, stoop'd the far-shot God of light. 1735 J. MOORE *Columbarium* 3 A *Pigeon Loft ought to be built to the South or South-west. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 41 (1754) 217 Built in the form of *pidgeon-pye, A house there is for rooks to lie And roost in. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 10/1 We gather that *pigeon-racing is now almost a national sport. 1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 29 Like to a martyr'd Abbeys courser doom, Devoutly alter'd to a *Pigeon room. 1793 *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 251 *Pigeon-shooting. Embellished with a beautiful Representation of a Pigeon Shooting Match. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* ix. 234 Pigeon-shooting, against the practice of which many sportsmen protest..is of lowly origin. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 269 Dechney..abounds in *pigeon-towers.

6. Special Combs.: **pigeon-cherry** = *pin-cherry* (PIN *sb.* 13); †**pigeon-diver**, the Black Guillemot or Dovekie; **pigeon-express** = *pigeon-post*; **pigeon-fancier**, one who keeps and breeds fancy pigeons; so **pigeon-fancy**, **-fancying**; **pigeon-fieldfare**, the fieldfare, *Turdus pilaris*, or a variety of it; **pigeon-flyer**, one who lets homing pigeons fly, or takes part in pigeon-races; so **pigeon-flying**; †**pigeon-foot** = *pigeon's foot*: see b; **pigeon-goose**, an Australian goose, *Cereopsis novæ hollandiæ*, having a remarkably large cere; the Cape-Barren Goose; **pigeon-grass**, (*U. S.*) a name of the grass *Setaria glauca*; **pigeon-guillemot**, *Cepphus columba*, a sea-fowl of the North Pacific; **pigeon-hearted** *a.*, faint-hearted, timid, chicken-hearted; †**pigeon-livered** *a.*, meek, gentle; **pigeon man**, see quot.; **pigeon marl**, dove-coloured marl, columbine marl; **pigeon-match**, a match at shooting pigeons released from traps at a fixed distance from the competitors; **pigeon-pair**, boy and girl twins; also, a family consisting of a son and daughter only; so called from a pigeon's brood, which usually consists of a male and female; **pigeon-post**, the conveyance of letters or dispatches by homing pigeons; **pigeon-poult**, the young of a pigeon; **pigeon ruby** = *pigeon's blood* (see b); **pigeon salt**, see quot.; **pigeon-shot**, one skilled in pigeon-shooting; **pigeon-tail**, an American name of the pintail duck (*Dafila acuta*); **pigeon-tick**, see quot.; **pigeon-woodpecker**, (*U. S.*) = FLICKER.

1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 83 The *Pigeon-diver.. one of the beautifullest birds of Spitzbergen. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxii, You were quite a *pigeon-fancier. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 7/3 A well-known homer pigeon-fancier. 1879 L. WRIGHT *Pract. Pigeon Keeper* v, It is almost impossible to make any real mark in the *pigeon-fancy without exhibiting in some form. *Ibid.* ix, The almond Tumbler..has done more to raise the tone of pigeon-fancy than any other breed. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Cousin Nicholas* xxiv, A flight of *pigeon-fieldfares .. alighted among the berries of the shrubbery. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 124 For membership of the Sanhedrim..a man must not be a dicer, usurer, *pigeon-flyer, or dealer in the produce of the Sabbatical year. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 2/3 [Places] in which *pigeon-flying is a sport more honoured in the breach than the observance. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, *Pigeon foot (an herb), *Geranium, pes columbinus.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Cereopsis*, There is but one species..called the *pigeon-goose. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* III. iv, I never saw such *pigeon-hearted people! 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, This fellow is pigeon-hearted, and light-headed. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 603 But I am *Pigeon-Liuer'd, and lacke Gall To make oppression bitter. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 12/2 Those London Stock Exchange celebrities of the thirties, the '*pigeon men'. They established a service of pigeons between London and Paris. 1601 *Pigeon marle [see COLUMBINE *a.* 3]. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 32 Columbine or Pidgeon Marle lies in lumpes and cloddes. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 377 The auger brought up marle..some of it mixed with blue veins (which I will here call pigeon marle). 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 140 A *pigeon match for a stake of 200 guineas. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Pigeon-pair. 1900 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* 1873 LYTTON *Parisians* XII. xv, We learnt that through a *pigeon-post. 1892 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 5/5 The Caliphs made the pigeon post a regular institution in the Nile delta. *Ibid.*, There were six pigeon-posts between Cairo and Damascus, and ten between the latter city and Behnessa. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Nov. 7/2 In the pigeon-post message of Friday no reference to the use of infantry is made. 1885 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* II. 50 On the night of the consummation they cut the throat of a *pigeon-poult. 1897 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 6/2 Colour shades ranging from..pale rose to intense *pigeon ruby red. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1063 A fift sort is *Pigeon Salt, which is nothing but the Brine running out through the crack of a Phat, and hardens to a clod on the outside over the fire. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Nov. 3/1 A sportsman of renown in many branches, especially as a '*pigeon-shot'. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Pigeon-tick, (*a*) A parasitic mite (*Argas reflexus*) found on pigeons. (*b*) The common bird mite.

b. Combs. with *pigeon's*: **pigeon's blood**, *attrib.* (of a ruby) dark red, rather lighter than beef's blood; **pigeon's egg**, a bead of Venetian glass, of the shape and size of the egg of a pigeon; **pigeon's-foot** (= F. *pied de pigeon*), dove's-foot (*Geranium columbinum*, *G. molle*); **pigeon's grass** [cf. Gr. περιστερεών, a kind of verbena, f. περιστερά dove], the common vervain; **pigeon's throat**, see quot.; **pigeon's wing**, (*a*) see quot.; (*b*) = PIGEON-WING 3 (q. v. for quot.).

1894 *Daily News* 13 Apr. 6/6 If this were a real *pigeon's blood ruby it might command a price of £700 a carat. 1894 *Times* 14 Apr. 15/5 The stone..was made up to resemble a pigeon's blood stone. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxli. 793 Commonly called in Latin *Pes Columbinus*:..it may be called ..in English Doues foote, and *Pigeons foote. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pigeon's-Foot*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 199 *Geranium columbinum*, Pigeon's-foot Crane's-bill. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccxxxv. 581 Veruain is called .. in English .. of some *Pigeons grasse, or Columbine, because Pigeons are delighted to be amongst it, as also to eate thereof, as Apuleius writeth. 1884 in MILLER *Plant-n.* 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Oct. 698/2 The newest colour for this purpose is '*pigeon's throat', a pretty blue-green shade. 1884 *Ibid.* Apr. 312/1 Such delicate mixtures as *pigeon's-wing—blue, grey, and pink blended—will be used in some of the best dresses.

Pigeon, *v.* [f. PIGEON *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To treat as a pigeon, make a pigeon of (see PIGEON *sb.* 3 b); to gull, cheat, delude, swindle; esp. at cards or any kind of gaming.

1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 2 Of Lies, and Fables, which did Pigeon The Rabble into false Religion. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* VI. 69 They have pigeoned me out of my money. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) II. 252 They mean to pigeon him, as their phrase is. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* II. 60 Having one night been pigeoned of a vast property. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xlvi, You sit down with him in private to cards, and pigeon him.

2. To send (a message) by a pigeon.

1870 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Nov. 5 Gambetta has 'pigeoned' a message to-day..that ought to be very reassuring.

Hence **Pi'geoned** *ppl. a.*, **Pi'geoning** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. 1873 = subsisting on pigeons). Also **Pi'geonable** *a.*, easily cheated, gullible; **Pi'geoner**, a swindler, a sharper.

1844 TUPPER *Heart* vi. 58 Patron of two or three *pigeonable city sparks. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 450 A knowledge of human nature under its more credulous and pigeonable aspect. 1777 *Gamblers* 45 *Pigeon'd Jockies curse thy deeper wit. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* 110 You might divide them into two parties—the *pigeoners and the pigeoned. 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* III. 222 She was not worth *pigeoning. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sk. Bk.* 70 He married the lady who put him up to pigeoning.

Pigeon (English): see PIDGIN.

Pi'geon-berry. [f. PIGEON *sb.* + BERRY *sb.*1] In N. America, The Poke-weed, *Phytolacca decandra*; also its berry; in Bermuda *Duranta Plumieri*; in Australia, The native mulberry, *Litsæa ferruginea*, N.O. *Laurineæ* (Morris 1898).

1775 A. BURNABY *Trav.* 7 The pigeon-berry and rattle-snake-root, so esteemed in all ulcerous and pleuretical complaints. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 134 About the second or third year, another weed, called pigeon-berry, succeeds the fireweed. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 425.

Pi'geon-breast. *Path.* A deformed human chest, laterally constricted, so that the sternum is thrust forward, as in a pigeon.

1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1039/2 It was observed that he had the 'pigeon breast' form of chest. 1879 KHORY *Princ. Med.* 46 The pigeon-breast is produced by pressure on their ribs at their angles when they are young and yielding.

So **Pi'geon-brea·sted** *a.*, having a breast narrow and projecting like a pigeon's.

1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* July 509 The French cuirass is made pigeon-breasted, so that unless a musket ball be fired very near it is turned off. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 300 Madame la duchesse, in her..long-waisted, pigeon-breasted gown. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxviii, All the [waxwork] gentlemen were very pigeon-breasted. 1872 T. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* 67 Of rather lanky appearance and pigeon-breasted.

Pi'geongram. [f. PIGEON *sb.*, after *telegram.*] A message transmitted by a homing pigeon.

1885 *Times* 7 Apr. 4 On Sunday a message was sent by pigeons from Brighton to Dover..A telegram in reply said—'Your pigeongram .. caused much rejoicing.' 1887 *Ibid.* 11 Apr. 11/2 Pigeongrams were freely used in the course of Saturday, and with success. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Nov. 12/1 The need is being supplied by the Great Barrier Pigeongram Agency of Picton-street, Auckland. *Ibid.*, The edges are fastened by sticking on a pigeongram postage stamp, a copy of which we reproduce.

Pi'geon-haw·k. A hawk that preys on pigeons: a name given in England to the sparrow-hawk, and sometimes to the goshawk; in U. S. to the American merlin (*Falco columbarius*) and related species, also sometimes to the sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter velox*).

1871 J. BURROUGHS *Wake-Robin, Adirondac* (1884) 106 A pigeon-hawk came prowling by our camp. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 528 *Accipiter fuscus*, Sharp-shinned Hawk, 'Pigeon' Hawk, so-called, but not to be confounded with *Falco columbarius*. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 136 Sparrow-Hawk..also called..Pigeon hawk.

Pi'geon-hole, *sb.* [f. PIGEON *sb.* + HOLE *sb.*]

1. A hole (usually one of several) in a wall or door for the passage of pigeons; hence *transf.*, *esp.* one of a series of holes for the passage of liquids, escape of gases, etc.

1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* II. 569 Two doors, the one at the bottom with a 'Pidgeon' hole in it. 1858 DICKENS *Lett.* 25 Aug., To see him and John sitting in pay-boxes, and surveying Ireland out of pigeon-holes. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pigeon-hole*,..one of a series of holes in an arch of a furnace through which the gases of combustion pass..One of a series of holes in the block at the bottom of a keir through which its liquid contents can be discharged.

2. A small recess or hole (usually one of a series) for domestic pigeons to nest in; hence any small hole, recess, or room for sitting or staying in.

[1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 171 To feede and fatte them [turtle doves] in little darke roomes like Pigions holes.] 1622 *Chapel Warden's Acc. Bks.* in D. Lysons *Environs Lond.* (1795) II. 221 Paid for making a new payre of pigeing-holes, 2*s.* 6*d.* 1820 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* July (1894) II. xvi. 89 We have plenty of little pigeon holes of bedrooms. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 212 There was..a single dormitory for four hundred men!..Each pigeon-hole is six feet and a half long, by two feet in width.

†**3.** A cant name for the stocks; also for the similar instrument in which the hands of culprits were confined, when being flogged. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 233, I dare scarce speake of Bridewell because my shoulders tremble at the name of it,..yet looke but in there, and you shall heare poore men with their handes in their Piggen hoales crye, Oh fie vpon whoores, when Fouler giues them the terrible lash. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* IV. iv, Downe with him, and carry him away, to the pigeon-holes. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 193 He'll be stock'd into the Pigeon Holes, where I'm afraid the poor Devil must make his Nest tonight.

†**4.** *pl.* An old out-door game, the particulars of which are doubtful: cf. quot. 1847-78. *Obs.*

1608 *Great Frost* in Arb. *Garner* I. 97 Then had they other games of 'nine holes' and 'pigeon holes' in great numbers. 1632 ROWLEY *New Wonder* II. i. 17 What ware deale you in? Cards, Dice, Bowls, or Pigeon-holes? 1684 *Ballads illustr. Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 7 In several places there was nine-pins plaid, And pidgeon holes for to beget a trade. 1699 *Poor Robin* (N.), The boys are by themselves in sholes, At nine-pins or at pigeon-holes. [1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Pigeon-holes*, a game like our modern bagatelle, where there was a machine with arches for the balls to run through, resembling the cavities made for pigeons in a dove-house.]

5. *Printing.* An excessively wide space between two words. Now not common.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxii. ¶ 4 These wide Whites are by Compositers (in way of Scandal) call'd Pidgeon-holes. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 396 [Too] many Blanks of m-quadrats will be contemptuously called *Pigeon-holes. *Ibid.* 398 Doubles..are conspicuous by the Pigeon-holes which are made to drive out what was doubled. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1140. 1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing* 590. 1900 POWELL *Practical Printing* 174.

†**6.** A seat in the top row of the gallery of a theatre. *Obs.*

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 22/1 All tickets to be stampt *pro rata*..; a first gallery ticket for the play, one six-penny stamp: an upper gallery, or pigeon hole, or upper seat ticket for the play, to have one three penny stamp. 1828 *Lights & Shades* I. 254 On his benefit-night Brandon may be seen in one of the pigeon-holes, counting the house. *Ibid.* II. 104 But in the pigeon-holes!..you lean over—you hear the undistinguishable joke that sets every body else laughing.

7. One of a series of compartments or cells, in a cabinet, writing-table, or range of shelves, open in front, and used for the keeping (with ready accessibility) of documents or papers of any kind, also of wares in a shop.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) II. 156, I put the papers.. into a pigeon hole in a cabinet. 1796 BURKE *Let. to Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 58 Abbé Sieyes has whole nests of pigeon-holes full of constitutions ready made, ticketed, sorted, and numbered. 1862 SALA *Ship-Chandler* iii. 48 Pigeon-holes full of samples of sugar, of rice, tobacco, coffee, and the like. 1879 J. A. H. MURRAY *Addr. Philol. Soc.* 8 This has been fitted with blocks of pigeon-holes, 1029 in number, for the reception of the alphabetically arranged slips.

b. *fig.* One of a series of ideal 'compartments' for the classification of facts or objects of thought.

[1847 FR. A. KEMBLE *Later Life* III. 305 People whose minds are parcelled out into distinct divisions—pigeon-holes, as it were.] 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 189 Without attempting to arrange in the pigeon-holes of our logical formulæ the incomprehensible mysteries encircling that part of it. 1902 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biog.* III. iii. 90 He was incapable of arranging his thoughts in orderly symmetrical pigeon-holes.

8. *attrib.* Consisting of, like, or having pigeon-holes or small apertures.

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. & Mines & Mining* 403 When the fire-place is separated from the ore compartment by pigeon-hole walls. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 31 Large fronts pierced by small pigeon-hole windows. 1899 *Academy* 30 Sept. 329/1 Mr. Saintsbury has the pigeon-hole form of mind..collecting any quantity of conclusions and facts, and after tying them up and labelling them, putting them away for future use in the pigeon-holes of memory.

Pi'geon-hole, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To deposit in a pigeon-hole (7); to put away in the proper place for later reference; hence, to put aside (a matter) for (or on pretence of) future consideration, to shelve for the present.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 67 We do not doubt that Lord Lyveden, by duly pigeon-holing the complaint, added another to the long list of his public services in that line. 1872 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (ed. 2) II. VII. xviii. 485 Duly arranged and, as it were, pigeon-holed for future use. 1889 PEMBERTON *E. A. Sothern* 69 Robertson's original adaptation..was, for a period of eight years, 'pigeon-holed'.

2. To assign to a definite place in the memory, or in an ordered group of ideas; to place or label mentally; to classify or analyse exhaustively.

1870 H. Stevens *Bibl. Geogr. & Historica* Introd. 4 The writer has thought it well to pigeon-hole the facts. 1880 *Times* 2 Oct. 11/3 Text-books should be merely used as means for..pigeon-holing knowledge previously acquired. 1889 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 338/1 [Bacon admonishes] against.. wilful rejection of facts that we are unable to pigeon-hole.

3. To furnish with or divide into a set of pigeon-holes; also *fig.*

1848 [see Pigeon-holed below]. 1879 J. A. H. Murray *Addr. Philol. Soc.*, I had proposed to pigeon-hole the walls of the drawing-room for the reception of the dictionary material. 1883 J. Payn *Thicker than Water* xiii, A huge sandbank..pigeonholed by sand-martins. 1895 *Amer. Ann. of Deaf* Apr. 132 The mind will have been pigeon-holed, and the knowledge classified.

4. To deposit (a corpse) in a columbarium. *rare.*

1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 117 Decently pigeon-holed in a Roman tomb.

Hence **Pi·geon-holed** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·geon-holing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Pi·geon-holer.**

1848 *Bachelor of Albany* 192 It was a pigeon-holed, alphabeted mind. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 63 He obtained a formal list of the 'pigeon-holed' treaties. 1884 *Q. Rev.* July 23 The lover of uniformity and pigeon-holed schemes. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 120 A dozen large, clumsy-looking desks, with a variety of pigeon-holed shelves. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pigeon-holed*, formed with pigeonholes for the escape of gases of combustion..or for the discharge of liquids. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Apr. 754 That terrible pigeonholer of freight schedules at Washington. 1904 G. Meredith in *Daily Chron.* 5 July 3/2 Most women have a special talent for pigeon-holing.

Pi·geon-house. A building or structure in which pigeons are kept; a columbarium, dovecote.

1537-8 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 592 The windows of the pigeon-house. 1644 Sir E. Nicholas in *N. Papers* (Camden) 63 They sought everye place in my howse for me, and my pydgion howse and all my out-howses. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Pigeon*, Any lord of a manor may build a pigeon-house on his land, but a tenant cannot do it without the lord's licence. 1840 *Cottager's Man.* 26 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The perspective elevation shows the bee-house, with pigeon-house over.

transf. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 263 A cage or pigeon house, romthsome enough to comprehend her and..her nurse.

Pi·geon-pea. [= F. *pois-pigeon*, in sense 1.]

1. The seed of a leguminous shrub, *Cajanus indicus*, native of the E. Indies, and cultivated in many tropical countries; also, the plant itself.

1725 Sloane *Jamaica* II. 31 Pigeon-pease..their chief use is to feed pigeons, whence the name. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 196 Pigeon or Angola Peas. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Pigeon Pea, *Cytisus*. 1858 Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 279 In Jamaica..the plant has been called *Pigeon Pea*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 189 In the West Indies they [the two varieties of *Cajanus indicus*] are called Pigeon peas.

2. The Black Bitter-vetch, *Ervum Ervilia.*

1884 in Miller *Plant-n.*

Pi·geon-plum.

1. A tree of the W. Indies and Florida, *Coccoloba Floridana*, N.O. *Polygonaceæ*, the wood of which is used in cabinet-making; also, its edible grape-like fruit.

1747 Catesby in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 604 *Cerasus latiore folio*...The Pidgeon-Plum. The Fruit is ripe in December, is pleasant-tasted, and is the Food of Pidgeons, and many wild Animals. 1884 in Miller *Plant-n.*

2. A W. African tree of the genus *Chrysobalanus*, N.O. *Rosaceæ*; also, its succulent edible fruit.

1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, Pigeon Plum-tree, Sierra Leone. *Chrysobalanus ellipticus* and *C. luteus.*

Pi·geonry. [f. Pigeon *sb.* + -ry.] A place where pigeons are kept; a pigeon-house.

1840 *Cottager's Man.* 24 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The pigeonry over the porch. 1894 Baring-Gould *Deserts S. France* I. 21 Well-built farmhouses, with their pigeonries like towers.

Pigeon's milk. Also 8 pigeon milk.

1. The partly-digested food with which pigeons feed their young.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 53 The young [of the pigeon]..are fed with the so-called 'pigeon's milk' regurgitated by the parent bird into the mouth of the young.

2. An imaginary article for which children are sent on a fool's errand.

1777 Brand *Antiq.* 398 Sending Persons on what are called sleeveless Errands..for Pigeon Milk, with similar ridiculous Absurdities. 1811 *Lex. Balatr.* s.v., Boys and novices are frequently sent on the first of April to buy pigeons milk. 1828 in *Craven Gloss.* 1872 *Punch* 3 Feb. 46/2.

Pi·geon-toe·d, *a.*

1. *Ornith.* Having the toes arranged on a level as in pigeons; peristeropod.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The pigeon-toed fowl are the mound-birds or *Megapodiidæ* of the Old World and the curassows or *Cracidæ* of America.

2. Of persons or horses: Turning the toes or feet inwards; in-toed.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 119 When the horse is pigeon-toed, that is turns his toes inwards. 1805 T. Harral *Scenes of Life* III. 66 She stooped, and was pigeon-toed. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Dead Drummer*, The pigeon-toed step, and the rollicking motion Bespoke them two genuine sons of the Ocean.

So **Pi·geon-toe·s** *sb. pl.*, feet which turn inwards.

1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v. *Pigeon-toed*, Bow-legs and pigeon-toes usually go together.

Pi·geon-wing, *sb.*

1. A wing belonging to, or like that of, a pigeon.

1781 Cowper *Conversation* 576 Like angel heads in stone with pigeon-wings.

2. A mode of dressing the side hair, fashionable with men towards the end of the 18th c.; also, a wig of the same form.

1889 G. W. Cable *Stories of Louisiana* xiii. 94 It was impossible for us to work up a [hair] club and pigeon wings like those I saw on the two young Du Clozels.

3. A particular fancy step in dancing; also, a fancy figure in skating. *U. S.*

1807-8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 78 [He] is famous at the *pirouet* and the pigeon-wing. [1849 J. P. Morier *M. Toutrond* 166 Camille was very skilful at cutting capers..I shone in making pigeon's wings, and I made plenty of room for myself among the islanders.] 1854 W. Irving in *Life* 6 Apr., The scene brought my old dancing-school days back again, and I felt very much like cutting a pigeon-wing.

Hence **Pi·geon-wing** *v.* (see 3 above).

1826 F. Cooper *Mohicans* (1829) II. iv. 59 The toes are squared, as though one of the French dancers had been in, pigeon-winging his tribe!

Pigeon-wood (pi·dʒənwud). A name given to the wood of various tropical or sub-tropical trees or shrubs, mostly used in cabinet-work, so called from the marking or colouring; also, the trees themselves. Among these are

a. *Connarus guianensis*, the Zebra-wood of S. America and the W. Indies; b. *Diospyros tetrasperma*, a W. Indian ebony shrub; c. *Dipholis salicifolia*, a large fragrant W. Indian tree, of the star-apple kind; d. *Guettarda speciosa*, a small evergreen, growing in the tropics of both hemispheres; e. *Pisonia obtusata*, the beefwood, corkwood, or porkwood of the W. Indies and Florida; f. species of *Coccoloba* (Pigeon-plum): Long-leaved P., *C. diversifolia*; Small-leaved P., *C. punctata*, *C. leoganensis.*

1745 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 13 July, My lady Hervey..is charmed with the hopes of these new shoes, and has already bespoke herself a pair of pigeon wood. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 368 Pigeon Wood. This shrubby tree is greatly esteemed on account of its wood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 887 Pigeon-wood, Zebra-wood, of which there are several kinds. Jamaica P., *Guettarda speciosa.*

Pi·g-faced, *a.* Having a face resembling that of a pig.

Pig-faced lady or *woman* (earlier *hog-faced gentlewoman*), a reputed woman of rank or wealth, with a pig's face, for whom a husband was supposed to be wanted; the subject of much delusion among the credulous, from the 17th c. onwards. See Chambers' *Book of Days* II. 255.

[Cf. 1640 *hog-faced*: Hog *sb.*1 12 c.] 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 17/1 The original invention of the pig-faced woman, about the year 1764. 1858 Lytton *What will he do* I. i. 1 Farther on..rose the more pretending fabrics which lodged the attractive forms of the Mermaid, the Norfolk Giant, the Pig-faced Lady, the Spotted Boy, and the Calf with Two Heads. 1864 R. Chambers *Bk. Days* II. 255/1 There can be few that have not heard of the celebrated pig-faced lady, whose mythical story is common to several European languages. *Ibid.* 257/2 The 'pig-faced lady' is not unfrequently exhibited..by showmen at fairs, etc...represented by a bear having its head carefully shaved, and adorned with cap, bonnet, ringlets, etc.

Pi·gful. [f. Pig *sb.*2 + -ful.] As much as fills a pig or earthen pot.

1590 in *Law's Memorials* (1818) Pref. 28 Sending a pigfull of poyson to the house where young Foullis was. 1665 Ld. Fountainhall *Jrnl.* (1900) 92 A pigful of holy water wt a spung in it.

Pi·gfully, *adv. humorous nonce-wd.* [After *manfully.*] In a manner befitting a pig.

1891 Atkinson *Last Giant Killers* 68 And.. didn't the two little pigs concerned play their parts pigfully!

Piggard: see Pig-herd. **Piggeis:** see Peggy-mast. **Piggen,** obs. form of Piggin.

Piggery1 (pi·gəri). [f. Pig *sb.*1 + -ery.]

1. A place where pigs are kept; a pig-breeding establishment; a pigsty. Also *fig.*

1804-6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 195 Go to the Duke of Bedford's piggery at Woburn. 1841-54 J. L. Stephens *Centr. Amer.* 110 The interior was a perfect piggery full of fleas and children. 1867 J. Hatton *Tallants of B.* iii, There were model cow-houses, cattle-sheds, piggeries. 1868 Ruskin *Time & Tide* (1872) 193 Here we are in a piggery, mainly by our own fault, hungry enough, and for ourselves, anything but respectable.

2. Piggish condition; piggishness.

1867 Macgregor *Voy. Alone* ii. (1868) 65 Is the positive piggery of the lowest stratum of our fellows part of the price we pay for glorious freedom? 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Feb. 238/1 They prefer piggery to decency.

3. Pigs collectively.

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 633 That sackful of rebellious piggery heaving and struggling.

Pi·ggery2, *Sc.* [f. Pig *sb.*2 + -ery.] A place where pots and vessels of earthenware are made or sold; a pottery; a crockery-shop; also, earthenware, crockery. 1825 in Jamieson.

Piggicide (pi·gisəid). *nonce-wd.* [f. Pig *sb.*1 + -cide 1.] One who kills pigs.

1834-5 S. R. Maitland *Voluntary Syst.* (1837) 345 Of course these piggicides were as much obliged to pay [etc.].

Piggin (pi·gin). Chiefly *dial.* Also 7 -an, 7-9 -en, -on, 9 -ing; β. 6 pickein. [perh. a deriv. of Pig *sb.*2; but the history is obscure. The Gaelic *pigean* is dim. of *pige*, *pigeadh*, app. ad. Lowl. Sc. *pig.* Ir. *pigin* and W. *picyn* are app. from Eng.] A small pail or cylindrical vessel, esp. a wooden one with one stave longer than the rest serving as a handle; a milking pail; a vessel to drink out of.

The word is recorded in the *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Northumberland to Hampshire, also from Shetland; but it is not prevalent in Scotland. It is applied very variously in different localities; in Northumberland it may denote an earthenware pitcher, and sometimes, a small iron kailpot (Heslop); in W. Yorksh. 'a tin receptacle, a deep tin tureen' (E. D. D.); but it is generally described as of wood. Its size varies according to purpose: it is described as 'holding near a pint', 'containing about a quart', 'holding from one to two gallons' (Eng. Dial. Dict.).

1554 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) 113, ij butter trowghis xiij^{d}.—iiij piggins iiij^{d}. 1572 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 152, xiij stannis and barels vj^{s} viij^{d}, iij skelis, ij collockis, ij. pickeins, ij^{s}. 1611 Cotgr., *Traïot*, a milking Pale, or Piggin. 1647 Herrick *Noble Numbers, His Wish to God*, A little piggin and a pipkin by, To hold things fitting my necessity. 1659-60 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 245, i wooden piggon. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 37 *A Piggin*, a little pail or tub with an erect handle. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* xiv. ii. 71 Three or four piggins, or great wooden bowls. 1803 R. Anderson *Cumberld. Ball.* 74 A three-quart piggen full o' keale, He'll sup, the greedy sinner. 1827 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 177/2 A piggin, or small pail, out of which the animal fed. 1841 S. C. Hall *Ireland* I. 83 The usual drink is buttermilk..; which drink goes round in a small piggin, a sort of miniature of the English pail. 1863 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* 52 A very small cedar pail—a piggin as they termed it. 1887 *Strathearn Mag.* Feb. 15 So cease your useless jigging, And bring the can and pigging, To hold the luscious buttermilk That will be ready soon.

Pigging, *vbl. sb.*1: see Pig *v.*

Pigging (pi·gin), *vbl. sb.*2 *Sc.* [f. Pig *sb.*2] The purchasing of pigs or crockery.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 432 Around this gay temptation, wives are prigging, And even maidens go sometimes 'a pigging'.

Piggish (pi·giʃ), *a.* [f. Pig *sb.*1 + -ish1.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a pig; piglike; hoggish; stubborn; selfish, mean; unclean, vile.

1792 [implied in Piggishly]. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Rip Van Winkle* § 18 One had..small piggish eyes. 1829 Southey *O. Newman* II. 124 He hath not left His native country in that piggish mood Which neither will be led nor driven. 1873 J. R. Green *Lett.* (1901) 364, I don't like to be piggish and cantankerous. 1891 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XII. 511/2 He did not mean they were piggish or coarse.

Hence **Pi·ggishly** *adv.*; **Pi·ggishness.**

1792 Coleridge *Lett., to Mrs. Evans* (1895) 38 Mr. Hague who played on the violin most piggishly. 1804 Charlotte Smith *Conversations*, etc. I. 86 She is very piggishly brought up, indeed. 1858 Mayhew *Upper Rhine* v. § 3 (1860) 277 Our friend..was fairly taken aback by the piggishness.

Piggy, piggie (pi·gi), *sb.*1 [f. Pig *sb.*1 + -y.]

1. A little pig, or animal so called; also playfully applied, with various connotations, to a child.

1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 25 Go to the forest, piggy, and deplore The miserable lot of savage swine. 1890 *Spectator* 10 May, If the worm objected to come out of the hole, 'piggy' [a hedgehog], with his head on one side, gently scratched away the grass with his right fore-paw and extracted him.

2. The game of tip-cat; the 'cat' or piece of wood used in this game.

1867 *Standard* 11 June, The game which is played by the street boys of London under the name of 'tip-cat'..is, it appears, called 'piggie' in the north. 1884 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Sept. 8/4 'Piggy' (which some members..recognise under the name of 'tip-cat') [was] among the features he described as objectionable in our street life.

Pi·ggy, *sb.*2 *dial.* [dim. of Pig *sb.*2] A little pot.

16.. *Country Lass* in Whitelaw *Bk. Scot. Song* (1844) 304/1 My Paisley piggy, corked with sage Contains my drink but thin, O.

Pi·ggy, *a.* [f. Pig *sb.*1 + -y.] Piglike; resembling that of a pig.

a 1845 Hood *Literary & Literal* xii, Miss Ikey, Whose whole pronunciation was so piggy. 1874 Burnand *My time* xxii. 198 He was fresh-coloured, with little piggy eyes.

Piggy-back: see Pick-a-back.

Pi·ggy-wi·ggy. Also **piggy-wig.** A childish riming extension of *piggy*, little pig; also applied playfully to a child.

1862 Miss Yonge *Stokesley Secret* i. (ed. 2) 15 There's plenty for piggy-wiggy. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, 'Well, Piggywiggies', said R. W., 'how de do to-night.' 1870 Lear *Nonsense Songs, The Owl and the Pussy-cat* ii, And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood, With a ring at the end of his nose.

Pig-head (pi·ghed). [f. Pig *sb.*1 + Head *sb.*, after next.] An obstinate stupid head.

1889 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 It took..years to drive the notion of a steam roller into the pig-heads of our vestries.

Pigheaded (pi·ghe·dèd), *a.* [Parasynthetic deriv. of Pig *sb.*1 + Head *sb.* + -ed2.] Having a head like that of a pig; usually *fig.*, having the mental qualities ascribed to a pig; obstinate; stupid; perverse.

1620 B. Jonson *News fr. New World*, You should be some dull tradesman by your pig-headed sconce now. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. vi. iii. 471 The pig-headed Armadillo, with nine bands. 1811 *Lex. Balatron.*, *Pig-headed*, obstinate. 1838 Dickens *Nick. Nick.* xiii, A nasty, ungrateful, pig-headed,..obstinate, sneaking dog. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* III. 99 My brother Will is as obstinate as he is pigheaded.

Hence **Pi·ghea·dedly** *adv.*; **Pi·ghea·dedness.**

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 2 July 6/1 To the credit of his instructors..he has learned his lesson pigheadedly and well. 1803 Mar. Edgeworth *Belinda* I. iv. 79 With true English pigheadedness..they went and polled for an independent

candidate of their own choosing. 1865 Masson *Rec. Brit. Philos.* iii. 225 A kind of pigheadedness, or indifference to ideas.

Pig-herd (pi·ghɜːd). Also 7 ? piggard. [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + Herd *sb.*[2] The form *piggard* prob. belongs here, but may be:—*pigward*.] A keeper of a herd of pigs: cf. Hogherd, Swineherd.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Porquero*, a pigheard. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 304 He sent for all his servants, even the piggard-boy, to come and heare his palinode. 1820 Shelley *Œdipus Tyr.* ii. i. 136 Squabbling makes pig-herds hungry, and they dine On bacon, and whip sucking-pigs the more. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 213 Magyar.. cattle-drivers, Bulgarian pig-herds,..Wallachian shepherds.

Pighill, obs. var. Pightle. **Pig-hole:** see Pig.

Pight, arch. pa. t. and pa. pple. of Pitch *v.*[1]: see also Pitched *pp. a.*[1]

Pight (pəit), *v.* [The pa. t. and pa. pple. of Pitch *v.*[1] erroneously used as a present tense.] *trans.* To pitch.

[1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 It was nyghe evynne or ye ..raungede youre Batailles, pightede youre tentes.] 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* ii. vii. (1589) 23 And hauing in their sight The threatned Citie of the Foe, his Tents did Affer pight. 1594 *2nd Rep. Doctor Faustus* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 348 Two most beautiful places to pight tapers on. 1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* 48 There doth he pight his net and pitch his snare. 1867 — tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 325 Behold the pighted foe and battle-field.

Pightle (pəi·t'l). *local.* Forms: *α.* 3 pichtel, pichtil, pictel, pigtel, 5 pyghtell, 5–6 pytell, 6–7 pightell, putell, 6–9 pightel, pitle, 8 pightal, 7– pightle, (8–9 *corruptly* pigtail). Also *β.* 3 pichel, pychel, pichil, pughull, 6–8 pighill, 7–8 peighill; 6 pykkyll, 7 pickhill, pickell, 7–8 pickle. *γ.* 7–9 piele. *δ.* 7–8 piddle. See also Pingle *sb.*[2] [Origin obscure; the form seems to be diminutive.

The two types *pightel* and *pighel* (*pichel*) are both found soon after 1200; the former was midl. and southern; in E. Anglia and Essex it became before 1500 *pitel*; *pichel* was northern, and appears to have given the hardened form *pickel*; *picle* was app. a phonetic variant of *pitle*, whence perh. also *piddle* through **pittle*. Cf. also Pingle *sb.*[2]

A small field or enclosure; a close or croft.

α. 1210 *Fines in Cur. Dom. Reg., Bucks* (1835) I. 247 Croftam ..que vocatur Leuernues pigtel. 12.. *Deed* in *N. & Q.* 10th ser. V. 26/2 Totam croftam illam que vocatur Wlstones pictel que jacet sub Bosco. 1250–60 *Furness Coucher* (Chetham Soc., new ser. XI. 444), Totam terram..in loco qui vocatur Pichtil cum una acra ad caput Pichil. 1403 *Court-roll Gt. Waltham Manor, Essex*, Idem dominus habet unum fossatum non scuratum erga Chalf-pyghtell. 1494 in T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* (1754) 52 My Pytell lyinge in the Parische of All Seints within the said Town. 1541 in Wigram *Elstow* (1885) 161 One messuage, and one pightell, with appurtenances. 1562 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp. Stortford* (1882) 55 Wood of ye pytell called thorley wyk. 1650 *Brasenose Coll. Doc.* E[2] 19 A little close or pasture called Pightle about 1 rood in area. 1730 in *Rep. Comm. Inq. Charities* (1837) XXXI. 141 (Cambs.) Two pightals in Bottisham, and a dolver in Braddyls. 1819 Rees *Cycl., Pig-Tail*,..a provincial term sometimes applied to a small strip of ground generally in the state of grass. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. ii. 53 Never had that novelty in manure whitened the crofts and pightles of Court-Farm. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 430 The pigtail of the field, a small strip in grass. 1854 Knight *Once upon a Time* II. 117 There was one meadow..called the Pitle (still a Norfolk word). 1893 J. C. Jeaffreson *Bk. Recollect.* (1894) I. i. 15 The paddocks and pightels about the town of my birth.

β. *c* 1220 *Selby Chartul.* II. 15 Unum essartum .. quod vocatur Pichel. 1254–80 *Ibid.* 81 Cum uno pychel prati in Ower Seleby. *c* 1275 *Whalley Coucher* (Chetham Soc., Old Ser. XVI. 688), Partem cujusdam terræ..quod vocatur Mikel pughull et Litel pughull. 1503 *Will of Wyne* (Somerset Ho.), Pykkyll otherwise called crofte. 1651 *MS. Indenture* (co. Derby), One land called the Pickell land. 1688 *MS. Indenture*, Close called .. the Peighill. 1699 *MS. Indenture*, Also the Pickhills [*elsewhere* Pickills] in Brampton [co. York]. 1711 in *Rep. Comm. Inq. Charities* (1822) VIII. 721 (Yorks.) [J. S. charged] a pighill next but three to his close [with 5*s.* yearly to the poor]. 1737 *Court Roll, Wakefield*, Close called..Peighill. 1737 *MS. Indenture* (Rolleston, co. Stafford), A piece of meadow..lying near to an inclosure called Pickle Meer.

γ. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 219 *Picle* or *pitle* .. signifies with us a little small close or inclosure. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Pille, Picle*, a small piece of inclosed ground, generally pronounced in the first, but not unfrequently in the second form.

δ. 1638 *Brasenose Coll. Mun., Covt. Burwaldescote*, A piddle of pasture grownde of half an acre. *a* 1693 Ashmole *Antiq. Berks.* (1723) I. Introd. 39 Two Houses, and a Piddle of Land belonging to them.

Pig-hull, -hutch, etc.: see Pig[1] IV.

Pig-iron. [f. Pig *sb.*[1] 7: cf. Sow-iron.]

1. Cast iron in pigs or ingots, as first reduced from the ore.

1665 D. Dudley *Mettallum Martis* (1851) 49 Some Furnaces make Twenty Tuns of Pig Iron *per* Week. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* (1806) III. 104 The lateral moulds or channels are called pigs, and hence cast-iron receives the appellation of pig-iron. 1872 Yeats *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 325 The finest English pig-iron is from Cumberland hæmatite. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.* s.v., Mine-pig is pig-iron made from ores only; cinder-pig, from ores with admixture of some forge or mill-cinder.

attrib. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 31 May 9/2 The pig-iron market opened with little doing at 47*s.* 2½*d.* cash.

2. *Cookery.* An iron plate hung between the meat and the fire when the latter is too hot.

a 1756 Mrs. Haywood *New Present* (1771) 105 If it [the fire] should be too fierce in the middle, you must make use of a pig-iron. 1847–78 in Halliwell.

Pi·g-jump, *v.* app. orig. *Australian slang.* [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + Jump *v.*] *intr.* To jump in a frolicsome way from all four legs, without bringing them together as in buck-jumping. Hence **Pi·g-jumper,** a horse which pig-jumps.

1892 *Daily News* 7 May 5/4 The vice of some of these pig-jumpers and buckers in the arena is very directly a matter of original sin. 1893 Mrs. C. Praed *Outlaw & Lawm.* I. xi. 241, I don't mind what I sit, short of a regular buck-jumper. I can even manage a little mild pig-jumping. *Ibid.* 242 This horse won't even pig-jump.

†**Pi·gle.** *Obs.* [According to *Alphita*, = med. L. *pigula*, F. *pigle*, of which nothing further is known. It was perh. another form of the word Paigle, though in ME. applied to an entirely different plant, and app. only in 16th c. identified with *paigle* the cowslip. (In the *Supplement* to Gerarde, 1597, *Pagle* is given as '*stichwort*'.)]

1. The Stitchwort, *Stellaria Holostea* (apparently).

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 27 *Lingua avis*, i. stichewort i. pigle. *Ibid.* 34 *Pigle*, i. stichewort. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (ibid.) 103 *Lingua auis*, pigula idem, florem habet album. *gallice* pigule. *anglice* stichewurt. *Ibid.* 146 *Pigula*, lingua avis. [Cf. *Brit. Mus. Add. MSS.* 15236, '*Lingua avis*, gallice pigle, latine vero pigla'.]

2. = Paigle, the cowslip (apparently).

1570 Levins *Manip.* 129/35 Note, that ofttimes *ble* is written for *bil*,..*gle* for *gil* [etc.]...Pigle [*mispr.* Pigil], for pigil, *verbasculum*.

Pig-lead. Lead in the form of pigs, as it comes from the smelting-furnace.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 360 The methods by which pig-lead is manufactured into sheet-lead. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xviii. (ed. 3) 166 The price of Pig-Lead was £1 1*s.* per cwt.

Pi·gless, *a.* [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without a pig or pigs; having no pigs.

1895 *Daily News* 28 June 2/4 The National Pig Breeders met at a pigless show for the second time.

Piglet (pi·glĕt). [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + -let.] A little pig.

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. i. iv. 66 The little piglets ..toddle sweetly about. 1895 C. Scott *Apple Orchards* 73 The black and white piglets, not yet weaned.

Piglike (pi·glaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. as prec. + -like 1.] Like, or like that of, a pig.

1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iv, Pig-like he [a restive horse] whines At the sharp rowel. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 138 Their voice, a pig-like grunt. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 195, I can see the pink, pig-like hippo, whose colour has been soaked out by the water, lying on the lower deck.

Pig-lily: see Pig *sb.*[1] 13 b.

Pigling (pi·glin). In 8 **piglin.** [f. as prec. + -ling[1].] A little or young pig; a sucking-pig.

1713 C'tess Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 212 Then every Piglin she commends, And likens them to all their swinish Friends. 1833 Sir F. B. Head *Bubbles of Brunnen* (1834) 96 Tiny, light-hearted, brisk, petulant piglings. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* vii. 218 She tends the poultry,..she looks after the piglings [etc.].

Hence **Pi·glinghood,** the condition of a pigling.

1885 A. Stewart *Twixt Ben Nevis & Glencoe* 153 The stye which from early piglinghood had been its home.

Pi·gly, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + -ly[1].] Of, pertaining to, or befitting a pig.

1859 Trollope *W. Indies* ii. (1860) 19, I believe that pigly grace consists in plumpness and comparative shortness.

Pigmæan, pigmean, variants of Pygmæan.

Pig-maker, -market: see Pig[1] IV.

Pigmeater (pi·gmītəɹ). *Australian slang.* [f. Pig *sb.*[1] + Meat *sb.* 1 + -er[1].] A bullock which does not fatten; a beast only fit for pigs' food.

1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melb. Mem.* xiv. 105 Bullocks, which declined with fiendish obstinacy to fatten. They were what are known by the stock-riders as 'ragers' or 'pig-meaters'. 1890 — *Col. Reformer* xvi. (1891) 195 The last camp..contained an unusual number of 'pigmeaters'.

Pigmen, erron. variant of Pygmy.

Pigment (pi·gmĕnt). [ad. L. *pigmentum*, f. *pig-*, *ping-ĕre* to paint. So OF. *pigment* (12–13th c.). *Pyhment* occurs in late OE. in sense 2. Cf. Piment.]

1. A colouring matter or substance.

a. Any substance (usually artificially prepared) used for colouring or painting; a paint, dye, 'colour'; in technical use, a dry substance, usually in the form of powder or easily pulverized, which, when mixed with oil, water, or other liquid vehicle, constitutes a 'paint'.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Minium is a red coloure..: In Spayne is more suche pigment þan in oþer londes. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Pigment*, a painting. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. iii. iii. (1651) 469 Artificial inticements and provocations of Gestures, Cloaths, Jewels, Pigments. 1663 Boyle *Exp. Hist. Colours* iii. xii. Wks. 1772 I. 735 Allow me,..for the avoiding of ambiguity, to employ the word pigments to signify such prepared materials (as cochineal, vermilion, orpiment) as painters, dyers, and other artificers make use of. 1684–5 — *Min. Waters* iv. Wks. IV. 806 *Balaustium*, logwood, brasil, and other astringent vegetable pigments. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 312 A beautiful white pigment called ceruse. 1883 Ruskin *Art Eng.* 11 The harmonies possible with material pigments.

b. *Nat. Hist.*, etc. Any organic substance occurring in and colouring any part of an animal or plant; the natural colouring-matter of a tissue.

[1835–6 Todd *Cycl. Anat.* I. 3*/1 During pregnancy an increased secretion of pigmentum is said to take place.] 1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* (ed. 2) 89 The discoloration depended on the presence of cells filled with pigment. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 68 Grains of chlorophyll and allied pigments.

†**2.** = Piment 1. *Obs.* (in Scott, *arch.*)

[1150–1200 in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 136 Nim hwyt cudu & gyngyfere & recels .. of oþþrum þyhmentum ane sticcan fulne. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lix. (Bodl. MS.), *Pigmentum* haþ þat name as it were pilis mentum, quod scilicet in pila est contumsum [sic] þat is ibete in a mortere: of þe whiche spicery by pigmentary crafte he makeþ likinge drinke and electuaries.] *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 167 To sauour..with puttyng to pygment, Or pepur, or sum other condyment. 1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* xi. ii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 181 As musk in Pygments. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* iii, Place the best mead,.. the most odoriferous pigments, upon the board.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (usually in sense 1 b), as *pigment-cell, -grain, -granule, -molecule, -particle, -speck, -spot*; *pigment-bearing, -forming, -laden* adjs.

1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* (ed. 2) 89 Description of the pigment-cells in the negro. 1859 J. R. Greene *Protozoa* 65 A bright coloured particle (usually red), termed the.. 'pigment spot', is found in the bodies of many *Infusoria*. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* I. 248 The pigment bacteria, which cannot be distinguished from one another microscopically. *Ibid.* II. 625 Cells and flakes containing pigment granules. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* ii. 14 A layer of flat, dark brown, or nearly black, pigment cells..also covers the posterior surface of the iris. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* iii. 73 For the most part these pigment grains are enclosed in leucocyte-like bodies. *Ibid.* 81 The tendency the pigment-laden leucocytes exhibit to carry their burden to the spleen. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 916 The etiology of pigment-bearing new growth.

b. Special combs.: **pigment colour** (see quot.); **pigment-printing,** (*a*) a method of printing calicoes, etc. with pigments attached to the cloth by an albuminous substance; (*b*) the printing of permanent photographs with carbon or other pigments.

1862 O'Neill *Dict. Calico Printing & Dyeing* 168 *Pigment colours*, this name has been given to those colours which are in the state of powder, and insoluble in the vehicle by which they are applied to the fabric. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 339 Carbon, or pigment printing [in Photography]. 1897 J. Nicol in *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 496/2 The carbon or pigment printing method gives the very highest class of positives.

Pigmental (pigme·ntăl), *a.* [f. L. *pigmentum* (see prec.) + -al.] = Pigmentary *a.* 2. Hence **Pigme·ntally** *adv.*

1842 Prichard *Nat. Hist. Man* (ed. 2) 83 The mucous or pigmental membrane. 1886 *Belgravia Mag.* LIX. 353 Over-coloured, pigmentally and orally. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 114 Atrophy and pigmental degeneration (as apart from pigmental infiltration).

Pigmentary (pi·gmĕntări), *sb.* and *a.* Also 4 **pymentarie, -ye, 5 pygmentarie.** [ad. L. *pigmentāri-us* adj., of or belonging to paints or unguents; sb. a dealer in these, in med. L. esp. in scents, spices, and aromatic confections, f. *pigment-um*: see Pigment and -ary[1].]

†**A.** *sb.* **a.** A maker or seller of ointments, drugs, etc.; an apothecary. **b.** (In quot. 1474) app. an aromatic confection. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxxvii. 29 Ensence of moost clene swete smellynge spices, with the werk of pymentarye [*Vulg.* opere pigmentarii; 1388 a makere of oynement; 1609 Bible (Douay) pigmentarie]. — *Song Sol.* v. 13 The chekes of hym as litle flores of swote spicis, plaunted of pymentaries. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* iii. v. 101 Makers of pygmentaries, spicers and apotiquaries.

B. *adj.* †**1.** Pertaining to an apothecary or maker of aromatic confections. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Song Sol.* iii. 6 Smoke of the swote spices, of myrre, and of encens, and of alle pymentarie poudre [1388 al poudur of an oynement makere]. 1398 [see Pigment 2].

2. Of, pertaining or belonging to, or consisting of pigment; producing or containing pigment or colouring-matter; in *Path.* characterized by the formation or presence of pigment.

1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 590 To reflect the light that reaches the interior of the eye, when .. not prevented from doing so by the interposition of the pigmentary layer. 1851 Wright *Richardson's Introd. Geol.* xii. 385 The ink, though fossilised, retaining its pigmentary property. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* iv, The purple-black of the..whiskers is constitutional and not pigmentary. 1876 Bristowe *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 84 The deposition of yellow, red, and brown pigmentary granules.

Pigmentation (pigmĕntē·ı̆ən). *Biol. Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* [mod. f. L. *pigmentātus* painted (f. *pigmentum* paint) + -ion: see -ation. So F. *pigmentation.*] Coloration or discoloration by formation or deposition of pigment in the tissues.

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 59 Pigmentation is not in itself a morbid process of much importance. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 315 Pigmentation of the skin affects either the rete Malpighii or the corium.

Pigmented (pi·gmĕntĕd), *a.* [f. Pigment + -ed 2.] Charged or coloured with pigment.

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 246 These atrophic lungs are usually deeply pigmented. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 347 The pigmented tissue should be of that kind which has a minimum of Gelatine and a maximum of colouring matter.

Pigmentless, *a.* [f. as prec. + -less.] Destitute of pigment. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pi·gmentose, *a.* [f. as next + -OSE.] = next.

Pigmentous (pigme·ntəs), *a.* [f. L. *pigment-um* PIGMENT + -OUS.] Characterized by the presence of pigment; pigmentary.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 961/1 The exterior surface of the retina being covered by a dark pigmentous membrane.

Pi·g-me·tal. [f. PIG *sb.*[1] 7 + METAL: cf. SOW-METAL.] Metal, usually iron, in the form of pigs.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 167 [He] proposes with Pit-coal Fire to make Bar Iron from Pig-metal. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 73/1 His new invented method of making malleable iron from pig or sow metal. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 27 *Sow metal*, or *pig metal*, epithets..referring to the blocks as they may have been run in the main or the collateral gutters, the former being called *sows*, and the latter *pigs*, respectively.

Pigmy: see PYGMY.

Pigne, obs. form of PINE.

Pignerate, -ation: see PIGNORATE, -ATION.

† Pi·gnolate, pi·niolate. *Obs.* [a. F. *pignolat*, 'the preserued kernell of a Pine-apple, or conserue of Pine-kernells' (Cotgr.); cf. It. *pignolo* 'a kinde of meate of pine-apples' (Florio 1598), also PIGNON[1], and -ATE[1].] A conserve or confection made of pignons or pine-kernels.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Life* (1560) D j, All swete thynges are verye good as apples sodden with suger..pignolate, penedies, whyte pylles, suger candy, and the iuice of likorice. *Ibid.* (1553) D iv b, Pignolate, and swete almondes. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 171 Another kind of paste..which the Neotericks call Piniolate or Pignolate because its made of Pine kernells.

‖ Pignon[1]. *? Obs.* [F. *pignon* (pi·ɲoñ) a pine-kernel = Sp. *piñon*, Pg. *pinhão*:—late L. type **pīniōn-em*, f. *pīnea* pine-cone. Cf. PINION *sb.*[5], PIÑON.]

1. A pine-kernel; the edible seed of the stone-pine (*Pinus Pinea*) of the south of Europe, or of other species of pine.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxx. 292 There are great pine trees in New Spaine, though..they beare no pignons or kernells, but empty apples. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pignon*, or *Pinone*, the edible seed of the cones of various pines, as those of *Pinus Pinea*, ..eaten in Italy.

† 2. The Physic-nut of S. America: = Pg. *pinhão*, PINION *sb.*[5] 1. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxix. 289 There are a thousand of these simples fit to purge, as..pignons of Punua..and many other things.

‖ Pignon[2] (pi·ɲoñ). *Arch.* [F. *pignon* a gable-end = It. *pignone* (Littré), Romanic augmentative of L. *pinna* pinnacle; see PINION *sb.*[2]] A gable.

1875 F. I. SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 38 Rich in houses with gables and pignons.

Pignorate (pi·gnŏrēt), *ppl. a.* [ad. L. *pignerāt-us*, pa. pple. of *pignerāre*: see next.] **a.** Given or taken in pledge; pledged, pawned. **b.** Relating to things pledged, pigneratitious.

16.. *Corshill Baron-Court Bk.* in *Ayr & Wigton Arch. Coll.* IV. 115 The said William Glen pursued the said Robert for the said pistoll for what the same wes pignorat. 1886 MUIRHEAD in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 690/2 Pignorate and hypothecary rights were unknown as rights protected by action at the time now being dealt with.

Pignorate (pi·gnŏrēt), *v.* Also **pignerate.** [ad. L. *pignerāre* (in med. spelling *pignorāre*) to give as a pledge, f. *pignus* (*pigner-*, *-or-*) pledge: see -ATE[3].] *trans.* To give or take as a pledge; to pledge, pawn. Hence **Pi·gnorated** *ppl. a.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Pignerate*, to pawne. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pignerate*, to lay a gage, or mortgage; also to take in pawn. 1842 *W. Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* 760/1 If the pledger sold a movable thing that was pignerated. 1878 *Ibid.* 1037/1 A man could not acquire possession by means of a pignorated slave.

Pignoration (pignŏrē·ʃən). Also **pigner-.** [ad. L. *pignerātiōn-em* pledging, f. *pignerāre*: see prec.] The action of pledging or pawning.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pigneration*, a pawning or morgaging. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pigneration* [*ed.* 1678 *Pignoration*], a gaging or laying to pawn. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* ix. 270 The Pignoration of the Continental Teutonic Law is more archaic than the Distress with which we are familiar in England.

Pignoratitious (pi·gnŏrăti·ʃəs), *a. rare.* Also **pigner-.** [f. L. *pignerātīcius* adj., belonging to a pledge: see PIGNORATE *ppl. a.* and -ITIOUS.] Relating to things given in pledge or pawned.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pignerātitious*, that which is laid in pledge, or pertaining to gage. 1795 WYTHE *Decis. Virginia* 57 Questions arising on pigneratitious contracts.

Pi·gnorative, *a.* [ad. F. *pignoratif* (1567), f. L. *pignorāre*: see PIGNORATE and -ATIVE.] That gives in pledge; pledging, pawning.

1611 COTGR., *Pignoratif*, pignoratiue, impledging, ingaging by suretiship, or with a pawne. Hence 1616–63 BULLOKAR *Expositor*, *Pignorative*, impledging, ingaging by suretiship, or with a pawn. 1818 in TODD. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Dict.*

Pi·g-nut. [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + NUT.]

1. The tuber of *Bunium flexuosum*; = EARTH-NUT 1.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 172, I with my long nayles will digge thee pig-nuts. 1693 ROBINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 826 The Roots..commonly call'd Kepper-Nuts, Pignuts and Gernuts in the North, lie very deep, and fatten Hogs. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 69 ¶ 5 No Fruit grows Originally among us, besides Hips and Haws, Acorns and Pig-Nutts.

1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* (1886) 277 Dig away, boys,.. you'll find some pig-nuts.

† 2. Applied to an acorn (with reference to *Don Quixote* ch. xi). *Obs. nonce-use.*

1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 373 At length the Don in Pensive Mood His Golden Pignuts [*i.e.* acorns, as eaten in the Golden Age] gravely view'd.

3. The pear-shaped fruit of a N. American tree, the brown hickory (*Carya glabra* or *porcina*); also the tree itself; = HOG-NUT 1.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Pig Nut, *Juglans*. 1829, 1866 [see HOG-NUT 1]. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Pig-nut, American, *Carya porcina*.

Pi·g-rat. [transl. of Telugu *pandikokku*, BANDICOOT.] The large bandicoot rat of India.

1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* (1860) I. 150 Another favourite article of food with the coolies is the pig-rat or Bandicoot. 1865 *Reader* 14 Jan. 43/3 Bandicoot is..intended to represent the Telugu *pandi-kokku*, literally, '*pig-rat*'.

‖ Pigri·tia. *Obs.* [L., = sloth, slothfulness.] A former name of the sloths of South America.

[1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. iv. 256 The beast in Brasil, which the Spaniards call *Pigritia*, which goes no farther in a fortnight then a man will cast a stone.] 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pigritia*, Slothfulness. .. Also an American Beast call'd a Sloth. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 417 Nearly related to the South-American animal *Pigritia*, that makes two or three days journey in going up a tree.

† Pigri·tious, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *pigritia* sloth (f. *piger* slothful) + -OUS.] Slothful. So **† Pi·gritude** [f. L. type **pigritūdo*], **† Pi·grity** [ad. L. *pigritās*], slothfulness (*obs. rare*—[0]).

1623 COCKERAM, *Pigritie*, *Pigritude*, slothfulnes. 1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* Pref. 8 Pigritious and impudent persons. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pigritude*.

Pig's in *Comb.*: see PIG[1] 13 c.

Pig-sconce (pi·gskɒns). [See SCONCE.] A pig-headed fellow; a pig-head.

1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* III. i, *Ding*. He is No pig-sconce, mistress. *Secret*. He has an excellent head-piece. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* III. 78 These representatives of the pig-sconces of the population judged by circumstances.

Pi·gskin. [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + SKIN.] The skin of the pig or hog (called in 18th c. HOGSKIN); leather made of this. Hence in *Sporting slang*, a saddle.

1855 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 1531 The Major..sees more things in pigskin and whipcord than are found in most men's philosophy. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* ii, The best servant who ever put his leg across pig-skin. 1894 J. K. FOWLER *Recollect. O. Country Life* vi. 44 He was not particularly noted in the pigskin. 1899 MACKAIL *Life Morris* II. 326 The white pigskin binding with silver clasps.

b. The skin of a hog used as a bottle.

1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 37 Water-carriers loaded with pig-skins were conspicuous among the throng.

Pigsney, -ny. *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4 **piggesney3e**, 4–6 **piggesnye**, 6 **pyggysny, pygges nye, pigges-ny, pygs(-)nie, pygsnye, pigesnie**, 6–8 **pigs(-)nye**, 7 **pigsneye, pignie**, 8 **pig-nye**, 6– **pigsny, pigs(-)nie, pigs(-)ney**; *β.* 6 **pigseie**, 9 (*dial.*) **pigsy.** [ME. f. *pigges* pig's + *neyze*, var. of *eyze*, *eye* with prosthetic *n*, app. derived from *an eye*, *min eye*; prob. originating in children's talk and the fond prattle of nurses.

The eye of the pig (as that of a bird in BIRD'S-NIE) is taken as a familiar type of a small eye; the expression is thus equivalent to *pinke* or *pinkie nye*, PINKENY, 'tiny eye', which was used in the same way as a term of endearment; but early examples showing *pigges nye* applied to the eye itself (sense 2) have not yet been found.]

1. One specially cherished; a darling, pet; commonly used as an endearing form of address. **a.** Chiefly applied to a girl or woman; in *mod. dial.* often opprobrious.

a. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 82 She was a prymerole a piggesnye ffor any lord to leggen in his bedde. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Womanhod*, etc. 20 What prate ye, praty pyggysny? 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* F ij, Another fall in love with some yonge pygsnie. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* I. iv. (Arb.) 27 Then ist mine owne pygs nie, and blessing on my hart. 1589 *Triumphs Love & Fort.* F ij b, Then will I make my loving song upon mine owne pigsnye. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* II. i, If thou art, As I believe, the pigsney of his heart, Know he's in health. 1667 DRYDEN *Tempest* IV. iii, How does my Pigs-nye? 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, And the little pigsny has mamma's mouth. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 11 Never think I shall long survive thee, pigsnye. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* liv. (1848) 121/2 When pigsnie arrives and the purchaser opens the close sedan chair in which she has been conveyed to his house. 1876 MADOX-BROWN *Dwale Bluth* I. v. 102 She began to pour forth.. insinuations relative to a certain 'Trapseing, hautecking, kerping, pigsnie'.

β. 1553 BALE tr. *Gardiner's De vera Obed.* K j b, How doth my sweteheart, what saith now pigges eye? 1869 J. P. MORRIS *Gloss. Words Furness* s.v. *Pigsy*, a term of endearment, as 'Thow lile pigsy'.

† b. More rarely applied to a man or boy. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 68 b, And your sweet piggesnye Emanuel will smoyle close in his sleave. *a* 1588 TARLTON *Jests* (1844) Introd. 21 The player fooles deare darling pigsnie He calles himselfe his brother. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 68. 2/2 You, ven once they have your Money, No more their Pigsnies are nor Honey.

† 2. An eye; a 'dear little eye'. *Obs.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 560 And shine upon me but benignly, With that one, and that other Pigsneye. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 11. 3/1, I rise, And rub my Pigs Nyes. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) II. 10 The hostess received such a blow on her little pig-nyes, that she saw a hundred thousand lights at the same time.

Pigsticking (pi·gsti·kiŋ). [f. PIG *sb.*[1] + STICKING *vbl. sb.*] **1.** The hunting of the wild boar with a spear.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lx, Describing the sport of pigsticking..with great humour and eloquence. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iii. 32 The dinner-gong..recalled his thoughts from pig-sticking and Central India.

2. The butchering of swine by sticking a knife into the heart or aorta.

1884 M. ARNOLD in *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 797/2, I would not go to see the pig-sticking at the stock-yards.

Hence **Pi·gstick** *v. intr.*, to hunt the wild boar; **Pi·gsticker,** (*a*) one who follows the sport of pigsticking; (*b*) a horse trained to this sport.

1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 74 Animals who stand on one hind leg and beckon with all the rest, or try to pigstick in harness. 1866 TREVELYAN in *Fraser's Mag.* LXXIII. 387, I may be a young pig-sticker, but I am too old a sportsman to make such a mistake as that. 1889 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 255/1 The courage, horsemanship, and skill with his spear required in the pigsticker. 1900 SIR J. FAYRER *Recollect.* iii. 62, I bought a horse, a well-known pig-sticker.

Pig-stone, -swill, etc.: see PIG[1] IV.

Pigsty (pi·gstəi). A sty or pen for pigs, including a shed or covered enclosure.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Çahorda*, a pigges stie, *Hara*. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* IV. ii, 'Slight! 'tis a prison, or a pig-sty! 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 169 ¶ 1 What Wash is drank up in so many Hours in the Parlour and the Pigsty. 1853 H. WHARTON *Digest Cases Pennsylv.* 473 A pigstye in a city is per se a nuisance.

b. *transf.* Applied to a dwelling only fit for a pig; a miserable or dirty hovel.

1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 311 All degrees of all nations begin with living in pigstyes. 1884 LABOUCHERE in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 219 The poor in our great towns are condemned to live in pig-styes, and to pay excessive rents for this accommodation.

Pi·g's wash, pigwash. The swill of a brewery or kitchen given to pigs; = HOGWASH. Also applied contemptuously to weak inferior liquor, and in other abusive senses.

1630 *Tinker of Turvey* A iij, These comming as farre short of his, as Bragget goes beyond the Pigs wash or small Beere. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.*, *Jesuitism* 29 Moral evil is unattainability of Pig's wash. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* v, If I had not seen that..pig-wash, even if I could have got plenty of it, was a poor sort of thing, I should never have looked life fairly in the face. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 284 [I was] content in my dog's chain, and with my pig's-wash, in spite of Carlyle.

Pi·gtail. [So called from resemblance to the tail of a pig.]

1. a. Tobacco twisted into a thin rope or roll.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/1 Pig taile, is a very small wreath or roll tobacco. 1740 SWIFT *Will* Wks. 1745 VIII. 384, I bequeath to Mr. John Grattan..my silver box..in which I desire the said John to keep the tobacco he usually cheweth, called pigtail. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 7 May, He..took some pigtail tobacco out of his pocket. 1839 'J. FUME' *Paper on Tobacco* 120 Pig-tail when smoked is equally as strong as shag.

b. A farthing candle. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., The watching of the pig-tail was a superstitious ceremony observed in Craven..on the Eve of St. Mark. .On that evening, a party of males or females..place on the floor a lighted pig-tail, for so a small or farthing candle is denominated. 1867 HARLAND & W. *Lanc. Folk-lore* 140 On the fast of St. Agnes she watches a small candle called a 'pig-tail', to see the passing image of her future husband.

c. *Naut.* A short length of rope; a rope's end.

1894 *Daily Tel.* 18 Oct. 6/5 Hit..with a 'pigtail', a piece of thick rope.

2. A plait or queue of hair hanging down from the back of the head; applied *spec.* to that worn by soldiers and sailors in the latter part of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century, and still frequently by young girls, and now *esp.* to that customary among the Chinese.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. VII. xciii. 428 They observe an uniformity about their heads by wearing pigtails. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 595 The French carpenter cannot saw his boards, without a long pig-tail and ruffled shirt. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1849) 52 A soldier of the old school, with powdered head, side locks, and pigtail. 1830 *Examiner* 801/1 Trousers came in with the French Revolution, pigtails went out with Lord Liverpool. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xiv, [Mrs. Kenwigs' girls] had flaxen hair, tied with blue ribbons, hanging in luxuriant pigtails down their backs. 1874 LADY HERBERT tr. *Hübner's Ramble* I. xii. 193 Chinamen..with their black caps, and equally black pig-tails. 1885 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 3) II. 321 Pig-tails in the army were reduced in 1804 to seven inches in length and in 1808 cut off. *c* 1890 *F. Wilson's Fate* 76 He ..wiped his grizzled moustache and twisted its extremities into pig-tails. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 66, I was still a rather troublesome schoolgirl in short frocks and a pig-tail.

b. *transf.* The wearer of a pigtail; a Chinese.

1886 *Cornh. Mag.* July 55 Sweetmeats .. being great favourites with the 'pigtails'.

† 3. A pigtailed monkey. *Obs.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 215 The Maimon of Buffon, which Edwards calls the Pigtail, is the last of the baboons, and..no larger than a cat. [Cf. PIGTAILED *a.* 1.]

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly from 2). **a.** in sense 'of, pertaining to, wearing a pigtail'; *colloq.* Chinese: as *pigtail brigade, land, party*; **b.** in sense 'characteristic of the period when pigtails were worn', old-fashioned, pedantic, absurdly

formal (cf. Ger. *zopf*), as *pigtail drill, period, professor, tory*; **c.** = PIGTAILED 1, as *pigtail macaque*; also *pigtail tobacco* (see 1 a); *pigtailwise* adv.

1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 114 Do the Pig tail Order suppose, that such means will be resorted to now? 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 186 How I should have liked to witness the old pigtail operas and ballets performed at the Pantheon. 1865 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 348 Heyne was essentially a dull, wooden man,—a pigtail professor after all. 1867 WOOD *Pop. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* 16 Bruh or Pig-tail Macaque.—*Macacus nemestrinus.* 1885 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 32/1 Emancipation from the 'pigtail drill'. 1887 ASHBY-STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 199 Her ample tresses one descries Are closely plaited, pig-tail-wise. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Feb. 7/2 These same monkeys, the so called pig-tail variety, are taught by the Malays to pick fruit for them in the forests. 1898 *Athenæum* 19 Mar. 366/1 He was a typical 'pigtail Tory'. 1899 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 2/1 Mr. Yerburgh, the leader of what was known last Session as 'the Pigtail Party' in the House of Commons, is contemplating a journey to China.

Pigtail, corrupt form of PIGHTLE.

Pigtailed (pi·g,tēild), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED 2.]

1. Having a tail like a pig's.

1758 EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 8 The Pig-tailed Monkey, from the Island of Sumatra, in the Indian Sea. 1864 ATKINSON *List Provinc. Names Birds,* Pig-tailed Winder, Prov. name for Pintail Duck. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* (ed. 9) 24 *Macacus nemestrinus* .. Pig-tailed Monkey...East Indies.

2. Having a pigtail; tied up or plaited into a pigtail.

1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 189 Hair..powder'd and pig-tail'd. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* II. iv, All the pigtailed lawyers and bagwigged attorneys. 1791-3 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) I. 67 A pig-tailed periwig. 1892 *Spectator* 27 Feb. 305/1 To wonder at pig-tailed China.

Pi·gtailly, *a. nonce-wd.* Of or pertaining to the pigtail period; old-fashioned.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 300 Old fashioned, out of date, rococo, and pigtailly.

† **Pi·g-taker,** *Obs.* A purveyor of pigs: formerly an office in the Royal Household.

1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) *21 Th' office of the Catery.. 1 Grome Piggetaker. 1538 *Ibid.* 218 Allowance to be given.. unto Thomas Playfoote, Yeoman-Pigtaker for every Veale, being fatt and good,..that he shall send into the Larder.

Pig-trotter, -trough, -tub, etc.: see PIG 1.

Pi·gweed. A name given to various herbs devoured by swine (some of them also eaten by men under stress of hunger), as the Goosefoots, *Chenopodium album* and *rubrum*; Cow-parsnip; Knot-grass; Comfrey; in N. America, the green Amaranth, *Amarantus retroflexus. Winged pigweed,* a coarse branching herb, *Cycloloma platyphyllum,* of the Western U.S.

1844 H. HUTCHINSON *Pract. Drainage Land* 159 The roots of a weed called pig weed. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* vii. (1886) 159 That's Roman wormwood,—that's pigweed,—that's sorrel,—that's piper-grass. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 7 Nov. 5/1 The tiny islets being covered with pig-weed, large earwigs, and land crabs. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 601/2 Here we find..pig-weed six inches in stem, and wearing a huge flower like a hat. 1892 *Ch. Times* 15 Jan. 43/1 [Famine in Russia] Those who have bread are compelled to adulterate it with pigweed [*Chenopodium rubrum*], which, taken in quantities, is a bitter emetic. 1893 J. A. BARRY *S. Brown's Bunyip,* etc. 146 We..lived for months at a time on damper, bullock and pigweed in a bark humpy.

† **Pigwi·dgin, -wi·dgeon.** *Obs.* Also **pig wigeon.** Of obscure origin and meaning: see quots. 1730–1785.

Some have identified it with *Pigwiggen, -wiggin,* used by Greene and Nashe as a *quasi*-proper name, and by Drayton as the name of a fairy knight favoured by Queen Mab the wife of Oberon, also by Davenant. In Cotton it is apparently a term of contempt, and rimes with *biggin,* cap or hood. *Pig-widgin* (-widʒin) appears in Cleveland *attrib.* as a contemptuous or hostile epithet for the Scotch; spelt by Bailey *-wigeon,* by Johnson *-widgeon,* app. after the name of the bird. Its connexion with *Pigwiggin* is not proved.

[*a* 1592 GREENE *Selimus* 1909 Now will I be as stately to them as if I were maister Pigwiggen our constable. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 191 No more will I of his calling me Captaine of the boyes, and Sir Kilprick; which is a name fitter for his Piggen de wiggen, or gentlewoman. 1599 — *Lenten Stuffe* To Rdr., If it were so, goodman Pig-wiggen, were not that honest dealing? 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* xii, Pigwiggen was this Fairy Knight, One wond'rous gracious in the sight Of fair Queen Mab, which day and night He amorously observed. 1629 DAVENANT *Albovine* II. i. D ij, *Albo.* Is not your name Pigwiggin? *Cuny.* Pigwiggin! your Grace was wont to call me Cunymond: I am no Faery. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 68 What such a nazardly Pigwiggin, A little Hangstrings in a Biggin?]

1687 *Cleveland's Wks., Rebel Scot* 12 To see his Country sick of Pym's disease; By Scotch Invasion to be made a prey To such Pig-Widgin Myrmidons as they. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Pig Wigeon* (*with the Vulgar*) a silly fellow. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pigwidgeon*...is a kind of cant word for anything petty or small. [Quotes Cleveland.] 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v. *Pig, Pig-widgeon,* a simpleton.

Hence **Pigwi·dgin, -wi·dgeon** *v.*

1852 M. W. SAVAGE *Reuben Medlicott* I. III. Argt. 214 In short the Medlicotts were Pigwidgeoned, and we are not to pity them, for they brought the Pigwidgeoning on themselves. Pigwidgeoning will prove to be a social usage, nearly akin to spunging.

Pig-woman, -wool, etc.: see PIG 1 13.

† **Pi·gwort.** *Herb. Obs.* = PIGWEED.

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 73 Pigwort, woodbynd, birche and such like, whereof they croppe the toppes.

Pik, obs. form of PICK *v.*1, PIKE *sb.*1, PITCH.

‖ **Pika** (pəi·kä). [ad. *piika,* native name in Tunguse of Siberia (Pallas *a* 1800).] A small rodent quadruped, *Lagomys alpinus,* allied to the guinea-pig, inhabiting boreal and alpine regions of Europe and Asia. By extension, any of the species of *Lagomys,* called from their reiterated squeaking cries *calling-hares* or *crying-hares.*

1827 GRIFFITH *Cuvier's Anim. K.* III. 223 The pika is an inhabitant of the highest mountains of the extreme North of Europe and Asia. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 163 The most obvious peculiarity of these pikas is their voice, from which they have acquired their trivial name.

b. *Comb.* **Pika-squirrel,** a name suggested by Coues for the chinchilla.

1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* V. 86.

† **Pikahie·r.** *Obs. rare.* [a. Ger. *piekenier,* f. *pieke, pike* PIKE *sb.*5: cf. OF. *piquenaire* pikeman.] A soldier armed with a pike; a pikeman.

1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. I. 213/1 They were first raised as pikaniers, and behaved gallantly in the Turkish campaigns.

Pikar, obs. Sc. f. PIKER, thief. **Pikary,** obs. f. PICKERY. **Pikaxe,** obs. f. PICKAX.

Pike (pəik), *sb.*1 Forms: 1 piic, 1, 3 pic, 3–4 pike, 3–6 pyk, 4–7 (9) pyke, 4– pike. [Found in OE. as *piic* (8th c.), *pic,* in ME. *pīk* (pl. *pīkes*), later *pȳke, pīke*; beside which there existed from 14th c., in same senses, a collateral form with short vowel, *pic, pik, pykk,* now PICK *sb.*1 Cf. PICK *v.*1, with its collateral form *pike.* In mod.Eng., in sense 1, *pike* is now local or dial., *pick* being in general use; but senses 2 and 3 are in general Eng. *pike,* while *pick* is obs. or dial.; sense 4 is now generally *peak*; sense 5 is dial. or local. OE. and ME. *pic, pīc* agree in form and sense with F. *pic* (of which, however, examples are known only from the 12th c.). In the earliest instances, both in OE. and OF., *pic* was applied to a pick, pickax, or pick-hammer, with handle at right angles to the head; but, in both, the word was soon applied to a straight instrument or tool pointed at one end, or to the sharp point of such (cf. OE. *hornpīc* a pinnacle, in *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 5), as in Fr. to a poker, a glass-blower's tool, the end of a ship's yard, etc. The Eng. uses are not the same, but the development is on the whole parallel. See Note below.]

I. 1. A pickax; a pick used in digging, breaking up ground, etc., also for picking a millstone. *Obs.* except as *dial.* form of PICK *sb.*1

(It seems certain that the OE. examples belong here. In Goetz *Corpus Gloss. Lat.* VI. 17, *Acisculum* is glossed as 'σκάφιον ἤτοι ὄρυξ κηπουρική'; malliolum structorium; quod habent structores, quasi malleolus est ad cædendos lapides; μυλοκόπον'.)

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (O. E. T.) 49 *Acisculum,* piic. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 109/4 *Acisculum,* pic. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 941 Mattok is a pykeys, Or a pyke, as sum men seys. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1253 'Tak a pike, To-night thou schalt with me strike'..An hole thai bregen, all with ginne [etc.]. 1756 LLOYD in W. Thompson *R. N. Advoc.* (1757) 51, I have..desired the Grinder not to pick his Mill so often with the sharp Pikes, or to keep it so rough. 1877 E. LEIGH *Gloss. Dial. Chesh., Pike,* an iron instrument sharp on the one side and like a hammer on the other, used for splitting and breaking coals. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 323 *Pike*..3. A pick. [E.D.D. has it also from S. Staffordsh.] 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Pike.* See *Pick.*

II. 2. A sharp point, the pointed tip of anything, a spike; as the pointed metal tip of a staff or of an arrow or spear, the spike in the centre of a buckler: = PICK *sb.*1 2.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1923 Swa þet te pikes & te irnene preones se scharpe & se starke borien þurh & beoren forð feor on þet oðer half. *c* 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 70 in *O. E. Misc.* 149 A hwel of stele is furþer mo...A þusend spoken beoþ þer-on, And pykes ouer al idon. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 205/170 þis knizt heo bounden honden and fet and a-midde þe fuyre him caste, With Irene Ovles and pikes heo todrowen him wel faste. *c* 1320 *Sir Beues* 3856 Here bordones were imaked wel Wiþ longe pikes of wel gode stel. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IX. 88 Dobest..Bereþ a Busschopes cros, Is hoket atte ende,..to holden hem in good lyf. A pyk is in þe potent to punge adoun þe wikkede [1393 C. XI. 94 With þe pyk putte adoune *preuaricatores legis*]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4648 And þe walles were of Marbreston. Wyþ pykes of yre y-set þer-on, Oppon þe crest ful þykke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 396/2 Pyke, of a staffe, or oþer lyke, *cuspis, stiga. Ibid.,* Pyke, or tyynde of yryne (or prekyl), *carnica.* 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXIII. 220 He fonde in a chambre aboute v honderd of grete staues of fyne oke with longe pykes of yren and of stele. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 197 b, The lord Scales had a gray courser, on whose schaffron was a long and a sharpe pyke of stele. 1565-6 *Roy. Proclam. as to Apparel* 12 Feb., Any buckler with any poynt or pyke aboue two ynches in length. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* IV. xi. (1622) 107 Contrarily the Romaine souldier..thrust them backe with the pikes of their bucklers. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 80 All ice beginning, maketh jagged pikes, after the fashion of a Nettle-leafe. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* I, The front-stall of the bridle was a steel plate,..having in the midst a short, sharp pike. *Ibid.* VI, In the tilt-yard..spears are tipped with trenchers of wood, instead of steel pikes. *Mod. Sc.* The pike has come out of the peery (= peg-top).

† **b.** A prickle, a thorn; a hedgehog's prickle or spine; = PICK *sb.*1 2. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1305 *St. Edmund King* 47 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 88 As ful as an illespyl is of pikes al aboute As ful he stikede of arewen wiþ-inne & wiþoute. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxii, Herenacius is an Irchoun .. & his skyn is closid all a boute with pykes and prickis. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 292 (Bann. MS.), Syne our a mvre, with thornis thik and scherp, ..he went, And had nocht bene throw suffrage of his harp, With fell pikis he had bene schorne and schent. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxii. 23 [The] Thirsill .. Quhois pykis throw me so reuthles ran. 1508 — *Tua Mariit Wemen* 15 Throw pykis of the plet thorne I presandlie luikit. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 148 He vas crounit vith ane palme of gold, be rason that the palme tre hes schearp broddis and pikis. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/23 A pike, pricke, *aculeus.* 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 61 So is the little Hiricion with his sharpe pykes almoste the leaste of all other beastes. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* (S. T. S.) xl. 46 Sen peircing pyks ar kyndlie with the rose. 1789 ROSS *Helenore* 26 A hail hauf mile she had at least to gang, Thro' birns and pikes [*ed.* 1768 pits] and scrabs, and heather lang.

c. *Turning.* The spike or pin in a lathe upon which one end of the object to be turned is fixed.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 180 Upon the points of this Screw and Pike the Centers of the Work are pitcht. *Ibid.* XIII. 220 Having prepared the Work fit for the Lathe ..they pitch it between the Pikes.

† **d.** *fig.* A horn of a dilemma: = HORN *sb.* 26.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* XIX. 94 They propose a question with two pykes. *Ibid.* XXI. 102 A question with two pikes.

† **e.** An ear-pick; = PICK *sb.*1 5. *Obs.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/26 A Pike, for the ear, *scalprum.*

3. A staff having an iron point or spike, a pike-staff (now *dial.*); † *spec.* a pilgrim's staff (*obs.*): = PICK *sb.*1 3.

To tip (a person) *the pikes,* to give (him) the slip: cf. PICK *sb.*1 3, quot. 1673.

c 1205 LAY. 30731 Þa imette he enne pilegrim pic bar an honde [Wace *bordon à pélerin*]. *Ibid.* 30745 Brien .. saide þat he wes pelegrim ah pic nefden he nan mid him. *Ibid.* 30848 His pic he nom an honden & helede hine under capen. 13.. *Coer de L.* 611 They were redy for to wende, With pyke and with sclavyn, As palmers were in Paynym. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 257 (MS. T) Þat Penitencia his pike [1377 B. v. 482 pyke] he shulde pulsshe newe. *Ibid.* VI. 26 Sauh I neuere Palmere with pyk [1377 B. v. 542 pike] ne with scrippe. 1724 J. SHIRLEY *Triumph Wit* (ed. 8) 171 Tho' he tips [*printed* rips] them the Pikes they nig him again. 1869 G. TICKELL *Life Marg. Mary Hallahan* (1870) 165 Mother Margaret could not venture as far as the post-office without the aid of a pike.

b. A pitchfork, a hay-fork: = PICK *sb.*1 4 b. Now *dial.*

1410 in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* III. 546/2, 3 dung pykes. 1472 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 245 Item j Pyke pro feno extrahendo. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A rake for to hale vp the fitchis that lie, A pike for to pike them vp handsom to drie. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pike* .. In Husbandry, a Prong, or Iron-fork. 1766 *Compl. Farmer, Pike,* a name given in some counties to what is generally called a fork, used for carrying straw, &c. 1825 in HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 854 Pitchforks, or *pikes,* as in Cornwall they are..called. 1870 *Anct. Catal.* [Shropshire] (E.D.D.), Pikes and rakes.

c. In *Salt-making.* (See quot.)

1884 R. HOLLAND *Chesh. Gloss., Pike, s.* salt-making term; a one-pronged instrument (one can hardly call it a fork, seeing it has but one prong) used for lifting and handling lumps of salt.

d. Applied to a tent-pole or its pointed end.

1827 *Perils & Captivity* (Constable's Misc.) 303 It is the women..who lift the pikes of the tents, when their husbands are resolved to move their camp.

III. 4. An extremity tapering to a point; a PEAK. **a.** The long point or peak of a shoe, such as was fashionable in 14th–15th c.; a poulaine. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 124 Men deformen hor body by hor foule atyre, as pikes of schoone. 1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 497 But mony abusions comme from Boemia into Englonde with this qwene, and specially schoone with longe pykes. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/1 Eny Shoes or Boteux, havyng pykes passyng the lengh of ii ynches. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 6 b, Bootes with pykes turned vp. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvii. (1623) 870 The pikes in the Toes were turned vpward and with siluer chaines, or silke laces tied to the knee. [1723 THORESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 345 In Stow's Chronicle, *ad An.* 1465, we read of a Proclamation against the Beaks or Pikes of Shoone, or Boots, that they should not pass two Inches. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 202 No one under the estate of a lord was permitted to wear pikes or poleines to his shoes..exceeding two inches in length.]

b. The pointed end, 'beak', or 'horn' of an anvil. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* I. 3 A Black Smiths Anvil..is sometimes made with a Pike, or Bickern, or Beak-iron at one end of it. 1680 *Ibid.* X. 179 A strong Iron Pike, but its point is made of tempered Steel. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 300/2 *Pike*..that as comes out of one end of [an Anvil].

5. *dial.* A narrow pointed piece of land at the side of a field of irregular shape; = GORE *sb.*2 1 b, PICK *sb.*1 6.

1585 *Rec. Leicester* (1905) III. 217, 4 lands, 23 pikes, lying south upon Knighton Mere. 1724 *MS. Indenture* (co. Derby), Together with all mounds, fences, .. pikes, balkes, land ends. 1737 *MS. Indenture, Estate at Rolleston, Stafford.,* Pikes, selions or butts of arable land in a field called Crowthorn field. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pikes,* short butts which fill up the irregularity caused by hedges not running parallel. 1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. I. 454/1 Hereabouts [Worcestershire] 'pikes' [of ploughed land] are the 'peaked' bits.

IV. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**pike-bolt**, a sharp-pointed bolt; **pike-pole**, *U. S.*, a pole provided with a spike and a hook, used by lumbermen in driving logs, also as a boat-hook; **piketail**, *U. S.*, the pintail duck; **pike-wall**, *dial.*, a gable-wall; **pike-wise** *adv.*, in peaked or cuneiform formation.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 206 Many..have left the use of them and of sundry other preventions as of sherehookes,..*pike bolts in their wales and divers other engines of antiquitie. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/1 *Pykewalle.. *murus conalis, piramis, vel piramidalis.* 1556–7 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 455 The pyke wall in tholde Hall. 1513 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 87 The Kyng of Scottes armye was devyded in to fyue batelles,..part of them were quadrant, some *pykewyse.

[*Note.* The etymology of *pike*, with the related PICK *sb.*[1], PEAK *sb.*[1], and the vbs. PIKE[1], PICK[1], PECK, presents many difficulties. OE. *pīc*, ME. *pic*, seem to be the same word as OF. and mod. F. *pic*, corresp. to Prov. *pic*, Sp., Pg. *pico*, all applied to something sharp-pointed, and having a cognate vb., F. *piquer*, Pr., Sp., Pg. *picar*, It. *piccare*, to pierce, prick, sting, etc. The origin of this Romanic family is disputed. Diez referred it to L. *pīc-us* the woodpecker, in reference to the action of the long and powerful beak with which that bird hammers, picks, and pierces the bark of trees. The phonetic difficulty that the *c* of L. *pīc-us* and a derived **pīcā-re* would not remain in the mod. langs., but be lost in F. (*pi*, **pier*), and elsewhere become *g*, has been met by the suggestion that the group, being of echoic origin, retained the *c* or *k* unchanged, or that late L. had, beside *pīc-us*, the popular forms **picc-us* and **pīcc-āre* (perh. due to echoic modification), which would phonetically give the modern forms. Celtic origin or influence has also been suggested. Welsh *pig* anything pointed, pointed end, point, pike, beak, bill, with its cognate vb. *pigo*, Cornish *piga* to prick, sting, pick, peck (said of a thorn, a bird, etc.), and a large group of connected words in Welsh, Cornish, and Breton, point to an original *pīk-*, the Brythonic cognate of OIr. *cích* (Proto-Celtic **qīk-*), found on the OIr. gloss *cich* i. *ger* (i. e. 'sharp') from the *Book of Lecan*, printed by Stokes in *Archiv für Celtische Lexicographie* I. 59 (note on 73). In the Teutonic langs. OE. *pīc* appears to stand alone in the early period. ON. had *pīk*, app. as a personal nickname (*Hakon pīk*) in 12th c., and as a common noun *pīk* a pikestaff *c*1330; in same sense MSw. had *piik*, and 13th c. Norw. had *pīkstaʃr*; mod Sw. and Norw. *pīk*, M.Da. *piig*, Da. *pig* pike, point, prickle. The probability appears to be that these were adopted from the same source as Eng. *pike*. See also PICK *v.*[1]]

Pike (pəik), *sb.*[2] *north. Eng.* Also 3, 7 **pik**, 6 **pyke**. [app. either a local application of PIKE *sb.*[1], or of Norse origin: cf. West Norw. dial. *pīk* a pointed mountain, *piktind* a peaked summit.]

1. A northern English name for a pointed or peaked summit, or a mountain or hill with a pointed summit; entering extensively into the nomenclature of mountains and hills in and around the English Lake district.

The names in *Pike* have their centre in Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire-above-the-sands, where are Scawfell Pike, Langdale Pikes, Pike o' Stickle, Causey Pike, Grisedale Pike, Red Pike, White Pike, Wansfell Pike, etc.; they gradually thin off in the surrounding counties, examples being Rivington Pike in mid-Lancashire; Backden Pike, Pinnar Pike, Haw Pike, in Yorkshire; Pontop Pike, West Pike, in Durham; Glanton Pike, East Pike, West Pike, Three Pikes, in Northumberland; Hartshorn Pike, The Pike in Roxburghshire, The Pike in Selkirkshire, etc. It is notable that the *pikes* are localized in the district of England characterized by Norse topographical names, the country of the *becks, fells, forces, ghylls, hows, riggs, scaurs, screes, thwaites*, and *tarns*, that the name is ancient, as old as sense 2 of PIKE[1], and that *pīk* is used in precisely the same way in West Norwegian dialect.

*c*1250 *Lanc. Charters* No. 1974 (Brit. Mus, MS. Add. 32107 lf. 280 b), Et sic sequendo dictum diuisum forrestæ et metæ de Rothington se diuidunt vsque ad Winterhold pike et sic sequendo altitudinem del Egges vsque in Romesclogh heued. 1277–90 *Grant by Cecilia widow of Wm. of Rivington* (MSS. of W. H. Lever), Et sic sequendo altam viam ultra Roinpik [=Rivington Pike] vsque Stondandestan. 1322 *Close Roll* 15 Edw. II., memb. 2 *dorso* (P. R. O.), Et sic vsque ad altum de Yowberg et sic vsque le Mikeldor de Yowberg, et exinde vsque le Rede Pike [Wast Water]. *a*1400–50 *Alexander* 4818 þai labourde vp agayn þe lift an elleuen dais, & quen þai couert to þe crest, þen clerid þe welkyn .. þan past þai doun fra þat pike in-to a playn launde. *a*1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1744) V. 90 But communely the People therabout caullith hit Riven-pike. 1588 in E. Baines *Hist. Lancs.* (1889) III. 229 *note*, The hundreth of Sallford is to paie for the watchinge of [the] Beacon of Rivington Pyke (from 10 July to 30 September). 1604 *Surv. Debat. Lands, Bound. Eng. & Scot.*, From the head of Blakeup the boundes extendeth to Bell's Rigg, and so to Blakeley Pike. 1664 *Acc. Bk. D. Fleming, Rydal Hall, Westmld.* 26 Sept., It. for walling one day at y^e^ Low-pike. 1673 BLOME *Britanniæ* 132 Amongst which Hills these are of chief note, viz. Furness Fells, Riving Pike, and Pendle Hill. 1738 S. FEARON & J. EYES *Sea Coast Eng. & Wales* 18 Keep away about S.S.E. 'til the Westermost of the two fair Houses at Banks be in a line with Rivington Pike. *Ibid.*, Keep so' til Wharton Chappel comes in a line with Porlock Pike. 1793 WORDSW. *Descript. Sk.* 482 Pikes, of darkness named and fears and storms, Uplift in quiet their illumined forms. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell the Third* I. xii, Then there came down from Langdale Pike A cloud, with lightning, wind, and hail. 1865 BELLEW *Blount Tempest* I. 70 On the East, the moors and pikes of Yorkshire .. descend and slope towards the sea. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 73 Pike O'Stickle..looks like a huge petrified haycock. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* I. vii, Masses of broken crag rising at the very head of the valley into a fine pike.

b. A cairn or pillar of stones erected on the highest point of a mountain or hill; also, a beacon, tower, or pile on an eminence.

Many of the natural pikes (e.g. Rivington Pike) were beacon hills; hence the name appears to have been sometimes associated with a beacon.

1751 in E. Baines *Hist. Lancs.* (1888) II. 333 [Inscription on a conical pillar on the summit of Hartshead Hill, 8 miles ENE. of Manchester.] This Pike was rebuilt by Publick Contributions, Anno Do. 1751. *a*1815 in *Pennecuik's Wks.* (1815) 49 *note*, These piles of stones are often termed Cairn, Pike, Currough, Cross, &c. 1856 T. T. WILKINSON in *Lanc. & Chesh. Hist. Soc. Trans.* 4 Dec., Pikelaw [near Burnley, Lancs.] has much the appearance of a large tumulus, but as its name indicates, it has long been used for the purposes of a beacon.

2. A pointed or peaked stack of hay, made up (of a number of hay-cocks) temporarily in the hayfield, until it can be carted to the farm-yard; also, a stack of corn, circular in form, pointed, and of no great size. (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 37 A stacke is made allwayes after the manner of a longe square, having a ridge like the ridge of an howse; and a pyke, rownde, and sharpe att the toppe. 1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 193 Employing every hand in making it into large cocks (or pikes). 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 12 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Ten or twelve cocks may be formed into a 'pike', containing about a ton of hay. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Nov. 3/1 The habit of allowing hay to remain in the fields in 'pikes', as they are called in the north, ..is one of the customs of the country.

†**Pike** (pəik), *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **pick**(e, 7 **pique**: see also PIC[1], PICO. [ad. Sp. *pico* beak, bill, nib, peak, Pg. *pico* summit, top; cf. also mod. F. *pic* in same sense. Distinct from PIKE *sb.*[2], as being of much later introduction, and of general, not local, use, and as having at length passed into *peak*, while the northern Eng. word remains *pike*.]

1. The earlier form of PEAK *sb.*[2] (sense 5), the conical summit of a mountain; hence in the name of certain mountains of conical form. Used first in the name *Pike* (*Picke*) *of Teneriffe*; also in other geographical names, as *Adam's Pike, Pike of Daman*, etc., in all of which PEAK has now taken its place.

The name *Pike of Teneriffe* appears in Eden 1555 (as *picke*), and was prevalent during 16–17th c.; the modern equivalent PEAK appears in 1634, and prevailed after 1700, though the older *pike* occurs as late as 1776. In French, Thevenot used in 1663 the Spanish form *pico* (see PEAK *sb.*[2] 5, quot. 1687). *Pic* occurs first in 1690 in Furetière, 'mot..qui se dit en cette phrase, Pic de Teneriffe .. ce mot vient de l'espagnol *pico*, qui signifie montagne'; it is not in Richelet 1680, but appears in ed. 1693; it was admitted into the Dict. Acad. in 1740, with the instances 'pic de Teneriffe, pic d'Adam, pic du Midi'. But locally, *pic* was used in the Pyrenees, and is found in Provençal in 14th c.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 351 Teneriffa is a hygh lande and a greate hyghe picke like a suger lofe. .. By reason of that picke, it may be knowen aboue all other Ilandes. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v, That sky-scaling Pike of Tenerife. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (Hakl. Soc.) xii, The pike of Tenerifa..is the highest land..that I haue seene... Going up to the pike, the cold is so great that it is insufferable. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. viii, Higher than Ten'riff's Pique he flies. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech., Digress.* 358 The top of the Pike of Tenariff. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 42, I am of opinion that it is higher than the Pike of Tenariff. 1715 J. EDENS in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 317 We saw the Pike with a white Cloud covering the Top of it like a Cap. *c*1765 T. FLLOYD *Tartar. T.* (1785) 14 A mountain..was called Adam's Pike. 1776 R. TWISS *Tour Irel.* 118 The Pike of Teneriffe.

b. By extension, Any mountain peak; *esp.* a volcanic cone.

Quot. *a*1697 is placed here, as not belonging to PIKE *sb.*[2] (*Abergavenny's Pike* and *Cam's Pike* (in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) are not local names, the former being called *the Sugar Loaf* and the latter *Cam Peak* or locally *Cam Pick.*)

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxiv. 193 Ordinarily these Volcans be rockes or pikes of most high mountaines. 1676 F. VERNON in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 581 The Pique of Parnassus. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1732) 104 The highest Pikes and Summits of those Mountains. *a*1697 AUBREY *Wilts.* (Roy. Soc. MS.) 71 (Halliw.) Not far from Warminster is Clay-hill, and Coprip..; they are pikes or vulcanos. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 29 The pikes both of Athos and of Tenedos suggest the idea that their mountains have burned. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 311 Snow..of a dazzling whiteness..on the highest pikes.

2. In the nautical phrase *on* (*the*) *pike*, in a vertical position, vertically, straight up and down: see the later form APEAK, and PEAK *v.*[3]

[French has also *à pic* in the same sense, cited before 1600, and it is a question in which language the phrase arose. But it is probable that in the phrases *on the pike, on pike, a-pike*, later *a-peak*, we have the same word as in sense 1, with its later form PEAK *sb.*[2] 5, the connexion between *pike* = summit, and *a-pike*, being analogous to that between *vertex* and *vertical, -ally*.]

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking-glass* Wks. (Rtldg.) 129/2 Our yards across, our anchors on the pike, What, shall we hence, and take this merry gale? 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 306 Setting their Oares on pike expected what those which were coming would command.

Pike (pəik), *sb.*[4] Also 4 **pik**, 4–5 **pyk**, 5–8 **pyke**, 6 **pycke**, (7 **pick**). [app. short for *pike-fish*, from PIKE *sb.*[1], in reference to its pointed beak; cf. GED[1], and F. *brochet* pike (fish), f. *broche* a spit.]

1. A large, extremely voracious, freshwater fish of the northern temperate zone, *Esox lucius*, with a long slender snout; a jack, luce; among anglers the name is sometimes restricted to a specimen of a particular age or size (see quot. 1840–70, and PICKEREL[1] quot. 1587). Hence, by extension, any fish of the genus *Esox* or of the family *Esocidæ*.

Among N. American species are the Federation Pike, *Esox americanus*, Great Pike, *E. nobilior*, Hump-backed Pike, *E. cypho.*

1314 in *Wardr. Acc. Edw. II* 21/12 Dars roches et pik. 1337–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 33, j pyk. 1347–8 *Ibid.* 546 Willelmo..piscando in Mordon Kerr pro pikes capiend. xxd. *c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 10 On a fyssday take Pyke or Elys, Codlyng or Haddok. *c*1440 *Promp. Parv.* 396/1 Pyke, fysche, *dentrix*, ..*lucius*, ..*lupus*. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 395/2 As lollardes dyd of late, that put a pygge into y^e^ water on good fryday, & sayd goe in pygge, and come oute pyke. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 279 Pikes or River-wolves are greatly commended by Gesner and divers learned Authors for a wholesome Meat. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 334/2 It [Water of Leith] abounds with trout, and contains a few pike. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 100 What ponds he empty'd and what pikes he sold. 1840–70 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* 1101 When the fish does not exceed 4 lbs. or 5 lbs. in weight it is called in England 'a jack', and above that weight 'a pike'. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* v. 49 He ..Saw the pike, the Maskenozha. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 167 And watch the long pike basking lie Outside the shadow of the weed.

2. Applied in U. S. and the colonies to various fishes resembling, in their slender body or sharp snout, the pikes proper: e. g. two cyprinoid fishes, *Ptychochilus lucius* and *Gila grandis*, of California, and species of *Sphyræna* of Australia.

1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vi, These barracouta's—Sphyrænas as the learned, or 'pike' as the sailors, call them, though they are no kin to our pike at home. 1880 *Rep. Fish. N. S. Wales* 21 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.), *Sphyræna novæ hollandiæ* and *obtusata* and *Neosphyræna multiradiata*, all of them named, from the elongate muzzle and strong teeth, 'pike', though in no way related to the well-known European fish of that name.

b. With distinctive adjuncts:

Bald P., a ganoid fish of N. America, *Amia calva*; **Blue, Grey, Green, Yellow P.**, names of a species of the pike-perch, *Stizostedion vitreum*; **Bony P.**, a gar-fish of the family *Lepidosteidæ*; **Brazilian P.**, a fish of the genus *Hemirhamphus* (Pennant); **Glass-eyed, Goggle-eyed, Wall-eyed P.**, the pike-perch, *Stizostedion americanum* (or *S. vitreum*); **Ground-p., Mud-p., Sand-p.**, the sauger (*S. canadense*); **Sand-p.**, also the Lizard-fish, *Synodus fœtens*; **Sea P.**, the common gar-fish or gar-pike, *Belone vulgaris*: see also GAR-PIKE.

1810 P. NEILL *List of Fishes* 16, *Esox Lucius*, Sea-pike; Gar-pike. 1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* iv. 61 The sturgeon, the *Siluridæ* or Cat-fish, the bony pike of the North American Lakes.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pike-fish, -fisher, -fishing, -haunt, -leister, -monger, -pool, -slayer, -trap, -trolling*; *pike-eyed, -gray, -snouted* adjs.; †**pike-monger**, a dealer in pike and other freshwater fish; **pike-perch**, a percoid fish of the genus *Stizostedion*, with jaws like those of a pike, species of which are found in European and N. American rivers; esp. *S. americanum* and *S. vitreum*; **pike-sucker**, a fish of the family *Gobiesocidæ*, characterized by a long snout like that of a pike and a ventral sucker like that of a goby; **pike-whale**, = *piked whale*: see PIKED *a.* 2 b.

1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 60 By getting out here I shall avoid that *pike-eyed porter at the entrance. 1494 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 280 In *pykeffyssh xs. ijd. 1633 *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 306, 5 pick fishes, xv^d^. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Aug. 478 With this tackle the *pike-fisher can go forth. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. vi. (1872) III. 57 He..puts off the *pike-gray coat. 1895 SUFFLING *Land of Broads* 61 The reaches about Bramerton are noted *pike haunts. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* 252 Payd for a pyke and an ele that my mastyr owt the *pykemonger before, xx *d.* *c*1610 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 15 Every Pikemonger, that bringeth fresh fish to this Fair to sell, as Pike, Tench, Roche, Perch, Eel. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 114 The German sandre, *pike perch, one of the best flavored of the family. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 104 Stuffed Specimen of a 'Pike-Perch'.. from the Danube. 1884 MATHER in *Cent. Mag.* Apr. 908/1 The pike-perch becomes a 'salmon' in the Susquehanna, Ohio, and Mississippi rivers. 1884 HARRIS in *Littell's Living Age* CLXI. 90 Your..*pike-snouted Chinese porker. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 366 *Pike Trap with funnel-shaped inlet. *Ibid.* 375 The *Pike Whale..from the coast of Bohuslän.

Pike (pəik), *sb.*[5] Also 6 **pique**, **pyke**; and see PICK *sb.*[2] [Found first in 16th c.: a. F. *pique* sb. fem. (in Flanders 1376, Hatz.-Darm.), a military term = Pr. *piqua*, Sp., Pg. *pica*, It. *picca* (with doubled *c*); from the same root as F. *piquer* to pierce, puncture, and F. *pic*, PIKE *sb.*[1] (Ger. *Pike*, Du. *pijk*, Da. and Sw. *pik*, are all from F. *pique*.)]

1. A weapon consisting of a long wooden shaft with a pointed head of iron or steel; formerly the chief weapon of a large part of the infantry; in the 18th c. superseded by the bayonet. †(*To sell*) *under the pike* (L. *sub hasta*), by auction; cf. SPEAR. *To trail a pike*: see TRAIL *v.*

In later times the simple form of the pike was sometimes modified, as by the addition of a lateral hook; and the name has been also loosely applied to forms of the halberd and to the half-pike or spontoon, formerly carried by infantry officers.

*c*1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 There wepyns is lange pykes & stones. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 96 He stood at pike against the greatest and mightiest persons that bare the sway and government. 1590 SIR J.

Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 12 b, With piques, and half piques, swords and targets. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* v. 444 See the wealth that Pompey gain'd in warre, Sold at a pike. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* I. i. 4 For the plaine field, neither .. Halbard, nor Partizan comparable to the Pike. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 40 Trayl'st thou the puissant Pyke? 1626 Gouge *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 11 Such men are more fit..to lift a pitchforke then to tosse a pike. 1706 Phillips, *Pike*,..a Weapon for a Foot-Soldier, from 14 to 16 Foot long, arm'd at the end with a sharp Iron-spear. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The pike continues the weapon of foot-officers, who fight pike in hand, salute with the pike. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Ireland* v. 85 The searchers re-appeared, bringing with them a dozen pikes, a blunderbuss, and three braces of pistols. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 610 He had been seen on foot, pike in hand, encouraging his infantry by voice and by example.

† **2.** Phrases. **a.** *To pass* (*pass through*) *the pikes* [= F. *passer par les piques*, *passer les piques*, It. *passar per le picche*], in quot. 1654 *lit.* to run the gauntlet; but usually *fig.* to pass through difficulties or dangers, *esp.* to come through successfully; to run the gauntlet *of*. Similarly *to run through*, (*to be*) *past*, *the pikes*, etc. *Obs.*

1555 Bradford in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 289 Of al temptations this is the greatest, that god hath forgotten or will not helpe vs throughe the pykes, as they say. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 20 So mutch the harder it is like to go with me when..I must run thorouh the pikes. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 39 Thou arte heere amiddest the pykes betweene Scylla and Carybdis. 1621 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 24 Neither Johns mourning, nor Christs piping can pass the pikes: but the one hath a devil, the other is a glutton and a wine-bibber. 1654 Earl Monm. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 121 It [the squadron] .. making those who according to their laws have deserved it, sometimes pass the pikes [*passar per le picche*], and sometimes be shot to death. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 218/2 To run the pikes (of some termed running the gauntlett), that is to be slashed and whipt throwe two files of men, 60 or 100 deepe. 1712 M. Henry *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1857 II. 720/1 None of them [had] past the pikes of that perilous distemper. 1785 Cowper *Let. to Lady Hesketh* 30 Nov., Wks. 1836 V. 187 So far, therefore, I have passed the pikes. The Monthly Critics have not yet noticed me.

† **b.** *To run* (*push*, *cast oneself*, etc.) *upon the pikes*: (*fig.*) to expose oneself to peril, rush to destruction. *Obs.*

a 1555 Philpot *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 16 But now I can not shew you my mind, but I must run upon the pikes, in danger of my life therefor. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 390 Of a couragious harted man, of his owne accorde, to pushe vpon the pykes of death. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 2 He casteth himselfe headlong vpon pikes, to be gored by euery sharp tongue. 1671 Crowne *Juliana* III. 23 For this I..run on the pikes of my great Father's anger.

† **c.** *Push of pike*, close combat, fighting at close quarters; also *fig. Obs.*

1596 Nashe *Saffron-Walden* Wks (Grosart) III. 154 To trie it out at the push of the pike. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* 167 Nor so easie to come to the push of the pike, as to pen out a Lawing plea. [1682 Bunyan *Holy War* 54 Half afraid that when they and we shall come to push a pike, I shall find you want courage to stand it out any longer.] 1699 in Somers *Tracts* Ser. IV. (1751) III. 157* By that Time the Blue Regiment was got within Push of Pike. 1707 [N. Ward] *Hudibras Rediv.* II. VII. VII. 10 But when at Push a Pike we play With Beauty, who shall win the Day? 1852 Thackeray *Esmond* II. xii, The French battalions never waiting to exchange push of pike or bayonet with ours.

† **3.** *transf.* = Pikeman[1]. *Obs.*

1557 Q. Mary in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 222 One fourth parte to be argabusiers or archers, one oother fourth parte pikes, and the rest billes. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 13 b, Backed with some squadrons of Piques. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. xv. (1821) 381 Sent some three-score Shott and Pike to the foot of the hill. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 91 The French could not spare so many men..but they gave him three thousand pikes, and one thousand launces.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pike-handle*, *-length*, *-point*; **pike-hammer** = *hammer-pike*: see Hammer *sb.* 7. See also Pike-head, Pikeman[1], etc.

1585-6 Earl Leycester *Corr.* (Camden) 428 First clime the brech, a pike-length before and aboue anie person that followed him. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 23 Feb. 3/1 One fine young wood .. had been cut down for pike-handles. 1834 T. Singleton in J. Raine *Mem. J. Hodgson* (1858) II. 350 Before this parish had a hearse .. the bodies of deceased parishioners were carried to the grave on poles resting on men's shoulders; these poles were the perquisite of the rector, and were called 'pikehandles', a custom rising rather from the nature of his residence in a fortalice in an unquiet country than from any ecclesiastical claim. 1891 Atkinson *Last Giant Killers* 128 That some among those .. pike-points might penetrate between his rings.

Pike, *sb.*[6] *dial.* or *local colloq.* and *U. S.* [Short for Turnpike: first prob. in combinations: see 3.]

1. A bar or gate on a road at which toll is collected; a toll-bar or toll-gate.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii. *Ibid.* lvi, I dewote the remainder of my days to a pike. 1840 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. III. xi. 145 S'pose any gentleman that keeps a pike was to give you a bad shillin' in change. 1896 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 66 The man at the pike..ran to open the gate.

b. *transf.* The toll paid at a turnpike-gate.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* lii, She [Mrs. Weller] paid the last pike [*i. e.* died] at twenty minutes afore six o'clock yesterday evenin. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lvii. 323 He wouldn't haggle about the pikes. 1894 Blackmore *Perlycross* 330 Oh, you have paid the pike for me.

2. A turnpike road, 'turnpike', highway.

1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, The road..had formerly been a thoroughfare to the river, but abandoned for many years after the laying of the new pike. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 385/1 There were ruts and gulleys in it.., and yet they called it a pike and collected toll.

3. *Comb.*, as *pike-keeper*, *-road.* Also Pikeman[3].

1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 1372 Sellers of cattle.., with the *pike* tickets in their hats. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxii, 'What do you mean by a pike-keeper?' inquired Mr. Peter Magnus. 'The old 'un means a turnpike keeper, gen'lm'n', observed Mr. Weller, in explanation. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 132/2 We found greater comfort in the well-kept pike-road, with ridable grades, and lined in places with pleasant shade trees.

Pike, *sb.*[7], obs. variant of Pique, grudge.

Pike, *sb.*[8], obs. form of Pitch *sb.*[1]

Pike, *sb.*[9], variant of Pic[2], measure of cloth.

† **Pike,** *a. Obs.* [Origin and meaning obscure: ? related to F. *piqué* turned sour (of wine), *piquant* pungent, spiced (of sauce, etc.).] (?) Hot, biting, seasoned, spiced: esp. in *pike sauce*, also *fig.* sarcasm, pungent wit.

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 160 Let us haue chekyns in pyke sauce [*in oxigaro*]. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Eb, I but he hath sillogismes in pike sauce, and arguments that haue been these twentie yeres in pickle. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 228 Now the fiercest Gunpouder, and the rankest pike sawce, are the brauest figures of Rhetorique *in esse*. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Egg*, Bread 'em [eggs] with Crums..cover 'em with a Pike-hash and some scraped Cheese, and bring them to a fine Colour.

Pike, *v.*[1], collateral form of Pick *v.*[1] (q. v. for examples), still in dialectal use in various senses. To this app. belongs the obs. expression *to pike* or *pick a bow*, the exact meaning of which is uncertain: ? to trim: = Pick *v.*[1] 4 (or ? to point; cf. Pike *v.*[2]).

1463 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 235 Item, payd for pesynge off bowys and ovyr-drawynge off bowis, and ffor pykynge off bowys, xxj.*d.* 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 116 In dressing and pikyng it [the stave] vp for a bow. *Ibid.* 120 For thys purpose must your bowe be well trymmed and piked of a conning man that it may come rounde in trew compasse euery where. *Ibid.* 120–1 Pike the places about the pinches, to make them somewhat weker, and as well commynge as where it pinched, and so the pinches shall dye. 1579 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 403 Hit ys also agreed..that Nicholas Gosson [Bowmaker] shall frome henceforth be free of this Cytie, ffor the weh he shall ..[*inter alia*] newe scoure and fether all suche arrowes as the twone howsse nowe hathe, and newe pycke all theire bowes weh have nede to be done.

Pike (pəik), *v.*[2] Now *rare.* Also 5–6 **pyke**, 6 **pycke**, 6–7 **pick.** [f. Pike *sb.*[1] 2.] *trans.* To furnish with a pike, spike, or (iron) point.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 45 Þere þe Affres closed hym in a streiȝt tree þat was þicke pikede wiþ ynne wiþ longe and scharpe nayles. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/2 Pykynge, of a staffe, or oþer lyke, *cuspidacio*. 1530 Palsgr. 657/1, I pycke a staff with pykes of yron, *je enquantelle*. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Enquantellé*, *Baston bien enquantellé de fer*, a staffe well piked, or well grained, with yron.

Pike, *v.*[3] Also 5–6 **pyke**, 6 **picke**, **pycke.** [Orig. refl. *to pike oneself*, perh. = to furnish oneself with a pike or pilgrim's staff (cf. *to cut one's stick*): see Pike *sb.*[1] 3. Cf. Old Da. *pikke*, Da. *pigge af* to hasten off, Sw. dial. *pikka åstad* to make off. Another conjectural derivation is from F. *piquer* to spur.]

† **1.** *refl.* To make off with oneself, go away quickly, be off. Also with *away*. *Obs.*

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1348 Then Reson hym commaundyd pyke hym thens lyghtly. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* IX. xliv. 411 And thenne anone that damoysel pyked her away pryuely. *a* 1530 *Parl. Byrdes* 254 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 180 When his fethers are pluked he may him go pike. 1530 Palsgr. 656/2, I pycke me forth out of a place, or I pycke me hence, *je me tyre auant*..Come of, pycke you hence and your heles hytherwarde. *Ibid.* 770/2 Walke, pyke you hence, *tire avant*. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* XIX. 3 A people that is put to shame, pycketh them selues awaye. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* IV. iii. (Arb.) 64 Auaunt lozell, picke thee hence. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 111 Into what place so euer H. may pike him, Where euer thou finde ache, thou shalt not like him. *c* 1570 *Ane Ballat of Matrymonie* 71 in Laing *Pop. Poet. Scot.* II. 77 He bad them then go pyke them home.

2. *intr.* To depart; also with *off*; *fig.* to die. Also *to pike it.* Now *slang* or *colloq.*

1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 957, I bade hym pyke out of the gate. 15.. *Jack Juggler* (Roxb.) 16 Pike and walke, a knaue, here a waye is no passage. 1697 Dampier *Voy. round World* (1699) 526 When..forced to lye down, they made their Wills, and piked off in 2 or 3 Days. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Pike*, to run away, flee, quit..the Place; also to Die. 1724 Shirley *Triumph Wit* (ed. 8) 154 We file off with his Cole, as he pikes along the Street. *c* 1789 Parker *Sandman's Wedding* in Farmer *Musa Pedestris* (1896) 65 Into a booze-ken they pike it. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pike off!* begone!

† **Pike,** *v.*[4] *Obs. rare.* App. ad. F. *piquer*, in phrase *to pike on the wind* = F. *piquer au vent*, to sail close to the wind, to hug the wind.

1584 James Melvill *Autobiog. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc. 1842) 169 Finding us contrare our course .. he cust about and pykit on the wind, halding bathe the helme and scheit.

b. *To pike up*: (*trans.*), ? to sail close to.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. v. 18 And wp we pike the coist of Epirus, And landit thair at port Chaonyus. *Ibid.* x. 99 The dangerus schaldis and coist vp pykit we.

Pike (pəik), *v.*[5] [f. Pike *sb.*[5]] *trans.* To thrust through or kill with a pike.

1798 *Hull Advertiser* 22 Sept. 4/2 Many prisoners were taken out..and being carried to the camp were piked. The manner of piking was by two of the rebels pushing their pikes into the front of the victim. 1803 Wellington *Let.* in Gurw. *Desp.* II. 327, I lost two horses, one shot and the other piked. 1874 Froude *English in Irel.* III. x. i. 433 The day after the battle of New Ross a batch of [Protestant] prisoners was carried out from Wexford Gaol to Vinegar Hill, and piked in front of the windmill.

fig. 1866 Fitz-patrick *Sham Sqr.* 243 Giffard sought to stab with his pen, and pike with his tongue every friend to national progress.

Pike, *v.*[6] [f. Pike *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To lift with a pike.

1850 Scoresby *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* xii. 162 Others piking the pieces from one tub to another.

Pike, *v.*[7] *dial.* [f. Pike *sb.*[2] 2.] *trans.* To heap or pile up (hay) into pikes.

1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* III. 970 The reason that hay should be piked if stacked all in one day. 1896 P. A. Graham *Red Scaur* v. 80 Tumbling among the cocks when hay was being 'piked'. 1896 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 575 Come, let's be off; they'll be done piking directly.

Pike, obs. form of Peek *v.*[1], to pry; Peak *v.*[3], to top a yard, etc.

Piked (pəi·kĕd, pəikt), *a.* Also 4–6 **pyked**, 5 **pykyd**, **-id**, 6 *Sc.* **pykit**, **pikit**: see also Picked *a.* [f. Pike *sb.*[1] or *v.*[2] + -ed.]

1. Furnished with a pike, spike, or sharp point; fashioned with a sharp point (or points); sharp-pointed; = Picked *a.* 1.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 328 With piked staues grete, beten salle he be. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 769 A park al aboute, With a pyked palays, pyned ful þik. *c* 1447 in *Jarrow & Wearm.* (Surtees) 241 He and his fellows .. wt lang pykid staves and lang dagers mad e casawte to ye said kepper. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. xiii. 62 Casting dartis or macis wyth pykyt heidis. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 83 b, He put me as a piked Arrow, he hydde mee in hys quever. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 298 The enemies ships armed with piked beake-heads. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 70 The Batavians.. running in upon them..with their piked Targets bearing them down. 1695 J. Edwards *Perfect. Script.* 211 Some of them [spears] were piked or pointed at both ends. 1805 Dickson *Pract. Agric.* I. 7 Perhaps the Hertfordshire wheel-plough, which has a piked share, may be the most suitable implement. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* v. v, The good old priest..Took his piked staff and sandall'd shoon.

b. Of animals, plants, etc.: Furnished with a pike or sharp point, or with spines or prickles, as in *piked dogfish*; = Picked *a.* 1 b.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1626) 73 Inuiron'd with no marish-louing Reeds, Nor piked Bull-rushes. 1875 *Trans. Devon Assoc.* VII. 145 Piked Dog-fish. 1896 J. H. Campbell *Wild Life Scot.* 99 The piked dog-fish owes his common name to the pikes or spikes, standing up like detached rays, in front of the dorsal fins.

2. Tapering to a point or peak; pointed, peaked.

1538 Elyot *Lat. Dict.* Addit. Gg vj b, *Argutum caput*, a sharpe or pikyd hedde lyke a sugar lofe. 1565–73 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Compono*, *Acies per cuneos componere*, to set in pyked fronts. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 45 b, When it [hay] is dryed, we..make it vp in Cockes, and after that in Moowes, which must be sharp and piked in the toppe. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 515 A little piked hill cast up. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 42 Messapus for his high steepe piked rocks to be wondred at. 1775 R. Chandler *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 11 The cape named Tænarum, now Matapan, which is the extremity of a mountain sloping to a point, having before it a piked rock. 1800 D. Lysons *Environs London* Suppl. 159 Sir Edward is represented in armour, with piked beard and whiskers.

b. Piked horn, a tall conical headdress worn by ladies in the 14th and 15th c.; **piked shoe,** a shoe with a long peak at the toes, as was the fashion towards the end of the 14th c., and later; a crakow, poulaine; **piked whale,** the lesser rorqual, or pike-headed whale, *Balænoptera rostrata.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 218 Proude prestes come with hym moo þan a thousand In paltokes and pyked shoes. *a* 1450 Myrc 43 Cuttede clothes and pyked schone. 1580 Stow *Annals* (1601) 471 Noble women vsed high attire on their heads, piked like hornes. 1587 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 33 They went..with their shooes piked. 1698 J. Crull *Muscovy* 137 Their Boots..are piked towards the Toes. 1747 Vertue in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 575 Piked Shoes appear in several Reigns from Ed. III. to Rich. III. in England. 1748 H. Walpole *Let. to G. Montagu* 11 Aug., Anne of Bohemia..introduced the fashion of *piked horns*, or high heads. 1787 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 418 The *Balæna rostrata* of Fabricius or Piked Whale. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 577/2 The subclavian artery in the Piked Whale. 1892 C. R. B. Barrett *Essex Highways*, etc. 71 The curious headdress of piked-horns.

Piked, obs. variant of Picked *ppl. a.*

Pike-devant, variant of Picke-devant.

Pikefork, obs. and dial. variant of Pickfork.

Pike-head (pəi·kˌhed). [f. Pike *sb.*[4,5] + Head.]

1. The metal head of a Pike (*sb.*[5]).

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 27 He..therein left the pike-head of his speare. 1659 Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 464 The Enemy holds upon their Pike-heads mutton, capons, turkies, &c. to let the English see they had no want. 1841 Lever *C. O'Malley* lxxxi, The Cossacks with the red beards .. and long poles with pike-heads on them.

2. A fish of the family *Luciocephalidæ.*

So **Pike-headed** *a.*, having a head with long snout and jaws, like those of the Pike (*sb.*[4]); as *pike-headed alligator*, *anolis*; *pike-headed whale*, the piked whale: see Piked 2 b.

1769 Pennant *Zool.* III. 40 Pike-headed whale .. this species takes its name from the shape of its nose, which is narrower and sharper pointed than that of other whales. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 193 The Pike-headed Whale. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., *Pike-headed alligator*, the common Mississippi alligator..*Alligator lucius.*

Pikeir, variant of PIQUIER *Obs.*, a pikeman.

Pikel, pikle (pəi·k'l). *dial.* Also locally **pickel, pickle, pikehil, poikel, -kle.** [f. PIKE *sb.*[1] 3 b; prob. with *-el, -le,* instrumental, as in *handle, spindle, shovel.*] A hay-fork, pitchfork. (Common in local use, in the Midland and Western Counties from Lancashire southwards.)

1602 J. BRUEN in Hinde *Life* xlvi. (1641) 147 One casting a pikell .. one being behind him, the two greins of the pikell ran on both sides of his leg, and hurt him not. 1681 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 307 From y^e^ lower Haybay..they pitcht it and carry'd it on Pikehils to y^e^ Carts. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 73/1 Take..a Pikell of Hay, as much as hangs together on the points or grains of a Pikell. *a* 1874 'B. CORNWALL' *Manch. Streets* 87 Her Majesty..had seen the threatening clouds 'rain poikels' as Lancashire alone can rain them. 1879 *Eddowes' Shrewsbury Jrnl.* 3 Sept., Charge of stabbing with a pikel.

Pikelet[1] (pəi·klĕt). *local.* Forms: 8 **pyclet,** 8– **pikelet, picklet** (*dial.* **piklet, pyklet, piclate, pifelet, pyflet,** etc.). [Shortened from BARA-PICKLET.] A Western and Midland name for a small round tea-cake, made of fine flour; a crumpet, or, in some districts, a muffin.

1790 *Bystander* 382 They were not muffins the chevalier hawked about, when a boy, but pyclets. 1797 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 15 That doughty son of Themis..crumpled up his broad face like an half-toasted pikelet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Picklet,* or *Pikelet,* a small round light cake—a sort of muffin. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. i. 152 Janey..revelled in an early tea and pikelets. 1904 *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 260/1 A silver-covered dish containing hot pikelets. [Mod. dial. forms: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

Pikelet[2] (pəi·klĕt). [f. PIKE *sb.*[4] + -LET.] A small or young pike.

1892 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 2 July 604/1 A diminutive pikelet. 1896 GEDNEY *Angling Holidays* 83 When killed, this hungry pikelet had in his pouch a trout nearly one quarter of a pound weight!

Pikeman[1] (pəi·kmæn). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. PIKE *sb.*[5] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A soldier armed with a pike.

15.. *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 66 Yea, pickmen more, and bowmen both, This worthye Howard tooke to the sea. 1566 PARTRIDGE *Plasidas* 993 The pike-men, they on walles doe stande their towne for to defende. 1627 *Maldon, Essex, Documents* (Bundle 201 No. 40), Further that every pickman come full armed. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 199 The Pikemen had fasten'd to the tops of their pikes..printed Papers of the Protestation. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 715/2 The Swiss pikemen at Morgarten ..brought this ascendency to the ground.

Pikeman[2] (pəi·kmæn). Also (in sense 1) **pikesman.** [f. PIKE *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]]

1. A man who wields a pick; a pickman; a miner; one who hews the coal with a pickax.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* VI. vi, 'My missus told it me at the pit-head when she brought me my breakfast', said a pikeman. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 26 Oct., It is stated the best miners, known as pikesmen, can hew a stent and a half in a day. 1880 *Ibid.* 28 Oct., The pikeman's recumbent position and the easy strokes he appears to take at the coal.

2. A man who picks the mill-stones and keeps them in order; hence, the tenant or man in charge of a thirlage, baronial, or burghal mill. (*Sc.*)

15.. *Aberdeen Regr.* (Jam.), Pikeman of the townis millis. 1576 *Rec. Sheriff Crt. Aberdeensh.* (1904) 242 Alex. Williamsone..pikeman of the Miln..and uptaker of the multur and knaifschipe of the tounes and lands of the Miltoun of Auchnagat. 1877 G. FRASER *Wigtown* 60 The Clerk..and Jamie the Pikeman [had] a mutual dislike and dread of each other.

Pi·keman[3]. [f. PIKE *sb.*[6] + MAN *sb.*[1]] The keeper of a turnpike.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iv, The cheery toot of the guard's horn, to warn some drowsy pikeman or the ostler at the next change. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 1 Nov. 4/6 On certain roads you may travel for leagues without being interrupted by the 'pike-man'.

Pi·ke-pole. *U. S.* [PIKE *sb.*[1] 2.] A lumberer's tool; a pole having a spike at the end and a hook near it, used for driving and guiding floating logs.

1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 147 The running and rafting implements, pike-poles, etc., are made ready. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 206, I..was at once put to work pushing logs down a long channel with a pike pole.

Pi·ker[1]. Now *dial.* Also 4–6 **pyker,** 5–6 **-ar.** [f. *pike,* var. of PICK *v.*[1] + -ER[1]: see PICKER[1].]

†**1.** A robber, a thief; in later use, a petty thief, pilferer; = PICKER[1] 1 b. *Obs.*

1301 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 66 But if alwey pikers, lak, thou wolt us maken, ther we piken but seely pans, the secte pikith poundis. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 17 Kepe my corn in my croft fro pykers and þeeues. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 395/2 Pykare, lytylle theef, *furculus.* 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII,* c. 6 § 1 Knowyng theves and other pikars. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Philem.* 31 He reconsileth vnto the Maister [Philemon] his seruaunt that had bene both a runneagate and a piker. 1549 *Records of Elgin* I. 98 Blasfemyng of Jhone Gadderar, eldar..calland him auld pikar theyf carll.

2. An instrument to 'pike' or pick out dust, dirt, or obstructions; a picker. *Sc.*

1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xii, The piker for clearing the motion-hole.

†**Piker**[2], **piquer.** *Obs.* [f. *pique,* PIKE *sb.*[5] + -ER[1], or ad. F. *piquier*: see PIQUIER.] A soldier armed with a pike, a pikeman.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 7 b, Their old soldiers Piquers with their piques. *Ibid.* 2 b, Their footmen piquers, they doo allowe for verie well armed. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 35 The piker his armings and weapon.

Pi·ker[3]. *slang* or *dial.* [app. f. PIKE *sb.*[6] turnpike: cf. also dial. *pikey* in same sense.] A vagrant, a tramp; a gipsy.

1838 HOLLOWAY *Dict. Provinc.* 23/2 Cadgers and pikers are tramps. *E. Suss.* 1874 BORROW *Wordbk. Eng. Gypsy Lang.* 215 The people called in Acts of Parliament sturdy beggars and vagrants, in the old cant language Abraham men, and in the modern *Pikers.*

Piker, var. PICARD *Obs.*, large sailing-boat.

Pikerel, Pikery, obs. ff. PICKEREL, PICKERY.

Pi·kess. *nonce-wd.* A female pike (fish).

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 302 The spawning season occupies from two to three months; the young pikesses of three years taking the lead.

Pikestaff (pəi·kˌstaf). [In senses 1 and 2, f. PIKE *sb.*[1] 1, 2 + STAFF: cf. ON. *pikstafr* (13th c.), mod.Norw. *pikstav,* MSw. *pikstaff*; in sense 3, f. PIKE *sb.*[5] Hence two distinct words, but often not capable of separation, esp. in the phrases in 4.]

1. A staff or walking-stick with a metal point at the lower end like an alpenstock. Now only *Sc.* Sometimes app. the wooden handle of a pick.

1356 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 284 (Lett.-Bk. G. lf. 45), Pikstef. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 105 My plow-fote shal be my pyk-staf [*MS. B* pikid staf; A. VII. 96 pyk, *MS. U* pykstaf, *MS. H* pilgrimstaf] and picche atwo þe rotes. 1393 *Ibid.* C. VII. 329 Penaunce hus pyk-staf [A. V. 257 pike, piked staf] he wolde polische newe. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XI. (*Wolf & Sheep*) iii, With pykestaff and with scrip to fair of toun. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 212 He stands sollemnlie leaning on his pike staffe. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 228/1 The Weapon is a Pike-Staff, such as Keepers and Warreners use for the guard of the Game. *a* 1776 in Herd *Scot. Songs* (1902) 109 Fare ye weel, my pyke-staff. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv, Setting his pike-staff before him.

†**2.** Part of a wagon or cart: app. the same as PIKESTOWER. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 The crosse somer, the keys and pikstaues.

3. The wooden shaft of a pike (the weapon).

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Zagaye,* is a staffe longer and more slender than a pike staffe, otherwise called *Azagaye.* 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. Declar. Both Houses* 1 July 24 Gisarms (which were Pikestaves). 1904 SIR H. MAXWELL in *Blackw. Mag.* June 754/2 Ash was the proper wood for pike-staves.

4. In proverbial phrases. *As plain as a pikestaff,* an alteration of the earlier phrase *as plain as a* PACKSTAFF (in reference to its plain surface). Also *As stiff as a pikestaff. To call a pikestaff a pikestaff* = to call a spade a spade.

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) 4 A new game.. that hath no policie nor knauerie, but plaine as a pikestaffe. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 22 When a Reason's as plain as a Pike-staff. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xvii, When will you acknowledge that two and two make four, and call a pike-staff a pikestaff? 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* iv. 30 Sat up in bed stiff as a pike-staff. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xlii. 367 The evidence against him was as plain as a pike-staff.

†**Pi·kestower.** *Obs.* [f. PIKE *sb.*[1] + *stower* dial. stake, post, rung.] Part of a wagon or cart; explained as 'The iron bar or standard fixed in the "ear-breed" of a cart, strengthening the sides'.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 48 The foreman is to bee forewarned that he seeke out three or fower pikestowers aforehande, and some keyes and false shelvinges.

Pikeys, Pikfault, obs. ff. PICKAX, PICKFAULT.

Pi·kish, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PIKE *sb.*[4, 5] + -ISH[1].] **a.** ?Of or pertaining to pikes (weapons). **b.** Of or proper to pike (fish); voracious.

1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 163 Liberty..in pikish majesty she'll rise. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 19 May 5/2 An undoubted instance of pikeish voracity.

Pikit, obs. Sc. form of PIKED, PITCHED.

Pikk, obs. variant of PICK, PIKE, PITCH.

Pikke, Pikky, obs. forms of PITCH, PITCHY.

Pikle, variant of PIKEL, pitchfork.

†**Pik-moyane.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. *pik,* of uncertain meaning + F. *moyen* middle, middle-sized. Cf. *culverin moyen* in CULVERIN.] A kind of culverin: explained as 'one of the smallest size'.

1513 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 517 Item, the first culvering pikmoyane drawin with xvj oxin of the kingis.

Pikoise, obs. form of PICKAX.

Pikrolite, variant of PICROLITE.

Piky (pəi·ki), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. PIKE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Having pikes or sharp points; spiky; pointed.

1744–50 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* III. i. 87 (E. D. S.) Long piky roots.

Piky, *a.*[2] erron. **pikey.** [f. PIKE *sb.*[4] + -Y.] Of, of the nature of, or abounding in pike (fish).

1877 G. MACDONALD *Marquis of Lossie* II. xi. 120 A lake of deep fresh water,..the pikey multitude within. 1902 B. GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 90 He is a long way from other gudgeon, in a deep pikey hole.

Piky, obs. form of PITCHY.

Piladex (pi·lădeks). Also **pilla-.** [f. L. *pila* ball + *dex-* in L. *dextra,* Gr. δεξιά right hand.] Proprietary name of a parlour game consisting in keeping an inflated ball or bag in the air by striking it to and fro over a line on a table with the back of the hand.

1897 in *Army & Navy Stores List* 1658. 1901 *Speaker* 9 Feb. 505/2 That rather unmeaning phrase..will be thrown into the political air and buffeted like a pilladex by the fists of opposing champions. 1901 *Daily News* 27 July 8/6 Parlour Games. .. Blowing Games, such as puff billiards, piladex, and a feather on a sheet.

Pilaf, -aff, variants of PILAU.

Pilage (pəi·lēdʒ). Also 9 **pileage.** [f. PILE *sb.*[5] 1 + -AGE.] The hair, wool, or especially fur, with which an animal is covered; = PELAGE.

a 1825 tr. *Bacon's De Calore et Frigore* in Wks. (1825) I. 334 Cold maketh the pilage of beasts more thick and long. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 214 In winter..the fur becomes dense from the woolly pileage, which gives a lighter color to the coat than during midsummer and autumn, when ..the fur is short and brown. *Ibid.* 234 During Winter the ibex is thickly clad with hair and woolly pileage.

Pilao, variant of PILAU.

Pilar (pəi·lăr), *a. rare.* [f. mod.L. *pilār-is,* f. *pilus* hair: see -AR[1].]

1. Of or pertaining to hair.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pilāris,* .. Zool. pertaining to hair; hairy; pilar. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Pilar muscles, *arrectores pilorum* [muscles that cause the hair to bristle].

2. Downy. *rare.*

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 196 Most of the men and almost all the women remove the eyelashes, and pilar hair rarely appears to grow.

So **Pilary** (pəi·lări), *a.* = PILAR 1.

1888 *Med. News* LIII. 411 She had never suffered from any pilary loss [or] cutaneous affection. 1893 *Syd. Soc. L.*

Pilaster (pilæ·stəɹ). *Arch.* Also 6–7 **pillastre, -ter,** 7 **pyl(l-, (pilley-stair).** [a. F. *pilastre* (1545 in Hatz.-Darm.), a. It. *pilastro,* in med.L. *pilastrum* (1341), f. *pīla* a pillar: see -ASTER.]

1. A square or rectangular column or pillar; *spec.* such a pillar engaged in a wall, from which it projects with its capital and base a third, fourth, or other portion of its breadth; an engaged pillar; an anta; formerly applied also to the square pier of an arch, abutment of a bridge, or similar structure.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 50 Vpon a base a too foot square, ..a square pilaster rizing pyramidally, of a fyfteen foote hy. 1598 FLORIO, *Pilastro,* any kinde of piller or pilaster. 1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* VI. xxxi, A Roome prepar'd with Pilasters,..That to the Roofe their slender Poynts did reare. 16.. *Lindesay's Chron. Scot., Contin.* (1728) 233 A square low Gallery, some four Foot from the Ground, set round about with Pilley-stairs. 1613–39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 103 The Pilaster is the Basement against the Bank of the River. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 238 Pylasters must not be too tall and slender, lest they resemble Pillars, nor too Dwarfish and grosse, lest they imitate the Piles or Peeres of Bridges. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 87 An house adorned without with various Pillars, and Pillasters of several Orders. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 36 The Jambs or Pilasters of the Doors. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 11 The Piles or Pilasters, which are fixed in the River; the Arches which these Pilasters support. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Beauty* Wks. (Bohn) II. 433 Our taste in building ..refuses pilasters and columns that support nothing.

transf. 1875 *Wonders Phys. World* I. i. 39 Piles or pilasters of ground ice which supported the superficial crust.

†**2.** A pillar-like or cylindrical shape or figure.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 110 The Piller, Pillaster or Cillinder. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 613 They delight to cut their Berils into long rolls or pillastres in manner of cylindres [L. *cylindros ex eis malunt facere*].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *pilaster block, buttress, capital, pier, pinnacle; pilaster-like* adj.; *pilaster-fashion, -wise* adv.; **pilaster-strip**: see quot. 1874.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 277 Fashion your battlements of what shape soeuer you please to haue them; whether made plaine, or pyllaster-wise [etc.]. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 224 Revailed or Pilaster-peers, from 10 to 14 Pounds a pair. 1727–51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Brick, Pilaster,* or *buttress bricks,*..are of the same dimensions with the great bricks, only they have a notch at one end, half the breadth of the brick; their use is to bind the work at the pilasters of fence-walls, which are built of great bricks. 1773 NOORTHOUCK *Hist. Lond.* 599 These buttresses run up pilaster fashion. 1874 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* Gloss. 326 *Pilaster Strips,* a term used to describe the vertical projecting parts of the towers supposed to be Saxon. 1879 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 49 Flat, pilaster-like buttresses.

Pilastered (pilæ·stəɹd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED[2].] Furnished with or supported on pilasters.

a 1687 COTTON *Entertainm. to Phillis* 16 The polish'd Walls of Marble be Pillaster'd round with porphyry. *a* 1774 W. HARTE *Charitable Mason* Poems (1810) 383/1 Pilaster'd jas'mines 'twixt the windows grew. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 706 Pilastered galleries.

Pilastrade (pilæstrē·d). *Arch.* [ad. It. *pilastrata* (f. *pilastrare* to adorn with pilasters): see -ADE.] A row or range of pilasters.

[1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 222 The Pilastrata or Range of Pilasters, which support the Arch.] 1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 635/1 A pilastrade of two columns. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* I. 103 A regular Ionic pilastrade.

Hence **Pilastra·ded** *a.*, having a pilastrade.

1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 644 A pilastraded ordinance, forming a species of attic.

†**Pi·lastrel.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. It. *pilastrello,* dim. of *pilastro* PILASTER.] A small pilaster.

c 1620 ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 351 The leauy pilastrells were neatly shorne; The grassy seats, y^e^ eyes to slumber wed.

Pilat, -e, obs. forms of PILOT.

Pilate (pəi·lĕt). [a. F. *Pilate,* ad. L. *Pilātus,* proper name.] The name (Pontius Pilate) of the Roman procurator of Judæa concerned in the

crucifixion of Jesus Christ; hence allusively as a term of reproach. Also, the character of Pilate in the mystery plays; hence † *Pilate's voice*, a loud magisterial voice (*obs.*)

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 56 Prelats not preching are raþer pilats þan prelatis. 1530 PALSGR. 837 In a pylates voyce, *a haulte voyx.* 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 382 He heard a certain oratour speaking out of measure loude and high, and altogether in Pilate's voice. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 559 Indeed in Rome there diuers be, That beare the name of prelacie: Better we Pilates may them call, Seeking the churches funerall. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 7/2 Pontius Pilates, who washed their hands of what might happen to France provided they could continue to exploit her.

‖ **Pilau, pilaw** (pilau', pilō', pilō·'), **pilaff** (pila·f). Forms: 7– **pilau, pillau, pilaw, pillaw, pilao, pelaw**; also 7 **pilo, -oe, pillow(e, peloe, palau, pullow,** 7–8 **pelo** (**pleo**), 8 **pillou, pilloe, pellow, pilow,** 9 **pillao, pulao, pullao, pi(l)laf**(f. [a. Pers. پلاو *pilāw* (in Turkish *pilāw, pilāv* (or *pilāf*), Urdū *pilāo, palāo*)] boiled rice and meat (occurs in Bus-ḥaq of Shíráz, ob. 1426). So F. *pilau*, It. *pilao*, mod. Gr. πιλάφι, Russ. пилавъ *pilavŭ* (= *pilaff*). Appears in Eng. in many forms, according to the language or locality whence the writer has adopted it; the earlier examples, from 17th c. Turkish, are identical with Persian. *Pilaff* represents modern Turkish pronunciation.]

An Oriental dish, consisting of rice boiled with fowl, meat, or fish, and spices, raisins, etc.

1612 *Trav. Four Englishm.* 55 The most common dish [amongst the Turks] is Pilaw..made of Rice and small morsels of Mutton boiled therein. 1612 CORYAT *Jrnl.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* x. xii. (1625) 1828 The vse of this Butter is verie frequent, by reason of the abundance of *Pillaue* that is eaten in Constantinople. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 97 (Persia) A dish of Pelo, which is Rice boyled with Hens, Mutton, Butter, Almonds and Turmerack. *Ibid.* 173 Boyld Rice, *Peloe.* *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 367 The Turk when he hath his tripe full of pelaw, or of mutton and rice, will go to nature's cellar. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 95 Their boiled meat consists in *Pilao* or *Schilao.* 1696 OVINGTON *Voy. Suratt* 397 Palau, that is Rice boil'd ..with Spices intermixt, and a boil'd Fowl in the middle. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 399 The most admired Dainty, wherewith they stuff themselves, is Pullow. 1711 C. LOCKYER *Trade India* viii. 231 They cannot often go to the Price of a Pilloe, or boil'd Fowl and Rice. 1782 COLMAN *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) III. 235 Methinks I hear some Alderman, all hurry, Cry, where's the Pellow? Bring me out the Curry! 1811 KIRKPATRICK tr. *Sel. Lett. Tippoo Sultan* App. p. xlii, All the Musulman officers .. shall be entertained..with a public repast, to consist of *Pullão* of the first sort. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. ii, Removed the banquet, and the last pilaff—Forbidden draughts, 'tis said, he dared to quaff. 1821 — *Juan* v. xlvii, A genial savour Of certain stews, and roast meats, and pilaus, .. Made Juan in his harsh intentions pause. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlii, The Colonel was famous for pillaus and curries. 1860 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* I. 393 The plat de resistance was, as usual, the pillaw, or, as it is here called, pulao. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 666 The pilaff which followed is always the last dish served at an Egyptian or Turkish dinner. 1883 ALIPH CHEEM *Lays of Ind* (ed. 7) 2 From rice and pillaos To truffles and grouse.

Hence **Pilaued** (pilau·d) *a.*, made into pilau.

1897 LD. ROBERTS *41 Yrs. in India* xlvi. (1898) 353, I took my first lesson in eating roast kid and pillaued chicken.

Pilch (piltʃ), *sb.* Forms: 1 **pyl(e)ce**, 3–6 **pilche**, 4 **pilchche**, 4–6 **pylche**, 6– **pilch.** [OE. *pylece*, ad. med.L. *pellicea* a furred garment, fem. of L. *pelliceus* adj., made of skins, f. *pellis* a skin. Cf. PELISSE.]

† **1.** An outer garment made of skin dressed with the hair; in later use, a leathern or coarse woollen outer garment. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Alcuin's Interrog. Segewulfi* in *Anglia* (1883) VII. 30 Hwi worhte god pylcan adame & euan æfter þam gylte? *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 328/11 *Pellicie*, pylece. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 362 He is of þe te-tore uolke, þet to-tereð his olde kurtel, & to-rendeð þe olde pilche of his deadliche uelle. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 377 Two pilches weren ðurȝ engeles wroȝt, And to adam and to eue broȝt. *a* 1300 *Sirîz* 225 Warme pilce and warme shon, With that min hernde be wel don. *c* 1390 CHAUCER *Proverbs* 4 Affter heet komeþe colde, No man caste his pilchche away. 1416 *Will of Holt* (Somerset Ho.), Pelche de foxe. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Horse, Shepe & G.* 366 Ther is also made of sheepis skyn, Pilchis & glovis to dryve awey the cold. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397/2 Pylche, *pellicium, pellicia.* 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* vii. 85 Clothed in a pilche of a camels hyde. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1613/1 Some wandred to and fro in sheepes pilches, in goates pilches, forsaken, oppressed, afflicted. 1602 DEKKER *Satiromastix* Wks. 1873 I. 231 Ile beate five pound out of his leather pilch. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Pilch...*, a woollen or fur garment [*obs.*]. 1853 STEVENSON *Anglo-Sax. Chron.* 127 Of costly pilches, and of grey skins. 1901 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Mar. 4 Every canon had..a pilch or cassock (*pellicea*).

2. † **a.** A rug or pad laid over a saddle. *Obs.* **b.** A light frameless saddle for children: = PAD *sb.*3 2.

1552 HULOET, Pilche for a saddle, *instratum.* 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1895/4 Taken away.., a Pye-bald Gelding,..with a Pannel and Pilch on his Back. *a* 1728 KENNETT *Lansd. MS.* 1033 lf. 297 A course shagged piece of rug laid over a Saddle for Ease of a Rider is in our midland parts calld a *pilch.* 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 397 Take also with you a light saddle without a tree, commonly called a pilch. 1900 *List Civil Serv. Supply Assoc.*, Saddles..Child's Pilch, all over quilted hogskin, for boy or girl.

3. A triangular flannel wrapper for an infant, worn over the diaper or napkin.

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Pilch*..now used for a flannel cloth to wrap about the lower part of young children. *a* 1728 KENNETT *Lansd. MS.* 1033 lf. 297 A piece of flannel or other woolen put under a child next the clout is in Kent calld a *Pilch.* 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Treat. Dis. Childr.* III. 91 *note*, An error worthy of remark.., is, that of wearing a pilch (as it is called), an old fashion still too much in use. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pilch*, a flannel wrapper for an infant. 1861–80 MRS. BEETON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* § 2626 Baby-linen..4 pilches,..2 waterproof pilches,..4 dozen napkins.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pilch-clout, -maker.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Þe deoflen schulen pleien mid ham ..& dvsten ase enne pilcheclut, euchon touward oðer. 13.. *Coer de L.* 6736 Here armure no more I ne doute, Thenne I doo a pylche-cloute. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 14 Wauburge the pilchemaker Formaketh a pylche well.

Pilch (piltʃ), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 3 **pileken, pilken,** 6– **pilch,** 9 *Sc.* **pilk.** [Origin uncertain. Cf. LGer. *pïil(e)ken, pölken* to pick (*up den knaken pülken* to pick a bone); Norw. and Færöese *pilka* to pick, scrape, prick. Cf. also OF. *peluchier*, OPicard *pelukier, plusquier* (mod.Picard *pluquer*) to pick, clean, peck: see PLUCK *v.*] *intr.* To pick, pluck; to pilfer; to rob.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 ȝet wolde he teteren & pileken [*v.rr.* pilewin, picken], mid his bile, roted stinkinde fleshs, as is reafnes kunde. *Ibid.* 86 Uor euere me schal þene cheorl pilken [*v.r.* plokin] & peolien, uor he is ase þe wiði þet sprutteð ut þe betere þet me hine ofte cropped. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 130/10 Pilch, miche, *suffurari.* 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 33 Some steale, some pilch, some all away filch. 1665 JAS. FRASER *Polichronicon* (S. H. S. 1905) 163 The country was free from all manner of thift and pilching. 1808 JAMIESON, *To Pilk*,..1. To shell peas,..also, to pick periwinkles out of the shell;..2. To pilfer..as 'She has pilkit his pouch'. 1900 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Pilch*, to pilfer, filch (S. Worcester, Glouc.).

Pilchard (piltʃəɹd). Forms: *α.* 6–8 **pilcher,** (6 **piltcher,** 6–7 **pilchar(e, pylcher**); *β.* 6– **pilchard,** (6 **pylcherd**(**e, pilcharde,** 7 **-erd**). [Origin obscure. The *d* is excrescent. (Cf. Ir. *pilseir* from Eng.)

Skeat compares Norw. *pilk* an artificial bait, whence Dan. dial. *pilke*, Swed. dial. *pilka* to fish in a particular manner. Cf. also Sc. dial. *pilch* a short fat person, anything thick or gross, a tough skinny piece of meat.]

A small sea fish, *Clupea pilchardus*, closely allied to the herring, but smaller, and rounder in form; it is taken in large numbers on the coasts of Cornwall and Devon, and forms a considerable article of trade; in U. S. and Eng. Colonies locally applied to other fishes of the herring kind, e.g. the *C. sagax* of the Pacific, the *Harengula macrophthalma* of Bermuda; also to the young menhaden.

† *To take sturgeons with pilchards*, to get large returns from a small outlay (*obs.*).

1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pylcher a fysshe, *sardine.* 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxx. (1870) 293 He must not eate..fresshe heryng, pylcherdes, etc. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 30/35 Pilcharde, *gerres, halecula.* *Ibid.* 74/37 Pylcher, fish, *mena, æ.* *c* 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 22 The..recheste fishing is of the leaste fishe which is called a pilcharde. 1602 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 39 Fooles are as like husbands, as Pilchers are to Herrings. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xlviii. (1674) 63 They have built commodious Inns to take Sturgeons with Pilcherds. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4941/2 Pilchers for the Streights. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 263 The continuation and direction of these two bands, the pilchers of the South, and the herrings of the North, are nearly of the same length. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 288 The refuse pilchards in Cornwall are used..as a Manure. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* v, Savoury was the smell of fried pilchard.

attrib. 1685 PETTY *Last Will* p. vi, I set up iron-works and pilchard-fishing in Kerry. 1824 HITCHINS & DREW *Cornwall* II. 471 The pilchard fishery furnishes the staple commodity of the place.

† **Pilcher**[1]. *Obs.* A term of abuse, frequent at the beginning of the 17th c. It has been conjecturally explained as meaning 'One who wears a pilch or leathern jerkin or doublet', or 'One who pilches, a thief'; in two instances it is either fig. from *pilcher*, PILCHARD, the fish, or punningly associated with that word.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, Whither doe you dragge the gent'man? you mungrels, you curres, you ban-dogs, wee are Captaine Tucca, that talke to you, you inhumane pilchers. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* I. ii, Pilcher, thou'rt a most pitiful dried one. *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Wit without M.* III. iv, Upbraid me with your benefits, you pilchers. *a* 1625 — *Women Pleas'd* II. iv, Hang him, Pilcher, There's nothing loves him: his owne Cat cannot endure him. *a* 1640 DAY *Parl. Bees* iv, Smoaked Pilcher vanish!

† **Pilcher**[2]. *Obs. rare*[?]. [? Extended from PILCH.]

1. = PILCH *sb.* 1.

1635 EARL OF CORK *Diary* in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) IV. 104, I haue..written to Mr Ned Boyle to furnish him with pilchers.

2. A scabbard. (Apparently *contemptuous.*)

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 84 Will you pluck your Sword out of his Pilcher by the eares?

Pi·lcorn. [For *pildcorn*, f. PILLED *ppl. a.* 1 b + CORN.] A variety of the cultivated Oat, considered by Linnæus a species (*Avena nuda*), in which the glumes or husks do not adhere to the grain, but leave it bare. Also called *pilled oats*, † *pillotes.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiii. 467 There is an other kinde of Otes, whiche is not so inclosed in his huskes as ye other is, but is bare, and without huske whan it is threshed...The seconde kinde may be called in Englishe, Pilcorne, or pylde Otes. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 155 And had also Drage, pilcorne, mixtilion, brotcorne..words I professe, not well to vnderstand. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* iii. 71 The *Avena sativa*..has several varieties. The most remarkable..are the black or long-bearded oat..and the naked oat, or pilcorn. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pillcorn, or Pilcorn.

Pilcrow (pi·l,krōu). *arch.* Forms: 5 **pylcraft**(**e, pilecrafte,** 6 **pilcrowe,** (7 **pilkrow, pill-crow, peelcrow, pilgrow**), 6– **pilcrow.** [App. for *pilled crow*: cf. *pilcorn, pilgarlic*, etc. The application of the word, with the form *pylcraft*, has suggested that it originated in a perversion of PARAGRAPH, through *pargrafte*, **parcrafte*, etc.: cf. quots. *c* 1460 and 1617. But the history of the word is obscure, and evidence is wanting.] = PARAGRAPH *sb.* 1.

[1500 *Ortus Voc.*, *Paragraphus*, Anglice, a pargrafte in writing.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/1 Pylcrafte, yn a booke ..*asteriscus, paragraphus.* *c* 1460 *Medulla* in Way *Promp. Parv.* 398 *note*, *Paragrapha*, pylcraft in wry[t]ynge. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 2 In husbandrie matters, where Pilcrowe ye finde That verse appertaineth to Huswiferie Kinde. 1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 18 To stand as a Cypher in Augrim, or as a pilcrow in a latine Primmer. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor, Pilkrow*, contractum videtur corruptumque ex paragrapho. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, But why a Peel-crow here?..A Scar-crow had been better. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pilcrow*, an old Word for a Paragraph. 1897 S. S. SPRIGGE *T. Wakley* XV. 141 The leading article.. calling attention to them with interjections..and all sorts of verbal pilcrows.

Pild, obs. form of *pilled*: see PILL *v.*[1]

Pile (pəil), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **pil,** 4– **pile,** (4–8 **pyle,** 6 **pyll,** 7 **peil**). [OE. *pil* masc. = OLG. **pîl* (MLG., MDu. *pîl*, Du. *pijl* dart, arrow, also ON. *píla* fem., arrow, Da., Sw. *pil*, from LG.), OHG., MHG. *pfîl*, Ger. *pfeil* dart, arrow, shaft, West Ger. *pîl*, a. L. *pîl-um* the heavy javelin of the Roman foot-soldier, orig. 'pestle'.

The L. *pîlum* was no doubt adopted by the Germans in the L. sense 'javelin', which passed on the continent into that of 'dart', and hence 'arrow', in which latter sense it superseded the native word. In OE. the sense 'javelin' passed into those of 'dart' and 'pointed stake' (= L. *sudis*): but the former is known only in a few poetic compounds, *flige-pil* flying-dart, *hylde-pil* battle-dart, and the earliest examples of the simple word in this sense are ME.; if applied to an arrow, it was only as subsidiary to native names.]

† **1.** A dart; a shaft; (?) an arrow. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Be Mannes Mod* 26 Bið þæt æfþonca eal ȝefylled feondes fligepilum. — *Riddles* xviii. 6 Frea þæt bihealdeð hu me of hrife fleoȝað hyldepilas. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3490 Scheteþ wiþ piles & ȝif hem deþ wounde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6976 Þen Paris..with a pile sharp, Rut hym in thurgh þe rybbis with a roid wond.

† **b.** The pointed metal head of a dart, lance, or arrow. *Obs.*

1592 CONSTABLE *Sonn.* I. v, Thine eye the pyle is of a murdring dart. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. 545 Through both his temples struck the dart, the wood of one side show'd, The pile out of the other look'd. 1627 DRAYTON *Court of Fairy* Wks. (1748) 166 His spear—a bent both stiff and strong,..The pile was of a horse-fly's tongue. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. x. (1840) 63 Like an arrow well feathered, but with a blunt pile; he flew swift, but did not sink deep. 1700 HICKES *Let.* in *Pepys' Corr.* 19 June, Elf arrows..are of a triangular form, somewhat like the beard or pile of our old English arrows of war. [1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 103 Fletcher, he that trimmed arrows by adding the feathers; Arrowsmith, he that made the piles.]

c. Used to render L. *pîlum*, the heavy javelin of the ancient Roman foot-soldier.

c 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *False One* I. i, How the Roman Peils..drew Roman blood. 1627 MAY *Lucan* I. 8 Knowne Ensignes Ensignes doe defie, Piles against Piles, 'gainst Eagles Eagles fly. (*Note.* If any man quarrell at the word *Pile*, as thinking it scarse English, I desire them to give a better word.) 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 161 That was but civil war, an equal set, Where piles with piles, and eagles eagles met. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 89/1 The Germans came so violently vpon the Romans that the souldiers cast away their piles, and betooke them to their swords. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 7 Piles against piles oppos'd in impious fight, And Eagles against Eagles bending flight. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. vi. 273 The Romans threw their piles, and rushed headlong upon the unwieldy mass.

† **2.** A spike, a nail; a spine (of a prickly plant, in ME. of a hedgehog); the pointer of a sun-dial.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* v. 388 He gehæfte [hi] on anum micclum stocce, and mid isenum pilum heora ilas gefæstnode and cwæð þæt hi sceoldon swa standan on þam pilum. *c* 1000 SAX. *Leechd.* I. 304 Heo [sea-holly] hafað stelan hwitne..on ðæs heahnysse ufeweardre beoð acennede scearpe and þyrnyhte pilas. *a* 1100 *O. E. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 337/6 *Gnomon* dægmæles pil. *a* 1200 *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.* (ed. Phillips 1838), Prikiende so piles on ile. *c* 1225, 1387 [see *ilespiles* s. v. IL]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 179/50 Heo stikeden also þicke on him, so yrichon deth of piles. *Ibid.* 298/49 Ase ful ase is an Irchepil of piles al-a-boute.

b. A (pointed) blade (of grass). [Cf. Da. dial. *pile, græspile*, Fl. *pijl, graspijl.*]

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. Prol. 25 At euery pilis point and cornis croppis The techrys stude, as lemand beriall droppis. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 153 More sinnes then there bee grasse piles vpon the earth. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 291 There shall not a pile of Grass be left within his

Kingdom. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxviii. 122 Appearance of red clover, where not a pile of this grass had before been known. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 372 The grass was..smaller in the pile, and more luxuriant in its growth. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* xxi, Every pile of the grass that springs so sweetly in the meadows.

c. A single glume or pale (of chaff). *Sc.*

1786 Burns *Address to Unco Guid* heading, The cleanest corn..May hae some pyles o' caff in.

3. A pointed stake or post; *spec.* in later use, a large and heavy beam of timber or trunk of a tree, usually sharpened at the lower end, of which a number are driven into the bed of a river, or into marshy or uncertain ground for the support of some superstructure, as a bridge, pier, quay, wall, the foundation of a house, etc. Also extended to cylindrical or other hollow iron pillars, used for the same purposes.

In prehistoric times villages or settlements were built upon wooden piles in lakes: see *pile-dwelling*, etc. in 5.

?*a* 1100 *O. E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) Introd. (from Bæda), Ða ȝenamon þa Walas, and adrifon sumre ea ford ealne mid scearpum pilum [Bæda sudibus, *D.* stængum: cf. Wr.-Wülcker 509/14 *sudibus* stengum] greatum innan þam welere sy ea hatte Temese. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4611 Longe pyles & grete dide þey [Britons] make; Faste yn Temese dide þey hem stake. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 23 Þe tree..With þre pyles was it vnder-pi3te. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 116 If the pyles ben trewe, the gravel and sand wol abyde. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxlviii. (1482) 316 The duk hym self with ij or thre lepe vpon the pyles, and so were saued with helpe of men that were aboue the bridge. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 171 The brekyng vp of the dokke hede at Portesmouth weyng vt of the piles & shorys. 1530 Palsgr. 254/1 Pyle to be set in a fauty grounde, *pilot.* 1555 Eden *Decades* 226 Theyr houses .. are .. buylded aboue the grownde vppon proppes & pyles. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 356 Two walles, the one of Turffe, and the other of Pyles and Tymber strongly and artificially interposed. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 405 Like the houses of Amsterdam, which are reported to stand upon piles driven deep into the quagmire. 1863 Lyell *Antig. Man* ii. (ed. 3) 17 Habitations ..constructed on platforms raised above the lake, and resting on piles.

fig. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. xii. 416 Drive down the oaken pile of a principle.

b. With various qualifications expressing purpose or nature: e. g.

Bearing p., bridge p., foundation p., guide p., hollow p., sheathing p., short p., weir p., etc. *Close pile*, a timber pile forming one of many set close together; *false pile*, a pile to which additional length is given after driving; *filling pile*, one of those filling up the space between gauge piles; *hydraulic pile*, a pile sunk in sand by means of a powerful jet of water led either inside or outside of it. Also Fender *p.*, Gauge *p.*, Guard *p.*, Guide *p.*, Pneumatic *p.*, Screw *p.*, Sheet or Sheeting *p.*, Stay *p.*, for which see these words.

1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* I. xvii. 266 The Magnetic Youth leaned round to note his proximity to the weir-piles. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* II. 1700/2 A hollow pile is a cylinder which is sunk by excavation proceeding inside. 1877 *Ibid.* III, *Short-pile*..driven as closely as possible without causing the driving of one pile to raise the adjacent ones. They are used to compress and consolidate ground for foundations.

†**c.** A stake or post fixed in the ground, at which swordsmen practised their strokes. *Obs. rare.*

c 1480 *Knyghthode & Batayle* (MS. Cott. Titus A. xxiii. lf. 6 b), Nooman..is seyn prevayle, In feeld..That with the pile, nathe firste grete exercise.

4. *Her.* A charge, regarded by some as an ordinary, by others as a sub-ordinary, consisting of a figure formed by two lines meeting in an acute angle (generally assumed to represent an arrow-head), issuing, when not otherwise stated, from the chief or top of the escutcheon, with the point downwards. *In pile*: arranged in the form of a pile. *Party per pile*: divided by lines in the form of a pile.

[App. a special use of sense 1 b, or directly from L. *pilum*. Not known in OF.; Littré has it as a neologism, *pile* masc., and refers it to L. *pilum*; but it may have been taken directly from Eng. heraldry.]

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* Ev b, Certan armys in the wich iij. pilis mete to gedyr in oon coone. ..He berith golde iij, pilis of sable. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxxxvii. 337 The baner..was of syluer a sharpe pyle goules. 1562 Leigh *Armorie* 46 The eight partition, which is to be blased on thys sorte. Party per pile in pointe, Or and Sable. *Ibid.* 143 He beareth Ermin, a Pile in pointe Gueules. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. vi. (1611) 62 He beareth Argent a Triple Pile, Flory on the tops, issuing out of the Sinister base, in Bend towards the Dexter corner, Sable. This sort of bearing of the Pile, hath a resemblance of so many Piles driuen into some water-worke, and..incorporated at their heads. *Ibid.* II. vi. (1660) 73 A Pile is an Ordinary consisting of a two-fold line formed after the manner of a Wedge; that is to say broad at the upper end, and..meeting together at the lower end in an Acute-angle. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pile*, in Heraldry,..probably something like the Figure of the Roman *Pilum*, which was a tapering Dart, about five Foot long, and sharpened at the Point with Steel. 1766–87 Porny *Heraldry* (ed. 4) 135 The sixteenth is Argent, three piles meeting near the point of the base Azure. *c* 1828 Berry *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Pile*, triple, or triple-pointed, in base, bendwise,..by Ferne, termed a pile, naisant, in bend, triple-flory. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* ix. (ed. 3) 50 Sa., three Swords in pile arg. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 235 The Pile, a wedge-shaped space of colour with the point downwards, represents what we still call a pile; a piece of timber driven into moist ground.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (from 3). **a.** attrib. Of a pile, as *pile-head, -wood*; formed of piles, as *pile-breakwater, -dam, -planking, -structure*; supported on piles, as *pile-bridge, -habitation, -lighthouse, -pier, -road, -settlement, -village*; used as a pile, as *pile-plank*. **b.** obj. and obj. gen., as *pile-fixer, -screwing*. **c.** instrumental, as *pile-supported* adj. **d.** Special Comb.: **pile-building**, a building erected on piles, esp. one of such dwellings of certain pre-historic and primitive peoples; so also **pile-builder**, **pile-built** *a.*; **pile-cap**, a cap or plate for the head of a pile; also, a beam connecting the heads of piles; **pile-driver**, a machine for extracting piles; **pile-dwelling**, a dwelling built on piles, especially in shallow water, as a lake, but sometimes on dry ground; hence **pile-dweller**; **pile-engine** = Pile-driver; **pile-hoop**, a hoop or band round the head of a pile to keep it from splitting; **pile-house**, a house built on piles, a pile-dwelling; **pile-saw**, a saw for cutting off piles below the surface of the water; hence **pile-sawing**; **pile-shoe**, an iron point fixed to the lower end of a pile; **pile-worm**, the teredo, or other worm or animal which bores into piles. See also Pile-driver, Pileways, Pile-work.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 445/1 Under the protection of two huge *pile-breakwaters. 1884 *Nature* 19 June 169/1 There are good reasons for believing these *pile-builders are the direct descendants of the pre-Aryan aboriginals. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* v. 127 The Lake-dwellers followed two different systems ..which he distinguishes as ..*Pile-buildings, and ..Crannoges. 1886 *Athenæum* 24 Apr. 556/1 The pile-buildings of the Swiss lakes. 1903 Kipling *5 Nations* 41 Do you know the *pile-built village where the sago-dealers trade? 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 5 Apr. 1/3 The constructing of a *pile dam opposite to the clough. 1880 Dawkins *Early Man* 302 The *pile-dwellers possessed vegetables not traceable to wild stocks now growing in Switzerland. 1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* 29 It relates to the earliest age of *pile-dwelling. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* iii. 114 Their [the Etruscans'] predecessors of the Neolithic age whose pile-dwellings .. have yielded wheat and coral, evidences of Eastern intercourse. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 36 The Platform of the *Pile-engine. 1853 Sir H. Douglas *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 154 The piles were driven by pile-engines..constructed on the boats of the country. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 283 Jars of dried apples and wheat .. have been yielded from the *pile-habitations. 1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 45 Dowalton Loch..celebrated by the discovery there of *pile-houses. 1884 *Nature* 19 June 169/2 The races who now build these pile-houses, often on hill-tops. 1895 *Daily News* 27 Sept. 5/4 Unlike the old *pile piers, it is a substantial structure of masonry. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Builder* 590 **Pile-planks*, planks of which the ends are sharpened, so as to enter into the bottom of a canal. 1838 *Civ. Eng. & Archit. Jrnl.* I. 150/1 A scaffold was erected, upon which the pile drivers were placed for driving the sheet piles (pile planks)..of the best North Carolina heart pine. 1793 R. Mylne *Rep. Thames* 24 A Jettee of *Pile-planking ..should be run a little way down from the Point. 1860 Weale *Dict. Terms* s. v., As a considerable length of the Utica and Syracuse railroad passes through a deep swamp, a foundation of great permanency was required: this gave rise to a modification of the superstructure, and formed that which is known as *pile-road. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1703/1 Vogler's *pile-sawing attachment for boats. 1897 R. Munro *Preh. Problems* 304 A *pile-settlement of the Bronze Age. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 150 A pykas and ij *pyles shone. 1844 *Mech. Mag.* XL. 54 Improvement in the formation of pile-shoes. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 340 Along this line [Barmston and Skipsea Drain] five or six other *pile-structures have been found. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 389 An old *pile-supported pier. 1879 *Athenæum* 6 Sept. 312/1 *Pile-villages have been found on the shores of Gmunden. 1894 C. Welch *Tower Bridge* 133 Snuff-boxes and other memorials..turned from the *pile wood. 1733 tr. *Rousset (title)* Observations on the Sea or *Pile Worms discover'd in Pile or Woodworks in Holland.

†**Pile,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 pyle, 5 pyl, pyll, pylle, 5–8 pile. [Of doubtful origin.

Evidently distinct historically from Pile *sb.*[3], sense 4. It may, however, be an earlier adoption of the same Fr. word. In sense it agrees exactly with Peel *sb.*[1], senses 3 and 4; and in the 16th c. the Border *peels* usually appear in the English State papers as *pyles* or *piles*. Yet the words cannot be doublets, for in *pile* the final *e* is evidently original.]

A small castle, tower, or stronghold; = Peel *sb.*[1] 3.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 685 Þe ryȝtwys man also sertayn Aproche he schal þat proper pyle [*rime* gyle]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 360 That holy-cherche stode in vnite As it a pyle were. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xxii. 366 Holy churche stod in holynesse as hit were a pile. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 45 Þanne y cuncellid eroud with-inne a while..Þat alle men children in towne & pile To slee þem, þat ihesus myght with hem die. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 573 Yf I dwelle in my pylle of ston. *c* 1450 Lonelich *Grail* xii. 349 It [Castle of Valachim] was On of the Strengest pyl, That Euere Man Sawgh in Ony Exyl. 14.. *Coventry Corp. Chr. Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) 16 Yett do I marvell In whatt pyle or castell These herdmen dyd hym see. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 222 b, The grekes wer besieged in a litle preatie pyle or castle. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 866 They sayled into Englande.., and landed..at the pyle of Fowdrey within lytle of Lancaster [called in 1423 *Act 2 Hen. VI*, c. 5 le Peele de Foddray en le Counte de Lancastre]. 1602 in Moryson *Itin.* II. III. i. (1617) 270 To build little piles of Stone in such Garrisons [in Ireland] as shall be thought fittest to be continuall bridles vpon the people. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. viii. 18 Arabia,..a rich land,..replenished also with strong castles and piles [*castris oppleta ualidis et castellis*]. [1679 Blount *Anc. Tenures* 20 *Pele* or *Pile*, is a Fort built for defence of any place. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Pille of Foddray*, or *Pile of Fouldrey*,..called *pille*, by the idiom of the county, for a *pile*, or fort.]

b. *spec.* Applied to the Peels on the Scottish border; = Peel *sb.*[1] 4.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 512 The which..threwe downe certayne pylys and other strengthis, and a parte of the Castell of Beawmount. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 203 The kyng entended..to make new diuers Pyles and stoppes to let the Scottysh men from their inuasions. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 881/1 He ouerthrew certeine castels, piles, and small holds till he came through the dales to Iedworth. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Hist. Jas. V*, Wks. (1711) 91 Thomas earl of Surrey,..had burnt many towns, and overthrown castles and piles. 1774 Lambe *Battle of Flodden* cxliv, Where piles be pulled down apace.

Pile (pəil), *sb.*[3] Forms: 5– pile, (5–7 pyle, 6 pyele). [a. F. *pile* heap, pyramid, mass of masonry, pier of a bridge (1340 in Godef.) = It. *pila* mole, pier, pillar, Sp. *pila*, Pg. *pilha* pile, heap:—L. *pila* pillar, pier, or mole of stone.]

†**1.** A pillar; a pier, esp. of a bridge. *Obs.*

(Not to be confused with Pile *sb.*[1] 3.)

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1089 Pilis maad of tilis must ascende Too feet and half. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/1 Pyle, of a bryggys fote, or oþer byggynge..*pila*. *a* 1577 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. (1587) 59 Then waues of euil doe worke so fast my piles are ouerrun. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 115 Of this Bridge thirteene piles of bricke may bee seene neere the shore at Pozzoli. 1702 Echard *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 434 This bridge consisted of twenty piles, each 60 foot in thickness, and 150 in height, besides the foundation. 1730 A. Gordon *Maffei's Amphith.* 219 Of the Stones..one of them is still seen in the middle Pile of the Bridge *delle Navi*.

†**b.** *fig.* Applied to the neck, leg, etc.

1584 Lodge *Alarum agst. Usurers* (Hunter. Cl.) 72 Her stately necke where nature did acquite Her selfe so well,.. For in this pile was fancie painted faire. *Ibid.* 78 The stately thies, Like two faire compast marble pillers rise .. Next which the knees..This stately pyles with gladsome honour greete. 1589 — *Scillaes Met.* (Hunter. Cl.) 41 Now Nature stands amazd her selfe to looke on Beauties feete, ..So small a pile so great a waight, like Atlas to vphold The bodie.

†**2.** A mole or pier in the sea. *Obs.*

c 1630 Risdon *Surv. Devon* § 334 (1810) 345 There is a harbour for ships, by means of a pile built. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 87 But if no man sustain damage, hee is to bee defended who build's upon the shore, or cast's a Pile into the Sea.

3. A heap of things (of some height) laid or lying one upon another in a more or less regular manner; also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/1 Pyle, or heep, where of hyt be, *cumulus*. *Ibid.*, Pyle of clothys..on a presse, *panniplicium*. 1530 Palsgr. 254/1 Pyle of clothes or any other heape, *pille*. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1738 I. 579 To how little purpose are all those piles of Sermons, Notes, and Comments on all parts of the Bible. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 53 You are called out to see piles of dead carcasses. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 15 A rude pile of Stones erected .. for an Altar. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 13 Such heaps or piles of wood were sometimes a hundred and eighty cubits round. 1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* II. 363 Behold yon pile of clouds, Like a city, round the sun. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 231 The sheet printed on both sides is delivered upon the board, .. and laid upon the pile. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 310 A large pile of letters and packages.

b. A series of weights fitting one within or upon another, so as to form a solid cone or other figure. (So F. *pile.*)

This sense is certain for quots. 1611, 1690; but quot. 1440 is doubtful. The attrib. use in *pile weight* apparently belongs here.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/1 Pyle, of weyynge, *libramentum, libra*. 1585 Sir F. Knollys *Abstr. syzinge Troye weyghte* (MS. Rawl. D. 23 lf. 18), They argve that the gowlde smythes pyle weyghte is muche tooe heavy, to be the trewe Troy weyghte. 1611 Cotgr., *Pile*,..also, the pile, or whole masse, of weights vsed by Goldsmithes, etc. 1647 in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) I. Introd. 80 Compared the forsaid round brasse stone weight..with a new brasse stone pyle weight in the coinyehouse, and I found the said new pyle weight havier by almost halfe one oz. *Ibid.*, The new 4 lb pyle marked with a fleure de lyce boght from J. Falconar Warden from Holland. *Ibid.* 81 Having examined the French pyle marked with the fleure de lyce amongst the weights now used. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 4 Sched. s. v. *Brass*, Brass of Pile weights the pound, j.s. 1690 Boyle *Medicina Hydrostat.* Wks. 1772 V. (Plate at end), The Explication of the Figure..*q.* the Pile of Weights.

†**c.** A large group, clump, or collection of things, without reference to height; a 'lot'. *Obs.*

1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 47 Of these ilands are two pyles: the one of them..little frequented; the other.. containeth six in number, to wit: Saint Iago, Fuego, Mayo, Bonavisto, Sal, and Bravo. 1864 Emily Dickinson *Lett.* (1894) II. 253 Father has built a new road round the pile of trees between our house and Mr. S——'s.

d. *spec.* A heap of combustibles on which a dead body is burnt (*funeral pile*).

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 83 Laying them vpon their backs on beds, they conueyed them vnto the funerall pile .. on beares. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* III. 30 And with Prescriptions lights the solemn Pyle. 1700 Dryden *Palamon & Arc.* III. 990 Full bowls of wine, of honey, milk, and blood, Were poured upon the pile of burning wood. 1878 Maclear *Celts* ii. (1879) 19 Some even voluntarily came forward to share the pile with an honoured person deceased. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xviii. 305 Made a pile of chairs and benches and tables, and burnt all that remained of Clodius.

e. A heap of wood or faggots on which a sacrifice or a person is burnt.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 64 Isaac was layde on the pile of wood to bee offered up in sacrifice. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Maidens Blush* 1783 The Father makes the

Pile: Hereon he layes His bond-led, blind-led Son. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 331 Then the people kindled the pile; but though the flame was exceedingly large it did not touch her. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 July 1/3 'It is disgraceful', said the curate, who was all for the pile of faggots.

f. *Mil.* A stack of arms regularly built up.

1608 D. T[uvil] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 122 b, Germanicus.. caused a pyle of weapons to be raised. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* I. 296 Sinful Rebellion .. Piling her fiendish weapons, shall sit firm bound on the pile.

g. An oblong rectangular mass of cut lengths of puddled iron-bars, laid upon each other in rows, for the purpose of being rolled after being raised to a welding temperature in a reheating furnace; a 'faggot'.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 707 Four rows of these [iron bars] are usually laid over each other into a heap or pile which is placed in the re-heating furnace..and exposed to a free circulation of heat, one pile being set crosswise over another. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Pile*, the fagot or bundle of flat pieces of iron prepared to be heated to welding-heat and then rolled.

h. *ellipt.* (for *pile of wealth, money, dollars*, etc.) A heap of money; a fortune accumulated or heaped up. Chiefly in colloq. phr. *to make one's pile.*

[1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 107 What piles of wealth hath he accumulated To his owne portion? 1839 Thirlwall *Greece* VI. 233 It seems to have been one of the state maxims..to draw as little as possible from this pile of wealth. 1876 Holland *Sev. Oaks* xxiii. 324 Yes, and I've made piles of money on them.]

1741 Franklin in *Poor Rich. Alm.* Apr. (Bartlett), Rash mortals, ere you take a wife, Contrive your pile to last for life. 1852 F. Marryat *Gold Quartz Mining* 8 On the old Californian principle of 'making a "pile" and vamosing the ranché'. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 27 Every partisan blackleg bets his 'pile' upon his favourite. 1864 Eliz. A. Murray *E. Norman* III. 182 The hope which cheers .. so many [Australian diggers]..'We may make our pile yet, and go home'. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* vii. 196 Capitalists who had made their pile were consumed by a desire to walk over their own broad acres.

4. A lofty mass of buildings; a large building or edifice.

1607 J. Norden *Surv. Dial.* III. 84 If this loftie Pyle bee not equalized by the estate and reuenewes of the builder, it is as if Paules steeple should serue Pancrás Church for a Belfry. 1663 Cowley *Verses Sev. Occas., Queen's Repairing Somerset-Ho.*, Two of the best and stateliest Piles which e're Man's liberal Piety of old did rear. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 28 Over against the middle of the Bridge, ..there is a great square pile of building in the Water. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 21 Sept. an. 1773, There is a very large unfinished pile, four stories high. 1823 Scott *Peveril* xxx, This antiquated and almost ruinous pile occupied a part of the site of the public offices in the Strand..commonly called Somerset House. 1855 Prescott *Philip II*, I. I. vii. 102 Philip testified his joy..by raising the magnificent pile of the Escorial. 1870 H. Smart *Race for Wife* ii, Glinn was a large pile of brickwork.

b. *fig.*

1671 Milton *Samson* 1069 His look Haughty as is his pile high-built and proud. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 89/2 The beautiful pile of justice which he had reared presently fell to the ground. 1835 Thirlwall *Greece* I. 39 Afraid of raising a great pile of conjecture on a very slender basis of facts.

5. A series of plates of two dissimilar metals, such as copper and zinc, laid one above the other alternately, with cloth or paper moistened with an acid solution placed between each pair, for producing an electric current (*galvanic* or *voltaic pile*). Also extended to other arrangements of such plates: cf. Battery.

Dry pile, a voltaic pile in which no liquid is used, and which generates a feeble but very permanent current.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 119 When they used the order of silver, card, zinc, &c. ..This pile gave us the shock as before described. *Ibid.*, The plate A was connected with the top of the electrometer and the silver end of the pile. 1849 Noad *Electricity* 198 The chemical power of the voltaic pile was discovered and described by Messrs. Nicholson and Carlisle, in the year 1800. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. xiv. 381 Behind the screen..was an excellent thermo-electric pile. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 146 This pile was used with a large paraffin burner having an iron chimney nearly touching the interior ends of elements. [*Ibid.*, Fig. 56 is reproduced from a photograph of the identical thermopile.]

Pile (pəil), *sb.*[4] *arch.* Also 4 **pyl**, 6 **pyle**, **pyll**, **pyell**. [a. OF. *pile* (12th c. in Littré), also in med.L. *pīla*. In Fr. opposed to *croix*, as in Eng. to 'cross', also in mod.F. to *face*, in *à pile ou face*.

F. *pile*, L. *pila*, in this sense was app. the same word as in prec., the *pile* or under iron of the *coin* (Coin *sb.* 4) being a small upright iron pillar, on the flat top of which the piece of metal was laid to be stamped: see sense 1.]

†**1.** The under iron of the minting apparatus with which money was struck; its surface bore the die of which the impression was made on the reverse or pile side of the piece. Opposed to *trussell* or *tursall*, F. *trousseau* (Cotgr.): see quot. 1876. *Obs.*

[1293 *Memoranda K. R.* 20 & 21 Edw. I, m. 35 b *cedule*, Inuente sunt inter bona illa due pecie quarum vna vocatur pila et alia crosse que vocantur cuneus ad monetam Regis cudendam. 1300 (Nov. 10) *Ibid.* 28 & 29 Edw. I. 61 De cuneis Cambii Dunelmensis. ..Vous enueyames del dit Eschekier..deux peire de Cuyns noueaux en .vj. peces. E puis..vne peire noue en treis peces, cest a sauoir a chescone peire vne pile e ij Trusseux.]

1562-3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 227 Ane pile and ane tursall maid for cunyeing of certane pecis of gold and silvir, the pile havand sunkin thairin foure lettris. 1587-8 *Ibid.* IV. 265 To grave, sink and mak countaris of lattoun, with sic pyles and tursallis as may serve to that effect. 1605 *Ibid.* VII. 54 To ressave the pyllis and tursellis laitlie send hame from England, and the puncheons for making of ma pyllis and tursellis. 1611 Cotgr., *Pile*.., also, the pile, or under-yron of the stampe wherein money is stamped. 1876 Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* I. Introd. 49 Each moneyer had two irons or puncheons, one of which was called the 'pile', and the other the 'trussell'. The 'pile' was from seven to eight inches long, and was firmly fixed in a block of wood (called '*ceppeau*' in the French Ordonnances). On the 'pile' was engraved one side of the coin, and on the 'trussell' the other.

2. Hence, The side of a coin opposite to the 'cross' or face; the reverse. *arch. Cross and* (*or*) *pile*, in phrases: see Cross *sb.* 21 b–e.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 172 Whos tunge neither pyl ne crouche Mai hyre. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 51 Of crosse nor pile there is no recluse, Prynte nor impressioun in all thy seyntwarye. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cliv. 185 The frenche kyng made newe money of fyne golde, called florence of y^e^ lambe, for in the pyell there was grauyn a lambe. [Cf. *Chron. de S. Den.*, B. N. 2813, lf. 396 Appellez florins a l'aignel pour ce que en la pile avoit un aignel.] 1530 Palsgr. 254/1 Pyle of a ooyne, the syde havyng no crosse, *pile*. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. iii. 688 That you as sure, may Pick and Choose, As Cross I win, and Pile you lose. 1706 Phillips, *Pile*,..the backside of a piece of Money. 1843 Mill *Logic* III. xviii. § 1 Why, in tossing up a halfpenny, do we reckon it equally probable that we shall throw cross or pile?

Pile (pəil), *sb.*[5] Also 5–6 **pyle**. [ad. L *pilus* hair. (Not through OF., which had *peil, poil.*)]

1. Hair, *esp.* fine soft hair, down; *rarely*, a single hair of this kind; the fine short hair of cattle, deer, etc.; the wool of sheep; in *Entom.* fine hairs on an insect.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E iij b, All that berith greece and piles ther vppon Euer shalle be strypte when thay be vndoon. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. iv. 16 Four 3oung stottis ..blak of pyle. *Ibid.* VIII. iii. 150 My grene 3outh that tym, wyth pylis 3ing, Fyrst cleyd my chyn, or beird begouth to spring. 1762 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* V. i, He has no whiskers, ..not a pile. 1805 Luccock *Nat. Wool* 18 The native.. wraps himself in sheep skins, and blesses that hand which made their pile thick, warm and ponderous. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 306 Some Hymenoptera..have the upper lip of the male clothed with silver pile. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 318 The East African is by no means a hairy man. Little pile appears upon the body. 1893 Lydekker *Horns & Hoofs* 159 In order to withstand the intense cold of a Tibetan winter, the chiru is clothed with a thick and close woolly pile.

b. *transf.* Applied to the downy plumage of a bird, or the downy part of a feather.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 814 Of his grounden gras, þe wus can hee take, þeron hee brynges þe brid, & bathes his pilus. 1847 *Whistlebinkie* (1890) II. 147, I can my falcon bring Without a pile of feather wrong on body, breast or wing.

2. A nap upon cloth; now *esp.* the downy nap or shag of velvet, plush, and similar fabrics, produced by an accessary or secondary warp the loops of which are cut so as to form a nap; also, loops in a carpet similarly produced and forming a nap.

Double pile, pile upon pile, two-pile, three-pile, attrib. phr.: having the pile of double or treble closeness: see *pile-warp* in 3.

1568 R. Sempill *Ballads* (1872) xxxviii. 238 With the sleik stanis..for the nanis They raise the pyle I mak 3ow plane. 1591 Greene *Art Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 22 He cals to see a boul of Saten, veluet,..and not liking the pile, culler, or bracke, he cals for more. 1605 Rowlands *Hell's Broke Loose* 39 Rich Taffata and Veluet of three pile, Must serue our vse to swagger in a while. 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Poil, Velours à deux poils*, two-pile Veluet. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 11 Satin smooth, Or velvet soft, or plush with shaggy pile. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1707/2 In Brussels carpet..the wires are simply withdrawn and the loops left standing..In the Imperial Brussels the figure is raised above the ground and its pile is cut, but the ground is uncut. In the Royal Wilton the pile is raised higher than in the common Wilton, and is also cut. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 17 Jan. 59/1 Persian carpets..take front rank..for general excellence, softness of pile, and harmony of colouring.

b. Each of the fine hair-like fibres of velvet, flannel, wool, or cotton.

1787 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 395 Like coarse velvet, each pile standing firm in its place. 1802 Beddoes *Hygëia* V. 84 Flannel..is more likely to be hurtful..by the stimulating effect of its piles. 1805 Luccock *Nat. Wool* 13 The 'hair' of this wool, i. e. the fineness or coarseness of the pile, the first object of a stapler's concern.

c. A fabric with a pile or nap, *esp.* velvet.

1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* IV. v, It is not often that these roads witness riders in silk and pile.

d. *transf.* The burr on a plate in etching.

1885 S. Haden in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 233/2 Rembrandt employed the etching-needle..in such a way as to throw up with its point as much of the pile, or 'burr', as he required.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (from sense 2). Having a pile, as *pile-carpet, -fabric*; belonging to or forming the pile, as *pile-thread*; **pile-beam**, a separate warp-beam, upon which the pile-warp is wound and carried; **pile-warp**, the secondary warp, which furnishes the substance of the pile, also called *nap-warp*; it may consist of one, two, or three threads in the loop, producing *single-, double-*, or *three-pile* velvet; **pile-weaving**, the weaving of fabrics with a pile or nap, by means of the pile-warp, which, by being passed over the pile-wires, forms loops, which are afterwards cut, or, in some cases, left standing; **pile-wire**, one of a number of wires used in pile-weaving; in the case of cut-pile fabrics, grooved on the upper side to facilitate cutting.

1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* vi. 204 Striped velvets..owe their peculiar appearance to some of the *pile-threads being left uncut. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pile-warp*, a warp which is woven in loops on the face to form a nap. *Ibid.* 1701/2 In *pile-weaving, in addition to the usual warp and weft threads, a third thread is introduced.., and is thrown into loops by being woven over wires of the breadth of the cloth. *Ibid.*, **Pile-wire*, the wire around which the warp-threads are looped to make a pile-fabric.

Pile (pəil), *sb.*[6] *Path.* Usually *pl.* **piles**. Also 5–6 **pyle**, (6 **pylle**). A disease characterized by tumours of the veins of the lower rectum; hæmorrhoids. Rarely *sing.* A hæmorrhoid.

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 15 A good medic[i]ne for the pylys & for the emerawdys. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B iv, Sores and pyles on the fondament lyke wrattes. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 61 b, Of hemoroides or pylles. 1608 Middleton *Fam. Love* IV. iv, A pile on ye, won't you! 1715 S. Sewall *Diary* 29 Sept., Mr. Pemberton was very sick of the Piles. 1811 Hooper *Med. Dict.* s. v. *Hæmorrhois*, A small pile, that has been painful for some days, may cease to be so, and dry up. 1869 Claridge *Cold Water Cure* 176 Persons subject to piles should especially avoid all heating and stimulating drinks.

b. *Comb.*, as *pile-clamp, -supporter.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pile-clamp*, an instrument for removing hemorrhoids. *Ibid.*, *Pile-supporter*, a suppository for preventing protrusion of the rectum. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pile-clamp*, an instrument..for crushing the base of the pile before cutting off, or for holding and compressing the pile.

Pile, *sb.*[7], obs. form of Pillow.

Pile (pəil), *v.*[1] [f. Pile *sb.*[1] in sense 3.]

1. *trans.* To furnish, strengthen, or support with piles (esp. of timber); to drive piles into.

c 1440 [see Piling *vbl. sb.*[1] 1]. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* II. 31 Toward the North End of this Bridge stondith a fair old Chapelle of Stone.., pilid in the Foundation for the rage of the Streame of the Tamise. 1661 *Brasenose Coll. Mun.* 30. 20 They had in some cases to pile an arch to build on. 1716–17 E. Rud in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 646 Part of the north ditch piled and planked. 1747 *Gentl. Mag., Hist. Chron.* Sept. 445 Mr. King first carpenter to the [Westminster] Bridge protested against it without piling the foundation. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 96 It [a wall] was planked and piled internally. 1881 *Chicago Times* 14 May, Heavy oak pieces, twenty-five feet in length, will be used for piling the 'coolies' on Yellowstone division.

†**2.** To fix, drive in (as a stake or pile). *Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccciii. 701 The flemynges had pyled in the ryuer of Lescalt great pyles of great tymbre, so that no shyppe coulde come fro Tourney to Andewarpe 1623 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 695 These were piled in the earth, and vpon them were set the skulls of dead men which they had slaine in the warres.

Pile, *v.*[2] [f. Pile *sb.*[3]]

1. *trans.* To form into a pile or heap; to heap up. Often with *up, on.*

c 1358 [see Piling *vbl. sb.*[2]]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 903 The 3epe knight..Pight hom into ploghe, pilde vp the vrthe, Braid vp bygly all a brode feld. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 372 What enormities be there, but ignoraunce, doth (as it were) pile them vp one vpon another. 1607 Rowlands *Diog. Lanth.* 6 He..got wealth, and pylde vp golde euen as they pyle vp stockfish in Island. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 135 Upon many of these Mosques the Storks have pyld their nests. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 46 The Labourers..ought to take the bricks out of the Carts and pile them. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 3 ¶ 5 A prodigious Heap of Bags of Mony,..piled upon one another. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 17 Like Pelion and Ossa piled one upon the other. 1832 Tennyson *Lady of Shalott* I. iv, The reaper weary, Piling sheaves in uplands airy. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiv. 304 Many a feast high-pil'd, did load each table about them. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 341 The refuse was piled in heaps.

b. *Mil. To pile arms*: to place muskets or rifles (usually three) in a position in which their butts rest on the ground and their muzzles come together, so as to form a pyramidal figure: a mode of disposing of them so as to be readily available when wanted, practised by soldiers, etc., while resting during a march or other military operation; to stack arms. Also *fig.*

c 1778 *Conquerors* 65 Thus each griev'd soldier pil'd his arms and wept. 1862 Beveridge *Hist. India* III. IX. ii. 573 The sepoys..at once obeyed the order to pile their arms. 1865 T. Hughes in *Morn. Star* 5 Dec., The statesmen of our own country had piled arms with the view of seeing how liberal institutions would succeed in America. 1879 *Martini-Henry Rifle Exerc.* 37 The squad will be taught to pile arms as follows.

c. *Metall.* = Faggot *v.* 2: cf. Pile *sb.*[3] 3 g.

1891 R. R. Gubbins (*title*) A New System of Hot-Charging and Hot-Piling Puddle Bars.

d. *Leather-making.* See Piling *vbl. sb.*[1] 1 b.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To amass, accumulate.

1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 19 Shall I..here assume To mend the justice of the perfect God, By piling up a curse upon His curse Against thee. 1870 *Athenæum* 15 Oct. 489 Cowley often excels in piling his effects. 1886 W. Hooper *Sk. fr. Academic Life* 49 A man who on every occasion piles up the titles which he possesses ..sins against good taste. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* ii. 54 Included in the estate slowly piled up by the Yelvertons.

b. *To pile up* (or *on*) *the agony* (*colloq.*), to prolong and intensify to a climax the effect of anything painful by adding fresh *elements* or details.

1835–40 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 444, I was actilly in a

piled-up-agony. 1839 Marryat *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 235, I do think he piled the agony up a little too high in that last scene. 1852 C. Bronte in Mrs. Gaskell *Life* (1857) II. xi. 267, I doubt whether the regular novel-reader will consider the 'agony piled sufficiently high' (as the Americans say). 1892 *Even. Echo* 23 Jan. 2/2 Airing their eloquence and piling up the agonies on their respective opponents.

3. *intr.* for *refl.* or *pass.*

1613–16 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iv, The hart-like leaves oft each with other pyle As doe the hard scales of the Crocodyle. 1785 Burns *Winter Night* 8o Chill o'er his slumbers, piles the drifty heap! 1860 Sir W. E. Logan in *Borthwick's Brit. Amer. Rdr.* 149 The ice in the St. Lawrence piles up over every obstacle. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 125/1 Money..continues to pile up and up at the bankers of a good lady.

4. *trans.* To cover or load *with* things heaped on.

1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 632 Tables are set, and on a sudden pil'd With Angels Food. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* II. vii. (1849) 120 By degrees a fleet of boats and canoes were piled up with all kinds of household articles. 1817 Coleridge *Sibyl. Leaves* Poems (1862) 268 Gay thy grassy altar piled with fruits. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 552 Its floor Piled with provender for cattle.

Pile, obs. f. Pill *sb.*[1], and Pill *v.*[1], to rob, etc.

Pileage: see Pilage.

Pileate (pəi·lɪˌĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. L. *pīleāt-us* (better *pilleatus*) capped, f. *pil(l)eus*: see Pileus.] Having a pileus or cap.

1828–32 in Webster. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pileatus*, *Bot.* applied by Fries to an Order .. of the *Hymenomycetes* ..pileate. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* [see Pileiform]. 1874 Cooke *Fungi* 56 The Discomycetes are of two kinds, the pileate and the cup-shaped.

Pileated (pəi·lɪˌētèd), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

1. *Nat. Hist.* = prec.; *spec.* applied to certain Echini or sea-urchins; also, to certain birds having the feathers of the pileum very conspicuous, as the *Pileated Woodpecker* (*Picus pileatus*) of N. America, the male of which has a scarlet pileum.

a 1728 Woodward *Fossils* II. (1729) 70 A pileated Echinus, taken up, with different Shells of several kinds. 1749 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 146, I have seen some Specimens of the common pileated and galeated Echinites. 1782 Latham *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 554 Pileated Woodpecker. 1884 J. Burroughs in *Century Mag.* Dec. 222/2 The log-cock, or pileated woodpecker..I have never heard drum.

2. Wearing the *pileus* (see Pileus 1).

1856 W. H. Smyth *Catal. Coins Dk. Northumbld.* 233 Two pileated but otherwise naked men standing with spears.

Piled (pəild), *ppl.a.*[1] [f. Pile *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1]]

†**1.** *Her.* Of arms: Charged with piles: see Pile *sb.*[1] 4. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* E v b, Off pilit armys now here it shall be shewyt.

†**2.** Of a javelin or lance: Having a pile or head: see Pile *sb.*[1] 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XV. 211 At Dolops, Meges threw A speare well-pilde. 1615 — *Odyss.* XX. 201 Took to his hand his sharp-piled lance.

3. Built on piles.

1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 340/2 To pole up stream past piled village and fertile rice-flats.

Piled, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Pile *v.*[2] + -ED[1].] Laid or reared in a pile or piles, heaped. Also with *up.*

1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* I. v. (1616) 98 While the piled stones Re-eccoed her lamentable grones. 1630 Milton *On Shaks.*, What needs my Shakspear for his honour'd Bones, The labour of an age in piled Stones? 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* XXIII. 267 Achilles cover'd with their fat the dead, And the pil'd victims round the body spread. 1791 Charlotte Smith *Celestina* (ed. 2) III. 64 Behind those piled-up stones against which you leaned. 1848 C. A. Johns *Week at Lizard* 264 The piled appearance of the rocks. 1880 Browning *Dram. Idylls, Pan & Luna* 37.

Piled, *ppl. a.*[3] [f. Pile *sb.*[5] + -ED[2].]

1. Covered with pile, hair, or fur.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13703 Off look and cher ryht monstrous, Pyled and seynt as any kaat, And moosy-heryd as a raat.

2. Having a pile or long nap, as velvet. *Double-piled, three-piled,* etc.; see Pile *sb.*[5] 2.

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 20 My plain speeches may haue as much wooll..as is in your double pild veluet. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 33–5 Thour't a three pild-piece I warrant thee; I had as liefe be a Lyst of an English Kersey, as be pil'd, as thou art pil'd, for a French Veluet. 1808 Scott *Marm.* V. viii, His cloak, of crimson velvet piled, Trimmed with the fur of marten wild. 1881 Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 55, I don't say that any flat-woven stuff can stand sunlight as well as a piled material.

Pi·le-dri·ver. A machine for driving piles (Pile *sb.*[1] 3) into the ground, usually consisting of a heavy block of iron, suspended in a frame between two vertical guide-posts, and alternately let fall upon the pile-head, and raised by steam, manual, or other power; some, working with steam, act on the principle of the steam-hammer.

1772 Hutton *Bridges* 99 *Pile Driver*, an engine for driving down the piles. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* III. 412 In the case of the steam pile-driver..the whole weight of a heavy mass is delivered rapidly upon a driving-block of several tons weight placed directly over the head of the pile. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 80 A pile-driver consists of vertical guide-bars, between which a weight called the 'monkey' is drawn up..and is suddenly released.

b. A man who drives piles into the ground.

1882 in Ogilvie (Annandale)

So **Pi·le-dri·ven** *a.*, **Pi·le-dri·ving** *sb.* and *a.*

1809 *Phil. Trans.* Abr. XIV. 498 On the Theory of Pile-Driving. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 398 Built on what the Dutch call pile-driven bases, on a marshy and unstable soil. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 305 Requiring no machine beyond a pile-driving engine.

Pileiform (pəi·lɪˌɪfɒ̄ɪm), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *pileiformis*: see Pileus and -form.] Having the form of a pileus or cap.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pileiformis*,..pileiform. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pileate*, *Pileiform*, having the form of a cap; or having a pileus.

†**Pi·lement.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Pile *v.*[2] + -ment.] The action or product of piling; a piled heap.

1597–8 Bp. Hall *Sat.* III. ii. 16 Costly pilements of some curious stone.

Pileole (pəi·lɪˌōəl). *Bot.* [ad. L. *pileolus*: see next. Cf. F. *piléole.*] = next; *spec.* in Grasses, etc. (see quots.).

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pileola*...name given by Mirbel to a perfectly close primordial leaf, having the form of a funnel, and which covers and hides the other leaves of the gemmule, as in the *Scirpus*: a pileole. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 62 With the Gramineæ the part which first rises above the ground has been called by some the pileole.

‖ **Pileolus** (pilī·ŏlŏs). *Bot.* [L. *pileolus* (better *pill-*), dim. of Pileus.] A little pileus; as the small cap-like receptacle of certain fungi.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pileolus*, a little cap or cap-like body..; the receptacle of certain fungals.

‖ **Pileorhiza** (pəiˌlɪorə·ɪzə). *Bot.* Also pileorrhiza; and in anglicized form **pi·leorhi·ze.** [mod. L., f. L. *pileus* cap + Gr. *ῥίζα* root. Cf. Coleorhiza.] The mass of tissue which covers and protects the growing-point of a root; the root-cap.

1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 771 The conical hood upon the apex of the root, called the *pileorrhiza*. *Ibid.*, The focus of development of the root is within the *pileorrhiza*, which is pushed forward by the continual development of cells just behind the apex. 1857 Berkeley *Cryptog. Bot.* § 49 There is the same highly-developed pileorhize, which is no special organ, but the same thing with the pileorhize in more complicated plants. 1870 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (ed. 2) 113.

Pileous (pəi·lɪˌəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. type **pīle-us* (f. *pil-us* hair) + -ous: cf. *osseous, carneous.*] Pertaining to or consisting of hair, hairy.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, *Pileous*, that which relates to the hair. 1872 T. G. Thomas *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 706 When the predominating element of the mass is hair, these tumors are called pileous or piliferous. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pileous system*, Bichat's term for the arrangement of hair on the body.

Pi·ler. [f. Pile *v.*[2] + -er[1].] One who piles.

1611 Cotgr., *Accumulateur*,..a heaper, or piler; a hoorder. 1835 Browning *Paracelsus* V. 292 The sacred fire may flicker..And die, for want of a wood-piler's help.

Piler, Pilery, obs. forms of Pillar, Pillory.

Piles, hæmorrhoids: see Pile *sb.*[6]

Pilet, variant of Pellet *sb.*[2] 2, *Obs.*, pelt.

‖ **Pileum** (pəi·lɪˌəm). *Ornith.* [L. *pileum* (better *pilleum*), collat. form of *pileus* (*pilleus*): see next.] The whole of the top of the head of a bird, comprising the *frons*, *corona* or *vertex*, and *occiput.*

1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 457 A broad, transverse, coronal, black bar of varying width (sometimes occupying half the pileum, sometimes a mere line). *Ibid.* 665 Crown and long occipital crest deep glossy greenish-black. This pileum extends..to a level with the lower border of the eye.

‖ **Pileus** (pəi·lɪˌəs). Pl. **pilei** (pəi·lɪˌəi). [L. *pileus* (better *pilleus*, but *pileus* is the form in late MSS.) a felt cap. Cf. Gr. *πῖλος* in same sense.]

1. *Antiq.* A felt cap without a brim, worn by the ancient Greeks and Romans. (Cf. Petasus.)

1776 J. Adams *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 210 For the seal, he proposes..on one side..Liberty with her pileus. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 404 (ed. 2) 542 On coins of Nicaea Pan stands with a pileus. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 134/1 The pileus of the former [the most ancient Greeks] being nearly the same as the modern fez.

2. *Bot.* A cap-like formation in various Fungi; *esp.* the cap-like or umbrella-like structure at the top of the stipes, bearing the hymenium on its under surface, in the *Hymenomycetes* (mushrooms, etc.); also called *cap* (see Cap *sb.*[1] 10 a).

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* II. xxxi. (1765) 154 *Agaricus*, with the Pileus on a Stipes. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 376 The Gills are the flat, thin substances, found underneath the Pileus. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 249 The naked pilei are originally gymnocarpous.

3. *Ornith.* = Pileum.

Pilew(e, obs. form of Pillow.

†**Pi·leways,** *adv. Her. Obs. rare.* [f. Pile *sb.*[1] 4 + -ways.] In the manner of a pile or piles.

1572 Bossewell *Arm.* II. 122 The Arrowes standing pilewaies in poincte, is one of ye honorable ordinaries general.

†**Pilewhey.** *Obs.* [Obscure: the second element appears to be *whey*: see Skeat *Gloss.* to *P. Pl.*] ? Some kind of whey, or ? perry.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 134 Peni Ale and piriwhit [*v. rr.* pile-whey; pilewhew; pilwhay; *B* and *C* podyng ale] heo pourede to-gedere.

Pi·le-work. [f. Pile *sb.*[1] 3 + Work *sb.*]

1. Work constructed or consisting of piles.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3781/3 A new Pile-work is run out about 80 Foot from the Peer-head of Minehead. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 72/2 Make the pile-work deep and broad every way. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 2/2 In its fall it smashed the wooden pile work.

2. A prehistoric structure of piles in a lake.

1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* 28 The pile-works of Chamblon, which are of the bronze period, must be at the least 3300 years old. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* V. 169 The age of the Swiss Pileworks was at an end.

[**Pile-worn,** in Jodrell and some later Dicts., erroneous alteration of *plinworth*, Plymouth, in Massinger.]

Pilewort (pəi·lwɒɹt). [f. Pile *sb.*[6] + Wort, from its reputed efficacy against piles, after the med.L. name *ficaria*: cf. Figwort.] The Lesser Celandine or Figwort (*Ranunculus Ficaria* or *Ficaria verna*), an early spring-flowering plant allied to the buttercups, with bright yellow starry flowers. Also extended to the whole genus or sub-genus *Ficaria.*

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xx. 31 The lesser [Celandine] is called..in English Pyle worte, or Figworte. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cclxxix. 669. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 363 Violets, Dazies, double Pilewort. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 186 The young leaves of Pilewort..are boiled and used as an edible by the Swedish peasantry.

† b. Formerly applied with qualifications to species of *Scrophularia*: cf. Figwort b.

1640 Parkinson *Theatr. Bot.* 612 *Scrophularia major*.. we in English [call it] great Figgewort, and great Pilewort. *Ibid.* 1616 *Guacatane*, Indian Pilewort.

Pilfer (pi·lfəɹ), *sb.* Now *rare.* Forms: 5 pilfre, pelfyr, -fere, 5–6 pylfre, 7– pilfer. [In earlier form app. a. OF. *pelfre* spoil (11th c. in Godef.): see Pelf *sb.* In 17th c. use, perh. viewed as formed immediately on Pilfer *v.*] That which is pilfered or plundered; spoil, plunder, booty; in early use also = Pilfery 1.

c 1400 *Mandeville's Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 13 All þat other pylfre he 3af vn-to other folk of þ^e^ ost. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. xxvii. (MS. Digby 230 lf. 133/2), Nor swiche pilfre spoilinge nor roberie Appartene nat to worthy chiualrie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 391/1 Pelfyr, *spolium*. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* VII. I. 277/1 Open theft is whan the theef is taken with his pelfere. 1539 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 155 The ..Scottys fled, and left mych corne, butters, and other pylfre. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 85 Peaceably to enjoy their pilfer and pray. 1791 W. Gilpin *Forest Scenery* II. 40 Too many..depend on the precarious supply of forest pilfer.

Pilfer (pi·lfəɹ), *v.* Also 6 **pelfer, pylfer.** [app. a. OF. or AF. *pelfre-r* to pillage, rob (11th c. in Godef.): see Pelf *v.*; but (from its late appearance) perh. an Eng. formation on *pelfer*, Pilfer *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To plunder, steal; *spec.* (in later use), to steal in small quantities, to filch, peculate.

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 28 He taught hym how to recouer agayne the possessyons and landes pelfered awaye by the kynges from hys archebyshopryck. 1577 Northbrooke *Dicing* (1843) 135 If during the time of their play, any thing be pilfered or stollen out of his house, hee shall haue no lawe at all for it. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Submission* iii, Pilfring what I once did give. 1756 Mitchell in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 376 Happening to meet a waggon..he thought there might be something to pilfer. 1836–9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Black Veil*, Old palings..mended with stakes pilfered from the neighbouring hedges.

fig. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Greatness of Kingd.* (Arb.) 473 The Commanders..wisht him, to set vpon them by Night; But hee answered, He would not pilfer the Victory. 1784 Cowper *Task* I. 131 And not a year but pilfers as he goes Some youthful grace that age would gladly keep. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* xix. (1860) 441 Old time..is a knave who.. From the fairest of beauties will pilfer their youth.

b. To plunder or rob (a person or place). *rare.*

1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. vii. 314 The Egyptians, whom it was a merit to deceive and pilfer. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lxvii. 520 In some States the treasury was pilfered.

2. *intr.* or *absol.* To pillage, plunder; *spec.* (in later use), to commit petty theft.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 204 b, And when the Turkes saw the Cristen men styll pylfer (as the vsage of Souldiers is) they issued out of their holde. *a* 1618 Raleigh *Rem.* (1664) 90 As many of your Lordships as haue pilfered from the Crown. 1726–31 Tindal *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* XVII. (1743) II. 121 An Englishman being taken pilfering raised a quarrel. 1879 H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* XV. § 102. 264 A servant who..pilfers, may have to suffer pain from being discharged.

Hence **Pi·lfered, Pi·lfering** *ppl. adjs.*; also **Pi·lferingly** *adv.*

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 142 To defend Our in-land from the pilfering Borderers. 1611 Cotgr., *Subreptivement*, pilferingly, by stealth, by false meanes. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 73 Mistaking me for pilfering boy. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* I. v, My pilfered strength shall of itself return.

Pilferage (pi·lfərēdʒ). [f. prec. + -age.] The action or practice of pilfering; petty theft; in first quot., the product of pilfering, stolen goods.

c 1626 *Dick of Devon.* II. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 40 Your horse and weapons I will take, but no pilferage. 1811 in J. Smyth *Pract. Customs* (1812) 271 If any pilferage, or other misdemeanor, be detected at the said wharf, whereby the revenue may be prejudiced. 1862 Smiles *Engineers* I. v. viii. 426 Conveyed..at great risk of breakage and pilferage.

Pilferer (pi·lfərəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er[1].] One who pilfers; a petty thief.

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Desrobbeur & pilleur*, a theef, a robber, a picker, a pilferer. 1587 Harrison *England* III. xv. (1878) II. 101 [Small fairs] are oft prejudiciall to such as dwell neere hand..by pilferers that resort vnto the same. 1634 Wither *Emblemes* 167 The poore and petty pilferers you see On wheeles, on gibbets and the gallow tree. 1728 Young *Love Fame* III. 90 Thieves of

renown, and pilferers of fame. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1854) 533/2 The whole crew of pilferers and oppressors from whom he had rescued Bengal.

Pi·lfering, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. PILFER. †a. Pillaging, plundering, robbery (*obs.*). b. Stealing or thieving in small quantities; petty theft.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 66 b, The Englishmen durst not..ones deuide them selues or fal to pilfryng. *Ibid., Hen. VII* 57 b, The people .. cryed to God dayly for an ende of their pilfrynge. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 38 Licentious persons..liuing vpon pilfering and stealing. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. (1635) 17 Some whose offences are pilfring under twelve pence value, they judge to be whipped. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 464 There had..been..much less waste and pilfering in the dockyards than formerly.

attrib. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* III. vii. 70 This businesse..thus abused by such pilfring occasions. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, Sneaking in and out among the shipping..in a pilfering way.

Pi·lferment. *rare*−1. [f. as prec. + -MENT.] Pilfering, petty theft; something pilfered.

1823 CHALMERS *Serm.* I. 174 [They]number such pilferments as can pass unnoticed among the perquisites of their office.

†Pi·lfery. *Obs.* Forms: 5 pylfry, 6–7 pilfry, -rie, pilfery, -erie, 7 pilfrey. [app. in origin a variant of *pelferie*, PELFRY (a. OF. **pelferie, peuferie*); but from the first denoting the action of F. *pelfrer* 'to pillage, plunder, rob', rather than the concrete 'booty, spoil', and afterwards associated with the special sense of PILFER *v.*]

1. The action of plundering or pillaging; robbery.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 630 To vacabondys..that lokyd for pylfry & ryfflynge. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. x. (1877) I. 219 What notable roberies, pilferies [etc.] I need not to rehearse.

2. Petty theft, pilfering, peculation.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 17 To folow profit earnestlie but meddle not with pilferie. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1069 Lucius Pella..was accused and convicted of robbery, and pilferie in his office. 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 148 A seruant had done a pilfery; he fled and was pursued by his master. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. II. ii. 10/1 For the restraining of which Naughtiness and Pilferies, the said John had again purchased it.

attrib. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 228 To excuse a fault..as to say of a great robbery, that it was but a pilfry matter.

3. The produce of plundering or pilfering; stolen or pilfered property.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 17 b, You slowe spirited Saturnists, that haue nothing but the pilfries of your penne. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 301 As one should pull a pilfry out of a theeues coffer.

Pilgarlic (pilgā·rlik). Also 6 pyllyd, 7 pild-, peeled garlic(k; 7–9 peel-garlic. [f. PILLED, PEELED *ppl. a.* + GARLIC; cf. PILCORN, PILLEDOW, PILPATE.] An appellation given first to a 'pilled' or bald head, ludicrously likened to a peeled head of garlic (see *garlic-head*, GARLIC 3), and then to a bald-headed man, sometimes with insinuation as to an alleged cause (quots. 1619, 1671); from the 17th c. applied in a ludicrously contemptuous or mock-pitiful way: 'poor creature'. Now *dial.* in various shades of meaning. Also *attrib.*

a. a 1529 SKELTON *Poems agst. Garnesche* Wks. 1843 I. 122 Ye loste hyr fauyr quyt; Your pyllyd garleke hed Cowde hocupy there no stede; She callyd yow Syr Gy of Gaunt. ?*a* 1605 (?) STOW (Farmer), He will soon be a peeled garlic like myself. 1619 J. T. (*title*) The Hunting of the Pox: a pleasant Discourse betweene the Authour and Pild-Garlike, wherein is declared the Nature of the Disease, how it came, and how it may be cured. *Ibid.* i, I ouertooke Pild-Garlike on the way. *Ibid.* ii, He had of Spanish Buttons store vpon his forehead mixt; And where that they were falne away, there Stooles in place were fixt. 1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl., Pill'd* or *Peel'd Garlick*, cui Cutis (hoc est Pellis) vel Pili omnes ex morbo aliquo, præsertim Lue Venerea, defluxerunt.

β. a 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* II. ii, And there got he a knocke and down goes pilgarlike, Commends his soule to his she-saint and exit. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* II. viii. 28 Poor Peel-Garlick George. 1699 BOYER *Dict. Franc.-Ang.* I. s.v. *Sangler*, The poor pilgarlick was soundly horsewhipped. 1824 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) I. xiv. 247 The strange pilgarlic figures that I saw breakfasting over a few expiring embers on roasted apples. 1843 J. BALLANTINE *Gaberl. W., Wee Raggit Laddie* IV, Our gentry's wee peel-garlic getts Feed on bear meal an' sma' ale swats. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Peel garlick*, a yellow person; a person dressed shabbily or fantastically. 1888–90 *Sheffield Gloss., Pillgarlic, sb.* a poor, ill-dressed person; an object of pity or contempt. 1894 *Punch* 21 Apr. 186 No! 'tis Bull is pilgarlic and martyr.

b. Used by the speaker of himself as a *quasi*-proper name; commonly *poor Pilgarlic* = poor I, poor me. *dial.* and *U. S. collog.* or *slang.*

1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 116 They cou'dn't save poor Pilgarlick from going to Pot. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 75 They went all to the opera; and so poor Pilgarlick came home alone. 1793 BURNS *Lett., to G. Thomson* Sept., A ballad is my hobby-horse,..that..is sure to run poor pilgarlick, the bedlam jockey, quite beyond any useful point or post in the common race of men. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* 173 Little Summers and I—poor Pilgarlic—were so entirely consumed with disgust. 1889 FARMER *Dict. Amer., Pilgarlic...*, one's self. Thus a thief will inform a pal that pilgarlic was engaged in any given undertaking.

Hence **Pilga·rlicky** *a.*, pitiable, poor-spirited.

1893 E. GOSSE *Crit. Kit-Kats* (1896) 96 It is a pilgarlicky mind that is satisfied with saying, 'I like you, Dr. Fell, the reason why I cannot tell'.

†Pilgate, pilget, pilȝet. *Sc. Obs.* app. = PILLION 1.

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 221 Item, to Robert Spetele, for reformyng and lyning of ane pilȝet to hir. 1537 *Ibid.* VI. 356 Deliverit be the said Patrik ane pair of girthis to ane pilgate..ijs. 1619 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 46 For blak clothe..to the Lady Dudope hir womans pilget, and for making it.

Pi·lger. *dial.* [perh. f. PILE *sb.*1 + *gar*, GARE *sb.*1: cf. ELGER.] A fish- or eel-spear.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pilger*, a fish-spear. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Pilger*, a three-pronged eel-spear. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 5/2 He was using a pilger, and brought up an eel 6lb. 2 oz., and measuring 4ft. 4in.

Pilgrim (pi·lgrim), *sb.* Forms: 2–4 pilegrim, 3 pele-, pillegrim, 4 pylegrym, pylgrime, pilgerim, *Sc.* pilgram, pilgerame, 4–6 pilgrym(e, -grame, pylgrim, 4–7 pilgrime, 5–6 pylgreme, -grym(e, 6 pyl-, pilgrem, pilgrum, 4– pilgrim. *β.* 4 pilegrin, 6 pilgrin, *Sc.* -gren. [Early ME. *pelegrim, pilegrim*, repr. OF. **pelegrin*, antecedent form to *pèlerin* (11th c. in Littré) = Pr. *pelegrin*, Cat. *pelegri, peregri*, It. *pellegrino*, Sp. *peregrino*:—L. *peregrin-um* one that comes from foreign parts, a stranger, f. *peregrē* adv., from abroad, abroad, *pereger* that is abroad or on a journey, f. *per* through + *ager* field, country, land: see PEREGRINE. In Romanic, *peregrino* became, by dissimilation of *r . . . r, pelegrino, pelegrin*, whence F. *pèlerin*. In Eng. (rarely in OF.), final *n* became *m*, making *pelegrim, pilegrim, pilgrim* (cf. OHG. *piligrīm*), also *pelrimage*: see PILGRIMAGE. (Gower has also the later Fr. form, PELERIN.)]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. c 1200 Pilegrim [see B. 1]. *c* 1205 LAY. 30736 þe pillegrim hine talde Al þat he wolde. *Ibid.* 30744 Brien ..saide þet he wes pelegrim Ah pic nefden he nan mid him. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17288+ 339 (Cott.) Art þou not a pilgrim þat walkes here in land? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1001 Thane come a pylgrime sodanly. — 1056 Quhen þe pilgram had herd þis. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1218 He as pilgerame thocht at Rome to be. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* xi. 13 For thei ben pilgrymes [1388 pilgryms], and herborid men vpon the erthe. — 1 *Pet.* ii. 11, I beseche you, as comelynges and pilgrimes [1388 pilgrymys]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/2 Pylgreme..*peregrinus*. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxiii. 9 Walk furth, pilgrame. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pylgryme, *pellerin*. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 40 Be euen as pylgrems vpon earth. 1563 WINȝET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 16 It apperis to me, the Pilgrum.

β. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 110 Two pilegrins of so gret age. *a* 1600 BUREL *Pilgr.* in J. Watson *Collect.* (1709) II. 22 Bot I who wes ane pure Pilgren And half an Stronimeir.

B. Signification.

1. One who travels from place to place; a person on a journey; a wayfarer, a traveller; a wanderer; a sojourner. (Now *poet.* or *rhet.* in general sense.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 35 Swa doð pilegrimes ðe lateþ her awen eard, and fareð in to oðre lande. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6835 (Cott.) To pilgrime and to vncuth þou ber þe wit þi dedis cuth. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15066 Ȝe are of so fer contre, And als pylegryms. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xxiv. 18 Thou aloone ert a pilgrym of Jerusalem. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 A Pilgrame, *peregrinus,..extraneus, exoticus*. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 17 Lyke wandring pilgrim too famosed Italie trudging. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 964 A suffocating wind the pilgrim smites With instant death. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 197 And haply too some pilgrim, thither led, With many a tale repays the nightly bed. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xv, The two pilgrims..pursued their way in silence. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 106 Any man may be called a pilgrim who leaveth the place of his birth.

2. *spec.* One who journeys (usually a long distance) to some sacred place, as an act of religious devotion; one who makes a pilgrimage. (The prevailing sense.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Oðre pilegrimes goð mid swinke uorte sechen one holie monnes bones, ase Sein James oðer Sein Giles. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 46 Pilgrimes and Palmers .. For to seche Seint Ieme and seintes at Roome; Wenten forþ in heore wey. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 26 Pilgrimes were they alle That toward Caunterbury wolden ryde. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 238 All pilgrymes to quhat voyage that ever thai pas in the service of God and his sanctis, thay ar all in the protectioun and salvegarde of the pape. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 341 b, At the same time were very manye Pilgrimes at Rome,.. to thentent they might..receiue cleane remission and forgeuenes of theyr sinnes. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 140 There are Pilgrimes going to Canterbury with rich Offerings, and Traders riding to London with fat Purses. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 205 Pilgrims were licensed to wander, and beg by the way, to render their devotions at the shrines of dead men. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 26 Pilgrims returning from the holy places bring water of Zemzem, dust from the Prophet's tomb.

3. *fig.* (chiefly in allegorical religious use: cf. PILGRIMAGE *sb.* 1 c).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 Þeo pilegrimes þet goð touward heouene, heo goð forte beon isonted, & forte iuinden God sulf. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 983 For erþe is nouht our eritage .. But we ben pore pilegrimus put in þis worde. 1382 [see A. α]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 122 To erthely pilgrymes that passen to and froo, Fortune shewithe..How this world is a thurghefare ful of woo. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 13 They..confessed that they were straungers and pilgrems [WYCLIF pilgrymes and herborid men] on the erthe. 1678 BUNYAN (*title*) The Pilgrim's Progress from this World to That which is to come. *Ibid.* I. 90, I was a Pilgrim, going to the Cœlestial City. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* i. (ed. 2) 8 To live as Pilgrims in Spiritual Watching. 1838 EMERSON *Addr., Lit. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 206 A divine pilgrim in nature, all things attend his steps.

4. *Amer. Hist.* Name given in later times to those English Puritans who founded the colony of Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1620. Now usually **Pilgrim Fathers.**

Governor Bradford in 1630 wrote of his company as 'pilgrims' in the spiritual sense (sense 3) referring to Heb. xi. 13. The same phraseology was repeated by Cotton Mather and others, and became familiar in New England. In 1798 a Feast of the 'Sons' or 'Heirs of the Pilgrims' was held at Boston on 22 Dec., at which the memory of 'the Fathers' was celebrated. With the frequent juxtaposition of the names *Pilgrims, Fathers, Heirs* or *Sons of the Pilgrims*, and the like, at these anniversary feasts, 'Pilgrim Fathers' naturally arose as a rhetorical phrase, and gradually grew to be a historical designation.

[1630 BRADFORD *Hist. Plymouth Colony* 36 They knew they were but pilgrimes, & looked not much on those things; but lift vp their eyes to yᵉ heauens, their dearest cuntrie. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Wond.-w. Prov.* 216 Yet were these pilgrim people minded of the suddain forgetfulness of those worthies that died not long before. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* I. i. § 4 They took their leave of the pleasant City [Leyden], where they had been Pilgrims and Strangers now for Eleven Years. *Ibid.* II. i. § 1 They found..a New World..in which they found that they must live like Strangers and Pilgrims. 1793 C. ROBBINS *Serm.* 29 But they knew they were pilgrimes.] 1798 *Columbian Centinel* 26 Dec. 2/4 The Feast of the 'Sons of the Pilgrims'. *Ibid.* 29 Dec. 2/4 'The Heirs of the Pilgrims' Celebrated on Saturday Dec. 22, the 177th Anniversary of the landing of their Forefathers at Plymouth Rock..the day of the nativity of New-England. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 21 Apr., What shall we say to the descendants of the Pilgrims, and the Signers,..who are happy and content under his [Croker's] sway?

1799 *Columbian Centinel* 25 Dec. 3 An Ode [by Samuel Davis], in honor of the Fathers, was sung..by the company to the tune of Old Hundred...It concluded with the following verse:—Hail Pilgrim Fathers of our race, With grateful hearts your toils we trace, Oft as this votive Day returns, We'll pay due honors to your urns. 1801 *Ibid.* 23 Dec. 2/4 'Sons of the Pilgrims.' Yesterday, the anniversary of the landing of our Pilgrim Fathers, at Plymouth, in 1620, was celebrated. 1813 J. DAVIS *Disc.* 3 To look back to the origin of our state, and to revive..the transactions and the toils of our pilgrim fathers, who, at such a season, first landed on these shores. 1820 J. THACHER *Hist. Plymouth* (1832) 246 The present year closes the second century since the pilgrim fathers first landed on our shores. 1828 MRS. HEMANS (*title*) The Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers in New England. 1841 ALEX. YOUNG (*title*) Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers of the Colony of Plymouth, from 1602 to 1625. 1853 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* 295 The May-flower and the Speedwell..in which the exiles of Leyden, the pilgrim fathers, embarked upon their voyage.

5. *U. S.* and *Colonial.* An original settler; a newcomer, a recent immigrant (also said of animals).

1851 in W. Pratt *Colonial Experiences* 234 (Morris) [In the 'Dream of a Shagroon', which bore the date April 1851,.. the term] 'pilgrim' [was first applied to the settlers]. 1865 LADY BARKER *Station Life N. Zealand* iii. (1874) 20 Fifteen years ago a few sheds received the 'Pilgrims', as the first comers are always called. 1887 L. SWINBURNE in *Scribner's Mag.* II. 508/1 'Pilgrim' and 'tenderfoot' were formerly applied almost exclusively to newly imported cattle,..they are usually used to designate all new-comers, tourists, and business-men. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 509/1 Those herds consisting of pilgrims,..animals driven up on to the range from the South, and therefore in poor condition. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 Mar. 5/2 Sir John Hall..was one of the original 'Canterbury pilgrims', as the first settlers in the New Zealand province founded under the auspices of the Church of England were styled.

6. A peregrine falcon: see PEREGRINE A. 4.

1866 *Morn. Star* 4 Aug., Sparrow hawks, gerfalcons, hobbies, pilgrims, vultures, and merlins.

7. 'A term given about 1765 to an appendage of silk, fixed to the back of a lady's bonnet, by way of covering the neck, when walking' (Fairholt *Costume in Eng.* (1860) Gloss.): cf. PELERINE.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a. *attrib.* (sometimes quasi-*adj.*) That is a pilgrim; going on pilgrimage; consisting of pilgrims; of, pertaining or relating to a pilgrim or pilgrims: as *pilgrim chief, city, foot, garland, life, man, monk, poet, sheet, soul, spirit, state, step, throng, trade, traffic, train, warrior, weed*; *pilgrim-cloak, -staff* (*-stave*), *-tax*. Also *pilgrim-like* adj. and adv., *pilgrim-monger, pilgrim-wise* adv., *pilgrim-worn* adj.

1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. XXVIII, When *pilgrim-chiefs, in sad array, Sought Melrose' holy shrine. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Vespers Palermo* I. i, He folds around him His *pilgrim-cloak. 1382 WYCLIF *Zeph.* i. 8 Clothid with *pilgrim [*gloss* or straunge] clothing [L. *veste peregrina*]. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 325 Sward my *pilgrim-foot can prize. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 591 Their *pilgrim-life from the passage of the Red Sea. 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* Epist. 7 Dwelling (*Pylgrymlike) in the bodies of all men, women, and fourfooted beastes. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 284 As the *Pilgrim-Monger Mr. Medcalf undauntedly own'd in 1712. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Vis. Poets* CCXXVII, He our *pilgrim-poet. 1618 BRATHWAIT *Descr. Death* xvi, *Pilgrim-remouer that depriues vs sence. 1768 BARETTI *Acc. Italy* I. 25 That he might not lie..in beggarly *pilgrim sheets. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Runaway Slave at Pilgrim's Point* ii, O *pilgrim-souls, I speak to you! 1812 S. ROGERS *Columbus* Poems (1839) 41 Oh, had ye vowed with *pilgrim-staff to roam. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 427 Till morning fair Came forth with *Pilgrim steps in amice gray. 1839 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 252 Do you know that Government has abolished the *pilgrim-tax? 1824 MONTGOMERY. *Hymn,*

'*Sing we the song of those who stand*' iii, Toil, trial, suffering, still await On earth, the *pilgrim-throng. 1700 Dryden *Charac. Good Parson* 1 A parish-priest was of the *pilgrim-train. *c* 1610 *Pilgrim's Song* in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 110, I am a *pilgrim-warriour bound to fight Under the red crosse, 'gainst my rebell will. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 277 His modyr graithit hir in *pilgrame weid. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 485 In earth, man wanders, *pilgrim-wise. 1899 *Academy* 15 July 56/2 Thine [Shakspere's] the shrine more *pilgrim-worn than all The shrines of singers.

b. Special Comb. (often with the possessive *pilgrim's*): **pilgrim-bottle, pilgrim's bottle,** a flat bottle with a ring on each side of the neck for the insertion of cords by which it may be hung and carried (= Costrel[1]); **Pilgrim Fathers** (*Amer. Hist.*): see sense 4; hence **pilgrim-fatherly** *a. nonce-wd.* (after *fatherly*), characteristic of the Pilgrim Fathers; **pilgrim's pouch,** a variety of *pilgrim's sign* (q. v.), consisting of a piece of lead or other material in the form of a small pouch; **pilgrim's ring, pilgrim-ring** (see quot.); †**pilgrim-salve, pilgrim's salve,** 'an old ointment, made chiefly of swine's grease and isinglass' (Halliw.); in quot. 1670 euphemism for 'ordure, filth'; **pilgrim's shell,** a cockle- or scallop-shell carried by a pilgrim as a sign of having visited the shrine of St. James of Compostella or some sacred place; also an artificial carved imitation of such a shell; **pilgrim's sign,** a medal or other small object presented to a pilgrim at a shrine or other sacred place as a sign of his having visited it; **pilgrim's vase,** a flat vase made in imitation of a *pilgrim's bottle.*

1874 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Dec. 431 Mrs. Baily sent for exhibition two costrels, or *pilgrims' bottles. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 27 This grooved condition .. has been spoken of as the 'pilgrim's bottle liver'. 1883 Freeman *Impress. U. S.* vii. 64 It sounds, so to speak, '*pilgrim-fatherly'. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 181 The '*pilgrim-ring' of Edward the Confessor .. was in after times preserved with great care. *Ibid.* 266 One of the rings given to tourists to the holy city, as a certificate of their visit, and called .. pilgrims' rings. *c* 1580 Jefferie *Bugbears* I. iii. 90 in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897) XCVIII. 313 A drane of *pylgrim salve to clap to hiss nosse. 1670 *Mod. Acc. Scot.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Park) VI. 137 The whole pavement is pilgrim-salve. 1672 [H. Stubbe] *Rosemary & Bayes* 18 Cutaneous pustules, for which the pilgrims salve will be necessary.

Pi·lgrim, *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. OF. *peleriner*, Ger. *pilgern.*] *intr.* To be, or act as becomes, a pilgrim; to make a pilgrimage, go on pilgrimage; to travel or wander like a pilgrim. Also *to pilgrim it.* Hence **Pi·lgriming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

[1561 *Chaucer's Wks.* 285 b (*Test. Love* I. Prol.), Whan I pilgramed [*ed.* 1532 pilgrymaged] out of my kithe in wintere.] 1681 Grew *Museum* I. 176 The Palmer-worm, *Ambulo .. pilgrims up and down every where, feeding upon all sorts of Plants. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 154 He pilgrimed to his old sporting-places. 1831 — *Sart. Res.* II. vii, His mad Pilgrimings, and general solution into aimless Discontinuity. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 184 With my staff in my hand I pilgrim'd it away all alone.

Pilgrimage (pi·lgrimēdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 3 **pelrimage, pilegrim-,** 4 **pilgrin-, pylgryn-,** 4– **pilgrimage,** (4–6 **pylgrym-, pylgrim-, pilgrym-, pilgrem-, pylgrem-, pelgrymage,** 5–6 **pil-, pylgramage**). [ME. *pelrim-* (rarely *pelrin-*) *age*, a. OF. *pelrim-, pelryn-, peleringe*, also *pel(l)egrin-, peligrinage* (Godef.), f. *peleriner* (etc.) vb., to go as a pilgrim: see Pilgrim *v.* and -age. In ME. nearly always with *m* for original *n*, and conformed to the contemporary spelling of *pilgrim.* But Gower has the French form *pelrinage* (see Pelerinage), and MSS. of *c* 1400 have *pilgrin-, pylgrynage*, with *n.*]

1. A journey made by a pilgrim; a journey (usually of considerable duration) made to some sacred place, as an act of religious devotion; the action of taking such a journey. Phr. *to go on* († *in*, † *a*) *pilgrimage.*

c 1250 *O. Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 28 Si Mirre signefiet[h] uastinge for þo luue of gode .. go ine pelrimage .. and to do alle þe gode þet me may do for godes luue. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 40/200 A gret pilegrimage it is i-holde .. To sechen þat ilke holie stude þare seint Iemes bones beoth þ. *Ibid.* 473/391 To don þis pelrimage ȝwy raddest thou me? *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1028 Pelgrymage and beddyng hard, Flesch fram lykynge to arere. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 54, I mac mi vaiage Til sain Jam in pilgrimage. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 21 In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay, Redy to wenden on my pilgrymage To Canterbury with ful deuout corage. *c* 1400 *Titus & Vespasian* (Roxb.) 837 Þus bygan her pilgrinage [*v.r.* pylgrynage]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2022 When þai hade .. Perfourmet þere pilgramage, prayers and all. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 31 Þey þat gon muche a pilgrymage are but seldom þe holier. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 177 All Englande reioyseth that Pilgrimage is banished, and Idolatrie for euer abolished. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 202 To this new shrined Martyr, people .. flocked in pilgrimage. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 1 It was to my purpose to undertake this Pilgrimage. 1844 *H. H.* Wilson *Brit. India* III. iii. v. 215 After a visit to Calcutta, and a pilgrimage to Mecca, .. Syed Ahmed returned .. to the Upper Provinces.

b. *transf.* or *gen.* A journey; a travelling about, peregrination; sojourning. Now with allusion to prec. sense: A journey undertaken for some pious purpose, or to visit a place held in honour from association with some person or event.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2659 (Cott.) Þat þou has had in pelrimage [*Fairf.* pilgrimage] Þine sal it haue in heritage, Al þe kyngrike o þis land. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 287 Oon axede of Socrates why pilgremages [L. *perigrinationes*] stood hym to no profit. 1483 Caxton (*title*) The Pylgremage of the sowle. (*Colophon*) Here endeth the dreme of pylgremage of the soule. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 Thow must with surges bee banged and pilgrimage yrcksoom. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. i. 120 Tel me now, what Lady is the same To whom you swore a secret Pilgrimage. 1694 Scottow *Plant. Mass. Col.* Mass. Hist. Coll. (1858) IV. 306 Thus far of the Light and white side of the Pillar, which attended us in this our Wilderness Pilgrimage. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, Theirs seem a pilgrimage of pleasure. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 337 The library, the museum, the aviary, and the botanical garden of Sir Thomas Browne, were thought by Fellows of the Royal Society well worthy of a long pilgrimage.

c. *fig.* The course of mortal life figured as a journey, or a 'sojourn in the flesh', esp. as a journey to a future state of rest or blessedness.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxiv. 1 Haly saules þat turnys fra pilgrymage of þis life til endles gladnes. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 1395 Þis world es þe way and passage, Þurgh whilk lyes our pilgrimage. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 101 Gyven to man here in oure pilgremage. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 This treatyse called the pilgrymage of perfeccion, is .. diuyded in to thre bokes. 1526 Tindale 1 *Pet.* i. 17 Se that ye passe the tyme off your pilgremage [παροικίας, Wycl. pilgrimage, *Geneva* dwelling, *Rhem.* peregrination, 1611 soiourning] in feare. 1736–7 Doddridge *Hymn*, '*Oh God of Bethel*' i, Who thro' this weary Pilgrimage Hast all our Fathers led. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* iv, That his mother might be .. comforted by his presence all the days of her pilgrimage.

d. *Pilgrimage of* (†*for*) *Grace*, in *Eng. Hist.*, the name assumed for their movement by those who rose in the North of England in 1536 in opposition to the dissolution of the monasteries and other features of the Reformation.

1536 *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 304 By all the whole consent of the herdmen of this our pilgrimage for grace. [*Ibid.* 305 Crist crucifyid, For thy woundes wide, Us commons guyde, Which pilgrimes be Thrughe Godes grace,] *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 230 b, They named this there sedicious and traiterous voiage, an holye and blessed Pilgrimage. 1601 Stow *Ann.* 967 (*marg.* Oth of the rebels in Yorke-shire.) Yee shall not enter into this your pilgrimage of grace for the common wealth onely, but for the loue that you do beare to Gods faith and the church militant [etc.]. 1823 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* VI. 331 Their enterprise was quaintly termed the pilgrimage of grace: on their banners were painted the image of Christ crucified, and the chalice and host.

2. *transf.* A place to which a pilgrimage is made.

1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 56 Som visited pylgrymages. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 145/1 To .. doo honour to their reliques, & visit pilgrimages. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., Germany* (1685) 125 Seckavar .. a Bishops See and Cell are of the greatest Pilgrimages in the Austrian Territory. 1864 Neale in *Ecclesiologist* XXV. 102 The chapel of S. Odele in Auvergne, a great pilgrimage.

3. *attrib.*

1719 J. T. Philipps tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* 92 How long they had lead that Pilgrimage State of Life? 1773 J. Conder *Let.* in *Evang. Mag.* (1813) XXI. 92 In your pilgrimage-course live above, and live on Him who lives above. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 6/2 It [Kano] is on the pilgrimage route.

Pi·lgrimage, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

†**1.** *intr.* To sojourn, to live among strangers.

1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* viii. 2 And gooynge with hyre hous [she] pylgrymagid in the lond of Philisteis many dayes. — *Jer.* xxxv. 7 That ȝee lyue manye daȝes vpon the face of the lond, in which ȝee pilgrimagen. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. Prol., in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1532), As they me betiden whan I pilgrymaged out of my kyth in wynter. 1669 Penn *No Cross* Wks. 1782 II. 356 [Moses] chuses rather to sojourn and pilgrimage with the despised afflicted, tormented Israelites in the wilderness.

2. *intr.* To make a pilgrimage; to go on pilgrimage. Also *to pilgrimage it.*

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 496 It is arbitrary .. vnto what Shrine .. they will giue: vnto whom they will pilgrimage it. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* VI. 555 T' Egypt she'll pilgrimage, at Meroe fill Warme drops to sprinkle Isis Temple. 1829 Lamb *Let. to B. Barton* 25 Mar., Who .. of us that never pilgrimaged to Rome? 1883 G. Stephens *Bugge's Stud. N. Mythol.* 56 Christians in the West early pilgrimaged to the Holy Land.

Hence **Pi·lgrimaging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pi·lgrimager,** one who pilgrimages, a pilgrim.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xiv. 195 The seid pilgrimaging. 1591 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 142 Sayers and hearers of mass, pilgrimagers, papisticall magistrats. 1693 tr. *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* III. 274 The Women who went thither a Pilgrimaging. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 321 A late Edict of the French King to forbid Pilgrimaging. *a* 1819 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Wks.* (1830) 186 (D.) Like pilgrimaging rats, Unawed by mortals, and unscared by cats. 1898 M. P. Shiel *Yellow Danger* 266 Each of these pilgrimaging masses of men was in itself a nation.

Pilgrima·tic, -a·tical, *adjs. nonce-wds.* Of or proper to a pilgrim or pilgrims. **Pi·lgrimdom.** *nonce-wd.* Pilgrim state or domain.

1772 *Birmingham Counterfeit* I. xviii. 257 We set out, in order to make the usual pilgrimatical tour. 1838 Struthers *Poetic Tales* 25 On its pilgrimatic way.

1887 *Home Missionary* (N. Y.) Oct. 252 Soon Arkansas will be annexed to Pilgrimdom, fully under the dominion of the Lord Christ's regnant will.

Pi·lgrimer. *rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **-gr,** 7 *Sc.* **pil-gramer.** [f. Pilgrim *v.* (or *sb.*) + -er[1].] One who 'pilgrims' or goes on pilgrimage; a pilgrim.

a 1581 in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* 297 In this lyfe we are but travellauris, pilgrimaris and strangearis. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Dav. II* 39 All pilgrameris, quha for salvation of their saules, will visie the places of halie Saints. 1820 Scott *Abbot* xv, I was .. a matron of no vulgar name; now I am Magdalen, a poor pilgrimer, for the sake of Holy Kirk. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* IV. 290 The quaint, fitful, and most dainty story of *The Foolish Pilgrimers.*

Pi·lgrimess. *rare.* A female pilgrim.

1611 Cotgr., *Pelerine*, a pilgrimesse; a woman that goes on Pilgrimage. 1696 (*title*) The Light of the World: A most True Relation of a Pilgrimess, M. Antonia Bourignon, Travelling towards Eternity. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 475 The young pilgrimesses .. glided gently to the table.

Pi·lgrimism. *rare.* Pilgrim condition or practice.

1886 *Amer. Missionary* Dec. 360 The A. M. A. has reproduced in the South the pilgrimism of colonial life.

Pilgrimize (pi·lgriməiz), *v.* [See -ize.]

1. *intr.* To play the pilgrim, travel as a pilgrim, go on pilgrimage. Also *to pilgrimize it.*

1598–9 B. Jonson *Case is Altered* II. iv, I'll bear thy charges, an thou wilt but pilgrimize it along with me to the land of Utopia. 1789 Coxe *Trav. Switz.* I. vii. 56 All the world pilgrimises to his bones. 1835 R. Chambers in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVIII. 70 Thou shalt pilgrimize through life, unfriended and alone. 1891 Besant *London* (1894) 43 Rahere .. pilgrimised to Rome.

2. *trans.* To make into a pilgrim.

1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 140 Tell me who has pilgrimised thee; and wherefore hast thou dared to return to Spain?

Hence **Pi·lgrimizing** *vbl. sb.*

1818 C. Mills *Crusades* (1822) I. i. 15 No causes .. gave such strength to the spirit of pilgrimising as the opinion .. that the reign of Christ, or the Millennium was at hand. 1858 R. Chambers *Dom. Ann. Scot.* I. 3 The king himself sought for his highest religious comfort in pilgrimising to St. Duthac's shrine in Ross-shire.

Pili, pl. of Pilus, hair, down.

Pilicock, variant of Pillicock *Obs.*

‖**Pilidium** (pəili·diŏm). *Nat. Hist.* [mod.L., a. Gr. πιλίδιον little cap, dim. of πῖλος a felt cap.]

1. *Zool.* A name given to the cap-shaped larvæ of some species of Nemertean worms, formerly considered as a distinct genus.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* xi. 651 The production of the Nemertid larva within its pilidium. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 640 *note*, The *larva of Desor* is probably not so primitive a form as the *Pilidium.*

b. A genus of limpets of the family *Acmeidæ.*

2. *Bot.* The hemispherical apothecium of certain lichens. 1842 in Brande *Dict. Sc.* etc.

†**Pilidod,** obs. variant of *peridod*, Peridot.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 394, j annulus Pontificalis cum j pilidod.

Piliferous (pəili·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *pilus* hair + -ferous.] Bearing or having hair; *spec.* in *Bot.*, bearing hairs or tipped with a hair.

a 1846 Loudon is cited by Worcester. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 307 The oblique piliferous crest. 1857 Bullock *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 45 The sebaceous and piliferous follicles are exceedingly numerous. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 108 The piliferous layer has no intercellular spaces.

Piliform (pəi·lifɔ̄m), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *piliform-is*, f. *pilus* hair: see -form.] Having the form of a hair; hair-like.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 649 In most of them the scales of the primary wings are piliform. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 44 Two long tentacula, covered with piliform filaments.

Piligerous (pəili·dʒĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *pilus* hair + -gerous.] Bearing hair, clothed with hair.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* (1852) II. 112 The various piligerous, plumigerous, pennigerous, and squamigerous animals. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Piligerous*, piliferous.

Pilimiction (pəilimi·kʃən). [ad. mod.L. *pilimictio*, f. *pilus* hair + late L. *mictio*, f. *mingĕre* to make water.] A diseased state in which piliform or hair-like bodies are passed in the urine.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 142/2 Cases of .. pilimiction are .. to be received with distrust. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Org.* 255 Cysts sometimes .. constitute nuclei for stone, or give rise to pilimiction.

Piline (pəi·lin), *sb.* Short for Spongiopiline.

1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* (1880) 209 Spirits of Camphor .. lightly sprinkled on impermeable piline.

Piline (pəi·ləin), *a.* [f. L. *pil-us* hair + -ine[1].] Of the nature of hair, hairy.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 13/2 Darwin tells us we have shed the piline pelt which was the clothing of that ancestral ape.

Piling (pəi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Pile *v.*[1] + -ing[1].]

1. The action of Pile *v.*[1]; the driving of piles; the forming of a foundation or defence with piles.

c 1440 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 143 In mundacione de langmerdyk cum le pylyng ibidem fact. *c* 1582 T. Digges in *Archæol.* XI. 226 Yt is .. doubtfull .. whether they shall euer with any pyling reach so deepe as to make a sure foundation. 1739 Labelye *Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 55 The Grounds which most require piling are a loose Sand, soft Clays, and .. fenny Places. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 336 The piling of this foundation was finished.

2. A mass of piles; a structure composed of piles; pilework; wood for piles.

1488 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* lf. 39 (MS.) The Brygge in Maldon .. was so in decaye bothe in stone werke and also in wodyng and pylyng. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Pilotis*, a pyling with timber in water workes. 1772 Hutton

Bridges 99 A border of piling to secure the foundation. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 422 Seven hundred feet of piling were driven.

3. *attrib.*, as *piling-engine.*

1863 *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr., Instructed to collect timber, piling engines, staff, &c. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 91 The timber..is chiefly for piling purposes and spars.

Piling (pəi·liŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PILE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] 1. The action of forming into a pile or piles; heaping up, building up in a regular pile.

c 1358 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 561 Will'o Randman pro pilyng et sortyng lane. 1435-6 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 418 Paid for costis, ffreight, cariage, wharvage, & pilyng up of ii shippes of waloill. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Entassement*, heaping, a piling. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 262 Of the Piling of Balls and Shells. 1867 BARRY *Sir C. Barry* ii. 50 This piling of house upon house. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Piling* (*Metallurgy*), building up pieces of sheared or scrap iron into a pack suitable for heating in a balling or reheating furnace. 1884 PHIN *Dict. Apiculture, Piling*, placing hives one above the other; storyfying.

b. *Leather-making.* The putting of hides in a pile or heap in order to sweat them and cause the hair to come off; also including other processes (such as hanging them up in a stove) by which the result is expedited. *U. S.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* II. 1703/2 *Piling*, .. (Leather) unhairing hides by piling [i. e. heaping] or hanging up in a stove, so called. 1885 C. T. DAVIS *Leather* vii. (1897) 126 Piling is nothing more nor less than a slow inward sweating.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *piling furnace, swivel.*

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 176 The piling action of storms. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 121 The pieces [of scrap iron] ..being piled or faggotted into convenient sized masses..are placed in a reheating or piling furnace. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 7/2 A cut-off..—with a piling swivel subsequently asked for—is fitted to all naval rifles.

Piliol, penny-royal, etc. : see PULIOL.

Pilion, pilioun, obs. forms of PILLION.

Pilk, pilken: see PILCH *v.*

Pilkoc, variant of PILLICOCK *Obs.*

Pill (pil), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Forms: 4 **pile**, 5 **pylle**, 6 **pille**, **pyl**(l, 6–7 **pil**, 6–8 (9 *dial.*) **pill**. See also PEEL *sb.*[3] [app. related to PILL *v.*[1] as the collateral form PEEL *sb.*[3] is to PEEL *v.*[1]]

The covering or integument of a fruit; the shell, husk, rind, or skin; the bark, or any layer of the bark, of wood; the epiderm of hemp or flax; *esp.* the thin rind or peel of fruits, tuberous or bulbous roots, and the like; = PEEL *sb.*[3]

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xvii. 19 As driynge barli with the pile takun a wey [1382 as driynge pild barli, *Vulg.* siccans ptisanas]. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 218 By me I do ley a quantyte of small palmes of the whiche I pare the pylles & therof I make mattes. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyll of fruyte, *pellevre. Ibid.*, Pyll of hempe, *til* [mod.F. *tille*]. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terapeut.* 2 H ij, The huske or pyl of the pomgarnet. 1558-68 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 42 Take..a piece of the pille of a Citron confiete. 1565-73 COOPER *Thesaurus, Calyx*, .. the pill of a nutte or almon. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 360 The pill of wood betweene the barke and tree. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. iv. 841 Boughes tied together with the pills of trees. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxi. (1663) 123 Boats likewise laden with dried orange pils. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* III. x. 80 You must set the bud of a Rose into the bark or pill thereof. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 350 An Onion with many Pills or Skins. ?18.. *Harvest Song* (L.), Broom .. bears a little yellow flower, Just like the lemon pill. 1896 *Warwicks. Gloss.*, Orange-pill, tater-pill. 1898 G. MILLER *Gloss. Warwicks.*, Taking the pill off the oziers. [In E. D. D. cited from Midland Counties.]

† b. The shell of crustaceans; the hard integument of other invertebrates. *Obs.*

1565-73 COOPER *Thesaurus, Crusta.*., pilles of certaine fishes, as of crauishes, &c. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 242 Some be couered ouer with crusts or hard pills, as the locusts: others haue..sharpe prickles, as the vrchins. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 784 Aristotle is of opinion that the matter is outward, as it were a certain shell or pill.

† c. The skin and other refuse of a hawk's prey: cf. PELT *sb.*[1] 6. *Obs.*

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) Words Art expl., *Pill*, and pelfe of a fowle, is that refuse and broken remains which are left after the Hawke hath been relieued. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Pelf*, or *Pill* of a Fowl.

† d. Used for PELL *sb.* 1 b: see quot. 1575, s. v.

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict., Fraying*, .. [of] Deer, .. their rubbing and pushing their Horns against Trees, to cause the Pills of their new Horns to come off.

Pill (pil), *sb.*[2] Forms: 5–7 **pylle**, **pille**, 6 **pyll**, 6–7 **pil**, 7 **piele**, 6– **pill**. [Formerly also *pil*, in 15–17th c. *pille*: cf. Du. *pil*, formerly *pille* (Hexham 1678), MDu., MLG. *pille*, Ger. *pille*, MHG. *pillele*, F. *pilule* (in 1507 *pillule*, Hatz.-Darm.), It. *pillola*, also (Florio) *pillula*, ad. L. *pilula*, dim. of *pila* ball. Franck refers to a med.L. *pilla* (? syncopated from *pilula*, or from the mod. langs.) which might be the direct source of *pille*; but cf. OF. *pile* (13th c.) in same sense, app. ad. L. *pila*.]

1. A small ball or globular mass of medicinal substance, made up of a size convenient to be swallowed whole.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* x. A phisycyen .. had a seruaunt..whiche made pylles. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 123/22 A Pil, ..*catapotium, i.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 292 If it be in Winter, purge him with these pils. *c* 1696 PRIOR *Remedy Worse than Disease* i, He felt my pulse, prescrib'd his pill. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 436 The cannon-shot, and doctor's pill With equal aim are sure to kill. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 685 The ingredients which enter the composition of pills are generally so contrived, that one pill of an ordinary size may contain about five grains of the compound. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 580 Aloes..is usually administered in pills.

b. In figurative expressions; esp. something disagreeable that has to be 'swallowed' or endured.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 47 Yet cannot they abide to swallowe down the holsome pille of the veritie beeyng bittur in their mouthes. 1595 GOODWINE *Blanchardine* II. I iv b, Learne by me to disgest the hard and harsh pilles of vnhappie fortune. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. i. 70 Selenissa had privately guilded those pills of suspicion, which shee gave the King against Timoclea. 1674–1857 [see GILD *v.*[1] 1 b]. 1779 H. WALPOLE *Last Jrnls.* (1859) II. 338 It was a bitter pill for the King and Lord Mansfield to swallow. 1893 *Times* 30 May 9/3 He must make up his mind to swallow the bitter pill without delay.

2. Any small globular or pill-like body; a pellet.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 228 Giue her..a pyll as bygge as a nut of Butter washt seuen or eyght tymes in freshe water. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 511 After that the little balls or pills (which be the fruit thereof) be gathered, they are laid in the Sun to dry. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* I. S v ij, Mix these two powders well, .. make little pills of them with common water [in diamond-making]. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1059 Let the mixture boil, until..it will roll into hard pills.

b. A cannon-ball; a bullet. *humorous.*

c 1626 *Dick of Devon* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 26, I have halfe a score pills for my Spanyards—better then purging comfitts. 1758 CAPT. TYRREL in *Naval Chron.* X. 359, I gave him a few of my lower-deck pills. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VIII. xii, Thirty thousand muskets flung their pills Like hail. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Nov. 15/4 They will commit suicide without the pills.

c. in *pl.* = BILLIARDS. *slang.*

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 1/3 We can play pills then till lunch, you know. 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 202/1 After 'hall' (*i. e.*, dinner) the blood will perhaps play 'pills', which are billiards, for a while.

3. An objectionable person; a bore. *slang.*

1897 MAUGHAM *'Liza of Lambeth* iii. 41 Well, you are a pill! 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 98 In the patois of her locality, she was called a 'pill'; a girl whom Harvard men carefully avoid until it is rumoured that her family shortly intends to 'give something' in the paternal pill-box.

4. (Also *Pills.*) Nickname for a physician. *slang.*

1860 *Slang Dict., Pill*, a doctor—*Military.* 1890 M. WILLIAMS *Leaves of a Life* I. iii. 30 The 'pill' of the regiment..had come out to inspect the men. 1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Afr. Stud.* iii. 86 Pills, are they all mad on board that vessel or merely drunk as usual?

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pill-gilder, -maker, -man, -monger, -roller*; *pill-boasting, -dispensing, -gilding, -rolling, -shaped, -taking* adjs.; **pill-beetle**, a small beetle of the genus *Byrrhus*, which, when it feigns death, contracts itself into a ball; **pill-chafer**, a pilulary or tumble-dung beetle, *Ateuchus pilularius*, which forms pills of dung about its eggs, and rolls these into a hole; **pill-coater**: see quot.; **pill-crab** = *pea-crab*: see PEA *sb.*[1] 7; **pill-gilded** *a.*, *fig.* gilded like a pill; **pill-machine**: see quot.; **pill-masser**, a machine for compounding the mass out of which pills are made; **pill-milleped**, a milleped that rolls itself up into a small ball; **pill-nettle**, the Roman nettle (*Urtica pilulifera*); **pill slab, pill-tile**: see quots.; **pill-worm**, a pill-milleped or the like. PILL-BOX, etc.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 234 Another genus of insects .. the *pill-beetles (*Byrrhus* ..), have recourse to a method the reverse of this. 1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 119 A *pill-boasting surgeon. 1804 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* 245 In its habits of life the *Pill Chafer is one of the most remarkable of the Beetle tribe. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pill-coater*, a machine..in which pills are coated with sugar. 1872 *Daily News* 23 Aug., All flotsam and jetsam in connection with the sprat, the mussel, or the soft *pill-crab is welcome to the hungry gull. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xvi. (Rtldg.) 7, I had taken..a dislike..to the *pill-dispensing tribe. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 237 Such *pill-gilded superfine speeches. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxxii, To tell how the poor mediciner, the *pill-gilder, the mortar-pounder, the poison-vender, met his fate. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. i. 6 *Pill-gilding puppy! 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pill machine*, .. an instrument used for rolling and cutting up a pill mass. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 26 Feb. 4/5 The *pill-maker has a morbid secretiveness as to the soap and bread wherewith he binds his wares. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 112/2 *Pill Massers [and] Powder Mixers for druggists. 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 392 This Pulp-pated *Pill-monger. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. i. 7 An impudent pill-monger, who has dar'd to scandalize the whole body of the bench. 1713 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 35 Roman or *Pill Nettle. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 56 *Erica laxa*, *pill-shaped purple flowers. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pill slab*, a slab for rolling pills upon. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pill-tile*, a corrugated metallic slip for rolling pills on.

Pill (pil), *sb.*[3] Forms: 1 **pyll**, 6 **pille**, 7 **pile**, 6– **pill**, (9 **pyll**). [In 16th c. *pille, pill*, app.:—OE. *pyll*, var. of *pull, pul* 'pool, creek' (Bosw.-Toller): cf. OE. *pól*, Welsh *pwll* pool.] A local name, on both sides of the Bristol Channel, on the lower course of the Severn, and in Cornwall, for a tidal creek on the coast, or a pool in a creek or at the confluence of a tributary stream.

All the examples of *pull* and *pyll* in the charters in Kemble's *Cod. Dipl.*, refer to the Severn estuary or valley; so that, although no ME. instances have yet been found, the identity of the OE. and 16th c. word seems certain.

a 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 449 [Rodden and Langley, Somerset] Andlang dice west on pull; of pylle on ford..eft on gerihte innan mycela pyll; andlang pylles. *Ibid.*, On ða dic innan holapyll; andlang holapylles. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 1 Dwellers next vnto the streme of Seuerne, & vnto the crikes & pilles of the same. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* III. 34 From Fowey Town-end by North in the Haven is Chagha Mille Pille a litle uppeward on the same side. *Ibid.*, From Lantiant Pille to Bloughan Pille or Creke nere a Mile, it crekith up but a litle. 1577-87 HARRISON *England* I. xii. in *Holinshed*, In like maner from Saint Justes pill or créeke (for both signifie the same thing). 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 66 At the Mouthe of Millford havon..at a place called west pill: where the one side of the pill you shall perceave the lymestone. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 272 (1810) 282 Whereby the sea shooteth up with many branches, men call them piles, very commodious for mills. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 64 Sched. O. 23 Along the river Usk to the point at which the same is joined by a pill opposite the castle. 1840 *Archæol.* XXVIII. 19 The term Pyll is still used, and means a Creek subject to the tide. The *pylls* are the channels through which the drainings of the marshes enter the river. 1880 *E. Cornwall Gloss., Pill*, a pool in a creek.

Pill (pil), *v.*[1] Forms: *α.* 2 **pylian**, 3 **pilien**, 3–5 **pile**(n, 4–5 **pyle**. *β.* 4–6 **pille**, **pylle**, 4–7 **pil**, (6 **pyl**, **pyll**), 4– **pill**. [Found in late OE. (12th c. MS.) in inflected form *pyleð*, in early 13th c. as *peolien, pilien*, 1300–1450 *pilen*, forms which point to an OE. **pilian, pylian*, varying with **piolian, peolian*: cf. *clipian, clyp-, cliop-, cleop-*. *Pile*, with single *l* (usually *pile*), is found down to *c* 1450, when it was displaced by *pill* and *pele*; both of which had appeared in R. Brunne (1303–30). *Pill* and *pele* (now PEEL *v.*[1]) continued as synonyms in all senses down to 17th c., when *peel* became the general Eng. form in branch II, *pill* now surviving only as a literary archaism, chiefly in sense 1; but, in the dialects, *pill* is widely used in the sense 'peel' (decorticate). No cognate words are found in Teutonic. OE. *pilian* was prob. ad. L. *pilāre* to make bare of hair, and (prob.) of skin: cf. the compound *depilāre* to make bald of hair or feathers, also to strip of the skin, to peel (Vulg., Ezek. xxix. 18), fig. to pluck plunder, fleece, cheat; also OF. *peler* to make bald to peel or skin (the latter sense now usually referred to OF. *pel*, L. *pell-em*), It. *pelare* to make bald skin, fleece, flay. With OE. *pilian*, from L. *pilāre* cf. OE. *plantian* from L. *plantāre*, etc.

The early ME. *pile* (usually *pīle*, but R. Brunne rime *begiled, piled*) regularly represented OE. *pilian*, but *peolian* naturally gave *pele* (cf. *cleopian*, CLEPE), which was probably identified with F. *peler*. The later *pill* (for *pile*) was prob. influenced by F. *piller* (= Pr., Sp. *pillar*, Pg. *pilhar*):—late L. *pillāre*, found in med.L. (Du Cange) for L *pilāre* to pillage, plunder. But no differentiation of sense between *pile, pill, pele*, is found in ME., nor between *pill* and *peel* in early mod.Eng. and existing Eng. dialects. It is possible however that the influence of F. *piller* and *peler* is to be seen in the tendency since 17th c. to differentiate *pill* and *peel* (so far as *pill* has survived) in literary use.]

I. To pillage, rob: = PEEL *v.*[1] I.

1. *trans.* To plunder, rifle, pillage, spoil; to commit depredation or extortion upon; to despoil (a person or country) *of* (anything). Now *arch.*

α. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 Uor euere me schal þene cheorl pilken & peolien [*MS. C.* plokin & pilien]. *c* 1300 *Song Husbandman* 19 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 150 Thus me pileth the pore that is of lute pris. *Ibid.* 25. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 320 ibid. 338 Ac were the king wel avised, and wolde worche bi skile, Litel nede sholde he have swiche pore to pile. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 42 Þat non in alle þe cuntre more suld be piled Bot euer was Eilred fouly begiled. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1282 Nabuzardan.. pyled þat precious place & pakked þose godes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 64 He wolde..somne hem to the chapitre bothe two And pile [*v.rr.* pil, pille] the man and lete the wenche go. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 301 Spiritualte and temporalte was alway i-pyled. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 202 For thanne schal the king be piled [*rime* his londes tiled]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 556 Thei cessed neuer to robbe and pile oure londes.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5450 Þat he shulde haue on hem mercy, And pylle hem nat but mesurly. *α* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 9 Þou sall noght be tyraunt til þaim to pil þaim & spoile þaim. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* i. 36 He pilde the folc of an hundrid talentus of siluer. *c* 1425 *Castell Persev.* 450 Þis man, with woo schal be pylt..for hys folye schal make hym spylt. ? 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7717 Many pepill þai robbid and pild [*rime* kyld]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xviii. 19 The Scottis had brent and wasted, and pilled the countrey about. 1530 PALSGR. 657/2, I pyll, I robbe, *je pille*... He hath pylled me of all that ever I have. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 246 The Commons hath he pil'd with greeuous taxes. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* I. liii, Having pill'd a book which no man buyes Thou wert content the authors name to lose. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vii. 149 Unless to be unjustly treated, pilled, and abused can be happiness. 1867 J. B. ROSE tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 250 The fields Ausonian they have held and pilled.

† b. To exhaust, impoverish (soil); = PEEL *v.*[1] 1 b. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 51 Flax, whose seede..doth most burne, and pill the ground. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. ix. 23 Wilde Oates pestering and pilling of Tilthes.

† 2. *absol.* To commit depredation, rapine, pillage, or extortion; to rob, plunder. *Obs.*

α. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6282 þey..pylede & robbed at ilka cost. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ᵖ 695 They ne stynte neuere to pile. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 191 For thei hadde so piled and robbed thourgh the contrey and the portes where the shippes were a-ryved.

β. 1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 6 For whiche hee was fain to pil and spoyle in other places. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 7 He..suffered them to robbe and pill without correction or reprefe. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* iv. i. 12 Large-handed Robbers your graue Masters are, And pill by Law. 1678 Shadwell *Timon* iv. ii, They govern for themselves and not the people, They rob and pill from them.

† **3.** *trans.* To take by violence, force, or extortion; to make a prey of. *Obs.*

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1270 þenne ran þay to þe relykes as robbors wylde, & pyled alle þe apparement þat pented to þe kyrke. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 17 What Schep that is full of wulle Upon his back, thei toose and pulle, Whil ther is eny thing to pile [*rime* skile].

β. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2282 In enpayryng of our persons, & pyllyng our goodes. 1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 62/1 So that there was dayly pilled fro good men & honest, gret substaunce of goodes. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 159 You wrangling Pyrates, that fall out, In sharing that which you haue pill'd from me. 1618 Wither *Motto, Nec Habeo* Juvenilia (1633) 521, I have no Lands that from the Church were pild.

† **4.** To pluck, pull, tear. *Obs.*

c 1533 Latimer *Let. to Morice* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 1911/2 Who can pill Pilgrimages from Idolatry? 1566 T. Stapleton *Ret. Untr. to Jewel* Epist., Your Borrowed Fethers pilled awaye. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 261 In spite of his hairie tuft or loue-locke, he leaues on the top of his crowne, to be pilld vp, or pullied vp to heauen by. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 235 Such which in Ordinaries..will pill and pull them by their wordes..as it were by the beards.

II. To decorticate: = Peel *v.*[1] II.

5. *trans.* To strip of the skin, rind, or integument, as an orange, apple, potato, garlic, etc., a tree of its bark, etc.; to remove the peel of. Rarely const. *of* (that which is stript off): = Peel *v.*[1] 3. Now *arch.* (in Bible of 1611), and *dial.*

α. [*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 þeonne is þe figer bipiled, & te rinde irend of.] 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xxx. 37 And riendis drawun awey; in thilke that weren pilde semede whytnes [1388 and whanne the ryndis weren drawun awei, whitnesse apperide in these that weren maad bare]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. x. 81 To rubbe and to rely russhes to pilie [*v.r.* þil].

β. *c* 1420 [see Pilled 1]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pyllyn, *or* schalyn *nottys, or garlyk, vellifico.* 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 134 Yf there be any okes..fell them and pyll them and sell the barke. 1530 Palsgr. 657/2 Pyll these oignons whyle I skumme the potte. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxx. 38 The staues that he had pilled [1611 *ibid.* the rods which he had pilled, 1885 *R. V.* peeled]. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 85 The skilfull shepheard pil'd me certaine wands, And .. stucke them vp before the fulsome Ewes. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxvi. 101 We met with three men that were pilling flax. 1678 Ray *Prov.* (ed. 2) 53 Pill a fig for your friend, and a peach for your enemy. 1721 Bailey, To *peel*, to pill or take off the rind. 1745 *MS. Indenture* (Sheffield), The burgesses may pill and fell timber trees. 1865 T. F. Knox tr. *Suso's Life* 226 The sisters went..to pill the flax which they had gathered. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v., They'n al'ays got a stick to pill. [In E.D.D. from Yorksh. to Somerset.]

b. To strip off (bark, skin, etc.); to pare off: = Peel *v.*[1] 3 b. Often with *off*. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pyllyn, or pylle bark, or oþer lyke, *decortico.* *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 436 Take hom [chickens] up and pylle of the skynne. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 283 If the pyth or skyn be pylled of. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1167 Ay me, the Barke pild from the loftie Pine, His leaues will wither. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 264 Cinamon..is pilled from fine young trees. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. xxiv. 278 This fruite is most vsuall in Mexico, having a thinne skinne, which may be pilled like an apple. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 81 If you do but pill the Bark off him he deceases immediately. [1887 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 405, I seed 'em pillin' bark e' Mr. Nelthorpe woods..to-daay.]

† **c.** To make or form by peeling. *Obs. rare.*

1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xxx. 37 But Iacob toke staues of grene wyllies,..and pylled [1611 pilled, 1885 *R. V.* peeled] whyte strekes in them.

6. *intr.* Of skin, bark, etc.: To become detached, come off, scale or peel *off*. (The earliest recorded sense.) **b.** Of animal bodies, trees, etc.: To become bare of skin or bark; also, to admit of being peeled or barked. = Peel *v.*[1] 4. Now *dial.*

c 1100 (MS. *a* 1200) *Sax. Leechd.* III. 114 þis lace cræft sceal to þan handan þe þæt fell of pyleþ. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 199 Al his fleisch wole pile & alle hise heeris wolen falle awei. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 134 To fall..all okes as sone as they wyll pyll. 1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* I. ii. (1634) 19 The which thin skin..skaleth or pilleth off the hands. 1611 Bible *Tobit* xi. 13 The whitenesse pilled away from .. his eyes. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xcv. IV. 238, I have seen Marble buildings, and..a face of Marble hath pilled off and I see brick bowels within. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* vi. 46 Neither doth the Tree wither so long as the sap is found at the roote, though the barke pill, the flowers fall. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., They'll not cut them [oaks] while [till] the bark'll pill.

† **7.** *trans.* To make bare of hair, remove the hair from, make bald; to remove (hair). *Obs.* [Cf. F. *peler* 'to bauld or pull the haire off' (Cotgr.).]

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 186 þou schalt anoynte his heed wiþ þe oynement þat wole pile awei þe heeris. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, þat one is cleped quyc maniewes, þe whiche pileth [*Douce MS.* pilleth, *Royal MS.* pelyth] þe houndes and breketh hyr skynnes in many places. 1591 Percival *Sp. Dict., Pelar*, to pill, to make balde, to make bare, *depilare, deglabrare.* 1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. iv. § 16. 265 Tell him that I will pill his beard, hair by hair. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., Duty to Tyrants*, Doe they first pill thee, next pluck off thy skin?

† **b.** *intr.* To lose hair, become bald. *Obs.*

c 1386– [see Pilled *ppl. a.* 2]. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* xli. (1539) 58 b, Those beastis in the house haue short here and thynne, and towarde Marche they wyll pylle and be bare. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* II. vii. (1668) 75 The Closh or Clowse which causeth a Beast to pill and loose the hair from his Neck.

8. *trans.* To bare (land) by eating or shaving off, or cutting down crops, etc., close to the ground. [Cf. F. *peler la terre*, 'enlever le gazon' (Littré).]

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* App. 347 Pille ye not the countrie, cutting doune the trees. 1615 W. Lawson *Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 12 Whosoeuer makes such Walls, must not pill the ground in the Orchard, for getting earth. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Pill*..2 To graze land very closely. *Som.* I put some sheep in to pill the field.

III. 9. Phrase. *To pill* (*peel*) *and poll*, also *poll and pill* (*lit.* to make bare of hair and skin too): to ruin by depredations or extortions; to rifle, strip bare, pillage; also *absol.*; rarely, to plunder or rob *of* something. *Obs.* or *arch.* (Common in 16–17th c. See also Poll *v.*)

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Prol., Wks. (1573) 105 They haue no such authoritie of God so to pylle and polle as they do. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* ii. (1874) 14 The officers robbe his grace, and polle and pylle his leage subiectys in his name. 1550 Crowley *Epigr.* 278 Thus pore men are pold and pyld to the bare. *c* 1557 Abp. Parker *Ps.* liv, They have no God before theyr eyes, they me both pill and powle. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 30 No man ought to poole and pill his brother. *a* 1652 Brome *City Wit* iv. i, Churches poule the People, Princes pill the Church. 1675 Crowne *Country Wit* II. i, 'Tis a rare thing to be an absolute prince, and have rich subjects; Oh, how one may pill 'em and poll 'em. 1844 Browning *Colombe's Birthday* I, We tax and tithe them, pill and poll, They wince and fret enough, but pay they must.

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 27 His Father dying in ignominie, and at the Gallows, his Estate confiscate, and that for peeling and polling. 1687 tr. *Sallust, Life* 3 By Peeling and Polling the Country, he so well lin'd his Coffers. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* xxx, Us..whom he hath polled and peeled till we are [etc.].

Pill (pil), *v.*[2] [f. Pill *sb.*[2] Cf. *to dose.*]

1. *trans.* To dose with pills.

1736 Fielding *Pasquin* iv. i, Handle her pulse, potion and pill her well. 1775 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 58, I found Dr. Young here, who .. has pilled and electuaried me into pretty good order. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 345 The ..patient is again pilled and purged.

b. *fig.* (see Pill *sb.*[2] 2 b).

1900 *Daily News* 14 May 3/2 Our fellows will probably pill you with their rifle fire.

2. To make or form into pills. *rare.*

1882 in Ogilvie (Annandale).

3. To reject by ballot; to blackball. *slang.*

1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxx, He was coming on for election at Bays', and was as nearly pilled as any man I ever knew in my life. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 412 (*Heading*) On being 'Pilled'. 1894 Sala *London up to Date* v. 68 A practically accurate opinion as to how many candidates will be elected..and how many will be 'pilled'.

Hence **Pi·lling** *vbl. sb.*

1882 *Sat. Rev.* 18 Mar. 324 The pastime of 'pilling' seems to have begun at a large non-political club. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 412 The 'pilling'..is the delicate expression in club circles for black-balling.

Pilla, obs. f. Pillow. **Pillaf(f,** var. Pilau.

Pillage (pi·lėdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **pilage,** 5 **pyl-, pel-, peillage** (*Sc.*), 5–6 **pyllage,** 6 **pielage, pilladge,** 5– **pillage.** [a. F. *pillage* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *piller* to plunder (Pill *v.*[1]).]

1. The action of plundering or taking as spoil; spoliation, plunder: chiefly that practised in war; but also in extended sense, extensive or wholesale robbery or extortion. Also *fig.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 153 Thilke folk, that were unsauhte Toward here king for his pilage. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. lxxxvii. 64 [He] shall sette his mynde all to Pyllage and Rauyne. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 48 They desyre to be deliuered from the pillage..of the Bishoppe of Rome. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 278 With such furious outrage..pilladge & polladge. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 87 Exposing his reputation to the pillage of every mans tongue. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxxvi. (1869) II. 313 The pillage lasted fourteen days and nights. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* ii. 34 Beroalde has furnished subjects of pillage to a great number of authors. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* Introd. 27 Pecuniary losses suffered by pillage and embezzlements. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* 176 He gave it up to pillage for three days, and then set fire to it. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 190 The object of the incursion being pillage, not fighting.

† **2.** Goods forcibly taken from another, esp. from an enemy in war; booty, spoil, plunder. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 102 (Ps. cxix. 162) He þat fyndeth manye pilages. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armis* (S. T. S.) 121 All suld be at his will—prisonaris and pillagis, to part at his will. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. cxlvii. 133 He commandyd all the pyllage to be brought to one place. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. ix. 4 That robbed all the countrie there about, And brought the pillage home, whence none could get it out. 1623–33 Fletcher & Shirley *Night-Walker* I. ii, I know this wedding Will yield me lusty pillage. 1750 Beawes *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 7 Nations greedy of blood and pillage.

† **3.** Some kind of impost or tax; cf. Peage, Pedage, Pickage. *Obs.*

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 1782 All theyr tenauntes and seruauntes haue fre passage Within all chesshire with-out tolle and pillage. 1591 *Canterbury Cath. MS.*, All the other profits..of all the Pillage, Stallage, Toll and other advantages belonging unto the said Dean and Chapter within the said market and fair.

Pillage (pi·lėdʒ), *v.* [f. Pillage *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To rob, plunder, sack (a person, place, etc.): esp. as practised in war; to rifle.

c 1592 Marlowe *Jew of Malta* v. iv, To feast my train Within a town of war so lately pillaged, Will be too costly, and too troublesome. 1634 Massinger *Very Woman* v. v, We were boarded, pillaged to the skin, and after Twice sold for slaves. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxi. 136 He pillaged many Spanish towns, and took rich prizes. 1765 Goldsm. *Ess.* Pref., Our modern compilers..think it their undoubted right to pillage the dead. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* (Walter Scott Libr.) 292 They pillaged the crown of its ornaments, the churches of their plate, and the people of their personal decorations. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 140 His armed retainers pillaged the markets.

2. To take possession of or carry off as booty; to make a spoil of; to appropriate wrongfully.

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 196, I..tooke away from our men whatsoeuer they had pillaged, and gaue it .. to the owners. 1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 11 Those four wayes of imbibitions..are pillag'd out of Dr. French his book. 1789 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) III. 98 Hoping to pillage something in the wreck of their country. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 55 Every thing that was given to others seemed to him to be pillaged from himself.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To take booty; to plunder; to rob with open violence.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 140 Eyther to hang at Tyborne, or pillage and reprizall where he may. 1811 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* VIII. 7, I will not allow the soldiers to pillage. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 417 They were suffered to pillage wherever they went.

Hence **Pi·llaged** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·llaging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pi·llageable** *a.*, that may be pillaged; **Pillagee·** [see -ee], one who is pillaged.

1895 Saintsbury *Corrected Impress.* xvii. 188 Authorities quotable and *pillageable. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 152 ᵖ 3 The Devastation of Countries, the Misery of Inhabitants, the Cries of the *Pillaged. 1800 *Miscell. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 150/2 A man who had come to his pillaged hut. 1856 De Quincey in *Titan Mag.* July 93/2 He urged his friend by marrying to enrol himself as a *pillagee elect. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* 8 For feare hee should loose the *pillaging of the other. 1870 *Daily News* 3 Sept. 5 The pillaging of provision waggons by MacMahon's own troops. *c* 1670 Wood *Life* Apr. an. 1645, This is that captaine Bunce, who shot the *pillaging Scot cal'd major Jecamiah Abercromy. 1875 C. Gordon *Let.* 1 Nov. in *More about G.* (1894) 152 A pillaging horde of brigands.

Pillager (pi·lėdʒəɹ). [f. Pillage *v.* + -er[1].] One who pillages; a plunderer.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* iv. 146 Joves seed the pillager, Stood close before, and slackt the force the arrow did confer. 1715 Pope *Iliad* x. 408 Some..nightly pillager that strips the slain. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) I. 122 The power of transporting mediately the pillagers of his hedges and copses. 1882 Serjt. Ballantine *Exper.* iii. 37 These pillagers of the public had to submit to be pillaged themselves.

Pillao, variant of Pilau.

Pillar (pi·lăɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–6 **piler,** (3–5 **-ere,** 4 **pelyr, -ar,** 4–5 **-er, pylere,** 4–6 **pyler, pylar,** 5 **pelare, -ere, -our, pylour, -eer,** 6 **pylard**). β. 4–5 **pillare,** (4 **-yre**), 4–6 **pyllar,** (5 **pillere, pyllare**), 5–6 **pyller,** (**pillour, pelber**), 5–7 **piller,** (6 **-or**), 6– **pillar.** [a. OF. *piler* (mod.F. *pilier*) = Pr., Sp. *pilar*:—late pop.L. *pīlāre* (in med.L. also *pīlārium, -us*), deriv. of L. *pīla* pillar, pier, mass.]

1. *Arch.* A detached vertical structure of stone, brick, wood, metal, or other solid material, slender or narrow in proportion to its height, and of any shape in section, used either as a vertical support of some superstructure, as a stable point of attachment for something heavy and oscillatory, or standing alone as a conspicuous monument or ornament; also, a natural pillar-shaped stone, etc. A word of wider application than Column (which is properly a pillar of particular shape and proportions), and applicable to a structure composed of several columns or shafts, engaged in a central core.

Pillar of flagellation, that to which Christ was supposed to have been bound when scourged; hence, 'the pillar' was one of the Symbols of the Passion. Cf. Flagellation, Passion-flower.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 188 His swete bodi ibunden naked to þe herde pilere. 13.. *Coer de L.* 2600 A gret cheyne..Ovyr the havene..festnyd to two pelers. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1140 A pelyr of marbyl. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 206 Þare of glas twa mykil pelaris ware. *Ibid.* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 779 In myddis wes a pillare, þat þe charge of þe kirk suld bere. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clxiii. (1495) 710 To vndersette bemes and gyestys wyth postes or pylars. *a* 1400 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6 *Torques*, a pillyre. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 310 Tow pyllers he [Hercules] pight..Vppon Gades groundes. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxvi, The marchand wente tille one pillere. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 722/3 *Hic stilus*, a peller. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1133 (MS. M.) Pelouris and durris were all of brasse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 398/2 Pylere, *columpna.* *a* 1450 *Cursor M.* 16433 (Laud MS.) To a pillour [*Trin.* piler] they hym bond. *c* 1450 Lydg. *Secrees* 705 Reysed in a pyleer. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 A Pyllare, *columpna.* 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxii. 34 Till ane pillar thai him band. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1068 His precious body was tyed to the pyfar by Pilate. *Ibid.*, The pylard and the crosse. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xix. 26 His wife..was turned in to a pillar of salt. — *Judg.* xvi.

26 They set him between two pilers. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 76/2 A Pillor, *columna.* 1579 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 189 Posterne Brygg .. in decay for wante of a pillar. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 28 Like two faire marble pillours .. Which doe the temple of the Gods support. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Nov., [In the Church of S. Praxedeis, Rome] is the Pillar or Stump at which they relate our Bl. Saviour was scourged. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 112 All the bones..may be compared to a pillar supporting a building. 1780 VON TROIL *Iceland* 20 The most remarkable are Oransay and Columskill, on account of their antiquities;..and Staffa, on account of its natural pillars. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. vii. 71 All good architecture adapted to vertical support is made up of pillars. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 265 As the surface [of the glacier] sinks, it leaves behind a pillar of ice, on which the block is elevated.

† **b.** A whipping-post. † **c.** A platform or stand on which women publicly appeared as a penance.

1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyller to do justyce, *estache.* 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 78 Was sett up at the standerde in Cheppe a pyller new made of a good lengthe from the grownde, and too yonge servanddes tayed un-to yt..and to bettyn with roddes soore on their backes. *Ibid.* 95 The same man..was betten with whyppes at the peller in Chepe at the standert. *c* 1580 in *Syl of Brentford's Test.*, etc. (1871) 40 Ye vold taiken it ill to me..and mad me sit on the pillar of repentance. 1646 in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 42/1 That women who appear on the pillar with plaids, and holds not down their plaids from their heads, it shall not be esteemed a day of their appearance. 1647 *Ibid.*, Pillars and a place of public repentance to be made in the New Kirk and Blackfriars.

d. *Manège.* (See quot.)

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Pillar*, in the manage, signifies the centre of the volta, ring, or manage-ground, round which a horse turns; whether there be a wooden pillar placed therein, or not. 1819 *Pantologia* s. v., Most..riding-schools have pillars fixed in the middle of the manage ground.

e. = PILLAR-BOX.

1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 255 Should it [the letter] be put in the pillar to-night? 1884 EDNA LYALL *We Two* xxxvii, Just drop that in the pillar on your way home.

2. In wider sense: Any plain or ornamental vertical support to any structure; a post, a pedestal; e. g., one of the four posts of a bedstead; one of the posts in a framed truss in a roof; a vertical post of timber or iron supporting a horizontal deck-beam; the single central support or pedestal of a table, a machine, etc.; also *attrib.*, as *pillar (and claw) table, stand*, etc., having a pillar (and claws: see CLAW *sb.* 5).

1360-1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 384 Rogero Turnour pro pylers pro eisdem lectis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 136 þe pilers þat beres þe tablez er of þe same maner of precious stanes. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 24 Fyrst take the pylere out of thyne ye, Or one me thou put anny defaute. 1607 in W. H. Hale *Prec. in Causes of Office* (1841) 7 To provide a new comunion table with turned pillers before Easter. 1657 WOOD *Life* 14 Aug. (O. H. S.) I. 225 All curiously cut in stone in the pillars of the window. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 88 Making every brace bear up its pillar, and every pillar the cross beam. 1744 WARRICK in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 487 A middle sized pillar and claw tea-table. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 42 How to adjust Bird's twelve-inch Quadrant... The Pillar is to be set perpendicular to the Horizon. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Pillars* (Mar.), pieces of wood or iron fitted under the beams of the decks, in order to support them. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 302 The lever..is ten feet long, nine feet from the smaller end to the axis of suspension in the pillar M, and one foot from the latter point to the eye of the descending rod. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 137 *Pillars*, the square or turned pieces of timber erected perpendicularly under the middle of the beams for the support of the decks. 1867-77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* VII. ii. 637 Telescope mounted on a Pillar-and-Claw Stand. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 768 A round table is generally described as having 'pillars and claws'.

b. The upright post in the frame of a harp.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 52/2 Its form [Irish harp] is not unlike that of the modern instrument, but the pillar is curved outwards. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 685/1 The pillar is hollow to include the rods working the mechanism.

3. *fig.* **a.** An imaginary or ideal prop or support on which the heavens or the earth is poetically represented as resting.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5388 þe pylers of heven bright. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxvi. 11 The pileris of heuene togidere quaken. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxiv. [lxxv.] 3 The earth is weake & all that is therein, but I beare vp hir pilers. 1707 WATTS *Hymn, 'Praise, everlasting praise'* vii, Then, should the earth's old pillars shake [etc.].

b. A person who is a main supporter of a church, state, institution, or principle.

c 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 39 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 325 Seint Thomas..a piler ariht to holden up holi churche. 1382 WYCLIF *Gal.* ii. 9 James, and Cephas or Petre, and John, the whiche weren seyn to be pileris. 1485 CAXTON *Charles the Grete* 31 The patryarke of Iherusalem .. sente to hym [Charles] the standart of the fayth as to the pyler of crystente. 1590 SPENSER *To Ld. Grey of Wilton*, Most Noble Lord, the pillor of my life. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* D iij b, What age will not praise immortal Sir Philip Sidney..Sir Nicholas Bacon..and merry sir Thomas Moore, for the chiefe pillers of our Eenglish speeche. 1594 *Contention* I. i. 75 Braue Peeres of England, pillers of the State. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* X. § 110 The Earl of Manchester, and the Earl of Warwick, were the two Pillars of the Presbyterian Party. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXVII. III. 22 The scourge of Arianism, and the pillar of the orthodox faith. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxiv, Some divinely gifted man..The pillar of a people's hope.

c. A fact or principle which is a main support or stay of something.

1578 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.* 324 To the end the new promise may lean upon a better piller. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* I. xlvi, A Kingdome .. whose two maine Supporters are the Government of the State, and the Government of the Church: It is the part of a wise Master to keepe those Pillars in their first posture. 1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 67 The pillar and ground of Transubstantiation is supplanted. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 30 The church was the pillar and ground of truth, made up of living stones. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* 46 Free Inquiry and Free Conscience, the twin pillars of Protestantism.

4. *transf.* An upright pillar-like mass or 'column' of air, vapour, water, sand, etc.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3203 A fair piler son hem on o nigt, And a skie euere on daiȝes ligt. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xiii. 21 The Lord..wente beforn hem..bi day in the pilere of a clowde, and bi nyȝt in a pilet of fier. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVIII. vi, A flaming piller glitt'ring in the skies. 1611 BIBLE *Joel* ii. 30 Blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 1702 SAVERY *Miser's Friend* 62 Such an immense Weight as a Pillar of Water a thousand foot high. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* i. Wks. 1757 IV. 125 The Scripture, like the cloudy pillar.. is light to the true Israelite, but darkness to the Egyptians. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 50 The same appearance of moving pillars of sand again presented themselves.

b. *transf.* Pressure resulting from or indicated by a column of liquid.

1843 *Budd's Patent Specif.* No. 9495 A blast of atmospheric air..maintained at a pressure or pillar of upwards of 2½ lbs. on the square inch. 1857 S. B. ROGERS *Iron Metall.* 94.

† **5.** A portable pillar borne as an ensign of dignity or office. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Two of these, of silver gilt, were borne by pillar-bearers before Cardinal Wolsey and Cardinal Pole. They are not recorded otherwise, and appear to have been substituted by Wolsey for the silver mace or stick with a silver (or gold) head, to which a cardinal had a right, and to have been retained by Pole. Representations of Wolsey's pillars, sometimes borne by griffins, sometimes crossed in saltire with an archbishop's cross between, occur in the decorations of Christ Church, Oxford. Those of Pole are represented in the illumination on the first page of his Register of Wills at Somerset House; they are figured as Corinthian columns with capital and base, about the size of Roman fasces, 3½ to 4 ft. long.

1518 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 12 He havinge borne before him 2 pillers of sylver and guylt. *c* 1525 BARNES *Cause of Condemnation* Wks. (1572) 215/1 Then sayd hee [Wolsey], .. were it better for me .. to coyne my pyllers, and pollaxes, and to geue the money to .v. or vj. beggers?..To this I did aunswere, that .. the pyllers and pollaxes came with him, and should also goe away with him. *c* 1525 SKELTON *Speke Parrot* 510 Suche pollaxis and pyllers, suche mvlys trapte with gold. 1528 *Rede me* (Arb.) 56 After theym folowe two laye men secular, And eache of theym holdynge a pillar In their hondes, steade of a mace. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 57 b, He [Wolsey] receaued the habite, hat and piller and other vaynglorious tryfles, apperteygnyng to the ordre of a Cardinall. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* 63 Euery Cardinall had, for parte of his honorable ensignes borne before hym, certeine siluer pillers; as had cardinall Wolsey..and Cardinall Poole, in my memory. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. (*Stage direct.*).

† **6.** A column of letterpress or figures; = COLUMN *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* K j, A table..where in the firste columpne you se the rootes set, and in the seconde piller, right against eche roote, there is set his square. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 104 The pages divided into pillars and columns.

7. *Mining.* A solid mass of coal or other mineral, of rectangular area and varying extent, left to support the roof of the working.

Pillar and stall, also *pillar and room, board and pillar*, a method of working coal and other minerals in which pillars are left during the first stage of excavation; *rib and pillar*, a modification of this system.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 43 The Remainder of four Yards is left for a Pillar to support the Roof and Weight of the Earth above. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 975 Working coal-mines..with pillars and rooms, styled post and stall. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 38 Pillars vary from 20 to 40 yards in length, and from 2 to 20 yards in thickness. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining, Rib and Pillar...*, a system upon which the Thick coal seam was formerly..mined. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 24 Sept. 8/4 Most of the coal in America is mined on what is called the pillar-and-stall system.

8. In various technical uses in particular trades; e. g. in *Watch-making* (see quots.).

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1991/4 Another Watch a Spelter Box and Case all in one..with a round Pillar going 18 hours. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1703/2 *Pillar*..[*inter alia*] The nipple of a fire-arm. A frame on which the tobacco-pipes rest in a kiln. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 193 The pillars of a watch are the three or four short pieces of brass which serve to keep the two plates of the movements in their proper relative positions.

9. *Anat.* and *Phys.* Applied to certain bodily structures in reference to their form or function: as *pillars of the abdominal ring, of the brain, of the fauces, of the diaphragm*: see quots.

1807-26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 463 The abdominal ring..which is rather of a triangular shape, the os pubis forming the base of the triangle; the two fasciculi, or, as they are termed, pillars, its sides. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 81 The pillars of the fauces were immovable. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pillars of external abdominal ring*, the free borders of the divided aponeurosis of the external oblique muscle, which bound the external abdominal ring. *Ibid., Pillars of fauces*, two arching folds of mucous membrane containing muscular fibres, which pass from the base of the uvula outwards and downwards, on either side. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 74 The posterior mediastinum between the pillars of the diaphragm.

10. *Conch.* The central axis of a spiral shell; the modiolus or columella.

1841 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 269 Throat of the aperture brown, the pillar pale. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. & Min., Pillar*, in Conchology, the columella, or perpendicular centre, which extends from the base to the apex, in most of the spiral shells.

11. Phrase. *From pillar to post*, originally *from post to pillar*: from one party or place of appeal or resource to another; hither and thither, to and fro: implying repulse and harassment. Orig. a figure drawn from the tennis-court, and used chiefly with *toss*; also with *bang, bounce, bandy, drive*; later with *chase, hunt, drag, flee, run*, etc.

The later order appears to have been first used to rime with *tost, tossed.*

a. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1147 Thus fro poost to pylour he was made to daunce. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy) 67 From poste unto piller tossed shalt thou be. 1549 LATIMER *7th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arber) 199 He was tost from post to piller, one whyle to hys father.. anothe whyle, to hys frendes, and founde no comfort at them. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Comf. Afflict.* (1585) E ij, The prophet Ely, being persecuted..fledde from post to pillar. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arber) 104 From thee poast toe piler with thoght his rackt wyt he tosseth. 1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Eliz.* (1641) 79 Hurried from one place to an other, from post to pillar. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xv. (1737) 63 They had been..toss'd about from Post to Pillar. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* iv. 37 Dragged about from post to pillar.

b. *a* 1550 *Vox Populi* 185 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 274 From piller vnto post The powr man he was tost. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* (1880) 70 And though from piller tost he be to poste. *a* 1602 *Liberality & Prodigality* II. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 349 Every minute tost, Like to a tennis-ball, from pillar to post. *a* 1624 BRETON *Charac. Eliz.* Wks. (Grosart) 5/1 In the tyme of her sister Queene Maries raigne, how was shee handled? tost from piller to post, imprisoned, sought to be put to death. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 6 A Trojan true.. Who .. Was packt, and wrackt, and lost, and tost, And bounc'd from Pillar unto Post. 1807 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 91 If the several courts could bandy him from pillar to post. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abr.* v. 63 We could not have borne to be..driven from pillar to post. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* i, Here I have been knocking about .. from pillar to post.

attrib. 1886 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Eng. Lit.* (1891) 241 The inveterate habit of pillar-to-post joking. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Aug. 2/2 The pillar-to-post travels from one official to another.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pillar-bearer* (sense 5), *-cap, -head, -orphrey, -pin* (sense 8), *-punishment, -row*; *pillar-shaped, -strong, -wise* adjs.; *pillar-like* adj. and adv.; **pillar apostle**, a chief apostle (a name given to Peter, James, and John, in allusion to Gal. ii. 9); **pillar bracket**, *Mech.*, a support for a bearing raised on a pedestal or pillar: opposed to *pendent bracket*; **pillar-brick**, one of the bricks placed on end in building a clamp; **pillar-buoy**, ? a cylindrical or pillar-shaped buoy; **pillar-compass**: see quot.; **pillar-cross**, a pillar with cruciform summit; **pillar-deity**, a deity worshipped under the symbol of a phallic pillar; **pillar-dollar**: see DOLLAR 5; **pillar-file**: see quots.; **pillar-hermit** = PILLARIST 1; **pillar-lip**, *Conch.*, the inner lip of a spiral shell; **pillar-monk, -percher** = PILLARIST 1; **pillar-plait**, *Conch.*, a columellar fold; **pillar plate**, the plate of a watch movement next behind the dial; **pillar-post** = PILLAR-BOX; **pillar-road**, *Coal-mining*: see quot.; **pillar rose**, a climbing rose suitable for training on a pillar; **pillar-saint** = PILLARIST 1; **pillar-stone**, (*a*) a stone set up as a monument; (*b*) a foundation-stone, corner-stone; **pillar-symbol**, a pillar erected in honour of a phallic deity, or with some kindred signification; **pillar-wall**, *Coal-mining* = sense 7; **pillar-working**, driving a working through the pillars: see sense 7.

1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1814 Later he [Peter] was one of the three *pillar-apostles. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Apr. 4/2 St. Paul had seen two of those called the pillar Apostles shortly after the Master's death. *a* 1562 CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 25 He had ii crosberers & ii *piller berers. 1887 LOW *Machine Draw.* 34 End elevation of a *pillar bracket for carrying a pillow block. 1858 *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 285 A Black *Pillar Buoy bearing a bell, with perch and ball. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pillar-compass*, a pair of dividers, the legs of which are so arranged that the lower part may be taken out, forming, respectively, a bow-pen and bow-pencil. 1849 J. D. CHAMBERS in *Ecclesiologist* IX. 89 The Scotch *pillar crosses we must assign to Danish times. 1874 WESTROPP & WAKE *Anc. Symbol Worship* 61 The peculiar titles given to these *pillar-deities..led to their original phallic character being somewhat overlooked. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P 3 A small Flat-File, called a *Pillar-File. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 193 A pillar file is generally understood to mean one three inches and a half long from the point to the end of the cut. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 A *Pillare hede.., *abacus, epistilium.* 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) 199 Dark and heavy Clouds ..*Pillar-like descend and reach the Seas. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 304 Placed in a whirl round the pillar-like receptacle. 1776 DA COSTA *Conchol.* x. 218 Umbilicated Whelks, or those that have a perpendicular hollow or navel aside the columella or *pillar-lip. 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol. & Min., Pillar-lip*, ..a continuation of the glossy process with which the aperture of shell is lined, expanded on the columella. *a* 1638 MEDE *Apostasy Later Times* 150 Peter à Metra, a famous Stylite, or *Pillar-Monk. 1888 F. G. LEE in *Archæol.* LI. 362 An

inscription runs down the *pillar-orphrey of the chasuble. 1791 G. WAKEFIELD *Enquiry* 15 The perseverance of Simeon the *pillar-percher. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 327/1 Push out the *pillar pins, and remove the top plate. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 504 This pinion drives the wheel *x* round a stud on the *pillar-plate. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 199 The chief plate called the pillar plate lies underneath the dial. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* xv, The big red *pillar-post on the south-east corner. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 59 Not alone this *pillar-punishment. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, **Pillar Roads*, working-roads or inclines in pillars having a range of long-wall faces on either side. 1882 *Garden* 27 May 368/3 *Pillar Roses..are often overlooked as regards watering. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 392 *Cylindrica*, *pillar-shaped. 1827 G. HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 218 *note*, Our columns and *pillar-stones. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 164 A rude pillar-stone here marks the spot where, in 1444, the burgomaster Stussi fell. 1854 *Ecclesiologist* XV. 361 A word that has lately become popular in the *Ecclesiastical Gazette* and elsewhere—for what we used to know as the 'first' or corner stone of a church—I mean '*pillar stone*'. 1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrology* 1 The Reason is *Pillar-strong. 1874 WESTROPP & WAKE *Anc. Symbol Worship* 51 Another instance of the use of the *pillar-symbol. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 980 Taking out all the coal, either on the Shropshire system, or with *pillar-walls and rooms. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vii. 160 The brass carronades set on end, *pillar-wise. 1882 *Standard* 19 Aug. 3/5 Constituting 'an especial danger' in *pillar working or in the long-wall face.

Pillar (pi·lăɹ), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To support, buttress, or strengthen with or as with pillars. Also *fig.*

1607 [see *pillaring* below]. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 40 Pillaring of Beams is to a Ship as Bracing to a Drum. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* XVI. iv. 333 Five particular plans for pillaring up the priesthood. 1880 *Mem. J. Legge* IV. 46 It needs the props of truth to pillar it.

b. *intr.* To rest on or be supported by a pillar.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 36 So order the Beams, that they may pillar on the Floor-riders.

2. *trans.* To embody in the form of a pillar; to display in the figure of a pillar. *rare.*

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. vii, Yet strength was pillared in each massy aisle. 1846 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. xi. 231 Hotel full of light..., pillaring its lights in the quiet water. 1890 H. HAYMAN in *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 424 The inward and outward wholeness of sincerity..pillars itself aloft over their heads.

3. *To pillar and post* (*nonce-phr.*), to drive from pillar to post: see PILLAR *sb.* II.

1901 GWENDOLINE KEATS *Tales Dunstable Weir* 62 He must have been pillared and posted a deal in his bit of life.

Hence **Pi·llaring** *vbl. sb.*

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. ii. 66 Scarce any thing else is thought on, then the pillering vp of ceremonies. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 116 The pillaring of a frame adds ..to its strength, by acting both as a strut and a tie.

Pillar, variant of PILLOR *v. Obs.*, to pillory.

Pillar-block, a corruption of PILLOW-*block* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

Pi·llar-box. A hollow pillar about five feet high, erected in a public place, containing a letter-box or receptacle for posting letters.

1858 *Brit. Postal Guide* 146 A collection is made from the Pillar Boxes at 5 A.M. for the morning mails. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* I. ix. 300 I've a..letter to write, which you must send to a pillar-box.

† **Pi·llard.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **pillyarde.** [a. F. *pillard* (in 14th c. *pillart*), f. *piller* to rob, pillage: see -ARD.] A plunderer, a robber.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 233 [They] suld be erar callit cruell and pillarde, no worthy men of armes. *Ibid.* 243 Pillardis that never wald have pes na concorde in this warlde amang cristyn folk. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. v. 10 Grete foyson of theues and pillyardes.

Hence † **Pi·llardise** [f. F. type **pillardise*: see -ICE], robbery, extortion.

1598 FLORIO *Ital. Dict.* To Rdr. a vj b, Men..whose communication is Atheisme, contention, detraction, or pillardise.

Pillared (pi·lăɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. PILLAR + -ED.]

1. Having, supported on or by, or furnished with a pillar or pillars. Also *fig.*

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 192 Þanne kam I to þat cloister & gaped abouten Whous it was pilered and peynt & portred well clene. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 508 If this fail, The pillar'd firmament is rott'nness, And earths base built on stubble. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 36 He props his spear against the pillar'd wall. 1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* VIII. 471 The pillared porch, elaborately embossed.

b. Borne on stalks, stalked.

1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. x. 341 In one of the Ephemerae, namely Chloëon, the male has great pillared eyes.

2. Fashioned into or like a pillar or pillars.

1698 MOLYNEUX in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 221 A sort of Pillard Stone in Misnia near Dresden. 1738 H. BROOKE *Tasso's Jerus. Del.* III. 16 Where the fair Head and pillar'd Neck were knit. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* V. XXV, Dun-Edin's cross, a pillar'd stone, Rose on a turret octagon. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 3/3 A background of..pillared basalt.

Pillaret (pi·lăret). [f. PILLAR *sb.* + -ET. Cf. OF. *pileret*, dim. of *piler*.] A small pillar.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wills.* (1662) 144 The Pillars and Pillarets of Fusill Marble. 1790 *Archæol.* (1792) X. 188 [A font] at Ancaster with interlaced arches on long pillarets. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. III. 186 There you see pillars, pillarets, arches great and small.

Pillarie, -ary, obs. forms of PILLORY.

Pillarist (pi·lărist). [f. PILLAR *sb.* + -IST.]

1. An ascetic who passes his life on a pillar; a pillar-saint, a stylite.

a 1638 MEDE *Apostasy Later Times* (1641) 109 Holy Simeon, surnamed Stylita or the Pillarist. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN *Life S. Tho. of Aquin* II. 265 *note*, The *Stylitæ* or Pillarists, lived on pillars.

2. One who is in favour of a pillar (e. g. as a monument). *nonce-use.*

1814 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* (1884) I. iii. 58, I quite agree with the Committee in its predilection for a pillar [as a monument to Wellington]. I was one of the pillarists in the Nelson case.

Pillarize (pi·lărəiz), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. PILLAR *sb.* + -IZE, after *penalize*.] *trans.* To inscribe on or commemorate by a pillar.

1827 LAMB *Lett.* (1837) II. xvi. 218 To pillarize a man's good feelings in his lifetime is not to my taste.

Pi·llarlet. *rare.* [see -LET.] = PILLARET.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) I. 155 Ye arches, archlets, pillars, pillarlets.

Pi·llary, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PILLAR *sb.* + -Y.] Of the nature of a pillar. (*Pillary cloud* put for *cloudy pillar.*)

1864 NEALE *Seaton. Poems* 109 The pillary cloud went on.

Pillas (pi·lăs). *Cornish dial.* Also **pilez, pillez, pillis, -us, pellas.** The Naked Oat or PILCORN. (In quot. 1837 applied to the Naked or Pilled Barley.)

1815 G. B. WORGAN *View Agric. Cornwall* 66 The *Avena Nuda*, provincially called Pilez, or Pillas...One gallon of Pilez. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 31/2 Amongst the varieties of grain raised in Cornwall, we may notice the naked barley, which is there called *Pillez*. 1846 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Pellas.* 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pelles*, a kind of oats. *Cornw.* 1882 JAGO *Cornw. Gloss.*, *Pillas*, *Pillis*, or *Pellas*, naked oats, bald, bare, or naked oats without husks.

Pillaster, -trell, obs. ff. PILASTER, -TREL.

Pill-box (pi·l,bɒks). [f. PILL *sb.*[2] + BOX *sb.*[2]] A box for holding pills; a shallow cylindrical box of cardboard for this purpose.

1737 KNIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 706 The hairy Substance, or fine *Capillamenta*, inclosed in the Pill-box, were discharged. • 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 3, I seal it up in one of the little Pill boxes which my Lady had. 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clavig.* II. xxiv. 4 The first shilling I ever got in my life I put in a pill-box and put it under my pillow, and couldn't sleep all night for satisfaction.

b. Ludicrously applied to various boxes, closed vehicles, or enclosures of narrow dimensions.

1835–40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 402 Packed up in a snug pill-box in the same grave-yard. 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. XXXIII, A one-horse carriage, irreverently called, at that period of English history, a pill-box. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* X, Getting up to preach in a sort of pill-box on a long stalk. 1883 *Congregationalist* May 374 'Pill-boxes', as pulpits are sometimes appropriately called. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. XXI. 410 The select assemblage, crammed into the little pill-box called a town-hall. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 289 The 'pill-box', as Lady Mary irreverently named the vicar's covered waggonette.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Like a pill-box in shape or size, as *pill-box cap*, *hat*, *house*; also *pill-box maker*; **pill-box hydatid** (see quot. 1893).

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 117/2 Pill-box Hydatid of Hunter. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/3 (Occupations of People) Pill-box maker. 1862 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 284/1 One of those little wooden pill-box houses you see about seaport towns. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *P[ill-box] hydatid*, a sterile hydatid or *Acephalocyst.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 8/4 The sketch suggests the round pill-box hat.

Pill-crow, variant of PILCROW *Obs.*

Pille, obs. form of PILLOW.

Pilled (pild), *ppl. a. arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **piled, pyled.** *β.* 4–7 **pild,** 5 **pyllyd, pillid,** 5– **pilled,** (6 **pyld(e, pylled, pield,** 6–7 **pilde, pilld**). [f. PILL *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Stripped of skin, bark, rind, etc.; decorticated, excoriated: = PEELED 4. *Obs.* or *dial.*

Pilled barley, decorticated, hulled, or pot barley (quot. 1382); but see another sense in b.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xvii. 19 Driynge pild barli [Vulg. *quasi siccans ptisanas*; 1388 with the pile takun a-weyl. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 14 Take pilled garlek and herbys anon. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 360 Pilled, *decorticatus.* 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 21 Some there are that beg more craftily .. and .. offer pilled rods to passengers, to get a piece of money therewith. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* s. v. *Okeley*, The poor people..draw pill'd rushes thro' melted grease, to save the expence of candles. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pilled*, pared, stripped.

b. *Pilled barley, pilled oats*, varieties of these cereals in which the grain is free from the husk or glumes; naked barley, naked oats: cf. PILCORN.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiii. 467 The seconde kinde may be called in Englishe Pilcorne, or pylde Otes. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 565 Mixt prouander..will be verie good if it be sowne with pilde barley.

2. Deprived or bereft of hair, feathers, etc.; bald, shaven, tonsured: = PEELED 2. *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 15 As piled as an Ape was his skulle. *Ibid.* 386 She..smoot the Millere on the pyled skulle [*v. rr.* piled, pylede, pilede, pilled]. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 22 Euer after, whanne the pie sawe a balled or a pilled man. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Merry Play* (1830) 15 A very myschyefe Lyght on the pylde preest. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 41 The ostriches..their..legs..are pilled and bare. 1611 COTGR., *Pelé*, pild, haireless, bauld. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 88 A round white pil'd or smooth Chin. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 13 His eyes so effeminately pilled, his shooes artificially carved. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 198 To make bald or pilled, *depilare.* 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pilled*, to be made bald.

† **3.** Bare; bare of nap, threadbare; bare of pasture; poor; miserable: = PEELED 3. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 143 One..bad go pisse him with his plouh, pillede [*B.* for-pyned] screwe! *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 40 Appareled in a pilled blacke cloke. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 10 b/2 Pilled or bare (grounde), as vnfertile grounde. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 631 Bloud is a slippery foundation, and pillage a pill'd wall.

† **b.** *fig.* Beggarly, meagre, bald. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Parable Wicked Mammon* (1528) H iij b, The vayne disputyng of them that ascrybe so hye a place in heuen vnto theyr pylde merytes. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 163 A pylde and beggarly ceremony. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. i, I am no such pild Cinike to beleeue, That beggery is the onely happinesse. 1605 M. SUTCLIFFE *Brief Exam.* 58 *note*, They laugh at this pild prologue that would threape kindnesse upon them.

4. [f. PILL *v.*[1] I.] Plundered, robbed, pillaged: = PEELED 1. *arch.* or *dial.*

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 34 The temples pylled dothe bytterly complayne. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xviii. 2 To a fearful people,..to a desperate and pylled folke. [Cf. PEELED 5.] 1611 COTGR., *Pillé*, pilled, rauaged, ransacked, robbed, despoyled, or bereaued of all. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pilled*, robbed.

5. *Comb.* (from 2), as *pilled-pated, -skinned*, etc.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 227 b, The pield pated Theodore of Tharsus was a briber and a theefe. 1563 BECON *Displ. Popish Mass* Wks. III. 44 That thing which ye pildepate Priest holdeth vp in his handes. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 232 For these..persons are of body illfavoured, leane, dry, lanke, pilde-skinned, and without haire.

Hence **Pi·lledness,** baldness, bareness, threadbareness.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. iii. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 48/2 But somme for oþer skallednes oþer pilledness leue and beþ isene alwaye þerafter. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. CXVI. 310 Euphorbium .. cureth .. pyldenesse, causing the heare to renewe and growe againe. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 211 Some scorned the pildnesse of his [Columbus's] garments. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* P 304. 83 Pilledness, baldness, hoaryness, arise from the want of radical moisture.

† **Pi·lledow.** *Sc. Obs.* [For *pilled daw*: see PILLED, and cf. CADDOW.] A plucked or bald daw; *fig.* a tonsured priest.

1603 *Proph. of Merlin* (Bannatyne Cl.) 12 Their shal a Galyart gayt with a gilten horne A Pilledow with a tode, sic a prime holde. 1603 *Proph. of Waldhaue* (ibid.) 33 A proude powne in a preis Lordly shal light With Piotes and Pilliedowes pulled [= pilled] in the crowne.

Pilleis, obs. Sc. pl. of *pillie*, PULLEY.

Pillen, obs. form of PILLION[1].

Piller (pi·ləɹ). *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4–6 **pylour,** 4–5 **piloure,** 4–7 **-our.** *β.* 4–6 **pillour,** 5 **pylowre,** 5–7 **piller,** (5–6 **pyllar,** 6 **-er**). See also PEELER[1]. [ME. *pilour*, f. PILL *v.*[1], prob. after OF. *pilleur* (1345 in Hatz.-Darm.) in same sense (f. *piller* to plunder), with later suffix-change: see -ER[2] 3.]

† **1.** A robber, despoiler, plunderer; a thief; = PEELER[1] 1. *Obs.*

a. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6682 Ffor ay þey [Britons] lyue wyþ pylours in drede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knight's T.* 149 To ransake in the taas of the bodyes dede..The pilours diden bisynesse and cure. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 422/1 Pilours, Robbours, Oppressours. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pylowre, or he þat pelythe oþer menne, as catchepollys, & oþer lyke, *pilator*. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VIII. xvii. 344/2 Theues, pylours, extorcyoners. *β.* 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 303 To preson þe pillourz þat ouere þe pore renneth. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. iv, Pyllars and robbers were comen in to the felde. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 31 Suche .. oughte rather be clepid pilleris, robberis,..than men of armes chevalerous. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 219 Pillers and pollers of all commonweales. 1596 Z. I. tr. *Lavardin's Hist. Scanderbeg* VIII. 324 Two most notable pillers and not pillours of the common wealth. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. (1662) 42 The Land then swarmed with Pilours, Robbers, Oppressors of the People. 1674 STAVELEY *Rom. Horseleach* (1769) 164 That pillar and poller and filcher of our money.

b. Applied to a plant that exhausts the soil.

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1623) 8 Trees are the greatest suckers and pillers of earth.

2. One who peels; an instrument for peeling; = PEELER[1] 2. Now *dial.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 279/1 A Pillar (*A.* A Pyllare), *vellicator*. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pillers*, persons, also instruments, for peeling oak trees, &c.

Piller, obs. f. PILLAR; var. PILLOR *v. Obs.*

Pillerie, -ery, obs. forms of PILLORY.

† **Pi·llery.** *Obs.* [a. F. *pillerie* (1345 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *piller* to pillage, *pilleur* pillager: see -ERY.] The action of plundering; plunder, pillage, robbery; an instance of this.

1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 147/2 Open Robberyes, Oppressions and Pilleries without nombre. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) IV. XXI. 268 False pletynges, exaccyons, pylleryes, and other dyuers inuencyons. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. LXXV, And then concussion, rapine, pilleries. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 66 They did palliat these pillaries with the faire pretence of authority and of law.

† **Pillet,** obs. form of PELLET *sb.*[1]

a 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 113 For to makyn pillettis. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 3 Seth the same together and make pillets thereof the bignesse of a haselnut or filberte.

Pilletorie, obs. f. PELLITORY. **Pillew,** obs. f. PILLOW. **Pillez,** var. PILLAS. **Pillfer,** obs. f. PILFER. **Pilliall,** obs. f. PULIOL, pennyroyal.

† **Pi·llicock.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **pilkoc,** 6 **(pillok, -ock) pilicock,** 6– **pillicock,** (7 **peli-**). [f. *pill*,

also *pillie* and *pilluck*, all north. dial., = Norw. dial. *pill* (Aasen) penis: cf. COCK *sb.*[1] 20.]

1. The penis (*vulgar*).

1300-25 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 211 Mi pilkoc pisseth on mi schone. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4410 My pillok. 1598 FLORIO, *Dolcemelle*..also pilicock. [See also s. vv. *Pinco*, *Pinchino*, *Rozzone*.] 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 78. 1719 D'URFEY *Wit & Mirth* Song, Pillicock.

2. 'A flattering word for a young boy'; = 'my pretty knave' (Cotgr.).

1598 FLORIO, *Zugo*,..a pillicocke, a darling, or a wanton, or a minion. 1611 COTGR., *Mistigouri*, my pillicocke, my prettie rogue. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xli, By my faith ..I cannot tell (my Pillicock), but thou art more worth then gold.

Pillie, pl. **pilleis**, obs. Sc. form of PULLEY.

Pilliewinkes: see PILLIWINKS.

Pi·lling, *vbl. sb. arch.* or *dial.* [f. PILL *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of PILL *v.*[1] in its various senses.

† **1.** Plundering, robbing, spoliation; extortion.

a. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 417 A prest shulde rabere.. suffere deþ or he assentide..to siche piling of pore men. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 369 þat hopede to blende his pylyng and hys robborie by þe sympilnesse of Wolston.

β. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 13 By pillynge of 3oure peple 3oure prynces to plese. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) v. viii. 206/1 They be..full of crueltee in pyllynge of the poore people. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 73 b, The pilling and rauine, that they vse openly. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 990 All began prowdly to plot unto themselves nothing but sackings, pillings, taking of prisoners. 1627 SPEED *England*, etc. *Irel.* iv. § 7 Certaine .. oppressed the poore people a long time with extorting, pilling, and spoiling.

b. *Pilling* (*peeling*) *and polling*: see PILL *v.*[1] 9.

1547 *Homilies* I. *Agst. Adultery* II. (1859) 125 Doth not the adulterer give his mind..to polling and pilling of other? 1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 58 Heers worse pilling and polling then amongst my countrey-men the vsurers. 1658 J. HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* II. ii. (1700) 332 The pilling and polling of her Provinces, which happen'd through the Avarice, and Luxury of her Nobility. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Berks.* (1662) 90 Vexed at his polling and peeling of the English people.

† **2.** The removal or falling off of hair; depilation.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. H, The pilling of the browes and forehead. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxv. 90 The ashes of this Bulbe .. cureth the pilling or falling of the haire in spots. 1611 COTGR., *Pelement*, a pilling; a pulling off the haire. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. § 4 (1643) 248 The ashes..cure the pilling of the hair from the head.

3. Removal of the skin, bark, etc.: = PEELING *vbl. sb.* 1 b. Now *dial.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Escorcement*, a barking of trees, a pilling, a rinding. 1618 in *N. Riding Rec. Soc.* (1884) II. 175 A Gillinge man for pilling of the barke. 1742 *MS. Agreement* (co. Derby), [Lessee to have] authority for pilling, cutting down..wood. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 138 Pilling [of osiers], per load.

† b. The coming off of bark, skin, etc.: = PEELING *vbl. sb.* 1 c. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 141 A faire medicine to cure..the scailing and pilling of the face. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 113 It helps the pilling of the skin about the nails.

4. *concr.* That which is peeled or peels off: = PEELING *vbl. sb.* 2. Now *dial.*

c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 1265 He sett þe lawes of Cristyantee Nott at a pillynge of a tree. 1418 PAGE *Siege of Rouen* in *Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 18 Oynonnys, lykys, bothe in fere Was to hem a mete fulle dere;..Welle was hym that myght gete a pyllynge. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 136 Bastes or pyllynge of wythy or elme to bynde them with. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 31 That part of the Hempe which is next to the rind or pilling..is worst. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* vi. § 2 The Pilling [of an Apple] is but the Continuation of the utmost part of the Barque. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., Potatoe pillings. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Pillins*, sb. pl., the skins of onions, potatoes, &c., after removal. [So in many dialects: see Eng. Dial. Dict.]

5. *attrib.*, as *pilling-knife*, *-iron*.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 350/2 The Pilling Knife, of some called a Pilling Iron,..takes off all the Hair of the Hide; being a four square Iron set in two Handles, Hooped.

Pi·lling, *ppl. a.* [f. PILL *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That pills. a. Plundering, rifling, thieving. *arch.*

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii. 250 The galleys and those pilling brigandines, That..hover in the Straits for Christians' wrack. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Paradox* Wks. (Grosart) II. 56 To guard from souldiers pilling hands. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccliv. (1714) 271 Suppose Pilling and Polling Officers, as Busie upon the People as these Flies were upon the Fox.

b. That peels. Now *dial.*

[1483 *Cath. Angl.* 279/1 Pillynge..Pyllynge, *vellicans*.] 1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* (ed. 4) 42 Neighbours .. Must needs perceive the pilling Cliff retire.

Pillion[1] (pi·lyən). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 6 *Sc.* **pilȝane, pyllyon, pyllen**, 7 **pillen, -ian**, 8 **pilion**. Cf. also PILGATE. [app. of Celtic origin: in Irish *pillín*, Gaelic *pillin*, *-ean*, in same sense, dim. of *pell* (*peall*), gen. s. and nom. pl. *pill*, couch, pallet, cushion (a. L. *pellis* skin, pelt, felt).

Pill occurs in the *Boramha* of the Bk. of Leinster, *c* 1160-1170 (*pill cuilcthe cluimhe* 'pallet with downy coverlet'). *Pillin* was prob. adopted in Lowl. Sc. from Gaelic, in Eng. from Irish; cf. quot. *a* 1620. The Guernsey *pillon* cited by Moisy *Gloss. Anglo-Normand* from Métivier, may be from English, no such word occurring in French.]

A kind of saddle, *esp.* a woman's light saddle. Also, a pad or cushion attached to the hinder part of an ordinary saddle, on which a second person (usually a woman) may ride; also used for resting a mail or piece of luggage in transport: see *mail pillion*, s. v. MAIL *sb.*[3] 4.

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 214 Item, for v elne claith of gold to be ane pilȝane to the Quene, quhen hir aun wes brint in Dalketh. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyllyon for a woman to ryde on, *housse à femme*. 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 361, ij owld chystes ij[s]. vj[d].—j bodgett, on capcase & ij male piniors [? pillions] xij[d].—ij armones j[l]. *a* 1620 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. II. v. (1903) 235 The Irish..vse no sadles, but either long narrow pillions bumbasted, or bare boardes of that fashion. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 1774 To get her neighbors footstoole, and her pillian. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 397/2 In former times the Side sadle had only a Pillen fastned upon the Tree of the Sadle .. over which Pillen and Tree was cast a Sadle-cloth. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* x, Next, the straps of my wife's pillion broke down. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow* § 54 Some of the damsels mounted on pillions behind their favourite swains. 1867 SMILES *Huguenot in Fr.* xii. (1880) 207 De Bostaquet rode first, with his sister behind him on a pillion.

b. *attrib.*, as *pillion gelding*, *mail*, *seat*.

1539-40 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 289 To Poppes man for bryngyng of on pyllen gyldyng for my Lady, xx *d.* 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xli, That trunk is mine, and that there band-box, and that pillion mail, and those seven bundles, and the paper bag. 1878 *Cumberland Glass., Pillion seat*, a seat to fix behind the saddle for a female to ride on. Out of use since about 1830.

† **Pillion**[2]. *Obs.* Forms: 4 **pylion**, 4-6 **pilioun**, 5 **pylyon, pelyone, pillyon**, 5-6 **pillion(e, pyllyon**. [app. a derivative of L. *pileus*, *pilleus* cap (see PILEUS), which word it was used by Trevisa to render. No corresponding form has been found in other langs.] A hat or cap, esp. of a priest or doctor of divinity.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 217 Þei myȝte nouȝt in þe holy day suffre on hire piliouns and here cappes for hete [*L.* Quando non poterant præ calvitate diebus festivis pileum deferre]. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1577 Gregory and Ierome, Austyn and Ambrose, With pylyons on her hedys, stood lyke doctours. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 88 Summe werers of piliouns in scole of dyuynyte han scantli be worthi for to be in the same scole a good scoler. *c* 1500 in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* App. A. p. lii, The Bedell shall gether of every Doctour Comensar..a Grote for hys Pylyon. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C iv b/1 Mercury shall giue thee giftes manyfolde, His pillion, scepter, his winges and his harpe. *a* 1562 CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 30 Uppon hys [Wolsey's] hed a round pyllion with a nekke of blake velvett set to the same in the inner side.

attrib. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3461 Thane rysez the riche kynge...And one he henttis..A pavys pillione hatt, þat pighte was fulle faire With perry of þe oryent.

Hence † **Pi·llioned** *a.*, wearing a pillion. *Obs.*

1553 BALE *Vocacyon* 10 No mete mynisters..though they be neuer so gorgyously mytered, coped, and typpeted, or neuer so fynely forced, pylyoned and scarletted.

† **Pillion**[3]. *Obs.* (See quots.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* v. iii. 283 The pillion in the first and second of the stampings is separated from the scoria in the same manner as Copper Ore from its waste. *Ibid.* Gloss. 325 *Pillion*, the Tin which remains in the scoria or slags after it is first smelted, which must be separated and remelted. 1882 JAGO *Cornish Dial.* [from Pryce].

Pillitore, obs. form of PELLITORY.

Pi·lliver. Now *north. dial.* Forms: 1 **pylewer**, 2 **pulewar**, 4 **peloware, pylwere**, 6-7 (9 *dial.*) **pilliver**, 7 **pillover**. [app. f. OE. *pyle*, PILLOW + ON. *ver* case, cover: cf. ON. *koddaver* pillow-case = CODWARE [2]. (But the element *-war*, *-ware* may have a different origin; with the forms in *-ver* cf. *pillowber*, PILLOW-BERE.)]

A pillow-case. (In the early quots., down to 1440, the meaning seems to be 'pillow'.)

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 222/16 *Ceruical*, pylewer. *a* 1200 in *MS. Bodley* 730 lf. 144 b, Hoc auriculare et hic pulvillus idem sunt .s. oreiler .i. pulewar. et hoc cervical. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 742/24 *Hoc cervical*, a peloware. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 243 Sche..leyde hym in here bed, & a softe pylwere vnder his heuyd. 1581-2 in Best *Rur. Econ.* (Surtees) 172, 5 pillivers of lininge. 1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 Item iiij pillivers & one table clothe, iij*s.* viij*d.* 1611 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 20, iij pillovers. 1655 *Ibid.* 207, 3 pillovers. 1869 GIBSON *Folk-speech Cumberland* 31 He laid back on his pilliver. 1898 B. KIRKBY *Lakeland Words* (E. D. D.), An' a pilliver tuck't inta t' sma' ov his back.

Pilliwinks (pi·liˌwiŋks). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 **pyrwykes**, 5 **pyrewinkes**; *Sc.* 6-7 **pilli(e)winkes, -is**, 8 **-winks, -wincks**, 6 **pinniwinkis**, 8 **pinniewinks**; 8-9 **pilni(e)winks**. (Also 9 (erroneously) **pilliwinkies, pennywinkis, pinnywinkles, pilniwinky, pilni(e)winkies, pirliewinkles.**) [In English use, *c* 1400, *pyrwykes*, *pyrewinkes*. In Scottish use, *c* 1600, *pilliwinkes* and *pinniwinkis*; corrupted by later historical or antiquarian writers, novelists, journalists, etc. to *pilniewinks*, *pinnywinkles*, *pirliewinkles*, etc. Origin unknown: the 15th c. Eng. *pyrewinkes* coincides with a contemporary spelling of *periwinkle* (the flower); but there is no obvious connexion of sense. The early forms do not agree (as has sometimes been thought) with those of *periwinkle* the shell-fish, the forms in *-winkle* being merely later corruptions after the word had become obsolete soon after 1600.] An instrument of torture for squeezing the fingers; supposed to resemble the thumbkins or thumb-screw.

1397 in W. P. Baildon *Sel. Cas. Chanc.* (1896) 30 Johan Skypwyth..adonqes esteant viscont de Nicole [=Lincoln], par colour de son office aresta le dit Johan .. et lui mist en ceppes..et sur sez mayns vne paire de pyrwykes. ? 1401 *Cartular. Abbatiæ S. Edmundi* (MS.) lf. 341 (in Cowell's Interpr. (1701) Ssij b), Quendam Robertum Smyth de Bury ..Ceperunt..et ipsum..in ferro posuerunt—et cum cordis ligaverunt, et super pollices ipsius Roberti quoddam instrumentum vocatum *Pyrewinkes* ita strictè et durè posuerunt, quod sanguis exivit de digitis illius. 1591 *Newes from Scotland* (in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. II. 215), Her maister ..did with the help of others torment her with the torture of the pilliwinkes vpon her fingers. 1596 *Ibid.* 376 The dochter, being sewin yeir auld, put in the pinniwinkis [*so MS. Record*; in Maclaurin, 1774, pilniewinks]. *Ibid.* 377 Hir sone tortourit in þe Buitis, and hir dochtir put in þe Pilliewinkis. 1680-1700 in *Maclaurin's Crim. Cases* Introd. 37 Lord Roystoun observes:..'Anciently I find other torturing instruments were used, as pinniewinks or pilliwinks, and caspitaws or caspicaws [*misreading of* cashilaws; in Pitcairn I. 275, caschielawis], in the Master of Orkney's case, 24th June 1596...But what these instruments were, I know not'. 1774 *Ibid.* 36 It was pleaded for Alaster Grant, who was indicted for theft and robbery 3rd August 1632, that he cannot pass to the knowledge of an assize, in respect he was twice put to the torture, first in the boots, and next in the pilliewinks or pinniewinks. [1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiii, They prick us and they pine us, and they pit us on the pinnywinkles for witches. 1830 — *Demonol.* ix. 310 His finger bones were slintered in the pilniewinks. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* I. i. 142, The three principal [tortures]..were the pennywinkis, the boots, and the caschielawis. 1890 *Spectator* 31 May 768 The 'pirliewinkles', a form of thumb-screw ingeniously constructed for the express purpose of crushing all the fingers of one hand.]

Pill-machine, Pill-nettle, etc.: see PILL [2] 4.

Pillo, obs. form of PILLOW.

† **Pillock.** *Obs.* [See -OCK.] A small pill.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/11 Pillocke, *pilula*.

Pillock, pillok, obs. forms of PILLICOCK.

Pilloe, obs. variant of PILAU.

† **Pi·llor**, *v. Obs.* Also 7 **-owr, -ar**, 8 **-er**. [app. a back-formation from PILLORY *sb.* (OF. had *pilorement*, as if from a vb. *pilorer*, instead of *pilorier*.)] *trans.* = PILLORY *v.*

1638 *Div. & Politike Observ.* 8 In pillaring, or putting to death such as refuse to doe any worship. 1651 FULLER *Abel Rediv.* 436 So justly pillored for cheaters to all posterity. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 30 Apr. I. 238 De-Foe..was pillor'd for it. 1715 *Exeter Mercury* 1 Apr. 8 Lists .. containing the Names of such as they would have Beheaded,..Piller'd. 1819 *Metropolis* III. 170 Pillored in capes and cravats.

Pillorize (pi·lŏrəiz), *v.* [f. PILLORY *sb.* + -IZE: or a. OF. *pil-*, *pilloriser* (14-16th c. in Godef.), f. *pilori*.] *trans.* To put in the pillory; = PILLORY *v.*

1646 J. HALL *Poems* 66 Defect of Organs may me cause By chance to pillorize an Asse. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 814 Henry Burton..was..degraded, deprived of his benefice, pillorized with Prynne and Bastwicke. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. i. 14 One had been pillorized for speaking some words for Queen Mary, on the 11th of this month. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 237 Being thus pillorized, he was fit for nothing until he was released.

Hence **Pi·llorized** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·llorizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pillorization**.

1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 68 A Pilloriz'd Factionist. 1688 in Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) IV. cii. 412 High commissions, *quo warrantos*, dispensations, pillorizations. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. VI. iii. 630/1 The punishment of Pillorising inflicted for this crime by the Star Chamber. 1890 MISS R. H. BUSK in *N. & Q.* 7th ser. IX. 150/1 *Dandin* has become a pillorizing name adopted (probably from folk-speech) by many French authors..for types of various forms of folly they have undertaken to scathe.

Pillory (pi·lŏri), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 **pillori**, 3-7 **pyllory**, 4-7 **pilory**, 5 **pilery, pullery, pull-, pyllorie, pelory**, 5-6 **pillery, -ie, pyllere, -ery, pylery, pillorye**, 5-7 **pillorie**, 6 **pyllary, pillarie**, 7 **pillary**, 3- **pillory**. [ME. *pillori*, *pilory*, etc., a. OF. *pellori* (1168), *pilorit*, *pilori* (13thc., Godef.), also *pillori*, *peulauri*, *pellerich*, of uncertain origin: see Note below.]

A contrivance for the punishment of offenders, consisting usually of a wooden framework erected on a post or pillar, and formed, like the stocks, of two movable boards which, when brought together at their edges, leave holes through which the head and hands of an offender were thrust, in which state he was exposed to public ridicule, insult, and molestation. In other forms, the culprit was fastened to a stake by a ring round his neck and wrists. (In quot. *a* 1380, the name is applied to the cross.) The Chinese *cangue* is a species of portable pillory.

In Great Britain the punishment of the pillory was abolished, except for perjury, in 1815, and totally in 1837. In Delaware, U.S., it was not abolished till 1905.

[*a* 1189 *Charter of Hen. II* in *Dugdale's Monast.* (1819) II. 351/1 Monachi de Middeltone habeant..omnes terras.. cum..assisa panis et cervisie, cum furcis, pilloriis et cum omnibus aliis pertinentiis.] 1274-5 *Rot. Hundred.* (1818) II. 194/1 (MS. m. 33), Abbas Sancti Edmundi habet.. Pyllory et Trebuchet in Mercato de Bocholnesdal. 1275 [see PIT *sb.*[1] 2 b]. *a* 1300 *Sat. People Kildare* xvii in *E. E. P.* (1862) 155 3e [bakers] pincheþ on þe riȝt white aȝen goddes law To þe fair pillori ich rede 3e tak hede. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 477 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 345 The pilory and the cucking-stol beth i-mad for noht. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 69 To punisschen on pillories or on pynnyng stoles Brewesters, Bakers, Bochers and Cookes. 1393 *Ibid.* C. III. 216 Let hym nat a-skapie Er he be put on

þe pullery. *a* 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* lii. 15 Chyld, whi artou not a-schamed On a pillori to ben I-piled? [See also PIN *v.*¹ 1.] 14.. in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 60 þe sayd Burgese sall..ordan a pelory and a thew, lawfull and strang. 1444 *Maldon, Essex Liber A.* lf. 32 b (MS.), If eny baker or brewer be ateynt of fals weght or of fals mesure, he shall be twyes amerced and at the thirde tyme he shall be sette in the pilery. 1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 1 Upon payn to be sett upon the pillorie or the Cukkyngstole, Man or Woman as the case shall requyre. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyllary to punysshe men at, *pilory*. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 49 Another prest this yere was sett on the pyllere in Chepe. 1575 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 157 The rog that was set on the pylery. 1628 MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 276 Being whipt from the Fleet to Westminster palace, where he stood in the pillory, had one ear nailed and cutt of close to his head and..his nostrils also slit. 1678 MARVELL *Def. J. Howe* Wks. 1875 IV. 236 [He] erects another pair of columns..betwixt which Mr. Howe is to look as through a pillary. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3936/3 London, July 31. On the 29th Instant Daniel Foe, alias de Foe, stood in the Pillory before the Royal Exchange in Cornhill. 1778 JOHNSON 18 Apr. in *Boswell*, They should set him in the pillory, that he may be punished in a way that would disgrace him. 1837 *Act* 7 *Will. IV*, & 1 *Vict.* c. 23 (*title*) An Act to abolish the Punishment of the Pillory. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xliii, Then your reward would be the pillory for every coward ..to have his fling at you.

fig. 1838 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* 1 Mar., Standing like a culprit before several hundred individuals sitting. After all, it is a moral pillory. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iv. 82 What Molière would have fastened for all time in his pillory.

b. *Finger-pillory*: a similar contrivance by which the fingers were held with the first joint bent to a right angle.

1851 *N. & Q.* 25 Oct., Amongst the old-time relics at Littlecote Hall, an ancient Wiltshire mansion, may still be seen a finger-pillory. 1899 W. ANDREWS *Bygone Punishments* 171 Finger pillories or stocks..were probably frequently employed in the old manorial halls of England.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pillory-bird* (cf. GALLOWS-BIRD), *-hole*, *-house*; *pillory-faced*, *-like* adjs.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 698 Tyburne coloppys, and pursekytters, Pylary knyghtes, double tollyng myllers. 1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 361 Boyes..wolde haue made me Freer Tucke, To preche out of the pylery hole. 1562 *Jack Juggler* (Roxb.) 23 Wine shakin, pilorye peepours, of lice not without a pecke. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 75 Two boords, amid them both a pillery-like hole for the prisoners necke. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxviii. (1674) 230 Danger of being discovered to be a Pillory-bird. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont III.* 45 That old pillory faced blood-hound. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 5 Apr. 6/2 They had not, as before the Revolution, the pillory-house to live in.

[*Note.* Numerous forms of this word occur in med.L. (of France): Du Cange has *pilorium*, *pillaurium*, *spilorium* (Bordeaux), *pellerinum*, also *pilaricum*, *pil-*, *pill-*, *pelloricum*, *pellericum* (Aragon), most of which, if not all, appear to be formed on French or other vernacular forms. The forms in *pil-* suggest derivation from L. *pila*, or its deriv. *pilāre*, F. *piler*, *pilier*, pillar; but for those in *pill-*, *pell-*, this is phonologically unsuitable. The F. *pilori* is identified through Gascon *espilori* (*Coutumes de Gontaud* xlvii, *a* 1305) with Fr. *espitlori* 'pillory', which some connect with Cat. *espitllera* 'little window, peep-hole', with supposed reference to the hole through which the head was thrust in the pillory.]

Pi·llory, *v.* [f. prec. sb.; cf. F. *pilorier* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To set in the pillory; to punish by exposure in the pillory.

? *a* 1600 *Collier of Croydon* II. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 409, I have been five times pilloried, my coals given to the poor, and my sacks burnt before my face. 1685 EVELYN *Mem.* 16 May, Titus Oates was sentenced to be whipped and pilloried with the utmost severity. 1714 B. MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 8 Tho' some, first pillory'd for cheating, Were hang'd in hemp of their own beating. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 89 The government was able, through their instrumentality, to fine, imprison, pillory and mutilate without restraint. *transf.* 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 15 A..bust of General Jackson, pilloried in a military collar which rose above his ears.

b. *fig.* To expose to public ridicule or abuse.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 18 He has Pillouried himself for't in Print, as long as that Book shall last. 1863 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Thoreau* Wks. (Bohn) III. 326 He wanted a fallacy to expose, a blunder to pillory.

Hence **Pi·lloried** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·llorying** *vbl. sb.*

1671 F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 167 A worse than Pilloried note of Ingratitude. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 224 Cropping of Ears, Pillorying, Gaoling. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. i. 10 The rough handling that usually befel pilloried culprits.

† Pillotes. *Obs.* = *Pill oats*, *pilled oats*: see PILLED *ppl. a.* 1 b: cf. PILCORN.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. E vj, Ther is an other kinde of otes, called pillotes, which growe in Sussex: it hath no husk abydyng vpon it, after that it is threshed, & is lyke otemele.

Pillou, obs. var. PILAU. **Pillour**, var. PELLURE *Obs.*; obs. f. PILLER. **Pillover**, obs. f. PILLIVER.

Pillow (pi·lō), *sb.* Forms: see below. [OE. *pyle*, *pylu*:—**pulwi* = MDu. *pōluwe* (*puluwe*), *pēluwe* neut., ? fem., Du. *peluw*, *peuluw* fem.; MLG. *pōle*, LG. *pōl* masc.; OHG. *pfuliwi* neut., *pfulwo* masc., MHG. *pfülwe* neut., *pfulwe* masc., Oberd. *pfulbe*, *pfulwe*, Ger. *pfühl* masc., neut. These forms represent a WG. **pulwî(n*, a. L. *pulvīn-us* cushion, which, from the phonology, must have been adopted by the Germani as early as the 2nd or 3rd c. The normal development in OE. would be nom. **pulwi*, *puli*, *pyle*, gen. **pulwes*, *pylwes*. Form-levelling gave from *pylwes* a new nom. *pylu*, whence ME. *pilwe*, mod. *pillow*; *pyle* was inflected *pyles*, and remained as ME. *pyle*, *pile*, *pele*, mod. dial. *pill*, *peel*. (See Napier in *Mod. Lang. Quarterly* 1897 Nov. 52.)]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1–6 **pyle**, 4–5 **pile**, **pule**, 9 *dial.* **pill.**

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. xi. § 1 Mon..dyde ælces consules setl ane pyle hierre þonne hit ær wæs. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 38 *Cervical*, pyle. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 421 Under his pelewe [*MS. B.* pile; γ. pule; *Caxton* pyle]. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 65 For making of a pyle cloth. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.* s. v. *Pill*, I never can't zlape way a soft pill.

β. 4 **pele**, 6 **pelle**, 8–9 **peel.**

13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig *Archiv* LXXXII. 318/454 Nold he non oþer pele to legge his heued vppon. 1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 45 Itm. ij stolles, v fannes, xij pelles, ij chesables. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* 428 (E. D. S.) Darning up of old blonkets, and rearting tha Peels. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 170 Tha..gee me stra vor bed an peel!

γ. 1 **pylu**, 4–5 **pilewe**, **pilwe**, 5 **pylwe**, **pilowe**, **-ow**, (**pilwo**, **pilve**, **pyliwe**, **pilou**, **pilu**), 5–6 **pylow(e**, **pyllow(e**, **pillowe**, (**pillo(e**, **pilo**, 6–7 **pilla**), 6– **pillow.**

a 1100 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 198/4 *Ceruical*, pylu. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 395 (444), He tornede on his pylwes [*v. rr.* pilwis, pilous] ofte. *Ibid.* v. 224 Saue a pilwe [*v. r.* pilwo] I fynde nought tenbrace. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* iv. 38 He was..slepynge on a pilewe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 760 Vnder his pilwe [*v. rr.* pilowe, pylow]. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 12 To rowne with a pylow me semyd best tryacle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pylwe (*P.* pyllowe), *pulvinar*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 290 On sich pilus I me set. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 23 A greet pilve and a small pilve. 1482 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 322, v. pillois cum uno bolster. 1500 *Ibid.* III. 74, iij pillowes valent vjd. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L iv, Called plumeceaulx or pylowes of fethers in frenche. 1573 etc. Pillow [see B. 1 b].

δ. 4–5 **pelewe**, 5 **peloulhe**, 5–6 **pelowe**, **pelow**, **pelloe**, 6 **pellow**, **pelo.**

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 254 (MS. Fairf.) Many a pelowe [*v. r.* pilow] and euery bere Of clothe of raynes. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 421 Under his pelewe [1432–50 tr. *Higden* pelowe]. *a* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12613 Pres it to þe pelow. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 29 Thus may thi man at thi peloulhe appere. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 18 Thy lusty pellois. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* iv. 38 A slepe on a pelowe. 1532 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 34 A blankett, a boulster, a pellow. 1536 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 135 A coverlet, pelloe, and tester. *a* 1544 *Lanc. Wills* (1860) II. 152, ij pelo berys. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 14 b, Take a heade pelow.

B. Signification.

1. A support for the head in sleeping or reclining; *spec.* a cushion or case made of linen or the like, stuffed with feathers, down, or other soft material; especially as forming part of a bed.

Also applied to the bamboo or rattan frame, the block of wood with a concave or crescent-shaped top, etc., used by the natives of various countries, and to any object improvised for the same purpose.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xix. 143 Wa ðæm þe willaþ under ælcne elnbogan lecgean pyle & bolster under ælcne hneccan. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 226 Lege him, nytendum, under his pyle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 103 Upon a fethrebed alofte He lith with many a pilwe of doun. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 21 She put in a pelowe of fethers a serteyn somme of money. 1480 — *Chron. Eng.* v. (1520) 67/1 They put on his mouth a pilowe and stopped his breth. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 2 b, He caused hym self to bee raised vp with pillowes. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 55 That hath laid Kniues vnder his Pillow. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xxviii. 18 And Iacob..tooke the stone that hee had put for his pillowes [COVERD. that he had layed vnder his heade] and set it vp for a pillar. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xiii, In that chair the Kings of England were crowned; you see also a stone underneath, and that stone is Jacob's pillow. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Earl of Hertford* 7 Apr., They flung pillows upon the question, and stifled it. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 619 It will be very difficult to get a man from his pillow..if he has nothing to do when he is up. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 318 The limb being supported by pillows in a relaxed position. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 71 Placing my bag for a pillow, he lay down. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 64 Coleridge..slept with the *Observations on Man* under his pillow. 1884 SIR H. JOHNSTON *River Congo* xvi. 432 Many pretty little things are carved in wood:—pillows or headrests are made, much like those used by the ancient Egyptians.

b. Phrase. *To take counsel of*, or *consult with, one's pillow*, etc.: to take a night to consider a matter of importance; to 'sleep upon' it.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 21 You counsel me to take counsel of mi pillow. 1633 *Battle of Lutzen* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 197 [The Polonians] took counsel of the pillow, and..concluded to come to a treaty. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 60 ¶ 1 [He] frequently consulted his Pillow to know how to behave himself on such important Occasions. 1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 68/2 They contained surmises and circumstances of such a nature, that he should carry it with him to his pillow.

c. In various figurative uses.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 114 Slowthe makyth þe þe restyng place of þe deuyl, for þou art þe feendys pylwe. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. iii. 163 [He] Sung thee asleepe, his Louing Brest, thy Pillow. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 38 That soft pillow of creature-delights on which thou restedst before. 1771 *Junius Lett.* l. (1820) 261 You are the pillow upon which I am determined to rest all my resentments. 1817 WOLFE *Burial Sir J. Moore* v, As we..smoothed down his lonely pillow. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 414/2 He took it for granted that nobles and gentlemen who lived about the Court should one day lay their heads upon a bloody pillow.

d. Phrase. *To sew pillows under people's elbows* (etc.): to give a sense of false security.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xiii. 18 Woo to hem that sewen to gidre cusshens vndir eche cubit of hound, and maken pilewis vnder the heed of eche age, for to take soulis. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *ibid.*, Woe vnto the women that sowe pillowes vnder all arme holes. 1572 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) I. 285 'Tis no time to blanch or sew pillars under mens elbows. 1620 J. KING *Serm.* 24 *Mar.* 45 When I come to reprove sinne, I shall sowe no pillowes. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* I. i, No, Mrs. Joyner, you cannot sew pillows under folks' elbows;..you cannot tickle a trout to take him.

† 2. A cushion. *Obs.*

c 1440 [see A. γ]. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 42 Item j pyllow of rede whyte and yollowe clothe of sylke w^t^ ymages and birdes. 1522 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 115 To the chyrche of Pakenham a pelow of blew sylke. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 118 Item one litle pillowe which was accustomed to be laid vpon the altare. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 374 A pillowe, or cushin, *puluinar*.

3. Applied to something padded; a pad.

a. The pad of a saddle; a pillion.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 258 When you haue placed ..both your knees hard and firme vnder each of the fore-Pillows of the Saddle. 1651 *Miller of Mansf.* 15 With pillows and Pannells.

b. A padded or stuffed support or ground upon which bone-lace is made.

1781 COWPER *Truth* 318 Yon cottager, who weaves at her own door, Pillow and bobbins all her little store. 1864 *Spectator* 1446 The manner of making pillow lace..The 'pillow' is a round or oval board, stuffed so as to form a cushion, and placed upon the knees of the workwoman.

c. *U. S. slang.* A boxing-glove.

1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 443/1 Piled on a little table were four as dirty and badly-stained 'pillows' as I had ever set eyes on.

4. In various technical applications: A block or support resembling a pillow in form or use: *spec.*

a. *Naut.* The block of timber on which the inner end of a bowsprit rests. **b.** The 'truck' or circular piece of wood or metal fixed on the head of a pole or mast. **c.** *Arch.* (See quots.) **d.** A cross-piece of wood which supports the beam of a plough or the bed of a wagon: cf. BOLSTER *sb.* 3 a, e. **e.** *Mech.* A bearing of brass or bronze for the journal of a shaft. **f.** The socket of a pivot (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1446 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 84 It. payd for fellyng of a brasen pelewe for worspryng. 1474–5 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 20 It' in castynge of pelewes for the iij grettyst bellys xis. **a.** 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 The boule spret, the pillow, the sturrop, the spret sayle. 1627 — *Seaman's Gram.* iii. 16. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 36/2 The Pillow is that tymber on which the bolt-sprit beares at the coming out of the hull called the pillow of the bolt-sprit. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Couche*, the pillow of a stay, or the piece of wood upon which it rests. **b.** 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 154 Then hoysing him vp to the pillow or top of the tree, they let the rope flee loose, whence downe he falles. **c.** 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 128 The Return [of the Volute] or Pillow betwixt the Abacus and Echinus resembles the side-plaited tresses of Women's haire. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v. *Voluta*, These Voluta's are more especially remarkable in the Ionick Capital, representing a kind of Pillow or Cushion laid between the Abacus and the Echinus. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Volute*, a spiral scroll which forms the principal feature of the capital of the Ionic order...The returns or sides are called *pulvinata* or pillows. **d.** 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. 301 Two Rows of Holes, whereby to raise or sink the Beam, by pinning up or down the Pillow..to increase or diminish the Depth of the Furrow. 1764 *Museum Rust.* I. cxiii. 479 A pin..through the fore bed, about one foot behind the upper pillow,..the other through the under pillow. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* Gloss. 263 Parts of a Waggon..; Peel, the pillow over the axle. **e.** 1814 R. BUCHANAN *Millwork* (1823) 547 The bearings on which gudgeons and journals rest and revolve, are sometimes termed pillows and frequently brasses.

5. A kind of plain fustian.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 537 The common fustian..is known by the name of pillow. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pillow*,.. a kind of fustian having a four-leaved twill.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pillow-habit*, *-linen*, *-making*, *-rest*; *pillow-nestling* adj.; **pillow-bar**: see quot.; **pillow-block**, a cradle or bearing to hold the boxes or brasses forming the journal-bearing of a shaft or roller; **†pillow-coat**, **-cote** = PILLOW-CASE; **pillow-counsel**: cf. 1 b; **pillow-cup**, a cup or drink taken before going to bed, a 'night-cap'; **pillow-fight**, a fight with pillows (in a bedroom); **pillow-lace**, lace worked on a pillow (sense 3 b); **pillow-pipe**, a pipe smoked before going to bed; **pillow-sham**: see quot. 1879; **pillow-slip**, **-tie** = PILLOW-CASE; **pillow-word** (in Japanese verse): see quot. 1880.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pillow-bar*, the ground or filling of pillow-lace, consisting of irregular threads or groups of threads drawn from one part of the pattern to another. These bars may either be plain or have a minute pearl-edge. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 534 The axle of these wheels is 1¼ inch diameter,..and is in two lengths supported in *pillow-blocks bolted to the lower edge of the bars. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 586 Pillow blocks for mining machinery shafts. 1534 *Inv.* in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, LXXXIII. lf. 117 b (P.R.O.), A bedstedyll' with a Fetherbed:..One pillowe with a *pillocote. 1600 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 226 Forty payer of sheetes..viij payer of pillow coates six payer of pillowes. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 21, I am aferd al the *pillow counsel in Walden is scarc able to counsel to so hard a case. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xix, To hand round to the company a sleeping-drink or *pillow-cup, of distilled water, mingled with spices. 1904 LLOYD GEORGE in *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Jan. 9/2 It was too much of a *pillow-fight...There was a great show of effort and of striking without very much damage done. 1858

SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pillow-lace*, lace worked by hand on a small cushion or pillow. 1869 Mrs. PALLISER *Lace* vii. (ed. 2) 87 That pillow lace was first made in the Low Countries, we have the evidence of contemporary paintings. 1832 L. HUNT *Ariadne Waking* 8 Her *pillow-nestling cheek. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* III. ii, I sat with him, whilst he smoaked his *pillow pipe, as the phrase is. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* II. ii. 429 There should be in every sick-room two *pillow-rests. 1879 WEBSTER Suppl., **Pillow-sham*, a covering, usually of embroidered linen, laid over the pillow of a bed when it is not in use. 1889 *Century Mag.* XXXVII. 786 Pillow-shams..neatly folded out of the way. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), **Pillow-slip*, *Pillow-bear*, the cover or case of a pillow. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 648 The wife will rise..and with pillow-slip in hand will gather the mushrooms that have grown with the night. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pillowbere*, a pillow-case...Also called a pillow-slip or *pillow-tie. 1877 B. H. CHAMBERLAIN in *Trans. Asiat. Soc. Japan* V. 80 A '*Pillow-Word'. 1880 — *Classic. Poetry Japanese* Introd. 5 There are..some usual additions to the means at the Japanese versifier's command. They are three in number, and altogether original, viz., what are styled 'Pillow-words', 'Prefaces', and 'Pivots'. The 'Pillow-words' are meaningless expressions which are prefixed to other words merely for the sake of euphony. Almost every word of note has some 'Pillow-word' on which it may, so to speak, rest its head. 1899 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 225 The rhymeless metre..is eked out by pillow-words.

Pi·llow, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To rest or place (the head, etc.) on or as on a pillow; to lay down on a pillow. Also *fig.*

1629 MILTON *On Nativity* 231 So when the Sun in bed,.. Pillows his chin upon an Orient wave. 1796 SOUTHEY *Rudiger* xxii, And Rudiger upon his arm Pillow'd the little child. *c* 1830 E. IRVING in *Gd. Words* Jan. (1884) 46/2 Pillowing their hopes upon something else than the sanctification..which the Gospel hath wrought. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. i. 7 He appeared in deep reflection, ..pillowing his head on his hand.

b. Of a thing: To serve as a pillow for.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IV. xii, Wrapt in his mantle Thalaba reposed, His loose right arm pillowing his easy head. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxiv, And her transparent cheek, all pale and warm, Pillow'd his death-like forehead.

c. In *pa. pple.* Laid on, or as on, a pillow.

1794 COLERIDGE *Lines on Friend who died of Frenzy Fever* 50 'Mid fitful starts I nod, And fain would sleep, though pillowed on a clod! 1818 MRS. ILIFF *Poems Sev. Occas.* (ed. 2) 29 Languor and pain confess thy charm, When pillow'd on thy friendly arm.

2. *intr.* To rest the head on or as on a pillow.

1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 890 Like him, I pillow on the cheek, And nestle near the languid eye. *a* 1820 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* 55 Thou shalt pillow on my breast While heavenly breathings float around.

3. *trans.* To support or prop *up* with pillows.

1839 SIR J. PAGET in *Mem. & Lett.* v. 106 On my arm he came, and breakfasted with me in his sitting-room, blanketted and pillowed. 1850 *Life H. Heugh* xxvii. (1852) 486 He wished to be pillowed-up more.

Hence **Pi·llowed** (-oud) *ppl. a.* (also in *Arch.* [f. PILLOW *sb.*] = CUSHIONED 3); **Pi·llowing** *ppl. a.*

1832 L. HUNT *To T. L. H.* 9 Thy sidelong pillowed meekness. *a* 1851 MOIR *Unknown Grave* x, With pillowing daisies for his bed. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xii, An effort to regain the pillowing arm. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Pillowed*..2. In *arch.* a term applied to a rounded frieze. Called also *Pulvinated.*

Pillow, -e, obs. variants of PILAU.

Pillow-bere (pi·lo$_1$bī·ə1). *arch.* Forms: first element: see PILLOW; second, 4- -beer, 6–8 bear, (6–7 -beare), 6- -ber, -bier, (6 -beier), 5- -bere: see BEAR *sb.*[4] (Also 7 **phillaber**, 8 **pillyber.**) [f. PILLOW *sb.* + BEAR *sb.*[4]] = PILLOW-CASE.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 694 Ne was ther swich another Pardoner For in his male he hadde a pilwe beer, Which þat he seyde, was oure lady veyl. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 131 Pilowe beres off fustian unstuffed iiij. 1503 in *Calr. Doc. rel. Scotl.* (1888) IV. 341 [For the Queen of Scots..] 2 'pilloberes' [of an ell long, at 2s. an ell]. 1519 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* lf. 160 (MS.), iiij pillows, iiij pillowbers, ij coverletts. 1558 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 176 Sixteyne pillew beares. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 25 Putte thys into a softe sack or pilow bier. 1564 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) II. 219 A pilleber having Iesus sued vpon yt. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 81 A crosse crosse (*sic*) clothe, a pillowe beier, were sold the yeare 1560. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* viii. 125 And makes him wish for such a Pillowbeare [*rime* appear]. 1640 in MCDOWALL *Hist. Dumfries* (1867) 405 Hollond shirts and phillabers..damask table-cloths. 1683 in *Bedfordshire N. & Q.* (1889) II. 236, I giue to my goddaughter a pair of fine pillowbears. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 366 Numbers of Pillows, each with its Pillow-bier. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 Apr. Let. iii, Take care of.. the pillyber. 1776 ANSTEY *Election Ball* Wks. (1808) 222 An obstinate bolster Which I think I have seen you attempting, my dear, In vain to cram into a small pillowbeer. 1885 EDNA LYALL *In Golden Days* II. x. 211 A pillow-beer—friend of many a weary journey—lay hard by.

Pi·llow-case. The washable case or covering, usually of white linen or cotton cloth, which is drawn over a pillow.

a 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants* viii, When you put a clean pillow-case on your lady's pillow. 1857 WOOD *Com. Obj. Sea Shore* 57 The general shape of the egg [of the dog-fish] has been aptly compared to a pillow-case, with strings tied to the corners. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 496 The use of bedding (pillows and pillow-cases).

Pi·llowless, *a.* [See -LESS.] Without a pillow.

a 1847 ELIZA COOK *Song of Beggars* vi, We On our pillowless couch sleep as soundly as he.

Pillowy (pi·loui), *a.* [f. PILLOW *sb.* + -Y.] Having the quality of, or resembling, a pillow; soft; yielding.

1798 SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 181 Soft on the pillowy moss he seats his bride. 1821 SOUTHEY *Vis. Judgem.* i. 12 The clouds had gather'd above them High in the middle air, huge, purple, pillowy masses. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 88 Pure from a maiden's couch, from a mother's pillowy bosom.

Pillulary, Pillule: see PILULARY, PILULE.

Pillwort (pi·lwɐt). [f. PILL *sb.*[2] + WORT: so called from its small globular involucres.] Any plant of the cryptogamous genus *Pilularia*, esp. the British species *P. globulifera.*

1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* VI. 156 Pill-wort. Capsules globular, 4-celled, each cell containing two different kinds of bodies. 1864 T. MOORE *Brit. Ferns*, etc. 105 The pillwort or pepper-grass..is a small creeping plant with grassy leaves, growing usually in the shallow margins of lakes and pools where it is occasionally overflowed; but sometimes occurring entirely submerged.

Pillyber, Pillycane, Pillyon, obs. forms of PILLOW-BERE, PELICAN, PILLION[2].

†**Pilmall**, obs. (erroneous) var. of PALL-MALL.

1672 W. RAMSEY *Gentlem. Comp.* IV. 133 Exercises which are used abroad that may befit a Gentleman..are Pilmall, Gauff, these by striking the Ball exercise the whole Man.

Pilo, obs. form of PILLOW.

Pilo, piloe, obs. variants of PILAU.

Pilo- (pəi·lo), combining form of L. *pilus* hair, as in **Pilocy·stic** *a.*: see quot.; **Pilo-fa·tty** *a.*, in *pilo-fatty cyst* = pilocystic tumour; **Pilomo·tor** *a.*, applied to those nerves which produce movement of the hairs; **Piloni·dal** *a.* [L. *nīd-us* nest]: see quot.; **Pilo-seba·ceous** *a.*, applied to sebaceous glands that open into hair-follicles.

1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pilocystic tumour*, a dermoid cyst, so called because of its often containing hairs. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 142/2 Teeth are frequently found in *pilo-fatty cysts. 1893 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 223/2 Observations upon *Pilomotor Nerves. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 86 There are the waves of goose-skin passing over the body due to stimulation of the pilo-motor nerves. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pilonidal sinus*, a sinus occasionally found in the human subject as an abnormality, opening near the tip of the coccyx, and containing hair. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 880 The orifices of the *pilo-sebaceous glands.

Pilocarpine (pəilokā·rpəin). *Chem.* [f. mod. L. *Pilocarpus*, generic name in Bot. (f. Gr. πῖλος wool, felt + καρπ-ός fruit) + -INE[5].] A white crystalline or amorphous alkaloid, $C_{11}H_{16}N_2O_2$, obtained from the leaves of Jaborandi, *Pilocarpus pinnatifolius* (or other species), used in pharmacy. So **Piloca·rpene**, a volatile oil, and **Piloca·rpidine**, an alkaloid, from the same source.

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 517 Pilocarpin is superior to jaborandi in the certainty of its action. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N.Y.) VIII. 201 According to Hardy the oil consists of a hydrocarbon, *pilocarpene*. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 3rd Suppl. s.v. *Jaborandi*. 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 473/2 The synthetical pilocarpidine thus obtained..is converted into pilocarpine. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s.v. *Pilocarpus*, The leaflets contain a volatile oil, and the alkaloids, pilocarpine, jaborine, pilocarpidine, and jaboridine.

†**Pi·lole.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PILL *sb.*[2] + *-ole*, dim. suff. Cf. F. *pilule*, It. *pillola.*] A small ball, a pill.

14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (Napier 1882) 25 Mele it well and mak ther of small piloles.

Pilolite (pəi·ləlait). *Min.* [f. Gr. πῖλος felt + -LITE.] A name under which Heddle has included much of the Mountain-leather and Mountain-cork formerly referred to asbestos.

1878 M. F. HEDDLE in *Min. Mag.* II. 206.

‖**Pilori** (pilō·ri). [Abbreviation of the specific name.] More fully *pilori-rat*, the Cuban hutiaconga, *Capromys pilorides.*

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VI. i. 454 The Pilori is a native of the West India Islands: and has a short tail, as thick at one end as the other. 1836 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIV. 133/1 One of the largest and most destructive rats..is the *pilori*, or musk-rat of the Antilles (*Mus pilorides*).

Pilory, obs. form of PILLORY.

Pilose (pəi·lōus), *a.* [ad. L. *pilōs-us* hairy, f. *pilus* hair.] Covered with hair, esp. with soft flexible hair; hairy; pilous.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf, Pilose Leaf*, one whose surface is furnished with hairs so large and long, as to be distinguishable by the eye separately. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 150 Pilose antennæ. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxx. 175 Of the pilose larvæ some..have a few scattered hairs. 1877 COUES & ALLEN *N. Amer. Rod.* 865 The soles..in some specimens densely pilose, and in others nearly naked.

b. *Comb.* **pilose-hispid** *a.*, rough with hairs; **pilose-setaceous** *a.*, having pilose setæ.

1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 129 *Echium violaceum.* Stem erect, branched, diffuse, pilose-hispid. *Ibid.* 13 *Centauridæ*...Pappus..; second row longest, pilose-setaceous.

‖**Pilose·lla.** *Obs.* [mod. or med.L., dim. of *pilōsa*, fem. of *pilōsus* hairy.] A name given by the herbalists to two Composite plants with pilose or woolly leaves, viz. Great Pilosella, the Mouse-ear Hawkweed, *Hieracium Pilosella*, and Small Pilosella, *Gnaphalium dioicum.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lx. 87 The great is now called in Latine *Pilosella maior*: in English also Great Pilosella. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* II. xvi. 170 It is not for Christians to be like unto Thistles, or Teazels, which a man cannot touch without pricking his fingers; but rather to Pitosella [*sic*], or Mouse-eare,..which is soft and silken.

Pilosity (pəilo·sĭti). [f. L. type **pilōsitās*, f. *pilōsus* hairy, PILOSE: see -ITY.] The quality or state of being pilose; hairiness.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 7 That pilositie is incident to orifices of moisture. 1626 — *Sylva* § 680 Beasts are more Hairie than Men;..And the Plumage of Birds exceedeth the Pilositie of Beasts. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 466, I allude to the pilosity of chin. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. II. xx. 378 *note*, Observations were..made on the pilosity of 2129 black and coloured soldiers, whilst they were bathing.

Pilo·so-, used as combining form of L. *pilōsus* hairy, PILOSE, as in **Piloso-fi·mbriate** *a.*, fringed with soft hairs; **Piloso-hi·spid** *a.*, having somewhat stiff hairs.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 17 Viola. L[eaves] cordate, piloso-hispid. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 252 *Lachnella acutipila*...Margin piloso-fimbriate.

Pilot (pəi·lət), *sb.* Also 6 **pilotte, pylotte, -lett, -late**, 6–7 **pilote, pylot**(e, 6–8 **pilate**, 7 **pilat.** [a. early mod.F. *pillotte* (1529 in Hatz.-Darm.), *pillot, pilot* (1530), mod.F. *pilote*, ad. It. *pilota, -to* (so Sp., Pg. *piloto*, med.L. *pilōtus*, 1486 in Rymer XII. 300), supposed to be altered, perh. by popular etymology, from It. *pedota* (Florio), *pedotta* (Du Cange), in OF. *pedot* (*Geste des Chiprois* *c* 1500). Cf. It. *pedoto, pedotto* rudder, steersman, beacon. (Breusing (*Niederdeutsches Jahrb.* V.) suggests ad. late Gr. **πηδώτης* steersman, f. *πηδόν* an oar, in pl. rudder.)

Du. *piloot*, in 16–17th *c. pijlloot* (Kilian), *pijloot* (Hexham), mod.Ger. *pilot*, are from Fr.]

1. One who steers or directs the course of a ship; a steersman, helmsman; *spec.* a person duly qualified to steer ships into and out of a harbour, or wherever the navigation requires local knowledge.

1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pylotte that governeth a shippe, *pilot.* 1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 74 When any shippe cometh in, she taketh fyrst pilottes to sounde the waie. *a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 3 Quhat pylett takis my schip in chairge. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 4 His pilote was not expert in that nauigation. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 26 What Ship can bee longe safe from wracke, where euery man will take vpon him to bee a Pylate? 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. 2 King Henry the eight..made him [S. Cabot] grand Pilate of England. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xxvii. (1650) 44 Ther are Pylots, that in small Shallops, are ready to steer all ships that passe. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* lii. (1742) IV. 490 An experienced pilate and seaman. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. i. 8, I was like a ship without a pilot, that could only run before the wind. 1847 JAMES *Convict* ii, A large shaggy great coat commonly at that time used by pilots.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* One who or that which serves as a guide through some unknown place or through a dangerous or difficult course of affairs; a guide; a leader in the hunting-field.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 279 Desire my Pilot is, Beautie my prise. 1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 161 The Pilots of the Commonwealth had an eye to the dangers that lay in the way. 1800–24 CAMPBELL *To Sir F. Burdett* i, For forty years the pilot of reform! 1802 G. CANNING *Song* in *Lyra Elegant.* (1867) No. 199 Here's to the pilot [i.e. Pitt] that weather'd the storm! 1883 MRS. KENNARD *Right Sort* ix, To take compassion upon an unprotected female, and constitute himself her pilot for a few days. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* xi, He was my pilot through some of our best runs.

c. Short for *pilot boat, car, engine.*

1896 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 4/3 It was..ten minutes past one when Mr. Lawson, in his pilot, came in, having repaired on the way. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Sept. 3/1 Uncertainty..as to whether the pilot was going through with the train or intending to pass to the siding.

2. = *pilot-cloth* (see sense 6).

1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 110 Each buyer is invited..to look at some 'olives', or 'browns', or 'pilots'. 1887 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 2/6 Heavy tweeds, unions, meltons, pilots, and other cheap fabrics.

3. = COW-CATCHER. *U. S.*

1864 WEBSTER, *Pilot*...3. The cow-catcher of a locomotive. (*U. S.*) 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 198/2 There is no cab,..no pilot, head-light, or any other appurtenances of an ordinary locomotive. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 247 Most English people know the wedge-shaped pilot in front of the American engine well enough by repute to recognise it.

4. a. The copperhead = *pilot-snake* (*c*). **b.** = PILOT-FISH 1. **c.** The black-bellied plover, *Squatarola helvetica.*

1782 CREVECOEUR *Lett.* 236 The most dangerous one is the pilot, or copperhead;..it bears the first name because it always precedes the rattle-snake; that is, quits its state of torpidity in the spring a week before the other. 1835 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XII. 185 *note*, The pilot swims constantly in front of the shark...When the sea-angel neared the ship, the pilot swam close to the snout, or near one of the breast fins of the animal. 1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names & Portr. Birds* 192 On the coast of Virginia..the name of Pilot has been given, as it is always seen leading the large flights of birds which the rising tides drive from the shoals and oyster rocks.

5. An instrument for correcting the error of a compass. 1892 in WEBSTER.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, Of or pertaining to a pilot or pilots, as *pilot-brig, -coble, -craft, -cutter, -ground, -launch, -schooner, -sloop, -tower, -vessel*; that acts as a pilot or in any way as a guide, as *pilot-balloon, -engine, -star, -train, -tunnel, -wheel*; **pilot-bread, pilot-cloth**: see quots.; **pilot-coat** =

PEA-JACKET; **pilot-flag** = *pilot-jack*; **pilot-flame** = *pilot-light*; **pilot-frame**, a low truck supporting the fore-part of a locomotive engine: = BOGIE 2; **pilot-house**, an enclosed place on the deck of a ship, sheltering the steering-gear and the helmsman; the wheel-house; **pilot-jack**: see quots.; **pilot-jacket** = PEA-JACKET; **pilot-light**, a minute gas-light kept burning beside a large burner, so as automatically to light the latter when the flow through it is turned on; †**pilot-major**, a chief pilot; also, an honorary title conferred on distinguished discoverers and sailors; **pilot's anchor**: see quot.; **pilot-snake**, (*a*) a large N. American snake, *Coluber obsoletus*; (*b*) the pine-snake, *Pituophis melanoleucus*; (*c*) the copperhead; **pilot-water** (also **pilot's water**), a piece of water in which the service of a pilot is obligatory; **pilot-weed**, the compass-plant, *Silphium laciniatum*; **pilot-whale**, the round-headed porpoise or ca'ing whale. Also PILOT-BIRD, -BOAT, -FISH.

1846 MRS. GORE *Sk. Eng. Char.* (1852) 155 To..send up.. such a *pilot-balloon as might fore-arm and forewarn his patron of the object of their mission. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pilot-balloon*, a small balloon sent up to try the wind. *Ibid.*, **Pilot-bread*, a name in the West Indies for hard or ship biscuit. 1868 LOSSING *Hudson* 28 A sufficient stock of Boston crackers, pilot-bread, or common loaf-bread. 1844 J. TOMLIN *Mission. Jrnls.* 368 We met with another *pilot brig going up to Calcutta. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi. 78 Rolled up in blue *pilot-cloth. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pilot-cloth*, an indigo blue woollen cloth, used for great coats, and for the clothing of mariners and others. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Pilot cutter*, a very handy sharp built sea-boat used by pilots. 1838 *Chr. in Ann. Reg.* 40/1 His engine came into collision with another *pilot engine. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Pilot-light*..called also *pilot-flame. 1843 J. WEALE *Ensamples Railway Making* p. xx, Engines having..what is termed a truck or *pilot frame. 1854 J. L. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* I Avoiding altogether the regular *pilot-ground, at midnight [we] reached St. George's Bay. 1883 *American* VI. 40 A seaman might rise from the forward deck to the *pilot-house and the master's quarters. 1900 *Everybody's Mag.* III. 529 The pilot-house, a wrought-iron structure situated well forward near the bow, and projecting 4 ft. above the deck. 1898 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pilot-jack*. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 96 When surrounded by a white border it [the 'jack']..is a signal for a pilot, and..it is known as a 'Pilot jack'. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxxviii, The..men..had lain down in their gregos and *pilot-jackets. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pilot-light. *Mod.* The gas lamps in the streets of Oxford are now furnished with incandescent burners and pilot-lights. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xi. 155 Cape de Vert, from whence the *Pilote maior returned to Peru. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 72 Richard Chancellor, pilot-major of the fleet. 1894 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6/1 Vespucci..was finally appointed Pilot-Major to the King of Spain. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Pilot's anchor*, a kedge used for dropping a vessel in a stream or tide-way. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 5/7 The *pilot-sloop, with half a dozen Exmouth pilots, put off to assist the vessel and get her off. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pilot-snake*, a harmless snake of the United States, *Coluber obsoletus*. 1890 *Century Mag.* Aug. 615/2, I killed two large snakes called the 'pilot-snake', from the fact that they are generally found in the vicinity of rattlesnakes. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. 156 High in air..Shone the bright lamp, the *pilot star of Love. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 1155 Enid, the pilot star of my lone life, Enid, my early and my only love. 1900 *Daily News* 19 May 2/1 The shelling of the armoured *pilot-train on its return journey. 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 125 § 3 An Apprenticeship of Five Years to some *Pilot Vessel. 1788 *Chambers' Cycl.* (ed. Rees) s.v. *Pilot*, A pilot, when conducting one of his majesty's ships in *pilot-water, shall have the sole charge and command of the ship. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pilot's Fairway*, or *Pilot's Water*, a channel wherein, according to usage, a pilot must be employed. 1885 *Girl's Own Paper* Jan. 171/1 The compass plant—variously known, also, as the *pilot weed, polar plant, and turpentine weed—is a vigorous perennial. 1867 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 373/1 The *pilot whale, *Globiocephalus Svinevaly.*

Hence **Pi·lotess**, a female pilot; **Pi·lotless** *a.*, without a pilot.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 108 Our fair pilotess has not suffered shipwreck. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 168 Though Rudder-lesse, not Pilot-lesse this Boat. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 441/2 The pilotless narrows which lead to Fiddler's Green, where all good sailors go.

Pi·lot, *v.* [f. PILOT *sb.*, or a. F. *pilote-r*[4] (1530 in Palsgr.); cf. *pilotier* 'to play the Pilot' (Cotgr.).]

1. *trans.* To conduct as a pilot; to direct the course of (a vessel) through difficult or dangerous waters; to steer, guide.

1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857)[3] III. 152 One Chetworth.. pilotted in the French privateers that burnt the lord Widdringtons house 2 years since. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pilot*, Pilots..having done their parts in piloting the vessel, return to shoar where they reside. 1805 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VI. 471 [He] very cheerfully offered his services to pilot the Fleet. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* v. ii. 256 He..can pilot himself by the sun or the stars.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* To guide or conduct through unknown, intricate, or dangerous paths or places, or through a difficult course of affairs; to conduct as a 'pilot' in the hunting-field.

1649 J. ELIOT in *Early Rec. Lancaster, Mass.* (1884) 16, I therefore hired a..man of Nashaway..to mark trees so that he may Pilot me thither in the spring. 1761 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 18 Apr., He piloted us over the next mountain. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxi, The big footman..piloted them in perfect safety to the street-door. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* I. i. 148 Go—the Saints Pilot and prosper all thy wandering out And homeward. 1881 MRS. POWER O'DONOGHUE *Ladies on Horseback* III. vi. 94 Any man who will not take this trouble is unfit to pilot a lady.

3. To act as pilot on (a course or way), in or over (an extent of water, etc.).

1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 880 Mentor, Captain of the lordly crew, Safe from the secret rock and adverse storm Pilots the course. 1846 *Mech. Mag.* July 20 [They] piloted the way with the Number 1 engine of the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company. 1871 BROWNING *Hervé Riel* vi, Morn and eve, night and day, Have I piloted your bay.

Hence **Pi·loting** *vbl. sb.*

1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 126 By their Piloting, he soon came..to the top of the great Tree which the Enemy had fallen a-cross the River. 1766 J. S. SPEER (*title*) The West India Pilot, containing Piloting Directions for Port Royal Harbour in Jamaica. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 148 Never mind, I'll do the piloting. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* May 655/2 Piloting, that is the placing of two engines ..at the head of a train, is common upon almost all our lines.

Pilotage (pəi·lətédʒ). [a. F. *pilotage* (1540 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *piloter*: see prec. and -AGE.]

1. The action or practice of piloting; the function or office of a pilot; pilotship.

Compulsory pilotage, compulsory employment of a pilot within certain limits, according to local law.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Apol.* 55 Otherwise we must for ever abandon the Indies, and loose all our knowledge, and our Pylotage of that part of the world. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. x. 325 At the other end of this Iland [Innisherkan] (with good pilotage) a ship of two hundred Tunne by day may safely come in. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pilotage* or *Pilotism*, the office or art of a Pilot. 1786–7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* i. 14 They have paid the utmost attention to pilotage. 1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xiv, I shall never save the ship by my own pilotage. 1868 *Morn. Star* 28 Mar., Mr. Candlish did good service..by proposing the abolition of compulsory pilotage.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (cf. PILOT *v.* 2).

1726 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 May, By the pilotage of the Lt. Governour's Servant..Went the way by Mr. Prescott's Meetinghouse. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, He left the room under the pilotage of Mrs. Chick. 1887 SIR R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* ii. 22 A chosen lot..look to him for pilotage through the line of gates.

2. The cost or charge for piloting; pilotage dues.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 141 The Merchant likewise doth couenant to pay Pilotage, if a Pilot be vsed to bring the ship into the harbor. 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 125 § 38 Every Pilot so taken to Sea..shall, over and above his pilotage, have and receive Ten Shillings and Sixpence *per Diem*. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxviii, I've got all my pilotage too, so I'm a rich man.

3. An association, authority, or establishment for supervising a body of pilots.

1881 *Times* 17 Jan. 12/4 If frost persists and ice increases, the pilotage will probably refuse pilots to sailing vessels, unless they are assisted by tugs.

4. *attrib.*, as *pilotage certificate, dues, signal*, etc.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 230 Many Swedish officers of the pilotage establishment declared..in favour of this opinion. 1873 in Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (1875) 68 The International Code Pilotage Signal indicated by P. T. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 7/2 At the time of the accident the ship was in pilotage waters.

Pilotaxitic (pəi lɒˌtæksi·tik), *a. Min.* [As if f. **pilotaxite* (f. Gr. πίλο-s felt + τάξις arrangement + -ITE) + -IC.] (See quot.)

1888 F. H. HATCH in Teall *Brit. Petrogr.* Gloss., *Pilotaxitic*, the name given by Rosenbusch..to a holocrystalline structure especially characteristic of certain porphyrites and basalts. The groundmass of these rocks consists essentially of slender laths and microlites of felspar in felted aggregation, and often presents fluxion phenomena.

Pi·lot-bird. [f. PILOT *sb.* + BIRD.] A name applied to various birds: †**a.** A sea-bird of the W. Indies (*obs.*); **b.** An Australian bird, *Pycnoptilus floccosus*; **c.** ? An albatross (quot. 1888).

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), The *Pilot Bird*, a certain Bird about the Caribe Islands, which gives notice to Ships that sail that way, when they come near any of those Islands. [Hence in BAILEY, CRABBE *Technol. Dict.*, and later Dicts.] 1888 R. L. STEVENSON *Diary* in G. Balfour *Life* (1901) II. 43 Some attendant pilot birds, silent, brown-suited, quakerish fellows, infinitely graceful on the wing. 1893 *Argus* (Melbourne) 25 Mar. 4/6 (Morris) Here, close together, are eggs of the lyre-bird and the pilot-bird—the last very rare, and only found quite lately in the Dandenong Ranges. 1903 NORTH (of Sydney, N. S. W.) *Let. to Prof. A. Newton*, Relative to the name of 'Pilot-bird' for *Pycnoptilus floccosus*, this species has been so labelled in the National Museum, Melbourne, for the past twenty-five years. The name is probably derived from its loud and distinct notes quite unlike those of any other species.

Pi·lot-boat. A boat in which pilots cruise off shore in order to meet incoming vessels.

1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 14 Like to our little pilot boats. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4682/3 He came not to Anchor, only spoke with a Pilot-Boat. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* II, A..note sent on shore by a pilot-boat.

Pilotee (pəilətī·). [f. PILOT *v.* + -EE.] A person who is piloted, e. g. in the hunting-field.

1883 MRS. KENNARD *Right Sort* ix, The pilotee can always see what he [the 'pilot'] is doing, how hard he rides, how well he goes.

†**Pilotee·r.** *Obs.* [f. PILOT *v.* + -EER.] One who pilots (a ship); a pilot or steersman.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 8 As to the Pole the lilly bends In a sea-compas..Wherby the wandring piloteer His cours in gloomy nights doth steer.

Pi·lot-fish. [f. PILOT *sb.* + FISH *sb.*[1]]

1. A small carangoid fish of warm seas, *Naucrates ductor*, reputed to act as a pilot or guide to the shark; it is of a silvery blue colour, with dark vertical bars upon the back.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 5 Sharkes..are alwayes directed by a little specled fish, called a pilot fish, by guiding their Monster-masters to a prey. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 27 Pilot-Fishes, which the Shark, tho' never so hungry, does not devour. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xii, When you meet the pilot-fish, the shark arn't far off, you know. 1835 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XII. 185/1 *Naucrates ductor*, the famous pilot-fish of navigators..., so named from its habit of keeping company with ships at sea, and frequently swimming beneath their bows.

2. Applied to other fishes: **a.** A general term for the *Carangidæ*, as the amber-fish (*Seriola dorsalis*), or the rudder-fish (*Seriola zonata*); **b.** The remora or sucking-fish (*Echeneis*); **c.** The round-fish (*Coregonus quadrilateralis*).

1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 69 The pilot or rudder fish. [1835 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XII. 186/1 The name of *pilot* has been bestowed on various other fishes, and the genus Naucrates itself contains several species.]

Pilotism (pəi·lətiz'm). [f. PILOT *sb.* + -ISM.] The practice of a pilot; pilotage.

1611 COTGR., *Pilotage*, Pilotisme; th'office, or Art of a Pilot. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 24/1 Petrus de Medina..and Johannes Aurigarius..chief Writers in the Art of Pilotism. 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 32, I am between a Scylla and a Charybdis, and uncommonly skilful must be my pilotism, or I must split upon the rocks.

Pi·lotry. *rare.* [f. PILOT *sb.* + -RY.] = PILOTAGE.

1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* Notes (1765) 278 As a Ship is the End of Ship-building, or Navigating the End of Pilotry. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 318 Under such skilful pilotry did I pass days and nights in the prosecution of my one great purpose.

Pi·lotship. *rare.* [f. PILOT *sb.* + -SHIP.] The discharge of the office or function of a pilot.

1664 in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 705 The pylottship..bringing up and carrying down, and in and out, of all such ships. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2814/3 They committed the Pilotship to the 5 Dutch Men. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) III. 158 Whither bound? On what business? Under whose pilotship, government, or protection?

†**Pilo·tte,** obs. form of PELLET *sb.*[1]

14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (Napier 1882) 92 Mak it in pilottes as gret as plomes.

†**Pilotty, piloty.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *pilotis*, f. *piloter* to drive piles, f. *pilot* a pile, augm. of *pile* pile.] A foundation of piles driven into the sea, upon which a building is erected.

1688 BURNET *Lett.* (1708) 129 To see so vast a City [Venice] situated thus in the Sea..the Pilotty supplying the want of Earth to build on. *Ibid.* 299 Unless the Foundation go very Deep, or that it be laid upon Piloty.

Pilou, Pilour(e, obs. ff. PILLOW, PILLER.

Pilous (pəi·ləs), *a.* [ad. L. *pilōsus* hairy (in F. *pileux*): see -OUS, and cf. PILOSE.] Characterized by or abounding in hair; of the nature or consisting of hair; hairy, pilose, pileous.

1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa*, etc. 124 The excrements of voracious doggs, which is seen to be very pilous. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., The eares are..pilous in the rat. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 385 *Pilosum*, pilous, covered with long Hairs that appear distinctly. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 380/1 No pilous system.. exists in any of the Gasteropods. 1842 MONTAGU in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 33 It is covered with a rough pilous epidermis. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 291 The face lacking the crimson velvety pilous area.

Pilow(e, obs. form of PILLOW.

†**Pilpate.** *Obs. rare.* Also **pyl-.** Short for *pilled pate* tonsured head, i. e. priest (with allusion to *prelate*): see PILLED 2.

1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* I vij, If it had bene as greatlye vnto the profyte of the pope and his pilpates, I wold saye prelates, as it were to the honoure of god. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. (1564) 496 These smeared Pylpates, I would saye, Prelates, first of all accused hym.

Pi·lpulist. *Rabbinism.* [f. Heb. *pilpul* (f. פלפל *pilpēl* to debate hotly, referred by some to *pilpel* pepper) + -IST.] A subtle or keen disputant, esp. in rabbinical argumentation. Hence **Pilpuli·stic** *a.*

1859 P. BEATON *Jews in East* II. iii. 93 There is not among them a talmudist or pilpulist of any reputation. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 90 To exercise the understanding in pilpulistic tournaments. 1898 ZANGWILL *Dreamers Ghetto* 237 We passed by the village Beth-Hamidrash, whence loud sounds of 'pilpulistic' (wire-drawn) argument issued.

†**Pi·lsenite.** *Min. Obs.* [a. Ger. *pilsenit* (Kenngott, 1853), f. Deutsch-Pilsen, Hungary, where found.] An obsolete synonym of WEHRLITE.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) Index.

†**Pilser.** *Obs. rare*—°. (See quots.)

1736 AINSWORTH, A pilser, *musca luminibus advolitans*. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pilser*, the moth or fly that runs into a candle flame. *Ainsworth.* [Hence in mod. Dicts.]

†**Pilt, pult,** *v. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 2–4 **pulte**(n; *β.* 2–5 **pilte**(n, 3–4 **pylte**; *γ.* 4–5 **pelte.** *Pa. t. α.* 3–4 **pulte**, 4–5 **pult**; *β.* 3–4 **pylte, pilte**, 5 **pylt**; *γ.* 4–5 **pelt**(e. *Pa. pple. α.* 2–3 **i-, y-pult**, 3–4 **pult**; *β.* 3–5 **pilt**, 4 **pylt**, 4–5 **pylte**; *γ.* 5 **pelt.** [ME. *piilten, pyltен, pillen*, repr. an unrecorded OE. **pyltan.*

App. ad. L. *pultare* to beat, strike, knock; cf. OE. *tyrnan*, ad. L. *tornare*. No examples of *pult, pylt, pilt*, in sense 1 or 2, are known after 1400, nor of sense 3 after *c* 1430 (when *pult* in this sense was generally succeeded by *put*). Instances of *pelt* occur somewhat later in a Northern text; but it is doubtful whether this is the mod. Eng. verb PELT.]

1. *trans.* To thrust, push; to thrust away or out.

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Heo weren ipult ut of paradise. *c* 1275 LAY. 7527 Nemnius pulte vp [*c* 1205 hæf vp] his scelde. *Ibid.* 10839 Bruttes þane broc Galli cleopede, For þat Liuius Gallus was þar on i-pult þus. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 56/78 Huy harleden him wel faste, And smiten and pulten here and þere. *Ibid.* 328/189 Darstþov þine moder pulte? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. EE. 22 Hit was þe spere..þat was ypult to his herte. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 72 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 100 In to þe vrþe hi pulte faste þe tuei endes of þe Rode. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 207 Out of his heritage he is pult For synne and for his owne gult. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VIII. 96 A pyke is on þat potente to pulte [*v. rr.* pelte, pilte, putte; *A.* punge, *C.* pulte, putte] adown þe wikked. *a* 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* lii. 92 Mi mouþ I pulte, my sweore I streiȝt To cusse his feet. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 774 [He] pulte is bowels in ageyn.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 197 þe neddre..hire oðer eare pilteð hire tail þer inne. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1296 Ho-so curseþ wiþoutyn gylt Hyt shal on hys hede be pylt. ? 1370 *Robt. Cicyle* § 89 And so hath he done for my gylte: Now am y of my lande pylte.

γ. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4086 þat heued þai han on a spere y-sett:..Mani on pelt her finger þer-to. *a* 1400 *Octavian* 595 The lyonesse..on the schyp sche gan to clym..The schypmen..ofte her pelte ynto the see. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 284 Yit wold I gif of my gold yond tratoure to pelt [*rimes* swelt, belt, felt] ffor euer.

b. *fig.* To impel, drive, force.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 871 Mid mine songe ich hine pulte þat he groni for his gulte.

2. To put forcibly. *Pilt out*, to put or take out by force.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7713 Wo so..slou hert oþer hind. Me ssolde pulte [*v. r.* putte] out boþe is eye & makye him pur blind. 13.. *Verses for Palm Sunday* xxii. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 244 To dethe a wolde hym pulte.

β. a 1300 *Fall & Passion* 56 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 14 Fort godis sone in rode was pilt. *a* 1300 *Ten Commandm.* 12 *Ibid.* 16 Whan ȝe swerið gret oþis in rode þou piltist him apan. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4219 Neuer-more for no man mowe [þei] be deliuered, ne pult out [of] prison. *Ibid.* 4593 He bar doun vs alle, & pult vs in prison.

γ. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4550 þe paynyms to dede war pelt..whils þai [cristen men] dede dyntes delt.

3. To put, place, set; to apply. *Pilt out*, to put forth, publish, exhibit, display.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9550 So þat it was uorþ ipult þat þe king and heo So sibbe were þat hii ne miȝte leng to gadere beo. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1316 He nele bileve nevere mo, Bote ȝe pulte ȝoure hond therto to bringe ous out of wo. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. I. 125 Ac lucifer lowest lith of hem alle; For pryde þat he pult [*v. rr.* pelt, putte, put, puttede] out.

β. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2214 Þo breðere seckes hauen he filt, And in euerilc oðe siluer pilt. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 29 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 13 Womman mai turne man-is wille whare þho wol pilt hir to. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 136 With a lace of silke therin pilt. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 894 Sitthen in gode office þe kyng hath alle them pilt. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 21 Take þin pombe & pylt þer-on, & ȝif it cleuey, let it boyle.

γ. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1520 His mouþe opened þai And pelt treacle in þat man.

4. *intr.* To thrust oneself, push; to impinge with force; *pullen aȝean*, to rebound.

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 Hwar se muchel dunt is, hit pulteð up aȝean o þeo þet þer neih stondeð. Sikerliche, hwose is neih him þet ikepte þe heuie duntes, hit wule pulten [*v. r.* butten, bulen] on him.

β, γ. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl.) 1433 Fykenild aȝeyn hire pylte [*Laud* 1415 pulte, *Camb.* 1470 pelte] mid his suerdes hylte.

Hence †**Pilting, pulting** *vbl. sb.*, pushing, thrusting, impact.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 366 þe pultunge is ful liht to þolien uor his luue þet underueng so heuie duntes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4313 þer was pultinge & ssouinge & stroc monyon.

†**Pilt, pult,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. vb.] A thrust; a push.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3466 Damme, for-ȝeue me þis gilt, I ne ȝaf þe noþer dent ne pilt! *a* 1350 *Childh. Jesus* 422 He ful a doun ded for is gult, Ne hadde he noþur dunt ne pult.

Piltock (pi·ltək). *dial.* Also 9 **piltack, -tik.** [Of unascertained etymology; app. a diminutive.] The name in Shetland, Orkney, and Caithness of the coal-fish, *Merlangus carbonarius*, in its second year.

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 190 Piltocks, sillocks, haddocks, mackarels, and flounders, are got immediately upon the shore. 1822 HIBBERT *Descr. Shetl. Isl.* 119 About the month of May ensuing, they are found to have grown from 8 to 15 inches, acquiring during this period of their growth the name of Piltocks. 1883 J. SANDS in *Standard* 12 Oct. 6/5 A boat that was fishing for piltocks, or saithe.

attrib. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 211 Blue-eyed fishermen with their circular piltock nets over their shoulders.

Pilu, obs. form of PILLOW.

Pilular (pi·liŭlăr), *a.* [f. L. type **pilulār-is*, f. *pilula* PILL *sb.*2: see -AR.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a pill; of the nature of a pill or pills.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 48 This preparation .. may be exhibited in a pilular form. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 16 Pilular productions of the pestle. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 281/1 Evaporate the alcoholic tincture to a pilular consistence.

†**Pi·lulary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *pilulāri-us*, f. *pilula* PILL *sb.*2: see -ARY 1. Cf. F. *pilulaire.*] Applied to a beetle which rolls up dung into small balls: cf. *dung-beetle* (DUNG *sb.* 5 c).

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., The pilulaire beetle and spanish flies. 1765 *Universal Mag.* XXXVII. 130/1 The worm that is transformed into the pillulary and stercorary beetle.

Pilule (pi·liul). Also 6–9 **pillule.** [a. F. *pilule*, ad. L. *pilula*: see PILL *sb.*2] A pill; a small pill.

1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* xv. 25 b/2 The dose or geuynge of these pillules is [etc.] according to ye strength of ye patient. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Pilules*, pillules, or as we call them pilles. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Dec. 3/1 The Bible..is apt to pall when served up, as Mr. Ruskin says, in pilules.

Hence **Pi·lulist,** a dealer in pills.

1807 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 66 Is he refreshed by immediate fees like the accomplished pillulist?

Piluli·ferous, *a.* [f. L. *pilula* PILL *sb.*2 + -FEROUS.] Pill-bearing, bearing globular bodies.

1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Piluliferous*, bearing or producing round berries or fruit like pills. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Urtica piluliferа* is so named because of its fruits, which, by their union, form a globulous mass: piluliferous.

Pilulous (pi·liŭləs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Resembling a pill; pill-like in size, minute.

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* ii, Has any one ever pinched into its pilulous smallness the cobweb of pre-matrimonial acquaintanceship? 1905 *Athenæum* 1 July 7/2 Literature is made to descend on them in a gracious rain of pilulous duodecimos.

Pilve, pilwe, pilwo, obs. forms of PILLOW.

†**Pi·lwater.** *Obs. rare.* The Manx shearwater.

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 131 The Countrie yeeldeth allso diuerse other fowle, as wild geese,..both sorts of dyvers or dippers, the pilwater, the Wigion.

Pily (pəi·li), *a.*1 *Her.* [f. PILE *sb.*1 4 + -Y: cf. PALY, etc.] Divided into a number of piles, the number and direction being usually indicated.

1638 GUILLIM *Heraldry* v. iv. (ed. 3) 376 He beareth Barry pily of eight peeces, Gules and Or. *c* 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Pily of eight*, traverse in point to the sinister fesse. *Ibid.*, *Pily bendy* merely differs from *pily barry* by throwing the piles bendways..instead of barways.

Pily (pəi·li), *a.*2 [f. PILE *sb.*5 2 + -Y.] Having a pile or nap (as velvet); of the nature of a pile.

1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1905) VI. 80 To be the King ane ryding galcoit, vj quarteris pylie franche gray. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XVI. 101/1 The coat should be what is called 'pily',—a mixture of hard and soft hair. 1889 'G. STABLES' *Dog Owners' Kennel Comp.* v. § 4. 54 The coat [of the Dandie Dinmont] is pily, or mixture of about two-thirds hardish hair and one-third linty—i. e. soft, but not silky. 1894 M. H. HAYES *Men & Horses* xiii. (ed. 2) 190 That few, if any,..knew much about the virtues of thick 'pily' coir matting and strait-jackets for horses.

†**Pi·lyie,** *v. Sc. Obs.* Also **pilȝie.** [ad. F. *piller* = Pr. *pilhar*, Sp. *pillar*, Pg. *pilhar* to pillage, It. *pigliare* (to take): repr. a late L. type **piliāre*, **pileāre*, for L. *pilāre* to deprive of hair, make bare, f. *pilus* hair.] *trans.* To pillage, plunder.

15.. *Aberdeen Regr.* XV. (Jam.), Pilyeit in the streme be menn of wair or serevaris, or ony guddis cassin be storme of wedder. *c* 1575 in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 635 To tak and pilȝie that quhilk thay may of the said prize. 1598 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 190/2 Samekle of the said armour as salbe pilleit or lost by sey.

Pimaric (pimæ·rik, pəi-), *a. Chem.* [mod. f. *Pi*(*nus*) *mar*(*itima*) + -IC; in F. *pimarique.*] In *pimaric acid*, "an acid resin ($C_{20}H_{30}O_2$) occurring in the turpentine of *Pinus maritima*" (Watts).

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 502 White resin or *galipot* is obtained from Bordeaux turpentine, furnished by the *Pinus maritima*, and consists almost entirely of an acid resin, the *pimaric*. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 364 The Resin consists of three isomeric acids, Pimaric, Pinic, and Sylvic, differing in their solubility in alcohol. Pinic acid is soluble in cold alcohol; sylvic in warm alcohol; pimaric requires boiling spirit; the formula..is $C_{20}H_{30}O_2$.

†**Pimble-stone, pimple-stone,** obs. nasalized var. of PEBBLE-STONE.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful News* II. (1596) 73 Pure Pimple stones of a brooke or Riuer. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 491 To lay little pimble stones vnder their tongue, to eleuate the same.

†**Pime.** *Obs. rare*—1. [? Imitative.] A plaintive cry, a wail or whine.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xxiv, The swallow swyth put furth ane pietious pyme, Said, 'Wo is him can not be war in tyme'.

Pimelic (pime·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. Gr. πῖμελή fat + -IC.] In *Pimelic acid*, an acid ($C_7H_{12}O_4$) obtained in small crystalline grains by the action of nitric acid on various fatty substances. Hence **Pimelate** (pi·mĕlēt), a salt of pimelic acid.

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 349 Pimelic acid..was obtained by Laurent from the mother liquor. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 422 Pimelic acid. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 646 Pimelate of methyl.

Pimelite (pi·mĕləit). *Min.* [Named by Karsten, 1800, f. Gr. πῖμελή fat: see -ITE 1.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium, iron, nickel, and magnesium, of apple-green colour, greasy in appearance and to the touch.

1808 T. ALLAN *Names Min.* 49 The name of pimelite has been given by Karsten. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 510 Pimelite gives water in the closed tube.

Pimelode (pi·mĕlōud). *Ichthyol.* [ad. mod.L. *Pimelōdus*, a generic name, f. Gr. πῖμελώδης like fat, fatty, f. πῖμελή fat: see -ODE.] A cat-fish of the genus *Pimelodus*. So **Pi·melodine** *a.*, belonging to the *Pimelōdinæ*, a subfamily of cat-fishes of the family *Siluridæ*, typified by the genus *Pimelodus*; *sb.* a cat-fish of this subfamily.

†**Pime·nt.** *Obs.* Also 3–5 (8) **piement,** 4 **pimente,** 4–6 **pyement,** 4–6 (8) **pyment,** 5–6 **pymente.** [a. OF. *piment*, earlier *piument* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Pr. *piment, pigment*, Sp. *pimiento*:—L. *pigmentum*, orig. pigment, paint, also (scented) unguent; in med.L. scented or spiced confection, spiced drink (Du Cange). See also next.]

1. A drink composed of wine sweetened with honey and flavoured with spices.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Loke hwu heo ȝulden him! uor piment of swete huni luue, eisil of sur niȝ. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1728 Pyment to drinke, and god clare. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. v. 35 (Camb. MS.), They cowde make no pyment nor clarree. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 12 That on [tonne] is full of such piment Which passeth all entendement. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. Lowe Degre* 760 Wyne of Greke, & muscadell, Both clare, pyment, and rochell. 1530 PALSGR. 254/1 Pyment, *piment.* 1725 C. W. FORBES *Let.* 6 Apr. in Burton *Life*, Drink pyment to your meat dashed with strong wine. 1824 HENDERSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 16 The varieties of piment most frequently mentioned are the Hippocras and Clarry.

2. A scented or perfumed unguent.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 466/130 Min heued..with no-manere Oynement Ne smeordest, with none salue ne with no piement. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3702 (Cott.) þe odor o þi uestement It smelles als o piement. 1382 WYCLIF *Esther* ii. 12 Sixe monethis..thei shulden vse maner pimentis and swote spice. — *Isa.* lvii. 9 Thou .. enournedest thee with kingus oynement, and multepliedest thi pymentus.

3. = PIMENTO 1, Cayenne pepper. (F. *piment.*)

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* xvi. 305 The last sort of Pepper called here Piement, and in Europe Spanish Pepper, grows here in abundance.

Pimento (pime·nto). [ad. Sp. *pimienta*, Pg. *pimenta* pepper (generally), repr. L. *pigmentum*, in med.L. spiced drink, hence spice, pepper (generally). Sp. *pimiento*, F. *piment* are applied to Cayenne or Guinea pepper, capsicum; in Eng. the name has passed to allspice or Jamaica pepper, Pg. *pimenta da Jamaica*, F. *piment de Jamaïque.*]

†**1.** Formerly, Cayenne or Guinea pepper. *Obs.*

[1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 494 They [Spaniards] delight much in *Pimentone*, i. e. Guiny pepper.] 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 241 They perswade me to eat some of a Fruit they call Pimento, which is as long as ones Finger, but as hot as Pepper.

2. Now, The dried aromatic berries of the tree *Eugenia Pimenta* (see 3); also called *Jamaica pepper* or *allspice* (F. *piment de Jamaïque*, Pg. *pimenta da Jamaica*).

1690 *Hist. Acc. W. Indies* in *Harl. Misc.* (ed. Park) II. 371 Piemento is another natural production of..Jamaica; from whence many call it Jamaica pepper. 1728 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 84 Pimento, is call'd by the common People All-Spice. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 332 These berries .. turn brown and acquire a spicy smell, which in England hath given the name of all spice to this pimento. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 364 Pimento combines the flavour and properties of many of the oriental spices.

3. The tree which yields this spice, *Eugenia Pimenta* or *Pimenta officinalis* (N.O. *Myrtaceæ*), an evergreen, native of the West-Indies, and much cultivated in Jamaica; also, the wood of this tree.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 247 Pimento, or All-spice. ..The berries of this tree have an agreeable aromatic and subastringent taste. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 104 Pimento, a small tree, yielding a strong aromatic spice. 1892 *Joseph Gardner & Sons' Monthly Circular* 1 Oct., Pimento, £5 per ton. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* II. 43 The dried seeds of pimento.

4. *attrib.*, as **pimento myrtle, tree, wood** = 3; **pimento walk,** a plantation of pimento trees; **pimento water,** a cordial made from pimento.

1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 126 He built two Hutts with Piemento trees. *Ibid.*, The Piemento Wood..served him both for Firing and Candle, and refresh'd him with its fragrant Smell. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 216 The Pimento-tree grows to the height of 30 or 40 feet, with a very straight trunk. *Ibid.*, A Pimento walk, when in full blossom, is a very delightful object. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xxiv. 371 The pimento-myrtle is produced in the woods. 1847 E. J. SEYMOUR *Severe Dis.* I. 2 Rhubarb and peppermint, or nitre and soda in pimento water enable the stomach to bear its load.

†**Pimge·net.** *slang* or *dial. Obs.* Forms: 7 **pimpgenet, pimginnit,** 7–8 **-ginit,** 8 **-ginet, -gennet,** 9 **pimgenet.** [Origin unknown. For Forby's conjecture in quot. *a* 1825, evidence is wanting; the alleged sense 'pomegranate' is not recorded in Eng. Dial. Dict.] A pimple: see quots.

1693 tr. *Cowley's Plants* vi. in *C.'s Wks.* 22 My conquering hand Pimpgenets cannot shun, Nor blackish, yellow spots the Face o'er-run. 1694 *Dunton's Ladies Dict.* (N.), To stand ..parching his pimginits, carbuncles, and buboes. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pimginnit*, a large, red, angry Pimple. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 314 The Lass with a Wainscot Face, and from Pim-ginets free. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pimgenet*, 1. A very delicate and mincing diminutive of *piemgenet* for *pomegranate*. 2. A small red pimple. Possibly a hyperbolically figurative application of the first sense. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pimgenet*, a small red pimple. 'Nine pimgenets make a pock royal', Old Saying.

†**Pi·mlico** 1. *Obs.* [app. a place-name or personal surname.]

1. Name of a place of resort (perh. from the name of its proprietor) at Hogsdon (now Hoxton), a suburb of London, formerly celebrated for its ale, cakes, etc.; also, ale named after this place.

[1598 *Newes from Hogsdon* (N.), Hey for old Ben Pimlico's nut-browne.] 1609 (*title*) Pimlyco, or Runne Red Cap. 'Tis a Mad World at Hogsdon. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. ii, Gallants..seene to flock here..as to a second Hogs-den, In dayes of Pimlico and Eye-bright! 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* in Hazl. *Dodsley* XI. 233, I have sent my daughter this morning as far as Pimlico, to fetch a draught of Derby ale. 1670 in J. Nichols *Coll. Poems* (1780) III. 263 Or stout March-beer, or Windsor-ale, .. Or Pimlico, whose too great sale Did marr it.

2. A drinking-vessel of some kind.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vi. 103 No small service nor miser glasses will doe the businesse here, nor Pimlicos discharg'd to the round in the middle.

3. Some white dress fabric.

1687 *Hist. Sir J. Hawkwood* ii. 23 The laughing Fellow, dressed up in Pimlico, as Painters..Picture..the shadow of a Ghost. 1760 *Life Cotton* in *Walton's Angler* II. p. xx, To bedizen them out in Pimlico, or bloat them up with turgid bombast.

Pimlico[2] (pi·mliko). *[Echoic, from the cry of the bird.] †a. Variant of PEMBLICO. *Obs.* b. The Australian friar-bird: see FRIAR *sb.* 6.

1848 J. GOULD *Birds Australia* IV. pl. 58 From the fancied resemblance of its notes to these words, it has obtained from the Colonists the various names of 'Poor Soldier', 'Pimlico', 'Four o'clock', etc.

Pimp (pimp), *sb.*[1] [Origin obscure.

Generally thought to be in some way related to 16th c. F. *pimper* vb., pr. pple. *pimpant* alluring or seducing in outward appearance or dress, *pimpesonée* a pretentious woman (Hatz.-Darm.). F. *pimper* is taken as = Pr. *pimpar*, *pipar* to render elegant (Littré). But these leave much to be explained in the history of the word before 1600.]

One who provides means and opportunities for unlawful sexual intercourse; a pander, procurer.

1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* II. i. 36 *First Courtesan.*—Our pimp's grown proud. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 10 June, The Duke of York is wholly given up to his new mistress... Mr. Brouncker, it seems, was the pimp to bring it about. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 ¶ 6 He has been used as a Pimp to ravishing Tyrants, or successful Rakes. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 51 The honest soldier had refused to become his pimp.

attrib. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xi. 135 A fitter woman ne'er was made To ply the pimp and gypsey trade.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* One who ministers to anything evil, esp. to base appetites or vices.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. on Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 63 Thou churchyard pimp, and pander to the grave. 1789 WOLCOTT (*P. Pindar*) *Imit. Hor.* I. xii. 8 That sends to counties, boroughtowns, his crimps, Alias his vote-seducing pimps. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 441 The most abandoned pimp of the literary world. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* II. I. ii. 32 [The slave] is the pimp and pander to all the vices of the young.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pimp-errant*, *pimp-like* adj., *pimp-master*, *-tenure*; †pimp-whisk, -whisk-in (-ing) *obs. slang* = PIMP.

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. v, I neuer saw a young *Pimpe errant, and his Squire better match'd. 1681 OTWAY *Soldiers Fort.* IV. i, His undoubted Right to be *Pimp-Master-General of London and Middlesex. 1684 SOUTHERNE *Disappointment* II. i, Now thou art Pimp-master in Ordinary to my family. 1701 *Cowell's Interpr.* (White Kennett) N ij/2 [quotes *Assize Roll*, *No.* 48, m. 28d, of 12 Edw. I (1284), 'Willelmus Hoppeshort, tenet dimidiam virgatam terre [in Bokhampton] de domino rege, per servitium custodiendi domino regi sex damisellas, scil. meretrices, ad custum domini regis, and adds] *i.e.* by *Pimp-Tenure. 1874 HAZLITT *Tenures of Land*, etc. 30. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 350 Such..Sayings are a Discredit to your self..As for Instance,..a *Pimp whisk; a Tatterdemallion; Tittle tattle. 1638 FORD *Fancies* I. ii, 'Tis a gallant life to be an old lord's *pimp-whiskin.

Pimp, *sb.*[2] *local.* [Origin uncertain. Cf. PIMPING *a.*] A name in London and the southern counties for a small faggot or bundle of firewood.

1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 129 Those small light Bavins which are used in Taverns in London to light their Faggots, and are called in the Taverns a Brush, and by the Wood-men Pimps. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Pimp,..* also a small faggot used about London for lighting fires, named from introducing the fire to the coals. 1862 MRS. GROTE *Collected Papers* 157 Buying wood in the copses.. and cutting it up at home in little faggots, called 'pimps'. 1889 *Official Advertisement* 17 Jan., The Commissioners of H.M. Works &c. are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of brushwood fagots (pimps) to the royal palaces, government offices, &c.

Pimp, *v.* [f. PIMP *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To act as pimp or pander; to pander.

1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* v. i, Hence, and pimp To your rams and ewes. 1671 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* Pref, His friend, Mr. Truewit..is not ashamed to pimp for him. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 213 *note*, A creature unletter'd, who ..pimpeth to the pleasures of such vain, braggart, puft Nobility. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxxx, He was well known to have pimped for three generations of the nobility.

b. *fig.* or in generalized sense.

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 81 The careful Devil..providently pimps for ill desires. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. iv. (1734) 331, I had never pimp'd to the Vices or Infidelity of any. 1813 SHELLEY *Notes to Q. Mab* Poet. Wks. (1891) 66/2 How much longer will man continue to pimp for the gluttony of Death?

2. *trans.* To bring *together* as a pimp. *nonce-use.*

1672 CROWNE *City Politiques* v. (1683) 72 Sirrah.. where ha' you pimp'd this couple together?

Hence **Pi·mping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1640 H. MILL *Nights Search* 27 A pimping theife, his life and death. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 5 The Poets do us many a good turn, both by Pimping and otherwise. 1682 *Roxb. Ball.* (1882) IV. 269 What Pimping Whig shall dare controule, or check the Lawful Heir [James Duke of York]? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas. Love* Wks. 1730 I. 111 And pimping darkness shut out day. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 50 He succeeded in acquiring..partly by gambling, and partly by pimping, an estate of three thousand pounds a year.

Pimpel, variant of PIPPLE *v.*

†Pi·mper, *v.*[1] *Obs.* or *dial.* In 6 pym-. [Attenuated from *pamper.*] *trans.* To pamper, coddle.

1537 LATIMER *Let. Cromwell* 8 Nov. in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 148 Butt I have a good nursshe..wych.. hath fachyd me hoom to here owne howsse, and doth pymper me upe with all dylygence. [Cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Pimper* 2. To bring up children over-delicately; to over-indulge them in the matter of food, nw. Derby.]

†Pi·mper, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [Cf. early mod.Du. *pimp-ooghen* to blink, look through half-shut eyes (Kilian).] *intr.* (?) To blink.

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 620 But when the drinke doth worke within her head, She rowles and reekes, and pimpers with the eyes.

Pimpernel (pi·mpanel). Forms: α. 5 pimpernelle, -nolle, 5–6 pymper- (-ir-, -yr-), -nol, -nel, -nele, -nell(e, -nyll, 6–7 pimpernell, 6– pimpernel, (6–8 pempernell, 7 pimpernill). β. 6 (in senses 1, 2) pimpinell, 9 -el. [a. OF. *pimprenele*, *pimpernelle*, earlier *piprenelle* (12th c.), also *pimpi-*, *pimpenelle* (Godef.), mod.F. *pimprenelle* = It., Pg. *pimpinella*, Sp. *pimpinela*, med. L. *pipinella* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), all in our sense 1. Diez concludes that *pipinella* was a corruption of *bipinnella*, dim. of *bipinnula*, dim. deriv. of *bipennis* 'two-winged' (perhaps referring to the pinnate or bipinnatifid leaves); and, in fact, the Burnet appears in the herbals and vocabularies of the 16th c. generally, as *bipinnella* or *bipenella*, sometimes *bipennula*. Cf. also Ger. *bibernelle*, MHG. *bibenelle*. The word has undergone much change of form, app. under the influence of 'popular etymology', as well as change of sense.

Before 1500, the L. name *Pimpinella* was transferred on the Continent, by 'the Poticaries', to an umbelliferous plant resembling the Burnets in its leaves, and hence called Burnet Saxifrage, to which also in 1763 Adanson appropriated the botanical name *Pimpinella Saxifraga*. In Eng. this appears in the *Great Herball* of 1516 as *pimpernel*, and in Turner as *pimpinell* after the L., while he gives *pympernell* for *Anagallis*, to which it had already been applied in 15th c. vocabularies. No explanation of this last transference of the name appears.]

†1. Originally (as still in the Romanic languages) applied to Great Burnet, *Sanguisorba officinalis*, and Salad Burnet, *Poterium Sanguisorba*. (According to some, properly to the latter.) *Obs.*

The first quot. is doubtful; but Godefroy identifies F. *pimpre* with *pimprenelle*, which in Fr. has only this sense.

[*c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557/35 *Pinpernele*, *i.* pinpre, *i.* briddestunge.] 14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* ibid. 603/7 *Piponella* anglice Pympernele. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 146 Pimpinella assimilatur saxifrag(i)e in foliis et in stipite, sed differunt in radicibus..g°, et a°. pympernele [*v.r.* pimpernelle]. 1545 ELYOT, *Bipennella*, an herbe callyd Pympernell. 1548 *Ibid.*, *Bipinnella*, called commonly *Pympinella*, of some *Pampinula*, and *Bipennula*, an herbe called Pimpernell. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* H j b, Bipennella or bipennula Italica is called in English Burnet. The Poticaries cal it Pimpinellam. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 57/27 Pimpernel, *bipenella*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xcvi. 137 Of Burnet, or Pimpinell. Pimpinell is of two sortes, the great and wilde; and the small garden Pimpinell. [Figs. of Sanguisorba officinalis and Poterium Sanguisorba.] *Ibid.* 138 Pimpinell is..in Latine *Pimpinella*, *Bipennula*, *Pampinula*, and of some *Sanguisorba*, .. in English Burnet, and Pimpinell. 1855 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Italian pimpinel*, common name for *Sanguisorba officinalis*.

†2. Burnet Saxifrage (*Pimpinella Saxifraga*, N.O. *Umbelliferæ*). *Obs.*

1516 *Grete Herball* cccIv, The pimpinella. Self heale or pympyrnell. Pimpernel is an herbe that groweth in sandy places at ye fote of hylles. It is good to resowdre woundes yf the powder .. be often layde therto. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* H j b, Bipennula Germanica, is Saxifragia Italorum, and it is called in englishe Pimpinel, the duche cal it Bibinellen. 1551 — *Herbal* I. O iv, Pimpinell doth..agre wyth the secunde kynde of daucus in descryptyon, and also in vertues. 1587 *In Commend. Gascoigne* in *G.'s Wks., Herbs*, etc., Pinks please some, and pempernell doth serve to stanch the blood.

3. Now, The common name of *Anagallis arvensis* (N.O. *Primulaceæ*), a small decumbent annual found in cornfields and waste ground, with smooth ovate opposite leaves, and bright scarlet flowers (varying with blue, and, more rarely, flesh-coloured or white) which close in cloudy or rainy weather (whence its rustic names *Poor Man's Weatherglass*, *Shepherd's Glass*, etc.): distinctively called *Field* or *Scarlet Pimpernel*. Hence extended to the whole genus.

Male Pimpernel, an old distinctive-name for the common red-flowered variety; the blue-flowered, by some considered a distinct species (*A. cærulea*), being called *Female Pimpernel*.

?14.. *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 563/43 *Anagallus*, pympernele. 1538 TURNER *Libellus*, *Anagallis* .. dicitur anglice Pympernell. 1551 — *Herbal* I. C iij b, Pympernell is of ij. kyndes: it that hath the blewe floure, is called the female, but it that hath ye cremesine is called ye male. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxvii. 54. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 234 The herbe Pimpernell, some call Anagallis, others Corchoros. Of it be found two kindes; the male with a red floure, the female with a blew. 1744 J. CLARIDGE *Sharp. Banbury's Rules* 38 The pimpernel..shuts itself up..close against rainy weather. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 115 Whole patches are radiant with the pimpernel. Except the corn poppy, this is said to be the only scarlet flower we have. 1865 THOREAU *Cape Cod* viii. 154 Prettiest of all, the scarlet pimpernel, or poor-man's weather-glass.

b. With defining words, applied to other species of *Anagallis*, consisting of small trailing herbs with rotate flowers of various colours, chiefly red or blue; also to plants naturally allied or having some resemblance to this genus.

Bastard or **False Pimpernel,** (*a*) Chaffweed, *Centunculus minimus*; (*b*) 'an American name for *Ilysanthes gratioloides*' (*Treas. Bot.* 1866, Miller *Plant-n.* 1884). **Bog Pimpernel,** *Anagallis tenella*, a creeping plant with delicate pink flowers. **†Female Pimpernel** (see 3). **Italian Pimpernel,** (*a*) *Anagallis Monelli*, a species with large blue flowers; (*b*) *Sanguisorba officinalis* (see 1). **†Male, Red, Scarlet Pimpernel** (see 3). **Round(-leaved) Pimpernel,** Brookweed. **Sea** or **Seaside Pimpernel,** *Honkenya peploides*. **Water Pimpernel,** (*a*) the greater and lesser Brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga* and *V. Anagallis*, called by the herbalists *Anagallis aquatica*; (*b*) Brookweed, *Samolus Valerandi* or other species. **Wood** or **Yellow Pimpernel,** *Lysimachia nemorum.*

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxxiv, 495 Of Brookelyme, or water Pimpernell. ..There be fower sorts of Water herbes comprehended vnder the name *Anagallis aquatica*, or water Pimpernell, or water Chicken weede. 1633 *Ibid.* cxcvi. 622 Anthyllis lentifolia, siue Alsine cruciata marina. ..I haue Englished it Sea Pimpernell, because the leaues in shape are as like those of Pimpernel as of any other Plant. 1756 J. HILL *Brit. Herb.* 66 Genus VII. Round Pimpernell, *Samolus*. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Pimpernel, Yellow of the Woods, *Lysimachia*. *Ibid.*, Round-leaved Water Pimpernel, *Samolus*. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 245 Small Chaffweed, or Bastard Pimpernel. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 47 The bog-pimpernel..was profusely strewn over the spongy moors. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 59 *Anagallis*, .. Pimpernels, by which name the species are popularly known. ..Every one is familiar with the common red Pimpernel (*A. arvensis*). The *A. indica*, with blue flowers, scarcely differs from it, except in colour and the larger size of its blossoms. ..The Italian Pimpernel (*A. Monelli*), with still larger flowers. *Ibid.* 704 *L[ysimachia] nemorum* .. approaches in size and habit the scarlet pimpernel, but has bright yellow flowers; from this resemblance it is often called Wood Pimpernel.

4. *attrib.*, as *Pimpernel Chaffweed*, *Pimpernel Rose*, *pimpernel water*: see quots.

1776–96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 199 Bastard Pimpernel. Pimpernel Chaffweed. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*, *Pimpernel Rose*, a book-name for *Rosa spinosissima*, suggested by its synonym, *R. pimpinellifolia*, and referring, like *Burnet Rose*, to the form of its leaves. 1837 E. HOWARD *Old Commodore* ii. 43 If she'd only .. use my pimpernel water, for she has one monstrous freckle on her forehead.

†Pimpernol. *Obs.* [= OF. *pimpernel*, *-neau*, 'a broad-nosed variety of the common eel' (G. A. Boulanger), 'a grig, scaffling, spitchcocke, fowson Eele' (Cotgr.).] A small kind of eel.

1251 *Liberate Roll* 35 *Hen. III*, 15 Sept. (P. R. O.), Rex vicecomiti Cantebrigie salutem. Precipimus tibi quod in balliva tua emas ad opus nostrum x milia anguillarum que vocantur Pimpernoll. 1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 215 Pro piscibus recentibus..item pro xxvj pimpernol, xvj s.

Pimpillo, -owe, var. PINPILLOW *Obs.*, pincushion, also prickly pear.

Pimpinel(l, obs. form of PIMPERNEL.

Pi·mping, *a.* [Of uncertain origin; dialectally *pimpy* is found in same sense. Cf. PIMP *sb.*[2], and Cornish dial. *pimpey* weak watery cider; also Du. *pimpel* weak little man, Ger. *pimpelig* effeminate, sickly, puling, which imply a stem *pimp*.] Small, trifling, insignificant, peddling, paltry, petty, mean; in poor health or condition, sickly.

1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 77 Out of a little pimping corner of Britain. *a* 1704 — *Charac. Dutch Women* Wks. 1711 IV. 315, I am quarter'd in a little pimping Village on the Frontier of Flanders. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* v. i, To go sneaking on at this pitiful,—pimping,—pettifogging rate. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 27 Apr. an. 1775 This pimping patch of two acres and a quarter. 1824 LAMB *Lett.* (1837) II. 166 She writes such a pimping, mean, detestable hand. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* iv, 'Was I so little?' asked Margaret. 'Yes, and pimpin' enough.' 1878 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* xxv. 23 If the narrow, pimping fractions in general use had been retained. [See also Eng. Dial. Dict.]

Pimping, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*: see PIMP *v.*

Pimple (pi·mp'l), *sb.* Also 5 **pinple,** 6 **pymple, pimpel,** 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **pumple.** [Origin unknown: connexion with L. *papula* or *papilla* has been conjectured; but evidence is wanting. Cf. OE. *piplizende* shingly, affected with herpes, in *Sax. Leechd.* I. 266.]

1. A small solid rounded tumour of the skin, usually inflammatory, without, or rarely with, suppuration; a papule or pustule.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 248 Scabies is whanne þe iȝe liddis ben reed & to-swolle, & ful of reed pinplis. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 49 The pockes appere .. lyke reed pymples, as brode as a farthynge. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lix. 86 The distilled water..is good against the freckles, spottes, and pimpels of the face. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 87 Our faces were swolne hard out in pumples. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 60 My very pimples bilk my face. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 253 The pimple which results from syphilitic inoculation.

2. *fig.* A small rounded swelling, as a bud, etc.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* Ded. (Arb.) 6, I should bee thoght ouer curious, by prying owt a pimple in a bent.

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 528 He pinches from the second stalk A pimple, that portends a future sprout. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 103 The pimples daily grow bigger and bigger...They grow into buttons, which spread into mushrooms. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* vi. 286 On poor pasture land, ..the whole surface is sometimes dotted with little pimples, ..and these pimples consist of old worm-castings.

b. *slang.* The head.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* I. 298 Scroggins .. planted many clumsy hits upon his adversary's pimple. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pimple,* the head. It must be a diminutive as well as a feeble head which is denominated. 18.. *Racing Song* in Baumann *Londinismen* (1887) 138/1 Sharp brains in my noble pimple,

†3. 'A boon companion' (Farmer). *Obs. slang.*

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. x, The sun's a good Pimple, an honest Soaker.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pimple eruption, face, spot*; *pimple-faced, -like, -nosed, -spangled* adjs.; **pimple copper, pimple metal,** the product of one of the successive operations in copper-smelting, containing about 75 per cent. or more of copper, and having pimples on the surface from the escape of bubbles of sulphurous acid; **pimple-mite,** a minute acarid (*Demodex folliculorum*) which infests the sebaceous follicles of the face (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 104 The same..taketh away pimple-spots out of the face. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 16 Of a crabbed nature, pimple-faced, and a creple. 1758-65 GOLDSM. *Ess.* i, The pimple-nosed Spirit at the president's right elbow. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 98 The copper—in its form known..as 'pimple' copper—is put into the furnace. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 380 Treatment of the pimple metal. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xviii. 298 Minute pimple-like abscesses.

Pi·mple, *v.* Now *rare.* [f. prec. sb.] **a.** *trans.* To raise pimples upon; to spot or deface with pimples (in quot. *fig.*). **b.** *intr.* To become pimply. Hence **Pi·mpling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 253/1 An excellent oyle of Tartar, agaynste all pimplinge of the Face. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 40 You will pimple your souls with oaths, till you make them as well-favoured as your faces. 1638 VENNER *Via Recta, A Censure* (1650) 379 Such as have..red pimpling Faces, and adusted Humours. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 12 July, A rose touching his skin..would make it rise and pimple.

Pimpled (pi·mp'ld), *a.* [f. prec. sb. or vb. + -ED.] Having, or characterized by, pimples.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virgin Mart.* II. i, The Armado of pimpled, deep scarletted, rubified, and carbuncled faces. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 141 A gentleman with a red, ugly, pumpled face. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 317 It is called pimpled measles, when the pustules are big and elevated. 1870 J. ROSKELL in *Eng. Mech.* 18 Feb. 547/2 This copper is termed 'blistered' or 'pimpled' copper, according to its quality.

Comb. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlix, Men..of a red-nosed, pimpled-faced, convivial look.

Pimple-stone: see PIMBLE-. **†Pimpling:** see PIPPLING *ppl. a.* **Pimploe:** see PINPILLOW.

Pimply (pi·mpli), *a.* [f. PIMPLE *sb.* + -Y.] Full of pimples; covered or spotted with pimples.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxi. 227 Belton's [face] so pert and so pimply. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 7 The Toad, ..the back flat, and covered with a pimply dusky hide. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxx, A handsome face, only a little pimply as though with drinking.

Comb. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 174/2 A short..pimply-faced youth.

Hence **Pi·mpliness.**

1893 *Strand Mag.* VII. 35 A pimpliness of countenance.

[Pimprint, error for PRIMPRINT, privet.]

Pimpship (pi·mpʃip). [f. PIMP *sb.* + -SHIP.] The personality of a pimp: used as a mock title.

1682 OLDHAM *Juvenal's Sat.* iii. Poems (1684) 203 Saving your reverend Pimpship, where d'ye ply? 1693 *Bacchan. Sess.* 14 What precious intreigues could my Pimpship discover.

Pin (pin), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **pinn,** 4-7 **pynne, pinne,** 5-6 **pyn,** (5 **pene, pyne,** 6 **pynn, pine**), 6-8 **pinn,** 6- **pin.** [Late OE. *pinn,* a common Low Ger. word: MLG., LG. *pinne, pin,* LG. also *penne, pen* (*Brem. Wbch.*), MDu. *pinne* ('pinna, spiculum, cuspis, veruculum, aculeus, scopus, clavus ligneus' Kilian), Du. *pin* pin, peg (in Hexham *pinne,* 'also the pinnacle of a steeple'); MHG. (rare) *phinne* nail, plug, Ger. *pinne* and *pin*: late ON. *pinni* (14th c.), Norw., Sw. *pinne,* Da. *pind*; generally held to be ad. L. *pinna,* in the Vulgate, Luke iv. 9 = 'pinnacle', 'applied to points of various kinds, battlements, cutting edge of an ax' (Walde *Lat. Etym. Wbch.,* where it is distinguished from *penna* feather, also often spelt *pinna*).]

I. Primary sense: = *peg.*

1. A small piece of wood, metal, or other solid substance, of cylindrical or similar shape, often tapering or pointed, used for some one of various purposes, as to fasten or hold together parts of a structure, to hang something upon, to stop up a hole, or as a part of mechanism to convey or check motion; a peg, a bolt.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 265 Ne sceolde he nan þing forgyman..ne musfellan, ne, þæt git læsse is, to hæpsan pinn. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 167 E par deuz hietes [*gloss* the ax-tre pinnes] se tenent owel. *Ibid.* 168 Devaunt les braceroles sount biletz [*gloss* pinnes]. [1329 *Wardr. Acc.* (*Acc. Exch. K. R.* Bd. 383. No. 9) m. 1 Pro .. pynnis ac cathenis pro leporariis ligandis.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 119 And turne aveyn with writhyng of a pyn. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1104 And vp is broken, lok, hasp, barre & pyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/2 Pynne, of tymbyr (or pegge..), *cavilla. Ibid.,* Pynne, of metalle, as yryne,..*spintrum.* 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. viii, [The kat] hynge hym self by his two feet behynd at a pynne of yron whiche was styked at a balke. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* II. xxiv. 138 Pinnes of wode to ioine the palys. 1527 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 31 For lathes, nayles, ..tile pynnes for the new hous. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 56 This tent had seauen cart lode of pynz perteining too it. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 125 As if a man should build a house, without pinne or nayle. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 427 Not the least wheele or pinne or notch. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 27 Oak is excellent for..pinns and peggs for tyling, &c. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 98 The Keys were hung upon a Pin in the Hall. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 158 The lower frame-work .. is connected by means of the pins or wedges. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pin*...3. The axis of a sheave. An axis of a joint, as of the gimbal or compass-joint. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 51 A..cylinder studded with pins for lifting the hammers is a chiming train. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. Bench Div. 316 A catch..at the end of an iron pin, which prevented the pin, when passed through a slit, from repassing.

fig. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to J. Gordon* 16 June, See that there be not a loose pin in the work of your salvation. 1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 34 The old Politick, that 'tis Dangerous to innovate or loose a Pinn.

b. An indicator of a long or pointed shape: as †the hand of a clock; †the gnomon of a sundial; †the index or tongue of a balance (*obs.*).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/2 Pynne, of an orlage, .. schowynge þe owrys of the day. 1639 G. DANIEL *Vervic.* 568 Number will prevaile, And turne the pin of bright Astreæs Skale. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 123 The Pin or Gnomon..being 37 parts, and the shadow..28.

†**c.** A peg, nail, or stud fixed in the centre of a target. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 138 Now be my trowthe ȝe hitte the pynne. 1584 W. ELDERTON in Halliw. *Yorks. Anthol.* (1851) 6 Walmsley did the vpshot win, With both his shafts so near the pin. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 15 The very pinne of his heart, cleft with the blind Bowe-boyes but-shaft. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xvii. 426 To cleave the pinne and do the deed.

d. In a stringed musical instrument: Each of the pegs round which the strings are fastened at one end, and by turning which they are tuned; a tuning-pin, tuning-peg: = PEG *sb.*[1] 2 a. Also *fig.*: cf. 16.

1587 GREENE *Tritameron* II. Wks. (Grosart) III. 121 Fearing if he wrested not the pin to a right key, his melody would be marred. 1592 — *Philomela* ibid. XI. 126 Giouanni hearing hir harpe on that string [love] strained it a pin higher thus. 1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* v. iii, He looses his rosen, that his fiddle goes cush, cush..his mouth so drie that he hath not spittle for his pinne. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Empire* (Arb.) 298 Nero could touch and tune the Harp well, But in gouernement sometymes he vsed to wynd the pynnes to highe, sometymes to let them downe to lowe. *a* 1800 *Bonny Bows o' London* in *Buchan's Ballads* (1828) II. 130 Ye'll take a lith o' my little finger bane, And ye'll make a pin to your fiddle then. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 285/2 As the pins and wires of pianos become worn, it is necessary to renew them.

†**e.** A peg, nail, etc. fixed in a surface, to mark a place, or for ornament or other purpose. *Obs.*

1648-78 HEXHAM, *Pen of de Trock-Tafel,* the Pin upon a Billyard table. *c* 1650 *Robin Hood his death* 44 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 53 When they came to Merry church lees they knoc[k]ed vpon a pin. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2429/4 A Silver Box and a pinn'd Case, many of the Pins being come out, so that the Brass was seen.

f. One of a set of pegs fixed on the inside of a large drinking-vessel, dividing it into equal parts, said by some to indicate the limit of each drinker's draught: = PEG *sb.*[1] 2 b.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 23 King Edgar..caused certaine iron cups to be chained .. at euery Vintners doore, with iron pins in them, to stint euery man how much he should drinke: and he that went beyond one of those pins forfeited a penny for euery draught. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. ii. § 3 That Priests should not go to Publick Drinkings, *nec ad pinnas bibant,* nor drink at Pins. This was a Dutch trick .. of Artificial Drunkenness, out of a Cup marked with certain Pins, and he accounted the Man, who could nick the Pin, drinking even unto it. 1673 *Holborn Drollery* 76 Edgar away with pins i' th' Cup To spoil our drinking whole ones up. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Nick it,*..to Drink to the pin or button. 1850 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* I. *Court-yard of Castle* 17 No jovial din Of drinking wassail to the pin.

g. The cylindrical part in a lock on which the pipe or hollow stem of the key fits. Also, that part of a key which enters the lock (esp. if solid instead of hollow).

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 25 If you have a Pin to the Lock,..the Pin is rivetted into the Plate. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pin*...9. The part of a key-stem which enters the lock.

h. *Naut.* (*a*) A peg fixed in the side of a rowing-boat as a fulcrum for the oar; a thole-pin. (*b*) Applied to various pegs or bolts used in a ship, e. g. to make fast the rigging (BELAYING-*pins*), to keep the capstan-bars in place, etc.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* ii. 32 How are you to row? The pins are out that should fix your oars. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, Holding on by the belaying pin. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 137 *Pins,* short iron rods fixed occasionally in the drum-heads of capstans, and through the ends of the bars, to prevent their unshipping. *Ibid., Pins of boats,* pins of iron or wood fixed along the gunwales of some boats (instead of rowlocks) whose oars are confined by grommets. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 161 *Capstan-bars*..are..held in their places in the drumhead holes, by little iron bolts called capstan or safety pins.

i. *Carpentry.* The projecting part or 'tenon' of a dovetail joint, which fits into the 'mortise'.

1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 88 The projecting piece.. is called the pin of the dovetail; and the aperture into which it is fitted..is called the socket. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 64 Cabinet-makers..do not often make broad dovetails, as they make the pins narrower and further apart in general than joiners.

j. *Quoits.* The peg or 'hob' at which the quoit is aimed.

[1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. § 9 Quoits...To play at this game, an iron pin, called a hob, is driven into the ground [etc.].] 1857 *Chambers' Inform. People* II. 704/2 The quoit being delivered..with a steady aim at the pin. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xviii, His first quoit fell within three inches of the pin.

k. *Golf.* An iron rod bearing a small flag, used to mark the position of a hole.

1901 *Scotsman* 5 Sept. 7/3 His magnificent approach to within a yard of the pin. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 5/1 Had a perfect mashie shot and lay three yards off the pin.

l. ?The latch or handle of a door: see Eng. Dial. Dict. s. v. *Pin* 4 and *Tirl* 2. *dial.*

?17.. *Clerk Saunders* iv. in Scott *Minstr. Scot. Bord.* (1869) 377 Then take the sword from my scabbard, And slowly lift the pin; And you may swear, and safe your aith, Ye never let Clerk Saunders in. — *Prince Robert* ix. *ibid.* 381 O he has run to Darlinton, And tirled at the pin. 1804 R. COUPER *Poetry* I. 232 (E. D. D.) Your fingers numb Will hardly turn the pin. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xl, Murder tirl'd at the door-pin. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 39 There knocking, was he bidden in, And heedfully he raised the pin, And entering stood.

2. *fig.* (from 1). †**a.** That on which something 'hangs' or depends. *Obs.* (Cf. PEG *sb.*[1] 5.)

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2952 They hangen by another pyn. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 164 A grete parte of thys mater hangyth apon one pine. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* xxiv. 236 A great part of whose piety hung upon that popular pin of rayling against, and contemning the Government and Liturgy of this Church. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 116 That Point, being settled, becomes a capital Pin, upon which all the Pagan Chronology depends.

II. = ME. and Sc. PREEN, F. *épingle.*

3. A slender piece of wire (now usually of brass or iron, tinned), formed with a sharp tapered point at one end and a flattened round head at the other, commonly used to fasten together parts of dress, loose papers, etc., for mounting entomological specimens, and for various purposes. Also applied to larger articles of the same kind made of steel, gold, silver, etc., often more or less ornamental, and used for securing the hair, a hat, shawl, scarf, etc., or merely for ornament. See also DRAWING-*pin,* HAIRPIN, HAT-*pin,* SAFETY *pin,* SCARF *pin,* etc. (The most frequent use.)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 12 Þei becomen pedderis berynge knyues, pursis, pynnys and girdlis [etc.] for wymmen. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 64 She was atyred with highe longe pynnes lyke a iebet, and so..[they] saide she bare a galous on her hede. 1480 *Maldon, Essex, Crt. Rolls* Bundle 51 No. 3, xvi nedeles, xii dressyng pynnes. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VII. vii. 285 Yf children in ther youth stele pynnes or apples or ony other smale thynges. *Ibid.* xii. 295 A lady..can pynne her hode ayenst the wynde with a smale pynne of laton .xii. for a peny. 1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij, Pynnes the dossen thousande iis. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. iv, A silver pin Headed with a pearl worth three-pence. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Jan., He that will not stoop for a pin will never be worth a pound. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 295 ¶ 4 A Pin a Day, says our frugal Proverb, is a Groat a Year. 1801 BLOOMFIELD *Rural T., Rich. & Kate* xxii, As like him, ay, as pin to pin. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. II. vi. 475 The contents of the tumuli include bone pins, needles [etc.]. 1879 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* IV. (1871) 145 As the phrase is, 'you might have heard a pin fall'.

b. As a type of something very small, or of very slight value or significance: esp. in phr. *not worth a pin, not to care a pin,* etc.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6146 (Bodl. MS.) He nolde ȝiue a pynne Bot he miȝth þise wynne. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* III. 364 Thi felowship set I not at a pyn. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Magnif.* 1028 With a pere my loue you may wynne, And ye may lese it for a pynne. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 420 in *Babees Bk.* 93 Yet he is not worth a pin. 1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 634, I would so esteeme them,..but not a pinne the more. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 4 Who not a pin Does care for looke of living creatures eye. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 31 A pinne for povertye! 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Sceptic in Relig.* (Arb.) 67 He chuses this, not as better, but because there is not a pin to choose. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* III. i, 'Tis evident you never cared a pin for me. 1785 *European Mag.* VIII. 96 Your robe is not a pin the worse. 1887 [see CHOOSE *v.* 12]. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* II. 43 One of my elephants..did not care two pins for a tiger.

c. *Pin's head, pin's point*: in literal sense, or allusive as in b; also *attrib.* (cf. *pin matter* in 18).

1415-40 DK. OF ORLEANS *Poems* (1827) 8 And if she wolde ..But graunt me loo liche to a pynnys hed Part of hiris. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 It is not so moche as a pynnes poynt, compared to ye hole erth. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 63 It had not beene a Pinspoynt matter; I should haue set light by it. 1698 *Christ Exalted* § 78. 61 Man's Law will not hang a Man for stealing a Pins head. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 301 The eggs are no larger than pins points. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 76 We did not lose the value

of a pin's head. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 5 A pin's-head perforation in the sigmoid flexure.

d. *Pins and needles*: popular name for a pricking or tingling sensation, as that which accompanies the recovery of feeling in a limb after numbness. *On pins and needles*: in a state of excessive uneasiness.

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* vi, The pins and needles sensations which followed. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 640 He had enough pins and needles in his feet to stock a haberdasher's shop. 1885 T. A. GUTHRIE *Tinted Venus* 40 The shock ran up to his elbow and gave him acute 'pins and needles'. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Aug. 530 He was plainly on pins and needles, did not know whether to take or to refuse a cigar. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 64 Subjective sensations such as heat and cold, pins and needles,..may persist during the intervals.

4. *transf.* **†a.** A thorn or prickle. *Obs.* **b.** The incipient bur or blossom of the hop.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xiii. 6 There are pins in all the worlds roses. 1900 *Daily News* 23 July 2/4 The hop plant has grown well this week, and the bine is already putting out pin for burr.

III. (Cf. med.L. *pinna*, Du. *pinne* pinnacle.)

†5. A point, peak, apex. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 208 Up to this pynnacle now go we, I xal the sett on the hyȝest pynne. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* VI. (1827) 184 The sun was cockin' now upon The vera pin o' Mid-day's cone. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 57/2 The most prominent object [in Connamara] is a group of conical mountains called the Twelve Pins. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* i. 2 Those twelve towering Connemarese peaks, which in Saxon speech have dwindled into Pins.

6. The projecting bone of the hip, esp. in horses and cattle: cf. *pin-bone, -buttock* in 18. Now *dial.*

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3886/4 A grey Nag,..gall'd upon the near Pin. 1726 *Brice's Weekly Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 3 A Brown Bay Nag..thin behind, the Pins standing a little out. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 327 Line of the back straight ..lying completely on a level with the pin or huckles. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., A cow 'high in the pins'.

IV. Transferred uses (chiefly from I).

7. A leg; usually in *pl. colloq.* or *dial.*

c 1530 *Hickscorner* D iij, Than wolde I renne thyder on my pynnes As fast as I might go. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Downe-r. Scholar* (Arb.) 41 His body is not set vpon nice Pinnes. 1781 BURGOYNE *Ld. of Manor* III. iv, I never saw a fellow better set upon his pins. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser. III. Ld. Thoulouse* 275 Who ventures this road need be firm on his pins! 1883 *Standard* 8 Jan. 2/4 Iroquois [a race-horse] has been very 'dickey' on his pins. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* i, Wonderfully strong and quick on his pins.

8. A skittle; in *pl.* the game of skittles. See also NINEPINS, TENPINS.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Quilles*, as *iouër aux quilles*, to play at nine pins. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* IV. 64 To play at..nine holes, or ten pinnes. 1694 S. JOHNSON *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* I. 39 A cleaverer Tip..than taking out the Middle Pin and throwing down none of the rest. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 516 When all the pins [in American bowls] are knocked down by one ball. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 86 The large pins used in skittle playing.

†9. a. A knot in wood (looking like a peg driven in). *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 115 The boughe commonlye is verye knotty, and full of pinnes. 1585 HIGINS tr. *Junius' Nomenclator* 144/1 The pinne or hard corne of a knot in timber, which hurteth sawes.

b. A hard spot occurring in steel during the process of manufacture.

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* v. (1833) 116 When the steel has hard portions called *pins* by the workmen. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 279/2 Free from those hard bright spots which workmen call 'pins'.

†10. A hard swelling on the sole of a hawk's foot; a disease characterized by such swellings (also called *pin-gout*: see 18). *Obs.*

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 260 Of the Pin in the Hawkes foote, a disease much like the corne in the foote of a man. *Ibid.*, The Pynne is a swelling disease, that doth resemble sharpe nayles, rysing vp in the bottome or palme of the Hawkes foote. 1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 134 With a sharpe knife search and pare out the pinne, or core, or corne. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 237/2 The Pynne.

†b. A corn on the toe or foot. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Frouelle*, an agnell, pinne, or warnell in the toe.

†11. *Pin and web*: name for a disease of the eye (? characterized by a spot or excrescence like a pin's head, and a film covering the general surface: according to Dr. S. B. Atkinson, 'phlyctenular ulcer with conjunctivitis'). *Obs.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 79 By these destillations or reumes hapneth many diseases..as..pynne and webe in the eyes. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 300 This disease of the Pinne & webbe, is of some men called the Veroll. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 122 This is the foule Flibbertigibbet;.. Hee giues the Web and the Pin, squints the eye, and makes the Hare-lippe. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 96 To take off a Pin and Web, or any kind of Filme growing over the Eye. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict., Pearl*, a Disease in an Horse's Eye, under which Head we shall comprehend Pins, Spots, Webs, &c. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pin and Web*, an old popular name for an opacity of the cornea.

12. A small cask or keg holding half a firkin, or 4½ gallons.

1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 341, iij pynnes for caryage of drenk a feld. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pin*, a small Vessel containing Four Gallons and a half, or the Eighth part of a Barrel. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 293 Powder one of the Balls and put it into a Pin or Half a Firkin. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 112 He used to have a pin of beer. *c* 1900 *Advertisement*, Beer in Cask. Discount for Cash on or before Delivery, 3d. Pin; 6d. Firkin; 1s. Kilderkin.

†13. A piece at chess; also, at the game of merels. In the latter referring app. to actual pegs; in chess extended either from these, or from the shape of Tudor chessmen, which were not unlike ninepins. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 66/1 The King is the first and highest of all the chesse pins. *Ibid.*, The Queene is the next pin in height to the King. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 271 At the chequer'd board..with a hand Trembling, as if eternity were hung In balance on his conduct of a pin.

14. a. *Cookery.* Short for ROLLING-PIN.

1894 *Cassell's Univ. Cookery Bk.* 740 Keep the board and pin well floured.

b. Short for KNITTING-*pin*, knitting-needle.

1897 *Tit Bits* 4 Dec. 175/3 As the old lady put down her pins, the Princess took them up, and finished the stocking-heel.

V. Phraseological uses.

15. In the phrase *on* or *upon a merry pin*, esp. *to set the heart on a merry pin, to have the heart hanging on a jolly pin*, whence also *upon the peevish pin, on another pin*, etc.; later, *in a merry pin*, in a merry humour, disposition, or frame of mind. *arch.* or *dial.*

The origin is obscure. In later use sometimes (cf. quot. 1658) associated with the musical tuning-peg, as in next.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 272 By my fader kyn Youre herte hangeth on a ioly pyn. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 5552 Youre hert ys on another pynne. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* V. 492, I wyll sett my soule on a mery pynne. 1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Upon a mery pynne, *de hayt*. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 578 King Charles heart by gettyng of Paris, was set vpon a merye Pinne. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1015/2 The commons hauing now their willes, were set vpon a pin, that the game was theirs. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* i. (1896) 24 Success doth often wind him up to a jovial pin. 1666 J. SERGEANT *Let. Thanks* 42 You cannot for your heart yet wean your self of that merry pin of Fancy. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* I. i, I never was on a better pin in my life. 1694 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccii. (1714) 316 The Woman was One day upon the Peevish Pin. 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XL. 559 To express the Condition of an Honest Fellow and no Flincher under the Effects of Good Fellowship, he is said to be.. On a merry pin. 1779 T. HUTCHINSON *Diary* 6 Oct., Dined at Amen Corner..Sir John upon a merry pin. [*Intended 18th c. lang.* 1855 ANNE MANNING *O. Chelsea Bun-ho.* IV. 64 As for the Doctor, he was quite on the merry Pin.]

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) s.v., He is in a merry Pin. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 178 Right glad to find His friend in merry pin. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 407 Were I in the pin. 1887 A. RILEY *Athos* 210 Our prelate was in merry pin.

†16. Pitch; degree; step: esp. with *higher, lower, utmost, raise, take down. Obs.* (Cf. PEG *sb.*[1] 3.)

Originally, a figure taken from a musical tuning-peg (see 1 d); in quot. 1617 perh. referring to the rack.

1584 GREENE *Myrr. Modestie* Wks. (Grosart) III. 24 The Iudges..seeing she had infringed their reasons, by the power of the law thought to wrest hir vpon a higher pin. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 141 The prodigal sonne..sets his course euen vpon the racke, and stretcheth it out to the vtmost pinne. *a* 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 188 They..went more roundly and roughly to worke with them, taking them downe a pinne or two lower. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. iii, He's but one pin above a natural. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. vii. (1739) 41 To raise the price of their Cloaths to their own covetous pin. 1669 R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 452, I am confident we shall bring them a pin lower. 1731 W. BOWMAN *Serm.* xxix, To set our selves on the same pin With Paul and Peter. 1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'*, They mak a loud and joyfu' din, For ilka heart is raised a pin.

17. Phrase. *To put in the pin* (*colloq.* or *slang*), to put a check or stop to some course; to call a halt; *esp.* to give up drinking. So *to keep in the pin*, to keep from drinking; *to let loose a pin.* (Eng. Dial. Dict.)

Supposed by some to have reference to the pins in a drinking-cup (1 f); but it may refer more generally to the use of a pin or peg in stopping motion or making fast, and of letting loose by taking out the pin.

1832–53 *Whistle-binkie* (Scot. Songs) Ser. III. 112, I ance was persuaded to 'put in the pin', But foul fa' the bit o't ava wad bide in, For whisky's a thing so bewitchingly stout, The first time I smelt it, the pin it lap out. 1835 J. MONTEATH *Dunblane Tradit.* (1887) 89 (E.D.D.) He had religiously abstained from drinking during the twelvemonths he had himself determined to keep in the pin. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 345/1 He had two or three times resolved to better himself, and had 'put in the pin', meaning he had made a vow to refrain from drinking. 1856 *Deil's Hallowe'en* 14 (E.D.D.) The Deil that e'en was ettlin' to let loose a pin.

VI. 18. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pin-box, -dot, -hook, -manufactory, -mark, -seller, -snatcher, -sticking, -thrusting.* **†pin-auger**, an auger for boring holes for pins or pegs; **pin-bit** = *pin-drill*; **pin-block**, (*a*) a block of wood in which pins or pegs are fixed; (*b*) a block of wood to be shaped into a pin or peg (*Cent. Dict.*): **†pin-bole, pinboll**, ? some contrivance for floating a fishing-net; **pin-bone**, the hip-bone, esp. of a horse (see 6); **pin-borer**, a Canadian beetle (*Xyleborus dispar*) which makes small round punctures like pinholes in the bark of pear-trees; **†pin-bouke** [see BOWK], some kind of vessel for liquids; **pin-bush**, 'a fine reaming- or polishing-tool for delicate metal-work' (*Cent. Dict.*); **pin-buttock**, a narrow or sharp buttock; hence **pin-buttocked** *a.*; **pin-cherry**, the N. American wild red cherry (*Prunus pennsylvanica*); **pin-cloth**, a pinafore (*? obs.*); **pin-clover**, name in California (from the shape of the seed-vessel) for the European stork's-bill (*Erodium cicutarium*), widely naturalized there; **pin connexion**, a connexion of the parts of an iron or steel bridge by pins (instead of rivets, etc.; cf. *pin-joint*); **pin-cop** [COP *sb.*[2] 3], a pear-shaped 'cop' or roll of yarn, used for the weft in a power-loom; also *attrib.*; **pin-curl**, an artificial curl of hair held in place by a hairpin; **pin-drill**, a drill with a projecting central pin surrounded by a cutting face, used for countersinking, etc.; **pin-drop** *a.* (of silence) in which one could 'hear a pin drop'; **pin-fish**, name for two N. American elongated sparoid fishes (*Lagodon rhomboides, Diplodus holbrooki*); also a small sun-fish, *Lepomis pallidus*; **pin-flat**, a flat pin-cushion formed of two disks of cardboard lined and covered with some textile material, so that pins can be stuck into the edge (*U. S.*); **pin-footed** *a.* = *fin-footed*: see FIN *sb.* 6; **†pin-gout**, a disease in a hawk's foot (see 10); **pin-grass** = *pin-clover*; **pin ground**, a *pin-spot* ground upon a textile; **pin-hold**, 'a place at which a pin holds or makes fast' (Smart, 1836); **†pin-hood**, 'the hood attached to a cloak, and fitted to be drawn over the hat or bonnet of the wearer' (Jam.); **pin-joint**, a form of joint in which two parts are connected by a pin passing through an eye in each; **pin-machine**, a machine for making pins; **pin-man**, a man who sells, or manipulates, pins; **pin-mandrel** (see quot.); **†pin matter**, the matter of a pin, that which matters a pin; *not a pin matter*, something that matters not a pin: cf. MATTER *sb.* 18; **pin-mill** = PIN-WHEEL 3; **pin-necked** *a.*, having tufts of feathers on the neck, as the pinnated grouse or prairie-hen; **pin-oak**, a species of oak (*Quercus palustris*) found in swampy places in N. America; so called from the persistent dead branches, which resemble pins or pegs fixed in the trunk; **pin pallet** (see quot.); **pin-paper**, a paper of pins (PAPER *sb.* 6 b); *fig.* a collection of samples; **pin-patch** (*dial.*), a periwinkle (? because extracted from its shell with a pin); **pin-poppet** (*dial.*), a cylindrical case for pins; **†pin-powder** = PIN-DUST; **pin-prod** = PIN-PRICK; **†pin-purse**, ? a pin-case, or a pin-cushion; **pin-rack** *Naut.*, a rack or frame on the deck of a ship, in which belaying-pins are fixed; **pin-rail**, a rail or bar in which pins or pegs are fixed; **pin-rib**, 'a delicate cord or rib woven in the substance of fine muslin' (*Cent. Dict.*); **pin-rod**, 'in a locomotive, a tie-rod connecting the brake-shoes on opposite sides' (*Cent. Dict.*); **pin-spot**, each of a number of small round spots like pins' heads forming a pattern upon a textile fabric; hence **pin-spotted** *a.*; **pin-striped** *a.*, having a narrow ornamental stripe of the thickness of a pin; **pin switch** (*Telegr.*), a switch in which electric connexion is made by pins passing through holes in metal plates; **pin's-worth**, the worth of a pin, an extremely small amount; **pin-tongs** *sb. pl.*, a kind of tongs or pliers for holding pins or other small objects; **pin-tool**, a tubular cutting-tool for making cylindrical wooden pins (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **pin-tooth**, (*a*) each of the (sharp-pointed) teeth of the escapement-wheel in a clock or watch; (*b*) a canine tooth; **†pin-trace**, some part of horse-harness; **pin-vice** (see quots.); **pin-weed**, a plant of the N. American genus *Lechea* (N.O. *Cistaceæ*); **pin-winged** *a.*, having the first primary feather of the wing attenuated, as in some American *Columbidæ*; **pin-wire**, wire of which pins are made; **pin-wood**, wood fit for pins or pegs; **pin-worm**, a small thread-worm, *Oxyuris vermicularis*, which infests the rectum, especially in children. See also PIN-BASKET, PIN-CASE, PINCUSHION, etc. and *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 5 An axe, a hachet, a hedgyngebyll, a *pyn awgur, a rest awgur, a flayle. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 134/2 With a..*pin-bit, bore a hole about a ¼ of an inch deep. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 722/1 The tuning-pin screws..into the thick metal wrestpin-piece, and through it into the wooden wrestplank or *pinblock. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arb. *Garner* III. 625 Cork *pynboles or buyes belonging to those nets. *Ibid.* 631 For every two nets, there must be a Pynboll or Bwy hooped...Each Pynboll or Bwy must have a rope of a yard long, to fasten it to the War-rope. 1640 CARRW in *Doidge's W. Country Ann.* (1882) 211 It..strake Roger Nise on the *pinbone. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4849/4 The Hair rubb'd off the near Pinbone. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 226 Joint steaks, pinbone-steaks, sausages. 1593 DRAYTON *Moses* III. Wks. (1748) 480/2 Pails, kits, dishes,

basons, *pinboukes, bowls. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade Products*, **Pin-box, Pin-case*, a small fancy box for holding pins. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pin Bush*, a reaming or polishing tool for pin holes. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. ii. 18 It is like a Barbers chaire that fits all buttockes, the *pin buttocke, the quatch-buttocke, the brawn buttocke, or any buttocke. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Rules buying horse*, The narrow pin Buttock, the Hog or Swine-Rump,.. are full of Deformity. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 370 They are sharp rumped and *pin buttockt. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1810/4 A Gelding,.. Pin-Buttockt or narrow. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. II. 964 One of the..children..approached so near the fire that the flames caught his *pin-cloth. 1846, 1854 [see Pinner[3] 2]. 1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, Pin-grass, or *Pin-clover, of California, *Erodium cicutarium*. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 503 Yarns..wound upon what is called a '*pin cop bobbin'. 1896 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 5/2 Our English great-grandmothers called 'coques' 'comb-curls' or '*pin-curls', because they were..stiffly arranged and held in their place with small side combs or hairpins. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 Oct. 8/5 She buys a 'pin-curl' and attaches it to her cycling hat! 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 172 There were only weaving circles and floating *pin-dots before his eyes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pin-drill*, a drill for countersinking. 1816 L. Hunt *Rimini* I. 244 A *pin-drop silence strikes o'er all the place. 1864 Webster, **Pin-footed*, having the toes bordered by a skin. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 346 Of the swelling in a Hawkes foote, which we tearme the pin, or *pin Goute. *Ibid.* 346 Make plaisters thereof, and bestowe them on the pinnegoute. 1825 Cobden in Morley *Life* i. (1903) 8 Black and purple and *pin grounds. 1491 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 187 Item, ij elne sattin to lyne the cap of that cloyke, and to be a *pyn hwd. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 439 This fish ranks among the first victims of *pin-hook wiles. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pin Machine*. *c* 1680 *Crys of London* 36 in *Bagford Ball.* I. 116 Here's your old *Pin Man, a coming agen. 1878 J. Inglis *Sport & W.* iv. 34 The pinmen are busy sorting their pins. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 189 *Pin-Mandrels ..are made with a..Shank, to fit stiff into a round hole that is made in the Work that is to be Turned. 1835 Ure *Philos. Manuf.* 304 The hardships which children have to endure in *pin-manufactories. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Passer, Passe sans flux*, not a *pinne matter. 1679 *Trials of White*, etc. 36 Is it a pin matter whether there was such a Bill or no? 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, It is not a pin matter how rude or false the lines or angles be. 1885 C. T. Davis *Leather* xxiii. (1897) 331 From the 'soaks' the skins are removed,..and placed..in the '*pin-mill'. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* xvi. 197 *Pin-oaks, whose tiny acorns are greedily sought for by mallards and sprig-tails. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 516/1 [Mallards] gather in the timbered sloughs and low swales bordering on the Mississippi, where the pin-oak and willow abound. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 194 [The] *Pin Pallet Escapement .. used mostly in French Clocks, in which it is often placed in front of the dial. The pallets are formed of semi-circular jewels. 1673 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 170 His Sermon is extant .. some Heads and Points of it I gave you..as a *Pinne-paper of your modern Orthodoxy. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* 209 The pin-papers, and stay-tapes, which might have been among the wares of his pack. 1694 Echard *Plautus* 164 Whole beds o'crabs, lobsters, oysters, *pinpatches, coral, muscles, and cockles. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Pin-patches, Pin-paunches*, the small shell fish called periwinkles...They are commonly drawn out of their shells with a pin. 1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 642 Driven into the '*pin-poppet', the old name by which these curious cases were best known. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 27 Item for *pyn powdre xij d. 1893 E. Crowe *With Thackeray in Amer.* i. 11 Reflection made him think the onslaught harmless, and the sting in it only of the *pin-prod order. 1608 T. Cocks *Diary* (1901) 35 Payde for a *pynne purse for my va[lentine] vs. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pin-rack*,..a frame placed on the deck of a vessel, and containing sheaves around which ropes may be worked, and belaying-pins around which they may be secured. 1877 Stainer *Organ* II. § 24 Under the keys a series of pins are arranged on a piece of wood forming a *pin-rail. These pins fit easily into holes in the keys and prevent them from oscillating. 1608 H. Clapham *Errour Right Hand* 39 Tom Lace-seller and Abraham *Pin-seller. 1900 *Echo* 12 June 3/4 Pick-pockets and *pin-snatchers reaped a rich harvest. 1894 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 6/5 Single flowers scattered over a '*pin-spot ground. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Feb. 4/2 Many of them spotted, but with a regular pin-spot. 1900 *Daily News* 14 July 4/7 The little bolero coat is faced with white linen, *pin-spotted with cornflower blue. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 118/1 A *Pin-sticking Machine, for sticking pins on paper. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 3/2 *Pin-striped serge, a material that in navy blue with a white line makes a very smart costume. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pin Switch*...The connections are made with pins or plugs, which give a rubbing or frictional contact when thrust into the holes on the board. 1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Sicke Men* 70 b, Did me neuer a *pinsworthe of pleasure. 1853 Byrne *Artisan's Handbk.* 81 For cutting the facets, they are held in small hand-vises or *pin-tongs. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 521 That part of the stone pallets upon which the *pin teeth act. 1886 *Standard* 15 Jan. 2/5 Its 'pin', or pointed, teeth had not developed. 1440–41 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 627 Pro j *pyntrase. 1536–7 *Ibid.* 697, iij par. pyntracez. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pin-vise*,..a hand-vise for grasping small arbors and pins. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 196 Pin Vice..chiefly used as a holder for pins and small pieces of work while they are being filed. 1854 Thoreau *Walden* xvii. (1886) 307 Golden-rods, *pinweeds, and graceful wild grasses. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, The *pin-winged doves are pigeons of the genus *Æchmoptila*...of Texas and Mexico. 1896 A. Morrison *Child of the Jago* 165 Her wedding-ring, worn to *pin-wire. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* xvii. (1878) 38 And seasoned timber for *pinwood to haue.

Pin, *sb.*[2] *local.* [Origin obscure: perh. connected with Pin *v.* II.] The middle place in a tandem team of three horses. Hence **pin-horse**: see quots.

1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Pin-horse*, the middle horse in a team. 1881 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Pin*, the middle place for a horse, between the shafter and the leader in a team of three. *Pin-horse.* 1886 Elworthy *W. Som. Word-bk.*, Pin, Pin-horse. [Widely prevalent in rural use. In E.D.D. from N. Yorksh. to Somerset.]

Pin, *sb.*[3] *Chess.* [f. Pin *v.*[1] 5 b.] The act of pinning, the fact of being pinned.

1868 Selkirk *Bk. Chess* 72 Removing his Queen to obviate the 'pin'.

Pin (pin), *v.*[1] Forms: see the sb. [In branch I., f. Pin *sb.*[1] In branch II., perh. worn down from Pind *v.*, but blending with I. in the sense 'fasten': cf also Pen *v.*[1] 1 and 2.]

I. To transfix, fix, attach, confine, with a pin.

1. *trans.* To fasten (things or parts of a thing *together*, or one thing *to* another) with one or more pins, pegs, or bolts (see Pin *sb.*[1] 1); to construct or repair by thus fastening the parts together; to make fast with a bolt, to bolt (a door, etc.). † *To pin the basket*: see Basket *sb.* 1 d.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 769 With a pyked palays, pyned ful þik. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 296 Conscience..made pees porter to pynne [*MS. B.* penne] þe 3ates Of alle taletellers and tyterers in ydel. *a* 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* lii. 6 Cros, þou dost no troube, On a pillori my fruit to pinne. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxxvii. 409 (Add. MS.), I shall haspe the dore, and pynne it with a pynne. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* cxvi. 411 No shyppe can depart hens without it be pynnyd with nayles of woode and not of Iron. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 750 Rafters or great peeces of tymber pinned together. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 43 They pin down a planck. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 123 They pin it up with wooden Pins. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 104 The mortices cut quite through and pinned with oak or ash pins. 1883 Gilmour *Mongols* xxv. 301 The long rope, which is pinned down to the ground. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 143 The lever is pinned to the pallets.

fig. 1727 Swift *State Irel.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 164 An act of navigation, to which we never consented, pinned down upon us. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 317 He is pinned down in more than one Review..as an exemplary warning.

2. To fasten with a pin (see Pin *sb.*[1] 3), or with a brooch, hairpin, or hat-pin; to attach with a pin or similar sharp-pointed instrument; to transfix with a pin; also with a lance or the like.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clxxx, At my beddis hed... I haue it faire pynnit vp. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 423 Thy plesand lawn pinnit with goldin prene. 1530 Palsgr. 658/1 Pynne your jacket togyther for taking of colde. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. ix. 36 His garment, nought but many ragged clouts, With thornes together pind and patched was. 1594 *Contention* viii. Stage-direction, Enter Dame Elnor Cobham bare-foote,..with a waxe candle in her hand, and verses written on her backe and pind on. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* III. 168 Gownes made with long traines, which are pinned vp in the house. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3725/4 Lost.., 3 Sheets of Paper made up in 3 Books, and pin'd in the middle. 1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 8 Nov., The wardrobe woman was pinning up the Queen's hair. 1838 James *Robber* vi, She had a shawl of fine white lace pinned across her shoulders. 1852 Stainton *Entom. Comp.* 74 The first object is to pin the insect. 1893 Earl Dunmore *Pamirs* II. 1 Pinning out his entomological specimens.

b. Used with a person as object, in respect of clothes. Chiefly *pass.*

1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* C vij, Shall not this lady this day be pynned. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. i, You went pinn'd vp. *Mod.* Come and I'll pin you.

3. *Building.* † **a.** Formerly sometimes = Under-pin. † **b.** To face with stone, marble, etc. **c.** To fill in the joints of masonry with chips of stone; to fill up the interstices with small stones: cf. Pinning *vbl. sb.* 2 a.

1427 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 65, ij masouns to pynne þe same hous. 1499–1500 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 656 *Reparaciones.* In pynnyng, Rakyng, et poyntyng. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. v. 71 Mamurra a Knight that was Master of July Caesar's woorkes in Fraunce pinned first the Walles of his house wyth broken marble. 1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.*, To Pin an house under the grounsile, *substruo.* 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 191 He didna batter, line, and pin, To please the e'e.

4. *fig.* To attach firmly *to* a person, or ostentatiously *to* or *on* his Sleeve; to make absolutely dependent or contingent *on* a person or thing; also, to fasten or fix (anything objectionable) *on* a person; to append, affix, tack on. Now *rare.*

1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 109 Alas, fond foole, art thou so pinned to their sleeues, yat thou regardest more their babble then thine owne blisse? 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* cxxxi. 803 Was God pinned on Balaams sleeue? Was he bounde to him? 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 321 This Gallant pins his Wenches on his sleeue. 1590 Greene *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 33 What is it for mee to pinne a fayre meacocke and a witty milkesop on my sleeue? 1626 Middleton *Women Beware Wom.* III. i. 297 You were pleas'd of late to pin an error on me. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 35 Pinn'd to the mutability of popular Faction. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* 1b. xxv. (1840) 81 He made himself absolute master of all orders, pinning them on himself by an immediate dependence. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 97 They wholly pin themselves upon the advice of those Magitians. 1710 *Tatler* No. 219 P 1 A Couple of professed Wits, who..had thought fit to pin themselves upon a Gentleman. 1819 Shelley *Cenci* I. iii. 16 You seem too light of heart..To act the deeds that rumour pins on you. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* II. iv, I might pin my fate to yours.

b. In phrases *to pin one's salvation, soul, hope, knowledge, reputation*, or the like, *upon, on, to* (a thing or person); now esp. *to pin one's faith upon, on* (a thing, or person, or his Sleeve), to place entire or openly professed trust or belief in.

1583 Babington *Commandm.* iv. (1637) 35, I would..never pin my everlasting estate in paine and blisse, upon so slender ..perswasions. 1599 *Life Sir T..More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 149, I never intended to pinne my soule to another mans sleeve. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 318 It is not good..to pin a mans knowledge vpon any particular mans sleeue. 1649 Bp. Reynolds *Hosea* vii. 139 No man is to pinne his own soule and salvation..upon the words of a man who may mislead him. 1651 Cleveland *Poems* 44 I'le pin my faith on the Diurnalls sleeve. 1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 22 Mr. Jones..much less expected, that any Man should pin his Belief upon his [Jones's] Shoulders. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. i. 11 Tradition..deserveth rather nailing to the Pillory, than pinning Faith upon it. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, To pin one's Faith on another's Sleeve*, or to take all upon Trust, for Gospel that he saies. 1712, 1812, 1885 [see Faith *sb.* 2]. 1828 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) II. 19, I now pin my hopes on a meeting at Dieppe. 1857 Mrs. Mathews *Tea-Table Talk* I. 92 She pinned her faith upon a horseshoe nailed upon the outer gate. 1885 S. Cox *Expositions* I. 4 Men who think for themselves, and pin their faith to no neighbour's sleeve.

5. *transf.* To hold fast (a man or animal) in a spot so that he cannot get away; to hold *down* or *against* something by force; to seize and hold fast.

1814 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 95 [The buck] could only reach the third field, where Tiger pinned him in the hedgerow. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xliii, Forth bolts the operative brother to pin like a bull-dog. 1840–70 Blaine *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 437 The dog will not only seize him [a bull] by the nose, but will cling to his hold till the bull stands still; and this is termed *pinning the bull.* 1859 Reeve *Brittany* 238 While I pinned his arms from behind, Mr. Taylor seized his whip. 1888 Burgon *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. v. 66 He caught me by my elbows, and pinned me up against the wall..so that I could not stir.

b. *Chess.* To confine a piece to a spot, to prevent it from being moved, absolutely, or without serious loss of material.

1745 Stamma *Chess* 112 Look first whether your Adversary cannot pin that Piece down. 1842 Walker *Chess* 15 The Bishop is able in certain cases to confine and pin the Knight, until the King or some other piece comes up and takes him. 1868 Selkirk *Bk. Chess* 73 White would then pin the Rook by Queen to Queen's 3rd.

c. *slang.* To seize.

1768 Earl of Carlisle in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 340, I am sure they intended to pin my money.

6. *fig.* To hold or bind (a person) strictly *to* a promise, course of action, etc.: often with *down.*

1710 Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* ii. 74 The Law of God..doth not absolutely pin us down to the manner of doing it. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* xxvi, One of those pestilent fellows that pin a man down to facts. 1894 Tyndall in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 507, I am pinned this year by the meeting of the British Association at Liverpool.

7. To set or stud with pins for ornament

1688 [see Pinned *ppl. a.* 2]. 1713 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5155/4 The out-side Case Shagreen, ..pinn'd with Gold Pins.

8. To make a small hole as with a pin. **a.** *Sc.* To break (a pane of glass) by throwing a stone so as to make a small hole. **b.** To drill (a hole).

1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* let. i, And who taught me to smoke a cobbler, pin a losen, head a bicker..? 1897 *Daily News* 7 June 2/3 Drills shrieking shrill accompaniment to the hum of whirring machinery as they pinned rivet-holes in metal plates.

9. To clog (a file): said of particles adhering so firmly to the teeth of a file that they have to be picked out with a piece of steel wire.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

II. To confine within bounds: cf. Pind *v.*

10. To enclose by or as by means of bolts or bars; to confine within a space or enclosure; to hem in, to shut *up*; *spec.* to put in a pinfold, impound (a beast).

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 127, I..Putte hem in a pressour and pinnede hem þer-Inne. 1423 *Coventry Leet-bk.* 43 Þer schall noo beestys be pynnyd at the comen pynfold by the comien seriante. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/1 Pynnyn, or put yn a pynfold, *intrudo.* 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2632 To be pynned and punysshed for theyr trespace. 1590 Webbe *Trav.* (Arb.) 27, I found two thousand Christians pind vp in ston wals lockt fast in yron chaines. 1630 L. Rowzee *Qveenes Welles* iii. (1632) 16 To contract and pin up the Sea into narrower limits, by..dikes [etc.]. 1674–91 Ray *Collect. Words* 17 A *Coop* is generally used for a Vessel or place to pin up or enclose any thing. 1824 Byron *Juan* xv. xxvi, Pinn'd like a flock, and fleeced too in their fold.

b. *Draughts* (and similar games). See quots.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 68/1 The play is, by so many geese to pinne the fox, that he cannot stirre one hole further. 1870 Hardy *Mod. Hoyle, Draughts* 107 The object..is to capture all your adversary's men, or to 'pin them, or hem them in so that they cannot be moved.

† **11.** *fig.* To 'shut *up*', confine, restrict. *Obs.*

? *a* 1400 Lydg. *Chorle & Birde* 89 To be shette vp and pynned vnder drede, No thyng acordeth vnto my nature. 1584 Fenner *Def. Ministers* (1587) 9 Howe hath he.. pinned vp her authoritie, when he sought to enlarge it? 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 314 To have his phantasie pinned up within the narrow compass of a poor..invention.

III. 12. *Comb.*, as **pin-faith** *a.*, that 'pins one's faith' on something (see 4 b), implicitly believing or credulous; **pin-up** *a.*, adapted for being pinned up.

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1245/4 One black Sarsenet Pin-up Petticoat. 1800 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) V. 316 The pin-faith multitude, which never thinks for itself.

Pin, *v.*[2] (U. S.), variant form of Peen *v.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pin...*11. To swage by striking with the peen of a hammer; as splaying an edge of an iron hoop to give it the flare corresponding to that of the cask.

‖ **Piña** (pī·nyă). Also 6 **pinna**, 6– **pina**. [S. Amer. Sp. *piña* (formerly *pinna*), Pg. *pinha* pine-apple, orig. pine-cone, pine-nut (ad. L. *pinea*).]

†**1.** (Spelt *pina*, *pinna*, *pinia*.) The pine-apple.

1577 Frampton *Joyfull Newes* 90 The Pinnas are a fruite whiche bee moste sette of in all the Indias. 1596 Raleigh *Discov. Guiana* 61 Great abundance of Pinas, the princesse of fruits that grow under the sun. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. iii. (1676) 46 In America .. their meat Palmitos, Pinas, Potatos, &c., and such fruits. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 93 Our boats returned loaden with plantynes, pinias, potatoes, sugar-canes.

2. Pine-apple leaf fibres (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858); a fine fabric made of these, more fully called **piña-cloth, piña-muslin**, *pine-apple cloth*.

1858 Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 765 Pine-apple cloth, ..sometimes known by the name of Pina Muslin. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Pina-cloth*, an expensive fabric made by the natives of the Philippines from the fibres of the pine-apple leaf. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Piña, Piña-cloth.

3. The spongy cone of amalgam left behind after part of the mercury has been eliminated: also anglicized **pinne**. (See also quot. 1875.)

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xii. 245 They put all the mettall into a cloth, which they straine out very forcibly, so as all the quicke-silver passeth out..and the rest remaines as a loafe of silver, like to a marke of almonds pressed to draw oyle. And being thus pressed, the remainder containes but the sixt part in silver, and five in mercurie...Of these markes they makes pinnes, (as they call them,) like pine apples, or sugar loaves, hollow within, the which they commonly make of a hundred pound weight. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Pina* (*Spanish*), amalgamated silver. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pina* (Spanish), the pile of wedges or bricks of hard silver amalgam placed under a *capellina* and subjected to heat, for the expulsion of the mercury. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Piña.

Pinace, obs. form of Pinnace.

Pinaceous (pəinē·ʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. mod.Bot. L. *Pinăceæ* the pine family (f. L. *pin-us* pine): see -aceous.] Of or pertaining to the pine tribe.

1874 Sir R. Christison in *Trans. Bot. Soc. Edin.* (1876) XII. 167 A Pinaceous Fossil..found in Redhall Quarry.

†**Pinache.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Derivation unknown: the quot. corresponds notably with the first under Piquet *sb.*[1]] Some game at cards.

1641 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* 126 In games at Cards, the Maw requires a quicke conceit..the Cribbage a recollected fancy; the Pinache quick and vn-enforced dexterity. [Not in ed. 1630.]

†**Pinacle,** *v. Obs.* Also pinn-. [Origin obscure: cf. *pinion* vb. and *manacle*.] *trans.* To pinion.

1614 Budden tr. *Aerodius' Disc. Parents Hon.* (1616) 22 Like a prisoner with his armes fast pinacled. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 98 They pinnacle them, and deliver them up to the fury of the children.

Pinacle, obs. form of Pinnacle.

Pinacocyte (pi·năkōsəit). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πίναξ*, *πινακ-* tablet + -cyte.] Each of the flat plate-like cells (constituting *pavement-epithelium*) forming the ectoderm and part of the endoderm in sponges.

1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 418/2 The ectoderm usually consists of simple pavement epithelial cells (*pinnacocytes*). 1900 E. R. Lankester *Zool.* II. *Sponges* 44.

Hence **Pi·nacocy·tal** *a.*

1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 427/1 The pinnacocytal layer.

Pinacoid, pinakoid (pi·năkoid), *a.* and *sb. Cryst.* [f. Gr. *πίναξ*, *πινακ-* slab: see -oid.]

A. *adj.* Applied to any plane, in a crystallographic system, intersecting one of the axes of co-ordinates and parallel to the other two. Opposed to *octahedrid* and *prismatoid*.

1895 Story-Maskelyne *Crystallogr.* ii. § 18.

B. *sb.* A pinacoid plane, or a group of such planes constituting a 'form'.

1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens.* § 3470 A Polyhedron of Calcite, cut .. so as to represent the optical characters .. in directions perpendicular 1. To the pinakoid. 1881 Bauerman *Text-bk. Syst. Min.* 198 The octahedron, or unit pyramid, is always the largest, and the cube rectangular prism, or pinakoid, the smallest of the constituent forms. 1895 Story-Maskelyne *Crystallogr.* vii. § 303 The poles of the pinakoids form the angular points of the systematic triangles.

Hence **Pinacoi·dal** *a.*, of the nature of or characteristic of a pinacoid.

1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* xiii. 245 A structural condition of pinakoidal separation.

Pinacolin (pinæ·kŏlin). *Chem.* [f. next + -ol + -in[1].] A colourless oily liquid ($C_6H_{12}O$), having an odour of peppermint, variously produced from pinacone. Hence **Pinaco·lic** *a.*

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 647 *Pinacolin*,..an oily body produced by the dehydration of pinacone. 1875 *Ibid.* VII. 982 *Pinacolic alcohol*, $C_6H_{14}O$..is produced by treating pinacolin with sodium in presence of water.

Pinacone (pi·năkōun). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *πίναξ* tablet + -one.] A white crystalline substance ($C_6H_{14}O_2$), crystallizing in large tablets, produced by the action of sodium or sodium-amalgam on aqueous acetone.

1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 648 Liquid pinacone is a colourless syrup. 1877 — *Fownes' Chem.* II. 177 Pinacone, when heated with acids, is converted into pinacolin.

‖ **Pinacotheca** (pi·năkōpī·kă). Also anglicized as **pi·nacothe·k** (-pek). [L. *pinacothēca* (Varro), a. Gr. *πινακοθήκη* a picture-gallery (Strabo), f. *πίναξ*, *πινακ-* tablet, picture + *θήκη* repository. So It. *pinacoteca*, F. *pinacothèque*, Ger. *pinakothek*.] A place for the keeping and exhibition of pictures and other works of art.

[1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 63 The..parlours, bathes, librarie and pinacloth, where coat Armors escuchions, painted tables, and counterfeates of strangers were kept.] 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 207 Pinacothecia..by which he intendeth .. certain Repositories for Works of Rarity in Picture or other Arts. 1766 Smollett *Trav.* 288 The pinacotheca of this building was a complete Museum of all the Curiosities of Art and Nature. 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* I. iii, A picture-saloon, or *pinacotheca*. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 315/1 Our walks through halls of art and pinacothecks.

Pinafore (pi·năfoəɪ), *sb.* [f. Pin *v.*[1] + Afore, because originally pinned upon the dress in front.] A covering of washable material worn by children, and by factory girls or others, over the frock or gown, to protect it from being soiled.

The article so called was prob. originally a piece of washing material pinned on for the occasion; in Webster, 1847, it is defined as 'an apron for the front part of the body', in Latham's Johnson, 1868, as 'a small apron or bib for children'; as now used, it differs from an apron in meeting and being fastened at the back above the waist, and in having armholes; a little girl's pinafore is often an article of ordinary house dress, and may be more ornamental than the frock which it covers. See also Brat, Overall.

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. viii, A pin-a-fore for Master Mortimer Delvile, lest he should daub his pappy when he is feeding him. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 234 She is still pretty, but not so elegant as when she wore frocks and pin-a-fores. 1863 Miss Braddon *J. Marchmont* I. i, 7 To teach children their A B C, and mend their frocks and make their pinafores. 1882a — *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 80 When you were in pinafores.

fig. 1845 *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 17 Exhibiting perhaps a smart architectural 'pinafore' in front, which turns out to be a mere 'coverslut' intended to hide meanness and deformity. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yard* (1855) 28 The chicks are large,..entirely shining black, except a pinafore of white on the breast.

b. *transf.* The wearer of a pinafore; *esp.* a child or little girl.

1836 T. Hook *G. Gurney* III. 153 The pinafores were gone to bed.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* I. x. 307 Younger folk..in the pinafore stage of existence. 1894 Eliz. L. Banks *Camp. Curiosity* 181 Skill in pinafore-ironing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 3/2 A navy blue serge frock..one of the pinafore build to slip over shirts.

Pi·nafore, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To attire in a pinafore.

1857 Geo. Eliot *Sc. Cler. Life*, *Janet's Repent.* viii, She was duly bonneted and pinafored, and then they turned out.

2. To put into the skirt of one's pinafore (cf. *to pocket*). *nonce-use.*

1893 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 2/2 There were hundreds..feeding as one, and pinaforing the fragments that remained.

Pinafored (pi·năfoəɪd), *a.* [f. prec. sb. or vb. + -ed.] Attired in a pinafore.

1847 Mrs. Gore *Castles* xxvii, The smallest dame-school that turns out its pinafored urchins on a village green. 1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* xv. 167 Pinafored children..playing in the gutters.

Pinakiolite (pinæ·kioləit). *Min.* [mod. (Flink, 1890) f. Gr. *πινάκιον*, dim. of *πίναξ* tablet + -lite.] Borate of manganese and magnesium, found in brilliant black tabular crystals.

1891 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XLI. 251 Pinakiolite is a new borate of manganese and magnesium.

Pinakoid, -al, variants of Pinacoid, -al.

†**Pi·nal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *pīn-us* pine-tree + -al.] Of the nature of or allied to the pine.

1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 150 Oaks, and other trees ..more difficult to be raised in northern and alpine climates than their pinal predecessors.

Pinalic (pinæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. Pina(co)l-in + -ic.] Derived from or contained in pinacolin, as *pinalic acid*, $C_5H_{10}O_2$.

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

‖ **Pinang** (pinæ·ŋ). Also 7 **-e**, 9 **penang**. [Malay *pinang* betel nut, areca. Also in Du., etc.] The areca tree (*Areca Catechu*), or its fruit, the areca nut (*pinang nut*): see Areca.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 148 The Portuguez call the tree that bears it *Arre quero*..and the Malayans *Pinang*. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 365 Their ordinary food..is Rice, Wheat, Pinange, Betele. 1771 J. R. Forster tr. *Osbeck's Voy.* I. 257 Pinang..is a fruit which looks like a nutmeg in the inside. 1883 Mrs. Bishop in *Leisure Ho.* 202/2 Pinang (from the *pinang*, or areca-palm) is the proper name of the island.

Pinary, Pinasse, obs. ff. Pinery, Pinnace.

Pinaster (pəinæ·stəɪ). *Bot.* [a. L. *pīnaster* (Plin.) wild pine, f. *pinus* pine: see -aster. So F. *pinastre*, It., Sp. *pinastro*.] A species of pine (*Pinus Pinaster*) indigenous to south-western Europe; also called *Cluster-* or *Star-pine*.

(The *Pinaster* or Wild Pine of the ancients is thought by Daubeny to have been *P. maritima* of modern botanists.)

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 88 Pinaster is nothyng ellis but a wilde pyne tre of a meruelus hyght. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 462 The Pine and the Pinaster cary leaues thin and slender..long also and sharp pointed. 1731–3 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pinus*, *Pinus sylvestris*..the Pinaster or wild Pine. 1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1804) II. 21 The Pinaster is a variety of the Scotch Fir. 1842 Selby *Brit. Forest Trees* 437 The introduction of the Pinaster into England by Gerard..A.D. 1596. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 6 The principal timber tree of [St. Helena] is the pinaster.

Pinate (pəi·nēt). *Chem.* [f. Pin-ic + -ate[4].] A salt of pinic acid.

1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 506 The pinates.. may be obtained by digesting an ethereal solution of pinic acid over the alkaline carbonates. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 166/1 The pinates of ammonia, potash, and soda are soluble in water, but those of other bases are mostly insoluble in it.

‖ **Pinax** (pi·næks). Pl. **pinaces** (pi·năsīz); also 9 **pinakes**. [L. *pinax*, a. Gr. *πίναξ* board, plank, tablet, picture.]

1. A tablet; hence a list, register, or the like inscribed on a tablet; a catalogue, index. ? *Obs.*

1682a Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* I. § 1 Consider whereabout thou art in Cebes's Fable, or that old Philosophical *Pinax* of the Life of Man. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 434 This.. may..serve instead of a Pinax, or General *Index Plantarum*. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* Introd. (1794) 7 This pinax..is still the guide to all those who study this subject.

2. *Antiq.* A plate, platter, or dish; *esp.* one with anything painted or engraved on it.

1857 Birch *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 286 The pinax or dish with a tall foot. *Ibid.* 296 Pinakes or plates, are also found at this period.

Pin-ball (pi·nˌbǭl). *U.S.* [f. Pin *sb.*[1] + Ball *sb.*[1]]

1. A pincushion.

1894 Sarah M. H. Gardner *Quaker Idyls* vi, I gave him the pinball.

2. *Pinball-sight* = bead-sight: see Bead *sb.* 5 d.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pin-ball Sight*, (*Rifle*), another name for the *bead-sight*; also called pin-head sight.

Pinbank, variant form of Pinebank *Obs.*

Pi·n-ba·sket. *local.* A large ornamental pincushion, with pins of various lengths artistically inserted, so as to resemble a basket; formerly, in some places, presented to the mother of a family on the birth of each child. Hence, the youngest child in a family (in quot. 1794 of an animal).

1730–6 Bailey (folio), *Pin-basket*, the last child a woman bears. 17.. Sir J. Marriot in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* (1782) IV. 304 Oft be your second race survey'd And oft a new pin-basket made. 1780 *Gentl. Mag.* L. 77 No less natural is it that the pin-basket of the lawful wife should have the greatest share of the father's affections. 1794 J. Williams *Shrove Tuesday*, etc. 4 My gay Chanticleer..The pin-basket of my Sultana hen. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pin-basket*, the youngest child in a family.

Pin-before (pi·nbĭfōəɪ). *rare.* [f. Pin *v.*[1] + Before.] = Pinafore.

1824 Southey in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 71 During dinner he lifts up his pin-before to look at the buttons. 1830 *Examiner* 801/1 Young gentlemen in pinbefores. 1863 Mrs. Marsh *Heathside Farm* II. 33 Her stiff black silk protected by an ample holland pinbefore, she was engaged in superintending hot cakes and pikelets.

Pi·n-case. A case for holding pins; also, a pincushion (? *obs.* exc. *dial.*).

1515 *Will of R. Symson* (Somerset Ho.), A pyncase of tysyn saten. 1530 Palsgr. 254/2 Pyncase, *esplinguette*, *esplinguiere*. 1614 B. Jonson *Barth. Fair* III. i, What do you lack, gentlemen? fine purses, pouches, pin-cases, pipes? 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pin-cass*, a pin cushion, a corruption of *pin-case*.

†**Pince.** *Obs.* [Variant of Pinch *sb.*; perh. immed. a. F. *pince*.] A galled or sore place on a horse.

1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. xli. 281 The swelling, pince, wringing or gall, either vpon the withers or any parte of the backe of a horse.

Pince, obs. occasional variant of Pinch *sb.* and *v.*

Pincel, -eller, obs. ff. Pencil, Penciller.

‖ **Pince-nez** (pɑ̃nsˌnē). [F. *pince-nez*, lit. pinch-nose, nip-nose.] A pair of eyeglasses kept in position by a spring which clips the nose.

1880 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Aug. 235 It is amusing to meet a person whom one has been accustomed to see in regular spectacles wearing a *pince-nez* for the first time. 1888 J. Payn *Myst. Mirbridge* vii, The lady, putting up her pince-nez, with a show of interest. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 132 Man, when he sees with difficulty, does not now improve his Eye; he puts on a pince-nez.

Pinceoun, variant of Pinson[1] *Obs.*

Pincer (pi·nsəɪ), *v.* [f. Pincers.] *trans.* To compress with or as with pincers; to torture or wring with or as with pincers.

1703 Parker *Eusebius* VIII. 147 The Judge..gave in Order that she should be Pincer'd worse than ever any Body yet had been. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. i, Face, not pincered together. 1897 Rhoscomyl *White Rose Arno* 188 The pain of his wound racked and pincered his nerves.

†**Pincern.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. late and med.L. *pincerna*, a. late Gr. *πιγκέρνης* cup-bearer, prop. a wine-mixer, f. *πίνειν* to drink + *κεράννυναι* to mix: cf. OF. *pincerne* a butler.] A cup-bearer.

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. (1623) 729 [The] Lord Maior in his office of chiefe Pincern or Cup-waiter. [1848 Lytton *Harold* III. iii, There were to be seen [by the throne] *camararius* and *pincerna*, chamberlain and cupbearer.]

Pincers (pi·nsəɪz), *sb. pl.* Rarely (exc. in comb.) in sing. form **pincer**. Forms: 4 **pynceours**, 4–5 **pinsours**, 4–7 **-sers**, 5 **pynsors**, **-sours**, 6 **-cors**, **-sores**; **pinsars**, 6–7 **-sors**, 6– **pincers**. [In ME. *pinsour(s*, *pynsour(s*, *-or(s*, *pynceour(s*, app. AF. agent-n. from *pincer* vb.: see

PINCH; cf. OF. *pinchure* pincers, tongs, *pinçoir* a clip used as a book-mark; mod.F. *pince* (Cotgr. *pinces*) pincers. See also PINSON 1.]

1. A tool for tightly grasping or nipping anything, consisting of two limbs pivoted together, forming a pair of jaws with a pair of handles or levers by which they can be pressed tightly together. (Commonly *a pair of pincers*; rarely *a pincers*.)

1338 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 376, j par de Pynceours de ferro. 1371 *Ibid.* 129, j par de pinsers. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Kut ye a litell of her clees with pynsors. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 187 Two mouthes lyke vnto a paire of smaule pinsers. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* v. viii. (1886) 86 S. Dunstan lead the divell about the house by the nose with a paire of pinsors or tongs. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xii. 16 A paire of Pincers in his hand he had, With which he pinched people to the hart. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 11 A Wood-Louse..hath two pointers also before, like a pair of pincers. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* v. ii, The flesh will quiver, where the pincers tear. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 201 A pointed instrument to raise the wick, a small pincers to prune it. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 188/2 The flask is then removed from the fire by wooden pincers.

sing. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 570/18 *Capana*, a pynsour. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 280/2 A paire of Pynsours (*A.* A Pynsoure). 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 76/3 Pincer, *forpeculæ*.

fig. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. ii. § 33 (1864) 524 He [Newton] has always his mind ready to seize it with the mathematical pincers.

2. An organ (or pair of organs), in various animals, resembling pincers, and used for grasping or tearing; as the chelæ of crustaceans, the incisor teeth of a horse, etc.

1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* Ep. Ded., Their [green locusts'] pincers..are as sharp as keen rasors. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 156 ¶7 Every Ant brings a small particle of that earth in her pincers. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 554 The feet of animals which scramble among rocks are provided with pincers. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iii. 95 A living crayfish is able to perform very varied movements with its pincers.

3. *Comb.*, as *pincer-grip*; *pincer-like* adj.

1611 COTGR., *Louve de fer*..the (pinser-like) hooke of a Crane, &c. 1860 CARLYLE *Let. to Ruskin* 29 Oct., in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 105, I marvel in parts..at the pincer-grip .. you take of certain bloated cheeks and blown-up bellies. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 142 Two terminal processes which make up a pincer-like organ.

‖ **Pincette** (pɛnse·t) Also 6 **pyncet(te**, 6–7 **pincet**. [F. *pincette* small pincers, dim. of *pince* a pair of pincers.] A small pair of pincers; tweezers, forceps. (Also in *pl.*)

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 908 The pyncettes, *les tenailles.* 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* lf. xvi b/2 Purify the wounde internallye with the pincet. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 9 Some to draw away, as tenals incisiue, pincets, titbals. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* ix. 75 Various instruments, such as the tourmaline pincette, the dichroscope. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Dec. 10/2 The piece of lead was at last extracted by a pincette expressly constructed for the purpose.

Pinch (pin·tʃ), *sb.* Forms: see next. [f. PINCH *v.*]

I. 1. An act of pinching; a firm compression between the finger and thumb or any two opposing surfaces; a nip, a squeeze; †a seizure with the teeth, a bite (*obs.*).

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. iv. 49 If we be English Deere be then in blood, Not Rascall-like to fall downe with a pinch. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* vi. 75 He will never flinch. To giue a full quart pot the empty pinch. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 298 If thou, and Nature can so gently part, The stroke of death is as a Louers pinch. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat* 118 Mr. Neverout's Wit begins to run low, for I vow, he said this before: Pray, Colonel, give him a Pinch. 1836 I. TAYLOR *Phys. The. Another Life* 238 Feeling the pinch of a tight shoe, ..the pinch of a tight hat.

†b. *fig.* An ill-natured thrust; stricture, censure.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xliii. (1887) 271 Those generall pinches, which repining people do vse then most, when they are best vsed.

2. *fig.* Pressure, stress (usually of want, misfortune, or the like); difficulty, hardship.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 214 Necessities sharpe pinch. 1678 TEMPLE *Let. to Ld. Treasurer* Wks. 1731 II. 469, I am so tired out with this cruel Pinch of Business. 1688 MORE in Norris *Theory Love* 176 This pinch of time that I am in, has made me but huddle up things together. 1861 *Times* 22 Aug., So much money having been spent. .. All classes felt the pinch. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 279 Those who were rendered keener by the pinch of hunger. 1892 JESSOPP *Studies Recluse* Pref. (1893) 17 He never knew what the pinch of poverty was.

†**3.** The pain or pang caused by the grip of death, or of remorse, shame, etc. *Obs.*

1567 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 93 Ne at this present pinch of death am I dismay'd. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 77 Sebastian (Whose inward pinches therefore are most strong) Would heere haue kill'd your King. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 608 No pinch of penalty is comparable to pinch of conscience. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxvi. 451 Have these convictions .. brought you to a great pinch, and inward distress of soul?

4. A case, occasion, or time of special stress or need; a critical juncture; a strait, exigency, extremity. Now, usually, in phr. *at* (*on*) *a pinch.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xviii. 53 Corageously at a pynche [he] shal renne vpon hem. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 164/2 What would ye than haue done? Quod he ye put me nowe to a pynche. 1574 J. DEE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 39 Any notable benefit..bestowed uppon me now in the very pynch and opportunytie. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B iij b, If I had thought they would driue me to suche pinches, I would not haue medled with them. *a* 1659 BP. BROWNRIG *Serm.* (1674) I. iii. 40 The Israelites..send to hire the King of Egypt..to help at a pinch. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 264 But that Apprehension appeared Groundless when it came to the pinch. 1789 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 89 [We are] without our cook, but the dairy-maid is not a bad hand at a pinch. 1847 LD. G. BENTINCK in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. xxv. 146, I think on a pinch my father could still walk ten miles in a day. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* 56 Each of them could at a pinch stand in the shoes of the other. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. v. (1872) VIII. 183 Fighting fellows all,..but uncertain as to loyalty in a case of pinch. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 339 She could..drive a team on a pinch.

b. The critical or crucial point of a matter.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. v. (1840) 54 The chief pinch of the cause lieth on the patriarch's proof, that the lands.. formerly belonged to his predecessors. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* Pref. 40 Here indeed lies the very Pinch of the Argument. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. vi. II. 457 Those two attributes which form the real mark and pinch of Spartan legislation, viz., the military discipline and the rigorous private training.

5. The critical (highest or lowest) point of the tide, the turn of the tide. Cf. PINCH *v.* 13, and *pinch-water* in PINCH-. ? *Obs. rare.*

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 260, I took an opportunity at pinch of low water to view the works upon the rock.

6. *local.* The game of hustle-cap: see quots.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pinch*, the game of pitch-halfpenny or pitch and hustle. It is played by two or more antagonists, who pitch or cast a halfpenny each, at a mark. ..When they hustle, all the half-pence..are thrown into a hat held by the player who claims the first chance. After shaking them together, he hits the crown of the hat a smart blow with his fist, which causes them to jerk out, and as many as lie with the..head upwards belong to him. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s. v., Some colliers were lately fined .. for playing at pinch on Sunday.

II. A place or part at which something is (or appears to be) pinched.

†**7.** *Archery.* A weakened place in a bow or stick at which it tends to bend in an angle as if pinched at this point. (See PINCH *v.* 1 c.) *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 114 If you..fynde a bowe that is..not marred with..freate or pynche, bye that bowe. *Ibid.* 120 Freates be fyrst little pinchese, the whych when you perceaue, pike the places about the pinches, to make them somewhat weker, and as well commynge as where it pinched.

†**8.** A pleat or gather, in a skirt, etc.; an accordion-pleat. b. A bend or fold in the brim of a hat; a cock. (See COCK *sb.*6 3.) *Obs.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 146 It is not your pinches, your purles, your flourry iaggings, superfluous enterlacings, and puffings vp, that can any way offend God. 1595 GOSSON *Pl. Quippes* 87 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 254 This cloth of price, all cut in ragges, ..These buttons, pinches, fringes, jagges. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 432 ¶ 2 Hats moulded into different Cocks and Pinches. 1860 J. P. KENNEDY *W. Wirt* I. i. 20 This picture may remind us of Hogarth's 'Politician', with 'the pinch' so far projecting that the candle burns a hole through it.

9. A steep or difficult part of a road. Now *dial.*

1754 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1889 I. 63 Wagons may travel now with 1500 or 1800 weight on them, by doubling the teams at one or two pinches only. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 401 Making the road thirty feet wide, and the principal pinches twenty. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* II. 4 Stony pinches and deep gulleys.

10. *Mining.* A point at which a mineral vein is narrowed in or compressed by the walls of rock.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 234 The north shoot seems to be divided by a vertical pinch.

III. 11. As much of something (esp. snuff) as may be taken up with the tips of the finger and thumb; hence *fig.* a very small quantity.

1583 GREENE *Mamilla* Wks. (Grosart) II. 81 For a pince of pleasure we receiue a gallon of sorow. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 344 ¶ 2 Flavilla..asked the Churchwarden if he would take a Pinch [of Snuff]. 1724 THOMSON *Let.* 11 Dec. (in *Sotheby's Catal.* 19–22 Feb. (1896) 86), Had I been taught to cut a caper, to hum a tune, to take a pinch and lisp nonsense with all the grace of fashionable stupidity. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Old Age*, Two Pinches of the Tops of Rosemary, a Pinch of Laurel Leaves, two Pinches of Hysop. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* v. 61 Rowe took a long pinch of snuff. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxvi, A little more hot water, and a pinch of fresh tea.

IV. 12. An iron lever with a beak or point, used for moving heavy bodies, loosening coal, etc., by leverage or prizing; a crow-bar; a pinch-bar.

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix, Pinches or forehammers will never pick upon't, .. ye might as weel batter at it wi' pipe-staples. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 190 Here scores their pinches and their picks Atween the ashlar stanes did fix. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Pinch*, a kind of crowbar used in breaking down coal.

13. *dial.* A close-fisted person; a 'screw'.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pinch*, a very parsimonious economist.

Pinch (pin·tʃ), *v.* Forms: 4–6 **pinche(n**, **pynche(n**, (4–5 **pinnche**, 6 **pyntche**, **pynshe**, **pench(e**, *Sc.* **pinsche**), 6–7 **pynch**, 6– **pinch**. β. (*rarely*) 6 **pinse**, 7–8 **pince**. [a. ONF. **pinchier* (in mod. Normand *pincher*), 3 sing. pr. *pinche*, = OF. *pincier*, mod.F. *pincer*; ulterior origin obscure.

The Fr. vb. was perh. nasalized from an earlier form repr. by Walloon *pissî*: cf. obs. It. *picciare*, Venet. dial. *pizzare*, mod.It. *pizzicare* to pinch, Sp. *pizca* a pinch; also early mod. Du. *pitsen*, Flem. *pinssen* (Kilian), Ger. *pfetzen* to pinch.]

I. In literal and closely connected senses.

1. *trans.* To compress between the tips of the finger and thumb, with the teeth, etc., or with any instrument having two jaws or parts between which something may be grasped; to nip, squeeze. (The principal literal sense.) Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 751 But bochours ben þei echon, 3our body to dismembre, & euerich pinchen his part. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxviii. (W. de W.) 153 Yf the mete pytchyth and pryckyth, the stomake is pynchyd and prycked and compellyth it to passe out. 1530 PALSGR. 657/2, I pynche a thynge with my fyngar and my thombe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xliii. (1887) 272 To pinch the heele where they pricke at the head. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Saint's Daily Exerc.* (1629) 119 A swine that is pinched .. will cry exceeding loud. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 59 They..Rummage his Mother, pinch his Aunt. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 44 The creature was scarcely able to withdraw its legs when the toes were pinched. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iv. 115 If the legs be pinched..the muscles are made to contract.

β. 1799 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* (1830) II. 65 That blacksmith, Who on his wall had drawn the arch-devil's picture, And us'd to pince at it with glowing tongs.

b. Said of a tight shoe, etc. which presses painfully upon the part which it covers; esp. in the proverbial phrase *to know where the shoe pinches*, i. e. to know (by direct experience) the disadvantages of any situation, or the cause of a trouble or difficulty. (Usually *absol.* or *intr.*)

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8253 Thys glouys byndē me so sore, That I may weryn hem no more, With her pynchyng to be bounde, Myn handys ben so tendre. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 377 My shooe..pincheth my foote. *a* 1580 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 85 Subtle enemyes, that knowe..where the shooe pinchith us most. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dialogues* ii. Wks. 1874 VI. 121 When you pull on your shoo you best may tel In what part it doth chiefely pinch you. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. xxv. 163 Fit the splinters well .. that they pinch not the Patient any where. *c* 1720 PRIOR *Phillis's Age* ii, Stiff in brocade, and pinch'd in stays. 1856 READE *Never too late* lv, Oh, is that where the shoe pinches?

†c. *intr.* for *refl.* Of a bow: To receive a pinch: see PINCH *sb.* 7. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 116 Take your bow in to the feeld,..looke where he commethe moost, prouyde for that place betymes, leste it pinche and so freate. *Ibid.* 121.

d. *pass.* To be jammed or compressed forcibly between two solid objects so as to be crushed.

1896 J. E. JEAFFRESON in *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Aug. 5/1 We have lost our walrus boat...She was pinched on shore in the land water on July 16,.. by the heavy pack ice. 1899 *Ibid.* 29 Mar. 5/3 The chap that had it before me got pinched between the coupling hooks .. he only lived a few hours. 1899 *Daily News* 11 Oct. 8/5 He was pinched between the train and the platform.

2. With *adv.* or *compl.* To bring or get into some state or position by pinching (in first two quots., by squeezing or pressing).

13.. *S. Erkenwolde* 70 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Wyȝt werkemen..Putten prises þer to, pinchid one vnder. *a* 1425 *Langland's P. Pl. A.* IX. 88 A pyk is in þe potent to punge [*Univ. Coll. MS.* pynche] a-doun þe wikkede. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 241/1 Let them keepe straite, and pinch in their shoulders. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 194 They'll sucke our breath, or pinch vs blacke and blew. 1645 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad T.* (1841) 23 Pinch me into the remembrance of my promises. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 106 The ordinary Rack..is for men to pinch off the Flesh with hot Pinsers. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* (ed. 6) I. 28 Pinch their ends close. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 676 The skin cannot now be pinched up.

b. *Hort.* To nip off part of (a shoot). Also to nip *out*; to shorten *back* or *down* by nipping.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 16 When the Branch so Pinch'd proves obstinate in shooting thick again, the same Operation of Pinching must be perform'd again. 1850 *Beck's Florist* May 129 When the shoots have grown three or four inches..I again pinch out their tops, in order to make them bushy. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxi. (ed. 2) 490 As soon as six leaves were developed on any shoot they were pinched down to three. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/1 When [the shoots] are three or four inches long they are pinched back to three buds.

c. To force out by compression, squeeze out; in quots. *fig.* to extract, extort, wring, 'squeeze' (money) *from* or *out of* a person.

1770 MASSIE *Reas. agst. Tax on Malt* 10 The Money..must be pinched from the bellies and backs of labouring Families. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 13 Apr. 69 The immense sums, thus pinched from the millions, and put into the hands of thousands. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiii, He had always pinched the full interest out of himself with punctual pinches.

d. To put in or add by pinches (PINCH *sb.* 11); *pinch empty*, to empty by removing the contents by pinches.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 84 The old dames..pinch the snuff-box empty by degrees. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 608 Pinch a murderous dust into her drink.

†**3.** *trans.* To pleat, gather in, or flute the surface of (a garment, etc.); to crimp or crinkle the edge of (a pie-crust). *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 151 Ful semyly hir wympul pynched was. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 410 So wyde a gowne..as is þin, So smal I-pynchid. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 41 Kover hit [the chopped-up pork, etc.] with lyddes, and pynche hit fayre, Korven in þe myddes two loyseyns a payr. 1509–10 [see PINCHED *ppl. a.* 3].

†**4.** To seize, compress, or snap with the teeth. Often *absol. Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxv, Who pyncheth firste and goth þerwith to þe deth, he shall haue þe skynne. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 16 As a Beare encompass'd round with Dogges: Who hauing pincht a few, and made them cry, The rest stand all aloofe. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* v. 462 Like a sort of dogs that at a lion bay, And entertain no spirit to pinch. 1700 Dryden *Theodore & Hon.* 115 Two mastiffs..came up and pinch'd her tender side.

†**5.** Said of actions causing a painful bodily sensation: To hurt, pain, torture, torment. (In first two quots. applied to the torture of the rack.) *Obs.*

1536 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 30 Not sparing for the knowleage hereof to pynche him with paynes to the declaracion of it. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1371/1 They were constreined to commit him to such as are vsuallie appointed in the Tower to handle the racke, by whome he was laied vpon the same, and somewhat pinched, although not much. 1597 J. T. *Serm. Paules C.* 11 Which pincheth man with three great wounds. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 364 If it [a Dart] pinch them further, and draw bloud, they increase their punishment.

6. Said of the painful action of cold, hunger, exhaustion, or wasting disease: including the physical effects (to contract, make thin or shrunken), the painful physical sensations, and often the mental affliction or social injury. Also, in reference to plants: to nip, to cause to shrivel or wither up.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 48 If famine had not pinched them, or colde wether had not nipped them. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 30 Let fastynges forepine the body,.. let labour pinche it. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 913 If he be a little pinched with pouertie & aduersitie. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 160 The ayre hath .. pinch'd the lilly-tincture of her face. 1652 A. Ross *Hist. World* I. iii. 13 His army being pinched with thirst. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Glouc.* (1662) 349 The most generous and vigorous land will..be imbarrened, when always pinched with the Plough. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 22 A most severe cold which pinched our men exceedingly. 1772 Foote *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 303 The polyanthuses were a little pinched by the easterly winds. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 2 The labouring classes .. have been pinched .. by hard times, by increased expenses, and by loss of wages.

absol. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 43. 260 When a famine begins to pinch. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XIV. 548 The winter pinches, and with cold I die.

II. In non-physical and figurative senses.

7. To press upon, straiten, reduce to straits or distress; to bring into difficulties or trouble; to afflict, harass. *Obs.* exc. as consciously *fig.* from 1 or 6.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xiv. 127 To the ende they myght bee worse pynched at the herte roote. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* H ij, The proposition of the lord Bretagne..did chiefly pinch them. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 515 That no consciencious man may be pinched thereby. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 215 The king finding his affairs pinch him at home. 1800 Coleridge *Piccolom.* I. xii, His compact with me pinches The Emperor. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib.* II. ix, Debt pinches the mind, more than hunger pinches the body.

β. 1630 M. Godwyn tr. *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* I. 49 Need began at length to pince him.

b. *intr.* or *absol.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* VIII. 278 Huge grief, for Hector's slaughter'd friend, pinch'd in his mighty mind. 1657 Cromwell *Sp.* 20 Apr. in *Carlyle*, Another thing which doth a little pinch upon me. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* II. iii, *Don Diego.* Pray tell me, how you came to employ this Sir Roger..and not think of your old friend Diego? *Mrs. Bull.* So, so, there it pinches!

†**8.** *intr.* To press narrowly or closely *on*: **a.** to encroach *on*; **b.** to put stress *upon*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Sat. People Kildare* xvi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 155 Hail be ȝe bakers wiþ ȝur louis smale..ȝe pincheþ on þe riȝt white aȝen goddes law. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 371 ȝif I ȝede to þe plow, I pynched so narwe [C. on hus half acre] þat a fote londe or a forwe, fecchen I wolde, Of my nexte neighbore. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* IV. (1859) 498 It is a shame to behold .. how men pinch at such bierbalks, which by long use and custom ought to be inviolably kept. 1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* xliv. 375 The Visions indeed at last pinch closest upon the Roman Hierarchy. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. vi. § 47 (1740) 457, I should haue pinched hard upon this Practice, if it had not been a Push-pin Game.

†**9. a.** *intr.* To carp or cavil *at*; to find fault, object. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 347 We mai not pynche at þis lawe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 326 Ther koude no wight pynchen at his writyng. 1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* III. v. (1554) 74 b, If any man pyntche at their outrage. 1549 Latimer *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 140 Euerye waye thys offyce of preachynge is pyncht at.

†**b.** *trans.* To find fault with, blame, reproach, reprove. *Obs.*

1570 T. Norton tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 218 So as he .. blot them [not] with stain or infamy, but pinch them and reprove them only with suspicion of their own conscience. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xiii. § 9 The Corinthians hee pincheth with this demand.

10. †**a.** *intr.* To give or spend very sparingly and narrowly; to be close-fisted, meanly parsimonious, or miserly; to drive hard bargains. *Obs.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1243 That on was..Lef to give, an lef to spende; And that other lef to pinche, Bothe he was scars, and chinche. 1406 Hoccleve *Misrule* 181, I pynchid nat at hem in myn acate, But paied hem as þat they axe wolde. 1530 Palsgr. 657/2 He pyncheth as though he were nat worthe a grote. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 3 Ane hes that micht ane hundreith veill susteine and livis in vo and pinschis at his tabill. *a* 1617 Hieron *Wks.* I. 217 They pinch with the Lord, as Ananias.

b. *trans.* To limit or restrict narrowly the supply of (anything); to stint, to give barely or with short measure or weight; to give sparingly or grudgingly. Now *dial.*

1530 *Proper Dyalogue* in *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 169 Let him ones begynne to pynche Or withdrawe their tithinge an ynche. 1561 Norton & Sackv. *Gorboduc* II. i, If nature and the Goddes had pinched so Their flowing bountie and their noble giftes..from you. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xiii. 305 If ever she affordeth fine ware, she alwayes pincheth it in the measure. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* XI. 332 Do not pinch your Gift. 1695 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 320 They are not to pinch the water from the faw-well. *Mod. Sc.* Ye needna hae pincht the water; it's cheap aneuch ony way. Dinna pinch the elbow-grease.

c. To straiten or stint (a person, etc.) *in*, in respect *of*, *for* (something), or in means generally; to subject (any one) to short measure.

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 220 Yet will I not pinch you of that pastime. 1591 Greene *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) 25 She cald in her neighbors..that..had also been pincht in their coles, and shewed them the cosenage. 1596 Bp. W. Barlow *Three Serm.* ii. 78 Couetouslie pinching their Tables and almes. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 199 Those in the Frigat were already pinched with spare allowance. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 121 Either pinch them of a great part, or give them that which is nastie. 1676 Moxon *Print Lett.* 10 You are pinched for room. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* I. § 8 Was I not pinched in Time, the regular way would be to have begun with the Circumstantials of Religion. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* vii, My wife..insisted on entertaining them all; for which..our family was pinched for three weeks after. 1784 Cowper *Let. to J. Newton* Feb., I am at this moment pinched for time. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 19 The error of pinching children in their food is more hurtful than the other extreme. 1876 F. E. Trollope *Charming Fellow* II. xiv. 223 She wasn't used to be pinched for money herself. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* I. ii. 211 Some debts..he had to pay, Which pinched us for a while.

d. *intr.* in *refl.* or *pass.* sense. To pinch oneself or be pinched; to be straitened in means; to suffer from penury.

1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 35 When yee see decay of victuals, the rich pinch, the poore famish. 1634 Heywood *Maidenhead Lost* II. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 121, I told you, you were so prodigall we should pinch for't. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 184 I'm forc'd to pinch, for the Times are hard. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 11/2 Made merry..the whole week through, to pinch for it a fortnight after.

11. *trans.* To compress, confine, or restrict narrowly. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* div b, No more than we may pinche in the Definitions of Wisedome or Honestie. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Decay* iii, Thou dost thy self immure ..In some one corner of a feeble heart: Where yet both Sinne and Satan .. Do pinch and straiten thee. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 23 That doctrine which pincheth our liberty within so narrow bounds. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Cockayne* Wks. (Bohn) II. 65 The same insular limitation pinches his foreign politics.

b. To reduce to straits (in argument, etc.); to bring into a difficulty or 'fix'; to 'put in a tight place'. Now *rare.*

1692 Ray *Disc.* I. iv. (1693) 59 When we are at a loss, and pinch't with an Argument. 1752 G. Brown in *Scots Mag.* Nov. (1753) 559/2 The prosecutors are pinched in point of argument. *a* 1832 Scott in Smiles *Self-Help* iii. (1860) 60, I have felt pinched and hampered by my own ignorance.

c. *To pinch courtesy*: see Courtesy I c.

III. In technical and slang uses.

12. a. *Racing.* To urge or press (a horse); to exhaust by urging.

1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 148 It is the vulgar Opinion, that a Horse has not been pinch'd, or pinn'd down, in a Heat when he does not sweat out. *Ibid.* 149 If a Horse's Tail shake and tremble after any Heat, it is a Sign he is hard pinch'd. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 10 June, He declined to make any effort when 'pinched' by his jockey.

b. *Naut.* To sail (a vessel) close-hauled.

1895 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 5/5 Defender had to be pinched to make the mark before she started on the stern chase. *Ibid.*, Captain Cranfield was pinching Valkyrie hard, but she..was..unable to keep as close into the wind as her rival. 1898 *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 3/5 While the Maid was pinched right through Irex had to make no less than three boards.

13. *intr.* Of the tide: To pass its highest or lowest level. (Cf. Pinch *sb.* 5.) *rare.* ? *Obs.*

1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 532 As soon as the tide pinched, the ebb came down at once.

14. *intr. Mining.* Of a vein or deposit of ore: To contract in volume, become narrow or thin; with *out*, to come to an end, 'run out'.

1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 307 The vein is 5 or 6 feet wide, on an average, but expanding sometimes to 15 or 20 feet, and pinching up in places to a few inches. *Ibid.*, The body of rich ore worked last year..was exhausted, the ledge pinching out. 1890 *Goldfields Victoria* 27 The characteristic of this district..is for the auriferous surface quartz to pinch or run out. 1891 M. Cole *Cy Ross* 93 The vein began suddenly to pinch last week..the vein is steadily pinching narrower and narrower as we advance.

15. *trans.* **a.** To steal, to purloin (a thing); to rob (a person). *slang.*

1673 R. Head *Canting Acad.* 191 The fifth is a Glasier, who when he creeps in: To pinch all the Lurry, he thinks it no sin. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Pinch*, to Steal, or Slily convey any thing away. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s. v., I pinch'd him for a fawney, signifies I purloined a ring from him; Did you pinch anything in that crib? did you succeed in secreting any thing in that shop? 1869 *Daily News* 10 Aug., Brown was .. alleged, in sporting phrase, to have 'pinched' the defendant out of 6*l.* 10*s.*

b. To arrest, take into custody. [So F. *pincer* 'arrêter, saisir' (Littré).]

1860 *Slang Dict., Pinch*..to catch, or apprehend. 1862 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* (1865) III. 397 He got acquitted for that there note after he had me 'pinched'. 1882 *Five Yrs.' Penal Servitude* iii. 109 The blooming crushers were precious glad when they 'pinched' him.

16. To move (a heavy body, as a loaded truck, a large cask) by a succession of small heaves with a pointed iron bar or 'pinch': see Pinch *sb.* 12.

1859 [see Pinching *vbl. sb.* 5]. 1888 *Whitby Gaz.* 28 Apr. 4/4, I was engaged in pinching a bogie which was loaded with a ball of slag. 1895 T. Pinnock *Black Country Ann.* (E. D. D.), Gie me the bar, I'll pinch it forrat a bit while yo' restin'.

Pinch- in Comb.: [chiefly the imperative or verb-stem with the second element in objective relation to it; sometimes the sb.]

Pinch-back, one who pinches his own or another's back, by stinting it of proper clothing; also *attrib.*; **pinch-bar** = Pinch *sb.* 12: see quot.; **pinch-belly**, one who denies himself or others sufficient food; also *attrib.*; **pinch-cock** *Mech.*, a clamp used to compress a flexible or elastic tube so as to regulate the flow of liquid, etc.; **pinch-commons**, one who stints the supply of food for himself or others; †**pinch-crust** = prec.; **pinch-eyed** *a.* (see quot.); †**pinch-fart**, a niggard, miser (in quot. *attrib.*); **pinch-fist**, a 'close-fisted' person, a niggard, miser; so **pinchfisted** *a.*, mean, miserly; **pinch-plane** *Math.* (see quot.); **pinch-plum**, one who would divide a plum; a close, grasping person; **pinch-point** *Math.* (see quot.); **pinch-spotted** *a.*, discoloured with marks of pinches; **pinch-water**, high or low water; **pinch-weed**, dial. name for *Polygonum Persicaria* (see quot.). Also Pinch-gut, Pinchpenny.

1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 76 Christmas, ..a *pinchback, cutthroat churl. 1837 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 74/1 The application of a lever or *pinch-bar. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Pinch-bar*, a lever with a fulcrum-foot and projecting snout; applied beneath a heavy body to move it by successive small raising and shiftings. 1648-60 Hexham, *Een Spaer-back*, .. a Sparer, .. or a *Pinch-belly. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* App. (1754) 318, I am against all extremes, and especially on the pinch-belly side. 1873 Ralfe *Phys. Chem.* 103 This flask is fitted with a bulb tube, filled with dilute nitric acid, which is prevented from flowing into the mixture by means of a *pinchcock. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter of Air* 171 A pinchcock nipped the india-rubber tube at its centre. 1822 Scott *Pirate* vi, The crazed projector and the niggardly *pinch-commons by which it is inhabited. 1602 Rowlands *Greene's Ghost* (Hunter. Cl.) 9 A young Gentleman, Merchant, or old *pinchcrust. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons, Carrier* 83 The eye..ought to be broad, round, and of an equal thickness; for if one part of the eye be thinner than the rest, it is said to be *pinch-ey'd, which is deemed a very great imperfection. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 25 My *pinch-fart penie-father. *c* 1580 Jefferie *Bugbears* I. ii. 61 in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897) XCVIII. 308 Our *pinchefist the old vecchio. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 990 A pinch-fist, *avarus*. 1867 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Oct. 636 As hearty and liberal as they were once cold and *pinchfisted. 1869 Cayley *Coll. Math. Papers* VI. 336 The *pinch-plane, or reciprocal singularity $j'=1$, is in fact a torsal plane touching the surface along a line, or meeting it in the line twice and in a residual curve..Considering..the reciprocal figure, the reciprocal of the pinch-plane is..a point of the nodal curve, and is a pinch-point. 1892 *Daily News* 25 April 5/7 The most beggarly-spirited *pinch-plum economy. 1868 Cayley *Coll. Math. Papers* VI. 123 A surface having a nodal line has in general on this nodal line points where the two tangent planes coincide, or as I propose to term them '*pinch-points'. 1611 Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 261 Shorten vp their sinewes With aged Cramps, & more *pinch-spotted make them, Then Pard, or Cat o'Mountaine. 1681 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 103 After great Rains,..or strong westerly Winds,..then the *Pinch-water will be found earlier..by about half an hour. 1883 *Academy* 11 Aug. 92 Every leaf has a dark spot in the centre, just as though it had been pinched, on which account it goes by the name of *pinch-weed.

†**Pinchbeck, -beke,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. Pinch- + ? Beak.] A miserly, close-fisted person.

1545 Elyot *Dict., Aridus homo*, a drye felowe, of whom nothyng may be gotten, som do call hym a pelt, or a pynchebeke. 1552 Huloet, Pynchebecke.

Pinchbeck (pi·nt∫bek), *sb.*[2] (*a.*) [Named after the inventor Christopher Pinchbeck, a watch- and toy-maker in Fleet Street, London (died 1732); orig. a place-name; there is a village so named near Spalding. Hence F. *peinchebec* (Littré).

1732 *Daily Post* 27 Nov. (*Advt.*), That the toys made of the late ingenious Mr. Pinchbeck's curious metal..are now sold only by his son and sole executor, Mr. Edward Pinchbeck. 1755 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess Bute* 22 Sept., In the next box, put up..three of Pinchbec's watches, shagrine cases, and enamelled dial-plates. 1776 'M. MacGregor' [W. Mason] *Ode to C. Pinchbeck* (the Younger), For thy sake Of Pinchbeck's own mixt-metal make A huge Extinguisher.]

1. An alloy of about five parts of copper with one of zinc, resembling gold: used in clock-making, cheap jewellery, etc.

1734 Fielding *Intrig. Chamberm.* I. vii, He said,..that the nobility and gentry run so much into Pinchbeck, that he had not dispos'd of two gold watches this month. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 419 United to zinc, copper produced

Dutch gold, Rupert's metal and pinchbeck—from a third to a twelfth of zinc is used, the paler the alloy required the larger the quantity of zinc. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 708 *Pinchbeck.*—No. 1. 5 oz. of pure copper, and 1 oz. of zinc.. Some use only half this quantity of zinc, in which proportion the alloy is more easily worked, especially in the making of jewellery. 1885 R. Buchanan *Annan Water* xxv, He wore a massive chain of gold or pinchbeck.

2. *fig.* Contemptuously, as a type of what is counterfeit or spurious.

1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* xxii, Those golden locks were only pinchbeck. 1887 Lowell *Old Eng. Dram.* (1892) 128 The greater part of what I once took on trust as precious is really paste and pinchbeck. 1890 *Spectator* 24 May, Is it necessary..that the pinchbeck as well as the gold left behind him by this voluminous writer, should be preserved?

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **a.** Made of pinchbeck.

1746 Cooke in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. iv. liv. 248 Gold, silver and pinchbeck snuff-boxes. 1849 C. Bronte *Shirley* ii, He has a sort of pinchbeck watch; ditto, ring.

b. Of deceptive appearance and small value; spurious; simulating the genuine article; sham.

1850 Carlyle *Latter-d. Pamph.* iv. (1872) 113 Eloquent high-lacquered pinchbeck specimens. 1877 Symonds *Renaiss. Italy, Reviv. Learn.* viii. 505 A pinchbeck age of poetry. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 304 Overt State action against this pinch-beck Pretender may be..defended.

4. *Comb.*

1879 Rutley *Study Rocks* x. 119 The colour is..brownish-green, or pinchbeck-brown.

Pinche (pinʧ). Also 8 **pinch.** [a. F. *pinche*, ad. Sp. *pincho* (also in Eng. use).] A South American species of marmoset (*Midas œdipus*). Also *attrib.*

[1745 La Condamine *Relat. Voy. Amer. Mérid.* 165 On les nomme Pinchés à Maynas, & à Cayenne, Tamarins.]

1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 237 The fifth is called the Pinch; with the face of a beautiful black, and white hair that descends on each side of the face, like that of man. 1780 Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 211 The Pinche, or Red-tailed Monkey,.., though very small, is larger than either the ouistiti or the tamarin. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pincho. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc. Lond.* (ed. 9) 45 *Midas œdipus* (Linn.) Pinche Monkey. Hab. Colombia.

Pinched (pinʧt), *ppl. a.* [f. Pinch *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. Compressed between the finger and thumb, or two opposing bodies; nipped, squeezed; shaped as if compressed; contracted at one part. Also with *up.*

c 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 53 Thersites, with croked and penched shulders. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. i, Like the father of hunger,.. with your pinch'd-horne-nose. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. i. 51 He ha's discouer'd my Designe, and I Remaine a pinch'd Thing; yea, a very Trick For them to play at will. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 955/4 A Black Gelding,..a shorn Mane, pinch'd Buttock. 1836–9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Th. about People*, Scanty grey trousers, little pinched-up gaiters.

b. ? Castrated by ligature.

1514 *Will of Busby* (Somerset Ho.), A pynched oxe.

c. Of a ship: Much curved inward above the line of her extreme breadth; also *pinched-in.*

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v. *Housed*, She is Housed-in, or Pinched-in too much. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Housing in*, She is said to be housed in, or pinched.

d. Of oysters: Long and narrow in form.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. Said in reference to the physical effects of cold, hunger, pain, or old age. Also with *up*, and parasynthetic, as *pinched-faced*, etc.

1614 D. Dyke *Myst. Self-Deceiuing* (1630) 83 Pinched with famine. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* II. 193 Pinched are her looks, as one who pines for bread. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxxii, Pale and pinched-up faces hovered about the windows. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Oct. 4/5 Pinched-faced children whose under-feeding is caused by this kind of malnutrition.

†**3.** Gathered, pleated (cf. Pinch *v.* 3). *Obs.*

1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 § 1 No manne undre the degree of a Knyght [shall] were any garded or pynshed Sherte or pynched partelet of Lynnen clothe.

4. Straitened in extent; small, narrow, scanty.

1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cclxi, Narrower Fames In a pinch't Canvace. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Romish Monks* (ed. 3) 34 Their Cells..being too mean and..too much pinch'd of room. 1894 N. Brooks *Tales Maine Coast* 94 A little pinched-up flower-garden lay between the house and the..river.

5. Straitened in means or circumstances.

1716 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 159 Yet he is not pinch'd, being very rich as well as very stingy. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xlv, Do you know how pinched and destitute I am? 1891 Baring-Gould *In Troubadour-Land* xx, They lived..in very pinched circumstances.

6. Suffering from a pang, distressed.

1900 Mrs. Craigie *R. Orange* xxii, With a pinched heart she went up the great staircase.

Hence **Pi·nchedly** *adv.*; **Pi·nchedness.**

1883 Miss Broughton *Belinda* I. ii, The pear-tree..was pinchedly struggling into flower. 1871 *Daily News* 11 Apr. 6, I saw both boaters and bathers..and the like for pinchedness, blueness, and overwhelming misery, may I never see again. 1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 276 The pinchedness of the real world about them.

Pinchem (pi·nʧəm). [Echoic: from the bird's note.] A local name of the Blue Titmouse.

1809 T. Batchelor *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 140 *Pinchem*, a tom-tit, whose note resembles this name. 1885 in Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 34.

Pincher (pi·nʧəɹ). [f. Pinch *v.* + -er 1.]

1. One who or that which pinches; *fig.* one who saves in a miserly manner; a miser; a haggler.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/2 Pynchar, or nyggarde. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Regaton*, a pedler, a broaker, a pincher in buying, a hucster. 1887 Gissing *Thyrza* III. iii. 62 Cold-blooded pinchers and parers.

2. One who uses a pinch or crow-bar.

1882 in Ogilvie.

3. An instrument for pinching or grasping something; in pl. *pinchers* often = Pincers (for which it is widely used in the dialects).

1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 182 Take out the Foxe or Badgerde with the clampes or pinchers. 1589 Nashe *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 115 They take the word by the nose with a paire of Pinchers. 1655 Gouge *Comm. Heb.* xi. 37 The..persecutors..plucked off..his flesh with red hot pinchers. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. Supernum. No. 2. 2/2 [A tooth] which I can't pull out with a Pincher. 1868 Key *Philol. Ess.* 191 Thus *forcipes*, as 'a pair of pinchers' for the extraction of teeth, is used by Lucilius. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pincher*, .. a nipping tool fitting the inside and outside of a bottle, in order to shape the mouth.

Pinch-eyed to **Pinch-fisted**: see Pinch-.

Pi·nch-gut, *sb.* (*a.*) Now *Obs.* or *vulgar.* [f. Pinch- + Gut.]

1. One who stints himself or others of food: = *pinch-belly* (Pinch-).

a 1659 *Lady Alimony* II. ii, A Mundungo's Monopolist, a paltry-penurious-pecking pinchgut. 1699 T. Brown in R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 356 Did old Pinch-gut devour all his grey-pease by himself? 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pinch-gut*, a covetous person, who will neither fill his own belly nor suffer his dependants to do so. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pinch-gut*, a miserly purser.

2. *attrib.* or *adj.* **a.** That pinches the stomach; niggardly or scanty in respect of food; in quot. 1682, characterized by scarcity of food. **b.** *Pinch-gut money* (*Naut. slang*): money allowed to sailors in compensation for short allowance of food.

1615 Brathwait *Strappado* (1878) 35 A pinch-gut Miser fell extreamely sicke. 1660 in *7th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 141 John Price..complains that Richard Hutchinson has wronged him by paying £16, besides Pinchgutt mony, to a wrong person. 1682 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 65 (1713) II. 156 'Twas .. promised, that the poor Prisoners should have Amends..for that pinch-gut Year they had. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pinch-gut-money*, allow'd by the King to the Seamen,..on Bord the Navy..; when their Provision falls Short. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pinch-gut pay*, the short allowance money.

So † **Pi·nch-gutted** *a.*, pinched in the stomach, famished.

1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 349 To satisfie so many hungry, ravenous,..pinch-gutted Fellows.

Pinching (pi·nʧiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Pinch *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb, in various senses.

1. Compression between the tips of the finger and thumb or other opposing surfaces; nipping, squeezing, pressure; *spec.* in the manège (see quot. 1727–41); in *Hort.* (see Pinch *v.* 2 b).

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 10 Besides the Pruning..we sometimes perform another Operation which we call Pinching or Breaking..: The Effect of this Pinching is to hinder the Branches from growing too thick..as also from growing too long. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* I. II. v, The pinching of Peach-trees is a sort of Pruning, which is done by the Nails to Three or Four Eyes upon a new tender Shoot. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Pinching*, in the manage, is when, the horse standing, the rider holds him fast with the bridle-hand, and applies the spurs just to the hairs of his sides, without pricking him. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 113 Repeated pinchings, left the patient in comparative ease. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Mar. 5/3 They [railway employés]..were..disposed to make light of risks..invariably referred to the horrible death between the buffers as 'pinching'.

b. *concr. pl.* What is pinched or nipped *off.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 89/2 Twitchings, ends of Horse-shooe Nails cut off. Pinchings, because pinched and writhen off from the out side of the hoof with the Pincers.

2. The sensation caused by pinching or gripping; the pressure of pain. Also *fig.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxiii. (W. de W.) iv b/2 A lityl pryckyng other pinching in þe brest within is more sore than a grete wounde in þe arme. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1588/2 That other needfull vittels shall.. grow to excessiue prices, to the pinching of the poorer sort. 1790 J. C. Smyth in *Med. Commun.* II. 518 Patients have complained of slight griping, or pinching in their bowels.

† **3.** The action of cavilling or finding fault. *Obs.*

c 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 51 By pynchynge and blamynge of our aduersarie.

4. Stinting as from straitened means; parsimony.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/1 Pynchynge (or nyggardshepe). 1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. xxii, Moche pinchyng and nygardshyppe of meate and drinke. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. iv. 23 There should be no want nor pinching for any thing. 1863 Miss Yonge *C'tess Kate* ii, There would not be so much pinching in the housekeeping.

5. In various other senses: see the verb.

1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 110 Pinching is the operation of moving a gun or mortar by small heaves of the handspike. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 9/1 The pinching out of the reef in the Chicago level.

6. *Comb.*: **pinching-bar** = *pinch-bar* (Pinch-); † **pinching-iron,** (*a*) *sing.* and *pl.*, pincers, tweezers; (*b*) *pl.* curling-tongs; **pinching-nut** = *jam nut* (Jam *sb.*1); **pinching-pin,** in the steam-engine, a pin which keeps the slide-valve tightened on its seating; † **pinching-post,** in coursing deer in a paddock, the post marking the point which the deer had to pass before a victory could be claimed for either dog; **pinching-screw,** a screw which adjusts or fixes parts of a mechanism by compression; **pinching-tongs** (see quot.).

1519 Horman *Vulg.* 169 b, They..plucke out theyr hearis with *pynchynge yrons. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 277 Heating the pinching-irons to curl my hair. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pinching-nut*, a jam-nut screwed down upon another nut, to hold it in position. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 105 The cap and *pinching pin, by which the clutch is secured to it. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* II. i. 309 The third the Half Mile Post: The fourth the *Pinching Post. 1840 Blaine *Encycl. Rur. Sports* (1870) § 1953 If the deer swerved before he got to the pinching-post..it was deemed no match. 1837 Goring & Pritchard *Microgr.* 9 A spring tube travelling on a slide, with a *pinching screw underneath, by which it is adjusted at a proper distance from the object. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 89/2 Nickel-plated caps, split and held by pinching screws to the carbon and zinc rods. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pinching-tongs* (Glass-making), used for making chandelier drops, etc. Each jaw of the tongs carries a die, between which a lump of glass heated to plasticity is compressed.

Pinching (pi·nʧiŋ), *ppl. a.* (*adv.*) [f. Pinch *v.* + -ing 2.] That pinches, in senses of the verb.

1. Compressing between two surfaces; squeezing.

1883 *Daily News* 10 May 5/1 Their narrow waists, their pinching shoes.

2. Causing pain or distress, physical or mental (likened to the effect of pressure); pressing severely or painfully; reducing to straits; distressing.

1565 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Aculeus*, The pinchyng cares and griefe of minde. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 18 Ys loue such pinching payne? 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 52 They applie..gnawing corrosiues, and pinching plaistures. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 691 Pinching cold and scorching heate. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 222 These circumstances are so pinching against the pannel, upon the capital point now in issue. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 276 Severe and pinching hunger. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Isl.* I. ii, One January morning,..a pinching, frosty morning.

3. Characterized by or involving stinting or parsimony, straitened; niggardly, parsimonious, grudging; restrained, very sparing.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 49, I was more pinching and sparing in my writing concerning them. 1583 Babington *Commandm.* viii. (1637) 80 Of malice and spite, or by a pinching minde. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 73 Sometimes shee is all for belly cheare and banquettings,..then shee is niggardly and pinching againe. 1724 Swift *Reas. agst. Exam. Drugs* P6 Persons in pinching circumstances with numerous families of children. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 447 Sparing, not pinching, mindful, though not mean.

4. Contracted, compressed, narrow; *spec.* in *Mining* (see Pinch *v.* 14).

a 1617 Hieron *Wks.* I. 7 It is a great eye-sore, to see a little, low, and pinching entry to a large and spacious dwelling. 1793 Wollaston in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 146 To..make the angle less pinching. 1898 M. Davitt *Life & Progr. Australia* I. iii. 13 That these fields were of the 'pocket' and pinching-out character.

† **5.** *Mus.* ? Applied to higher notes (harmonics) produced on a wind instrument by stronger pressure of breath. *Obs. rare.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 161/1 Wind Musick *Pinching Notes* or *higher Notes*, are sounds that ascend 8 Notes higher than the plain notes.

B. as *adv.* = Pinchingly.

1620 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 225 When the weather is pinching cold. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 295 It is pinching Cold, from January to the middle of February.

Hence **Pi·nchingly** *adv.*, in a pinching manner.

1574 T. Cartwright *Full Declar.* 113 We ought not to deale with them sparingly, couetouslye, and pinchingly. 1690 Sharp *Wks.* (1754) I. Serm. vii. 190 Giving stingily and pinchingly, now and then a little pocket-money or so. 1825 R. Ward *Tremaine* III. xiii. 233, I have felt that case .. as pinchingly as .. you would have me. 1859 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* I. 202 Our colleges .. are .. richly built, never pinchingly.

† **Pi·nchpenny** (pi·nʧpe·ni). *Obs.* Pl. **-pennies,** also 6 **-pence.** [f. Pinch- + Penny.] A niggardly person; a skinflint, a miser. Also *attrib.*

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4095 (MS. Reg. 17 D vi) Thou pynchepeny, there ay mote thou slepe. 1569 Newton *Cicero's Olde Age* 48 Myserable nygardes and penchpenies. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 288 Let our wealthie pinchpence .. leaue their .. insatiable couetousnesse. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 Pigmalions riches was shipt, that pinchepeny boucher. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 179 A close-fisted niggard,.. an old pinch-penny. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. iv. 45 None will be..a Pinch-penny.

Pinch-plane to **Pinch-point**: see Pinch-.

Pinck: see Pink.

Pincon, var. Pinson 1 *Obs.*

Pinc-pinc (pi·ŋkpiŋk). [Echoic, from the bird's note.] A name given to a South-African warbler (*Drymœca* or *Cisticola textrix*), to which has been erroneously attributed the building of the remarkable double nest of the Cotton-bird (*Ægithalus capensis*).

1868 Wood *Homes without H.* xii. 217 The Pinc-pinc of Africa..has a similar custom, constructing a supplementary roosting-place upon the nest. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds*, *Pinc-pinc* (or rather 'Tinc-tinc'), the name which a South-African bird..has given itself from its ringing metallic cry.

Pincushion (pi·ŋkuːʃən).

1. A small cushion used for sticking pins in, to keep them ready for use.

1592 Sherwood, A pinne-case, pinne-pillow, or pinne-cushion. 1658 A. Fox *Würtz' Surg.* II. xv. 121 One leaning on a Pin-cushion, a needle run into his Finger, and a piece of it

broke off. 1729 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 209, I have got her pincushion to stick for her. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* II. i, A little pincushion, a little housewife, a little book, a little workbox.

2. Local name for plants of the genus *Scabiosa*; also for the Guelder Rose and other plants: from the appearance of the flower-heads.

1886 in Britten & Holland *Eng. Plant-n.*

3. *Sea pincushion*: a large kind of starfish.

1863 G. S. Brady in *Intell. Observ.* IV. 253 *Goniaster equestris*, the Sea-pincushion, as it is called by our northern fishermen .. the large fleshy mass of the animal is covered thickly with round bosses or tubercles of the size of a large pin's head.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pincushion-box*, *-flower* (= sense 2), *-maker*.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4206/4 Stolen.., a Pincushion-Box. 1758–65 Goldsm. *Ess., Adv. Strolling Player*, He to sell his puppets to the pincushion-makers in Rosemary Lane. 1856 Delamer *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 103 *Scabiosa atro-purpurea*... Pincushion Flower.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pi·ncu·shioned** *a.* or *pa. pple.*, pierced, like a pincushion with pins; **Pi·ncu·shiony** *a.*, resembling a pincushion.

1860 Thackeray *Lovel the Widower* iv, Her heart was pincushioned with his filial crimes. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii, A little, short, round, pincushiony woman stood at the door.

Pind, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 (3e)pyndan, 3 punde (*ii*), puinde, 5–6 pynd(e, 5, 9 *dial.* pind. [OE. (*ge*)*pyndan* (cf. also *forpyndan* to exclude, bar), f. **pund*: see Pound *sb.*², Pond. Cf. ON. *pynda* to extort, torment (considered by Vigf. to be from OE.).]

†**1.** *trans.* To shut up, enclose; to dam up (water). *Obs.* in *gen.* sense.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxviii. 276 Dæt wæter, ðonne hit bið zepynd, hit miclað & uppað...Ac zif sio pynding wierð onpennad.. ðonne toflewð hit eall. [*a* 900 Cynewulf *Crist* 97 Þæt is euan scyld eal for-pynded.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Þe water, hwon me punt [*T.* puindes] hit, & stoppeð. *Ibid.* 128 Nout ase swin ipünd ine sti uorte uetten. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5487 Gogg and magogg þe grete he with þir gomes pyndis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 280/1 To Pynde, *includere, trudere.*

b. *spec.* To put (beasts) in a pound, to impound.

c 1290 *St. Eustas* 214 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 215 Weddes nimen and orf to puinde. 1441–2 in *Finchale Priory* (Surtees) 120 Ughtred .. pynded the catell. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 783 The pundar..Had pyndit all his pryss horss. 1533 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 34 To pynd no mans cattell frome hensfurth.

†**2.** To distrain: = Poind *v. Sc. Obs.*

1478 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 59/2 þt he sall..desist fra pinding of his said landis in tyme to cum. 1480 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 60/2 þe saide Johne maxwell grantis þt þe said horse was Ridden efter he was pyndit. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 162 Like as the personis foirsaidis.. pyndis thair bestiall and guidis by all ordour of law.

Hence **Pi·nded** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·nding** *vbl. sb.* (*spec.* in local use, in reference to sucking lambs: see quot. 1641).

c 897 Pynding [see sense 1]. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 123 *marg.*, Pinding. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 11 Theire excremente .. berke together theire tayles and hinder partes, and soe stoppe theire fundament; the sheapheardes phraise is that such lambes are pinded, and that they must bee sette att liberty. 1804 in *Trans. Highl. Soc. Scotl.* (1807) III. 350 Pinding is another disease exclusively confined to sucking lambs.

Pind, obs. pa. t. and pple. of Pin *v.*, Pine *v.*

‖ **Pinda, pi·ndar, pinder.** Also **pindal.** [ad. Pg. *pinda*, in Du. *piendel*, ad. Congo *mpinda*, Mpongwe *mbenda*: carried by negroes to America.] Name in the West Indies and Southern U.S. for the ground-nut or pea-nut (*Arachis hypogæa*).

1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. lxxiii, I was assured that the Negroes feed on Pindals or Indian Earth-nuts, a sort of pea or bean producing its pods under ground. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 295 Pindars or Ground Nuts. 1796 Stedman *Surinam* II. xx. 115 The pistachio or pinda nuts they also convert into butter. 1814 tr. *Proyart's Loango* in Pinkerton *Voy.* XVI. 551 There is nothing which the Negroes cultivate with more care than the Pinda. 1875 R. F. Burton *Gorilla L.* (1876) I. 158 The ground-nut or pea-nut,..the Pindar of the United States,..is eaten roasted. *attrib.* 1879 *Louisville* (U. S.) *Home & Farm* 15 Apr., My hogs ..had..the run of potato, pinder and pea fields.

‖ **Pindari** (pindā·ri), *sb.* (*a.*) [a. Hindustānī *pinḍārī*, *pinḍārā*, for Marāthī *penḍhārī*, a member of a band of plunderers called *pendhār* or *pendhārā*, of disputed origin: perh. from a place-name *Panḍhār*: see *Indian Antiquary* XXIX. 140, May 1900.]

1. One of a body of mounted marauders who appear to have arisen in Central India in the 17th c., and in the 18th c. were frequently employed by contending princes as irregular cavalry to pillage the country and massacre the subjects of their enemies. They were crushed in 1817 by the Marquess of Hastings, when Governor-General of India. Also as *adj.*

1788 *Indian Voc.* 19 *Bindarra*,..who receive no pay, but.. give a certain monthly sum to the commander in chief, for permission to maraud or plunder under the sanction of his banners. *Ibid.* 104 *Pindarries*, a set of plunderers who accompany a Maratta army. 1794 Scott tr. *Firishta's Ho. Deccan* II. 122 (Y.) The Pinderrehs took Velore. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1844) I. 369 He has had 3000 pindarries in his service, to whom he gave no pay, and who subsisted by plundering the Rajah of Kolapoor. 1856 J. W. Kaye *Sir J. Malcolm* I. vi. 102 Some band of Pindarees. 1889 G. Smith *Stephen Hislop* ii. 33 Central India was overrun by Pindari brigands.

2. The dialect of these and their descendants.

1901 *Census India, Classified List of Lang.* No. 81 Pendhārī or Kākari a jargon based on Dakhinī, which is used by Musalman Pendhārās and Kākars in Dharwar (Bombay).

Pindaric (pindæ·rik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Pindaricus*, a. Gr. Πινδαρικός, f. Πίνδαρος, name of a famous ancient Greek lyric poet. Cf. F. *Pindarique.*]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the poet Pindar; written, writing, etc. in a style resembling or supposed to resemble that of Pindar.

1640 *Ben Jonson's Execration agst. Vulcan* D ij b (*title*), Ode Pindarick On the Death of Sir Hen. Morison. 1656 Cowley (*title*) Pindarique Odes. 1668 Dryden *Dram. Poesie* Ess. (Ker) I. 97 We may use the benefit of the Pindaric way..where the numbers vary, and the rhyme is disposed carelessly. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 58 ¶ 13 Those admirable English Authors who call themselves Pindarick Writers. 1765 Beattie *To Churchill* 34 He soars Pindaric heights. 1869 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* I. 19 He..built up Pindaric odes to the day of his death.

B. *sb.* An ode or other poem, or a metre or form of verse, in imitation or supposed imitation of Pindar. (Formerly sometimes applied to an Alexandrine: see quot. 1697.) Chiefly in *pl.*

1685 Mrs. Behn (*title*) A Pindarick on the Death of Our Late Sovereign. 1697 Dryden *Æneis* Ded., Ess. (Ker) II. 218 His Alexandrine line, which we call, though improperly, the Pindaric, because Mr. Cowley has often employed it in his Odes. *Ibid.* 229, I generally..make the last verse of the triplet a Pindaric. 1706 Congreve *Disc. Pindarique Ode* A j, The Character of these late Pindariques, is a Bundle of rambling incoherent Thoughts, express'd in a like parcel of irregular Stanza's. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th. in 18th C.* I. 131 Wollaston .. had turned the Book of Ecclesiastes into 'Pindarics' in order to give vent to his feelings.

So †**Pinda·rical** *a. Obs.* = Pindaric A.; **Pi·ndarism** [cf. F. *pindarisme*], Pindaric style, imitation or supposed imitation of Pindar; **Pi·ndarist,** an imitator of Pindar, a writer of Pindaric verses; **Pi·ndarize** *v.* [ad. F. *pindariser* (O. de St. Gelais, *c* 1500)] *intr.* (or with *it*), to imitate Pindar, to write in Pindaric style; *trans.*, to make Pindaric.

1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Resurrection* (*Note*), This Ode is truly *Pindarical, falling from one thing into another, after his Enthusiastical manner. 1697 Watts *Horæ Lyr.* II. *Freedom* iii, Thus my bold harp profusely play'd Pindarical. 1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 141 ¶ 6 Sometimes she made me foam at the mouth..and act a sort of madness which the Athenians call the *Pindarism. 1867 M. Arnold *Celtic Lit.* 144 [Celtic poetry] has all through it a sort of intoxication of style,—a Pindarism, to use a word formed on the name of the poet, on whom, above all other poets, the power of style seems to have exercised an inspiring and intoxicating effect. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 117 Perhaps the like return might properly be made to a modern *Pindarist. 1607 R C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 43 To vse the phrase of our descanting and *Pindarizing Poets. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xviii. (1737) 81 Water's good, saith a Poet, let 'em Pindarise upon it.

Pinde, obs. pa. t. and pple. of Pine *v.*

Pinder (pi·ndəɹ). Forms: 5 **pyndere, -are,** 5–6 **pynder,** (7–8 **pindar**), 7– **pinder.** [f. Pind *v.* + -er¹.] An officer of a manor, having the duty of impounding stray beasts. (See also Pinner².)

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 688/25 *Inclusor*, a pynder. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/1 Pyndare of beestys (*Pynson* pynnar), *inclusor.* 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 148 Than cometh the pynder & taketh hym & putteth hym in the pynfolde. 1632 (*title*) The Pinder of Wakefield: Being the merry History of George a Greene the lusty Pinder of the North. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* III. 63 [At Nottingham] they have..two more [officers] called Pinders, one for the Fields, and the other for the Meadows. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 88 While pinders, that such chances look, Drive his rambling cows to pound. 1890 *Herts Mercury* 4 Jan., To continue the directions to the pinder not to allow any cattle beyond those belonging to the inhabitants of the old prescriptive borough to be depastured in Hartham.

Pinder: see Pinda.

†**Pi·ndfool.** *Obs.* Sarcastic perversion of Pinfold, with play on *fool.*

1550 Hooper *Serm. on Jonas* v. 132 Then beganne the pyndfooles and cloisters to be made in the churches.

Pi·ndling, *a. dial.* and *U.S.* [? for *pingling*, or *piddling.*] **a.** *dial.* Fretful, out of humour. **b.** *U.S.* Sickly, puny, delicate.

1861 Mrs. Stowe *Pearl Orr's Isl.* iv. 25 I'm a-thinkin'.. whether or no cows' milk an't goin' to be too hearty for it, it's such a pindling little thing. 1890 Mary E. Wilkins *Humble Rom., Brakes & White Violets* (1891) 169 Leviny's lookin' kinder pindlin', ain't she? 1895 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Apr. 333/2, I niver seed sech peevish, pindlin, fractious ways.

Pin-drill, Pin-drop: see Pin *sb.*¹ 18.

Pi·n-dust. Dust formed of filings of brass or other metal produced in the manufacture of pins.

1552 Huloet, Pynne dust, *peripsema, psegma.* 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 239 Him that can bray the Asse-drumme in a morter; and stampe his Iewes-trumpe to Pindust. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* 58 A claie sand so mingled with yeallow spangles as it had beene halfe pindust. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* III. xxxiii. (1713) 268 Those little fix'd Stars that shew but as scattered Pin-dust in a frosty night. 1827 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 283 Pindust, and fine gilt paper.

Pine (pəin), *sb.*¹ *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 1–pine; also 3–5 pyn, 3–6 pyne, 4 pin. [Early ME. *pine*:—OE. **pīn*, a. L. *pœna* punishment, pain (see Pogatscher § 130–134). Cf. OS. *pīna*, (MD. *pīne*, Du. *pijne, pijn*), OHG. *pīna* (MHG. *pîne, pîn*, Ger. *pein*), ON. *pína* (Sw. *pina*, Da. *pine*); also OIr. *pían* (Ir. Gael. *pian*): all from Latin. App. introduced into Teut. and Celtic with Christianity, and in Eng. applied first to the pains of hell. It is notable that the sb. has not yet been found in OE., where the derived vb. *pínian* was common from an early period.]

†**1.** Punishment; suffering inflicted as punishment, torment, torture; *spec.* the penal sufferings of hell or of purgatory; = Pain *sb.*¹ 1, 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 46 And þanne fareð hyo on ece pine [*Ags. Gosp.* susle, *Lindisf.* tintergo]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Heo bið wuniende inne þisse pine. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 Đe pine of helle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 497 Þar pin [*v. rr.* pyne, pine] þai bere opon þam ai. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* v. 29 To take twey staues, And fette hom Felice from wyuene pyne [i. e. the cucking-stool]. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 472 Alle in purgatory pyne. *c* 1384 Chaucer *Ho. Fame* III. 422 Of Proserpyne That quene ys of the derke pyne. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* VI. xii. 132 Đire Tyrandis tuk þis haly man, And held him lang in-til herd pyne. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VII. 54 To stire vp..ill men to flie vice throuch the pines that thay see Ill men pinet with. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XVI. lvii. 4 The victor..pardons her, that merits death and pine.

†**2.** Suffering, affliction, distress, trouble. **a.** Physical suffering; = Pain *sb.*¹ 3. (In ME. often applied to the passion of Christ.) *Obs.*

1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137, I ne can..tellen..alle þe pines ðæt hi diden wrecce men on þis land. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* 1 Efter ure lauerdes pine ant his passiun ant his deð on rode. *c* 1275 *Orison of our Lord* 20 in *O. E. Misc.* 139 Cryst..þat for vs þoledest so swiþe muchel pyn. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 723 Þe pyne, he suffred for þy gode. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 820 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 251 God wotte hys belly (had) greate pyne. *c* 1600 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1350 Be mediciner to the man, And schaw sic cunning as ze can, To put him out of pyne.

b. Mental suffering; grief, sorrow, trouble or distress of mind; anguish; = Pain *sb.*¹ 4. (In quot. *a* 1600, Grievous or intense longing *for* something: cf. Pine *v.* 6.) *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 Lay. 2515 Ofte heo hæfde seorwe & pine. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 330 My precios perle doiz me gret pyne. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 13 And it lyke you to take the worchip uppon you..to the pyne and dyscomfort of all your ille wyllers. 1568 T. Howell *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 57 My pleasure, pine, and pain. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. P.* xxxvii. 6 Sen nane bot I hes for thy persone pyne. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIX. civ, That high crie..Pierst through her hart with sorrow, griefe, and pine. 1721 Ramsay *Richy & Sandy* 30 [He] sung on aeten reed the lover's pine. 1868 Isa Craig-Knox *Ballad of Brides of Quair* ix, More than one hath lived in pine, And more than one hath died of care.

†**3.** Trouble taken or undergone in accomplishing anything; labour, toil, exertion, effort, pains; difficulty: = Pain *sb.*¹ 5, 6. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1136 Wit pine it sal þe ȝeild þi fode. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1994 Þey ascaped wiþ mykel pyn. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1206 Þus ȝede þai furthe..And slike a prai þam apreued as pyne were to reken. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* IV. xi. (S. T. S.) II. 84, I will tak pyne..to do sic thingis for defence of public liberte. 1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 37 It's Pine to tell; it is difficult to tell.

†**4.** Suffering caused by hunger or want of food; the condition of pining for food; famine; want; starvation. (Cf. Pine *v.* 4, 5.) Also *fig. Obs.*

1567 Drant *Horace, Epist.* xviii. F iv, Greedie thirst and knawinge pyne of siluer, and of goulde. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. v. 22 Forst, through penurie and pyne,..For nought was given them to sup or dyne. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XV. 367 On all their weary ways wait care and pain, And pine and penury.

b. A disease of sheep: = Pining *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

1804 in *Trans. Highl. Soc. Scot.* (1807) III. 405 In the pine,..the condition of the animal is too high, its blood too thick, and its pasture too arid.

5. Complaint, repining. *rare*⁻¹.

1804 *Something Odd* III. 179 To give way to unavailing pines.

6. *Comb.*, as †*pine-stall* (*pynstal*), place of punishment. See also Pinebank.

c 1420 *Lay Folks Mass Bk., York Hours* 43 þai..gerte hym bere on his bak þe cros to þe pynstal.

Pine (pəin), *sb.*² Forms: 1 pīn, 4– pine; also 4 pigne, 4–5 pyne, 5 (7 *Sc.*) pyn. [OE. *pīn*, ad. L. *pīnus* a pine-tree, in ME. a. F. *pin*:—L. *pīn-us.* Gower's form *pigne*, is not easy to explain: F. *pigne* = It. *pigna*, L. *pīnea* is cited only of 1528 in Godef.]

1. A tree of the genus *Pinus*, or of various allied coniferous genera; comprising trees, mostly of large size, with evergreen needle-shaped leaves, of which many species afford valuable timber, tar, and turpentine, and some have edible seeds.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 508 Se halga..wolde aheawan ænne heahne pin-beam. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1377 Þai sal be cedre, ciprese, and pine. *Ibid.* 1384 Þe pine [*v. r.* pyne]. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 70 Þe secund [wand] sal be of cypres, And þe thrid of pine sal be. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 161 Enclosed with the tres of Pigne [*rime* Nonarcigne]. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 357 b/1 Ther was a tree of a pyn which

was dedyed to the deuylle. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 42 He [the sun] fires the prowd tops of the Easterne Pines. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 292 His Spear, to equal which the tallest Pine, Hewn on Norwegian hills,..were but a wand. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iv, Mountains covered ..nearly to their summits with forests of gloomy pine. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VI. ix. §4 Let the pine find only a ledge of vertical precipice to cling to, it will nevertheless grow straight.

b. The wood of these trees: = PINE-WOOD 1.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 118 (Add. MS.) 3if þe hed be smyten with a lyȝt dreyȝe staff, as of salwe oþere ellys pyne [*Ashm. MS.* pinee]. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, House*, Rafters of immortal pine. 1870 F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 79 The stalls are oaken, the sittings generally being of pine.

2. With qualifying words, applied to various species of *Pinus* or other coniferous genera (or to their wood): as

Aleppo Pine, *Pinus Halepensis*; **Amboyna Pine** = *Dammar-pine*; **Austrian Pine,** *Pinus austriaca*; **Baltic Pine,** a variety of the timber of *Pinus sylvestris*; **Bhotan Pine,** *Pinus excelsa* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **Bishop's Pine,** *P. muricata*; **Black Pine,** *Pinus austriaca*; also *P. Murrayana* and *P. Jeffreyi* of N. America, and species of *Podocarpus* of New Zealand and *Frenela* of Australia; **Brazilian Pine,** *Araucaria brasiliensis*; **Broom-pine** = *Long-leaved Pine*; **Bull-pine,** *Pinus Jeffreyi, P. Sabiniana, P. mitis*, and *P. ponderosa*, all of N. America; **Candlewood Pine,** the Mexican pitch-pine or torch-pine, *Pinus Zeocote*; **Cedar-pine,** *Pinus glabra*, of Southern U. S.; **Celery Pine** (also *Celery-leaved P., Celery-top(ped) P.*), the genus *Phyllocladus*, of Australia, New Zealand, etc. (Miller *Plant-names*); **Cembra Pine,** the Italian Stone-pine; **Chilian Pine,** *Araucaria imbricata*; **Cluster-pine** (see CLUSTER *sb.* 4); **Corsican Pine** = *Larch-pine*; **Cypress Pine,** species of *Frenela* (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **Dammar-pine,** *Dammara orientalis* of the Moluccas, which yields the resin called DAMMAR (Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* (1857) § 600); **Digger-pine** (see DIGGER 6); **Dwarf Pine,** *Pinus Mughus* of S. Europe, and *P. Pumilio* of Austria, etc.; **Dye-pine** = *King-pine*; **Foxtail-pine,** *Pinus Balfouriana* and *P. serotina*; **Frankincense-pine** (see FRANKINCENSE 3); **Giant Pine** = *Sugar-pine*; **Ginger-pine,** the Port Orford White Cedar, a species of cypress, *Chamæcyparis Lawsoniana*; **Golden Pine,** *Pinus Kæmpferi* (Miller *Plant-names* 1884); **Grey Pine,** *Pinus Banksiana*, of the northern parts of N. America; **Hard Pine** = *Long-leaved Pine*; **Heavy Pine** (see HEAVY *a.* 30); **Hickory Pine** (see HICKORY 4 b); **Highland Pine,** a variety of the Scotch pine with horizontal branches; **Himalayan Pine** (see HIMALAYAN 1); **Hoop-pine** (see HOOP *sb.*[1] 13 b); **Hudson's Bay Pine** = *Grey Pine*; **Huon Pine** (see HUON PINE); **Jersey Pine,** *Pinus inops*, a small species of the eastern U. S.; **Kauri Pine** (see KAURI b); **King-pine** (see KING *sb.* 13 c); **Knee-pine** (see KNEE *sb.* 13); **Labrador Pine** = *Grey Pine*; **Lace-bark Pine,** *Pinus Bungeana* of China, which sheds its outer bark every year (Nicholson *Dict. Gard.* 1887); **Larch Pine,** *Pinus Laricio* of S. Europe; **Loblolly Pine** (see LOBLOLLY 4); **Lodge-pole Pine** (U. S.) = *Ridge-pole pine*; **Long-leaved Pine,** *Pinus australis* (*P. palustris*), the Pitch-pine of the Southern U. S.; **Mahogany Pine,** *Podocarpus Totara* of New Zealand; **Maritime Pine** = *Sea-pine*; **Meadow-pine,** *P. cubensis* of the southern U. S.; **Mountain Pine,** (*a*) *Pinus monticola* of the western U. S.; (*b*) = *Dwarf Pine*; **Norfolk Island Pine,** *Araucaria excelsa*; **Norway Pine,** (*a*) the Spruce Fir, *Abies* (*Picea*) *excelsa*; (*b*) (in U. S.) the N. American Red Pine, *Pinus resinosa*; (*c*) a variety of the timber of *Pinus sylvestris*; **Nut-pine** (see NUT); **Old-field Pine** (see OLD FIELD b); **Oyster Bay Pine,** *Callitris* (*Frenela*) *australis*, of Australia (Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* 1857); **Parasol-pine** (see PARASOL *sb.* 3); **Pitch-pine** (see PITCH-PINE); **Pond Pine,** *Pinus serotina*; **Prince's Pine** (see PRINCE); **Red Pine,** (*a*) *P. resinosa* of N. America; (*b*) (of Australia) *Frenela Endlicheri*; (*c*) (of New Zealand) *Dacrydium cupressinum*; also the timber = *Riga pine*; (see RED *a.* 17 d); **Ridge-pole Pine** (U. S.), *Pinus Murrayana*; **Riga Pine,** a variety of the timber of *Pinus sylvestris*; **Rosemary-pine** = *Frankincense-pine*; **Sap-pine,** *Pinus rigida*; **Scotch Pine,** *Pinus sylvestris*, commonly called *Scotch* FIR; **Scrub-pine,** (in U. S) (*a*) = *Grey Pine*; (*b*) = *Jersey Pine*; (*c*) (of Australia) = *Red Pine* b; **Sea-pine, Seaside Pine,** *Pinus Pinaster* or *P. maritima*; **Short-leaved Pine,** *Pinus mitis* of N. America; **Silver Pine,** (*a*) = *Heavy Pine*; (*b*) *Pinus Picea*; (*c*) the Silver FIR, *Abies* (*Picea*) *pectinata*; (*d*) (in New Zealand) *Dacrydium colensoi* (Morris *Austral Eng.*); **Spruce-pine** (see SPRUCE *sb.*); **Star-pine** = *Cluster-pine*; **Stone-pine** (see STONE-PINE); **Sugar-pine,** *Pinus Lambertiana* of California, which yields a sweet resin used for sugar; **Swamp-pine,** (*a*) = *Frankincense-pine*; (*b*) = *Long-leaved Pine*; **Torch-pine** = *Candlewood-pine*; **Umbrella-pine** = PARASOL-*fir*; **Virginian Pine** = *Long-leaved Pine*; **Water-pine,** *Glyptostrobus heterophyllus* (*Taxodium heterophyllum*) of China; **Wax-pine,** the genus *Dammara*; **Weymouth Pine,** the common American white pine, *Pinus Strobus*, largely planted by Lord Weymouth when introduced into England; **White Pine,** various species with light-coloured wood, esp. the Norway pine or Spruce, *Pinus Strobus* of N. America, and species of *Frenela* and *Podocarpus* of Australia, etc.; **Wild Pine** = *Scotch Pine* (see also 5 b); **Yellow Pine,** various species with yellow or yellowish wood, as the *Long-leaved Pine*, the *Short-leaved Pine*, the *Heavy Pine*, etc.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 382 *D[ammara] orientalis*, the *Amboyna Pine, is a tree of the Moluccas, 100 feet high. *Ibid.* 891 *Baltic, Riga, Norway, Red, or Memel Pine is the timber of *Pinus sylvestris* as grown in the north of Europe. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xliv, The pine, both *black and white. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 890 Black Pine, *Pinus austriaca*. —, of New Zealand, *Podocarpus ferrugineus*. 1827 in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 180 The Green Forest.. comprises myrtle, sassafras, *celery-top pine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 881 *P[hyllocladus] rhomboidalis*, the Celery-topped Pine, is in cultivation as an ornamental tree. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 444 The *Cembra Pine has five leaves in a sheath. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 600 *Araucaria* includes the enormous *Chilian Pine, *A. imbricata*. *Ibid.*, *P[inus] Pinaster*, the *Cluster-pine. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 444 *Frankincense Pine has three leaves coming out of the same sheath. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Nov. (*Advt.*), A valuable tract of *hard-pine timber-land. 1848 *Jersey Pine [see *Scrub Pine*]. 1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* v. 89 Resembling the Altingia, or *Norfolk Island pine. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* etc. (1821) II. 158 Here, for the first time, we saw the *Norway pine. 1866 [see *Baltic Pine*]. 1861 MRS. MEREDITH *Over the Straits* i. 16 Groups of our beautiful *Oyster Bay Pine. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 443 The most known [pine] among us is the *Scotch Pine, or, as it is vulgarly called, Scotch Fir: this has two leaves in a sheath. 1848 GRAY *Bot. U. S.* 439 Jersey or *Scrub Pine.. Barrens and sterile hills, New Jersey and southward. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 891 Scrub Pine, *Pinus Banksiana*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Pinus Banksiana*, Gray, or Northern, Scrub-Pine-tree...— *inops*, New Jersey Scrub Pine. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 26 Oct. 4/4 He drained the soil,..and planted bent and the *sea-pine over sixteen hundred acres of windy sand. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, Ordered South*, The troubled, busy-looking groups of *sea-pines. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s.v. *Pinus, P. Lambertiana*. *Sugar Pine...California, etc. 1827. This, one of the tallest of all Pines, has an enormous girth. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 600 *P[inus] palustris*, the *Swamp-pine of Virginia. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 537 *G[lyptostrobus] heterophyllus*, a small tree eight to ten feet high, is the Chinese *Water Pine, planted along the margins of rice-fields near Canton. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Montagu* 8 Nov., A dozen of the New England, or Lord *Weymouth's pine. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 445 Weymouth Pine...In North America it is called *White Pine, and is excellent for masts. 1855 R. TAYLOR *Te Ika a Maui* 439 (*Podocarpus excelsus.*) This tree is generally called the white pine, from the color of its wood. 1888 *Cassell's Picturesque Australasia* III. 210 (Morris). 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 697/1 The white-pine supply of this country stands in the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s.v., White P[ine]—(In Australia) *Frenela robusta,.. Podocarpus elata*. (In New Zealand) *P. dacryoides*. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* ix. 78 The material for a drawing-board that is..most satisfactory in use, is white pine. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 298 The *Wild Pine, or Scotch Fir. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 229 White and *yellow pines, similar to those of Canada, are brought from Allegany river.

b. Also applied to plants of other orders, resembling the true pines in foliage or some other respect: e. g. certain species of *Lycopodium* or Club-moss (Festoon Pine, *L. rupestre*; Moon-fruit Pine, *L. lucidulum*; Running Pine, *L. clavatum*) see also GROUND-PINE, PRINCE'S *pine*, SCREW-PINE, and senses 5, 5 b.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Stinking Ground Pine, *Camphorosma*.

3. *transf.* Something made of pine-wood: e. g. a torch, a ship, a mast. Chiefly *poet.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 78 *Synecdoche*..as to say, the lofty Pine did scowre the Seas; for the Shippe made of the Pine tree. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Ladies Priviledge* IV. Plays 1874 II. 148 Hymen light thy Pine. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *On Dk. Ormond's Recov.* Wks. 1730 I. 50 E'er.. floating pines were steered by daring man. 1762-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 917 Fast by the fated pine bold Rodmond stands.

†**4.** *pl.* The edible seeds of the stone-pine (*Pinus Pinea*) or other species. *Obs.* [app. from L. *pinea.*]

1335-6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 527, j li. et di. de pynes. 1340 *Ibid.* 37 Maces, pynes, et galanga. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 15 Mynced Datys, Pynys and Roysonys of Corauns. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 95 Resons of corance, Pynes, Clowes, Maces. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij, Pine the pound, v*jd*.

5. = PINE-APPLE 2: cf. PIÑA 1.

1661 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Aug., The famous Queen Pine brought from Barbados..; the first that were ever seen in England were those sent to Cromwell foure years since. *a* 1683 — *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 29 The royal pine—a compendium of all that is delicious to the taste and smell. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xxxi. 142 It will produce about one hundred and fifty pines a year. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 490/1 In the island of Penang..there is a sort [of pine-apple] all the flowers of which always change into branches, each of which bears a pine, terminated by a crown, so that a great cluster of pine-apples is produced by a single stem; specimens of this sort are called double pines. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Conscience* II. xv, Two of the choicest pines had been cut for dessert.

b. *Wild Pine*: name in the West Indies, etc. for species of *Tillandsia* (allied to *Ananassa*), epiphytes growing upon trees.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 189 The Wild Pine is a plant so called because it somewhat resembles the bush that bears the pine [i. e. pine-apple]. 1829 *Nat. Phil., Prelim. Treat.* 39 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) In the West Indies..a kind of plant called the *Wild-pine* grows upon the branches of the trees.

c. A liqueur made from the pine-apple fruit.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 285 Three glasses of pine and one of Curaçoa.

6. A figure of a pine-apple or a pine-cone.

1790 W. WRIGHTE *Grotesque Archit.* 13 On the top is a pine, which should be double gilt.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pine bark, board, bough, fire, forest, grove, plain, plantation, splint, stem, stump, thicket, timber, tract*, etc.; (sense 5) *pine-frame, -pit, -plant*; *pine-bearing, -bordered, -built, -capt, -clad, -covered, -creeping, -crested, -crowned, -dotted, -encircled, -fringed, -shaded*, etc. adjs.; **pine-beauty,** a moth, *Trachea piniperda*, whose larva feeds on pine-trees; **pine-beetle** (also *pine-bark beetle*), any one of various small beetles destructive to the bark or wood of pines; **pine bird's-nest** = *pine-sap*; **pine-blight,** a blight or disease of pine-bark caused by an aphis, as *Chermes pinicorticis*, which secretes a coating of white filaments; also the insect itself; **pine-bluff,** a bluff or precipitous cliff crowned with pine-trees; **pine-bud moth,** the Tortricine, *Orthotænia turionana*; **pine-bullfinch** = *pine-grosbeak*; **pine carpet,** a species of carpet-moth, as *Thera firmata*, whose larva feeds on pine-trees; **pine-chafer,** a N. American beetle, *Anomala pinicola*, which feeds on pine-leaves; **pine-cloth** = PINE-APPLE *cloth*; **pine-cone,** the cone or fruit of the pine-tree; **pine-drops,** the N. American plant *Pterospora andromedea* (N.O. *Monotropaceæ*), parasitic on the roots of pine-trees (cf. *beech-drops*); **pine-finch,** (*a*) = *pine-grosbeak*; (*b*) = *pine-siskin*; †**pine-glandule** = PINEAL *gland*; **pine goldfinch** = *pine-siskin*; **pine grosbeak,** a large finch, *Pinicola enucleator*, inhabiting pine-woods in Europe and North America; **pine grouse** = *dusky grouse* (see GROUSE *sb.* 1); **pine gum,** a resin resembling sandarach, obtained from Australian trees of the genus *Callitris* or *Frenela*; **pine hawk-moth,** a species of hawk-moth, *Sphinx pinastri*, whose larva feeds on the pine-tree; **pine-house** = PINERY 1; **pine-kernel,** (*a*) the seed of any pine-tree, esp. when edible; † (*b*) the pineal gland; **pine knot** (*U. S.*), a knot (KNOT *sb.*[1] 14) of pine-wood, used as fuel; **pine-land,** land on which pine-trees grow or are grown; **pine-linnet** = *pine-siskin*; **pine-lizard,** the common brown lizard of N. America, *Sceloporus undulatus*; **pine-marten** (see MARTEN 2); **pine-mast,** pine-cones collectively (see MAST *sb.*[2]); **pine-mouse,** a N. American meadow-mouse, *Arvicola* (*Pitymys*) *pinetorum*, usually inhabiting pine-barrens; **pine-needle,** the needle-shaped leaf of the pine (hence *pine-needle wool* = *pine-wool*); **pine-oil,** name for various oils obtained from the leaves, twigs, wood, or resin of pine-trees; †**pine-plough** *a.*, ploughed by 'pines', i. e. ships (cf. 3); **pine-sap,** a reddish fleshy plant, *Monotropa Hypopitys* (*Hypopitys multiflora*), formerly supposed to be parasitic on the roots of pine-trees; also, the allied *Schweinitzia odorata* (*Sweet Pine-sap*); **pine-sawfly,** any sawfly whose larvæ feed on pine-trees, esp. *Lophyrus pini*; **pine-siskin,** a small N. American siskin or finch, *Chrysomitris* (*Carduelis*, or *Spinus*) *pinus*, found in pine-woods; **pine-snake,** a large harmless snake of the N. American genus *Pityophis*, found in pine-woods; **pine-stove** = PINERY 1; **pine-strawberry** (see STRAWBERRY); **pine-thistle,** a species of thistle, *Atractylis* (*Carlina*) *gummifera*, the root of which contains a gummy substance; **pine-torch,** a torch made of pine-wood; **pine-warbler,** a small N. American warbler, *Dendræca pinus*, inhabiting pine-woods; **pine-weed,** a small N. American plant, *Hypericum Sarothra* or *nudicaule*, with wiry branches and small scale-like leaves; also called orange-grass (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **pine-weevil,** any weevil which infests pine-trees, as *Hylobius abietis* and species of *Pissodes* (*Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* 1887); **pine-wool,** a wool-like material made from the spun fibres of pine-leaves, used in some countries for garments (Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* (1861) 166); **pine-worm,** the larva of the *pine-sawfly*. See also PINE-APPLE, PINE-BARREN, etc.

1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.*, **Pine Bark Beetles*, numerous species of small beetles..live below the bark of Fir-trees and other Conifers. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 475 Aged Atlas, whose *pyn-bearing browes..Nor haile..nor wind..eschewes. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s. v. *Pinus*, The *Pine Beauty, *Tracheapiniperda*. 1892 *Garden* 27 Aug. 200 The Scotch Fir shoots..have been tunnelled by the *Pine beetle. 1766 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 18 Jan. in W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* 41 We rowed..by some oak and *pine-bluffs. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 6 Lumber, such as *pine-boards and scantling. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 292 Vast plains and *pine-bordered sandhills. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 29 She crowned her head with *pine-boughes. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 48 The pine boughs are singing Old songs with new gladness. 1881 MISS ORMEROD *Injur. Insects* (1890) 246 The caterpillars of the *Pine-bud Moth are injurious to the Scotch Fir, Silver Fir, and various species of Pine. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 10 His low and *pine-built hall. *a* 1811 R. CUMBERLAND in T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* (1822) II. 42 O'er the mountain's *pine-capt brow. 1786 R. P. JODRELL *Pers. Heroine* II. ix. 23 His *pine-clad head Old Athos bow'd. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xii. 90 At the other side was the pine-clad slope. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. (1723) 81 Nuts, *Pine-Cones, and the like. 1866 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* p. xlii, A gilt bronze pine-cone, hollowed, and 11 feet in height, used once to be at the summit of the Sepulchre or Mole of Hadrian. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Farming* Wks. (Bohn) III. 60 Nature drops a pine-cone in Mariposa, and it lives fifteen centuries. 1884 G. A. TOWNSEND in *Century Mag.* XXVII. 824 *Pine-covered hills. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 448 The *Pine-Creeping Warbler (*Sylvia pinus*). 1777 ELIZ. RYVES *Poems* 36 Up the *pine-crown'd hill. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 141 Neath the *pine-dotted slopes of

Tivoli. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, **Pine-drops*, an American name for *Pterospora*. 1894 R. B. Sharpe *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 61 The *Pine-finch, *Pinicola enucleator*. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xii. 86 After dinner we gathered round the *pine-fire. 1822 Shelley *To Jane—the Recollect.* 1 We wandered to the *Pine Forest. 1657 Thornley tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 92 They crowned him [a goat] with *pine-garlands. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 468 The backeside of the *Pine-glandule. 1772 Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 402 *Pine Grosbeak. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 619/1 One of our most beautiful and interesting winter visitants is the pine grosbeak. 1859 W. S. Coleman *Woodlands* (1862) 36 It will change first into a brown chrysalis, then into a large and pretty moth—the *Pine-hawk Moth. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s. v. *Pine-apple*, Provision should be made, in *Pine-houses or pits, for applying a thin shading for a few hours on bright summer days. 1598 *Epulario* H iv b, Some dry Figges, and two ounces of *Pine kernels. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. xi. (1712) 33 That particular piece of the Brain they call the *Conarion* or Pine-kernel. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 144 The Indian Pine Kernels are little Almonds of a yellowish white Colour. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 387 To collect a great quantity of wood and *Pine knots to feed our fires. 1765 J. Bartram *Jrnl.* 26 Dec. in W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* (1766) 8 We encamped on a bluff in the *pine-land. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 421 *S[celoporus] undulatus*..prefers the more sandy localities covered with pine, and is often called the '*pine lizard'. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 34/2 A pine lizard ran up the trunk of a cedar tree. 1772 Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 372 *Pine Marten. 1884 Jefferies *Red Deer* ix. 169 A reddish-brown marten-cat, or pine-marten. 1866 in *Higginson's Harvard Mem. Biog., Whittemore* I. 410 The dry leaves and *pine-needles are as luxurious to lie on. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 649 **Pine-oil* or *Fir-oil*,..names..applied to certain oils resembling oil of turpentine, obtained in various ways from pine and fir-trees. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 39 Scrambling over the *pine-pit, he sheered off. 1837 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 24/2 The iron-roofed vinery..with a pine pit in the middle. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 158 The lands.. are either *pine-plains, or intervals. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Pine-apple*, Generally..*pine plants..brought from the West-Indies, have a white insect adhering to them. 1775 G. White *Selborne* xlii. 108 The *pine-plantations of that nobleman are very grand. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. III. *Colonies* 186 The *Pine-plough'd Sea. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 185 The unbarked *pine-posts of the rude verandah. 1857 Gray *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 35 Other parasitic plants, like the Beech-drops and *Pine-sap, fasten their roots under ground upon the roots of neighboring plants. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gardening* s. v., *Lophyrus Pini* is the one generally denoted by the name of *Pine Sawfly. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 344 The *pine-shipping season is..a period of great activity in the Bahamas. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) XI. 720 *Pine snake, *Pituophis melanoleucus*. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 39/2 A pine snake, bloated and glistening, wriggles across the road. *a* 1843 Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 660/1 Candles made of the *Pine-splints. 1894 *Home Missionary* (N. Y.) Oct. 328 This *pine-stump land..is proving to be the best potato land in the world. 1867 H. Latham *Black & White* 38 They always had to ride off at night six or seven miles, up into the *pine-thickets, to sleep. 1842 P. J. Selby *Brit. Forest Trees* 410 The durability of *Pine timber..is considered to be scarcely inferior to that of the oak. 1857 Mayne *Exp. Lex.*, *Pine-thistle. 1832 G. Downes *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 99 The Valley of Grindelwald, interspersed with verdant lawns and sable *pine-tracts. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 42/2 *Pine Wool Anti-rheumatic Underclothing.

Pine (pəin), *v.* Forms: 1–2 **pinian**, 3–7 **pyne**, 3– **pine**. [OE. *pīnian*, f. *pīn*, Pine *sb.*1; cf. MDu., MLG. *pînen*, Du. *pijnen*, OHG. *pînôn* (MHG. *pînen*, Ger. *peinen*), ON. *pína* to torment, punish (Sw. *pina*, Da. *pine* to torment); cf. also OIr., Ir., Gael. *pian* to torment, f. *pian* sb. Cf. later Eng. *peine-n*, Pain, from OF.]

† **1.** *trans.* To afflict with pain or suffering; to cause to suffer; to torment, trouble, distress. Also *absol. Obs.* (Cf. Pain *v.* 2.)

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* II. iii. § 4 Ða pineden hie hiene mid ðæm ðæt hie his hand forbærndon. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 29 Ða cuome hider ær tid to pinenne [*Ags. G.* þreagenne] usih. 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 [Hi] pineden him alle þe ilce pining ðat ure Drihten was pined. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 He was ipinet ermiliche to deðe. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 404 Neuer er nu nes ich ful pined. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iv. 5 Doand penaunce & pynand 3ow for 3owre synnes. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* I. cxxii. 99 He was taken in suspeccion, and so turmentyd and pyned y* he confessyd. 1569 T. Underdown *Ovid agst. Ibis* K vj b, Aristophanes was by publike authoritie pyned to death. 1625 Quarles *Embl.* v. I. iii. 246 O tell him..how my soule is pin'd. 1724 Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc., Scots Cantata*, Hence frae my breast, contentious care, Ye've tint the power to pine. [1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 285 Truly might the Chronicler say..that never were martyrs so pined as they were.]

† **2.** *intr.* To suffer, to undergo pain. *Obs. rare.* (In later use merged in 5.)

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Ic walde fein pinian and sitten on forste and on snawe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 773 (Harl. MS.) To synne and to pyne of þe deþ þat is pardurable.

† **3.** *trans.* To put to labour; *refl.* to take pains, exert oneself, labour, toil (= Pain *v.* 4). *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5914 Mychel he hym pyned er al þis londe He haueþ ywonne. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 150 A bole þat shal be kild..is not pyned ne traveilid wiþ oþer beestis. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* xcvii. 100 His fadyr and his modir pyned hem to lere hym som craft. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11558 All grauntid the gome to þe gay qwene, For to proker hir pes, & pyne hym þerfore.

4. To exhaust or consume (a person, animal, etc.) by suffering of body or mind, esp. by want of food or by wasting disease; to cause to languish; to wear out, waste away, reduce to leanness, emaciate; to deprive or stint of food, to starve. Also with *away*, *to death*, etc. Now *rare* exc. *dial.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9230 Þis bissop was nee to grounde ibrost Mid honger..He wep & cride on is men þat hii ssolde on him rewe þat he nere to deþe ipined. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 155 Þei pynen hem bi þe worste hungir. 1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 23 Seeing yee so unpittifully vex men,..pine them with famine. 1563 Ld. J. Gray in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 279 The thought and care she takethe..pines her awaye. 1596 Barrough *Meth. Physick* (ed. 3) 372 Phisitions keepe their patients in darkenes, pining them euen vnto bones. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 111 When as shee was fully determined to pine her selfe to death: hee caused her mouth perforce to bee opened, and meate to be crammed into her throate. *c* 1646 in *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. (1829) App. 67 [Wingfield Manor] was a place that could not be otherwise taken, without they were pined out. 1731–3 Miller *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Crocus*, The Bulb seem'd..to be pin'd and emaciated. 1759 Sarah Fielding *C'tess of Dellwyn* I. 223 He fattened on Flattery, and pined himself away. *a* 1845 Hood *Lamia* iv, I'd pine him to a ghost for want of rest. 1848 Buckley *Iliad* 17 But he pined away his great heart, remaining there. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss., Pine*, to starve, kill by starvation. 'They besieged the town in hope to pine 'em'. 1885–94 R. Bridges *Eros & Psyche* June iii, If she there had died of hunger pined.

absol. *c* 1613 Rowlands *Paire of Spy-Knaves* 19 Thou do'st onely pinch, and pine, and spare, To hord vp money.

5. *intr.* To become wasted or feeble, from suffering (bodily or mental), esp. from intense grief, etc., wasting disease, or want of sustenance; to lose vitality or vigour; to languish, waste away.

c 1440 *Boctus* (Laud MS. 559 lf. 10 b), That he shulde other dayes nyne In prison leve and there pyne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/1 Pynyn, or languryn in sekenesse, ..*langueo, elangueo*. 1548 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 25 So doeth the soule pyne a way for default of goostly meate. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 392 His wife, whiche pined to deathe for sorowe. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1115 He ten times pines, that pines beholding food. *c* 1665 Mrs. Hutchinson *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 266 Pining with spite and envy. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 18 They generally pine away..and die in a short time. 1782 Johnson *Let. to Boswell* 28 Mar. in *Life*, You must get a place, or pine in penury. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* viii. 14 But thou'lt be mourning thus to pine unask'd alway.

b. *transf.* Of things: To lose bulk, vigour, or intensity; to languish.

1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 112 The sparkling flames raise water to a smile, Yet the pleas'd liquor pines, and lessens all the while. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lay Brown Rosary* II. 107 Ah me, the sun! the dreamlight 'gins to pine. 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 173 In the Canary Islands, where the tobacco industry had to be resorted to after the cochineal pined.

c. *trans.* with *away* or *out*: To consume or spend (life, health, etc.) in pining.

1725 Pope *Odyss.* XV. 383 She..for Ulysses lost Pined out her bloom, and vanish'd to a ghost. 1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* xxxiv. (1783) I. 208 Many..pining away existence under the lashes..of reproach. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* vi, Barristers pining a hungry life out in chambers.

6. *intr.* To be consumed with longing; to languish with intense desire, to hunger after something; to long eagerly. Const. *for*, *after*, or *inf.*

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 236 The new-made Bridegroome..For whom (and not for Tybalt) Iuliet pinde. 1596 Tate & Brady *Ps.* xlii. 2 For thee, my God,..My thirsty Soul doth pine. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 312 Who died there pining for their native home. 1849 Lytton *Devereux* II. vii, We pine for sympathy. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* III. 258 Harry Temple was wise enough to give up pining after what he could not get.

7. *intr.* To repine, complain, fret.

1687 Norris *Hymn*, '*Long have I view'd*' ii, No longer will I grieve or pine. 1838 Lytton *Leila* II. ii, The eager and ardent spirits that pined at the..inactivity of Ferdinand's.. campaign. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Bagman's Dog*, Scratching and whining, And moaning and pining.

b. *trans.* To repine at, lament, mourn. *arch.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 848 Abasht the Devil stood..and saw Vertue in her shape how lovly, saw, and pin'd His loss. 1872 Swinburne *Under Microscope* 8 We..see, and pine our loss.

8. a. *trans.* To cause (fish) to shrink, in the process of curing; to dry by exposure to the weather.

1560 *Aberdeen Regr.* XXIV. (Jam.), The fische wes nocht pynit nor rypit aneucht. 1641 S. Smith *Herring Buss Trade* 10 The Pickle..doth so pine and overcome the nature of the Herring, that it makes it stiffe. 1705 *Sc. Acts Anne* (1824) XI. 293/1 That all the herring or white fish..shall be pined cured and packed from the bottom to the top with forreign salt allennarly. 1814 Shirreff *Agric. Surv. Shetl.* 91 When the body of the fish is all equally dried, here called *pined*, which is known by the salt appearing on the surface in a white efflorescence, here called *bloom*.

b. *intr.* Of fish: To shrink or 'render', as in the process of curing.

1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 21 (1689) 53 Some expert Anglers preserve Salmon Spawn, from pining, with Salt.

Pineal (pi·nĭăl, pəi·nĭăl), *a. Anat.* [a. F. *pinéal*, f. L. *pinea* a pine-cone: see -al.] Resembling a pine-cone in shape: applied to a small somewhat conical body (the *pineal body* or *pineal gland*), of unknown function, situated behind the third ventricle of the brain, and containing sand-like particles.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., Pineal kirnel in the brain, in form of a pine-apple, called also *conarium*. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Pineal Kernel*, is a Glandule seated between the Two Beds of the Optick Nerves, and the Prominencies which grow to the upper part of the Marrowy substance. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 275 ¶ 4 The Pineal Gland, which many of our Modern Philosophers suppose to be the Seat of the Soul. 1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* II. iv. 99 Des Cartes, observing that the pineal gland is the only part of the brain that is single, was determined by this to make that gland the soul's habitation. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. x, How, without Clothes, could we possess the master-organ, soul's seat, and true pineal gland of the Body Social: I mean, a Purse? 1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 44 The upper part of each lateral boundary is the optic thalamus, with the peduncles of the pineal body extending along it. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 343 The pineal gland.. has been supposed to represent either the region of closure of the neural folds, or else, an unpaired eye.

b. Pertaining to or connected with the pineal body, as *pineal eye, peduncle, ventricle*: see quots.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* Index, Pineal eye. [*Ibid.* 343 *note*, Recent researches have shown that in *Lacertilia* the apex of the pineal gland is transformed into an azygos eye.] 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pineal peduncles*, the peduncles of the pineal gland...*P. ventricle*, a hollow in the pineal gland, a fœtal survival.

Pine-apple, pineapple (pəi·nˌæ·pˈl). Forms: see Pine *sb.*2 and Apple; also 6 **pineable, pyneable**. [f. Pine *sb.*2 + Apple.]

1. The fruit of the pine-tree; a pine-cone. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Formerly also applied to the edible seeds or 'kernels' (*pine-nuts*).

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxxii. (Tollem. MS.), Pinea, þe pinappel, is þe frute of þe pine tre..þe pinappel is þe moste gret note and conteyneþ in it selfe many curneles, closid in ful harde schales. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 82 On peren and pynappel þei ioyken in pees. 1548–77 Vicary *Anat.* vii. (1888) 57 The Harte hath the shape and forme of a Pyneapple. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 63 The Hartichoch..the fruit of it something resembleth the Pineable. 1665 G. Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 69 To outward view it [Ananas] seems, when it is whole, to resemble our Pine-Apple. 1712 J. James *tr. Le Blond's Gardening* 147 The Pine is a Tree very different from the Fir..Its Fruit is call'd the Pine-Apple.

b. A figure or image of a pine-cone, used as an ornament or decoration.

1483 *Wardr. Acc.* in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* I. 29 Blue clothe of gold, wroght with nett and pyne appels. 1661 Morgan *Sph. Gentry* III. vii. 77 [Some] take the leaves of this coat to be pine-apples. 1779 Swinburne *Trav. Spain* xliv. 417 A slender square minaret terminating in a ball or pine-apple.

2. The juicy edible fruit of the Ananas, *Ananassa sativa*, a large collective fruit developed from a conical spike of flowers, and surmounted by a crown of small leaves; so called from its resemblance to a pine-cone: see quot. 1665 in 1; = Pine *sb.*2 5. b. The plant which bears this, *Ananassa sativa* (N.O. *Bromeliaceæ*), a native of tropical South America, widely cultivated in tropical countries generally, and in hot-houses also in temperate climates.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 83 Pine-apples, Moly, Persian Jasmine. 1666 J. Davies *Hist. Caribby Isles* 58 The Ananas or Pine-Apple is accounted the most delicious fruit ..of all America. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 277 The *Kapa-Tsiakka* or *Ananas*, called by our American planters, The *Pine-Apple*. 1746 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 188, I had.. given a guinea for two pine-apples. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 186 Vessels can now bring ripe pine-apples from the West Indies to England in pretty good condition.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* † a. in sense 1, as **pine-apple kernel, seed**, a seed of the pine-cone, esp. as used for food; **pine-apple nut**, a pine-cone; **pine-apple tree**, a pine-tree, esp. *Pinus Pinea* (all *Obs.*).

1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 93 b, *Pyne apple kirnels. 1725 Bradley *Family Dict.* s. v. *Syrup*, Add the Pine-Apple Kernel, Pistachees, and bruised Seeds. 1568 Turner *Herbal* III. Pref., The kernelles of the *Pineaple nut. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 686 *Pynappul seed is sow. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXX. (Tollem. MS.), The *pinapel tree is calde boþe 'pinus' and 'pinea'. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 153 Things which are green all Winter; As Juniper..Pine-Apple-trees, Eugh.

b. in sense 2, as *pine-apple culture, garden, plant*; **pine-apple cloth**, a thin translucent cloth made from pine-apple fibre; = Piña 2; **pine-apple fibre**, the fibre of the leaves of the pine-apple; **pine-apple flower**, a flower, or plant, of the S. African genus *Eucomis* (N.O. *Liliaceæ*), in which the cluster of flowers is surmounted by a tuft of bracts like that of the pine-apple; **pine-apple potato** (see quot.); **pine-apple rum**, rum flavoured with pine-apple; **pine-apple shawl**, a shawl made of pine-apple cloth; **pine-apple strawberry** = *pine-strawberry* (see Strawberry).

1858 Hogg *Veg. Kingd.* 765 *Bromelia pigna*, a native of Manilla, yields fine hair-like fibres, with which the celebrated *pine-apple cloth of the Philippines is made. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 578 Pine-apple yarn and cloth. 1883 Moloney *W. African Fisheries* 24 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) Drag-nets..made of *pine-apple or other fibre. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 266 The same pine-apple-fibre bag which he wore slung across his shoulder. 1884 Miller *Plant-n., Eucomis*, *Pine-apple-flower. 1845 Thackeray *Pimlico Pavilion* iii, The *pine-apple gardens of sweet Pimlico. 1779 Cowper *Let. to J. Hill* 2 Oct., Arrival of the Jamaica fleet. I hope it imports some *pine-apple plants for me. 1835 Henslow *Phys. Bot.* § 64 In one peculiar variety of this tuber, termed the '*pine-apple potato'..each [bud] is subtended by a swollen projection which represents the base of the leaf-stalk, in whose axil we may consider it to have been formed.

1883 G. MACDONALD *Donal Grant* I. 102 A waistcoat of *pine-apple shawl stuff. 1880 *All Year Round* No. 63. 307 A dish of the light-red *pine-apple strawberries.

†Pi·neate, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *pīneātus*, f. L. *pinea* pine-cone: see -ATE 2.] Of the shape of a pine-cone, conical. (Cf. PINEAL.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 113 þe myddel part of þe brayn ys lasse þen eny..oþere..& here forme ys pyneat, brod towarde þe furþere syde of þe hed and scharpere towarde þe hyndor syde.

†Pi·nebank. *Obs.* Also 6 pyne-bank(e, pin-. [=MDu. *pijnbanck*, MHG., Ger. *peinbank*: cf. PINE *sb.*1, and BANK 2.] An old name of the rack.

(Sometimes erroneously explained as 'a bank or row of *pins* or spikes'. Also often erroneously printed *-bauk.*)

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. xviii. Wks. 1162/1 Than must he leaue his outwarde worship .. and lye pantyng in his bedde as it were on a pine bank. 1542 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 422/2 Seand vþeris of perfite aige and stark of persoune put on þe said pynebankis [*printed* -baukis]. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* (1877) 123 Seven dayes stretched on a pyne bank. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1028/1 Then was he thrise put to the pyne-banke, tormented most miserably, to vtter his setters on. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Bailler la question..*, to put one on the racke or pinbanke. [1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 406 The witnesses [were], as was usual in this cruel age [1537]..examined under the rack, or pynebaukis.]

Pi·ne-ba·rren. *U. S.* [f. PINE *sb.*2 + BARREN *sb.*3] A level sandy tract of land, covered scantily with pine-trees: chiefly in the Southern States.

1737 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 2 Dec. (1872) I. 62 (*Georgia*) The land is of four sorts,—pine-barren, oak-land, swamp, and marsh. 1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 27 Dec. in W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* (1766) 10 At Johnson's Bluff..for a mile the sandy pine-barren comes close or near the shore. 1883 J. FISKE in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 418/2 Huge pine-barrens near the coast hindered the first efforts of the planter.

b. *attrib.*, as **pine-barren beauty**, a small creeping evergreen, *Pyxidanthera barbulata* (N. O. *Diapensiaceæ*); **pine-barren scorpion**, a large scorpion found in pine-barrens; **pine-barren terrapin**, a turtle of the family *Clemmyidæ*.

1782 CREVECOEUR *Lett.* 236 Scorpions, from the smallest size, up to the pine barren, the largest species known here. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Pine-barren Beauty.

Pine-beauty to **Pine-cone:** see PINE *sb.*2

Pined (pəind), *ppl. a.* [f. PINE *v.* + -ED 1.] Exhausted or wasted by suffering or hunger.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 170 Thy lang lene craig, Thy pure pynit throtl. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 139 Stifned limmes become vnweldie supporters of his pined corps. 1658 COKAINE *Obstinate Lady* I. ii, The pin'd man Whom Poets phantasies have plac'd in Hell With fruit before him. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. v, A man with a pined leg (..from some ailment in the foot). 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 897 The stress lies heavy upon the pined body.

†Pi·neful, *a. Obs.* [f. PINE *sb.*1 + -FUL.] Full of 'pine' or suffering; painful, distressing.

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 2 Al hire passiun ant hire pinful deð. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18223 Sathan, þat pinful prince, he laght And vnder migh of hell him taght. *c* 1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. F.) 214 A pyneful dede. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tract.* iii. Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 23 The..office..is to thaim..wonderous pynefull and almaist importable. 1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* v. ii. 82 With long constraint of pinefull penurie.

‖ **Pinenchyma** (pine·ŋkimă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (contracted) f. Gr. *πίναξ* tablet + *ἔγχυμα* infusion, after PARENCHYMA.] Tissue consisting of thin flat cells; tabular parenchyma. Hence **Pinenchymatous** (pineŋki·mătəs), *a.*, belonging to or of the nature of pinenchyma.

1840 *Ann. Nat. Hist.* IV. 392 A cuticle with pinenchymatous cells, that is to say tabular-shaped.

Pi·ne-nut. ? *Obs.* Forms: 1 **pinhnytu**, 4 **pinnote**, 5 **pynote**, 6– **pine-nut.** [f. PINE *sb.*2 + NUT.] A pine-cone, esp. one containing edible seeds; *rarely*, the edible seed or kernel.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 180 ȝenim of pinhnyte .xx. ȝeclænsodra cyrnela. *Ibid.* III. 258 Seo eorðe stent on ȝelicnysse anre pinnhnyte. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 34 Take kyrnelys of Pynotys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/2 Pynote, fruite, *Pinum.* 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 422 In the cottages.. we found many pine-nuts opened. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 354 Dividing amongst them some..filberds, and pine-nuts. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* v. i. 276 Faggots, pine-nuts, and wither'd leaves.

attrib. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 544 Als dede the pinnote tre Of his ympe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 131 With Cucumber seed and Pine-nut kernils.

Piner 1. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5–6 **pynour**, 6 **pinor**, **poyner**, **pyner**, **-ir**, **-or**, **-owr**, 6–**piner**, 6–9 **poiner**, 7 **pynnour.** [= MDu. *piner*, *pijner* (13th c.), f. *pinen*, *pijnen* to labour, toil: cf. PINE *v.* 3, *sb.*1 3.]

1. A labourer; now in N. E. Scottish dialects applied to a man who cuts peat, turf, etc.

c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 559 þe Egiptis for invy Anoyit þaim [Israelites] dispitously, And in all werkis þaim pynouris maid. *Ibid.* 1154 And mak þai men þar lauboraris, Masons, wrychtis and pynowraris. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 348 Giffin to pynouris to bere the treis to be Mons new cradil to hir. 1503 *Ibid.* II. 392 Payit to..James to cartaris and pynouris, for carying of beddis, clathes..fra the Castell to the Abbay. 1543 *Aberdeen Regr.* XVIII. (Jam.), The pynouris to help to dycht & cleynge the calsais, euery pynour his day abowtt. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1848 II. 160 Sa scho wes lappit in a cope of leid, and keipit..unto the nyntene of October, quhen scho by pynouris wes caryed to a schip, and sa caryed to France. 1601 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 493, I ley down at your feit my Commission as the pynnour does his burding. 1759 *Fountainhall's Decisions* I. 236 Forcing them to employ the common Piners in the Town, and exacting money for it. 1806 *Case, Duff of Muirtown*, &c. (Jam.), The people she saw..were poiners or carters from Inverness, who used to come there for materials. 1887 BULLOCH *Pynours* v. 41 The pynour-fishermen pursuing their proper calling on the vasty deep.

2. = PIONEER 1, 2.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Aurel. Anton.* xxv, My piners eke were prest with showle and spade T' interre the dead. *Ibid., Sir N. Burdet* lxx, Hee pyners set to trenche, and vnder mine amayne. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* II. 122 There are to be placed thy piners who are to bee garded with .500. shot of each wing.

Piner 2 (pəi·nəɹ). [f. PINE *v.* + -ER 1.]

†1. A tormentor. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 34 Hlaferd his ȝesalde hine ðæm pinerum. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VII. 86 The rest of his body,..the pynouris raue with an yrne tangs, meruellous artificiouslie, to his dolour and langsum pane.

2. One who or that which pines; *spec.* an animal suffering from a wasting disease.

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 26 July 4/2 A large proportion of the grouse have the appearance of having died from starvation. ..The keepers .. call the emaciated birds 'piners'. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 10/2 It seemed as if the bull would have to be killed as a 'piner'.

Piner 3. *local.* [f. PINE *sb.*2 + -ER 1.]

a. *Tasmania.* A man employed in hewing pine-trees. b. *U. S. local.* An inhabitant of a region where pine-trees abound.

1891 W. TILLEY *Wild West Tasmania* 43 (Morris) The King River is only navigable for small craft...Piners' boats sometimes get in. 1894 RALPH in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 337 The term 'piners' is synonymous with the term 'poor whites' in the South.

Pinery (pəi·nəri). [f. PINE *sb.*2 + -ERY.]

1. A place in which pine-apples are grown.

1758 J. RALPH *Authors by Profession* 41 All must have their Fooleries as well as their Pinaries. 1787 *Olla Podrida* No. 42 (1788) 425 The Pleasure of seeing Green-houses and Pineries arise. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 207/1 Separate vineries, forcing-houses, pineries, and hot-pits.

2. A plantation or grove of pine-trees.

1831 JANE PORTER *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* II. 160 Our pines in the dell formed an infant pinery. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 12/1 When the timber shall have been stripped from the pineries of Maine.

Pine-sap to **Pine-torch:** see PINE *sb.*2

Pine-tree. = PINE *sb.*2 1.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 216 Pintreowes þa grenan twigu ufeweard ȝegnid. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6326 Þar sagh he stand Wexen o cipres, a wand;..An-oþer he sagh o cedre tre;.. O pine tre þe thrid he fand. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 279/2 A Pyne tre (*A.* A Pyne Appyltre), *pinus.* *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 390 He toke on his waye for to goo to the pintre of mountalban. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 87 The Pyne tre bryngeth furth very litle rosin. 1710 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 669 The bill for preserving white pyne trees in our plantations for ships masts. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 168 Barricaded by fallen pine-trees and tremendous precipices.

b. *attrib.*, as *pine-tree bole*, etc.; **pine-tree money**, name for the silver coins (shilling, sixpence, and threepence) bearing the figure of a pine-tree, struck in Massachusetts in the latter half of the 17th century, being the first money coined in a British colony. **Pine-tree State**, Maine, U.S., so called from its extensive pine-forests.

a 1848 CLOUGH *Early Poems* xvi. 88 The pine-tree boles are dimmer, And the stars bedimmed above. 1864 WEBSTER *Dict., Names Fiction*, Pine-Tree State. 1870 *Eng. Mechanic* 7 Jan. 416/1 These coins, now very rare.., are called 'Pine Tree Money'. 1888 *Boston Transcript* (Farmer), The good old Pine-tree State is pretty well represented in this locality. 1893 ELIZ. B. CUSTER *Tenting* 88 The most venomous of snakes, called the pine-tree rattlesnake. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH *United States* 28 She [Massachusetts] coined her own money, the pine-tree shilling. 1896 *Peterson's Mag.* (U. S.) VI. 288/2 These vessels all sailed under the pine-tree flag. This flag was of white bunting, on which was painted a green pine-tree, and upon the reverse..: 'Appeal to Heaven'.

‖ **Pinetum** (pəinī·tŭm). Pl. **-a, -ums.** [L. *pīnētum* pine-grove, f. *pīnus* PINE *sb.*2] A plantation or collection of pine-trees of various species, for scientific or ornamental purposes.

1842 P. J. SELBY *Brit. Forest Trees* 392 In Northumberland, the first established and richest Pinetum is that of Sir C. L. M. Monck. 1881 VEITCH *Coniferæ* III. 320 The Pinetum, in its comprehensive sense, is a complete collection of living specimens of all the Coniferous trees and shrubs known. *Ibid.* 321 The planting of Pineta originated in the beginning of the present century.

Pi·ne-wood. [f. PINE *sb.*2 + WOOD *sb.*]

1. The wood of the pine-tree. Also *attrib.*

1815 *Tweddell's Rem.* lxx. 315 *note*, A small bundle of splinters of pine-wood. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 32 Holding..large blazing torches of pine-wood. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 164 The smoke of pinewood fires.

2. A wood or forest of pines.

1813 W. S. WALKER *Poems* 144 (Jod.) No breezes waved the pine-wood tall. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Theseus* II. 215 All cold above the black pine-woods. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* iv. (1870) 70 The destruction of the grand pine-woods that once clothed the Apennines.

Piney (pəi·ni), **pinnay** (pini·). Also **piny.** [ad. Tamil *pinnai* or *punnai*, in Skr. *punnāga.*] The name of two East Indian resinous trees, *Calophyllum inophyllum* (N.O. *Clusiaceæ*), called also **piney-tree**, and *Vateria indica* (N.O. *Dipteraceæ*); used *attrib.*, as in **piney dammar, resin, varnish**, the resin obtained from *Vateria indica*, also called *white dammar, Indian* or *Malabar copal*, or *gum animé*; **piney oil, piney tallow** (Tamil *punnaitailam*), a fatty or waxy substance from the fruit of the same tree, used for making candles.

1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 424 *Vateria indica* affords the Piney resin or Piney Dammar of India, sometimes called Indian Copal or gum Animi. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 95/1 An oil named *Piney tallow* is expressed from the fruit of the panoe tree. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 891 *Piney-varnish*, the resin or dammar obtained from *Vateria indica. Piney-tree, Calophyllum angustifolium.*

Piney, erron. form of PINY *a.*

Pin-eyed (pi·nˌəid), *a.* [f. PIN *sb.*1 + EYED *ppl. a.*] Having an 'eye' with a 'pin'; applied by florists to the long-styled form of a flower (esp. *Primula*), which shows the stigma, resembling a pin's head, at the top of the corolla-tube (opp. to *thrum-eyed* or *rose-eyed*, applied to the short-styled form, which shows the anthers at the top).

1810 CRABBE *Borough* VIII, This is no shaded, run-off, pin-eyed thing, A king of flowers. 1861 DARWIN in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* VI. 77 Florists who cultivate the Polyanthus and Auricula .. call those which display the globular stigma at the mouth of the corolla 'pin-headed' or 'pin-eyed'. 1877 — in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 295 Some plants yield nothing but pin-eyed flowers in which the style..is long.

Pi·n-fa·llow, *sb. Agric.* [f. (?) PIN *sb.* + FALLOW *sb.*] 'Winter-fallow; a fallow in which no crop is lost' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Hence **Pin-fallow** *v.*, to winter-fallow: see quots.

1668 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 334/1 Pin Fallow is a Plowing twice for Peas, first in Christmas, then in March. 1790 W. MARSHALL *Midl. Counties* (1796) I. 191 Pin fallow .. the origin of this term I have not learnt; it appears to be synonymous with winter fallow or barley fallow. 1794 BILLINGSLEY *Agric. Survey Som.* 159 Pin fallow..ploughing after vetches, clover, or beans, two or three times, to prepare for a succeeding crop of wheat. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* s. v., When lea-land is fallowed about July or August, ready to be ploughed again for the crop, it is said to be pin-fallowed.

Pin-feather (pi·nˌfe·ðəɹ), *sb.* [f. PIN *sb.*1 + FEATHER.] An ungrown feather, before the vanes have expanded, and while the barrel is full of a dark serous fluid; any young feather from the time that it first pierces the skin, much in the form of a pin, until it bursts its confining sheath and expands its vanes: = PEN-FEATHER 2.

1775 ASH, *Pinfeather*, a feather just as it begins to shoot. 1839 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* V. 520 The nest .. still contained three young Cuckoos, all of different sizes, ..the largest, covered with pin-feathers, would have been able to leave the nest in about a week. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xviii, Shelling peas, peeling potatoes, picking pin-feathers out of fowls. 1879 J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* (1884) 59 When nearly grown they [cuckoos] are covered with long blue pin-feathers.., without a bit of plumage on them. *attrib.* 1901 *Longm. Mag.* May 21 The young birds were in the early pinfeather stage.

Hence **Pi·n-fea·ther** *v. trans.*, to pluck out the pin-feathers from; whence **Pin-fea·therer** [see -ER 1]; **Pi·n-fea·thery** *a.*, full of or abounding in pin-feathers.

1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wildfowl* xxii. 231 Skins of birds killed in spring are more valuable than those of fall birds, which are usually 'pin-feathery'. 1893 MRS. CARTWRIGHT in *Voice* (N.Y.) 30 Nov., Mrs. Piper was pin-feathering the noble bird. 18.. J. S. JOHNSON *Poultry Raising Guide* (Boston U.S.) 38 Pass her over to the pin-featherers, keeping three or four of these busy removing pin-feathers [etc.].

Pin-feathered (pi·nˌfe·ðəɹd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED 2, or f. PIN *sb.* + FEATHERED.] Having immature feathers, half-fledged (as a young bird, or an adult bird when moulting); also *fig.*: = PEN-FEATHERED 1.

1641 BRATHWAIT *Mercurius Brit.* II. B ij, Thou beganst to flutter with the lapwing before thou wert pinfeathered. 1647 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 1 A Diurnall is a puny Chronicle, scarce pin-feather'd with the Wings of time. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius' Sat.* i. (1697) 411 Hourly we see, some raw pin-feather'd thing Attempt to mount, and Fights and Heroes sing.

Pi·n-fire, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PIN *sb.*1 + FIRE *v.*] Applied to a form of cartridge for breech-loading guns, invented by Lefaucheux in 1836, fitted with a pin which, on being struck by the hammer of the lock, is thrust into the fulminate and explodes it. Also applied to a gun in which such a cartridge is used. b. *sb.* (or *ellipt.*) A pin-fire cartridge or gun.

[1854 *Restell's Patent Specif.* No. 2530. 8–9 The hammer in this gun strikes downwards on a loose stud or pin inserted on the edge of the cartridge rim.] 1870 *U. S. Patent Specif.* No. 99721 A cross-section of an ordinary 'pin-fire cartridge'. 1875 GREENER *Breech-loaders* (ed. 2) 27 We .. make a hundred central-fire guns to one pin-fire. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1274/1, 6 chamber self action pinfire revolver. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Aug. 4/1 About that date [1866] breech-loaders began to make their appearance—all pin-fires and on the Lefaucheux principle. 1888 *Daily News* 18 Oct. 7/1 A revolver. ..The weapon is a pin-fire, and has six chambers.

Pin-fish to **Pin-footed:** see PIN *sb.*1 18.

Pinfold (pi·nˌfōʷld), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 2 **pund fald**, (3 *L.* **punfaudum**), 4 **ponfold**(e, **pondfolde**, **poundfalde**, 5 **pundfald** *Sc.*, 6 **punfolde**, **pun-**

fauld *Sc.*, 9 (*dial.*) punfaud. *β.* 4–7 **pynfold**, 5 **-fald**, **pynd(e)fold(e**, 5–6 **pynfolde**, 6 **pinnefolde**, **pynfoalde**, 6–7 **pinfolde**, **-fould**, 8 (*dial.*) **pinfald**, **pindfold**, 9 (*dial.*) **pinfaud**, **pinfowd**, **-fowt**, 6– **pinfold**. [Late OE. *pundfald* (in 12th c. MS., but doubtless earlier), f. **pund*, POUND *sb.*² + *fald*, FOLD *sb.*²; thence the ME. forms in *pun(d-*, *pound-*, *pond-*, retained in Sc. to 16th c. and in north. Eng. dial. to 19th c. But from *c* 1400 the first element was associated with the verb *pyndan*, PIND, and perhaps with PIN *v.* Cf. also PENFOLD.]

1. A place for confining stray or distrained cattle, horses, sheep, etc.; a pound; in later use, sometimes, a fold for sheep, cattle, etc.

α. ?*a* 1200 *Spurious Charter of Edgar* (dated 961) in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 309 Of þam putte on hacan pund fold, of hacan pund falde oþ eft on þæt efer fearn. 1235–52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 191 Et facit punfaudum. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 783 The pundar .. Had pyndit all his pryss horss in a pundfald. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 417 Putting of the saidis gudis in ane unlauchfull punfauld. 1579 *Mem. St. Giles, Durham* (Surtees) 1 Payde to Rycharde Robinson one day for maykyn clene the punfolde. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pun-faud* or *pin-faud.*

β. 1408 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 64 Willelmus Whytehals pro fractione pynfold. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590/12 *Interclusorium*, a pyndefolde. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 148 Yf thy horse breake his tedure..than cometh the pynder & taketh hym & putteth hym in the pynfolde. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* E j b, I thinke them woorth..for their scabbednes to bee thrust from the pinfolde. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 47 b, He that distraines anything that hath life, must impound them..in a pinfold. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. II. 200 But to confine the Bad and Sinful, Like Moral Cattle, in a Pinfold. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 439 They resort to the caves..where they sleep in crowds like sheep in a pinfold. 1899 A. WHITE *Mod. Jew* Introd. 10 In the..ten provinces of Poland..the Jews are confined as in a pinfold. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Pinfold*..2. An enclosure for sheep, a sheepfold. [Leicester to Suffolk.]

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A place of confinement; a pen; a trap; a spiritual 'fold'.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 633 Heo hath hulpe a þousande oute of þe deueles ponfolde [*v. rr.* pond-, pun-, pounfolde, pynfold]. *Ibid.* XVI. 264 Oute of þe poukes pondfolde [*v.rr.* ponfold, pynfold; *C.* poundfalde, pynfold] no meynprise may vs fecche. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 99 Thai hed the romans in that pundfald, quhar thai culd nothir fecht nor fle. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 7 Confin'd, and pester'd in this pin-fold here. *c* 1750 J. NELSON *Jrnl.* 41 You are gone out of the highway of holiness, and have now got into the devil's pinfold. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 211 The restraining of all dissentients within their own pinfold.

Pinfold (pinfōuld), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To shut up or enclose in a pinfold; to pound; hence *fig.* to confine within narrow limits.

1605 T. HUTTON *Reasons for Refusal* 61 Take heede, howe they pinfold the worde (*faith*) in this or that sense after their owne private imagination. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 124 They exercise a petty royalty in pinfolding cattle. 1785 [W. HUTTON] *Bran New Wark* 38 If our nebbour's stot or stirk break into'th fog, let us net pinfald it. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Asp.* Wks. 1846 II. 394/2 My name..is a difficult..one to pinfold in a tombstone.

Ping (piŋ), *sb.* Also reduplicated. [Echoic.] An abrupt *ringing* sound, such as that made by a rifle bullet in flying through the air, by a mosquito, the ringing of an electric bell, etc.

1856 *Sebastopol* I. xi. 132 The sharp 'ping' of a Minié bullet. 1861 W. B. BROOKE *Out w. Garibaldi* iii. 24 The 'ping, ping' of rifle bullets whizzing over one's head. 1880 GILL *River Gold. S.* II. vii. 258 The ping of the mosquitoes which was heard for the first time for many a long day. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 132 Mosquitoes..With a wild ping of joy..made for me.

Ping (piŋ), *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 **pyngan**, **pingan**, 3 **pungen** (*ii*), (pa. t. **puinde**), 4 **punge**, **pyngen**, **pingen**, 9 *dial.* **ping**. [OE. *pyngan* :—**pungian*, ad. L. *pungĕre* to prick.

(The mod. dial. vb. has strong and mixed forms of pa. t. and pa. pple., *pung*, *pung'd.*)]

trans. and *intr.* To prick; to poke, push, urge.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 297 He wærlice hine pynge mid sumum wordum ðæt he on ðæm onzietan mæge [etc.]. *c* 1205 LAY. 23933 Arður ut mid his sweorde.. and puinden [*c* 1275 pungde] uppen Frolle. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 779 He pingde his stede wiþ spores kene. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 88 A pyk is in þe potent to punge a-doun þe wikkede. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1248 Þe prisoun dore þan wend heo ner & putte hure staf an vnder As sche wolde þe dore to-breke sche gan þo hebbe & pynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xii. 18 Ther is that behoteth, and as with a swerd is pungid to the conscience. 1746 *Exmoor Scold.* 255 (E. D. S.) Tha wud'st ha' borst en to Shivers, nif chad net a vung en, and pung'd en back agen. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Ping*, to push. 1876 MADOX-BROWN *Dwale Bluth* II. iii, I wish they'd gie thy cat ter th' butcher, ter naup and ping loose ower the moor-yavils out there.

Ping (piŋ), *v.*² [Echoic: cf. PING *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To make an abrupt ringing sound like that of a rifle bullet; to fly with such a sound.

1855 *Illustr. Lond. News* 15 Sept. 326/1 Rifle-bullets.. 'pinging' over their heads. 1878 W. C. SMITH *Hilda among Broken Gods* (1879) 242 Balls from the rifle-pits ping about.

2. *trans.* To cause to make such a sound.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 2/1 Automobiles that pinged their warning gongs.

Hence **Pi·nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1865 *Daily Tel.* 29 May, The visit of pinging balls and cracking shells. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 6/5 Pinging of harps, tootling of flutes.

Pinge (pindʒ), *sb.* and *v.* [Echoic: cf. PING *sb.*] A variant of PING *sb.* and *v.*²

1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* ix. 138, I felt the pinge of a ball past my eyes. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 11/1 With bullets pingeing and singing close over his head.

Pingle (piŋg'l), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* [f. PINGLE *v.*]

1. A keen contest or struggle.

1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 237 *note*, [They made at each other, so that] with long pyngle with dagger [Somerset was slain]. 1719 HAMILTON in *Ramsay's Fam. Epist.* I. iv, 'Twad be a pingle, Whilk o' you three wad gar words sound And best to jingle. 1816 SIR A. BOSWELL *Skeldon Haughs* Wks. (1871) 167 Now is the pingle, hand to hand. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 153 Papists and faes in dreidfu' pingle.

2. Struggle with difficulties; strenuous exertion.

1728 RAMSAY *To R. Varde* 9 Skelping o'er frozen hags with pingle. 1786 *Har'st Rig* lxx, He's in a pingle. 1871 P. H. WADDELL *Ps. in Scottis* xxxiii. 16 Nae mighty man [is] redd by his mighty pingle.

Pingle (piŋg'l), *sb.*² *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of uncertain origin: cf. PIGHTLE.] A small enclosed piece of land; a paddock, a close.

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 154 Roger Blythe for one pyngle with..a gate thrugh the same. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 275 The Academie, a little pingle or plot of ground,..was the habitation of Plato, Xenocrates, and Polemon. 1633 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 43 They thrust and pen up the whole flock of Christ in a far narrower pingle than ever the Donatists did. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 37 A *Pingle*, a small croft or Picle. *a* 1864 J. CLARE *MS. Poems* (E. D. D.), Meadow and close, and pingle: where suns cling And shine on earliest flowers.

Pingle (piŋg'l), *sb.*³ *Sc.* [Origin unknown.] A small pan or cooking-pot of tinned iron, having a long handle. Also *pingle-pan.*

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 6 The pingle-pan Is on the ingle set. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 429 You want a pingle, lassie [*note*, A small tin-made goblet, used in Scotland for preparing children's food]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Pingle-pan*, in Scotland, a small tin goblet with a long handle. 1863 J. L. W. *By-gone Days* 192 Supplying the 'gudewife' with pitchers, or repairing her 'pingle pans'.

Pingle (piŋg'l, *north. dial.* piŋ'l), *v.* Also 6 **pingil(l**, **pingyl**, **pyngle**. [Origin obscure. Perhaps branches I and II are different words, I being only Sc. With II cf. Sw. dial. *pyngla* to be busy about small matters, to work in a trifling way (Rietz).]

I. †**1.** *intr.* To strive, contend, vie. *Sc. Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 114 Bettir thow ganis to leid ane doig to skomer..than with thy maister pingill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iv. 14 To se the hewis on ather hand is wondir, For hicht that semis pingill with the hevin. 1635 D. DICKSON *Pract. Wks.* (1845) I. 27 They stood out long, pingling with God. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 36 How brithers pingled at their brochan, And made a din.

2. *trans.* †**a.** To press hard in a contest, to run (any one) hard, to vie with (*obs.*). **b.** To trouble, worry. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. iv. 122 Quhan finally to pursew he adrest, And pinglis hir [the ship] onto the vtirmest. *c* 1587 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* XV. 14, I pingle thame all perfytlie in that parte [poverty]. *a* 1600 *Ibid.* xliv. 12 Let Mercure language to me len,..To pingill Apelles pynsell with my pen. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxiv, To be pingled wi' mickle speaking.

3. *intr.* To struggle against difficulties; to work hard, labour, toil, exert oneself; to struggle or toil for a livelihood. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. v. 14 Beselie our folkis gan to pingill and strife. *Ibid.* V. iv. 75 With all thar force than at the vterance, Thai pinglit ayris [= oars] wp to bend, and haill. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Lect. Passion* ix. Wks. (Wodrow Soc.) II. 109 To get that spirit to pingle out, and get the victory against this canker in the heart. 1836 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Dau.* 66 She'll hae to pingle through the hard.

II. 4. *intr.* To work in a trifling or ineffectual way; to meddle or have to do *with* in a petty way; to piddle or peddle; to trifle or dally. Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* (1578) 35 Suffer them not to pyngle in pycking [hops] one by one, but let them speedily strip them into Baskets. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* C vij, King Phillip, for al those dominions & mines of treasures, was content to be pingling with our purses: made Queene Mary to aske..frequent subsides. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Lect. Passion* xxxii. Wks. (Wodrow Soc.) II. 392 We may pingle with them a while here, but we remit them to that great day that the Judge appear. 1632 I. L. *Women's Rights* 152 If he doe but pingle, as suffer himselfe to be outlawed..this was neuer any forfeiture of franke tenement. 1871 P. H. WADDELL *Ps. in Scottis* xxxviii. 12 Wha ettle me ill speak a' mischieff an' pingle on lies the hail day.

5. *intr.* To pick at or trifle with food; to eat with little appetite, nibble. Now *dial.*

1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will & Test.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 27 Neither did he pingle, when it was set on the board. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 75 If wee knewe of any banke-sides that lay against the sunne .. wee tooke them [the hoggs] .. to them, and lette pingle aboute. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 33 Great drinkers .. do (as we say) but pingle at their meat and eat little. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pingle*, *v.* to pick one's food; to eat squeamishly. [In *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, from Yorksh. to Herts and Essex.]

b. *trans. dial.*

1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., (Herts.) She just sits and pingles her victuals. (Essex) The child is not well, she pingles her food.

Hence **Pi·ngling** *vbl. sb.*, (*a*) struggling, striving, exertion; (*b*) trifling with food or drink; **Pi·ngling** *ppl. a.*, whence **Pi·nglingly** *adv.*, in a pingling way, with little appetite.

a 1578 LINDESAY *Chron. Scot.* XXI. XXXVIII, They were all Borderers and could ryde and prick well, and held the Scottishmen in pingling [*so 2 MSS.*] be their pricking and skirmishing. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 43 Wi' my teeth I gnew the raips in twa, And wi' sair pingling wan at last awa'.

(*b*) 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 79 As long as they haue eyther oyle or wine, this plague feeds but pinglingly vpon them. 1602 ROWLANDS *'Tis Merrie when Gossips meete* 17 Nay fill your Cup, Wee'le haue no pingling now we are alone.

Pi·ngler. *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. prec. II + -ER¹.]

1. A trifler, dallier, dabbler. (In quot. opposed to *courser*, runner, one who runs in a race.)

[Conjectured by Nares to mean 'a labouring horse kept by a farmer in his homestead', from PINGLE *sb.*² Hence Ogilvie (and *Century Dict.*) 'a cart-horse, a work-horse'.]

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 109 Judging all to be clownes which be no courtiers, and al to be pinglers that be not coursers.

2. One who 'pingles' with food or drink.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 48 If I cannot drinke it downe..let me be counted nobody, a pingler. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 412 He filleth his mouth well, and is no pingler at his meat. 1657 M. LAWRENCE *Use & Pract. Faith* 206 Men that are..declining ..are but pinglers at their meat.

Pin-gout, etc.: see PIN *sb.*¹ 18.

Ping-pong (piŋpɒ·ŋ), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. PING *sb.*] A parlour game resembling lawn-tennis, played on a table with bats, usually of parchment stretched on a wooden frame, and celluloid balls; so called from the sharp 'ping' emitted by the bat when striking; table-tennis. Also *attrib.*

1900 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 6/6 Our correspondent seems to hope that the unclean, playing Ping-Pong with the clean, will become unpleasantly conscious of his uncleanness and reform. 1901 *Ibid.* 2 May 3/2 The inventor of Ping-Pong has been discovered, it was Mr. James Gibb, an old Cambridge athlete, now living at Croydon. *Ibid.* 31 Dec. 5/1 Playtime's too short for us, bedtime too long, Since we have taken to playing Ping Pong.

Hence **Pi·ng-po·ng** *v. intr.*, to play ping-pong; **Ping-pongist** (piŋpɒ·ŋist), a ping-pong player or enthusiast.

1901 *Times* 1 June 8/5 [He] is only required to be agreeable and to ping-pong. 1901 *Morn. Leader* 18 Dec. 3/3 The ping-ponging, however, has not yet started. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 6/3 The competitors were presumably the pick of 'Ping-Pongists' in London.

Pin-grass, -ground: see PIN *sb.*¹ 18.

Pingster: see PINKSTER.

Pinguecula, incorrect form of PINGUICULA.

Pinguedinous (piŋgwe·dinəs), *a.* Also 9 erron. **-idinous**. [f. L. *pinguēdin-em* fatness (f. *pingui-s* fat) + -OUS.] Of the nature of or resembling fat; fatty, greasy.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 65/1 Take an inveterate Oyle canne, which as yet is pinguedinous internallye. 1740 MALFALGUERAT in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 366 This Excrescence..was for the most part of a pinguedinous Substance. 1826 H. N. COLERIDGE *West Indies* (1832) 161, I have .. found a crassitude, a pinguedinous gravity in the meat.

So †**Pingue·dinize** *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. = PINGUEFY.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pinguefie*..to make fat or gross; some have used Pinguedinize in the same sense.

†**Pinguefa·ction.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [n. of action f. L. *pinguefac-ĕre* to fatten: see PINGUEFY and -TION.] The action of pinguefying; *concr.* an application for this purpose.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 36/1 We must then, with warme infusions and pingvefactions, soften..and make supple the same.

Pinguefy (piŋgwĭfəi), *v.* Now *rare.* Also 6–9 erron. **pinguify**. [ad. L. *pinguefacĕre* to fatten, f. stem of **pinguēre*, *pinguēscĕre* to grow fat + *facĕre* to make: see PINGUESCENT and -FY.]

1. *trans.* To cause to become fat; to fatten; to make greasy; to saturate with grease; also, to make (soil) rich or fertile.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 41/2 Pinguefye heerin a little linnen cloute, and applye the same on the Foreheade. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1158 The oile or ointment wherewith women..annoint the haire of their head..hath a certaine propertie in it to pinguifie withall. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 24 It pinguifies the soyle. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 810 The..Fumes, and Nidours of Sacrifices; wherewith their Corporeal and Spirituous Part, is as it were Pinguified. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pinguefy*,..to make fat.

2. *intr.* To become fat. ? *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 52 b/2 Those partes doe increace and pingvifye. 1655 in *Narr. Gen. Venables* (1900) 141, I need not dr. Amie to keep me from pinguifying. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 72 Buttocks pinguifying on their own steaks.

Hence **Pi·nguefying** *ppl. a.*, fattening.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* XV. 201 The Pinguifying Virtue of this Medica Hay. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 375 His object being to restrain the pinguifying impulses of hunger. 1857 MUSGRAVE *Pilgr. Dauphiné* I. xi. 245 The graziers' pinguifying processes.

Pinguescence (piŋgwe·sĕns). *rare.* [f. as next: see -ENCE.] The process of becoming or growing fat; *loosely*, fatness, obesity.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 222 A standard

weight of healthy pinguescence. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 607 The sexual relations of pinguescence.

Pinguescent (piŋgwe·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *pinguēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *pinguēscĕre* to grow fat, f. *pinguis* fat: see -ESCE.] Becoming or growing fat, fattening; flourishing.

1797 SOUTHEY in *Cottle Remin.* 211 A very brown-looking man, of most pinguescent, and fullmoon cheeks. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 716 Haggis is unctuously pinguescent. 1852 *Tait's Mag.* XIX. 622 There are hundreds of noble and self-denying men in the ranks of the Church Pinguescent.

Pinguetude, -tudinous, erron. ff. PINGUI-.

‖ **Pinguicula** (piŋgwi·kiŭlă). Also 9 erron. (in sense 2) **pinguecula**, and in anglicized form **pinguecule**. [L. fem. (sc. *planta*) of *pinguicul-us* fattish, dim. f. *pingui-s* fat. Introduced as a botanical name by Gesner, 1541, to represent Ger. *fettkraut* or *butterwurz* butterwort.]

1. *Bot.* A genus of small stemless insectivorous bog plants (N. O. *Lentibulariaceæ*) characterized by thick yellowish-green greasy leaves and slender single-flowered scapes; butterwort.

1597 [see BUTTERWORT]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Pinguicula*, butterwort .. the name of a genus of plants ..: the flower consists of one leaf. 1885 *St. James' Gaz.* 17 Aug. 6/2 On its slopes grow the insect-capturing pinguicula [etc.].

2. *Path.* A small blotch or growth of the conjunctiva, usually situated near the edge of the cornea.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinguecula*,..a pinguecule. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 351 Pinguiculæ are small yellowish growths situated beneath the conjunctiva, generally near the outer and inner margins of the cornea.

Pinguid (piŋgwid), *a.* Also 8 **pingued.** Now usually *humorous* or *affected*. [f. L. *pingui-s* adj., fat, or stem of **pinguē-re* (whence *pinguēsc-ĕre*: see PINGUESCENT) + -ID: cf. *gravid, languid, torpid*, etc.).] Of the nature of, resembling, or abounding in fat; unctuous, greasy, oily; of soil: rich, fertile.

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 168 Hot and drie exhalations void of pinguid matter. 1769 R. GRAVES *Euphrosyne* (1776) I. 119 [He] snuffs the pinguid haunch's savory steam. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* 111 A mighty mass of pinguid bronze, with a fat lisp.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 643 A pinguid, turgid style, as Tully calls the Asiatic rhetoric. 1893 J. W. PALMER in *Century Mag.* Dec. 258/1 The eyes of the Talbot swine stuck out with pinguid complacency.

Pinguidity (piŋgwi·dĭti). Also 6 erron. **-edity.** [f. prec. + -ITY.] Fatness; fatty matter.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 23/1 Without applyinge any pinguiditye or oyles. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhoner's Bk. Physick* 28/2 Take a good Capone,..discide therof all his pinguedity. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylor's Goose* Wks. I. 103 The pinguidity or fecundious fat of the Gooses axungia (vulgarly called greace). 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* X. 235/1 His cheeks!—I never saw such bags of pinguidity.

† **Pinguie,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *pingui-s* fat.] Of the nature of fat, fatty.

1637 VENNER *Via Recta*, etc., *Tobacco* 355 It eliquateth the pinguie substance of the kidnies.

Pinguiferous (piŋgwi·fĕrəs), *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pingui-s* fat + -FEROUS.] Bearing or producing fat.

1855 *Tait's Mag.* XXII. 145 The pinguiferous slice from the salted swine.

Pinguify, erron. form of PINGUEFY.

Pinguin (piŋgwin). Also **penguin, penquin** (pinquin). [Origin unascertained.] A West Indian plant (*Bromelia Pinguin*) allied to the pine-apple, or its fruit; used in fevers and as an anthelmintic.

It is not clear that Dampier's *penguin* was a Bromelia.

1696 PLUKENET *Almagesta* II. 29 Ananas Americana sylvestris altera minor Barbados et Insulæ Jamaica nostratibus colonis *Pinguin* dicta. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 263 There is a sort of fruit growing on these Islands [Chametly], called Penguins: and 'tis all the fruit they have. The Penguin fruit is of two sorts, the yellow and the red. 1711 in A. Duncan *Mariner's Chron.* (1803) III. 316 We..then attempted to get over the hill, but found it impossible to force a way through the penguins, bryars, and other prickly plants which grew there. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 85 The *bromelia karatas*, or *pinguin*, is a fruit resembling a small cucumber in shape. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* i, On one side of the path a hedge of Pinguin.

attrib. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 147 This plant .. found climbing upon all the pinguin fences. 1894 ALICE SPINNER *Study in Colour* 16 On the other side of the red pinquin spears she saw a flash of crimson.

Pinguin, erron. form of PENGUIN.

Pingui-nitescent (piŋgwi,nəite·sĕnt), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pingui-s* fat + NITESCENT.] Having a greasy lustre; shining with grease.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* x. (1882) 82 The lank, black, twine-like hair, pingui-nitescent.

† **Pinguious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *pingui-s* fat + -OUS.] Of the nature of fat; fatty, oily.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 104 These glands being compressed, emit a pinguious substance. 1748 *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 558 Oil, or other pinguious Substances. 1764 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 145/1 Heat sufficient for sending off the pinguious [*printed* pinguinous] and alkaline parts.

Pinguipedine (piŋgwi·pĭdəin), *a.* (*sb.*) *Ichth.* [f. mod.L. *Pinguipedinæ*, f. *Pinguipēs*, f. *pingui-s* fat + *pēs, ped-* foot: see -INE 1.] Of or pertaining to the *Pinguipedinæ*, a subfamily of spiny-finned tropical fishes of which the genus *Pinguipes* is the type. b. *sb.* A fish of this family.

Pinguite (pi·ŋgwəit). *Min.* [Named (Ger. *pinguit*) by A. Breithaupt, 1829, f. L. *pinguis* fat: see -ITE 1.] An oil-green hydrated silicate of iron, of a soapy consistency; a variety of CHLOROPAL.

1831 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XX. 197 Pinguite, a new argillaceous mineral. 1837 DANA *Min.* 224 Closely allied to this species [Nontronite], is the Pinguite of Leonhard...Color siskin and oil-green...Extremely soft, resembling new-made soap. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* xii. (ed. 2) 410 Silicates that contain water .. in which the water is simply united to the silicic combination...Example: Pinguite.

Pinguitude (pi·ŋgwitiūd). *rare.* [ad. L. *pinguitūdo* fatness, f. *pinguis* adj., fat.] Fatness. Also *fig.* Openness or wideness of a sound.

1623 COCKERAM II, Fatnes, *pinguitude*. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 676 Juniper..will demit its oleaginous pinguetude. 1822 LAMB *Gentle Giantess* Misc. Wks. (1871) 363 To her mighty bone, she hath a pinguitude withal. 1871 R. ELLIS in *Academy* 1 Apr. 208 The pinguitude of the first letter will be found..to stand in the way of refining the second.

Hence **Pinguitu·dinous** *a. rare*—0.

1870 C. J. SMITH *Syn. & Antonyms* s.v. *Adipose*, Sebaceous. Pinguetudinous.

† **Pi·nguity.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. type **pinguitās*, f. *pingui-s* fat: see -TY.] Fatness.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pinguitie*, fatnesse.

Pin-head (pi·nˌhed). [f. PIN *sb.* + HEAD *sb.*]

1. The head of a pin, a pin's head. Used as a type of something of very small size or value; and applied to things resembling a pin's head, as small grains, etc.

1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 86. 116 No more then a pin-head, and not a great one neither, but about one quarter of a grain. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., It is not worth a pin-head. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 99 Round spots of the size of a pin-head or lentil. 1892 WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 74 The product of the first crop [of Gunpowder tea] is sometimes known as 'Pinhead', from its extremely small, globular and granulated appearance. 1894 *Daily News* 11 June 6/2 To the majority..it matters not a pin-head whether the Poems were the work of Ossian, the son of Fingal,..or of a James MacPherson. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 185 There can be no joy in always making the same pinhead by machinery.

b. *attrib.* Resembling a pin's head; very small and of rounded form; also *fig.*

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 23 The other seldom knows anything beyond the pin-head sphere of his daily task. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* iii. (1885) 77 His sharp-nose and pin-head eyes. 1880 *Bookseller* 3 Feb. 236 Most of the covers so much admired for the 'pin-head' grain were really seal-skin and not morocco.

2. A part of a plough: see quot., and cf. quot. 1727 s. v. PIN-HOLE 1.

1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate vii. 40 Pin head for regulating share, so as to form drains at different depths.

3. The top of the pin or peg at quoits.

1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xviii, Shouts of triumph as the guide-paper was snatched, from the pin-head and buried deep in the clay.

Hence **Pi·n-headed** *a.*, having a head like that of a pin; *spec.* of a flower = PIN-EYED; **Pi·n-heading,** the occupation of fitting the heads on pins (as formerly done, when the heads were made separately).

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 361 Three trades..pin-heading, fustian-cutting, and factory work. 1861 Pin-headed [see PIN-EYED].

Pinhoen: see PINION *sb.*5 **Pin-hold, Pin-hood, Pin-hook,** etc.: see PIN *sb.*1 18.

Pin-hole (pi·nhōul).

1. A hole into which a pin or peg fits.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* II. 19 The inside of the Hinge below the Pin-hole of the Joynt. *Ibid.* 26 If your Key is to have a Pin-hole, drill the hole in the middle of the end of the shank. 1727 BRADLEY *Compl. Body Husb.* 43 The pin-holes in the beam, the use of which is to make this plough cut more or less deep, by fixing the wheels nearer to or farther from the paring-plate. 1880 A. J. HIPKINS in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 721/2 Single plates of metal, allowing room for the pin-holes [for the tuning-pins in a pianoforte] in the wooden block. 1891 P. G. STONE *Archit. Antig. Isle of Wight* 112 The slates..were thick, and still retained the original pin-holes.

2. A hole made by a pin; any very small aperture or perforation resembling a pin-prick.

1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* I. iv. 28 The Breast had at first broke..in a small pin-hole. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 233 We can easily see through a small pin-hole in a piece of paper. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 330 The sensitizing solution should be constantly watched to avoid pinholes, surface markings, *et le reste*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 880 The orifice of the appendix..may be a mere pinhole.

3. *attrib.* (in sense 2). Pertaining to, involving, or of the nature of a pinhole or very small aperture; of the size of a pin-prick.

a 1853 PEREIRA *Polarised Light* (1854) 296 If we look at a pin or needle through a pin-hole aperture in a card. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 288 'Pinhole' wound leading to fracture on tibia. *Ibid.* 419 A pinhole perforation was found in the sigmoid flexure.

Hence **Pin-holed** (pi·nhōuld) *a.* or *pa. pple.*, perforated with or as with pin-prick.

1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 69 Palace-panes Pinholed athwart their windowed filagree By twinklings sobered from the sun outside.

Pinia: see PIÑA 1, pine-apple.

Pinic (pəi·nik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *pinique*, f. L. *pīnus* PINE *sb.*2: see -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or derived from the pine-tree; spec. in *Pinic acid*, an acid ($C_{20}H_{30}O_2$) obtained from pine resin.

1831 T. THOMSON *Chem. Inorg. Bodies* II. 145 In the year 1826 M. Baup inserted a notice in a periodical work that he had discovered *pinic acid* in the resin called *colophon*. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 166/1 When pinic acid is washed and boiled in water, it forms on cooling a hard brittle substance, which becomes brown by fusing. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 650 Pinic acid is an amorphous resin, exactly like colophony.

Pinicill, obs. variant of PENCIL.

Pinicoline (pəini·kŏləin, -lin), *a. Zool. rare.* [f. L. type **pīnicola* (f. *pīn-us* pine + *-cola* inhabitant) + -INE 1.] That inhabits pine-woods.

1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 418 Habits..alpine and subboreal, pinicoline and pinivorous.

Pinicolous (pəini·kŏləs), *a. Nat. Hist. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Living or growing on pine-trees, or in pine-woods.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinicolus*,..that which lives or grows on the pine,..pinicolous.

† **Pini·ferous,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. *pīnifer*, f. *pīn-us* pine: see -FEROUS.] Bearing or producing pine-trees.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.*

Piniform (pəi·nifōrm), *a.* [f. L. type **pīniform-is*, f. *pīn-us* pine: see -FORM.] Having the form or shape of a pine-cone. *Piniform decussation*: see quots.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Piniform decussation*, decussation of the pyramids, superior; interolivary layer. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *P[iniform] decussation*, name for the decussation of the superior pyramids of the medulla oblongata.

Pining (pəi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PINE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PINE.

† 1. The infliction or undergoing of pain (bodily or mental); torment, torture; affliction, suffering.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 97 Hi neren aferede of nane licamliche pinunge. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 1110 3yf hys saule after hys deþe Soffrey harde pynynge. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xx. 499 My sawll is heuy agans the deth and the sore pynyng. 1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pynyng of a man in prisone to confesse the trouthe, *torture*.

2. Exhaustion or wasting away by suffering, disease, or want of food; starvation; languishing; intense longing (*for* something).

a 1400 *Sir Beues* 86/1645+8 (MS. E.) Sende me mete & drynk..þou woost alle þyng, Al my nede and my pynyng. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 48 With mourning pyne I, you with pyning mourne. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vietillard* 99 Consumptions, or pynings away of the bodie. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 245 One of them ..resolved to die, by pining and abstaining from..sustenance. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* II. iii. (1861) 286 The bitter pains and pinings of unsatisfied hunger. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 479 In pining..we note loss of water, loss of plasma, and loss of red corpuscles.

b. *spec.* A disease of sheep, characterized by a wasting away of the body.

1804 in *Trans. Highl. Soc. Scot.* (1807) III. 404 Pining..is ..most severe upon young sheep. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 372 Two exterminating diseases, the pining and the foot-rot, neither of which was known in that district till the extermination of the moles.

c. *concr. pl.* Results of pining or withering (in quot., withered or withering leaves).

1849 M. ARNOLD *Dream*, On the wet umbrage of their glossy tops On the red pinings of their forest floor. [Cf. WORDSW. *Yew-Trees* (1803) 22 A pillared shade, Upon whose grassless floor of red-brown hue, By sheddings from the pining umbrage tinged Perennially.]

3. *attrib.* † **Pining-stool,** a stool for punishment, a cucking-stool; **pi·ning-house, -lair,** a place where animals for slaughter are previously shut up to fast; = *hunger-house* (HUNGER *sb.* 4 e).

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 35 Þe care aȝain þi pinunge þrahen binimeð þe nihtes slepes. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 2202 He by-held hyne þer a set, Ryȝt atte hys pynyng stake. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 69 To punisschen on pillories or on pynnyng stoles [B. III. 78 pynynge stoles] Brewesters, Bakers, Bochers and Cookes. 1802 *Hull Advertiser* 4 Dec. 2/2 Pining-house. 1875 *Gainsburgh News* 25 Sept., To be let..butcher's shop, with slaughter-house, pining-house, and every convenience. 1893 *Whitly Gaz.* 3 Nov. 3/6 In two instances the pining-lairs or hunger-houses are within the [butchers'] shops or open directly into them.

Pi·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That pines (see the verb); † tormenting, afflicting (*obs.*); consuming, wasting; languishing.

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Al þat pinende pik ne walde ham þunche bote a softe bekinde baȝ. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 77 To dwelle in this pynande prison. 1583 *Middlesex County Rec.* I. 137 [Visitation of a certain infirmity called] the pining siknes. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxviii. 12 He will cut mee off with pining sicknesse. 1742 GRAY *Eton* 65 Pining Love shall waste their youth. 1817 COLERIDGE *Sibyll. Leaves*, *On revisiting Seashore* iii, Fashion's pining Sons and Daughters.

Hence **Pi·ningly** *adv.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 3 When the dull hardnesse, which ye wicked do desirously labor to get to despise God withal, doth lie piningly in their hartes. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 56 Small the wage he gains That many a child most piningly maintains.

Piniolate, variant of PIGNOLATE *Obs.*

Pinion (pi·nyən), *sb.*1 Forms: 5 **pynyon,** 6 **pynnyon, -nion, pinnyan,** 6-7 **pynion, pin-**

(n)eon, (-oun), -nion, 7 pyneon, 6– pinion. [a. OF. *pignon*, in Froissart *c* 1400 in pl. 'wing-feathers, wings, pinions', a collateral form of OF. *penon, pennon* (also 'feather of an arrow', and 'streamer, pennon') = It. *pennone*, orig. plume (cf. *pennoncello* little plume or feather), also streamer, pennon; a Romanic augmentative of L. *penna* (also written *pinna*) feather, wing-feather, wing (PEN *sb.*[2]). (See Godef. *pennon* [2], the same word as his *penon*.) *Pinion* thus preserves the lit. sense of Romanic *pennōne*, while PENNON has the transferred sense of 'streamer'.]

1. The distal or terminal segment of a bird's wing; hence (chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*), a wing, esp. of a bird (always with reference to its use for flight).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/2 Pynyon, of a wynge, *pennula*. 1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pynnyon of a wyng, *bout de lesle*. 1538 ELYOT, *Armus*,..the pynion of a fowle. 1593 DRAYTON *Eclogues* v. 58 With nimble Pineons shall direct her flight. 1594 — *Idea* 780 To prove the Pynions, it ascends the Skyes. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 255 How oft do they [Angels] with golden Pinions cleave The flitting skies like flying Pursevant? 1755 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* III. iii, Nor the pride, nor ample pinion, That the Theban Eagle bear Sailing with supreme dominion Thro' the azure deep of air. 1821 MONTGOMERY *Hymn*, '*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*', Far as the eagle's pinion Or dove's light wing can soar. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XIX, First a speck, and then a vulture, Till the air is dark with pinions. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxi. 426 One [weaver-bird] glides with quivering pinions to the centre of the open space.

b. In carving, The part of a wing corresponding to the fore-arm. Formerly applied to the wing as a whole.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 203 The Pinions of Geese, Hens, Capons and Chickens, are of good Nourishment. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 180, I will help thee to a pinion, or breast, or anything. 1875 *Beeton's Everyday Cookery* 507 Run a skewer through the pinion and thigh into the body to the pinion and thigh on the other side. *Mod.* 'Shall I give you a wing?' 'Yes: but take off the pinion.'

† **c.** The shoulder-blade of a quadruped. *Obs.*

1545 ELYOT, *Ala* is also the pinion of the shulder of a beast.

d. The human arm. (*humorous.*)

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs, Club Snobs* i, The *Standard* under his left arm, the *Globe* under the other pinion.

2. *fig.* (In reference to things poetically represented as having wings.)

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, The gloomie wing of night begins to stretch His lasie pinion over all the ayre. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 166 To league is imperiously to command their king and sovereign to cut short his pinions, and strive to be more than his equal. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 91 Hope humbly then; with trembling pinions soar. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 110 When light clouds on airy pinions sail. 1850 NEALE *Hymn*, '*The strain upraise of joy and praise*', Ye winds on pinions light!

3. The outermost feather, or any flight-feather, of a bird's wing; a pinion-feather.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 131 The seconde fether in some place is better than the pinion in other some. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xii. 4 An argument that he is pluckt, when hither He sends so poore a Pinnion of his Wing. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pinion*,..the quills from the joint farthest from the body of the wing of the goose or swan, used for making pens.

† **b.** The shaft of a feather; a quill. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 4 Our Beds..being stuck with Feathers whose Pinions ran into our sides.

† **4.** Applied to some kind of embellishment worn on the shoulders or sleeves of women's dresses in the 16th and 17th c. Cf. PINIONING *sb.*

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 73 The Women..haue dublets and Ierkins,..made with wings, welts, and pinions on the shoulder points. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* IV. 78 The pinnions of their sleeves, which they call wings, are laid with silk fringe of divers colours.

5. The anterior border of an insect's wing; esp. in *comb.* in collectors' names of moths, e. g. *Pinion-spotted Pug* (*Eupithecia consignata*), *Pinion-spotted Yellow* (*Venilia quadrimaculata*).

1720 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Eng. Insects* Pl. XCV. *text*, A yellowish moth with brown clouds towards the pinions of the upper wings. 1775 MOSES HARRIS *Engl. Lepidoptera* 39 No. 275 Pinion, white spotted,..on elm trees in hanging wood. No. 276 Pinion, double spotted,..brown, having two white spots on the sector edge. 1832 RENNIE *Butterflies & Moths* 135, 145. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths.* 118/2 The Pinion-spotted Pug.

† **6.** *Her.* Applied to the saltire and the chevron.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* B v[b], Ther be in armys calde ij. pynyonys, Oon is Whan the feeld his a sawtri. .. The secunde pynyon is called cheffrounce.

† **7.** See quot. *Obs.* (? error, from PINION *v.*)

1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, Pinions, or manicles for the hands, *manicæ*. Pinions, or fetters for the feet, *compedes*. [Whence 1755 in JOHNSON.]

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pinion-feather*; **pinion-bones**, the bones of the manus or distal joint of a wing; **pinion-claw**, a horny claw borne by the index or pollex of certain birds.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B j, The federis that sum call the pynyon feder. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 300 The pinion feathers blacke, the vpper plume reddish. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 300 The Sarcel is the extreme pinion feather in a Hawk's wing. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idylls, Pietro* 156 The eaglet callow Needs a parent's pinion-push to quit the eyrie's edge. 1884 G. ALLEN in *Longm. Mag.* Jan. 295 The Australian bush-turkeys have also the rudiment or last relic of a primitive pinion-claw.

Pinion (pi·nyən), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3 pynun, 4 pynoun. [a. OF. *penon, pinun* (Godef.), mod.F. *pignon* in same sense, Romanic augmentative of L. *pinna* battlement, pinnacle.] A battlement, pinnacle, or gable; = PIGNON [2]. *Pinion-end*, dial. *pinning-end*, a gable-end.

[1278 *Bursar's Rolls, Merton* in *Archæol. Jrnl.* II. 142 Item ijs. *vd.* liberat. predicto Nicholao pro xiij pedibus de pynun table.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12958 (Cott.) Þe warlau.. sett him on þe hei pinion [*Gött.* pingnion, *Fairf.* pynoun] O þe temple o þe tun. 1882 T. HARDY *Two on a Tower* II. ii. 23 The wind have blown down the chimley..and the pinning-end with it. 1888 E. LAWS *Little Eng. beyond Wales* 421 *Pinion* or *Pine-end*, the gable end of a house; French *pignon*, a gable.

Pinion (pi·nyən), *sb.*[3] *Mech.* [ad. mod.F. *pignon* in same sense (Paré 16th c.), Sp. *piñon* tooth of a wheel, pinion, a spec. application of OF. *pignon* battlement (see prec.), the teeth of a wheel being compared to the crenellations of battlements.] A small cog-wheel the teeth of which engage with those of a larger one; also a spindle, arbor, or axle, having cogs or teeth which engage with the teeth of a wheel. (The teeth or cogs of a pinion are distinctively called *leaves*.) *Pinion and rack*, also *rack and pinion*: see RACK *sb.*[2] 6.

1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* 9 If the Wheel A be turned by the Pinion C of 10. Teeth. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pinion of Report*, is that Pinion in a Watch which is commonly fixed on the Arbor of the Great Wheel..; it driveth the Dial Wheel, and carrieth about the Hand. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 358 If the teeth of wheels and the leaves of pinions consisted of materials perfectly hard, and were accurately formed..they would act on each other not only with uniform force, but also without friction. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. i. 9 Capable of various adjustments, and regulated by a pinion and rack.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pinion-flank, -shaft, -work*; **pinion-bottoming-file, pinion-file,** fine knife-edged files used in watch-making; **pinion-gauge,** fine callipers used by watch-makers; **pinion-jack** (see quot.); **pinion-leaf,** each of the cogs or teeth of a pinion (LEAF *sb.* 13); **pinion-wire**: see quot. 1884.

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 242 A file cutting only on the edge is more generally called a safe sided lever notch file, or a *pinion bottoming file. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pinion-file* (Watch-making), a knife-file employed by watchmakers. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 288 The *pinion flanks should be hypocycloidal in form. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pinion-gage.* 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 193 [A] Pinion Guage..[is] a guage used by watchmakers for taking the height of pinion shoulders and other measurements. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pinion Jack* (*Milling*), a jack for raising the stone pinion out of gear. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 37 The tendency of *pinion leaves to butt the wheel teeth. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 137 These plummer-blocks are bolted down to the top-rails of the frame, to which also the separate bearings of the *pinion-shafts are..bolted. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 311 The drawing of *pinion wire originated here. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 194 Pinion wire..steel wire drawn with corrugations resembling pinion leaves, from which pinions are made. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Mechanics* II. vii. 28 (U. Kn. Soc.), A system of tooth and *pinion-work.

† **Pi·nion,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [Perh. a use of PINION *sb.*[1]] Name of an obsolete card-game.

c 1554 *Interlude of Youth* (1849) 38 At the cardes I can teche you to play, At the..Post, pinion, and also aumsase.

Pinion, *sb.*[5]

1. Anglicized form of Sp. *piñon*, Pg. *pinhão*, pl. *pinhões* (sometimes written *pinhoens*), in full *pinhões do Brasil*, kernels of Brazil, the seed of *Jatropha Curcas*, the Physic-nut of South America. See also PIGNON [1] 2.

1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful News* I. (1596) 22 They doe bryng from the newe Spayne certeyne Pinions or Carnels, wherwith the Indians dyd purge themselues: they bee like to our Pinions, which do growe out of our Trees. [1648 W. PISO *Hist. Nat. Brasil.* IV. xl. 83 De *Mundvy-guacu*, Lusitanis *Pinhoes do Brasil*, ejusque usu in Medicina. 1648 MARCGRAVE *Hist. Rerum Nat. Brasil.* III. iii. 96 *Mondvbigvacv* Brasiliensibus, *Pinhones* Lusitanis, mihi *Nux cathartica*. 1822 SARA H. COLERIDGE tr. *Acc. Abipones* II. 261 In the Northern part of Paraguay there grows a nut called *Piñon del Paraguay* by the Spaniards, and by physicians *nux Cathartica*. 1884 DYMOCK *Mat. Med. W. India* IV. 573 *Jatropha multifida*...The seeds are powerfully purgative and emetic. In Brazil an oil called 'Pinhoen' is extracted from them and is used as an emetic.]

2. Anglicized spelling of PIÑON, the American Nut-pine.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 4), *Pinion* (Span. *piñon*), a species of pine-tree, growing on the head waters of the Arkansas.

Pi·nion, *sb.*[6] *Woollen Manuf.* [erron. ad. F. *peignon* combings, f. *peigner* to comb.] (*pl.*) The short refuse wool remaining after the combing process; 'noils'.

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 18 To each stone there is one pound and three quarters of pinions of short wool that comes out in the combing. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pinions*, refuse wool. *Somerset.* 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Pinions*...This word..is thoroughly West Country. In other parts this regular article of commerce is called 'noils'.

Pinion (pi·nyən), *v.* [f. PINION *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To cut off the pinion of one wing, or otherwise disable or bind the wings, in order to prevent a bird from flying. (With the bird, or the wing, as obj.)

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 169 They that meane to fatte Pigions..some..do softly tie their Legges:.. some vse onely to pinion them. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 123 The swanners gette up the young swannes about Midsummer..and then doe they allsoe pinnion them, cuttinge a joynte of theire right winges. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Prose, Shortness of Life*, Suppose, thou Fortune couldst to Tameness bring, And clip or pinion her wing. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 67 The two old ducks.. being pinioned, could not fly away. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 242 They..should have been pinioned at the first joint of the wing.

2. To bind the arms of any one, so as to deprive him of their use; to disable by so binding; to shackle. (With the person, or the arms, as obj.)

1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. C iv, The shepeherdes..a yongman haue ycaught, And pynyond with his handes behind onto the kyng him brought. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXI. 31 All their hands he pinnioned behinde With their owne girdles. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 84 He carries his elbows backward, as if he were pinioned like a trust-up Fowl. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i, Finding us all prostrate upon our faces..they pinioned us with strong ropes. 1851 *Wilson's Tales Borders* XX. 54 The sailors attempted to pinion Peter's arms.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 70 Feare inuades them, and pynions them vp. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* iii. Wks. 1851 III. 216 Laying before us universall propositions, and then thinks..to pinion them with a limitation. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 133 Yon ancient prude.. Her elbows pinioned close upon her hips.

c. To bind fast *to* something, or together.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* V. 135 Those dismal apprehensions which pinion the souls of men to mortality. *a* 1690 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) V. 131 The Prisoners..being pinion'd two and two together by the Arms. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 134 And while on Fame's triumphal Car they ride, Some Slave of mine be pinion'd to their side. 1764 CHURCHILL *Gotham* II. 164 Let me..praise their heav'n, tho' pinion'd down to earth. 1831 T. L. PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* xviii, Mr. Toogood..contrived to slip a ponderous coat of mail over his shoulders, which pinioned his arms to his sides.

Hence **Pi·nioning** *vbl. sb.*

1828 in P. L. Sclater *Rec. Progr. Zool. Soc.* (1901) 150, 11 wild ducks..caught for the purpose of pinioning.

attrib. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 21 Sept., Calcraft with his pinioning straps. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 7/2 The convict..quietly submitted to the pinioning operations.

† **Pinionade.** *Obs.* In 4 pynyon-, pyn(n)on-, 4–5 pynenade. [app. f. some form of Romanic *pinion* (cf. PIGNON [1], PINION *sb.*[5]), f. L. *pīnea* pine-nut + -ADE.] (Prob. in OF. or AF.)] A comfit or conserve of which pine-nuts formed a characteristic ingredient.

1329 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* Bd. 383 No. 9 m. 4 Pro..ccclxxxj lb. qr. gingebr' et Pynonad .v. lb. gariofilorum. 1353–4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 554 In duabus copulis de Pynyonade et de Gyngebrede, cum duabus libris de anys confyt xviiis. viiid. *c* 1390 *Form of Cury* li. (1780) 31 Pynnonade. Take Almandes iblanched and drawe hem sumdell thicke with gode broth.. set on the fire and seeþ it,..take Pynes yfryed in oyle oþer in greece and þerto white Powdour douce. 1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 19 Pro iiij lb. pynenade ad xiiij d., iiij s. viij d. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 450 At the seconde course jussett, pynenade to potage.

Pinioned (pi·nyənd), *a.* [f. PINION *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Having pinions or wings; winged. Also in parasynthetic comb., as *strong-pinioned, swift-pinioned*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/2 Pynyonyd, *pennulatus*. 1552 HULOET, Pynnioned, *armatus, pennulatus*. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 36 Thy Name, O Varus..The Wings of Swans, and stronger pinion'd Rhyme, Shall raise aloft. 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl.* (1814) 204 What pinioned notions come and go! 1792 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 12 The cherub choir ..bend their pinioned heads to hear.

Pi·nioned, *ppl. a.* [f. PINION *v.* + -ED [1].] In senses of the verb. **a.** Of a bird: Having the wings maimed or confined. **b.** Having the arms bound so as not to be moved; shackled.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* II. i. G vj, Captiue kinges.. with pinnyand armes behinde. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 181 Least on us they fall, And to the barre their pinneon'd masters call. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 319 A miserable little pinion'd Captive. 1892 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 5/1 A pair of pinioned wild duck..that is, whose wings had been so cut that they were unable to fly.

† **Pi·nioning,** *sb. Obs.* [f. PINION *sb.*[1] + -ING [1].] = PINION *sb.*[1] 4.

1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. vii. 41 His sleeues halfe hid with elbow-pineonings, As if he ment to flie with linnen wings.

† **Pi·nionist.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PINION *sb.*[1] + -IST.] A winged creature.

1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv, The flitting pinnionists of ayre.

Pi·nionless, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without pinions; wingless.

1894 *Temple Bar Mag.* CI. 514 The pinionless fosterer of one's immaturity.

Pinipicrin (pəinipi·krin). *Chem.* [f. L. *pīn-us* pine + Gr. πικρ-ός bitter + -IN.] A bitter substance ($C_{22}H_{36}O_{11}$) obtained from the needles and bark of Scotch fir (*Pinus sylvestris*), and the leaves of the American Arbor-vitæ (*Thuja occidentalis*).

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 651 The needles, after exhaustion with alcohol, still retain a little pinipicrin..Pinipicrin is a bright yellow powder, which..becomes..transparent and mobile at 100°, and solidifies on cooling to a

brownish-yellow..mass. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pinipicrin*,.. a brown, bitter, amorphous glucoside.

Pinite[1] (pi·n-, pəi·nəit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *pinit* (Karsten, 1800), from its locality, the Pini mine, Schneeberg, Saxony: see -ITE[1] 2 b.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium and potassium, occurring in various crystalline forms.

1805 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 552 Pinite..occurs seldom massive. 1811 PINKERTON *Petrology* I. 217 Pinite, with gold pyrites and native gold. 1859 PAGE *Geol. Terms* (1865) 360 *Pinite*, a variety or sub-species of iolite.

Pinite[2] (pəi·nəit). *Chem.* [a. F. *pinite*, f. L. *pinus* PINE *sb.*[2]: see -ITE[1] 4.] A crystallizable saccharine substance ($C_6H_{12}O_{10}$) obtained from the sap of two species of pine-tree, *Pinus lambertiana* and *P. sabiniana*.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 70 A modification of mannite ($C_6H_6O_5$), to which the name of *pinite* has been given, has been found by Berthelot in the juice of the *Pinus Lambertiana*. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 629.

Pinivorous (pəini·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. *pīn-us* pine + -VOROUS.] That feeds on pine-kernels.

1884 [see PINICOLINE].

‖ **Pinjane** (pi·nˌdʒēn). Also **pinjeen**. [Manx = Gael. *binndean*, Ir. *binidean* rennet.] 'Curds and whey' (E. D. D.).

1887 T. E. BROWN *Doctor*, etc. 152 A man can't live upon pin-jane. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 306 A spoonful of cold pinjane, Nancy.

Pink (piŋk), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *Hist.* Forms: 5–7 **pinck**, 6 **pyncke**, 6–7 **pin(c)ke**, 7 **pynke**, 6– **pink**. [app. a. MDu. *pincke*, *pinke*, name of a small sea-going ship, also a fishing-boat (1477–8 in Verw. & Verdam), in Kilian *pinck*, mod.Du. *pink*; in MLG., LG., and mod.Ger. *pinke*; also F. *pinque* (1690 in Furetière, *pinquet* 1634 in Hatz.-Darm.), It. *pinco*: ulterior origin unknown (Jal).] A sailing vessel; orig. one of small size used for coasting and fishing, described as flat-bottomed and having bulging sides; in the 17th and 18th c. applied to ships of considerable size, esp. war-ships; see also quot. 1794. A common characteristic in later times appears to have been a narrow stern: cf. *pink-stern*, *-sterned* in b.

The description of the Dutch pinks and that of the pinks of the Mediterranean differ considerably: see the quots.

†*Sword pink*, one provided with lee-boards [Du. *zwaard* (*sweerd* Kilian) a lee-board].

1471 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 100/2 þat certain lordes .. & burowis ger mak or get Schippis buschis & vþer gret pynk botes witht nettes & al abilȝementes ganing þarfor for fysching. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 792 They mete also three Flemishe pynckes, laden with pouderd codde. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 153 In Winter and rough wether, small bootes and lytle pinkes forsake the seas. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 380 A Pinke, a little ship. 1601 J. REYMOR *Obs. Dutch Fishing* in *Phenix* (1721) I. 228 Above 1000 Sail of Pinks, Welboats, Dogger boats take Cod, Ling, and other Fish there. 1616 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* 12 The poore Hollanders..hauing 2 or 3000 Busses, Flat bottomes, Sword pinks, Todes, and such like. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2352/3 The Pink lost her Top-mast and Sprit-sail, had her Main-Yard broke, and her Hull and Rigging very much torn. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., The Bends and Ribs compassing so as that her Sides buldge out very much; wherefore these Pinks are difficult to be boarded. They are often used for Store-Ships, and Hospital-Ships, in the Fleet. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* II. xvii, The villains..put me, a man, and a boy, into a little bad pink, in which..we at last made Falmouth. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. ii. 14 The two Victuallers were Pinks,.. of about four hundred, and..two hundred tons burthen. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Pink*, a name given to a ship with a very narrow stern; whence all vessels..whose sterns are fashioned in this manner, are called *pink-sterned*. 1787 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* II. 367, I have determined to dispatch a pink from Scheveling. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 236 *Pinks* are mediterranean-vessels, and differ from the Xebec only in being more lofty, and not sharp in the bottom, as they are vessels of burthen. They have long narrow sterns, and three masts, carrying latteen-sails. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xviii, Suppose me .. detained in harbour by a revenue pink. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pink*, a ship with a very narrow stern, having a small square part above. The shape is of old date, but continued, esp. by the Danes, for the advantage of the quarter-guns, by the ship's being contracted abaft.

fig. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* II. vi, This pinck, this painted foist, this cockle-boat, To hang her fights out, and defie me, friends, A well known man of war.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pink-boat* (see quot. 1471 above), *pink-rigged* adj.; **pink-snow**, a snow resembling a pink in build; **pink-stern**, a stern like that of a pink; hence, a small vessel having a narrow stern; so **pink-sterned** *a.* (cf. 1769 above).

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 60 For round or pink-stern'd Ships. 1722 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXII. 100 A small Pink-Snow, called the *Richard and Elizabeth*. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 64/2 A French privateer..fell in with an English brig, pink-stern about 100 tons burthen. 1808 A. PARSONS *Trav.* viii. 169 The galliote which the Eagle had taken .. is built forward like a London wherry, with a pink or lute stern. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 77 A pink-sterned schooner, of only sixty-five tons. *Ibid.* 89 At eight o'clock, our brave little pink-stern was lying at anchor in her haven. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Flute*, or *Fluyt*, a pink-rigged fly-boat. *Ibid.*, *Pinkstern*, a very narrow boat on the Severn. 1890 in Haswell *Maister* (1895) 112 In 1833.. I sailed in the well-known old *Liberty and Property*—a collier with 'pink' stern; the last of her race, I believe.

Pink (piŋk), *sb.*[2], **penk** (peŋk). Forms: *a.* 5– **penk**, 7 **penck**, **penke**; also 8–9 **pank**. *β.* 7 **pinck**, 7– **pink**. [Origin obscure: cf. dial. Ger. *pink*(*e* fem., (1) minnow, (2) small salmon, (3) a kind of eel. The historical Eng. form was *penk*, for which *pink* began to appear in 17th c., and has been adopted in fishery statutes in sense 2.

It has no connexion with *pink* the flower, nor with *pink* the colour, as erroneously assumed by some.]

1. A minnow. Now *dial.*

a. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 358 Yn Wye-water sunt.. penkys. 1651–3 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* 4 The angling with a Menow, called in some places Pencks [*ed.* 1820, Pincks]. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 93 With a Worm, or a Minnow (which some call a Penke). 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Pank*, or *Pink*, a minnow. N. 1828 C. CROKER *Fairy Leg.* II. 57 Penk or Pink [is] the name of the little fish more commonly called in England minnow. 1891 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 446 An artificial penk.

β. *a* 1687 COTTON *Angler's Ballad* ii. Poems (1689) 76 And full well you may think, If you troll with a Pink, One [fishing-rod] too weak will be apt to miscarry. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pink*..6. A fish; the minnow. 1787, 1828 [see α]. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Pink*, .. the Minnow. [E. D. D. cites it also from Sheffield, Derbysh., Leicester, Notts, Cheshire, & Warwicksh.]

2. A young salmon before it becomes a smolt; a samlet, parr.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 26 There are a great number of samlets or pinks. 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names..salmon..parr, spawn, pink, last spring, hepper, last-brood,..or by any other local name. 1886 *St. Nicholas* Aug. 740/2 Presently the alevin grows into the fry, or pink, which is an absurd little fish about an inch long, goggle-eyed, and with dark bars on its sides.

Pink (piŋk), *sb.*[3] [f. PINK *v.*[1], q. v. for Forms.]

†1. A hole or eyelet punched in a garment for decorative purposes; also, scalloping done for the same purpose: cf. PINKING *vbl. sb.*[1], *pinking-iron*.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 215 Item,..for iiij[e] powdringis and pinkis to the sam goune,..xij s. 1598 FLORIO, *Tagliuzzi*, small pinks, cuts or iagges in clothes. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, Is this pinke of equall proportion to this cut? 1632 — *Magn. Lady* III. iv, You had rather have An ulcer in your body, than a pink More in your clothes.

†2. A stab with a poniard, rapier, etc. *Obs.*

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C j, At a great word she will her poynard draw, Looke for the pincke if once thou giue the lye. 1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* III. i, The fellow's a shrewd fellow at a pink.

b. A shot-wound.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 May 4/1 He is spotted with marks of stabs and revolver 'pinks', and he takes all his wounds quite as matter of course.

Pink, *sb.*[4] and *a.*[1] Forms: 6 **pynke**, 6–7 **pinck**(e, **pinke**, 7– **pink**. [Etymology obscure. By some conjectured to be named from its 'pinked' or jagged petals; but there is no evidence that PINK *v.* had the sense 'to cut or scallop the edges (of garments)' in the 16th c., or indeed before the 19th c. Others would connect the name with *pink eye*, small eye, comparing the Fr. name *œillet*, dim. of *œil* eye, and med.L. *Ocellus*, dim. of *oculus* eye.]

A. *sb.* I. 1. The general name of various species of *Dianthus* (N. O. *Caryophyllaceæ*), esp. of *D. plumarius*, a favourite garden plant, a native of Eastern Europe, with very numerous varieties having pure white, pink, crimson, and variegated sweet-smelling flowers.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 96 Herbes, branches, and flowers, ..Pinkes of all sorts. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. vii. 155 The Pynkes, and small feathered Gillofers, are like to the double or cloaue Gillofers,..sauing they be single and a great deale smaller. *Ibid.* 156 Called in Englishe by diuers names, as Pynkes, Soppes in wine, feathered Gillofers, and small Honesties. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 272 I'le lay me downe vpon a banke of Pinkes. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 29 May, To the old Spring Garden,..the wenches gathered pinks. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, Sweet-william and sweet marjoram—and all The tribe of single and of double pinks. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. ix. 159 A highly respectable individual..clean as a pink, and dull as a pike-staff. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 559 Starry pinks for garlands meet.

transf. 1885 T. MOZLEY *Remin. Towns*, etc. II. 339 Those blue eyes and that mixture of pinks and lilies that men, and women too, admire or quiz, as they are disposed.

b. Applied with qualifying words to other species of *Dianthus*, and to other plants allied to or resembling the pink; e. g.

Carolina Pink = PINKROOT: cf. CAROLINA; **China** or **Chinese Pink**, *Dianthus chinensis*: see CHINA *sb.* 2 b; **Clove Pink**, *D. Caryophyllus*: see CLOVE *sb.*[2] 6; **Deptford Pink**, *D. Armeria*; **Fire** or **Ground Pink**, *Silene virginica*; see FIRE *sb.* II. 5 b; **Indian Pink** = *China pink*; also applied to some West Indian and N. American species of *Ipomœa*; also = PINKROOT; †**Jagged Pink**, Ragged Robin, *Lychnis Flos-cuculi*; **Maiden, Maidenly**, or **Meadow Pink**, *Dianthus deltoides*: see MAIDEN *sb.* 10 b; **Maryland Pink** = *Carolina pink*; **Old maid's Pink**, Soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Pheasant's eye Pink** = PHEASANT'S EYE 3; **Sea-Pink**, (*a*) Thrift, *Statice Armeria*; †(*b*) *Cerastium repens*; **Spanish Pink**, *D. hispanicus*; **Swamp Pink**, *Azalea viscosa*; **Wild Pink**, any wild species of *Dianthus*; in U. S. applied to *Silene pennsylvanica* and *S. virginica* (= *Ground Pink*).

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Pink Root*, .. also known as the *Carolina Pink. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 361 The little Blue, the *China or Indian Pink. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VI. 9/1 The Chinensis, *Chinese, or Indian pink. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 475/2 *D*[*ianthus*] *Caryophyllus*, or the *Clove Pink. 1866 MOORE in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 906/2 What is called a Clove Pink is *Dianthus caryophyllus*, the source of the Carnation and Picotee. [1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxiii. 476 A Wilde creeping Pinke, which groweth in our pastures neere about London..but especially in the great field next to Detford, by the path side as you go from Redriffe to Greenewich.] 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 205 *May*...Span. Pinks, *Deptford Pinks. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 447 *Ground pink. *Silene virginiana*. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 219 *September*. ..*Indian Pinks, Æthiopick Apples. 1741–97 [see *China*, *Chinese Pink* above]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Spigelia*, The Pink-root, Worm-grass, or Indian-pink of the shops is the produce of *S. marilandica*. 1573 BARET *Alv.* P 349 The *iagged Pinkes, *Vetonica Altilis minor*..Dodon. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The little creeping pink, with one flower on every stalk, called by many the *maiden-pink. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxiii. 477 *Caryophyllus Virgineus*, *Maidenly Pinkes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 891 Maiden or *Meadow Pink. 1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Statice*, Thrift or *Sea Pink. 1759 *Ibid.* s.v. *Cerastium*, Hoary creeping Mouse-ear, by some called Sea Pink. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xviii. (1858) 397 Beds of thrift, with its gay flowers the sea-pinks. 1892 H. HUTCHINSON *Fairway Isl.* 97 Here and there a bunch of dead sea-pink. 1664 *Spanish Pink [see *Deptford Pink* above]. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Spanish Pink, *Dianthus hispanicus*. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 499/1 The familiar sweet-scented white azalea.., the '*swamp pink' of my boyhood. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The wild sweet-william, or common *wild pink. 1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* VI. Poems (1888) 497/2 The wild pink crowns the garden-wall. 1882 *Garden* 28 Oct. 375/2 S. pennsylvanica, or Wild Pink, as it is popularly called, with pink flowers.

c. Locally applied to the Cuckoo-flower or Lady's Smock, *Cardamine pratensis*.

1818 HOGG *Brownie of B.* xi, Enough to make the pinks an' ewe gowan blush to the very lip.

2. *fig.* The 'flower', or finest example of excellence; the embodied perfection (*of* some good quality).

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 61 *Mer.* Nay, I am the very pinck of curtesie. *Rom.* Pinke for flower. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* I. ii, This is the prettiest pilgrim—The pinck of pilgrims. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 140 ¶ 10 Ladies, ..the very Pinks of Good-breeding. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* I. i, Setting off her pretty monster as the very pink of perfection. 1813 MOORE *Post-bag* viii. 4 Come to our Fête, and show again That pea-green coat, thou pink of men! 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* III. xxii. 398, I have been admiring your cupboards; they are the very pink of elegance. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Cheap Jack Z.* i. 20 The pink and paragon of propriety.

b. The most perfect condition or degree *of* something; the height, extreme.

1767 G. S. CAREY *Hills of Hybla* 20 Behold her sailing in the pink of taste, Trump'd up with powder, frippery and paste. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 173 In the very pink of the mode. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. xiii. 255 [He] got himself up in the very pink of fashion.

c. A beauty; an exquisite, a smart person, one of the élite. ? *Obs.*

1602 BRETON *Merry Wonders* B iij, He had a pretty pincke to his own wedded wife. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 27 A new white upper tog, that would have given a sporting appearance to a pink of Regent-street. 1827 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 55 His Vice runs into the contrary extreme. He is a Pink, an Exquisite.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Exquisite; smart, 'swell'. Now only *U. S. colloq.* or *slang*.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* iii. 149 For to perfume her rare perfection With some sweet-smelling pinck Epitheton. 1818 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 42 It was Lady Cork's 'Pink night', the rendezvous of the fashionable exclusives.

4. *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *pink-growing* sb., *pink-like* adj.; **pink-coloured** *a.*, of the colour of the pink; having a pink colour.

1681 T. JORDAN *London's Joy* B iv, A Mantle of pink colour'd sarsnet, fringed with Gold. 17.. MOORE *Trav.* II. xc. (Jod.), The dancers .. were dressed in white silk flounced with pink-coloured ribbands. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 412 Little pink-like plants. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 244 Lending his willing aid in waiting and entertaining on fair-days and market-days, at pink-feasts and melon-feasts. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* Sept. 186 The reminiscences of pink-growing are always most interesting to us.

II. sb. use of B.

5. A light or pale red colour with a slight purple tinge. (See also PINK *sb.*[5])

[1828 WEBSTER, *Pink*,..a color used by painters; from the color of the flower.] 1846 WORCESTER, *Pink*,.. the usual color of the flower; a light crimson. 1874 A. O'SHAUGHNESSY *Music & Moonlight*, *Ode to New Age* 183 Nay, by yon pink of slowly parting lips, A long rim near the dawn. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/2 Wild rose..falling in close exquisite veils of pink and green down to the daisied grass.

b. With defining word prefixed to denote a particular shade: see B. 1 b.

1893 F. F. MOORE *I Forbid Banns* (1899) 88 The mellow crimson faded into shell-pink. 1900 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 6/6 A little prawn-pink is introduced under the embroidery. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 101 Soft cheeks with a sort of sunrise-pink on them—not that unhealthy, doll-like shell-pink.

6. Scarlet when worn by fox-hunters; a scarlet hunting-coat, or the cloth of which it is made.

1834 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* 15 Feb., Although not in pink, [I] was the best mounted man in the field. 1860 R. E. WARBURTON *Hunt. Songs* l. (1883) 143 A sect..Who blindly follow, clad in coats of pink, A beast whose nature is to run and stink. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, They are the hunting set, and come in with pea-coats over

their pinks. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 5/2 Scarlet, conventionally known as 'pink', will, he trusts, last as long as fox-hunting. 1900 *Ibid.* 24 Feb. 6/7 A short coat in hunting pink.

b. *transf.* A man in 'pink'; a fox-hunter.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 323 Even in the strictest College a pink could unmolested walk across the Court. 1840 SHAIRP in W. Knight *Shairp & Friends* (1888) 44, I see the pinks flocking out to the 'meets'. 1869 E. FARMER *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 6) 91 Pinks call for their second [horse] to finish the run.

B. *adj.* [orig. attrib. use of sense 1 of the sb.]

1. Of the colour of the pink (sense 1) in its single natural state; of a pale or light red colour, slightly inclining towards purple; of a pale rose-colour.

1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) I. 16 A Veil of Pink Colour. 1733–4 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* 431 Lady Dysart's clothes were pink armazine trimmed with silver. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 58 The pustule was small... Its base was of a light red or pink colour. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* vii. (1874) 350 He .. could not be looked at without his face becoming pink. 1875 PRINCESS ALICE in *Mem.* 14 Feb. (1884) 336 She looks pink and smiling.

b. With prefixed word expressing the particular shade, as *light, deep, dull, pale pink*; *arbutus-, coral-, currant-, old-, orange-, prawn-, purple-, raspberry-, shell-pink*, etc. See also ROSE-*pink*, SALMON-*pink*.

1882 *Garden* 14 Oct. 347/1 A small flower with pale pink florets. 1887 *Daily News* 20 July 6/1 A coral-pink embroidered dress. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/3 Some old pink rosebuds near the face. 1901 *Daily News* 19 Jan. 6/7 A band of prawn-pink velvet.

2. Applied to the colour of a hunting-coat: see A. 6.

1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xxii, He..could not be persuaded to take his pink coat out of the press, or his hunters out of his stable.

C. Combinations (chiefly of the adj.). **a.** Qualifying other adjs. of colour, as *pink-pearl, -violet, -white*; also *pink-and-white*, etc.

1845 D. JERROLD *Time Works Wonders* I. 2 *Jug.* I've some beautiful bacon, sir, Such pink and white! Streaked, sir, like a carnation. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* x, The pretty dark girl with the pink and white cheeks like a doll. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 389 Some zoophyte of an exquisite bright mauve or pink-violet colour. 1900 *Daily News* 3 July 3/4 The crowds that give life to these wide pink-white streets present a bewildering display of colour.

b. Parasynthetic and instrumental, as *pink-blossomed, -bound, -breasted, -checked, -coated, -faced, -flowered, -leaved, -lipped, -ribbed, -shaded, -striped, -tinted, -veined* adjs. *Pink-coloured*: see A. 4.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 373 The baby, adorned in a pink-checked frock, a blue spotted pinafore, and a little white cap. 1840 MRS. NORTON *Dream* 29 And pink-lipp'd shells, and many-colour'd weeds. 1844 THACKERAY *Box of Novels* Wks. 1900 XIII. 403 Those pink-bound volumes are to be found in every garrison. 1873 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 293 Abundance of pink-blossomed leafless peach and almond trees. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 156/2 Built of pale, pink-veined, creamy free-stone. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 174 Pink-edged, pink-faced, .. and thick cardboard wads, cloth wads, and black wads, are used for special purposes.

c. Special combinations and collocations: **pink-ash** (see quot.); **pink bed**, one of the beds of sandstone in the Swanage quarries; **pink-cheek**, a fish of New South Wales, *Upeneichthys porosus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **pink-fever** = PINK-EYE 2 (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1893); **pink-fish**, a S. Californian pinkish-coloured gobioid fish, *Typhlogobius californensis*, which lives attached to the underside of stones (Webster 1902); **pink-foot** *a. poet.* = next; **pink-footed** *a.*, having pink feet: *spec.* applied to the Pink-footed Goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*); **pink gilding, pink gold**, gilding having a pink tinge resulting from a combination of gold, silver, and copper; **pink-grass**, an agricultural name for species of sedge, esp. *Carex glauca* and *C. præcox*, found in pastures; **pink salt**, the ammonium salt of tetrachloride of tin, $2NH_4Cl.SnCl_4$, used in calico-printing; **pink saucer**, a saucer containing a pigment used to give a pink tint to the skin, or to garments; *transf.* the pigment itself.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v. *Coal*, Anthracite is divided in the United States according to the color of the ash after burning, into *white-ash, red-ash*, and **pink-ash coal*. 1858 A. C. RAMSAY, etc. *Rock Spec.* (1862) 142 (E. D. D.) The '*Pink Bed', which forms a part of the Freestone Series. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 404 The *pink-foot doves Still told their weary tale unto their loves. 1882 HEPBURN in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 505 The Bean and the *Pinkfooted Goose, almost daily visitors .. during spring. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 197/1 *Pink gilding,.. should present at the same time, the red, yellow, and white shades, in such a manner that a practised eye will distinguish them. *Ibid.* 196/2 *Pink gold [results] from the combination of gold, silver, and copper. 1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* II. 936 A similar constitution holds in the corresponding ammoniacal salt $NH_4Cl, SnCl_2$, which is the *pink salt of the dyer. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 810 It is used in calico-printing under the name of *pink salt*, for the production of red colours. 1864 WEBSTER, **Pink-saucer*. 1888 *New York World* 22 July (Farmer *Amer.*), Flesh tights.. colored with what we call pink saucer in the profession, a kind of stuff you buy at the druggists.

Pink, *sb.*5 [Origin unknown: it appears to be a distinct word from prec.] A yellowish or greenish-yellow pigment or 'lake' obtained by the combination of a vegetable colouring matter with some white base, as a metallic oxide. Also *pink-yellow* = yellow lake.

Brown pink and *French pink* are derived from Persian or Avignon berries (*Rhamnus infectoria*); *Dutch, English*, and *Italian pink* from quercitron bark (*Quercus tinctoria*).

1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xxiii. 75 Your principall yellow be these—Orpiment, Masticot, Saffron, Pinke Yellow, Oker de Luce, Umber. *Ibid.* xxvi. 90 For yellowish garments, thinne Pinke, and deepned with pinke and greene. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pink*, a kinde of yellow colour used in painting. 1676 BEALE in H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) III. i. 78, I gave Mr. Manby two ounces of very good lake of my making, and one ounce and half of pink. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 148/2 Pinke, a kind of yellowish green. 1703 T. S. *Art's Improv.* I. 39 English Pink, grind it with common Size. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* III/1 The colouring used..is supposed to be Dutch pink, which will make bohea tee of a fine green. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Pink*,..a sort of yellow colour. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 67 To the juices of this yellow weed [*Reseda luteola*] the artist owes the colour called Dutch pink. 1862 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict., French pink*, a pigment made of Troyes (i. e. Spanish) white with Avignon or French berries. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* I. 895 Brown-pink, and others of the same class are also evanescent in their layers.

Pink (piŋk), *sb.*6 [Echoic.]

1. An imitation of the note of the chaffinch (often reduplicated, *pink-pink*); hence *transf.*, a local name of the bird itself.

[1809 BATCHELOR *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 140 *Pint*, a chaffinch (a Nottinghamshire word).] 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 165 In Gloucestershire..from the constant repetition of one note, when alarmed or in danger, they have acquired the name of 'twinks', and 'pinks'. 1831 HOWITT *Seasons* (1837) 106 The weet-weet and pink-pink of the chaffinch. 1864 R. CHAMBERS *Bk. of Days* II. 4/2. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 36 The Chaffinch..Its familiar note, 'pink, pink', is heard everywhere in the spring.

†**2.** A sea-bird of some kind. *Obs.*

1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 81 Other such Sea-Fowls, as Pinks and Sea-mews.

Pink, *a.*1: see PINK *sb.*4 A. 3, B.

Pink, *a.*2 and *sb.*7 *Obs.* or *dial.* [Of obscure history; as adj. used chiefly in *pink eye*, †*pink nye*, where it seems to be related to Du. *pink ooghen*: see PINK *v.*2; the sb. is used more widely in Sc.: cf. Du. *pink* the little finger, also a young bullock, a steer; pointing to an original sense 'something small'.]

A. *adj.* Small, contracted, diminutive; in the obs. or arch. phrase *pink eye*, †*pink nye*, a small eye, a winking or half-shut eye: see PINKENY.

1575 [see PINKENY 1]. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 121 Come thou Monarch of the Vine, Plumpie Bacchus, with pinke eyne. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 661 The third sort [of Cantharides]..are of a rusty colour, and their small pink eyes as black as Jet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pink*, small. 'Aw never saw sic a Pink-eed body'.

B. *sb. Sc.* Something very small: †**a.** A diminutive specimen or creature; brat, elf (*obs.*); **b.** A very small hole or spot, a small peep of light.

a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 119 On sike as thysell, little pratling pinke, Could thou not ware inke, thy tratling to tell? 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 382 A small mind, with only a pink, or small gleam of light in it. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 126 *Pink*, a very small hole; a very small spot.

Pink (piŋk), *v.*1 Forms: 4–6 **pynke**, 6 **pynk, puncke**, 6–7 **pinke, pincke**, 6–8 **pinck**, 6– **pink**. [Cf. LG. *pinken* to strike, peck ('schlagen, picken', Doornk.-Koolman s. v. *pinke*), suggested to be a nasalized modification of *picken*, PICK *v.*1 The sense is more or less that of F. *piquer*, Pr., Sp. *picar*. (Some evidence (from Sp., Pg., Cat.) is adduced by Körting, No. 7163, for a Romanic stem *pinc-* prick, sting.) Cf. also the OE. Gloss *on pincan* = L. *in puncto* (Napier *OE. Glosses* No. 3683), which is however perh. a scribal error.]

1. *intr.* To make holes; to prick, thrust, stab. Now *rare* (or only as absol. use of 2 or 3).

The meaning of the first quot. is uncertain.

a 1307 *Sat. Consistory Courts* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 156 Heo pynkes with heore penne on heore parchemyn. 1530 PALSGR. 658/1, I pynke. [No Fr.] 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, To *Pink*,.. to stab, as, between casks, to detect men stowed away.

2. *trans.* To pierce, prick, or stab with any pointed weapon or instrument. Also *fig.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. ii, By my hand, I will pinck your flesh, full of holes, with my rapier for this. 1671 FOULIS *Hist. of Rom. Treas.* (1681) 281 Cutting and pinking his Body with their Swords. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* IV. i, One of them pink'd the other in a duel. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xlii, I would I had pinked one of the knaves at least. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* II. xxxi. 190 [He] pinked his sarcastic adversary in the arm.

†**b.** To pierce with a bullet. *Obs.*

1661 OGILBY *King's Coronation* 19 With Bullets pink Their Quarters untill they sink.

c. *fig.* (with play on sense 3). *To pink one's jacket or doublet*, to pierce, hit, 'pepper', 'dress'.

1684 *Voy. Capt. Sharp* 45 But as soon as we began to pink some of their Jackets for them with our Fuzees, they got out of our reach. 1724 SWIFT *Wood's Exec.* Wks. 1814 VII. 297, *3rd Taylor.* I'll pink his doublet.

d. *Pugilistic slang.* To strike with the fist with visible effect.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 44 Hall was without science, and Ballard pinked his head. 1816 *Ibid.* XLVIII. 180 The face of his opponent seemed a little pinked. 1821 *Ibid.* N. S. VII. 274 Hudson was pinked all over.

3. To ornament (cloth, leather, or the like) by cutting or punching eyelet-holes, figures, letters, etc. (usually in order to display a rich lining or under-garment of contrasting colour); to perforate; also, in modern use, to decorate the raw edge of silk, etc., by scalloping and punching out a pattern on it. Also *to pink out*.

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 221 Item, for making of the said goun..xxs. Item, for pynking of the sleffis of it..vs. xd. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 37 They [skins of leather] must be stitched finelie, pincked, cutte, karued. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 141 A sute made of..white canuas pinkt vpon cotton. 1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 16 Here take this paire of Shooes cut out by Hodge,..seam'd by my selfe, Made up and pinckt, with letters for thy name. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xx. 207 The Turks did use to wonder much at our English men for pinking or cutting their clothes, counting them little better then mad for their pains to make holes in whole cloth. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Oct., A long cassocke..of black cloth, and pinked with white silke under it. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 5 His skin did look like Satin pinck'd, With Gashes many a score. 1768 J. BYRON *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 225 Their shoes are pinked and cut. *c* 1800 MISS KNIGHT *Autobiog.* I. 16 His father kept a shop, and he was obliged to pink shrouds. 1893 *Lady* 17 Aug. 172/3 The edge may be pinked-out in the simple notches known as the 'saw' pattern. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 May 8/4 Such silk can be bought ready 'pinked' at the edges.

fig. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 43 Their bodies pinked full of scabs.

†**4.** To cut or puncture the skin as an adornment; to tattoo. Also *intr. Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. vii. 38 Their cutting, pinking, and pouncing of their flesh with garnishments..of sundry shapes and fashions. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 236 They of Sierra Leona..both men and women, race and pink over all their bodies. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* XXX. 221 The Tunguses have the Skin of their Foreheads and Cheeks pink'd in the manner of Embroidery. 1781 [see PINKED 1].

5. To adorn, beautify, deck.

1558 PHAER *Æneid.* IV. I iv b, This pranking Paris fyne with mates of beardles kynde..With grekishe wymple pynkyd womanlyke. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1650) 89 Is it seemly for a prophet to pinck and gingerly to set forth himself? 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Lily*, The Flowers .. are..crooked, purpled, and pink'd with certain red Spots, they smell sweatly and please the Sight. 1892 *Temple Bar Mag.* Apr. 539 April..pink'd the earth with flowers. 1896 [C. ROGERS] *Bairnsla' Foak's Ann.* 20 (E. D. D.) T' windas wor pinked aht wi a touch a gas leet inside.

Pink (piŋk), *v.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6 **pynke**, 6–7 **pinck, pinke**, 7– **pink**. [= Du. *pinken* to shut the eyes (Hexham, 1678), to wink, to leer, MDu. *pincken*, Du. *pinken* to blink, to glimmer, MHG. *pinken*. Kilian has also *pinck ooghen* 'connivere, nictare, oculis semiclausis intueri, oculos contrahere et aliquo modo claudere' (cf. mod.Du. *knipoogen* to blink, leer); also *pincke* sb. '(*vetus*) lumen, oculus'. History unknown.]

1. *intr.* **a.** Of the eyes: To be half shut, to blink; to peer, peep. Now *dial.* **b.** Of a person: To peep or peer with half-closed eyes; to blink or wink in a sleepy or sly manner; to look slyly. Now *dial.* †**c.** *transf.* Of a candle, etc.: To shine with a peep of light, to peep; to twinkle, to shine faintly (*obs.*).

a. *c* 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* B ij, And vpon drinkyng, myne eyes wyll be pinkynge. [Cf. *c* 1554 *Interl. of Youth* C iij, Yet I can tel you more and ye wyll con me thanke Pinke and drinke and also at the blanke And many sportes mo.] 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxix. 55 Though his iye on vs therat pleasantlie pinke, Yet will he thinke, that we saie not as we thinke. 1681 *Roxb. Ball.* V. 86 When our senses are drown'd, and our eyes they do pink. 1733–4 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* I. 426, I can't brag much of my eye. I find it still weak .. though it went pinking and blinking to court last night.

b. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 160 They..sit still pinking with their narrow eies as halfe sleeping. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1866) I. 395 They stand aloof from religion, pinking and winking. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 711 Thou dost pinke vpon mee with thine eyen. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. xix. 211 Mrs. Bevis presently returned with an answer (winking and pinking at me) that the lady would follow her down. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) *Post. Groans* XXXV, Pinking and blinking with his up-and-down-goggles full at me.

c. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv b, Martin with a wit worn into the socket, twinkling and pinking like the snuffe of a candle. 1616 BRETON *Good & Badde* 38 He is but the snuffe of a Candle, that pinke it never so long, 'it will out at last'. *a* 1674 HERRICK *Epithalamium* Poems (1869) 454 You starres, Begin to pinke.

2. *Pink in* (of daylight, etc.): To close in, diminish, 'draw in'. *dial.*

1886 T. HARDY *Mayor of Casterbridge* II. vi. 87 It being now what the people called the 'pinking in' of the day, that is, the quarter-hour just before dusk. 1888 — *Wessex Tales* (1889) 36 The evening is pinking in a'ready.

Pink (piŋk), *v.*3 *Sc.* [app. echoic.] *intr.* To trickle, drip; also, to make a tinkling sound in dripping. Hence **Pink** *sb.*8 a drop, also the sound made by a drop (*Jamieson's Dict.* 1880).

1768 ROSS *Helenore* 23 An' a' the time the tears ran down her cheek, An' pinked o'er her chin upon her keek. *a* 1812 W. INGRAM *Dream* in Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 368 The soot draps pinkin frae the riggin'. 1815 *West Briton* 14 Apr. (Jam.), O'er crystall'd roof and sparry wall, Where pinking drops perpetual fall.

†Pinkaninny. *Obs.* ?A variant of PINKENY assimilated in the ending to *piccaninny*.

1696 D'URFEY *Quix.* III. IV. 41 Dear Pinkaninny, If half a Guiny, To love will win ye, I lay it here down.

†Pi·nkardine. *Obs.* Some precious stone.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1472 Penitotes, & pynkardines, ay perles bitwene.

Pink bed to Pink-cheek: see PINK *sb.*[4] C.

Pinked (piŋkt), *ppl. a.* [f. PINK *v.*[1] + -ED[1].]

1. Pierced, pricked, wounded; also, tattooed.

1608 DAY *Hum. out of Br.* IV. iii, I like a whole skinne better then a pinkt one. 1781 COWPER *Expostulation* 486 Taught thee to clothe thy pinked and painted hide.

2. Of cloth, leather, etc.: Ornamented with perforations, or (later) cut edges; slashed, scalloped.

1598 FLORIO, *Trine*, cuts, iags, snips, or such cutting or pinching, pinckt worke in garments. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 50 There was a Habberdashers Wife..that rail'd vpon me, till her pinck'd porrenger fell off her head. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 14/2 Pinked or raised Shooes, have the over leathers grain part cut into Roses, or other devices. 1693 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. Wks. 1720 IV. 462 I'll make thee fuller of Holes, then e'er pink't Satin was. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 347 Verses fine Round the pink'd rims of crisped Valentine. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, A sorry-coloured, pinked doublet.

b. Of flounces, frills, ribbons, etc.: Having the raw edge of the material stamped or cut into scallops, jags, or narrow points. Often *pinked out*.

1884 *Daily News* 23 Sept. 6/1 The skirt..edged with a very thick ruche of pinked-out silk in the two colours. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 378/2 A most becoming little bonnet in pinked-out cloth and velvet. 1893 *Ibid.* 17 Aug. 172/3 The bretelle frill is straight at the pinked edge.

Pinkeen (piŋkī·n). *Anglo-Irish.* [f. PINK *sb.*[2] + *-een*, Ir. *-ín*, dim. suffix.] A little minnow; *fig.* a very diminutive or insignificant person.

1831 S. LOVER *Leg. Irel.* iv. 39 I'll turn you into a pinkeen. 1892 JANE BARLOW *Irish Idylls* 169 Fishing for pinkeens along by the river. 1892 EMILY LAWLESS *Grania* II. III. vi. 89 Just a poor little pinkeen of a fellow.

Pinken (piŋkən), *v. rare.* [f. PINK *a.*[1] + -EN[5].] *intr.* To become pink.

1890 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 867/2 Its spotless tip first pinkening like the point of some wondrous bud.

†Pi·nkeny, pi·nkany. *Obs.* (exc. *dial.* in sense 3). Forms: 6 **pink nye, pinky ney, pinckeny, -anie, -any, pinkany,** 7 **pink-an-eye, pinken eye.** See also PINK *a.*[2], PINKIE *a.* [orig. *pink nye* (pl. *nyes, neyne*), i.e. PINK *a.*[2] small, narrow + *nye* = *ye*, EYE, with prosthetic *n* (cf. PIGSNEY). Cf. early mod.Du. *pinck ooghen* vb., *pincke* sb. (Kilian 1599: see PINK *v.*[2]). Prob. *pink nye, pinkie nye*, was orig. child's language, fondly imitated by nurses, and so became an expression of endearment.]

1. A small, narrow, blinking, or peering eye; a tiny or dear little eye.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 17 To see the bear with hiz pink nyez leering after hiz enmiez approch. 1593 RICH *Greenes Newes* D iv, The one of her eyes was bleard..the other was a pretty narrowe pinckeny, looking euer as though she smylde. 1594 LODGE *Wounds Civ. War* (Hunter. Cl.) 54 O most surpassing wine..Thou makest some to stumble, and many mo to fumble: And me haue pinkie nine. 1612 N. FIELD *Woman a Weathercock* IV. ii. H j, Those Pinkanies of thine, For I shall ne're be blest to call them mine.

2. *transf.* Applied to a person, usually as a term of endearment: Darling, pet; = PIGSNEY.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 42 The other..was Hero,..she was a pretty pinckany and Venus priest. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 68 *Mal.* Tis I! who I? ..A Christ crosse rowe I? *Phil.* No, sweete pinckanie. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. i. Wks. 1873 IV. 23 That pink-an-eye jack-an-apes boy, her page.

3. *Pinkeny John*, also *pinken-eyed John* (corr. *pink-o'-my-John*), a popular name of the pansy or heart's-ease, widely current in the midland counties.

1879 PRIOR *Brit. Plants* s. v. *Pansy*, Pink of my John. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*, Pink-o'-my-John, *Viola tricolor*...Other forms of the name are Pinken-eyed John..and Pink-eyed John..: also Pinkenny-John.

Pinker (piŋkəɹ), *sb.* [f. PINK *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who pinks. **a.** One who stabs; a stabber.

a 1529 SKELTON *Mann. World* 113 So many pinkers..Sawe I neuer.

b. One who punches designs in cloth, leather, etc.

1598 FLORIO, *Tagliuzzatore*, a slicer, a cutter, a pinker or iagger. 1611 COTGR., *Eschiffeur*, a Cutter or Pinker. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pinker*, one who stabs or cuts out flounces and borders, &c. with a machine, for ladies' dresses.

Pinker (piŋkəɹ), *v. dial.* [freq. of PINK *v.*[2]: see -ER[5].] *intr.* To peer with half-shut eyes.

1754 W. WHITEHEAD in *World* No. 58 P6 They cannot even see with their eyes, but at most pinker through the lashes of them. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Pinker*, v. with *about*: to go about with half-shut eyes; to potter. (Worc.)

Pinkerton (piŋkəɹtən). [From the name of Allan Pinkerton, who organized a body of detectives in the U. S. in 1850.] **a.** *attrib.* Applied to the semi-official detective force originally organized and controlled by Allan Pinkerton; as *Pinkerton agency, man, method.* **b.** *sb.* An officer or member of this force; an officer employed by any similar detective agency; an armed detective. So **Pi·nkertonism**, the employment of Pinkertons.

1888 *Philadelphia Inquirer* 22 Feb. (Farmer), Employed under the protection of Pinkerton men and special policemen. 1889 FARMER *Dict. Amer., Pinkerton agency*, a well-known semi-official detective agency. 1891 *Voice* (N. Y.) 26 Feb., You can't make men moral by law and Pinkertonism. 1892 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 5/2 We have seen what evil may come from the employment of Pinkertons and similar arguments for law and order.

Pink-eye. [f. PINK *a.*[1] + EYE *sb.*[1]]

1. (Also *pink-eye potato.*) A variety of potato having pink eyes or buds.

1795 W. MACRITCHIE *Diary Tour Eng.* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1896) 111/2 The Pink-eye potatoe, as it is here called, is becoming the fashionable potatoe of this country. 1805 R.W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 602 The pink-eyes and copper-plates are of a hardy nature. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pinkneys*, pink-eyes, a particular species of potatoe with red eyes or ends. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*

2. A contagious fever or influenza in the horse, so called from the colour of the inflamed conjunctiva. **b.** A contagious form of ophthalmia in man, marked by redness of the eyeball.

1882 *Field* 28 Jan. 130/3 The American term, 'pink-eye',.. is commonly given to the disease. 1883 *Times* 21 Feb. 8/4 Pink-eye is excessively prevalent among all classes of horses, particularly work horses in Sheffield. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 120 Clement Dukes believes that suffusion of the conjunctiva—pink-eye—may be the only symptom of an attack of rubella.

3. An Australian species of duck (see quot.).

1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 842 Apparently allied to the genus *Spatula* is *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*, the 'Pink-eye' of Australians, so called from a spot of that colour.. just behind the eye in the drakes.

Pink-eyed (piŋkˌəid), *a.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 6 **pinkyied, pynk iyde, pinke-eyed, pinky-ey'd,** 7 **pin(c)k-ey'd,** 6– **pink-eyed.** [Parasynthetic f. *pink* or *pinkie eye* + -ED[2].]

1. Having small, narrow, or half-closed eyes; also, squint-eyed.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 30 b, Some haue mighty yies, and some be pinkyied [*quidam peti*]. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 626 Sum were made peuysshe, porisshly pynk iyde, That euer more after by it they were aspyid. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. 335 [Maids] that were pinke-eied and had verie small eies, they tearmed *Ocellæ*. 1675 DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* I. ii, I see thou grow'st pinck-ey'd, go in and let the Nurse lay thee to sleep. 1867 *Country Words* 26 Jan. 208/2 *Pink-eyed* is small-eyed.

2. *Pink-eyed John*, a popular name of the pansy. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* 1886 [see PINKENY 3].

Pink-eyed, *a.*[2] [f. PINK *a.*[1] + EYE *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] Having a pink or light red eye or eyes.

1830 JENNER *Signs of Rain* 10 Closed is the pink-eyed pimpernel.

Pink-fever to Pink-grass: see PINK *sb.*[4] C.

Pinkie, pinky (piŋki), *sb.*[1] [f. PINK *sb.*[1] + -IE, -Y, dim. suffix; or ?ad. MDu. *pinke*.] A narrow-sterned fishing-boat; = PINK *sb.*[1]

1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. viii. 339 The Scheveningen fisherman..forgot the cracks of his pinkie. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 350 These pinkies are highly picturesque and seaworthy. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pinkie*, a fishing vessel with a high, narrow-pointed stern. Used in the cod and coast fisheries.

Pinkie, pinky (piŋki), *a.*, *sb.*[2] Chiefly *Sc.* [Either f. PINK *a.*[2], or the orig. form of that word.]

A. *adj.* Small, diminutive, tiny: in general sense, a childish word. *Sc.* *Pinkie een*, 'eyes that are narrow and long, and that seem half-closed' (Jam.). Cf. PINK *a.*[2], PINKENY 1.

1594 [see PINKENY 1]. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. vii, Meg Wallet wi' her pinky een Gart Lawrie's heart-strings dirle. 1808 JAMIESON, *Pinkie*, small in a general sense: 'There's a wee pinkie hole in that stocking'. 1818 W. MIDFORD *Collect. Songs* 31 A bussy-tailed pinkey wee Frenchman. 1896 BARRIE *Sent. Tommy* ii. 16 Never again should his pinkie finger go through that warm hole.

b. Comb. *Pinkie-eyed, pinky-eyed*, having small eyes. *Pinky-eyed John* = *Pinkeny John*, the pansy.

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* viii, A long-chinned pinky-eyed female.

B. *sb.* Anything small; *spec.* the little finger (Du. *pink*).

1808 JAMIESON, *Pinkie*, the little finger; a term mostly used by children, or in talking to them. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* i. 12 His pinkie was hacked off by a dragoon. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Pinky* (Dutch *pink*), the little finger. 1898 J. PATON *Castlebraes* ix. 297 Raither .. than lift yae wee pinkie tae save that Deevilish man.

Pinkily (piŋkili), *adv.* [f. PINKY *a.* + -LY[2].] In a 'pinky' way; with a tinge of pink. So **Pi·nkiness,** the quality of being 'pinky'; a slight degree of pinkness.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 99 A clear-skinned complexion of face, inclining to pinkiness. 1882 G. ALLEN *Col. Clout's Cal.* viii, The almost accidental pinkiness of the rays in a daisy. 1890 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 5/4 A variety of white raspberry, large, conical, and pinkily cream-coloured in tint.

Pinking (piŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PINK *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PINK *v.*[1]; the operation of decorating cloth, leather, etc., with holes, or (later) scalloped edges; *concr.* work so treated.

1503 [see PINK *v.*[1] 3]. 1611 COTGR., *Deschiquetement*,..a iagging,..a pinking, or small, and thicke cutting. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Oct., The King says the pinking upon whites makes them look too much like magpyes, and therefore hath bespoke one [vest] of plain velvet. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 350/1 The Pinking of a Shooe, when the grain of the Leather is raised by a sharp pointed Tool, that the inner part is seen. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* iv, These rufflings, and pinkings, and patchings, will only make us hated by all the wives of our neighbours. 1860 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Pinking*, an ornamental edging cut to silk dresses by a machine that makes a semi-circular jagged indent, something after the fashion of the ancient leaf-borders. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 3/3 The mode of finishing the edges..known as 'pinking-out', continues to be followed. 1884 *Girl's Own Mag.* 29 Mar. 409/1 Undertakers are the people who advertise to perform pinking.

b. *Comb.*, as **pinking-iron,** a sharp instrument for cutting out pinked borders; also *humorously*, a sword.

1780 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 227/2 The lightning had perforated a round hole in the lower part of his wig behind, which..looked as if it had been cut with a pinking iron. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pinking-iron*, a cutting instrument for scolloping the edges of ribbons, flounces, paper for coffin trimmings, &c. 1884 *Girl's Own Mag.* 29 Mar. 409/1 The shape of the pinking-irons used are more elaborate than they formerly were.

Pinking (piˑŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. PINK *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of PINK *v.*[2]

1667 DRYDEN *Sir M. Mar-all* IV. i, Leave off your winking and your pinking.

Pinking (piˑŋkiŋ), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. PINK *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That pinks; stabbing, murderous.

1644 LAUD *Wks.* (1854) IV. 343 His fellow, Wadsworth,.. called him pinking knave.

Pinking (piˑŋkiŋ), *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. PINK *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] Of the eye: That pinks; small, narrow; peering; blinking.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* iii. B iv b, The sonne he squynts, the father saythe he hath a pincking eye. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 145 The littlenes of the Eye called *Atrophia* or *Macies oculi* commeth by nature, and is called the pigs Eye, or pincking-Eye. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. I. 334 Some have great glaring eies; others againe as little and as pinking. *a* 1722 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Love at Venture* IV, Those pinking ogles of thine. 1826 *Ass* I Apr. 2 You there with the pinking eyes and the fish-knife nose.

Pinkish (piˑŋkiʃ), *a.* [f. PINK *a.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Somewhat pink; having a tinge of pink. Also in comb. as *pinkish-red, pinkish-white.*

1784 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 338 Its outer surface is of a darkish brown colour; its inner of a pinkish white. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 92 The chalk is of a pinkish hue. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 439 Panicle pale green or pinkish. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 105 The series .. varies between a purplish- or pinkish-red, and stone-grey ground-colour.

Pinkly (piˑŋkli), *adv.* [f. PINK *a.*[1] + -LY[2].] With a pink hue.

1836 FABER in *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 662 From its pinkly-clustered boughs A fragrance mild the hawthorn throws. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 176 Pinkly and faintly the sun..Fell upon cornice and frieze.

†Pi·nk-needle. *Herb. Obs.* [f. PINK *v.*[1] + NEEDLE.] A name given to the Stork's-bill (*Erodium moschatum*, or *E. cicutarium*), from the long tapering beaks of the seed-vessels.

(Erroneously taken as a name of *Scandix Pecten* by Halliwell, etc., through misunderstanding quot. 1562.)

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E. D. S.) 39 Geranium..one kynde is called Pinke nedle or Cranes byl. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 130 Scandix is supposed of som to be y[e] herbe which is called in English Pinke nedle, or Storkes bill. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxxii. 47 The first kinde [of Geranium] is called.. in English Storkesbyll, Pinkeneedell. 1611 COTGR., *Aiguille musquée*, musked Pinkneedle..or Cranes-bill. *Ibid.*, *Teste de grue*, Pinkneedle, Shepheards bodkin, Storks bill.

Pinkness (piˑŋknės). [f. PINK *a.*[1] + -NESS.] The quality or state of being pink; pink colour.

1883 G. ALLEN in *Gentl. Mag.* Oct. 322 It [honeysuckle] still retains some memory of its original pinkness. 1894 *Daily News* 8 June 7/1 Glad to step down from the carriages and restore pinkness to their pretty cheeks.

Pinkney, pink nye: see PINKENY.

Pinkroot (piˑŋkˌrūt). [f. PINK *sb.*[4] + ROOT.] **a.** The root of *Spigelia marilandica*, or of *S. Anthelmia*, used as vermifuges and purgatives. **b.** The herb *Spigelia marilandica* (N.O. *Loganiaceæ*), a native of the Southern U. S., having showy funnel-shaped flowers, red outside and yellow within, called *Carolina Pink, Indian Pink*, or *Worm-grass*; also, the allied species *S. Anthelmia*, of the W. Indies and S. America (*Demerara Pinkroot*).

1763 *Ann. Reg.* 54/1 Produce of South Carolina..Pink-root, 1 cask. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 681 Snakeroot, pink-root, and a variety of medicinal herbs grow spontaneously. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 600 Pinkroot possesses decided narcotic powers. 1889 FARMER *Dict. Amer.* s. v. *Carolina pink*, The Pink Root of Maryland which, further South, is popularly known as the Carolina pink..bears beautiful flowers.

Pink-salt, -saucer: see PINK *sb.*[4] C.

‖ Pinkster (piŋkstəɹ). *U. S.* (N. Y.) Also **pingster, pinxter.** [Du. *pinkster* (now *pinxteren* dat. pl.) = OS. *pincostôn*, MHG., Ger. *pfingsten*:—OHG.**pfinkustin* (dat. pl.), all prob. through Gothic *paintêkustê*, a. Gr. *πεντηκοστή* Pentecost.] Whitsuntide; usually in *attrib.* use: see quots.

1821 J. F. COOPER *Spy* (1823) III. v. 127 Upon my word you'd pass well at a pinkster frolic. 1845 — *Satanstoe* I. vi. 162 Pinkster fields, and Pinkster frolicks, are no novelties to us, sir, as they occur every season. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., On Pinxter Monday the Dutch negroes .. con-

sider themselves especially privileged to get as drunk as they can. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pinxter-flower*, an American name for *Azalea nudiflora*.

Pink-stern, -sterned: see PINK *sb.*[1] b.

Pink-weed. ? *Obs.* [f. PINK *sb.*[4] or *a.*[1] + WEED *sb.*] Knotgrass, *Polygonum aviculare*.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ccxxi. 348 It is called .. in English *Knot-Grasse*..: some also call it *Pink-Weed*, and some *Nine Joynts* of its great number of Joynts. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pink-weed, *Polygonum aviculare*.

Pinkwood (pi·ŋkˌwud). [f. PINK *sb.*[4] or *a.*[1] + WOOD *sb.*] Name for the ornamental wood of various trees, or for the trees themselves: a. *Dicypellium caryophyllatum* (*Persea caryophyllata*), N.O. *Lauraceæ*, of Brazil, having a scent like that of carnations; b. *Physocalymma floribundum*, N.O. *Lythraceæ*, also of Brazil, having striped rose-coloured wood, also called Tulip-wood; c. *Beyeria viscosa*, N.O. *Euphorbiaceæ*, the Wallaby-bush, of Australia; d. *Eucryphia billardieri*, N.O. *Hypericaceæ*, of Tasmania.

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Pink-wood-tree, *Persea caryophyllata*.—Brazilian, *Physocalymma floridum*. 1893 *Spon's Mechanic's Own Bk.* (ed. 4) 166 Pinkwood (*Beyeria viscosa*). ..Used for sheaves of blocks and for turnery. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Pinkwood*, a name for a Tasmanian wood of a pale reddish mahogany colour, *Eucryphia billardieri*,.. and for the Wallaby-bush, *Beyera viscosa*, Miq., N.O. *Euphorbiaceæ*, common to all the colonies of Australasia.

Pinky (pi·ŋki), *a.*[1] [f. PINK *sb.*[4] or *a.*[1] + -Y: cf. *rosy*, *creamy*, etc.] Tinged with or inclining to pink. a. Qualifying other adjs. or sbs. of colour.

1776-96 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 225 Pileus and stem pinky white. 1817 COLERIDGE *Picture* Poems 1829 I. 177 Sketched on a strip of pinky-silver skin. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 101 A piece of pinkey-brown paper in his hand..was the first telegram ever seen in Barbie.

b. Qualifying sbs. in gen. Chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 208 The wild-thyme's pinky bells. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 340 The urine ..sometimes deposits a pinky sediment. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves*, *Lovers & a Reflection*, Or rosy as pinks, or as roses pinky.

c. Comb., as *pinky-coloured* adj.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xvi. (1882) 160 *note*, Two engravings, the one a pinky-coloured plate of the day, the other a masterly etching by Salvator Rosa.

Pinky, *a.*[2] and *sb.*: see PINKIE.

Pi·nless, *a.* [-LESS.] Without a pin or pins.

1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xxii, There was the tawdry pincushion—quite pinless now, however—which she had left behind her. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* xii. 12 My lady's pincushion..pinless proves.

†Pi·nlock[1]. *Obs.* [app. for **pindlock*, f. PIND *v.* + LOCK *sb.*[2]] A poundmaster's fee for pinding or impounding beasts.

c 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 lf. 307 b/1 In these midland parts the money..given to the Hayward or to any Person who locks and unlocks the pound gate is called *Pinne-Lock*, *Pyn-Lock*. 1884 REDSTONE in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1884) X. 197/2 The pinlock, or pinder's fee, is regulated by an Act of Philip and Mary at fourpence for any number of cattle impounded, which custom has made into one of fourpence for each head.

Pi·n-lo·ck[2]. [f. PIN *sb.*[1] 1 g + LOCK *sb.*[2]] A lock having a pin, upon which the pipe of the key fits.

1884 *Athenæum* 16 Aug. 216/1 It is doubtful if the so-called 'pin-lock' was used by the very ancient Egyptians.

Pin-machine to **Pin-mill**: see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pinmaker (pi·nˌmēːkəɹ). One whose business or work is to make pins.

1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pynne maker, *esplinguier*. 1644 *Canterbury Marr. Licences* (MS.), Thomas Lashford, pinnmaker. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 170 A paltry, praying, pitiful pin-maker! 1883 GOLDW. SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 807 Poet and pinmaker alike may aspire to the Christian Ideal.

So **Pi·n-ma·king** *sb.*; also *attrib.* or *adj.*

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 288 Trades in which young persons are engaged in numbers, such as sewing, pin-making, or coal-mining. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 184 Doctor Kinsley .. invented a pin-making machine.

Pin-money (pi·nˌmɔ·ni). [f. PIN *sb.*[1] sense 3 + MONEY: see quots. 1542-1640. (Cf. F. *épingles*, in Littré, sense 4.)] An annual sum allotted to a woman for personal expenses in dress, etc.; *esp.* such an allowance settled upon a wife for her private expenditure.

[1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 160, I give my said doughter Margarett my lease of the parsonadge of Kirkdall Churche ..to by her pynnes withal. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. (1651) 540 Caligula gave an 100000 sesterces to his Curtisan..to buy her pins. 1640 EARL OF CORK in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) V. 160 Which Rent I haue bestowed on my daughter Mary to buy her pins.] 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* V. v, *Hoyden*... He told me I should have two hundred a year to buy pins... *Nurse*. Ah, my dearest,.. These Londoners have got a gibberidge with 'em would confound a gipsy. That which they call pin-money is to buy their wives everything in the varsal world. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 295 ¶ 2 The Doctrine of Pin-money is of a very late Date, unknown to our Great Grandmothers, and not yet received by many of our Modern Ladies. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 498 If she has any pinmoney or separate maintenance, it is said she may dispose of her savings thereout by testament, without the control of her husband. 1809 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Manœuvering* ix, The point was, whether a wife should or should not have pin-money. 1897 *Tit-Bits* 16 Oct. 48/1 A wealthy man..who allows her £50 a year for pin money.

‖ **Pinna**[1] (pi·nă). *Zool.* [L. *pinna*, variant of *pina* (Cic., Plin.), a. Gr. *πίνα* (also *πίννα*, *πίννη*), in same sense.] A genus of bivalve molluscs, having a large silky byssus or 'beard'.

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* lxx, Pinna is a fisshe that layeth alwaye in the mudde,.. & it is in a shell lyke a muscle. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 113 The shelfish called *Pinna* is ever ingendred in muddy waters. 1759 B. STILLINGFL. tr. *Biberg's Econ. Nat.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 111 There is a very large shell-fish in the Mediterranean called the *pinna*,.. furnished with very strong calcareous valves. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 11 The mussel and *pinna* spin a byssus.

b. *attrib.*, as *pinna shell*; **pinna-guardian**, rendering of *Pinnoteres*: see PINNOTHERE; **pinna-wool**, the byssus of the pinna as a textile.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 264 A little crab which nestles in the mantle and gills of the Pinna,..received the name of Pinna-guardian (*Pinnoteres*) from Aristotle. 1884 J. T. BENT in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 427/1 Bright red pinna shells. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pinna wool.

‖ **Pinna**[2]. Pl. **-æ** (formerly also **-as**). [mod.L. uses of L. *pinna* = *penna*, in senses feather, wing, fin.]

1. *Anat.* The 'wing' of the ear, the broad upper part of the external ear; also applied to the whole external ear. (Cf. CONCHA 4 a.)

[1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pinna Auris*, the upper and broader part of the Ear, called the Wing.] 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 194 The nerve..gives branches to supply the anterior part of the tragus and the pinna above the meatus. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* ix. (1873) 396 The external ear, or pinna, may be entirely wanting, as in the whales and crocodiles.

b. Each lateral cartilage of the nose; = ALA 1.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. x. 150 The lateral ..parts are termed *Pterugia Alæ*, *Pinnæ*. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinna*,..another term for the *ala*, or lower cartilage of either side of the nose.

2. *Bot.* Each primary division (leaflet, petiole with leaflets, or lobe) of a pinnate or pinnatifid leaf, esp. in ferns.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 490 Common Polypody has pinnatifid fronds, the pinnas or lobes oblong. 1851 MOORE *Brit. Ferns & Allies* (1864) 10 The fronds are sometimes divided down to the rachis,..when this occurs, the frond is said to be pinnate; and in this case, each of the distinct leaf-like divisions is called a *pinna*. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* iii. § 4 (ed. 6) 104 *Pinnæ* is a convenient name for the partial petioles of a bipinnate leaf, taken together with the leaflets that belong to them.

3. *Zool.* a. The fin of a fish; any fin-like structure, as the flipper of a seal or cetacean. b. A wing-like expansion or branch in certain polyps or other invertebrates. c. *Entom.* A small oblique ridge forming one of the parallel lines of a pinnate surface, as in the leg of a grasshopper: see PINNATE *a.* 1 b.

1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 21 If one of the wing-like expansions or pinnæ of the Virgularia is injured, the rest shrink as if all were hurt. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinna*... *Ichthyol.* a fin. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd.*, *Cælent.* 149 The pinnæ are very contractile, so as to vary in form from mere lobes or tubercles to long filiform fringes.

Pinna, early spelling of PIÑA, pine-apple.

Pinnace (pi·nės). Forms: 6 **pennis, pinase, -esse, pinnes, pynice, -asse, pynneis, -esse**, 6-7 **pynn-, pinace, pinnesse, -is(e, -as(e, -ass(e**, 7 **pinise, pinnaisse, pynnis, pynace, -esse**, 6- **pinnace**; (*Sc.* 6 **pinag, pynnage, pynnege**, 6-7 **pinnage**). [a. F. *pinasse, pinace* = Sp. *pinaça* (1252-84 in Jal), Pg. *pinaça* (1326 in Jal), It. *pinaccia, -azza* (Florio). The earlier form in Eng. and Fr. was ME. 15th c. SPINACE, *spinas, spynes*, OF. *espinace* (1451), *espinasse* = med. (Anglo-) L. *spinachium* (1338 Knighton).

F. *pinasse* and its Romanic cognates are by Diez and others taken as derived from *pin-us, pino, pin* pine-tree (cf. Cotgrave '*pinasse* the Pitch tree; also a Pinnace'), L. type **pinācea*. But this leaves the form in *esp-, sp-*, unexplained.]

1. A small light vessel, generally two-masted, and schooner-rigged; often in attendance on a larger vessel as a tender, scout, etc., whence probably the use in 2. Since *c* 1700 only *Hist.* and *poet.*

[1321-7 *Anc. Corr.* (P. R. O.) LVIII. 8 Kaunt ioe departi de Portismuth oue le espynasse le vent fust en countre.]

1546 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Adm.* (1894) I. 138 In dictis navibus vocatis pynneis. *c* 1550 *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 68 His pennis hath ninescorre men and more. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* IV. 23 The old Toun was brent by the Pinesses of the Spaniardes. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 143 Pincke, Pynice, Gally, or what so euer name they haue. 1565-73 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Catascopium*, a spiall ship: a brigantine or pinneise [1548-52 spinner]. 1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sicul.* III. xi. 120 The Shippes .. were haled out by the Gallies and other small pynnaces rowed with ores. 1591 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 85 That six shippes of war and one pynasse should be furnyshed and set forth by the Cittie. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 27 Thou canst safely steer My ventrous Pinnasse to her wished Peer. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. ii. 352 The soldiors were transported in lighter barkes and small pinnaces. 1612 S. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 243 This afternoon hath been the sea fight with some 15 or 16 pynesses and half a score galleys. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 170 We..gave the bigger shippe to the Spaniards againe, and the lesser wee kept, with purpose to make her our pinnas. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* I. 5 Full of flats and shoulds that our Pinnasse could not passe. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 83 He entered into a Pinnace, and went up the River Nilus. 1666 *Despatch. Gram. Inst.* (Jam.), *Phaselus*, a Barge or Pinnage. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Pinnace*,..a small Vessel, with a Square Stern, going with Sails and Oars, and carrying three Masts;.. used as a Scout for Intelligence, and for Landing of Men. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIII. 187 The winged Pinnace shot along the sea. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 247 A fairy pinnace to glide and float for aye!

fig. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. (1612) 144, I will .. toogh the Pinnesse of my thoughts to kenning of your Eyes. 1610 BOYS *Exp. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1629) 165 First, we must be shipt with Christ in Baptisme; After saile with him in the Pinnesse of the Church.

2. A double-banked boat (usually eight-oared) forming part of the equipment of a man-of-war; also applied to other small boats.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/3 The *Larks* Boat being Commanded by Captain Leightons Brother, the *Bonadventures* Pinnace by Mr. Harrises,..and the Yaule by Mr. Brisbane. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 55 We mann'd and arm'd our Barge, Pinnace, and the *Trial's* Pinnace. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) F iv, Pinnaces exactly resemble barges, only that they are somewhat smaller, and never row more than eight oars. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 68 There were five boats belonging to the ship—launch, pinnace, jolly-boat, larboard quarter-boat, and gig.

†3. Applied in figurative context to a woman; also *spec.* a mistress; a prostitute. *Obs.*

a 1568 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 1080 Now, gossop, I must neidis be gon, And leive my prettie pinnage to your guyde. 1568 SEMPILL *Margret Fleming* viii, Now is my pretty pynnege reddy. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* v. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 78 If I like her personage..Ile stand thrumming of Caps no longer, but board your Pynnis whilst 'tis hotte. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* II. ii, Shee hath beene before mee, Punke, Pinnace and Bawd any time these two and twenty yeeres. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bachelor* v. vii, A goodly pinnace, richly laden .. Twelve thousand pounds, and all her rigging.

†Pinna·ceous, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PINNA[1] + -ACEOUS.] Related to the pinna (bivalve).

1684 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 702 Some large fish of the pinnacious kind.

Pinnach, obs. form of PANACHE.

Pinnacle (pi·năkˈl), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 **pynakle**, 4-7 **pynacle**, 4-8 **pinacle**, 5-6 **pynnacle**, 4- **pinnacle** (also 5 **penakull, pinnakyl, pynakell, -kill, pynnakel, -kylle**, 6 **pinakle, pinnakil, pynne-, pynnokill**, 7 **penacle**, 7-8 **pinnicle**). [ME. *pinacle*, a. OF. *pinacle* (1261), *pinnacle*, F. *pinacle*, ad. late L. *pinnāculum* (Tertull., Vulg. Matt. iv. 5), dim. of *pinna* wing, pinnacle, point.

In the Vulgate, Matt. iv. 5, *pinnāculum* renders Gr. *πτερύγιον*, dim. of *πτέρυξ* wing, and was thus evidently meant as a dim. of *pinna* in sense 'wing': cf. the parallel *pinna* in Luke iv. 9. But in later times *pinnāculum* appears to have been viewed as belonging to L. *pinna* in the sense 'point, edge, battlement', which Walde separates from *pinna*, variant of *penna* feather: see PIN *sb.*[1] The Old Latin version in its earliest form had in Matt. iv. 5 and Luke iv. 9 *fastigium* top or apex of a gable.]

1. A small ornamental turret, usually terminating in a pyramid or cone, crowning a buttress, or rising above the roof or coping of a building. (In early use sometimes applied to a battlement.)

c 1330 *Owayn Miles* 38 Arches y-bent with charbukel ston Knottes of rede gold..And pinacles of cristal. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 10 þe fend..putte him above þe pynacle of þe temple: þat sum men seyen weren þe aleis. 1382 — *Matt.* iv. 5 Thanne the deuyl..sette hym on the pynacle of the temple. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 369 þey took oure lady smok..and sette þe smok uppon þe pinacles [*super propugnacula sua exposuerunt*] as it were a baner. 1448 HEN. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 355 A grete square Tour..in..height with the batelment and the pynacles .C.xl. fete. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VII* 59 The violence of the wynde had blowen doune an Egle of brasse..from a pynnacle or spire of Paules Church. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 69 Upon the top of this turret is built a certaine spire or pinnacle rising sharpe in forme of a sugar-loafe. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 75 He..slew ..their Ring-leader, whose head he sent to Amadabat, and ..commanded that it should be set upon a Pinacle. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Pinnacle*, the highest Top of any Spire. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1778) I. III. 241 They fancied these to be cities adorned with towers and pinacles. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* s.v., Pinnacle..consists of a shaft and top; this last is generally in the form of a small spire, surmounted with a finial and often crocketed at the angles, and is sometimes called a finial. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xv. 165 If there had been no other place for pinnacles, the Gothic builders would have put them on the tops of their arches..rather than not have had them.

†b. *transf.* A vertical pointed structure resembling the above; a pyramid. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1463 þe coperounes of þe canacles þat on þe cuppe reres, Wer fetysely formed out in fylyoles longe; Pinnacles pyȝt þer apert þat profert bitwene. ?*a* 1400 LYDG. *Chorle & Birde* in *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 183 Thowe my cage forged were with golde, And the pynacles of birrale and cristale. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 328 Item vj Sponnes gilte withe Pynnacles of thends. 1535 *Aberdeen Regr.* XV. 587 (Jam.) Twa pynnokillis of skynnis. 15.. *Ibid.* XVI. 524 Ane pynnekill of skynnis, contenand ix score and six. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 104 There was a Pinacle reared vpon the Walles of the Fort with their bare sculs. *a* 1674 MILTON *Moscovia* v, At Dinner he sat bare-headed, his Crown and rich Cap standing on a Pinacle by. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 2 Pedestals upon..a Pediment to support Statues..may properly be called Pinacles.

2. Any natural peaked formation; *esp.* a lofty rock or stone pointed at the top; a peak. (In first two quots. perh. applied to a point projecting into the sea.)

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1719 At a pinacle bi þe se Gij seye a man of rewly ble Go in pilgrims wede. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1283+94 (MS. C.) He kepeth him in a castel..Closed with þe salt flood, In a penakull of the see. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 19 Shee..his carcasse on rockish pinnacle hanged. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 115 The brows Of all steepe hils and pinnacles. 1795 ANDERSON *Brit. Embassy China* XV. 167 An immense pillar, or column of solid rock.. situated on the pinnacle of a large mountain. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alp. Ascents* I. 7 The pure-white pinnacle of the.. Weisshorn.

3. *fig.* A high or lofty place or situation; the highest point or pitch; the culmination or point of perfection; the acme, climax. (Sometimes applied to a person.)

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 141 Seyde tho virgyn withowttyn vice..That holy pynakell preued of price. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 240 He ys a chosen wessell,.. A very pynacle of the fayth. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 92 Being ascended to the top and pynacle of true knowledge. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Charac.*, etc. Wks. (1673) 634 The highest Pinnacle of my Ambition. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 254 To have reached the pinnacle of perfection. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1875) 167 How can I reach the pinnacle of earthly fame? 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 267 This was the pinnacle of Hannibal's success, and a pinnacle indeed it was.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 263 Nere those pinacle rocks called the Needles. 1837 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 57/2 The archway..is flanked with columns, niches, pediments, and crocketed pinnacle finials. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pinnacle-work*, in *arch.* and *decoration*, ornamental projections, especially at the top of any object. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 132/1 Jagged, pinnacle-like rocks.

Pi·nnacle, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To set on or as on a pinnacle; in quot. 1816, to rear as a pinnacle.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 15 To stand .. pinacled on the highest point of the Temple, ready for precipitation. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lxii, The Alps, The palaces of Nature, whose vast walls Have pinnacled in clouds their snowy scalps. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxiii, Such a mighty moment of success As pinnacled him..in full display, For the whole world to worship.

2. To form the pinnacle of, to crown. Also *fig.*

1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. cix, This mountain, whose obliterated plan The pyramid of empires pinnacled. 1840 R. C. HORNE *Gregory VII*, I. i. (ed. 2) 6 It pinnacles all crimes..Touching God's footstool with a sharp assault!

Pi·nnacled (pi·năk'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. PINNACLE *sb.* and *v.* + -ED.]

1. Having a pinnacle or pinnacles; furnished with pinnacles or peaks.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 207 A pyȝt coroune..Hiȝe pynakled of cler quyt perle. *c* 1503 in *Chron. Lond.* (ed. Kingsford, 1905) 250 The coverynge [of a Chapell]..paynted wt Azur, and pynacled wt Corven werk paynted and gilt. 1782 WARTON *Hist. Kiddington* 8 The pediment of the southern Transept is pinnacled..with a flourished Cross. 1829 D. CONWAY *Norway* 61 The rocks rose in pinnacled confusion. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* II. I. xii. 239 The use of the embattled and pinnacled tower is..one of our many insular peculiarities.

2. Elevated on or as on a pinnacle.

1863 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Reader*, His pinnacled supremacy as the poet and autocrat of landscape-painting. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Oct. 2/1 Because of this pinnacled position, they assimilate like lightning.

Pi·nnaclet. *rare*—1. [See -ET.] A small pinnacle.

1905 *Archæol. Jrnl.* LXII. 111 The pinnaclets supported on brackets thrown outward from the angles.

Pinnacocytal, -cyte: see PINACOCYTAL, etc.

Pinnadiform (pinæ·difōrm), *a. Ichth.* [irreg. f. L. *pinna* in sense 'fin' + -FORM.] (See quot.)

1884 T. N. GILL in *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.* VII. 357 In the Chætodontids, an apparent expansion is manifested by the encroachment of the skin and scales on the soft dorsal and anal fins, and they may be distinguished as *pinnadiform.*

Pinnæ, plural of PINNA.

† Pi·nnage. *Obs.* [f. PIN *v.* (in a = PIND) + -AGE.] **a.** The action of impounding cattle. **b.** The action of fastening with a pin or peg.

1552 HULOET, Pynnage of cattell or powndage, *inclusio.* 1611 COTGR., *Chevillage*, a pegging, or pinning; peggage, pinnage.

Pinnage, obs. Sc. form of PINNAGE.

Pinnal (pi·năl), *a. Anat.* [f. PINNA 2 + -AL.] Pertaining to the pinna of the ear or nose.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 202 Cartilage (Meckel's or pinnal).

Pinnaped, variant of PINNIPED.

Pinnate (pi·nĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. L. *pinnāt-us* feathered, winged, f. *pinna* feather, wing: see PINNA 2 and -ATE 2.]

1. Resembling a feather; having lateral parts or branches on each side of a common axis, like the vanes of a feather. **a.** *Bot.* Applied to a compound leaf having a series of (sessile or stalked) leaflets arranged on each side of a common petiole, the leaflets being usually opposite, sometimes alternate (*alterni-pinnate*); also to more complex leaves of the same kind, in which the leaflets, thus arranged, are borne on secondary, tertiary, etc. petioles which are themselves similarly arranged (*bipinnate, tripinnate*, etc.).

Interruptedly pinnate: see quot. 1861.

[1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pinnata Folia*, in Botany.] 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pinnate*, deeply jagged or indented (spoken of the Leaves of Plants) resembling Feathers. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xxxi. (1765) 152 *Asplenium*, with pinnate Leaves. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 169 It is interruptedly pinnate..when the leaflets are of different sizes, so that small pinnæ are..intermixed with larger ones, as in the Potato and Silver Weed. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* I. vii. 77 Compound leaves are either of the *pinnate* type, as Rose, or of the *digitate* type, as Horse Chestnut.

b. *Zool.* Having branches, tentacles, or other lateral parts arranged on each side of an axis; in *Entom.* applied to a surface (as in the legs of grasshoppers) marked with minute parallel lines on each side of a central ridge.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* iv. (1848) 73 The budding polyps are sometimes confined to two opposite sides of a branch, and pinnate forms result. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 191 Gills pinnate, placed round the dorsal vent. 1858 LEWES *Sea-side Stud.* 87 The tentacular filaments..are numerous, each forming a little tree with pinnate branches. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 200 The tail is pinnate at the point.

2. *Zool.* Having feathers, wings, fins, or similar parts. *rare*—0. (Cf. next, 2.) 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pinnated (pi·nētĕd), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 1.]

1. = prec. 1. Chiefly *Bot.* and *Zool.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Leaf, Pinnated*, or *pennated Leaf*..composed of two ranges or series of folioles, annexed to the two sides of one common oblong petiole. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 327 The leaves are pinnated with about 20 pair of long *Pinnæ*, which are again semipinnate with short indented *Pinnulæ*. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* viii. (1818) I. 235 [They] prey upon timber, feeding between the bark and the wood, and..excavating curious pinnated labyrinths. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 47 The species ..has five pair of beautifully pinnated arms.

2. *Zool.* Having parts like wings, or like fins. *Pinnated Grouse*, any bird of the genus *Cupidonia*, having wing-like tufts of feathers on the neck, as the prairie-hen of N. America, *C. cupido.*

1776 PENNANT *Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 119 Pinnated Quadrupeds, With fin-like feet. 1831 A. WILSON & BONAPARTE *Amer. Ornith.* II. 322 Pinnated Grouse. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 158 There is a stray pinnated Grouse now and then.

Hence **Pi·nnatedly** *adv.* = next.

Pinnately (pi·nătli), *adv.* [f. PINNATE + -LY 2.] In a pinnate manner or form: see PINNATE 1.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 159 Feather-veined or pinnately veined leaves. 1883 [see PINNATI-].

Pinnati- (pinē·ti, pinæ·ti), combining form of L. *pinnātus* PINNATE: chiefly in botanical terms relating to leaves (cf. PINNATIFID): **Pinna·tilo·bate, Pinna·tilobed** (-ē·ti-) *adjs.*, pinnately divided with rounded divisions or lobes; **Pinna·tipa·rtite** (-ē·ti-) *a.* [L. *partītus* divided: see PARTITE], pinnately divided nearly to the midrib; **Pinna·tisect, Pinna·tise·cted** (-ē·ti-) *adjs.* [L. *sectus* cut: see -SECT], pinnately divided quite to the midrib, but not articulated so as to form separate leaflets. See also PINNATIPED.

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 93 We..take the prefix *pinnati-*.. and subjoin to this a word indicating the degree or kind of division, thus: *pinnatifid*..if the broad notches between the lobes extend from the margin to about half-way between this and the midrib; *pinnatisect*, if the notches extend on nearly to the midrib; *pinnatipartite*, if the separate lobes are almost free, and merely connected by a narrow strip of parenchyma. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 153 [Leaves] pinnatipartite, or pinnatisected, according to their depth. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Pinnatilobed, Pinnatilobate*, when the lobes of a pinnatifid leaf are divided to an uncertain depth. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Nature* 8 Mar. 441 Steps by which a regularly pinnately-veined leaf, such as that of the common olive, may pass into a pinnatifid and pinnatisect form by non-development of the mainly cellular tracts.

Pinnatifid (pinæ·tifid), *a. Nat. Hist.* (chiefly *Bot.*) [ad. mod.L. *pinnātifidus*, f. *pinnāt-us* PINNATE + *findere, fid-* to cleave, split. So F. *pinnatifide, pennatifide.*] Of a leaf, etc.: Pinnately cleft or divided at least half-way to the middle.

[1751 LINNÆUS *Philos. Bot.* 43 Folium..pinnatifidum est transversim divisum laciniis horizontalibus oblongis.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Leaf, Pinnatifid Leaf* expresses one divided into several parts in form of alæ. 1777 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 500 *Centaurea scabiosa*...Great Knapweed or Matfellon..the leaves are..all pinnatifid. 1857, 1883 [see PINNATI-]. 1877-84 F. E. HULME *Wild Fl.* p. viii.

Hence **Pinna·tifidly** *adv.*, in a pinnatifid manner.

1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 16 Leaves entire, pinnate, or pinnatifidly lobed. 1881 HORNE *Fiji* 86 The leaf..is handsome and pinnatifidly divided.

Pinnation (pinē·ʃən). *Nat. Hist.* [f. L. *pinnāt-us* PINNATE: see -ATION.] Pinnate condition or formation; division into pinnæ (PINNA 2).

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 350 When the pinnation is compound. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 212 The pinnation, like the formation of lobes, may be repeated.

Pinnatiped (pinæ·tiped), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *pinnātipēs, -pedem*, f. *pinnātus* winged + *pēs* foot.] **a.** *adj.* Having the toes furnished with lobes; lobiped, fin-footed. **b.** *sb.* A pinnatiped bird; a bird of the group *Pinnatipedes*, having this character.

1828 WEBSTER, *Pinnatiped*, fin-footed; having the toes bordered by membranes. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Pinnatipeds*, a term applied by Temminck to an order of birds comprehending those which have the digits bordered by membranes. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pinnatipes*...applied by Schæffer and Temminck to an Order (*Pinnatipedes*); by C. Bonaparte to a Family..: pinnatipede.

Pinnato- (pinē·tō), occasional advb. combining form of L. *pinnātus* PINNATE (cf. PINNATI-). **Pinna·to-de·ntate** *a.* [DENTATE], pinnate, with toothed leaflets; **Pinna·to-pe·ctinate** *a.* [PECTINATE], having lateral projections like the teeth of a comb, arranged pinnately.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* 58 L[eaf] linear, pinnato-dentate. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 578 Branches pinnato-pectinate.

Pinnatulate (pinæ·tiŭlĕt), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pinnāt-us* pinnate + *-ul-* dim. + -ATE.] = PINNULATE. 1882 in OGILVIE.

† Pinned, *a. Obs.* [Variant of PENNED *a.*] Of a feather: **a.** Grown, formed. **b.** Undeveloped, rudimentary: see PIN-FEATHERED.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 148 Tyll her ffre ffedris be ffulliche y-pynned, þat þey heue wynge. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* XXXV. 165 An unripe or pinn'd Feather.

Pinned (pind), *ppl.a.* [f. PIN *sb.*1 and *v.*1 + -ED.]

† 1. Enclosed, confined, shut up. *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4543 O, þy bagges vnsele; Opne hem;..Thy pyned stuf many a man destroyeth.

2. Furnished, fitted, or adorned with pins; † *spec.* covered or studded with pins: cf. PIN *v.*1 7 (*obs.*).

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2408/4 A Silver Minute Pendulum Clock, in a pinn'd Case, the Shagreen a very fine grain. 1689 [see PIN *sb.*1 1 e]. 1871 SALA in *Belgravia* XIV. 430 [He] was highly..chained, pinned, and locketed.

3. Fastened with a pin or pins.

1901 *Y. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 35 We have never seen a pinned ladder come apart.

4. = *Pinded* (see PIND *v.*).

1802 C. FINDLATER *Agric. Surv. Peebles* 389 *note*, When the mothers have little milk, the lambs are rarely pinned.

5. In *pinned straits* and *pinned whites*, names of some kind of cloth. (Meaning unascertained.)

1552-3 *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 9 § 1 Euery piece of the sayd Clothes called whyte pynned Streightes .. being readye dressed to put to sale shall conteine in Lengthe xj Yardes at the least. 1584-5 *Act 27 Eliz.* c. 18 § 2. *a* 1600 T. SMITH *Let. to Ld. Treasurer* in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xix. 401/2 Also of Pyndewhites and Playnes, made in the West Country. [1642 *Rates of Merchandize* 133 Dorset and Somerset dozens rudge washt, Cardinals, Pinwhites, Straites..shall goe and be accompted for a short cloth.]

Pinnel (pi·nĕl). *local.* [? Connected with PIN *v.*1 3 c, as if stuff useful for pinning.]

1. Coarse gravel; sandstone conglomerate.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 153 If I find .. any gravel, sand, soft rock, pinnel, or other porous substance, I begin the good work immediately. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* (1790) II. 30 Two strata, one of pinnel or coarse gravel.

2. *Geol.* (See quot.)

1876 H. B. WOODWARD *Geol. Eng. & Wales* Gloss. 440 *Pinnel*, local name given to the Lower Boulder Drift in the north-west of England and Wales. Rammel and Sammel are local names similarly applied.

† Pinner 1 (pi·nəɹ). *Obs.* Also 5-7 **pynner,** (5 **-ar**). [f. PIN *sb.*1 + -ER 1.] A pinmaker.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1591 Parnters, painters, pynners also. 1483 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 12 § 1 Artificers of the said Realm .. Pointmakers, Pinners, Pursers, Glovers. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 9 Pynners, nedelers, and glasyers. 1611 FLORIO, *Agucchiarùolo*,..a pinner or pinmaker. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xv. 241/1 Pinners and Needlers. Foreign Pins and Needles being brought in about the Year 1597, did much prejudice these Callings. [1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* II. 209 Pewterers, smiths, pinners, barbers.]

Pinner 2. Now *local.* [Another form of PINDER, f. PIN *v.*1 10 = PIND *v.*] An officer whose duty it is to impound stray beasts: = PINDER.

1499 *Promp. Parv.* (ed. Pynson), Pynnar of beestys. 1552 HULOET, Pynner or empounder of cattell, *inclusor.* *a* 1592 GREENE *George-a-Greene* Wks. (Rtldg.) 255/1 George-a-Greene Hight Pinner of merry Wakefield town. 1664 GOULDMAN *Dict.*, A pinner or pounder of cattel, *inclusor.* 1871 *Standard* 4 Oct. 3 The town pinner,..[of] Stafford, left the town on Saturday afternoon to serve an execution for debt at a small farm near Stamdon Bridge.

Pinner 3. [f. PIN *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who or that which pins.

1. A coif with two long flaps, one on each side, pinned on and hanging down, and sometimes fastened at the breast; worn by women, esp. of rank, in the 17th and 18th centuries. Sometimes applied to the flaps as an adjunct of the coif. Now only *Hist.*

1652 *N. Riding Rec.* V. 103 [Bill ignored against a woman for stealing a] pynner. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Apr., I saw.., my Lady Castlemaine in a coach by herself, in yellow satin and a pinner on. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 465/1 Some term this sort of long eared Quoif by the name of a Pinner, or Laced Pinner. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* I. i, The pinners are double ruffled with twelve plaits of a side. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 212 ₱ 3 A Treatise concerning Pinners, which I have some Hopes will contribute to the Amendment of the present Head-dresses. *c* 1720 DK. OF MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 367 The women.. wear four pinners with great ribbons between, and eight lappets hanging down behind. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 128 ₱ 9 A pinner, the pride of Brussels, may be torn by a careless washer. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii, The venerable old dame,..dressed in her coif and pinners.

2. *dial.* A pinafore or apron with a bib.

[Perh. erroneous spelling of *pinna*, short for *pinafore.*]

1846 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* Gloss. 582 *Pinner*, an apron with a bib pinned in front of the dress. Its more modern name is pincloth and pinafore. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* II. 116 *Pinner*, a pinafore. *Pincloth*, a child's pinafore. Called also Pintidy and Pinner. 1876

T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 363 Honest travelling have been so rascally abused since I was a boy in pinners. 1891 — *Tess* xvii, He wore the ordinary white pinner..of a dairy-farmer when milking.

3. One who pins, fastens, or transfixes with a pin. 1828 in Webster. 1845 Mrs. Browning *Lett.* (1899) I. 137 All that roughness and rudeness of the sin of the boar-pinner. 1851 Mayhew *Loud. Labour* I. 272/1 The 'pinners-up'.. are the men and women..who sell songs which they have 'pinned' to a sort of screen or large board, or..to a blank wall.

Pinnet (pi·nĕt). *? Sc. rare.* [In sense 2, app. a corruption of *pennant*, with which it agrees in sense; in sense 1, perh. a mistaken use of the same, associated with med.L. *pinna* in sense 'pinnacle', or ? an independent dim. formation from the latter.]

1. A pinnacle. *rare*—1. 1805 Scott *Last Minstr.* vi. xxiii, Blazed battlement and pinnet high, Blazed every rose-carved buttress fair.

2. A streamer, pennant. 1822 Galt *Provost* xviii, Laces and ribands of all colours, hanging down in front [of the booths], and twirling like pinnets in the wind. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 422 A miniature mast..bearing atop a gaudy pinnet.

Pinni- (pi·ni), combining form of L. *pinna*, *penna* wing, fin (cf. ancient L. *pennifer*, *pinniger*, etc.). Hence **Pinni·ferous** [-ferous], **Pinni·gerous** [-gerous] *adjs.*, bearing or having fins. (Cf. Penniferous, Pennigerous.) **Pinnine·rvate, Pinninerved** *adjs. Bot.*, pinnately veined (= Penninervate). **Pinnise·cted** *a. Bot.* = Pinnatifid, or ? *pinnatisect* (see Pinnati-). **Pinnita·rsal** *a.* [Tarsal], 'having pinnate feet, as a swimming-crab'. **Pinnitenta·culate** *a.* [Tentaculate], 'having pinnate tentacles, as a polyp'. See also Pinniform, -grade, -ped.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinniferus*, having or bearing fins: *pinniferous. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Pinnigerous*,.. that hath fins; finned like a fish. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pinninervate*, see *Penninervate. *Ibid.*, **Pinnisected*, the same as *Pinnatifid.*

Pinniewinks: see Pilliwinks.

Pinniform (pi·nifōm), *a.* Also incorrectly **pinnæform.** [f. Pinni- + -form, where see note.]

a. Having the form of, or resembling, a fin. **b.** Having the form of, or resembling, a feather: = Penniform. **c.** Of a pinnate form. **d.** Resembling the mollusc called *Pinna* (Pinna 1).

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 313 The Balæna, with..a pinniform tuberosity on the back. 1821 W. P. C. Barton *Flora N. Amer.* I. 43 Leaves..often inclining to be pinnatifid; the pinnæform segments arcuate. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinniformis*, *Ornithol.*, applied to wings in the form of fins that are covered by thickly laid up feathers, ..and which serve only as organs of natation: pinniform.

Pinnigrade (pi·nigrēd), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Pinni- + L. *-gradus* walking.] **a.** *adj.* Walking by means of fin-like organs or flippers, as the pinniped Carnivora. **b.** *sb.* A pinnigrade animal. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 914/2. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 297 In the pinnigrade.. family of carnivores, we find the teeth..more numerous. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) XI. 723 The pinnigrades include three families, the earless seals,..the eared seals,.. and the walruses.

Pinning (pi·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Pin *v.*1 + -ing 1.]

1. The action of the verb Pin.

a. The action of fastening, constructing, or repairing with pins; the supporting of a wall or foundation with pins or wedges; cf. *under-pinning.* 1427–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 67 For ij masons ij dayes for pynnynge of þe new pewes & leyeng of þe same tyle. 1533 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, To John Bryght for tyllyng and dabyng & outher pynyng xs. 1552 Huloet, Pynnynge of houses, *substructio.* *a* 1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 279 Like a Shepheards Tent that falls to the ground for want of pinning, cording, and sowing. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* II. v. § 37 Some Devise used by him about pinning and propping of the Room. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Pinning*, in building, the fastening of tyles together, with pins of heart of oak; for the covering of a house, etc. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Pinning up*, in underpinning, the driving the wedges under the upper work so as to bring it fully to bear upon the work below.

b. The action of fastening (dress, etc.) with a (brass) pin or pins. Also with adv. as *pinning up* (in quot. 1676 *attrib.* = for pinning up). 1549 Sir T. Hoby *Trav.* (1902) 23 By the pinninge uppe of the hanging. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 71 b, How you [Ladies] torture poore olde Time with spunging, pynning and pounsing. 1601 Dent *Pathw. Heaven* (1831) 35 They haue spent a good part of the day in..pricking and pinning. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1106/4 Two black pinning-up Petticoats, one being of Sarcenet, the other of Alamode. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 381 To be fixed by pinning or lacing, on the side opposite to the wound.

c. The action of shutting up, inclosing, or hemming in; also, impounding (see Pind 1 b). 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 385 A Pinning, or pounding of cattell, Vide Pownde. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 May 3/3, I have composed for your irresistible museum of chess freaks an example of pinning *ad absurdum.*

d. = *Pinding* (see under Pind *v.*).

1802 C. Findlater *Agric. Surv. Peebles* 389 Diarrhœa, or Looseness. This disorder is commonly called, by the shepherds, pinning.

2. *concr.* **a.** *pl.* Small stones used for filling the interstices of masonry (cf. Pin *v.*1 3 c). **b.** A pin, peg, or bolt, used for fastening. 1663 Béair *Autobiog.* ii. (1848) 50 As pinnings laid in to be foundations. 1742 J. Willison *Balm of Gilead* xii. (1800) 136 Not a stone moved, nor a pinning in it moved. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 114 Persons who understand the building of dry stone-walls properly, find a bed for the larger stones, not by means of pinnings..but by resting them firmly upon one another; and afterwards they close up the interstices with pinnings to ornament the wall. No part of the weight lies on the smaller stones. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pinning*, the low masonry which supports a frame of stud-work.

c. A fastening with pins (cf. 1 b). 1882 Rosa Mulholland *Four Little Mischiefs* viii, 'We must stand with our faces to the people always, or they might see the pinning', said Kitty.

3. *attrib.*, as *pinning iron, stone, -fee.* 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 265/2 *Pinning Iron*, to widen the hole in the Slate to put the Pin in. 1708 S. Molyneux in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 37 Part of the Plaister and Pinning Stones of the adjoyning Wall, was also broken off and loosened. 1892 J. S. Fletcher *When Chas. I was K.* (1896) 55 The pinder.. made answer.. that the horses..should not go thence until the pinning-fee were paid.

Pinning-end = *pinion-end*: see Pinion *sb.*2

Pinnion, obs. form of Pinion.

Pinniped (pi·niped), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* Also **pinnipede, pinnaped.** [ad. mod.L. *Pinnipēs* (neut. pl. *Pinnipedia*), L. *pinnapēs, pennipēs* wing-footed (of Perseus), but used in Zool. in the sense 'fin-footed'; f. L. *pinna* in sense 'fin' + *pes, ped-* foot.] **a.** *adj.* Having feet resembling fins, fin-footed; *spec.* belonging to a suborder (*Pinnipedia*) of *Carnivora*, comprising the seals and walruses, which have fin-like limbs or flippers; also, belonging to other divisions of animals having limbs or organs resembling fins and adapted for swimming, e. g. the fin-footed or lobe-footed birds (cf. Pinnatiped), certain decapod crustaceans or crabs, the pteropod molluscs, etc. **b.** *sb.* A pinniped mammal; a seal or walrus. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Pinnipeds*, the name of a section of crabs..that have the last pair of feet..terminated by a flattened joint fitted for swimming. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pinnipes*, adj. *Zool.*..pinnipede. 1866 T. N. Gill (*title*) Prodrome of a Monograph of Pinnipeds. 1881 *Athenæum* 17 Dec. 807/3 The various species of Hæmatopinus with which the seals, like the other pinnipeds, are annoyed. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 194 Charts shewing distribution of the pinnapeds of the world.

So **Pinnipedian** (-pĭ·diăn) *a.* = prec. a. 1880 *Standard* 20 May 3 It is doubtful whether the close-time agreement..will have any great effect on the longevity of the pinnipedian race.

Pinnisected to **Pinnitentaculate**: see Pinni-.

†Pinno, *v. Obs. rare*—1. = Pinion *v.* 2. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. iv. 22 He saw a Knight, With both his hands behinde him pinnoed hard.

Pinnock 1 (pi·nək). Now *local.* Forms: 3 **pynnuc, pinnuc,** 5 **pynok,** 6 **pynnock,** 6–7 **pinnocke,** 8– **pinnock.** [prob. echoic, from the bird's note; but the ending simulates -ock, dim. suffix.] A name for the hedge-sparrow or dunnock; also for the blue titmouse, and, locally, for some other birds: cf. Dunnock, and *Pinnick* 2 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1130 Pynnuc [*v.r.* pinnuc] goldfynch rok ne crowe Ne dar neuer cumen ihende. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625/3 *Liri/a*, pynok. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 158/46 A Pinnocke, hedge sparrow. 1706 Phillips, *Pinnock*, a sort of Bird. 1833 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.*, *Pinnock*, a name for the Tomtit. 1885 Swainson *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 29 Hedge Sparrow (*Accentor modularis*)... From its short piping note it is called Titlene (North), Pinnock.

Pinnock 2. *local.* Also **pennock, pinnold.** [Derivation unascertained; the ending seems to be -ock, dim suffix.] A small bridge over a ditch or runnel; a brick or wooden drain under a road or across a gateway, a culvert; also, a structure composed of three boards in which a hare when hard-pressed in coursing can take refuge as in a small drain or culvert: used in Romney Marshes. 1838 Holloway *Dict. Provincialisms*, *Pinnold*, a small bridge. *Sussex.* 1846 Worcester, *Pinnock*.. a tunnel under a road to carry off the water; a culvert..(Local, Eng.). 1847–78 Halliwell, *Pennock*, a little bridge over a water-course. *Sussex.* 1875 *Sussex Gloss.*, *Pennock*, a little bridge over a water-course; a brick or wooden tunnel under a road to carry off the water. 1887 *Kent. Gloss.*, *Pinnock*, a wooden drain through a gateway.

Pinnock 3. *local.* [Origin obscure. Cf. Pinny *a.*] In Kent, a name for a particular kind of land: see quot. Hence **Pi·nnocky** *a.* 1796 J. Boys *Agric. Kent* 78 *Pinnock*..is a sticky red clay, mixed with small stones, but although it is deemed poor for cultivation of grain, &c. yet it produces very fine chesnut wood; and filberts likewise grow well upon it. 1881 Whitehead *Hops* 52 The planter notices..a small patch of yellowing plants in pinnocky or unkindly soil.

Pinnoite (pi·nǫi·ĕit). *Min.* [a. Ger. *pinnoit*, named by Staute 1884 in honour of Oberbergrath Pinno: see -ite 1.] A hydrous borate of magnesium, occurring in yellow or greenish fibrous masses or tetragonal crystals. 1885 *Amer. Nat.* 708 Pinnoite. 1892 Dana *Min.* (ed. 6) 885 Pinnoite [occurs] in the upper kainite layers.

Pinnote, obs. form of Pine-nut.

Pinnothere (pi·nǫþīəɹ), **pinnotere** (pi·nǫtīəɹ). Also 7 **-ter,** 9 **-teer.** [ad. L. *pinno-, pīnotērēs* (*-thērēs*), a. Gr. πιννοτήρης (Aristoph. *Wasps* 1510), f. πίνα, πίννα Pinna 1 + τηρεῖν to guard. The L. variant *pīnothērēs*, as if f. Gr. θηρᾶν to hunt, was adopted as the generic name by Latreille 1807, whence F. *pinnotère, pinnothère.*] Any of the small crabs of the genus *Pinnotheres*, which commensally inhabit the shells of various bivalves, as oysters and mussels; a pea-crab. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 252 The least of all these kind of Crabs is called Pinnotheres (or Pinnoteres) and for his smalnesse most subiect and exposed to iniurie. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 113 The Pinnoter..giving him notice thereof by a little touch, the Pinna doth kill al the fishes with a hard and violent compression of them; so feeding himself.. and giving part of them to his fellow. 1822 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* II. 317 Nay, pinnoteer (I think) might better suit him—'Tis a most dwarfish breed. (*Note*) The pinnoteer is the smallest of crabs, and here serves to designate Xenocles, the tragedian. [1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 253 Pliny says it [the Pinna] is always accompanied by a companion, the *Pinnotheres.*]

So **Pinnothe·rian** *a.*, of the genus *Pinnotheres* or family *Pinnotheridæ*; *sb.* a pinnothere.

Pinnule (pi·niul). Also (in sense 1) 6–8 **pinule**; (in senses 2 and 3) in Lat. form **pinnula** (pl. **-æ**). [ad. L. *pinnula*, dim. of *pinna* plume, wing: see Pinna 2.]

1. Each of the two sights (consisting of a small square metal plate, pierced with holes, and turning on a hinge) at the ends of the 'alidade' or index of an astrolabe, quadrant, or similar instrument. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* VI. Introd. (1636) 608 Which Diopter is made with two Pinules or square Tablets. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 528 Out of two stations by the pinnules of the radius..they collect the quantity of the lines of a greater triangle, which is made between the two stations and the thing seen. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 171 He has joined pinules to his barometer, which by this means furnishes him with an instrument for levelling. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Hist. Astron.* xiii. 67/1 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) A radius, moveable on the centre of the circle, carried the pinnules, and traced out with its extremity..the arc it was wished to measure. 1879 Newcomb & Holden *Astron.* 59.

2. *Bot.* Each of the secondary or ultimate divisions of a pinnate leaf; a subdivision of a pinna (branchlet, leaflet, or lobe): esp. in ferns. 1776–96 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 873 Distinct from *J. trilobata*, the pinnules of which are eared and the leafits smaller. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 95 In the Ferns..the primary divisions of the leaf are called *pinnæ*, the secondary pinnules, and the tertiary lobes or segments. 1877 *Academy* 3 Nov. 434/1 A long central rachis, carrying sub-sessile pinnules.

3. *Zool.* A part or organ resembling a small wing or fin, or a barb of a feather; *spec.* **a.** A small fin-like appendage, or short detached fin-ray, in certain fishes, as the mackerel. **b.** Each of the lateral branches of the arms in crinoids. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. i. 89 The rhomboidal Pinnulae in the abdominal Muscles of a living Frog, when under Contraction. 1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 244 The Scomber, with five pinnules at the extremity of the back. 1877 W. Thomson *Voy. Challenger* II. ii. 97 The pinnules arising from either side of the arm alternately.

Hence **Pi·nnular** *a.*, of or pertaining to a pinnule; **Pi·nnulate, Pi·nnulated** *adjs.*, having pinnules; **Pi·nnulet** [-et], a small or subordinate pinnule; ‖ **Pi·nnulus**, a form of 6-rayed spicule in sponges. 1828–32 Webster, A *Pinnulate* leaf is one in which each pinna is subdivided. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* IX. 582 Pedicels..continued throughout the brachial and pinnular grooves. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 685 The pinnæ, pinnules, and alternate pinnulets are all stalked. 1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/1 The suppression of the proximal ray and the development of spines projecting forwards on the distal ray produce the *pinnulus.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pinnulated.

Pinny (pi·ni), *sb.* Nursery and colloquial name for Pinafore. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* xx, Now, then, Totty, hold out your pinny. 1884 Blackmore *Tommy Upm.* II. 240 All the children..with their pinnies full of sugar-plums.

Pinny (pi·ni), *a. dial.* and *techn.* [? f. Pin *sb.* or *v.* + -y.] Applied in various ways: **c.** g. **a.** to soil that is rough, hard, or stiff, and so not easily worked (cf. Pinnocky); **b.** to steel full of rough hard spots (cf. Pin *sb.*1 9 b); **c.** to wool that is clogged or matted together; **d.** to a file that is clogged or choked with small particles (cf. Pin *v.*1 9). 1692 Ray *Disc.* II. iv. (1732) 131 A Bed of a bluish sort of Clay very hard brittle and rugged: they call it a pinny Clay. 1795 Pearson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 324 Notwithstanding this uneven and pinny appearance of the filed surface, a polish was produced. 1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, What is open in the staple, or inclined to be pinny in the fleece, are halfed below the double shepherd's house. 1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 261 He used the technical term already quoted from Dr. Pearson, observing that it was *pinny.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pinny*, pinned, clogged, choked, as, a pinny file. 1893 *Wiltshire Gloss.*, *Pinny-land*, arable land where the chalk comes close to the surface, as opposed to the deeper clay land.

Pinnywinkles: see Pilliwinks.

Pinocle (pi·nok'l). *U.S.* Also **penuchle, penuckle, pinochle, binocle.** [Origin unascer-

tained.] A game of cards resembling bezique; also, the occurrence of the queen of spades and knave of diamonds together in this game (cf. BEZIQUE).

1890 *Cent. Dict., Penuchle.* 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Sept. 3/2 He likes to play poker and pinochle, but never for high stakes. 1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 37 Let's get up a game of pinocle. *Ibid.* 38 'Oh, don't bother!' cried the pinocle players. 1897 *Foster's Compl. Hoyle* 363 A player has melded and scored four kings, and on winning another trick he melds binocle.

Pinol (pəi·nǫl). *Chem.* [f. L. *pīnus* PINE *sb.*[2] + -OL [3].]

1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pinol*, a name for *Oleum pini pumilionis.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 45 Members of the turpentine group—terebene, pinol, cresol, eucalyptol, creosote tar, carbolic acid, iodine and the like.

Pinole (*pinō·le*). *U. S.* Also **pino·la, pinol** (pinō·l). [a. Amer. Sp. *pinole*, ad. Aztec *pinolli.*] A meal made from parched corn-flour (more rarely wheat-flour) usually mixed with the sweet flour of mesquit-beans or sometimes with sugar and spice; a common article of food on the borders of Mexico and California.

1853 COL. BENTON *Sp.* 7 May (Farmer *Amer.*), It is a small party..and goes unencumbered with superfluities: no wheels, two or three mules apiece, and pinole, pemmican, and beef-dodgers for their principal support. 1854 BARTLETT *Mex. Boundary* I. xi. 269 The daily ration consisting of two pounds of pinole [etc.]. 1856 *Rep. Explor. & Surveys U. S. A.* III. 115 (Stanf.) Its flavor is similar to that of pinole. 1893 KATE SANBORN *Truthf. Wom. S. California* 125 Pinola is parched corn ground fine between stones, eaten with milk. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIII. 355/1 Tortillas of pinol are far better than the best hoecakes of the Southern States.

b. A mixture of vanilla and other aromatic powders used to flavour chocolate.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

Pinoleum (pinō·lĭəm). [f. L. *pīnus* PINE *sb.*[2] + *oleum* OIL *sb.*] A material for sun-blinds, composed of very slender slips or rods of pine-wood coated with oil-paint and threaded close to each other so as to form a flexible sheet which can be rolled up.

1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 348 The Brussells carpets, the massive silken or woollen curtains, and the pinoleum blinds. 1905 *Civ. Serv. Supply Catal.* 432 Pinoleum or Tropical Sun Blinds, in a variety of new patterns.

‖ **Piñon** (pinyǫ·n, pi·nyən). Also **pinion, (pi-non).** [Sp. (*pinyo·n*): etymologically the same as PIGNON[1], q. v.] The American nut-pine, *Pinus edulis*, also the species *P. monophylla, P. Parryana*; the fruit or nut of these.

a. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvi, Our faces partially screened by the foliage of the piñon trees. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 333 The only woods worth mentioning are piñon and cedar. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 455/1 The background of spruce and piñon.

β. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Pinion* (Span., *piñon*), a species of pine-tree, growing on the head waters of the Arkansas...Wild turkeys frequent groves of these trees for the sake of their nuts, which are sweet and palatable. 1889 H. TALLICHET *Span. & Mexican Wds. used in Texas, Pinión*, a species of pine tree, also the fruit or nuts of the tree...This is the Texas form of Spanish *piñon.*

† **Pinous,** *a. Obs.* By-form of PAINOUS. Hence † **Pinously, pynously** *adv. Obs.*, painfully, in a painful manner.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2884 Whilk soeffred his oone son for oure lufe to dye thus pynously.

Pin-pallet to **Pin-patch:** see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pinpillow. Also 6 **pynpyllowe,** 7 **pim-pillowe,** 8 **pimpillo, pimploe,** 9 **pimplo.** [f. PIN *sb.*[1] 3 + PILLOW: cf. the synon. *pin-bolster.*]

† **1.** A pincushion. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pynpyllowe to stycke pynnes on. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij, Pinpillowes of cloth for Children. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 131 We made thereof..purses, pimpillowes, sleeues for little children. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* vii. 91 They of S. Christophers stick Pins on their Noses, making their Noses serve for Pin-pillows.

2. The Prickly Pear: so called from its thick stems beset with spines.

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 26 By the force of the wind.. thrown into a prickly Pimploe hedge. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Pimpillo, *Cactus.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pin-pillow, *Opuntia curassavica.* 1889 FARMER *Dict. Amer., Pimplo*, a Barbadian term for the prickly pear..a corruption of 'pin-pillow'.

Pin-point. The point of a pin: usually *fig.* as a type of something extremely small or sharp (cf. PIN *sb.*[1] 3 c). Also *attrib.*

1849 HARE *Par. Serm.* II. 234 At this very moment..even at this one little pinpoint of time. 1850 BROWNING *Chr. Eve* v, Man, therefore, stands on his own stock Of love and power as a pin-point rock. 1879 MISS BIRD *Rocky Mount.* 267 Snow as stinging as pinpoints beating on my hand. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 114 The pupils..so small as to deserve the name of 'pin-point pupils'. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* III. i. 359 She was on pin-points till she saw her lover.

Pi·n-prick, *sb.* [f. PIN *sb.*[1] 3 + PRICK *sb.*]

1. The prick of a pin; a minute puncture such as that made by a pin-point.

1862 *John & I*, II. 70, I would never move..to cause you the pain of a pin-prick. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 520 When ankle-clonus has disappeared..a pin-prick of the plantar skin will restore it. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. No. 41. 33 The nails themselves showed..numerous minute pin-pricks.

2. *fig.* A petty annoyance, a minute irritation.

Policy of pin-pricks, a course of petty hostile acts maintained as a national or party policy: applied first in Nov. 1898 to the policy attributed to France in reference to the conflicting colonial interests of France and Great Britain.

The French use of a corresponding phrase *coup d'épingle*, 'pin-stroke', goes back some centuries; in Eng. 'pin-pricks' is found in political use in 1885. On 8 Nov. 1898 the French journal *Le Matin* deprecated a 'politique des niches à l'Angleterre', and 'de continuelles piqûres d'épingle'; on 16 Nov. *The Times*, referring to this article, used the words 'a policy of "pinpricks"'; *Le Temps* of 19 Nov. (publ. evening of 18th) had an article denying on the part of France the existence of a 'politique de *coups d'épingle*', *The Times* of 19 Nov. quoted this as a 'policy of pin-pricks' (see quot.), which forthwith became a political phrase.

1885 *Public Opinion* 9 Jan. 29/2 Petty pin-pricks on the coast of Africa had rather irritated than roused public opinion. 1887 ROSA N. CAREY *Uncle Max* xxviii, It is strange how painfully these little pin-pricks to our vanity affect us. 1887 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 518/1 Wherever the French Government can give the British Government a sharp pin-prick, it gives it. 1898 *Times* 16 Nov. 9/3 Such a policy of 'pinpricks' is beginning to be recognized by sensible Frenchmen as a grievous error. *Ibid.* 19 Nov. 7/2 The *Temps* to-night contains a long article, entitled 'The Policy of Pin-pricks'. *Ibid.* 11/3 According to the *Temps* there has never been any policy of pin-pricks. 1898 *Globe* 6 Dec. 1/2 Disposed to bring the pin-prick policy to bear upon British interests in the Far East. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 9/5 Russian provocation is at present but a policy of pin-pricks. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 2/3 The extra penny stamp on cheques..may be a pin-prick, but the prospect is causing a good deal of irritation.

So **Pi·n-prick** *v.*, **Pi·n-pricked** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·n-pri·cking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 272 A dish of twitches, pinches, and pin-prickings. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P.* II. 270 Small slight, pinpricking insults. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. No. 36. 374 Dry and cracked finger-ends, with pin-pricked finger-nails. 1899 *Ibid.* X. No. 38. 147 A peculiar form of local erosion..in which little pits form as if the nail had been pinched..'the pin-pricked nail'. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 2/3 A Committee to pin-prick them on the subject.

Pin-prod to **Pin-rod:** see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pinsal(l, Pinsell(e: see PENCEL, PENCIL.

Pinsche, obs. form of PINCH.

† **Pinse,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Etymology obscure: seems to be distinct from PINCH *v.*; in Ancr. R. varies with PINE *v.* to torment, torture, of which it may be a derived form: cf. *clean, cleanse.*] *trans.* To pain, put to pain or suffering, torture.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 þet..bitocneð bittre swinkes, & flesches pinunge [T. pinsinge, Ca., Cl., Cp. pinsunge]. *a* 1300 *Fall & Passion* 89 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 15 In þis manere he was ipinsed as his swet wil hit was: an deþ for mankyn suffred, þe þrid dai vp he ros. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 89 Wanhoply shal hys pynsynge be.

† **Pinsnet.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PINSON [2] + -ET.] = PINSON [2].

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 57 They haue corked shooes, pinsnets, and fine pantofles. *Ibid.* 77. [Erroneously in Planché, Fairholt (s. v. Boots), Ogilvie, *puisnet*; in Fairholt, Ogilvie and Cent. D. *pisnet.*]

† **Pi·nson** [1]. *Obs.* In use always in pl. **pinsons.** Forms: 4 **pinceoun,** 4–5 **pynsoun,** 4–6 **pynson(e,** 6 **pynsen, pincon, pyncheon,** 6–7 **pinson.** [a. OF. *pinçon* (Picard *pinchons* 1423) deriv. of *pince* pincers.] (*pl.*) Pincers, forceps.

1356 in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 283–4 (Lett.-Bk. G. lf. 45) Pynsouns, pynsons. ?*c* 1357 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 560 Stanaxes, Hakkes, pikkes, chesels, et pinceouns. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15827 In the tother hand she held A peyre off pynsouns. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 400/2 Pynsone, to drawe owt tethe, *dentaria.* 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 4 All the instrumentes of [Christ's] passyon, the spere, crowne, scourges, nayles, hamer, pynsons and the garlonde of thornes. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) II. 85/1 His Nose with sharp Pinsons was violently pluckt from his Face. 1595 *Alcilia* (1879) 34 Sometime with pincons of despaire to wring it [the heart]. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 23 His fleshe by gobbets was nipt of with burnynge pyncheons. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xcvi. 383 Grope the hoofe with a paire of pinsons.

† **Pinson** [2]. *Obs.* Forms: 4–6 **pynson,** (5 **-one, pyncon**), 5–7 **pinson,** (6 **-one,** 7 **pinsen**). [app. related in some way to prec. or to F. *pincer* to pinch: cf. OF. *pinchon* (1423), F. *pinçon* toe-piece of a horse-shoe, f. *pince* toe of a hoof.] A thin shoe of some kind; a slipper or pump.

The *pinsons* appear to have become obsolete soon after 1600. No contemporary description of them is known: Kersey (Phillips) in 1706 suggested 'a sort of shoe without heels'; Halliwell has 'thin-soled shoes'; Way *Promp. Parv.* (note) suggests 'possibly, high and unsoled shoes of thin leather, worn with pattens'.

1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 91 Pro furracione j pair pynsons. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 15 His furrid pynsons. 1503 in *Calr. Doc. rel. Scotl.* (1888) 341 [Six pair of slippers with] pynsons [to same]. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Calx, Calceo*, to put on shoes, sockes or pynsons. 1599 MINSHEU, *Xervilla*, a pumpe or pinsen to weare in pantofles. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 147 Now and then was he also seene shod with womens pumps [*margin*] or pinsones. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pinson* or *Pump*, or a sort of Shoe without Heels. [1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 10/1 A Regent Master..was bound..to wear heelless shoes, called 'pynsons'.]

Pin-spot to **Pin's-worth:** see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

† **Pinstocke,** obs. form of PENSTOCK [1].

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1543/2 Herin..was laid first a pinstocke, and afterwards a sluse of great charge, the streame whereof meeting with the course of the great sluse increaseth the force thereof.

Pinswell (pi·nzwĕl). Now *dial.* Also 8 **pin-swill,** 9 *dial.* **penswell, -swoll, pinsweal, -swil, -sole, pinsel, -zel, pensil.** [Origin uncertain.] 'A boil, an abscess, ulcer; a pimple; a large blister'. Now only *s. w. dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* s. v. *Venenos*, Pinswels in the handes, *pustulæ. c* 1730 J. HAYNES *Dorset Vocab.* in *N. & Q.* 6th ser. VIII. 45/1 A pinswill, a boil. 1877 *Trans. Dev. Assoc.* IX. 96 Creeping under an Arched Bramble.. To cure blackheads, or pinsoles.

Pint (pəint). Forms: 4–6 **pynt(e,** 5 **pintte, pyynte,** 5–7 **pinte,** 6 *Sc.* **point, poynt(t,** 7 *Sc.* **pinct,** 6– **pint.** [ME. *pynte*, a. F. *pinte* a liquid measure (13th c.) = It., Sp., Pg. *pinta*; so OFries. *pint*, MDu., MLG., MHG. *pinte.* Ulterior source uncertain. Diez inclined to think it the same word as Sp. *pinta* spot, coloured mark:—late L. *pincta* for *picta*, something painted or coloured. If so, the Fr. *pinte* must have been adopted from Sp. (or It.) *pinta*, since the native Fr. repr. of L. *pincta* is *peinte*; but the early history of the measure is as yet unknown. Med.L. *pinta* found in 14th c. is from the mod. langs.]

A measure of capacity for liquids (also for corn and other dry substances of powdery or granular nature), equal to half a quart or $\frac{1}{8}$ of a gallon; of varying content at different times and places.

The imperial pint, since 1826 the legal measure in Britain, is equal to 34·66 cubic inches, or ·57 of a litre; in U. S. the standard pint is that of the old wine measure, equal to 28$\frac{7}{8}$ cubic inches, or ·47 of a litre. The old Scotch pint was equal to about 3 imperial pints (104·2 cubic inches). In local use also a weight, e. g. of butter in East Anglia = 1$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

1384 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* III. 107 De..iiij^{e} v^{xx} iij lagenis et j pynt vini. 1432 in *Muniment. Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) 11, ij botellos de corio, unde j de quarte et j de pynte. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 611/15 *Semiquarta*, a pynte. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 201 A pinte of red swynes grece. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 58 Let hym blede the mountenaunce of a pynte. 1543 *Aberdeen Regr.* XVIII. (Jam.), Was sald ..in Dundy for viij.d. the poyntt. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 628 Spare at the brimme, lest whilest thou shouldest poure out a pint, there run forth a pottle. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 207 The rate of no kinde of food is raised, nor the plenty of their markets one pinte of butter rebated. 1618 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) 586/1 Twentie ane pincts and ane mutchkin of just Sterline Jug and measure. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 64, I suppose a pint of Oatmeal equal to half a pint of Rice. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 229 The pint [of lead ore] contains forty-eight cubic inches. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xviii, Fetch me a pint of warm ale.

b. A vessel containing a pint; a pint-pot.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 7 Cannes of two stope Pintes and half-pintes. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 264/1 Put them in a pinte till it be fulle..then close the mouth of the pinte with a cloth verye close. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II* xli, The Rebells enter, and the Apron Men Bid welcome, with their Pints. 1872 J. HARTLEY *Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. II. 133 It's time for sombdy to stand summat, for all th' pints is empty.

c. *ellipt.* A pint of ale or beer, or other liquor.

1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* II. 209 'Ere I had finished my pint. *Mod. colloq.* Give us the price of a pint!

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pint-bottle, -cup, -glass, -measure, -stoup, -vessel.* See also PINT-POT.

1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 295 For ane tyn quart and ane poynt stopes. 1633 *Fife Witch Trial* in *Statist. Acc. Scot.* (1796) XVIII. App. 660 His hand swelled as great as a pint-stoup. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug. Let. i, Mr. Fraser called for pint-glasses. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 56 Clouded pint-horn with its copper rim. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* III. ix, I have no sympathy left for those who creep into the pint-bottle, or swallow the naked sword. 1858 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 54 If a pint vessel be exactly filled with boiling water, it will be something less than full when it becomes cold. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xi, We sat beneath the shade of a huge Bamboo clump, cut ourselves pint-stoups out of the joints.

‖ **Pinta** (pi·ntă). [a. Sp. *pinta*, prop. coloured spot, a. late L. *pincta* for *picta* sb. from fem. pa. pple. of *pingĕre* to paint.] A skin-disease prevalent in Mexico, characterized by roughness, blotches, and ulceration of the skin.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 586 Pinta is contagious and attacks both sexes and any age. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 853 *Pinta*..the spotted sickness of tropical America.

Pintado (pintā·do). Also 7 **pinthado, payntatha, pentado, pintade,** (**pantado**), 8–9 **pintada.** [a. Pg. (and Sp.) *pintado* literally 'painted', also (in Pg.) a guinea-fowl, pa. pple. of *pintar* to paint:—late L. **pinctare*, frequent. of *pingere* to paint, from late pa. pple. **pinct-us* for *pictus.*]

† **1.** A kind of Eastern cotton cloth painted or printed in colours; chintz. Also *attrib. Obs.*

1602 in Birdwood *First Lett. Bk. E. Ind. Co.* (1893) 34, 60 ffardells..of blewes and checkered stuffes, some fine Pinthadoes. *c* 1605 SCOT *Disc. Java* in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 165 About their loynes a faire Pintadoe. 1628 *World Encomp. by Sir F. Drake* 90 With cloth of diuerse colours, not much vnlike our vsuall pentadoes. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 138 Upon the carpets were spread fine coloured pintado Table cloaths. 1665 EVELYN *Diary*

30 Dec., I supped at my lady Mordaunt's..where was a roome hung with Pintado, full of figures.. prettily representing sundry trades and occupations of the Indians. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 409 They Import.. Cotton, Yarn, Callicoes, Pintadoes.

2. A species of petrel, *Daption capensis*, also called Cape Pigeon. Now *pintado bird, petrel.*

1611 in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) I. 275 Sea-fowles, to wit Penguins, Guls, Pentados, which are spotted blacke and white. 1614 *Ibid.* 528 Wee saw many Pintados, Mangareludas and other fowles. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 19 The Pantado birds (like Iayes in colours) who about these remote seas are ever flying. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. I. 95 Pintado Birds, as big as Ducks. 1767 *Byron's Voy. round World* in *Hawkesworth's Voy.* I. 9 Large flocks of pintadoes, which are somewhat larger than a pigeon, and spotted with black and white. 1844 J. TOMLIN *Missionary Jrnls.* 3 A few of the pintado birds, or Cape pigeons, joined us. 1894 Pintado petrel [see PETREL].

3. The Guinea-fowl.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 89 A kind of Pheasants, which are called Pintadoes, because they are as it were painted in colours. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 10 The Island [Gorea] affords great variety of Game: Turtle-Doves, Pintades, Pigeons and Partridges. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 192 The Pintada [*ed.* 1862 pintado] or Guinea-Hen:..in some measure unites the characteristics of the pheasant and the turkey. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 249 The four species of Pintado hitherto known are all natives of Africa. 1824 BURCHELL *Trav.* I. 364 The missionaries have a few domestic fowls, ducks, geese, and Guinea hens or Pintadoes.

4. 'The West Indian mackerel, *Scomberomorus regalis*' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Pintail (pi·nˌtēl). [f. PIN *sb.*[1] + TAIL.]

†**1.** An alleged name of the hare. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 134 In the worshipe of the hare..The go-bi-grounde, the sittest-ille [sic: ?sittestille], The pintail, the toure-hohulle.

2. (In full *pintail duck.*) A widely-distributed species of duck (*Dafila acuta*), of which the male has the tail of a pointed shape, the two middle feathers being longer than the rest. (Also applied locally in U. S. to the ruddy duck, *Erismatura rubida*, which has stiff narrow pointed tail-feathers.)

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 468 Pintail duck.. Mr. Hartlib.. tells us that those birds are found in great abundance in Connaught in Ireland, in the month of February only. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 130 The Pintail, with the two middle feathers of the tail three inches longer than the rest. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xiii. 84 The male pintail-duck.. loses his plumage for.. six weeks or two months. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xii. 217 Flocks of mallard and pintail feeding among the stunted scrub.

3. A species of grouse having a pointed tail, as the pintailed sand-grouse (*Pterocles setarius*) of the Old World, and the pintailed or sharp-tailed grouse (*Pediœcetes phasianellus*) of N. America (also called *pintail chicken*).

1879 CONDER *Tentwork Pal.* II. 99 We also saw large coveys of the sand-grouse or pintail. 1894 J. S. CRANE in *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 385/2 We found the pin-tails more frequently on the sides of hills, about the coolies in the rolling prairie.

4. Ironically applied to a woman.

1792 *Elvina* II. 135 They are powdered, painted, and perfumed.—I wish I could catch such a pin-tail in my house. 1882 JAGO *Cornw. Gloss.*, *Pin-tail*, a person who is very small and narrow in the hips. 1897 PHILLPOTTS *Lying Prophets* 271 (E.D.D.) A pin-tail built lass.

So **Pi·ntailed** *a.*, having a pointed tail; also = PIN-BUTTOCKED *a.*: see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. I. viii. § 1. 111 The pintailed duck is also occasionally found. 1900 PHILLPOTTS *Sons Morning* 105 (E.D.D.) A poor pin-tailed wench.

Pintail, erron. variant of PINTLE 2 b.

Pintle (pi·ntˈl). Forms: 1–7 **pintel,** 4–5 **pyntyl,** 5 **-ell(e, pentill,** 5–6 **pyntil, -ill, -yll, pintil,** 6–7 **-ill,** 7–8 **-ell,** (7–9 **pintail**); 6– **pintle.** [OE. *pintel* (*-el* perh. dim.: see -LE). Cf. OFris. *pint, penth,* Dan. dial. *pint, pintel,* LGer., Du., Ger. *pint* penis; also CUCKOO-PINT. Ulterior history uncertain.

(Kilian has †*Pint. j. punt.* Punctus, cuspis: & Mentula.)]

1. The penis. Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*

a 1100 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 292/16 *Uirilius*, pintel. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlviii. (Bodl. MS.), Amonge þe genitals oone hatte þe pintel. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xiii, A litell pyntell and a litell hangynge, smale ballokes [etc.]. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 363 Dame, shew me the child here, He must hopp upon my spere, And if it any pintle beare, I must teach him a play. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K j, Questyons vpon the Anathomy of the pyntyll. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* B iij, The pintle and splene of an Asse.

2. A pin or bolt, in various mechanical contrivances; *esp.* one on which some other part turns, as in a hinge. Among these are:

a. *Naut.* A pin forming part of the hinge of a rudder, usually fixed erect in the stern-post and receiving the brace of the rudder, sometimes (in small boats) fixed on the rudder and fitting into a ring on the stern-post. **b.** *Gunnery.* (*a*) An iron pin to prevent the recoil of a cannon; (*b*) the bolt on which a chassis oscillates in traversing; (*c*) 'the iron pin in the axletree of a limber, to which the trail-eye of the gun-carriage is attached for travel' (Knight *Dict. Mech.*); (also corruptly *pin-tail*). **c.** The king-bolt upon which the axle of a carriage turns in rounding a curve.

1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 15 A pyntell & a gogeon for the Rother. 1611 COTGR., *Masles*, the pintles of a sterne; the yron pinnes that enter into the rings, or gudgeons thereof. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 11 The holes wherein the pintels of the murderers or fowlers goe into. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pintles* in a Ship, are those Hooks by which the Rudder hangs to the Stern-post. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pintel* or *Pintle*, (in Gunnery) an Iron-pin that serves to keep the Gun from recoiling. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Cc iv, The pintle..serves as an axis to the bed; so that the mortar may be turned about horizontally. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 177 Number 1 orders 'Halt Limber Up':..2, 3, and 6 lift the trail and place it on the pintail. 1843 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 17 June 176/3 The pintle upon which a looking-glass swings is commonly a piece of iron wire, having a screw-thread turned at each end. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 112 The pintail of the dismounted limber. 1869 SIR E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* iv. 60 The rudder post, with its lugs for the pintles.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pintle-end*; †**pintle-fish,** some kind of edible fish, so called from its shape (according to Jamieson, app. either a pipe-fish or the launce or sand-eel); **pintle-hook,** the hook on the pintle of a limber to which the eye of the gun-carriage is attached (see 2 b (*c*)).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 281/1 A Pyntelle ende, *prepucium.* *c* 1549 D. MONROE *W. Isles Scot.* (1774) 34 In this ile [Eriskeray] ther is daylie gottin aboundance of verey grate pintill fishe at ebbe seas. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* xviii. 174 Dr. Wotton termeth it grosly the *Pintle fish.*

‖**Pinto** (pi·ntǫ), *a.* and *sb. S. Western U. S.* [Sp. *pinto* painted, mottled:—late L. **pinctus* for *pictus*, pa. pple. of *pingĕre* to paint.] **a.** *adj.* Of a horse, etc.: Mottled, piebald. **b.** *sb.* A piebald horse.

1885 B. HARTE *Maruja* iii, It was you, Pereo, who took me before you on your pinto horse. 1902 R. CONNOR *Sky Pilot* ix, A most beautiful pinto pony. *Ibid.*, She sprung upon her pinto and set off down the trail.

Pin-tongs to Pin-truce: see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pint-pot. A pot containing a pint; *esp.* a pewter pot of this size for beer.

[1522 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 115 A thre pynt pott of pewter.] 1622 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & Bad N.* 45 Tom Tempest.. fel'd him with a pintpot from a forme. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxi, Another officer.. came up with a pint-pot of porter.

b. As a nickname for a seller of beer.

1563 BECON *Display. Popish Mass* Wks. II. III. 47 b, Ye praye for..the soules of good man Rynse-pytcher and good wyfe Pyntepot. 1596 SHAKS. *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 438 Peace good Pint-pot, peace good Tickle-braine.

Pintre, obs. form of PINE-TREE.

†**Pin-tree.** *Obs.* [f. PIN *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + TREE, wood.] A wooden bar or barrier; ?a pinfold

1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pynne tree, *parquet.*

Pinule, obs. form of PINNULE.

Pin-vice, -weed, -wire, etc.: see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pin-wheel, *sb.* [f. PIN *sb.*[1] + WHEEL.]

1. a. 'A wheel in the striking train of a clock in which pins are fixed to lift the hammer' (F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockmakers' Handbk.* 196). **b.** 'A contrate wheel in which the cogs are pins set into the disk' (Knight *Dict. Mech.*).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Striking-wheel*, In 16 Days Clocks, the first or great Wheel is usually the Pin-wheel; but in Pieces that go 8 Days, the second Wheel is the Pin-wheel or Striking-wheel. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 276 This wheel, thus with pins, is called the striking-wheel, or pin-wheel. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 496 This single wheel serves the purpose of count-wheel, pin-wheel, detent-wheel, and the fly-wheel. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 196 The escape wheel of a Pin Wheel Escapement.

2. A firework in which the composition is contained in a long case wound spirally about a disk, which is supported upon a pin, and revolves like a wheel on being ignited; a small catherine-wheel.

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 629 The pretty little catherine-wheel, or pin-wheel. 1869 ALDRICH *Story of Bad Boy* 92 The smaller sort of fireworks, such as pin-wheels, serpents, double-headers.

3. A revolving circular wooden box or drum, with wooden pins projecting from the inner surface, in which hides are washed or softened in warm water or other liquid; also called *pin-mill.*

1885 NEWHALL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 275/2 The hides next pass into a queer-looking contrivance known as a 'pin-wheel', a stout circular wooden box, in which they are churned about in warmish water, dropping upon stout wooden pins attached to the circumference.

Hence **Pi·n-wheel** *v. trans.*, to subject (hides) to the action of a pin-wheel (sense 3).

1885 NEWHALL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 276/2 Hides.., after having been..pin-wheeled,..are put under a 'scourer'.

Pinwhites: see PINNED *ppl. a.* 5.

Pin-winged to **Pinworm:** see PIN *sb.*[1] 18.

Pi·n-work, *sb.* [f. PIN + WORK.] The small fine raised parts of a design in needle-point lace.

Pi·n-work, *v.* [f. PIN *sb.*[1] + WORK *v.*] *trans.* To work (flax-yarn) on a stout wooden pin, by jerking and twisting, so as to make it supple.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 450 In order to give the yarns that soft and mellow feel so agreeable and characteristic of flax yarns, the hanks when brought from the drying are what is called slaken down and pin-worked.

Pinxter, variant of PINKSTER.

Piny (pəi·ni), *a.* [f. PINE *sb.*[2] + -Y. Cf. *briny, spiny.*] Abounding in, covered with, or consisting of pine-trees; of or pertaining to a pine-tree.

1627 MAY *Lucan* I. 419 The loud blast of Thracian Boreas On piny Ossa. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 282, I..Then cross'd Cyllene, and the piny shade. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1304 The piny top Of Ida. 1751 J. BARTRAM *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.*, etc. 72 We rode over some stony poor land, then piney, white oak, and some middling land. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* vi. § I. 162 The rise of the long low lines of piny hills. 1863 LONGF. *Birds Killingw.* xiii, The green steeples of the piny wood. 1888 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* II. v. 88 She liked their aromatic piny smell.

Piny, obs. and dial. variant of PEONY.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii, They did dispose The ruddy Piny with the lighter Rose. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, *Pinies* (pei·niz), *sb. pl.* Peonies.

Piny resin, etc.: see PINEY.

‖**Piolet** (pyolę). [F., prop. Savoy dial. *piolet*, dim. of *piolo*, app. cognate with F. *pioche, pic.* Cf. med.L. *piola*, rabot, plane, scraper; also a kind of sword (Du Cange).] An ice-ax used by Alpine climbers.

1868 T. G. BONNEY *Alpine Regions* xii. 323 If you intend to wander much on the glaciers without guides,.. a *piolet* is preferable [to the alpenstock]. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 11/2 The old guides..stood at ease leaning on their piolets. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 19 Aug. 5/7 All three.. had barely time to plant their piolets in the ice and fasten the cord before they were carried to the brink of a precipice.

†**Pi·on,** *v. Obs.* [a. OF. *pion-er, piouner* intr. to pick, dig, trench, excavate (1469 in Godef.), f. *pion* a foot-soldier: see PEON, PIONEER.] *trans.* and *intr.* To dig, trench, excavate; to do the work of a pioneer. Hence **Pi·oning** *vbl. sb.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 63 With painefull pyonings From sea to sea he heapt a mightie mound. 1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 13 To remooue the Crime from the Iesuites, the Principall Instigators of the Pioning Traitors to the Act. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Van. Thoughts* 27 He'll digge and fall a pioning, with his thoughts, his engins, in the night. 1656 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. to Dugdale* 10 Nov., Wks. (Bohn) III. 495 The clearing of woods and making of passages, [and] all kind of pyoning and slavish labour.

Pion, obs. form of PEON.

†**Pionade.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **pionad, pyonad.** [? f. ME. *pione*, PEONY + -ADE.] Some kind of confection. (Perh. containing or flavoured with peony-seeds: see PEONY.)

1302–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 504 In iiij pixidibus de pionad, xij s. 1310 *Acc. Exors. T. Bp. of Exeter* (Camden) 9 De iij pixidibus de gengebrad et pyonad venditis.

Pione, pionee, obs. forms of PEONY.

†**Pi·oned,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [? f. PION *v.*] ?Dug, excavated, trenched.

The meaning of *pioned* in the Shaks. passage has been much disputed: see Aldis Wright in Clarendon Pr. ed. 'Tempest'. (The conjecture 'overgrown with marsh-marigold', offered in *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 1872, 363, and adopted by Schmidt, etc., is not supported by any sense of *peony*, known to Britten and Holland *Eng. Plant names*, or to *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) Bulwer's fig. use in quot. 1650, rendering *demissos* 'sloping down, low', is also obscure.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 64 Thy bankes with pioned, and twilled brims Which spungie Aprill at thy hest betrims. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 163 Terence in the description of a handsome slender woman, makes her to have *demissos humeros*, as it were Pion'd shoulders.

Pioneer (pəi,ǒnī·ə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 6 **pianer,** *Sc.* **pean-, pyonar,** 6–7 **pion(n)er, pyoner, -eer,** 7 **pionor, -ier, pyonier,** *Sc.* **-eir,** 6– **pioneer.** [a. F. *pionnier,* OF. *paonier* (11th c.), also *peon-(n)ier, pion(n)ier,* orig. foot-soldier, later pioneer, f. OF. *peon, pion*: see PEON, PAWN, and -IER. So Prov. *pezonier, pessonier,* f. *pezon* foot-soldier.]

1. *Mil.* One of a body of foot-soldiers who march with or in advance of an army or regiment, having spades, pickaxes, etc. to dig trenches, repair roads, and perform other labours in clearing and preparing the way for the main body.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxlviii. 555 The erle..sent great nombre of pioners and men of armes to assyste them. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 160 Item, to xxiiij peanaris to pas with the artaillerie. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 56 b, Withal diligence the pyoners cast trenches. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 259, I wold first..bring ye pionners to cast down their trenches. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* I. D iij b, He cals out his Pianers, and sets Martin and Penrie a worke to vndermine it. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 115 Our Pioners had been busied in fortifying and building a new Fort at Blackwater. 1626 *Proclamation* § 8 in *Maldon Essex Borough Deeds* (Bundle 118 No. 13), To euery thousand Souldiers, there be allotted one hundred pioners, to be prouided with Pickaxes, Shouels, Hatchets, Bills and the like. 1768 SIMES *Mil. Medley* (ed. 2), *Pioneers* are soldiers armed with firelock..saw and hatchet. ..They are employed in cutting down trees, and making the roads..for the army to march. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 533 My pioneers are at work upon the Bhore Ghaut. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 70 The brigade halted, while the pioneers were busily employed in rendering the ascent practicable for laden cattle, and stores, and ammunition.

†**2.** *gen.* One who digs a trench, pit, etc.; a digger, excavator; a miner. *Obs.*

1572 R. H. tr. *Lauaterus' Ghostes* 73 Pioners or diggers for mettal. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 469 An inhibition, that the publicanes who fermed that mine of the city, should not keepe aboue fiue thousand pioners together at worke there. 1640 D. WHISTLER in *Horti Carol., Rosa altera,* So when a Mine's discover'd,..It cheeres the Pioner.

b. A labourer (app. confused with PINER 1).

a 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 346 The queene caused his corps to be careid by some pyoners in the night; ..and to be layed beside the sepulchre of David Rizio.

3. *fig.* One who goes before to prepare or open up the way for others to follow; one who begins, or takes part in beginning, some enterprise, course of action, etc.; an original investigator, explorer, or worker, in any department of knowledge or activity; an originator, initiator (*of* some action, scheme, etc.); a forerunner (in such action, etc.).

In 17th c. usually a fig. use of 'miner' or 'underminer'.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 1 To make two professions or occupations of Naturall Philosophers, some to bee Pioniers, and some Smythes. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* 22 The other pioner,..which by secret undermining makes way for this opinion of the Worlds decay, is an excessive admiration of Antiquitie. 1700 BLACKMORE *Paraphr. Isa.* xl. 33 Ye Pioneers of Heav'n, prepare a Road. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 541 Come then,..Philology, pioneer of the abstruser sciences, to prepare the way for their passage. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 262 As one wave of emigration after another rolls into the vast regions of the west,..the eager eyes of our pioneers will pry beyond. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 300 The great pioneer of Arctic travel, Sir Edward Parry. 1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign Law* ii. (ed. 4) 111 The great pioneers in new paths of discovery. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 147 He made the acquaintance of more than one silver-haired pioneer.

4. *attrib.* (usually appositive, in sense 3).

1611 COTGR., *Pionnier*: m., *ere*: f., made by, or belonging to, a Pioner; Pioner-like. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 153 The pioneer-marks of improved husbandry in our own land. 1869 J. MCBRIDE (*title*) Pioneer Biography, Sketches of the Lives of some of the Early Settlers of Butler County, Ohio. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 566 The buffaloes .. have also often been invaluable to the pioneer settler. 1885 *Public Opinion* 9 Jan. 27/2 The pioneer boats of General Earle's expedition. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 202 The pioneer-squatter's humble woolshed.

Pionee·r, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To act as pioneer; to prepare the way as a pioneer. Also *to pioneer it.* (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 46 The veteran Carbines,.. having platooned and pioneered it for a number of years. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 199 The tutor .. pushes him along the road, to pioneer for their common information. 1846 WORCESTER, *Pioneer, v. n.* to act as pioneer; to clear the way. *Qu. Rev.*

2. *trans.* To prepare, clear, open up (a way, road, etc.) as a pioneer. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1794 BURKE tr. *Pref. to Brissot's Address* Wks. VII. 314 Crimes had pioneered and made smooth the way for the march of the virtues. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 318 Artificers..to pioneer the path for the procession. 1898 S. EVANS *Holy Graal* 189 In pioneering the way for future research.

3. To act as a pioneer to, be the pioneer of; to prepare the way for; to go before, lead (a person or persons in some course); to lead the way in, initiate (a course of action, etc.). Sometimes *loosely* = conduct, guide, 'pilot'.

1819 KEATS *Otho* IV. ii. 28 Or thro' the air thou pioneerest me. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table T.* 17 Aug., High and passionate rhetoric, not introduced and pioneered by calm and clear logic. 1878 A. H. MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* iv. 49 Our pilot, getting into his kayak, offered to pioneer us into a little bay. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 764 Those who have pioneered abdominal surgery to its present position. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *First Pers. Singular* xvii. 132 She trusted to him to pioneer her about the deck. 1897 *Daily News* 10 July 4/3 My firm pioneered the nine hours movement in Scotland.

Hence **Pionee·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* 239 By successive labourers of this pioneering class, the road is made gradually smoother. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 6 The axe is..the pioneering instrument and most faithful ally of man in founding himself a home. 1899 CHEYNE in *Expositor* Apr. 257 Pioneering critics ought not to be unaware of the results of their predecessors.

Pionee·rship (-ʃip). [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The function or action of a pioneer.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 172 His fine genius was..employed in a kind of pioneership for our present admirable rulers.

† Pionery. *Obs.* Also 6 **-arie.** [a. OF. *pionnerie, pionerie* (1332 in Godef.), f. *pion(n)ier* PIONEER.] a. The work or business of a (military) pioneer. b. The tools collectively of a pioneer. Also *fig.* or *allusively.*

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 14 The significations of this colour Sable..with Or, honor with long lyfe..with Sanguine, prosperous in Pionarie. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 228 The art is his pionery to undermine gluttony. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. i. 33 Chirurgions..with..tooth-pick-axes, tooth-mattocks, and all manner of mouth-Pionery.

Pioney, -ie, -y, obs. forms of PEONY.

Pioscope (pəi·ǒɪskoup). [irreg. f. Gr. *πίον* (sc. *γάλα*) rich milk (neut. of *πίων* fat) + -SCOPE.] A form of lactometer invented by Heeren, in which the purity of milk is tested by comparing its colour, as seen through the uncoloured part of a plate of glass, with the colours of sectors of the plate painted in various shades from whitish-grey to deep bluish-grey.

1884 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pioscope,* a form of *Lactometer.*

Piot, variant of PIET, magpie, etc. **Pioted, Piotty,** *a. Sc.,* pied (in colour), piebald.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvii, Wi' the lad in the pioted coat.

Pious (pəi·əs), *a.* [f. L. *pi-us* dutiful, pious + -OUS: cf. mod.F. *pieux, -euse* (R. Estienne 1539), which may have been the model.]

1. 'Careful of the duties owed by created beings to God' (J.); characterized by or showing reverence and obedience to God (or the gods); faithful to religious duties and observances; devout, godly, religious. a. Of persons.

Pious founder, the founder of a college or other endowment for the glory of God and the good of his fellow-men.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iii. 16 NOW (pious Sir) You will demand of me, why I do this. 1605 — *Macb.* III. vi. 27. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Pious,* godly, vertuous. 1627 BALCANQUAL *Stat. Heriot's Hosp. Edinb.* ii, The bountiefull mantenance which they living thair receave from the charitie of thair pious founder. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 8 For we doe reade, that Kings who pioust were Had wicked subjects. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) IV. 47 Mackay ..was the piousest man I ever knew. 1746 WARTON *Progr. Discontent* 120 And din'd untax'd, untroubled, under The portrait of our pious founder. 1763 JOHNSON 1 July in *Boswell,* Campbell is a good man, a pious man .. he never passes a church without pulling off his hat. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* iv, I asked one of your references, and he said you were pious. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 321 What pious men in the parlour will vote for what reprobates at the polls!

b. Of actions, things, etc.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 48 'Tis too much prou'd, that with Deuotions visage, And pious Action, we do sugre o're The diuell himselfe. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 200 Those thy gifts that cary The piousst showes have scarce been voluntary. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. (Gros.) IV. 257 That so great a part of the land should be alienated..to, as they call it, *Pious Uses.* 1781 CRABBE *Library* 502 Old pious tracts, and Bibles bound in wood. 1874 J. SULLY *Sensation & Intuition* 116 Pious attempts to coerce belief.

c. Of fraud or the like: Practised for the sake of religion or for a good object, or 'under the appearance of religion' (J.): see also FRAUD *sb.* 3 c.

1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* II. 43 He sought the presence of his deare brother Benjamin by a pious kind of fraud. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. x. 512 Which are .. Pious Frauds (as they speak) useful to very advantageous effects. 1678- [see FRAUD *sb.* 3c]. 1813 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 9/2 The necessity under which judges and juries so frequently laboured, of committing what had been called pious perjuries.

2. Faithful to the duties naturally owed to parents, relatives, friends, superiors, etc.; characterized by loyal affection, esp. to parents; dutiful, duteous. Of persons (also of birds), or actions, etc. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* II. i, May it succeed well, Since my intents are pious! 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 59 White marble Pillars, a top of which now inhabit the pious Storkes. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* II. i. 765 Love and willing Friendship Employ their pious Offices in Vain. 1819 KEATS *St. Agnes* xxii, With..pious care She..the aged gossip led.

Piously (pəi·əsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pious manner; with pious motive or intention; devoutly, religiously; loyally, dutifully (*arch.*).

1611 COTGR., *Pieusement,* piously, religiously, deuoutly, holily. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 207 You are piously to believe divers sots to be sufficient men, since the world will have it so. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. viii. 180 She was most affectionately and piously observant of her Father. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. (1846) V. 19 A royal captive was piously slaughtered by the prince of the Saracens, the ally and soldier of the emperor Justinian. 1887 RUSKIN *Præter.* II. 126 If you do a foolish thing, you suffer for it exactly the same, whether you do it piously or not. *Comb.* 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 13 The piously-inclin'd may be directed in so great a duty. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* I. iv. 55 The mass of piously-minded..people in all ranks.

Pi·ousness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being pious; piety.

1623 SIR E. DIGBY *Sp.* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1859) I. 133 Heaven be pleased to crown his Actions with success, as the piousness of his Intentions deserves. 1660 BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 347 No wonder if the Malignant Cavaleers do reproach and villifie our piousness.

Pip (pip), *sb.*1 Forms: 5–6 **pyppe,** 5–7 **pippe,** 6 **pype,** 6–7 **pipe, pipp,** 6– **pip.** [app. a. MDu. *pippe* (*pipse*), Du. *pip* = MLG., EFris. *pip,* LG. *pipp,* Ger. *pips, pipps* from LG., formerly *pfipps, pfipfs,* OHG., MHG. *pfiffiz, pfiffiz, pfipfiz* = WG. type **pipit,* a. pop.Lat. *pipita, pipita,* whence also Sard. *pibida,* Cat. *pebida,* Rhæt. *pivida,* Lomb. *pevida, puvida, piida,* Pg. *pivide, pevide,* and (of learned or semi-popular origin), It. *pipita,* Sp. *pepita,* Pr. *pepida,* F. *pepie, pépie.* Pop.L. *pitŭita* appears to have been an unexplained alteration of *pituīta* in same sense.] A disease of poultry and other birds, characterized by the secretion of a thick mucus in the mouth and throat, often with the formation of a white scale on the tip of the tongue (hence sometimes applied to this scale itself). Also, a similar disease of hawks.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 589 Other while an hen wul ha the pippe, A whit pilet that wul the tonge enrounde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/1 Pyppe, sekenesse, *pituita.* 1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pyppe a sickenesse, *pepye. Ibid.* 658/1 [see PIP *v.*1]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. B v, Garlyke..is also good for the pype or roupe of hennes and cockes, as Pliny wryteth. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 294 Sometimes also the pip in their tungs. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* (1623) 141 The Pippe is a white thin scale, growing on the tippe of the tongue, and will make Poultrie they cannot feede. 1781 COWPER *Conversation* 356 Faint as a chicken's note that has the pip. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 274 A thousand pips eat up your sparrowhawk!

b. Applied vaguely (usually more or less humorously) to various diseases in human beings.

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 525, I haue a master: I wolld he had ye pyppe. 1553 *Respublica* III. iii. 742 Bee thei gone? fare well theye, god sende them bothe the pippe. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 78 *margin,* Beware the Spanish pip. 1591 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 17 Sometimes they catch such a spanish pip, that they haue no more hair on their heads, then on their nailes. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* III. ii. 302 I'll let you know enough to prevent any wise woman's dying of the pip. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* IV. iv, No, no, Hussy; you have the Green-Pip already, I'll have *no* more Apothecary's Bills. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxvii, The children ill with the pip, or some confounded thing. 1864 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. xviii. 250 We are all well, barring..various forms of infantile pip.

Pip, *sb.*2 Forms: 6–7 **peepe,** 7 (9 *dial.*) **peep,** 7– **pip.** [Originally *peep,* which is still widely used in midland dialects; with the shortening of *peep* to *pip,* cf. the dial. *ship* for *sheep.* Origin of *peep* unknown. (Not from PIP *sb.*3 in sense 'seed of apple, etc.', which is not known till late in 18th c.)]

1. Each of the spots on playing-cards, dice, or dominoes.

α. 1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 84 Like a blank die—the one having no black peeps. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Oberon's Palace* 49 Those picks or diamonds in the card; With peeps of harts, of club and spade, Are here most neatly inter-laid.

β. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* xii. 121 At Fench-Ruff.. the King is the highest Card..and all other Cards follow in preheminency according to the number of the Pips. 1755 in *Connoisseur* No. 60. 357 A gamester's mind is a mere pack of cards, and has no impressions beyond the pips and the Four Honours. 1865 *Compl. Domino-Player* 12 When one has played all his dominoes out, he counts the number of pips in the other's hand. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idylls, Pietro* 438 Fling..Golden dice..Note what sum the pips present!

† b. *fig.* In allusive phrases: A step, degree. *Two and thirty, a pip* (*peep*) *out*: an allusion to the game of cards called 'one-and-thirty'. (In quot. 1652, A very small piece, a 'scrap'.) *Obs.*

α. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 33 Was it fit for a seruant to vse his master so, being perhaps..two and thirty, a peepe out? 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. ii. 63 He's but one peep above a serving-man. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* II. ii. D iij b, You thinke, because you serue my Ladyes mother, are 32 yeeres old which is a peepe out, you know. 1652 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 11 One who had stolen but a peepe of Sausage. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 409 How many are above one and thirty, (a Peep out) in their Estates, before they come to their one and twenty in yeares? 1693 *Humours Town* 96 The Alderman is a Peep higher.

2. A spot or speck; *spec.* a small spot on the skin; a spot on a spotted dress fabric; *pl.* specks appearing to dance before the eye. Now *dial.*

1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 157 Pippins..taking their name from the small spots or pips that..appear on the sides of the Apple. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Pips,*..the spots on playing cards, dominoes, and women's dresses. 1881 *Oxfordsh. Gloss., Pips,* small spots on the skin. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.,* Pips.

3. *Gardening.* Each single blossom of a clustered inflorescence (usually, the corolla only), esp. in the cowslip and polyanthus; also *dial.* a small blossom in general.

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* iv. 23 The pips, as the gardiners call them. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 147 To make Cowslip Wine. Take two pecks of peeps, and four gallons of water, put [etc.]. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 303 The polyanthuses .. for pip, colour, and eye, I defy the whole parish..to match 'em. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 125 Bees in every peep did try. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Peeps,* the flowers of cowslips detached from the calix. 1847 MRS. LOUDON *Amateur Gard.* 93/2 The heads and pips of flowers should be large and smooth. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 307 A tea being made of the dried flowers or 'pips' [of the cowslip].

b. Trade-name for the central part of an artificial flower.

4. Each of the rhomboidal segments of the surface of a pine-apple, corresponding to one blossom of the compound inflorescence from which the fruit is developed.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 490/1 The Pine Apple..what gardeners call the pips, that is to say, the rhomboidal spaces into which the surface is divided. 1840 *Ibid.* XVIII. 164/2 In the Malay Archipelago it .. sports into a variety called the double pine-apple, each pip of its fruit growing into a branch bearing a new pine-apple. 1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 764 The pine-apple is not .. one fruit, but a collection of many, what are called the pips being the true fruit.

Pip, *sb.*3 [app. a shortened form of PIPPIN; in sense 2, perhaps associated with PIP *sb.*2 Not in Johnson, Ash, Walker, Webster 1828. In Todd 1818, as a children's word; but in use with fruit-growers in 1797. (The Sc. *paip, pape,* of earlier use, is not applied to the seeds of apples or oranges.)]

† 1. Short for PIPPIN, the apple. *Obs.*

In quots. attributed as a cry to Irish costermongers.

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 25 He cries oh rare, to heare the Irishmen Cry pippe, fine pippe, with a shrill accent. 1600 DEKKER *Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 152 (Cry of Irish costermonger) Buy any Apples, feene Apples of Tamasco, feene Tamasco peepins: peeps feene. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 339 Hee whose throat squeakes like a treble Organ, and speakes as smal and shril, as the Irish-men crie pip, fine pip.

2. The common name for the seeds of fleshy fruits, as the apple, pear, orange, etc. Cf. PIPPIN 1.

1797 Billingsley *Agric. Somerset* ix. 124 The favourite apple..is the *Court of Wick Pippin*; taking its name from the spot where it was first produced. It originated from the pip or seed of the golden pippin. 1808 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* 236 By the end of the sixth year from the time of sowing the pips. 1818 Todd, *Pip*, ..a kernel in an apple. So children call kernels. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* VII. Poems (1857) 302 We divide This apple of life, and cut it through the pips. 1876 *World* V. No. 120. 13 The Queen of Navarre gave the original orange pip to her gardener in 1421. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* Oct. 461 In Blackberry and Raspberry..the 'endocarp' in both cases is the hard centre, commonly called the 'pip', and ignorantly the 'seed'.

† **Pip,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **pyppe, 7 pipp.** [f. Pip *sb.*[1]] *trans.* **a.** To remove the 'pip' or scale from the tongue of (a fowl): see Pip *sb.*[1] **b.** To affect with the pip.

1530 Palsgr. 658/1, I pyppe a henne or a capon, I take the pyppe from them, *je prens la pepie dune geline* or *dung chapon*. Your hennes shall never waxe faste tyll they be pypped. 1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiii. 102 From which their tunes but pip their tungs and then they hang the wing.

Pip, *v.*[2] [In sense 1, app. var. of Peep with shortened vowel: cf. dial. *ship, kip*, etc. Sense 2 is perhaps a distinct word and onomatopœic: cf. *chip.*]

1. *intr.* To chirp as a young bird: = Peep *v.*[1]

1659 Hoole *Comenius' Vis. World* (1777) 4 The chicken pippeth. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech., Digress.* 374 To hear the Chick Pip or Cry in the Egg, before the Shell be broken. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* II. vii, Wherefore, like a coward, dost thou forever pip and whimper?

2. *trans.* To crack (the shell of the egg), as a young bird when hatched.

1879 Tourgee *Fool's Err.* (1883) 233 If one ever pipped the shell. 1886 P. S. Robinson *Valley Teet. Trees* 30 It is all very well for .. the vernal pullet to be impudent because it pipped its shell when the crocuses were abloom.

Pip, *v.*[3] *colloq.* or *slang.* [f. Pip *sb.*[2] (or [3]), taken *fig.* as = small ball: cf. Pill *v.*[2].] *trans.* To blackball; to defeat, beat; to hit with a shot.

1880 A. H. Huth *Buckle* I. v. 252 If Buckle were pipped [at the Club election], they would do the same for every clergyman put up. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 1/1 Cycling.. an exciting struggle at top speed resulted in A. C. Edwards just pipping A. T. Mole for first place. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Mar. 2/2 Pipped, by Jove! At 9.25 as we were advancing I got a bullet through the leg.

Pip, obs. Sc. variant of Pipe *sb.*[2]

‖ **Pipa** (pipä, pəi'pă). Also 8–9 **pipal,** (8 **piwal**). [a. Surinam negro *pipál* masc., *pipá* fem. Prob. a native African name, the Indian (Carib) name being *curucú*. Cf.

1734 Seba *Thes. Rer. Nat.* I. 121 Les Surinamois .. apellent *pipa* les femelles de ces animaux et les mâles *pipal*.]

The Surinam toad (noted for its peculiar manner of hatching its young: see quot. 1838); hence in *Zool.* the name of the genus of tailless batrachians of which this is the only species.

α. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) II. xxii. § 9 An American Animal, called the Pipal, like a Toad, which produces its young ones out of its Back. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 280 A species of toads called piwal, or pipal, the female of which deposits her eggs in *valvulæ* or little cells on the back of the male, so that when the young are hatched they seem to grow out of the body of the male. Others suppose that to be the female that seems to produce the young. 1802 *Eng. Encycl.* VIII. 730/1 The pipal, or Surinam toad, is more ugly than even the common one.

β. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 148 The pipa is a large venomous toad peculiar to Guiana. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 493/1 The male *Pipa*, or Surinam toad, as soon as the eggs are laid, places them on the back of the female, and fecundates them..The skin of her back..forms cellules, in which the eggs are hatched, and where the young pass their tadpole state. 1894 Mivart *Types Anim. Life* 113 Like the Pipa toad it brings forth its young in the adult condition.

Pipage (pəi'pēdʒ). Also **pipeage.** [f. Pipe *sb.*[1] + -age.] The conveyance or distribution of water, gas, petroleum, etc. by means of pipes; the construction or laying down of pipes for this purpose; such pipes collectively.

1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* 92 Pipeage .. is .. the making of earthen pipes, for the conducting..of fresh waters, for the..vse of houses. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 334/1 Paying twenty cents a barrel as the pipage charge, and a storage charge of fifty cents per day per thousand barrels. 1897 W. R. Paterson *Tormentor* 100 Strange vermin course, much like water-rats, through the veins and pipage of men's lives!

Pipal, variant of Peepul, Pipa.

† **Pipa·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[o]. [ad. L. *pīpātiōn-em* a piping, chirping, whimpering, n. of action f. *pīpāre*: see Pipe *v.*[1]]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pipation*, a cry of one that weeps. 1658 Phillips, *Pipation*, (lat.) a kinde of shrill crying, or weeping. 1775 in Ash.

Pipe (pəip), *sb.*[1] Also 4–7 **pype,** 6 **pyppe.** [OE. *pīpe* fem. = OFris., MDu., MLG., LG. *pīpe* (EFris. *pīpe, pīp*, Du. *pijp*), OHG. *pfīfa* (MHG. *pfīfe*, Ger. *pfeife*), ON. *pípa* (Sw. *pipa*, Da. *pibe*) :—OLG. type **pīpa*, a. late L. **pīpa*, f. *pīpāre* to peep, pipe, chirp (also *pipiāre*). From L. *pīpa* with usual phonetic evolution came It. *piva*; an assumed popular form **pippa* gave It., Sp., Roum. *pipa*, F. *pipe*, Pr. *pimpa*; Ir. and Gael. *piob*, W. *pib* are from L. or Eng.]

I. A musical tube.

1. A musical wind-instrument consisting of a single tube of reed, straw, or (now usually) wood, blown by the mouth, such as a flageolet, flute, or oboe. (*Double pipe*, an instrument formed with two such tubes.) Now chiefly *arch.* or *Hist.*

α 1000 [see Pipe *v.*[1] 1]. α 1023 Wulfstan *Hom.* vi. (Napier) 46 Hearpe and pipe and mistlicgliȝgamen dremað eow on beorsele. α 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 311/22 *Musa*, pipe oððe hwistle. *c* 1205 Lay. 3635 Þer wes bemene song, þer þeden [? weren] pipen among. α 1300 *Cursor M.* 15011 Wit harp and pipe, and horn and trump. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* vii. 32 We han soungun to ȝou with pipis, and ȝe han not daunsid. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 761 The lilt pype, and the lute. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxx. 30 My harpe is turned to sorow, & my pipe to wepinge. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 124 Their lean and flashy songs Grate on their scrannel Pipes of wretched straw. 1799 Wordsw. *Ruth* ii, She had made a pipe of straw, And music from that pipe could draw. 1864 Engel *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 57 The double pipe .. was well known to the Greeks and Romans. 1877 J. Northcote *Catacombs* I. v. 72 The pastoral reed or tuneful pipe.

b. Each of the tubes (of wood or metal, and of construction similar to that of the simple instrument) by which the sounds are produced in an organ: see Organ-pipe.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/1 Pype, of orgonys, *ydraula*. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 47 A pere of orgaynes, one pype of brasse. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 4 b, Of diuerse lengths like Organe pipes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 709 As in an Organ from one blast of wind To many a row of Pipes the sound-board breaths. 1795 Mason *Ch. Mus.* i. 39 The pipes formed only of brass, must have been so shrill and piercing that [etc.]. 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* II. 450 While the great organ almost burst his pipes..rolling thro' the court A long melodious thunder.

c. *Naut.* The boatswain's whistle; the sounding of this as a call to the crew (cf. Pipe *v.*[1] 6).

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 30 The whistler with his iron Pipe encouraging the Marriners. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* xxxviii, The pipe of the boatswain re-echoed as the captain ascended the side. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* July 489/2 The pipe went for all hands to 'scrub and wash clothes'.

d. *pl.* = *Bagpipes* (cf. Bagpipe 1 b). Also *poet.* in *sing.*

α 1706 R. Semple *Piper of Kilbarchan* vii, At Horse Races many a day .. He gart his pipe, when he did play, Baith skirl and skreed. 1790 Burns *Tam O'Shanter* 123 He screw'd the pipes, and gart them skirl, Till roof and rafters a' did dirl. 1810, 1862 [see Pibroch]. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* IV. vi, The pipes resumed their clamorous strain. 1874 G. Macdonald *Malcolm* xix, Duncan strode along in front, and Malcolm followed, carrying the pipes.

e. In *fig.* or allusive use: esp. in phr. † *to put (pack) up one's pipes*, to cease from action, speaking, etc., desist, 'shut up' (*obs.*).

1556 Olde *Antichrist* 148 Than maye the B[ishop] of Rome put up his pypes. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* 12 He could haue found in his hart to haue packt vp hys pipes, and to haue gone to heauen. α 1758 Ramsay *Eagle & Robin* 49 Poke up your pypes, be nae mair sene At court. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* II. i, To make herself the pipe and ballad-monger of a circle! 1828 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 16 None..had more pipes blown about in his ironic praise [*note*, *Pipes*, a colonial term for pasquinades and squibs, personal and political].

2. *transf.* The voice, esp. as used in singing; the song or note of a bird, etc. Formerly also in *pl.* † *To set up one's pipes*, to cry aloud, shout, yell (*obs.*); *to tune one's pipes*, to begin to cry, i.e. weep (*Sc.*).

1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 278 Where vnder a sweete Arbour..be byrdes recording theyr sweete notes, hee also strayned his olde pype. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 188 A straunge orator straining his pipes, to perswade straunge people. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. iv. 32 Thy small pipe Is as the maidens organ, shrill, and sound. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 381 They did not speak softly, but set up their pipes aloud. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 81 The Bullfinch and Robin-Red-Breast speak in a Treble Tone or Pipe. 1749 Smollett *Gil Bl.* I. v. I. 23 Setting up my pipes, as if he had flead me. 1785 Trusler *Mod. Times* II. 185 She was a very pretty woman..and had a very sweet pipe. 1843 Thackeray *Mr. & Mrs. F. Berry* ii, He..will occasionally lift up his little pipe in a glee. 1889 Jefferies *Field & Hedg.* 229 The thin pipe of the gnat heard at night.

b. ? *Sc.* phr. *to take a pipe*, to weep, cry. (Cf. Pipe *v.*[1] 5 d, 7, Piping *vbl. sb.*[1] 3.)

1818 Hogg *Brownie of B.* II. 155 He's takin a pipe to himsel at the house-end..his heart..is as saft as a snaw-ba'.

II. A cylindrical tube or stick for other purposes.

3. A hollow cylinder of wood, metal, or other substance, for the conveyance of water, gas, vapour, etc., or for other purposes; a tube.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 126 Monnes heafod ban bærn to ahsan, do mid pipan on. 1396 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 123 In pypys emp. pro campanis, 4*d.* 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. i. (Tollem. MS.), Yf a welle sprynge þ in þe coppe of an hyll, ofte by pipes þe water is ledde to þe same hyȝnesse in to a noþer hyll. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 Þam behoues souke it with a rede or a pype. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* II. xi. (1555), Many gargoyle .. With spoutes thorough & pipes. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 35 The saide water hath bene conueied vnder erth in pypes of leade. 1662 Merrett tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 364 The Pipes are the hollow Irons to blow the Glass. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* III. iv, Water, to be conveyed up by pipes and engines. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 304 The barometer..is composed of a glass tube or pipe..closed up at one end. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 408 The Sucking-pump consists of two pipes, the barrel and suction-pipe. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 200 Pipes, containing either hot water or steam. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 62/2 An inspector..tested the drain, when he found that the joints of the pipes were not properly cemented.

b. *To lay pipe* or *pipes*, i.e. for the supply of water or gas; *fig.* in U. S. political slang: see quots. and cf. Pipe-laying.

1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s. v. *Pipe-laying*, To *lay pipe* means to bring up voters not legally qualified. 1861 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Feb. 169 The gentlemen who succeed in appropriating these small measures will be laying down very good 'pipe' for Leeds, Southampton, &c. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 28 To charge him, in the technical language of his party, with 'pulling wires', and 'laying pipes' for the Presidency.

4. Applied to various specific tubular or cylindrical objects or contrivances.

† **a.** Some part of horse-harness; prob. a leather tube through which the traces were passed to prevent chafing against the horse's sides. *Obs.* (Cf. Piping *vbl. sb.*[2] 5.)

? 1309 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 506 (Mariscall.) In..iij paribus de pipes. ? 1333–4 *Ibid.* 523, viij pipes pro tractubus. [1418 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 543/1 Cum..Stuffurâ rationabili de Pipis, Rigeboundes, Bellibondes..pro Equis.]

† **b.** A tubular handle or staff in which a banner or cross was fitted, to be carried in procession. *Obs.*

1397 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 445 Quinque pipes de argento cum cruce argentia et deaurata..pro vexillo S'ci Cuthberti. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 42 Item j staf for to set on the pypys for the crosse. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 104, ij coper crosses..pypes belongyng to them. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 22 A goodly and sumptuous banner..with pippes of siluer..with a device to taike of and on y^e^ said pipes.

† **c.** A tube or roll on which thread was wound, and on which a definite length was bought. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 39, I prey yow do byen for me ij. pypys of gold [i. e. gold thread].

† **d.** in *pl.* A form in which gold and silver were used to trim dresses, etc. *Obs.*

1533 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 26 A gyrdell of pyppes of silver. α 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 7 On their heades skayus and wrappers of Damaske golde with flatte pypes. 1556 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees) 110 [Vestments] one chekeryd with grene velvet and litle silver pipes. 1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 502 One Frenche gowne of blacke vellat, with an edge of purle, and pipes of gold.

e. Name for the large round cell in a honeycomb inhabited by the queen bee. *dial.*

1609 C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 104–5 The Queen's cells are built single. ..In fashion they are round...The common people..call them Pipes, or Taps. 1847–78 Halliw., *Pipe*, a large round cell in a beehive used by the queen bee. *West.*

f. An underground passage, a burrow.

1738 [G. Smith] *Curious Relations* II. 453 The old Beavers harbour the whole Winter in the Pipes, to which they remove in the beginning of November. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss., Pipe*, a branch or side-run in a rabbit-warren.

g. *pl.* (*slang.*) Top-boots.

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict., Pipes*, boots. 1834 H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v, Jist twig his swell-kickseys and pipes [*note*, Breeches and boots].

h. A piece of confectionery, etc. of a tubular or cylindrical form. (Cf. Piping *vbl. sb.*[2] 8.)

α 1851 Pereira in Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 204/1 Sugar constitutes the base of..hard confectionary, sold under the names of lozenges, brilliants, pipe, rock, comfits, nonpareils, &c. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 175/1 Roll it [the liquorice] into pipes or cylinders of convenient lengths. *Ibid.* 355/1 Isinglass..under the names of 'leaf', 'staple', 'book', 'pipe', ..according to its form.

i. 'One of the curved flutings of a frill or ruff; also, a pin used for piping or fluting' (*Cent. D.*).

j. In hair-dressing: see quot. 1860.

1765 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xxviii, I'll put your white Ramallie-wig fresh into pipes. 1860 Fairholt *Costume* Gloss., *Pipes*, small articles made of pipe-clay used for keeping the large periwigs in curl.

k. A tubular part of something, e. g. of a key.

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 99 Draw the ramrod out of the barrel, and return it into the pipe. 1849 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Africa* I. 161 The holsters should be sufficiently capacious to carry in one pipe the..double barrelled pistol: in the other, a brandy-flask. 1853 Hobbs & Tomlinson *Locks* xi. 159 The process of piercing the key consists in making the pipe or barrel. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 29 A stop for the pipe of the detent. *Ibid.* 101 The pipe that carries the minute hand.

5. † **a.** The account of a sheriff or other minister of the Crown, as sent in and enrolled at the Exchequer: cf. Pipe-roll. *Obs.*

[The origin of this use of *pipe* is doubtful: some would explain it from the pipe-like form of a thin roll, or? from its being transmitted in a cylindrical case. Bacon saw in it a metaphor: see quot. 1598 in b., and cf. sense 8; but we have no evidence that that sense was in use early in the 14th c.]

[1323 *Red Book of the Exchequer* (1896) 858 Soient desore annuelement tutes les pipes de tutz les accomptes renduz en lan [all the pipes of all the accounts sent in in the year] bien et pleynement examinez, avant qe eles soient mises ensemble et roule fait de eles, a la fyn del an. *Ibid.* 860 Et face il, en fyn del an, les pipes des accomptes foreyns mettre par eux, et les autres pipes des acomptes des viscountes [pipes of the accounts of the sheriffs] par eux.]

fig. 1565 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 126 Are such Monuments laid vp only in the Roles and Pipes of your memorie?

b. The department of the Exchequer that drew up the 'pipes', or enrolled accounts, of sheriffs and others, abolished in England by Act 3 & 4 Will. IV, c. 99 § 41 (= *pipe-office*: see 11 b).

[1338 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 101/1 Brief des somons hors de la Pipe.] 1455 *Ibid.* V. 342/2 The Office of the Clerk of the

Pipe. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 18 § 3 The same accomptes ..to be taken & fylled uppe in the pype theyr to remayne of recorde. 1598 BACON *Office of Alienations* Wks. 1879 I. 588 That office of her Majesty's exchequer, which we, by a metaphor, do call the pipe, .. because the whole receipt is finally conveyed into it by the means of divers small pipes or quills. 1658 PHILLIPS, Clerk of the *Pipe*, an Officer in the Exchequer, who having all accounts and debts due unto the King, drawn out of the remembrancers Office, chargeth them down into the great Roll. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5298/3 The Right Honourable William Lord Cheyne .. to be Clerk of the Pipe in the Exchequer. 1738 *Hist. Crt. Exched.* ii. 18 The Summons of the Pipe got in the Tallages. 1834 *Act* 4 & 5 *Will. IV*, c. 16 § 1 The Office of Recorder of the Great Roll or Clerk of the Pipe in the Exchequer in Scotland shall cease and determine.

6. A tubular organ, passage, canal, or vessel in an animal body: applied to the veins and arteries, the alimentary canal, and now *esp.* to the respiratory passages (windpipe, bronchi, and tubules of the lungs). Almost always in *pl.* (See also *pipe-opener* in 11 b.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1894 The pipes of his longes gonne to swelle. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 8 Take Pypis, Hertys, Nerys, Myltys, an Rybbys of the Swyne. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 21 His feete ware ful coolde... No mouing of his pypys might be knowen long tyme. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 394 The meate Pipe, *gula* .. λαιμὸς. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 57 The nauill.. is appointed to be the pipe to conuey both [breath and meat] vnto him before he be borne. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* v. ii, I am well skill'd in letting blood. Bind fast This arm, that so the pipes may from their conduits Convey a full stream. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 ₱ 3 He loves to clear his Pipes in good Air (to make use of his own Phrase). 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 4 Depth of girth he [the horse] must have, or his pipes and heart have no room to play.

7. Applied to various tubular or cylindrical natural formations, as the stem of a plant, etc.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 70 Lowe places, and all the holowe bunnes and pypes that growe therin. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xliii. 202 This kinde of Lillie beareth..amongst his leaues as it were certayne pypes or clysters. 1753 FRANKLIN *Lett.*, etc. Wks. 1840 VI. 155 When the whirling pipe of air was filled with..vapor. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 74 The strongest wheat-straw..laid on upon the building in whole pipes, unbruised by the flail.

† **b.** An icicle. *Obs.*

1556–68 WITHALS *Dict.* 3/1 The iseicles or pypes hangynge vppon the eaues of a house. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 46 To thow the pypes and schokles of yce, frosin vpon thame.

c. *Mining* and *Geol.* (*a*) A vein of ore of a more or less cylindrical form, usually following the direction of the strata; also called *pipe-vein* (see 11 b), PIPE-WORK. (*b*) A vertical cylindrical hollow filled with sand or gravel, occurring in a stratum of chalk; also called *sand-pipe* or *sand-gall*. (*c*) The vertical eruptive channel which opens into the crater of a volcano. (*d*) Each of the vertical cylindrical masses of blue rock (of eruptive origin) in which diamonds are found imbedded in S. Africa (see KIMBERLITE).

1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 5 If there be any rakes or pipes of Lead or Tin Oar. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Liv b, Lidd [is] the Cover that lies over the Tops of Veins sometimes, but over Pipes always. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 832 The pipe does not in general cut the strata across like the rake vein, but insinuates itself between them; so that if the plane of the strata be nearly horizontal, the bearing of the pipe vein will be conformable. 1860 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* II. 332 You used to be interested about the 'pipes' in the chalk. 1873 E. J. DUNN in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* (1874) XXX. 54 The contents of these 'pipes' in the shale are the same in all cases, and show distinctly that they are of igneous origin. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 189 At the mouth of the volcanic pipe, there is usually a funnel-shaped opening known as the crater. 1889 *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v. *Diamond.* 1903 *Daily Chron.* 2 June 2/3 Diamonds .. only appear at the surface in places where they have shared in a volcanic upheaval. Hence they are found in what are technically known as pipes.

d. Each of the numerous hollow jets of flame which occur in a particular process of the manufacture of black-ash (ASH *sb.*[2] 2).

1880 LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 175 Just as the pipes begin to disappear, the bright hot mass is raked out quickly. *Ibid.* 176 Bright jets of carbonic oxide, burning with a sodium yellow, and usually called 'pipes', should be visible all over the ball.

e. *Metallurgy.* A funnel-shaped cavity at the top of an ingot of steel, caused by the escape of gas during cooling.

8. † **a.** The channel of a small stream. *Obs. rare.*

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 199 Divers other smal pipes of water .. minister secondarie helpes to this navigable river. *Ibid.* 260 The greater ryvers..have their increase from many smal Wels (or springs) the which .. bee conveied in slender quilles, then afterwarde (meeting together in course) doe growe by little and little into bigger pipes.

b. Each of the channels of a decoy for wild fowl: see DECOY *sb.*[2] 1.

1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (1844) 171 There are five pipes in this coy as in mine. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 464 There are several pipes (as they are called) which lead up a narrow ditch, that closes at last with a funnel net. Over these pipes..is a continued arch of netting... It is necessary to have a pipe or ditch for almost every wind that can blow. 1887 FENN *Dick o' Fens* (1888) 112 Quite a hundred followed their leaders up the pipe in happy ignorance of the meaning of a net.

† **9.** A name for the Mock Orange or Syringa (*Philadelphus coronarius*); also, for the Lilac (Blue Pipe), rendering the med.L. name *Syringa*. *Obs. rare.* (See PIPE-TREE.)

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lvii. 1214 The later Phisitions call the first *Syringa*,..that is to say, a Pipe, bicause the stalks and branches thereof, when the pith is taken out, are hollow like a Pipe. It is also..surnamed *Candida* or white, or *Syringa candido flore*, or Pipe with a white flower.. Lillach..is sometimes named *Syringa cærulea*, or blue Pipe.

III. A pipe for smoking.

10. A narrow tube of clay, wood, or other material, with a bowl at one end, for drawing in the smoke of tobacco (or other narcotic or medicinal substance). Often used as including the contained tobacco, etc., as in *to light one's pipe*, *to smoke a pipe*; also for a quantity which fills the bowl and is smoked at one time, a pipeful. (See also TOBACCO-PIPE.)

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 29 Wee..will not vouchsafe one pipe of Tabacco vpon her. 1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* P v b, The fume taken in a Pipe, is good against Rumes, Catarrhs, hoarsenesse. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 37 He must haue his pipe of Tobacco. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 205 Because of the long pipes, the smoake is exceeding cold in their swallowing throates. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 168 Now every Plow-man has his Pipe to himself. 1736 I. H. BROWNE *Pipe Tobacco* Poems (1768) 116 Happy mortal! he who knows Pleasure which a Pipe bestows. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) II. I, I smoked a pipe after supper. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 247 The guns were laid down, and the pipe was lighted. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 7, I lit a pipe to cheer me.

b. *Pipe of peace*: the CALUMET, or peace-pipe of the American Indians. Also used allusively.

1722 R. BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* Tab. vi. 144–5 Pipe of peace w[ch] I have seen. 1762 FOOTE *Lyar* I. (1786) 17, I had the first honour of smoaking the pipe of peace with the little Carpenter. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 91 The chiefs approached with pipes of peace. 1870 MISS BRIDGMAN *Rob. Lynne* II. xii. 261 They had better smoke the pipe of peace.

c. *Queen's* (*King's*) *Pipe*: humorous name for a furnace at the London Docks, used formerly for burning contraband tobacco, now for burning tobacco-sweepings and other refuse.

[1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 17/2 The damaged tobacco..is consumed in a furnace..jocularly termed the 'queen's tobacco-pipe'.] 1871 *Echo* 25 Jan., If the sale is not brisk, then her Majesty's tobacco-pipe, which smokes tobacco by the ton, is likely soon to be well filled. This 'pipe', or furnace, is at the London Docks, and in it vast quantities of tobacco .. that have failed to sell in the Government sales, are burnt. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 3/2 The rubbish which had got packed with the leaf..goes to fill the Queen's pipe—is, in fact, burned. 1904 *Daily News* 28 June 6 'The King's Pipe'...The disorderly heaps of fuel included 'beads' of American tobacco.., Turkish leaves strung on a string, fragments of packing cases, and general litter.

d. In allusive phrases.

To put one's pipe out, to put a stop to one's success, take the 'shine' out of, extinguish. *Put that in your pipe and smoke it*, digest or put up with that if you can.

1720 RAMSAY *Wealth* 78 Upmost to-day, the morn their pipe's put out. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *St. Odille*, Put that in your pipe, my lord Otto, and smoke it! 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxiv. *heading*, James Crawley's Pipe is put out. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* xli, I'll give you something to put in both your pipes. 1884 W. E. NORRIS *Thirlby Hall* xxv, It don't do to let them get the whip-hand of you, according to my experience. Put that in your pipe and smoke it, Master Charley. 1884 FLORENCE MARRYAT *Under Lilies & Roses* xxx, You're jealous of the girl, and want me to put her pipe out.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

11. a. Obvious combinations, as *pipe-like* adj.; (in sense 1 or 1 d) *pipe-clang*, *-music*, *-playing* (playing on a pipe, or with a tobacco-pipe); (in sense 3) *pipe-casting*, *-founding*, *-manufacturing*, *-track*; (in sense 10) *pipe-bowl*, *-champer*, *-fill*, *-lover*, *-shank*, *-smoker*, *-smoking*, *-stem*, *-whiff*; *pipe-drawn*, *-puffed* adjs.

1886 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 2/3 The Plumbers' Company... The examinations included *pipe bending, joint making, the formation of roof gutters, cisterns, &c. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* i. 9 Red clay *pipe-bowls of all sizes and prices. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 9/5 Foundry iron—which is being used mainly for *pipe casting. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ₱ 3 These craving Damsels .. *Pipe-champers, Chalk-lickers, Wax-nibblers [etc.]. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xx, *Pipe-clang and bugle sound. 1762 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 870 Thus sportive boys, around some bason's brim, Behold the *pipe-drawn bladders circling swim. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 786/1 Some Notes on *Pipe Founding. E. Kebler. Read before the Foundry-men's Assn., England. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 355 The *pipe-like burke. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 12/1 The pipelike passage leading to the chamber underneath the caisson. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 8/1 At one time in Skye there were two schools, or colleges, for *pipe music—one at Borreraig..and the other at Peingowan. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 70 *Pipe-playing, dallying. *Ibid.* 710 Through his *Pipe-puft Nose more Smoake they wave, Then all the Chimnies their great Houses have. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* I. 21 [He] Took a long reed for a *pipe-stem. *Mod.* We ascended Table Mountain in 1905 by the *Pipe-track and the Tunnel Gorge. 1846 BROWNING *Lett.* 29 June, Between two huge *pipe-whiffs.

b. Special Combinations: **pipe-bag**, the leathern bag of the bagpipe; **pipe-bearer**, an attendant who bears the pipe (of an American Indian chief, an Oriental ruler or official, etc.); **pipe-beetle**, one of the *Curculionidæ*, so called from their long proboscis; **pipe-bender**, a machine or device for bending a metal pipe; **pipe-box**, (*a*) ? a box for containing tobacco-pipes; (*b*) the box of the hub of a wheel, in which the arm of the axle is inserted (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **pipe-case**, a case for a tobacco-pipe or its bowl; **pipe-clamp** = *pipe-vice*; † **pipe-coal**, powdered coal or coal-dust formed into tubular briquettes; **pipe-coral**, ? = organ-pipe coral (see CORAL *sb.*[1] 1 b); **pipe-coupling**, a coupling for joining two pipes so as to form a continuous channel, or for attaching a pipe to something else; **pipe-cutter**, a tool or machine for cutting off pipes; **pipe-dance**, a dance resembling the sword-dance, in which long clay pipes are used instead of swords; **pipe-die**, (*a*) a ring-shaped die for moulding earthenware pipes; (*b*) a female screw or nut, or other device, for cutting a screw-thread on a pipe; **pipe-driver** (see quot.); **pipe-ear**, a projecting part at the side of the top of a pipe; **pipe-foot**, the lower part of a flue-pipe in an organ; † **pipe gled** *Sc. Obs.*, ? the kite (GLEDE); **pipe-grab**, a clutching-tool for lifting a well-pipe; **pipe-head**, (*a*) the bowl of a pipe for smoking; (*b*) the top of a water-pipe; **pipe-holder**, a perforated board in an organ, through which some of the pipes pass; **pipe-insect** (see quot.); **pipe-joint** = *pipe-coupling*; **pipe-key**, a key with a pipe or hollow barrel which fits on a pintle in the lock, a piped key; **pipe-lee**, tobacco half smoked to ashes in a pipe; **pipe-light**, a strip of paper folded or twisted for lighting a pipe, a spill; **pipe-loop** (see quot.); **pipe-macaroni**, macaroni made in the form of pipes or tubes; **pipe-major**, the chief player of a band of bagpipe-players; **pipe-maker**, a maker of pipes (in various senses); **pipe-metal**, an alloy of tin and lead, with or without zinc, used for organ-pipes; † **pipe-money**, money given to a piper, or for playing a pipe; **pipe-note**, a note or sound made by a pipe; a note like that of a pipe, a piping note; **pipe-office**, the office of the Clerk of the Pipe in the Exchequer (see 5); in quot. 1609 humorously used for the mouth (with allusion to sense 10); **pipe-opener** (*colloq.*), a spell of exercise taken to clear the respiratory passages and replenish the lungs with fresh air; a 'breather'; **pipe-ore** (see quot.); **pipe-organ**, an organ with pipes (= ORGAN *sb.*[1] 2), esp. as distinguished from a *reed-organ*; **pipe oven** (see quot.); **pipe-privet**, a name for the lilac; = PIPE-TREE (Miller *Plant-names* 1884); **pipe-prover**, an apparatus for testing the strength and soundness of steam- or water-pipes by hydraulic pressure; **pipe-rack**, (*a*) in an organ, a wooden shelf with perforations by which the pipes are supported; (*b*) a rack for tobacco-pipes; **pipe-reducer**, a pipe-coupling larger at one end than at the other to unite pipes differing in diameter; **pipe-skill**, skill in playing the bagpipe; **pipe-stand**, a stand or frame for supporting a pipe or pipes (in any sense); **pipe-stay** (see quot.); **pipe-stick**, a hollow wooden tube used as the stem of a tobacco-pipe; **pipe-stop**, (*a*) a plug or stop-valve in a pipe; (*b*) an organ-stop composed of mouth-pipes (as distinguished from a *reed-stop*), a flue-stop; **pipe-stopper**, a small plug for compressing the tobacco in the bowl of a pipe; **pipe-tongs**, tongs made to grasp a pipe or rod; **pipe-twister** = *pipe-wrench*; **pipe vein** (*Mining*): see quots. and 7 c (*a*); **pipe-vice** (**-vise**), a vice for grasping a pipe or rod; **pipe-vine**, a name for the N. American plant *Aristolochia Sipho*, from the shape of the flowers and the twining growth (also called *Dutchman's Pipe*); **pipe-wood**, name for *Leucothoe* (*Andromeda*) *acuminata*, a shrub of the southern U.S., the wood of which is used for tobacco-pipes; **pipe-worm**, a *Sabella*, *Serpula*, or allied tube-worm; **pipe-wrench**, a tool with one jaw fixed on a shank and the other movable on a pivot, so shaped as to grip a pipe when turned in one direction round it. See also PIPE-CLAY, PIPE-FISH, etc.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1703) 93 Pipe could he not.. His *pipe-bagge torn, no wind it could keepe in. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 315 The *pipebearer stepped within the circle, lighted the pipe .., then .. handed it to the principal chief. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 602 The turbaned official who comes, attended by his secretary and pipe-bearer, to pay you a visit of ceremony. 1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 344 One of the largest kind of Curculio or *Pipe-Beetles yet seen. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & their Tenants*, Lounging about, on round tubs and *pipe-boxes. 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* xiv. 98 Tempering, stamping, and comixing of sea-cole, or stone-cole, that a kinde of substance being there made of them like vnto past or tempered clay, the Presse-mould may forme and trans-

figure that clay-like substance into hollow *pipe-cole as it doth earthen pipes. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* II. viii. 4 Small pieces of *pipe coral were stuck in the lobe of each ear. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 12/2 Sometimes they do the '*pipe-dance'. For this a number of tobacco-pipes ..are laid close together on the floor, and the dancer places the toe of his boot between the different pipes. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pipe-driver*, an implement of the general form of a pile-driver, used for forcing into the ground pipes for what are known as 'driven wells'. 1905 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 534/1 The fronts of pipe-heads and the *pipe ears were often heraldically treated. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 642 The Pitill and the *Pype Gled cryand pewewe. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pipe-grab*, a tool to let down into a well-pipe to enable it to be hoisted to the surface. 1855 Longf. *Hiaw.* I. 18 From the red stone of the quarry With his hand he broke a fragment, Moulded it into a *pipe-head. 1905 [see *pipe-ear*]. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 56 These small pipes go first through the holes of the *pipe-holders. 1805 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* vi. (1806) 93 Animalcules..living in small tubes, or cases of sandy matter, united like pieces of coral; from which..they are called the *pipe insect. 1540 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for a *pype key ij*d*. 1860 Sala *Baddington Peerage* II. xix. 23 Half-smoked *pipe-lees. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* xxi, Mr. George..twists it [the document] up for a *pipe-light. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pipe-loop* (*Harness*), a long narrow loop for holding the end of a buckled strap. 1787 J. Farley *Art Cookery* (ed. 4) 157 Take half a pound of small *pipe-maccaroni. 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 48 Sir Colin complimented the *pipe-major on the way he had played. 1896 Crockett *Cleg Kelly* (ed. 2) 97 Cleg marched along like the pipe-major in the Black Watch. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 616/22 *Tibiarius*, a *Pypemaker. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 10 Pype makers, wode mongers, and orgyn makers. 1765 Spry in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 84 Had I..rendered the tube flexible..and turned it on a stick of pipe-maker's clay. 1901 *Scott. N. & Q.* May 170/2 He commissioned a well-known Glasgow pipe-maker to furnish him with a set of bag-pipes. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 75 The pipes..are composed of wood, pewter, or what is called. *pipe-metal. 1621 B. Jonson *Gipsies Metamorph.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 623/2 Call Cheeks upon the bagpipe, and Tom Tickle-foot with his tabor. Clod, will you gather the *pipe-money? 1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xxxvi, His apish toyes, His Pedlarie, and *pype-notes. 1854 Bushnan in *Circ. Sc.* (*c* 1865) I. 293/1 When the male [bird] is alone, its most significant note is the pipe-note *witt*. 1609 Dekker *Gvlls Horne-bk.* 18 Till your *pipe offices smoke with your pitifully-stinking girds shot out against me. 1647 Haward *Crown Rev.* 5 Clerke in the Pipe office. 1738 Birch *Life Milton* in *M.'s Wks.* (1738) I. 77 One Mr. Francis Boyton, a Norfolk Gentleman, who had a place in the Pipe-Office. 1879 *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/1 The crew..indulge in a short paddle to the point and back by way of a '*pipe-opener'. 1898 *Cycling* 89 He should ride for half an hour, in sufficient clothing, simply as a pipe-opener. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, **Pipe-ore*, iron ore (limonite) in vertical pillars, sometimes of conical, sometimes of hour-glass form, imbedded in clay. 1895-6 *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 214 The..course..in instrumental music, either piano-forte, *pipe-organ or violin. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pipe Oven*, a hot blast oven in which the air passes through pipes exposed to the heat of the furnace. In contra-distinction to a fire-brick oven. 1855 E. J. Hopkins *Organ* 39 The *pipe-racks. The greater number of the pipes stand on the upperboards..a framework, therefore, is used to keep them in an erect position. 1892 W. B. Scott *Autobiog. Notes* I. 162 A pipe-rack like those in the artist clubs in Munich. *a* 1780 Shirrefs *Poems* (1790) 213 John o' *pipe-skill wasna scant. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pipe Stand*, a frame to support radiator pipes. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 270 From his pipe-stand he reached down a long Hungarian pipe and a long Turkish chibouc. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Pipe Stay*, a device to hold a pipe in place; or to hang a pipe. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1876) I. xiv. 307 With the stroke of a whip or a *pipe-stick. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 321 Not so thick as your Highness' *pipe-stopper. 1831 Trelawny *Adv. Younger Son* I. 244 Using his probe with the same sort of indifference as a man does a pipe-stopper. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pipe-tongs. 1899 *Academy* 11 Feb. 183/1 A pair of pipe-tongs wherewith the New Englander lifted an outlying coal to light his pipe. 1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 281 The *pipe vein is a variety of the flat vein having the sides closed or twitched in, so as to form a tube or cavity of irregular shape. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 832 The pipe vein resembles in many respects a huge irregular cavern. 1857 Gray *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 26 The Aristolochia or *Pipe-Vine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 91 *A[ristolochia] Sipho*, a native of the Alleghany mountains..has..received the name of Pipe-vine, from a resemblance in the form of the flowers to that of a tobacco-pipe. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 48 *Pipe-worms and other little animals fix their habitation to the oyster's sides.

Pipe, *sb.*2 [a. OF., F. *pipe*, a cask for wine, etc., also a measure. So Sp., Pg. *pipa*, It. *pippa*. In origin, the same word as Pipe *sb.*1, in special sense of a cylindrical vessel.]

1. A large cask, of more or less definite capacity (see 2), used for wine, and formerly also for other liquids and provisions (as eggs, meat, fish, etc.), or other goods. *Obs.* or merged in 2.

1392-3 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 156 Pro iij doliis j pipe. 1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j tubbe et j barell vjd; dimidium pype, vijd.; j parvum fatte iij d. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xvii. 49 Bridgis..made vpon pipes bounden togider and wel teyed with ropys. *c* 1559 R. Hall *Fisher* xxii. (1655) 186 His Library, which they found so replenished..with..Books,..with which they trussed up, and filled 32. great fats, or pipes. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* III. xi. R iv, Sundrie kindes of wine vessels, as the tunne, the pipe, the punshion, hogsheads, buttes, barrels. 1842 Tennyson *Will Waterproof* x, The pint, you brought me, was the best That ever came from pipe.

2. Such a cask with its contents (wine, beer, cider, beef, fish, etc.), or as a measure of capacity, equivalent to half a tun, or 2 hogsheads, or 4 barrels, i. e. containing usually 105 imperial gallons (= 126 old wine-gallons), but varying for different commodities, and still for different kinds of wine. Sometimes identified with Butt *sb.*2 1.

[1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 328/2 De chescun Pype ou Vessel de tiel Vyn douce.] 1406 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 13 Y wyt to Iohan Whyte the yongger, and to hys wyfe, a pipe of wyne, pris of xl s. 1439 *Act* 18 *Hen. VI*, *c.* 17 Pour ceo qe come toutz les tonels, pipes, tercians & hoggeshedes de Vin Oyle & Mele..doient..conteiner un certein mesure..chescun pipe vj^{xx}, vj galons. [*tr. a.* 1550 Forasmuch as all the Tunnes, Pipes, Tercians, and Hogsheads of Wine, Oyle, and Honie..ought..to conteine a certaine measure..euerie Pipe six score and six gallons.] 1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 37/2, ii pipes of Syder. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 166 A pipe of salte bieff redie dressed xl^{li}. 1526 in Dillon *Calais & Pale* (1892) 81 A pype of redd Herring. 1670 R. Coke *Disc. Trade* 6 The Canary Wines yearly Imported are about 13000 Pipes. 1802 *Brookes' Gazetteer* (ed. 12) s.v. *Reus*, About 20,000 pipes of brandy are annually exported. 1903 *Whitaker's Almanack* 453 Of wines imported in casks the following are the usual measurements: Pipe of Port or Masdeu = 115 gallons, of Teneriffe = 100 g., of Marsala = 93 g., of Madeira and Cape = 92 g., of Sherry and Tent = 108 g.

3. *Comb.* **Pipe-board, pipe-hoop, pipe-stave,** a board, hoop, or stave used for making pipes or casks (*pipe-board* in strict use connoting a certain size or thickness: see quots.); †**pipe-merry** *a.*, merry from drinking wine (*obs.*); †**pipe-wine,** wine drawn directly from the pipe or 'wood'.

1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 19 He caried also with him..great store of *pipeboorde, meaning therewith to make a bridge ouer the riuer of Seine. 1812 J. Smyth *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 303 Pipe Boards, viz. above 5 feet 3 inches in length, and not exceeding 8 feet, and under 8 inches square. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, *c.* 56 Table s.v. *Wood*. 1510 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 394 Three *pipe hopis for a pennye. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 141 Wyne deliuereth the herte from all care..when a bodye is *pipe merye. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. ii. 122 Ships..laden with hoopes, gallyoares, *pipe-staues, & other prouisions of the king of Spaine. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 45/1 Four Vessels laden with Pipestaves from Hamburgh, for the use of the Navy. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VII. 438 Ireland, which afforded an advantageous mart for corn, flax, and pipe-staves, has been shut against them [colonists] by an act of parliament. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* III. ii. 90 *Host*. ..I will to my honest Knight Falstaffe, and drinke Canarie with him. *Ford.* I thinke I shall drinke in *Pipe-wine first with him, Ile make him dance. [With play upon the musical *pipe* and *canary* the dance.]

Pipe (pəip), *v.*1 Also 4-6 **pype.** [In branch I, OE. *pípian* to blow the pipe (Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexic.*), ad. L. *pīpāre* in late or med. sense 'to blow a pipe', f. *pīpa* in OE. *pipe* Pipe *sb.*1: cf. Du. *pijpen*, MDu. *pīpen*, LG., MLG. *pīpen*, Ger. *pfeifen*, MHG. *pfīfen*; also Sw., Norw. *pipa*, Da. *pibe*, to blow the pipe, to whistle. In branch II, ME. *pipen*, corresponds to OF. *piper* (12th c., of a mouse, a chicken, etc.) = It. *pipare* 'to pipe, to cackle or clucke as a hen, to pule as a hawke' (Florio):—L. *pīpāre* (and ?**pīppāre*) to peep, cheep, chirp. In the literal sense, this is now expressed by Peep *v.*1, and in a special sense by Pip *v.*2

L. *pīpāre*, beside *pīpiāre*, *pīpīre* (all app. in same sense), was evidently echoic, imitating the voice of chickens and little birds; similar forms could arise independently in any lang. Thus, beside the forms above, MDu., MLG., Du., LG., mod.Ger. have a weak vb. *piepen*, (pijpen, *fleuter*, *fistulare*, *tibia canere*, piepen als vogels, *piper comme les petits poulsins*, *pipire*, Plantijn 1573), It. has *pipire* 'to peepe as a chickin' (Florio), Fr. has *pipier*, *pépier* in same sense, Eng. Peep *v.*1, Pip *v.*2 App. the tendency in all the langs. to associate the orig. vb. with the sound of the musical instrument (cf. F. *piper* in Godef. *Compl.*) led to the use of forms more directly imitating the weak cheep of the chicken, etc., for the expression of the original L. sense.]

I. To blow or play on a pipe.

1. *intr.* To play on a pipe, to blow a pipe (see Pipe *sb.*1 1, 1 d). †Phrase *To pipe in* or *with an ivy-leaf*: see Ivy-leaf (*obs.*).

a 1000 *B. M. MS. Tib. A. III* lf. 102 (*Zeitsch. f. deutsch. Alt.* XXXIV. 234) An stan..þæs ansyne is, swilce an man pipige mid nigon pipan & an man hearpige. *c* 1275, 13.. [see Piping *vbl. sb.*1 1]. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 92 Mynstralles myȝte pipe. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Sege Thebes* 1791 Lete his brother blowen in an horn..or pypen in a red. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* VI. vii, Whanne I pyped and played of my muse or bag pype ye dayned, ne wold not daunce. 1526 Tindale *Luke* vii. 32 We have pyped vnto you, and ye have nott daunsed. 1586 in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1732) I. 480 The service of God is grievously abused by piping with organs. 1634 Milton *Comus* 823 The soothest Shepherd that ere pip't on plains. 1765 Gray *Shakespeare* 15 When thou hear'st the organ piping shrill. 1789 [see 5]. 1872 Besant & Rice *Ready-Money Mort.* iv, The Arcadian shepherd piped upon the mountain. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* ii. 21 I'm Hieland born, and when the clan pipes, who but me has to dance?

b. To whistle, as the wind, a man, a bird, etc.: see 5 a, b.

2. *trans.* To play (a tune, music) upon a pipe.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 113 With that his Pype on honde he hente, And gan to pipe in his manere Thing which was slepi forto hiere. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* iii. (Percy Soc.) 15 Wyth goodly pypes in their mouthes i-tuned..they pyped a daunce, I-clipped Amour de la hault plesaunce. 1526 Tindale 1 *Cor.* xiv. 7 Except they make a distinccion in the soundes: howe shall it be knowen what is pyped or harped? 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* VI. ix. 8 The lustie shepheard swaynes ..did pype and sing her prayses dew. 1789 Blake *Songs of Innoc.* Introd. 2 Piping down the valleys wild, Piping songs of pleasant glee. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.*, *Royal Poet*, (1859) 68 Those witching airs still piped among the wild mountains and lonely glens of Scotland. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiii. 22 On a curved oat the Phrygian deep pipeth a melody. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 11 She piped her sons the frontier march.

b. *transf.* To bring into some place or condition by playing on a pipe; to lead by the sound of a pipe; to entice or decoy, as wild fowl; also *fig.* †*To pipe up* (quot. *c* 1546), to exalt or worship with pipes, i. e. organ-music (*obs.*).

c 1546 Joye in Gardiner *Declar. Art. Joye* 93 They pipe him [God] vp with orgaynes. 1673 Dryden *Amboyna* I. i, We must put on a seeming Kindness,..pipe 'em within the Danger of our Net, and then we'll draw it o'er 'em. 1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 67 A lightness of humour, by the which they are easily piped into a new mode of Government. 1842 Browning *Pied Piper* ad fin., Whether they pipe us free from rats or from mice. 1889 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 616 He pipes them homewards, and they trot along..as if they liked the music.

3. *Naut.* To summon, as a boatswain the crew, to some duty, or to a meal, by sounding the pipe or whistle. (*trans.*, and *intr.*) Also *transf. To pipe away, down*, to dismiss by sounding the pipe.

1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 102 Whensoever the Boatswain pipes to Dinner. 1789 G. Keate *Pelew Isl.* 92 The boatswain..piped all out to their separate departments. 1790 C. Dibdin *Song*, '*Tom Bowling*' v, When He who all commands Shall give..The word to pipe all hands. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. ii. P 2 All hands were piped to make the necessary arrangements. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* viii, I..was ready at the gangway a quarter of an hour before the men were piped away. *Ibid.* xi, The hammocks were piped down..and the ship was once more quiet. 1837 — *Dog-fiend* x, Jemmy piped the hands up. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Pipe down!* The order to dismiss the men from the deck when a duty has been performed on board ship. 1884 H. Collingwood *Under Meteor Flag* 15 The hands had just been piped to breakfast.

II. To utter a shrill and, originally, weak sound.

†**4.** *intr.* To utter a shrill and weak sound; to cheep, squeak, peep. Said of chickens, small birds, mice, etc., and contemptuously of persons. *Obs.*, and replaced by Peep *v.*1

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 503 Ne myht þu leng a word iqueþe Ac [þu] pipest al so dop a mose. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 759 (E. E. T. S.) *Rayne gaillie*, Frogge pipith. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pypyn, or ȝyppe, as henn byrdys,.. *pipio*, *pipulo*. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 298 Whi, who is that hob ouer the wall? we! who was that that piped so small? *Ibid.* xiii. 195 Who is that pypys so poore? 1481 Caxton *Reynard* x. (Arb.) 21 Ye shal catche myes by grete heepis, herke how they pype [orig. *pipen*]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 281/1 To Pipe as a byrde, *pipiare*.

5. The following appear to have begun as varieties of sense 4, but to have been influenced by sense 1, or by association with Pipe *sb.*1, so as to express a louder shrill sound.

a. To whistle: said of the wind (in later use, sometimes, to howl), of the human voice, a marmot; also to hum or buzz shrilly as a winged insect; to whistle or whizz as a bullet.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. viii. 48 At our desyre, The sesonable air pipis vp fair and schire. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 162 His bigge manly voice, Turning againe toward childish trebble pipes, And whistles in his sound. 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 126 While rocking Winds are Piping loud. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiii, The favouring breeze, when loud It pipes upon the galley's shroud. 1824 Longf. *Woods in Winter* vi, Gathering winds..Amid the vocal reeds pipe loud. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. ii. 22 The frightened marmots piped incessantly from the rocks. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 7 Sept., With the anchor over the bow, and the wind piping through the rigging. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* 136 We heard the bullets piping all around them.

b. To whistle or sing as a bird.

a 1591 H. Smith in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxvi. 1 Like a bird that is taught to pipe. *a* 1771 Gray *Birds* 1 There pipes the woodlark. 1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* I. vi. 51 The thrush piped from the hawthorn. 1828 [see Piping *vbl. sb.*1 1]. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 61 O throstle softly piping High on the topmost bough.

c. To speak or talk loudly and shrilly.

1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* II. 268 My mother was the best scold in all Ballyshannon, and if she did not pipe it away two or three hours every day, she [etc.]. 1792 Charlotte Smith *Desmond* III. 177 He goes piping about, and talks of unequal representation, and the weight of taxes. 1866 Chr. Rossetti *Prince's Progr.*, etc. 3 Voices piped on the gale.

d. To weep, to cry. *colloq.* or *slang.* (Cf. *to pipe one's eye*, 7.)

1797 Mrs. M. Robinson *Walsingham* III. 310 She has been piping all the way down to Bath. *a* 1814 Dibdin *Song*, *True Courage* i, 'Tis nonsense for trifles, I own, to be piping. 1824 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 283 The organ ..is the finest thing I ever heard. The three or four first chords made me pipe. 1901 Farmer *Slang*, *Pipe*..(1) to talk; and (2) to cry; also *to pipe up*, *to take a pipe*, *to tune one's pipes*, and *to pipe one's eye*.

6. *trans.* To utter **a.** in a peeping or cheeping voice, as a mouse; **b.** in a loud shrill or clear voice, as a song-bird, a singer, or speaker.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 406 Thanne piped pees of poysye a note, *Clarior est solito post maxima nebula phebus*. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* II. 277 How every..noyse, or sovne..Thogh hyt were piped of a mouse Mote nede come to Fames house. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 223 One pipes out his woordes so small, through defaulte of his wynde pipe, that ye would thinke he whisteled. 1567 *Gude*

& *Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 208 Sa sall they pipe a merie fit. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 97 The same old Song .. which they have pip'd to each other these many Years. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 103 Oft as the woodlark piped her farewell song. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* i, The boys piped out an hurrah. 1842 TENNYSON *Launcelot & G.* ii, Sometimes the linnet piped his song. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i, Italian soprani piped their Latin rhymes in place of the hymns. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxi. 153 Love can angrily pipe adieu.

7. *To pipe one's eye* or *eyes* (orig. *Naut. slang*): to shed tears, weep, cry.

1789 C. DIBDIN *Song, Poor Jack* iii, What argufies sniv'ling and piping your eye? *a* 1814 *Sailor's Ret.* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 337 Lucy and he must have piped their eyes enough by this time. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxii, He was very frail and tearful .. his own peculiar mission was to pipe his eye. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* xxxii, 'One don't pipe one's eye when one comes into a fortun'', said the wheelwright.

III. 8. *Pugilistic slang.* (*intr.*) To breathe hard, pant from violent exertion or exhaustion.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 72 Painter at length fell from weakness, and both were at this time piping. 1826 *Ibid.* XVII. 283 Bob was piping a little, but said 'nothing was the matter'. 1827 DE QUINCEY *Murder* Wks. 1862 IV. 33 The baker came up piping.

IV. 9. Pipe up. **a.** *trans.* To blow up, commence to play or sing, strike up. Also *absol.*

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 457 (*Stage direct.*) Pipe vp music. *c* 1570 *Marm. Wit & Science* iv. iii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 372 Pipe us up a galliard, minstrel. 1575 *Gamm. Gurton* ii. v. ibid. III. 211 In the meantime fellows, pipe up your fiddles. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I. iii, Once he piped up to a different air, a kind of country love-song.

b. *intr.* To raise the voice, speak up in a piping voice; to rise or increase, as the wind.

1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* (ed. Tauchn.) I. 167 As the guard laid a hand upon me, she piped up with the tranquilest confidence. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 May 8/7 The wind had piped up to half a gale overnight.

Pipe (pəip), *v.*[2] [f. PIPE *sb.*[1], senses 3–5.]

I. †1. *trans.* ? To draw through pipes or taps; to drink. *Obs. rare.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 45 In lyttl more then a three dayz space, 72 tunn of Ale & Beer waz pyept vp quite.

†2. *intr.* ? To flow or be conveyed as through a pipe. *Obs.*

1656 R. SHORT *Drinking Water* Pref. A ij b, We see so many kickshaws in all sciences .. and new Paradoxes in Physick, piping out of the Novelists Braines.

II. 3. *trans. Gardening.* To propagate (pinks, etc.) by cuttings of slips taken off at a joint of the stem; see quot. 1856, and PIPING *vbl. sb.*[2] 2.

1788 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 4 July, No botanist am I; nor wished to learn from you..that piping has a new signification. I had rather that you handled an oaten pipe than a carnation one. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 78 Carnations may..be increased, after blooming, by 'pipings', i. e. the ends of the shoots broken off at a joint..so as to form a short pipe-like cutting... The pipings then are made to strike root. ..Pinks are more generally piped, Carnations layered. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 194/1 Carnations..when all the shoots that are long enough are layered, those which are too short may be piped like pinks.

b. *intr.* Of certain herbs: To develop a tubular stem, to become pipy.

1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* 78 It [celery] has a greater tendency to 'pipe', or run up to seed. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Pipe* ..Of onions: to run to seed-stalks but not to seed. (Bedfordsh.)

III. 4. **a.** *Dressmaking*, etc. To trim or ornament with piping (see PIPING *vbl. sb.*[2] 4).

1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* lxviii, Her blue satin piped with scarlet. 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* 29 Nov. 138/2 The edges of the newest bodices are now piped, as they were some time ago. 1906 *Myra's Jrnl.* 1 Apr. 10/3 If satin is used the seams should be piped instead of being lapped.

b. *Confectionery.* To ornament (a cake, etc.), or to form (an ornamental design) with sugar piping (see PIPING *vbl. sb.*[2] 8).

1883-4 [see PIPING *vbl. sb.*[2] 8]. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 4/3 The lower portion of the cake contains panels delicately piped in sugar. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 Dec. 9/2 Wanted a man..to ice and pipe Christmas cakes.

IV. 5. *trans.* To furnish or supply with pipes; to lay (a place) with pipes (for gas, water, etc.).

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* Jan., A special town meeting.. to hear the report of the committee with reference to piping the town. The committee will recommend that the town take its water of Lynn. 1902 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* 192 Any noun can become a verb...Thus we have to cudgel, to powder, to oil, to pipe (for gas), to wall in.

6. To convey (water, gas, oil, etc.) through or by means of pipes.

1889 *Whitby Gaz.* 27 Sept. 3/2 A large Philadelphia syndicate has secured the gas rights in Indiana..and will pipe the natural gas to Chicago. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 31 May 7/1 Fuel oil from the wells in Beaumont can be piped to Port Arthur.

7. *Mining.* To direct a jet of water from a pipe upon (gravel, etc.); see HYDRAULIC *a*, 1; to supply with water for this purpose.

1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 629 The length of the season..will depend upon the water available,..some of the smaller claims are not piped more than one hundred to one hundred and fifty days per year. At the large mines piping goes on night and day.

Pipe, *v.*[3] [f. PIPE *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To put (liquor, etc.) in a pipe or cask.

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 185 Reschard Felaw hathe .. serten befe serten bere and serten flower pyped. 1513–14 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 Thoffice of packyng of Wolleyn clothes .. and of oder merchaundises to be pakked tonned piped barellid or otherwise enclosid. 1766 ENTICK *London* (1776) I. 410.

Pipe-clay, *sb.* A fine white kind of clay, which forms a ductile paste with water; used for making tobacco-pipes, and also (esp. by soldiers) for cleaning white trousers, etc. Hence *allusively*, excessive attention to the minutiæ of dress and appearance in the management of regiments.

[1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 198 This lute is composed of a very fine cretaceous earth, called tobacco-pipe clay, moistened with..oil of lint-seed, and a varnish made of amber and gum copal.] 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 290 Limestone is abundant, and there is a great quantity of what is called pipe-clay. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxiii, He [the soldier] had got tired of pork and pipe-clay. 1858 W. JOHNSON *Ionica* 49 Yet bright gleams the pipe-clay below the red breast, And in slate-coloured trowsers the line look their best. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 299 Hampered by conditions largely partaking of red tape and pipeclay. 1898 E. J. HARDY in *United Service Mag.* Mar. 650 He spends all his time cleaning his things, and would be like a fish out of water if pipeclay were abolished.

attrib. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 165 A remarkable rock..of a pipe clay colour, with a few bushes atop. 1835 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 259 Not altogether perhaps what may be called 'in pipe-clay order'. 1849 E.-E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 5 There was not often time for the pipe-clay observances of the 'regulations'.

Hence **Pipe-clay** *v. trans.*, to whiten with pipe-clay; *fig.* to put into spick and span order; whence **Pipe-clayed** *ppl. a.*, **Pipe-claying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Also **Pipe-clayey, Pipe-clayish** *adjs.*, covered with pipe-clay; addicted to the use of pipe-clay.

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* ii, They [midshipmen] *pipe-clays their weekly accounts, and walks up and down with their hands in their pockets. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. 59 Our Volunteer .. had to pipe-clay his white breeches and gaiters. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxx, Their well *pipeclayed belts. 1890 *Golden South* 167 His mate, very gruff and *pipe-clayey. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 645 In these piping and *pipe-claying, times of peace. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 34. 183 They are too soldier-like, too *pipe-clayish.

Piped (pəipt), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] and *v.*[2]]

1. Furnished with a pipe or pipes; having the form of a pipe, tubular. *Piped key* = pipe-key: see PIPE *sb.*[1] 11 b.

c 1520 in *9th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 126 A pypyd key for the wyket domus matris mee. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* 34 The adders hurte none but with thrusting in theyr small piped toothe. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxxi. 637 The wylde Garlyke hath no leaues, but..long, rounde, small, holowe, pyped blades. 1705 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1956 It's externally piped towards the Mouth. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 137 The ragged-robin ..With its pip'd stem.

2. Formed into, or ornamented with, piping: see PIPE *v.*[2] 4.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 'Extra' 24 July 2/1 A large vase is made of piped sugar. 1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/3 The line of piped red cloth.

3. Conveyed by pipes.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Piped Air*, ventilation carried into the working places in pipes. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 77 If piped water cannot be had.

Piped, *ppl. a.*[2] [repr. F. *pipé*, f. *piper* to deceive, prop. to decoy birds by whistling. Cf. Cotgrave 'Pipé, deceiued, cousened.. gulled, beguiled. *Cartes pipées*, & *Dez pipez*, false cards or dice'.] In phr. *piped dice*: see etymology.

1843 JAMES *Forest Days* (1847) 275 You must think me.. ready to play against you with piped dice.

Pipe-fish. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + FISH.] A fish of the genus *Syngnathus* or family *Syngnathidæ*, having a long slender body and a long snout.

1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 107 As we want a generical name in our language for this genus [*Syngnathus*], we call it the *Pipe Fish*, from its slender body. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 289 The body of the Pipe Fish, in the thickest part, is not thicker than a swan-quill, while it is above sixteen inches long. 1846 EMBLETON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 168 A male specimen of the Little Pipe Fish (*Syngnathus ophidion*), with the eggs of the female in its abdominal pouches, was also exhibited.

Pipeful (pəi·pful). [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] and 2 + -FUL.]

1. [f. PIPE *sb.*[2]] A quantity (of liquor, etc.) sufficient to fill a pipe or large cask. *rare.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 167 It doth..heate..a whole pipeful of cold water.

2. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1]] A quantity (of tobacco, etc.) sufficient to fill the bowl of a pipe.

c 1613 ROWLANDS *Phire Spy-Knaves* 20 Who takes his pipefull vp, And smokes it off, with *puffe 'tis gone.* 1844 KINGLAKE *Eöthen* (1845) 202 Poor indeed is the man in these climes who cannot command a pipeful of tobacco.

Pipe-layer (pəi·pˌlēːəɹ). [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + LAYER *sb.* 1.] **a.** A workman who lays pipes for the conveyance of water, gas, etc. **b.** *U. S. political slang.* One who schemes to procure corrupt votes. (See quot. *a* 1882, and next.)

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1865) II. 510/2 Rubbish-carters, or pipe-layers, or ground-workers. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 8 July, You might take them to be pipe-layers, or log-rollers, or lobbyers, or members of a municipal 'ring'. *a* 1882 T. WEED *Autobiog.* xlviii. (1883) 493 A letter in which he said that the men..were to be employed in laying the pipes for the introduction of Croton water. The Whig leaders were immediately stigmatized as 'pipe layers', a term persistently applied to them for several years.

So **Pipe-laying,** (*a*) the laying of pipes for water, gas, etc.; (*b*) in *U. S. political slang*, a form of political corruption: see quot. 1850.

1848 *N. Y. Tribune* 30 Oct. (Bartlett) The result .. would not be..doubtful, if we could be assured of fair play and no pipe-laying. 1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 6 Fifty or sixty Irish labourers..were conciliated for some years by employment in the Croton waterworks, so that 'pipe-laying' became the slang term for this kind of bribery. 1864 WEBSTER, *Pipe-laying*, the laying down of pipes, as for gas, water, etc. 1881 *Nation* (N. Y.) XXXII. 180 He would begin his pipe-laying at a greater distance,.. and fortify his combinations by many more devices.

Pipeless (pəi·plės), *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS] Without a pipe; having no pipe.

1870 *Athenæum* 19 Nov. 653 All the tobacconists' shops.. were closed, and Ned arrived at his habitation pipeless and weedless. 1900 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 5/6 A native house, heated by a Chinese pipeless stove.

Pipelet (pəi·plĕt). *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -LET.] A small pipe; in quot. a weak piping voice (PIPE *sb.*[1] 2).

1885 L. B. WALFORD *Nan & other Stories* i. 237 The above remark was uttered in a soft treble pipe, and at last half-a-dozen other pipelets, equally soft, responded.

Pipe-line, *sb.* A continuous line of pipes; a conduit of iron pipes for conveying petroleum from the oil-wells to the market or refinery, or for supplying water to a town or district. Also *attrib.* Hence **Pipe-line** *v. trans.*, to provide with, or convey by, a line of pipes.

1883 *Century Mag.* July 332/2 When the tank at a well is nearly full, notice is sent to the nearest agency of the pipe lines. *Ibid.* 334/2 The pipe line system was a thing of small beginnings and slow growth. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Oct. 2/2 Russia has the finest oil-field in the world in the Transcaucasus, which she is now 'pipe-lining' down to the Black Sea. 1891 *Daily News* 3 June 5/6 A temporary pipe line has been laid across the bed of the Mersey,..and now the water is being discharged on the Lancashire side.

Pipe-major, -maker, etc.: see PIPE *sb.*[1] 11.

Pipeman (pəi·pmăn). [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*]

1. A man who smokes a pipe. *nonce-use.*

1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 155 Particular pipemen, and solitary cigarers, no doubt, always existed.

2. A workman who attends to a pipe, e. g. in hydraulic mining.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 11 Gravel-miners and pipemen. 1898 *Century Mag.* Feb. 490/2 The lieutenant ..tried to pull this unhappy pipe-man with him.

Pipemouth (pəi·pmauþ). A fish of the genus *Fistularia* or family *Fistulariidæ*, characterized by a long pipe-like snout. So **Pipe-mouthed** (-mauðd, -mauþt) *a.*, having such a snout.

Piper[1] (pəi·pəɹ). [OE. *pipere*, f. *pipe*, PIPE *sb.*[1] + *-ere*, -ER[1].]

1. One who plays on a pipe (*esp.* a strolling musician); in Scotland *spec.* one who plays on the bagpipe.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 23 Þa cwom se hælend in hus þas aldor-monnes & þa geseah piperas [*Ags. Gosp.* hwistleras] & menigu ruxlende. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 311/21 *Tibicen*, pipere. .. *Ibid.* 539/23 *Tibicen*, pipare. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *House F.* III. 144 Pipers of alle Duche tonge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/1 Pypare, *fistulator.* 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xiii. (1634) 621 As the common people say, he is an evill piper but a good fidler. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 418 Edmond Broun, ane Hieland pyper. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 131 Let's haue a dance. ..Strike vp Pipers. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 97 There is 6*d.* allowed to a piper for playing to the clippers all the day. 1758 JOHNSON, *Idler* No. 7 ¶ 3 At their convivial assemblies..to hear a piper. 1842 BROWNING (*title of poem*) The Pied Piper of Hamelin.

attrib. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 693/8 *Hec fistilatrix*, a piper wyfe. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* II. xlv, No paltry vagrant piper-carle is he.

b. Phrases. †*Piper's cheeks*: swollen or inflated cheeks, as of one blowing a pipe. † *Drunk as a piper*: quite drunk. *Piper's news* (*Sc.*): news already well known. *To pay the piper*: i. e. for piping to lead the dance; hence, to defray the cost, or bear the expense or loss, incident to some undertaking or proceeding.

1602 WITHAL *Dict.* 286/1 That hath bigge or great cheekes, as they tearme them, pipers cheekes, *bucculentus.* 1770 *Gentl. Mag.* XLI. 560 As drunk as a Piper. 1772 R. GRAVES *Spir. Quix:* x. xxix, Jerry..proceeded so long in recommending sobriety, and in tossing off horns of ale, that he became as drunk as a piper. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* I. ii. 29, 'I came expressly to inform you'—'Came with piper's news', said the lady, 'which the fiddler has told before you'. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 29 (1713) I. 190 After all this Dance he has led the Nation, he must at last come to pay the Piper himself. 1753 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) IV. 39 The other Powers cannot well dance, when neither France nor the maritime Powers can..pay the piper. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. ¶ 23 We will make Doctor Oloroso pay the piper to our dancing. 1895 *Daily News* 18 Dec. 9/1 Londoners had paid the piper, and should choose the tune.

†**c.** Applied to a tree that furnishes wood for pipes. *Obs. nonce-use.* In quot. *appositive.*

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 178 The byldere ok, and ek the hardy assh, The pilere elm,..The boxtre pipere,..The saylynge fyr,..The shetere Ew.

2. Popular name of several kinds of fish. a. A species of gurnard, *Trigla lyra*; so called from the sound it makes when caught. †b. In quot. 1674, = ANGEL-FISH. *Obs.* c. In New Zealand, the garfish, *Hemirhamphus intermedius*.

1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart., Dial.* lxxxiii, The Piper good for to be eaten. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Icthyogr.* (1686) Tab. S. 1, *Lyra* Rond., The Piper. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, (Sea) Fishes* 99 The Piper, *Raio-squatina* Rondel.'.. The Cornish men call another Fish, viz. a sort of Cuculus or Gurnard by the name of Piper. 1766 [C. ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* iv. 63 She has order'd for Dinner a Piper and Dory. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 234 The Piper... *Trigla Lyra*.. esteemed an excellent fish. 1871 *Field* 25 Nov. 457/1, I look on the Piper as the float fish of New Zealand. *Ibid.*, I do not think that the New Zealand piper is as perfect in flavour as the Melbourne one.

attrib. 1611 COTGR., *Aiguille*,..a Horne-backe, Piper-fish, Gane-fish, or Horne-fish. 1812 *Pennant's Zool.* 374 The piper gurnard is frequently taken on the western coasts.- 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 185 The piper gurnard, ..when taken from the water emits a singular sound.

3. a. A young pigeon, a squab. b. A sandpiper (*Cent. Dict.*).

1885 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* (1894), *Pigeon*, French *Pigeon*, Italian *Piccione* and *Pipione*, Latin *Pipio*, literally a nestling-bird that pipes or cries out, a 'Piper'—the very name now in use among Pigeon-fanciers.

4. a. A name given to beetles of the *Curculionidæ*, with a long proboscis. b. A sea-urchin, *Cidaris papillata*, with club-shaped spines, fancied to resemble a bagpipe (also called *piper-urchin*).

1711 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 352 Small English Pipers, or long-snouted Beetles. 1809 EDMONSTONE *Zetland Isl.* II. 320 E[chinus] Cidaris, found in deep water, *Piper*.

5. A broken-winded horse: see quots.; cf. *roarer*.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* x. 196 Some horses make a shrill noise when in quick action; they are said to be Pipers. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 227 There are many degrees of broken wind, which receive appellations according to the noise emitted by the horse; and on this account he is called a piper, trumpeter.

6. (See quot. and cf. PIPING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2, quot. 1884.)

1884 PHIN *Dict. Apiculture* 53 *Piper*, an after-swarm having a virgin queen.

Piper[2] (pəi·pəɹ). [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] or *v.*[2] + -ER[1].]

†1. (?) A workman who lays or repairs pipes; a plumber. *Obs.*

1456 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 291 The feys that the pyperys had befor thys tym for har wachyng about the town,..be yreryt and payet to the makinge of the pypys of the sayd cytte for a yer. 1469 *Ibid.* 332 [Admissions to franchise..Richard Bennet,] piper; [John Welles,] packer. [John Talbot,] pyper.

2. One who smokes tobacco in a pipe. Now *rare*.

1632 D. LUPTON *London & C. Carbonadoed* 85 He is for the most part a potter and piper. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 41 Pipers and Potters, to sit in Tavernes. 1897 *19th Cent.* May 821 The early 'piper' loses his growth, becomes hoarse, effete, lazy, and stunted.

3. Name for a kind of caddis-worm (also *piper caddis*), which forms a pipe or tube.

1653 WALTON *Angler* xii. 231–2 One Cadis called a Piper, whose husk or case is a piece of reed about an inch long or longer...There is also a lesser Cadis-worm, called a Cock-spur..it is much less than the Piper Cadis.

4. A dog used to lure wild fowl into the pipe of a decoy; a decoy-dog.

1865 W. WHITE *E. Eng.* I. 111 If given to barking or to frolic, or to take fright without occasion,..such a dog will never do for a 'piper'. 1886 *Athenæum* 21 Aug. 231/1 A clever arrangement of screens over which a bushy-tailed dog not unlike a fox—the 'piper', as it is called—is taught to leap at the word of command.

5. A fissure in the coal in a mine, from which gas escapes: = BLOWER[1] 4.

1883 *Standard* 8 Nov. 5/8 [The explosion] was caused by what is known as a 'piper', or air-hole in the coal. 1883 in GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*.

6. *Confectionery*. One who ornaments cakes, etc. with sugar piping: see PIPE *v.*[2] 4 b.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 11/7 Pastrycook and Confectioner..good piper.

Piperaceous (pipĕrē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *piper* PEPPER + -ACEOUS, or f. Bot.L. *Piperace-æ* + -OUS.]

†a. Of the nature of pepper; pungent. *Obs.*

b. *Bot.* Belonging to the Natural Order *Piperaceæ*, the pepper tribe (typical genus *Piper*; see PEPPER).

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 5 Being, if I may so speak, piperaceous and biting. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 272/1 *Matica* or *Matico*..an astringent plant..from Peru...Doubts exist as to the botanical origin of the plant, some ascribing it to a Labiate plant..while others refer it to a piperaceous plant.

†**Pi·perate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *piperāt-us* peppered, pungent, adj. f. *piper* PEPPER: see -ATE[2].] Containing pepper, peppered; peppery, pungent.

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIII. 168 Hot and piperate Antidotes. 1693 *Ibid.* XVII. 872 A..hot piperate and Spicy Plant.

Piperate (pi·pĕrĕt), *sb. Chem.* [f. PIPER-IC + -ATE[4].] A salt of piperic acid.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 827 The piperates are sparingly soluble in water.

Piperazine (pi·pĕrăzəin). *Pharm.* [f. L. *piper* (see next) + AZ(O- + -INE[5].] A compound allied to Spermine; chemically *di-ethylenediamine* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). Also called **Pipera·zidine.**

1891 *Lancet* 18 Apr. 897 It is stated..that piperazidine dissolves uric acid more readily than any other substance of a basic nature. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 277 Piperazine. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 173 Piperazine, whether in the free state or as chloride, was not found to exercise any influence on the advent of precipitation. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2092 Epit. Med. Lit. 20 Piperazine is the best drug for the underlying morbid condition.

Piperic (pipe·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *piper* pepper + -IC.] Pertaining to or derived from pepper; 'in *piperic acid*, an acid ($C_{12}H_{10}O_4$) obtained by boiling piperine with potash.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 653 Piperic acid forms yellowish capillary needles; in the moist state, a sulphur-yellow jelly which shrinks on drying. 1876 [see PIPERIDINE].

Piperidge, variant of PIPPERIDGE.

Piperidine (pipe·ridəin). *Chem.* [mod. f. L. *piper* pepper + -IDE + -INE[5].] 'A volatile base ($C_5H_{11}N$) produced by the action of alkalis on piperine' (Watts). Formerly also *piperidia*.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 286 Piperidine...This is a remarkable oily base, with a pungent odour, recalling both that of ammonia, and that of pepper. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 656. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 434 Nitric acid decomposes it into piperic acid and piperidia. 1888 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* 355 Piperidine.

Piperine (pi·pĕrəin), *sb.* [f. as prec. + -INE[5].]

1. *Chem.* An alkaloid ($C_{17}H_{19}NO_3$) obtained from species of pepper (*Piper nigrum* and *P. longum*), crystallizing in colourless prisms, and melting when heated to a pale yellow limpid oil.

1820 *Q. Jrnl. Sci. Lit. & Art* IX. 402 Piperine is obtained from pepper, by digesting it in alcohol. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 760 M. Orstedt first announced, in 1819, the existence of a peculiar principle in the fruit of *piper nigrum*, or *black pepper*, to which he gave the name of *piperin*. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 349 A nitrogenized feeble base, Piperine..in rhomboidal prisms, white, almost tasteless, and inodorous.

2. = PEPERINO, late L. *piperinus* (Isidore). *rare*—[0].

1882 OGILVIE, *Piperin, Piperine.* 1. A concretion of volcanic ashes.

Pi·perine, *a. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *piper* pepper + -INE[2].] Peppery.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 720 We naturally, with piperine heat, re-affirm our dictum.

Piperine, -ino, var. PEPERINE, -INO.

Piperitious (pipĕri·ʃəs), *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *piper* pepper + -ITIOUS[1]: cf. *cineritious*.] Resembling pepper, pungent: = PIPERACEOUS a.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Piperivorous (pipĕri·vŏrəs), *a. rare*—[0]. [f. mod.L. *piperivor-us* (f. *piper* pepper + *-vorus* devouring) + -OUS.] Feeding on pepper, as a bird.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Piperly (pəi·pəɹli), *a.* [f. PIPER[1] + -LY[1].] Resembling, or befitting, a piper; paltry, trashy, beggarly, despicable.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 65 Their piperly versicles, and other beggerly trumperie. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* Pref., Shame..that..those Piperly-Dizzards should not be..detected. 1822 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 107, I don't care a tester for that piperly poet of green Erin. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 542/2 This is some of the piperly stuff of your snivelling poets.

Piperno, variant of PEPERINO.

Pi·pe-ro·ll. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] 5 + ROLL. *sb.*] The Great Roll of the Exchequer, comprising the various 'pipes', or enrolled accounts, of sheriffs and others for a financial year.

1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 20 In all the ancient pipe-rolls in the times of Henry the Third, Edward the First, Edward the Second, and Edward the Third..there is this entry: *In Thesauro nihil.* 1698 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 258 The Pipe Roll; with the black and red Books of the Exchequer. 1711 MADOX *Hist. Exchequer, Explanation of Breviatures*: Magnus Rotulus, The Great Roll of the Exchequer commonly called the Pipe Roll. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. iv. 222 There are traces of it's payment..in the book of domesday and in the great pipe-roll of Henry the first. 1891 *Guide to Public Record Office* 293 The Pipe Rolls or Great Rolls of the Exchequer contained the yearly charge against the Sheriffs of the several counties.

Pipery (pi·pĕri). Also 9 pippiree. [a. F. *piperie* (Froger, 1698), perh. = Sp. **piperia*: cf. Sp. *pipero* cooper, f. *pipa* barrel.] A native raft or float in the West Indies and S. America, of the same nature as a catamaran.

1698 FROGER *Voy.* 102 We..saw all along the [Argentine] Coast..the Negro's *Piperies* [*orig.* de Piperies des nègres], as they are called, being no other than three or four pieces of Wood made fast together, whereon two men go out a fishing. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 216 We cut and made Piperies or Floats of four or five of these trunes, being light and floating;..they being tied together..two or three or more of them, according to the bigness of the Pipery. 1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 151 The Buccaniers..descended the river in floats or pippirees to the Atlantic.

Pi·pe-sta·pple. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also -staple, -stopple. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + STAPPLE, STOPPLE, MDu. *stapel* stem, stalk.]

1. The stem of a tobacco-pipe.

1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix, Pinches or forehammers will never pick upon 't [the tower]..ye might as weel batter at it wi' pipe-staples. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 237 Not worth the notice of a pipe-stapple. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pipestoppel*, a fragment of the shank of a tobacco-pipe.

2. (See quots.)

1825 JAMIESON, *Pipe-stapple*...Used as synon. with *Windle-strae*, for smooth-crested grass, Loth. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*, Pipe-stapple..., *Cynosurus cristatus*. The stiff stalks are used for cleaning pipes.

Pi·pe-stone. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + STONE.]

1. A hard red clay or soft stone used by the American Indians for tobacco-pipes: = CATLINITE.

1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 24 The Portage du Grand Calumet, ..which name is derived from the *pièrre à calumet*, or pipe-stone, which here interrupts the river. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* I. xxix. 234 The bowls..are generally made of the red steatite or 'pipe-stone'. *Ibid.* II. lv. 206 *note*, 'Pipe-stone'..is harder than gypsum and softer than carbonate of lime. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* I. 2 On the great Red Pipe-stone Quarry.

2. *Lead Manuf.* A piece of cast iron (? originally a stone), having a groove through which the tuyère or blast-pipe passes, in a smelting furnace.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 756 The posterior ledge of the sole.. supports another piece of cast iron..called *pipe-stone*, scooped out at its under part..for the passage of the *tuyère*.

Pi·pe-tree. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] 9 + TREE.] A name used in the seventeenth century to English Lat. *Syringa* in its then wide sense, including (*a*) the Common Syringa, Mock Orange, or Orange-blossom (F. *séringat*), *Philadelphus coronarius*, the 'white Pipe-tree'; (*b*) the Lilac, *Syringa vulgaris* Linn., the 'blew Pipe-tree'. Also the 'double (white) Pipe-tree', *Jasminum Sambac*. (See PIPE *sb.*[1] 9.)

1629 PARKINSON *Paradisi* cvii. 407 The blew Pipe tree riseth sometimes to be a great tree. *Ibid.* 408 The single white Pipe tree or bush, neuer commeth to that height of the former...The flowers..are of a strong, full, or heady sent, not pleasing to a great many. *Ibid.* 410 The double white Pipe tree is much used in Egypt to help women in their trauailes of childbirth. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 71/2 The double Pipe-tree, or Jasmine of Arabia, hath the Flowers double. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 185 Lilac, or Pipe-Tree, ..affords fine scented Flowers in April or May. 1756–66 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) III. 226 A liquor of a beautiful colour, like that of the lilach or pipe-tree blossom.

b. *Pudding Pipe-tree*: see PUDDING.

Pipette (pipe·t), *sb.* [a. F. *pipette*, dim. of *pipe* PIPE *sb.*[1]: see -ETTE.]

1. A pipe or tube of small calibre, and of various forms, used (esp. in chemistry or in scientific experiments) to transfer or measure small quantities of a liquid or gas.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 68 We readily obtain a volume of 100 cubic centimetres by means of a pipette. 1860 F. W. GRIFFIN in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* VIII. 324/1 By means of a graduated pipette I took a thousandth part containing..one thousandth of a grain of arsenious acid. 1884 *Times* 27 Oct. 4/2 A 'pipette' is..a glass tube with a..swelling about one-third up from its lower end. It is used..in laboratories..for sucking up small quantities..of poisons,..or objectionable liquids.

attrib. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 139 *note*, I have called them 'pipette-bulbs' because they are formed by hermetically sealing one shank of a pipette. *Ibid.* 173 If..the india-rubber tube failed to clasp with sufficient tightness the pipette-shank. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 437 Distilled water is then added, drop by drop, from the pipette stopper of a bottle supplied for that purpose.

2. *Pottery Manuf.* A can or pot fitted with a narrow tube through which slip or barbotine is poured upon the ware for decoration.

Hence **Pipe·tte** *v. trans.*, to pour, convey, or draw (*off, out*) by means of a pipette.

18.. *Amer. Chem. Jrnl.* IX. 177 (Cent.) The solution of arsenic acid was pipetted into the bottle. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* iv. (ed. 4) 138 The æther is pipetted or siphoned off.

Pipe-work. [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + WORK *sb.*]

1. *Mining.* A pipe vein of ore; = PIPE *sb.*[1] 7 c.(*a*).

1653 MANLOVE *Lead Mines* 264 Primgaps, Roof-works, Flat-works, Pipe-works, Shifts. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 65 Pipe-works lie between two rocks or strata, yet seldom follow any regular inclination, but fill up fissures.

2. Pipes in the mass, or as part of a structure.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Organ*, The pipework includes a great variety of different kinds of pipes.

Pipewort (pəi·pˌiwɔ̄ɹt). [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] 3 + WORT.] Any plant of the genus *Eriocaulon*; extended by Lindley to the whole of the N.O. *Eriocaulaceæ*, comprising aquatic or marsh herbs allied to grasses, with a membranous tube surrounding the ovary.

1806 GALPINE *Brit. Bot.* § 391 *Eriocaulon.* Pipewort. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 122 The presence, among the Pipeworts, of a membranous tube.

Pipey, erron. form of PIPY.

†**Piphre.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. 16th c. F. *pifre* (= mod.F. *fifre*), ad. It. *pifero, piffero* FIFE.] A fife or other wind instrument.

a 1603 JAS. I. *Chorus Venetus* in FARR *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 3 Praise him with trumpet, piphre, and drumme, With lutes and organes fine.

‖ **Pipi**[1] (pī·pī). [Tupi *pipai.*] Name of the astringent pods of a Brazilian leguminous plant, *Cæsalpinia Pipai*, sometimes imported together with divi-divi for tanning. Also, the plant itself.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 188 C[æsalpinia] *Pipai* produces pods which possess some astringency, and are called Pipi pods. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pi-pi*, the astringent legumes of the *Cæsalpinia papai*.

‖ **Pipi**[2] (pi·pi). Also **peppy, pippy.** [Maori.] 'Maori name of a shell-fish, sometimes (erroneously)

called the cockle, *Mesodesma novæ-zelandiæ* (Morris *Austral Eng.*).

[1820 *Gramm. & Vocab. Lang. N. Zealand* 193 (Morris) *Pipi*, a cockle.] 1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 116 Piles of white shells of the 'pipi', or cockle, brought from the seashore for food. 1881 J. L. CAMPBELL *Poenamo* 204 (Morris) Fern-root, flavoured with fish and pippies. 1882 T. H. POTTS *Out in Open* 25 (ibid.) Each female is busily employed in scraping the potatoes thoroughly with pipi-shells. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 115 Sea-gulls ..loath to leave their breakfast of pipis dug out of the sand.

† **Pi·pient,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pīpient-em*, pr. pple. of *pīpīre* to cheep; cf. F. *pipiant*, *pépiant*.] Piping or chirping like a chicken or young bird.

1607 COLLINS *Serm.* (1608) 18 Like Anacreons fonde doues, some perfect, some pipient, some hatcht, some half hatcht. 1615 T. ADAMS *Spir. Navig.* 54 Hypocrites, a pipient broode, cackling their owne ripeness.

Piping (pəi·piŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PIPE *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of PIPE *v.*[1]

1. Playing on a pipe; the music of pipes or wind-instruments.

c 1275 LAY. 5110 Þar was gleomenne songe, þar was piping among. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1042 (Bodl. MS.) At þe fest was harpyng And pipyng & tabournyng. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xl. 21 Pypinge and harpinge make a swete noyse. 1641 HINDE *Y. Bruen* iii. 12 The holy Sabbaths .. were wholly spent..in Maypoles and Maygames, Pipings and Dancings. *a* 1706 R. SEMPLE *Piper of Kilbarchan* xiv, We need not look for Piping mair, Sen Habbie's dead. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 308 Unto their piping must all people dance.

2. The utterance of a shrill sound, or the sound itself (with the varieties of sense indicated in PIPE *v.*[1] 4–6); cheeping, chirping, whistling; singing or speaking in a shrill tone.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 567 Bo þi piping over-go, Ne boþ on þe craftes na mo. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.), The reremous..is a beeste iliche to a mous..wiþ voice & pipinge wiþ crye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pypynge, crye of yonge bryddys, *pipulatus*. 1552 HULOET, Pipynge or piepynge of byrdes or fowles. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Piping*, the musical signal of bees preparatory to their swarming or casting a second time. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i, The shrill piping of a bullfinch was heard. 1839–40 W. IRVING *Wolfert's R.* (1855) 19 Between the frosty pipings of the breeze. 1884 PHIN *Dict. Apiculture*, *Piping of Queens*, a sound made by young queens when there is also in the hive a mature queen, but one not yet emerged from her cell.

3. Weeping, crying. *slang* or *colloq.*

1779 SEWARD in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* 16 June, No more piping, pray. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* ix, What's the use of piping, boys, I never yet could larn.

4. *attrib.*

a 1711 KEN *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 319 Mirth, Song, Dance, or Piping-match. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 127 The unmanly disfiguration of their..countenance, which this piping-work produc'd.

Pi·ping, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PIPE *v.*[2] and *sb.*[1] + -ING [1].]

† **1.** The smoking of a pipe, tobacco-smoking.

1660 T. HALL *Funebria Floræ* (1661) 13 Christmas revels, with dancing, drinking, .. potting, piping, gaming. 1670 J. DAWTRY in *St. Papers, Dom.* 458 Too much piping and potting will be an enemy to him.

2. *Gardening.* The propagation of pinks, etc. by cuttings (see PIPE *v.*[2] 3); *concr.* a cutting or slip of a pink or other plant taken off at a joint.

1788 [see PIPE *v.*[2] 3]. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 310 Trimming off the leaves, except those at the extremity, which only require their ends shortened, as directed for pipings. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 192 Pinks. Continue to put out the rooted pipings, and prepare the beds for the next season's bloomers. 1856 [see PIPE *v.*[2] 3].

3. a. The action of furnishing with pipes or tubes. **b.** *concr.* Pipes collectively.

1846 *Athenæum* 14 Feb. 178 Professor Brande concluded his communication by exhibiting zinced iron piping. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 4 Deluged with a strong jet of cold water administered through a piping. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Feb. 5/4 To supplement the supply .. by .. an expensive system of piping from Peterborough.

4. *Dressmaking*, etc. **a.** The trimming or ornamenting of the edge of stuff or the seams of a garment, by means of a fine cord enclosed in a pipe-like fold of the edge or of a distinct strip of stuff; *concr.*, the tubular kind of trimming thus formed. **b.** Fluting: cf. PIPE *sb.*[1] 4 i. Also *attrib.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Piping*, a kind of cord trimming or fluting for ladies' dresses. *Piping-irons*, fluting-irons. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 100 Of late years, the act of piping has been introduced into under-linen to save trouble; a cord covered with material cut on the bias is inserted. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Aug. 4/1 The Princess.. wearing a..dark blue serge yachting costume, the coat and skirt outlined with a piping of white. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 502 The lieutenant's undress coat..had a white edging or piping. 1895 A. MORRISON *Chron. M. Hewitt* v. 256 A man in a blue coat, with dull red piping [in the seams] and brass buttons.

5. In harness, A tubular leather covering for a trace-chain, or such coverings collectively. (Cf. PIPE *sb.*[1] 4 a.)

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

† **6.** A mode of dressing the hair by curling it around little cylinders or roulettes of wood or baked pipe-clay: cf. PIPE *sb.*[1] 4 j. *Obs.*

7. In jewellery, Lengths of gold (or other) tubing, fixed to the back of a thin plate of metal to strengthen it.

1881 G. WALLIS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 676/2 Another smaller diadem found in another tomb..is of gold plate, so thick as to require no 'piping' at the back to sustain it.

8. *Confectionery.* The action or art of ornamenting cakes, etc. with cord-like lines or twists of sugar; *concr.* the lines or twists so used.

1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 154/1 When dry, ornament with piping, orange-blossom, ribbon, &c. 1884 *Birmingham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/6 Well up in iceing and piping.

9. *Mining.* = HYDRAULICKING: see PIPE *v.*[2] 7.

1881 RAYMOND *Gloss. Mining*, *Piping*. 1. See *Hydraulicking*. 1895 J. W. ANDERSON *Prospector's Handbk.* (ed. 6) 163 *Piping*, washing gold deposits by means of a hose.

10. *Metallurgy.* = PIPE *sb.*[1] 7 e; the formation of such a pipe.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Piping*...2. The tubular depression caused by contraction during cooling, on the top of iron or steel ingots.

Pi·ping, *ppl. a.* [f. PIPE *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That pipes; characterized by piping.

1. Playing on a pipe.

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 297 A most lively description of a piping satyr. *a* 1745 SWIFT *On Shadow in Glass* 36 Lowing herds, and piping swains. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph. Acharnians* II. v, Garlands, sprats, piping-women and black-eyes.

b. Characterized by piping, i. e. the music of the pastoral pipe (as distinguished from the martial fife, trumpet, etc.): in the Shaksperian phr. *piping time(s) of peace*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 24 In this weake piping time of Peace. 1793 DR. BURNEY *Let. to Mme. D'Arblay* 31 Jan., The laws [are] more strictly executed against treason..than in the piping times of peace. 1883 ABP. FORBES in *19th Cent.* Oct. 730 In piping times of peace, the national debts of the Australian colonies loom large.

2. Sounding shrilly; whistling; shrill-toned.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. i. 17 The pyping wynd blew in thair taill at nycht. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iv. 1404 To him shall thy piping poetry..be directed. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lii. 82 With piping acclamations. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.*, *Rip Van Winkle*, An old man replied in a thin piping voice. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* iv. 88 Dogs, when a little impatient, often make a high piping note through their noses. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 358/2 There was a piping breeze from the southwest.

b. In names of particular kinds of birds or other animals having a piping note or cry: as **piping crow**, the Australian genus *Gymnorhina*; **piping guan**, the genus *Pipile*, of S. America and Trinidad; **piping hare**, the pika or calling hare, *Lagomys*; **piping plover**, *Ægialites melodus*, of N. America. Also **piping bullfinch**, a bullfinch trained to 'pipe' or whistle a tune.

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 267 Well known by the common instances of piping Bullfinches. 1845 *Voy. to Port Philip*, etc. 53 The warbling melops and the piping crow. 1895 C. DIXON in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 643 The Gymnorhinæ or piping crows of Australia.

3. quasi-*adv.* in phr. **piping hot**, so hot as to make a piping or hissing sound, as a simmering liquid, or a dish freshly cooked; hissing hot; hence *gen.* very hot.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 193 Wafres pipyng hoot out of the gleede. ? *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 377 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 297 Ane pair of cunyngis, fat and het pypand. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 141 Beanes..fried all whole as they be, and so cast piping hot into sharp vineger. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 10 When we had climed.. Being painfully and pipeing hot. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 234 A Mutton-Pye,..piping hot out of the Oven. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. xi. 316 The day having been piping hot.

b. *fig.* Fresh, quite new, just come out.

1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* II. i. 57 *Gol.* Whence comes he, sir? *Pur.* Piping hot from the university. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 6 The Booke..in defence of Bishops, which came out piping hot much about the time. 1733 *Revolution Politicks* VII. 8 A Report is come pipeing hot from Ireland. 1855 BROWNING *Up at a Villa* ix, At the post-office such a scene-picture—the new play, piping hot!

Pipistrelle, -el (pipistre·l). [a. F. *pipistrelle*, ad. It. *pipistrello* bat, variants of which are *vipistrello*, *vispi-*, *vespistrello*, from *vispertello*, *vespertillo*, repr. late L. **vespertillus* for L. *vespertilio* (*-ōnem*) bat, f. *vesper* evening. See Diez (ed. 4) 390.] A small species of bat, *Vesperugo pipistrellus*, common in Britain and Europe generally.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quad.* II. 561 Bat, Pipistrelle. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 66 The pipistrelle, or common bat of Britain. 1862 G. KEARLEY *Links in Chain* (1863) 245 No less than fifteen or sixteen species of Bats are found in Britain..The little Pipistrelle..is..the most abundant..of the number.

Pipit (pi·pit). Also 8 **pippet**, **-it**, 9 **pipet**. [prob. imitative of the bird's 'short and feeble note' (Swainson). Cf. PIP *v.*[2], and the dial. names *titling*, *tietick*, *cheeper*, *peep*, etc. So F. *pipit*, *pitpit*.] Any bird of the genus *Anthus* or several allied genera of the family *Motacillidæ*, widely distributed over most parts of the world, and having a general resemblance to larks. The common British species are the Meadow Pipit or Titlark, *A. pratensis*; the Tree Pipit or Pipit-lark, *A. trivialis* (*A. arboreus*); and the Rock Pipit, Rock-lark, or Shore-lark, *A. obscurus*.

1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 241 A species [of lark] taken in the neighborhood of London called by the bird-catchers a pippit. 1832 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 1. 18 The rock or shore pipit (*Anthus aquaticus*)...In size it exceeds..the common and the tree pipet (*A. pratensis* and *arboreus*). 1882 HARDY *Ibid.* IX. No. 3. 453 Larks and pipit-larks arise at intervals. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* s.v., Pipits, of which over 30 species have been described..occur in almost all parts of the world.

Pipkin (pi·pkin). Also 6 **pypkin**, 6–7 **pipken**. [Origin doubtful. The form suggests a dim., f. PIPE *sb.*[2] + -KIN; cf. Sp. *pipote* keg, and Pg. *pipote* small cask or vessel, f. *pipa* PIPE *sb.*[2] But there is no evidence that the pipkin was at first a small cask or staved vessel.]

1. A small earthenware pot or pan, used chiefly in cookery. (Formerly in wider sense, including metal pots. Now local; in Eng. Dial. Dict. from Warw. to Lincoln and Suff.)

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Ollula*..a little potte: a pipken. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xlii. 201 Boyled with vinegar and hony in a brasen pipken or skillet. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 79 Put them together into a cleane pipkin or leaded pot,..let them stand ouer the fire one houre. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1160 Free from a crack or flaw of sinning, As Men try Pipkins by the ringing. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 279 Put the Sea-salt..into an unglazed earthen pipkin, and set it amidst live coals. 1808 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *One more Peep at R. Acad.* Wks. 1812 V. 355 A pipkin of brown crockery. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Pipkin* or *Pidkin*, a small earthen vessel with a handle. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xiii. (1860) 139/1 The unglazed earthen pipkin, fashioned by the hand, without the assistance of the potter's wheel, is held to belong to the 'bronze and stone periods' of the antiquary.

2. *U. S.* and (?) *dial.* A small wooden tub having a vertical handle formed by the prolongation of one of the staves, a piggin.

1855 WHITTIER *Flowers in Winter* ix, A wizard of the Merrimac, .. Could call green leaf and blossom back To frosted stem and spray... The beechen platter sprouted wild, The pipkin wore its old-time green. 18.. T. A. HILL *MS. Collect. Nottingham Words* (E.D.D.).

Hence **Pi·pkinet** (*nonce-wd.*), a small pipkin.

1647 HERRICK *Noble Numb.* Wks. (1869) 404 Thou my pipkinnet shalt see, Give a wave-offring unto Thee.

Pipless (pi·plĕs), *a.* [f. PIP *sb.*[3] + -LESS.] Having no pips; seedless.

1869 C. R. WELD *Notes Burgundy* 115 The Corinthian Grape..possesses the great recommendation of being pipless. 1900 *Daily News* 31 Mar. 7/3 Pipless oranges are among the novelties hailing from California.

Pipling, var. PIPPLING. **Pipouder, -poulder,** etc., var. PIEPOWDER. **Pippal,** var. PEEPUL.

† **Pi·ppane.** *Sc. Obs.* Also **pypane, pyppane.** (Origin and meaning uncertain.)

1491 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 189 Item, for v vnce of reid pyppane sylk to be beltis to the King. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 40 Item, for ij pypanes blak silk,..*vd.* 1506 *Ibid.* 351 Tua pippanes rede silk for the Kingis scarlet hos.

† **Pipped,** ?*ppl. a. Obs.* Also 7 **pipt.** [In form, pa. pple. of PIP *v.*[2] sense 2, but the latter is not known so early.] Cracked, as a nut.

1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Cassa nux*, a pypped nutte. 1552 HULOET, Pipped nutte, *cassa nux*. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* v. ii, A pipt Nutshell and a Maggot in't.

Pipped (pipt), *a.* [f. PIP *sb.*[1] (or *v.*[1]) + -ED.] Affected with the pip.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 284 There's poor Horace sick in his hammock, and the admiral croaking like a piped hen. 1845 JAMES *A. Neil* ii, You have no more stomach than a pipped hen.

Pipperidge (pi·pəridʒ). Also 6 **pyprygge, pipridge,** 8–9 **piperidge,** (9 *dial.* **piprage, piprick**). Cf. PEPPERIDGE. [Derivation obscure.

Cf. AF. *piperounge* a hip, in W. de Bibbesworth (Prof. Skeat).]

1. A local name of the Barberry, fruit or shrub; the latter usually *pipperidge-bush*.

1538 TURNER *Libellus*, *Oxiacantha*,..ab officinis & uulgo berberis dicitur, aliquibus Pypryge uocatur. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 146 The berbery tre, otherwyse called a pipridge tre. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 74 *Pipperidges*, Barberries, *Ess. Suff.* 1732 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Barbery*, or pipperidge-bush,..grows naturally in the hedges in many parts of England. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.* 382 Piperidge, Pipperidges, Piprage, Pepperidge, Piperidge Tree, or Piperidge Bush.

2. = PEPPERIDGE 2.

1828 WEBSTER s.v. *Piperidge*, The piperidge of New England is the *Nyssa villosa*, a large tree with very tough wood.

Pippet, -it, obs. forms of PIPIT.

Pippian (pi·piăn). *Math.* [See quot.] = CAYLEYAN.

1853 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* II. 381, I propose (in analogy with the form Hessian) to call the two curves in question [previously denoted by P and Q] the Pippian and Quippian respectively.

Pippin (pi·pin). Forms: 4–6 **pepyn(e,** 4–7 **pipin,** 4–8 **pepin,** 5 **pipyn,** 5–6 **pypyn(e,** 6 **peppin, pippyn, pyppen,** 6– **pippin,** (6–8 **pippen, -ing,** 7 **-ine**). [ME. a. OF. *pepin* (13th c.) seed of a fleshy fruit, mod.F. *pepin*, *pépin* pip; in Norm. dial. also seedling apple-tree: cf. sense 2. Cf. It. *pippolo* kernel, grape-stone. Origin obscure.

Connexion with L. *pēpo*, *-ōnem*, a. Gr. *πέπων*, *-ονα* 'pumpkin', is doubtful: in Sp. and Pg. *pepino* is 'cucumber', *pepita* 'kernel or pip', also 'pip' in fowls (PIP *sb.*[1]), which in Walloon is *pepin*. It. *pipita* is 'sprout' or 'shoot', and also 'pip' in fowls. The relations between these are obscure.]

1. The seed of certain fruits, including those now called *pips*, and others: cf. PIP *sb.*[3] *Obs.* exc. *north. dial.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1366 (Cott.) Pepins [so *Gött.*; *Fairf.* cornys; *Trin.* curnels] þen he gaue him thrin, þe quilk a þe appel tre he nam. *Ibid.* 1417 þe pipins war don vnder his tung, þar ras o þam thre wandes yong. 1348–9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 549 In duabus libr. de Resyns sanz pepyn. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxix. (Bodl. MS.), Huoles and pipyns leueþ whan þe wyne is clene wronge oute. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pypyne, of vyne, or grape.., *acinus*. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 166 Yf thou wyll haue many rooses..thou muste take the harde pepyns of the same rooses that bee right rype and sowe hem. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xlii. 712 In the middle of the fruite [pear] there is a coare with kernels or peppins. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 447 The inner stones or pepins, which in some grapes are but single, or one alone. 1613 [see 1c]. 1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 155 Cut them [oranges] in quarters and take out all the pippens. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Pippin*, the seed of an apple. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Pippin*, the pip or seed of the apple and like fruits.

† **b.** Applied to the germ of a pea, or the like.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 [Pesyn] wyl alle to-falle with a lytil boylynge, to pereye, saue þe whyte Pepyn is þer-in.

† **c.** Rendering Sp. *pepita* a grain of gold. *Obs.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. iv. 213 They finde little of this golde in pippin. *Ibid.*, They call them pippins, for that commonly they are like to pippins or seeds of melons. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. ii. 607 Their golde is found either in Graines which they call the Pippins because they are like..Seedes of Melons..or in powder.

2. The name of numerous varieties of apple, raised from seed.

c 1432 LYDG. *On Entry of Hen. VI into London* (MS. Harl. 565 lf. 121), Pypyns, quynces blaundrellys to disport And þe Pom cedre corageus to recomfort. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 605. 1530 PALSGR. 154 Names of frutes..as well generall as *pomme*, an apple, and *póyre*, a peare, as particuler, as *carpendv*, a pippyn; *estrangvillon*, a choke peare. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 120 The sower Crabbe.. as well as the sweet Pippin. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 2 We will eate a last yeares Pippin of my owne graffing. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisi* 587 This is a pretty way to have Pippins, Pomewaters, or any other sorts of Apples growing low. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 202 Pippins..take their name from the small spots or pips that usually appear on the sides of the Apple. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 253 The pippins.. were so called because the trees were raised from pips or seeds. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 945 Some [apples] of English origin have acquired almost universal celebrity; for instance, the Golden Pippin, Ribston Pippin, ..Blenheim Pippin, etc.; and recently Cox's Orange Pippin has been brought into notice.

3. Applied to a person. *slang.*

1664 COTTON *Scarron.* IV. Wks. (1725) 95 Thou'rt a precious Pepin, To think to steal so slily from me. 1885 *Punch* 3 Jan. 4/1 The Reform Bill won't do it, my Pippin.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pippin cider, jelly, pie, trade*; *pippin-grower, -monger, -pelting, -squeezer*; **pippin-face**, a red round face; so *pippin-faced* adj.; † **pippin-fruit**, a fruit containing 'pippins' or pips (*obs.*); **pippin-hearted** *a.*, faint-hearted, timid; † **pippin-squire** = APPLE-SQUIRE (*obs.*); † **pippin-tea**, ? an infusion of pippins (*obs.*).

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Cyder*, They..found their *pepin cyder not so pleasant as their moyle or red streak cyder. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* Sat. iii. 150 He neuer durst vnto these Ladies show His *pippin face. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, The hard-headed man with the pippin-face. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* vi, This old shepherd, with his withered pippin face. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, A little hard-headed, Ripstone-*pippin-faced man. 1675 COTTON (*title*) The Planters Manual: being instructions for the Raising, Planting, and Cultivating all sorts of Fruit-Trees, whether Stone-fruits or *Pepin-fruits. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* i, If I were to turn pippin-monger instead of *pippin-grower. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 171 They might have been the meekest, most *pippin-hearted little men in the world. 1718 MRS. EALES *Receipts* 51 Take *Pippin-Jelly. 1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde* Wks. 1874 II. 57 You are a *pippinmonger to call me Russetting or apple-john. 1835 *Edin. Rev.* LXI. 406 Hissing, hooting, *pippin-pelting, and driving them from the boards. 1592 GREENE *Disput.* 5 A *pipping Pye that cost in the Market foure pence. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* XXXIII. 39 A Dogges yeoman, or some *pippin Squier. 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 323 For his constant Drink.. *Pippin-Thea,..with Syrup of Rasberries. 1745 *Pippin trade [see PIPPINER].

Hence † **Pi·ppined** *a.*, having pips; † **Pi·ppiner**, a ship engaged in the 'pippin trade' (see quot.).

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 72 Grapis feire and greete, Pypened hard [L. *grani callosi*] and drie. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* iii. (1841) I. 19 If a merchant comes to me to hire a small ship of me, and tells me it is for the pippin-trade; or to buy a vessel, and tells me he intends to make a pippiner of her; the meaning is, that she is to run to Seville for oranges, or to Malaga for lemons.

† **Pi·pple**, *v. Obs.* Also 6 **pypple** (**pimpel**). [App. dim. or frequent. of PIPE *v.*[1]] *intr.* To blow with a gentle sound; to pipe or whistle softly, as the wind; to murmur or ripple, as a stream. Hence † **Pi·ppling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 207 Yong scolers.. enbolned with the flyblowen blast of the moche vayne glorious pipplyng wynde. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 164 Thei haue twoo sommers, softe pimpelyng windes, a milde aier. 1558 PHAER *Æneid.* III. Fiv, Whan the..wind with pipling sweete Is out at sowth, and to the seas to saill doth call the fleete. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66, I Now shiuer at shaddows, eeche pipling puf doth amaze me. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 75 b, Small streames of water, pyppling and slyding downe vpon the Amber grauell. [1862 G. MACDONALD *D. Elginbrod* II. ix, They sat down to enjoy the 'soft pipling cold' which swung all the leaves about.]

b. ? *transf.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 95 Had not I such daliaunce, such pipling bedgle renounced.

Pipple, -stone: see PEBBLE, -STONE.

Pip-pop. [Echoic.] A representation of the report of a Mauser rifle, etc.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 1/3 Once outside the outposts of the base town and the fun begins. Pip-pop—pip-pop—the Yeomanry in advance have been fired upon. 1902 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 392 The sound still rings in my ears of the metallic pip-pop of the Mauser.

Pippy (pi·pi), *a.* [f. PIP *sb.*[3] and ? *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Full of pips.

1892 *Sat. Rev.* 25 June 728/1 A bitter, pippy lemon.

2. *Stock Exchange slang.* (?) Sickly, shaky.

1892 *Scott. Leader* 19 Feb., On 'change... Mexican rails also look 'pippy' to-day.

Pipridge, obs. form of PIPPERIDGE.

‖ **Pipsissewa** (pipsi·sĭwă). [ad. N. Amer. Ind. (? Algonkin) name *sip-si-sewa*; it is not clear whether the form in *pip-* occurred in some native dial., or was a white man's corruption.] A name for *Chimaphila umbellata* (N.O. *Ericaceæ* or *Pyrolaceæ*), also called Prince's pine, a low creeping evergreen with whitish flowers, found in Europe, northern Asia, and N. America. Also, the leaves of this used as a diuretic and tonic.

[1814 PURSH *Flor. Amer. Sept.* 300 *Chimaphila*..is in high esteem for its medicinal qualities. They call it *Sip-si-sewa*.] 1818 EATON *Man. Bot.* 203 General Varnum says the umbellata is the Sipsisewa or Pipsisewa and is highly efficacious in the Cure of cancers. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 499 Pipsissewa is probably about equivalent to uva ursi in its therapeutic value. 1880 *New Virginians* I. iv. 131 Those woodland darlings, the wild pansy, the pipsissewa [*misprr.* pipsewissa], and the partridge-berry. 1884 MILLSPAUGH *Amer. Med. Plants* 104 Chimaphila umbellata... Common names pipsissewa, winter green, princes pine, bitter winter green, ground holly.

Pipul, variant of PEEPUL, E. Indian tree.

Pipy (poi·pi), *a.* (erron. -ey.) [f. PIPE *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Containing pipes, tubes, or tubular formations; of the form of a pipe, tubular, cylindrical.

1724 SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* XI. lxxviii. 406 When once sellery is whitened it must be eaten, otherwise it will soon grow pipey or rot. 1757 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* L. 193 A white pipy and stony coral. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 241 Where dank moisture breeds The pipy hemlock to strange overgrowth. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. I. 288 A soft blue 'pipy' clay, *i.e.* containing pipes of red rusty matter. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 121 The crust formed over the lava is remarkably pipy as well as cellular.

2. Piping, shrill. (Cf. PIPE *sb.*[1] 2.)

1877 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* (1892) 14 'Cheer up, Mr. Foggerty', said a pipy little voice.

3. Given to 'piping the eye' or crying. *colloq.*

1861 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secret* xii. (1862) 179 'Christabel', said a little voice,..'I shall never be pipy again'.

Piquable (pī·kăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. PIQUE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being or inclined to be piqued.

1860 TENNYSON *Let. Dk. Argyle* in *Mem.* (1897) I. xxi. 458 Had I been a piquable man I should have been piqued.

Piquance (pī·kăns). *rare.* [See -ANCE.] = next.

1883 *American* VII. 10 A certain mingling of smoothness and piquance is not wanting.

Piquancy (pī·kănsi). Also 7 **picq-**. [f. PIQUANT: see -ANCY.]

† **1.** Sharpness, severity. *Obs.*

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1687) I. xiv. 204 Satyrical taunts do owe their seeming piquancy, not to the speaker,..but to the subject, and the hearers. 1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* 16 That the reader may..judge, with what Meekness and Decency, tho with some measure of Picquancy, I treat them.

2. Of food, etc.: Stimulating pungency or tartness; appetizing flavour.

1664 EVELYN *Pomona* iv. 13 To salute our Palats with a more agreeable piquancy and tartness. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 83 Imparting piquancy to the food. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah* Prol. 17 First, food—then, piquancy.

3. *fig.* Of manner, speech, etc.: The quality of being PIQUANT (in sense 3); racy quality.

In quot. 1683 said of the impression made upon the mind. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Ambrose* 419 His style..leaves a picquancy and quick relish in the Readers mind. 1685 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* II. 129 Give a relish and picquancy to our Conversation. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 305 There was a tasteful smartness in her dress,..with a *gentillesse* in her air, and a piquancy of expression. 1836 EMERSON *Nature, Lang.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 151 It is this which gives that piquancy to the conversation of a strong-natured farmer or backwoodsman. 1851 D. G. MITCHELL *Dream Life* (1852) 147 Her conversation delights you by its piquancy and grace.

Piquant (pī·kănt), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 6 **pickande**, **-ante**, 6–7 **pickant**, 7 **picque-**, **piccant**, 7–8 **picqu-**, 7- **piquant**, 9 **picqu-**, **piquante**. [a. F. *piquant* († *picquant*), pr. pple. of *piquer* to prick, sting: see PICK *v.*[1], PIQUE *v.*[1] The form *piccant* was ad. It. *piccante*. In 19th c. authors, *piquante* (pī·kant) usually represents the Fr. fem. *piquante* (pīkā·nt).]

1. That pierces or stings; *esp.* sharp or stinging to the feelings; keen, trenchant; severe, bitter. Chiefly *fig.* *Obs.* or *arch.*

1521 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 43 Notwithstanding the pickande wordes conteigned in the Emperours letters. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* M iij, Who is he so blunt and restiue, that could not with theyr pickant spurres be quickened? 1591 CONINGSBY *Siege Rouen* in *Camden Misc.* (1847) I. 29 This daie the marshall wrote a letter..a lytle pickante. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 32 By some picquant words or arguteness to put them into choler. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 6 The pangs of the Gout are so sharpe and picquant. 1789 E. DARWIN *Let.* in *Life* (1879) 37 Never to make any piquant or angry answer. 1868 LANIER *Jacquerie* I. 131 Urged him on With piquant spur.

† **b.** Sharp-pointed, peaked. *Obs. rare.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 261 When sharp piquant Toes were altogether in request.

2. Agreeably pungent or sharp of taste; sharp, stinging, biting; stimulating or whetting to the appetite; appetizing.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. XXXVIII, [A cook] excellent for a pickant sawce and the haugou. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. II. 78 The differences of Sapours are seven; sweet, sharp, sowre, picqueant, salt, acid, bitter. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* (1733) 301 As piquant to the Tongue as Salt it self. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. xiii, As piquant as an anchovy toast. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1872) 227 A piquant sauce for supper.

3. *fig.* That acts upon the mind as a piquant sauce, or the like, upon the palate; that stimulates or excites keen interest or curiosity; pleasantly stimulating or disquieting.

1695 *Whether Parlt. be not in Law dissolved*, etc. 47 It falls below being piquant, and keeps within the Limits and Precincts of Modesty. 1706 *Art of Painting* 319 He [Rembrandt] design'd an infinite Number of Thoughts, that were as sensible and as *Picquant* as the Productions of the best Masters. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* iv. 144 Their husbands..leave home to seek for a more agreeable —may I be allowed to use a significant French word?—*piquant* society. 1819 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 24 Aug., Your notices of literary works should be short, light, and piquant. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* vi, She disapproved entirely of the piquant neatness of Caroline's costume. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* XXXV. 235 These charms combined to render her an exceedingly piquant and charming maiden. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* xv, This lovely girl had not Wanda's piquant, pretty face.

‖ **b.** After F. *piquante* fem.

1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXXIX, The monkey has a turn for satire, too, by all that is *piquante*. 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairlegh* (1894) 52 Lucy's.., what you call piquante. 1873 SMILES *Huguenots Fr.* I. i. (1881) 3 That picquante letter-writer, Madame de Sévigné. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Dr. Therne* I. 15 The face of a rather piquante and pretty girl.

B. *sb. rare.* That which is piquant. **a.** A hedgehog's prickle; **b.** A piquant dish; a whet.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. Anim.* II. xvii. 213 The two most remarkable animals in the insectivorous tribe..are the mole, and the hedgehog,.. the latter for its piquants, and the former for its hand turned outwards. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 239 He pined for the piquants—he had dreams of the savouries.

Hence **Pi·quantly** *adv.*, in a piquant manner; **Pi·quantness** (*rare*), piquancy.

1697 POTTER *Antig. Greece* I. XXVI. (1715) 158 If an Orator..hath been piquantly Censorious. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 17 Claret loseth much of its Briskness and Picquantness. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Piquantness*,.. sharpness, bitingness. 1882 W. H. BISHOP in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 54/2 The village is piquantly foreign.

Pique (pīk), *sb.*[1] Forms: 6 **pyke**, **peake**, 6–7 **picke**, **pike**, 7 **pieque**, 7–8 **picque**, 7–8 (9 *dial.*) **pick**, **peek**, 7–9 **peak**, 8 **pyck**, 7- **pique**. [a. F. *pique*, n. of action f. *piquer* to prick, pierce, sting: see PIQUE *v.*[1]]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1532 Pyke [see B. 1]. 1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 339 Wherby occasion of sum picke might be taken awaye. 1592 Peake [see B. 2]. 1596 in A. Collins *Lett. & Mem. State* (1746) II. 21 They are in Picke against these. 1597 *Carew MSS.* (1869) 272 [These two Scottish septs are] at pike [one with the other]. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* II. 131 It is treason to moue any pick, grudge, or querrell. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (1672) 39 The like picques and quarrelling pretences of the Parliament. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 1082 If any Member there dislike His Face, or to his Beard have Pike. 1664 *Ibid.* II. i. 545 'Tis no Fantastick pique I have to love, nor coy dislike. 1667 TEMPLE *Let. to Sir J. Temple* Wks. 1731 II. 43 The Duke of Albemarle had long had a Peek to their Country. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 104 Another Pick in which they agreed not. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scofft* Wks. (1725) 146 You must not take a Picque, If he.. speak plain and gleek. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 318 Out of a puritanical peak. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., There is a Peek between them. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* Suppl. (1714) 431 Upon a Pick he took against the People called Quakers. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 61 That we should behave well to our friends out of love, and to our enemies out of picque. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* (ed. 3) 83, I did not learn..what was the pick that the Black Smugglers had taken at the Maxwells.

B. Signification.

1. A personal quarrel or fit of ill-feeling between two or more persons; ill-feeling, animosity, enmity.

1532 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 349 Which Edmond Knightley hathe..trauayled..to sett pyke betwene the sayd ladye and the executors. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 464 There were some that wolde be right gladde to here Your Majestie and He were in picke togythers. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xliii. (ed. 8), Between entirest friends,.. sometimes little peeks of coldness may appear. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 92 Because of a Pique that had been between the Abbots and Bishop Laud. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Elegy Mad Dog* v, This dog and man at first were friends; But when a pique began, The dog..Went mad, and bit the man.

2. A feeling of anger, resentment, or ill-will, resulting from some slight or injury, esp. such as wounds one's pride or vanity; offence taken.

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Conf.* Wks. (GROSART) II. 215 You take the graue peake vppon you too much. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* I. 15 This Optaris had a pique against Theodatus. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* II. i, Pray, my Lord, take no picque at it. 1663-67 Pique to [see A.]. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* Kiv b, He..bore a great pique at Alexander, for having been preferr'd before him to the See of Alexandria. 1766 [C. ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* xi. 181 Poor Stephen went suddenly forth in a Pique, And push'd off his Boat for the Stygian Creek. 1832 J. W. CROKER *Diary* 12 May, He acquiesced..with an air of pique and disappointment. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. ix. 414 *note*, A Bishop who had turned monk in a momentary fit of pique.

† **3.** *Pique of honour*, a point in which honour is pricked or affected. *Obs.*

1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 522 There can be no Interfering upon a Pique of Honour. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 401 Add long prescription of established laws, And picque of honour to maintain a cause.

Pique (pīk), *sb.*[2] Also 7 picq(ue, pickque. [a. F. *pic*, in same sense, of uncertain origin. (Taken by Hatz.-Darm. as a sense of *pic*, pick, pike, (mountain) peak; Littré takes it as a distinct word.)] In *Piquet*, The winning of thirty points on cards and play, before one's opponent begins to count, entitling the player to begin his score at sixty. Cf. REPIQUE.

1668 TEMPLE *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1731 II. 93 In their Audiences .. the Cards commonly run high, and all is Picque and Repicque between them. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* vi. 81 The youngers Blank shall bar the former and hinder his Picq and Repicq [*printed* Picy and Repicy]. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/2 A Picy in the game of Picket. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Piquet*, If he can make up thirty, part in hand, and part play, ere the other has told any thing, he reckons for them sixty.—And this is called a *pique*. Whence the name of the game. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 137.

† **Pique**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [a. F. or quasi-F., ad. L. *pica*.] = PICA [2], depraved appetite.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 809 Though it have the Pique, and long, 'Tis still for something in the wrong; As Women long.

Pique (pīke, pīk), *sb.*[4] Also 7 pico. [a. Sp. Amer. *pique*, ad. Quichua *piqui* (Gonzalez Holguin 1608), *piki* (Tschudi) flea, chigoe.]

1. = CHIGOE.

1748 *Earthquake of Peru* iii. 216 A .. little Insect, call'd Pico which gets insensibly into the Feet. 1758 ADAMS tr. *Ulloa's Voy.* in Pinkerton (1808) XIV. 349 The insect .. called nigua and in Peru pique, is shaped like a flea. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 103, I am speaking of the celebrated Chigoe or Jiggers, called also..Pique.

2. 'A name for *Argas nigra*, a blind tick which sometimes causes sores on men or animals' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

Pique, *sb.*[5] Erron. form of PEAK *sb.*[2]

1826 P. POUNDEN *France & Italy* 5 A close-bound cap which dwindles nearly to a pique. 1845 BROWNING *How they brought Gd. News* ii, I turned in my saddle and made its girths tight, Then shortened each stirrup, and set the pique right.

Pique, obs. form of PIKE *sb.*[3] and 5.

Pique (pīk), *v.*[1] Also 7–8 picque, (9 peak). [a. F. *piquer* to prick, sting, stimulate, irritate, excite; *se piquer*, to take offence.]

1. *trans.* To prick the feelings of; to excite to anger, resentment, or enmity; to irritate; to offend by wounding pride or vanity.

1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 103 You think you picque him wittily, when you say, 'any thing in Scripture that makes for you, call it ordinary; and what doth not please, is extraordinary'. 1673 W. PERWICH *Dispatches* (Roy. Hist. Soc.) 264 The gentry..are malcontents..being all piqued against the C. de Monterei. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 349 The Dev'l was piqu'd, such saintship to behold. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. ii. 76 She .. piques our pride, and offends our judgment. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 233 A little picqued by the excess of his mirth. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) I. iii. 182 Piqued at this opposition to his wishes. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* viii. III. (1873) 221 This moment our vanity is piqued. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s. v. *Peak*, 'He's peaked about somewhat'.

2. *trans.* To stimulate or excite to action or activity; to instigate or provoke, esp. by arousing envy, rivalry, jealousy, or other passion; to arouse, awake (curiosity, interest). † **b.** *refl.* To excite or arouse oneself, put oneself on one's mettle (*obs.*).

1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* I. i, My husband's barbarous usage piques me to revenge. 1736 BOLINGBROKE *Patriot.* (1749) 18 Fortune maintains a kind of rivalship with wisdom, and piques herself often in favour of fools as well as knaves. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 67 Her vanity..prompted her to pique the Prince's attention. 1793 *Minstrel* I. 192 Taunting messages were reiterated to pique him to come forth. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iv, Peaking himself into flame of irritancy. 1870 H. SMART *Race for Wife* i, You have piqued my woman's curiosity.

† **3.** *absol.* or *intr.* To arouse a feeling of pique; to stimulate. *Obs.*

1664 J. WILSON *Cheats* Epil., If you must lash out, and think you can't Be wits yourselves unless you pique and rant. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 163 P 5 Every Verse hath something in it that piques.

† **4.** *intr. To pique at*: to strive or vie with (another) through envy or jealousy. *Obs. rare.*

1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* IV. i, Women of the play-house, still piquing at each other, who shall go the best dressed.

5. *refl.* (rarely *intr.*). To take pride *in*, plume oneself *on*. Const. *on*, *upon*; rarely *at*, *in*. (= F. *se piquer de*.)

1705 POPE *Lett.* (1736) V. 10 Men who are thought to pique themselves upon their wit. 1773 BOSWELL *Tour Hebr.* 10 Sept., We..piqued ourselves at not being outdone at the nightly ball by our less active friends. 1787 *Generous Attachment* II. 113 Sir Jeffry..piques himself much in the nursery of the young woodlands. 1828-40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 1 A powerful baron who piqued himself upon his skill in his weapons. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 24 June 1/3 Temperance reformers who are wont to pique on the progress of the cause in the colonies.

Hence **Pi·quing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 22 To entice unhappy victims into her net, and then abandon them to all the piquing severity of ridicule. 1808 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 105 One piquing thing said, draws on another. 1854 FABER *Growth in Holiness* iv, A piquing of our self-love.

Pique, *v.*[2] [f. PIQUE *sb.*[2]] In *Piquet*: **a.** *trans.* To win a pique from, score a pique against (one's opponent). **b.** *intr.* To score a pique.

1659 *Shuffling, Cutting & Deal.* 8, I was Pickquet the last, but am now repickqt. 1668 [see PIQUET[1]]. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 278 He piqu'd and repiqu'd so oft. 1830 'EIDRAH TREBOR' *Hoyle Made Fam.* 49 It also piques and repiques the adversary. 1895 SNAITH *Dorothy Marvin* vi, The mysteries..of piqueing, repiqueing and capotting.

† **Pique**, *v.*[3], obs. f. PEAK *v.*[2], to taper to a peak.

1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 307 Above that they had a brow-band, which came piquing down before, betwixt their eye-brows.

‖ **Piqué** (pīke), *sb.* (*a.*) [F. *piqué*, pa. pple. of *piquer* (see PIQUE *v.*[1]) to prick, pierce, back-stitch as in quilting; hence as sb. quilted work, quilting.] A rather stiff cotton fabric woven in a strongly ribbed or raised pattern; quilting.

[1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1871) III. IV. vii. 168 Marie-Antoinette was brought out. She had on an undress of *piqué blanc*.] 1852 *Rep. Juries Exhib.* 1851, 376/1 A new fabric called *piqué*. 1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy did at Sch.* ix. 143 Lilly had dressed her hair and donned a fresh white piqué. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Piqué*, a cotton goods, figured or plain, and with a crimped surface resembling cordings. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 20 Two white skirts.., hunting-cord or white piqué. *attrib.* 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* xi. 189 The hostess .. looked .. charming in her white and blue piqué morning gown.

b. The raised pattern of such a fabric (orig. such a pattern formed by regular rows of stitching, as in quilting). 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

B. *ppl. a.* Inlaid (with little points of gold, etc.). Also as sb. = *Piqué work* b; see C.

1882 *Hamilton Palace Collect.* No. 1986 Bonbonniere of tortoise shell, inlaid with scrolls of gold piqué. 1897 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 4/7 [Snuff-boxes] in tortoiseshell piqué with gold.

C. *Comb.* **Piqué work**: **a.** A kind of decorative needlework in which a pattern is formed by stitching; **b.** Ornamental work in tortoise-shell or the like, formed by means of minute inlaid designs traced in points of gold, etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Piqué-work*, a minute kind of buhl-work; inlaying metals in metals, usually.

Piqued, obs. or arch. form of PEAKED *a.*

a 1672 WILKINS in H. Rogers *Life & J. Howe* iv. (1863) 106 While you..are for setting the top on the piqued end downwards, you won't be able to keep it up any longer than you continue whipping and scourging. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Surrey* (1719) V. 278 A fair House..where the piqued Turret is. 1793 *Minstrel* II. 140 Shoes sharply piqued at the toes.

Piqued (pīkt), *ppl. a.* [f. PIQUE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].] Offended, irritated; excited: see the vb.

1689 tr. *Jurieu's Past. Lett.* Transl. Epist., The same learned Man .. hath written sundry piqued Books with bitterness and gall enough against the Reformed. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 840 On his Wiles a piqu'd and jealous Spy. 1851 WARDLAW *Zechariah* vii. (1869) 132 Those piqued and jealous enemies. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* I. 19, 'I am delighted..', says Lord Charles in a piqued tone. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 7/1 One after another gratified a piqued curiosity and raised the cloth and peeped.

Pique devant, var. of PICKE-DEVANT *Obs.*

Piquer, Piquere, obs. ff. PIKER, PICKEER.

Piquet[1] (pi'kĕt, pi·kèt). Also 7 pickquet, 7–9 picket, picquet, 8 pickette, picquette, 8–9 piquette. [a. F. *piquet*, obs. *picquet* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), of uncertain origin.

The Fr. form is diminutive (-ET), and the radical part has been variously sought in F. *pic*, a term used in this game (see PIQUE *sb.*[2]); *pique*, a pike (weapon), a spade (in cards); *pique* quarrel; or *piquer* to prick, pierce, sting.]

A card-game played by two persons with a pack of 32 cards (the low cards from the two to the six being excluded), in which points are scored on various groups or combinations of cards, and on tricks: see CAPOT, CARTE BLANCHE, PIQUE, POINT, REPIQUE, QUATORZE, QUINT.

1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* x. 150 For Cardes..a mans fancy would be sum'd up *in* cribbidge; Glecke requires a vigilant memory; Maw a pregnant agility; Picket [*printed* Pichet] a various invention. *a* 1651 (*title*) The Royall and delightfull Game of Picquet. 1668 DRYDEN *Sir M. Mar-all* I. i, If I go to Picquet, though it be but with a Novice in't, he will picque and repicque, and capot me twenty times together. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 946 Than Gamesters, when they play a Set With greatest cunning at Piquet. 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 290 Some..confound a child's fortune at ombre, picket, and hazard. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 198 P 1 She admits a Male Visitant to her Bed-side, plays with him a whole Afternoon at Pickette. 1732 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 85 His pride is in Piquette, Newmarket-fame, and judgment at a Bett. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* XXI, The major..was sitting down to play picquet with her. 1905 *19th Cent.* Sept. 423 She and the King often spent the evening playing piquet or chess.

attrib. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* Prol. 12 Not to forget Your Piquet Parties, and your dear Basset. *c* 1720 PRIOR *Epil. to Phædra* 39 The Picquet-Friend dismiss'd, the coast all clear, And spouse alone impatient for her dear. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 272 A Piquet pack now consists of thirty-two cards only.

Hence **Pi·quetist**, a piquet player.

1899 *Speaker* 25 Mar. 339/1 David Gregorie, a noted piquetist.

† **Pique·t**[2]. *Obs.* Also **piquette**. [? Akin to PICOTEE.] The name of a variety of carnation.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Piquets, *Dianthus.* 1775 ASH, *Piquette*, ..a beautiful kind of carnation.

Piquet(t, obs. form of PICKET.

‖ **Piquette** (pike·t). Also 7 **piquet**, 8 **picquette**. [F., f. *piquer* to prick, sting; in reference to its tart taste.] (See quots.).

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 249/2 Piquet, wine from the Huske of Grapes and water. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Picquette*, (Fr.) a tart sort of Wine us'd in some Parts of France, by the meaner Sort of People. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Piquette*, sour acid wine;..made..by pouring water on the husks of grapes.

‖ **Piqueur** (pikör). Also anglicized as PICKER [3]. [F., agent-n. from *piquer* to prick: see Hatz.-Darm.] In France, or on the Continent, An attendant who directs the hounds during a hunt, or runs before a carriage to clear the road.

1835 H. GREVILLE *Diary* (1883) 59, I followed a *piqueur*, who appeared to me to know his *métier*, and by keeping close to his heels I contrived to see the stag taken. 1837 J. F. COOPER *Europe* II. vii. 155 The *piqueur* scouring along the road in advance, like a rocket. 1864 M. J. HIGGINS *Ess.* 204 The postilions and *piqueurs* all wore round glazed hats.

‖ **Piqui, piquia**: see PEKEA.

1890 *Cent. Dict., Piquia-oil*, a sweet concrete food-oil derived from the fruit of *Caryocar Brasiliense.*

† **Piquier, pikeir** (pikīe·ɪ). *Obs.* Also 6 **picquier**. [a. F. *piquier*, f. *pique* PIKE *sb.*[5]] A soldier armed with a pike, a pikeman; = PIKER [2].

1596 J. SMYTHE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 91 A hundreth at the most Pikeirs and Archers. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 36 The Picquier, either armed or unarmed is to be shewed and taught the carriage and vse of his pike. *Ibid.* 37 The good Picquier ought to learne to tosse his pike well.

Piquier, obs. form of PICKEER.

‖ **Piquillin.** [Argentine Sp. *piquillín* (pikilī·n), ultimately from some Indian dialect.] A South American bush, *Condalia microphylla* (N.O. *Rhamnaceæ*), having an edible drupaceous fruit.

1884 in MILLER *Plant-n.*

Piquoté, obs. form of PICOTEE.

† **Piquy**, obs. (? erron.) var. of *pique*, PICA [1] 2.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v. *Character*, The Printers Characters..are, 1. Pearl...2. Non-Pareil. 3. Breviar. 4. Long Primer. 5. Piquy [1674 or Pica]. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Piquy*, a Term in printing, see Pareil.

‖ **Pir** (pīə). Also 7 **pire, peor, 9 peer.** [Pers. پیر *pīr* old man, chief of a sect: a title of honour (Hopkins).] A Mohammedan saint or holy man; also *transf.* the tomb or shrine of a saint.

1672 tr. *Bernier's Empire Gt. Mogol* IV. 113 The Mullahs, who with great conveniency and delight spend their life there, under the shadow of the miraculous Sanctity of this Pire. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 240 Hard by this is a Peor, or Burying-place of one of their Prophets. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 121 He forthwith seeks out some Pír, or Holy Man, to whose wives he entrusts his child. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 73 Here was a pīr, or holy spot, on which Kuli reverently deposited a handful of wretched dates. 1900 MARY CARUS-WILSON *Irene Petrie* vi. 116 In calamity he turns to his pir to help him.

Pir, obs. form of PIRR.

† **Pirace**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Abnormal formation f. PIRACY.] **a.** *intr.* To practise piracy: = PIRATE *v.* 2. **b.** *trans.* To obtain by piracy; = PIRATE *v.* 1. Hence † **Pi·raced** *ppl. a.*

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XI. vi. 147 A fugitiue with light vessels robbing and piracing. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 64 Leaving his other ship with all his pirac'd riches to the mercy of the water.

Piracy (pəi·ərăsi). Also 6–8 **pyr-**; 6–7 **-cye, -cie, -sie.** [ad. med.L. *pīrātīa*, a. Gr. πειρατεία piracy, f. πειρᾱτής PIRATE: see -ACY.] The action or practice of a pirate.

1. The practice or crime of robbery and depredation on the sea or navigable rivers, etc., or by descent from the sea upon the coast, by persons not holding a commission from an established civilized state; with *a* and *pl.*, a single act or crime of this kind.

[1419 *Charta Hen. V* in Rymer *Fœdera* IX. 754/2 Per modum Piratiæ.] *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* III. 33 Partely by Feates of Warre, partely by Pyracie. 1556 *Acts Privy*

Council (1892) V. 358 He complained of a pyracie doone upon him by certain Englishe pirates. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1359/1 Fleeing first out of England for notable pirasies, and out of Ireland for trecheries not pardonable. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 224 On those coasts he rather exerciseth Pyracie, than Dominion. 1702 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 198 Condemned by the court of admiralty for 4 several pyracies. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xxxiii. 5 Those Portugueze .. betook themselves to Piracy among the Islands, at the Mouth of Ganges. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. i. 213 The Vikings confined their odious piracies to the Baltic. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 241 The total suppression of piracy by Pompey had rendered the Mediterranean safe.

fig. 1897 MARQ. SALISBURY *Sp. in Ho. Lords* 16 July, It was feared..that under the appearance of educational reform a scheme of what he might call theological piracy would spring up.

2. *fig.* The appropriation and reproduction of an invention or work of another for one's own profit, without authority; infringement of the rights conferred by a patent or copyright.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 76 They..would suffer by this act of piracy, since it was likely to prove a very bad edition. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 520 He is charged with 'Literary Piracy', and an 'unprincipled suppression of the source from whence he drew his information'. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. iv. 71 With the view of securing his invention of the telescope from foreign piracy.

Piragua (pirǽ·gwă), **periagua** (perị,æ·gwă). Forms: α. 7– **piragua**; 7 **piragoua**, 8 **pirogua, peragua, peraouger**, 9 **peroqua**. β. 7 **periago(e, -yago, -eago, -aqua, perriaguer**, 8 **perriagua, -ago, periaguay, -auger, perriaugre, -awger**, 8–9 **periagua, -aga.** γ. 8 **petty-oager, pettiagua, -augua, -awga, -auger, -augre, petiaguay, -augre, pettie augre**, 9 **petty-auga, -auger, petiaugua.** See also PIROGUE. [orig. a. Sp. *piragua*, a. Carib *piragua* a dug-out; subseq. much corrupted, esp. by popular reference of the initial part to *peri-* and *petty*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. [1535 OVIEDO (1851) I. 171 Llamanlas los Caribes piraguas.] 1609 *Virginia richly valued* 41 A piragua or ferrie bote. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 343 They.. betake themselves to their Canoes, or Piragoua. 1684 B. SHARP *Voy.* (1729) 54 They took one Peragua which they found at anchor. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 127 Maj. Church and his Forces were coming against them..with 24 Peraougers, meaning Whale-boats. 1792 tr. *Rochon's Madagascar* in Pinkerton *Voy.* (1814) XVI. 797 And because the canvas .. is impenetrable to water, the hammock becomes a real pirogua. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xxvii, The peroqua rapidly approached. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 164 As soon as the prow of the piragua grounded.

β. 1672 SIR W. TALBOT *Discov. J. Lederer* 18 People, whom they..force away..in Periago's. 1691 *Proc. agst. French* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 474 Making their escape in their swift periaquas. 1696 *S. Carolinæ Stat.* (1837) II. 105 Any boat, perriaguer or canoe. 1697 Pereago [see B. 1]. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. App. (1852) 171 The periaga kept busking to and again. 1719 Periagua [see B. 1]. 1733 *N. Jersey Arch.* XI. 311 A large new Perriagua, of about 31 Foot in length. 1736 *Ibid.* 452 The Owners of the other two Boats and Periauger. 1738 *Ibid.* 532 Chased by three Perriagoes. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 5 Coming hither..in their small canoes, or Perriawgers. 1765 in F. B. Hough *Siege of Detroit* (1860) 115 Three Battoes and two Perriaugres. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* 498 The French traders..make of them periaguays. 1804 C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* 74 Two boats (periagas) were detached from Detroit. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiv. (1873) 294 The periagua is a strange rough boat.

γ. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) III, Our Craft was but Canoes and Petty-Oagers. 1736 *N. Jersey Arch.* XI. 451 He recover'd himself and seized .. a Pettiauger of Alderman Romer. 1736 Pettiawga [see B. 2]. 1739 WHITEFIELD in *Life & Jrnls.* (1756) 306 We went in a Pettiagua over the Sound. 1740 *Hist. Jamaica* 298 A Petiaguay and Half-Galley. 1776 N. GREENE in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 301 Our people ran the petiaugres ashore.

B. Signification.

1. A long narrow canoe hollowed from the trunk of a single tree, and sometimes deepened by the addition of planks along the sides, or widened by being built of two curved sections with a flat bottom inserted between them.

1609 [see A. α]. 1630 CAPT. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* 52 There were six Peryagoes, which are huge great trees formed as your Canowes, but so laid out on the sides with boords, they will seeme like a little Gally. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 29 *Pereago's* and *Canoa's*..are nothing but the Tree it self made hollow Boat wise, and the Canoa generally sharp at both ends, the Pereago at one only, with the other end flat. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. ix. (1840) 149 To make myself a canoe or periagua. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 242 *Periaguas*..double and single canoes, used by the natives of..islands in the south seas. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* VI. v. (1864) 367 The canoes and piraguas of the enemy.

2. An open flat-bottomed schooner-rigged vessel; a sort of two-masted sailing barge, used in America and the W. Indies.

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 126/4 A small Vessel of ours called a Periagoe, .. chasing and taking his Shallop laden with Provisions. 1736 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 4 Apr., I set out for Frederica in a pettiawga—a sort of flat-bottomed barge. 1744 F. MOORE *Voy. Georgia* 49 These Periaguas are long flat-bottom'd Boats, carrying from 25 to 30 Tons. They have a kind of a Forecastle and a Cabbin; but the rest open, and no Deck. They have two Masts..and Sails like Schooners. They row generally with two Oars only. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XI. 456 A *Petiàugua*, a two-mast Boat used by the Caribs.

Pirai, variant of PERAI, S. American fish.

Pirameter, variant spelling of PEIRAMETER.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1714/1.

Piramid, Piramis, etc., obs. ff. PYRAMID, etc.

Piramidig (pi·rămidi·g). [Echoic, after the bird's call.] A name given in the W. Indies to a night-hawk, *Chordiles virginianus* or *C. minor*.

1847 GOSSE *Birds Jamaica* 33 We hear a loud, abrupt, and rapid repetition of four or five syllables in the air above our heads, resembling the sounds, *piramidig, gi' me a bit*, or perhaps still more, *witta-wittawit*. *Ibid.* 37 Whither the Piramidig retires after its twilight evolutions are performed, or where it dwells by day, I have little evidence. 1859 *Zoologist* XVIII. 6976 The peculiarity of flight in the piramidig. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 727 *Piramidig*, a Creole name,..*Chordiles*] *minor* (Nightjar), being an imitation of its cry uttered during its remarkable flight.

‖ **Piranha** (pĭrä·nyă). [Pg., from Tupi *pira·nya*, var. of *pira·ya*, scissors, also this fish.] A voracious South American fish: = PERAI.

1869 R. F. BURTON *Brazil* II. 33 The poor almost live upon the..dreadful Piranha. 1904 G. A. BOULENGER *Let. to Editor*, The ferocious S. American fish .. *Serrasalmo piraya*, is known in English books of natural history as the Piranha or Caribe, or Cariba.

Pirastic(k, variant of PEIRASTIC.

Pirate (pəi·rĕt), *sb.* Also 5–8 **pyrat(e, 6 pyraotte, pirotte, -atte, 6–7 pyrote, pirat, 7 pyratt.** [ad. L. *pīrāta*, a. Gr. πειρᾱτής, f. πειρᾶν to attempt, attack, assault. Cf. F. *pirate* (1448 in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp., Pg., It. *pirata*, Du. *piraat*, Ger., Sw., Da. *pirat*.]

1. One who robs and plunders on the sea, navigable rivers, etc., or cruises about for that purpose; one who practises piracy; a sea-robber.

[1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 415 Þe see þeves of Danes [L. *Dani piratæ*].] 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23963, I mene pyratys of the Se, Which bryngе folk in pouerte. 1430–40 — *Bochas* I. xxi. (1554) 38 This word pirate of Pirrhus toke the name. 1522 J. CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 312 Pirats, Mores, and other infidels. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 15 *title*, An acte for punishement of pyrotes and robbers on the sea. 1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* Pref. ff j, Pilotes (I saie) not Pirottes, Rulers, not Rouers. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 72 Notable Pyrate, thou salt-water Theefe. 1692 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 360 For the resisting..of all enemies, pyratts, and rebells. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 12 We have secured the Navigation of our Subjects, against all other Pyrats. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* x. I. 285 Cilicia, formerly the nest of those daring pyrates. 1799 *Naval Chron.* II. 315 River Pirates..ply upon the Thames during the night. 1817 BYRON *Manfred* II. iii. 32 A traitor on land, and a pirate at sea. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. 192 In the mouths of..plain-spoken enemies his people [the Normans in France] are only the Pirates, and himself the Chief of the Pirates, down to the end of the [10th] century.

fig. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xviii. (1852) 261 Oh, Love's a bold pirate—the son of the sea! 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Apr. 3/2 Four..eggs were captured by rats or other water pirates.

2. *transf.* A vessel employed in piracy or manned by pirates; a pirate-ship.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. XXXVI. 875 Scouring the coast ..with his pyrats and men of warre. 1649 EVELYN *Diary* 12 July, We had a good passage, tho' chas'd for some houres by a pyrate. 1726–31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 9 A stately pirate that was steering her course into this harbour. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xvii, That's as much as to say that she's a pirate.

3. Any one who roves about in quest of plunder; one who robs with violence; a marauder, plunderer, despoiler. Also *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 b, Y^e^ great pirat and olde thefe the deuyll. 1726 CAVALLIER *Mem.* III. 226 It has been always a custom among the Soldiers in France to extort Money from the Country..These Pyrates had plunder'd, kill'd and made the Country pay all they could get from them. 1802 SAMPSON *Surv. Londonderry* 129 No clover sown, on account of promiscuous flocks of sheep, which are emphatically called pirates. 1846 LANDOR *Heroic Idylls, Thrasymedes & Eunõe* 80 Pirate of virgin and of princely hearts! 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet* I. 155 Pirates of the desert.

4. *fig.* One who appropriates or reproduces without leave, for his own benefit, a literary, artistic, or musical composition, or an idea or invention of another, or, more generally, anything that he has no right to; esp. one who infringes on the copyright of another.

[1668 J. HANCOCK *Brooks' String of Pearls* (Notice at end), Some dishonest Booksellers, called Land-Pirats, who make it their practise to steal Impressions of other mens Copies.] 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* Explan. Pref. (1703) 6 Its being Printed again and again by Pyrates. 1709 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 101 P 1 These Miscreants are a Set of Wretches we Authors call Pirates, who print any Book,..as soon as it appears.., in a smaller Volume, and sell it (as all other Thieves do stolen Goods) at a cheaper Rate. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* lvii. (1839) VII. 117 A recent alarm about one of Ballantyne's workmen .. transmitting proof sheets of Peveril while at press to some American pirate. 1861 W. FAIRBAIRN *Address Brit. Assoc.*, There are abuses in the working of the patent law.., and protection is often granted to pirates and impostors, to the detriment of real inventors. 1887 *Shakespeariana* VI. 105 In 1599 two of them [Shakspere's Sonnets] were printed by the pirate Jaggard.

5. An omnibus which infringes on the recognized routes and snaps up the regular custom of other omnibuses, or which overcharges and otherwise preys upon passengers. Now often applied to any omnibus owned by a private firm or person. Also *transf.* The driver of such an omnibus.

1889 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 The 'pirate omnibus man', who..had no fixed routes or stated hours...The pirate pulls his horses to pieces. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Oct. 3/3 'The 'bus was a pirate', said the witness. *Ibid.*, Even in conversation with an elderly lady.. a private 'bus is a 'pirate' and nothing else. 1894 *Times* 1 Mar. 11/4 This was evidenced by the number of persons being carried by 'pirates', many of which were running at the old fares.

6. Applied to animals the habits of which suggest piracy, as **a.** A species of hermit crab; **b.** A small fresh-water fish of voracious habits (*Aphredoderus sayanus*), common in the eastern U.S.; also called *pirate-perch*.

1857 R. TOMES *Amer. in Japan* vi. 136 One of the most abounding [Crustacea] is that which is commonly known as the 'pirate'...The pirate has no home of its own, but appropriates..that which belongs to others. It has a..preference for the shells of the buccina, murex, and bulla.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive, that is a pirate, as *pirate-bird, -filibuster, -guest*; **b.** of, belonging to, or inhabited by pirates, as *pirate-brig, -coast, -frigate, -hoard, -schooner, -ship, -town, -vessel, work*; **c.** *pirate-like, -ridden* adjs.; **d.** **pirate-blue** *a.*, of a vivid shade of blue; **pirate 'bus, omnibus** (see 5); **pirate-fish,** local name of the glutinous hag, *Myxine glutinosa*; **pirate-perch** (see 6 b); **pirate publisher** (see 4); **pirate spider,** *Lycosa piratica* (see quot.).

1842 MACGILLIVRAY *Man. Brit. Ornith.* II. 255 *Cataractes Skua.* Brown or Skua *Pirate-Bird. 1896 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 6/5 A gown in ''*pirate-blue' cloth, rather a vivid shade, by the way. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 24 Dec. 5/1 In these days the *pirate-bus has turned itself into a more or less honest tramp steamer. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 86 We had..great treasure in the *pirate-frigate. 1814 BYRON *Corsair* III. v. 17 Report speaks largely of his *pirate-hoard. 1611 COTGR., *Piratique*, Piraticall, *Pirat-like. 1897 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Dec. 5/3 In 1832 it was noticed that .. conductors of the new 'buses .. overcharged passengers, and met..protests with..abuse...These were the first *pirate omnibuses. 1905 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 365 This *pirate-ridden and fish-eating land. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xxxi. 598 The *Pirate Spider (*Lycosa piratica*)..has similar habits, chasing its prey on the water and descending as well below the surface. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 77/2 The *pirate-towns of Barbary. 1900 *Morn. Chron.* 23 Jan. 3/4 All *pirate work,..mostly from the United States.

Hence **Pi·ratess,** a female pirate.

1862 RUSSELL *Diary North & S.* I. xv. 163 The pirates and piratesses had control of both. 1879 Miss YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. xxx. 327 The 'Sea Queen' or piratess.

Pirate (pəi·rĕt), *v.* [f. PIRATE *sb.*; cf. F. *pirater* (c 1600 in Hatz.-Darm.), It. *piratare* 'to rob by Sea' (Florio 1598), Sp. *piratear* intr. to pirate.]

1. *trans.* To practise piracy upon; to plunder piratically; to make booty of as a pirate; to rob, to plunder.

1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 329 A puissant Pirat named Abenchapeta, passed from Asia into Africa, .. he pilled and pirated such as he met with all by Seas. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 265 An afflicted and..misus'd virgin, born of honest Parents, but pyrated out of her Native Country. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) II. 373 It was pirated out of his house, and he could never find who had it. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xviii, Their rivals in trade ..might have encroached upon their bounds for the purpose of pirating their wood. 1900 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 5/7 One of the ferry launches running between Hong Kong and Yau-ma-ti..had been pirated while still in the harbour.

2. *intr.* To play the pirate, practise piracy.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/3 To suspect..that she was going to Pyrate in the Indies. 1710 WHITWORTH *Acc. Russia* (1758) 141 These vessels are now pirating in the Baltick. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 261 [To] put it out of the Power of both France and Spain..to pirate upon us again. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XV. 302 France perpetually..pirating against the homeward bound fleets. 1887 BESANT *The World went*, etc. xlv, They proposed to go a-pirating among the Spanish settlements.

3. *fig. trans.* To appropriate or reproduce (the work or invention of another) without authority, for one's own profit.

1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* Pref. 42 Gentlemen-Booksellers, that threatned to Pyrate it, as they call it, viz. Reprint it, and Sell it for half a Crown. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 38 P 6 To prevent his design being pirated, he intends petitioning the Parliament. 1850 CHUBB *Locks & Keys* 36 He had no right to pirate a peculiar trade mark. 1884 *American* VII. 318 The injustice done by American publishers in pirating English works.

Hence **Pi·rated** *ppl. a.*; **Pi·rating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 77 One day, as Meluza came from Pyrating, he brought [etc.]. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 140 The English went to burn that Village and their pirating Vessels. 1731 GAY *Let. to Swift* 1 Dec., I have had an injunction for me against pirating-booksellers. 1737 BYROM *Jrnl. & Lit. Rem.* (1856) II. I. 133 To put out a pirated edition. 1883 *American* VI. 44 A pirated extract from a paper published some fifteen years ago. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Dec. 3/2 The pirating of woodcuts in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

†**Pi·rately,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PIRATE *sb.* + -LY¹; cf. *soldierly*.] Of the nature of a pirate; piratical.

1625 *Impeachm. Dk. Buckhm.* (Camden) 220 A kennell of rancke pirately roages.

Piratery (pəi·rĕtĕri). *rare.* Also **piratry.** [ad. F. *piraterie*, f. PIRATE *sb.* + *-erie*: see -ERY.

(Cf. L. *pīrātērium*, a. Gr. *πειρᾱτήριον* a gang of pirates.)] = PIRACY 1.

[1756 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 25 Jan., Monsieur Bonac ..complaining in harsh terms of our *brigandages* and *piracies*.] 1903 KIPLING 5 *Nations* Ded., Ere rivers league against the land In piratry of flood.

Piratic (pəiræ·tik), *a.* [ad. L. *pīrāticus*, a. Gr. *πειρᾱτικός*, f. *πειρᾱτής* pirate: see -IC. So F. *piratique*.] Of or pertaining to a pirate or pirates; like a pirate. *Piratic war*, that waged by Pompey against the pirates in the Mediterranean.

a 1640 DAY *Parl. Bees* i. (1881) 13 [He] Out-law-like doth challenge as his owne Your Highnes due; nay, Pyratick detaines The waxen fleet, sailing upon your plaines. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* v. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 137 Nor must Pompey have undertaken the Piratick War. 1783 WATSON *Philip III*, IV. (1839) 201 The piratic states of Barbary. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxv. 395 The Algerines were now sweeping with their piratic crafts the Mediterranean.

Piratical (pəiræ·tikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] 1. Of or pertaining to a pirate or piracy; of the nature of, characterized by, given to, or engaged in piracy; pirate-like.

1579-80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 255 Thair piraticall and weikit deidis. 1622 BACON *Holy War* Wks. 1879 I. 528/1 The piratical war which was achieved by Pompey the Great. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 107 Capt. Sharp's Pyratical Voyage to the South Sea. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* x. I. 245 The gold which the Scandinavians had acquired in their pyratical adventures. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 103 These would apprize their relatives, the piratical Sioux of the Missouri, of the approach of a band of white traders. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 365 The Moors established the piratical states of Algiers and Tunis.

b. *fig.* Given to literary piracy, etc.

1737 POPE *Lett.* Pref., Errors of the press .. multiply'd in so many repeated editions, by the Avarice and Negligence of pyratical Printers. 1759 DILWORTH *Pope* 87 The piratical Curl had .. advertised the letters of Messieurs Prior and Addison. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Prim.* i. 12 Piratical publishers tried in some dishonest way to come at the manuscript.

2. Obtained by piracy; pirated; produced by literary piracy.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 336 Ony of the said piraticall gudis. *Ibid.* 337 Personis that avariciouslie ressettis the piraticall gudis. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Sayler* 88 In hope to become sharer in a pyraticall treasure. 1838 A. B. GRANVILLE *Spas Germ.* 245 Two legal editions—two piratical ones.

Piratically (pəiræ·tikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a piratical manner; by piracy.

1549 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1681) II. *Collect. Rec.* 162 Order hath been taken..that certain Goods, piratically taken upon the Seas..should be restored to the true Owners. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* II. (1704) 250/2 The People.. were Pyratically given. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 38 It had been officiously and pyratically printed by others. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* III. iii. 48 Its flag had been insulted, its maritime rights disregarded, .. its property piratically seized and confiscated.

Pi·ratism. *rare.* [f. PIRATE *sb.* + -ISM: cf. It. *piratismo* 'Piracie or robbing by Sea' (Florio 1611).]

1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. iv. 67 To check the piratism of the Turcoman maritime populations.

† **Pi·ratize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To subject to piracy.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 334 Nor cease the Ilanders to rob and piratize the Chyneses.

† **Pira·tously,** *adv. Obs. rare.* Also 6 -tuosly. [f. as prec. + -OUS + -LY 2.] = PIRATICALLY.

1538 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admr.* (1894) I. 73 One Walter Soly..with certain maryners..came feloniously and piratuosly upon borde. 1549 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1681) II. *Collect. Rec.* 162 Divers Merchants .. have had their goods piratously robbed and taken.

Piraya, variant of PERAI, PIRANHA.

Pirck, obs. form of PERK *v.*[1]

Pire, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 9 **pyre.** [ME. *piren*, identical in form and sense with LG. (in Brem. Wbch.) and EFris. *pîren*, of unknown origin.

The same sense is expressed in mod. Eng. by PEER *v.*, which is not known before 1590. Their phonetic relation is difficult to understand; but cf. the pairs *kike, keek, pike, peek, pipe, peep, pile, peel*, also *pike* sb., *peek*, now *peak*, which present similar problems. Some have suggested that LG. *pîren* was a variant of *plîren, plüren*, with similar sense; but this is unlikely.]

intr. To look narrowly, esp. in order to discern something indistinct or difficult to make out; to peer.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 29 Riht so doth he, whan that he pireth [*rime* tireth] And toteth on hire wommanhiede. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 48 Thanne cometh .. Anoþer proud partriche .. And preuyliche pirith till þe dame passe. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 552 Go vp..& loke, & in the asshis pire. *Ibid.* 1412 They herd all his compleynt, þat petouse was to here, ffawnus in-to the Chirch pryuelych gan pire. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Pyring*..Always used in combination with peeping, as, 'peeping and pyring about'. 'Peeping and pyring into every body's business'.

Pire, var. PERRY[1], *Obs.*, pear-tree; obs. f. PIER.

Pirene, Pirenean, Piretheum, Pirethrum: see PYR-.

Piriawe, obs. corrupt form of PARIAH.

Pirie, variant of PERRY[1], *Obs.*, PIRRIE.

Piriform, variant (etymologically correct) of PYRIFORM. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Piri-piri** (pī·riˌpī·ri). A Maori name applied to several plants, esp. to *Haloragis micrantha*, a shrubby plant found in India, south-eastern Asia, Australia, and New Zealand; also to *Acæna Sanguisorba*, used as tea and as a medicine, called by the colonists by corruption *biddy-biddy*.

(In the former sense misprinted *piri-jiri* (see A. Cunningham in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* (1839) III. 30), an error repeated in some dictionaries.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 567 s. v. *Haloragis* (Piri-jiri). 1880 *N. Z. Country Jrnl.* XII. 195 (Morris s. v. *Biddy-biddy*), Piri-piri .. by the settlers has been..corrupted into *biddy-biddy*... These tenacious burrs of the piri-piri. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Piri-jiri-shrub.

Pirk(e, obs. form of PERK *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Pirl (pəːl, *Sc.* pir'l), *v. arch., Sc.*, and *dial.* Also 6 **pirle, pyrl,** 6-9 **purl.** [Origin not ascertained; perh. onomatopœic: cf. PURL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To twist, wind, or spin (threads, fibres, or hairs) into a cord; in early use *esp.* to twist or spin (gold or silver wire) into cord or 'lace'; now *esp. dial.* to twist (horsehair) into fishing-lines, etc.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 796 Sum pirlyng of golde theyr work to encrease With fingers smale, and handis whyte as mylk. 1530 PALSGR. 658/1, I pyrle wyer of golde or syluer, I wynde it upon a whele as sylke women do. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xci. 39 But copwebs vpon copwebs: pirld in ech coste: All parts of windows to be so enboste: That no flie can passe. 1825 JAMIESON, *Pirl*..2. To twist, twine, curl; as to twist horse-hair into a fishing-line; Roxb., Clydes. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxvi, A bit daigh, half an ounse weight, pirled round wi' the knuckles into a case. 1892 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 2/2 The car of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers Company,.. men and women in the costume of James I. were engaged in wire-drawing, flatting, and spinning thread, purling bullion, weaving lace, embroidering, and lace-making. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Purl*, to twist between finger and thumb. Horsehair is purled thus in making snares for bird-catching in winter.

2. To cause to revolve, to spin; to throw or toss with spinning motion. Also *intr.* To move with such motion, to revolve rapidly, to spin.

1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 273 (E. D. D.) Cranreuch snow blaws pirlin' on the plain. 1805 J. NICOL *Poems* I. 25 (Jam.) Cauld December's pirlin drift Maks Winter fierce an' snell come. 1808 JAMIESON, *Pirl*, v. n. to whirl. 1880 *Ibid.* (new ed.) s. v., Pirl up the pennies. [1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pirdle*, to cause to spin. 'Let me pirdle the top, I'll show thee how to make'n go.']

3. *intr.* To curl; 'to ripple as the surface of a body of water under a slight wind'. (Jamieson 1808.)

Hence **Pirled** *ppl. a.*, twisted, twined, spun into a thread or lace.

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) 763 Then yt crysppeth and shyneth as bryght as any pyrled gold. 1520 in *Archæologia* LIII. 17 A corporax case and the corporax of gold pyrlled and crymyssynn velvet. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij, Pirled lace called cantelet lace of thred the groce iis. *vid.* 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 71 Some with purled lace so cloyd.

Pirl, *sb. Sc.* [f. prec. vb.] a. A twist, curl. b. A fine curl or ripple on the surface of water.

1825 JAMIESON s. v., 'There's a pirl on the water.' 1838 HOGG *Tales* (1866) 150 (E. D. D.) Wi' the pirl bein' awa', the pool was as clear as crystal. 1880 JAMIESON, *Pirl*..2. Twist, twine, curl; as 'That line has na the richt pirl,' Clydes.

Pirl, obs. or dial. form of PURL *sb.* and *v.*

Pirlicue, pirlie-, variants of PURLICUE.

Pirliewinkles: see PILLIWINKS.

† **Pirn,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [perh. metathesis of *prin, prene*, PREEN, a pin.] ? A pointed twig or branch; ? a thorn or spine.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4981 Þai fande a ferly faire tre quare-on na frute groued, Was void of all hire verdure & vacant of leues,..With-outen bark oubir bast full of bare pirnes.

Pirn (pəːn, *Sc.* pirn), *sb.*[2] Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5-6 **pirne, pyrne,** 8 **pyrn,** 6- **pirn,** (9 *dial.* **pirn**). [Origin uncertain.

Jamieson points out that in sense 1 'it is sometimes called a broach' (cf. BROACH *sb.* 4), and may thus be, like PIRN *sb.*[1], a metathetic form of *prin*, PREEN; but the latter has existed in Sc. since 14th c. as *prene, prein, preen*, and there is no evidence of any contact or confusion between the two words.]

1. A small cylinder on which thread or yarn is wound, formerly made of a hollow reed or quill, but now usually of turned wood or iron, with an axial bore for mounting on a spindle when winding; a weaver's bobbin, spool, or reel.

(Cf. the synonym SPOOL, the orig. sense of which appears to have been *quill* or *hollow reed*.)

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pyrne, of a webstarys loome, *panus* [an error reproduced by Palsgrave]. 1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 25 Item viij pirnis of gold for the sammyn harnessing, price of the pirne xs.; summa iiij li. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 289 Item..for xv pirn of gold. 1700 SIR A. BALFOUR *Lett.* 210 In the Highest Storie there are Innumerable Pirns of Silk. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 510 Fit..to earn their bread at home, the women by spinning, and the men by filling pirns, (rolling up yarn upon lake reeds, cut in small pieces for the shuttle). 1829 E. IRVING *Times of Martyrs* in *Anniversary* 283 Her spinning wheel ..having no heck, but a moveable eye which was carried along the pirn by a heart-motion. 1831 W. PATRICK *Plants* 82 The stalks [of *Arundo Phragmites*] were formerly used for making weaver's pirns. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vii. 217. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 175 A load of birchwood to be transformed into bobbins and pirns.

b. Phrases. (Sc.)

To wind any one a pirn, to plan trouble for or injury to one, get one into difficulty; *to wind (oneself) a bonny (queer) pirn*, to get into a difficulty or entanglement; *an ill-favoured (-winded) pirn*, a troublesome or complicated business; *to ravel one's pirns*, to cause one trouble or anxiety: *to redd (unwind) a ravelled pirn*, to clear up a tangled matter or difficulty, to get clear of an entanglement; *to wind (up) one's pirn*, to make an end, have done.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 201 Throw sic displesour he hes wynd him ane pirne. 1638 in Lang *Hist. Scot.* (1904) III. ii. 48 [Argyll is said to have advised Charles to keep him [Lorne] in England or else he would wind him a pirn]. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xv, Ise wind ye a pirn, To reel some day. 17.. *Sc. Haggis* 161 (E. D. D.) I'll just wind up my pirn, and hae done with a remark or sae. 1787 SHIRREFS *Jamie & Bess* II. ii, Ere ye get loose, ye'll redd a ravell'd pirn. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, Ye'll spin and wind yoursell a bonny pirn. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* xxv, By the Thane's Cross, man,..this is an ill-favoured pirn to wind. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxiii. 282, I shall have a fine ravelled pirn to unwind.

c. A reel of sewing cotton, a bobbin or spool. (A common name in Sc.)

1820 [Known to be in use in Hawick]. 1887 D. GRANT *Scotch Stories* 64 Gin a customer ca'd for a penny pirn.

† 2. *transf.* The yarn wound upon the pirn (ready for the shuttle); also, as much as a pirn holds, a pirnful. ? *Obs. rare.*

[Cf. 1474, 1502 in 1.] 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis* s. v. *Pyrnit*, The Women and Weavers [of Scotland] call a small parcel of yarn put on a broach (as they name it), or as much as is put into the shuttle at once, a Pyrn, but most commonly the stick on which it is put passes under that name. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Pirn*, the wound yarn that is on a weaver's shuttle.

3. Any device or machine resembling a reel, or used for winding; *esp.* a fishing-reel.

1782 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Observ. Sc. Dial.* 159 A pirn (for angling), a wheel. 1793 FORDYCE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 17 The curvature of the wire, acquired by its being wound round a pirn, was not entirely unfolded for some months. 1833 J. S. SANDS *Poems* Ser. I. 78 (E. D. D.) Auld Jacob's staff and fishing pirn. 1839 T. C. HOFLAND *Brit. Angler's Man.* i. (1841) 6 A winch or reel, is used for running-tackle, and is generally made of brass, but I have seen them in Scotland made of wood, where they are called pirns. *c* 1850 W. GRAHAM in R. Ford *Harp Perth.* (1893) 149, I wauken'd bricht, To my pirn wildly skirlin'. 1900 C. MURRAY *Hamewith* 3 Hear the whirr o' the miller's pirn. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 2/2 A primitive contrivance of a hand-wheel, three pirns—a man, a woman, and two boys twisting green rushes into ropes.

† 4. An unevenness or 'cockle' in the surface of a piece of cloth, caused by difference in the yarns composing it. *Obs. rare.*

['They still say in Angus, that a web is all pirned, when woven with unequal yarn' (Jamieson).]

1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 166 We should have no more bad Cloth, nor any Cloth disliked by Bars, Strips, or Pirns, occasioned by putting different Kinds of Yarn..in the same piece.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pirn-winder, -winding*; **pirn-cage** (see quot.); **pirn-cap,** a wooden bowl used by weavers to hold their quills (Jamieson); **pirn-girnel,** a box for holding pirns while they are being filled; **pirn-house,** a weaving shed; **pirn-stick,** a wooden spit or spindle on which the quill (pirn) is placed while the yarn put on it in spinning is reeled off; **pirn-wheel,** a wheel for winding thread on bobbins; **pirn-wife,** a woman who fills pirns with yarn.

1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, **Pirn cage*, an arrangement of pins standing up from a square frame, in which 'pirns' or bobbins are stuck—used in power-loom factories. 1867 ELLEN JOHNSTON *Poems* 129 Nae mair in oor *pirn-house Ye'll hunt the rats, nor catch a moose. 1894 [W. D. LATTO] *Tam Bodkin* xxi. 216 My legs .. they're like *pirn-sticks buskit in breeks. 1896 G. SETOUN *R. Urquhart* xxii. 226 Women discussed it at their *pirn-wheels. 1895 A. PHILIP *Parish of Lougforgan* x. 276 A good canny *pirn-winder... Her average wage from *pirn-winding was not more than two shillings a week. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Feb. 2/1 'Pirn-winding', an accessory trade to hand-loom weaving, will, no doubt, die with the present workers.

Pirn, *sb.*[3] *dial.* Also **purn.** A twitch for horses, etc.: see quots.

1846 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Purn*, the same as Twitch... *Twitch*, an instrument applied to the nose of a vicious horse, to make it stand still during..shoeing. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Pirn*, a stick with a loop of cord for twisting on the nose of a refractory horse. *Pirns*, a kind of ring for a vicious cow's nose. 1873 *Swaledale Gloss., Pirn*, a stick with a noose at the end to hold an unruly horse.

Pirn (pəːn), *v. Sc.* [app. f. PIRN *sb.*[2]] Found only in pa. pple. and ppl. adj. **Pirned,** interwoven with threads of different colours; striped; brocaded.

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 224 Crammacy sattin pirnit wyth gold. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vii. 26 Riche wedis, Figurit and prynnit [ed. 1553 pyrnyt] al with goldin thredis. *Ibid.* VIII. iii. 168 Ane..knychtly weyd, Pirnit and wovin full of fyn gold threyd. 1539 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 33 Ane gowne of crammasy velvot..lynit with pyrnit satyne. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas' Æneis, Pyrnit*, striped, woven with different colours. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 22 He..Tucks up his pyrnit tunic bra.

Pirnie, pirny (pəːrni), *a.* and *sb.*[1] *Sc.* [app. related to prec. vb. and to PIRN *sb.*[2] sense 4.]

A. *adj.* Of cloth: Striped with different colours.

[1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 253 The Kingis goune of pyrne satyne of gold lynit with Romany buge.] 1697 CLELAND *Poems* 12 With Brogues, and Trues, and pirnie Plaides, With good blew Bonnets on their Heads. 1721 RAMSAY *Elegy on Patie Birnie*, The famous fiddler of Kinghorn..Tho' baith his weeds and mirth were pirny. [*Note.* When a piece of stuff is wrought unequally, part coarse, and part fine, of yarn of different colours, we call

it pirny, from the pirn.] 1865 JANET HAMILTON *Poems* 192 Crossing his 'pirnie' plaid over his shoulders and chest.

B. *sb.* A conical woollen nightcap, usually striped with different colours.

'Generally applied to those manufactured at Kilmarnock' (Jamieson).

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v., A monkey .. leaped on to his shoulder, and plucked off his pirnie. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pirnie*, a woollen nightcap made in Kilmarnock, of different colours or stripes. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog-Myrtle & Peat* 206 Tibbie was knitting at a reid pirnie for her father.

Pirnie, pirny (pəːˈrni), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* Diminutive of PIRN *sb.*[2]

1776 C. KEITH *Farmer's Ha'* 5 The auld gudewife the pirney reels Wi' tenty hand. 1879 J. WHITE *Jottings* 192 (E. D. D.) Doon to the Leap I'll aften rin, Richt glad to hear my pirnie spin.

Pirogue (pirōuˈg). Also 7 **pyrage, pyrogue,** 8–9 **perioque,** 9 **perogue, periogue, piroque, peroque.** See also PIRAGUA. [a. F. *pirogue* (*piroˈg*), prob. from Galibi, the Carib dialect of Cayenne.] Another form of PIRAGUA: still used in the same senses, but more widely diffused, and extended (under French influence) to the native canoes of various regions, and to kinds of open boats, with or without sails, locally used.

[1665 C. DE ROCHEFORT *Hist. des Antilles* 86 Grandes chaloupes qu'ils appellent pyraugues.] 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 39 The Caribbians will of one trunk make those long shallops called pyrages. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 66 Pyrogues..large Canoos, very long and made of one single tree, hollowed. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1796) II. IV. 161 Their pirogues or war boats are so large as to carry forty or fifty men. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 85 This tree supplies the Caribs with wood for building their perioques or canoes, which they cut out of the trunk. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 12 The expedition was embarked on board a batteau and two periogues. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* I. 8 Met two peroques full of Indians. 1828 WEBSTER, *Pirogue.* ..In modern usage in America, a narrow ferry-boat carrying two masts and a lee-board. 1838 J. HALL *Notes West. States* 218 The earliest improvement upon the canoe, was the Pirogue, an invention of the whites..the pirogue has greater width and capacity, and is composed of several pieces of timber—as if the canoe was sawed in two equal sections, and a broad flat piece of timber inserted in the middle. 1860 DOMENECH *Deserts N. Amer.* II. 276 Canoes are of three sorts: piroques, made of the stem of a single tree; small boats lined with buffalo hide..; and lastly the canoe properly so called. 1886 tr. *de Brazza* in *Pall Mall G.* 3 Sept. 6/2 It was impossible..to ascend the Ogowai without the aid of the natives to pilot our pirogues in the rapids. 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 851/1 She is what they call a pirogue here [West Indies]..,she has a long narrow hull, two masts, no deck: she has usually a crew of five, and can carry thirty barrels of tafia. 1893 J. FOGERTY *Juanita* I. 96 A number of black canvas-covered canoes, locally [W. coast of Ireland] called 'pirogues'.

† **Pirot.** *Obs.* [a. F. *pirot* (Cotgr.): cf. PIDDOCK.] 1611 COTGR., *Pirot*, the Pirot, or Hag-fish; a kind of long shell-fish. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 250 A sort of Solenes (which the Venetians call *Cape longe*, and the English Pirot)..a kind of Shell-fish deep bedded in a solid rock.

Pirotte, obs. form of PIRATE.

Pirouette (piruˌeˈt), *sb.* Also 8 **pi-, pyroet.** [a. F. *pirouette* spinning top, child's windmill or whirligig, teetotum, pirouette in dancing or riding (15th c. in Littré); in OF. also in masc. form *piroet, pirouet* (15th c.), whence *piroet* in Bailey. A parallel dim. is Burgundian *pirouelle* teetotum (Littré); Guernsey has the simpler form *piroue* a whirligig or little wheel (Métivier). Evidently from same source as It. *piruolo, pirolo* 'top, gig, twirle', also 'a woodden peg or pinne for an instrument of musike' (Florio), cf. *pirla, pirlo* 'a childes top, gig, or twirle' (Fl.).

The It. *piruolo, pirolo* is in form a dim. of a form **piro*: cf. Roman dial. *piro* a plug (Diez), whence the It. augmentative *pirone* 'a pin or peg of iron' (Fl.). If such was the origin, the sense 'pin or peg' app. gave that of 'peg-top' and 'teetotum', as in Fr., from the idea of the motion of which arose the other senses.]

1. The act of spinning round on one foot, or on the point of the toe, as performed by ballet-dancers.

1706 P. SIRIS *Art of Dancing* 42 A Table of Pirouettes. [*Ibid.* Fig. 13, To *Pirouetter*, or Whirl about on the two Points of the Toes half-round.] 1813 JEFFREY *Ess.* (1844) I. 333 Making *pirouettes* round his chamber, or indulging in other feats of activity. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. xii. 277 A Columbine practising a pirouette in sober sadness. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 34 A rotation which would put to shame the most finished pirouettes of the opera-dancer. 1875 JAS. GRANT *One of the* '600' I. vi. 89 Berkeley..made a species of pirouette on the brass heels of his glazed boots.

2. In the manège: see quots.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Pirouette*, *Pyroet*, in the manage, a turn or circumvolution which a horse makes, without changing his ground. *Pirouettes* are either of one tread or *piste*, or of two. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), Piroet. 1775 in ASH: and in mod. Dicts. 1847 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) IV. 20 He is rather skittish also, and has laid my coachman in the dust by one of his pirouettes.

Pirouette (piruˌeˈt), *v.* [a. F. *pirouetter*, f. *pirouette*: see prec.] *intr.* To dance a pirouette, spin or whirl on the point of the toe; to move with a whirling motion. Also *fig.*

[1706: see prec. 1.] 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 318 See, the king of the shell-fish advancing,..pirouetting and dancing! 1834 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VI. 504 Volting demi-volting, pirouetting, parrying with and opposing the left hand, are manœuvres now totally disused in fencing. 1868 *Morn. Star* 28 Mar., To pirouette in combustible gauze before the footlights. 1872 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* viii. 133 After pirouetting in several strong whirlpools..we at length arrived. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Queen of L.* I. 8 To..pirouette at the apex of his loftiest elocution.

Hence **Pirouetting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pirouetter,** one who pirouettes; **Pirouettism, Pirouettiveness,** *nonce-wds.*, disposition for or habit of pirouetting.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 533 A bitterness seldom exercised towards the pirouettism of a lawyer. 1844 *Ibid.* LV. 295/1 A professor's chair for the improvement of pirouetters. *Ibid.* 297 The boss of pirouettiveness is strangely wanting in human conformation. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Witches' Frolic*, Such lofty curvetting, And grand pirouetting. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. viii. 286 His slovenly dress, his pirouetting walk. 1878 T. HARDY *Return of Native* IV. iii, She began to envy those pirouetters.

Pirr (pir), *sb.*[1] *Sc. dial.* Also 7 **pir,** 9 **pirrhe.** [app. onomatopœic: cf. PIRRIE.] A ruffling breeze of wind.

1665 SIR J. LAUDER *Jrnl.* (S. H. S.) 19 A little pir of wind that rose. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., 'There's a fine pirr of wind.' 1894 J. GEDDIE *Fringes of Fife* 134 To sigh..in vain for a 'pirrhe' of wind.

b. A state of agitation or excitement; a flurry.

1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes* 127 When one is in a pirr about things which do not go well.

Pirr, *sb.*[2] Also **pirre, purre.** [Onomatopœic, imitating the hoarse cry of the birds.] **a.** A local name of the Tern: see PIRR-MAW. **b.** The Black-headed Gull (*Larus rudibundus*). *rare.*

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 383 *Pirr*, ..is also a sea-fowl with a long tail and black head, ..whenever it sees any small fish or fry, dives down .. on them, crying 'pirr!' 1875 LANDSBOROUGH *Arran* 401 The numerous Cumbrae pirres have been destroyed or driven away. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Purre*, two sea birds, the tern and the black-headed gull. 1898 MACMANUS *Bend of Road* 195 The centre of the lake where the many hundred white pirrs now circled, and called.

Pirr, *v. Sc.* [Onomatopœic: goes with PIRR *sb.*[1]] *intr.* **a.** Of the wind: To blow as a steady breeze. **b.** Of persons or animals: To drive, ride, or run rapidly; cf. *whirr.* Hence **Pirring** *ppl. a.*

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 62 Careerin' on the pirrin' breeze, A greedy gled. 1852 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 171 Nothing could be more pleasant than so pirring through quiet roads [in a gig]. *Ibid.* 172 We bowed to each other..and I pirred on.

† **Pirre.** *Obs. rare.* [app. from the accompanying sound.] Difficulty in breathing; asthma.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xv. (Tollem. MS.), As in hem þat haue þe pirre and styffles and ben pursyf and þikke brepid [L. *ut patet in asthmaticis et anhelosis*].

Pirre, var. PERRIE *Obs.*, jewellery; var. PIRR *sb.*[2]

Pirre, pirrey, obs. ff. PERRY[2] (the beverage).

Pirrhick, Pirrite, obs. ff. PYRRHIC, PYRITE.

Pirrie, pirry (piˈri). Now only *dial.* Forms: 5–6 **pyrry, pyrie,** 5–7 **pery,** 6 **pyrry, -ye, -ie, pirie, pierie, pierrie, perrye, -ie,** 6–7 **pirrie, pirry, perry;** 9 *n.* and *e. dial.* **perry;** also *n.* **parry, -ey.** [app. onomatopœic.

Cf. PIRR *sb.*[1], also the later BERRY *sb.*[4], and its suggested relationship to BIRR. All these words are apparently natural oral expressions of the action of such a wind. Gael. *piorradh* (piˈrrăɣ), genitive *piorraidh* (piˈrrai) 'a squall or blast' is app. a parallel formation; it appears to have no root in Celtic, and could scarcely have originated the Eng. word, of which the earliest examples belong to East Anglia, where it is still in native use.]

A blast of wind; a squall; a sudden storm of wind, 'half a gale'. In mod. dial. use also, A sudden scudding rain.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 126 With a sodeyn pyry, he lappyd hem in care. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 401/2 Pyry, or storme, *nimbus.* ? *c* 1500 *Cov. Corp. Christi Plays* 8/226 E! fryndis, ther cam a pyrie of wynd with a myst suddenly. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xvii, Aferde of pirries or great stormes. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* Pref. 5 In sayling, thou shalt not..feare Peries and great windes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 307 Hee .. was with a contrary pirrie carried violently into Normandie. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 315 (1810) 328 It suffered a kind of inundation..at a spring tide, driven by a very strong perry. 1865 W. WHITE *E. Eng.* I. 92 'If we cu'd only hev a perry wind', says the Captain...A perry wind is half a gale.

b. *fig.* A 'breeze' or storm in the social or political atmosphere.

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 312 He pratith, and is so proude, ..that he can not fayll to perish himself in the pyrry. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* I. 178 Nor Hamilton cold have no hope to hold his seate, Nor yett Argile to abide the court; the pirrye was to greate. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 126 There arose such a huffing perrie against me.

Pirrie, obs. form of PERRY[2] (beverage).

Pirr-maw (pəːˈrmɔ̄). Also 8–9 **pyr-,** 9 **purre-.** [f. PIRR *sb.*[2] + MAW *sb.*[3]] A local name of the Common Tern (*Sterna fluviatilis*) and of the Roseate Tern (*S. dougalli*).

1744 C. SMITH *County Down* 131 Sea Fowl, as the Gull and Pyrmaw, who build in the Rocks. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Pirre-maw*, the tern. *Ibid.*, *Pyrmaw*, a sea bird, probably the tern or 'purre'. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Brit. Birds* 203 Roseate tern,..Purre maw (Carrickfergus). From their hoarse cry.

Pirrosyn, variant of PERROSIN *Obs.*

Pirry, variant of PERRY[1] *Obs.*, pear-tree.

† **Pirwike, -wycke,** obs. ff. PERUKE, PERIWIG.

1538 ELYOT, *Galerus*, ..a pirwike. 1552 HULOET, Pirwycke, *galerus.*

Pirwynole, obs. f. PERIWINKLE[2] (the mollusc).

Piry (e, var. PEERY, PERRY[1]; obs. f. PERRY[2].

Pisa (pīˈzä). Name of a city in Italy. In quot. applied to a Pisan dagger or poniard (*obs.*).

a 1625 FLETCHER & MASS. *Cust. Country* II. iii, The difference between a Spanish rapier And your pure *pisa.*

‖ **Pis aller** (*pizale*). [F., lit. 'go worst'.] The worst that can be, or can happen; what one would do, take, choose, etc., in the event of things coming to the worst; what one accepts when one can do no better; a do-no-better, a last resource.

1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i, Dorimant, when did you see your *pis-aller*, as you call her, Mrs. Loveit? 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* (1832) II. xxv. 158 She was incapable of the meanness of retaining a lover as a *pis-aller.* 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 438 A balance of trade paid in the precious metals, is the *pis-aller* of foreign commerce. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. i, As a pis aller one might put up with him. 1874 MORLEY *Compromise* ii. 63 To me the history of mankind is a huge *pis-aller*..a prodigious wasteful experiment.

† **Pisane.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 **pe-, pusen, pysan,** 4–5 **pe-, pusane,** 5 **pesayn, pys-, puisane, pys-san, pisan, pissand,** 5–6 **pesan, pissan**(e. [a. OF. *pisainne, pizane* adj. fem. of *pisain, pizain* Pisan, qualifying *gorgerette, helme*, etc. Cf. *basinettum Pisanum* (Du Cange).] A piece of armour to protect the upper part of the chest and neck.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3697 Indiens, and Emaniens, With swordes, lances, and pesens [*v. r.* pensels]. 13.. *Coer de L.* 321 He bare away halfe hys schelde Hys pusen therwith gan gon. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 204 Ne no pysan, ne no plate þat pented to armes. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1722 He hitt hym evene one the nekk-bane Thurgh ventale and pesane. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy-Bk.* 4429 He brast his Pisan and his coloret. *Ibid.* 12603 At him he schet And hitte him In his gorget, That it 3ede thorow his pesayn. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xlv, He girdus to Syr Gauane, Throȝhe ventaylle and pusane [*v. r.* pesayne]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 111 The thrid he straik throuch his pissand of maile. *Ibid.* IX. 1104 Throu pissanis stuff in sondyr strak the swyr. 1537 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 336 Deliverit to the Kingis grace,..ane pissane of maile and ane hudskule.

‖ **Pisang** (pisæˈŋ). Also 7 **piçan, pissan, pysangh.** [Malay پيسڠ *pīsang.*] The Malay name of the Banana, formerly also in English use. *Wild pisang*, the name given to a S. African allied plant, *Strelitzia augusta.*

1602 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 134 The Country abounds .. specially in Fruits,.. Pissans, Oranges and Lemmons. 1671 NARBOROUGH in *Acc. Sev. late Voy.* I. (1694) 141, 6000 Coco-Nuts and 100 Bundles of Pysanghs. 1812 ANNE PLUMTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* I. II. xv. 204 The Pisang river..has this name from the profusion of wild Pisang, ..*strelitzia alba*, that grows upon its banks.

† **b.** *attrib.* **Pisang fig,** a banana; **pisang-tree.**

1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 31 Little Vessels.. brought..Coco's, Pisang Figgs, which are a long kind of Figg. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 291 Much hath already been written concerning the Pisang-tree. 1745 P. THOMAS *Anson's Voy.* 333 Those most admired are the Pisang Figs.

Pisanite (piˈzănəit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *pisanit*, named 1860, after F. Pisani, who described it; see -ITE[1].] A hydrous sulphate of iron and copper, found in Turkey, in bright blue concretions.

1861 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. II. XXXI. 366 Pisanite .. a cupreous variety of copperas from Turkey. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 646 Pisanite, ..occurs with chalcopyrite at a copper mine in the interior of Turkey.

Pisasphalt, erron. form of PISSASPHALT.

† **Piscage.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *piscāgium* (for **piscāticum*), f. *piscāre* to fish, after OF. *peschage* fishing, f. *peschier* to fish; see -AGE.] Right of fishing.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* III. iv. 70 Wrecks, Swannage, Warrenage, Commonage, Piscage.

Piscary[1] (piˈskări). (Also 7 **pischary.**) [ad. med.L. *piscāria* fishing rights, neut. pl. of L. *piscārius* adj., belonging to fishing, f. *piscis* fish.]

1. The right of fishing (as a thing owned). Now usually in phr. *common of piscary*: see quot. 1880.

1474 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 166/2 Markettes, Warens, Piscaries, Fre Customes. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Piscarie* (*piscaria*), ..signifieth in our common lawe, a libertie of fishing in an other mans waters. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xvi. 261 That the eyotts or little islands, arising in any part of the river, shall be the property of him who owneth the piscary and the soil. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Bacon* (1887) 377 That the most profound thinker..of the age..confounded the right of free fishery with that of common of piscary. 1880 WILLIAMS *Rights of Common* 259 Common of piscary is a liberty of fishing in another man's water, in common with the owner of the soil, and perhaps also with others, who may be entitled to the same right.

2. A place where fish may be caught; a fishing-ground, fishery.

a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 136 There is no distresse but vpon Land in demesne, neither could a distresse be taken vpon a Piscary, but that it containeth land and demesnes. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 198 Breaking their Closes, ..cutting their woods, ..fishing in their Pischary [*Fr.* pischarie]. 1714 SCROGGS *Courts-leet* (ed. 3) 161 If a Copyholder convert Part of the Land into a Piscary it's a Forfeiture. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiv. 610 Fishermen licensed to angle or net parts of the piscary.

†b. A fish-market. *Obs. rare*—°.

[1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* v. iv, The small tenement .. By the Piscaria.] 1706 Phillips, *Piscary*, a Place where Fish is kept or sold, a Fish-market.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or pertaining to piscaries or to fishing.

1869 *Daily News* 23 July, When the humbler tenants of presumed piscary properties were being impoverished. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 273/1 The piscary laws and customs were severe.

†**Piscary**[2]. *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *piscārius*: see prec.] A fisherman; a fishmonger.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Piscary* (*piscarius*), a fisher, or one that sels small fish.

Piscash, variant of Peshcush, an offering.

Piscation (piskē·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. *piscātiōnem*, n. of action f. *piscārī* to fish, f. *piscis* a fish.] Fishing.

1624 Bp. Hall *Contempl., N. T.* II. iv, What is this divine Trade of ours then, but a spirituall Piscation? 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 32 Foure bookes of Cynegeticks or venation, five of Halieuticks or piscation. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 96 He must not dream of rivalling..Stoddart in the science of piscation.

Piscato·logy. *rare.* [irreg. f. L. *piscāt-*, ppl. stem of *piscārī* to fish + -logy.] The science of fishing; in quot. *erron.* = ichthyology.

1867 Atwater *Logic* 217 Thus Ornithology, Piscatology, &c., under Zoology.

‖ **Piscator** (piskē·tɒr, -ər). [L. *piscātor*, agent-n. from *piscārī* to fish.] A fisherman; an angler.

1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 40 *Viator.* My friend Piscator, you have kept time with my thoughts, for the Sun is just rising. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 79/2 Instruments pertaineing to the Piscators science. 1904 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 901/1 Extracts from ancient piscators and writers on fishing.

Piscatorial (piskătō·rial), *a.* [f. L. *piscātōrius* Piscatory + -al.] = Piscatory 1.

1828 Hawthorne *Fanshawe* iii, A hook and line, a fish-spear, or any piscatorial instrument of death! 1854 Pulman (*title*) The Book of the Axe: containing a piscatorial description of that Stream. 1883 J. C. Bloomfield *Fisheries Irel.* 8 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) To study the grandest specimen of piscatorial topography ever exhibited, in the official fishery map of the United States.

Hence **Piscato·rialist**, a professed angler; **Piscato·rially** *adv.*, in a piscatorial manner. So **Piscato·rian** *sb.*, an angler; *adj.* = Piscatorial; **Piscato·rical** *a. nonce-wd.*, dealing with piscatorial matters; **Piscato·rious** *a.* = Piscatory.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 8/1 Mr. Henry Walford Stubbin, a well-known *piscatorialist, died recently at Cheltenham. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 454 'The Lord Mayor's' health was next proposed, *piscatorially. 1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 475 He was..so piscatorially habilimented that there was no making out his order or degree. 1861 J. H. Bennet *Winter Medit.* I. v. (1875) 134 The gentle art is cultivated .. by many zealous native *piscatorians. 1864 A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* (1880) 11 That piscatorian traveller, Franck. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 382 A *piscatorical page, in which we would have shown..how ..silver fish are caught whose eyes are living gold. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 67 The *piscatorious, or..fishing Frog.

Piscatory (piskătəri), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *piscātōri-us* adj., f. *piscātor* fisher: see -ory 2.]

1. Of or pertaining to fishers or to fishing.

Piscatory ring, the signet ring worn by the pope as successor of St. Peter (cf. Matt. iv. 19, etc.).

1633 P. Fletcher (*title*) The Purple Island..together with Piscatorie Eclogs. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. iii. 296 The Pope dy'd.., and immediately the Piscatory Ring was broken by Cardinal Barbarino. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 36 P 9 To substitute fishermen for shepherds, and derive his sentiments from the piscatory life. 1861 H. F. Hore in *Macm. Mag.* V. 52 The gain to the piscatory interest would be immense. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* vi. (1880) 194 Piscatory heirlooms and relics.

2. Employed in or addicted to fishing.

1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Sea gull, white, cinereous, piscatorie. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* II. 271 The salmon, which are..as important to the piscatory tribes as are the buffaloes to the hunters of the prairies. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* June 6 Yarmouth is piscatory..beyond description.

¶ **3.** *erron.* Misused for Piscine *a.*

1768 Foote *Devil on 2 Sticks* III. Wks. 1799 II. 276 Certain animalculæ, or piscatory entities, that insinuate themselves thro' the pores into the blood. 1842 *United Service Mag.* I. 349 The upper part being human, the lower part, from the hips, piscatory.

†**B.** ellipt. as *sb.* A play or the like dealing with the life of fishermen. (Cf. *pastoral.*) *Obs.*

1631 P. Fletcher (*title*) Sicelides, a Piscatory, as it hath beene Acted in Kings Colledge, in Cambridge.

Piscence, piscens, obs. Sc. ff. Puissance.

‖ **Pisces** (pi·sīz). Also 4 **pissis, 5 pisshes, pysces.** [L. *piscēs*, pl. of *piscis* fish.]

1. *Astron.* The twelfth zodiacal constellation, the Fishes; also the twelfth sign of the Zodiac (originally coincident with the constellation), which the sun enters about the 20th of February.

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 40 Also the degree..was in the furst degree of pisces. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4039 The sun .. Passyng fro pisshes vnder playn course. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 532/2 On the parallel of London, as much of the ecliptic rises about Pisces and Aries in two hours as the moon goes through in six days. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* vii. 265 In the time of Hipparchus—2000 years ago—the Sun at the vernal equinox was in the constellation Aries; now-a-days it is in the constellation Pisces.

2. *Zool.* Fishes, as a Class of Vertebrata.

1841–71 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) xxv. *heading*, Pisces (fishes). 1873 J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* 525 Class: Pisces.

Pisch(e, obs. Sc. form of Piss.

Piscicapture (pi·sikæ·ptiŭ). *humorous* or *affected.* [f. L. *pisci-s* fish + *captūra* Capture.] The catching of fish.

1862 Russell *Diary North & South* (1863) I. xix. 206 The delights of piscicapture. 1878 *Standard* 21 Oct. 5/1 'Snatching' is a form of illicit piscicapture for which it is impossible to entertain .. sympathy. 1881 J. Payn *Hum. Stories* 298 Instruments of piscicapture.

Hence **Piscica·pturist,** a catcher of fish.

1881 Blackmore *Christowell* xxviii, On the part of the piscicapturists (for a fish is not to be called a fish now, and everything connected with him is pisci- something).

†**Pisciele.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *piscicul-us*, dim. of *piscis* fish: see -icle.] A little fish.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 459 Neither bones nor part of the piscicle. 1661 in Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2).

Piscicolous (pisi·kŏləs), *a.* [f. L. *pisci-s* fish + *-col-a* inhabitant + -ous.] (See quot. 1895.)

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Piscicolous*, .. parasitic upon fishes.

Piscicultural (pisikv·ltiŭrăl), *a.* [f. next + -al.] Of or pertaining to pisciculture. Hence **Pisciculturally** *adv.*, in respect of pisciculture.

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* V. 196 Before the piscicultural era. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 475 The ease with which all kinds of fish can be treated piscicultural. 1887 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Feb. 5/5 Prof. Huxley, a thoroughly practical authority on all piscicultural questions.

Pisciculture (pi·sikv·ltiŭr). [f. L. *pisci-s* fish + *cultura* Culture. Cf. F. *pisciculture* (*Dict. Acad.* 1878).] The breeding, rearing, and preservation of (living) fish by artificial means.

1859 *Edin. Rev.* CIX. 304 The new arrangements for the protection of salmon, and for pisciculture, in imitation of the French practise. 1859 Tennent *Ceylon* II. ix. vii. 562 The pearl-oyster may be brought within the domain of pisciculture. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiv. 608 The monks were said to have been skilled in pisciculture.

Pisciculturist (pisikv·ltiŭrist). [See -ist.] A person engaged or interested in pisciculture.

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Jan. 50/3 M. Coste, the pisciculturist. 1868 Peard *Water-farm.* I. 3 They were still immeasurably behind the pisciculturists of to-day. 1881 *Standard* 10 Sept. 2/1 A practical pisciculturist, and an enthusiast in all matters relating to fish and fisheries.

Piscifauna (pi·sifɒ̈·nă). [f. L. *pisci-s* fish + Fauna.] Collective term for the native fishes (of any district or country); the fish-fauna.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Piscifauna*, .. the fish-Fauna of a region.

Pisciform (pi·sifɒ̈m), *a.* [f. L. *pisci-s* fish + -form.] Having the form of a fish.

1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 160 Order X.—Cetacea. Body pisciform, terminated by a caudal appendage. 1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 768/2 The embryo, when hatched, is pisciform and apodal.

Piscina (pisī·nă, pisəi·nă). Pl. **-æ, -as.** [a. L. *piscīna* a fishpond, bathing-pool, tank, in med. L. in sense 2, It., Sp., Pg. *piscina*, f. *piscis* fish.]

1. A fishpond; a pond, basin, or pool; among the ancient Romans, a public or private pond for bathing or swimming.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 153 Also the piscina or fishpoole where the sicke folkes were healed. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 10 Nov., Piscinas or stews for fish. 1717 Berkeley *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 576, I saw likewise the ruins of a piscina, or receptacle for water. 1832 Gell *Pompeiana* I. v. 82 The roof of the natatorium or piscina of the baths. 1854 Cnt. E. de Warren tr. *de Saulcy's Journ. Round Dead Sea* II. 307 The largest and most important of all the piscinas of Jerusalem. *a* 1878 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 154 The covered tanks or piscinæ of the ancients.

2. *Eccl.* A perforated stone basin for carrying away the water used in rinsing the chalice and the hands of the priest; generally placed in a niche on the south side of the altar, though sometimes projecting from the face of the wall or supported on a short column. Also *attrib.*

1793 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIII. I. 422/1 In its South wall a piscina and locker. 1839 Stonehouse *Axholme* 226 The fenestella, or small niche, contained a vessel, bason, or piscina, for washing the hands. 1874 Micklethwaite *Mod. Par. Churches* 132 The piscina is a sink or drain, through which the water used in several ablutions is poured away. 1904 *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 473/2 The piscina niches are numerous.. but present no very special features.

b. Applied to a holy-water basin or stoup. *rare.*

1812 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXII. I. 315/2 Against the E. side are two piscinæ for holy water in the wall.

Hence **Piscinal** (pi·sinăl) *a.* (*rare*—°) [ad. mod. L. *piscīnālis*], pertaining to a fishpond or piscina.

1656 in Blount *Glossogr.*: and in subsequent dicts.

Piscine (pi·sin, pisī·n), *sb.* Also 4–5 **-ene.** [a. OF., F. *piscine* fishpond, bathing-pool, piscina, ad. L. *piscīna*: see prec.]

1. A natural or artificial reservoir for water; a pool, pond; a bathing-pool; = Piscina 1. *Obs.* from 16th till late in the 19th c.

(In early use often applied to the *piscina probatica* or Pool of Bethesda, and Pool of Siloam.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13761 (Cott.) A water..þat es cald piscene [*v. r.* piscine] in þair lede. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Commend. Our Lady* 134 Thou misty arke, probatik piscyne. 1430–40 — *Bochas* VIII. xii. (1554) 183 b, His fleshe renued and sodeinly made white By thrise washing in the freshe piscine. *Ibid.* VIII. xiii. (1558) 7 He was counsayled to make a great pyscyne With innocent blud of children yᵗ wer pure. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* clxxii. 254 Fro the fontaynes without cam grete haboundaunce by conduytes, whiche descended in to ij pyscynes right grete by the temple, that one endureth yet in to this day and is named probatica piscina. 1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 38 Which condites serve all the Citee.., and fyll all the pyscynes. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 2/1 Cured, according to current report, by bathing her foot in the piscine [at Lourdes]. 1894 J. R. Gasquet in *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 350 A few..came to ask if they might safely bathe in the piscines.

2. = Piscina 2. *rare.*

1489 Caxton *Doctr. Sapience* lxiv. (Windsor Cas. Copy), Yf to fore the consecracion a flye or loppe..were founde in the chalyce, it ought to be caste in to the piscine and the chalyce ought to be wasshen. *Ibid.*, The asshes & the wasshyng of the beeste to be put into the pyscyne. 1822 Nares, *Piscine* or *Piscina.* 1883 *Antiquary* VIII. 211 There is another piscine in the south wall of the church.

Piscine (pi·səin), *a.* [f. L. *piscis* fish: see -ine[1].] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of, or characteristic of a fish or fishes.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 240 Covered by bituminous marlite, and with piscine remains. 1816 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 34 Derceto was the piscine ship-goddess of the Syrians. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 183 The piscine modification of the vertebrate skeleton. 1899 E. Callow *Old Lond. Tav.* I. 120 Billingsgate, the great Walhalla of all things piscine.

Piscinity (pisi·nĭti). *affected* or *humorous.* [f. prec. + -ity, after *humanity*, etc.] The quality or condition of being a fish; 'fishhood'.

1865 Mill *Exam. Hamilton* 426 We do not talk of the phænomena which accompany piscinity; we talk of the phænomena of fishes. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., Our definition of piscinity in general would be precisely that of a fish. 1890 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 542 Pioneers of blind and phosphorescent piscinity will fight with one another.

Piscitarian (pisitē·riăn). ?*humorous nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pisci-s* fish, after *vegetarian.*] A fishmonger.

1880 Blackmore *Mary Anerley* xlviii, The Flamborough butcher once more subsided into a piscitarian.

Piscivorous (pisi·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. L. type **pisci-vor-us* (f. *pisci-s* fish + *-vorus* devouring) + -ous: cf. mod.F. *piscivore.*] Fish-eating; subsisting on fish; ichthyophagous.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 155 Being generally Piscivorous. The Solan-goose kind, *a* 1705 Ray *Creation* (1714) 28 Which I have observed in many piscivorous birds. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* ii. (1857) 37 The piscivorous habits of the Cromarty folk. 1877 Coues *Fur Anim.* x. 313 The.. aquatic and highly piscivorous nature of the [otter].

†**Piscod,** obs. form of Peasecod.

14.. *MS. Sloane* 4 lf. 80 in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VI. 4/1 A note worme or a piscod worme.

†**Pisco·se,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *piscōs-us* full of fish: see -ose.] Fishy.

1683–4 Robinson in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 481 They liv'd upon Fish, and had a piscose Taste.

†**Pi·sculent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pisculentus* abounding in fish, f. *piscis* fish: see -ulent.] Abounding in fish, full of fish.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, Pisculent (*pisculentus*), full of fishes, or that may be fished. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 104 The Thames is more pisculent, or ful of fish then the Severn.

Pise, obs. form of Pice; variant of Pize *Obs.*

‖ **Pisé** (pī·ze). [a. F. *pisé*, subst. use of pa. pple. of *piser* to beat, pound (earth):—L. *pīsāre*, *pinsāre* to beat, pound, stamp.] Stiff clay or earth kneaded, or mixed with gravel, used, esp. in France and some parts of England, for building cottages, walls, etc., by being rammed between boards which are removed as it hardens; also, a name for this mode of building.

1797 H. Holland in *Com. Board Agric.* I. 387 The word *pisé* is a technical Term..and it has been retained in this translation because it cannot be rendered by any adequate word in the English language. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* (1807) I. 136 Building in what is termed *pisé*, or simply by compressing well-wrought earth in moulds. 1852 Wiggins *Embanking* 32 A wall of *pisé* or rammed gravel in a frame might very judiciously be adopted for 2 or 3 feet of the centre of the bank. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Squatter's Dream* vii, The new cottage which he had judiciously caused to be built of 'pisé' or rammed earth.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.*, as *pisé building, wall, work.*

1840 *Cottager's Man.* 30 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Walls..formed of earth in the *pisé* manner. 1849 *Ecclesiologist* IX. 217 We..think that what our correspondent calls Pisé building is common in Devonshire..and known by the name of cob-building. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1714/1 The best material for pisé-work is clay with small gravel-stones interposed through it.

Pisette, ? Anglicized form of Peseta.

1807 R. Cumberland *Mem.* II. 151 We purchased three lambs at the price of two pisettes apiece.

Pisgah (pi·zgă). [a. Heb. הַפִּסְגָּה *Pisgāh* 'cleft'.] The name of a mountain east of Jordan, whence Moses was allowed to view the Promised Land (Deut. iii. 27); hence used allusively, esp. *attrib.*, as *Pisgah glance, prospect, sight, view.*

[1605 W. Symonds (*title*) Pisgah Evangelica. By the Method of the Reuelation, presenting..those Cananites ouer whom ..Iesus Christ and his..Church shall triumph.] 1650 Fuller (*title*) Pisgah Sight of Palestine. 1901 Norris *Ideal World* I. iii. 133 The top of our philosophic Pisgah, whence the

contemplative eye is saluted with the..prospect of a bright and glorious world. 1829 SCOTT *Diary* 7 Mar. in *Lockhart*, This extrication of my affairs, though only a Pisgah prospect, occupies my mind. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. xvi. 472 We get only a Pisgah view of our promised adviser.

Pish (piʃ), *int.* and *sb.* See also PUSH *int.* (*sb.*). [A natural exclamation.]

A. *int.* An exclamation expressing contempt, impatience, or disgust.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* C ij, Pish, pish, what talke you of old age or balde pates? 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 43, 44 *Nym.* Pish. *Pist.* Pish for thee, Island dogge. 1611 COTGR., *Tarabin tarabas*, an Interiection of interruption, like our pish pish, tut tut. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 52 Pish, said I, that's no such great matter. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 56 Pish, Pish, quoth Seymour in a Huff. 1845 JAMES *Smuggler* III. 178 Pish! you are a fool, young man.

B. *sb.* The utterance of this exclamation. † *To make a pish at* or *of*, to treat with contempt. *attrib.*, as † *pish-monger* (humorous, after *fish-monger*).

1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 251 All receipts and authors you can name he syllogizeth of, and makes a pish at. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. XXXV. 965 Those matters..the Romanes made a pish at, and lightly regarded. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* IV. v, What shrieks and cries, What angry pishes, and what fies. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* Pref. a vj b, Too severe Censurer (free of the Company of Pish-mongers) that Pisheth at any thing not exact. 1777 COWPER *Let. to Y. Hill* Wks. 1837 XV. 41, I had rather never see the books, than extort from you one single Pish. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Her precious Leg* x, She writh'd with impatience..And utter'd 'pshaws!' and 'pishes!'

Pish, *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To say 'pish!' Often with *at*.

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. i, *Bob.* This a Toledo! Pish! *Step.* Why do you pish, captain? 1644 BP. HALL *Serm.* 9 June, Rem. Wks. (1660) 102 A motive, which..may be past over, and pisht at. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 151 ¶ 1 How would the ladies pish at such a great monstrous thing? *a* 1864 HAWTHORNE *S. Felton* (1883) 333 The learned man..pished and pshawed.

2. *trans.* To say 'pish' to. *To pish away, down*: to reject or depreciate by saying 'pish!'

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. i, *Hor.* Pish: ha, ha! *Lup.* Dost thou pish me? Give me my long sword. 1616 R. CROSHAW *Compliment. Verses* in Capt. Smith *Descr. New Eng.*, Though Men of..lesse desert Would Pish-away thy Praise. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 730 Some pish it down as valueless.

Hence **Pi·shing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pi·sher**, one who pishes.

1662 *Rump Songs* (1874) II. 63 Which puts pretty Maids to pishing and fying. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 730 Both..pishers and puffers..being noisily wrong.

Pish, Sc. form of PISS.

Pishamin (piʃămin). Another form of PERSIMMON; in Sierra Leone applied to two climbing shrubs, the *Sweet* and *Sour Pishamin* (*Carpodinus dulcis* and *acida*), which bear an orange-shaped fruit resembling that of the persimmon.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pishamin, *Carpodinus*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Carpodiscus acidus*, Sour Pishamin-tree, of Sierra Leone. *C. dulcis*, Sweet Pishamin-tree.

Pishcush, pishcush, var. PESHCUSH, an offering.

† **Pi·shery-pa·shery.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [Reduplicated f. PISH *int.* + -ERY.] ? Depreciatory talk.

1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* i. (1610) B iij, Peace my fine Firke, stand by with your pishery pasherie, away .., ile speake to them.

Pishogue (piʃō·g). *Irish.* Also **pishrogue, pishtrogue.** [a. Ir. *piseog, pisreog* witchcraft:—MIr. *pisóc.*] Sorcery, witchcraft; a spell, incantation, charm.

1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 269 Now a pishogue is a wise saw, a rural incantation, a charm, a sign, a cabalistic word, a something mysterious signifying a great deal in a little. *a* 1854 T. C. CROKER *Fairy Leg. & Trad. S. Irel.* (1879) 74 He had no right to be bringing his auld Irish pishogues to Rome. 1869 P. KENNEDY *Evenings Duffrey* XXVII. 357 He threw pishrogues on our eyes. 1895 BARLOW *Lisconnel* viii. 166 Wrought through the agency of 'some quare ould pishtrogues'. 1901 M. J. F. MCCARTHY *Five Yrs. in Irel.* xiv. (ed. 5) 155 The talk turned upon 'pishogues', or witchcraft and charms.

Pish-pash (piʃpæʃ). Also 9 **pish-posh.** 'A slop of rice-soup with small pieces of meat in it, much used in the Anglo-Indian nursery' (Yule).

1834 [A. PRINSEP] *Baboo* II. 85 They found the Secretary..surrounded with huge volumes of Financial Reports on one side, and a small silver tray holding a mess of pish-pash on the other. 1845 BREGION & MILLER *Pract. Cook* 327 Pish Posh. 1898 G. J. YOUNGHUSBAND in *19th Cent.* Feb. 231 Next came a policy which was somewhat irreverently described as a policy of rupees and pish-pash.

Pishymew (piʃiˌmiū). [Cf. MEW.] The New England name of a small white gull.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pisidiid (pisi·diˌid). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pisidium*, dim. of L. *pisum* pea.] A member of the *Pisidiidæ*, a family of bivalve gastropod molluscs, typified by the genus *Pisidium*. So **Pisi·dioid** *a.*, resembling a pisidiid in form.

Pisiform (pəi·sifōm, pi·zi-), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *pisiformis* pea-shaped, f. *pisum* pea: see -FORM. So mod.F. *pisiforme.*] Pea-shaped; of small globular form.

Pisiform bone (Anat.), a small pea-shaped bone of the upper row of the carpus. *Pisiform iron-ore*, iron-ore occurring in small concretions like peas.

1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 189 A wound..upon his wrist, just above the pisiform bone. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 178 Pisiform, or granular iron ore. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 203 Carapax .. baccato-tuberculous, the tubercles large granulose. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 828/1 The pisiform or pea-shaped bone..articulates with the front of the cuneiform.

B. *sb.* Short for *pisiform bone*: see above. (Also in L. form **pisiforme.**)

1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 404 A small degree of motion between the *pisiforme* and the *cuneiforme*. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 482 The pisiform is a special bone.

Pisimer, obs. form of PISMIRE.

Pisimetacarpal (pəi·simetākā·rpăl), *a. Anat.* [f. PISI(FORM) + METACARPAL.] Pertaining to the pisiform bone and to the metacarpus.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Pisk. A bird; the same as the PIRAMIDIG.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Piskie, pisky, var. PIXY. **Pisle,** obs. f. PIZZLE.

Pismire (pi·sməiəɪ). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4–5 **pismeyre,** 5 **pysmire, pyse-myer, (spissemire),** 5–6 **pysmyre,** 6 **pismyr, pissemyer,** 6–7 **pismier,** 5– **pismire.** *β.* 5–6 **pysse-, pysmere,** 6 **pismeere, -mer, pyse-, pyssemer, pysse-, pissemare, pysmar, -marie,** 7 **pisimer, pismere.** *γ.* 5 **pismoure, pyssmowre.** [ME. *pissemyre, pissemire*, etc., f. PISS + MIRE[2] ant; from the urinous smell of an anthill. So early mod. Du. *pismiere* ant (Kilian). In the *β* forms the second element is obscured; in the *γ* forms it is a different word, ME. MAUR ant, from Norse.]

An ant.

(Cf. the similar names for the ant, Fris. *pis-imme, pis-emme*, LG. *miegemke*, Norw. *migemaur* (LG. *miegen*, Norw. *miga* = L. *mingĕre*), early mod. Du. *mierseycke* (*seycke* urine), Fin. *kusiainen* (*kusi* urine). Cf. also PISS-ANT.)

α. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 118 He is as angry as a pissemyre, Though þat he haue al that he kan desire. 1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* vi. 6 O! thou slowe man, go to the amte [*gloss* ether pissemyre, *v.rr.* spissemire, pismire]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 In þis ile .. er grete hilles of gold, þe whilk pissemyres kepez bisily and pures þe gold... Þase pissemyres er als grete as hundes er here. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Prov.* vi. 6 Goe to the pismire, o sluggard. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 173 These pissemyers..will driue them out. 1617 R. FENTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* 100 Sent..by Solomon to the Conies and Pismiers for wisedome and prouidence. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 468, I have seen a Republick of Pismires with great circumspection choosing the seat of their Residence, and every one carrying his Egg and Provisions to their common Store-house. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* lv, The pismire's care to garner up his wheat. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (dial. forms), Pishmire, pissimire, pushmire.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pysmere, *formica*. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* liii. 372 (Add. MS.) Pissemers in somere are besy, and rennyn faste aboute. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* clxi. 58 Amytes, or Pysmars, or Antes. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 139 Pyssemares swarmynge owte of an ante hyll. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 52 Cyphers or round oos, lyke pismeeres egges. 1623 in C. Butler *Fem. Mon.* Ad Authorem 17 That the Pismere and these Hony-flies Instruct us better to Philosophize. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 73 Eggs..hatched under an hen, fed with pisimers. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (dial. forms), Pishamer, pishemeer, pis(s)imer, pissamer, pissmare, -mere.

γ. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1867) 21 Mare vs availes till oure ensampill..þe werkes of þe pyssmowre þan dose þe strenghe of þe lyone. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 281/2 A Pismoure, *formica*. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, Pissamoor, pisamoor, pissymoor, pishmoor, pissemygre, pissy-, pismyour (all north. and n. w.).

b. *fig.* Applied contemptuously to a person.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 13 b, The pismers of Mirmidones. 1653 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 50 Wee poore pismires that crawle upon this hill. 1790 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* lxv. XII. 18 Thou art no more than a pismire. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, To rid the land of the swarm of Arminian caterpillars, Socinian pismires, and deistical Miss Katies, that have ascended out of the bottomless pit.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pismire-eater, -egg, -fly, -hill* (= ANT-EATER, -EGG, -FLY, -HILL). In quot. 1668 = resembling the crawling motion of ants.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pysmeryshylle, *formicarium*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 281/2 A Pismoure hylle, *formicecarium*. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B ij b, A flatte..botell of glas..ful of roses or other floures, or pyssemer eggys. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* 369 That..the pulse of the arteries is caused by the Impulse of Blood, the waving, creeping, pismire pulses seem to show. 1704 tr. *Nieuhof's Brazil* in Churchill *Voy.* II. 19 The pismire-eater is thus called because he feeds upon..pismires. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 311 The Pismire-fly. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 203 Where the pismire hills abound.

† **Pismire,** obs. (illit.) f. BISMAR, a steelyard.

1701 BRAND *Descr. Orkney* 28 They not useing Peck and Firlot, but in stead thereof, weigh their Corns on Pismires or Pundlers.

[Pisnet, error for PINSNET.]

Pisolite (pi·zŏlăit, pəi·sŏ-). *Min.* Also 8 **-lithe.** [ad. mod.L. *pisolith-us*, f. Gr. πίσο-ς, *-ον*, pea + -LITE. So F. *pisolithe.*] = PEA-STONE.

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 *Pisolithus*, the Pisolite, or Gland. 1799 HATCHETT *ibid.* LXXXIX. 320 The globular calcareous concretions, found at Carlsbad and other places, called Pisolithes. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 679 Pisolite.. consists of concretions as large often as a small pea.

attrib. 1816 W. SMITH *Strata Ident.* 19 The Pisolite Freestone beneath [the Coral Rag] is softer. 1884 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) 12 Pisolite limestone has the oolitic grains of considerable size.

b. Applied to an individual grain of this.

1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* vi. (1855) 158 Occasionally each pisolite encloses in its centre a grain of foreign substance.

Pisolitic (pizŏli·tik, pəisŏ-), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC. So F. *pisolithique.*] Of the nature of, consisting of, or resembling pisolite.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 351 Half consolidated tuffs.. filled with small pisolitic globules. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* vi. (1855) 157 The pisolitic structure in certain stones. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 31 Pisolitic limestone, in which marine fossils were observable.

Piss (pis), *v.* Not now in polite use. Forms: *α.* 3–7 **pisse,** 4 **pis,** 4–6 **pyss**(e, 6– **piss**; *β.* 5 **pysch-yn,** 6 *Sc.* **pisch**(e, 6–8 *Sc.* **pish.** [ME. *piss-en*, a. OF. *piss-ier* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *piss-er* (Picard *picher*) = Pr. *pissar* (mod. *pichá*, Diez), Cat. *pixar*, Rhæt. *pischar*, It. *pisciare*, Roum. *pișà*; origin uncertain; the OF. and It. forms are not referable to any single Romanic type, and are prob. onomatopœic. From French the word has also passed (orig. as a euphemism) into the Teutonic langs.: OFris. *pissia* (Diez), MDu., MLG., 16th c. Ger. *pissen*, Da. *pisse*, Sw., Norw., Icel. *pissa*: so Welsh *piso, pisio.*

For various conjectures as to the origin of the Romanic word, see Diez, Körting No. 7195, Ulrich in *Romania* IX. 117; cf. also Scheler, Littré, s. v.]

1. *intr.* To discharge urine, urinate, make water.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 45/381 ȝwane he wolde pisse. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 328 Þei salle him ilkone bete him þat he pis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pyssyn, or pyschyn, *mingo*. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 187 As dotit dog..liftis his leg apon loft, thoght he nought list pische. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 56, I was at Pontius Pilates house [in Rome] and pist against it. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 159 The wanton boyes wou'd piss upon your grave. 1785 BURNS *Holy Willie's Pr.* xv. 1870 [see 3].

b. *transf.*, and in various allusive and proverbial uses.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. ii. (Arb.) 12 What Monsier Kynsader, lifting vp your legge and pissing against the world. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 36 Money will make the Pot boyl, though the Devil Piss in the Fire. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 98 There are some Quacks as Honest Fellows as you would desire to Piss upon. 1720 T. GORDON *Cordial Low Spirits* 72 They cannot impose upon their Prince, nor piss upon the laws. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 78 (1740) 70 So strangely did Papist and Fanatic, or..the Anticourt Party, p—s in a Quill; agreeing in all Things that tended to create Troubles and Disturbances.

2. *trans.* To discharge as or with the urine.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 192 He [Gloton] pissede a potel in a *pater-noster* while. *c* 1375 *St. Augustin* 1402 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 85/2 Þe chyld, iwis, A gret stone al out dude pis And was al hol of þat seknes. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 62 Til þat he pisse blood. 1623 HART *Arraignm. Ur.* i. 1 Urine is that which is pissed.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* in various uses.

† *To piss* (money, etc.) *against* or *on the wall*: to squander or waste it. *To piss* one's *grease* or *tallow*: said of deer becoming lean in rutting-time; hence *transf.*

c 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 232 Take talow of an hert, suche as he pysseþ by twene two seynt mary dayes. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. xxxi. in Ashm. *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 155 But as for Mony yt ys pyssyd on the walls. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 197. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 16. 1602 *and Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. ii. (Arb.) 40 They are pestilent fellowes, they speake nothing but bodkins, and pisse vinegar. 1680 CROWNE *Misery Civil War* I. i, I command the conduits all piss Claret. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxviii. (1737) 132 He's nothing but Skin and Bones; he has piss'd his Tallow.

3. To urinate upon or in, to wet with urine (= BEPISS); to put *out* or extinguish (fire) in this way.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 143 A Brutiner, a braggere, a-bostede him alse, And bad go pisse him with his plouh [B. VI. 157 bad hym go pissen]. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) ii. 87 The fyre wes pischt out. 1593 *Pass. Morrice* (1876) 80 Being as often readie to pisse my breeche. 1713 SWIFT *Elegy on Partridge*, Whom roguish boys..Torment by pissing out their lights. 1870 tr. *Trousseau's Lect. Clin. Med.* III. 478 Children, who piss their beds dreaming that they are pissing against a wall.

Piss (pis), *sb.* Not now in polite use. Forms: *α.* 4–6 **pysse,** 4–7 **pisse,** 5–6 **pys,** 6 **pysse,** 7– **piss.** *β.* 5 **pysche.** [f. PISS *v.* So F. *pisse* (Cotgr. 1611); cf. also MDu., LG. *pisse*, Du. *pis.*] Urine, 'water'. † *A rod in piss*: see ROD, and cf. PICKLE *sb.*[1] 1 b.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 729 How Xantippa caste pisse vp-on his heed. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xviii. 27 Thei ete her toordis, and drynke her pisse [1382 vryne] with ȝou. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pysse, or pysche, *urina, minctura*. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 56 Lothsome and intolerable stench of pisse, and of goates dung. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Table Talk* in *Collect. Poems* 122 What Miracles..were wrought by Cows Piss, and the Cold Bath?

b. *Comb.*: † **piss-bowl** = PISS-POT; **piss-burnt** *a.*, stained or damaged with or as with urine, red-brown; **piss-weed,** some species of *Androsace.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 23 b, She..powred downe a *pisse bolle vpon hym out of a wyndoore. 1565 *K. Daryus* (Brandl) 418 Gyt thee away, thou *pys burnde Cokolde. 1742 FIELDING *Y. Andrews* III. xii, A long piss-burnt beard. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 203 Small Aleppo *Piss-weed, Androsace Alepensis parva.

Pissabed (pi·săbed). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. PISS *v.* + ABED, from its diuretic property. So F. *pissenlit* dandelion (1545).]

1. A name for the dandelion.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxviii. 223 The flowers of Dandelion or Pisse-abed. 1636 HEYWOOD *Loves Mistris* I. Wks. 1874 V. 97 Garlands..Of Blew bottles, and yellow pissabeds That grew amongst the Wheate. 1788 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Peter's Proph.* Wks. 1792 III. 79 Through him each trifle-hunter that can bring A grub, a weed, a moth, a beetle's wing, Shall to a Fellow's dignity succeed! Witness Lord Chatham and his piss-a-bed! 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 349 It possesses unquestionably diuretic powers, and hence, indeed, its vulgar name of piss-a-bed.

† b. Applied to the buttercup. *Obs. rare.*

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* Index, *Pisseabed*.. is also Crowfoote.

2. Name for the SEA-HARE, *Aplysia*, a slug-like mollusc, which discharges a violet fluid when touched.

1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 586 Some call them piss a beds, some sea-cats.

Pissan, obs. form of PISANG. **Pissan(e, pissand**, var. PISANE *Obs.* **Pissance, -ans, Pissant**, obs. Sc. ff. PUISSANCE, PUISSANT.

† **Pi·ss-a·nt.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PISS *sb.* + ANT; cf. PISMIRE.] An ant.

1661 W. K. *Conf. Charact., Meere Polititian* (1860) 27 A multitude of pissants and vermins.

Pissasphalt (pi·săsfælt). Also in L. (or Gr.-L.) forms *pissasphaltos, -um, -us.* [ad. L. *pissasphalt-us* (Plin.), a. Gr. *πισσάσφαλτος*, f. *πίσσα* pitch + *ἄσφαλτος* ASPHALT.] A semi-liquid variety of bitumen, mentioned by ancient writers.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 183 As touching Pissasphalt, which is of a mixt nature, as if pitch and Bitumen were mingled together. *Ibid.* 557 All these the Greeks doe comprehend vnder one name Pissasphalton. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2106 There were several Kinds of Embalming, viz. with Asphalt or Pissasphalt, with Oyl or Gum of Cedar. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 107 The pissasphaltum is of a consistency between the common petroleum and the asphaltum, or bitumen of Judea. 1859 WINGFIELD *Tour Dalmatia* 80 The 'pissasphalt', used anciently by the Egyptians for embalming their dead.

Pissel(l, obs. form of PIZZLE. **Pissemare, -mer(e, -myer, -myre**, obs. ff. PISMIRE.

Pi·sser. [f. PISS *v.* + -ER¹.] One who pisses.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 218 In paltokes & pyked shoes & pisseris longe knyues. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* ix. 8, I schal ..slen fro the hous of Achab a pysser to the walle. *c* 1525 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 326 Ye have made me suche a pysser that I dare not this daye go abrode. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 139 The Kidneyes are called..νεφροί, as it were Pissers. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. 158 *note*, A covetous Hunks is.. called a Vinegar-pisser.

† **Pi·ssery.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [See -ERY 2: cf. F. *pissoir.*] A place for pissing; a urinal.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xv. 127 They..pissed in the Pisseries.

Pisshes, pissis, obs. forms of PISCES.

Pi·ssing, *vbl. sb.* Not now in polite use. [f. PISS *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb PISS; discharge of urine, urination; discharge (of blood, etc.) with the urine or by the urinary passages.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xiii. (Bodl. MS.), Apium ..helpeþ also aȝens þe stone and aȝens difficulte of pissinge. 1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* 3 No more then the pissinge of a wrenne helpeth to cause the see to flowe. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 190 The Strangury.., that is, the pissing by drops.., do[th] alwayes accompany the stone of the bladder. 1698 in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 314 It stops pissing of Blood.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pissing-basin, -clout, -place, -time, -vessel*; † **pissing conduit**, popular name of a conduit near the Royal Exchange, which ran with a small stream; † **pissing evil**, name for diabetes; † **pissing-post**, a public urinal, also commonly used for sticking up placards; † **pissing-while**, *colloq.* a very short time.

1494 *Will of J. Isell* (Somerset Ho. Wills, Reg. Vox, lf. 21 (4 b)) A grete Cawdren and iij *pyssing basons. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* I. ii, Down to the sucking heiress in her *pissing-clout. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 4, I charge and command, that of the Cities cost The *pissing Conduit run nothing but Clarret Wine. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 144 The little Conduite, called the pissing Conduit, by the Stockes market. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Diabethe*, ..the *pyssyng euill. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 *Pyssynge place, *oletum*. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* i. (1697) 416 My harmless Rhime shall 'scape the dire disgrace Of *Common-shoars, and ev'ry pissing-place. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* (N.), On every *pissing post their names I'l place. 1699 T. BROWN in R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 328 Whose business and good qualities you may find upon all the Pissing-posts in Town. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 2 *Pissing times. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 *Pyssynge vesselle. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. viii. (Arb.) 77 Truce for a *pissing while or twaine. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 20. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 265 To stay a pissing-while.

‖ **Pissoceros** (pisosī·rŏs). [L. *pissocēros* (Pliny), a. Gr. *πισσόκηρος* (Aristotle), f. *πίσσα* pitch + *κηρός* bees-wax.] (See quots.)

1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 916 Concerning Wax, Bee-glew, dregs of Wax, Pissoceros, Bees-bread, and of their Nature and Use. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pissoceros*, the Pitch-wax made by Bees in their Hives; or any Composition of Wax and Pitch. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* XXVII. (1818) II. 497 Show us but one instance of bees having substituted mud or mortar for mitys, pissoceros, or propolis.

Pi·ss-pot. Not now in polite use. [f. PISS *sb.* + POT *sb.* So early mod.F. *pissepot* (1544).] A vessel, usually of earthenware, for urine; a chamber-pot.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 267/1 Iurdone, pyssepotte. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* II. Wks. 195/1 And it happen to raine, out poure they pispottes vpon his hed. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* II. ii, May be, she knows you, And will fling a piss-pot at you. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 614 They hold a Piss-pot over the Womens Heads whilst in Labour, thinking it to promote hasty Delivery.

attrib. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. iii, A beggar, a slave that never drunk out of better than piss-pot metal in his life! 1619 H. HUTTON *Follies Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 11 A sowre pis-pot visage.

† b. *transf.* A nickname for a medical man: cf. next. *Obs.*

1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 236 Had phisition Iohn liu'd, ..a sinode of Pispots would haue concluded, that Pierce Pennilesse should be confounded without repriue. 1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 103 A fustie Potticarie..with his fustian drugges, attending your pispot worship. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 24. 18 Which..sLeweth the presumption of Pispot Doctors.

† **Pi·ss-pro·phet.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + PROPHET.] One who diagnosed diseases by inspection of the urine.

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 32 Now would I willingly demand of the most cunning Pisse-prophet, what could he haue found out by either of these viines? 1651 WITTIE tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 70 If a very cholerick urine be brought, can the pisse-prophet tell which of these diseases doth trouble the patient? 1695 D. TURNER *Apol. Chyrurg.* 5 The most absurd Predictions of the calculating Piss-prophets.

† **Pi·ssupprest.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. Suppression (or ? retention) of urine.

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. lxxvii. 159 The..pissuprest in a horse, is when a horse would faine stale, but cannot.

† **Pist** (pist, p'st), *int. Obs. rare.* A sibilant syllable used to attract attention, or to call a person. (Cf. HIST.)

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old one* III. E ij, *Hoo.* Pist Drawer,— *Dra.* Anon sir? 1622 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* V. i, Pist! where are you?

Pist, *sb.*: see PISTE².

Pistachio (pistā·ʃio, -tā·ʃo, -tæ·tʃo). Forms: *α.* 5–7 **pistace**, 6 **pystace**, 7–8 **pistach**, 7– **pistache**. *β.* 6 **pistaccio**, 7 **-acio**, 7– **pistachio**, (9 **-acchio**); also (6 **pistinachie**), 7 **pistachie, -acie**, 8 **-achee**, 7– **pistachia**. *γ.* 7–8 **pistacho**. [The *α* forms a. OF. *pistace* (13th c.) and F. *pistache* (pista·ʃ); the *β* forms ad. It. *pistacchio* (pista·kkyo), some affected by L. *pistacia*, or by Spanish; the *γ* form a. Sp. *pistacho* (pista·tʃo); all from L. *pistācium* (med.L. *pistāquium*), a. Gr. *πιστάκιον* pistachio nut, f. *πιστάκη* pistacia-tree, from OPers.: cf. Pers. *پستہ pistah*. See also PISTACIA, PISTACK, PISTICK *nut*, FISTIC.

Cf. 1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 219 Item pro ij lb. de pistaqiis, lvj s.]

1. The 'nut' or dry drupe of *Pistacia vera* (see b), or its edible kernel, of a greenish colour, eaten in Turkey, Greece, etc. (Also *pistachio nut*: see 3.)

α. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 9 b, Thynges good for the Lunges: Elycampane: Hysope:..Pystaces. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 585 Filberds, pine nuts, pistaces, almonds. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pistache-Tree*, The best Pistaches are brought from Arabia and Syria.

β. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. lii. 94/2 A white kernell very pleasant to eate, like Pistaccios. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. iv. 11 Nuts (at this day called *pistachioes*, and most cordiall in physick). 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 7. 116 Pistacie, Fistic-nut. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 247 Philberts, Haslenuts, Pistachias. 1751 J. HILL *Hist. Mat. Med.* 495 The Pistachia is..of an oblong Figure, pointed at both Ends,..about half an Inch in Length..the Kernel.. of a green Colour, of a soft and unctuous Substance..much like the Pulp of an Almond. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Oct. 10 Melons are marvellously cheap and good in Marseilles, so are pistachios.

γ. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 50 Pistachoes .. joyned with Almonds in Almond Milk,.. are an excellent Nourisher. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lx. (1737) 247 Pistachoes, or Fistick-Nuts. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 263 Almonds, Pistachos, and other Nuts.

b. The tree *Pistacia vera* (N.O. *Anacardiaceæ*), a native of Western Asia, much cultivated in the south of Europe. (Also *pistachio tree*: see 3.)

α. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 184 Pistace is in this moone Of plauntes sette. 1905 *19th Cent.* Aug. 269 The olive, pistache, jujube and plane from Syria.

β. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 227 [Plants] to be first set into the Conservatory .. Dactyls, Pistacio's, the great Indian Fig. 1751 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 621 The pinnated-leaved Pistachia.

2. A green colour resembling that of the kernel of the pistachio nut. (Also *pistachio green*: see 3.) Also *attrib.* or as *adj*: Of this colour.

1791 A. M. PORTMAN in *A. C. Bower's Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 141 The fashionable Colors are Coquelicot and Pistache. 1888 *Daily News* 7 June 5/8 A dress of plain pistachio satin.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pistachio cream, green* (sb. and adj.), *nut, plantation, tree.*

1598 *Epulario* Kiv b, Pistinachie [? error] Nuts. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 129 Pistach or Fisticke Nuts are of an aromaticall sauour. 1626 H. MASON *Epicure's Fast* ii. 13 Drie Figgs, Pepper,..Pistace nuts. 1658 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 164 Madam, here are pistachie nutts. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 466 A sort of Pistachio-Tree. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* 473 A Pistachio Cream. Take a pound of pistachio nuts, break the shells and blanch the kernels. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 28 *Pistachio green*, meadow green with a mixture of brown. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* II. 81 Atlantic Pistachia-tree, a small tree from Barbary in 1790. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 121 Galen doubted whether pistachio nuts were good for the stomach. 1882 O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 331 The vineyards and pistache plantations. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 April 7/3 A lovely gown of pale pistachio green satin.

‖ **Pistacia** (pistē·ʃiă). [L. *pistācia* pistachio tree (Pallad.), f. Gr. *πιστάκη*: see prec.] The pistachio tree = prec. 1 b; in *Bot.* the name (adopted by Linnæus 1737) of the genus to which the Pistachio tree belongs, including also the Mastic-tree and the Terebinth; the species are sometimes collectively called *turpentine-trees.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 685 Pistacia is graffed now to growe In cold lond. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 255 The Pistacia sends forth its Branches on high, and renders its Nuts edible in Autumn. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Pistacia, Hazel-leaved, *Hamamelis*. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* V. (1872) 197 The Pistacia grows abundantly in the south of France, but it yields no mastic.

† b. = prec. 1 a, pistachio nut. *Obs.*

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 382 Nuts, dates, fine white bread, honnie and Pistacia. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij, Pistacia the pound vi *d.*

c. *Comb.*, as *pistacia nut, tree*: see prec. 3.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Pistacia Nut... Pistacia-tree. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 662 Pistacia nut tree extends from Syria to Bokhara and Cabul.

Pistacite (pi·stăsəit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *pistazit* (A. G. Werner, 1803), f. PISTACIA + -ITE¹: so named from its colour.] A synonym of EPIDOTE, or name for a variety of it.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Pistacite, pistazite*, see *Epidote.* 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Pistacite*, iron and lime epidote, in which a large quantity of the lime is replaced by protoxide of iron,..so called from its pistachio-green colour. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* i. 43 Pistacite..occurs as an accessory and very frequently in hornblende rocks, and is probably the product of decomposition of hornblende.

† **Pi·stack, pi·stake.** *Obs.* Anglicized forms of PISTACHIO, chiefly in comb. See also PISTICK.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Alhostigo, alhocigo*, pistacke tree. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xi. § 123 Pistakes, services, carobs, .. dates. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pistachoes*, or Pistack [*ed.* 1706 Pistake] Nuts.

Pistareen (pistărī·n). Also 8 **pistereen**, 9 **-arene**. [app. a popular formation from *peseta.*] An American or West Indian name for a small Spanish silver coin formerly current there.

1774 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 10 So I gave pistareens enough among the children to have paid twice for my entertainment. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 432 Gave him refreshments, oats, and a pistereen. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 212 A pistareen's worth of bows for a dollar. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* iii, I ask him to change a pistareen.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Concerned with small matters; petty, paltry; cf. PICAYUNE.

1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 310 Now and then, an amiable parson..believes in a pistareen-Providence. 1861 HOLLAND *Less Life* xi. 156 Mr. Emerson becomes equally flippant and irreverent when he speaks of a 'pistareen Providence'.

† **Pi·state**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *pistāt-*, ppl. stem of *pistāre* to pound (? later, to knead, to bake), frequent. of *pinsĕre* to pound, crush; cf. *pistor* baker.] *trans.* To bake.

1599 A. M. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 63/2 Permit them bake with breade: and it being pistatede, breacke it and hould it at thye Eares, being very warme. 1604 R. CAWDREY, *Pistated*, baked. 1623 COCKERAM II, Baked, *pistated.*

† **Piste**¹. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [See PISTIC.] In *piste Indik*, rendering L. *spica Indica*, Indian spikenard.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 411 (Bodley MS.) Fyne mirre an unce, and of the piste Indik [*v. r.* pisce indyk] But half an unce.

‖ **Piste**² (pist), **pist** (pist). [F. *piste* = It. *pesta*, Sp. *pista*:—L. *pista* (sc. *via*), beaten track, f. *pist-us*, pa. pple. of *pinsĕre* to pound, stamp.] The beaten track of a horse or other animal; the track of a race-course or training-ground.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Piste*, in the manage, the track or tread, which a horse makes upon the ground he goes over. ..The *piste* of a horse may be either *single*, or *double.* 1882 OGILVIE, *Pist, Piste.* 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* XXVIII, She looks as racing mares do when they come in off the trotting piste.

Pistel, -ell, -elle, etc., var. ff. PISTLE, etc. *Obs.*

† **Pi·stelarie.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. med.L. *epistolārium*; cf. PISTLE.] = EPISTOLAR *sb.*

1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 27, ij masse bokes and a pistelarie.

Pistereen, variant of PISTAREEN.

‖ **Pistia** (pi·stiă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus 1737); cf. Gr. *πιστός* drinkable, liquid. (? in allusion to its deriving its nutriment from water.)] A genus of floating water-plants allied to Duck-weed, the type of N.O. *Pistiaceæ*, comprising one species (*P. Stratiotes*), which covers the surface of ponds and tanks in warm countries; also called *tropical duckweed*, and (in W. Indies) *water-lettuce.*

1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 31 Dec. in W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* (1766) 17 At the entrance of the river into the great lake there floats prodigious quantities of the pistia. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* II. vi. 183 The inhabitants .. devoted themselves..to fishing, and the manufacture of salt from the *Pistia* plants. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 213/1 The floating Pistia, for all the world like a *minute* cabbage.

Pistic (pi·stik), *a.* [ad. L. *pistic-us* (Vulg.), a. Gr. *πιστικός* perhaps 'genuine, pure', f. *πίστις* faith; but see quot. 1881.] In *nard pistic, pistic nard* = Gr. *νάρδος πιστική* in Mark xiv. 3 and John xii. 3 (in Bible versions translated *spikenard*).

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* vii. vii. 351 Nor must that perhaps be taken for a simple unguent, ..but rather a composition, as Marke and John imply by pistick Nard, that is faithfully dispensed. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* iii. Sect. xiii, She came..with a box of Nard Pistick, salutary and precious. 1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* ii. *St. Mary Magd.*, Why is this rich, this pistic nard Spilt, and the box quite broke and marr'd? 1881 N. T. (R.V.) *Mark* xiv. 3 Ointment of spikenard. *Margin*, Gr. *pistic nard*, pistic being perhaps a local name. Others take it to mean *genuine*; others, *liquid*.

†Pi·stick, *sb. (a.) Obs.* [A deriv. of Pistachio (in some of its forms; cf. also Pistack), perh. assimilated to Fistic, a form of the same word through Arabic. (Possibly confused with prec.)] = Pistachio: chiefly in comb.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* ii. ii. 1. i, Trallianus discommends figs, ..which others especially like of, and so of pistick nuts. 1655 Mouffet & Bennet *Health's Impr.* (1746) 300 Fisticks, or rather Pisticks, ..are Nuts growing in the Knob of the Syrian or Egyptian Turpentine-tree.

Pistil (pi·stil). *Bot.* Forms: *α.* 6–7 **pestill, 7 pestle** (see Pestle). *β.* 8–9 in L. form **pistillum** (pl. **-a**). *γ.* 8– **pistil.** [In sense 1, the same word as Pestle, OF. *pestel*:—L. *pistillum*. For sense 2, the L. word itself was first used, the place of which *α* 1750 began to be taken by its Fr. adaptation *pistil* (*pistile* Tournefort, 1694, *pistil* admitted by the Académie, 1762).]

†1. In early use (in form *pestle, pestill*), The thick pestle-like spadix of araceous plants. *Obs.*

α. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* iii. vi. 320 Of Dragons [Dracunculus]...At the top of the stalke groweth a long hoose or huske, lyke to the hoose or codde of Aron, or Wake Robin, of a greenish colour without, and..the clapper or pestill that groweth vp within the sayde huske. 1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* iii, Those yellow fringes about the purple Pestill. 1672 Josselyn *New Eng. Rarities* 70 This Plant is one..with a sheath or Hood like Dragons, but the pestle is of another shape,..having a round Purple Ball on the top of it.

2. In mod. use, The female organ of a flower, situated (one or more) in the centre, and comprising (in its complete form) the ovary, style, and stigma. *β.* in L. form *pistillum*; *γ.* in form *pistil*.

β. [1700 Tournefort *Inst. Rei Herb.* (1719) I. 70 Pistillum appello partem eam, quæ floris centrum inter stamina occupare solet.] 1726 *Flower Gard. Displ.* Introd., *Pistillum*, a small Thread or Stamen, with an Apex on the Top of it, growing out of the Seminary Vessels, exactly in the Center of some Flowers. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* i. v. (1765) 11 The Pistillum is the Female Part of the Flower. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 6 Pistilla numerous,..or united into a single many-celled pistillum.

γ. [1694 Tournefort *Botan.* 54 J'appelle pistile cette partie de la fleur qui en occupe ordinairement le centre.] 1749 Stack (tr. from Fr.) in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 50 The Pistil or Embryo of the Fruit..occupies the whole Inside of the Calyx. 1756 Watson *ibid.* XLIX. 806 It has neither Calyx nor Petal, but consists only of one Stamen and one Pistil. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* i. (1794) 23 This..is called the pistil or pointal. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* i. i. 10 The carpels, taken together, constitute the pistil; they are the fourth and last series of the flower-leaves.

3. *Comb.*, as *pistil-bearing* adj.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 96 Having its male or stamen-bearing flowers borne on long club-shaped spikes, and the pistil-bearing ones in round heads.

Pistil, obs. f. Pestle, var. Pistle *Obs.*

Pistillaceous (-ē·ʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. Bot. L. *pistill-um* Pistil + -aceous.] = Pistillary.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* i. xii. (1765) 30 *Pistillaceous Nectaria*, such as accompany the Pistillum.

Pi·stillar, *a. rare.* [f. L. type **pistillār-is*, f. *pistill-um*: see **-ar.**] = next.

1876 Hooker *Bot. Primer* 48 The pistillar leaf is called a carpel.

Pistillary (pi·stilări), *a. Bot.* [f. Bot. L. *pistill-um* Pistil + **-ary**: in mod.F. *pistillaire*.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a pistil.

1848 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 88 The pistillary apparatus. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 897 *Pistillary cord*, a channel which passes from the stigma through the style into the ovary. 1880 *Gray's Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 269 The pistillary body is attenuated and prolonged above the ovule.

Pistillate (pi·stilĕt), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *pistillāt-us*, f. as prec. + **-ate**[2] 2. In mod.F. *pistillé*.] Having a pistil or pistils (and no stamens); female. (Opp. to *staminate*.)

1828–32 in Webster. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* 403 ♀ a pistillate flower. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* i. iv. 39 In the Lesser Nettle, staminate and pistillate flowers are on the same plant. 1880 *Gray's Struct. Bot.* vi. (ed. 6) 191 Flowers are ..Pistillate..when the pistils are present and the stamens absent.

†Pistilla·tion. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *pistill-um* pestle + **-ation.**] A pounding with a pestle.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* ii. v. 83 They submit unto pistillation, and resist not an ordinary pestle.

‖ **Pistillidium** (pistili·diŭm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. *pistill-um* Pistil + *-idium* = Gr. *-ιδιον*, dim. suffix.] The female organ in the higher Cryptogams, usually called Archegonium.

1854 [see Archegonium]. 1857 Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* § 908 In the majority of the Orders the female organ occurs in a form somewhat analogous to the ovule of Phanerogamia, called the *archegonium* (or *pistillidium*). 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* (1870) 366 The reproductive organs of..Mosses ..are called antheridia and archegonia or pistillidia.

Pistilliferous (pistili·fĕrəs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pistillum* Pistil + -(i)ferous, after F. *pistillifère*.] = Pistillate. (Opp. to *staminiferous*.)

1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* ix. (1794) 95, I beg leave.. to call .. those which have only the pistils, pistilliferous flowers. 1880 Sir E. J. Reed *Japan* II. 42 There are two kinds of this shrub, pistilliferous and staminiferous.

Pistilligerous (-i·dʒĕrəs), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. -(i)gerous.] Productive of or fertile in pistils.

1843 Griffith in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* (1845) XIX. 204 *note*, The transition between the two types exists in *Anthoceros*, which in the development of its anthers and habits has much in common with the pistilligerous type.

Pistilline (pi·stilain), *a.* [f. Bot. L. *pistill-um* + **-ine**[1].] **a.** = Pistillate. **b.** = Pistillary.

1844 Carpenter *Veg. Phys.* 497 The stamineous and pistilline flowers grow in separate clusters. 1854 Balfour *Cl. Bk. Bot.* 175 The pistilline whorl..denominated the gynœcium.

Pistillody (pi·stilodi). *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *pistillōdi-um*, f. *pistill-um*: see **-ode** and cf. Phyllody.] Metamorphosis of other floral organs into pistils.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pistio·logy. Erron. **pisteo-.** [f. Gr. *πιστι-ς* faith + **-logy**: cf. Phraseology.] A theory or science of faith or religious belief.

1900 *Ch. Q. Rev.* Oct. 66 We have practically..no pisteology, to deal with the foundations, nature, validity, and limits of religious faith.

†Pistle, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **pistol,** 2–6 **pistel,** 4 **pistol, pystol,** 4–5 **pystil(l,** 4–6 **pistell(e, pistil, -ill(e, pystyl, -yll(e,** 4–7 **pistle,** 5 **pistul, -yl(l,** 5–6 (8 *Sc.*) **pystle, pystel(l.** [OE. *pistol*, aphetic form of *epistol*, ad. L. *epistola* Epistle.]

1. A communication in writing, a letter; a literary work, or a dedication, in the form of a letter: = Epistle *sb.* 1, 1 b, 1 c.

c 1000 Ælfric *Saints' Lives* iii. 382 Ða awrat se earming mid hise agenra hande..þone pistol. 1382 Wyclif *Dan.* iii. 97 In to eche lond he [the king] sente a pistle. 1395 Purvey *Remonstrance* (1851) 4 This article is taught bi seynt Jerom in hise pistlis. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 202/1 Saynt Leo wrote a pistle to fabyane bisshop of constantynople ayenst eutician and nestorium. 1529 More *Dyalogue* ii. Wks. 178/2 A pistle of Plinye wrytten to the Emperoure Trayane. 1595 *Eng. Tripe-wife* (1881) 145 Your Pamphlet lackes both a Pistle and a Patrone. 1787 Burns *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, I was gaun to write you a lang pystle.

2. *spec.* An apostolic letter, forming part of the New Testament: = Epistle *sb.* 2.

c 1000 Ælfric *De Vet. et de Nov. Test.* (Grein) 14 Iacob se rihtwisa awrat anne pistol. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 31 San(c)tus Paulus us tako on his pisteles. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7122 Se now what seynt Poule seys Yn a pystyl. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 101 As gospillis & pistles witnessen. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Payne* 215 And in Iohns Pistle these wordis be.

3. *Eccl.* An extract from an apostolic letter (or, as in quot. *a* 1450, from some other Scriptural book) read in the Eucharistic office: = Epistle *sb.* 3.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 Hit is ireht on þes pistles redinge [cf. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 314 Hit is gereht on ðyssere pistol-rædinge]. *c* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 683 (heading) Here bigynneth a rule, that tellith in whiche chapitris of the bible ȝe mai fynde the lessouns, pistlis, and gospels, that ben rad in the chirche al the ȝeer. *Ibid.* 686 *note* a, Pistil Jerem. [*so passim*]. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 106 The princes of xij lynages, wherof the pistelle upon the feest of Alhalwynne makithe mencion. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 126 The pystel that is redde in the masse. 1590 H. Barrow in *Conferences* i. 8 The Papists .. haue the same Creedes,.. Pistles, Gospels.

b. Hence, the title 'Pistle of (Sweet) Susane': Daniel xiii in the Vulgate, containing the story of Susanna, being the Lesson or Epistle of the Mass for the Saturday of the third week in Lent.

But it is probable that here 'pistle' was subsequently taken as = legend or story.

1380–1400 *B. M. Addit. MS.* 22283 (*heading*) Here bygynneþ a pistil of Susan. *Ibid.* l. 363 Þis ferlys bi-fel In þe days of Danyel, þe pistel witnesseþ wel Of þat profete. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* (MS. Cott.) 4312 (Laing 4326), He [Hucheoun] made a gret Gest of Arthure, And þe Awntyr of Gawane, þe Pistil als of Suet Susane.

4. A (spoken) story or discourse.

Most of the examples appear to be after Chaucer.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 165 Tho rowned he a pistel in his ere. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *Min. Poems* (1892) 221 He a pistle rowned in hire ere. 1479 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 257 When I was with myn oncle, I had a longe pystyll of hym, that [etc.]. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 184 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 291 Scho rownis than ane pistill in his eir.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pistle-book, -making, -penner, -reader, -reading*; **pistle-cloth,** a cloth covering or wrapper for the books of the epistles.

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* § 21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 350 Saltere & pistol-boc & godspell-boc & mæsse-boc. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) I. 294 Lucas se Godspellere us manode on ðisre pistol-readinge, þus cweðende [etc.]. — *De Consuet. Monach.* in *Anglia* XIII. 406 Sacerd diacon & pistel rædere. 1434 *Inv. St. Mary's, Scarborough* in *Archæologia* LI. 66 Cum uno alio libro vocato le pistelboke. 1559 *Will of Thome* (Somerset Ho.), To v^e^ cherche to-whordes a pystyll book. 1589 *Hay any Work* A iij b, I haue as good a gift in pistle making, as you haue at priemeero. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* D ij, I am worth twentie Pistle-penners.

Hence **†Pi·stle** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to write an epistle upon, assail with an epistle, satirize.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* 28 Take heed, he will pistle thee.

Pistle, Pistlett, obs. ff. Pistol, Pistolet.

†Pi·stler. *Obs.* Also 6 **pystiller,** 6–7 **pisteler, pistoler.** [f. Pistle *sb.* + **-er**[1].] One who reads the Epistle at the Communion: = Epistler 2, Epistoler 2.

a 1529 Skelton *Ware the Hauke* 121 These be my gospellers, These be my pystillers. 1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 920/2 A pistler: of singing priests ten. 1579 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 18 To the Gospeller and pistoler 6/8^d^ a pece. *a* 1640 J. Ball *Answ. to Canne* i. (1642) 143 Organ-players, gospellers, pistelers.

Pistol (pi·stəl), *sb.* Also 6 **pistolle,** 6–7 **pistoll, 7 pistle.** [a. obs. F. *pistole* (1566 in H. Estienne) a pistol. So It., Sp. *pistola* (? from Fr.). App. a shortened form of *pistolet*, which was earlier both in Fr. and Eng., and in Fr. has outlived *pistole*. See Pistolet[1].]

1. A small fire-arm, with a more or less curved stock, adapted to be held in, and fired by, one hand.

c 1570 Sir H. Gilbert *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (1869) 4 To teache noble men and gentlemen..to skirmish on horsbacke with pistolles. 1579 Digges *Stratiot.* 111 To give the Enemye a volue of their Pistols. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Ess.* iv, To keep this Case of Pistols continually ready charged, and bent. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 373 If a man..should have a pistol holden over him, and be threatened with being shot through the head. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 126 With a pair of pistols stuck in the girdle.

†b. *transf.* (*pl.*) Troops armed with pistols, pistoleers. *Obs. rare.*

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 143 They are alwayes seconded with armed Pistols or Lances.

c. *Volta's pistol*, a metallic tubular vessel, closed with a cork, in which an explosive mixture of gases may be ignited by an electric spark.

1784 Watt in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 331 In the same manner as is done in the inflammable air pistol. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 434/1 He [Volta] also invented (1777) the instrument which has been called the electrical pistol. 1872 Everett tr. *Deschanel's Elem. Nat. Philos.* 556 This experiment is usually shown by means of Volta's pistol, which is a metallic vessel containing the mixture and closed by a cork.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pistol-bag, -ball, -barrel, -belt, -bullet, -butt, -flint, -holster, -pocket, -powder, -practice, -range*; *pistol-like, -shaped* adjs.; *pistol-wise* adv.; **pistol-arm,** the arm with which the pistol is held when fired; **pistol-cane,** a concealed pistol in the form of a cane, or a cane containing a concealed pistol; **pistol-carbine,** a pistol provided with a detachable butt-piece, so as to be fired either as a pistol or as a carbine; **pistol-grip,** a projection, in shape like the butt of a pistol, on the under side of a gun-stock, to give a firmer grip for the hand in firing; **pistol-hand,** (*a*) the hand in which the pistol is held; (*b*) = *pistol-grip*; **pistol key,** a watch-key in the form of a pistol; **pistol man,** a man accustomed to use a pistol, a duellist; **pistol-pipe** (*Metallurgy*), the blast-pipe of a hot-blast furnace; **pistol-proof,** †*sb.* ability to resist a pistol-shot; *a.*, able to resist a pistol-shot (see Proof *sb.* and *a.*); **pistol-splint** *Surg.*, a splint shaped like a pistol, used esp. in certain fractures of the arm. See also Pistol-shot.

1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* iii, I'll give it him in the *pistol-arm, or so. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3714/4 Lost.., a pair of green Velvet *Pistol-Bags embroidered with Gold. 1821 Byron *Wks.* (1846) 584/2 A man who can snuff a candle..with a *pistol-ball. 1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* Index 7 Light *Pistol-barrels. 1660 N. Ingelo *Bentiv. & Ur.* ii. (1682) 130 They imploy such utensils when they make *Pistol-bullet. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 745/2 This tumour had the volume of a..pistol-bullet. 1814 Scott *Wav.* lviii, Striking the boy upon the head with the heavy *pistol-butt. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, He..filled his pipe, lighted it with the assistance of his *pistol-flint, and smoked. 1874 J. W. Long *Amer. Wild-fowl* i. 27 A *pistol-grip is thought by some to be an advantage. 1892 Greener *Breech-Loader* 84 The rational gun stock..embodies qualities long sought in pistol grip guns. 1856 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XI. 100/1 A *pistol-hand is a handsome..addition to the gun-stock. 1892 Greener *Breech-Loader* 82 The pistol-hand gun-stock, especially in that form..known technically as half pistol-hand, is the common form throughout Canada and the United States. 1894 A. Robertson *Nuggets*, etc. 186, I knocked the fellow's pistol-hand up with a rapid blow. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Seine* 167 We hear..the *pistol-like report of beer, and the more soberly alluring plunk! of wine-corks. 1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* I. 213, I once intended to have shot at him,..but not being much of a *pistol man..I changed my mind. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 65 *Pistol Powder is now commonly made of Salt-peter five parts, one part of Brimstone, and one of Cole. 1590 Sir R. Williams *Disc. Warre* 29 The forepart of his curaces of a light *pistoll proofe. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 237 Harnesse..not halfe so weighty, and yet of pistol proof. 1692 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 402 Armour pistoll proofe 27 foot distance. 1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 82 The sepoys plied them with shot at *pistol-range. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pistol-splint*. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 6/1 The Major, holding on with one hand, used the rifle *pistol-wise.

Pi·stol, *v.* [f. prec. sb.: cf. F. *pistoler*.]

1. *trans.* To shoot with a pistol.

1607 Dekker *Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 112

Powder the Varlet, pistoll him. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 757 He, out of a deep reluctancy, pistol'd himself in his Cabin. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. xvii. 91 He is afraid you will pistol him. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 152, I declare I could have pistolled him there and then.

2. *intr.* To make a noise like the report of a pistol; to crack. *nonce-use.*

1898 F. WHITMORE in *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 500/1 His whip-lash whirling and pistoling about his head.

Hence **Pi·stoling, -olling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (also *fig.*).

1637 HEYLIN *Brief Answ.* 111 One or two godly Ministers .. were threatned .. with Pistolling and hanging. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxii, He has had gunning and pistolling enough. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 392 Macaulay advances with his hectoring sentences and his rough pistolling ways.

Pistol, variant of PISTLE *Obs.*

†Pistola·de, *sb. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *pistolade* a pistol-shot (1592 in Godefroy *Compl.*), f. *pistole* PISTOL + -ADE; cf. *cannonade.*] A pistol-shot, or wound inflicted by one. Hence **Pistola·de** *v. trans.*, to attack or fire upon with pistols.

1598 R. DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* G ij, One of the King of Nauarres troupes gaue him a Pistolade in the head. [1658 PHILLIPS, *Pistolado* (Ital.), a shot, or wound given with a Pistol.] 1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIII. 41 The bravery with which he and Admiral Gantheaume and M. Daure pistoladed the English gun-boats.

†Pistolar, pistelar. *Sc. Obs.* [Deriv. obscure: ? related to next.] Name of a small coin, said to be synonymous with LIARD.

1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 106 Legiis .. refusis to tak .. the pistelaris dulzeartis, alias callit the liartis. *Ibid.*, That nane .. refuse the pistoloris nor deliaris, alias liartis.

Pistole (pistōu·l). Also 6–8 **pistol**(l. [a. F. *pistole* the coin (*c* 1620 d'Aubigny *Fœneste*), app. shortened from *pistolet*: see PISTOLET 2. The coin was not known by any corresponding name in Spain or Italy.] A name formerly applied to certain foreign gold coins; sometimes (as in quot. 1592) synonymous with PISTOLET 2; *spec.*, from *c* 1600, given to a Spanish gold coin worth from 16*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.*; also applied (after French) to the louis d'or of Louis XIII, issued in 1640, and sometimes to the Scottish twelve pound piece of William III, 1701, = £1 English.

1592 *Lanc. Wills* II. 127 One peece of gold .. to the value of vj^{s} w^{ch} is called a pistole. 1594 NASHE *Christ's T.*, Ep. to Rdr., Great pieces of gold, such as double Pistols and Portugues. 1643 *Decl. Commons, Reb. Irel.* 49 Fourteene peeces of eight, and a double Pistoll. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1005 Who both have commonly sold their Glasses at the rate of a Pistol (i. e. about 17 shillings and six pence) the foot. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 5 P 5 Instead of 25 Pistoles formerly allowed to each Member. 1819 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. iii. 69 Only think of the Chancellor's sending the President a pistole to pay the postage of his letters. 1898 G. B. RAWLINGS *Brit. Coinage* 189 The last Scottish gold coins, the twelve- and six-pound pieces Scots, sometimes called pistoles and half-pistoles .. minted from gold imported from Africa by the Darien Co. .1701. 1899 SIR J. EVANS in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. IV. 443/1 Quadruple pistoles .. in the last century were commonly accepted in England as being of the value of 3*l.* 12*s.*

Pi·stoled, *a.* Also -old. [f. PISTOL *sb.* + -ED 2.] Equipped with a pistol or pistols.

1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. vii, Being double pistold, and well sworded.

Pistoleer (-ĭē·r). [See -EER and cf. PISTOLIER.] One who uses or is skilled in the use of a pistol; a soldier armed with a pistol.

1832 CARLYLE *Misc., Boswell's Johnson* (1857) III. 94 Is the Chalk-Farm Pistoleer inspired with any reasonable Belief and Determination? 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. vii, A corps of German pistoleers, of whom there was a body in the French service. 1883 *American* VII. 116 The first step .. must be the condign punishment of the Danville pistoleers.

†Pi·stoler. *Obs.* [f. PISTOL *sb.* + -ER 1.] A maker of pistols.

1638 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 282 The King .. sets all the armourers and pistolers a-work for himself.

Pistoler, variant of PISTLER *Obs.*

‖ Pistole·se. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [It. *pistolese* 'a great dagger, hanger, or wood-knife' (Florio), a sb. use of *Pistolese* adj., of or pertaining to Pistoia, in L. *Pistorium*, a town of Tuscany, still having manufactures of iron and steel, and esp. gunmaking; cf. Sp. *pistoresa* poniard.] A short sword or dagger (understood to have been made at or named from Pistoia). See PISTOLET 1, PISTOL.

1549 SIR T. HOBY *Trav.* (1902) 14 A varlett .. cam behinde him and with a pistolese gave him his deathe's wounde. [*Margin*] A pystolese is a shorte broadsword.

†Pi·stolet 1. *Obs.* Also 6 -olett, -ollet, pystolet(t, pistlett, pestilet(t, pestelet, 6–7 *Sc.* pistolat(e. [a. F. *pistolet*, (*a*) a small dagger or poniard; (*b*) a small fire-arm, a pistol, in It. *pistoletto* (16th c.); app. dim. from stem of It. *pistolese* (see PISTOLESE).

The theory is that F. *pistolet* (or ? It. *pistoletto*) with dim. form was applied first to a small dagger, as compared to the It. *pistolese*, and was thence transferred to the pistol, which was also small as compared with the harquebus: see H. Estienne *Conf. de la langue fr. avec le grec*, 1569, préface.] A small fire-arm: the earlier name of the PISTOL.

1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 95 To schut with halff haige or culvering or pistolate. 1561–2 in *Middlesex County Rec.* (1886) I. 43 A pystolett de ferro et calibe. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 593 To schute with culveringis, daggis, pistolettis, or ony utheris gunnis or ingynis of fyrewerk. [So 1571, 1573, 1599, 1626, 1637, etc. *Ibid.*] 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) 2153/1 The Amirall .. by the way was stroken with a Pistolet charged with iij pellets. 1590 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 185 The apparell of M^{r} John Lawson, and his pistlett, and the stringes to it, 20^{l}. 1599 JAMES I Βασιλ. Δωρον (1603) 47 My lawes made against gunnes and traiterous pistolets. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* x. 7 The Lutherans met by the clap of harquebuzes and pistolets.

† Pistolet 2. *Obs.* Also 6 pisto-, pystolette, *Sc.* pistolat(t, -ate, 7 pistollet, -olett. [a. F. *pistolet* (early 16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.; Godefroy's date 1480 is doubted). History obscure.

Generally held to be the same word as *pistolet* the weapon, and according to Des Accords (16th c. in Littré) applied in pleasantry to the Spanish écus 'because they are smaller than the others'. But as yet French lexicographers cite no instances of *pistolet* the weapon of as early a date as those of *pistolet* the coin.]

A name given to certain foreign gold coins; in the 16th c. usually ranging in value from 5*s.* 10*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.*; in later times (quot. 1659) = PISTOLE.

1553 *Proclam.* 4 May in *Tudor Proclam.* [99] Euery Pystolette .. shalbe demed and accepted to be of the value of vj.s. ij.d. of the curraunt moneye of this realme. 1556 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 99, I payed them [off the coast of Barbary] twentie and seuen Pistolets. 1560 *Proclam.* 2 Nov. in *MS. Arch. Bodl.* F. c. 11 lf. 32 Of late the peece of gold called the Pistolet was made Currant at fiue shyllynges & tenne pence. By the name or value of Pistolettes, none shalbe currant .. but only foure severall peeces and Coynes hereafter pourtraicted and stamped: The fyrst and seconde beyng of the kyng of Spaynes Coyne, the thyrde of Venize, and the fourth of Florence. 1574 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 145 Ane rose nobill, twa angell nobillis and twa pistolat crownis. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 47 Aboute the valewe of iijs iiijd, beinge halfe a pistolet Italiane or spanyshe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 290 The Spanish pistolet, and double pistolet .. the double pistolet contains two French Crownes. *Ibid.* 291 At Venice .. A double pistolet of Spaine, called Dublon, is .. giuen for seuenteene lires. 1659 HEYLIN *Examen Hist.* I. 268 Each Pistolet exchang'd at sixteen shillings six pence.

†Pistoleter, -ie·r. *Obs.* [f. PISTOLET 1: see -IER.] A soldier armed with a pistol.

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 144 The Pistoleters and Argoletiers. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* II. 136 The hargulaters .. who with the pistolaters are the first that begins the battaile. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 3 A troupe of horse, either Pistoletiers, Hargulatiers or Lanciers.

†Pistole·tto. *Obs.* [a. It. *pistoletto*: see PISTOLET 1.] = PISTOLET 1. Also *attrib.* (In quots. *fig.* or *allusive.*)

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 75 To talk Squibs and Pistoletto's charged with .. powder of Love and shot of Reason. 1647–8 WOOD *Life* 15 Feb. (O. H. S.) I. 139 Give fire to the pistoletto tobacco pipe charg'd with it's Indian powder.

Pistolgraph (pi·stolgrɑf). Also **pisto·lograph.** [f. PISTOL *sb.*, after *photograph.* (Cf. *snap-shot.*)] Name of an apparatus for obtaining instantaneous photographs or a photograph so obtained. Also *attrib.* in *fig.* sense. So **Pi·stolgram,** an instantaneous photograph; **Pistolo·graphy,** instantaneous photography.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit. Div.* II. xiv. 61 Skaife, 47 Baker Street, W.—Pistolgraph, with a selection of its productions called pistolgrams. 1866 *Morn. Star* 2 Jan., The pistolograph. This beautiful invention is now to be seen .. at .. 118, Pall Mall. The pistolgram is a picture in glass, obtained in the first instance, by an instantaneous flash of light, and subsequently made permanent by fire. *Ibid.*, The most interesting feature in pistolography is its alliance with the magnesium light. *Ibid.*, It is for this class of portrait the pistolograph is chiefly intended. 1887 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* Jan. 1 The instantaneous, or 'pistol-graph', criticisms demanded by the necessities of the daily press. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Nov. 7/3 It has pictures of Nebraska and statistics—pistolgraph statistics.

†Pistolie·r. *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *pistolier*, f. *pistole* (obs.) pistol: see -IER.] A soldier armed with a pistol.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1187/1 Certeine of the English lances and pistoliers, with certeine harquebutters. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. ii. 142. 1622 MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. i. 82 The armed French Pistoliers, the Carbines, and the Light-horse.

Pi·stolship. *nonce-wd.* [f. PISTOL *sb.*: see -SHIP.] Skill in using pistols; pistol practice.

1895 WISTER in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 537 The Governor .. had begun to study pistolship.

Pi·stol-shot. [f. PISTOL *sb.* + SHOT *sb.*]

1. A shot from a pistol.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 267 M. Mandelslo .. kill'd the Leader of the Indian party with a Pistol-shot. 1796 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *Lett. France* IV. 137 (Jod.) Several pistol-shot were fired at the president. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-eye Rings* 122 Then there was a pistol-shot, and Clayside stood breathless over a lifeless man.

2. The distance to which a shot can be fired from a pistol; the range of a pistol.

c 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 38 He came within pistle shot. 1685 TRAVESTIN *Siege Newheusel* 6 Not above a Pistol-shot from it. 1741 S. SPEED in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 395 When we came within half pistol-shot, we hailed one of the French ships. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 267 My object .. was to get within pistol-shot of the buffalo.

3. *attrib.* (in first quot. *advb.*).

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 241 The Mouth of this Lagune is not Pistol-shot wide. 1730 *Hist. Litteraria* I. 401 A Blast and Smoak .. which obliged me to keep at Pistol-shot distance. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 July 8/1 They might urge them on with the pistol-shot reports of their long whips.

Pistomesite (pistǫ·mēsəit). *Min.* [a. Ger. *pistomesit* (Breithaupt 1847), f. Gr. *πίστο-ς* true + *μέσ-ον* middle, because considered the exact mean between magnesite and siderite: cf. MESITITE.] A carbonate of magnesium and iron, containing less magnesium and more iron than mesitite.

1849 NICOL *Min.* 294 The pistomesite of Breithaupt from Thurnberg. 1868 DANA *Min.* 688 *Pistomesite.* .. Named by Breithaupt .. because pistomesite is nearer the middle between chalybite [=siderite] and magnesite than mesitine.

Piston (pi·stən). [a. F. *piston* (1647 Pascal, in Littré), ad. It. *pistone* piston, variant of *pestone* great pestle, rammer, augm. from stem *pest-* in *pestello* pestle: cf. It. *pestāre*;—late L. *pistāre*, freq. of *pinsĕre, pist-* to pound, beat. Cf. OF. *peston* = *pilon* pestle, stamper.]

1. A mechanical contrivance, consisting of a disk or short cylinder of wood, iron, or other solid substance, which fits closely within a hollow cylinder or tube, and can be driven with a reciprocating motion up and down the tube, or backwards and forwards in it; on one side it is attached to a rod (*piston-rod*) by which it imparts motion to machinery (e. g. in a steam-engine), or by which motion is imparted to it (e. g. in a pump).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* D ij (s. v. *Air-pump*), Each time the *Piston* or Sucker of the Pump is drawn back, the Air in the Receiver must expand it self so as in some measure to fill up the Cavity of the Pump left vacant by the *Piston*, as well as the Receiver it self. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 192 *Piston* is the short Cilinder .. which is moved up and down in the Barrel of the Pump. 1786 REES *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Steam-engine*, A large barrel or cylinder .. and in this a piston well leathered. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. 341 A small piston rendered air-tight by tow and tallow. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s. v., Two sorts of pistons are used .. : one hollow, with a valve, used in the sucking pump; and the other solid, which is employed in the forcing pump. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 210 Horizontally-working pistons in prismatic chambers were erected in 1828 by M. Brisco, near Charleroi.

2. a. In the cornet and other wind-instruments: A sliding valve which moves in a cylinder like a piston, used for increasing the effective length of the air-passage and thus lowering the pitch of the note. Hence *Cornet-à-piston.*

1876 tr. *Blaserna's Sound* i. 20 By opening a communication with the external air .. by means of pistons in the cornet.

b. A pneumatic thumb-knob in an organ, which is pushed in like a piston, and has the effect of combining a number of stops.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

3. *Zool.* A central retractile part in the suckers on the arms of a cuttle-fish or other cephalopod, which acts like the piston of an air-pump in producing a vacuum.

1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 605 A deep cavity .. at the bottom of which is placed a prominent piston .. that may be retracted by muscular fibres.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *piston-plunger, power, speed*; *piston-like* adj.; **piston-head,** the disk or cylindrical part of a piston, which slides in the tube, as distinguished from the *piston-rod*; **piston-knob** = 2 b; **piston-packing,** (*a*) any material used for filling the space between the piston-head and the cylinder in which it works, so as to make it steam-tight, air-tight, or water-tight; (*b*) a mechanical device for packing pistons; **piston-pump,** a pump having a piston; **piston-rod** (see 1); **piston-sleeve,** a hollow cylinder or *trunk* moving longitudinally with the piston-head in a trunk-engine, and taking the place of the cross-head; **piston-spring,** a spring connected with a piston-head, and forming, or having the effect of, a packing (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **piston-valve,** (*a*) a valve in a piston, as in that of a pump; (*b*) a valve formed by a small piston sliding backwards and forwards in a tube, for admitting steam into, or exhausting it from, the cylinder of a steam-engine; **piston-wheel,** (*a*) a wheel or rotating disk carrying at its outer margin one or more pistons; (*b*) in a chain-pump, a wheel carrying an endless chain bearing pistons or disks working in a tube or barrel; **piston-whistle,** a whistle in which the pitch of the sound is varied by means of a piston sliding in the tube.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Piston-head,* that portion which fits into and reciprocates in the cylinder. 1888 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 51 The piston-head is in two parts .. ; one must have a taper hole bored to fit the rod. 1902 *Academy* 9 Aug. 159/2 Defoe's *piston-like pen. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Piston-packing*, a material for preventing the leakage of steam between the piston-head and the cylinder in which it works. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 464 The *piston-plunger is worked by a toothed segment-wheel. 1899 *Daily News* 7 Dec. 3/5 These solid slabs of metal are forced by .. *piston-power through a series of holes.

1786 Rees *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Steam-engine*, The *piston-rod, which is truly cylindrical, moves up and down through that hole. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* II. vii. 194 The power which alternately raised and depressed the piston-rod of the engine. 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 39 Small holes should be drilled in the top of the bearings, piston-rod guide, eccentric-band, and crank-pin end of connecting-rod for admitting oil. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 6 To improve the air-pump, Smeaton..covered the top of the barrel..by which contrivance he took off the pressure of the atmosphere from the *piston-valve. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Piston-valve*, a valve consisting of a circular disk, which reciprocates in a cylindrical chamber..

†Pi·stor. *Obs. rare.* In 7 -our. [a. AF. *pistour, pestour* = OF. *pestor, -eur*:—L. *pistōr-em* baker, f. *pi(n)sĕre* to pound.] (See quot. 1682.)

[1607 Middleton *Phœnix* I. C iij, Why Pistor a Baker sold his wife tother day to a cheesemonger.] *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* i. (1683) 17 Their Pistours were such as, before the use of Mills, beat out and cleansed their Corn.

So Pisto·rial, Pisto·rian, Pisto·rical *adjs.*, pertaining to a baker.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Pistorical*, or *pistorian*, belonging to a Baker, baking or Pastry. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 543 An antagonist baker..has commenced business in the pistorial line on the opposite side of the street.

†Pi·strine. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pistrīna* a bakery, f. *pistor* baker.] A bakehouse, bakery.

[1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 222 Et pro portagio saccorum de le Ryoll ad pistrinam, iiij*s.*] *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 70 To delyver the wheete.. sending it to the mylles, and so into the pystryne. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Pistrine*, a Bake-house, a..grinding-house.

Pistul, -yl, variants of Pistle *Obs.*

Pit (pit), *sb.*[1] Forms: see below. [OE. *pytt*, ME. *pyt(t, pit, put(t, pet* = OFris. *pet*, OS. *putti*, MLG., MDu. *putte*, LG. *pütte*, Du. *put*, OHG. *pfuzzi, pfuzza*, MHG., Ger. *pfütze*; also ON. *pyttr* (from OE.); all repr. a WGer. **puttjoz*, a. L. *puteus* well, pit, shaft. In ME. the OE. *y* was repr. in midl. dial. by *y, i*, in s. w. by *u* (*ü*), and in Kent by *e*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1 **pytt, pyt** (see B. 1); 2–5 **putt, put.**

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Þe prophete stod in ane putte. *c* 1205 Lay. 15961 Þe put wes ilær. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 36 Thay burryd an hounde with hym yn the pute that he was yn I-leyde. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* 385 Puttes of bloode.

β. 3–4 **pett, 4–5 pet, (6 pette).**

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 109 Hie falleð mid ðа blinde in to ðan pette. *c* 1315 Shoreham *Poems* vii. 522 Godes domes beþ A groundlyas pet [*rime* ylet]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17875, I cutse hem in-to helle pet. 1599 Breton *Praise Vertuous Ladies* (Grosart) 57/2 If shee have her hand on the pette in her cheeke.

γ. 4–6 **pytt, pyt, 4–8 pitt, 5– pit, (4 pite, pyte, 4–7 pitte, 5–6 pytte).**

13.. *Cursor M.* 4135 In þis wast i wat a pite [*v. rr.* pitte, pitt, *c* 1425 pit]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) viii. 94 A litylle pytt in the erthe. 1406 Hoccleve *Misrule* 95 Rype vn-to my pit. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pyt, or flasche where mekyl water standythe. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Esdras* v. 24 Thou hast chosen the one pytt. — *Luke* xiv. 5 Fallen in to a pytte. 1588 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 223 The hye waye above the clay pittes.

B. Signification.

1. A hole or cavity in the ground, formed either by digging or by some natural process.

847 *Charter of Æthelwulf* (Sweet *O. E. T.* 434), Ðonne on grenan pytt. *c* 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* v. ii. § 1 And on pyttas besuncan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 11 ȝyf þæt afylð reste-dagum on pytt. *c* 1175 [see A. α]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 ȝif eni unwrie put were, & best feolle þer inne. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2500 (Cott.) Þe fiue gaue bak..And fell to in a pitt o clay. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 51 He þat fedde danyel be prophet in þe pytte of lyouns. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 276 b, That no man shölde dyg ony pyt.. but he shölde couer it agayne. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 193 The lothsome pit, Where I espied the Panther fast asleepe. 1611 Bible *Jer.* ii. 6 A land of deserts and of pittes. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. I. ii, There in the ghastly pit..a body was found.

b. An open deep hole or excavation made in digging for some mineral deposit; often with descriptive word, as Chalk-, Clay-, Gravel-, Marl-, Sand-pit: see these words, also sense 6.

956 [see *chalk-pit*, Chalk *sb.* 7]. 1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xiv. 10 The wodi valei forsothe had manye pyttis of gluwy clay [1388 pittis of pitche; 1535 Coverd. slyme pyttes; 1885 *R. V.* slime pits]. *c* 1440– [see *clay-pit*, Clay *sb.* 9]. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. iv. 213 The golde ..is found in pittes or mines. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 288 A little kind of a gravel pit, or marl pit.

c. A hole or excavation made for a special purpose in various industries, as sawing, tanning, founding, charcoal-burning, etc.: see quots., and Coal-pit 1, Sawpit, Tan-pit, etc.

1023– [see Coal-pit 1]. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* C j b, Martin and his mainteiner are both sawers of timber, but Martin stands in the pit. 1616 in *Mem. Fountains Abb.* (Surtees) I. 365 The tanhouse..with..the pits there. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 25 The Sawyers at their Pit. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Pit...(Founding)*, a cavity or hollow scooped in the floor to receive cast-metal... a vat in tanning, bleaching, dyeing, or in washing alum earth, etc. 1876 Schultz *Leather Manuf.* 26 The pits should be covered on the top by timbers. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Pit*, .. a stack or *meiler* of wood, prepared for the manufacture of charcoal.

d. *Agric.* and *Gardening.* A hole or excavation made for storing and protecting edible roots, etc. through the winter (hence extended to a heap of such roots covered with earth or straw for protection); or one (usually with a glazed frame) for protecting young or tender plants.

c 1500 in Turner *Dom. Archit.* I. 144 Take many rype walenottes..& put hem in a moiste pytt, & hile hem. 1810, 1837 Pine pit [see Pine *sb.*[2] 7]. 1813 R. Kerr *Agric. Surv. Berwick.* 293 A pit or pie, is a conical heap of potatoes.. resting upon the dry bare ground..carefully covered by a layer of straw..the earth thrown over the straw [etc.]. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 913/1 They are..what are called cold pits, which means that they are not artificially heated, and are used for the protection in winter of hardy and half-hardy plants. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 102 By probing with their spears..the men easily found the flat stones covering the mouths of the underground corn-pits.

e. A deep hole or chamber in which prisoners were confined, a dungeon. ? *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 Preamb., The said Richard was taken and imprisoned in a doungen and a depe pytt under grounde. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 111 The said Robertis hous in Ancrum, quhair thai put and kest thame in the pit thairof. 1588 *Ibid.* IV. 284 [They] tuke him..to the said schireffis Castle.., putt him in the pitt thairof, quhairin thay held and detenit him. 1761 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 61 The very pit, where the felons are confined at night. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* ix, I will cause Harrison .. look for the key of our pit, or principal dungeon. 1885 Bible (R. V.) *Jer.* xxxviii. 6 Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon [*marg.* or pit] of Malchiah.

f. An excavation, covered or otherwise hidden to serve as a trap for wild beasts (or in former times for enemies); a pitfall.

1612 Bible *Ezek.* xix. 4 He [a young lion] was taken in their pit. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 232 Low in the Ground A Pit they sink. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 62 If a fox escapes from a pit, none are ever taken again in the same. 1895 Scully *Kafir Stories* 120 Kondwana the induna,..and one other, had fallen into an old elephant-pit, the surface of which was completely covered over with brushwood.

g. *fig.* or in figurative phrases; chiefly in prec. sense (f), esp. in biblical use.

c 1315 [see A. β]. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* vii. 16 He fell in þe pit þat he made. *c* 1532 Latimer *Serm. & Rem.* (Parker Soc.) II. 347 To follow the blind guides, is to come into the pit with the same. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* xxii. 14 The mouth of an harlot is a depe pytt. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* H iij, That..you fall not into any such bottomles pit of debts. 1604 Dekker *Honest Wh.* I. xiii, He fals himselfe that digs anothers pit. 1722 De Foe *Relig. Courtsh.* I. ii. (1840) 42, I would not fall into the pit with my eyes open. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. II. ii. (1864) 31 The cold damp pits of disappointment.

2. A hole dug or sunk in the ground for water; a well, a water-hole; a pond, pool. *Obs.* or merged in 1.

890–901 *Ælfred's Laws* Introd. § 22 gif hwa adelfe wæter pyt [*v. r.* pyth (*cisternam*)] oððe betyhedne ontyne. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iv. 12 Ahne arðu mara feder usum iacobe seðe salde us ðiosne pytt & he of him dranc. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8465 Þat alle þe wateres..& diches & puttes rede of blode þere. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5764 (Bodl. MS.) Hij founden many lake & pett Wiþ trowes & þornes byshette. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 25 As þe welle mai not bring forþ of o pitte bitter water & swete. *c* 1402 Lydg. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* xiv, Ne lyk the pitte of the Pegace Under Pernaso, where poetes slepte. 1530 Palsgr. 254/2 Pytte or well. 1611 Bible *Lev.* xi. 36 A fountain or pit, wherein there is plenty of water, shall be clean. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 1 Dig a pit upon the seashore.. and as the tide cometh in, it will fill with water, fresh and potable.

3. A hole dug in the ground for a dead body; a grave. *Obs.* or *dial.* (exc. as applied to a large hole used to receive many bodies: cf. *plague-pit* in Plague *sb.* 4 c.)

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11203 Wan a ded man me wole to putte bringe. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16449 ȝyf any had leyd a cors in pyt. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1584 in *Macro Plays* 121 Late men þat arn on þe pyttis brynke. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 49 He shall make the pittes for dead bodies depe Inough. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 155 She..semed to be almost dead and at the pitts brimme. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 219 And soone lye Richard in an Earthie Pit. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxx. 3 O Lord..thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. [In *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Devonsh.]

4. The abode of evil spirits and lost souls; hell, or some part of it, conceived as a sunken place, or as a dungeon or place of confinement. Often in phr. *the pit of hell.*

a 1225 *Juliana* 15 (Bodl. MS.) To forwurðe wið him..iþe putte of helle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22055 (Cott.) An angel..bar þe kai o þe mikel pijt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 96 Vnder hym the horrible put of helle open. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 348, I synke in to helle pitte. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi. 68 Quhen na houss is bot hell and hevin, Palice of licht, or pitt obscure. 1526 Tindale *Rev.* ix. 1 And to him was geven the kaye of the bottomlesse pytt. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* IV. v. 132 Conscience and Grace, to the profoundest Pit. I dare Damnation. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 76 The Hobgoblins, Satyrs, and Dragons of the Pit. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* x. 476 Into the yawning pit Of bottomless perdition. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* i. (1886) 4 To unmask a demon from the depths of the pit. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/1 Such a one..might take the path that leads to the pit.

5. An enclosure in which animals were (or in some countries still are) set to fight for sport; esp. a Cockpit.

To fly or *shoot the pit*, to turn and fly out of the pit, as a craven cock; hence *fig.* of a person.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 127 One Cock..which.. doth passe all other..that euer I saw in any pitte. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 120 Their Friends turn craven, and all forsake the pit before the battle. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 1112 To quit His victory, and fly the pit. 1675 Marvell *Let. to Sir H. Thompson*, He hath a month ago shot the pit..he hath thought convenient to passe over into Holland. 1676 — *Mr. Smirke* Pref. A ij, Had he esteemed..that it was decent for him to have enter'd the Pit with so Scurrilous an Animadverter. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4063/4 The..Pens are..built over the Pit. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 202 We were all to blame, to make madam, here, fly the pit, as she did.

b. The cockpit of a ship: = Cockpit 3.

6. An excavation made for obtaining coal; the shaft of a coal-mine; also, often applied to the mine as a whole.

(Orig. the same as in *chalk-pit, sand-pit*, etc., in sense 1 b, and doubtless going back to the time when the coal-pit was, like these, merely an open excavation; hence also its technical restriction to the shaft, which is the open hole.)

1447– [see Coal-pit 2]. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 967 There being in these Mines an incredible mass of wood to support the Pitts and the Horizontal passages. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 23 If £1000 or more be spent in carrying down a Pit or Shaft. 1725 T. Thomas in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 106 That pit through which they bring up the coal..is called the shaft. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 81 They were resolved to renew their work in the same pit, and eight of them ventured down..but they had scarce got to the bottom of the stairs that led to the pit..[when] they all instantly dropped down dead. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* VI. vi, 'He's a pretty fellow to come and talk to us', said a collier. 'He had never been down a pit in all his life.' 1851 Greenwell *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 38 *Pit*, a circular, oval, square, or oblong vertical sinking from the surface. The term shaft..is often used as synonymous. 1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 118 The pits are 515 yards deep to the 'top hard seam.

7. *Pit and gallows*, more properly *gallows and pit*, in *Sc. Law* a phrase understood to denote the privilege, formerly conferred on barons, of executing thieves or other felons by hanging the men on a gallows and drowning the women in a pit: see sense 2. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

For this, ancient Sc. statutes in L. have *furca et fossa*. 'In some old deeds written in our language, these terms are rendered *furc* and *foss*' (Jamieson s. v.). The actual meaning of *pit* and *fossa* has been questioned. Du Cange has a quot. from Gervase of Canterbury in which *fossa* is an ordeal pit; so also in *Customals of Battle Abbey* (Camd. Soc. 126); and it has been suggested that this was also the original meaning in *furca et fossa*. But in support of the usual interpretation, see *Laws of Æthelstan* IV. 6 De fure, qui personam vel locum pacis adierit: § 4 Si libera mulier sit, praecipitetur de clivo vel submergatur (Schmid *Gesetze Angels.* 151). And cf. Old German Proverbs cited by Grimm *Deutsche Rechts-Altertümer*, cap. *Verbrechen u. Strafe am Leben*: (1) Der Mann an den Galgen, die Frau unter den Stein; (2) Den Männern Minrichtung mit dem Strang, den Frauen mit Wassern; (3) Den Dieb soll man henken und die Hur ertränken. In Middle Dutch, where the parallel phrase *putte ende galghen* is very frequent, *putte* was a pit or grave in which women criminals were buried alive (*levend begraven*): see Verwijs and Verdam s. v. *Putte*.

[? *a* 1153 *Sc. Acts David I*, c. 13 in *Scot. Stat.* (1844) I. 319 [red] Omnes barones qui habent furcam et fossam de latrocinio.] 1275 *Rot. Hundred* (1818) II. 302/1 Thomas de Furnivall tenet manerium .. et habet furcas pitte pillory tumberel [etc.]. *a* 1500 *transl.* quot. *a* 1153 Al barounis þe quhilkis hes galowys and pyt of thyft. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* I. iv. 6 b, To hald their courts, with sock, sack, gallous, and pit, toll, and thame, infang-thief, and outfang-thief. [*orig.* qui habent, & tenent curias suas; cum socco & sacca, furca & fossa, *Toill*, & *Theme, Infang-thiefe*, & *Outfangthiefe*.] 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 286 The Gallows vnderstand as Ours, and for men Theiues; and the Pit, a place to drown Women Theiues. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) II. 149 The heritable power of pit and gallows..is I think too much for any subject to be trusted withal. 1814 Scott *Wav.* x.

II. †8. A hollow or cavity in any vessel. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 534 Þe gold til hyme þane tuke he sone, And askis in þe pyt has done.

9. A hollow or indentation in an animal or plant body, or in any surface: *spec.* **a.** A natural hollow or depression in the body, as the Armpit; a socket, as of the eye, or in a bone at a joint; †a dimple. (In quot. 1818, the central hollow in a flower.)

†*Pit of the chin* (obs.), the hollow between the chin and the lower lip. *Pit of the stomach*, the slight depression in the region of the stomach between the cartilages of the false ribs.

c 1250 *Death* 241 in *O. E. Misc.* 182 Also beoð his eȝe-puttes ase a bruþen leed. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v, He shall haue as mony smale pittes [*Bodl. MS.* puttes] in þe fore legge, as he hath yeres. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 146 With a little pytte in her well-favored chynne. 1542 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iv b, Of what shape are ye two focyl bones?..The greatest hath two pyttes towarde the kne whiche receyue the rounde endes of the thyghe bone. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 50 The holes vnderneath your arm pittes. 1651 French *Distill.* v. 142 Anoint the pit of the stomacke. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 84/2 Of a Tree..the Pit or Hole [is] whereat the branches sprout out. 1818 Keats *Endymion* I. 875 Flowers, on their stalks set Like vestal primroses, but dark velvet Edges them round, and they have golden pits. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 184 There is a little round indentation or pit behind each nostril. 1847 Emerson *Poems* (1857) 98 In the pit of his eyes. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pit*, a depression. Applied medically to the permanent impression made by the finger in œdematous tissues, which are said to *pit* on pressure.

b. A depressed scar, such as those left on the skin after small-pox; a similar minute depression

or spot upon any surface, produced by chemical action, by a rain-drop, etc.

1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1188/4 A short thick man..some few pits of the Small Pox. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 323 An exceeding white bead of Silver, the lower part whereof will be unequal, and full of little pits. 1780 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 134 It sometimes happens..that there is a pitt in consequence of a chicken pock. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 170 Heat and moisture may dissolve the gelatine, and thus cause the hides to be scarred with pits. 1884 *Science* IV. 173/2 The sandstone surface is distinctly marked by raindrop pits.

c. *Bot.* A minute depression on the inner side of the wall of a cell or vessel, often perforating it and forming a basin-like pore (*bordered pit*), as in the wood-cells of conifers, etc.; also, a minute depression on the surface of a seed.

1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 662 The new layers, applying themselves..over the [cell-] wall, leave certain parts bare, which appear as *dots* or *pits* of various forms when viewed from the inside. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 20 When contiguous cells are united into a tissue .. the pits and pit-channels of both sides meet, and the intermediate thin portion of membrane becomes absorbed; a channel thus arises uniting two cell-spaces (Bordered Pits, perforated septum of vessels). *Ibid.* 540 The seed..displays a variety of sculpturing, such as pits, warts, bands.

10. That part of the auditorium of a theatre which is on the floor of the house; now usually restricted to the part of this behind the stalls. Also *transf.* the people occupying this. Cf. COCKPIT 1 b.

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 78 The other [comedy] for the Gentlemen oth' Pit. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 153 Let Cully, Cockwood, Fopling charm the pit. 1709-10 STEELE *Tatler* No. 145 P 2 She in a Front Box, he in the Pit next the Stage. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* III. i, Speak more to the pit..—the soliloquy always to the pit, that's a rule. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* XXXVIII, The pit is crowded. 1876 SMITH *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 121 The designation *parterre*, still given by the French to the *pit*.

11. *U.S.* A part of the floor of an Exchange appropriated to a special branch of business, e.g. the *grain pit*, the *wheat pit*. Hence, **b.** Name of a card-game : see quot. 1904.

1903 F. NORRIS *The Pit* i. 17 The world's food should not be at the mercy of the Chicago wheat pit. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 11 Feb. 3/3 It is Laura against the Wheat Pit, and the Wheat Pit wins—for a time. 1904 *Ibid.* 12 Nov. 8/5 Society has a new card game, called 'Pit'...The name 'Pit' is suggested by the Wheat Pit .. The game is .. a mimicry of a Corn Exchange, where every player is trying to make a corner in some particular grain.

12. ? A bag-shaped part of a fishing-net.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 296 A Cotton Eel Bow Net, with two wings and loose pit.

13. The framework supporting the pivoted yoke of a swinging bell in a belfry.

1874 SIR E. BECKETT *Clocks & Watches* 345 The pit, or frame to hold a swing bell, must be a good deal longer than twice the height of the bell.

14. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pit-brink, -dweller, -dwelling, -grave, -tier* (sense 10); *pit-like* adj.; esp. in sense 6 (belonging to, employed in, or connected with a coal-mine), as *pit-boy, -cage* (CAGE *sb.* 5 a), *-cistern, -engine, -gate, -girl, -inspector, -lad, -lass, -mouth, -people, -pony, -prop, -road, -rope, -shaft, -sinker, -sinking, -timber, -top, -winder, -woman, -working*. Also **pit-bank**, 'the raised ground or platforms upon which the coals are sorted and screened at surface' (Gresley *Coal Mining Terms*); **pit-bar**, a timber used to support the sides of the shaft of a mine; **pit-bird**, local name of the reed-warbler; **pit-black** *a.*, as black as a pit, intensely black or dark; **pit-bottom**, the bottom of a pit; *spec.* the bottom of the shaft in a coal-mine, or the adjacent part of the mine; hence **pit-bottomer**, a collier employed at the pit-bottom; **pit-brae, pit-brow**, the 'brow' or edge of a pit; *spec.* = *pit-bank*; hence **pit-brow girl** or **lass**, a girl employed in sorting and screening coal at the pit-brow; **pit-crater**, a volcanic crater of the form of a pit; **pit-eye** = *pit-bottom*; **pit-eyed** *a.*, having sunken eyes; **pit-fish**, 'a small fish of the Indian seas, [which] has the power of protruding or retracting its eyes at pleasure' (Webster 1828); **pit-frame**, a framework at the top of a pit or shaft, supporting the pulley; **pit-game** = GAME-FOWL b; **pit-guide**, a bar in a mine-shaft serving as a guide for the cage; **pit-head**, the top of a pit or shaft, or the ground immediately around it; hence **pit-headman**, a workman employed at the pit-head; **pit-headed** *a.*, having a pit or small depression on the head, as certain serpents (cf. *pit-viper*) and tapeworms; **pit-heap**, a heap of excavated material near the mouth of a pit or shaft; hence, the whole of the surface works (= *heap-stead*, HEAP *sb.* 6); **pit-kiln**, an oven for making coke from coal; **pit-maker**, one who makes or digs a pit; † a grave-digger (*obs.*); so **pit-making**; **pit-martin**, the sand-martin (Swainson *Prov. Names Birds*); † **pit-mask**, a mask worn by a woman when present in the pit of a theatre; the wearer of such a mask; **pit-mortar, pit-prop** : see quots.; **pit-rotted** *a.*, rotted by steeping in a pit or pool of water; **pit-sand**, sand dug out of a sand-pit, as distinguished from river-sand and sea-sand; **pit-saw**, a large saw for cutting timber, working in a sawpit, with handles at the top and bottom; **pit-sawyer**, the man who stands in a sawpit and works the lower handle of a pit-saw (opp. to *top-sawyer*); **pit-specked** *a.*, speckled with pits or small depressions, as fruit; † **pit-stone**, stone from a quarry; **pit-viper**, a venomous serpent of the family *Crotalidæ*, characterized by a pit or depression in front of each eye; † **pit-water** : see quot.; **pit-well**, a well made by excavation; **pit-wood**, timber used for frames, props, etc., in a coal-pit; **pit-work**, the system of pumps and machinery connected with the in a pit or shaft. See also PIT-COAL, etc.

1892 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 5/7 Employed on the surface, or at the '*pit bank', as it is called. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 15 *Pit-Bars of Wood and Deals must be used till we get to the Stone. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i, The *pit-bird warbling in the sedges, as he had warbled all night long. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 48 The curse, *pit-black from below. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12663 When þe prinse was past to þe *pit bothum, þe buernes on þe bonk bet hym with stouys. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 121 The coal may be brought down hill to the pit-bottom. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 46 Will Hood had been appointed *pit-bottomer here. 1897 *Daily News* 8 Jan. 5/2 The President suggested that the *pit boys should be placed on the same footing as their more fortunate mates. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. xxiv. § 5 At the very *Pitbrincke of destruction. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 295 His sawle was broght vnto þe prince of Hell syttand opon þe *pytt bra. 1887 *Spectator* 21 May 675/1 If female labour on the pit-brow is stopped. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Mar. 7/3 A serious *pit-cage accident, resulting in the loss of three lives..at the Swanwick Collieries. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 971 The upper *pit-cistern. 1886 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XXXII. 251 The old cone had, like Mt. Loa or the Maui volcano, a great *pit-crater at top. 1893 A. H. S. LANDOR *Hairy Ainu* ix. 78 An extinct race of *pit-dwellers. 1898 *Jrnl. Archæol. Inst.* LV. 157 He abandons..the *pit-dwelling theory. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 15 Oct., The judge took the *pit end of the saw. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Pit-eye*,..the bottom of the shaft of a coal-mine. *Ibid.*, *Pit-eye pillar*, a barrier of coal left around a shaft to protect it from caving. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3229/4 A Sorrel Mare,..9 years old, lop-ears, *pit-eyed. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ichthyogr.* (1686) App. Tab. 8 *Pit Fish. *c* 1830 *Pract. Treat. Roads* 13 in *Libr. Useful Knowl., Husb.* III, Gravel, which by some persons is called *pit-flint. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Pit-frame*, the framework carrying the pit-pulley. 1888 *Daily News* 4 Oct. 3/6 They are preventing the men holding '*pit-gate' meetings on the colliery premises. 1902 C. G. HARPER *Holyhead Road* ii. 35 *Pit-girls too or rather pit-bank lasses. 1897 J. G. FRAZER *Pausanias* Pref., The *pit-graves with their treasures on the acropolis of Mycenae. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 983 With small coals .. the *pit head is raised 8 or 9 feet above the common level of the ground. *Ibid.* 991 The ponderous pulley-wheels are blown from the pit-head frame. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Mar. 2/3 Gibson signalled to the *pit headman and stuck to his post until the water was up to his armpits..sending twenty-three of his comrades up to the pithead. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, **Pit Heap*, see Heapstead...The entire surface works about a colliery shaft. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, Pit-heap. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 995 A *schachtofen*, or *pit-kiln, for coking coals in Germany. 1567 W. THOMAS *Ital. Gram., Beccamorto*, the *pitmaker, or any one that gaineth by the burial of the deade. 1527-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 345 Receivide..for her place of buriall, for her *pitt making & other duties viij *s.* iiij *d.* 1891 G. NEILSON *Per Lineam Valli* 32 Hundreds of quarry-holes, mere surface *pitmarks on the hill sides. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 2/1 A *pit-marked stretch of scrub. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* v. vi, Perhaps your pleasure never reached above a *pit-mask in your life. 1892 *Jrnl. Archæol. Inst.* No. 194. 155 Sticky gravel, termed in the midland counties '*pit mortar'. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 985 The draught of the furnace at the *pit mouth. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 272 Amongst the northern *pit-people. 1905 H. SCOTT HOLLAND *Pers. Stud., Westcott* 136 *Pit ponies, against whose hard usage in the pit he continually pleaded. 1883 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 6/4 A Swedish vessel laden with *pitprops. 1891 *Times* 31 Aug. 4/2 Pit-props, which are used as supports in the different workings in collieries. 1895 *Daily News* 30 Apr. 7/6 The search party is now engaged in clearing the *pit roads. 1875 R. F. MARTIN tr. *Haavrez' Winding Mach.* 23 Aloes form the best fibre for the manufacture of *pit-ropes. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 207 This flax is always *pit-rotted for ten days or a fortnight. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 242 You may put three parts of Sand that is digged (or *pit Sand) and one part of Lime to make Morter. *Ibid.* 99 The *Pit-Saw is..used by those Work-men that make sawing Timber and Boards their whole Business. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 36 [Corves] halled all along the Barrow-way to the *Pit Shaft. 1885 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. vi, The head-gear of the pit-shaft. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/3 (Occupations of People) *Pit-sinker. 1896 *Daily News* 4 May 3/6 There are ten new ventures in the way of *pit-sinking in Monmouthshire. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S. H. S.) 76 St Jons kirk was content with the *pitstones. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 167 The iron-plates with which the staging about the *pit-top is floored. 1885 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Pit-vipers*, see *Crotalidæ*. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 670 The pit vipers..include the rattlesnakes of America and the *trimensurus* of India. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 407 Surely, wel-water or *pit water..is simply the wholsomest. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 362 Spring-water should be obtained..by sinking *pit-wells. 1890 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 2/4 The *pitwood trade is also quieter. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 189 Details of the weight and cost of the '*pitwork' (or the parts of the machinery working in the shaft or pit).

Pit, *sb.*[2] *U.S.* (? and *Eng. dial.*) [app. a. Du. *pit*, early mod. and late MDu. *pitte* fem., MLG., LG., WFris., EFris. *pit* pith, kernel, pip, radically agreeing with OE. *pipa* masc., PITH.] The stone of a stone-fruit.

The change of sense from 'marrow' or 'pith' to 'fruit-stone' is great, but the intermediate stage is supplied by the sense 'kernel, pip': cf. EFris. '*pitten ût de appels*', pips out of the apples (Dornkaat-Koolm.).

1841 G. BUSH *Doctr. of Resurrection* (Bartlett), You put an apple-seed or a peach-pit into the ground, and it springs up into the form of a miniature tree. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Pit*,..the stone of a fruit, as of a cherry or peach. Mostly confined to New York State. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp. 359 Hatch's pitter splits the fruit and removes the pit. [1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.*, *Pit*, a fruitstone. But E. D. D. says 'Not known to our correspondents'.]

Pit, *v.* [f. PIT *sb.*[1]]

I. 1. *trans.* To put or cast into a pit; to inter, bury; *esp.* to put (roots, vegetables, etc.) into a pit for storage (cf. PIT *sb.*[1] 1 d).

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 237 To pytt the men of Kirk na [= nor] prison thame .. war bot crueltee. 1621 T. GRANGER *Ecclesiastes* 213 They..liued like beasts, and were pitted like beasts, tumbled into the graue. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 657 In consequence of the wet state in which they had been pitted. 1850 LD. OSBORNE *Gleanings* 196 He dug and pitted the potatoes. 1880 JEFFERIES *Hodge & M.* I. 13 It [the hay] might have been pitted in the earth and preserved still green.

2. To set (cocks, dogs, pugilists, etc.) to fight for sport, prop. in a 'pit' or enclosure (see PIT *sb.*[1] 5).

1760 R. HEBER *Horse Matches* ix. p. xxii, Before any cocks are pitted. 1770 [see MAIN *sb.*[3] 3]. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 71 Two of the gamest little men ever pitted for twenty-five guineas. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* II. 241 He set down the pig, pitted him against the dog. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. iii. 177 The collier pitted his cock against that of the sporting farmer.

3. *fig.* To set in opposition or rivalry; to dispose for conflict; to match, oppose (persons or things). Const. *against*. Often in passive.

1754 *Connoisseur* No. 15 P 5 What in gaming dialect is called Pitting one man against another; that is,..wagering which of the two will live longest. 1777 JOHNSON 22 Sept. in *Boswell*, It is very uncivil to pit two people against one another. 1788 B. LINCOLN in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) IV. 222 Federalism and anti-federalism were pitted one against the other. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 7 Feb., As a lion-catcher, I could pit her against the world. 1887 CREIGHTON *Hist. Papacy* (1897) III. III. ix. 25 The two Popes were now pitted one against the other.

II. 4. To make pits in.

a. To make hollows or depressions in or upon; to mark with small scars or spots, as those left on the skin after small-pox. Most commonly in passive. Also *absol.* or *intr.* To produce small hollows or pits in a surface.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 391/1 The Pavyng [etc.] ben so decayed, broken, and holowid and pitted, by water fallyng out of Gutters. 1662 FELTHAM *Lusoria* XXIV. (*heading*), On a Gentlewoman, whose Nose was pitted with the Small Pox. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 42 Lady Anne, is recovered well, but will be pitted, as 'tis feared, with the small pox. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Small Pox*, Secrets to hinder the Small Pox to Pit. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* XXVI, The balls only pitted in the water, without doing any harm. 1880 MRS. RIDDELL *Myst. Palace Gard.* xiii, Like small-pox,..it pits and sears and marks most souls. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 253 He was pitted with the small-pox. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 53 Great drops of rain began to pit the white dusty roads.

b. To furnish with pits or holes; to dig pits in.

[1764-1839: see PITTING *vbl. sb.* 3.] 1843 J. SMITH *Forest Trees* 63 When the ground is pitted, a person..places a plant in each pit. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* viii. 211 This surface is pitted over by artificial diggings.

5. *intr.* for *pass.* To sink in or contract so as to form a pit or hollow; *spec.* in *Path.* to yield to pressure and retain the impression, as the skin or a soft tissue. Also, to become marked with pits or small depressions.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 266 If the Legs of your Horse pit, upon the Impression of the Fingers. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 56 *note*, The part swelled pits if you press it with your finger. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. cvi. 356 As soon as the sod is all burnt, and he finds the land pits. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 58 The organ..feels doughy, and pits on pressure with the finger. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 29 Oct. 276/3 How to remove varnish from a panel after it has pitted.

Pit, *adv.* [Echoic.] An imitation of the sound of rain-drops, small shot, or the like, striking against a surface: repeated, *pit, pit, pit*; hence as *vb.* to make this sound.

1859 F. FRANCIS *N. Dogvane* (1888) 86 The gun was heard, followed by the pit-pit-pitting of the shot on the water. 1886 HISSEY *On Box Seat* 56 Pit, pit, pit, dashed the wind-driven drops against our window panes.

Pit, Sc. and north. dial. form of PUT *v.*

‖ **Pita** (pī·ta). Also 7 peet, 8-9 pito, 9 pittee. [Sp. *pita*, a. Peruvian (Quichua) *pita* fine thread from bast or vegetable fibre: cf. Gonzalez Holguin, 1608, '*pita*, pilo delgado de hazer puntas' (fine thread to make points).] **a.** Name for the 'American aloe' (*Agave americana*) and allied species. **b.** The tough fibre obtained from these plants, used for cordage, etc.: also called *pita-fibre, -flax*,

-hemp, *-thread*. Less properly applied to fibres obtained from other allied plants, as *Agave Ixtli* (Istle) and *Fourcroya gigantea*. **c.** *Pita-wood*, the pith-like wood of *Fourcroya gigantea*.

1698 Osborne tr. *Froger's Voy. Straits Magellan* 129 The Peet is an herb that can be peeled in the same manner as hemp. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* iii. 46 From them they draw the Thread call'd Pita. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 177 Pito thread. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* I. v. (1850) I. 128 A veil made of the fine web of the pita. 1860 Tylor *Anahuac* (1861) 88 There are two kinds of aloe-fibre; one coarse, ichtli, the other much finer, pito. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 898 Pita-fibre and Pita-thread are..the fibre, called also Aloe-fibre, obtained from the leaves of the larger Agaves. 1898 H. Kirk *Brit. Guiana* Gloss. 352 *Pittee*, a strong kind of fibre.

‖ **Pitahaya** (pĭtahä·ya). [Sp., a. Haytian *pitahaya* (Humboldt).] Name (in Mexico and South-Western U.S.) for the giant cactus (*Cereus giganteus*) or other tall species bearing edible fruit.

1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* III. 390 The most useful is the pitahaya, the produce of which constitutes the principal food of the Californians. 1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxiii, The pitahaya fell to the ground. 1852 Th. Ross *Humboldt's Trav.* I. 328. 1901 Tweedie *Mexico* xv. 253 Pitahaya, a giant cactus which bears fruit about the size of a peach.

b. *attrib.* **Pitahaya-woodpecker**, a species of woodpecker (*Centurus uropygialis*) in southern Arizona, usually nesting in the giant cactus.

Pitaile, pitall, variants of Pedaile *Obs.*

Pitance, -ancy, -aunce, obs. ff. Pittance.

Pitancer, -ancier, etc.: see Pittancer.

Pit-a-pat (pi·tăpæt), **pit-pat** (pi·tpæt), *adv.*, *adj.*, *sb.* Also 7 **a-pit-pat, a-pit-to-pat,** 7–8 **a-pit-a-pat,** 8 *Sc.* **pittie-pattie,** 8–9 **pitty-pat, pitty-patty.** [Echoic, expressing alternating sounds. Cf. Pitter-patter.] An imitation of the repeated or alternated sound made by the strong beating or palpitation of the heart in excitement or emotion; also of that of light or rapid footsteps, or of similar alternating or reiterated sounds.

A. *adv.* With such a sound or sounds; palpitatingly; patteringly. Usually in phr. *to go pit-a-pat.*

1522 More *De Quat. Nouiss.* Wks. 94/1 Some wretches y^t scant can crepe for age..walk pit pat vpon a paire of patens. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* iv. i, You shall haue kisses.., goe pit-pat, pit-pat, pit-pat, vpon your lips, as thick as stones out of slings. 1621 Fletcher *Isl. Princess* iii. i, And how their hearts go pit-a-pat. 1623-4 Middleton & Rowley *Spanish Gipsy* iii. ii, The shot that fly, Pit-a-pat rattling in the sky. 1676 D'Urfey *Mme. Fickle* v. ii, My heart goes a-pit-to-pat. 1677 Mrs. Behn *Rover* iii. i, My heart goes a-pit a-pat. 1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* ii. ii, Agad, my heart has gone apit pat for thee. *a* 1758 Ramsay *Highland Lassie* iii, My flighterin heart gangs pittie-pattie. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 116 Her feet went pit-a-pat with joy. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* liii, Tramp, tramp, pit-pat, on they come together. 1871 G. Meredith *H. Richmond* III. 119 Her heart..was easily set pitty-pat.

B. *adj.* Of the nature of, or characterized by, such reiterated sound; palpitating; pattering.

a 1637 B. Jonson *Underwoods* xciv. *Pet. Poor Men*, The rattling pit-pat noise Of the less poetic boys. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 503 P 2 She..stepp'd out of her Pew, and fell into the finest pitty-pat Air,..tossing her Head up and down. 1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 109 She descended with a pit-a-pat heart. 1894 A. Webster *Mother & Dau.* (1895) 34 The approaching sound of pit pat feet.

C. *sb.* The sound itself, or the action producing it; palpitation, pattering, etc.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66 Tripping with pit pat vnequal. 1681 Dryden *Tamerl.* Epil. 12 'Tis but the pit-a-pat of two young hearts. 1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* II. 318 You..may make love, and play your pitty patties. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. cxii, That stealthy pace.. So like a spiritual pit-a-pat. 1888 T. Hardy *Wessex T.* (1889) 160 The pit-a-pat of their horses' hoofs lessened.

Hence **Pit-a-pat** (**pit-pat,** etc.) *v. intr.*, to go pit-a-pat, to palpitate, to patter; whence **Pit-a-patting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pit-a-pat-a·tion** (*humorous*), palpitation.

1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnif.* 1137 Swains, .. the strouting Clusters cut,..Run..to the fragrant Fat, Tumble them in, and after *pit-a-pat Up to the Waste. 1728 Ramsay *Fables* x. 22 Till his heart pitty-pattys. 1757 Garrick *Male Coquette* (Jod.), There will not be a female heart, but will pitapat, as he passes by. 1827 W. G. S. *Excursion Vill. Curate* 123, I heard footsteps softly pit-patting up the stairs. *a* 1735 Ld. Peterborough *Song* i. in F. Locker *Lyra Elegant.* 99, I said to my heart,..What black, brown, or fair, in what clime, in what nation, By turns has not taught thee a *pit-a-pat-ation? 1763 Colman *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 227 The pit-a-pat-ation of their dear little bosoms. 1844 Tupper *Crock of G.* xxvi. 209 He was so very fearful the *pitapating would betray him. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, My little heart was ashamed of its pit-a-patting. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 14/1, I looked around..a soft pit-a-patting sound behind me.

‖ **Pitarah** (pitā·rä). *E. Ind.* Also **pattara, petara(h, pettarah, pittarah.** [Hind. *piṭārāh, peṭārāh.*] A basket or box used in travelling by palankeen to carry the traveller's clothes. (Yule and Burnell.)

1828 *Asiat. Costumes* 61 Two pair of pattara baskets. 1845 Sir H. B. Edwardes in *Mem.* (1886) I. 33 You may take an inventory of his load without opening the pitārahs. 1853 W. D. Arnold *Oakfield* I. xi. 223 To send to the dák bungalow for his petarahs. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxxi, The plain things..may be packed in a petara or two.

Pit-bank to **Pit-brow:** see Pit *sb.*[1] 14.

Pitch (pitʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–2 **pic**; 2–5 **pich,** 3–6 **pych,** (3 **pisch**), 4–5 **pycche, picche,** 4–6 **pyche,** (5 **peche**), 5–6 **piche, pytch**(e, **pitche,** 6– **pitch.** *β.* (*northern*) 3–6 **pik,** 4 **pic, pike,** 4–5 **pyke, pikke,** 4–6 **pyk, pyck,** 5 **picke, pikk, pykk**(e, 6–7 (8–9 *dial.*) **pick.** [OE. *pic*, ad. L. *pix, pic-em* (whence also OS., LG. *pik*, Du. *pek, pik*, OHGer. *pëh, bëh*, Ger. *pech*, ON. *bik*).]

1. A tenacious resinous substance, of a black or dark brown colour, hard when cold, becoming a thick viscid semi-liquid when heated; obtained as a residuum from the boiling or distillation of tar, also from the distillation of turpentine; used to stop the seams of ships after caulking, to protect wood from moisture, and for other purposes.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 820 (O. E. T.) *Pix, picis*, pic. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xvii. (1889) 83 Se þe æthrinð pic byð besmiten fram him. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 245 (Lamb. MS.) Þer is bernunde pich hore saule to bapien inne. *c* 1250 *Death* 211 in *O. E. Misc.* 181 Of pych [*v. r.* pisch] and of brunston. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 312 Let make a cofre strong of bord, That it be ferm with led and pich. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Of picche is double maner kynde, þe ton is calde schippe picche. [1495 *Ibid.* (W. de W.), The harde pytche hyght shippe pytche.] 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 171 Pych, terre, borde, and flex. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 174 Laying on of piche. *Ibid.* 176, xj barelles peche. *Ibid.* 181, iij barrelles pytche. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 362 Piche, Tarre, Rosen, Ropes. 1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 7 As dark as Pitch is black. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 13 Liquid pitch..or tar was obtained by setting fire to billets of old fat pines or firs. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxv, The very smell of pitch and tar has become odious to me. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 58 Pitch is tar boiled with a certain quantity of water and with a portion of coarse resin melted with it.

β. a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 269 Al þat pinende pik ne walde ham þunche bote a softe bekinde bað. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11885 (Cott.) Þai fild a lede o pik [*v. rr.* pike, pic; *c* 1425 *Trin.* picche] and oyle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 733, & [gert] þare-in be done blak pic and gert brynstane bla. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 127 Anoynt thi ship with pik and tar. 1502 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* iii. 31 All full of brintstane, pick, and bulling leid. 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 364 In ye seller..v berrells of pyk. *a* 1775 *Hobie Noble* xii. in Child *Ballads* vii. (1890) 2/2 Tho dark the night as pick and tar. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Pick*, 'As dark as *pick*'.

2. Applied to various bituminous substances (*mineral pitch*); esp. (*Jew's pitch*) = Asphalt 1, Bitumen 1.

1388 Wyclif *Gen.* vi. 14 Thou schalt anoynte it with pitche [1382 glew, *Vulg.* bitumine] with ynne and with outforth. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xii. 50 Men callez it þe Lac Asfaltit, þat es to say, be Lac of Pikke. 1555 Eden *Decades* 134 They gather pytche whiche sweateth owte of the rockes. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvii. 173 At the point of Cape S. Helaine, there is a spring or fountaine of pitch. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 731 A Vessel of huge bulk,..Smeard round with Pitch. 1831 T. P. Jones *Conyers. Chem.* xxviii. 289 *Asphaltum*, sometimes called *Jew's pitch*, is a much purer bitumen than common pitch. It is found on the banks of the Dead Sea, and in..Trinidad, forming large beds in the earth. 1836 R. M. Martin *Hist. W. Indies* I. *Trinidad* 190 The most remarkable mineral phenomenon is the *Asphaltum*, or Pitch Lake. *Ibid.* 194 The pitch at the sides of the lake is perfectly hard and cold, but as one walks towards the middle..the pitch becomes softer.

3. Improperly applied to the resin or crude turpentine which exudes from pine and fir trees.

Burgundy or *white pitch*: see Burgundy 5. *Canada* or *hemlock pitch*: see Hemlock 4. *Greek pitch* = Colophony.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxi. (Tollem. MS.), This tre [Pinus] takeþ sone fyre,.. for oute þerof comeþ picche. 1495 *Ibid.* cxxiii. 685 Pytche..is droppynge of the pyne tree. 1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 57 The Pine tree .. is sayde to sweate, and to droppe forth Pitch. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* I. (1668) Table Hard Words, *Pitch of Burgundy* is Rosen, and the blacker the better. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 367 Burgundy pitch consists chiefly of resin, but a little volatile oil is present.

†**b.** = Pitch-pine, Pitch-tree. *Obs.*

1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 141 The soil..besides Birch-trees, hath Fir and Pitch. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 614 Narycian Woods of Pitch, whose gloomy Shade Seems for Retreat of heav'nly Muses made!

4. Proverbial Phrases: *Black* or *dark as pitch* (cf. *pitch-black, pitch dark*, in 5); *He that toucheth pitch shall be defiled therewith* (Ecclus. xiii. 1), etc.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 6578 Who so handlyþ pycchë wellyng hote, He shal haue fylþe þerof sumdeyl. *Ibid.* 11540 Black as pyk. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2461 Þan lai he þar so blac so pych. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 780 Who so toucheth warm pych it shent hise fyngres. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 74 Who touches Pitch mought needes be defilde. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 117 It growes darke as pitch. 1886 H. Conway *Living or Dead* xx, I was touching pitch, yet striving to keep myself from being defiled.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pitch-ball, -barrel, -heater, -ladle, -pit, -stain, -still*; *pitch-blackened, -coloured, -lined, -stained, -smelling, pitch-like* adjs.; **pitch-black** *a.*, of the brownish-black colour of pitch; also, intensely black or dark; **pitch-boat**: see quot.; **pitch-boilery,** a place or vessel in which tar is boiled for making pitch; **pitch-brown** *a.*, of the dark brown colour of pitch; **pitch-coal,** bituminous coal, or other hard bituminous substance, such as jet (quot. 1839); **pitch-dark** *a.* (usually as two words when predicative), 'as dark as pitch', intensely dark; hence **pitch-darkness; pitch-fir** = Pitch-pine; **pitch-knot,** a pitchy knot (Knot *sb.*[1] 14) of a pine or other tree used as a light; cf. *pine-knot*; **pitch-mark** = *pitch-brand*; so **pitch-marked** *a.* = *pitch-branded*; **pitch-mineral** = *mineral pitch*: see sense 2; **pick-mirk** *a. Sc.* = *pitch-dark*; **pitch-mop,** a mop with which the sides and other parts of a ship are pitched; **pitch-opal,** an inferior variety of common opal, with a resinous lustre (also called *resin-opal*)[1]; **pitch-ore,** (*a*) a dark brown ore of copper, containing bitumen; pitchy copper ore; (*b*) = Pittichite; (*c*) = Pitch-blende; **pitch-polisher,** a metal instrument for polishing curved surfaces of glass, being coated with a prepared pitch (Byrne *Artisan's Hand-bk.* 1853, Index); **pitch-pot** = *pitch-kettle*; †**pitch-speeched** *a.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*), uttering foul or offensive speech (cf. *foul-mouthed*); **pitch-tankard,** a tankard lined with pitch, for imparting a flavour to beer, etc.; †**pitch-wine,** wine having a flavour of pitch; **pitch-wood,** the resinous wood of pine or fir trees. See also Pitch-blende, etc.

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, **Pitch-bag* (*Cornw.*), a bag covered with pitch, in which powder is inclosed for charging damp holes. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xix. 315 *Pitch-balls, torches, faggots..to feed the flames. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 29 To bring [the Christians]..upon the stage in a pleasanter way than that of bear-skins and *pitch-barrels. 1599 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. v. 197 Tuscus..Hath drawn false lights from *pitch-black loueries. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 237 The head..and tail, are pitch-black. 1902 *Temple Bar Mag.* June 690 The pitch black cavern of the lower deck. 1871 Tennyson *Last Tourn.* 67 With blunt stump *Pitch-blacken'd sawing the air. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Pitch-boat*, a vessel fitted for boiling pitch in, which should be veered astern of the one being caulked. 1885 Stallybrass tr. *Hehn's Wand. Plants & Anim.* 454 *Pitch-boileries in the wooded spurs of the Alps. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 662 Jet; a species of *pitch-coal or glance-coal. 1854 Ronalds & Richardson *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 33 Varieties in which the fracture is conchoidal and the structure more dense have been distinguished as conchoidal brown coal or pitch coal. 1601 Chettle & Munday *Death Earl of Huntington* II. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 256 *Pitch-colour'd, ebon-fac'd, blacker than black. 1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. i, The stars prevented it from ever being *pitch dark. 1842 Dickens *Amer. Notes* vi, Ascend these pitch-dark stairs. 1874 Hare *Story of my Life* (1900) IV. xvii. 241 We..set off again .. with lanthorns in *pitch darkness. 1780 Von Troil *Iceland* 41 The growth of..Norway *pitch-firs. 1792 Belknap *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 90 A lighted *pitch-knot is placed on the outside of a canoe. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 245 The *pitch-ladle, and covers of the ship's coppers were converted into frying pans. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 228/1 Ropy or *Pitch-like Wood-soot. 1896 *Daily News* 11 July 6/1 Old Piggins, and leathern *pitch-lined beer 'jacks', with other like traditional utensils. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 52 Both eare marke, *pitche marke, and radel marke [of sheep]. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 1057 If there be pitch-marks..they should also be clipped out. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2377/4 She has been *Pitch mark'd in several places with a Horse shoe, and a Tarr'd P. on her Rump. 1795 Macneill *Will & Jean* I. 110 *Pick mirk night is setting in. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 76/2 He..struck him on the breast with a *pitch-mop. 1882 Ogilvie, **Pitch-opal*, an inferior kind of common opal. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. iv. 139 Sometimes this Ore is mixed with Bitumen..and is called *Pech Erz* or *pitch Ore. 1896 Chester *Dict. Names Min., Pitch-ore*...Also a syn. of pitch-blende. *Ibid.*, *Pitticite*.. f. πιττά, 'pitch', because it was earlier called pitch-ore. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. xii. 248 Dipping it in the *pitch-pot. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 20/1 Cursing till my blood boiled like a pitch-pot. 1596 J. Trussell in *Southwell's Tri. Death* To Rdr., But let this *pitch-speecht mouth defile but one. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xlviii, Wine-stains, ..*pitch-stains, any stains, all come out at one rub with the ..composition. 1890 *Cent. Dict. s.v. Pitch-tankard*, *Pitch-tankards are still used in Germany with certain kinds of beer, such as the Lichtenhainer. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 406 This kind of *Pitch wine brought the territory about Vienna into great name. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* I. 84 Tumbled him..into the fire-place, among the *pitch-wood.

Pitch (pitʃ), *sb.*[2] [f. Pitch *v.*[1] The sense-development is in many points obscure and uncertain, esp. that of branches IV and V, which it is difficult to connect with any sense of the vb.]

I. Act or manner of pitching.

†**1.** An act of setting, laying, or paying down; *concr.* that which is laid or thrown down (in quot. a contribution to a meal). *Obs. rare.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) vii. 107 Lay fourth, each man, alyche, What he hath left of his lyveray; And I will first put forth my piche With my parte first of us all three. *c* 1500 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 455 It cost me a Noble at one pyche.

b. An act of pitching or fixing upon a thing or place. (See Pitch *v.*[1] 16.)

1791 in *T. Hutchinson's Diary* II. 434 We continue to think this a very agreeable part of England; and perhaps I could not have made a better pitch than I have done.

2. An act of plunging head-foremost. Also with advbs. *spec. Naut.* The plunge or downward motion of a ship's head in a sea-way: see Pitch *v.*[1] 19 b.

1762-9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 725 At every pitch the o'erwhelming billows bend Beneath their load the quivering

bowsprit's end. 1863 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* (1864) 72 A tipsy-looking kind of pitch-forward of the bird. 1870 J. Beckett in *Eng. Mech.* 7 Jan. 411/2 There has been 'a pitch-in', as a collision is usually called by drivers and guards. 1870 G. Macdonald *At Back of North Wind* ix, You will know I am near you by every roll and pitch of the vessel.

3. The act of pitching or throwing underhand (Pitch *v.*[1] 17). **a.** *Cricket.* The act or manner of pitching or delivering the ball in bowling, or the way in which it pitches or alights. **b.** *Baseball.* The act of pitching or serving the ball to the batter; the right or turn to do this. **c.** *Golf.* The action of 'lofting' the ball up to the hole, or to the green.

1841 'Bat' *Cricket. Man.* 41 A judicious bowler..varies his style, pitch, and pace, according to the play of the hitter. 1851 Lillywhite *Guide to Cricketers* 15 The pitch of the ball depends very much upon your pace. 1897 Ranjitsinhji *Cricket* 167 One of the main things in making an off-drive in any direction is to get well to the pitch of the ball. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Sept. 4/7 His pitch overrunning the hole, he gave himself too much to do for a half in 5.

4. a. = Pitch-farthing. *rare.* Now *dial.*

1742 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) I. ciii. 285, I would be melancholy and mortified, if I did not construe Homer, and play at pitch, better than any boy..in my own form. 1886 in Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.*

b. *Cards.* A game resembling all-fours, but so played that the trump suit is determined by 'pitching', i. e. leading a card of that suit.

5. *slang.* A talk, chat: cf. Pitch *v.*[1] 17 d.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 2/1 We now have a 'pitch' with the men; 'pitch', be it said, is another term for talk.

II. Something that is pitched, or used for pitching.

† **6.** A net pitched or set for catching fish. *Obs.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 10 b, To fysshe with shouenettes, trodenettes, small pytches, and suche other. 1590 *Acts Privy Council* (1899) XIX. 406 He should cause the said wayres, stakes and pytches to be removed and plucked up, that the river maie have yts free course. 1705 *Act 4 Anne* c. 21 Nets, Angles, Leaps, Pitches, and other Engines for the taking..of Fish.

7. *local.* **a.** = Pitcher[2] 3; **b.** = Pitcher[2] 4.

1674–91 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* 109 A *Pitch*, a Bar of Iron with a thick square pointed end to make holes in the ground by pitching down. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 134 The stakes or pitches..were chiefly of willow. 1856 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVII. II. 363 Live stakes (provincially termed withy pitches). 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, s. v., In making new hedges it is usual to stipulate 'to be planted with good withy or elder pitches' or 'pitchers'.

8. A quantity of something pitched. **a.** The quantity of hay, etc. thrown up by a pitchfork.

1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 2 Sept. an. 1776, Every pitch of hay and corn, generally speaking, passes twice thro' his hands. 1878 Jefferies *Gamekeeper at H.* 76 The 'pitch' of hay on the prong.

b. The quantity of some particular commodity pitched or placed in a market for sale.

1866 *Standard* 3 Oct. 2/3 The pitch of cheese was the largest that has been known for some years past. 1886 *Manch. Courier* 18 Feb. 7 There was an immense pitch of cheese yesterday. 1887 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 2/4 The pitch of..hops this year at Weyhill..is smaller than in any year since the blight of 1860. 1888 *Ibid.* 9 July 2/7 Other sorts [of wool]..are being thrown on the market in large pitches.

9. A paving stone; esp. one set on edge, a 'sett': = Pitcher[2] 5. Cf. Pitch *v.*[1] 8 c, Pitching *vbl. sb.* 6 b.

1896 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 7/1 A large part of the [Piccadilly] Circus is 'up', and is being relaid with granite pitches.

III. Place of pitching.

10. *gen.* The place or point at or from which something is pitched. *rare.*

1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xi, Then pitch one foote of your compasse at the one ende of the line, and with the other foote draw a bowe line right ouer the pytche of the compasse. 1630 in *Descr. Thames* (1758) 75 Every Hebberman shall fish by the Shore, and pitch their Pole at half Ebb, and shall have but forty Fathom Rope allowed from the Pitch of their Pole into the River.

11. A place at which one stations oneself or is stationed; a portion of ground selected by or allotted to a person for residence, business, or any occupation; *esp.* a spot in a street or other public place at which a stall for the sale or display of something is pitched or set up, or at which a street performer, a bookmaker, etc. stations himself.

1765 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* I. i. 22 Here Mr. Nowell and some of his friends made their pitch. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 10/2 In consequence of a New Police regulation, 'stands' or 'pitches' have been forbidden. 1889 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 3/1 Two pitches were made in widely separated quarters of the town, and in each instance the members of Parliament..left a numerous and interested assembly. 1905 *Ibid.* 2 Jan. 9 Having chosen their 'pitch' the ponies were unharnessed, triangular fireplaces of stout poles erected.

b. A place or spot in a river where an angler takes his stand.

1867 F. Francis *Angling* i. (1880) 44 *note*, Before the angler .. attempts to fish any special hole, swim, pitch, or cast. 1872 *Echo* 5 Aug., A fisherman has had orders from a customer to bait one or two barbel pitches, and not to spare the worms.

12. *Agric.*, and *Mining* (Cornw.). A definite portion of a field, or of a mine, allotted to a particular workman.

1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 659 After having completed..one pitch of work, consisting of thirteen ridges, he is to begin again in a similar manner. 1855 J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* 142 By this management the lode is finally divided into masses called *pitches*, each sixty feet in height, by about thirty-three feet in length. *Ibid.* 280 The distance he goes underground, and the places he continues to work in when he arrives at his 'pitch', are known to few besides the Cornish miner himself. 1875 Temple & Sheldon *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* 16 The two meadows..were not divided, till the choice pitches were assigned in 1731. 1895 J. W. Anderson *Prospector's Handbk.* (ed. 6) 163 Pitch (Cornwall)—The part of a lode let out to be worked on tribute.

13. *Cricket.* The place where the wickets are pitched; the piece of ground between and about the wickets.

1890 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 5/3 The London Playing Fields Committee is now laying fifteen good cricket pitches in Epping Forest. 1891 H. Drummond *Baxter's Second Innings* i, At that moment the first ball whizzed down the pitch.

† **14.** *fig.* A position taken up and maintained; a fixed opinion or resolution. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxxviii. ix. 987 They knew the natures and minds of their countrymen..how untractable they were and not to be removed if they once tooke a pitch. *Ibid.* xliv. xxxviii. 1195 None of you may thinke that I have taken such a pitch, and hold that opinion of mine without just cause.

IV. Highest point, height, etc.

† **15.** The highest (or extreme) point, top, summit, apex, vertex. *Obs.*

a 1552 Leland *Itin.* VII. 5 From this Bridge the great Streate of the Towne goith up apon a pratie Hille: at the Pitch whereof there turnith a nothar Streat by Este to Seint Peter's, the Heade Churche of the Towne. 1587 Harrison *England* I. v. in *Holinshed* I. 10 The length of the face, taken at large from the pitch of the crowne to the chin. *Ibid.*, From the highest part of the forehead to the pitch of the chin. 1600 Holland *Livy* II. I. 79 The Veientians..set a compasse about the hill side, and gained the verie top and pitch [*vertex*] thereof. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 772 Down they fell Driv'n headlong from the Pitch of Heaven, down Into this Deep.

† **16.** A projecting point of some part of the body, as the shoulder, the hip. (In first quot. app. used for the shoulders collectively.) *Obs.*

1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. i, Such breadth of shoulders as might mainly bear Old Atlas' burden;—'twixt his manly pitch A pearl, more worth than all the world, is placed. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 78 This garment.. was taken up round about the pitch of her hippes. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 310 When the shoulder point, or pitch of the shoulder [of a horse], is displaced. 1611 Cotgr., *Acromion*, the shoulder pitch.

17. ? The extreme point of a cape or headland, where it projects farthest into the sea.

1677 W. Hubbard *Narr.* I. 5 The Sea coast from the pitch of Cape Cod to the mouth of Connecticot River. 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 150 And very narrowly escap'd clearing the Breakers off the Pitch of the Cape. 1857 R. Tomes *Amer. in Japan* I. 31 In seven hours after leaving Table Bay, the steamer was off the pitch of the Cape. 1883 *Times* 27 Aug. 8/2 To stand close in to the pitch of the lofty headland.

18. The height to which a falcon or other bird of prey soars before swooping down on its prey; rarely *gen.* the height to which any bird rises in the air. Often in phr. *to fly a pitch.*

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 11 Between two Hawks, which flyes the higher pitch. 1593 — 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 12 And beares his thoughts aboue his Faulcons Pitch. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 50 When Buzzards are advanc'd, they'l flie an Eagles pitch. 1828 Sebright *Hawking* 22 Much better .. than that his pitch should be lowered .. by too much luring. *Ibid.* 27 The hawk, if at a good pitch, will stoop at him [the magpie] as he passes to another bush. 1852 R. F. Burton *Falconry Vall. Indus* v. 62 Well too did the kite ..get to his pitch, and prepare himself for the combat.

b. In directly figurative or allusive use.

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxiii. ii, So high a pitch their proud presumption flyes. 1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 188. 1635–56 Cowley *Dav.* II. 126 To this strange pitch their high affections flew. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 77. 151 He flies a Pitch above Common Mischiefs. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* vi. 182 Rabelais flew to a higher pitch, too, than Sterne. 1837–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. I. iii. § 101. 214 Another [comedy] entitled Sergius..flies a much higher pitch.

† **c.** The height to which anything rises; altitude, elevation. *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. xi. 31 That infernall Monster..Gan high advaunce his broad discoloured brest Above his wonted pitch. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 2 Tim.* iv. 10 Blazing comets.. when they begin to decline from their pitch, they fall to the earth. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* II. 90 The Quicksilver will fall down to its wonted pitch and stint of 29 inches or thereabouts. 1774 G. White *Selborne* 14 Feb., A very wet autumn and winter, so as to raise the springs to a pitch beyond anything since 1764.

19. *fig.* (from 15 or 18). Highest or supreme point or degree; acme, climax, greatest height. Now *rare* exc. in *at the pitch of one's voice.* (Cf. 22, 23.)

1624 Wotton *Archit.* Pref. in *Reliq.* (1651) 195 Vitruvius ..wrote when the Roman Empire was neer the pitch. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 184 Mankind would have been brought to the Pitch of Wickedness. 1742 Pope *Dunc., M. Scriblerus*, Forty .. the very acme and pitch of life for writing Epic poesy. 1848 Newman *Loss & Gain* III. x. 382 A little boy..and a poor woman, singing at the pitch of their voices. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* xxiii, When the general hilarity was at its pitch.

† **20.** Height (of a person or animal), stature. *Obs.*

1575 Gascoigne *Compl. Gr. Knt.* Wks., Weedes 183 The mounture so well made, and for my pitch so fit. 1631 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* III. i. Wks. 1874 II. 295 Much of my stature? Much about your pitch. 1681 Hickeringill *Black Non-Conf.* xv. Wks. 1716 II. 112 Just of his Size, Complexion and Pitch. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 170 Makes the work fall too low for the pitch of the Workman. 1807 Bewick *Hist. Quadrupeds* 63 All those of each kind that exceed or fall short of this pitch, are more or less disproportioned.

21. Height of an arched roof, or of any roof or ceiling, above the floor, or of the vertex of an arch above the springing line.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 161 The roofe of the Temple is of a high pitch, curiously arched, and supported with great pillars of marble. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 64, 9 Foot betwixt the Floors..is the Pitch of their Rooms. 1772 Hutton *Bridges* 59 A semicircle whose height or pitch is 45 feet, and consequently its span 90 feet. *Ibid.* 99 Pitch, of an arch, the perpendicular height from the spring or impost to the keystone. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Pitch of an Arch*, the versed sine, or height from the springing line up to the under-side of it.

V. Height in a figurative sense, degree.

22. Comparative height or intensity of any quality or attribute; point or position on an ideal scale; degree, elevation, stage, status, level. Almost always used of a high or intense degree: cf. 19, 15.

a 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 87 The Latin tong, euen whan it was, as the Grecians say, in ἀκμῇ, that is, at the hiest pitch of all perfitenesse. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* xiii. (1664) 139 That they may come to the pitch of old age. 1608 D. T[uvil] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 33 Raysing the valour of every .. person amongst them, to a farre higher pitch. 1671 Milton *Samson* 169 To lowest pitch of abject fortune thou art fall'n. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* II. ix. (1699) 232 Let him be raised to the highest pitch of Honour. 1728 Veneer *Sincere Penitent* Pref. 6 Till they arrive at such a pitch, as they cannot think of without horror and astonishment. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 107 To what a pitch did the Athenians carry their eloquence! 1822 Hazlitt *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. (1869) 82 The feelings are wound up to a pitch of agony. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 245 The family which in two generations had risen from obscurity to the highest pitch of greatness.

b. *spec.* in *Copper-smelting*: see quots.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 323 To render the metal malleable, or, in the language of the smelters, bring it to the proper pitch. 1868 Joynson *Metals* 99 The copper is tested, as above described, from time to time, and, according to its pitch or grain. 1877 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 If the pitch is right the globules will all be round and hollow.

23. That quality of a musical sound which depends on the comparative rapidity of the vibrations producing it; degree of acuteness or graveness of tone. (Sometimes also in reference to the tone of the voice in speaking.) Also, a particular standard of pitch for voices and instruments, as *concert pitch*, etc.

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 166 Take an instrument, as a Lute Orpharion, Pandora, or such like, being in the naturall pitch, and set it a note or two lower. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. i. (Arb.) 64 A playne song ..Whose highest pitch in lowest base doth end. 1694 Holder *Harmony* (1731) 152 What it is that makes Humane Voices, even of the same Pitch, so much to differ one from another. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. i. 11 All the notes in the horizontal range of the several diagrams are at the same pitch. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* ix. (1833) 229 To depend..on the pitch or frequency of vibration constituting the note. 1867 Lady Herbert *Cradle L.* i. 9 Screaming out..in every conceivable key and pitch of shrillness. 1869 *Athenæum* 23 Jan. 136/1 The note c, on the third space of the treble clef, corresponds to a number of double vibrations per second, varying from about 500 to 550, according to the pitch adopted.

b. *transf.* Applied to the degree of rapidity of vibration in light, etc., as being analogous to musical pitch.

1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. iii. 79 As we advance along the spectrum..the pitch of the light..heightens. 1902 *Daily Record & Mail* 25 Dec. 5 One receiving instrument will only take messages sent by another instrument 'tuned' to the same pitch, that is sending vibrations of a given length and frequency.

VI. Inclination, slope, declivity.

24. Degree of inclination to the horizon, slope; a sloping part or place. *spec.* **a.** A downward inclination or slope (on a piece of ground or water); a steep place, declivity; a descent, usually sloping, sometimes perpendicular.

[*c* 1420 app. implied in Pitchlongs. Cf. also Pitch *v.* 20.]

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 135 Rockes of a down right pitche, or a steepe down falle. 1542–5 Elyot *Dict.*, *Cliuus, seu cliuum*, the pitche of an hyll, sometyme the syde of an hyll. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 78 The mountaine Hæmus.. had in the pitch thereof the towne Aristaeum. 1788 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 402 The road from Jennison's to this house is mostly good, some few sharp pitches. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 480 The whole descent is about 200 feet, in several pitches. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 100 Captain Lewis had been up the falls 15 miles above the first shoot or pitch. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 3/2 The great gully that runs up the centre of the Wastwater Screes. This gully was attempted in 1895 by three climbers, who conquered eight 'pitches', but were defeated by the ninth. 1904 J. N. Collie in *Alpine Jrnl.* XXII. 10 [The ridge] was impossible, being made up entirely of bare slabs and perpendicular pitches.

b. *Mining.* The inclination of a vein of ore or seam of coal from the horizontal; the dip or rise.

1719 Strachey in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 969 The Obliquity

or *Pitch*, as they term it, in all the Works hereabout, is about 22 Inches in a Fathom. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Pitch*, dip or rise of a seam.

c. *Arch.* The inclination of a sloping roof, or of the rafters, to the horizontal; the steepness of slope of a roof; the proportion of the height of a roof to its span.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 141 The Reasons for several Pitches you may find among Books of Architecture. *Ibid.* 163 The Angle a Gable-end is set to, is called the *Pitch* of the Gable-end. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s. v., If the Length of each Rafter be ⅔ of the Breadth of the Building, then they say that the Roof is of a *True Pitch*: But if the Rafters are longer, they say 'tis a *high* or *sharp* pitch'd Roof; if shorter, they call it a *low* or *flat* pitch'd Roof. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 87 When the roof is of a true pitch, that is, forming a right angle at top; then the breadth of the building, with its half added, is the girt over both sides nearly. 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *My Farm Edgewood* 85 Walls..of the uniform height of ten feet, covered with a roof of sharp pitch. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 254 All previous styles of architecture .. in Southern countries, had roofs of a low pitch.

d. The slope of a flight of steps; *concr.* a flight of steps.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 147 You will first ascend upon a Pitch of Flyers, which Pitch (making an Angle of 38 deg. with the Floor) with ten Steps raise you six Foot high above the Floor. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* § 2026 The framed timbers which support the steps of a staircase are called the *carriage*. They generally consist of two pieces inclined to the pitch of the stairs, called the *rough strings*.

e. The setting of a ploughshare to enable it to penetrate a required depth. f. The rake or inclination of the teeth of a saw. g. The inclination of the bit of a plane to the surface that is being planed.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 50 A great matter..in the making of Ploughs, is to make them go true to the pitch they are set. 1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* 48 Plowing the full depth of the soil is called 'taking it up a full pitch'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v., The *pitch* of a saw is the *rake* or inclination of the face of a tooth..The *rake* is a forward slant of the *face*, not common, but found in some saws...The common pitch of a bench-plane is 45°...Pitch of scraping and metal planes 80° to vertical. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 23 A jack plane with its double iron .. lying in its bed, the latter being at an angle of 45 deg. to the sole. This is the angle called common pitch.

VII. 25. *Mech.* The fixed distance between successive points or lines (? the distance at which these are pitched or fixed). a. The distance between the centres of any two successive teeth of a cog-wheel or pinion, or links of a gear-chain, measured along the *pitch-line* or *pitch-circle* (see 26); the distance between the successive paddles of a paddle-wheel, measured on the circle passing through their centres. b. The distance between the successive convolutions of the thread of a screw, measured in a direction parallel to the axis, and indicating the distance through which the screw moves forward in one turn. c. The distance between the centres of successive rivets or stays. d. In floor-cloth printing, The distance between the pitch-pins or guide-pins, used for the same purpose as the register-points in lithographic printing.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 362 If the teeth of one be wood and the other iron, then the iron ones are made to have less pitch than the wooden ones, because they are then found to wear better. 1823 R. BUCHANAN *Millwork* (ed. 2) 30 By the pitch is understood the distance between the centres of two contiguous teeth. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 432 The pitch of their teeth should be the same as that of the teeth of the cylinder. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 264 The pitch of the screw could be altered from the deck to suit the velocity of the vessel. 1869 SIR E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* xvii. 335 The question of the proper pitch of rivets, i.e. their distance apart from centre to centre, requires some consideration. 1870 *Eng. Mechanic* 14 Jan. 437/2 Find the pitch of the screw required to be cut..and multiply the numerators. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 130 The spacing or pitch of rivets required by Lloyd's rules is 'four and a half diameters apart, from centre to centre, excepting in the keel, stem, and stern post'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1719/2 The *pitch* of the paddles is the distance between them, measured on the circle which passes through their centers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 64 The length .. in a spur wheel including a tooth and a space is called the *pitch*, and the circle on which such distances are set off is called the *pitch circle*. *Ibid.* II. 66/2 The pitch of rifling of the Enfield is one turn in six feet six inches. 1890 *Clacton News* 25 Jan. 2/3 Most makers of implements now use only standard pitches of screws, so that any broken screw or missing nut can quickly be replaced. 1898 *Cycling* 43 The distance between the central points of two similar links,.. is called the pitch of the chain: it is nearly always one inch.

VIII. 26. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **pitch-block**, a block for supporting an object to be worked at, which can be inclined at any pitch or angle; usually one with a base working like a ball and socket-joint; **pitch-chain**, a chain consisting of links bolted or riveted together so as to work in the teeth of a toothed wheel; **pitch-circle**, a circular *pitch-line* (see below); so **pitch-diameter**, the diameter of the pitch-circle of a wheel, etc.; **pitch-faced** *a.*, of masonry, having the arris cut true, but the face beyond the edge left relatively rough, being merely dressed with a pitching chisel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Supp. 1884); †**pitch-hill** *a.*, declivitous, precipitous; **pitch-line**, the imaginary line, usually a circle, passing through the teeth of a cog-wheel, pinion, rack, etc. so as to touch the corresponding line in another cog-wheel, etc., when the two are geared together; **pitch-notation**, notation indicating musical pitch; **pitch-note**, a note sounded to determine the pitch of a tune, etc. (also *fig.*); **pitch-point**, the point of contact of the pitch-lines of two cog-wheels, etc. which engage with each other; †**pitch-set**, a shoot (of willow, etc.) cut for planting; cf. sense 7 and PITCHER [2] 4; **pitch-surface**, the surface on which the pitch-circle of a wheel lies; **pitch-wheel**, a toothed wheel engaging with another. See also PITCHFORK [2], etc.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pitch-block*, a cushioned seat of a concave hemispherical form, in which sheet-metal is held while being chased. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 304 *Pitch-chains are of two kinds, the buckle-chain and the ladder-chain. *Ibid.* 537 The pitch-chain is employed to communicate motion from the first mover—the carriage axle—to the seed-wheels. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXIII. 3 Z iv b/1 A circle..is described round the face of the rough cogs upon its pitch diameter, that is, the geometrical diameter, or acting line of the cogs; so that when the two wheels are at work together, the *pitch circles..of the two are in contact. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 198 The pitch circles of a wheel and pinion working together should touch but not intersect each other. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 252 By reason of..the headlong and *pitchehill stepenes to looke downewardes. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 769/1 Draw the *pitch lines .. then divide them into the number of teeth or cogs required. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 362 The centre or pitch-lines, from which the teeth are formed. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 373 On a full consideration of the question of *pitch-notation. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* i. 8 Before the opening of the Overture, it gives that *pitch note in full, which always leads me to expect a succession of more solemn sounds than in reality succeed it. 1859 RANKINE *Steam Engine* § 153. 181 The position of the pinion should be such, that the *pitch-point, where its teeth are driven by those of the cogged ring, may be in the same vertical plane parallel to the axis. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 172 A *pychesette of wythy groweth anon. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 40 A section of the *pitch surface of a toothed wheel by a plane perpendicular to its axis is a circle, and is called a pitch circle. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pitch-wheels*, toothed wheels in machinery or clocks, which work together.

Pitch (pitʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 3–4 **piche**, 4–5 **picche, pycche**, 5–6 **pytch**(e, (5 **pydche**), 6– **pitch**, (7 **peche**). Pa. t. and pa. pple., **pitched, pight**: see below. [ME. *piche*(*n*, *picche*(*n*, north. *pykke*(*n*, *pikke* (see PICK *v.*[2]); pa. t. *pihte, pi3te, pight*(*e*, pa. pple. *piht, pi3t, pight*; also later *picched, pitched, pitcht*, etc. (Cf. *clihte, stihte*, early pa. tenses of CLITCH, STITCH.) Of obscure origin and history. The forms point to an OE. **picc*(*e*)*an*, of the 1st weak class, pa. t. **pihte*, of which however no instance has been found; nor does any vb. corresponding in form and sense appear in the cognate languages. See *Note* below.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. For the present stem, see the quots. in B., and those given under PICK *v.*[2]

2. Past tense. α. 3 **pihte**, 3–4 **pi3te**, 3–5 **py3te**, 4–5 **pi3t, py3t, pighte, pyghte**, (5 **piht**), 4–6 **pyght**, (**pyth**), 4–7 **pight** (pəit). β. 4 **picched**, 4–6 **picht**, 5 **pytched**, 6 **pyched**, 7 **pitcht**, 6– **pitched**.

α. *c* 1205 LAY. 29653 Þer he pihte his stæf. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1171 Stakes of ire monion he pi3te in temese grounde. *c* 1320 Pi3t [see B. 2]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4644 Þey..pyght þeym pauylons & tente. *Ibid.* 15246 He pighte his staf þer doun vpright. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 741 He py3t hit þere in token of pes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1831 He pighte [*v.rr.* pyghte, pight, piht] hym on the pomel of his heed. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 800 And pyghte Pauylyons with mekill pryde. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 152 Statly tentes anon they py3te. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 150 Ther thei pight the kynges teynte. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* III. 24 b, He..pyght hys pauilions, at the heade of a Ryuer. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 97 Vnder Pomfret his proud Tents he pight.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4645 Þey pycched þer pauylons. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1139 ad fin., How alixandre picht a pelyr of marbyl þere. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 399 He toke a torche and fyred it, and pytched it bytwene the strawe and the bedsted. 1530 Pyched [see B. 6]. 1535 Pitched [see B. 4 c]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. 74 Theare picht he his kingdoom.

3. Past participle. α. 3–4 **ipiht, ipi3t, 4 ipy3t, ypi3te, i-pe3t, 4–6 i-pight**, 5 **ypyght**, 6 **ypight**. β. 4 **piht**, (**pite**); 4–5 **pi3t, py3t**, (5 **pi3te, py3te, pyghte**), 5–6 (**pighte**), **pyght**, *Sc.* **picht, pycht**, 6 **pyht**, 4–7 (9 *arch.*) **pight** (pəit). γ. 4 **piched, pyched, i-picht**, 4–5 **picched, -id**, 6 **pytched**, 6–8 **pitcht**, 6– **pitched**.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1116 Þe emperour adde ipi3t [*v.rr. c* 1425 pi3t, *c* 1435 ypyght] his paulons. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 243 A spere i-py3t [*hasta defixa*]. *Ibid.* III. 273 Þe pavylouns were i-pe3t. *Ibid.* VII. 75 Þe stake was i-pight. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 108 Þe pyon, þe peere, wel proudliche ipiht. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. XXXV. 148 Wyth two staues ypyght atte eyther ende. 1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 243, I have also palaces i-pight. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. ix. 33 For underneath a craggy cliff ypight.

β. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1627 Þer were pi3t pauilounns. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 785 In a porche of þat place py3t to þe 3ates. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 43 In middes on a Mountayne..Was piht vp a Pauilon. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 183 A spere that is pight in to the erthe. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* XXXVII, In myd Plumtun Lone, hor pauelluns were pi3te. *c* 1430 Pi3t, 14.. Pyȝt [see B. 5 c]. *a* 1470 Pyght [B. 11]. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 313 Ane pailyeoun..that proudly wes picht. 1513 Pycht [see B. 5]. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 44 She had pyght a ryche pauylyon. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 55 His honors Tent, that ..was pighte at long Ichington. 1578 *Scot. Poems 16th C.* (1801) II. 203 A prince .. picht to rule and reigne. 1579, 1617 Pight [see B. 5]. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. I. XXIX. 301/2 In the Castle-yard was pight a comely Quintane. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 292 On a rising hillock pight.

γ. 13.. Piched [see B. 1]; pyched [B. 5]. 1340–70 I-picht [B. 5]. *c* 1380 Picchid [B. 10]. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 667 Let hem be pressed, picchid, and ywrie. 1545 LELAND in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. App. CXVIII. 330 Yet herein only I have not pytched the supreme work of my labour. 1564–78 BULLEYN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 60 When the battaile was pitched. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XV. 654 Close the deadly toil Was pitch'd on both parts. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 41 Tents..pitcht neere the water side. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 167 Any Substance..pitcht steddy upon two points.

B. Signification.

I. To thrust in, fix in; make fast, fasten, settle; set, place.

†1. *trans.* To thrust, drive (a stake, spear, staff, peg, etc.) firmly into the ground; to fix or make fast (a thing) by driving it into some object; also, to fix (an object) on a pole, spear, etc.; to plant, implant; to fix, stick, fasten. In later quots., approaching the sense 'to place'. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 6490 He igrap his spere stronge þer he pihte hit o þon londe [*c* 1275 þar hit was ipiht in londe]. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 274/107 Þine staf piche in þe grounde: And he schal bere lef and blowe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1171 [see 2]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 170 Þis neiþer chawle, in which ben pi3t many teeþ. 1382 — *Eccl.* xii. 11 The wrdis of wise men..as nailes in to heiste pi3t [1388 as nailis fastned deepe]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. vi. (Tollem. MS.), Tweyne holow synewis..piccheþ hem selfe [1582 fixe themselues: *orig.* se infigunt] in þe substaunce of þe humoure cristallyn. *a* 1620 J. DYKE *Worthy Commun.* (1640) 180 A stake, or a post is pitched in the ground. 1633 ROGERS *Treat. Sacram.* I. Pref., A planter takes the sien of the Apple-tree, and pitches it into a Crab-tree Stock. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 34 The stakes [of a tent] firmely pitched. 1674–91 [see PITCH *sb.*[2] 7]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 172 Pitch a small Stick at every place where there is to be a little Hill. 1754 J. LOVE *Cricket* 14 The Stumps are pitch'd. 1775 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* 29 Mar., The houses [are] chiefly built of the round sea-pebbles pitched in mortar.

b. *To pitch the wickets* (*Cricket*): to stick or fix the stumps in the ground and place the bails.

1745 *Daily Advertiser* 28 Sept. 3/1 The Wickets to be pitch'd by Eleven o'Clock. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 5 The Party which goes from home shall have..the pitching of the wickets, which shall be pitched within thirty yards of a centre fixed by the adversaries. 1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 327 The wickets had better be pitched without loss of time.

†2. *transf.* To thrust a pointed instrument into or through (something); to stab, stick, pierce, transfix. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1174 Stakes of ire monion he pi3te [*v.rr.* pyte, put, putte] in temese grounde,..þat 3if þer eni ssipes come..Hii ssolde piche hom þoru out. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 206 Þot on wiþ tresoun þere þurch þe bodi him pi3t. *c* 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 163 Cryste..also suffred þat longius his herte pyghte And made his herte blode to rynne downe. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xix. 37 Thei schulen se in to whom they pi3ten thorw [Vulg. *transfixerunt*]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxv. (Bodl. MS.), If þe skynn of þe face is pi3t and iprikked with an nedel oþer a þynne and bledeþ nought.

3. To place and make fast with stakes, poles, pegs, etc., as a net, or the like. Now *rare.*

1545 ELYOT, *Tendere plagas*, to pytche hayes or nettes. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 391 [They] pitched their Tew to intangle the same Protector. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 572 The dext'rous Huntsman..pitches Toils to stop the Flight. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. XXXI, There's time to pitch both toil and net.

4. *spec.* To fix and erect (a tent, pavilion, etc.) as a place of lodgement; also *fig.*

Orig. referring to its being fixed with pegs, etc. driven into the ground; now associated with the idea of 'placing'.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4254 Þe king..bigan to piccne is paulons him vor to abyde. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. XIV. 37 For to pydche and dresse vp tentes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* V. X. 24 You vile abhominable Tents, Thus proudly pight [*Qo.* pitcht] vpon our Phrygian plaines. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 122 We were fain to encamp hard by under Carpets, which we pitched instead of Tents. 1789 JOHNSON *Rasselas* XXXVII, The tents were pitched where I chose to rest. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 55 When Troops are to encamp, General Officers are not to leave their Brigades until the Tents are pitched.

b. So *to pitch a camp, a caravan*, etc.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* (1569) I. 411 King Henrie .. came to Hounslow hethe, and there pitched his campe. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1981/1 There they pitched downe their campe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 540 The Youth of Rome..pitch their sudden Camp before the Foe. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 127 It was necessary to remove the camp from the place where it was pitched. 1901 *Essex Weekly News* 12 Apr. 3/6 Defendant .. pitched a caravan on the grass.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To encamp.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xiv. 4 Here in þis place wher we are pight. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xi. 5 All these kinges..came, and pitched together by yᵉ water of Meram. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 117 To choose a commodious place to pitch in. 1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 284/2 The uncle of the Rajah..invited us to pitch the next day on a spot close to the palace. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 77 The succeeding troops, coming up in the dark, pitched as they could without any order.

5. *trans.* To put (anything) in a fixed or definite place or position, so as to stand, lie, or remain firmly or permanently; to set, fix, plant, place; to found or set up (a building, pillar, etc.). In *pa. pple.* = set, fixed, planted, placed, situated.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 477 Ho fyndez no folde her fote on to pyche. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 768 A castel..Pyched on a prayere, a park al aboute. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1135 Þere his burnus he bad bulden of marbre A piler sadliche i-picht, or he passe wolde. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xix, In þe kenell shulde ben picched smale stones ywrapped aboute with strawe of þe houndes litter. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. iii. 44 Ane circulet of plyabyll gold.. Abuf hys haris apon hys hed weil pycht. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xi, Then pitch one foote of your compasse at the one ende of the line. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 134 And in my face deepe furrowes eld hath pight. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xvi. 249 Their mightier Empire, there, the middle English pight. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. viii. 300 A gulfe .. is pight betweene vs & them. 1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 946 In stiff Soyls, if the Crops be not early pitch'd,..the Roots never spread or shoot deeper. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 190 The third climb'd up and pitch'd himself on his Head, upon the Head of the second. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 220 Take care that in pitching the Globe into the Mandrel, that the imaginary Axis..lye in a straight Line with the Axis of the Mandrel. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 553 Pitching the holes at equal distances from the centre of the hill. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xiii, The abrupt hill, on which the town of Bridgenorth is pitched. 1899 *Daily News* 24 Apr. 4/5 Fireman S. 'pitched' his machine against the burning building, and succeeded in bringing the woman safely to the ground.

b. *spec.* To set a (stone, etc.) upon end; to set a stone on edge for paving.

a 1623 W. PEMBLE *Zachary* (1629) 159 Markes or Bound-Stones should be pitcht up. 1642 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 203 Jacob taketh one of the stones that he had laid his head upon, and pitched it up for a pillar. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 93 On the South side of their high street..is pitched upright a great stone, called London Stone. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 82 A range of Stones pitch'd edge-way.

† **6.** *fig.* To place, implant, plant, set, fix (anything immaterial, one's trust, hope, desire, purpose, thought, attention, sight, etc.) *in* or *on* some object, or *in* some state. (See also 5 c.) *Obs.*

[*c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 307 þe rote of loue þat shulde be picchid in goddis lawe.] *Ibid.* 480 Oure bileue & hope is picchid in þe grace of iesu crist. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XII. Introd. (Tollem. MS.), þey [briddes] haueþ a seminal vertu of kynde pyȝte in hem. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 94 Þou be woo; In iolite whan þou art pi3t. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump.* 151 Se that thy fayth be pitched On thy Lord God most constantly. 1591 LYLY *Endim.* v. i, Pitching his eyes fast to the ground, as though they were fixed to the earth. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. xlviii, She fled..And left her image in his hart ipight. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) Ded., To take off the hearts..from idle Pamphlets..and pitch them on the grave..points of Religion. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxv. (1840) 287 He pitched his thoughts on the holy war. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 56 She thought He pitched His innocent eyes just upon her. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 43 (1822) I. 339 Lauria..pitching her mind among the enjoyments of Corinth.

7. To place or lay out (wares) in a fixed place for sale; hence, to expose for sale in the market or other public place.

1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 80 [They] did..take away x semys of see fyshe.., and pyched them in the parishe of Saynt Mary's, and ther sette it to sale. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. (1558) 83 When the salestaffe was pight and in ye market place. 1802 *Ann. Reg.* 6 All corn should be brought into the market, and pitched, as in former times. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. 165 No less than 36,487 tons of meat are annually 'pitched' at Newgate and Leadenhall Markets. 1884 *Globe* 26 Sept. 7/1 At Melton Mowbray cheese fair yesterday some 100 dozen cheese were pitched. 1886 *Auckland Even. Star* 25 June 12/1 A good many hides were pitched, and bidding was spirited.

† b. *Pitch and pay* (absol. or intr.): ? to pay down at once, pay ready money. *Obs.*

14.. *Piers of Fullham* 206 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 9 Yt ys full hard bothe to pyche and paye. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Warwick* xiv, I vsed playnnes, euer pitch and pay. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 211 At Norwich...A citie trim: Where strangers wel may seeme to dwel, That pitch and pay, or keepe their day. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iii. 51 The word is, Pitch and pay: trust none. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour on Left Hand* 102 But you your promise once did breake. Giue me your hand, that you will pitch and pay.

8. *intr.* (or *refl.*) To place or locate oneself; to take up one's abode; to take up one's position, settle, alight. Now *rare* or *arch.* (Cf. 4 c.)

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* ix. 33 They fled into the desert of Thecua, and they pitched by the water of the lake Asphar. 1623 COCKERAM III, *John de monte Regio* .. made a small iron Fly to..flye about all the roome, and returne and pitch on his sleeue. 1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing-Master* (ed. 2) 135 You must pitch your self to the same Guard with your Small-sword as you do with your Broad. 1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 57 The fowl being pitched upon the bank. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 201 The first settlers pitched here, but the trade has long since been removed .. about four miles further up. 1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 91 An owl pitched immediately over our heads. 1900 [see PITCHING *ppl. a.* 3].

b. *trans.* To cause to alight and settle.

1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 106 [Certain pigeons] are exceeding good to pitch stray Pigeons that are at a loss to find their own home.

c. *refl.* and *intr.* To seat oneself, sit down, take a seat. *dial.* or *colloq.*

1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 279 He..could not carry the amount..for the distance of one mile without pitching. 1844 E. JESSE *Scenes Country Life* I. 254 The cottager's wife will ask [him] to sit down in that hearty Devonshire phrase,..'Do'y Sir, pitch yourself'—bringing forward a chair.

9. *trans. transf.* (from 1 and 5). To set, plant, fill, furnish (something) *with* things or persons stuck or placed in or on it. † a. *gen. Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4056 A hundrith shippes..Pight full of pepull & mony prise knight. 1420 *Siege Rouen* in *Archæologia* XXI. 62 A dyche was made, ..They pyght hyt wyth stakes hors to perche. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1549) 145 The daungerouse rase of auctoritee, pight full of perils. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IX. 337 [He] Cut a dike by it, pitch'd with pales, broad and of deep import. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Gothick Wars* I. 24 Pitching the top with multitude of stakes.

† b. *spec.* To set, stud, or adorn with gems or the like. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 217 Pyȝt..Wyth whyte perle & non oþer gemme. *Ibid.* 241 'O perle' quoth I, 'in perlez pyȝt'. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 212 In ever-ilk aperty pyghte with precyous stones. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxli. 273 Croune of gold pyght with ryche perle and precious stones. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. ix. 133 The collar picht with orient peirlis als. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampt.* II. (1662) 298 He wore a gown of purple velvet, pight with pieces of gold.

c. To pave (a road, path, or street) with stones set on end; orig. with pebbles or cobbles; hence, also, with granite 'randoms', or with dressed and squared 'setts'. Also, to form a foundation for a macadamized road with larger stones placed on edge by hand.

c 1550 *R. Ricart's Kalendar* (Camden) 57 In this yere was Redclif strete .. new pight. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* vi. 251 Hell (the pavement whereof was commonly said to be pitcht with shavelings skuls, and great mens crests). 1666 *Act* 18 & 19 *Chas. II*, c. 8 § 18 The order and manner of paving and pitching the Streets and Lanes. 1682 WOOD *Life* 31 July (O. H. S.) III. 25 In this month .. was the highway .. pitched with peebles and hard stone. 1717 TABOR in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 554 The Surface of the Clay was neatly pitch'd with small Flint and Stones, Pointed at their lower ends, and Headed at their upper ends. 1811 *Self Instructor* 140 Paved with bricks or pitched with pebble. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Aug. 5/3 In addition to flagging and pitching several roads.

† **10.** To 'put together'; to construct by fastening the parts together; *pa. pple.*, compacted, knit. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2720 Alle here schippis were redy dyght And fraught with vitayles and wel pight. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xiv. 47 All thassystents..sayde that they neuere sawe no fayrer man of armes, nor better pyght. 1611 COTGR., *Compacte*, compacted; well set, knit, trust, pight, or ioyned together.

II. To set in order, arrange, determine; to fix the order, position, rate, price, or pitch of.

11. *trans.* To set in order for fighting, to arrange (a battle, field of battle, etc.: see BATTLE *sb.* 11, FIELD *sb.* 8 b); to set in array. *Obs.* exc. in PITCHED *ppl. a.* (q. v., sense 2).

a 1470 TIPTOFT *Cæsar* xii. (1530) 14 Cesar had ordered hys army & pyght his felde in a conuenient place. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1244 The duke of Normandy..Pight a stronge batell. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vi. (Arb.) 70 If ye two bidde me, we will with him pitche a fielde. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* II, E ij b, Polites .. through foes and wepons pight, Through galeryes along doth ronne. 1590 MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* III. i, Our battle, then, in martial manner pitch'd. *c* 1645 T. TULLIE *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 37 The Enemie drew out some foot to peche against those in the ditch. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 54/2 When to wage War, and when to pitch a Field.

12. To set (one person) *against* another in contest or competition; to pit. *rare.*

1801 IT. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* II. 48 My tutor offered to pitch me against the clerk for reading, and against a neighbouring farmer's son for casting accounts. 1889 *Daily News* 6 Aug. 5/7 We are..weak in comparison with the great fleets against which we shall be pitched when the manœuvres commence.

† **13.** To determine (something that is to be); to set, fix, settle, appoint, fix upon. *Obs.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* XCVI. 272 Tel ye, I say, the Gentiles all This Lord his raigne hath pight. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 38 b, If they be such as..by a price pitcht they are deliuered out for. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iii. 37 Between us theres a price already pitcht. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvi. (1612) 216 Pluto .. and all th' infernall States Did pytch a Session, to correct Remisnes in debates. 1649 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 166 The King now hath pitcht a new day for his repaire to Antwerp.

† b. *intr.* To come to a decision; to decide. *Obs.*

1666 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 191 Privy seals, sealed paper,..have been all more or lesse disputed,..but where we shall pitch I am not yet wise enough to tell you. 1667–8 *Ibid.* 240 We are yet very irresolute what way to pitch.

c. *trans. Cards.* In certain games (e.g. *Nap*), to select or determine (a particular suit) as trumps by leading a card of that suit. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **14.** To fix, settle, or place in thought; to determine (an existing fact); to ascertain, or state as ascertained; to come to a conclusion about. *Obs.*

1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 294 Some pitch their beginning at Cyrus. 1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* (ed. Ward) 33/2 First they pitch their conclusion, and then hunt about for premises to make it good. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 24 Who can pitch a time and person that originated this notion? *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* 26, I had..pitch'd the medium of Heads in all the Families of England to be 6½.

15. To set at a particular pitch or degree (high, low, etc.; in various metaphorical applications: see PITCH *sb.*² 22). In mod. use mostly *fig.* from c: To set in a particular 'key' or style of expression, feeling, etc.

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* lvi, Pitch thy behaviour low, thy projects high. *a* 1859 L. HUNT *Cambus Khan* Poems (1860) 167 And women came with their impetuous lords, To pitch the talk and humanize the boards. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xvi. 142 His conversation was pitched in a minor key. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 81 Our second assumption regarding the mass of the Earth was pitched too low.

† b. To set or fix *at* a price or rate. *Obs. rare.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* V. 199 They pitched their commodities at what rate they pleased. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* II. iii, What do you pitch her at?

c. *Mus.* To set at a particular pitch, determine the pitch of (a tune, the voice, an instrument): see PITCH *sb.*² 23.

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 54 That the Professor..so pitch his Tune, as to sing in his full and natural voice. 1744–91 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 319 Choose a person or two in each place to pitch the tune for you. 1842 TENNYSON *Edwin Morris* 52 'Parson' said I 'you pitch the pipe too low'. 1887 CAROLINE HAZARD *Mem. J. L. Diman* vi. 123 His voice was well pitched and resonant, easily filling large spaces.

16. *intr.* with *on* or *upon*: To fix upon, settle upon, decide upon; to make choice of, select, choose; † *rarely*, to determine (= 13 or 14); in mod. use, to select more or less casually, without deliberation; to let one's choice fall *upon.*

1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Cozens* 62, I shall onely pitch vpon these ensuing passages. 1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 84 Who shall delay the accomplishment of that which is already pitch'd upon. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 86 The way and method which God pitcht upon. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* 23, I pitch upon 88 thousand to be the number of Housing Anno 1686. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 86 The Lecturer to be pitch'd upon every 3ᵈ year by yᵉ Warden & five Seniors. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* iv. (1809) 84, I pitched upon one that I thought would suit me. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 169 The place which he pitched upon for his trading post. 1858 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) III. iv. ix. 411 If one holy place was desecrated, the monks pitched upon another.

III. To cast or throw in particular ways.

17. *trans.* To cast, throw, or fling forward; to hurl (a javelin, spear, or bar, or a person headlong; to throw anything flat with retention of its horizontal position); to throw (a thing) underhand so that it may fall and rest on a particular spot. Also *absol.*

To pitch the bar: to throw a heavy bar as a form of athletic exercise or contest. *To pitch* (a person) *over the bar*: *fig.* (*colloq.*) to deprive of the status of a barrister, to disbar (cf. BAR *sb.*¹ 24).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 1831 His hors..leepe aside, and foundred as he leepe And er that Arcite may taken keepe He pighte hym on the pomel of his heed. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8258 Achilles..Grippet to a grete speire with a grym wille; Pight on the prinse, persit his wede. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 41 b, The other doth pitch down hedlong both body and soule into euerlasting torments. 1592 CHETTLE *Kinde-harts Dr.* G j, One .. that .. was not long since disgraded of his place by pitching ouer the Barre. 1600, 1715 [see BAR *sb.*¹ 2]. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 253, I..can..Pitch-Bar, and run and wrestle too. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 612 So steep that you may pitch a biscuit from its summit into the river which washes its base. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* i. (1819) 1 In crossing a heath, suppose I pitched my foot against a stone, and were asked how the stone came to be there. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xiii, As far as one might pitch a lance. 1836 LADY W. DE ERESBY in *C. K. Sharpe's Corr.* (1888) II. 495 Mrs Villiers, in galloping to cover the other day..was pitched off. 1885 *Spectator* 25 July 971/2 He was within an ace of pitching himself headforemost into the wildest of the gorges.

b. To throw (sheaves, hay, etc.) with a pitch-fork; esp. on to a cart or stack in homing or inning the crop. Often *absol.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 13 Canstow seruen..oþer syngen in a churche, Oþer coke for my cokers oþer to þe cart picche, ..oþer make bond to sheuȝs? 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 131 Or pitcheth vp the sheues from the carte to the mowe. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii, O, I look'd for this. The hay is a pitching. 1763 *Ann. Reg.* 170/1 Beddingfield..had pitched a load of wheat. 1904 H. BLACK *Pract. Self-Culture* ii. 49 He [could] pitch hay with the haymakers in the pasture.

c. In *Base-ball* or other games: To deliver or serve (the ball) to the batter. (Formerly also in *Cricket*; now *to bowl*: see BOWL *v.*¹ 4, 5.) In various games, to throw a flat object towards a mark, or so as to fall in or near a definite place. Also *absol.*

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 568 For honest Lumpey did allow He ne'er could pitch but o'er a brow. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 7 The ball, which the bowler..shall have pitched in a straight line to the wicket. *Mod.* The player that pitches his coin nearest to the mark has the first toss.

d. *slang.* To utter, tell.

1867 *London Herald* 23 Mar. 222/2 (Farmer), If he had had the sense to..pitch them a tale, he might have got off. 1878 WRIGHT *Mental Trav.* 14 They suspected from his pitching such stories, he must surely be a rogue and vagabond.

18. *intr.* for *pass.* To fall headlong heavily, to land on one's head, or strike forcibly against something, by being thrown.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 673 Þo he was iflowe an hei, & ne cowþe not aliȝte; Adoun mid so gret eir to þen erþe he vel & piȝte, þat al to peces he to rod [*MS. B.* rof]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1456 Schalkez..Haled to hym of her arewez, hitten hym oft; Bot þe poyntez payred at þe pyth þat pyȝt in his scheldez. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. viii. 8 In his fall misfortune him mistooke; For on his head unhappily he pight. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 703 Forward he flew, and pitching on his head, He quiver'd with his feet, and lay for dead. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 480 A large pine has been seen..to pitch over endwise. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* iv. 30 Columbus had to argue..that, when he came upon this side of the world he would not be in danger of pitching off into nowhere.

19. † **a.** *trans.* Of a ship: To plunge (her head) downwards into the water, instead of rising with the wave. *Obs.* [Has affinities with IV.]

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 4 If she haue not a full Bow, it will make her pitch her head much into the Sea. *Ibid.* 10.

b. *intr.* Of a ship: To plunge with the head into the trough of the sea; hence (as this is followed by the head rising or 'scending' on the crest of a wave), to rise and fall alternately at bow and stern; to plunge in a longitudinal direction (as distinguished from *rolling*).

a 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. iii, What makes her pitch and scend too much. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 175 The Sloop..rolled and pitched so violently, that it was impossible for a boat to lay a long-side of her. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxv. 132 The ship works hard, groaning and creaking, and pitching into a heavy head-sea. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Send, to,* to rise after pitching heavily and suddenly beween two waves, or out of the trough of the sea.

c. *trans.* with adv. or extension: To cast (*away, overboard,* etc.) by this movement. (A mixture of senses 17 and 19.)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., When a ship falls with her head too much into the sea, or beats against it so as to endanger her top-masts, they say, she will *pitch her masts by the board.* 1811 *Naval Chron.* XXV. 27 Having pitched her bowsprit and foremast away. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sk.* 17 Which threatened to pitch the masts out of her.

d. *intr.* Of a person or animal: To plunge forward like a pitching ship. (Cf. to LURCH.)

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lx, When I begin to talk too much..when I begin to pitch, I authorize you..to put away the brandy-bottle. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* vii, Whistling to the lumbering Newfoundland, who came pitching tumultuously toward them. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xx. 508 The only time he..ventures at a reason for what he says, he flounders and pitches headlong.

e. (See quot.) *U. S.*

1883 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* Gloss., *Pitch,* v. i., to buck, to jump from the ground with the legs bunched together, as a mustang or mule.

IV. 20. *intr.* To incline or slope forwards and downwards; to dip. Now only in *Mining,* said of a vein of ore, or other stratum.

1519 [see PITCHING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1719 STRACHEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 969 It riseth to the North West, and pitcheth to the South East. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 162 The vein..increases in width with depth and pitches 36° east.

b. *intr.* To subside or settle down, as a swelling or loose soil; *fig.* to fall off, lose flesh. *dial.*

1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* 36 The ewes shrink their milk, the lambs 'pitch and get stunted', and the best summer food will not recover them. *Ibid.* 37 The rule is to give it [the meadow] a 'thorough good soaking' at first,..to make the land sink and pitch close together. 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 679 When they [sheep] are first put into turnips they lose ground, or pitch, as it is called, for two months in the autumn, and are slow in regaining it afterwards.

V. Technical senses.

21. *Mech. trans.* and *intr.* To fit *into,* interlock, engage (as one cog-wheel with another).

a 1668 DAVENANT *Play House to Let* Wks. (1673) 91 But his fingers are pitcht together. 1792 *Specif. Kelly's Patent* No. 1879. 5 The pinion *P* pitches into and turns the wheel *R*. 1825 [see PITCHING *vbl. sb.*1 9].

22. *Brewing.* To add the yeast to wort for the purpose of inducing fermentation.

1846 *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* I. 136 *Pitching or Setting.*—This term is applied to the mixing the yeast with the wort, after it has been cooled. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* I. 316 The heat is at this time generally 75°, if it was pitched at 65°; for the heat and the attenuation go hand in hand.

VI. with *adv.* or *prep.*

23. a. *Pitch in:* to set to work vigorously. *colloq.* (chiefly *U. S.*).

1847–78 HALLIWELL s. v., *Pitch in,* to set to work; to beat or thrash a person. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 766/2 They subsequently did pitch in, however, and fought well. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* ix, He's paid me half now; and I took hold with Dan and pitched right in. I can't do a man's work yet.

b. *Pitch into:* to attack or assail forcibly (with blows, etc., or with words); to reprimand. *colloq.*

c 1843 DE QUINCEY *Ceylon* Wks. 1859 XII. 16 Both [monarchs] pitched into us in 1803, and we pitched into both in 1815. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, If any man had told me, then,..I should have pitched into him. 1863 FREEMAN in W. R. W. Stephens *Life* (1895) I. v. 287, I shall have to pitch into him a great deal more in my second volume. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* vi, You sit down..and pitch into those sandwiches.

VII. 24. The verb stem in comb. forming *sbs.*, in names of games in which coins or other objects are pitched or thrown at a mark or into a hole or vessel; as *pitch-and-chuck* (cf. CHUCK-FARTHING), *pitch-and-hustle* (cf. HUSTLE-CAP), *pitch-button, pitch-halfpenny, pitch-in-the-hole, pitch-in-the-tub*; see also PITCH-AND-TOSS, PITCH-FARTHING.

1749 W. ELLIS *Shepherds G.* 199 Others..go shooting of Birds, or play at Bandy-wicket, *Pitch and Chuck, Hooper's Hide.* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 82/1 *Pich and Hussle.* 1764 *Low Life* (ed. 3) 46 Narrow Alleys filled with Boys playing at Marbles, Pitch and Hussle. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. viii. § 15 Pitch and Hustle..a game commonly played in the fields by the lowest classes. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 134, I was watching a lot of boys playing at *pitch-button. 1828 *Pitch-halfpenny* [see PINCH *sb.* 6]. *a* 1845 HOOD *Tale Trumpet* xxxvi, Playing at dumps, or *pitch in the hole. 1901 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 9/1 The young ladies for the most part seemed to be in the '*pitch-in-the-tub' branch of the profession.

[*Note.* The form of this verb, and the fact that it has the collateral form PICK *v.*2 (chiefly, but not entirely, northern), naturally suggests some etymological connexion with PICK *v.*1 (OE. *ptcian* or *pician*). To this, in sense also, it stood originally in somewhat of a causal relation: *pick* to pierce or penetrate (with something pointed), *pitch* to cause to penetrate, to stick (something pointed) in. But no satisfactory explanation of **piccean* as a causal derivative of *ptcian* or *pician* appears. And although the form *pick* appears in both verbs, they are formally distinct, in that PICK *v.*1 occurs with short and long *i*, but only with *k*, never *-tch*, while PITCH occurs both with *-tch* and *-k*, but never with long *i*. They are also quite distinct dialectally; dialects which use PICK *v.*2 for *pitch*, use *pike* for PICK *v.*1]

Pitch (pitʃ), *v.*2 Forms: 1 (ȝe)pician, 3–4 piche(n, 4 picche, 5–6 pyche, pytch(e, 6– pitch. *β. northern.* 3 pike, 4 pik, 5–6 pycke, 5–7 picke, 6– pick. [OE. (*ge*)*pician*, f. *pic*, PITCH *sb.*1] *trans.* To cover, coat, or smear with pitch; to mark or brand (a sheep, etc.) with pitch; to soil or stain with pitch.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 26 ȝedo on wæter .xxx. nihta on ænne croccan þone þe sie ȝepicod utan. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 97 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 222, & sibbe ipiched al aboute þat þe water ne come. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXXIII. (Tollem. MS.), þe ton is calde schippe picche, for schippes beþ pichid [1495 pytched] þerwiþ. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* 176, xj barelles peche to pyche the said shipp. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 150 b, Let him pitch euery sowe and her pigs with a seuerall marke. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 110 Without it you would pitch all your cloaths. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 260 Theire Money was brought thither in Barrells, pitch'd up. 1817 BENNET in *Parl. Deb.* 1861 The deponent declared, that he had seen men pitched and tarred, and hunted through the streets, on whom torture was afterwards inflicted.

β. c 1300 *Havelok* 707 He dede it tere, an ful wel pike, That it ne doutede sond ne krike. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5615 (Cott.) An esscen kyst sco did be wroght, Did pik it sua wit-oute and in. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4208 A barge .. dragen ouer with hidis, Pared & parreld at his pay pickid & taloghid. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 109 The shyppe of Noe was soo well pycked. 1611 COTGR., *Brayer vn navire,* to graue, picke, or pitch, a Ship. 17.. *Sir Patrick Spens* xxiii. in Child *Ballads* III. (1885) 28/2 Ye'll pict her well, and spare her not, And mak her hale and soun.

b. *fig.* To make 'as dark as pitch'; to envelop in pitchy darkness.

1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* II. i, O call that night again; Pitch her with all her darkness round. *a* 1700 — *On Death of Amyntas* 6 But soon he found The welkin pitched with sullen clouds around.

Pitchable, *a. rare.* [f. PITCH *v.*1 + -ABLE.] That may be pitched; in quot. = PITCHÉ.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* C iij b, A cros flurri fixabull ..in iij. of his endys he is florishyng and in the foote pichabull or fixabull.

Pitch-and-chuck, Pitch-and-hustle: see PITCH *v.*1 24.

Pitch-and-toss. [From name of the two actions.] A game of combined skill and chance.

Each player pitches a coin at a mark; the one whose coin lies nearest to the mark then tosses all the coins and keeps those that turn up 'head'; the one whose coin lay next in order does the same with the remaining ones, and so on till all the coins are disposed of.

1810 SIR A. BOSWELL *Edinburgh* Poems (1871) 54 The germ of Gambling sprouts in pitch and toss. 1844 DICKENS *Christmas Carol* iii, They are good for anything from pitch-and-toss to man-slaughter. 1890 *Times* 16 Sept. 10/4 The charges before the magistrate..playing pitch and toss with pence in the streets.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (In first quot. a pun.)

a 1845 HOOD *Sea-spell* iv, The bounding pinnace played a game Of dreary pitch and toss, A game that, on the good dry land, Is apt to bring a loss. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xix, Brummagem half-pennies, scamps who want to play pitch-and-toss with the property of the country. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 2/3 This is one of the pitch-and-toss points from his speech as reported in to-day's *Times.*

Hence **Pitch and toss** *vbl. phr., intr.* to play at pitch-and-toss; *trans.* to pitch or throw about as if at this game; **Pitcher and tosser** *sb. phr.,* one who pitches and tosses.

1849 S. BAMFORD *Early Days* (1859) 169 There's a deal o' sin committed thereabeawts; pitchin' an' tossin', an' drinkin', an' beawlin', i' Summer time. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* I. ii. 67 No scattered sheets of music—no fancy-work pitch-and-tossed about the room. 1883 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692/1 The pitchers and tossers allow for you and a rational amount of headway.

Pitch-back, *a.* [f. PITCH *sb.*2 or *v.*1 + BACK *adv.*] In *pitch-back wheel,* a variety of breast-wheel in which the water is admitted much higher than the axle so as to have a backward pitch or direction on the wheel.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pitch-back Wheel,* a kind of wheel used in a mill, propelled by water.

Pitch-ball, -black, etc.: see PITCH *sb.*1 5.

† **Pitch-battle.** *Obs.* A pitched battle: cf. PITCH-FIELD.

1797 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 313 Broughton having fought sixteen pitch battles, fifteen of which he won.

Pitch-blende (pi·tʃˌblend). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *pechblende* (Cronstedt, 1758), f. *pech* PITCH *sb.*1: see BLENDE.] Native oxide of uranium, found in blackish pitch-like masses, more rarely crystalline; also called URANINITE.

1770 tr. *Cronstedt's Min.* 217 *Pechblende* or *Pitch Blende* of the Germans. 1794 HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. *Catal. Fossils* 52/1 Peche blende, of a glassy shining surface, often crystallized in irregular pyramids. 1814 AIKIN *Min.* 296 Pitch Blende. 1861 H. W. BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 296 Pitch-blende is distinguished from brownblende by colour. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 8 Oct. 3/4 Pitchblende..possesses the property of emitting the rays, or form of energy, known as the Becquerel rays. 1904 *Ibid.* 6 Jan. 5/7 Mme. Curie..discovered radium in the residue left after uranium had been extracted from 'pitch-blend', or uranium ore.

Pitch-block: see PITCH *sb.*2 26.

Pitch-board[1]. [f. PITCH *sb.*2 VI + BOARD *sb.*] A thin wooden board used as a guide in stair-building, cut to the shape of a right-angled triangle, with the base equal to the breadth of tread of the step, and the perpendicular equal to its height, the hypotenuse thus indicating the pitch.

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 618/1 Plate XXXVIII..Fig. 2. Exhibits the pitch-board, to shew what part of the step the twisted part of the rail contains. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 600 The pitch-board, is a right-angled triangular board made to the rise and tread of the step, one side forming the right angle of the width of the tread.

† **Pitch-board**[2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PITCH *sb.*1 + BOARD *sb.*] ? A fanciful name for a ship. (Cf. BOARD *sb.* 13.)

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 29 To post after him, and scoure it with their Ethiope pitchbordes till they be windlesse in his quest and pursuing.

Pitch-boat, -boilery, etc.: see PITCH *sb.*1 5.

Pitch-brand. [f. PITCH *sb.*1 + BRAND *sb.*] A brand or mark of ownership made with pitch upon a sheep, etc.; also *fig.,* a distinctive evil mark or characteristic. So **Pitch-branded** *a.*

1631 J. BURGES *Answ. Rejoined, Lawfulness of Kneeling* 21 Hee that beside a pitch-brande, doth raddle the heads of his fat sheepe. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 234 David makes this the pitch-brand (as it were) of wicked wretches, 'they call not upon God'. 1805 LUCCOCK *Nat. Wool* 318 Instead of the common pitch-brand a permanent mark is fixed upon the ear of the sheep. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 317 Notable men in their kinde, but pitch-branded with notorious dissimulation.

Pitch-button: see PITCH *v.*1 24.

Pitch-cap, *sb.* [f. PITCH *sb.*1 + CAP *sb.*1] **a.** A cap lined with pitch, used as an instrument of torture by the soldiery during the Irish rebellion of 1798. **b.** *Med.* A kind of plaster containing pitch, formerly used as a depilatory for the scalp in cases of favus (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1093 A pitche cappe made to take away the hair from scabbed heads, *depilatorium, psilothrum.* 1803 E. HAY *Insurr. Wexf.* 181 They certainly were the introducers of pitch-cap torture into the county of Wexford [in 1798]. 1842 R. R. MADDEN *United Irishmen* I. xi. 337 The numbers tied up to the triangles and tortured with the scourge, or tormented with the pitch-caps..in the year 1798. 1887 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* July 175 Why should anybody go out of his way to fit such a pitch-cap as that on his head?

Hence **Pitch-cap** *v. trans.,* to torture with a pitch-cap.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 14 Nov., The ignorant and deluded peasants who were tarred, pitchcapped, singed, and flogged until their entrails fell out.

Pitch-chain, -diameter: see PITCH *sb.*2 26.

† **Pitchcock,** corruption of SPITCHCOCK. *Obs.*

1747 MRS. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* ix. 92 To Pitchcock Eels. You must split a large Eel down the Back, and joint the Bones, cut it into two or three Pieces, ..and broil them of a fine Brown. 1773 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 96/2 The dinner was soup, jack, perch, and eel pitchcockt, fowls, [etc.].

Pitch-dark: see PITCH *sb.*1 5.

Pitched (pitʃt), † **pight** (pəit), *ppl. a.*1 [Pa. pple. of PITCH *v.*1 q. v. The form *pight* (in senses 1, 2) has been obs. since *c* 1600.]

† **1.** Fixed in the ground, staked; set in anything; adorned or set with jewels. *Obs.*

a. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 207 A pyȝt coronne ȝet wer þat gyrle. 1584 in *Descr. Thames* (1758) 63 Rowte Wears, Pight Wears, Foot Wears.

β. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 46 Tyed was she fast vnto a pitched stake.

2. Set in orderly array for fighting: said of a battle which has been planned and of which the ground has been chosen beforehand; a regular

battle as distinguished from a skirmish or casual encounter; also *pitched field*.

a. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xxvii. 3 In battell pight if they will try I trust in God for ayde. 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* ii. 85 The soldier which neuer saw a pight field. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 412 Fitly is the life of man compared vnto a pight battell. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 832 The martiall prowesse of this Earle in the pight field.

β. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 503 To the entent to giue him battaile in a pitched field, and so to make a finall ende of his intended conquest. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* (*title-p.*), A Description of the order of a Maine Battaile or Pitched Field. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 32 David was never put to flight in any pitcht-battle. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 396 That magic flag, which has been victorious in two pitched fields. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. ii. 47 In this year .. nine pitched battles .. were fought with the heathens.

3. Paved with stones set in place, whether cobbles, granite 'randoms' or 'setts': see PITCH *v.*[1] 9 c.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 23 A plaine pitched walke, *sub die*, that is, under the open ayre. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3175/4 To be Let a good large Inn, ..with a large pitch'd Court. *c* 1830 *Pract. Treat. Roads* 8 (*Libr. Usef. Kn., Husb.* III), One party contending that a pitched foundation is necessary to make a substantial and good road. 1890 *Daily News* 16 May 7/1 Maintenance..of footways at the sides of main roads .. whether such footways were flagged, pitched, asphalted, gravelled, or otherwise constructed, as well as of pitched crossings over those roads.

†4. *fig.* Set or fixed (mentally); determined, resolved. *Obs. rare.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 67 When I disswaded him from his intent, And found him pight to doe it. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. lxxiii, My pitchèd end Was for to prove the immortality Of humane souls.

5. Said of a market where the goods are pitched in bulk (PITCH *v.*[1] 7), not sold by sample.

1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts.* Gloss., *Pitched Market*, where the corn is exposed for sale as in Salisbury, Devizes, and Warminster, and not sold by sample.

6. Thrown in order to fall on a particular place, delivered. (Also with adverbs.)

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 3/2 One disastrous bump, baffling all calculation, that may happen to it off a pitched-up shot. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 May 7/3 Both batsmen scored fairly regularly in front of the wicket by driving any over-pitched ball.

7. [partly f. PITCH *sb.*[2]] With defining word: Having a pitch of specified kind or magnitude (high, low, etc.): see HIGH-PITCHED, LOW-PITCHED.

a. Of a roof or building, or of a plough (PITCH *sb.*[2] 21, 24 c and e).

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 119 Yet are the roofes high pitcht. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) IV. 8 A small deep-pitched, double-breasted plough. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 7/1 The open lofty-pitched oak roof.

b. Having a specified musical pitch (*sb.*[2] 23).

1622–1898 [see LOW-PITCHED 1]. 1748 [see HIGH-PITCHED 1]. 1880 VERN. LEE *Stud. Italy* IV. iii. 169 A natural law of music makes the highest pitched voice invariably the most important.

Pitched (pitʃt), *ppl. a.*[2] Also *Sc.* 5 **pykked**, 6 **pikit**. [f. PITCH *v.*[2] + -ED[1].] Smeared, covered, saturated, or otherwise treated with pitch.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 809 Into a picced [*v.r.* pitched] potte he wol hem glene. 1600 NASHE *Summer's Last Will in* Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 46 Their gargarisms, clysters, and pitch'd-cloths. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 56 A long coarse coate, to keepe better things from the pitched ropes and plankes. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lix. (1877) 472 He condemned them to be burnt, wrapped in pitched cloth, in his own gardens.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 278/1 Pykked, *bituminatus*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. ii. 54 The pikit bargis of fyr fast can thring.

Pitcher[1] (pi·tʃəɹ). Forms: *α.* 3–5 **picher**, 4–6 **pycher**, (4 -ere), 5–6 **pychar**, (5 -are), (6 **pitchaer, pytcher, pitchard**), 6– **pitcher**; *β.* 4–5 **pecher**, 5 -ir, 5–6 *Sc.* **-ar**. [ME. *picher, pecher*, a. OF. *pichier* (12th c.), *picier, pechier, pichier* (mod.F. *pichet*, dial. *picher, pichier, petier*, Gascon *pichey*, Valencian *pitxer*, It. *picchiere*):—pop.L. type **piccāri-um*, in med.L. *picārium, bicārium*: see BEAKER. From L. also OHG. *pechari, pehhar, behhari* drinking-cup (Ger. *becher*), whence app. It. *pe'cchero*.]

1. A large vessel usually of earthenware, with a handle (or two ears) and usually a lip, for holding and pouring out liquids; a jug; a jug-shaped or vase-shaped vessel.

Now, somewhat of a literary archaism, but locally applied to 'various specific kinds of earthenware vessels', differentiated in size or material from 'jug' (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); in some localities a milk-jug; in U. S. applied to a bedroom jug or ewer; in Scotland often to a large earthenware jar with two ears, in which drinking-water is kept; in some districts of Scotl. to a vessel of tinned iron, as a milk can.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 427/247 For a lof and a picher wyn: Mi wyf me sende ech day. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10748 She offred for hym to þe auter, Ful of wyne, a pecher. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 Fulle þi Pechir of þin farsure. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 3857 A pycher he had full of water. 1470 *Burgh Rec. Prestwick* 7 May (Maitl. Cl.) 17 A cop of quhat pechar he plessis. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 14 None can a pytcher tourne to a sylver pece. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 167 Wyth some propleme pulled out of a peny pycher. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xvii. 14 The meell in the pitcher shall not be spent, & the oyle in ye cruse shall not fayll. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 49 As for a pitchaer, euery bodye may..sette..in the open strete. 1598 FLORIO, *Pitero*, an earthen pot or potsheard or pitchard. 1608–9 MIDDLETON *Widow* v. i. 139 Broken cruises and pitchers without ears. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 775 There the pitcher stands A fragment, and the spoutless teapot there. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. v, Quaintly-shaped pitchers of bright colours were ranged on china brackets along the walls. *local.* 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* 327 *Pitchers*, earthenware vessels of the finer kinds, common china included. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., The *pitcher* is always made of coarse brown earthenware (cloam). If of finer ware, or china, it is a jug. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 182 The orator calms himself with ice-water from the bedroom pitcher.

b. Prov. *Pitchers have ears* (with pun on EAR *sb.*[1] 3 and 8): i. e. beware, there may be persons listening or overhearing: in the form *little pitchers have wide* or *long ears* (etc.) said in reference to children. *The pitcher goes often to the well, but is broken at last* (etc.): said of a long-continued course of success (or impunity), ending at length in failure (or punishment).

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 53 Auoyd your children, small pitchers haue wide eares. 1591 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 15 Yet at last so long the pitcher goeth to the brooke, that it commeth broken home. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 52 Not in my house Lucentio, for you know Pitchers haue eares, and I haue manie seruants. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxii, The pitcher goes oft to the well—. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 3/2 The pitcher, however, has gone once too often to the well, and yesterday..the panorama caught fire in earnest, and was reduced to ashes. 1886 MISS TYTLER *Buried Diamonds* xiii, Surely Miss Gray, knowing that little pitchers have ears, would have corrected the mistake.

2. *Bot.* A leaf, or a part of one, modified into the form of a pitcher (see PITCHER-PLANT): = ASCIDIUM 2. (In quot. 1797, a part of a petal.)

1797 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* I. 381 Petals..gibbous without a base, excavated within into a pitcher. 1845 R. CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 201 The pitcher, as this is called, is not a new organ, but simply the metamorphosis of a leaf. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 101 *Pitchers* (*ascidia*) are structures of the form indicated by their name, produced by peculiar modes of development of the petiole, the blade, or of both together. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* vi. 97 The pitchers of Nepenthes possess extraordinary power of digestion.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pitcher-like, -shaped* adjs.; **†pitcher-man**, a man addicted to drinking, a toper; **†pitcher-meat**, potable food, drink; **pitcher-mould**, a terra-cotta mould in which the bodies of earthenware pitchers or other vessels were formerly made; so **pitcher-moulding**, the operation of casting in a pitcher-mould; **pitcher-nose** (see quot.); **†pitcher-praise**, ? compliment by drinking one's health; **†pitcher-souled** *a.*, stupid, stolid; **pitcher-vase**, a vase of the form of a pitcher. See also PITCHER-HOUSE, -PLANT.

1830 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 314 A *pitcher-like cream jug. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 480 The order [*Marcgraviaceæ*] is chiefly interesting for the curious pitcher-like bracts which some of their genera exhibit. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. i, The Travellers were all honest Topers, true *Pitcher-men. 1738 *Poor Robin* (N.), Boon blades, true pitcher-men. 1551 ASCHAM *Let. to E. Raven* 14 May, Wks. (1815) 366 The best physician in the world, because he gives him *pitcher-meat enough. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp., **Pitcher Nose*, said of a faucet with a bent down lip. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. v. 195 So Don Diego Garcia of Par-edes, Hath *Pitcher-praise, and double health his meed-is. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 155 *Pitcher-shaped leaves. *a* 1739 JARVIS *Quix.* II. III. xv, He looks like a *pitcher-souled fellow [*alma de cántaro*].

Pitcher[2] (pi·tʃəɹ), [f. PITCH *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who pitches.

1. a. *Harvesting.* One who pitches the hay or sheaves to the loader on a cart, wagon, or rick.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 217 It is good husbandry to have two pitchers to one loader in the field. 1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 513 What loads that tall pitcher is lifting to the waggon-top! *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *Song of Haymakers* i, The pitchers, and rakers, and merry haymakers.

b. In various industries, A workman who pitches, sets, or places something: see quots.

1865 J. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 15 The finished slates are then taken by the 'pitchers', and carried .. to the show-yard. There they count and pitch them. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Pitchers*, .. loaders in the pit, and men who take up and relay the rails in the workings and long-wall faces. 1891 *Scott. Leader* 21 Jan. 4 [A man] employed as a stone pitcher at Camphill Water Works.

c. A street vendor who pitches a stall at a definite place or occupies a 'pitch': cf. PITCH *sb.*[2] 11.

1896 C. BOOTH *Life & Labour of People* VII. III. ii. 261 The pitcher..transforms his barrow, which on its way through the streets has displayed nothing but boxes and loose boards, into a full-blown market stall, while the barrow of the coster is so arranged as to display its stock at all times. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 5/1 He claimed to be a 'coster', but if he is anything he is a 'pitcher'.

2. A player who pitches or delivers a ball, etc., in various games; esp. in Baseball, the player that stands in the space called the *pitcher's box*, near the centre of the diamond, and pitches or delivers the ball to the batter.

1870 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Plutarch* Wks. (Bohn) III. 347 They are like the baseball players, to whom the pitcher, the bat, the catcher, and the scout are equally important. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 604 The object of the pitcher is to get the ball in the hole. 1885 E. L. DIDIER in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 722/2 He was one of the most famous pitchers in Virginia, and always used the heaviest quoits. 1902 R. CONNOR *Sky Pilot* iv, In the pitcher's box he puzzled the Porcupines till they grew desperate.

II. Something pitched, or used for pitching.

3. An iron bar for making holes in the ground, as for setting stakes or hop-poles: = PITCH *sb.*[2] 7 a.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 199 A Frame of six Poles let into the Ground with an Iron Pitcher or Crow. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 553 The hole previously made by an iron bar, called a hop-pitcher.

4. *local.* A cutting, rod, or stake planted in the ground in order to take root; cf. PITCH *sb.*[2] 7 b.

e. g. A bough or rod of willow, poplar, or elder, so planted, esp. in making a hedge (*South of Eng.*); a cutting of an apple-tree set in the ground, or a tree grown from such a cutting (*W. Eng., Pembr., Ireland*).

1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 203 A common practice here in planting orchards, is to set cuttings, three or four feet long, half way in the ground..they call them pitchers. 1785 in *Young's Ann. Agric.* IV. 245 Withy plants, which in this county [Som.] are very useful for stakes (or pitchers as they are called) for making hedges. 1843 J. SMITH *Forest Trees* 156 Irish pitcher..is a very fine standard [apple-tree]. 1886 [see PITCH *sb.*[2] 7].

5. A stone used for paving, e. g. the small flints or pebbles used in paving yards, etc.; also the brick-shaped granite 'setts' used for crossings, and sometimes for streets. See PITCH *v.*[1] 5 b.

1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxii. (ed. 2) 503 Besides the ordinary cubes and pitchers for paving, a considerable quantity of granite is cut and sold for kerbs. 1866 *Faversham Gaz.* 27 Jan., The new stones required for this work will be 254 tons of pitchers, 25 tons of curb. 1897 *Standard* 17 Apr., The comparative merits of granite pitchers, so-called macadam, asphalte, and wood paving.

6. Various dialect or local uses: e. g. the flat stone or piece of wood pitched in hop-scotch, or at a mark or hole in various games; the marble with which a boy aims. See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Pitcher[3]. *rare*—[0]. [f. PITCH *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who pitches, who covers or caulks with pitch.

1611 COTGR., *Goildronneur*, a pitcher, trimmer, or tighter of ships.

Pitcherful (pi·tʃəɹful). [f. PITCHER[1] + -FUL.] The quantity that fills a pitcher.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 163 Artichokes growing in light Grounds, have need of a Pitcher full or two of Water, for each Plant. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 14 June in *Lockhart*, You stand like a child going to be bathed, shivering and shaking till the first pitcherful is flung about your ears. 1894 G. ROBSON *Jamaica Mission* 86 Wandering for miles in search of a pitcherful [of water].

†Pi·tcher-house. *Obs.* A room in a great house, in which the wine and ale were kept.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 540/1 Grome of the Picher house of oure Howshold. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 74 Ewery, Pantrie, Seller, Buttery, Spicery, pitcher house. 1601 F. TATE *Housch. Ord. Edw. II* (1876) 29 Two valletes de mestier of the picher-house, who shal serve the hal of wine and ale. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 15) 155 Sergeant of the Cellar, who is also Sergeant of the Buttery, and Pitcher-house. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 236 Deem you that knights' esquires pass their life in the pantry and pitcher-house?

Pi·tchering. *nonce-wd.* [f. PITCHER[1] + -ING[1].] The action of pouring from a pitcher.

1820 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 109 A job compared to which the water pitcherings of the Danaides were hopeful.

Pitcher-plant. [f. PITCHER[1] + PLANT *sb.*[1]] Name for several plants which have the leaves, or some of them, modified into the form of a pitcher, often containing a liquid secretion by means of which insects are captured and assimilated by the plant; *esp.* the East Indian genus *Nepenthes*, and the N. American genus *Sarracenia*.

Also *Darlingtonia californica*, and *Heliamphora nutans* of Guiana (both allied to *Sarracenia*), and *Cephalotus follicularis* of Australia.

1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* I. § 80 In the Nepenthes, or true pitcher-plant, the pitcher is placed at the extremity of a tendril, terminating a winged petiole. It is crowned with a membranous lid. 1857 GRAY *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 51 The common Pitcher-plant or Side-saddle Flower ..of our bogs. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Longm. Mag.* July 311 The pitcher plants allure flies into their murderous vessels.

Pitcher(r)y, variant of PITURI.

Pitch-faced: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pi·tch-fa:rthing. [PITCH *v.*[1] 17.] A game resembling pitch-and-toss, in which the coins, instead of being tossed so as to fall 'head or tail', were pitched towards a hole; so as to afford more scope for skill; = CHUCK-FARTHING, q. v.

1742 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. xciv. 268 Your various occupations of Greek and cricket, Latin and pitch-farthing. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xix. (1889) 186 A group of half-grown lads were playing at pitch-farthing.

†Pitch-field. *Obs.* A pitched field of battle: cf. PITCH-BATTLE.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pest.* II. ii, There has been a pitchfield, my child, between the naughty Spaniels and the Englishmen. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 84 No Pitch-field ever slew, or wounded more than they have cured.

Pitch-fir: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.

Pitchfork (pi·tʃfɔ̄k), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 **pych-, pycche-**, 6 **pyche-, pytche-, pitche-**, 6– **pitch-fork**, etc. [Also (in earlier use) PICKFORK, *dial.*

pikefork, app. orig. f. PICK *sb.*[1], PIKE *sb.*[1]; afterwards associated with PITCH *v.*[1], from its use in pitching sheaves, etc.] A long-handled fork with two sharp prongs, for lifting and pitching hay, straw, or sheaves; sometimes applied to a short-handled fork for lifting dung, breaking clods, etc.

1452 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* Bundle 31 No. 1 Ipsum percussit cum baculo vocato pychforke. 1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pytche forke, *fourche fiere*. *c*1540 R. MORICE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 A gentilman..toke a fyrre bushe on a forke, or a pitchefork. *c*1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* IV. iii, Let me dye like a Dog on a Pitch-fork. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2046/1 Between 2 and 3000..some with Musquets, some with Pistols, some with Pikes, and some with Pitch-forks and Sythes. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 52 She wears her Cloaths, as if they were thrown on her with a Pitch-Fork. 1852 ROGET *Thesaurus* § 348 To rain..in torrents, rain cats and dogs, rain pitchforks.

attrib. 1788 BARKER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 413 About as thick as a pitch-fork shaft.

Pi·tchfork, *sb.*[2] [f. PITCH *sb.*[2] 23 + FORK *sb.*, after PITCH-PIPE.] A tuning-fork, used for setting the pitch of a tune or instrument.

1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 406 The Tuning-fork, originally called the Pitch-fork. 1892 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 5/2 The introduction of new tunes called for the use of the sonorous little instrument called a 'pitch-fork'.

Pi·tchfork, *v.* [f. PITCHFORK *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To throw or cast with, or as with, a pitchfork; to pitch forcibly or roughly.

1837 *Times* 22 June, Resolved to drive the nuisance from their den, They'll probably pitchfork it back again. 1870 *Observer* 9 July, The meal is brought and pitchforked to the diners [lions]. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vi. 74 Reminding..possibly of a hay-load; being so very much pitchforked up into heaps behind.

b. *fig.*; *esp.* to thrust (a person) forcibly or unsuitably into some position or office.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* (1855) 14 To achieve an entrance into St. Stephen's, you might submit.. to be pitchforked in..by the priests. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 245 To have the descendants of Henri IV. pitchforked out of the country. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 68 Whether he was pitchforked into the service or rose meritoriously is now a matter of indifference.

2. To stab or attack with a pitchfork.

1854 LEECH *Pict. Life & Char.* (1855) 22 Vowing that he will pitchfork Mr. B. if he comes 'galloperravering' over his fences.

Hence **Pi·tchforked** *ppl. a.*, **-forking** *vbl. sb.*

1891 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 3/1 This reckless pitchforking of unnecessary furniture. 1899 *Dundee Advertiser* 10 Oct. 4 The pitchforked man..would fall the just prey to all the generation of ladder-climbers.

Pitch-hill: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pitch-hole[1]. [f. PITCH *v.*[1] + HOLE *sb.*] A hole into which something pitches or is pitched; an opening in the wall of a barn, etc. through which corn or hay is pitched.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 47 A man will unload nearly two loads of grain drawn into the barn and unloaded upon the mow, while he could unload one at a pitch-hole. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 273 You have passed through a 'pitch-hole', the toboggan rises high in the air.

Pi·tch-hole[2]. [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + HOLE *sb.*] A hole or pit containing 'pitch' or bitumen.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 3/1 The wonderful pitch-hole.. becomes a lively volcano.

Pi·tchiness. [f. PITCHY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being pitchy; intense darkness or blackness.

1598 FLORIO, *Orco*..the darknes or pitchines in hell. 1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 722 She swings and sways along the snow-crested pitchiness of her rolling path.

Pitching (pi·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PITCH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PITCH *v.*[1]; also *concr.*

1. The action of fixing or planting in the ground or in some surface.

*c*1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 137 Þe picching of þe naillis. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. xxxiv, Drawing twoo arche lines at euery pitchinge of the compas. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 567 The pitching of the wicket. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 39 The pitching of the wickets devolves upon the umpires.

2. The setting up of a tent or the like.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Cenophagia..was icleped picchinge of tentes. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Assentamiento*, placing, sitting, pitching of a campe. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. ix. P 3 These tents in the plain are of our pitching.

3. The placing of goods in a market for sale; a payment charged for this.

1612 *Indenture* in G. G. Francis *Orig. Charters Neath* (1845), The towle custome the} pitching the killage and anchoradge. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pitching*, a market term for unloading, and for the small charge paid to the carrier for looking after the empty packages and cloths, and returning them correctly.

† **4.** Fixing, determination. *Obs.*

1599 in Fowler *Hist. C.C.C.* (O. H. S.) 351 About the pitching of fines..and grants of copyhold land.

† **5.** ? Transfixing or spearing (of eels). *Obs.* Cf. PICK *sb.*[1] 4 d.

1674 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* Bundle 99 No. 1[v], For pitching, catching, and taking of eeles and floatfish.

6. The action of setting, planting, or fixing in some place or position; *spec.* of stones in paving; also, the facing of a bank or slope with stones set on edge close together, as a protection against waves or currents.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 223 This Ball will require three Pitchings into the Mandrel. 1717 TABOR in *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 554 This Pitching or Paving. 1842-76 GWILT *Archit.* § 1672 Aberdeen granite is most extensively employed for curbs, trams, and pitching; the latter in thin cubes about 9 inches in depth, 3 inches in thickness, and not exceeding 18 inches in length. 1846 *Hull & Lincoln Railw. Bill* 11 Stones for building, pitching, and paving. 1852 WIGGINS *Embanking* 124 The expense of the facing of the bank comes next under consideration..In cases where pitching has been thought necessary, and that, 18 inches deep. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 26 June 6/2 The Manchester Ship Canal..At many points where the pitching had not been completed, the soft earth was cut up into deep gullies, and the sandy slope looked blistered and threatening.

b. *concr.* Pavement composed of cobbles or granite 'setts' firmly set up; also, a facing of stone on a bank or slope.

1693 E. HARLEY in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 514 The court is levelled, and laid very dry..without any pitching. 1751 W. HALFPENNY *New Designs Farm Ho.* 6, 138 Yards of pitching in the Court, Stable &c. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 349, I made my horse stand bare-footed on round stones, or pitching, as it is called. 1885 WARREN & CLEVERLY *Wanderings of Battle* 102 The ponderous cannon thundered over the uneven pitching of the streets.

c. The foundation of a macadamized road made of stones 6 or 8 inches deep, laid on edge by hand, so as to form an arched support for the broken metalling, and to distribute the weight of the traffic.

1830 *Pract. Treat. Roads* 8 (*Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III.), Pitching is a foundation formed of large stones.

7. The action of throwing, hurling, or 'lofting' something so that it may fall on a particular spot; *esp.* of a ball in certain games, as baseball, golf (cf. PITCH *sb.*[2] 3).

1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spa* xi. 96, I commend walking, bowling, pitching of the bar, and leaping. 1901 *Scotsman* 26 Mar. 5/3 (Golf) His pitching was quite equal to that of the Newbattle professional, and his putting was..superior.

8. The forward downward plunging of a ship.

1877 W. H. WHITE *Naval Archit.* (1882) 210 The longitudinal oscillations of pitching and scending.

9. The interlocking or engaging of one cog-wheel with another, etc.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 486 The communication or action of one wheel with another is called the pitching. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 323/2 The fly pitching may next be examined.

10. *Brewing.* (See PITCH *v.*[1] 22.)

11. The yellowish deposit on tanned leather: = BLOOM *sb.*[1] 4 c.

1857 C. TOMLINSON in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XIII. 307/2 A portion of its gelatin..is, by combination with a portion of tannin..deposited upon its surfaces..in the form of a yellow deposit, technically known as *bloom*, or *pitching*.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pitching-place, -stand*; **pitching-bar** = PITCHER[2] 3; **pitching-block** (see quot.); **pitching-hole** = PITCH-HOLE[1]; **pitching-pence** *sb. pl.* (see quot.); **pitching-piece**, a piece of timber at the top of a wooden staircase, supporting the 'carriage' or framework (correlative to the *apron-piece*, at the bottom); **pitching-stables** (see quot.); **pitching-stone**, a stone used for pitching a road: see 6 c; **pitching-temperature**, in *Brewing*, the temperature at which the wort is pitched (see PITCH *v.*[1] 22); **pitching-tool**, (*a*) a prehistoric chisel, made of an antler or other hard substance, used with a hammer in flaking off flint, etc., for making arrow-heads, etc.; (*b*) in *Watchmaking*, a tool for placing the wheels of watches in position between the plates; (*c*) in *Mining*, 'a kind of pick used in commencing a hole' (Knight *Dict. Mech.*), a pitching-bar; **pitching-yeast**, yeast used or prepared for use in pitching wort.

1879 JEFFERIES *Amateur Poacher* ii. (1889) 29 The shepherd ..threw his *pitching-bar over his shoulder. 1884 J. PAYN *Lit. Recollect.* 211 The *pitching block, where the porters rest their burdens. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 47 Barns..intended for containing large quantities of different crops..should constantly be provided with convenient *pitching holes for housing them at. 1706 PHILLIPS, **Pitching-Pence*, a Duty paid for pitching, or setting down every Sack of Corn or Pack of Merchandizes, in a Fair or Market. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 189 A *Pitching-piece is a piece of timber wedged into the wall..for supporting the rough strings at the top of the lower flight. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pitching-stables*, a kind of shaped Cornish granite, 4 or 6 inches long, used for paving. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 5/1 To rent the casual cart stands, yearly cart stands, and yearly *pitching stands in the market. 1824 W. DEYKES *Pavement Metrop.* 6 The adoption of squared paving stones instead of the small round ones called *pitchen stones. *c*1830 *Pract. Treat. Roads* 8 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The weight of the flints themselves will form power enough to compose the road, without the solid assistance of the pitching-stones.

Pi·tching, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PITCH *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] A smearing or coating with pitch.

Pitching-machine, a machine for pitching the insides of casks or barrels.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Poissement*, a pitching with pitch. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 326 Without any calking or pitching..to keep out the water. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 242 All the never-ending cares Of pitching, tarring, and repairs.

Pi·tching, *ppl. a.* [f. PITCH *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That pitches, in various senses of the verb.

† **1.** Sloping, inclining; *fig.* declining. *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 177 That felde is beste, that is nat playne, euyn, and leuell, but somwhat pytchynge. 1565-73 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Cliuosus*, a place stipe downe, or pitching downe. 1611 BIBLE *Judg.* xix. 9 *margin*, It is the pitching time of the day. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* vii. 286 As much as it is the pitching time of the day, Judg. 19. 9 it is the last houre.

2. Plunging forwards: see PITCH *v.*[1] 18, 19.

1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 434 With a heavy pitching sea in the Sound. 1875 WHYTE MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xxiii, He crosses its undulating surface at that free pitching gallop which he seems so rarely to hasten. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 197 It was no easy matter to get over the side of the pitching vessel into the boats.

3. Settling, alighting. *rare* or *arch.*

1900 *Academy* 8 Sept. 199/1 The voice's trill Sinks like a pitching bird; and all is still.

Pitch-in-the-hole, -in-the-tub: see PITCH *v.*[1] 24.

Pi·tch-ke·ttle. [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + KETTLE.] A large vessel in which pitch is boiled or heated, esp. for use on board ship. Hence † **Pitch-kettled** *a.* (*obs. slang*), utterly puzzled, non-plussed (? as if covered with a pitch-kettle, or with heated pitch from a pitch-kettle).

1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 15 A pitch ketle..for the same Ship. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xii. 249, I..bade him heat another pitch-kettle. 1754 COWPER *Ep. to Lloyd* 32 Thus, the preliminaries settled I fairly find myself pitch-kettled. 1876 M. COLLINS *From Midnight to Midn.* III. vii. 92 He was just as thoroughly pitch-kettled (to use an ancient bit of slang) as any gentleman calling himself 'Honourable' well could be.

Pitch-knot, -ladle, -like: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.

Pitch-line: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

† **Pi·tchlongs,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [app. f. PITCH *sb.*[2] 24 + -LONG, -LONGS.] ? With a slope, steeply.

*c*1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 42 But hede hit that the hedes of hem alle [furrows] Into sum gret diche picchelonges falle.

Pitch-mark, -mineral, -opal, -ore: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5. **Pitch-note:** see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pitch-pine. [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + PINE *sb.*[2]] Name given to several species of pine-tree with specially resinous wood, or from which pitch or turpentine is obtained. Also *attrib.*

esp. *Pinus rigida*, and *P. australis* or *palustris* (Long-leaved Pine), of North America, and *Phyllocladus trichomanoides* (Celery Pine), of New Zealand; also, the wood of any of these.

1754 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 128 Preparing from the Glutinous Juices of the American Pitch Pine Tree a Varnish. 1810 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXVIII. 95 The pitch-pine of Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, and the Floridas grow to an immense size in what are there called pine-barrens. 1863 *Pilgr. over Prairies* II. 165 A watchful sentinel outside, who, by the light of a pitchpine torch, placed in the hut, could command my every movement. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 891/1 Pitch Pine [the wood] of *Pinus rigida*, and Georgia Pitch Pine that of *Pinus australis*.

Pi·tch-pipe. [f. PITCH *sb.*[2] 23 + PIPE *sb.*[1]] A small musical pipe, blown by the mouth (either a flue-pipe or a reed-pipe, and either sounding a fixed note or adjustable to different notes), used to set the pitch for singing or tuning an instrument.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 228 P 6 Caius Gracchus..had an ingenious Servant, by Name Licinius, always attending him with a Pitch-pipe, or Instrument to regulate the Voice. 1771 G. WHITE *Selborne* Aug., A common half-crown pitch-pipe, such as masters use for tuning of harpsichords. 1880 W. H. STONE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 759 All pitchpipes are.. inferior in accuracy to tuning-forks; the only advantage.. being their louder..tone, and the readiness with which beats are produced.

Pi·tch-pla·ster, *sb.* [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + PLASTER.] A plaster made of pitch, formerly used to remove hair; also, a stimulant plaster containing Burgundy pitch and other ingredients.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 424 For making of pitch plaisters, to fetch off the haire of mens bodies. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pitch-plaster*, a plaster of Burgundy pitch. 1884 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Burgundy pitch plaster. Burgundy pitch 90 parts, melted with yellow wax 10 parts.

Hence **Pitch-plaster** *v. trans.*, to apply a pitch-plaster to.

1860 SALA *Lady Chesterf.* iv. 66 The infamous Burke.. who pitch-plastered people to death..and sold their bodies to the surgeons.

Pitch-point, etc.: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pitchpoll, -pole (pi·tʃpōul), *sb. dial.* [f. PITCH *v.*[1] + POLL *sb.*] A somersault. (In quots. *a* 1661, The act, or point, of toppling over.)

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 5 All vice is at the pitch-pole. *Ibid.* 186 Whence to a greater ruine after all With a huge pitch-pole he was forc'd to fall. 1881 *Oxfords. Gloss.* (Suppl.), A pitchpole. 1893 *Wiltsh. Gloss.* s. v., When rooks are ..playing and tumbling head over heels in the air (a sign of rain) they are said to be playing pitch-poll.

Pi·tchpoll, -pole, *v. dial.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To turn 'head over heels'; to turn over and over. (In quot. 1851 *trans.* in causative sense.)

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* lxxxiv. 409 The harpoon may be pitchpoled in the same way with the lance. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. v, The ragged urchins pitch-poling in the gutter and the dust. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 7/1 We couldn't go out of our houses up and down street without pitch-polling over strings tied across the road.

Pitch-pot, etc.: see PITCH *sb.*[1]

†Pitch-resin, -rosin. *Obs. rare.* [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + RESIN, ROSIN; F. *poix résine.*] The resin or turpentine which exudes from the 'pitch-tree' (L. *picea*); = PERROSIN.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 464 The same pitch-rosin [*eadem resina*] if it be boiled more lightly with water, and be let to run through a strainer, comes to a reddish colour, and is glewie: and thereupon it is called stilled Pitch. *Ibid.* 465 While it is raw pitch-rosin [*dum resina sit*], and as it runneth from the tree.

Pitch-set, -surface: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pitch-speeched, -stain: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.

Pitchstone (pi·tʃˌstōun). *Min.* [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + STONE *sb.*, tr. Ger. *pechstein* (Werner 1780).] a. An old volcanic rock; obsidian or other vitreous rock looking like hardened pitch. b. = *Pitch-opal.*

1784 KIRWAN *Min.* 97 Pitch-stone, lava. 1796 — *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 292 Pitchstone .. It often much resembles semi opals and jaspers. 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* 180 Huge strata ..as they contain abundance of quartz and felspar may be called pitchstone porphyry. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 58 On the northern declivity saw many masses of pitchstone. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* iii. 51 Lavas with a basis of pitchstone and obsidian. 1894 *Times* 11 Aug. 11/2 Invaded by the pitchstone-lava of the island of Eigg.

Pitch-tankard: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.

Pitch-tree. [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + TREE *sb.*] Name for various coniferous trees abounding in resin, or yielding resin, turpentine, or pitch.

In earlier use chiefly rendering L. *picea* or Gr. πεύκη, prob. *Pinus Laricio*, the Corsican Pine (Daubeny); in mod. use applied to the Silver Fir (*Abies* or *Picea pectinata*), the Spruce Fir (*Abies* or *Picea excelsa*) as the source of Burgundy pitch, the Kauri Pine (*Dammara australis*) as that of kauri-gum, and the Amboyna Pine (*D. orientalis*) as that of dammar resin.

1538 ELYOT, *Picea*, a piche tree. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 95 The Pitch tree is called in Greeke πεύκη, in Latine Picea, in Italian Pezzo. 1584 *Voy. Virginia* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 303 Their boates are made of one tree, either of Pine or of Pitch trees: a wood not commonly knowen to our people, nor found growing in England. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 349 Black Ivy, Pitch Trees, and the baleful Yeugh. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Aphernousli*, The branches resemble these of the pitch-trees, commonly called the spruce fir. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pitch-tree, *Abies excelsa.*

Pitchumon, obs. form of PERSIMMON.

Pitch-wheel: see PITCH *sb.*[2] 26.

Pitch-wine, -wood: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.

Pitchwork (pi·tʃˌwɔɪk). [f. PITCH *sb.*[2]] Mining work in which the workmen are paid by receiving a fixed proportion of the output.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pitch-work*, work done in a coal-mine, by those working on tribute.

Pitchy (pi·tʃi), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 *Sc.* pikky, pyky. [f. PITCH *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Full of or abounding in pitch; bituminous, resinous; coated, smeared, soiled, or sticky with pitch; *fig.* sticky like pitch, thievish. Of a flame: Darkened with smoke, like that of burning pitch.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 32 Out thrawis the pikky smok cole blak. *Ibid.* IX. ii. 97 The tallownit burdis kest a pyky low. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 57 The Pine tree is called holdfast or pitchie tre. 1742 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 120 The Black, Pitchy, Flinty Rock found immediately over coals. 1845 WHITTIER *Lumbermen* viii, Pitchy knot and beechen splinter On our hearth shall glow. 1869 LECKY *European Mor.* (1877) I. ii. 281 Nero illuminated his gardens during the night by Christians burning in their pitchy shirts. *fig.* 1660 *Eng. Monarchy Freest State in World* 7 All publick Monies .. passing through the pitchy claws of such State harpies.

2. Of the nature or consistence of pitch; tenacious, viscid; bituminous.

1552 HULOET, Pitchye, or of pytche, *piceus.* 1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 7 The vnsauorie sent of the pitchie slime. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 298 Every thing that thickens the Fluids or reduceth them to a pitchy Condition. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 684 Pitchy hydrate of iron.

3. *Nat. Hist.*, etc. Of the colour or appearance of pitch; dark-brown inclining to black; piceous. Hence *pitchy-black.*

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 278 *Megatoma serra*... Shining pitchy black. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 779 The chrysalis..is pitchy-brown..inclosed in a white woolly cocoon. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 412 *Carex stricta*... Glumes in about 8 rows, pitchy, midrib green. 1882 *Gd. Words* 165 Deep black coals with pitchy lustre.

4. *fig.* 'As black' or 'as dark as pitch'; pitch-dark, intensely dark; of darkness, Intense, thick, gross.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXVII. xi, Light of lightnings flash Did pitchy cloudes encleare. *a* 1592 GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 261 But let thy pitchie steeds aye draw thy waine, And coale black silence in the world still raigne. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 202 The pitchie night had bereft vs of the conduct of our eyes. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 265 How uncomfortable is deep, pitchy, total darkness. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) xi. 276 Stars shone out like fiery sparks against a pitchy canopy.

b. Qualifying *black* or *dark.* (More usually *pitch-dark*: see PITCH *sb.*[1] 5.)

1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 436 The night being pitchy dark. 1834 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 21 June, Hans Sachse..in describing Chaos, said it was so pitchy dark, that even the very cats ran against each other! 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* v. 120 A deep, pitchy-black pool surrounded with rocks.

c. Morally 'black' or defiling; grossly wicked.

1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 268 Braue pitchy villaines there. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* vi. 194 The pitchy taint of general vice..you dread the touch.

5. *Comb.*, as *pitchy-countenanced* adj.

1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 30 How patient then would I endure the smart, Of pitchy countnanc'd dead-doing dart.

Pit-coal. Now *rare* or *arch.* [f. PIT *sb.*[1] (sense 6) + COAL.] Coal obtained from pits or mines (as distinguished from *charcoal*, COAL *sb.* 4: formerly called also *sea-coal*, now usually simply *coal*, COAL *sb.* 5). See also quot. 1883.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 141 The greatest quantitie and best kind of pit-coales is in Nottinghamshire. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 125 The History of Pit-coal, otherwise called Sea-coale. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1765) 107 A Mud made of powder'd Pitcoal and Water. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 30 The former is called brown coal, or lignite, while many varieties of the latter are classed together under the common name of bituminous or pit-coal. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining, Pit Coal* generally signifies the bituminous varieties of coal.

attrib. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 167 Proposes with Pit-Coal Fire to make Bar Iron from Pig Metal. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 734 A common pit-coal or other fire.

Pite, obs. var. *pight*, pa. pple. of PITCH *v.*; obs. f. PITY. **Piteable**, obs. form of PITIABLE.

Piteous (pi·tiəs), *a.* Forms: see below. [ME. *pytos, pitous*, a. OF. (12th c.) *pitos*, (13th c.) *piteus*, AF. *pitous* = Pr. *pidos, pitos*, Cat. *piados*, Sp. *piadoso*, OIt. *piadoso* (It. *pietoso*) :—L. type **pietōs-us* (med.L. in Du Cange), f. *pietāt-em* PIETY (cf. -ITOUS). The regular phonetic form in mod. Eng. from Fr. would be *pitous* (from L. *pietōsus*); the β forms in *-uous, -evous, -ewous*, and the γ forms in *-ious, -yous, -eous* appear to be Eng. developments, the former influenced by words historically in *-uous, -ivous*, or OE. adjs. in *-wis*; the latter app. conformed to the sb. *pité, pitie*, PITY. Cf. *bounteous, dainteous, plenteous*; also *beauteous, courteous, righteous.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 3-4 **pitos, pytos**, 3-5 **pitous, -e**, 4 **pitus, -e, (pytis, putus)**, 4-5 **pytous, -e, pittows.**

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10087 He deide in a pitous cas. *Ibid.* 11395 Þat was a pitos dede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 24014 (Cott.) Ful pitus it was þat plaint. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1180 He herd þe pytous pleint. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 116 With suche pitouse wordes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 161 The playne compleynt, the pittows wementyng! 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 358/2 He was moche pytous.

β. 3-5 **pituus**, 4 **pituus, -uose, -uis, -uys, -wys, -evows**, 4-5 **pituous, -e, piteuous, -e**, 5 **pite-, pytevous, piti-, pityuous, pitteous, pytewous, -e, pytewys**, 5-6 **pytuous**, 5-6 (8) **pituous**, 6 **pytuouse, -uose.**

It is not clear whether the difference between *-euous, -evous, -ewous*, is merely graphical, nor whether *u, v* are here the vowel or the consonant.

?*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24014 (Edin.) Ful pituus it was þat plaint. *c* 1350 Pitevows [see B. 2]. *c* 1380 Pituouse [see B. 1]. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 For his pityuous doynges. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* st. 278 So mercyfull and so pytewys. 1422 Pitteuous, piteuouse [see B. 1]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvi. 188 With pitevous playnte. 1442 T. BECKINGTON *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 189 Of your moost merciful and pituous grace. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref. i. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 121 O pytewouse puryfyer of Soules. 1530 *Proper Dyalogue* in *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 144 Their pituous supplicacyon. 1530 PALSGR. 320/2 Pytuouse, one that hath pytie. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 176 Such pouerty exercysyth wel the pytuose myndys. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 47 He began to groan and weep in a pituous manner.

γ. 4-6 **pitius**, 4 **pytius**, 4- **piteous**, (5 **pityows**, 5-6 **pyteous, -e, piteose**, 5-7 **pitious**, 6 **pitiouse, pyti-, pitte-, pittious; pittieux**). (Some early examples of *piteus* are perh. disyllabic and belong to α.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 24014 (Gött.) Ful piteus it was hir plaint. 1340 *Ayenb.* 144 Þe oþer makeþ þe herte zuete and milde and piteus. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 38 It es a piteous thing to behald. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 222 Now..shewe your pyteous face. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pytyows, or ful of pyte (*H.* pytevous, *P.* pitiuous). *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* iv. 19 Þe pyteouse tydynges. ?*a* 1500 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 125 In this piteose mysceffe. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXX. (Percy Soc.) 147 Without that she be to me piteous. 1552 HULOET, Pitious and pitifull. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) P j, You have beane a litell pittieux. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. vii. 20 Her pitteous hart. 1596 *Ibid.* VII. vi. 6 O pittious worke of Mutability.

δ. (Chiefly *Sc.*) 4 **petwis, -owiss**, 5 **petwys, petouse, -ows, -evous, -uis, petus, -ious, -uoss**, 5-6 **petous, -eous, -e**, 6 **petouss, -eouss, -ewous, -ewus, -uous.**

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 90 One crist callyt with petowiss stewyne. [1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 553 Petwisly. *c* 1420 Petwysly [see PITEOUSLY 3].] *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1144 With a peteous look. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 89 To be petous of poure men. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 41, I herd ane petuoss appele. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 473, I am sa peteouse to the pur. *a* 1520 — *Poems* lxiv. 13 Quhois petewous [*v. r.* -ewus] deithe dois to my hart sic pane. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xviii. 30 Makand ane petouss mone.

B. Signification.

†1. Full of piety; pious, godly, devout. *Obs.*

c 1305 [implied in PITEOUSLY 1]. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 120 Þe pituouse martir 3yveþ his body. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Pet.* ii. 9 The Lord knew for to delyuere pitouse [1388 piteuouse, *Vulg.* pios] men of temptacioun. *c* 1393 CHAUCER *Gentilesse* 9 Truwe of his worde, sobur pitous and fre. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 138 That suche a Spekere be ryghtfull and Pitteuous. *Ibid.* 220 He shal be piteuouse, chaste, and lytill desyre company of women. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 226/24 Pitiouse, *pius, misericors.*

2. Full of pity; affected with or feeling pity; compassionate, merciful, tender: = PITIFUL 2. *arch.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5488 So pitevows to þe pore hem prestili to help. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 190 It sit a king to be pitous Toward his poeple and gracious. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* D iij b, A fre hert and pyteous upon other mens peynes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 62 The kyng like a piteous prince .. graunted to them their askyng. 1624 MILTON *Ps.* CXXXVI. 77 He hath with a piteous eye Beheld us in our misery. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegies* iii. 43 Piteous of woes, and hopeless to relieve.

3. Exciting, appealing for, or deserving pity; moving to compassion; affecting, lamentable, deplorable, mournful; = PITIFUL 3.

c 1290 [implied in PITEOUSLY 3]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4180 A deoluol cry & a pitos wepinge. 13.. *Cursor M.* 14097 (Gött.) A pituse plaint to crist scho talde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 45, I..caste up many a pitous lok Unto the hevene. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 225 The piteouse histori of the four sones of Aymon. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting w. Kennedy* 163 To luk vpoun thy gryslie peteous port. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* vi. 9 A piteous thinge was it to se. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xx. 24 b, Too make report of these piteous newes vnto the assieged. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* 41 The pitious estate wherein we had left that place. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 126 Down ran the wine into the road, Most piteous to be seen. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 400 Lightly the son forgat his parents' piteous ashes. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* III. 39 A piteous groan from within sounds.

b. as *adv.* = PITEOUSLY 3.

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 470 Ful petuose pale and no-thynge red. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* xlvii. (1783) II. 1 Compose thy griefs,..stop those tears; Cry not so piteous.

†4. Paltry, mean: = PITIFUL 4. *Obs. rare.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 1034 That thy Seed shall bruise The Serpents head; piteous amends, unless Be meant [etc.].

Piteously (pi·tiəsli), *adv.* Forms: see PITEOUS. [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

†1. With piety; piously, devoutly. *Obs.*

c 1305 *St. Edmund Conf.* 248 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 77 So pitousliche he wolde rede: & so gode grace hadde þerto. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xliii. 37 To men pitously doende [1388 men doynge feithfuli] he 3af wisdam. 1382 — *Titus* ii. 12 That we..lyue sobreli, and iustli, and piteuously.

2. With pity; compassionately, mercifully, kindly. *arch.*

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 18 (Tanner 346) Pitiously on her my eyn I caste. 1450-80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 17 That he governe hem pitously and in loue. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxiii. 6 Three score piteouslie lookt, as they thant wold saue. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 20 His poor and ignorant kin..He piteously remembered ere he passed.

3. In a manner that excites pity to see or hear; so as to call for or deserve pity; lamentably, grievously, sadly; pitiably.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 170/2232 He..bad þe Monekus pitousliche þat heo for him bede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9240 Wel pitosliche hii wende alle to þe kinge..& pitosliche bede, þat he ssolde vor godes loue amendi suche dede. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 169 Sheo weopeþe, wayleþe, swoongeþe pytously. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 549 Thai full pitwysly gan tell Auenturis that thaim befell. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 58 Quod crist & comsed forto swowe, Pitousliche and pale. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* ccclxxxiv, And askede of hym some gode full petwysly. 1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 49 [Death] has done pitously devour The noble Chaucer, of makaris flouir. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xv. 22 My doughter is pytiously vexed with a devyll. *c* 1526 FRITH *Disput. Purgatory* (1829) 160 They are piteously deceived, that will prove purgatory by the texts of the Old Testament. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 66. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 376 He murdered most piteously so many good citizens. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* v, Little Paul began to cry most piteously. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 193/2 His German poetry is piteously poor.

Piteousness (pi·tiəsnés). [f. PITEOUS *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being piteous: **a.** mercifulness (*arch.*); **b.** pitiableness.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 210 It may be said no Pitousnesse, Bot it is Pusillamite. 1530 PALSGR. 254/2 Pyteousnesse, *pitevseté.* *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 132 Sirs (answered he with a good grace, and made the more agreeable by a certaine noble kinde of pitiousnesse) I see well you are strangers, that know not our miserie. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knight* IV. in Hazl. *Dodsley* X. 189 Will have them both condemn'd immediately, Without their answers, plaints, or piteousness. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xlv, Lady Mason.. flinging herself upon her friend's neck..begged with earnest piteousness to be forgiven.

†Piteoustee, pitoustee. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pitoseté* ('*piteoseté*, pyteousnesse' Palsgr.), f. *pitos, piteux* PITEOUS.] An act of pity or of piety.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xliv. 10 But they men of mercy ben, of whom the pitoustees faileden not.

Pitfall (pi·tfɔl), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 **put-**, 4-6 **pyt-**, etc. (see PIT *sb.*[1]); 4-5 **-falle**, 6 **-faul**, 6-8 **-fal**, 6- **-fall.** [app. f. PIT *sb.*[1] + FALL *sb.*[2], OE. *fealle*, Ger. *falle* a falling trap-door, a trap. In mod. use it is generally taken as a 'pit into which one may fall'.]

†**1.** A trap for the capture of birds in which a trap-door or the like falls over a cavity or hollow. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* v. 27 As a pit falle [1388 a net, ether a trap] ful of briddes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/1 A Pittfalle, *decipula, auicipula.* 1530 Palsgr. 254/2 Pytfall for byrdes, *trebowchet.* 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 89 b, Foules of the ayre, though neuer so empty stomackt, flye not for foode into open Pit-fals. 1604 W. Terilo *Fr. Bacon's Proph.* 331 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 280 Now pitfalls are so made, That small birdes cannot know them. 1706 Phillips, *Pit-fall*, a kind of Gin or Trap to catch Birds.

2. A concealed pit into which animals or men may fall and be captured.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 155 þe Pictes sodenliche an vnware fel ouer þe hammes into a wonder putfalle. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xliv. (Bodl. MS.), A caue oper a dike is made vnder þe erþe as it were a pittefalle in þe Elephauntes waye and vnneware he falleþ þerein. 1555 Eden *Decades* 96 The dogge tyger chaunsed fyrste into this pitfaul. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 190 They did hunte wilde beastes, with pittefalles and ditches. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 82 The way was ..so full of Pits, Pitfalls, deep holes, and shelvings down there. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 171, I resolved to try a Pitfall, so I dug several large Pits in the Earth, in Places where I had observed the Goats used to feed, and over these Pits I placed Hurdles. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 290 These animals are sometimes taken in pit-falls, covered with green branches, laid in those paths which the Rhinoceros makes. 1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (1868) II. III. xlv. 521 Open fissures often serve as natural pitfalls in which herbivorous animals perish. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 446 Crooked and tortuous paths in which many pitfalls are concealed.

†**3.** An ambush, or a natural 'trap' in which a force may be surrounded and overpowered. *Obs.*

a 1305 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 193 Ther hy were knulled y the put-falle, This eorles ant barouns ant huere knyhtes alle.

4. *fig.* **a.** A 'trap' or crafty device to catch by surprise the unsuspecting or unwary. **b.** Any hidden or unperceived danger or error into which a person is liable to fall unawares.

a 1586 Sidney *Astr. & Stella* xi, In her chekes pit thou didst thy pitfall set. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. iii. Wks. 1851 III. 111 The Papists,..by this very snare and pitfall of imitating the ceremonial law, fel into that .. superstition. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 175 ¶ 11 Unless he is taught by timely precepts.., and shewn at distance the pitfals of treachery. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xvi. 288 We..walk amidst the snares and pitfalls of the law. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 533 He may be merely a blundering student, who has tumbled into a theological pitfall in the dark. 1877 J. C. Cox *Ch. Derbysh.* II. Introd. 8 The procuring of a full transcript has saved me from numerous pit-falls.

Hence **Pi·tfalled** (-fɔld) *a.*, full of pitfalls.

1876 S. Lanier *Poems* (1884) 124 How I crushed Cat-lived rebellions, pitfalled treasons.

Pitfall (pi·tfɔl), *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* **a.** To set with traps or pitfalls. **b.** To entrap, ensnare. Also *fig.* Hence **Pitfalling** *ppl. a.*

14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 4 The bottom of the diche with yn Was pyttefallyd ij fote evyr bytwyn, And every pyttefalle a spere hyghthe That there schulde stonde noo man to fyght. 1643 Milton *Divorce* Introd., Wks. 1851 IV. 10 The waies of the Lord, strait and faithfull as they are, not full of cranks and contradictions, and pit falling dispenses.

†**Pitfold.** *Obs.* [f. Pit *sb.*[1] + Fold *sb.*[2]: cf. *pinfold.*] = Pitfall 1, 3 (from which it was prob. altered by popular etymology).

1575 Churchyard *Chippes* (1817) 121 The enemy..bruted abroad we were taken in a pitfold. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomenclator* 245/2 *Decipulum.. Vn trebuchet*, a pitfold, or other snare to intrap birds or beastes. 1632 T. Nashe *Quaternio* 25 How again with Cæsar to giue an enemy passage hauing him in a straite and pitfolde, that he may take the more advantage of him in pursuit.

Pitful (pi·tful). *nonce-wd.* [f. Pit *sb.*[1] + -ful.] As many as fill a pit, or *spec.* the pit (of a theatre).

1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. lxiv. 434 Napoleon invited Talma to Erfurt, that he might play to a pitfull of Kings.

Pith (piþ), *sb.* Forms: 1–2 **piþa**, 4–5 **piþ**, 4–7 **pyth, pithe**, 4– **pith**, (4 **pidh, pight, put**, 5–6 **pytthe**, 5 **pyf, peth**, *Sc.* **picht**, 5–7 **pythe**, 6 **pit**, *Sc.* **pitht**, 6–7 **pitth**(e). Mod. dialects have **peth, peeth, piff, peff.** [OE. *piþa*, radically agreeing with MDu. *pitte*, MLG., LG., WFris., EFris., Da. *pit* pith of a tree or vegetable, kernel of a nut, etc. (cf. Pit *sb.*[2]):—WGer. type **pipon-*, **piþþon-*, represented only in the Low German group. The later development of sense is found only in Eng.]

1. The central column of spongy cellular tissue in the stems and branches of dicotyledonous plants; the medulla; applied also to the internal parenchymatous tissue of other stems, e. g. of palms, rushes, etc.; and to a similar tissue occurring in other parts of plants, as that lining the rind in certain fruits (e. g. the orange).

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 10 Þæt he ongindð of þæm wyrtrumum, & swa upweardes grewð oð ðone stemn, & siððan andlang þæs piðan, & andlang þære rinde. *a* 1200 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 90 Eft nim ellenes piþan. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. i. (Bodl. MS.), Þe schafte of a tree.. haþ some what wiþin as the piþþe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/1 Pythe, *medulla, vel pulpa.* 1483 *Wardr. Acc.* in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 39 A roll of pytthes of risshes. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xxi. (1870) 283 [Walnuts] doth comforte the brayne if the pyth or skin be pylled of. 1562 [see Pithy 1]. 1673–4 Grew *Anat. Trunks* I. i. § 35 Within the hollow of the Wood, stands the Pith. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) III. 52 *Subularia*...Leaves..semi-cylindrical, full of pith. 1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 119 In boiling ripe marrows,..take out the pith and seeds. 1884 F. J. Britten *Watch & Clockm.* 198 The pith used by watch makers to clean their work is the pith of the elder. *Mod.* This orange has too much pith and too little juice.

2. The spinal 'marrow' or cord; in quot. 1653, the brain substance.

1504 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 357 The pith of the chine bone. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 289 Some ..do twine out the pith of the back with a long wire. 1627 May *Lucan* VI. 764 The pyth of Staggs with Serpents nourished Was mixed there. 1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* I. xi. (1712) 34 This laxe pith or marrow in Man's Head. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 155 Take a Quantity of the Pith of an Ox. 1867 F. Francis *Angling* i. (1880) 49 The bait consisting of..a bit of pith (bullock's marrow).

fig. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 220 b, The Germanes..doo in steade of doung, cast vppon it a kinde of pith and fatnesse of the earth.

3. Applied to various other substances forming the inner part or core of something, and thus analogous to the pith of a tree; as

†**a.** The 'crumb' of bread. *Obs.* **b.** The core of various epidermal appendages, as feathers, horns, and hairs. †**c.** = Diploe. *Obs. rare.* **d.** The imperfectly carbonized core of an iron rod.

a. *c* 1450 *Bk. Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 302 Take a white lof..and kut her almoste a too in the peth. 1579 Langham *Gard. Health* (1633) 90 Apply the pith of Bread baked with Coliander seed. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 280 They vse to lap it in the soft crum or pith of a loaf of bread. **b.** 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 588/41 *Ile*, the pythe of a penne. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 703/36 *Hoc ilum*, the pyf of the penne. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 350/2 Both sides [of the shaft of a feather] .. enclose a .. substance called the pith. 1840 J. Buel *Farmer's Comp.* 71 The piths of horns, or the residue of..horns after the comb-maker has taken all that is fit for his use. **c.** 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 81 In some places the Skull is simple, thin and pellucid, without any Pith. **d.** 1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 231 If [the carbonising process be] only partially effected the centre of the rod still exhibits its duller iron-like structure, or pith, as the workmen call it.

4. *fig.* The central or inward part; hence, the essential or vital part (*of* anything); spirit, essence, substance, quintessence. So *pith and marrow.*

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* ix. 55 Smeagean ðeah & ðeahtigan on hiera modes rind monig god weorc to wyrcanne, ac on ðam piðan bið oðer gehyded. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7172 Now haue I you declared right The menyng of the bark and rynde..But now at erst I wole bigynne To expowne you the pith withynne. 1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* 123 So þou may cum to þe pith of lufe. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* viii. 1 Of the thynges which we have spoken this is the pyth. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 10 The pith of this worde *Habitus*, can hardely be vttered with one worde in this our tongue. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 183 b, Herein consisteth the whole pithe of our controuersie. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 70. 1635 N. R. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 93 The very pith and marrow of sweet speech. *a* 1831 A. Knox *Rem.* (1844) I. 80 The very pith and marrow of Mr. Wesley's views. 1877 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Fine Arts* (1897) III. ii. 42 Within the great cities the pith of the population was Latin.

†**b.** *To the pith*, thoroughly, to the very core.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1127/2 Shortlie after..she performed hir promise to the pith.

5. Physical strength or force; vigour, toughness; might, mettle, 'backbone'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22793 (Edin.) It semis al again kind þat mannis molden fleis and banis .. Haf þipe [*v. r.* pith] and lif, als þai hauid ar. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 7090 (Fairf.) Þorou his hare his strenght was made Atte xx. mens pith he hadde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 475 But Age allas..Hath me biraft my beautee and my pith. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Armys* (S.T.S.) 287 In thair awin propre pythe, and vertu of corps and strenthe of membris. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 863 Thay preis furth properly thair pithis to prufe. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 112 Brasse, iron or style haue theyr owne strength and pith in them. *Ibid.* 117 Newe ale..wil sone lease his pith. 1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm. Paules Crosse* 17 A man of Sampsons pith. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 56 We'll both defend with all our pith. 1763 Churchill *Epist. to Hogarth* 33 Should love of Fame..Spur thee to deeds of pith. 1823 Byron *Juan* VII. xviii, 'Mongst them were several Englishmen of pith, Sixteen called Thompson, and nineteen named Smith. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* ii. 12 This [curse]..took the pith out of my legs.

b. Force, vigour, energy (of words, speech, etc.).

c 1526 Frith *Disput. Purgatory* (1829) 102 Some man will think mine arguments to be of small pith. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. 13 He shall fele a certain vertue and pith such as he shall not fele the lyke in any other bookes. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Blacksmith* x, In wyt he had so little pyth. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 209 Cool vigour and laconic pith. 1876 Spurgeon *Commenting* 2 Matthew Henry..is usually plain, quaint, and full of pith.

6. Substance, substantial quality (of words, writings, etc.). ? *Obs.*

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 4882 So ful of pith is the matere That swich a book in Romaunce Was neuer yet made in Fraunce. *a* 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 58 It hath in it some pith. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 192 With the whistling of lips or hands..shepheards cause their sheepe to arise, or lie downe, bicause they understand not an articulate or distinct speech, that hath some pith in it. 1590 [J. Greenwood] *Confer.* Pref. A ij, If thou finde not such pith or substance in the matters discussed.

7. Importance, gravity, weight; esp. in phrase *of (great) pith and moment*, or the like (after Shaks.).

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. i. 86 Enterprizes of great pith and moment. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* vi. 104 Neither is there any place..of speciall pith, that hath not beene obserued. 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 91, I hae a secret to communicate, a secret o' some pith and importance. 1830 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* (1884) II. xv. 85 We have seen the scruples .. of one .. cabinet minister alter the whole course of enterprises of great pith and moment.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1) *pith-ball, -cavity, -cell, -coat, -cylinder*; (in sense 2) *pith bait, marrow, pudding*; *pith-like* adj.; **pith-drawn** *a.* (see quot.); **pith hat, pith helmet**, a helmet-shaped sun-hat made of the dried pith of the Indian Solah or Spongewood of Bengal (*Æschynomene aspera*), hence called **pith-hat-plant** (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **pith-paper**, a paper made from the pith of various plants; **pith-plant**, the Chinese rice-paper tree (*Aralia* or *Fatsia papyrifera*); **pith-tree**, a leguminous tree (*Herminiera Elaphroxylon*) of tropical Africa, having soft white pith-like wood; **pith-work**, articles made of pith, esp. of *Æschynomene aspera.*

1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 126 Two gilt *pith balls, suspended upon strings of silk. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 14 A cylinder of brass, supported on a glass stand, and furnished with a pith ball electroscope. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 79 The medullary or *pith-cavity in the centre of the section. *Ibid.*, The *pith-cells, around the central cavity. 1871 Kingsley *At Last* xiii, Two or three blows with the cutlass, at the small end of the nut, cut off not only the *pith-coat, but the point of the shell. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 308 The *pith-cylinders of the shoots..are only connected by narrow medullary rays. 1703 T. S. *Art's Improv.* I. 19 Trees.. Rift or Cleft, or *Pith-drawn, as some call it, by falling too soon, viz. before they are Sawn asunder. 1884 J. Macdonald in *19th Cent.* June 1002 With nothing on but their ungainly *pith-hats. 1889 T. A. Guthrie *Pariah* I. i, Who's the man who goes about in a *pith helmet? 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Æschynomene*, The *pith-like stem of *Æ. aspera* is..used in India..for making hats, bottle-cases, swimming jackets [etc.]. 1655 Moufet & Bennet *Health's Impr.* (1746) 199 *Pith-Marrow, running all along from the hinder Brain..to the End of the Back-bone or Chine of Beasts. 1834 G. Bennett *Wanderings* II. 75 The *pith plant is procured from Oan-nāām, near the province of See-chuen. 1750 E. Smith *Compl. Housewife* (ed. 14) 131 To make a *Pith Pudding. Take a quantity of the pith of an ox [etc.]. 1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, *Pith-tree, of the Nile, *Herminiera Elaphroxylon.* 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 313 Ambash or Pith-tree of the Nile...The wood is very light, and in the form of small logs is used by the natives to assist them in crossing rivers.

Pith (piþ), *v.* Also 5 (9) **peth.** [f. prec. sb.]

†**1.** ? To provide with pith, give pith or vigour. *Obs. rare*—[1].

14.. *Tundale's Vis., Circumsision* 93 Hit is also myghty, it pethys fayre Ageynis wanhope and disperacyon.

2. *trans.* To pierce or sever the 'pith' or spinal cord of (an animal), so as to kill it or render it insensible; *spec.* to slaughter (cattle) in this way.

1805 *European Mag.* June 482 The practice of slaughtering cattle by puncturing the medulla spinalis, or as it is now called, pithing cattle, is extending through all parts of the Kingdom. 1806 Home in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 359 In the common mode of pithing cattle the medulla spinalis only is cut through, and the head remains alive. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 203 The pulsation of the heart.. should be studied in a Frog rendered insensible by chloroform or by being pithed. 1886 P. Clarke *New Chum* xiii. (ed. 2) 184 'Now then, shall we peth it or shoot it?' says our butcher pro tem. 1895 *Tablet* 5 Jan. 22 To pith is to remove the brain with a gutting knife, and then to pass —say—a stiff clean wire up the spinal canal to break up the marrow.

3. To remove or extract the pith from.

1852 Ld. Haddo in *Mem.* x. (1866) 175 [We] fish, paddle in the water, or pith rushes till dinner.

Hence **Pithed** (piþt) *ppl. a.*; **Pithing** (pi·þiŋ) *vbl. sb.*, also *attrib.* as in *pithing-pole*, a pole having a sharp blade at one end, for pithing cattle.

1831 Youatt *Horse* ix. 153 The operation is called pithing, from the name (*the pith*) given by butchers to the spinal marrow. 1864 H. Falconer in *Reader* 5 Mar. 302/2 It divides into two long diverging arms (like the legs of a pithed frog). 1886 P. Clarke *New Chum* xiii. (ed. 2) 184 Up jumps Tom on the bar overhead with a long pething-pole..and with one plunge sends the cruel point with unerring aim into the spinal cord.

Pithagorean, Pithian, Pithon, Pithonical, Pithonist, etc.: see Pyth-.

†**Pithano·logy.** *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *πιθανολογία* (Col. ii. 4), f. *πιθαν-ός* persuasive + *-λογία* speech, etc.: see -logy.] 'Persuasiveness of speech'; the use of specious or plausible arguments.

1615 Byfield *Exp. Coloss.* ii. 4 Pithanology, which the apostle condemns, is a speech fitted of purpose, by the abuse of rhetoric, ..to please and seduce. 1650 Trapp *Comm. Deut.* xiii. 3 Hereticks have their pithanology, their good words and fair speeches. 1730 A. Collier *Clavis Univ., Spec. True Philos.* 127 Called also by its christian name of pithanology, or science, falsely so called.

Pit-head, -heap, etc.: see Pit *sb.*[1] 14.

Pithecanthrope (piþ/kæ·nþroup). Also in Gr. and Lat. forms **Pithecanthropos, -us.** [f. Gr. *πίθηκος* ape + *ἄνθρωπος* man.] **a.** An ape-man or man-like ape; name given by Haeckel (1868) to a hypothetical link between the Apes and Man. **b.** *Pithecanthrōpus* was afterwards adopted by E. Dubois as generic name for an extinct animal of

which remains were found in 1891–2 in the Pliocene of Java.

1876 E. R. Lankester tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* II. 293 These Ape-like Men, or Pithecanthropi, very probably existed towards the end of the Tertiary period. 1877 Shields *Final Philos.* 146 [Man's] descent from a tailed ancestor, to which he [Haeckel] gives the zoölogical name of Pithecanthropus or the primitive ape-man. 1883 tr. *Joly's Man bef. Metals* 17 Prehistoric man..has even been sometimes called man-monkey, or pithecanthrope. 1895 Cuningham in *Nature* 28 Feb. 429/1 The so-called Pithecanthropus is in the direct human line. 1898 Gadow tr. *Haeckel's Last Link* 24 Dr. Dubois exhibited the cranium of Pithecanthropus.

So **Pithecanthro·pic** *a.*, ? of or belonging to a man who acts like an ape; **Pitheca·nthropoid** *a.*, resembling or related to the pithecanthrope.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pithecanthropoid. 1897 *Open Court* XI. 256 The pithecanthropic mummery, colloquially called monkey-business, connected with closing one nostril and breathing through the other and then of closing both till the compressed columnar air-current is imagined to bump against the triangular fundament of Kundalini.

Pithecian (piþī·siăn), *a. Zool.* [ad. F. *pithécien*, f. Gr. *πίθηκος* ape: see -IAN.] Of or pertaining to *Pithecia* (Geoffroy, 1812), the typical genus of the *Pitheciinæ*, a subfamily of the *Cabidæ*, S. American monkeys commonly called Sakis. So **Pithe·ciine** *a.*, pertaining to the *Pitheciinæ*.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pitheciine. 1893 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 349/3 The fundamental types of the molars are identical in man and the anthropoids, and the lower one differs entirely from that of the pithecian and cebian monkeys.

Pithecoid (piþī·koid), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. F. *pithécoïde*, f. Gr. *πίθηκος* ape: see -OID.] Resembling in form or pertaining to the apes, esp. the higher or anthropoid apes; simian, ape-like.

1861 Huxley in *Nat. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 67 The demonstration of a pithecoid pedigree. 1863 — *Man's Place Nat.* 159 The fossil remains of man..do not..take us appreciably nearer to that lower pithecoid form. 1866 — *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 102 A curious pithecoid variation, observed in the gorilla and the chimpanzee. 1880 *19th Cent.* Nov. 854 Beyond the range of pithecoid intelligence.

B. as *sb.* An anthropoid ape; a simian.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pithecological (piþīkolo·dʒikăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πίθηκος* ape + -LOGICAL.] Pertaining to the scientific study of apes.

1865 Visct. Strangford *Selection* (1869) II. 110 Its proceedings..were not of a truly geographical, so much as of a more or less authentically pithecological, character.

Pithful (pi·þfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. Pith *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of pith; pithy. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* ii. 24 This strong and pithful Philosophy. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* II. iv, For as in tracing These pithfull rushes, such as are aloft, By those that rais'd them presently are brought Beneath unseene. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 14 Pickin' out pithfu' texts, and strang.

Pithily (pi·þili), *adv.* [f. Pithy *a.* + -LY 2.] In a pithy manner.

†1. In a way that goes to the pith; thoroughly; in substance or essence; essentially. *Obs.*

1434 Misyn *Mending of Life* 122 Pithily clensid fro vnclennes. 1435 — *Fire of Love* 98 If we owr myndes fro lufe of creaturis pythely depart. 1539 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 228, I..have pithely weyed and poundred the deposicions and Relations. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 221 It would be as pithily absurd.

†2. With power or strength; mightily. *Obs.*

1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 250, I am a prince perilous y-proved,.. and pithily y-pight. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 414 Pithily, vehemently. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* v. ix. 130 These..did..pithily and strongly overturn the False Doctrine of their Adversaries.

3. In reference to speech or writing: So as to express the pith or substance; briefly and with fullness of meaning; in few and significant words; with condensed and forcible expression; sententiously, tersely, vigorously.

1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 1010/2 As thoughe they were wordes of such substancial effect, that I would not haue it appere..that hee had written so pithithely. 1586 W. Webbe *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 48 Marke..with howe choyse wordes it is pithily described. 1698 S. Clark *Script. Just.* xii. 62 A Passage..wherein he expresses himself very pertinently, pithily, and elegantly. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xviii, He next handled very pithily the doctrine of defensive arms and of resistance to Charles II. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 475/1 The knack of talking pithily—which means a knack of talking pointedly, and more or less audaciously.

Pithiness (pi·þinės). [f. Pithy *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or character of being pithy. *esp.* in sense 3 of the adj., Fullness of meaning with brevity of expression; condensation and force of style; terseness, sententiousness.

1547–64 Bauldwin *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 18 With such pithinesse in his counsels. 1619 R. Waller in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) II. 226 Much comendinge the grate pitthynes of your Lordships letters. 1813 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 225 Their version of the 15th psalm is more to be esteemed for its pithiness than its poetry. 1863 J. G. Murphy *Comm. Gen.* iv. 7 This sentence has all the pithiness and familiarity of a proverb.

Pithless (pi·þlės), *a.* [f. Pith *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of pith; having no pith. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* II. viii. 181 No yncke-horne termes, nor pithlesse pratling. 1656 Trapp *Comm. 2 Tim.* iii. 5 Hollow professors are as hollow trees:-tall, but pithless, sapless, unsound. 1728 Ramsay *Archers diverting themselves* 27 Pithless limbs in silks o'er-clad. 1817 Colebrooke *Algebra*, etc. Notes & Illustr. p. xlv, Omitting.. superfluous and pithless matter. 1879 Baring-Gould *Germany* II. 273 Leaning on these hollow, pithless reeds.

Hence **Pi·thlessly** *adv.*

1884 J. Parker *Apost. Life* III. 217 If we speak it pithlessly, it takes rank with any words short and empty.

Pi·t-hole, *sb.* A hole forming a pit; a pit-like hollow or cavity. (In various applications: see quots., and senses of Pit *sb.*[1]) **b.** *spec.* A grave.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 525 Buds sprouting forth vnder the concauity or pit-hole of the foresaid ioints. *a* 1625 Fletcher, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* II. ii, I have known a lady sick of the small pocks, onely to keep her face from pitholes, take cold, strike them in again, kick up the heels, and vanish. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xvi, A black bog..full of large pit-holes.

b. 1621–3 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* IV. i. 64 Alexander, that thought the world Too narrow for him, in th' end had but his pit-hole. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 647 It is common to fright children into taking of their physic, by telling them that else they must be put into the pit-hole. 1896 *Warwicksh. Wd.-bk.* s. v., Baby's dead, and gone in the pit-hole. [So in Eng. dialects, from Notts to Devon and Kent: see E.D.D.]

Hence **Pit-hole** *v.*, to lay in the grave, to bury.

1607 W. S. *Puritaine* I. B j b, All my friends were pitthold, gone to Graues. 1611 Chapman *May-day* III. 43, I would see her pithole[d], afore I would deale with her.

‖ **Pithos** (pi·þŏs). *Gr. Antiq.* [a. Gr. *πίθος*.] A large wide-mouthed earthenware jar of spherical form, used for holding wine, oil, food, etc.

1879 J. J. Young *Ceram. Art* 27 The pithos occupied by Diogenes was cracked and patched.

Pithsome (pi·þsŭm), *a. rare.* [f. Pith *sb.* + -SOME.] Full of pith; vigorous, sturdy.

1864 Blackmore *Clara Vaughan* (1889) 248 Her pithsome health and vigour.

Pithy (pi·þi), *a.* [f. Pith *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Consisting or of the nature of pith; abounding in or full of pith.

1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 192 The pithy pith of an elder sticke. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 225 The inward substance white,..without anie tast, ..and smell it hath none, neither is it anie thing pithie. 1793 B. Edwards *Hist. W. Indies* II. v. i. 209 The body of the cane..contains a soft pithy substance. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 73 The pithy bunch of unripe nuts. 1853 G. Johnston *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 96 [Elder] well known to every schoolboy.., who fabricates his pop-gun from its pithy branches. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 239 The rhachis [of a feather] is opaque, filled with a pithy substance.

2. *fig.* Full of strength or vigour; vigorous, strong; of liquor, strong, containing much alcohol. Now *dial.* or *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 9384 (Cott.) Al-king thing was þan..Wel pithier [*v.r.* mihtier] þan þai ar now. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/1 Pythy, *vbi* strange. 1530 Palsgr. 320/2 Pythy stronge, *puissant*. 1634 Markham *Archerie* IX. 84 A strong pithie kinde of Shooting. 1773 Fergusson *Cauler Water* iii, On mair pithy shanks they stood. 1812 W. Tennant *Anster F.* IV, Some are flush'd with horns of pithy ale.

3. Full of substance or significance; solid, substantial; *esp.* of speech or writing: Containing much matter in few words; expressing briefly the pith or substance of a thing; condensed and forcible in expression or style; sententious; terse. (Now the prevailing sense.)

1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 299/1 The sore pythye point wherwith he knitteth vp all hys heuy matter. 1531 Tindale *Exp.* 1 *John* (1537) 93 It is a shorte and pythy sentence to moue or admonyse. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* ii. 5 Very pithithe is this pronown I. 1657 Sparrow *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 74 These short but pithy Ejaculations. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VI. liii. 341 Finding something to say to each, in his pithy, agreeable manner. 1824 Miss Ferrier *Inher.* xv, With one of her sharp pithy glances at Colonel D. 1893 J. C. Jeaffreson *Bk. Recollect.* I. i. 13 He preached..a plain, short, pithy sermon.

b. *transf.* of a speaker or writer.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xix. 150 That other man also was pithithie and an earnest bidder of Jesus. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 235 The pithy moralist [Seneca]. 1713 Addison *Ct. Tariff* P 13 In all these particulars [he] was very short but pithy. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* ii. 39 He was a pithy talker.

Pitiabi·lity. *rare.* [f. next: see -ITY.] Pitiableness; something pitiable.

1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. vii. (1872) VII. 221 Pitiabilities of every kind.

Pitiable (pi·tiăb'l), *a.* Forms: 5 pytoyable, 5–6 piteable, 6 pitoyable, pittiable, 7 pytyable, 7–8 pityable, 6– pitiable. [ME. a. OF. *piteable* (13th c.), *pitiable*, *pitoiable* (mod.F. *pitoyable*) pitiable (in active and passive sense), f. OF. *piteer*, *pitier*, *pitoyer* to Pity: see -ABLE.]

1. Deserving, worthy of, or standing in need of pity; exciting pity; lamentable: = Pitiful 3.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 299 To ay justice with merci melle, efter as he seis caus piteable. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxx. 114 Thees pytoyable thynges thus y-happed. 1586 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 142 The auditory did find her case not pitoyable, and her allegations untrue. 1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 217 Out of great Condescension to this pitiable Infirmity of his sinful Creatures [etc.]. 1688 *Vox Cleri Pro Rege* 22 The Case is truly pityable. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IX. iv. (1864) V. 243 The champion of injured and pitiable women. 1879 Miss Braddon *Clov. Foot* I. i. 32, I..found him in a pitiable condition.

2. Contemptible, miserable: = Pitiful 4.

1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 353 For this pitiable exhibition, ships cut in paper, and saints carved in wood, we paid half a guinea each. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 511 That great party..had now dwindled to a pitiable minority. 1891 *Speaker* 11 July 36/1 The pitiable display of short-sighted greed over the Factory Bill.

†3. Characterized by pity: = Pitiful 2. *Obs.*

1503 *Kalender of Shepherds* li, Sweyt & pyteabyl as the beyr,..dyspytful & prydful as the fasant.

Hence **Pi·tiableness**, pitiable quality or condition; **Pi·tiably** *adv.*, in a pitiable manner.

1694 Kettlewell *Comp. Penitent* 43 Remembring..the Pytyableness of my Weakness. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 166 A line of scripture..pitiably misunderstood. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* xliii, We are so pitiably in subjection to all sorts of vanity. 1894 Mrs. H. Ward *Marcella* I. 41 For all its weakness and pitiableness.

Pitied (pi·tid), *ppl. a.* [f. Pity *v.* + -ED 1.] Compassionated, lamented, etc.: see the verb. Hence **Pi·tiedly** *adv.* (*rare*), in a way or to a degree to be pitied.

1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* II. xlix. 256 He is properly and pittiedly to be counted alone that is illiterate. 1728 Eliza Heywood *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 214 A dishonourable Affair, in which his Glory, and at last his Life fell a necessary, but much pitied Sacrifice. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. i. 1 Led, through prouder eminence, to less pitied destruction.

Pitier (pi·tiəɹ). [f. Pity *v.* + -ER 1.] One who pities.

1601 Daniel *Civ. Wars* VI. xiv, That which such a pitier seldom mends. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* VII. 53 The Favourers and Pittyers of the Cause. 1805 Cayley *Sir W. Raleigh* II. 90 Among his friends and pitiers in this his adverse fortune. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life* vii. 155 This class of pitiers of themselves.

Pitiful (pi·tifŭl), *a.* [f. Pity *sb.* + -FUL.]

†1. Characterized by piety; pious. *Obs. rare.*

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xviii. 262 Encrece thow rijtwisnes to piteful men [*piis adauge gratiam*]. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 186/1 Pittiful, *pius, misericors.*

2. Full of or characterized by pity; compassionate, merciful, tender.

1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 286/2 Thenne this pytefull man..dyde almesse. 1526 Tindale *Jas.* v. 11 The lorde is very pitifull and mercifull. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xx. 100 Shewing his pietifull affeccion. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 2 The Wall is high, and yet will I leape downe. Good ground, be pittifull and hurt me not. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 623 He was pitiful to the poor, and hospitable to his neighbours. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 20 A pitiful and compassionate Temper. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* vii. 186 Why did our Divine Master, pitiful and tender as He is, speak so sternly?

3. Exciting or fitted to excite pity; pitiable, piteous, deplorable, lamentable. (Usually, now always, of actions, conditions, sights, cries, or the like; formerly also of persons.)

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 236 This ded body that lyth here in grave, Wrappyd in a petefull plyght. 1532 Tindale *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 91 How pale and pitiful look they,.. hanging down their heads. 1647 Sprigge *Anglia Rediv.* II. i. 66 The pittifullest spectacle that man can behold. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Pitiful*, said of the Condition of one that is reduc'd to great Misery, and excites Pity. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. xxvi. 672 A pitiful account of his sorrows and perplexities. 1871 Morley *Vauvenargues* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 6 The pitiful fate of his friend.

†b. as *adv.* Pitifully. *Obs.*

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* ix. (1633) 117 He was pittifull hurt with a gun. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. ii. 29 The God of loue that..knowes me, how pittifull I deserue.

4. To be pitied for its littleness or meanness; exciting pitying contempt; miserably insignificant or trifling, despicable, contemptible. (Cf. *miserable, wretched*, in similar use.)

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 95 Feare shews pitfle crauens. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* II. vii. (1622) 42 Many such simple and friuolous matters, and more mildly to terme them, pittifull. 1659–60 Pepys *Diary* 26 Feb., A pitiful copy of verses. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 28 It is no more but a pitiful Village. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1820) 288, I see the pitiful advantage he has taken. 1874 Lisle Carr *Jud. Gwynne* I. iv. 130 When you talk such pitiful trash about rewarding me.

5. *Comb.*, as *pitiful-hearted.*

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 134 Pittiful hearted Titan that melted at the sweete Tale of the Sunne.

Pitifully (pi·tifŭli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pitiful manner.

1. With compassion; compassionately, mercifully.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1494 (MS. Harl.), 3yf he demeþ pytyffully [*MS. Dulw.* pytously] At hys demyng getyþ he mercy. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany*, Pytifully beholde the sordwes of our heart. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 6 He shall more patiently and pitifully deale against it. 1885 H. V. Barnett in *Mag. Art* Sept. 454/2 He..thought pitifully of her in her affliction.

2. In a way that awakens or deserves pity; piteously, lamentably, wretchedly, miserably.

c 1420 *Siege of Rouen* in *Collect. Lond. Cit.* (Camden) 3 Gonnys they schott with grete envye, And many were smytte pyttyfully. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 286 He hard a voyce cry petifullie. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 754 He was with mischarging of a speare,..pittifully slayne and brought to death. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. x. 93 Pitifully requesting the succour of the passers by. 1678 Bunyan *Pilgr.* I. 127 They beat them pitifully. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 117 She cry'd and look'd pitifully. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Mar. 4/8 The widow, whose career of wedded happiness has been so pitifully cut short.

3. Contemptibly, meanly, meagrely; miserably.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 215 Her teares (how pitifully easie are they to some?). 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 28 To prove..how pitifully poore and ridiculous the first workes of Art have been. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 243 Strawberry Plants..in the second Year they bear wonderfully; but that being past, they produce very pitifully. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) I. 139 The Secret Committee go on very pitifully.

Pitifulness (pi·tifŭlnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being PITIFUL, q. v.

1557 *Sarum Primer* N viij b, I commende and betake my handes to thy holinesse, besechynge thy pitifulnesse. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Prayers sev. Occas.*, Let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 32 They would..soon discern..the pittifulness of their matter, and the impertinency of their tales and phansies. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. iii. (1852) 541 That pitifulness and that peaceableness which rendered him yet further amiable. 1884 W. S. LILLY in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 264 Christianity, preaching pitifulness and courtesy. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 597 Scrofula:..its frequency, its pitifulness, and its marring of fair young lives.

†**Pitikins, pittikins,** dim. of PITY, after *bodikins*, in *Ods pit(t)ikins*: see OD[1] 2.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 27 Gods my pittikins, some foole or other knocks [cf. 29 Gods my pitty, what an Asse is that Citizen].

Pitiless (pi·tilĕs), *a.* [f. PITY *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Without pity or compassion; showing no pity; merciless. Also *fig.*

a 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3306 Out of pitee, growith mercy.., ffor piteeles man can do no mercy. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fl.* lxx. 147 To kepe al from pittelesse strife. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 29 The pelting of this pittilesse storme. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, The Gods are pityless. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 35 In Parliament, the tactics of the Opposition is to resist every step of the Government, by a pitiless attack. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 274 The spirit of the times was pitiless enough.

†**2.** Receiving no pity; unpitied. *Obs. rare.*

a 1618 J. DAVIES *Wittes Pilgr.* lxxvii, So, do I perishe pitilesse, through Feare.

Hence **Pi·tilessly** *adv.*; **Pi·tilessness.**

1611 COTGR., *Atrocement*, most cruelly, pittilesly. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pitilessness*. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 353 He was pitilessly dragged along the passages, up or down the stairs. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. vii. (1864) IX. 237 Their pitilessness to the poor.

Pitill: see PITTEL. **Pitle,** var. PIGHTLE.

Pitless (pi·tlĕs), *a. rare.* [f. PIT *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no pit: in quots., said of a theatre.

1895 *Daily News* 11 Nov. 6/4 The reconstructed and no longer pit-less Opera Comique. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 19 Dec. 5/2 The projectors of new and pitless playhouses.

Pit-maker, etc.: see PIT *sb.*[1] 14.

Pitman (pi·tmăn). [f. PIT *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** The digger of a pit or common grave. *Obs.*

1609 J. DAVIES *Humours Heaven on E.* (Grosart) 46/2 The ceremonie at their Burialls Is Ashes but to Ashes, Dust to Dust; Nay not so much; for strait the Pit-man falles (If he can stand) to hide them as he must.

2. A man who works in a pit or mine, esp. a coal-mine; a collier. (In some localities, applied *spec.* to the man who attends to the pumping machinery in the pit or shaft.)

1761 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 82/2 A large body of pitmen came into the town. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xx. (ed. 3) 202 A chief Pitman has charge of the pumps and the apparatus of the shafts. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i. 11 They passed through the pitmen's village. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Pitman* (*Cornw.*), a man employed to examine the lifts of pumps and the drainage. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Pit-man*, a collier as distinguished from a miner. ..This distinction..has not of late years been closely preserved. The term *pitman* was formerly applied to every worker in a colliery, from the 'trapper' to the 'hewer'.

b. *attrib.*, as †**pitman candle,** a miner's lamp.

1658 H. MOSELEY *Healing Leaf* 30 Set not up a pit-man Candle in a stately room.

3. The man who stands in a sawpit and works the lower end of the saw; a pit-sawyer.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 101 With the Pit-Saw they enter the one end of the Stuff, the Top-man at the Top, and the Pit-man under him. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 15 Oct., The light thin saw of the pitman.

4. One of a race dwelling in pits. *rare.*

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Jan. 3/3 The little pit-men who seem to have been the real aborigines of Yezo, conquered by the Ainu.

5. (*transf.* from sense 3.) In machinery, the rod connecting a rotating with a reciprocating part, and communicating motion from one to the other; a connecting-rod. Chiefly *U. S.*

1846 WORCESTER, *Pitman*..an appendage to a forcing pump. 1847 WEBSTER, *Pitman*... 2. The piece of timber which connects the lower end of a mill-saw with the wheel that moves it. 1860 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 96/1 [The] pistons are connected by piston rods *d* with pitmans *e* with the cranks *f, f.* 1864 WEBSTER, *Pitman*,..the connecting rod in a saw-mill; also, sometimes, the connecting rod of a steam-engine. 1881 *Metal Worker* No. 24. 373 It is preferable in high-speed engines to make the piston and cross-head as light as possible, and put the weight into the pitman or connecting-rod.

b. *attrib.*, as *pitman-box*, *-coupling*, *-head*, *-press*, *-strap*: see quots.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Pitman-box*, the stirrup and brasses which embrace the wrist of the driving-wheel... *Pitman-coupling*, a means of connecting a pitman to the object which it drives. ..*Pitman-head*, the block or enlargement at the end of a pitman, at which point its connection is made to the object by which it is driven or which it drives. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 13 Aug. 8 The Lee Mill.. came to a stop..by the breaking of the lower pitman strap and trunk to the gang. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pitman Press*, one working by pitman connection with a shaft, instead of eccentric or other equivalent.

Pit-mark, -martin, etc.: see PIT *sb.*[1] 14.

Pit-mirk, *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. PIT *sb.*[1] + MIRK *a.*] As dark as a pit (or as the pit, hell: cf. PIT *sb.*[1] 4); intensely dark, pitch-dark.

1728 RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 29 It fell late, And him benighted by the gate. To lye without, pit-mirk, did shore him, He couldna see his thumb before him. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, It's pit mirk, but there's no an ill turn on the road but twa. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii. 20 Neither moon nor star, sir, and pit-mirk.

Pit-mouth: see PIT *sb.*[1] 14. **Pito,** var. of PITA. **Pitomie,** obs. humorous aphetic f. EPITOME.

†**Pitot.** *Obs. rare.* [Origin obscure: cf. PIDDOCK.] app. A razor-shell.

1611 COTGR., *Manche de cousteau*, the Pitot; a long, and round shell-fish.

Pitous, -tee, obs. var. of PITEOUS, PITEOUSTEE.

Pitpan (pi·tpæn). Also 9 **pittpan.** [? Native name.] A long flat-bottomed boat hollowed out of the trunk of a tree, used in Central America; a dugout.

1798 COL. BARROW in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 247 Canoes, dories, and pit pans. 1810 *Ann. Reg.* 738/1 The Pit-pan being flat-bottomed, the Dory round. 1854 J. L. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* 8 We..made an excursion in the government pitpan... Ours was about 40 feet long and 6 wide in the centre, running to a point at both ends and made of the trunk of a mahogany tree. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 248/2 They..carried me quickly to the river, where a pit-pan was in waiting.

Pit-pat: see PIT-A-PAT.

Pit-saw, -sawyer, -stone, etc.: see PIT *sb.*[1] 14.

‖ **Pitta** (pi·tă). *Ornith.* [mod.L., a. Telugu *pitta* anything small, a pet.] Name of a genus of passerine birds, type of the family *Pittidæ*, the Ant-thrushes of the Old World, species of which inhabit China, India, and Australia, and one, *P. angolensis*, the W. Coast of Africa. They are remarkable for their vivid colouring, strong bill, short tail, and long legs, and range in size between a lark and a jay.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 194/2 *Pitta Gigas*,..Giant Pitta. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 728 Few Birds can vie with the Pittas in brightly-contrasted coloration. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc. Lond.* 303. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 357/1.

Hence **Pi·ttid,** any bird of the family *Pittidæ*; **Pi·ttine** *a.*, of or belonging to the genus Pitta; **Pi·ttoid** *a.*, allied in form to the pittas.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pittine. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, Pittid, Pittoid.

Pittacal (pi·tăkĕl). *Chem.* Also **-call.** [a. Ger. *pittacal* (Reichenbach 1835), f. Gr. *πίττα* pitch + *καλός* beautiful, *κάλλος* beauty.] A dark blue solid substance obtained from the high-boiling portions of wood-tar.

1835 *Thomson's Records Gen. Sci.* I. 54 On Pittacal, a new dye-stuff. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 735 Pittacall is without smell, is tasteless, and not volatile. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 661 Pittacal appears to have decided basic characters, for it is dissolved by acids and precipitated by alkalis.

Pittance (pi·tăns), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **pitaunce,** 4–6 (8) **-ance,** (4–6 **pyt(t)-, pet-, -ance, -aunce**), 6– **pittance,** (6 **-ans,** 7 **pettance, pittens**). [ME. *pita(u)nce*, a. OF. *pitance, -ence* pittance, app. the same word as *pitance, pietance* pity, ad. L. type **pietāntia*, deriv. of *pietās* (see PIETY), recorded 1317 in sense 'pittance' (so med.L. *pidantia, pit-(t)antia*, etc.), whence also Pr. *pitansa, -za, piedansa, pidanza* pity, OIt. *pietanza* pity, later pittance, Sp. *pitanza* pittance, salary, OPg. *pitança* charity, later pittance. (A pittance was often provided by a charitable bequest to a convent.)

Other derivations have been suggested, as Gr. *πιττάκιον* tablet, billet, med.L. *picta* a small coin of Poitou, and the root *pett-* of *piece*, etc. See Diez, Scheler, Littré, Skeat, Körting No. 7106.]

1. A pious donation or bequest to a religious house or order, to provide an additional allowance of food, wine, etc., at particular festivals, or on the anniversary of the benefactor's death, in consideration of masses; hence, the allowance or dole itself; also, the anniversary service. Also *fig.* Now only *Hist.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Hwar was euer iȝiuen to eni blodletunge so poure pitaunce? *Ibid.* 412 Forgoð enne dei our pitaunce. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10446 Synge me a messe For a man þat dede ys; And at myn ese he shal haue, To a pytaunce, þat he wyl craue. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 224 He was an esy man to yeue penaunce Ther as he wiste to haue a good pitaunce. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 605 To the said mynchons, euery yere in the day of his anniuersary, xl. shillings, to a pytaunce into mynde of his sowle. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 16 To eche monk .. xij *d.* and a petaunce amonges them, eche man a frenche loof and a quart wyn. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 337 Raymondyn dyde doo send to hys bretheren hermytes besyde theire pytaunce other meetes for recreacion. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* III. xxiii. 143 To bequeath .. to those good Religious Fathers .. many Pitances. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* vii. 135 Each member and servant of the Chapter received his portion or pittance. 1904 *Ch. Times* 29 Apr. 569/1 The pittance was an occasional relief to the usual strict dietary in the way of some exceptional or extra food or delicacy. .. In not a few monasteries there were special endowments for certain pittances, usually of early origin.

b. A charitable gift or allowance of food or money; an alms, dole.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4513 Thow þat .. to þe nedy yeuest no pitaunce. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) I. xv. 13, I preye .. of youre merytis superhabundaunce as grauntyth me of almesse somme pytaunce. 1812 S. ROGERS *Columbus* 132 A Pilot .. Stopt to solicit at the gate A pittance for his child. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 92 Their usual requests for pittances of food and clothing.

2. A small allowance or portion of food and drink; a scanty meal; scanty rations or diet. Also *fig.* Now *rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 31 Min Ere with a good pitance Is fedd of redinge of romance Of Ydoine and of Amadas. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 45 By sotyl crafte a morsel or pitaunce, A rustiler shal sone be redy founde. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 122 b, Such a small pitaunce .. as nowe our servauntes would disdeigne. 1578 *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 520 O sacred pittance of our pilgrimage. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 28 At night againe hauing eaten some small pittance of supper. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 547 She seru'd a holsome Onion cut For pittance to the potion. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Pittance*, short banquet. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* I *Cor.* i. 28 [Poor men] have but prisoners pittances, which will keep them alive, and that's all. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Pittance*, any small proportion of Bread, or Meat. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XII. 520 Some just woman .. spinning wool,.. that she may provide A pittance for her babes.

b. An allowance, remuneration, or stipend, by way of livelihood. Usually connoting its scanty amount or bare sufficiency.

1714 ABP. KING in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 292 That country..yields a clergyman but a small pittance. 1771 GRAY in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 120 Our good uncle Toby will have about four hundred pounds a year, no uncomfortable pittance! 1781 COWPER *Truth* 321 Yon cottager, .. Just earns a scanty pittance. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix. 101 The most skilful work fourteen hours a day for the pittance of one shilling. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. ii. 86 The Protestant clergy..had only a miserable pittance whereupon to live.

3. A small portion (*of* anything) allowed, furnished, or obtained; a (small or sparing) allowance, share, or allotment.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 4 The well-instructed and modest Householder contenteth himselfe with ..such Pittance, Grounds, and Seat as falleth vnto him. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 51 If every action which is good, or evill in man at ripe years, were to be under pittance, and prescription, and compulsion, what were vertue but a name? 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* (1722) 62 'Tis uncertain whether even that pittance of time can fairly..be allow'd to it. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. iii, Her small pittance of wages. 1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 401 The miserable pittance of instruction, the coarsest rudiments of knowledge.

b. A small portion, number, or amount; a small proportion of a whole. (Often with some notion of allowance or allotment.)

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. v. (1634) 322 The pardons doe bring out of the storehouse of the Pope, a certaine pitance of grace. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. i. § 1 Divine Providence, .. preserving the inconsiderable pittance of faithful professors against most powerful opposition. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. (1695) 244 What a small pittance of Reason and Truth,..is mixed with those huffing Opinions. 1772 MONRO in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 22 There may be a pittance of a calcareous marine salt in the yellow ley. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Stonehenge* Wks. (Bohn) II. 129 The priest who receives £2,000 a year, that were meant for the poor, and spends a pittance on this small beer and crumbs.

†**Pi·ttance,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To give a (small) pittance to; to allowance.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* vi. 5 That..men should be stinted and pittanced. 1650 ELDERFIELD *Tythes* 157 Gods minister onely is pittanced of what may keep him alive.

Pittancer (pi·tănsəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: see PITTANCE; in 5 **-ere, -eere, -eer,** 8– **-er,** (9 **pietancer, pitanciar, -ier**). [ME. *pitauncere*, ad. OF. *pitancier* (1297 in Godef.), in med.L. *pitantiārius*, f. *pitance* PITTANCE: see -ER[2].]

An officer in a religious house having the duty of distributing and accounting for the pittances.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22238, I am Sowcelerere Off this place, and Pytauncere. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xliv. (1869) 196 Þe ladi .. is pitauncere of heere inne, and suthselerere [*Fr.* La dame .. est pitanciere de cyens]. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 34 But iȝf. of rente to the Petaunseer. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pietantiarius*, the Pittancer or Officer in Collegiate Churches, who was to give out the several Pittances, according to the Appointment of the Founders or Donours. 1881 *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. IV. 20/1 The abbot, the pittancer, the chamberlain, the sacristan, and the cook all had separate estates assigned to them for their maintenance. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* 127 The western buildings were dedicated to..the pitancier's and kitchener's offices.

Pittancery (pi·tănsĕri). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* In 6 **pitensarie.** [ME. a. OF. *pitancerie*, f. *pitancier* PITTANCER; see -ERY. In med.L. *pitantiāria*.] The office of the pittancer of a convent; the estate belonging to this office.

1585 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 167 A parcel of land and marsh called the Pitensarie. [1892 KIRK. *Ibid.* Introd. 36,

32*s.* 11*d.* was laid out 'about the gates and bridges in the Pittancery', that is, in lands belonging to the office.]

† Pi·ttancy. *Obs. rare.* In 7 **pitancy.** [ad. med.L. *pitantia*: see PITTANCE.] = PITTANCE *sb.* 1.

a 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* in *Proc. Worc. Hist. Soc.* III. 520 Assyned to the Sacrist of the Churche of Worcester ..three marckes towards the Pitancy on the anniversary of Kinge John.

† Pittar(d, pittart, obs. forms of PETARD.

1603 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VI. 519 A maist deteistable and unlauchfull ingyne of weir, callit the pittart.

Pitted (pi·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PIT *v.* + -ED[1]; in sense 1 partly f. PIT *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].]

1. Having pits or small depressions on the surface; marked or spotted with pits; † dimpled; *spec.* in *Bot.* of cells, vessels, etc. (see PIT *sb.*[1] 9 c). Also, marked with small-pox: see PIT *v.* 4 a.

a 1050 in Thorpe *Charters* 559 Ic ȝean..minon breðer.. þæs swurdes mid þam pyttedan hiltan. 1530 PALSGR. 320/2 Pytted as a mannes chynne is, *fosselu.* 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* IV. 351 Her pitted cheeks aperde to be depaint With mixed rose and lillies sweet and faint. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 54 Leaves .. pitted; downy underneath. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* Fig. 479 Fragment of a pitted duct. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 394 The ..little pitted speck in garner'd fruit. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 40 Pitted or Dotted Vessels constitute by their combination Pitted Tissue.

2. Placed or planted in a pit.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 242 The best method of planting pitted trees.

3. Matched against each other: see PIT *v.* 3.

1852 JERDAN *Autobiog.* I. xxiii. 193 The long pitted deadly foes.

† Pi·ttel, pitill. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **pyttel, pittel,** 5 **pitill** (cf. 9 *dial.* **piddle, pickle**). [OE. *pyttel, pittel* hawk, in *bléri(a-pyttel* 'mouse-hawk'; perh. f. root *putt-* of PUTTOCK the kite.] A bird of prey; app. the Marsh Harrier (*Circinus æruginosus*); but perh., like *puttock*, applied also to the Kite, and the Bald Kite or Buzzard.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 132/38 *Scoricarius,* bleripittel. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* ibid. 287/8 *Soricarius,* bleria pyttel. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 642 The Pitill and the Pype Gled cryand pewewe. [Cf. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 54 Dun-piddle...The kite or moor buzzard. 1873 SWAINSON *Weather Folk-Lore* II. 242 It is said in Wiltshire that the marsh harriers or dunpickles .. alight in great numbers on the downs before rain.]

Pitteous, -euous, etc., obs. ff. PITEOUS.

Pitter (pi·tər), *sb. U.S.* [f. PIT *sb.*[2] + -ER[1].] a. One who removes the pits or stones from fruit (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). b. A mechanical device for doing this.

1884 KNIGHT *Mech. Dict.* Suppl. 359/1 Hatch's pitter splits the fruit and removes the pit.

Pitter (pi·tər), *v.* ? *dial.* [Echoic, with frequentative form: cf. PATTER *v.*, TWITTER *v.*] *intr.* To make a rapid repetition of a monosyllabic sound in quality approaching short *i*, as in the sound made by the grasshopper, or by a thin stream of water running over stones. Hence **Pi·ttering** *ppl. a.*; also **Pitter** *sb.*, as name of a rivulet.

a 1592 GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 211 The brooke .. when his pittering streames are low and thin. *a* 1635 HERRICK *K. Oberon's Feast* Wks. 1869 II. 471 But that ther was in place to stirr His fier the pittering grasshopper, The merrie crickett, puissing flye. 1652 G. TOOKE *Annæ Dicata, Pious Turtles* 3 At whose foot some pittering Rillet wound. 1803 J. LEYDEN *Scenes Infancy* I. 141 Pittering grasshoppers pipe giddily along the glowing hill.

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 305 One little sprynge called Wragby Pytter.

Pitteraro, obs. variant of PEDRERO.

Pi·tter-pa·tter, *sb.* (*adv.*) [Reduplicated from PATTER *v.*[1] and [2], implying rhythmic repetition.]

1. Rapid repetition of words; sometimes applied to rapid and mechanical repetition of prayers. Cf. PATTER *v.*[1]

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2604 in *Macro Plays,* ȝene qwene, with hyr pytyr-patyr, hath al to-dayschyd my skallyd skulle! 1561 *Q. Hesther* (1873) 30 So they from pytter pattour, may cume to tytter totur Euen the same pylgrimage.

2. An imitation of a rapid alternation of light beating sounds, as those made by rain or hail, light footfalls, etc. a. orig. as *adv.*

1679 DRYDEN *Troilus* IV. ii, I'faith, pitter patter, pitter patter, as thick as hail-stones. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* viii, Pitter-patter, pitter-patter! they [bullets] fell.

b. as *sb.* A designation of such a sound.

1863 R. BUCHANAN *Undertones* I. vii, I lie and hearken,.. To the tinkling clatter, Pitter, patter, Of the rain On the leaves close to me. 1897 W. H. THORNTON *Remin. W. Co. Clergyman* vi. 169, I heard a pitter-patter, which seemed to be the tramp of a flock of sheep.

Pi·tter-pa·tter, *v.* [f. as prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* and *intr.* To patter or repeat in a rapid mechanical way. Cf. PATTER *v.*[1]

a 1706 in Watson *Coll. Scot. Poems* I. 48 The Cleck Geese leave off to clatter,..And Priests, Maria's to pitter patter. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* IV. (1827) 134 Sir Freir began wi' blitter-blatter His pray'rs to saints to pitter-patter.

2. *intr.* To beat with a rapid alternation of light taps or pats, as rain; to palpitate. Cf. PATTER *v.*[2]

a 1792 LD. HAILES (Jam.). 1808–18 JAMIESON, *Pitter-patter,* to make a clattering noise by inconstant motion of the feet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pitter-patter,* to beat incessantly, like rain. 1891 S. C. SCRIVENER *Our Fields & Cities* 41 He had .. put on a clean collar over a pitter-pattering heart.

Pitth(e, Pitthie, pitthy, obs. ff. PITH, PITHY.

Pitticite (pi·tisəit). *Min.* Also **pittizite.** [ad. Ger. *pittizit* (Hausmann 1813), f. Gr. *πίττα* pitch + -IC + -ITE[1].] Hydrous sulph-arsenate of iron having a vitreous or greasy lustre, occurring in yellowish or reddish-brown, red, and white reniform masses. Also called *pitchy iron ore.*

1826 EMMONS *Min.* 220 Pittizite, see iron subsulphate. 1850 DANA *Min.* (ed. 3) 453 Pittiticte..occurs in old mines near Freiberg. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 661 Pitticite, Pittizite.

Pittid, Pittine: see PITTA. **Pittie,** obs. f. PETTY *a.* **Pittie-pattie:** see PIT-A-PAT. **Pittier,** obs. f. PITIER. **Pittikins:** see PITIKINS.

Pitting (pi·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PIT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PIT, or the result of this.

1. The action of putting into a pit, or of storing (vegetables, etc.) in pits. Also *attrib.*

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 468 All treat of both the Trenching and the Pitting method. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 14 May 3/2 The..unanimous Report of the Ensilage Commissioners in favour of the pitting of green crops instead of converting them into hay. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 2/1 Then can one watch the slow pitting of the potatoes.

2. The action of setting cocks to fight, dogs to kill rats, etc., in a pit for sport.

1773 *Archæol.* (1775) III. 133 The pitting of them [cocks] ..for the diversion and entertainment of man..was, as I take it, a Grecian contrivance. 1898 *Daily News* 7 May 10/3 Rat pitting was a common amusement.

3. The digging of a pit or pits; also, the formation of a pit by subsidence of the soil.

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. cvi. 357 This method of spreading the ashes is to be observed only in the case of pitting. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 340 In very dry seasons, when the moisture of the earth is very low, the fire catches the soil below and causes what is called *pitting.* 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 965 No assurance of coal can be had without boring or pitting.

4. The formation of pits or small depressions in a surface, as on the skin by small-pox, on metal by corrosion, etc.; marking with minute hollow scars or spots; *spec.* in *Path.* the formation of a permanent impression in soft tissue by pressure; in *Bot.* the formation of pits on the wall of a cell or vessel (PIT *sb.*[1] 9 c). Also *concr.* a series or mass of such depressions or spots.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 181 All those pittings did almost vanish. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 602/1 To take away the Pittings or Marks of the Small Pox. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 512/1 The pitting which is seen on making pressure on the skin. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 400/2 It appears to be necessary to treat mild steel more cautiously than iron, in order to prevent local corrosion, or 'pitting'. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 117 The walls of the cells .. are .. cellulose membranes, with ordinary simple pitting. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 452 Slab.. showing rain-pittings.

Pittious, obs. form of PITEOUS.

Pittite[1] (pi·təit). [f. PIT *sb.*[1] + -ITE[1] 1 b.] An adherent of the English statesman William Pitt (1759–1806), or of his policy. Also *attrib.*

1808 MOORE *Intolerance* iii, E'en thy Pittite heart Would burn. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 25 May 321/1 The remains of the Pittite Cabinet. 1834 MACAULAY *Pitt* Misc. 1860 II. 372 The haters of parliamentary reform called themselves Pittites.

So **Pi·ttism,** the policy of William Pitt.

1809 SCOTT *Let. to G. Ellis* 3 Nov. in *Lockhart,* The large and sound party who profess Pittism. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 45 The advantage of professing an orthodox 'Pittism' and Protestantism, articles of great gain in 1827 and 1828.

Pittite[2] (pi·təit). [f. PIT *sb.*[1] + -ITE[1].] One who occupies a seat in the pit of a theatre.

1841 C. MACKAY *Pop. Delusions* I. 351 The pitites were fierce and many. [Refers to the O. P. riots.] 1849 THACKERAY in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 681/1 A kind of stupid intelligence that passes for..wit with the pittites. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 4 May 5/3 The wrath of the pittites and the gods was appeased.

Pi·ttle, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **pitel.** [var. of PIDDLE *v.*] 1. = PIDDLE *v.* 1.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 121 To precise, to curious, in marking and piteling thus about the imitation of others.

2. = PIDDLE *v.* 2.

1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 584 Prince Biribinker..pittled orange-flower water, and let otr of roses.

† Pi·ttle-pa·ttle, *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [Echoic. Cf. *pitter-patter, pit-a-pat, prittle-prattle.*] = PITTER-PATTER *v.* 1.

1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 49 We in our dedes (I feare me to manye of vs) deny God to be God whatsoeuer we pittle pattle with our tonges.

‖ Pitto (pi·to). Forms: 7 **poitou, 8 potoe, putto, 9 pito, pitto, pittu.** [ad. Dahom. *kpitu.*] The native name of a kind of beer, made in West Africa, from fermented maize or rice; maize-beer.

1670 VILLAULT *Guinea* 168 A kind of small beer, which they call poitou. 1725 J. HOUSTOUN *Guinea* 53 Drinking palm-wine or potoe. 1737 J. ATKINS *Voy. Guinea* 111 Beer brewed from Indian corn pretty much in use here called putto. 1882 BURTON & CAMERON *To Gold Coast* (1883) I. x. 293 Pitto, hopless beer, the pombe of the East Coast. 1905 R. A. FREEMAN *Gold. Pool* 213 An old woman that hath drunk too much pittu.

Pittoid: see s. v. PITTA.

Pittoresque, obs. form of PICTURESQUE.

Pittosporaceous (pitɒspərē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [See next and -ACEOUS.] Of or pertaining to the natural order *Pittosporaceæ.*

Pittosporad (pitɒ·spŏrăd). *Bot.* [Cf. ARAD.] A plant of the N. O. *Pittosporaceæ,* flowering trees or shrubs occurring chiefly in Australasia, and also in Africa, Japan, etc., of which the typical genus is *Pittosporum.*

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* p. lxiii, Epigynous Exogens.. Alliance .. *Berberales* .. [N.O.] *Pittosporaceæ,* or Pittosporads.

‖ Pittosporum (pitɒ·spŏrŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Banks 1788), f. Gr. *πίττα* pitch + *σπόρος* seed; from the resinous pulp enveloping the seeds.] The typical genus of the N.O. *Pittosporaceæ,* evergreen shrubs or small trees bearing white or yellowish flowers in terminal cymes or racemes: see prec.

1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 244 Geraniums, Myrtles, Pittosporums, Acacias, and the like. 1874 *Silver's Handbk. Australia* (1880) 275 The native plum..satinwood, pittosporum, and capivi.

Pittows, obs. variant of PITEOUS.

† Pitty, obs. form of PETTY *a.*

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* 64 But thus it is when pitty Priscians Will needs step vp to be Censorians.

Pitty-pat, -patty: see PIT-A-PAT.

Pituis, obs. variant of PITEOUS.

‖ Pituita (pitiu,ə·ită). *Physiol.* Also (after F.) 7 **pituit,** 8 **pituite.** [L. *pītuīta* slime, phlegm, rheum; F. *pituite* (Paré *c* 1575).] The secretion of the mucous membrane; phlegm, mucus. Also *attrib.* = PITUITARY.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 134 Orach..allays the Pituit Humour. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 62 A Saliva, or thin Pituita. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* 338 Vessels ..obstructed with a viscous Pituite. 1794 T. TAYLOR tr. *Plotinus* 102 The pituita, or the bile, or the like disorders. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pituital** (pitiū·ĭtăl) *a.* = PITUITARY.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pituital.*

Pituitary (pitiū·itări), *a. Physiol.* and *Anat.* [ad. L. *pītuītārius,* f. *pītuīta*: see prec. So F. *pituitaire.*] Of, pertaining to, or secreting pituita or phlegm; mucous.

Pituitary body, gland, † *glandule,* a small bilobed body of unknown function attached to the infundibulum at the base of the brain; originally supposed to secrete the mucus of the nose; also applied to structures connected with this.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 946 It containeth the Pituitary or Phlegmaticke Glandule. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. ii. 180 That Part of the pituitary Membrane which invests the Cells of the *Ossa spongiosa.* 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 511 To protect the olfactory nerves and pituitary membrane from the too great or too sudden changes with respect to heat, dryness, or cold. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 78 A deep depression..termed the pituitary fossa. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pituitary fold,* the two layers of dura mater which enclose the Pituitary body. *Ibid.*, *Pituitary space,* the space .. in which the pituitary body appears. *Pituitary stem,* the *Infundibulum.*

b. *absol.* or as *sb.* (*a*) = pituitary membrane; (*b*) = pituitary gland.

1845 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* I. App. 424 [The frontal sinuses] are lined with a membrane, a continuation of the pituitary. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl,* 25 Feb. 415 Atrophy of the pituitary might likewise be followed by obesity.

† Pituito·se, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pītuītōs-us,* f. *pītuīta*: see above and -OSE[1].] = next.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 11 Crude and pituitose Juices. 1751 STACK tr. *Mead's Med. Precepts* ii. 63 The former..may be called the sanguineous apoplexy, the latter the pituitose.

Pituitous (pitiū·itəs), *a.* [ad. L. *pītuītōsus*: see prec. and -OUS: cf. F. *pituiteux.*] Of, pertaining to, consisting of, or of the nature of pituita or mucus; mucous; of diseases, etc.: Characterized or caused by excess of mucus.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 102 She emptieth her self of pituitous and flegmatique humors. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 42 Pituitous Affections of the Breast. 1780 BLIZARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 240 A continuation of the pituitous membrane of the nose. 1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 70 Forth creeps the ling'ring snail; a silvery line.. Marks his pituitous and slimy course. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 85 The mucous or pituitous catarrh. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 350.

b. = PHLEGMATIC 1 a and 2.

1658 BAXTER *Saving Faith* xii. 88 My pituitous brain and languid spirits. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 63 The Pulse of these pituitous Tempers in general is small. 1836 A. WALKER *Beauty in Woman* 284 Montaigne, all of whose passions were so moderate..was truly pituitous.

Hence **Pitu·itousness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pituitousness,*..phlegmatickness.

Pituos, -uous(e, etc., obs. variants of PITEOUS.

† Pituous, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. Short for PITUITOUS *a.* So † **Pituo·sity** for **pituitosity,* pituitousness.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 197 *Pituositie* or slimy vomits. *Ibid.* 201 In old persons the excrements are of a more pituos, slimy and bloodie substance.

‖ Pituri (pi·tiŭri). Also **pitury, pitcher(r)y, -chiri, -churie, pidgery, pedgery, bedgery.** [Native name.] The native name of an Australian

shrub, *Duboisia Hopwoodii* (N.O. *Solanaceæ*), the leaves and twigs of which are chewed by the natives as a narcotic.

1863 *Proc. Roy. Soc. Van Diemen's Land* Apr. 1 (Morris) 'Pitcherry', a narcotic plant brought by King, the explorer, from the interior of Australia, where it is used by the natives to produce intoxication. 1883 F. M. Bailey *Synopsis Queensland Flora* 350 Pitury of the natives .. chewed by the natives as the white man does the tobacco. 1883 G. W. Rusden *Hist. Australia* I. ii. 101 A shrub called pidgery by the natives. 1889 Lumholtz *Cannibals* (1890) 49 Pituri is highly valued as a stimulant.

Hence **Pi·turine** *Chem.* (see quot. 1895).

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 7/1 The actions of nicotine and piturine are in every respect identical. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Piturine*, a volatile liquid alkaloid prepared from the leaves and branches of the Australian plant *Pituri*.

Pit-viper, -water, -work, etc.: see Pit[1] 14.

Pity (pi·ti), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–6 pite, pyte, 4–5 pitee, 5 pytэe, 5–6 pytie, (-ye), 5–7 pitie, (5–6 -ye), 6– pity. β. 4–5 pitte, 4–6 pytte, 5–7 pittie, (-ye), 6 pyttye, 6–7 pitty. γ. 3–6 pete, 4 petey, 4–6 -ty(e, 5–6 -tie. See also Piety. [ME. *pite* a. OF. *pitet* (11th c.), *pitez*, *pité*, *pitié* (12th c.), mod.F. *pitié*, ad. L. *pietās*, *pietātem* Piety. The Fr. *pitié* was the popular phonetic repr. of *pietātem*; *pieté* a clerical adaptation of *pietās*, and *pité* app. a semi-popular intermediate form.

The sense of L. *pietās* 'piety', was in late L. extended so as to include 'compassion, pity', and it was in this sense that the word first appears in OF. in its two forms *pitié* and *pieté*. Gradually these forms were differentiated, so that *pieté*, which more closely represented the L. form, was used in the orig. L. sense, while *pitié* retained the extended sense. In ME. both *pite* and *piete* are found first in the sense 'compassion', subsequently both are found also in the sense 'piety'; the differentiation of forms and senses was here scarcely completed by 1600.]

I. †1. The quality of being pitiful; the disposition to mercy or compassion; clemency, mercy, mildness, tenderness. *Obs.* (or merged in next.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Deuocion, reoufulnesse, merci, pite of heorte. *a* 1300 *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 169 Sune, þu art ful of pite. *c* 1368 Chaucer (*title*) Compleynte to Pite. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 1026 For pure pytte & Ioy þai gret. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* II. v, Pyte is no thyng ellis but a right grete wylle of a debonary herte for to helpe alle men. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/1 Fulle of Pytie, *humanus*. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* II. ii. 293 A little proud but full of pittie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 262 Let thy pitie moue thee to make intercession for vs.

2. A feeling or emotion of tenderness aroused by the suffering, distress, or misfortune of another, and prompting a desire for its relief; compassion, sympathy. Formerly sometimes with pl. in reference to a number of persons.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 263/83 Þare mi3te ech man deol i-seo, ho-so of pite coupe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3976 Wit-outen pite he wald him sla. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 903 Ffor pitee renneth soone in gentil herte. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 2997 Pitee..is..To help him þat men sen in meschif smert. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 97 Quhat hairt so hard for petie will not bleid? 1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* iv. v, The sight will rather moouе your pitties, Then indignation. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. vi. 27 Griefe, for the Calamity of another, is Pitty. 1753 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 63 We melt in Pity of his Fate. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* III. 438 The still tears, stealing down that furrrow'd cheek, Spoke pity, plainer than the tongue can speak. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* lxiii, Pity for a horse o'er-driven.

b. Phr. *To have* or *take pity* [F. *avoir pitié*, *prendre pitié* (12th c.)]: prop., to conceive or feel pity; usually, to show or exercise pity, to be merciful or compassionate. Const. †*of* (obs.), *on*, *upon*.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 170/224 Þe pope hadde ful grete pite. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 2274, Y pray þe, þat þou haue on me pyte. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 23, I had pete of his passion þat prince was of Walis. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 944 Wallace tharoff in hart had gret pyte. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xix. 21 Haue pite vpon me, haue pite vpon me (o ye my frendes). 1611 Bible *Prov.* xix. 17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. 112 Have pity on me then.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 247 When that the lordes hadde sein Hou wofully he was besien, Thei token Pite of his grief. *Ibid.* 200. 1600 in *Shaks. C. Praise* 38, I am to entreat you that you will take pittie of mee. 1709 Atterbury *Serm., Luke* x. 32 (1726) II. 241 Take Pity upon Them, who cannot take Pity upon themselves. 1837 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. iv. (1855) I. 304 *note*, Which leads me to take pity on paper, or rather on myself.

c. In exclamatory phrases of adjuration, entreaty, etc.: †*for pity* (obs.; cf. *for shame!*); *for pity's sake* (cf. *for goodness' sake*, *for mercy's sake*).

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* III. xix, Helas for god & for pyte I pray yow that ye wylle hyde me within your racke. 1529 Latimer *1st Serm. on Card* (1886) 27 Alas, for pity! the Rhodes are won and overcome by these false Turks. 1593 Drayton *Idea* lii, Rebate thy spleen, if but for pities sake! 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 132 Alack, for pitty. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 41, I except my speciall Friends, for pity-sake. 1771 P. Parsons *Newmarket* I. 36 Suffer me..to beg your opinion—but for pity's sake..let it be compassionate. *Mod.* For pity's sake, do be quiet!

3. *transf.* A ground or cause for pity; a subject of condolence, or (more usually) simply of regret; a regrettable fact or circumstance; a thing to be sorry for: in phrases, †*pity* (*it*) *is*, *was*, *were* (obs.); *it is*, *was*, *would be* (*a*) *pity*; *the more* (*is*) *the pity*, *a thousand pities*, *a great pity*, etc. In early use without *a*.

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 1266 Pitee were I shulde serve Syth that I wilned noon harme. *a* 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 36 Above alle erthely thynges sche lovyd him mare,..So dud he hur..That was the more pete. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 33 Gret pite that she..Shuld sette hyr wurchippe. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* I. 107 Full gret slauchtyr, at pitte was to se. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxii. 68 It were grete pyte to lese Gryflet. *Ibid.* II. xvi. 94 Grete pyte it was of his hurte. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xxii. 22 A waye with soche a felowe from the erth! Yt is pitie thet he shulde live. 1542 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* II. 200 The towneshipp of Kylham..hath in yt nether tower or barmekin nor other fortresse whiche ys greatt petye. 1588 J. Udall *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 48 It is a pitie to see howe farre the office of a bishop is degenerated from. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 22, I, and 'twere pittie, to sunder them, That yoake so well together. 1625 Burges *Pers. Tithes* 67 It is a thousand pitties they should want blowes who will doe nothing without them. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. iii. 55 It is a great pity we should not be.. friends. 1746 H. Walpole *Let. to H. S. Conway* 24 Oct., What a pity it is I was not born in the golden age of Louis the Fourteenth. 1853 Trench *Proverbs* 140 Lessons which it would be an infinite pity to lose. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* ii. 40 It would be a pity to alter it. 1890 *Spectator* 1 Nov. 582/1 More's the pity that we cannot adopt something like the Swiss Referendum.

b. Idiomatically with *of* (= in relation to, in respect of, about). *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 53 Men of these maners there be now a dayes to mani, of the whiche it is the more pitee. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* 83 b, Al the Iewes..with great clamour cried, that it was pitie of his life [= that he should live: see Acts xxii. 22]. 1598 Chapman *Blinde Begger* Wks. 1873 I. 38 Twas pittie of his nose, for he would have beene a fine man els. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. iii. 42 *Iul.* Must die tomorrow?..*Pro.* Tis pity of him. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 206 But yet the pitty of it, Iago! 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 586 They were insensible to praise and blame...And yet it was pity of them: for they were physically the finest race of men in the world.

†4. a. A condition calling for pity; pitiable state; sad fate. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 729* Þus plenys þis prouud knyght þe pyte of hys fader. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8686 The petie & the playnt was pyn for to here! *Ibid.* 11948 Kyng Priam the pite persayuit onone. 1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* I. xxxvii. 62 In a man deformed, and rarely qualified..his virtues..be, as it were, things set off with more glory, by the pitty and defect of the other.

†b. An object of pity. *Obs. rare.*

1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 305 ₱ 3 The Statesmen who have appeared in the Nation of late Years, have..rendered it either the Pity or Contempt of its Neighbours.

†5. Grief for one's own wrong-doing; remorse, repentance. *To have pity*, to repent. *Obs.*

1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* I ij, We ought to..haue pyte and be shamefull of that that we haue done. 1592 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 58 They..knocke thy conscience, mouing pitie there.

†II. 6. = Piety (in its current senses). *Obs.*

(The primary sense of L. *pietas*, but in Eng. later than senses 1 and 2, and at length superseded by *piety*.)

1340 *Ayenb.* 222 He ne zenez[eþ] naȝt..uor pite him stereþ þet to done. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 193 Þat þat bicomeþ wymmen bihetynge pite, bi goode werkis. 1382 — 2 *Pet.* iii. 11 To be in holy lyuyngis and pitees [*L.* pietatibus]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 God the endew withe a croune of glory; And withe septre of clennes and pitee. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/1 A Pytye, *pietas*; *eusebia*.

†b. *spec.* = Piety 3 b. *Obs.*

[1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 229, 1 Tabulet, ovec 1 Pite, & 1 autre ymage de Nostre Dame.] 1489 *Will R. Partrich thelder of Sudbury* 8 Dec. (P.C.C., 1 Dogett), A Crucifix of the pitie of our lorde. 1522 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 20 For the anorment and light of our ladie of pitie in the said churche. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 190 You come to the Chappel of our Lady of Pity, which is under the Mount Calvary.

III. 7. *Comb.* (from sense 2), as *pity-begging*, *-bound*, *-moving*, *-proof*, *-worthy* adjs.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* (1897) III. i. 41 What pity-moving words, what deep-fetched sighs. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 561 Her pittie-pleading eyes are sadlie fixed In the remorselesse wrinckles of his face. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Sect. vi. 82 The weeping eyes, and pitty-begging looks of those Mothers. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 90 In the most submissive and pity-moving terms. 1809 Campbell *Gert. Wyom.* III. xi, The pity-proffered cup. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* 380 He was not altogether pity-proof.

Pity (pi·ti), *v.* [f. prec. sb., prob. after OF. *piteer*, *pitier*, F. *pitoyer*.]

1. *trans.* To feel pity for; to compassionate, commiserate, be sorry for. (In mod. use sometimes implying slight contempt for a person on account of some intellectual or moral inferiority attributed to him. Cf. Pitiful 4, Pitying.)

1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 337/2 Whoso pittieth not vs, whom can he pittie? 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. i. 236 No good at all that I can do for him, Vnlesse you call it good to pitie him. 1611 Bible *Ps.* ciii. 13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that feare him. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius*, *Persian Wars* II. 41 Megas, Bishop of Berrhœa..besought him to pitty men who never offended him, nor were in case to resist him. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* IV. vii. 55, I can pity others, or I should not deserve pity myself. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. x, Am I not to be pitied? 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 75 He who is unjust is to be pitied in any case. *Mod.* I pity you if you can't understand a plain statement like that.

†2. To move to pity, excite the compassion of; to grieve. Usually impersonal, i. e. with subject clause (mostly *inf.*) introduced by *it*. *Obs.*

1515 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 304 It wold petye ony mannys hert to here the shrykes and cryes. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* ci[i]. 14 Thy seruauntes haue a loue to hir stones, and it pitieth them to se her in the dust. *c* 1616 S. Ward *Coal from Altar* (1627) 30 It pitieth me for Laodicea that lost so much cost. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 20 July, Old Mr. Hawly, whose condition pities me. 1737 Whiston *Josephus*, *Hist.* VI. viii. § 4 It would pity one's heart to observe the change. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 62 He would have pitied every body, for he had no clothes, nor daddy nor mammy at all. 1835 Marryat *Jac. Faithf.* I. 171 The poor creatures..slipped about in a way that it pitied you to see them.

†3. *intr.* (or *trans.* with *inf.* or *obj. cl.*) To be moved to pity; to be sorry, grieve. *Obs.*

1549 Coverdale, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 14, I pitie to see you go from suche good beginnynges. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 36 At the one he greatly pitied, at the other he reioysed. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 211 Pittying how they stood Before him naked to the aire. 1670 C. Gataker in *Gataker's Antid. Errour* To Rdr. B, The love of Truth, which he pitied to see..opposed by Old Adversaries.

4. *trans.* To grieve for, regret. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1656 Wood *Life* 22 July (O.H.S.) I. 209 Proctor died..he was much admired at the meetings, and exceedingly pitied by all the faculty for his loss. 1851 [see Pitied].

Pitying (pi·tiiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Pity *v.* + -ing[2].] That pities; that feels, shows, or expresses pity; compassionate. In mod. use sometimes, Feeling or expressing slight contempt (cf. Pitiful 4).

1650 Hubbert *Pill Formality* 137 Their tears..pierce the hearts of their pittying neighbors. 1709 Watts *Hymn*, *'Plung'd in a gulph of dark despair'*, With pitying eyes the Prince of Grace Beheld our helpless grief. 1848 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 34 If I had not felt a pitying interest in the man. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) II. i. 26 Generally dismissed with a pitying shrug of the shoulders.

Hence **Pi·tyingly** *adv.*, in a pitying manner; in pity.

1847 in Webster. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* vi, Mr. Macey..smiled pityingly, in answer to the landlord's appeal. 1861 Whyte Melville *Good for Nothing* I. 231 Looking kindly and pityingly in his face.

Pityline (pi·tilәin), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Pitylinæ*, f. *Pitylus*, ad. Gr. *πίτυλος* plash, beating.] Of or pertaining to the *Pitylinæ*, a subfamily of *Tanagridæ*, the fringilline tanagers of the Neotropical area, having a thick pointed beak and rather short wings, typified by the genus *Pitylus*. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ Pityocampa. Also 7 **pityocompe, -pie.** [L., ad. Gr. *πιτυοκάμπη*, f. *πίτυς*, *πιτυο-* pine-tree + *κάμπη* caterpillar.] The larva of the Pine Procession moth (*Cnethocampa pityocampa*).

1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 666 The most venomous is that which is called *Pityocampe*, whose biting is poyson. *Ibid.*, Vlpian..esteemeth the giver of any Pityocampie in drink or otherwise to any one, to be doomed a murtherer. 1706 Phillips, *Pityocampa*, a Worm breeding in the Pine-tree, the biting of which is venomous. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 131 Of this nature also is the famous Pityocampa of the ancients, the moth of the fir.

‖ Pityriasis (pitiri·ăsis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *πιτῦρίασις* scurf (Galen), f. *πίτῦρον* bran.]

1. *Path.* A condition of the skin characterized by the formation and falling off of irregular patches of small bran-like scales, without inflammation; the (diseased) formation of dandruff or scurf.

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pityriasis*, *vid. Furfuratio.* 1706 Phillips, *Pityriasis*, the falling of Dandriff or Scurf from the Head. 1818–20 E. Thompson *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 323 In the slighter forms of Pityriasis, the cuticle alone..appears to be in a morbid condition. 1864 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* 36 Pityriasis is a purely epithelial disease (except in the rare form P. rubra).

2. *Ornith.* A genus of birds of the family *Corvidæ*, inhabiting Borneo and Sumatra, containing one species *P. gymnocephalus*. So called from the scales with which the naked head is covered.

1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 362 There seem to be only four unquestionable peculiar genera [in Borneo] *Pityriasis*, a singular form generally referred to the *Lanidæ*, *Schwaneria* belonging to *Muscicapidæ*, [etc.].

Pityroid (pi·tiroid), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *πίτυρ-ον* bran + -oid: cf. Gr. *πιτυρώδης* bran-like.] Resembling bran; bran-like.

1846 in Smart; and in later Dicts.

Piuish(e, -isshe, obs. forms of Peevish.

†Piu·ma. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Piuma*, the name given to a new and mixed fabric of light texture, used for gentlemen's coats.

Pivot (pi·vәt), *sb.* Also 7 **pivat**, 8 **pevot, pevet(t.** [a. F. *pivot* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) pivot, hinge. Origin obscure. Cf. mod. Prov. *pivo* a pointed thing (?), It. *piviolo*, *pivolo* wooden peg or pin, dibble, penis, etc., perhaps related to It. *piva* pipe.]

1. A short shaft or pin, usually of metal and pointed, forming the fulcrum and centre on which something turns or oscillates; as the pin of a hinge, the end of an axle or spindle, or the arbor on which the hands of a timepiece turn; a pintle, gudgeon.

1611 Cotgr., *Pivot*, the piuot, or (as some call it) the Tampin of a gate, or great doore. 1685 Boyle *Eng. Notion Nat.* 305 The excited Magnetick Needle, and the Box that

holds It, are duly pois'd by Means of a competent number of opposite Pivats. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pevetts*, are the Ends of the Spindle of any Wheel in a Watch; and the Holes into which they run, are called *Pevett-holes*. 1763 *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 143 The gudgeons, or pevets, in large engines, are seldom turned true. 1805 BREWSTER in *Ferguson's Lect.* I. 82 *note*, The extremities of an axle or spindle,..are called gudgeons when the wheels are large, and pivots in small pieces of machinery. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 31 The atlas vertebra is formed to turn on the odontoid process of the axis as on a pivot.

† b. A dowel or toggle. *Obs. rare.*

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 213 The Stones .. are ..clasped at the Top of the Arches with Pivots or Nails.

2. *Mil.* The officer or man on whom a body of troops wheels; also that flank by which the alignment or dressing is corrected. *Fixed pivot, movable pivot*: see quot. 1832.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 37 When the squadron has wheeled to a flank by divisions.—If to the right, then the left officer is on the pivot of the rear division, and the right officer shifts to the pivot of the front division. 1832 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* III. 47 *Pivot*, the outward man on that flank of a Squadron or smaller body upon which that body turns in wheeling...*Fixed Pivot*, is when the flank man during a wheel turns upon his own ground. *Moveable Pivot*, is when the flank man during a wheel describes a portion of a circle. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 141 A battery can..change front on a moveable pivot by a simple wheel. 1860 *Vol. Cav. Movem.* in *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 371/1 'When Right is in front, Left is the Pivot.' This is the first thing taught to the Cornet.

3. *fig.* That on which anything turns; a cardinal or central point.

1813 *Examiner* 17 May 312/2 His Majesty .. waited the moment.., to put in motion..his army.., make a pivot on Leipzic. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 594 The paper-money is the pivot, on which their all turns. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 122 Those questions of right which between Christians would be the chief pivots of the decision. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xliv. 151 In all States, the Governor..may at any moment become the pivot on whose action public order turns.

b. *spec.* A device in Japanese poetry: see quots., and cf. *pillow-word* s. v. PILLOW *sb.* 6.

1877 B. H. CHAMBERLAIN in *Trans. Astat. Soc. Japan* V. 86 A more complicated species of pun, occurring when a word with two meanings is used only once as a sort of pivot on which two wheels turn. In this case, the first part of the poetical phrase has no logical end, and the latter part no logical beginning. ..An example of what might be termed pivot-puns. 1880 — *Class. Poetry Japanese* Introd. 4 The 'Pivot' is a more complicated device, and one which, in any European language, would be not only insupportable, but impossible, resting, as it does, on a most peculiar kind of *jeu de mots*.

† **4.** *Gardening.* (See quot., and cf. PIVOT *v.* 3.)

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Tree*, If the lower or bottom part of the Stem be..thicker than all the rest, it ought ever to preserve it self in that State; but if..it continues smaller than some part a little above it, from whence in effect some fine Roots proceed; then..you must entirely cut off this smaller Part, with all its Appurtenances: Many Gardiners call it Pivot, and those Roots must only be preserv'd that proceed from the fortunate Part.

† **5.** The nipple of a percussion-lock. *Obs.*

1835 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XI. 39/1 The next peculiarity of the ordinary detonating lock is the pivot or nipple. 1836 T. OAKLEIGH *Oakleigh Shooting Code* 18 The pivot is the nipple or cone of iron screwed into the breach, and on which the copper cap is placed.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *appositive* or *adj.* That is the pivot on which something turns or depends; cardinal; pivotal.

1861 E. GARBETT *Boyle Lect.* 247 Heathenism fixed itself upon these pivot qualities of the heart. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 2 Some of the pivot terms and most pervading conceptions.

b. *Comb.*, as *pivot-file* (FILE *sb.*[1]), *-gauge, -hole, -lathe, -pin, -point, -polisher*; (in sense 2) *pivot file* (FILE *sb.*[2]), *flank, leader, man, manœuvre, officer, ship*; **pivot-bolt**, a central pintle about which a pivot-gun oscillates horizontally; **pivot-bridge**, a swing bridge pivoted on a central pier; **pivot-broach, pivot-drill**, watchmakers' tools; **pivot-frame**, a frame turning on a pivot, so that the gun it carries may be pointed in any direction; **pivot-gearing**, gearing for allowing the axis of a driving wheel to be shifted, so as to communicate power in various directions; **pivot-gun** (see quots.); **pivot-joint** *Anat.*, a joint in which the articular movement is that of a pivot; **pivot-pricker**, a slender pointed instrument for clearing the nipple of a percussion-lock; **pivot-pun** (see 3 b); **pivot-span**, that span of a bridge which turns or opens on a pivot; **pivot-tooth** (see quot. 1875); **pivot-transom**, the front member of the chassis of a casemate gun; **pivot-wrench**, a small turning tool for securing or loosening the nipple of a percussion-lock to and from the barrel; now called *nipple* or *cone-wrench*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Pivot-bolt. *Ibid.* 1721/2 A *pivot-bridge of the New York Central Railway on the Linville principle. *Ibid.*, **Pivot-broach*, a..tool for opening the pivot-holes of watches. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 38 The *pivot files..face to the left. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 199 Pivot File..[is] a file used for forming pivots. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 38 They resume their places on the *pivot flank. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 131 The piece..is mounted upon a carriage..which embraces a *pivot frame and recoil slide. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 199 *Pivot Gauge,..a steel plate with tapered slit used for measuring pivots. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pivot-gun*, a piece of ordnance turning freely on a pivot, to alter the direction. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 150 Markers mark for the pivot guns of half batteries. 1704 *Pivot-hole [see sense 1]. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* vii. 171 The second kind of *pivot-joint is seen in the forearm. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 122. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 17 The *pivot leader..will begin in his own person to circle behind the line from the old, so as to enter the new direction twenty or thirty yards from the point of intersection. *a* 1814 *Manœuvring* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 101 Ever since ..you have been our lady's *pivot-man: every thing turns on you. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 15 Those nearest the pivot man making their steps extremely small. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 43 In movements in column, the *pivot officers..are answerable for covering, and for proper wheeling distances. 1884 *Mil. Engineering* (ed. 3) I. II. 58 A plate round the point or thin end, with a hole for the *pivot pin. 1836 T. OAKLEIGH *Oakleigh Shooting Code* 106 Articles necessary to the grouse-shooter's equipment..; fowling-piece, in case or bag; two extra pivots; a *pivot-pricker; pivot-wrench. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Pivot-ship*, in certain fleet evolutions, the sternmost ship remains stationary, as a pivot on which the other vessels are to form the line anew. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1878) 138 The six front roots above and below..are the only ones upon which it is advisable to ingraft *pivot teeth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Pivot-tooth*, .. an artificial crown attached to the root of a natural tooth by a dowel-pin of wood or metal occupying the nerve-canal. *Ibid.* 1721/2 A traversing platform passing through the *pivot transom and the front sleeper of the platform. 1836 *Pivot-wrench [see *pivot-pricker*].

Pi·vot, *v.* [a. F. *pivoter*, f. *pivot*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with, mount on, or attach by means of, a pivot or pivots. (Chiefly in passive.)

1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.* 292/2 *Pivot*, place on a pivot. 1869 SIR E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* xx. 454 To have the model pivoted at the ends. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* p. ii, An electro-magnetic telegraph..the armature of which was pivoted so as to vibrate between its poles. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 192 If yards were pivoted in the centre of the mast.

b. *fig.*: cf. prec. 3. (In quot. 1851, to serve as a pivot to.)

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 472 There is not a man..whose moral and mental centre of gravity more firmly pivot the violent oscillations and gyrations of his 'passionate' energy. 1878 R. H. HUTTON *Scott* x. 101 Scott's romances .. are pivoted on public rather than mere private interests.

2. *intr.* To turn as on a pivot; to hinge; in military manœuvres, to swing round a point as centre. Chiefly *fig.*

1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* xc, The 7th took up their ground at Frenada pivoting upon the 1st Division. 1872 H. W. BEECHER in *Chr. World Pulpit* II. 250 You know that Christ's ministry was pivoting upon Capernaum. 1883 HOLME LEE *Loving & Serving* II. ix. 154 'No', said the clergyman, and pivoted on his heel. 1892 *Pictorial World* 11 June 52/1 The entire question pivots on Ulster.

3. *Gardening.* (See quot., and cf. PIVOT *sb.* 4.)

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v., In *Bot.*, a main root which grows vertically downwards is spoken of as 'pivoting' (Littré).

Hence **Pi·voted** *ppl. a.*, **Pi·voting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.* 292/2 *Pivoting*, pivotwork... *Pivoted, a.* 1870 *Daily News* 27 July 5 This bridge is built in three portions, the centre resting upon four piers, and a pivotted portion of either end of about thirty yards in length. 1875 *Dental Cosmos* XVII. 511, I removed the pivoted root [of a tooth], which was covered by a tumid and dark purple gum. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 244 The..frames carry pivoted screw nuts. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 16 May 9/1 The eye of the bracket which receives the pivoting pin.

Pivotal (pi·vŏtăl), *a.* [f. PIVOT *sb.* + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of, or constituting a pivot; being that on which anything turns or depends; central, cardinal, vital.

1844 MARY HENNELL *Social Syst.* 198 It is..the fatal characteristic of civilized industry..to have for pivotal motive nothing but the fear of death from hunger. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ii. 16 About this pivotal fact all the other matters involved fall into position as..auxiliary. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. I. xxvi. 397 It..makes the issue of the election turn on the voting in certain 'pivotal' States.

Hence **Pi·votally** *adv.*, in a pivotal manner; as on a pivot.

1887 *Sci. Amer.* 12 Feb. 98 The stanchion is pivotally held between the floor .. and any stationary upper beam by two bolts.

‖ **Piwarrie** (piwo·ri). Forms: 8 **piworree**, 9 **-ie**; **piwaree, -i**; **-warry, -i, -ie**; **paiwari**. [Carib of Guiana.] An intoxicating beverage prepared from cassava, used by the natives of tropical America. Also *attrib.*, as *piwarrie-drinking, -feast, -trough*.

[1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 401 They have a drink of the root Cavain, which the Carmels call Piroa.] 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 278 The piworree is made from the bread of Cassava or Manioc. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Manihot*, Another of the products of Cassava is an intoxicating beverage called Piwarrie...It is made by the women, who chew Cassava cakes and throw the masticated material into a wooden bowl, where it is allowed to ferment for some days, and [is] then boiled. 1880 BRETT *Leg. & Myths Guiana* 102 A large canoe is brought on shore And with paiwari running o'er.

Pix (piks). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [app. syncopated from ME. *pikeis, picas, pykes*, PICKAX.] A pick.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 46. 1/2 A Puncture with a Pix. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 116 Which the sandman's delving spade And the pitman's pix have made. 1851 T. STERNBERG *Dial. & Folklore Northampt., Pix, Pick*, a pick-axe.

Pix, Pixis: see PYX, PYXIS.

† **Pixwex,** var. f. PAX-WAX. Cf. *fix-fax*, etc.

1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* vi. (1888) 46 There be three maner of fleshes in the necke: the first is called Pixwex or Seruisis.

Pixy, pixie (pi·ksi). Also *dial.* **pisky, -ie, pisgy**, etc.: see Eng. Dial. Dict. [Origin obscure.] In local folk-lore a name for a supposed supernatural being akin to a fairy. Also *transf.*

(In popular use in the s. w. of England from Cornwall to Wiltshire and Dorset. A meadow on the Thames above Oxford is named on the Ordnance Map *Pixey Mead*. Used by Scott in *The Pirate*, quot. 1822 (whence inserted by Jamieson and in subseq. glossaries) as a Shetland word, but no local evidence has been found there either for *pixie* or *nixie*. Rietz has a Swed. dial. *pysk, pyske*, 'small fairy, dwarf', cf. Norw. *pjusk* 'a little insignificant person'; but, with the disappearance of the supposed Shetland use, it is difficult to see how this could be connected with the s. w. Eng. word.)

c 1630 T. WESTCOTE *Devon.* (1845) 433, I shall..be thought to lead you in a pixy-path by telling an old tale. 1639 [see PIXY-LED]. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E. D. S.) 130 Tell me o' tha Rexbush, ye teeheeing Pixy. 1793 COLERIDGE *Songs of Pixies* i, Whom the untaught Shepherds call Pixies in their madrigal, Fancy's children, here we dwell. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xxiii, If a pixie, seek thy ring; If a nixie, seek thy spring. 1836 MRS. BRAY *Tamar & Tavy* (1879) I. x. 163 The pixies are certainly a distinct race from the fairies, .. [they] will invariably tell you, if you ask them what pixies really may be, that these native spirits are the souls of infants, who were so unhappy as to die before they had received the Christian rite of baptism. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* VI. vii. (1862) 478 The Pixies may possibly still haunt those caves and dens in Devonshire where Coleridge..saw them. 1891 'Q.' [COUCH] *Noughts & Crosses* 175 In this corner of the land where (they say) the piskies still keep.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly *local*), as **pixy glove**, the thistle; **pixy-path**, a path by which those who follow it are bewildered and lost; **pixy-pear**, (*a*) the haw; (*b*) the hip of the wild rose (Britten & Holl.); **pixy puff**, various species of puff-ball, *Lycoperdon*, as *L. giganteum* and *Bovista*; **pixy-ridden** *a.*, plagued or possessed by pixies; **pixy-ring**, (*a*) = FAIRY-RING; (*b*) (see quot. 1891); **pixy stool**, a toadstool or mushroom.

1858 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 128 Rejoicing where the *pixy glove Will soon hang out its crest. *c* 1630 *Pixy-path [see a]. 1870 LADY VERNEY *L. Lisle* x. 117 Allays after them blackberries and *pixie-pears. *a* 1847 *MS. Gloss. Devon* in *Halliwell*, **Pixy-puff*, a broad species of fungus. *Pixy-rings*, the fairy circles. 1879 ELWORTHY *Gloss. Exmoor Scolding*, **Pixy-rided*, to guard against which [horses being ridden by pixies] a horseshoe is nailed against the stable-door. 1893 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 4/7 A girl..is '*pixy-ridden'—pots and jugs begin to jump out of her hand, chairs run after her, flitches of bacon join the dance. *a* 1847 *Pixy-rings [see *pixy-puff*]. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Pixy-rings*, round which they dance on moonlight nights. 1891 J. H. PEARCE *Esther Pentreath* III. x. 235 A rudely drilled stone with a bit of coloured ribbon run through it—a piskie-ring, or spinning-whorl, in fact. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, **Pickseystool*, a mushroom. Devonsh. 1870 LADY VERNEY *L. Lisle* xiii. 155 There's a fairies' ring and no end o' pixy-stools on the knap yonder.

Pixy-led, *a.* Led astray by pixies; lost; bewildered, confused. So **Pixy-leading.**

1659 CHR. CLOBERY [Cornishman] *Div. Glimpses* 73 Blind-zeal-sick soul! in Charity I'll judge Thee pixie-led in Popish piety. *Ibid.*, Old countrey folk, who pixie-leading fear, Bear bread about them to prevent that harm. 1836 MRS. BRAY *Tamar & Tavy* (1838) I. 193 The popular belief of being pixy led. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* v. 64, I thought you'd run home agen, or was pisky-laid or something. 1895 ELWORTHY *Evil Eye* 433 He firmly believed he had been pixy-led.

† **Piys, -e.** *Obs.* [(for **pīs*), a. OF. *piz, pis* breast (in Gower *M.O.*):—L. *pectus*.] The breast.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 262 His lungis mi3te be þe worse þerfore & also his piys. *Ibid.* 300 Sumtyme a veine wole breke in þe piyse or in þe lungis.

Pize (pəiz). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **pise**, 7–8 **pies**, 9 (*dial.*) **pars.** [Of uncertain origin.

Suggested to have been an arbitrary substitute for PEST or POX, the latter used in the same way from *c* 1600; but the form is unexplained. The E. Yorksh. *pars, pahs*, is the regular phonetic repr. of pəiz; cf. *knahve, shahve*, etc.]

A word used in various imprecatory expressions, as *pize on, upon, of*; *pize take, pize light upon*; *out a pize, what a pize*: cf. *pest, pox, mischief*, in similar use.

1605 *1st Part Ieronimo* III. ii. 22 *Rog.* Pox ont. *Bal.* Pies ont. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* IV. ii, Pize on't, I pawned a good beaver hat last night. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. iv, Pies take him, does he play for cloaks still? 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* II. i, Out, a pise o' their breeches. *Ibid.* III. i, Out a pise. Adod, I ha' business and cannot. 1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* I. iv, Ah, sweet rogues! while in the countrey, a pies take them. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 63/2 A pize upon them! I could get no eatables upon the road. 1754 FOOTE *Knights* II. Wks. 1799 I. 82 A pize of your pots and your royal oaks! 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) VI. xliii. 284 What a pize are you about? 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 2 Nov., Another gloomy day—a pize upon it. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 893 A mere mistake of Allsop's, .. a-pize upon him! [In dialect use from Yorksh. to Kent, Shropsh. to Sussex.]

Pizell, pizle, obs. forms of PIZZLE.

‖ **Pizzicato** (pittsĭkā·to), *a., adv., sb. Mus.* [It., prop. pa. pple. of *pizzicare* to pinch, twang (a stringed instrument), twitch or pluck (a string).]

A. *adj.* and *adv.* Said of a note or passage played

on a violin or the like by plucking the string with the finger instead of using the bow. (Abbrev. *pizz.*)

1880 P. David in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 760/1 Playing a pizzicato accompaniment to a tune played with the bow. 1885 *Athenæum* 5 Dec. 740/1 Violas and violoncellos play *pizzicato* throughout.

B. *sb.* A note or passage played in this way.

1845 E. Holmes *Mozart* 119 When they heard me accompany the Pizzicato on the keys. 1885 P. David in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 295 Who copied with more or less success.. his pizzicatos with the left hand.

Pizzle (pi·z'l). Now *dial.* or *vulgar.* Forms: *α.* 6 peezel, peisill, 7 peezle, 8 pesil; *β.* 6 pys(s)ell, 6–7 pissel(l, 7 pisle, pizell, pizle, pyzel(l, 7– pizzle. [Occurs from early 16th c. = Flem. *pēzel*, LG. *pesel*, dim. of OLG. **pīsa* sinew, whence MLG. *pēse*, MDu. *pēze*, Du. *pees* sinew, string, pizzle. Cf. also MDu. *peserick* sinew, string, whip of bull's hide, pizzle, Du. *pezerik, peesrik*, MLG. *peserik*, LG. (and Ger. dial.) *peserick* pizzle.] The penis of an animal; often that of a bull, used as a flogging instrument (see Bull *sb.*[1] 11 b).

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 56 Thoughe he [an ox].. be broken, bothe of tayle and pysell, yet wyll he fede. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) H vj b, Take the peisill of an harte, and drie it into pouder. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 127 Take the peezel of a Stagge, burne it, and make it in pouder. 1599–1737 Bulls pissell, etc. [see Bull *sb.*[1] 11 b]. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 976 Of the Whale's Pizzle, and its Use in Physick. 1710 Addison *Tatler* No. 216 ¶ 13. 1814 Scott *Let. Southey* 17 June in *Lockhart*, The wholesome discipline of a bull's pizzle and strait-jacket.

Plaas, obs. form of Place.

Placability (plākăbi·lĭti, plæk-). [ad. L. *plācābilitās*, f. *plācābilis* Placable: see -ity. Cf. obs. F. *placabilité* (1577 in Godef.).] The quality or character of being placable; readiness to be appeased or to forgive; mildness of disposition.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* II. vi, Placabilitie is no litle part of Benignitie. *a* 1620 Moryson *Itin.* IV. iv. i. (1903) 290 All writers commend the Germans.. for Modesty, Integrity, Constancy, Placability, Equity, and for Gravity, but somewhat inclyning to the vice of Dullnes. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* II. xii. 505 He declared nothing to be more..worthy of a great man, than placability. 1839 James *Louis XIV*, IV. 62 He would endure with dignified placability much irritating opposition.

Placable (plē·kăb'l, plæ·kab'l), *a.* [ME. a. OF. *placable*, ad. L. *plācābilis*, f. *plācāre* to appease: see -able.]

†**1.** Pleasing, agreeable. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 723 Marie was body and sawle to godd perfitely placable. *c* 1540 Boorde *The boke for to Lerne* A iij b, It may be placable to the iyes of all men to se. 1542 — *Dyetary* ii. (1870) 234 That it may be placable to the eyes of all men to se and to beholde.

2. Capable of being, or easy to be, appeased or pacified; mild, gentle, forgiving.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 93 To thy Enemies .. thou art placable. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 151 Since I saught By Prayer th' offended Deitie to appease,.. Methought I saw him placable and mild. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* II. 166 My Pamela is very placable. 1819 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* 15 Sept., Tories are placable people. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* IV. xxv. 6 Though irritable, he was placable, and at heart was truly loyal.

† b. *transf.* (of a thing). *Obs.*

1609 Bible (Douay) *Isa.* lx. 7 They shal be offered upon my placable altar.

¶ **3.** Peaceable, quiet. (*Catachrestic.*)

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VIII. iii. (1623) 400 Being at length..surfeited with glory,..he resolved on a more placable course of life. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 130 The civil wars .. soon drew off the minds of men from the placable innovators of language. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 259 The wind blew in momentary gusts, and then became more placable.

Pla·cableness. [f. prec. + -ness.] The quality of being placable; placability.

1647 Cudworth *Serm., 1 Cor.* xv. 57 (1676) 72 A sensible Demonstration..of God's..Placableness and Reconcileableness to sinners returning to obedience. 1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. xv. 256 That softness of nature, and placableness of disposition, which he holds to be the greatest merit in our sex. 1896 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo, N.Y.) VI. 417 They had gained a grace of placableness.

Pla·cably, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly[2].] In a placable manner.

1839 James *Louis XIV*, IV. 317 He..heard patiently and placably complaints of himself and of his government. 1861 Geo. Eliot *Silas M.* iii, 'Ay, ay', said Dunstan, very placably, 'you do me justice, I see'.

Placad, obs. Sc. form of Placard.

‖ **Placage** (plăkà·ʒ). [Fr., f. *plaquer* to plate, veneer, cover (with plaster, stone, etc.), f. *plaque* a plate, slab: see Plaque and -age.] The facing of walls with thin slabs of marble or the like, or with stucco or plaster.

1774 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 115/2 He likewise employed the same kind of cement for the placage of a subterraneous vault. 1862 *Ecclesiologist* XXIII. 32 The cost of a simple marble placage.

Placard (plæ·kărd, plăkā·rd), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 **placquart, plakart, -ert,** 6 **plagart,** 6–9 **placart,** 7 **plachart,** 7–8 **placaert,** 8 **playcart.** *β.* 5– **placard,** (6 **placarde, plakard, plackerd, plakerde, plagard(e, plachard(e**; 6–7 **placcard(e,** 6–9 **plackard(e).** *γ.* 6 **placcat, -att,** 7 **placat, 7–8 placaet,** 7 **placate,** 8 **placaat,** *Sc.* **placad.** [a. OF. *plackart* (1410), *pla(c)quar(d, placard, -art* in the same senses, mod.F. *placard*, f. OF. *plaquier* (mod.F. *plaquer*) to plate, lay flat, plaster, etc., ad. MFlem. *placken* (Du. *plakken*) to plaster, coat with something sticky: see -ard. The OF. *plackart* was taken into Du. as *plackaert, plakaet, plakkaat*, whence app. the 16–17th c. Eng. forms *placaert, placaet, placcat*, etc.; also Ger., Da. *plakat.* See also Placcate, Placket[2].]

I. An official or public document.

†**1.** A formal document (originally) authenticated by a thin seal affixed to its surface. *Hist.*

Cf. F. *sceau plaqué* seal affixed to the surface of a document.

†**a.** Such a document issued by a competent authority, authorizing or permitting a person to do something; a warrant, licence, permit, letters patent. *Obs.*

† *Letters of placard*, a letter under seal.

1482 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1711) XII. 164/1 Certain Letters in Pauper sealed in Placquart wise with a grete rownde Seale in Rede Wex. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 33 § 12 Lettres of Placardys made to the same John, of thoffice of Constablisshippe of the Castell of Ludlowe. 1501 in *Yorks. Archæol. Soc., Record Ser.* XVII. 196, I received from the Kingges grace a plagarde. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 4 The Kynges speciall licens undre his placarde signed & sealede wyth his pryve seale. 1520 *Clerical Subsidies* (P. R. O. 64/299 B.), The kinges moost honorable lettres of placcarde dated under his signet. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 102 Ther be few lawys and statutys,..but, by placardys and lycence opteynyd of the prynce, they are broken and abrogate. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 206 For sundrie men, had plagards then, Such childe to take. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* 141 Neither doth he suffer other ships to saile in those seas, without a speciall placard signed with his owne hand. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 226 So cautelous, that without his Placard no stranger can have Ingress into his Dominions. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 341 Religious Houses cannot acquire real Estates by way of Legacy .. without the Princes [Charles V.'s] Placart or Licence.

fig. a 1555 Bradford *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 60 Have we a placard that God will do nothing to us? 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiii. 183 Others .. [think] that Christianity gives us a placard to use these Sports.

† **b.** An edict, ordinance, proclamation, official announcement. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1518 Wolsey in Fiddes *Life* II. (1726) 62 You count none assurance by treaties, plakards, proclamations or articles. 1591 *Acts Privy Council* (1900) XXI. 90 An open placard to al Maiors, Sherives, Justices of Peace, Baylifes, Constables, &c. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. 25 All Placarts or Edicts are publish'd in his name. 1665 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2/3 A strict Placcard against Duels throughout all the Provinces. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 363 On the 21st of last month was published a placart or declaration. 1768 (*title*) General Wolfe's Instructions to Young Officers,..and a Placart to the Canadians. 1855 Motley *Dutch Rep.* I. i. 114 Charles [V.] introduced and organised a papal inquisition, side by side with those terrible 'placards' of his invention [1550].

c. esp. in 17th c., A decree or ordinance of the States General or other competent authority in the Netherlands. In this sense often spelt *placaert, placaet, placaat*, after Du. *placaet* (now *plakkaat*).

1589 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 283/2 A commission to proceed with the States in requiring their justification of such points of their placart as concern my Lord Willoughby. 1654 Whitelocke *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) II. 45 The queen had sent unto the states to repeale that placart. 1738 *Observ. Brit. Wool* title-p., A Playcart or Proclamation for preserving the Woollen Manufactures in Flanders. 1748 *Whitehall Evening-Post* No. 363 Rotterdam, June 14. A Placart, suspending the Execution of the three Placarts published last Year in relation to the French Trade, was issued.

1589 *Ancaster Papers*, O. S. 13 May (R. R. O.), [Draft of Ld. Willoughby's Defence against] slaunders by a placcat. 1601 Wheeler *Treat. Comm.* 41 Those foresaid Placates, Edictes and Prohibitions, made against the English. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 13 For revoking their Placaets against Wine, Brandy, and French Manufactures. 1688 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 433 The states have ordered a placaet promising a reward of 1000 guilders. 1706 Phillips, *Placaert* or *Placaet*, (Dutch) a Proclamation or Ordinance, by the States of Holland.

2. A notice, or other document, written or printed on one side of a single sheet, to be posted up or otherwise publicly displayed; a bill, a poster.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 112 Persecution at Paris, by reason of certen placardes. 1567 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 352 Bruited and calumniated by placats presentlie affixed on publick places of the burgh of Edinburgh. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3752/7 A Placart was affixed last night on the Doors of our Cathedral [Cologne], in Answer to that which was lately published by the Chapter. 1706 Phillips, *Placard*,..a Libel or abusive Writing, posted up or dispersed abroad. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 66 A bill to let you know there is a single room to let is called a placard. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 338 A placard..was published to call the attention of the people to..the intended meeting. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xvi, In the window hung a long and tempting array of written placards, announcing vacant places. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 5 Oct. 5/7 Flaring posters and placards of many hues.

II. A thin plate of armour, etc.

†**3. a.** A piece of armour; a breast- or back-plate; esp. an additional plate of steel, iron, etc., worn over or under the cuirass: = Placcate 1. *Obs.*

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 274 In a gardviande, a peir brigandines, a plakart, ij. bavieres. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* xi. 7 Fyrst she my legge harneys sette on And after my plackerd of grete ryches. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 Some had the helme, the visere, the two baviers & the two plackardes..curiously graven. 1552 Huloet, Placard or breast plate, *thorax*. 1625 Markham *Sould. Accid.* 39 Some .. would .. adde a Placcard to cover the brestplate. 1630 Capt. Smith *Trav. & Adv.* 13 Their Pistolls was the next, which marked Smith upon the placard; but the next shot the Turke was..wounded.. 1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 41 Sir Giles hastily pulled down his vizor, and clasped it to the plackard.

† **b.** An article of dress, sometimes richly embroidered, app. worn by both sexes in the 15th and 16th c., beneath an open coat or gown. *Obs.*

1483 *Wardr. Acc.* in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 41 A plakert maade of half a yard and half a quarter of blac velvet. 1529 *Will of J. Ap Jonkyng* (Somerset Ho.), My doblet of lether w[t] sleves & plagard of Russet velwet. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 2 b, His iacket or cote of raised gold, the placard embrowdered with Diamondes, Rubies, Emeraudes, great Pearles, and other rich stones.

†**4.** = Placket[2] 2–4. *Obs.*

1589 Rider *Bibl. Schol.* 1095 A Placarde, the fore part of a womans peticote, *greniolarium, thorax*. 1589 [? Nashe] *Almond for Parrat* 4 She will carrie a Martin in her plackarde in despite of the proudest of them all. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* i. 111 For fear of the cut-purse, on a sudden she'll swap thee into her plackerd.

†**5.** (See quot.) *Obs.* (Perh. only French.)

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Placard*, in architecture, denotes the decoration of the door of [an] apartment; consisting of a chambranle, crowned with its frieze or gorge, and a corniche sometimes supported by consoles. So 1765 in Croker *Dict. Arts.* 1823 Crabb *Technol. Dict.*

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **placard-man, -bearer,** one who walks about the streets bearing an advertisement; *placard-wise* adv.

1482 Placquart wise [see 1]. 1846 *Ecclesiologist* V. 47 It is no worse to convert an Angel into a link-boy than into a placard-man. 1895 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 7/7 Interesting to placard collectors of all countries. 1899 Knapp *Life G. Borrow* I. 275 He employed placard-bearers to walk about the streets exhibiting his flaming advertisements.

Placard (plăkā·rd, plæ·kard), *v.* [f. prec. sb.: cf. F. *placarder.*]

1. *trans.* To affix or set up placards on or in (a wall, window, town, etc.).

1813 *Stamford News* in *Examiner* 8 Mar. 148/1 Meetings were convened, walls placarded, and hand-bills distributed. 1868 Milman *St. Paul's* vi. 124 The pillars were placarded with advertisements. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 May 5/2 The town is already placarded with huge posters.

2. To make public, make known, advertise (something) by means of placards; to post, expose, or display (a poster, inscription, etc.) as a placard.

1818 Todd, *Placard*, to notify publickly: in colloquial language, to post. 1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 10 Mar., It would be exactly placarding me in a private and confidential manner. 1836 Lytton *Athens* (1837) I. 351 The prytanes always placarded in some public place a programme of the matters on which the people were to consult. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, Bills..were placarded on all the walls. 1864 H. Ainsworth *John Law* IV. ii, The parliament..placarded written copies on the walls.

Hence **Placarded** *ppl. a.*; **Placarding** *vbl. sb.*

1830 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 456/1 In Paris..no further rioting or placarding has taken place. *a* 1845 Hood *T. Trumpet* xxix, By chalking on walls, or placarding on vans. 1861 Ludlow in *Macm. Mag.* III. 320 Workers have been brought together on a placarded offer of employment.

Placardee·r. *nonce-wd.* [See -eer.] = next.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 34 A motley band of printers, editors, pamphlet paragraph and placardeers.

Placarder (plăkā·rdəɹ, plæ·kārdəɹ). [f. Placard *v.* + -er[1].] One who puts up placards.

1825 *Examiner* 17/2 M'Donnell then asked for the name of some private placarder. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. I. i. 8 Then Durosoy, Royalist Placarder,..went rejoicing.

† **Pla·cate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plācāt-us* appeased, pa. pple. of *plācāre*: see next.] Composed; placid.

1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 18 II. v. (1669) 446/2 When are you more placate and serene? 1675 Brooks *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 138 *Animo tam tranquillo*.., with as placate, serene and tranquil a mind.

Placate (plē·-kĕit, plæ·kĕit, plăkē·-t), *v.* [f. L. *plācāt-*, ppl. stem of *plācāre* to appease: see -ate[3].] *trans.* To render friendly or favourable (one who is hostile or offended); to pacify, conciliate; to propitiate.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 31. 476 Therefore is He always Propitiated and Placated both First and Last. 1791 J. Townsend *Journ. Spain* (1792) III. 14 Solicitous to placate an offended deity. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* vi. (1852) 170 Such satisfaction is not really placating anger, not appeasing a personal passion. 1868 Edwards *Ralegh* I. xiii. 249 Nottingham .. wrote earnestly to Essex, trying to placate him. 1894 Knight *Garrick* vi. 97 A victory so complete..failed to placate the indignant young actress.

Hence **Placated** *ppl. a.*; also **Placater** (*U. S.*), one who placates.

1735 D. Forbes *Th. Relig.* (1747) 10 To approach, and rely on the protection and beneficence of a placated Deity. 1867 Ludlow *Little Briggs & I* 223 The stern but placated bosoms of Barker and Moodle. 1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 22 Mar. 205/2 What the Americans call a 'placater'. He 'placates' opposing interests as Thurlow Weed used to do. 1894 *19th Cent.* Oct. 495 The successful placater brings into line men who are apparently irreconcilable.

Placation (plăkē·-ʃən). [a. obs. F. *placation* (16th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *plācātiōn-em*, n. of action from *plācāre*: see prec. and -ation.] The action of

placating; appeasing, pacifying; conciliation, propitiation. With *a* and *pl.* a propitiatory action.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 23 Sacrifices of placation, with inuocations and worship. *Ibid.* III. iv. 159 Many more like vsurped Latine and French words: as *Methode, methodicall, placation.* 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Macc.* i. 47 Holocausts and sacrifices, and placations to be made in the temple of God. 1830 J. DOUGLAS *Truths Relig.* v. (1832) 222 Such terms as atonement, placation, expiation. 1884 TRAILL *New Lucian* 109 The Supreme Being is not so savage and childish as to need placation by the steam of victims.

Placatory (plē·'kătəri, plæ·k-), *a.* [ad. L. *plācātōri-us* appeasing, propitiatory (Tert.), *f. plācāre* to appease: see -ORY.] Tending or calculated to placate or appease; conciliatory; propitiatory.

a 1640 JACKSON *Creed* XI. xxxix. § 5 Some gods the heathens honoured with placatory sacrifices. 1799–1805 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* (1830) I. II. App. iii. 232 [He] made a placatory offering of two wax lights and nine pieces of money. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* I. 110 A reply which seemed .. both dignified and placatory.

Placcard(e, placcat(t, obs. ff. PLACARD.

Placcate. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 8 **plaquet,** 9 **placate.** [app. a variant of PLACARD (in sense 3): cf. the γ forms there. See also PLACKET[2] I.]

1. A piece of armour consisting of a plate of steel or iron worn over the cuirass: = PLACARD *sb.* 3 a. Also, a leather jacket or doublet lined with strips of steel, worn under the outer armour.

1632 J. CRUSO *Milit. Instr. Cavallerie* (Fairholt), [A breast and back] caliver proof by addition of the placcate. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 166/2 They.. haue vnder their Armour a good Buffe coate, or a Placcate or an under brest plate to make them caliver proofe. 1788 GROSE *Milit. Antiq.* (1801) II. 252 The breastpiece [of the cuirass] was occasionally strengthened by an additional plate called a plaquet. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* x. (1874) 204 The plates..placed in front of the shoulders were *placates*; but when the shoulders were covered by the reinforce-plates, they were distinguished as *pauldrons*.

†**2.** = PLACKET[2]. *Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 186 Don Cupid, Regent of Loue-rimes, Lord of folded armes...Dread Prince of Placcats, King of Codpeeces.

†**3.** See PLACARD *sb.* 1 c. *Obs.*

Place (plēs), *sb.* Forms: (1 Northumb. **plæce, plætse, plæse**); 3- **place,** (3 **plasce,** 3–5 **plasse,** 4 **plass,** 4–6 **plas(e,** 5 **plaas, plays,** 6 **pleaze**). [ME. *place*, a. F. *place* (11th c.) = Pr. *plassa*, Sp. *plaza*, Pg. *praça*, It. *piazza*, med.L. *placia*:—late L. type **platia* for classical L. *platea*, broad way, open space, ad. Gr. πλατεῖα (sc. ὁδός) broad way. The L. word had been already taken into Old Northumbrian in the form *plæce, plætse*, rendering L. *platea* of the Vulgate; but the history of the current word begins with the adoption of the F. *place* in sense 2, the mod. use in 1 b. being a more recent borrowing from the Romanic langs. From the latter came also MDu. *plaetse*, Du. *plaats*, MHG., Ger. *platz*, MLG. *plas*, LG. *plâts, plâtse*, Icel. *pláz* (13th c.), Sw. *plats*, Da. *plads*. Welsh *plâs* is app. from ME. *Place* has superseded OE. *stow* and (largely) *stede*; it answers to F. *lieu*, L. *locus*, as well as to F. *place*, and the senses are thus very numerous and difficult to arrange.

With the doubled *t* of late L. **plattia*, cf. the similar phenomenon in **plattus* PLAT (with which *platea* was prob. associated); also in **pettia* PIECE, **piccus* PIKE, **pippa* PIPE, etc.]

I. 1. An open space in a city; a square, a market-place. † **a.** Used in OE. to render L. *platea* of the Vulgate.

a 950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 36/7 On plæcvm (*in plateis*). *Ibid.* 65/37 In plæcvm. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 5 Ða ðe lufas in somnungum & huommum ðara plæcena..stondes..to ȝebiddanne. —Luke x. 10 Færað on plæcum hire. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* ibid., Farað on plætsa his.

b. In modern use, forming the second element in the name of a group of houses in a town or city, now or formerly possessing some of the characters (positive or negative) of a square, chiefly that of not being properly a street.

Often used in the name of a small area more or less built around, and lying aside from a street or thoroughfare, or of a short *cul-de-sac* or byway turning out of a main thoroughfare; also, more vaguely given to a short row or 'terrace' of houses, which originally stood by themselves on a suburban road; being in fact a ready denomination for any aggregation of houses which cannot be more particularly classed.

Employed in 16th c. to render F. *place* and its Italian, Spanish, and German cognates, in reference to foreign towns, whence introduced in English towns. (But in some cases the name 'Place' has arisen out of sense 4 b, the site being that of a nobleman's or bishop's town-residence, which bore the name, e.g. *Ely Place* in London.)

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 7 b, The places and streetes are so well ordeined. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. 86 They conducted him into a great place before the Town Hall. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 10 There are in it many lovely Piazza's, or Places. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 6/1 Being gone to the Great Place to see the Bull-feast. 1796 J. OWEN *Trav. Europe* II. 458 Squares, as we improperly call them in England, but which the Germans, as well as the French and Italians, more properly denominate Places. *c* 1813 BYRON *Devil's Drive* iii, I have a state-coach in Carlton House, A chariot in Seymour Place. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 207 At Rome..on the south of the stately place of Navona. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 859/2 From Washington Square upward began the endless succession of 'places', and of houses in long, monotonous rows.

II. A material space.

2. Space; extension in two (or three) directions; 'room'. *arch.* † *To offer place,* to make way, give way (*obs.*). *Give place*: see 23.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 He ne uond nout on eorðe so muche place as his luttle licome muhte been ileid on. 1382–1571 [see 23]. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 75 b, For performing this play, the beholders cast themselves in a ring, which they call, Making a place. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 85 When they were come in the city had not place for them all. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 169 Nature .. opposeth those things that do resist her, and gently yeilds to those things which courteously offer place. 1683 T. SMITH *Observ. Constantinople* in *Misc. Curiosa* (1708) III. 41 There is no place between the Propontis and the walls of the City, except just at the Seraglio-point,..where they have raised .. a battery for Great guns. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xii, Place, nobles, for the Falcon-Knight! Room, room, ye gentles gay. 1852 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) 4 Men with flambeaux in their hands,..calling 'Place! Place!' to clear the way for their master.

b. In generalized sense: Space, extension. (Chiefly *rhetorical*, and in antithesis to *time*.)

a 1631 DONNE *Nativitie* 10 Seest thou, my Soule,..how he Which fils all place, yet none holds him, doth lye? 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 7/2 That the World is contained in place. This agrees with the definition of place by space. 1755 GRAY *Progr. Poesy* III. ii, He pass'd the flaming bounds of Place and Time. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 335 *Time*..is continuity, successive in itself, and accumulative of its proper subjects; *place* is continuity, co-existent in itself, and distributive of its proper subjects. 1888 TENNYSON *Crossing the Bar* 13 Tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place The flood may bear me far.

3. A particular part of space, of defined or undefined extent, but of definite situation. (= L. *locus*, OE. *stow*.) Sometimes applied to a region or part of the earth's surface.

c 1250 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 22 Heil Marie, ful of grace, þe lavird þich þe in heverilk place. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11038 Þe quene..ibured was..In þe quer of hailes an hey in a vair place. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15687 He ras vp o þe place [*Gött.* plasse] þat he honurd him in. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 657 In many places were nightingales, Alpes, finches, and wodewales. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 31 In summe plaas þe grounde is hiȝere and in summe plaas lowere. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* i. 1 In hel ne purgatore non other plase. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 736/9 *Hoc confragum*, a plays where the whyrwynd metes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Place, *locus*. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxli. 4, I haue no place to fle vnto. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 672 At tyme and place conuenient. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 278 It is an extreme hot and drie place, bringing foorth no corne at all, but great plenty of dates. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VI. xiii. 534 Not staying aboue three or foure dayes in a place, as long as the grasse will serue their Camels. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. i. (1635) 1 The description of the Terrestriall Globe, so farre forth as it is diuided into places. 1658 *Torments of Hell* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 440 Some say Hell is a local Place, Augustine saith it is not a Place. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. 18 The day, hour and place of the sea in which the ship was taken. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cii, We leave the well-beloved place Where first we gazed upon the sky. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* I. 18 Even that is better than to have your shame proclaimed all over the place. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Mar. 5/1 The Act expressly declared such betting in any place, whether in or out of an enclosure, to be an illegal practice...They had arrived at the conclusion that any area, covered or uncovered, to which persons were known to resort for the purpose of betting, and where professional bookmakers resorted for the purpose of carrying on their calling, should be held to be 'a place' within the meaning of the statute.

b. The portion of space actually occupied by a person or thing; the position of a body in space, or with reference to other bodies; locality; situation.

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 221 There is variance..touching the true place of that building. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 204 In the world I fil vp a place, which may bee better supplied, when I haue made it emptie. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 110 Though you change your place, you neede not change your Trade. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* 815 The Stoicks, and Epicurus doe holde, that there is a difference betweene Voidnesse, Place, and Roome: for Voidnesse (say they) is the solitude or vacuitie of a body: Place, that which is fully occupied and taken up with a body: but Roome or Space, that which is occupied but in part. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* ii. 17 Then I may define Place to be The precise Space within which the Body is contained. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xiii. § 7 We say it hath kept the same Place:..it hath changed its Place. 1706 PHILLIPS s.v., Place is said to be either Absolute or Relative, the former being that Space which any Natural Body takes up or fills; but the latter is the apparent, secundary or sensible Position of such a Body, with respect to other contiguous or adjoyning Bodies. 1777 *Scott. Paraphrases* VII. iv, The trembling earth deserts her place. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 209 The Categories are..substance, quantity, relation, quality, place, time, position, habit, action, passion.

†**c.** Short for 'place of battle', 'field'. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 613 Were ich alse stiþ in plas, Ase euer Gii me fader, was, I wolde..Fiȝte wiþ ȝow euerichon. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16384 Þrytty dukes slayn y þat plas. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 528 Bot the best of thair cumpany Left ded behynd thame in the plass. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 181 That Engagement is very warm which leaves one thousand Men upon the place. [1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 47 We are inclined to wonder..that every field did not become a local and unrecorded Place of Battle.]

†**d.** *To leave* or *win place*: to lose or gain ground, to retreat or advance. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 563 Thai wan plass ay mair & mair On thair fais. *Ibid.* XIII. 271 Thai war than in-till sa gret effray That thai left place ay mar & mar.

†**4.** *spec.* A piece or plot of land. *Obs.*

[Med.L. *placea, placia*, from 1215 in Du Cange.]

1337 (March) *Survey in Tynemouth Chartulary* lf. 23 b, Idem Robertus tenet unam placeam quæ vocatur *Priores place*, et reddit vj d. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 106 One place of his tenement in the towne of wycombe, the which conteynyth in lengthe viij. perches and x. fote, and in brede..iiij. perchis, and iiij. fote. *Ibid.* 545 One place of a curtilage liyng in the towne of Shillyngford. 1460 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 306 Hit be lawfull to the rent gaderer of the citte to take in all voyd placis of the town that beryt chef rent.

5. a. A portion of space in which people dwell together; a general designation for a city, town, village, hamlet, etc.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1033 As Iohan hym wrytez..Vch pane of þat place had þre ȝatez. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 419 Plasis þat han chirchis approprid. 1458 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 366 Schepley and in odor plassus. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 157 Thare come ane laithles leid air to this place. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* (1872) 22, I held on my journey..unto a place called Carling hill. 1626 R. PEEKE *Three to One* C ij, I am a Deuonshire-man borne, and Tauestock the place of my once-abiding. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 17, I..shall..With Foreign Spoils adorn my native Place. 1704 J. TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* II. i. 359 The loss of this important Place. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* (1870) II. vii, I could not expect to be welcome in such a smart place as that [i. e. Brighton]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 666/2 Schools at Tours and other places in France. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 10 Jan. 7/4 Hanover is, as the Americans would phrase it, 'quite a place'.

b. A residence, dwelling, house; a seat, mansion, palace; formerly sometimes, a religious house, a convent; also *spec.* the chief residence on an estate; a manor-house; a country-house with its surroundings. Also *place-house* (see 29). (Cf. Welsh *plâs*.)

a 1349 HAMPOLE *Medit. Passion* Wks. 1896 I. 95 Of alle þe housis and prisouns þat þei heelden þee ynne..& closid wiþ-ynne in her placis. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 607 With grene trees shadwed was his place. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 53, I wull þat..my brothir [haue] a place in Duffelde,..þat I purchesede. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 20 The welle werke afore my place. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 203 b, Ye haue hearde before how the kyng had purchased the Bysshop of Yorkes place. 1561–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 202 The places of freris, as yit standand undemolissit. 1611 COTGR., *Manoir*, a Mansion, Mannor, or Mannor-house;..a place, or chiefe dwelling place. 1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 570 An old tower or castle .. called the old Place of Mochrum. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVIII. xiv. 181 To be dragged by a soi-disant man of taste through every corner of his new Place, within and without doors. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 143, I called at your place..last night, but Dan said you had been gone half an hour. 1902 R. HICHENS *Londoners* 33 Mitching Dean was Mr. Rodney's place in Hampshire.

†**c.** A fortress, citadel, 'strong place'; a fortified city. *Obs.*

[Med. (Anglo) L. *placea* 1409 in Rymer (Du Cange).]

1575 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 448 The Tour Fortalice and Place of Rosdew. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 375 Palma Nuova in Friuli..is one of the best places in Europe. It hath nine royal bastions [etc.]. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* IV. 64 Since it durst afterwards besiege one of their strongest Places. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Place* in Fortification usually signifies the Body of a Fortress. 1819 *Pantologia, Place*, in war and fortification, a general name for all kinds of fortresses. 1849 in CRAIG.

d. A building, apartment, or spot devoted to a specified purpose. (Usually with specification, as *place of amusement, of resort, bathing-place*, etc.)

Another place, in House of Commons phraseology, the other house, the House of Lords. *Place of worship*: see 16.

1530 PALSGR. 255/1 Place where justyce is mynystred, *parlement*. *Ibid.*, Place to bathe one in, *thermes*. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 78 Their places of easement ouer the riuer. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 47 b, Colledges and such other places were fyrst founded for the pore. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 3 The Exchange where the Merchants meet is a very pleasant place. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 2, I know the thatcht house very well: I often..taste a cup of Ale there, for which liquor that place is very remarkable. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 556 ₱ 7 The Coffee-houses have ever since been my chief Places of Resort. 1789 BURKE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 6 Feb., Speeches 1816 III. 394 The present minister, he understood, had been called 'a heaven-born minister' in another place. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 376 A theatre, or a camp, or..some other place of resort. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 4/6 The Chapter House..is to be, as the Bishop of Southwark said, 'a place of speaking for the wants of the diocese'.

6. A particular part or spot in a body or surface.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 275 He hadde a cote of crystendome..Ac it was moled in many places. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* v. 11, I wende that he schulde goon oute to me,.. and touche with his hond the place of the lepre, and helen me. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9477 Paris bend vp his bow.. Waited the wegh in his wit ouer, In what plase of his person to perse. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 45 The Vicar..bath promis'd to meete me in this place of the Forrest. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Iv. 214 Eight..legs,..each of them joynted or bendable in eight several places or joynts. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 23 The blistered place was healing very fast. 1804 ANN TAYLOR *My Mother* vi, Who..when I fell.. would..Kiss the place to make it well? 1868 *Mag. for Young* Feb. 48 My nephew..taunted him with his companions..and I soon saw that we had touched a sore place. *Med.* A wet place on the floor. There are two specially difficult places in the ascent.

†**b.** *Chess.* A square on the board. *Obs. rare.*

1562 ROWBOTHUM *Playe Cheastes* Bj, The rowes where euery one of them are set I wyll name Seates: the other which be emptie I wil name them places or houses indifferently. 1725 BERTIN *Chess* 54 White, the king in his bishop's place.

7. A particular part, page, or other point in a book or writing.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 294, I shal 3ou shewe in þis place, What ioie þeih sholen han ifere, þat seruen god on eorþe here. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 104 Crist seiþ in anoþer place þat þe world hatiþ þes apostlis. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* To Rdr., The First Part of this Worke, .. in some obscure places is barren and unpleasant..but in other places I hope you will judge it more pleasant. 1661 FELL *Hammond* 142 His Catalogue had an especial place for sequestred Divines. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xiii. § 9 If any one should ask in what place are the verses..; the use of the idea of place, here, being to know in what part of the book that story is. 1861 MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secret* xii. 201 They shut up her lesson-books and lost her place. 1881 N. T. (R. V.) *Luke* xx. 37 But that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed, in the place concerning the Bush.

†**b.** A (short) passage in a book or writing, separately considered, or bearing upon some particular subject; a text, extract. *Obs.*

[=L. *locus*; cf. COMMONPLACE.]

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 Saynt Gregory expoundynge the same place of scripture sayth [etc.]. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 282 The walls all bepainted..with places of holy Scripture. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* viii. (1627) 123 Many places may trouble the greatest schollers at first sight. 1641 *Vind. Smectymnuus* vi. 85 The last place he bringeth out of Hierome is a most rare place. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 454 The nimble Perfunctorinesse of some Commentators (that skip over hard Places). 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 203 They do not understand such places.

†**c.** A subject, a topic: esp. in *Logic* and *Rhet.*: = LOCUS *sb.*[1] 2. *Obs.*

c 1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 45 The places or instrumentes of a symple theme. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 5 b, I neuer learned the places from whence arguments are drawen. 1597 BACON (*title*) Essayes. Religious Meditations. Places of perswasion and disswasion. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 11 Certaine places, or heads, to which..Logicall inuention directs vs. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 162 The place from Unlike, is either Simple [or] Compound. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* II. xvii. 69 Of Canons belonging to Consentaneous Places, or Places from whence Arguments are drawn...And first of those belonging to the Place of Notation or Etymology; and this has two Canons.

8. In technical uses:

a. *Astron.* The apparent position of a heavenly body on the celestial sphere.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. *Kalendar* 120 Reckoning a Degree for each Day.., you shall have the Place of the Sun exact enough. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Place of the Sun, Star, or Planet*, is the Sign of the Zodiack, and Degree of it, which the Planet is in. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 448/1 When observations of a star, made at two different periods, have been cleared of the effects of aberration and refraction, the only difference between the two places ought to be that due to precession and nutation.

†**b.** *Geom.* = LOCUS *sb.*[1] 3. *Obs. rare.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Place Geometrick*, is a certain Bound or Extent wherein any Point may serve for the Solution of a Local or Indetermined Problem. *Ibid., Place Simple*, or *Locus ad Lineam rectam*, as the Geometers call it, is when the Point that resolves any Problem is in a Right Line. *Ibid., Place Solid*, is when the Point is in one of the Conick Sections.

†**c.** *Falconry.* The point or pitch attained by a falcon or similar bird of prey before swooping down on its quarry. *Obs.* (or *arch.*, after Shaks.)

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iv. 12 A Faulcon towring in her pride of place. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* v. ii, Though she fly in An eminent place, to add strength to her wings, And mount her higher. 1806 T. THORNTON *Sporting Tour Eng.* viii. (1896) 178 Eagles .. can have no speed, except when at their place: then, to be sure, their weight increases their velocity. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xviii, In 'pride of place' here last the eagle flew.

d. *Mining.* A drift or level driven from side to side of a wide lode as a beginning of a slide.

III. Position in some scale, order, or series.

9. Position or standing in the social scale, or in any order of estimation or merit; rank, station, whether high or low. **b.** *absol.* High rank or position; dignity.

c 1325 *Deo Gratias* 38 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 129 So pouert apayred haþ my plas. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1627) 237 He holding place and estimation as heire of Arcadia. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 69 Thirty other Dukes, amongst whome, the Archduke of Austria holdeth the highest place. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxvi. 114 A young Gentleman..of great place for his birth and bloud. 1682 WOOD *Life* 29 Nov. (O. H. S.) III. 32 Duke of Ormond to keep his old title but to take place in England as duke. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* iii. 24 Of late years, since he has risen into place. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, I hold to being kind to servants—but you must make 'em know their place. Eva never does. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 4 Poor men often rose to eminent place. 1876 GLADSTONE *Glean.* II. 339 We have not attempted to ascertain his [Macaulay's] place among historians. 1893 LEWIN in *Bookman* June 85/2 As an English critic of English literature, his place is in the front rank. *Mod.* To keep inferiors in their proper place.

c. *Racing*, etc.: A position among the placed competitors: see PLACE *v.* 5 d.

1885 *Daily Tel.* 30 Sept. 5/3 Even a larger sum of money was invested by the public upon Lonely for a place in the St. Leger. 1885 *Times* 4 June 10/3 Royal Hampton, who was ridden out for a place, was a bad third.

10. *Arith.* The position of a figure in a series, in decimal or similar notation, as indicating its value or denomination: in *pl.* with numeral, often used merely to express the number of figures, esp. after the decimal point in a decimal fraction.

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 43 A Place is called the seate or roome that a Figure standeth in. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 25, I have abreviated this Table to four places [of decimals]. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 6 A Number has so many Places, as there are Figures in it. 1706 — *Introd. Math.* 103 A Figure in the 1st, 2d, 3d, etc. Decimal Place. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 186/2 He also calculated the ratio [of π] to 55 decimal places. *Ibid.* 187/1 A manuscript..in which it was carried to 154 places. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sc.* ix. (ed. 2) 223 Which contains some thirty-five places of figures.

11. A step or point in the order of progression. Mostly with ordinal numeral or its equivalent (*first, next, last*, etc.) preceded by *in*: *in the first place* = firstly, first in order; etc.

1639 *Act* in *Arch. Maryland* (1883) I. 69 All debts growing due for wine..or other licquors shall be paid in the last place after all other debts are satisfied. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 325 Two thousand..lost their lives, and the Priests in the first place. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 39 P 7, I must in the next place observe [etc.]. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. liii. 301 In the first place, frost strikes deeper [etc.]...In the next place, the streets are more often disturbed.

IV. Position or situation with reference to its occupation or occupant.

12. A proper, appropriate, or natural place (for the person or thing in question to be in or occupy); sometimes in an ideal or imaginary region. (See also 19 c, d.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIX. 57 He 3af largely alle his lele lyges Places in paradys at her partynge hennes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/2 Place, or stede, *situs*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 b, Hath place deputed & assygned to them by god & nature. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* *iv, There is a common prouerbe that all thinges haue theire time, theire place, and theire sayson. 1600 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 48 Heere's no place for you maids. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 131 P 8 The Country is not a Place for a Person of my Temper. 1713 M. HENRY *Meekness & Quietn. Spirit* (1822) 147 We are all offenders: and the bar is our place, not the bench. 1802 WORDSW. *To Small Celandine* 6 Long as there are Violets, They will have a place in story. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 605 But the genius which, at a later period, humbled six marshals of France was not now in its proper place. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 305 The two lovers took their places, kneeling on the curb..of the fount.

b. *fig.* A fitting time, point in the order of events; occasion, opportunity.

1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* xii. 17 Forsoth he found not place [1539, 1611, 1881, no place] of penaunce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5040 Here is plainly no place in þis plit now, Your wille for to wirke. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xv. (1859) 17 Repentaunce ne prayer may here no place haue. 1661 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. v. § 7 When the Egyptian Kingdom was first founded, is not here a place to enquire.

c. *fig.* 'Room'; reasonable occasion or ground.

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 17 There will be no place left for calumnie. 1654 HAMMOND *Fundamentals* 60 There is no place of doubting, but that it was the very same which we now call the Apostles Creed. 1721 BENTLEY *Proposals for Printing New Test.* 4 In the Sacred Writings there's no place for Conjectures or Emendations.

13. The space which one person occupies by usage, allotment, or right; a seat or accommodation engaged in a public building, conveyance, or the like, a space at table; seat, station, quarters.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 125 Janus with his double face In his chaiere hath take his place. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 390 The king..commaunded him to sytte downe againe in his place. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* v. ii, In the meane time vouchsafe your place with us. 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* (1842) IV. 61 Indeed I trembled at these words, and hardly could keep my place. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) v. xix, After having fee'd very high for places at Mrs. Siddons's benefit. 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 45 Having taken places for Ferrybridge. 1881 MALLOCK *Rom. 19th C.* I. iii, You must lay another place..as we shall be five dining this evening instead of four. 1884 *Chr. World* 19 June 453/2 Accommodation is provided for 4,670,000 children, showing an increase of 32,000 places.

b. With *possessive* or *of*: The space previously or customarily occupied by some other person or thing; room, stead, lieu; often in phrases *in* (*the*) *place of*, instead of, in the room or lieu of, in exchange or substitution for; *to take the place of*, to be substituted for, to stand instead of.

1533 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 353 His highnes is contente that your grace in the lewe and place therof shall haue his letteres patentes of the Justiceshipp of his Forestes. 1566 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 2 Mr. Alsworthe died .. and Robert Greene of Poules sworne in his place. 1592 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. iii. 25 O God, that Somerset..were in Talbots place. 1646 GILLESPIE *Male Audis* 54 For that passage concerning Excommunication its supplying the place of the sword. 1793 BEDDOES *Calculus* 23 The pills were now substituted in the place of the solution. 1844 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 556 In place of immediately entering into business, he continued to reside for some time with his parents. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 142 Their places were supplied by men who had no recommendation but their religion. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 27 In the Laws..religion takes the place of philosophy in the regulation of human life. 1885 *Sci. Amer.* 3 Jan. 7/1 The aquamarine contains oxide of iron in the place of oxide of chromium.

14. An office, employment, situation; sometimes *spec.* a government appointment, an office in the service of the crown or state. (Cf. b.)

1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. App. iv. 5 Such persons..every one, according to his ability to serve in the commonwealth, to be set in place. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* 17 Hee may well clayme a boat-sons place in Barkleyes Shippe of fooles. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 81 A Priest, and therefore by his very place professing examples of holinesse and charity. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* I. (1662) 17 The Office of Lord Treasurers was ever beheld as a Place of great charge and profit. 1687 in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 78 To amove the said Mr. John Hough from the Place of President. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 162 P 1 In my younger Years I used many Endeavours to get a Place at Court. 1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. I. 208 This general ambition of hunting after places. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. viii, Good servants need not want places. 1838 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxxvi, He purchased a patent place, which he still enjoys. 1871 *Punch* 18 Nov. 212/1 Couldn't let you do it, sir. Much as my place's worth. *Mod.* Has he got a place yet? He has got a place in the Custom House. She (a maid-servant) is leaving her place, and going home.

b. Without *a* or *pl.*: Official position, esp. of a minister of state: = OFFICE *sb.* 4 b.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* Pref. (Arb.) 17 The most part were of hir Maiesties most honourable priuie Counsell, and the rest seruing hir in verie good place. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Great Place* (Arb.) 278 Men in Great Place, are thrice Seruants: Seruants of the Soueraigne or State; Seruants of Fame; and Seruants of Businesse. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 25 Twenty four Magistrates...These chuse all Publick Officers out of their own number. Themselves continue in place during life. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 173 Place shows the man; some for the better and some for the worse. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 41 'Twas his fate, unemployed, or in place. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. lxxii, He exactly the just medium hit 'Twixt place and patriotism. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc., Condorcet* Ser. I. (1878) 47 To glut their insatiable craving for place and plunder.

c. The duties of any office or position; (one's) duty or business. Hence † *to perform one's place* (*obs.*).

1652 MILTON in *Marvell's Wks.* (Grosart) II. 9 If..I shall need any assistance in the performance of my place. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 272 Beinge to ould to performe the place. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 72 She'll think It is her place to keep me company.

V. Phrases. *With other sbs.

15. *Place of arms* [ad. F. *place d'armes*]: **a.** An open space for the assembling of troops.

Provision for various kinds of these, either temporary or permanent, is or was formerly made in the laying out of encamping grounds or fortifications: see quots.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* Gloss. 252 Place of armes generall: is the place of assemblie, where the people of warre are ranged in order of battell. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., *Place of Arms in a Garrison*, is a large open Spot of Ground in the middle of the City, where the great Streets meet, else between the Ramparts and the Houses, for the Garrison to Rendezvous in, upon any sudden Alarm, or other Occasion. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 205, I was posted upon a parade, or place of arms. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Place of arms*, in a camp, is a large space at the head of the camp, for the army to be ranged in and drawn up in battalia. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.* s. v., In offensive fortification those lines are called places of arms on parallels which unite the different means of attack. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl., Re-entering place of arms* is an enlargement of the covered way of a fortress..; it serves..for assembling troops previously to making sorties.

b. A strongly fortified city or a fortress, used as an arsenal or magazine, or as a place of retreat; also, † a tent at the head of each company where the arms were stored (*obs.*).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Place of Arms*, when taken in the General, is a strong City which is pitch'd upon for the Magazine of an Army. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4466/1 It is said the Germans design to make St. Germano .. a Place of Arms. 1768 SIMES *Milit. Dict., Place of arms of a camp*, are the belltents, at the head of each company, where they lodge their arms. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 190 Dunkirk was..prized..*not* merely as a place of arms,..but also as a trophy of English valour.

16. *Place of worship* [see 5 d]: A place where religious worship is performed; *spec.* a building (or part of one) appropriated to assemblies or meetings for religious worship: a general term comprehending churches, chapels, meeting-houses, synagogues, and other places in which people assemble to worship God.

In 15th c., *place of worship* occurs in the sense 'worshipful place (cf. sense 5 b), house of a person of rank'; in 16th c. in that of 'honourable post or position'. The existing use is app. shortened from 'place (of assembly or meeting) for religious worship', occurring in Statutes, from 1689 onwards, recognizing the public religious worship of Protestant Dissenters, Roman Catholics, and Jews. In these statutes the short form is rare and late (see quots. 1832, 1846).

[1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. xiii. 135, I wold fayn be at some place of worship said syr Arthur that I myghte reste me. *Ibid.* VIII. xxv. 310 Hit was neuer the custome of no place of worship..whan a knyghte and a lady asked herborugh, and they to receyue hem & after to destroy them that ben his gestes. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Gros.) XI. 236 The shamelesse vpstart..that hath a hungry eie to spie out,..and a flattering toong to intreat for some void place of worship.]

1689 *Act 1 Will. & Mary* c. 18 § 4 If any Assembly of persons dissenting from the Church of England shall be had in any place for Religious Worship. [*Ibid.*, Except such Persons come to some Congregation or Assembly of Religious Worship allowed or permitted by this Act.] 1791 *Act 31 Geo. III*, c. 32 § 6 If any Assembly of Persons pro-

fessing the Roman Catholic Religion shall be had in any Place for religious Worship. **1812** *Act* 52 *Geo. III*, c. 155 § 2 (*margin*) Places of Religious Worship certified and registered. **1832** *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 115 (*margin*) Roman Catholics to be subject to the same laws as Protestant Dissenters, with respect to Schools and Places of Worship. **1833** *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 30 (*title*) An Act to exempt from Poor and Church Rates all Churches, Chapels, and other Places of Religious Worship. **1846** *Act* 9 & 10 *Vict.* c. 59 § 2 Persons dissenting from the Worship or Doctrines of the United Church of England and Ireland, and usually attending some Place of Worship other than the Established Church. **1853** *Act* 16 & 17 *Vict.* c. 137 § 62 Any Cathedral or Collegiate Church, or any Building registered as a Place of Meeting for Religious Worship. **1855** *Act* 18 & 19 *Vict.* c. 81 (*Preamble*) Save as therein excepted with respect to Places of Worship of the Established Church and otherwise.

[**1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 71/2 *margin*, Of clean and unclean beasts, and the place of worship [in the Mosaic Law].] **1816** J. WILSON *City of Plague* Poems 1825 I. 263 Her soul serene, That like a place of worship aye was husht By day and night. **1857** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 334 They had gone every one to her different 'Place of Worship'. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 29 Dec. 10 St. Mary's [a district church in a town] is a place of worship rather than a church to the minds of the townsmen.

17. *One's heart* (*lies*) *in the right place*: see HEART *sb.* 54. *To have a soft place in one's heart for*, to regard affectionately, be well-disposed towards, be fond of.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xii. P 2 God knows if his heart lay in the right place for all that! **1894** BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 25 Mr. Penniloe had a very soft place in his heart for this young lady.

** With prepositions.

18. From place to place. From one place to another, and so on in succession.

c **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 457 Crist wente mekely fro plase to place. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 1361 He pervsed the whole towne.., from place to place. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 P 3 This holy Man travelled from Place to Place. *Mod.* Nomads who roam about from place to place in search of pasture for their cattle.

19. In place, etc.: † **a.** Before or without moving away; on the spot; then and there, immediately. So *in the place, on* or *upon the place. Obs.*

c **1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 110/138 So þat heo i-cristned was.. and i-spouse in þe place. *a* **1330** *Roland & V.* 504 He toke him in þe plas, & to þe castel he went. *a* **1425** *Cursor M.* 1600 (Trin.) þis worde he seide anoon in plas. **1600** E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 217 To sell them at lowe prices vpon the place. **1665** TEMPLE *Let. to Sir J. Temple* Wks. 1731 II. 4, I told him upon the Place, I would serve his Majesty the best I could in it. **1675** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1004/3 On the part of the Suedes, 2000 were killed upon the place.

† **b.** In presence, present, at hand, on the spot. So *upon the place. Obs.*

a **1425** *Cursor M.* 3078 (Trin.) Archere was he beste in plas. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 36 They all, beholding worldly wights in place, Leave off their worke..To gaze on them. **1670** MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 345 Those matters can not be transacted by the Post, but men must be upon the place. **1682** in *Scott. Antiq.* (1901) July 4 Without .. ever acquainting him, albeit he was wpon the place.

c. In its original or proper position; in position; *in situ*; *spec.* in *Geol.*; in *Mining*, applied to a vein or lode situated between fixed rocks.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 108 That the ecclesiasticall iurisdiction remayne in place as it nowe is. **1869** HUXLEY *Elem. Physiol.* (ed. 3) v. § 20 The liver is invested by a coat of peritoneum, which keeps it in place. **1881** RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., In place*, ..occupying, relative to surrounding masses, the position that it had when formed. **1884** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Placer*, .. includes all forms of mineral deposits excepting veins in place. **1884** ANNA K. GREENE *Leavenworth Case* ii. 8 The open piano with its sheet of music held in place by a lady's..fan.

d. *fig.* In his or its proper or fitting position; in one's element, at home; in harmony, timely. (The opposite of *out of place*, 20.)

1897 *Chicago Advance* 4 Feb. 138/2 If Mr. Manss were not a successful pastor, he would be very much in place as a journalist.

e. *In* (some one's) *place*: in (his) position, situation, or circumstances; situated as (he) is.

1735 T. HILL *Zara* II. i. 11 What have I done, .. Beyond, what You wou'd, in my place, have done? **1770** FOOTE *Lame Lover* III. Wks. 1799 II. 89 What could I do? Put yourself in my place. **1870** READE (*title*) Put Yourself in his Place.

f. *In* (*the*) *place of*, instead of: see 13 b. *In the first, second, next*, etc. *place*: see 11.

20. Out of place. Out of, or not situated in the natural or appropriate position; misplaced; *fig.* unsuitable, unseasonable.

[**1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 73 Wordes and sayynges, brought furth so out of time and place, to make sporte and moue laughter.] **1822** [see OUT OF, III]. **1853** MAURICE *Theol. Ess.* 77 The ordinary methods of controversy are entirely out of place. **1864** PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 346 The two verses .. are evidently..out of place. **1892** *Law Times* XCII. 158/1 It may not be out of place to examine it here.

*** With verbs.

21. Come in place. † **a.** To come to be, come forth, originate, turn up; to come into notice, appear; to appear, present itself for consideration. Also *become in* (*to*, etc.) *place. Obs.*

a **1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1316 Ne funde we nowhwer nan swa deope ilearet þat durste sputin wiδ us; and 3ef he come in place [etc.]. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 5589 (Cott.), I sal tell yow of [moyses]..How-gat first he com in place. *Ibid.* 18623 And þus bicome þat oile in place. *Ibid.* 22405 For if sant michel cum to place, to dome befor vr lauerd grace. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 84 Hou that metall cam a place. **1579** TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 114/2 When y^e^ honour of God commeth in place.

† **b.** To occur, take place. *Obs.*

a **1425** *Cursor M.* 2884 (Trin.) Lecchery .. þe foulest þat euer coom on plas. *Ibid.* 13131 Til a feste day coom in plas.

† **c.** To come into a position (to do something).

c **1450** *Merlin* xxiv. 444 And gladly ther-of wolde thei ben a-venged, yef thei myght come in place.

22. Find place. To find room to dwell or exist, to have being (*in* something).

a **1729** CONGREVE *To Cynthia* 5 Can Discontent find Place within that Breast? **1839** YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* x. (1847) 105 Confidence in their own strength found no place in their counsels. **1846** TRENCH *Mirac.* vi. (1862) 189 And now the solemn awakening finds place.

23. Give place. To make room, make a way, get out of the way; to yield *to*, give way *to*; to be succeeded by: see GIVE *v.* 47. *arch.* exc. *fig.*

1382, etc. [see GIVE *v.* 47 a-d]. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 10 Stynt, I say! gyf men place. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 The water deuydyng it selfe, & gyuynge place to them for theyr passage. **1571** R. EDWARDES *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 92 Give place; let the prisoner come by; give place. *c* **1595** CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 35 The Generall gaue place to his earnest suite. *a* **1604** HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 165 Hee prudently governed his Church some thirty yeeres, and gave place to nature. **1746–7** HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 211 What was gay..as well as glittering..gives place to an universal gravity. **1871** R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 268 Thessaly's youth gave place to the Gods high-throned in heaven.

24. Have place. **a.** To have room to exist; to have being or existence (*in*, *among*, etc. something); to exist; to be situated, have lodgement.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xii. (1495) d j/2 The vertue ..naturalis..hath pryncipall place in the lyuer. **1489** CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. vii. 247 Yf all sinnes were punyshed in this worlde the Iuges of god shulde haue noo place. **1526** TINDALE *John* viii. 37 Ye seke meanes to kyll me be cause my sayinges have noo place in you. **1624** BEDELL *Lett.* vii. 110 But this..hath no place amongst all your motiues. **1752** HUME *Ess., Remark. Customs* (1817) I. 366 The same law had place in Thebes. **1896** DK. ARGYLL *Philos. Belief* 117 The notion..that time..can have no place in Nature except as a mere condition..of human thought.

† **b.** To have or take precedence (also *to have the place*): = 27 c. *Obs.*

1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 272 These persons petitioning are dangerous...Safety must have place of all. **1686** PLOT *Staffordsh.* 285 The female Sex, which according to the custom of England has always the place.

† **25. Hold place.** To obtain regard, to prevail; = 27 b. (See also 9.)

1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 757 If either kind [= nature] or kindnesse had holden place. *Ibid.* 762 If some folkes friendship had not holden better place with the king then any respect of kindred.

26. Make place. † **a.** To make room or space *for*; to give a position, station, or office *to. Obs.*

a **1400–50** *Alexander* 2277 (Dubl. MS.) þen makes þe prince hym a place & prestly hym maches. **1565** T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 113 All mercie shall make place to euery man according to the merit of his workes. **1581** G. PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 56 To furnish himselfe with such good giftes, that he make himself place, be desired, honoured, and esteemed. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 b, Making place for al commers.

b. *To make places* (*Change-ringing*): said of two bells which shift their position in successive changes so as to make room, as it were, for another bell which is struck successively before, between, and after them.

1872 ELLACOMBE *Ch. Bells Devon*, etc. ii. 221 The..terms of the art are enough to frighten an amateur,..Hunting, dodging, snapping, and place making. **1880** C. A. W. TROYTE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 334/2 In change-ringing terms the 4th and 5th are said to 'make places'.

27. Take place. † **a.** To take effect, to succeed; to be accomplished or realized. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 153 Alisaunder the Pope gaf us leve for to edifie coventis in these places..but there tok no place but Clare and Wodous. **1542** UDALL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2, I am..as well contented that my suite hath not taken place. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 304 When the Christian religion began to take place in Egypt. *a* **1766** MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 30 This design can't possibly take place till next winter. **1789** WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) IV. 465 His medicine immediately took place. **1825** KNAPP & BALDW. *Newgate Cal.* IV. 334/2 Two shots..did not take place.

† **b.** To find acceptance; to have weight or influence. *Obs.*

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 17 These playn testimonyes of the scripture wolde take no place with Tindal. **1665** J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 33 Then must the Corinthian Column be condemned..if Baldo's Judgment take Place. **1737** BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 134 This Doctrine ..I don't expect will take place with many. *a* **1774** GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 1 Among an unenlightened people every imposture is likely to take place.

† **c.** To take precedence *of*; to go before. (Cf. 9.) *Obs.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 19 Whether a Ies. cobler or schoolemaister, being but a lay brother..ought to take place and go before a secular Priest. **1626** S. D'EWES in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 219 The Lorde Conway tooke place of all barons. **1711** *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 149. 2/2 Which Woman takes Place? **1721** BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 188 After this, the Physick Garden at Oxford takes place in Reputation. **1814** JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xxiii, Though Miss Crawford is in a manner at home, at the Parsonage, you are not to be taking place of her.

† **d.** To take up or have a position; to be present.

1622 WITHER *Mistr. Philarete* G j, Marke, if euer red or white, Any where, gaue such delight, As when they haue taken place In a worthy womans face. **1653** H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii. (1712) 61 The Uses indeed of the forenamed Plants..take place so in every Affair of Man.

e. To come into existence, come to pass, happen; to occur (in place or time).

1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 207/2 These respects being paid, and silence taking place. **1816** PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 145 The shadow may reach the earth, and a total eclipse may take place. **1894** A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets*, etc. 217 The police were informed of what had taken place.

f. *To take the place of*: see 13 b.

VI. 28. Short for PLACE BRICK.

1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 192 The difference between .. stacks and places ten shillings.

VII. 29. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *place-description, -disease, -illustration, -name, -poetry*; *place-bound* adj.; esp. in sense 14, as *place-broker, -monger, -mongering, -seeker*; *place-begging, -loving, -proud, -seeking* adjs.; **place act**, the Act of Parliament excluding persons holding office under the crown from sitting in the House of Commons; † **place-being**, the fact of being or dwelling in some particular place, habitat (*obs. rare*); **place betting**, the action of backing a horse or other competitor for a 'place': see 9 c; **place-bill** (cf. *place act*); **place-book**, a blank book for the collection of interesting or valuable literary extracts; = COMMONPLACE-BOOK; **place horse**, a horse which comes in among those placed: see PLACE *v.* 5 d; **place-house** = PLACE *sb.* 5 b; † **placelike** *a.*, local; **place-making**: see 26 b; **place-skating** (*U. S.*) = FIGURE-*skating*; **place-woman**, a female office-holder under government. See also PLACE BRICK, PLACE-HOLDER, PLACE-HUNTER, PLACE-KICK, PLACEMAN.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 10/1 The *Place Act, by which holders of places of profit under the Crown are ineligible for the House of Commons. **1567** MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 79 Chelidros the Serpent..is in *placebeing, one of those kindes which be doubtfull. For it is now abiding vpon the earth now in the waters. **1885** *Times* 4 June 10/3 *Place Betting. **1742** H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 8 Apr., The *Place Bill has met with the same fate from the Lords as the Pension Bill and the Triennial Act. **1827** HALLAM *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 617 We owe to this ministry the place-bill of 1743, which .. seems to have had a considerable effect; excluding a great number of inferior officers from the house of commons. *a* **1659** OSBORN *Charac.* etc., Wks. (1673) 619 In the *Place-Book of virtue and vice. **1808** KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 431 It might be .. useful to keep the plan open for continual increase, in the way of, not a common, but a special place-book. **1647** FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 132 When we are time-bound, *place-bound, or person-bound so that we cannot compose ourselves to make a large solemn prayer. **1810** *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 267 Lawyers, and speculators, and *place-brokers. **1892** *Spectator* 16 Jan. 93/1 No writer has left us so many *place-descriptions which can be..identified with actual localities. **1898** P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xiv. 233 Beriberi, a *place disease like malaria. **1890** *Pall Mall G.* 19 Sept. 7/3 Such an animal..would..be looked upon as a winner, or, at least, a *place horse in a race. **1675** WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* II. i, I hate London: our *place-house in the country is worth a thousand of't. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 85 Still they would bear no *place-like respect. **1839** *Record* 21 Oct., The time-serving and *place-loving spirit. **1785** TRUSLER *Mod. Times* III. 77 Seeing..an advertisement.. from a man who advertised places under government to be disposed of..I..waited on Provider the *place-monger. **1868** VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) I. 344 The Athenian bureaucrat or placemonger. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. xxv. 371 A monstrous system of bribery and *place-mongering. **1868** G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. p. xvi, *Place-names are..found both on Old-Northern and on Scandinavian-runic pieces. **1884** H. RIX in *Gd. Words* June 393/2 Speculating on the origin of place-names. *a* **1619** FLETCHER *Wit without M.* III. i, To be *place-proud. **1895** *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 206/1 To his mastery of edges and *place-skating he owed his ability to defeat the great skaters of the world. **1817–18** COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 257 Sinecure placemen and *placewomen.

Place (plēs), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **placed** (plēst); also 6 *Sc.* **plasit, plaist, placeit**, 6–7 **plast**(e; *pa. pple.* 6 **yplasde**. [f. PLACE *sb.* So F. *placer* (1606 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To put or set in a particular place, position, or situation; to station; to posit; *fig.* to set in some condition, or relation to other things. Often a mere synonym of *put, set.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 40 This manne is no Rhetoricien, because he can not place his thynges in good order. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 The Archebyshoppe of Trevers was placed right ouer against themperour. *Ibid.* 333 They place this as a generall Rule. **1565** GOLDING *Cæsar* 29 b, Cesar..taking the towne placed a garryson in it. **1567** DRANT *Horace, Epist.* vii. D v, A younge man in a chare At ease yplaste. **1570–6** LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 227 A Castle high, and thundring shot, At Quinbroughe is now plaste [*sime* waste]. **1602** in *St. Papers, Dom.* (1870) 226 We delivered the goods..and placed two of our company aboard each ship. **1630** PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 120 It placeth Election..within our owne command. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 99 The placing a Gate or Doore. **1703** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 167 Placing one Foot of a pair of Compasses on a Plane. **1712** STEELE *Spect.*

No. 423 ¶ 2, I was so placed..that I could not avoid hearing. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 26 He used to place the patient under a pump, and allow the water to play over him. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 568 Thereby placing land out of circulation, during any one life. 1840 Lardner *Geom.* xii. 153 Three points, however they may be placed, must always lie in the same plane. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/2 To place gatekeepers at level crossings.

b. To put or set (a number of things) in the proper relative places, *i.e.* in order or position; to arrange, dispose, adjust.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* 2 In Iohn I haue ..only placed the texte and diuided the paraphrase. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 6 What helpeth it though wee can finde good reasons, and knowe how to place them? 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* 368 He obtaineth places of honour, which can most fitly place his words. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 118 Which things..in painting, draw the eyes by their glittering brightnesse, though they be never placed by any art. *a* 1717 Pope *Ep. Jervas* 71 Should the Graces all thy figures place. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii. (Stage direction) Places chairs.

2. To appoint (a person) to a place or post; to put in office; *spec.* to induct to a pastorate.

c 1570 *Schort Somme 1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* § 4 Sic as ar preichers alreddie placeit. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* IV. iii. 35 This yellow Slaue, Will..place Theeues, And giue them Title, knee, and approbation. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 16 Placing deserving men according to their merit. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 694 These commissioners were..to have the sole power of placing and displacing all persons in the service of the Company. 1901 *Robert Anderson* ii. 8 When my father was 'placed' as fourth minister of the Relief Church.

b. To find a place or situation for; to arrange for the employment, living, or marriage of; to settle. Sometimes const. †*forth* (obs.), *out*.

1596 Drayton *Piers Gaveston* cii, Those in Court we for our purpose plac'd. 1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, N. T.* 213 Whether..to keep them at home in an unmarried state, or place them forth in Wedlock. *a* 1652 Brome *Eng. Moor* III. i, At an old wives house in Bow-lane That places Servants. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 170 ¶ 6 He had resolved to place me happily in the world. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* XXV, If I can only place my sisters as I want, Humphrey and I will seek our fortunes. 1889 *Spectator* 21 Sept., Fathers lament..over children whom..they cannot 'place'.

3. To put (a thing) into a suitable or desirable place for some purpose. *spec.* **a.** To put out (money, funds) at interest; to invest. Often with *out*. **b.** To put into the hands of a particular (selected) person or firm (an order for something to be supplied). **c.** To dispose of to a customer. **d.** To arrange for the performance or publication of (a play, literary production, or the like).

1700 Farquhar *Constant Couple* I. ii, I suppose twenty or thirty pieces handsomely placed will gain the point. 1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 2 ¶ 3 Placing money on mortgages. 1765 *Act* 5 *Geo. III*, c. 26 *Preamble*, With Power to the Trustees .. to place out the Money.. on Real securities in Scotland. 1858 T. Dalton in *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 338 The best mode of placing funds at Bangkok. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 7 May 2/3 The demand for Florida orange-trees .. is .. increasing. Many large orders have already been placed for next season. 1893 Peel *Spen Valley* 342 All orders of the French Government which they needed to place in England. 1901 Dabbs in *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Aug. 8/1, I have had six plays 'placed' at a cost to myself in trial matinées of hundreds of pounds. *Ibid.*, A single play placed on the evening bill.

4. *fig.* To put, set, fix, repose (faith, confidence, esteem, etc.) *in* or *on* a particular person or thing.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 7 How are they to be..pittied, that haue nothing whereon to rest and place their assurance. 1654-66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 646, I found my passion was unworthily plac't. 1700 H. Wanley in *Pepys' Diary* (1879) VI. 233 His judgment ..in placing his friendships. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 53 ¶ 3 If our Sex knew always how to place their Esteem justly. 1823 Southey *Nelson* II. vi. 34 A man, upon whose sagacity..he could place full reliance. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 591 No confidence could be placed in any of the twelve Judges.

5. To determine or indicate the place *of*; to assign a place to. **a.** To assign or refer to a particular locality or set of circumstances; to locate. **b.** To assign a certain rank or station to; to rank, class. **c.** To fix the chronological position of; to date; to fix, determine (a date).

1597 Bacon *Coulers Good & Evil* Ess. (Arb.) 139 For sayth he [Cicero], aske a Stoicke which Philosophie is true, he will preferre his owne: Then aske him which approcheth next the truth, he will confesse the Academiques. So..the Epicure..as soone as he hath placed himselfe, he will place the Academiques next him. 1652 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* I. i. § 20 Capellus placeth Cadmus in the third year of Othoniel. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 118 Having excluded them from the Society of Men, he places them among..Beasts. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 50 Then, in the scale of reas'ning life, 'tis plain, There must be, somewhere, such a rank as Man: And all the question..is..if God has plac'd him wrong? 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 3/2 Lord Lytton, ..learned in American dialects, could no doubt 'place' her particular peculiarities of pronunciation.

d. *Racing.* To state the place or position of (a horse, etc.) among the competitors when passing the winning post, which is usually done officially of the first three only; *to be placed*, to obtain a place among the first three. Also *fig.*

1831 Macaulay *Ess., Boswell's Johnson* (1887) 180 Boswell is the first of biographers. He has no second. He has distanced all his competitors so decidedly that it is not worth while to place them. Eclipse is first, and the rest nowhere. 1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Leg.* 161 However you start, you'll never be placed. 1863 Kingsley *Water Bab.* i, She came in nowhere, and is consequently not placed. 1895 *Daily News* 4 Sept. 7/1 The last-named trio provided the winner and the placed horses.

6. To assign, attribute, impute, ascribe. **a.** To hold (a quality or attribute) to reside or consist *in* something. †**b.** To refer (a fact or circumstance) *to* something as a cause; to 'put down' *to*. *Obs.*

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 830 They placed a certaine religion in the shadow of trees. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 8. 199 They did not place honour or honesty simply in victory. 1697 Locke *Repl. to Bp. of Worcester's Answ. to his Let.* 97 Whether..I am..mistaken, in the placing Certainty in the Perception of the Agreement or Dis-agreement of Ideas. 1802 Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit* I. 105 He placed it [her delight] to the ease it would afford her anxiety. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* xliv, She..places her disappointment..to her being..less affluent than many of her acquaintance.

7. *Football* (Rugby). To get (a goal) from a place-kick.

1890 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/3 A goal placed from a try. 1896 *Field* 8 Feb. 207/1 Thompson placed a goal.

Place, obs. erron. f. *pleas* (pl. of Plea: see Common Pleas); obs. f. Please.

Placeable (plē'săb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Place *v.* + -able.] Capable of being or liable to be placed.

1802-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 179 The privy seal being placeable and displaceable by the king.

‖ **Placebo** (plăsī'bō). Pl. **-os, -oes.** [a. L. *placēbo* (I shall be pleasing or acceptable), 1st sing. fut. ind. of *placēre* to please: also used in OF. in senses 1 and 2.]

1. *Eccl.* In the Latin rite: The name commonly given to Vespers in the Office for the Dead, from the first word of the first antiphon (*Placebo Domino in regione vivorum*, Ps. cxiv. 9, Vulg.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 22 Efter euesong anonriht sigged ower Placebo. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 57 Prelatis ben more bounden to þis prechynge..þan to seie matynes, masse, euen song, or placebo. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 110 Clerkys seydin Placebo & dirige for his soule. 1535 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 165 Schall synge and say placebo and dirige on nyght. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* v. § 5. 248 He..earned a miserable livelihood..by singing placebos and diriges.

†**2.** In allusive phrases: *To sing* (*a*), *play* (*with*), *make*, *be at the school of placebo*, etc.: to play the sycophant, flatter, be servile or time-serving. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Þe uerþe zenne is þet huanne hi alle zingeþ 'Placebo', þet is to zigge: 'mi lhord zayþ zoþ, mi lhord deþ wel'. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 543 Flatereres been the deueles Chapelleyns that syngen euere Placebo. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* H v b, He ought..not flatere hym ne make the placebo. 1554 Knox *Godly Let.* A viij b, Nowe they haue bene at the skoole of Placebo, and ther they haue lerned.. to daunse as the deuill lyst to pype. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* Prol. 78 Plaing *placebo* into princes faces. 1607-8 Bacon *Gen. Naturaliz.* Wks. 1879 I. 467 If any man shall think that I have sung a placebo, for mine own particular, I would have him know that I am not so unseen in the world. 1679 J. P. *Lett. Friend in Country* 3 Where every one would sing a Placebo to the rising Sun [the next Heir to the Crown].

†**3.** A flatterer, sycophant, parasite. (In Chaucer as proper name.) *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 234 Placebo seyde o Ianuarie brother [etc.]. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22417 Ffiateryng .. Sömme callen hir Placebo, ffor sche kan maken an Eccho Answere euere ageyn the same. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 37 The Bischop..having his placeboes and jackmen in the toun, buffatted the Freir, and called him Heretick. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 220 Placeboes and flatterers went to court.

4. *Med.* (See quot. 1811.) Also *fig.*

1811 Hooper *Med. Dict., Placebo*,..an epithet given to any medicine adapted more to please than benefit the patient. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xx, There is nothing serious intended—a mere *placebo*—just a divertisement to cheer the spirits, and assist the effect of the waters. 1885-8 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 205 It is probably a mere placebo, but there is every reason to please as well as cure our patients.

Hence **Placebo'ic** *a. nonce-wd.*, of the nature of a placebo.

1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 1093 This was given regularly, and became well known .. as the 'placeboic remedy' for rheumatism.

Pla'ce-brick. *orig.* A brick made of soft clay, and laid on a prepared 'place' to harden before being burnt: see quot. 1753; *now*, an ordinary stock brick which has been imperfectly burnt, through being on the outward or windward side of the kiln or clamp.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 41 Place-bricks. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Brick*, Place-bricks..so called because of a level smooth place just by where they are struck or moulded .. where they are left till they are stiff enough to be turned on their edges.., they carry them to stacks,.. they are covered with straw on the top, till they are dry enough .. to be burnt. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 343 Place-Bricks are too frequently poor and brittle. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 19 Place bricks are the refuse of a burning, and are in fact those which have not been perfectly burnt. 1881 Young *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 2155 Prices per 100 at which bricks are quoted: place-bricks, 4*s.* 6*d.*; grey stocks, 5*s.*; red stocks, 6*s.* [etc.].

Placed (plēst), *ppl. a.* [f. Place *v.* + -ed¹.] Put or set in a particular position or condition; located, situated; holding place or rank: see the vb. *Placed minister*, a pastor inducted to a charge.

1733 P. Lindsay *Interest Scot.* 124 Where one placed Minister dies at least three young men are licensed. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 75 When the Regiment forms open Column of Divisions, behind a placed Flank Division. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* vi, He was in orders, but was not a placed minister. 1844 P. Harwood *Hist. Irish Reb.* 50 Every liberal..motion..was unfailingly crushed by placed and pensioned majorities. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/5 Brownie .. finished fifth, Theodolite, the second favourite, alone dividing him from the placed horses. *Ibid.* 3 Nov. 4/7 Blackheath beat the London Scottish by a placed goal to a penalty goal.

†**Pla'ceful,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Place *sb.* + -ful 1.] (?)

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* IX. 134 And in their precinct (Proper and placefull) stood the troughs and pailes, In which he milkt.

Pla'ce-ho'lder. One who holds a place or office. †**a.** One who acts as deputy for another; a lieutenant, substitute, proxy. *Sc. Obs.*

1560 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 13 Committed by the place-holders of the ministrie. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 451 His deputtis and place haldaris. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 188 The Prince, who is God's place-holder.

b. One who holds office under the government.

1818 Moore *Fudge Fam. Paris* ii. 105 A youth of parts, Who longs to be a small place-holder. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 238 The strength of government..resulted, not from its having some thousands of place-holders..at its disposal, but from the means it possessed of making its will reach everywhere.

So **Pla'ce-ho'lding** *a.*

1830 Ld. J. Russell *Select Sp. & Desp.* (1870) I. 296 That corrupt and place-holding Parliament.

Pla'ce-hu'nter. One who seeks persistently for a place or post in the public service. (With unfavourable connotation: cf. Placeman.)

1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 29 ¶ 16 The Ionick laugh .. is esteemed by judicious place-hunters a more particular mark of distinction than the whisper. 1812 *Examiner* 19 Oct. 666/1 Place-hunters and Fortune-hunters. 1898 Bodley *France* II. iv. vii. 434 Moderate men who are not place-hunters, and are therefore impartial witnesses.

So **Pla'ce-hunting** *sb.* and *a.*

1823 in W. Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 276 A place-hunting lawyer. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 34/2 Place-hunting .. is a form of ambition to which the English .. are almost strangers. 1898 Bodley *France* II. III. v. 257 The place-hunting solicitations of constituents.

Pla'ce-kick. *Football.* [f. Place *sb.* + Kick *sb.*¹] (See quot. 1856, and cf. Drop-Kick.) So **Pla'ce-kick** *v.*, **Pla'ce-ki'cker, Pla'ce-ki'cking.**

1856 *Rules for Football, St. Peter's School, York* ii, A place kick is a kick when the ball is previously placed on the ground... Kick off must be a place kick. *Ibid.* ix, It [the football] is to be place-kicked, and not dropped. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Oct. 1/3 A try, from which the champion place-kicker .. gained a goal. 1892 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 5/1 [He] played for Scotland, and did the place-kicking at the early age of sixteen. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Jan. 2/3 This place-kicking record was the least creditable feature of the game.

Placeless (plē'slĕs), *a.* [f. Place *sb.* + -less.]

†**1.** Without a fixed place or home; having no place. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 261 Þanne þe Saxons, strong men of armes, and placelees to wone ynne [L. *Saxonum gens..sedibus vaga*], were i-prayed of þe Britouns forto come in to Bretayne.

2. Not confined to place; not local; not bounded or defined.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. II. *Imposture* 210 Holding a place-less place. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sculler* Wks. III. 19/2 Such a placelesse place is Purgatory Created by the Pope without God's leaue. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Picture* 129 Placeless, as spirits. 1881 Fraser *Berkeley* 212 Our placing and dating intelligence must be inadequate to the placeless and dateless Intellect.

3. Having no stated place or locality.

1644 Prynne & Walker *Fiennes's Trial* 5 With the dateless, namelesse, placelesse, seallesse Proclamation inclosed. 1878 D. Campbell *Rational & True Gosp.* xv. 80 Dateless, placeless wonders are not very credible.

4. Having no place or post; out of office or remunerative employment.

1831 *Lincoln Herald* 28 Jan., Placeless walked the pensive Whigs. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 13 Aug. 220/1 The landless and placeless Irish gentleman.

†**Pla'cely,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [f. Place *sb.* + -ly.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to place; local, spatial. **b.** *adv.* Locally, spatially.

a. 1546 Coverdale *Lord's Supper* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 455 Imagining I cannot tell what manner of placely presence. 1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 85 The placing of body between two ghostly beings, would not give them a placely behaviour.

b. 1548 Gest *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 86 Christes body be presented in thee bred..not placely as ther placed, spaced, and mesured, but ghostly.

Placeman (plē'smăn). [f. Place *sb.* 13 + Man *sb.*¹] One who holds an appointment in the service of the sovereign or state; almost always with depreciatory or hostile connotation: One who is appointed (or who aspires) to such a position from motives of interest, without regard to fitness.

1741 *Protests of Lords* II. 15 A constant majority of placemen meeting under the name of a Parliament to establish grievances instead of redressing them. 1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. xv. 369 The Sherriffs and other placemen had made

interest to be elected. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 235 In 1679 the House of Commons brought in a bill for excluding placemen and pensioners from seats in parliament. 1830 LD. J. RUSSELL *Select. Sp. & Desp.* (1870) I. 296 In the first Parliament of George II it is stated that 257 placemen had seats in this House. 1881 *Philad. Record* No. 3443. 4 One of the most disheartening signs of the times is the facility with which the crimes of politicians and placemen are condoned by the people.

Hence **Pla·cemanship,** the position or character of a placeman.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 751 When placemanship is combined with Whiggery, the combination is..odious.

Placement (plē'·smĕnt). [f. PLACE *v.* + -MENT: cf. F. *placement* (d'Aubigné 1616), and *displacement, replacement.*] The action of placing, or fact of being placed; placing, arrangement.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 688 A malformation in the placement of its tines. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 304, I.. cannot consent to the placement of such a word in our Dictionaries. 1887 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXXI. 415/2 In proportion as the placement of the loan disturbs the market value of the commodities. 1897 J. C. ROBINSON in *19th Cent.* Dec. 961 Art treasures .. have found their way.. to abiding placements from which there can be no return.

† **Pla·cency.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *placentia* (post-class.) suavity, f. *placēnt-em*: see PLACENT *a.*] The quality of pleasing, pleasantness; disposition to please or gratify.

1639 SALTMARSHE *Policy* 153 Men are naturally prone..to bend in placency towards their superiours humours. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. ii. 102 The cause or matter of molestation or placencie.

† **Pla·ceness.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PLACE *sb.* + -NESS.] The quality of having or occupying a place; -position, locality.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 78 It cannot but harshly be said, that the world has a placeness or whereness at all. *Ibid.* 84 Such a thing as placeness or stowage.

† **Pla·cent,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *placenta* a cake: see PLACENTA.] A flat cake or tablet.

1603 F. HERING *Cert. Rules* (1625) B ij b, Certaine Placents or Amulets confected of Arsenicke. 1617 T. ADAMS *Gen. Pract. Phisicke* (*N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 29), Clarified hony, which must be so hard that you may make small placents or trocisces of it.

Placent (plē'·sĕnt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *placēnt-em*, pr. pple. of *placēre* to please.] Pleasing, gratifying.

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 71 Under the plausibl prætext, placent notion, specious name, .. and fair construction of that famous Evangelic Canon.

¶ Misused for: Favourably disposed, propitious.

1898 C. READE in *New Cent.* IV. 501 A winning cause to placent gods is dear.

‖ **Placenta** (plăse·ntă). [L. *placenta* cake = Gr. πλακόεις, -όεντα, contr. -οῦς, -οῦντα, flat cake, also mallow seed, f. the root πλακ- of πλάξ, πλάκα flat plate. So in It., Sp., Pg., Fr. in sense 1.]

1. *Zool.* and *Anat.* (Originally *placenta uterīna* uterine cake.) The spongy vascular organ, of flattened circular form, to which the fœtus is attached by the umbilical cord, and by means of which it is nourished in the womb, in all the higher mammals, and which is expelled in parturition; the afterbirth. Also applied to a structure having a similar function in other animals, as some viviparous fishes, ascidians, etc.; see quots. 1875, 1888.

1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 65 The *Fœtus*..doth receive Air ..from the maternal Blood in the *Placenta uterina*, or the *Cotyledones*. *Ibid.* 67 The Blood still circulates through the *Cotyledons* or *Placenta*. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In women, unless in case of twins, &c. there is but one placenta. 1855 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr. Med.* 68 The term placenta was derived from its shape. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* Pref., Sharks bring forth their young alive, and nourish them while in the womb by a temporary structure called 'placenta'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 445 In *Salpa* the developing embryo is nourished by a placenta formed, in part at least, by follicle cells.

2. *Bot.* The part of the carpel to which the ovules are attached; also sometimes applied to a structure which bears the sporangia in certain vascular cryptogams.

1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* vii. § 5 The Seeds stuck all round about upon the Ambit or Sides of the Case; or upon a great Bed or Placenta within it. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Flower of Parnassus*, A Membranous fruit .. having..one cell full of seeds, fastened to a placenta which is often very square. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 16 In the inside of the ovary is a space called the *placenta*, on which the young seeds, or *ovules*, originate. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 395 The sporangia arise .. from some of the superficial cells of the placenta or part to which the sorus is attached.

Placental (plăse·ntăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *placentāl-is*, f. prec.: see -AL.]

1. *Zool.*, etc. Of or pertaining to the placenta.

Placental murmur, sound, soufflet, the sound made by the blood entering the distended uterine vessels, heard in auscultation during the later months of pregnancy.

1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 367 From a change of function, placental blood is no longer returned to the liver. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 84 *note*, No one who has ever heard the placental soufflet. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 265 The raw surfaces of wounds or of the placental area. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Period*, *placental*, the time occupied in the expulsion of the placenta.

b. Furnished with a placenta; placentate.

1840-45 OWEN *Odontogr.* III. xi. 501 The development of the true molar teeth to their typical number in the placental Mammalia. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. vi. 202 The Marsupials stand..below the placental mammals.

2. *Bot.* Pertaining to the placenta (of a plant).

1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 227 In Leguminosæ the double placental base is so narrow that the ovules alternate with one another. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 259 Ovule .. flanked by a column of placental tissue.

B. *sb. Zool.* A placental mammal.

1864 WEBSTER cites OWEN. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 17 The marsupials..have been gradually supplanted by the more highly organized placentals.

‖ **Placentalia** (plæsĕntē'·liă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L. (L. Bonaparte 1837), neuter pl. of *placentāl-is* adj.: see prec.] Placental mammals; a primary division of Mammalia, comprising those provided with a placenta: contrasted with *Marsupialia* and *Monotremata*. It corresponds to the more recent divisions *Monodelphia* and *Eutheria*.

1842 in BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* App. 526.

Hence **Placenta·lian,** *a. adj.*, of or pertaining to the *Placentalia*; *b. sb.* one of these.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Placentary (plæ·sĕntări, plăse·ntări), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *placentārius*, f. PLACENTA: see -ARY[1]. So F. *placentaire.*] Of, pertaining or relating to the placenta; placental (*Zool.* and *Bot.*). b. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the *Placentalia* or *Placentaria*.

1843-4 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1845) XIX. 321 The placentary hypothesis of M. Schleiden. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 377 Uncertainty in the position of the placentary lines. 1864 WEBSTER s. v., The placentary system of classification. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Placentary*, belonging, or referring to, the Placenta.

B. *sb. Zool.* A placental mammal.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Placentate (plæ·sĕntĕt), *a. Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *placentāt-us*, f. PLACENTA: see -ATE[2].] Having a placenta: = PLACENTAL *a.* 1 b.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Placentation (plæsĕntē'·ʃən). [a. F. *placentation*, f. PLACENTA: see -ATION.]

1. *Zool.* The formation and disposition of the placenta in the uterus.

1880 HUXLEY in *Times* 25 Dec. 4/1 The non-prehensile pes would separate it from the former, and the placentation from the latter group.

2. *Bot.* The disposition or arrangement of the placenta or placentas in the ovary.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xi. (1765) 197 By Placentation is meant the Disposition of the Cotyledons at the Time when the Seed is beginning to grow. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 389 The placentation of Water-lilies..Broomrapes..and Butomads, is equally at variance with the central theory. 1872 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* (ed. 6) I. vii. 174 Instances of both marginal and free central placentation.

† **Place·ntiate,** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *placēnt-em* pleasing, suave + -ATE[3]: cf. *differentiate.*] *trans.* To please, satisfy.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 248 When you're placientated [*sic*], the Fort is won.

Placentiferous (plæsĕnti·fĕrəs), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. PLACENTA + -FEROUS.] Bearing or having a placenta.

1667 H. OLDENBURG in *Phil. Trans.* II. 512 All Placentiferous Animals (if I may assume this word) he affirms to have three Membranes. 1702 DR. DRAKE in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1236 The one [Uterus] being Glanduliferous, and the other Placentiferous. 1878 MASTERS *Henfrey's Bot.* 300 As though the placentiferous lines were detached.

Placentiform (plăse·ntifɒm), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. PLACENTA + -FORM.] Having the form of a placenta; discoid; cake-shaped.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Placentiformis*, .. *Bot.* resembling a cake .. placentiform. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 125 When what would be otherwise a napiform root becomes compressed both at its base and apex..it is said to be placentiform. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Placentigerous (plæsenti·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* and *Bot.* [f. PLACENTA + -GEROUS.] Bearing a placenta: = PLACENTIFEROUS.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Placentious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *placēntia* suavity, PLACENCY + -OUS.] Pleasing, or disposed to please; complaisant, amiable, agreeable, suave.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* III. *York* (1662) 230 A Placentious Person, gaining the goodwill of all. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 20 Such things as are placentious or pleasing to us.

‖ **Placentitis** (plæsĕntəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. PLACENTA + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the placenta.

1844 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 943/2 Simpson has described an acute and chronic form of placentitis.

Placentoid (plăse·ntoid), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OID.] Resembling a placenta; placentiform.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Placentophagy (plæsĕntɒ·fădʒi). [f. as prec. + -PHAGY.] The eating of the placenta.

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 909 In certain parts of the Soudan, placentophagy is habitually practised.

Placentule (plăse·ntiul). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *placentula*, dim. of PLACENTA: see -ULE.] A small placenta (but in quot. 1826 applied to a cotyledon: cf. COTYLEDON 3).

1677 GREW *Anat. Fruits* v. § 13 A great Parenchymous Boss, which is, as it were, the Bed or Placentula of the Seeds; which lie all over it, as in a Strawberry. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 164 The cotyledon appears .. necessary for the..growth of the seed, and may hence be denominated its lungs or placentule. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Placentula*,..a little placenta: a placentule.

Placer[1] (plē'·səi). [f. PLACE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who places, puts, or sets; one who puts in place or arranges; in various technical uses, e. g. in *Bookbinding*, a workman employed in arranging the sheets; in *Pottery*, the workman who puts the ware ready for burning.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 164 Thou placer of plants both humble and tall. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 135 A sorter out and placer of the principall matters in the same [book] contained. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 16 Setters of broken bones, and placers of dislocations. 1862 T. WRIGHT *Hist. Dom. Manners* viii. 153 An *asséeur*, or placer, took the dishes from the hands of the valets, and arranged them in their places on the table. 1898 C. F. BINNS *Story of Potter* 206 The art of putting the ware ready for burning is called 'placing', and upon the skill of the placer much of the success of the oven depends. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 June 10/5 Collatèrs and Placers wanted.

Placer[2] (plē'·səi). *Mining.* (Chiefly *U. S.*) [a. Amer. Sp. *placer* (plase·r) 'deposit, shoal', allied to *placel* a sand-bank, f. *plaza* place.]

A deposit of sand, gravel, or earth, in the bed of a stream, or any alluvial or diluvial detritus, containing gold or other valuable minerals in particles; a place where this detritus is washed for gold, etc. Also *fig.*

In U. S. law, *placer* includes all forms of mineral deposits excepting veins in place.

1848 WISLIZENUS *Tour N. Mexico* 24 (Stanf.) The old and the new *Placer*, near Santa Fe, have attracted most attention, and not only gold washes, but some gold mines..are worked there. 1851 APPLETON in *Longfellow's Life* (1891) II. 219 Why it is a Golden Legend .. if it be not that it is such a placer of richness. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Lit.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 113 Like diggers in California 'prospecting for a placer'. 1858 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1870) 296 It is a vast placer full of nuggets for the philologist. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 325 This placer covers an area of perhaps two hundred acres, with probably an average depth of 25 feet of gold-bearing earth.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *placer-diggings, -gold, -mine, -miner, -mining.*

1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* xix. (ed. 4) 471 There are placer-workings on rocks containing Jurassic fossils. 1868 ISAB. SAXON *Five Years within Gold. Gate* 84 Almost wholly 'placer' or surface diggings. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 208 Sixty-one placer-claims..nearly all located in the southern part of the county. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* I. iii. (1881) 55 In the early days of California..the placer miner .. picked up..his 'wages'..in actual money. 1881 *Lit. World* (Boston U. S.) 21 May 177/1 The Chinaman ..has found it lucrative to continue placer mining where the whites have given it up. 1897 *Daily News* 21 July 5/4 The workings on the Klondyke or Deer River are placer mines, i. e., the earth is dug up and washed with sluices.

Placet (plā'·set). [a. L. *placet* 'it pleases', 3rd sing. pres. ind. of *placēre* to please.]

‖ **1.** The Latin for 'it pleases (me or us)'.

The word is part of the form used in the old Universities when a question is put to the vote: 'Placetne vobis, domini doctores? placetne vobis, magistri?' (Does it please you, Doctors? does it please you, Masters?); the answer being 'Placet', or 'Non placet'. The declaration of the vote after a count is in the form, 'Majori parti placet', or 'non placet', as the case may be. It is also in the power of the Vice-Chancellor, or of the Proctors conjointly, to veto any proposal by their 'Non placet', as in quot. 1893.

c 1592 MARLOWE *Massacre Paris* II. vi. Wks. (Rtldg.) 240/1 Whilst I cry placet, like a senator. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Life Pusey* I. xvi. 378 Amidst a tremendous shout of 'Placet' from the area the decisive formula was uttered, 'Nobis procuratoribus non placet' [Us, the proctors, it pleases not], and the question of the statute was for the time at an end.

2. as *sb.* a. The expression of assent or sanction (by this word); formerly, the assent of the temporal power necessary for the publication and execution of an ecclesiastical ordinance.

1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 5 Whose placet he accounts the plaudite of his paines. 1593 tr. *Guicciardini's Descr. Low-C.* 21 b, The pope cannot giue a benefice, nor a pardon, nor send a bull into the countrey without the Princes Placet.

b. A vote of assent in a council, or in the congregation or convocation of a university.

1883 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Dec. 4/7 The report..was rejected by 40 non-placets to 39 placets. 1905 *Daily News* 6 Mar. 6 'Why should the University be ruled from the country parishes?'..was asked again by the 'placet' party.

† **3.** *erron.* for PLACIT, q. v.

Placfont, erroneous form of PAKTONG.

1893 JOHNSTONE-LAVIS in *Nature* 12 Jan. 257/2 The amplifying lever is composed of fine placfont tubes.. The pendulum bob is a flattened cylinder supported by a placfont wire 1.50 m. long.

Plachart, obs. form of PLACARD.

Placid (plæ·sid), *a.* [ad. L. *placid-us* pleasing, favourable, gentle, mild, calm, f. root of *placēre* to please; see -ID[1]. Cf. F. *placide* (15-16th c.).]

1. Mild, gentle; calm, peaceful; unruffled, tranquil, still, serene.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 292 It conduceth unto long life, and to the more placid motion of the spirits. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* aaa j b, To the end the placid Fruits of

these my Labours..may be..preserved from the turbulent Storms of discontented Spirits. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 217 That placid aspect and meek regard. 1775 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 July, That you sit down placid and content, disposed to enjoy the present. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 93 The..Valley..of Interlaken..is altogether of a placid, pastoral character. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* ix, Fair ship, that from the Italian shore Sailest the placid ocean-plains. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Europe* (1894) x. 251 The male population is distinctly of a placid temperament.

† **b.** Of peaceful disposition towards another; free from anger or wrath. *Obs.*

1663 *Aron-bimn.* 23 To make an atonement, to render him placid and gracious.

† **2.** Pleasing, agreeable, welcome. *Obs. rare.*

1627-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lix. 92 Those things .. are made placid or disgustful, as fond Opinion catches them.

3. *Comb.*, as *placid-faced, -mannered*, etc.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiv, A little fat placid-faced old gentleman.

† **Placi·dious**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. PLACID + -IOUS.] = prec.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 125 The Dogs did .. discern betwixt Christians and Turks; for towards the Turks they were most eager, furious, and unappeaseable, but towards Christians, although unknown, most easie, peaceable and placidious.

Placidity (plăsi·dĭti). [ad. L. *placiditās*, f. *placidus* PLACID: see -ITY. So F. *placidité* (1878 in *Dict. Acad.*).] The quality of being placid; mildness, calmness, tranquillity, peacefulness.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 142 First Meeknesse; secondly Placiditie, as for want of a plainer terme, I am forced to call it. 1766 CHANDLER *Life David* I. ii. 36 He..behaves with the utmost placidity, moderation, and calmness. 1816 G. CRABB *Eng. Synonymes* 187/2 *Placidity* is more of a natural gift; *serenity* is acquired. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xix. (1878) 360 All the placidity of his countenance had vanished.

Placidly (plæ·sidli), *adv.* [f. PLACID + -LY 2.] In a placid manner; mildly, calmly, quietly; peacefully, without agitation.

1626 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxix. § 11 Hee .. sweetly and placidly resigned up his soule into his Father's hands. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* III. i. (1723) 145 It placidly distends the Tubes and Vessels of Vegetables. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 125 How placidly doth he recline his lovely little head! 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 24 The two friends are placidly smoking their cigars by the open window.

Placidness (plæ·sidnĕs). [f. PLACID + -NESS.] The quality of being placid: = PLACIDITY.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Placidness*, Peaceableness, Quietness. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xlii. 310 To enjoy yourself with your usual placidness, and not to be ruffled. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 6/1 The British navvy at work amidst an armed camp..plied his vocation with placidness.

Placing (plē·sing), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb PLACE; the condition or mode of being placed; putting, setting, location; position, situation; arrangement, etc.: see the verb.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* 34 The diuers placyng and vse [of the members]..apertayneth to the welth of the whole body. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 21 b, Hauing wel considered the placing of the campe. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. 65 Shee being downe, I haue the placing of the Brittish Crowne. 1705 HEARNE *Collect.* 2 Dec. (O. H. S.) I. 111 It stood according to ye old Placing, U. 3. 7. *Jur.* 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 116 The commodious and agreeable placing of Statues. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xx, More than all my absences..from the time of my placing. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 446 The wrong placing of the adverb *only*. 1894 *Daily News* 26 July 3/3 He won the race so easily that little notice need be taken of the placings of the remainder of the field. 1898 [see PLACER 1].

b. *attrib.*, as **placing-house**, the building in a china or earthenware factory where the ware is 'placed' in fire-clay saggers or setters in preparation for being baked.

1881 *Porcelain Works Worcester* 25 The manufactured objects being now ready for baking are taken to the placing house of the biscuit oven.

† **Placit** (plæ·sit). *Obs.* Also placet. [ad. L. *placit-um*: see PLACITUM. So It. *placito*.]

1. What is decided or determined upon; an opinion, a judgement; a decision, decree, ordinance.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxv. § 5 That Secondarie reason..which is grounded upon the placets of God. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* iii. 125 Those Masters of opinions ..that seek to obtrude upon Gods inheritance their conceits and placits. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 129 As little in their Power as the placits of destiny. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* App. 50 Delivering us the placits of the old philosophers. 1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 70 Oral theorems and placits.

2. A plea, a petition. *rare.*

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ix, The boon which I am now to ask .. is, that your Majesty would be pleased, on the instant, to look at the placet of Lord Glenvarloch.

† **Pla·citatory**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *placitāt-*, ppl. stem of *placitāre* (Plaut.), freq. of *placēre* to please + -ORY 2.] = next.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 164 An other exercise of the lawe, which they terme the Arte Placitatorie, or els Aduocatorie.

† **Pla·citory**, *a. Law. Obs. rare.* [f. med.L. *placit-um* (see below) + -ORY 2.] Relating or pertaining to pleas or pleading.

1650 J. CLAYTON *Reports Chancery* Pref. a j, The art Placitory..is double, first, that in writing upon the Records; ..The other..vocall, which pleads before the Judge to the Jury. 1836 in SMART, and in later Dicts.

‖ **Placitum** (plæ·sitŏm). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Pl. **placita**. [L., an opinion, determination, maxim, prop. neuter pa. pple. of *placēre* to please; in med.L. the sentence of a court, a fine, a trial, a plea.] The decree of a judge, the decision or determination of a public assembly, a court of justice, or the like; hence 'the public assemblies of all degrees of men where the king presided, and where they consulted upon the great affairs of the kingdom' (*Blount's Law Dict.* 1717). Also, in *pl.* the proceedings at such assemblies or courts, debates, trials at law, pleadings or pleas.

1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 22 The placita or decretals of the Redeemer. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Placitum*, a Sentence of the Court, an Opinion, an Ordinance or Decree; ..In our Common-Law, Placita signifies Pleas or Pleadings; it was also sometimes taken for Penalties or Fines. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V* (1796) I. 269 In a placitum or trial in the presence of Charlemagne. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxi. 413 If the *placita* of their predecessors were not lost sight of or neglected. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* ix. (1889) 138 The *placita* at which these laws were framed or published, would not have been crowded, as of yore, by armed freemen.

Plack 1 (plæk). *Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5-7 **plak, plake, plakk**(e, **placke**, 6- **plack**. [prob. a. Flem. *placke, plecke*, a small coin of Brabant and Flanders, current in the 15th c., of varying value, in 17th c. Du. (Hexham) applied to the French *sou*; hence F. *plaque* (1425), *placque, plecque*, med.L. *placca* (1481). Orig. 'flat disk, tablet'; so Flem. *plak*, F. *plaque*. Cf. MLG. *plack*, LG. *plak, plakke* spot, piece, patch, rag, flat piece of land, dug turf; Du. *plak* flat lath for beating, blow, spot, slice; MHG. *placke, phlacke* spot, patch, rag. Cf. PLACARD, PLACKET, PLECK.

Cf. 1425 *Journal d'un Bourgeois de Paris*, an. 1425, 355, Buchon. (Godef.) En ce temps couroit une monnoie a Paris, nommee plaques, pour douze deniers parisis, et estoient de par le duc de Bourgogne. See also Du Cange, *Placa, Placca.*]

† **a.** A coin of the Netherlands of the 15th and 16th centuries. *Obs.* **b.** A small billon coin issued by James III of Scotland; also, a small copper coin current in Scotland in the 15th and 16th centuries, worth 4 pennies Scots.

a. 1479 in *Cely Papers* (1900) 29 Item ij docates .. xxxiij^{s} Item in plakes v^{li}..v^{li} fis. 1482 *Ibid.* 126 Item iij plakes.. xxvj^{d}. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 17 Thise ben grotes of englond; Suche ther be of flaundres; Plackes and half plackes [*Patards et demi patards*]. 1526 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, IV. II. 1149 Double plakks or Carolus shall be current for 4*d.* as now.

b. 1473 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 105/1 As tuiching þe plakkis & þe new pennyis, þe lordis thinkis þat þe striking of þame be cessit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 93 Sum penis furth a pan boddum to prent fals plakkis. 1540 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 140 A bende placke whyche ys in my purse. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 169 The wyffis wald refuse the said cunzie quhilk was callit ane Couchrinis plak and said to him that it wald be cryit doun. 1583 in Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scot.* (1876) I. 159 That all the saides twelf pennie peices babeis and plackes with the thre pennie grottis and half plackes now current salbe brocht in to his hienes cunyehous..and thairof new money to be cunyeit. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 283 The Scots haue of long time had..Placks, which they esteemed for 4 pence, but 3 of them make an English penny. 1662 RAY *Three Itin.* II. 162 One bodel they call tway-pennies; two bodels a plack. *a* 1706 R. SEMPLE *Piper Kilbarchan* ix, At bridals he wan many placks. 1786 CARDONNEL *Numism. Scot.* Pref. 33 The plack is an ideal coin at this present time in Scotland. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xix. (1857) 279 After collecting all the placks and boddles of the party (little pieces of copper coin, with the head of Charles II on one side, and the Scotch thistle on the other).

c. In proverbial phrases, as the type of something of very small value; the smallest possible amount; a farthing; a bit; as in *not worth a plack*, utterly worthless; *plack and bawbee, plack and boddle*, in full, every penny, to the last farthing; *two and a plack*, a trifle, a small sum.

a 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 307 He wald nocht mend thame worth ane plack. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 118 Plaitter nor pois we neuer left ane plak. 1693 *Scotch Presbyt. Eloq.* (1738) 126 I'll hazard twa and a plack. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 6 Ise frankly own mysel his debtor For plack an' boddle. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumberld. Ball.* 31 They pick'd my pocket i' the thrang, And de'il a plack had I. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlix, He wasna a plack the waur. 1820 — *Abbot* vi, I would not Sir Halbert had seen her..for two and a plack.

d. *attrib.* Of the value of or costing a plack.

1560 *Aberdeen Regr.* XXIV. (Jam.), His wyf brewit plak-aill. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 204 His plak Pardonis, are bot lardonis, Of new fund vanitie. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xx, He asked..'Whether he could have a plack-pie'. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 July 5/3 From ancient times the revenues in Scotch burghs were derived from small imposts, variously called petty customs, plack dues, and so on,..levied on animals and goods entering the burgh.

† **Plack** 2. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. a. F. *plaque*.] = PLACKET 1, q.v. for quot. **Plack**, var. PLAYOCK, toy. **Plackard(e, -erd**, obs. ff. PLACARD.

† **Placket** 1. *Obs. rare.* [app. a. F. *plaquette* tablet, dim. of *plaque* thin plate.] A plan or map.

1552 T. BARNABE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. App. E. 154 He sent me thither [Newhaven=Havre] upon the kings cost: and I drew a plack of yt, and brought yt to hym..my Lord Fitz Williams..better than three or four hours, purviewing the placket.

Placket 2 (plæ·kĕt). [Origin obscure. Perh. the same word as *placat*, var. form of PLACARD *sb.*, sense 3 of which coincides with sense 1 here, and may possibly be the origin of the other uses. But the order of the senses is uncertain, and the following is merely provisional.]

† **1.** (?) = PLACCATE 1, PLACARD 3. *Obs. rare.*

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 16 Braded plackets for brests of defence.

2. An apron or petticoat: hence *transf.* the wearer of a petticoat, a woman. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 22 The curse dependant on those that warre for a placket. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* IV. iv, Not half so troublesome as you are to yourself, Sir; Was that brave heart made to pant for a placket? 1661 W. K. *Conf. Charac., Old Hording Hag* (1860) 88 The extent of her placket is alwayes lower than her smock, and that comes but an inch lower than her navel. 1685 CROWNE *Sir C. Nice* II. 13 Eve, the mother of jilts, .. pretended to modesty, and fell a making plackets presently. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 244 Because the Meal from off his Jacket Should not be seen upon her Placket. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. v, Our vicar thus preaches—and why should he not? For the dues of his cure are the placket and pot. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* II. 493 A farthingale and placket [Sp. *saboyanas de seda*] instead of her grey petticoat.

3. The opening or slit at the top of a skirt or petticoat, for convenience in putting on and off; also, the slit in a shirt, usually behind.

(Quots. 1605, *c* 1620 are doubtful.)

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 100 Keepe..thy hand out of Plackets. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* V. ii, Keep thy hand from thy sword, and from thy Laundresse placket. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Placket*, the fore-part of a Woman's Petticoat or Shift. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) II. 19 And Madge had a ribbon hung down to her Placket. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 104 Teresa Panza..came forth ..with a grey petticoat, so short that it seemed to have been cut close to the placket.

† **b.** Also *sensu obscæno. Obs.*

1601 MUNDAY *Downfall Earl Huntington* II. ii. D ij b, And lust doe vncase, From the placket to the pappe. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Gregory Father Greybeard* 230, I got all, to her very plackit. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 28. 3/2 She's ..Well pleas'd with her Cull in her Placket.

4. A pocket, esp. that in a woman's skirt.

1663 *Hist. Cromwell* in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 368 Which instrument of his, as was said, was found in my Lady Lambert's placket. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 60 (1822) II. 62 In a placket at her side is an old enamelled watch. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Placket*, a pocket. 1841 CHORLEY *Mus. & Manners* (1844) III. 186 The coupé was occupied by a substantial burgher, with his placket at his side, and his pipe for ever at his mouth. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* V. 1155 What meaneth this epistle..I pick from out thy placket and peruse?

5. *Comb.* **placket-hole**, an opening in the outer skirt to give access to the pocket within; also = 3.

1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i, Are not trouse, and placket-holes, and pump-handles—and spigots and faucets, in danger still, from the same association? 1880 *Daily Tel.* 29 May, The well-known 'placket-hole', which is seldom free from points of escape, and has a trick of gaping wide open to disclose its contents to any curious eye. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Mar. 3/2 The concealing of the placket hole is quite an object just now. 1903 *Pilot* 20 June 529/1 The purse dropped through her placket-hole, instead of going into her pocket.

Plackless (plæ·klĕs), *a. Sc.* [f. PLACK + -LESS.] Without a plack; penniless.

1786 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xvi, Poor plackless devils like mysel'. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 161 In cottages Where poor folk plackless gae.

Placo- (plæ·ko), before a vowel **plac-**, combining form of Gr. πλάξ, πλακ- a flat plate, tablet, entering into various scientific words. **Placobra·nchid** (-kid) [Gr. βράγχια gills], one of the *Placobranchia*, a division of nudibranchiate gastropods having lamellar gills covering the upper surface of the lobes and back; so **Placobra·nchoid** (-koid) *a.*, resembling or akin to the *Placobranchia*. **Pla·coderm** [Gr. δέρμα skin] *a.*, having the skin encased in broad flat bony plates, as certain fossil fishes; of or belonging to the *Placodermata* or *Placodermi*, an order of Palæozoic fishes having the head and pectoral region thus protected; *sb.* one of the *Placodermata*; so **Placode·rmal, Placode·rmatous** *adjs.*; **Placode·rmoid** *a.*, resembling the placoderms in form or structure. **Pla·codont** [Gr. ὀδούς tooth] *a.*, of or belonging to the *Placodontia*, a division of fossil saurians having thickly-set short flat palatal teeth; *sb.* (also **Placodo·ntid**), a reptile belonging to the *Placodontia*; so **Placondo·ntoid** *a.*, resembling the placodonts in form or structure. **Placoga·noid** [GANOID] *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Placoganoidei*, a division of fossil Devonian fishes, having the head and part of the body protected by large ganoid plates; *sb.*, a fish of the *Placoganoidei*; also **Placoganoi·dean** *a.* and *sb.* **Placo·phoran** [Gr. -φόρος bearing] *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Placophora*, a sub-order of molluscs, sometimes

made a primary division, comprising only the CHITONS (*Polyplacophora*); *sb.*, one of the *Placophora*, a chiton; so **Placo·phorous** *a.*

1859–65 PAGE *Geol. Terms* (ed. 2), **Placoderms*,..Dr. Pander's term for the bony-plated or bone-encased fishes of the Old Red Sandstone. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 239 The placoderm was destined to disappear with the Devonian period. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* (ed. 3) II. 1001 Points in which the Siluroids resemble the *Placodermatous Ganoids. *Ibid.* 921 It has..been suggested..that the *Placodermoid Ganoids were closely related to the Ascidian Invertebrates. 1859 OWEN in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVII. 124/2 The *placoganoid and ganoid, heterocercal and notochordal fishes of the Devonian. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* vii. 276 Placoganoids, having the body covered with plates instead of scales. 1872 W. S. SYMONDS *Rec. Rocks* vii. 254 During the latter part of the Silurian epoch the .. Placoganoids make their appearance.

Pla·codine. *Min.* Also **placodite.** [ad. Ger. *plakodin* (A. Breithaupt 1841), f. Gr. πλακώδης flat, cake-like, f. πλάξ, πλακ- tablet, cake.] A name given, on the supposition of its being a native mineral, to an arsenide of nickel, $Ni_4 As_2$, now considered to be a furnace-product.

1856 *Eng. Cycl.* IV. 367/2 Placodine (Arseniuret of Nickel). ..Primary form an oblique rhombic prism. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Placodine, placodite.*

Placoid (plæ·koid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Gr. πλάξ, πλακ- flat plate, tablet: see -OID. Cf. F. *Placoïdes*, in mod.L. form *Placoidei*, name given by Agassiz, 1833, to certain fishes, on account of the plate-like appearance of their scales. (The earliest derivative in Eng. was app. *placoidean.*)]

A. *adj.*

1. Having the form of a plate; applied to the horny scales and tubercles of the *Placoidei*: see B.

1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* iv. 73 One kind of scale, for instance the Placoid or broad-plated scale, is found to characterize all the cartilaginous fishes of Cuvier except the sturgeon. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 68 The dermal exo-skeleton may take the form of..placoid or spiny dentinal formations. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 349 Very young individuals possess a series of small 'placoid' spines. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 411 The primitive form [of the exoskeleton] occurs..in the shape of dermal teeth (= placoid scales), similar in structure and development to oral teeth.

2. Having placoid scales; of or pertaining to the *Placoidei*: see B.

1847 *Nat. Eucycl.* I. 136 A genus of fossil Placoid fishes. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 275 The first order, or Placoid, ..have the skin irregularly covered with plates of enamel, sometimes large, as in the rays, sometimes reduced to small points, as in the sharks. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 21 The distinctions between..placoid and ganoid fishes are vague.

B. *sb.* A fish of the division *Placoidei*, containing the sharks and rays, distinguished by having the skin protected by irregularly disposed bony scales, sometimes bearing spines.

1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxi. (1858) 473 The mere detached teeth and spines of placoids. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* v. 96 The Placoids or shark-like fishes.

Hence **Placoi·dal** *a. rare*; **Placoi·dean** *a.* and *sb.*

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* I. xiii. 269 *note*, *Placoidians.* ..Fishes of this Order are characterized by having their skin covered irregularly with plates of enamel [etc.]. *Ibid.* 283 Genera of the first and second orders (Placoidean and Ganoidian)..ceased suddenly. 1845 R. CHAMBERS *Vestiges* (ed. 4) 207 When fishes came, the first forms were those ganoidal and placoidal types which correspond with the early fœtal condition of higher orders. 1849 SMART *Dict.* Suppl., Placoideans.

Placquart, obs. form of PLACARD.

Placque, variant of PLAQUE.

‖ **Placula** (plæ·kiŭlă). *Biol.* [mod.L., dim. from Gr. πλάξ, πλακ- tablet, plate.] Name for the embryo of *Calcispongiæ* at that stage in its development when it has the form of a plate or disk. Hence **Pla·cular, Pla·culate** *adjs.*, having the form of a placula.

1884 A. HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 89 The primitive differentiation of the placula into two layers is established in what we have designated the diploplacula. *Ibid.* 97 The embryo of Calcispongiæ is also a placula until the same stage. *Ibid.* 150 A full-grown, primitive, placulate form. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Placular*,..*Placulate.*

Plad, Pladding, obs. ff. PLAID, PLAIDING.

† Pladding, ? variant of *platting*, PLAITING.

a 1721 KEN *Damonet* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 505 The Garlands are begun of Pladding fine, Our Wedding-clothes are made, which richly shine.

Pladge, obs. Sc. variant of PLEDGE.

Pladman, var. of PLAIDMAN, Highlander.

‖ **Plafond** (plafoñ). *Arch.* Also 7 **platfound,** 7–9 **platfond,** 8 **plaffond.** [F. *plafond* († *platfond*) a ceiling (1559 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *plat* flat + *fond* bottom.]

1. A ceiling, either flat or vaulted; usually as enriched with paintings; hence, a painting executed on a ceiling. † *In plafond*: on the ceiling.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. ix. 110 Also they do rarely well about Platfonds and upon Ground-works. 1670 LASSELLS *Voy. Italy* I. 87 The roof..is all guilt, and set with curious pictures in Platfound. 1705 Jos. TAYLOR *Journ. Edinb.* (1903) 37 The plaffond is handsomely painted. 1714 STEELE *Lover* No. 33 (1723) 192 The whole Plafond or Ceiling. 1801 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* ii. (1848) 398 The platfonds, panels, and cupolas, of palaces and temples. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* xiii. 102 Naked female figures fill every plafond.

2. (See quots.)

1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 52 The Plafond or Soffit of the Cornice. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Plafond* or *Platfond*,..also the underside of the projection of the larmier of the cornice; generally any sofite.

‖ **Plaga** (plē·gă). *Zool.* [L. *plāga* blow, stroke, wound, stripe, a. Gr. πληγή, Doric πλᾱγά blow, stroke.] A stripe of colour.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 286 Plaga...A long and large spot. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plaga*,..also *Zool.*, a stripe of colour.

Plagal (plē·găl), *a. Mus.* [ad. med.L. *plagālis* (whence It. *plagale*, F., Ger. *plagal*), f. med. L. *plaga* the plagal mode (Du Cange), app. a back-formation from med.L. *plagius*, a. med. Gr. πλάγιος plagal (πλάγιος ἦχος a plagal mode), in class. Gr. 'oblique', f. πλάγος side. (Cf. Ger. *Seitenton* a plagal mode.)]

a. In *Gregorian Music*, Applied to those ecclesiastical modes which have their sounds comprised between the dominant and its octave, the final being near the middle of the compass. **b.** *Plagal cadence*: that form of perfect cadence in which the chord of the subdominant (major or minor) immediately precedes that of the tonic. In both senses opposed to AUTHENTIC.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., Euery song..which in the middle hath an eight aboue the finall keye, is of an autenticall tune; if not it is a plagall. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 13 Euery Song in the beginning, rising straight beyond the final Note to a Fift, is Authenticall: but that which fals straight way to a Third, or a Fourth, vnder the finall Key, is *Plagall.* 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* III. 197 If you find yourself involved in the difficulties of the Plagal tones, I am not among the Authentic. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 99/2 There is another kind of Cadence, to which the name *Plagal* is given. 1875 OUSELEY *Harmony* xiii. 154 If the piece is serious and solemn..it is usual, especially in sacred pieces, to add to it a plagal cadence. 1880 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 760/2 S. Gregory added to these Modes four others, directly derived from them, and hence called Plagal Modes.

Plagard(e, plagart, obs. forms of PLACARD.

Plagate (plē·gĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *plāga* (see above) + -ATE [1].] Having a plaga or plagæ; marked with a streak or streaks.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† Plage [1]. *Obs.* Also 4 **plaag,** 6 **plague.** [a. OF. *plage* region (1290 in Hatz.-Darm.):—late L. *plagia* (see Du Cange) a plain, shore, prop. adj. (*plagia regio*), f. *plaga* a region. So It. *piaggia.*

Hatz.-Darm. take *plage* in the sense 'littoral tract, shore' to represent *plagia*, but in the sense 'region, extent of land' to be a learned formation from *plaga.*]

1. A region, district, clime; sometimes, a zone.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 445 Payens that conquereden al aboute The plages of the North. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 53 The prouince Lindeseience, whiche longede somme tyme to the Marches, dothe diuide North-umbrelonde from that other plage. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 185 King Henry..nesteled and strengthend him and his alyes in the North regions and boreal plage. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* IV. iv, From the frozen plage of Heaven. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. i. 602 A Plage, plagued with scorching heats.

2. Any one of the four principal directions or quarters of the compass; direction, side.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* vii. 2 Ende cometh vp on the foure plagis, or parties, of the erthe [1388 on foure coostis of the lond]. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 5 The 4 quarters of thin astrelabie, deuyded after the 4 principals plages or quarters of the firmament. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 115 The mownte off Caluarye is at the northe plage of the mownte of Syon. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. 195 Ane dyn I hard approching .. Quhilk mouit fra the plague Septentrionall. 1590 *Serpent of Devis.* C j, A large Commit [= comet] of stremes, whose branches reacht on the foure plagues on the firmament. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* VII. 151 Heavens alter the motion of your Sphears, and thou Sun ..go take thy Resting-place in the Orientall plage.

3. One of the divisions or parts of a church, *esp.* a transept. *rare.*

[*c* 1214 GAUF. DE COLDINGHAM in *Scriptores Tres Dunelm.* (Surtees) 11 *Ad orientalem ejusdem ecclesiæ plagam* [i. e. the triapsidal east end].] 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 23 Hee lyeth buryed..in the north plage. *Ibid.* 30 Johne Hemmyngbrowghe..lieth buried in the south plage.

† Plage [2]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. Also **plague.** [ad. L. *plaga* net, snare.] A net, snare, toil.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 273 Spyders..hang their threds in ayre aboue, By plages [1658 plagues] vnseene to th' eye of man. [Here *threds* and *plages* seem to be erroneously transposed. The Latin rendered is: Sed liciis hinc densioribus plagas In aere appendunt.]

Plage, obs. form of PLAGUE, PLEDGE.

Plageat, -et, -ette, obs. forms of PLEDGET.

Plager, ? error for *plaget*, PLEDGET, pad, plug.

1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 164 Wet the bands and plagers in Oxycratum. *Ibid.* 167 He sprinkled the Plagers with Oxycratum and red wine.

† Plagia·rian, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as PLAGIARY + -AN.] Of or pertaining to plagiaries or man-stealers.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plagiarian Law* (*plagiaria lex*), a law made against these men [plagiaries], &c. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plagiarian*, as The Plagiarian Law; a Law made against Plagiaries.

Plagia·rical, *a. rare.* [f. as PLAGIARY + -ICAL.] = PLAGIARISTIC.

1887 HALLIWELL *Shaks.* (ed. 7) II. 281 Without incurring the smallest risk of a plagiarical imputation.

Plagiarism (plē·dʒiărizm). [f. as PLAGIARY + -ISM.]

1. The action or practice of plagiarizing; the wrongful appropriation or purloining, and publication as one's own, of the ideas, or the expression of the ideas (literary, artistic, musical, mechanical, etc.) of another.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 23 Were you afraid to bee challenged for plagiarisme? 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 46 A good Plea to any Charge of Plagiarism or Satyrism. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 95 ₱ 9 Nothing.. can be more unjust than to charge an author with plagiarism merely because he..makes his personages act as others in like circumstances have done. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 257 If an author is once detected in borrowing, he will be suspected of plagiarism ever after. 1861 BUCKLE *Civilia.* II. vi. 542 A certain unity of design which is inconsistent with extensive plagiarism.

2. A purloined idea, design, passage, or work.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 260 He found the..song..to be 'a most flagrant plagiarism from Handel'. 1850 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) I. 98 A Thaumaturgist whom they had created..to convince the world that the Christian church was a plagiarism. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. p. xx, They are full of plagiarisms, inappropriately borrowed.

Plagiarist (plē·dʒiărist). [f. PLAGIARY + -IST.] One who plagiarizes; one who is guilty of plagiarism.

1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 56 The Author (..I should say the Collector or Plagiarist). 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, A dexterous plagiarist..might take out some of the best things in my tragedy, and put them into his own comedy. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. v. (1869) 123 The poorest of all plagiarists, the plagiarists of words. 1866–7 BARING-GOULD *Cur. Myths Mid. Ages, Antichr. & Pope Joan* (1894) 172 The story spread among the mediæval chroniclers, who were great plagiarists.

Hence **Plagiari·stic** *a.*, characteristic of a plagiarist; pertaining to or characterized by plagiarism; whence **Plagiari·stically** *adv.*

1821 WAINEWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 150 The whole series was cold, commonplace, and plagiaristic. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 93 They..have very unhandsomely and plagiaristically anticipated my own original lucubrations. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVIII. 545 There is risk..in any or all of these plagiaristic devices.

Plagiarize (plē·dʒiărəiz), *v.* [f. PLAGIARY + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To practise plagiarism upon; to take and use as one's own the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another. (With the thing, rarely the person, as object.)

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 29 Manto or Daphnes, Tiresias the Priest's Daughter, who writ or paraphras'd in such excellent Strains, some of the..Oracles at the Temple of the Delphians, that they were worth to be plagiariz'd by Homer himself. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 783, I do not mean to say that they are plagiarized (let me coin the word, for I do not like to say stolen) from Miss Lee. 1830 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* v, For oft I talk'd with him apart, And told him of my choice, Until he plagiarised a heart, And answer'd with a voice. 1888 G. A. SCHRUMPF in *Athenæum* 25 Feb. 243/2 Mr. Kirby..seeks to create the impression that I plagiarized Ujfalvy.

2. *intr.* To practise or commit plagiarism.

1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. vi, I cannot plagiarise..from any scholastic designs you might have been giving vent to. 1863 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 279 Little wits that plagiarise are but pickpockets: great wits that plagiarise are conquerors.

Hence **Pla·giariza·tion** = PLAGIARISM 1; **Pla·giarizer** = PLAGIARIST.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 413 Plagiarizers..have..stolen their thoughts. 1884 *Athenæum* 3 May 575/3 No direct ..plagiarization from his German model.

Plagiary (plē·dʒiări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. L. *plagiārius* one who abducts the child or slave of another, a kidnapper; a seducer; also (Mart. i. 53. 9) a literary thief. Cf. late L. *plagium* kidnapping, *plagiāre* to kidnap. So F. *plagiaire* (16th c.) a plagiarist.]

A. *sb.* † **1.** A kidnapper, a man-stealer. *Obs.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. iii. 199 In the time of his.. childhood, he was by some Plagiary stolne away from his friends. 1626 H. KING *Serm. Deliverance* 46 How many be there..that, like Plagiaries, make it their trade to hunt and catch men? 1697 BP. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* XX. 16 No Israelite would buy him, and therefore such Plagiaries sold him to Men of other Nations.

2. = PLAGIARIST.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. iii, Why? the ditt' is all borrowed; 'tis Horaces: hang him plagiary. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. viii. 119 He that is a Plagiary of others titles or offices, and dresses himself with their beauties. 1676 LISTER in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 125, I am glad you have discovered those authors to be plagiaries. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 85 ₱ 7 Compilers and plagiaries are encouraged, who give us again what we had before. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 354 Blount was one of the most unscrupulous plagiaries that ever lived.

3. = PLAGIARISM 1; literary theft. [Cf. -ARY B. I.]

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 22 Plagiarie had not its nativitie with printing, but began in times when thefts were difficult. 1688 G. LANGBAINE (*title*) Momus Triumphans: or, the Plagiaries of the English Stage; Expos'd in a catalogue of all the Comedies, Opera's,..&c. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* Pref., My first wish in attempting a play was to avoid every appearance of plagiary. 1880 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* 52

No parasitic rhymester .. ever uttered a more parrot-like note of plagiary.

b. = PLAGIARISM 2.

1677 E. BROWNE *Trav. Germ.* etc. 108 Hoping to find better Markets for their Plagiaries and Depredations. 1818 HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 415 The plagiaries, if they may so be called, are inserted with considerable taste and effect. 1865 *Athenæum* 13 May 658/1 Their attitudes..are ..not plagiaries.

4. *Comb.*, as *plagiary-like* adj. or adv.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* v. 117 Taken out of the prints of Albert Durer..not for want of invention and plagiary like.

B. *adj.* †**1.** Kidnapping, man-stealing. *rare*—[1].

1673 E. BROWNE *Trav.* (1685) 49 Some [fell into that condition] by Treachery, some by Chance of War; others by Plagiary and Man-stealing Tartars.

†**2.** That plagiarizes; plagiarizing. *Obs.*

1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 84 Alike to thee as lieve As.. an *hos ego* from old Petrarch's spright Unto a plagiary sonnet wright. 1620 — *Hon. Mar. Clergy* I. § 26 The plagiary priest, hauing stolne this whole passage..verbatim out of Bellarmine. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. v. § 2 This was the Plagiary Prophet.

3. Obtained by plagiarism; plagiarized. ? *Obs.*

1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 14 Nought..but plagiary stuff, By which they purchase praise and money. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 561 A quadrant, by Mr. Godfrey, called by the plagiary name of Hadley's quadrant. 1820 *Hermit in London* IV. 162 Second-hand puns and plagiary remarks.

Hence **Pla·giaryship**, the function or action of a plagiarist, plagiarism.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* III. *Warwick.* (1662) 128 Rider after Thomas his death, set forth his Dictionary, the same in effect, under his own Name,..being but little disguised with any Additions. Such Plagiary-ship ill becometh Authors or Printers.

Pla·giat. *rare*—[1]. [ad. law L. *plagiātus* kidnapping, f. late L. *plagiāre* to kidnap. So F. *plagiat* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*).] Man-stealing, kidnapping.

1809 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 316 The impressment of seamen..is no better than what civilians call *plagiat*, a crime punishable with death by all civilized nations.

Plagiator (plē·dʒi,ē·tə1). *rare.* [a. L. *plagiātor* kidnapper, f. *plagiāre*: see prec.] = PLAGIARIST.

1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 51 The poet Homer in his works was a mere plagiator. 1889 JACOBS *Æsop* II Ademar forgets his rôle of plagiator.

Plagihedral (plē·dʒi,hī·drăl, -he·drăl), *a. Cryst.* Also **plagiedral**. [f. PLAGI(O- + Gr. ἕδρα seat, base.] Having certain faces obliquely situated; also said of such faces.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 212 [A crystal is said to be] Plagihedral..when it has facets which are situated obliquely. *a* 1853 PEREIRA *Pol. Light* (1854) 257–8 In that form of quartz termed by Haüy *plagiedral*.., it has been found that when the unsymmetrical or plagiedral faces lean to the right, the polarization is right-handed, and, *vice versâ*. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 316 A crystal of quartz.. will, if right-handed, present on three alternate quoins at each end of the prism plagihedral faces arranged in the form of a right-handed screw.

Plagio- (plē·dʒio-, plæ·gio-), before a vowel or *h* **plagi-**, comb. form, repr. Gr. πλάγιος oblique, slanting, f. πλάγος side. **Plagiocli·nal** *a.* [Gr. κλίν-ειν to incline], applied to mountain structure, when the strike of the rock runs across the axis of elevation. **Pla·giodont** *a.* [Gr. ὀδούς tooth], having the palatal teeth set obliquely or in converging lines, as in some serpents. **Pla·giograph** [-GRAPH], an instrument for reproducing a plan, diagram, etc., in a position at a given angle from the original.

1879 CALLAWAY in *Geol. Mag.* VI. 221 A plagioclinal axis is not necessarily Precambrian, but its transverse strike should suggest inquiry. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Plagiodont. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plagiocephalic (plē:dʒio,sĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. PLAGIO- + Gr. κεφαλή head + -IC.]

a. *Anthropol.* (See quot.)

1874 BUSK in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* III. 90 *note*, Linnæus's term plagiocephalic is emphatically descriptive of the more common form of American skull, and may be conveniently used to distinguish the broad head, with flattened forehead, so characteristic of the greater part of the American races.

b. *Path.* Characterized by plagiocephaly.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* v. 178 The obliquely oval or plagiocephalic deformity. 1888 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Idiocy, plagiocephalic*,..one of Shuttleworth's divisions including idiots with heads so distorted that the features lie in an oblique plane.

So **Plagioce·phalous** = prec. b; **Plagioce·phaly**, oblique deformity of the skull, consisting in the greater development of the anterior part on one side and of the posterior part on the other.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Plagiocephalous, Plagiocephaly. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plagiocephalous*,..having the skull awry; the result of asymmetrical development, and the premature synostosis of the frontal with one of the parietal bones. *Ibid., Plagiocephaly*, the condition of being plagiocephalous.

Plagiocitrite (plē:dʒio,si·trəit). *Min.* [Named 1879, f. PLAGIO- + L. *citrus* citron + -ITE[1].] A hydrous sulphate of aluminium and other bases, found in monoclinic or triclinic lemon-yellow crystals.

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 975.

Plagioclase (plē·dʒio,klēs). *Min.* [Named 1847, f. PLAGIO- + Gr. κλάσις fracture, cleavage.] (See quot. 1868.)

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) Suppl. 802 *Plagioclase*, Breithaupt's name for the group of triclinic feldspars, the two prominent cleavage directions in which are oblique to one another. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 91 In the case of plagioclase the crystals exhibit numerous bands of different colours. 1903 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* (ed. 4) I. II. 200 The Plagioclase rocks.

Plagioclastic (-klæ·stik), *a. Min.* [f. PLAGIO- + Gr. κλαστ-ός broken, cloven + -IC.] Having oblique cleavage. Opp. to ORTHOCLASTIC.

1869 GEIKIE in *Edinb. Geol. Soc. Jrnl.* II. 5 Plagioclastic felspars. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 91 The plagioclastic ..or those in which the cleavage planes intersect at angles other than 90°. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plagioclastic*, breaking obliquely.

Plagionite (plē·dʒiŏnəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *plagionit* (G. Rosé 1833), f. Gr. πλάγιος, -ον oblique + -ITE[1].] A sulphide of lead and antimony occurring in monoclinic thick tabular crystals of a blackish grey colour.

1835 *Thomson's Records Gen. Sci.* I. 271 *Plagionite.*—The crystals of this mineral belong to the oblique rectangular prismatic system of Beudant. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 661 *Plagionite*, a sulphantimonite of lead occurring at Wolfsberg in the Hartz.

Plagiostome (plē·dʒio,stoum), *sb.* (*a.*) [a. F. *plagiostome*, f. PLAGIO- + Gr. στόμα mouth.] A member of the *Plagiostomi*, cartilaginous fishes, including the sharks and rays, which have the mouth placed transversely beneath the snout.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* etc., *Plagiostomes*, a tribe of Cartilaginous fishes. 1859 OWEN in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVII. 117/2 Affinities with the *Cestracion* amongst existing Plagiostomes. 1860 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* I. 5 [The Sharks and] their kindred chondropterygians or plagiostomes—the Rays. 1881 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 667/1 No detached undoubted tooth of a Plagiostome .. has been discovered in the Ludlow deposits.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Plagiostomous.

1835 R. WILLIS in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 115/1 The cartilaginous plagiostome fishes.

So **Plagiosto·matous** (*rare*), **Plagio·stomous** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the plagiostomes; having the mouth situated transversely beneath the snout.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Plagiostomus*,..plagiostomous. 1859 OWEN in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVII. 116/1 A genus of plagiostomous cartilaginous fishes called *Onchus*. 1881 SEELEY in *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* V. 38 The Rays form the second division of the Plagiostomous fishes. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Plagiostomatous.

Plagiotropic (plē·dʒio,trŏ·pik), *a. Bot.* [f. PLAGIO- + Gr. τροπικός inclined, f. τρόπος turning.] Said of members or organs of plants, the two halves of which react differently to the influences of light, gravitation, and other external forces, and which therefore take up an oblique position: opp. to ORTHOTROPIC. Hence **Plagiotro·pically** *adv.*; **Plagio·tropism**, the condition or character of being plagiotropic.

1882 VINES tr. *Sachs Bot.* App. 954 Sachs points out .. that most monosymmetrical or bilaterally symmetrical organs present .. dorsal and ventral halves .. of different internal structure... When this is the case the two halves react differently to external forces (light, gravity, etc.) and the organ is, according to his terminology, plagiotropic,.. some polysymmetrical organs are plagiotropic also. 1886 — *Physiol. Plants* 502 The plagiotropism of dorsiventral organs, such as shoots and leaves,.. is the resultant expression of the effect of light and of gravity upon them, promoted, in many cases, by their own weight.

‖ **Plagium** (plē·dʒiŭm). [L. *plagium* kidnapping: see PLAGIARY.]

1. *Civil Law.* Kidnapping, man-stealing.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 395 Now they commit the offence called *Plagium*, that is to saie, manstealing. 1678 T. JONES *Heart & its Right Sov.* 340 Such depredations and reprisals, and plagiums. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 454/2 In the civil law, the offence of spiriting away and stealing men and children, which was called *plagium*,..was punished with death. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lvi, 'Pardon me', said Pleydell, 'it is *plagium*, and *plagium* is felony'.

†**2.** = PLAGIARISM 1 and 2. *Obs.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) 8 Neither their writings shalbe preiudiced by mine, nor mine thought a Plagium out of theirs. 1673 B. OLEY *Pref. to Jackson's Wks.*, I shame not to tell this because I think it no *plagium*.

Plagose (plăgō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *plagōs-us*, f. *plaga* a stroke: see -OSE.] Inclined to flog, fond of flogging (*humorous*).

1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* I. 23 Miss Harriet's plagose propensity. 1875 — *From Midnight to Midn.* III. ix. 160 His preceptor, plagose and stern.

So **Plago·sity**, inclination to flog.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xv. § 4 (1622) 161 His notable tyranny and plagosity.

Plague (plēg), *sb.* Forms: 4 **plaage**, 4–7 **plage**, 6 **plag**, *Sc.* **plagge, plaig**, 6– **plague**, (7 **plauge**), [ME. *plage*, a. OF, *plage* (14th c.), *plague* (15th c.) stroke, wound, ad. L. *plāga* stroke, wound (= Doric Gr. πλᾱγά, Attic πληγή stroke, blow), in late L. plague, pestilence, infection (Vulgate), f. root *plag-* of L. *plangĕre*, Gr. πλήγνυναι, πλήσσειν to strike. OF. *plage* and *plague* were learned formations on L. *plaga*, the phonetic descendant of which was *plaie* wound.]

†**1.** A blow, a stroke; a wound. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxiv. 16, Y take fro thee the desyrable thing of thin eyen in plage [*gloss* or wounde, Vulg. *in plaga*, 1611 with a stroke]. — *Luke* xii. 47 Forsothe thilke seruaunt that knew the wille of his lord .. schal be betun with many woundis [*v. r.* plagis, or woundis]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 31 Plage comounly is taken for an oold wounde. 1538 POLE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* I. App. lxxxiii. 208 You say, I make many plagues, but lay little or no salve to heal them .. In very deed I make never a plage, when I discover those that be made already.

2. An affliction, calamity, evil, 'scourge'; *esp.* a visitation of divine anger or justice, a divine punishment; often with reference to 'the ten plagues' of Egypt.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* ix. 18 Of thes thre plagis the thridde paart of men is slayn, of fijr, and of smoke, and of brunston. *Ibid.* xvi. 21 Men blasfemeden God for the plage of hayl. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 329 Egipte was smyten with x. plages and diseases. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. viii. 23 As the bub or plaig of fell tempest,.. *Drivis* by fors throw the sey to the land. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* ix. 14 Let my people go,..els wyll I at this tyme sende all my plages [WYCLIF veniaunces]..vpon thy people. 1540–54 CROKE *Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 43 From all plags safe thy house shalbe. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, For fayre wether*, This plague of rayne and waters. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 245 God of his mercie remoue thir plagges from yow al. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 452 Sometime the plage lighteth vpon him, which Dauid prayed for vpon his enemies. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 346 The inhabitants turn what seems a plague to their own advantage. Locusts are eaten. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xiii. III. 238 A plague of gnats. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 216 The plague of the brass money.

b. In weakened sense: Anything causing trouble, annoyance, or vexation; a nuisance; *colloq.* trouble.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xxv. 400 In the province of Chiquito, even at this day they meete with this plague of Confessors or *Ychuris*. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xvii. 181 She has her plagues in giving me plague. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi, Deil a brute or body about my house but I can manage when I like..; but I can seldom be at the plague. *c* 1885 *Howlston Juvenile Tracts* xviii. *Imag. Troubles* 9 She disliked stiles, she found it such a plague to get over them. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ix, The plague of the thing is, nobody could drive a carriage there to-night but me. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 92 Spinach is an annual, whose tendency to run to seed in dry weather makes it the plague of the gardener.

c. Applied to a person or animal (in serious, or in weakened sense: cf. b).

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 53 That one couetous and vnsatiable cormaraunte and verye plage of his natyue contrey. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 77 Speakynge here .. of the Cardinall of Yorke, he calleth hym the plage of Englande. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 237 This flying Plague (to mark its quality); *Oestros* the Grecians call: *Asylus*, we. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* II. 369 What a Plague to Society is a Man who has written a Book. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* II, Arthur, you plague, why don't you find something to do?

3. A general name for any malignant disease with which men or beasts are stricken.

†**a.** An individual affliction or disease. *Obs.*

In Bible translations used, after *plaga* of the Vulgate, for the 'infliction' of leprosy, and also in the 1611 version for the external diseased spots.

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiii. 2 A man in whos skynne and flesh were sprongun dyuerse colour, or bleyne, other eny thing liȝtyng, that is to seie, a plaage of lepre, he shal be brouȝt forth to Aaron. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 24 Pese plagis of pestilence þat ben vncurable. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* v. 29 She felt in her body that she was healed off the plage. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xiii. 3 The Priest shall looke on the plague in the skinne of the flesh: and when the haire in the plague is turned white, and the plague in sight be deeper then the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosie. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 3 That sad Disease called there the Plague of the Back, but with us *Empiema*.

b. *esp.* An infectious disease or epidemic attended with great mortality; a pestilence.

1548–9 [see 4]. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer* (Heading of prayer), In the tyme of any common plague or sickeness. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 722 From the vicious Air, and sickly Skies, A Plague did on the dumb Creation rise. 1738 WESLEY *Psalms* XCI. v, Nor to thy healthful Dwelling shall Any infectious Plague draw nigh. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 338 Instructions how to communicate and to treat this plague [small-pox]. 1866 [see CATTLE-PLAGUE]. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. viii. 246 The famous 'plagues', which ravaged Europe, were forms of typhus fever. 1887 T. F. TOUT in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* IX. 414/1 The 'yellow plague' which was then [an. 664] devastating Northumbria.

c. *spec. The plague*: the oriental or bubonic plague. (Cf. PEST 1.)

[1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 279 The plaig of the pestilence maist vehementlie regnis in Danskin.] 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 802 Their sharpe iuice is very good against the plague. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 323 The Plague is a disease venomous and contagious. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 22 July, His servant died a bubo on his right groine, and two spots on his right thigh, which is the plague. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* I It was about the beginning of September, 1664, that I .. heard .. that the plague was returned again in Holland. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 411 No nation was ever long engaged in a war with the Turks without taking the plague. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 61 Some Muslims even shut themselves up during the prevalence of plague. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 190 Plague. (*Pestilentia.*)..A contagious fever, closely resembling typhus in its symptoms, but distinguished from it by the absence of any true rash, and by the development of buboes and carbuncles.

d. In imprecations: *A plague take, plague on, upon, of*, may a pestilence or mischief take or light upon; also in exclamations of impatience: *What the* (*a*) *plague, how the plague.* Cf. PEST 1 b, PESTILENCE 4, POX, etc.

a 1566 EDWARDS *Damon & Pythias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 102

A plague take Damon and Pithias! 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 94, I am hurt. A plague a both the Houses. 1596 — *1 Hen. IV*, II. ii. 39 What a plague meane ye to colt me thus? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Fr. King* Wks. 1730 I. 59 Now, what the plague becomes of jure divino? 1713 SWIFT *Frenzy J. Dennis* Wks. 1755 III. i. 143 Plague on't. I am damnably afraid,..he is mad in earnest. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* IV. 61, What the plague do you send me of your fool's errand for? 1870 tr. *Erckmann-Chatrian's Waterloo* 116 There he is come back worse than ever—plague on him.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly from 3 c): **a.** Simple attributive, as *plague bacillus, botch, contagion, corpuscle, death, den, germ, infection, nurse, patient, scare, time, virus, year*, etc.

1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion of Sick*, Specially in the plague tyme. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 That in the plague time no shippe ..do enter into their port. 1841 H. AINSWORTH *Old St. Paul's* II. 154 A closed litter,.. evidently containing a plague-patient. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter of Air* 12 Pasteur proved that the plague-corpuscles might be incipient in the egg. 1891 C. CREIGHTON *Hist. Epidemics* 500 The whole mortality was 452, of which by far the most were plague-burials. *Ibid.* 362 The years 1545 and 1546 were also plague-years in Scotland. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 4/2 A plague officer,..while on plague duty, has been stoned to death at Hindupur. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* viii. 163 Kitasato has stated that the plague bacillus perishes in four days when dried on cover-glasses.

b. instrumental, objective, etc., as *plague-beleaguered, -breeding, -free, -infected, -poisoning, -proof, -smitten, -stricken, -stuffed*, etc., adjs.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii. 1699 A plague stuffed Cloake-bagge of all iniquitie. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 34 Nor sword, nor famine, nor plague-poisoning air. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 265 The People of London thought themselves so Plague-free now, that they were past all Admonitions. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxiii, As in a plague-beleaguered town. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Sept. 4/1 A plague-proof variety has alone survived. 1897 *Review of Rev.* 5 The rinderpest..introduced.. by plague-smitten cattle. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* viii. 151 He found in the soil forming the floor of plague-haunted houses..a bacterium.

c. Special combinations: **plague-bill**, an official return of the deaths caused by the plague in any district; **plague-cake**, an amulet worn as a protection against the plague; **plague-house**, a house marked as having inmates infected with the plague; **plague-mark** = PLAGUE-SPOT 1 (Webster 1864); **plague pipe**, a small clay pipe in which tobacco was smoked as a disinfectant during the great plague of 1665; **plague pit**, a deep pit for the common burial of plague victims; **plague saint**, a saint especially invoked by those afflicted with the plague; † **plague-stripe** = PLAGUE-SPOT 1; † **plague-water**, an infusion of various herbs and roots in spirits of wine, of supposed efficacy against the plague. See also PLAGUE-SORE, PLAGUE-SPOT.

1891 C. CREIGHTON *Hist. Epidemics* 295 There are two other *plague-bills extant, for August 1535. 1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* B iv, Empoisoned Amulets, or *Plague-cakes. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 28 June, I observed several *plague houses in King's Street. 1892 *Daily News* 30 May 3/1 The small '*plague', or 'elfin' pipes, as they are variously called, of the time of the Restoration. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 8/2 Some 'Plague pipes', so called owing to their being smoked at the time of the great Plague of London, were excavated at Hackney yesterday. 1841 H. AINSWORTH *Old St. Paul's* I. 300 In Finsbury fields..*plague-pits had been digged and pest-houses erected. 1898 *Daily News* 1 June 3/6 Venice is .. saved by the intercession of her patron, St. Mark, her local *plague-saints, Sebastian and Rocco. 1713 SPREGNELL in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 124 *Vibices*, or *Plague-Stripes, were infallible Signs of Death. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 20 July, My Lady Carteret did this day give me a bottle of *plague-water home with me. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Water*, Plague-Water, *Aqua epidemica*, is prepared from the roots of masterwort, angelica, pyony, and butter-bur; viper-grass, Virginia-snakeroot, rue, rosemary, baum, [etc.]; the whole is infused in spirit of wine, and distilled.

Plague (plēg), *v.* [f. PLAGUE *sb.* Cf. late L. *plāgāre* to strike, wound. So Ger., Du. *plagen*. (Caxton's spelling *plaghe* was from MDu. *plaghen*.)]

1. *trans.* To afflict with plague or calamity (esp. in reference to divine punishment); to torment, harass. Perh. sometimes, like L. *plāgāre*, to strike (quots. 1538, 1545). Now *rare* or *arch.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 70, I shold do grete synne .. I am aferde god sholde plaghe me [*orig.* Ick hebbe anxt god die soude mi plaghen]. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xv. 4, I will scatre them aboute also in all kingdomes and londes to be plaged. 1538 BALE *Brefe Com.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I. 212 Though he to thys daye hath plaged man with the rod. 1545 *Primer Hen. VIII* in *Three Primers* (1848) 501, I am all to plaged and beaten. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 571 The cornis of this instant yeir .. being at Goddis plesour plagit and spilt with weit. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 539 This Countrey.. plagued with three bad neighbours, viz. the Turkes, the Tartars, and the Cassoks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 505 Some one..inspir'd With dev'lish machination might devise Like instrument to plague the Sons of men For sin. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* x. 98 Christians were too intent on plaguing Jews. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* ii. (1873) 15 A Constitution plagued with sickness.

2. In weakened sense (chiefly *colloq.*): To 'torment', trouble, vex, tease, bother, annoy.

1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* xli, If her nature and her wil be so That she will plague the man that loves her most. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* i. 21, I will .. so plauge the Metropolicallity of Yorke and Canterbury. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. xii. 94 Patients in this case are commonly plagued with a cough. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. viii, Husbands and wives..plaguing one another. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* II. 171 What a dickens would you have more!..I won't hear you, I won't be plagued. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* ii. 33 The big boys used to plague him, and he plagued the little ones. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* XXV. 237, I cannot be plagued with this child any longer! It's past all bearing.

3. To infect with plague or pestilent disease. *rare.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XCI. ii, The noisome blast that plaguing straies Untoucht shall passe thee by. 1633, 1894 [see PLAGUED below].

Hence **Plagued** (plēgd) *ppl. a.*, afflicted, tormented; infected with plague (in quot. 1728 'confounded', 'cursed'; 'plaguy'; so *plegged* in *U. S. dial.*, quot. 1887); **Pla·guing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 180 Make place for plaints, giue rowme for plagued men. 1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* II. E iv. *marg.*, The ioye of rebbelles is in plagyng of true men. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iii. 39 A plaguing mischeefe light on Charles, and thee. 1633 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1680) II. 240, I will not set him at liberty no more than a plagued Man or a mad Dog. 1728 P. WALKER *Life Peden* Pref. (1827) 26 Following the wicked..Example of their old plagued Resolution-Fathers. 1887 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 113 That pleggëd old cat's a-tryin' to drink out'n the water-bucket. *Ibid.* 172 Where a man can't afford to be too plegged particular. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) July 320/2 My..friends set out for Dover and the cholera-plagued Continent.

Plague, var. of PLAGE *Obs.*, PLAYOCK *Sc.*

Plagueful (plē'gfŭl), *a. rare.* [See -FUL.] Full of or fraught with plague; pestilent.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 247 A plague-full humour, a fell banefull breath..Pours forth her poyson. 1610 *Mirr. Mag., John* xxix, Plaguefull meteors did..appeare.

Plagueless (plē'glĕs), *a.* [See -LESS.] Free from plagues or the plague.

1847 in WEBSTER: and in later Dicts.

Plaguer (plē'gəɹ). *rare.* [f. PLAGUE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who plagues or harasses.

1661 BROME *Catch* Poems 113 This is our time to be jolly; Our plagues and our plaguers are both fled away. 1760 MAIR *Tyro's Dict.* (1820) 392 *Vexator*,..an harassar, a plaguer. [In modern Dicts.]

Pla·gueship. *nonce-wd.* [See -SHIP.] Humorous title for a troublesome person: cf. PLAGUE *sb.* 2 c.

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 364 And grant her Plagueship never settle here.

Plaguesome (plē'gsŭm), *a.* Chiefly *colloq.* [f. PLAGUE *v.* or *sb.* + -SOME.] That tends to plague or trouble; troublesome, vexatious, plaguy.

1828 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 583 These recollections are always plaguesome. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 5 Ye plaguesome brat! 1880 BLACKMORE *M. Anerley* xl, That plaguesome deed of appointment.

Hence **Pla·guesomeness.**

1859 W. ANDERSON *Disc.* (1860) 150 Importuning even to plaguesomeness the cooperation of his brethren.

Pla·gue-sore. A sore caused by the plague. Also *fig.*

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1099 Plague soares, *carbunculantia vlcera*. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 227 Thou art a Byle, A plague sore, or imbossed Carbuncle In my corrupted blood. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 358 Apply the lumpe of dry figgs to the plague-sore. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* ix. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 211 Being a public Enemy, and a Plague-sore to the common Liberty of Mankind. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plague sore*, an ulcer resulting from a bubo occurring in the Plague.

Pla·gue-spot.

1. A spot on the skin characteristic of the plague, or of some disease so called. Also *fig.*

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 21 We do not..say of any-one, that he is an ill man, because he has the plague-spots upon him. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 37 It is..unjust to fix the attention on a few separate..poems with as much aversion as if they had been so many plague-spots on the whole work. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* xvii. 147 The plague-spot of sin and imperfection.

2. A spot or locality infected with plague.

[1861 FLO. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 22 [This] will enable the finger to be laid at once on the plague spots of the parish.] 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plague spot*,..a locality in which any Plague, in the general sense, is rife.

So **Pla·gue-spotted** *a.*, marked with plague-spots.

1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 147/1 What is the worth of your plague-spotted souls, that such a price should be paid for them?

Plaguily (plē'gili), *adv.* [f. next + -LY 2.] In a plaguy manner; *colloq.* vexatiously, 'pestilently', confoundedly, exceedingly.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1622) 265 Assure thy selfe, most wicked woman (that hast so plaguyly a corrupted minde, as thou canst not keepe thy sicknesse to thy selfe, but must most wickedly infect others). 1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* I. i. 112 The knave bites plaguily! 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. Stella* 3 Oct., He was plaguily afraid. 1794 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Wand. Warwick* 82 You loved and respected poor Tracy plaguily, to be sure, when you stole his wench from him. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 268 Ronsard is so plaguily stiff and stately.

Plaguy (plē'gi), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 **plagy, -ie**, 6–7 **-uie**, 7–9 **-uey.** [f. PLAGUE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Of the nature of or pertaining to a or the plague; pestiferous, pestilential, pernicious. Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *arch.*

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 116 Nothing .. can be imagined more plagie and more deadly, than the doctrine of the Schoole diuines concerning .. vncertentie of saluation. 1763 MACKENZIE in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 75 He had many plaguy symptoms, as buboes, carbuncles, &c. 1888 BESANT *Eulogy R. Jefferies* 2 Thou shalt be afflicted with grievous plaguy diseases.

b. Infected or afflicted with the plague; plague-stricken. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* IV. ii. § 7. 139 Many physitians will scarce aduenture to deale with plaguie patients. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. vii. § 4 To make no question whether he should meete his friend in a plaguie house. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 389 New Diseases..which have broke out..into this Plaguy Age. 1766 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 101/1, I never was afraid to go into any large house, wherein a plaguy person lived, provided that he was confined to one room.

2. That is a plague; that causes severe affliction.

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.*, etc. 122 If plagy wilz ther be that noyful ar. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 3 What plaguy Mischiefs and Mishaps Do dog him still. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* II. iv, They make charming mistresses but plaguy wives. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 16 Jan., I felt no increase of my plaguey malady [rheumatism]. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* xiii. (1870) 483 Nine days of bad or plaguy winds [*olooi anemoi*] bring him to the land of the Lotos-Eaters.

b. In weakened sense: That 'plagues', troubles, or annoys one; vexatious, troublesome, annoying, disagreeable; hence *colloq.* as an expression of dislike or impatience, sinking into an (impatient or ill-natured) intensive: = 'pestilent', 'confounded', excessive, exceeding, very great.

1615 ROWLANDS *Melanc. Knt.* 34 The Dragon had a plaguy hide, And could the sharpest steele abide. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lxiv. 254 Women that have a plaguy deal of Religion. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. vi, A plaguy while coming. 1806 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* X. 217 I'd a plaguey deal rather be a butcher than a calf! 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 209, I like it a plaguy sight better than hot rooms. 1879 *Punch* 17 May 222 That will mean a plaguy rise in the price of everything.

B. as *adv.* = PLAGUILY. Usually indicating a degree of some quality that troubles one by its excess; but sometimes humorous, or merely forcibly intensive. *colloq.*

1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VI. 298 If we can speak fair and 'semble, we shall be plaguy rich. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 187 He is so plaguy proud. 1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* I. ii, She walked plaguy fast. 1697 I. D. in Tutchin *Search Honesty* A ij, To Seek a Thing, so Plaguy hard to Find. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiv. 276 I'm a plaguy good-humoured old fellow. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* XXXV, There .. were .. some plaguy ill-looking characters among them. 1864 PAE *Eustace* 88 You've been a plaguy long time in coming.

Plai, obs. form of PLAY.

Plaice (plēs). Forms: 3–5 **plais**, 4–5 **plays**, 4–7 **playce**, 5 **playsce, playsse**, 5–7 **playse, place**, 6 **pleise**, *Sc.* **plase**, 6–9 **plaise**, 4, 6– **plaice**. [ME. *plais, plaice*, a. OF. *plaïz* (12th c.), *plaïs, plaïis*, early mod.F. *plaïse, pleïsse, pladisse*:— late L. *platessa* (*a* 390 Auson.), ? f. Gr. πλατύς broad, or root *plat-* flat (see PLATE).]

1. A well-known European flat-fish, *Pleuronectes platessa*, much used as food; in America extended to various allied species of this genus or of the family *Pleuronectidæ*. (Pl. now rare; the collective sing. *plaice* being used instead.)

1280 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 90 Debent..dari.. de quolibet batello .. portante plais octo plais. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 896 He bar up wel a carte lode..of playces brode, Of grete lauuprees, and of eles. 1307–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 3 In albo pisce, plaices, et sperlinges. 1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 214 Item pro sflowndres et plays, iij duc. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 437 Of playsse or of codlynge, or of eles, or of pykes, or of soles, or tenches. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne Plie*, a fishe called a Place. 1617 *Jonna Ling.* 100 Aswell soles as plaises are inclosed in the net. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 18 Soale and Playce..follow the tide into the fresh rivers. 1762 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 148 The several species of fish brought..1988 Plaise and Dabs. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 33 The Plaise and the Flounder..are each found in great abundance in most of the European seas. 1841–71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 682 The appearance of these fishes is deceptive, and few imagine that, in applying the term back and belly to the upper and under surfaces of a Plaice or a Turbot, they are adopting a phraseology quite inadmissible in an anatomical point of view.

2. *dial.* = FLUKE *sb.*1 2; also *plaice-worm.*

a 1722 LISLE *Observ. Husb.* (1757) 337 These cored sheep have the fluck, or plaice-worm in their livers. 1732 W. ELLIS *Pract. Farmer* (1759) 135 A rotten Sheep, he says, he has several Times, seen die with Plaises in his Liver and Head. 1896 *Daily News* 26 May 6/4 Flukes or plaice, as they are indifferently called, from the resemblance they bear, are found in the biliary ducts, caused by the sheep being placed on wet fresh-water submerged meadows.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plaice-fry*; *plaice-like* adj.; † **plaice-fluke**, ? = sense 1; **plaice-mouth**, a small puckered or wry mouth; also *attrib.*; so **plaice-mouthed** *a.*; **plaice-worm** (see sense 2).

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 41 Turbat, ffluik, and *plase fluik. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 10/2 At the Marine Hatchery, Aberdeen..The number of *plaice-fry that hatched out..was approximately 34,780,000, or 88 per cent. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. No. 41. 94 Her hands and feet were of a deep dusky-red colour with large *plaice-like spots of lighter tint. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* III. iv, Did you thinke you had married..some inno-

cent..that would stand with her hands thus, and a *playse mouth, and looke vpon you? 1602 DEKKER *Satiromastix* Plays 1873 I. 257 My place-mouth yelpers. 1595 LODGE *Fig for Momus* Sat. i, His *plaise-mouth'd wife.

Plaid (plǣd, plæd). Also 6 **plyd, playde, pladde**, 6–8 **plad**, 7 **pleid, 8 plaide**, (**pladd**), 8 (*dial.* 9) **plod**. [The same word as Gael. *plaide*, Ir. *ploid* blanket; ulterior etymology uncertain.

The quots. clearly bespeak a Scottish origin, and even in the 16th c. associate the *plaid* with the Highlands; but the want of early evidence for the word in Celtic leaves it doubtful whether the name originated in Gaelic or Lowland Sc. Gaelic etymologists suggest derivation from *peall* sheep-skin, ad. L. *pell-is*, but this is phonetically improbable. The Sc. spelling *plaid* is now usual, although the word is very generally pronounced *plad* in England.]

1. A long piece of twilled woollen cloth, usually having a chequered or tartan pattern, forming the outer article of the Highland costume, and formerly worn in all parts of Scotland and the north of England, in cold or stormy weather, instead of a cloak or mantle. The Lowland 'shepherd's plaid', of a black chequer pattern on white, is commonly called a MAUD.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 203 Item, the vj day of Maij, in Air, for ane plaid to be the King ane coit. 1538 *Ibid.* VI. 443 For xxv. elnes bertane canwes to be pladis to the quenis hors. 1558 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 309 For the wrangous reiffing and away taking fra hir of ane plyd, ane pettioitt, twa curclus, ane collar [etc.]. 1563 RANDOLPH *Let. to Cecil* 13 June in *Calr. Sc. Pap.* II. 13 A safferon shyrte or a Hylande pladde. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 89 A plaid or blankat to keip the saidis bairnis fra cauld. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. ii. *Trophies* 1050 And I my Self with my pyde Pleid a-slope. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 325 They [inhabitants of Java] gird them with a parti-coloured plad or mantle. 1643 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxiii, I dischargit wemen to cover thair headis withe thair plaidis in tyme cuming in the kirk. 1662 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Oct., Painted .. as .. a Scotch highlander in his plaid. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 267 A mantle..thrown about him like a Scotsman's plaid. 1771 PENNANT *Tour Scotl. in* 1769, 162 Their *brechan*, or plaid, consists of twelve or thirteen yards of a narrow stuff, wrapt round the middle, and reaches to the knees. 1774 COLLYER *Hist. Eng.* I. 20 The tartan plads of Scotland. 1807 BYRON *Lachin y Gair* ii, My cap was the bonnet, my cloak was the plaid [*rime* glade]. *Note.* This word is erroneously pronounced *plad*: the proper pronunciation (according to the Scotch) is shown by the orthography. 1874 PRINCESS ALICE in *Mem.* (1884) 325 Will you tell her, the plaid she made me still goes everywhere with me.

2. The woollen cloth of which plaids are made; later, applied to other fabrics with a tartan pattern.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 146 They weare a smocke coulloured like our Scottish plad. *Ibid.* 187 About their middles, they have a cloth of particoloured plad, like that with us in England. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* II. 156 Their [the Highlanders'] Doublet, Breeches and Stockings, of a Stuff they called Plaid, striped a-cross red and yellow. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 413 Their waistcoats are also made of plaid. 1893 GEORGIANA HILL *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 267 Plaids..were made in large and small checks, in woollen cloth, in Irish poplin.

3. A plaid or tartan pattern; a pattern of bars or stripes crossing each other at right angles. *rare.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

4. *transf.* A man wearing a plaid; a Highlander.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxii, He was hanged at Stirling..with his lieutenant, and four plaids besides. *Ibid.* lx.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plaid cloak, -fold, shawl, trousers*; *plaid-patterned, -wrapped* adjs.; **plaid bed**, a bed draped with plaid or tartan (fashionable in England early in 18th c.); **plaidman**, a Highlander; **plaid-nook** (**-neuk**) *Sc.*, one end of the folded plaid sewn up so as to form a large pouch or pocket.

c 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 297 A *pladd bed Lined w^th Indian Callicoe. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 275 In a few moments, his *plaid cloak was cut into numerous strips. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xviii, Do not my *plaid-folds hold thee warm? 1814 — *Wav.* lx, Q!..I thought it was Ned Williams, and it is one of the *plaid-men. *a* 1600 in *Montgomerie's Poems* (S. T. S.) 281/18 'Humff!' quod the Helandman, and turned him abowt, And at his *plaid nuk the guly fell owt. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* i. 6 A little Bible, to carry in a plaid-neuk. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 54 Get me my *plaid shawl and a plain dark bonnet. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, He wore a pair of *plaid trousers, and a large rough double-breasted waistcoat. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xxiii, For all that the *plaid-wrapped girl knew or cared.

Plaid, ME. f. PLEA; obs. pa. t. and pple. of PLAY.

Plaided (plǣ·dĕd, plæ·dĕd), *a.* [f. PLAID + -ED².]

1. Dressed in or wearing a plaid.

1802 CAMPBELL *Lochiel's Warning* 51 Her bonneted chieftains..All plaided and plumed in their tartan array. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, His neighbourhood to the Grampians exposed him..to that species of visitation from the plaided gentry, who dwelt within their skirts. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 331 He..rode on horseback before his four hundred plaided clansmen.

2. Made of plaid; having a plaid pattern.

1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* II. 177 They marched In plaided vest. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* (1883) 65 The Scotch-plaided snuff-box. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 24 May 8/3 A plaided batiste frock.

Plaidie, -y (plǣ·di, plæ·di). *Sc.* Also **pladdy, plaiddie**. [f. PLAID + -IE.] A small plaid; also, a childish, sentimental, or poetic name for a plaid.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 159 His Highland pladdy. 1728 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc., Highland Laddie* ii, With bonnet blew, and belted plaidy [*rime* lady]. 1796 BURNS '*Oh, wert thou in the cauld blast*' i, My plaidie to the angry airt, I'd shelter thee. 1863 *Mortons of Bardon* III. 242 Stay a moment, little girl, ..let me wrap my plaiddie round you; it is cold.

Plaiding (plæ·diŋ, plæ·diŋ). Also 6–8 **plading**, 7 **pladding**; *Sc.* 7 **plodan**, 7–8 **plaidine**, 8 **plodden**, 8–9 **plaiden**, 9 **pladden**. [f. PLAID + -ING¹: cf. *shirting*, etc.]

1. Material for plaids; a twilled woollen cloth; a cloth of a tartan pattern.

1566 in Hay Fleming *Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 499 Sax elnis of plaiding to lyne the cuvering [of a bed] with. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 180 The women of the Countrey did weare cloakes made of course stuffe, of two or three colours in Checker worke, vulgarly called *Plodan*. 1640 *Dunfermline Kirk-sess. Rec.* (1865) 8 Y^e webb of plaidine of 20 ell. 1656 TUCKER *Rep.* in *Misc. Sc. Burgh Rec. Soc.* 23 There hath..beene..salmon, pladding, and corne, usually sent forth. 1670 NARBOROUGH in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.*² I. (1694) 65 This they wrap about their Bodies, as a Scottish Man doth his Plading. 1719–20 *Act* 6 *Geo. I*, c. 13 *heading*, Frauds..in manufacturing Serges, Pladings, and Fingrums. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 177 Coarse cloth of two or three colours, in checker-work, vulgarly called pladden.

attrib. 1643 in Maidment *Spottiswoode Misc.* (1845) II. 66 A white plaidine wastecoat. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, Change thy plaiding-coat for silk. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 135 He had got the plaiden trowsers, then wore by him, from the declarant's father, or brother Allan.

2. A plaid or checkered pattern.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* XVIII. 844/1, I could discern a partiality for..plaidings of blue and violet.

‖ **Plaidoyer** (plǣ·dwa·yĕ). *Law. rare.* [F. *plaidoyer* a pleading, sb. use of vb. inf. to plead, f. *plaid* PLEA.] An advocate's speech; a pleading, plea.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. VIII. 256 The profit of copying musick, or writing plaidoyers by the sheet. 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. lx. 346 It was an eloquent, patriotic, and impassioned *plaidoyer*. 1883 *Spectator* 8 Sept. 1155/2 His work is a monograph and a history, a *plaidoyer* and a judgment.

† **Plaie.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **playe**. [a. F. *plaie*:—L. *plāga* wound: see PLAGUE *sb.*] A wound.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 2 But now the wounded Quene, with heuy care, Throughout the veines she norisheth the playe, Surprised with blind flame.

Plaie, obs. form of PLAY.

Plaig, plaik, var. ff. PLAYOCK *Sc.*, plaything, toy.

Plaight, obs. form of PLAIT *sb.* and *v.*

Plain (plē̄n), *sb.*¹ Forms: see PLAIN *a.*¹ [a. OF. *plain*:—L. *plān-um* a plain, prop. neut. of *plān-us* PLAIN *a.*¹]

1. A tract of country of which the general surface is comparatively flat; an extent of level ground or flat meadow land; applied *spec.* (in proper or quasi-proper names) to certain extensive tracts of this character; e. g. Salisbury Plain, the Great Plain of England, etc. Also *fig.*

Cities of the Plain (sc. *of the Jordan*), Sodom, Gomorrah, etc., before their destruction.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 155 Vpon þe plein of salesbury þat oþer wonder is þat ston heng is icluped. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2831 Ne mak 3ee in þe plain na duell, Till 3ee be comme in to þe fell. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10831 þe bataille scholde be in a pleyne Bytwyxt two watres. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 613 Thai in full gret hy agane Out of the woud ran to the plane. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* vii. 32 He sawe there vnder in a playn a moche ample and a grete medowe. 1530 PALSGR. 255/1 Playne, a grounde that is without hylles, *planier, playne*. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 7 Heir agane sall 3e se braid planes. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 256 The citie of Cairasan standeth vpon a sandie and desert plaine. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xiii. 12 Lot dwelled in the cities of the plaine, and pitched his tent toward Sodome. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 36 The plains extended level with the ground. 1769 GRAY *Installation Ode* 51 On Granta's fruitful plain. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 207/2 The plains of America are generally characterised by their gramineous covering or their vast forests. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* III. II. ii. § 7. 451 A 'plain of marine denudation' is that sea-level to which a mass of land has been reduced mainly by the subaerial forces.

b. Chiefly *pl.* In colonial and U. S. use applied to level treeless tracts of country; prairie.

1779 G. R. CLARK *Campaign in Illinois* (1869) 29 We came into those level Plains that is frequent throughout this extensive Country. 1820 J. OXLEY *Jrnls. Exp. Australia* 83 Free from timber or brush in various places;..these tracts have hitherto received the particular denomination of plains. 1824 E. CURR *Van Diemen's Land* 55 The district called Macquarie Plains,..the plains bear a strong resemblance to what are called sheep downs in England. 1875 TEMPLE & SHELDON *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* 19 Plains.. [applied] by the early settlers..to certain well defined tracts that had some common peculiarity of soil and condition, were nearly free from trees, and could be readily cultivated. 1889 C. LUMHOLTZ *Among Cannibals* v. 73 This bird [the cassowary]..does not..frequent the open plains, but the thick brushwood.

c. *transf.* The level expanse of sea or sky.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* xviii. F vj, Then whilst thy ship doth kepe aflote ydauncing on the plaine. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 342 The sick'ning stars fade off th'ætherеal plain. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxii. (1856) 176 On the east we have the drift plain of Wellington Channel, impacted with floes, hummocks, and broken bergs.

2. An open space as the scene of battle or contest; the field. *To take the plain*: to take the field: see FIELD *sb.* 7. Now *poetic.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 349 Thomas randall tuk the playne With few folk. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 358 As he, which was a Capitein, Tofore alle othre upon the plein. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. x. 146 Quhil fynaly Ascanyus the 3yng page, And the remanent of Troiane barnage,..Thayr strenth hes left, and takyn hes the plane. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, v. iii. 291, I will leade forth my Soldiers to the plaine. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. xxix. 7 Last of my race, On battle-plain That shout shall ne'er be heard again!

3. An open space in the midst of houses. *local.*

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Plain*, an open space surrounded by houses nearly answering to the Italian Piazza. In the city of Norwich there are several: as St. Mary's Plain, the Theatre Plain, &c. 18.. *Oxf. Directory*, The Plain (St. Clement's). 1895 G. H. LEONARD *Speech at Oxford*, Our Settlement is called the Broad Plain House..simply because it happens to stand on the Broad Plain, a roadway so wide that we may almost claim it as one of the 'open spaces' of Bristol.

4. A level or flat surface (ideal or material). Now spelt *plane* (PLANE *sb.*³ 1).

† **a.** A geometrical plane. *Obs.*

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j, A broade magnitude, we call a Superficies or a Plaine. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ix. § 4 (1622) 297 Whether solides or plaines. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 4 The Leaves..lie not in the same plain when shut, but make an obtuse Angle. 1697 BP. PATRICK *Comm. Exod.* xx. 4 The Images..they might draw on a Plain. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 195 A convenient height above the plain of the ring.

b. A plane material surface; the even or smooth surface of a body without projections or elevations; the flat or broad side of a board, as opposed to the *edge*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. XXXV. L j b, You shal vpon your Parchement paper or other playne..draw one streight line. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 5 Which she can at pleasure squeeze out, and so sodder and be-glew her self to the plain she walks on. *a* 1672 WILLUGHBY in Ray *Journ. Low C.* (1673) 484 You ascend almost to the top without stairs, by gently inclining plains. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 186 To take off the extuberances from the plain of the Board. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 7 *Plain*, an even surface between the Coaks. 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 8 The silver plains Of two huge valves, embossed with graven gold.

† **c.** A level (horizontal) area. *Obs.*

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 365 On the side of a stonie hill, is a circular plain, cut out of a main rock, with some xxiv. seats vnequall, which they call Arthur's Round Table. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C., Venice* 160 In the plain of the Council-chamber, are placed..three urns called *Capelli*. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 68/2 Walls, which..have somewhat of a plain at the foot of them, where they may..be kept from filling up the ditch with their ruines.

† **5.** *Printing.* The flat bottom of the lining-stick (see LINING *vbl. sb.*² 6). *Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvii. ¶ 2 The Plain is exactly Flat, Straight, and Smooth.

6. The floor of the hall in which the French National Convention met at the time of the Revolution; hence applied to the more moderate party which occupied seats there. Cf. MOUNTAIN.

1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* Introd., Wks. 1870 IX. 30 In '*the Plain*',..a position held by deputies affecting independence, both of the Girondists and the Jacobins,..sate a large number. *Ibid.* 32 The members of *the Plain*.

7. The horizontal surface of a billiard-table.

1780 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 16/2 The royal ball reached that of the enemy, and with a single blow drove it off the plain. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 159 Echo and a man of Trinity set forth for the plains of Betteris. *Note, Plains of Betteris*, the diversion of billiards.

† **8.** = PLAN *sb.* 1, PLANE *sb.*³ 2. *Obs.*

1699 LEAK *Waterwks.* 19, I have represented here the plain of the Orthographie.

9. [PLAIN *a.* 8.] Plain cloth; a kind of flannel.

a 1600 T. SMITH *Let.* in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xix. 401/2 Also of pyndewhites and Playnes made in the west country. 1716 *Bradford Parish Acc.* (E.D.D.), For Blue Plain for mending the same [long cushions], 1*s.* 1*d.* 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6388/2 The following Goods, viz... Arrangoes..Perpetts, Welch Plains. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 12 Jan. 2/3 Woollen drapery..jeans, quiltings,..plains, mixtures. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Plain*,..a kind of flannel.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plain land, station*; *plain-like* adj.; also with *plains-*, as *plains-cattle, -country, -craft, -people*. See also PLAINSMAN.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 337 He of the playne-land had alsua Of Armyt men ane mekill rout. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Math. Geog.* I. 1/2 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) Deceived by the plain-like appearance of the earth..they conceived it to be an extensive plain meeting the heavens on every side. 1875 TEMPLE & SHELDON *Hist. Northfield, Mass.* 64 Plain lands ..were then reckoned nearly worthless. 1884 *Daily News* 27 Feb. 5/7 Assouan..is healthier than Meerut, Mooltan, Mean Meer, or almost any plain station in India.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 220 First-class, fattening, plains-country cattle station. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 19/1 Here their woodcraft and plainscraft, their knowledge of the rifle, helped us very much. 1899 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 6/1 The writer has lived..with the plains people in their homes for many years.

Plain, *sb.*² Now *dial.* [f. PLAIN *v.*] An expression of pain, grief, or discontent; complaint, lamentation: = PLAINT *sb.*

c 1550 *Pryde & Abuse of Women* 231 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 244 And for oure sad & honest playnes, A joyefull place in heaven. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs* (Arb.) 95 Why dydste thou than, kepe backe thy wofull playn? 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* IV. ix, The warrior-threat, the infant's plain, The mother's screams, were heard in vain. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Plains*, complaints in all senses.

Plain (plē̄n), *a.*¹ and *adv.* Also 4 **plein, -e** (**playen**), 4–6 **pleyn, -e**, 4–7 **playn(e, plaine, plane**. [a. OF. *plain*:—L. *plān-us* flat. In Sc.

usually spelt *plane* from 14th c.; in English orig. *plain* (etc.) in all senses, including the geometrical (1 c), for which PLANE was substituted *c* 1700.

PLAIN *a.*[2] (F. *plein*) having the same form, there are ME. instances in which it is difficult to determine which word was meant. See A. 3 b, B. 6, 7.]

A. *adj.*

I. 1. Flat, level, even; free from elevations and depressions. **a.** Said esp. of a horizontal surface, as of the ground, or † of the sea when calm and undisturbed (*obs.*).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1772 Þey.. left Þe Troiens Þe pleyn lond. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxviii. 129 Þe land of Caldee es a playne cuntree. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 47 The londe is not pleyne but full of montayns. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 404 Follow me then to plainer ground. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. ii. (1635) 34 If the Earth were plaine, all the Northern Starres would appeare to the inhabitants of the Southerne Regions. 1665 G. HAVERS tr. *P. della Valle's Trav. E: India* 108 We lodg'd about a musket-shot without the Fort, in a plane and somewhat low place. 1766 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) III. 240, I recovered some strength, so as to be able to walk a little on plain ground. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxv. IV. 16 Between the last-mentioned gulf [the Thermaic] and the eastern counterforts of Olympus and Bermius there exists a narrow strip of plain land.

† **b.** In general sense: Flat. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6414 (Bodl. MS.) Men of selcouþ gest Þe face hij han playne & hard As it were an Okes bord. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lv. (Bodl. MS.), The sole of Þe foote..hatte planta in latine for it is playne. 1565-73 COOPER *Thesaurus, Compressa palma aut porrecta ferire,* ..to strike with the fist, or with the playne hande. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 120 His back is plain to his tail. his eyes quick, his ears long hanging, but sometimes stand up. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 214 The houses are built after the manner of Asia,..one roofe high, and plaine in the top. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 147 They shut in their heads behinde and before in boards, so that the whole face may become plain and dilated.

† **c.** *Geom. Obs.* Now PLANE *a.*

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j, Euery playne magnitude, hath also length. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. viii. 3 A plaine angle is an inclination or bowing of two lines the one to the other. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. Def. vii, A plain Superficies is that which lies equally betwixt its lines. 1727 [see *plano-cylindrical* s. v. PLANO-[1]].

† **d.** *To make, throw down, beat down* (a building, city, etc.) *plain with the earth* or *ground,* etc.: to level with the ground, raze to the earth.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 48 Þis citee tuke Iosue .. and kest it doune, and made it euen playne with Þe erthe. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 152 The walles they wold ber adowne, ..Alle schuld be mad fulle playn. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 44 He with his miners rased and ouerthrewe the castell to the playne grounde. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 94 He threwe downe the Castell plaine with the ground. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 615/2 It was his pollicye to leave noe holdes behind him, but to make all playne and wast. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 92 Down, down with it at any hand, Make all things plain, let nothing stand. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 48 The greatest part of their City.. beaten down plain with the ground.

† **2.** Smooth, even; free from roughness or unevenness of surface. *Obs.* exc. in comb. or phrases: see VI.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1068 Þat euer is polyced als playn as Þe perle seluen. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 Also pleyne was his bedde at the morwe, As at even. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 208 If the face be wet and rubbed with the same it shall be plaine and cleare, that it shall seme angellike. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxviii. 99 Turners .. do vse them to polish, and make playne, and smoth their workes. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* ix. 108 Much more then will it adhere..when..both it and the Iron have a plain Superficies. 1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* ix. (1738) 186 Smooth'd over the Meal, and made it plain.

† **b.** *fig.* Of the wind: Not rough; gentle. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 3 The ayre attempered, the wyndes smowth and playne.

3. Free from obstructions or interruptions; unobstructed, clear, open; (of a country, a space) clear of woods, buildings, or occupants; (of the sea) open, unconfined; open to the elements or to general view; public. Also *fig. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1723 Whan al was fled, & Þe feld was playn. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 439 For hit watz playn in Þat place for plyande greuez. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 126 She straue & chidde in the plaine strete wit her neygheboures. 1546 *Supplic. of Poore Commons* (1871) 78 A churche .. pleasauntly beset with groues and playn feldes. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 16 Able to give him battell in the plaine sea. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. x. § 43 He affirmes, that it was in the plainefield, ours, that it was an Ambush. 1618 MUNDAY *Stow's Surv.* 906 There were two woods in the parish, but now they are both made plaine of wood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiv. 286 Its walls are built upon the plain ground, without either outwork or ditch before them. 1864 *Yorks. Prov., Kirkby,* This street is very plain, the wind is much felt in it.

† **b.** In *plain field* there was in later use prob. association with *plain battle,* etc. = open (i. e. full) battle: see PLAIN *a.*[2] 3.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7218 And past furth prudly into Þe plaine feld. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxi. 288 They..thought to wynne the victory with their handes in playne felde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. (S. T. S.) I. 237 It was fochtin in plane feild [L. *æquo campo*] with displayit baneris. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iv. 14 Unsubdued..and now given over by the Romans in a plain field.

c. *transf.* Unobstructed, clear (*view, sight*).

1613 HAYWARD *Norm. Kings* 22 With a furious charge .. either slew them or tooke them prisoners, in the plaine view of their King. 1867 SHEDD *Homiletics* iii. (1869) 54 An object is in plain sight, when the form and shape of it are distinctly visible.

II. 4. Open, clear to the senses or mind; evident, manifest, obvious; easily distinguishable or recognizable.

a 1352 MINOT *Poems* iii. 35 Þare he made his mone playne Þat no man suld say Þare ogayne. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxvi, To a token pleyne, As of my teris cummyth all this reyne. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) p. lxvii, Think that none their playne errour note. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LIX. xi, Make it playne, That God .. Rules all. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 24 The moniments whereof there byding beene, As plaine as at the first when they were fresh and greene. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. vii, It is plain that AD is not equal to AC. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. iii. Wks. 1874. I. 190 Practical Christianity .. is a plain and obvious thing. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. v, Now nigh and plain the sound appears. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 91 Let me make my meaning plainer in this way.

5. That is clearly what the name expresses; open, manifest, direct, unmistakable; downright, mere, sheer, 'flat', absolute.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 929 (Cott.) For Þou ne es but a pudre plain To puder sal Þou worth a gain. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3504 Hope ye, Parys, playn Þefte vnponysshet wilbe? 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* i. 1 All is but vanite .. all is but playne vanite. 1581 RICH *Farew. Milit. Prof.* (1846) 208 By plaine force [he] pulles hym doune on the flower. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 67 b, Wee ascended vp to the playne toppe. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Gen.* Brief Remonstr. 30 Easely confessed of al that are not plaine Atheists. 1643 in Dorothea Townshend *Life & Lett. E. Porter* xiii. 206 One throu plain fier went strait mad. 1669 PENN *No Cross* vii. § 1 Whilst a plain Stranger to the Cross of Christ. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. Pref. (1865) 236 He reaped plain unequivocal hatred.

6. Of which the meaning is evident; simple, intelligible, readily understood.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 362 Þis gospel tellip a playen storie. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Sweuenes Þat beþ trewe beth sommetyme openne and playne and sommetyme ywrapped vnder .. derke tokenynges. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 94 b, It ought to be vttered with playner wordes, to take awaye all ambiguitie. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vii. § 3 Can any thing be more plain then the graduall progress of Divine revelation from the beginning of the world? 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 65 Morality and religion must be somewhat plain and easy to be understood. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 80 Tell her distinctly what you want..in few plain words.

b. *transf.* Said of the speaker or writer.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 53, I had rather bee playne then curious. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 555 Actions, of whatever sort, [are] thir own plainest Interpreters. 1867 SHEDD *Homiletics* iii. (1869) 55 A plain writer or speaker makes the truth and the mind impinge upon each other.

7. Not intricate or complicated; simple.

1659 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 3 Plain sounds [*simplices sonos*] of which mans speech consisteth. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. iii. 6 Of all Dials, this is the plainest; for it is no more but divide a whole Circle into 24 equal parts. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. iv, She determined..to place them in some cheap school, where they might be taught plain work. 1834 BOWRING *Minor Morals* 145 The Jacquard loom .. by which the most complicated patterns can be woven with the same ease as the plainest. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 21 Sept. 599/1 Fisher's machine was intended rather for embroidering than for plain sewing.

III. 8. Without embellishment, addition, or decorative pattern or colouring; unembellished, not ornate; simple, bare, bald; (of the hair) worn straight, not curled; (of drawings, lithographs, etc.) not coloured. Also *fig.*

[13.. *Coer de L.* 3631 Tyl he haue maad al playn werk Off thy clothes of gold, into thy serk [*ed.* scherk].] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. Prol.* 48, I lerned neuere Rethorik certeyn Thyng Þat I speke it moot be bare and pleyn. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 489, ij playn borde clothys for my maister is table. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 A faire cloth embrodered with leaues about it or els plaine. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 88/1 A young Man, .. describ'd by Plato, with long plain Hair. 1670 LADY M. BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 Most wore embraudered bodys with plaine black skirts of Morella Mohair and Prunella and such stuffs. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 117 Escutcheons of two Crosses, the one plain and the other Anchred. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VI. i, Both figures being partly coloured and partly plain. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 16 The celts are generally plain, but sometimes ornamented with ridges, dots, or lines. *Mod.* Sets of picture-postcards, plain or coloured.

† **b.** Without armour or weapons; unarmed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7564 Wit armes cums Þou me again, And i agains Þe al plain.

c. *Cards.* (*a*) Applied to the common as opposed to the picture cards. (*b*) Not trumps.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xvii, Court cards and plain cards of every denomination. 1862 'CAVENDISH' *Whist* (1870) 29 Plain suits are suits not trumps. *Ibid.* (1886) 64 Ace, king, queen, knave, in plain suits. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 94/1 'Court card' or 'plain card', as the case may be.

d. Plainly woven; not corded, twilled, or the like; without figured pattern; *transf.* of muscle.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plain cloth,* not twilled. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plain muscles,* unstriated muscles, as opposed to striated muscles.

9. *Mus.* (See quots.)

1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 3 Plaine Musicke..is a simple and vniforme prolation of Notes, which can neither be augmented nor diminished. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 6 The accent being..plain, i. e. monotone.

10. Of simple composition or preparation; not compounded of many ingredients; not elaborate. Of food: Not rich or highly seasoned, simple.

Plain bread and butter, i. e. without the addition of preserves, etc.; *a plain tea,* tea with plain bread and butter; *plain water,* water without any infusion or addition.

1655 CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* VI. i. 131 A plainer Medicine is made of Plantane and Rose Water. 1668 CHAS. II in Julia Cartwright *Henrietta of Orleans* (1894) 263 The planer your diett is the better health you will have. 1784 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Children* (1799) I. 163 To chew a bit of bread [or] eat a bit of plain pudding. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* III. 153 It is singular that the Marquis d' Arancey should .. partake of plain roast and boiled. 1879 *Spectator* 24 May 645 [As a] school-boy counts the currants in an unusually plain cake. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xv, The dinner was a plain one. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 21 Plain water, barley water, lemonade, .. may be allowed at will to assuage the thirst.

IV. 11. Open in behaviour; free from duplicity or reserve; guileless, honest, candid, frank. *Obs.* exc. in sense Outspoken.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 87 But he was double in love and nothing pleyne. *c* 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 13 Bot wher the herte is plein withoute guile. 1418 CHICHELE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 5 Ze schol fynde hym a good man.., and pleyn to zu with owte feyntese. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F j, Thenne sayd to her the good man whiche was a playn man and trewe. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 63 'Wel, I wyl tell the', quoth this Chamberlayne. 'I wylbe playne with the'. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iii. 74, I wil sing a Song if any body wil sing another; else, to be plain with you, I wil sing none. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. vi, I love to be plain. I'd as lief see myself in Ecclesdown Castle, as thee in Clay Pool! *a* 1718 PENN *Wks.* (1726) I. 320 Mordecai was too plain and stout and not Fine and Subtil enough to avoid the Displeasure of Haman.

12. Free from ambiguity, evasion, or subterfuge; straightforward, direct.

In *plain truth* there is often present the notion of 'unvarnished, uncoloured'. *Plain English*: see C. below.

c 1500 *Melusine* 193 Certaynly, my lord, .. ye saye the playn trouth of it. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 9 Flattery shall haue more place then plaine and faithfull aduyse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 30 Thou shouldest make a playne and directe answere. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 161 Such..as haue preferred plaine trueth, before painted colours. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. v, Tell me in plain Terms what the Matter is with him, or I'll crack your Fool's Skull. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 73/2 If you do not give a plain answer to a plain question, you will be committed. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 286 The Scottish Estates used plain language, simply because it was impossible for them, situated as they were, to use evasive language. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. v. 462 Plain speech is never without its value.

† **b.** *absol.* = Plain fact, plain state. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 233 We moste endure this is the short and playn. 1463 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 301 Bothe parties to tell the playne of the matire. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. ix. § 86 Not to follow our A[uthor] too far out of the Way, the plain of the Case is this.

V. 13. Having no special qualities or pretensions; not exceptionally gifted or cultured; ordinary, simple, unsophisticated; such as characterizes ordinary people.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 102 What in my plaine conceit..may be thought most consonant and worthy. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 62, I pray thee vnderstand a plaine man in his plaine meaning. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 165 ¶ 4 A Man of good Estate and plain Sense. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 35 To me, who am but a plain man, the proceeding looks a little too refined, and too ingenious. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Pref. 15 A plain citizen of the republic of letters. 1899 INGE *Chr. Mysticism* vii. 256 There are two views of this sacrament [the Lord's Supper] which the 'plain man' has always found much easier to understand than the symbolic view which is that of our Church.

14. Not distinguished by rank or position; belonging to the commonalty; lowly, common, ordinary.

1580 G. HARVEY *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 84 No man but Minion, Stowte, Lowte, Plaine Swayne, quoth a Lording. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxix. (1840) 294 Seeing within fourteen generations, the royal blood of the kings of Judah ran in the veins of plain Joseph, a painful carpenter. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* III. iv. 28 The Gout; which we poore plaine people are ignorant of. 1742 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) I. 372, I preached to several hundred of plain people. 1890 HOSMER *Anglo-Sax. Freedom* 264 The admission in England of a vast body of the plain people to a share in the government.

15. Of simple manners; homely, unaffected.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 82 Being (as all the Germaines are) plaine and homely in their behauiour and intertainment. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Sept., And indeed [she] is, as I always thought, one of the modestest, prettiest, plain women that ever I saw. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* 106 This same plain blunt Sea-Animal..in his Tar-Jacket and Wide Knee'd Trowzers. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 5/4 They spoke of their immense pleasure at the visit of their Queen..' She is a plain woman, a very plain woman like ourselves'.

16. Simple in dress or habits; clothed or living plainly; not luxurious or ostentatious; frugal.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 632 He is about thirtie sixe yeares, very ciuill and plaine in habite. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 232 The old men went plaine; the young mens habit was rich. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Avarice* (1669) 130 The old plain way, ye Gods, let me be Poor. 1700 DRYDEN *Charac. Gd. Parson* 101 The holy father holds a double reign, The prince may keep his pomp,

the fisher must be plain. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* i. 6 His habits of life were remarkably plain and frugal.

17. Of ordinary appearance; not beautiful or well-favoured; homely: often used euphemistically for Ill-favoured, ugly.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* I. viii, A general and bitter invective against beauty..with many compassionate considerations for all honest, plain girls. 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xxvi, Handsome young men must have something to live on, as well as the plain. 1838 B'ness Bunsen in Hare *Life* I. xi. 485 The higher classes are decidedly plain and ungraceful. 1890 C. R. Coleridge in *Monthly Packet* Christmas No. 71 Even in the days of Arthur some women must have been very plain. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 4/3 Mrs. Praga..declares that 'nowadays nobody need be plain, and when I say plain I use the word in the sense of ugly'.

VI. Phrases.

18. *Plain* is emphasized by various comparisons, orig. applicable in particular senses, but afterwards humorously or irrationally applied to others; **a.** esp. *plain as a pikestaff* (earlier *packstaff*).

1542–1691 [see Packstaff]. 1591–[see Pikestaff]. *c* 1622 Ford, etc. *Witch Edmonton* II. i, *Saw.* I understand thee not; be plain, my son. *Cud.* As a pike-staff, mother. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 103 In..Scotland..Religion is..pure and spotlesse without ceremonie, and plain as a pike staffe without a surplise. *c* 1685 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Conf.* Wks. 1705 II. 37, I see, as plain as a pike staff, that 'tis no thing but a Cork. 1834 Hood *Tylney Hall* (1840) 379 You've got my meaning as plain as a pikestaff. *a* 1873 Lytton *Ken. Chillingly* II. ix. (1878) 106 She is as plain as a pikestaff. 1894 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 37 There was my own spoor as plain as a pikestaff.

b. Also, *plain as a packsaddle, as print, as the sun at noonday, as Salisbury* (pun on Salisbury Plain), *as way to parish-church*, etc. See also Dunstable I b, c.

[1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 179 b, Thom trouthe, or plain Sarisbuirie.] 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 143 An honeste true dealyng seruant out of doubte, plaine as a packe-saddle..though his witte was simple. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 52 And why sir must they so? The why is plaine, as way to Parish Church. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xlii, 'Why', said Mr. Roker, 'it's as plain as Salisbury'. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xi. 121 It was plain as the sun at midday. 1895 Crockett in *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 581 A look which said as plain as print, 'Have you not had enough?'

†19. a. *At plain, in* (Sc. *into*) *plain, unto the plain*: plainly, in plain terms, etc. **b.** *Plain at the eye*: plain to be seen, evident. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5663 It is maked mencioun Of oure countre pleyn at the eye. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 7 Per of I schalle speke more in playn. 1444 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) I. 463 By..whiche..it may appere unto you more at plain. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 211 The archdene, that ourman, ay prechand in plane, Correker of kirkmen was clepit the Claik. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E vj, When ye se vnto the playne her at the last..Say, *la douce amy la est a.* 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. vi. 36 Trewlie, maidin, in plane, Nane of thi sisteris did I heir ne se. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 117 [He told] him in plaine, the case was altered. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 758 In plain then, what forbids he but to know, Forbids us good, forbids us to be wise?

B. *adv.* (Various adverbial uses of the adj.)

I. †1. In a flat, level, or even position; evenly.

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 127 Yf the bowes wyll not lye playne in the hedge, than cut it the more halfe asonder & bynde it in to the hedge. 1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. lxvii. What's the cause That they thus stagger in the plain-pav'd skie?

2. With clearness of expression; without circumlocution or ambiguity, clearly, intelligibly, candidly.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 129 As it is innermore pleyn i-write [*sicut inferius..planum erit*]. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 105 Without which, to telle plein, Alle othre science is in vein. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 315 That I haue said I sall hald, and that I tell the plane. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 272 Sir to tell you plaine, I'le finde a fairer face not washt to day. 1607 S. Collins *Serm.* (1608) 13 If you will haue one speake plainer..than S. Paul heere doth. 1850 J. H. Newman *Diffic. Anglic.* 318 Soon others began to speak plainer than he.

3. With clearness or distinctness of perception or utterance; clearly, manifestly, evidently.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 16 Ay wont in desert darknes to remaine, Where plain none might her see, nor she see any plaine. 1784 *New Spectator* No. 22. 3 Did not Torquato Tasso speak plain at six months old? 1841 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* III. viii. 130 The part plainest to be seen was the figure as it rose and sank above the paling. *a* 1861 Mrs. Browning *Mother & Poet* v, I made them..Speak plain the word *country*.

†4. Simply, absolutely, purely. *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Bible* Ded., Christes admynistracion was nothyng temporall, but playne spirituall. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 18 Whiche either Naturall reason proueth either to bee plaine false, or the experience of man declareth to bee vntrue. *c* 1591 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 78 The Russe government is plaine tirannycall. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 97 *marg.*, The Scottis bordirers to tile the land plane abhoris.

†5. In other senses of the adj. *Obs.*

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* LIII. v, Within .iiii. wekes was all this done full playn. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 920 Many ladyes.. Went to a company with the Countesse plain, Ech welcomyng hir after ther degre. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 78 Or scho war kissit plane, Scho leir be japit thryiss. 1807–8 Syd. Smith *Plymley's Lett.* x. Wks. 1859 II. 175/2 He dresses plain, loves hunting and farming.

II. It is not clear whether the following belong to this word or to Plain *a.*2, F. *plein*.

†6. Entirely, quite; ? fully. = Clean *adv.* 5.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14025 He was passed þe mountes pleyn. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 74, I will appele to the Pape, and pass till him plane. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 137, I praye the goo wele pleyn thorowght All eraclea. *c* 1500 *New Not-br. Mayd* 119, I, that hym bought, Shall be expoulsed playne. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 132, I haif na mycht, Me to defend Fra hellis pane, bot gif thow plane Me succour send.

†7. Directly, due; ? full. *Obs.*

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. (Percy Soc.) 191 So forthe we sayled right playne southwest. 1527 *Prose Life St. Brandan* (Percy Soc.) 38 They sayled playn eest, and than they sawe an ylonde. *c* 1540 Boorde *The boke for to Lerne* B ij b, Better it is..that yᵉ wyndowes do open playne north, than playne south. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. v. 111 [The savages] were confined to a neck of land surrounded with high rocks behind them, and lying plain towards the sea before them.

C. Combinations.

a. With the adj.: chiefly parasynthetic, as *plain-bodied, -clothed, -faced, -featured, -garbed*, etc.; also *plain-looking*. See also Plain-hearted.

1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 109 The martial, plain-looking stranger. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xx. 223 The fish..are always plain bodied creatures in the best mediæval sculpture. 1882 'Ouida' *Maremma* I. i. 18 A plain-featured, clear-skinned woman. 1893 Gunter *Miss Dividends* 186 Respect for all women, young or old, beautiful or plain-faced.

b. With the adv., as *plain-dressing, -going, -meaning, -pranked, -seeming*. See also Plain-dealer, -dealing, -speaking, -spoken.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Loue* 2 Playne meaning men walk openly at noone. 1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 655 His plain-prankt stile he strengthens in such sort. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 252 As active, and as plain-dressing..at forty-five as she was at nineteen.

c. Special combs.: **plain-back, -backs**, weavers' name for a kind of worsted fabric; **plain clothes**, ordinary civil or citizen dress, unofficial dress, mufti; opp. to Uniform; also *attrib.*, as *plain-clothes constable, officer*; **plain-compass**, a simple form of the surveyor's compass (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **plain cook** *sb.*, a person, usually a woman, capable of preparing simple dishes; **plain-cook** *v. intr.*, to do plain cooking; **plain-darn** *v. trans.*, to mend by plain darning; **†plain-down** *adv.*, plainly, bluntly, without more ado; **†plain Dunstable**: see Dunstable I c; **plain-edge** *a.*, of lace: not having a pearl-edge (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **plain English**, plain straightforward language, plain terms; also, a plain or clear statement; **plain Friend** (see quot.); **plain hackle**, an artificial fly; **plainhead**, name given to a variety of the canary; also *attrib.*, as *plainhead canary, strain* (opp. to *crested*); **plain-headed** *a.*, having a smooth or unornamented head; also *fig.* ignorant, simple; **plain language**, *spec.*, the manner of speech used by Quakers; **†plain number**, a number produced by two factors (Plane *a.* I b); **plain-said** *a.*, spoken without reserve, straightforward; **plain sail** *Naut.*, sail ordinarily carried; **plain service**, divine service said without music; **plain sight**: see quot.; **plain-singing** = Plain-song. See also Plain-chant, Plain sailing, Plain-song, Plain-stones, Plain-tile, Plain-work.

1830 in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* (1842) II. 270 The principal manufacture, viz., 44 inch *plain-backs. 1842 Bischoff *Ibid.* 415 They next imitated the article of cotton jeans, in worsted, with success, to which they gave the name of plain-backs, out of which has sprung that immense and valuable branch of merinos. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxv, He laid out a portion of his gold in a suit of *plain clothes. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 206 Policemen..in plain clothes, and in uniform. 1881 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 3/2 Plain-clothes officer Hutt was watching the premises. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. i. P 5 Leonarda .. passed for a very decent *plain cook. 1840 Marryat *Olla Podr.* (Rtldg.) 265 A good plain cook is the best thing. 1886 *Daily News* Apr., General Servant Wanted. Must *plain-cook well. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 52 To *plain-darn a hole in stocking material, and mark on coarse material any two letters. 1622 Fletcher & Mass. *Prophetess* III. ii, Is it fit .. The emperor, my master Diocliesian, Should now remember or the times or manners That call'd him plain-down Diocles? *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreme* 59 Which ye shalle here .. In *pleyne Englische, evil written. 1614 B. Jonson *Bart. Fair* IV. iii, But Adam Ouerdoo had beene worth three of 'hem, I assure you, in this place, that's in plaine english. 1645, 1705 [see English B. 4]. 1693 *Humours Town* 56 The Boon Companion, that is in plain English, a Rake-hell, is much caress'd. 1868 *Report to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 107 If we double the thickness, the outside..will be but one twenty-fifth as useful, or in plain English, nearly useless. 1890 Caroline E. Stephen *Quaker Strongholds* 148 '*Plain Friends' are those who are resolved to dress according to the settled principles which commend themselves to their own mind, not enslaving themselves to passing fashions. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 202 That the commons..were too *plaine headed to say their opinions. 1888 F. G. Lee in *Archæologia* LI. 363 Holding a book..and a plain-headed staff. 1890 Caroline E. Stephen *Quaker Strongholds* 149 The '*plain language' best known as the use of *thee* and *thou* for *you* in speaking to one person, and of first, second, &c. for the days of the week and the months. 1728–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v., 20 is a *plain number, produced by the multiplication of 5 into 4. 1865 Macgregor *Rob Roy in Baltic* (1867) 249 A very useful and *plain-said conversation. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xxi, We should .. keep .. under a *plain sail. 1857 C. Gribble in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1858) V. 9 Made all plain-sail. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Plain Sight* (*Fire-arms*), a hind sight consisting of a simple notch in a raised plate or protuberance. 1795 Mason *Ch. Mus.* III. 164 It therefore could only be called *plain singing or chaunting, which, perhaps, is the best translation of the term *planus cantus*.

†Plain, *a.*2 *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **plein, -e**, 4–6 **playn(e, pleyn(e**, *Sc.* **plane**, 5–7 **plene, plain(e.** [ME. *plein, playn*, a. F. *plein* (*plain*) :—L. *plēnus* full.

In OF. *plein* and *plain* were confused in certain phrases, esp. in *plein* (or *plain*) *champ*: see Littré. From the running together of forms in Eng., still greater ambiguity attaches to certain uses: see Plain *adv.* 6, 7 (above).]

1. Full, plenary, entire, perfect. *Plain pace*: at full speed.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10615 Now ys Arthur of pleyn age. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3844 Crist gave to Peter playn powere. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 302 Man neden not to go to Rome to gete hem plein indulgence. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3082 Thurgh the hal sir Ywain gase, Intil ane orcherd playn pase. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 304/1 Pleine restitution and deliverance of þaire obligations. 1450 *Ibid.* V. 194/2 That our Letters Patentz .. stand in theire strenght and plene effect. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 27 For my playn acquitayll. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* III. vi. 140 The sonne leseth his clerenes & the lyght in the playn daye. 1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 503/1 As if the said Fraunces or his heyres were in pleyne lyfe. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 22 The age..of xxi yeare, whyche is called plaine or full age. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* I. 197 The City had been assaulted five times in plain-day.

†The following may belong here, or to some sense of Plain *a.*1

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 2614 Ful is the place of soun of menstralsye..As thylke tyme was the pleyne vsage.

2. Full or complete in number, extent, etc.; esp. of a council, assembly, or court.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 253 What þe clergie wild schape, whan þe courte were pleyn. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XIX. 49 The lord sowlis haf grantit thar The deid in-to plane parliament. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 337 In pleyn consistorie þe pope cursede Waldrada. 1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 356/2 By thassent .. of Prelats [etc.] in his plain Parlement. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* XI. 395 To the forrestaris in the plane court in the tolbouth of Edinburgh. *Ibid.* 396 Grantande..full plane poware. 1514–15 *Act* 6 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 In the full and pleyne shire courte. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xiv. 14 The whiche was redde openly in playn audience. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 384 [The King's Majesty] sittand in plane Parliament [had ratified the Act]. 1671 R. MacWard *True Nonconf.* 231 King Charles the first, did in plene Parliament, An. 1641.., ratifie the Nationall Covenant. 1677 Cary *Chronol.* I. I. I. vii. 18 There remains for the number of plene Months 125.

3. In phrase *in plain battle* (*combat, joust, war*), in regular open battle, etc.

With this was evidently associated the phrase *in plain field* (F. *en plein* or *plain champ*), although this may have belonged orig. to Plain *a.*1 3 b.

c 1330 R. Rrunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3760 Morpydus .. angerly gan hym assaille, & þer hym slow in pleyn bataille. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* XVIII. 79 Our maner is,..Till follow and ficht, and ficht fleand, And nocht till stand in plane melle Quhill the ta part discumfit be. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 130 He faught and slough hym manly as a knyght In pleyn bataille. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* X. xviii. 442 And of these twelue Knyghtes he slewe in playne Iustes four. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 209 To wete yf he wold make playne warre. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xlii. 142 Fynde .ii. champyons .. that for thy loue wyll fyght with me in playne bataylе. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* I. (1621) 4 Whom he was not able to encounter in plaine battell. *a* 1718 Penn *Tract* Wks. 1726 I. 577 In a plain Combat giving him that Foyl.

4. Characterized by abundance *of*; full *of*. *rare*—1.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 435/2 He sheweth hym self playne of contricion.

¶ For possible adverbial uses, see Plain *adv.* 6, 7, which may in part belong here.

Plain (plēn), *v. arch.* or *dial.* Forms: 3–6 **pleine**, 3–7 **playne, plaine**, 4 **pleign(e**, 4–6 **pleyn(e, plene, plane**, 5 **plany**, 5–6 **playn**, 6– **plain**, (6, 8–9 *dial.* **plean**, 8–9 *dial.* **pleen, pleean**). *β.* 4 **pleny**; *Sc.* 4–7 **plenze**, 5 **pleinzhe**, 6 **plenzie, -yie**, (**-zie**), **pleinye, -ze, -zie, planyie, plainzie**, (**-yie, -zie**). [ME. *plei(g)ne, playne, plenze*, a. OF. *plaign-*, stem of *plaindre* (*plaignre, plaingre*) to lament, *refl.* to complain :—L. *plangĕre* to beat (the breast), lament, from root *plag-* strike. So It. *piangere, piagnere*, Pr. *planher*, Sp. *plañir*. The Sc. forms retained the sound of Fr. *gn* (nʲ), repr. by *-ny, -nyh, -nz* (in 16th c. print *-nz*). The vb. was both intr. and trans. already in L.; the earliest (11th c.) OF. examples in Littré are trans. and refl.; the latter arises more naturally out of the trans.]

†1. *trans.* To give oral expression to grief on account of or for (some thing or person); to bewail, deplore, lament, mourn (the external cause, or the inward sorrow or pain); = Complain *v.* I. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 222 Sir Guy Baliol died þore .. He was pleyned more þan oþer tuenty. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 582 Gretand with a dolfulle crye, And playned his synne ful petously. 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 31 Thai haif moir causs to weip and plane thair sorrow. 1596 Spenser *Astroph.* Prol., Shepheards, that wont .. Oft times

to plaine your loves concealed smart. 1617 W. Becher in *Camden's Lett.* (1691) 207, I did many times plain my ill hap. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 261, I only.. plain the misfortune of not having made the first impression on your heart.

† 2. *refl.* To utter lamentations, bewail oneself: = Complain *v.* 2. *Obs.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 832 Pleined him of his mochel wo. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2540 þarfor Saint Bernard pleyned him here Of his lyf. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xl, I sawe.. new cummyn hir to pleyne,.. the freschest 3onge floure. *c* 1550 R. Bieston *Bayte Fortune* B iij, To plaine hym nought auayleth. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* xii. lxxiv, Thus with glad sorrow did she sweetly plain her. 1710 Philips *Pastorals* i. 8 A Shepherd Boy..Thus plain'd him of his dreary Discontent.

3. *intr.* To give oral utterance to sorrow; to lament, mourn; = Complain *v.* 3. Now *poet.* and *dial.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3576 Mest in is herte was uor anguysse to playne. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3471 Playnond with pytie. *a* 1547 Surrey in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 3, I wish for night, more couertly to playn. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* ii. (1598) 118 Though he plaine, he doth not complaine; for it is a harme, but no wrong, which he hath receiued. 1613 W. Browne *Brit. Past.* i. i, She loves not him that plaineth, but that pleaseth. 1710 Philips *Pastorals* ii. 13 Small Cause, I ween, has lusty Youth to plain. 1865 Lowell *L'Envoi* Poet. Wks. (1879) 457 The Muse is womanish, nor deigns Her love to him that pules and plains.

β. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iv. 215 Thus plenȝeit he off his folye.

b. = Complain *v.* 4. *dial.*

1863 Mrs. Toogood *Yorks. Dial.*, He seemed verra ill, he pleaned a good deal. 1898 Kirkby *Lakeland Wds.* (E.D.D.), She pleens a gay deal aboot her heed.

4. To give utterance to feelings of ill-usage or injury; = Complain *v.* 5, 6, 8.

† a. *refl. Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 504 He ne dorste him naȝt pleine. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16144 Penda.. pleyned hym vnto Cadwalyn. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 388 þai hadden no more nede to plene hem of þis ordenaunce þan hadden þe oþer two statis of his chirche. 1590 Marlowe *Edw. II*, v. i, To plain me to the gods against them both. 1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* iii. vii. 69, I will go plaine me to my Lord the King.

β. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 163, I suld plenȝe me till his juge, and ask rycht and law of him.

b. *intr.* To make complaint. Const. *of, against, on, upon, that.... poet.* (*arch.*) and *dial.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 765 To is doȝter quene of cornwaile gan wende [Lear] & plainede of þe unkundhede of his doȝter gornorille. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* viii. 22 (Harl. MS.) Than þe soule shall pleyne vpon þe flesh. 1612 Dekker *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 318 This Reuerend sub-Prior, Who plaines against disorders of this House. 1724 in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 119 Why dost thou pleen? I thee maintain, For meal and mawt thou disna want. 1808 Scott *Marm.* vi. xiii, 'Though something I might plain', he said, 'Of cold respect to stranger guest'. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, *Plean*, to complain. An old word. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Plain*, to complain.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 548 þenne þe fyrst bygonne to pleny & sayden þat þay hade travayled sore. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xi. 320 His fayis to plenȝe sall mater haf. 1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 The forsaide lorde .. sal abide the prouincialis cumyng, and sal pleinȝhe til him. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* vi. (*Sheep & Dog*) xiii, Vp rais the dog, and on the scheip thus pleinyeit. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 395 It is plenyeit that the .. induellaris within the bondis about the said forrest distroyis the wod and der grettumlie. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 618 Suppois he had bot litill caus to plenȝe. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* (S. T. S.) vii. 55 Pleinȝeand that sho was rauyssit by [= against] hir will. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* xviii. xvii. (S. T. S.) I. 81 Mony seand place gevin to men that pleissit to pleinzie, begane day by day more and more to compleine wpoun his tyrannie.

c. To tell tales, inform (*against, on*). *dial.*

1781 J. Hutton *Tour to Caves* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Plean*, to tell tales against a person. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plean*, to tell tales. 1892 M. C. F. Morris *Yorksh. Folk-Talk* 354 He gans tiv his maasther ti pleean on him.

d. *trans.* To complain of; = Complain *v.* 7. *dial.*

1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., They are always plaining poverty.

5. *transf.* and *fig. intr.* To emit a plaintive or mournful sound; = Complain *v.* 9.

a 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 23 Come with your doleful songs, Night's sable birds, which plain when others sleep. 1783 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Odes to R. Acad.* iii, Nature 'plaineth sore. 1809 Campbell *Gertr. Wyom.* ii. xii, And nought..was heard or seen But stock-doves plaining through its gloom profound. *a* 1835 Mother-well *Madman's Love* Poems (1847) 47 With selfsame voice the old woods plaine, When shrilly winds do blow. 1884 M. Linskill in *Gd. Words* 15 The wind went on wuthering wildly, sobbing, raging, plaining over the barren moor.

b. *trans.* To say in a querulous tone.

1901 G. Douglas *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 296 'It would be the wind', plained her mother.

† c. *intr.* Of a horse: To whine, whinny. *rare*—[1].

c 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 157 Right as an hors that can boothe byte & pleyne.

† d. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—[1].

1611 Cotgr., *Duner*, to plaine, as a horse, that neither halteth outright, nor setteth his foot hard on the ground.

Plain, obs. form of Plane *v.*

† Plai·nand, *ppl. a. Sc.* and *north. dial. Obs.* In 5 **plenyhand, pleynand, plenȝeand.** [pr. pple. of *plenȝe*, Plain *v.*: see -and.] = Plaining *ppl. a.*, Plainant *a.*

1429 in *Cal. Doc. rel. Scot.* (1888) 405 The thre persouns chosin on the ta perti plenyhand. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* i. 109 The poyndes aught to be in the seasing, and possession of the partie plenzeand.

Hence **† Plainandly, pleynandly** *adv.*, in a complaining manner.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 649 Pleynandly on hyght he spak.

† Plainant, *a. Law. Obs.* [a. F. *plaignant*, pr. pple. of *plaindre*: see Plain *v.*] Lodging a complaint; formally complaining; = Complainant *a.*

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 633/2 Charged by Jugement theryn to the persone Pleynaunt or Infourmer. 1648 Prynne *Plea for Lords* 51 It should put the party 'plainant without remedy. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 317 The Plainant is eldest Hand, and..is understood to be the better Friend to the Court.

Plai·n-cha·nt. [a. F. *plain chant*: see Plain-song.] = Plain-song, Canto fermo (in both senses of these). Also *attrib.*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Chant*, The Plain, or Gregorian chant, is where the choir and people sing in unison, or all together in the same manner. 1887 E. L. Taunton *Hist. Ch. Mus.* 124 In some of the old Plain Chant Masses one finds sometimes 200 notes to one syllable! 1895 C. F. A. Williams in *Elem. Plainsong* 30 The artistic intertwining of various melodies above and below the fixed notes of the *cantus firmus* or Plain chant.

Hence **Plai·n-cha·ntist,** an advocate of plain-chant.

1888 S. H. Little in *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 112 The 'Plain Chantist', therefore, is not inconsistent or unreasonable.

Plain dealer, plain-dea·ler. Now *rare.* [f. Plain *a.*[1] + Dealer: cf. next.] One who deals plainly; one who is straightforward and candid in his relations with others.

1572 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxxiv. 10 Rather..than God will disappoynt the rightuous and playndealers of their needful foode. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* ii. 40 Being plaine dealers, voide of dissimulation. 1676 Wycherley *Pl. Dealer* Prol., I the Plain Dealer am to act to-day..An honest man who..speaks what he thinks. *a* 1735 Arbuthnot *John Bull* (1755) 3 Sir Humphry Polesworth, I know you are a plain-dealer;..speak the truth, and spare not.

Plai·n dea·ling, plain-dea·ling, *sb.* [f. Plain *a.*[1] + Dealing *vbl. sb.*: cf. Double-dealing.]

1. Openness and sincerity of conduct; absence of subterfuge; candour, straightforwardness.

1573 *New Custom* i. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 14 For then plain-dealing bare away the prize. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Acts* xxiv. 12 It falls out often, that plain-dealing puts craft out of countenance. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 73 ¶ 10, I take you to be a Lover of Ingenuity and Plain-Dealing. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Truth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 52 They are blunt in saying what they think,..and they require plain dealing of others.

† 2. Name of a card-game. *Obs.*

1674 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* xix. 142 A Game called Plain-Dealing. He that deals hath the advantage of this Game; for if he turn up the Ace of Diamonds he cannot lose..then are the Cards plaid as at Whist. 1816 Singer *Hist. Cards* 345.

Plai·n-dea·ling, *a.* [f. Plain *adv.* + *dealing*, pr. pple. of Deal *v.*: cf. prec.] That deals plainly; straightforward in speech and behaviour; free from deceit or subterfuge.

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* (1890) III. 329 Hee..like a playne dealinge man, beleued what she promised. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Maid's Trag.* iv. ii, It becomes us well To get plain-dealing men about ourselves. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) I. ii. 18 This captain .. was an honest and plain-dealing man. 1847 Emerson *Poems* (1857) 165 Found I true liberty In the glad home plain-dealing Nature gave.

Plainer (plē·nəɹ). [f. Plain *v.* + -er[1].] **† a.** *Law.* = Complainant *sb.* 1. *Obs.* **b.** A complainer, grumbler. Now *dial.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 39 þe ualse playneres þet makeþ þe ualse bezechinges. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 101 Bitwene Felice, Abbesse of Godestowe, pleyner,..and Aleyne Basset. 1590 Marlowe *Edw. II*, iii. ii. 158 And bid me say, as plainer to your grace, That [etc.]. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Plainer*, a grumbler.

Plainer, obs. form of Planer.

Plainful (plē·nfŭl), *a. arch.* [f. Plain *sb.*[2] or stem of Plain *v.* + -ful 1.] **a.** Distressing, pitiful, grievous. **b.** That mourns, or emits a mournful sound.

1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 127 Let learned heads describe their playnfull plight. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 33/2 Instead of night's black-bird and plainful owl, Infernal furies here do yell and howl. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Jan. 3/4 The hero of this plainful story.

Hence **† Plai·nfulness** *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* i. *Plangus & Basilius* 151 From how much mourning plainfulnesse.

Plai·n-hea·rted, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. *plain heart* (Plain *a.*[1]) + -ed 2.] Having a sincere and open heart; without deceit or guile; ingenuous, innocent.

1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* ix–x. 100 Let us learne to bee plaine hearted towards our brethren. 1641 Milton *Animadv., Rem. Def.* i. Wks. 1738 I. 79 Free-spoken and plain-hearted Men, that are the Eyes of their Country. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 1475 Sincere, plain-hearted, hospitable, kind.

Hence **Plai·n-hea·rtedly** *adv.*; **Plai·n-hea·rtedness.**

1653 Dorothy Osborne *Lett. to Sir W. Temple* (1888) 149 How I should love that plain-heartedness you speak of, if you would use it. 1691 Hartcliffe *Virtues* 174 That Simplicity and plain-heartedness, which ought to be in the Conversation of every Christian. 1832 [A. Catherwood] *Beckett*, etc. 196 And there, with so much graveness as just gives A grace to smiles, plain-heartedly she lives.

Plaining (plē·niŋ), *vbl. sb. arch.* Forms: see Plain *v.* [f. Plain *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Plain; the utterance of grief or dissatisfaction; lamentation; complaint.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 6104 þe day of pleynyng and accusyng, þe day of answer and of strait rekkenyng. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* iii. 647 Off thi tynsell is na plenȝeing. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 10 (Harl. MS.) Penitence is þe pleynyng of man for þe gult þat he haþ doon. 1593 T. Watson *Tears of Fancie* xxv, A lowlie dale..cald..The vale of loue for there I spent my plainings. 1633 P. Fletcher *Pisc. Ecl.* i. ii, A poore fisher swaine Came from his boat to tell the rocks his plaining. 1867 Jean Ingelow *Dreams that came true* xiv, From her lips a fitful plaining broke. 1880 Watson *Prince's Quest* (1892) 31 As a low wind wails..About a tarn whereof the listless wave Maketh no answer to its plaining.

Plai·ning, *ppl. a. arch.* [f. Plain *v.* + -ing 2.] That plains; plaintive, mourning; complaining. (See also Plainand.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/2 Plenynge, *querulus.* 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* iv. i, Hear, hear, O, hear Iarbas' plaining prayers. *c* 1630 Milton *Passion* vii, Yet on the softned Quarry would I score My plaining vers as lively as before. 1891 Miss Dowie *Girl in Karp.* 104 The plaining doves are absent from the high fir-tree tops.

Plainish (plē·niʃ), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. Plain *a.*[1] + -ish 1.] Somewhat plain.

a 1845 Hood *Publ. Dinner* 114 [You] hear rather plainish A sound that's champaignish. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Feb. 176/1 A fresh, honest, plainish English girl.

Plainly (plē·nli), *adv.*[1] [f. Plain *a.*[1] + -ly 2.]

1. In a clear or distinct manner; so as to be clearly seen, heard, perceived, or understood.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 291 þat he wes criste he nyt planly. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* Prol. 64 Hire chere is pleynly sprad in the brightnesse Of the sonne. 1460 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 306 As in the sayd chartre more playnly hit ys expressed. 1526 Tindale *John* xvi. 29 Loo, nowe speakest thou playnly, and thou vsest no proverbe. 1692 E. Walker *Epictetus' Mor.* xi, Too plainly is your selfish Folly shewn. 1797–1803 Foster *Jrnl.* in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 230 Cannot yet articulate plainly. 1867 Shedd *Homiletics* iii. 58 He should constantly strive to exhibit his thoughts plainly.

2. With clear perception by the senses or mind; clearly; distinctly.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* ii. 223 (272) þey kan not pleynly vnderstonde. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. lxxii. (1869) 42 As thow shalt see pleynliche whan thow hast rad Genesis. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 231 b, He was sodenly murdered with a gonne, whiche of the neighbors was playnly hard. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 58 That you may the plainlier vnderstand it. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 257, I saw plainly..that I was wrong. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. i. 5 The evidences of pressure could be plainly traced.

3. Qualifying the statement made: Evidently, manifestly.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* x. 19 Pleynli this myn infirmyte is, and Y shal bern it. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 107/2 That than such Juge or Juges..have pleynly power and auctorite. 1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 9 b, That they haue plainlie kept and conuerted..a great part thereof to their owne vses. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* (1776) 287 These [buried] Trees..were found plainly to have been cut off by the Kerf. 1736 Butler *Anal.* i. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 69 Such a Kingdom..would plainly be superior to all others. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (1877) II. ii. 20 Plainly it would fare ill with any man upon whom the public anger might light.

† 4. In an open or public manner; openly, publicly. *Obs.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3297 The knight gan playnly with hir pas Vntil sho in hir chamber was. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ix. 512 Quhen thai herd of the cummyng Off schir Eduard, that so planly Our-raid the land. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 96 On the next day was the Parlement playnely be-gunne. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 380 Diverse .. personis hes nocht abstenit planelie to pas and repas.

5. Without concealment, disguise, or reserve; openly, candidly, frankly.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 72 If pleynly speke I shal. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2878 And what she is he loveth so To thee pleynly he shal undo, Withoute drede of any shame. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 56 He would after an humble fassion plainly reprehende the King. 1646 J. Whitaker *Uzziah* 22 The fewnesse of those that have..courage to deal plainly. 1710 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to W. Montagu* 14 Nov., I have tried to write plainly. I know not what one can say more upon paper. 1862 Trollope *Orley F.* xvi, Mr. Aram, could he have been induced to speak out his mind plainly, would have expressed, probably, a different opinion.

6. With simplicity or frugality; without ornament or embellishment; without luxury.

1562 Mountgomery in *Archæologia* XLVII. 216 Which.. I haue rudely written and plainely penned. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 102 They couet to liue simply and plainly. 1847 C. Bronte *J. Eyre* vii, The hair to be arranged closely, modestly, plainly. 1902 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 289, I suppose he lives very plainly.

† 7. Entirely, completely, absolutely, quite. (Perh. belongs to next: cf. Plain *adv.* 6.) *Obs.*

c 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 123 It surmountede pleynly alle odours. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* v. 6 They thoughte planely, that Dauid shulde not come in. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 530 The kindred of the mothers side, for to saue her honesty, it plainely denied.

† Plai·nly, *adv.*[2] *Obs.* In 4–5 **pleyn-, plein-, plen-.** [f. Plain *a.*[2] + -ly 2.] Fully.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 211 Of þis matire loke

wiþ ynne more pleynliche after þe batayle of Troy. 1418 CHICHELE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 5 Towchyng al odr things, I wot wel..your brother sendyth to 3u pleynlych. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 58/1 To have, holde, and enjoye hem,..as pleynly, hoolly, and in the same maner..as youre seide Fadir hadde and helde hem. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 499 As the bringer here of shall more pleinly declare yow. 1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 45, I wyll that myn detts be plenly paied.

Plainness (plēi·nnés). Forms: α. 4 pleynes, 4–5 pleynesse, 4–7 playnesse, 5–6 plainesse, playnes, 6 plaines, playness, pleines. β. See PLAIN *a.*[1] and -NESS. [ME. *play-, pleynesse*, a. OF. *plai(g)nesse, planece* flatness, smoothness, plane surface :—L. *plānitiēs, -ia* a flat surface, f. *plānus* flat. But the variants in *-nes, -ness* show that the word was soon associated with native formations having this suffix, with which it is fully identified in the β forms *plainness*, etc. (Cf. *finesse, fineness.*)] The quality or condition of being plain, in various senses of the adj.

†1. Flatness, smoothness, evenness, levelness.

α. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) clxvi. 8 Sir Gij drouȝ out þat swerd anon, & alle þe pleynes þer-of it schon. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* xiv. 33, Y schal drawe doun this temple of God in to pleynesse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/2 A Playnes, *planicies.* 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 11 Suche qualities as .. hardnesse, softnesse, roughnesse, plainesse. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 21 With more flat and equal playness.

β. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. metr. iv. 12 (Camb. MS.), Lettres emprientyd in the smothenesse or in the pleynnesse [*B. M. Add.* plainesse; *ed.* 1602 plainenesse] of the table of wex. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 57 The playnnes of that place was so repletyd and fulfylde withe wormys. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 441 The plainenesse, or euennesse of the sea. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 102 The plainenes of the Countrie, and the frequency of Lakes and Fennes, doe more increase the cold. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 399 The plainness and evenness of their Country.

2. Openness, honesty, or straightforwardness of conduct; frankness or directness of language.

α. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xxxii. 24 You haue gifte of pleines sterne and stoute. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 17 Where as then was no other sinne in society then lying, a genuine playnesse..were enough.

β. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 56 Of the same vertue and honest playnnes [1568 GRAFTON plainenesse] was Ihon Morton archebishop of Caunterbury. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 108 Whil'st some with cunning guild their copper crownes, With truth and plainnesse I doe weare mine bare. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* (1721) I. *Essay* 207 We see in one the Plainness of a down right Countryman, and in the other, something of a rustick Majesty. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. v. 40 He forced me to express my displeasure with equal plainness. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) I. 356 My plainness of speech makes them hate me.

†b. *euphemism* for Discourteous behaviour or treatment; rudeness. *Obs. rare.*

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 208 They know not the pleynesse that hathe ben done in such thyngys as hathe ben don in her namys.

†c. *The plainness*: the plain truth. *Obs.*

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 40 So may not a man be wele counseylled of hys frende withoute he telle hym the playnesse of hys cause. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 298, I pray you speke, and shew me the playnes. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 57 If the said deposicons had been ernestly takyn, the plaines of that mater might haue been easely known.

3. Clearness to the perception or comprehension; lucidity of exposition, meaning, or expression.

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 171/2 For the more playnnesse let vs put one example or twaine. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. Introd. 1 The demonstrations and proofes .. by reason of their playnnes neede no greate declaration. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* Introd. 2 Little with Plainness is better than much with Obscurity. 1867 SHEDD *Homiletics* iii. (1869) 55 This plainness of style is the product of sagacity and keenness.

4. Absence of or freedom from ornament, ostentatious display, or luxury; simplicity.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 655 In their fare, apparell,.. and furniture of warre, they vse a plainenesse. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. vii. 36 The understandings of men are no more satisfied by a pompous magnificence, then by a cheap plainnesse. 1763 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* III. ii. 93 The excess of plainness in our cathedral disappoints the spectator after so rich an approach. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* II. i, These new comers were clad with extreme plainness.

†b. Simplicity (as opp. to complexity). *Obs.*

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 68 This Quadrant.. I hold to be as necessary an Instrument as Seamen can use, in respect of its plainness.

5. Lack of beauty; homeliness; ugliness.

1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. v, This was far more than sufficient to atone for the comparative plainness of my person. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 105 'A very beautiful complexion', which by no means indicates plainness.

Plai·n sai·ling, *sb.* [prob. a popular use of PLANE SAILING, formerly also spelt *plain sailing*; but used with sense of PLAIN *a.*[1] 3.] Sailing or going on in a plain course, in which there is no difficulty or obstruction; simple or easy course of action.

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 493 It must be all 'plain sailing', as the seamen say, and no sudden turns, intricacies, or narrow passes. 1842 F. E. PAGET *Milf. Malv.* 209 So far all was plain sailing, as the saying is; but Mr. Till knew that his main difficulties were yet to come. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xxxiv. 292 These things are never plain sailing, my dear.

So **Plai·n-sai·ling** *a.*, straightforward in action. 1807 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 344 With all possible rectitude of heart, he has not a plain-sailing mind. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* iv, Happy, healthy, plain-sailing Bessie.

Plainsher, variant of PLANCHER *sb.*[1]

Plainsman (plēi·nzmăn). [f. PLAIN *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man of the plain or plains; an inhabitant of a flat country, or of the wide open plains of some regions. In quot. 1899 applied to a horse.

1881 *Daily News* 21 May 5 The French column..was met on the boundary of the Mater district by two or three hundred plainsmen, who made a show of resistance. 1891 *Spectator* May 732 Imbued with that sense of freedom peculiar to the Australian, the American plainsman, and the Canadian. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 355 Experienced ranchmen never turn a bunch of green brood-mares out unless accompanied by three or four of these sagacious little plainsmen.

Plain-song (plēi·nˌsŏŋ). *Mus.* [Rendering med. L. *cantus plānus*, F. *plain chant*, It. *canto piano*: see quot. 1895 in sense 1.]

1. The form of vocal music believed to have been used in the Christian Church from the earliest times, consisting of melodies composed in the mediæval modes (see MODE) and in free rhythm depending on the accentuation of the words, and sung in unison; in the West it was first systematized in the 4th century by St. Ambrose, and further developed in the 6th century by St. Gregory the Great: see AMBROSIAN, GREGORIAN.

1513 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* VI. 362 Chapellanis that has vnderstandyng to syng plane sang, priket sang, and to do seruice efter the tenour of his foundation. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 41, I wysshe .. that the laudable custome of Englande to teache chyldren their plainesong and prikſong, were not so decayed. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iii. 62 The first..Performance was done..by Plain Song; as the Psalms are..read in Cathedrals. 1878 STAINER in *Queen's Printers' Bible-Aids* 67 The tendency of recitation to develope into monotone and an irregular chant..is illustrated by the history of 'plain song' in the early Christian Church. 1895 H. B. BRIGGS in *Elem. Plainsong* 1 Plainsong or *Cantus planus*—even, level, plain song—is perfectly distinct from *cantus figuratus*, or *mensuratus*, i.e. harmonised, measured music, from which it essentially differs in tonality and rhythm... In plainsong the accents occur irregularly, thus making the rhythm *free*, but subject to certain laws of proportion which satisfy the ear.

2. A simple melody or theme; often accompanied by a running melody or 'descant' (see DESCANT *sb.* 1); hence in various *fig.* applications. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

a 1566 R. EDWARDES *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 27 Without mention of them [ladies] you can make no sport: They are your plain-song to sing descant upon. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 70 When a man talketh of a Descanter, it must be vnderstood of one that can extempore sing a part upon a playnesong. *Ibid.* 71 [see COUNTERPOINT *sb.*[1] 2]. 1659 H. THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 610 Ecclesiasticus .. descants indeed upon Solomon's plain song in the eighth and ninth of the Proverbs. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. v. 21 Here followeth the three usual Plain Songs for Tuning the Voice in the Ascending and Descending of Notes.

3. *attrib.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 134 The Finch, the Sparrow, and the Larke, The plainsong Cuckow gray. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Disc. Nicene Creed* Posthuma (1649) 53 The same Creed hath been most certainly sung..in a plain song-fashion, ever since the date of the Councel [of Nice] itself.

Plai·n-spea·king, *sb.* and *a.* a. *sb.* Plainness of speech, candour, frankness. b. *adj.* That speaks plainly or without reserve; = next.

a. 1852 ROGET *Thesaurus* § 703 Candour, sincerity,..plain speaking. 1864 WEBSTER, *Plain-speaking*, plainness of speech, frankness, candor.

b. 1884 *Athenæum* 9 Feb. 178/3 'The Algerines are a company of rogues', remarked a plain-speaking Dey.

Plai·n-spo·ken, **†plai·n-spoke**, *a.* [f. PLAIN *adv.* + *spoken*, pa. pple. of SPEAK; cf. OUTSPOKEN, also BEHAVED *ppl. a.*]

1. Given to speaking plainly; outspoken, unreserved.

1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref., A plain-spoken honest man. 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 103 The Creed of an honest, consistent, plain-spoken Calvinist. 1884 JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. ii. 54 [He] was much too sincere and plain-spoken to be a model courtier.

2. Plainly spoken; clearly or directly expressed; outspoken, candid, frank.

1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* I. (1706) C j, Leave my plain spoke Love to prove its Merit. 1836 SIR H. TAYLOR *Statesman* xxxi. 238 A rough, bluff, hearty, plain-spoken way of eulogising them to their faces. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 106 He seems to have used language nearly as plain-spoken as Tostig did two years later.

Hence **Plain-spo·kenness.**

1865 F. OAKELEY *Hist. Notes* 29 To such friends .. he [Mr. Froude] discloses himself .. with almost the plain-spokenness of the confessional. 1883 W. T. ARNOLD in Ward *Eng. Poets* (ed. 2) II. 87 Witter had to expiate his plain spokenness by a rigorous confinement.

Plai·nstones, *sb. pl. Sc.* Also 8–9 -stanes, -stenes. [f. PLAIN *a.*[1], flat, smooth + STONE.] Flagstones; the flagged side-pavement of a street.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Mutual Compl. Plainstanes & Cawsey* 3 The spacious Street an' gude Plainstanes Were never kend to crack but anes. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* VI. 42 One page said he saw her step aside on the plain stones, speaking to an elderly woman. 1856 DOBELL *Lyrics in War Time, Shower*, A mirkier wasir that splashed and clapped The plainstones. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 524 He met them promenading on the plainstanes.

Plaint (plēnt), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–4 pleinte, 4–5 pleynte, 5–6 playnte, plainte, (5 plancte, playnthe, 6 plente). β. 4 pleint, 4–6 pleynt, playnt, 4–6 plant, 5 playntt, 5–6 plent, 4– plaint. [In ME. two words: α. *pleinte, plainte*, a. OF. *plainte*, in med.L. *plancta* (Du Cange), sb. from fem. pa. pple. of *plang-ère*, ppl. stem *planct-*, to beat the breast, lament: for form cf. COMPLAINT. β. *pleint, plaint*, a. OF. *plaint, pleint* = Pr. *planch*, Sp. *llanto*, Pg. *pranto*, It. *pianto* :—L. *planctu-s* (*u-* stem), f. same vb. Only the latter has come down into mod. Eng.]

1. The action or an act of plaining; audible expression of sorrow; lamentation, grieving. (From 1600 chiefly *poetic.*)

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 No wouhleche nis so culuert ase is o pleinte wis. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6726 To god he made is pleinte ofte wepinde wel bliue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 323 Whan he hire wofull pleintes herde..Him liste betre forto wepe. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 54/2 Whan they of the contre sawe this plancte and sorowyng they saide this is a grete sorow to thegypcyens.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5163 Androcheus herde þe kynges pleint. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8686 The petie & the playnt was pyn for to here! 1559 *Primer* in *Priv. Prayers* (1851) 91 Thou only art my God, thou must hear my piteous plaint. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 19 Pandosto would once a day repaire to the Tombe, and there with watry plants bewaile his misfortune. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 343 The hapless Paire Sate in their sad discourse, and various plaint. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VI. xv. iv. 44 They all burst into tears, and breathed their plaints in the following words. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 379 With louder plaints the mother spoke her woes. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* May xxviii, And piteously with tears her plaint renew'd.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1742 WEST *Let.* in *Gray's Poems* (1775) 148 A plaint is heard from ev'ry tree. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 166 The wheeling plover ceas'd Her plaint. *a* 1881 ROSSETTI *House of Life* xcviii, With plaints for every flower.

2. A statement or representation of wrong, injury, or injustice suffered; a complaint.

a. c 1300 *Havelok* 2961 Hauelok..bad ubbe..þat he sholde on ilke wise Denemark yeme and gete so, þat no pleynte come him to. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 214 For pore men der nat pleyne ne here pleinte shewe. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* ii, Therof he wold haue made a playnte to his neyghbours.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 12065 þe gret lauerdinges..plaint on him mad communli Bath to ihosep and to mari. 1444 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 12 The alderman..profferand that give thar be ony cause of playnt it suld be well reformyt and amendid. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 799/2 He should come and present his plaint to the king. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vi. (1628) 158 Shee with teares made vnto him her plaint. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Met. Leg., Columbus* xxxv. 10 They graciously, His plaint and plea receiv'd. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxxii. 441 It was apparent that our savage friends had their plaint to make, or, it might be, to avenge.

†b. Cause, ground, or matter of complaint. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10640 (Cott.) þan most þis mai be clene and bright, Wit-vten plaint, wit-vten plight. 1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* vii. 15 That a man finde not aȝen hym riȝtwis pleyntes. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* XI. 395 That the balye hald foure balye courtis..for..reforming of plants of nychtbourhed and uthiris.

3. *spec.* An oral or written statement of grievance made to a court of law, for the purpose of obtaining redress; an accusation, charge, complaint.

α. [1292 BRITTON I. i. § 21 Et volums qe le poer de nos Justices..ne pasent mie les pointz de nos brefs, ..ne des pleintes a eux fetes. 1321 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 387/1 Qe la plainte puisse estre trie par duze hommes jurees.] 1422–61 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) Introd. 22 Vexed in the Sherreves Court..be a pleynte of trespas. 1427 *Waterf. Arch.* in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 294 That no citsaine..have no delayes in ony playnthe, butt only in an action of dette. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 24 § 1 Any suyte playnte or demaunde before Justices of Recorde. *c* 1537 in Leadam *Sel. Pl. Crt. Requests* (Selden) 47 Seuerall plentes of debt in the name of our souerayn lord the kyng.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 313 þat non thar com no sende to courte to mak eft pleynt. 14.. *Customs Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 59 Jugement of any playntt for to be gyffen. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ix. (1877) I. 202 The parties plaintiffe and defendant..proceed..by plaint or declaration, answer, replication [etc.]. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xviii. 273 The foundation of such suits continues to be (as in the times of the Saxons) not by original writ, but by plaint; that is, by a private memorial tendered in open court to the judge, wherein the party injured sets forth his cause of action. 1798 in Dallas *Amer. Law Rep.* II. 205 The proceedings were drawn up as if it had been a plaint under the landlord and tenant act. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* II. xi. 581 A suit in the county court commences by plaint.

4. *Comb.*, as **†plaint-bruised** *a.*, bruised by beating in token of grief.

1627 MAY *Lucan* II. 38 But one there Her plaint-brusde armes, and moystned cheekes did teare.

†Plaint, *v. Obs.* (from 16th c., *Sc.*) Also 4 pleynt, 5 playnt, 6 *Sc.* plent. [f. PLAINT *sb.*]

1. *intr.* To make complaint, complain; *rarely* to make lamentation, lament, wail.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3554 He plainted full pitiously, was pyn for to here. *Ibid.* 8095 Hit pleaside hir priuely, playntyde ho noght. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 392 For to the kinge I will anon To plainte [*v.r.* playn] upon you all. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 225 Ye sall haue no cause to plent. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 2 *Thess.*

(1629) 224 Ieremie somewhere bewailes it; somewhere plaints of it. 1715 PENNECUIK *Truth's Trav.* in *Descr. Tweeddale* etc. 86 Cooks and Kailwives baith refus'd him, Because he plainted of their Dish. 1789 in Jas. Fisher *Poems* (1790) 89 Ye need na plaint upon your muse.

2. *trans.* To cover or fill with complaints. *rare*—1.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1597 Youre lettres ful þe papir al y-pleynted Conseyued hath mine hertes pite. I haue ek seyn wip teres al depeynted Youre lettre.

Plain-table, variant of PLANE-TABLE.

†Plai·nteous, *a. Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5 **playntis, plaintwiss,** 5–6 **planteous,** 6 **plant-, plentuous,** 7 **plenteous.** [app. for orig. type **plaintivous,* f. F. *plaintif, -ive* PLAINTIVE + -OUS: cf. PITEOUS, PLENTEOUS: see -EOUS.] Complaining, making or bringing a complaint.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 [He] suld do justice till all men that ar playntis of his men as to merchandis and vitalaris of the ost and otheris. 1476 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 41/2 To Raiss new summondis..apone the said Johne of forbass..& all vþiris parsonis þt he is plaintwiss of. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 244 The lait attemptatis, quhairof ye ar plantuous in youre lettir. 1565 *Ibid.* 414 Gif ony of oure trew subjectis be..plentuous of him. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Baron Courts* ii. § 3. 101 Attachments ..be the quhilk ane party is constrained against his wil to stand to the law, and to doe sic right and reason as he aught of law to ane other partie, that is plenteous on him.

Plainteous, obs. Sc. form of PLENTEOUS.

†Plai·ntful, *a. Obs.* [f. PLAINT *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of mourning or complaint; mournful; in first quot., grievous.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1497 (Cott.) Quen caym had don þat plentful plight [*G.* cursed dede]. *a* 1541 WYATT *Penit. Ps.* cii. 16 For my plaintful sighs and for my dread. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Sidera* xii, Here is iuster cause of plaintfull sadnesse. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 12 O leave thy plaintful soul more to molest.

Plaintie, obs. Sc. form of PLENTY.

Plaintiff (plē·ntif). Forms: 4–5 **pleint-, pleynt-,** 4–6 **playnt-,** 5–6 **plent-,** 6– **plaint-**; 4–5 **-yf,** 4–6 **-if, -yff(e,** 6 **-yfe, -ife, -iffe,** 5– **-iff,** (6 **plainetife, plantife,** 7 **-ive**). [a. OF. *plaintif,* sb. use of *plaintif, -ive* adj. PLAINTIVE.

Plaintiff and *plaintive* are orig. the same word in Eng., as in F.; but, in the sb. use, the original *-if* of the masculine has come down through law-French, while as adj. the word has shared in the common history of adjs. in *-if, -ive*; in their use, also, the two have diverged, so that a *plaintiff* is no longer thought of as a *plaintive* person.]

1. *Law.* The party who brings a suit into a court of law; a complainant, prosecutor; opposed to *defendant.*

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 10/2 Al quel jour,.. les pleintifs, e les veisins ke furen sumuns vindrent.] *a* 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 So þt þe playntyf to euerych court hym profry to þe to somaunce procuratours. 1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 501/2 Ye Pleintifs in the seid Actions. 1550–3 *Decaye Eng.* in *Four Suppl.* (E. E. T. S.) 96 As for all other shyres, we refer it to the playntyues. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 103 When the plantife had propounded and charged him with injuries. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* v. i. 362 Thou shalt be both the Plaintiffe and the Iudge Of thine owne cause. 1637 SALTONSTALL *Eusebius Constantine* 80 Hee sent Commissioners to examine the matter, and releeve the Plaintives. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 219 Plaintife is hee that sueth or complaineth in an Assise, or in an action personall, as in a action of debt, trespasse, deceit, detinue, and such other. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* II. v. 225 He will plead for the plaintiff today. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 261 Judgement was given for the plaintiff. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, 'Do you find for the plaintiff, gentlemen, or for the defendant?' 'For the plaintiff.'

†2. *generally.* One who complains; a complainer. *Obs.* (Usually with more or less reference to the legal sense.)

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Nn vij, If I had as muche knowlage, where to complayne to the, as thou haste power to remedye the playntife. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 254 But in this, which toucheth neerest clamourous plaintiues, how may the people bee excused? 1671 HOWE *Van. Man* Wks. 1836 I. 389 Besides the evil which had already befallen the plaintiff [the writer of the 89th Psalm], a further danger nearly threatened him.

†b. One who 'complains' of illness. *Obs.*

1633 HART *Diet Diseased* III. xi. 270 Many of these plantives..will often in their need, sooner have recourse to some ignorant Empericke.

3. *attrib.* (*appositive*), as *plaintiff company, plaintiff-deponent.*

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 473 Mendacity-serving information from him to the plaintiff-deponent. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Mar. 9/1 The company in respect of whom the licence was assigned was not the present plaintiff company.

Hence **Plai·ntiffship,** the position of a plaintiff.

1833 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VII. 18 Those who had signed an agreement to bear Murray harmless through his plaintiffship.

Plaintile, plain tile (plē·nˌtəil). [f. PLAIN *a.*1 + TILE.] A flat roofing tile.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6251/3 Every Plaintyle is to be 10 Inches and half an Inch in Length, 6 Inches and a Quarter of an Inch in Breadth. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 554 A row of plain tiles, laid edge to edge, with their broad surfaces parallel to the termination of a wall, so as to project over the wall at right angles to the vertical surface, is called single plain tile creasing. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* § 2282 a, Parapets..finished with double plaintile creesing. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Plain tiles,* properly *Plane tiles,* those whose surfaces are planes.

Plaintiose, -ouse, -us, obs. Sc. ff. PLENTEOUS.

Plaintive (plē·ntiv), *a.* Forms: 4–8 as in PLAINTIFF; 6– **-ive.** [ME. a. OF. *plaintif, -ive,* corresp. to L. type **planctīv-us,* f. *planctus* PLAINT: see -IVE, and note s. v. PLAINTIFF.]

1. Complaining, grieving, lamenting; †suffering. Now *rare.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 6 How goodli that Penelope Of his lachesce was pleintif. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 654 Thus men by women, women wrongde by men, Giue matter still vnto my plaintife pen. 1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 500 To sooth the sorrows of her plaintive son. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 374 His younger Son..First Fruit of Death, lies Plaintiff of a wound Given by a Brother's Hand. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 240 The mere suffering of plaintive virtue.

†2. Being or pertaining to the complainant or plaintiff in a suit. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 3533 And eke also the cost Of euery party plentyff þat fallith in his pleynt. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. v. 240 Ryght and restytucion were made vnto the party playntyff of his actyon and demaunde. 1577 Parties plaintiffe [see PLAINT *sb.* 3β]. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 886 If in this place the Iudge doe signifie God, and the aduersarie plaintiue the Diuell. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. iv. 40 To heare the piteous beast pleading her plaintiffe cause.

3. Having the character of complaint; expressive of sorrow; mournful, sad.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Gen. Argt., These xij. Æclogues,..eyther they be Plaintiue,..or recreatiue,.. or Moral. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 473 His careful Mother heard the Plaintive Sound. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 3 Oft in the Winds is heard a plaintive Sound Of melancholy Ghosts, that hover round. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 479 The fiddle screams Plaintive and piteous, as it wept and wailed Its wasted tones. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 242 These songs are recited slowly to a peculiarly plaintive melody.

4. *Comb.,* as *plaintive-echoing* adj.

1740 DYER *Ruins of Rome* 48 They.. mournfully among The plaintive-echoing ruins pour their streams.

Hence **Plai·ntively** *adv.*; **Plai·ntiveness.**

1773 MELMOTH tr. *Cicero's De Senect., Remarks* 196 The alternate plaintiveness and boldness of his strain. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, So sweetly, so plaintively did the strain grow on the air. 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* xix, Gushes of rapture and plaintiveness. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 195 They tell you plaintively of how many evils their old age is the cause.

Plai·ntless, *a. rare.* [f. PLAINT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without complaint; uncomplaining.

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. 45 By Woe, the Soul to daring Action swells; By Woe, in plaintless Patience It excels.

Plainward (plē·nwŏɹd), *adv.* [f. PLAIN *sb.*1 + -WARD.] Towards the plain.

1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Tr., Charades* VI. ii, As pours the Anio plainward, When rains have swollen the dykes.

Plai·n-work, plain work. **1.** Work of a plain or simple kind, as distinguished from ornamental or 'fancy' work: *spec.* plain needlework or sewing, as distinct from fancy work or embroidery.

1715 POPE *2nd Ep. to Miss Blount* 11 She went, to plain-work, and to purling brooks. 1741–70 *Lett. Eliz. Carter,* etc. (1808) 19, I shall.. quietly proceed in the regular track and unambitious exercise of harmless plain-work. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk., Beatrice Merger,* She does beefsteaks and plain work. 1885 *Manual Plain Needlework* 145 Implements required for plain work.

2. *Masonry.* See quot. 1832.

[*c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 539 The tower of Babyloyne was begonne, Also playne werke of lyme and ston.] 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 315 Plain-work consists merely in the cleaning up of its surface. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) V. 677/1 Plain work is the even surface produced on stone by the chisel, without the necessity of taking away more than the mere inequalities...Sunk work arises from the necessity of chiseling or hacking away below the level surface of the plain work.

Plainy (plē·ni), *a.* [f. PLAIN *sb.*1 + -Y.] Full of or characterized by plains.

1796 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* I. 96 Forming..with its alluvion sand, much of the plainy peninsula of Arabia.

Plaisance, Plaisanterie, obs. var. PLEASANCE, PLEASANTRY.

‖ Plaisanteur (plęzaⁿtör). *rare.* [obs. F. *plaisanteur* 'a Jeaster, Buffoone, Parasite, pleasant fellow' (Cotgr.), f. *plaisanter* to jest, etc., f. *plaisant* PLEASANT, merry.] A jester, a witty talker.

1841 DE QUINCEY *Rhet.* Wks. 1862 X. 38 Polonius with his quibbles, could not appear a more unseasonable *plaisanteur.*

Plaise, obs. f. PLAICE. **Plaisir, -ur, -ure,** obs. ff. PLEASURE. **Plaister,** obs. f. PLASTER.

Plait (plē̆t, plæt, plāt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5–6 **playte,** 5–7 **playt,** 6 **plaite,** 6– **plait.** *β.* 5–6 **pleyt(e, pleite,** 7 **pleit.** *γ.* 6 **playght, pleyght(e,** 6–7 **plaight,** 6–8 **pleight.** See also PLAT *sb.*4, PLEAT *sb.*, PLET *sb.*1, PLIGHT *sb.*2 [ME. *pleyt, playt,* a. OF. *pleit* (Burguy), later *ploit* (14th c. in Godef.) fold, manner of folding:—late L. **plictum,* from *plicitum* a thing folded, neuter of pa. pple. of *plicāre* to fold.

For this sb. and the vb. the dictionaries generally give the first pronunciation above; but in living English use, the third is usual in sense 1, and the second in sense 2; which amounts to saying that, as a *spoken* word, *plait* is obsolete, and supplied in sense 1 by *pleat,* in sense 2 by *plat.* The first pronunciation appears however to prevail in U. S.]

1. A fold, crease, or wrinkle. **a.** A fold of cloth or any similar fabric, *esp.* a flattened fold or gather made by doubling the material upon itself; = PLEAT *sb.* 1. (Now generally written *pleat,* and usually pronounced (plīt) even when spelt *plait.*)

c. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 608/35 *Ruga,* a wrynkyl, or a playt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playte, of a clothe, *plica, plicatura.* 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Playte of a gowne, *ply.* *a* 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* I. ii, Thair kirtillis wer of lynkome licht, Weill prest with mony plaitis [*rime* gaitis]. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 203/40 Ye Playt of a cote, *plica, ruga.* 1687 RANDOLPH *Archip.* 40 Their stockings are most of red cloth, hanging in plaits. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 158 The multitude of plaits in their gowns. 1814 MOORE *New Cost. Ministers* 15 Every pucker and seam were made matters of State, And a grand Household Council was held on each plait! 1850 D. G. MITCHELL *Reveries Bachelor* 227 And then smoothed down the plaits of her apron. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 686/2 To change the width of plait, turn the nuts on the curved screw [etc.].

β. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 151 They haue suche pleytes vpon theyr brestes, and ruffes vppon theyr sleues, aboue theyr elbowes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. iv. 116 A Talbant high topped before deuided with twelue pleites or folds. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 121 To judge of lace, pinke, panes, print cut, and pleit [*rime* conceit]. 1683 CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* 74 Her silk gown..in equal pleits hung down Unto the Earth.

γ. 1542 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII,* c. 3 The said clothes..shall be folded either in pleightes or cuttelle. 1552 HULOET, Pleyght, *sinus*...Loke in playght. *Ibid.,* Playght or wrynkle, *ruga, rugosus,* full of plaightes. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. (1622) 51 The neather part full of pleights. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 10 He laps or Folds .. one part of it..into a Plaight.

b. A fold, wrinkle, or crease in any natural structure, e. g. in the lip, brow, or ear; in the integuments or membranes of insects or plants; a sinuosity of a coast-line.

1592 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* Poems (1869) 106 Therfore these plaits and folds the sound restraine, That it the organ may more gently touch. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 113 That towne ..stood as it were in a fold, or plait, or nouke thereof. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 23 A grave formal young man, his prim mouth set in plaits. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Sonn., Apprehension* 10, I should fear Some plait between the brows. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 60 *Funkia subcordata* has heart-shape leaves, of a bright green, with longitudinal folds or plaits.

β, γ. 1574 HYLL *Ord. Bees* i, Aristotle nameth them pleighted or ringed in that their bodies are deuided with pleights or rings. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 244 In thick pleites his browes are shrunk. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. iii. 6 The hinder part of their bodies is full of ringes, or pleights.

c. *fig.* A sinuosity or twist of nature or character; a quirk, a dodge, a trick; a winding, a hidden recess: usually implying artifice or deceit. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 299 *Oportet iudicem esse rudem et simplicem,* without plaite or wrinkle, sower in looke and churlish in speach. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. vii, Simplicitie; without folds, without pleights, without counterfeit. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 124 [To] search so narrowly all the plaits and hidden corners of the Papacie. 1622 HAKEWILL *David's Vow* iv. 144 A simple heart,.. without pleits and foldes. *a* 1667 JER. TAYLOR *Guide Devot.* (1719) 123, I do not desire that there should be any Fold, or Pleight, or Corner of it hidden from Thee. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 581 Two characters..of which he knew all the plaits and windings.

2. A contexture of three or more interlaced strands of hair, ribbon, straw, or any cord-like substance; *esp.* a braided tress of hair, a queue or pigtail; a flat band of plaited straw, grass, or vegetable fibre, for making hats, etc. (Commonly pronounced (plæt), and often spelt *plat*: see PLAT *sb.*4) Hence *three-, four-, six-plait,* etc. (dial. *three-a-plait, threesome plait,* etc.); *single plait,* a plait formed by knitting up a single string into a chain of loops, as in chain-stitch; chain-plait.

Brazilian plait, plait made of dried flag-grass, imported from the West Indies or South America. *Leghorn plait*: see LEGHORN. See also STRAW-PLAIT.

1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Playtes of a womans heer, *tresses; tressure.* 17.. *Mary Hamilton* in Child *Ballads* (1857) III. 325 But in and cam the Queen hersel, Wi' gowd plait on her hair. 1837 H. AINSWORTH *Crichton* I. 205 The rich auburn hair is gathered in plaits at the top of the head. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 317 Rye straw grown in Orkney has been found pretty well fitted to serve as a substitute for the straw used in Italian plait; and the manufacture of this straw into plait was carried on for several years to a considerable extent. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. 243 The most simple shortening for all descriptions of small cords is that known to boys as the single plait, but which seamen know as the chain knot. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* xiv. 138 They were fine-looking young fellows, wearing their hair in long plaits down their backs. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Sept. 4/1 English ladies purchasing an elegant straw bonnet at the Louvre are not, perhaps, aware that the plait was made by children in Bedfordshire, and the straw put together at Luton. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 July 13/2 The paper..is cut into strips and then plaited in a four- or five- or six-plait.

b. *Naut.* 'Strands of rope-yarn twisted into foxes, or braided into sennit' (Knight).

c. *Polish plait,* 'a matted condition of the hair induced by neglect, dirt, and pediculi, common in Poland, Lithuania, and Tartary' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.,* s. v. *Plica polonica*): see PLICA 1.

1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 812/2 He described the state of the hair when affected with Polish plait.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *plait-like* adj.; **plait-dance,** a dance in which the participants hold ribbons, which are plaited and unplaited in the

course of their evolutions; a ribbon-dance; **plait-net**, a kind of machine-made lace; **plait-stitch**, = PLAITED *stitch*; **plait-work**, a decorative pattern, of a kind frequent in ancient and mediæval art, in the form of interlacing or plaited bands.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Jan. 7/1 Native dancing girls go through the well-known and much admired evolutions commonly called the *plait dance. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 617/1 The stitches cross in the middle, and the *plait-like appearance is attained. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vii. 229 In 'fancy broad-net' the device as well as the ground-work are made at the machine. In '*plait-net' the same thing is observable, and also in 'tatting-net'. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 616 *Plait-stitch. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Book West* II. 43 The transition from *plaitwork to knotwork took place in Italy between 563 and 774.

Plait (plēt, plæt, plīt), *v.* Forms: see prec. sb.; also PLAT *v.*[8], PLEAT *v.*, PLET *v.*, PLIGHT *v.*[2] [f. PLAIT *sb.*, where see note on pronunciation.]

1. *trans.* To fold (a woven or other fabric, etc.); *esp.* to fold flat, to double; to gather in pleats; = PLEAT *v.* 1, and now commonly pronounced (plēt).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 212 To broche hem with a pak-nedle And plaited [*v. rr.* playte, plytyd, plyghted; *A.* pleted, pleit] hem togyderes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playtyn, *plico*. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* vi. (1633) 18 With wide hanging sleeves playted. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Tuesday 36 Will she with huswife's hand provide thy meat, And every Sunday morn thy neckcloth plait? 1732 *Acc. Workhouses* 153 Taylors are only employ'd to cut out their mantua's and plait them. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xvi. 139 Asked the washerwoman if she had plaited her cap. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 188 [He] wore his shirt frill plaited and puffed out..at the bosom.

β. *c* 1440 Y-pleite; 1467 pleytid [see PLAITED 1]. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. vii. § 18. 67 Wearing a kirtle therunder very thick pleited.

γ. 1538 ELYOT, *Sinuo*..it is also applyed to garmentes that are pleyghted or gathered vp. 1552 HULOET, Pleyght or folde a garment, *sinuo*. 1613 J. MAY *Declar. Est. Clothing* v. 26 Hauing the clothes pleighted and bound together with threds. 1657 BECK *Univ. Char.* I vij b, To plaight.

† **b.** By extension, To fold, bend, double up; to wrinkle, knit (the brows). *Obs.*

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 326 Wyth scharpe exus of stelle He playtede here basnetus welle. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 204/1 To Playt a nayle, *replicare*. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 81 Some.., seem farre older then they are, and plait and set their brows in an affected sadnesse.

2. To braid or intertwine (hair, straw, rushes, narrow ribbons, etc.) so as to form a plait, band, or rope (PLAIT *sb.* 2); = PLAT *v.*[3] 1, and now commonly pronounced (plæt).

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Pet.* iii. 3 Let it not be outwardly the plaiting of heare. 1611 BIBLE *ibid.*, That outward adorning, of plaiting the haire. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 386 Their haire..they plait it in two very long locks that hang downe ouer their shoulders halfe a yard long. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ii, The little wild boy..who used to run about and plait rushes some twenty years ago. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 122 An hour or more is occupied by the process of plaiting the hair. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, Little Margery..who plaited straw.

γ. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 76 Hir lockes are pleighted like the fleece of wooll. 1703 SAVAGE *Lett. Antients* liii. 135 If thou pleightedst thy Hair with one hand, thou wouldst be sure to handle my Purse with the other.

b. *fig.* To interweave (things immaterial).

1387–8 [see PLAITED 3]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. ii. 31 When devotion is thus artificially plaited into houres it may take up mens minds in formalities. *Ibid.* v. vii. 386 Till one unexpected counterblast of Fortune ruffled, yea blew away, all his projects so curiously plaited.

c. To felt, mat.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plaiting*, the interweaving of the felted hairs, forming a hat-body by means of pressure, motion, moisture, and heat.

d. To make (a braid, garland, mat, etc.) by plaiting.

1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xi. 297 Plaiting mats and baskets of stained reeds.

† **3.** To twist, to cross. (Of one or two things.) **a.** *trans.* **b.** *intr.*

a. 1616 in Dalyell *Darker Superst. Scotl.* (1834) 448 [She] past the boundis of hir ground, and thair sat doun plaiting hir feit betuix the merchis.

b. 17.. in Evans *Old Ball.* (1784) III. 175 The worm leapt up, the worm leapt down, She plaited round the stone. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 540 A too quick growing of the hoofs, which plaited under his feet and made him lame.

Plaited (see prec.), *ppl. a.* [f. PLAIT *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Folded, doubled, gathered in folds; furnished with pleats. In this sense now generally written PLEATED.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playtyd, *plicatus*. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 179/151 What schal þanne profite þi gowne y-pleite [*v.r.* waite]? 1467 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 57 Your short stuffede dowblettes and your pleytid gownys. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Mowbray's Banishm.* xxv, Their pleyted garmentes herewith well accorde. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 9 An English courtier,.. with his Gothic, succinct, plaited garment. 1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav. East* 29/1 The tube covered with plaited silk.

b. Wrinkled, corrugated, fluted, striated.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 241 A playted pyller gathereth dust. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 231 The body of this Columne is perpetually channeled like a thick pleighted Gown. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 386 *Plicatum*, plaited, folded in sharp Flexures from the Disk to the Margin. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 231 The plaited æstivation of the corolla. 1833 RENNIE *Alph. Angling* 51 The tail, with its peculiar fin, more or less plaited.

2. Braided, intertwined, formed into a PLAIT (*sb.* 2); interlaced, interwoven. Also PLATTED.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 15 Playted lockes pressing with cap of plate. 1694 ADDISON *Virg. Georg.* IV. Misc. Wks. 1765 I. 22 Tho' barks or plaited willows make your hive. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode Memory* v, A garden bower'd close With plaited alleys of the trailing rose.

† **3.** *fig.* Involved, complicated, complex. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 45 Diligent love, with many playted praisinges. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 15 (ed. 3) 520 He left behind him such plaited pictures in his history.

4. *Comb.* and special collocations, as *plaited-tailed* adj.; **plaited hair**, Polish plait: see PLAIT *sb.* 2 c; **plaited lace**: see quot.; **plaited stitch**, one of the stitches of worsted work or Berlin wool work: see quot.; **plaited string work**, a kind of fancy work made with small cord or string plaited or twisted into simple patterns; **plaited worm**, a fluke-worm of the family *Aspidogasteridæ*.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 394/2 **Plaited Laces*... Italy claims the first invention of these, and, much being made at Genoa, it was known as Genoese Lace, but as large quantities were also worked in Spain,.. plaited laces also received the name of Point d'Espagne. *Ibid.*, Plaited Laces are made upon a pillow and with Bobbins; the patterns are geometrical, and open, and have no grounds; for common purposes tinsel is used instead of real gold [wire or fine thread]. *Ibid.* 31/1 **Plaited Stitch*, this stitch is an imitation of the ordinary herringbone, and is frequently called by that name. *Ibid.* 396/1 **Plaited Stringwork*... Plaited string is a suitable work for ladies with weak sight..The work makes good table mats under hot dishes. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* (1850) I. v. 97, I soon came up with the eight *plaited-tailed animals which were dragging the mountain, second only in size to the Juggernaut idol.

Plaiter. [f. PLAIT *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which plaits.

1755 JOHNSON, *Plaiter*, he that plaits. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 432 Our weavers, taylors, and plaiters of false hair. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarèl* II. 87 Asses laden with straw for the plaiter's market on the morrow.

Plaiting, *vbl. sb.* [f. PLAIT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PLAIT; *concr.* something plaited.

[1406 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 76 En fuller des draps come en pleityng et rekkyng.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playtynge, *plicacio*. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Engurriamiento*, pleighting, *rugositas*. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* ii. § 8 (1689) 11 Keep them [hairs] from entangling together, which hinders their right Pleighting. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXV. 114 Crushing the limp plaitings of lace closer around her throat.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plaiting process*; **plaiting-attachment**, a mechanical device attached to a sewing-machine, by means of which the fabric is pleated; **plaiting machine**, a machine for pleating cloth or other fabrics.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1723/1 Of the numerous plaiting and tucking devices an example may be given. 1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* 2 Woollen stuff..wrought by the plaiting process without a loom. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. *Plaiting Machine*. *Ibid.*, Lower the plaiting knife by adjusting the nut on screw F.

Plak, plake, plakke, obs. forms of PLACK.

Plakard, -art, -erde, -ert, obs. ff. PLACARD.

Plan (plæn), *sb.* [a. F. *plan* (1553 in Hatz.-Darm.) a plane (surface), also, a ground-plan, subst. use of *plan, plane* adj., flat, plane, 16th c. ad. L. *plān-us* flat (being a learned or technical doublet of the popular *plain, plaine* flat, PLAIN).

In Eng. the two sbs. *plan* and *plane* divide between them the various senses combined in F. under *plan*.]

I. 1. A drawing, sketch, or diagram of any object, made by projection upon a flat surface, usually a horizontal plane (opp. to ELEVATION II): *spec.* (*a*) A drawing or diagram showing the relative positions of the parts of a building, or of any one floor of a building, as projected upon a horizontal plane. (*b*) A map of a comparatively small district or region, as a town, etc. drawn on a relatively large scale and with considerable detail. See also GROUND-PLAN.

In plan, as projected upon a horizontal plane (opp. to *in section*).

[1678 PHILLIPS: cf. 4.] 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Plan*, a Draught, Model, or Ground-plot; a Design, Ground-work, or Project of any piece of Work. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 87 Designed upon Rolls of Paper, call'd Plans. 1727 (*title*) The Designs of Inigo Jones, consisting of Plans and Elevations for Public and Private Buildings..by W. Kent, with..Additional Designs. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Plan*, in architecture, is..used for a draught of a building; such as it appears, or is intended to appear, on the ground; shewing the extent, division, and distribution of its area into apartments, rooms, passages, etc. ..*Geometrical Plan*, is that wherein the solid and vacant parts are represented in their natural proportion. 1731 [see PERSPECTIVE *a.* 3]. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 97 An exact Plan of the surface of the rock, as reduced to an horizontal plane. 1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* viii. 244 We see their [the planets'] evolutions, not in plan, but in section. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 5 When the portion of country delineated is but small, the sketch is generally termed a *plan*. *Mod.* The plans of the house have been submitted to me. In an ante-room there is a plan of the tables in which you can find your place.

b. A diagram, table, or program, indicating the relations of some set of objects, or the times, places, etc. of some intended proceedings (e. g. a table of the appointments of local preachers in a circuit or district). (Cf. 2, 3.)

1780 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 318 You [Christopher Hopper] was the very person who introduced plans among us. 1855 E. SMITH *Bot.* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.*, *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 151 Linnæan System..Reference to the annexed plan will show that the first eleven classes are named according to the number of stamens. .. The following tables contain a complete summary of the Linnæan plan of classification.

2. A design according to which things or parts of a thing are, or are to be, arranged; a scheme of arrangement; *transf.* disposition of parts, arrangement; a type of structure (viewed as designed); configuration (of a surface).

1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 6 A mighty maze! but not without a plan. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Pref. 4 A different plan .. might be more favourable to a commodious division and distribution of his matter. 1828 THACKERAY *Let.* in *Daily News* 15 Apr. (1898) 6/2, I have not yet drawn out a plan for my stories, but certain germs thereof are budding in my mind. 1855 W. S. DALLAS *Zool.* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.*, *Syst. Nat. Hist.* I. 202 Animals are constructed upon five primary types or plans, of which all the varied forms presented by these creatures are but modifications. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 7 The plan of the Laws is more irregular..than any other of the writings of Plato.

3. A formulated or organized method according to which something is to be done; a scheme of action, project, design; the way in which it is proposed to carry out some proceeding. Also in weakened sense: Method, way of proceeding.

1706 [see 1]. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. v. 74 Remember..The gen'rous plan of pow'r deliver'd down From age to age, by your renown'd forefathers. 1749 G. JEFFREYS in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) II. 213, I admire the execution of his plan, but not the plan itself. 1803 WORDSW. *Rob Roy's Gr.* 38 The good old rule .. the simple plan, That they should take, who have the power, And they should keep who can. 1837 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) IV. 229 Change your whole plan of campaign. .. Form yourselves everywhere into associations to gain knowledge which is power, and to communicate it through the press. 1855 [see 1 b]. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 279 All history is in one sense the fulfilment of a divine plan.

b. *Plan of campaign* (in Irish politics): see CAMPAIGN *sb.* 5 c.

II. (Rendering or imitating F. *plan*.)

4. a. *Perspective.* Any one of a number of ideal planes perpendicular to the line of vision passing through the objects represented in a picture, according to the distances of which planes from the eye the objects are proportionately diminished. **b.** *Sculpture.* The plane on which the figures in a bas-relief are raised above the ground, *esp.* one of several such planes giving more or less relief to different figures in the design.

a. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Plan* (in Perspective). 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Plan*, Perspective Plan, is that conducted and exhibited by degradations, or diminutions, according to the rules of perspective. 1904 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Crit.* III. 425 To receive and express more or less detailed images, and add, as it were, not merely stroke after stroke, but plan after plan, to the picture. **b.** 1780 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* x. (1876) 12 Making different plans in the same bas-relievos.

† **5. a.** = PLANE *sb.*[3] 1 a. *Obs.*

1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 244 It is always placed upon the same Plan or Level with the Sprig that bears the Berry.

† **b.** The surface on which anything stands. *Obs.*

1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 8 A Base adds a Grace to a Column; and..makes it stand the more firmly on its Plan.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1819) III. clviii. 190 Why always employ a professed plan-maker? 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 458/1 The regular and plan-like manner in which the pulsations of the heart..take place. 1905 *Academy* 7 Oct. 1027/2 The simple manner accepted by all plan-drawers, and intelligible to all plan-readers.

Plan (plæn), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To make a plan of (something existing, esp. a piece of ground or a building); to delineate upon or by means of a plan; to plot down, lay down. Also, to construct (a plan or diagram).

1748 *Anson's Voy.* Introd. 7 Employed in drawing such coasts, and planning such harbours, as the ship should touch at. 1764 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 221 Ordered that Mr. Eyes do plan the Corporation Estate, and colour it. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 66 Set down the measures properly in a field-book .. and plan them after returning from the field, by laying down all the lines and angles. 1904 M. R. JAMES *Ghost-stories Antiq.* 184 It occurred to me that..very few of the English preceptories have ever been properly planned.

b. To mark *out* into divisions as in a plan or diagram (said in *pass.* of natural structures). *nonce-use.*

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 248/1 The bone itself is planned out into small circular dimples.

2. To make a plan of (something, esp. a building, to be constructed); hence, to devise, contrive, design (a building or other material thing to be constructed).

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 272 Here she plann'd th' Imperial seat of Fools. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) 3 Plan the pavilion, airy, light, and true. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 188 In planning a large edifice, particular attention must be

paid to the situation of the stairs. 1893 COURTNEY in *Academy* 13 May 413/1 The gardens were planned by the best landscape gardeners of the day.

3. To devise, contrive, design (something to be done, or some action or proceeding to be carried out); to scheme, project, arrange beforehand. Also with *obj. cl.*, or *absol.*

1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 374 We needs will write Epistles to the King; ..Be call'd to Court to plan some work divine. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. xi, Cecilia the whole time was planning how to take her leave. 1804 WORDSW. *'She was a Phantom of Delight'* iii, A perfect Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and command. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvii. 121 We had planned an ascent of Monte Rosa together. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 470 Never was a campaign more ably planned.

b. To arrange for or include in a plan.

1899 QUILLER-COUCH *Ship Stars* ix. 75 There's a new preacher planned to the Bible Christians, down to Innis.

Planait, obs. Sc. form of PLANET.

Planar (plē·năr), *a. Math.* [ad. L. *plānār-is* (Mart. Cap.), f. *plān-um* plane: cf. *linear.*] Belonging to, situated in, or related in some way to, a plane. Hence **Planarity** (-æ·rĭti), the quality of being planar.

1850 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* I. 505, I propose to term the family of developables treated of in this paper, 'planar developables'... The developable which is the envelope of such a system [of *n* different planes] may be termed a 'multiplanar developable', and in the particular case of *n* being equal to unity, we have a planar developable. It would be very desirable to have some means of ascertaining from the equation of a developable what the degree of its 'planarity' is.

‖ **Planaria** (plănē·rĭă). *Zool.* [mod.L. generic name (Müller 1776), sb. use of fem. of L. *plānārius* adj. (prop. 'on level ground', but used as = 'flat').] A genus of the suborder *Planarida* of turbellarian worms, found in fresh or salt water or in moist earth, and having a flattened form.

Hence **Planarian** *a.*, belonging or related to the genus Planaria; *sb.*, a planarian worm, a flat-worm; **Planaridan** (-æ·ridăn), *a.* belonging to the suborder *Planarida*; *sb.* a planaridan worm; **Planariform** (-ē·rĭfōrm) *a.*; **Planarioid** (-ē·rĭ,oid) *a.*, of the form of or resembling a planarian.

1819 *Pantologia*, *Planaria*, in Zoology, a genus of the class vermes. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* I. III. viii. 406 The rudimentary eye, consisting, as in the *Planaria*, of a few pigment grains beneath the integument, may be considered as simply a part of the surface more irritable by light than the rest. 1857 WRIGHT in *Edinb. New Philos. Jrnl.* V. 307 The planarioid larva of Hydractinia. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Planarius*, planarian. 1876 tr. *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 46 According to Agassiz, a species of Planarian lives as a free messmate on the lower surface of the Limulus. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 182 The body takes on the ordinary Planarian character. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 30 Oct. 3/4 These Planarians or Turbellarians for the most part slay and kill as much as do their parasitic allies.

† **Pla·nary**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plānāri-us* level, f. *plān-um* a plane.] = PLANAR.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 185 Compound Figures of Magnitude Planary, expressible by closed Lines. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Planary*, of or pertaining to a plane, plain, even, smooth. [Hence in J. and mod. Dicts.]

Planceer, -eere, -ere, variants of PLANCIER.

Planch (plɑnʃ), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 **plaunche**, (5 **plange**), 6 **planche**, 6- **planch.** [a. F. *planche* plank, slab: see PLANK.]

1. A plank or board of wood; *dial.* a floor. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* (Camden) 43 Pro factura des plaunches in naui. 1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 15 He laid certayne plaunches and hurdelles over the diches of the diche. 1483 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 364 Suche person and persones..that occupieth the said Watyr-bailliffes planges. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 117 They went ouer planches, where they were cut off from the way. 1864 BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* (1872) 49 A strange-looking individual..crossed the 'planch' or floor to the fireplace where we sat. 1881 — *Christowell* v, Then the gardener..let down his 'planch', over the..brook.

2. A slab or flat plate of metal, stone, baked clay, etc.; *spec.* in *Enamelling*, a slab of baked fire-clay used to support the work during the process of baking.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 233 There sawe golde in planches like bricke battes. 1580 FRAMPTON *Dial. Yron & Steele* 146 They make it in certaine small thinne planches. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 18 A Portic..whose curious-wrought Planches of Stone are supported by Twenty-four Corinthian-Pillars. 1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* (1699) 31 The meal thus prepared, they lay on planches of iron made very hot on which it is converted to very thin cakes. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 206/2 The first coats are taken separately from tin covers, and placed upon thin planches of clay or iron, chalked over, and gradually introduced beneath the muffle, where, in a very short time, the enamel melts.

3. A flat iron shoe for a mule.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

4. *Comb.* **planch-nail** = PLANCHER-*nail*.

1350 in Riley *Lond. Mem.* (1868) 262, 12,000 de plaunche-nail..3,000 de dornail;..2,600 de wyndounail. 1364-1446 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 478-9; III. 448-51.

† **Planch,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 **plaunche.** [f. PLANCH *sb.*, or a. obs. F. *planche-r* 'to planke; to floore with plankes: to seele, or close, with boords' (Cotgr.), f. *planche* PLANK.] *trans.* To form of planks, floor or cover with planks.

c 1516 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 245 For plaunchyng wyth thyk bords the Pantrye. 1623 COCKERAM, *Cotabulate*, to planch. 1723 BORLASE in *Edin. Rev.* (Reference wanting) [A request] that the hall of the Mount may be planched for dancing.

b. *transf.* To clap *on* (something broad and flat).

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. ii, The next remedye..Is to plaunche on a piece as brode as thy cap.

Hence † **Pla·nched** *ppl. a.*, made of or covered with boards; boarded.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. i. 30 And to that Vineyard is a planched gate, That makes his opening with this bigger Key. 1614 GORGES tr. *Lucan* I. 18 Yet, with his hoofes, doth beat and rent The planched floore.

† **Pla·nch-board.** *Obs.* [f. PLANCH *sb.* + BOARD *sb.*] = PLANK-BOARD.

1394 in *Archaeologia* XXIV. 307 Materiem pro walplates et bemes, et plaunchborde et plegges. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clvii. [cliii.] 432 The great table of Marble..was made lengar with a great plaunche borde of Oke. 1551 *Inv. Ch. Goods Surrey* 124 For cc. of planche bourde at vi s. the c ffoote.

Plancher (plɑ·nʃəɹ), *sb. Obs.* or *dial.* Also 5 **plauncher, plawncher**, 5-7 **plauncher**, 7 **planchier, plainsher, plencher, -sher**, 7-8 **planchere**, 8 **-eer.** Also with suffix-change: 5 **pla(u)nchour, -e, -schour, playnchour, -shore**, 6 **planscheour, -seour**; 5 **planshar, -e**, 7 **planchard.** See also PLANCIER (PLANESHEAR). [a. OF. *plancher, -ier* (12th c. in Littré) planking, floor, ceiling, derivative of *planche* PLANCH *sb.*]

† **1.** A wooden plank, a board; also collectively, planking, boarding. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 47 Ouer þis bekk lay þe tree þat þe haly Crosse was made off, for a plauncheure to men at gang on ouer þat bekk. 1408 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 137 Item et in j roda planchoure emp. pro stauro, 8*s.* 1447-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 236 In xxvii de lez playnshorez empt. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 289 Ad metam unius plancher de arbore. 1552 HULOET, Plauncher, *planca.* 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 754 The Almightie laide the planchers of his high chambers amongst the waters. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 8 As it is in.. Beames and Planchers of Houses, which at first lay close together, but after they are dried, gave. 1730 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* vi. (ed. 3) 91 The floor may either be made of Planchers of Oak, or smoothly paved.

2. A floor (*dial.*) or platform (*obs.*) of planks or boards. Also *fig.*

1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 83 They ben scarse kne hey fro the plawncher. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. ii. (1878) II. 16 Beares..whose skins are by custome and priuilege reserued to couer those planchers wherevpon their priests doo stand at Masse. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 93 The earth being as a floore or plancher to go upon. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* v. (1617) 3 Now for the Plaunchers of your Stable, they should bee of the best hart of Oke that can be gotten. 1735 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 543 They make a Plancher, strong enough, sometimes, to bear the Weight of whole Armies passing over the Baltic. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Plancher*, a boarded floor.

† **b.** An upper 'floor' or story. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccc. 695 There was nothyng but a poore hall..and aboue a smale plancher, and a ladder of vii. steppes to mount vpon. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 185 Their castles and villages are very homely built without any plancher or stories.

† **c.** A wooden inner roof, or ceiling, etc. *Obs.*

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 19 Let hym..hang ouer them a..tent cloth tied to the roofe or plancher. 1621 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* 1303 The planchard was guilt, the wals enameled with flowers.

† **3.** = PLANCIER. *Obs.*

1564-5 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 231 As for either chimneys or plancher to be at this time builded, for that it may amount to excessive charge, ye may spare that cost. 1613-39 I. JONES in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 43 The Projection of the Planchere. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 101/2 *Planchier* is a great round out swelling, between other smaller mouldings. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 267 Corona, or Plancheer. 1728 R. MORRIS *Ess. Anc. Archit.* 54 The Ovolo..is hid in the Cavity under the Planchere.

4. *Anat.* 'The inferior wall or boundary of a cavity'. 1882 in OGILVIE (Annandale).

5. *Comb.* † **plancher-nail**, a flooring-nail.

1416-67 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 447-53. 1480-1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 96 M^l^M^l^DC stanebrod et M^l^C playnchournale, xs. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 294 For iij^c^ planschour nalis. 1515 *Ibid.* V. 11 For thre hundreth planchour nalis, vj.*s.* *Ibid.* 12 For dur naill, plan-seour naill, and windo naill. 1611 *Rates Outward* (Jam.), Nailles called plensher nailes, the thousand, iii.*l.* vi.*s.* viii.*d.* 1680 *Acc. Bk. Sir J. Foulis* (1894) 42 For 500 plencher naills at 6*s.* the hunder.

† **Pla·ncher,** *v. Obs.* [f. PLANCHER *sb.*] *trans.* To floor, cover, or lay with boards; to board, plank. Hence **Pla·nchered** *ppl. a.*, boarded, floored; **Pla·nchering** *vbl. sb.*, flooring.

1438 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 11 [Carpenters are working at] plancheryng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/1 Plawncheryd, *planculatus.* 1497-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 100 In le planshoryng et nalyng ibidem. 1516 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 244 Also shall plancher all the chambers..wyth goode and abyl boorde of oke. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 132 b, Towres were plaunchers, and battlements and portcolyses of timber set up. 1639 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* I. § 551 The inner-roof is plancherd with board, or arched. 1691 ABP. SANCROFT *Let.* in D'Oyly *Life* (1821) II. 16 We have a winter's work still to do..in paving and planchering..and plastering..&c.

† **Pla·nchery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PLANCHER: see -ERY.] Planking, flooring. In quot. *attrib.*

1519 *Inv.* in Rye *Cromer* (1889) 158, 13 parclos bords and 5 looks for windows 2*s.* 4*d.*; all old planchery bords 2*s.*

Planchet (plɑ·nʃĕt). [dim. of PLANCH: see -ET and cf. next.]

1. The plain disk of metal of which a coin is made; a coin-blank.

1611 COTGR., *Flanc*,..a coping, planchet, or plate of mettall readie to be stamped on, or coyned. 1794 PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD *Mental Improv.* (1801) I. 136 To cut out as many planchets or circular pieces of metal. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Notes on Coins* 8 In many instances the coin contained only a portion of the device, the rest having failed to reach the planchet.

2. A small board used in brick-making: = PALLET *sb.*[3] 3 b.

1764 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts* s. v. *Brick-making*, A planchet, or small board, used by the person who carries the bricks or tiles from the moulder to the drying beds.

Planchette (plænʃe·t, ‖plɑ̃nʃɛ·t). [a. F. *planchette* small board, dim. of *planche* PLANK.]

1. 'A small plank or board' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858).

2. An instrument, invented about 1855, used in the investigation of automatism and other psychical phenomena, consisting of a small board, generally heart-shaped, supported by two castors and a vertical pencil, which, when one or more persons rest their fingers lightly on the board, is said to trace lines or letters, and even to write sentences, without conscious direction or effort.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 372 Like the effusions of all the self-deluding users of the planchette. 1879 O. W. HOLMES *School-boy* 19 The truant goose-quill travelling like Planchette. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 6/1 For nine years he toyed with the planchette, the turned tables, in short used the familiar, hanky-panky means of communication with the unseen world.

3. 'A circumferentor'. (Simmonds *Dict. Trade.*)

Pla·nching, *vbl. sb.* [f. PLANCH *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PLANCH; laying of a floor.

b. *concr.* Planks collectively, planking, boarding; *esp.* flooring. *dial.*

c 1600 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 59 Her water pypes..are cutt up, the Coueringe lead gone, the Planchinges rotten. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 53 To plant their houses lowe..to couer their planchings with earth. *Ibid.* 66 b, Low thatched roofes, few partitions, no planchings or glasse windows, and scarcely any chimnies, other then a hole in the wall to let out the smoke. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Planching*, (in Carpenters Work) a laying the Floors of a Building. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* xxxiii. 452 If I thought that 'twas you was the cause of it, I'd scat out yer brains on the planchin. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Planchin*, the board of the floor. *Planchin-board*, flooring-board.

c. *Comb.* **Pla·nching-nail, ple·nshing-nail** (erron. *plenishing-nail*), a flooring-nail.

[1365 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 479/1 Planching-nails.] 1825 JAMIESON, Plenshing-nail. (Hence in Simmonds, Knight.) 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale) Plenishing-nail. (Hence in *Cent. Dict.*, *Funk's Stand. Dict.*)

Pla·nchment. *U. S. dial.* [f. PLANCH *v.* + -MENT.] Boarding; *spec.* ceiling.

1891 *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-lore* No. 13 *Planchment*, ceiling. Now seldom heard. An old woman says: 'The roof wets so, I'm afraid the planchment'll fall'.

Plancier (plænsĭə·ɹ). Also 7 **-eere**, 8 **-ere**, 9 **-eer.** [ad. OF. or obs. F. *plancier*, collateral form of *planchier*: see PLANCHER.] The under side of the corona of a cornice.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* etc. 138 The under part of the Roofs of these Corona's..are by our Artists call'd *Planceeres.* 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plancere*, in Architecture, is the Under part of the Roof of the Corona; which is the Superior part of the Cornice between two Cymatiums. 1827 MACKENZIE *Hist. Newcastle* I. 308 The planceer is ornamented with seven-leafed pateræ. 1886 G. T. ROBINSON in *Art Jrnl.* 51/1 Of timber construction, it [the ceiling] has a flat planceer about one-sixth of the whole width of the room, extending all round it; this is trabeated by large beams..From this projecting planceer a panelled tambour rises to a higher plane.

Plane (plē·n), *sb.*[1] Also 5-6 **playn**, 6 **plaine.** [a. F. *plane*, earlier OF. *plasne* (14th c.):—L. *platanus*, a. Gr. πλάτανος the Oriental Plane, f. πλατύς broad, because of its broad leaves.]

1. A tree of the genus *Platanus*, comprising lofty spreading trees, with broad angular palmately-lobed leaves, and bark which scales off in irregular patches; orig. and esp. *P. orientalis*, the Oriental Plane, a native of Persia and the Levant, commonly planted as an ornamental tree in European and British parks, town avenues, and squares, etc.; also *P. occidentalis*, the Occidental or Virginian Plane or Buttonwood.

P. orientalis was introduced into England shortly *a* 1562: see TURNER *Herbal* II. 95; and quot. s. v. Plane-tree. *P. occidentalis* was brought from Virginia by Tradescant shortly *a* 1640: see PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* (1640) 1427.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* XXX. 37 Thanne Jacob takynge greene popil zerdis, and of almanders, and of planes, a parti vn-ryendide hem. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxix. (Tollem. MS.), The plane is a colde tre and a drye, and þe leues þerof helep in hoot euele. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.*

402/2 Plane, tre, *platanus*. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas*. II. i. 1. *Eden* 517 Anon he walketh in a levell lane On eyther side beset with shady Plane. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 216 With spreading Planes he made a cool Retreat, To shade good Fellows from the Summer's Heat. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 442 Their leaves..in the Eastern or Asiatic Plane are palmate; and in the Occidental or Virginian, lobate. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 48 Two noble trees of the same kind, both naturalized in England—tho from different extremes of the globe—the occidental and the oriental plane. 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* I. ii. 50 The plane seems to be the most splendid tree of Greece.

2. In Scotland and the north of England applied to the species of maple commonly called 'sycamore' (*Acer Pseudoplatanus*), the leaves of which resemble those of *Platanus*. Also called *False, Mock*, or *Scotch Plane* (see PLANE-TREE b).

[1778: see PLANE-TREE b.] 18.. J. WILSON The Plane's thick head mid burning day suspends Impenetrable shade: bees humming pour O'er the broad balmy leaves, and suck the flower. 1875 W. M'ILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 18 These contrast their foliage with that of the Scottish fir and the plane.

¶ **3.** Erroneously for PLANTAIN.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 51 There grow in all these Islands .. great Reeds, spongy within, ..They are commonly called Banana-trees, or Planes.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plane-leaf*. (See also PLANE-TREE.)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 187 Arcadia .. is i-schape as is a plane leef [*velut platani folium*].

Plane (pleɪn), *sb.*[2] Also 6-7 **playne, plaine, 7-8 plain.** [a. F. *plane* (*planne*, 15th c. in Littré), altered, under the influence of the vb. *planer* to plane, from earlier OF. *plaine* (14th c.):—late L. *plāna* a plane, f. *plānāre* to plane.

In OF., L. *plānā're* gave regularly *planer*, while *plānat* gave orig. *plaine*, but by levelling this became *plane*. L. *plāna* sb. gave OF. *plaine*, but under the influence of the vb., as name of the plaining-tool, this was changed to *plane*.]

1. A tool resembling a plasterer's trowel, used by plumbers, bricklayers, etc., for smoothing the surface of sand, or clay in a mould, etc.

1349-50 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 550 In uno Ladil ferri, uno Plane, et aliis instrumentis pro officio plumbarii, emptis, ij*s.* vd. 1404 *Ibid.* 397 In custodia Plumbarii, ij planys. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 83 b, The Carpenter hath his Squyre, his Rule, and his plummet .. The Mason his Former, and his Plaine [1567, 1580 plane]. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 326/1 The [Plummer's] Plaine is a flat peece of Brass or Copper with an handle,..with this Instrument the Sand in the Frame is smoothed.

2. A tool, used by carpenters and others, for levelling down and smoothing the surface of woodwork by paring shavings from it.

It consists of a frame or *stock* of wood or metal, with a smooth base or *sole* (flat, convex, or concave, according to the nature of the work) which slides over the surface of the wood, and a steel blade (*plane-iron* or *bit*) set in it at an angle or *pitch* (varying according to the hardness of the wood to be operated on) so that its edge projects slightly through a slit or *mouth* in the sole; made in very various shapes and sizes, and usually provided with a handle fixed to the top of the stock. Also a similar tool for smoothing the surface of soft metal.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Plane, instrument (*H., P.* to makyn pleyn), *leviga*. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Plane an instrument for joyners, *plane, rabot*. 1576 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 261 Towe playnes, ij chesells, one handsawe, ij percer bitts, ij gourges, ij fyles. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 232 To hew a Block with Axes, and smooth it with Planes. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 274 With an Instrument like our Plain, [they] Shave it as fine as they Please. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 757 Their chissels, plains and wimbles. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 247 An assortment of more than 200 varieties of planes was displayed at the Great Exhibition.

b. With qualifying words, denoting various kinds used for different purposes;

as BENCH-*plane*, COMPASS-*p.*, DOVETAIL-*p.*, FORK-*staff-p.*, ICE-*p.*, JACK-PLANE, JOINTER-*p.*, *match-p.* (MATCH *a.*), MOULDING-*p.*, OGEE *p.*, OVOLO *p.*, PANEL-*p.*, PLOUGH-*p.*, REBATE-*p.*, SCALE-BOARD *p.*, STRIKE-BLOCK *p.*, TOOTH-*p.*, TRYING-*p.*, etc.: see these words. Also, **concave-plane**: see quot. 1874; **hollow-plane**, a plane with a convex sole, used for planing concave or hollow woodwork; **long plane** (see quot. 1875); **round** or **rounding-plane**, a round-soled plane used in making rounded work, as beading, stair-rails, etc.; **smoothing-plane**: see quot. 1823.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 73 Planes in use amongst Joyners, called Molding-planes; as .. the Hollow. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 245 The Long Plane is the third plane made use of in facing a piece of stuff. *Ibid.*, The Smoothing Plane..is the last plane which is made use of in giving the utmost degree of smoothness to the surface. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 604 *Concave Plane*, a compass-plane for smoothing curved surfaces. 1875 *Ibid.* 1113 *Hollow-plane*, a molding-plane with a convex sole. A *round-sole* plane. *Ibid.* 1217 *Joiner's-plane*, a bench-plane for facing and matching boards. *Ibid.* 1350 *Long-plane*, a joiner's plane used when a piece of stuff is to be planed up very straight. It is 2 feet 3 inches long. 1892 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 3/2 They are taught skilfully to use the jack-plane, the trying-plane, the smoothing plane, hand saw, tenon saw, and bow saw.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plane-maker*; †**plane-ax** = CHIP-AX (*obs.*); **plane-bit** = *plane-iron*; **plane-guide**, 'an adjustable attachment to a plane-stock, used in bevelling the edges of boards' (Ogilvie); **plane-iron**, the cutting-iron of a plane; **plane-stock**, the stock or body of a plane (see 2).

1611 COTGR., *Aisceau*, a Chip-axe, or one-handed *plane-axe, wherewith Carpenters hew their timber smooth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plane-bit*, the cutter of a plane; generally termed the *plane-iron*. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij b, *Plane Irons for Carpenters the dozen xiid. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 321 In the manufacture of the lighter sorts of edge-tools, and especially in plane-irons. 1800 *New Ann. Direct. Lond.* 108 Higgs, James, *Plane-maker, 8 Little College-street, Westminster. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 31 Experienced plane-makers.., use files to smooth their wood-work. 1611-12 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 34 Three playnes and ij *playne stockes. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 218, I .. make a Plain-Stock with my intended Molding on the Sole of it. 1875 SIR T. TRUESTON *Fret Cutting* 83 Lay the edge of the plane-stock occasionally across the board in various parts.

Plane (pleɪn), *sb.*[3] [ad. L. *plān-um* a flat surface, sb. use of neut. sing. of *plānus* adj., flat, introduced in 17th c. to express the geometrical and allied uses, which had been from the 16th c. (and were often down to the 18th) expressed by the historical form PLAIN. In F. *plan* had been similarly introduced *c* 1550. Cf. PLANE *a.*]

1. a. A plane superficies; in *Geom.*, a surface such that every straight line joining any two points in it lies wholly in it, or such that the intersection of two such surfaces is always a straight line; the simplest kind of geometrical surface, corresponding among surfaces to the straight line among lines. Hence, in *general* use, An imaginary superficies of this kind in which points or lines in material bodies lie; esp. a horizontal plane of such a kind, a level, as in 'clouds at various planes of elevation'.

Often (esp. in scientific use) with *of*, denoting the plane in which a particular figure, etc. is situated, or in or on which some process takes place; e. g. the plane of a circle, ellipse, etc., of the ecliptic, the equator, the horizon, a planet's orbit; a plane of denudation, of freezing, etc.; *plane of projection*, a plane upon which points, lines, or figures are projected. (See also below.) Also with defining adjs., as *cyclic plane, diagonal p., diametral p., osculating p., polar p., tangent p., vertical p.*, etc.: see these words.

[1570: see PLAIN *sb.*[1] 4 a.] 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 156 This doth happen when the axis of the visive cones, diffused from the object, fall not upon the same plane. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 179 A plane or a plane superficies, is that which is described by a strait line so moved, that all the several points thereof describe several strait lines. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. Ind.* 183 The pavement of the porch was also something rais'd above the plane of the Court. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 92 The Intersection of the Plane of any Planet, with the Plane of the Earth's Orbit, is the Line of the Nodes of that Planet. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* II. v. (ed. 2) 171 The plane of the beam must be so far raised above the plane of the head, that, when the plough is going at its proper depth, the beam may not be incommoded by any thing on the surface. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 276 The mists, dispersed through the air, repeated on different planes the lustre of his rays in rainbows of purple, and parhelions of dazzling radiance. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 563 These satellites move in a plane nearly perpendicular to the plane of the planet's orbit, and contrary to the order of the signs. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 278 A cable should be stretched across the river, on each side of the bridge, in the plane of its floor. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* II. § 11, I requested Mr. Hirst to fix two stakes in the same vertical plane, &c. 1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 38 The equinoctial points, where the planes of the equator and ecliptic cross each other are of great importance in astronomy. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 88 The guard-cells may, when mature, lie in one plane with those of the epidermis.

b. A material surface (approximately) of this nature; a flat or level surface of a material body. (In quot. 1796 = flatness of surface.) *Inclined plane*: see INCLINED *ppl. a.* 1. *True plane*: see quot. 1875.

[1571: see PLAIN *sb.*[1] 4 b.] 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. 8 Did not..the Ruggedness of the Plane, on which they move, stop their Motion. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xi. (1813) 132 Too much plane is to be guarded against. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 11 A precipitous declivity, which shelved down,.. in one plane of smooth rock, to the depth of 1000 feet. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 186 The property of the inclined plane. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1725/1 A 'true plane' is a gage or test of flatness. The 'true' planes exhibited by Whitworth at the Paris Exposition were polished metallic surfaces of 100 inches area...The error is said not to have exceeded the millionth of an inch. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Jan. iv, Poising the crystal bowl with fearful heed, Her eyes at watch upon the steadied plane.

c. *Dialling.* The plane surface (vertical, horizontal, or inclined) on which a dial is drawn; the surface of a dial, upon which the shadow falls.

1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron. & Geog.* (ed. 3) v. 137 Of the several Kinds of Dyal Plains...A Plane in Dyalling is that flat whereon a Dyal is described. 1703 — *Mech. Exerc.* 311 The South Erect Plane, declining more or less towards the East or West. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Dialling*.

d. *Perspective.*

Directing plane: see DIRECTING *ppl. a.* *Geometrical plane*, a plane parallel to the horizon below the line of sight, on which the object is supposed to be situated. *Horizontal plane*, a plane parallel to the horizon and passing through the eye of the spectator. *Objective, original*, or *primitive plane*, any plane situated in the object itself. *Perspective plane*, a transparent plane, usually perpendicular to the horizon, supposed to be interposed between the object and the eye, and intersected by straight lines passing from one to the other, which determine the points of the drawing: also called *plane of delineation* or *plane of the picture* (which terms may also be applied to the actual surface on which the drawing is made). *Vertical plane*, a plane perpendicular to the horizon, passing through the eye of the spectator, and intersecting the perspective plane at right angles.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Plane Geometrical,..Horizontal,..Vertical. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 708 The situation of the eye .. must be laid down upon the paper, on which the perspective drawing of an object is to be made, unless we propose to look at the object itself as through a transparent plane. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 540 A primitive plane is that which contains a point, a line, or a plane surface, of a given object. 1871 DICKSEE *Perspective* 24 Properly speaking the transparent plane should be understood to mean that vertical plane which is always assumed to be interposed between the spectator and the object to be represented...On the other hand, by the plane of the picture, which is frequently termed the plane of delineation, is meant the surface on which the perspective drawing is made. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 244 One of the essential suppositions of perspective is, that the picture plane should be vertical and the line of sight horizontal.

e. *Optics.*

Focal plane: see FOCAL 3. *Plane of the horopter*: see quot. 1704. *Plane of incidence*: see INCIDENCE 4. *Plane of polarization*, in polarized light, the plane which passes through the incident ray and the (reflected or refracted) polarized ray, and is perpendicular to the plane of vibration of the ether in the polarized ray. *Plane of reflection, of refraction*, the plane passing through the reflected or refracted ray and the normal to the surface (which always coincides with the plane of incidence).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plane of the Horopter*,.. is that which passeth thro' the Horopter, and is perpendicular to the Plane of the two Optical Axes. *Ibid.*, Plane of Reflection,..of Refraction. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* i. 5 The plane in which these two lines lie, is called the plane of incidence, or the plane of reflexion. *Ibid.* xviii. 159 A beam of common light .. consists of two beams of polarised light whose planes of polarisation or whose diameters of similar properties are at right angles to one another. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 653 The plane in which a polarised ray is most easily reflected is called the plane of polarisation; it coincides with the plane of reflection (or of incidence).

f. *Cryst.* and *Min.* Each of the natural faces of a crystal; also, an imaginary plane surface related to these in some way.

Plane of cleavage (or *cleavage-plane*), *composition p., diametral p., lateral p., terminal p., twinning p.*: see these words.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 225 This salt has the form of a prism of six planes, terminated by pyramids with six faces. 1805-17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 164 These planes would pass at the same time through the equilateral triangles. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 3 The planes of a crystal are said to be similar when their corresponding edges are proportional, and their corresponding angles equal. 1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* ii. 15 There are certain planes called planes of cleavage, in the directions of which natural crystals are easily divided. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 347/1 The external planes of a crystal are called its 'natural planes'; the flat surfaces obtained by splitting a crystal are called its 'cleavage planes'.

g. *Anat.* Any one of certain imaginary plane surfaces used as standards of reference for the positions of bodily organs, or (in *Craniometry*) of parts of the skull.

e.g. *alveolo-condylean plane, horizontal p. of Camper, plane of mastication, median p., nuchal p., occipital p., palatine p. of Barclay, sagittal p., temporal p.*, etc.: see these words, and quot. 1895.

1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 30 Their organs of sensation and motion are disposed in pairs on the two sides of an axis, or a median plane. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plane occipital, Craniom.*, term for that part of the external surface of the *squama occipitis* which lies above the superior curved line. *Ibid., P[lane]s of body*, certain imaginary plane surfaces used in Anatomy as standards of reference in describing the portions [? positions] and relations of organs. There are five such planes drawn as tangents to the surfaces of the body, namely, an anterior, a posterior, an inferior, and two lateral planes...*P. of mastication, Craniom.*, that plane which forms a tangent with the masticatory surface of the upper teeth. (Barclay.)..*P., palatine, of Barclay* (*Craniom.*), that plane which forms a tangent with the palatine arch, drawn along the middle line.

h. *Fortif.*

Plane of comparison, a horizontal plane passing through the highest or lowest part of a fortification or its site. *P. of defilade*, a plane passing through the interior crest or the highest point of a work, and parallel to the plane of site. *P. of site*, or *regulating p.*, a plane coinciding approximately with that of the ground occupied by a work.

1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1852) 283 A horizontal plane supposed to pass below, or ten yards above all the ground contained in the plan, and which is called the plane of comparison. *Ibid.* 289 The plane of site, or regulating plane. *Ibid.* 295 Suppose those five points are required to be placed in the same plane of defilade, or the five corresponding points of the sub-crests in the same plane of site, tangent to the exterior surface.

†**2.** = PLAN *sb.* 1. *Obs.* [Cf. F. *plan* = plane and plan.]

1639 in Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 129 He drew the Planes of them. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 33 Signior Marmero..hath given a Plane of the old City. 1693 *Paris Rel. Batt. Landen* 24 The Plane of the Battel. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plane* or *Plan*, (in Fortification) a Draught representing a Work as it would appear on the plain Field, were it cut off level with the Ground...See *Ichnography*.

3. *Mining.* Any main road in a mine, inclined or level, along which coal, etc. is conveyed in cars or trucks.

1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 137 Machinery for raising cars up the planes. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Plane*, an incline, with tracks, upon which materials are raised in cars by means of a stationary engine, or are lowered by gravity.

1890 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 3/4 The importance of travelling roads distinct from engine planes was fully recognised, and it was agreed that in all collieries where there are engine planes, travelling roads should be made for the safety of the men.

4. *fig.* (from a horizontal plane in sense 1) in reference to immaterial things, as thought, knowledge, moral qualities, social rank, etc.: Higher or lower level, grade, degree. (In quot. 1850, a metaphor from an inclined plane.)

1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lvi. VII. 160 Thucydidês, just before he gets upon the plane of this descending progress, makes a halt. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 154 They are on altogether another plane from Jesus. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 649 Evidently the organism was constructed to run upon a certain plane of heat. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. ii. 18 The superstitious man is on the same plane as the savage.

† Plane, *sb.*[4] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PLANE *v.*[2]] An act of 'planing', i.e. soaring with the wings extended and motionless.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xx. 16 Which when the Falconer sees, that scarce one plane they make.

Plane (plēn), *a.* [ad. L. *plān-us* flat, level; or, more properly, a refashioning (late in 17th c.) of PLAIN *a.*, in certain senses, after the original L. word, so as to differentiate these senses from those now expressed by *plain*. Cf. the learned F. adj. *plan, plane* (16th c.), similarly substituted in learned or technical use for the popular *plain, plaine*.]

1. *Geom.* Of a surface: Perfectly flat or level, so that every straight line joining any two points in it lies wholly in it (see PLANE *sb.*[3] 1 a). Hence applied to an angle, figure, or curve which lies wholly in such a surface.

[1570–1727 see PLAIN *a.*[1] 1 c.] 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plane Surface*, is that which lies even between its bounding Lines; and as a Right Line is the shortest Extension from one Point to another, so a *Plane Surface* is the shortest Extension from one Line to another. 1828 J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 20) 7 To make Plane Angles; and first a Right Angle, containing 90 Degrees. 1852 SALMON (*title*) Treatise on the Higher Plane Curves. 1859 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* IV. 207 The tangent is a line passing through two consecutive points of a plane curve. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* vii. 241 If all three sides are on the same plane, the triangle is called a plane triangle.

b. *transf.* Relating to or involving plane surfaces or magnitudes (and no higher or more complex ones).

Plane function = PLANIMETRIC function. †*Plane number* (obs.): a number formed by the multiplication of two (prime) factors, and therefore capable of being represented by a plane (rectangular) figure whose sides represent the factors: cf. LINEAR 3, quot. 1706, and the analogous uses of *square* and *cube*. *Plane problem*: see quot. 1704.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plane Number*, is that which may be produced by the Multiplication of two Numbers one into another. *Ibid.*, *Plane Problem*, in Mathematicks, is such an one as cannot be solved Geometrically, but by the Intersection either of a Right Line and a Circle; or of the Circumferences of two Circles. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 279 The various Uses of Plane Trigonometry. 1747 SIMPSON (*title*) Elements of Plane Geometry. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 1 Plane Trigonometry treats of the relations and calculations of the sides and angles of plane triangles. 1854 MOSELEY *Astron.* xxxvii. (ed. 4) 126 It is the object of.. Plane Astronomy.. from the apparent motions of the heavenly bodies to educe their true motions.

2. Of a material surface (also, of a body, having such a surface): Flat, level; not convex or concave.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 91 As age enfeebleth the eye, the form and figure of it becomes more plane and depressed than it was before. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xiii. (1765) 31 Plane, flat. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 525 Whitehaven Coal.. Fracture plane foliated. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 274 On a surface perfectly plane, hard, and smooth, a ball also perfectly hard and smooth, as well as globular, would be carried perhaps five hundred yards, by the same force that would scarcely carry it twenty yards upon the rough pavement. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. iii. 7 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) A plane glass .. has two plane surfaces parallel to one another. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* v. (1833) 117 The representation of objects in perspective upon a plane surface. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Plane*, flat or perfectly level; as in many leaves. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* x. 272 A crystal of 24 plane sides trapezoidal in form. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 798 Plane spots or patches of various sizes and shapes.

3. Combinations and special collocations: **plane ashlar** (see quot.); **plane chart** (†*plain chart*), a chart on which the meridians and parallels of latitude are represented by equidistant straight lines (cf. PLANE-SAILING); **plane-plane** *a.*, having the two opposite surfaces parallel and both plane, as a glass (opp. to *plano-convex, plano-concave, concavo-convex*, etc.); **plane-polarized** *a.*, of light, polarized so that all the ethereal vibrations take place in one plane; so *plane polarization*; **plane scale** (†*plain scale*), a scale or ruler marked with lines denoting chords, rhumbs, sines, tangents, secants, etc., formerly used in mathematical operations, esp. in navigation. Also in compound adjs. denoting a combination of a plane form with another, as *plane-convex* (= PLANO-CONVEX); or an approximation to the plane form, as *plane-umbilicate* (= flatly umbilicate). See also PLANE-SAILING, PLANE-TABLE.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 329 If the work be so smoothed as to take out the marks of the tools by which the stones were first cut, it is called *plane-ashlar. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vii. (1635) 167 The Geographicall Mappe is twofold: either the *Plaine Chart or the Planispheare. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 46 The making the plain Sea-Chard, and the true Sea-Chard. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Plane Chart*, a Plat or Chart that Seamen sail by, whose Degrees of Longitude and Latitude are made of the same Length. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Plane-chart*, one constructed on the supposition of the earth's being an extended plane, and therefore but little in request. 1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 631 The Telescope..with four Glasses, whereof the three Ocular ones, *Plane-convexe,.. and the fourth a Spherical Object-glass. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 659 If the two systems [of light-waves] are polarised in planes making an oblique angle with one another, a difference of phase equal to o or $m \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2}$ produces rectilinear or *plane polarisation, while every other difference produces elliptical polarisation. *a* 1853 PEREIRA *Pol. Light* (1854) 116 *Plane-polarized light reflected from metals becomes elliptically polarized. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 401 The disturbance will correspond to a plane-polarized ray of light. 1659 J. COLLINS (*title*) Navigation by the Mariners *Plain Scale new plain'd. 1701 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 15 *Plain Scale*, made of box, a foot long, with a double Diagonal Scale, Sines, Tangents, Secants, Chords, Rhombs, Leagues, Longitudes and Equal parts: used by Seamen to solve their questions in Plain Sailing and to save their Gunter. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 58 Of plane scales, there should be several sizes, as a chain in 1 inch,.. a chain in ½ an inch, &c. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 126 *Hymenoscypha tuba*.. Cup campanulate, disc *plane-umbilicate.

Plane (plēn), *v.*[1] Forms: *a.* 4- **plane**, (4 **plaan**). *β.* 4–7 **playn**(e, 4–5 **pleyne**, 6–7 **plaine**, 6–8 **plain**. [a. F. *plane-r* (12th c. in Littré), = Pr. *planar*, It. *pianare*:—L. *plānāre* to make flat, level, smooth, f. *plān-us* PLANE, PLAIN; from 14th to 18th c. also spelt *playne, plaine, plain*, in agreement with PLAIN *a.*[1], but now employed only in uses which are associated with the action of a carpenter's *plane*, and so spelt. See PLANE *sb.*[1]]

I. In general sense.

1. *trans.* To make (a surface) plain, even, or smooth; to level, to smooth; †also, to spread out evenly or smoothly (*obs.*). Also *fig.* (Now chiefly in the archaic phr. *to plane the way*, or as a fig. use of sense 3.)

a. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 678 He stont on hei3 Roche and sound, And is i-planed in-to þe ground. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 310 A cofer closed of tres, clanlych planed. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* x. 1 Plaan to thee two stonen tables, as the rather weren. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 336 Take þerof as miche as þou wolt, & plane it vpon leþer or vpon lynnen cloþ, & leie vpon þe place. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 188 Bot tho the stok of this tre doun was rent..To that entent to plane the batale place. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxix. 280 Pioners, whom he had sent before to plane the passages and ways. 1711 P. H. *View two last Parlts.* 239 This plan'd the Way to lay Addresses. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 346 Let us..exert our abilities..to plane the way for his passage. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 296 What student came but that you planed her path To Lady Psyche, younger, not so wise, A foreigner?

β. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxxv. (Tollem. MS.), Stones beþ .. hewe, playnid, and squared. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. vi. (1555), And floures ..Upon their stalkes gan playn theyr leues wide. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 91 Pare al the dichis euen, playn the brinke. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 82 He playned lovingli theyr fethers. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 134 It is ..discreete demeanour that playneth the path to felicitie. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 436 He had..Pyoners..to plain ways. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 128 The.. field without the Citie ought to be razed or plained a thousand paces round about. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 596 The pauement thus laid is to be plained and polished diligently with some hard stone. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. I. xx, Such as their Phyllis would, when as she plains Their Sunday-cloths. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 36 An Inscription engraven on a Table plain'd in the side of the natural Rock. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 230 Honest Inquiry and sober Freedom are the pioneers to plain the way before thee. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 521 The pressman..next examines his form, to see that it is properly locked up and plained down.

†**b.** *fig.* To smooth over, excuse, explain away.

13.. *Cursor M.* 26583 (Cott.) Noght wit wordes fayr and slight Agh þou for to plane þi plight. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4373 But if releef a-way my sorowe plane. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccxii. 228 They planed or excused the sharpenesse of theyr mysse lyuynge.

†**c.** To clear *away* (writing) by smoothing the surface of the tables. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 50 He planed awey the names euerichon That he biforn had writen in his tables.

†**d.** To level *with* the ground, to raze *to* the earth. *Obs.*

1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 4 Leaving them [cities] desert and plained to the grounde. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. lxxxix, The Suburbs first flat with the Earth he plained. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 42 All with the earth were plain'd.

†**2.** *fig.* To make plain or intelligible; to show or state plainly; to explain, display, show. *Obs.*

a. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 850 The pure Howlatis appele completly was planyt. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 87 Quha trewlie traistis in thy Godlie name, Sall never die Eternallie, I plane. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 349 To syle the suith, and sunge, I will plane 3ow.

β. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* v. 1230 But al for nought he nolde his cause pleyne. 1563 *Resoning Crosraguell & Knox* 26 b, In this manner of speaking, I will plaine my industrie. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 166, I dar not pen the speciallis, I do plaine 3ow. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ii. 18 By Æromancy, to discouer doubts, To plaine out questions, as Apollo did. 1659 [see *plane scale*, PLANE *a.* 3].

II. To smooth with a plane (the tool).

3. *trans.* To dress with a plane or planing-machine; to smooth down the surface of (wood, metal, etc.) with or as with a plane. Also *fig.*

a. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxii[i]. (Bodl. MS.), Bordes and tables .. beþ araied and hewe and planed. 1452 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 282 The selyng boord ..shalbe..clene planed, and the sparres shalbe planed also. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 167 For planyng of the same orys xij[d]. 1530 PALSGR. 659/2, I plane, as a joyner or carpenter dothe his tymber or bordes with a plane or rabatte. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1634) 130 First, for your table..plane it very even, and with Size..white it over. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 68 You must turn your Stuff to Plane it the contrary way. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 23 Get three pieces of brass planed perfectly flat. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 26 White pine wood planed as smooth as marble. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1729/2 The earliest machine for planing metal was invented by Joseph Moxon..The machine was employed for planing brass mouldings. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 183 Eating away the margin of the coast and planing it down, to a depth of perhaps 100 fathoms.

β. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xliv. 13 The carpenter..playneth it, he ruleth it, and squareth it. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 200/25 To Playne a bourd, *polire*. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 61 For planing the boards, and shooting them for a Square, two shillings. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 64 To lay Boards ..against, whilst they are Trying or Planing. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 27/2 Wood that is easily plain'd.

b. *To plane away, off*: to remove by or as by planing.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 10/2 The Summit of a Hill.. made level by plaining away the Top. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 57 In our American shops from two to four times as much wood is planed off as in Europe. 1902 LUBBOCK *Scenery Eng.* (ed. 3) 115 The projections of rock being planed off and the hollows filled up by the waves.

4. *intr.* To use or work with a plane.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 68 You must begin at the hinder end of the Stuff..and Plane forward. 1858 RAMSAY *Remin.* iv. (1870) 80 He.. taught us to saw, and to plane. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* iv. (1878) 51 But the man was again silent, planing away at half the lid.

Hence **Planed** *ppl. a.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* vi. 14 Make to thee an ark of planed trees. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxii. G ij b, A cleane foure square planed boarde. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxii. 96, I care not for the planed Stoic, there is a Sect between him and the Epicure. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 27 Planed timber and flooring.

Plane (plēn), *v.*[2] *rare.* [a. F. *plane-r* (16th c., Rab.), f. *plan* plane, because a bird when soaring extends its wings in a plane.] *intr.* Of a bird: To soar on outspread motionless wings.

1611 COTGR., *Planer*,.. to plane, as a bird that flies, or houers, without mouing her wings. 1775 TWISS *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 65, I observed many eagles planing over head. 1862 W. STORY *Roba di R.* ix. (1864) 177 Sometimes..far up in the blue height, an eagle planing over it on wide-spread motionless wings.

Planeness (plē·nnės). *rare.* [f. PLANE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being plane; flatness, levelness.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 202 Every strait line is like every other strait line, and every plane like every other plane, when nothing but planeness is considered.

Planer (plē·nəɹ). Also 6–8 **plainer**. [f. PLANE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who makes level or levels down.

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* 68 b, It is conueniente to haue plainers and labourers afore, who may make thee the waie plaine. 1883 in *Chicago Advance* 20 Sept., We may now regard our familiar earthworm as .. a 'planer of the mountain-side, a maker of fertile, alluvial corn lands'.

2. One who planes; a worker with a plane.

1598 FLORIO, *Dolatore*, a planer of boords. 1648–60 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Een schaver*, a Shaver, a Planer, or a Smoother. 1818 TODD, *Planer*, one who smooths with a plane. 1865 I. T. F. TURNER *Slate Quarries* 16 To calculate the wages due to the sawyers, planers, and raspers.

†**3.** An instrument for smoothing something, e. g. the surface of salt for the table, etc. *Obs.*

To this may belong quot. 1413, in which the word denotes a utensil belonging to a brewer.

1413 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 22 Y be-quethe to..Ion, I graners, an a flot, an a planer. 1513 *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 266 Than loke your salte be whyte and drye, the planer made of Iuory, two inches brode & thre inches longe.

4. A tool or instrument for planing wood; formerly, a plane (? sometimes, a chip-ax or adz); now, a planing-machine.

1596 THOMAS *Lat. Dict., Dolabra*, a carpenters axe, or .. a great plainer. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 493 A man shall see the fine shavings thereof run alwaies round and winding, ..as the Ioyner runneth ouer the painels and quarters with his plainer. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* v. 314 A great axe, first she gave that two ways cut;..A plainer then. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* ii. (1692) 5 Shavings of Wood (that Carpenters and Joiners are wont to take off with their Plainers). 1864 [see 6]. 1883 INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 208/2 To them are attached planers, shingle machines .. and so on. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 670 There will be.. heavy planers, boring mills, and other large tools.

5. *Printing.* A block of wood with a strip of leather at the top, which is struck with a mallet to beat down projecting types in a form.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Planer*.. a flat square-made piece of wood, used by the compositor for forcing down the

type in the form, and making the surface perfectly even. 1880 *Print. Times* 15 Feb. 30/1 The appliances .. consist of brushes for moulding .. mallet, planer, blanket. 1896 T. L. De Vinne *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 408 The 'Dressing-block' is now known as the planer.

6. *attrib.* (in sense 4), as *planer-bar, -centre, -chuck, -knife, -knife-grinder, -vice*, parts of a planing-machine; **planer-head**, the slide-rest of a planing-machine; **planer tool**, a tool used for planing.

1864 Webster, *Planer-head*, the slide-rest of a planing machine, or planer. 1873 J. Richards *Wood-working Factories* 108 For planer-knives, have a coarse grain soft stone..not less than 40 inches in diameter when new. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Planer-bar*, a device attached to a planer for the purpose of effecting in part the work of a slotting or shaping machine. 1884 *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 274/2 There is .. a great difference of opinion with regard to..tempering..in the case of planer tools for iron.

Planerite (plæ·nərəit). *Min.* [Named 1862 after its discoverer D. J. Planer, mine director: see -ITE[1] 2 b.] A hydrous phosphate of aluminium, allied to wavellite, found in quartz.

1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 576 *Planerite.* Under this name Hermann has described .. a mineral from the copper mines of Gumeschefsk, in the Ural. It occurs in thin, sub-crystalline, botryoidal layers in the cavities of a quartz rock... Color on fresh surface verdigris-green, passing to olive-green on exposure to the air.

Pla·ner-tree. [From the surname of I. J. Planer, a German botanist, whence the genus has its mod.L. name *Planera.*] A small tree (*Planera aquatica, P. Gmelini*, or other species) allied to and resembling the elm, found in moist situations in the Southern United States.

1884 Miller *Plant-n., Planera aquatica* and other species, Planer-tree. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gardening, Planera* (named in honour of I. J. Planer, a German botanist, who published a Flora of Erfurt, in 1788)...*P. aquatica*..Planer-tree...Southern United States, 1816.

Plane sailing. In 7–8 plain *s.* [f. Plane *sb.*[3], formerly *plain.*] In *Navigation*, The art of determining a ship's place on the theory that she is moving on a plane, or that the surface of the earth is plane instead of spherical; navigation by a *plane chart*: see Plane *a.* 3.

This is a simple and easy method, approximately correct for short distances, esp. near the equator.

1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. I. 90, 2 Dollars..which I had gotten .. by teaching some of our young Seamen Plain Sailing. 1756 Rolt *Dict. Trade, Plain Sailing*, in navigation, is the art of working the several cases and varieties in a ship's motion on a plain chart. 1815 Burney *Falconer's Dict. Marine, Plane Sailing* .. is that which is performed by means of a plane chart; in which case, the meridians are considered as parallel lines, the parallels of latitude are at right angles to the meridians, the lengths of the degrees on the meridians, equator, and parallels of latitude, are every where equal. 1857 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Plane-sailing*, that part of navigation which treats a ship's course as an angle, and the distance, difference of latitude, and easting or westing, as the sides of a right-angled triangle. The easting or westing is called departure. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., In plane-sailing, the principal terms made use of are the course, distance, departure, and difference of latitude, any two of which being given the others can be found.

b. *fig.* A course so simple as to leave no room for mistakes. In this sense now commonly spelt Plain sailing, q.v.

1858 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* I. liv. 212 The motion at first looks as if it was all what sailors call plane sailing. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., Plane-sailing is so simple that it is colloquially used to express anything so easy that it is impossible to make a mistake.

Planeshear(plē·nʃĭəɹ),**planksheer**(plæ·ŋkʃĭəɹ). Forms: 8 **plansheer, -shire**, 9 **planeshear, -sheer, plankshear, -sheer.** [A corruption of Plancher *sb.*, by imagined connexion with Plane, Plank, and Sheer *sb.*] A continuous planking, covering the timber-heads of a wooden ship, in men-of-war forming a shelf below the gunwale; = *covering-board* (Covering *vbl. sb.*[1] 3); also loosely applied to the gunwale.

1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 75 Great Rail at the After End, besides the Planshire Fore and Aft. *Ibid.* 162 Plansheers; the finishing part at the Top of the Ship-side. 1832 Marryat *N. Forster* xvii, He was on the plane-sheer of the brig. 1833 — *P. Simple* I, We discharged our ten muskets, into the boat, but this time we waited until the bowman had hooked on the planeshear with his boat-hook, and our fire was very effective. 1869 Sir E. J. Reed *Shipbuild.* xii. 238 A continuous angle-iron, which also serves to receive the fastenings of the wooden plankshear.

So, in same sense, **Plank-sheering.**

a 1687 Petty *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. i, Between the Plank-sheering, and the Keels.

Planet (plæ·nĕt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–6 **planete**, (4–6 **-ette**, 5 **-ett**, *Sc.* **-ait**, 6 *Sc.* **-eit**, 7 **plannet**(t), 5– **planet.** [ME. a. OF. *planete* (F. *planète*), ad. late L. *planēta* or *planētēs* (cited only in pl. *planētæ* = cl. L. *stellæ errantes*), a. Gr. πλανήτης wanderer, hence, in *pl.* (ἀστέρες) πλανῆται wandering stars, planets, f. πλανᾶν to lead astray, in *passive* to wander. (Another Gr. form was πλάνης, -ητος, in pl. πλάνητες ἀστέρες, L. *planētes.*)]

†1. *Old Astron.* A heavenly body distinguished from the fixed stars by having an apparent motion of its own among them; each planet, according to the Ptolemaic system, being carried round the earth by the rotation of the particular sphere or orb in which it was placed. *Obs.*

The seven planets, in the order of their accepted distance from the Earth, were the Moon, Mercury, Venus, the Sun, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn.

[*c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 320 Þa steorran þe man hæt planete on lyden.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1550 (Cott.) Þe planetes all ar went again O þair first making in to þe state. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4366 Venus the worthy .. of planettes of prise has hor pure nome. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1695 The seuyn planettys Haue her propre names by astronomers. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 500 Quhill day began to peyr; A thyk myst fell, the planet was not cleyr. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xx. 60 A way that is comune to the vii planetes. 1600 Nashe *Summer's Last Will* Dj, Resplendent Sol, chiefe planet of the heauens. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. (1651) 45 Gregorius Tholosanus makes seven kindes of ætherial spirits or angels, according to the number of the seven Planets, Saturnine, Jovial, Martial. 1687 tr. *Marana's Turkish Spy* I. xii. 35 It is a great while since we have had any Commerce here with the Sun; there being forty nine Days since this beauteous Planet appeared to us. 1727 Bailey vol. II. s. v., There is none of the Planets, except the Sun that shines with his own Light. 1766 Porny *Heraldry* (1787) 19 Arms..are blazoned..by Planets, when they belong to Sovereign Princes, Kings, and Emperors.

b. *esp.* in *Astrol.*, said with reference to the supposed 'influence' or quality of any one of these bodies in affecting persons and events; in later usage said vaguely or allusively of an occult controlling fateful power.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 431 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 312 Þe planetes ne doth non oþur bot ȝiuez in mannes wille, To beon luþur oþur guod ase heore uertue wole to tille. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 21 Whan the planetes ben vnder thilke signes, þei causen vs by hir influence operaciouns & effectes lik to the operaciouns of bestes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xviii. 81 Þai dwell vnder a planett þat es called Saturnus. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 616 The wittie Captaynes .. thought it necessary to take the tyme while their good planet reigned. 1570 Golding *Justin* XIX. 99 Sodainly by the influence of a pestilent planet, [he] lost all his men of warre. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 93 Blind, astonish'd, and strook with superstition as with a Planet. 1738 Swift *Pol. Conversat.* 82, I was born under a Threepenny Planet, never to be worth a Groat. 1837 Mrs. Sherwood *Henry Milner* III. ix. 176 One of us poor creatures who are born under a three-halfpenny planet.

c. *To rain*, etc., *by planets, in planets* (*dial.*): see quots. *To rule a planet*, said † (*a*) of the zodiacal sign in which the planet is (*obs.*), (*b*) of a person, To calculate a horoscope, practise astrology. *dial.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 175 That wykked syng so rewled the planait; Saturn was than in till his heast stait. 1670 Ray *Eng. Prov.* 45 *It rains by planets*, this the Countrey people use when it rains in one place and not in another; meaning that the showers are governed by the Planets. 1807 Stagg *Poems* 22 Heavier now the tempest musters, Down in plennets teems the rain. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v., In changeable weather the rain and sunshine come and go by planets. A man of unsteady mind acts by planets; meaning much the same as by fits and starts. 1882 in Lucas *Stud. Nidderdale* 206 That no two floods in Nidderdale are alike in effect, which is locally accounted for by saying, 'that the rain falls in planets'. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., To 'rule the planets' is to practise rustic astrology. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., 'He's getten his planet ruled.'

2. *Mod. Astron.* The name given to each of the heavenly bodies that revolve in approximately circular orbits round the sun (*primary planets*), and to those that revolve round these (*secondary planets* or Satellites).

The primary planets comprise the *major planets*, of which eight are known, viz., in order of distance from the sun, Mercury, Venus, the Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune, and the *minor planets* or Asteroids, the orbits of which lie between those of Mars and Jupiter.

1640 Wilkins (*title*) A Discovrse concerning a New Planet. Tending to prove, That 'tis probable our Earth is one of the Planets. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 163 Who can imagine that any of the primary Planets were wholly designed for the service of Us and our Earth? 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., We now number the Earth among the Primary Planets, because we know it moves round the Sun, ..and that in a Path or Circle between Mars and Venus. 1710 *Ibid.* II. s. v., The Motions of the Secondary Planets or Satellites round their Primary ones. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 510 The primary planets are again distinguished into superior and inferior. The superior planets are those farther from the sun than our Earth..and the inferior planets are those nearer the sun. 1836 MacGillivray tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xix. 279 The waters have scooped a great hollow..in the ancient revolutions of our planet. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* Concl. 138 The man, that with me trod This planet. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xxi. 371 Astronomers are acquainted with 182 bodies called planets.

3. *fig.* In various obvious senses: e. g. a source of influence; a luminary; (*rogues' cant*) a candle.

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xcix, Hye quene of lufe! sterre of beneuolence! Pitouse princes, and planet merciable! 1596 Drayton *Legends* ii. 237 Those two bright Planets, cleerer then the Seven, That with their Splendor, light the World to Heaven. 1790 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 571 What the conjunctions and oppositions of two such political planets may produce, I know not. 1840 Longf. *Sp. Stud.* III. v, As soon as you see the planets are out, in with you.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *planet-making, -prognosticator, -ruler* (cf. I c), *-sphere*; also *planet-blazoned, -crested, -producing, planet-like* adjs.; **planet-book**, a book professing to tell fortunes by means of the planets; **planet-gear, -gearing**, a system of gearing in which planet-wheels are introduced; a mechanical combination for converting power into speed; **planet-wheel**, the exterior wheel which revolves round the central or sun wheel, in the Sun-and-planet motion. See also Planet-stricken, -struck.

1839 Barham tr. *Grotius' Adamus Exul* 43 This vast and *planet-blazoned universe. 1677 *Rosamond* in Evans *Old Ballads* (1784) I. 72 Go fetch me down my *planet-book,.. For in the same I mean to look, What is decreed my doom. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 72 If..you be borne so neere the dull making Cataphract of Nilus, that you cannot heare the *Plannet-like Musick of Poetrie. 1715 Cheyne *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. 74 The Sun and fixt Stars are only Planet-like Bodies, vehemently heated. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xxiv. (1848) 303 Oh! let not a planet-like eye Imbeam its tale on thine. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 23 Away..with all superstitious hearkning to weather-wizzards, *planet-prognosticators, and fortune-spellers! 1894 *Spectator* 17 Feb. 231 She went to consult a *planet-ruler (the name now given to white witches) in Bristol. 1864 Webster, *Planet-wheel.* 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1727 The latter sleeve has an arm carrying a planet-wheel.

Hence † **Pla·net** *v. Obs. rare* (with *it*), to divine by the planets; **Pla·neted** *ppl. a.*, placed in a planet; **Pla·neting** *vbl. sb.*, the (fabled) singing or music of the planets.

1596 Nashe *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 121 A singular Scholler, .. set vpon it, and answered it in Print .. demonstrating what a lying Ribaden, and Chinklen Kraga it was, to constellate and plannet it so portentously. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 777 Tell me, all Ye Starr'd, and Planeted, Inhabitants! What is it? 1635 B. Jonson *Sad Sheph.* III. ii, Tempering all The jarring spheres, and giving to the world Again his first and tuneful planetting.

Planet (plæ·nĕt), *sb.*[2], ‖ **planeta** (plănī·tă). [ad. med.L. *planēta* (633, Fourth Council of Toledo) a chasuble, orig. a name of the *pænula, infula, casula*, a large cloak or mantle worn by travellers; perh. from Gr. πλανήτης a wanderer.] A chasuble, esp. in its primitive form of a large loose mantle covering the whole body.

a. 1602 *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) II. 28 A supplication for me to have a planet, chalice, and crucifix. *a* 1746 Lewis in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 178 This garment [the priest's chasuble] was likewise called a Planet, to distinguish it, I suppose, from the Chesible worn by the Deacon. 1885 Dixon *Hist. Ch. Eng.* III. 190 They bore on their left arm a folded planet or chasuble. 1894 Reichel in *Trans. Exeter Archit. & Archæol. Soc.* I. 37 Neither deacons nor subdeacons wear the neckcloth, but walk in white albs and planets.

β. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 403 The planeta, which was a mantle made of a wide circular piece of cloth with an aperture in the middle for the head to pass through. 1867 C. Walker *Ritual Reason Why* 179 The planeta or planet, so called because from being folded back it presented the appearance of a star when partially eclipsed.

Pla·ne-ta·ble, *sb.* Also 7–9 **plain-table.** [f. Plane *a.* + Table *sb.*] A surveying instrument used for measuring angles in mapping, consisting of a circular drawing-table mounted horizontally on a tripod, and having an alidade pivoted over its centre.

1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* III. 127 Two principall instruments, fit..for the plotting of grounds, ..a plaine table, and the Theodolite which sometimes I use. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Surveying*, To explain, in a very easy and concise manner, the use of the plain table. 1828 Hutton *Course Math.* II. 76 In surveying with the plain table, a field-book is not used. 1871 Proctor *Light Sc.* 274 The plane-table is a flat board turning on a vertical pivot.

Pla·ne-ta·ble, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To survey with the plane-table.

1871 Proctor *Light Sc.* 274 The principle of plane-tabling enters so largely into Indian surveying, that our notice would be incomplete without a brief account of this simple and beautiful method. 1886 *Athenæum* 3 July 21/2 Major Holdich with his assistants, Capts. Gore and Talbot, have plane-tabled an extent of 15,000 square miles.

Hence **Pla·ne-ta·bler,** a surveyor using a plane-table; **Pla·ne-ta·bling,** the employment of a plane-table; surveying by means of the plane-table.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Pla·netal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Planet *sb.*[1] + -al.] Of or belonging to the planets, planetary.

1624 Darcie *Birth of Heresies* xxii. 104 The body it self of the planetall Sunne remaines and continues in his spherical Orbe.

Planetarian (plænētē·ə·riăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. late L. *planētāri-us* Planetary + -an.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to or connected with a planet or planets; planetary.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 275 They refused to worship (the planetarian god) the sun. 1811 Southey in *Q. Rev.* VI. 337 The planetarian temple is well imagined.

B. *sb.* †1. An astrologer. *Obs.*

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 85 Dreams of later planetarians, or magicall astrologians.

2. An inhabitant of a planet.

1829 J. Miller *Sibyl's Leaves* I. 217 Are your planetarians long or short, biped or decemped? 1855 B. Powell *Ess.* 179 The most plausible image we can conjure up of the nature and appearance of lunarians or planetarians.

Planetarily (plæ·nĕtărĭli), *adv.* [f. Planetary *a.* + -ly[2].] After the manner of a planet; *fig.* with uncertain recurrence.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 274 Under the Sun is the bright star Venus mooving diurnally and planetarily. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 27 That friendship which is not moved primarily by the proper intelligence, discretion, .. returns to the true first station and place of friendship planetarily, which is uncertainly and seldome.

‖ **Planetarium** (plænétē·riŭm). [mod.L., f. *planētārius* PLANETARY: see -ARIUM.] A machine illustrating by the movement of its parts the motions of the planets; an orrery.

1774 J. ADAMS *Diary* 27 Aug., Wks. 1850 II. 356 Here we saw..an orrery or planetarium, constructed by Mr. Rittenhouse, of Philadelphia. 1805 H. K. WHITE *Rem.* I. 170, I have constructed a planetarium, or orrery, of a very simple kind. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* i. (ed. 3) 35 A little arrangement usually called the electrical planetarium.

b. A plan, model, or structure, representing the planetary system.

1860 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert* i. 15 The mystery of the chalk planetarium was solved. 1901 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 6/3 Stonehenge has been variously..called a temple of the sun, and of serpent worship, a shrine of Buddha, a planetarium, a gigantic gallows on which defeated British leaders were solemnly hung in honour of Woden.

c. The planetary system. *rare.*

1835 CHALMERS *Nat. Theol.* I. II. i. 219 It is passing marvellous that we should have more intense evidence for a God in the construction of an eye than in the construction of the mighty planetarium.

Planetary (plæ·nétări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *planētārius*, prop. adj. 'belonging to a planet or planets', but only recorded as sb., an astrologer (Augustine). So F. *planétaire.* (The normal L. adj. would be *planētāris*: cf. *stellāris.*)]

A. *adj.* **1.** Belonging to, or connected with, a planet or planets; of the nature of, or resembling a planet; having some attribute of a planet.

Planetary ellipsoid, planetary nebula: see quots. 1854 and 1881. *Planetary system*, the system comprising the sun and planets, the solar system; also *fig.* a system of correlated parts. *Planetary year*: see YEAR.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. ii. (1611) 85 Of Starres some are fixed, and some are planetary or wandering. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* v. 141 As the sun in the firmament is said to walk from one planetary house to another. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 11 To stretch our Victories beyond Th' Extent of planetary Ground. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 425 The Inclination of any Planetary Orbit to the Plane of the Ecliptic. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 299 *note*, Lilly..was universally reputed for his supposed planetary knowledge. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 289 They proved, that the planetary system is stable. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 169 The determination of the Planetary Orbits. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* xi. 173 Planetary nebulae, or such as resemble planets from their discs being round or slightly oval. 1869 tr. *Pouchet's Universe* (1871) 511 All the stars are, according to Kepler, only suns like ours, each of which has its planetary system. 1881 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 221 Ellipsoids of this kind, which are figures of revolution about their conjugate axes, are called planetary ellipsoids.

b. esp. in *Astrol.* with reference to the supposed 'influence' of a planet.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 108 Be as a Plannetary plague, when Ioue Will o're some high-Vic'd City, hang his poyson In the sicke ayre. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* II. II. iv. (1635) 53 By Thunder, Lightning, or other planetarie stroakes. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 472 Casting schemes by planetary guess. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 92 The Captain..perceiving him, by I know not what private Planetary Marks, to be an Engine form'd..for his Use. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 102 The astrological scheme of the Aztecs was founded less on the planetary influences than on those of the arbitrary signs they had adopted for the months and days. 1861 C. W. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 459 Planetary rings, to which wonderful virtues were ascribed in the Middle Ages, were formed of the gems assigned to the several planets, each set in its appropriate metal.

c. *Planetary hour*, the twelfth part of the natural day or night; called also *unequal hours* because they vary in length: see HOUR 1.

In *Astrol.* supposed each to be ruled by a planet, the first and eighth by that after which the day is named, the others by the other planets in succession, the order being from Saturn to the Moon.

1593 FALE *Dialling* 43 Which may shew the place of the Sunne in every Signe, and likewise the planetary or vnequall houres. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 11, I was born in the Planetary hour of Saturn. 1674 MOXON *Tutor Astron.* IV. iii. (ed. 3) 130 The first of these Planetary Hours takes its denomination from the Planetary Day; and the rest are named orderly from that Planet according to the succession of the Planetary Orbs. As if it be Munday, that is the Moons day..the Planet reigning the first Hour shall be ☽, the Planet ruling the second Hour shall be ☿. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 444 This, gather'd in the Planetary Hour, With noxious Weeds, and spell'd with Words of Pow'r. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. viii. (1715) 74 By Astronomers term'd unequal and Planetary Hours.

d. *Her.* Relating to the use of the names of planets for tinctures.

1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* III. iv. 37 The planetary part of blazon doth well become persons that are above the vulgar.

2. Belonging to this planet; terrestrial, mundane.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 769 The Latin language has a planetary importance; it belongs not to this land or that land, but to all lands. 1901 F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* § 320 I. 96 That .. response to our surroundings which forms not only the planetary but the cosmic history of all our race.

3. *fig.* Wandering like a planet; erratic.

1607 J. KING *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 26 Other planetary, cursorie, moueable from place to place, as Gerard, Tesmond, Hammond, Hal, with the like. 1636 SAMPSON *Vow-Breaker* I. i. B ij, Weomens minds are planetary, and amble as fast as Virginalls Iackes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 68, I am credibly informed he..disliked his own erratical and planetary life. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* iii. 116 Such wandring, unprincipled, Planetary men as these. 1900 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 4/7 Readers..must have been struck with his planetary career over the face of the globe.

B. *sb.* †**1.** An astrologer, star-gazer. *Obs.*

1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 172 As if the Originall signified properly a Planetary, or Starre-gazer. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 142 Now is the planetary more malignant or malefick..than are all the planets themselves. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 103 Which sufficiently prove the greatest pretenders to it [astrology] to be indeed but mere planetaries; that is, as we may well interpret it from the force of the word, such as use to err and to be deceived.

2. A planetary body.

1819 *Metropolis* I. 221 You are a fixed star in the firmament of attraction, around which we minor planetaries revolve with delight.

Pla·nethood. *nonce-wd.* [f. PLANET *sb.*[1] + -HOOD.] The condition or rank of a planet.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 90 That which claws away world from about them, would, 'tis like, wring out their Planethood from within them.

† **Planetic,** *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *planētic-us*, a. Gr. *πλανητικός* wandering, f. *πλανήτης*: see PLANET *sb.*[1] and -IC.] Erratic, erring, extravagant.

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* a j, By it are confuse things made Distinct; Abstruse, Obvious:..the Planetick thoughts to act Concentrick, and in its Sphere. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 242 The Weather-Cock Brains of a Restless and Planetick Arian. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

† **Planetical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to the planets; planetary.

1585 LUPTON *Thous. Notable Th.* (1595) Pref. A iij b, Because the Planeticall power and effect in theyr howres .. should not be hidde or vnknowne. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 228 Conjunctions and oppositions Planeticall. 1672 — *Lett. Friend* § 6 To make an end of all things on earth, and our planetical system of the world, He need but put out the Sun.

2. Wandering, roving, vagrant.

1657 FULLER *Best Employment* 17 Such, who..must have a whole province or principality for the circuit of their Planeticall preaching.

Planeticose, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -OSE.] Given to wandering.

1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XIII. i, Is there no mission in thy native land, O planeticose and exallotrixe spirit?

† **Pla·netist.** *Obs. rare.* [See -IST.] One who consults the planets, a star-gazer, an astrologer.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 19 Ye planetystis and wytches, and other of this sort. 1626 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2) 554 *Planetist*, an obseruer of the Planets.

Pla·netless, *a.* [See -LESS.] Void of planets.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* III. xxii, A shoreless sea, a sky sunless and planetless.

† **Planeto·graphy.** *Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. Gr. *πλανήτης* PLANET *sb.*[1] + -GRAPHY.] A description of the planets.

1730–6 BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Planetography*..a Treatise or Discourse of the Planets.

Planetoid (plæ·nětoid), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. PLANET *sb.*[1] + -OID. So F. *planétoïde.*] A body resembling a planet; a name sometimes given to the minor planets or asteroids (see ASTEROID B. 1).

1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 430 Why may we not coin such a phrase as *Planetoid*? 1803 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 339 It is not in the least material whether we call them asteroids, as I have proposed; or planetoids, as an eminent astronomer, in a letter to me, suggested. 1863 H. SPENCER *Ess.* II. 46 With respect to the asteroids, or planetoids, as they are otherwise called. 1892 *N. & Q.* 8th ser. I. 15/2 [Term discussed]. 1899 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 7/3 The new 'planetoid' was discovered by Herr Witt, of the Urania Observatory of Berlin.

B. *adj.* (or *attrib.*) Of or belonging to the asteroids. So **Planetoi·dal** *a.*, in same sense.

1862 SIR H. HOLLAND *Ess.* 280 *note*, Nearly seventy now (1862) stand in our catalogues .. the heathen mythology has been invoked in vain to furnish names for this planetoid throng. 1881 PROCTOR *Poet. Astron.* x. 362 Jupiter's action on the planetoidal ring.

Plane-tree (plē·nˌtrī). [f. PLANE *sb.*[1] + TREE.] **a.** A tree of the genus *Platanus*: = PLANE *sb.*[1] 1.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 716/30 *Nomina arborum .. Hec plantacius*, a plantre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 A Playn tree, *platanus*. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 95 b, I haue sene the leues of that Platanus that groweth in Italy, and two very yong trees in England which were called there Playn trees..It is doutles that these two trees were ether brought out of Italy, or of som farr countre beyound Italy. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxxiv. 755 The Plane tree groweth in many places of Greece..it is vnknowen in this Countrie. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 306 The Plane tree ..I remember, that I haue seene one at Basil. 1731–3 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Platanus*, The Plane-Tree..hath an amentaceous Flower,.. the Embryo's of the Fruit .. are turgid, and do afterwards become large spherical Balls. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* ii. (1858) 120 The plane-trees which once shaded the bare landscape of Attica.

attrib. 1786 POLWHELE tr. *Theocritus*, etc. (1792) II. Notes 37 We will weave for thee a garland of lotus, and hang it on the plane-tree branches.

b. *Sc.* and *north. Eng.* = PLANE *sb.*[1] 2.

1778 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* 639 *Acer pseudo-platanus.* The great Maple, or Bastard Sycomore. The Plane-Tree, *Scottis.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 900 Plane-tree, Mock, or Scotch, *Acer Pseudo-Platanus.* 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 157 Some large plane-trees grew near the house.

Pla·net-stri·cken. *a.* Also 7 -stro(o)ken, -strucken. = next.

1600 DEKKER *Olde Fortunatus* Wks. 1873 I. 116 If your wits be not planet strucken, if your braines lie in their right place. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 352 Some.. who thought they might presume best of her fauour, haue been so suddenly daunted and Planet-stricken, that they could not lay downe their griefe thereof, but in their graues. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 76 An Amorist is a man blasted or planet-strooken. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 114 The Planet-stroken Albumazar, Shaues the Muses like a razor. 1643 *Plain English* 25 How could I..drop spirit and vigour into the hearts of my planet-stricken Country-men? 1819 WORDSW. *P. Bell* III. xxx, Like planet-stricken men of yore, He trembles, smitten to the core.

Hence **Pla·net-strike** *v. trans.* (*rare*—[o]), to strike as a malignant influence, to blast.

1611 FLORIO, *Assideratione*..a blasting or planetstreeking. 1659 TORRIANO, *Assiderare*, to Planet-strike, to blast as trees doe through great heat and drought.

Pla·net-struck, *a.* Also 7 -strook(e. [f. PLANET *sb.*[1] 1 b + pa. pple. of STRIKE *v.* Cf. *moon-struck, lunatic.*] Stricken by the supposed malign influence of an adverse planet; blasted; sometimes said in reference to paralytic or other sudden physical affections; hence, Stricken with sudden fear or amazement, panic-stricken; terrified, bewildered, confounded.

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. xi. (1668) 49 Cold flegmatick humors..sometimes weakening but one member only, then it is called Planet-strook. 1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* I. 102 They being affrighted (as it were Planet-struck) and confounded with shame. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* X. 414 The blasted Starrs lookt wan, And Planets, Planet-strook, real Eclips Then sufferd. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 28. 1/2 Reading the last Weekly Bill of Mortality, I saw one among the Casualities Planet-struck. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), *Planet-struck*, or *Shrew-Running* (in Horses) is a deprivation of Feeling or Motion. 1799 SICKELMORE *Agnes & Leonora* II. 12 The Count became planet-struck as he listened to the grossness of this retort. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli, I shall be overlooked—planet-struck.

Pla·netule. *rare.* [f. L. type **planētula*, dim. of *planēta.*] A diminutive planet.

1846 in WORCESTER (citing CONYBEARE). 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLI. 297 The rotation of the planetule on its axis. *Ibid.* 299 Heydon, too, had only described one of these planetules in his account of the Holy Island.

Planful (plæ·nfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. PLAN *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of plans, devices, or schemes.

1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 6 By planful wisdom overawed. 1905 G. T. LADD in *Child & Relig.* iii. 133 The active planful imagination which develops so early in the child.

Plange, obs. form of PLANCH *sb.*

Plangency (plæ·ndʒĕnsi). [f. L. type **plangentia*, f. *plangent-em*: see next and -ENCY.] The quality of being plangent.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* V. VII. (1872) II. 117 Friedrich Wilhelm's words, in high clangorous metallic plangency.. fall hotter and hotter. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* II. xii. 192 Her voice had charm and plangency. 1900 W. RALEIGH *Milton* 54 The hurt he had suffered .. gives eloquence and plangency to his divorce pamphlets.

Plangent (plæ·ndʒĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *plangent-em*, pr. pple. of *plang-ĕre* to strike noisily, beat the breast, lament aloud. (Cf. PLAIN *v.*)]

1. Making the noise of waves breaking or beating on the shore, etc.

1822 G. DARLEY *Errors of Ecstacie* 26 The mighty deep, Shaking the firm strand with its plangent waves. 1858 FARRAR *Eric* xiii, The mingled scream of weltering tempest and plangent wave. 1880 SWINBURNE *Birthday Ode* 256 With pulse of plangent water like a knell.

2. Loud-sounding, striking the ear powerfully; applied sometimes to a metallic, sometimes to a loud thrilling or plaintive sound.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. iii. (1872) I. 285 This rugged young King, with his plangent metallic voice. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc., Byron* 272 That universal protest which rings through Byron's work with a plangent resonance. 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* XXV, The bell on the orthodox church called the members of Mr. Peck's society together.. with the same plangent, lacerant note that summoned them to worship on Sundays. 1901 *Athenæum* 8 June 720/2 How fine..the plangent union of accent and quantity throughout the line.

† **Plangi·ferous,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. L. *plangĕre* (see prec.) + -FEROUS.] Producing or accompanied by the noise of beating.

1620 DEKKER *Dreame* (1860) 32 Toss'd too and fro By gusts implacable, able downe to throw Rampires of brasse, which still beat out the braines, And still renewde them with plangiferous paines.

† **Plangor.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. L. *plangor* noisy beating, loud lamenting, f. *plangĕre*: see PLANGENT.] A loud or piercing lamentation.

1598 MERES *Pallad. Tamia* 280 b, Euery one mourneth when hee heareth of the lamentable plangors of Thracian Orpheus for his dearest Euridice.

Plangorous (plæŋgŏrəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Characterized by loud lamentation.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 55 From vnder the Altar there issued penetrating plangorus-howlings. 1647 R. BARON *Cyprian Acad.* 8 He suddenly heard such a plangerous and lamentable cry. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxiii. 193 The grievously plangorous howling and lowing of Devils. 1892 E. GOSSE *In Mem. Miss Anne Clough*, It tolls and tolls with plangorous tongue, For empty lives and hearts unbless'd.

Plangstee, obs. form of PLANXTY.

Plani- (plē·ni), combining form of L. *plānus* level, flat, smooth, used chiefly in scientific terms.

Planicaudate (-kɔ̄·dĕt) *a. Zool.* [L. *cauda* tail], having a flat tail, as certain reptiles (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Planicipital** (-si·pităl) *a. Zool.* [L. *caput* head: cf. *occipital*, etc.], having a flat head, as an insect; flat-headed. **Planidorsate** (-dɔ̄·ɪsĕt) *a. Zool.* [L. *dorsum* back], having a flat back (*Cent. Dict.*). † **Planifo·lious** *a. Bot. Obs.* [L. *folium* leaf], having or consisting of flat leaves; applied to composite flowers consisting wholly of ligulate florets. **Planiform** (plē·nifɔ̄ɪm) *a.*, having a flattened shape; *spec.* in *Anat.* said of a joint in which the surfaces of the bones are nearly or quite plane (= ARTHRODIAL). † **Plani·loquent** *a. Obs. rare*—⁰ [after L. *plāniloquus* (Plautus)], plain-speaking; so † **Plani·loquy** *Obs. rare*—¹, plain speaking. **Planipennate** (plē·nipe·nĕt) *a. Zool.* [L. *pennātus* winged], having flat wings; (*b*) *spec.* in *Entom.* belonging to the suborder *Planipennia* of neuropterous insects, characterized by flat wings not folded when at rest; so **Planipennine** (-pe·nəin), *a.* = prec. (*b*); *sb.* a planipennine insect. **Planipetalous** (-pe·tălәs) *a. Bot.*, having flat petals. **Planirostral** (-rɒ·străl), **Planirostrate** (-rɒ·strĕt), *adjs.* [L. *rostrum* beak], having a broad flat beak. **Planispiral** (-spəi·ərăl) *a.*, of a flat spiral form: applied to the proboscis of lepidopterous insects, and to certain shells, as in the genus *Planorbis*.

1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 285 Those that have a perfect *planifolious Flower. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Flower*, Planifolious Flowers, those which are composed of plain Flowers, set together in circular rows, round the center, and whose face is usually indented, notched, uneven, and jagged. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 282 The close and *planiform diarthrosis..is that in which the surfaces are superficial, the ligaments strong and tight, the motions obscure and confined to sliding. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Planiformis*, applied .. to a Family .. of the *Coleoptera*, comprehending those that have the body much depressed; flat-shaped: planiform. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 122 Such joints are termed Planiform or Arthrodia. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Planiloquent* .., that speaks his mind plainly and freely. 1658 PHILLIPS, **Planiloquy*, (lat.) plain, and free speech. 1783 LEMON *Eng. Etymol.* s.v. *Haunch*, Such planiloquy is fit only for the large, open, yawning mouth of a Dutchman. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Planipennis*,..having flat wings: *planipennate. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), **Planipetalous Flower* .., flat leaved, as when these small flowers are hollow only at the bottom, but are flat upwards, as in Dandelion, Succory, &c. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Planirostral*, having a flat beak. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Planirostris*, having the beak or the snout flat: *planirostrate. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Planispiral*, spiral, with the coils lying..in one plane.

Planigraph (plæ·nigrɑf). [ad. F. *planigraphe*, f. PLANI- + Gr. *-γραφος*: see -GRAPH.] An instrument (invented by Marmet, of Versailles) for reducing or enlarging drawings.

It consists of a rule fitted with two scales having graduations of different magnitude, placed end to end in opposite directions, and turning about a pivot at the point of junction; it is provided with a number of different scales for different degrees of reduction.

1884 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp.

‖ **Planilla** (planī·lyă). [Sp. Amer. dim. of *plana* a level.] A cleaning-floor at a Californian mining-station.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 5 Sheds over planillas at Day tunnel and Deep Gulch tunnel. *Ibid.* 7 A much larger quantity of waste vein-matter .. has to be examined and passed over the planillas or cleaning-floors.

Planimeter (plăni·mĭtəɪ). Also **-metre**. [ad. F. *planimètre*, f. PLANI- + *-mètre*, -METER.] An instrument for mechanically measuring the area of an irregular plane figure.

1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*. 1872 F. J. BRAMWELL in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 401 Amsler's Planimeter .. for measuring the area of any figure, however irregular, by the mere passage of a tracer round about its perimeter. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* xv. 355 The area of all the leaves together with their footstalks, was found by a planimetre. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 115/1 The area enclosed was measured by a planimeter.

Planimetric (plē·nime·trik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC: cf. Gr. *μετρικός* of measuring.] Belonging or relating to planimetry. So **Planime·trical** *a.*

Planimetric function (*Math.*), 'a function expressing one of the relations between the areas of the three triangles formed by joining a variable point in a plane to the vertices of a fundamental triangle': also called *plane function*.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Planimetrical*, pertaining to the Mensuration of plain Surfaces. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. p. xvi, Planimetrical delineation of Mount Burgussan .. which appears to have been formerly a fortified place. 1828-32 WEBSTER, Planimetric, Planimetrical. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 122 A group of individual objects in 'planimetric' relation.

Planimetry (plăni·mĕtri). Also 4 **planemetrie**; 7 **planametrie, -ye**; 8-9 **plano-**. [Ultimately f. L. *plān·us* flat + *-metria*, -METRY, on L. type *plānimetria*; the ME. *planemetrie* prob. represents an OF. form; but F. *planimetrie* appears only as of 1520 in Godef. *Compl.*, and med.L. *planimetria* is cited only from 16th c., though prob. used much earlier. *Planametry* and *planometry* are formed on less correct analogies.] The measurement of plane surfaces; the geometry of plane surfaces, plane geometry.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 134 Ful many a worthi clerc ther is, That writen upon this clergie The bokes of Altemetrie, Planemetrie and eke also. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* i. (1892) 4 The miles beinge multiplied together and reduced to Planametrie, the onlye meanes to knowe the contente of anye thinge. 1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 85 In Planimetry, the Measuring of Triangles with and without a Perpendicular. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 94 In this 35th Proposition Euclide makes an entry into the Doctrine of Planometry. 1795-8 T. MAURICE *Hindostan* (1820) I. i. xii. 439 From planimetry, or the mensuration of surfaces, they soon proceeded to the more complicated science of stereometry, or the mensuration of solids. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 227 They would have been able to add the geometry of the newly discovered direction to the Planimetry which they possessed without having to change anything in their previous perceptions.

Planing (plē·ninŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of PLANE *v.*[1]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/1 Planynge, *levigacio*. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Applanissement*, a planing. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 68 So continue your several lays of Planeing. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 560 Planing..by which wood is reduced to a smooth and uniform surface, by means of an instrument called a plane.

† **2.** *concr.* A piece planed off; a shaving. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Piallure*, shauings, chips, or planings of timber. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 162 Thin shavings or planings of beech. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 313 Put into your Vessel the plaining, or Chips of green Beech.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, esp. in the names of tools, etc., used in planing, as *planing-ax, -iron, -steel, -table, tool*; **planing-machine**, a machine (of various kinds) for planing wood or metal; **planing-mill**, = planing-machine; also, a workshop where planing is done.

1545 *Rates Customs* C ij b, Playninge tabels the dossen iiiis. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* IV. ii, You Will carry your goose about you still, your planing-iron! Your tongue to smooth all! 1693 Plaining ax [see CHIP-AX]. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 172/2 The 'planing tool', an instrument made of steel, somewhat in the form of a hook, with the point so inclined as to present itself towards the surface of the metal to be planed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Planing-machine, Planing-mill*, a facing-machine for smoothing boards, etc. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1929/1 The *cylinder planing-machine*. This is now the usual machine. It has cutters on a drum rotating on a horizontal axis over the board which passes beneath. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 183 A many-sided man, the majority of whose facets were, unfortunately..shaped by the planing-steel of the System. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 2/1 Magnets ..will lift from the planing-table a casting of 32 cwt.

† **Pla·nir,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. OF. *planier* (*planeir*, Chron. Turpin) :—late L. *plānārius* flat, level, f. *plānus* level; see -ARY 1.] Flat, level.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4138 Quare nouthire holtis was ne hilles ne no hize [h]eggis, Bot all as planir & as playn as a playn table.

Planish (plæ·niʃ), *v.* [f. obs. F. *planiss-*, lengthened stem of *planir* (in Palsgr.) to smooth (F. *aplanir*), f. *plan* level, flat: see -ISH 2.]

1. *trans.* To make level or smooth; to level.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Esplanade, faire des esplanades*, to planish and make euen the way. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1828) I. 497 Then entering the cell, [they] place it at the angles and sides, &c. which they had previously planished.

b. *spec.* To flatten (sheet-metal or metal-ware) on an anvil by blows of a smooth-faced hammer, or by rubbing a flat-ended tool over the surface; to flatten and reduce in thickness; to condense (an engraver's copper-plate, etc.) by hammering; to reduce (coining-metal) to the required thickness by passing between rollers; to polish (paper, etc.) by means of a roller. Cf. PLANISHER, PLANISHING.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 150/2 *Planish the Plate*, is to beat it on a smooth Anvile, with a broad, smooth faced Hammer. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 725 The silver..is planished, and then scraped on the surface to be fitted on the copper. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 333 Saws are manufactured .. of iron, which is hammer-hardened, or planished on an anvil. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 688/2 Saw blades are planished to straighten them. Buckling is removed by planishing.

† **2.** To remove by planing, to plane *away*. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 274 Those thinne shauings which your joyners planish away with their plainers when they shaue their wainscoat.

Hence **Pla·nished** *ppl. a.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 2 Neal'd thick Brass..will never come to so good and smooth an Edge as Planish't Brass will. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* IV. 156 The even temper of the flowing mass, Had left no speck to blur the planish'd glass. 1884 in *Century Mag.* Dec. 266/2 Planished copper, and enameled iron tubs.

Planisher (plæ·niʃəɪ). [f. prec. vb. + -ER 1.]

1. A person who planishes.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Planisher*..a workman who smooths or planes.

2. A tool or instrument used for planishing, in various applications, *esp.*

a. A flat-ended tool for smoothing metal-work; a tool used by silver-chasers. **b.** An instrument for smoothing or glazing the surface of photographs, engravings, cards, writing paper, etc. **c.** A contrivance for flattening sections cut by the microtome for microscopic examination.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Planisher*, a tool used by turners for smoothing brass work. 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 90 It is..2nd, smoothed with a planisher; 3rd, polished with a fine file, or with oil and rotten-stone.

Pla·nishing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PLANISH, in various senses.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 259/2 Planishing, to make it [the metal] smooth [in goldsmith's work].* 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xi. 271 An artizan practised in 'planishing'. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 688/2 The old mode of forming the 60 gallon copper, sugar, or soap-kettle was planishing, the parts being subsequently united by brazing. *a* 1900 W. B. SLATER *Let. to Editor*, Planishing in silver manufacture is the final hammering given to an article being made, which does not alter the shape but levels the surface.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *planishing anvil, stake*; **planishing hammer**, a hammer with polished slightly convex faces, used for planishing sheet-metal; **planishing roller**, a roller used in planishing; *esp.* in *pl.*, the second pair of rollers, of hardened and polished iron, between which coining-metal is passed to reduce it to the proper thickness.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 270/1 He beareth Gules, a Planishing Anvile, Argent...He beareth Azure, three Planishing Hamers, Argent, handles Or. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 16 Clockmakers, tin-plate workers, and braziers, polish the face of their planishing hammers, by rubbing them upon a soft board, covered with a mixture of oil and finely washed emery. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 860 The plates are passed cold between these [rollers], to bring them to exactly the same thickness; whence they are called adjusting or planishing rollers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Planishing stake*,..a bench stake or small anvil for holding the [copper] plate when under the action of a planishing-hammer.

Planisphere (plæ·nisfĭəɪ). Also 4 **planisperie**; 6-7 **-spheare**, 7 **-sphaer, -sphare**. [In ME. form *planisperie*, ad. med.L. *plānisphærium*, f. L. *plān-us* flat, PLANE + *sphæra*, Gr. *σφαῖρα* SPHERE; in form *planisphere*, a. OF. *planisphère*.]

A map or chart formed by the projection of a sphere, or part of one, on a plane; now *esp.* a polar projection of half (or more of) the celestial sphere, as in one form of the astrolabe.

[1144 *Planisphærium Ptolomæi* [*Incipit*] Rodvlphi Brvghensis ad Theodorichum Platonicum in traductionem planisphærij Claudij Ptolomæi Prefatio.] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 134 Gebuz and Alpetragus eke Of Planisperie [*v.r.* palmestrie], which men seke, The bokes made. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxix. I ij b, Being brought to his due place the crosse diameters of the Planisphere may demonstrate the foure principall quarters of the Horizon. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VI. (1636) 598 Astrolabe..is called of some a Planispheare, because it is both flat and round, representing the Globe or Spheare, having both his Poles clapt flat together. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vii. (1635) 174 The planisphearе is a table or mappe of two faces whereon the lines are proiected circularly. 1678 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 1027, I am at present making a silver Planisphere of two foot diameter for the King; the Invention of that famous Astronomer..Mr. Cassini. 1828 W. IRVING *Columbus* (1848) I. 128 The globe or planisphere finished by Martin Behem ..furnishes an idea of what the chart of Columbus must have been. 1862 SIR G. C. LEWIS *Astron. Ancients* IV. i. 208 He [Hipparchus] had drawn a planisphere according to the stereographic projection. 1905 A. B. GRIMALDI (*title*) Catalogue of Zodiacs and Planispheres, ancient and modern.

b. *Revolving planisphere*: a device consisting of a polar projection of the whole of the heavens visible in a particular latitude, covered by a card with an elliptical opening, which can be adjusted so as to show the part of the heavens visible at a given time.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Oct. 6/1 An ingenious arrangement called a Planisphere, upon which the stars for any evening of the year are, by turning a circle, brought into view. 1891 *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 457/1 An ingeniously constructed 'Revolving Planisphere'.

c. *Astrolabe planisphere*: see ASTROLABE (*b*).

1872 SKEAT *Chaucer's Astrol.* Pref. 32 The term 'astrolabe'..in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries..was restricted to the particular kind called the 'Astrolabe Planisphere', or astrolabe on a flat surface.

Hence **Planispheral** (-sfĭə·răl), **Planispheric** (-sfe·rik), **Planisphe·rical** *adjs.*, of the nature of or pertaining to a planisphere.

a 1646 J. GREGORY *Maps & Charts* Posthuma (1650) 311 In measuring the Distances of Places there is no great trust to bee had to any Planispherical Projection whatsoever. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 373/1 A Meridian Spherical Dial [is] of some termed a Planisphearal Sun-Dial. 1856 W. H. MORLEY (*title*) Description of a Planispheric Astrolabe constructed for Sháh Sultán Husain Safawí. 1884 *Nature* 12 June 161/1 Suggestions for a planispheric representation of the cerebral convolutions.

† **Pla·nitude.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. late L. *plānitūdo* evenness, f. *plānus* flat: see -TUDE.] prop. = next; in quot., used as = smooth surface.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* b iij b/2 The superior planitude of the Plate, which sticketh fast to the roofe of the mouth.

Planity (plæ·nĭti). *rare*—¹. [f. PLANE *a.* + -ITY. (Cf. L. *plānitās* plainness, a doubtful reading in Tacitus.)] The quality of being plane.

1882 PROCTOR *Fam. Sci. Stud.* 21 The straightness of lines, the planity of surfaces and other like geometrical conceptions.

Plank (plæŋk), *sb.* Also 4-5 **plaunke**, 4-7 **planke**, 5 **planc**, 6-7 **planck**(e. See also PLANCH. [ME. *planke*, a. ONF. *planke* (Tournai 1275, mod. Picard *planke*, Norm. *planque*) = F. *planche*

plank, slab, little wooden bridge, measure of land; in mod.F., a narrow strip of land = Pr. *planca, plancha*, Cat. *planxa*, Sp. *plancha*, Pg. *prancha*, Piedm., Olt. *pianca*:—L. *planca* (post-Aug.) board, plank, slab (e. g. of marble), prob. f. root *plak-* of Gr. πλάξ, etc.]

1. A long flat piece of smoothed timber, thicker than a BOARD; *spec.* a length of timber sawn for building or other purposes to a thickness of from two to six inches, a width of nine inches or more, and eight feet or upwards in length.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5259 Þe plank þat on þe bryggē was, Was as sledyr as any glas. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2778 Hent hire vp in armes, & bare hire forþ ouerbord on a brod planke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 34 And with þe ferste plaunke ich palle hym doune. 1428–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 71 Also payd for a carpenter iij dayes ij s. .. Also payd for a planke iiij s iiij d. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 154 Oken plankes of xviij fote long xij ynch brode & iiij ynch thyke. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 118 The Frenchmen had losed the plankes of the bridge nere a myle aboue Bray. 1653 WALTON *Angler* x. 189 Barnacles and young Goslings bred by the Suns heat and the rotten planks of an old Ship. 1794 SHERIDAN in *Sheridaniana* 154 A plank of the old stage, on which Garrick had trod. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 159 The wood employed in Joinery is denominated Stuff; and of this there are Boards, Planks, and Battens. 1840 *Niles' Register* LIX. 157/2 At the extremity of the green [at Auburn, N.Y.], ..a large platform was erected.. About 40 long benches were constructed of rough planks for the ladies. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mech.* § 142 Planks are pieces of wood 11 inches in width and 2½ or 3 inches thick.

transf. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 166 They met with ten planks or bars of solid silver, each piece being twenty feet in length, one foot in breadth, and two or three inches thick.

b. Without *a* or *pl.*: Timber cut into planks; planking.

1559 in W. Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 738, xx M. elme plancke of iii and iiii ynches thicke. *Ibid.* 739. *c* 1582 T. DIGGES in *Archæologia* XI. 225 The excessiue waste of pile and plank in the Flemmyshe platte. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Aug., There comes Luellin, about Mr. Deering's business of planke, to have the contract perfected. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 30 Want of saws to cut out plank. 1792 *Munchausen's Trav.* xxxiii. 157 The Royal George..that fine old ruin of British plank. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 138 *Plank*, a general name for all timber, excepting fir, which is from one inch and a half to four inches thick.

c. *fig.* esp. in reference to the use of a plank to save a shipwrecked man from drowning.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* cccxxiii, The Planks Politicks make a bridge on To keepe dry Soales. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* IV. xvi, A thin thin plank keeps in thy vitall breath, Death ready waits. 1659 A. HAY *Diary* (S.H.S.) 123, I desired her to acquaint her father to come off upon yᵗ plank of ther setting up tolleratioun in Scotland. 1690 ABP. SHARP *Wks.* (1754) I. Serm. viii. 222 This is indeed the only plank we have to trust to, that can save us from shipwreck. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 514 Though a purchaser may buy in an incumbrance, or lay hold of any plank to protect himself, yet he shall not protect himself by the taking a conveyance from a trustee, after he had notice of the trust. 1866 WHITTIER *Let. to Lucy Larcom* 29 God grant that in the strange new sea of change wherein we swim, We still may keep the good old plank, of simple faith in Him!

2. Applied to various things consisting or formed of a flat slab of wood applied to a special purpose indicated in the context; as, a narrow foot-bridge; a table or board; a hat-maker's bench or table which surrounds the 'kettle' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); also in other technical uses: see quots.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3740 A preue planke is at a place to pas & to entre. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xv. (1869) 11 With þi yerde þow shuldest assaye if it be to deep, or if þer neede oþer brigge or plaunke. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* clxiii. 147 They lete come in the see barges and botes and grete plankes as many as they myght ordeyne and haue. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 236 The king will haue them shoote euery day at the Plancke, and so by continuall exercise they become most excellent shot. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. v. (1635) 73 Cast on a large Table or planke, a little portion or drop of water. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 324 Before the Carriage is laid on the Ribs, [the pressman] besmears the two edges of the Plank..well with soap or grease. 1855 BOOKER *Hist. Denton Chapel* (Chetham Soc. No. 37) 10 Coarse stuff hats, composed of a mixture of foreign wool and fur, the nap being laid on at the plank. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plank*, the frame of a printing press on which the carriage slides. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) II. 785 The workman .. presses it [the point of a hat] down with his hand, turning it..round on its centre upon the plank, till a flat portion, equal to the crown of the hat, is rubbed out. 1888 NICHOLSON *Coal Trade Gloss., Crowntree*, a plank about 2½ inches thick, and 5½ or 6 feet long, used to support the roof in coal-workings. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Plank..4* (*Ribbon-weaving*) The batten of the Dutch engine-loom or swivel-loom.

3. † **a.** A flat slab of stone, esp. a gravestone. [So L. *planca.*] *Obs.* **b.** *Geol.* Calcareous flagstone of the Stonesfield Oolite beds.

1660 WOOD *Life* Nov. (O. H. S.) I. 345 Two stone coffins ..without planks or covers to them. *Ibid.*, Upon most of those planks or plank-stones, were engraved in them, or embossed or convexed a cross from one end to the other. 1691 — *Ath. Oxon.* II. 384 Over his grave was soon after erected .. a monument of free stone, with a plank of marble thereon. 1871 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. Oxford* 149 We find about Sandford, in place of the 'Stonesfield slate', beds of white and yellow sand, sixteen or more feet in thickness, with irregular laminæ of calcareous sandstone, more or less blue in the centre, called 'plank'.

4. In *local* use: A piece of cultivated land longer than broad, a strip of land between two open furrows [= F. *planche*]; a regular division of land, as distinguished from the irregular ridges of the 'run-rig' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); a more or less definite measure of land: see quots.

1814 SHIRREFF *Agric. Surv. Shetl.* App. v. 32 *Q.* Is the term plank known as applicable to lands? *A.* I..conceived it used as a term for large regular divisions, in opposition to the smaller ridges of the old *rig* and *rendal* or *runrig* divisions. 1883 R. M. FERGUSSON *Rambling Sk.* xiii. 85 The average extent of each plank was about an acre. 1892 COCHRAN-PATRICK *Med. Scot.* viii. 170 The 'plank' of land .. was generally the same in extent throughout Orkney and contained 1⅛ acre Scots or 1·32 acre English.

5. *fig.* An item or article of a political or other program. Cf. PLATFORM 7 b. Orig. and chiefly *U. S.*

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 141 They kin' o' slipt the planks frum out th' ole platform one by one. 1848 *Boston Courier* 28 Sept. 2/2 Another plank in the platform is, no Cass or other plank to be added. 1856 *Househ. Words* XIV. 86 Every subject of the platform is spoken of as one of its planks; thus we read of 'the slavery plank', 'the tariff plank'. 1884 *Chr. World* 12 June 433/1 Another 'plank' is the restriction of Chinese immigration. 1891 *Times* 7 Oct. 10/4 It was not an admitted 'plank' in the Liberal platform, and (so far as I know) Mr. Gladstone has never promoted it or even said one word in its favour.

6. Phrases. † *To bring* (a gun) *to plank*: ? i. e. to the side of the ship; to run out (*obs.*). *Plank-over-plank*, with the outside planks overlapping, as in a clinker-built vessel. *Plank-upon-plank*: see quot. 1823. *To walk the plank*, to walk blindfold along a plank laid over the side of a ship until one falls into the sea (as pirates and others are said to have made their captives do, in order to get rid of them). Also *fig.*

1557 LD. GREY in Froude *Hist. Eng.* VI. xxxiv. 493, I caused the gunners to bring up their artillery to plank, and then shot off immediately ten or twelve times. 1776 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, French Terms, Border à quein*, to plank a ship with clench-work, or plank-over-plank. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Plank upon plank*, is when other planks are laid upon a ship's sides after she is built. 1844 MACAULAY *Barère* Misc. (1868) 262/1 It would have been necessary for Howe and Nelson to make every French sailor whom they took walk the plank. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Walking a plank*, an obsolete method of destroying people in mutiny and piracy, under a plea of avoiding the penalty of murder... Also, for detecting whether a man is drunk, he is made to walk along a quarter-deck plank. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* I. i, Dreadful stories they were; about hanging, and walking the plank.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Consisting or built of planks, as *plank-bridge, dam, -house, -island, pile, piling, sheeting, -table, -timber, -work*; objective, as *plank-dressing*; *plank-built, -sided* adjs.; **plank-bed**, a bed of boards resting on low trestles, without a mattress, used as part of the discipline of convents, prisons, etc.; **plank-hook**, a pole with an iron hook at the end, used by quarrymen, miners, and others (*U. S.*); **plank-plant**, an Australian leguminous plant, *Bossiæa Scolopendrium*; **plank-road**, a road made of a flooring of planks laid transversely on longitudinal bearing timbers (*U. S.*); **plank-timbering, plank tubbing**: see quots.; **plank-way**, the narrow portion of deck between the side and the frame of the hatch in a wherry, etc.

1868 FARRAR *Seekers* III. i. (1875) 265 To prefer a *plank-bed and skin and whatever else of the kind belongs to the Grecian discipline. 1887 *United Ireland* 27 Aug., To cheerfully accept the privations of the prison and its plank-bed. 1888 BERNARD *Fr. World to Cloister* v. 113 The order..is reckoned..one of the most austere in regard to its abstinence from meat,.. its plank bed, midnight office, and long hours of prayers. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 419 An ostentatiously European *plank-built house. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, **Plank Dam*, a watertight stopping fixed in a heading, constructed of balks of fir placed across the passage, one upon another, sideways, and tightly wedged. 1831 JANE PORTER *Sir E. Seaward's Narr.* II. 58 David Allwood and his family had the *plank-house allotted to them. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* liv, The tiny *plank-island of a yacht. 1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 98 The piles are grooved.., and *plank piles let into the grooves. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 31 A line of *Plank Piling should be run down to a little Island adjoining. 1853 MOODIE *Life Clearings* Introd. 9 The many *plank-roads and railways in the course of construction in the province [Canada]. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 365 The first plank-road in the State of New York was laid, I believe, in 1844, and in 1846 there were several in operation. 1888 *Times* 2 Oct. 11/6 Traces of old Roman plank-roads on the moor .. not far from Diepholz, in Lower Hanover. 1789 W. JESSOP *Rep. Thames & Isis* (1791) 22 Instead of using Timber and *Plank Sheeting, slope the sides to an Angle of 45 degrees, and pitch them with rough flat Stones. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 563 A few steps onwards bring me in view of a corrugated iron-roofed, *plank-sided house. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Sliprails* 131 A *plank-table, supported on stakes driven into the ground. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 659/2 The forests yield..*plank-timber, masts, and yards. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Plank-timbering*, the lining of a shaft with rectangular plank frames. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 972 There are three modes of keeping back or stopping up these feeders; by *plank tubbing [etc.]. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining, Plank Tubbing*, shaft lining of wooden planks driven down vertically behind wooden cribs all round the shaft. 1887 W. RYE *Norfolk Broads* 48 How it did rain! The *plank-ways, parched and dry with weeks of sun, let in the water everywhere. 1889 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Idyls* 26 Down the river..came sailing the wherry..with her plankways under water. 1890 HOSIE *W. China* 93 Rails of bamboo ran along both sides of the plank-way. 1745 *Jrnl. Siege Louisburg* in *W. Shirley's Let.* (1746) 24 The French..added to the Top of it a *Plank-work picketted, to raise it to the same Height with the rest of the Wall.

Plank (plæŋk), *v.* [f. PLANK *sb.*: cf. ONF. *planquier* = OF. *planchier* to floor, plank, bridge, f. *planke, planche.*]

1. *trans.* To furnish, lay, floor, or cover with planks. Also with *over*.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 516 Planke hit stronge ynough Vnder thin hors, that hit be lyggyng softe Ynough & harde ynough to stonde olofte. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 In the Stable a Racke & a mawnger, and it is new planked. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Plancher ou paver d'ais*, to floore or planke with bourdes. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 390 When he had set his ships together,..and.. planked them over in manner of a bridge, he passed over .. into the Countrey of the Quadi. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 21 The Sides were planck'd with Pine. 1735 J. PRICE *Stone-Br. Thames* 7 These Truss Ribs, when plank'd over, will be enough. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 143/1 The footways in the thoroughfares which lie beyond the principal street, are planked like floors.

b. To fasten or join *together*, to fasten or hold *down*, with planks.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vii, Boats planked together two and two. 1895 *Times* 5 Jan. 3/3 The ballast..does not appear to have been planked and tommed down.

2. a. To place, put, or set down; to deposit, plant. *dial.* or *slang.* **b.** To table or lay down money; to pay readily or on the spot. Const. *down, out, up. U. S. colloq.*

a. 1859 B. BRIERLEY *Day Out* (1886) 49 So we crope up th' slates, an plankt ussel' deawn ut th' top. 1886 A. G. MURDOCK *Scotch Readings* (ed. 2) 69 'Plank' it on the highest shelf in the house. 1892 [J. LUMSDEN] *Sheep-head* 205 Hastily I handed my dear Lady Matty to a seat, and planked my own huge carcase upon another one. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Sept. 234 A desire to plank down .. University men in the midst of the social life of East London.

b. 1835 CROCKETT *Tour* 59 During the last war [he] planked up more gold and silver to lend the government than Benton ever counted. 1835–40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 376 Come into the iseter [= oyster] shop here, and plank the pewter. 1887 H. FREDERIC in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 625/1 Workman would rather plank out five thousand dollars from his own pocket. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* x, He 'planks down' the dollars requisite for the purchase.

3. *techn.* **a.** To splice together (slivers of wool) into rovings. **b.** To harden (a hat) by felting.

1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 362/1 Slivers of long-stapled wool are planked or spliced together. 1875 *Ibid.* 1731/2 They [hat-bodies] are planked or hardened to give them solidity, thickness, and strength. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 1163 *Breaking-frame.*—Here the slivers are planked, or spliced together, the long end of one to the short end of another. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 378/2 After the hat is planked it contains nothing hurtful.

4. To fix on a board (a fish that has been split open) and cook at a hot fire: see PLANKED 2. *U. S.*

1877 HOWELLS *Out of Question* (1882) 134, I suppose you plank horn-pout, here.

5. a. *intr.* To sleep on or as on a plank; to lie down on the hard ground; also *to plank it.* **b.** *trans.* To condemn to a plank-bed.

1829 B. HALL *Trav.* II. 382, I was right glad of [a berth], being wofully tired, and having no mind to plank it! 1860 DONALDSON *Bush Lays* 40 Through the day we will rough it, at night we will plank it. 1887 SIR H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN in *Scott. Leader* 15 Oct. 5 Who may be sent to a prison cell and planked for taking part in transactions which are as innocent and harmless as a meeting of the East Stirlingshire Liberal Association.

6. To exchange the separate strips or rigs of land of an individual owner for one compact piece of equal extent. *North. Sc. dial.*

1812 J. HENDERSON *Agric. Surv. Caithness* 268 In many cases, the arable land has been planked, or converted into distinct farms, in place of the old system of tenants occupying it in run rig, or rigg and rennal, as it was provincially termed. 1871 R. COWIE *Shetl.* II. viii. 158 The land [has been] planked or allocated in due proportion to each person.

† **Plankage.** *Obs.* Also 5 **plangage.** [a. OF. *plancage, planchage*, f. *planke, planche*: see PLANK and -AGE.] Payment charged for the use of planks at landing-places.

1347–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 212/2, Par cause de Murage ou Kayage ou Plankage. 1483 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 364 Suche person and persones .. that occupieth the said Watyr-bailliffes planges..shall pay for plangage to the said Water bailliffe. 1592 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 70 [Various heads under which dues were claimed] Ladinge; Measuringe; Wayinge; Grondage; Ancorage;.. Sea rounded groundes; Fishinges; Fowlinge; Planckage.

† **Plank-board.** *Obs.* [f. PLANK *sb.* + BOARD *sb.* See also PLANCH-BOARD.] A thick board suitable for flooring and similar purposes.

[1394–1551: see PLANCH-BOARD.] 1497–8 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 48 Plankborde ad opus de le newe Roff. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1139/1 The duke had prepared bridges made of planke boords..for his men to passe the ditch. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 605 The vsuall scantling for the thicknes of planke boord. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 46 Twill make good Plank-boards and Timber.

Planked (plæŋkt), *ppl. a.* [f. PLANK *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Furnished, laid, floored, or covered with planks.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 958 A flying Bridge..and planked Battlements On every story, for his Men's defence. 1651 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horseman* 21 A planked flore is warmer than a paved or pitched. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 27 Both the side Streams should be shut up, with low planked Weirs.

2. Of fish: Cooked by being split, fastened on a board, and held to the fire. *U.S.*

1877 HOWELLS *Out of Question* (1882) 134 One's ideas of planked Spanish mackerel. 1885 *Science* V. 426 The principal dish was 'planked' shad. By this process four fish are fastened to a board, and held towards a hot fire. Whilst cooking, the fish are constantly basted with a preparation made of butter, salt, and other ingredients.

Planker (plæ·ŋkəɹ). [f. PLANK *v.* + -ER[1].] A workman who planks or kneads hat-bodies in the process of felting them.

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 378/1 In hand-planking the 'form' is dipped in boiling water acidulated with vitriol, and then folded and vigorously kneaded by the planker's hand.

Planking (plæ·ŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING[1].] The action of PLANK *v.*

1. Furnishing, flooring, or covering with planks.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 155 Laboryng & workyng abought Cowchyng plankyng & laying of the seid grete Rokes Stone & Gravell. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* (1664) 70 Manger, Rack, and Planking of a Stable is eight shillings per foot in length. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 138 *Planking*, covering the outside of the timbers with plank; sometimes quaintly called 'skinning'. 1887 MRS. DALY *Digging & Squatting* 110 Port Darwin possessed no suitable wood for planking purposes.

2. *concr.* Planks in the mass; plank-work; the planks of a structure; *spec.* those forming the outer shell and inner lining of a ship.

1751 LABELYE *Westm. Br.* 29 The Carpenters were at Work on the Grating and Planking for the Caisson. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, The planking of the paddle-boxes had been torn sheer away. 1871 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 295 The promenaders..paced back and forth upon the planking. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Public Service* iii. 28 There was little enough comfort for us subalterns—a few feet of planking on the orlop deck.

3. The lagging or 'cleading' of a steam-cylinder.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1732/1.

4. In technical senses of the verb.

1855 BOOKER *Hist. Denton Chapel* (Chetham Soc. No. 37) 11 For bowing, basining, boiling and planking [hat-bodies], he received in 1805, eight shillings per dozen. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 549/2 Cleaning the shad for planking. 1884 *Chesh. Gloss., Planking*,..the felting of hat bodies by rolling them on a plank, and frequently immersing them in acidulated water. 1902 [see PLANKER].

†**5.** Harrowing or rolling of land with a plank.

1814 M. BIRKBECK *Notes on France* 59 They then sow annual trefoil, which they cover very slightly by planking, that is, drawing a plank, on which a boy rides, over the land.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, **as planking-clamp, -screw**: see quots.; **planking-machine**: see quot.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Planking-clamp*,..an implement for bending a strake against the ribs of a vessel and holding it until secured by bolts or treenails. *Ibid., Planking-machine*, a machine in which hat-bodies, after being formed, are rubbed, pressed, and steamed to give them strength and body. *Ibid., Planking-screw*, an implement for straining planks against the ribs of vessels.

Pla·nkless, *a.* [f. PLANK *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no planks; void or stripped of its planks.

1837 LONGF. *Drift-Wood* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 317 Vikings sitting gaunt and grim on the plankless ribs of their pirate ships. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. (1872) X. 40 The Peasant-Noble..clattered with his wooden slippers upon the plankless floor of his hut.

Plankshear, -sheer, variants of PLANESHEAR.

Plankton (plæ·ŋktɒn). *Biol.* [a. Ger. *plankton* (V. Hensen 188.), a. Gr. πλαγκτόν, neut. of πλαγκτός vbl. adj., drifting, f. πλάζεσθαι to wander, roam, drift.] A collective name for all the forms of floating or drifting organic life found at various depths in the ocean, or, by extension, in bodies of fresh water. Also *attrib.*

1892 E. J. BLES in *Jrnl. Marine Biol. Assoc.* II. 340 Variations of the floating fauna and flora, or plankton, of the Plymouth Waters. 1894 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 372 When the recent German expedition set out to study the Plankton or floating life of the Atlantic. 1899 *Nature* 15 June 157/1 Rich collections of plankton were made at all stations.

Hence **Plankto·logy,** the department of biology relating to plankton (Webster *Suppl.* 1902); **Plankto·nic** *a.* [irreg. for **planktic*], of, pertaining to, or characteristic of plankton.

1899 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1029 Most, if not all, *Globigerinæ*, are essentially planktonic organisms. 1905 MARR in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* LXI. Proc. 74 Planktonic.

Pla·nkways, Pla·nkwise, *adv.* [f. PLANK *sb.* + -WAYS, -WISE.] In the manner or direction of a plank; lengthways.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 90 When cut plankwise, boxwood is extremely apt to warp, unless very well seasoned. 1881 HASLUCK *Lathe Work* 35 For turning the surface of wood chucked plankways the same tools are used.

Planky (plæ·ŋki), *a.* [f. PLANK *sb.* + -Y.] Of the nature of or composed of planks.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 442 He came before the planky gates, that all for strength were wrought. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* III. 735 Darts, Fragments of the Rock, and Flames they throw, And tear the planky Shelter fix'd below.

Planless (plæ·nlĕs), *a.* [f. PLAN *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a plan; not planned; unsystematic.

1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* IV. iv. 40 Every planless measure, chance event..Will they connect, and weave them all together Into one web of treason. 1852 BLACKIE *Stud. Lang.* 11 Where not stupid, how often careless, aimless, and planless! 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 69 All England was before us; ours was a planless expedition.

Hence **Pla·nlessly** *adv.*, **Pla·nlessness.**

1894 *Scott. Leader* 8 Mar. 3 That large..school whose method seems to be to begin writing and go planlessly ahead. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 408 The planlessness of moral instruction in schools.

Planned (plænd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLAN *v.* + -ED[1].] Designed, projected, arranged, etc.: see the verb.

1770 C. CHAUNCY *Repl. Chandler's Appeal Defended* (title-p.), Objections against the planned American Episcopate. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xii, There had been a planned meeting. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 256 It must have been a planned-out affair.

Planner (plæ·nəɹ). [f. PLAN *v.* + -ER[1].] One who plans or makes a plan; a deviser, arranger; a projector, schemer; *spec.* in *Sc.*, a landscape gardener.

1716 COWPER in Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) V. cxvi. 395 This exempts you from the charge of being the planners of the treason. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* IV. 164 Having been for many years a planner of fashions, [she] had an air of smartness. 1850 T. MCCRIE *Mem. Sir A. Agnew* ii. (1852) 27 He procured the services of Mr. John Hay, late planner in Edinburgh. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 6/4 The original planner of this stupendous enterprise.

Plannet, -ett, obs. forms of PLANET *sb.*[1]

Planning (plæ·niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLAN *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PLAN; the forming of plans; the making or delineation of a plan or diagram; scheming, designing, contriving.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* Introd. 3* Actual surveys of roads and harbours,..require a good degree of skill both in planning and drawing. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 127 Let there be no want of thrift: let there be both planning and plenty. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 60 He was deep in sober discussions and plannings.

Plano-[1] (plē·no), used as combining form of L. *plānus* flat, smooth, level; in scientific or technical adjectives, denoting (*a*) flatly, in a flattened manner, with modification of a specified form in the direction of a plane, as *plano-compressed, -conical, -hemispherical, -obconical, -orbicular, -patellate, -rotund, -subcuculiate*; (*b*) a combination of a plane with another surface, esp. plane on one side, and of another surface on the other, as PLANO-CONCAVE, -CONVEX, etc. Also **plano-cylindric, -ical**, plane on one side and of a cylindrical form on the other; **plano-horizontal**, having a plane horizontal surface or position; † **plano-solid** *Arith. Obs.*, applied to a number compounded of a 'plane' and a 'solid' number, i. e. of 5 prime factors; **plano-subulate**, of a flat awl-shaped form.

1839 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* viii. 183 Seeds *plano-compressed or winged at the apex. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. iv. 75 Some few are *Plano-Conical, whose Superface is in part level between both ends. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 553 Corallum firm; cells..quite shallow, plano-conical. 1727 SWIFT *Art Polit. Lying* Wks. 1755 III. I. 114 He supposes the soul to be of the nature of a *plano-cylindrical speculum..the plain side was made by God Almighty, but that the devil afterwards wrought the other side into a cylindrical figure. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 327 Cespitose, *plano-hemispherical. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. XX. (1765) 116 *Vexillum*, the Standard; a Petal covering the rest.. *plano-horizontal. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 453 With a solid *plano-obconical base. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 175 Gregarious, suberumpent, sessile, waxy, *plano-patellate. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 347 Subcylindrical,..*plano-rotund at top. 1662 HOBBES *Seven Prob.* Wks. 1845 VII. 67 There be some numbers called plane, other solids, others *plano-solid. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 336 Very broad explanate, and often *plano-subcuculiate. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. xviii. (1765) 110 The Claws *plano-subulate.

Plano-[2] (plæno), before a vowel or *h* **plan-**, combining form of Gr. πλάνος wandering, used in a few scientific terms; see PLANOBLAST, PLANODIA, PLANOGAMETE, PLANURIA.

Planoblast (plæ·noblæst). *Zool.* [f. PLANO-[2] + Gr. βλαστ-ός sprout, shoot.] The free-swimming generative bud or gonophore of certain Hydrozoa, usually a craspedote medusa or medusoid. Hence **Planobla·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to a planoblast.

1871 ALLMAN *Monogr. Gymnoblastic Hydroids* I. Introd. 15 Planoblast...A generative bud with a structure fitting it for a free locomotive life when detached from the hydrosome. *Ibid.*, Umbrella, the gelatinous bell of a medusiform planoblast.

Pla·no-co·ncave, *a.* [f. PLANO-[1] + CONCAVE.] Having one surface plane and the opposite one concave, as a lens.

1693 E. HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 961 Whether the Lens be..Plano-Convex or Plano-Concave. 1807 HERSCHEL *ibid.* XCVII. 183 The plain side of a concave, or plano-convex lens. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* 34 And one with excess of dispersive over refractive power for our plano-concave lens.

Pla·no-co·nvex, *a.* [f. as prec. + CONVEX.] **1.** Having one surface plane and the opposite one convex: chiefly of lenses; also of natural formations, as parts of plants or animals, or other objects.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* Pref. fj, I fixt also with wax a pretty large plano Convex Glass. 1693, 1807 [see prec.]. 1810 D. STEWART *Philos. Ess.* II. I. vii. 330 In wooded scenes, the plano-convex mirrour, which was Mr. Gray's companion in all his tours, has a pleasing effect. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 75 Cotyledons plano-convex. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 102 Achromatic glass with two plano-convex lenses.

b. Of a crystal: Having some faces plane and others convex.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 209 Plano-convex.. when the faces are partly straight and partly uneven, as in the diamond.

2. Having a flattened convex form.

1843 J. G. WILKINSON *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 21 The tongue's upper surface is plano-convex. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* vi. (1858) 83 Receptacle plano-convex, paleaceous.

‖ **Planodia** (plănō·diă). *Surg.* and *Path.* [f. PLANO-[2] + Gr. ὁδός way.] (See quot.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Planodia*, term for a false passage, as may be made in stricture of the urethra in treating by a bougie, sound, or catheter.

Planogamete (plæ·nogămēt). *Biol.* [f. PLANO-[2] + GAMETE.] A motile gamete or conjugating cell: also called *zoogamete*. 1886 [see GAMETE].

Planography (plănɒ·grăfi). *rare.* [f. L. *plān-um* PLANE + -GRAPHY.] The art of drawing plans; *spec.*: see quot.

1847 J. DWYER *Hydraulic Engineering* 131 Planography is another description of section introduced by.. Sir John Macneil,..which required that a vertical section..should be laid down on the line of direction marked on the plan, and having the Cuttings and Embankments plotted on opposite sides.

Hence **Plano·graphist,** one who draws a plan or map; a map-maker.

1859 W. M. THOMSON *Land & Book* v. xli. (1867) 627 All planographists of the Holy City agree that [etc.].

Planometer (plănɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. as prec. + -METER.] An accurately made flat plate, usually of cast iron, used as a standard gauge for plane surfaces; a surface-plate. So **Plano·metry,** the use of a planometer; the measurement or gauging of plane surfaces.

1864 WEBSTER, *Planometer*. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1726/2 Plane-surfaces are produced by the planing-machine, by the file, and by grinding...For the purpose of verifying their accuracy, the planometer was devised by Whitworth.

Planometry, irreg. form of PLANIMETRY.

‖ **Planorbis** (plănɒ·ɹbis). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *plān-us* PLANE *a.* + *orbis* ORB.] A genus of freshwater snails (pond-snails), characterized by a flat rounded spiral shell.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 238 We find in the marls and limestones the shells of the Planorbis, and other lacustrine testacea. 1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 38 A gasteropod mollusc, similar to a Planorbis, which lives as a messmate in the body of an annelid. *Comb.* 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 81 The planorbis-like shells of the Milliolidæ represent the simplest condition of these forms.

Hence **Plano·rbiform, Plano·rboid** *adjs.*, resembling, or having the form of a *Planorbis*; of a flat rounded spiral shape; **Plano·rbine** *a.*, belonging to, or having the characters of, the subfamily *Planorbīnæ*, of which *Planorbis* is the typical genus; **Plano·rbite,** a fossil shell belonging or allied to this genus; **Plano·rbuline** *a.*, of or belonging to *Planorbulina*, a genus of *Foraminifera* having shells of a planorboid form.

1856 WOODWARD *Mollusca* III. 398 The Achatinellæ are elongated..and the Helices planorboid and multispiral. 1879 CARPENTER in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 380/1 Remarkable modifications of the planorbuline type. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* III. 413 Shell very small, planorbiform.

Planospiral (plē·noˌspoi·răl), *a.* [f. PLANO-[1] + SPIRAL *a.*] = *Planispiral*: see PLANI-.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 973/1.

Planscheour, planschour, planseour, planshar(e, obs. ff. PLANCHER. **Plansheer, planshire,** obs. forms of PLANESHEAR.

Plant (plant), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **plante**, 4–7 **plante**, (4–5 **plonte**, 5 **plantte, plaunte, plounte**, *Sc.* **playnt**, 6 **plaunt**), 5– **plant**. [In sense 1, OE. *plante* fem., ad. L. *planta* sprout, slip, cutting, graft, whence also OHG. *pflanza*, ON. *planta*. Later senses are affected by med. or mod. uses of L. *planta*, and by F. *plante*, or are direct derivatives of PLANT *v.*, or a. F. *plant* action of planting, plants collectively for planting out, f. *planter* to plant.]

I. 1. A young tree, shrub, or herb newly planted, or intended for planting; a set, cutting, slip; a sapling. *Obs.* or *dial.* (In local use the name for seedling vegetables at this stage, as 'healthy cabbage plants', 'plants at sixpence a hundred', etc.)

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxliii. 12 Ðeara bearn swe swe niowe plant[e] steaðelunge ʒesteaðulfestad from ʒuʒuðe. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. § 2. 381 On æppeltunum, ðonne hie wel begað hira plantan and hiera impan, oð hie fulweaxne beoð. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 104 Þe fyrre in þe fryth þe fei[r]er con ryse Þe playn, þe plonttez, þe spyse, þe perez. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 763 Yif me a plante of thilke blissed tree; And in my gardyn planted it shal bee. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 26 Men take plantes or slyfynges þeroff and sett þam in oþer placez. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* I, & þou sett in my garthyn a yong plante of a tre. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* XV. 13 All plantes [Gr. πᾶσα φυτεία, Vulg. *omnis plantatio*] which my hevenly father hath nott planted shalbe plucked vppe by the rotes. 1535 COVERDALE

Ps. xlvii. 2 The hill of Sion is like a fayre plante [LUTHER 'Der Berg Zion ist wie ein schön Zweiglein']. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 467 A plant, the slip of a tree that was planted in the earth. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 378 There is a man haunts the Forrest, that abuses our yong plants with caruing *Rosalinde* on their barkes. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 86/2 Plants are young Trees fit to be set. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. ix. 196 Some plants of canes.

b. A young tree or sapling used as a pole, staff, or cudgel. Now chiefly *dial.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 50 Þanne *liberum arbitrium* laccheth þe thridde plante. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 493 He caught a plante of an appell tre..and toke the barre in bothe handes, and seide he wolde make hem to remeve. *c* 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* v. (1881) 109 An ashen plant, a good Cudgell, what sho'd I call it? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 638 Take, Shepherd, take a plant of stubborn oak And labour him with many a sturdy stroke. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 335 ₱ 2 Sir Roger's Servants..had..provided themselves with good Oaken Plants, to attend their Master upon this occasion. 1732 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Belle Assemblée* II. 122 This magnanimous Spaniard..having under his Habit, a good Sword, and a strong Oaken-Plant. 1900 MCILROY *Craiglinnie* v. 54 (Ulster) The country people came pouring in—each man carrying his ash 'plant'.

c. *fig.* Anything planted or springing up; a scion, offshoot, nurseling; a young person; a novice. Now *rare.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 137 Loue is þe leuest þing þat vr lord askeþ, And eke þe playnt [*v. rr.* plante, plaunte, plonte] of pees. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 5 Fyer of fraward lufe, þe whilk wastis burionyng of verteu, & norrysches þe plantes of all vyce. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvii. 30 Gret Gode ws graunt that we have long desirit, A plaunt to spring of thi successioun. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 175 The Inquisition..considering them to be but new plants useth not such rigour with them. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plant*, figuratively a young Man or Maid. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 188 A plant from Bristol, a youth of tremendous power.

2. A member of the lower of the two series of organized living beings, i. e. of the vegetable kingdom; a vegetable; generally distinguished from an animal by the absence of locomotion and of special organs of sensation and digestion, and by the power of feeding wholly upon inorganic substances. (=mod.L. *planta* in botanical use.) Often popularly restricted to the smaller, esp. herbaceous plants, to the exclusion of trees and shrubs.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. A ij, Ye knowiege of plantes, herbes, and trees. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 26 b, Plants be sorted and deuided into three parts: the first is the Herbe: the seconde the Shrub: the third the Tree. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Plant*, a Natural Body that has a vegetable Soul. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., The Learned and Experienced Botanist, Mr. John Ray, gives us the following Characteristick Notes of the Chief Kinds of Plants. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 1 Sickly Plants betray a niggard Earth. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 180 Betula. Flowers male and female on the same plant. 1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 36 The original dimensions of this venerable plant. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 81 Plants, because it is their nature to produce leaves, may, by an overplus of food, produce nothing else.

b. *fig.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 395 The Parents liue, whose Children thou hast butcher'd, Old barren Plants, to waile it with their Age. 1844 EMERSON *Lect., Yng. Amer.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 300 Government has been a fossil; it should be a plant. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* II. i. 41 Christianity alone was powerful enough to tear this evil plant from the Roman soil.

c. Sometimes applied to the leafy or herbaceous part of a vegetable.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 144 Leeks..Replanted in the Month of May, very deep in the Earth, to make their Stalks and Plants thick and white.

II. Chiefly from PLANT *v.*

3. *collect.* A growth of something planted or sown; a crop.

1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 199 To insure a good crop of barley and a kind plant of clover. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 288 The promising plant of wheat which covered it was laid..by the rough weather. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 513 There was a very full plant of swedes, which would have produced a fine crop.

b. *abstr.* Growth. *In plant*, growing, in leaf; *to lose plant*, to die off, dwindle away; *to fail in* or *miss plant*, to fail to spring from seed.

1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 4 Clover.., if sown oftener it is apt to fail in plant; and even when in plant it is not very productive unless highly manured. 1847 *Ibid.* VIII. II. 291 The spaces in the..turnips, which have missed plant, are filled up with transplanted swedes. 1852 *Ibid.* XIII. I. 58 The wheat often loses plant in the spring.

4. The way in which any one plants himself or is planted; footing, foothold, pose.

1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 2 The wide area between his feet, when in a standing position, gave him so firm a 'plant', if I may so say. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 277/1 There was doggedness and obstinacy in the plant of the figures.

5. A deposit of fish-spawn, fry, or oysters; *ellipt.* an oyster which has been bedded or is intended for bedding, as distinguished from a native. *U. S.*

6. The fixtures, implements, machinery, and apparatus used in carrying on any industrial process. (In Great Britain rarely with *a* or *pl.*)

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 133 The ground was destined to the purposes of extensive commerce, but the appellation of a plant gave me much disturbance, from my inability to fathom the meaning. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 239/2 There was very little possibility of transferring these implements (technically called the Plant) from one contract to another. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 110 In Durham and Northumberland a single 'plant' of pits and engines will work the ground for a mile or two on each side. 1882 *Engineer* 24 Feb. 133/2 The plant includes one steam crane, three steam travelling cranes, a steam fire-engine, a steam pump, two steam hammers, seven steam engines, three boilers, and a few hundred nail-making machines. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 5/1 Six plants in the coke region of Pennsylvania are now in operation.

b. *fig.* The instrumentalities employed in carrying on spiritual or intellectual work.

1861 LD. LINDSAY *Scepticism* 341 We must take stock here, likewise, of our spiritual plant, our intellectual capital. 1881 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 437 The college is to him a sort of industrial enterprise,..and the professors are part of the plant. 1887 *Ch. Times* 21 Jan. 54/3 The policy of increasing the plant of the Roman Catholic body here .. is still pursued.

7. [f. PLANT *v.* 8.] A hoard of stolen goods; also the place where they are hidden. *Thieves' slang.*

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *Plant*, the place in the house of the fence, where stolen goods are secreted. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s. v., Any thing hid is called, *the plant*,..such article is said to be *in plant*; the place of concealment is sometimes called *the plant*, as 'I know of a fine plant'; that is a secure hiding-place. To *spring a plant*, is to find any thing that has been concealed by another. To *rise the plant*, is to take up and remove any thing that has been hid, whether by yourself or another. 1837 J. D. LANG *New S. Wales* II. 52 He had found, to his astonishment and disappointment, that some person had *sprung the plant*—a cant phrase for discovering and carrying off property which another person has stolen and concealed.

8. A scheme or plot laid to swindle or defraud a person; an elaborately planned burglary or other form of theft or robbery. (The notion appears to be that of a trap or snare carefully planted or laid in the ground and covered up.) *Sharpers' slang.*

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 241 A regular plant to clear me out. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, The 'plant' is successful, the bet is made, the stranger of course loses. 1837 — *Pickw.* xlviii, 'It's a conspiracy', said Ben Allen. 'A regular plant', added Mr. Bob Sawyer. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxliii. 124 When the classes who live by warfare with society, lay a deliberate scheme by which an honest man's house is to be entered, or his property carried off, it takes at the Police Offices the title of a 'plant'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Feb. 4 He..charges ..Blackburn with having, in language, which has recently become parliamentary, 'put up a plant' on his innocent young friend.

9. [f. PLANT *v.* 2 c.] A spy, a detective; a picket of detectives. *slang.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 210 He sold forged notes to a plant [*note* A person sent for the purpose of detecting him] which led to his untimely end. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 26 Nov., At Shepperton Lock the keeper..cautioned the defendant as he was going through the lock to take care, as there was a 'plant' out that night. *Mod.* A plant set to detect motorists travelling at illegal speed.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

10. a. Simple attrib., as *plant-centre*, *-covering*, *-disease*, *-egg*, *-ferment*, *-fetish*, *-form*, *-growth*, *-kingdom*, *-life*, *-movement*, *-name*, *-ornament*, *-remains*, *-species*, *-spirit*, *-wealth*. **b.** Appositive, as *plant-ancestor*. **c.** Objective and obj. gen., as *plant-dispersal*, *-dropper*, *-eater*, *-eating*, *-forcer*, *-growing*, *-hunting*, *-naming*, *-worship*, *-worshipper*; *plant-bearing*, *-feeding*, *-stimulating* adjs. **d.** Instrumental, as *plant-clothed*, *-grown* adjs.

1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* I. xxiii. § 181 Now if an animal regarded as original progenitor, is therefore reverentially treated; so..may we expect the *plant-ancestor will be. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 473 The Carboniferous *plant-bearing strata of Roberts' valley. 1894 *Board Agric. Circular* X. 4 These traps..should be placed close to the [hop] hills or *plant-centres. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* 250 Fruits eaten by birds afford a means of *plant-dispersal. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 110 Among animals the flesh-eaters cannot exist without the *plant-eaters. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 197 This is not necessary in *plant-eggs or vegetable seeds. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 23 Oct. an. 1775, The manure is..equally incorporated with the *plant-feeding stratum. 1899 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 6/3 The belief in *plant-fetishes, wherein the informing spirit or ghost occupies the place of natural property. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs's Bot.* 130 In the same manner, from a morphological point of view, stems, leaves, hairs, roots, thallus-branches, are simply members of the *plant-form. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 3/3 The wild *plant-grown embankments of railway cuttings. *Ibid.* 10 July 3/4 Means..for restraining injurious *plant-growth or for disposing of an insect pest. 1878 HOOKER & BALL *Marocco* 346 Ball enjoyed a capital day's *plant-hunting at Tangier. 1884 R. FOLKARD *Plant Lore* (title-p.) Folk-Lore of the *Plant-Kingdom. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. viii. § 70 *Plant-life is all directly or indirectly dependant on the heat and light of the sun. 1894 *Persian Pict.* 183 A luxuriant plant-life covered every stem and log. 1594 *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 134 A name [*Zoophyta*], which in our language signifieth as much as *plant-liuing creatures. 1878 BRITTEN & HOLLAND (*title*) A Dictionary of English *Plant-names. 1898 M. A. BUCKMASTER *Elem. Archit.* 26 The acanthus..was the favourite *plant-ornament with the Greeks and Romans. 1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* 195 Proofs of a mild Arctic climate, in the abundant *plant-remains of East Siberia and Amurland. 1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* I. xxiii. § 182 No explanation of the conceived shape of the *plant-spirit. *Ibid.* § 183 *Plant-worship,..like the worship of idols and animals, is an aberrant species of ancestor-worship. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 720/2 The ornament which we have derived from Chaldean *plant-worshippers.

e. Special Combs.: **plant-bed**, a stratum containing fossil plants; **plant-beetle**, a beetle of the family *Chrysomelidæ*, feeding on plants, a leaf-beetle; **plant-breeder**, one who cultivates plants with the object of improving existing varieties, or producing new ones; **plant-cane**, a sugar-cane of one year's growth; **plant-cutter**, (*a*) a passerine bird of the S. American genus *Phytotoma*, having the habit of biting off the shoots of plants; (*b*) *U. S. Hist.*, (*pl.*) rioters in early times in Virginia, who systematically cut down the tobacco plants; **plant-feeder**, any animal that feeds upon plants; **plant-food**, a substance, or the substances collectively, on which plants feed; the food of plants; **plant-marker**, a small tablet of wood, zinc, terra-cotta, etc., set in the ground beside a plant, and bearing its name; **plant-of-gluttony**, rendering of Gael. *lus-a-chraois*, name for the dwarf cornel, *Cornus suecica*, the berries of which are reputed to stimulate the appetite (*Treas. Bot.* 1866 s. v. *Cornus*); †**plant-plot**, a nursery for young plants; **plant-tin**, a tinned vessel for carrying plants, a botanical case or vasculum.

1881 *Rep. Geol. Explor. N. Zealand* 48 The Mataura series in the Hokanui Hills overlying the *plant-beds. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 321 The beautiful tribe of *plant-beetles (*Chrysomela*, F.). 1793 EDWARDS *W. Indies* II. v. i. 210 *Plant-canes in this soil..have been known in very fine seasons to yield two tons and a half of sugar per acre. 1802 LATHAM *Gen. Synops. Birds* Supp. II. 212 *Plant-cutter. 1894 in NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 730. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 101 Virgin forest soil is considered best..because it contains sufficient *plant-food. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 12/2 There is no substance so rich in plant-food as the carcass of an animal. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 100 Tributes also were imposed..for Cornegrounds, *plant-plots, groves or parks. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxiii. (1614)-45/2 From Creekelad a towne in Wiltshire, the Academie was translated unto Oxford, as unto a plant-plot, both more pleasing and fruitfull. 1896 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 6/2 In the winter there is no occupation for *plant-tin or insect-net.

†**Plant,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4-6 **plaunte**, 5-6 **plante.** [ME. *pla(u)nte*, a. F. *plante*:—L. *planta* sole of the foot.] The sole of the foot.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* iii. 7 Anoon the groundis and plauntis [*gloss* or solis] of him ben saddid to gidere; and he lippinge stood, and wandride. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 15/2 Fro the plante of his foot vnto the toppe of his heed was none hole place. 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVIII. x, My heeles and plants Thou didst from stumbling slip sustaine. 1610 B. JONSON *Masque of Oberon* Wks. (Rtldg.) 584/2 Knotty legs, and plants of clay, Seek for ease, or love delay. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 24 Before you put the Iron to the plant of his Feet, give me a cord.

†**Plant,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *plant*, in obs. use 'the ground-plat of a building; also, the foundation, or ground-worke of a building; also, a planting' (Cotgr.), f. stem of *planter* to plant. Cf. It. *pianta* a ground-plan.] A ground-plan.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 256 Much less upon a bare *Plant* thereof, as they call the Schiographia or Ground lines. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 20 The outward Circle of Mr. Jones his Plant No. 6 of the Ruins. *Ibid.* 25 The Plant of the main Structure is in Diameter, one third Part of the Diameter of the whole Extent, or Circumvallation.

Plant (plant), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 **plantian, plontian**, 2-4 **plant(i)en**, 4-5 **plau-, plawnte(n**, 4-6 **plante**, 5 **plonte, plaunt**, (5 *Sc.* **paynt**, 8 **plaint**), 5- **plant.** [OE. *plantian*, ad. L. *plantāre* to plant, fix in place: cf. PLANT *sb.*[1] The sense-development agrees in the main with that of F. *planter* (12th c.) (:—L. *plantāre*).]

I. To plant a thing in or on a place.

1. *trans.* To set or place in the ground so that it may take root and grow (a living tree or herb, a shoot, cutting, root, bulb, or tuber; sometimes, a seed; also, by extension, a crop, a bed of flowers, a garden, vineyard, orchard, forest, or other collection of plants).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxix. 9 [lxxx. 8] Wingeard of Agyptum ðu afirdes awurpe ðeode & plantades hie. *c* 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xl. 292 He underfeng ða halgan ȝesamnunga to plantianne & to ymbhweorfanne, swæ se ceorl deð his ortȝeard. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxi. 33 Abraham þa plantode ænne holt. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 51 Ys ȝeplanted an iblesced treu amidde ðare hali chereche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8239 (Cott.) All frutes he plantede in þat place. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 91 Plaunt þou a vine. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 137 He gert plant þerin all maner of erbez. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* iii. 6-7, I have planted; Apollo watred..Nether is he that planteth eny thynge nether he that watreth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 25 Plant..Wild Olive Trees, or Palms, before the busie Shop. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. II. v. 334 There are many edicts of the French king, prohibiting the planting of new vineyards. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* II. iii, You can plant a very extensive apple-orchard on a grand scale. 1868 Q. VICTORIA *Life Highl.* 19 Each of us planted two trees, a fir and an oak.

b. To introduce (a breed of animals) into a country; to deposit (young fish, spawn, oysters) in a river, tidal water, etc.; to naturalize.

1899 *19th Cent.* Sept. 405 Brought from the Pacific and 'planted' in the Great Lakes, these steel-heads are the most prized of all the Salmonidae. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 25 Mar. 7/2 Mr. Henry Herman Kater..in 1839 chartered the

Euphrates for the purpose of planting blood horses in Australia.

c. *Plant out*, to transfer from a pot or frame to the open ground; to set out (seedlings) at intervals, so as to afford room for growth.

1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) V. 54 When they [plants] are planted out, after once hoeing, they will take care of themselves. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 323 The more tender kinds should not be thinned till some time after they have been planted out. 1858 Glenny *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 179/1 Plant out all the sorts and sow once or twice others to succeed.

d. *intr.* Of seed: To grow into or form plants. Cf. Plant *sb.*[1] 3, from which this is perh. directly taken.

1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. I. 55 The seed was put in precisely the same as [in] the preceding year, but it never planted so well.

2. To insert, set, or place firmly, to fix *in* or *on* the ground or any other body or surface; to set *down* or *up* in a firm position; to put or fix in position; to post, station.

1382 Wyclif *Ps.* xciii. [xciv.] 9 He that plauntide the ere, shal he not heren? *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 98 Make faire lowe coffyns, and couche þis stuff there-in, And plonte pynes aboue. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 312 Thai plantit doun ane paily-eoun. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* III. i. 36 Hee is to be taught how to plant his pike on the ground. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 26 The Banners which the Banians had planted on the top and highest Branches of it. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 89 In the .. Point of Intersection, plant the Stake H. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5248/2 He planted the British Colours on the Castle. *a* 1719 Addison *Rosamond* II. vi, Or this right hand performs its part, And plants a dagger in thy heart. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 485 As soon as the prince had planted his foot on dry ground he called for horses. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xi. (1856) 82 To plant an ice-anchor, a hole is cut obliquely to the surface of the floe. 1874 Burnand *My time* xv. 127 Planting her elbows on her knees. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 263 As the bull passes him, he has to plant these two darts at the same time in the back, and jump aside.

b. To put or place (artillery) in position for discharging. † *To plant a siege*, to lay siege.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 401 b, Plantyng your ordenaunce here and there on your walles and Bulwarkes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 748 The Capitaines..planted a strong siege, and enuironed it round about. 1604 E. Grimstone *Hist. Siege Ostend* 214 The siege being planted before Escluse. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 140/2 Plant a peece, is to order it for it discharging that it may do service or execution. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 382 Four swivel guns..were planted at the mouth of each funnel. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. iii. (1872) V. 39 Cannon with case-shot planted themselves in all the thoroughfares.

fig. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* I. i. 1 This cavill is not planted particularly against my indevours.

c. To station (a person); *esp.* (in slang or vulgar use) to place for a surreptitious or unavowed purpose; to post as a spy or detective.

1693 Evelyn *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 16 The Person must be dispos'd and planted near his Tree, in such a manner as to stand firm. 1706 J. Drake *Secret Mem. Earl of Leicester* Pref., The guard of his own creatures, spies and dependants which he had planted about her. 1764 Foote *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 353 Intelligent people are planted, who will bring me..a faithful account of the process. 1777 Watson *Philip II* (1793) I. VIII. 333 He planted strong guards along the banks of the river. 1842 Cobden in Morley *Life* ix. (1902) 31/1 He was planted (to use a vulgar phrase) upon me by his party. 1892 Zangwill *Bow Mystery* 151 You plant one in my house to tell my secrets to Wimp, and you plant one in Wimp's house to tell Wimp's secrets to me.

d. *refl.* To place, station, post, fix oneself; to take up one's position.

1703 Rowe *Ulyss.* III. i. 1362 Remember well to plant thee at that Door. 1754 Chatham *Lett. Nephew* v. 34 Open your chest, place your head upright, and plant you well upon your legs. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* iii, One grisly old wolf-dog alone..had planted himself close by the chair of state. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iii. 84 [They] persisted in planting themselves steadily in some safe nook.

3. To found, establish, institute (a community or society, esp. a colony, city, or church).

c 897 [see sense 1]. 1555 Eden *Decades* 160 That they myght in this prouince plant a newe colonie or habitation. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 146 This hapeneth by meanes of the Grimme Tartar, that will neither himselfe plant townes to dwell in..nor suffer the Russie..to people those partes. *c* 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* iii. 153 Planting and ordering schools for the education of youth. 1676 I. Mather *K. Philip's War* (1862) 40 In three and twenty Towns, there were Indian Christian Churches Planted. 1700 Prior *Carmen Seculare* 441 Let him unite his Subjects Hearts, Planting Societies for peaceful Arts. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) II. xli. 134 Planting colonies in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Carolina. 1878 Maclear *Celts* v. (1879) 88 They planted monasteries under abbot-bishops.

b. To settle (a person) in a place, establish as a settler or colonist. (Cf. Plantation 4.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8033 (Cott.) Passed war a thusand yere, Sin þai war planted in þat place. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 452 Sut(h)faste hirdis, þat has þe playntit in hewine reme to be bettir and happliare. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 24 He, as largh man & good prynce..owr lond folke wyll setten & planten stydfastly yn þys lond, nowe & euer. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* vii. 10, I wyll appoynte a place, and wyll plante them, that they maye remayne there. *a* 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 89 In þour tolbuth sic presouneris to plant. 1607 R. Tindall in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) Introd. 38 Wee are safelye arryued and planted in this Contreye [Virginia]. 1672 Petty *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 44 In some Counties, as in Kerry,..few English were ever planted. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) I. ix. 156 My being planted so well in Brazil. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. ii. 11 Teutonic soldiers planted as colonists by the Roman government.

c. *refl.* To establish oneself, settle.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 98 b, To sette and plante himselfe there. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 152 The Zanclæans invited the remainder of the Milesians to come and plant themselves in Sicily. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 230 Benedict, a monk of Auxerre, who planted himself in solitude among the wild forests by the Ouse.

† **d.** *absol.* or *intr.* To form a colony or colonies; to colonize; to settle. *Obs.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 459 How King Gregoure with his Power passit in Fyffe..and plantit and pleneist as he passit. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. iii. 36 Thei..made themselues cotages, and began to plante in plompes one by another. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Plantations* (Arb.) 534 If you Plant, where Sauages are, doe not onely entertaine them with Trifles, and Gingles; But vse them iustly, and gratiously. 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 159 It seems they are resolved to plant there.

4. To put, set, or place *in* some local position; to locate, situate; in *pa. pple.* situated. Also *fig.*

1558 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 14 § 4 Faire large townes..as well planted for cloth making as the sayd towne of Goddelmine or better. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 110 In them I plant my chiefest pleasure. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 205 A Town .. finely built, but foolishly planted. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* I. ii. 5 Some perchance will place their scorn, where they ought to plant their wonder. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* iv. (1858) 226 If Neby-Samwil be the high place of Gibeon, then Mizpeh which Dr. Robinson planted there, must be sought elsewhere.

5. Various *fig.* uses derived from prec. senses.

a. To implant, cause to take root and spring up or grow; to introduce, e. g. an idea or sentiment in the mind.

1415 Hoccleve *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 68 Plante in thyn herte a deep contricioun. 1529 More *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 145/2 God..euer shall kepe in his church the right faith and righte beleue by the helpe of his owne hande that planted it. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 14 Thes vertues..by the bunfyte and powar of nature in hys hart are rotyd and plantyd. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 77 ₱ 2 That noble Thirst of Fame and Reputation which is planted in the Hearts of all Men. 1878 Maclear *Celts* v. (1879) 78 It was his great aim to plant the truth in the minds of his hearers.

b. To fix, settle, establish firmly, as a prineiple, opinion, doctrine, religion, practice, or the like.

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 159/1 Now were..yᵉ pointes of Christes faith .. knowen, as I saye and planted before. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 167 At variaunce with that opinion which Leland would plant. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 309 If the history doth but once beginne to plant her image in our imagination. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 5 [They] planted religion in those countries. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* vi. 115 Christianity, as planted by modern missions.

c. To establish or set up (a person or thing) in some position or state.

a 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 230 Sir, ye do entend to delyver them [the keys]..and to plant an other in my rome. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* G iv b, Therof ensued the order..established in the Kings council..wherein the Queene mother was planted vpright. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* I. i. 165 A man in all the worlds new fashion planted. 1593 — *Rich. II*, v. i. 63 Thou which know'st the way To plant vnrightfull Kings. 1622 Fletcher & Mass. *Span. Curate* II. i, He would entreat your care To plant me in the favour of some man. 1622 Misselden *Free Trade* 97 They do what in them lyeth to plant their owne Draperies, and to supplant ours. 1874 S. Cox *Pilgr. Ps.* I. 10 Planting himself on his habit of crying unto God in his distresses.

d. *intr.* for *refl.*

1580 Sidney *Ps.* xxv. vii, Such as keep His covenaunt, And on His testimonys plant. 1594 Willobie *Avisa* xlv. v, No reason rules, where sorrowes plant.

II. With the place, etc., as object.

6. a. To furnish or stock (a piece of land) with growing plants.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 b, The earth is carried into it and planted with all sorts of excellent fruteful trees. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 303 The citie of Bochin .. is now planted with date-trees. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 171 With wild Thyme and Sav'ry, plant the Plain. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* ii, It is not supposed that they were ever planted, but rather that they are pieces of unreclaimed land, with the withered vegetation of the original brick-field. *Mod.* He enclosed a piece of the common and planted it with firs.

b. To furnish or provide *with* a number of things set or disposed over the surface.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3146 þe sepulture of a sire..Was of an athill amatist..Plantid full of palmetres & many proud fowles. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 345 Thai playntyt thar feild with tentis and pailzonis. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 62 Thy Temples should be planted presently With Hornes. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 113 The Portugall..built a strong castle here, planted it with seventeene cannon ..and a thousand musquets. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 159 ₱ 8 A vast Ocean planted with innumerable Islands. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 556 A battery was planted with some small guns taken from the ships.

c. To furnish a district *with* settlers or colonists; to colonize or settle; to stock *with* inhabitants, cattle, etc.

c 1608 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 75 The necessity of planting Leitrim with the greater part of British. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 195 He..grants that Iceland, and some part of Groenland were visited and planted by Ericus Ruffus. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 101 We cannot spare people to plant those islands. 1869 Rawlinson *Anc. Hist.* 31 Planted it [Media] with cities. 1904 *Dundee Advert.* 5 July 6/3 The other 23 States being..thinly 'planted' with horned animals.

† **d.** To furnish (a vacant church) *with* a minister. *Sc. Obs.*

1574 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 50 That vackand Kirks be planted, and stipends assigned to them. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 87 Most churches are planted and fraught with single reading ministers. 1721 Wodrow *Hist. Ch. Scot.* I. iii. 119 The Bishops are appointed to plant the Kirks which have vaiked since the Year 1637.

III. Colloquial uses, of slang or vulgar origin.

7. To deliver (a blow, stroke, thrust) with a definite aim; to cause to alight or fall. (So F. *planter un soufflet sur . . .*) *Pugilistic slang.*

1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 76 Gully made play, and planted two other blows on his adversary's head. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* xxvi, I planted a stomacher in his fifth button. 1883 F. M. Peard *Contrad.* xxii, You know how to plant a straight blow just where it is most telling.

b. *fig.*

1847–8 H. Miller *First Impr.* xix. (1857) 337 He finds every Highlander..adroit of fence, in planting upon him as many queries as can possibly be thrust in. 1882 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 96 The thin tones of Lady Vandaleur planting icy repartees at every opening.

8. To hide, to conceal; esp. stolen goods. Orig. *Thieves' slang*; now esp. *Australian.*

1610 Rowlands *Martin Mark-all* E iij b, *To Plant*, to hide. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Plant*, to lay, place, or hide. 1785 in Grose *Dict. Vulg. Tongue.* 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s. v., To hide, or conceal any person .. is termed planting him. 1827 P. Cunningham *N. S. Wales* II. xxi. 60 'Pa! Bill has planted it' (hid it). 1837 J. D. Lang *N. S. Wales* II. 51 They..observed the robbers plant or conceal a quantity of the property, of which they had just plundered the cottage. 1840 *Sydney Herald* 10 Feb., Conveying horses out of the way, or *planting* them, as it is technically called, until a reward is offered for their restoration. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Dec. 5/2 The plunder was 'planted' under the floor of a restaurant in Geelong.

9. To place (gold dust, ore, etc.) in a mining claim in order to give a false impression of its productiveness; to 'salt'. *Gold-digging slang.*

1850 Reade *Gold* IV. i, *Levi.* This dust is from Birmingham, and neither Australian or natural. *Rob.* The man planted it for you. 1886 P. Clarke *New Chum* vi. 72 A 'salted claim', a 'pit' sold for a £10 note in which a nugget worth a few shillings had before been 'planted'.

b. To plan or 'get up' by fraudulent methods; to devise as a 'plant' or fraudulent scheme.

1892 *Daily News* 27 May 3/4 Mr. Keay maintained that the affair was 'planted' between the two brothers, the Indian resident having..opportunities to carry out that object.

10. To abandon. [Cf. F. *planter là.*]

[1814 Scott *Wav.* liii, And so he glided off and left me *planté là.*] 1821 Byron *Juan* III. iv, But one thing's pretty sure: a woman planted (Unless at once she plunge for life in prayers) After a decent time must be gallanted. 1852 Hoskyns *Talpa* 18 Here I was, fairly planted, at the first onset. 1858 Hogg *Life Shelley* II. 399 For some six years .. he makes her a most exemplary husband; and then, all at once, he plants her; plants her at once and for ever.

Plantable (plɑ·ntăb'l), *a.* [f. Plant *v.* + -able. (Cf. It. *piantabile.*)] Capable of being planted (in various senses of the verb); fit for planting or cultivation.

1615 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 14 Roots of any plantable Fruit. 1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. ii. 58 The Land as you go farther from the Sea..becomes of a more plantable Mould. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 17 Taking of such up as are of a plantable size from Hedge-rows and Woods.

Plantad (plæ·ntăd), *adv. Anat.* [f. L. *planta* the sole of the foot + *-ad*: cf. Dextrad.] Towards the sole of the foot.

1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 448 A general surface that is concave poplitead or plantad, and another surface that is convex rotulad. *Ibid.*, The motion poplitead or plantad, commonly called flexion.

† **Pla·ntage.** *Obs.* [a. F. *plantage* plantation (1427 in Godefroy *Compl.*), f. *planter* to plant: see Plant *v.* and -age.]

1. The cultivation of plants; planting.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 14 There are neither Cornes, nor Wines, nor Village, Plantage, or Cultivage. 1688 R. Holme *Armory* IV. viii. (Roxb.) 328/2 All such as trade in tillage of Land, pasturage, or feeding of cattle or plantage in orderings of orchards and Gardens.

2. Plants in the mass; vegetation, herbage.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 184 As true as steele, as plantage to the Moone: As Sunne to day: as Turtle to her mate. 1825 Southey *Tale Paraguay* III. 22 To clear a circle there, And trample down the grass and plantage round.

Plantaginaceous (plæntădʒinē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod. Bot. L. *Plantaginaceæ*: see -aceous.] Of or pertaining to the natural order *Plantaginaceæ* or *Plantagineæ* of herbs, of which the typical genus is *Plantago*, Plantain 1.

Mod. Littorella is a plantaginaceous genus.

Plantagi·neous, *a. Bot.* = prec.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 973/1.

Plantain[1] (plæ·ntĕin, -tēn). Forms: 3 plauntein, 4 -eyne, -oyne, 5 -eyn; 4–5 plawnteyn(e; 4 planteine, 4–6 -ayn(e, 5–6 -eyne, 6–7 -an, -(a)ine, 6–9 -ane, 7 -in, -en, 7– **plantain**; also 6 playntayne, 8 plaintain. [ME. a. OF. *plantain, -ein*:—L. *plantāgin-em* (nom. *plantāgo*) plantain, app. from the root of *planta* sole of the foot, in reference to its broad prostrate leaves: cf. the OE. name *wegbráde*, OHG. *wegbreita*, Waybread or -brede (f. *brād*, Ger. *breit* broad).]

1. A plant of the genus *Plantago*, esp. the Greater Plantain, *P. major*, a low herb with broad flat leaves spread out close to the ground, and close spikes of inconspicuous flowers, followed by dense cylindrical spikes of seeds.

[*c* 1265 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/27 *Arnoglosa*, plauntein.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 28 His forheed dropped as a stillatorie Were ful of plantayne [*v. rr.* -eyne, -eyn, -ayn, pleintein] and of paritorie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 131 The tenthe sterre is Almareth..His Stour is Jaspe, and of Planteine He hath his herbe sovereine. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 351 Distempere it wiþ þe iuys of lactuce & plaunteyn. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/1 Planteyne, or plawnteyn, herbe, *plantago*. 1516 *Grete Herbal* cccxliv, Plantayne or weybrede..is an herbe that yᵉ greke call arnoglosse. It is called also .. grete plantayne, and groweth in moyst places & playne feldes. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 9/2 A kind of herbe like vnto plantine. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 74 Or sir, Plantan, a plaine Plantan. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. ii. 61 These poore sleight sores Neede not a plantin. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 51 Those of Paduoa [are said] to love women with little brests, which makes their women use the juyce of Plantane to keep them from growing. 1736 BAILEY *Househ. Dict.* s. v., The leaves of plantain are good for all sorts of ulcers, and for cicatrizing such as are old. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 222 The Seeds of Greater Plantain are a favourite food of cage-birds.

b. With defining words distinguishing species and varieties.

The chief are Greater Plantain (see above); Broad-leaved P., *Plantago maxima*; Hoary P., *P. media*; Buck's-horn or Hart'shorn P. (Star of the Earth), *P. Coronopus*; Rose P., *P. major* var. *rosea*; Seaside P., *P. maritima*; Long, Narrow-leaved, or Ribwort P., *P. lanceolata*.

1516 *Grete Herbal* cccxlv, *De lanccolata*...Longe plantayne is good agaynst fystales, yf the iuce be put in them dyuers dayes, it healeth and sleeth them. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxiii. 92 We call the fourth [kind] .. Sea Plantayne. *Ibid.* lxiv. 95 We may also call it Hartes horne Plantayne, Buckehorne Plantayne, or Coronop Plantayne. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisi* lxxxv. 352 *Plantago Rosea*. Rose Plantane .. is in all things like vnto the ordinary Plantane or Ribworte.. but..hath..a thicke long spike of small greene leaues vpon short stalkes. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 325 That Herb which is called Rose Plantane, or by some, Star Plantane. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* 103 And plaintain ribb'd, that heals the reaper's wound. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 259 Plantago media (Hoary Plantain) .. The leaves make a good astringent lotion. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plantago virginica*, the white plantain or ribwort.

2. Applied with defining words to other plants resembling the plantain: as **Bastard Plantain**, *Limosella aquatica*; **Water Plantain**, *Alisma Plantago*; **Lesser Water Plantain**, *A. Ranunculus*; **Least Water Plantain**, ? = *Bastard Plantain*; **White Plantain**, (?) *Gnaphalium americanum*.

1538 TURNER *Libellus*, Alisma dioscoridæ .. officinis & herbariis plantago aquatica..nostratibus water plantane or water waybrede. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 496 Falling euill, drink the leaues, roots or buds of water Planten. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xciv. 343 *Holosteum*..is also called..Spanish hairie small Plantaine, or flowring sea Plantaine. 1687 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 145 They use also the *Guafalium Americanum*, commonly called there White Plantain. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Plantain, Least Water, *Limosella. Ibid.*, Plantain, Star-headed Water, *Alisma*. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 360/1 *Alisma ranunculoides*, or lesser water plantain. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 134 Common Mudwort .. is sometimes called Bastard Plantain.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plantain leaf*, hence *plantain-leaved* adj.; **plantain lily**, a plant of the genus *Funkia*; **plantain shoreweed**, *Littorella lacustris*; **plantain-water**, a decoction made from the plantain.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 52 *Romeo.* Your *Plantan leafe is excellent for that. *Ben.* For what I pray thee? *Romeo.* For your broken shin. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 37 A spoonful of the juice of Nettles and Plantane leaves. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 395 *Plantain-leaved Sandwort. 1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 225/1 This *Plantain Lily should be grown by everyone as a pot plant. 1879 PRIOR *Plant-names* (ed. 3), **Plantain-Shoreweed*, a weed of the plantain tribe found beside lakes and ponds. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guilleman's Fr. Chirurg.* 25/2 They washe it with *Plantine-water.

Plantain [2] (plæ·ntɛin, -tɛn). Now *Obs.* or *rare*. Forms: 6 **plantayne**, **-in**, **-yne**, 7– **plantain**. [a. obs. F. *plantain* (16th c. in Godef.), *plantoine*, used beside *platane*, ad. L. *platanus* plane-tree, PLATAN, of which there was also a med. or early mod.L. by-form *plantanus*: cf. PLANTAIN 3.] The Plane (*Platanus orientalis*). Also *attrib.*, as *plantain leaf, tree*.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxiv. 14, I am exalted like as a plantayne tre [Vulg. *platanus*] by the water syde. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* L viij, The riuer was shadowed ouer wyth Plantyne and Pople trees [*platani quoque et populi*]. 1608 TOPSELL. *Serpents* (1658) 711 To Plantain-leaves [*platani ramis*] the Sparrow did her young commit. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 291 In Turkey it is common to see inferior buildings raised around the bole of a large plantain. 1843 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xliv, In the streets of Aranjuez, and beneath the mighty cedars and gigantic elms and plantains which compose its noble woods.

Plantain [3] (plæ·ntɛin, -tɛn). Forms: 6 **platan**, 6–8 **plantane**, 7–8 **-an**, **-aine**, **-ine**, 7– **plantain**, (7–8 **plaintain**). [In 16th c. *platan*, *plantan*(*e*, ad. Sp. *plátano*, *plántano*, in same sense, identical in form with *plátano*, *plántano* plane-tree: see PLANTAIN [2], PLATAN, PLANE *sb.*]

There is no similarity of aspect or nature between the plane-tree and the plantain (a fact noted already by D'Acosta in 1590), so that no reason appears for a transfer of the name from the former to the latter. It has therefore been suggested that in this sense *plátano* was a corruption of some native name. And, in fact, the plantain or banana appears in Ant. Biet's Galibi Dictionary of 1664, and again in that of 1763, as *palatana*, in Raymond Breton's Carib Dict. of 1665 as '*Balátana*, grosses bananes', and in the Arawak lang. as *prátane*. But there appears to be no material for determining whether these are native words, or merely corruptions of the Spanish. The Tupi name of the fruit is *pacova*.]

1. A tree-like tropical herbaceous plant (*Musa paradisiaca*) closely allied to the Banana (*M. sapientum*), having immense undivided oblong leaves, and bearing its fruit, for which it is extensively cultivated, in long densely-clustered spikes.

Musa paradisiaca and *M. sapientum* (the Banana), if really distinct species, are very closely allied, and some of their numerous varieties are scarcely distinguishable. The names *plantain* and *banana* are also imperfectly differentiated. In the West Indies, Western Africa, etc., *banana* is applied to the forms with a purple-spotted stem, and a smaller and more delicate fruit, which is eaten raw; while the name *plantain* is given to those with larger and coarser fruit, which is cooked as a vegetable; but in India this usage is reversed, *plantain* being the general name: see Yule *Hobson-Jobson*. In French, *banane* is the general name for both; so *bananier* a banana- or plantain-tree.

[1555 EDEN *Decades* II. 197 (tr. of Italian version, 1534, of Oviedo's Spanish, 1526) There are also certeine plantes which the christians caul Platani. 1589 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 330 Orange trees, siders, limas, plantanos, and palmas. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* XVI. lxix. 1497 They of Brassile call the tree Paquouere and the fruit Pacova, Oviedus and Acosta call it Platanus, for what cause is not knowne. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 74 The most common of all are, the *platanos*... These are of three kinds. The first is the banana,..the second..are the dominicos...The third are the quincos.]

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. (Hakl. Soc.) I. 241 The first that shall be needefulle to treate of is the Plantain, or Plantano, as the vulgar call it...The reason why the Spaniards call it platano (for the Indians had no such name) was, as in other trees, for that they have found some resemblance of the one with the other, even as they called some fruites prunes, pines, and cucumbers, being far different from those which are called by those names in Castille. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 121 Plantains, that haue a broad flaggy leafe, growing in clusters, and shaped like cucumers. *Ibid.* 289 A groue of Plantines. 1657 LIGON *Barbadoes* 81 The Bonano differs nothing from the Plantine, in the body and leaves, but only this, that the leaves are somewhat lesse, and the bodie has here and there some blackish spots...This fruit is of a sweeter taste then the Plantine..we find them as good to stew, or preserve as the Plantine...This tree wants a little of the beauty of the Plantine. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 316. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 19 Lower than these, but with a Leaf far broader, stands the Curious Plantan. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 254 They handed up to us a green stem of a plantane. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 205 An acre planted with plantains produces nearly twenty times as much food as the same space sown with corn. 1882 *Garden* 22 July 65/2 A large specimen of this fine Plantain is now flowering in the Victoria house at Kew.

2. The fruit of this plant, a long, somewhat pod-shaped or cucumber-like, fleshy fruit (botanically a berry); it forms a staple food of a considerable part of the human race within the tropics.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 197 This cluster owght to bee taken from the plant, when any one of the Platans begynne to appere yelowe. 1628 *World Encomp. by Sir F. Drake* (Hakl. Soc.) 142 Fruit which they call *Figo*.., but it is no other than that which the Spaniards and Portingalls have named Plantanes. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 183 Bananas or Plantanes. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 311 The Plantain I take to be the King of all Fruit. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 40 Bonanoes, which are a sort of Plantain, though less, yet much more grateful. 1740 JOHNSON *Life Drake* Wks. IV. 418 Ripe figs, cocoes, and plantains. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 343 Loads of horse-plantanes, a coarse sort, which grows almost without cultivation. 1860 E. B. COWELL in *Life & Lett.* (1904) 167, I generally keep to plaintains, which are like a very poor pear, grafted on a potato. 1875 J. THOMSON *Straits Malacca* 8 Of the pisang or plantain..there are over thirty kinds of which the *Pisang-mas*, or golden plantain,..though one of the smallest, is nevertheless, most deservedly prized. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 38 Along the Coast, and in other parts of Africa, the coarser, flat-sided kinds of banana are usually called plantains, the name banana being reserved for the finer sorts, such as the little 'silver banana'.

3. Applied with defining words to other plants allied to or resembling the plantain; as **Bastard Plantain** (see quot. 1866); **Wild Plantain**, (*a*) the Indian Shot or Plantain-shot (*Canna indica*); (*b*) the Manilla Hemp plant (*Musa textilis*).

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 365 Wild Plantane Tree. This beautiful plant grows wild in most of the cooler mountains of Jamaica. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Bastard Plantain, *Heliconia Bihai*. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 181 Even the hardy wild-plantain (*Canna indica*) with its brilliant yellow stem and scarlet flowers .. was reduced to a bare stem and branches.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plantain-drink, -garden, -leaf, -stalk, -tree*; **plantain-cutter**, **plantain-eater**, a bird of the genus *Musophaga* or of the family *Musophagidæ*, a TOURACO; **plantain-meal**, the powdered substance of the dried fruit of the plantain; **plantain-shot**, a name given to *Canna indica*, the Indian Shot (see quot. 1750); **plantain-walk**, a plantation of plantains.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 100 In the Barbada's they have many Drinks unknown to us; such as are *Perino*, the *Plantane-drink [etc.]. 1801 LATHAM *Synops. Birds* Suppl. II. 104 *Plantain-eater...This beautiful bird is found on the plains near the borders of rivers in the province of Acra, in Guinea, and is said to live principally on the fruit of the plantain. 1866 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* II. 12 *Musophagidæ* .. Touraco or Plantain-eater. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 167 These wild Indians have .. good *Plaintain-Gardens; for Plantains are their chiefest food. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 37 He eats on a green *Plantane-Leaf. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 305 Portions..were distributed on plantain leaves to each guest by the Brahmins. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, Why should not *Plantain-meal be hereafter largely exported for the use of the English working classes? 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 168 The flowers are succeeded by small capsulæ, each inclosing a round black hard seed, as big as swan-shot. From these, and the make of its leaves, they derive the name of *Plantain-shot. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 700 The Ganga..with *Plantaine stalkes hitteth euery one. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* XVI. lxix. 1495 *Musa arbor*. The Indian Figge or *Plantaine tree. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 29 The Plantin Tree is natural to America. 1660 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* (1661) 25 The *Plantane-Walks are usually made choice of, for such Nurseries. 1812 S. ROGERS *Columbus* Poems (1839) 44 Thro' plantain-walks where not a sun-beam plays.

Plantal (plæ·ntăl), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. PLANT + -AL, after *animal*.] Pertaining or relating to a plant; vegetable; used by Henry More and other Platonists to translate Gr. *φυτικός*, applied to the lowest and simplest kind of life in living beings: see quots.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xv, When to plantall life quick sense is ti'd. *Ibid.* II. iii. I. ix, Three centres hath the soul; One plantall hight. 1656 — *Enthus. Tri.* 3 A man differs in them little from a Plant, which therefore you may call the Vegetative or Plantall faculties of the Soul. 1659 — *Immort. Soul* III. i. 328 The same .. made him surmise that the most degenerate Soules did at last sleep in the bodies of Trees, and grew up meerly into Plantal life. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref. 10 A fourth atheistick form..concluded the world not to be an animal, ..but onely one huge plant or vegetable, having an artificial, plantal, and plastick nature. 1736 H. BROOKE *Univ. Beauty* III. 273 Wide o'er the bank the plantal reptile bends, Adown its stem the rooty fringe depends. 1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus' Comm.* II. 288 A plantal nature, and a power of acting on body, which is denominated *φυτικόν*, when it enters the lunar globe. 1816 — in *Pamphleteer* VIII. 461 Wholly changed ..into a plantal condition of being. 1889 N. S. SHALER in *Chautauquan* Oct. 19 Some forms range through a great variety of physical and plantal conditions.

Plant-a·nimal. Now *rare*. [a. early mod.L. *plantanimal*, invented by Budé (Budæus, 1508 in *Annot. in Pandectas*) to render Gr. *ζωόφυτον*. Cf. G. *pflanzenthier*.]

1. A zoophyte or 'animal plant'.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 134 Though plant animalls doe multiply, they doe it not by copulation, but in a way analogous unto plants. 1651 J. F[REAKE] *Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 188 In Elements there are five kinds of mixt bodies, viz. Stones, Metals, Plants, Plant-Animals, Animals. [*a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 47 Animals..that are almost in the nature of Plants, called *Zoophyta* or *Plant animalia*.] 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 87 A Zoophyte, that is, a Plant-Animal. 1853 *Zoologist* II. 4054 The plant-animals of the sea are revealed to us in all their loveliness. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. viii. 196 Plant-animals (Zoophyta).

†**2.** A plant-like animal growth. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. App. 346 Hartshorn .. grow's to a considerable bulk like a Vegetable, and is (unlike most other Hornes of Animals) at certain set Periods of time, deciduous..this Plant-Animal (if I may so call it) does [etc.].

†**3.** *fig.* A dull, inert, or stupid person. *Obs.*

1673 *S'too him Bayes* 40, I suppose Trans does not think himself a plant-animal. 1687 M. CLIFFORD *Notes Dryden* i. 4 If thou art not the dullest Plant-Animal that ever the Earth produced, all [etc.]. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 25 Oct. (O. H. S.) I. 298 He being but a degree from a Natural, and upon yᵗ Account..stiled the Plant Animal.

Plantar (plæ·ntăr), *a. Anat.* [ad. L. *plantāris* adj., f. *planta* sole of the foot.] Pertaining or relating to the sole of the foot.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Plantar*, belonging to the Sole of the Foot. 1741 A. MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 69 The two plantar Nerves. 1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 10/2 It is well known that the horse supports himself on the plantar surface of the coffin bone only. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 18 The dorsal and plantar aspects of the limb.

‖ **Planta·rium.** *Obs. rare.* Also anglicized as **Pla·ntary.** [L. *plantārium* (Plin.), f. *planta* a slip, young plant.] A nursery ground; also *fig.*

1637 BASTWICK *Litany* I. 19 Seminaryes and plantaryes of pride and luxury. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 38 A very small Plantarium or Nursery, will in a few years, stock a vast Extent of Ground.

Plantation (plæntē·ɪ·ʃən). [ad. L. *plantātiōnem* planting, transplanting, n. of action f. *plantāre* to plant; see -ATION. Cf. F. *plantation* (1486).]

1. The action of planting, the placing of plants in the soil so that they may grow. Now *rare*.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1065 Aarons 3erde fructified without plantacioune. 1612 CAPT. SMITH *Map Virginia* 16 In Aprill they begin to plant, but their chiefe plantation is in May. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 419 In Bowre and Field he sought, where any tuft Of Grove or Garden-Plot more pleasant lay, Thir tendance or Plantation for delight. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 129 The manifest defects in the acts concerning the plantation of trees. 1816 T. TAYLOR in *Pamphleteer* VIII. 469 She instructed the Eleusinians in the plantation of corn:

b. *fig.* The action of establishing or founding anything, e. g. a religion; the implanting (*of* a quality); †the laying out (of wealth).

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 13 Those instruments, which it pleased God to use for the plantation of the faith. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 327 The place where holinesse, and religion, aymed to haue their principall plantation. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 183 Heaven and Nature concur in the plantation of that quality [fortitude] in the hearts of men. 1795 HORSLEY *Serm.* (1811) 247 The plantation of churches and the propagation of the gospel.

c. The settlement of persons in some locality; *esp.* the planting of a colony; colonization.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* Ep. Ded., Not for anie religion or plantation of a Commonwealth. 1610 T. BLENERHASSET (*title*) A Direction for the Plantation in Ulster. 1610 (*title*) A true and sincere Declaration of the Purpose and Ends of the Plantation begun in Virginia. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. xiii. (1635) 213 The first plantation of Inhabitants immediately after the Deluge. *a* 1645 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* in *Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.* II. 317 Before theyre plantation in Worcestershire they weare of Rageley. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* vii, The old protestants of Queen Elizabeth and King James's plantation..did not much love the new English, who came over since 1641. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* III. xvi. 143 Before the discovery of America and the plantation of our colonies, the interest of money was generally twelve per cent. all over Europe. 1870 *Athenæum* 23 July 110/2 Plantation meant the establishment of Englishmen as landowners in Ireland, the extermination of native proprietors, and the reduction of the inhabitants at large to slavery.

2. An assemblage of growing plants of any kind which have been planted.

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 32 Destroy and put away .. all biggingis, munitionis, plantationis and commoditeis within and about the same. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 157 So thou must go on throughout thy whole Plantation. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* i, Which was no ordinary plantation, if..it contained all kindes of Plants. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 404 Make Plantations of the Suckers or Cuttings of Goosberries, Currants, and Rasberries. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Onion*, About October all their leaves die away, which has occasioned some to think all the plantation [*i. e.* onion-bed] lost. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 71 Culture, &c. of the Common Artichoke... I also prefer one single row to a regular plantation or bed, on account of the better admission of light and air.

b. Now, *esp.*, a wood of planted trees.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. iv. 15 You will have the true Plott of your Ground, or Park, or Wood-land, or Plantation. 1739 GRAY *Let.* Poems (1775) 71 On either hand vast plantations of trees, chiefly mulberries and olives. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Lhanbryd*, A plain ..covered with corn, grass, or plantations. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 546 During the last half century, many very large additions have been made to the plantations of Scotland...The total woodland must, at this moment ..considerably exceed 1,000,000 acres.

†**3.** *fig.* That which has been planted, founded, or settled, as an institution, a mission station. *Obs.*

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1053/1, I take it [auricular confession] for a plantation, not planted by God in his worde. 1653 E. CHISENHALE *Cath. Hist.* 83 The Apostles amongst themselves were equall, and their severall plantations coordinate and equal. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* vii. (1739) 90 Both [were] sent down by the Apostles to Samaria, to settle the Plantations Philip had made.

b. An oyster-bed; see PLANT *v.* 1 b.

1891 W. K. BROOKS *Oyster* 127 Before the bottom was laid out in private plantations, there were very few persons living there.

4. A settlement in a new or conquered country; a colony. Also *transf. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* (Cf. 1 c.)

Chiefly those formed in the New World, and on the forfeited lands in Ireland; also, the ancient colonies of Greece, etc.

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* I. 385 (Bees) Else-where to plant their goodly Colonies; Which keep, still constant, in their new Plantation. 1622 Capt. SMITH (*title*) New Englands Trials. ..With the present estate of that happie Plantation, begun by but 60 weake men in the yeare 1620. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. ii. (1636) 86 In America, there be diverse Plantations of the English, Dutch, and French. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 169 Heraclea, a plantation of the city of Megara. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* Pref., Ireland and the Plantations in America..are a Burthen to England. 1769 *Junius Lett.* I. (1820) 6 A new office is established for the business of the plantations. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xi. 328 All goods of the produce of Ireland, and the British Plantations. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxiii. 42 Roman plantations, and possibly military stations also reached even to the Dniester.

†**b.** A company of settlers or colonists. *Obs.*

1647 STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 231 Ascanius .. carrying forth a plantation of men, ..found a white sow with 30. pigges sucking her. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. (1839) 239 Those we call plantations, or colonies..are numbers of men sent out from the commonwealth, under a conductor, or governor, to inhabit a foreign country, either formerly void of inhabitants, or made void then by war. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) II. 321 (*an.* 1682) This revived among them [the gentry] a design..of carrying over a plantation to Carolina.

c. *To send* (prisoners, etc.) *to the plantations*, i.e. to penal service or indentured labour in the colonies, 'a method of treating criminals of all kinds much in favour during the 17th century' (C. H. Firth in *Eng. Hist. Rev.*, 1889, 335).

As the labour was chiefly on the plantations in sense 5, the phrase tended to be associated with that sense.

1650 *Acts Parl. Scot.* (Recd. ed.) VI. II. 745 b, To deliver unto Mr Samuel Clarke, to transport to Virginia, 900 prisoners of the Scots [taken at Dunbar]..according to such desires as shall bee made by anie who will carrie them to plantations not in enmity to this Commonwealth. 1655 *Mercurius Politicus* 24-31 May, Divers persons..who were in the late rebellious insurrection, were to be sent away to the foreign plantations. *c* 1664 in Burnet *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 209 If his Majesty had any such intention, he would rather choose to be sent to a plantation. 1760 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 73 Will the law suffer a felon sent to the plantations, to bind himself for life? 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 660 Some of them had been hanged:..and the rest should be sent to the plantations.

5. An estate or farm, esp. in a tropical or sub-tropical country, on which cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, coffee, or other crops are cultivated, formerly chiefly by servile labour: see PLANTER 4.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Plantation*, a Spot of Ground in America for the planting of Tobacco, Sugar-canes, &c. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. xi, 180, I had ..two plantations in the island. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 85 A person .. devised to trustees..a plantation in the island of Grenada, upon trust. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 343 They were seized upon by two slaves of the neighbouring plantation. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xxv, In Virginia every estate is a plantation..with its servants and slaves.

†**6.** That on which any structure is planted; a base, a foundation, a platform. *Obs. rare.*

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 352 You had better undertake to find out a Plantation for Archimedes his Engines to move the Earth. 1688 Capt. J. S. *Fortification* 69 Platforms..are the Plantations where the Guns are laid.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in senses 1, 2) *plantation-hoe, -making*; *plantation-like* adj.; (sense 4) *plantation-aloe*, †*-cause*, †*clerk*, †*-land*, *-sugar*; *plantation-built* adj.; (sense 5) *plantation-coolie, -dance, -house, -mansion, -negro, -slave, style*; †**plantation-acre**, an acre in plantation-measure; = the Irish acre; †**plantation-measure**, the variety of land-measure formerly used in the plantations of Ireland, in which the acre contained 7840 sq. yards; **plantation-mill**, a mill suitable for use on a plantation, for crushing oats, etc.; †**Plantation Office**, early name of the Colonial Office; **plantation song**, a song of the kind sung by negroes on the American plantations.

1771-2 *Irish Act* 11 & 12 *Geo. III*, c. 21 § 5 Any bog of less dimensions than ten *plantation acres. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Purging*, The Succotrine aloes should always be preferred to the Barbadoes, or *plantation aloes. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4541/3 The Ship Rolland .., *Plantation-built. *c* 1744 in Hanway *Trav.* (1753) II. I. xii. 68 Any other British or plantation-built ship. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 298 There was..a *Plantation-cause at the Council board. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. England* II. (ed. 15) 241 Ricard Savage, *Plantation Clerk. *a* 1860 ALB. SMITH *Lond. Med. Stud.* (1861) 10 He was about to practise his *plantation-dance up-stairs, and .. the ceiling might come down. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Lucern*, Before that time the flat *plantation-hoe may be used. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 283, I came to the *plantation-house. 1639 *Irish Act* 15 *Chas. I*, sess. II. c. 6 § 2 Towns, villages, hamlets, lands,..usually called *plantation lands, in or neere the territories of Cloncolman. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 642 He did his utmost to try and get the natives to embark on *plantation-making, ably seconded by Mr. Billington, the botanist. 1642 *Act* 18 *Chas. I*, c. 36 (*Ireland*) *Plantation measure,..every Acre thereof shall consist of eightscore Pearches or Poles..of one and twenty foot. 1771-2 *Irish Act* 11 & 12 *Geo. III*, c. 21 § 2 No greater quantity of such bog shall be so set to any one person than fifty acres, plantation measure. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 511 Among the *plantation negroes of the Southern States. 1753 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 5) II. 104 Where formerly was kept the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland, now abolished, is the *Plantation-office. 1871 DE VERE *Americanisms* 116 The Negro-minstrel is the artist who blackens his face, adopts the black man's manner and instrument, and recites his field and *plantation songs. 1896 HUNGERFORD *Lonely Girl* xiii. 127 Singing plantation songs to the..banjo.

Hence **Planta·tioner**, one who took part in the plantation of Ulster; †**Planta·tionite**, a colonist.

1756 *Monitor* No. 71 II. 184 Hear ye men of Britannia! give ear ye.. Plantationites! and such as dwell on the continent of America. 1888 J. HARRISON *Scot in Ulster* iv. 56 The 'plantationers' came accompanied by clergymen.

†**Planta·tor.** *Obs. rare.* [a. late L. *plantātor* (Augustine) a planter, transplanter, f. *plantāre* to plant; see -ATOR.]

1. One who transplants something, e. g. a custom.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 438 Can you draw from them [i. e. the French]..a greater draught, then they draw from the Italian, for first they be Imitators; next, Mutators; thirdly, Temptators; and lastly, your Plantators, in all the varieties of vanity.

2. A settler, colonist, 'planter'.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 411 A great discouragment for our collonizd plantators there. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 123 This year the protestants and English plantators in Ireland, began to grow into some discontent.

Plant-bug. [f. PLANT *sb.*[1] + BUG *sb.*[2]] Any one of various hemipterous insects (esp. of the family *Capsidæ*) that infest, and feed upon the juices of, plants. Cf. PLANT-LOUSE.

1864 *Reader* No. 97. 572/1 Aphides, or plant-bugs.

Planted (plɑ·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLANT *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Set in the ground, as a plant; fixed in the ground, set up, established, etc.: see PLANT *v.*

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590/4 *Insitus*, planted or graffed. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/1 Plantyd, *plantatus*. *a* 1625 JAS. I *Ps.* i. 3 Hee shall be like a planted tree. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts xv. 36 Converted Souls and Planted Churches, must be further visited. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1839) 23/2 The planted standard falls Upon the heaving ground. 1864 WEBSTER, *Planted* (Joinery), fixed in place, as a projecting member or molding, after having been first wrought on a separate piece of stuff.

2. Furnished with plants, trees, etc.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 598/32 *Obsitus*, ..by-set a bowte, or plantyd a bowte. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. vii. 118 It looked like a planted garden. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 219 In the newly planted alleys of Versailles.

†**b.** *Sc.* Of a church or congregation: Supplied with a minister, settled. *Obs.*

1699 T. BOSTON *Art of Man-Fishing* (1900) 75 When thou goest to preach in planted Congregations.

†**Plantein.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 4 **plauntein.** [? a. OF. *plantin* or ? *planton* young plant, deriv. of *plante* PLANT.] A young plant.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 232 Take a litil plauntein of a note [*paruam plantam nucis*] & take it vp of þe ground wiþ alle hise rotis.

Planteous, variant of PLAINTEOUS *Obs.*

Planter (plɑ·ntəɹ). [f. PLANT *v.* + -ER[1].]

I. Of persons.

1. One who sets plants in the ground to grow, or who sows seed; hence, a cultivator of the soil, a farmer, an agriculturist.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxi. 5 Plaunte shul plaunteres [*Vulg.* plantabunt plantantes]. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 809/32 *Hic plantator*, a plantor. 1575 FENTON *Gold. Ep.* (1577) 99 Fruites returne seedes to their planter. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 691 Chos'n by the sovran Planter, when he fram'd All things to mans delightful use. 1726 W. HAMILTON *To C'tess of Eglintoun w. Gentle Sheph.*, Or with th' industrious planter dost thou talk, Conversing freely in an ev'ning walk? 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 393 Planter of hops not obliged to give more than twenty-four hours' notice of his intention to weigh. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 78 The virtues of pirates gave way to those of planters, merchants, senators, and scholars.

2. *fig.* One who plants a church, religion, institution, or the like, which takes root and grows.

1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 287 St. Peter, and St. Paul, the two chiefest planters of the churches. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 36 The Ministers of the Gospel who were to be sent out to be the first Planters of it. 1870 E. ARBER *Ascham's Scholem.* Introd. § 5 These Planters of the ancient Literature in England hoped well of their Mother Tongue.

3. One of the persons who 'plant' or found a colony; an early settler, a pioneer; a colonist; in Ireland, one of the English or Scotch settlers planted on forfeited lands in the 17th c. *Hist.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 533 They seuerally giue different orders, and customes, according to the intent and purpose of the first Planters. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 641 A new Colony and plantation...The Planters sustaine themselves by what God and Nature affords them for their labour upon the place. 1657 CROMWELL *Sp.* 21 Apr., We have settled almost all the affairs in Ireland; the rights and interests of the soldiers there, and of the planters and adventurers. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 197 Where the Accessions [to a Colony] are but thin and sparing, and scattered among the Natives of the Country where they come..it falls out that the very first Planters do soon degenerate in their Habits, Customs and Religion. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 334 The Planters were the Phocæans, who were driven out of Asia by Harpagus. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 306 The law of Gavil-kind, which the original planters had carried with them from Britain. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxi. 479 The written records of .. Ralegh's persistent labours as a planter are numerous.

b. In Ireland, in 19th c., A person settled in the holding of an evicted tenant.

1890 *Daily News* 18 June 3/5 Mr. McCarthy gave .. the reason for this refusal to sanction sales under the Ashbourne Act to the planter or emergency tenants who replaced the old tenants. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Sept. 4/3 'If the Government don't put 'em (the planters) out, we will', said one of the men to me. 1894 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 4/7 What does Mr. Morley propose to do with the man who is settled on the farm—the 'planter', as he is called, a name of historical memory in Ireland?

4. The proprietor or occupier of a plantation or cultivated estate, orig. in the W. Indies and the southern colonies of N. America; now used generally of such persons in tropical and sub-tropical countries. Often in comb., as *coffee-, cotton-, indigo-, sugar-, tobacco-planter.*

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 4 The Sub-planters of a West-Indian Island. 1660 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* (1661) 19 Another singular benefit to the Planter, is the large numbers of wild Horses. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Planter*, .. also a Master, or Owner of a Plantation in the West-Indies. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 220 One of the Spanish Prisoners was a planter, as it is called in the West Indies, or a farmer, as we should call it in England. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 269 A planter of the Sheveroy Hills wrote to me that he had detected some women stealing his coffee. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 209/2 Before leaving the hands of the planter, the cotton is subjected to a rough cleaning process.

5. One who forms, owns, or maintains oyster-beds.

1892 *Law Times* XCII. 177/2 Mr. Williamson, a very large oyster planter and dealer in oysters.

6. *Austral. slang.* One who steals and hides cattle: see PLANT *v.* 8.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD *Col. Reformer* XXV. III. 54 What's a little money..if..your children grow up duffers [*sc.* cattle-duffers] and planters?

7. *Newfoundland.* The owner of fishing or shipping 'plant': see quots.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Planter*, ..in Newfoundland, a person engaged in the fishery. 1883 Sir A. SHEA *Newfoundland Fisheries* 10 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The

sailing vessels were in a large degree the property of resident 'planters', whose earnings helped to swell the common wealth. 1895 R. G. Taber in *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 19/2 Over one-half of these Labrador-going fishermen are what are termed 'planters, sharesmen and crews'...A 'planter' may either be the owner of a 'plant', speculating on his own account, or an agent in charge of a merchant's plant.

II. Of things or beasts.

8. An implement or machine for planting or sowing seeds: often in comb., as *corn planter, cotton-seed planter, potato planter.*

1856 *Engineer* I. 14/1 The accompanying engravings represent .. improvements in hand corn planters. 1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 25/1 Seed-planter..Sugar-cane planter.

9. *U. S.* A snag formed by a tree-trunk embedded in a more or less erect position in a river.

1802 A. Ellicott *Journal* (1803) 123 From the mouth of the Ohio .. it is not safe to descend the river in the night, unless the boat be uncommonly strong, on account of the sawyers and planters. 1812 Brackenridge *Views Louisiana* (1814) 43 In time, the trees thus fallen in, become sawyers and planters; the first .. named from the motion made by the top when acted upon by the current, the others are the trunks of trees of sufficient size to resist it. 1860 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Planter*,..the most dangerous among the 'snag and sawyer' family, to which vessels navigating the Western rivers are exposed. 1884 T. W. Higginson in *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 Their talk was of the dangers of the river; of 'planters and sawyers'.

10. *Pugilistic slang.* A blow planted, a well-directed blow: cf. Plant *v.* 7.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 234 Smith put in a dreadful planter on Powell's throat.

11. *colloq.* A horse that has the habit of refusing to move.

1864 Trevelyan *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 140 Mofussil horses ..are incorrigible planters, considering it essential to their dignity to stand perfectly still for ten minutes after they have been put between the shafts.

Hence **Pla·nterdom,** the class or social order of planters or owners of plantations in America, the West Indies, etc.; **Pla·nterly** *a.,* befitting a planter (in sense 4); **Pla·ntership,** the office or condition of a planter.

a 1603 T. Cartwright *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 379 That God should bestow the grace of Apostleship and Plantership upon him rather then upon Apollo. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 793/1 He [James Ramsay] stood, in opinion, a rebel against the interest and majesty of plantership. 1827 Ld. Brougham in *Life & Lett. Z. Macaulay* (1900) 445 That heathenly and planterly and almost slave-trading speech. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 778/2 In the West Indies, plantership denotes the management of a sugar plantation. 1861 Russell *Diary North & S.* (1863) I. 186 Meeting only two or three vehicles containing female planterdom on little excursions of pleasure or business.

[**Pla·nticle,** error for Plantule, q.v.]

Plantie-cruive. Also **planta-, planti-, planty-, -crew, -crü.** *dial.* (*Shetl. & Orkn.*) [f. Sc. *plantie,* dim. of Plant *sb.*[1] + Cruive.] A kitchen-garden enclosure.

1814 J. Shirreff *Agric. Surv. Orkn.* 80 *note,* The plants are raised from seed sown in little enclosures of turf,..called, in Orkney, planta crews. 1814 Scott *Diary* 4 Aug. in *Lockhart,* Some dozen of these little enclosures about twenty or thirty feet square are in sight at once. They are called planty-cruives. 1822 — *Pirate* xxx. 1876 [see Cruive 3]. 1898 Clark *N. Gleams* 166 (E. D. D.) Robbing a bee's nest in the wall of his planti-crü.

†**Planti·genous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. type **plantigen-us* (f. *planta* plant + *-gen-us* born: cf. *terrigenus*) + -ous.] Generated or sprung from plants.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3004 That the divers races of Ichneumons are generated by their respective Animal-parents, and particularly that those, which the divers Excrescencies of Vegetables produce, are not plantigenous.

Plantigrade (plæ·ntigrēd), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [a. F. *plantigrade* (Geoffroy and Cuvier 1795), in mod.L. *plantigradus* walking on the sole of the foot, f. L. *planta* sole + *-gradus* going, walking.]

Walking upon the soles of the feet (opp. to Digitigrade); also said of the feet, or of the walk, of an animal. (In this general sense, man is a plantigrade animal.) Commonly restricted to the former tribe *Plantigrada* of carnivorous mammals, comprising several quadrupeds now distributed in various families, as the bear, wolverene, badger, racoon, etc.

1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 10/2 The animals distinguished by the name of Plantigrade are believed to support themselves on the entire foot. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 978/2 The hinder feet in the whole of this order are plantigrade. 1875 Sir W. Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 830/1 The human foot, therefore, is a pentadactylous, plantigrade foot. 1877 Coues *Fur Anim.* vii. 188 They are terrestrial animals,..the walk is plantigrade.

b. In reference to human beings: Placing the whole sole of the foot upon the ground at once in walking; flat-footed.

1837 C. le Grice in *Lamb's Wks.* (1876) I. 7 His [Lamb's] step was plantigrade, which made his walk slow and peculiar. 1861 Russell *Diary North & S.* (1863) I. 384 He [the negro] is plantigrade and curved as to the tibia.

c. *transf.* Of or belonging to a plantigrade animal, as a bear.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 362 A hirsute, bearded fellow, with the true plantigrade countenance. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Elsie V.* iv, The black bear alone could have set that plantigrade seal.

B. *sb.* A plantigrade animal; *esp.* one of the former order *Plantigrada*: see above.

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 212 The Plantigrades are so called because they walk, like man, upon the whole foot. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. (1872) 7 With the exception of the plantigrades or bear family.

Pla·nting, *vbl. sb.* [f. Plant *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the vb. Plant, in various senses.

c 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 149 *Propaginatio,* wintwiga plantung. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 21791 But thow shalt ageyn retourne Toward the heggh off hyr plauntyng. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 20 [They did] aduaunce their trenches and approaches for planting of their ordinance. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Plantations* (Arb.) 530 Planting of Countries, is like Planting of Woods; For you must make account to leese almost Twenty yeeres Profit, and expect your Recompence, in the end. 1649 *Proc. Commiss. Gen. Assembly* (1896) 285 Recommende to the Presbyterie the planting of that Kirk with diligence. 1702 C. Mather (*title*) Magnalia Christi Americana: or, the Ecclesiastical History of New-england, from Its First Planting in the Year 1620. unto the Year..1698. 1818 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 573 The planting of Clare Hall walk..with Ivy.

†**b.** Position, situation. *Obs.*

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 20 A hill, from whence we might easily see .. the planting of their campe and their approches.

2. Concrete and collective uses.

†**a.** A slip, cutting, young plant, of a vine, etc.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 13 Ælc plantung þe min heofenlica fæder ne plantode byþ awurt-walod. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* cxliii. 12 Whos sones; as newe plauntingis in ther 3outhe. — *Dan.* xi. 7 A plauntyng shal stonde of the buriownyng of hir rootis.

b. A clump or bed of things planted; *esp.* a clump or wood of planted trees; a plantation. Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 498 The delectable planure of Murray.., inriched with Cornes, Plantings, Pastorage. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1858) 385 If they offered to..destroy any of the corn, plantings, buildings. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5866/3 A considerable Quantity of well advanc'd Forest Planting. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, Busy gardeners shall new planting rear. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 44 Hedges are often accompanied with hedge-rows, and sometimes by what are called belts of planting. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* (1858) 205 When the day was fine, I used to spend it by the side of a mossy stream..or in a neighbouring planting. 1891 T. E. Kebbel *Old & New Eng. Country Life* 48 In the woods and plantings trees are being felled.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *planting district, produce, season, work*; **planting-ground,** (*a*) a place where crops are planted; (*b*) 'a place where oysters are sown or planted' (*Cent. Dict.*); **planting-plough**: see quot. 1832; **planting-stick,** a dibble.

1552 Huloet, Plantynge stycke or debyll, *pastinum.* 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 269 Being cut off about the beginning of Planting-season, it will grow. 1719 London & Wise *Compl. Gard.* 215 We make with a planting-stick, holes about four Inches deep. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 369 He recurs to his planting-ground for his future provision. 1832 *Planting* 56 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, For the preparation of heath soils, incumbent on sand or loose gravel, an improved paring plough, which we call Fyshe Palmer's planting plough, is a valuable implement. 1878 J. Inglis *Sport & W.* xvii. 222 Let him leave the planting districts, and go up to the wastes of Oudh.

Pla·nting, *ppl. a.* [f. Plant *v.* + -ing[2].] That plants.

1827 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 1 A 'Planting Nation', or, to speak with more correctness, a 'Nation of Planters'.

b. Owning or cultivating plantations (in the colonies or semi-tropical countries).

1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 272 From the beginning the planting aristocracy had merely been living on its capital. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 27 May 2/2 On behalf of the Queensland planting community. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 3/1 Those who in the seventeenth century brought slavery into the planting colonies.

c. Cattle-stealing (*Austral.*): see Plant *v.* 8.

1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* xx. II. 152 That planting rascal Joe.

†**Pla·ntisoun.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *plantei-sun, -eson* (12th c.):—L. *plantātiōn-em.*] A plant.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 Anoþer plantisoun ys sayd for collodioun þat engendrys [hate and contempt].

Plantivorous (plænti·vŏrəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *plantivorus* plant-eating + -ous.] Devouring plants.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* (citing Westwood).

Plantless (pla·ntlĕs), *a.* [f. Plant *sb.*[1] + -less.] Destitute of plants; without vegetation.

a 1846 *Edinb. Rev.* cited in Worcester.

Pla·ntlet. [f. Plant *sb.*[1] + -let.] **a.** An embryo or undeveloped plant. **b.** A diminutive or tiny plant.

1816 Keith *Phys. Bot.* II. 17 At the end of the ninth day the plantlet had wholly escaped from its integuments. 1877 Fr. Heath *Fern W.* 10 This plantlet or embryo consists of two principal organs united to each other. 1878 — *Woodland Trees* 23 Temporary abiding places of the plantlets.

Plantlike (pla·ntlaik), *a.* [f. Plant *sb.*[1] + -like.] Resembling a plant or that of a plant.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 26 So long is he plantlike. 1844 Marg. Fuller *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 114 His song tended to reinstate a plant-like gentleness in the development of energy. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* Introd. 20 Nutrition becomes holophytic or completely plantlike.

Pla·ntling. [f. Plant *sb.*[1] + -ling.] A little or young plant; a plantlet.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 53 The plantlings, transplanted to a proper close bed. 1861 W. Barnes in *Macm. Mag.* June 126/2 A pea is planted, and there spring from it a rootling and a plantling.

Plant-louse (pla·ntˌlaus). Any small hemipterous insect that infests plants; *esp.* an aphis.

1805 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* iv, It is called the aphis, puceron, vine-fretter, or plant-louse. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 67 Hemiptera, consisting of Bugs, Cicadæ, .. Plant-lice. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 2 In the aphis (puceron or green-plant louse) through all its divisions.

b. *Comb.* **plant-louse-lion** [after Ant-lion], an 'aphis-lion', which preys on aphides, the larva of various *Hemerobidæ,* or lace-winged flies.

1805 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* iv, An insect called the plant-louse-lion.

Planto·cracy. [irreg. f. Plant(er + -ocracy, after *aristocracy,* etc.] A dominant class or caste consisting of planters (in the W. Indies, etc.).

a 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* cited in Worcester. 1865 *Morn. Star* 12 Dec., In the midst of a fierce conflict with the plantocracy in British Guiana. 1889 J. J. Thomas *Froudacity* 254 The irritation and rancour seething in the breast of the new plantocracy.

†**Plantoun.** *Obs. rare.* Also **plaunt-.** [a. OF. *planton* a young shoot, deriv. of *plante* Plant *sb.*[1]] A plant or ? young plant.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 Of þe kynde of plauntouns ys oon þat engendrys langour,..whos floures er whit, ouerpassant þe leuys. *Ibid.,* Anoþer ys of þe maner of plantouns þat ys helefull.

Pla·ntsman. [f. *plants'*, possessive case of Plant *sb.*[1] + Man *sb.*[1]] A nurseryman, a florist.

1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 770 A picture the plantsman..is not likely soon to forget. 1900 *Nature* 5 Apr. 537/2 Long experience..often enables the plantsman to make conjectures which afterwards prove to be correct.

‖ **Plantula** (plæ·ntiŭlă). *Entom.* [mod.L. dim. of *planta* sole of the foot.] An accessory lobe or process occurring between the claws in various insects. Hence **Pla·ntular** *a.,* pertaining to the plantula.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 386 *Pseudonychia*...Two stiff claw-like bristles, that terminate the Plantula. 1895 *Camb. Nat. Hist.* V. 105 Between the claws there is frequently a lobe or process,..varied in different Insects, called empodium, arolium, palmula, plantula, pseudonychium, or pulvillus.

Plantula·tion. *Bot. rare.* [a. F. *plantulation* (Richard 1808), n. of action f. assumed L. **plantulāre,* f. *plantula*: see next.] The development of the rudimentary plant from the embryo; germination.

1819 Lindley tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 68 We call germination that first spontaneous action...Perhaps it might .. be called Plantulation, since the formation and developement of a little plant is the result. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Plantulatio,* .. term by L. C. Richard for the développement of the embryo during germination: plantulation.

Plantule (plæ·ntiul). *Bot.* ? *Obs.* [ad. mod. L. *plantula,* dim. of *planta* a shoot, slip.] An embryonic or rudimentary plant.

[1706 Phillips, *Plantula Seminalis,* (among Herbalists) is the little Herb that lies as it were an Embryo in miniature in every Seed.] 1733–40 Tull *Horse-hoeing Husb.* Add. 264 'Tis as unreasonable to suppose a Power in an animal or vegetable Body to produce Animalcles or Plantules from inorganical Matter by Secretions of the Aliment. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Seed,* The rest of the seed serves to feed the young plant, or plantule. 1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. Notes 106 After fecundation a body begins to appear ..which in process of time proves to be two lobes containing a plantule. 1865 *Reader* No. 143. 355/2 The production of amyliferous plantules.

‖ **Planula** (plæ·niŭlă). *Zool.* Pl. **-æ.** [mod. L., a little plane, dim. of *plānus* Plane *a.*] The flat-shaped ciliated free-swimming embryo of certain Hydrozoa; hence extended to a similar embryo in Cœlenterates generally.

1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 89 The embryo is a free-swimming, oblong, ciliated body, termed a planula. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 146 In most Hydrophora the ciliated, locomotive, planula becomes elongated and fixed by its aboral pole. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 98 Developed, just like the Hydroid-Polyps, from a planula, which is at first free, and which afterwards becomes fixed.

attrib. 1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 425/2 The history of the second or planula type [of development] has been thoroughly worked out by Schulze in a little incrusting Tetractinellid sponge (*Plakina monolopha,* Schulze).

So **Pla·nulan,** a planula; **Pla·nular** *a.,* (*a*) of flattened form; (*b*) pertaining to or of the nature of a planula; **Pla·nulate** *a.,* of a flattened form; **Pla·nuliform** *a.,* of the form of a planula; **Pla·nuloid** *a.,* resembling a planula.

1886 Geddes in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 420/2 The passage from Protozoa to Metazoa was, according to Bütschli, effected neither by *planulan nor gastrula but by a disk-like 'placula'. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Planularis,* applied by Lamarck to a section (*Planulares*) of soft worms having flat bodies: *planular. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Planular,* pertaining to a Planula. 1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 570 The cells are nearly circular, contiguous, or *planulate. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 459 In the fresh-water Polyzoa, the impregnated ovum gives rise to a saccular *planuliform embryo. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.,* **Planuloid,* the same as *Planuliform.*

† **Pla·nure.** *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *planure* = It. *pianura* plain, f. L. *plān-um* level ground: see -URE.] A flat or level district, a plain. Hence † **Pla·nured** *a.*, situated in a plain.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 40 The Territo[r]y of Venice..in the planure is narrow, but stripeth larger among the hills and lakes. *Ibid.* VIII. 367 The two Hills on both sides the planur'd Citty..are ouer-cled with streetes and ouses. *Ibid.* X. 498 The delectable planure of Murray.

‖ **Planuria** (plănĭū·rĭă). *Path.* Also in anglicized form **planury** (plæ·nĭŭri). [f. Gr. πλάνο-ς wandering, straying + -URIA, f. οὖρον urine.] Discharge of urine through an abnormal channel, e. g. a fistula.

1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Planuria*, discharge of urine through unwonted ways. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Planuria*,..planu'ry. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Planuria*, the passage of urine through a fistulous opening. *Planu'ury*, the same as *Planuria*.

Planxty (plæ·ŋksti). *Irish Music.* Also 8 **plangstee, plansty.** [Derivation unknown. App. not native Irish, see Petrie, *Ancient Music of Ireland* (1855) 13–15. (Some suggest its formation in some way from L. *plangĕre* to strike, beat.)] 'A harp tune of a sportive and animated character, moving in triplets. It is not intended for or often adaptable to words, and is slower in pace than the jig' (Stainer and Barrett).

1790 J. WILLIAMS *Shrove Tuesday* (1794) 6 I'd make him chaunt a solemn *drimmundub* Or jocund plangstee, pæan or quaint air. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* X. 47 He..leaves at every hospitable mansion..a planxty, celebrating the virtues, charms, or high descent of the hostess. 1825 T. C. CROKER *Fairy Leg.* 288 He could play jig and planxty without end. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* xix, Dick Dawson was whistling a planxty and eyeing his man. 1855 G. PETRIE *Anc. Music Irel.* 13 Of the Planxty and the Pleraca..the difference seems to me to be only in names which are convertible. ..In a collection of Irish tunes, chiefly of Carolan's composition, published .. in 1810, the term Planxty [is] given as the English name, and Pleraca as the Irish one of the same tune..The tunes called Planxties, as well as those called Pleracas, owe their origin, if not, as I believe, their names to Carolan [died 1738]. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 17 Mar., All last night they danced in Caxton Hall..—slip jigs, reels, and planxties, and never a foreign dance among them!

Plap (plæp), *v.* [Onomatopœic: cf. for beginning *plash*, for end *flap, slap*. See also PLOP.] *intr.* To come down or fall with a flat impact, and with the sound that this makes. Also as *sb.* or *adv.*, in phr. *to play plap*.

1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* x, Constantinople beauties..waddling and plapping in their odious yellow papooshes. 1855 — *Newcomes* lxvi, Hark, there is Barnes Newcome's eloquence still plapping on like water from a cistern. 1860 — *Round. Papers, Christmas Tree* 109 The white bears winked their pink eyes, as they plapped up and down by their pool. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 231 The rain drops played 'plap' on my naked skin.

‖ **Plaque** (plak). [F. *plaque*: see PLACK.]

1. An ornamental plate or tablet of metal or porcelain, of quadrangular, round, oval, or other regular form, either plain or decorated with figures, intended to be hung up as a wall-decoration, or to be inserted in a piece of furniture, etc.

1875 MASKELL *Ivories* 41 The plaques have borders with foliated ornaments; birds and animals, flowers and fruits, filling the intermediate spaces. 1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* iii. 23 A votive plaque preserved in the museum of the hôtel Cluny, at Paris. 1879 J. J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 38 Picture-painting on the flat surface of porcelain plaques. 1884 Mrs. C. PRAED *Zéro* xix, The brazen plaques above the mantelpiece resembled menacing heads.

b. A small ornamental tablet worn as a badge of high rank in an honorary order.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, A nobleman tightly girthed, with a large military chest, on which the *plaque* of his order shone magnificently. *Ibid.* lxiv, Men with *plaques* and *cordons*. 1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* II. 239 In front of his turban there was a plaque of diamonds and emeralds.

2. a. *Path.* A patch of eruption or the like.

1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 311 Before the exudation has spread and consolidated into membranous plaques. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 658 The eruption of hydroa gestationis..consists of erythematous patches, some of which are rounded plaques. *Ibid.* 869 Plaques like those of lichen ruber planus may be seen.

b. *Anat.* A small flat discoidal formation, as a hæmatoblast or blood-plate.

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plaque*, a plate. A French word adopted of late by medical writers meaning either a small disc-like object, as a blood-platelet, or a rounded patch.

Plaquet, obs. form of PLACCATE.

‖ **Plaquette** (plake·t). [F. dim. of *plaque*: see -ETTE.]

1. A small plaque or ornamental tablet.

1888 *Academy* 8 Dec. 377/1 The work of another North Italian worker in bronze,..from an examination of several plaquettes from his hand. 1894 *Times* 20 Feb. 3/1 In bronze there are statuettes, medals, and plaquettes in great numbers. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 7/2 At the reception..each British M.P. was presented with a beautiful silver plaquette representing England and France fraternising.

2. *Anat.* = PLAQUE 2 b.

1883 *Smithsonian Rep.* 735 G. Hayem insists that the elements of the blood, to which he gave the name of hematoblasts, are identical with the 'plaquettes', or corpuscules, described by Bizzozero.

Plas, plasce, plase, obs. forms of PLACE.

Plash (plæʃ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 plæsc, plesc; 4 plasch, 5 plaisshe, playche, 5–6 plasche, 6 plasshe, 5– plash, (6, 9 *dial.* plesh, 9 *dial.* plosh). [OE. *plæsc*, ME. *plasch*, cognate with MDu., Flem. *plasch* pool, also MDu., Du., MLG., LG. *plas*, LG. *plasse*; app. of the same origin as PLASH *v.*[2], prob. onomatopœic: cf. FLASH *sb.*[1] From the LG. came also OF. *plasquier, plasquis, plassis* a marsh (Froiss.), *plascq* a damp meadow (Tournai 1443).] A shallow piece of standing water, a pool made by inundation or by the rain; a marshy pool; a puddle.

963 *Grant by K. Eadgar* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 355 In duobus locis quæ sic vocitantur Plesc et Eastun. *Ibid.* 356 Ærest of plæsc in þone broc..of mæne lege to þam broce, of þam brocæ þæt æft in plesc. *?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2799 Be-twyx a plasche and a flode, appone a flaȝe lawnde. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6226 Eche stede stod ful, bothe plasch & polk, Of mennes blode that died there. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/1 Plasche, or flasche, where reyne watyr stondythe. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 799/40 *Hec lacuna*, a playche of water. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxcviii. 691 Before them there was a great plasshe of standynge water. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. viii. 36 The red blood flowed fresh, That underneath his feet soone made a purple plesh. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 41 Two frogs..consulted when their plash was drie whither they should go. 1648–78 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Plas, Plasch*, Plash of water. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 539 When crossing any plash of water, she lifted him over. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 420 Many a glancing plash and sallowy isle.

Comb. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1626) 116 With shrubby osiers, and plash-louing reeds.

Plash, *sb.*[2] (*adv.* or *int.*) [Goes with PLASH *v.*[2], being (though known earlier) app. the sb. naming the act. In sense it is more directly akin to the vb. than to PLASH *sb.*[1]]

The noise made when any body strikes the surface of water so as to break it up, or plunges into or through it; an act accompanied by this noise; a plunge, a splash.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xiii. 82 Than at the last, al suddanly, with a plasch, Harnes and all togiddir..[he] lap into the flude. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 21 Doune the pilot tumbleth wyth plash round soommoned headlong. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxxiv, Tweed's echoes heard the ceaseless plash, While many a broken band, Disordered, through her currents dash, To gain the Scottish land. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. liv. 34 The plash of numberless oars. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* vii, Mr. Christian here let a lemon slip from his hand into the punch-bowl with a plash which sent some of the nectar into the company's faces. 1882 Mrs. RIDDELL *Pr. Wales' Garden-Party* 65 There was the plash of a water-fowl in the stream. 1893 LELAND *Mem.* I. 12 The mighty sturgeon..falling on his side with a plash.

b. The like noise produced when water or other liquid is dashed against or falls upon a body, or when masses of water dash against each other; an act producing this noise.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* II. xviii, The mildew drops fell one by one With tinkling plash upon the stone. 1814 — *Ld. of Isles* III. xxviii, The short dark waves, heaved to the land, With ceaseless plash kissed cliff or sand. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xii, The plash of the troubled and swollen lake. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* ix. (1874) 155 The only noise was a plash of the water against a jetty.

c. A heavy fall of rain. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Cf. Du. *plasregen*, Ger. *platzregen*, Da. *plaskregn* (*pladsregn*).]

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 158/1 The thunder-rain, in large drops, came plash after plash on the blanket roof. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 162 Penthouses..to keep the plash of heavy rain from the house windows. 1894 *Weather Saw* in Heslop *Northumb. Gloss.*, If the oak before the ash, Then we're sure to have a plash.

d. A splash of colour, or *fig.* of light, thrown upon a surface.

1848 LOWELL *Fable for Critics* (ed. 2) Introd., The tall grove of hemlocks, with moss on their stems, like plashes of sunlight.

† **e.** *transf.* (?) A liquid perfume for the face.

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 146 No Cabinets with curious Washes, Bladders and perfumed Plashes.

f. *attrib.* † **plash-breach,** the breaking of waves against the shore.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 83 Theese shoars were sundred by the plash breache, fame so doth vtter..Swift the sea with plasshing rusht in.

B. *adverbially* or *int.* With a plash: cf. CRASH.

1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 31 Plash, plash, through the marsh, and then on the dry furze beyond..away fly hare and hounds towards the mountain. 1866–7 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. vii. 172 We go plash, plash, plash, in the lawn-like glade. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 354/2 Plash, plash, the great drops pelted down furious and fast.

† **Plash,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* or *dial.* [f. PLASH *v.*[1]] A plashed bough or bush; a plashed thicket.

1638 BRATHWAIT *Spir. Spicerie*, etc. 427 The fresh fragrant flowers of Divine Poesie..could not like to be removed nor transported to those thorny places and plashes of the Law. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 11 Avoid the laying of them too high, which draws all the Sap into the Plashes. 1827 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 522/1 There will be one plash for every interval between the stems of the plants. You must..lay the plashes with their points all one way.

Plash (plæʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 5–6 plashe, 6 plasche, plasshe, 6, 8 plash, 7 plaish, 6– plash, (9 *dial.* plesh, plush). See also PLEACH. [a. OF. *plaiss(i)er, plai(s)cier, plassier, pless(i)er* (3 sing. pres. *plaisse, plaisce*):—late L. type **plectiāre*, f. **plectia* twined or plaited hedge (whence OF. *plaisse, plesse* hedge), f. L. *plectĕre* to plait, interweave, twine. (Med.L. *plessa* (1215 = *virgulta implexa*, Du Cange) and *plessare* were f. OF. *plesse, plesser.*) Cf. the cognate PLEACH, found somewhat earlier.]

1. *trans.* To bend down and interweave (stems half cut through, branches, and twigs) so as to form them into a hedge or fence; = PLEACH *v.* 1.

1495 [see PLASHING *vbl. sb.*[1]]. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 At euery two fote, or .iii. fote, to leaue one set growyng not plasshed; and the toppe to be cut of foure fote hygh.. to stande as a stake..and to wynd the other that be pleched about them. 1523 — *Surv.* XXV. 43 Take a great boughe of a tree, and plasshe the bowes abrode. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* (1565) 54 b, Cutting yong trees half a sunder and bowyng downe theyr toppes to the grounde, and plasshyng the boughes that growe thicke oute of the sydes wyth bushes and thornes betwene them, they brought to passe that their hedges were as good a defence to them as a wal. 1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 15 Some of our men..came to the trees which they [the Spaniards] had plasshed to make theyr palizadoe. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* iii. 7 Some againe plant Cornell Trees, and plash them..to forme them into an hedge. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 59 Arbors made of the Trees plashed one over the other. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 571 The hedger plashes down the stems he left standing.

† **b.** To bend down, break down (trees, bushes, or plants) for other purposes. *Obs.*

1625 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* Past. Ded. 5 Plash thistles and presumptuous thorns That neare the way grow up among the corns. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* II. vii. (1670) 279 Too much plenty plasheth down the corn! 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1847) 233 Christiana's Boys..being pleas'd with the Trees, and with the Fruit that did hang thereon, did Plash them, and began to eat. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Hart*, Let him plash down small Twigs, some above and some below.

† **c.** To interlace (a fruit-tree in trellis-work); to support or train against a trellis or a wall. *Obs.*

[*c* 1420: see PLEACH *v.* 1.] *?c* 1600 *Distracted Emp.* III. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 210 Our pore retyred famylie must.. not be plashd Or propt agaynst the walls of pallaces. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* I. II. xx. (1635) 226 As you use to plash a Vine against a wall. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 6 It cannot stand unles it be propped up, or plashed against a Wall. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 39 It is usual with some to plash them to poles, to make a pallisade-hedge.

† **d.** To intertwine, interweave, like plants in a thicket. *Obs.*

1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. (1663) 84 Stuck every where with most fragrant Roses and Violets all plashed so close together that we could not see the Rowers. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 66 Trees..kept (by cutting and plaishing one branch within another) from growing very large. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 63 Thread the Brake With Thorns sharp-pointed, plash'd, and Bri'rs inwoven.

2. a. To make, dress, or renew (a hedge) by cutting the stems partly through, bending them down, and interlacing stems, branches, and twigs, so as to form a close low fence, which will in time grow in height; to lay (a hedge); = PLEACH *v.* 2.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 To plasshe or pleche a hedge. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 50 The common hedge made of dead wood, well staked and thicke plashed, or railde. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 20 If any of your Hedges were left vnplasht in the Spring, plash them now, for it is an excellent Season. 1787 W. MARSHALL *Norfolk* I. 101 The practice of plashing, or laying hedges, is in a great degree, unknown in this district. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* 9/1 The lanes are white, the hedges low and plashed.

† **b.** To treat (a wood, or place full of trees or underwood) in the same way, in order to obstruct a pass or entrance, or defend a fastness; to form hurdles, weirs, etc. by such interweaving.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 7/2 They.. did fell downe trees, plashed the wood, cast great trenches and ditches round about, and made it so strict, narrow, crooked, and strong, that there was no passage nor entrie for the enimie. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* II. xiv. (1810) 376 In a strong Fastnesse of Bogg and Wood, which was on every quarter plashed. 1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* I. 81 To plash the sides (or outer brinks of the mounds), and shovel out the ditches. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Hence **Plashed** *ppl. a.*

1602 *Burford Reg.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) *Varr. Collect.* I. 164 Makinge of plaished hedge and other fensed hedge. 1615 W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* (1623) 20 The plasht bough lying on the ground. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* XII. (1626) 242 Plashed bowres at sundrie tables plac't. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 571 The plashed stem is cut over, of the length required for the particular gap. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lxv, A well drained wheat stubble, with a newly plashed fence.

Plash (plæʃ), *v.*[2] [Known from *c* 1580; but the accompanying PLASH *sb.*[2] goes back to *c* 1500. Agreeing more or less in form with MLG., LG. *plasken, plaschen*, LG. *platsken*, MDu., Du., LG. *plassen*, early mod.Du. *plasschen* ('int water plasschen, *poteliner en l'eau*', Plantijn 1572), Ger. *platschen, plätsche(r)n, plan(t)schen*, Da. *pla(d)ske*, Sw. *plaska* to splash, dabble; all app. closely related to PLASH *sb.*[1] See also PLASH *sb.*[2], and SPLASH *v.*, which last appears to be a derivative from this.]

1. *trans.* To strike the surface of (water) so as to break it up; to plunge into (water or other liquid) or drive it against any body or against itself with commotion and noise; to splash.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 Two serpents monsterus ouglye Plasht the water sulcking to the shoare moste hastelye swinging. 1594 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 403 Unless they lay themselves down to be trampl'd under foot, plash'd like Mortar, or abjure their Religion. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* v, We must go and plash up the mud a little. 1861 MRS. NORTON *Lady La G.* (1862) 61 The summer rain, That..plashed the azure of the river's flow.

b. To dash with breaking water or other liquid so as to wet; to splash. Also *absol.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* X. lvii. (1612) 251 Where Massacres haue plashed, there is spread a triple breede. 1608 T. MORTON *Preamble Encounter* 1 My Aduersarie .. hath plashed me, as it were, with these aspersions. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Plash*, to dash with Water. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 59 (E.D.D.) He..coaches owr the dubs to plash him. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Rhymes Berwick* 74 The floor all plashed with blood. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 90 Had I but such a Naiad..To plash her large limbs in the waves for me!

c. To dash (a wall) with wet matter, so as rapidly to colour or cover it; to splash.

1864 WEBSTER, *Plashing*, ..the dashing or sprinkling of coloring matter on the walls of buildings, as an imitation of granite, and the like.

2. *intr.* a. To strike and break the mass of water with commotion and noise; to dash, rush through, or tumble about in water with the like noise; to splash.

1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* 129 Every stroake that plashed upon those waters of life gave both life and music. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xix, Thro' thick and thin they scour'd about, Plashing thro' dubs and sykes. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* viii, The fish were jumping and plashing. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* vii. 58 He plashes in the brooks. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xv, The two long oars plashed in the silence. 1898 G. W. STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 304 We plashed through the water.

b. Of water or other liquid: To dash against or upon any body; to tumble about in agitation, with the characteristic noise of breaking water.

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 392 The salt water plashes and froaths to see it self so suddenly resisted. 1828 HAWTHORNE *Fanshawe* viii, Plashing continually upon one spot, the fount has worn its own little channel of white sand. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XVI. 245 Far below him plashed the waters. *fig.* 1841 H. AINSWORTH *Old St. Paul's* VI. vii, Another fiery cascade .. flooding the aisles and plashing against the massive columns.

3. *Comb.* **Plash-wheel** = *dash-wheel*: see DASH *v.*[1] 16.

1882a OGILVIE (Annandale).

Pla·sher. *local.* [f. PLASH *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] a. A bough or sapling with which a hedge is plashed or intertwisted. b. A hedger who plashes hedges.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 436 That the cattle may not come at the shoots of the plashers, and browse them, and kill them. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Plasher*, a labourer employed in laying hedges. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Plusher*, the layer, or horizontal stick crooked down in making a hedge. 1904 *19th Cent.* Sept. 229 [He] chooses with care the likeliest growing wood for 'plashers'.

Pla·shet. Now *dial.* Also 6 -ette. [ad. OF. *plassiet*, *plaschiet* (Froiss.) marsh, dim. of *plascq* damp meadow; see PLASH *sb.*[1] and -ET.] A little plash or marshy pool.

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 191 Some water plashet or pitte where wylde-fowle lye, as Teales or suche lyke. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxviii. 633 This herbe [arsesmart] groweth also in moyst marrishe places, and alongst the water plasshettes. 1880 PEARD *Mother Molly* XV. 189 Let's run down here, there's a plashet at the bottom.

† **Pla·shful,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PLASH *sb.* (1 or 2) + -FUL.] Plashy, splashy.

1638–48 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* v. 132 To which our notes Would sound more harsh then plash-full marish throats.

Pla·shing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PLASH *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PLASH *v.*[1] in various senses. Also *concr.* A piece of plashed hedge or thicket.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxliii. (W. de W.), By plashynge [*MS.* plechinge] shredynge and parynge a wylowe is thycker in bowes and braunches. 1511 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for plaschyng off a heg. 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 35 The passag .. was very difficult .. for plashin[g] made that morninge by y^e^ rebell. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 268 This is the only time for plashing of Quick-sets, and a very good season for the shrouding or lopping of Trees. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 571 What is termed *plashing*, that is, laying down a strong and healthy stem across an opening..in the hedge. 1904 *19th Cent.* Sept. 229 A wren .. hiding out of sight behind the old level plashing upon the bank.

b. *attrib.*, as *plashing-bill*, *-tool.*

1813 in Marshall *Rev. Agric.* (1817) V. 27 The plashing system is carried on to the greatest extent. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Plashing-tool*, a knife used in plashing hedges; a hedging knife. 1899 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Mar. 104 The hedge assumes under the plashing-bill the triangular shape.

Pla·shing, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PLASH *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of PLASH *v.*[2] in various senses; the dashing of water, splashing; noisy plunging; etc.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 83 Swift the sea with plasshing rusht in. 1602 HEYWOOD *Woman killed w. Kindn.* Wks. 1874 II. 103 Himselfe all spotted And stain'd with plashing. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* viii, Everything around .. would have been silent, but for the continued plashing of the fountain. 1882a O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* I. 315 The silence was broken only by the plashing of the oars.

Pla·shing, *ppl. a.* [f. PLASH *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That plashes like dashing or falling water; that dashes against water; also *fig.* said of the sound.

1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. i, Hears..by fits the plashing raindrop fall. 1814 — *Ld. of Isles* v. xiii, The dazzled sea-fowl.. Dropp'd from their crags on plashing wave. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 337 The plashing fountain at the further end of the court. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 273 Light surges a plashing silvery laughter.

b. *transf.* of ground, etc. on which heavy rain dashes.

1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* I. ii, He heard steps without upon the plashing soil. 1841 — *Nt. & Morn.* v. ii, Through the plashing streets. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 302 It was the plashing wet evening of a September day.

Hence **Pla·shingly** *adv.*, with plashing.

1881 *Daily News* 15 July 5/4 Some heavy raindrops fell plashingly.

Pla·shment. *rare*[−1]. [f. PLASH *v.*[2] + -MENT.] Plashing.

1876 LANIER *Clover* 38 Lakes Pout gentle mounds of plashment up to meet Big shower-drops.

Pla·sh-mill. *Sc.* [f. PLASH *v.*[2] + MILL; in Du. *plasmolen.*] A fulling-mill.

1868 G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* I. 240 The plash-mill, or, more properly, wauk-mill—a word Robert derived from the resemblance of the mallets to two huge feet, and of their motion to walking—with the water plashing and squirting from the blows of their heels.

Hence **Pla·sh-miller,** a fuller.

1822 *Dundee Advertiser* 19 Dec. (Jam.), John Young, plash-miller at East Mill, was drowned in the river Esk. 1897 W. LINDSAY in *Bards of Angus & Mearns* 282 Then I turned a plashmiller and wrought at that.

† **Pla·shoote.** *Obs. rare.* [Syncopated from *plash-shoot*, f. PLASH *sb.*[3] + SHOOT *sb.*] A shoot from a plashed hedge.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 25 Almost euerie hedge serueth for a Roade, and euerie Plashoote for Springles to take them.

† **Pla·sh-pole.** *Obs.* [f. PLASH *v.*[1] or *sb.*[3] + POLE.] A space, a pole or less in width, surrounding a wood, reserved for the purpose of making plashed hedges.

1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandman* II. I. ii. (1635) 45 A pole or halfe pole..you shall preserue..to repaire the ring-fences of your Wood:.. and this amongst Woodwards is called Plash-pole. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 468 Remember..to preserve sufficient plash-pole about the verge and bounds of the copse for fence and security.

Plashy (plæ·ʃi), *a.*[1] [f. PLASH *sb.*[1] + -Y. So LG. *plassig* swampy.] Abounding in shallow pools or puddles; marshy, swampy, boggy; wet and sloppy; full of plashes of rain.

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* II. 37, 3. litle Bridges of Wood, wher under wer plaschy Pittes of Water of the overflowing of Tame Ryver. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 211 Those slymie plashie fieldes of Gorlstone. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 736 The field was very plashy by reason of much rain that fell. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 130 Yon widow'd, solitary thing, That feebly bends beside the plashy spring. 1786 W. GILPIN *Lakes Cumberld.* (1808) I. vii. 99 The fen is a plashy inundation, formed on a flat. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, The two .. jogged along the deep-rutted plashy roads. 1862 R. PAUL in *Mem.* xviii. (1872) 237 Such a plashy and untoward month of March.

b. Growing in plashes or wet places.

1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. vii. (1869) 149 A stream, skirted with willows and plashy sedges.

c. Of watery consistence and taste.

a 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 1 Love is as salt, which infuseth a savoury and wholesom taste into such things as would otherwise be fresh and plashy.

Pla·shy, *a.*[2] [f. PLASH *sb.*[2] + -Y.]

1. That plashes; that dashes or falls with a plash, as water; that splashes the water.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 76 Vp swel thee surges, in chauffe sea plasshye we tumble. 1794 BURNS *Jockey's ta'en the Parting Kiss* i, Plashy sleets and beating rain! 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow*, A plashy tramp by the side of the bridge caught the sensitive ear of Ichabod. 1859 HOLLAND *Gold F.* xxiv. 273 Repeat the music of the rain, at the feet of plashy waterfalls.

2. Marked as if splashed with colour. *rare.*

1820 KEATS *Hyper.* II. 45 Creüs was one; .. Iäpetus another; in his grasp, A serpent's plashy neck.

Plasm (plæz'm). Also 7 **plasme.** [ad. late L. *plasma*: see next.]

† 1. A mould or matrix in which something is cast or formed; the cast of a fossil. Also *fig. Obs.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 165 Certaine it is that the name Adam expresseth the nature of his plasme or vessell. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* v. (1723) 256 The Shells served as Plasms or Moulds to this Sand. 1764 PLATT in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 46 *note*, The Plasm or mould of the Belemnite. *Ibid.* 47 *note*, The parts are carried away and lost in the interstices of the earth, and a mould or plasm is left, which Steno calls an aërial shell.

b. Something moulded or formed, an image. *humorously pedantic nonce-use.*

1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* II. viii. 125 His outward faculties .. rendered to his inward and endiathetic organs a picture, a schema, a plasm—the proper word may be left to him—such as would remain inside, at least while the mind abode there.

† 2. = PLASMA 2. *Obs. rare.*

1747 DINGLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 503 The Stone .. most frequently found next is the Plasm or prime Emerald; and then the Hyacinth or Jacinth. *Ibid.*, The Plasm or prime Emerald is green.

3. *Phys.* = PLASMA 3.

1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Ferment.* 131 A series of gaseous diffusions from the red globules to the plasm of the blood.

4. *Biol.* The living matter of a cell, protoplasm; sometimes *spec.* the general body of protoplasm as distinct from the nucleus.

1864 WEBSTER, *Plasm*...2. (*Physiol.*) The same as *Plasma.* 1877 O'MEARA in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 170 [In Diatoms] There is first what Pfitzer designates the plasm-sac, consisting of a fine colourless plasm forming a closed sac of the same shape as that of the cell. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 334 Functional and formative plasm must progress. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 442 The relative masses of nucleus and plasm.

‖ **Plasma** (plæ·zmă). [Late and eccl. L. *plasma* a thing formed or moulded, an image, a. Gr. *πλάσμα*, f. *πλάσσειν* to form, mould.]

† 1. Form, mould, shape. *Obs. rare.*

1712 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* I. v. § 3 *schol.*, They act upon the Matter and form it into this or that Plasma or Fashion. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & Porson* ii. Wks. 1846 I. 83/2 A great portion of his compositions is not poetry, but only the plasma or matrix of poetry. *Ibid. Alfieri & Salomon* 190/1 We Italians sometimes fall into what..you may call the plasma of witticism, by mere mistake, and against our genius.

2. A subtranslucent green variety of quartz, allied to chalcedony and heliotrope, anciently used for ornaments.

1772 tr. *Cronstedt's Min.* 81 Plasma or mother of the emerald. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 208 Under it [calcedony] may be grouped .. chrysoprase, plasma, .. and sard. 1861 C. W. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 14 Plasma..sometimes written Prasma .. is merely Calcedony coloured green by some metallic oxide, probably copper or nickel. 1864 — *Gnostics* 76 This amulet, which is always cut in Plasma, the Jasper par excellence of the ancients.

attrib. 1900 A. S. MURRAY in *Brit. Mus. Ret.* 64 Green plasma scaraboid, with intaglio of a warrior.

3. *Phys.* The colourless coagulable liquid part of blood, lymph, or milk, in which the corpuscles (or, in milk, oil-globules) float; also, the similar liquid obtained from fresh muscle.

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 114 The plasma of living blood exists as a clear fluid, in which the corpuscles are seen to float. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 19 The nutrient fluid, or 'plasma' of the blood. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 118 The muscular plasma is obtained by injecting the muscles of a freshly killed animal with a 1 per cent solution of sodium chloride. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 230 Normal lymph consists of a colorless plasma and lymph-corpuscles. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

4. *Biol.* = PLASM 4.

1864 WEBSTER, *Plasma*...2. (*Physiol.*) The viscous material of a cell from which the new developments take place. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. iii. 223 For certain delicate organisms, as the Desmidaceae and Diatomaceae, whose plasma may be affected by too dense a medium. 1872 BEALE *Bioplasm* i. § 14 As the germ of every living thing consists of matter having the wonderful properties already mentioned, I have called it germinal matter; but the most convenient and least objectionable name for it is living plasma or bioplasm. 1876 LANKESTER tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. 185 The entire body..consists..of shapeless plasma, or protoplasm.

5. *Pharm.* A name for glycerite of starch.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

6. *attrib.*, as **plasma-cell, -corpuscle,** names given to certain cells found in connective tissue; **plasma-current, -layer, -zone** = PLASMATIC *current*, etc.

1869 KIRBY in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* IX. 31 Naked Plasma-bodies without nuclei. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 178 The plasma-layer .. disappears in the smaller arteries and veins. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 115 Edible Snail..The connective tissue consists of plasma-cells, a matrix, and fibrils. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 586 In addition to these, we have the so-called plasma cells.

Plasmasome, erron. f. PLASMOSOME.

† **Pla·smate,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. ppl. stem of Chr. L. *plasmāre* (Tertull., Vulg.) to form, etc., f. PLASMA.] *trans.* To form, mould; to create.

a 1608 DEE *Relat. of Spir.* I. (1659) 371 Now if this Power, this Plasmating, if this Taking, which was the Word, become man, perfect man; then followeth it, that man was and is, God creating and created.

Plasmatic (plæzmæ·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *πλασματικ-ός* imitative; but taken as the adj. corresponding to PLASMA: see -ATIC.] Relating to the plasma, esp. of the blood.

Plasmatic cell = PLASMA-*cell*. *Plasmatic current, layer, stream*: 'the part of the blood-stream in the small arteries which lies between the column of red corpuscles in mid-channel (*axial current*) and the wall of the vessel' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1828–32 WEBSTER, Plasmatic, Plasmatical. 1864 *Ibid.* s.v., The plasmatic fluid. 1870 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* X. 79 Plasmatic circulation in connective tissue. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 150 In the so-called Plasmatic Canals—spaces of the smallest size found in connective tissue. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 497 In ordinary cases..the plasmatic elements of the blood seem to be sufficient for vegetative growth. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 245 The distinction between axial and plasmatic current is obliterated.

† **Plasma·tical,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Gr. *πλασματικός* (see prec.) + -AL.] Having the quality of moulding, or giving shape or form; formative.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 342 Psyche..working .. by her plasmaticall Spirits or Archei, all the whole world into order and shape.

† **Plasma·tion.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *plasmacion*, or ad. Chr. L. *plasmātiōn-em* (Jerome), n. of action

f. *plasmāre*: see PLASMATE.] Moulding, forming, fashioning; creation.

1388 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 275 They bere a newe fascion, *humeris in pectore tergo*; Goddes plasmacion *non illis complacet ergo*. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 29 The iiij. ages of the world, from the plasmacion of Adam vn to the incension of the temple of the Iewes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 6 Neuerthelesse, the plasmation or creation of Adam is reconed among the generations. *a* 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* I. (1659) 371 The wisedome of the Father, in love, created and made man... But how? By Plasmation. For it is written, Let us make man. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. iii. 309 Not as if God Almighty used any Manual or Physical Plasmation of a Man, as the Statuary makes his Statue.

Plasmatoparous (plæzmătǫ́·părəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πλάσμα, πλασματο- (see PLASMA) + L. *-parus* producing (see -PAROUS).] Applied to a mode of germination in certain fungi: see quot.

1887 GARNSEY & BALFOUR *De Bary's Fungi* Explan. Terms 498/1 In Peronosporeae: forms are plasmatoparous when in germination the whole protoplasm of a gonidium issues as a spherical mass which at once becomes invested with a membrane and then puts out a germ tube.

† **Pla·smator.** *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* -our. [ad. OF. *plasmateur* (13th c. in Godef.), ad. Chr. L. *plasmātor* (Tertull.) former, creator (applied to God), agent-n. f. *plasmāre*: see PLASMATE.] He who forms or fashions; a maker, creator.

? *a* 1500 in *York Myst.* 514 Fader eternall, Parfite plasmator and god omnipotent. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. Prol. 1 Hie plasmatour of thingis vniuersall. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iii. 27 The supreme plasmator of hauyn ande eird. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. viii, The Soveraign Plasmator God Almighty, hath endowed and adorned humane Nature at the beginning.

† **Pla·smature.** *Obs.* [a. early mod.F. *plasmature*, ad. L. type **plasmātūra*, f. *plasmāre*: see PLASMATE, and -URE.] Form, mould; *concr.* (*collect.*) things formed in moulds, cast ware.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. vii. 14 Tonnel or Conduit-pipes, Glasse, Purslane, and other Plasmature. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. viii, That so stately frame and Plasmature, wherein the man at first had been created.

Plasmic (plæ·zmik), *a.* [mod. f. PLASM or PLASM-A + -IC.] Pertaining to or consisting of plasm; protoplasmic.

1875 LANKESTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXV. 43 The stages of the [molluscan] egg's nutrition may be thus grouped:—1st stage, Plasmic [etc.]. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 968 This plasmic environment could not vary excessively without causing death to parent and germ and sperm cell alike.

Plasmin (plæ·zmin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *plasmine*, f. PLASM-A + *-ine*, -IN[1].] A proteid substance obtained from the plasma of the blood, soluble in water, the solution coagulating into fibrin.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 662 *Plasmin*,.. applied by Denis (Compt. rend. lii. 1239; Jahresb. 1861, p. 725) to a constituent of the blood to which he supposes the property of spontaneous coagulation to be due... It is soluble in water. ..The solution..solidifies after a few minutes to a colourless transparent jelly, which by pressure between paper is converted into fibres of fibrin. 1876 FOSTER *Phys.* I. i. (1879) 15 The coagulation of blood is the result of the conversion of plasmine into fibrin. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plasmine* .. is a mixture of at least two bodies, *paraglobulin* and *fibrinogen*.

Plasmo-, before a vowel **plasm-**, combining form of Gr. πλάσμα, πλασματ- plasm, in various scientific terms. (The fuller form is *plasmato-*.)

‖ **Plasmodium** (plæzmō·diŏm). *Biol.* Pl. **-ia.** Rarely anglicized **plasmode** (plæ·zmǫud). [mod.L. (1863, Cienkowski in Pringsheim *Botanik* III. 400), f. PLASMA + *-odium*: see -ODE.]

1. A mass or sheet of naked protoplasm, formed by the fusion, or by the aggregation, of a number of amœboid bodies (*true* or *fusion-plasmodium*, *pseudo-* or *aggregation-plasmodium*), and having an amœboid creeping movement.

First observed as one stage in the life-history of the *Myxomycetes* or *Mycetozoa*, the position of which as vegetable or animal organisms is disputed; also in certain groups of *Protozoa*, and other simple animal forms.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 693/2 The formation of the plasmodium is a kind of complex conjugation. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 276 Myxomycetes... The swarm-spores cease dividing and unite, two or more of them coalescing—after they have gone over into the Amœba form—into a homogeneous protoplasmic substance, also endowed with an Amœba-like motion, the Plasmodium. 1875 ALLMAN in *Phil. Trans.* CLXV. 561, 571. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 81 A certain number of the myxopods unite together, and become fused into an active plasmodium, which exhibits no trace of their primitive separation. 1880 GEDDES in *Proc. Royal Soc.* XXX. 252 On the coalescence of Amœboid cells into Plasmodia. *Ibid.* 254 The formation of plasmodia was at first supposed to be peculiar to the Myxomycetes, but several Rhizopods have been described in which a more or less complete cell-fusion has been observed...All the evidence points to the conclusion that the power of coalescing with its fellows, under favourable circumstances, to form a plasmodium, is .. a very widely spread, if not a general property of the amœboid cell. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 263. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 912 Fusion to form *plasmodia* recurs in some Proteomyxan *Monadineæ*, as to the animal nature of which there can be no doubt. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Plasmode*, same as *plasmodium*.

2. Name given to certain parasitic organisms found in the blood of patients with recent malaria, and quartan and tertian ague. Discovered by Laveran (1880), and named by him, as a vegetable organism, *Oscillaria malariæ*; referred by Marchiafava and Celli to the animal kingdom, and called by them (1885) *Plasmodium malariæ*; more recently distinguished as belonging to two genera of Protozoa, *Laverania* and *Plasmodium*. (Minchin in Ray Lankester *Treatise on Zoology* I. ii. 243 (1903).)

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 724 Marchiafava and Celli described with great accuracy the intra-corpuscular amœboid form, to which they gave the name plasmodium. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* i. 2 *note*, The malaria parasite is not a plasmodium in the zoological meaning of the word. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 595 The most careful examination of the blood during the paroxysms showed no evidence of plasmodia.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* ii. 37 It has been considered advisable to expunge the term remittent fever as indicative of a distinct species of plasmodium disease. *Ibid.* 49 The plasmodium-infected corpuscles. *Ibid.* iii. 86 A protective, plasmodium-destroying agency inherent in the human body. *Ibid.* vi. 116 Plasmodium-like organisms.

Hence **Plasmo·dial, Plasmodic** (-ǫ́·dik) *adjs.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or arising from, a plasmodium; **Plasmo·diate** *a.*, having or characterized by plasmodia, as the *Mycetozoa*; **Plasmo·diate** *v. intr.*, to become fused into a plasmodium; **Plasmodia·tion**, formation of a plasmodium; **Plasmo·diocarp** [Gr. καρπός fruit], an irregular-shaped fructification occurring in the *Myxomycetes* (hence **Plasmo·dioca·rpous** *a.*).

1892 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* 109 The *plasmodial stage in the cycle is predominant. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 542 Malaria (which is due to plasmodial infection and is not a bacterial disease). 1882 A. S. WILSON in *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 671 The application of moisture to a spore, .is directly seen to cause it either to give birth to a zoospore, or to *plasmodiate, retaining its contents. *Ibid.*, A manure .. of a hygrosorptive character is just the very manure to promote the *plasmodiation of these spores, and render them fit to be absorbed in the form of a fluid plasm by the roots of the plants. 1877 M. C. COOKE *Myxomycetes Gt. Britain* 30 (Contrib. to *Mycologia Britann.*) *Plasmodiocarp. 1899 *Knowledge* 1 May 116/1 Plasmodiocarp is a term applied to the spore-bearing part when it is sessile and irregular in form, sometimes like a cushion, sometimes like..a long tube.

Plasmogen (plæ·zmǫdʒen). *Biol.* [f. PLASMO- + -GEN.] The chemically highest or most elaborate form, stage, or part of protoplasm, which by its vital activity forms the tissues or other organic products; true or formative protoplasm; bioplasm.

1888 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 817/1 Physiologists have come to use the word 'protoplasm' for *one* of the chemical substances of which Schultze's protoplasm is a structural mixture—namely, that highest point in the chemical elaboration of the molecule which is attained within the protoplasm, and up to which some of the chemical bodies present are tending... This 'critical' substance, sometimes called 'true protoplasm', should assuredly be recognized by a distinct name 'plasmogen'.

Plasmogeny (plæzmǫ́·dʒėni), **-gony** (-gŏni). *Biol.* [f. PLASMO- + -GENY. The variant *plasmogony* is ad. Ger. *plasmogonie* (Haeckel) with suffix repr. Gr. *-γονία* begetting, generation: cf. *cosmogony*.] Name for a mode of spontaneous generation: see quot., and cf. AUTOGENY.

1876 E. R. LANKESTER tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. 339 We call spontaneous generation *plasmogeny* when the organism arises in an *organic formative fluid*, that is, in a fluid which contains those requisite fundamental substances dissolved in the form of complicated and fluid combinations of carbon. 1904 MCCABE tr. *Haeckel's Wond. Life* xv. 369, I distinguished two principal stages—*autogony* (the formation of the first living matter from inorganic nitrogenous carbon-compounds) and *plasmogony* (the formation of the first individualised plasm; the earliest organic individuals in the form of monera).

Plasmology (plæzmǫ́·lŏdʒi). [f. as prec. + -LOGY.] (See quots.)

1888 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803/2 *Plasmology.*—The study of the ultimate corpuscles of living matter. 1889 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 47/2 Prof. Lankester assigns..to 'Plasmology' the study of the cell in its widest sense. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plasmology*, histology.

‖ **Plasmolysis** (plæzmǫ́·lisis). *Biol.* [mod. (De Vries, 1877) f. PLASMO- + Gr. λύσις loosing, setting free.] Contraction of the protoplasm of a vegetable cell with separation or freeing of the lining layer from the cell-wall, due to the withdrawal of liquid by exosmosis when the cell is placed in a liquid of greater density than the cell-sap. Hence **Pla·smolyse** (-ləiz) *v.* [cf. *analyse*], to subject to plasmolysis, cause plasmolysis in; **Plasmolytic** (-li·tik) *a.*, pertaining to, showing, or causing plasmolysis.

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 390 Such substances [as cause contraction of the protoplasm] are termed plasmolytic agents. 1886 VINES *Lect. Physiol. Plants* iii. 39 Turgid cell..in 10 per cent. solution, shewing complete plasmolysis. *Ibid.* 44 When the cells of the Beet-root are placed in syrup they become plasmolytic. 1888 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* xi. 404 In order to see the primordial utricle better, plasmolyse the cell by running in 10 p.c. salt solution. 1891 DARWIN in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1892) 672 As the plasmolysing agent continues to act, a reverse movement takes place. *Ibid.*, In different stages of plasmolysis.

Pla·smosome (-sǫum). *Biol.* Also *erron.* **plasma-**. [f. PLASMO- + Gr. σῶμα body.] 'A separate particle of protoplasm, such as certain particles observed in cell-nuclei' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* XXX. II. 168 The out-wandering plasmasomes form the so-called 'paranuclei' (Nebenkerne), which take so important a share in the regeneration of cells. 1900 E. B. WILSON *Cell* (ed. 2) 34 The so-called true nucleoli or plasmosomes.

Plasome (plæ·sǫum). *Biol.* [a. Ger. *plasom* (Wiesner), shortened from his original term *plasmatosom*, f. Gr. πλάσμα, πλασματ- plasm + σῶμα body.] (See quots.)

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plasome*,..a term used by Brücke and Wiesner for hypothetical minute vital particles, made up of a group of protoplasmic molecules, and constituting the smallest units which can exhibit the primary vital [functions]. They correspond [to a certain extent] to Weismann's 'biophors', and to the 'pangenes' of de Vries. 1902 E. A. MINCHIN in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 41/1 In other cases the assumption of invisible protoplasmic units has been inspired by a desire .. to explain the general vital and animative powers of protoplasm, as, for example, the 'micellæ' of Nägeli and the 'plasomes' of Wiesner.

Plass(e, obs. form of PLACE.

Plasson (plæ·sǫn). *Biol.* [a. Ger. *plasson* (Haeckel), a. Gr. πλάσσων, *-ον*, pres. pple. of πλάσσειν to mould, form.] Name for the homogeneous protoplasm of hypothetical primitive organisms, not yet differentiated into nucleus and general cell-substance, or for that of non-nucleated cells or cytodes.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. vii. 182 The vital activities of each cell form a sum of mechanical processes, which depend radically on movements of the smallest 'life-particles', the molecules of the living substance. If we call this active substance the Plasson, and the molecules the Plastidules, we may say that the individual physiological character of each cell depends on the molecular movement of its plastidules. 1904 MCCABE tr. *Haeckel's Wond. Life* vii. 163 On the first view, which I hold, the plasm, or living matter, of the earliest organisms on the earth .. was a homogeneous plasson or archiplasm—that is to say, a plasma-compound that was not yet differentiated into outer cytoplasm and inner caryoplasm.

Hence **Plasso·nity** (*humorous*, after *paneity*, etc.), the quality of being 'plasson'.

1882 COUES *Biogen* (1884) 33 The original arch-amœba is as much of a mystery as ever; we know not where he came from, how he got there, or in what the essence of his plassonity subsists.

-plast, combining element repr. Gr. πλαστός formed, moulded, in various terms, chiefly scientific, as *bioplast*, *endoplast*, *protoplast*.

Plaste, obs. var. of *placed*: see PLACE *v.*

Plaster, † plaister (plɑ·stəɹ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1, 4– **plaster**, 3–5 **plastre**, 4 **-tir**, 5 **-tere**, **-tyr**, **plaaster**, **platster**. *β.* 4 **plaistre**, 5 **playstir**, **-tyr**, **-tre**, 5–7 **playster**, 5–9 **plaister**. [The form *plaster* occurs in sense 1 in OE., ad. pop. L. *plastrum* (med.L. in Du Cange), shortened from *emplastrum* a plaster (medical and in grafting), a. Gr. ἔμπλαστρον (Galen), var. of ἔμπλαστον plaster, salve, f. ἐμπλαστός vbl. adj. 'daubed on or over'. Cf. OHG. *pflastar*, Ger. *pflaster*, also from pop. L. In ME. reinforced by OF. *plastre* (13th c. in Littré, but the deriv. vb. *plastrir* in 12th c.), mod.F. *plâtre*, only in branch II below (for which also med.L. *plastrum* (1233) is cited by Du Cange). Thus the medical sense was from med.L., the builder's sense through French. The collateral form *plaister*, which has been current since 14th c., and has sometimes been more common (as a written form) than *plaster*, occurs also in 14th c. in OF. (*plaistre*), but it was not the normal OF. form even in Norman or Picard, and its history is obscure. Although still frequent in the 18th c., and found in Dr. Johnson's writings, it was not recognized by him in his Dictionary. In mod. dial. *plaister* (plɛ·stəɹ) is the form in Sc. and north. Eng.]

I. 1. *Med.* An external curative application, consisting of a solid or semi-solid substance spread upon a piece of muslin, skin, or some similar material, and of such nature as to be adhesive at the temperature of the body; used for the local application of a medicament, or for closing a wound, and sometimes to give mechanical support. See also COURT-P., MUSTARD-*p.*, STICKING-*p.*

α. *a* 1000 *Be Dómes Dæge* (E.E.T.S.) 80 Hwi ne bidst ðu ðe bepunga and plaster? *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 304, genim þas ylcan wyrte wyrc to plastre; lege to ðære wunde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 360/54 Leie it..ase þei hit a plastre were. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1572 He laide a plastre under his ribbe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 Take schepis talow & buttere, & make a plaster. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 90 A plaster of sowre bread boyled in wine, draweth sores passing well. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* xiii, O how they fire the heart devout, Like cantharidian plasters. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 231 On the third day the plasters were removed from the wound. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vi. 71 One of the many who stick to me like a plaster.

β. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxi. (1859) 35 A very fool may he be clepid that leith a plaister corosyf to a wounde. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 87 For to make trete þat ys callyd playster of plomb. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxxviii. 21 And Esay sayde: take a playster of fyges [1611 a lumpe of figges.. for a plaister], and laye it vpon the sore. 1684 BUNYAN *Holy War* 318 It was a plaister to the brave

Captain Credence his wound. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 43 Slips of Linen,..spread with an Agglutinative Plaister. 1874 Motley *Barneveld* I. ii. 115 An aged lackey with a plaister over one eye.

b. *fig.* A healing or soothing means or measure.

a. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxx. 89 Of penaunce in his plastre al. 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Þe plastres of zuete warningges. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 17 To heale the wounde with a plaster of reconciliation. *a* 1628 Preston *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 104 Adversity is not a Plaster or a Medicine, but a poyson to him.

β. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 163 Thow haste made a playster of penaunce to sorowfull peple. 1625 Sanderson *Serm.* I. 126 The breath of the people being but a sorry plaister for a wounded conscience. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* i. lxiv. (1739) 133 The most part of those Laws were little other than plaisters applied to particular botches of those times.

c. *Burglar's plaster*, see quot. 1905. *Poor man's plaster*, a plaster composed of tar, resin, and yellow wax.

1845 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 257 Shipped lots of poor man's plaster and went afloat. 1860 Warter *Seaboard* II. 287 Before the attack came on,..I put a poor man's plaister on the nape of her neck. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 Aug. 6/7 A 'burglar's plaster'..is the technical name for a piece of brown paper covered with treacle and used to deaden the sound of breaking glass.

II. 2. A composition of a soft and plastic consistency, which may be spread or daubed upon a surface, as of a wall, where it afterwards hardens; *spec.* a mixture of lime, sand, and (generally) hair, used for covering walls, ceilings, etc.

a. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1549 Þe lettres bileued ful large vpon plaster. 1382 Wyclif *Deut.* xxvii. 2 Thow shalt arere greet stonus..and with plastre thow shalt dawbe hem. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Açotéa*, a flat roofe couered with lead, or plaster. 1715 Prior *Down-Hall* 152 Why 'tis plaster and lath. 1839 E. D. Clarke *Trav. Russia* 103/1 They form cylinders, by scooping out almost all except the bark; and then, closing their extremities with plaster or mud.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playstyr for wallys..*gipsum, litura, plastrum.* 1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 51/2 Howses and walles of stone and plaister. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 Walles..made of grauen stone without morter or playster. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* ix. (1682) 39 The Plaister was made of quick lime. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* I. 458 The floor is made of plaister.

b. *transf.* A sticky mass.

1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 223 They eate it made in plaisters with the lime made of Oistershels. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* IV. 12 This goodly Musician that playes with me hath beaten me into plaister. 1728 Ramsay *Monk & Miller's Wife* 138 Think ye .. his gentle stamock's master To worry up a pint of plaister Like our mill-knaves?

3. Sulphate of lime, gypsum: †(*a*) in its natural state; (*b*) powdered, but not calcined; used as a ground for painting and gilding, or for work in relief; (*c*) calcined; = Plaster of Paris.

a. 1391 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 79 Et pro plastre et lapide ibidem emptis. 1393 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 120 In xviij carectatis de plaster emp. pro quodam novo domo. 1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 6 Blended plaster or lyme among his alom. 1481 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 345 Ad quandam querruram de plaster vocatam Sparre stone. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 Plastere, *gipsus.* *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* I. 40 Plentiful Quarres of Alabaster, communely there caullid Plaster. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 340 Eight statues..made of plaster, by the celebrated Barbarigo. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 194 *note*, Plaster or Gypsum..is an earthy salt composed of calcareous matter dissolved in the acid of Vitriol. 1813 J. C. Eustace *Class. Tour Italy* II. i. 2 The plaster, or stucco, is extremely hard, and in a climate so dry may equal stone in solidity and duration. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 142 Plaster, strictly speaking, is the Italian *gesso*,..and in old books on art, plaster casts are commonly called 'gessos'.

β. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 271 Bysides Parys is greet plente of a manere stoon þat hatte gypsus and is i-cleped white plaistre [1432-50 playster, Higden *album plastrum*]. 1555 Eden *Decades* 161 They beate the playster into fyne floure. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 120 This Shire yieldeth Flax and Alabaster, and Plaister. 1785 Jefferson *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 403 It was thought proper to take a model of his bust in plaister. 1808 H. Holland *Surv. Cheshire* 28 The workmen distinguish..the sulphate of lime by that [name] of plaister.

III. 4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *plaster-bandage*, *-box*; (sense 2) *plaster groining*, *wall*, *-work*; *plaster-fronted* adj.; (sense 3) *plaster cast*, *-kiln*, *mould*, *-sieve*, *-stuff*; also *plaster-like* adj. and adv.; **plaster-bill**, a bird, the surf-duck or surf-scoter of N. America, *Œdemia perspicillata*; **plaster-bronze**, a plaster cast covered with bronze dust, to resemble a bronze; **†plaster-clover** (*plaister-claver*, Syd. Soc. Lex.), the sweet clover, *Melilotus officinalis*, which was formerly used in ointments; **†plaister-faced** *a.*, having the face plastered with a composition to hide the wrinkles; **plaster-jacket**, in orthopædic surgery, a body casing or bandage stiffened with plaster of Paris, for correcting curvature of the spine, etc.; **plaster-man**, a moulder in plaster of Paris; **plaster-mill**, a mill for grinding the materials for making plaster, as gypsum or lime, also old plaster; a mortar-mill; **plaster-mull**, **-muslin**, a plaster consisting of a thin sheet of gutta-percha, backed with mull or muslin, and spread on the inner side with a medicated and adhesive substance; **plaster-rock**, **plaster-stone**, raw gypsum.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 113 The *Plaster-Bandage is adapted to almost every species of ulcer. 1685 Cooke *Mellif. Chirurg.* I. i. (ed. 4) 2 With Needles, Lint, *Plaister-box, Salvatory furnished. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 67 The surgeon's plaster-box..was..full of silver instruments. 1898 *Daily News* 19 July 3/2 An excellent bust, coming out..much better in plain plaster than in the *plaster-bronze. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 616 A back-ground..of *plaster-cast to the ornament or figure. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* p. xxvii, The wonderful discovery of voltaic electricity, by which copper plates, plaster casts, wood engravings, and medals may be copied. 1628 Bp. Hall *Righteous Mammon* Wks. 720 Heare this, ye *plaister-faced Iezabels! 1900 *Century Mag.* LIX. 491/1 One..quaint *plaster-fronted house. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 163 There does not seem to be any wooden inner roofs, except *plaster groining. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 616 The *plaster-jacket precludes the use of the cold douche. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 482 The clay is boiled on a *plaster-kiln. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. ii. 6 [Rocks] chalky, or of a *plaster-like substance. 1676 Worlidge *Cyder* (1691) 67 Pat it smooth with the back of your spade plaster-like. 1895 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 6/4 'The pimple' had evidently been put on by some keen-witted *plasterman who knew the tendency of the human mind to dwell upon trifles. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Art* II. 9 To prepare a *Plaster Mould, so as to take a Brimstone or Wax Impression from it. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 787 Salicylic acid, in the form of the *plaster-mull. *Ibid.* 521 The *plaister-muslins (mulls), introduced by Unna, are intermediate between ointments and surgical plasters. 1835-40 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 153 A water privilege to put into the market, or a *plaister rock to get off, or some such scheme. 1751 J. Hill *Hist. Mat. Med.* 256 *Plaister Stone,..the white, glittering hard Kind [of Gypsum], which resembles fine Sugar,..generally known under the Name of Plaister of Paris Stone. 1765 Bowles in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 231 These mountains are formed of sand-stone, lime-stone, plaster-stone (or gypsum) and emery-stone. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 202 To make the *plaster-stuff come off the easier. 1424 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 152 Pro renovacione (?) *plastyrwal. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 105 Growing on ashes, burnt ground, plaster walls, and damp paper. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* v. 236 Pictures..artificially carued vpon the *plaister-work and timber.

Plaster, †plaister, *v.* Forms: see prec. sb. [f. Plaster *sb.*, or a. OF. *plastrer* (15th c. in Littré) to plaster (a wall), mod.F. *plâtrer*. OF. had *plastrir* in 12th c. (Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To overlay, daub, or cover with builder's plaster, or any material used for a similar purpose.

a. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1674 Wit pike..Plaster [*w.rr.* plastir, plastre] it wel wit-oute and wit-In. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 To Plastere, *gipsare*. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* vii. 26 b, He was cast out in a twigge basket or hamper, plastered ouer with lyme, into the ryuer of Nilus. 1555 Eden *Decades* 344 Cotages made of bouwes of trees plastered with chauke. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. xiv. 285 It was plastered with the earth that makes China Ware. 1863 Ruskin *Munera P.* (1880) 164 Why could he not plaster the chinks? 1865 Lubbock *Prehₖ. Times* xvi. (1878) 599 By plastering them on the outside with clay.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playstryn wallys, *gipso.* 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 169 b, The Douehouse..must be well pargetted and plaistred without. 1611 Bible *Deut.* xxvii. 2 Thou shalt set thee vp great stones, and plaister them with plaister [Coverd. playster them with playster]. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. v. 13 In the Entrance, a little way was playstered, that it might be adorned with Letters and Pictures. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 205 On the inside, plaistered with mud. 1808 A. Parsons *Trav.* v. 123 These baskets are quite circular, plaistered over with bitumen on the outside.

b. *transf.* To bedaub, besmear, coat, cover with any adhesive substance; to overspread, overlay (often implying excessive or vulgar adornment).

a. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xx. 57 The inner part of the temple is altogether plastered and couered with great tables of Porphyre. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* iv, Their hair plastered up with pomatum. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers*, *Ribbons* (1876) 18 The Great Duke (the breast of whose own coat was plastered with some half-hundred decorations). 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 93 By the second or third day [of pneumonia] the tongue is thickly plastered with white fur.

β. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 104 Plaister it with moolde, eke in the roote. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect., Turkey* (1685) 335 Walls of rough Stone, plaistered over with little pointed Battlements on the Top. 1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 90 With all th'embroid'ry plaister'd at thy tail. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 95 Bills plaister posts, songs paper ev'ry wall.

c. *fig.* To cover, load to excess, e. g. with praise; also, to hide, gloze over, palliate; to patch, botch, mend or restore superficially. Also with *over*, *up*.

a. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II. v, Thou art made as durt, To plaster up the bracks of my defects. 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 187/1 They plaster the memory of that intriguing politician with unbounded praise. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Aug. 169/2 To plaster his friends with praise in order that he in turn may be similarly beplastered.

β. 1546 Bale *Eng. Votaries* I. 20 Se here the conueyaunce of these spyrytuall gentylmen in Playsterynge vp their vnsauerye sorceryes. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 3 With light cost of rough cast rhetorick, it may be tolerably plaistered over. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 43 A second Prometheus, to plaister up the decayed image of Mankind.

2. To treat medically with a plaster; to apply a plaster to. Also *absol.*

a. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 308 Lettres þei sent, 3if any surgien were [in] þe sege þat softer couth plastre. *Ibid.* 312 More of phisyke bi fer and fairer he plastreth. 1768 Foote *Devil* III. Wks. 1799 II. 275 Full power..to pill,..plaster, and poultice, all persons. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. iv, She bound the arm, plastered the head.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playstryn sorys, *cataplasmo.* 1593 R. Harvey *Philad.* 18 She thought it no reason, to plaister one bodie for an other bodies sores.

b. *fig.* To apply a remedy to, soothe, alleviate; hence, humorously, to give compensation for.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 95 Bathed in þat blode,..And þanne plastred with penaunce, and passioun of þat babi. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xx. 89 And 3ut be plastred with pacience, when fondynges hym prykieþ. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Rich. II* cxlix, A promis'd Parliament can plaster ore This Gash. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* 78/1 Clare..did what he usually did in such cases, gave the man five shillings to plaster the blow.

3. To mix or pound into a soft tenacious mass; in *Sporting slang*, to shatter (a bird) with shot.

b. *intr.* To form a plastery mass, to cake.

14.. *Med. Receipts* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 53 Tak the white of .iij. egges..and whete flour, and erth of an oven, and playster al-to-gider. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 224 Tak mosse of aþorn, and seþ hyt in red wyn, and playstre hyt þer to. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 215 Any rain that falls, so impregnates the soil with moisture, that if worked, it plasters, and the north-east winds harden it like stone. 1883 Bromley-Davenport in *19th Cent.* Dec. 1097 The plasterer, whose plastering often arises from jealousy, will plaster—i.e. blow the pheasant into a pulp.

4. To apply, affix, or stick (something) like plaster (or a plaster) upon a surface. Also *fig.*

1864 Hawthorne *Dolliver Rom.* (1879) 80 The name that they..caused the clergyman to plaster indelibly on the poor little forehead at the font. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* iii. (ed. 2) 46 It is always easy for the originator of a new Philosophy to plaster any amount of high morals upon it. 1879 Stevenson *Trav. Cevennes* (1886) 80 Black bricks of firwood were plastered here and there upon both sides. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 842 The mosquito—the best thing is to fling forth an indignant hand and plaster him to the wall.

5. a. To treat (wine) with gypsum or sulphate of potash with the object of neutralizing excessive acidity, etc. **b.** To dust (vines) with gypsum in order to prevent rot or mildew of the berries. **c.** To treat (land) with plaster of Paris.

1819 [see Plastered]. 1886 *Standard* 14 May, Sherry..brandied to make it keep, and plastered with sulphate of lime to kill the tartar which makes it over acid. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 183 Sulphate of potash, with which wines in Paris were formerly largely 'plastered'.

Hence **Pla·stered, †plaistered** *ppl. a.*, covered with, treated with, or formed of plaster.

a. 1388 Wyclif *Amos* vii. 7 Lo! the Lord stondinge on a wall plastrid. 1535 Coverdale *ibid.*, Beholde, the Lorde stode vpon a plastered wall. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 169 O'er clogging Fallows, o'er dry plaster'd Roads. 1819 W. Faux *Mem. Days in America* (1823) 139 Plaster of Paris ..is found to operate on land by attracting dew. More dew is always seen in plants and grains growing on plastered fields. *a* 1859 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. (1861) V. 70 That ugly old labyrinth of dingy brick and plastered timber.

β. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3043 Paysede and pelid downe playsterede walles. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxx. 80 A feyned hede formed of playstred clothe. 1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 127 All the plaistered pretending sectes..are quite vanished. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 146 On the sides of caverns in limestone rocks, and on plaistered walls in vaults.

Pla·sterer, †plaisterer. [f. prec. + -er[1].]

1. One who works with or in plaster.

a. One who plasters buildings.

a. 1393 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 120 In solucione facta Ricardo Plasterer et fratri suo in parte salarii ejus pro parietibus..plastrandis. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. 19 Ordo paginarum ludi Corporis Cristi..Plasterers. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 97 Against the excessiue takyng of Masons, Carpenters, Tilers, Plasterers and other laborers. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4050/4 Any Plasterers desirous to Perform the Work in the Great Hall. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 118 The Plasterer...His duty is to cover the naked timbers and brickwork in ceilings and walls.

β. 1350-1 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 234/1 Item, plaisterers & autres ouverours des mures d'argill. 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 4 Any..Bricklayer, Plaisterer, Joyner, Hardhewer, Sawyer. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 140 Villaine, thy Father was a Playsterer. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 161 ₱4 The plaisterer having..obliterated, by his white-wash, all the smoky memorials which former tenants had left. 1822 J. MacDonald *Mem. J. Benson* 468 The existence of that Chapel is..owing to William Beacock, a plaisterer.

b. One who moulds or casts figures in plaster.

a. 1615 W. Gedde (*title*) Booke of Sundry Draughtes, principally serving for Glasiers, and not impertinent for Plasterers and Gardiners. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 294 *Plastique* is not only under Sculpture, but indeed very Sculpture itself: but with this difference; that the Plasterer doth make his Figures by Addition. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 376 The plasterers of the present day cast all their ornaments in Plaster of Paris.

β. 1668-9 Pepys *Diary* 10 Feb., To the plaisterer's at Charing Cross, that casts heads and bodies in plaister.

c. *Sporting slang.* (See Plaster *v.* 3.)

1883 [see Plaster *v.* 3].

2. Name of a S. African digger-wasp: see quot.

1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xxvii. 539 A hymenopterous insect called the plasterer (*Pelopæus Eckloni*) which in its habits resembles somewhat the mason-bee. It..may be observed coming into houses, carrying in its forelegs a pellet of soft plaster about the size of a pea.

Pla·stering, †plaistering, *vbl. sb.* [-ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb Plaster.

a. Working or covering with or as with plaster.

a. 1453 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 160 Johanni Plastr' pro plasteryng muri aulæ. 1598 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 252 Places wher plasteringe is needefull. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 249 Names and Uses of Tools relating

to Plastering. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* iv, Doing an odd job of plastering.

β. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playstrynge of wallys, *litura, gipsatus.* 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 79 Playstering upon Lath. 1667 Primatt *City & C. Build.* 67 For Lathing and Plaistering against Ceelings and Partitions.

b. Application of a curative plaster.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 402/2 Playsterynge of sorys, *cataplasmacio.* 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Emplastradura*, plaistering, *fomentatio.* 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* (1653) 68 The plaistring or palliating of these rotten members. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VIII. ii. 55 In spight of all our plaisterings and dressings of it 'twill prove incurable.

c. Formation of a sticky mass.

1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 215 That dry friable porous surface..upon which, if rain falls, no plastering ensues.

2. *concr.* Plastered work; a coating of plaster, or of anything plastered or daubed on.

α. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Enduit*, The plastring of a house. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 249 They..brish over their new Plastering when they set, or finish it. 1847 Smeaton *Builder's Man.* 17 When plastering is laid and set hard on bricks which are not perfectly dry. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 2/2 Those stiff plasterings of guipure lace on coat collars and revers lost favour with the chic.

β. 1538 Elyot, *Tectorium*, the playstrynge or parietynge of a house. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* 122 After that she has taken-off the plaistering of steeped bread and asses milk. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* II. 14/2 The middle coat, which we call plaistering, is to prevent any faults or defects in..the other two.

3. *attrib.*, as *plastering-work.*

1538 Elyot, *Tectorium opus*, perietting or plastring wark. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 227 Plastering worke, and earthly mixture. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 35/2 River-sand..is more tractable and better for Plaistering-work. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 80 Plaistering-lath, 1*s.* 5*d.* per bunch.

†**Pla·sterish, plai·sterish,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Plaster *sb.* + -ish¹.] = next.

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* I. 24 Fracastorius..supposeth that this Iland gat the name Albion of the said plasterish [1637 plaisterish] soile.

†**Pla·sterly, plai·sterly,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -ly¹.] Of the nature of plaster.

1655 Fuller *Hist. Camb.* vii. § 36 Others looked for it [cause of sweating-sickness] from the earth, as arising from an exhalation in moist weather out of Gipsous or plaisterly (*ed.* 1840 plasterly] ground.

Plaster of Paris. Also 6 **Paris plaster.** [See Plaster *sb.* 3.] A fine white plaster, consisting of gypsum rendered anhydrous by calcination, which swells and rapidly sets when mixed with water, and hence is used for making moulds and casts, as a cement, etc.; so called because prepared from the gypsums of Montmartre, Paris.

α. *c* 1462 *Wright's Chaste Wife* 86 The chambyr he lett make fast, Wyth plaster of parys þat wyll last. 1577 Harrison *England* II. xii. (1877) I. 235 Parget of fine alabaster burned, which they call plaster of Paris. 1579 Puttenham *Partheniade* in *Eng. Posie* III. xix. (Arb.) 251 Her bosome sleake as Paris plaster, Helde vp two balles of alabaster. 1787 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 279 There are several Casts, done in Plaster of Paris. 1894 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Plaster of Paris*, a composition of several species of gypsum dug near Montmartre, near Paris. ..This term is, however, frequently applied to plaster stone, or to any species of gypsum.

β. [1387: see Plaster *sb.* 3 β.] 1516 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* lf. 84 b, Paied for iii bussheilis of playster of paris price the busshell viiid. 1658 W. Sanderson *Graphice* 80 The quality of this plaister of Paris, is to bind the Colours together. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 15 Oct. (O. H. S.) I. 56 Wood's Head [is] taken in Plaister de Paris. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 72 The drawing was taken from a cast in plaister of Paris.

attrib. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* x. 108 It was drawn from a plaster-of-Paris figure cast off nature. 1831 Brewster *Optics* ii. 17 A plaister of Paris statue strongly illuminated. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 615 The limb was then bandaged to a splint, and enclosed in a plaster-of-Paris case.

†**Pla·sterwise, plaisterwise,** *adv. Obs.* [f. Plaster *sb.* + -wise.] In the manner of a plaster; of the consistency of a plaster.

c 1540 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. IX. 221 Allwayes styrring it vntill it be plaster-wyse. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Formul.* X j, Somtyme is a lytell hony put therto and medled playsterwyse. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* 432 Mustard..plaisterwise helps the Epilepsy, &c. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physic* (1762) 76 Spread it thick Plaister-wise.

Pla·stery, *a.* Also 6 **plastry,** 6–7 **plaistrie.** [f. Plaster *sb.* + -y.] Of the nature of or like plaster; viscid, tenacious. Hence **Pla·steriness.**

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 8 b, Fleume plastry, whiche is very grosse, and as it were chalky. 1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* III. lxi. 567 Hauing gotten by long space..a plasterie crust or hardnes ouer all the parts of it. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 126 Fracastorius attributes this sweating sickness to the Plaistriness of the soil. 1849 Clough *Let. to his Mother* 18 Apr., St. Peter's disappoints me; the stone of which it is made is a poor plastery material; and, indeed, Rome in general might be called a rubbishy place.

Plastic (plæ·stik), *a.* Also 7–8 **-tick, -tique,** (8 **plaistic**). [ad. L. *plastic-us* (Vitr.), a. Gr. πλαστικός that may be moulded, belonging to moulding or modelling, plastic, f. πλαστ-ός formed, moulded, f. πλάσσειν to mould, form. So F. *plastique* (1556 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

I. In active sense.

1. Characterized by moulding, shaping, modelling, fashioning, or giving form to a yielding material, as clay or wax; capable of shaping or moulding formless matter.

Plastic art (†*art plastic*), the art of shaping or modelling; any art in which this is done, as sculpture or ceramics.

1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* IV. iii, Not .. as we were to mould every scene anew; that were a mere plastic or potter's ambition. *a* 1637 — *Discov., De Progress. Picturæ*, The art plastic was moulding in clay, or potters earth anciently. 1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 251 He [John Dwight] has so far advanced the Art Plastick, that 'tis dubious whether any man since Prometheus have excelled him. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 101 So watchful Bruin forms, with plastic care, Each growing lump, and brings it to a bear. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* II. 554 God, the great plastic Artist. 1745 J. G. Cooper *Power of Harmony* I. 21 As o'er the rock the plastic chissel moves. 1852 tr. *Müller's Archæol. Art* 65 The plastic talent which creates material forms cannot certainly fail to be recognized even as early as Homer.

b. In surgery: Concerned with remedying a deficiency of structure; reparative of tissue; as *plastic surgery, a plastic operation.*

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 379 There were 2 plastic operations. 1883 Holmes & Hulke *Syst. Surg.* (ed. 3) III. 681 Plastic Operations on the Cheek (Meloplasty). 1897 W. Anderson *Lupus* 14 The raw surface may be covered in partially or completely by gliding portions of detached integument from an adjacent part, or other resources of plastic surgery may be employed.

2. Causing the growth or production of natural forms, esp. of living organisms; formerly, in a quasi-philosophical sense, as an attribute of an alleged principle, virtue, or force in nature; formative, procreative; creative.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 117 The plastick or formative faculty, from matter appearing homogeneous and of a similary substance erecteth bones, membranes, veynes and arteries. 1658 — *Gard. Cyrus* iii, In what diminutives the plastick principle lodgeth is exemplified in seeds. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 192 Those that think that these *Conchæ* or Petrified Shells were no other than the *Lusus naturæ*, the Effects of the Plastick power of the Earth. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* IIII. § 14 He is positive as to the being of God; and that not merely as a plastic nature, or soul of the world. 1794 Coleridge *Sonn. to Bowles*, Like that great Spirit, who with plastic sweep Moved on the darkness of the formless deep. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 23 The absurdity of having recourse to a certain 'plastic force', which it was said had power to fashion stones into organic forms. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* I. iv. (1878) 30 The creation of groups by successive acts of divine power, or .. by successive acts of the plastic force of nature.

3. *fig.* in reference to immaterial things, conditions, or forms, æsthetic or intellectual conceptions, literary productions, etc.

1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 4 The great enquiry then is, how far this Plastick Power of the understanding, may extend its self in its forming an Idea of God. 1756–82 J. Warton *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. iii. 113 The genuine poet, of a lively plastic imagination. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* VI. 29 He considered the sign of wealth, as the plastic and preserving principle of political strength. 1837 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xlv. (1870) II. 500 Imagination creates nothing .. it only builds up old materials into new forms; and .. ought, therefore, to be called, not the productive or creative, but the plastic. 1871 R. H. Hutton *Ess.* I. 133 There is a formative plastic power that is ever urging us towards our truest life. 1877 Dowden *Shaks. Prim.* v. 59 The compression of the large and rough matter of history into dramatic form demanded vigorous exercise of the plastic energy of the imagination.

II. In neuter and passive sense.

4. Pertaining to, connected with, or characteristic of moulding or modelling; produced by moulding, modelling, or sculpture, as distinguished from that which is drawn on a surface. *Plastic merit*, merit as a piece of moulding or sculpture.

1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 32/2 This sort of Works, which are call'd Plastic [*che si chiamano lavori di Terra*]. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 217 Four Bronze Horses..more noted for their adventures and undoubted antiquity than for their plastic merit. 1863 Mary Howitt *F. Bremer's Greece* I. vii. 238 The Greeks have an abhorrence of any plastic images of the saints.

5. Susceptible of being moulded or shaped; capable of taking a new form when subjected to pressure (as clay); readily assuming a new shape.

Plastic crystal, a variety of Portland cement of remarkable plasticity. *Plastic sulphur*, an allotropic form of sulphur: see quot. 1868.

1791 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* I. 85 Etruria! next beneath thy magic hands Glides the quick wheel, the plastic clay expands. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. iii. 12 How unformed and plastic is his body! 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) p. cxiii, Kneading the coating material, so as to render it very plastic. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxii. 349 The ice.. was plastic to pressure but not to tension. 1868 Watts *Dict. Chem.* V. 531 Plastic sulphur..is obtained by heating melted sulphur to the temperature 260–300°, and then cooling it suddenly by pouring it in a very thin stream into cold water. It is thus obtained as a soft, yellowish-brown, semitransparent mass, capable of being drawn out into fine elastic threads possessed of considerable tenacity.

b. *Plastic clay* (*Geol.*), a name given (after the F. *argile plastique* of Cuvier and Brongniart) to the middle group of the Eocene beds, immediately underlying the London clay, now called the Woolwich and Reading series.

1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 229 Above these beds, to which, strictly speaking, the term 'plastic clay' is alone applicable, there is often another clay, separated from the former by a bed of sand. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 244 Plastic clay and sand. 1885 *Lyell's Elem. Geol.* 229 Woolwich and Reading series.—..formerly called the Plastic clay, as it agrees with a similar clay used in pottery, which occupies the same position in the French series.

6. Of immaterial things and conditions: Capable of being moulded, fashioned, modified, or impressed; impressionable, pliable; susceptible to influence; pliant, supple, flexible.

1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. IV. iii. 146 Such is Poetical, and such (if I may so call it) Geographical or Plastick Truth. 1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* 133 Of all known languages, the Greek is assuredly in its structure the most plastic and most manageable. 1842 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Babes in Wood*, While his mind's ductile and plastic, I'll place him at Dotheboys Hall. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 67 Plato ..fancies that the life of the state is as plastic..as that of the individual.

7. *Biol.* and *Path.* Capable of forming, or being organized into, living tissue, as *plastic lymph, a plastic exudation*; pertaining to or accompanied by such a process, as *plastic bronchitis.*

1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* I. (ed. 4) 61 The inflammatory affections of the mucous membrane of the bronchi, may be divided into the catarrhal, the plastic or crusty, and the ulcerous. 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 375 It gives origin to similar changes in the effused fibrine, which it converts from a plastic or organizable deposit, into an aplastic or unorganizable one, namely, pus. 1877 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 376 Plastic or Croupous Bronchitis is almost always chronic. 1886 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 66 In speaking of 'plastic lymph' as undergoing development into connective tissue and vessels, one means not the fibrin itself but the cells that are included in it.

III. 8. absol. *The plastic*: †**a.** The plastic principle or virtue (*obs.*); **b.** plastic art, plastic beauty.

1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 214 To the knowledge of the poorest simple, we must first know its efficient, the manner, and method of its efformation, and the nature of the Plastick. 1682 H. More *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 238 All Souls are indued with the Plastick whether of Brutes or Men. 1881 H. James *Portr. Lady* xxxvi, His appreciation..was based partly on his fine sense of the plastic.

Plastic (plæ·stik), *sb.*¹ Now *rare.* Also 6–7 **plastick(e, 7 plaistique, plastique.** [ad. F. *plastique*, ad. L. (*ars*) *plastica, plasticē*, a. Gr. πλαστική (τεχνή) the plastic art, fem. of πλαστικός Plastic *a.* So Ger. *plastik.*] The art of modelling figures: primarily, in clay, wax, etc.; also, in wider sense, in a harder material by sculpture. Also *fig.* †**a.** *sing. Obs.*

1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* I. 7 Painting, Carving and Plasticke are all but one and the same arte. 1624 Wotton *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 293 *Plastique* is not only under Sculpture, but indeed very Sculpture it self. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* XXV. 70 Of Statuary and Plastick.

β. In *pl.* form.

1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 272 How dame Nature came thus to mis-carry in her plastics. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 20 (ed. 2) 7 The living plastics of the gymnic games and choral dances were afterwards .. exalted in a surprising manner by sculpture in stone and brass.

†**Plastic,** *sb.*² *Obs.* [ad. late L. *plasticus* moulder, sculptor, a. Gr. πλαστικός adj.: see Plastic *a.*] A modeller, moulder, sculptor; *fig.* a former, fashioner, creator.

1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 58 It is impossible for any Painter, or Carver, or Plastique to give right motions to his works or Hand. 1661 Rust *Origen in Phenix* (1721) I. 75 The beautiful Idea, according to which the Plastick works. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* 128 'Tis education is our Plastick. 1694 R. Burthogge *Reason & Nat. Spirits* 247 For in this Terrestrial World, as to the several Regions of it, the Animal, the Vegetable, and the Mineral, it is as certain, that all had but one Plastic, as that the Body of a Man, or any other particular Animal, had not more. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* (1872) I. I. ii. 6 Ours is a most fictile world; and man is the most fingent plastic of creatures.

†**Pla·stical,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *plastic-us* (see Plastic *a.*) + -al.] = Plastic *a.*; formative.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 429 The Plasticall or formatiue faculty of the wombe. *a* 1646 J. Gregory *Serm.* Posthuma (1649) 70 At the last Daie, a kinde of Plasticall Dew shall fall down upon the Dead, and ingender with Luz, the little Bone spoken of before. 1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 14 The Plastical Power of the Souls that descend from the World of Life, did faithfully and effectually work those wise contrivances of Male and Female. 1681 Glanvill *Sadducismus* I. (1726) 96 The Subdivision of Spirits, into meerly Plastical and Perceptive, supposing there are Spirits that are meerly Plastical.

Pla·stically, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly²: see -ically.] In a plastic manner, in various senses of the adj.; according to plastic art; by moulding or modelling; as a plastic substance.

1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 149 Thou..hast not always had materials for thy prodigious brain to wield and plastically build up. 1856 De Quincey *Confess.* Wks. V. 42 The command over a language, the power of adapting it plastically to the expression of your own thoughts, is almost exclusively a gift of nature. 1876 Symonds *Grk. Poets* Ser. II. xi. 358 Both persons and situations are plastically treated—subjected, that is to say, to the conditions best fulfilled by sculpture. 1886 — *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xiv. 237 Humanity moves like a glacier, plastically.

Plasticine (plæ·stisin). [f. Plastic *a.* + -ine⁴.] Proprietary name for a composition capable of remaining plastic for a long time, used in schools, etc. as a substitute for modelling clay.

1897 W. Harbutt (*title*) Harbutt's plastic method and the use of Plasticine. 1903 H. G. Wells in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 184 Some one of the plastic substitutes for modelling clay now sold by educational dealers, plasticine for example.

Plasticism (plæ·stisiz'm). [f. PLASTIC *a.* + -ISM.] **a.** The doctrine of the plastic principle of nature. **b.** The practice of the plastic art.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Plasticismus* .. term for the plastic force or power; plasticism. 1864 *Gd. Words* 403/1 Are we quite sure that this eclectic plasticism will always be kept within the limits of congruity?

Plasticity (plæsti·sĭti). [f. PLASTIC *a.* + -ITY; so F. *plasticité* (1785 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The quality of being plastic, in various senses of the adj.

1782-3 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 325 Inclining to plasticity, (or easiness of impression). 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 218 *note*, The lime will receive the most sand in that way, without losing its plasticity. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 588 Moulded into metaphors, or carved into comparisons, with marvellous plasticity. 1859 BAIN *Emotions* II. ix. § 20. 519 Some natures are distinguished by plasticity or the power of acquisition, and therefore realize more closely the saying that man is a bundle of habits. 1868 CLIFFORD *Lect.* (1879) I. 102 The race must at a certain time have a definite amount of plasticity, that is, a definite power of adapting itself to altered circumstances by changing in accordance with them. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* iii. § 108 Effects of the extraordinary plasticity of glacier-ice.

† **Pla·sticly**, *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PLASTIC *a.* + -LY ².] = PLASTICALLY.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 668 The true and proper Cause of Motion..is not the Matter itself organized; but the Soul either as cogitative or plastickly self active .. ruling over it.

Plastid (plæ·stid), *sb.* (*a.*) [a. Ger. *plastid* (Haeckel), f. Gr. πλαστός (see -PLAST) + *-id*, after Gr. *-ιδιον*, dim. suffix.]

1. *Biol.* An individual mass or unit of protoplasm, as a cell or unicellular organism.

1876 E. R. LANKESTER *Adv. Sc.* (1890) 283 Haeckel's useful term 'plastid' for a corpuscle of protoplasm. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* 377 If we reduce organized beings to their ultimate organisms—cells or plastids. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* p. viii, Our knowledge of the nucleus of organic cells or plastids.

2. *Bot.* A differentiated corpuscle or granule occurring in the protoplasm of a vegetable cell; e. g. a chlorophyll-granule, a chromoplastid, or a leucoplastid.

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 287 As the cells which develop from the growing point assume the different characters which fit them for special services..[so] their plastids may likewise assume special characters.

B. *adj.* Having the character of a plastid.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pla·stidogene·tic** *a.*, producing plastids.

1899 *Natural Science* Dec. 458 The respiratory trees of Holothuroids have four functions—respiratory, hydrostatic, plastidogenetic, and excretory.

Plastidule (plæ·stidiul). *Biol.* [a. Ger. *plastidul* (Haeckel), dim. of *plastid*: see -ULE.] A hypothetical molecule or ultimate particle of protoplasm, constituting a vital unit, and forming an element or constituent of a plastid or cell.

1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* 377 And with Spencer and Haeckel suppose these to be farther divisible into still smaller particles or plastidules. 1878 tr. *Virchow's Freedom of Science* 23. 1879 [see PLASSON]. 1905 *Academy & Lit.* 28 Jan. 82 Haeckel claims priority for his notion of the plastidule, though this and numerous variants with other names are notoriously none other than the 'physiological unit' of Spencer, which preceded them all.

attrib. 1877 *Nature* 4 Oct. 492/2 The speaker [Virchow] then criticised somewhat severely Prof. Haeckel's theory of the plastidule soul and of the animated cell.

Hence **Plasti·dular, Plastidu·lic** *adjs.*, pertaining to a plastidule.

1878 tr. *Virchow's Freedom of Science* 24, I am unable to admit that we should be at all justified in importing the 'plastidulic soul' into the course of our education. 1884 A. LAMBERT in *19th Cent.* June 954 The theory of a 'plastidulic soul'.

Plastin (plæ·stin). *Biol.* [f. Gr. πλαστός (see -PLAST) + -IN ¹, after *chromatin*.] A viscous substance found in the nucleus of a cell.

1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* July 169 Besides the 'nuclein', ..Reinke and Rodewald..have found 'plastin', and Kossel ..'histon' and 'adenin'. *Comb.* 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 442 The Karyosome..contains eight chromatin elements surrounded by a coloured plastin-like substance.

‖ **Plastique** (plastī·k). [F., sb. use of *plastique* adj., plastic.] A name given to a plastic composition for modelling.

[1803 SARRETT *New Pict. London* 80 The ornaments are plastick, a composition something like plaster of Paris.] 1903 *Daily Mail* 7 Sept. 7/4 Modelling may be done in wax, clay, or plastique.

Plastogamy (plæstɒ·gămi). *Biol.* [f. Gr. πλαστ-ός moulded + -γαμία marriage.] The fusion of the protoplasm of two or more cells or unicellular organisms, as in the formation of a plasmodium. Hence **Plastoga·mic** *a.*, pertaining to plastogamy.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 483/2 Plastogamy: the fusion of cytoplasta into plasmodium, the nuclei remaining free. 1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 218 Thus cytotrophy, leading first to contiguity, may result in plastogamy, or the fusion of cell-plasms. *Ibid.*, Four individuals may be found in plastogamic union.

† **Pla·stograph.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [Cf. Gr. πλαστογράφος adj. 'forging, falsifying' (Liddell & Scott), f. πλαστός moulded, forged + γράφειν to write.]

1658 PHILLIPS, *Plastograph*, (Greek) counterfeit writing.

Plastography (plæstɒ·grăfi). *rare*⁻⁰. [In sense 1, ad. Gr. πλαστογραφία, f. πλαστογράφος: see prec. In sense 2, f. Gr. πλαστός moulded + -GRAPHY (erroneously used).]

† **1.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plastography* (*plastographia*), a counterfeiting or false writing.

¶ **2.** 'The art of forming figures in plaster' (Maunder *Treas. Knowl.* 1830).

Pla·stral, *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a plastron.

1889 *Brit. Mus. Cat. Chelonians* 25 Plastral shields subject to great variations. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Plastron (plæ·strŏn). Also 6 **plasteroun.** [a. F. *plastron* breast-plate, also in other senses as in Eng., ad. It. *piastrone*, augment. of *piastra* breast-plate, prop. plate of metal; see PIASTRE, PLASTER.]

1. A steel breast-plate formerly worn beneath the hauberk. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1506-7 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 367 Item, for ane hebreschoun.., and ane plasteroun to the samyn. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 87 In later times we shall find the plastron called the gorget. 1837 H. AINSWORTH *Crichton* II. 392 The point of his lance glanced off the sharp gorget of the plastron. 1853 JAMES *Agnes Sorel* (1860) I. 45, I should be thrown on one side like a rusty plastron.

b. A leather-covered wadded shield or pad, worn by professional fencers over the breast.

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 134 Against the Post their wicker Shields they crush, Flourish the Sword, and at the Plastron push. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plastron*, a Fencing-Master's quilted Breast-Leather, which serves for his Scholars to push at. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 261 Endeavouring to plant her foil on the leather plastron of the fencing-master's chest.

transf. a 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 162 Laying under it a thick Plastron of Beef-Suet.

fig. 1755 CHESTERF. *Let. to Bp. Chevenix* 15 Dec., The several situations, which I have been in, having made me long the *plastron* of dedications, I am become as callous to flattery, as some people are to abuse.

c. Applied to an ornamental plaque worn on the breast.

1883 D. H. R. GOODALE in *Harper's Mag.* July 242/2 That plastron of steel ornaments is effective.

2. In women's dress, A kind of ornamental front to a bodice, introduced in the latter half of the 19th c.; extended to a loose front of lace, or of some light fabric edged with lace, embroidery, etc.

1876 *Echo* 30 Aug. (*Fashions*). 1881 *Truth* 31 Mar. 446/1 The low satin bodice has a plastron embroidered in purple and gold jet. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Sept. 619/1 Occasionally the waistcoat or plastron is made full. 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* (1889) 152, I shall wear my plum-coloured body..with a yellow plastron. 1893 *Lady* 10 Aug. 146/3 The vest or plastron is of silk covered with lace. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 28 Mar. 8/4 The stock..is usually made to fasten at the back, so that the front part may be decorative, and is seen, as well, with a little overhanging plastron or wedge-shaped front, or a deep point, edged with open-work or coloured embroidery. 1906 *Advertisement*, Real Irish crochet lace Plastron...Real Bruges lace Plastron.

b. In men's dress, A starched shirt-front; esp. of the kind without pleats.

1890 *Athenæum* 7 June 745/3 The one restraining influence upon the civilized man is the 'plastron', otherwise the shirt front of evening dress. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Mar. 6/4 The light from the lamp..shows a curious and useful reflection on the plastron of the white shirt.

3. *Zool.* (After Cuvier.) The ventral part of the shell of a tortoise or turtle.

1831 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* IX. 67 The plastron, or breast-plate [of the Order Chelonia] is yellowish and flat, truncated, .. and covered with twelve scaly plates. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 201/2 This plastron is the sternum, or..the union of several sternums. 1870 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Reptiles & Birds* 158 Terrestrial Tortoises are distinguished by their short, oval and convex bodies, covered by carapace and plastron.

b. Applied to the analogous part in various other animals, as in the extinct labyrinthodon (an amphibian), the glyptodon (allied to the armadillos), certain fossil fishes, and certain existing echinoderms (e. g. *Spatangus*): see quots.

1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxiv. (1858) 528 The extraordinary form of *Pterichthys*..with its arched carapace and flat plastron restored before me. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 557 As to the interambulacral plates, they become much expanded near the peristome of *Spatangidæ*. ..The whole structure constitutes a raised plastron. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Glyptodon*, They are all distinguished from the living armadillos .. by possessing a ventral shield or plastron.

4. *Ornith.* A coloured area on the breast or belly of a bird, like or likened to a shield.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* cites COUES. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

5. *Anat.* The sternum together with the costal cartilages, the part removed in post-mortem examinations.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plastry, obs. form of PLASTERY.

† **Pla·sture, plaisture.** Erroneous form of PLASTER *sb.*, the ending confused with -URE.

c 1550 LOYD *Treas. Health* K j, Hete al together, and make a plasture of it beyng hote. 1589 GREENE *Tullie's Love* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 132 For so deepe a wound the Lady Cornelia bringeth in a lenitiue plaisture. *Ibid.* 165 Apply them not as outward plastures, but as inward potions. 1608 HIERON *Defence* II. 72* His laste plasture for this cure maketh the soare to run out wyder.

-plasty, combining element, repr. Gr. -πλαστία, f. πλαστός formed, moulded, used in sense 'moulding, formation' in technical terms, chiefly of surgery, as *dermatoplasty*, *hypoplasty*, *osteoplasty*.

Plat, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 plætt, 5-6 *Sc.* platt, plat. [OE. *plætt* buffet, smack; cf. MLG. *plat* smack, MHG. *platz*, *blatz*, Ger. *platz*, *plotz* resounding blow, bang, crash. Goes with PLAT *v.*¹, both being app. of onomatopœic origin.

(But cf. PLAT *a.* flat; a buffet is struck with the flat palm.)] A flat blow; a smack, slap.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 248 Drihten soðlice us sealde hælu þurh ðam ear-plættum, and ece alysednysse. *c* 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 122 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scotl.*, With skuljeoun clowttis and dressing knyvis, Platt for plat on thair gyngyvis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iv. 203 Syne with hys kne him possit with sic ane plat, That on the erd he spaldit him all flat. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 855 Sapience, thow servis to beir a plat. *c* 1900 (*Conversation in Co. Donegal*), 'Did the "old gentleman" ever set foot on this Island (St. Patrick's in Lough Derg)?' 'A few plats of the Prior 'ud soon make him lave.' (H. Chichester Hart.)

Plat (plæt), *sb.*² *arch.* or *dial.* Forms: 4-plat, (5-7 platte, 6-9 platt); *pl.* plats; in 3 platen, 5-7 plattes, 6 plates. [app. a. OF. *plat* flat surface or thing, dish, etc., sb. use of the adj. *plat*, *plate* flat: see PLAT *a.* Cf. Ger. *platte* plate (of iron, etc.), slab.]

I. A flat thing, part, or surface.

† **1.** A flat piece, a plate (of metal); a thin slab of anything; a sheet, slice. *Obs.*

In early instances, esp. in the plural, not separable from PLATE *sb.* I.

[*c* 1290: see PLATE *sb.* 1.] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 552 Þane wes of Irne mony plat Layd til hyr sydis, brynnand hat. *Ibid.* xxxvii. (*Vincencius*) 287, & yrne platis brynnand hat Wes laid on hyme to mak hym mat. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 46, I. bord mausure.., wyth a prent in þe myddylle, and a grypp amyde, and a narow plat be þe syddys, with iij lyonis of sylver, and ouerguld. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 3 The xxx plattes off sylver. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 178 Thinne plats of leade of the same breadth. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 60, I had as liefe haue smal gadds or plats of Siluer and Gold, without any coyne at al to go abroade from man to man for exchaunge. 1593 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 29 [Not only do we find a charge for .. the..stage on which the book-cases were to stand, but] platts [for the shelves are bought].

† **b.** A flat ornament of gold or other precious material. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xiv. 259, I have not knowen that..they have found any of the form and bignesse of the platt or iewel they have at Genes.

† **c.** A flat leaf, a blade. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5416/4 The Plat or Leaf of the Palmetor-Tree.

2. The flat part or side of anything; † **a.** The flat of a sword, as opposed to the edge (*obs.*); † **b.** The sole of the foot (*obs.*); **c.** The mould-board of a plough (*dial.*).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 154 To stroke hym with the plat [*v.r.* platte] in that place Ther he is hurt. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2664 Ther grevous woundys to allegge, Bet ys the platte than the egge. 1574 WITHALS *Dict.* 64/1 The platte [*ed.* 1566 plant] of the foote, *planta*. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* xi. 99 Tho touchd his woundes with the platt of thilke swoord, Which closd all vp, and instantlie recurd. 1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 33/2 The plat, or earth-board, turned most of the carrots out of the ground. 1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. I. 284 As soon as it leaves the mould-board, or, as we call them in Norfolk, the plats.

3. Anything placed in a flat or horizontal position: see quots. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2478 Pyghte pauyllyons of palle, and plattes in seegge. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Plat*, ..anything flat or horizontal, as a piece of timber so laid in building.

† **b.** A platform. *Obs.*

1558-9 *Passage Q. Elis.* D iij, A stage..and in the same a square platte rising with degrees.

4. A small bridge, a foot-bridge. (Also in form plot.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1652 *Manch. Crt. Leet Rec.* (1887) IV. 73 Richard Haworth ..shall repaire and make good A Bridge or Plott in the Milgate. *Ibid.* 84 Should repaire and make good a Platt in the Millngate. 1670 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 277 The ..pulling downe of the said bridge or platt .. is adjudged to be an act done for the good of the Corporation. 1835 *Act* 5 & 6 *Will. IV*, c. 50 § 67 The said Surveyor ..shall..make and lay such trunks, plats, or bridges as he shall deem necessary. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Plat*, a small foot-bridge.

5. A flat country, a plateau or table-land. *U. S.*

1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 107 There are many fine tracts, and extensive platts. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 248 These lofty plats of table-land seem to form a peculiar feature in the American Continents.

6. *Mining.* A widened space in a level, near the shaft, where trucks may cross, or ore is collected for hoisting, etc.

1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* (1875) 40 Where the level meets the shaft, an enlargement is usually made; this is called a 'plat'. It is most useful as a place of deposit for the ore previous to its being sent up 'to grass'. 1897 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 9/5 As soon as the 200 feet level is reached, the intention is to open out and cut plats on both sides of the shaft.

II. A surface or place generally.

† 7. A surface in general (whether plane or not). [1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iii, 96 This Electra gret Atlas begat, That on his schuldir beris the hevynnis plat.] 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* vii. 36 On the plat of the same sydes and ledges, he caused to carue Cherubins, lyons and palme trees. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 124 Yf there be any whirlynge plat in the water, the mouynge ceasethe when it commethe at the whyrlynge plat. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., A plaine platte is that, whiche is made al equall in height, so that the middle partes nother bulke vp, nother shrink down more then the bothe endes. For whan the one parte is higher then the other, then is it named a Croked platte. *Ibid.*, And the two poyntes that suche a lyne maketh in the vtter bounde or platte of the globe, are named polis. 1593 FALE *Dialling* 45 b, The making of an Horizontall Sphericall or hollow Diall... Prepare your Sphere or plat perfectly hollow, of what quantity you will.

8. A place, spot, point of space; a locality or situation. (Cf. PLAT *sb.*3 1.) *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1558 PHAER *Æneid* VII. T ij b, She seeth Æneas glad, and plattes vprise for men to dwell. 1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 297 They need..to sit still, or stand in one plat. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 731 They had stayed 40. daies in a plat. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 18. I. liii. 419/1 He turns himself on his bed..not an easie plat that he can find in it. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 528/2 Whereas the academy before was a dry and unsightly plat, he brought water to it, and sheltered it with groves. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plat*, place, situation .. as 'I steud at that time i this vara plat'.

† b. A 'place' or part of a surface, as of the body; cf. PLOT *sb.* I. *Obs.*

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 35 And did cause each face to waxe pale, and each hand to be on the pained plat. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. II. xviii. (1669) 68/2 If there be but one sore plat.

Plat (plæt), *sb.*3 Also (6 **plate**), 6–7 **platt**(e. [A collateral form of PLOT *sb.*, which arose early in the 16th c., app. under the influence of PLAT *sb.*2

The chronology appears to show that *plat* in sense 1 originated as a variant of PLOT *sb.* sense 2, assimilated to PLAT *a.* and *sb.*2 through association of sense, a *plot* of ground being usually a *plat* or flat area. Hence also, through the notion in sense 2 of 'a plan on the flat', arose senses 3–5. But sense 1 being indifferently *plot* or *plat*, the same vacillation of form extended to these senses, so that they also varied with *plot*, giving rise to senses 3–6 of PLOT *sb.* Thus, in sense 1, *plat* is a variant of *plot*, but, in senses 2–5, *plot* appears to be a variant of *plat*. Both forms still survive in senses 1 and 2; in senses 3–5 *plat* has yielded to *plot*.]

I. = PLOT *sb.* 2 (which is found earlier).

1. A piece or area of ground (usually) of small extent; a patch. Often with a word defining its nature or character, as *grass-plat, plat of grass.*

1517 *Domesday Inclos.* (1897) I. 256, ij acres of arrable ground lieng in seuerall plattes in Asseby. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Acts* I. 18 A plat [1526 TINDALE plott] of grounde. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* N ij, I must multiplie .210. by it self, and so haue I the iust platte of grounde of .44,100. foote. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Cepetum*, an onion bed: a plat of onions. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 144 A certain plat of ground, almost two hundred acres. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Kings* ix. 26. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 73 Oft on a Plat of rising ground, I hear the far-off Curfeu sound. 1667 — *P. L.* IX. 456 This flourie Plat, the sweet recess of Eve. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 39 A large Quadrangular plat of ground. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 17 Digging up their little plats of potatoes. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June v, The grassy plat 'Midst of her garden, where she had her seat.

II. = PLOT *sb.* 3–6 (in which *plat* is earlier).

2. A plan or diagram of anything; *esp.* a ground-plan of a building or of any part of the earth's surface; a draught, design, map, chart; = PLOT *sb.* 3. † *To set down in plat*: to map down, make a plan of (*obs.*). Now only *U. S.*

1511–12 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 478 They can..vawte the chirch..after the fourme of a platte therfor devised. *a* 1517 *Reg. Vetus Coll. Merton.*, [Contract for a farme place to be bilded at Holiwell] acording to a plate drawonne for the same. 1552 HULOET, Platte for a buyldynge, *orthographia*. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* Ep. Ded. 1 Some description of the platte of the whole Earth. 1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xix. (1577) 49 For the making of plats or cards, as touching Hydrographia commonly called sea cards. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 437 To note all the Islands, and to set them downe in plat. 1659 MOXON *Tutor to Astron.* (1686) Pref., Globes, Maps, Platts, and Sea-drafts of New discoveries. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xv. 196 To prick the same down in a Blank Chart or Mercator's Plat. 1740 *Hist. Jamaica* vii. 227 Every Surveyor shall return Two Plats upon every Survey to the Patent-Office. 1756 ROLT *Dict. Trade*, *Plat*, a popular term, among mariners, &c. for a sea-chart. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 695/1 We ordered from the State Land Offices plats, showing the lands subject to entry.

† 3. *fig.* A plan or scheme of the actual or proposed arrangement of anything; an outline, a sketch; also, arrangement, disposition. Cf. PLOT *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 415 Knowing a plat and likelihode of thEmperours mynde. 1556 ROBINSON *More's Utop.* (Arb.) 167 Yea like, or rather more likely Platoes platte to excell and passe. For what Platoes penne hathe platted briefely..The same haue I perfourmed fully. 1568 V. SKINNER tr. *Montanus' Inquisition* 48 My meaning in this place is, onely to make a platte with out any order or fashion. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 9 No easier, readier, or perfecter plat and introduction, is..come to my imagination. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. ii. 257 He desired of the said Duke to have a plat or a scheme of the said new discipline.

† 4. A plan of action or proceeding in some undertaking; a scheme, design; = PLOT *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1574 SIR T. SMITH in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 39 Yt is high tyme som conclusion were made, and some plat drawen to be folowed in that enterprice of Ulster. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 681 A plat and meane quhairby his Majestie .. may import a greit proffeit. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 115 What think you, no Platt? is there not here a good plat laid. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 264 He saw that plat fit to serve for a bridle in the mouths of the neighbouring nations.

† 5. The plan or scheme of a work of fiction, a drama, poem, etc.; = PLOT *sb.* 6. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 312 Our maker or Poet is..first to deuise his plat or subiect, then to fashion his poeme. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 38 Here might be made a rare Scene of folly, if the plat could beare it.

III. in *Scottish Eccl. Hist.*

† 6. a. The scheme for the territorial organization of the reformed church in Scotland on a presbyterian system, and for the provision and modification of stipends. Hence b. The body in charge of this, the Commission under the Great Seal of 1573 empowered to carry out the scheme.

1580 in *k. of Univ. Kirk of Scotl.* (1840) 470 It is considderit and thocht meitt, that my Lord Clerk of Register sould be requeestit to concurre with the Laird of Dun, Mrs. Robert Pont .. and Johne Duncanson, or any thrie or four of them, to lay [doun] and devyse a Platt of the Presbytries and Constitutiouns therof as best appeirit be thair judgement, to be reportit be them againe the nixt Generall Assemblie. 1581 *Ibid.* 524 The Assemblie ordeaned a Platt of their Kirks to be exhibit the morne to be consulted on. 1581 *Ibid.* 535 Who sall awaite upon the platt for modifieing of the Ministers stipends. 1597 *Ibid.* 940 It was reportit be the Commissioners of the Generall Assemblie, that the constant Platt for planting of euery particular kirk, was hindred be the taksmen who hes the haill teinds in their hands, and refuseth to condiscend to any substantiall ordour anent the planting of the Ministrie. 1602 *Ibid.* 999 That command be givin to the modifiers of the platt of this instant 3eir to assigne out of the saids pensiouns for planting of kirks. 1627 *Rep. Parishes Scotl.* (Bann.) 1 The kirk of Prestone is vnyted to the kirk off Bonckell .. be the plate ordeaned to be haldin For the provisione of kirkis vnprovydit. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 167 Everie Presbyterie is to choise one fittest to attend the Platt, with a full information of all that concerns that Presbyterie, and all the kirks therein contained. 1672 *Rec. of Inverness Presbyt.* (S. H. S.) 9 The Mod' asked the minister if he had ane decree of plat. 1693 WALLACE *Orkney* ix. 52 By an act of platt, dated at Edinburgh the 22 of November [1615], the several Dignities and Ministers, both in the Bishoprick and Earldom [of Orkney], were provided to particular maintainances.

Plat (plæt), *sb.*4 *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 **plate**, 8–9 **platt**. [A collateral form of PLAIT *sb.*, going with PLAT *v.*3 (The spelling *plate* was prob. for *plat*, but may sometimes have been for *plait*.)]

1. A contexture of interlaced hair, straw, etc.; = PLAIT *sb.* 2. (In last quot. = *straw-plait.*)

1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* vii. 5 The hayre of thy heade is like the kynges purple folden vp in plates [*R.V.* tresses]. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* v, Her haire nor loose nor ti'd in formall plat. 1753 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 127 Leghorn Hats..and the Platts whereof the same are made. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 419 Wholly a rural business in its preparatory state, as *straw platt.* *c* 1880 *Bedfordsh. Dial.*, She wraps the plat round her arm as she makes it and stands at her door half the day.

2. *Naut.* (See quots.)

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Plats* [*ed.* 1706 *Platts*], (in Navigation) are certain flat Ropes, by which the Cable in the Hause, is preserved from Galling. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Platts* in a Ship, are flat Ropes made of Rope-yarn, and weaved one over another; their Use is to save the Cable from Galling in the Hause, or to wind about the Flukes of the Anchors to save the Pendant of the Fore-sheet from galling against them. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) C cc b, *Lever la fourrure du cable*, to take the plat, or other service, off from the cable. 1841 DANA *Seaman's Man.* 118 *Plat*, a braid of foxes.

† 3. A fold; a pleat; = PLAIT *sb.* I. *Obs. rare.* (Only in spelling *plate.*)

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 203 For ane elne lynnyne to the platis uptaking of the crammesy cote, xiiij d. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Plate of a garment, *plat, ply.* 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B j b, They also fashioned the body of the pilloure, and filled it with Canalicoli, and Striges, as thoughe it were the plates of her garmentes.

† **Plat,** *sb.*5 *Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **playte**, 6 **plate**, 7 **platt**. [a. F. *plate* (in 15th c. *plet(t)e*, *pleyte*) fem., also *plat* masc. (Godef.), sb. use of *plat*, *plate* adj., flat. Cf. It. *piatta* a barge.] A flat-bottomed boat, used for fishing, etc. (Cf. FLAT *sb.*3 9 a.)

1443 in Rymer *Fœdera* XI. 44 Duas Naves vocatas Playtes, quandam Navem vocatam a Cogship. 1558–9 *Act* 1 *Eliz.* c. 13 § 3 No Hoye or Plate..from any Porte Creek or Place of this said Realme of Englande .. shall trauers or crosse the Seas. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.*, *Hist. Scot.* 113/2 They bestowed them aborde in .xxx. hulkes, hoyes, and playtes. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.*, *Penalties & Forfeitures* 4 If any Hoy or Plat cross the Seas.

‖ **Plat** (plà), *sb.*6 [F. *plat* dish: see PLATE *sb.*] A dish.

1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* vii. (1766) I. 118 The petit maitre ate of fourteen different *plats*, besides the desert. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. lxxiii, The simple olives,.. Must I pass over..? I must, although a favourite 'plat' of mine. 1882 ANNIE EDWARDES *Ballroom Repent.* I. 295 These suave, serious parties, with their wines and *plats*.

Plat (plæt), *a.* and *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 4–6 **platt**(e, 5 **plate**, *Sc.* **playt**, 9 *Sc.* **plet**. [a. F. *plat* (11th c. in Littré):—late pop.L. **plattus* adj., flat, smooth (whence also It. *piatto*, Prov. *plat*, Sp., Pg. *chato*, also Ger. *platt*, Du. *plat* flat); of uncertain history, but perh. from Gr. πλατύς broad, flat. Cf. PLACE, PLATE.]

A. *adj.* † 1. Flat, level; plane; plain. *Obs.*

(In the first example *plat* may be considered an adv.; in the second it may possibly be a sb., 'plane plat' = level spot: cf. PLAT *sb.*2 8.)

[13.. *Cursor M.* 16684 Abouen his hefd, als i yow tell, a bord was festen plate [*v.r.* plat]. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1379 Stalled..Prudly on a plat playn, plek alþer fayrest.] 13.. *K. Alis.* 2001 (Bodl. MS.) Platte feet & longe honde, Nas fairer body in a londe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 156 Ye moote with the plat [*v.r.* platte] swerd ageyn Strike hym in the wounde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 In anoþer ile is a maner of folk þat has a platte face, withouten nese or eghen;..þai hafe a platte mouth, lippless. *c* 1448 HEN. VI in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 367, j. cours of platt Yorkschire stone. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 49 Hanyball was in the plate placis of Lumbardy. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 76 They cannot be able in dede to resiste the Frenche menn, soo sodenly passing the plat countrie. 1570 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 337 One dos' ½ of potendiches xviij^s. Twoo dos' ½ of plattrenchers x^s. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 32 All sortis of gold and sylvir, ayther in plat werk or cunyie. 1584 R. NORMAN *Safeguard of Sailors* 6 The east side is shallow and plat.

† 2. *fig.* 'Flat', plain, blunt, straightforward, downright, unqualified; esp. in phrase *plat and plain. Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXX. (*Theodera*) 106 For-þi of þat thing spek nomare! For playt na [*i. e.* **plat** 'no'] sal be þi ansuere. *Ibid.* XLI. (*Agnes*) 120 Bot schó plat *nay* ay said hym til. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 987 My wyl is this for plat conclusion With outen any repplicacion .. That [etc.]. 1533 MORE *Apol.* XXIII. 141 They speke openly platte and playne heresye. 1559–60 *MS. Cott., Caligula* B. IX, Gods providence [hes] sa altered the case, 3ea changed it to the plat contrary. 1560 D. COLE *Lett. to Jewell* I, A plat and plain answer. [1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 231 (temp. Edw. III) Let things be plat and plain between us.]

B. *adv.*

† 1. Of position: In or into a flat position, flatly, flat; level or even with the ground or any surface. (Some would consider *plat* an adj. in these instances.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 17709 þai fell .. Gruflinges dun to erth plate [*v.r.* plat]. *Ibid.* 25045 (Fairf.) If þou plat hit lais on grounde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1734 Whan I was hurt thus in {that} stounde, I fel doun plat unto the grounde. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 52/1 Alle they to gydre fille doun platte to the ground. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* VII. 70 Lyand plat on his syde on the cald eird.

2. Of manner: Flatly, bluntly, plainly, straightforwardly, without circumlocution or qualification. Often *plat and plain.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 768 Thus warned hym ful plat and ful pleyn, His doghter. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 229 Seie unto the poeple plat,..The leste finger of thin hond It schal be strengere overal Than was thi fadres bodi al. *c* 1420 HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 810 Be nat aferd but tell on plein & plat. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vi. 6 With sic busteous wordis he thaim grat, And..gan thame chiding thus plat. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. 295 The Gouernour denyes and platt refuses the condicioune. 1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 53 But single out, and say once plat and plaine That [etc.].

3. Of degree: Entirely, quite, absolutely. Now only *Sc. dial.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 83 So þat my palays plat ful be pyȝt al aboute. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 92 Thei myhte noght acorde plat; On seide this, an othre that. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxix. (Arb.) 105 Tho [=then] wende the wulf to haue ben plat blynde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. vii. 59 The damecellis fast to thar lady thringis, That was in deidlie swoun plat for dispair.

4. Of direction: Directly, exactly, due, straight. Now only *Sc. dial.*

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 395/1 Fourty dayes and fourty nyghtes after they saylled platte eest. 1511 GUYLFORDE *Pilgr.* (Camden) 69 The wynde fell platte ayenste vs. 1584 J. MELVILL *Let.* in *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 212 Plat contrar to the word of Chryst. 1597 BRUCE in Wodrow *Life* (1843) 179 Tended not all their speeches to end plat contrary? 1825 JAMIESON, Plet south, plet north. (Aberdeen.)

† **Plat,** *v.*1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 **plættan**, 4 **platte**, **plette**. *Pa. t.* 1 **plætte**, 4 **plat**, **plette**. *Pa. pple.* 4 **plat**. [OE. *plættan* to buffet, smack, f. *plætt*, PLAT *sb.*1 So MDu. *platten*, Ger. *plätzen* to smack, MHG., Ger. *platzen* to crash, bounce, strike noisily. Cf. the frequent. Du. *pletteren* to bruise, crush, MHG. *blatren*, *platren* to strike noisily.]

1. *trans.* To buffet, slap, smack; to strike, knock.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xix. 3 Hi plætton hyne mid hyra handum. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 2626 With þe swerd so he him grette, þat his heued of he plette. *Ibid.* 2755 Hwan he hauede him so shamed, His hand of-plat, and yuele lamed. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1542, & he with plattyng his paumes displayes his lers. *a* 1400 *Langl.'s P. Pl. C.* XIX. 50 *note*, Thenne palle [*v.r.* platte] ich a-downe þe pouke with þe bridde shoryere.

2. *intr.* To hurry, rush; (?) to move noisily (Skeat).

c 1300 *Havelok* 2282 þat he ne come sone plattinde, Hwo hors ne hauede com gangande. *Ibid.* 2613 To armes al so swiþe plette, þat þei wore on a litel stunde Greithed.

Plat, (plæt), *v.*2 *Obs.* exc. *dial.* *Pa. t.* 4 **platte**, **platt**, 6–7 **plat**. [ME. *platte*, f. PLAT *a.* Cf. Du. *pletten*, Ger. *platten*, *plätten* to flatten, smooth;

also OF. *plat(t)ir* (f. *plat* adj.) to flatten, throw down flat (Chr. de Pisan), lie flat.]

I. 1. *trans.* To lay, throw, or cause to fall flat (on the ground, on one's face, back, knees, etc.); to spread flat, smooth, or even; to press flat.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 45 Pernel proud-herte platte hire to grounde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. ix. 117 And he his hand plat to the wound in hy. 1530 PALSGR. 660/1, I platte, I stryke a thyng upon another as clay, or butter, or saulve *je saulue*...He platteth his butter upon his breed with his thombe, as it were a lytell claye. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 59 At which wordis, he..platt him self upoun his knees, and .. burst furth in these wourdis. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (West Cornw.), Your hair is rough; plat it down with your hands. When our mangle was broken we platted down the sheets with the iron.

†**2.** *intr.* To become flat. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxlvii. (1869) 134 The more men smyten it the lasse it platteth, and the more men heten it the hardere it waxeth.

†**3.** *intr.* To lie, sink, or fall down flat. *Sc. Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 58 This wylie tod plat doun on growf. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ii. 52 And we plat law gruffillingis on the erd [*submissi petimus terram*]. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 222 Mr Patrick ..plat on his kneis befoir the king.

II. †**4.** *trans.* To clap (*into* a place); to place, set. *Obs.* [Perh. a different word.]

1529 LYNDESAY *Complaynt* 135 Thay tuke that 3oung Prince frome the sculis,.. And haistelie plat in his hand The gouernance of all Scotland. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 102 Syne plat me godly men into thair place. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 11 As Horace first his trifling toyes, in booke did place and plat. 1639 R. BAILLIE *Lett.* (1775) I. 160 Leith fortifications went on speedily; above 1000 hands, daily employed, plat up towards the sea, sundry perfect and strong bastions.

Plat, *v.*[3] Also 5–7 **plate.** Pa. t. and pple. **platted**; contr. pa. t. 4 **platte**, pa. pple. 6 *Sc.* **plat(t.** [A parallel form of PLAIT *v.*, going with PLAT *sb.*[3] The spelling *plate* appears to belong here, but in later instances (cf. quot. 1687) may sometimes stand for *plait*.]

1. *trans.* To intertwine, intertwist; to plait (hair, straw, etc.); to form (hats, etc.) by plaiting; = PLAIT *v.* 2. Now a less usual spelling than PLAIT (which, however, in this sense, is usually pronounced *plat*).

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxix. 3 He made hem into thredes, that thei myȝten be plattid with the weft of the rather colours. — *Judith* x. 3 And she wesh hir bodi, and oyntide hirself with the beste myrre, and she platte the her of hir hed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 To Plate, *implicare, intricare.* *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 956 To plat heres, *trescher.* *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 301 His hair was lang lyke wemens and plat in ane heid lace. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 30 In wars they use their haire platted and bound about their foreheads. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* xix. 2 The souldiars platting [1611 platted, 1881 plaited] a crowne of thornes. 1627 DRAYTON *Quest Cynthia* xix, A Fountain ..Whose brim with pinks was platted. 1687 RANDOLPH *Archip.* 39 They have their hair plated [cf. *ibid.* which serves for a pettycoat..being plaited very thick]. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 239 They.. plat all their Hair in Tresses. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 124 Pieces of Rose or other Leaves which she [a bee] .. plats and joyns close together by some glutinous Substance. 1773 G. FITZGERALD *Acad. Sportsman* 12 The baffled Sportsman..Each Bush explores, that plats the Hedge with Pride. 1836 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XII. 7/1 Hexagon mesh, formed of three flax threads twisted and platted to a perpendicular line or pillar. 1855 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) I. 26, I platted bonnets at one time.

†**2.** To fold, gather in folds; = PLAIT *v.* 1, PLEAT *v. Obs. rare.*

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 36 Silk breeches ..so long that they must be plated upon the Leg.

Plat, *v.*[4] [In origin, a collateral form of PLOT *v.*[1]: cf. PLAT *sb.*[3]]

†**1.** *trans.* To plan; to sketch. *To plat forth*, to sketch out a plan of (something to be made). *Obs.*

1556 ROBINSON *More's Utop.* (Arb.) 167 What Platoes penne hathe platted briefely In naked wordes,..The same haue I perfourmed fully. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* C v b, Henry of Lancaster .. during the time that he platted thys enterprise, founde hospitalitye in Fraunce. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* vi. (1887) 49, I must..plat forth the whole place of exercising the bodie, at ones for all ages. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xii. (Parker Soc.) 222 It is not for nothing that God was so curious in platting forth the tabernacle. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 387 Plotting and platting as long examinations as possibly they can to protract the time.

† **b.** To plan *to do* or *have* something; = PLOT *v.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 85 They shuld plat (what euer their other cheere were) to haue a salt eele..continuallye seru'd in to their tables.

†**2.** To arrange or lay out on some plan. *Obs.*

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 907/1 The court was platted in tables and benches in manner of a consistorie.

3. To make a plan of, to lay down on a plan or chart; to draw to scale, so as to calculate distances, area, etc.; = PLOT *v.*[1] 3. Now only *U. S.*

1751 C. GIST *Jrnls.* (1893) 61, I platted down our Courses and I found I had still near 200 M Home upon a streight Line. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Surveying*, So that any person, of a common capacity,.. may be able to survey and parcel out land, plat it, and give up its content. 1840 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) III. 539 About three fourths have been surveyed and platted. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 712/2 Professional 'boomers'.. invaded the State, bought and platted additions, which they sold at exorbitant prices.

Plataleiform (plătēˑlĭɪfĭfɔm), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *platalea* the spoonbill (a bird) + -FORM.] Like a spoonbill in form or structure. So **Plataleine** (plătēˑlĭɪin) *a.* [-INE[1]], related to the genus *Platalea*, including the spoonbills.

Platan (plæˑtăn). Also 6– **platane.** [ad. L. *platan-us* plane-tree. So OF. *platan*, F. *platane.* Cf. PLANE *sb.*[1], PLANTAIN [2].] The Oriental plane-tree (*Platanus orientalis*): = PLANE *sb.*[1] 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 303 Iacob took grene 3erdes of populers of almand trees and of platans. 1581 T. WATSON *Centurie of Loue* Ep. Ded., I humbly make request, that..these my little ones maye shrowde them selues vnder the broad leafed Platane of your Honours patronage. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 9 The fruitfull Olive; and the Platane round. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 477, I espi'd thee, fair indeed and tall, Under a Platan. 1834 LD. HOUGHTON *Mem. Tour Greece* 78 The glorious platans, whose boughs uniting with those of the other side of the stream lead it on under one continual bower. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. ix, A forest thick and dark With heavy ilexes and platanes high.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *platan leaf, table, tree.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxxi. 8 Platan trees weren not euen to his bouwis. 1593 R. BARNES *Parthenophil & P.* Madr. iv. in Arb. *Garner* V. 347 To draw My Mistress' portrait; which, on platane table, (With nature, matching colours), as he saw Her leaning on her elbow. 1638–48 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* iii. 190 Soe the mad Roman, who to make more fine His Platan trees, drencht them in Showers of wine. 1851 TRENCH *Stud. Words* ii. 42 To compare the shape of this region [lower Greece] to a platane leaf.

So **Plataˑneous, Plaˑtanine** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the genus *Platanus.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 974/2 Plataneous. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Platanine*..of or belonging to a Plane-tree. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Platanine*, belonging to a Platane, or Planetree.

‖ **Platanus** (plæˑtănŭs). Also 8–9 **plantanus.** [L., a. Gr. πλάτανος: see PLANE *sb.*[1]]

1. = prec. Also *Platanus-tree.* Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxix. (Bodl. MS.), Platanus .. haþ þat name for þe leues þerof ben playne brode and large. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Aug., He shewed me the zinnar tree or platanus. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 55 The Plantanus is a very beautiful Tree, and grows very well in England. 1808 SCOTT *Autobiogr.* in Lockhart *Life* I. i. 38 Beneath a huge platanus-tree..in the garden I have mentioned.

2. *Bot.* The name of a genus of trees constituting the N. O. *Platanaceæ*, and consisting of from 6 to 9 species, of which *P. orientalis*, *P. occidentalis*, and *P. acerifolia*, are among the best known. See PLANE *sb.*[1]

Platband (plæˑtbænd). [a. F. *platebande* (1547 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *plate* fem., flat + *bande* band. (The French word has many senses.)]

1. *Arch.* **a.** A flat rectangular moulding or fascia, the projection of which is less than its breadth. **b.** The list or fillet between the flutings of a column.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Platband*, a square Member which terminates the Architecture of the Doric Order, and passes under the Triglyphs. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 105 The Plat-Band..terminating the first Story, and shewing where the second commences. *Ibid.* 107 'Tis usual to have Windows much less adorn'd; and..a Plat-Band around them. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Plat-band*, in architecture, is any flat, square moulding, whose height much exceeds its projecture. *Ibid.*, *Plat-bands* of flutings, the lists or fillets between the flutings of columns. 1807 NICHOLS *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 121 *note*, Sutton Place.. furnished with a double sculptured platband of a yellowish brick earth running round it. 1854 CNT. DE WARREN tr. *De Saulcy's Round Dead Sea* II. 224 Two fillets, separated by a torus, and surmounted by an ogee and plat-band.

c. (See quots.)

(These are doubtfully English: cf. senses of F. *plate-bande* in Littré.)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Plat-band* of a door or window, is used for the lintel, where that is made square, or not much arched. These plat-bands are usually crossed with bars of iron, when they have a great bearing. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 175 To point out the construction .. of the plat-band, or 'flat arch', as it is sometimes called. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 251/2 Straight Arch, or Plat Band, with joints converging to a common centre.

2. *Hort.* A narrow bed of flowers or strip of turf forming a border.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Plat-band*, a Term used concerning a Bed of Earth which borders an Alley. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Alley*, It has platbands of turf run across it from space to space. *Ibid.*, *Plat-band*, in gardening, a border, or bed of flowers, along a wall, or the side of a parterre. 1839 MRS. GORE in *Tait's Mag.* VI. 650 To content myself with the narrow limits and formal platbands of Sancta Benedicta.

Platch, *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [prob. onomatopœic.]

1. *intr.* To fall in large wet spots.

1853 TAUTPHŒUS *Cyrilla* I. vi. 79 Heavy drops of rain began to platch into the half-melted snow.

2. *trans.* To besmear or splash with large wet spots. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Plate (plēt), *sb.* Forms: 3– **plate**; also 5 **plaate**, 5–6 **platt**, **playt(e**, **pla(y)the**, 5–7 **plaite**, **plaitt**, 5–8 **plat**, **plait**, 6 (*Sc.*) **pleit**, **plet.** [ME. *plate*, a. OF. *plate* (*c* 1175 in Littré) thin plate, lamina of metal, etc. (in form = Pr., Sp. *plata*, Pg. *prata*, It. *piatta*), in origin the fem. form of F. *plat*, *plate*:— late and med.L. *platus*, *-a*, *-um* adj. 'flat': see PLAT *a.* (In Sp. and Pg., from the sense 'plate or disk of metal' (quasi **plata d'argento* plate of silver, coin), *plata*, *prata* developed that of 'silver, money', in which sense it has superseded *argento*.) Senses 13 and 14 are orig. from OF., but were reinforced in 16th c. from Sp. *plata.* In sense 15, *plate* represents OF. *vaisselle en plate*, orig. vessels (dishes, plates, etc.) of a single piece of metal (not made up of pieces); particularly of silver or gold, mod.F. *vaisselle plate* = (silver) plate. Branch III might be considered a distinct word; it represents OF. *plat* (14th c. in Littré) 'a platter or great dish; also, a dish of meat' (Cotgr.) = It. *piatto*, 'a platter, a dish, a charger, a plate'; also 'a messe or dish of meat' (Florio), med.L. *plat(t)um*, in origin the masc. or neuter form of the same adj. (quasi late L. **vas plattum* flat vessel). But in Eng. it has run together with the senses from OF. *plate*, and is more or less associated with senses 15, 17. From the OF. *plate*, or its Romanic equivalent, came also MLG., MDu., LG. *plāte*, Du. *plaat*, MHG. *plate*, *blate*, Ger. *platte* a plate.]

I. A flat sheet of metal, etc.

1. A flat, comparatively thin, usually rigid sheet, slice, leaf, or lamina of metal or other substance, of more or less uniform thickness and even surface.

a. Of metal.

In early instances, esp. in the pl., not separable from PLAT *sb.*[2] 1.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 187/79 He let nime platus of Ire sum del þunne and brode .. And on þe berninde plates him casten. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xviii. 16 Ezechias brake the doris of the temple of the Lord, and the platis of gold, the whiche he hadde affitchide. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 195 Take whete & leie bitwixe two platis of iren hoot. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 94 þe walles within er couerd with plates of gold and siluer; and in þose platez er storys of kynges and knyghtes and batales. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 84 For xx plaitis of quhite irne to be ane skons to the chymnay in the Kingis chalmer. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* II. i. (1648) 153 A leaden bullet shot from one of these gunnes..will be beaten into a thinne plate. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 75 A plate of polished iron or steel.

b. Of other substances.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 64 Getting Plates of glass thick and broad enough. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 292 The Sedative Salt begins to make its appearance in little, fine, shining plates, floating on the surface of the liquor. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 613 The crystals are brilliant plates. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xii. 102 The method used by Sir Isaac Newton for producing a thin plate of air. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54, I could with ease obtain plates of it [glacier ice] a quarter of an inch thick. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. No. 41. 17 The congestion is attended by conspicuous loosening of the epidermis from the derma in plates of greater or less size.

c. *Anat.*, *Zool.*, and *Bot.* A thin flat organic structure or formation. *Blood-plate* = HÆMATOBLAST a.

1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 985 The Bruchus... The Male .. from the back to the tail it is set out with six leek coloured plates running across from the back to both sides. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 23 The Gloworm .. the broad flat cap or plate which covers her head. 1842 H. MILLER *O. R. Sandst.* iii. (ed. 2) 73 A strong armour of bony plates. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 145 The ambulacral plates [of Echinoderms]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 597 Nor were there any blood-plates. *Ibid.* VIII. 894 The growths [of Xanthoma] occur either as thin flat plates ..or as nodules or lumps.

2. As a material: Metal beaten, rolled, or cast into sheets.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1330 þe celynge with-inne was siluer plat & with red gold ful wel yguld. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 88 Doubles of plate for charging ladelles. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 10 Vpon a Stith with a Mallet it [gold] is brought into most thin leafe or plate. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 25 Take care when you elect this thin Piece of Plate, that it be broad enough for the Ward. 1870 RUSKIN *Wks.* (1872) III. 153 When metal is beaten thin, it becomes what is technically called 'plate'. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Black-plate*, sheet iron before tinning.

3. a. One of the thin pieces of steel or iron composing plate-armour. **b.** (without *a* or *pl.*) Armour composed of these pieces fastened together or upon leather or some strong woven material; plate-armour: often *attrib.*: see also 19. Cf. BREAST-PLATE, etc. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 375 For plate, ne for acketton. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2017 Bope his paunce & his platez, piked ful clene. *c* 1386– [see BREAST-PLATE 1]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1213 Grathed in playthes [*MS. A.* armed in plates]. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Sege Thebes* 1864 He..armed hym in Mayle and sure platys. 1517 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 83 Meam tunicam præliariam, quæ dicitur a cott of plait. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 15 Playted lockes pressing with cap of plate. 1602 in Burns & Nicholson *Westmld.* (1777) 595 To be armed with jack, steel cap, plaite sleeves, plaite breeches, plaite socks. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 368 Mangl'd with gastly wounds through Plate and Maile. *a* 1674 — *Hist. Mosc.* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 478 Thir Armour is a Coat of Plate, and a Scull on thir Heads. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. vi, Well was he armed from head to heel In mail and plate of Milan steel. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* x. 195 A gorget of plate at times was worn about the neck.

4. A flat piece or slab of metal, wood, or other substance, forming or adapted to form part of a piece of mechanism, etc.;

e. g. **a.** each of the parallel sheets of metal forming the back and front walls of a lock, or of a watch or clock; **b.** the circular piece of glass in an electrical machine, which generates a

current when rubbed between cushions; **c.** a stiffening piece of metal on each side of the lock of a fire-arm; **d.** the flat slab for the reception of the bait in a spring trap; **e.** one of the sheets of metal of which ships' armour, steam-boilers, etc., are composed, or a similar sheet forming the bed or roof of a furnace; **f.** (*Dentistry*) the portion of a denture which fits to the mouth and holds the teeth; **g.** a CENTRE-BOARD.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 3 The moder of thin Astrelabie is þe thikkeste plate, perced with a large hole. 1485 in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 189 Payd for revettyng of þe plats, & for þe iiij boultes *xs.* ob. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1768/4 He had a Case of Holster-Pistols, with *R. Silke* Engraven on the Plate of the Lock. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 24 To every Ward on the Plates, you must make a Slit, or Ward in the Bit of the Key. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 219 The blade of a saw is generally called the plate. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 183 When the plate or cylinder of the machine is turned, the rubber communicating to the earth by a metallic chain, if a brass knob, or a knuckle be held towards the prime conductor, a vivid spark darts between them. 1845 *Looking Unto Jesus* 17 It was then found necessary to have a plate made and fitted on her front teeth. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 231 The plate and angle-bar mills are capable of turning out 20,000 tons of plates and angle-bars annually, for ships, boilers, or bridges. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 35 The traps if baited will require about twenty grains of corn to be placed on the plate. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 199 The plates of a watch are the discs of brass which form the foundation of the movement. .. The plates of a clock are the two pieces of brass which receive the pivots of the train. 1895 *Outing* XXVI. 488/2 Her draft will be 7 inches, and she will carry a dagger plate of ⅜ bronze. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Nov. 8/2 The four fire-boxes will want new crown plates.

5. A smooth or polished plate of metal, etc. (as in sense 1) for writing or engraving on.

1388 WYCLIF *Job* xix. 24 With an yrun poyntil, ethir with a plate of leed; ethir with a chisel be grauun in a flynt. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxvi. H ij b, Ye shall vppon some plaine borde, plate, or suche like, drawe a straight line. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 85 Which also you haue imprinted in the tables of your remembrance, and ingrauen in the plates of your deepe understanding. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 33 Another plate of lead with her Majesties armes drawne on it.

b. Such a plate of metal, etc., bearing a name or inscription, for affixing to anything, as BRASS *plate*, COFFIN-*plate*, DOOR-PLATE, NAME-*plate*.

Letter plate, a plate with a slot through which letters may be dropped, for attaching to a door.

1668 P. FISHER (*title*) The Catalogue of Most of the Memorable Tombes, Grave-stones, Plates, Escutcheons, or Atchievements in the..Churches of London. 1807 WORDSW. *Wh. Doe* VII. 345 Plate of monumental brass Dim-gleaming among weeds and grass. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* XXXIII, Of no greater importance than the plate, 'Brass, Solicitor', upon the door. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 1044 Letter Plates, from 1/- to 15/- each. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. vi, A line of houses having brass plates.

c. *Photogr.* A thin sheet of metal, porcelain, or (now usually) glass, coated with a film sensitive to light, on which photographs are taken.

A *whole-plate* measures 8½×6½ inches; *half-plate* (English) 6½×4¼ inches; (U. S.) 5½×4¼ inches; *quarter-plate*, 4¼×3¼ inches. *Dry plate*: see DRY *a.* C. 3.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 113/2 Thus prepared, the plate is next placed within a camera-obscura..and the delineation of the object is then effected. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 13 We are indebted to Sir John Herschel for the first use of glass plates to receive sensitive Photographic films. 1876 ABNEY *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 61 With dry plates, and on some occasions with wet plates, there is another system .. of calling forth the invisible image, and this..is known as the 'alkaline development'. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 8/1 He planned and built a mammoth camera to secure on a single plate a picture 4½ ft. by 8 ft., three times as large as the largest plate ever before exposed.

6. A polished sheet of copper or steel engraved to print from; hence **b.** an impression from this; an engraving. Also short for BOOK-PLATE.

1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 100 All..of these Inventions..shall be printed by Brass-plates. 1663–[see COPPER-PLATE 2, 3]. 1681 RAY *Corr* (1848) 130 To imitate Dr. Plukenet, ..and thrust many species into a plate. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Catal. Engravers, List Vertue's Wks.* (1765) 19 Plate to put in lady Oxford's books. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xi. (ed. 3) 70 An artist will sometimes exhaust the labour of one or two years upon engraving a plate. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* ii. 19 A series of most instructive memoirs, illustrated with well-executed plates, of the treasures in stone, bronze and bone. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* ix. (1878) 146, I am sorry to find that one of the plates is missing from my copy. 1880 WARREN *Book-plates* i. 4 Some plates possess interest for their heraldry alone, some for their topography.

c. A stereotype or electrotype cast of a page of composed movable types, from which the sheets are printed.

1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xxii. 657 All the plates of the Bible and Common Prayer were sent to the Chiswell Street Foundry, and there melted down. *Ibid.* 659 Stereotype plates must always be done at iron presses, on account of the vast power required to bring them off. 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 565/1 The plates of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, .. the most extensive work ever stereotyped. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plate*, a page of type, stereotype, or electrotype, for printing.

7. *Arch.* A horizontal timber at the top or bottom of a framing; often supporting other portions of a structure. Usually with defining word, as *ground, roof, wall, window plate.*

1449 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 54 The platez of þe same hous shullen be in brede x inchis and in thiknes viij inches. *Ibid.* 55 To all the which hous..Thomas shall fynde plates, postes, punchons, somers, byndynges, gistes, gurdynges. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 72 Rafters ten and seven inches,..Plates the same. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 163 *Plate*, a piece of Timber upon which some considerable weight is framed..Hence Ground-Plate,..Window-plate, &c. 1729 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 199, AT, the upper Piece of the Crane, is an horizontal Situation, call'd the Plate of the Crane. 1731–3 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Stoves*, Upon the Top of this Brick-work in Front must be laid the Plate of Timber, into which the Wood-work of the Frame is to be fasten'd. 1901 *J. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 68 The plate is regarded as the weakest part of a greenhouse, as it is so situated as to be almost constantly moist or alternately wet and dry. Never should a plate be left with its upper surface flat.

8. A wheel-track consisting of a flat strip of iron or steel with a projecting flange to retain the wheels, on which colliery trams are run: an early form of railroad; also *plate-rail.* Locally retained for a rail on an ordinary railway: cf. *plate-layer.*

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 644 Bars of cast iron..known..by the denomination of the plate-rail, tramway plate, barrow-way plate...The first we shall distinguish by the name of the edge railway; the second, by that of the plate railway. 1887 P. MCNEILL *Blawearie* 41 Pringle ..had made his way off at the far side of the cage, crossed the plates, leapt from the embankment over into the field. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Plates*, sometimes called *tramplates*, the rails on which colliery trams are run. The rails used on our railway lines are still known by the workmen as plates.

9. A light shoe worn by race-horses when racing.

1840–70 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* (ed. 3) § 1238 Racing plates for the feet [of horses] are of two kinds, the full and the three-quarter...The plate must not be put on nearer the end of the horse's heels than there is sound horn for it to rest upon.

†**10.** A confection or sweetmeat made in a flat cake. *Obs.*

1355–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 Una libr. de plate, pr. iiij s. ij d. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 455 And then take sugre plate or gynger plate, or paste royale. *a* 1483 *Ibid.* 81 In the makinge of confections, plates, gardequinces. *Ibid.*, Plaates. 1533 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* III. 537/4 Comfits..1 box of plate /7.

11. *Mining.* Shale, thin slaty rock: see quots.

1794 W. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 48 Strata of plate between the coal. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plate*, shale. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 748 It is rare in the rock called plate (a solid slaty clay) for the [lead] vein to include any ore. 1859–65 PAGE *Geol. Terms, Plate*, a north of England mining term for compact beds of shale, which, when exposed to the weather, break up into thin plates or laminæ. 1895 J. W. ANDERSON *Prospector's Handbk.* (ed. 6) 163 Plate—Black shale; a slaty rock.

12. The thin part of the breast or brisket of beef; also *plate-rand.* Cf. RAND *sb.* 2.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Plate-rand*, the flat ribs of beef. 1884 G. P. KEESE in *Harper's Mag.* July 299/1 [Chicago] Plates are cut into five pieces. *Ibid.*, The division [of the carcasses] is made into .. loins, ribs, mess, plates, chucks, rolls, rumps [etc.]..'Extra mess' is composed of chucks, plates, rumps, and flanks.

II. A thin piece of silver or gold; silver or gold utensils.

†**13.** A piece of (silver) money, a silver coin: usually in full *plate of silver, silvern plate*; *spec.* from 16th c. the Spanish coin *real de plata*, the eighth part of a piastre or Spanish dollar. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2370 Fif weden best bar beniamin, ðre hundred plates of siluer fin. *a* 1309 *Judas* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 144 Judas,..thritti platen of selver thou bere upo thi rugge. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxii. 9 Ten siluerne platys. — *Matt.* xxvi. 15 Thei ordeyneden to hym thritti platis of seluer. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 50 His lyneng derk, there were no platis bright, Only for lak of plate and of coyngnage. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 3, xxx plattes of silver. *Ibid.* 9 They toke the xxx silver plates. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* II. ii, And if he has, he is worth three hundred plates. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 92 Realms & Islands were As plates dropt from his pocket.

14. Precious metal; bullion: from 16th c. usually silver, after Sp. *plata.* Now only *Hist.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3673 All pargeste of plate, as pure as þe noble. *c* 1430 [see prec. sense]. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 78 Some vse..a pipe of white plate or other metall, very longe, writhen into many boughtes and tourninges. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 219 Assumed viands straight Betweene his greedie teeth conuert to plate. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Cong. China* xxxii. 567 The buttons are ordinary of Plate, either Silver or Gold. 1702 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 185 The Spanish governours .. are resolved not to suffer any plate to be brought thence to Europe. 1740 tr. *Barba's Metals, Mines & Min.* 59 And find Abundance of Plate in them, which can be attributed to nothing but to the perpetual Generation of Silver.

†**b.** Standard of value of Spanish silver coins, as in *old plate, new plate*, etc. *Obs.*

1676 LADY FANSHAWE *Mem.* (1830) 215, 8550 ducats, plate, which is about £2000 pounds sterling. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* I. 30 Thirteen Chests of Ryals of Plate. 1788 REES *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Coins*, Maravedis of Madrid, etc., new plate...Maravedis of Barcelona, etc., old plate. 1811 P. KELLY *Cambist* II. 188 Silver coins..Spain..Real of Mexican Plate (1775)..6½ d...Real of new plate (1795)..5 d.

†**c.** See quot. (Cf. BULLION[4] 2.) *Obs.*

1746 MILES in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 161 Instead of common Thread, I used Silver and Gold Twist, or what, I think, the Ladies call Plate.

15. *Collective sing.* Utensils for table and domestic use, ornaments, etc., **a.** originally of silver or gold.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9504 Bassons full brode, & other bright vessell; Pesis of plates plentius mekyll. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 255/2 To ley in plege all my grete Jowellys, and the most partie of my Plate. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxi. 67 A grete quantyte of plate bothe of golde and of syluere. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Plate sylver vessel, *uaysselle dargent.* 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij b, Plate gilt the vnce *vs.* Plate parcel gilt y^e vnce iiij*s.* *vid.* Plate white the vnce iiij*s.* 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIV. lii. 882 Many vessels of plate of all sorts, and most engrauen. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Apr., A salt-cellar of silver,.. one of the neatest pieces of plate that ever I saw. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15 ₱4 Whether they keep their Coach and six, or eat in Plate. 1773 *Lond. Chron.* 7 Sept. 248/3 Sacramental plate. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & Landor* Wks. 1853 II. 73/1 The rich cupboards of embossed plate. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 175/1 A service of plate bequeathed by a baronet to devolve with his baronetcy.

b. Extended to plated ware, and to other kinds of metal: usually with distinctive additions, as *pewter plate, British plate, electro-plate*, etc.

1545 *Rates of Customs* c ij b, Plate white or blacke double or syngle hundreth pounde, *xs.* 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 89 Take a large Funnel of Crooked-lane plate, or of thin Brass. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* v. i, The silver ore of pure charity is an expensive article..; the sentimental French plate..makes just as good a show, and pays no tax. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 Round the apartment .. was displayed..silver and pewter plate. 1889 BESANT *Bell St. Paul's* III. 263 Spoons and forks of real silver, not trumpery plate.

†**c.** Table-ware; plates (see 18), dishes, etc. *Obs.*

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. § 4 And who but would earnestly desire that cleere and hammerable glasse of old, for plate and other utensils. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 30 Their Tables, which are strewed liberally with Dainties served up in Plate of China.

16. *Her.* A roundel representing a flat piece of silver with a plain surface; a roundel argent.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 150 These are called plates, because they are of Siluer, and haue no simylitude on them, but plaine round, as though they were shaped to y^e coygne. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 87 In cheefe three plats of siluer standen plaine. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Balls* or *Bullets*..are never called so in Heraldry, but according to their several Colours have the following Names; *Besants*, when the Colour is Or. *Plates*, when 'tis Argent [etc.]. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* iv. (ed. 3) 74 The Bezant, Plate, and Fountain are always to be represented flat.

17. Originally, in *Horse-racing*, a prize consisting of a silver or gold cup or the like given to the winner of a race; now extended to prizes in other contests; loosely, a contest in which the prize is a plate.

Selling plate, a horse-race the condition of entry to which is that the winner must be sold at a price previously fixed.

1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1012/4 The Plate at Rowell Slade, in the County of Northampton, will be continued on the first Thursday of September, and will be worth about Forty pound. 1698 *Bodl. Charters, Norfolk* No. 533, Article 14 Every owner of any horse that starteth for this plate shall be obliged to sell such horse..for thirty Guineys, the Contributers present shall throw dice who shall be the Purchaser. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 6 ₱5 Not to be particular, he puts in for the Queen's plate every year. 1725 *Newcastle Courant* 28 Aug., The Lady's Plate of fifteen pounds' value by any horse, &c. Women to be the riders: each to pay one guinea entrance, three heats. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 62 ₱10, I had a chesnut horse..who won four plates. 1888 *Times* 26 June 4/5 He said Success was a good horse for a selling plate. 1902 *Even. Standard* 5 June, The Riddlesdown Plate of 200 sovs: winner to be sold for 200 sovs.

III. A shallow vessel.

18. A shallow, usually circular vessel, originally of metal or wood, now commonly of earthenware or china, from which food is eaten. Often with preceding word noting special use or purpose, as *dessert-, dinner-, fruit-, soup-plate.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 11 She drowe oute of a donghille a plater of siluer..and there come a voys to her and saide, score so longe on this plate tille ye haue hadde awey alle the blacke spottis. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 51 Trayes..v. Plates of tree..iij dd. 1684 *Bucaniers Amer.* III. v. 47 The Pirats,..without any..Napkins, or Plates, fell to eating very heartily the..pieces of Bulls and Horses Flesh. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 159 Ascanius this observ'd, and, smiling, said, See, we devour the plates on which we fed. 1700 R. SINCLAIR in *Leisure Ho.* (1883) 205/2 Putre plats and trenchers. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* (1892) 61 Miss Pole..left them on one side of her plate untasted. 1894 *Cassell's Univ. Cookery Bk.* 1255 One [rack] to hold a dozen plates and three dishes.

b. *transf.* That which is placed on a plate; †*spec.* (*a*) a supply of food; eating and drinking; (*b*) a dish or course (*obs.*).

1577 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 634 That scho haif..siclyke assignatioun of money and victuallis for the support of hir plate as of befoir. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 82, I may be able to entertain him with a Plate of Pelo. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. I. 11 The European pilgrims..are well served with three or four plates. *Mod.* They shared a plate of strawberries.

c. A similar vessel of metal or wood used for taking the collection at places of worship, etc.

1779 JOHNSON *Prayers & Medit.* 4 Apr., I gave two shillings to the plate. 1837 MCKERROW *H. Belfrage* I. 3 *note*, A plate or collection-box is placed at the entry to the place of worship, to receive the voluntary offerings of the people. 1872 BESANT & RICE *Ready Money Mort.* xi, The plate came round, and caught him unprepared.

IV. *attributive* and in *Combination.*

19. **a.** attributive (in various senses), as *plate armour, -book, -box, -brass, -brush, -bush, -chest,*

-closet, *-copper*, *-dish*, *-frame*, *furnace*, *-glove*, *-guide*, *-hoe*, *-iron*, *-jack* (JACK *sb.*[2]), *-pile*, *-rand* (see 12), *-sleeve*, *washer*, *work*, *worth*.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 127 The body of the Armadillo is covered with a kind of *plate armour. **1874** BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* x. 188 Armour worn in England since the Norman conquest .. 1. First—Mail Armour. .. 2. Second—Mixed Mail and Plate Armour: from about 1300 to about 1410. 3. Third—Plate Armour: from about 1410 to about 1600. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xii. P 6 A piece of *Plate-Brass. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plate-brass*, rolled brass. Latten. **1858** JOYNSON *Metals* 120 Apply this..with a soft *plate-brush. **1844** STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 927 A journal, which has its bearing in a close brass *plate-bush or socket. **1849** E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 173 When one is a mere depositary—a sort of animated *plate-chest. **1900** *Spectator* 22 Dec. 923/2, I do intend to have my cellar and my *plate-closet put under proper rules. **1766** SHARP in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 87 Wood, and *plate-copper. **1624** HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* VII. 331 A Basin and Ewre with other *Plate-dishes. **1861** FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 48 This *plate furnace is not only perfectly secure, as regards the expansion and contraction, but it is found to be economical and to answer every purpose in common with the large stone and iron-bound furnaces. *a* **1598** ROLLOCK *Lect. 2 Thess.* (1606) 128 He wil get on a croslet and *plateglufe. **1890** *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 176 In the diagram, the heavy lines show the cut in lower board,..the light lines the upper board or *plate-guide aperture. **1881** WHITEHEAD *Hops* 46 This space is hoed with an ordinary *plate-hoe to remove the weeds. **1703** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 3 Used when the work is .. flat, and generally for all *Plate Iron. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 6 Carried on cross girders between pairs of plate-iron girders. *c* **1720** *Bewick & Graham* xxii. in Child *Ballads* VII. (1890) 147/1 He put on his back a good *plate-jack, And on his head a cap of steel. **1802** SCOTT *Eve St. John* iii, His plate-jack was braced, and his helmet was laced. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 80/2 Into these grooves large plates of iron, which the engineer calls *plate-piles, are fitted and driven down. **1578–9** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 107 They .. spuilyeit him of his jak, *plaitslevis, his pistolet, his belt [etc.]. **1624** *Burgh Rec. Peebles* (Rec. Soc.) 364 Ordanis to haue ane lans, ane steill bonnet and ane pair of pletsleuis and ane hagbuit. **1874** THEARLE *Nav. Archit.* 134 A hexagonal *plate washer. *a* **1400–50** *Alexander* 3223 Polischid all of pure gold & of *plate werkis. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 355 This Touchstone of solid and *plate worth (as I may tearm it).

b. Objective, instrumental, similative, etc., as *plate-bender*, *-keeper*, *-lifter*, *-roller*, *-warmer*; *plate-collecting*, *-printing*, *-tossing*; *plate-bending*, *-buttoned*, *-cutting*, *-encased*, *-formed*, *-like*, *-rolling*, *-shaped* adjs.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Plate Bender*, a round bitted pincers, for bending dental plates without showing the pinch marks. **1875** *Ibid.* 1737/1 **Plate-bending Machine*, a machine for bending plates of metal to any required curve for boilers, water-wheel buckets, etc. **1727** SOMERVILLE *Bowling-Green* Poems 68 Attorneys spruce, in their *Plate-button'd Frocks. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 10/1 The earliest reference to *plate-collecting dates from 1835, when the Rev. Daniel Parsons wrote a short article on book-plates. **1861** FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 117 At the Paris Universal Exhibition..a *plate-cutting machine was exhibited. **1854** H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxiv. (1858) 526, I could find in our recent fishes .. no such *plate-encased animals as the various species of *Coccosteus* or *Pterichthys*. **1597** A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* c j b/1 A *Plate-formed Cauterye, to cauterize the bone and the fleshe, and the whole parte. **1888** *Pall Mall G.* 24 Apr. 1/2 His employment was one of great trust, he being the *platekeeper of the Guards' mess at St. James's Palace. **1862** G. P. SCROPE *Volcanos* 139 Thin *plate-like crystals of felspar. **1901** *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 3/2 The other very low and broad plate-like hats of the Louis Quinze and Louis Seize periods. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 706 The shingling and *plate-rolling mill. **1837** THACKERAY *Ravenswing* vii, Under the sideboard stands.. a..*plate-warmer. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plate-warmer*, a small cupboard standing in front of a fire and holding plates to warm.

20. Special Combinations: **plate-basket**, (*a*) a baize-lined basket in which silver spoons, forks, etc. are kept; (*b*) a metal-lined basket for removing plates and the like which have been used at table; **plate-black**: see quot.; **plate-bolt**, (*a*) a bolt which slides on a flat plate; (*b*) a bolt having a wide flat head; **plate-bone**, (*a*) ?; cf. BUCKLER *sb.*[2] 3; (*b*) the shoulder-blade; **plate-bulb**, a thickened edge in an iron plate, having a cross-section of mushroom form; †**plate-coat**, a coat of mail of plate; **plate-cultivation, -culture** (of micro-organisms): see quot. 1895; **plate-day**, the day of the race for a plate; **plate electrical machine**: see *plate machine* (*a*); **plate-gauge**, a gauge consisting of a plate with edges notched in progressive order, for measuring the thickness of metal plates; **plate-girder**, a girder formed of a plate or plates of iron or steel; **plate-hat**, a hat having a nap of finer material than the body (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1886); **plate-holder**, *Photogr.*, a frame impervious to light in which sensitized plates are contained; **plate-horse** = PLATER 3; **plate-kiln**, a form of malt-kiln; **plate-knee**, a metal knee consisting of two flat plates giving an extended surface for the bolts; †**plate-lace**, silver or gold lace: cf. sense 14c; **plate-lap**, *Shipbuild.*, the overlapping of the plates covering the sides of a ship; **plate-lead**: see PLATINE, quot. 1797; **plate-leather**, wash-leather for rubbing and polishing silver plate, etc.; **plate-lock**, a lock having the outer case of wood, commonly used on outside doors; also, a lock in which the works are pivoted on an iron plate; **plate machine**, (*a*) a machine for producing electricity, in which a cushion rubs against a revolving plate of glass; (*b*) a variation of the potter's wheel adapted for making table-ware, plates, dishes, etc.; **plate-matter**, stereotype matter for newspapers such as is sometimes supplied from a central establishment to local journals; **plate-metal**: see quot. 1861; **plate-mill**, a rolling mill for metal plates; **plate mundic, plate-nail, plate-of-wind** (in an organ): see quots.; **plate-painter**, one who paints decorative designs on china, etc.; **plate-paper**, paper of fine quality on which engravings are printed; **plate-piece of eight** = piece of eight (see sense 13, and PIECE *sb.* 13c); **plate-powder**, a polishing powder for silver plate and silver ware generally; **plate-rack**, a rack or frame in which plates are placed to drain, or in which they are usually kept; (on board ship) a closed cupboard in which plates are kept; also, a grooved frame for draining photographic plates; **plate-rail** = 8; so **plate-railway**; **plate-rock, plate-shale**, *Mining* = 11; **plate-shears**, strong hand-shears for cutting sheets of metal; also, a powerful machine for cutting boiler- or armour-plates, etc.; **plate-ship**, a vessel carrying silver, a ship of the PLATE FLEET; †**plate silver** = silver plate; **plate tracery**, *Arch.*: see quots.; **plate-way**, a plate-railway; **plate-wheel**, a wheel in which the hub is connected with the rim by a plate, instead of by spokes; **plate-worker**, †(*a*) one who works in gold or silver (*obs.*); (*b*) a worker in sheet-metal. Also PLATE FLEET, PLATE-GLASS, PLATE-LAYER, etc.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxviii, I .. seized the loaded pistol that always goes up-stairs with the *plate-basket. **1870** Miss BRIDGMAN *Rob. Lynne* I. xiii. 220, I shouldn't care to leave any of them alone with my plate-basket. **1889** *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Black*, **Plate-black*, a combination of lampblack and bone-black..used in plate-printing. **1703** T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 33 *Plate, and Spring-bolts..to fasten Doors and Windows. **1839** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIX. 290/2 One of the most perfect securities for a beam-end..is the plate-bolt...The extreme end of the beam is tied downward by bolts. *a* **1648** DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 126 Take any bones ..as the Ribs, the Chine bones, the buckler *Plate-bone. **1693** *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 975 The lateral Fins .. being excarnated, are like the whole Arm, with a Plate-bone, Shoulder-bone. **1874** THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 110 This method is also sometimes employed in forming the arms of *plate bulb beams, but in this case the end of the beam must be heated and cut, and the lower part bent. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 277 b, An helmet & a Jacke or *platecote hideth all partes of a manne sauyng the legges. **1677** *Lovers Quarrel* 278 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 264 Thou'st have the horse with all my heart, And my Plate Coat of silver free. **1886** KLEIN *Microorganisms & Disease* (ed. 3) 41 One of the best methods for isolation is that of *plate cultivation introduced by Koch [1883] in connection with the choleraic comma bacilli. **1895** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Plate-cultivation, Plate-culture*, term for the method of cultivating micro-organisms in nutrient media spread out on glass plates... The term is also used for the colonies thus grown. **1886** BIGGS tr. *Hueppe's Methods of Bacteriol. Investig.* 140 An enormous number of germs can in this way be certainly separated from one another in a single *plate culture. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 900, 6799 colonies developed in a plate culture by the end of two days. **1704** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4000/4 Galloways .. to be kept in Ipswich .. till the *Plate-day. **1849** NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 25 The *Plate Electrical Machine..consists of a circular plate of thick glass, revolving vertically by means of a winch between two uprights [etc.]. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1738/2 Inside frames..are used within the *plate-holder for making small negatives. **1894** *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 63/1 A waterproof carrier, which contained my camera-top, plate-holders and plates. **1810** *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 158 He afterwards was a very capital *plate horse. **1851** NIMROD *Road* 14 He had been a fair plate horse in his time. **1743** *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 173 The *Plate-Kiln, and the Tile-Kiln, which are full of small Holes, were invented to dry brown Malts, and to save Charges. **1839** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIX. 290/2 Robert's *plate-knee is a very strong method of fastening [a beam-end to the side of a ship]. **1600** in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 510 Garnished with buttons and loopes, of *plate lace of Venice silver. **1890** W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 62 The *plate-laps, ribbands, stringers, and deck-beams. **1782** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) IX. 6711/1 The high-lisses, or lists, are a number of long threads, with platines, or *plate-leads, at the bottom. **1797** [see PLATINE]. **1365–6** in *Archæol.* (1857) XXXVII. 25 Stock-locks, *plate-locks, .. clykett-locks. **1485** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 Ther is, for the postern gate, a plate locke with a bolte, yryn, & ij keyes. Also v plate lockes with v cleket keyes. **1891** *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XI. 313/2 Plate lock is still the trade term in Wolverhampton and elsewhere for a stock lock, i. e., a lock of which the outer case is wood, usually oak. **1789** NICHOLSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 269 *Plate machines do not collect more electricity than cylinders .. do with half the rubbed surface. **1849** NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 83 Five turns of a two feet plate-machine ..were sufficient to produce a bubble of gas on the negative point. **1887** Z. L. WHITE in *Westm. Rev.* CXXVIII. 862 This '*plate-matter' became at once so popular with country publishers that new features were from time to time introduced...Today one of these '*plate-matter' manufacturing firms has branch offices and foundries in New York, Boston ..Chicago..San Francisco...It furnishes matter for almost every department of a newspaper except editorial articles and local news. **1831** J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 84 The quantity of *plate metal put into the furnace at once varies, according to circumstances. **1861** FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 90 From the refinery the metal is run out into large moulds, and is then broken up into what is technically distinguished as 'plate metal'. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 126/1 Iron ..mixed..With arsenic; called *mispickel* by the Germans, and *plate mundic in Cornwall. **1851** GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 39 **Plate Nails*, used, in laying tramway, to nail the plates to the sleepers. **1894** *Northumb. Gloss.* s. v., A plate-nail is driven through a hole in the plate, which is countersunk to receive the head of the nail. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plate-of-wind*, in the construction of organ-pipes, a thin aperture whence a sheet of air issues, impinging upon the lip of the mouth and receiving a vibration which is imparted to the column of air in the pipe. **1875** W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 379 Do not Minton's *plate-painters enjoy the same freedom of invention as middle-age stone-carvers? **1879** *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXIX. 6 Printed on superfine *plate-paper. **1673** TEMPLE *Ess. Irel.* Wks. 1731 I. 111 In 1663, when the *Plate-pieces of Eight were raised three Pence in the Piece. **1883** *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 585/1 A *plate-powder is.. sometimes made by levigating quicksilver with twelve times its weight of prepared chalk [etc.]. **1807–8** SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* v. Wks. 1859 II. 153/2 Making a gallant defence behind hedge-rows, and through *plate-racks and hencoops. **1862** C. P. SMYTH *Three Cities in Russia* II. 140 Furnished in the corners with towering plate-racks, holding a number of gold and silver dishes. **1825** *Plate-rail, plate-railway [see sense 8]. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 982 The rails [in a coal-mine] are called tram-rails, or plate-rails, consisting of a plate from 3 to 4 inches broad, with an edge at right angles to it of about two inches and a half high. **1900** A. ADDERLEY in *Speaker* 29 Dec. 349/1 Much of the land being nothing but *plate rock. **1881** RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Plate-shale*, a hard argillaceous bed. **1599** A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 112/1 With a greate payre of *platesheares cut the same of such a longitude as you desire to have it. **1861** FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 116 Before the introduction of the plate shears, they were used to cut boiler plates. **1884** *Sat. Rev.* 14 June 770/2 The Spanish Government also might..sell a concession to raise the *plate-ships sunk in Vigo Bay. **1756** C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 20 [It] sticks to the surface of *plate silver and tarnishes it. **1855** STREET *Brick & Marble* xii. 264 The tracery commonly called *plate tracery .. only calls attention to the piercings here and there in the large block of stone or marble. **1875** PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* s. v. *Plate*, Plate tracery—is .. that kind of solid tracery which appears as if formed by piercing a flat surface with ornamental patterns. **1876** GWILT *Archit.* III. iii. 958 The only tracery which can be properly executed in brick is in fact the simplest plate tracery. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 547 The bars or plates of metal of which railways and *plate-ways are composed. **1882** *Society* 28 Oct. 8/2 Liverpool .. is for constructing a special and novel form of a road called a 'plateway', along which lorries and ordinary carts may be drawn in a string by a traction engine or by horses. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 275 The axis of the *plate-wheel lies in a curvilinear slot. **1884** W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 139 The bottom cone is in gear..with the main wheel of the differential motion called the 'crown wheel', or sometimes the 'plate wheel'. **1670** *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (MS.), Samuel Kannon, civitatis Cant', *plateworker. **1773** in *Reliquary* Jan. 26 An Account of the Number of Goldsmiths, Silversmiths, and Plateworkers,..within the Town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. **1906** *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 70/3 The Wire-workers, who were closely associated, if not indeed identical, with the Plate-workers, appear to have remained.. a branch of the Girdlers' Company at least as late as..1685.

Plate (plēit), *v.* [f. PLATE *sb.*, or (?) a. OF. *plater* to plate (Godef.).

Late OE. had app. a vb. *platian* to make into thin plates (cf. sense 3), evidenced by the vbl. sb. *platung* and pa. pple. *aplated* (gold) beaten into thin plate; derived from late L. or early med. L. *platum* (sc. *aurum*) gold in thin plate; but this has app. no historical connexion with *plated* in Chaucer.

a **1000** *Aldhelm Gloss.* (Napier) 450 *Obrizum*, aplatad. *Ibid.* 2118 *Obrizo*, aplatedum. *Ibid.* 3534 *Obrizum, .i. aurum optimi coloris*, smæte gold, platum. *a* **1000** *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 196/24 *Brateolis, laminis*, platungum.]

1. *trans.* To cover or overlay with plates of metal, for ornament, protection, or strength; in late use, to cover (ships, locomotives, etc.) with armour-plates.

c **1384** CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 255 Flore and roof and alle Was plated half a foote thikke Of gold. **1533** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 81 Ane harnes doublat, platit upoun the gardeis. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* (1623) 60 The Rivers plated with silver streames..may much cheere and glad thy heart. **1776** G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 95 They are to be dovetailed and plaited with half flat Bar-iron. **1862** W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 27 Mar., Paddlewheel merchant steamers which have been plated. **1889** HENTY *With Lee in Virginia* (1890) 128 The *Merrimac*, a steamer which the Confederates had plated with railway iron.

2. To cover with a thin coating or film of metal; *esp.* to cover articles made of the baser metals with gold or silver; also iron with tin. Also *fig.*

a **1704** T. BROWN *Sat. Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 63 The beast was thinly plated with the man. **1706** PHILLIPS, To *Plate*, to cover with a thin Plate of Gold, or Silver; as To Plate Brass-Money. **1760** H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 1 Sept., One man there [at Sheffield] has discovered the art of plating copper with silver. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 999 In plating copper wire, the silver is first formed into a tubular shape. **1879** FROUDE *Cæsar* x. 111 The oars of the galleys of their [buccaneers'] commanders were plated with silver.

b. with *on*, *upon*, and construction reversed.

1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 367 Among the manufactures at Birmingham, that of making vessels of silver plated on copper is a very considerable one. **1878** GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 134 We are told of the rare artificer, instructed by Hephaistos and Athenè, who plated gold upon silver, and so produced beautiful works.

3. To make or beat (metal) into plates. *rare*—0.
1706 PHILLIPS, *Plate*,.. to bring any Metal into Plates or thin Pieces. 1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

4. To make a stereotype or electrotype plate of (type) for printing. Cf. PLATE *sb.* 6 c.
Mod. Page 227 has been plated and the type distributed.

5. To shoe (a horse) with plates (PLATE *sb.* 9).
1674 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 551 Francis Smith's charges at Lenton, for plateing Robin, 1s. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 440 We shall accurately search into .. the true manner of plating horses, and of jockying, at these celebrated places. 1840-70 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* (ed. 3) § 1237 Plate such horses as may have good sound feet..the evening prior to their running.

Plate, obs. form of PLAT *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*

† Pla·teasm. *Obs.* [ad. Gr. πλατειασμ-ός (Quintil.) a broad Doric pronunciation, f. πλατειάζειν to pronounce broadly, f. πλατεῖα, fem. of πλατύς broad.] (See quots.)
1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plateasm*, a fault in speech, when it is over-broad and full. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Plateasm*, (Greek) a broad speaking, a pronouncing words in an over-broad tone. 1727 *Art of Speaking in Publick* 62 Persons .. affected with another vice, which the Greek Rhetoricians call Plateasm: That is to say; a Broad way of Speaking, with the mouth wide open. [1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Platiasmos*, a word used by many authors to express a fault in pronunciation, owing to a person's opening his mouth too wide, and thence speaking indistinctly.]

Plateau (plătōu·). Pl. **plateaux, -eaus** (-ōuz). [a. F. *plateau*:—OF. *platel* (12th c.) flat piece of metal, wood, etc., dim. of *plat*: see PLAT *a.*]

1. *Geog.* An elevated tract of comparatively flat or level land; a table-land.
1796 *State Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 262/2 The summits, *plateaux* (flat tops of hills), mountains, and other places. 1807 *Ibid.* 11 A rising ground or flattish hill, which, in the military phraseology of the French, is called a *plateau*. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 375 On the chalk of Berkshire, extensive plateaus, six or seven miles wide, would again be formed. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ix. 293 A sort of plateau or table-land, rising abruptly from the plains .. in immense buttresses of naked rock. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* iv. 168 The great Central tableland of Asia, culminating in the lofty plateau of Thibet. 1898 BULLEN *Cruise of Cachalot* 91 The grassy plateau on which the village stands.

b. *transf.* A level elevation in a sphygmographic tracing of the pulse; hence, the form of pulse which shows this.
1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 470 In the systolic plateau two minor undulations of pressure are seen. *Ibid.* 934 This feature of the pulse and its long plateau would set aside that extremely rare affection pulmonary stenosis.

2. a. An ornamented tray or dish for table-service. b. A decorative plaque.
1791 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XII. 53 The plateaux which you had the goodness to procure for me arrived safe. 1796 LD. COLCHESTER *Diary* (1861) I. 34 The middle of the table was filled with a painted plateau ornamented with French white figures and vases of flowers. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 11 An elegant platteau, and a silver epergne. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 136 The plateau sufficiently large to hold the entire tea equipage of a numerous party. 1861 *Times* 6 June, The Grocers .. have secured a lasting record of their commercial adventures in the shape of a gorgeous silver plateau, comprising four massive pieces, each representing a scene in the progress of a trading caravan through the Desert.

3. *transf.* A style of woman's hat with level top.
1900 *Daily News* 21 July 6/3 Merely a burnt-straw plateau with a cluster of flowers under the raised brim at the left side. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 650/1 Yet again have I seen the double plateau look perfectly charming in all-black.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1) *plateau air, land, region, state, valley*; *plateau-basalt, -gravel, -ice*; *plateau-like* adj.; (in sense 3) *plateau hat.*
1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxv. 336 The surface of the plateau-ice, the *mer-de-glace* of the island. 1863 MARY HOWITT *F. Bremer's Greece* I. i. 7 The Acropolis..is a rock, which, plateau-like, rises directly from the plain. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* (1894) 559 The deposition of the plateau-gravels was succeeded by a long period of valley-erosion. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 638 The great park-like plateau lands.

Plate-basket to **-cutting:** see PLATE *sb.* 19, 20.

Plated (plē·tĕd), *a.* [f. PLATE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Overlaid, covered, or strengthened with a plate or plates of metal for ornament or defence; (of persons) wearing plate-armour; (of ships, trains, etc.) protected by armour-plate.
1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 Plated (*A.* Playted), *squamatus.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. xi. 9 Like plated cote of steele, so couched neare That nought mote perce. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) II. 516 Where he lieth buried under a fair plated stone in the Chancel. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 139 Old Warriors turn'd Thir plated backs under his heel. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1807) IV. 117 They laid his remains in a plated coffin. 1870 *Standard* 19 Dec., A plated locomotive went along the railway as far as that place to-day. 1874 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* vii. 109.

b. *transf.* of animals, etc.: Having a defensive covering of scales or bony plates.
1562 PHAER *Æneid.* VIII. Bb iij, W^t serpent skales beset, & fyne w^t gold Were dragons drawen in wrethes, and poolisht pure in plated fold. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 67 The Pangolin..is a kind of ant-eater,..plated over with bright sharp scales, shaped like a muscle-shell.

2. Covered or overlaid with a thin film of gold or silver.
1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 8 Pieces of Five Sous.. which were only Copper plated over. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 4 Aug. 2/2 A neat light gig, with plated harness. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 65 Plated work will never stand the tear and wear of life like the genuine metal. 1881 *Athenæum* 17 Dec. 822/3 The objects found consist of..several plated [*misprr.* plateal] brass coins, mostly effaced.

b. Having an outer surface or nap of finer material than the body.
1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 763 Plated hats .. Stuff ditto .. Silk ditto .. Wool felts. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.* s. v., A plated hat was one in which the body was of lamb's-wool, and the plate, or nap, of musquash or neutria; and plated hosiery stockings had an outside face of silk upon a ground of cotton.

3. Consisting of, beaten or rolled into plates.
a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 516 A great Chain of plated Gold about his Neck. 1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 367 Cutting out the rolled plated metal into pieces of the required forms and sizes. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 19 Fragments [Slaty Alum] Trapezoidal, or plated.

Plate fleet. *Hist.* [f. PLATE *sb.* 14.] The fleet which annually brought the produce of the American silver mines to Spain.
1625 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 68 The rest of the fleet would stay awhile to watch the Plate fleet not yet come home. 1663 COWLEY *Verses Sev. Occas., Adv. of Five Hours*, As when our Kings (Lords of the spacious Main,) Take in just wars a rich Plate Fleet of Spain. 1763 W. ROBERTS *Nat. Hist. Florida* 90 Treasure out of the wreck, where the galleons, or plate-fleet, were cast away.

Plateful (plē·tful). [f. PLATE *sb.* + -FUL.] The quantity (*of* anything) with which a plate is filled.
1766 ALEXANDER in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 67, I..swallowed down a plate-ful of the broth. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* xvi, Let me have a plateful of that pork!

Plate-gauge, etc.: see PLATE *sb.* 20.

Plate-glass (plē·tˌglɑ·s). [f. PLATE *sb.* + GLASS *sb.*] A fine quality of thick glass, cast in plates, used for mirrors, shop-windows, or in any position where an undistorted view, great strength, or the exclusion of sound, is desired. Also *attrib.*
1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Glass*, It is from this adulteration that those threads and other defects in plate glass arise. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 398 The other remarkable places..are..a plate glasshouse, a bottle glasshouse. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* LXV. II. 961 Mr. Harman's seat .. had a great number of plate-glass windows broke. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 508 The plate glass is poured melted upon a table covered with a sheet of copper. The plate, as cast, is about an inch thick; but it is ground down to the proper..thinness, and then polished. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 67. 397 The partition which separated my own office from our general outer office,..was of thick plate-glass.

Plate-hat to **-lap:** see PLATE *sb.* 19, 20.

Plate-layer (plē·tˌlē·ɔɪ). *orig.* One who lays, keeps in order, and renews the plates (see PLATE *sb.* 8) on a tramway or railway; hence, a man employed in fixing and keeping in order the rails, metals, or permanent way of a railway. So **Pla·te-lay·ing.**
1836 *Newcastle Courant* 24 Dec. 1/1 *Advt.*, To Platelayers and others. The Directors of the Stanhope and Tyne Railroad Company wish to receive Proposals for the Upholding of their Road. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 482 Sundry new occupations, as those of drivers, stokers, cleaners, plate-layers. 1862 *Rep. Directors E. Ind. Railw. Comp.* 27 Progress..limited by the supply of sleepers, the want of which has since arrested platelaying.

Plate-lead, -leather, etc.: see PLATE *sb.* 20.

Plateless (plē·tlĕs), *a.* [f. PLATE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a plate or plates.
1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Madding Crowd* I. xv. 171 Breakfasting off bread and bacon..eaten on the plateless system.

Platelet (plē·tlĕt). [See -LET.] A small or minute plate. *Blood-platelet*, a minute colourless disk-shaped corpuscle which exists in large numbers in the blood of all mammalia; a blood-plate.
1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Platelets, blood-*, the same as blood-plates. 1895 in *Daily News* 13 Aug. 6/1 The armour of these strange animals consisted of either circular or many-sided plates, encircled by a rim of smaller polygonal platelets. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 400 A minute spindle-shaped body, the hæmatoblast, not unlike a blood platelet.

Plate-machine, etc.: see PLATE *sb.* 20.

Pla·te-ma·ker. [f. PLATE *sb.* + MAKER.]

† 1. A maker of plate-armour. *Obs. rare.*
1297 *Coram Rege Roll* (1898) 143 Johannem le Platemaker.

2. One who makes plates of various kinds; e. g. a manufacturer of photographic plates.
1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 182 A plate-maker issuing developing formulæ for his plates. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Jan. 14/2 The plate-maker..is constantly increasing the sensitiveness of his wares.

3. One who casts or prepares plates for engraving or printing.
1904 *Athenæum* 21 May 645/1 We feel pleasure in congratulating..the publisher and the editors, and including the printers, plate-makers, and binders.

Plateman (plē·tmăn). [f. PLATE *sb.* + MAN.]

1. ? = PLATE-MAKER 1.
1435 *Maldon, Essex, Liber A.* lf. 27 b, Johannes Wytte, Playteman, receptus est in libertatem. 1437 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* (Bundle 23, no. 1^v), Johannes Whitte, playteman, queritur versus Johannem Vowle..skynner.

2. A man who has the custody of silver plate.
1861 *Times* 8 July, Porter, or Plateman in a club, family, or commercial hotel.

Pla·te-mark. [f. PLATE *sb.* + MARK *sb.*1]

1. A name for the various marks legally impressed on gold and silver plate for the purpose of indicating maker, degree of purity, hall or place of assay, date, etc.; also called HALL-MARK.
These consist of (1) the maker's initials or mark; (2) the mark of the particular assay-office; (3) the assay-mark or sovereign's mark; (4) a letter indicating the date. Plate made between 1784 and 1890 also bore (5) the duty-mark, being the head of the reigning sovereign.
1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Plate marks*, special marks.. stamped on gold or silver plate. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 585 There can be no deception, if the public understand the plate-marks.

2. The impression left on the margin of an engraving by the pressure of the plate.
1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 62 If a plate mark is wanted it can be easily put on when the mat is partly dry by using the edge of a blunt chisel-shaped piece of hard wood, with a ruler as a guide. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 28 Dec. 3/4 It has..been alleged that the plate mark has been added to the prints subsequently.

Hence **Pla·te-marked** *a.*, having a plate-mark.
1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 12/2 Portraits .. printed .. on handsome plate-marked boards, with gold bevelled edges.

Plate-matter to **-mendic:** see PLATE *sb.* 20.

Platen, platten (plæ·tĕn, -ˈn), *sb.* Forms: 5 **plateyne,** 6 **-tyne,** 6–9 **plattin,** 7 **plataine,** 7–9 **platin,** 8 **platine,** 7– **platten,** 8– **platen.** [ME. *plateyne*, a. OF. *platine* (13–14th c.) flat piece, metal plate, also a popular alteration of *patene* PATEN, from its form; in mod.F. a tabular portion of a machine, e. g. of a printing-press; f. *plat* adj.: see PLAT *a.* and -INE 4.]

† 1. A flat plate of metal for various purposes.
1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* P iv b, Take your platyne or quyl and apply them all colde, but ye must nat let them lye long, and than gyue the cauteres to the workeman that shall applye them all hote and very flamynge. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* I. (1634) 6 To put..a platten in the roofe of the mouth, which is needfull to those who..have the roofe of the mouth falling. 1702 W. J. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* x. 40 Some wear upon their Heads a *Kalpak*, or Fur Cap; others a large round Platine, after the Fashion of the Jewish women. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 273 They heated red hot their actual cauteries, of which some were shaped like a button, others like an olive, and a third sort like a platin; they applied them red-hot to the orifices of the vessels as soon as the member was separated.

† 2. = PATEN 1 (cf. etymol.). *Obs.*
c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xvii. 49 There lefte he up the plateyne anon That vppon this glorious vessel was don. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 189 Had his challice and plattin stolne by one which holpe him to say Masse. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xvii. 71 The Priest must lift the vaile ouer the Chalice, and release it from the Plataine, to represent the rent vaile..at Christs death.

3. *Printing.* An iron (formerly wooden) plate in a printing-press, which presses the paper against the inked type so as to secure an impression. Also applied to a similar part in other machines.
1594 R. ASHLEY fr. *Loys le Roy* 22 He maketh the traine of the presse to roule..till it come vnder the vice or spindle, vnto which the plattin is fastned. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 2 Brass Rules,..if they be but a little too high,..will bear the Plattin off the Letters that stand near them. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Platen* or *Platine*, the Plate of a Printer's Press. 1790 *Bystander* 158 That part which is called the platen is found to be insufficient to bring off an even impression. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xv. 513 The face of the plattin must be perfectly level and smooth. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 310/1 Place the board or side upon which the stamp is placed, upon the platen of the stamping-press. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 48 From the plates breaking so frequently, we suspect that the platten of the press is not perfectly true.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **platen-cord,** one of the cords by which the platen was suspended from the hose, in old presses; **platen-gauge:** see quot. (also called lay-gauge); **platen-machine, platen printing-machine,** a press having a platen, as opposed to a rotary or cylinder-press; **platen-pan,** in old presses, a metal socket in which the toe of the spindle works; **platen-plate,** a square iron plate let into the upper side of the platen, in the centre of which the platen-pan was fixed.
1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 14 If the *Plattin-Cords are too loose. 1878 HALLECK in *Sci. Amer.* XXXIX. 338/1 A New *Platen Gauge .. applied to the platen of a printing press for holding and guiding the paper that is printed upon. 1888 JACOBI *Printer's Voc.* 101 **Platen machine*, printing machines which have a flat impression, not a cylindrical one. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 18 Into this square Frame is fitted the Stud of the *Plattin Pan. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 513 To receive the stud of the circular brass plattin pan. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 18 In the middle of the upper-side [of the Platen] is let in..an Iron Plate called the *Plattin-Plate. 1873 CURWEN *Hist. Booksellers* 468 In 1867 he introduced a *platten printing machine.

Platen, obs. f. PLATTEN *v.*, to flatten.

Plate-painter to **-powder:** see PLATE 19, 20.

Plater (plē·tɔɪ). [f. PLATE *v.* and *sb.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who coats or plates articles with a film of metal, usually of silver or gold; often in comb., as *electro-plater, tin-plater.*
1777 *Birmingham Directory* 5 Bewhouse, Thomas, Plater. 1798 W. HUTTON *Autobiog.* App. E. 132 A buckle-plater sued O and M for a guinea. 1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 404, I went to the platers, where every species of silver and plated ware is produced. 1884 *Brit. Alm. & Comp.* 123 A working-man .. employed as a silver plater.

2. A man engaged in the manufacture or application of metal plates, esp. in iron shipbuilding.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 11 Aug., Upon Shoeburyness..the gunners and the armour-platers have pitched their camp. 1869 Sir E. J. Reed *Shipbuild.* x. 194 The fitting, marking, and fixing of the outside plating are performed by a party of workmen known as platers. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Platers*, skilled mechanics..who mark, shear, roll, flange, bend, shape, punch.., set, fit, and fix in place..the steel plates..&c., for the outside and inside and hull of a ship, or for boilers and bridges.

3. *Horse-racing.* A horse that competes chiefly in plate or prize races (see Plate *sb.* 17); an inferior race-horse. Also *fig.*

1859 Lever *Davenport Dunn* xxxi. 261 You might have guessed, Master Grog, that she never could be a 'Plater'. 1864 Admiral Rous in *Edin. Rev.* July 124 The form of the best race-horse in 1750 is inferior to those of the commonest plater of the present day. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 327/2 A veteran selling-plater who has passed through some ten or a dozen stables.

4. A machine for calendering paper: see quot.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Plater*, a paper calendering machine...The paper is packed between smooth plates of zinc or copper, and passed between the rolls back and forth till the desired finish is obtained.

Plater, obs. form of Platter.

Plate-rack: see Plate *sb.* 20.

Plateresque (plætərɛ·sk), *a.* [ad. Sp. *plateresco*, f. *platero* a silversmith, goldsmith (f. *plata* silver) + *-esco*: see -esque.] Resembling silver work: applied to a rich grotesque style of decoration, etc.

1842-76 Gwilt *Archit.* § 599 Diego de Rianno..in that year [1530] designed and executed .. the plateresque or renaissance *sacristia mayor.* 1882 *Harper's Mag.* LXV. 219 The expensively adorned plateresque Chapel. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Apr. 585/1 'Vegetable forms' are..the chief characteristic of the superb Spanish plâteresque embroideries, in silver and gold thread, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Plate-rock to -silver: see Plate *sb.* 20.

† **Pla·tery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Plate *v.* + -ery.] The work of a Plater; plating. Hence † **Pla·terer** *Obs.* = Plater (sense 1).

1664 Pepys *Diary* 8 Apr., What I have done in the contract with the platerer. *Ibid.* 9 Apr., From my being overconcerned with Stanes's business of the platery of the navy.

Plate·ssiform, *a. Ichth.* [f. L. *platessa* plaice + -form.] Resembling the plaice, or the genus *Platessa*, in form or structure.

Platetrope (plæ·tɪ̯ɪtrōp). *Anat.* [f. Gr. πλάτος, πλατε- breadth, width + τρόπος turning.] (See quot.)

1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Technol.* 32 Two similar organs, one upon each side, are lateral in position, and called *paired organs.* Each such paired organ may be called the *platetrope* of the other, or its *lateral homologue*, or the *fellow of the opposite side.*

Hence **Platetropy** (plæ·tɪ̯ɪtrōpi), bilateral symmetry. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Plate-vein.** *Obs.* Also 7-9 **plat-**, 8 **plait-**. The cephalic vein in the horse.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 294 Let him [the horse] bloud on both sides abundantly in the plat veins, and then give him this drink. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. cxxvii. 428 They will also stop the blood, which is in the principall veines, called the plat veines. 1730 Burdon *Pocket Farrier* (1735) 25 Then bleed him in the plait Vein. 1831 Youatt *Horse* 181 The *plate* vein, which comes from the inside of the arm, and runs upwards directly in front of it towards the jugular, may be opened. 1841 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XXI. 632/1 Occasionally there is inflammation of the jugular from bleeding, and more rarely, of the plate and saphena vein.

Plate-way, -work, etc.: see Plate *sb.* 19, 20.

Platfond, obs. form of Plafond.

† **Platfoot,** *a.* and *adv. Sc. Obs.* [f. Plat *a.* + Foot *sb.* So Du. *platvoet* 'ayant les pieds larges' (Plantin), MHG. *blatevuoz*, Ger. *platt-fuss.*] **a.** *adj.* Flat-footed. **b.** *adv.* Flat-footedly. In quotations, the name of a dance-tune.

1530 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 88 To lerne hir language artificiall, To play platfute, and quhissill fute before. *a* 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* 1. vi, Platfute he bobbit vp with bendis, For Mald he maid requeist.

Platform (plæ·tfɒrm), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: 6 **platte-**, 6-7 **platt-**, 6- **plat-**; 6-7 **-fo(u)rme**, 6- **-form.** In 6-8 often as two words, or hyphened. β. 6-7 **plotform(e.** [a. F. *plateforme* (in 1433 *platte fourme*), *lit.* 'flat form', 'plane figure', representation on the flat, ground-plan, 'a plot, modell, or draught of a building; also, the foundation thereof' (Cotgr.): see Plat *a.* and Form *sb.* The β forms arose from the running together of *plat* and *plot*: see Plat *sb.*3.]

I. A plane surface; a plan on the flat.

† **1.** *Geom.* A plane figure (as a triangle, quadrilateral, circle, etc.); also, a plane surface, a plane, and, in wider sense, any surface. *Obs.*

1551 Recorde *Pathw.* 1. Defin., Of platte formes some be plain, and some be croked, and some partlie plaine, and partlie croked. *Ibid.*, In a dye (whiche is called a cubike bodie) by geometricians..there are .vi. sides, whiche are .vi. platte formes, and are the boundes of the dye. *Ibid.* II. Introd., Two right lines make no platte forme. 1574 Bourne *Regiment for Sea* xviii. (1577) 49 The most parte of the seamen make their account as though the earth were a platforme. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 181 A Diametral Number may have more parts then be apt for the Sides of the Platform or Rectangle Figure it represents.

† **2.** A plan or representation on the flat (*of* any structure existing or projected); a ground-plan; a topographical plan, chart, map; a plan or draught to build by. *Obs.*

[Kington Oliphant cites *platform* 1513-25 from State Papers, which may be in this sense or 4.]

1551 Robinson *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 131 They say that kyng Vtopus himself..appointed, and drew furth the platte fourme of the city. 1579-80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 456 [They] were every one occupied about drawing the Platform of Sicilia. 1639 Horn & Rob. *Gate Lang. Unl.* xlviii. § 525 The master-builder, having first drawne out the plot, buildeth according to that draught (modell or platforme) with other work-men helping him. 1665 G. Havers *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 8 Captain Woodcock.. shew'd me a Chart or Plat-form of the whole Streight of Ormuz, made by himself. 1763 Gray *Let.* 15 Jan., I conclude with a rude draught of the platform [of York Cathedral] according to my idea, but without any mensuration. 1774 Johnson *Journ. N. Wales* 17 Aug., All the walls remain, so that a complete platform, and elevations, not very imperfect, may be taken.

β. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 14 He..viewed, and considered the plotforme according to which he was about to build a Schoole of swordfencers.

II. Figurative uses derived from sense 2 (*plan*).

† **3.** A plan, design; something intended or taken as a pattern, a model. *Obs.*

1574 R. Scot (*title*) A Perfite Platforme of a Hoppe Garden, and necessarie instructions for the making and mayntenaunce thereof. 1575 Gascoigne *Making of Verse* Wks. I iv, Many wryters when they haue layed the platforme of their inuention, are yet drawen sometimes (by ryme) to forget it. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* 1. (1625) 1 To lay downe a platforme or method for writing of Epistles. 1693 J. Edwards *Author. O. & N. Test.* 105 This garden was the platform of those before mentioned. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Luke xi. 1 The Lord's prayer is .. a pattern and platform, according to which all our prayers ought to be framed. 1775 Burke *Corr.* (1844) II. 3 You will naturally follow the platform of the London petition, and can be at no loss in the wording. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1842) II. 522 This noble design was not altogether completed according to the platform.

β. 1591 R. Hichcock in *Garrard's Art Warre* A iv b, Ample and fine drawne plots, goodly plotformes, needfull inuentions. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 17 The Plot-forme being laid, and the Plot appointed where you will plant euery Set in your Orchard.

† **b.** A written outline or sketch; a scheme; a description. *Obs.*

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 633/1 Ane affectation of Irish captaynrye, which in this plattforme I endevour specially to beate downe. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* ii. 19 A platform of wholsome words, a systeme, a method artificially moulded, such as Tutours and Professours of Arts and Sciences have, and do read over again and again to their Auditours. 1680 N. Lee *Cæsar Borgia* 1. i, Thus have I drawn the platform of their Fates. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Dissert. Physick* 56 The solid Platforms of the Astrological and Hydrological Branches of Physick shall be set down next. 1727 J. Asgill *Metamorph. Man* 1. 141 The two Records in the Thessalonians and Corinthians, left us as a Platform of the first Resurrection.

† **4. a.** A plan of action; a scheme, design, device. *Obs.*

1550 Gardiner *Let. to Ld. Protector* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1342/1 If my Lord of S. Dauides, or such others haue theyr head combred with any new platforme. 1577-87 Holinshed *Chron.* I. 132/2 His destruction intended by queene Quendred, hir platforme of the practise to kill him.. 1649 Blithe *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 64 A good method, or plat-form to advance each mans labour to the best furtherance of a work. 1685 F. Spence tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 137 Those who had drawn up the platform of the Pazzi's conspiracy. 1815 J. Adams *Wks.* (1856) X. 140 A magnificent confederation, association, platform, or conspiracy, call it what you will, of three great personages to separate all South America from Spain.

β. ? *a* 1600 *Grim the Collier* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 413 A sudden plotform comes into my mind, And this it is.

b. *spec.* A plan or draught of church government and discipline; a scheme of principles or doctrines, made by or on behalf of a religious party, church, or sect. Now *rare.*

1573 Cartwright *Repl. Answ. Whitgift* 13 A true and perfect patern or platforme of reforming the church. *c* 1589 *Theses Martinianæ* 8 That the platforme of gouernment by Pastors, Doctors, Elders, and Deacons was not deuised by man, but by our Sauiour Christ himselfe. 1644 (*title*) The Platforme of the Presbyterian Government with the Forme of Church Worship, &c. Published by Authority. 1674 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 92 How it can be proved, that .. the Belgick Churches did first embrace Religion according to the Lutheran, and not the Calvinian platform? *a* 1732 Atterbury *Serm.* (1737) IV. 24 They imposed the platform of their doctrine..as divine. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 194 The first book of discipline..contains the model or platform of the intended policy. 1835 Haliburton *Clockm.* Ser. I. 47 Under what Church platform? *a* 1881 Stanley in A. Elliot *State & the Church* (1882) 26 No existing Church can find any pattern or platform of its government in those early days. 1882 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 406 Nothing in the Church could be 'pure', in their estimation, unless it conformed itself to the Genevan 'platform'.

† **c.** A plan or scheme of government or administration; a plan of political action. *Obs.* (Cf. 9 b.)

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* XIII. i. (1622) 179 Then he [Nero] laid downe a platforme of his future regiment. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* III. xvi. (1620) 122 This was the yeare wherein Rome deuised her platforme of new gouernment. 1625 in *Debates in Ho. Comm.* 6 Aug. (Camden) App. 140 Sir Robert Philips commended the platforme of Sir Nathaniel Rich, and sayd that wee were beholding unto him for shewing us the way. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* Wks. (1812) 8 A violent and ill-considered attempt was made, unjustly, to establish the platforms of the Government.

III. The surface or area on which anything stands; esp. a raised level surface.

† **5.** The area occupied by any structure; the site of a group of buildings, a fort, camp, etc. *Obs.*

1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 436 With your instrument, for trying of distances, obserue the platforme of the place. 1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* etc. 122 The Area or Floor, by Artists often called the Plan or Plat-forme. 1671 S. Partridge *Double Scale Proportion* 37 If the platform were a piece of land, 30 perches broad, and 183 perches long. 1726 Leoni *Alberti's Archit.* I. 2/1 Under the Title of Platform, we.. include all those Spaces of the Buildings, which in walking we tread upon with our Feet. 1739 Cibber *Apol.* (1756) I. 301 The area or platform of the old stage projected about four foot forwarder in a semi-oval figure. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 70, I was sitting by the platform of these cottages, and contemplating their ruins.

b. *fig.* The ground, foundation, or basis *of* an action, event, calculation, condition, etc. Now *rare.*

1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* To Rdr., Which is so farre off from any figuratiue speech, as it is knowne to be the very Platforme and foundation of all these broyles and troubles. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 12 All the Seasons of the Year being undergone.., we may begin to calculate our Ephemeris afresh; and as a fit Platform, Easter Holy-days bring with them such Weather as is essential to Christide [at the Cape]. 1724 tr. *Pliny's Epist.* I. Life 18 Probably the first Platform of his future Industry and Application was laid in an habitual Care to oblige [his uncle]. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* II. 174 A new government has been constituted in a new country,..and consequently upon a different platform. 1832 *Niles' Register* 1 Sept. XLIII. 1/2 Fifteen per cent. being the 'platform' on which certain interests would agree to protect the national industry !!!

c. *fig. The platform*, or more fully *the equal dividend platform*, in the Free and United Free Churches of Scotland, the position or general level of churches drawing an equal dividend from the Sustentation Fund, as opposed to embryo or merely mission churches not yet 'on the platform'.

1862 *Proc. of Free Ch. Scot.* 168 Charges formed out of Home Mission efforts and not yet admitted on the equal dividend platform.

d. *fig.* A plane or level *of* action, thought, etc.

1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit., Clubs* Wks. (Bohn) III. 95 Conversation in society is found to be on a platform so low as to exclude science, the saint, and the poet. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* ix. 129 The platform of thought upon which each generation finds itself placed, is a platform of a very different kind from that of the preceding thirty years.

6. A raised level surface or area.

a. A level place constructed for mounting guns in a fort or battery.

1560 Whitehorne *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 18 b, That which shall haue either caualiers or platformes. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* 1. xxx. I iv, Suche as shall haue committed to their charge any platfourme with ordinaunce. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* 1. ii. 252 Fare ye well: Vpon the Platforme twixt eleuen and twelue, Ile visit you. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Platform*, in Fortification, is a Place prepared on the Ramparts for the raising of a Battery of Cannon; or it is the whole Piece of Fortification raised in a re-entring Angle. 1814 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* XI. 564 To construct the battery, with its traverses, platform and magazines in one night. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 179 Twelve pieces of Cannon..mounted..on a wooden platform of great thickness.

β. 1575 Gascoigne *Noble Art Venerie* Wks. 1870 II. 304 Patterns..Of Plotformes, Loopes, and Casamats, deuisde by warlike men. 1626 Capt. Smith *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 33 If she [a piece] be well mounted, vpon a leuell plot-forme.

† **b.** An open walk or terrace on the top of a building or on a wall. *Obs.*

1580-1 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 364 The haill tymmer of the bak platfurme and bartesing. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 142 A great wall of blackish stones four Foot thick, which supports a large Platform or Terrass. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* 107 Lead which was first laid on about twelve Years since upon two Platforms at my House there. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Platform*, in Architecture, is..a kind of Terrass Walk, or even Floor on the Top of the Building; from whence we may take a fair Prospect of the adjacent Gardens or Fields.

c. A natural or artificial terrace, a flat elevated piece of ground; a table-land, a plateau.

1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xiv, The brave De Vaux Began to scale these magic rocks, And soon a platform won. 1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 40 The great platform [in Mexico] which is the scene of sport is at an elevation of about nine thousand feet above the level of the sea. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* 351 The *Brockenhaus* is the name of the inn on the platform of bare rock which forms the summit of the Brocken. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. x. 284 The station chosen..was on a grassy platform. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. vi. 120 The loftier and still loftier regions of the mountain platform. 1865 J. Fergusson *Hist. Archit.* I. i. II. iv. 172 The buildings we..find on the platform at Persepolis.

† **7.** A division of the orlop of a man-of-war, between the cock-pit and the main-mast. *Obs.*

1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 159/4 The Lieutenant succeeding in the command, was about half an houre after wounded in both leggs, and carried down to the Platforme. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Platform*, or *Orlop*, in a Man of War, is a Place on the Lower Deck of her, abaft the Main Mast, and round about the Main Capstan, where, in the Time of Service, Provision is to take care of the Wounded Men; 'tis between the Main Mast and the Cock-pit. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Ship*, Plate, The Platform or Orlop.

8. A raised level surface formed with planks, boards, or the like.

a. *generally*, as used for standing, sitting, walking, for seeing or being seen, or for any purpose for which such an arrangement is useful.

In a glass-furnace, the bench on which the pots are placed (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). *Feeding platform*, in *Pisciculture*, a platform fixed in a trout-pond, a few inches from the bottom, on which food is thrown for the fish.

1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. lii. 255 The Teytocks Chair .. was raised on a plat Form of Deals, with three Steps of Ascent. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 218/2 (*Coronation of Geo. III*) A platform was erected from the upper end of Westminster Hall..to the west door of the abbey. 1777 W. Dalrymple *Trav. Sp. & Port.* ix, At night we were provided with clean beds and platforms. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 194 Cross the Po by a most commodious ferry; a platform on two boats. 1820 *Ann. Reg.* II. 1372/2 It resembles the platforms used on land for weighing waggons. 1826 Hone *Every-Day Bk.* I. 1182 There were fifteen hundred variegated illumination-lamps disposed over various parts of this platform [in front of a theatre at a fair]. 1827 *Hull Advertiser* 14 Dec. 4/1 In this order they went .. over the temporary Bridge..and passed down an inclined platform.. to the bottom of the South or Humber Dock Pit. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 374 The Queen..advanced in procession to the platform [on which the coronation ceremony was to take place]. 1864 Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 153 He laid the bags upon a platform of alders, which he bent down.

b. A horizontal stage or piece of flooring resting on wheels, as in a railway carriage, truck, or tram-car; in the colonies and U. S. *esp.* the open portion of the floor at the end of a railway car.

1832 *Penny Mag.* I. 275 Fixed on a moveable platform, having four wheels; these wheels move along an iron railway which is itself fixed on another platform. 1846 *Hull & Lincoln Railw. Bill* 11 Conveyed on a truck or platform. 1892 Stevenson *Across the Plains* 34 The platform of the car. 1896 *Daily News* 10 Nov. 2/1 (Lord Mayor's Show) Upon the platform-on-wheels officially billed as 'England and her Heroes' were men..representing the uniforms of the Buffs at the beginning of the century,..the Black Watch, ..and a couple of antique Jack Tars. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 12/1 A passenger..warned not to ride on the platform of a car which was speeding at the rate of fifty miles an hour.

c. A raised walk or floor along the side of the line at a railway station, for convenience in entering and alighting from the trains. (See also quot. 1900.)

1838 F. W. Simms *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 2 On the opposite side an arrival stage or platform is erected. 1846 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIV. 522 The platform of an extensive railway station. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 216 The Citadel Station..in 1860 consisted of a single platform for both up and down trains. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 703 The movable platform, or traveling sidewalk [at the French *Exposition*]. *Ibid.*, In large machine works .. time now lost in passing from one part to another might be saved by a travelling platform. *Mod.* Subway to platforms 1, 2, 3, and 4.

9. *spec.* A temporary (or sometimes permanent) piece of raised flooring in a hall, or in the open air, from which a speaker addresses his audience, and on which the promoters of a meeting sit; hence, *transf.* or allusively, in reference to public speaking or discussion on a platform, the making of political or other speeches, platform oratory; also, the body of supporters who appear on a platform, as 'an influential' or 'representative platform'.

c 1820 [Said to have been in use]. 1836 *Hull Observer* July, Ample arrangements had been made on the ground by the erection of hustings for the spectators and a platform for the speakers. 1840 *Niles' Register* 7 Mar. LVIII. 4/3 On the platform above the officers of the convention a beautiful transparency had been placed, representing general Harrison in uniform. 1853 A. Prentice *Hist. Anti-Corn Law League* I. 12 On Thursday August 2nd [1832] Mr. Loyd appeared on a platform on the Clarendon Inn bowling green. 1857 W. Collins *Dead Secret* II. i, He was quite incapable of finding his way to the platform of Exeter Hall. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* 6 So much of it [the question] as could be brought upon the platform, was made into a party topic. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 25 To go to the pulpit or platform with a thorough command of his subject. 1885 H. N. Oxenham *Short Stud. Eth. & Relig.* x. 86 Foolish and erroneous..notions are fostered by the periodical press, but the same might be said of the pulpit and the platform. 1886 J. Bright in G. C. Brodrick *Mem. & Impress.* (1900) 230, I have quitted the platform, and no longer feel the warm interest which is required to make me speak. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 11 Dec. 3/4 He lamented the growth of the platform. H ignored the Press. His one concern was to be a capable official.

fig. (cf. b.) 1864 Knight *Passages Work. Life* II. vi. 124 A cordial union of men of very different persuasions .. who have met upon a common platform.

b. *fig.* A basis on which persons unitedly take their stand and make their public appeal; *spec.* in U. S. politics, a public declaration of the principles and policy on which a political party proposes to stand; now *esp.* such a declaration issued by the representatives of the party assembled in convention to nominate candidates for an election.

This *fig.* use was developed in U. S. between 1844 and 1848; in early instances, as well as in the phrase 'a plank of the platform' (cf. Plank *sb.* 5), it is associated directly with the material platform on which persons meet and publicly speak (a sense known in U. S. from 1840). Although to some extent approaching senses 4 b, 4 c, 5 b, this in its origin had no direct connexion with these.

1844 *Address Democr. State Convent. Virginia* 3 Feb. in *Niles' Register* LXV. 408/1 These are our doctrines—this the broad platform on which we stand. Here is our confession of faith..old as the constitution—old as the days of our fathers. 1845 C. Sumner in *Mem. & Lett.* (1893) III. 104 S. C. Phillips and W. B. Calhoun..will labor to bring the Whig party of Massachusetts to the antislavery platform. 1847 S. P. Chase in *Ann. Rep. Amer. Hist. Assoc. for* 1902 II. 123, I care nothing for names. All I ask for is a platform and an issue. 1847 W. Lumpkin *Ibid. for* 1899 II. 1138 The passage of the Wilmot resolutions by Congress, I believe..will enlarge the platform on which we stand. 1848 *N. Y. Herald* 6 May 4/1 We hope that the coming convention will .. solemnly re-affirm our old party position, by adopting, as its platform of action, the general resolutions of 1844. *Ibid.*, The whigs, whether on the Lexington platform, or some other non-committal platform, will be and must be at once known and doomed as the party that opposed their country. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* viii. 154 It gives a Party Platform, tu, jest level with the mind Of all right-thinkin', honest folks thet mean to go it blind. 1853 Cobden 1793 & 1853 iii. 87 The advocates of peace have found in the peace congress movement a common platform, to use an Americanism, on which all men who desire to avert war .. may co-operate.,) 1862 T. Hughes in J. M. Ludlow *Hist. U. S.* 379 The platform on which Abraham Lincoln came in. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 103 A Western Democrat on a soft-money platform. 1883 *Standard* 28 Apr. 5/4 The platform of the Convention [of the Irish Nationalists] occupies a column of small type in the papers. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. iii. lxx. 549 *note*, The nearest English parallel to an American 'platform' is to be found in the addresses..issued at a general election by the Prime Minister..and the leader of the Opposition. 1891 [see Plank *sb.* 5].

†**B.** *adj.* Of flat form, flat. *Obs. rare*—1.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* v. 208 The tectures of her Houses ..being platforme.

C. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *platform-framer, -lead, -pavilion*; (sense 9) *platform denunciation, man, oratory, speaker, speaking, woman*; *platform-ridden* adj.; (sense 8 c) *platform foreman, inspector, official, track*; **platform-bridge**, in *U. S.* a gangway between the platforms of two railway-carriages; **platform-car** (*U. S.*), **platform-carriage**, a low four-wheeled wagon or truck without sides, for transporting mortars and other heavy articles; **platform-crane**, a crane mounted on a railway-truck; **platform-mud**, *Geol.*, an elevated deposit of mud with level surface; **platform-scale**, a weighing-machine with a platform on which the object to be weighed is placed; **platform-spring**: see Spring *sb.*; **platform-wagon** = *platform-carriage*.

1864 Webster, *Platform-car. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 8/1 An order for..several steel platform cars of forty tons capacity. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. i. (1872) 7 *Platform denunciations. 1897 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 5/1 *Platform foreman at Euston Station. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 55 These by-gone *platform-framers and 'leaders of revolts'. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 190 Sometimes *Platform-lead is near ¼ of an Inch thick. 1903 Morley *Gladstone* III. x. v. 433 *Platform-men united with pulpit-men in swelling the whirlwind. 1863 Lyell *Antiq. Man* xvi. 336 Deposits of '*platform mud', as it has been termed in France, might be extensively formed. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* vi. 55 He had no turn for *platform oratory. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 1/1 An admirable *platform speaker. 1866 Brande & Coxe *Dict. Sci.* etc. II. 929 **Platform Waggon*, in Artillery, a carriage on four wheels, fitted for the transport of guns, mortars, traversing platforms, or other heavy stores. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 276 These stage and *platform women have what they are pleased to call Bohemianism so thoroughly engrained with their natures that [etc.]. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 8/1 She is not a 'platform woman' in the common acceptation of the phrase.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **Pla·tformally** *adv.*, in the manner of a platform speaker; **Pla·tformish** *a.*, resembling that of a platform speaker; **Pla·tformism**, the making of (political) platform speeches; **Pla·tformist**, a platform speaker; **Platformi·stic** *a.*, characteristic of or suitable to platform speaking; **Pla·tformless** *a.*, lacking a platform; **Pla·tformy** *a.* = *platformish*.

1870 Dickens *E. Drood* xvii, 'The Commandments say, no murder, sir!' proceeded Honeythunder *platformally pausing. 1892 *Daily News* 3 Feb. 6/6 A manner described..as a trifle too *platformish for the House of Commons. 1866 Visct. Strangford *Selections* (1869) II. 323, I venture to think that the time for *platformism is past, even in this platform-ridden country. *Ibid.* I. 79 [A] true Liberal—as opposed to a technical or *platformistic Liberal. 1892 Kipling in *Times* (weekly ed.) 25 Nov. 13/2 The railway .. a *platformless, regulationless necessity. 1893 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 5/3 Mr. Fowler's speech in introducing the measure was .. a trifle *platformy in style.

Pla·tform, *v.* [f. Platform *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To plan, outline, sketch, draw up a scheme of. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett., Sonn.* xiv, Vertues all, and Honours all inflame Braue mindes to platfourme, and redoubted handes To doe such deedes. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 186 Conceit, that buildeth Churches in the Ayer, and platformeth Disciplines without stayne, or spott. 1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt. Parall.* Ded., To platforme a consummate and exemplarie Parallele or Trinomion. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* I. i. 29 To grant that church discipline is platformed in the Bible.

†**2.** To furnish (a building) with a platform: see Platform *sb.* 6 b. *Obs.*

1616 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1848) II. 341 The said Thomas sall .. platforme and mack watterthicht the haill heid of the hous with fyne aisler. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 365 The houses..are all builded with mudde, and platformed on their tops. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 483 Houses, two stories high, platformed at the top for walking.

3. To place on or as on a platform.

1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 167 Every course must not only be tried singly together upon the platform,..but it must have the course next above it put upon it,..and this.. amounted to the platforming of every course twice. 1844 Mrs. Browning *To Flush* xii, Platforming his chin On the palm left open. 1844 — *Drama of Exile* 602 Platformed in mid air.

4. *intr.* To speak on a platform.

1859 Lincoln in *Voice* (N. Y.) 11 June (1896) 4/1 The point of danger is the temptation in different localities to 'platform' for something that will be popular just there. 1892 H. Jephson *Platform* II. 543 On the 18th September two Conservative ex-Ministers 'platformed'. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 2/1 She has never appeared on any platform, in any cause—to 'platform' betrays, in a woman, a high stomach.

Hence **Pla·tforming** *vbl. sb.*

1594 C[arew] *Huarte's Exam. Wits* viii. (1616) 108 In platforming, and building, which belong to the imagination. 1640 T. Warmstry *Addr. to Two Houses* in *Sighs Ch. & Commonw. Eng.* 2 For the right and just platforming of your designs and undertakings. 1793 [see sense 3]. 1892 H. Jephson *Platform* I. 556 Its attendant meetings and Platformings.

Pla·tformed, *a.* [f. Platform *sb.* + -ed 2.] Formed as a platform, level-topped; elevated as on a platform or plateau; furnished with a platform.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 267 A platformd rocke, all couered with .. siluer. *Ibid.* X. 498 The second soyle for pleasure, is the platformd Carse of Gowry. 1883 *American* VI. 265 An engine and one platformed car.

Pla·tformer. [f. Platform *v.* + -er 1.]

†**1.** One who designs or devises a 'platform'; a schemer, contriver, plotter. *Obs.*

1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 223 The Ringleaders of leaud Licentiousnes, are more pestilent, then the Platformers of vaine Fantasticallity. 1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ's Ch.* Pref. 2 It was..a ridiculous ouersight in our new platformers. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* Liiv, These Iesuites .. are the common platformers for the Romish Church to poison all the commonwealths of Christendome.

2. One who speaks on a public platform.

1892 H. Jephson *Platform* II. p. ix, Popular Platformers. *Ibid.* p. xi. Bright on the Chartist Platformers.

Plat-ful, erron. for *plat ful*: see Plat *adv.*

Plathelminth: see Platyhelminth.

Platic (plæ·tik), *a. Astrol.* [ad. late and med.L. *platicus* (Firmicus, 4th c.) broad, general, ad. late Gr. *πλατικός, -ικός* broad, diffuse, f. *πλατύς* broad: see -ic.] Of an aspect: Not exact or within a degree, but within half the sum of the 'orbs' of the two planets: opp. to Partile 2.

a 1625 Fletcher *Bloody Bro.* IV. ii, Mars out of the self same house, (But another Sign) here by a Platique aspect Looks at the Hilege. 1792 Sibly *Occult Sc.* I. 144 By a platic aspect we are to understand two planets so posited, as to admit half the degrees of each of their own rays or orbs. 1819 Wilson *Dict. Astrol.* s.v. *Familiarities*, There are two kinds of approximation in familiarities: partile and platic. 1896 J. M. Manly in *Harvard Studies* V. 112 *note*, Venus and Mars..are in platic conjunction when less than six or eight degrees apart.

Hence **Pla·ticly** *adv.*, with a platic aspect.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 394, ♂ among the rest, platiquely opposing ♄.

Platie (plæ·ti). *Sc.* [dim. of Plate *sb.*: see -ie.] A little plate.

1786 Burns *Twa Dogs* 223 Owre the wee bit cup an' platie.

†**Plati·lla.** *Obs.* Also 7 -illo, 8 -ille (?). [a. Sp. *platilla* 'a sort of Silesia linen'; ? dim. of *plata* silver.] (See quot. 1858.)

(App. the name in the Spanish colonies; cf. quot. 1699.)

1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. II. 110 Thus far Ships come to bring goods, especially European Commodities; viz. Broadcloth, Serges, .. Ghentins, Platilloes, Britannias, Hollandilloes, Iron-work. 1740 *Hist. Jamaica* xiii. 336 The chief saleable Goods are .., Silks, Platilloes, all Sorts of Iron-ware. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 3 May 2/2, 124½ Platilles, containing 1364 ells. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Platillas*, a white linen fabric made in Silesia for export to America.

Platin, platen, platina, alleged name of an alloy of copper and zinc: see quots.

1790 W. Richardson *Chem. Princ. Met. Arts* 167 Platina, eight ounces of brass, and five ounces of spelter. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 16/2 For button brass, an alloy of 8 parts of copper and 5 of zinc is commonly used by the Birmingham makers, under the name of 'platin'.

P Investigation has shown that no alloy is, or has been within memory, known in Birmingham under this name, unless it was a workman's pronunciation of *plating* (metal); the composition given is merely that of ordinary brass.

Platin- (plæ·tin), combining form of Platinum before a vowel, in names of chemical compounds, as *platinamine*, an amine of platinum; *platinammonium*, a compound of platinum and ammonium; Platiniridium.

1856 W. A. Miller *Elem. Chem.* II. 1066 Salts of Platinamine. 1873 Watts *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 349 Platinum tetrachloride absorbs four molecules of ammonia, forming platinammonium chloride.

Platina (plæ·tinä, plătī·nä). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [a. Sp. *platina* (platī·na) platinum, dim. from *plata* silver: see -ine 4.] The earlier name of Platinum.

1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 584 Several Papers concerning a new Semi-Metal, called Platina. 1754 Lewis *ibid.* XLVIII.

638 The substance brought into England under the name of platina appears a mixture of dissimilar particles. 1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 505 You have often heard of the metal, called platina, to be found only in South America. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 91 Platina is the heaviest body known to exist. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 230/2 *Platina* or *Platinum* an important metal. [In the article *platina* is the only form used.] 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 7 The prisoner denied that he had ever stolen any platina, and said he was innocent of the charge.

b. *attrib.* (usually = Consisting or made of platinum) and *Comb.*

1794 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 388 A small piece of purified white lac, in a platina spoon. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 375 Held in a pair of platina pincers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 356 He..determined to try to draw platina-wire. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 307 To have it [an enlargement] made on a more stable and permanent base than silver, hence carbon and platina printing find most favour for such a purpose.

Platina: see PLATIN.

Platinate (plæ·tinēt), *sb. Chem.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -ATE [1] 1 c.] A salt derived from platinic oxide, in which platinum is tetravalent.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Platinate*, term for a combination in which platinic oxide plays the part of an acid. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 669 A compound of platinic chloride with platinate of calcium.

Platinate (plæ·tinēt), *v.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -ATE 3.] *trans.* = PLATINIZE.

1889 *Philos. Mag.* Dec. 454 The plates were next platinated by a process given in Gore's 'Electro-metallurgy' under the name of 'Roseleur's Process'. *Ibid.*, To prepare the plates for platinating.

† **Pla·tine.** *Weaving. Obs.* [a. F. *platine*; see PLATEN.] A plate-lead: see quot. 1797.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 252/1 The Platines are Lead of a halfe round forme, hung in strings (as pack thrid) which pass between two cross-sticks; these strings goe to pullaces fix in the top castle and so to the Tradles and are called Lames, vnder the workmans feet, so that by the riseing and falling of the Tradles, these play vp and down. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 230/1 The plate-leads, or platines, are flat pieces of lead, of about six inches long, and three or four inches broad at the top, but round at the bottom; some use black slates instead of them: their use is to pull down those lisses which the workman had raised by the treddle, after his foot is taken off.

Plating (plē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLATE *v.* + -ING [1].]

1. The action of the verb PLATE in various senses.

a. The making or application of metal plates.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 139 The operation of plating..in the manufacture of spades and shovels. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 67 When it comes to the plating—the 'shell plating', as it is called—the hand-hammer has still to be brought into play.

b. The process of coating with a thin adherent layer of precious metal.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 725 Copper may likewise be plated by heating it, and burnishing leaf-silver upon it; so may iron and brass. This process is called French Plating. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* ii. (1874) 29 The decorative processes of plating, gilding, and enamelling.

c. See quot., and cf. PLATED 2 b.

1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 197 A process termed 'plating' which..consists in putting a coating of silk on a substratum..of cotton.

d. The shoeing of a horse with plates or racing-shoes. Also *attrib.*

1840–70 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 1237 In the plating of race-horses, much caution is required in the selection of a proper smith. *Ibid.* § 1238 Either of these varieties of plating shoes.

e. Plate-racing.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 7 Nov. 5/2 Frittering away its money in minor and unseasonable plating. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. I. v. § 1. 429. 1888 *Illustr. Sport. & Dram. News* 21 Jan. 511/1 Will they [young race-horses] descend to the depths.., and after a career of plating turn up some day in a selling hurdle-race, winner to be sold for £50?

2. *concr.* The result or product of this action.

a. An external layer or sheath of plates; sheathing-plates collectively.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. iii, St. Edmund's Shrine glitters .. with a plating of wrought gold. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 277 The narrow-gauge armoured train... Two bogie trucks running before the locomotive were completely covered in with plating. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 381/1 There are five strakes of this plating from deck to garboard.

b. The surface of precious metal with which copper, etc. is plated. Also *fig.*

1833 T. HOOK *Widow & Marquess* viii, She..dreaded that the appearance might be deceitful—if it were so, the plating was extremely thick. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 998 Were it to remain a very little longer, the silver would become alloyed with the copper, and the plating be thus completely spoiled. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 61 The plating of Anglicism rubs off.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, 'occupied or used in plating'; as *plating liquid, mill, trade*; **plating bar,** a bar made from special pig-iron for making into plate-iron; **plating bath,** a bath containing the metallic solution in which articles to be plated are immersed; **plating hammer,** (*a*) a heavy hammer for clinching; (*b*) a steam-hammer for working on armour-plate, etc.

1892 *Daily News* 13 June 2/7 There is a fair enquiry for *plating bars. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Oct. 5/2 Purchasing bar silver for the purpose of strengthening their *plating bath. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 43, ij nalyng hamers ij[d]. Item a hake hamer with a *platyng hamer, ij[d]. *c* 1865 G. GORE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 225/1 A good *plating liquid should contain one equivalent of .. cyanide of potassium. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 358 In 1750..Parliament ..prohibited the erection in America of slitting, rolling, or *plating mills, or steel furnaces.

Platini- (plæ·tini), *Chem.*, combining form of PLATINUM, denoting compounds in which it has its higher valency (cf. PLATINIC).

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 73 Chloride of platinum gives with chlorohydrate of betaine a platinichloride in yellow crystals. 1890 WEBSTER, *Platinichloric.*

Platinic (plăti·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -IC. So F. *platinique.*] Applied to those compounds of platinum in which it exists in its higher degree of valency, i. e. as a tetrad; as *platinic oxide*, PtO_2; *platinic chloride*, $PtCl_4$. Opposed to PLATINOUS. (Cf. FERRIC, and see -IC 1 b.)

1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 95 The conversion of the platinous oxide compounds into the platinic oxide. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 665 Platinum forms two series of compounds, the platinous compounds in which it is diatomic, *e.g.* $PtCl_2$, PtO, etc., and the platinic compounds in which it is tetratomic, *e.g.* $PtCl_4$, PtO_2, etc. *Ibid.* 668 Tetrachloride of Platinum or Platinic Chloride, $Pt^{iv}Cl_4$.

Platiniferous (plætini·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -FEROUS.] Bearing or yielding platinum.

1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., Platiniferous sand. *Dict. Nat. Hist.* 1853 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxxii. 312 On its western slope lies the famous auriferous and platiniferous land. 1896 *Educ. News* (Philad.) 25 Apr. 270 One bed of platiniferous lead ore is a mile long.

Platiniridium (plæ·tiniri·diŭm). *Min.* [f. PLATIN-UM + IRIDIUM.] A native alloy of platinum and iridium, occurring in small grains or cubes with truncated angles, of a white colour.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 11.

Platinite (plæ·tinəit). *Chem.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -ITE [1] 4 b.] A salt derived from platinous oxide, in which platinum has its lower valency.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 671 Platinous Oxide..when recently precipitated..dissolves in potash and in soda, forming salts called platinites, which appear also to be formed when metallic platinum is heated with caustic alkalis. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 157 A solution of 'chloro-platinite' of potassium.

Platinize (plæ·tinəiz), *v.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -IZE.] *trans.* To coat with platinum. Hence **Pla·tinized** *ppl. a.*, **Pla·tinizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Platiniza·tion,** the action or process of platinizing.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 721 Porcelain and other wares may be platinised, silvered, tinned, and bronzed. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 461 The platinized silver battery invented by Mr. Smee. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 138 This toning may consist of gilding the silver image, platinising it, or substituting some other metal for it.

Platino- (plæ·tino), combining form of PLATINUM; *spec.* in *Chem.* denoting compounds in which it is divalent. (Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 665.)

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 346 The acid tartrate and the platinochloride being among the least soluble. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Mar. 141/1 The platino-barium cyanide, becomes highly luminous when inclosed in a tube and traversed by the electric current. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 298 For ferrocyanide of potassium, platinocyanide of potassium may be substituted.

Platinode (plæ·tinōud). *Electr.* [f. PLATIN-UM + Gr. ὁδός path, as in *anode, cathode, electrode*, etc.] The negative plate or pole (cathode) of a voltaic cell (often consisting of platinum). Opp. to ZINCODE.

1839 NOAD *Electricity* (1849) 162 The phenomenon of the transfer of the charcoal from one electrode to the other.. was abundantly apparent; taking place from the zincode (or positive pole) to the platinode (or negative pole). *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 194 The pole or terminal,..proceeding from, and ending the wire of the copper or platina plate of a battery, has been termed the platinode, or anode.

Platinoid (plæ·tinoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -OID.] **A.** *adj.* Resembling platinum.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

B. *sb.* [Cf. *metalloid.*]

1. *Chem.* Any metal of the class comprising platinum and those commonly found in association with it and resembling it in several properties, viz. iridium, osmium, palladium, rhodium, and ruthenium. Also called *platinum metals.*

1882 in OGILVIE.

2. Name for an alloy of nickel, zinc, copper, and tungsten, of a silvery white colour, and resembling platinum in non-liability to tarnish, etc.

1885 *Engineering* 3 July 17 Platinoid is practically German silver with from 1 to 2 per cent. of tungsten in it. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Mar. 3/1 Very fine wires of 'platinoid', or some other convenient alloy.

Platino·so-, combining form of mod.L. *platinōsus* PLATINOUS.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Platinoso-*, a prefix employed by Berzelius in compound terms or epithets of double salts which result from the combination of a platinous salt with another metallic salt, as *Platinoso-ammonicus*, etc. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 667 A dark brown solution supposed by Magnus to contain platinoso-platinic chloride.

Platinotype (plæ·tinotəip). *Photogr.* [f. PLATINO- + TYPE.] A process of photographic printing by which prints in platinum-black are produced, the paper being prepared by coating with a solution of chloro-platinite of potassium, K_2PtCl_4 (commonly called platinum chloride) and ferric oxalate, and developed in a hot solution of potassic oxalate. Also *attrib.*

1880 *Times* 5 Oct. 6/6 There is now a Platinotype Company, as there has long been a Woodburytype and an Autotype. 1881 *Athenæum* 18 June 817/3 The Earl of Rosse.. presented to the Society photographic copies of the drawings made by the platinotype process. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 2/2 A print in platinotype which will not fade, can be had.

b. A print produced by this process.

1884 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 58/2 Mr. Keene's illustrations..a great many of which are 'platinotypes'..are very good. 1892 *Times* 20 Oct. 14/1 The 210 platinotypes..constitute an exhibition of much beauty and interest.

Platinous (plæ·tinəs), *a. Chem.* [f. PLATIN-UM + -OUS c.] Applied to those compounds of platinum in which it exists in its lower degree of valency, i. e. as a dyad. Opposed to PLATINIC.

1842 [see PLATINIC]. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Berzelius terms *Oxydum platinosum* the first degree of oxidation of *platina*; *Sulphur platinosum* the first degree of sulphuration; *Sales platinosi* the combinations of platinous oxide with the oxacids. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 667 Dichloride of Platinum or Platinous Chloride, $PtCl_2$. *Ibid.* 671 Platinous Oxide is obtained as a hydrate, $Pt''O.H_2O$ or $Pt''H_2O_2$, by digesting platinous chloride in a warm solution of potash and washing the precipitate. 1890 ABNEY *Photogr.* (ed. 6) 171 A platinous salt..was mixed with a ferric oxalate.

Platinum (plæ·tinŭm). [mod.L., altered by Bergman (followed by Davy), from PLATINA, in conformity with the names of other metals in *-um.*]

1. A somewhat rare metal (at first named PLATINA), of a white colour like silver but less bright, very heavy, ductile, and malleable, unaffected by all simple acids, and fusible only at an extremely high temperature; used chiefly in chemical and other scientific processes. Chemical symbol Pt.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 448 The ores of platinum are very rare; they have been found only in South America and in Spain. *Ibid.* 449 Platinum was first described as a peculiar metal by Dr. Lewis, in 1754. 1827 N. ARNOTT *Physics* I. 10 Platinum can be drawn into wire much finer than human hair. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xiv. (ed. 3) 123 In Russia platinum has been employed for coin. 1838 J. L. STEPHENS *Trav. Russia* 83/1 The largest piece of platinum in existence, from the mines of Demidoff, weighing 10 pounds, is here also [Hotel des Mines, St. Petersburg]. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 665 The unalterability of platinum at high temperatures, and its power of resisting the action of most chemical agents, render it extremely useful for the construction of crucibles, evaporating dishes, forceps for blowpipe experiments, etc.

2. *attrib.* **a.** Made or consisting of platinum.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 40/1 Heated in a platinum spoon it [balsam of Peru] burns with a white smoke. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 330 Heated to redness in an open platinum crucible. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 22 The experiment was made with a platinum wire. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vi. (ed. 4) 206 A particle..of the cultivation from agar is taken on a platinum point.

b. Of, related to, containing, or combined with platinum; as *platinum compounds, platinum ore, platinum salts*; with names of other metals, denoting alloys, as *platinum-iridium, -steel*; also **platinum-black,** a black powder resembling lamp-black, consisting of platinum in a finely-divided state; **platinum-lamp,** an incandescent lamp having the filament made of platinum; **platinum metals,** name for the class of metals comprising platinum and certain others associated with it (see PLATINOID B. 1); **platinum-zinc** *a.*, formed of plates alternately of platinum and zinc, as a voltaic cell.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 511 The substance termed *platinum black furnishes the metal in a condition of still more minute division. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* 157 The prints produced by this [platinum] process are exceedingly beautiful, and, as platinum black forms the image, they may be considered as being far more permanent than a silver print. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 669 All *platinum-compounds are reduced to spongy platinum in the inner flame [of the blowpipe]. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2095 Epit. Med. Lit. 32 The author recommends electrolysis with a *platinum-iridium needle. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 974 Ruthenium and osmium differ from the other *platinum-metals in the degree of their oxidisability. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 247 Analysis of *platinum ore, containing, besides platinum, ruthenium,.. osmium,.. iridium,..palladium,..rhodium,..copper, and iron. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 671 From most *platinum-salts alkalis throw down basic double salts. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Platinum-steel*, steel alloyed with $\frac{1}{16}$ part of platinum. It is said not to be quite so hard as silver steel, but tougher. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 157 Pictures may be obtained by means of *platinum tetrachloride, mercuric chloride, and potassium dichromate, &c., though greater exposure with these is necessary. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 263 As copper is a better conductor of Electricity than platinum, a copper-zinc circuit ought to be more efficacious than a *platinum-zinc circuit, which is contrary to fact.

Platitude (plæ·titiud). [a. F. *platitude* (Dict. Acad. 1694), f. *plat* PLAT *a.*, on analogy of *latitude, altitude*, etc.: see -TUDE.]

1. Flatness, dullness, insipidity, commonplaceness (as a quality of speech or writing).

1812 *Edin. Rev.* XIX. 276 With all the brevity and platitude imaginable. 1818 *Q. Rev.* XIX. 120 Such abundance of platitude and inanity. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 12 A repartee..which has all the profound platitude of mediæval wit.

2. A flat, dull, or commonplace remark or statement; esp. one uttered or written with an air of importance or solemnity.

1815 SIMOND *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 100 Every species of improbability and platitudes. 1833 SARAH AUSTIN *Charac. Goethe* II. 212 *note* 36 A Philister .. may, I think, be paraphrased a man of common places—a pompous dealer in identicalisms and platitudes. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xlv. 191 It is one of those platitudes which are constantly forgotten or ignored.

Platitu·dinal, *a. rare.* [As if f. L.**plātitūdo, -din-* + -AL; cf. LATITUDINAL.] = PLATITUDINOUS.

1885 J. COLEMAN in *Longm. Mag.* VII. 76 'Junius' failed .. because it was a platitudinal play upon an unsavoury subject. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 4/6 His remarks do not seem to us wholly free from a modern kind of 'platitudinal stodge', as he calls it, and we fear that 'platitudinous' would, of the two, be more correct.

Platitudinarian (plæ:titiūdinē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. as prec., after LATITUDINARIAN.]

A. *sb.* One who utters or deals in platitudes.

1855 *Tait's Mag.* XXII. 531 To expose such showy platitudinarians as Tupper. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxii, A political platitudinarian as insensible as an ox to everything he can't turn into political capital. 1890 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 580 A man of words rather than of action, a platitudinarian.

B. *adj.* Characterized by platitude; addicted to the use of platitudes.

1866 *Contemp. Rev.* I. 164 Of all forms of cant and platitude, probably the most unreal and platitudinarian. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 23 Oct. 20/3 All our colleges together manufacture only platitudinarian pulpiteers.

Hence **Platitudina·rianism.**

1887 A. J. GORDON in *Missionary Herald* Sept. 367 As much need to be on their guard against platitudinarianism as against latitudinarianism. 1892 J. B. ALLEN in *Academy* 23 Jan. 84/2 One of the most tiresome of the minor faults to which novelists are liable is platitudinarianism.

Platitudinize (plætitiū·dinəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To utter platitudes. Hence **Platitudiniza·tion** (in quot. as if from a *trans.* sense 'to impart a character of platitude to'); **Platitu·dinizer, Platitu·dinism.**

1885 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Feb. 191/2 A diplomatist..is a man who retains the tradition and faculty of respectable platitude. Many men now platitudinize, but not as a rule respectably. 1888 *Ibid.* 18 Feb. 179/1 The platform platitudinizers. 1893 *Pall Mall Mag.* II. 351/2 He moves platitudinising and attitudinising through a play. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* 441 Art—the last of the rebels against the platitudinisation of life. 1897 *Strand Mag.* Aug. 179 He has a rich gift of what an eminent American calls 'platitudinizing'. The word .. is most effective as indicating a constant ever fed supply of pointless words, wrapped up in cotton woolly sentences. 1903 *Ch. Times* 12 June 747/2 The Archbishop of Canterbury departed a little from the area of platitudinism, when ..he alluded to the 'passive resistance' movement.

Platitudinous (plætitiū·dinəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS; cf. *multitudinous.*] Characterized by or of the nature of a platitude; full of platitudes; of a person, uttering or writing platitudes.

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Jan. 51/1 The bulk of the speech is somewhat platitudinous. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* I. 232 Schiller's excellent but remarkably platitudinous peasants in 'William Tell'. 1882 TRAILL *Sterne* v. 56 The Sermons are .. of the most commonplace character, platitudinous with the platitudes of a thousand pulpits.

Hence **Platitu·dinously** *adv.*, **Platitu·dinousness.**

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Aug. 201/1 The consequences are .. an extreme tenuity of thought and an excessive platitudinousness of expression. 1892 *Daily News* 21 May 2/2 His orations are enormously, portentously, platitudinously dull.

† Pla·tlings, *adv. Obs.* [f. PLAT *a.* + *-lings*: see -LING 2.] Flat, flatly, flatlings.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 69 He home went on to his plas And fel down platlyngys sorwyng hevely. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 329 Sic ane straik vpoun him sone scho set, Quhill that scho feld him platlingis on that plane.

† Pla·tly, *adv. Obs.* [f. PLAT *a.* + -LY 2.] In a plat manner; flatly, bluntly, plainly, directly.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 737 (786) This Troylus right platly for to seyn Is þurgh a goter, by a preuy wente Into my chambre ycome. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* P 948 Þou must tell it platly be it neuer so foul ne so horrible. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1480 For ther is platly non that may Disobey[e]n hir byddyng. 1549 HOOPER *Declar.* 10 *Commandm.* vi. Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 325 A great number, that say, not platly and plainly, 'there is no God'; but by certain circumlocutions and paraphrases. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 26 b, Of so noble fame, as platly doth appeare.

† Pla·tness. *Obs.* [f. PLAT *a.* + -NESS.] Flatness, plainness.

1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Platnesse, *plattevr.*

Platode (plæ·tōud), *a. Zool.* [irreg. f. Gr. πλατ-ύς broad + -ODE, after *cestode*, etc.] = next.

Platoid (plæ·toid), *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + -OID, after *cestoid, trematoid*, etc.] Of a flattened form, as the worms of the group *Platyhelminthes.*

1894 W. S. WINDLE in *Pop. Sc. Monthly* XLIV. 454 Besides larvae, numerous adult forms, as..platoid worms.. are collected.

Platometer (plătǫ·mĭtəɪ). [f. Gr. πλάτος breadth + -METER.] An instrument for measuring areas: = PLANIMETER.

1852 SANG in *Trans. Scot. Soc. Arts* IV. 119 Description of a platometer, an instrument for measuring the areas of figures drawn on paper. 1865 BALFOUR *Ibid.* VII. 198 A new form of platometer.

† Plato·metry. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -METRY.] The art of measuring the breadth of some (distant or inaccessible) object.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iij b, It informeth the measurer, how Broad any thing is, which is in the measurers vew: so it be on Land or Water: and may be called Platometrie.

† Plato·nian. *Obs.* [f. Gr. Πλάτων Plato + -IAN.] = PLATONIST.

1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 68 b, Whiche was the Platonians opinion. 1611 A. STAFFORD *Niobe* 80 The Platonians were so enamoured of this amiable goddess.

Platonic (plătǫ·nik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Platōnicus*, a. Gr. Πλατωνικός, f. Πλάτων Plato: see -IC. Cf. F. *Platonique* (16th c. in Godef.).]

A. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to Plato, a famous philosopher of ancient Greece (B. *c* 429–*c* 347), or his doctrines; conceived or composed after the manner of Plato.

1533 ELYOT (*title*) Of that Knowlege, whiche maketh a wise Man. A disputation Platonike. 1638 WILKINS *New World* I. (1684) 173 'Twas an Old Platonick Principle, that there is in some part of the World such a place where Men might be Plentifully Nourished, by the Air they Breath. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* vii. 235 More like a Platonic Notion. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iii. (1876) 39 That comprehensive philosophy, which was reduced to system about the beginning of the third century, and then went by the name of the New Platonic, or Eclectic. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 240 The Ion, like the other earlier Platonic Dialogues. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 435 The Platonic expression Idea is usually rendered Universal conception.

b. Of a person: Holding or maintaining the doctrines of Plato; that is a follower of Plato.

a 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 53 The first Christians many of them were Platonick Philosophers. 1831 I. TAYLOR *Pref. Ess. to Edwards' Freed. Will* iii. 50 Commencing with the Platonic fathers, and ending with the last writers on both sides of the Calvinistic controversy.

2. Applied to love or affection for one of the opposite sex, of a purely spiritual character, and free from sensual desire. Hence in various allusive applications.

[*Amor platonicus* was used synonymously with *amor socraticus* by Ficinus (the Florentine Marsilio Ficino, 1433–99), president of Cosmo de' Medici's *Accademia Platonica*, to denote the kind of interest in young men with which Socrates was credited: cf. the last few pages of Plato's *Symposium.* As thus originally used, it had no reference to women. (Prof. I. Bywater.)]

1636 DAVENANT (*title*) The Platonick Lovers. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) VI. 203 The Court affords little news at present, but that ther is a love, call'd Platonick love, which much swayes there of late. It is a love .. [that] consists in contemplation and idæas of the mind, not in any carnall fruition. 1651 STANLEY (*title*) A Platonick Discourse Upon Love. Written in Italian by John Picus Mirandula. 1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 355 Platonic Love is the Love of Beauty abstracted from all sensual Applications, and desire of Corporal Contact. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lxxviii. 438, I am convinced, and always was, that Platonic love is Platonic nonsense. 1857 LEWES *Biograph. Hist. Philos.* 195 Love is the longing of the Soul for Beauty; the inextinguishable desire which like feels for like, which the divinity within us feels for the divinity revealed to us in Beauty. This is the celebrated Platonic Love, which, from having originally meant a communion of two souls, and that in a rigidly dialectical sense, has been degraded to the expression of maudlin sentiment between the sexes. 1862 GEN. P. THOMPSON in *Bradford Advertiser* 8 Mar. 6/1 As well might be said that Tories of the olden time only fought for..a Platonic love for rotten boroughs.

b. Feeling or professing Platonic love.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 163 The Mother-in-Law of Forestus, a fruitfull woman, would not match her daughters to Platonique men. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 32 P 3 This Order of Platonick Ladies are to be dealt with in a peculiar Manner from all the rest of the Sex. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 43 She had ridiculed the pedantical women and platonic gallants of the Hôtel Rambouillet as the Jansenists of love.

3. † a. *Platonic bodies* (Geom.): a former name for the five regular solids (tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron, icosahedron). *Obs.*

(1571: see PLATONICAL 3). *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 282 The five Platonick Bodies, so much fam'd, Pythagoras first found, Plato explain'd; Euclide on them Immortal Glory gain'd. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Platonick Bodies.* See *Regular Bodies.*

b. *Platonic year*: a cycle imagined by some ancient astronomers, in which the heavenly bodies were supposed to go through all their possible movements and return to their original relative positions (after which, according to some, all events would recur in the same order as before); sometimes identified with the period of revolution of the equinoxes (about 25800 years: see PRECESSION).

1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xxviii. 278 Except the Platonick yeare, turning the wheel of all actions round about, bring the spoke of this Holy warre back again. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Platonick Year, i.* the space of 36000 years. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* II. 149 Call'd the Platonick year, as if Plato had been the first author of that opinion; but that's a great mistake. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Platonic year*, or the *great year*, is..the space wherein the stars and constellations return to their former places, in respect of the equinoxes. The Platonic year, according to Tycho Brahe, is 25816; according to Ricciolus 25920; according to Cassini 24800 years. 1867–77 G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* Voc. Defin. 919.

B. *sb.* [Cf. F. *Platonique* (1486 in Godef. *Compl.*).]

† 1. A follower of Plato; a Platonist. *Obs.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. ii. 6 The Platonicks called the same the soule of the worlde. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Comm.* II. 1001 Platonikes or Academikes conceived more of God, and pure spirites, but thought both corporal and spiritual creatures were coeternal with God. 1707 in Hearne *Collect.* 13 June (O. H. S.) II. 20 The Primitive Fathers were Platonicks in their comments upon the Scriptures. 1758 ELIZ. CARTER tr. *Epictetus* Introd., The Platonics..do yet, with the Stoics, constantly maintain fate.

2. A Platonic lover (see A. 2 b). ? *Obs.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems*, etc. (1677) 157 Sure at this Grate those Chrisom Lovers, call'd Platonicks, had their first Training. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. viii, Very pretty, indeed! A wife must never go abroad with a Platonic to see a play or a ball! 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 291 Till they dwindle into that stage of life, when, and when only, lovers become Platonics indeed.

3. (Usually *pl.*) Platonic love; the acts or doings of a Platonic lover.

1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* xvii, Are they out o' the horn-book of platonics yet? 1836 F. MAHONY *Rel. Father Prout* (1859) 76 That was attributed to a sort of Platonic he felt for the fascinating Donna Maria da Gloria.

Plato·nical, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. = PLATONIC A. 1.

1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* I. xiv. (1634) 69 Let us therefore forsake that Platonicall philosophy. 1642 H. MORE (*title*) A Platonical Song of the Soul. 1758 ELIZ. CARTER tr. *Epictetus* Introd., There is no real difference betwixt the Platonical and Stoical philosophy, in the opinion of fate, and the freedom of human actions. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 612/1 The attempt to divide matter from substance and look upon things sensible as not sensible, has led to all the Pythagorean and Platonical inventions, which he regards with so much dislike.

2. = PLATONIC A. 2.

1636 DAVENANT *Platonic Lovers* Wks. (1673) 414 Since not ..amongst you all He can find one will prove Platonical. 1823 BYRON *Juan* IX. lxxvi, The noblest kind of love is love Platonical.

3. = PLATONIC A. 3.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom., Math. Disc.* Pref., I haue thought good to adioyne this Treatise of the 5 Platonicall bodies. *Ibid.*, The fiue bodyes Regulare or Platonicall. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Platonical year* (*annus platonicus*) is every 36000th. year, when some Philosophers imagined, all persons and things should return to the same state as now they are.

Hence **Plato·nically** *adv.*; **Plato·nicalness.**

1636 DAVENANT *Platonic Lovers* Wks. (1673) 404 The Turk! Is he platonically given? *a* 1639 WOTTON *Life Dk. Buckingham* in *Relig.* (1651) 77 To mould him as it were Platonically to his own Idea. 1668 G. C. in H. More *Div. Dial.* Pref. i. (1713) 6 Which therefore agrees well with the Platonicalness of Cuphophron's Genius. 1826 *Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 432 Madame de Montesson was platonically jealous.

† Platoni·cian. *Obs.* [ad. F. *platonicien* (Oresme 14th c.), f. L. *Platonic-us* PLATONIC: see -IAN: cf. *mechanician.*] = PLATONIST.

1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xxxviii. 289 The Platonicians suppose that God and Matter were the Principles of all Beings. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 399 The new Platonicians..exhausted their strength in the verbal disputes of metaphysics. 1829 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* I. *Godefridus* 157 Philo a celebrated philosopher among the Platonicians.

Platonicism (plătǫ·nisiz'm). *rare.* [f. PLATONIC + -ISM.] = PLATONISM 3.

a 1678 H. SCOUGAL *Wks.* (1765) 333 Many naughty affections do shelter themselves under the plausible title of Platonicism. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. lxxvii. 485 She little depended upon Platonicism in him.

† Plato·nicker. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. PLATONIC + -ER 1.] = PLATONIST.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* i. 1 *note*, This first sentence of the Gospel not only the faithful but the Platonickers did so admire..that they wished it to be written in gold.

Platonism (plēi·tŏniz'm). [ad. mod.L. *platonism-us*, f. Gr. Πλάτων Plato: see -ISM. So mod.F. *platonisme* (Dict. Acad. 1762).]

1. The philosophy or doctrine of Plato, or of his followers.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 146 Platonisme, *Platonismus.* 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. Pref., Those that are rightly acquainted with Platonisme, will accept of that small pains. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. I. 11 That..was introduced from the principles of platonism afterwards. 1806 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 283 Thinking as I do, that platonism was prepared providentially, not only as preliminary to Christian piety, but as a kind of fermenting principle, to act occasionally in reinvigorating it. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 52 Platonism in Philo does for Judaism what it was soon to do for Christianity.

2. (with *pl.*) A doctrine or tenet of Platonic philosophy; a saying of, or like those of, Plato.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 400 He overthrowes one great Platonisme. *Ibid.* 694 A philosopher came to him and expounded certaine Platonismes unto him. 1845 R. CHOATE *Amer. Bar* in *Addresses* (1878) 165 Hear the striking platonisms of Coleridge.

3. The doctrine or practice of Platonic love. (Cf. PLATONICISM.)

1782 ALEXANDER *Hist. Women* I. vii. 233 The Troubadour ..was not always satisfied with pure platonism, and frequently debauched the virgin or the wife whom he attended. 1893 SALTUS *Madam Sapphira* 59 For that reason .. platonic affection, or, more exactly, reciprocal platonism, is discoverable only among married people.

Platonist (plēi·tŏnist). [ad. med.L. *platanista* (1286 in *Catholicon*), f. Gr. Πλάτων Plato: see -IST.] A follower of Plato; one who holds the doctrines or philosophy of Plato.

1549 LATIMER *6th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 166 He [St.

Augustine] became of a Maniche and of a platoniste a good christian. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 147 Platoniste, *Platonista.* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 944 As for Love, the Platonists, (some of them,) go so farre as to hold that the spirit of the Lover, doth passe into the spirits of the Person Loved. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref. 36 Vpon which Occasion we take notice of a Double Platonick Trinity; the One Spurious and Adulterated, of some latter Platonists; the Other True and Genuine, of Plato himself, Parmenides, and the Ancients. 1787 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 542 Dr. Henry More, of Cambridge, he did not much affect: he was a platonist, and, in Johnson's opinion, a visionary. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Plato* Wks. (Bohn) I. 310 Hamlet is a pure Platonist.

b. A Platonic lover. Also *attrib.*

1756 (*title*) Memoirs of a Young Lady of Quality, a Platonist. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 July 3/3 The author has endeavoured to give a sympathetic view of a warm-hearted woman in her relations with a platonist husband.

Hence **Platoni·stic** *a.*, pertaining to or characteristic of the Platonists or of Platonism.

1859 W. KEY *Lect. on St. August.* 12 He was speaking with an aged Christian about some Platonistic books.

Platonize (plā·tŏnəiz), *v.* [ad. Gr. *πλατωνίζειν* (Origen), f. Πλάτων Plato: see -IZE. So F. *platoniser* (*a* 1587 in Godefroy).]

1. *intr.* To follow the doctrine of Plato; to philosophize after the manner of Plato; to be a Platonist.

1608 HIERON *Defence* II. 157* Aust. did platonize a little, we maie saie, this D. doth platonize a greate deale more. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 649 Philo either Platonized or Plato Philonized. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 27. 457 Macrobius plainly Platonized, asserting a Trinity of Archical or Divine Hypostases. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* I. iii. (1876) 40 The grave imputation..of considering the Son of God inferior to the Father, that is, of Platonizing or Arianizing.

2. To act as Platonic friends. *nonce-usè.*

1821 *New Monthly Mag.* III. 119 If I could venture to invent a word .. I would say, that we will 'platonize' together, under the constant guidance of nature and philosophy.

3. *trans.* To give a Platonic character to; to render Platonic.

1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxviii. VIII. 556 Of the ethical dialogues much may be probably taken to represent Sokrates more or less platonized. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 148 The record of this conversation, no doubt .. largely Platonized.

Hence **Pla·tonized**, **Pla·tonizing** *ppl. adjs.*; also **Platoniza·tion**, the action of Platonizing or condition of being Platonized (in quot., in sense 2); **Pla·tonizer**, one who Platonizes, a Platonist.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVIII. 277 Their passion for the *danseuse* having, in the meantime, metempsychosed itself into a *platonisation. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 638/1 The warrior lived on through the days of Julian, lived to see the utmost done that could be done for *Platonized paganism. 1734 A. YOUNG *Idolatrous Corrupt.* I. 109 Philo the Jew, who was a great *Platonizer, calls the Stars Divine Images, and incorruptible and immortal Souls. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. v. 241 The second Hypostasis whom the Platonists called the νοῦς, and the *Platonizing Apostle the λόγος. 1827 MOORE *Epicur.* xvii, The platonising refinement of Philo. 1885 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 267/2 The materials of the work..are conceived in a Platonising spirit.

† **Plato·nne.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [Formed as a F. fem. of *Platon* Plato: cf. *baron, baronne.*] *lit.* A female Plato: in quot. a female adherent of the doctrine of Platonic affection.

1709 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 32 P 2, I am fallen desperately in Love with a profess'd Platonne, the most unaccountable Creature of her Sex.

Platoon (plătū·n), *sb.* Forms: 7–8 **plotton**, 8 **plat-**, **plottoon**, 8– **platoon.** [ad. F. *peloton* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm., *pron.* plotoñ) little ball, platoon, dim. of *pelote*: see PELLET *sb.*[1] and -OON.]

1. *Mil.* A small body of foot-soldiers, detached from a larger body and operating as an organized unit; variously applied: see quots. (*obs.*); *spec.* half a company, a squad, a tactical formation preserved in some armies for purposes of drill, etc. (*Obs.* in the British Army.)

Formerly volley-firing was done by platoons: cf. b.

1637 MONRO *Exped.*, etc. II. *Abridgm. Exerc.* 184 Eight Corporall-ships of Musketiers, being thirty-two Rots divided in foure Plottons, every Plotton being eight in front, led off by a Captaine. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plattoon*.. is a small Square Body of Musketeers, such as is usually drawn out of a Battalion of Foot, when they form the Hollow Square to strengthen the Angles. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Plattoon*, or *Plottoon*, in war, a small, square body of 40 or 50 men, drawn out of a battalion of foot, and placed between the squadrons of horse, to sustain them; or in ambuscades, streights, and defiles, where there is not room for battalions or regiments. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. v. 254 Platoons which consisted of four and twenty men each. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 420 Just as we got up with them, they began to fire by platoons. 1846 *Hist. Rec. 1st Regiment of Foot* 130 The street contained only a platoon abreast, so the first platoon fired their 24 rounds, and then filed off, and were succeeded by the next and following platoons. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl., Platoon*, a subdivision or small body of infantry. The word is obsolete, except in the term 'manual and platoon exercise'. 1875 tr. *Ct. de Paris' Hist. Civ. War in Amer.* I. 272 The recruits must go through a series of exercises and evolutions ..first singly, then by platoons, by battalions next, and finally by brigades.

b. *transf.* A number of shots fired simultaneously by a platoon or body of men; a volley.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. ii, I tell you what, I'll make love like a platoon. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 317 The Welsh fuzileers fired two platoons upon the Dutch. 1817 M. WILKS *Hist. Sk. S. India* (1869) II. xxxiii. 145 Threw in a regular platoon on the flank which killed the officer commanding. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 298 These can fight in line and fire a platoon as well as one could wish to see.

fig. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* I. i, 2 *Sol.* We'll argue in platoons. 3. *Sol.* Ay, ay, let him have our grievances in a volley.

† **c.** Short for *platoon exercise. Obs.*

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 251 After the manual and platoon, the battalion remains formed at close order, and the major returns to his post in the rear. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* II. 50.

2. *fig.* A squad; a company or set of people.

1711 *Acc. Last Distemper of T. Whigg* II. 44 Tom .. danc'd away the Hays with them in regular Plattoons. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 100 To love the little platoon we belong to in society, is the first principle (the germ as it were) of publick affections. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 376 This is played by two parties drawn out in opposite platoons before a blazing fire. 1841 EMERSON *Lect., Times* Wks. (Bohn) II. 250 If you speak of the age, you mean your own platoon of people.

3. *attrib.*, as *platoon drill, exercise, fire, firing*; also humorously *platoon swearing* (= utterance of a 'volley' of oaths, quot. 1793).

1793 LAW in E. A. Bond *Trial Warren Hastings* (1860) III. 266 After having tried his hand to hit the mark twice alone, then he indulged in platoon swearing. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 251 The major closes rear ranks for the platoon exercise. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* li, Nature seems to expect the thunder-burst, as a condemned soldier waits for the platoon-fire which is to stretch him on the earth. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 514 The discharging [of neurons] may take place by platoon firing or by company firing, or by desultory rank firing .. the general opinion is in favour of platoon firing.

Hence † **Platoo·n** *v. intr.*, to fire a volley; also *fig.*

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. ii, I'll kneel, stoop, and stand, faith; most ladies are gained by platooning. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 46 The veteran Carbines, after having platooned and pioneered it for a number of years .., could keep the field no longer.

Platopic (plătǫ·pik), *a. Craniom.* [irreg. f. Gr. πλατύς broad + ὤψ, ὠπ- face + -IC.] = *Platyopic* (the etymological form): see PLATY-.

1885 *Jrnl. of Anthrop. Inst.* 156 The cranial characters of the Yahgans..platopic, mesoprosopic, and mesognathous.

Plato·s-, plato·so-. *Chem.* Formative, shortened from PLATINOS(O-, forming names of compounds in which platinum is bivalent, as **plato·samine**, NH_2Pt, the ammonia-base supposed by Gerhardt to exist in the ammonio-platinous compounds (Watts); **platosammo·nium**, the group Pt. $2NH_3$ (as in *platosammonium chloride*, Pt. $2NH_3Cl$), **platosodiammo·nium**, the group Pt. $2N_2H_6$ (as in *platosodiammonium chloride*, Pt. $2N_2H_6Cl$).

1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* II. 266 Salts of Platosamine (Reiset's second base) .. Hydrochlorate of platosamine (yellow) $PtH_3N.Cl$. 1857 *Ibid.* III. 260 The two platinum bases from pyridine are:—Platinopyridine..Platosopyridine. 1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 455 'Reiset's second Platinum base'.. is supposed by Gerhardt to contain a body which he calls an alkali, 'Platosamine', NH_2Pt. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 349 Platinum dichloride absorbs 2 molecules of ammonia, forming platosammonium chloride.

† **Plat-roof.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 4 *pl.* **platrowes.** [f. PLAT *a.* + ROOF *sb.*] A flat roof.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 194 Þei shulden preche opinli upon platrowes of housis.

Platt, platte, obs. forms of PLAT.

Pla·tted, *ppl. a.* [f. PLAT *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] Formed into or made of plaits; = PLAITED 2.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/1 Plattyd, *implicatus, intricatus.* 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* ii, A plattid hiue of straw. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 255 Shields,..made of platted oysiers. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 239 Who wore the platted thorns with bleeding brows. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* II. 142 A head crowned with masses of platted hair.

Platten (plæ·t'n), *v.* Also 7 **platen.** [f. PLAT *a.* + -EN[5].]

† **1.** *trans.* To make flat, to flatten. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 19/2 Thatchers Termes... Platen the sids down.

2. To rivet or clinch a nail, by turning down the point. *Sc.* 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

3. To form into a plate.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plattening Glass*, the operation of forming glass into sheets or plates.

Platter[1] (plæ·təɹ). Now chiefly *arch.* Forms: 4–6 **plater**, 5 **platere**, (6 *Sc.* **plaitter**), 6– **platter.** [ME. *plater* a. AF. *plater* (Bozon), deriv. of *plat* dish.] A flat dish or plate for food; in later usage often a wooden plate.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1490 Bye us vessel gret plente, Dysschys, cuppys and sawsers, Bolles, treyes, and platers. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 2270 Alder-next his side he sat, And of his dische and plater at. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 25 Woo to 30u, scribis and Pharisees, ipocritis, that maken clene that thing of the cuppe and plater, that is with outforth. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 153 Þe grettest prelate.. lays it apon a grete plater of siluer. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 26 Ete his mete out of platers and dysshes of tree and of wode. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 7 Untrue .. Workmanship..in Platters, Chargers, Dishes. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xiv. 8 Geve me here John baptistes heed in a platter. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 118 Plaitter nor pois we neuer left ane plak. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 235 Fish coming out of a Pan is not to be covered with a Platter, lest the Vapour congealed in the Platter drop down again upon the Fish. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 196 While his lov'd partner..Displays her cleanly platter on the board. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 58 Half a dozen great Delft platters, hung..by way of pictures. 1851 LAYARD *Pop. Acc. Discov. Nineveh* vii. 123 The girls .. returned, each bearing a platter of fruit which they placed before me.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *platter-case, -mat, -mouth, -plate*; **platter-face**, a broad, round, flat face; so **platter-faced** *a.*; **platter-foot** *dial.*, a flat foot.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 303 In the kitchen..were two settles with lockers, a dresser with drawers, two cupboards, and one *platter case. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. (1651) 519 Though she..have a swoln Juglers *platter face, or a thin, lean, chitty face. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 116 Her pale, full-moon, platter face. 1533 UDALL *Flowres Lat. Sp.* 199 b, That reed heeded, grey eyed, *platter-faced, and hawkenosed wenche. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 391 The Platter-fac'd Deity Bacchus. 1834 SIR F. B. HEAD *Bubbles Brunnen* 7 Holland is but a platter-faced..country, after all. 1897 F. T. JANE *Lordship, Passen & We* xix. 213 She .. set out as brave a *platter-foot as a man could wish for to see. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XV. (1593) 360 At his nostrils and His *platter mouth did puffe out part of sea upon the land. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xv, He and the dog took alternate bites off a *platter-shaped cake.

Platter[2]. [f. PLAT *v.*[3] + -ER[1].] One who or that which plats or plaits; a plaiter.

1818 TODD, *Platter*..2 [from *To plat.*] One who plats or weaves. Hence 1828 in WEBSTER; and in mod. Dicts.

Pla·tterful. [f. PLATTER[1] + -FUL.] As much as a platter will contain.

1611 COTGR., *Platelée*, a platterfull, or dish full. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiv. 114 There have you a large Platter-full of Dreams.

Platting (plæ·tiŋ), *sb. dial.* [f. PLAT *sb.*[2] 4, small bridge, plank-bridge + -ING[1] 1 g.] A small foot-bridge: cf. PLAT *sb.*[2] 4.

1600 *Manch. Crt. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 156 So that the water maye passe vnder John Gee his plattinge. 1634 *Ibid.* III. 216. 1653 *Ibid.* IV. 106 To fence and sufficiently to amend the dangerous plattinge over against the land lately his. *c* 1890 HALLAM *Derbysh. Gloss.* (MS.), *Platting.*

Pla·tting, *vbl. sb.* [f. PLAT *v.*[3] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of PLAT *v.*[3]; plaiting.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/2 A Plattynge, *jntricatura.* 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 401 The skilful platting of withes.

2. Plaited straw, grass, palmetto, or the like, in ribbon-like strips, for making hats, bonnets, etc.

1725 BERKELEY *Proposal for College Bermuda* Wks. 1871 III. 222 Bermuda hats are worn by our ladies: they are made of a sort of mat, or .. platting made of the palmetto-leaf. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 183 Platting is the slips of Cane, Straw, or Chip, woven or platted into pieces, for making Hats. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 461 Paper, Textiles, Platting, Basket-work, Clothing:

Pla·ttnerite. [Named (by Haidinger 1845) after its describer K. F. Plattner: see -ITE[1].] Native dioxide of lead (PbO_2) occurring in violet black concretions.

1849 J. NICOL *Min.* 418 Plattnerite .. [is] hexagonal but dimensions unknown. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 239.

Plature (plæ·tiŭɹ). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Platūrus*, for **Platyūrus*, a. Gr. πλατύουρος, f. πλατύ-ς broad, flat + οὐρά tail.] A humming-bird of the genus *Platurus*, characterized by a broad tail. So **Platurous** (plătiŭ·rəs) *a.*, broad-tailed (cf. *platyurous*, PLATY-).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Platurus*, having a broad tail ..platurous. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Plature.*

Platy (plē·ti), *a.* [f. PLATE *sb.* + -Y.]

† **1.** Consisting or formed of plates; plate-like.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* IV. x. (1541) 88 b, Some groundes or residences [in urine] bee lyke vnto plates..and may be named platy resydence, in latyne *Laminea.* 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 27, I [Satan] keepe the best that euer nation bred, Within my Kingdome in a platy bed.

2. *Geol.* Consisting of or easily separating into plates; flaky.

1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 271 The small fissures of the rock contain the like [lead] ore, but platy, and of a less firm cohesion. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Optics* xiii. 33 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) Mica, a thin platy mineral. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* xiii. 258 Sometimes a platy or tabular structure is developed in basalt. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v. *Plate*, Sandstone, when intermixed with shale beds or partings, is called platy freestone or platy post.

Platy- (plæti), a. Gr. πλατυ-, comb. form of πλατύς broad, flat, entering into numerous scientific terms. Among these are the following:

Platybasic (-bē·sik) *a. Craniom.*, having a broad base: applied to a skull in which the occipital angle of Daubenton exceeds 80°. **Platybrachycephalic** (-brækiˌsĭfæ·lik) *a. Craniom.*, (of a skull) both platycephalic and brachycephalic, i.e. flat, and short in proportion to its breadth. **Platybregmate** (-bre·gmēt), **-bregmatic** (-bregmæ·tik) *adjs. Craniom.*, having a broad bregma (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); so **Platybregmete** (-bre·gmīt), a broad bregma, as in Mongolian skulls (*Cent. Dict.*). **Platycarpous** (-kā·ɹpəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. καρπός fruit], having broad fruit. **Platycephalic** (-sĭfæ·lik), **-cephalous** (-se·făləs) *adjs.* [Gr. κεφαλή head], having a flat or broad head; *spec.* in *Craniom.* applied to a skull of flattened form, having a vertical

index of less than 70; so **Platycephaly** (-sĕ·făli), the condition of having a platycephalic skull (*Cent. Dict., Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Platycercine** (-sɔ̄·sɪsəin) *Ornith.* [Gr. κέρκος tail], *a.*, belonging to the subfamily *Platycercīnæ* or broad-tailed parakeets; *sb.* a bird of this subfamily. **Platycnemic** (-knē·mik) *a. Anat.* [Gr. κνήμη tibia], of the tibia, broad and flat; also, of a person, having such tibiæ; so ‖**Platycne·mia** [mod.L.], **-cne·mism, -cne·my,** platycnemic condition. **Platycœlian** (-sĭ·liăn), **-cœlous** (-sĭ·ləs) *adjs. Anat.* [Gr. κοίλος hollow], flat in front and concave behind, as the centrum of a vertebra (= OPISTHOCŒLIAN, -CŒLOUS). **Platycrinid** (-kri·nid, -krəi-), **-cri·nite, cri·noid,** an encrinite or fossil crinoid of the genus *Platycrinus* or family *Platycrinidæ*, having broad flat radial and basal plates. **Platydactyl** (-dæ·ktil) *Zool.* [Gr. δάκτυλος digit], *a.*, having broad flat toes; *spec.* belonging to the division *Platydactyla* or *Discodactyla* of batrachians; *sb.* a platydactyl batrachian (= DISCODACTYL: opp. to OXYDACTYL); so **Platyda·ctylous** *a.*, flat-toed. **Platydolichocephalic** (-dɒ̄·likoˌsĭfæ·lik) *a. Craniom.*, (of a skull) both platycephalic and dolichocephalic, i. e. flat, and long in proportion to its breadth. **Platyga·stric** *a.*, having broad gastric cavities; also, allied to the genus *Platygaster* of parasitic hymenopteree insects. **Platyglo·ssal, -glo·ssate, -glo·ssous** *adjs.* [Gr. γλῶσσα tongue], having a broad tongue. **Platyhieric** (-həiˌe·rik) *a. Anat.* [Gr. ἱερὸν (ὀστέον) = L. (*os*) *sacrum*], having a broad sacrum, or one whose breadth exceeds its height. **Platymesaticephalic** (-meːsătiˌsĭfæ·lik), **-me:socepha·lic** *adjs. Craniom.*, (of a skull) both platycephalic and mesati- (or meso-) cephalic, i. e. flat, and of medium breadth. **Platymeter** (plăti·mĭtəɹ) *Electr.* [-METER], an apparatus for measuring the inductive capacity of different dielectrics in the form of plates or disks. **Platyno·tal** *a. Zool.* [Gr. νῶτον back], broad-backed; *spec.* belonging to the group *Platynota* of lizards, also called *varanoid*; so **Pla·tynote,** *a.* = prec.; *sb.* a platynotal or varanoid lizard. **Platyodont** (plæ·tiˌodɒnt) *Zool.* [Gr. ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth], *a.* broad-toothed; *sb.* a broad-toothed animal. **Platyopic** (-ɒ·pik) *a. Craniom.* [Gr. ὤψ, ὠπ- face], having a broad or flat face (see quot.); so **Pla·tyope** (-ōup), a platyopic person, animal, or skull. **Platype·llic** *a. Anat.* [Gr. πέλλα bowl, taken as = pelvis], having a flat pelvis (see quot.). **Platypetalous** (-peːtăləs) *a. Bot.*, having broad petals. **Platyphylline** (-fi·lin, -əin), **-phyllous** (-fi·ləs) *adjs. Bot.* [Gr. φύλλον leaf, φύλλινος of leaves], broad-leaved, or resembling a broad leaf. **Platypygous** (plæti,pəi·gəs) *a. Zool.* [Gr. πυγή rump], having broad buttocks. **Platyrhynchine** (-ri·ŋkəin), **-rhynchous** (-ri·ŋkəs) *adjs. Ornith.* [Gr. ῥύγχος beak], having a flat or broad bill; *spec.* belonging to the genus *Platyrhynchus* or subfamily *Platyrhynchinæ* of American fly-catchers. **Platyscopic** (-skɒ·pik) *a.* [Gr. σκοπός looker, σκοπεῖν to view], trade-name for a lens or combination of lenses giving a wide field of view. **Platysome** (plæ·tisōum) *Entom.* [Gr. σῶμα body], a beetle of Latreille's division *Platysomata* (= the modern family *Cucujidæ*), characterized by a flat body. **Platyso·mid,** *sb.* a fish of the extinct family *Platysomidæ*; *a.* belonging to this family. **Platysternal** (-stɔ̄·ɹnăl) *a. Zool.*, having a broad flat sternum or breast-bone, as a ratite bird. **Platystomous** (plăti·stŏməs) *a. Zool.* [Gr. στόμα mouth], having a broad mouth or opening. **Platyurous** (-ɪūə·rəs) *a. Zool.* [Gr. οὐρά tail], having a broad or flat tail. Also PLATYHELMINTH, etc. q. v.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* v. 177 The second [deformity] has been called plastic by Mr. B. Davis,..and *platybasic by M. Broca. 1813-26 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 2) I. 174, I propose to divide the varieties of the skull into three classes...1. The first..may be termed the mesobregmate.... 2. Stenobregmate. ... 3. *Platybregmate. Section of the vertex widened, and assuming a square figure, the cheek-bones projecting considerably beyond the outline of this section. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Platycarpus*, having large fruit,..*platycarpous, 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Sept. 253 A *platy-cephalic skull belonged to the skeleton of an old man in the same barrow. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* v. 176 Platycephalic, with the vault of the skull flattened, elliptical. 1846 SMART Suppl., **Platycephalous*, broad-headed,—epithet of a species of the asaphus, a trilobite. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Platycephalus, Bot.* applied to a mushroom having a flat head,..platycephalous. 1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* IX. 362 At the base is generally a large swollen cere .. in the *Platycercine group this is very small. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. iv. 299 The character which the tibia sometimes presents, and which bears the name of *platycnemia. 1902 J. BEDDOE in *Jrnl. Roy. Inst. Cornwall* XV. 168 There is very little tendency to platyknemia in the Harlyn Bay bones. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* vii. (1873) 144 The tibia or shin bone was somewhat *platycnemic or flattened. 1874 DAWKINS *Cave Hunt.* v. 155 These remains..present the peculiar character of *platycnemism. 1888 *Athenæum* 26 May 666/2 M. Manouvrier's memoir on *platycnemy in man and the anthropoids is a complete analysis of all observations made upon the shape of the tibia. 1854 R. OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 202 This '*platycœlian' type..we find in the dorsal and caudal vertebræ of the..cetiosaurus. 1846 SMART Suppl., **Platycrinite*, a lily-shaped animal with a broad flat scapula. 1864 WEBSTER, *Platycrinite (Paleon.)*, a kind of encrinite, the body of which is stout, and made up of a few large plates. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Platydactyl*, having flat, broad digits. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Platydactylus*,..having the hind feet expanded in form of oars: *platydactylous. *Ibid.*, *Platyglossate...*Platyglossous. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Platyhieric*, with broad sacrum. Epithet applied to species or individuals in whom the sacral index (breadth × 100 ÷ height) exceeds 100. Nearly all females of whatever race are platyhieric, but amongst males few black races come under this head. 1855 PROF. W. THOMSON in *25th Rept. Brit. Assoc., Trans. Sections* 22 Electroplatymeter. *a* 1892 (*Scientific Jrnl.*) For small capacities [of electricity and magnetism] Sir W. Thomson's *platymeter and sliding condenser may be used. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 125/2 *Varanidæ*, a family of Lizards, designated..as *Platynote or Broad-backed Saurians. 1885 O. THOMAS in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XIV. 334 Individual skulls or races having indices below 107·5 might be named **platyopic* or flat faced; from 107·5 to 110·0 *mesopic.* 1885 *Athenæum* 31 Jan. 156/1 The terms *pro-opic, mesopic*, and *platyopic* were suggested for skulls or races showing various degrees of development in this respect. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Platypellic*, term applied by Turner to pelves having a brim-index under 85°. 1882 TUCKERMAN *N. Amer. Lichens* I. 74 Thallus sub-membranaceous, stellate, appressed, *platyphylline. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Platyrhynchous. 1881 *Nature* 8 Sept. p. cxxxviii, A new *Platyscopic Lens of lower power and a larger field than ..previously made. 1893 G. ALLEN in *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 2/1 Six months in the fields with a platyscopic lens would teach them strange things about the world around them. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., **Platysomes*,..species with a wide and much-depressed body. These insects are found under the bark of trees. 1900 *Nature* 20 Sept. 507/1 It has the *platysomid head contour and a long-based dorsal. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Platysternal..*Platystomous,..*Platyurous.

Platyhelminth (plætihe·lminþ). *Zool.* Also **platihelminth.** [f. mod.L. pl. *Platyhelmintha, -thes*, f. PLATY- + Gr. ἕλμινς (ἑλμινθ-) worm: see HELMINTH.] An animal of the group *Platyhelmi·ntha* or *Platyhelmi·nthes*, comprising the nemertean, trematode, cestode, and turbellarian worms (with other classes in some classifications); a flat-worm.

[1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 129 In most Platyhelminthes the mouth is some distance from the head.] 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Plathelminth. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1091 Bilharzia .. hæmatobia is a trematode platyhelminth, inhabiting the veins of man, monkeys, and probably also of cattle and dogs. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 30 Oct. 3/4 The Platyhelminthes include 'liver flukes' and 'tape-worms', besides [other] non-parasitic creatures devoid of a vernacular name.

Platypod (plæ·tipɒd), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Gr. πλατύπους, πλατυποδ- flat-footed: cf. next.]

a. *adj.* Having broad or flat feet; *spec.* belonging to the group *Platy·poda* of monotrematous mammals (typical genus *Platypus*: see next), or to the group *Platypoda* of gastropod molluscs, having a broad flat foot adapted for crawling; also in *Ornith.* having the toes joined so as to form a broad sole, syndactyl. **b.** *sb.* A broad-footed animal; one belonging to any of these groups.

1846 SMART Suppl., *Platypod*, a broad-footed animal. 1864 in WEBSTER.

‖**Platypus** (plæ·tipŭs). *Zool.* [mod.L. (Shaw 1799), a. Gr. πλατύπους flat-footed, f. πλατύς flat + πούς foot. Orig. the generic name, but, having already been given to a genus of beetles, it was in 1800 changed for *Ornithorhynchus.*] A name of the ORNITHORHYNCHUS or DUCK-MOLE of Australia.

1799 SHAW *Naturalist's Misc.* X. Pl. 385 *Explan.*, The Duck-billed Platypus. 1832 BISCHOFF *Van Diemen's Land* iii. 52 The skins of the ..opossum, tiger-cat, and platthypus, or ornythorhyncus paradoxus, are exported. 1878 R. B. SMYTH *Aborigines of Victoria* I. 251 The duck-billed platypus makes no nests, but lives in holes on the banks of rivers.

attrib. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 792/2 Platypus hunting requires as quick an eye and hand as shooting woodcock in close cover. *Ibid.* 794/1 Platypus shopping-bags and purses are not disdained by the fair who crowd the marts..in Melbourne, or..in Sydney.

Platyrrhine, platyrhine (plæ·tirəin), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *platyrrhin-us*, f. Gr. πλατύ-ς PLATY- + ῥίς, ῥιν- nose.]

1. *Zool.* Belonging to the division *Platyrrhīni* of the order *Quadrumana*, comprising those apes or monkeys which have the nostrils considerably apart and directed forwards or sideways, and the thumbs nearly or quite non-opposable. It includes all the apes of the New World. **b.** *sb.* A platyrrhine monkey. (Distinguished from CATARRHINE and STREPSIRRHINE.)

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Platyrhines*,..these monkeys are peculiar to the New World. 1857 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (ed. 3) III. 565 Remains of an extinct platyrhine monkey. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 422 *note*, They include .. the Platyrrhines, peculiar to South America, having the nostrils subterminal and wide apart. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 74 The great armadillos, anteaters and platyrrhine apes of the caves of South America.

2. *Anthropol.* Having the nose, or the nasal bones, flat or broad; having a nasal index of from 51 to 58. **b.** as *sb.* A platyrrhine person or skull.

1886 J. DALLAS in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* 305 The nose is platyrrhine.

So **Platyr(r)hinian** (plætiriˈniăn) *a.* and *sb.* = prec. (in either sense); **Platyr(r)hiny** (plæ·tirəini), the condition of being platyrrhine.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 257 The platyrrhinians, with the nasal skeleton wide. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Platyrrhinian*, platyrrhine; also, in *Anthropol.*, having flattened, broad nasal bones... *Platyrrhiny*, the condition of being platyrrhinian. 1897 *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* Nov. 283 Platyrrhiny, elongated narrow palate, and large teeth..are exaggerated in the Akka.

‖**Platysma** (plăti·zmă). [mod.L., a. Gr. πλάτυσμα flat piece, plate, flat cake, f. πλατύνειν to widen, f. πλατύ-ς broad, flat.]

†1. *Med.* (See quot.) *Obs.* (or never in Eng. use.)

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Platisma*, a broad Linnen-cloth put upon Sores. 1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. *Anat.* (In full, *platysma myoides* or *myodes*: see MYOID.) A thin broad layer of muscular fibres just beneath the skin on each side of the neck in man, extending from the shoulder and collar-bone to the face; corresponding to the *panniculus carnosus* (see PANNICLE 1) of some quadrupeds.

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Platysma Myodes.* 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* (1827) 52 A man..had a large tumour on the side of his neck, beneath the *platysma myoides.* 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 70 The facial artery..is covered, at first, by the platysma. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 290 The fits began with spasm in the right platysma, and were frequently confined to this muscle.

Plaud (plɔ̄d), *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. PLAUD *v.*: cf. APPLAUD *sb.*] Applause; praise.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* Chorus 9 The form of Faustus' fortunes, good or bad: To patient judgements we appeal our plaud, And speak for Faustus in his infancy. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 315 Tho' he toil with Pains And fights, and flys, his Head small Plaud it gains. 1836 *Pulpit Treasury* July 201 (Cent. Dict.) While a poor widow's hard-earned gains May win the plaud 'More than they all'.

Plaud, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. L. *plaud-ĕre* to applaud, prop. to strike, clap the hands. So obs. F. *plaudir* intr., to applaud.] *trans.* To applaud; to praise.

1598 CHAPMAN *Blinde Begger* ad fin., That at our banquet all the Gods may tend, Plauding our victorie and this happie end. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xxxix, But you .. false to God, his tender sonne do gore, And plaud your selves. 1764 CHURCHILL *Candidate* 301 Thy Friends..Plaud thy brave bearing. 1824 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1825) 180 Ye of Surrey raise the ready hand To 'plaud a brother.

†**Plau·dable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. prec. + -ABLE.] Deserving of applause or favourable reception; = PLAUSIBLE 2.

1566-7 Q. ELIZ. *Sp. Parl.* Jan. in D'Ewes *Jrnls.* (1682) 116 These things being so plaudable [*so in orig. MS.*], as indeed to all men they are.

†**Plau·diat(e.** *Obs. rare.* [? erroneous form of PLAUDIT.] = next.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Prose Add. 154 Oportunitie the chiefe Actresse in al attempts, gaue the Plaudiat [*ed.* 1592 Plaudiate, 1612 Plaudite] in Loue his Comedie. 1601 YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* v. ii. 123 b, To store her with the thundring furniture, Of smoothest smiles, and pleasing plaudiats.

Plaudit (plɔ̄·dit), *sb.* Also 7 **-ite.** [Shortened from PLAUDITE.] An act of applauding; a round of applause; a clapping of the hands, or other audible expression of approval or praise; hence, any emphatic expression of approval.

1624 QUARLES *Job* Prop. Wk., Div. Poems (1630) 171 Expect the Plaudit, when the Play is done. *a* 1668 DENHAM *Poems, Of Old Age* iv. 44 True Wisdom must our Actions so direct, Not only the last Plaudite to expect. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 59 Happy! tho' all dislike, if still you find The Plaudit of your own impartial Mind. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxv, The Romeo was received with hearty plaudits. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 247 Preferring the noisy plaudits of the pit and gallery to the silent..approval of the cultivated few.

Hence **Plau·dit** *v.* (*rare*), also 7 **-ite,** to applaud.

1640 YORKE *Union Hon., Commend. Verses*, He that has Wit To flash a line, and friends to plaudite it May weare the Laurell. 1906 H. SUTCLIFFE in *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 2/3 The world should hear my song, And warlike men and striplings Should plaudit high and long.

Plaudite (plɔ̄·ditĕ). Also 6 **plaudetie -ytie,** 6-7 **-itie, -ity.** [a. L. *plaudītĕ* applaud (ye)! 2 pl. imperative of *plaudĕre* to applaud; the customary appeal for applause made by Roman actors at the end of a play. The ending was early confounded with that of sbs. in **-ITY**; later the final *-e* became mute, giving rise to PLAUDIT.]

1. An appeal for applause at the conclusion of a play or other performance. (Now only as Latin.)

1567 DRANT *Horace, Art of Poetry* A v, That when the Epilogue is done we may with franke intent, After the plaudite stryke vp our plausible assente. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 84 He adioyned with all this finall conclusion, for a Plaudite,..Now clap your hands and all with ioy resound a shout. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* xxvi. 363 A theatre built in a mausoleum, and pantomime airs and the 'plaudite' heard amid the awful silence of the grave.

†2. *transf.* A round of applause. *Obs.* (Now PLAUDIT.)

(The request put for the thing requested: cf. *to grant a petition, request*, etc.)

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 129 A Plaudite and Deo Gratias for so happy an euente, And then to borrowe a nappe, I shalbe contente. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* v. ii, For Gammer Gurtons nedle sake, let vs haue a plaudytie. 1623 I. M. *To Mem. Shaks.* in *S.'s Wks.*, That's but an Exit of Mortalitie; This, a Re-entrance to a Plaudite. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 248 ¶5 The House passed his Account with a Plaudite.

Plau·ditor. *rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. PLAUDIT + -OR, or f. L. *plaudĕre* to applaud (*plaudit-* being erron. taken as ppl. stem) + -OR; cf. *auditor*.] One who applauds. So **Plau·ditory** *a.*, applauding, applausive, laudatory.

1813 COLERIDGE *Lett.* II. 604 No dramatic author ever had so large a number of unsolicited, unknown, yet predetermined plauditors in the theatre, as I had. *a* 1845 HOOD *Lit. & Literal* xiv, Her sister auditory All sitting round, with grave and learned faces, Were very plauditory. 1847 SIR H. TAYLOR *Poems, Heroism in Shade* i, A thousand journals teem with good report And plauditory paragraph.

Plaunche, Plauncher(e, -our(e, obs. ff. PLANCH, PLANCHER. **Plaunflet,** obs. erron. f. PAMPHLET. **Plaunke,** obs. f. PLANK.

†Plause. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plaus-us* (*u*- stem), vbl. sb. f. *plaudĕre* to applaud.] Applause.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 188 So desyrus was he to prowle after vaine plause and congratulation. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* II. 396 To gain to themselves the popular plause of meekness and mildness.

Plausibility (plɔ̄zĭbi·lĭti). [f. L. *plausibilis* (see PLAUSIBLE) + -ITY. So F. *plausibilité* (1725).] The quality of being plausible.

†1. Readiness to applaud or approve. *Obs.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 287 He..was conducted through the Citie of London with great admiration and plausibilitie of the people running plentifully on all sides. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 106 Although the ancient Oratours received this token of approbation from the hands of their auditors yet they never exhibited upon any occasion such Manuall plausibilitie to the people.

† 2. The quality of deserving applause or approval; agreeableness of manner or behaviour, affability; with *pl.*, an instance of this, something worthy of applause; a praiseworthy quality or trait, an agreeable or courteous act. (Cf. PLAUSIBLE *a.* 2.) *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 69 What's the saluation of Dauid Gorge? A Nullitie... What the plausibilitie of Martin? A Nullitie. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xxiii. 113 Hoping by such his plausibility and indulgences to purchase to himselfe their best concurrence for the obtaining of the Empire. 1673 VAUGHAN *Life & Death Jackson* in *J.'s Wks.* (1844) I. p. xlv, [He] carried on his dignity with that justice, modesty, integrity, fidelity, and other gracious plausibilities, that in a place of trust he contented those whom he could not satisfy. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* Pref., He must study the little plausibilities, and accomodate the humour of the Many.

3. As a quality of an argument, statement, or the like: Seeming worthiness of acceptance; appearance of reasonableness; speciousness.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 100 Using the plausibility of large and indefinite words to defend himself. *a* 1745 SWIFT (J.), The last excuse .. was allowed indeed to have more plausibility, but less truth. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 72 The Circumstances which gave some Plausibility to the Fiction. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 174 The analogy of other languages..gives plausibility to the conjecture. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 39 He had the art to throw an air of plausibility over the most improbable parts of his theory.

b. (with *pl.*) An instance of this; a plausible argument, statement, or the like.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. ii, Nothing but a heap of probable inducements, plausibilities, and witty entertainments. 1881 MORLEY *Cobden* xiv. (1902) 50/1 Political plausibilities will reconcile men to everything, save the deprivation of their property.

c. As a quality of a person: Capacity of putting forward plausible statements; fair-spokenness.

1754 FIELDING *Jon. Wild* II. iii, A certain plausibility in his voice and behaviour would have deceived any. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 233 His plausibility long enabled him to explain away his conduct.

†Plau·sibilize, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 7 **plausiblelize.** [f. next + -IZE.] *trans.* To render 'plausible' or acceptable; to ingratiate.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. iv. § 7 By erecting and endowing of Religious Houses; so to plausiblelize himself, especially among the Clergy.

Plausible (plɔ̄·zĭb'l), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6 **-able, -eble, -yble,** *Sc.* **plausabill, plawsable,** 6–7 **plaucible, plawsible.** [ad. L. *plausibilis* deserving applause, acceptable, f. *plaus-*, ppl. stem of *plaudĕre* to applaud: see PLAUD *v.* and -IBLE. Cf. F. *plausible* (1552).]

†1. Deserving of applause or approval; praiseworthy, laudable, commendable. *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* III. 216 To me it should not be very laborsom, and yet very plausible to bewray to their great shame those things that thei haue heretofore bosted vpon as mysteries. 1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii. Wks. (Grosart) I. 185 The plausible examples of..diuers such vertuous Romanes, and sundry excellent Greekes. 1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* I. 106 Those exercises which they thinke more plausible. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. III. ii. 401 Is there a fair and plausible Enthusiasm, a reasonable Extasy and Transport allow'd to other Subjects?

†2. Such as to be received with favour; acceptable, agreeable, pleasing, gratifying; winning public approval, generally acceptable, popular. *Obs.* (Common in late 16th and 17th c.)

1541 PAYNEL *Catiline* viii. 13 b, Nothynge was so plausyble to the people as perswasion agaynst the lawe Agraria. 1605 STOW *Ann.* 1426 This change was very plawsible or well pleasing to the Nobility and Gentrye. 1730 in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 249 Which..you will allow to be a desperate crisis under any party of the most plausible denomination. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iii. 30 An invective against royal pedantry would always be plausible.

†b. Of persons, or their manners, etc.: Affable, agreeable, ingratiating, winning. *Obs.* (Cf. 3 b.)

1577–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 667 The said souirteis requirit the saidis officiaris with plausabill wordis to desist. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 102 His aspect more plaucible and his countenance more amiable than the former. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 20 The Sonne of Man came in a kinde, affable, and plausible manner. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise of Wealth* Wks. 1730 I. 87 A plausible poetaster. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. ii, Robert, you are a careful, sober, plausible man.

3. Having an appearance or show of truth, reasonableness, or worth; apparently acceptable or trustworthy (but often with implication of mere appearance); fair-seeming, specious. (Chiefly of arguments or statements.)

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 369 Undir pretence of that plausabill argument to draw eftir thame a large tale of ignorant personis. 1588 *Ibid.* IV. 281 The narrative..hes ane plawsable face to cullour the..pretendit forme thairof. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 111 A Tempting Doctrine, plausible and new. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 ¶7 They told me such a plausible Story, that I laughed at their Contrivance. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxxii. 259 According even to the avowed doctrines of Protagoras and Gorgias, no truth could claim any higher value than that of a plausible opinion. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* ii. 48 Little aided by conjecture, however plausible.

b. Of persons: Characterized by presenting specious arguments, etc.; fair-spoken (with implication of deceit).

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 29 So is it with the Plausible. By dint of strenuously pretending to be good, wise, or zealous, they contract almost the form and pressure of virtue and wisdom. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 327 A swindler .., then a quack, then a smooth, plausible gentleman. 1875 A. R. HOPE *Schoolboy Friends* 221 He was a plausible, cunning kind of fellow.

†4. In active sense: Expressive of applause or approbation; plausive, applausive. *Obs.*

1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* ix. E vj b, Now I wyll haste to declare of what vertue & strength the true and Christen prayer is, yᵗ men..may wᵗ yᵉ more plausible & ioyful mindes delyght in it. 1567 [see PLAUDITE 1]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. l. 881 For a while there was a plausible noise heard among them as they approued his words. 1622 C. FITZ-GEFFRY *Elisha* 1 A plausible Acclamation, The Chariot of Israel, and the Horse-men thereof.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.* That which is plausible; a plausible argument or statement.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 162 Having enstared the silly vulgar, by the dazle of their fame, (in some plausible or other). 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 101 To discourse or argue plausibles. 1833 CARLYLE *Misc., Diderot* (1857) III. 226 The plausiblest Plausible on record.

C. *Comb.*, as *plausible-looking.*

1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* XCV, With a very plausible-looking tray.

Plau·sibleness. Now *rare.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being plausible; plausibility.

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* I. i. (1629) 9 Now a dayes, plausiblenesse gaines friends, and truth gets foes. 1681 TEMPLE *Mem.* III. Wks. 1731 I. 350 The Generality of the House of Commons were carried..with the Plausibleness of the Thing. 1705 S. CLARKE *Dem. Being God* ix. 139 It might have Objected with much more Plausibleness, that the Supreme Cause cannot be Free.

Plausibly (plɔ̄·zĭbli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY ².] In a plausible manner.

†1. With applause; approvingly. *Obs.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1887) 240 His iudgement is so often, and so plausibly vouched by the curteouse maister Askam. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1854 The Romans plausibly did give consent To Tarquin's everlasting banishment. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 272 We hope they wil plausibly receave our attempts, or candidely correct our misconjectures.

†2. a. So as to deserve applause, commendably. **b.** So as to win approval; acceptably, agreeably; affably. *Obs.*

1612 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* I. iv, Who can hope to liue plausibly and securely among so many Cains? 1631–2 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 253 If you preach for applause plausibly there is temporall punishment to be inflicted on you heere. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxx. 179 Having the Faculty of discoursing readily, and plausibly.

3. With an appearance of truth or trustworthiness; in a way that seems true or right; with fair show; speciously.

1648 *Hunting of Fox* 37 They might more plausibly induce the common People .. to come down to Whitehall. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. iii. 48 Mr. Hume .. plausibly apologizes for Charles I. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 26 In England, you may do what you like, provided you do it plausibly. Cant your way through life, with the seven deadly sins in your train. 1884 DUNCKLEY in *Manch. Exam.* 26 May 6/1 The objection might be urged more plausibly if the question..were now heard of for the first time.

Plausive (plɔ̄·siv), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *plaus-*, ppl. stem of *plaudĕre* (see PLAUD *v.*) + -IVE.]

1. Having the quality of applauding; expressive of approval by or as by applause; applausive.

1600 HEYWOOD *If you know not me* Wks. 1874 I. 202 Those plausiue shouts, which giue you entertaine. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 7 When Pandora had made this plausiue Oration. 1753 L. M. *Accomplished Woman* II. 4 They who have a good voice sing where there is an echo, with a better grace, because the plausive sound makes them more sprightly. 1819 WORDSW. *Malham Cove* 8 No mightier work had gained the plausive smile Of all-beholding Phoebus! 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Work & Days* Wks. (Bohn) III. 69 The young graduate .. would .. find the air faintly echoing with plausive academic thunders.

†2. a. = PLAUSIBLE 1 or 2. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. ii. 53 His plausiue words He scatter'd not in eares, but grafted them To grow there and to beare. 1602 — *Ham.* I. iv. 30 By some habit, that too much o'er-leavens The form of plausive manners.

†b. = PLAUSIBLE 3. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. i. 29 What shall I say I haue done? It must bee a very plausiue inuention that carries it. 1767 *Antiq.* in *Ann. Reg.* 145/1 The plausive arguments of false reasoners. 1820 R. POLWHELE *Introd. Lavington's Enthus. Meth. & Papists* C], All this under the plausive pretext of Toleration.

Plaustral (plɔ̄·străl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *plaustr-um* wagon + -AL.] Pertaining to a cart or wagon.

1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxxvi, Whether the grand jury, in council assembled, had gloriously combined to encourage plaustral merit, I cannot take upon me to determine. 1885 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* 138 The carter..is convinced of the truth of a plaustral catastrophe at first incredible to him.

†Plau·strary. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plaustrārius* belonging to a wagon, as sb. a wagoner; f. *plaustr-um* wagon: see -ARY.] A carter, a wagoner.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 56 b, These two Nymphes plaustraries, did take them downe [the contents of the 'repositorie or cupbord on wheels'] and deliver them..to the wayters. *Ibid.*, The first Table beeing chaunged, euerie thing was brought backe agayne to the plaustraries.

Plautine (plɔ̄·tain), *a.* [ad. L. *Plautīnus* of or belonging to Plautus.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, or in the style of the Roman comic poet Plautus (died B. C. 184).

1881 *Athenæum* 5 Feb. 199/3 The 'Miles'..contains much critical matter, not to speak of the Plautine verses which the author has included in his preface. 1882 A. S. WILKINS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 330/2 It is needless to dwell further upon the details of Plautine scansion.

Plaw, plawe, obs. forms of PLAY.

Plawncher, obs. form of PLANCHER *sb.*

Play (plē), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 **plega,** *Angl.* **plæga,** 3 **plæge, plæje, pleay, pleiȝe,** 3–7 **pley,** 4 **plei(e,** 4–5 **pleye**; 4 **plai,** 5–7 **playe,** 6 **plaie,** 4– **play.** *β.* 1 *Merc.* **plaga,** 3 **plaȝe, plahe,** 3–7 **plawe,** 4 **plau,** 5 **plaw.** *γ.* 3 **pleoi, pleowe, ploȝe, plohe.** [OE. *plega* (*plæga, plaga*), wk. sb. from root of *pleg(e)an, -ian, plægian, plagian* to PLAY, q. v. As in the verb, the phonology is difficult; the OE. forms vary in the vowel: the usual WSax. *plega* and Anglian *plæga* have given the mod. *play*; the Anglian *plaga* gave ME. *plahe, plawe*, and *plau*. The 13th c. *γ* forms appear to mix the two types *ple(o)ȝe* and *plawe.*]

I. Exercise, brisk or free movement or action.

†1. Of living beings: Active bodily exercise; brisk and vigorous action of the body or limbs, as in fencing, dancing, leaping, swimming, clapping of the hands. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1477 *Palestra*, plæga. *a* 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 743 Þa wearð burgwarum, eadgum, ece ȝefea Æþelinges plega. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 1334 Lagu-mearȝ snyrede ȝehlæsted to hyðe, þæt se hærn-flota æfter sund-plegan sond-lond ȝespearn. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1989 Þær wæs heard plega, wælgara wrixl, wiȝcyrm micel, hlud hildeswe. *c* 1050 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1004 (MSS. C. & D.) Þæt hi nǽfre wyrsan hand plegan on Angel cynne ne ȝemetton þonne Ulfcytel him to brohte. *c* 1050 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 414/14 *Gesticulatio*, plega. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 *C[h]orea cerutsia forum nonasterium*..þat on is pleȝe, þat oder [sic] drinch, þe þridde chepinge, þe ferðe chirche. *Ibid.*, At pleȝe he teldeð þe grune of idelnesse, for al hit is idel þat me at pleȝe bihalt..þih and shonkes and fet oppieð, wombe gosshieð. *a* 1290 *St. Eustace* 280 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 217 Þere nes non at þare plawe Wiþ sheld and spere out i-drawe þat hoere dunt atstode.

b. The gestures made by cock birds to attract the hens.

1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. I. iv. § 1. 72 The 'play' of the capercaillie is very remarkable; it is confined to the males, who indulge in it in order to astonish and excite the hens.

c. The action of lightly and briskly wielding or plying (as a weapon in a contest). Also in combinations, as *buckler-play, sword-play.*

Beowulf 2039 Oð ðæt hie forlæddan to ðam lindplegan swæse ȝesiðas. *c* 850 *Kentish Gloss., Libera tuta* [*tua*] *pelta*, ȝefria ðine plæȝsceldæ. *a* 1000 *Waldere* 13 Ðy ic ðe ȝesawe æt ðam sweordplegan .. wiȝ forbuȝan oððe on weal fleon. 1670 STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 48 [see SWORD-play]. 1839 LONGF. *Black Knight* ii, In the play of spears, Fell all the cavaliers. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vii, Some of the sword play being very skilful. 1899 E. J. CHAPMAN *Drama Two Lives, Fir-tree* 78, I thrust him to earth, and he lay there, For all his boasted play. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 8/6 The latter's play being very correct, and his parries both neat and effective.

2. Of physical things: Rapid, brisk, or light movement, usually alternating or fitful; elusive

change or transition (of light or colour); light motion about or impact upon something.

a 1628 F. Grevil *Mustapha* Chorus ii. Wks. (1633) 116 A play of Sunne-motes from mans small World come. 1801 Southey *Thalaba* vi. viii, Alternate light and darkness, like the play Of sunbeams on the warrior's burnish'd arms. 1805 W. Saunders *Min. Waters* 494 This operation always admits the play of air upon the feverish body. 1850 Bryant *Saw-Mill* Poet. Wks. (1903) 370 The saw, with restless play, Was cleaving through a fir-tree Its long and steady way. 1875 Dawson *Dawn of Life* ii. 13 Iridescent play of colours. *a* 1878 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 224 This gives..great play of light and shade.

b. Short for *play of light* or *colour* (as above).

1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 214 You may set it upon full scraped Ivory, which graceth the Play of the Stone. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 715 The intention of foils is either to increase the lustre or play of the stones, or more generally improve the colour, by giving an additional force to the tinge. *Ibid.* 716 To stones or pastes, that have some share of play, it gives a most beautiful brilliance.

†**3.** (In form *plaw*.) A boiling up, ebullition. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/2 Plaw, or plawynge, *bullicio, ebullicio*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xiv. xvii, Boile them al together at a soft fire, until they haue had ten plawes or walmes.

4. *fig.* and *gen.* Action, activity, operation, working: often implying the ideas of rapid movement or change, variety, etc. (Now almost always of abstract things, as feeling, fancy, thought, etc.; formerly of persons.)

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iv. viii. 114 Without stratagem, But in plaine shock, and euen play of Battaile. 1649 J. E[llistone] tr. *Behmen's Epist.* vi. § 44 God hath made all things in his Divine pley or operation out of his Spiration. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 312 There will be a play of double affinity, and a double decomposition will take place. 1837 Disraeli *Venetia* iii. ii, That enchanting play of fancy which had once characterized her, 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 232 The play of evil passions gives infinite subjects for dramatic interests. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. p. xviii, The lively play of fancy.

b. Phr. †*In play*: actively engaged or employed; so *out of play*, unoccupied, out of employment or office (*obs.*). *In full play*: in full action or operation, acting with its full force.

1661 Pepys *Diary* 2 Sept., There are endeavours to get my Lord out of play at sea. 1669 *Ibid.* 26 Jan., My Lord Privy Seale, whom I never before knew to be in so much play, as to be of the Cabinet. 1719 Swift *To Yng. Clergyman* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 19 Men who were impatient of being out of play, have been forced to..reconcile their former tenets with every new system of administration. 1844 Alb. Smith *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xviii, The usual bustle was in full play. 1873 Lytton *Coming Race* v, There was a huge engine in the wall which was in full play.

c. *To hold* or *keep* (a person, etc.) *in play* (orig. *to hold* or *keep* (a person) *play*): to keep exercised, occupied, or engaged; to give (a person) something to do (usually in the way of self-defence or delay, as in a contest). Also, to keep (something) in exercise or practice (quot. 1809).

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 37 b, The Capitayn .. prayed God that the Kynge of Scottes woulde come wyth hys puyssaunce, for he woulde kepe hym playe tyll the tyme that the Kynge of Englande came oute of Fraunce. 1582 Munday *Eng. Rom. Life* 10 They must war within, while other holds them playe with out. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. xlvi. 662 [He] had by all the devises and policies of warre, mocked him and kept him play. *c* 1645 T. Tullie *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 12 Forest was the only man who held the Cavalliers in play. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 30 To overcome them, or else to hold them play. 1714 Swift *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1755 II. i. 207 A struggling faction kept them continually in play. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. P 7 To keep my devotion and my wind in play by the rehearsal of an anthem or two. 1842 Macaulay *Lays, Horatius* xxix, I, with two more to help me, Will hold the foe in play. 1851 J. Richardson in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 234/2 Nothing that we have fallen in with..could hold her play.

d. *To come into* (†*in*) *play*: to come into action or operation, become active (formerly of persons: cf. b). So *to bring* or *call into play*: to begin to exercise, bring into action, make active.

1650 Weldon *Crt. Jas. I* 41 Salisbury liking not that any of Essex his faction should come into play. 1691 Locke *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 54 Today your new Coin comes in play, which is 5 per Cent. lighter. 1706 Baynard in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* ii. 336 A Distemper in England almost worn out, but now it begins to come in Play again. 1799 Han. More *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 115 Those societies in which their kind of talents are not likely to be brought into play. 1842 A. Combe *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 124 The muscular fibres of the stomach .. next come into play. 1865 M. Arnold *Ess. in Crit.* ii. 81 The intelligence and judgment of Mr. Ruskin..are brought into play. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* i. i. § 3 The reaction of his brain upon the impressions which called it into play.

e. *To make play*: in *Racing* and *Hunting*, to exercise pursuers or followers; in *Pugilism*, to deliver blows actively or with effect; hence *gen.* to act effectively, produce an effect; to hasten or hurry on. (In quots. 1813, 1889, to keep an adversary engaged: cf. c.)

1799 E. Du Bois *Piece Family Biog.* I. 152 A pause having succeeded..Mr. Burley thought it a fit time (in the jockey-term) to make his play. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 76 Gully made play, and planted two other blows on his adversary's head. 1809 *Ibid.* XXXIII. 89 The fox .. made play towards Mr. Thellusson's. 1813 *Ibid.* XLII. 243 A young bull of great game, made play for no less than nine-and-twenty dogs. 1824 Byron *Juan* xvi. lxxviii, But I'm too late, and therefore must make play. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* ii. v, There he goes in, making play with both hands. 1883 *Scotsman* 11 July 10/1 Fontenoy made play to the distance, where the favourite took the lead. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* 75, I trust that the Duke will muster every man he can, and make play until the royal forces come up.

5. Free or unimpeded movement (usually from or about a fixed point); the proper motion of a piece of mechanism, or a part of the living body.

1653 Walton *Angler* ii. 53 Give him [the chub] play enough before you offer to take him out of the water. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 326 Now the Distance between these two Marks, is the Measure..of the Tongue's Play at the place of pressure. 1778 Johnson in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* Aug., Such a..restless, fatiguing play of the muscles. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 270 The great length..is an obstacle to the play of the rudder. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* ii. vii, And felt once more The pulse's stirring play. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Aug. 526 The girl.. was an arch, ogling person, with..a great play of shoulders.

b. Freedom or room for movement; the space in or through which anything (esp. a piece of mechanism) can or does move.

1659 Leak *Waterwks.* 18 The two Buckets..have about three feet play, rising and falling. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 30 Square Staples, just fit to contain the Bolt with an easie Play. 1793 Herschel in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 217 The shake, or play, of the screw is less than 3-tenths of a division. 1858 G. Macdonald *Phantastes* (1878) II. xxi. 142 The overlappings in the lower part [of the armour] had more play than necessary. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 113 Taking care to allow at least an inch of play. 1876 J. Rose *Compl. Pract. Machinist* xix. 359 Suppose, for instance, there was even a trifling amount of play in the eccentric or any of the bolts.

c. *fig.* and *gen.* Free action; freedom, opportunity, or room for action; scope for activity.

1641 Milton *Reform.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 37 Yet to give them play front, and reare, it shall be my task to prove that Episcopacy..is not only not agreeable, but tending to the destruction of Monarchy. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 160 P 9 They..form themselves altogether upon Models, without giving the full Play to their own natural Parts. 1787 J. Whitaker *Mary Q. of Scots Vind.* I. i. § 3. 24 Those scenes ..where he might have a play for his activity in cunning. 1837 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xliv. (1870) II. 477 All pleasure, thus, arises from the free play of our faculties and capacities. 1857 Buckle *Civilization* I. viii. 543 Their comprehensive minds would, in that state of society, have found no play. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. iii. 325 To allow the fullest play to the Sentiment of State independence.

II. Exercise or action for amusement or diversion; and derived uses.

6. Exercise or action by way of recreation; amusement, diversion, sport, frolic. (In early use sometimes in bad sense: Vicious or profligate indulgence, revelling.) *At play*, engaged in playing.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 55 Vte we..al þese..daȝes forleten blisfulle songes, and pleȝe, and leden clenliche ure lif. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1502 In þe poynt of her play he poruayes a mynde. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 53 Whon þeos perlous prestes perceyued hire play. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 155 That is my play and my gladnesse to be aboute hym, and forto do hym seruice unto his ease and plesaunce. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 153 It is conuenient for euery man.. to haue playe & game accordynge to his degre. 1562 Rowbothum *Cheasts* Aj, Most men are geuen rather to play then to studye. 1667 Milton *P. L.* iv. 404 A Tiger, who by chance hath spi'd In some Purlieu two gentle Fawnes at play. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* i. iii, John naturally loved rough play. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* iv. cxli, But where his rude hut by the Danube lay There were his young barbarians all at play, There was their Dacian mother. *Proverb*, All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

β. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 111 Ceesse, & seie to hir no sawe To make hir for to synne assent, Ne please hir not with no nyce plawe, But kepe weel cristis comaundement.

γ. c 1205 Lay. 20844 Þan voxe þenne he bið baldest..& hafeð his fulle ploȝe [*c* 1275 pleay] & fuȝeles inoȝe.

†**b.** Enjoyment, pleasure, joy, delight; a source of delight. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 92 Hi nemeþ and useþ þe lostes ulessliche and þe pleȝes þet be þe vif wyttes comeþ. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* xii. 90 Þat þi play be plentevous in paradys with aungelys. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 363 Alas! and waloway! my child that was me lefe! My luf, my blood, my play, that neuer dyd man grefe! 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 181 Our peax, our play, our plane felicite.

β. c 1400 *Laud Troy-bk.* 15358 Achilles than & his ffelawe Rode so forth with mochel plawe.

c. Amorous disport; dalliance; sexual indulgence. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxi. 28 (Gr.) Ic wið bryde ne mot hæmed habban, ac me þæs hyhtplegan ȝeno wyrneð. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4876 The pley of love, for-ofte seke. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9247 (Trin.) Mathan gat Iacob in pleye, Iacob Ioseph soþ to seye. 1565 Randolph in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 215 He knoweth himself that he hath a partaker in play and game with him. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1045 Till dewie sleep Oppress'd them, wearied with thir amorous play.

β. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 537 Wapmen bi-gunnen quad mester, bi-twen hem-seluen hun-wreste plaȝe.

7. Jest, fun, sport (as opp. to *earnest*); trifling. Often in phr. *in play*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2816 Bot al þat loth to þaim can sai, þam thoght it was not bot in plai. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 974 Grisilde quod he as it were in his pley, How liketh thee my wyf and hire beautee? *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1662 Chaunge from ernest in to mery play. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxxiii. 27 To sum man thair it was no play The preving of his sciens. 1513 More *Rich. III* (1883) 60 The king .. made her answer part in ernest, part in play merely. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 367. I desire not sacrifices and inwards, these are plaies. *Mod.* Don't be offended; I only said it in play. (More commonly *in fun*.)

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18167 (Cott.) Hell and ded..O þair pride thoght þam litel plau And gaf a cri wit mikel au. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3101 Aski sche wil in plawe, And say þou comest fro me. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 15 If þu louest more worldes god þan god him-sel[e] in þi mod, þu shalt hit finde an yuel plawe.

b. *Play of words*: a playing or trifling with words; the use of words merely or mainly for the purpose of producing a rhetorical or fantastic effect. *Play on* or *upon words*: a sportive use of words so as to convey a double meaning, or produce a fantastic or humorous effect by similarity of sound with difference of meaning; a pun. See also Word-play.

1739 Hume *Hum. Nat.* (1874) I. ii. ii. 339 To confess..that human reason is nothing but a play of words. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. *Genius* 278, I cannot suspect so excellent a poet as Buchanan, of any intentional play on the words ingenium and genius. 1810 D. Stewart *Philos. Ess.* iii. 123 A childish play upon words, quite foreign to the point at issue. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. iii. ix. 114 It was..no mere play of words which induced the apostle to bring these two things [fulness of the Spirit and fulness of wine, Eph. v. 18] together. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 174 To a Latin or French speaker the name of Urse might have suggested an easy play upon words. 1881 Jowett *Thucyd.* I. Introd. 14 The Speeches of Thucydides everywhere exhibit the antitheses, the climaxes, the plays of words..of the rhetorician.

8. (with *pl.*) A particular amusement or diversion; a game, a sport. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 577 *Ludi litterari(i)*, staebplegan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Heora bliss & heora plegan wæron swiðe ȝenihtsume. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 812 He þat best doþ þat day, þer he schal winne þat play. 13.. *Cursor M.* 28146 (Cott.) Caroles, iolites, and plaies. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) iii. 17 For ioustynges, or for other pleyes and desportes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* liii. 178, I shall cause thee to be assayed at yᵉ playe of the chesse. *a* 1533 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C vij b, Dyuers persounes were assembled in the hygh mountayne Olimpius, to celebrate the playes. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 78 All hid, all hid, an old infant play. 1659 D. Pell *Improv. of Sea* 418 When the Sea was calm, they were at their sports and playes. 1728 T. Sheridan *Persius* iii. (1739) 44 The Boys had a Play of pitching Nuts into a narrow-mouth'd Vessel. 1798 Jane Austen *Northang. Abb.* i, She was fond of all boy's plays. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Experience* Wks. (Bohn) I. 178 The plays of children are nonsense, but very educative nonsense.

β. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 106 Ne luuede ha nane lihte plahen [*v.r.* plohen]. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3575 Moyses cam ner and saȝ ðis plaȝes, And ðis calf, and ðis ille laȝes.

b. A country pleasure-fair or wake. *dial.*

1847–78 Halliwell, *Play*...a country wake. *Somerset.* 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxii, Like people lifting weights at a country play.

†**9.** *transf.* An act or proceeding, esp. of a crafty or underhand kind; manner of action, method of proceeding; a trick, dodge, 'game'. *Obs.* (exc. as in 12).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16898 Þar bes an iuel plai. 1481 Caxton *Reynard* iii. (Arb.) 7 Maister reynard .. bygan to playe his olde playe [orig. *hi speelde sijn oude spel*], ffor he had caught kywaert by the throte. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxx. 183 3it was the pepill puneist for sic playis. 16.. Locke (J.), The answerer on his side makes it his play to distinguish as much as he can. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 184 When a man has any notable defect about him, 'tis the best of his play to try the Humour, if he can turn it into a fashion. 1746 *Rep. Cond. Sir J. Cope* 151 In case they keep only to their strong Passes, which hitherto has been their 'Play'.

β. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 5906 Vpe þin owe heued it ssal come þi moderes luþer plawe þoru ssedinge of þi broþer blod þat þus is ybroȝt of dawe.

†**b.** A device of magic, a trick of conjuring, or the like. *Obs.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3803 Yiff I now made a newe pley, ffor to take the sonne away. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 362 Than seide the mayden, that he sholde make yet a-nother pley that neuer myght faile.

10. The carrying on or playing of a game.

a 1450 Myrc 336 Bal and bares and suche play. *a* 1550 *Christis Kirke Gr.* i. i, Nowthir at Falkland on the grene, Nor Peblis at the play. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* v. i. 186 What is this Maid, with whom thou was't at play? 1673 Temple *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 76 No Man at Play sees a very great Game..unexpectedly lost, but he is apt to consider, whether it could have been saved. 1736 Gray *Statius* i. 32 Phlegyas the long-expected play began. 1736 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 17 The weather proving very rainy, they were forced to give over play. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 24 June, Play was very slow,..twenty minutes being consumed in getting ten runs.

β. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3176 Michel y desire þi loue to haue. Go we togider wiþ game & plawe.

b. Manner or style of playing; skill in playing.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* i. xxvi, If fortune brynge alwaye to one man iuell chaunces, whiche maketh the playe of the other suspected. 1773 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 91 The match of cricket,..showing great play on both sides. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xviii, Lord Etherington seemed at first indolently careless and indifferent about his play. 1850 'Bat' *Cricket. Man.* 101 His 'forward play' is .. peculiar. 1883 G. A. MacDonnell *Chess Life-Pictures* 166 Eliciting his opponent's best play.

c. A point in playing, a special device in a game. (Cf. 9.)

1778 C. Jones *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 41 If you win that Trick, your next Play is, to throw out the Queen of Trumps.

d. *In play*: said of a ball, etc. = being played with, being used in the course of the game. So *out of play*. Hence *play*, transf. (in *Cricket* and *Football*), that part of the ground within definite boundaries in which the game, or the chief part of it, is carried on.

1849 in 'Bat' *Cricket. Man.* (1850) 56 If the striker touch.. the ball while in play. *Ibid.* 60 The fieldsman must return the ball so that it shall cross the play between the wicket and the bowling stump. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 7/2 Walton tried another big kick, but the ball fell in play, and was well returned by Strand-Jones.

e. Phr. † *Ball play* (obs.), *boy's play*, *child's play*: applied to anything that involves very little trouble, or is of very little importance; a very easy or trifling matter. (See BALL *sb.*[1] 21, BOYS'-PLAY, CHILD *sb.* 18.) Formerly also with *a* (see 8).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 184 Al nis bute ase bal pleowe [*MS. C* ploȝe]. *c* 1386, etc. [see CHILD *sb.* 18]. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxvii. 107 Lorde, þis is not o. days werke ner children pley, but, þat more is, in þis shorte worde is includid all perfecciоun of Religiose folke. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 179 The persecution of thys yere was but a balle playe in comparison of that. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 246/1 To make this allegorie, is but a boyes play. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 322 Elderly gentlemen who had seen service which was no child's play. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* v. (1859) 74 This towing of captured whales is no boy's play.

† **f.** In the game of Beast: see quot. *Obs.*

1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* XXV. 153 They make three heaps, the King, the Play, and the Triolet...He that wins most tricks takes up the heap that is called the Play.

11. *spec.* The playing of a game or games for money or other valuable stakes; gaming, gambling.

a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 376 Ȝerne he wule þe bidde and preie þat þu legge þe cupe to pleie. *a* 1580 in *Stanyhurst's Æneis*, etc. (Arb.) 153 By losse in play men oft forget Thee duitye they dooe owe. 1683 EVELYN *Mem.* (1857) II. 194 He has lost immense sums at play. 1710 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4754/4 William Bradbury, Esq.; Deputy Groom-Porter, will open his House .. to Morrow .., to keep Play for all Persons of Quality and Gentlemen, being the only Person authorized so to do. 1769 *Junius Lett.* i. (1820) 4 A young nobleman,.. ruined by play. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. viii. (1852) 325 During the carnival, when, from the excitement of the season, the extent of play is always the greatest.

12. In phrases *fair play*, *foul play*: rarely *lit.* (in sense 10); usually *fig.* (in sense 9) action, conduct, dealing: see FAIR *a.* 10 c, FOUL *a.* 14 b. So † *false play*, treacherous dealing (*obs.*). *While the play is good* (Sc.), before the situation becomes serious, dangerous, or unpleasant.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lx. 248 (Harl. MS.) Tristing .. that the lion wolde have I-made a foule pleye withe þe lorde & withe þe lady. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 84 He is good in finding out false play or adulterie done. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1590) 181 b, To preuent any foule play that might be offered vnto me. 1595, etc. [see FAIR *a.* 10 c]. 1610, etc. [see FOUL *a.* 14 b]. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1068 We threw the Box and Dice away, Before y'had lost us at foul Play. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* VI. iv, She endeavoured .. to give both sides fair play. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvi, Come, laddie, speak while the play is good; you're too young to bear the burden will be laid on you else. 1843 LYTTON *My Novel* I. xii, In strict truth, it was hardly fair play—it was almost swindling. 1888 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 3/4 His hat and bag being missing has given rise to the conjecture of foul play. *Mod. Sc.* Stop now while the play is good; you have gone far enough.

13. [from the notion of recreation, sense 6] Cessation or abstinence from work; the condition of being idle, or not at work (as of workmen on strike, or out of employment); *the play* (Sc.), holiday from school.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 23 A father..whose skill.., had it stretch'd so far, would haue made nature immortall, and death should haue play for lacke of worke. 1723 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 33 There was never a schoolboy more desirous to have the play than I am to have leave of this world. 1772 MRS. MONTAGU in Doran *Lady Last C.* vii. (1873) 173 The doctor allowed me to ask a play for the boys, which made them very happy. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 150 You micht hae gien him the play the day, I think, sir, you micht hae gien him the play. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* (1863) 116 When miners and colliers strike they term it going to play. 1866 RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* 20 Down in the black north country, where 'play' means being laid up by sickness. 1892 *Daily News* 26 Feb. 5/7 The question of 'play' [is] to be discussed at the next conference [which] will settle the question how long the cessation of work is to last. 1900 STRAIN *Elmslie's Drag-net* 281 It was Saiterday mornin'—they get the play frae the school.

III. Mimic action, dramatic performance.

14. A mimic representation of some action or story, as a spectacle upon the stage, etc., a dramatic or theatrical performance. † Rarely without article, Dramatic performance, acting (quot. *c* 1325).

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. ii. § 2 Wearþ eft Godes wracu Romanum, þa hie æt hiora theatrum wæron mid heora plegan. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 285 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 336 Hii ben degised as turmentours that comen from clerkes plei. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 429 As men seyen in þe pley of ȝork. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2923 Hit is wondur to wit of wemen dissyre, þat.. prese vnto playes pepull to beholde. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 12 This yere beganne a gret pley from the begynnyng of the worlde.., that lastyd vij. dayes contynually. 1601 J. MANNINGHAM *Diary* (Camden) 18 Wee had a play called Twelve Night. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 96, I went to the Play, as they call it—Play, indeed! Faith, Brother, I think it was past a Joke. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xvii. (1876) 475 Give me some good plays to go to, played by great players. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xx, The tale that Master Jarvis told was as good as a play.

b. *transf.* A performance, proceeding, piece of action (in real life).

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 172 b, The Count saide nothing to it, but..attended the ende of the play. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlv, This little play being achieved, the Marquis of Steyne made..two profound bows ..and passed on.

15. A literary composition in the form of dialogue, adapted for performance on the stage with appropriate action, costume, and scenery, in imitation of real events; a dramatic piece, a drama.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/1 Pley.. þat begynnythe wythe myrthe, & endythe wythe sorowe, *tragedia*. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Playe an enterlude, *farce*. *Ibid.*, Playe of sadde matters, *tragedie*. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 By .. balades, plaies, rimes, songes, and other phantasies, subtilly and craftely instructing his highnes people. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* IV. v. (Arb.) 58 Few of the vniuersity pen plaies well, they smell too much of that writer Ouid, .. and talke too much of Proserpina and Iuppiter. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 P 2 A Scene in one of Fletcher's Plays. 1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* (1807) I. 203, I had no expectation of my play being accepted. 1892 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) II. 423, I have just had a letter from a man who wants my opinion as to whether Shakespeare's plays were written by Bacon. I feel inclined to write back, 'Sir, don't be a fool'.

IV. 16. Performance on a musical instrument. *rare.* ? *Obs.* (Usually *playing*.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5514 Pere he harpede so wel þat he payde al the route. .. After mete þo hii nolde nammore of is pley Hii ȝeue him siluer uor is gle, & lete him go is wey. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1762 In his lifte honde A flowte he helde..Ther with to pipe and make play. 1642 TASMAN *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 133 The play which they heard was much like that of a Jews-Trump. 1755 JOHNSON, *Play*, *n.s.*...8. Act of touching an instrument.

V. 17. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in senses 6–11) *play--bell*, *-hole*, *-hour*, *-matter*, *-place*, *-season*, *-spell*, *-task*; † *play-idle*, *-ruined*, *-wearied* adjs.; (in senses 14 and 15) *play-conceit*, *-fable*, *-folk*, *-gull*, *-haunter*, *-judger*, *-lover*, *-poet*, *-reader*, *-story*, *-taster*, *-writer*; *play-writing* sb. and adj.; **play-acting**, the acting of a play or plays, dramatic performance; **play-actor**, an actor of plays, a dramatic performer (= ACTOR 4, PLAYER 4); hence **play-actorism**, action or manner characteristic of a play-actor, theatrical or affected style or performance; **play-actress**, a female actor of plays (= ACTRESS 2); **play-bird**, a tame bird used as a decoy for catching wild birds in a net, in connexion with a *play-line* and *play-stick*; **play-bone**, a bone played with: = KNUCKLE-BONE 2 b; † **play-boy**, a school-boy actor; **play-club** (*Golf*), a wooden-headed club used in playing the ball off from the tee, a driver; **play-debt**, a debt incurred at play, a gaming debt; † **play-dresser**, one who arranges plays for acting; † **play-end**, an end of a speech from a play, a 'tag'; **play-field**, † (from 14) a field in which a play is acted; (from 10) a field for playing in, a playground; **play-jobber**, a writer of plays for hire; **play-line**, a line or cord attached to a *play-bird* (q. v.), by means of which it is 'played' or caused to flutter so as to entice other birds into the net; **play-map**, a dissected map for playing with, a puzzle-map; **play-mare** (*Sc.*) = HOBBY-HORSE 2; **play-money**, money won by play or gaming; **play-monger**, a dealer in, i. e. writer of, plays; **play-right**, the author's proprietary right of performance of a musical or dramatic composition; **play-seer**, one who (habitually) sees plays, a playgoer; **play-stick**, a stick upon which a *play-bird* (q. v.) is tied by a loose knot; **play-table**, a gaming-table. See also PLAY-BILL, -BOOK, etc.

1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 184 The habit of *play-acting .. never wholly expired. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 Oct. 5/2 Elizabeth Inchbald, beloved of playgoers in her day both for her play-writing and her play-acting. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* ** vij b, If any *Play-Actors or Spectators thinke themselves injured by any censure I have here past upon them. 1893 F. F. MOORE *I Forbid Banns* 138 We are more or less play-actors. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. vii. 156 Sterling's view of the Pope .. doing his big *play-actorism under God's earnest sky. 1867 — *Remin.* (1881) II. 187 Our main revenue three or four (?) years now was lectures;..Detestable mixture of prophecy and play-actorism. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 30 Mar. 773 To those daughters..he gave a late *play-actress for mother-in-law! 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* I. i, Did you ever hear that our mistress was a play-actress when our master married her? 1878 M. BROWNE *Pract. Taxidermy* ii. 26 An important actor in the performance is the '*playbird', which is a bird braced by a peculiar knot or 'brace'..on an arrangement called the playstick. *Ibid.* 27 Directly birds appear, the playline is smartly pulled, which has the effect of jerking the playbird upwards, while at the same time it flutters its wings to regain its perch. This motion is mistaken by the wild birds as a natural proceeding; they accordingly alight around the playbird. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, Pretty boy! Goes he to school?.. He prates Latin, An it were a parrot, or a *play-boy. 1857 *Chambers' Inform. People* II. 693/2 The *play-club is for swiping off the tee, and is further used throughout the green if the ball is lying fair, and the distance more than a full drive from the hole you are approaching. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 22 This we took for a *play-conceit ill transpros'd. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 295 She has several *Play-debts on her Hand, which must be discharged very suddenly. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* I. Wks. 1799 I. 241 They wou'd as soon now-a-days pay a tradesman's bill, as a play debt. 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct. 1333 Agreements ..they would regard as Englishmen regard play-debts. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii. 225 Arraigned vpon the Statute of Calumny..by the name of Demetrivs Fannivs, *play-dresser and plagiary. [Cf. III. iv. 339 One Demetrivs, a dresser of plaies about the towne.] 1599 — *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. i, Letting this gallant expresse himselfe..with *play-ends and pittifull verses. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xi. 313 The indecencies of their heathenish and idolatrous *play-fables. 1568 *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 463 Heir begynnis the Proclamatioun of the Play, made be Dauid Lynsayis, of the Month, Knicht in the *Playfeild. 1883 BESANT *All in Garden Fair* (1886) 22 This forest play-field. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 354 The words the *playfolk were talking. 1610 *Histrio-m.* II. 308 Give your *play-gull a stool, and my lady her fool, And her Usher potatos and marrow. 1634 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 49 It speakes onely of the expenses of common *play-haunters at publike playes and theatres. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 8 The traps will have to be set *in* the runs *and* about the *play-holes (*i. e.*, burrows only used, as their name implies, for playing or for use during the day). 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* Pref. (1871) 11 His *play-hours are occupied in fagging. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Sept. 2/1 Melodrama written by the most adroit *play-jobber of our times. 1672 LACY *Dumb Lady* Prol., Though such things pass on those that sermons hear, It will not do with *play-judgers, I fear. 1878 *Play-line [see *play-bird*]. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 16 Draw lines of different colours round the different counties .. and then cut out each separately, as in the common *play-maps that children take to pieces and put together. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xiv, Here one fellow.. performed the celebrated part of the hobby-horse, so often alluded to in our ancient drama. *Note*, This exhibition, the *play-mare of Scotland, stood high among holyday gambols. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 67, I haue lauished out too many wordes of this *play matter. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* I. iii, *Play-money..amongst people of quality, is a sacred thing, and not to be profaned. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 132 A professed iester, a Hick-scorner, a scoff-maister, a *playmunger, an Interluder. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Apr. 5/4 A miserable poverty of invention on the part of the playmonger. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 538 Perhaps the man..had no other *play-place for his wit. 1884 J. COLBORNE *Hicks Pasha* 188 The river and its banks are the play-place of the crocodile. 1625 BACON *Ess., Envy* (Arb.) 512 It must needs be, that he taketh a kinde of *plaie-pleasure, in looking vpon the Fortunes of others. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* (title-p.), Wherein it is .. evidenced .. that the profession of *Play-poets, of Stage Players; together with the penning, acting, and frequenting of Stage-playes, are vnlawfull, infamous and misbeseeming Christians. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) III. 289 To do justice to our *play-readers, they seldom fail to humour our poets in this respect. 1891 MARTINEAU in *Law Times* XC. 250/1 A musical composition, the copyright and *play-right of which had expired by effluxion of time. 1696 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 55 For converts and bullys, And *play-ruin'd cullys. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 120 P 3 The day lies heavy upon her until the *play-season returns. 1637 J. RUTTER *Cid* To Rdr. (1650) 4 This age consists of such *Play-seers. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 295 Allowed a *play-spell, perhaps a long yellow holiday. 1878 *Play-stick [see *play-bird*]. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. iii, He contrived to cut up that *play-story. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxv, The day after the meeting at the *play-table. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 102 The enormous extent of Fox's transactions at the play-tables is of course recorded. 1832 [R. CATTERMOLE] *Beckett*, etc. 191 Sunk to rest Like a *play-wearied child. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. (1847) 101/1 This would make them..perceive what despicable creatures our common rhimers and *playwriters be. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iv. 155 The common herd of Play-writers. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. P 9 [He] exercised his genius at one time in sonnets or ballads, at another in *play-writing.

Play (plē[1]), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 plez̄(i)an, (pleoz̄-), *Angl.* plæzian; 2–5 pleie, 3 plaiȝen, plæie, 3–5 pleiȝe, pleyȝe, 3–6 pley(e, 4–7 plai(e, playe, 4– play, (6 plee). *β.* 1 *Angl.* plazian, pleaz̄(i)an, 3 plaȝe, 4–6 plaw(e, 6 *Sc.* pla, 7–9 *dial.* plaw. *γ.* 2–3 ploȝe(n, 3 pleoȝe, pleowe, pleuwe. Pa. t. and pple. **played**: pa. t. 1 plezode, -ede, -ade, pleozede; plazade, pleazade; plæzde, plæzede. Pa. t. and pa. pple. often contracted; pa. t. 3–5 pleide, 4–5 pleyde, *Sc.* plait, 4–8 plaid, 6 playd, pled, *Sc.* plade, 7 plaide; pa. pple. 4 pleide, 6–7 playd, 6–8 plaid. [OE. *plegan*, *-ean*, *-ian*, *plazian*, *plæzian*, corresp. to MDu. *pleyen*, *pleien*, *playen* to dance, leap for joy, rejoice, be glad (Verwijs and Verdam). As to its relation to OS. *plegan*, Du. *plegen*, Ger. *pflegen* 'to have the care of, take charge of, attend to, cultivate', 'to be in the habit of, to be wont or accustomed to', see below. The OE. verb is recorded in several diverging forms, so that it is difficult to determine its original type and the conjugation to which it belonged. The usual WSax. form *plezian* gave ME. *pleie(n*, later *plaie(n*, *play*; the OE. *plazian* in Anglian texts gave the northern *plawe*, *plaw*. The *γ* forms in 2–3 *ploȝe*, *ploȝe*, *pleowe*, *pleuwe* appear to mix the two.

The primary senses under each of the following branches were already in OE., and the order of their development is more or less inferential; but all the uses of 'play' are seen

to arise naturally from a primary notion 'to exercise, bestir, or busily occupy oneself', the line of development having been here determined by the recreative or divertive purpose of the exercise. In the miners' 'play', the sense of exercise or busy occupation disappears, and the word (sense 15; cf. PLAY *sb.* 13) comes to mean 'to cease work, to be idle'. The same primary notion, developed in quite a different line, accounts for the continental senses of *plegen, pflegen*, 'to have care of, take kindly charge of, cultivate', and 'to be in the practice or habit of', notions which evidently imply occupying oneself busily about a thing or person, and habitually exercising oneself in an action.]

I. To exercise oneself, act or move energetically; actuate, exercise (a craft, etc.).

†1. *intr.* To exercise or occupy oneself, bestir one's self, be busily engaged; to act, operate, work. *Obs.* exc. with allusion to other senses.

c 960 *Laws Edgar* c. 64 (Thorpe *Laws* II. 258) We læraþ ðæt preost ne beo hunta ne hafecere ne tæflere ac plege on his bocum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 85 Þis is se ilca þe þu longe for his deaþe plegodest. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 307 Eche man to pleye with a plow pykoys or spade. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxiv. 116 [The air] susteyneth the byrdes fleeyng that so playe with their wynges and meue them so moche al aboute therin that they disporte them .. therin. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* v. v, Now shalle we see who shalle playe best for to preserue and saue hym self. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 194 Agricola hauing vnderstood by spies what way the enemies had taken..commandeth the lightest horsemen and footmen to play on their backes and maintaine the skirmish. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLII. i, So my soul in panting playeth, Thirsting on my God to look. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. (1686) 28 There is an invisible Agent,..who plays in the dark upon us. 1677 TEMPLE *Wks.* (1731) II. 453 Thus I believe that Affair plays at present. 1883 ROMANES *Ment. Evol. Anim.* iii. 34 There is no doubt that the hemispheres are able to 'play down' upon these ganglia as upon so many mechanisms.

† b. To clap with the hands; also *trans.* to clap (the hands). *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlvi. 2 Alle ðiode plaziað mid hondum [*omnes gentes plaudite manibus*]. *Ibid.* xcvii. 8 Flodas plæziað mid hondum [*flumina plaudent manibus*]. *a* 1000 *Elene* 806 (Gr.) He mid bæm handum eadiz and ægleaw upweard plegade. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xcvii[i]. 8 Stremes sal plaie handes, samen. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlvi[i]. 1 Ȝe alle folk, plaieþ wyþ hondes; gladeþ to God in voice of ioie. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xlvi. 1 All genge playes with hend.

c. To strut, dance, or otherwise display itself, as a cock bird before the hens. Also *play up.*

1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 4 Cocks will often play to, and disturb the others as they sit. *Ibid.*, Allowing eighteen inches between shelf and shelf, that powters may not be under the necessity of stooping for want of height, for in that case they would contract an habit of playing low, which spoils their carriage. 1768 G. WHITE *Selborne* xvi. (1853) 68 In breeding time the snipes play over the moors, piping and humming. 1892 *Cornh. Mag.* July 37, I have put black-cock up here many years ago, one of my woodland friends having invited me over to see them play up.

2. *intr.* Of living beings: To move about swiftly, with a lively, irregular, or capricious motion; to spring, fly, or dart to and fro; to gambol, frisk; to flit, flutter.

a 900 *Andreas* 370 (Gr.) Hornfisc plegode, glæd ȝeond garsecg. *a* 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 724 (Gr.) Swa hit him on innan com, hran æt heortan, hloh þa & plegode bode bitre ȝehuȝod. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Þat child on his blisse witeȝede; for hit floxede, and pleide to-ȝenes hire. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Auh ancren .. schulen .. lihture beon & swifture & ine so wide scheakeles pleien ine heouene. *c* 1275 LAY. 26941 And hit gan to daȝeȝe And þe deor to pleoye. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23342 On sunni dai To se fixs in a water plai. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 45 In May hit murȝeth when hit dawes, In dounes with this dueres plawes. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xl. 20 Surely the mountaines bring him foorth foode: where all the beasts of the field play. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 410 On smooth the Seale And bended Dolphins play. 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne* 9 Sept. (1853) 29 Bats drink on the wing .. by sipping the surface, as they play over pools and streams. 1869 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 209 He played about them like a bee, only to take in honey for his art-cell.

b. *trans.* To get or bring *into* something by playing or fluttering.

1657 tr. *De Imitatione* p. ix, Larkes..play themselves into the Fowlers net.

3. *intr.* Of things: To move briskly or lightly, especially with alternating or irregular motion, as lightning, flame, leaves in the wind, etc.; to change or alternate rapidly, as colours in iridescence or prismatic refraction; to pass gently around, or strike lightly upon, something, as waves, wind, light, etc.; to dance, flutter, flicker, glitter, ripple, vibrate, sway lightly, etc. Also *fig.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 34 Thereby a christall streame did gently play, Which from a sacred fountaine welled forth alway. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 62 As playes the Sunne vpon the glassie streames, Twinkling another counterfetted beame. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 18 The inward Imaginations that doe continually stirre and play in our mindes. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. c j, The Magnetical Atoms continually playing about them. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 432 When Western Winds on curling Waters play. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 418 You'll see in the night a sort of faint light'ning, flashing and playing..in that part of the Horizon. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* I, Her fine hair was negligently bound up in a silk net, and some tresses that had escaped it played on her neck. 1827 WILLIS *Healing Daughter Jairus* 33 The breaking waves play'd low upon the beach. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shaks.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 364 Shakespeare, Homer, Dante, Chaucer, saw the splendour of meaning that plays over the visible world. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xlii, The tempest still played around us. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 1537 A splendid silk..Where like a shoaling sea the lovely blue Play'd into green. 1869 HUGHES *Alfred Gt.* xxiii. 296 Alfred allows his fancy to play round the idea. 1871 H. AINSWORTH *Tower Hill* I. v, No smile ever played upon her thin lips.

b. *transf.* To exhibit a play of light or colour.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 214 A Rose Diamond that is very thick, it's good to set it close upon the Ivory, and it will play very well.

c. To keep moving to and fro. *rare.*

1513 SIR E. HOWARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 217 Barges .. to play up and down betwen Dover & Caleys. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 79 The other Canoo play'd off to see the event, and to carry tydings if the Indians should prove false.

4. *intr.* To bubble and roll about as a boiling liquid; to boil. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

(In this sense *plaw* is frequent dialectally, even where *play* is used in other senses.)

a 1400 *Sir Beues* (MS. E) 3455 Þoo hit dede seþe and playde ffaste. *c* 1400 *Sloane MS.* 3548 lf. 16 b, Put it ynne a cowdrun ful of water, and layt yt play longe þerin. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iii. 120 Sum spedis to graith haite wattir besely In caldrouns playing on the fire fast by. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 106 Fair words will not make the Pot play. 1813 PICKEN *Now-a-days* Misc. Poems I. 124 Their walth..Will ne'er gar Simon's pat play brown.

β. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 403/2 Plawyn, as pottys, *bullio, ferveo.* *a* 1450 *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 56 in *Anglia* XVIII. 296 Take a porcioun of whete-bren, And as it plawyth, cast þer in. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 664 In to the Cawdron I wylle yt Cast, I shalle..putt yt down that yt myght plawe. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 74 To *Play*, spoken of a pot, kettle or other vessel full of liquor, i. e. to boil...*In* Norfolk they pronounce it *plaw.*

b. *trans.* To cause to boil; to boil. Now *dial.*

α. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 42 Fyrst play þy water with hony and salt. 14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 100 Sett it down and play it up with cow mylk till yt be enoughe. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 42 A lesser lede to play growte in.

β. 1450 *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 54 in *Anglia* XVIII. 296 Tak and plaw it ouer þe fyir. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Plaw*, to parboil.

5. *intr.* To move, revolve, or oscillate freely (usually within a definite space); to have its proper unimpeded movement, as a part of any mechanism, or of the living body; to have free play.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 132 Warme life playes in that infants veines. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* II. ii, You should get this chayre let out o' the sides, for me, that my hips might play. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 12 The Tiller playeth in the Gunroome. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 24 You may see their heart play, and beat very orderly for a long time together. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. x. 16 [Hold] the Instrument..Horizontally as neer as you can, that the Needle may have liberty to play to and fro. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 130 Two Iron Eyes for the ends of Axis to play in. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Bones* (ed. 3) 151 The Condyles..play in the Cavity. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 670 The engines .. have a cogged wheel, playing in a rack, which is laid as one of the rails of the road. 1881 *All Year Round* XXVII. 294 The molars..play vertically on each other like a pair of scissors. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xliv. 145 To inquire how the organs of government which have been described play into one another in practice.

6. *trans.* To cause to play; to ply.

a. To wield (something) lightly and freely; to keep in motion or exercise; to actuate, operate, work (any instrument). *To play* (*a good*) *knife and fork*, to eat (well or heartily): see KNIFE AND FORK 1; so *to play a good stick*, to fence well.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 3 Thy late Customers, which play more sacks to the mill, haue brought greists or iests at least wise to be ground. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 50 ¶ 2 The dexterity..consists in playing the razor, with a nimble wrist, mighty near the nose without touching it. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Organ*, One of these hydraulic organs; with two men .. seeming to pump the water which plays it. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 47 You hear he plays a good [fiddle-]stick. 1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 88 Five hands at work...Two playing the whipsaw. ?*a* 1800 in *Daily News* 11 July (1892) 2/5 If .. he is a tolerable good boxer, can play a good stick. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, The Colonel plays a good knife and fork at tiffin. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 28 Nov. 548/1 The dining-hall..where the occupants..played 'knife and fork'.

† b. To deal with; to treat. *Obs.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. cxli. 153 b/1, I haue done many offences to my god, the whyche he playeth mekely, in yeuynge vnto me example. 1584 LODGE *Alarum agst. Usurers* 12 The vsurer that playes all this rie, will yet be counted an honest and well dealing man. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 619 It is a great mastery, saith Seneca, to play a man kindely.

c. To discharge, fire, let *off* (artillery, etc. (*on* or *upon* persons or things), also fireworks); to cause (a fountain or the like) to play. Also *fig.* In quot. 1881, to fire upon (an enemy).

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 385 Their battering Canon charged to the mouthes,..I'de play incessantly vpon these Iades. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. IV. 156 [He] plai'd so many Cannon-shot into the Town, that not a man durst appear. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* xii, The gate from the top of which the captains did play their slings at the enemies. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 197 To play a Spout still bigger,..there must be a large Pipe. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 152 ¶ 6 She played upon him so many smiles and glances, that she quite weakened and disarmed him. 1721 G. ROUSSILLON tr. *Vertot's Rev. Portug.* 83 There should be fireworks ready to be play'd off. 1759 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 62/2 Playing their hand-grenades and swivels to excellent purpose. 1790 *Laws of Harvard Coll.* 25 If any Scholar..shall make bonfires..or play off fireworks. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 25 Avoid .. a damp, foggy, rainy or windy night, to play your rockets. 1804 NICHOLL in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 530 They opened a battery, which they continued playing until 3 o'clock. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* I. iv. 154 We kept playing the enemy with round-shot.

† d. To toss *off*, to finish (liquor). *Obs. slang.*

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 18 When you breath in your watering, then they cry hem, and bid you play it off. 1607 DEKKER *Iests to make Merie* Wks. (Grosart) II. 350 He requested them to play off the sacke and begon.

e. *Angling.* To give play to (a fish); to allow (it) to exhaust itself by pulling against the line. Also *fig.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 69, I .. soon hooked a lovely carp. Play it, play it, said she: I did, and brought it to the bank. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 40 He seldom breaks his hold, if your tackle is strong and you play him properly. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. XXX. 414 The victim.. is played like a trout by the angler's reel. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 367 But where would be the sport of playing the fish? 1900 MRS. H. WARD *Eleanor* 97 Eleanor had played her with much tact, and now had her in her power.

f. To cause to move or pass lightly, flutter, glitter, etc. (see 3); to exhibit with brilliant effect; to draw lightly upon a surface.

a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 357 When the allurement of any sinful pleasure or profit plays itself before him. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 903 Tho' Fortune too (our third and final Theme), As an Accomplice, play'd her gaudy Plumes. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 127 She plays her lovely changes, not to enkindle dissolute affections, but to display her Creator's glory. 1812 R. H. in *Examiner* 25 May 329/1 The lines are played over the forms with .. freedom and taste. 1843 E. JONES *Sens. & Event* 54 Should prudes blame my dress, oh! all beautiful braid, Yellow, crimson, and green over it shall be play'd. 1892 *Electr. Engineer* 16 Sept. 285/2 The search-light began to play a dazzling ripple along their line from end to end.

7. *intr.* To operate artillery, to fire (*on* or *upon* persons or things); also said of the artillery, or of a mine, etc.: To be discharged or fired.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 56 They never cease playing with their Ordinance, till they have laide all levell with the ground. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Four Y. Eliz.* (Camden) 55 The artillerie plaied and the footemen skirmished most part of the daie. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 23 All this while the fortes played vpon the boates and our shippes. 1633 STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. ix. (1810)·116 When wee looked that the Cannon should begin to play. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Idea* Wks. (1711) 221 The mine going straight, there lacked nothing but some match to make it play. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 53 ¶ 11 The Cannon on each Side began to play. 1748 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 564, I played away with our cannon and small arms for an hour and ½. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 515 His cannon had hardly begun to play upon it, when Vidossan, the governor, retired with the garrison into the castle. 1894 LD. WOLSELEY *Life Marlborough* II. 181 Another battery..which Marlborough erected to play upon the south-eastern bastion.

fig. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 11 Nov. (O. H. S.) II. 306 He.. playd particularly [in his sermon]..upon the Bp. of Sarum.

b. Of a firework: To be fired, to go *off* (*fig.* in quot.).

1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* li, Yet it [a farce] played off, and bounced, and cracked, and made more sport than a firework.

8. *intr.* Of a fire-engine, fountain, etc.: To emit a jet of water, to spout. Also said of the water, or of the person, e. g. of a fireman.

1666 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* I. 233 The Cock would play altogether on that side. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 9 A great many Fountains, where the Water-works, playing very high, render the place altogether delightful. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 5 ¶ 3 There are several Engines filled with Water, and ready to play at a Minute's warning. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 166 The fountains played in his honour. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* iv, The fire-engine maker..having brought out the whole of his stock to play upon its last smouldering ashes. 1889 *Century Mag.* Apr. 929 The firemen were not permitted to play on the flames.

9. *trans.* To practise, perform, do (some action); † to ply, exercise (a craft) (*obs.*); to perform, execute (a movement); usually (influenced by II), to perform or practise in the way of sport, deceit, etc. (a trick, prank, joke, etc.: const. *on, upon*, or with simple dative). In mod. use also with *off* (? expressing complete or successful action: see OFF A. 5).

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* ii. § 40 Yif thow wolt pleie this craft with the arisyng of the Mone, loke thow rekne wel her cours howre by howre. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 307 Whan Gamelyn the yonge thus hadde pleyd his play. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 16623 (Trin.) And siþen in his honde þei sett: a muchel greet rede And to him pleiden a bobet. 1562 *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 138, I know that he playeth you many a like prank. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 121 Man.. Plaies such phantastique tricks before high heauen, As makes the Angels weepe. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 17 For fear he should play me some trick, I dissembled. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 134 Thus all through merry Islington These gambols he did play. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 190 *note*, The hoax played off some years back, by the late commentator Steevens. 1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister* 201 Only something very important would have made you play this game.

b. *Sc. colloq.*

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 134 See ane [tiger] play spang upon you .. and gar ye play tapsalteerie ower a precipice.

II. To exercise oneself in the way of diversion or amusement.

10. *intr.* To employ or exercise oneself in the way of amusement or recreation; to amuse or divert oneself; to sport, frolic. (Formerly in wider sense than now, including any kind of recreation, e. g. dancing.)

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* l. 391 We .. wiernað urum cildum urra peninga mid to plegianne. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 17 We sungun iuh & ne plægde ge. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þa children plogeden in þere strete heriende ure drihten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12275 Iesus went him for [*v.r.* forth] to plai Wit childir on an halidai. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3845 Elydour þorow a wode schold wende, ffor to pleye by o ryuer. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 169 Hire freendes .. schopen for to pleyen somwher elles. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 14 A louynge moder listeth to play with her souking childe. 1576 E. de Vere *Fayre Fooles* Poems (Grosart) 72 To playe with fooles, oh, what a foole was I. 1632 Milton *L'Allegro* 97 And young and old com forth to play On a Sunshine Holyday. 1742 Gray *Eton* 52 Regardless of their doom The little victims play! 1840 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1842) V. iii. 35 To make professions is to play with edge tools. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 151 The gardens of the Alhambra, where she had played as a child.

†**b.** To enjoy oneself, be joyful or merry, rejoice; esp. in reference to the bliss of heaven. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 41 Ah schulen ai bifore þe pleien in heuene. *a* 1272 *Luue Ron* 133 in *O. E. Misc.* 97 Alle heo schule wyþ engles pleye some and sauhte in heouene lyhte. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Anel. & Arc.* 321 For nowe I pleyn and now I playe. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 256, I loked on his lappe, a lazar lay þere-inne Among patriarkes and profetes pleyande togyderes.

c. To sport amorously; *euphem.* to have sexual intercourse. Cf. Play *sb.* 6 c. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xliii. 2 (Gr.) Ic seah wyhte wrætlice twa undearnunga ute plegan hæmedlaces. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2016 His wif .. One and stille ðo3t hire gamen Wið ioseph speken and plaiȝen samen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2617 Tristrem wiþ Ysoude lay..And wok And plaiden ay bitvene. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 542 Throu vomen that he vald with play. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* F j, Which for a lytel syluer made her to synne and playe with a pryour. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 124 Be bold to play, our sport is not in sight. 1667 Milton *P. L.* ix. 1027 Now let us play .. For never did thy Beautie .. so enflame my sense With ardor to enjoy thee.

†**11. a.** *refl.* To amuse or disport oneself: = 10.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 349/148 Þat þis child scholde wende an hontingue, to pleiȝen him. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3025 Þir breþer þam plaijd samen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 2 He for his desport is went into the feeldes hym to pleye. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iv. ix. (1869) 181 A crooked staf me lakketh .. and a bal to pleye me with. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xvii. 212 Go we..To playe vs in som othir place. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 37 Arthur.. humbly requyred both hys fader and moder .. to giue hym licence to go play hym a season out of that countrey. 1646 E. F[isher] *Marrow Mod. Divin.* (ed. 2) 171 We may go play us then, and work no working at all. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 182 When you have plaid your self with your own absurd fictions.

†**b.** *trans.* To furnish with the means of playing; to amuse. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 192 Some of the leves of the said bookes the said wyffes toke away with them, to play their children withall.

c. To bring *into* some condition, etc. by playing or sport.

1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. xix. 337 He playeth himself into Learning before he is aware of it.

12. *intr. Play with*: To amuse oneself with, sport with; to touch or finger lightly, or move slightly with the hand (a material object) by way of frivolous amusement; to treat (anything) lightly or frivolously; to dally, trifle, or toy with. In quot. 1827, to do what one will with, to manage according to one's pleasure. (See also 13 b, 14.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 135 Ne lat hie nawht ðe hande pleiȝende mid stikke. *c* 1205 Lay. 17335 Þus þe vnwise king plazede [*c* 1275 pleoyde] mid worden. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 76 ȝe þat pleieð mit te worlde, nulich ou nout iheren. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 1307 When welthe of þe worlde with þe plays, Sek þan gude consayl wyth-alle. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6248 When he his cosyn ded saw, Him lyked noght with Ector plaw. 1529 More *Dyaloge* i. Wks. 161/1 Than will he call it no scripture, as he plaith with the pystle of sainct Iames. 1650 Baxter *Saints' R.* iii. v. § 5 (1651) 95 As children, we play with our meat when we should eat it. 1782 Cowper *Table Talk* 505, I play with syllables, and sport in song. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. 263 It required a dexterous management to play with the army. 1870 J. H. Newman *Gram. Assent* ii. viii. 304 Montaigne..could thus afford to play with life, and the abysses into which it leads us.

13. *intr.* To do something which is not to be taken seriously, but merely as done in sport or frolic; to trifle *with*.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* xix. 14 And he was seen to hem as pleiynge to speke. — *Prov.* xxvi. 19 The man that gilendeli noȝeth to his frend, and whan he were caȝt, shal sey Pleiende I dide [1388 Y dide pleiynge]. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* v. xv, Loke hyther, callest thow this a playe .. now I shalle shewe to the how thow oughtest not to playe so with thy lord. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 97 The lacke of teachynge to shoote in Englande, causeth very manye men to playe with the kynges Actes. 1842 Marryat *Perc. Keene* x, I'd recommend you not to play with 'post captains', said Captain Bridgman.

b. *Play on* or *upon* (†*with*) *a word* or *words*: to make playful use of a double meaning of a word, by way of sport or jest; to pun. Also *trans.* in causative sense: see quot. 1865.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, ii. i. 84 Can sicke men play so nicely with their names? 1596 — *Merch. V.* iii. v. 48 How euerie foole can play vpon the word. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 125 They play often upon words. 1861 Wright *Ess. Archæol.* II. xxiii. 231 The wit or ingenuity of our Anglo-Saxon forefathers was chiefly exerted in playing upon words. 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* iii. v, A practice on words that plays them into inferences not contained in their meaning. 1876 Trevelyan *Macaulay* I. iii. 134 He did not play upon words as a habit.

†**c.** *Play upon*: to return or recur fancifully to (a phrase, etc.); to dwell upon by repetition; to harp on. *Obs.*

1605 Camden *Rem.* 14 Giraldus Cambrensis..played vpon these verses. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* i. ix. (1686) 26 Playing much upon the simile.

14. *intr.* To make sport or jest at another's expense; to mock. *Play with* (†*at*, †*on*, †*upon*): to befool, delude. Now *rare* or merged in 12. (Cf. also 30 a.)

c 1000 Ælfric *Gen.* xxi. 9 Sarra beheold hu Agares sunu wið Isaac plegode. *c* 1205 Lay. 16554, & þet þine hired-childeren pleien [*c* 1275 pleoye] mid þissen hunde scotien mid heore flan & his cun scenden anan. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lvii. 4 Vp on whom pleiden ȝee? [1388 On whom scorneden ȝe?] *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K k viij b, All ye togyther there present played, and gested on me. *c* 1550 Cheke *Matt.* ii. 16 Then Herood seing yt he was plaied withal bi ye wiseards. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxxix. xiii, Of all his haters none, But boasts his wrack and at his sorrow plaieth. 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* i. ii, That same heartlesse thing That Cowards will be bold to play upon. 17.. Pope (J.), I would make use of it rather to play upon those I despised, than to trifle with those I loved. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lay of Brown Rosary* i. vi, In a sternness quoth she, 'As thou play'st at the ball art thou playing with me?'

†**b.** *refl.* with *of*: To make fun of, mock at. *Obs.*

c 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxiii. 75 But iapeth & playeth her self of theym that ben amerouse.

c. *trans.* To make sport of. *colloq.*

1891 E. Kinglake *Australian at H.* 117 Those who pass their lives in the bush generally have their heart in the right place, though they do love to play a new chum.

15. *intr.* To abstain from work; to take a holiday. [A special development of sense 10.] Now *dial.* (esp. of workmen on strike or out of work).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 20 Some putten hem to þe plow, pleyed ful selde. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* i. ix. (1554) 19 b, A conuencion By enterchangyng, yt eche should reigne a yere The other absent to play & cum no nere. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 443 A Mason .. played 12 dayes and wrought 28 dayes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 889 They neuer gaue their enemies one day to rest or play be the space of .xx. dayes. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 132 b, Surely where nothyng is blameworthy their Pardon may goe play. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* iv. i. 12 Master Slender is let the Boyes leaue to play. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 24 May 4/2 The men will often play on a Monday. 1806 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 139 A workman was hired for 20 days, at 3*s.* per day, for every day he worked; but with this condition, that for every day he played, he should forfeit 1*s.* 1892 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 529/1 This Yorkshire idiom means to cease work from any cause whatever. A man ill with rheumatism told me that he had been 'playing' eight weeks. 1894 *Daily News* 13 July 7/7 Of the 70,000 men 'playing' 40,000 are non-unionists.

III. To engage in a game; and derived senses.

16. *trans.* To exercise or employ oneself in, engage in, practise (a game or definite form of amusement). Also in various figurative expressions: see Game *sb.* 5, also Bo-peep, Duck and drake, Fast and loose, Handy-dandy, etc.

c 888 K. Ælfred *Boeth.* xxxvi. § 5 [6] Ða cild..manigfealde plegan plegiaþ ðær hi hyriað ealdum monnum. *c* 1250, 1297 [see Game *sb.* 5, 3 b]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16623 (Cott.) And wit him þai plaid sitisott, And badd þat he suld rede Quilk o þaim him gaf þe dint. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 618 For fals Fortune hath pleyd a game Atte ches with me. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/2 Pleyyn buk hyde, *angulo*. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 350 The common games plaide and practised at Olympus. 1635 Jackson *Creed* viii. xxxi. § 7 As the proverb is, by-standers sometimes see more than they who play the game. 1679 *Establ. Test* 6 The After-game they had to play..was to be managed with..Skill. 1796 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 33/1 Next morning the match was played out. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 111 We are entitled to conclude that..the games played were each not less than 3 to 2 in favour of the bank. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* xiii, He taught young ladies to play billiards on a wet day. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 13 Feb. 16/4 The young men played fives against the tower.

b. *To play the game*: i. e. according to the rules, fairly; hence to 'play fair', act honourably. *colloq.*

1889 [see Game *sb.* 4 c]. 1898 Kipling *Day's Work* 248 (*Maltese Cat*) 'Play the game, don't talk', the Maltese Cat whickered. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 May 4/5 Men do not talk about their honour nowadays—they call it 'playing the game'.

c. To represent or imitate in sport; to make pretence of; to practise or deal with in a trifling way or as if for amusement, not seriously. Also with *obj. cl.* to pretend, make believe (*that* . . .) for sport or amusement.

c 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 233 Or elles that we pleye A pilgrymage, or goon out of the weye. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. i. *Old & New Schoolmaster*, The noises of children, playing their own fancies. 1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* vi. 113 We do not play politics. 1875 Lowell *Spenser* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 324 Children who play that everything is something else. 1890 *St. Nicholas Mag.* Oct. 1007 We played that we were gypsies. (Cf. 19.)

17. *intr.* To engage or take part in a game. In *Cricket* said esp. of the batsman.

c 1205 Lay. 8134 Summen pleoden on tæuelbrede [*c* 1275 Somme pleoide mid tauel]. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 310 A cheker he fond bi a cheire, He asked who wold play. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Avian* xxi, The euylle..whiche doo no thynge but playe with dees and cardes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 41 b, The Dolphyn..sent to hym [Henry V] a tunne of tennis balles to plaie with. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 163 He pleyth best that wins. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 34 Though they play for nothing, yet they take great pleasure at play. 1750 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) II. 334 A man may play with decency; but if he games he is disgraced. 1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 355 The batsman must play with additional care. 1884 H. C. Bunner in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 305/1 Well played, sir! 1884 Bligh in *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 3 The last named..playing in his best style.

b. *spec.* To play for stakes, esp. for the sake of gain; to game, gamble.

1511 *Churche of Yuell Men* (Pynson) E vij, They that make, sell, bye..the dyce, the cardes, the tables..They that serue the players .. they yt lende them money for to play. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, iii. vi. 119 When Lenitie and Crueltie play for a Kingdome, the gentler Gamester is the soonest winner. 1615 Stephens *Ess. & Char., Gamester* (1857) 169 If he plaies upon Ticket, he knowes you are..not able to exact, though hee resolves to pay nothing. 1789 Charlotte Smith *Ethelinde* (1814) I. 13 He has had the character of playing monstrous deep. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* vii. xii. P 8 Playing for his last stake. *a* 1832 Bentham *Deontol.* ii. (1834) II. 125 Every gamester who plays upon equal terms, plays to a disadvantage.

c. imper. *Play!* In *Cricket*, said by the bowler as a call to the batsman immediately before the delivery of the ball (formerly, by the umpire to the whole of the players at the beginning of each innings); also in *Lawn Tennis* by the server at the beginning of each service.

1787 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) p. xiii, When the umpire shall call 'play', the party refusing to play shall lose the match. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vii, 'Play', suddenly cried the bowler. 1869 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 639 'Play' again called, we commenced our innings.

d. *transf.* In *Cricket*, said of the ground or 'wicket', in reference to the effect of its condition upon the play.

1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 355 The ground will afterwards play as differently as possible. 1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 The wicket did not seem to play particularly well.

e. *Play or pay*: a sporting phrase meaning that, if one party to a race or other match fails to 'play' or engage in the match, his backers have to pay as if he had lost. Hence *play or pay bet*, a bet holding good whether the horse runs or not.

1821 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 55 A man gammons himself most truly, if he makes play or pay bets. 1877 H. Smart *Play or Pay* viii, I got a letter to say that the regiment had been wild enough to back me, run or not—play or pay, as it is termed, which means that they will have to pay their money even if I don't run.

18. *fig.* or *gen.* To act, behave, conduct oneself (in some specified way); chiefly in special phrases, as: **a.** *To play fair*: to play according to the rules of the game, without cheating; also, by extension, to do the thing regularly, to act justly or honourably. **b.** *To play false, foul, foully*; also *to play* a person *false*: to cheat in a game or contest; to deceive, betray. **c.** *To play into the hands of* (formerly also *to play* something *into the hands of*): to act so as to give an advantage to (another, either partner or opponent). **d.** *To play it on* (cf. 9): to play a trick upon, take in, cheat; so *to play* (*low*) *down on*, to take a mean or unfair advantage of. (*slang* or *colloq.*) So †*to play on* (or *with*) *both hands* (see Hand *sb.* 40); *to play on* or *upon the square* (see Square). Cf. also 16, 34.

1555 Latimer *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) II. 441 They think that other, hearing of such men's going to mass, do see or inquire of their behaviour there; and thus they play wilily, beguiling themselves. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* iv. i, If she have play'd loose with me, I'll cut her throat.

a. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 365 Playes faire in feere, and I schall fande to fest it With a faire flappe, and þer is one and þer is ij. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* iii. i. 141. 1763 C. Johnston *Reverie* I. 153 They will imagine that you do not play fair. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* vi, He'll get a..fellowship if they play him fair.

b. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 98 Venus played false. 1590- [see False B. 3]. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* iii. i. 3 Thou hast it now, King, Cawdor, Glamis, all As the weyard Women promis'd, and I feare Thou playd'st most fowly for't. 1680 Otway *Orphan* iv. iii. 1420, I fear the Priest has plaid us false. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* ii. ii, You play false with us, madam. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 3 Oct. 13/3 Appearances might play them false. 1893 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IV. 534/1 If my memory does not play me false, I have also seen the paper in the *Gent. Mag.*

c. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 32 If the Enemies themselves had not seasonably plaid an Opportunity into our Hands. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. vi. lxxv. 393 Whatever we play into their hands, is a losing game to this country. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* vii. xv. P 4, I suspect the clerk of the kitchen and my steward of playing into one another's hands. 1878 H. H. Gibbs *Ombre* 24 He will hold the balance between his friend and the Ombre; playing into the hand of one or the other so as to divide the tricks equally between them. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* iii. 29 The powers which he had played into the hands of the mob to obtain.

d. 1871 B. Harte *Heathen Chinee* iii, Yet he played it that day upon William And me in a way I despise. 1882 — *Flip* ii, It's playing it rather low down on the old man. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 288/1 This played it on our pursuers very neatly. 1904 Marie Corelli *God's Gd. Man* xxi, I always do my best not to play down on a woman.

19. *Play at*: **a.** To engage or take part in (a specified game or diversion; also *fig.*): = 16.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3965 Wiþ pleyynge [*v. rr.* pleynde, pleiȝinge] atte tables oþer atte chekere. *a* 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 344 Þenne he wule..bidde þe pleie at þe escheker. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/2 Pleyyn at the bal, *pililudo*. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 98 b, On saterday the kyng & the Emperor playd at tennice at the Bayne. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 290 To passe away the time, the Lantgrave playeth at the cardes. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* II. i. 32 If Hercules and Lychas plaie at dice Which is the better man. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 742 Our men plaied at foot-ball with them of the Iland. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. ii. 232 His Majesty..really never appeared better pleased than when playing at Loggerheads, provided there was a Prospect of his being a Gainer. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* I. xi, There, two can play at that game! 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* Christmas No. 22/1 'I'm afraid, doctor, we are playing at cross questions and crooked answers', said Fred.

b. To represent in sport; to amuse oneself with an imitation of: = 16 c.

1840 Macaulay *Clive* Ess. (1887) 527 There is still a Mogul, who is permitted to play at holding courts and receiving petitions. 1849 — *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 613 In their childhood, they were accustomed to play on the moor at the fight between King James's men and King Monmouth's men. 1895 Miss Symonds *Stud. Prejudices* vii, Though she had often played at sentiment, no man had ever touched her heart.

20. *trans.* with personal object. **a.** To play against; to contend against in a game.

c 1430 *Batayle of Egyngecourte* 281 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 104 We will play them euerychone, These lordes of Englande, at the tenys. 1832–8 Warren *Diary Physic.* (1844) II. iii. 175 'I'll play you for a hundred pounds, Doctor!' said Sir Henry; 'and give you a dozen!' 1899 *Tit-Bits* 8 Apr. 21/1 Charles Dawson, who has just been playing John Roberts for the championship [in billiards].

b. *Cricket*, etc. To employ (a person) to play; to employ in a match; to include in a team or company of players.

1887 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 3/4 Let the county committees stamp it out..simply by not playing the offenders. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 5/2 The day of bowlers who are played for their bowling only is over. 1894 *Times* 22 June 8/2 Surrey played the eleven which has done so well for them in their other matches.

21. To stake or wager in a game; to hazard at play. Also *fig.*

1483 Caxton *Cato* B iv b, A player [at dice] demaunded of hym [St. Bernard] yf he wolde playe his hors ageynst his sowle. 1575 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 441 Neither shall he plaie his said maisters goodes at tables, dyce, tennies, or any other unlawfull games. 1589 *Hay any Work* A iij b, Our brother Westchester had as liue playe twentie nobles in a night, at Priemeero on the cards. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 207 Shall I play my freedome at tray-trip, and becom thy bondslaue? 1870 Burton *Hist. Scot.* (1873) V. liii. 11 It gave the ruler of Scotland a stake which he might play against the English Government.

b. *Play away* (†*off*): to lose in gambling; *fig.* to waste, squander, throw away recklessly.

1562 *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 115 He hath no money but what he doth steal, And that he doth play away every deal. 1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 67 They will play away..Knights, Rooks,..and all. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 5 The King..at night..plaid off 200 guineas, according to custome. 1721 Ramsay *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 52 Some lords and lairds sell'd riggs and castles, And play'd them aff with tricky rascals. 1879 Dowden *Southey* iv. 112 Southey could not afford to play away his health at hazard.

c. To play for, or in order to gain (something); to gain by playing: in phr. *to play* Booty, *to play a* Prize (see these words).

22. To move or throw (a piece, etc., with which a game is played), as an item in the playing of the game. **a.** *Chess*, etc. To move (a man) to another square on the board.

1562 Rowbothum *Cheasts* B iv b, Thou shalt playe thy Queenes Paune as farre as he may go. 18.. Walker in *Mod. Hoyle* (1870) 45 When you touch a piece with the *bonâ fide* intention of playing it. 1870 *Ibid.* 48 To open the game well, some of the Pawns should be played out first.

b. *Cards.* To take (a card) from one's 'hand' and lay it face upwards on the table, in one's turn. Also *fig.* to bring forward, or deal with in some way (a thing or person) for one's own advantage; *to play one's cards well*, to make good use of one's resources or opportunities (cf. Card *sb.*[2] 2 d).

1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 82 That he [your Partner] may either Trump them, or play the best of that suit on the Board. You ought to have a special eye to what Cards are play'd out. 1753 Foote *Eng. in Paris* I. i, If Lucinda plays her Cards well, we have not much to fear from that Quarter. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. ii. P 10 After this, if you do not play your cards, it is your own fault. 1879 'Cavendish' *Card Ess.*, etc. 163 He played a false card. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* I. vii, She ought to make her way with 'en, if she plays her trump card aright.

c. In games with balls, as cricket, tennis, golf, billiards, bowls, etc.: To strike (the ball) with the bat, racket, stick, cue, etc., or to deliver it with the hand, so as to send it in a particular direction or place it in a particular position.

1850 F. T. Finch in 'Bat' *Cricket. Man.* 95 Cricket ne'er shall be forgot while we can play a ball. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 27 May, In the first innings the Antipodeans experienced some difficulty in playing the bowling of Jones. 1891 W. G. Grace *Cricket* 233 If you can keep up your wicket and play the ball hard away from you, runs are sure to come. 1901 H. McHugh *John Henry* 67 'Play the round ball!' suggests Shine.

d. *Play on* (*Cricket*): of a batsman, to play the ball on to his own wicket, putting himself 'out'.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, When only half-a-dozen had been scored, Butler played on, and he had to make way for Barnes. 1894 *Times* 10 July 11/2 Mr. Mordaunt was out in [Brockwell's] first over, for, after cutting and driving the ball for four, he played on.

23. To bring into some condition by playing; e. g. *to play oneself in*, to get into form for, or adapt oneself to the conditions of, play; *to play time out*, to extend the play until the end of the appointed time.

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 639 Their players had strict injunctions to 'play time out'. 1894 *Times* 10 July 11/2 Mr. Jackson came in with Dr. Grace, and, although a little uncomfortable at starting, soon played himself in.

24. *fig.* **a.** To use or treat as a counter or plaything, to manage or use for one's own ends (like chessmen or cards in a game).

1656 Cowley *Pind. Odes, Destinie* ii, Some Wisemen, and some Fools we call, Figures, alas, of Speech, for Destiny plays us all.

b. To set in opposition, oppose, pit (one person, thing, or party *against* another), esp. for one's own advantage. In mod. use almost always *play off*.

1643 *Plain English* (1690) 9 They could play one Party of Protestants against another. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* VI. § 24 An ingenious Free-thinker may..play one absurdity against another. 1807 *Ann. Reg.* 4/2 He played off France against the world, and the world against France. 1835 Lytton *Rienzi* x. iv, The folly is mine, to have played against the crafty Tribune so unequal a brain as thine. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Aug. 5/1 The Sultan likes to play off one Power against another.

c. *Play off*: to cause (a person) to exhibit himself disadvantageously.

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 497 P 3 His whole Delight was in finding out new Fools, and, as our Phrase is, playing them off, and making them shew themselves to advantage. 1713 Addison *Guard.* No. 71 P 5 He would now and then play them off, and expose them a little unmercifully. 1864 Miss Yonge *Trial* ix, She knew that he was playing the widow off, and that, when most smooth and bland in look and tone, he was inwardly chuckling.

d. To pass *off* as something else; to palm *off*.

1768 H. Walpole *Hist. Doubts* 99 Her preparing the way for her nephew, by first playing off and feeling the ground by a counterfeit. 1867 R. Giffen in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 620 The trick of playing off Jacobite effusions as the national literature of Scotland had already been found out.

IV. To exercise oneself or engage in sword-play, fighting, or fencing.

25. *intr.* To exercise oneself or contend with weapons; *spec.* to contend for exercise or pastime with swords, rapiers, or sticks; to joust, tourney; to fence. In quot. *a* 1300, ?to contend (in general sense). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 Lay. 8145 Þeos tweien cnihtes bi-gunnen mid sceldes to scurmen, ærst heo pleoweden [*c* 1275 pleoiden] and seoððe pliht makeden. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 8126 And pleoiden in þan feldes mid sceaftes and mid scealdes. *a* 1300 *K. Horn* 186 Us he dude lede Into a galeie, Wiþ þe se to pleie,..Wiþute sail and roþer. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* liv. 235 (Harl. MS.) Cornelius..come with the aduersarijs ayenste the Emperour, the whiche wolde play. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 7 b, I maie commende hym for plaiyng at weapons. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 206 He sends to know if your pleasure hold to play with Laertes. 1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing-Master* (ed. 2) 137 Whither you be to play with Blunts or Sharps. 1792 in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) I. 440 The officers..passed the whole day in the Sun, playing at long bullets.

† **b.** *trans.* with the bout or contest as object; as, *to play a play*, *to play a touch* (also *fig.*; see Touch *sb.*). *Obs.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 333 Goo thou to yonder pauelione and arme the of the best thou fyndest there, and I shalle playe a merueillous playe with the. 1562 *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 114, I care not much At the bucklers to play with thee one fair touch. 1598 R. Bernard tr. *Terence, Heauton.* II. iii, See you play no wild touch [L. *Vide sis, ne quid imprudens ruas*].

V. To perform instrumental music.

26. *intr.* To perform upon a musical instrument. Const. *on, upon* (†*at*, †*of*).

(In quot. *c* 825, the vb. seems to be intr. with *timpanan* in the instrumental case, as the trans. const. with the instrument as obj. is not otherwise known before the 18th c.; but the meaning may also be 'to actuate, operate', 6.)

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxvii. 26 Plæȝiendra [*c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm.) pleȝiyndra] timpanan [L. *tympanistriarum*]. *a* 1240 *Ureisun* 28 in *Cott. Hom.* 193 Murie dreameð engles biuoren þin onsene. Pleieð, and sweieð, and singeð, bi-tweonen. *c* 1275 Lay. 20315 His harpe he wende..And gan þare to-pleoye And moche game makie. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 111 Ther herd I pleyen vpon an harpe.. Orpheus ful craftely. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 115 Mynstrallez, playand on diuerse instrumentes of music. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 133 He can speake the tongues well, he plaies of Instrumentes, fewe men better. 1578 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 177 Man that pled on the drum. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C.* 395 All of them cannot paint or play on music. 1743 Pococke *Descr. East* I. 82 Three Mahometans sung Arab songs, beating time with their hands, and playing on a tambour. 1821 Shelley *Epipsychidion* 65 A Lute, which those whom love has taught to play Make music on. 1894 Hall Caine *Manxman* IV. xiv, There came the sound of a band playing at a distance.

b. Said of the instrument or the music itself.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 216 The musicke playes, vouchsafe some motion to it. 1660 Wood *Life* 11 Nov. (O. H. S.) I. 347 The canons and students of Ch. Ch...began to weare surplices and the organ playd. *a* 1706 R. Semple *Piper of Kilbarchan* vi, His pipe play'd trimly to the drum. 1860 Dickens *Uncomm. Trav.* v, Hear this instrument that was going to play. *Mod.* Just then the music began to play.

27. *trans.* To perform (music, or a piece of music) on an instrument.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 70 Where that Musyke, wyth all her minstralsy, Dyvers base daunces moost swetely dyd playe. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxviii, When thou, my music, music play'st, Upon that blessed wood. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* II. Stage Direct., Betwixt the Acts, a Warlike Tune is plaid. 1727 Gay *Begg. Op.* Introd. (1729) 2 Play away the ouverture. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* II. x. 218 Christabel played a *Capriccio* by Mendelssohn. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 862/2 The band played a republican air.

b. To express or describe by music played on an instrument. Chiefly *poet.*

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 830 Certain Turkish minstrels..plaied them up many a homely fit of mirth. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* v. 134 This tuneful Pipe; the same That play'd my Corydon's unhappy Flame.

28. To play or perform on (a musical instrument); to cause (it) to sound.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Flute*, an instrument of musick.. played by blowing in it with the mouth. 1755 Johnson, *To Play* v. a...2. To use an instrument of musick. [*Todd adds*: as, he plays the organ, fiddle, etc.] 1868 Miss Braddon *Dead Sea Fr.* (Tauchn.) II. vi. 97 Accompanying herself on the guitar, which she played with a rare perfection. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 14 Aug. 6/1 We have..to play the same fiddle as they played, but we..are not going to play the same tune.

29. With adverbial extension (*in*, *out*, *off*, *down*, *up*, etc.): To lead, dismiss, or accompany (persons) with instrumental music.

1844 W. H. Maxwell *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xxxiv. (1855) 275 The Frasers..were played off the ground by their pipers. 1883 in *Standard* 22 Mar. 3/3 The Hampshire Artillery Band will play all the Artillery past the saluting point. 1897 Hall Caine *Christian* x, A band in yellow and blue uniform sat playing the people in. 1898 Besant *Orange Girl* II. iii, The small band..played the company into the supper-room. *Mod.* The organist was playing the congregation out.

30. In figurative expressions.

a. *Play on* or *upon*; To make use of, or take advantage of (some quality or disposition of another person); to practise upon.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 380 You would play vpon mee; you would seem to know my stops. *Ibid.* 387–9. 1697 Collier *Ess.* II. (1703) 74 To flatter the vanity, and play upon the weakness of those in power. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* II. i. (1798) 32 You rely upon the mildness of my temper—you do, you Dog! you play upon the meekness of my disposition! 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. P 35 We fancied that he meant to play upon our fears. 1870 Rogers *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 116 It is..natural that shrewd politicians should play on the credulity of their dupes.

b. *To play first* or *second fiddle*: see Fiddle *sb.* 1 b. So *to play second*, to take a subordinate part.

1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* X. xi. P 10, I am..to play second fiddle in all your laudable enterprises. 1822, 1862 [see Fiddle *sb.* 1 b]. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 5/5 The Union will..have to play second to the Central Committee.

VI. To perform dramatically; and derived senses. [Cf. OE. *plegan* sb. pl. = L. *ludi* (see Play *sb.* 14); *pleghûs*, Playhouse, theatre.]

31. *trans.* To represent in mimic action; to perform as a spectacle upon the stage, etc.; to act (a pageant, drama, etc.). Also *fig.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 15 Alle þer garmentis ..ben atier taken of þe fend, to playe þer pagyn among men. 1457, 1468 [see Pageant *sb.* 1]. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* Wks. (Parker Soc.) I. 340 Mark what pageants have been played, and what are yet a playing, to separate us from the emperor. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 If ani..person..play in enterludes, sing or rime, any matter contrarie to the saide doctrine. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* vi. 44 Like as players on the stage do playe theyr playe. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xvii. (Arb.) 51 The old comedies were plaid in the broad streets vpon wagons or carts vncouered. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 93 The whil'st this Play is Playing. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 25 The doctor..had not the least suspicion of the farce that was playing. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Nov. 5/3 'Our Boys' was played at Guy's Hospital for the amusement.. of the nurses and patients. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Feb. 234 He was alone in the world, with his life half played.

b. *Play off*: to show off or exhibit by imitation. (Cf. *take off*.) ? *Obs.*

1789 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 21 Jan., He took up a fan.. and began playing off various imitative airs with it. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* VII. vii. P 16 Phenicia..was playing off the amiable and unaffected simpleton.

32. *trans. Play out*: to perform to the end; *fig.* to bring to an end; *refl.* to come to an end, become obsolete or effete.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 531 Out you Rogue, play out the Play. 1854 Mrs. Austin *Germany*, etc. 344 The great heroic tragedy which was now being played out on the world's stage. 1867 H. Conybeare in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 513 The classical and pointed styles each ran their course from prime to decadence—in fact, 'played themselves out' completely. 1884 J. Quincy *Figures of Past* 21 This burlesque ..gradually played itself out, and came to an end.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* or *pass.*

1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 680 As though it mattered how the farce plays out, So it be quickly played! 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 61 Gentlemaning as a profession has got to play out in a generation or two.

c. pa. pple. *Played out*: performed to the end; brought to an end, ended, finished, over and done with; also, exhausted, used up, effete, worn out. (Cf. 16, 22 b.) Hence as ppl. adj., *played-out.*

1863 HOLLAND *Lett. Joneses* xvi. 239 One remains, here and there, a played-out man. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* I. iv. 183 The drama is not yet entirely played out. 1870 B. HARTE *Further L. fr. Truthful James* i, Is our civilization a failure? Or is the Caucasian played out? 1887 *Westm. Rev.* June 272 About twelve or fifteen years ago he was decidedly of opinion that Mr. Gladstone was played out. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B. C.* 1887 xxix. (1892) 325 Today they had made forty miles over this awful trail, and their horses were not unnaturally quite played out.

33. To represent (a person or character) in a dramatic performance; to act the part of.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 198 Somtyme to shewe his lightnesse and maistrye He [Absolon] pleyeth Herodes vp on a Scaffold hye. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 79 In a stage play all the people know right wel that he that playeth the sowdayne is percase a sowter. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 31 Yet my chiefe humour is for a tyrant. I could play Ercles rarely. *a* 1631 DONNE *To Sir H. Wotton* Poems (1654) 146 Courts are Theaters, where some men play Princes, some slaves. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 92, I do not go to see the characters of the Bible played. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Marie Mignot*, Miss Kelly plays Marie.

34. Hence *fig.* in real life: To sustain the character of; to perform the duties or characteristic actions of; to act as if one were, act or behave as or like, act the part of. (Almost always with *the* before the object; rarely with adj. absol. as obj.). Esp. in various phrases, as *to play the* DEUCE, *the* DEVIL, *the* FOOL, *the* MAN, *the* MISCHIEF, POSSUM, REX, TRUANT, etc.: see the sbs.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1191 (1240) But ye han pleyed tyraunt neigh to longe, And hard was it your herte for to grave. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 29 Thai play not the fole, Contenuali thai go to scole. 1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* II. 381 Among sarseynes he pleied the lioun. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* 84 Auoyde murther, saue thy selfe, play the man, being compelde. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* A viij b, With extreme crueltie ye haue plaied the lordes ouer them. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 20 Will they now play the Hedgehog that..draue out his host? *a* 1603 J. RAYNOLDS *Proph. Obadiah* iii. (1613) 38 Play the good fellowes your selues with the world. 1662 BP. HOPKINS *Fun. Serm.* (1685) 93 Chess-men that on the board play the King and Queen, but in the bag are of the same materials, and rank with others. 1790–1811 COMBE *Devil on Two Sticks* (1817) I. 274 It is an act of prudence to let a woman play the fool, for fear she should play the devil. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* VIII. i, But we must not play sad now, my dear, I hope you will be happy here. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 5 It was gall to me to play jackal to Dan, or to any one else.

35. To sustain, represent, act (*a part, the part of*), *lit.* in dramatic performance, or *fig.* in real life: see PART *sb.* 9, 9 b.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 165 King Herodis part thai playit in to Scotland. 1548, 1584, 1590, 1600 [see PART *sb.* 9, 9 b]. 1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius* Printer to Rdr., The friends of the Sick must play their part, or all will not be well. 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 12 Though this expression of taking upon him the person [=*personam induere*] .. may not be culpable enough .. and therefore the case must be aggravated with *playing a part*; truly, the words of *playing the part* are too light and unbecoming. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 ¶ 4 She ought to play her Part in haste, when she considers that she is suddenly to quit the Stage. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 310 The parts which she was in the habit of playing, and .. the epilogues which it was her especial business to recite. 1881 GARDINER & MULLINGER *Introd. Stud. Eng. Hist.* I. xi. 195 In the final struggle..England played her part well.

36. *intr.* To act a drama, or a part in a drama; to perform; = ACT *v.* 8. Also *fig.*

1580 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 408 No Mayor..shall geve leave to any players to playe within the guilde hall. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 104 *Ham.* My Lord, you plaid once i th' University, you say? *Polon.* That I did my Lord, and was accounted a good Actor. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 889 Even kings but play, and when their part is done, Some other, worse or better, mount the throne. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiii, Did you ever play at Canterbury? 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. lxiv. 434 He showed that he was resolved to play on a vaster stage.

b. *Play up to* (*Theatrical slang*): to act in a drama so as to support or assist another actor; hence, to support, back up; to flatter, toady.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. i. ¶ 8 You want two good actors to play up to you. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 323 He [a performing elephant] was 'played up to' by the celebrated columbine, Mrs. Parker. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xv, There is your Playing-up toady, who, unconscious to its feeder, is always playing up to its feeder's weaknesses. 1894 *Times* 5 Mar. 14/1 The windows here are designed, like the others, to play up to the mosaics, and are not intended to be too visible in profile.

Play, obs. form of PLEA *sb.* and *v.*

Playable (plē·ăb'l), *a.* [f. PLAY *v.* + -ABLE.]

†**1.** Given to play, playful, sportive. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 282/2 Playabylle, *ludibundus, ludicris, ludicer, ludibilis.*

2. Capable of being played: in various senses.

1860 READE *8th Commandm.* 30 There were passages in 'Le Château Grantier' not playable in England. 1873 BENNETT & CAVENDISH *Billiard:* 480 Any ball or balls behind the baulk-line,..are not playable if the striker be in baulk. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 154 The part of chaplain-man-of-the-world, a part often played, and still playable. 1887 GURNEY *Tertium Quid* II. 57 Old Scotch tunes playable on the black keys of a piano. 1898 *Daily News* 5 May 5/2 The maestro laid the instrument down with an evident air of contempt, but he declared it to be playable.

b. Of a cricket or football ground or the like: Admitting of or fit for playing on.

1872 *Daily News* 15 July, The play did not commence ..until half-past 11, when the ground was rendered 'playable' by the copious use of sawdust. 1881 *Sportsman* 31 Jan. 4/5 Football at Oxford..the ground will hardly be playable until the end of this week.

Hence **Playabi·lity**, the quality of being playable.

1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 259 Bound up with the subject of play, and the precise amount of playfulness, or playability, to be looked for in the world.

Play-actor, -actress, etc.: see PLAY *sb.* 17.

Play-bill (plē·ibil). A bill or placard announcing a play and giving the names of the actors to whom the various parts are assigned.

1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 1 Having posted up a playbill for the title of his book..being prefer'd from writing of bills for the play-houses. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 47 ¶ 10 His first care in the morning is to read the play-bills. 1875 LOWELL *Wks.* (1890) IV. 376 Theatrical critiques as ephemeral as play-bills.

Play-book (plē·ibuk). Also without hyphen, as one word, or two. [f. PLAY *sb.* + BOOK *sb.* 3.] A book of plays or dramatic compositions.

1535 *Cov. Corp. Chr. Plays* App. II. 107 Payd for makyng of the playe-boke *vs.* 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* II. iii, Comparing of these eyes to the fairest flowers,..And such hyperboles stolen out of playbooks. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. x, Those cursed Play-books she reads have been her ruin. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 80 'Tis an old sneer, that the Irish peerage drew their names from playbooks.

Playcart, obs. f. PLACARD. **Playce**, obs. f. PLAICE. **Playche**, obs. f. PLEACH, PLASH *v.*[1] **Playd, -e**, obs. ff. PLAID, PLEA, PLEAD.

Play-day (plē·dē). A day given up to play; a day exempted from work; *esp.* a school holiday.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 555 Worse than either of these is he, who doth that vpon work days which should haue bin don on play-daies or idle holidaies. 1655 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 334 He wrote of the sending of Maynard, Windham and Twisden to the Towre; he said it was a strange playdaye. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1724) VI. x. 343 The Soul's Play-day is always the Devil's working Day, and the idler the Man, still the busier the Tempter. 1768 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 285 We have no play-days (the school being taught every day in the year but Sundays). 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. v. 172 In 1763 the play-days at the grammar school of Kinghorn were fixed as the afternoons of every Wednesday and Saturday.

attrib. 1747 W. DUNKIN in Francis *Horace, Ep.* II. ii. 209 Or, wanting Prudence, like a Play-day Boy Blindly rush on, to catch the flying Joy.

b. A week-day on which miners or others do not work: cf. PLAY *sb.* 13, *v.* 15.

1892 *Daily News* 12 Apr. 6/4 With reference to the weekly 'playday' being fixed for Saturday the agent advised the men to accept this,.. it was decided unanimously to take a ballot whether the playday shall be Monday, Thursday, or Saturday. 1901 *Daily Mail* 7 Nov. 3/4 The miners obeyed their leaders as implicitly as they did on..the three previous 'play-days'.

†**Playe,** *v. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pleiier*, in 3 sing. pres. *pleie* (mod.F. *plier* and *ployer*) to fold:—L. *plicāre*. A doublet of PLY *v.*] *trans.* To fold.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* III. 818 in *Babees Bk.* 326 Be-fore þo lorde and þe lady..Dowbelle he playes þo towelle þere.

Playe, playe, obs. forms of PLAY.

Played-out, *ppl. a.*: see PLAY *v.* 32 c.

Player (plē·ər). Forms: 1 plezere, 4 pleier, 5 pleyar(e, 5–6 pleyer, 5–7 plaier, (6 plear), 5– player. [OE. *plegere*, f. *plegan*, PLAY *v.* + -ER[1].]

I. One who plays.

1. In general sense. (The OE. instance appears to be a mistranslation by the glossator.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 108/9 *Gimnosophista*, nacod plezere. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xv. 17, I sat not in counseil of pleieres [Vulg. *ludentium*], and gloriede fro the face of thin hond. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/1 Pleyare, *lusor. Ibid.*, Pleyare, þat alwey wyl pley, *ludibundus.* 1552 HULOET, Player at all games, pastymes, and sportes, *ludio.* 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 113 You are Pictures out of doore..Wilde-Cats in your Kitchens..Players in your Huswiferie. 1755 JOHNSON, *Player*, an idler; a lazy person. *Mod.* A player at farming.

2. One who engages in some game, usually specified in the context, e.g. chess, draughts, cards, tennis; one who is practised or skilful in some game.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1232 Well he shalbe taught As a pleyer [? at chess] shuld to drawe another draught. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/2 Pleyar, at the bal, *pilludius. a* 1500 *MS. Ashm.* 344 (Bodl.) lf. 20 b, If ye be a great plaier [at chess] & can well defende your game. 1562 ROWBOTHUM *Cheasts* A iij, The by standers (whiche commonlye see more then the plaiers). 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 180 Let us doe as Players at Tennis, be judged by all the lookers on. 1778 C. JONES *Hoyle's Games Impr.* 25 Suppose I play the Ace of a Suit of which I have Ace, King, and three small ones; the last Player does not chuse to trump it, having none of the Suit. 1867 *Rugby School Football Laws* 19 Any player obtaining a ball in a maul, must have it down as soon as possible.

b. One who plays for stakes; a gambler.

1483 [see PLAY *v.* 21]. 1511 *Churche of Yuell Men* (Pynson) B vj, Oft my players shall say, by the deth such one was a nimble player, for when he came to the play he had but .v. s. & wan .x. s. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 11 Gardeners, and rake fetters; Players, purse cutters, money baterers. 1755 JOHNSON, *Player*..a gamester.

c. A professional player (at cricket, golf, etc.).

1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 29 The two matches between the Gentlemen and Players. 1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 210 Every player selected by the Committee to play against the Gentlemen is paid at the rate of £10 per match. 1895 *Daily News* 1 Aug. 6/2 England has generally the better of Scotland, both in the Amateur and Player [Golf] Championships.

†**3.** One who plays or performs tricks to amuse others: a juggler; an acrobat. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xlvii. (1869) 199 He maketh of þilke þat pleyen with hem, and doon it, hise principal pleyeres, and hise special jogeloresses. 1530 PALSGR. 255/1 Player or goer upon a corde, *batelleur.*

4. One who acts a character on the stage; a dramatic performer, an actor. (In earlier use, one who played in an interlude.)

1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/2 That .. Pleyers in their Enterludes, be not comprised in this Acte. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 325 And the sonday nexte after the xij. day, I 3afe to the pleyeres of Stoke, ij. s. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G viij, Counterfaityng plaiers of farces and mummeries. 1539 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xii. 240 To ye quenes pleyers for pleyng before ye king this Cristemas iiij li. 1569 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 132 A reward gevyn to Ser John' Beron plears. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 140 All the world's a stage, And all the men and women, meerely Players. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Self-Exam.* Wks. (1849) 175 A player is not a prince, because he acts the part of a prince. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Lett. Mann* (1834) I. 146 All the run is now after Garrick, a wine-merchant who is turned player at Goodman's-fields. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* xvii. (1876) 475 Give me some good plays to go to, played by great players.

5. One who plays on an instrument of music.

1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 18 Ye pleyers at yo orgenys ij d. 1539 BIBLE (Great) 1 *Sam.* xvi. 16 A man, that is a connyng player with [*Geneva* vpon] an harpe. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 198 The singers and players of instruments. 1837 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XV. 615/1 The safest compass for ordinary players [of the serpent] is the two first of these octaves.

II. That which plays.

†**6.** A metal pendant to a horse's bit. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Saliuéra*,..among riders the plate whereat the players that hang in the mids of a port are fastned. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* VI. (1617) 57 He shall haue Snaffles of all shapes..with small rings in the midst, and sundry sort of small players fastned to those ringes, which to a trauelling horse breedes pleasure. 1611 COTGR., *Babillons*, the players that hang to the port of a bitt.

†**7.** *pl.* The antennæ or palpi of an insect. *Obs.*

1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 5 Each Horn [of an Ant's Mouth] has several little Joints, by which means it plays to and fro with great facility...These Players are of particular Use to the Ants both in feeding themselves and also their Young.

8. *Billiards, Croquet.* (See quot.)

1868 W. J. WHITMORE *Croquet Tact.* 9 The term 'player' is borrowed from billiards in the game of pool, and means the ball which, after you have finished your break, will play on you.

III. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly *appositive*, in sense 4), as *player-devil, -girl, -man, -woman*, etc.; also **player-like** *a.*, like or befitting a player or actor.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iv. 24 b, Farre from all manour of playerlyke ostentation. 1596 LODGE *Wits Miserie* 40 They say likewise there is a Plaier Deuil, a handsome sonne of Mammons. 1641 PRYNNE *Antip.* 123 Pageants, Theaters, Sceans, and Player-like representations, in making a puppet-play. 1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* II. i, She chid me just now for liking the playermen. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 Apr., Miss Liddy had like to have run away with a player-man. 1837 H. AINSWORTH *Crichton* I. 197, I can scarce comprehend how a player-girl like this can occasion him so much trouble. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 5 Apr. 7/2 The player-manager is a rarity.

Play·eress. *rare.* [f. prec. + -ESS.] An actress.

1830 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 334 Many playeresses had become peeresses.

†**Play·erly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY[1].] Of the nature or character of an actor; befitting an actor.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* II. xiv. (1636) 132 Whereby they..were overcome in battell, not by true, and very kings, but this phantastike and playerly one. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* II. II. i. 852 The Satyricall invectiues of Iuuenall and others against this infamous Playerlie Emperor. *Ibid.* IV. i. 939 Poeticall streines of wit and Playerly eloquence.

Playfellow (plē·fe·lou). [f. PLAY *sb.* + FELLOW.] A companion in play or amusement: usually said of children or young people.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 36, I pray God send them both better playfelowes than hym. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 220. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* I. Wks. 1874 IV. 10 My wife and you, in youth were play-fellowes. 1790 COWPER *Lett.* 27 Feb., Mrs. Hewitt..was my playfellow at Berkhamstead. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* i, At times, a recollection of his old playfellow broke upon him through the haze in which he lived.

†**Playfere** (plē·fī·ə). *Obs.* Forms: 3 plaȝe iuere, pleiuere, 3–4 pleifere, 4 plaw-, plowe-, pleyefere, 4–7 pleyfere, 5–8 playfere, (5 -uere, fer, 5–7 -feer, -feere, 6 -flere, -feir, -feare, 7 -pheer(e; 5 pleyfer, playefere, 6 -feere, plaifere, -feere, -flere, -faier). [f. PLAY *sb.* + FERE *sb.*[1], companion, comrade.] A companion at play,

a playfellow, playmate; a companion generally, or in any action or course.

c 1205 LAY. 15631 Ifunden Mærlin & his playe-iueren [*c* 1275 pleiueres] mid him. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 56 Þi sari gast schal wið þe schucke pleiferen pleien in helle. *c* 1305 *St. Edmund Conf.* 64 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 72 Wiþ þe ic go in eche stede .. & þi pleyfere ic am. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric Poetry* xv. 49 Glotonie mi glemon wes, .. Erude wes my plowe fere. 1388 WYCLIF *Judg.* xi. 38 Whanne sche hadde go with hir felowis and pleiferis [1535 COVERD. playefeeres], sche biwepte hir maydynhed in the hillis. *a* 1400 *Transl. N. T., Acts* xiii. 1 (Paues 157) Manaen þat was þo plawfere [Vulg. *collactaneus*] of Herowde þo Tetrarke. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVIII. vi, Roger Mortymer..was that tyme the quenes playfeer. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 One of his wanton mates and vnthriftie plaifaiers. 1612 *Two Noble K.* IV. iii. 79 Learne what maides haue beene her companions and play-pheeres. *a* 1765 *Jew's Daughter* ii. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 244/1, I winna cum in, I cannae cum in, Without my play-feres nine.

fig. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 45 Thus pouerté & pacyence are nedes play-feres.

Play-field, -folk, etc.: see PLAY *sb.* 17.

Playful (plēⁱ·fůl), *a.* [f. PLAY *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of play, frolicsome, sportive; also, showing a sportive or sprightly humour, pleasantly humorous or jocular, jocund, merry.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 205 Tovel spac and slow to Godd .. sumewhile to pleiful, to drupi oðer hwiles. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 64, I was neuer, either Stoick in doctrine, or Anabaptist in Religion to mislike a merie, pleasant, and plaifull nature. *a* 1719 ADDISON (J.) He is scandalized at youth for being lively, and at childhood for being playful. 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Autumn* 340 Loud the Scream Of Geese impatient for the playful Stream. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 849 His scorn, his love, in playful words he spoke. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vii. 208 The playful humour which immortalised John Gilpin.

Play·fully, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a playful or sportive manner; jokingly.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 15 May an. 1776, I mentioned a scheme .. of making a tour to the Isle of Man..; and that Mr. Burke had playfully suggested as a motto, 'The proper study of Mankind is Man'. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 87 *Picaro, picara,* rogue (may be used playfully). 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 59 We playfully threatened that you should not be allowed to go home until the question was settled.

Play·fulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being playful; sportiveness.

1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 96 With all the baby playfulness of love. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 17 The [auroral] arch extending across the zenith, showed an uncommon playfulness of figure and variety of form. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* iv. 84 His playfulness was too near deadly earnest for the comedy of common life.

† **Play·game.** *Obs.* A game of play; a piece of sport; an amusement, a sport; a plaything.

1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* I. (1603) 62 They esteeme this our life to be but a play-game. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 30 A small Barke..that had beene rob'd by Pirates, and left as a play-game to the windes. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 496, I had been in many eminent Dangers before now,..but the worst of them all was but a Play-game in comparison with this.

Playg(e, Playght, obs. ff. PLAYOCK, PLAIT.

Playgoer (plēⁱ·gōu·ər). [f. PLAY *sb.* + GOER; cf. *church-goer.*] One who (habitually) goes to the play; a frequenter of the theatre.

1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Artif. Comedy Last Cent.,* The present generation of playgoers. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* II. 313 Night after night I revelled in delights known only to the play-goer of those times.

So **Play·go·ing** *sb.* and *a.*

1780 T. DAVIES *Mem. Garrick* (1808) II. 48 (Jod.) By these means drawing all the playgoing people to Drury Lane. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 6/6 It has been said that the playgoing of a man of the world is one of the most cherished of his memories.

Play·ground. A piece of ground used for playing on, esp. one attached to a school; hence, a place of recreation however extensive.

1794 SOUTHEY *Retrospect* 79 Much of the easy life the scholars led, Of spacious play-ground and of wholesome air, The best instruction and the tenderest care. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 16 June 1/2 Seminary at Thorp-Arch. .. Adjoining are extensive Play Grounds, for the recreation of the young gentlemen. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. i. 6 Our travellers .. have made of Switzerland an English playground. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 595 The neighbouring villages were the play-ground and sporting-ground of the townsmen.

fig. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 4 A Magazine is .. an actual playground of indulgence to young authors. 1901 *Expositor* July 47 Science has found the problem no playground.

Play·house. A house or building in which plays are acted; a theatre.

a 1000 *Aldhelm Glosses* (Napier) 1752 *Cælestis theatri,* þæs heofenlican pleghuses. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V,* II. Chorus 36 The Scene Is now transported (Gentles) to Southampton, There is the Play-house now, there must you sit. 1623 in *N. Shaks. Soc. Trans.* (1885) 504 Att the play howse called the Cockpitt in Drurie Lane. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Oct., The playhouses begin to play next week. 1733 SWIFT *Lett.* Wks. 1841 II. 697 The comedy (which our poor friend [Gay] gave to the playhouse the week before his death). 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. xiv. 164 There is no play-house in Harford, nor in any other place in Connecticut. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* iv. 30, I was born a lady..though I do sell fruit in the playhouse. 1892 [see PLAYLET].

fig. 1705 WYCHERLEY *Let. to Pope* 5 Nov., You may see.. the two great Play-houses of the Nation, those of the Lords and Commons, in dispute with one another.

b. *attrib.*

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* Prol. 16 The women .. swore they would be true;..But..they were made of play-house flesh and blood. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* iv. (1709) 45 A Play-house Wit is distinguish'd by wanting Understanding. 1761 (*title*) A New Academy of Compliments .. With a collection of the newest Play-house Songs. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* (Tauchn.) 54 Like playhouse-scenes, the shore slid past our sleepy eyes.

Playing (plēⁱ·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLAY *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb PLAY, in various senses.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXX. 88 As y me wende oiny pleyȝyng, on mi folie y thohte. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1744 Sche þouȝt .. Tristrem and y boaþe Beþ schent for our playing. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* CCXX, Edgar rode ouȝt on his pleyeng, In to a fforest neyȝt to his place. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlix. 1 Swete as hony.., and as the playenge of Musick. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) C v b, Some in ryding, some in playing at fence. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Serm. Paules Crosse* 60 They call it the playeing of the Bit in the horse mouth. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxiii, A playing of the Tide too and fro. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 148 The action.. mostly consisted in the playeing of the artillery. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 193 Conveying the Water ..for the playing of Jets. 1885 *Athenæum* 14 Nov. 645/2 First-class orchestral playing.

† **b.** (In form *plawing.*) Boiling. *Obs.*

1465 in *Paston Lett.* III. 435 A grete lede to brew v. comb malte with one plawyng. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* II. 14 Antiently Boyling was called Plawing.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *playing day, garment, gear, place, week*; † **playing-board,** a board for playing some game on, e. g. a dice-board or chess-board; **playing-croft** (*Sc.*), a playground; † **playing-fere,** a playfellow (= PLAYFERE); **playing-field,** a field or piece of ground for playing in; applied esp. to the playgrounds at Eton; **playing-house, -passage,** in quots. applied to the 'bower' constructed by bower-birds; † **playing-stock,** a butt for jests, a laughing-stock; † **playing-table** = *playing-board*; † **playing-thing** = PLAYTHING. See also PLAYING-CARD.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxii. (Bodl. MS.), And in anoþer manere table is a *pleyinge borde þat men pley one atte dies and oþer games. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 370 If both sexes have separate *playing-crofts. 1575 *Recorde's Gr. Artes* II. Ee vij b, Then woulde the quotient declare the true number of the working dayes, and not of *playing dayes. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 9 'Tis a playing day I see: how now Sir Hugh, no Schoole to day? 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 357 He louеþ somdel her norice and here *pleieng feres. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 115 Ffarewel, Goddys sustyr, and his pleynge fere, 1583-4 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 464 (Eton Coll. Acc.) Trees..aboute the *playinge fildes. 1736 H. WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 6 The playing fields at Eton. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* 28 Pass on to Eton... Mark well the playing fields. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/2 *Pleyynge garment, *ludix.* 1531 in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 44 The seid pagyaunt, with the implements and *playing geire belongyng to the same. 1840 GOULD in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 94 They are used by the birds as a *playing-house or 'run', as it is termed. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. ii. 63 The Bower-birds..tastefully ornamenting their *playing-passages with gaily-coloured objects. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 750 þat preui *pleyng place..loyned wel iustly to meliors chamber. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 87 b, The plaieng place, which they call *Theatrum Colosseum.* 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 748 To make him a *playing stock in common playes. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 282 b, I haue bought a *pleyeng tabull: with .xii. poyntis on the one syde: and chekers on the other syde. 1639 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 180, I give vnto my sonne-in-law..my inlaid playeing tables. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 404/2 *Pleyynge thynge, or thynge þat menn or chyldyr pley wythe. 1523-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 322 Mr parson gave to them a *playng weke to make mery. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Nov. 6/4 The desirability or otherwise of a 'playing' week at Christmas.

Play·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That plays, in various senses: see the verb.

a 1000 in Cockayne *Shrine* 32 An plegende cild arn under wænes hweowol. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (Addit. MS.), Þe pleiyng [*ludens*] besines of men. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 152 For to plant, some playing pieces there A mount was raysd, which kept the foe in feare. 1701 EVELYN *Diary* Apr. (1819) II. 74 A lively playing boy. 1871 RUSKIN in *Daily News* 24 Feb. (1898) 6/2 Turner has put the only piece of playing colour in all the picture into the reflections in this.

† **b.** Boiling. (Also in form *plawing.*) *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* 671 Hote playande picche amonge þe peple ȝeten. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 37 In playand water þou kast hit schalle To harden. 1552 HULOET, Bubble, lyke plawing water,..*scateo.*

Play·ing-card. Each card of a set or 'pack' used in playing various games: = CARD *sb.*2 1.

1543 tr. *Act* 3 *Edw. IV*, c. 4 No marchant..shal bryng.. into this realme .. chessemen, playeng cardes [*orig.* cardes a Juer]. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1925/4 Making of Playing Cards in England, (wherein many hundred Poor People are imployed). 1816 SINGER (*title*) Researches into the History of Playing Cards.

Play·ingly, *adv. rare.* [f. PLAYING *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In the way of play or recreation.

1680 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 2, I doe it playingly. This morning..I writt two lives

Play·less, *a.* [f. PLAY *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of play or plays (in different senses).

a 1834 COLERIDGE cited in WEBSTER (1864). 1882 C. S. in *Society* 14 Oct. 11/1 Is not France in the same deplorable playless condition? 1889 *Daily News* 28 May 5/2 The playless playgrounds of French schools.

Play·let. [f. as prec. + -LET.] A diminutive or short dramatic play.

1884 B. MATTHEWS in *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 916 In these beautiful and witty playlets there is but the ghost of an action. 1892 *Welsh Rev.* I. 752 The modern playhouse ..has become the home, not of the play, but the playlet.

† **Play·lome, -loom.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. PLAY *sb.* + ME. *lome,* LOOM.] An instrument of play: in quot. applied to a club.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 2013 Go reche me my playlome, And I salle go to hym sone..Ane iryne clobe takes he; Agayne Percevelle the fre He went than fulle right.

Play·-ma·ker. Now *rare.* A maker, composer, or writer of plays; a dramatic author.

1530 PALSGR. 255/1 Playe maker, *factevr, factiste.* 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 44 Perchance it is the Comick, whom naughtie Play-makers and Stage-keepers, have iustly made odious. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 261 He retired to the Metropolis, lived in Greys Inn, and set up for a play-maker. 1903 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. XI. 201/2 He insults Greene, Elderton, Tarleton, and all play-actors and play-makers.

Playman (plēⁱ·mæn). *nonce-wd.* A man addicted to play, a gamester.

1844 THACKERAY *B. Lyndon* xi, She knew that as a playman I had never failed in my word.

Playmate (plēⁱ·mēit). [f. PLAY *sb.* + MATE *sb.*2] A companion in play, a playfellow. Also *fig.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. III. lviii, The lovely playmates of pure verity. 1798 COLERIDGE *Frost at Midnight* 43 My play-mate when we both were clothed alike! 1828 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 213 Brother and playmate to all Nature. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. i. 14 Hunger and dirt for his playmates. 1879 MEREDITH *Egoist* vi, She had been taken by playmate boys in her infancy to peep into hedge-leaves.

Hence **Play·mating** *sb.*, the being playmates, companionship in play.

1888 G. W. CABLE in *Library Mag.* (N. Y.) May 21 Nor [is there] a tenth as much..playmating of white and colored children as there was in the days of slavery.

Play-money, -monger: see PLAY *sb.* 17.

Playn, -e, obs. ff. PLAIN, PLANE. **Playnchour, -shore,** variants of PLANCHER *sb.*1 **Playner,** obs. var. PLENAR. **Playnt,** obs. f. PLAINT, PLANT. **Playntain, -tein, -teyne,** obs. ff. PLANTAIN. **Playntie,** obs. Sc. form of PLENTY.

Playock, plaik, plaig (plēⁱ·ək, plēⁱk, plēg). *Sc.* Forms: *a.* 5 **playok,** 8– *dial.* **plack,** 9 **playock, -ick, playke, plaik.** *β.* 6 **playg,** 6– **plaig,** (**plague**). [f. PLAY *v.* or *sb.*: second element uncertain: ? *-ock* diminutive.] A plaything, toy.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. vi. 588 Westymentis, bukis, and othir ma Plesand playokis, he gave alsua. 1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 137 For mending of the Princis playg of silvir. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.), *Crepundia,* bairnes plagues. 1711 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 227 Send me word..what placks to buy for Mary. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 395 Put half a crown in the hand of each of the poor weans for a playock. 1821 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* I. 349 Forsaking the switch and quizzer and other plaiks invented by French barbers. *Mod. Sc.* Bring in your plaigs, it's gaun to rain. [See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

Play-right, -seer: see PLAY *sb.* 17.

Plays, obs. f. PLACE. **Plays(e, -sce, -sse,** obs. ff. PLAICE. **Playsance, -ant,** obs. ff. PLEASANCE, -ANT. **Playse, Playsir, -e,** obs. ff. PLEASE, PLEASURE.

Playsome (plēⁱ·sŏm), *a.* Now chiefly *dial.* [f. PLAY *sb.* + -SOME.] Inclined to play; playful.

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. III. iii. 137 All pleasant folke, well-minded, malicious, and playsome. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. II. iii. 117 Not asham'd of expressing any Extasy of Joy or playsom Humour. 1755 HUME *Nat. Hist. Relig.* Ess. 1817 II. 451 The playsome whimsies of monkeys. 1870 VERNEY *Lettice Lisle* 305 He always said he [the horse] were only playsome and that 'tweren't vice.

Hence **Play·somely** *adv.*, **Play·someness.**

a 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 56 He that were playsomely disposed. 1676 GLANVILL *Seasonable Reflect.* 108 How much slightness and playsomeness in speaking of serving God. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Camel-driver* 60 My playsomeness had pleased thee.

Playstead (plēⁱ·sted). ? *local.* [f. PLAY *sb.* + STEAD.] A place for play, a playground.

c 1251 *Bittlesden Chartulary* lf. 121 (B.M.), Et in campo orientali vna dimidia acra super playstude iuxta terram Roberti le deuenes. 1889 *Boston Even. Traveller* July, The fortunate children of Boston..go there [Franklin Park] ..and engage in games over the playstead.

Playster, -ir, obs. forms of PLASTER.

Play·stow. *local.* Forms: 1 **plegstów,** 3 **pleystow**; now (as place-name) **Plaistow, Plestor.** [OE. *plegstów* a place of play, a gymnasium, f. *pleg,* PLAY *sb.* + *stów* place.] A place of play, a playground; now surviving in names of English villages (*Plaistow* in Sussex and Essex), and in *Plestor,* name of an open space of about one third of an acre near the church at Selborne, Hants.

10.. *Sax. Leechd.* III. 206 [Ponne man] On plegstowe oððe on wafung stowe andbidian hine ȝesihð styrunge sume ȝetacnað. *c* 1050 *Cott. Cleopatra Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 411/45 *Gymnasio* on plegestowum. *Ibid.* 465/40 *Palestrarum,* ȝestrynga, plegstowa. 1789 WHITE *Antiq. Selborne* x, Sir Adam Gurdon .. in conjunction with his wife Constantia, in the year 1271, granted to the prior and convent of Selborne all his right and claim to a certain place, *placea,* called *La Pleystow,* in the village aforesaid, '*in liberam, puram, et perpetuam elemosinam*'. This *Pleystow, locus*

ludorum, or play-place, is a level area near the church of about forty-four yards by thirty-six, and is known now by the name of the *Plestor*. 1875 MORT. COLLINS *Thoughts in Gard.* (1880) II. 109 There is also to be a cross to his [Gilbert White's] memory...Is there no sculptor who could adorn that cross which is to be erected on the plaistor with a flying swallow in marble of Sicily?

Playsur(e, -yr(e, obs. ff. PLEASURE. **Playt, -e,** obs. ff. PLAIT, PLAT, PLATE, PLEA, PLEAD.

Plaything (plēi·þiŋ). [f. PLAY *sb.* + THING.] A thing to play with, a toy.

1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 450 Say he delighteth in armies and victories, and triumphs, and coronations: these are great in respect of playthings; but all these are feeble and pusillanimous to a great soul. 1690 LOCKE *Hum.Und.* I. iii. (1695) 14 A Child knows his Nurse and his Cradle, and by degrees the Play-things of a little more advanced Age. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 29 A Child would have cry'd half an Hour before it would have found out such a pretty Plaything. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxi. 207 Strange that these famine-pinched wanderers of the ice should rejoice in sports and play-things like the children of our own smiling sky.

b. *fig.* A man, animal, or thing, treated as a thing to be played with.

1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* I. i, Sylla too, a Boy, a Woman's Play-thing. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Akenside* Wks. IV. 289 A physician in a great city seems to be the mere plaything of Fortune. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 75 The Empire..had now become the plaything of a worthless woman.

c. *attrib.* (Chiefly *appositive.*)

1781 COWPER *Hope* 543 Yet charge not heavenly skill with having planned A play-thing world, unworthy of his hand. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* Ded., Fancy bestow'd a play-thing-lyre. 1851 H. D. WOLFF *Pict. Span. Life* 186 His plaything sword is quivering in the bully's heart.

Playtime (plēi·təim). [f. PLAY *sb.* + TIME *sb.*]

1. A time for play or recreation.

1661 COWLEY *Prop. Adv. Exp. Philos., School*, Upon Festivals and Play-times they should exercise themselves in the Fields by..Mustering and Training after the manner of Soldiers. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Cry of Children* i, They are weeping in the playtime of the others. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* iv. 37, I had come to the end of my play-time.

2. The time for the performance of a play.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. i. P 5, I waited with impatience for play-time.

Play·ward, *a. dial.* [f. as prec. + -WARD: cf. *wayward.*] Given or inclined to play; playful.

1882 T. HARDY *Two on Tower* i. I. 26 The maid was a..playward piece o' flesh when he married her. 1887 — *Woodlanders* I iv. 62 It seems no time ago that she was a little playward girl.

Playwoman (plēi·wu:măn). (?) *nonce-wd.* A woman who acts in plays; an actress.

1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 256 The brat of a wandering playwoman.

Play-work (plēi·wɒik).

1. Work of the nature of play; an easy or trifling occupation.

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 216 It was delightful to observe her enjoyment of this play-work. 1877 SYMONDS *Renaiss. Italy* 450 Cultivation of Latin poetry was no mere play-work to Italian scholars.

2. Work at plays or dramatic performances.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Nov. 12/1 At the Vaudeville, fourteen boys and sixteen girls are already mingling arithmetic and history with their play-work on the stage.

Playwright (plēi·rəit). [f. PLAY *sb.* + WRIGHT.] A professional maker or author of plays; a dramatist.

1687 M. CLIFFORD *Notes Dryden* iv. 16 Wherein you may ..thrive better, than at this damn'd Trade of a Play-wright. 1715–16 POPE *Let. to Blount* 21 Jan., Horace's rule for a play may as well be applied to him as a Play wright. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Prim.* v. 49 Shakspere's powers as a rising playwright must have been recognised.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Play·wrightess,** a female dramatist; **Play·wrighting, Play·wrightry,** the action or occupation of a playwright.

1832 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. viii. 171 Various playwrightesses and playwrights. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 624 What is this but play-wrightry? 1896 *Godey's Mag.* Feb. 186/2 Literary feeling is not everything in play-wrighting.

‖ Plaza (plā·þa, plā·sa). [Sp. :—pop. L. **plattia* :—L. *platea*: see PLACE *sb.*] In a Spanish-speaking country, A market-place, square, public place.

1683 SALGADO (*title*) A Description of the Plaza or Sumptuous Market-Place of Madrid. 1826 F. B. HEAD *Pampas* 176 In the centre of the town there is a Plaza or great square. 1850 PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 129 The Spanish soldiery assembled by torch-light in the *plaza* to witness the execution of the sentence.

Ple, early form of PLEA; erron. f. PLEASE *v.*

Plea (plī), *sb.* Forms: α. 3 **plaid, playd** (see also PLEAD *sb.*). β. 3–4 **plait, playt,** 5 **pleet,** 5–6 **plete,** 7 **pleyt.** γ. 3 **plai,** 3 (6 *Sc.*) **play,** 3–6 **ple,** 4–6 **plee, pley,** (5 *pl.* **place**), 6– **plea**; (*Sc.* 6 **plei, plie,** 6– **ply,** 7 **pleie, pleye,** 7–8 **pley**). As to *common place* for COMMON PLEAS, see the latter. [ME. *plaid, plai*, a. OF. *plaid* (842 in Strasburg oath), agreement, decision, decree, law-court, suit, action, in Anglo-Norm. *plai* (*c*1170 in *Horn*), *play*, law-suit, action :—**playd-*, **plagid-* :—L. *placit-um* that which pleases or is agreed upon, a decision, decree, etc., in 9th c. (in phrases *placita habēre, tenēre*), an assembly for discussion and decision of matters of state; sb. use of pa. pple. neut. of L. *placēre* to please: see PLACIT. The β forms agree with the OF. variant *plait* (11th c.), *pleit, plaict* (Godef.), Prov. *plait*, Sp. *pleito*, Pg. *preito*, It. *piato*, early med. L. *plaitum* (Du Cange) from *placitum.*]

I. In Law.

1. A suit or action at law; the presentation of an action in court. Now *Hist.* and *Sc.* (esp. in phr. *a law-plea*).

α. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* (Cott.) 5 Þat plait [*Jesus MS.* playd] was stif & starc & strong. *Ibid.* 1737 An lateþ dom þis plaid [*Jesus MS.* playd] tobreke.

β. *c* 1290 *Beket* 601 3if ani plait [R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9704 play] to chapitle were i-drawe And ani man made ani apel. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 To þise zenne belongeþ al þet barat, alle ualshedes, and alle gyles þet comeþ ine plait. *c* 1400 *Apol. Lal.* 79 In þe court of pleet. 1510–20 *Compl. too late maryed* (1862) 7 To daye I had peas, rest, and unyte, To morowe I had plete and processe dyvers. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 470 For the tenth time, the pleyte or suite, with all the records, goeth out of that Iudges court to a higher court.

γ. [1292 BRITTON I. xvi. § 4 Si soit le plé del princepal suspendu [let the plea against the principal be suspended]. *Ibid.* II. xv. § 5 Si le play soit meu, et en plé pledaunt soit le bref trové vicious [if the plea be opened, and in the course of pleading the writ be found defective].]

c 1290 *Beket* 576 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 123 Þe king wolde þat In his court þat plai [*v. r.* ple] scholde beon i-driue. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* (1880) 89 He meynteneþ most synne bi preuylegies, exempcions & longe plees. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 1 Controuersies pleys & discordis Atween persones were it too or thre. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 303 William Fitz Petir called into plee Moolde Vpton, Abbesse of Godestowe, and the Covent of the same place, in a plee of dette in the Courte of Mighell of Meldon. 1463–4 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 9 Be the place of the detinue for a chalise shold be lent to you; also the writts were out. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Tale of Dog* 45 It is..perrilous Till enter in pley befor ane juge suspect. 1487 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 177/2 That all Ciuile accionis questionis and pleyis..be determytt & decidit befor the Iuge ordinaris. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xv. 4 O..that euery man which hath a plee or matter to do in yᵉ lawe, might come to me. 1557 GRIMALDE *Mans Life* in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 109 The courts of plea, by braul, and bate, driue gentle peace away. 1570 BUCHANAN *Chamæleon* Wks. (1892) 46 [He] socht to mak ane other change of court, and set vp new play agane. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 53 All mutes and pleyis quhilk happinis to rise within burgh, sould be pleadit and determinat within the samin. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. ix. (1877) I. 202 These cases are otherwise called plees or action, wherof there are two sorts, the one criminall and the other ciuill. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 16 No man ought to sue out of the Countrey, or to draw his Plea from thence. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 8 To compeir, and answere..vpon the principall pleie..touching the lands vnjustlie occupied be him. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 174 The Session charged with buying of pleyes, delaying of justice and bryberie. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* (1755) 14 A plea between two country esquires about a barren acre upon a common. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxvii, This gave rise to many pleas, and..bickerings, before the magistrates. 1862 MCGILVRAY *Poems* 75 (E.D.D.) You won the plea.

b. Phrases. *To hold pleas* (= med.L. *tenere placita*), to try actions at law, to have jurisdiction; *to hold a plea,* to try an action.

1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 187/2 That..no Styward..hold plee uppon any Action, atte sute of any persone. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 344 Syr Hugh Bygotte, iustyce,.. kepte his courte at Seynt Sauyours, & helde there the plees callyd Itinerii, the whiche is to meane, the traueylynge, or the waye plees. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. XXXVI. (1638) 127 For else it were a thing in vaine for him to hold plee of Advowsons. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 182 Having a court..in which they hold plea of all causes and actions, reall and personall, civill and criminall. 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sherifes* 46 By a writ of Justicies out of the chancery, which is a commission to the Sherif to hold plea of any summe whatsoever. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. vii. 112 This writ may issue..to the county courts or courts-baron, where they attempt to hold plea of any matter of the value of forty shillings. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 46 The count..is still allowed to hold pleas.

c. *Common pleas*: originally, legal proceedings on matters over which the Crown did not claim exclusive jurisdiction; later, actions at law brought by one subject against another, identified with *civil actions*, and sometimes called † *civil pleas* (*obs.*). Often short for *Court of Common Pleas*: see COMMON PLEAS.

c 1215–1550 [see COMMON PLEAS]. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 20 [see d]. *Ibid.* 21 Courts of Law, that have Jurisdiction of Civill or Common Pleas arising betweene our owne subjects. *a* 1634 COKE *2nd Inst.* 21 Common or civil pleas are divided into real, personall, and mixt. 1768–1844 [see COMMON PLEAS]. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* II. 571 Trespass *vi et armis*, even when..it had become as civil an action as civil could be, was still not for every purpose a Common Plea, for, despite Magna Carta, it might 'follow the King'.

d. *Pleas of the Crown* (*placita Coronæ*): originally, legal proceedings on matters over which the Crown claimed an exclusive jurisdiction, as being breaches of the king's peace; later, in England including all criminal proceedings, as opposed to common pleas or civil proceedings (*obs.*); in Scotland limited to four of the gravest kinds of action: see quot. 1607.

[1215 *Magna Carta* c. 17 Nullus vicecomes constabularius coronatores uel alii balliui nostri teneant placita corone nostre.] 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme, Hist. Brit.* (1811) 183 The plees of the crowne were holden in the towre. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 20 The Courts of Law doe either hold civill, or criminall Causes (more anciently tearmed Common Pleas, and Pleas of the Crowne). 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., Pleas of the Crowne in Scotland be 4, roberie, rape, murder, and wilfull fire.., with vs they be all suites in the Kings name against offences committed against his Crowne and dignitie.., or against his Crowne and peace. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* (1839) 296 The pleas according thereunto called public, *judicia publica*, Pleas of the Crown; or Private Pleas. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. i. 2 The code of criminal law; or, as it is more usually denominated with us in England, the doctrine of the pleas of the crown. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* II. 571 More native to our law was the distinction between Pleas of the Crown and Common Pleas, which was often supposed to coincide with, though really it cut, the more cosmopolitan distinction [i. e. between civil and criminal].

2. a. A pleading; an allegation formally made by a party to the Court; an argument or reason urged by or on behalf of a litigant or party to a suit, in support of his case. *To make plea,* to plead. Still in Sc. Law: see quots. 1825, 1861.

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 485 Of al myn lyf syn that day I was born So gentil ple in loue or othir thyng Ne herde neuere no man me be-forn. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 154 Ther was with him non advocat To make ple for his astat. 1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (ROXB.) 402 Item, [paid] for a nother wrytte..Item, for makenge of a ple for the same, v.s. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Plea*..signifieth in our common lawe, that which either partie alleadgeth for himselfe in court. 1825 *Act 6 Geo. IV.* c. 120 § 9 Each of the Parties shall..lodge with the Clerk, previous to the final Adjustment of the Record, a short and concise Note, drawn and signed by Counsel, of the Pleas in Law on which the Action or Defence is to be maintained. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 636/1 Pleas in law, as a distinct portion of a record, were introduced by the Judicature Act, 6 Geo. IV. c. 120, § 9. *Ibid.* 636/2 The pleas are in general so framed as to ground any legal argument which the facts may warrant. *Ibid.* 637/1 The panel's plea must either be *guilty* or *not guilty.*

b. A formal statement, written or oral, made by or on behalf of a prisoner or defendant, alleging facts either in answer to the indictment, or to the plaintiff's declaration, bill, or statement of claim, or showing cause why the prisoner or defendant should not be compelled to answer.

In civil process, since 1875, technically superseded by *defence. Declinatory, dilatory, foreign, peremptory,* etc. *plea*: see the adjectives.

[1337 *Year-Bk.* 11 *Edw. III* (1883) 5 Il nad nulle cause par quei cesti ple girreit en vostre bouche de pleder en barre.] 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 169/1 To plede any plee or plees in barr of the accyon, or in abatement of the bille. *a* 1531 in *Dial. Laws Eng.*, etc. (1886) 360 In an action of debt upon a prompt, it is no plea to say, that he receiveth the money in contestation of his obligation. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., Then is there a Forein plea, whereby matter is alleadged in any court that must be tried in another. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxvi. 326 We have now to consider the plea of the prisoner or defensive matter alleged by him on his arraignment. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 222 On debate the plea was allowed by Lord Keeper Bridgeman. 1875 *Judicature Act* O. xix. r. 13 No plea or defence shall be pleaded in abatement.

c. *Special plea.* In civil and criminal law, a plea either in abatement or in bar of an action or prosecution, alleging some new fact, and not merely disputing the ground of action or charge: opposed to *the general issue.* Cf. *plead specially*, PLEAD *v.* 7 b (also COKE *On Litt.* 282 b).

1699 in Ld. Raymond *Reports* (1790) I. 393 A rule was made by consent that the defendant should waive the special plea, and plead the general issue. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xx. 305 When he meant to distinguish away or palliate the charge, it was..usual to set forth the particular facts in what is called a special plea. *Ibid.*, Pleas that totally deny the cause of complaint are either the general issue, or a special plea in bar. *Ibid.* 306 A justification is likewise a special plea in bar. 1769 *Ibid.* IV. xxvi. 329 Special pleas in bar; which go to the merits of the indictment, and give a reason why the prisoner ought not to answer it at all, nor put himself upon his trial for the crime alleged. These are of four kinds: a former acquittal, a former conviction, a former attainder, or a pardon. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 692 Special pleas, either in bar or abatement, are seldom pleaded to this action [Ejectment].

II. Extended and figurative uses.

3. Controversy, debate, contention, quarrel, strife. In later usage chiefly, now only, *Sc.*

a 1250 [see 1 *a*]. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 1078 'A! Ich am bitrayȝed,' qᵈ þe fend þo, 'Nou Ich am þorw ple over-comen so.' 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lviii. 4 Lo! to ples and to striues ȝee fasten, and smyten with the fist vnpitously. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) I. 22 Wherof cometh plee, debat, thefte, begylinges, but richesse to winne. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 305/1 He also had a grete plee and altercacion with the deuylle for the body of Moyses. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Foure Serm. Songe Ezech.* i, He entreth not into plea with God. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 316 Sum captanis fra baith pairtes, sped with speid to stanche this pley, and mitigate this controuersie. *Ibid.* 433 Tha suld returne But plie [L. *sine armorum strepitu*]. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* Poems (1845) 16 Pleys that bring him to the Guard And eke the Council Chammer. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 11 His wife and him are at some family plea. 1872 MICHIE *Deeside Tales* xiv. 120 There was like to be a ply between them an' the Forbeses.

4. That which is pleaded, maintained, or urged in justification or excuse; a pleading, appeal, argument, claim; an apology, pretext, excuse.

a 1550 *Vox Populi* 423 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 283 Thei are dryven to theire plea. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 612 The Capitaine perceiuing his dilatorie ple, by force tooke him

from the officers. 1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 14, I had rather referre it, as a disputatiue plea to diuines. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 127 Their best plea is from the words of Christ. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 394 So spoke the Fiend, and with necessity, The tyrant's plea, excused his devilish deeds. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. xviii. 152 No plea is too weak for folly and self-interest to insist upon. 1771 HORNE in *Junius Lett.* li. (1772) II. 197, I admit the plea. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxvii. V. 5 He obtained leave to decline the command on a plea which can scarcely have been more than a pretext. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. i. 4 The privilege and authority of bishops and clergy was Becket's plea for convulsing Europe.

†**5.** *transf.* That which is demanded by pleading; a claim. *Obs. rare.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 7 The plea of no lesse weight Than Aquitaine. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 284 But none can driue him from the enuious plea Of forfeiture, of iustice, and his bond. *Ibid.* IV. i. 198, 203.

†**6.** A proposal, offer. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* 365 And yet shall I make to yow a feire plee: com with me to Bredigan..and do hym homage..and I shall yelde yow the castell all quyte. *Ibid.* 366, I sente hym to wite that I wolde he make no pleet, ne noyse to no man of his companye.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **plea-house** *Sc.*, a court of law; **plea-side**, the civil side of a court having both civil and criminal jurisdiction.

[1459: see PLEAD *sb.* 4.] 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. iv. 42 On the plea-side, or civil branch. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, He's seldom at hame when there's ony o' the plea-houses open.

Plea, *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 play, pleye, 5–6 pley, 6 plie, 7– plea. [f. PLEA *sb.*]

1. *intr.* = PLEAD *v.* 1–3.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 28 On a day he come in to þe cowrte & pleyd with þe men of cowrte & þe judgies & ouer come þaim. *Ibid.* 208 Gude angels stude on þe toder syde & playid agayns þaim. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* XII. (*Wolf & Lamb*) viii, Yaa, quod the wolf, yit pleyis thow agane. 1599 in R. M. Fergusson *Hume* (1899) 222 *note*, The Magistrats..sall rather accept voluntarlie..ten bolls mault 3eirlie..then to pley for ye said Landis. 1700 Z. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* xi. (1881) 335 He advised me in general to quit two or three thousand merks rather then plea. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 155 Another great acquisition of property, for which I had pleaed. 1868 J. SALMON *Gowodean* II. i. 41 Scorn the love for whilk sae mony plea.

2. *trans.* = PLEAD *v.* 4–7.

1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xliii. 160 It was the Dowglassis douchtaly them dang, And pleit 3our proces in that parliament. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 116 Athir ar thay preistes seruerig the kirk; or men of law to plie a cause, or men of weir to fecht. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xlii, The estate was sair plea'd between Leddy Margaret Bellenden and the present Laird. 1887 MISS M. R. LAHEE *Traits Lanc. Flk.* 9 (E. D. D.) Aw'm like to plea poverty.

Plea, erron. obs. f. PLEASE *v.*

†**Ple·able,** *a. Sc. Obs.* In 6 pleyable, -bill. [f. PLEA *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be the subject of litigation; debatable.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xxv. (S. T. S.) II. 49 Quhen þe tribunis war finalie callit, þai Iugit þe pleyabill landis to pertene to romanis. 1553 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 150 Upoun the severall ground of Scotland, nother pleyable nor debatable, ane gret way within the peceable marche of Scotland.

Pleace, obs. var. PLEASE *v.*

Pleach, *sb. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PLEACH *v.*] Interlacing, intertwining; intertwinement of boughs.

1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (1820) 45 His nest, the pleach Of many a wilding bough in the next giant beech.

Pleach (plēʧ), *v.* Forms: 5–6 pleche, 6 pleissh(e, *Sc.* pleich, 7 plesh, plish, 7– pleach. [ME. *pleche*, a. OF. **plechier* (mod.F. dial. *plécher*), dial. form of OF. *plessier, plaissier* PLASH *v.*1]

1. *trans.* To interlace or intertwine (the bent down or half-cut stems and branches of young trees and brushwood) so as to form a fence or the like; = PLASH *v.*1 1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxliii. (Bodl. MS.), The wiþie..is þikker in bowes & spraies bi plechinge schredinge and paringe. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 330 Nowe husbondrie his olde vines plecheth. *Ibid.* 418 Bende as a bowe, or vynes that men pleche. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 Let the toppe of the tree lye ouer the rote of an other tree, and to pleche downe the bowes of the same tree, to stoppe the holowe places. *Ibid.* [see PLASH *v.*1 1]. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 934 Plunder'd vines..pleach'd New growth about each shell and pendant lyre. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxiii, The trees meeting overhead; some of them trimmed, some pleached.

b. To layer (a shoot, e. g. of a vine).

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 648 At October in luke lond plecheth [L. *propagat*] he.

2. To make, dress, or renew (a hedge or the like) by the above process; = PLASH *v.*1 2.

1523 [see PLASH *v.*1 2]. 1635 SIR E. VERNEY in *Mem. Verney Fam.* (1892) I. 129 The Gardner shall pleach noe Hedge this yeare. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pleach*, to bind a hedge. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xiii. 280 The low broad arches of the alleys pleached with vines. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* July 32 The banks of the.. hedgerows, which were seldom cut or pleached.

3. *generally.* To entwine, interlace, tangle, plait.

1830 TENNYSON *Poems* 125 Pleached with her hair, in mail of argent light Shot into gold, a snake her forehead clips. 1861 F. METCALFE *Oxonian in Irel.* 96 The earth, being pleached together by the roots of dwarf willows and grass, has defied the pelting storm. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., At Eleusis* 209 Poppied hair of gold Persephone Sad-tressed and pleached low down about her brows.

Hence **Plea·ching** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1398 [see sense 1]. 1504 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 314 For pleisshing at the coppy [= coppice]. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1839) 18/1 Tangled so thick with pleaching bramble-shoots, With brier and bazel branch, and hawthorn spray. 1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 21 Dec. 178/3 The pleaching [of the hedges] ended at the foot of a rise in the ground.

Pleached (plēʧt, *poet.* plī·ʧẽd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLEACH *v.* + -ED1.]

1. Of boughs: Interlaced, intertwined, tangled; *transf.* of the arms, folded together.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 73 Would'st thou..see Thy Master thus with pleacht Armes, bending downe His corrigible necke? 1896 *Field* 1 Dec. 828/2 The pleached laurels near the house. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 280 It was hedged with thickly pleached bushes.

2. Formed by the pleaching or intertwisting of boughs and twigs; fenced, bordered, or overarched with pleached boughs, as a garden-alley or arbour. Now chiefly as a Shaksperian expression revived by Scott.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. ii. 10 The Prince and Count Claudio walking in a thick pleached alley in my orchard. *Ibid.* III. i. 7 Bid her steale into the pleached bower, Where hony-suckles ripened by the sunne, Forbid the sunne to enter. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* x, He..proposed..that they should take a turn in the pleached alley. 1829 *Anniversary, Beatrice* 232 She couches in the pleached bower Which tasselling honeysuckles deck. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Tilbury Nogo* 240 An occasional grass field, enclosed by high rotten banks and 'pleached' fences.

Plea·cher. *local.* [f. PLEACH *v.* + -ER1.] = PLASHER: **a.** A bough with which a hedge is pleached. **b.** A hedger.

1882 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Pleachers* same as *Layers*, the quick-thorn shoots which are laid down to form the hedge. 1889 *Portfolio* Dec. 231/2 The topiarius, or pleacher, was kept actively at work in trimming the hedges and trellis walks.

†**Plead,** *sb.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: (3 plaid), 5–6 (*Sc.*) pled, plede, pleid, 6 (*Eng.*) plead, -e, (*Sc.*) plaid. [f. PLEAD *v.*; perh. in part a reminiscence of OF. and early ME. *plaid*, rare by-form of *plait*: see PLEA *sb.*]

1. A suit or action at law; a controversy, dispute; = PLEA *sb.* 1, 3.

[*a* 1250 Plaid: see PLEA *sb.* 1.] 14.. *Wyntoun's Cron.* VIII. iv. 440 Quhare thar is in pleid [*v.r.* pley] twa men Askand the Crowne off a kynrike. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 104 He..maid Stewart with hym to fall in pled. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VI. (*Sheep & Dog*) xiii, And thair began the pleid. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* IV. (1577) Y iij, Bycause the pleade betweene you maye happen bee to long. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 149, I fand the loste from blis, Throuch Adamis sin and pleid. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 269 The matter..is in plead.

2. A plea, allegation, claim.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 208 To ask resoun and move plede before him..suld be small redress, and bot ane unprouifitable plede. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 863 Quhairthrow we all was quite of Plutois pleid. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 307 The foundation of your pleade is so fallen, yt I nede not to answere thy protestation.

3. Pleading, harangue, speech, talk, discussion.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 818 The barde held a grete pleid In the hie hall. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvi. 115 Thir birdis .. Singing of lufe amang the levis small, Quhois ythand pleid 3it maid my thochtis grene. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 494 Thus endit scho that first begouth that pleid. 15.. *Freiris of Berwik* 256 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 294 Ga fill the stowp, hald me no mair in pleid, For I am verry tyrit, wett and cauld. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 197 How he suld fend from furie and thair fead, Syne leaue this lyfe with list for all thair plaid.

4. *attrib.*, as **plead-house** = *plea-house*: see PLEA *sb.* 7.

1459 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 270 A plede that is maid before a juge ordynare in a plede hous.

Plead (plēd), *v.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 plaide(n, plaid-i, 3–6 playde, 4 plede(n, 4–7 plede (5 pledde, plide, 5–7 pled), 6 pleade (pleed), 6–7 *Sc.* pleid, 6– plead. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* pleaded: contracted 5 pladde, (9 *dial.* plad), 5– pled (now *Sc.* and *dial.*), 7–9 plead. *β.* 4 pleit-y, pleyte, playt-y, playte, pleten, -yn, 4–6 plete, 5–6 pleete, 6 pleate. [In ME. form *plaiden, plaidi*, a. OF. *plaid-ier* (Roland, 11th c.) to go to law, sue, plead, f. OF. *plaid*: see PLEA *sb.*; parallel to med.L. *placitāre*, to hold pleas, to litigate (*c* 800 in Du Cange), f. *placitum* PLEA; thence AF. *pleder*, ME. *plēde(n, plead.* ME. *plaiten, plaity, plēten, plete* was a secondary form, corresp. to OF. *plaitier* (14th c. in Godef.); cf. also med.L. *plaitāre* (9th c. in Du Cange) from *placitāre*, and OF. and ME. *plait* sb., for *plaid*, PLEA. Cf. the later PLEA *v.*]

I. Intransitive uses.

†**1.** To raise or prosecute a suit or action, to go to law, to litigate. *Obs.*

a. [1292 BRITTON III. i. § 1 La manere de pleder, coment chescun pleyntif deit repurchacer sa seisine de fraunc tenement.] 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 45/1 Able to purchace Londes..and also plede and be empleded. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xi. (1539) 17 Shall nat plede nor be impleded of their tenementes.

β. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Freris..moven londis to bateilis, and pesible persones to plete. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 78 He..sawe two men of þe same towne bifore a iuge pletyng. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* 34 Ye shal not pleete wt noo freman of the Cite wtout the cite. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* II. Wks. 184/1 Rather than thei shoulde pleate and striue in the law before the infidels. *a* 1550 *Merch. & Son* 42 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 135 Thou schalt be pletyd with, when y am gon.

†**b.** In extended and fig. use: To contend in debate; to wrangle, argue *with, against.* Also *to plead it. Obs.*

a. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 184 We mawe bet..Wiþvte cheste and bute vyhte Playde [*v.r.* plaidi] mid sope & mid ryhte. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 5 Sen he plesis with me to pleid, I sall him knawin mak hyne to Calyss. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Rom.* ix. 20 Who art thou which playdest against God? 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 306 Quhat than, gif thay of my craft with me pleid? 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 42 Come..you that loue to pleade it out inuincibly at the barre of the dunghill, and will rather loose your liues, then the last word.

β. c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* vii. 723 Ich schal makye contekhede By-tuyce þyne and wyues sede, And moche to pleity. 1388 WYCLIF *Judg.* xxi. 22 Whanne the fadris and britheren..bigynne to pleyne and plete [1382 chiden] a3ens 3ou. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xvi. 21 Though a body might pleate with God, as one man doth with another.

2. To address the court as an advocate on behalf of either party; to maintain or urge the claim, or state the case, of a party to a suit.

a. c 1305 *St. Kath.* 77 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 92 Gret schame.. An Emperour to siche aboute:..After maistres, to plaidi a3en a 3ung wenche. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 24 Sendynge of men..of lawe..bi here owen persones for to plede. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 288 No man of lawe schold pled befor Mayre and Baylyfys of the sayde citte. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 202 The first and chiefe ..in law among lawyers though he do not pleade. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. ix. 43 And with him..came Many grave persons that against her pled. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 145 Sentences..to be taken by them that plead, for Lawes in that particular case. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvi. (1869) I. 397 He had pleaded with distinction in the tribunals of Rome.

β. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 39 Men of lawe..þat pleteden for Mede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 201 þat day þat he pletede to fore a iuge. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXXII. (1482) 248 It was ordeyned that men of lawe fro that tyme forth shold plete in hir moder tonge. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) III. iii. 160 He pleated by thre yeres in the grete assyse in the cyte of Bourgeys.

b. In extended and fig. use: To urge a suit or prayer; to make an earnest appeal, entreaty, or supplication; to beg, implore. Const. *with* the person appealed to; *for* the thing desired, or the person in whose interest one speaks; also *against.*

a. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 155 Bot thogh him lacke forto plede, Him lacketh nothing of manhede. 1624 QUARLES *Job* xi. 60 Let me, a while, with my Accusers plead [*rime* dead]. 1662 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) II. 313 My Lord hath been..plead with for something for him to keepe him here. 1721 RAMSAY *Content* 374 My mind, indulgent, in their favour pled. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* II. v, Tho' silent his tongue, he will plead with his eyes. 1757 HOME *Douglas* III, We search'd his clothes, And found these jewels, whose rich value plead Most powerfully against him. 1837 WHITTIER in *Life* (1894) I. 199 We have caucused in season and out of season, threatened and coaxed, plead and scolded. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. x, Do not scorn to plead for me. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 158 All Roger's services could not plead against this ill-timed tenderness to a foe. 1871 *Ibid.* IV. xvii. 42 His skill doubtless pleaded for him. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 197 It does not appear that any one pleaded for his pardon except himself.

β. 1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Loke hou..Iesu crist..þe tekþ wel to playty. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1419 (1468) Be [ye] nought war how fals Polyphete Is now abowte eft soones for to plete. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 114 Medefulli plete wiþ men.

3. To put forward a plea. Cf. PLEADING *vbl. sb.* 3.

a. To put forward any allegation or formal statement forming part of the proceedings in an action at law. (Cf. PLEA *sb.* 2 a.) *Plead over*: see quots. 1872, 1890.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 112/1 Yef..the Defendauntz or Pleintifs in suche foreign Plees plede to issue. 1683 GRIMSTONE *Croke's Rep.* (1791) III. 651 (Case 20 Jac. I, 1623) His plea in bar is not answered when he doth not rely upon it, but pleads over in bar. 1824 H. J. STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* (1843) 160 Faults in pleading are, in some cases, aided by pleading over. 1872 *Wharton's Law Lex.* 739/1 *Plead over*, to follow up an opponent's pleading by replying, etc., so overlooking some defect to which exception might have been taken. 1875 *Judicature Act* O. xxvii. r. 5 When any party has amended his pleading under rule 2 or 3 of this Order, the other party may apply..for leave to plead or amend his former pleading. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pleading over*, going on to respond by pleading, after a previous pleading has been judged insufficient, or has been withdrawn.

b. *esp.* To put forward an answer or objection on the part of the defendant to the plaintiff's bill. (Cf. PLEA *sb.* 2 b.)

14.. *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 396/1 Provided also that that Act stop not ne conclude the said Thomas .. to answer or plede to eny matier abovesaid. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 187/2 They may answere and plede to the action, or in abatement of the pleyntes. 1490–1 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 371 To pledde to a quest in lyke wise in ther owne persones. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* v. ii, He will not hear me out!.. Was ever criminal forbid to plead? 1727 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 299 The Assembly desired him to propound what he had to say against their being his judges.. Then his two lawyers, Mr Grant and Mr Murray, pled upon that head. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 8, I ought to be allowed a reasonable freedom,..and no culprit ought to plead in irons. 1824 H. J. STEPHEN *Princ. Pleading* (1885) 50 If the defendant does not demur, his only alternative method of defence is, to oppose or answer the declaration by matter of fact. In so doing he is said to plead.

II. Transitive uses.

†4. To go to law with, sue (a person). *Obs. rare.*

β. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* lviii. 3 Alle 3oure detoures 3ee pleten [1388 3e axen [Vulg. *repetitis*] alle 3oure dettouris]. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* 5 b, We haue graunted to our citezens of london that none of them pleete [*pr.* pletee] othor wythout the wallis of london.

5. To maintain (a plea or cause) by argument in a court of law. Also *transf.*

α. [1292 Britton I. i. § 7 Qe des pletz pledez devaunt eux.. eynt record. *Ibid.* § 8 A pleder communs pletz.] 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 77 He was to many that pledyd her causis of god consciens a vyolent oppressur. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. vii. (1895) 235 They thinke it most mete that euery man shuld pleade his owne matter, and tell the same tale before the iudge, that he would tel to his man of lawe. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 235 The Prince sent two of his counsellours..to playde the case. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* lxxiv. xxi, Rise, God, pleade thyne owne case. 1675 Prideaux *Lett.* (Camden) 36 Our law case is not yet ended; four advocates come down from D^rs Commons to plead it next term. 1777 W. Cameron in *Sc. Paraphr.* xvii. vi, Plead the widow's cause. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* iv. xiv, Anxious his suit Lord Ronald pled.

β. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 100 One acre of mede ..whereof hit was I-pleted bitwene them in the forsaid Courte. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* ix, They remytted the cause to be discuted or pleted before the Juge. 1539 Bible (Great) *Job* xxiii. 3 O that I myght come before his seate, to pleate my cause before him. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* 85 It is Christes onely office to receyue all complayntes to pleate them, and to iudge them.

6. To sue for in a court of law. Also *transf.* to beg, entreat for. In later use chiefly *Sc.*

α. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1304, I schal kysse at your comaundement, as a knyȝt fallez, And fire lest he displese yow, so plede hit no more. 1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I. ii, That crave such favour..As poor distressed misery may plead. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 190 If a minister throw povertie be not able to plead his gleeb and manse, that the rest assist him by contributing till he evict it. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 46 ¶ 6 The Misery of my Case, and great Numbers of such Sufferers, plead your Pity and speedy Relief. 1811 Chalmers *Diary* in *Life* (1850) I. 231 Had been apprized..that my augmentation was to be pled on the 18th.

β. *c* 1500 *New Not-br. Mayd* 66 Mercy I pleate.

7. a. To allege formally in the course of the pleadings. (Cf. Plea *sb.* 2 a.)

α. *c* 1460 *Godstow Reg.* 120 A Charter of Stephyn Agothe, I-pleyd in the kyngis Courte, for a tenemente in Irelandes lane. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 2 § 1 Courtes where the seid proteccions shalbe pleded or leyed for any of the seid persons in all plees, plees of Dowre..except. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* Introd. 76 All other private customs must be particularly pleaded. 1890 *Law Reports* 24 Q. B. D. 630 The paragraph was properly pleaded and ought not to be struck out.

β. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* vii. (1520) 83/1 That no letter nor commaundement that came from Rome shold be receyued nor pleted in Englande.

b. To allege formally as a plea (Plea *sb.* 2 b). *Plead specially*, to allege as a special plea (Plea *sb.* 2 c).

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. liii. (1638) 159 If the defendant .. in any action plead a plee that amounteth to the general issue. 1602 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 72 This ple he was enforced to pled by the court. 1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 22 St. Augustine plead it in bar to Celer's action of unkindnesse against him. 1756 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1812) II. xxxvi. 286 The counsellors pleaded constraint as an excuse for their treason. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xx. 305 Every defence which cannot thus be specially pleaded may be given in evidence upon the general issue at the trial. 1769 *Ibid.* IV. xxvi. 336 A pardon may be pleaded in bar. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 753 An executor may plead the same plea in bar, that his testator might have pleaded. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxxii, Ramorny, pale as death,..pled his knighthood, and demanded the privilege of dying by the sword. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. v. 30 It would be vain to plead..the king's command to do an unlawful act. 1875 *Judicature Act* O. xix. r. 15 No defendant in an action for the recovery of land who is in possession..need plead his title.

c. In extended and fig. use: To allege or urge as a plea, esp. in defence, apology, or excuse, or as extenuating an offence.

1601 Holland *Pliny* xviii. xxvii. 593 Thou shouldest not either plead ignorance, or neglect the same. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 101 Old age is miserable, that can plead nothing else for Antiquitie, but the wrinckles of the face and the white haires. 1671 Milton *Samson* 833 If weakness may excuse, What Murtherer,.. Incestuous, Sacrilegious, but may plead it? 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 166 And have, at least, their precedent to plead. 1733 Berkeley *Th. Vision* § 33 If I am mistaken, I can plead neither haste nor inattention. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk.* I. 256, I can only plead my inexperience in this branch of literature.

d. Phrase. *To plead not guilty* (in civil and criminal law), to deny liability or guilt: in Law-French, *plaider de rien coupable.* So *to plead guilty*; also *fig.* to confess to an accusation or imputation.

To plead guilty appears later, and evidently arose in imitation of *plead not guilty. Guilty* is technically not a *plea*, but a confession. Blackstone *Comm.* IV. 324, 332, 399, never uses *plead guilty*, but writes of the prisoner confessing the fact.

[1344 *Year Bk.* 18 *Edw. III* 4 Et quant a les bienz .. il pleda de rien coupable.] 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 239/2 In the Court of th' Eschequer .. the seid Thomas..to the said Bille and Action aunswered and pleted not gylty. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 6 *Cl. of Cr.* You must plead to the Court, Guilty or not Guilty. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. 1843 VI. 473 Where it happens to a prisoner to answer in the affirmative—in appropriate language, to plead guilty —if he insists on it, the general understanding seems to be that he has a right to have such his plea recorded: in which case there is a necessary end of the trial, and the verdict follows of course. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 60, I may .. be represented as discouraging experiments. To this I must, in some measure, plead guilty. 1875 *Judicature Act* O. xix. r. 16 Nothing in these Rules contained shall affect the right of any defendant to plead not guilty by statute. 1892 'D. Donovan' *In Grip of Law* 58 When called upon to plead, she pled not guilty in a firm clear voice.

†8. To argue or dispute upon in a court of law; to practise (the law). *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 86 Seriauns..to seruen atte Barre; Pleden [*v. r.* pleten] for pons and poundes þe lawe. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 158/1 Thei..that longed to lerne the lawe. Not to plete it and for glory to dispute it, but to teche it agayne mekely. 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 28 The canon law..which is dailie pleaded.

Hence **Plea·ded** *ppl. a.*, uttered or alleged in pleading; *pleaded-for*, defended by pleading.

1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* iv. xxxi. (1713) 380 Do you see, Cuphophron, whither your pleaded-for Impostures carry, even to savage Murther and Blood-shed? 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 321 She seems attentive to their pleaded vows. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* V. xiv. 105 We shall now see what the so often pleaded for dignity of your sex, will enable you to do. 1850 J. S. B. Monsell *Parish Musings* (1871) 40 Yield to thine own pleaded word.

Pleadable (plī·dăb'l), *a.* Also 5–7 pled-, 6 pleade-. [ME. a. AF. *pledable* (1292 Britton) = OF. *plaidable*, f. *plaidier* to Plead: see -able.]

1. That may be pleaded.

a. Of a cause: That may legally be maintained or defended in a court of law.

[1292 Britton II. i, La fourme et la manere de pleder personels pletz pledables par attachementz de cors.] 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 256 As cases of lawe, pleadable in courtes of assise &c. 1643 *Virginia Stat.* (1823) I. 262 That all monie debts made since the 26th day of March 1642 .. shall not be pleadable or recoverable in any court of justice vnder this government. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1688) IV. 455 A Forrest hath her Courts of Attachments..where Matters are as pleadable .. as at Westminster Hall. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. xv. (ed. 22) 196 Real Actions are pleadable in no other Court.

b. That may be alleged formally in the course of the pleadings, or urged as a plea, in a court of law.

[1312 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 284/2 Bref en Chauncellerie pledable en Baunk le Roi.] 1455 *Ibid.* V. 326/1 Such plees as in lawe were pledables. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. ii. (1638) 62 If an Obligation beare date out of the realme..[it is] not pleadable at the Common law. 1660 R. Sheringham *King's Suprem. Asserted* ii. (1682) 8 The words of a Statute .. are pleadable in their usual and grammatical sense to all purposes. 1688 Sir G. Treby in *Collect. Poems* 263 No Pardon to be pleadable to an Impeachment in Parliament. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 16 Feb. 773/2 The allegations in question are properly pleadable..being allegations of matters which may be given in evidence at the trial.

c. *gen.* That may be pleaded, claimed, urged, or alleged in behalf of a cause.

1565 Calfhill *Answ. Treat. Crosse* 46 b, Your comparison is not pleadable: eche part conteyneth some peece of vntruth. 1680 Allen *Peace & Unity* 70 If this were not so, their case would not be so pleadable as now it is. 1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* 289 Bequeathing to his people .. a pleadable interest in all his services and sufferings for their Salvation. 1862 Ruskin *Unto this Last* iv. 161 Meat! perhaps your right to that may be pleadable; but other rights have to be pleaded first.

†2. *Pleadable brief*, Sc. Law: see Brieve. *Pleadable day*: a day on which pleadings can take place.

1471 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 101/2 Quhen ony brefis pledable hapnis to be folowit before quhatsumeuer Juge. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. I* 24 Na man sould be ejected furth of his free tenement, quherein he alledges him to be vested and saised as of fee; without the kings pledable briefe, or the like briefe.

[1292 Britton I. xii. § 5 Chescune simayne une foiz en tens pledable (*tr.* in time pleadable).] 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 457 For his better aduancement he opened vnto him the whole course of dayes pleadable and not pleadable, exhorting ..him withal, to publish that secret and mysterie.

Hence **Plea·dableness**, the quality of being pleadable.

1774 A. Gib *Present Truth* II. 141 The pleadableness thereof at the bar of Law and Justice.

†**Plea·dant, ple·dant.** *Obs. rare*–1. [a. F. *plaidant* plaintiff, also advocate who pleads: sb. use of pres. pple. of *plaider* to Plead.] A plaintiff.

1599 R. Linche *Anc. Fiction* K iv, Giue wrongfull iudgement vpon the truth-inferring pledant.

Pleader[1] (plī·dəɹ). Forms: α. as Plead *v.* α. + 3 -ur, 4 -or, 4–5 -our, -ere, 5 -are, 5– -er, 6 *Sc.* -ar. β. 4 playtour, -ere, 5–6 pleter, -ar(e, 6 pleater. [α. ME. *playdur*, *-our*, a. OF. *plaideor* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *plaideur*, agent-n. f. OF. *plaidier*, *plaider* to Plead; with subsequent change of suffix: see -our, -er[1]. β. after the collateral form *playte*, *plete*, *pleat* of the vb.]

1. One who pleads in a law-court; an advocate.

α. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 133 in *O. E. Misc.* 76 Þeos playdurs beoþ wel kene. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 252 Þus seien pleders and pursueris, þat þei done þus al for love. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 274 The pledour and the plee schal faile, The sentence of that ilke day. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* I. xviii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 76/1 Pledereș [*ed.* 1554 pleters], which for lucre & meede, Meyntene quarelis, and questis doon enbrace. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 32 Yet is in the cyte a nombre incurable, Pleders & brokers, a foule & shamefast rable. 1629 Massinger *Picture* II. ii, The tradesman, merchant, and litigious pleader, And such-like scarabs bred in the dung of peace. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 338 The learning of a pleader is usually upon a level with his integrity. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* xxxix. 3 The bench..Where stands a pleader just prepar'd to rouse our tears.

β. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 8746 Þyr was a man þat hyghte Valentyne, Playtour he was, and ryche man fyne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 To þise eenne belongeþ þe zenne of ualse domesmen and of ualse playteres. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* III. iii. 3, I suppose that in alle cristendom are not so many pletars attorneys and men of the lawe as been in Englond onely. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* 2 That all iudges and pleaters at the barre may lyue of a stypend.

†b. In opprobrious sense. Cf. Special pleader.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* iii. 12 My puple his pleteres [*gloss* or wrong axers] spoileden. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1731 Þat wickidly þou haues .. Purvayd þe pletours [L. *latrunculos*] oure partis to ride. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iii. 8 (Harl. MS.) Advocatis, and pletouris, þe which by sotilte and wickidnesse getithe þe goode of þis wordle.

†c. A suitor. *Obs. rare.*

1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xx. 89 Pleaders are miserable; for sooner shall they attain to the end of their lives, then to the final decision of their pretended rights.

2. *gen.* One who pleads, entreats, or intercedes.

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. i. 36 But sure if you Would be your Countries Pleader, your good tongue .. Might stop our Countryman. *a* 1635 Sibbes *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 47 We have a pleader in heaven, that will take our part against the accuser of our brethren. 1712 Berkeley *Pass. Obed.* § 33 One great principle which the pleaders for resistance make the ground-work of their doctrine. 1884 Max Müller in *19th Cent.* June 1016 We know how able, how persuasive a pleader Darwin could be.

3. See Special pleader.

†**Plea·der**[2]. *Obs. rare. Law.* Also 5 pletere. [a. F. *plaider*, AF. *plaiter*, *pleter*, infinitive used as sb.: see Plead *v.* and -er[4].] Pleading.

c 1450 *Merlin* 18 This was Merlynes pletere for his moder. 1698 Sir G. Treby in *Mod. Rep.* XII. 229 Testator took out a writ against the defendant .., and died during the pleader.

Pleading (plī·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see Plead *v.* [f. Plead *v.* + -ing[1].] The action of the verb Plead, in various senses.

†1. The carrying on of a suit in a court of law, litigation; hence, a law-suit, action, legal process; a controversy. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9662 In playdinge & in asise..& in Iugement also. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. iii. 55 (Camb. MS.) Whennes comyn elles alle thyse foreyne compleyntes or quereles of pletynges. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/1 Doubtyng that the stryf accions and pletynges of the poure shold come onely to the presence and knowlege of hys counceyllours. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) K iij, That they be juges, parties, and advocates of one selfe pletinge.

2. The advocating of a cause in a court of law; the art of drawing pleadings; the body of rules and usages constituting this art.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 294 Shal no seriaunt..were..no pelure in his cloke for pledyng atte barre. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 92 Ther ne shal no pledynge [*Hengwrt MS.* pletynge] auaille ne sleighte, we shullen yeuen rekenynge of euerich ydel word. 14.. *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 96 Ther charter helpys þe not þat dey, Ther pletyn is not worth an hawe. 1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 315 In pletynge of theyr case At the Commune Place. 1552 Huloet, Pleadynge, *actitatio, aduocatio.* 1766 Entick *London* IV. 34 The terms, or times for pleading and ending of causes in the Civil Courts. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* ix. 255 The proceedings included a series of assertions and reassertions of right by the parties, and this formal dialogue was the parent of the Art of Pleading.

3. A formal allegation, now generally a written document (formerly, an oral statement) setting forth the cause of action or the defence; in pl. *pleadings*, the formal statements on both sides; in strict use, excluding the count or declaration.

1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xiv, The pleadynge used in courte and Chauncery called motes. 1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII*, c. 30 § 1 Replycacyons, reioynders, rebutters, ioynyng of issues, and other pleadynges. 1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. iii. (1636) 22 Pleadings must be certain, because the adverse party may know wherto to answer. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xx. 293 Pleadings are the mutual altercations between the plaintiff and defendant; which at present are set down and delivered into the proper office in writing. 1825 *Act 6 Geo. IV*, c. 120 § 10 The Record of the Pleadings as adjusted shall be authenticated by the Lord Ordinary by his Signature; and the Record so made up and authenticated shall be held as foreclosing the Parties from the Statement of any new Averments in point of Fact. 1883 H. H. S. Croft *Elyot's Gov.* I. 152 *note*, The pleadings down to the time of Edward III were *vivâ voce*, and those who pleaded orally would no doubt pursue the method first recommended by Quintilian in his Institutes, and afterwards adopted by later Rhetoricians. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Ch. Div. 451 The Court is entitled to look at the pleadings in the Irish action.

4. *gen.* Intercession, advocacy, supplication, earnest entreaty.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 97 'What', quod þe synner, '..Canst þou neuere of þi pletinge blynne?' 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 243 Makyng (as saynt Paule sayth) interpellacyon & pletynge for vs before y^e father of heuen. *a* 1758 Ramsay *Adieu for while* ii, Thou dost not obey The pleading of love. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* I, The beauty.. of Adeline, united with the pleadings of humanity in her favour. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 511 'Comus' ..rises into an almost impassioned pleading for the love of virtue.

5. See Special pleading.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pleading-house*, *-place*, etc.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/1 Pletynge howse, or place, *placi-*

torium. 1656 COWLEY *Pind. Odes, 34th Chapter Isaiah* v, Then shall the Market and the Pleading-place Be Choakt with Brambles and oregrown with grass. 1888 LD. HERSCHELL in *Law Rep., Ho. Lords* XIII. 9 As a pleading point, this would have been good.

Plea·ding, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That pleads; entreating, beseeching, imploring.

1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind & H.* 870 What avail .. the knit soul that pleading and pale Makes wan the quivering cheek? 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* vi, He noticed that tender pleading glance at the time. *Mod.* His pleading tones move compassion.

Hence **Plea·dingly** *adv.*, in a pleading manner; **Plea·dingness,** the quality of pleading.

1847 WEBSTER, *Pleadingly*, by pleading. 1865 E. C. CLAYTON *Cruel Fortune* I. 227 She looked so pleadingly, so beseechingly,..that Lady Charington relented. 1866 NONA BELLAIRS *Wayside Fl.* iii. 27 Cry.. of a little child... Its intense pleadingness haunted me. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gipsy* III. 293 She spoke tenderly, pleadingly.

† Plea·ful, *a. Obs.* [f. PLEA *sb.* + -FUL.] That pleads powerfully, persuasive.

1625 LISLE *Du Bartas' Noe* 12 So from his pleafull tongue falls cheering dew and aire.

† Plea·ment. *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 plement. [f. PLEA *v.* + -MENT. Cf. OF. *plaidement* (*a* 1400 in Godef.).] A pleading; an action at law.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxxxv, In a certain plement he [Earl of Pembroke] stode & was ayenst the rights and fraunchises of holy chirche.

Pleasable (plī·zăb'l), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 4 plesable, 6 pleasible. [ME. *plesable*, a. OF. *pleisable* (*c* 1185 in Godefroy), *plaisable* agreeable, f. *plaisir* (= *plaire*) to please; see PLEASE and -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being pleased; placable, mild.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xliii. 14 And my God Almyȝti make hym plesable to ȝow [*Vulg.* Deus .. faciat vobis eum placabilem]. 1552 NORTHUMBERLAND in Tytler *Edw. VI* (1839) II. 148, I love not to have to do with men which be neither grateful nor pleasable. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 2/23 Pleasable, *placabilis, e.* 1839 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 21 June, As good-humoured and pleasable as it is possible to be.

† 2. Acceptable, pleasing, agreeable. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lx. 7 Thei shul ben offrid vpon my plesable [1388 acceptable] auter. *Ibid.* lxi. 2, I shulde.. prechen a ȝer plesable to the Lord [*Vulg.* Annum placabilem Domino]. 1554 KNOX *Godly Let.* A iij b, I haue ben compelled to speake in your presens..such thinges as were not pleasable to the eares of men.

Hence **Plea·sableness,** placability.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1558) 39 There is nothing more seemely for a great..man than pleasablenes and mercy.

Pleasance[1] (ple·zăns). Forms: 4- **pleasance,** (-aunce); also 4-7 **plesaunce,** 4-7 (9) **-ance,** 5 **-auns, -awns, pley-, playsaunce, -aunse, plezeauns,** 5-6 **pleasauns,** (*Sc.*) **plesans, -ence,** 7 (9) **plaisance.** [ME. a. OF. *plaisance* (*a* 1296 in Littré) pleasure, delight, in 16th c. place of delight, f. *plaisant* pleasing, *plaisir* to please; so med.L. *placentia*, It. *piacenza*: see -ANCE.]

1. The condition or feeling of being pleased; enjoyment, delight, pleasure, joy. *arch.* and *poet.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1071 (1099) In þe des right as þere fallen chaunces, Right so in loue þere com and gon plesaunces. *c* 1385 — *L. G. W.* 1150 (*Dido*) Thus is this quyen in plesaunce & in Ioye. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 67 Yf thou euer toke playsance in ony thyng that by me cam. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclix. 384 The Englysshemen toke great pleasaunce at theyr valiant dedes. 1710 PHILIPS *Pastorals* ii. 97 Untoward Lads, who Pleasance take in Spite. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxviii, Some days of joyaunce are decreed to all, To take of pleasance each his secret share. 1830 TENNYSON *Lilian* ii, When my passion seeks Pleasance in love-sighs. 1866 LONGF. *Flower-de-luce* iii, Beautiful lily,.. born to joy and pleasance, Thou dost not toil nor spin. 1876 J. ELLIS *Caesar in Egypt* 59 All sights and sounds of pastime and plaisance.

† 2. The action of pleasing; the disposition to please; complaisance; agreeable or pleasing manners or behaviour, courtesy. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 81 Som for plesance of folk and flaterye To ben auanced by ypocrisye. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3083 Good plesaunce is of swich beneuolence, þat what gode dede he may in man espie, He preysith it, and rebukith folye. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 907 To tell him as I haue tauld the, Withoutin plesance. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 398 Manye Noble men were compelled to pay vnto the king great sommes of money, which was called Pleasaunce, to please the king withall [cf. BENEVOLENCE 3, 4]. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. viii, Content: good Sir, vouchsake vs your pleasance.

b. A sprightly or pleasing trick; a pleasantry. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 452 Fancy may be permitted its plaisance and inoffensive Raileries. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1700) I. 284 Those little plaisances and inoffensive railleries of fancy which are sometimes requisite to sauce our conversation. 1873 E. BRENNAN *Wilch of Nemi*, etc. 178 Isis, she Who with her myriad plesances and wiles Chafes the unbloomed desire of Egypt's maids.

† 3. That which pleases one; pleasure, desire, wish, will. *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 21 In the turnynge of thi wille enterely to his seruyce and his plesaunce. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1345 To the plesaunce of God thou the confourme. ? 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 67, I shall doo your pleasauns as moche as in me is. 1530 *Compend. Treat.* in *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 180 To doo his office to the plesaunce of god.

4. Pleasure-giving quality; pleasantness. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 189 The odour of floures and the fresshe sighte, Wolde han maked any herte lighte .. So ful it was of beautee and plesance. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1304, A, welcum masenger of grett plezeavns! 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 39 For to discryve the Ross of most plesance. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 38 With pleasaunce of the breathing fields yfed. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. (1623) 554 Deseruedly for the pleasance of the place named Beaulieu. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xxvii, It was a fountain of Nepenthe rare, Whence, as Dan Homer sings, huge pleasaunce grew. 1830 TENNYSON *Recoll. Arab. Nts.* x, Thence thro' the garden I was drawn—A realm of pleasance.

b. That which awakens or causes pleasure; that in which one delights; an (objective) pleasure or delight. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* 53 Oute of al joyes and playsaunces worldly. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 301 As when .. a father [shows] nuts and such like pleasances to his child. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xxiii, How Vain are the pleasaunces on earth supplied.

5. A pleasure-ground, usually attached to a mansion; sometimes a secluded part of a garden, but more often a separate enclosure laid out with shady walks, trees and shrubs, statuary, and ornamental water. (Now sometimes surviving as the name of a street or 'place', as the Pleasance in Edinburgh, Falkirk, etc. In *Sc.* (plī·zăns).)

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxiii. 139 Diuers gardens and pleasaunces, planted with Orange trees. *a* 1600 *Hist. James the Sext* (1825) 94 The gunnis war transportit to a fauxburg of the toun [Edinburgh] callit Pleasands. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvi, The window .. commanded a delightful view of what was called the Pleasance; a space of ground inclosed and decorated with arches, trophies, statues, fountains, and other architectural monuments. 1847 E. WARWICK (*title*) The Poets' Pleasaunce or Garden of all sorts of pleasant Flowers. 1888 HARE *Story my Life* (1900) VI. xxv. 161 A charming old pleasaunce with bowling-green and long grass walks.

P From the final *s* sound this word was formerly, esp. by Scotch writers, often taken as a plural, and written *plesandis, -antis, pleasands, -ants*, with a pseudo-singular in *-ant*. (But *-antis* may sometimes be a misreading for *-ancis*.)

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus*) 497 Pare-fore suld god mare plesandis hafe In til his blud þan al þe lafe. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. vii. 523 The othere plesauntis and eesis of the religiosis persoones. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 648 Seyth..al þe plesawnt of your mynd. *a* 1600 [see 5]. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* II. xiv, She rose and went down into the pleasants of the castle.

† Plea·sance[2]. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **ples-,** 6 **pleasa(u)nce, pleasauntes, -antes, -ants.** [app. a. F. *Plaisance*:—L. *Placentia*, whence It. *Piacenza*, a city of Emilia, now an important seat of textile industry (silk, cotton, etc.).] A fine kind of lawn or gauze; in *a* 1548 identified with LUMBERDYNE.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 299 A kerchyef of plesaunce stood ouer hys helme ay. 1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 40 A Knyght out of Spayne, wyth a kercheff of plesaunce i-wrapped aboute hys arme; the qwych Knyght wyl renne a cours wyth a sharpe spere for his sovereyn lady sake. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 72 Item vj elne of plesance, price elne iiij s. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 7 [1509] Two ladyes .. in kyrtels of Crymosyne .. and ouer their garmentes were rochettes of pleasantes,.. their heades rouled in pleasauntes and typpets lyke the Egipcians, enbroudered with golde. Their faces, neckes, armes & handes, couered in fyne pleasaunce blacke: Some call it Lumberdynes, which is maruelous thine, so that the same ladies semed to be nygrost [*sic*] or blacke Mores. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 849/1. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Whenas I .. held the cloth of pleasance whiles you drank. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. 147 *note*, Pleasaunce was a fine thin species of gauze, which was striped with gold.

† Plea·sancy. *Obs.* [f. as PLEASANCE[1]; see -ANCY.] **a.** Pleasing character, pleasantness. **b.** Gaiety, pleasantry.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 31 b, The amenite & pleasancy of the place. 1684 I. MATHER *Remark. Provid.* (1856) 141 It is reported that one of the Popes, in way of pleasancy, saying to a parrat, 'What art thou thinking of?' the parrat immediately replied, 'I have considered the dayes of old, the years of antient times'. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xvi. 435 He had a certain pleasancy in conversation.

Pleasant (ple·zănt), *a.* (*adv.*) Forms: *α.* 4-7 **ples-, 5 plays-, pleys-,** 5-8 **plais-,** 6 *Sc.* **pleis-,** 6- **pleas-**; 4- **-ant,** (4-7 **-ante, -aunt**(e, 5 **-awnt,** 7 *Sc.* **-ent**). *β.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 4-6 **plesand,** 5-6 **pleasand, -ande,** (5 **-aund, -ond, plessand,** 6 **pleis-, pleysand**). [ME. a. OF. *plais-, pleisant* (12th c. in Littré, Hatz.-Darm.), prop. pr. pple. of *plaisir* = mod.F. *plaire* to please; see PLEASE *v.* In the *β* forms identified with the north. and Sc. pr. pple. in -AND, and thus really a northern variant of PLEASING *ppl. a.*]

1. Having the quality of giving pleasure; originally synonymous with PLEASING, but now used more vaguely: Agreeable to the mind, feelings, or senses; such as one likes.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 10 And suth thyngis that ar likand Tyll mannys heryng, ar plesand. *Ibid.* 208 Horse, or hund, or othir thing, That plesand war to thar liking. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 42 And thus what thing unto his pay Was most plesant, he lefte non. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 27 Pilgrime ful rich was he [Abraham] and plesaunt to God. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/2 Plesande, *acceptus, gratus.* 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. i, This fayre and playsaunt book. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. C'tess of Richmond* Wks. (E.E.T.S.) 305 A pleasaunt & a swete lyfe .. a lyfe full of ioye & pleasure. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 3 Na thing culd be to God mair plesand. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 252 It is vnto mee the pleasauntest thing in the world vniuersall. 1639 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* Ser. II. XIV. 373 The other 2 [marble pillars]..very pleasaunt and strounge. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* ii. § 6 (1833) 59 Pleasant and painful are qualities of the emotions we feel. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i, The pleasantest time of all the twenty-four hours.

2. Of persons or their attributes: Having pleasing manners, demeanour, or aspect; agreeable, cheerful, good-humoured.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 347 b, Jhon Cardinall of Lorayne .. had bene all his life time a most pleasaunt gest and companion. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 4. 239 Our Lord loveth a pleasant giver. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. cxlii, A jolly Swain Methought he was; meek, chearfull, and pleasant. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 115 Content and even pleasant under Hardships. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 385 One of the liveliest and pleasantest men I ever met with, was the Marquis del Campo. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ii, A clever woman is always a pleasanter companion than a clever man.

† 3. Humorous, jocular, facetious; merry, gay. *To make pleasant*, to be festive, make merry. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Pleasante propre, *galliarde.* 1545 *Primer Hen. VIII* in *Three Primers* (1848) 502 Arise, Lord .., let .. the righteous and Christ's disciples make pleasant and merry. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 134 When the pleasaunt wanderer perceaued that the Christians ceased to pursue hym. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 45 Which kinde of men, a pleasant writer scoffing at, sayth, That that meate is vnpleasant in tast, which smelleth of the smoake. *c* 1670 HOBBES *Dial. Com. Laws* (1681) 24 All .. the Contentments and Ease which some pleasant men have related of the land of Cocquany. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 246 P 9 Dick Reptile, who does not want Humour, is very pleasant at our Club when he sees an old Fellow touchy at being laughed at for any Thing that is not in the Mode. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 169 Now Gilpin had a pleasant wit.

b. Hilarious or excited from drink; tipsy. *rare.*

1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 55 Some of our captaines garoused of his wine till they were reasonable pleasant, for it is very strong with pepper. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) 12 The natural heat of his fancy being inflamed by wine made him..so extravagantly pleasant that [etc.]. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* IV, He comes home pleasant at night from some wine-party.

† 4. Amusing, laughable, ridiculous, funny. *Obs.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 15 With such other like pleasant iestes. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xiv. 47 From our Peru .. they might well bring gold, silver, and pleasant monkies. 1688 PENTON *Guard. Instruct.* (1897) 43 It was pleasant to see how my Son trembled to see the Proctour come in. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 9 P 13 The most pleasant Grievance is still behind. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 260 They took him off at the play-house some time ago; pleasant, but wrong. Public characters shou'd not be sported with.

5. *Comb.*, chiefly parasynthetic, as *pleasant-faced, -featured, -mannered, -minded, -natured, -sounding, -spirited, -spoken, -tongued, -witted*, adjs.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 67 Which all I will referre to the consideration of euerie pleasant headded Poet in their proper gifts. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxiv. § 3 It is no great disgrace though they suffer pleasant witted men, a little to intermingle with zeale scorne. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 355 By my troth a pleasant spirited Lady. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 279 This various, yet pleasant relisht Doctrine. 1685 DRYDEN *Daphnis* Misc. Poems II. 119 A pleasant sounding name's a pretty thing. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 2 There is one pleasant-faced, cheery mannered Divine. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* Jan. 97/1 He is very pleasant-spoken, and invited me to come and spend the night with him.

† B. as *adv.* = PLEASANTLY. *Obs.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 140 More..then the pleasaunt disposed man is willyng fullie to set forthe. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xiv. 115 They might live at the Indies very pleasant and happily. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* xx. *Comm.*, How pleasant eloquent is that Gregorie, called the great.

† Plea·sant, *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **plaisant.** [a. F. *plaisant* (16th c.), sb. use of *plaisant* PLEASANT *a.*] A jester, fool, clown.

1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E. D. S.), *Morio*, a pleasand, a playfoole. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 250 Whereupon one of these plaisants [*quidam urbanorum*] came out with a pretie conceit. 1617 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 409/1 Archibald Armstrong his Majesties pleasant quha come to this burght with the Inglishe Knichtis. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 42 Why should not they more truely be called, merry conceited Pleasants rather than Boasters?

Plea·sant, *v. rare.* [In trans. use f. PLEASANT *a.*; in intr. ad. F. *plaisanter* to jest, f. *plaisant* PLEASANT.]

† 1. *trans.* To please by indulgence; to indulge.

1627-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xiii. 20 He sings, and reuels, and pleasants his spleen.

† 2. To spend in pleasure. *Obs.*

1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 83 Some pleasant their lives, as if the world should alwayes laugh upon them.

3. *intr.* To joke, indulge in pleasantry.

1845 *Bachelor Albany* (1848) 263 Adelaide had that very night been pleasanting with Laura on the subject of the bachelor.

† Plea·santable, *a. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. PLEASANT *a.* + -ABLE.] = PLEASURABLE.

1619 CHAPMAN *Two Wise Men* II. i. 16 Mee thinkes this praying in a Church among those of high degree is nothing pleasantable, and blushing takes away my devotion.

Pleasantish (ple·zănti∫), *a.* [f. PLEASANT *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat pleasant.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 97 His eye has a pleasantish twinkle,

Pleasantly (plĕ·zăntli), *adv.* [f. PLEASANT *a.* + -LY 2.] In a pleasant manner.

1. In a way that pleases or gratifies; pleasingly, agreeably.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 3 þei myȝten lyue as plesandeli to god & as moche profit to holi chirche. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1689 That they should sownde To the eares of hem the more plesauntly. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E. E. T. S.) 48 Castelles, pleasauntely set abowte with parckes. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 93 All the women of Persia are pleasantly apparelled. 1776 LD. HAILES in Boswell *Johnson* 30 Aug., Dr. Johnson's *Suasorium* is pleasantly and artfully composed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 193 On our way we can pass the time pleasantly in talking.

2. In a manner showing pleasure or contentment; cheerfully, goodhumouredly.

1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* l[i]. 21 Thanne thou schalt take plesauntli the sacrifice of riȝtfulnesse. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* II. x. (1557) 105 b, That they [servants] do their duty diligently, mekely, and buxomly, yea and merily to, and pleasantly. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 94/2 He gave him the Cup, Socrates took it chearfully,..and looking pleasantly upon him, demanded whether he might spill any of it in libation. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* (1868) 12 The young brown eyes seemed to dwell on her pleasantly.

†**3.** By way of pleasantry; humorously, facetiously, jocosely. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 48 b, Many wittie men take occasion to reason pleasantly upon the interpretation of a worde. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 259 They will giue you a head of Garlick rosted in the ashes, and pleasantly call it a pigeon. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* iv. (1789) 10 This embellishment .. has occasioned strangers sometimes to ask us pleasantly, 'whether we fastend our walls together with tenpenny nails?'

Pleasantness (plĕ·zăntnĕs). [f. PLEASANT *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being pleasant (in various senses: see the adj.).

1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Plesantnesse, *plaisance. Ibid.*, Plesantnesse, *amenité.* 1555 EDEN *Decades* 25 The Lieuetenaunt beinge entysed by the pleasantnes of the kynges syster. 1610 A. WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 261 Italie..is for pleasantnes and fruitfulnesse farre beyond other regions. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* iii. 17 Her wayes are wayes of plesantnesse: and all her pathes are peace. 1685 tr. *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 76 There is nothing more unpleasant than a continual pleasantness...Some minutes are to be allowed to mirth, and the rest to seriousness. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 373 He had a pleasantness in his conversation that took much with the king. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 99 The influence of the rains of Hindoostaun..had cooled the air, and given it a peculiar softness and pleasantness. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* IV. i. 14 She hath won upon our people thro' her beauty And pleasantness among them.

Pleasantry (plĕ·zăntri). Also 8–9 **plaisanterie.** [a. F. *plaisanterie*, OF. *plesanterie* (13th c. in Godef.), f. *plaisant* PLEASANT, jocose; see -RY.]

1. A pleasant and sprightly humour in conversation; jocularity, fun, facetiousness; good-humoured ridicule, raillery.

1655 tr. *De Parc's Com. Hist. Francion* 23 Ravished with the pleasantry of the severall passages he had heard. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) 60 There can be no Pleasantry where there is no Wit. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 115 Ridicule, or to express the same word by another, pleasantry. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* I. 256 Pumping his brain for pleasantry, and labouring for wit to entertain the sneering crowd around him. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter* (1857) I. 14 That light matter which the French call pleasantry. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 328 A species of simony, which furnished an inexhaustible subject of pleasantry to three or four generations of scoffers.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A humorous passage, action, or (now, esp.) speech; a joke, a jest.

1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos.* Biog. 6 Many other Pleasantries of the same Kind are mention'd in their Place. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 31 ¶ 2 The several Woods in Asia..will give the Audience a Sight of Monkies dancing upon Ropes, with many other Pleasantries of that ludicrous Species. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 3 With their Censorious Plaisanteries upon the greatest of Authors and Worthies. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* I. 235 They..think that a few silly pleasantries, and slender arguments, are a sufficient preparation to decide on these proofs of a future life. 1880 MCCARTHY *Hist. Own Times* III. xlvii. 431 He seldom indulged in any pleasantries that could wound or offend.

†**2.** Pleasure, pleasantness, enjoyment. *Obs.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 253 To take up the good Company's Attention now, will spoil their Pleasantry. 1780 BURKE *Let. to T. Burgh* Wks. 1842 II. 409 Lord North was either wholly out of the house, or engaged in other matters of business or pleasantry, in the remotest recesses of the West Saxon corner. 1790 G. WALKER *Serm.* II. xxi. 109 We lose the relish for the thousand pleasantries of life.

Plea·santsome, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. PLEASANT *a.* + -SOME.] Somewhat pleasant.

1836 F. MAHONY *Rel. Father Prout, Songs Hor.* 1. (1859) 389 Some..find Larissa pleasantsome Or Sparta deem seductive.

Please (plīz), *v.* Forms: 4–5 (*Sc.* 6–8) **pleis(e,** 4–6 **pleys** (*Sc.* **pleyss**), **plese** (*Sc.* **ples,** 4 **pleece**), 5 **plaise, plase, place,** 5–6 **playse** (*Sc.* **pleiss, pless,** *erron.* **ple**), 5– **please,** (6 **pleace, pleas, plise,** *Sc.* **plaiss**). [ME. *plaise, pleise, plese*, a. OF. *plais-ir* (3 pl. pres. *plaise-nt*) = Pr. *plazer*, Sp. *placer*, Pg. *prazer*, It. *piacere*:—L. *placēre* to be pleasing or agreeable, f. root *plac-* in *placidus* gentle, mild, peaceful, *placor* contentment, satisfaction, *placāre* to calm, soothe, still. The mod.F. infinitive *plaire* (12th c. in Littré) is a collateral form, repr. a pop. L. *placĕre, plac're.*]

I. †**1.** *intr.* To be agreeable; to give pleasure or satisfaction. Const. *to* = F. *plaire à*, L. *placēre* with dative; *with*, etc. *Obs.*

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lii. 7 [liii. 5] For God wasted þe bones of þem þat plesen to men. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4729 In what maner þat i miȝt mest with þe plece. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 198 That Scottis men mycht do na thing That euir mycht pleyss to thar liking. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* iv. 1 As ȝe han resceyued of vs how it bihoueth ȝou for to go and plese to God. — 1 *Sam.* xviii. 26 The word pleside in the eyen of Dauyd. *c* 1400 *Prymer* (1895) 50 þat we mowe serue to þee wiþ chast bodi, & plese to þee wiþ clene herte.

†**b.** *To please to oneself*, to take pleasure, be well pleased. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 1 Al plesede to hym in hym my soule [1388 my soule pleside to it silf in hym]. 1382 — *Wisd.* vi. 3 ȝiueth eres, ȝee that holden togidere multitudis, and plesed to ȝou [1388 plesen ȝou] in cumpanyes of naciouns.

2. *trans.* To be agreeable to; to gratify, satisfy, delight.

The vb. was here orig. *intr.* as in 1, the object being a dative; but this not being formally distinct from an accusative or direct object, the vb. came at length to be viewed as transitive, and to have a passive voice (see 4). (It has no passive in Fr.)

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 68 þe meyne in alle þing plesed him next the king. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 188 Bliþe was eche a barn ho best miȝt him plese. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* iv. 1 Hou it behoueth ȝou to go and to plese God [1382 to God]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. i. (1495) 296 We shall ple the worlde though he playse [*Bodley MS.* please] vs wyth welthe. *Ibid.* XVIII. xiv. 774 An oxe herde plasyth the oxen wyth whystlynge and wyth songe. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 5/6 *Mais sil vous plaist aulcune chose Que ie puisse fayre*: But if you plaise ony thyng That I may doo. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 9 The king said to them 'That playseth me'. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) x. 38 Is not in erd I cure, Bot pleiss my lady pure. 1611 BIBLE *Esther* ii. 4 The thing pleased the king, and he did so. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 85 Imagining..that all was lawfull that pleased his humour. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xl, But she was resolved to please her eye, if she should plague her heart. 1837 ARNOLD *Let.* 21 Apr. in Stanley *Life* II. 81 Jacob Abbott's last work ..will, I think, please you very much.

b. *absolutely.* (At first perh. *intr.* = 1.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 158 For thei that cunnen plese and glose, Ben..the norrices Unto the fostringe of the vices. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xvii, The vnwyse displeseth there where as he supposeth to please. *c* 1530 *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 31 Pleace with thi dedys rathir than with thy clothis. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 747 Two names, that always cheat, and always please. 1747 JOHNSON *Prol. Opening Drury-Lane* 54 The drama's laws, the drama's patrons give, For we that live to please, must please to live. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 356 Men and writers, if they please at all, must please by doing their best in their own way. 1877 FURNIVALL *Leopold Shaks.* Introd. 120 The revived doctrine that the main object of poetry is to please, seems to me too contemptible to be discussed.

c. *refl.* To gratify or satisfy oneself. Also *colloq.* To do as one likes, take one's own way.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. vii, Please they them selves, and think at happiest stay Who please them selves. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 78 If I sent him word .. it [his beard] was not well cut, he wold send me word he cut it to please himselfe: this is call'd the quip modest. 1608 — *Per.* IV. i. 101 Perhappes they will but please themselues vpon her, not carrie her aboord. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* A iij, I purposed not so much to please my selfe, and a few, as to be beneficiall. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 67 Warburton .. had, in the early part of his life, pleased himself with the notice of inferior wits. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 334 The clans which took no part in the insurrection .. pleased themselves with the hope that they should easily make their peace with the conquerors.

3. *Impersonally*, with formal subject *it* (the real subject being a following infinitive or clause, expressed or understood): To seem good to one; to be one's will or pleasure. (Equivalent in sense to 'will', 'choose', 'think proper', etc., with the person as subject: cf. 4 b.)

Formerly usual in deferential phrases of address or request, as *and, an, if it please you*, etc., *may it, will it please you, your honour*, etc.; ellipt. *please it* (corruptly *pleaseth*) *you*, etc.; also (with omission of *it*), *so please you, please you*, and still in *please your honour, please God, please the pigs*, etc.

†**a.** Const. with *to* (= F. *à*, L. dative). *Obs.*

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xxxix. 18 [xl. 13] Plese it, Lorde, to þe, þat þou defende me. 1382 WYCLIF *Esther* i. 19 If it plese to thee [Vulg. *si tibi placet*], go ther out a maundement. *c* 1434 *Paston Lett.* I. 36 Plese it to Commines of the present Parlement, that William Paston..takyth diverse fees [etc.]. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 90 But she was paied, as it plesed to God, atte the laste.

b. Const. with simple object (orig. a dative).

†*Please it you*, may it please you.

(A following infinitive often lost its *to* in 16–17th c.)

1388 WYCLIF *Esther* ix. 13 If it plesith the kyng [1382 If to the king it plese, Vulg. *si regi placet*], power be ȝouun to the Iewis. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La male regle* 416 If it thee lyke & plese. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 249 Please it your full wyse discretions, to consider the matier. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 73 And yt place yow. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 221 Withouth it ple yow to send oon of yowr men to me. 1503 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 553/1 Pleas it nowe your Highnesse.. to ordeyn. 1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 433 And hyt ple your grace..that [etc.]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 350 Pleaseth you also to remember how many Lords, noble men, and good commons..died in thoss warres. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* Wks. 121/2 Please it your Holiness, I think it be some ghost. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 140 Come, come, wilt please you go? 1594 — *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 488 Pleaseth [*Qos.* please it] your Maiestie to giue me leaue, Ile muster vp my friends. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 275 Wil't please your worship to come in, Sir? *Ibid.* II. ii. 37 Not so, and 't please your worship. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi. (Arb.) 32 Not a word more sir ant please you. 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xv. 34 It pleased Silas to abide there still. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 117 May it please your Grace. 1822 B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare *Life* I. vi. 196 Wherefore he follows this plan it has never pleased him to explain.

c. With omission of *it*; in †*please you*, †*so please you*, may it (so) please you; *please your honour, please God*, etc.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 72 Me þleis [= pleises] not at nowder of þies sulde be sent þis message. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 37 *Ros.* Will you heare the letter? *Sil.* So please you, for I neuer heard it yet. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. ii. 1 *Imo.* Who's there? My woman: Helene? *Lady.* Please you Madam. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 69 An please your Honour, there's a Man below wants to speak to you. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi, 'Please your honour, he may be a robber', said Michael. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* II. ii, To-morrow night, please the gods, we will have then a snug carousal.

4. *Passive. To be pleased*: To be gratified, delighted, or agreeably satisfied. Const. *with.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 149 þe pepil was i-plesed wiþ his faire speche. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 3 Therwith he is both plesud and payd. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* l[i]. 19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of rightuousnesse. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 61. 40 Every One is pleased with such an Occasion of shewing the Superiority of his Understanding. 1850 MCCOSH *Div. Govt.* II. ii. (1874) 213 Nor can God be pleased with the perverted adoration.

b. with *infinitive* (or *clause*), expressing the subject of satisfaction. Also, (*b*) To have the will or desire, to be moved; (*c*) To think proper, vouchsafe, choose; to have the kindness, be so obliging as; *sarcastically*: to have the humour.

(This is the passive of the impersonal construction: *I was pleased to see* = *it pleased me to see.*)

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3008, I was wel plesed..To see the botoun fair and swote, So fresshe sprynge out of the rote. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 246 Be pleased then To pay that dutie which you truly owe. 1610 — *Temp.* III. ii. 44 Wilt thou be pleas'd to hearken..to the suite. *Ibid.* III. iv. 161 If you be pleas'd, retire into my Cell, And there repose. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 10 The tongues wherein God was pleased to speake to his Church by his Prophets and Apostles. — *Ps.* xl. 13 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliuer me. 1680 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 239 He was pleased to tell mee the King sayd it was for his service. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 60 To persecute..persons that he is pleas'd to call heriticks. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 459 Pleas'd I am, no beaten Road to take. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 424 He was pleas'd to mention the Controversy between Dr. Kennett and me. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 405 The governor is pleased to doubt our having such letters as we mentioned. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. vi, My dear Sir! you are pleased to be amusing this morning. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 67 A noble and powerful city, inhabited by rich, daring, and he is pleased to add faithless, citizens.

5. *trans.* To appease, pacify, satisfy. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* i. 3 A maal with outen wemme he shal offre..to plese to hym the Lord [1388 to make the Lord plesid to hym, Vulg. *ad placandum sibi dominum*]. — *Ps.* xlviii. 8 [xlix. 7] He shal not ȝiue to God wher of he be plesid [1388 to God his plesyng, Vulg. *placationem suam*]. 1563 *Homilies* II. *For Gd. Friday* II. (1859) 420 He could do nothing that might please God's wrath. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Pio, Delicta piare*..to please god for sinne. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pleease*, to satisfy, to make an equivalent. 'I'll pleease you for 't.'

II. 6. *intr.* To be pleased, to like; to have the will or desire; to have the humour; to think proper. (In sense, exactly = the passive in 4, 4 b.)

The history of this inverted use of *please* (observed first in Scottish writers) is obscure. But exactly the same change took place in the 14th c. in the use of the synonymous verb LIKE, where the impersonal 'it liked him', 'him liked', became 'he liked' *c* 1430. It may therefore be assumed that 'I please' was similarly substituted for 'it pleases me', 'me pleases' (*c* 1440 in 3 c). Cf. also Malory's 'me ought', in alliterative *Morte Arthure* 'me aughte', with Wyclif's 'Y awȝte', later 'I ought'. The remarkable thing in the case of *please* is that the sense was already logically expressed by the passive *to be pleased* (sense 4), and that the new idiom was therefore not needed, 'he pleases' being simply = 'it pleases him', and 'he is pleased'. Shakspere uses the three forms indifferently. Indeed, all the constructions of the vb., exc. 6 c, are richly exemplified in his works: see Schmidt.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 38 ȝour melody he pleissis nocht till heir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. vii. 5 From Lawrentum..War horsmen sent to Turnus, for to se Quhat he plesyt. 1530 [see b]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxxiv. [cxxxv.] 6 What so euer yᵉ Lorde pleaseth, yᵗ doth he in heauen & in earth. [Elsewhere C. has always 'pleaseth the Lord', which also stands here in the Great Bible and Geneva.] 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 122 Lauch alsmekle als ye pleiss. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 2 b, This your anguish of mind, or melancholie, as you please to tearme it. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Ep. Ded., If he [Perimedes] please I have my desire. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 71 This yong maid might do her A shrewd turne if she pleas'd. 1612 *Two Noble K.* II. ii. 59, I see two comforts rysing, two meere blessings, If the gods please. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 140 They .. single what beast they please to fight with. 1649 HOWELL *Pre-em. Parl.* 3 The Book you pleased to send me. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 138 He may when he pleaseth, free himselfe from that subjection. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 21 He travels a foot with his whole Court, yet his Courtiers go as they please. 1665 BOYLE

Occas. Reft. IV. xvii. (1848) 270, I can make her speak to me, just what I please. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 81 That he will please to let me know all therein. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 160 ₱7 You may make what use of it you please. ?1800 W. B. RHODES *Bomb. Fur.* i. (1830) 7 What will your Majesty please to wear? 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Ch. Div. 488 The plaintiff..has a right to have the trial where he pleases.

b. *If* (†*and, an*) *you please*: if it please you, if you like, if it is your will or pleasure: a courteous qualification to a request, the acceptance of an offer, etc.; also (parenthetically), a sarcastic way of emphasizing any surprising statement, as if asking leave to make it. (So F. *s'il vous plaît*. Cf. *by your leave*: see LEAVE *sb.* I.)

Here *you* may have been originally dative, as in 3 b (i.e. if (it) please you, = L. *si vobis placet*, F. *s'il vous plaît*, Ger. *wenn es Ihnen gefällt*), as in quot. 1483 in 2; but it is now taken as nominative (i.e. if you are pleased, if you like, if it is your will or pleasure): cf. *if he pleases; if they please*, above (in 6); and 'if ye please' here in 1530. Shakspere has both *if you be pleased* (4 b), and *if you please*.

1530 *Fyl of Brentford's Test.* (Ballad Soc.) 15 But tary, I pray you all, Yf ye please. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 50 Let me say no, my Liedge, and if you please. 1596 — *Merch. V.* I. i. 147 If you please To shoote another arrow that selfe way. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 355 Pray sir, put your sword vp if you please. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 58, I wyll goe, and you please. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 419 Ye need not be made miserable, but if you please. *Mod.* Will you take another cup? If you please. (*To child*) Say 'If you please', and you shall have it.

1848 THACKERAY in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 391/1, I heard of the father and son in the other regiment.., the Slashers if you please, being carried up drunk to bed. *Mod.* He must travel first class, if you please, like his betters.

c. *Please!* (imperative or optative) was app. originally short for *please you* (3 c) = 'may it (or let it) please you'; but it is now usually taken as = 'Be pleased' (imperative of 6), or as short for 'if you please' (6 b).

This use of *please* appears to have been unknown to Shakspere, whose shortest form is *please you* (3 c).

When parenthetical, or without construction, *please* is = may it please you, if it please you, if you please; e.g. Please, may I go out? May I come in, please? Come here, please; Give me my hat, please; Please, Sir, did you call? Shall I ring the bell? Yes, please. Will you, please, take a message for me?

But when followed by an infinitive, it is = Be pleased: e.g. Please to excuse my keeping you waiting; Please to return the book soon; Please not to lose it.

[1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* v. vii. 185 Please then my Lord to read this Epistle.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 397 Heav'nly stranger, please to taste These bounties which our Nourisher,..To us for food and for delight hath caus'd The Earth to yeild. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 90 Please then to take my place. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 226 'Then I'll tell the boys..' 'Please not, old man.' 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *You never can tell* 309 Yes, sir. Please, who are you?

†**7.** *trans.* To be pleased with, take pleasure in; to like. *Sc. Obs.*

1578 *Ps.* li. in *Scot. Poems 16th C.* (1801) II. 119 Gif thou had pleased sacrifice I suld have offered thee. 1616 J. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* vi. (1881) 139 Gif they pleasit not his wark when they saw it, he should correct it. *a* 1665 GUTHRIE *Chr. Gt. Interest* I. viii. (1766) 119 You wonder that any man should not please the device of salvation by Christ. 1719 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 470, I please what you term the demy [paper], but I think it's thin.

†**Please,** *sb. Sc. rare.* [f. prec.] Pleasing, pleasure. *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 428 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 299 Bot all thair sport, quhen thay wer maist at eiss, Vnto our deme it wes bot littill pleiss.

Pleased (plīzd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLEASE *v.* + -ED 1.] Affected by feelings of satisfaction or pleasure; contented, gratified, in good humour; † appeased.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxvii. 38 He forsooth is merciful, and plesid [1388 merciful] shal be maad to the synnes of hem. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 58 Therwith he helde hym pleased. 1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Pleased, *content.* 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, I. ii. 55 Nay be not angry, I am pleas'd againe. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 182 Among the buzzing pleased multitude. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 25 The spirits are refreshed, and in a pleased temper and condition. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. vii, I am not quite pleased with your looks. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* vi, A pleased smile appeared on her face.

Pleasedly (plīzėdli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pleased manner; with pleasure or satisfaction.

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* I. § 3 (1719) 26 He.. that can look upon another Man's Lands evenly and pleasedly as if they were his own. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xl. 262 He that would be pleasedly innocent, must refrain from the tast of offence. 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* IV. 417 [She] would have lingered pleasedly.

Pleasedness (plīzd-, plīzėdnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of being pleased; pleasure, satisfaction.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* (1848) 69 It may put him in mind of the pleas'dness and alacrity, with which a charitable person should set himself to the doing of good. 1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* iii. (1684) 16 Pleasedness, and Displeasedness are in the Passions, and signify Joy and Trouble. 1828 J. BALLANTYNE *Exam. Hum. Mind* III. ix. 323 That pleasedness, if it be in a considerable degree, is the very same with the affection of joy or delight.

†**Plea-se-God,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PLEASE *v.*] That pleases God.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 3 Salomon: His (please-God) Choice of Wisdom, wins him Honor.

†**Plea-se-man.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PLEASE *v.*] One who tries to please men, a man-pleaser.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 463 Some carry-tale, some please-man, some slight Zanie.

Pleaser (plī·zəɹ). [f. PLEASE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which pleases or aims at pleasing.

1526 TINDALE *Col.* iii. 22 Not with eye service as men pleasers. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref. ₱ iij b, A bitter inuectiue against Poets and Poesie..That it is a nurse of lies, a pleaser of fooles. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 190 A pleaser of all men..that he might gaine some. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1882) 308 If it be a great pleasure to see others pleased, and a greater to be the pleaser.

†**Plea-se-time.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PLEASE *v.*] One who tries to please the time, a time-server.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Ixxxi. 341 Live ever..in this Forehead of our Song by Please-times now forgot.

Pleaship (plī·ʃip). *rare.* [f. PLEA *sb.* + -SHIP.] The condition of being at law; litigation.

1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xiii, Peter Peebles and Paul Plainstanes entered into partnership. .. But .. *societas est mater discordiarum*: partnership oft makes pleaship.

Pleasing (plī·zin), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of the vb. PLEASE; the giving of pleasure or satisfaction; the fact of being pleased or satisfied.

†*To have pleasing to*: to take pleasure in; *to do* (one) *pleasing*: to give pleasure to (*obs.*).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 237 Preostes and Persones þat plesyng desyreþ, And taketh Meede and moneye for Massen þat þei syngen. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 48 Whi loue ye or haue more plesinge to ani man than to youre husbonde? *Ibid.* 67 To make her selff the fayrer to the plesinge of the worlde. 1596 RALEIGH in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 36 Preferringe your plesinge before myne own desire. 1611 BIBLE *Col.* i. 10 That yee might walke worthy of the Lord vnto all pleasing, being fruitfull in euery good worke. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *Jap Wife* (ed. 11) 78 She is a graduate in the art of pleasing.

†**b.** Appeasing, pacification, blandishment.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 123 þei disceyven þe hertis of innocentis be swet wordis & plesyngis & oþer feyned signes. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* i. 47 Sacrifices and plesyngis for to be don in the temple of God. *c* 1400 *Harrow. Hell* 977 (Add. MS.) A lettre þai wrote all of plesynge.

†**2.** One's liking, pleasure, desire, will. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 2 Tota pulcra þou art to my plesynge, My moder, princes of paradijs. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1480 That wold I lerne; Ittis my plesyng. 1527 *Prose Life St. Brandan* (Percy Soc.) 40 Therfore our Lorde hath set us here .. in full grete joye and myrth, after his pleasynge, here to serve hym.

†**3.** A source of pleasure; an object of delight. *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 613 They moste take in pacience at nyght Swiche manere necessaries as been plesynges To folk þat han ywedded hem with rynges.

†**4.** = PLEASINGNESS. *Obs.*

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Agric.* (1622) 184 The sweetnesse and pleasing of idlenesse, and of doing nothing, creepeth into our sences. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 13 He capers nimbly in a Ladies Chamber, To the lasciuious pleasing of a Lute.

Plea·sing, *ppl. a.* [f. PLEASE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. That pleases; that gives pleasure or satisfaction; agreeable, grateful.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 19 However þis ende comeþ beste, is moost plesing to God. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 191 Plesyd wyth fayre woordys & plesyng speche. 1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* lvi, The pleasyngst meanes boade not the luckiest endes. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xli. (1612) 200 The teares did wash her pleasing face. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 327 What is pleasinger then varietie, or sweeter then flatterie? 1702 POPE *Dryope* 19 Her smiling babe (a pleasing charge) she prest Within her arms. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 9 He has reconciled the pleasing to the proper. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 15 No longer a young man, yet not too old to be pleasing to women.

†**2.** Willing, approving. *Obs. rare.*

1652 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 81 Whereunto Don John gave no pleasing ear.

Pleasingly (plī·zinli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a pleasing manner; so as to please; pleasantly.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 8 Be he trewe.. & plesynglyche bere he hym-self to hys pacientis. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 129 No Orator was euer more pleasingly perswasiue. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 256 An island, where I spent my time so pleasingly. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 190 There is..very little variety, nor are the different objects pleasingly arranged.

†**2.** With pleasure; = PLEASANTLY 2, PLEASEDLY. *Obs.*

c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxiii. 62 (Gibbs MS.) Oure lord iesu accepted more plesyngly & preferred þe priuy contemplacyoun of marye. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 89 If one that hath a judiciall place..shall pleasingly heare the proofes of the one partie, and peremptorily cut off the other. 1612 W. MARTYN *Youth's Instruct.* 77 Neither doe you relish too pleasingly your owne actions. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* Pref. 19 That can look upon another man's Lands evenly and pleasingly as if they were his own. [Cf. PLEASEDLY, quot. 1651.]

Pleasingness (plī·zinnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] **a.** Pleasing quality; agreeableness, pleasantness. † **b.** Pleasedness, pleasure (*obs.*).

a. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 55 Time..seeming..short ..in the pleasingnesse of such presence. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. iv. § 2 (ed. 3) 59 The novelty and pleasingness of musick and poetry. 1776 WESLEY *Husb. & Wives* iii. Wks. 1811 IX. 62 The Effects of Nuptial Love are three, Pleasingness, Faithfulness, Helpfulness. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 234 Warts and wrinkles..inimical to pleasingness of aspect.

b. 1649 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Use Passions* (1671) 53 One might .. see pleasingness take the same place in his countenance, which Choler had possest.

Pleasurabi·lity. *rare.* [f. next + -ITY.] The quality of being pleasurable.

1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 12 Apr. 227/1 He .. talks as if he were all pleasurability or dignity.

Pleasurable (ple·ʒŭrăb'l), *a.* [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + -ABLE, after *comfortable*.]

1. Affording, or capable of affording, pleasure; agreeable, pleasant.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded. § 4 These my present paynes if to any they be pleasurable, or profitable. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 223 Recreating and pleasurable entertainments. 1810 D. STEWART *Philos. Ess.* III. i. 225 When the mind is strongly influenced, either by pleasurable or painful sensations. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. § 20 (1864) 288 Exercise is pleasurable only when we are expending surplus energy.

†**2.** Devoted to or engaged in pleasure; pleasure-seeking, pleasure-loving. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. ii, O, sir, you are very pleasurable. 1618 S. WARD *Jethro's Justice* (1627) 41 Idle pleasurable gentlemen. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* Ded., The manners of the Pleasurable, as well as the Busie Part of Mankind.

Plea·surableness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] Pleasurable quality; pleasantness, delightfulness.

a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm. Isa.* i. 5 Wks. 1684 IV. 533 Could he but..espy the whole sweetness and pleasurableness of it secretly let out. 1713 M. HENRY *Wks.* (1853) I. 168 To screw up the delights of sense to a greater degree of pleasureableness. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* viii. (1875) 326 A sympathy with intellectual activity for its own sake, and for the sake of its inherent pleasurableness and beauty.

Pleasurably (ple·ʒŭrăbli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a pleasurable manner; in or with pleasure, pleasantly, agreeably.

1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Amos* vi. 1 Woe to those that live securely, and pleasurably in Zion. *a* 1822 SHELLEY *Pun. Death* Ess. & Lett. (Camelot ed.) 65 The mind .. will be painfully or pleasurably affected. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 25 Prudence..teaches that we cannot live pleasurably without living justly and virtuously, nor live justly and virtuously without living pleasurably.

†**Plea·surance.** *Obs. rare*−1. [f. PLEASURE *v.* + -ANCE, or ? error for *pleasance*.] Pleasure.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3471 Playnond with pytie, no pleasurance at all, With sykyng & sorow [she] said on this wise.

Pleasure (ple·ʒĭŭɹ, -ŭɹ, -əɹ), *sb.* Forms: see below. [ME. *plesir, plaisir* a. OF. *plesir, plaisir* (12th c. in Littré), = Pr. *plazer*, Sp. *placer*, Pg. *pracer*, It. *piacere*, Com. Romanic substantival use of the vb. infin.:—L. *placēre* to please. By 1400, *plesīr* had become (in prose) *plē·sir, plē·ser*, and its unstressed ending being confounded with that of words etymologically in *-ure*, e. g. *measure*, it was corruptly spelt and pronounced *plesure, pleasure*. The dialects have retained more etymological forms in *pleezer, plezzer* (plī·zəɹ, ple·zəɹ).]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–5 plesir, 5 plesyr, -yre, -ire, -ier, -yer; plaisir, playsir, -ire, -yr, -yre; pleasir, -ire, -ier, -yr, -er; pleeser; 5–6 pleser, -ere; 6 pleasire; 9 *dial.* **pleezer, plezzer.**

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 144 Sche scholde thanne afore his ye Schewe al the plesir that sche mihte. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assemb. Gods* 197 Ye shall haue all your plesere [*rime* here=hēar]. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 35 A yong rotour, redy to hir plesier. 1450 Q. MARGARET in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 8 To be disposed to our pleasir. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I At his plesier. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 27 To the pleeser of Almighty God. 1466 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 322 Juncte or severell at his plesyre. ? *c* 1470 *Paston Lett.* III. 302 Sythe with your partyng, depertyd my plesyer [*rimes* desyer, fyer]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxii. 248 To doo hym alle the pleasyr that I can. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 14 For his solas and plaisir. 1481 — *Myrr.* I. xiii. 39 Without his playsir nothyng may endure. 1482 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 289 To the most pleaser of God. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* V. x, I praye the that one playsyre thow wylt do to me. 1485 — *Chas. Gt.* 1 To reduce for his playsyr somme hystoryes. 1488 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 7 § 1 At the Kynges plesire. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 113 Wherof I had so inly greet plesyr. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 31 That I shall euer doo youre playsire. 1536 R. BEERLEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 34 All fowlows our owne sensyaly and pleser. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plezzer*, pleasure.

β. 5 plaisur, playsur, -ure; 5–6 plesur; pleasur, -our (−? *Sc.*); **5–7 plesure; 5– pleasure; 6 plesour, -oure, -owre, -ewre; pleasor,** *Sc.* **pleisour, -ure, pleissour, plessour, -uir, 7 pleaceur,** *Sc.* **pleassour, plessor.**

c 1440 *Generydes* 144 For his plesur trowly ther lakkyd noght. *c* 1450 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 373 [He] entrenge in.. hade his pleasure. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* vi, For to take his desporte and playsure. 1486 *Certificate* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 47 God preserve you to His pleasour. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* 50 Where your plaisur shalle be to sette vs vnto. 1490 — *Eneydos* xxvii. 98, I myghte .. haue doon wyth theym after my playsur and wyll. 15.. *Sir J. Mandevelle & Gret Souden* 75 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* (1864) I. 157 He that hase most plesure is best. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) p. xlviii, Now judge, Coridon, if herein be pleasour. 1529 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 21 To be paid at the pleasor of my sone. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Pleasure, *commodité*. *c* 1540 J. HEY-

WOOD *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 16 The sewrte of plesewre eternall. **1552** ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 7 How we suld observe the commandis to the plesour of God. **1554–9** *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 1 Farewell my joye and plesure to. **1556** OLDE *Antichrist* 65 b, To mayntene their pleasur and idlenesse. **1588** A. KING *Canisius' Catech.* (S. T. S.) 213 To take pleissour. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 7 Pleisour; 43 pleisure; 94 plesour; 152 pleasour. **1611** SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* (S. T. S.) 1. 34 Pleasoures: 51 pleasour; 80 pleassour. **1640–1** *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 35 That they be baithe committit to warde, presentlie, during thair plessor.

B. Signification.

1. The condition of consciousness or sensation induced by the enjoyment or anticipation of what is felt or viewed as good or desirable; enjoyment, delight, gratification. The opposite of *pain*.

1390 [see A. *a*]. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol. 1 In whiche booke I had grete playsyr. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 27 Flee pleasure, and pleasure will folowe thee. **1602** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iii. 2 Since you make your pleasure of your paines, I will no further chide you. **1651** HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 25 Pleasure .. (or Delight) is the apparence or sense of Good. **1685** *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 122 What in pleasure begins too oft endeth in pain! **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. vii. (1695) 56 By Pleasure and Pain I would be understood to signifie, whatsoever delights or molests us. **1721** MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 197 I .. shall next proceed to the Garden of Pleasure or Flower-Garden. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 14 You admit, therefore, three sorts of pleasure:—pleasure of reason, pleasure of imagination, and pleasure of sense. **1756** BURKE *Subl. & B.* I. ii, Pain and pleasure are simple ideas, incapable of definition. **1757** GRAY *Bard* 74 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm. **1831** SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 120 The two former I had the pleasure of finding in Paris. **1881** W. H. MALLOCK *Rom. 19th Cent.* II. 243 Her face flushed with pleasure. **1894** SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 88 'Pleasure is to the mind, what good food is to the stomach.' Pleasure is what all creatures desire; pain what they all avoid.

b. In unfavourable sense: Sensuous enjoyment as a chief object of life or end in itself. Sometimes personified as a female divinity.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Tim.* v. 6 But she [a widow] that liveth in pleasure, is deed even yet alive [**1611** is dead while she liueth]. **1710** SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. III. ii. 309 When we follow Pleasure merely, we are disgusted, and change from one sort to another. **1735** POPE *Ep. Lady* 215 Men, some to Bus'ness, some to Pleasure take; But every Woman is at heart a Rake. **1768–74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 683 Pleasure and interest are two great deceivers we must warn men against, as continually leading them astray. **1784** COWPER *Task* III. 51 Thou art not known where Pleasure is adored, That reeling goddess with the zoneless waist And wandering eyes. **1790** BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 59 But pleasures are like poppies spread, You seize the flower, the bloom is shed. **1802** W. CUTSPEAR *Dram. Rights* 47 Pleasure is the business of the great. **1819** BYRON *Juan* I. cxix, O pleasure! you're indeed a pleasant thing, Although one must be damn'd for you, no doubt. *Mod.* Men who made pleasure the business of their lives. Wearied votaries of pleasure. A life given up to pleasure.

c. In strictly physical sense: The indulgence of the appetites; sensual gratification.

c **1450** [see A. *β*]. **1562** *Child-Marriages* 75 He wold have had his pleasure of her. **1611** BIBLE *Gen.* xviii. 12 Therefore Sarah laughed within her selfe, saying, After I am waxed old, shall I haue pleasure, my lord being old also? **1725** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., to C'tess Mar* (1887) I. 363 Dying as he had lived, indulging his pleasures. **1877** MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xii, The vileness which calls itself pleasure was paralyzed.

d. The condition or fact of being pleased or satisfied, the negation of which is displeasure (DISPLEASURE 1); satisfaction, approval. *rare*.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 734 [He] was not the best pleased, but pleasure or displeasure, there was no remedie.

2. With possessive pronoun, or sb. in possessive relation: How one is pleased or wills in reference to any action contemplated; that which is agreeable to one or in conformity with one's wish or will; one's will, desire, choice.

?*c* **1368** (16th c. MS.) CHAUCER *Compl. to his Lady* 126 As is your most plesure, so doth by me. *c* **1420** LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 577 The goddes hygh plesure to fulfyll, Performe my desyre. **1485** CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 2 Whiche .. aroos & humbly demaunded hym what was his playsir. **1543–4** *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 It is in the only pleasure and will of almighty God, how longe his highnes .. shall lyue. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 120 When his good pleasure shall be. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 117, I wait vpon his pleasure: Come Sir Thurio, Goe with me. **1669** MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 275 So expecting your pleasure, I remaine, Gentlemen, [etc.]. **1761** HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. XXXVI. 289 They were determined not to submit .. to her will and pleasure. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 549 They would submit to William's authority, and would, till his pleasure should be known, keep their men together.

3. That which gives pleasure, or in which one delights; a source or object of pleasure or delight.

c **1495** *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 107 Therin you wil do,.. that may be plesur to you & my contry. **1517** TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 18 They Caryed with them Riches and pleasurs, As clothe of gold and Crymsyn velvett. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvi. 17 b, This place excelleth all others in pleasures and dainties. **1639** N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 11 Is there a greater pleasure, then to be present at the birth and ruin of Empires, and Monarchies? **1715** DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 101 These are the very things your sister calls the pleasure of her life. **1858** EARL OF ABERDEEN in *G. C. Lewis's Lett.* (1870) 352 Your .. love of truth renders this a duty as well as a pleasure.

† **b.** A pleasure-ground. *Obs.*

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 293/1 Tennements,..thanne lyinge nie to the said late Lord Herbert, and to hys plesure. **1494** FABYAN *Chron.* VII. cliv, In the xxi. yere of hys reygne Kynge Henry [I] made y^e^ parke of Wodestoke besyde Oxenforde, with other plesures to the same. **1633** FORD *Broken H.* I. iii, None have access into these private pleasures, Except some near in Court. [Cf. **1721** in sense 1.]

c. As name of a locality.

1666 WOOD *Life* 18 June (O. H. S.) II. 80, June 18, M., Oliver Craven, B.A. of Trinity Coll. drowned at Patten's Pleasure. **1692** *Ibid.* III. 399.

4. The quality which gives pleasure; pleasurableness.

c **1530** *Crt. of Love* vi, To her be all the pleasure of this book. **1626** BACON *Sylva* § 475 The Shining Willow which they call Swallow-Tail because of the Pleasure of the Leaf. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 14 Consequently the pleasures perfective of those acts are also different. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 149, [I] realised what I had never felt before—the pleasure of pale colours.

5. Phrases.

† **a.** *At pleasure*: with pleasure, pleased. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 294/2 The Papistes (of whom we speake not so at pleasure). **1595** DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. ii, Whilst Fraunce, to see thy spoyles, at pleasure stood!

b. *At (one's) pleasure, at pleasure*: as or when one pleases; at will, at discretion. *During (one's) pleasure*: while one pleases.

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 44/1 Lifte up and close the seid lef att their pleser. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xvii, I drynke and ete at my playsyr. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxv. 137, I shall make you amendes at your pleasures. **1566** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 460 He being absent at the plesour of God. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* I. 8 We had freedome to leaue the coach at our pleasure. **1634** W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 132, I am not able to do anything but at the Physitians good pleasure. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 33 Draw two Right Lines, making any Angle at pleasure. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiii, Whom the .. housekeeper .. huffed about at her pleasure. **1885** *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 61 § 2 A Secretary .. who shall hold office during Her Majesty's pleasure. **1885** *Law Rep.* 15 Q. Bench DIV. 360 The belts .. could be slipped off the drum .. at pleasure.

c. *To do or* † *show (one) (a) pleasure*: to perform an acceptable service, do a favour; to please, gratify. (In quot. 1685 used *ironically*.)

c **1460** FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 124 Such as do, or shall do to hym seruice, or oþer maner off pleasures. **1472** *Paston Lett.* III. 54 To do my Lord a plesur. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* xxiv. 27 Felix, willynge to shewe the Jewes a pleasure, lefte Paul in preson bounde. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 364 The citezens shewed them what pleasure they could. **1685** R. BURTON *Eng. Emp. Amer.* ii. 50 One .. who to do the Spaniards a pleasure gave them [the English] information of a great Ship called the St. Anna expected from the Philippine Islands, .. which .. they took within a few days after. **1871** BROWNING *Balaust.* 2359 But certainly Thou dost thy friend no pleasure in the act. *Mod.* Do me the pleasure of dining with me. I will do myself the pleasure of calling on you.

d. *Man (woman) of pleasure*: one who is devoted to the pursuit of sensual pleasure; a licentious person, a profligate. † *Lady, woman of pleasure*: a wanton, a courtesan (*obs.*).

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* V. ii, We that are great women of pleasure .. join the sweet delight And the pretty excuse together. **1637**, *c* **1645**, **1708** [see LADY *sb.* 4 e]. **1667** EVELYN *Diary* 27 Aug., He [Clarendon] had enemies at Court, especialy the buffoones and ladys of pleasure. **1673** *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 72 These men of Pleasure (y^e^ very Pest and ruine of all Courts). **1732** BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 3 Thus in our Dialect a vicious Man is a Man of Pleasure. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 793 A Man of Pleasure is a Man of Pains. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 635 Kirke was also, in his own coarse and ferocious way, a man of pleasure.

† **e.** *To pleasure, to (one's) pleasure*: so or such as to please; to one's liking. *Obs.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xiv. 92 There were brought hym robes to his pleasyr. **1819** KEATS *Lamia* II. 192 When in an antechamber every guest Had felt the cold full sponge to pleasure press'd .. upon his hands and feet.

f. *To take (a) pleasure*: to be pleased, to enjoy oneself, to delight (*in, to do* something, etc.).

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Teneri ludo*, to take pleasure in game. **1590** MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* IV. i, I take no pleasure to be murderous. **1611** BIBLE *Ps.* cii. 14 Thy servants take pleasure in her stones. **1727** A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xix. 231 Was drowned .. by a Pinnace's oversetting, in which he and his Lady had been taking a Pleasure on the Water. **1734** tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. IV. 211, I took a pleasure of informing myself of his birth. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 48 Were taking their pleasure in our neighborhood.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., 'of or for pleasure', as *pleasure-barge, -car, -carl, -chariot, -dome, -driving, -excursion, -farming, -feast, -fleet, -garden, -gardener, -horse, -party, -plat, -resort, -traffic, -train, -travel, -trip, -vehicle, -voyage, -walk*; **b.** objective, obj. genitive, instrumental, etc., as *pleasure-hunter, -taker, -taking*; *pleasure-bound, -feeling, -giving, -greedy, -loving, -tired, -trading, -wasted, -yielding* adjs.

1775 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 216/1 *Pleasure-barges .. moored in the river. **1873** E. BRENNAN *Witch of Nemi* 223 *Pleasure-bound and peace-inspiring days. **1797** *Hist. Mr. Fantom* (Cheap Repos. Tracts) 8 That multitude of coaches .. stages, *pleasure-carts and horses. **1865** J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 69 Besides their war-chariots, the Egyptians possess a small number of *pleasure-chariots. **1797** COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 2 In Xanadu did Kubla Khan A stately *pleasure-dome decree. **1833** L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 225 Agatha .. prepared .. for her *pleasure-excursion to Nantes. **1891** KEBBEL *Old & New Eng. Country Life* 132 The age of *pleasure-farming—of work and play combined .. is gone for ever. **1890** DONISTHORPE *Individualism* xi. 378 A larger sum-total of *pleasure-feeling sentient beings. **1890** *Nature* 4 Sept., Electric coaling-stations for the river *pleasure-fleet. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* (title-p.) Fine Gardens, commonly called *Pleasure-Gardens. **1779** J. MEADER (*title*) The Planter's Guide: or *Pleasure Gardener's Companion. **1824** COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Gillman* (1895) 731 You will have received another,.. more amusing, at least *pleasure-giving Scripture from me. **1879** H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* vi. § 33. 83 Sentient existence can evolve only on condition that pleasure-giving acts are life-sustaining acts. **1860** ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* xii. 263 Corrupt and *pleasure-greedy set of men. **1817** T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* (1875) 211 The keeping of *pleasure-horses. **1850** ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ii. (1872) 24 The mere giddy *pleasure-hunter of the hour. **1818** LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* (1859) 94 We were all young, enterprising, and *pleasure-loving. **1873** LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 21 The Afreet chose the season of the Equinoctial for their *pleasure-party. **1856** MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* VI. 699 It is not wholesome for these *pleasure-plats To be so early watered by our brine. **1891** E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 64 The children are taken to some *pleasure resort. **1825** HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 438 *Pleasure-seekers at sixpence per head. **1798** SOTHEBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) II. 24 Amanda scarce believes her *pleasure-sparkling eye. **1855** J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 34 Strange sight-seers, and uproarious *pleasure-takers. **1827** MOIR *Contadina* iv, Beside thee sleep or play Thy loveliest children, *pleasure-tired, in the blue light of day. **1805** *Mod. London* 458 It is by no means so prolific in its raree shews as the *pleasure-trading Paris. **1861** *Times* 22 Aug., The *pleasure traffic was materially deranged .. by the cheerless weather. **1871** HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 163 The season of *pleasure-travel. **1763** SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. x. 161 The ground is agreeably laid out in *pleasure-walks, for the recreation of the inhabitants. **1879** H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* xiii. § 89. 334 The sum of pleasures, or of *pleasure-yielding things.

Pleasure (ple·ʒiŭr, -ŭr, -əi), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To give pleasure to; to please, gratify.

c **1559** R. HALL *Life Fisher* lf. 34 b, He ment to give definitive sentence against her to pleasure the kinge withall. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Almsdeeds* I. (1859) 387 [He] is both able to pleasure and displeasure us. **1652** CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* 9 All Apples .. pleasure the stomach by their coolness, **1764** FOOTE *Patron* II. i, I am no churl, I love to pleasure my friends. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, The wall must be crumbled, the stone decayed, To pleasure his dainty whim. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xiii, 'Walter, will you not pleasure us with your company to-night?'

† **b.** *refl.* To take one's pleasure. *Obs.*

a **1619** FLETCHER, etc. *Q. Corinth* III. i, One that hath As people say, in forráigne pleasur'd him.

2. *intr.* To take pleasure, to delight. Const. *in*, or *to* with *infin.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 172 Surely his predecessours plesured moche in odoryferous savours. **1581** RICHE *Farewell* (Shaks. Soc.) 28 The Duke greately pleasuryng to heare the pretie aunswere of the childe, replied in this wise. **1621** LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 557 What others gloryed and pleasured in, tortured her. *a* **1810** TANNAHILL *Poems* (1846) 79 Brutes are but brutes, let men be men, Nor pleasure in cock-fighting. **1882** LD. COLERIDGE in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. 234 There are some sports which appear to me so cruel and so unmanly, that I wonder very much how any one can pleasure in them.

b. *colloq.* To go out for pleasure, take a holiday: chiefly in vbl. sb. PLEASURING.

Hence **Plea·sured** *ppl. a.*, filled with pleasure.

1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xiv. 60 Though a man bee neuer so rich,..and pleasured in this life: yet shall he not carry away any of those riches. **1813** T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. 441 Milk kindly greets The pleasured palate with nutritious sweets.

Plea·sure-boat. A boat constructed or used for pleasure, as distinguished from one for business. So **Plea·sure-boa·ting** *sb.* and *a.*

1661 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Apr., We went on board the King's pleasure boat. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 75 Gondolas and Pleasure-Boats. **1817** J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 308 Having embarked in a neat Pleasure-boat. **1891** *Pall Mall G.* 28 July 3/1 It is absurd to think that the interests of pleasure-boating may be left to take care of themselves.

Pleasureful (ple·ʒŭrfŭl), *a.* [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of or fraught with pleasure; pleasing, delightful.

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. (1558) 100 For so rashnesse be auoyded, liberalitie is very pleasurefull. **1617** ABP. ABBOT *Descr. World* (1634) 113 Reputed alwayes very commodious and pleasureful Countrey. **1802** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 I. 95 It was a pleasureful sight, to behold that vision of light. **1884** J. SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* iii. 39 The habit owes its .. source of delight to some soothing and pleasureful qualities.

Plea·sure-ground. A ground or piece of land laid out and ornamented for purposes of pleasure or amusement, or naturally adapted to such use.

1768 HOLDSWORTH *On Virgil* 200 The Romans seem..to have used the word Tempe, as the Greeks did Παράδεισοι.. for any very pleasing place; or pleasure-grounds, as our gardeners of late call them. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 242 A beautiful pleasure-ground, situated on a woody promontory which overlooks Lough Erne. **1886** W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 101 Isn't it grand—a park of this size? It's fully fifty acres, and all pleasure-ground, too!

Plea·surehood. *nonce-wd.* [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + -HOOD.] The condition of living in or for pleasure.

1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* 39 That words may flourish Of which mine enemy would spoil me, Using pleasurehood to foil me!

Plea·sure-house. [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + HOUSE: cf. Ger. *lusthaus.*] A house used for purposes of pleasure or recreation; a summer-house.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2376/3 The Elector being lodged in the Pleasure-house without the Town, which was purposely built for Sultan Mahomet. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 325 Fiorenzola, where the great duke has a pleasure-house. 1830 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 1, I built my soul a lordly pleasure-house, Wherein at ease for aye to dwell.

Pleasureless (ple·ʒūrlès). [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + -LESS.] Devoid of pleasure; joyless.

1814 in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 254 He might have become penitent, and deplored the enormity of his pleasureless vices. *a* 1851 MOIR *Chr. Musings* vi, I told how life all pleasureless would be. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lxxix, He himself was sliding into that pleasureless yielding to the small solicitations of circumstance.

Hence **Plea·surelessly** *adv.*

1873 Miss BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 35, I wander objectlessly, pleasurelessly about with Vick.

Plea·surement. *rare.* [f. PLEASURE *v.* + -MENT.] Indulgence in pleasure; taking of enjoyment; = PLEASURING 2.

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* VIII. iii, I..have your royal interests too much at heart to while an hour in my pleasurement.

Plea·suremonger. [See MONGER.] One who makes pleasure his business.

1616 W. FORDE *Serm.*, etc. 47 As did those pleasure-mungers, who, though they lived, [etc.]. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 396 The Power-mongers, Wealth-mongers, and Pleasure-mongers of the World. 1888 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 23 June 6/3 The youthful pleasuremonger has lived on excitement all winter..and cannot settle down.

Pleasurer (ple·ʒūrəɹ). [f. PLEASURE *sb.* or *v.* + -ER 1.] A pleasure-seeker; a holiday-maker.

1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 182 These pleasurers [earn] their enjoyments..by the sweat of their brow. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Loud. Recreations*, Let us turn now to another portion of the London population..we mean the Sunday pleasurers. 1876 Mrs. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* xxii, Parties of pleasurers returning from their day's excursions.

Plea·sure-see·ker. One who seeks pleasure; *spec.* a holiday-maker.

1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 17 Select parties of pleasure-and-oyster seekers may be seen proceeding by water or land. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* V. vi, Coaches, choked full with pleasure-seekers from Port Erin.

So **Plea·sure-see·king** *sb.* and *a.*

1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* XV, Dowton's whole existence has been devoted to pleasure-seeking. 1896 Mrs. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 12 That lady watched the pleasure-seeking vagaries of her charge, with a painful and discriminating interest.

Pleasuring (ple·ʒūriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [See -ING 1.] The action of the vb. PLEASURE.

1. The giving of pleasure; pleasing, delectation.

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 34 [To write] for passing of the time, and pleasuring of his friends. 1897 GUNTER *Ballyho Bey* iii. 41 She is a sybarite in the pleasuring of her senses.

2. The taking of pleasure; pleasure-seeking; going on a pleasure excursion; taking a holiday.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* XXXVI. 133 When all things fit for loues sweet pleasuring Inuited him to reape a Louers blisse. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xlii. 275 A little trim vessel, which shall sail a pleasuring backward and forward to Portsmouth. 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Superann. Man*, Expressing the hollowness of a day's pleasuring. 1869 Miss MULOCK *Woman's Kingd.* III. 218 Who refused, year after year, to take her autumn pleasuring..because her husband would only have to work the harder for it.

3. *attrib.*, designating things designed for, used for, or devoted to pleasure.

1869 *Daily News* 16 July, Nor is this practice..confined to pleasuring vans. 1872 *U. S. Statutes* XVII. 32 A public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 3/2 A pleasuring tour to some distant part of the States.

Pleasurist (ple·ʒūrist). [f. PLEASURE *sb.* + -IST.] **a.** A devotee of pleasure, a voluptuary. **b.** A pleasure-seeker.

1682 Sir T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 23 The Delights wherein mere Pleasurists place their Paradise. 1851 F. WALPOLE *Ansayrii* II. 326 Pilgrims and pleasurists from all nations. 1855 ZIMMERMAN *Solitude* II. i. 240 The wearied pleasurist..flies to scenes of public gaiety.

Plea·surous, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Characterized by pleasure; joyous; voluptuous.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xvi. (1852) 182 Begin we, then, our sweet and pleasurous sway.

Pleat (plīt), *sb.* Also 5 plete, 6–7 pleate. [A collateral form of PLAIT *sb.* (app. akin to the β forms there): cf. OF. *plet* a fold (in Godef.).

This form of the sb. appears to have become obsolete in the 17th c.; it is absent from the 17th, 18th, and early 19th c. dictionaries, and reappears only in those of the late 19th c. (e.g., Annandale's Ogilvie, Cassell) with a cross-reference to *Plait*. But as a spoken word it was in use in the 18th c., for Walker 1791 s.v. *Plait* says 'There is a corrupt pronunciation of this word, as if written *plete*, which must be carefully avoided'. This pronunciation has not only asserted itself, but in the latter part of the 19th c. has caused the restoration of the spelling *pleat* in sense 1.]

1. A fold of cloth or drapery; now *esp.* one of a series of folds by which the edge of a skirt or other loose drapery is regularly and symmetrically taken in, so as to be attached to a band or the like, while the unattached part hangs full; = PLAIT *sb.* 1. *Box-pleat*: see BOX *sb.*2 24.

1581 DERRICKE *Image Irel.* II. E iij b, Their shirtes..With pleates on pleates thei pleated are, as thicke as pleates maie lye. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. IX. XIX. 1658 They carrie it ..alwaies about in the pleats of their Girdle. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 617 A fold or pleat, *plica.* 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 194/2 Doctor John Bridgman late Bishop of Chester..wore his Bishops Hat all covered in pleats with Taffaty, from whence he was vulgarly termed John with the Taffaty Hat. 1883 [see Box *sb.*2 24]. 1884 G. ALLEN *Philistia* I. 49 The peacock-blue [dress] with the satin box-pleats. 1887 J. ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 28 A snowy skirt, all frill and pleat.

fig. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 93 Hiding base sin in pleats of Maiestie. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 178 The water ..forms a ripple above each ridge; and from the everlasting throb of these pleats of running water the sunlight flashes as if from a moving river of diamonds.

†**2.** A plait of hair or cord: = PLAIT *sb.* 2. *Obs.* (or ? *dial.*)

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. lxvi. 183 The pletes [*Bodley MS. c* 1450 plettes] of wymmens heer ben knytte and bounde wyth laces. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moone* 77 Her Hayre tuck'd up in many a curious pleate. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v, She pinckes the hayre, and working them in pleat [etc.]

Hence **Plea·tless** *a.*, without pleats, unpleated.

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 28/1 Tartans with..pleatless kilts on them. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 2/2 The upper skirt..with its circular cut, fitting pleatless round the hips.

Pleat (plīt), *v.* Also 4–6 plete, (4 pleit). [A collateral form of PLAIT *v.* (app. akin to the β forms there), going with PLEAT *sb.*

Like the sb. PLEAT, the vb. appears to have become practically obs. by 1700, after which the only examples are dialectal in sense 2, till late in the 19th c., in which the vb., like the sb., has been restored in sense 1. Like the sb., it was certainly much earlier in spoken use in this sense, and although ignored in the dictionaries may have been current from the 17th c. onward.]

1. *trans.* To fold (cloth, etc.); now *esp.* to gather (loose or flowing drapery) into pleats or regular folds fixed in position at the edge; = PLAIT *v.* 1.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 126, I..Brochede hem with a pak-neelde and pletede [*v.r.* pleit; *B.* plaited, playte, plytyd, plyghted] hem togedre. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* ix. (1870) 149 Theyr mantles of say, gadryd & pleted mouch like after nonnes fashyon. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* II. 26 A linnen vesture wondrous white, and pleated here and there. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 52 A gown..pleated and crisped about the necke. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 92 The sleeves..are much longer, and therefore they pleat them that they may not hang over the Wrists. 1864 WEBSTER, *Pleat*, to plait or double in narrow folds. See *Plait.* 1879 SALA *Paris herself again* (1880) II. xii. 181 A pretty young Dutch-woman who could not pleat her..ruff to her satisfaction.

fig. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 283 (Qo.) Time shall vnfold what pleated [1623 *Fol.* plighted] cunning hides. 1714 C. JOHNSON *Country Lasses* IV. ii, Verily thou hast well unfolded thy message: now pleat it up carefully again. 1900 DOYLE *Gt. Boer War* XV. 253 The ground in front of him was pleated into long folds.

2. To plait (hair, a garland, etc.): = PLAIT *v.* 2. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 To Plete, *jntricare,..plectere.* 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 310 The hair, which before had been..coloured, pleated, and bordered. 1658 Sir T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* ii, The Triumphal..Crowns..were pleated after this order. *c* 1704 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 606 I'll weave Her Garlands; and I'll pleat Her Hair. 1897 CALDER *Poems* (Berwicksh.) 91 (E. D. D.) We pleated wreaths o' varied hues, to bind our lassie's hair. (In dialects from Cumbld. to E. Yorksh.: see E. D. D.)

Hence **Plea·ted** *ppl. a.*; **Plea·ting** *vbl. sb.*

Accordion-pleated, pleated (by machinery) with very fine equal single pleats; *knife-pleated*, pleated by hand with the blade of a knife (or by a machine producing the same result).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 Pletyd, *jntricatus, jnvolutus. Ibid.*, A Pletynge, *jntricatura.* 1605 [see 1, *fig.*]. 1881 *Truth* 19 May 686/2 The train is of pleated sky-blue satin. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 52/2 A greyhound's stomach almost equals an accordian pleated skirt in expansiveness. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 23 Sept. 8/3 Pipings, and pleatings of velvet. 1905 *Ibid.* 29 May 8/5 In the case of a linen gown ..it would be as well to do without the knife-pleated frills.

Pleat, -e, obs. ff. PLEAD *v.* **Pleay,** obs. f. PLAY *sb.* **Pleaze,** obs. irreg. f. PLACE *sb.*

Pleb (pleb). *slang.* [Abbreviation of *plebeian.*] A plebeian, one of the common people or lower classes: *spec.* (*a*) See quot. 1902; (*b*) = PLEBE 2 (*U. S.*).

1865 Mrs. NEWBY *Common Sense* (1866) II. ii. 23 The well-dressed boy, who was so unlike a pleb. 1878 P. ROBINSON *In Indian Gard.* II. 82 The muggur [broad-snouted crocodile] is a gross pleb, and his features stamp him low-born. 1883 W. BLAIKIE in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 908/1 At West Point, no matter how stooped the entering pleb, he is soon taught to carry himself..erect. 1902 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang, Pleb...* (Westminster School).—A tradesman's son.

†**Ple·bal,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *pleb-s* (see PLEBS) + -AL.] Plebeian.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxv. 352 And former Popularity, whereto Ambition weads, Hath furnisht him of plebale Friends, a Beast of many heads.

†**Ple·ban.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *plēbān-us*, f. *plēbs, plēbēs* diocese, parish, parish church (Du Cange). So OF. *plebain* (Valenciennes, 1347), It. *piovano* rural dean.] A rural dean.

1481 *Peebles Charters* (1872) 188 Chaplanis and serwandis at the paroche alter, in Sant Andros kyrk, as pleban and curat of the parochanaris. *Ibid.* 189 The said Gylbert..constitut..the saidis plebane curat and chaplanis and thair successoris..to be kepparis to the archidenis place. [1706 PHILLIPS, *Plebanus*, a Rural Dean, so call'd because the Deaneries were commonly united to the Plebaniæ, or chief Mother-Churches within a particular District.]

‖ **Plebania** (plībē·niă). [med.L., f. *plēbānus* PLEBAN.] (See quots.) Hence †**Pleba·nian** in same sense.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 180 Questionlesse these Plebanians were like our side-wasted Parishes in Lanchishire, whose extensure is so large, that..one of those Parish Churches hath fourteene Chappels of ease..within..her limits. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plebania* or *Plebanalis Ecclesia*, (in old Latin Records) a Mother-Church, which has one or more subordinate Chappels. 1902 W. S. CROCKETT *Scott Country* xii. 247 It was the plebania or mother-church of the district.

Ple·bbish, *a. slang.* [f. PLEB + -ISH1.] Of plebeian character; caddish. Hence **Ple·bbishness.**

1860 MAYNE REID *Wild Huntress* XXXII, It [Mormonism] appeals neither to reason nor romance. The one is insulted by the very shallowness of its chicanery, while its rank *plebbishness* disgusts the other.

Plebe (plīb). [In sense 1 app. a. F. *plèbe* (in 14th c. *plebe*), ad. L. *plēb-s, plēbem*: see PLEBS. In sense 2 app. shortened from PLEBEIAN: cf. PLEB.]

†**1.** The Roman Plebs; by extension, the commonalty of any other nation. *Obs.*

1612 HEYWOOD *Apol. for Actors* II. 35 All other roomes were free for the plebe or multitude. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* III. 391 But still the Plebe, with thirst and fury prest, Thus roaring, raving, 'gainst their Chiefs contest. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* VI. Dial. 363 The Plebe with the motion seem'd content, Proserpine smil'd and Cerb'rus howl'd consent.

2. *U.S. colloq.* A member of the lowest class at a military or naval academy; a newly entered cadet, a freshman. Also PLEB.

1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* ii, You could see a squad of 'plebes' drilling. 1896 *Peterson Mag.* VI. 266/2 Although he was only a 'plebe', as the newly entered cadet was termed, even the hazers respected the native dignity and modesty that marked his demeanor.

b. *Comb.* **Plebeskin** (*U. S. slang*) civilian dress.

1888 *New York World* 22 July (Farmer), West Point, N.Y., July 21. The fourth class entered camp on Monday, but are still wearing their plebeskins. They will don their dress coats the first week in August, when they enter the battalion.

†**Plebe·iall,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *plēbēi-us* (see next) + -AL.] = PLEBEIAN *a.*

1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 77 We will call the one populer, the other plebeiall.

Plebeian (plībī·ĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* plebeane, 6–7 -eyan, 6–9 -ian, 7 -ean, 6– -eian. [f. L. *plēbēi-us* belonging to the PLEBS + -AN; cf. F. *plébéien* (14th c.) By Shakspere sometimes stressed *ple·bean.*]

A. *sb.* **a.** A member of the Plebs of ancient Rome; a Roman commoner, as opposed to the patricians, senators, and knights.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. ii. (S. T. S.) II. 57 Na plebeane will tak þe dochter of ane patriciane but hir consent. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 35 She was none of the Senatours wiues, but a Plebeian, as much to say as a craftes woman, and no gentlemans daughter borne. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. ix. 7 The dull Tribunes, That with the fustie Plebeians, hate thine Honors. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 29 The proudest and most perfect separation which can be found in any age or country, between the nobles and the people, is perhaps that of the Patricians and the Plebeians, as it was established in the first age of the Roman republic. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. I. 8 The patricians and plebeians of Rome represent, at this early period, two races of different origin.

b. In general, A person not of noble or privileged rank, one of the common people, a commoner.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Wanstead Play* in *Arcadia*, etc. (1629) 619 Hath not the pulchritude of my vertues protected me from the contaminating hands of these Plebeians? 1611 COTGR., *Roturier*, a Yeoman, or Plebeyan;..any lay man that is no Gentleman. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* iv. (1691) 80 Whether the Plebeians of England (for they constitute the Bulk of any Nation) do not spend a sixth part more than the Plebeians of France? 1792 BURKE *Let. to Sir H. Langrishe* 13 The nobles have the monopoly of honour. The plebeians a monopoly of all the means of acquiring wealth. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lviii. 408 In some cantons [in Switzerland] the old families have so completely withdrawn..from public office..that it would be assumed that a politician was necessarily a plebeian.

c. *fig.* In various depreciatory applications.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xiv. (1713) 133 If the Philosophers themselves be such fools, what are the Plebeians? 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 234 What plebeian base soe'er he heard. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. iv, To the brave, there is but one sort of plebeian, and that is the coward.

B. *adj.* **a.** Of or belonging to the Roman Plebs; that was a plebeian.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 15 To what purpose be the plebeian magistrates ordained? 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 51 His plebeian colleague Decius Mus .. crowned a worthy life by devoting himself to death for the state in conformity with a national superstition. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* i. 88 Rutilius, the first plebeian dictator at Rome.

b. Of low birth or rank; of or pertaining to the common people; belonging to or connected with the commons or populace; popular.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 301 Priuate person or plebian multitude. *c* 1620 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. v. iii. (1903) 477 Setting vp maypooles, daunsing the morris with hobby horses,.. and like Plebean sportes. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 23 The Prelates..comming from a meane,

and Plebeyan Life on a sudden to be Lords of stately Palaces. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 394 The Plebean Women walk without Doors. 1795 Burke *Let. to R. Burke* Wks. 1842 II. 458 To cut off (perhaps) three millions of plebeian subjects .. from all connexion with the popular representation of the kingdom. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. vi. 178 For the abashing of plebeian beholders.

c. Having qualities, mental or physical, attributed to the lower classes; commonplace, undistinguished; vulgar or vulgar-looking, low, ill-bred, coarse, mean, base; ignoble. Also *fig.*

1615 *Val. Welshm.* (1663) B j, For to Plebean wits, it is as good, As to be silent, as not understood. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 192 That Prayers and Thanksgiving, be made in Words and Phrases, not sudden, nor light, nor Plebeian. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* v. i. 2472 A Queen, and own a base Plebean Mind. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xxi, An important gentleman..of rather plebeian countenance. 1853 C. Brontë *Villette* vii, Their dress implied pretensions to the rank of gentlemen, but, poor things! they were very plebeian in soul. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi, There are certain patches of ground, which..Nature..has covered with hungry plebeian growths [of weeds].

Hence **Plebe·ianly** *adv.*; **Plebe·ianness.**

1659 Gauden *Serm.*, etc. (1660) a ij b, An age pittifully and plebeianly Antiepiscopal. 1831 *Examiner* 809/2 Patriot Kings who walk about with umbrellas under their arms, prepared to be plebeianly rained upon, instead of royally reigning. 1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 513 While I have a voice, sir, I will uplift it against such low-bred vulgarity and plebeianness.

Plebe·iance. *rare.* [Irreg. f. L. *plēbēi-us* Plebeian + -ance.] Plebeian condition or action.

1621 *Summary Du Bartas* To Rdr., Hauing extinguished all the distinctions betwixt Nobilitie and Plebeiance. 1896 *Godey's Mag.* (U.S.) Apr. 363/1 Such amazing verisimilitude, and such fascinating plebeiance, that the audience takes her into its heart of hearts.

Plebe·ianism. [f. Plebeian + -ism. So F. *plébéianisme* (Babœuf, *a* 1796).] Plebeian character or style.

1775 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* IV. 230 The young fellow was dressed very genteelly, with a sword, and carried no marks of plebeianism about him. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 372 A prig who .. can never cease for a moment to betray his plebeianism. 1882 *Athenæum* 22 Apr. 505 Her mother's kin .. were .. tainted with a worse stain than that of honest plebeianism.

Plebe·ianize, *v.* [f. Plebeian + -ize.] *trans.* To make plebeian, reduce to plebeian rank; to make common, popular, or vulgar.

1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 45 The new art, which, by plebeianizing knowledge and enlightening the mass, deprived the law and the prophets of half their terrors. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 256/1 She dropped the *de*, and thus plebeianised her name. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 343 It [an inn] took to billiards, and became gradually plebeianised.

†Plebe·ious, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *plēbēi-us* plebeian + -ous.] Of plebeian character or rank.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* IV. iii. 82 They [sports] are either Generous, as Hunting and Hawlking: Or Plebeious, as Fishing and Fowling. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 595 No Tonsor so plebeious, but he was a Laudanister.

†Plebe·ity. *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **plebeyity.** [f. L. *plēbēi-us* plebeian + -ity: cf. *laity, nobility*, etc.; L. had *plēbitās* *plebity.]

1. The lower or plebeian class; the commonalty.

1618 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1651) 190 The Plebeyity (whose supream Object is Bread) cried in all corners, *Viva Donato.* 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Plebeity*, the commonalty, the vulgar people.

2. Plebeian rank or birth.

1679 *Jenison's Popish Plot* Pref. 7 That..his Extraction may advance him above the common exceptions of Lowness and Plebeity, which inferiour Testimonies are subject to.

Plebeskin: see Plebe 2 b.

Plebi·colar, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *plēbicola* one who courts the common people, (f. *plēbs* + *-cola* cultivator) + -ar 1.] That courts the common people. So **Plebi·colous** *a.*, in same sense; **Plebi·colist** *sb.*

[1626 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 356 Eightly, Merchants and Citizens, who deceive the King of Custom. Ninethly, Innovators, Plebicolæ.] 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Plebicolist*, a favorer of the common people. 1820 Coleridge *Lett.*, etc. I. 118 These Answers of the Queen's, conjointly with her plebicolar (or plebicolous) Clap-Trappines in the live puppet show of Wicked Punch and his Wife.

Plebifica·tion. *rare.* [n. of action f. Plebify.] A making or rendering plebeian; vulgarization.

1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) III. 132 You begin with the attempt to popularize learning and philosophy; but you will end in the plebification of knowledge. 1830 — *Ch. & State* vii. 71. 1885 H. N. Oxenham *Short Stud.* xv. 127 What is practically meant by the plebification of opinion.. is, when put in its extremest form, the tyranny of unintelligent or half-intelligent mobs.

So **Ple·bificate** *v. rare.* = next.

1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Apr. 258/1 Religion, to adapt Coleridge's apothegm, was to be not only popularized but plebificated.

Plebify (plī·bifəi), *v. rare.* [f. L. *plēb-em* (Plebs) + -fy.] *trans.* To make or render plebeian; to vulgarize.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 Maccunn *Ethics Citizenship* viii. 165 The best and greatest things on earth, in being popularised, may be plebified.

†Ple·bile, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. type **plēbīl-is* (cf. *cīvīlis*), f. *plēb-em* (Plebs): see -ile.] = Plebeian.

1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* E e iv, He..had the loue of the Plebile sedition, and the hatred of Silla.

Plebiscitarian (plɛbisitē·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as Plebiscitary + -an.]

A. *adj.* = Plebiscitary.

1870 *Daily News* 20 Sept., Now that she [France] is a plébiscitarian monarchy, the utmost that can be done .. is to resort once more to the plébiscite. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 1/1 Regular political councils 'of senators, deputies, and politicians attached to the plebiscitarian cause'.

B. *sb.* An advocate or supporter of a plebiscite.

1888 *Times* 5 Sept. 5/1 All the remaining Cæsarians and Plebiscitarians had enrolled themselves under a new leader.

Plebi·scitarism. *rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *plébiscitarisme*, f. *plébiscitaire* (see next) + -ism.] The principle or practice of appealing to a plebiscite.

1888 *Times* 17 Apr. 5/3 The .. *Etoile Belge* says that neither speeches nor objurgations can stem the rising flood of plebiscitarism.

Plebiscitary (plɛbi·sitări), *a.* [ad. F. *plébiscitaire*, f. *plébiscite* (see next).] Relating to, based on, favouring, or of the nature of a plebiscite.

1870 *Daily News* 22 Apr., The following is the Plebiscitary manifesto, signed by 17 deputies of the Extreme Left and the committee of seven journalists associated with them. 1881 *Standard* 17 June 4/8 The Plebiscitary Vote which is to decide whether the Prince is to be retained as a Ruler. 1898 Bodley *France* II. III. iii. 161 French advocates of the referendum disclaim its plebiscitary tendency.

Plebiscite, -it (ple·bisit, ‖ plɛbisi·t). Also (6 *Sc.* plebescit), 9 ‖**plébiscite.** [a. F. *plébiscite* (14th c. in Littré in sense 1), ad. L. *plēbiscītum.*]

1. *Rom. Hist.* = Plebiscitum 1.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. xxiii. (S. T. S.) II. 41 We sufferit..þe plebescitis to be vsit in maner of lawis abone þe faderis. 1602 Fulbecke *Pandectes* 31 By plebiscite or popular determination to be quitted and freed. 1658 Phillips, *Plebiscite* (lat.), a decree, statute, or law, made by the common people. 1875 Poste *Gaius* I. § 3 A statute is a command and ordinance of the people: a plebiscite is a command and ordinance of the commonalty. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* I. § 3 A *lex* is a law enacted and established by the whole body of the people; a plebiscit, one enacted and established by its plebeian members.

† b. *transf.* A popular decree or maxim. *Obs.*

1637 Pocklington *Altare Chr.* 148 Principles so full of spawne..as this feracious and pregnant Plebiscite, that what is by law, custom, prescription..appointed and settled, shall not be allowed, or practised.

2. In modern politics, A direct vote of the whole of the electors of a state to decide a question of public importance, e. g. a proposed change in the constitution, or the ratification or rejection of a measure approved by the legislature (see Referendum); also by extension, a public expression, with or without binding force, of the wishes or opinion of a community.

In French, applied by Voltaire, 1776, to such a vote as used in some of the Swiss cantons (Littré); in the First French Republic used in connexion with the *coup d'état* of 18th Brumaire (9 Nov. 1799) and other acts, including that by which the consulate and imperial power were conferred on Napoleon I; in 1852 applied to the ratification of the *coup d'état* of Dec. 1851, and conferring of the imperial crown upon Napoleon III. It was in connexion with the last of these that the word became familiar in English.

1860 *Times* 7 Mar. 9/6 The decree summoning Tuscany to give on the 11th and 12th inst. a plebiscite, by universal suffrage, and by ballot, for the annexation, or for a separate kingdom. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. xiv. 211 He [Louis Napoleon] knew how to strangle a nation in the night-time with a thing he called a 'Plebiscite'. 1870 *Daily News* 23 Apr., It is expected that the proclamation of the Emperor respecting the plebiscite will be issued on Saturday. 1884 H. Spencer *Man versus State* 14 If people by a *plébiscite* elect a man despot over them, do they remain free because the despotism was of their own making?

Hence **Plebisci·tic** *a.* (*rare*), of, pertaining to, or established by a plebiscite.

1892 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 153 It [monarchy] had recently been humbled on the field by a plebiscitic adventurer.

‖ **Plebiscitum** (plɛbisəi·tŏm). *Pl.* -a. [L. *plēbiscītum* (also *plēbis scītum*, *plēbi scītum*, lit. an ordinance of the plebs), f. *plēbis*, genitive of *plēbs* the commons + *scītum* ordinance, decree, sb. use of pa. pple. of *sciscĕre* to approve, vote for.]

1. In ancient Roman History, A law enacted by the Plebs assembled in the *comitia tributa.*

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* I. vii. (1584) 6 The Emperours claime this tyrannicall power by pretence of that Rogation or *plebiscitum*, which Caius Cæsar or Octauius obtained. 1704 Hearne *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 372 Within this period the Plebeians procured the *Plebiscita* to pass into Laws and to bind the Patritians, which was confirmed by Q. Hortentius the Dictator and from him called Lex Hortentia. 1774 Bp. Hallifax *Rom. Law* 7.

2. = Plebiscite 2.

1864 *Spectator* 443 Physical force is not all on the side of the tyrants, nor does a plebiscitum invariably sanction only a crime. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Aug. 2 If Louis Napoleon means to give the Liberal empire a fair trial, he will..'go to the country', not by the outworn and exploded device of a plebiscitum, but by a general election, conducted under the auspices of public liberty.

b. *fig.* An expression of popular opinion.

1859 Kingsley *Misc., Raleigh* I. 105 A terrible plebiscitum has been passed in the West country against the betrayer of its last Worthy.

‖ **Plebs** (plebz). [L. *plēbs* (earlier *plēbēs*).] In ancient Rome, The commonalty, originally comprising all citizens that did not belong to one of the patrician *gentes*, to which privileged order were afterwards added the *equites* or knights.

1835 Lytton *Rienzi* I. ii, All the insolent and unruly turbulence which characterised the *Plebs* of the Ancient Forum. 1845 Graves *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 756/1 There were several co-operating causes which .. rendered the *plebs* anxious to obtain a body of revised and written laws. 1882 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 524/3 The two offices which by the close of the Republic had thrown all others into the background, those of the tribunes of the plebs in Rome and of the proconsuls in the provinces.

b. In transferred use, The common people; the populace, the mob.

1647 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 131 'Tis an Easier Thing To make Trees Leape, and Stones selfe-burthens bring..Then stop the giddie clamouring of *Plebs* [*rime* Thœbes]. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 132 We..take our place with the plebs who believe [etc.]. 1890 *Cincinnati Chr. Advocate* 5 Feb. 10/2 Whether the plebs hoot or not.

Pleck (plek). Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4 **plek,** 5 **pleke,** 5–8 **plecke,** (8 **plack**), 7– **pleck.** *β.* 4 **plecche.** [ME. *plecche, plecke, plek*, repr. an OE. **plecce*, cognate with MDu. and early mod. Du. *plecke* piece of ground, plot, spot, speck, stain, blemish, Du. *plek* spot, LG. *plek* piece of ground, place. (Thought by some to be related to MLG. *plack*, LG. *plak, plakke* patch, spot, rag, Du. *plak* slice, flat piece.) Not connected with Old Northumbrian *plæce, plætse*, ad. L. *platea* (see Place *sb.*).]

1. A small piece or spot of ground; a plot or plat; a small enclosure.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1379 Prudly on a plat playn, plek alþer-fayrest. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiv, If he see þat þe hare hath be at pasture in grene corne, or in eny oþer plecke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/1 Plecke, or plotte, *porciuncula.* 1485 in *Descr. Cat. Anc. Deeds* (1890) I. 358 A howse to kepe there wod dry yn w^t a gardyn pleke. 1575 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 160 Payd for a locke for the medow plecke yate iij^d. 1638 in Harwood *Lichfield* (1806) 484 An hedge betwixt Collin's pleck and the orchard. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) IV. 17 Planted at the same time on two distinct placks with Peas and magazan Beans. 1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* III. 281 Cultivation is daily claiming, acre by acre, rushy moor and newdried pleck and plash.

† 2. A (discoloured) spot or patch; a stain, a blemish. *Obs.*

c 1315 Shoreham *Poems* IV. 327 Opere souche plecches Scheweþ wat onde deþ. 1535 Coverdale *Lev.* xiii. 4 Eny whyte plecke in the szkynne of his flesh.

3. 'A square bed of dried grass' (*E. D. D.*).

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 72/2 [At Haymaking] Plecks is to make it, or turn it into square Beds.

4. A place; a town, village, or the like. *dial.*

1674 Ray *N. C. Words* 37 A *Pleck*, a Place. *c* 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 51 His Gronny's alive an wooans..e Grinfilt, at Pleck where his nown Mother coom fro. *c* 1860 Staton *Rays fro' th' Loomenary* ii. 33 He neer knocks;..he comes into th' pleck wiheawt axin' leave.

† **Plecked,** *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ed.²] Speckled, spotted.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 429 In þe welmes ofter þan ones Is y-founde reed splekked [*v. r.* plekked] stones. 1527 *Trevisa's Higden* I. xxii. 20 Shep that drynke of that one [river] shall wexe blacke and sheep that drynke of y^e other wexe whyte..And yf they drynke of bothe they shall wexe plecked [1482 Caxton splekked] of dyuers coloure.

Plecolepidous (plekole·pidəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πλέκος wickerwork, πλέκ-ειν to plait, twist + λέπις, λεπιδ- scale + -ous.] Of Composite plants: Having the bracts of the involucre coherent.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Plecolepidus*,..applied by H. Cassini to the periclinium of the *Synantherea* when the scales are intergrafted or grown together at the base: plecolepidous. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Plecopterous (plɛkɒ·ptĕrəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + Gr. -πτερος winged + -ous.]

1. *Entom.* Of or pertaining to the *Plecoptera*, a group of pseudo-neuropterous insects, comprising the single family *Perlidæ*, having the reticulated wings folded in repose. So **Pleco·pter, Pleco·pteran,** an insect of the group *Plecoptera.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *Ichthyol.* Of or pertaining to the *Plecoptera* of Duméril, a family of Cartilaginous fishes, 'having the *Catopi* united under the pectoral fins'.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Plecotine (plekɒtəin), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *plecōt-us* (f. as prec. + Gr. οὖς, ὠτ- ear) + -ine 1.] Of or pertaining to the genus *Plecōtus* of long-eared bats of the family *Vespertilionidæ*, having imperfect nasal appendages.

1891 Flower & Lydekker *Mammals* 660 The various genera may be conveniently grouped into the Plecotine, Vespertilionine, Miniopterine, and Thyropterine divisions.

Plectellarian (plektĕlē·riăn), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Plectellāria* (f. **plectella*, dim. of *plecta* interwoven border + *-aria*, -ary 1) + -an.] Of or pertaining to the *Plectellaria*, a suborder of radiolarians without a shell, or having an incomplete latticed shell. b. *sb.* A radiolarian of this order.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Ple·ctile,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plectil-is* plaited, f. *plectĕre* to plait, weave: see -IL, -ILE.] Plaited, woven.

a 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* ii. Wks. 1852 III. 204 The crowns and garlands of the Ancients..were made up after all ways of art, compactile, sutile, plectile.

Plectognath (plĕ·ktŏgnæþ), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [f. mod.L. *Plectognathi*, f. Gr. πλεκτός plaited, twisted + γνάθος jaw.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Plectognathi*, a suborder of teleostean fishes, having the upper jaw attached to the cranium, and the skeleton imperfectly ossified. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this suborder. So **Plectognathian** (-gnēi·þiăn) *a.* and *sb.*, **Plectognathic** (-gnæ·þik), **Plectognathous** (-ɒ·gnăþɒs) *adjs.* = **a.**

1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxi. 391 Plectognathian Fishes. Gill-covers concealed under a thick skin. Ribs rudimental. Ventral fins wanting. 1841 E. Scudamore *Nomenclature, Plectognathic*,..fishes with fixed jaws, as the sun-fish, &c. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Plectognathus*, knitted or connected cheeks..from a peculiar arrangement of the jaw and palatine arch: plectognathous.

Plectospondyl (plĕktɒ|spɒ·ndil), *a.* and *sb. Ichthyol.* [f. mod.L. *Plectospondyli*, f. Gr. πλεκτός (see prec.) + σπόνδυλ-ος vertebra.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to or having the characters of the *Plectospondyli*, teleostean fishes having some of the vertebræ co-ossified. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this order. So **Plectospo·ndylous** *a.*

Plectre (plĕ·ktəɹ). *rare.* [a. F. *plectre* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *plectrum.*] = Plectrum.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1348 For an instrument and plectre (as it were) to set it aworke, we allow a spirit or winde. 1840 Browning *Sordello* II. 740 He'd strike that lyre adroitly—speech, Would but a twenty-cubit plectre reach.

Plectropterine (plĕktrɒ·ptərəin), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Plectropter-us* (f. Gr. πλῆκτρο-ν cock's spur + πτερόν wing) + -INE 1.] Of or pertaining to the genus *Plectropterus*, the spur-winged goose of Africa, having a sharp bony spur on the radial carpal bone. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Plectrum** (plĕ·ktrŏm). Pl. **-a.** [L., a. Gr. πλῆκτρον anything to strike with, esp. an instrument for striking the lyre; also, a spear-point, cock's spur, etc.; f. πλήσσειν to strike.]

1. A small instrument of ivory, horn, quill, or metal, with which the strings of the cithara or lyre were plucked; now used for playing wire-strung instruments, as the zither or mandolin.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 102 The Sound is not created between the Bow or Plectrum, and the String; But between the String and the Aire. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Mus.* v. 69 *note*, On the first rude Formation of Instruments, the Plectrum would give the more clear and effectual Stroke. 1806 Moore *Genius of Harmony* ii, A liquid chord is every wave that flows, An airy plectrum every breeze that blows! 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 52 To take up the lyre and tune the notes, and play with the fingers, or strike with the plectrum.

2. *Anat., Ornith.*, and *Ent.*: see quots.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 339 *Plectrum*,..a marginal bristle stronger than the rest, observable about the middle of the costa and standing out from it. Ex. Many *Muscidæ*. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Plectrum*, the styloid process of the temporal bone. Also, the uvula and the tongue. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plectrum..Ornith.*, a spur on the wing or foot.

Pled, plede, pledde: see Plead *sb.* and *v.*

Pledge (pledʒ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **plege, plegge,** 6 **pledg,** 5– **pledge** (6 *Sc.* **pladge, plage, plaige, pleage,** 7 **pleg**). [Late ME. a. OF. *plege* (Roland, *c* 1080, and Anglo-F.), *pleige, plaige, plo(i)ge*, etc., mod.F. *pleige* hostage, security, bail, pledge:—early Frankish L. *plevium, plibium, plebium, a* 600 in *Pact. Childeb. & Chlot.* 10 (Hessels, *Salic Law* 417), med.L. *plivium* (? *a* 1200, Barcelona) in Du Cange; app. deriv. sb. (on type of *gaudium, odium, colloquium*) from med.L. *plevire, plebīre* (*a* 800 in *Lex Romana Rætica Curiensis* IX. i. [4]), *plivīre* (1080 Aquitaine, Du Cange), Pr. *plevir* (pres. ind. *pliu*), OF. *plevir* (Roland), *pleivir*, early mod.F. *plevir, pleuvir*, F. dial. *pluvir* (Godef.), to warrant, assure, undertake for, engage (Cotgr.): cf. Plevin, Replevin. See Note below.]

1. *Law* and *gen.* A person who becomes surety for another; a bail, a surety; a member of a frank-pledge or frithborh (mod.L. *plegius*). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1224 *Bracton's Note Bk.* (1887) II. 176 Amerciauerunt eum..et Iordanum de Treuergan plegium suum..ad unam marcam. 1292 Britton I. ii. § 10 Celui volums nous qe soit pris,..et lessez par plege jekes a nostre venue en le pays ..et qe le Corouner face enbrever lour nouns et les nouns des pleges. 1314–15 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 293/2 De ceo qe les chief plegges a le Letes, & al Tourn de Visconte, presentent fausement gentz estre copables.] *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* P 860 Thanne Melibee..receyued hire obligacions and hir boondes by hire othes vp-on hire plegges and borwes. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 382 Also yf eny mans wyf becom dettor or plegge. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iv. 45 And *in as moche* the godfader and godmoder ben pledges and maketh good for hym. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 b, Thou knowest wel inough that I am thy pledge borowe and mayneperner, body for body. 1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 221 To entir as plege and souerte for his said fadder.

1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* I. iii. (1602) 14 Borowhead, Borsholder, and Tythingman..signifie, The chiefe man of the free pledges within that Borowe, or Tything. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 45 Petruchio patience, I am Grumio's pledge. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxvi. (1739) 43 Each one being pledge for others good abearing. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* (1875) I. v. 87 Each association (*frithborh*) has a headman, a 'capital pledge', *borhs-ealdor* or *frith-borge-head*, to manage the business of the ten. Thus constituted, they are standing sureties for one another. 1895 Pollock & Maitland *Hist. Eng. Law* I. II. iii. § 4. 558 The chief pledge seems to have exercised a certain authority over his subordinate pledges.

† **b.** A hostage. *Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 129 Seleucus..somtyme plegge and prisoner at Rome. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* ix. 53 He toke also the chefest mens sonnes in the countre for pledges, and put them in the castel at Ierusalem to be kepte. 1597 James VI in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 422/2 Burdynit with the keiping of the pleges and broken men reteinit for gude ordour on the bourdouris. 1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* I. vii, And also take himselfe Prisoner, and the fower English Pledges.

2. Anything handed over to or put in the possession of another, as security for the performance of a contract or the payment of a debt, or as a guarantee of good faith, etc., and liable to forfeiture in case of failure (med.L. *plegium*).

[1164 *Constit. Clarendon* v. in Stubbs *Sel. Charters* (1895) 138 Excommunicati .. debent dare .. tantum vadium et plegium standi judicio ecclesiae, ut absolvantur.] *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 471 Yf he wolde not graunte me peas wyth hym, I promyse you he sholde leve his hede for a pledge. 1513–14 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 He shall..bring in sufficient gage and plegge to the verey value of the contentes of the same writtyng obligatorie. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xxii. 6 Thou hast taken the pledge from thy brethren for naught, and robbed the naked of their clothinge. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 240 What Pledge haue we of thy firme Loyalty? 1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 325 The Tree..which I have set The Pledge of thy Obedience and thy Faith, Amid the Garden by the Tree of Life. 1696 Phillips, *Pledges*, in Common Law are sureties either Real or Personal which the Plaintiff finds to prosecute his Sute. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 577 The lord did not become entitled to a fine on these surrenders, because they were only intended as a pledge for securing the repayment of the money advanced. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* IV. xxvii. 9 They therefore sent seven galleys..as a pledge of their loyalty.

b. *spec.* A thing put in pawn.

1800 *Act* 39 & 40 *Geo. III*, c. 99 § 2 Any time during which the said pledge shall remain in pawn. 1859 Tennyson *Geraint & Enid* 220, I do not doubt To find, at some place..arms On loan, or else for pledge. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* iv, Hold the ring..as pledge for a small sum far beneath its value. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 106 The crown, which had been kept by bishop Beaufort as a pledge, was placed in the custody of the treasurer.

c. A gage of battle; = Gage *sb.*1 2.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 43 He..threw his gauntlet, as a sacred pledge, His cause in combat the next day to try. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* III. vi, The honour'd pledge you gave In every battle-field shall wave Upon my helmet-crest.

d. *fig.* Applied to a child, as a token or evidence of mutual love and duty between parents, or as a hostage given to fortune.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 4 But faire Charissa to a lovely fere Was lincked, and by him had many pledges dere. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 91 Yeerely sacrifice of the deerest pledges of Nature to Saturne. 1651 Davenant *Gondibert* I. ix, No male Pledge, to give a lasting name, Sprung from his bed. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* II. viii, I could never forget those domestic pledges I had left behind me. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. vi. 71 Exulting over the first pledge of their union, a fine little girl.

3. Something given or taken as a sign or token of favour or the like, or as an earnest of something to come.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 13 b, Innumerable.. benefytes and consolacyons he hathe gyuen vs, as very pledges and sure tokens of loue. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, He hath lefte in those holy Misteries, as a pledge of his loue..his owne blessed body, and precious bloud. *a* 1653 Binning *Serm.* (1845) 240 Christ's rising is the pledge and pawn of the second resurrection. 1792 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 447 The exertion of one virtue is always a pledge for the exertion of another. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 438 A precious pledge that, wander where he will, One heart will think and dream about him still.

4. An assurance of allegiance or goodwill attested by drinking in response to another; the drinking of a health to a person, party, etc.; a toast.

1635 Heywood *Philocothonista* 12 [Alexander] dranke healths to every man round, and pledged them severally againe;..Calistenes..[when] the King offered him a deepe quaffing-bowle, which he modestly refused,..said aloud, I desire not, Oh Alexander, to receive a pledge from thee; by taking which, I shall be presently inforced to inquire for a Physition. 1715 Lady M. W. Montagu *Town Ecl., St. James' Coffee-Ho.*, A certain duke one night my health begun; With chearful pledges round the room it run. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* i, Old Mortality was..prevailed upon to join his host in a single glass of liquor,..on condition that he should be permitted to name the pledge.

5. A solemn engagement to do or refrain from doing something; a promise, vow.

1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* v. 67 Yet not bent, as Jephthah once..to redeem his pledge By doing worse. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. vi. 170 [The] oath of allegiance..was a pledge for civil, and not for religious purposes. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 376 The greater number adhered to their pledge. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xv. 82 He obtained them..under the pledge of secrecy. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Oct. 5/5 The measure was introduced..in defiance of the most solemn pledges of the British Government.

b. *The (temperance, total abstinence) pledge*: a solemn engagement to abstain from intoxicating drink. Phrases: *to take, sign, keep the pledge.*

1846 W. E. Forster in Reid *Life* (1888) I. vi. 183 As to the temperance pledge, I find many men [in Ireland] still keeping it, but..a large proportion have broke. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 436 More than one case has come to my knowledge in which the pledge has been of service. 1864 *Soc. Sci. Rev.* 259 When a man is a drunkard, and can still respect and keep an oath, by all means let him take the pledge.

6. The condition of being given or held as a pledge; the state of being pledged: in the phrases *to be, lay, put in pledge, to give, have, lay, put to pledge, to take out of pledge*, etc.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Macc.* i. 11 The sone of Antiochi kyng, that was at Rome in seegyng [*gloss* or plegge; 1388 in ostage]. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3158 My life to plegge shal he haue. 1516 *Life St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye* p. liii, Take my two sones and lay them in plegge to your credytours. *a* 1529 Skelton *El. Rummyng* 293 Some layde to pledge Theyr hatchet and theyr wedge. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 23 And gaif thy self to plaige. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 485 He..to meet and stop out want, had put to pledge, and pawned most of his own Houshold-stuff. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 86 If he doth not pay, then the land which is put in pledge, upon condition for the payment of the money, is taken from him for ever. 1862 Mrs. H. Wood *Mrs. Hallib. T.* I. xxii, Pressed for a sum of money..he had put his Sunday coat in pledge. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 May 7/7 Mr. Cardwell's scheme..abolished purchase in the Army, took the Army out of pledge, as the reform was wittily described.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pledge-card* (sense 5 b), *-cup* (sense 4), *-form, -jewel, -office, -ring, -room*; objective and instrumental, as *pledge-breaker* (so *pledge-breaking* vbl. sb. and ppl. adj.), *pledge-keeper, -taker; pledge-making, -mongering, -signing* vbl. sbs.; *pledge-bound, -free* adjs.; † **pledge-chamber, -house,** a chamber or house for the confinement of sureties or debtors (*Sc. obs.*).

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Oct. 4/3 An absolute united *pledge-bound party returns to represent Ireland at Westminster. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 5/2 Suggestive of the *pledge-cards issued by Bands of Hope. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 24 Put in ward within the *pledge chalmer of the burgh of Drumfreis. 1629 *Ibid.* Ser. II. III. 12 They derned thameselffes in commodious parts ewest to the pledge chamber. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. ix. 489 The *pledge cup and wassail bowl. 1721 Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* I. II. xiii. § 6 Mr Webster and his two Friends..removed to the *Pledge-house, where Debtors used to be put. 1850 Gosse *Rivers of Bible* (1878) 48 The *pledge-jewels of Jesus' love. 1552 Huloet, *Pledge keper, *depositarius.* 1891 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 7/2 The defendant..told her that he had had a fire in the *pledge room, and her cloak was burnt. 1552 Huloet, *Pledge taker, *pignerator.*

[*Note.* Many attempts have been made to find a Latin derivation of the med.L. and OF. words: see Diez (s. v. *Plevir*), Littré (s. v. *Pleige*), Körting; all (including Diez's own suggestion, *plĕbium* for **prævium* from *præbēre fidem*), unsatisfactory. The prevalent opinion now is that *plevēre, -ire*, was of Germanic derivation, and represented some form of WGer. *plehan* (OE. *pleon*), *plegan*, or Goth. **plaikwan*, in sense 'to incur risk or responsibility for, become responsible for' (see Plight *sb.*1), which suits the sense of the med.L. and Romanic words exactly, though not free from difficulty phonologically: see Mackel *Franz. Studien* VI. I. 78. Med.L. *plegium, plegius, plegiare*, It. *pieggio*, were from French.]

Pledge (pledʒ), *v.* Forms: see Pledge *sb.* [Late ME. *plege, plegge*, f. Pledge *sb.*, or a. OF. *plegier*, mod.F. *pleiger* to guarantee, bail, f. *pleige*, pledge; so med. L. *plegiāre* (France, 1191 in Du Cange).]

† **1.** *trans.* To become surety for, make oneself responsible for (a person, thing, or statement). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* 35 Ye haue plegged me vpon youre lyves that I shall haue no drede of deth. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* 37 His felawe pledgyd hym and was seurte for hym.

† **b.** *intr.* To become surety. *Obs. rare.*

1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 422 To caus all his freindis or servandis within Annanderdaill not ellis plegit for, to entir under plegis.

† **c.** *trans. To pledge out*: to redeem (a thing) from pawn or pledge; to ransom or bail (a person) out of prison, etc. *Obs.*

1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 266 Delyveryd to Mechegod to plege owt Brokys salatt, xij.d. 1503 in *Test. Vetusta* II. 454 Such pledges as she hath of mine, I woll they be pledged out by William, and he to have them. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xl. 56 So [they] brought hym to the lorde Beaumonde who incontynent dyde pledge hym out fro his maisters handes. 1530 Palsgr. 660/1, I pledge, or borowe one out of prison or captyvyte, or redeme a thyng out of pledge, *je pledge.* To my great coste and charge I have pledged hym out of prison.

2. To deliver, deposit, or assign as security for the repayment of a loan or the performance of some action; to pawn.

1515 Barclay *Egloges* i. (1570) A v b, His sworde and buckler is pledged at the bere. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 221 My estates and dignities are as it were in sequestration, and my life as it were laid in pawne and pledged vnto me. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2105/4 If already sold or pawn'd,..the money [shall be] return'd for what they are pledg'd for. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 86 In the reign of Henry II. two modes of pledging lands were in use, which are fully described by Glanville. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Manch. Strike* x. 112 The..son pacing slowly to the pawnbroker's to pledge his aged mother's last

blanket. 1877 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* I. II. ii. 139 Normandy had been pledged to him by his brother Robert.

b. *fig.* as in *to pledge the future*; also, to plight or stake (one's life, honour, troth, word, etc.).

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* II. i, My vows are pledged to her. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ii, I now pledge you that honourable word that Ellena is innocent. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xxv, To this I pledge my honour. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 182 A loyal lover, a hand pledg'd surely, shall ease me. 1890 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 434/1 To pledge the future to the hilt is a temporary and evanescent joy.

3. To put (a person, or oneself) under a pledge; to bind by or as by a pledge.

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 97 Be justice airis I pledgit all the pepill, Than spairit nane thocht thay wer Innocent. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxv. (1820) 328, I pledge myself, before God and my country..to make good my charge against you. 1801 ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* II. 175, I here pledge myself, by all my hopes of happiness hereafter. 1827 LYTTON *Falkland* I. 12 All eager for my commands, and all pledged to their execution. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* II. v. vi. 295 The two millions whom he had in a few months pledged to temperance. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Dec. 5/1 A resolution..pledging the House to deal with the subject at the first fitting opportunity.

4. a. To guarantee or assure the performance of. **b.** To solemnly promise, or undertake to give.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 250 Yes, I accept her, for she well deserues it, And heere to pledge my Vow, I giue my hand. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 288 Their own personal service they pledged at once.

5. To give assurance or promise of friendship or fidelity to (any one) by or in the act of drinking. Also *absol.*, or with the drink as obj. **† a.** To drink in response to another; to drink to a health or toast which has been proposed. *Obs.* **b.** To drink to the health of, drink a toast to; to toast.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. iv. (1874) 104, I drinke, (quoth she). Quoth he, I will not pledge. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 116 He dranke a great draught, the king pledging him. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 31. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 22 b, You do me the disgrace if you do not pledge me as much as I drunke to you. 1602 ROWLANDS *'Tis Merrie when Gossips meete* 17 This to you both, Cousse Grace, and mistresse Besse; A full Carowse, Ile haue you pledge no lesse. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* ix. *To Celia* i, Drink to me, only with thine eyes, And I will pledge with mine. *a* 1627 HAYWARD in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxix. 10 God handleth thee no otherwise .. than he handled his only Son, who hath pledged thee in this bitter potion. 1706 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. iv. xx. 396 Alexander..is reported to have drank a Cup containing two Congii, .. to Proteas, who commending the king's Ability, pledg'd him, then call'd for another Cup of the same Dimensions, and drank it off to him. The king, as the Laws of good Fellowship requir'd, pledg'd Proteas in the same Cup. 1727 SWIFT *Poisoning E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 149 Mr. Pope .. very civilly drank a glass of sack to Mr. Curll, which he as civilly pledged. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, Will you be so good as to pledge me, sir? 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xix. 171 Pledge him in a bumper of port. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes* II. v. (1868) 169 In his hand a sculptured goblet, as he pledged the merchant kings. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IV. 104 From cups of gold They pledged each other.

Hence **Pledged** (pledʒd) *ppl. a.*, given or put in pledge; pawned, plighted; bound by a pledge; **Ple·dging** *vbl. sb.*

1538 ELYOT, *Pigneratio*, a pledgynge or gagynge. 1552 HULOET, Pledged, *pigneratus*. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 164 His plege, ..contenit in the buke of plegeing. 1628 PRYNNE (*title*) Healthes: Sicknesse. Or, a Compendiovs and briefe Discourse; prouing the Drinking, and Pledging of Healthes, to be Sinfull. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 64/1 A strong inducement .. not to confine themselves to pledged party men. 1887 *Daily News* 21 July 6/1 The calling-in of loans on pledged property. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 186 We believe .. absolutely in the pledged word, the pledged honour of England.

Pledgeable (ple·dʒăb'l), *a.* [f. PLEDGE *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be pledged or pawned.

1865 *Brit. Workman* 52, I pledged my coat, I pledged my bed, I pledged in short everything that was pledgable. 1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 12 Apr. 4 The revenues pledgeable, like tribute rice, the Manchu allowances, &c.

Pledgee (pledʒī'). [f. PLEDGE *v.* + -EE.] One with whom a pledge is deposited; a pawnee.

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxv. 396 In case of goods pledged or pawned upon condition, either to repay money or otherwise; both the pledgor and pledgee have a qualified, but neither of them an absolute, property therein. 1800 *Acc. Bks.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 59/2 The whole amount due to the pledgee must be paid before the pledge can be demanded. 1869 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 917/1 The pledger could also sell the thing pledged,..but such sale did not affect the right of the pledgee. 1875 [see PLEDGER 1].

Ple·dgeless, *a.* [f. PLEDGE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a pledge.

1846 WORCESTER, *Pledgeless*, having no pledges. *Qu. Rev.*

Pledger (ple·dʒəɹ). Also (in legal use, opposed to *pledgee*) **-eor, -or** (pledʒē·ɪ). [f. PLEDGE *v.* + -ER[1], -OR. Cf. OF. *plegeour* (13th c. in Godefroy).]

1. One who deposits something as a pledge; a pawner.

1766 [see PLEDGEE]. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. § 64 This..may be said to rest on the assent of the pledgor..which empowered the pledgee to sell in default of payment. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 120 Bulky articles may now be deposited if the pledgers will pay for their storage. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 4/3 There are..people in the poorer districts of London who make a living by pawning articles for other persons. Sometimes these 'professional pledgers' are women.

2. One who drinks in response to, or to the health of, another. Also *fig.* Cf. PLEDGE *v.* 5.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Del. Diet for Drunkards* (1789) 20 If the Pledger bee inwardlie sicke or have some infyrmitie, whereby too much drinke..doo empayre his health. 1617 RICH *Irish Hvbbvb* 24 The cup being newly replenished .. he that is the pledger must now begin his part, and thus it goes round throughout the whole company. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. i, This fellow is onely the Sollicitor of a quarrel .. and will leave the fighting part to the Curteous pledger.

3. One who pledges himself or takes a pledge.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 204 The bond of Temperance societies is a pledge or vow respecting the personal conduct of the pledger.

† Ple·dgery. *Obs. rare*—°. [a. OF. *plegerie* (12th c. in Godef.); thence med.L. *plegeria*.]

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pledgery* or *Pleggery*, Suretiship, an Undertaking, or Answering for. 1775 in ASH.

Pledget (ple·dʒĕt). Forms: 6 **plagette, pleggat,** 7 **plageat, (plegant, -ent, pleagant, -eant),** 7–8 **plaget, pleget,** 7–9 **pledgit,** 7– **pledget.** [Known from 16th c.: origin and early history obscure.

The divergent spellings in 16–17th c. leave uncertain the original form, and even the sound of the *g*, and the nature of the ending (in which *-ette, -et* suggest a Romanic diminutive). On the supposition that the *g* was hard, the derivation has been sought in *plug*, and in MDu. *plagge, plagghe* patch of cloth, rag, wrapper, covering, Du. *plagge* turf, tan-cake, MLG. and LG. *plagge* tangled or matted mass, turf, patch, rag. Others have thought of a diminutive from L. and Romanic *plāga* wound, F. *plaie*, or a deriv. from PLEACH *v.*: cf. Prov. *plecha 'no plago* to bandage a wound. But all these suggestions present difficulties.]

A small compress or flattened mass of lint or other soft absorbent material (often steeped in some medicament), for applying over a wound, sore, etc.; see also quot. 1892.

c 1540 *Pract. Cyrurgyons* A j, Stupes, or plagettes made of lynte, Cotten or other lyke stuped or dypped in hote Oyles. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 258 Spread of this vpon a pleggat of linnen cloth. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 92 With plegents of lint drie fil up the orifice. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. i. (1668) 35 Take *Unguentum Aurum*, and lay it upon a pleagant of lint. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 48 Apply it vnto the teates vpon plageats as hot as may be endured. 1643 J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* vi. 20 It may be spread on little pleggets and applyed. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 240 Spread upon Pieces of Lint, or what we call Pledgets of Lint. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* I. i. 88 To be apply'd..with Plagets and other Helps. 1812 J. J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 75 He drew a pledget of linnen quite through the wound. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 49 Be sure to go over the face of the plate with a wet pledget of cotton wool.

Plee, Pleen, obs. ff. PLAY, PLEA, PLY, PLAIN *v.*
Pleeser, pleezer, obs. and dial. ff. PLEASURE.
Pleet, -e, obs. ff. PLEA, PLEAD *v.*
Pleg, plege, plegg(e, obs. ff. PLEDGE.
Plegant, -ent, -et, obs. ff. PLEDGET.

† Ple·gnic, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. rare.* [app. arbitrarily f. Gr. πλαγή blow, stroke + -IC.] Acting by a blow or stroke, as a hammer; also as *sb.*: see quots.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 37 Plegnicks..performe their opperation and effect, by their dexterous and artificiall ioynt-mooving...There is a great vse of the Plegnick instruments for the making of Eumechanick and reformed Milnes and Bellowses. 1664 J. WILSON *Projectors* III. 36 From the Pestle and Mortar [came] all sort of Mills, whether Horizontal, or Plegnick; Horse, Hand, Wind, Water, or otherwise.

Plegometer (plĭgɒ·mĭ'təɹ). *rare.* [f. Gr. πλαγγή stroke + -(o)METER.] **a.** An instrument for measuring and recording the force of blows. **b.** = PLEXIMETER.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 535 The balls were fired against Austen's recoiling target, a very delicate plegometer. 1857 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med., Plegometer*, pleximeter.

Plei, pleie, obs. forms of PLAY, PLEA.

Pleiad (pləi·ăd). *Pl.* **Pleiads**; more commonly in Lat. and Gr. form **Pleiades** (pləi·ădīz); also **4 Pliades, 5 Plyades.** [a. L. *Plēïas, Plējas, Plias*, pl. *Plēïades* etc., a. Gr. Πλειάς, pl. *-άδες*, Ion. Πληιάς: see -AD; so F. *Pléiade*, pl. *Pléiades*.]

Astron. In *pl.*, A close group or cluster of small stars in the constellation Taurus, commonly spoken of as seven, though only six are visible to the average naked eye. (Good eyes on a clear night can make out about nine, while the telescope shows a great number.)

According to Greek Mythology, the Pleiades were the seven daughters of Atlas and Pleione, the eldest of whom, Electra, was 'the lost Pleiad', and not represented by a star. The seven names, with those of the parents, have since Ricciolo (1665) been individually applied to the nine brightest stars; of these Alcyone is of the third magnitude, Electra and Atlas of the fourth, Merope, Maia, and Taygete of the fifth, Pleione, Celeno, and Asterope, between the sixth and the seventh. Some think that the name was actually derived from πλεῖν to sail, because the season of navigation began with their heliacal rising.

1388 WYCLIF *Job* xxxviii. 31 Whether thou schalt mowe ioyne togidere schynynge sterris Pliades [*marg.* that is, the seuen sterris; 1382 The shynende seue sterres]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 162 The goynge downe of the seuen starres cauled *Vergiliae* or *Pleiades*. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Job* xxxviii. 31 Canst thou restraine the sweete influences of ye Pleiades? or loose the bands of Orion? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 374 The gray Dawn, and the Pleiades before him danc'd, Shedding sweet influence. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 323 The fable of Electra the seventh of the Pleiads. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xiv, Whose course and home we knew not, nor shall know, Like the lost Pleiad, seen no more below. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 9 Many a night I saw the Pleiads, rising thro' the mellow shade, Glitter like a swarm of fire-flies tangled in a silver braid. 1868 LOCKYER *Astron.* § 71 The Pleiades..The six or seven stars visible to the naked eye become 60 or 70 when viewed in the telescope.

b. *fig.* (*sing.*) A brilliant cluster or group of persons or things, especially of seven, as the group of poets of the French Renaissance, called in French *La Pléiade*, and including Ronsard and Du Bellay.

1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 54 Donne, Chillingworth, Sir T. Browne, Jeremy Taylor, Milton, South, Barrow, form a *pleiad*, a constellation of seven stars, such as no literature can match. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. i. § 5. 5 Dorat..was also one of the celebrated pleiad of French poets. 1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Oct. 371 Noriac was one of the brilliant pleiad of writers who formed the staff of the original weekly *Figaro*.

Pleid, obs. f. PLAID, PLEAD. **Pleide,** obs. pa. t. of PLAY *v.* **Pleight,** obs. f. PLAIT.

Pleign(e, plein(e, pleinly, obs. ff. PLAIN, -LY.

Plein-air (also **plain-air**), from the Fr. phrase *en plein air* (ɑ̃nplɛ̃nɛ·ɹ) 'in the open air' (lit. 'in full air'): used attrib. to denominate certain impressionist schools and styles of painting, which originated in France about 1870, and aimed at the representation of effects of atmosphere and light that cannot be observed in the studio.

1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 14 June 444/2 Mysticism has misled M. Rochegrosse into a plein-air problem, in which the meaning of his 'Chevalier aux Fleurs' is less puzzling than his ignoring of all values. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 8/5 Another of the plain-air painters of this show. 1902 L. BÉNÉDITE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 443/1 The 'plein-air', or open-air, school.

Plein-airist, a painter of the 'plein-air' school.

1893 *Sketch* 6 Sept. 321/1 Admirers may..get a glimpse of the great pleinairist as he passes. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* July 193 The English plein-airists are too well known to need special mention.

Pleiner, obs. f. PLENAR. **Pleing(i)e, -ȝie,** obs. ff. PLAIN *v.* **Pleintith,** obs. Sc. f. PLENTY.

Pleio-, plio- (pləi$_{I}$*o*), **pleo-** (plī$_{I}$*o*), combining forms of Gr. πλείων (poet. πλέων), πλείον, more, compar. of πολύς, *-ύ*, much; see POLY-. *Plio-*, which follows Latin spelling, is chiefly used in generic names and their derivatives, as *Pliosaurus, Pliosaurian*.

‖ **Pleiochasium** (-kē·zĭəm) *Bot.* [mod.L., irreg. f. Gr. χάσις separation, after DICHASIUM], a cymose inflorescence having three or more lateral axes, a multiparous cyme. ‖ **Pleiomastia** (-mæ·stiă), **pleo-**, *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μαστός breast, mamma], the condition of having more than one nipple upon the mamma. ‖ **Pleiomazia** (-mēi·ziă), **pleo-**, *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. μαζός, dial. var. of μαστός: see above], the condition of having more than the normal number of mammæ. **Pleiomerous** (pləi$_{I}$·mĕrəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. μέρος part], having (as a floral whorl) more than the normal number of parts; so **Pleio·mery,** pleiomerous condition. **Pleiophyllous** (-fi·ləs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. φύλλον leaf]. **Plei·ophylly:** see quots. **Pleiosporous** (pləi$_{I}$·spŏrəs, pləi$_{I}$ospō·rəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. σπόρος seed], having more than the usual number of spores. **Plei·otaxy** (-tæksi) *Bot.* [Gr. τάξις arrangement: cf. *phyllotaxy*], the condition of having more than the usual number of floral whorls, as in 'double' flowers. **Pleiothalamous** (-pæ·lămәs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. θάλαμος chamber], having more than the usual number of chambers or receptacles. ‖ **Pleiotrachea** (-trăkī·ă) *Bot.* [mod.L.: see TRACHEA], a vessel containing a spiral band composed of a number of fibres. See also words in PLEO-, PLIO-.

1850 J. BIRKETT *Dis. Breast* 206 *Pleiomastia...There are examples..of the existence of supernumerary nipples...They may be situated near together, and possess an areola in common, or they may be separated and encircled by an areola distinctly defined. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1850 J. BIRKETT *Dis. Breast* 23 *Pleiomazia..signifies numerical excess beyond the usual complement of the mammæ. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pleomazia.* 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* II. ii. 453 The origin of a *pleiomerous whorl from one consisting of fewer members is equally well shown in the flowers of Tilia. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., *Pleiomery*, .. due either to the branching of one member at an early stage or to an original development of two members in place of one. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* II. ii. 453 Multiplication of the members of a whorl (pleiomery) occurs most often in the androecium. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* I. ii. 46 By some writers nodi, upon which buds are obviously formed, are called compound, or artiphyllous; and those in which no apparent buds are discoverable, are named simple, or *pleiophyllous. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pleiophyllus*, applied to a plant which bears a great number of leaves without a branch at the axilla, as the *Linum, Abies*, and *Taxus*: pleiophyllous. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., *Pleiophylly*, a condition of abnormal increase in the number of leaves growing from a certain point, or in the number of leaflets of a plant. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pleiosporous. *Ibid.*, *Pleiotaxy. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pleiothalamous. 1876 BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 86/1 The spiral in such cases is called compound, and the vessels **pleiotrachea*.

Pleiocene, Pleiohippus: see PLIO-.

Pleiomorphy (plə̄i·ŏmɔ̄fi). [f. PLEIO- + Gr. *μορφή* form + *-ια*, *-y*.] (See also PLEO-.) In *Bot.* a. The occurrence of more than one distinct stage or form in the life-cycle of a species, as in certain heterœcious fungi, which pass through two or three stages. b. The state of a flower which is usually irregular, but becomes regular by the multiplication of its irregular elements, so as to form a whorl; = PELORIA. Hence **Pleiomo·rphic** *a.*, exhibiting or characterized by pleiomorphy; **Pleiomo·rphism** = pleiomorphy (sense a).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pleise, obs. f. PLAICE, PLEASE. **Pleisand,** obs. f. PLEASANT. **Pleisour, -ssour, -sure, Pleiss,** obs. ff. PLEASURE, PLEASE.

Pleistocene (plə̄i·stŏsī̆n), *a.* (*sb.*) *Geol.* [f. Gr. *πλεῖστος* most (superl. of *πολύς* much) + *καινός* new, recent.] Epithet applied at first to the newest division of the Pliocene or Upper Tertiary formation (as containing the greatest number of fossils of still existing species), also called Newer Pliocene; afterwards to the older division of the Post-tertiary or Quaternary, also called Post-Pliocene. Also applied to the animals, etc., of either of these periods. Also *elipt.* as *sb.* = pleistocene division or formation.

1839 LYELL in *Mag. Nat. Hist.* New Ser. III. 323 In the Appendix to the French translation of my 'Elements of Geology', I have proposed, for the sake of brevity, to substitute the term *Pleiocene* for *Older Pleiocene*, and *Pleistocene* for *Newer Pleiocene*. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* iii. 46 The superficial deposits, or Pleistocene group, viz. all diluvial and alluvial deposits of gravel and other materials. 1861 GEIKIE *E. Forbes* ix. 256 He states..that even the pleistocene, which is a subdivision of the pliocene, needs to be partitioned into a newer and older series. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xxx. 423 The pleistocene hippopotamus. 1874 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* x. 123 In former editions of this work I divided the Post-tertiary deposits into Recent and Post-pliocene, but this latter term has many inconveniences... I have, therefore, determined for the future to adopt the name of 'Pleistocene', proposed by me in 1839 as a synonym for Newer Pliocene, but which, having been used by the late Edward Forbes as the equivalent of Post-pliocene, has now passed into general use with that signification.

Pleistodox (plə̄i·stŏdɒks), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πλεῖστος* most + *δόξα* opinion, after *orthodox.*] Holding the opinion of the majority.

1814 COLERIDGE *Lett. to J. P. Estlin* (1884) 109 His proper language as an orthodox, or (if I might coin a more modest expression), a pleistodox..man.

Pleistoseist (plə̄i·stŏsəist). [f. Gr. *πλεῖστ-os* most + *σειστός* shaken, *σειστήρ* earth-shaker, from *σεισμός* shock, earthquake.] (See quot.)

1886 MILNE *Earthquakes* i. 10 The isoseismic area in which the greatest disturbance has taken place is called the 'meizoseismic area'. Seebach calls the lines enclosing this area 'pleistoseists'.

Pleit, -e, obs. ff. PLAIT, PLATE *sb.*, PLEAD.

Plek, pleke, obs. forms of PLECK.

† **Plemmi·rrulate,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. It. *plemmirulato* ppl. adj., perh. f. Gr. *πλημμυρεῖν* to rise like a flood-tide, overflow.] ? Overflowing.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 51 b, An edging of Orient Pearle..euer pressing hir plemmirrulate trammels of hayre [*plemmyrulati supprimeua*].

Plemyra·meter. [f. Gr. *πλήμυρα* = *πλήμμυρις* flood-tide + -METER.] An instrument for measuring variations of the level of water; *spec.* that devised by Prof. Forel of Lausanne for measuring those of the Lake of Geneva.

1898 G. H. DARWIN *Tides* ii. 22 Having studied seiches with a plemyrameter for some time, Forel used another form of apparatus.

† **Ple·nal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *plēnāl-is*, f. L. *plēn-us* full: see -AL.] Full, complete, plenary.

1624 R. DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* III. (1661) 32 Upon the plenal and approv'd report Of your integrity and upright dealing. 1648 EARL OF WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 77 By which plenall satisfaction, The Vials of his Fathers wrath were stopt.

Hence † **Ple·nally** *adv.*, fully; † **Ple·nalty,** fullness.

1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* Ep. Ded., Yours plenally devoted, Thomas Heywood. 1636 — *Loves Mistris* Addr. to Rdr., Better pleased, or more plenally satisfied. 1660 BURNEY *Κέρδ. Δώρον* (1661) 30 The Supream Jewell of the Crown, their Plenitudinem Potestatis, the plenalty of their power.

† **Ple·nar, plener,** *a. Obs.* (or *arch.*) Forms: 3–6 **plener,** (4–5 **-ere,** 5 **-air, -or,** 5–6 **-are, -yer,** 7 **-eere**), 4–6 (9) **plenar.** (Also 4 **pleiner,** 4–5 **pleyner,** *Sc.* **planer,** 5 **planar,** 6 **playner.**) [ME. a. AF. *plener* = OF. *plenier* (Roland), *plener, planier* etc., mod.F. *plénier*:—late L. *plēnār-is* (med.L. in Du Cange) complete, f. L. *plēnus* full; see -AR¹. So also Pr. *plen(i)er*, Sp. *llenero.*]

1. Of an assembly: Composed or consisting of the full number of members; = PLENARY 2; of the place of assembly: Filled, full; of the members: Fully assembled, in full assembly.

c 1290 *Edmund Conf.* 445 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 444 þe chapitle at salesburi i-holde was plener; Alle þe chanouns of þe ordre þudere come fer and ner. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11171 When Arthures court was plener, & alle were comen, fer and ner. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 108 And whan þe peple was plenere comen þe porter vnpynned þe ȝate. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 623/1 Be cause they were then present more plener in nombre. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2751 Thys fest plener And ryght delectable.

2. Complete, entire, perfect; = PLENARY 1, FULL *a.* 7.

13.. *Cursor M.* 26164 He þat pouste has al plener. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1603 *Hipsiph. & Medea*, [He] coude of loue al the craft & art pleyner. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 787 Constantynys sone, & of plener age, Was Emperour I-chose. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VII. ii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 344/2 Bi Augustus plener [*ed.* 1554 plenair] commyssioun. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xx. 127 And poure haue playnere & playne to say. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 9 Full and plenar power and auctoritie. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. B vij b, To her words credence he gaue plenere [*rime* cheere]. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xx. (1854) 333 The spirit takes the plenar vows of truth.

Plenargyrite (plī̆nā·ɹdʒirəit). *Min.* [mod. (F. v. Sandberger 1882) f. L. *plēn-us* + Gr. *ἄργυρ-os* silver + -ITE¹; cf. MIARGYRITE.] A sulphide of silver and bismuth found near Schapbach in Baden; said to contain more silver than *miargyrite.*

Plenarily (plī·nărili), *adv.* [f. PLENARY *a.* + -LY².] In a plenary manner; completely, fully.

1596 [see PLENARLY 2, quot. 1570]. 1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* iii. 125 Neither do we fully and plenarily receiue the benefit and effect thereof. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 23 With more charge, more difficulty, less constantly, less plenarily. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Nov. 5/3 The priest employed..may not be plenarily inspired.

Ple·nariness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Plenariness*,..fulness.

† **Ple·narly, -erly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. PLENAR, PLENER + -LY².]

1. In full assembly, in full number.

c 1290 *Beket* 1502 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 149 Þo þe chapitle plenere was, þudere þe king sende to þe Abbotus alle plenereliche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 21 Nought only upon ten ne twelve Bot plenerliche upon ous alle. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 485 In the whiche counsayll it was plenerly determyned that the kynge myght nat gyue ouer the sayd soueraryntie without great peryll of his soule.

2. Fully, completely, entirely, perfectly.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11712 He solde hys gode plenerlye. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 734 (Ritson) So hy dude treweliche Thre yer plenerelyche. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 42 Of his ryalle estate & of his myghte I schalle speke more plenerly, whan I schalle speke of the lond & of the contree of Ynde. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 6 Whan Lucina plenarly did shyne. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1346/2 To assoyle them plenarely [*so edd.* 1576–83; *ed.* 1596 plenarilie] from all their sinnes.

Plenarty (plī·năɹti). Also 5 **-erte,** 7–8 **-artie.** [Late ME. a. AF. *plenerte*, OF. *plenierete* fullness, abundance, f. *plenier, plener* complete: see PLENAR and -TY.]

1. *Eccl. Law.* Of a benefice: The state of being full or occupied. Opp. to VACANCY.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 291/1 Hit be lefull to his Patron to make newe Presentation not withstondyng the plenerte of hyme be VI moneths. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 197 But against the King plenartie is accounted from the time of induction, and not before. 1791 *Blackstone's Comm.* (ed. 11) III. xvi. 243 When the clerk was once instituted (except in the case of the king, where he must be inducted) the church became absolutely full: so the usurper by such plenarty, arising from his own presentation, became in fact seised of the advowson. 1889 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 324 The Archbishop ..sent one of his clerks to govern the vacant see and receive all the fees which during the plenarty had been paid to the clerks of the bishop deceased.

† **2.** Completeness, fullness. *Obs. rare.*

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 27 All ages and people by a plenarty of consent. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. v. 88 In the Body of Christ .. dwells the whole Plenarty and Fulness of the Godhead.

Plenary (plī·năɹi), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6 **-ari,** 6–7 **-arie,** 7 **-iary.** [ad. late L. *plēnāri-us* complete (*plenarium, consilium*, 4th c. in Augustine *Ep.* xliii), f. *plēn-us*: see PLENAR and -ARY¹.]

1. Complete, entire, perfect, not deficient in any element or respect; = FULL *a.* 7; absolute, unqualified: as *plenary indulgence, power, remission. Plenary inspiration*: see INSPIRATION.

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 31 And ther ys Plenarie Remission. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 1 One supreme head and kynge .. institute and furnisshed .. with plenari, whole, and entier power. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 94, I shall adde the concurrent, plenary, and copious attestation of Mr. William Tyndall. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 161 Hee assured him..of a plenary pardon for all that was past. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* (Rtldg. 1883) 245 The Pope might be supplicated .. for a plenary indulgence. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. v. 53 A legate..sent with plenary powers to hear the cause.

2. Of an assembly, etc.: Composed of all the members; fully constituted, fully attended: = PLENAR 1.

1532 *Festivall* 191 b, In eche quarter of the yere ones, whan the people is moost plenary in holy chyrche. 1614 T. ADAMS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* ii. 12 Lord grant..that we may come to the plenary wedding supper hereafter. 1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issach.* 48 The next plenarie Generall Assembly may *derogare, abrogare, obrogare*, &c. 1662 GUNNING *Lent Fast* 62 Those things .. are retained .. from plenary, (i.e. general) councils. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. v. (1864) V. 290 The King sullenly consented to convoke a plenary Court of his nobles. 1885 *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept. 5/4 Both the sittings were plenary, that is, consisted of the members of all the sections and subsections. 1894 *Daily News* 27 June 5/6 A caucus or plenary meeting of the Democratic groups of the Senate and the Chamber was held.

3. Possessing full powers or authority. *rare.*

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Nov. 547 International law would be a nullity if every commander of a man-of-war were to constitute himself in the first instance a plenary judge, and condemn as contraband whatever he might like to seize on.

4. *Law.* See quot. 1848.

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 152 The Cause is hereby made a Plenary Cause, and ought to be determin'd Plenarily. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Plenary*, full, complete; an ordinary proceeding through all its gradations; opposed to *summary.*

B. *elliptical as sb.* = Plenary indulgence. *rare.*

1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 496 A plenary may be gained every first Sunday of the month for confessing and communicating.

¶ The sense 'Decisive procedure', given by Johnson, and copied in later Dicts., is without foundation. In the quot. which J. cites from Ayliffe *Parergon* 301 'Institution without induction does not make a plenary against the king, where he has a title to present', *plenary* is a misprint for *plenarty*, which Ayliffe has in the correct spelling on the same page and elsewhere; cf. quot. 1791 in PLENARTY 1.

Plencher, plensher, var. PLANCHER *sb.*¹

Plene (plī̆n), *a. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *plēnus* full. Cf. PLAIN *a.*², of which *plene* was a common form in 15–17th c.] Complete.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1430 Rules were laid down concerning..the plene and defective writings.

Plene, plenze, plenye, obs. ff. PLAIN *v.*

Plener, -e, -ly: see PLENAR, -LY.

Plenicorn (plī̆·nikɔ̄n, ple·ni-), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *plēnus* full + *cornu* horn.] **a.** *sb.* A quadruped having solid horns; formerly, (in *pl.*) name of a division of ruminants. **b.** *adj.* Having solid horns.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Plenicorns*, the name of a tribe of Ruminants, including those which have horns composed of an uniform solid osseous substance as the antlers of deer.

Pleniloquence (plī̆ni·lŏkwĕns). *rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *plēn-us* full + *loquentia* talking.] Fullness of talk, excessive speaking.

1838 EMERSON in *Corr. Carlyle & E.* (1883) I. xxvi. 174 Though I hate American pleniloquence I cannot easily say no to young men who bid me speak also.

Plenilune (plī̆nilɪūn, pleni-). Chiefly *poet.* [ad. L. *plēnilūnium*: see below. Cf. It. *plenilunio.*] **a.** The time of full moon. **b.** A full moon.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 103 Unto the tru knowlege of the kepynge of Ester thre thynges ar to be attendide,.. the equinoccialle of ver, the perfite plenilune or fullenesse of the moone, and Sonneday. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii, Whose glory, like a lasting plenilune, Seems ignorant of what it is to wane. *c* 1600 *Timon* IV. i. (Shaks. Soc.) 61 Look to thy braines, least in the plenilune Thou waxe more madde. 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Vis. Spring*, Large nightfall and imperial plenilune.

Hence **Plenilu·nal, Plenilu·nar, Plenilu·nary** *adjs.*, belonging to or resembling the full moon.

1882 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 486, I shall try and pay you my *plenilunal due. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 25 A ruddy *plenilunar resplendent countenance. 1845 DE QUINCEY *Coleridge & Opium-eating* Wks. 1859 XII. 92 The wrath of Andrew, previously in a crescent state, actually dilated to a plenilunar orb. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xiii. 228 If we adde the two Ægyptian daies in every moneth, the interlunary and *plenilunary exemptions, the Eclipses of Sunne and Moon.

‖ **Plenilu·nium.** *Obs.* [L. *plēnilūnium* full moon, prop. adj. of the full moon (sc. *tempus* time), f. *plēnus* full + *lūna* moon.] = PLENILUNE.

1658 A. Fox tr. *Würtz' Surg.* III. xxii. 287 Piony root .. must be digged in Aprill,..at a plenilunium before the rising of the Sun. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xviii. 116 The New ☽ brings more such Days than the Plenilunium.

Plenipo (ple·nipo), *sb.* Colloquial shortening of PLENIPOTENTIARY.

c 1687 DRYDEN *Let. to Etherege* 12 And both to wives and husbands show The vigour of a plenipo. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 36. 230 His Envoys and Plenipoes come over publickly. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. xcv, Without the aid of prince or plenipo. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi, I would, perhaps, be Plenipo,—But only near St. James.

Hence **Ple·nipo** *v. intr.*, to act as plenipotentiary.

1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Soc. Departure* (1891) 120 A certain foreign minister who returned from special plenipoing.

Plenipotence (plī̆ni·pŏtĕns). *rare.* [f. as next + -ENCE.] Full power or authority.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* vi, A whole parliament,..endued with the plenipotence of a free nation, to make laws, not to be denied laws. 1761–2 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. xlviii. 743 Such a plenipotence as none of their ancestors .. had ever pretended to. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Mar. 5/1 What plenipotence we fancied ourselves to possess.

Pleni·potency. *rare.* [f. L. type **plēnipotentia* (prob. in med. or mod.L.), f. *plēnipotens*: see next and -ENCY; cf. POTENCY.] The quality of being plenipotent; full authority.

1624 *Brief Inform. Affairs Palatinate* 52 His Maiestie .. caused a plenipotency or full power to be dispatched by his said Embassadour. 1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 87 This was arrogating plenipotency to themselves.

Plenipotent (plī̆ni·pŏtĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [ad. late L. *plēnipotens, -potent-em* (Prisician *c* 500), f. L. *plēn-us* full + *potens* POTENT.] Invested with or possessing full power or authority.

1658 J. Robinson *Endoxa* i. 18 A company of faithful.. may, with a plenipotent Octroy or Concession, claim priviledge. 1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 405 My Substitutes I send ye, and Create Plenipotent on Earth, of matchless might Issuing from mee. 1795 Southey *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 22 Aug., And now will you permit me.. to be corrector plenipotent? 1839 J. Rogers *Antipopopr.* xiii. § 1. 284 Convinced that they have God's plenipotent commission.

b. as *sb.* A person possessing full authority; a plenipotentiary.

1818 Milman *Samor* 93 Before the assemblage proud Speaks frank and bold that gray Plenipotent.

Ple·nipote·ntial, *a. rare.* [f. as Plenipotency + -al: cf. *potential.*] Of or belonging to a plenipotentiary; possessed of full authority.

1663–4 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 140, I having a plenipotential Letter from his Royal majesty. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* II. 349 The chosen and plenipotential committee of literature. 1894 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 479 They had no plenipotential powers.

Hence † **Ple·nipotentia·lity,** the quality of being plenipotential or plenipotentiary.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 45 All the variations, interpretations, reservations,..evasions, possessions, plenipotentialities and fedifractions, that I..can devise or possibly imagine.

Plenipotentiary (ple·nipote·nʃări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med. and law L. *plēnipotentiārius,* f. **plēnipotentia*: see Plenipotency and -ary[1]. So F. *plénipotentiaire* sb. and adj. (Balzac *a* 1654).]

A. *adj.* Invested with full power, esp. as the deputy, representative, or envoy of a sovereign ruler; exercising absolute power or authority.

Often, after French usage, placed after its sb., as *ambassador, envoy, minister plenipotentiary.*

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. xliv. 58, I hear the peace twix't Spain and Holland is absolutely concluded by the plenipotentiary Ministers at Munster. 1713 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 5144/6 Thomas Earl of Strafford,..One of Her Majesty's Ambassadors-Plenipotentiary at the Congress at Utretch. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 332 One of the ministers plenipotentiary of the United States. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* I. 223 He was..nominated his Majesty's envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary.

b. Of or belonging to a plenipotentiary (see B.); absolute, full, unlimited.

1648 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 199 Giveing Sir Tho. Fairfax a plenipotentiary comission of the Militia to raise what number and secure and impres on what persons he pleased. 1663 Cowley *Verses & Ess., Ode Restauration* i, Nor whilst around the Continent, Plenipotentiary beams ye sent. 1793 Jefferson *Writ.* (1830) IV. 479 It was given in as plenipotentiary a form as held by any sovereign. 1880 Trollope *Duke's Children* III. ii. 19 A liberal party, with plenipotentiary power, must go on..to the logical conclusion of its arguments.

B. *sb.* A person invested with full, unlimited, or discretionary powers or authority, *esp.* in regard to a particular transaction, as the conclusion of a peace or treaty; an envoy or ambassador deputed by his sovereign to act at his own discretion.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Plenipotentiaries,* ambassadors.. from their King..sent, to treat and conclude with an enemy or other person upon all or such points as are contained in their Commisssion, etc. 1668 Temple *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1731 II. 94, I know not why the Character of Plenipotentiary may not agree with that of Envoy Extraordinary on all Hands. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 17 The States General.. act only as Plenipotentiaries of the several provinces. 1877 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 643 A document .. which .. gives .. the names of the plenipotentiaries on both sides.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1711 Ken *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 328 To chuse some fit Plenipotentiary: Of sacred Hymn I strait made choice. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. v. 71 Not as a plenipotentiary supernaturally gifted to convey a mysterious benefit.

Hence † **Ple·nipotentia·rian,** a plenipotentiary; **Plenipote·ntiarily** *adv.*, in a plenipotentiary manner; **Plenipote·ntiarize** *v. intr.*, to act as a plenipotentiary; **Plenipote·ntiaryship,** the office of a plenipotentiary.

1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 48 When the Emperour had perused the Treatie, he presently found his *Plenipotentiarian had sold him. 1649 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* 13 Persons *plenipotentiarily deputed to conclude for the publique good of the people,.. sit at Westminster. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 737 The other continued to *plenipotentiarise till he..forced his government to dismiss him in disgrace. 1800 Southey *Let. to Coleridge* 1 Apr., Should you be in Bristol, of course the *plenipotentiaryship is vested in you.

† **Pleni-power.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *plēnus* full + Power: prob. rendering a foreign expression, e. g. L. *plēnipotentia,* F. *plein pouvoir,* Ger. *vollmacht.*] Full power or authority.

1700 Rycaut *Hist. Turks* III. 561/2 That the Proclamation being made in both the Emperors Names, no Passports should be delivered, either from the Germans to the Turks, or from the Turks to the Germans; but that a Pleni-power should be given to the Mediators to grant Passports.

Plenish (ple·niʃ), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 **plenys(s, plennes, 6 planish, -eis, -es, plenisch, -ishe, -iss, 6–7 plenniss, 6– plenish.** [ad. OF. *pleniss-,* lengthened stem of *plenir* (Langtoft *c* 1300) to fill, f. stem *plen-* :–L. *plēnus* full.]

1. *trans.* To fill up, furnish, supply, stock; to replenish. Orig. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*; also general Eng. in 19th c.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 1024 Thai .. Plenyst the toune agayne with Scottis blud. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. Prol. 42 Thow plenest paradise, and thow heriet hell. 1528 Lyndesay *Dreme* 682 This part of Asia, Weill planesit with Cieteis, towris, and townis. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxvi. 9 3it thay ar planeist and repleit Of falset and dissait thair sell. 1829 *Examiner* 756/2 The doctor .. drew the tureen near to his plate, which he plenished and replenished. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 178 On the return of the horses to the stable..they find their mangers plenished with corn. 1854 S. Dobell *Balder* xxiii. 107 So comes Morn, Plenishes all things, and completes the world.

b. *spec.* To furnish (a house, a farm, etc.). *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 171 The landis was so waistit .. that na thing was plenischit wntill Edinburgh. 1663 Sir G. Mackenzie *Religious Stoic* xii. (1685) 111 He had plenished his house abundantly. 1680 in A. Laing *Lindores Abbey* xx. (1876) 252 Resolves to plenish a room. ?*a* 1700 in P. Walker *Remark. Passages* (1727) 16 (Jam.), I told you to take no more rooms at Martinmas, than ye will plenish at Whitsunday. 1822 Scott *Let. to D. Terry* 10 Nov. in *Lockhart,* Your kind and unremitting exertions.. will soon plenish the drawing room. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Plenish* or *Plennish,* to furnish a house.

† **2.** *absol.* or *intr.* To spread abroad; to fill a vacant space. *Sc. Obs.*

1457 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* (1814) II. 51/2 That na man mak ȝardis nor heggis of dry staikis .. nor ȝit of na hewyn wode bot allanerly of lyffand wode þe quhilk may grow & plenyss. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 87 He rode..Withoutin stop ay on to Tynismouth, And planeist had that tyme ouir all that place.

Hence **Ple·nished** *ppl. a.*, furnished, stocked.

1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 92 Laying of grite plennist boundis waist. 1856 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* V. xlii. 56 Behind so well-plenished an equipage.

Ple·nishing, *vbl. sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* [f. Plenish *v.* + -ing[1].]

1. The action of filling up or furnishing.

1477 *Charter Jas. III* in Maitland *Hist. Edin.* I. i. (1753) 8 For the Honoure of oure said Burgh and Plennesing of voide Places within the samyn.

2. That with which anything is plenished; equipment, gear, stock, furniture; *esp.* household furniture.

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 170 The best of the gudis and the plennissing thairof. 1567 *Ibid.* 565 With the haill munitionis, artaillierie, pulder, and uther plenissing being thairin. 1629 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. 45 Ye have to rejoice that ye have now some plenishing up in heaven. 1773, 1814 [see Outsight[2]]. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xviii, Insight plenishing is cumbrous to carry. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 223 He settled him in the Pond Farm, with a decent though scanty plenishing. 1876 W. White *Holidays in Tyrol* xxxviii. 279 A chest or two, and a big stool, complete the plenishing.

b. The outfit of a bride, her contribution to setting up house. *Plenishing-wain* = Bridewain.

1876 *Whitby Gloss., Bride-wain,* or *Plenishing-wain,* a waggon loaded with household goods, to be conveyed from the house of the bride's father, to that of the bridegroom. 1877 Mrs. Oliphant *Makers Flor.* iv, The big *cassone*.. rudely painted, in which..[she] brought home her plenishing when she married. 1888 Blackie *Burns* 115 She came bringing her beautiful self along with cartloads of plenishing.

[**Plenishing-nail**: see Planching *vbl. sb.* c.]

Ple·nishment. *Sc.* [f. Plenish *v.* + -ment.] Plenishing, outfit.

1823 Galt *R. Gilhaize* II. xvi. 157 Sarah's father..bestowed on us seven rigs, and a cow's grass,..as the beginning of a plenishment to our young fortunes. 1879 W. Synge *Tom Singleton* II. viii. 140 A plenishment of new teeth.

Plenist (plē·nist). [f. L. Plen-um + -ist.] An adherent of the theory that all space is full of matter, and that there is no such thing as a vacuum: see Plenum I.

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvii. 122 The Plenists (if I may so call them) do not prove that such spaces are replenish'd with such a subtle Matter as they speak of. 1682 Creech *Lucretius* Notes (1683) 14 And this Mr. Hobs, a great Plenist, freely confesseth would follow. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 8. 1/2 Cou'd the Plenists prove their plenum. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 326 This harmless vacuum was a great thorn in the side of some of the later plenists.

† **Ple·ni-ti·de.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *plēni-* (in Plenilune) + Tide.] A full tide; a flood-tide.

159. *Greene's Groats-w. Wit, Epitaph* (1617) G iv, Let rowling Teares in pleni-tides oreflow, For losse of Englands second Cicero.

Plenitude (ple·nitiud). Also 5–6 **plenytude.** [a. OF. *plenitude,* ad. L. *plēnitūdo* (Pliny), f. *plēnus* full: see -tude.]

1. The condition of being absolutely full in quantity, measure, or degree; fullness, completeness, perfection. (In first two quots. from the Vulgate.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 257 The seyenge of thapostle, 'When the plenitude of tyme schalle comme.' 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 308/2 Pawle sayth the plenytude of the lawe is loue and charyte. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 149 The Pope loosed them..by the plenitude of his Apostolike power from allegiance to their Prince. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. i. 2 From [God]..al things at first flow, as from the Plenitude of Being. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* VI. 347 God in the full plenitude of majesty has spoken to man. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* xii. 405 That death in the plenitude of vigour is desirable.

b. *Her.* Fullness (of the moon).

1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xi. 71 The Moon is in her Complement, or in her Plenitude, when at the full. 1882 Cussans *Her.* 102 When full-faced and shining, it is described as In her Complement or Plenitude.

c. Comparative fullness; amplitude, plentifulness, abundance.

1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* I. 206 That there may be the greater plenitude of life in the whole man. 1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 299 Plenitude of incident without confusion, and of adventure without gross improbability. 1893 C. Hodges in *Reliquary* Jan. 3 The plenitude of stone in the northern counties generally..led to a more frequent use of stone..than in the rest of the country.

2. The condition of being filled, fully occupied, or full of something; fullness; † *spec.* in *Physics* = Plenum I (*obs.*).

1662 Hobbes *Seven Prob.* Wks. 1845 VII. 17 How does the difficulty of separation argue the plenitude of all the rest of the world? 1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 143 A prevailing opinion,.. that where no sensible matter is found, there was yet a subtle fluid substance by which the space was filled up; even so as to make an absolute plenitude. 1857 Bullock *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 67 The ovaries vary in size..from the plenitude or vacuity of the uterus.

† **b.** *Bot.* Doubleness of a flower. *Obs.*

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 54 The Plenitude, Fullness, is occasioned by the Stamina running into Petals. *Ibid.* 55 Plenitude is chiefly incidental to polypetalous Flowers. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Larkspur,* In order to continue their plenitude, all plants with single flowers should be destroyed so soon as they appear.

† **3.** *Med.* Animal fullness; repletion; plethora.

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* III. vii, Wherefore the lettynge of bloude is..expedient..also for them, in whom, without plenitude, callyd fulness, inflammations begyn to be in their bodies. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Plenitude,* in Physick, when a Man has too much blood, or abounds with ill humours. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 321 Pain or disorder in his head, with symptoms of plenitude. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 67 That in the act of vomiting, the state of the brain is rather that of depletion than plenitude.

† **4.** The condition of being fully supplied with everything; affluence. *Obs.*

1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xiii. § 4. 220 He accounted his best plenitude and plenty without God .. extreame penurie. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. viii, Perverse repining of ungrateful plenitude!

5. Fullness of dress. *humorous nonce-use.*

1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 260 Pantaloons of the most liberal plenitude.

Hence **Ple·nitudina·rian** = Plenist; **Pleni·tu·dinary** *a.*, characterized by plenitude, full; **Plenitu·dinous** (-tiū·dinəs) *a.*, well-filled; stout, portly. All *rare.*

1710 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1733) I. III. 301 The *Plenitudinarian..brings his Fluid in Play and joins the Idea of Body and Extension. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lviii. (1739) 108 A strange kind of Government..wherein..a Subject shall have a *plenitudinary power beyond that which his Lord and King had. 1812 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 11 May 289/1 Six-bottle Ministers and *plenitudinous Aldermen. 1840 — in *Vanbrugh's Wks.,* Miss Hoyden, without delay or 'mistake', is for consolidating everything into the tangible and plenitudinous.

† **Ple·nity.** *Obs.* [ad. OF. *plenité, pleineté,* ad. L. *plēnitās* (Vitruv.).] Fullness, plenitude.

a 1622 Ainsworth *Annot. Song Sol.* v. 12 Washing in milke, sitting in plenity. 1623 Cockeram, *Plenitie,* fulnesse. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. ii. 75 [The] Hypothesis of some modern Atomists..that supposes a Plenity.

† **Pleno·rderly,** *adv. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *plēn-us* full + Order + -ly[2].] By all the orders (or estates of the realm).

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 27 That this power is plenipotentiarily deputed: Ergo. But that is not Nationally nor plenorderly deputed: Ergo... Because the old forme of King, Lords, and Commons, is ceased.

Plenshing-nail: see Planching *vbl. sb.* c.

Plente, plentee, obs. forms of Plenty.

Plenteous (plen·tiəs), *a.* (*adv.*) Now chiefly *poetic.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 **plentifous, -efous, -evous, 5 -yfous, -ivous(e, -yvows.** *β.* (*u* for *v*) 4 **-euus,** 4–5 **-euous(e, -iuous(e, -yuous,** 5 **-euose.** *γ.* 4 **plentwis,** 5–6 **-ious(e,** 6 **-uus.** *δ.* 4 **plenteus,** 5–6 **-ius, -ious(e, -yous, -iose,** 6 **-yus, -eouse,** 6– **plenteous.** (Also 5–6 **plaint-.**) [ME. *plentifous, -ivous,* a. OF. *plentivous* (*c* 1220 in Godef.), *plentevous, -veus, -vious,* extended forms of *plentif,* f. *plenté* Plenty: see -ive, -ous. Reduced through the successive stages *plentivous, -evous, -euous, -uous,* to *-ious, -eous.* Cf. Bounteous.]

1. Present or existing in plenty or in full supply; abundant, plentiful, copious.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xci. 14 Þai sall be multyplyed in plentifous elde. *Ibid.* cxxix. 7 At him plentevous bying. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 4618 We haf pees and welthe plenteuus. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1067 Thru plentwis gyft of goddis grace. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* cxxix. [cxxx.] 7 Plenteous redempcioun is at hym. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 341 In yche place of the playne with plentius stremes. *Ibid.* 3153 Þere pepull are so plaintiose & placis of strenght. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 169 b, With the plenteous infusyon of grace. 1540 Hyrde tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) C c iij, More plentuous advantage shal come hereof. 1554–9 *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 4 A plentyus newe yeres gyfft. 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* VIII. 634 The flaming piles with plenteous fuel raise. 1830 Coleridge *Ch. & St.* (1839) 277 A plenteous crop of such philosophers and truth-trumpeters. 1868 Lynch *Rivulet* CXLVI. iii, He bears the plenteous living grain.

2. Bearing or yielding abundantly; fertile, prolific, productive. Const. *in, of.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 531 In god contreie & plentiuous. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. metr. ii. 4 The plentyuos Autompne. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* lxiv. [lxv.] 14 The .. valeis schulen be pleteuouse of wheete. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xii. 51 Þe flum Iordan..es riȝt plentifous of fisch. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1496 So plentivouse this world is of iniquite! 1535 Joye

Apol. Tindale (Arb.) 37 John..beyng so plentuouse in telling one thing so ofte and so many ways. 1541 BELLENDEN *Descr. Alb.* ix. in *Cron. Scot.* B vj b, This firth [of Forth] is rycht plentuus of coclis, osteris, muschellis, selch, pellok, merswyne and quhalis. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 43 Her plenteous wombe Expresseth his full Tilth, and husbandry. 1682 R. BURTON *Admirable Curios.* 8 The Soil plenteous of Corn, Cattle, Waters, and Woods. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxi, The seasons had been plenteous in corn.

† **3.** Possessing or having abundance; abundantly provided or supplied; rich. *Obs.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 8 Here as helples & pore bot in heuen as plentefous & riche. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 19 Yf they can thenne well gader togider frute and herbes of vertues than shall thei be plenteuous. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 19 We be not so plentious as we haue bene, the first fruits and tenthes are deducted of our liuings. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* II. 55 It had beene long evill ruled by evill Officers, so that the Land could not be plenteous neither with Merchandize, chaffer, nor riches.

† **4.** Giving abundantly; generous, liberal, bountiful. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 80 Ne beth plentyuous to þe pore as pure charite wolde. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. iv, Be a man neuer so valiaunt, so wise, so liberall or plentuous. 1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* v. viii, From thy plenteous hand divine, Let a river run with Wine. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 604 With plenteous Hand Bring Clover-grass. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Hymn, 'Creator Spirit, by whose Aid'* iii, Plenteous of Grace, descend from high, Rich in thy Sevenfold Energy!

† **B.** *adv.* = PLENTEOUSLY. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9504 Pesis of plates plentius mekyll. *Ibid.* 11492 The grekes Were of pepull & pouer plaintius mony.

Plenteously (plen'tiəsli), *adv.* Now chiefly *poet.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a plenteous manner; abundantly, copiously; † bountifully.

1340 *Ayenb.* 51 Uor þet þet me eth and dryngþ to-uore time .. Oþer to plentyuousliche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 180 Briddes & smale bestes wiþ his bow he quelles so plenteousliche. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 76 Men findez manna mare plentifously and better þan in any oþer place. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* iv. 8 Yf thou hast moch, geue plenteously. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Bj, This herbe groweth plentuously in my lordes gardyne at Syon. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 392 Each Soul living, each that crept, which plenteously The waters generated by thir kindes. 1702 VALDEN *Æsop at Court* XIII. iii, He shook his sides, and wish'd them gone, Whilst plenteously they fed. 1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* XVIII. iii, So shall thy good fruits plenteously Hang ripening for us.

Plenteousness (plen'tiəsnés). Now chiefly *poet.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being plenteous; abundance, plentifulness; fertility, fruitfulness.

c 1375 *XI Pains of Hell* 47 in *O. E. Misc.* 212 Hou dredful is hel..In þe wych of wepyng is gret plenteuesnes. *c* 1400 [see PLENTEOUSTE]. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xi. 23 He gaue them plenteousnes of fode. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 226 Our cheerful minde..might..offend rather in too much plenteousnesse. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* (1818) I. 244 The Supreme Proprietor..who has filled the world with plenteousness. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 558 Set in this Eden of all plenteousness.

† **Plen'teouste.** *Obs.* In 4 **plentuuste, plenteuouste, -owste,** 5 **plentefoste.** [a. OF. *plantuoussete* (Godef.), f. *plentivous* PLENTEOUS: see -TY.] Plenteousness, plentifulness.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxv. 9 þai sall be drokynd of þe plentuuste of þi hows. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxx. 9 God shal make thee to be plenteuous in alle the werkis of thin hoondis,..in plenteuowste of thin erthe. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 58 þe whiche discrasye þou schalt helpen..with plentefoste [*MS. A.* plenteuousnes] of gode mete.

Plenteth, -eythe, -i(e, -ieth, obs. ff. PLENTY.

Plentethnes: see PLENTINESS.

Plentiful (plen'tiful), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. PLENTY *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Full of plenty; furnished with or yielding abundance; copiously supplied; opulent. Now *rare.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. XXXV. 269 Ther is plentyful countrey. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 225 Plentyfull of al good thynges. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 149 The Shore plentiful of Fish and good for refreshing. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 580 If it be a long winter, it is commonly a more plentiful year. 1646 J. BENBRIGGE *God's Fury* 22 The Scripture is plentifull in avouching this truth. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 294 There were Inhabitants who lived in a plentiful manner on the product of that Island. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, His table plentiful, but plain.

2. Present or existing in great plenty; abundant, copious, ample.

c 1510 *Gesta Rom., Add. Stories* v. 439 Ye..shall fynde yᵉ mercy of God plentefull. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 6 A fat and loose ground, which..yeeldeth also plentifullest and greatest fruite. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 202 They haue a plentifull lacke of Wit. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. (1723) 190 A plentifull Admixture of Sulphur. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 79 ₱3, I have a plentiful Fortune. 1893 R. WILLIAMS in Traill *Soc. Eng.* I. i. 30 There is a plentiful supply of materials. 1898 J. ARCH *Story of Life* x. 254 The 'Thank yous' we got for our pains were not as plentiful as blackberries [cf. PLENTY *a.* 1, quot. 1596].

† **3.** Liberal, generous, profuse, lavish. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 626 Which things daylie more and more encreased, by his abundant liberalitie, and plentifull house keeping. 1625 BACON *Ess., Expence* (Arb.) 117 A Man had need, if he be Plentifull, in some kinde of Expence, to be as Sauing againe, in some other... For he that is Plentifull in Expences of all Kindes, will hardly be preserved from Decay.

† **B.** as *adv.* = next. *Obs.*

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1574) 12 By that meanes, dothe the ground yealde the plentifuller.

Plentifully (plen'tifuli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In plentiful measure or number; abundantly, copiously; in or with abundance.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 14 *Lacha* groweth there more plentifully then in any other countre. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xii. 16 The ground of a certaine rich man brought foorth plentifully [TINDALE, *Geneva*, plenteously]. 1683 DRYDEN *Life Plutarch* 30 He liv'd tho not splendidly yet plentifully. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 115 This sort of wise men, of whom the age is plentifully stored at this time. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 229 Money was plentifully contributed to build a meeting house for him.

Comb. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 196 A well-wooded and plentifully-watered glen.

† **2.** With fullness of treatment or expression; fully, in detail. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 372 Which shal treat al thinges more plentifully. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 161 The second part of the argument .. the Scriptures manifestly and plentifully assure us.

Plentifulness (plen'tifulnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being plentiful.

1. The condition of having or yielding abundance; affluence; abundant productiveness. Now *rare.*

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc.* A v, What man hath any thynge I praye you, but he hath receiued it of his plentyfulnes? 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vi. 36 Through the plentifulnesse of the yeere they do deliuer more. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 153 To breake into Thessaly, with the plentifulnesse thereof to relieue their wants. 1795 J. SULLIVAN *Hist. Maine* 38 There is none which..exceeds it in plentifulness of fish.

2. Abundance, copiousness, plenty.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 266 This sea .. poureth furth his plentifulnesse. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. xii. § 2 The plentifulness of land seems to me the true explanation. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* July 197 Evident from the very plentifulness of these remains.

Plentify (plen'tifəi), *v.* [f. PLENTY + -FY.]

† **1.** *trans.* To make plenteous; to enrich; to fertilize (soil). *Obs.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. iii. 123 Wherewith thei so plentifie their grounde, that thei communely receiue two hundred bussheles for a busshell. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. I. *Abraham* 1145 God his own with blessings plentifies. 1608 R. JOHNSON *Seven Champions* A iij b, After this the land was plentified with Cities.

2. *intr.* To become plentiful. *dial.*

1901 GWENDOLINE KEATS *Tales Dunstable Weir* (*Devon. dial.*) 208 Wi' the coming o' warmer weather and the plentifying o' eggs he would be hiszulf agin.

† **Plen'tily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 4 **plenteliche.** [f. PLENTY *a.* + -LY 2.] = PLENTIFULLY *adv.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 105 þe more þe zaule onderuangþ plenteliche þise þri ȝef þes of god.

† **Plentiness.** *Obs.* [f. PLENTY *a.* + -NESS. Wyclif's *plentethnes* was either formed irreg. on *plenteth*, early form of PLENTY *sb.*, or (?) an error for **plentifnes.*] = PLENTIFULNESS.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 30 Seuen ȝeres .. of greet plente .. whom shulen folwe othere seuen ȝeer of as greet bareynes, that to forgetyng be takun al the bihynd plentethnes [*v. r.* plentenes]. *Ibid.* 47 And plentithnes cam of the seuen ȝeer. 1511 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 394 Corne or grayne..shall be sold and ratiffied acording the plentines of the yere. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis*, etc., *Pss.* I. iii, Yeelding abundant plentines Of fruict, in haruest seasoned.

Plentious(e, -ius, obs. ff. PLENTEOUS.

Plentith(e, -nes, obs. ff. PLENTY, PLENTINESS.

Plentitude (plen'titiud). Erroneous form of PLENITUDE, influenced by PLENTY *a.* (Prob. in some cases a misprint.)

1615 T. ADAMS *Spir. Navig.* 3 A happy and excellent knowledge given to the saints, and that in a wonderfull plentitude. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 22 The plentitude of the universe. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. i, They were met..by...Peter Peebles, in his usual plentitude of wig and celsitude of hat.

† **Plentive,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 4 **plentyue.** [a. OF. *plentif, -tive* adj., plentiful, f. *plenté* PLENTY: see -IVE.] Yielding abundance, fertile.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6444, Y ne sey nere ..A fairer lond, ne more plentyue.

Plentivos, -ivous(e, -ues, -uis, -uous(e, etc., obs. ff. PLENTEOUS.

Plentuuste, variant of PLENTEOUSTE *Obs.*

Plenty (plen'ti), *sb.* (*a., adv.*) Forms: see below. [ME. *plenteð, plenteth, plenté,* a. OF. *plentet* (12th c. in Oxf. Ps.), *plented, plenté, -teit,* nom. *-tez, pleynte,* mod.F. dial. *plenté, plenté*:— L. *plēnitāt-em* fullness, f. *plēn-us* full: see -TY.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 3 **plenteð,** 4-6 **plenteth,** 4-7 **-ith,** 5 **-eythe, pleintith,** 6 **plentieth.** *β.* 4 **plentez, -es.**

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3709 Þes .xii. ðider hem hauen broȝt Of ðe plenteð ðe god ðor gaf. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1359 (Cott.) Quen þe plentez [*Fairf.* plentes] sal cum o time. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 31 To spille the greetnes of plentithe. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* CXXX, Plenteythe of fysshe. 1461 Plenteth [see B. 2]. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 511/1 Shewyng unto hym..the pleintith of his good Lordship. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 308 b, Yet ye haue holes plentieth in your eares. 1555 Plenteth; *a* 1603 Plentith [see B. I. 2].

γ. 3-6 **plente,** 4-6 **-ee,** 5-7 **-ie,** 6 **-i, -ye,** 5- **-y.**

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 194 Plente of worldliche þinges. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 63 Grete plentee of wylde bestes. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 440 Put therto gode plentie of pynes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 283/2 Plenty, *abundancia.* 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. 259 They had wynes to drynke plentye. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* iii. (1877) 57 Fraunce hath of them plente. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* 9 Plenti to furnish up a trim tragedi. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 228 Plentie..must have a meane.

δ. Sc. 4-6 **pleynte, plaintie, playntie.**

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1488 Þai wane froyt of land & se.. in gret pleynte. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiv. 93 Fair claithis and gold plaintie. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 8 Some man hath pleynte of cunnynge. *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 369 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 297 And ȝe sall haif playntie.

B. Signification. **I.** *sb.*

1. The state of abounding or being in abundance; plentifulness, abundance. *In plenty*: plentiful, abundant; in abundance, plentifully, abundantly.

1382 [see A. *α*]. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Dij, Camomyle groweth..in moosie plenty of al, in hunsley hethe. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 140 Onix-stones..are brought hither in great plentie. 1622 MISSELDEN *Frec Trade* (1623) 117 By reason of the plenty of money. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* (1865) 107 In the Summer.. when Lobsters be in their plenty and prime. 1786 H. TOOKE *Purley* 68 They [abbreviations] have been introduced, in different plenty, and more or less happily, in all Languages. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* II. xxix. 307 Compliments passed in plenty.

† **b.** The state of having abundance. *Obs. rare.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 230/402 Heore procratour to hem cam, and was euere in plente, he brouȝte heom mete and drinke i-nouȝ, and he hadde er i-do.

† **c.** Liberality. *Obs. rare.*

c 1410 *Sir Cleges* 24 His mete was fre to euery man, That wold com and vesite hym than: He was full of plente.

† **d.** Full or complete state; fullness, completeness, perfection; = FULLNESS 2 b, 3. *Obs.*

13.. [see A. *β*]. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. vi. 135 (Camb. MS.) Of the whiche lyf it ne myhte nat enbrace the plente in dwellynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xxiii. 1 Off the Lord is the erthe, and the plente of it. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 30 He holdiþ not þe plente ne þe perfeccoun þat falliþ to his consecracoun.

e. In proverbial phrases.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 184 Experience wole weel schewe that plente is no deinte, and ouermyche homelines with a thing gendrith dispising toward the same thing. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. i. (S. T. S.) I. 241 Plente generis contemptioun. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* B ij, Plentie is no deintie, as the common saieyng is. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. i. 88 But plentie, as the manner is, soone caused lothing.

2. A full or abundant supply; as much as one could desire; a large quantity or number; abundance *of* something.

a 1225 [see A. γ]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 139 In þe contrey of kanterbury mest plente of fiss is. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xxii. 6 At myddai sudeynli fro heuene a greet plente of liȝt schoon aboute me. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3433 Gret plenty of pepull,—all the place full. 1555 BONNER *Homilies* 2 That multitude and plenteth of preachers. *a* 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 725 By this plentith and overflow of Gods blessings. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 184 Scarcity of water, and too much plenty of scorching heate. 1756 T. in *Connoisseur* No. 105 ₱3 He was in a fine open country with plenty of foxes. 1857 MAURICE *Ep. St. John* i. 5 A treatise containing plenty of errors. 1885 FARGUS *Slings & Arrows* 192 We were in plenty of time.

b. with *a*: an abundance (*of*). Now chiefly *U. S.*

1627-77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xi. 17 If euer I should wish a plenty; it should be for my friends, not me. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. ii, That freedom Which heaven hath with a plenty made you rich in. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 401 This soil produces a plenty of wood. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 274 The river, where a plenty of several kinds of fish may be caught. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* 71 Remember to let it have a plenty of gravel in the bottom of its cage. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxvi, A plenty of smoke was delivered from the council of three. 1857 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vii. 125.

c. Following a sb. Now *rare.* Cf. II. 1 b.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1488 Styward,.. Bye us vessel gret plenté. Dysschys, cuppys and sawsers [etc.]. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 16 Seson hit with sugur grete plenté. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VI. 270 They haue goates great plentie. 1841 *Scot. Let.* in Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) I. iv. 25 There are cattle a plenty on that spot [cf. b above].

3. Abundance of the necessaries and comforts of life; a condition of general abundance; a time of abundance. *Horn of plenty* = CORNUCOPIA.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 165 Worth neuere plente amonge þe poeple þer-while my plow liggeth. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVIII. 93 Ther sholde be plente and pees perpetuel for euere. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 6 To regne in pees, plente, and plesaunce. *c* 1586, 1707, etc. Horn of plenty [see HORN *sb.* 12 b]. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlviii. (1631) 305 Profit is divided into the obtaining peace and plentie. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 63 To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xlviii, Plenty leaps To laughing life, with her redundant horn. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 680 Here, therefore, was a plenty unknown in any other part of Munster.

† **b.** *concr.* in *pl.* Things that constitute 'plenty'; the necessaries and comforts of life; provisions; possessions. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 35 Peace, Deare Nourse of Arts, Plentyes, and ioyfull Births. 1614 C. BROOKE *Epithal. Dinner*, The board being spread, furnisht with various plenties. 1671 BARROW *Serm. Ps.* cxii. 9 Wks. 1687 I. 456 Can we with any content taste our dainties, or view our plenties, while the poor man stands in sight pining with hunger? 1723 DK. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 52 II. 456 The exuberant Plenties of a most beneficent Climate.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plenty-monger, plenty price* (cf. *famine price*); *plenty-scanting* adj.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 215 Great plenty-scanting calamities, art thou to await, for wanton disguising thy selfe against kind. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 56 Plentymongers (that wanton away their own or Husbands Moneys). 1681 T. JORDAN *London's Joy* 12 My Name Fructifera, The Plenty-Governess of India. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxxix. 88 That corn merchants in a famine ought to sell their corn at plenty price.

II. *adj.* or quasi-*adj.* [app. an idiomatic use of the sb.]

1. Existing or present in ample quantity or number; in plenty, in abundance; abundant, plentiful, numerous. Now chiefly *colloq.* **a.** In predicate.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23460 (Cott.) All oþerkin blisses þat mai be, All þire in þe sal be plente. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1364 There lordis were grete and plente. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxvi. [cxxii.] 357 At this siege euery thynge was plenty. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 23 As for sermons, they are not daintie, but very plentie. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 265 If Reasons were as plentie as Blackberries, I would giue no man a Reason vpon compulsion. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 6 Where money is plenty, and land scarce. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 100 Where they could not find such, for they were not very plenty. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 32 In the one, land is scarce, and men plenty; in the other, men are scarce, and land is plenty. 1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 84 Wherever kicks and cuffs are plentiest. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 22 Poets would be plentier.

b. Following a sb.: = In plenty, in large quantity. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Cf. I. 2 c.

13.. *Cursor M.* 4811 (Cott.) Bot quen þai sagh þat corn plente, Bliþer men moght neuer be. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxvi. 253 Gold and syluer plente to spend. 1500–20 [see A. δ]. 1542 [see A. α]. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xvi. § 7 The meanest handmaid .. had infallible pledges plenty of his extraordinary calling. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng. Catech.* 420 Who has conies plenty to dispose of cheap.

c. Preceding a sb. = *plenty of* (I. 2). *dial.*

1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 8 Although there are plenty other ideals that I should prefer. *Mod. Sc.* There were plenty folk ready to help. I know of plenty places to go to.

†2. Characterized by or having abundance; abundantly supplied. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Henry's Wallace* VIII. 990 *note*, Schir, be ye gydyt be me, The bowndandest [*v.r.* plentiest] part off Ingland ye sall se. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 4 Is this country fruitfull, and plenty of all things, or barren, and emptie?

III. quasi-*adv.* Abundantly. *colloq.*

1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 331 A leaden collar for the stick, with the hole in the collar plenty large enough. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* 87 They're plenty large enough. [Common *colloq.* throughout Gt. Britain; also in U. S. See Eng. Dial. Dict.]

Plentyfous, -y(o)us, -yvous(e, -yvows, obs. ff. PLENTEOUS.

‖ **Plenum** (plĭ·nŏm). [L., neut. of *plēnus* adj. full (sc. *spatium* space): cf. *vacuum* empty (space).]

1. *Physics.* A space completely filled with matter; *spec.* the whole of space regarded as being so filled; opposed to VACUUM.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. 9 Leucippus and his Companion Democritus make the first Principles of all things to be *Plenum* and *Vacuum* (Body and Space). 1714 *Let. fr. Layman* (ed. 2) 7 A Government can't rightfully restrain a Man's professing the Belief of a *Vacuum* or a *Plenum*. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Cartesians adhere firmly to the doctrine of an absolute *plenum*. 1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 V. 191 Here we have a bottle containing at the same time a *plenum* of electrical fire, and a *vacuum* of the same fire. 1822 R. HALL *Serm.* Wks. 1833 VI. 13 In a perfect *plenum*, motion would be impossible. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 565/1 From the astronomers the Stoics borrowed their picture of the universe,—a *plenum* in the form of a series of layers or concentric rings, first, the elements, then the planetary and stellar spheres, massed round the earth as centre.

b. *transf.* A condition of fullness; a full place.

1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 6 This .. was followed by some excellent chocolate, and I soon established a plenum in my system. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 117 An ache, a need That spaceless stays where sharp analysis Has shown a plenum filled without it.

2. A full assembly; a meeting of a legislative body, conference, association, etc., at which all the members are expected to be present; †in Sweden, a meeting of one of the legislative chambers (*obs.*).

1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 50 Stokholm Dec. 6 In the plenum held yesterday, the inferior orders made no alteration in the resolution they had taken of adopting the royal capitulation with the projected changes. 1772 *Hartford Merc.* Suppl. 18 Sept. 3/3 The Marshal of the Diet opened the Plenum of the Nobility with a long panegyric upon the King. 1885 LD. LOFTUS in *Pall Mall G.* 6 May 2/1 All colonial questions in common to the empire would be discussed by the Plenum, but would have to be sanctioned by the Imperial Parliament before receiving the Queen's sanction. 1899 *Daily News* 12 June 9/1 Germany .. will .. only give her final decision when the Pauncefote scheme, with the inevitable amendments, comes before the plenum.

3. *attrib.*, as *plenum method, system*, a system of artificial ventilation in which fresh air, forced into the building to be ventilated, drives out the vitiated air.

1888 J. A. EWING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 160/2 A broad distinction may be drawn between what are sometimes called vacuum and plenum methods of artificial ventilation. 1903 *Architect* 24 Apr. 276/2 The ventilation of the hospital was secured by natural, as opposed to artificial, means, such as that usually called the Plenum system.

Pleny-: see PLENI-.

Pleny(e, -yie, -ȝie, obs. Sc. ff. PLAIN *v.*; hence **Plenyhand, plenȝeand** *pr. pple.*: see PLAINAND.

Plenyie, plenȝie, *sb. Sc.* [f. *plenȝie*, Sc. form of PLAIN *v.*] Complaining, grumbling.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 107 He spak, and instant a' the senzie Did ratifie it without plenzie.

Pleo, obs. erron. form of PILAU.

Pleochroic (plī,ŏkrō·ĭk), *a. Cryst.* [f. *pleo-*, PLEIO- + Gr. χρώς complexion, colour, -χροος coloured + -IC: cf. DICHROIC.] Showing different colours when viewed in two or in three different directions (*dichroic* or *trichroic*), as certain double-refracting crystals. So **Pleochroism** (plī,ŏ·krŏ,ĭz'm), the quality of thus exhibiting different colours; dichroism or trichroism; **Pleochroitic** (-krŏ,ĭ·tĭk) *a.* [irreg., after *dendritic*, etc.], of or pertaining to pleochroism; **Pleochroma·tic** *a.* [see CHROMATIC] = *pleochroic*; **Pleochro·matism** = *pleochroism*; **Pleochroous** (plī,ŏ·krŏ,ĭəs) *a.* = *pleochroic*.

1864 WEBSTER, **Pleochroic*. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 212 Epidote .. Var .. 3. Withamite. Carmine-red to straw-yellow: strongly pleochroic; the colour as seen through in one direction, deep crimson, in another transverse, straw-yellow. 1894 *Naturalist* 68 Pleochroic haloes, surrounding minute zircon crystals, are seen in both micas. 1857 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (ed. 3) III. 542 Experiments on the *pleochroism of minerals. 1886 *Builder* 24 Apr., Dichroism, or pleochroism, practically never occurs in crystals belonging to the cubic system. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* vii. 58 Determining the position of the *pleochroitic maxima. 1864 WEBSTER, **Pleochromatic* .. **Pleochromatism* .. **Pleochroous*.

Pleodont (plī·ŏdǫnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Gr. πλέος, -ως full + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] Solid-toothed, as certain lizards: opp. to *cœlodont*. **b.** *sb.* A solid-toothed lizard.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 252/1 The Pleodonts are divided into two .. groups: the first with a compressed tail .. as in the Crocodiles; the other with the tail perfectly conical.

Pleoi, obs. form of PLAY.

Pleomastia, -mazia: see PLEIO-.

Pleomorphic (plī,ŏmǭ·rfĭk), *a.* [f. *pleo-*, PLEIO- + Gr. μορφή form + -IC.] Having more than one form: (*a*) *Biol.*, exhibiting different forms at different stages of the life-history, as certain bacteria and parasitic fungi; pleiomorphic; (*b*) *Chem.* and *Min.* crystallizing in two or more fundamentally different forms; polymorphic. So **Pleomo·rphism**, the fact or condition of thus exhibiting a plurality of forms: (*a*) = pleiomorphism; (*b*) = polymorphism; **Pleomo·rphist**, an advocate of a theory of pleomorphism; **Pleomo·rphous** *a.* = *pleomorphic*; **Ple·omorphy** = *pleomorphism*.

1886 E. R. LANKESTER in *Nature* 4 Mar. 413/2, I gave the name *Bacterium rubescens* to this *pleomorphic, or, as I termed it, 'Protean', species. 1864 WEBSTER, **Pleomorphism*, the property of crystallizing under two or more distinct fundamental forms, .. said of various substances, as carbon, which occurs in octahedral and related forms in the diamond, and in hexagonal prisms in graphite. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 86 Upon this depends the so-called pleomorphism. 1884 *Nature* 4 Sept. 433/2 The then recent discoveries of Pleomorphism and the reproductive organs .. were leading mycologists to suspect that a reproductive process exists in the case of all the higher Fungi. 1887 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 184/3 When De Bary discovered and demonstrated the wonderful fact of heterœcism .. it is not astonishing that many saw in this the way to crown the wildest conjectures of the *pleomorphists of the day. 1864 WEBSTER, **Pleomorphous*, having the property of pleomorphism. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 232 The erroneous theory of so-called *Pleomorphy among Fungi was the result of a defective perception of the true nature of the different kinds of reproductive organs on which the common name of Spore had been bestowed.

‖ **Pleon** [1] (plī·ŏn). *Zool.* [Arbitrarily f. Gr. πλέων, pr. pple. of πλεῖν to swim, sail: cf. PEREION.] A name for the abdomen in Crustacea, as bearing the swimming limbs (see PLEOPOD). Also applied by Owen to the tail-spine or telson in the king-crab, etc., considered as representing the abdomen.

1855 C. SPENCE BATE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1856) 27 Abdominal segments (or pleon). (*Note*), From πλέω, navigo: pleon, part which supports the swimming legs. 1873 OWEN *Anat. King Crab* 9 The tail-spine ('pleon' and 'telson' ..) nearly equals in length the two antecedent divisions. *Ibid.* 44 In the development of *Limulus*, the pleon or tail-spine (=pygidium) was the last to appear. 1888 *Challenger Rep.* XXIX. I. 652 The feeble structure of the mouth-organs and of the after-part of the pleon.

Hence **Ple·onal, Ple·onic** *adjs.*, pertaining to the pleon (in quots. the telson of the king-crab).

1873 OWEN *Anat. King Crab* 26 The posterior or 'pleonic' artery .. has more definite tunics and holds a longer course. *Ibid.* 48 Pleonic plexus .. Pleonic artery .. Pleonal nerve, or continuation of neural cord.

Pleon [2] (plī·ŏn). *Bot.* [a. Gr. πλέον, -ων, neuter of πλέος, -ως full: cf. L. PLENUM.] A term proposed by Nägeli for an aggregate of molecules which cannot be increased or diminished in size, without changing its chemical nature.

1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 664 *note* 1 It will be noted that the Atom, Molecule, and Pleon are chemical ideas, whereas the Micella and Micellar Aggregate are purely physical. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 212 The terminology now proposed by Nägeli applies the word *pleon* to those aggregates of molecules which cannot be increased or diminished without changing their chemical nature.

Pleonasm (plī·ŏnæz'm). Formerly in Lat. form **pleona·smus**. [ad. L. *pleonasmus* (Mart.), a. Gr. πλεονασμός, f. πλεονάζειν to be superfluous or redundant, also in Gram. to add superfluously, f. πλέον more, compar. of πολύ much. Cf. F. *pléonasme* (1613).]

1. *Gram.* and *Rhet.* The use of more words in a sentence than are necessary to express the meaning; redundancy of expression (either as a fault of style, or as a figure purposely used for special force or clearness); with *a* and *pl.*, an instance of this, or the superfluous word or phrase itself.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 82 *Pleonasmus*, where, with words seeming superfluous, we doe increase our reasons, as thus, With these eares I heard him speake it. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 264 The first surplusage the Greekes call *Pleonasmus*, I call him (too full speech) and is no great fault. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 15 Some thinke the preposition *επί* to be here a Pleonasme .. and that σκοπος and ἐπίσκοπος is all one. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 12, I require a favourable censure of all faults omitted, harsh compositions, pleonasms of words, tautological repetitions, &c. 1681 R. WITTIE *Surv. Heavens* 28, I take it to be a Pleonasm, a Figure frequently used in Scripture. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 556 The genius of the Hebrew tongue, which so much delights in pleonasms. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxiv. 45 What the energetic pleonasm of our ancestors denominated 'a false lie'.

†b. *Gram.* The addition of a superfluous (or apparently superfluous) letter or syllable to a word. *Obs. rare.*

1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Pleonasm*, in Grammar it is the adding of a Letter or Syllable, either to the beginning of a word, and is then called Prosthesis, or to the middle, and is then called Epenthesis, or to the end, and is then called Paragoge. 1763 SWINTON in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 131 A pleonasmus or redundancy of ℔ having not been antiently uncommon.

2. *gen.* Superfluity, redundancy, excess; something superfluous or redundant. In mod. use only *fig.* from 1.

1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 609 If it come short of the Turke in Geometricall dimension of ground, it is with a great pleonasme supplyed by the fertilitie of his Soyle, and in the vnion of all his Territories. 1673 *Indulgence not to be Refused* 3 It is but a pleonasme or overflow of that great kindness. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1877) I. xix. 369 This hypothesis is not only a psychological solecism, it is, likewise, a psychological pleonasm; *it* is at once illegitimate and superfluous. 1855 MISS COBBE *Intuit. Mor.* 19 This great school of souls would be a superfluity, a pleonasm in creation.

b. *Anat.* and *Path.* A growth or formation in excess of the normal, in size or number of parts.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pleonasmus. Med.*, *Pathol.*, *Physiol.*, term for a faulty formation, with a stronger growth, or an over-number or over-quantity of parts: a pleonasm. [1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pleonasmus.*]

† Pleona·smic, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *pléonasmique* (Cotgr.), f. *pléonasme*: see -IC.]

1656 BLOUNT *Gl.*, *Pleonasmick*, superfluous, redundant.

So **† Pleona·smical** *a.*

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii, Pleonasmical fool.

Pleonast (plī·ŏnæst). *rare*—[1]. [f. Gr. type *πλεοναστής, agent-n. f. πλεονάζειν; see PLEONASM.] One who uses pleonasm.

1863 READE *Hard Cash* II. xxv. 120 The mellifluous pleonast .. oiling his paradox with fresh polysyllables, to make it slip into the Banker's narrow understanding.

Pleonaste (plī·ŏnæst). *Min.* Also **pleonast.** [a. F. *pléonaste* (Haüy 1801), ad. Gr. πλεονασ-τός abundant, f. πλεονάζειν; see PLEONASM.] A synonym of CEYLONITE, a variety of spinel.

(From the multitude of faces of the crystal, each solid angle of the octahedron being often replaced by four faces.)

1804 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 79 The ceylanite of La Metherie or pleonast of Haüy. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xvi. 139 Black pleonaste and obsidian afford examples of solid substances which absorb all the colours of the spectrum proportionally. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 342 The almost black pleonaste .. is used sometimes for mourning jewellery.

Pleonastic (plī,ŏnæ·stĭk), *a.* [f. Gr. type *πλεοναστικ-ός, f. πλεοναστ-ός: see prec. So F. *pléonastique*.] *Gram.* Characterized by pleonasm; using more words than are necessary (as a sentence, a speaker, or writer); constituting pleonasm, superfluous, redundant (as a word or phrase).

1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* (ed. 12) Notes 390 A pleonastic pronoun. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 11 Μη .. not; after verbs of contradicting, or denying, it is pleonastic. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 519 *note*, A mere pleonastic phrase for 'in the direction of the sea'.

b. *gen.* or *fig.* Done to excess or superfluity.

1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* iv. 164 If .. the priests who both eat the wafer and drink the cup have not two full and perfect sacraments .. if they have and derive any benefit from such a pleonastic sacrament. 1894 A. BIRRELL *Ess.* xvi. 177 His bonâ-fide character .. has been roughly condemned as pleonastic.

So **† Pleona·stical** *a.* = prec.; **Pleona·stically** *adv.*, in a pleonastic manner, with pleonasm.

1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 17 They esteemed it essentiall to these, but pleonasticall unto those. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 187, I Joh. I. I. We have seen with our eyes .. These Pleonastical inculcations are not vain, but serve to work things the better upon our hard hearts. 1725 BLACKWALL *Sacr. Classics* (1727) I. 142 The noblest classics use this par-

ticle pleonastically. 1881 *St. James's Gaz.* 1 Apr. 11 People who are ignorant of the good old word 'mere' have taken to talking pleonastically of Windermere Lake.

Pleonectic (plīǐŏne·ktik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *πλεονεκτικ-ός* disposed to take too much, greedy, f. *πλεονέκτης* one who has or claims more than his share, f. *πλέον* more + *ἔχειν* to have.] Of or pertaining to *pleonexia*; covetous, greedy, grasping.

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Sept. 3 The pleonectic spirit which prompted this practice will no doubt be chastened into greater accordance with the principles of distributive justice.

‖ **Pleonexia** (plīǐŏne·ksiă). [a. Gr. *πλεονεξία* greed, assumption, f. as *πλεονέκτης*: see prec.] Covetousness, avarice, greed.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pleonexia*, term for greediness, grasping selfishness, overbearing temper or arrogance, regarded as mental disease. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Nov. 5/3 Competitive, grasping fellows, cursed with the vice of pleonexia, of wanting more than their share.

Pleopod (plī·ŏpŏd). *Zool.* [f. as Pleon[1] + Gr. *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] One of the swimming limbs attached to the *pleon* or abdomen in Crustacea: see Pleon[1]. Also **Pleopodite** (plīi·pŏdəit). Cf. *pereiopod*, *-podite*, s. v. Pereion.

1855 C. Spence Bate in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* (1856) 38 Pleopoda or swimming feet are attached to..the pleon. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 635/2 The next six somites bear each a pair of swimming-feet (or *pleopodites*). 1893 Stebbing *Crustacea* iv. 45 The first five of these segments frequently have appendages that are really natatory and may properly be called pleopods, swimming-feet.

Pleowe, pleoȝe, obs. forms of Play *sb.* and *v.*

Pleresye, obs. form of Pleurisy.

‖ **Pleroma** (plĭrō·mă). [a. Gr. *πλήρωμα* that which fills, a complement, f. *πληροῦν* to make full, f. *πλήρης* full.]

1. Fullness, plenitude; **a.** in Gnostic theology, The spiritual universe as the abode of God and of the totality of the Divine powers and emanations.

1765 Maclaine tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* I. II. II. v. (1833) 62/2 He placed in the *pleroma* (so the Gnostics called the habitation of the Deity) thirty æons. 1831–3 E. Burton *Eccl. Hist.* iii. (1845) 58 One of these later emanations passed the boundaries of the Pleroma, which was the abode of the Deity, and there coming in contact with matter created the world. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Col.* (1886) 100 For this totality [of the Divine powers] Gnostic teachers had a technical term, the *pleroma* or *plenitude*.

b. Used in reference to Colossians ii. 9, where the Eng. versions from 1388 have 'fullness':

Ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ κατοικεῖ πᾶν τὸ πλήρωμα τῆς θεότητος σωματικῶς: Wyclif 1388, 'For in hym dwellith bodilich al the fulnesse [1382 al plente, *Vulg.* plenitudo] of the Godhed'.

1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Col.* 329 The ideal church is the pleroma of Christ, and the militant church must strive to become the pleroma. 1883 Schaff *Hist. Ch.* II. XII. XCV. 777 The pleroma of the Godhead resides in Christ corporeally: so the pleroma of Christ, the plenitude of his graces and energies, resides in the church as his body.

2. *Bot.* = Plerome. *rare*—°.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pleromatic** (plĭ·rōmæ·tik) *a.*, pertaining to the pleroma.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 977/2 The *pleromatic kingdom* was the name given by Stockenstrand to the whole powers which animate the world and the stars which fill the celestial space. 1879 Schaff *Person of Christ* 56 The completeness or pleromatic fulness of the moral and religious character of Christ.

Plerome (plĭə·rōum). *Bot.* [ad. Ger. *plerom* (Hanstein 1868), ad. Gr. *πλήρωμα* a filling: see prec.] The innermost layer of the primary tissue or meristem at a growing-point, which develops into the fibrovascular tissue, or into this and the pith. (Cf. Dermatogen, Periblem.)

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 127 If no pith is formed, as in many roots and some shoots.., the whole of the plerome is developed into procambium. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 7 As Hanstein has shown, the young embryo of the Angiospermous Phanerogams separates, while still consisting of few cells,..into three layers, or groups of cells, which differ in their arrangement and direction of division; these were termed by their discoverer, Dermatogen, Periblem, and Plerome.

b. *attrib.*, as *plerome-body*, *-cylinder*, *-sheath*.

1882 Vines *Sachs' Bot.* 166 The origin of lateral roots in a mother-root is always on the outside of its axial fibro-vascular or plerome-cylinder. *Ibid.* 167 These mother-cells of the lateral roots lie in the plerome-sheath.

Pleromorph (plīə·rɪomɔ̄if). *Min.* [mod. f. Gr. *πλήρης, πληρο-* full + *μορφή* form: introduced (in Ger.) by A. Kenngott 1859.] A form produced by the filling of a cavity left by the removal of a crystal with another mineral substance.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1906 H. A. Miers *Let. to Editor*, A pleromorph is a natural cast of a crystal in some other mineral substance.

Plerophory (plĭə·rɒfŏri). Now *rare*. [ad. Gr. *πληροφορία* (Heb. vi. 11, x. 22, etc.) fullness of assurance, f. **πληροφόρος* bringing satisfaction, f. *πλήρης* full, satisfied + *-φόρος* bearing; cf. *πληροφορεῖν* to bring full measure, satisfy fully.] Full assurance or certainty. (Common in 17th c. in theological use.)

1605 A. Wotton *Answ. Pop. Articles* 90 Not one of many thousands attaines to that plerophorie or full perswasion. 1647 Trapp *Comm.* 1 *Tim.* iii. 13 The peace of a good conscience, and the plerophory of faith. 1745 Wesley *Answ. Ch.* 22 The other is, such a Plerophory or full Assurance that I am forgiven, and so clear a Perception, that Christ abideth in me; as utterly excludes all Doubt and Fear. 1893 F. Hall in *Nation* (N. Y.) 13 Apr. 275/2 To forbear, in some measure, that plerophory of cocksureness with which he habitually dogmatizes.

Plerotic (plĭrə·tik), *a. Med. rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *πληρωτικ-ός* filling up (Dioscorides), f. *πληροῦν* to fill.] Having the property of supplying or restoring lost flesh or tissue.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Plerosis*, old term for repletion and refection,.. used by Hippocrates...*Pleroticus*, applied to medicines...of or belonging to *Plerosis*: plerotic.

Ples, plese, Plesance, -aunce, Plesant, -aunt, Pleser(e, etc. obs. ff. Please, Pleasance, Pleasant, Pleasure.

Plesh, obs. or dial. f. Plash, Pleach.

Plesiaster (plīsi,æ·stəɹ). *Zool.* [f. Plesio- + Aster.] In sponges, A form of spicule with a very short straight axis: see quot.

1888 Sollas in *Challenger Rep.* XXV. p. lxiii, The plesiasters are always much larger when fully grown than the metasters,..and the metasters are larger than the spirasters; the three forms present a perfect gradational series.

Plesier, obs. form of Pleasure.

Plesio-, comb. form from Gr. *πλησί-ος* near, used in scientific terminology.

Plesiomorphous (plīːsiɒmɔ̄·ɹfəs), *a. Cryst.* [f. Plesio- + Gr. *μορφή* form + -ous.] Very near in form; crystallizing in forms closely resembling but not identical with each other. So **Plesiomo·rphic** *a.* in same sense; **Plesiomo·rphism,** the fact or condition of being plesiomorphous.

1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sc.* III. 222 It has since been proposed to call such groups plesiomorphous. 1845 *N. Brit. Rev.* II. 314 The term plesiomorphous (nearly of the same shape) is generally substituted. *Ibid.*, Plesiomorphism serves to remove the difficulties. 1850 Daubeny *Atom. The.* vi. (ed. 2) 175 It has been proposed to employ the term *plesiomorphism*, where the resemblance between two bodies in external form is not regarded as complete. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Plesiomorphic*, same as *plesiomorphous*.

‖ **Plesiosaurus** (plīːsiosɔ̄·ɹŭs). *Palæont.* Pl. **-i.** [mod.L. generic name (Conybeare 1821) f. Plesio- + Gr. *σαῦρος* lizard: see quot. 1825.] A genus of extinct marine reptiles, having a long neck, a small head, a short tail, and four large paddles; from the Lias and neighbouring formations.

1825 W. D. Conybeare in *Philos. Mag.* LXV. 420 The name I have originally [in 1821] given to this animal, *Plesiosaurus* (approximate to the Saurians), may appear rather vague in this state of our knowledge. 1833 Sir C. Bell *Hand* (1834) 113 The ichthyosaurus and plesiosaurus .. inhabited the sea; their remains are found low in the lias deposit. 1854 F. C. Bakewell *Geol.* 49 Some of the plesiosauri must have been 20 feet long.

fig. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 137 Fortunately Scotland was not yet annexed, or the poem [Polyolbion] would have been even longer, and already it is the plesiosaurus of verse.

Hence **Plesiosaur** (plīːsiosɔ̄ːɹ), a reptile of the extinct genus *Plesiosaurus* or order *Plesiosauria*; **Plesiosau·rian** *a.*, belonging to the order *Plesiosauria*; *sb.* a reptile of this order; **Plesiosau·roid** *a.*, resembling or allied to the *Plesiosaurus* (in quot., characteristic of the *Plesiosaurus*).

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 148/2 The ichthyosaur, or fish-lizard, and its ally the *plesiosaur. 1860 Owen *Palæont.* 223 Cuvier deemed the structure of the Plesiosaur .. to have been the most singular, and its characters the most anomalous that had been discovered amid the ruins of a former world. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Plesiosaurius*, ..*plesiosaurian. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 103 The skeleton of the Lariosaur, a small plesiosaurian. 1860 Owen *Palæont.* 229 The slight indication of the sacral vertebræ; the non-confluence of the caudal hæmapophyses with each other, are all '*plesiosauroid'.

Plesir(e, -our(e, -owre, etc., obs. ff. Pleasure.

Plessigraph (ple·sigɹaf). *Med.* [ad. F. *plessigraphe*, f. Gr. *πλήσσειν* to strike: see -graph.] (See quot. 1895.)

1870 Gee *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. iv. 63 *note*, There is a description of sundry 'plessigraphs' which have been contrived of late. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plessigraph*, a special form of Plexímeter, invented by Peter, a colleague of Trousseau, designed to reduce the percussed surface to a minimum so that the user may be able to map out more exactly the limits of any organ or dull area.

Plessimeter (plesi·mĭtəɹ). [ad. F. *plessimètre*.] = Pleximeter. So **Plessime·tric** *a.* = Pleximetric; **Plessi·metry** = Pleximetry; **Plessor** = Plexor.

1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med. Sc.*, *Plesser*, Plexor. *Plessimeter*, Pleximeter. 1858 Mayne *Exp. Lex. Plessimeter*,.. an instrument .. used to receive the strokes of the *plesser* in percussion. 1861 T. J. Graham *Pract. Med.* 161 The best plessimeter will be found to be the first, or first and second, fingers of the left hand. 1870 Gee *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. iv. 62 From time to time divers plessors have been contrived. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Plessimeter*, *Plessimetry*. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 981 In some cases I have found on plessimetric percussion that the right border of dulness does not meet the line which indicates the upper border of the liver at a right angle.

Plessiur, -or, -our, plesyr(e, etc., obs. ff. Pleasure.

Plet, *sb.*[1] Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Collateral form of Plait *sb.*, going with Plet *v.*] = Plait *sb.*

c 1450 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. lxvi. (Bodl. MS.), De plettes of wommanes heere bene ykutte and ybounde with laces. 1595 Duncan *App. Etymol.* (E. D. S.), *Lacinia*, a plet, or rag. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 16 Fold-hankes or hankinges..which is as thicke againe as plough-string, being a loose kinde of two plettes. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pletts*, folds or gathers of linen. *Ibid.*, *Plet*, work performed by platting.

‖ **Plet** (plet), *sb.*[2] Also **plete, plitt.** [a. Russ. плеть *plet'*, scourge, whip.] A three-thonged whip loaded with lead, used for flogging in Russia.

1864 Webster, *Plitt*, an instrument of punishment or torture resembling the knout, used in Russia. 1870 'W. M. Cooper' *Flagellation & Flagellants* xxvi. 259 The plêt is a whip made of strips of raw hide, and having three lashes tipped with small leaden balls. 1885 A. Griffiths in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 762/2 There is another flagellator,.. called the *plete*, a whip of twisted hide,..retained at a few of the most distant Siberian prisons.

Plet, *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* *Pa. t.* **plet(t, plat;** *pa. pple.* **plet(t;** also **pletted.** [Collateral form of Plait *v.*, going with Plet *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To intertwine (strands) so as to form one combined texture; = Plait *v.* 2; also to form (a garland, band, or the like) by this process; = Plait *v.* 2 d. Also in *mod. dial.* to cross (the legs); = Plait *v.* 3.

c 1450 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. lxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Wymmenes heere is..ipletted [*W. de W.* 1495 pleted] and ybounde with laces. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4619 A corovne of sharpest thornes mayde thyne Enemys plettyng. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Preach. Swallow*) xlii, The feind plettis his nettis scharpe and rude. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. ii. 64 The wyld wolf..Abowt the bowght, plet all of wandis tyght, Bayis and gyrnis. *a* 1600 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* xix. 5 A garland properly sho plets, To set vpon hir heid. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* XIV. lxviii, Of woodbines, lillies, and of roses sweete,..All pletted fast, well knit, and ioyned meete. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, For thee I plet the flow'ry belt and snood. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plet*, to plat. 1839 J. M. Wilson *Tales of Borders* V. 251/2 He plets his legs, and passes his hand along his leg. 1903 In E.D.D. from Shetland to North Lincolnsh.

† **2.** To fold; to fold in one's arms. *Obs.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. xxvii. 3258 Wyth blyth chere thare he hym plet In [his] armis so thankfully. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XIII. xi. 4 Bayth hir armys abowt hys feit [scho] plet, Enbrasyng thame and kyssand reuerently. 1536 Bellenden *Cosmogr.* xi, Thir salmond..spawnis, with thair wamis plet to uthir. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxviii. 8 Quhen þat I went with þat sweit may,..And oft tymes in my armis plet hir.

† **3.** To bind, tie up, make fast. *Obs.*

1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* IV. 364 To se his handis into ane cord thus plet. 1585 James VI *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 37, I had farr rather Babell tower forthsett, Then the thre Grecian hilles on others plett.

4. *mod. dial.* To fold, to wrinkle.

1861 Quinn *Heather* (1863) 123 Care in wan wrinkles deeply plettin' Nell's bonnie face.

Hence **Plet** *ppl. a.*, plaited, intertwined.

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 231 Vj elne braid ribanes to be ane plet suord belt to the King. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 15 Throw pykis of the plet thorne I presandlie luikit.

Plet, obs. f. Plate. **Plete,** early var. Plea *sb.*, secondary form of Plead *v.*, obs. f. Pleat.

Plether: see Plethron.

Plethora (ple·þŏră, plĭþō·rră). Also (after F.), **6 pletore, 7 plethor.** See Plethory. [a. med.L. *plēthōra*, a. Gr. *πληθώρη* fullness, repletion, f. *πλήθειν* to become full. In F. *pléthore* (16th c.). Bailey 1731 has the etymological pronunciation *pléthō·ra*; ed. 1742 and J. 1755 have *ple·thora*.

Plethora and *Plethory* were app. sometimes viewed as derived from L. *plētus* filled, *plētūra* repletion, plethora.]

1. *Path.* A morbid condition, characterized, according to the older writers, by over-fullness of blood or of any other humour (or of juices in a plant); according to later writers, by an excess of red corpuscles in the blood.

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* Civ, The superhaboundaunce of humours .. that the Grekes cal Plethora. *Ibid.* Giv, Of cacomye y^t is coniunct w^t the vlcere, or of Pletore, or of phlegmon. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* I. xliv. 99 The Antecedent Cause of Diseases is twofold, the one is called a Plethor or Plenitude. 1673 Grew *Anat. Roots* II. § 16 Lest the Barque, being spongy, should suck it up too fast, and so the Root should be, as it were, surcharged by a Plethora. 1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii, Your character at present is like a person in a plethora, absolutely dying from too much health. 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 317 When they [red corpuscles] are present in an amount much above the average, they seem concerned in producing the condition termed Plethora .. which borders upon various diseases. 1877 Roberts *Handbk. Med.* I. 17 The redness and turgidity of plethora.

2. *fig.* Over-fullness in any respect, superabundance; any unhealthy repletion or excess.

[1597 Howson *Serm.* 24 Dec. 44 That *πληθώρα*, fulnes of blood in our Bishopricks. *a* 1640 Jackson *Creed* XI. xxxiv. § 4 We are all subject to that *πληθώρα* whereof the Lord so often forewarned Israel.] 1700 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Deut.* xxxii. 15 This was the lamentable effect of their plethora or fullness. 1835 Marryat *Olla Podr.* xvii, We are..suffering under a plethora of capital. 1868 Farrar *Seekers* I. ii. (1875) 27 A plethora of words.

† **Plethore·tic,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. prec., after *theoretic*, etc.] = Plethoric. So **Plethore·tical.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Plethoretick*: whence in JOHNSON. WEBSTER 1864, etc. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Plethoretic, Plethoretical.* 1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* etc.

Plethoric (pliˈθo·rik, pleˈθŏrik), *a.* [ad. med. L. *plēt(h)ōricus* (Du Cange), a. Gr. πληθωρικός (Galen), f. πληθώρη PLETHORA. Prob. immed. from F. *pléthorique* (Paré *c* 1550), whence the stressing *pleˈthoric*: cf. *caˈtholic*.]

1. *Path.* Characterized by plethora, of a full habit of body.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 172 Such as haue plethoricke and full bodies. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 144 The nation found, with fruitless skill, Its former strength was but plethoric ill. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 51 A young man, .. of a plethoric habit. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 131 Cattle are very subject to sudden determination of blood to the head. They are naturally plethoric.

† b. *absol.* as *sb.* A plethoric person. *Obs.*

1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 191 If the Pulse be too full, as in Plethorics, we must use some general Evacuations.

2. *fig.* Full to excess, overstocked, overloaded; swollen, inflated, turgid.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 114 This happens to some by reason of a certain Plethorique wit. 1800 *Hist. India* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 3/2 That plethoric opulence with which the merchants of Alexandria sunk into idleness. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. Introd., The pockets, plethoric with marbles round, That still a space for ball and pegtop found. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 126 Plethoric volumes which slumber in decorous old libraries.

† **Pletho·rical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. 1.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Plethoricall plight*, ..that state of the body, which being full of bloud and other humours, needeth evacuation. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur. II.* viii. 99. 1676 T. GARENCIERES *Coral* 74 Unless the body be extraordinarily plethorical.

Pletho·rically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In the manner of a plethoric person; with plethora.

1800 LAMB *Lett., to Wordsw.* (1837) I. v. 170, I am not plethorically abounding in cash at this present. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Revol.* I. II. i, When such Institution plethorically says to itself, Take thy ease, thou hast goods laid up. 1871 LE FANU *Tenants of Malory* iv. 15 They have .. grown plethorically robust.

Plethory (pleˈθŏri), *sb.* (*a.*) Now *rare.* Also 7 pletory. [irreg. from PLETHORA; or perh. deduced from *plethoric*, on analogy of *historic, history, allegoric, allegory*, etc.]

1. = PLETHORA 1.

1625 BP. HALL *Thanksgiving* 29 Jan. 47 Hee saw that in this common Plethorie it was fit for vs to bleed. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. f. Year* I. v. 59 The appetite..ready to burst with putrifaction and an unwholsome plethory. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 102. 2/1 A Plethory or fulness of Blood. 1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* II. iii. 206 Less sap is exhaled..and the tree attains a state of plethory.

2. *fig.* = PLETHORA 2.

1624 BP. HALL *Heaven upon Earth* xiii, Perhaps thou labourest of some plethorie of pride. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. x. 228 A Plethory or excess of Numbers of Men, sometimes .. cause Wars. 1778 JOHNSON 9 Apr. in *Boswell*, It is..owing to a plethory of matter that his style is so faulty. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 522 The king [Louis XVI] whose plethory was cured by that sharp remedy.

† B. *adj.* = PLETHORIC *a. Obs. rare.*

a 1643 J. SHUTE *Judgem. & Mercy* (1645) 29 To have a pletory fulnesse of Crude, and raw humours in his Stomach.

Hence † **Ple·thoriness.** *rare*⁻¹.

1665 J. FRASER *Polichronicon* (S. H. S.) 345 His plethoriness came to such a hight that from spitting it flowed to vomiting of blood.

‖ **Plethron** (pleˈθrŏn). Pl. -a. Also (after F.), 7 plether. [a. Gr. πλέθρον. In F. *plèthre.*] An ancient Greek measure of length, containing a hundred Greek, or about 101 English feet; also a square measure, the side of which is a linear plethron, in extent slightly below an imperial rood.

1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* p. iii, The necke of land, that ioyneth to the Continent, is at least foure plethers in bredth. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plethron.* 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 711/2 A square of four plethra, or 400 feet, on each side. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 2215 Nobody now can say 'this plot is mine, Though but a plethron square'.

Plethysmograph (pliˈθi·zmŏgraf). *Physiol.* [f. Gr. πληθυσμός enlargement (f. πληθύνειν to increase, f. πληθύς fullness) + -GRAPH, after It. *pletismografo.*] An instrument, invented by Mosso of Turin *c* 1870, for recording and measuring the variation in the volume of a part of the body, esp. as due to the changes in the circulation of the blood produced by emotion, etc.

It consists of a closed vessel surrounding the part of the body, filled with water, and connected with a graduated tube.

1872 *Sci. Amer.* July 403/1 By using two plethysmographs, Dr Mosso has obtained pen traces representing..valuable physiological data leading to the demonstration of the most important phenomena of the blood vessels. 1882 HARDAKER in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XX. 578 The plethismograph..measures the amount of blood sent to the brain in any particular process of thought, and records the exact time for each process. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 343.

Hence **Plethy·smogra·phic** *a.*, belonging to, or obtained by, the plethysmograph. **Plethysmo·graphy,** the use of the plethysmograph.

1886 *Medical News* XLIX. 276 In experiments made with the plethysmographic method .. it was found that.. a constriction..may be produced by an electric stimulation of the sciatic nerve. 1890 WEBSTER, *Plethysmography.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 745 Plethysmographic observations on the cutaneous circulation.

Pleting, Pletour, ME. ff. PLEADING, PLEADER.

Plette, obs. pa. t. of PLAT *v.*¹

† **Ple·tter,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. Du. *pletteren* to bruise, crush (Kilian), f. stem *platt* blow (Franck).] *trans.* To bruise, crush.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* ('truelye translated out of Dutch into Englishe') 2/1 The vaynes, the arteryes, or the sinneus themselves, come to be squised and plettered. *Ibid.* 2 b/1 Those woundes which come by crushinge or pletteringe are farre worse then those which are onlye hewede. *Ibid.* 13/1 The sownde bone which is next vnto the plettered bone.

Pleu, pleuch-e, pleugh, Sc. ff. PLOUGH.

‖ **Pleura** (plūˈe·rä). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. -æ. [med.L., a. Gr. πλευρά side of the body, rib.]

1. One of the two serous membranes, right and left, which line the thorax and envelop the lungs in mammals; each is reflected on itself so as to form a closed sac, one side or layer of which (*pulmonary pleura*) invests the lung, while the other (*costal* or *parietal pleura*) is attached to the inner wall of the chest.

Sometimes applied to the upper part of the common membranous lining of the thorax and abdomen in vertebrates below mammals (*peritoneum* or *pleuroperitoneum*).

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 40 The Heart in this Animal [lamprey] is..cemented and glewed as it were on all sides to the Pleura, or innermost skin of the Thorax. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. 96 The Vibrations excited in the Pleura and Peritonaeum. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 454 Malignant disease of the lungs and pleuræ.

2. In invertebrates: a. Name for a part of the body-wall on each side in arthropods; in insects, the part to which the lower wings are attached. (Cf. PLEURON.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 380 (The Pleuræ). The space behind the scapulars, on which the lower organs of flight are fixed. *Ibid.* 574 *Pleura.* By this name I would distinguish the part which laterally connects the metathorax and postpectus. It includes in it the socket of the secondary wings.

b. In molluscs, The region on each side of the rachis of the lingual ribbon of the odontophore.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 28 The teeth on the pleuræ are termed *uncini*; they are extremely numerous in the plant-eating gasteropods. 1866 TATE *Brit. Mollusks* iii. 50 The lateral areas are called the pleuræ. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 163 The pleuræ are in one piece with the axis, but are separated from it by a more or less pronounced groove, the 'axal furrow'.

Pleura, plural of PLEURON, PLEURUM.

Pleuracanth (plūˈrăkænþ). *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Pleuracanthus*, f. Gr. πλευρά side + ἄκανθα spine, thorn.] A fish of the extinct genus *Pleuracanthus* or family *Pleuracanthidæ*, characterized by having a row of sharp hooks or spines along each side. Also *attrib.* So **Pleuraca·nthid,** a fish of the family *Pleuracanthidæ*; **Pleuraca·nthoid** *a.*, resembling or belonging to the family *Pleuracanthidæ*; *sb.* = *pleuracanthid.*

1900 *Nature* 20 Sept. 505/1 Assuming that the Pleuracanth form originated from one..of simple parallel rods.

Pleural (plūˈe·răl), *a.*¹ [f. PLEURA + -AL; so F. *pleural.*] Of or pertaining to the pleura.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 242 The accumulated fluid in the pleural cavity. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 498 The exudation in the pleural sac. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 47 Pleural inflammation..affecting the base of the left lung.

Pleu·ral, *a.*² [f. PLEURON + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the pleuron or side of the body, or (in arthropods) of a somite; costal; lateral.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 Now broaden out the prora on the eggshell into oval lobes (*proral pteres*); and from each pole draw a lobe midway between the prora and the tropis (*pleural pteres*). 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 491 The somite..may..consist of a dorsal plate, the tergum, and a ventral plate, the sternum, connected laterally by a soft pleural membrane.

‖ **Pleuralgia** (plūræˈldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. πλευρά side + -αλγία, f. ἄλγος pain.] Pain in the side; pleurodynia. Hence **Pleura·lgic** *a.*, pertaining to or affected with pleuralgia.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 679 That acute pain which is often complained of in the head or the side: in the latter case sometimes amounting to pleuralgia.

‖ **Pleurapophysis** (plūe·răpŏˈfisis). *Comp. Anat.* Pl. **-yses** (-isīz). [mod.L., f. Gr. πλευρά side + APOPHYSIS.] Owen's term for each of the lateral processes of a typical vertebra, forming part of the hæmal arch (cf. HÆMAPOPHYSIS); represented in the thoracic region, and sometimes in other parts of the trunk, by the ribs.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 168 The hæmal arch is formed by a pair of bones called 'pleurapophyses'. 1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 657 At the sides of the centrum, .. a canal is circumscribed by the pleurapophysis, or costal process.

Hence **Pleurapophysial** (plūe·răpofiˈziăl) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a pleurapophysis.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 203 This intermediate pleurapophysial appendage is called the 'ilium'. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 8 This..indicates a serial correspondence with the skeletal formations in the sternal rather than with those in the vertebral ('pleurapophysial') region of the visceral wall.

Pleuratic, -etic: see PLEURITIC.

Pleurecbolic (plūe·rekbŏˈlik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. πλευρά side + ἔκβολ-os cast out, put out, f. ἐκβάλλειν to cast out + -IC.] Capable of being protruded by eversion of the sides, as the tentacles of some molluscs and worms. So **Pleurembo·lic** *a.* [Gr. ἔμβολ-os thrown in, f. ἐμβάλλειν to throw in, insert], capable, when protruded, of being retracted by inversion of the sides.

1883 LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 652/1 If we start from the condition of full eversion of the tube and watch the process of introversion, we shall find that the pleurecbolic variety is introverted by the apex of the tube sinking inwards. *Ibid.* 652/2 The Gastropod's introvert is pleurembolic (and therefore acrecbolic).

‖ **Pleurenchyma** (plureˈŋkimă). *Bot.* Also in anglicized form **pleure·nchym.** [mod.L., f. Gr. πλευρόν rib, πλευρά side + ἔγχυμα infusion, after *parenchyma*, etc.] 'The woody tissue, consisting of tough slender tubes, out of which the woody parts are mainly formed' (*Treas. Bot.*). Hence **Pleurenchymatous** (-eŋkiˈmătəs) *a.*, of the nature of pleurenchyma.

1842 WILLSHIRE in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* IX. 85 The long pleurenchymatous cells surrounding the first-formed vascular bundles are carried along with the latter to the centre of the plant. 1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) II. 173 Pleurenchym is apparently destined for the conveyance of fluid upwards or downwards,..and for giving firmness and elasticity to every part. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 85/2 Under the term *pleurenchyma* is included tissue composed of such elongated prosenchymatous, flexible, thickened cells, as are found in the bast or phloëm layers of ordinary trees.

Pleuric (plūˈe·rik), *a. rare.* [f. PLEURA + -IC; cf. late L. *pleuricus* at the side, lateral (Front.), Gr. πλευρικός of or for the ribs (Schol. Ar.).] = PLEURAL *a.*¹

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pleuricus*, of or belonging to the *pleura*: pleuric. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 July 5/3 To prevent the pleuric liquid..from remaining in the thorax.

Pleurisy (plūˈe·rĭsi). Forms: 5 **pluresy, (pleresye),** 6 **pluresye, -sie, pleuritie, plewrisie, -osy, plurice,** 6–7 **plurisie, pleuresie,** 6–8 **-isie,** 7 **-esy, plurasie,** 7–8 **-isy;** 6– **pleurisy.** Also *β.* 6 in L. forms *pl(e)uresis, plurisis.* [a. OF. *pleurisie* (13th c.), *-esie* (mod.F. *pleurésie*), f. late L. *pleurisis* (Prudent. *c* 400), mod.L. *pleuresis*, substituted for *pleurītis*, a. Gr. πλευρῖτις pleurisy: see PLEURITIS. Sense 2, and the forms in *plu-*, are partly due to a supposed derivation from L. *plūs, plūr-* more (cf. med.L. *plūritās* multitude), as if pleurisy were due to an excess of humours.]

1. *Path.* Inflammation of the pleura, with or without effusion of fluid (serum, pus, blood, etc.) into the pleural cavity; a disease characterized by pain in the chest or side, with fever, loss of appetite, etc.; usually caused by chill, or occurring as a complication of other diseases (scarlatina, rheumatic fever, phthisis, etc.). Formerly often with *a* and *pl.*

Dry pleurisy, (formerly) pleurisy without expectoration; (now) pleurisy without effusion. So *humid* or *moist pleurisy.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxi. (Bodl. MS.), Sommetyme aposteme is ibrad þerein as it fareþ in peresye and is ybrad and comeþ of aposteme þat is þe tendrenes of þe ribbes wiþin. *Ibid.* VII. xi. (1495) 231 Pluresy is a postume on the rybbes wythin. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1256/2 And they yt lye in a plewrosy, thinke that euery time they cough, they fele a sharpe sweorde swap them to the heart. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* ccIXXXV. 94 A plurice the which is an impostume in the cenerite of the bones. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 52 The seede drunke, is good against the pleuritie. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 370 The disease whereof he died, which was a Pleurisie. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 194 Apples .. are good against melancholy and the pleuresie. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4513/1 Many have died during the Severity of this Winter of Plurisies. 1862 H. W. FULLER *Dis. Lungs* 171 Pleurisy..is one of the commonest diseases.

β. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* D ij b, Good for the sekenes named pleuresis. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 82 His chamberlain affirmeth that he [Hen. V] died of a Plurisis. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 938 He sickened of a disease, called Pluresis.

2. *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*; formerly almost always in sense 'superabundance, excess' (due to a mistaken etymology: see above).

a 1550 *Vox Populi* 655 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 290 Suppresse this shamfull vsurye, Comonlye called husbondrye: For yf there be no remeadye,..Yt wyll breade to a pluresye. 1597 HOWSON *Serm.* 44 For feare of a Pleurisie by impropriations, customes and compositions. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 118 For goodness, growing to a plurisy, Dies in his own too much. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xiii. 101 Long since had this land been sick of a plurisie of people, if not let blood in their Western Plantations.

3. *attrib.* **Pleurisy-root,** name for *Asclepias tuberosa*, also called Butterfly-weed, the root of which is a popular remedy for pleurisy.

1831 J. DAVIES *Man. Mat. Med.* 238 Pleurisy-root. Flux-root, &c...A perennial plant, growing all over the United States of America, in gravelly and hilly grounds.

Pleurite (plūˈe·rəit). *Zool.* [f. Gr. πλευρά side + -ITE 1 3.] The side or lateral portion of

each somite or segment of the body in arthropods. (Correlated with *tergite* and *sternite*.)

1868 PACKARD *Guide Study Insects* 9 The typical ring or segment..consists of an upper (tergite), a side (pleurite), and an under piece (sternite). 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pleuritic (pluri·tik), *a.*[1] (*sb.*) Forms: 6 **pleureticke, -itique**, 7 **-etick**, 8–9 **-etic**, (*erron.* 7 **pluratick**, 8 **pleuratic**), 7–8 **pleuritick**, 8– **pleuritic**. [a. F. *pleurétique* (OF. *pleuretic*, 13th c.), or ad. L. *pleuriticus* (Plin.), later *pleureticus*, a. Gr. πλευριτικός, f. πλευρῖτις PLEURITIS.]

1. Affected with or suffering from pleurisy.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 121/36 Pléureticke, *pleureticus*. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* Pref. 2 Some Pleuritique, Hydropique, some with Ptisique. 1628 A. LEIGHTON in *Camden Misc.* VII. p. ix, They are like pleuretick patients that cannot spit. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 78 Having known some pleuritic persons cured without bleeding. 1845 G. E. DAY *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 266 The buffy coat is particularly characteristic, and seldom absent in pleuritic blood.

2. Of or pertaining to pleurisy; characteristic or symptomatic of pleurisy.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. xliii, By opening Veins Death 's sluc'd out, and pleuretick Pains. 1689 MOYLE *Sea Chyrurg.* III. vi. 108 These carry away a great deal of wind and Pluratick matter. 1732–3 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1862) 402 She is confined to her bed with a pleuratic disorder. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xvii. 197 Fixed pains of a pleuritic character. 1883–4 *Med. Ann.* 47/1 Almost immediately the pleuritic effusion disappeared.

b. Characterized by or liable to cause pleurisy.

1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* III. 490 The pleuritic spring Glides harmless by.

B. *sb.* A person affected with pleurisy. *rare.*

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxx. (Bodl. MS.), Pleuretici þat haue aposteme vponne the ribbes inward.] 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 45 The pleuretic lying on his left side does not expect pleasure by turning to the other; he has no more in view than a diminution of pain.

Pleuri·tic, *a.*[2] *Zool.* [f. PLEURITE + -IC.] Pertaining to a pleurite; lateral: = PLEURAL *a.*[2]

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Pleuri·tical,** *a. Obs.* [See -ICAL.] = PLEURITIC *a.*[1] Hence † **Pleuri·tically** *adv.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 247 By which way also the matter or pus of pleuriticall and Peripneumonicall, or Empyicall patients descendeth. *a* 1625 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. xi, One is sicke..of the pleuriticale stitches of envie. 1733 DOVAR in *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* (1897) III. 20 The blood does not appear more pleuritical or sizey in any distemper than this. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 99 A Physician..when he came found her Pleuritically affected.

‖ **Pleuritis** (plurəi·tis). *Path.* [L. *pleurītis* (Vitr.) a. Gr. πλευρῖτις (Hipp.), f. πλευρά side, rib; see -ITIS.] Inflammation of the pleura; more usually called PLEURISY.

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pleuritis*, a Pleurisie, an Inflammation of the Membrane Pleura, and the intercostal Muscles. 1745 W. THOMPSON *Sickness* ii, Pleuritis bending o'er its side in pain. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 505 Pleuritis. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* I. iii. 97 The Leicester sheep were so rapidly destroyed by pleuritis.

Pleuro. Colloquial abbreviation of PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.

1890 *Daily News* 16 Oct. 2/7 Pleuro has broken out afresh in Cheshire on the farms..near Winsford. 1902 H. LAWSON *Children of Bush* 244 Jack started coughing again, like an old cow with the pleuro.

Pleuro- (plūərо), before a vowel **pleur-**, combining form of Gr. πλευρά side, PLEURA, πλευρόν rib; used in various scientific terms, chiefly in the senses of 'side' and 'pleura', occasionally in that of 'rib'. (See the more important of these in their alphabetical places.)

Pleuroblastic (-blæ·stik) *a. Bot.* [Gr. βλαστός germ], see quot. ‖ **Pleurobranchia** (-bræ·ŋkiă), also anglicized as **pleu·robranch** (-bræŋk), *Zool.*, a pleural branchia or gill, i. e. one attached to the epimeron of a thoracic somite, in Crustacea. **Pleurobra·nchial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a pleurobranchia. **Pleurobra·nchiate** *a.*, having pleurobranchiæ, as a crustacean; having gills along the sides, as a gastropod mollusc of the order *Pleurobranchiata*. **Pleuro-bronchi·tis,** *Path.*, inflammation of the pleura and bronchi; pleurisy with bronchitis. **Pleu·rocele** (-sīl), *Path.* [Gr. κήλη tumour], hernia of the pleura. ‖ **Pleuroce·ntrum** (pl. -a), *Anat.*, each lateral half of the centrum of a vertebra, a hemicentrum; hence **Pleuroce·ntral** *a.*, pertaining to a pleurocentrum. **Pleuroce·rebral** *a.*, connecting a pleural with a cerebral ganglion: applied to a nerve-cord in certain invertebrates. **Pleu·rocœle** (-sīl), *Zool.* [Gr. κοίλος hollow], each lateral chamber of the hinder part of the visceral cavity in a brachiopod. **Pleurocolic** (-kɒ·lik) *a. Anat.*, having relation to the ribs and the colon: applied to a ligament or fold of the peritoneum(= COSTOCOLIC). **Pleu·roconch** (-kɒŋk), *Zool.*, a lamellibranchiate mollusc of the division *Pleuroconcha*, characterized by inequivalve shells. **Pleurodiran** (-dəi·răn), *Zool.* [Gr. δειρή neck], *a.* applied to those tortoises which bend the neck sideways in the shell (opp. to *cryptodirous*); *sb.* a pleurodiran tortoise. **Pleurodi·rous** *a.* = prec. adj. **Pleurodi·scous** *a. Bot.*, 'growing on the sides of the disk' (*Treas. Bot.*, 1866). **Pleurogenic** (-dʒe·nik), **Pleurogenous** (-ɒ·dʒĭnəs) *adjs.*, *Path.* [see -GEN, -IC, -OUS], originating in the pleura. **Pleurogynous** (-ɒ·dʒinəs) *a. Bot.* [see -GYNOUS], applied to stamens or petals when inserted on the sides of the ovary. **Pleurogyrate** (-dʒəi·rĕt) *a. Bot.* [see GYRATE] (see quot.). **Pleurohepatitis** (-hepătəi·tis) [see HEPATITIS], inflammation involving the pleura and the liver (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890). **Pleuropathy,** *Path.* [Gr. -πάθεια, πάθος suffering], disease of the pleura (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). **Pleurope·dal** *a. Zool.* [see PEDAL *a.*], applied to a nerve-cord connecting a pleural with a pedal ganglion, in molluscs (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Pleu·ro-perica·rdial** *a.*, belonging to the pleura and the pericardium: applied to a friction-sound heard in auscultation in cases of pleurisy. **Pleu·ro-pericardi·tis,** *Path.*, inflammation involving the pleura and pericardium. **Pleuroperipneu·mony,** ‖ **-peripneumo·nia** (now *rare* or *Obs.*) [see PERIPNEUMONY] = PLEURO-PNEUMONIA. **Pleuro-pu·lmonary** *a.* [see PULMONARY], pertaining to the pleura and the lungs. **Pleurorhizal** (-rəi·zăl) *a. Bot.* [Gr. ῥίζα root], having the radicle placed laterally against the cotyledons (i. e. having the cotyledons accumbent), as in the embryo of some crucifers; so **Pleurorhi·zeous** *a.*, belonging to the tribe *Pleurorhizeæ* (De Candolle) of *Cruciferæ*, characterized by this arrangement in the embryo; **Pleurorhi·zous** *a.* = *pleurorhizal.* ‖ **Pleurorhœa** (-rī·ă) *Path.* [Gr. ῥοία flow], effusion of fluid into the cavity of the pleura (Dunglison 1853). **Pleu·rospondy·lian** *a. Zool.* [Gr. σπόνδυλος, σφόνδυλος vertebra], having the ribs rigidly fixed to the vertebræ, as the group *Pleurospondylia* of Reptiles, comprising the turtles and tortoises; of or belonging to this group. **Pleu·rospasm** *Path.*, cramp in the side (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890). ‖ **Pleuro·steon** (pl. -ea) *Zool.* [Gr. ὀστέον bone], a lateral part on each side of the sternum in birds (in young birds forming a separate bone), to which the ribs are attached; hence **Pleuro·steal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a pleurosteon. **Pleuro·tomy,** *Surg.* [Gr. τομή a cutting], 'incision into the pleura' (Billings 1890). ‖ **Pleuro·tonus,** *Path.* [Gr. τόνος stretching, tension] = PLEUROTHOTONOS; hence **Pleuroto·nic** *a.* **Pleu·rotribe** *a. Bot.* [Gr. τρίβειν to rub], applied to flowers having stamens and styles so placed as to rub against the sides of insects that frequent them, thus ensuring cross-fertilization; so **Pleurotri·bal** *a.* in same sense. **Pleuro-ty·phoid** *a. Path.*, typhoid (fever) accompanied with pleurisy. **Pleurovisceral** (-vi·sĕrăl) *a. Zool.*, of a nerve-cord or loop: connecting a pleural and a visceral ganglion in certain invertebrates.

1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 498/1 In Peronosporeæ: forms producing vesicular lateral outgrowths serving as haustoria are *pleuroblastic. 1892 THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* xiii. 240 There remain three **pleurobranchs*, one on the epimeron of the fifth large limb, and two quite rudimentary on the two preceding segments. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* ii. 79 From this mode of attachment [to the sides of the thorax, above the joint] it is distinguished from the other [branchiæ] as a *pleurobranchia. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 25, I have long been in the habit of using the name '*pleuro-bronchitis' to suggest something more than an accidental coincidence. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pleurocele*, hernia of the pleura. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæontology* II. 1031 According to Dr. Fritsch's restoration..., the *pleurocentra belonging to this vertebra would be on the anterior side. 1885 DAVIDSON in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. *Zool.* 210, I propose to give the name *pleurocœles to these spaces [in *Lingula*] simply from their position as side chambers. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Pleurocolic ligament*, phrenocolic ligament. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 500 Of the integripallial Mesozoic species, one half were *Pleuroconchs (species having unequal valves). 1887 *Athenæum* 9 July 58/3 A *pleurodiran chelonian of terrestrial and herbivorous habits. 1901 *Ibid.* 16 Mar. 343/3 In late Secondary and early Tertiary times the Pleurodiran chelonians were almost cosmopolitan. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pleurogenic.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pleurogenic*, the same as **Pleurogenous.* 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 175 Cases of interstitial pneumonia secondary to chronic pleurisy (pleurogenous pneumonia). 1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 58 The genus *Nymphæa*, in which the insertion of the petals and stamina is *pleurogynous. *Ibid.* 86 *Pleurogynous (*insertion*); on the body itself of an *ovarium superum*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 905 **Pleurogyrate*, a term employed for those ferns whose spore-case has a ring carried round the sides. 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 595 This sound is called the extra-pericardial ..or *pleuro-pericardial friction sound. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Pleuropericarditis*, pleuritis with pericarditis. 1738 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XL. 434 The distinctive Characteristics of the true Pleurisy and Peripneumony, and .. of the frequent Combination of both, or *Pleuro-Peripneumony. 1782 KIRKLAND in *Med. Commun.* I. 23 *note* 27 A pleuro-peripneumony finished his life. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 64 Setting up a proliferative irritation in the *pleuro-pulmonary connective tissue. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, **Pleurorhizal.* 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pleurorhizeous. 1875 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 720/1 In *Turnix* there are two more centres, mesiad of the *pleurosteæ, these are the *coracostea*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pleurosteon*. .. In young birds this can be seen to be a separate bone, one being on each side of the lophosteon or median bone. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 332 This general *pleurotonic spasm instantly ceases when the electrodes are transferred [from the free nucleus caudatus] to the surface of the optic thalamus. *Ibid.* 524 We have once seen the opisthotonos accompanied by left-sided *pleurotonus. 1901 OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* i. 28 It [i. e. pleurisy] may occur at the outset —*pleuro-typhoid—or slowly during convalescence.

Pleurocarpous (plūərокā·rpəs), *a. Bot.* [mod. f. PLEURO- + Gr. καρπ-ός fruit + -OUS.] Of mosses: Bearing the fructification on the sides of the branches; lateral-fruited. Cf. ACROCARPOUS.

1863 BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* iii. 14 In Pleurocarpous Mosses..true ramification constantly takes place. 1866 — in *Treas. Bot.* 766 The same genus [of mosses] has acrocarpous and pleurocarpous species.

Pleurodont (plūə·rŏdɒnt), *sb.* and *a. Zool.* [f. PLEURO- + Gr. ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] **a.** *sb.* A lizard having teeth fixed to the side of the jawbone. **b.** *adj.* (*a*) Belonging to the *Pleurodontes*, a group of lizards having this character; (*b*) applied to such teeth or their attachment.

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 260/2 The maxillary teeth of the species composing the Pleurodonts have their summit.. more or less trilobated. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 346 In others (Pleurodonts) the teeth are implanted in a groove, the outer border of which projects more than the inner. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 256 We may find a development of a bony alveolar plate on one side.., to which the teeth may become attached by actual bony growth..as in the Iguanian Lizards. Such a form of attachment is termed *pleurodont*.

‖ **Pleurodynia** (plūəro·dinĭă). *Path.* Also † **pleurodyne** (-ɒ·dinī), **pleurodyny** (-ɒ·dini). [mod.L., f. PLEURO- + Gr. -οδυνία in comb. f. ὀδύνη pain; in F. *pleurodynie*.] Pain in the side caused by rheumatism in the muscles of the chest.

1802 HOOPER *Quincy's Med. Dict.*, Pleurodynia. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 187 Account of Diseases in London. .. Pleurodyne. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 505 The last genus of diseases..under the present order, is that which has been usually denominated pleurodyne. 1852 T. THOMPSON *Ann. Influenza* 378 Tightness of chest and pleurodiny are the result. 1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 428 Pleurodynia is often mistaken for pleurisy.

Pleuroid (plūə·roid). *Anat.* [f. PLEURO- + -OID.] Baur's name for either element of the pleural arch of a typical vertebra; a pleurapophysis.

1887 *Amer. Nat.* Oct. 945 The spines connected with the neuroids ought to be called, as before, *neural spines*; those connected with the pleuroids, *pleural spines*.

Pleurolepidal (-le·pidăl), *a. Palæont.* [f. mod.L. *Pleurolepis* (f. Gr. πλευρόν rib + λεπίς scale) + -AL.] Having rows of scales with bony processes like ribs, interlocking with each other, as the fishes of the extinct genus *Pleurolepis* or family *Pleurolepididæ*; consisting of such scales. So **Pleurole·pidid, Pleurole·pidoid** *adjs.*, belonging to the family *Pleurolepididæ*.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 366 Body..covered with rhombic scales arranged in decussating pleurolepidal lines.

‖ **Pleuron** (plūə·rɒn). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. **pleura.** [a. Gr. πλευρόν rib, side.] The lateral part of the body-wall, the side; *spec.* in Arthropoda, the lateral part of each somite or section of the body (in insects, of each thoracic somite).

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pleuron*, a Side or Rib. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 146 A plate which is called the pleuron, or pleura. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iii. 96 Where these two join, a broad plate is sent down on each side, which overlaps the bases of the abdominal appendages and is known as the pleuron.

Pleuronect (plūə·rŏnekt). *Ichthyol.* [ad. mod.L. *Pleuronectēs*, f. Gr. πλευρά side + νήκτης swimmer.] A fish of the genus *Pleuronectes* or family *Pleuronectidæ*; a flat-fish. So **Pleurone·ctid, Pleurone·toid,** *sb.* a fish of the family *Pleuronectidæ*; *a.* belonging to this family.

[1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. III. i. 299 The Pleuronectes or Flat-fish.] 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 849/2 The eyes of the pleuronects are of different sizes. 1894 *Athenæum* 12 May 617/3 The *recessus orbitalis*, an accessory visual organ of the pleuronectid fishes.

Pleuro-peritoneal, -æal (plūə·rɒperitonī·ăl), *a. Anat.* [f. PLEURO- + PERITONEAL, or f. next + -AL.] Of or belonging at once to the pleuræ and the peritoneum, or the pleuro-peritoneum.

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vi. 218 The heart and the roots of the great vessels which proceed from it are..placed within the inner wall of this pleuro-peritoneal cavity. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 165 As this cavity answers to those of the pleuræ and of the peritoneum in the higher animals, it is termed the pleuroperitoneal cavity; and the soft smooth membrane which lines it and covers the contained viscera is the pleuroperitoneal membrane. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 152 A general chronic inflammation with thickening of the whole pleuro-peritoneal cavity.

‖ **Pleu·ro-peritone·um, -æ·um.** *Anat.* [mod.L., f. PLEURO- + PERITONEUM.] The serous membrane lining the body-cavity and enveloping the viscera in vertebrates below mammals: corresponding to the pleuræ and peritoneum in mammals. Also called simply PERITONEUM.

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 201 Note the smooth moist membrane (pleuroperitoneum) lining the inside of the body-cavity and covering the outside of the contained viscera. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 680 The possibility of a development of true carcinoma in connection with the pleuro-peritoneum is at once obvious.

‖ **Pleuro-pneumonia** (plūːroˌnizmōˈniă). *Path.* Also in anglicized form **pleuro-pneumony.** Also **pleuri-.** [mod.L., f. PLEURO- + PNEUMONIA. So F. *pleuropneumonie* (16th c.).] Inflammation involving the pleura and the lung; pneumonia complicated with pleurisy; *esp.* a contagious febrile disease peculiar to horned cattle.

1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 117 By several Authors of good Credit, both these Diseases are express'd by one compound Term, viz. *Pleuripneumonia*, or a Pleuripneumony. 1843 GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxi. 252 A man, after fever, gets an attack of pleuro-pneumonia. 1856 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 442 Pleuro-pneumonia, or lung disease, having broken out in several parts of the county. 1880 *Manch. Guard.* 6 Dec., In the cargoes [of cattle] landed last year very few cases of pleuro-pneumonia were detected.

Hence **Pleuro-pneumonic** (-ˌpˈnik) *a.*, of, pertaining to, or affected with pleuro-pneumonia.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 71 The influence of pleuro-pneumonic fibrosis.

Pleurostict (plūˈroˌstikt), *a. Entom.* [ad. mod.L. *Pleurosticta* neut. pl., f. PLEURO- + Gr. στικτός, vbl. adj. f. στίζειν to prick.] Belonging to the division *Pleurosticta* of scarabæid beetles, characterized by having the abdominal spiracles (except the anterior ones) pleural, or situated on the dorsal part of the abdominal segments.

1882 *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 951 The views of the late Dr. Le Conte of the position of [Pleocoma], which he insisted was a Laparostict, and not a Pleurostict Lamellicorn.

‖ **Pleurothotonos** (plūːrɒˈpɒtŏnɒs), **-us** (-ŏs). *Path.* Often erron. **pleurosth-** (after *emprosthotonos, opisthotonos*). [mod.L., f. Gr. πλευρόθεν from the side (f. πλευρά side) + -τονος stretched, stretching.] Tetanic bending of the body to one side.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 263 The pleurosthotonos of authors of a later date. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Pleurothotonos.* 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* App. (1879) 715 An immediate *pleurosthotonos*, or bending of the body to one side. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 318 To this original division Boenecken afterwards added another form pleurothotonos (or tetanus lateralis).

Pleurotomarioid (plūːrotomēˈriˌoid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pleurotomāri-a* (f. *pleurotoma* see next) + *-āria* (see -ARY 1) + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Resembling the genus *Pleurotomaria* of gastropod molluscs, having top-shaped shells with a deep cleft in the outer lip; found (living) in deep tropical seas, and (extinct) in many formations from the Silurian onward. **b.** *sb.* A gastropod of the family *Pleurotomariidæ.*

Pleurotomid (plurɒˈtŏmid). *Zool.* [ad. mod. L. *Pleurotomidæ* pl., f. *Pleurotoma*, name of the typical genus, f. Gr. πλευρά side + τομή cutting: see -ID.] A gastropod mollusc of the family *Pleurotomidæ*, having shells usually spindle-shaped, with a notch in the outer lip. So **Pleurotomine** (-məin) *a.*, belonging or related to the genus *Pleurotoma*; **Pleurotomoid,** *a.* resembling *Pleurotoma*, or belonging to the *Pleurotomidæ*; *sb.* a mollusc of this family.

‖ **Pleurum** (plūˈrŭm). *Zool.* Pl. **pleura.** [mod.L. variant of PLEURON, made to correspond with *tergum* and *sternum.*] = PLEURON in the specific sense, as applied to Arthropoda.

1898 PACKARD *Textbk. Entomol.* 87 Each segment consists of the *tergum, pleurum*, and *sternum.*

†**Pleven-plait.** *Obs. Sc.* Also **plaven plait, planeplait** (? plauenplait). [? f. PLEVIN assurance, warranty + PLATE *sb.* 3 b.] ? Plate armour of proof, warranted armour.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 140 And pleven plait with mony riall rufe, With courtlie cast of cot-armour abufe. *Ibid.* 402 And pansis proude of plaven plait of pryde. *Ibid.* II. 39 Ane greit power, in planeplait of steill.

Plever, obs. form of PLOVER.

†**Plevin.** *Law. Obs.* Also 5 **plevyne.** [a. OF. *plevine* pledge (12th c. in Godef.), = med.L. *plevīna*, f. *plevīre*, in F. *plevīr* to warrant; see PLEDGE.] Pledge, assurance, warrant.

(Frequent in AF. legal use; in Eng. law-books since 16th c.; rare in ME., quot. *c* 1400 not legal.)

[1275 *Act* 3 *Edw. I*, c. 17 (*Stat. Westm.*) Le Visconte ou le Baillif, .. voyst asayer de fere la plevine des avers a celui qe pris les avera. 1292 BRITTON III. vi. § 6 Et si le pleintif soit si povere qe il ne puse suerté trover, suffit la plevine par sa fey [*tr.* And if the plaintiff be so poor that he cannot find security, the pledging of his own faith shall be sufficient].] *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1253 Thar wedded Ywaine in plevyne The riche lady Alundyne. 1543 *transl. of quot.* 1275 The same shyryffe or baylyffe .. do assay to make pleuyn of the beastes from him that toke them. 1607 in COWELL *Interpr.* 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plevin*, in Common Law, signifies a Warrant or Assurance. See *Replevin.* 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Plevin, Plevina*, in law, a warrant or assurance; the same with *Pledge.*

†**Pleˈvisable,** *a. Law. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *plevisable*, f. *plevir* to warrant.] = BAILABLE *a.*² 1.

[1292 BRITTON I. xxii. § 3 Qi .. ount lessé les nent plevisables prisouns par meynprise, et les plevisables detenuz [*tr.* Have let to mainprise prisoners who were not bailable, and have detained others who were bailable].] 1670 *Tryal W. Penn & W. Mead* App. in *Phenix* I. 329 By the antient Law of England, it was Felony to detain a man in Prison, after sufficient Bail offer'd, where the Party was plevisable; every Person was plevisable, but he that was appeal'd of Treason, Murder, Robbery or Burglary.

Plew (plū). [Canadian F. *pélu*, = F. *poilu* hairy, f. *poil* hair.] The skin of a beaver.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xviii, The beaver skins have fallen, according to their phraseology, to '*plew a plug*'. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 40/1 Each beaver-plew of full-grown animal or 'kitten' fetched six to eight dollars overhead.

Plew, -e, plewch, plewgh, Sc. and north. ff. PLOUGH. **Plewme, Plewrisie, -osy,** obs. ff. PLUME, PLEURISY.

†**Plex,** *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? ad. L. *plex-us* plaiting, braid.] A plait or braid (of hair).

1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 128 Hys berd was yelow as ony wax, To hys gerdell henge the plex, I dar well say yn certe.

Plex (pleks), *v. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *plex-*, ppl. stem of *plectĕre* to plait, interweave: cf. *perplex.*] *intr.* To form a plexus. Hence **Plexed** (plekst) *ppl. a.*, formed into or like a plexus, plexiform.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Plexal (pleˈksăl), *a. rare*⁻⁰. [irreg. for **plexual*, f. PLEXUS + -AL: cf. *sexual, gradual.*] Of or pertaining to a plexus.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Pleˈxi-chronoˈmeter.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *plexichronomètre*, f. Gr. πλήξις a striking (? taken in sense 'beat') + *chronomètre* chronometer, metronome; see CHRONOMETER.] An instrument for timing the beats in music; a metronome.

1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 504 They have ordered all music which shall be printed here, in future, to have the movements numbered in correspondence with the plexichronometer.

Plexicose (pleˈksikōus), *a. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. PLEXUS + -IC + -OSE, app. after *bellicose.*] Of the nature of a plexus, or composed of plexuses.

1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 301/2 The lymphatics from the different organs .. form plexicose chains.

Plexiform (pleˈksifɔ̄ːm), *a. Anat.* [mod. f. PLEX-US + -FORM. So F. *plexiforme.*] Of the form of a plexus; forming a plexus or plexuses.

1828 WEBSTER, *Plexiform*, in the form of network; complicated. *Quincy.* 1830 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 463 Of these portions the outer and larger, which is plexiform, triangular and flattened, comes from the Gasserian ganglion. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2040. 248 Its papilla is covered with a plexiform mesh of dilated vessels.

Pleximeter (pleksiˈmɪtəɪ). *Med.* Also (irreg.) **plexometer.** See also PLESSIMETER. [f. Gr. πλῆξις stroke, percussion (f. πλήσσειν to strike) + -METER (the suffix being loosely used, and with the sense of 'estimating' rather than 'measuring').] A small thin plate of ivory or other substance, which is placed firmly upon some part of the body and struck with a PLEXOR in medical percussion. Also applied to anything used for the same purpose.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1843 SIR T. WATSON *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* xlvii. II. 10 Many persons .. use no other pleximeter than the fingers of the left hand. 1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult.* 2 The pleximeter renders percussion much less irksome to the patient, and the sounds more distinct; .. we are able, by its aid, to recognize differences in sound, which are not otherwise perceptible. 1882 OGILVIE, *Pleximeter, Plexometer.* 1882 *Standard* 13 Dec. 5/5 The pleximeter, the stethoscope, .. the laryngoscope, the ophthalmoscope, .. could scarcely have been familiar to the .. doctor.

Hence **Pleximetric** (pleksimeˈtrik) *a.*, pertaining to a pleximeter or the use of it; **Pleximetry** (pleksiˈmĕtri), the use of a pleximeter.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pleximetric.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plessimetry*, see *Pleximetry.*

Plexor (pleˈksɔr). *Med.* See also PLESSOR. [irreg. f. Gr. πλῆξι-s or πλήσσ-ειν (see PLEXIMETER) + -OR, after *flexor*, etc.] A small hammer or other instrument used (with a PLEXIMETER) in medical percussion; a percussion-hammer.

1844 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plexor*, a striker; used specifically of that which strikes in Medical percussion. This may be either a hammer or the fingers of the physician.

Plexure (pleˈksiŭr). *rare.* [f. L. type **plexūra* a plaiting, f. *plectĕre, plex-* to plait, interweave.] A plaiting or interweaving; something plaited or interwoven. In quot. 1671 = PLEXUS I.

1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. ii. § 14 'Tis most probable, that none of their Fibres are truly inosculated, saving perhaps, in the Plexures. 1736 H. BROOKE *Univ. Beauty* III. 297 Their social branch the wedded plexures rear. 1832 J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* iv, An intruding rose has stolen a nest among the plexures of the vine.

Plexus (pleˈksŭs). Pl. **plexuses** (in 8 **plexus's**), rarely **plexus.** [a. L. *plexu-s* (*u*-stem), pl. *plexūs*, f. *plectĕre, plex-* to plait, interweave.]

1. *Anat.* A structure in the animal body consisting of a bundle of minute fibres or tubes, as nerves, blood-vessels, or lymphatics, closely interwoven and intercommunicating; a network of fibres or vessels. Usually named from its relation to or situation in some part or organ, or from its form, as *brachial p., cardiac p., carotid p., choroid p., cœliac p., coronary p., gastric p., hepatic p., lumbar p., mesenteric p., pampiniform p., pelvic p., pulmonary p., sacral p., solar p., splenic p.*, etc.

1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* 19 Fallopius will have it to proceed from the superiour and inferiour plexus of Nerves of the Abdomen. 1702 J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 13 If these Animal Spirits or Recrements can continue their Motion down the minute Channels of the little Nerves, into these Plexus's, Why should they stop there? 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Plexus*, .. a name common to several parts in the body, consisting of bundles of little vessels interwoven in form of net-work. *Ibid.*, Several branches both from the hepatic and splenic plexus .. form the mesenteric plexus. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* xi. 271 Great net-works, or plexuses.

2. *gen.* Any intertwined or interwoven mass; a complex body, collection, or set of things (material or immaterial); a web, network, complication.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 33 Their footstalks are inclosed in a strong reticular web-like plexus, which is the cloathing this tree has been said to afford. 1863 H. SPENCER *Ess.* III. 24 Relations each of which has for its terms a complete plexus of antecedents and a complete plexus of consequents. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* iv. 106 A dissolution of the plexus of mutual rights and a partition of the family property. 1891 J. W. POWELL in *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 465 The partial channels sometimes interlock so as to form a plexus over the area of the delta.

3. *Math.* (See quot.)

1860 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* IV. 603 Such a system of equations, or generally the system of equations required for the complete expression of the relations existing between a set of quantities (and which are in general more numerous than the relations themselves) is said to be a *Plexus.*

†**Pley.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Sp. *playa* coast of the sea, or of a river:—L. *plāga.*]

a 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 233 Walkyng .. by the pley of the ryuer of this saíd towne [San Lucas de Berrameda].

Pley, -e, obs. ff. PLEA. **Pley-e, pleyȝe, pleȝe,** obs. ff. PLAY. **Pleyde,** obs. pa. t. of PLAY *v.* **Pleyght, pleyt, -e,** obs. ff. PLAIT.

†**Pleykstare,** variant of BLEYKSTER, bleacher.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/2 Why(t)stare, or pleykstare (*H.* plykstare, *P.* whytstar or blykstar), *candidarius, candidaria. Ibid.* 404/1.

Pleyn(e, Pleynaunt, obs. ff. PLAIN, PLAINANT. **Pleys(e, pleyss, pleysa(u)nce, -and, -a(u)nt:** see PLEASE, PLEASANCE, -ANT. **Pleyt:** see PLEA *sb.* and *v.* **Plezeauns,** obs. f. PLEASANCE.

Pliability (pləiˌăbiˈlĭti). [f. PLIABLE: see -ILITY.] The quality or property of being pliable.

a. Of material things: see PLIABLE 1.

1795 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 402 To preserve the pliability of the ropes. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* viii. (1819) 103 The suppleness and pliability of the joints. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 4 [To] give the steel pliability without diminishing its hardness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 670 The normal pliability of the skin.

b. Of mind or character: see PLIABLE 2.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 74 Sweet pliability of man's spirit, that can at once surrender itself to illusions! 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 123 Pliability was the peculiar characteristic [of the constitution of 1688]. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. White* I. vi, Those feminine attractions of gentleness and pliability.

Pliable (pləiˈăb'l), *a.* [a. F. *pliable* (15th c. in Godef.), f. *plier* to bend: see PLY and -ABLE.]

1. Easy to be bent or folded; flexible, supple, yielding; †easily moulded or shaped, plastic.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 Plyabylle (*A.* Pliabylle), *flexuosus, flexibilis.* 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. cxlvii. 133 Lyke as the hamer makyth all metallys plyable, so Charlis made his foos or enmyes plyable to his hestis. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lv. 80 Round, tough, and pliable braunches. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 91 That earthen or pliable matter commonly called porcellan. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 105 To walke on ropes .. requireth not only a broad foot, but a plyable flexure of joynts. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 91 Two slender and pliable wires .. are to be fastened. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 150/2 Leather .. is soaked in water to make it pliable.

2. *fig.* Flexible in disposition or character; that is easily inclined, disposed, or influenced; ready to yield, docile; adaptable. Sometimes in sinister sense: cf. *Pliable* in *Pilgrim's Progress.*

1494 [see 1]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 144 b, That a soule be plyable to the inspiracyons of the holy goost. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 12 Very few of them do geue themselues pliable to learne of the word of God. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* vii. 109 The Scholler if he be of a plyable disposition, .. yeelds himselfe to his Teacher. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. xiv. 332 Agree with Antony; you'll find him more pliable since his Defeat. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. (1862) 237 The members were far from being very pliable to his wishes. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. v. 24 Pliable judges were previously chosen. 1876 M. COLLINS *From Midnight to Midn.* II. ii. 233 The girl's voice was remarkably clear and pliable.

†**3.** [Aphetic for APPLIABLE.] Applicable, pertinent, agreeable, conformable. *Obs.*

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 36 A distichon that is very pliable to my purpose. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 62 How pliable the Analogy of Water is to typifie the Spirit. 1641 *Argts. agst. Bowing at Name of Jesus* 14 This is most plyable to the meaning of the Canon.

Pliableness (pləiˈăb'lnĕs). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being pliable; pliability. **a.** *lit.*

1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* ii. (1876) 58 If yee prayse the Gold for his weight or plyablenes. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 410 The Perfection and Pliableness of their vocal Organs. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic*

639 This varnish is destined for articles which require durability, pliableness, and transparency.

b. *fig.* (Often in sinister sense.)

1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Table of Contents T tt vij b, The pliablenesse or weake power of Freewill, whiche was in the fyrst man. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Buxomnesse*, pliablenesse. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iv. 38 This Jesuitical pliableness and malice. 1834 J. BROWN *Lett. Sanctif.* iv. 272 An inward pliableness to divine influence.

Pli·ably, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a pliable manner; flexibly; yieldingly, docilely.

1629 DONNE *Serm., Matt.* vi. 21 (1660) III. 223 That I come into the hands of my God as pliably, as ductily, as that first clod of earth of which he made me in Adam. 1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 583/1 Those lukewarm irreligious Temporizers, who had learn'd..pliably to tack about, as still to be ready to receive whatever revolution and turn of affairs should happen.

Pliades, obs. form of PLEIADES.

† Pli·ance. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PLIANT *a.*: see -ANCE; cf. *compliance*.] Compliance, yielding.

1643 HAMMOND *Loyal Convert* (1644) 4 If a good King, he must have our praise and our plyance; If an evill King, he must have our Prayers and our Patience.

Pliancy (plәi·ănsi). [f. PLIANT: see -ANCY.] The quality of being pliant; flexibility.

a. Of material things: see PLIANT 1.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 115 ₱ 5 Giving such an Activity to the Limbs, and such a Pliancy to every Part. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 97 The difficulty was..to give to old wood the pliancy of young. 1835 JAMES *Gipsy* ii, The agile pliancy of youth.

b. *fig.* Of the mind, etc.: see PLIANT 2.

1789 BP. WATSON *Anecd.* (1817) 225 To be overlooked for want of political pliancy, is a circumstance I need not blush to own. 1810 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 424 Social dexterity and pliancy of mind. 1879 B. TAYLOR *Stud. Germ. Lit.* 210 A very little tact and pliancy of nature might have greatly advanced his fortunes.

Pliant (plәi·ănt), *a.* Forms: 4 **pleaunt, plyande,** 5–6 **pli-, ply-, -aunt(e, -awnt,** 5–8 **plyant,** 6– **pliant.** [a. F. *pliant* (13th c.), pr. pple. of *plier* to bend, PLY.] Bending, yielding.

1. Bending; capable of being bent or folded with ease; supple, lithe, flexible; † ductile, plastic.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 439 Hit watz playn in þat place for plyande greuez, For to schylde fro the schene. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 24 He sette cherubyn..and a flawmynge swerde & pleaunt to the waye of the tree of liif to be kept. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. c. (Tollem. MS.), [Glass] is so plyaunt, þat it fongeþ ful sone diuerse and contrary schappes, by blaste of þe glasier. *Ibid.* XVII. cxliii. (Bodl. MS.), Some weþies..beþ..so pliaunte þat þei brekeþ nought. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 109 The elephante hath a long nose lyke a troumpe, pliant hither and thither. 1601 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 301 The free inhabitants of the plyant ayre. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 43 These Hats are as stiff as boards, and sit not plyant to their heads. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 397 [Tortoise shells] are easily cast into what form the workman thinks proper, by making them soft and pliant in warm water, and then screwing them in a mold, like a medal. 1880 L. MORRIS *Ode of Life* 25 The fisher, with his pliant wand.

2. *fig.* **a.** Easily bent or inclined to any particular course; readily influenced for good or evil; yielding, compliant; accommodating, complaisant.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4386 Haue herte as hard as dyamaunt, Stedefast, and nought pliaunt. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 129 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 85 A plyaunt seruaunt gets fauour to his great aduauntage. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* ii. (1627) 10 This first age is that wherein they are most pliant. 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* IV. i. 1792 'Twill..make his Youth more plyant to my Will. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. ix. 75 Men..pliant to good advice. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. vii. 405 A committee thus instructed was likely to be sufficiently pliant. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. ii. 25 The king would find some other prelate who would be more pliant in his hands.

b. = FLEXIBLE 4.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 776 Thrice in glad Hymns.. The pliant voice on her seven steps they raise. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* (1848) 36 He may..attain to so pliant a style, that scarce any thought will puzzle him to fit words to it. 1882 COX *Expositor* IV. 197 It should be pliant to or leave room for the discoveries of widening science.

c. That lends itself to some purpose; apt, adaptable, suitable. *rare.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 151 Which I obseruing, Tooke once a pliant houre, and found good meanes To draw from her a prayer. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Ways & Words* 60 Noble companions of many a pliant hour.

3. *Comb.*, as *pliant-bodied, -necked,* etc.

1798 LANDOR *Gebir* VII. 139 Swans pliant-necked. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XII. I. 383 Like pliant-bodied wasps or bees.

Pli·antly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pliant manner; supply, accommodatingly.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 118 [The words] yield the sense I speak of pliantly enough. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* I. i, You bow so pliantly! 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 152 Whether it was that..my mind could more pliantly supple itself to her graceful imagination.

Pliantness (plәi·ăntnĕs). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = PLIANCY.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. ix. (Bodl. MS.), þat doþ serpentes wiþ bendinge and wigelinge and pliauntnes of þe bodie. 1530 PALSGR. 255/2 Plyantnesse, *ploiantevr.* 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 72 To your lymmes I yeelde active plyantnesse. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. iv. 197 Shee was gentle as a Lamb or a Cow..and this pliantnesse she had partly by Nature and partly by example of her mother. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Orange Tree,* He will perceive when the Tree is dry, by handling its Leaves, if they feel soft,..and yet this Softness and Pliantness is not always a Sign of it.

‖ Plica (pli·kă, plәi·kă). Pl. **plicæ.** [med.L. *plica* plait, fold, f. *plicāre* to fold: see PLY. In F. *plique*; also, in sense 1, *plica.*]

1. *Path.* (More fully *pli·ca polo·nica.*) A matted filthy condition of the hair due to disease; Polish plait (PLAIT *sb.* 2 c).

1684 BOYLE *Porousn. Anim. Bodies* vii, That disease, which, from the country it most infests, is called the *Plica Polonica.* 1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Plica,* an epidemical Disease in Polonia, when their Hairs grow together like a Cow's Tail. 1731 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 51 The Plica has been always..thought to be a Distemper. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXX. 383 The phenomena of plica polonica,..establishes the vitality of the hair. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 23 Mar. 217/1 The terrible disease of the hair, the *plica polonica,* is said to have entirely disappeared.

2. A fold or folding of any part, as of the skin or a membrane. In *Entom.* a fold-like ridge or carina; *spec.* an elytral ridge in Coleoptera.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Plica,* (Lat.) a Pleat, Fold or Wrinkle. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 95 The internal membrane of the neck and *Fundus,* which is likewise full of *plicæ.* 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 131 (*Annelides*) The plicæ lamellar, close, waved, vertical. 1849 [see PLICATION 2].

3. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 906 *Plica,* an excessive multiplication of small twigs, instead of branches.

† Pli·cable, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. type **plicābilis,* f. *plicāre* to fold, bend, PLY.] Flexible.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6813 Whos herte harder ys to grave, Touching her honour, than ys glas... Men kan nat maken yt plicable Nor forge yt to be Malliable. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 39 The Nose is a member .. somewhat plicable, because it shoulde the better be clensed.

Plical (plәi·kăl), *a.* [f. med.L. *plica* (see PLICA) + -AL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a plica.

1890 *Cent. Dict., Plical,* in *Bot.,* of or pertaining to plica. 1895 MEVRICK *Brit. Lepidopt.* 617 Stigmata raised, blackish, first discal somewhat before plical.

Plicate (plәi·kĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *plicāt-us,* pa. pple. of *plicāre* to fold.] Folded, pleated.

a. *Bot.* (See quots.)

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xii. (1765) 28 Corolla..Plicate, folded, as in *Convolvulus.* 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 75 Geranium, Crane's-bill .. cotyledons plicate or convolute. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* iv. (ed. 6) 133 Leaves are as to the mode of packing, Plicate or Plaited, when folded on the several ribs, in the manner of a closed fan. *Ibid.* 139 Plicate or Plaited, applied to the flower-bud as a whole.—The term is used for the plaiting of a tube or cup, composed of a circle of leaves combined into one body.

b. *Zool., Geol.* (See quots., and cf. PLICA 2.)

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 154 Genus 45. *Abax*..elytra united, their shoulders carinate plicate. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 334 Plicate (*Plicata*). When they have two or three contiguous abbreviated furrows which exhibit the appearance of folds. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 629 Mucous..Membrane...Thin, reddish, and plicate in the direction of its length. 1849 DANA *Geol.* App. I. (1850) 687 Surface longitudinally plicate..; plications smooth.

Plicate (plәi·kĕt, plikē·ĭt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *plicāre* to fold: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To fold, pleat. (Chiefly in passive.)

1698 B. ALLEN in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 377 The Belly plicated as other Beetles. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 677 Its lining membrane is loose and much plicated. 1880 *Specif. U. S. Patent* No. 229479 (*title*) Machine for plicating fabrics. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 230 The Lias and Oolites themselves ..were plicated and subjected to sub-aerial denudation.

Plicated (plәi·kētĕd, plikē·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 1.]

1. *Anat., Bot., Geol.* Folded, plicate.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Leaf, Plicated leaf,* one from the base of which there run [ribs] which extend themselves to the extreme sides, and .. raise and .. depress the disk..in an alternate order, making acute angles. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 304/2 The..marsupium..is a plicated vascular membrane. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* IV. VIII. § 3. 584 A highly plicated and crumpled condition.

† 2. Complicated. *Obs. rare.*

1666 J. H. *Treat. Gt. Antidote* 9 The more Disease is plicated, the longer is required.

Pli·cately, *adv.* [f. PLICATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a plicate manner; in or with folds.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 708 Suberect plicately aggregated laminæ. 1881 BENTHAM in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 339 Leaves usually larger, more coriaceous, or plicately ribbed than in the other subtribes.

Plicatile (pli·kătil, -әil), *a.* [ad. L. *plicātilis* (Pliny), f. *plicāre* to fold. So in F.]

† 1. Capable of being folded or convoluted. *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* x. App. (1662) 169 Whether these images or impresses consist in a certain posture or motion of the plicatile fibres or subtile threds of which the brain consists.

2. *Entom.* (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 336 *Plicatile*...When the wings at rest are folded in one or more longitudinal plaits.

Plication (pli-, plәikē·ĭәn). [a. OF. *plication, -acion* (Godef.), n. of action f. L. *plicāre* to fold.]

1. The action of folding; folded condition.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 23 It is necessarie some lymes to han a sustentacioun & a plicacioun, þat is a foldynge. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 285 The smallness of the space for the branchiæ may have been compensated by deep plication of those organs. 1886 W. ANDERSON *Pict. Arts Japan* 202 An artist of the Chinese school..may accentuate folds of drapery by a kind of shadow beneath the plication.

2. *concr.* A folding, a fold.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* lxxiii. (1811) VI. 345 The folds, as other plications have done, opened of themselves to oblige my curiosity. 1766 PARSONS in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 209 This bird has a plication of the aspera arteria. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. i, Thy juridical brow expanding its plications. 1849 DANA *Geol.* App. I. (1850) 710 There are 14 to 16 plications in half an inch; and the plicæ are smooth. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 87 (1879) 94.

3. *Geol.* The bending or folding of strata; a fold in a stratum.

1859 MURCHISON *Siluria* xvii. (ed. 3) 450 The plications of the strata in Belgium. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* ix. 232 Plications following each other from top to bottom of the cliff. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 241/1 These crystalline masses underwent enormous plication and subsequent denudation.

Plicato- (pli-, plәikē·ĭ·to-), combining adv. form from L. *plicātus* plicate, prefixed to other adjs. in the sense 'plicately—', 'plicate and—', as *plicato-contorted* (plicately contorted), *plicato-cristate* (with plicate crests), *plicato-lacunose, plicato-lobate* (with plicate lobes), *plicato-papillose* (papillose with plications or wrinkles), *plicato-undulate.*

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 141 Upper margin sublobate or plicato-undulate. *Ibid.* 152 Margin plicato-lobate. *Ibid.* 410 Frond..often variously plicato-contorted. *Ibid.* 500 In part plicato-cristate, rising into crests more or less plicate. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 4 Pits elongated, narrow, plicato-lacunose.

Plicator, -er (pli-, plәikē·tәr). [agent-n. from PLICATE *v.*, or L. *plicāre* to fold.] A folder; an apparatus for folding fabrics.

1880 *Specif. U. S. Patent* No. 229479 The table projects, apex forward, from the frame and I have named it the 'plicater'. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Plicator,* a mechanical device for making a plait or fold, as in some sewing-machine attachments, for instance.

Plicatulate (plikæ·tiźlĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. L. type **plicātul-us* (f. *plicāt-us* PLICATE: cf. *barbātul-us, līmātul-us*) + -ATE 2.] Minutely plicate.

1849 DANA *Geol.* App. I. (1850) 697 Palleal impression faint, anteriorly plicatulate.

Plicature (pli·kătiŭr). [ad. L. *plicātūra* a folding, f. *plicāre* to fold.] Folding, mode of folding; a fold; = PLICATION.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 96 Into this plicature .. are immitted two Arteries named Carotides. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* I. 10 They unfold the plicatures of truth's garment, but they cannot behold the lovely face of it. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 3038 Leaves, intended for the said Trunk, and foulded up in the same plicature, wherein, upon the Bean's sprouting, they do appear. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 271 The *Pia Mater*..investing the brain, in all its convolutions or plicatures. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 18 Divisions have been founded upon the nature of the plicature of the cotyledons.

Plicht, Sc. f. PLIGHT; † short for PLICHT-ANKER.

a 1515 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 31 Haile, plicht, but sicht! Haile, mekle of mycht! 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 15 Quhair Purgatorie and pardonis will not sell, And gude intent, thair Pylat plycht and leid.

† Plicht-anker. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **plycht-.** [ad. LG. *plicht-anker,* Du. *plechtanker* 'the principall or chief anchor that houlds a ship' (Hexham 1678); in Da. *pligt-anker.*

The Du. and LG. word is usually referred to MLG., LG. *plicht,* MDu., Du. *plecht,* a small fore (or after) -deck of an open boat, OHG. *phlihta,* MHG. *pflhte,* Da., Sw. *pligt*; Doornkaat-Koolman (*Ostfr. Wbch.*) prefers derivation from *plicht* responsibility: see PLIGHT *sb.*[1]

The main anchor of a *ship*; in quots. *fig.*: cf. *sheet-anchor.*

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 187 Scho tuke Presence plicht ankers of the barge,..And Cherising for to complete hir charge. *a* 1520 — *Poems* xi. 46 Thy Ransonner, with woundis fyve, Mak thy plycht anker and thy steiris, To hald thy saule with him on lyve. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 153 Lat this faith be thi plycht ankir, and doutless thow sall be saiffit fra all the dangeir of syn.

Plicidentine (plisidĕntin). [f. med.L. *plica* fold, pleat + DENTINE.] A form of dentine in which it is folded on a series of vertical plates, causing the surface of the tooth to be fluted.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 273 With reference to the main and fundamental tissue of tooth, we find..six leading modifications in fishes..Vasodentine .. Plicidentine .. Dendrodentine. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.* etc. II. 935/2 The basal part of the teeth of the Wolf-fish, of the *Lepidosteus oxyurus,* and of the *Ichthyosaurus,* affords examples of plicidentine.

Pliciferous (pli-, plәisi·fĕrәs), *a.* [f. med.L. *plica* fold + -FEROUS.] Having or bearing plicæ or folds: in *Entom.* said of elytra having an internal plica, also of beetles having such elytra.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Pliciform (pli·si-, plәi·sifōrm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -FORM.] Having the form of a plica, fold, or plait.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Plide, Plie, obs. forms of PLEAD, PLEA, PLY.

Plier (plәi·әr). Also 6 **plyar,** 7–9 **plyer.** [f. PLY *v.* + -ER 1. Cf. F. *plieur* folder.]

1. One who plies: in various senses of the verb.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 147 Going into a sinning-house..she found a young Plyer there. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Plyer,* a Crutch. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Plyer..*; also a Trader. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 57 The companies alight,..without the aid of attendant pliers. 1872 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* (1873) II. 143 Solicited by a 'plier' to accompany him to a convenient tavern.

2. In *pl.* Pincers, usually small, having long jaws mostly with parallel surfaces, sometimes toothed; used for bending wire, manipulating small objects, etc.

1568-9 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 283 Paier of plyars, 6d. 1587 Mascall *Govt. Cattle, Hogges* (1627) 271 With a paire of plyers bow and turne the points of the wyar into the holes of his nostrils. 1634 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* i. xxvii. 94 Take it forth againe with a paire of pliers or small tongs, and light it at the fire. 1677 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* i. 6 Plyers are of two sorts, Flat Nos'd and Round Nos'd. Their office is to hold and fasten upon all small work, and to fit it in its place. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 318 The pliers commonly used for cutting wire.

Plight (plɔit), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1-4 **pliht**, (4 erron. **plith**), 3 **plihht**, **pliȝht**, 3-5 **pliȝt**, 4-5 **plyȝt**, 4-6 **plyght**, 5 **plyȝht**, 5-6 *Sc.* **plycht**, 5- *Sc.* **plicht**, 4- **plight**. *β.* ?4 **plyt**, 4-5 **plit**, **plite**, 5 **plyte**. [OE. *pliht* danger, risk, = OFris. *plicht* danger, concern, care; cf. MDu. *plicht*, *plecht* responsibility, obligation, duty, Du. *pligt*, *plicht*, MLG., LG. *plicht* obligation, duty; OHG., MHG. *phliht*, *pflicht* obligation, duty, office, concern, care of or for, Ger. *pflicht* duty, etc.; f. stem *pleh-*, *pleg-* of OE. *pleón* (with genitive) to risk the loss of, expose to danger, or WGer. *plegan*, in OS. and OHG. (Notker) with genitive, to take the risk or responsibility of (an act), to be responsible for, answer for (a thing or person). Cf., from same root, OE. *pleoh* (:—**pleh*) danger, hurt, peril, risk, responsibility, OFris. *ple*, *pli* danger; OHG. *pfligida* risk, danger. The continental langs. show the sense-gradation from 'danger, risk', through 'responsibility, duty', to 'office, concern, care', etc. See Franck in *Kuhn's Zeitschr.* XXXVII. 132.

Already in the 14th c., in some dialects, *h*, *ȝ*, or *gh* was lost in the combination *-ight*, leaving *-it*, whence the occasional *β* spellings above, *plit*, *plite*, *plyt*, and the modern pronunciation. *Plight* being thus identified in pronunciation, and sometimes in spelling with ME. *plit* from AF., the two words ran together in the form *plight*: see Plight *sb.*[2]

†**1.** Peril, danger, risk. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxiv. 3 Ymbsaldun mec sar deðes & plihtas helle [*pericula inferni*] ȝemoettun mec. *c* 1000 Ælfric *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 Ic hit togelæde eow hider mid micclan plihte ofer sæ. *c* 1205 Lay. 8132, & summe heo gunnen pleien. pliht com on ueste. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 7279 Also falle men yn plyght, þat sytte vp þe þursday at night. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 266 þat I passe as in pes, & no plyȝt seche. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 162 þe perill and þe plight is thyne. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* vii. 12 Full often he brought theym to the plyght. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 104 Blaming thy tressoun, the caus of all our plicht. *c* 1630 Drumm. of Hawth. *Poems* 107 That thou shouldst..die for those deserv'd eternall plight.

β. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8019 Priam..Wold haue put hym to þe plit for perell of all. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1221, I haue had habundance Of welfare ay; and now stond in þe plite Of scarsetee. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2575 For to dy scho semed in plyte.

†**2.** Sin, offence; guilt, blame. *Obs.*

c 1200 Ormin 10213 Forr gredinnesse is hæfedd plihht, & follȝhebþ helless bisne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5077 (Cott.) Mi breþer dere, Your plight [*v. r.* gilt] i haue for-giuen yow. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 131 þe kyng suld haf no plight, þat Thomas so was dede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 932 Quhy suld he sa be dycht For þare mysded & þar plicht.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1494 þe lorde þat þe lyfte ȝemes Displesed much at þat play in þat plyt stronge.

3. Undertaking (of a risk or obligation); pledge (under risk of forfeiture); engagement, plighting. (After ME., perh. a new formation from the vb.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1269 He bad him maken siker pliȝt Of luue and trewðe, in frendes riȝt. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 1494 þat man þat demeþ alle to þe ryȝt, Of mercy get he no plyȝt. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 888 Crounes þai gun crake Mani, ich wene, apliȝt [= in plight]. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 767 Thus they justyd tylle hyt was nyght, Then they departyd in plyght, They had nede to reste.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* I. i. 103 Happily when I shall wed, That Lord, whose hand must take my plight, shall carry Halfe my loue with him. *a* 1700 Dryden *Song*, '*What shall I do?*' Not pray for a smile, And not bargain for plight. 1891 G. Meredith *One of our Conq.* I. iv. 58 An engagement,..a mutual plight of faith.

β. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 285 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 Nas I a paynym vnpreste þat neuer þi plite knewe Ne þi mesure of þi mercy ne þi mecul vertue?

4. *Comb.* **Plight-ring**, an engagement-ring.

1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring lore* 241 A sacred plight-ring was considered almost as impassable a barrier as the veil itself, against the marriage of the wearer.

Plight (plɔit), *sb.*[2] Forms: *α.* 4-5 **plit**, **plyt**, 5-6 **plite**, **plyte**, (5 **plyet**). *β.* 4-5 **pliȝt**, **plyȝt**, 5-6 **plyght**, **-e**, 5- **plight**. [ME. *plit*, *plyt*, a. Anglo-F. *plit* (in Gower and Law French), for ONF. **pleit*, OF. *ploit* fold, act or manner of folding; also, manner of being, trim, condition, state (13th c. in Godef.): see Plait *sb.*[1] (of which this is in origin a doublet). The *β* forms are taken over from Plight *sb.*[1]; when that word was (in some parts of England, already in 14th c.) reduced to *plīt*, *plite*, and thus identified in pronunciation and sometimes in spelling with this, this began in turn to be spelt *plyght*, *plight*, which superseded *plite* in 16th c. This spelling appears first in branch II, and perh. there was association of sense, peril (Plight *sb.*[1] 1) being a kind of 'evil plight' (4 b below). In 16-17th c. the *gh* was often extended to the synonym Plait, written *pleight*, *plaight* (but for this there were also other possible models in *eight*, *weight*, *straight*, riming with *plait*, *wait*).]

I. Fold; manner of folding; plait.

†**1.** A fold, in drapery or the like; a pleat; = Plait *sb.* 1 a. *Obs.*

a. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 156 And if pernell preisid the plytis bihynde, The costis were acountid paye whan he myȝth. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. x. (1869) 79 Come forth clerk,..vndoo þese letteres out of plyt. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 100 To clothe him selfe with nothing els, but a demie bukram cassok, plaine without plites.

β. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 242 Now fold ye alle there at oonys þat a pliȝt passe not a fote brede alle way. 1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xviii. (1870) 169 Theyr rayment..is made..wyth two wrynckkles and a plyght. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 229 She is drest..with a short Gown without any plights.

†**b.** A fold in a natural structure, a convolution, a bend; = Plait *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

a. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 350 These foldings, plites, and windings [of the ileon or folded gut].

β. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* I. i. 2 b, In the plyghte of the arme. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 554 This [horn of unicorn]..is neither light nor hollow,..revolved into many plights, sharper than any dart. 1671 Flavel *Fount. Life* i. Wks. 1731 I. 2/1 It is of many Sorts and Forms, of many Folds and Plights.

†**c.** *fig.* (Cf. Plait *sb.* 1 c.) *Obs.*

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. ix. (Skeat) I. 77 In this boke be many privy thinges wimpled and folde; unneth shul leude men the plites unwinde.

†**2.** A plait of hair or the like; = Plait *sb.* 2.

1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* B ij b, Diuides each haire, each plight vndresses. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 129 A taile..very woolly and fat, and close wouen in many plights. 1800 Coleridge *Christabel* II. 33 Geraldine.. Puts on her silken vestments white, And tricks her hair in lovely plight.

†**b.** *fig.* A contexture of conditions. (Cf. sense 4.) *Obs. rare.*

1674 N. Fairfax *Bulk & Selv.* 74 It seems then, that the thing that calls us up is Morningness, or that woof and plight that the whole ticklish frame of worldly beings are wheel'd into at such a tide of day.

†**3.** A recognized length or 'piece' of lawn. (? Orig. the length into which it was folded. See Beck *Draper's Dict.* 178 *note.*) *Obs.*

1415 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 382, j plite [*printed* plice] de lawnd. 1452 *Will of Britte* (Somerset Ho.), Vnum plyte de lawne. 1463 *Act* 3 *Edw. IV*, c. 5 Coverchiefs del price dun plite de cynqe souldz. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505/1 Eny Kerchef, wherof the price of a plyght shall excede the some of iiis. iiiid. *Ibid.*, Kerchiefs, of the price of a plyte of vs. 1483, 1502 [see Lawn *sb.*[1] 1]. 1535 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 277 For vj plightes of fyne lawne for sleves for the Quene. [1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Plite of Lawne*... Seemeth to be a certaine measure, as a yard or an elle, etc.]

II. Manner of being; condition, state. (Cf. *complexion.*)

4. Condition, state, trim. **a.** *orig.* neutral or good.

a. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 111 With peple of alle plytez þe palays þay fyllen. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 399 The nexte tyme I shal fonde To bryngen oure craft al in another plite. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. i. (Skeat) I. 8 Chaunging of the lift syde to the right halve tourneth it so clene in-to another kynde, that never shal it come to the first plyte in doinge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/1 Plyte, or state,..*status*. 1530 Palsgr. 255/2 Plyte or state, *poynt*. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 151/6 Plite, plight, *habitudo*.

β. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5373 But herised be þe hize king ȝou þus haþ holpe, & pult ȝou to þis pliȝt fram pouert euermore! 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1288/2 And [to] lyue here in suche pleasaunt plight as we shuld haue lyued if Adam had not synned. 1596 Drayton *Leg.* iv. 214 Being in so excellent a plight. 1652-62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 269 The Town remaining in as good plight..for Trade and Buildings, as most Towns do which want a navigable River. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. i. 9 Nothing shall be distreined for rent, which may not be rendered again in as good plight as when it was distreined. 1838-9 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 124 It is a happy and hopeful plight for us both. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* 251 Not in the best plight or order.

b. Now generally qualified as evil.

a. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 114 Now hatz he put hym in plyt of peril. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 733 þus in peryl, & payne, & plytes ful harde. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 200 In sori plit and povere he lay. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* IV. xxiii. 152 She shalle be in as euyl plyte as he is or it be long to.

β. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1074 þe planetez arn in to pouer a plyȝt. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* l. 142 Turnus..knewe well thenne that he was deceyued,..sore an-angred he was, whan he founde hym selfe in that plyght. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cvii. iii, They cry'd to him in woefull plight. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 56 We cannot be in worse plight than we are. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. i. 31 We forget in what sad plight We lately left the captiv'd Knight. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xiii, He was now in a woful plight. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 23 Dockyard administration is in a sorry and almost hopeless plight.

†**c.** Manner, fashion, way. *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 434 Pecok, Stork, Bustarde, & Shovellewre, ye must vnlace þem in þe plite of þe crane prest & pure. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 8 b, We deny all, in the same plight as you have set them downe.

5. Bodily or physical condition; state as to health; now esp. of cattle.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 47 Thus was the hors in sori plit. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Also þe scabbe cometh to hym, for to hye plyet, when þei abyde in her kenel to longe and goth not on huntynge. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. K iij, Blake Ciche..taken wyth beanes..maketh a good plyte and fatt fleshe. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 125 The woman also in very good plight too. *a* 1649 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 37 Some horses came over in good plight. 1792 Cowper *Let.* 29 July, Mary..is in pretty good plight this morning, having slept well. 1855 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* II. 35 Another of our neighbours admitted the fine plight of my cows.

b. *absol.* Good or proper condition, health.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3823 þai wald noȝt bring þe childe in plyte [*i. e.* to health]. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* xxxvi. (1878) 85 Use cattle aright, to keepe them in plight. 1704 Swift *T. Tub* xi, When a traveller and his horse are in heart and plight. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 84 [Of a ship] Though she had been in plight, we had not hands left sufficient to work her. 1866 Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. i. vii. 119 [Of a dog] His strength, his plight, his speed so light, You had with wonder viewed.

†**6.** State of mind, mood, esp. *to do* something. [1376-9 Gower *Mirour de l'omme* 10661 Comment q'il plourt, comment q'il rit, Toutdis se tient en un soul plit.]

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 545 [To] put you in plite your purpos to wyn. 1513 More in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 773 Thinketh he that I would send him hence, which is neyther in the plight to sende out? 1632 Milton *Penseroso* 57 'Less Philomel will daign a Song, In her sweetest, saddest plight. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 27 He coming in a very humble plight, asking my pardon.

7. State or position from a legal point of view.

a. Of an enactment, privilege, use, etc.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 11 The same proclamacion shal abide, be, and remain in the same plight and strength that it is, and as if this acte had neuer bene made. 1570-6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 243 As touching this priuilege.., although it continue not altogither in the same plight, yet some shadowe thereof remaineth even to this day. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 443 The statute of uses executes the possession to the use, in the same plight as the use was limited.

b. Of a person, etc.: Legal status.

[*a* 1481 Littleton *Tenures* § 306 III. iv. (1516) D iv b, Est en tiel plite sicomme il que auoit droit.]

1663 *Act* 15 *Chas. II*, c. 6 § 7 Whether Persons prohibited to preach by the said Act are in the same Plight as to Punishment, with Persons disabled by the said Act to preach. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xxx. 392 The effect of falsifying, or reversing, an outlawry is that the party shall be in the same plight as if he had appeared upon the *capias*.

8. Attire, array, dress. *rare.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* III. xii. 8 Like as the sunburnt Indians do aray Their tawney bodies in their proudest plight. 1743 J. Davidson *Æneid* VII. 192 Three hundred of them stood shining and in full plight. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Metr. Leg., Ld. John* xii, In reveller's plight, he is bedight.

Plight (plɔit), *v.*[1] Now chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.* Pa. t. and pple. **plighted.** Forms of inf.: see Plight *sb.*[1] *Pa. t.* 4 **pliȝt**, **plyghte**, 4-7 **plight**, 5 **plyght**, **plyȝt**, 6 *Sc.* **plicht**, 8- **plighted**. *Pa. pple.* 3-5 **pliȝt**, 3 **i-pluht**, 4 **y-plight**, **y-pliȝt**, **y-plyȝt**, 4, 7- **plight**, 5 **i-pleyht**, 6 **plyght** (*Sc.* **plicht**), **plyted**, 6- **plighted**. [OE. *plihtan*, f. *pliht* danger, damage: see Plight *sb.*[1] Cf. OHG. *phlihten* refl. to engage one's self, MDu. *plichten* to guarantee.]

†**1.** *trans.* To cause to incur danger, bring danger upon; to endanger; to compromise (life, honour, etc.). With *dat.* (OE.)

a 1016 *Laws Æthelred* v. c. 28 (Schmid) Plihte him sylfum and ealre his are. *Ibid.* vi. c. 36 Þonne plihte hi heora æhton, butan hit frið-benan sindan.

2. *trans.* To put (something) in danger or risk of forfeiture; to give in pledge; to pledge or engage (one's troth, faith, oath, promise, etc.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Al so as dusi biheste, oðer folliche ipluht trouðe, & longe beon unbishoped..þeos, & alle swuche beoð iled to slouhðe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Wife's T.* 153 Plight me thy trouthe heere in myn hand quod she The nexte thyng that I requere thee Thou shalt it do. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 517 To this couenaunte to be holde truly and with-out gyle, bothe perties plight ther trowthes. 1554-9 in *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 2 To fullfyll the promys he had plyght. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S. T. S.) ii. 75 William his vow plicht to the powin, Ffor favour or for feid. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 64 Off hir finger fals she threw ane Ring, And said, 'my Lord, ane taikin I ȝow plycht'. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 46 My faith I plight heere, to relate thee veritye soothlye. 1607 Topsell *Foure-f. Beasts* 353 Truely her troath She him plight, That she would not come within the night. 1700 Dryden *Pal. & Arc.* I. 291 Have we not plighted each our holy oath, That one should be the common good of both? 1813 Scott *Rokeby* I. xv, Hast thou kept thy promise plight, To slay thy leader in the fight? 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 685 They came in multitudes .. to plight faith to William, rightful and lawful King.

b. esp. in reference to betrothal or marriage: cf. Trothplight.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8386 (Cott.) Well i wat þat þou me hight, Ar þou to spouse me trouth plight. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Frankl. T.* 600 And in myn hand youre trouthe plighten ye To loue me best. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xiii. (Bodl. MS.), In contract of wedding [he] pliȝte[þ] his trowith and obligeþ hym selfe to lede his life with his wyfe and to pay here dettes. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, And therto I plight thee my trouth. 1653 Walton *Angler* i. 24 What is said of Turtle Doves; .. that they silently plight their troth and marry. 1841 James *Brigand* vii, I told him ..that my heart was given and my hand plighted to another.

†**c.** Phrase. *I thee* (*you*) *plight* (*sc.* my word): I warrant or assure you, I promise you. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 318, I shal have an othere, I you plighte, Like to this every dele. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton

Cl.) 50 The old man sayd 'Y the plyȝte, Thou schalt have as y the hyght'. *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* 2154 (Pynson) In that caue they were al nyght Wythout mete or drynke, I you plyght.

†3. To pledge or bind oneself to do or give (something); to promise. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 13071, & þu wulle me an hond plihten; þat ich hit scal al dihten. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2677 Or haue he hire plist & sworen, Þat him sal feið wurðful ben boren. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.*, etc. (1843) 145 Heyle godly lady in the was plyght Tho joy of man bothe all and sum. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 239 b, Than doest thou all that thou hast plyght. 1587 *Misfort. Arth.* III. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 313 The quiet rest that princely palace plights.

4. To engage or bind (oneself); *pass.* to be engaged or bound *to* some one.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 46 Pilgrimes and Palmers Plihten hem to-gederes For to seche Seint Ieme and seintes at Roome. 1377 *Ibid.* B. v. 202, I..was his prentis ypliȝte, his profit to wayte. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1045 Y til him am trewe y-pliȝt, & haue myn oþ y-swered. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Irel.* iv. 72 So you have plighted and pledged yourself to your band since you swore you would wed me only. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 116 His daughter was plighted to the very man he would have chosen for her.

†**Plight**, *v.*2 *Obs.* Forms: see PLIGHT *sb.*2 [ME. *plite*, etc., collateral form of PLAIT *v.*; later *plight*, going with PLIGHT *sb.*2]

1. *trans.* To fold, to pleat; = PLAIT *v.* 1, PLEAT *v.* 1; also, to contract into folds or wrinkles.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1155 (1204) Now goode Nece be it neuere so lyte, Yif me þe labour it to sowe and plyte. *c* 1374 — *Boeth.* I. Pr. ii. 5 (Camb. MS.), With the lappe of hir garment *Iplitid* in a frounce sche dryede myn eyen. 1530 PALSGR. 660/2, I plyght a gowne, I set the plyghtes in order, *je plye*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 76 The garment was large, and plited verie thicke. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 8 Things, which by Heat are not onely wrinkled, but ruffled and plighted. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 973 The wings are of a decayed purple colour passing to a lively blue, and all plighted severally.

b. To fold (in the arms), embrace.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 81 And in his armes he shall hym plight. 1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* (1877) 76 Diego .. Came running forth, him in his arms to plight.

c. *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 648 (697) What to done best were, & what eschue, That plitede she ful ofte in many folde. 1640 J. STOUGHTON *Def. & Distrib. Divinity* ii. 78 So long as these Divine truths are folded and plighted together in these few divisions, there is no lustre or light sparkles from them.

2. To intertwine or interweave into one combined texture; = PLAIT *v.* 2; to knit, to tie in a knot.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 76 Hir lockes are pleighted like the fleece of wooll. *c* 1590 — *Fr. Bacon* vi. 127 I'll plight the bands and seal it with a kiss. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 7 Sometimes her head she fondly would aguize With gaudy girlonds .. or rings of rushes plight. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VIII. xxiii, A long love-lock on his left shoulder plight.

Hence **Pli·ghted** *ppl. a.* (also **plited, plight**), plaited, pleated, folded, involved; **Pli·ghting** *vbl. sb.*, pleating, folding, wrinkling.

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. v. 95 Sleues with syde lappes or plyted. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1102 The nonnes, with vaile and wimple plight. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* C vij b, This all-affrighting Comet I haue heard To be the plighted tresse of Meropes. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 8 Contraction by the Fire..causeth Plighting. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. Wks. 1851 V. 62 She [Boadicea] wore a plighted garment of divers colours, with a great gold'n Chain. 1693 tr. *Emilianne's Hist. Monast. Ord.* 152 A black plited cloak.

Plight, obs. form of PLIGHTED *ppl. a.*1 and 2.

Plighted (plәi·tėd), *ppl. a.*1 Also 3 **yplit**, 4 **pliht**, 5 **plight**. [f. PLIGHT *v.*1 + -ED1.]

1. Of a thing: Pledged, given in pledge or assurance, solemnly promised.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3819 Sikernesse & treuþe yplit of þis voreward hii nome. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 156 b, I broken haue my plighted hest. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 688 Perfidious Mars long plighted Leagues divides. 1794 SOUTHEY *Wat Tyler* III. I, The King must perform His plighted promise. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. 218 His plighted faith went for as little as the plighted faith of a deliberate perjurer.

2. Of a person: Bound by pledge; engaged.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 116, I..was his pliht prentys his profyt to loke. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1044 Þou haly bischop and preste plight. 1849 Miss MULOCK *Ogilvies* xii, Unless they were plighted lovers. *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Parting Lovers* x, Many a plighted maid and wife.

†**Plighted**, *ppl. a.*2: see under PLIGHT *v.*2

Pli·ghter. *rare.* [f. PLIGHT *v.*1 + -ER1.] One who or that which plights or pledges.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 126 My play-fellow, your hand; this Kingly Seale, And plighter of high hearts.

†**Pli·ghtful**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **plihtful**. [f. PLIGHT *sb.*1 + -FUL.] Perilous; sinful, guilty, blameworthy.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 29 Thaim birð lef thair plihtful play. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6614 (Cott.) Þat plightful folk thoght þan na plai. *Ibid.* 29154 Qua dos heui plightful dede Of heuy penance has he nede.

†**Pli·ghtless**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also 4 **plihtles, plyȝtles**. [f. PLIGHT *sb.*1 + -LESS.] Blameless.

13.. *Cursor M.* 28945 (Cott.) Til him þat has bene hauand, ..And falles in-to state o nede, Plight-les for his aun dede. 13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 296 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 273 Adam, oure alder, þat ete of þat appulle þat mony a plyȝtles pepul has poysned for euer.

†**Pli·ghtly**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 plihtliche. [f. PLIGHT *sb.*1 + -LY1.] Perilous, of grave import.

c 1205 LAY. 23528 Þa weoren inne Paris Plihtliche spelles ful iwis [*c* 1275 sori tidynge foliwis].

†**Pli·ghty**, *a.*1 *Obs. rare.* [f. PLIGHT *sb.*1 + -Y. So MDu., MLG. *plichtich* liable, responsible.] Responsible, guilty.

13.. *Cursor M.* 6689 (Cott.) Qua smites his thain wit a wand, And he be deid vnder his hand, He sal be plighty for þe sin. *Ibid.* 8112 Til all plighti þair pardun [sal rise].

†**Pli·ghty**, *a.*2 *Obs. rare.* [f. PLIGHT *sb.*2 + -Y.] Full of folds, wrinkled, rugose.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 110 The other proper coate is on the inside in the small guts rugous or plightie.

Plihht, pliht, obs. forms of PLIGHT *sb.*1

Plim (plim), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [Known only from 17th c.; connected with the root of PLUM *v.* *Plim* adj. 'filled out' is used in dialects from Rutland to Devon.]

a. *intr.* To swell, fill *out*, grow plump.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. vi. 62 Yet plimming by a generous heat, That always by one Pulse did beat. 1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 38 [He] first discovered himself to be out of his Wits..by boiling a great Number of Groats with a Design, as he said, to make them plim, i. e. grow thicker. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1752) 147 The barley-straw..broke off..before the grain was full plimmed. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Nature* XXVII. 442/2 The leaves..plim out at once into a larger rounded type. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1892) 22 Don't that make your bosom plim?

b. *trans.* To swell, inflate.

1881 G. ALLEN *Evolutionist at Large* XV. 149 The wings [of a butterfly] are by origin a part of the breathing apparatus, and they require to be plimmed by the air before the insect can take to flight. 1881 — *Vignettes fr. Nat.* iv. 32, I saw an orange-tip plimming its unexpanded wings and displaying its beautiful markings on a blade of grass.

Pli·msoll. [The name of S. Plimsoll, M.P. for Derby, to whose agitation the Merchant Shipping Act of 1876 was due.] In *Plimsoll line* (LINE *sb.*2 7), *mark*, also called *Plimsoll's mark* (see MARK *sb.*1 12), the load-line required to be placed upon the hulls of British ships.

1881 [see MARK *sb.*1 12]. 1884 *Chr. World* 13 Mar. 185/3 On the vessels in our docks and harbours may now be seen the 'Plimsoll mark'. *fig.* 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Oct. 1/2 The only question in dispute is where to affix this Plimsoll line of respectability.

Plinian (pli·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *Plinianus*, f. *Plinius* Pliny. In B, a. Ger. *plinian*.]

A. *adj.* Belonging to or named after Pliny, esp. Pliny the elder, C. Plinius Secundus, the naturalist (23–79 A. D.).

1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* II. (1684) 79 *note*, Salmasius (in his Plinian Exercitations) takes it for a Fable.

B. *sb. Min.* Name given by Breithaupt (1846) to a supposed monoclinic variety of cobaltiferous arsenopyrite.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 80 Arsenopyrite, or Mispickel. .. Plinian. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min., Plinian.* ..A syn. of arsenopyrite, the new name being given because it was supposed to be monoclinic.

Plinth (plinþ). [ad. L. *plinthus* plinth (Vitruv. in senses 1 a, 2 a), a. Gr. πλίνθος tile, brick, stone squared for building. Cf. F. *plinthe*. The L. form *plinthus* was at first used.]

1. a. 'The lower square member of the base of a column or pedestal' (Gwilt).

[1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C iv b, The antiques haue made three Plinthus, one aboue an other, the occasion wherof is this, that the earthe should not ouer growe the Base of the Pedestale. *Ibid.* D iij b, The Abacus hangeth ouer more then the Plinthus of the Base of the pillor.] 1611 COTGR., *Plinthe*, a Plinth, or Slipper; a flat, and square peece of Masonrie, &c., placed sometimes aboue, sometimes below, the footstall (but euer the first of the Basis) of a piller, &c. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 459/1 The Plinth, or Plinthus. 1727 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The plinth is..that flat square table, under the mouldings of the base and pedestal..seeming to have been originally intended to keep the bottom of the primitive wooden pillars from rotting. *a* 1849 POE *Coliseum* iv, These ivy-clad arcades .. These mouldering plinths. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 151 In earlier instances the plinth and sub-plinth are both square in plan.

b. A block of stone, etc., serving as a base or pedestal to a statue, bust, vase, etc.; also, the squared base of a piece of furniture.

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 216 Upon the Stone Coping, are Plinths to set Vases and Flower-Pots on. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. vi. 109 These figures..stand upon little square plinths.

c. The projecting part of a wall immediately above the ground. Also *attrib.*, as *plinth-stone*.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 312 A Plinth, in masonry, is the first stone inserted above the ground. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. 1298 In a wall the term *plinth* is applied to two or more rows of bricks at the base of it, which project from the face. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* 292 *Plinth*, the plain projecting face at the bottom of a wall immediately above the ground. 1878 MCVITTIE *Christ Ch. Cath.* 66 Springing from a plinth which runs round the building.

d. *fig.* A plinth-like base or foundation.

1803 REPTON *Landscape Garden.* (1805) 86 A terrace .. forms a base line or deep plinth. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 405 Its surrounding plinth of rock shows in places at low water.

2. †a. After Vitruvius, The abacus of the capital of a column. *Obs.*

[1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C j b, The Capital..hath vpon Echinus a littel edge, which seteth forth Plinthus with a more beautiful Proiecture.] 1611 COTGR., *Abaque*, a Plinth, or flat square Stone, on the Capitell of a pillar. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 45/2 Over the Capitals of their Columns another Abacus or Plinth. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Vitruvius also calls the Tuscan abacus, *plinth*, from its resembling a square brick.

b. The uppermost projecting part of a cornice or of a wall. See also quot. 1727–41. Now *rare*.

1613 CHAPMAN *Maske Inns Court* a j, A..Temple..whose Pillars..bore vp an Architraue, Freese, and Cornish: Ouer which stood a continued Plinthe; whereon were aduanc't statues of siluer. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Plinth of a wall* ..in the general, for any flat high moulding, serving in a front wall to mark the floors; or to sustain the eaves of a wall, and the larmier of a chimney. 1863 PATERSON *Hist. Ayr.* I. 216 The plinth at the top of the walls was composed of the same material.

3. *Comb.* as *plinth-like, plinth-shaped* adjs.

Hence **Pli·nthiform** *a.*, having the form of a plinth; **Pli·nthless** *a.*, without a plinth.

1845 PALEY *Goth. Mouldings* 64 An interposed square edge, or plinthiform member. 1898 J. F. CURWEN *Hist. Descr. Levens Hall* 13 The square plinthless but embattled tower.

Plinthite (pli·nþәit). *Min.* [Named by T. Thomson 1836, f. Gr. πλίνθος brick + -ITE1.] A brick-red clay occurring among the trap rocks of Antrim and the Hebrides.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min.* I. 323 Sp. 8 *Plinthite.* I give this name to a mineral which occurs in the County of Antrim, from its brick red colour. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 217 Plinthite is not an uncommon mineral, occurring in the softer varieties of the trap rocks. 1883 *Athenæum* 30 June 833/3 Saponite, plinthite, Thomsonite..were found [near Stainchol, Skye].

Pli·nyism. *rare.* [f. *Pliny* (see PLINIAN) + -ISM.] A statement of dubious correctness, such as some found in Pliny's Natural History.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. iii. (1852) 368 Of which 'twill be no Plinyism to observe..that it flowers the first of all trees. *Ibid.* xix. 442 There is frequently..much likeliness between a Plinyism and a fable.

Pliocene (plәi·ŏsēn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Geol.* Also **pleiocene**. [f. Gr. πλείων, -ον more (see PLEIO-) + καινός new, recent.] Epithet applied to the newest division of the Tertiary formation, distinguished from EOCENE and MIOCENE as containing a larger proportion of fossil shells of still existing species; called also Upper Tertiary. Also applied to animals, etc., of this period. b. *absol.* as *sb.* = Pliocene division or formation.

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. v. 53 We derive the term Pliocene from πλείων, *major*, and καινος, *recens*, as the major part of the fossil testacea of this epoch are referrible to recent species. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 935/2 The pliocene rocks of England..include the red crag and coralline crag of the eastern counties. 1900 *Athenæum* 21 July 93/1 Years afterwards French anthropologists also found Pliocene man.

‖ **Pliohippus** (plәi,ohi·pŏs). *Palæont.* Also **pleio-**. [mod.L., f. *plio-* in PLIOCENE + Gr. ἵππος horse.] An extinct genus of horses, the fossil remains of which are found in the Pliocene and Miocene strata of N. America.

1874 O. C. MARSH in *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. 3 VII. 252 *Pliohippus.* A new genus of solipeds, allied to *Equus*..found in Pliocene strata, Nebraska. 1876 *Times* 7 Dec., In the recent strata was found the common horse; in the Pleiocene, the Pleiohippus and the Protohippus or Hipparion.

‖ **Pliolophus** (plәi,ǫ·lŏfŏs). *Palæont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. πλείον more + λόφος crest: see quot. 1857.] A genus of fossil perissodactyl hoofed quadrupeds, whose remains are found in the Middle and Lower Tertiary strata. Hence **Pli·oloph**, an animal of this genus; **Plio·lophoid** *a.*, resembling this genus, or belonging to the *Pliolophoidea* or *Pliolophidæ*, of which it is the type; *sb.* a pliolophoid animal.

1857 OWEN in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XIV. 55 A new genus and species of perissodactyle pachyderm, for which I propose the name of *Pliolophus vulpiceps*, or Fox-headed Pliolophus. *Note.* By it [the term *Pliolophus*] I..mean that it is more near to the Lophiodont type than its close ally the Hyracotherium. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Pliolophus*, a small *lophiodont* mammal, whose remains have been found in eocene and miocene tertiaries.

‖ **Pliosaurus** (plәi,osō·rŭs). *Palæont.* Also **pleio-**. [mod.L., f. Gr. πλείον more, PLEIO- + σαῦρος lizard; so called because more near to the saurian type than the ICHTHYOSAURUS.] A genus of fossil marine reptiles, resembling *Plesiosaurus*, but with shorter neck, larger head, and stronger jaws and teeth; their remains are found in the Upper Oolite. Also anglicized as **Pli·osaur**. Hence **Pliosau·rian** *a.*, of or belonging to the genus *Pliosaurus*.

1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 300 The Pliosaurus was a gigantic reptile, intermediate between the two preceding genera. We know two species from the Oxford and Kimmeridge clays. 1859 OWEN in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVII. 148/2 This short-necked and big-headed Amphicœlian Pliosaur. 1888 R. LYDEKKER in *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 50 Further indications of Pliosaurian affinities.

Plise, obs. variant of PLEASE *v.*

Plisky (pli·ski), *sb.* (*a.*) *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Origin unknown.] A mischievous trick; a frolic.

1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry & Prayer* xvi, Deil na they never mair do guid, Play'd her that pliskie! 1816 SCOTT

Antiq. xli, I can hae nae reason to play an ill pliskie t'ye in the day o' your distress. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 154 Get them fu', and we'll soon play them a plisky.

b. An awkward plight.

1829 HOGG in R. Chambers *Sc. Songs* (1829) I. 136 Ye little ken what pains I prove, Or how severe my pliskie, O! 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xiii, I nobbut wish he may catch ye i' that plisky.

B. *adj.* Tricky, mischievous. *rare.*

1887 J. SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* I. iv. (ed. 3) 27 Auld Habkin o' the Pethfit, who was a pliskie body.

Plit. *Agric.* [Invented by W. Marshall: see quot. 1778.] The slice of earth turned over by a ploughshare.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 13 May an. 1775, Each furrow.., and the fresh-formed surface of each *plit*, may lie .. wholly exposed to the weather. [*Ibid., note.* A spade-full is called a *Spit*, and, by analogy, a plow-full a *Plit.*] 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 156 Where the land is excessively steep, it is often necessary to plough directly across, throwing the plits or furrow slices all down hill. 1813 R. KER *Agric. Surv. Berwick* 150 At its fore part it is an exceedingly sharp wedge, so as to insinuate between the fastland and the plit, or furrow slice.

Plit, plite, obs. forms of PLIGHT.

† Plitch, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *plycc(e)an, 5 plycche. *Pa. t.* 4 plight(t)e, (pleightte), 5 ply3te, plyghte. *Pa. pple.* 4 ply3t, 5 plight, 6 plyghte. [OE. 2 sing. subj. and imper. *plyce, plice*, irreg. forms from **plycc(e)an*:—WGer. type **plukkja-* pluck (whence also Du. *plucken*,* LG. *plücken*, MHG., Ger. *pflücken*): see PLUCK *v.*] *trans.* To pluck, pull, snatch.

? *a* 1000 in *Techmer's Intern. Zeitschr. Sprachw.* (1885) II. 122 Ðonne þu setrægel habban wille, þonne plice þu ðine agene geweda mid twam fingrum. *Ibid.* 127 Þæt þu strece forð þin wenstre handstoc and plyce innan mid þinre wynstran hande. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 2401 His swerd of stiel he hab up pliȝt. *c* 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 626 Fersly here swete sone ys from her plyȝt. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1071 (1120) He seyd here þus and out þe lettre plighte. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3029 He..plyȝte him of is sadel with mayn. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's Prol.* 15 And sodeynly he plighte his hors aboute.

Hence † **Pli·tching** *vbl. sb.*, plucking, carping.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 294 þe synnes of þi mowth arn .. plycchyng at loue & charyte.

Plith, obs. f. PLIGHT *sb.*[1] **Plo,** obs. f. PLOUGH.

Ploat, plote (plōʊt), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [a. Fl. and Du. *ploten* (in Kilian only as Fl.) to pluck the wool off; in meaning identical with *blooten*, but connexion is uncertain.] *trans.* To pluck, to strip of feathers, wool, etc.; *fig.* to rob, plunder, fleece.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Plote*, to pluck, to chide vehemently, 'See how she plotes him'. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., To Ploat*, to pluck the feathers off a fowl... 'They'll ploat him', fleece him. 1863 ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* 431 The geese 'ill niver feel ye ploat.

Hence † **Ploa·ter, plotter** [see -ER[1]; cf. Du. *ploter* white leather-dresser, 'vellerum siue lanarum tonsor' (Kilian).] *Obs.*

1601 in Cochran-Patrick *Med. Scotl.* iii. (1892) 40 Ayr took three of them—George Baert, 'plotter and comber'; James Claers, weaver; and Arane Janson, 'scherar'.

‖ **Ploc.** *rare*—°. [F. *ploc* in same and other senses (1567 in Hatz.-Darm.).] (See quot.)

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Ploc*, a mixture of hair and tar for covering a ship's bottom. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

‖ **Ploce** (plō·sī). *Rhet.* Also 6 **ploche,** 7 **ploke** (plō·kī). [Late L. *plocē* (Mart. Capella), the rhetorical figure, a. Gr. πλοκή plaiting, f. πλέκειν to plait.] The repetition of a word in an altered or more expressive sense, or for the sake of emphasis.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 86 *Ploche*, when by an Emphasis, a word is either in praise or disgrace reiterated or repeated. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 211 Ploche, or the Doubler. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 109 *Ploce*, ..A figure when a word is by way of Emphasis so repeated, that it denotes not only the thing signified, but the quality of the thing. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Ploce*,..a Rhetorical figure of Elocution,..as, In that great victory Cæsar was Cæsar. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 ¶ 3 He generally talked in the Paranomasia,..he sometimes gave into the Plocè. 1859 tr. *Bengel's Gnomon* I. 356 Ὁ ποιήσας ἐποίησεν (He who made, made), is a striking example of Ploce.

Ploch, variant of PLOTCH *Obs.*

Plod (plɒd), *v.* Also 7–8 *dial.* **plad.** [Known from *c* 1560; app. of onomatopœic origin. (ME. *plodder* seems to be unconnected.)

Some would connect it with ME. *plod* (*plodde*), PLUD, a puddle, a pool, taking the original sense as 'to wade in a puddle, to splash through water or mud'; but no special reference to puddles or wading appears in the use of the word, which seems rather to suggest the dull sound of labouring steps on moderately firm ground.]

1. *intr.* To walk heavily or without elasticity; to move or progress laboriously, to trudge. Also *plod on. lit.* and *fig.*

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 27, I like not this soil, for as I go plodding, I mark there two, there three, their heads always nodding, In close secret wise. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 3 Plodding through Aldersgate..with a quarter Ashe staffe on my Shoulder. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. iv. 6 Bare-foot plod I the cold ground vpon. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 27 Wee plod-on in the common Road of habituated husbandry. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. i. 31 Plodding along through a tasteless existence. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* i, If such there be still let him plod On the dull foggy paths of care. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. III. 340 We plodded along in profound silence.

b. *trans.* To trudge along, over, or through (a road, etc.); to make (one's way) by plodding.

1750 GRAY *Elegy* 3 The plowman homeward plods his weary way. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. iii, The journeying years Plod the last sands of life. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlvi, Nor plod the winter land to look For willows in the icy brook. 1903 R. D. SHAW *Pauline Epist.* 176 In obedience to a dream..Augustus plodded the streets of Rome and gathered coppers as a beggar.

2. *intr.* To work with steady laborious perseverance; to toil in a laborious, stolid, monotonous fashion; to drudge, slave. Const. *at, on, upon.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 91 What thing is it..in your brain ploddyng. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 170 If such a one wax obstinat in plodding at the Lawe, and spend much time in the Schooles. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 66 The dull Christian sitts often fruitlesly plodding on the Booke, nay heares the Prophesies often preached to no purpose. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plod*, to labour earnestly in Business, to have one's Head full of it. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 686 We may suppose the possessor of it argued..'It is not worth while to plod with a single talent, for sake of the slender profit that may be made of it by the best management'. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xii, There you have the secret of good work—to plod on and still keep the passion fresh.

† **b.** *trans. Plod out*: To spend (time) in plodding. *Obs. rare.*

1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) II. 294 To plod out the evenings..at home over a book.

† **3.** Of hounds: see quot. 1688. *Obs.*

1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 36 If there be any yong hounde which woulde carie or hang behind, beyng opinionate..and ploddyng by himselfe. *Ibid.* 240 Hounds do cal on, bawle, bable, crie, yearne, lapyse, plodde, baye and such like other noyses. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 76/1 They plod, is when Hounds hang behind, and beat too much upon the scent in one place.

¶ **4.** Confused with or influenced by PLOT *v.* in various senses. *Obs.* (Cf. PLOT *v.*[3] = plod.)

1631 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Turn Fort. Wheel* Pref., Which makes our foes complot consult and plod, How and by what means they may warr with God. 1663 R. BLAIR *Autobiog.* iii. (1848) 54 Yet gave I not over plodding to obstruct my settling there. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 450 ¶ 4, I fell a plodding what Advantages might be made of the ready Cash I had. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 240 They were plodding mischief for twenty years before we forced them to commit hostilities.

Plod (plɒd), *sb.* [f. PLOD *v.*] An act or spell of plodding; a heavy tiring walk. Also *fig.*

1880 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 5/8 We accepted an ankle-deep plod through filth indescribable and treacherous boulders. 1890 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* III. 13 Only life's common plod: still to repair The body and the thing which perisheth.

b. The sound of a heavy dull tread or the like; tramp, thud.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 June 1/3 What is the voice of London? Is it not the plod, plod, dumping plod of the horses' hoofs?

Plod, plodan, plodden, obs. ff. PLAID, -ING.

Plod, Plodde, obs. forms of PLOUD, PLUD.

† **Ploddall.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? = *plod-all*: cf. *save-all*, etc.] A plodder.

16.. *MS. Bodl.* 30 lf. 13 b, Our Schollers..verie ploddalls of Art.

† **Ploddeill.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Origin and sense obscure: the radical part is prob. as in PLODDER[1], the ending perh. = F. *-aille* collective.] ? A company or band of thrashers or cudgellers. (*Contemptuous.*)

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 4998 (Wemyss MS.), I vow to God scho beris hir weill The Scottis wenche with hir ploddeill; For, cum I airly, cum I lait, I fynd ay Annes at the ȝait.

† **Plodder**[1]. *Obs.* [Origin and sense uncertain: perh. f. 16th c. Fr. (and mod. Norm. dial.) *plauder* for *pelauder* 'to thwack, swindge, belabour..cudgell..; to vse roughly..handle rudely' (Cotgr.).] ? One who belabours or handles roughly.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12862 Pilours and plodders, piked þere goodes, Kyld of þe comyns, & myche care did. *a* 1475 *Wyntoun's Cron.* VII. 4998 (Royal MS.), I vow to God scho mais grete stere The Scottis wenche ploddere. [Cf. prec.]

Plodder[2] (plɒ·dəɹ). [f. PLOD *v.* + -ER[1].] One who plods. **a.** Usually, One who works slowly and laboriously; a persevering toiler, a drudge.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* I. i. 86 Small haue continuall plodders euer wonne, Saue base authoritie from others Bookes. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 312 Being an indefatigable plodder at his book [he] took the degree of M. of Arts. 1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 95 ¶ 13 Wealthy plodders were only purveyors for men of spirit. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* v, Shall I..Work first and be paid after, like the plodder In yonder field?

b. One who trudges in walking. *rare.*

1832 W. STEPHENSON *Gateshead Local Poems* 35 Old harmless..Deborah Dick, Thro' thick and thin a Plodder.

Hence † **Plo·dderly** *adv.*, after the manner of a plodder; laboriously, clumsily.

c 1605 BEAUMONT (Sloane MS. 1709) in *Athenæum* 27 Jan. (1894) 115/1 Pronunciation of vile speeches in vile plotts.. in the most plodderly plotted shew of Lady Amity.

Plo·dding, *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the verb PLOD; walking heavily, trudging; toiling or striving with laborious industry.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 305 Vniuersall plodding poysons vp The nimble spirits in the arteries. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 155 No worthy enterprise can be done by us without continuall plodding and wearisomnes to our faint and sensitive abilities. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 24 (1822) I. 190 Between the plodding of a sexton through a Church-yard, and the walk of a Gray, what a difference! 1891 *Athenæum* 9 May 602/3 After laborious plodding through page after page of the letters.

So **Plod-plodding,** designating a continuous thudding sound.

1881 BLACK *Sunrise* III. iv. 74 They had by this time grown quite accustomed to the plod plodding of the train.

Plodding (plɒ·dɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PLOD *v.* + -ING[2].] That plods; walking or working slowly and laboriously; diligent without brilliancy; persevering.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37 Let the indifferent Reader diuine what deepe misterie can be placed vnder plodding méeter. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, A dull, plodding face, still looking in a direct line. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* (Arb.) 72 A Plodding Student Is a kind of alchymist or Persecutor of Nature. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 198 The Pladding Countryman overlooks such Vicissitudes of Nature. 1702 YALDEN *Æsop at Court* x. iv, A solemn plodding Ass that graz'd the plain. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. xii. (1869) 250 The English are considered as comparatively a slow plodding people.

Hence **Plo·ddingly** *adv.*, **Plo·ddingness.**

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 13 For his hire any handy craft man..wil ploddingly do his day labor. 1880 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* IV. IX. i. 223 Grenville was ploddingly industrious. 1882 H. E. MERIVALE *Faucit of B.* I. i. xi. 185 Out of the dulness and the ploddingness.

Plodge (plɒdʒ), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* Also **pludge.** [Onomatopœic; allied to PLOD, but with expressive change of final consonant; perh. influenced by *plunge.*] *intr.* To wade or walk heavily in water, soft ground, or anything in which the feet sink.

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Plodge*, to wade through water, to plunge. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Plodge*, to plunge up and down in water with the feet. 1863 ROBSON *Bards of Tyne* 27 To see the folks a' duckin';..men an' wives together pludg'd. 1885 *Fortnt. in Waggonette* 63 What work to plodge through it [heather] for hour after hour!

† **Plod-shoe.** *Obs.* [f. PLOD *v.* + SHOE.] A strong clumsy shoe, in which one walks heavily.

1697 VANBRUGH *2nd Pt. Æsop* iii. 151 Because I han't a pair of plod shoes, and a dirty shirt, you think a woman won't venture upon me for a husband. 1705 — *Confed.* I. ii. 64 How like a dog will you look, with a pair of plod shoes, your hair cropp'd..and a bandbox under your arm.

Plog(g, plogh(e, ploh, obs. ff. PLOUGH.

Plo3e, plohe, obs. forms of PLAY *sb.* and *v.*

Ploimate (plōɪ·mēt), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Ploima*, neut. pl. (C. J. Hudson, 1884) (f. Gr. πλώϊμος fit for sailing, seaworthy, f. πλώειν, πλεῖν to sail) + -ATE[2].] Of or pertaining to the *Ploima*, a division of *Rotifera* or wheel-animalcules, having no foot, and progressing only by swimming.

Ploi·ter, *v. dial.* [Akin to PLOUTER.] *intr.* To work in an ineffective way; to potter; to dawdle.

1848 DE QUINCEY *Sortilege & Astrol.* Wks. 1858 IX. 269 She shifted her hand, and 'ploitered' amongst the papers for full five minutes. 1895 IAN MACLAREN *Brier Bush* VII. i, What are ye ploiterin' aboot here for?

Plok(ke, Plom, Plomage, obs. forms of PLUCK, PLUM, PLUMAGE.

† **Plomayle.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. OF. *plumail* (*Monstrelet Chron.* 14..) a plume; cf. L. *plūmālis* feathered.] Plumage.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 32 Þey plucked the plomayle ffrom þe pore skynnes.

Plombe, Plombette, obs. ff. PLUMB, PLUMMET.

‖ **Plombgomme** (plōṇgom). *Min.* [F., lit. gummy lead, f. *plomb* lead + *gomme* gum.] = PLUMBOGUMMITE.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 746 *Plomb-gomme.* This lead ore.. is of a dirty brownish or orange-yellow. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 685 *Plombgomme*, syn. with Plumboresinite. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 577 S. Tennant (who died in 1815) is said to have first analyzed plombgomme and made it a combination of oxyd of lead, alumina, and water.

Plombierite (plɒ·mbiĕrəit). *Min.* [f. Plombières, France: see -ITE[1] 2 b.] (See quots.)

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 685 *Plombierite*, a hydrated silicate of calcium..formed by the action of a hot mineral spring at Plombières on an old Roman mortar. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 802 *Plombierite*,..a gelatinous substance, which hardens in the open air, formed from the thermal waters of Plombières.

Plome, Plomet(e, -ette, -it, Plomp, obs. forms of PLUM, PLUME, PLUMBET, PLUMMET, PLUMP.

† **Plone.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. App. an alteration of an orig. *plane*, PLANE *sb.*[1]

(*Plum* has been suggested, but appears to be formally impossible.)

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* liii. 70 Þe palme and þe poplere, þe pirie, þe plone [*rimes* Ione, lone, *for orig.* Iane, lane], þe Iunipere ientel, Ionyng bi-twene.

Plong, plonge, obs. forms of PLUNGE.

Plonge (plɒndʒ), *sb. Fortif.* [After F. *plongée.*] 'The superior slope given to the parapet' (Stocqueler *Milit. Encycl.* 1853); = PLUNGE *sb.* 6.

† **Plonge** (plɒndʒ), *v. Obs.* [var. of PLUNGE.] *trans.* To cleanse (an open drain or sewer) by stirring up the mud at the bottom so that the outward flow may carry it off.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 425/1. *Ibid.* 427/1 'When we go plonging', one man said, 'we has long poles with a piece of wood at the end of them, and we stirs up the mud.. while the tide's a going down .. and lets out the water, mud, and all, into the Thames'.

Plongeon, variant of PLUNGEON, *Obs.*

Plonket, Plonte, obs. forms of PLUNKET, PLANT.

Ploo, obs. form of PLOUGH.

Plook, Plooky, etc.: see PLOUK, PLOUKY.

Plop (plɒp), *sb.* and *adv.* [Echoic: cf. PLUMP.]

A. *sb.* The sound made by a smooth object dropping into water without splashing, by water falling in a small mass, or by bursting bubbles in boiling liquid; the act of falling with this sound.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* ix, We tugged at the sable heroine, and first one leg came home out of the tenacious clay, with a plop. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 212 The plop plop of the little mud pools. 1886 G. ALLEN *Life Darwin* i. 9 The wave of thought and feeling..stirred on the unruffled pond of eighteenth century opinion by the startling plop of Buffon's little pebble. 1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 85 We threw tiny stones into the water, at the quick plop of which the angler would hurry to the spot.

B. *adv.* or *int.* With a plop.

1844 THACKERAY *Wand. Fat Contrib.* ii, She advances backwards towards the coming wave, and as it reaches her —plop! she sits down in it. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iii, A few great drops of rain fell plop into the water.

Plop (plɒp), *v.* [Echoic: cf. prec., and PLUMP *v.*] *intr.* To fall with or as with a plop; to drop flat *into* or *upon*; to plump, flop. *To plop up*: To rise with a plop, as a bubble, etc. Also *trans.* in causative sense.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 16 The brook, which I have ..watch'd with joy till bursting off it plopt In running gushes of wild murmuring groans. 1839 THACKERAY *Catherine* vii, An apple plops on your nose, and makes you a world's wonder and glory. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iii, The released lead plopped into the sea far ahead.

Hence **Plo·pping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 84 The plopping gun's sharp, momentary shock. 1893 J. A. BARRY *S. Brown's Bunyip*, etc. 218 Ploppings and splashings as of many small swimmers. 1897 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 589/2 The plopping of the waves against the wall.

†**Plo·rabund**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. type **plōrabund-us*, f. *plōrāre* to weep.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Plorabunde*, one that weepeth much.

Ploration (plorē⁽ˈ⁾ʃən). *rare.* [ad L. *plōrātiōn-em*, n. of action from *plōrāre* to weep.] Weeping. So **Plo·ratory** *a.*, weeping, mournful.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 596 Philanthropists .. pour out their plorations on the fate of 'Afric's swarthy sons'. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 982 The shedding of tears; ploration. 1831 *Crayons fr. the Commons* 48 In dismal doleful ploratory strain He explicates th' amount of loss and gain.

†**Plore**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. In 5 **plowre**. [ad. L. *plōrāre*, F. *pleurer*.] *intr.* To weep, wail.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plowryn, or wepyn, *ploro, fleo. Ibid.*, Plowrynge, or wepynge, *ploratus.*

Plosh, dial. form of PLASH *sb.*[1]

Plot (plɒt), *sb.* Also 5–7 **plotte**, 6–7 **plott**. [Appears in late OE. (see sense 2), if indeed the single instance belongs to this word, and then not till late 14th c.; in senses 3–7 not before 16th c. Origin unknown. See also the collateral form *plat* (PLAT *sb.*[3]), which arose in the 16th c., and was for two centuries or more common in all senses exc. 1 and 7. Senses 3–6 are found earlier in *plat*. For the relations between the two, see PLAT *sb.*[3] As to sense 7 see the note under branch III.]

I. †**1.** A small portion of any surface (e. g. of the skin, a garment) differing in character or aspect from the rest of the surface; a patch, spot, mark. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 275–6 He hadde a cote of crystendome..Ac it was moled in many places with many sondri plottes, Of pruyde here a plotte, and þere a plotte of vnboxome speche. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/1 Plecke, or plotte, *porciuncula. Ibid.*, Plot, *idem quod* plek. 1583 LYLY *Epist.* in T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* (Arb.) 29, I could finde nothing but..loose stringes, where I tyed hard knots: and a table of steele, where I framed a plot of wax. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 98 The men shaue a plot four square vpon the crownes of their heads. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 325 The horse will be..full of scabs and raw plots about the neck. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2143/4 A daple gray Mare,..a Plott chafed upon the side of her Cheek. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 490 Very minute pustules, forming circular plots of a brown, or reddish hue.

2. An area or piece (of small or moderate size) of ground, or of what grows or lies upon it; *esp.* one used for some special purpose, indicated by the context; a patch, spot. Cf. PLAT *sb.*[3] 1.

?*a* 1100 (*Charm*) in Liebermann *Gesetze der Angels.* 400 Ic agnian wylle to agenre æhte ðæt ðæt ic hæbbe & næfre ðe mȝntan ne plot ne ploh, ne turf ne toft, ne furh ne fotmæl, ne land ne læse. 1463 in *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 461 An acre of medew in a noder plotte. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* XXXVI. 125 We requyre onely..a lityll plotte of grounde where we maye dwelle in peas. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* lxxii, And why that some did reverence to the tree, And some unto the plot of floures fair? 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 213 In Cambridge then, I found agen, a resting plot. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 3 This greene plot shall be our stage. 1598 FLORIO *Ital. Dict.* Ep. Ded. 2 What pleasure in a plot of simples. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* III. i. 127 Poor countrymen have but one plot To keep a cow on. 1660 *Season. Exhort.* 20 Youth, who are the seed plot of future woe or weal. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 24 We call any plain Superficies, whose Sides are unequal..a Plot, as of a Field, Wood, Park.., and the like. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vii. 146 The little plots, which the several families possess, and cultivate. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Rural Life Eng.* § 9 The trim hedge, the grass plot before the door. 1891 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 82/2 A land company..afterwards sold the adjoining land in building plots.

†**b.** The place on which a building, town, city, etc. is situated; site, situation. *Obs.*

1548 W. PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* A iij b, The plot of this Castell standeth so naturally strong. 1551 ROBINSON *More's Utop.* II. i. (1895) 119 Cities..in all poyntes fashioned a lyke, as farfurth as the place or plotte suffereth. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1549/1 He likewise began ..the strengthening of Athelon with gates and other fortifications, the foundation and plot of the bridge of Caterlagh. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 114 They who founded it..were so blind as that they could not choose it for the plot of Chalcedon. 1603 T. M. *Progr. to London of Jas. I* C iij, He bestowed this day in surueying of the plots and fortifications [of Berwick].

II. In the following senses *plat* occurs earlier; see PLAT *sb.*[3]

3. A ground-plan of a building, city, field, farm, or any area or part of the earth's surface; a map, a chart: = PLAT *sb.*[3] 2. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in *U. S.*

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* II. Pref., To drawe the plotte of any countreie that you shall come in, as iustely as maie be. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 439 Hannibal..drew a plot of a City..and caused it to be built and inhabited. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 50 Our English plottes are verie ill made, and the land wrong drawne where wee haue litle trade. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. ii. 11 How to take the Plott of a Field at one Station. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Prick a Plot* (among Sailers), is ..to make a small Prick in the Plot or Chart in that Latitude and Longitude, where the Ship is suppos'd to be at that time. 1775 JOHNSON *West. Islands* Wks. X. 339 The ruins of the cathedral of Elgin..Its whole plot is easily traced. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 835 It will be seen on reference to the plot of the place.

†**b.** *fig.* The type or representation *of* something. *Obs. rare.*

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* ii. 24 Blotted by him that is the plot of evil, Undone, corrupted, vanquish'd by the devil.

†**4.** *fig.* A sketch or outline of a literary work. Cf. PLAT *sb.*[3] 3. *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Pref. D ij b, Least I mai woorthely be doubted by the plot of my Prologe, to haue made the foorme of my booke lyke the proportion of sainct Peters man, I will here leaue of further proces of Preface. 1554 LD. DARNLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 249 It haith pleased your moste excellente Maiestie laitlie to accepte a little Plote of my simple penning, which I termed *Vtopia Nova.* 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. Ded. § 15 Such a plotte made and recorded to memorie; may .. minister light to any publique designation. *a* 1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Women* v. i. 170 Why, sure, this plot's drawn false; here's no such thing.

†**b.** ? A device, a design. *Obs. rare.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 60 Hee.. makes six plots of set faces, before he speakes one wise word.

†**5.** A plan or scheme for the constitution or accomplishment of anything; a purpose, device, design, scheme: = PLAT *sb.*[3] 4. *Obs.* (exc. as in 7).

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1397/1 That the kalendar once reformed according to this plot, need neuer hereafter either to be altered or amended. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 609/1 There have beene divers good plottes devised, and wise counsells cast alleready about reformation of that realme. 1607 T. SPARKE *Brotherly Perswasion* B ij, I neuer yet could bee brought..to thinke that forme and plot of Church gouernment so much admired and magnified as the perpetuall and onely fit gouernment for Christes Church..fitting for such a Monarchye as this is. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vii. 310 This is the great design and plot of the gospel. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 269 A design or policy of the Devil..to counter-work God Almighty in the plot of christianity.

6. The plan or scheme of any literary creation, as a play, poem, or work of prose fiction. Cf. PLAT *sb.*[3] 5.

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 78 Th'other [Comedy] for the Gentlemen oth' Pit, Like to themselves all Spirit, Fancy, Wit In which plots should be subtile as a Flame. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 62 The Plots of the best Poets may sometimes have a hole pick'd in them. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 16 To censure the plot of a play. 1759 GOLDSM. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) III. 495 The whole plot of these five cantos is no more than a young lady happening to prick her finger with a needle. 1852 LEWIS *Meth. Reason. Politics* V. § 5. 118 In every narrative, there is a certain connexion of events..which, in a work of fiction, is called a plot. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* ii. 28 In the plot of the Odyssey, symmetry is obvious at first sight: in the plot of the Iliad, it has to be sought out.

III. Probably influenced by COMPLOT.

[*Complot* was used in Fr. from the 14th c., and occurs in Eng. *c* 1575. It might be even more correct to view *plot* in this sense as short for *complot* under the influence of the sense 'plan, scheme, or device', already present in 5. The usage probably became widely known in connexion with the 'Gunpowder Plot'.]

7. A plan or project, secretly contrived by one or more persons, to accomplish some wicked, criminal, or illegal purpose; a conspiracy; also in later use, *humorously* for a sly plan, an innocent scheme.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. i. 32 Plots haue I laide, Inductions dangerous,..To set my Brother Clarence and the King In deadly hate. 1617 VICARS (*title*) Mischeefes Mysterie: or, Treasons Master-peece, The Powder-plot. Inuented by hellish Malice. *a* 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* V. iv, He only knew All Plotts, and complots of his villanie. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 83 Plots, true or false, are necessary things To raise up commonwealths, and ruin kings. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 18 June, The Popish Plot also..began now sensibly to dwindle, thro' the folly, knavery, impudence, and giddiness of Oates. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. Wks. 1813 V. 336 The author of this dangerous plot was Charles, duke of Bourbon. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxx. 127 They could not.. have suspected the plots which were laid for their destruction. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 267 There were two plots..The object of the great Whig plot was to raise the nation in arms against the government. The lesser plot, commonly called the Rye House plot,..had for its object the assassination of the king and of the heir presumptive.

IV. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*; in sense 2, as *plot-holder, -place*; **plot-divided** *a.*, divided into plots; in sense 6, as *plot-building, -construction*; in sense 7, as *plot-caster, -mad* (see MAD *a.* 4 c), *-master, -monger, -night, -weaver*; **plot-proof** *a.*, proof against plots.

1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 505/2 The fault [found] with the average successful American novel is that its workmanship is inferior; inferior to its *plot-building and invention. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 4 The first *plotcasters of their innocent brethrens ruines. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits' Downf.* 62 [He] then tooke vpon him with his Iesuiticall Plotcasters, to be an Actor, an orator or a broker. 1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 170 Rice, which they grew..on the wet system, in *plot-divided terraces. 1881 *Philad. Press* 8 June 2 The *plotholders in the Easton Cemetery held their annual meeting Monday night. 1867 G. MEREDITH *Vittoria* XXXVII. III. 83 She saw that he was *plot-mad, and she set him at work on a stupendous plot. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiv. (1623) 771 The chiefe *plot-master, the Earle. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 11 (1754) 56 He is no *plot-monger, as a less conjurer than you..might have easily seen. 1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXX. 175 Deluded by the fabrications of our plot-mongers. 1900 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 509/1 Light-coloured 'parkin' or '*plot-night' (Guy Fawkes) treacle or gingerbread made of ordinary household flour. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* XXXI. (1614) 61/1 The Grey Friars..whose suppression hath suppressed the *plot-place of his grave. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 6 The harlot-King Is quite beyond mine Arme, out of the blanke And leuell of my braine: *plot-proofe. 1897 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 303 The most successful..of all these *plot-weavers was..the Secretary Cecil.

Plot (plɒt), *v.*[1] [f. PLOT *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To make a plan, map, or diagram of (an existing object, as a portion of the earth's surface, a building, etc.); to draw to scale; to lay down on a map (as the position of a place, a ship's course); to represent by a plan or diagram (the course or result of any action or process). Also with *down*. Also *fig.*

1590 GREENE *Francescos Fortunes* To Rdrs., Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 118 You may see plotted downe many passions full of repentant sorrowes. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* To Rdr., Reckon therefore .. that this treatise plotteth downe Cornwall, as it now standeth. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. iv. 16 How to Plot a Field by the Rule beforegoing. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Surveying*, All closes, or parcels of land, are either such as need not be plotted for finding their true measure..or such as cannot be conveniently measured without plotting or protraction. 1859 BACHE *Discuss. Magn. & Meteorol. Observ.* I. 18 If we plot the disturbance curve on the same scale. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 236 The Commander..had so plotted the rock upon his chart. 1880 W. C. ROBERTS *Introd. Metallurgy* 34 The results, tabulated or plotted into curves .. form permanent records of the greatest value. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 944/1 Plotting down this position on the chart, it appeared that Cape Rivers, on the island of Celebes, was the nearest land, bearing S. by E. 125 miles.

b. To make or draw by plotting. *rare.*

1886 H. S. BROWN *Autobiog.* vii. (1887) 30 They were busy plotting their maps.

2. To make a plan of (something to be laid out, constructed, or made, as a city, fortress, garden, railway). Also with *out*.

1588 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 652 He gins to fashion forth a place; And squaring it in compasse well beseene, There plotteth out a tombe by measured space. 1590 GREENE *Royal Exchange* Ep. Ded., Our Cittie of London..plotted and erected by Brute. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 155 When thou wouldest plot out thy Land thou designest to plant. 1887 LOWELL *Old Eng. Dram.* (1892) 40 His tragedy of 'Dido, Queen of Carthage', is also regularly plotted out. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 486 Unless the line of the smaller curvature be plotted out.

b. To lay *out* (land) in plots.

1889 C. D. WARNER *Stud. South & West* XV. 384 There is not level ground for a large city, but what there is is plotted out for sale.

3. To plan, contrive, or devise (something to be carried out or accomplished); to lay plans for. Now always in evil sense.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 117 Who listning not a little to this counsaile, that was neuer plotted for his aduantage. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 10 He had first plotted a warre against the Indians. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 94. 360 They..plotted the .. mercilesse, devilish, and damnable gunpowder-treason. 1638 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* x. (1702) 150 Then do not think it safe to rob God of His Glory which he hath thus plotted and contrived. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 263 P 1 The good Man and Woman..who used to sit and plot the Welfare of us their Children. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 83 Therefore, I will plot his destruction with my wit and reason, like as he hath plotted with his cunning and perfidy. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xx. 451 A .. protestation that whatsoever he had foolishly plotted, he had never plotted treason.

b. With *infinitive* or *clause*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. v. 38 The subtill Traytor This day had plotted .. To murther me. **1601** B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) II. ii. 3 My labouring spirit .. can embrace no rest Till it hath plotted by aduise and skill How to reduce him from affected will To reasons manage. **1671** *Charente's Let. Customs* 28 They plotted to go in the day time and build them a Hutt. **1762** H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. vi. 137 Had he plotted to dethrone a princess who had delivered him from a prison and offered him a throne. **1841** LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 91 And plot with thee to destroy him.

4. *intr.* To form a plan, device, or plot (in modern use, always for some evil, reprehensible, or hostile end); to scheme, lay plans, contrive, conspire. *To plot it*, to do the plotting.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 1 Wel he beginneth and soundly he plotteth, who..beholdeth his face. **1611** BIBLE *Ps.* xxxvii. 12 The wicked plotteth against the iust. *a* **1720** SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. Pref. 18 For the Quakers, so called, have not plotted against the government. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* I. I. 29 Oh crafty one, with whom, among the gods, Plottest thou now? **1897** RHOSCOMVL *White Rose Arno* 206 We've had about enough of your plots: I'll plot it from now on.

†**5.** *trans.* To devise the plot or story of (a literary work). *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 196 Hee subscribing to me in anie thing but plotting Plaies, wherein he was his crafts master. *c* **1650** DENHAM *On T. Killigrew's Ret. fr. Venice* ii, Having plotted and penned Six plays.

Plot (plɒt), *v.*[2] [ad. F. *peloter* (pəlote, plote) to form into a ball (*pelote*): see PELLET [1], and cf. PLATOON.] To solidify (soap paste) by pressure in a mortar (*peloteuse*). Hence **Plo·tting** *vbl. sb.*; **Plotting-machine**, a machine for solidifying soap.

1885 W. L. CARPENTER *Soap & Candles* vii. 200 The soap is ready for the final operation, known as 'plotting' (from the French, *pelotage*), in which the paste is subjected to enormous pressure..to form it into cakes, or..bars...Such a machine..will 'plot' 200 lb. at each operation.

†**Plot,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* Erron. form of PLOD *v.*

1621 S. WARD *Happiness of Practice* 15 If the gaine of practice did not sweeten it, few would plot vpon Ployden.

Plot, *v.*[4], variant of PLOTE *v.*

†**Plotch.** *Obs.* Also 6 ploche. [Origin uncertain; possibly related to BLOTCH, which is later. Cf. also PLOT *sb.* 1.] A botch or blotch; in quots. applied to the spots of leprosy.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 55 Abhorred & lothed of all men for the foule ploches of the leprie. **1612** tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. i. 69 A person..who stood at the Temple gate demanding of almes, with certaine counterfait plotches of a leaper [*Ital.* con macchie artificiate di lepra].

†**Plo·tcock.** *Sc. Obs.* [app. a perversion of *Pluto*, in accordance with some popular etymology.] Pluto; in later popular use, the devil.

a **1578** LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 260 Thair was a cry hard at the marcat crose of Edinburgh at the houre of midnight..nameit and callit be the proclamer thairof the sowmondis of Plotcok, quhilk desyrit all men to compeir..withtin the space of xl. dayis befoir his maister. *c* **1587** MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xxi, The tym sall come vhen ȝe sall be accusit, And syn compeld at Plotcok to appeir. **1725** RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. ii, And seven times does her prayers backwards pray, Till Plotcock comes with lumps of Lapland clay, Mixt with the venom of black taids and snakes.

Plote, plot (plōt), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **ploat, plooat, plout, plott,** etc.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [Origin uncertain. In S. E. Sc. and north. Eng. the *o* is long, as in *mote*.]

1. *trans.* To scald, to parboil; to plunge into boiling water.

1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* Ded. vii, E'en while the tea's filled reeking round, Rather than plot a tender tongue, Treat [etc.]. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl., Plotted*, boiled, or ratherly plunged in boiling water. **1829** BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., To plote a pig* is to pour scalding water upon it, which causes the hair to come off. **1882** J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 223 The water scaudin' hot To plot thy skin.

2. To scorch, burn.

1785 W. FORBES *Dominie Depos'd* 4, I never sooner siller got, But a' my pouches it wou'd plot, And scorch them sair, it was sae hot. **1814** W. NICHOLSON *To Tobacco* xvii, Let Welchmen plot an' toast their cheese. **1881** PAUL *Aberdeen.* 68 I'm like to be plotted wi' heat.

Plote, Plotform: see PLOAT, PLATFORM.

Plotful (plɒ·tful), *a. rare*[−1]. [f. PLOT *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of plots; scheming.

1732 FIELDING *Cov. Gard. Trag.* I. i, Not so the statesman scrubs his plotful head.

Plotinian (plōtiˑniăn), *a.* [f. L. *Plōtīnus*, a. Gr. Πλωτῖνος, proper name.] Of or pertaining to Plotinus (A. D. *c* 204–270), the most noted philosopher of the Neo-Platonic school, the doctrines of which he taught at Rome. So **Plotiˑnic, Plotiˑnical** *adjs.*, in same sense; **Plo·tinism,** the system or teaching of Plotinus; **Plo·tinist,** a follower of Plotinus; **Plo·tinize** *v. intr.*, to imitate, or philosophize in the manner of, Plotinus.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 4 It must needs fall under one or other of those two General Heads in the Plotinical Distribution last mentioned. *Ibid.* 152 Which Plotinick Doctrine, may well pass for a Commentary upon Empedocles. **1864** WEBSTER, *Plotinist.* **1879** MCCLINTOCK & STRONG *Encycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 296/2 Creuzer condenses his summary of the Plotinian doctrine into three theses. **1882–3** *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1854 They Plotinized even more than they Platonized in their religious philosophy. **1906** W. M. MACINTYRE in *Expositor* Feb. 162 According to the Plotinist, mental prayer..has this office committed to it, to elevate the sense-life into the life of reason.

Plotless (plɒ·tlĕs), *a.* [f. PLOT *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a plot or story; having no plot.

1704 *Faction Displ.* x, Van's Bawdy, Plotless Plays were once our Boast. **1882** *Standard* 25 Mar. 5 The curious plotless story called 'Kavanagh'.

Hence **Plo·tlessness.**

1823 J. LACY in *Lond. Mag.* Dec. 648/1 The plotlessness ..of modern plays.

†**Plo·tmeal,** *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PLOT *sb.* 1 + -MEAL.] A piece at a time, piece by piece.

c **1412** HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2053 [Aristotle's] booke of governaunce Of which, and eek of Gyles of regyment Of princes, plotmel thynke I to translate.

†**Plo·tment.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PLOT *v.*[1] + -MENT.] ? An allotment, apportionment.

1634–5 *Stat. Irel.* (1765) II. 169 All which the poore people dare not deny them..and therefore..doe make cuts, levies and plotments upon themselves to pay them.

Plott, obs. f. PLOT; var. PLAT *sb.*[2] (sense 4).

Plotted (plɒ·tĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLOT *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Planned, premeditated, pre-arranged by a plot.

1607 BP. HALL *Ps.* vii, Back to his own head shall rebound His plotted mischiefe. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. vii. 351 With wondrous confidence..he begun his plotted Tale. *a* **1701** SEDLEY *Tyrant of Crete* IV. iii, By miracle I scap'd thy plotted Mischiefs. **1899** MACKAIL *Life Morris* I. 171 They [Greeks] slip out of the [Trojan] horse, and take their plotted ways.

2. Laid down or delineated on or in a plan or chart.

1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* vi. 98 Plowshares for describing the content of plotted Cities. **1895–6** *Cal. Univ. Nebraska* 134 A plotted chart of measurements is furnished to each student desiring it, at the cost of the price of the chart.

3. Constructed or furnished with a plot.

1704 D'URFEY *Tales* Pref. a j b, The plotted Drama.

Plottee (plɒtī·). *nonce-wd.* [f. PLOT *v.*[1] + -EE; correlative to PLOTTER 3.] One who is plotted against.

1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* ix, Both moralized on the beauty of sincerity..till the supposed plotter but real plottee yawned.

Plotter (plɒ·tə1). [f. PLOT *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

†1. One who makes a plan or map. *Obs. rare.*

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Mˢex* 1. 12 Many Surueyours and plotters of land seem to haue a speciall curiositie in obseruing this variation of the compasse.

2. One who plans or devises anything; a planner, schemer; one who invents or constructs a dramatic or literary plot. Now *rare.*

1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 181 These gambols..are not fit for Church plotters, nor common wealth casters, such as wee are. **1598** F. MERES *Pallad. Tamia* 283 Anthony Mundye our best plotter. **1606** in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 68 In so short a time to be accomplished, a most statelie Pageant, the workmen and plotters thereof having not past twelve dayes of respit after their first warning. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. iv. 25 A great plotter, and a great writer.

3. *spec.* One who contrives or joins in a mischievous or wicked plot; a conspirator.

1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 108, I will name it the Jesuites treason..they were the proprietaries, plotters and procurers of it. **1624** CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. iv. 54 Plotters of those villanies. **1685** EVELYN *Diary* 10 Apr., Amongst the plotters for poisoning the late King. **1738** WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 230 The baffled Plotter who died on a Gibbet. **1821** BYRON *Sardan.* I. ii. 308 Not for all the plotters That ever shook a kingdom!

Plo·ttery. *nonce-wd.* [f. PLOTTER: see -ERY.] The action of a plotter; plotting, scheming.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. lxxxii, I've seen..a so-so matron boldly fight Her way back to the world by dint of plottery.

Plotting (plɒ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [-ING [1].] The action of PLOT *v.*[1] in various senses.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 45 Without any care, fore-cast, or plotting on thy part..I shall bee to thee all in all. **1607** J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 127 Two principall instruments, fit indeede for the plotting of grounds, .. a plaine table, and the Theodolite. **1672** DRYDEN *Def. Epil.* Wks. 1883 IV. 229 Our admired Fletcher..neither understood correct plotting; nor that which they call 'the decorum of the stage'. **1683** *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 329 But Heaven, I hope, will all Plotting disclose, And the Laws of the Nation shall punish the Foes. **1831** LYTTON *Godolphin* ii, Like Lysander, he loved plotting. **1842** *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 329/2 The term 'plotting' is applied to the process of laying down on paper the plan of the ground which has been surveyed. **1893** *Athenæum* 17 June 760/2 The initial plotting and construction necessary..should have occupied less time..than the trivialities which have been allowed to take their place.

b. *Comb.* in sense 'used in plotting or drawing to scale,' as *plotting-book, -paper, -scale*; in sense 'forming plots', as *plotting-school.*

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 31 (1713) I. 200 May he too come To have my Doom That first set up this Plotting-school. **1842** BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Plotting scale*, a mathematical instrument used in plotting, or setting off lengths of lines in surveying. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 92/1 The plotting-book is a simple rectangular note-book. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* July 165/2 A..speculator whose imagination is let loose upon a plotting paper.

Plotting, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see PLOT *v.*[2]

Plotting (plɒ·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PLOT *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That plots, scheming.

1676 D'URFEY (*title*) A Fond Husband, or the Plotting Sisters: a Comedy. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xxiii. 125 Have I not called thine the plottingest heart in the universe? **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 476 The burgesses of Wigan assured their sovereign that they would defend him against all plotting Achitophels and rebellious Absaloms.

Hence **Plo·ttingly** *adv.*

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 106 There never..could be a Gentleman, so foolishly tender, yet so plottingly cruel, to his Lady. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 31 Frederick the Great, with head drooped plottingly.

Plotton, -oon, obs. forms of PLATOON.

Plotty (plɒ·ti), *sb. Sc.* Also **plot(t)ie.** [f. PLOTE, PLOT *v.* + -Y.] A hot drink, composed of wine or spirits with hot water and spices.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxviii, Get us a jug of mulled wine—plottie, as you call it. *Ibid.*, Your plottie is excellent, ever since I taught you to mix the spices in the right proportion. **1857** J. STEWART *Sk. Scottish Char.*, etc. 114 (E. D. D.) Arise, an' tak' your morning plotty.

Plotty (plɒ·ti), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PLOT *sb.* + -Y.] Connected with a plot or intrigue.

1901 *Literature* 1 June 457/1 It is a relief to recall the 'plotty' incident at the inn in connexion with this statement.

†**Ploud.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 plod. [Derivation unknown.] A green sod, a turf.

1535 *Aberdeen Regr.* XV. (Jam.), xij laid of elding, half pettis, half plodis. *Ibid.*, ix[xx] layd of elding, peittis & ploddis. **1793** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VI. 218 They are supplied with turf and heather from the muirs, and a sort of green sods, called plouds, which they cast in the exhausted mosses.

Plough, plow (plau), *sb.*[1] Forms: see below. [Late OE. *plōh* (*plōg*), = ON. *plógr* (in Rígsmál 10–11th c.); so Sw. *plog*, Da. *ploug*, *plov*; in OFris. *plōch* (EFris. *plōg*, NFris. *pluwge*), MLG. *plōch*, *plūch*, MDu. *ploech* (Du. *ploeg*), OHG. *pfluog* (MHG. *pfluoc*, Ger. *pflug*):—Teut. type **plōgo-* or **plōho-*, whence also Lombard Lat. *plo(v)um*, *-us* (Du Cange), Lomb. *piò*, Tirol. *plof* plough. The regular OE. inflexion of *plōh* would have dat. *ploge*, gen. *ploges*, nom. pl. *plogas*, giving in early ME. *ploh*, *ploȝe*, *ploȝes*, later *plouh*, *plowh*, *plowgh*, pl. *plowes*; whence, by form-levelling, *plough*, *ploughs*, or *plow*, *plows*; the former the accepted spelling in England since 1700, the latter usual in U. S. In pronunciation, the final guttural was lost in some districts in 14th c., and has quite disappeared not only in the standard language, but in all dialects south of the Peak of Derbyshire; it remains in Scotland as χ, χʷ (*pleuch*, *pluich* = plöχʷ, plüχʷ), and in the north of England is represented by f (*pleuf*, *plewf*, *pluif*, *pluf*, *pleaf*, *plif*, etc.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v.). In PLOUGH *v.* (q. v.) neither *gh* nor *f* is pronounced.

As with *path*, *penny*, and other early *p*-words in Teutonic, the origin of *plōg*, *plōh*, is involved in obscurity. Apparently the word was of late appearance. It is not found in Gothic, which used *hōka*, nor in OE. which used *sulh*, still retained dialectally, esp. in s. w., where *plough* is not used in this sense: see SULL, and cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.* In Norse, also, the earlier name appears to have been *arðr*, cognate with OS. *erida*, f. vbl. root *ar-* to till, plough (see EAR *v.*), which survives in Norwegian as *ar* a small plough, perh. an earlier and simpler implement than the *plógr*. The name is also found in Lith. *plúgas*, and in the Slavonic langs. generally, OSlav., Serv., Russ. ПЛУГЪ *plugŭ*, Pol. *pług*, Boh. *pluh*; but is there admittedly from German.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *sing.* α. 1–4 **ploh,** 2 **plo3,** 3–4 **plouh, plou3,** 3–5 **plogh,** 4–5 **plow3(-e),** 4–7 **plowgh,** 4– **plough,** (5 **ploghe, plowghe, plowh(-e),** 5–6 **ploughe**).

a **1100** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 286 Ne plot ne ploh. *c* **1200,** *a* **1225** Ploh [see B. 1]. *a* **1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 95 in *O. E. Misc.* 108 Þat .. þe cheorl beo in fryþ .. And his plouh beo i-dryue to vre alre bihoue. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 12388 (Cott.) Plogh [*Tr.* plow3e] and haru cuth he dight. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 95 His pilgrym atte plou3. *Ibid.* 118 For oure plouh. *c* **1386** CHAUCER *Kn.'s T.* 29 Wayke been the Oxen in my Plough [*rime* ynough]. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 183 Callyngé on oxen in the plowgh [*Roxb.* plugh]. *c* **1425** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 665/42 *Hoc aratrum*, plogh. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11400 Carte & plowh, they ber vp al. *c* **1450** LOVELICH *Grail* liii. 310 Good Inowhe, Of londes and Rentes, Oxen And plowhe. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A Ploghe (*A.* Plughe), *aratrum*. **1530** PALSGR. 256/1 Ploughe, *chareve*. **1532** in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 65 Half my plow3the viz. iij oxen. **1573** TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 54 Mad braine, too rough, Marres all at plough.

β. 4 **plou,** 4–5 **plo,** 4–7 **plowe,** 5 **ploo,** 4– **plow.**

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 68 To see hem pulle in þe plow. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* ii. 459, I shall hang the apon this plo [*rimes* do, lo]. **1466** *Paston Lett.* II. 286 They shuld hold the plowe to the tayle. **1607** NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* IV. 181 A dayes worke of a plowe. **1702** ADDISON *Dial. Medals* ii. (1727) 93 And does the plow for this my body tear? **1718** ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 48 Fields unknowing of the plow [*rime* low]. **1828** WEBSTER, Plow. **1902** *Ibid.*, Plow, Plough.

γ. *Sc.* and *north.* 4–5 **plugh,** 5 **pluȝe, plughe, pleuche,** (**plucht**), 6 **plewgh(-e), plewch(-e), pluch(-e), pluiche, plwch,** (**pluchet**), 6–8 **plewch,** 5– **pleuch,** 8– **pleugh**; 4 **plue,** 5 **plwe,** 5–6 **plewe,** 6 **pleu,** 4– **plew**; 9 *dial.* **pluff, pleuf, pleaf, pliff,** etc.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (*Margaret*) 70 Sic as men wynnis of erd & pleuch. *Ibid.* xl. (*Niniau*) 132 In goddis 3ard to set plucht [*rime* Inuch]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 85 þe ox will drawe in þe plugh. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlix, God hase a gud plu3e 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 240 The ox may nocht wele drawe in the pleuche bot gif he have a falowe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. x. 7 First gan he mark and cirkill with a plewch. 1535 *Aberdeen Regr.* XV. (Jam.), Ane pluchet furnest with gair tharto. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 273 That men sould leve thairout baith da and nycht Thair plew yrnis. *a* 1568 *Wowing Jok & Jynny* vi. (Bann. MS.), Withouttin oxin I haif a pluche. 1721 RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 70 Thomas has loos'd his ousen frae the pleugh. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 201 A country fellow at the pleugh. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Pluff, pleugh*, a plough.

2. *pl.* 2 **plo3es, 3 plouis, 4–5 plow3es, 4–7 plowes, 5 ploes, plogges, 5–7 ploughes, 6** *Sc.* **plewis, 6– plows, 7– ploughs.**

1131 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1131 On þa tun þa wæs tenn ploges oðer twelfe gangende, ne belæf noht an. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 95 in *O. E. Misc.* 109 His plouis to driuin. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2785 To hem þat at plowes 3ede. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 165 Here plow3es 3ede nou3t ary3t. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxiii. 250 Cartes, plowes, and waynes. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xii. (Irel. MS.), Of palas, of parkes, of poundes, of ploes [*rime* cloes= cloughs]. 1449 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* (Bundle 29 No. 3), Nullus habeat plogges. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 1 Howe a plough shulde be made. § 2 There be plowes of dyuers makynges. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 493 Oxin to serve and labour in his plewis. 1632 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Iron Age* I. i. Wks. 1874 III. 272 So many Hatchets, Hammers, Plowes and Sawes Were thither brought. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 156 There are no less than an hundred different ploughs in England.

B. *Signification.*

1. An agricultural implement, used to prepare the soil for sowing or planting, by cutting furrows in it, and turning it up, so as to expose a fresh surface to the action of the air. Often used as the symbol of agriculture, esp. in such expressions as *to be at the plough, to follow* or *hold the plough*.

It consists essentially of a cutting blade (in primitive types a pointed stick) fixed in a frame drawn by oxen or horses (or in recent times by mechanical power, as steam), and guided by a man.

c 1200 ORMIN 15902 þatt all swa summ þe nowwt i ploh þe turrnenn erþe & tawwenn. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 384 3if .. þe spade ne dulue, ne þe suluh [*MS. T.* ploh] ne erede, hwo kepte ham uorte holden? *c* 1400 *Plowman's T.* 1042 Had they ben out of religioun, They must have honged at the plow. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C iv/1 Some for the charet, some for the cart or plough, And some for hakneyes, if they be light and tough. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 390 Few or none of them were Gentlemen, but taken from the plough and cart, and other craftes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 21 The partes of the Plowe, are the Tayle, the Shelfe, the Beame, the Foote, the Coulter, the Share, the Wheeles, and the Staffe. 1601 CECIL in Sir S. D'Ewes *Jrnl. Ho. Lords & Comm.* (1693) 674, I do not dwell in the Country, I am not acquainted with the Plough: But I think that whosoever doth not maintain the Plough, destroys this Kingdom. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 323 Foreign Tenants reap the harvest now, Where once the great Dictator held the Plow. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 481 The celebrated Mr. Vareinge, professor of mathematics, followed the plough till he was eight and twenty years of age. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The heavy cart-load of timber, called the old Scots plough.

b. With prefixed words, denominating peculiarities of structure or purpose: e. g.

Double plough, a plough with two shares, one by which two furrows can be turned at once; also, a reversible plough; *hand-p.*, a small light garden plough drawn or pushed by hand; *seeding-p.*, a plough which also scatters seed in the furrow; *side-hill p.*, one adapted for ploughing across a steep slope; *skeleton-p.*, one in which certain parts are in skeleton form; *straddle-p.*, one with two shares for running on each side of, and covering in, a line of seed; also *double mould-board p.*, *drain-p.*, *mole-hill p.*, *reversible p.*, *steam-p.*, *subsoil-p.*, etc. Others, of which the meaning is not self-evident, will be found under their first element, or in their alphabetical place: e.g. BREAST-, DRAY-, GANG-, HOE-, ICE-, MOLE-, SHIM-, SNOW-, TURN-WREST-, WHEEL-PLOUGH, etc.

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* 202 The Double Plough ploughing two Furrows at one time. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* s. v., The Double-wheeled Plough, constantly used in Hartfordshire and elsewhere. .. The One-wheeled plough, which may be almost used in any sort of Land. 1721 J. EDMONDS in Mortimer *Husb.* I. 101 He says likewise, that he improved some of the same sort of Land by plowing of it up with a Breast-plough. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 416 Plough up your Mole-hills, &c. with a Mole-hill Plough. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 307 In Brabant .. They use the excellent Flemish swing plough, which they call a foot plough, as it is also called in some parts of England, in contradistinction to a wheel plough. At the same time they also retain the old and heavy turn wrest plough. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 728 The double-plow, in which a shallow share preceded the deeper-running, longer plow, originated in England, where it is known as the *skim-coulter plow*. *Ibid.* 940 The originator of the double plow seems to have been Lord Somerville, who devoted much attention to the practical details of agriculture (1799). His plow..he called a *double-furrow* plow.

c. In various *fig.* applications: e. g. †(*a*) as the instrument or means of earning one's livelihood (*obs.*); (*b*) in reference to its breaking up hard ground; etc.

(*a*) *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 57 þat wynnyng wes lang hir plucht. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 288 But o thyng is .. Of Chapmen that hir moneie is hir plogh. *a* 1400 *Isumbras* 397 þay bade hym swynke, .. 'Hafe we none oþer ploghe'.

(*b*) 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 23 Our hertes, whiche we eare & breke with the plough of abstynence. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* vi. (1672) 142 He puts in the plough of mortification. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 234 Their mind a wilderness through want of care, The plough of wisdom never entering there.

d. Phrases. (*a*) *To put* (*lay, set*) *one's hand to the plough* (after *Luke* ix. 62), to undertake a task; to enter upon a course of life or conduct.

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ix. 62 No man sendynge [1388 that puttith] his hond to the plou3, and biholdinge a3en, is able to the rewme of God. 1526 TINDALE *ibid.*, No man that putteth hys honde to the plowe, and loketh backe is apte to the kyngdom of god. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 253 Quhen he had put hand to the pluiche, to receiue yairof proffite and gude fructe. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 417 Reach foorth thine hand towards this spirituall Plow. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* I. xxiii. 47 It was Time..to set his Hand to the Plow in good Earnest. 1886 MRS. LYNN LINTON *P. Carew* XXV, He had put his hand to the plow, and he was not the man to turn back.

†(*b*) *To put the plough before the oxen*, to reverse the natural or proper order: cf. CART *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

[1340 *Ayenb.* 243 Moche uolk of religion zetteþ þe zuol3 beuore þe oksen.] 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxix. 9 That makis..The plewche befoir the oxin go, the best the man to gyde. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. (Farmer), He would put the plough before the oxen, and claw where it did not itch.

(*c*) *Under the plough*: (of land), in cultivation.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 225 There are actually under the plough 307,800 [acres].

2. a. *Sc.* A team of horses (or oxen) harnessed to a plough.

[Cf. quot. 1131 in A. 2.] 1575–6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 501 Arthour Grahame .. cruellie .. cuttit the plewis, dang and straik his servandis to the greit effusioun of thair blude. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* xv, My pleugh is now thy bairn-time a', Four gallant brutes as e'er did draw. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 101 Earl Alan has now in the demesne six ploughs, and 14 villanes and 6 bordars with four ploughs. There is a church and a priest with half a plough.

b. Chiefly *s.w. dial.* A team of draught beasts harnessed to a wagon; sometimes including the wagon.

1505 *Liber Ruber Wells Cath.* lf. 123 b, Departed unto God by a mysfortune of his ploughe by reson whereof [etc.]. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 328 (1810) 337 He took harts.. and made of them a plow to draw timber thence to build a church. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 330 A Plough, a term used in the Western parts for a Team of Horse or Oxen. 1762 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 507 The driver of a plough, .. laden with tin, for Penzance coinage, .. found himself and the plough, on a sudden, surrounded by the sea. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* Gloss. s. v., A waggon and horses, or cart and horses together, are called plough in South Wilts. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *Somerset Gloss., Plough*, a team of horses; also a waggon and horses, or a waggon and oxen.

†**3. a.** = PLOUGH-LAND 1. *Obs.*

a 1100 [see A. 1 *a*]. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 57 Iohn my eldest sone shal haue plowes fyue That was my fadres heritage while he was on lyue. *Ibid.* 358 þou hast hade..xv. plowes of lond þis sixtene 3ere. *c* 1450 *Oseney Cart.* 163/25 (E. E. T. S.), j. mese with ij. croftes..In the towne of Edburbury, and j. plowe of londe In the feldes of þe same towne. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A Ploghe of lande, *carrucata*. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Hida terræ*, ane pleuch of land. 1761 HUME *Hist. England* I. xix. 443 The ecclesiastical revenues, which ..contained eighteen thousand four hundred ploughs of land. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot* 237 A plough of land in the Highlands..is, on an average, about fifteen Scotch, or twenty English acres of arable land, besides a certain extent of hilly, or pasture land.

b. Ploughed land. (Chiefly *hunting slang.*)

1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 18 It makes no odds to him, pasture or plough. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Dec. 4/2 It is by his permission..that the gaily-decked squadrons .. go thundering across the pasture and ploughs of middle and southern England. 1884 *Graphic* 18 Oct. 410/1 The scent [of the fox] on the plough is cold.

4. *transf.* The group of seven prominent stars, also called Charles's Wain, in the constellation of *Ursa Major*; also, that constellation as a whole.

Cf. L. *Triones* (lit. plough-oxen), the Great and Little Bears (Virg. *Æn.* III. 516 *geminos Triones*).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 151 The pleuch, and the polys, the planettis begane, The son, the sevin sternis, and the Charll wane. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 341. 154 One of the most striking circumpolar constellations is Ursa Major .., the Plough, or Charles's Wain. 1893 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* (1894) 104 High and dominant amidst the Population of the Sky..hangs the great Plough.

5. Applied to various instruments, parts of machinery, etc., resembling a plough in shape or action.

a. An instrument or machine for cutting or trimming the edges of books; the knife of a plough-press or cutting-press.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 360/2 Plow, or cutting Knife by which the leaves of Books are cut even. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 409 The .. parts of the paper whose Margin is adjusted .. are subject to the Bookbinder's Plough. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 395/2 Upon one of the cheeks [of the cutting press] are two guides, or small raised rails, for the plough to work in.

b. A plane for cutting rabbets or grooves.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 68–9 The Plow .. is a narrow Rabbet-Plain, .. The Office of the Plow is to plow a narrow square Groove on the edge of a Board. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 111. 1881 YOUNG *Every Man his own Mechanic* § 396 The plough is necessary in such work as making drawers.

c. An instrument for cutting the flushing parts of the pile or nap of fustian.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

d. A knife used for 'ploughing' mackerels, etc.: see PLOUGH *v.* 7 c and MACKEREL-*plough*.

†**e.** An instrument for taking the altitude of a heavenly body. *Obs.*

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 617 There are other Instruments for taking of the Altitude of the Sun and Stars; as the Plough, the Astrolabe, the Demi-Cross, the Bow. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Plow*, an Ancient Instrument, tho' now not much used at Sea.

f. A narrow shovel with which the barley is turned over in malting.

1875 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 188 When turning only is required, he uses what is called the 'plough'; this is a long-handled tool, in shape very much resembling the scull of a boat, and in using it is made to pass through the grain, precisely as a scull is made to do in the water.

g. In an electric tramcar on the conduit system: The rod maintaining contact with the live rail.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 Mar. 5/2 They are..fitted..with the underground trolleys which make contact with the feeding conductors by means of a 'plough' lowered into the slotted conduit.

6. An antler or branch on the horn of a caribou.

1892 W. PIKE *North. Canada* 45 The perfect double plough is more often seen in the smaller specimen, the larger animal being usually provided with only one, or with one plough and a spike.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (some of which may belong to the verb). **a.** attrib., 'of or pertaining to a plough or ploughing', as *plough-beast, -chain, -clevis, -coulter, -feast, -field, -folk, -furrow, -garran* (GARRON), *-ground, -harness, -jade, -neat, -ox, -rein, -rip, -rope, -servant, -service, -shaft, -sock, -tackling, -team, -timber, -time, -track, -upland, -wheel, -woman, -work*; **b.** objective and obj. genitive, as *plough-holder, -maker*; **c.** instrumental, etc., as *plough-bred, -cloven, -torn* adjs.; **d.** similative, as *plough-shaped* adj.

1454 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 120 Toke all the *plow-bestes and other bestes of the said villages. 1788 E. PICKEN *Now-a-days* Poems 61 Ilk *plow-bred wight wad gang, dear safe us! 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xxix, I'll .. send the men up wi' *pleuch-chains and cairt-rapes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plow-clevis*, the stirrup-shaped piece on the nose of a plow-beam, having three loops, in either of which the open ring of the double-tree may be placed, according to the depth of furrow desired. 1871 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Hertha* 37 The *plough-cloven clod. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 66 The Athenians had three several *plow-feasts which they observed yearly. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 315 My landlady's two sons were arrived from the *plough field. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 273 If the *plough-folks do idlely waste their maisters substance. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 490 Deeper than the *plough-furrow. 1687 *Irish Proclam.* 24 Sept., *Plow-Garrans and other small horses. 1640 in H. Bond *Hist. Watertown, Mass.* (1855) II. 998 Ordered that the hither Plain, being subdivided into several Lotts for *Plow-ground, shall be made a common field. 1895 W. RAYMOND *Smoke of War* vii. 84 Like a rook in a plough-ground. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 576 A smyth,..That in his forge smythed *plough harneys. 1886 T. HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* iv, Plough-harness at the saddler's. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B iij, A stay and aide to the *Plough houlder. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 214 The pampered Palfreyes which eate away the prouender from the leane *plough Iades. 1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 122 That sike bonny men sud be hampert like plu-jades. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. App. 38 Apprentice to a country carpenter and *ploughmaker. 1552 HULOET, *Ploughe neate or oxen, *triones*. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* III Lat no bowgle, with his busteous hornis, The meik *pluch ox oppress. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 619 The ploughman guides the horses with *plough-reins, made of rein-rope. 1536 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for ij par' of *plowgh ryppis iiij d. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXIX. ii, Thou Hast their *plow-ropes cutt in two! 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xi. 124 Villainies of English *Plow-Servants. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. vi. 80 Our common lawyers..derive it from *soca*, an old Latin word denoting (as they tell us) a plough:..that, in memory of it's original, it still retains the name of socage or *plough-service. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 435 The '*plough-shaped bone' forms the terminal portion of the vertebral column. 1695 J. TELFAIR in Nicholson *Hist. & Trad. Tales* (1843) 16 It cast a *plough-sock at him. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* l, Plough-socks, shuttles, candlesticks, and other ordinaries. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 114 The Gordian knot was but *plough-tackling hamper'd in a knot. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth.* 324 Formerly, four horses a-breast was the *plough team of the highlands, and is still in use. 1896 M. T. PEARMAN *Hist. Manor Bensington, Oxon.* 10 The quantity of land a plough-team will turn up in a year varies according to the soil. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 658 Some are best for *Plough-Timber: as Ash. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 193 Dry vp thy Marrowes, Vines, and *Plough-torne Leas. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 490 The black mould immediately under the *plough-track had been compressed. 1730 *N. Jersey Archives* XI. 226 There is also 100 Acres of *Plough-Upland in very good Order. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* XXV. 414 In plowing miry Clays, where *Plow Wheels cannot go. 1860 G. H. K. in *Vac. Tour.* 164 The *plough-woman dropped her cras-crom in the scratch that did duty for a furrow. 1889 *Dorothy* p. xvi, The two Yorkshire girls were..both..excellent ploughwomen.

8. Special Combs.: †**plough-bat** = PLOUGH-STAFF; †**plough-beetle** = PLOUGH-MELL; **plough-bird, -bolt**: see quots.; †**plough-boon**, in ME. *plo3bone*, ploughing done as a service by a tenant for his lord; **plow-breast** = BREAST *sb.* 9 b; **plough-bullock**, (*a*) a bullock used in ploughing; (*b*) one of the mummers in the Plough-Monday festivities; †**plough-chip** = PLOUGH-HEAD 1;

plough-cleaner: see quot.; †**plough-clout**, an iron plate nailed to the frame of a plough at the side: cf. CLOUT *sb.*[1] 2; †**plough-cock** = COCK *sb.*[1] 14; **plough-cutter** = *plough-press*; **plough-day**, (*a*) a day on which the tenant was bound to plough for his lord; (*b*) = PLOUGH-MONDAY; **plough-diamond**, a kind of glass-cutter: see quot.; †**plough-ear**, a piece of iron attached to the right side of the plough-beam, to which the harness was attached: = *plough-cock*; **plough-jag** (*local*), = *plough-bullock* (*b*); hence **plough-jagging**, acting as a plough-jag, mumming; †**plough-jobber** = PLOUGH-JOGGER; **plough-knife**, the knife of a bookbinder's plough-cutter; **plough-light**: see quot.; **plough-line**, (*a*) the line marking the limit of ploughed land; (*b*) cord used for the traces or reins of a plough; †**plough-master**: see quot.; †**plough-meat**, cereals; **plough-medal**, a medal given as a prize at a ploughing-match; **plough-money**, †(*a*) money paid for the right of ploughing; (*b*) money collected by plough-boys on Plough-Monday; **plough-paddle, -pattle, -pettle**, a plough-staff: = PADDLE *sb.*[1] 1, PATTLE, PETTLE *sb.* 1; **plough-path**: see quot.; †**plough-penny**, (*a*) = PLOUGH-ALMS; (*b*) *nonce-use*, a penny gained by ploughing; **plough-pillow** = PILLOW *sb.* 4 d; †**plough-pin**, a pin or bolt used in connexion with the collar of a plough: see COLLAR *sb.* 13; **plough-plane** = sense 5 b; **plough-point**, the point of a plough-share; often detachable = SLIP-POINT; †**plough-pote**: see PLOUGH-FOOT; **plough-press**, in bookbinding, a press in which a book is held while the edges are cut or 'ploughed' (also called *cutting-press*); †**plough-rest, -ryst** = REEST *sb.*; †**plough-shackle**, the clevis of a plough; **plough-sheath**, †**plough-silver**: see quots.; **plough-spade** = PLOUGH-STAFF; †**plough-spindle**: see quot.; †**plough-star** = sense 4, or ? Arcturus; **plough-stot** = *plough-bullock*; †**plough-string**, one of the traces of a plough; **plough-stuff**, the timber used for a wooden plough; †**plough-throck** = PLOUGH-HEAD 1; †**plough-till, -tilth** = PLOUGH-LAND 1; **plough-tree**, a plough-handle; **plough-trench** *v.*, to trench with a plough; **plough-truck**, a riding attachment to a plough; †**plough-ware**, beasts employed in ploughing; **plough-witch, -witcher** (*dial.*), a Plough-Monday mummer; **plough-witching**, the performance of the plough-witchers. Also PLOUGH-ALMS, PLOUGH-LAND, etc.

1362 *Plowbat [see *plough-pote*]. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 *Ploughe betyll, *maillet de charve*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A plough beetle, ploughstaffe, to further the plough. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 366/1 Plough Staff and Beetle. 1888 *Ibis* 45 The local *name of this bird [*Sterna Antarctica*] in the neighbourhood of Cape Kidnappers, is 'The *Plough Bird', or 'Plough Boy', given on account of its habit of following the farmer's plough. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Plow Bolt*, a bolt for securing the share, landside, or mold-board to the stock. 1438 *Rental of Guiseley co. York* in *Add. Roll* 41659 Ob. et quadrans for *plogbone. 1884 *Implement & Mach. Rev.* 1 Dec. 6716/2 A horned *plough-breast .. is recommended for ploughing after sheep. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 568/2 *note*, Plough-Monday... On this day the young men yoke themselves, and draw a plough about with musick, and one or two persons, in antic dresses, like jack-puddings, go from house to house, to gather money to drink... We call them [in Derbyshire] the *Plough-Bullocks. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Turnip*, To my plough bullocks I allow the same quantity of turnips. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxviii. (1653) 190 Some call them the Plough-throck, some the *Plough-chip, &c. I shall retain the term of Plough-head. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plow-cleaner*, a long-handled thrusting implement by which the plowman may rid the plow of choking weeds, or the share of accumulated soil. 1376–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 386 In uno moldebredclot et ij *plueclot empt...xvd. 1485 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 373, ij plogh clowtes. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxi. 537 Flat plates of iron nailed to the wooden frame are called plough-clouts. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 333/2 The *Plow Cock is the Iron to tye the Oxen to the Plow. 1550 in *7th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Irel.* 94 [From every husbandman] vi *ploughe daies, vi cart daies, iii men for a daie to repp corne in harvest. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 20 From Plow-day, which is euer the Munday after Twelfth-day, till S. Valentines day. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 636 *Plough diamonds have a square nut on the end of the socket, next the glass, which, on running the nut square on the side of the lath, keeps it in the cutting direction. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The *ploughe-eare is made of thre peces of yren, nayled faste vnto the ryght syde of the plough-beame. *Ibid.* § 4 Somme plowes have a bende of yron tryanglewise, sette there as the plough-eare shulde be, that hath *thre nyckes* on the farther syde. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 230 What the mummer is to some other parts of England, the *plough-jag is to Lincolnshire. *Ibid.* 229 *Plew-jaggin' is for lads and young men..not for a chap like me, that's just a-goin' to be married. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 126 Why an Ass, or a *Plough-Jobber shall sooner gain it than a Wise man. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) I. 25 Lye safe at home and our Plowjobbers rule. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 73 Anciently, light called the **Plough-light*, was maintained.. before images in some churches, and on Plough Monday they..went about with a plough..to get money to support the Plough-light. 1852 C. W. HOSKINS *Talpa* 119 The *plough-line steals up the mountain-side. 1895 *Rep. Educ. Scot.* in *Westm. Gaz.* 25 June 8/1 Hung by a loop of what is known on farms as plough-line. 1642 in *Linc. N. & Q.* July (1888) 86 [In the old Churchwardens' Book of Waddington there is..1642, the appointment of 4] *Plowmeisters ..[These plough masters had in their hands certain monies called plough money, which they undertook to produce on plough day.] 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 102 Som cuntries lack *plowmeat, and som doe want cowmeat. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 648 The *plough medals..have..excited a spirit of emulation among ploughmen. *a* 1600 OWEN *Baronia in Pembrokeshire* (1892) 195 *note*, Within Eglosserow onely Arian Eredig, or *Plowe monye, for right of ploughing. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), **Plough-paddle*,..called also a *plough-staff*. 1404 *Plogh pattyl, 1786 pleugh-pettle [see PATTLE, PETTLE 1]. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xiii, 'He will take to the pleugh-pettle, neighbour', said the good dame. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *Somerset Gloss.*, **Plough-path*, bridle-path. 1547 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 45 Et de x s. vj d. de redditibus vocatis *Plowe pence accidentibus hoc anno. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 33 Enuy..makes them sterril of all good manners, as the lawyer the poore clyant's plow pence, the cittie the country commodities. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 46 The *Plough-pin and Collar-links..the *Plough-pillow and Boulster. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 248 The *Plough-Plane..is used for sinking a groove in a board, by taking away a solid in the form of a rectangular prism. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plow-point*, a detachable share at the extreme front end of the plow-body. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer* 39, I made two or three unsuccessful attempts to get the plough point into the hard frozen ground. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 96 Mi *plouh-pote [*v.r.* plowbat, *B.* ploughwes foot, plow-pote, *C.* IX. 64 plouh-fot, plowbat] schal be my pyk and posshen atte Rootes, And helpe my coltre to kerue and close þe vorwes. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 148 (E. E. T. S.) Man doth a *plou-reste in the bem. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B iij b, The Plough-rest .. is a small peece of woode, which is fixt at one end in the further nicke of the Plough head, and the other end to the Ploughs right-hand hale. 1552 HULOET, *Ploughe ryst [*printed* ryft], *bura, buris*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A *Plughe schakille. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The *plought sheth is a thyn pece of drye woode, made of oke, that is set fast in a morteys in the plough beame, and also in to the sharebeame, the whiche is the keye and the chiefe bande of all the plough. 1465 *Norfolk Deed* (Anct. Deeds, P. R. O. IV. 68 No. 6678) *Plowsilver. 1675 W. JONES *Reports* 280 In some places they have Plough-silver and Reap-silver, which is Socage Tenure now turned into Money. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict., Plow-silver*, in former times, was money paid by some tenants, in lieu of service to plough the lord's lands. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 493 This the ploughman does with his plough-staff, or shaft of his *plough-spade. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B iij, The *Plough spindels,..are two small round peeces of woode, which coupleth together the hales. 1558 PHAER *Æneid.* III. H ij b, The wayne, the *plowstar, and the seuen that stormes and tempests poures [*Æn.* III. 516 Arcturum pluviasque Hyadas geminosque Triones]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 87 Thee lights starrye noting in globe celestial hanging: Thee seun stars stormy, twise told, thee plowstar eke Arcture. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 283 Youth dragging a plough, who, as they officiate for oxen, are called *plough-stots. 1893 *Whitby Gaz.* 8 Dec. 2/5 It would seem as though the spirit of the Plough Stots is waning and that for some reason or other they are losing interest in their annual excursions into the town. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 858 (E. E. T. S.) *Lapparayle pur charue*..*Plowestryngges. 1649 *Plough-throck [see *plough-chip*]. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxxii. (1516) 143/2 *margin*, A knyghts fee shuld welde clx. acres, and that is demed for a *ploughe tyll in a yere. 1597–1602 *Transcript W. Riding Sessions Rolls* 104 Every person occupying a *plough-tilth of land. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxxiv, I..held my *plough-tree just the same as if no King or Queen had ever come to spoil my..hand. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 56 It may be done by one Plough making of a deep Furrow, and another following in the same Furrow, or by *Plough-trenching, which is for a Plough to make a deep Furrow, and to have eight or ten Men with Spades to follow the Plough, and making the Trench a spit deeper. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 174 Instead of digging it with the spade, I plough-trenched it at least eighteen inches deep. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 183 He had a plowe goyng in your lond in Drayton, and ther your seyd servaunts ..toke hys *plowe ware, that ys to say ij marys. *Ibid.* 184 Ther was taken a playnt ayenst hem..for takyng of the forseyd plowarre at Drayton. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 156 On *Plough-witch-Monday, I was in the barn. 18.. E. SMITH *MS. Collect. Warwicks. Words* (E. D. D.), Down to 1874 .. the plough witches presented themselves on the evening of Plough Monday, with faces painted white, and marked out hideously in red or black lines. 1860 *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. IX. 381/2 The mummers are called '*Plough-witchers', and their ceremony '*Plough-witching'.

Plough, *sb.*[2] *slang.* [f. PLOUGH *v.* 8.] The act or fact of rejecting a candidate in an examination.

1863 READE *Hard Cash* ii. I. 52 It is only out of Oxford a plough is thought much of. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Nov. 10/1 In the .. Bar examination, the percentage of ploughs is..9 per cent...ploughed in Roman Law, and 20 per cent. in Constitutional History. 1899 *Ibid.* 1 June 10/1 There has been the usual plough in the final of about 36 per cent.

Plough, plow (plau), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **plowghe** (5 *north.* **plugh**(e), 5–7 **plowe**, 6– **plow** (*Sc.* **plew**), (6–7) 8– **plough**. (Erron. pa. pple. 6 **plowen.**) [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] So MDu., Du. *ploegen*, MLG., LG. *plogen*, MHG. *phluogen*, Ger. *pflügen*, ON. *plœgja*. In 16–17th c. the sb. was normally *plough* and the vb. *plow*(*e*, repr. ME. types *ploh*, *plowen* or *plowen* (cf. *enough*, *enow* = OE. *genōh*, *genōge*); so mod. Sc. *pleuch* sb., *pleuw* vb.; but the spelling *plough* occurs also for the verb in 16–17th c., and became usual in England during the 18th c., when sb. and vb. were levelled in form; in U. S. they have both become *plow*.]

1. a. *trans.* To make furrows in and turn up (the earth) with a plough, especially as a preparation for sowing; also *absol.* to use a plough.

c 1420–40 Plowynge [see PLOUGHING *vbl. sb.* 1]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 54 That we had ployde [? plo3de] this land. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 To Plowghe (*A.* Plugh), *arare*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 2 It is conuenyent that they be plowen and sowen. 1530 PALSGR. 660/2, I wyll ploughe all the lande I have in your towne to yere. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* IV. 181 As much as 2. oxen could plow. 1611 COTGR., *Charruë*, a Plough. *Charruër*, to till, eare, plow. *Charrué*, tilled, plowed. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 133 Once Ploughing the Land..will..be sufficient. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. vii. (1762) 17 It is plowed into high ridges with a strong plough. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 361 As much land as a yoke of oxen could plough in one day. 1816 W. SMITH *Strata Ident.* 12 When wet and fresh plowed. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, I am no clear if I can pleugh [*error for* plew] ony place but the Mains and Muckle-whame. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* 215 They have plowed and fitted for grain-growing 3,000 acres.

b. With resultant object: To make (a furrow, ridge, line) by ploughing.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* C j b, God shall..punish euery forrow they haue plowed vpon his backe. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 286/2 By casting, that is, by ploughing two ridges together beginning at the furrow that separates them. 1810 AMOS *Ess. Agric. Mach.* ii. 18 [A machine] for ploughing Furrows nine by five inches square.

2. *intr.* (or *absol.*) To use the plough, work as a ploughman, till the ground.

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* XX. 4 A slouthfull body wyl not go to plowe for colde. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 71 The Cockle of Rebellion, Insolence, Sedition, which we our selues haue plowed for, sow'd. 1611 BIBLE *Job* i. 14 The oxen were plowing [COVERDALE a plowinge], and the asses feeding beside them. — 1 *Cor.* ix. 10 That hee that ploweth, should plow in hope. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 2 Tim. ii. 6 The Husbandman must labour (plow, sow, &c.) before he reap and gather the Fruit. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* (1848) 197 Twenty-three pair of oxen were ploughing together within a square of thirty acres. 1868 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 199 A man taught to plough, row or steer well,..[is] already educated in many essential moral habits.

b. *intr.* in pass. sense (of land): To bear or stand ploughing (easily, well, etc.); to prove (tough, etc.) in the ploughing.

1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 152 It ploughed very tough, and the cattle mired in some places. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. II. 571 The land generally ploughs up in a friable state. 1864 *Ibid.* XXV. II. 528 The clover-lands.. ploughed remarkably well.

3. *trans.* By extension: To furrow as by ploughing; to gash, tear up, scratch (any surface). Often *plough up*: see 9 e.

1588, etc. [see 9 e]. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 84 Th' insidious Swain .. Fell prone and plough'd the Dust. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 50 His dog .. snatches up the drifted snow With ivory teeth, or ploughs it with his snout. 1856 J. H. NEWMAN *Callista* i. 2 The Bagradas..ploughed the rich and yielding mould with its rapid stream.

b. With resultant object, as *course, line.*

1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* iii, The course which the river had ploughed for itself down the valley. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 14 It was..the stones fallen from Snowdon peak into the half-liquid lake of ice above, which ploughed those furrows. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* II. i. (1875) 51 The line-engraver..month after month, ploughs slowly his marvellous lines.

c. *intr.* To move through soft ground, snow, etc., furrowing it.

1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 209 Drenched in inky slime.. Miles Garrett ploughed and floundered to the other side. 1876 A. H. GREEN *Phys. Geol.* iv. § 5 (1877) 160 Icebergs which after they had run aground and ploughed into the bottom [of the deposits of boulder clay]. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* II. 246 Deane came ploughing through the snow up to the window.

4. *fig.* Of a ship, boat, swimming animal, etc.: To cleave the surface of the water. Chiefly *poet.*

a. *trans.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 53 'Tis thou that rigg'st the Barke, and plow'st the Fome. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. xxxvi, Vain men..who plough the seas, With dangerous pains, another Earth to finde. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 24 Once again committing ourselves to the Sea, we ploughed deeper Water. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. viii. 25 When naval traffic plows the main. 1782 COWPER *Loss Royal George* x, He and his eight hundred Shall plough the wave no more. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xvi. 216 The river was ploughed by porpoises, and the shore crowded with aquatic birds.

b. With resultant object, as *course, way.*

1696 PRIOR *To the King* 56 On .. Britain's joyful sea, Behold, the monarch ploughs his liquid way. 1780 COWPER *Table-t.* 522 Give me the line [of verse] that plows its stately course Like a proud swan, conquering the stream by force. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xviii. 228 Ploughing its way with irresistible march through the crust of an investing sea. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ii, The steamer..ploughed her way across the blue and rushing waters of the Minch.

c. *intr.*

1850 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* II. 154 These streams..spread out into broad superficial sheets or layers, which the keels of vessels plough through. 1867 *Good Cheer* 2 He had 'ploughed over many a stormy sea'. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 117/1 A few tugs plowing up stream left behind them wakes.

5. *trans. fig.* To furrow (the face, brow, etc.) deeply with wrinkles; also with resultant object.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, Has fifteen years so plew'd A wrinkled face that you have often view'd. 1742

Pope Dunc. IV. 204 Before them march'd that awful Aristarch; Plough'd was his front with many a deep Remark. 1818 Byron *Ch. Har.* IV. xlii, Italia! .. On thy sweet brow is sorrow plough'd by shame. 1837 Wheelwright tr. *Aristophanes* I. 56 *note*, Her face .. rough, and ploughed with wrinkles. 1857 Holland *Bay Path* xix. 218 Jealousy and pride..ploughed no furrows across her brow.

b. To obliterate by ploughing wrinkles.

1818 Byron *Mazeppa* v, A port, not like to this ye see, But smooth, as all is rugged now; For time, and care, and war, have plough'd My very soul from out my brow.

6. In various figurative applications of the primary and transferred senses.

1535 Coverdale *Job* iv. 8 Those that plowe wickednesse.. and sowe myschefe, they reape ye same. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 342 The soyle of his inuention, memorie, and iudgement, is so ordinarily ploughed with practise and experience. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 233 Royall Wench: She made great Cæsar lay his sword to bed, He ploughed her, and she cropt. 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 34 Let the Volces Plough Rome, and harrow Italy. 1608 — *Per.* iv. vi. 154. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ecclus.* vii. 13 Plowe not a lie [Vulg. *noli arare mendacium*] agaynst thy brother. 1624 Ford *Sun's Darling* II. i, Beckon the rurals in; the country-gray Seldom ploughs treason. 1652 Milton *Sonn. Cromwell*, Cromwell..who through a cloud..To peace and truth thy glorious way hast plough'd. 1838 Emerson *Addr. Camb. Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 193 Jesus..whose name is not so much written as ploughed into the history of this world. 1884 Miss F. P. Cobbe in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 805 Out of hearts ploughed by contrition spring flowers.

b. *intr.* To proceed laboriously or doggedly, to labour, to plod.

1891 C. T. C. James *Rom. Rigmarole* 40 He never ceased speaking... In a monotonous tone, he ploughed solemnly onward, oblivious. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 30 He could..fancy himself ploughing doggedly in self-defence through an incredible number of courses in history.

7. Applied to mechanical processes: cf. Plough *sb.*[1] 5.

a. *Bookbinding.* To cut with a 'plough' or plough-press.

1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 395/2 The cutting press stands on a hollow frame..which..receives the paper shavings as they are ploughed off.

b. *Carpentry.* To cut or plane (a groove, rabbet) with a 'plough'. Also *intr.*

1805 [see Ploughing 1 b]. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii, The carpenter .. was ploughing away at a groove. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 104 A groove being ploughed under the over-hanging edge to cause the rain to drip clear of the wall.

c. To cut or gash (mackerel, etc.) so as to give it a better appearance: cf. Crimp *v.*[1] 4. *U. S.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

8. *Univ. slang.* To reject (a candidate) as not reaching the pass standard in an examination: a slang substitute for *pluck* in this sense (Pluck *v.* 7).

1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* II. xi, It's impossible for them to plough me. 1863 Reade *Hard Cash* Prol. 16 That .. adds to my chance of being ploughed for smalls... 'Ploughed' is the new Oxfordish for 'plucked'. 1883 *Times* 1 June 4 My young friend was undeservedly ploughed.

9. With *advbs.*; mostly *trans.*

a. *Plough around*: *lit.* in reference to stumps left in cultivated land; *fig.* to make tentative approaches, feel one's way. *U. S. political slang.*

1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lxx. 557 The more skilful leaders begin (as it is expressed) to 'plough around' among the delegations of the newer..States.

b. *Plough down*: to throw or thrust down by ploughing. Also *fig.*

1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 126 On a part of a field where whins were plowed down. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxix, Any of which would be ploughed down by this huge vessel.

c. *Plough in, plough into the land*: to embed or bury in the soil (manure, vegetation, etc.) by ploughing. Also *fig.*

1764 *Museum Rust.* II. 172 When a farmer intends to plow in his vetches, I would..advise him to do it some weeks before he sows his wheat. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. I. 62 Others spread the dung on the surface and plough it in. 1895 B. Sedgwick in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Sept. 4/3 He ploughed his capital into the land, and it never came out.

d. *Plough out*: to dig or thrust out (of the ground) with the plough; hence, to disinter, dig out; to root out, eradicate, cast out, tear out, remove with violence; also, to excavate or hollow out by or as by ploughing (cf. 3 b).

1643 Milton *Divorce* II. xx. Wks. 1851 IV. 118 God loves not to plow out the heart of our endeavours with over-hard and sad tasks. *a* 1645 Habington *Surv. Worc.* in *Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.* III. 504 Ploughed out of obscure antiquities I will now use the true name. 1863 Lyell *Antig. Man* xiv. (ed. 3) 266 A third period when the marine boulder drift formed in the middle period was ploughed out of the larger valleys by a second set of glaciers. 1886 A. Winchell *Walks Geol. Field* 54 These North-American rivers have plowed out channels whose deep walls rise as high as the smoke from the steamers.

e. *Plough up*: to break up (ground) by ploughing; to throw or cast up, eradicate (roots, weeds) with the plough; to cut up roughly, excavate, furrow or scratch deeply, by any similar action.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* IV. ii. 87 Sooner this sword shall plough thy bowels vp. 1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Serm. Paules Crosse* 45 For he .. hath plowed vp my hart. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xii. 38 Let Patient Octavia plough thy visage vp With her prepared nailes. 1718 Lowth *Comm. Jer.* iv. 3 The Prophet..exhorts them to Repentance and Reformation under the Metaphor of Plowing up their fallow Ground. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 172 The wild boar plows it [the earth] up like a furrow, and does irreparable damage in the cultivated lands. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1245 If..the owner of a close over which there is a right of way plough up the way, and assign a new way. *a* 1895 Ld. C. E. Paget *Autobiog.* I. (1896) 8 Her decks were literally ploughed up with grape shot.

10. Phrases. a. *To plough with any one's heifer* (*ox*, †*calf*) after *Judges* xiv. 18. See also Heifer 1 b. (In quot. 1632, app. to be yoked together with.)

1535 Coverdale *Judg.* xiv. 18 Yf ye had not plowed with my calfe [1611 heifer], ye shulde not haue founde out my ryddle. 1584 G. B. *Beware the Cat* Ded., I doubt whether M. Stremer will be contented that other men ploughe with his oxen. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* II. iii, I will undertake To find the north passage to the Indies sooner Than plough with your proud heifer.

b. *To plough the sands*: a frequent type of fruitless labour. Also *to plough the air.*

1590 Greene *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 166 With sweating browes I long haue plowde the sands .. Repent hath sent me home with emptie hands. 1647 Jer. Taylor *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 5 That I had as good plow the Sands, or till the Aire, as perswade such Doctrines, which destroy mens interests. 1775 Wesley *Jrnl.* 15 Nov., I preached at Dorking. But still I fear we are ploughing upon the sand: we see no fruit of our labours. 1894 Asquith *Sp. at Birmingham* 21 Nov., All our time, all our labour, and all our assiduity is as certain to be thrown away as if you were to plough the sands of the seashore, the moment that the Bill reaches the Upper Chamber.

Hence **Ploughed, plowed** *ppl. a.*

1535 Coverdale *Jer.* iv. 26 The plowed felde was become waist. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* IV. ii. (1848) 173 We began to traverse certain plow'd Lands. 1759 B. Martin *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. *Herts.* 15 The Surface of every Plowed Field. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 619 When ploughed lands are to be laid down for meadow or pasture.

Plough·able, plow·able, *a.* [f. Plough *v.* + -able.] Capable of being ploughed; arable.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 3/10 Plowable, *arabilis.* 1611 Cotgr., *Arable*, earable, ploughable, tillable. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 25 Light Soils are plowable at a small expence. 1864 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XV. xii. (1872) VI. 87 There may be patches ploughable for rye.

Plough-alms, plow-alms. Now *Hist.* [f. Plough *sb.*[1] + Alms; repr. OE. *sulh-ælmessan.*] A church-due in Old English times and later, consisting of one penny per annum for each plough or plough-land.

[*a* 1000 *Laws of Edmund* I. c. 2 (Schmid) Be teoðungum and ciric-sceattum. Þeoðunge we bebeodaþ ælcum cristenum men be his cristendome, and cyric-sceat, and Romfeoh, and sulh-ælmessan.] 1291–2 in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1682) I. 256 De qualibet caruca juncta inter Pascha et Pentecostem unum denarium, qui dicitur ploualmes. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xi. (1739) 20 Another Income arose from the Plough, and under the name of Plough-Alms. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 174 *Plough-alms*, a penny from every land, which was yearly offered, &c.

Plough-beam, plow-. The central longitudinal beam or bar of timber or iron in a plough, to which the other principal parts are attached.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569/21 *Burris*, the plowebeme. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 724/27 *Hec buris*, a plughbeme. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 3 The ploughe beame, is the longe tree aboue, the whiche is a lytel bente. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B ij, The first member thereof, as being the strongest and most principallest peece of timber belonging to the same, is called the Plough-beame, being a large long peece of timber much bending. 1727 Bradley *Compl. Body Husb.* 41 The plough-beam, about seven foot long, and five inches square, from the tail..to the coulter.., and then tapers to three inches and half. 1884 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 403 An elm..to fashion into a plough-beam.

fig. 1607 J. Carpenter *Plaine Mans Plough* 206 The Plough Beame of Impietie is, the repletion of bread..and luxurie.

Plough·bote, ploughboot, plow-. *Hist.* [f. Plough *sb.*[1]; see Boot *sb.*[1] 5 b.] In *Old Law*, The wood or timber which the tenant had a right to cut for making and repairing ploughs and other agricultural implements.

1531 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 193 My dwyllyng house..wyth sufficyent housebote, heybote, fyrebote, ploughbote growyng upon any growne belonging unto the said house. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Rec.* (1891) 166 Wood .. for ploughe-boote, hedge-boote, fyar-boote, .. and harrowe-boote. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 285 Fell Trees for Mechanick uses; as Plough-boot, Cart-boot, &c. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. iii. 35 Plough-bote and cart-bote are wood to be employed in making and repairing all instruments of husbandry.

Plough-boy, plow-boy. A boy who leads the team of oxen or horses that draw a plough; hence, a boy of the rustic labouring class.

1569 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 254 To every ploughe boy and other boyes servinge within my house sixe shillinges eighte pence. 1724 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 4 A ploughboy, that has ..seen nothing but thatched houses, and his parish church, is naturally led to imagine that thatch belongs to the very nature of a house. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 255 If I do not, by the means of that Grammar, enable any Plough-Boy of sound mind to write English as correctly in one year [etc.]. 1903 *Spectator* 28 Nov. 903/2 The plough-boy figures on the prehistoric rock carvings of the Maritime Alps, .. using the goad, while the ploughman guides the plough...With the use of horses the ploughboy has disappeared, except where the land is so heavy that he has to lead the extra horse.

Plough·driver, plow-. [Cf. Da. *plov-driver.*] One who drives the beasts drawing a plough.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A Ploghe dryfer, *stigarius.* 1552 Huloet, Ploughe dryuer, *ingarius.* 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* Wks. (Grosart) I. 115 Those misbeleeuing Pagans, the plough-driuers. 1679 O. Heywood *Diaries*, etc. (1881) II. 262 The plow-holder left the plow..the plow-driver at last came to them. 1812 Sir J. Sinclair *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 343 Horses .. were herded..on the pasture land, by the boys then employed as plough drivers.

Plougher, plower (plau·ər). [f. Plough *v.* + -er[1]. In ON. *plógari*, LG. *ploger*, Du. *ploeger*, Ger. *pflüger.*] One who ploughs; a ploughman. Also in *transf.* and *fig.* senses.

c 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 10 Parchemente makers, skynners, and plowers. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxviii. [cxxix.] 3 The plowers plowed vpon my backe, & made longe forowes. 1548–9 Latimer *Ploughers* (Arb.) 17 Now I shal tel you who be the plowers. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* xviii. 685 Ploughers not few, There driving to and fro their sturdy teems. 1869 *Daily News* 30 Aug., The ploughers of dangerous seas, or the occupiers of troubled frontiers. 1880 *Dorothy* 34 Now was the autumn come, and ploughers went forth to their ploughing.

b. *Comb.* †**Plough·gher-band**, some part of the harness of a plough.

1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, iij plogherbandis.

†**Plough·foot, plow-.** *Obs.* [Cf. Norw. dial. *plog-fot.*] In a wheelless plough, an adjustable piece of wood or iron, attached to the front of the beam, regulating the depth of the ploughing: see quots.

It is doubtful however whether the *plow-fote* in Piers Plowman had this meaning; the variant reading *plow-bat* and the context point rather to its identity with *plough-staff.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. VI. 105 My plow-fote shal be my pyk-staf and picche atwo þe rotes, And helpe my culter to kerue and clense þe forwes [*v. rr. A.* plouh-pote, plowbat; *B.* plow-pote, ploughwes foot; *C.* plouh-fot, plowbat]. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 3 The plough fote is a lyttell pece of wodde, with a croked ende set before in a morteys in the ploughe beame, sette fast with wedges, to dryue vppe and downe, and it is a staye to order, of what depenes the ploughe shall go. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B iv b, Plough foote, .. the vse of it is to giue the Plough earth, or put it from the earth, as you please. 1707 W. Baxter *Gloss. Antig. Rom.* etc. (1731) 406 Tho' our Translation..makes Samgar to have slain six hundred Men with an Ox-goad: The LXX say it was ἐν τῷ ἀροτρόποδι, which..is *Dentale*, or the Plow-foot.

†**Plough-gang.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. Plough *sb.*[1] + Gang *sb.*[1] (app. a late formation on analogy of *ox-gang*).] A measure of arable land; by Jamieson taken as a synonym of *plough-gate.*

(The statements of its extent differ widely, and may point to different local uses: quot. 1793 makes it 13 acres, i. e. one eighth of a carucate or plough-land, and so = ox-gang; quot. 1748 makes it half a carucate; Jamieson, if his 'one plough' means the original plough and team of eight oxen, identifies it with the carucate; but he may have meant a modern two-horse plough. See next for a fourth value.)

1748 W. Cullen *Let.* in *Life* (1832) I. 69 As much [ground] as may employ four horses or what we call a plough-gang. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scotl., Perth.* V. 56 The number of plough-gangs, in the hands of tenants, is about 141½, .. reckoning 13 acres of arable land to each plough-gang. 1808 Jamieson, *Pleuch-gang, Plough-gang*, as much land as can be properly tilled by one plough...We also use the phrase a *pleuch* of land in the same sense. [Apparently an erroneous statement.]

Plough-gate, plow- (plau·gē·t). *north. Eng.* and *Sc.* Now only *Hist.* [f. as prec. + Gate *sb.*[2]; cf. *ox-gate.*] Originally, perhaps the same as Plough-land (and hence commonly used by Scottish antiquarian writers to render *carrucata*); but in later times apparently applied to a much smaller quantity of land.

Jamieson says: 'A plough-gate or plough-gang of land is now [1825] understood to include about forty Scots acres [= 50⅝ Imperial acres] at an average. Fife.'

1565 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 235, I bequeythe vnto my said Wyfe during hir Lyfe naturall my toure in Brankston wt the two plewegait of Land And all other comoditts theirto belongyng. 1789 Pilkington *View Derby.* II. 77 The charter of Edward II .. grants the canons at Calke possession of a plough-gate of land in Leke. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* I. 121–2 There are 56 plough-gates and a half in the parish [Innerwick]. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 392 A number of plough-gates in one village, or several tenants about one plough, having their land mixed with one another, is a great bar to the improvement of any country. 1806 *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 412/1 The island [Papa Westray] ..is divided into 24 ploughgates of land, and contains about 240 inhabitants. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xii, The defences proponed say, that *non constat* at this present what is a plough-gate of land, whilk uncertainty is sufficient to elide the conclusions of the libel. 1872 E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* 135 The agricultural measurement in Scotland upon which the *regium gildum* was levied..was the Ploughgate, or carucate of 104 acres.

†**Plough-gear, plow-.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + Gear *sb.*] The appurtenances of a plough: = next.

1418–19 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 16 The abbot and the convent..ledeth a wey from his parsonage his plogh yren and his plogh and his plogh gere. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 5 It is necessarye for hym, to lerne to make his yokes, oxe bowes, stooles, and all maner of plough geare. 1566 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 263 All my Waynes and wayneger all my plewes and plewgeire to be dewyded equalle betwyxt them. 1584 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 145 Plowes and plowe geare.

Plough-graith (plau·greɪþ). *Sc.* [f. as prec. + GRAITH *sb.*] The harness and equipment of a plough.

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 62 Tuke away his plewch grayth. 1597 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI*, c. 82 (heading) Destroyers of pleuch-graith [*body of act* pleuchgeire]. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, There was not a corner of the farm fit for any thing but to break plough-graith, and kill cattle. 1828 — *F. M. Perth* ii, Locks and bars, plough-graith and harrow-teeth!

Plou·gh-ha·ndle, plow-. [Cf. Da. *plov-handel.*] One of the two handles or stilts of a plough.

Some forms of plough had only one handle, esp. where the soil was light.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A Ploghe handylle, *stiua*. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plowe handell, *manche*. 1853 J. STEVENSON tr. *Ch. Historians Eng.* I. 611 Directing the plough-handle, or working iron.

Plough-head, plow-. [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + HEAD *sb.* Cf. OHG. *pflogis-houbit.*]

†**1.** The share-beam of a plough; a wooden frame to which the share was fixed. *Obs.*

1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 150, ij plogheuedez. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/2 A Ploghe hede, *dentale*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Sommersetshyre..the sharbeame, that in many places is called the ploughe hedde, is foure or fyue foote longe, and it is brode and thynne. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* iii. B ij b, The Plough head..is a flat peece of timber, almost three foote in length if it be for clay ground, otherwise shorter, of breadth seauen inches.

2. The front part of a plough: see quots.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. 301 The Plow-Head contains the two Wheels A, B. 1864 WEBSTER, *Plow-head, Plough-head*, the draught-iron at the end of the beam of a plow. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Plow-head*, the *clevis* of a plow. That part to which the draft is attached.

Ploughing, plowing (plau·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLOUGH *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the verb PLOUGH; the result of this, a ploughed furrow.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 73 In deluyng al, or plowyng, or dichynge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plowynge, or erynge, *aracio*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 8 In all maner of plowynge, se that thy eye, thy hande, and thy fote do agree, and be alwaye redy one to serue a-nother. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* xxii, One [Act] prohibiting the plowing with Horses by the Tail. 1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* II. 197 On sounding the plowings, I found them deeper. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Wet Days at Edgewood* 38 Columella urges, like Cato, frequent ploughings.

b. *Carpentry.* The planing of a groove with a 'plough'; the groove so made.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 47 It is a good method to..unite the different planks by ploughing and tonguing. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 103 Grooving or ploughing, by which a narrow channel is excavated out of the thickness of the timber.

c. *Univ. slang.* The rejection of a candidate in an examination; plucking.

1882 EMMA J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xxxiv, He just escaped plucking or ploughing—I forget which Dr. Heavisides said —'by the skin of his teeth'.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ploughing-team, -time*; **ploughing-day**: see quot.; **ploughing-iron** = PLOUGH-IRON; **ploughing-land, ground,** arable land; **ploughing-match,** a competitive exhibition of ploughing.

1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, **Ploughing-day*, the day on which the farmer who has taken a new farm asks, and receives, the assistance of his neighbours' Draughts in getting the necessary ploughing done. 1755 *N. Jersey Archives* XIX. 483 The whole is good Meadow and *Plowing Ground. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* I. ii, In a cause like this, The husbandman would change his *ploughing-irons To weapons of defence. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2977/4 A Farm, containing near 160 Acres of Land,.. most *plowing Land, ..with the advantage of Commoning. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 196 The original *ploughing matches were warmly patronized by Mr. Erskine of Mar. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 25 Vexed to see such waste made upon their estates, in *plowing time especially. 1896 MANNING in *Cath. Mag.* Mar. 187 The next three or four years of your life.. are like the ploughing-time and the sowing-time in the year.

Plough-iron, plow- (plau·əi ən). [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + IRON *sb.* So ON. *plóg-járn* plough-iron, plough-share, Da. *plov-jærn*, LG. *plōg-îsen* (Doorn.), Du. *ploeg-ijzer*, OHG. *pflug-ysen*, Ger. *pflugeisen* coulter, also ploughshare.] Any iron part of a plough, *esp.* in *pl.*, the coulter and share.

1418-19 [see PLOUGH-GEAR]. 1458 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* VI. 425 Pro aratris, harpicis, et ferro, et factura de plwe irnys. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 2 In Buckyngham-shyre, are plowes made of an nother maner, and also other maner of ploughe-yrons. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 187/1 In passing barefooted ouer certeine hot shares or plough-irons, according to the law *Ordalium*. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. VII. 35 Yet in his time he wrought as well as playd, That by his plough-yrons mote right well appeare. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 120 To the plough irons turn'd the hostile spear. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 397 It is.. more economical to sharpen the plough-irons every day.

Plou·gh-jo·gger, plow-. One who jogs or pushes a plough; a ploughman. (*humorous* or *contemptuous.*)

1605 ARMIN *Foole upon F.* (1880) 23 A Country Plow Jogger ..secretly stole a peece of Shoomakers waxe,..and coming behind him, clapt him on the head. 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 429 A medley..of Botchers, Coblers,..Draymen,..and Plough-joggers. *c* 1787 in *Q. Rev.* Jan. (1882) 66 He was..a plain man..who begged to say a few words to his 'brother plough-joggers'.

Plough-land, plow-land (plau·lænd). [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + LAND *sb.*: cf. OE. *sullung*, a derivative of *sulh* plough, used in a similar sense in Kent and elsewhere. For the form, cf. ON. *plógs-land* (=plough's land), Sw. *plogland* an acre; and, in sense 2, Du. *ploegland*, Ger. *pflugland.*]

1. *Hist.* The name used in the northern and eastern counties of England, after the Norman Conquest, for the unit of assessment of land, based upon the area capable of being tilled by one plough-team of eight oxen in the year: corresponding to the HIDE of the south and south-west (with which it was often equated), and, like it, embracing originally the meadow and pasture-land, and other necessary appurtenances of the holding.

In Domesday Bk. and other records in Latin, this unit is expressed by *carrucata* (=AF. *carué*, ONF. *caruee*, F. *charuée*, CARUCATE) a derivative of *carruca* plough, while the *hide* is rendered *hida*. It is not possible to say whether 'plough-land' was a translation of *carrucata* or the converse; but we have no instance of the word before the end of the 13th c., and *plough* itself appears first in the 12th. The fact that the counties in which the *carrucata* was the unit of assessment are precisely those in which Danish influence prevailed, favours the theory that the plough-land was of Norse origin; but there are difficulties. ON. *plógs-land* meant an acre, the normal area ploughed in one day. The extent of the normal plough-land, like that of the hide, is usually given as 120 acres; but in numerous instances it fell short of or exceeded this; the variations being prob. due to attempts to make the areal plough-lands correspond with the traditional assessment of the manors, to the inclusion or exclusion of the appurtenances and fallow land, and to local differences in the size of the acre.

The plough-land was divided into 8 ox-gangs, as against the 4 yard-lands or virgates of the hide.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7676 Þe king willam..Let enqueri streitliche þoru al engelonde, Hou moni plou lond, & hou moni hiden al so, Were in euerich ssire, and wat hii were wurþ þer to. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 169 Þe pris of a plouȝ lond of penyes so rounde To aparaile þat pyler were pure lytel. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 796/6 *Hec carucata*, plowlonde. 1555 *Act* 2 & 3 *Phil. & Mary* c. 8. § 2 Every Plow-Land in Tillage or Pasture that he shall occupy in the same Parish. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 16 A Knightes fee should conteyne .C.lx. Acres, and that is accompted for a plough land for a yere. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 664/1 Ulster..doth contayne nine thousand plowelandes, everye of which plow-landes contayneth six score acres, after the rate of 21 foote to every pearche of the sayd acre. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. vii. 60 A Plow-land or Carue of land (*Carucata terræ*)..is said to containe 4 Yard-land at 30 acres to the Yard-land. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 5 Hida is all one as a plow-land, viz. as much as a plow can till. 1656 L. SMITH in Sir W. Petty *Down Survey* (1851) 96 The countrey was divided into plowlands, one plowland being great, and another small, as they were in goodness or badness, for many of the plowlands were but seaventy or eighty acres, others are two or three hundred. 1896 M. T. PEARMAN *Hist. Manor Bensington, Oxon.* 10 The hide or plough-land in Preston-Cromarsh, a part of Benson before the Conquest, consisted of one hundred acres.

2. Land, or a plot of land, under cultivation with the plough; arable land.

1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plowe lande, *terre labouree*. 1548-9 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 17 What sede shuld be sowen in Gods field, in Goddes plough land. 1638 in H. Bond *Hist. of Watertown, Mass.* (1855) II. 997 All the Land lying beyond the Plowland..shalbe for a Common for Cattle. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 11 The marquis of Huntly, with his lady, and virgin daughter, was in the ploughlands in harvest. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* III. 218 It consists of this cottage, a small plough-land, a close for pasture, and a little garden. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 122 Soft woodland..and rolling plough-land.

Ploughman, plow- (plau·mæn). [Cf. MDu. *ploegh-man.*] A man who follows and guides the plough; often used generically for a farm-labourer or rustic.

1271 *Recds. Leicester* (1899) I. 137 Joh. Carucario (le caruer) Plouman. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 425/182 Huy comen..plouȝ-Man with his Aker-staf, Archer mid bouwe and knyue. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 3 Quaþ perkyn þe plouȝman..'I haue an half Aker to herie bi þe heiȝe weye'. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 529 With hym ther was a Plowman was his brother That hadde ylad of dong ful many a fother. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 214 Hurde-men & plew-men rescowid his childer fro þis lyon & þis wulfe. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* viii. 12 To be plowemen to tyll his londe and to be reapers in his haruest. 1548-9 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 19 Because I lyken preachyng to a ploughmans laboure and a prelate to a ploughman. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* i. The plowman homeward plods his weary way. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 321 Unletter'd swains and ploughmen coarse they slight. 1879 SHAIRP *Burns* i. 34 Now [1786] persons of every rank were anxious to become acquainted with the wonderful Ayrshire Ploughman.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (*a*) appositional, as *ploughman lad*, etc.; (*b*) with possessive, **ploughman's fee**: see quot. 1885. **Ploughman's Spikenard,** a plant: see SPIKENARD.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 694 They are found..among the Pastoral or Plow-men Africans. 1786 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xi, The braunie, bainie, ploughman chiel. 1834 A. CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Lit.* 19 Songs..written by a ploughman-lad.

1885 C. I. ELTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 735/1 The strict English primogeniture as applied to the rustic holdings, sometimes called *fiefs de roturier* or 'ploughman's fee'.

Plou·ghmanship, plow-. [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The art of the ploughman; skill in ploughing.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 219 The very mystery of Ploughmanship lyeth upon the knowledge and practice of them. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 65 How to set a Plow is perhaps the most difficult lesson on Plowmanship. 1880 *Dorothy* p. xvi, Both he and they were proud of their ploughmanship.

†**Plough-mell, plow-.** *Obs.* [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + MELL *sb.*[1]] A mallet formerly carried on the plough for breaking up large clods; a plough-mallet.

a 1450 *Turn. of Totenham* 151 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 89 The chefe was of a ploo mell, And the schadow of a bell. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 Men that be no husbandes,.. that knowe not whiche is the ploughe beame, the sharebeame,.. and the ploughe mal. 1765-94 PERCY *Reliques* (1845) Gloss., *Plowmell*, a small wooden hammer occasionally fixed to the plow, still used in the North; in the Midland counties in its stead is used a plow-hatchet.

Plough-Monday, Plow- (plau·mʌ·ndeɪ). The first Monday after Epiphany, on which, esp. in the N. and E. of England, the commencement of the ploughing season is, or till recently was, celebrated by a procession of disguised ploughmen and boys (*plough-bullocks, -jags, -stots, -witchers*, etc.) drawing a plough from door to door.

1542 BALE *Yet a Course* 28 Than ought my lorde [Bonner] to suffre the same selfe ponnyshment..for not sensinge the plowghes vpon Plowgh mondaye. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 180 Plough Monday, next after that Twelftide is past, Bids out with the plough, the woorst husband is last. 1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Plow-Monday*,..on which day, in the North of England, the Plowmen themselves draw a Plough from door to door, and beg Plow-money to drink. 1892 *Times* 12 Jan. 6/2 Yesterday being 'Plough-Monday', as the first Monday after the Epiphany is called.

Ploughshare, plow- (plau·ʃeə). [Cf. MFl. *ploegh-schere*, Du. *ploeg-schaar.*]

1. The large pointed blade of a plough, which, following the coulter, cuts a slice of earth, and passes it on to the mould-board; = SHARE.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 136 Men schal welle hor swerde into plowgh-schares. 1535 COVERDALE *Micah* iv. 3 Of their swerdes they shal make plowshares, and sythes off their speares. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 180 If she will go bare footed for her selfe ouer foure ploughe shares,..brennyng and fire hote. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Descr. Country's Recreat.* iv. in *Reliq.* (1651) 532 Wounds are never found, Save what the Plow-share gives the ground. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. 540 O'er red-hot plough-shares make me skip to please Your dotard fancies! 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 23 A government which shall have its soldiers of the plough-share, as well as its soldiers of the sword.

fig. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 168 Final ruin fiercely drives Her ploughshare o'er creation! 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 107 Thou, I say, Althæa, since my father's ploughshare, drawn Through fatal seedland of a female field, Furrowed thy body. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. ix. 301 It is the snout of a glacier that must act the part of a ploughshare.

2. *Anat.* The vomer; = *ploughshare bone* (*a*).

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ploughshare instinct, line, vaulting*; *ploughshare-shaped* adj.; **ploughshare bone** *Anat.*, (*a*) the vomer; (*b*) the pygostyle of a bird.

1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 778/2 The *vomer* or ploughshare bone is symmetrical,..forming the posterior part of the nasal partition. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 291/2 The *Ischio-coccygeus*..extending..to the sides of the..ploughshare bone. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 18 The terminal ploughshare-shaped vertebrae. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 187 This twisting of the surface has received the very appropriate name of ploughshare vaulting. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 465 The caudal vertebræ do not end in a 'ploughshare bone'.

Plough-shoe, plow- (plau·ʃû). A name variously applied, at different times or in different localities, to appliances for covering, protecting, or supporting the ploughshare; see quots.

1377-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 387 In yokys, Plushone, harows, cribris, iijs. iiijd. 1405-6 *Ibid.* 222 Pro 1 sok et plogschone, ijs. jd. 1813 BATCHELOR *Agric.* 162 (E.D.D.) Plough-shoe and ground-wrists, *£o.* 3*s.* *od.* 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss.*, *Plough-shoe*, a piece of iron fastened to the side of the 'throck' to prevent its wearing away with the friction with the soil. 1901 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Acc. Rolls* Gloss., *Plushone*, plough shoes, sledges placed under ploughs so that they may be drawn along the ground without going in. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Plough-shoe*, (*a*) the ironwork upon which the sock is fixed; the casing of iron at the nose or forepart of that part of a plough which enters the ground; also in *pl.*; (*b*) a wooden frame for conveying a plough upon a road. 1906 HONE *Manor & Manorial Records* 106 A plough-shoe (or iron tip for a wooden share).

Plou·gh-staff, plow-. A staff, ending in a small spade or shovel, used by the ploughman to clear the coulter and mould-board from earth, roots, weeds, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2198 Vor ȝe beþ men bet iteiȝt to ssoffe & to spade, To cartstaf & to ploustaf. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 285/1 A Ploghe staffe, *scudium*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 37 A plough beetle, ploughstaff, to further the plough, Great clod to a sunder that breaketh so rough. 1667 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1883) III. 100 He took up the plow-staff and knockt him down. 1740 SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol* II. 53 High o'er his Head His pond'rous Plough-Staff in both Hands he rais'd. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 425 Fig. 89 represents the plough-staff, another and a necessary article of the movable furniture of the plough.

†**Plou·gh-start, plow-.** *Obs.* [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + START, tail. So MDu. *ploech-staert* (*c* 1415), MFl. *ploegh-steert*, Du. *ploegstaart.*] A plough-handle, plough-tail.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plowstert, *stiua.* 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plowe start, *manche.* 1552 HULOET, Ploughe starte whyche the tylman holdeth, *stiua, æ.*

Plou·gh-stilt, plow-. *dial.* [f. as prec. + STILT *sb.*] A plough-handle.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The plough stylte is on the ryghte syde of the ploughe, wher vpon the rest is set, the rest is a lyttell pece of woode, pynned fast vpon the nether ende of the stylt, and to the sharebeame in the ferther ende. 1581 *Calr. Laing Charters* (1899) 256 [The sheriff-depute] deliverit the plewch stilt in the said Davidis handis vpone the arabill grownd thairof. 1822 BEWICK *Mem.* 255 To find him so soon attempt to equal his whistling and singing master at the plough-stilts. 1824 SCOTT *Redgaunt.* Let. x, A hand that never held pleugh-stilt or pettle. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 645 What farmers want between the plough-stilts are a pair of strong arms.

† **Plou·gh-strake, plow-.** *Obs* [f. as prec. + STRAKE *sb.*] A piece of hoop-iron for strengthening or repairing a plough.

1395 *Cartular. Abb. de Whiteby* (Surtees) II. 618 Pro ii dosan plewstrakys. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 5 He bad John Holgate mersshall make hym ploghstrakes of drosse and landyren yat he sent hym and na osmundes.

† **Plou·gh-swain, plow-.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + SWAIN.] A ploughman.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 17 A labor and a trauaile too plowswayns hertelye welcoom. 1638 SIR T. HAWKINS *Odes Horace* I. iv. (ed. 4) 6 Beasts leave their stals, ploughswaines their Fires forgo.

Plou·gh-tail, plow-. The rear or handles of a plough. Symbolically, the following of the plough, the place of the farm-labourer, farm-labour; as in *at, to, from the plough-tail.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 3 The plough-tayle is that the husbande holdeth in his hande. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IV. 230 They forsooke their generall, and returned home to the plough-taile. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* (1721) I. *Ess. Georg.* 207 Something of a rustick Majesty, like that of a Roman Dictator at the Plow-Tail. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 307 P 16 A Man .. who might have done his Country excellent Service at a Plough-tail. 17.. BURNS *MS. presented to Mr. Riddel* Wks. (1833) 83/2 He..was bred at a plough-tail. 1831 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 32 The men were all from the ploughtail. 1877 R. C. JEBB *Prim. Grk. Lit.* I. ii. 41 How should the axle-tree of a waggon be made, and what is the best wood for a plough-tail or a pole?

Plou·gh-wise, *a.* [f. PLOUGH *sb.*[1] + -WISE.] Said of writing, the lines of which run alternately from right to left and from left to right; boustrophedon.

1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* II. vii. 33 This was succeeded by βουστροφηδόν, or 'plough-wise' writing.

Plough-wright, plow- (plau·rəit). [f. as prec. + WRIGHT.] A maker of ploughs.

1285 in W. P. Baildon *Court Rolls Wakefield* (1901) I. 195 Robertus le Plogwryth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plow wryhte, *carrucarius.* 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 4 § 30 The Art or Occupation of a Smith, Wheel-wright, Plough-wright, Mill-wright, Carpenter. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 191 A plough-wright or plow maker .. cannot work true to a false foundation. 1885 W. RYE *Hist. Norfolk* 117 These Thaxters .. seem to have been blacksmiths and plough-wrights for generations.

Plouh, obs. form of PLOUGH *sb.*[1]

Plouk, plook (pluk), *sb.* Forms: 5 **plowke,** 6 **plouke, plucke,** *Sc.* **pluik,** 6–7 **pluke,** 7– **plouk,** 9 **plook.** [Origin obscure: cf. Sc. *plouk, pluke* = PLUG *sb.* Gael. *pluc* a lump, knot, bung, tumour, pimple, appears to be from Sc.]

1. A pimple. Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 A Plowke, *pluscula*; *plusculetus.* 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 168 b, If they [raisins] be layd to with rue .. they heale rede angri nyght ploukes and sores. 1562 — *Baths* 9 b, This bath .. is good .. for scalde heades and pluckes in the heade. 1578 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 64 The twa men war verie reid and tead-lyk faced, for ploukes and lumpes. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 510 Head plouks and blaines, rub it with the iuice and wine. 1589 R. BRUCE *Serm. Isa.* xxxviii. 1-3 (1591) 1 b, A pestilentious byle..stryking out in many heades or in many plukes. 1804 ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 106 Aw spatter'd owre wi' reed plouks. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Plooks,* small scabs or blotches.

† **2.** A small knob placed a short distance below the brim of a metal vessel for measuring liquids, to show the point of exact measure. *Sc. Obs.*

1599 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 93 That all stoupis .. sal be agriabill in mesour to the jug and stampit with the townis stamp, and that the pluik be benethe the mouth of ilk stoup as followis. 1826 GALT *Lairds* xviii. 163 *note,* Scotch pint-stoups, before the reformation of the imperial measure, were made to hold something more than the standard quantity, but at the point of the true measure a small *papilla* or plook projected, the space between which and the brim was left for an *ad libitum.*

Hence † **Plouk, plook** *v., trans.* to furnish (a stoup) with a plouk or measuring-knob.

1580-1 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (Rec. Soc.) I. 83 The treyn stoipis to be plovkit and merkit lykwys.

Plouked, plooked (plu·ked, -it), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 5 **pluccid,** 6 **plukkit.** [f. prec. sb. + -ED [2].] Pimpled.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3837 Polidarius was pluccid as a porke fat. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 23 Quhat of thir fureis, or Pluto that plukkit duke, Or call on Sibil, deir of a revin sleif? 1857 J. STEWART *Sk. Scottish Char.*, etc. 132 (E.D.D.) Drunkards and sots Wi' their red plookit noses.

Plouky, plooky (plu·ki), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **plowkky,** 6 **plowkie,** 8 **plouckie, pluggy, plucky,** 8– **plouky, plooky.** [f. PLOUK *sb.* + -Y.] Pimply, pimpled.

14.. *MS. Linc. Med.* lf. 294 (Cath. Angl. 284) For hyme that is smetyne with his awenne blode,..and waxes plowkky, and brekes owte. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 361 Abhominable to ony man to se, With plowkie visage, bowdin brow and bre. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxxii. (1868) 95 His face was as plooky as a curran' bun. 1868 *Cleveland Glossary, Plooky,* having pimples or small blotches on the surface.

b. *Comb.*, as *plouky-faced.*

17.. F. SEMPILL *Bridal* iii, Plouckie-fac'd Wat in the mill. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 351 Pluggy fac'd Wat. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Plooky-faced,* pimpled.

Plounce (plauns), *v. dial.* [app. ad. OF. *ploncier,* 3rd sing. pr. *plonce* (Godef.), by-form of *plonger* to PLUNGE; cf. also FLOUNCE *v.*[1]] *trans.* and *intr.* To plunge in water or liquid mud; to duck, souse; to flounder. Hence **Plou·ncing** *vbl. sb.*

1631 *Min. Bks. Bor. Crt. Dorchester* 6 May (E. D. D.), Mary Tuxderry, for scoulding at the sergeants..is ordered to be plounced when the wether is warmer. 1634 *Ibid.* 23 May, [Three scolds] to be plounced thrice apiece under the water this present afternoone. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 219 Aftir halfe an houres plounsing in this Bathing-tub, you will be eas'd of your paine. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 200 Our observation must not launch now into the whirl-pool, or rather plounce into the mudd and quagmire of the people's power and right pretended. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Plounce,* to plunge with a loud noise. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Parish of Hilby* ii. 27 Wading in after the little rebellious imp, plouncing defiantly a yard or so out of reach.

Plounte, obs. form of PLANT.

Plousio·cracy. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. πλούσιος rich + -CRACY. The regular romanized form would be *plusio-.*] The rule of the wealthy, plutocracy.

1839 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* I. Pref. 9 To say a word against .. any abuse which a rich man inflicted, or a poor man suffered, was treason against the *Plousiocracy.*

Plout (plaut), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also **plowt.** [Origin obscure: perh. onomatopœic: cf. PLOUTER.] *intr.* To fall with a splash or plump; to plunge or splash in water.

1825-80 JAMIESON, *Plout,* to splash or dash, implying both sound and action. 1856 J. BALLANTINE *Dawn of Morning* v, Screaming, pouting, plouting, plashing, Tell of tiny elfins washing. 1867 W. S. PLUMER in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav. Ps.* xi. 5, 9 Behold Pharaoh..and his horses, plouting and plunging. 1898 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 186/2 A linn .. where the salmon plout in a most wonderful profusion.

Hence **Plout** *sb.*, a heavy fall of rain: = PLUMP *sb.*[3] 3.

1823 W. TENNANT *Cdl. Beaton* IV. iii. 113 We'll hae a thud o' thunner wi' a guid plout o' weet. 1905 J. G. MCPHERSON *Meteorology* 99 For short periods, the heaviest falls or 'plouts' of rain are during thunder-storms.

Plouter (plau·tər), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also **plowter, plotter.** [app. frequentative of PLOUT *v.*

There are many similar dialect forms, as *ploiter, plodder, plother*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Cf. also Du. *ploeteren,* LG. *pludern, plüdern* to splash in water, bathe with splashing.]

intr. To flounder or move about with splashing in water or mire; to dabble or work in anything wet or dirty; also, to work ineffectually, to potter.

1808 JAMIESON, *Plouter,* to make a noise among water,.. to be engaged in any wet and dirty work. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xvii. (1859) 478, I found a score of Crusanos all ploutering in the water. 1834 J. WILSON in J. Hamilton *Mem.* v. (1859) 164 We supped on our arrival at Inverness, after ploutering up stairs and sweeping the dust out of our eyes. 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* ix, Miss's pony has trodden down two rigs o' corn, and plottered through, raight o'er into t' meadow. 1861 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 250 He .. saw them plowthering about in the moss-hags as if they had been looking for a wounded stag. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 297 Your mither has dune naething but plowter aboot the hoose.

Hence **Plou·tering** *vbl. sb.*, also **Plou·ter** *sb.*, the action of this verb, floundering in water; splashing, the sound of splashing.

1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ball.* I. 294 For mony a foul weary plouter She'd cost him through gutters and glaur. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 142 Sometimes playin plouter into a wat place up to the oxters. 1862 NAPIER *Life Dundee* II. 68 There was so much petting and plunging, praying and ploutering, piking in, and pulling out. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xiv. 152 The sea was extremely little, but there went a hollow plowter round the base of it [the Bass].

Ploutocracy, -cratic, var. PLUTOCRACY, -CRATIC.

Plover (plv·vəɹ). Forms: α. 4 **pluwer,** 4–6 **pluuer,** 4–7 **plouer,** 5 **plouier, plowere,** *Sc.* **pluwar,** 5–6 **plovere,** 6 **plower,** *Sc.* **pluvar,** 6–7 **pluver,** 4– **plover.** β. 4 **plewer,** 5–6 **pleuer,** 6 **plevar, plever, pliuer,** 7 **pluiver,** 8 **pliver.** [ME. and AF. *plover* = OF. *plovier* (*a* 1200 in Hatz.-Darm.), later *plouvier, pleuvier, pluvier,* = Pr. *pluvier*:—late L. **plovārius* belonging to rain, f. L. *pluvia* rain; in mod.L. *pluvārius, pluviārius*; cf. Sp. *pluvial* plover, ad.L. *pluviālis* rainy, also Ger. *regenpfeifer,* lit. rain-piper, and Eng. *rain-bird.*

The connexion with rain expressed in the various names has been variously explained. Belon, 1555, said the birds were so called because most easily taken in rainy weather, which modern observation contradicts. Others, because they arrive in flocks in the rainy season (Littré); according to Prof. Newton, the Golden and Grey Plovers arrive on the shores of the Mediterranean at the approach of winter. Others, because of the restlessness of the bird when rain is approaching: see R. Lubbock *Fauna of Norfolk* (1845) 61-2. Others have attributed it to the appearance of the upper plumage, as if spotted with rain-drops.]

1. The common name of several gregarious grallatorial (limicoline) birds of the family *Charadriidæ*, esp. those of the genera *Charadrius* and *Squatarola*, the former including the *Golden Plover* of Europe (*C. pluvialis*), also called *Yellow* or *Green Plover*, and the closely allied *Field* or *Golden Plover* of North America, the latter the *Grey* or *Swiss Plover*, *S. helvetica*; also popularly given to the Lapwing, the eggs of which are sold as 'Plovers' eggs', and in N. America to three birds of the *Scolopacidæ* or Snipe family, the Bartramian Sandpiper, *Bartramia longicauda*, and the Greater and Lesser Yellowshank, *Totanus melanoleucus* and *flavipes.*

α. 1312-13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 10, l pluuers. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3526 Partrick, plover, heroun, ne swan. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 33 As the Plover doth of Eir I live, and am in good espeir. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 182 Pacockes and plovers in platers of golde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plovere (bryd), *pluviarius.* ?*a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 397 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 298 Pertrikis and pluveris befoir thame hes scho brocht. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 42 As fat and plum enerie part of her as a plouer. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 182 Plover. *Pluvialis*... The flesh is very pleasant, and better than the green Lapwing. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 156 The wheeling plover, and the timid hare. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xi, Fancy..in the plover's shrilly strain, The signal whistle heard again. 1843 YARRELL *Hist. Birds* II. 382 The Great Plover's..shrill and ominous whistle..is supposed to be the note..alluded to by Sir Walter Scott in..the *Lady of the Lake.* 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 732 The birds just spoken of [*Squatarola, Charadrius*] are those most emphatically entitled to be called Plovers; but the Dotterel, the group of Ringed Plovers..and the Lapwing, with their allies, have, according to usage, hardly less claim to the name. *Ibid.* 733 Plovers..must be regarded as constituting a somewhat indefinite group, for no very strong line of demarcation can be drawn between them and the Sandpipers and Snipes.

β. 1390-91 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 597, xviij plewers emptor. iij s. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vj b, A fall of Woodecockis. A Congregacion of Pleuers. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 396 Peirtryks and pleuers pyping on the speit. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 90 Kaipounis, pliueris and vtheris sik kynd of cheir. 1728 RAMSAY *Lure* 12 Peartricks, teals, moor-powts, and plivers.

2. With defining words, applied to species of the family *Charadriidæ*, and extended to some of the allied *Thinocoridæ* and *Scolopacidæ* or Snipe family, and to the isolated genus *Dromas* (Crab Plover). The chief of these are:

Bastard P., †**Black P.,** the Lapwing; **Bishop P.,** in U.S., the Turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; **Black-bellied P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Black-breasted P.,** in Ireland, the Golden Plover in its summer plumage; in U.S. = next (*b*); **Black-heart P.,** (*a*) in Canada, the American Dunlin, *Tringa pacifica*; (*b*) in U.S., *Philomachus spinosus*; **Bull-head P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Chattering P.**: see quot.; **Cornfield P.,** *Bartramia longicauda* (see 1); **Crab P.,** of the Indian Ocean, *Dromas ardeola*; **Crookbilled P.,** of New Zealand, *Anarhynchus frontalis*; **Dot P.,** the Dotterel (Swainson); **Field P.,** (*a*) the American Golden Plover; (*b*) *Bartramia longicauda* (see 1); **Golden P.,** *Charadrius pluvialis*, and the allied American *C. dominicus* (see 2); **Grass P.** = *Field Plover* (*b*); **Great P.,** the Stone Curlew, *Œdicnemus scolopax* (*Œ. crepitans*); **Greater P.,** the Greenshank (Swainson); **Green P.,** (*a*) = *Golden Plover*; (*b*) in Ireland, the Lapwing; **Grey P.,** (*a*) *Squatarola helvetica*; (*b*) in Ireland, the Golden Plover in its summer plumage; (*c*) in Scotland, the Knot, *Tringa canutus*, in its winter plumage (Swainson); **Heath P.** = *Golden Plover*; **Helvetian P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Highland P.** = *Field Plover* (*b*); **Hill P.,** in Scotland = *Golden Plover*; **Kentish P.,** a British Ring Plover, *Ægialitis cantianus*; **Lark P.,** a quail-snipe of the S. Amer. genus *Thinocorys*, allied to the Sheath-bills; **Long-legged P.,** the Stilt; **Mountain P.,** in western U.S., *Podasocys montanus*; **Mud P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Noisy P.** = *Chattering P.*; **Norfolk P.** = *Great P.*; **Oyster P.,** the Oyster-catcher; **Pasture P.** = *Field Plover* (*b*); **Piping P.,** a N. Amer. Ringed Plover, *Ægialitis melodus*; **Plain P., Prairie P.** = *Field Plover* (*b*); **Red-legged P.,** in U.S., the Turnstone; **Ring P., Ringed P.,** one of various small species, ringed or barred about the neck, etc., mostly of the genus *Ægialitis*, esp. the British *Æ. hiaticula*; **Rock P.,** in Ireland, = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Ruddy P.,** the adult male Sanderling in summer plumage (Swainson); †**Russet P.** = *Golden Plover*; **Sand P.,** a local name for birds of the genus *Ægialitis* (Newton); **Sea P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*) (Swainson); **Silver P.,** the Knot in winter plumage; **Spanish P.,** in Jamaica, the willet, *Symphemia semipalmata*; **Speckled-back P.,** in U.S., the Turnstone, *Strepsilas interpres*; **Spotted P.**: see quot.; **Spur-winged P.,** any species of *Chettusia*; **Stone P.,** (*a*) the Stone Curlew; (*b*) in Ireland, = *Grey Plover* (*a*); (*c*) = *Ringed Plover*; (*d*) the Dotterel; (*e*) any shore Plover of the genus *Æsacus*; (*f*) the Bar-tailed Godwit; (*g*) the Whimbrel; **Strand P.,** in Ireland, = *Grey Plover* (*a*) (Swainson); **Streaked-back P.,** in U.S., the Turnstone; **Swallow P.,** any species of Pratincole (*Glareola*); **Swiss P.** = *Grey Plover* (*a*); **Upland P.** = *Field Plover* (*b*); **Variegated P.,** the Turnstone; **Whistling P.,** (*a*) = *Golden Plover*; (*b*) = *Grey Plover* (*a*) (Swainson); (*c*) the Stone Curlew; **Wry-billed P.** = *Crook-billed Plover*; **Yellow P.,** in Scotland, = *Golden Plover*; **Yellow-legged P.,** in U.S., either species of Yellowshanks (*Totanus*): see 1.

1552 HULOET, Plouer called *bastarde plouer, or blacke plouer, *vpupa.* 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 67 The pee-wit or bastard plover still hovers around its accustomed haunts. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vpupa*, a lapwynk or *blacke plouer. 1743 EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* I. 47 The *Black-breasted Indian Plover..is something bigger than the Lapwing.

1754 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* III. Catal. 2. 71 The *Chattering Plover..*Charadrius vociferus.* 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 109 **Crab-plover*, the Anglo-Indian name for a curious bird of wide range, frequenting the east coast of Africa from the Red Sea to Natal, as well as the northern.. shores of the Indian Ocean, the Bay of Bengal,..*Dromas ardeola.* 1785 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* III. I. 193 *Golden Plover. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 330 The Golden Plover is common in this country, and all the northern parts of Europe. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 146 *Charadrius pluvialis*..(The Golden Plover)..is the most common of all, and is found throughout the whole globe. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 321 The *Great Plover. Thick-knee'd Bustard, Stone Curlew, Norfolk Plover. 1843 YARRELL *Hist. Birds* II. 381 The Great Plover..is..much more numerous in the southern and south-eastern counties of England than far to the west, or to the north. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 308 *Greater Plover of Aldrovand: the Venetian Limosa of Gesner. 1590 R. PAYNE *Descr. Irel.* (1841) 7 Heathcocks, Plovers, *greene and gray. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 171 Many sorts of Fowles, as..the gray and greene Plouer, some wilde Ducks. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 308 The green Plover, *Pluvialis viridis.* 1828 SCOTT *Tales Grandf.* Ser. II. I. (1841) 228/2 That beautiful bird the Green-plover, in Scottish called the Peese-weep. *a* 1549 in *Gentl. Mag.* May (1813) 427/1 Plovers *grey the dosen, iij *s.* 1674 RAY *Words, Water Fowl* 91 The Grey-plover, *Pluvialis cinerea.* 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 617/2 The gray plover (*Charadrius squatarola*)..distinguished..by a very small hind toe. 1885 SWAINSON *Provinc. Names Birds* 195 Knot (*Tringa canutus*)...But the sober tints of its feathers in winter have caused it to be called..Grey plover (Scotland). 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 288 *C. Cantianus*...The *Kentish Plover. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 380 The *long-legged plover..is the most singular of the British birds. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 285/1 *Himantopus melanopterus.* ..This is..the Stilt Plover, Long-legged Plover, and Long-shanks of the modern British. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 484 *Noisy Plover...Inhabits New York, Virginia and Carolina. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 341/2 The [*Charadrius*] *Vociferus*, or Noisy Plover..has black streaks on the breast, neck, forehead, and cheeks. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 378 The *Norfolk Plover. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 334 The Ring Dotterel, *Ring Plover, or Sea Lark (*Charadrius Hiaticula* [etc.])...These birds..migrate into Britain in the spring, and depart in autumn. 1785 PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 486 *Ruddy Plover with a black strait bill. 1634 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. xxiii, For a *sea plover 00 or 00. 1750 EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 140 The *Spotted-Plover. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 341/2 The [*Charadrius*] *Apricarius*..is the spotted Plover of Edwards..a native of Canada. 1785 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* III. I. 213 Plover. *Spur-winged. Size of the Golden Plover. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 284/2 The Spur-winged Plovers..are very numerous and exceedingly noisy. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 507 Allied to the Lapwing are several forms .. *Hoplopterus spinosus*, the Spur-winged Plover. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 292 The Godwit, called in some places..the *Stone-Plover. 1768 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 117 We shot a few birds, much about the size, colour, and make of a woodcock: these they call here stone-plover. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 279/2 The Couriers..are closely united to the *Pratincoles*, or *Swallow-Plovers, forming the genus *Glareola.* 1682 S. WILSON *Acc. Carolina* 12 On the grassy plaines the *whistling Plover and Cranes.

† **3.** *Old Cant.* **a.** A 'pigeon', a dupe, a victim. **b.** A courtesan. *Obs.*

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* IV. v, Here will be Zekiell Edgworth, and three or foure gallants, with him at night, and I ha' neither Plouer nor Quaile for 'hem. 1626 — *Staple of N.* II. iii, Who's here?..what Plouer's that They haue brought to pull? *Bra.* I know not, some green Plouer. I'le find him out. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* II. i. Wks. 1873 III. 142 Thou art a most greene Plouer in policy, I Perceiue.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plover-folk, -net, -shooting*; *plover-haunted* adj., *plover-like* adj. and adv.; **plover-billed turnstone**, *U. S.*, the surf-bird, *Aphriza virgata*; **plover-quail**, any species of *Pedionomus*; **plover-snipe**, any bird of the *Presirostres*; **plover's provider** = PLOVER-PAGE.

1904 H. SUTCLIFFE in *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 2/4 Wide wastes of sky and wind, Of hawk and *plover-folk! 1869 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* (1870) 197 Some lonely ride.. on the *plover-haunted barrens. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xii. 217 The sand-grouse,..*plover-like, kept skimming past in flocks large and small. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Apr. 766 We have the pratincoles..curious little ploverlike birds. 1404 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 22, j. *plover nett, xij d. 1551 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 71 To Thomas Parwyne on plower nett with all geyr pertenyng to it. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* iii. 74 Others, who understand *plover-shooting better than wild-fowling, say, 'Wait for them to double'. 1892 DICKINSON *Cumb. Gloss.* 380 *Sea moose*,.. Plover's page, *Plover's provider.

Plover-page, plover's page. *Sc.* [f. prec. + PAGE *sb.*1] The dunlin (*Tringa alpina*), which is said to attend or follow the golden plover; applied also to other species of *Tringa*, and to the Jack Snipe (*Limnocryptes gallinula*).

1837 R. DUNN *Ornith. Orkney & Shetl.* 86 *Scolopax Gallinula*...Plover Page. Jack Snipe. Judcock. 1861 *Zoologist* XIX. 7342 All the Tringas are called locally 'plover pages'. 1887 A. C. SMITH *Birds Wilts.* 438 It is.. said that a solitary Dunlin will attach itself to a solitary Golden Plover: and this strange notion has extended to the Hebrides, where from its habit of associating with those birds, it is called the 'Plover's Page'.

Plovery (plʌ·vəri), *a.* [f. PLOVER + -Y.] Abounding in or frequented by plovers.

1887 STEVENSON *Underwoods* (1894) 30 The plovery forest and the seas That break about the Hebrides. 1903 W. B. YEATS *Celtic Twilight* 136 There is no more ready short-cut to the dim kingdom than this plovery headland.

Plow, another spelling of PLOUGH *sb.*1 and *v.*

Plowe, plowgh, -e, plowh, -e, ploy(e, obs. ff. PLOUGH. **Plowmb, plowme,** obs. ff. PLUM. **Plowmpe,** obs. form of PLUMP *sb.*1

† **Ploy,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 6 **ploye.** [a. OF. *ploi* m. or *ploie* f. :—late L. **plica* a fold. Cf. MDu. *plôie*, Du. *plooi*, MLG. *ploy* a fold, also from Fr.] ? A ply or fold.

1550–1600 *Customs Duties* (B. M. Add. MS. 25097), Henego cloth in longe ploye, the pece xxiiij s. 1662 *Stat. Irel.* (1765) II. 411 Elbing or Dansk cloth double ploy.

† **Ploy,** *sb.*2 *Sc. Obs.* [ad. F. *ploit* (Burguy) = *plait, plai*, PLEA.] 'An action at law' (Jam.).

c 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 240 Gif ony persoun being in veritie bastard..deceissis befoir ony ploy, or clame, or pley, be intentit aganis him be the richteous air.

Ploy (ploi), *sb.*3 *Sc.* and *north. Eng.* [Of uncertain origin.

Some uses suggest an aphetic form of EMPLOY *sb.* 3, 'that on which one employs oneself, or finds occupation'; but evidence is wanting.]

Anything in which one personally engages; a piece of action, a proceeding, esp. one in which one amuses himself; a personal enterprise or pursuit, a hobby, a piece of amusement; a game, pastime, or sport; a frolic or escapade; a trick.

1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* x. iv. (1774) 205 John was a cliver and auldfarrand boy, As you shall hear by the ensuing ploy. 1768 Ross *Helenore* II. 84 Says Colen, for he was a sicker boy, Neiper, I fear this is a kittle ploy. 1796 MACNEILL *Will & Jean* II. xxvi, Think o' nought but rural quiet, Rural labour! rural ploys! 1814 SCOTT *Waw.* lxiv, Twa unlucky red-coats were up for black-fishing, or some siccan ploy. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, One woman is enough to dark the fairest ploy that ever was planned. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 530 They gathered from great distances to such ploys as the sheep-shearing or the sheep-washing. 1900 L. HUXLEY *Life Huxley* I. xviii. 253 He went off for a ploy with Tyndall..into Derbyshire.

Ploy, *v.* [In sense 1, a. F. *ployer* :—L. *plicāre* to bend: see PLY *v.*; cf. MDu. *ployen*, Du. *plooijen*, MLG. *ploien*, LG. *plojen*. In sense 2 app. aphetic for *employ*; in sense 3, perh. back-formation from DEPLOY.]

† **1.** *intr.* and *trans.* To bend. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxiv. 116 Yf it fonde not thayer thycke, it shold not bowe ne ploye. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. vi. 663 Twigges lyke rushes, the whiche are easy to ploy and twist any way without breaking.

2. *trans.* To employ. *dial.*

1670 COVEL *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) 262 At all these we ployed our wooden artillery of the spoon. 1871 JONES *Nhb.* 212 (E. D. D.) Gin ye ploy ony fair, hard-workin' lassie. *Ibid.* 263 Macduff, wha was ployed amang the flower-beds.

3. *Mil. trans.* To move (troops) from line into column. Also *intr.* said of the troops. (The opposite of *deploy.*)

1840 SIR C. NAPIER *Mil. Life* II. iv. vii. 213 There..they acquire the art of ploying and deploying their troops. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Hence **Ploy·ment,** formation of column from line.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Ployk, pluyk.** *Sc. Obs.* [Etymology obscure: early Sc. *ployk, pluyk*, for *plōk, plūk*, corresponds phonetically to a mod.Sc. *pluik*, and ME. **plōk, ploke*, mod. **plook*, OE. type **plōc*: but no trace of corresp. Eng. forms has been found. Gael. *ploc*, genitive *pluic*, block of wood, stump of a tree, club or bludgeon with a round or large head, is evidently the same word, and, if from Lowland Sc. or Eng., might represent Eng. *block*, ME. *blok*, but this with its short *o* would not give *ployk, pluik* in Sc.] A club, bludgeon.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristofore*) 98 Christofore þis lef has tane, & roydly passit furth allane,..& his pluyk in til his hand. *Ibid.* 215 In-sted of staf, a ployk [he] had, Wele nere as a perktre mad.

Pluch, -e, plucht, obs. Sc. ff. PLOUGH *sb.*1

Pluck (plʌk), *sb.*1 Forms: see PLUCK *v.*; also 5 **ploke,** 7 (? *pl.*) **plux.** [f. PLUCK *v.*, in a number of disconnected uses. Cf. Du., LG. *pluk, plukk-*, the act of plucking, that which is plucked, flock of wool, handful, LG. *plock* handful, flock.]

I. 1. An act of plucking; a sudden sharp pull, a tug, a jerk, a twitch, a snatch.

c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1624 Glad pluckys there he toke, Set sadly and sare. *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. an Angle* (1883) 16 Þe floote plumbe hym so hevy þat þe lest ploke of any fysche may pluke hym doune yn to þe watur. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Atenazadas*, with plucks of pincers. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* (1677) 246 To th' ground Patroclus fetcht him with a pluck. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 58 The Plucks and Attractions of the motory Muscles. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. i, Little dog gave it a pluck; knot slipt. 1863 WOOLNER *Beautiful Lady* 92 Her breath caught with short plucks and fast, Then one hot choking strain.

b. *Pluck-up*, the act of plucking up; a pull. † *Pluck-up fair*, an old term for a general scramble for booty or spoil.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 199 Than on the morne thay maid the pluk vp fair..Vpone that spuilȝe I will spend na tyme. *Ibid.* 341 Quhar as he fand vs at the plukup fair. 1894 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 380 A little lugger hanging on astern [of the tug] to get a 'pluck-up' towards home.

† **c.** *fig.* 'A turn, or set-to' (Nares); a snatch; a bout; an attempt; a 'go', 'a smack'. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 387 (ed. 1568) Let vs laugh a plucke [*v.r.* placke] or two at nale. *c* 1537 *Thersites* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 413 Now with my sword have at thee a pluck! *c* 1567 Q. ELIZ. in *Harington's Nugæ Ant.* (ed. Park 1804) I. 114 He, of base and basterdlye mynde that wrestells a pluck with the world's order, conceyves therof an evill opynion. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 158 *margin*, They being come to By-path Stile, have a mind to have a pluck with Gyant Dispair. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* IV. i, Haste and lock em up again, I'll try a pluck with thee. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* li, There is no work whatsoever but he can criticize..even though you wrote in Chinese, he would have a pluck at you.

2. In a university or other examination: The act of plucking or rejecting a candidate; the fact of being plucked or of failing to pass an examination.

1852 MRS. SMYTHIES *Bride Elect* xlvi, Visions of a pluck danced before the weary eyes of tutor and pupil. 1860 JESSOPP *Middle-Class Exams.* 12 The proportion of the plucks to the passes. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. 447 Nearly all American students do graduate.., the proportion of plucks in the later examinations is small.

II. Something that is plucked.

† **3.** ? A small rope attached to a bell-rope. (Cf. IMP *sb.* 7 a.) *Obs.*

1637 *Parish Acc. Wragby, Yorks.* (MS.), Itm for two bellropes and one plucke..o. 5. 5. 1639 *Ibid.*, Itm for 5 plucks and nailes..o. 01. 7.

† **4.** *Herring Fishery.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 Fishers distinguish their Herrings into six different Sorts: As the Fat Herring..; the Meat Herring..; the Night Herring..; the Pluck, which has received some Damage from the Nets; the Shotten Herring..; and the Copshen.

5. *Spinning.* (See quot.)

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 389 In hand-spinning, the pluck, that is, the portion plucked from the sliver or combed wool, was placed across the fingers of the left hand and from the thick part of it, the fibres were drawn, and twisted, as the hand was withdrawn from the end of the spindle, to which it had been previously attached.

III. 6. The heart, liver, and lungs (sometimes with other viscera) of a beast, as used for food.

1611 COTGR., *Ventresque*,..th'offals..of an (edible) creature; as a calues pluck. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 23 It may be boiled as that of other beasts, and eaten with butter and vineger; so the plux. *a* 1756 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 19 The pluck contains the heart, liver, lights, melt, and skirt. 1832 W. STEPHENSON *Gateshead Local Poems* 95 For to make us some pottage, There'll be a sheep's head and a pluck. 1904 *Edin. Even. News* 28 June 3 The Sheriff inquired the meaning of the word 'pluck'. The prosecutor explained that it referred to the internal organs which could be removed at one pull or pluck, the liver, lungs, and heart.

b. In reference to human beings.

c 1710 in J. Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* (1882) I. xviii. 234 [There were the purl houses, where] Tradesmen flock in their Morning gowns, by Seven, to cool their Plucks. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Mar., It vexes me to the pluck that I should lose walking this delicious day. 1764 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* (1797) II. 369 Boaking as if I'd bring my pluck up. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 467, I saw..five unpleasant-looking objects stuck on sticks. They were the livers and lungs, and in fact the plucks, of witch-doctors.

† **c.** *fig.* The inward part, essence. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 57 You must not pull out the pluck of it, and make it quite another thing from number.

7. *colloq.* (orig. app. *pugilistic slang.*) The heart as the seat of courage; courage, boldness, spirit; determination not to yield but to keep up the fight in the face of danger or difficulty.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v., *He wants pluck*, he is a coward. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 34 Inferior in science, and what is technically called *pluck*, to no one. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* in *Life* (1862) II. 446 If the enemy have the pluck and force which I expect to find. 1819 *Metropolis* I. 240 He was..lauded, in the highest terms, by the mob, for what they, very genteelly, called his pluck. 1821 CARLYLE *Early Lett.* (1886) I. 359, I have no pluck in me for such things at present. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 Sept., What is least forgiven..is want of that article blackguardly called *pluck*. 1835 DISRAELI *Corr. w. Sister* 9 May, All men agree I have shown pluck. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Manners* Wks. (Bohn) II. 45 The one thing the English value is pluck. 1879 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Nov. 406/1 Yes! the British word 'pluck' is the word to use. 'Courage', 'bravery', 'heroism' are all too feeble.

b. *Photogr. slang.* 'Boldness' or distinctness of effect: cf. PLUCKY 1 b.

1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 253, I also saw other negatives of the same scenes developed with potash; they ..gave pictures of greater snap, what some call 'pluck'. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 49 The image will have more pluck and a larger range of gradation.

IV. 8. A two-pronged fork with the teeth at right angles to the shaft, for moving dung, etc.

1825 in JAMIESON. 1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, etc.

Pluck, *sb.*2 *Sc. dial.* [Origin obscure; cf. Gael. *ploc*: see PLOYK.] A fish, *Agonus cataphractus.*

1810 NEILL *List Fishes* 9 (Jam.) *Cottus Cataphractus*, Pogge or Armed Bullhead; Pluck...This is often taken in oyster-dredges, and herring-nets, but is detested by the fishermen.

Pluck (plʌk), *v.* Forms: *α.* 1 **pluccian,** 4–6 **plukke, pluk(e,** 4–7 **plucke,** 6 **pluc,** 6– **pluck.** *β.* 1 **ploccian,** 2 **plockien,** 4 **plokke(n.** [Common WGer.: late OE. *ploccian, pluccian*, cognate with MLG. *plucken*, MDu., MG. *plocken*, Flem. *plokken*; also ON. *plokka, plukka* (*c* 1200) to pluck fowls, Sw. *plocka*, Da. *plukke.* These suppose

a WGer. type **plokkôn*. Beside these stands ME. *plicchen*, OE. type **plycc(e)an* (PLITCH) = MDu. *plucken*, Du. *plukken*, LG. *plükken*, MHG., Ger. *pflücken* (not in OHG., and still absent from Oberdeutsch dialects), which indicate an umlauted type from **plukkjan*. These words are thought by some to be derived from a popular L. **piluccāre*, inferred from It. *piluccare* to pluck (hair, feathers, grapes), Pr. *pelucar* to pluck (a fowl), OF. *peluchier* (Marie de France, *c* 1180), ONF. *pelukier*, *plusquier*, mod.Norm. and Picard *pluquer* to pick, clean, peck, Walloon *ploki* to pick (grain); also with *ex-*, Romansch *spluccar* to pluck out, F. *éplucher* to pick, sift; all from a popular L. sb. **pilucca* tuft of hair, deriv. of *pilus* hair, widely represented in the Romanic languages: see PLUSH, PERUKE. (See Diez, Körting, s. v. *piluccare*, Kluge s. v. *pflücken*.)

It has been suggested that the late L. or Romanic word was taken into Low German in connexion with the trade in down and feathers on the coasts of the North Sea; but, in spite of the close similarity of form and sense, there are chronological, historical, and phonetic difficulties, which are increased by the entire lack of evidence of the occurrence of either the Teutonic or the Romanic word before the 10th c. Cf. Franck s. v. *plukken*.]

1. *trans.* To pull off (a flower, fruit, leaf, hair, feather, etc.) from where it grows; to pick off or out; to pick, cull, gather.

a 1000 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 200/6 *Carpunt, uellint*, plucciaþ. *Ibid.* 222/40 *Discerpit, lacerat*, toslit, i. *deuorat, carpit*, ploccaþ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 212 Þa lareowas an Godes cyrcan, þe plucciað þa cwydas ðæra apostola. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 1 Hiz ongunnun pluccian [*c* 1160 *Hatton G.* plockien] þa ear & ætan. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 228 (E. E. T. S.) Man of walnote-tre plukith note. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 72 Loke þou plokke no plonte þer, for peril of þi soule. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 137 Þei..leten here shep perishen, and taken of hem and plucken a wey þe wolle as non herdis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plukkyn, or pulle frute, *vellico, avello*. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 165 Thay can nocht pluk ane lytill hair Furth of our heid, nor do vs deir. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 30 Let him .. From off this Bryer pluck a white Rose with me. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* viii. 11 In her mouth was an Oliue leafe pluckt off. 1704 ADDISON *Italy* 2, I pluck'd above Five different Sorts..as Wild-Time, Lavender, Rosemary, Balme and Mirtle. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 139 Plucking the plumes of the Spanish pride.

absol. 1779 J. DUCHÉ *Disc.* (1790) I. xv. 293 He plucks and eats but still remains unsatisfied. 1868 H. LAW *Beacons of Bible* (1869) 18 She lusted and plucked.

b. *Geol.* To break loose and bear away in large masses; said of glaciers acting on solid rock. Contr. with ABRADE.

1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

2. To pull or draw with a forcible effort; to drag; to snatch. With various adverbs and prepositions: to pull *away*, *in*, *out*, *off*, *on*, *up*, etc. See also 8. *arch.* (Now usually expressed by *pull*.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 109 Þe porter vnpynned þe gate, And plukked in *þauci* priueliche and lete þe remenaunt go rowme! *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* ii. 5 (Harl. MS.) Þey sawe fully the toode sitting on his brest; And none of hem might pluk it awey with no crafte. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* v. 29 Yf thy right eye offende the plucke hym out and caste him from the. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 170 Giue hym leaue first to plucke of your spurres, ere he meddle with your bootes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 295 They plucke vp the drawe bridge immediatlye. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) Q ij b, When shee came to the ryuer.. she fayned to plucke on hir shoe. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1637) 3 Sampson pluckt the house on his own head. 1594 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. v. 1 (Wks., 1901, 31), What out-cries pluck me from my naked bed. 1611 BIBLE *John* x. 29 No man is able to pluck them out of my Fathers hand. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 176 He plucked off his own Coat,..and gave it him. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 237 Then pressing..to the place where Morgan stood, he plucked him from thence. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. ii, Pluck the dead woman off the dead man, Malet!

b. With *down*: To 'pull down' or demolish (a building). *arch.*

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. lv. 158 Yf a man plucke downe hys howse & sellyth yt. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 52 They plucke downe townes; and leaue nothing stondynge. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Surrey* 78 Otherwise (being now plucked down) the form and fashion thereof [Palace of Richmond] had for the future been forgotten. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 395 A rampant heresy ..which might well deserve That we this night should pluck your palace down. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 8 He .. ordered the church of Notre Dame of Boulogne to be plucked down, and a mount erected in its place.

c. To pull or tear *asunder*, *in pieces*, etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxiii. 10 Lest Paul shuld have bene pluckte asondre off them. 1530 PALSGR. 661/1, I prayed you to stretche it out a lytell, but nat to plucke it in peces. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 213 At Feluchia the marchants plucke their boats in pieces. 1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Notes Husb.* 132 Take a Rook and plucking it limbe from limbe, cast the several limbes about your field.

d. *absol.* or *intr.* To draw or drag; to snatch or take by force, to steal; † to draw cards from the pack (*obs.*). (Cf. PICK *v.*[1] 9 b.)

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 296 Ne sette solow on þe feld ne sowe none erþe, In ony place of þe plow to plokke wiþ oxen. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. CXCVII. 204 Eueryche of theym was constrayned to plucke & stele from other. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 3 And euerie man dois pluke and pow, And that the pure may finde. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. G j, He that wil not pluck for a card, is not worthie of a prime. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASS. *Cust. Country* I. i, Would any man stand plucking for the ace of harts, With one pack of cards, all days on's life?

3. *trans. fig.* To pull, draw, or snatch something intangible, or something from or into a state or condition; to bring (disaster, etc.) *upon* a person; to snatch, rescue *from* danger, etc. Now *rare*.

1387-8 [see PLUCKING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1534 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 12 The kyngdome of heven suffreth violence, and they that go to it with violence pluck [1526 pull] it vnto them. 1535 COVERDALE *Amos* iii. 11 Thy strength shalbe plucte from the, and thy palaces robbed. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 18 Fleashly luste pluckyng to euyll. 1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 54 Thai nocht content..euir ar desyrous to eik sum thing to religioun, to change, or to pluk fra it. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. def. vii. 2 You must conceiue them in mynde, plucking them by imagination from all matter. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iii. 8 When yet hee was but tender-bodied ..; when youth with cõmelinesse pluck'd all gaze his way. 1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlewom.* 27 One Athaliah, married to Joram, plucks ruine upon the House of Jehosaphat. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* v. i, I leave a mark behind, Shall pluck the shining age from vulgar time. 1842 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 118 'Hard task, to pluck resolve', I cried, 'From emptiness and the waste wide Of that abyss, or scornful pride!' 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ix, The grim life out of which she had plucked her brother.

† **b.** With *down* or some equivalent: To bring down, bring low; to humble, humiliate; to 'pull down' (in strength). *Obs.*

To pluck down a side: i. e. with which a person plays.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 19 Other that neuer learned to shote,..wyll be as busie as the best, but suche one commonly plucketh doune a syde. 1555 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 131 Other men in England, whose stoutnes must be plucked lowe. 1567 *Trial Treas.* (1850) 42 This gere I suppose will plucke downe your fleshe. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II. i, She will pluck down a side. 1628 LAUD *Diary* 30 Sept., Tuesday, Septemb. ult., I was sore plucked with this sickness. *c* 1672 WOOD *Life* 9 Apr. an. 1659 (O. H. S.) I. 277 A tertian ague..pluck'd downe his body much.

4. To give a pull at; to pull abruptly or with a jerk; to twitch; to sound (the strings of a musical instrument) by doing this, to twang. Also, to pull (a person or animal) *by* some part of the body or dress.

To pluck the Proctor's gown, the means formerly used (and understood to be still usable) to challenge the granting of a degree to a person, notwithstanding his having passed the requisite examinations. See J. Wells *Oxford Degree Ceremony* (1906) 5, 9–10; also *N. & Q.* 9th ser. VI. 74.

14.. *Erasmus* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 202 (Bedf. MS.) [Passion] xxvi[ti] was plukkyng his flesshe withe fullers combes. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 23 They..plucked eche other bi the here of the hede. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 154 b, To make them feerce and curst, you must plucke them by the eares. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 36 By the kinde Gods, 'tis most ignobly done To plucke me by the Beard. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiii. 85 Some of his friends pluckt him two or three times by the surplis for to make him give over. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 184 Children..pluck'd his gown. 1879 STAINER *Music of Bible* 52 Strings which, when the keys were pressed down, were plucked by quills. 1879 F. TAYLOR in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 7/1 In the so-called Musical Box..a series of metal tongues are plucked by pins or studs fixed in a revolving barrel.

1846 [see sense 7]. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. xi. *note*, The proctor then walks once up and down the room, so that any person who objects to the degree being granted may signify the same by pulling or 'plucking' the proctor's robes. 1900 T. FOWLER in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 74, I believe ..that I was the last proctor who was the subject of this ceremony. During my procuratorial year [1862–3] .. the 'pen-wiper', a small piece of folded silk which is attached to the back of the proctor's gown (not 'the proctor's sleeve'..) was duly plucked on each successive degree day, the college dean..informing me in a whisper to which candidate he objected.

b. *intr.* To pull sharply or forcibly, to tug (*at* something). Also, to make a sudden movement in order to lay hold of something; to snatch *at*.

c 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 20 Þat with his handes tweye, And his might, plukke wole at the balance. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 15 He [the bear] wrastled and plucked so harde and so sore that he gate out his heed. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 208 Plucking to vnfixe an Enemie, Hee doth vnfasten so, and shake a friend. *c* 1672 WOOD *Life* 14 May an. 1657 (O. H. S.) I. 219 However he plucked at them [bell-ropes] often with some of his fellow-colleagues for recreation sake. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 366 But when the children pluck'd at him to go, He laugh'd, and yielded readily to their wish.

c. *trans.* To disentangle and straighten (wool) by means of a PLUCKER.

1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 258 Those who deal about combing or plucking the wool.

5. To pull off the feathers, hair, fruit, etc. from; to strip or make bare; *esp.* to strip (a bird) of feathers by pulling them off.

A crow to pluck: see CROW *sb.*[1] 3 b.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 249 So is possessioun payne.. To alle hem þat it holdeth, til her taille be plukked. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plukkyn bryddys, *excatheriso*. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 70 That ye plucke no browes, nother temples, nor forhed. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Ps.* lxxix. [lxxx.] 12 All thei, whiche passe by the waie, haue plucked her. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* V. i. 26 Since I pluckt Geese, plaide Trewant, and whipt Top. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* vii. 6 If you dispute [the matter]..we must e'en *Pluck* a Crow about it. 1841 H. AINSWORTH *Old St. Paul's* II. 300 He had just..commenced plucking one of the geese. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lv, These monks would pluck Lucifer of his wing feathers. 1890 [see PLUCKED *ppl. a.* 2].

6. *fig.* To rob; to plunder; to swindle, fleece.

To pluck a pigeon: see PIGEON *sb.* 3 b.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5989 He shal, in a fewe stoundes, Lese alle his markes & his poundes..Our maydens shal eek plukke him so. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 70 To pluk and use piracie upoun the trew marchandis. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 169, I did pluck those Ganders, did rob them. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXVI. 55 Her amiable companion..instead of helping to pluck her grace, never played for a guinea in the course of her life. 1816 *Ibid.* XLVIII. 218 A noble Duke or Lord, would have as little scruple in plucking a pigeon as their inferiors. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* III. III. x. 210 To allow a fair profit to the proprietor without plucking the traveller.

7. To reject (a candidate) as not reaching the required standard in his examination; usually *pass*. *To be plucked*, to fail to pass in an examination. (Originally in the universities, whence generally.)

The origin of this is doubtful; originally a candidate might be plucked or refused his degree on other grounds than an unsatisfactory examination. See quot. 1846, and the note under sense 4.

1713 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 172 Dr. Lancaster, when Batchelor of Arts, was pluck'd for his Declamation. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 50 (1754) 273 Mr. Scurlock, A.B. fellow of Jesus-college, and a member of the constitution-club was pluck'd, (i. e. disgraced, and forbid to proceed in performing his exercise) for mentioning the word king in his declamation. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 538 Notwithstanding his having been plucked three times in the examination for the subdiaconate. 1820 *Gentl. Mag.* XC. I. 32/2 To expend vast sums in the education of sons, who when they apply for degrees, are *plucked* (as failure upon Examination is denominated). 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 338 Those who fail in showing such an amount of proficiency as, in the opinion of the examiners, entitles them to their degree, are said, in the language of the place, to be 'plucked'; a phrase which originates in an ancient custom by which any one, who objected to a degree about to be conferred in congregation, notified his dissent by plucking the sleeve of the proctor's gown. 1886 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* xvii. 386, I have never plucked a candidate .. without giving him every opportunity of setting himself right. 1894 SALA *London up to Date* ii. 31 If you had to pass an examination for the post..you would in all probability be plucked.

8. Pluck up. (See also 2.) **a.** *To pluck up (one's) heart, spirits, courage*, etc.: to summon up courage, take courage, rouse one's spirits, cheer up.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 632 Þo his bodi be-gan to smerte, He gan plokken vp is hertte. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2325 Pluk up thi cher. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* Pref. 9 Let us therefore pluck vp stomackes, and pray with S. Augustine. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 38 Plucke vp thy spirits, looke cheerfully vpon me. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. xii. 210 Plucking up my spirits as well as I could. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. i, I'll pluck up resolution. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 376 Æthelred seems now to have plucked up a little heart. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew* lv, She could not pluck up courage to speak a word in Italian.

b. To pull up; to pull (something) out of the ground or place in which it is planted or set; to uproot, eradicate; to raze, demolish. Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *arch.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xx, [The swallow said] Come with me ye al & lete vs plucke vp al this [flax]. 1490 — *Eneydos* iv. 18 To arache or plucke vp a gretter tree. 1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* iii. 1 There is a tyme to plant, and a tyme to plucke vp the thinge, y[t] is planted. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 158 All fortresses and defences by them there made, were plucked vp and destroyed. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 205 Vnto the tyme quhen hæresie pluked vpe al monumentes of pietie in Scotland. 1680 *New Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 391 Whosoever shall willfully pluck up, remove or deface any Landmark or bound betweene propertie and propertie. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* II. i. (1762) 110 He plucked up..some of the most thriving plants. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* lxxiv, I plucked up her social fictions.

c. *intr.* or *absol.* To recover strength or vigour; to 'pick up' (PICK *v.*[1] 20 h). *rare.* (Cf. 3 b.)

1841 H. AINSWORTH *Old St. Paul's* II. 305 Her better health .. Heaven be praised! she has plucked up a little since we came here.

9. In phrasal combinations: † **Pluck at the crow** (*Sc.* **craw**): name of an old sport, in which a person appears to have been pulled about by the rest; † **pluck-buffet**, app. a competition between archers, in which he who missed or failed 'caught' a buffet from his competitor; † **pluck-crow** *a.*, got by plucking a crow; † **pluck-penny**, name of some gambling game.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 81 Gif thai .. imagin thame to rug of his clathis, as thai war playng with him,—*pluk at the craw. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxii. 58, I traist in God that anis sall cum the day, Pluk at the Craw quhen barnis sall with yis bird. *c* 1510 *Gest Robyn Hode* VIII. 27 And they shote *plucke-buffet, As they went by the way And many a buffet owr kinge wan of Robin Hode that day. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18 Shrew Prose, thy *pluckcrow implements addresse, And pay the hangman pen his double fee. 1643 [HEYLIN] *Theeves, Theeves* 2 He that is once so skilled in the Art of gaming, as to play at *Pluck-penny, will quickly come to Sweep-stake.

Pluckable, *nonce-wd.* [f. PLUCK *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being plucked. Hence **Pluckabi·lity.**

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 8 The guilelessness of the dove, the pluckability of the pigeon.

Pluckage (plʌ·kĕdʒ). *nonce-wd.* [f. PLUCK *v.* + -AGE.] The action or process of plucking.

1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* vi. 63 He..plucked off his beard by handfuls...The details of this frantic pluckage are to be found in a letter.

Plucked (plʊkt), *a. colloq.* [f. PLUCK *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Having pluck or courage; usually in comb., as *good-plucked, rare-plucked, well-plucked*; so *bad-plucked*, deficient in courage.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxvii, What a good plucked one that boy of mine is! 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii, The bad plucked ones thinking that after all it isn't worth while to keep it up. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 137/2 'You see I'm a plucked'un', he said.

b. *Hard-plucked*, hard-hearted, wanting in tenderness.

1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* iv, A very sensible man,.. but a terrible hard-plucked one.

Plucked (plʊkt), *ppl. a.* [f. PLUCK *v.* + -ED [1].] In various senses of the verb.

1. Picked off; pulled sharply, twitched, etc.

1552 HULOET, Plucked in sunder, *distractus*. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 197 Fine short plucked cotton. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* I. ii. 605 So let me fall like the pluck'd rose! 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 197 The tone of plucked cat-gut strings..is..much less tinkling than that of metal strings.

2. Denuded of feathers or hair.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 382, I thoght my self a papingay, & him a plukit herle. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 44 [She] sold live geese, and plucked geese on the market here. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Plucked, p. a.*, having the long stiff hairs removed: said of the pelt of a fur-seal.

3. Rejected in a university or other examination.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 895 Of the three classes of Predicamentists, the fiercest are the Plucked. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. ii, 'I have been examined', observed Mr. Pucker, with the air of a plucked man.

Hence **Plu·ckedness.**

1867 *Gd. Words* 657/2 The abject nakedness—more than nakedness—pluckedness of his body.

Pluckee (plʊkī·). *nonce-wd.* [f. PLUCK *v.* + -EE [1].] One who or that which is plucked.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 339 'It might be safe to pluck it up.' Safe to whom? To the plucker or the pluckee?

Plucker (plʊ·kəɹ). [f. PLUCK *v.* + -ER [1].]

1. One who plucks, in various senses: see the verb. Often with adverb, as *plucker away, down, up*. Also †*plucker-at*, one who pulls sharply at, or (*fig.*) carps at, or attacks, another (quot. 1463).

c 1450 *Oseney Reg.* (E.E.T.S.) 15 Of this owre confirmacion agayne-sayers and pluckers a-waye. 1463 G. ASHBY *Prisoner's Refl.* 193 Yef thow be ryght welthy for the seson, Many pluckers-at thow mayst haue. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 5 The plukkers uppe and takers awey of the seid weares and engynes. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 37 Thou setter vp, and plucker downe of Kings. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 154 At which time let the Pluckers be nimble, and tye it up in handfuls. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. xcvii. 416 Thorns..pricking the fingers of the too-hasty plucker. 1831 [see PLUCKEE]. 1902 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 589/1 Tales of Fingal the brave and Ossian the plucker of harps.

2. A machine for disentangling and straightening long wool to render it fit for combing: see quots.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 144 After drying, the wool is removed to a machine called the plucker. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iv. 125 When the wool is dried, it is passed through a machine called a 'plucker', consisting of a pair of spiked rollers fed by an endless apron.

Plückerian (plükī·ə·riăn), *a. Math.* [f. proper name *Plücker* (see below) + -IAN.] Applied to certain equations or formulæ expressing the relations between the order and class of a curve and the number of its singularities, investigated by the German mathematician Julius Plücker (1801–1868). *Plückerian characteristic*, one of the quantities occurring in such equations, denoting some characteristic of the curve.

Pluckily (plʊ·kĭli), *adv. colloq.* [f. PLUCKY + -LY [2].] In a plucky manner; bravely, courageously.

1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xxix, 'No', said Frank, pluckily, as he put his horse into a faster trot, 'I won't mortgage that'. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* 20 He did not.. retire dejected,..but pluckily set himself to work.

Plu·ckiness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being plucky; pluck.

1864 in WEBSTER citing THACKERAY. 1867 MRS. WHITNEY *L. Goldthwaite* vi, Her quaint, queer expression, in which curiosity, pluckiness, and a foretaste of amusement mingled.

Plucking (plʊ·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING [1].]

1. The action of the verb PLUCK, in various senses.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xiv. (Skeat) I. 78 By my pluckinge was she to foryevenesse enclyned. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plukkynge, or pullynge of fowlys. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 52 The plucking downe of Images, hath procured vs no smale displeasure. 1837 MRS. SHERWOOD *H. Milner* III. xv, The cant phrase of plucking in our universities. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 239 Let the pass-examination, with its attendant pluckings..cease.

attrib. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 59 b, Euery man .. hauing either lande or substaunce, was called to this pluckyng bancket.

2. *concr.* Something plucked, in various senses. (Cf. PICKING *vbl. sb.*[1] 3 b.)

1648–60 HEXHAM, *Het Pluckseł van lijnwaet*, the Pluckings, or loose Threads of linnen. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 55 Mangel wurzel..would, if permitted to run up, ..afford a good plucking of potage vegetables twice a week. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Plucking*, the quantity of worsted plucked from the end of the sliffer, or sliver, and folded over the fingers whilst turning the spinning wheel. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Apr. 4/4 If I were a planter in Assam .. I would never rest till the pluckings of my garden became the staple drink of the native artisan.

Plu·cking, *ppl. a.* [-ING [2].] That plucks: see the verb PLUCK.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 1/3 Within reach of a plucking hand are the 250 varieties of heather that star the sides of Table Mountain.

Pluckless (plʊ·klĕs), *a.* [f. PLUCK *sb.*[1] 7 + -LESS.] Without pluck; devoid of courage or spirit. Hence **Plu·cklessness.**

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 217 You should let those pluckless Tories know the truth. 1824 *Ibid.* XV. 92, I do care for the intense pluckiessness of our party. 1832 *Ibid.* XXXI. 142/2 The fear may be great—and it is so among the pluckless—but the danger is small.

Plucky (plʊ·ki), *a. colloq.* [f. PLUCK *sb.*[1] 7 + -Y.]

1. Characterized by pluck; showing determination to fight or struggle; brave, courageous, daring.

[1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xv, He can still follow a fox, with as pluck a heart, and with as stout a voice, as any squire in Christendom.] 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Smuggler's Leap*, If you're 'plucky', and not over-subject to fright. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, The 'bravos' of the School-house attest the pluckiest charge of all that hard fought day. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *My Remin.* I. vii. 135, I do not think any account of this plucky .. adventure has appeared elsewhere. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* (1891) 286 You are the pluckiest little woman I ever knew.

b. *Photogr.* Of a print or negative: Bold, decided, bright, clear.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 352/2 It works exceedingly well, and uniformly brings out brilliant and plucky images. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 7 Negatives..strong and plucky in their contrasts.

2. *Geol.* 'Disposed to break away in large irregular conchoidal chips'. [f. PLUCK *v.* 1 b.]

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Plud. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 4 **plodde**, 4–6 **pludde**, 5 (–9 *dial.*) **plud**, (5 **plutte**, 9 *dial.* **plut**). [Origin obscure: cf. Ir., Gael. *plod* a pool, standing water; also PUDDLE *sb.*] A pool, puddle.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11077 In a foul plodde [*v. r.* pludde] in þe stret subbe me him slong. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10610 To se the syght hit was delful, How euery plud of blod stode ful. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 77 Now yn a stynkyng ponde, and now fowle ouerkeuryde yn fenne and plutte. 1527 *Trevisa's Higden* Dyalogue I This reason is worthy to be plunged in a pludde. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Plud*, a puddle. 1873 WILLIAMS & JONES *E. Somerset Gloss., Plud*, the swamp surface of a wet ploughed field. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Pluts*, temporary pools of water.

Plue, obs. Sc. form of PLOUGH.

Pluff (plʊf), *sb.* (*a., int.*) *Sc.* [Echoic. So LG. *pluf*, Du. *plof* interj.; LG. *pluffen*, Du. *ploffen*, WFris. *ploffien* to puff, explode.]

1. A strong puff or explosive emission of air, gas or smoke (as in the firing of gunpowder), or of dust; hence, *colloq.* a shot of a musket or fowling-piece.

1663 W. SHARP in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) I. 131 But this, amongst other great shott, may turn to be a pluff. 1822 GALT *Steam-boat* iv. 78 He went out of the world like a pluff of powther. 1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 494 He calls..on old Ponto, and will take a pluff at the partridges. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xlvii, We could see the soldiers running their horses and firing off white pluffs of powder.

2. A powder-puff. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvi, A veshell that rins ashore wi' us flees asunder like the powther when I shake the pluff, and it's as ill to gather ony o't again.

B. *adj.* Puffed up, swollen. In quot. *fig.*

1673 *Answ. to Seasonable Disc.* 11 All of you look'd as pluffe and big upon the Layty, as starch it self could make you.

C. as *int.* or *adv.* With a pluff; puff! *colloq.*

1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* I. xvi. 253 As I spoke, pluff came a spirt of smoke with red tongue in it.

Pluff (plʊf), *v. Sc.* and *dial.* [f. as prec.]

1. *trans.* To blow out (smoke or breath) with explosive action, to puff. Also *intr.* to discharge a gun, shoot.

1629 Z. BOYD *Balm of Gilead* 84 These that spend the tyme with pluffing of reeke, which should be better employed. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 249 He .. went pluffing disconsolately among the hills.

2. *intr.* To swell up, become puffed up.

1885 SHARLAND *Ways Devon. Village* vii. 110 Hasn't it [the pudding] pluffed (risen) up beautifully?

Hence **Plu·ffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Plu·ffer,** a shooter, gunner (*colloq.*).

1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 278 Is that the pluffer at partridge-pouts who had nearly been the death of poor Ponto? 1852 *Ibid.* LXXII. 220 If in Central Africa, you would suppose they were practising in a menagerie, and you conclude that there must be prime pluffing in Polito's. 1853 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 227 She.. slept a fine natural 'pluffing' sleep till one in the morning.

Pluffy (plʊ·fi), *a. dial.* [f. PLUFF *sb.* + -Y.] Having a puffed-up appearance; puffy, fleshy. Of birds, hair, etc.: Fluffy, downy.

1828 HOGG in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 489 A big, dun-faced, pluffy body. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* x. 84 A light pluffy moustache. 1853 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 469 We shall have nothing rising before us but barren pairs and pluffy cheepers [*i.e.* young partridges]. 1861 LEVER *One of Them* xiv. 104 A good-looking fellow—a thought too pluffy, perhaps.

Plug (plʊg), *sb.* [app. a. MDu. and early mod.Du. *plugge* a plug, bung, stopper, Du. *plug*; so MLG., LG. *plugge, plügge*, LG. *plüg*, also Swed. *plugg, pligg*, Da. *plög*. Other types appear in MLG., LG. *plock, pluck*, MHG. *pfloc, pflocke*, Ger. *pflock*; and in NFris. *plaak*, Da. *plök*. Further history unknown. (Ir., Gael. *pluc* is from Eng.)]

1. A piece of wood or other solid or firm material, driven into or used to stop up a hole or aperture which it tightly fits, to fill a gap, or act as a wedge; also *transf.* a natural or morbid concretion having a similar action.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 10 A Hause-plug at Sea. 1648 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Een Plugge*, a Plugge, or a wooden Pegg. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* To Ld. Dungarvan, Wks. I. 9 Shutting the valve with the plug,..he is to draw down the sucker to the bottom of the cylinder. 1669 — *Contn. New Exp.* I. (1682) 161 On which was put a Wooden Plug markt with Ink. 1705 J. TAYLOR *Journ. Edinborough* (1903) 62 The Canopy is not supported by a Pillar, but by..a Pinn or Plugg plac't exactly in the Center. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plug*, a great wooden Peg, to stop the Bottom of a Cistern or Cask. 1790 J. C. SMYTH in *Med. Commun.* II. 483 The plug or stopper of the Canula was taken out. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 464 The aperture being supplied with a plug of the required form, some clay is put into the cylinder, and the piston forced down, by turning the screw, which causes the clay to protrude through the aperture in the shape required. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 143 A string of small abscesses had formed along them, separated here and there by a plug of lymph. 1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 194 Instantly he drops .. a plug of molten solder, which hermetically seals it. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* I. I Wooden plugs as big as table spoons put through slits in the under lip. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 555 Small plugs of horny epidermis can be picked out, leaving pits behind.

2. *spec.* in various technical applications; as

a. A small block of boxwood let into an engraved woodblock to replace a damaged part of the surface. b. *Die-sinking*: A soft steel cylinder on the end of which an impression is taken from a punch to form a die. c. A tapering block of wood driven into a wall between the stones or bricks so as to bear a nail. d. *Mining*. The iron wedge or punch which is driven between two other wedges, called feathers (FEATHER *sb.* 16 b), to split rock, coal, stone, etc. e. In railways, A wedge-pin driven between a rail and its chair. f. *Dentistry*. The filling of a hollow tooth. g. The part of a tap or stop-cock which passes transversely through the pipe and cuts off the water or permits it to flow. h. A cylindrical piece of wood used in firing a line from a gun in life-saving operations. †i. The plunger of a pump.

1766 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts*, etc. s. v. *Water*, At the end of which [levers] are jointed four rods with their forcing plugs working into four cast iron cylinders. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 172 The piston having reached the bottom of the cylinder, the plug of the cock .. shifts its position, and..the steam enters as before.., and passes in the direction of the arrows to the bottom cylinder, so as to elevate the piston. 1839 CHATTO *Wood Engrav.* 645 *note*, The 'plug' which they [Albert Dürer and his contemporaries] inserted was usually square, and not circular as at present. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 30/2 A long coil of rope, ⅞ inch diameter, with a stout piece of wood or plug..fastened to it. This plug is intended to be put in the mouth of the gun. *Ibid.* 125/1 The carronade was fired from off the pier, which carried the plug beyond the breakers. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Plug and Feather*, or *Key and Feather*, a name given to a method of dividing hard stones by means of a long tapering wedge called the key, and wedge-shaped pieces of iron called feathers. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Plug*, applied by dentists to a filling of gold or other material inserted in a tooth. 1875 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) II. 31 This punch becomes an inexhaustible parent of dies, without further reference to the original matrix; for now by impressing upon it plugs of soft steel..we procure impressions from it to any amount. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1749/2 An instrument for condensing the filling or plug in a tooth by a rapid succession of strokes. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his Own Mechanic* § 1275 The proper manner of making or cutting a plug to drive between bricks. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., The plug and feather was introduced into coal mining by Mr. G. C. Greenwell in 1869. It had been from early times used in lead mining.

j. *Zool.* = PISTON 3.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 249 The large central impression is produced by the muscle of the plug (the equivalent of the byssal muscle in Pinna and Modiola).

3. The cock upon a public water-pipe to which a hose is attached to obtain water for a fire-engine and other purposes; a fire-plug.

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Building*, One Leather Pipe and Socket of the same Size as the Plug or Fire-Cock, to the intent the Socket might be put into the Pipe, to convey the Water clean into the Engine. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., T. Drury Lane*, Before the plug was found. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 46 § 97 The said commissioners may provide one or more fire engines and fire cocks or plugs. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, This pipe is closed by a cap or plug, which is removed .. when the hose is to be attached.

4. a. Tobacco pressed into a flat oblong cake or stick. b. A piece of cake or twist tobacco cut off for chewing, etc.

1728 SWIFT *Past. Dial.* vi, The dean threw me this tobacco plug: A longer ha'p'orth never did I see. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. xlii. 66 Offering him a few plugs of tobacco. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, Cutting a quid or plug from his cake of tobacco. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 853 The tobacco being generally twist or plug.

5. A blow of the fist; a punch, a knock. *slang.*

1798 PITT in Ld. Rosebery *Life* (1891) 208 The bill is to be read a second time tomorrow, and, in spite of many Plugs from Sir W. Pulteney, will certainly pass. 1898 M. DAVITT *Life & Progr. Australia* xxxv. 192 If he hits a man in fighting That is what he calls a 'plug'.

6. Applied to a horse: with various connotations. *U. S.* and *Colonial slang.*

Explained in American Dicts. as 'a horse past his prime', 'an old horse worn down by hard work'; a New Zealander knows it as a horse which is 'a good sort'; an Australian authority, as applied to a horse of 15 hands or 15·1, of a good steady ambling character, working well but not fast.

1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xxvii. 208 We bought two sorry-looking Mexican 'plugs'. 1885 HORNADAY 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* xxiv. 284 The horses were large and rather raw-boned Australian 'plugs', well qualified for the work they had to do. 1888 *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 22 Apr. (Farmer *Amer.*), In the first race a plug named Cator was the favorite, but another plug named Battledore won.

7. Short for *plug-hat*: see 9. *U. S. slang.*

1864 WEBSTER, *Plug*, ..a gentleman's silk hat; so called from its cylindrical form. (*Colloq.* and *low.*) 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 6 The reign of the 'stove pipe', or as the Americans have it, 'the plug', is as secure in Australia as anywhere. 1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 9 He steps into the brougham and puts on—a top hat, a shiny black 'plug'.

8. A draught of beer. *slang.*

1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* VII. 184 Come, Sir, another plug of malt.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plug-hat*, *-bolt*, *-bullet*, *-finisher* (sense 2 f), *-machine*, *-point*, *-pony* (sense 6), *-shot*; *plug-like* adj.; **plug-arbor**, an arbor or mandril in a lathe on which a drill chuck is mounted (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **plug-basin**, a wash-hand basin having a plug-hole for letting the water out; †**plug-basket** (*Brewing*), ? the depression at the bottom of the mash-tun into which the plug drops; **plug-bayonet**, the original form of bayonet, which was fixed in the muzzle of the gun; **plug-board** (*Electr.*), a switch-board in which the connexions are made by inserting plugs (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **plug-box** (*Mining*), a wooden pipe to carry off water while putting the watertight casing to a shaft; **plug-centre-bit**: see quot.; **plug-cock**, (*a*) a tap having a perforated plug through which the liquid flows when turned on; (*b*) see quot.; **plug-draining**, a system of draining heavy clay land, in which plugs or blocks of wood are placed at the bottom of the cutting to keep the channel open, and are withdrawn after the cutting has been filled up; **plug-drawer**, one who took part in the *plug-riots*, q. v.; **plug-frame**, a contrivance attached to the beam of a steam-engine, for opening and closing the valves of the cylinder; **plug-hat** (*U. S. slang*), a silk, 'top', or 'chimney-pot' hat [some say, because the head fits in it like a plug]; hence **plug-hatted** *a.*; **plug-hole**, an aperture fitted with a plug by which it can be closed; **plug-joggle** (*Masonry*), a joggle of the character of a plug; **plugman**: see quots.; **plug-riots**, a name given to certain riotous proceedings *c* 1842, when cotton mills in Lancashire were stopped from working by the removal or 'drawing' of a few bolts or 'plugs' in the boilers so as to prevent steam from being raised; **plug-rod**, (*a*) see quot. 1858; (*b*) = *plug-frame*; **plug-switch** (*Electr.*), a switch in which connexion is made by inserting a metal plug; **plug-tap**, a cylindrical tap for cutting the threads of female screws or of screw-plates; **plug-tobacco** = sense 4; **plug-tree** = *plug-frame*; **plug-valve**: see quot.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 267 Flour of all Malt, especially if it is ground very small, is apt to wash to the *Plug-Basket, and thereby cause a foul Wort to run off. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 44/2 A hole of two inches diameter having been .. made in each side of the stone, and *plug bats .. inserted. 1838 *Ibid.* 258/2 A form of *plug bolt peculiarly adapted for mooring and warping up rapids. 1883 GRESLEY *Coal Mining Gloss.*, **Plug Box*, a wooden water-pipe used in coffering. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 390 'Wobbling', a principle inherent in all *plug bullets after leaving the muzzle. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plug-center Bit*, a bit having a cylinder instead of a point, so as to fit within the hole around which a countersink or enlargement is to be made. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl., **Plug Cock*, a faucet which is simply driven into the barrel, not screwed in. 1833 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VIII. 139/2 *Plug draining .. is exclusively confined to the draining of tenacious clay, and chiefly practised on pasture land. 1888 F. PEEL (*title*) The Risings of the Luddites, Chartists, and *Plugdrawers. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Plug Finisher*,..a fine file for finishing the surfaces of tooth fillings. 1763 FITZGERALD in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 152 The *plug frame, which is a piece of timber moved by the leaver through a wooden groove, by which the steam valve, and injection cock are opened and shut alternately. 1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 71 In the perpendicular working beam, called by Beighton [?*c* 1720] the plug-frame, there is a slit which is contrived so that its pins work on the fore part, middle, and back part, to raise and depress the levers..that move the iron axle. 1881 *Philad. Record* (U. S.) No. 3455. 6 The *plug hat is virtually a sort of social guarantee for the preservation of peace and order. 1899 MORROW *Bohem. Paris* 138 A dizzy whirl of skirts, feathers, plug hats, and silken stockings. 1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 4 An austere, *plug-hatted redskin. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 497 To prevent the steam from coming out at the *plug-hole .. or lid. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 60 A vessel, having a plug-hole at bottom. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 2/3 While the Post Office .. provides and maintains the fire alarm, the County Council undertake to supply the necessary telephones and to make plug-holes in the alarm posts. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 194/2 The central *plug joggle, fixed in place..ready for the reception of the center stone of the next Course. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 61 The two [cells] .. subdivide and ultimately form a *plug-like, cellular, mass, which imbeds itself firmly in the substance of the prothallus. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plug-machine*, a machine for making wooden plugs for faucet-holes of..barrels. 1852 *Mining Gloss.* (in *Northumb. Gloss.*), **Plugman*, the man in charge of a pit pumping engine. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 27 George [Stephenson]'s duty as plugman was to watch the engine, to see that it kept well in work, and that the pumps were efficient. 1883 GRESLEY *Coal Mining Gl.*, *Plugman*, an old term for engineman. 1884 BOURKE *Snake Dance Moquis* xxix. 315 Our mules and Nahi-vehma's *plug pony stampeded. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 90 In 1842, when the country was disturbed by the great *plug riots, not a thread was disturbed from a spindle. 1888 F. PEEL *Risings of Luddites*, etc. xxxix. 338 Trade in 1842, the year of the plug riots, was worse than ever. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Plug-rod*, an air-pump rod. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plug-rod*, (Steam-engine) *a.* A rod attached to the working-beam of a condensing-engine, for the purpose of driving the working-gear of the valves. Sometimes called the plug-tree. *b.* The air-pump rod. 1878 THURSTON *Growth Steam-Engine* 121 A similar pair of tappets on the opposite side of the plug-rod move the valves. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 138 He..ground them [his words] out like a labouring mill, each word solid as *plug shot. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 39 When it is cylindrical, it is called a *plug tap. 1861 CAMPIN *Hand-turn.* v. 111 A plug-tap has the full depth of screw-thread all along its length. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Tap*, Taps are usually made in sets of three..the third, called the plug-tap or finishing tap, is always cylindrical, with the first two or three threads tapering off. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 2/3 The tax on .. *plug and smoking tobacco is to be permanently raised. 1899 *New Cent. Rev.* V. 133 Passable cigars are obtainable, and the plug tobacco is bad. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 169 Mr. Henry Beighton, of Newcastle, .. invented the part called the *plug-tree, for opening and shutting the valves. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 476/2 As the plug-tree moved up and down with the beam, the tappets struck the ends of bent levers or cranks, which raised or depressed the valves in proper succession. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plug-valve*, a tapering valve, fitting into a seat like a faucet.

Plug (plʊg), *v.* [f. PLUG *sb.*; or immediately a. early mod.Du. *pluggen* (Plantin), f. *plugge* PLUG *sb.* So MLG. *pluggen*, LG. *plüggen*, Norw. *plugga* to plug.]

1. *trans.* To stop, close tightly, or fill (a hole or aperture) with or as with a plug; to drive a plug into. Chiefly with *up*.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 6 Neere unto the North pole men thinking to draw in their breaths, are in danger to have their throats pluggd up with an Isicle. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 213 Divers of their Ships being shot through with great Bullets, for that they could neither plug up the Holes or Breaches, nor free them from Water by their Pumps, were swallow'd up in the devouring and merciless Waves. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 42 We found it advisable to plug up the Pipe. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 183 In some instances, the holes admit of being plugged with bits of metal. 1849 CLARIDGE *Cold Water-cure* 147 Sometimes when a tooth is plugged, the pressure on the nerve renders it insupportable. 1878 HOLBROOK *Hyg. Brain* 39 When a clot of blood plugs up an artery.

b. In wood-engraving: see PLUG *sb.* 2 a.

1839 CHATTO *Wood Engrav.* 645 If a small part be badly engraved, or the block has sustained an injury, the defect may be repaired by inserting a small piece of wood and re-engraving it: this..is technically termed 'plugging'.

c. To insert a wooden peg or block into (a wall, etc.) to afford a hold for a nail or screw.

1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his Own Mechanic* § 743 When fixed to a brick wall, the wall must be plugged to take the nails. *Ibid.* § 1275 Due provision having been made for this by 'plugging' the wall.

d. To insert as a plug; to drive (something) in.

1857 HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxiv. 281 It goes by wind .. and it'll plug a bullet right into a man.

e. *intr.* with *in* (*Electr.*): To complete a circuit by inserting a key or plug between metal plates.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 9/2 Directly the sub-stations shut down, the Battery-room attendant 'plugs in' and takes the load for lighting purposes, for driving fans for ventilation purposes.

2. *trans.* To put a bullet into, to shoot. *slang.*

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxxi, If that old horse they put you on had bobbed forward..you'd have got plugged instead. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 8/2, I got plugged a few yards in front of the line, and two of my fellows pulled me back, as I could not walk. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 340/1 'I'll wait till I get within twenty yards of the beggar, .. Then I'll plug 'im!'

3. *trans.* To strike with the fist. *slang.*

1875 P. PONDER *Kirkcumdoon* 86 (E. D. D.) Great uproar, and cries of 'Sit doon, Matthy!' 'Plug him!' 'Stick in, Matthy!' 1891 *Athenæum* 28 Nov. 713/2 'To plug a man in the eye' is a common enough piece of slang.

4. *intr.* **a.** To 'stick to it', keep on persistently or doggedly; to plod. **b.** To labour with piston-like strokes against resistance. *slang.*

a. *c* 1865 (Remembered on the river at Oxford) 'Plug, you fellows, plug!' 'We plugged for all we were worth'. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 476/1 The crews have rowed in wretched form, .. their ability to plug has enabled them to hang on to the leaders in bulldog fashion.

b. 1898 G. W. STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 310 The steamers..plug-plugged their steady way up the full Nile. 1898 — *Egypt* xix. 216 We are plugging past a twenty-foot river bank, semaphored with miles of water-hoists. 1898 *Cycling* vi. 27 When a beginner attempts to cycle up-hill at anything like a fast pace, he invariably develops a plugging action.

Plugged (plʊgd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLUG *v.* + -ED 1.] Stopped up, closed, or filled with or as with a plug. Of a shell: Having a plug in place of the fuze.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 184/2 A plugged shell of 105 lb. 1884 *Mil. Engineering* (ed. 3) I. II. 104 The instructor will cause each man to throw both land and sea service plugged hand grenades. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 603 A plugged vein on each side .. was peculiarly prominent.

Plugger (plʊ'gəɹ). [f. PLUG *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which plugs; *spec.* in *Dentistry*, an instrument for driving in and consolidating the filling material in the cavity of a carious tooth.

1867 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.* 86/1 *Automatic plugger*, a dental instrument which is operated by pressing the point upon the gold in the cavity, in the manner of an ordinary hand-plugger. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1887) 109 A sidelong blow on the end of the plugger may throw the point to one side .. and break off or crack a portion of the tooth. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 1 July 4/4 The boat-club captain's eye has been upon those valiant pluggers in the 'fours'.

b. See quot.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 2/3 Elaborate precautions were taken against 'pluggers', as impersonators are called in Canada. The Conservatives, in their anxiety to prevent 'plugging' (or personation), armed their scrutineers with the kodak.

Plugging (plʊ'gĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLUG *v.* + -ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb PLUG in various senses.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 14 Pluging will stop any Bore-hole Feeder I dare affirm. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (1855), *Plugging* .., the introduction of a plug of lint or rag into a wound or natural cavity..to arrest hemorrhage; or of some substance into a carious tooth to prevent toothache. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 475/2 One quality .. observable in Pennsylvania crews of late years is that of 'plugging'. 1897 [see prec.]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 490 An extensive plugging of small vessels.

2. *concr.* Plugs collectively: see PLUG *v.* 1 c.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plugging*, pins driven into the joints of brick or stone walls to receive the nails whereby battens are fastened to the walls.

3. *attrib.*, as *plugging-forceps*, *-instrument.*

1867 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.*, *Plugging-Instruments*, dental instruments for introducing and consolidating fillings. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plugging-forceps*, a dentist's instrument used in compressing a filling into an excavated hole in a carious tooth.

Plu'ggy, *a. dial.* [f. PLUG *sb.* + -Y.] **a.** Short and stumpy. *colloq.* **b.** Stiff, as clay.

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pluggy*, short, thick, sturdy. 1861 AGNES STRICKLAND *Old Friends* Ser. II. ii. 33 Betty, Molly, and the cook .. united .. in describing Martin ..as 'a short, pluggy (thick) man, with a pug nose'. 1892 H. HUTCHINSON *Fairway Isl.* 8 The crumbly ploughed land did not hold the clean impression as the pluggy clay had done.

Plugh, -e, obs. forms of PLOUGH.

Plugless (plʊ'glĕs), *a.* [f. PLUG *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no plug or stopper.

1830–6 O. W. HOLMES *Daily Trials* 23 Women, with tongues Like polar needles, ever on the jar; Men, plugless word-spouts, whose deep fountains are Within their lungs.

Plug-ugly (plʊg,ʊ'gli). *U. S. slang.* [Origin obscure: see quots.] A city ruffian or rowdy.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Plug Ugly*, a term assumed by a gang of rowdies in Baltimore. It originally belonged to certain fire companies. 1865 *Reader* 19 Aug. 203 In order the better to deal with the rowdies and plug-uglies of the more turbulent wards. 1876 in *Times* 4 Nov. 9/6 'Plug-Uglies'. .. Several years ago I was in Baltimore, where the class of rowdies who originated this euphonious name abounded, and was told it was derived from a short spike fastened in the toe of their boots, with which they kicked their opponents in a dense crowd, or, as they elegantly expressed it, 'plugged them ugly'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 July 4/1 His friends were alternately the 'plug-uglies' of Sixth Avenue and the dudes of Delmonico's.

Plum (plʌm), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 1 plūme, (in comb.) plūm-, 4–5 plowme, 5 plowmbe, 6 ploume, 8–9 *north dial.* ploum, ploom. *β.* 4–6 plome, 4–7 plom, 5 (in comb.) plomb-, 5–6 plomme; 4–7 plumbe, 5–7 plumme, 6–9 plumb, 4– plum. [OE. *plúme* fem. plum (earlier *plúmæ*, *-ę*, plum, fruit and tree) corresp. to OLG. **plûma*, MLG. *plûme* (LG. *plumme*, EFris. *plûme*, *plûm*), ON. *plóma* f. (? from OE.); OHG. **phlûma* fem. plum (*pflûmo* m. plum-tree), MHG. *pflûme*, Ger. *pflaume*; variants of OHG. *phrûma*, *pfrûma* f., OLG. **prûma*, MLG., LG. *prûme*, MDu. *prûme*, Du. *pruim* f.; the forms in *pr-* being the original, a. late L. or Romanic *prūna* f., for L. *prūnum* neut., a. later Gr. *προῦνον*, for cl. Gr. *προῦμνον* plum. (Cf. L. *prūnus* fem., Gr. *προύμνη*, *προύνη* plum-tree.) The late L. *prūna* gave also Pr. *prūna*, F. *prune* plum: see PRUNE. The shortening of the vowel in Eng. is found from the 14th c., but the long vowel occurs in Levins 1570, and is still repr. by north. Eng. and Sc. (plʊm, plʌm); cf. Eng. *thumb*, OE. *þúma*, north. Eng. and Sc. *theaum*, *thoum*, *thoom*; the vowel is shortened also in LG. *plumme*, Sw. *plommon*, Da. *blomme*. The form *plýme* given in OE. glosses as = *prunus* and *prunum* is explained by Pogatscher from L. *prūneus*: cf. It. *prugna* plum, *prugno* plum-tree.

The change of *pr-* to *pl-* is found only in the Teutonic forms, or in med.L. written in England, etc.: see *plunas* (?*plunus*), *plunnum* in Corpus Gl., *plumnus* (Wr.-Wülcker 269/30). The Celtic forms, Cornish *pluman*, Ir. *pluma*, Gael. *plumbais*, *-bas*, are evidently from Eng. The change of *n* to *m* in *prūna*, *prūma* is attributed by Kluge and Franck to the influence of the preceding labial; Meyer-Lübke suggests derivation from Gr. *προύμνον*. *Prune* in south-east French dialects may be influenced by German.]

1. The fruit of the tree *Prunus domestica*, a roundish fleshy drupe of varying size and colour, covered with a glaucous mealy bloom, and having a somewhat flat pointed stone and sweet pulp.

a. c 725 Corpus Gloss. 1600 in *O. E. T.*, *Plumum*, plumæ. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* vii. (Z.) 20 *Hoc prunum*, seo plyme [*v. r.* plume]. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1375 Medlers, plowmes, perys, chesteyns. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 A Plowmbe (*A.* Plowme), *prunum*. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 219/35 A Ploume, *prunum*. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Ploum*, a plum. *Mod. Sc.* Soor plooms.

β. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XIII. 221 As pees-coddes and pere-Ionettes, plomes and chiries. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 647/30 *Hoc prunum*, plumme. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 715/20 *Hoc prunum*, a plum. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. vi, Men sayen that it is not good to ete plommes with his lord. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 140 As for cheryes, dampsons, bulleys, plummes, and suche other. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* 44 b, Here haue they peares, and plumbs. 1577 — *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 97 There are sundry sortes of Plomes. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xlvii. 720 The fruite is called ..in Englishe, a Plumme or Prune. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xv. xiii. 436 To come now to Plums, there is a world of them: some of sundrie colours, others blacke, and some againe white. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 215 He knew to .. tame to Plumbs the Sourness of the Sloes. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 222 In every hedge..were medlars, plumbs, cherries and maples. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 182 Dried plums, under the names of prunes and French plums, form an important article of commerce.

†**b.** Phrase. *The bloom* or *blue of the plum*: delicate freshness, charm: cf. BLOOM *sb.* 4 b. *Obs.*

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlix. 215 The Maids keep their Teeth very white, till they have lost the blue of their Plumb, and then they dye them as black as Jet. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 90 She has quite lost the Blue on the Plumb.

2. The tree bearing this fruit, *Prunus domestica* (N. O. *Rosaceæ*).

P. domestica, the cultivated or garden plum in its many varieties, and the European wild plum or BULLACE, *P. insititia*, are now considered to be specifically identical with the Blackthorn or SLOE-bush, *P. spinosa*, the three forms being referred to a single species, *P. communis*.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 822 in *O. E. T.*, *Prunus*, plumæ. (So *Erfurt Gl.*) *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1664 *Prunus*, plume. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 681 (E. E. T. S.) Bolas plumbe and cirne. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 247 In peche Is graffid plomme. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 66 It is the custome (of late) to make..hedges of Quodlings, Plums, and vines. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) II. xxiii. § 32 If an Abricot be grafted upon a Plumb. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* vii. (1794) 75 The genus plum, comprehending the apricot and cherry. 1899 NORA HOPPER in *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 10/1 Blossom on the plum,..Leaves upon the cherry.

3. With qualifying words. **a.** Applied to many species (and varieties) of the genus *Prunus*:

Beach P. of the Atlantic coast of U. S., *P. maritima*; **Canada P.**, *P. americana* (Miller *Plant-n.*); **Cherry** or **Myrobella P.**, *P. Myrobalana*; **Chickasaw P.** of N. America, *P. Chicasa* (*Treas. Bot.*); **Damascene, †Damasco, Damask,** or **Damson P.**: see DAMASK, DAMSON; **Japanese P.**, *P. japonica*; see also b; **Morocco P.**, ? = DAMSON; †**Muscle P.**, a purple variety of the plum; **Wild P.**, in Britain, *P. insititia* or *spinosa*; in N. America, *P. americana* and *P. subcordata* (*Treas. Bot.* and Miller *Plant-n.*); see also b. See also HORSE-PLUM, PEAR-*plum*, etc.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 188 *Beach Plumb (*Prunus maritima*). 1856 WHITTIER *Ranger* x, Where the purple beach-plum mellows. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 933 *P*[*runus*] *myrobalana*, which is named *Cherry Plum, probably from its colour, is a species from Canada. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 8/1 This year there are fresh cherry-plums from Argentina on sale. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 57 The *Damasco Plum is a good fruit, and the trees beare well. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 298 The black Damascen, the *Morocco, the Barbary, the Myrobalan, the Apricock Plumb, a delicate Plumb that parts clean from the Stone. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 509 All your dainty Plummes, are a little dry, and come from the Stone; As the *Muscle-Plumme. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 244 Low mounds..Some are covered with *wild-plum bushes.

b. Extended to many trees resembling the plum, esp. in fruit:

American Black P. ? = *Cocoa P.*; **Assyrian P.** = *Sebesten P.* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **Australian P.** or **Black P. of Illawarra**, *Cargillia australis*, N. O. *Ebenaceæ* (ibid.); **Blood P.** of Sierra Leone, *Hæmatostaphis Barteri*, N. O. *Anacardiaceæ* (*Treas. Bot.*); **Brazilian P.**, species of *Spondias*, N. O. *Anacardiaceæ* (Lee 1760); **Cocoa P.** of tropical America and Africa, *Chrysobalanus Icaco* (Lee 1760); **Darling P.**, the Red Ironwood of W. Indies and Florida, *Reynosia latifolia*; **East Indian P.**, *Flacourtia cataphracta*, and *F. Ramontchi* (Miller); **Grey P.** or **Guinea P.**, of Sierra Leone, *Parinarium excelsum*, N. O. *Chrysobalanaceæ*; of Australia, *Cargillia arborea*; **Jamaica P.**, a species of Hog-plum, *Spondias lutea*; **Japan** or **Japanese P.**, the Loquat; **Mountain P.**, *Ximenia americana*, N. O. *Olacaceæ*; **Port Arthur P.**, of Tasmania, *Cenarrhenes nitida*, N. O. *Proteaceæ* (*Treas. Bot.*); **Queensland P.**, *Owenia venosa*, N. O. *Meliaceæ*; **Sapodilla P.** of West Indies, *Sapota Achras*; **Sebesten P.**, *Cordia Myxa* and *C. latifolia*, N. O. *Boraginaceæ*; **Spanish P.** of W. Indies and S. Amer., *Spondias purpurea* (*Treas. Bot.*); also in the Antilles, *Mammea humilis*, N. O. *Clusiaceæ* (Miller); **Tamarind P.**, a leguminous tree of E. Indies, *Dialium indum*; **Tasmanian P.** = *Port Arthur P.* (Miller); **Urucuri P.**, a S. Amer. palm, *Attalea excelsa*; **Wild P.** of S. Africa, *Pappea capensis*, N. O. *Sapindaceæ*; of N. S. Wales, *Sideroxylon australis*, N. O. *Sapotaceæ*; **Yellow (Spanish) P.** of W. Indies = *Jamaica P.* See also DATE-*plum*, GINGERBREAD-*plum*, HOG-PLUM, OLIVE-*plum*, PERSIMMON-*plum*, etc.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 223 The *Black Plum of Illawarra (*Cargillia australis*) .. is a slender tree .. ; the fruits are the size of a large plum, and of dark purple colour. *Ibid.*, The *Grey Plum (*Cargillia arborea*) grows to a height of fifty or a hundred feet. *Ibid.* 846 The fruit of *P*[*arinarium*] *excelsum* is about the size of an Imperatrice plum, covered with a rough skin of a greyish colour, and commonly called the Rough-skin or Grey Plum. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 229 The yellow or *Jamaica Plumb Tree. . . The fruit is much esteemed by some people. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants* 49 *Queensland Plum, Sweet Plum. This plant bears a fine juicy red fruit with a large stone. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1018/2 S. Achras yields an edible fruit called in the West Indies the *Sapodilla plum. 1866 BRANDE & COXE *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 937/2 *Sebesten-plum is the fruit of *Cordia*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 397 The *Tamarind Plum of the East Indies, *D*[*ialium*] *indum*, has a delicious pulp resembling that of the Tamarind, but not quite so acid. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* x. (1864) 297 The fruit of this palm ripens on the upper river in April, .. similar in size and shape to the date. . . Vicente shook his head when he saw me one day eating a quantity of the *Urucuri plums. 1880 SILVER & Co. *S. Africa* (ed. 3) 139 The..*Wild Plum is the fruit of *Pappea Capensis*, a tree pretty common in Kaffirland. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 305 Hog Plum or *Yellow Spanish Plum of Jamaica, *Spondias lutea*.—Large tree.

4. A dried grape or raisin as used for puddings, cakes, etc.

This use probably arose from the substitution of raisins for dried plums or prunes as an ingredient in *plum-broth*, *-porridge*, etc. with retention of the name 'plum' for the substituted article. Quotations 1725–1733 prob. belong here.

a 1660 [Mock sermon: see PLUM-PIE] p. 6 But there is your Christmas pye and that hath plums in abundance... He that discovered the new Star in Cassiopeia..deserves not half so much to be remembered, as he that first married minced meat and Raisins together. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 6 A grocer is a man who buys and sells sugar, and plumbs, and spices, for gain. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Plumb*, or *Plum*, in matters of spicery. See *Currans* and *Raisins*. 1733 FIELDING *Don Quix.* I. vi, 'Tis not only plumbs that make a pudding. 17.. *Hist. Jack Horner* [see PLUM-PIE 1]. 1755 JOHNSON, *Plum*...2. Raisin; grape dried in the sun. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 686 Children, to whom you give a pill wrapped up in a raisin, will suck the plum and spit out the medicine. 1804 ANN & JANE TAYLOR *Poems Inf. Minds*, *Plum-cake*, While fingers and thumbs, for the sweetmeats and plums, Were hunting and digging beside. *a* 1845 HOOD *Son & Heir* v, A Grocer's plum might disappoint. 1884 DOWELL *Hist. Taxat.* IV. I. vii. 37 The dried grapes..we term simply raisins when used for eating uncooked, and plums when they form an ingredient in the famous English plum pudding.

b. = SUGAR-PLUM. (First quot. doubtful.)

1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* III. iv, So when you've swallowed the potion, you sweeten your mouth with a plum. 1790 COWPER *My Mother's Pict.* 61 Thy morning bounties ere I left my home, The biscuit, or confectionary plum.

c. *fig.* A stone or mass of rock embedded in a matrix of later origin; a pebble in a conglomerate; also, a stone embedded in concrete.

a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 355 The plums, or stones, embosomed by the matrix, are exactly of the same kinds, which are found everywhere in the earth adjacent. 1894 *Times* 22 Sept. 13/3 The interior was filled in with concrete deposited in layers of nine inches, while large single stones, technically called 'plums', weighing, as a rule, about three-and-a-half tons, were placed as close together as possible and bedded in mortar.

d. *fig.* A 'good thing', a tit-bit; one of the best things to be found in a book or article; one of the best or choicest things among situations or appointments; one of the 'prizes' of life; also, the pick or best of a collection of things, animals, etc.

1825 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Harry & Lucy, Concluded* IV. vii. 167 It is only the stupid parts of books which tire one. All that is necessary is to pick out the plums. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VIII. i, Much too old a world to allow any Jack Horner to pick out its plums for his own personal gratification. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. xvi, To fight it away for the sake of getting some sort of plum that he might divide with his mother and the girls. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* V, There were some real plums among the horses. 1889 *Academy* 2 Nov. 280 The reviewer who picks all the 'plums' out of a book is a person who is regarded with reasonable terror and resentment by both authors and publishers. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Sept. 4/8 The posts named are justly regarded as plums of the Indian Civil Service.

5. The sum of £100,000. *slang*, now *rare*.

1689–1702 EARL OF AILESBURY *Mem.* (1890) 499 Those even that had nothing at the Revolution had the reputation after of being worth one hundred, and others two hundred thousand pounds. The first sum was christened one plum, and the last, two. *Ibid.* 634 In King William's time .. the tally trade alone brought in to some a hundred thousand pounds, which they then called a plum. 1709 PRIOR *Ladle, Moral*, The Miser must make up his Plumb, And dares not touch the hoarded sum. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 244 ¶ 6 An honest Gentleman who..was worth half a Plumb. 1789 J. BELKNAP in *M. Cutler's Life*, etc. (1888) II. 252 The revenue is now about £90 plum, to be increased by funding. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. 201/2 Though the personal effects do not exceed 140,000*l.* there are real estates sufficient to complete the second plumb. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* I. v, The only son of Sir Peter Halliday..the heir to a plum.

†**b.** *transf.* One who is possessed of £100,000.

1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 100 ¶ 3 Several who were Plumbs, or very near it, became Men of moderate Fortunes. 1746 FIELDING *True Patriot* No. 11 Wks. 1775 IX. 322 A thing highly eligible by every good man, i. e. every Plumb. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 238 Warm Citizens with the insolence of a plumb in their countenances.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** attrib., as *plum-bloom*, *-blow* (BLOW *sb.*3), *-culture*, *-flower*, *-frumenty*, *-gum*, *-juice*, *-lea*, *-loaf*, *-moth*, *-pattern*, *-season*, *-stock*, *-stone*, *-tart*, *-trade*, *-weevil*. **b.** objective, similative, etc., as *plum-feeder*, *-holder*, *-seller*; *plum-purple*, *-round* adjs.; *plum-like* adj. **c.** parasynthetic, as *plum-coloured*, *-necked*, *-tinted* adjs. **d.** Special comb.: **plum-bird, -budder,** local names of the bullfinch; **plum-colour,** a shade of purple; so **plum-coloured** *a.*; **plum-fir,** a tree, *Podocarpus andina*, N. O. *Taxaceæ*; **plum-gouger,** a weevil (*Coccotorus scutellaris*); **plum-pockets,** a disease of plums in which the fruit grows hollow, without a stone (cf. *pocket-plum* s. v. POCKET *sb.*). See also PLUM-BROTH, PLUM-CAKE, etc.

1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, **Plum-bird*, the Bullfinch. *Ibid.*, **Plum-budder*. 1897 *Daily News* 12 June 6/2 Other fashionable colours for gloves are Liberty green,.. salmon pink, coral red, sky blue, *plum-bloom. 1868 WHITMAN *Singing in Spring* 23 in *Sel. Poems* 390 Stems of currants, and *plum-blows, and the aromatic cedar. 1882 *Garden* 30 Sept. 288/3 Flowers which change from white to *plum colour. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol., Jackd. Rheims*, The Cardinal drew Off each *plum-colour'd shoe. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 5 July 5/2 *Plum-culture is a lottery: for plums either fruit too lightly or they break the tree and glut the market. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 168/2 The *Plum Curculio (*Conotrachelus nenuphar*) is about ¼ in. long,.. and has on each wing-case, in the middle, a black, shining hump. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 496 *Plum Fir, *Prumnopitys elegans*, [a name proposed by Philippi for *Podocarpus andina*]. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 172/2 *P*[*odocarpus*] *andina*.., Plum Fir, fr[uit] resembling in form and size the berry of an ordinary White Grape, but in structure that of a Cherry. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 170 The *plum-firmity and mellow ale at sheep-shearing dwindled into small-beer, and roasted apples. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 168/2 The second species [of Plum-weevil] (*Coccotorus scutellaris*) is popularly called the *Plum Gouger. 1730 BURDON *Pocket Farrier* (1735) 82 Take one Ounce of *Plumb Gum beaten very small. 1897 W. C. HAZLITT *Ourselves* 30 The *plum-holders, instead of sharing with their poorer brethren, ask the public to make up the deficiency. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. No. 41. 73 A red *plum-juice colour. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 844 Its fruit ..is called Wilde Pruime (i. e. Wild Plum) from its *plum-like eatable flesh. 1879 SIR E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* II. (1882) 45 The *plum-necked parrots swung from fruit to fruit. 1895 *Daily News* 29 Nov. 2/3 An oviform jar and cover of *plum-pattern. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Taphrina*, a genus of parasitic discomycetous fungi. . . *T. Pruni* [causes] the disease of plums known as '*plum-pockets'. 1882 *Garden* 4 Nov. 396/1 The rich-shaded, *plum-purple pips. 1581 C. T. in Farr *S. P. Eliz.* (1845) 395, I will not maserate, Saith he, my *plum-round physnomie. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 30 An ordinary cheesemonger or *plum-seller. 1699 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 9) 132 [Graft] Plums, on *Plum-stocks. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 251 Plumb-stocks and Cherry-stocks may be raised from Suckers as well as from Stones. *c* 1900 *Beeton's Every-day Cook. Bk.*, **Plum Tart*..Seasonable, with various kinds of plums, from the beginning of August to the beginning of October. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 168/1 The flowers and fruits are attacked chiefly by the *Plum Weevil (*Rhynchites cupreus*) and the Plum Tortrix (*Carpocapsa funebrana*).

Plum (plʌm), *a.* Also 6 plumme, 7–9 plumb. [app. f. same root as PLUM *v.*]

1. = PLUMP *a.*1 **3.** Now *dial.*

1570 NORTH *Doni's Philos.* II. 50 This Tenche was so plumme and fatte that shee might well serue him for a good meale. *Ibid.* III. 69 Hee is rounde, plumme, fatte, and as full as an Egge. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* VII. xiv, Her necke was round, most plum and large her brest. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 42 A pretie rounde faced wench..as fat and plum euerie part of her as a plouer.

2. *dial.* Soft and elastic, as a cushion; well-raised and light, as bread.

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Plum*, light, soft. *West.* 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VIII. 65/2 *Plum* .. employed in Devonshire in the sense of 'soft', e. g. 'a plum bed': meaning a soft, downy bed. *Ibid.*, If the cake rises well in the oven, it is commonly said that it is 'nice and plum'. 1893 'Q.' [COUCH] *Delectable Duchy* 207 The cushions felt extraordinary plum.

3. *dial.* Of a rock: Soft, easily worked.

1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 96 As regards granite, the miner commonly prefers the somewhat decomposed kinds, in a state to which he applies the term *plumb*—a term much in use in Cornwall to express softness combined with a fair amount of resistance. *Ibid.* 97 A plumb granite or elvan is more particularly esteemed for tin, though the cases are not rare in which large bunches of copper and tin ores are found in hard granite.

For other dial. senses see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

4. *Comb.*

1598 FLORIO, *Puttotta*, a good handsome, plum-cheekt wench or lasse. 1603 — *Montaigne* I. xxiv. 63 Insteade of plum-feeding the same [mind], hee hath onely spunged it vp with vanitie. *Ibid.* I. XXXVIII. 121 More plumb-cheekt, in better health and liking then I am.

Plum, *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 plumb-y, plum-, 6 plom, 9 plum, plumb. [This and the related adj. PLUMMY are known from *c* 1400; the vb. appears to contain a root found also in PLIM *v.*, and perh. in PLUMP.]

1. *intr.* To swell up; to become light or spongy, as dough when 'rising'.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (Bodl. MS.), Per is

clene and pure aier and moche swete humoure and þat for plumynge and holes þat drawiþ and fongeth swete humoure. *Ibid.* XIX. iv, Moiste mater ipressed and ifonge [*ed.* 1495 take] is araied & made to plumby & to sprede [*humidum compressum paratur ad sparsionem et partium separationem*]. 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VIII. 65/2 There is also a verb *to plum*....Dough, when rising under the influence of heat and fermentation, is said to be *plumming* well. 1875 M. G. PEARSE *Dan. Quorm* 32 Why there was the pan of bread set down before the fire to 'plumb'.

2. *trans.* To make plump; to render soft and springy: = PLUMP *v.*[2] 1.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 27 How to plom vp a horse, and to make him fatte and lustie. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Cornwall), To 'plum up' the bed or pillow, i.e. to render them soft.

Plum, variant of PLUMB *sb.*, *a.*, and *v.*

Plumaceous (plumē·ʃəs), *a. rare*—°. [f. mod. L. *plūmāce-us*, f. L. *pluma* plume: see -ACEOUS.] Feathery, having the character of a contour-feather.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Plumaceus*,.. pertaining to a feather; feathery; plumaceous.

Pluma·ch, pluma·sh. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. F. *plumache* (now only dial.) = It. *piumaccio* a plume or bunch of feathers; f. L. *plūma* feather + suffix repr. L. *-aceus, -um.*] A plume. Cf. PLUMASSE.

1494 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 400 Foure balde horsses, well barded and like crestes on theyr heddys as wer on theire tentes stondyng be twen ij. great and high plumashis of whit. *a* 1684 LAW *Mem.* (1818) 162 Plumashes above, and gramashis below, Its no wonder to see how the world doth go. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 86 Having on their Heads their Caps of Silver guilt, with Plumaches of Feathers. *c* 1689 in Napier *Dundee* (1862) II. 11 He wore a white plumach that day. 1904 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* xi. 335 He was the more conspicuous as the only wearer of a white plumach.

†Pluma·ciol. *Med. Obs.* Also 6 -aciolle, -aceole. [ad. med.L. *plūmāciolus*, dim. from late L. *plūmācium* down pillow (Ambrose, Cassiod.), f. *plūma* soft feather, down. Cf. OF. *plumaceole*, and *plumacel* (in Godef.) in similar sense.] A pledget or small pad used in surgery.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 13 Brynge þou þe parties of þe wounde togidere þoru3 sowynge, or wiþ plumaciols—þat ben smale pelewis—or wiþ byndynge, if þat sewynge be nou3t nessessarie. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 11 b/2 With lint, and with little plumaceoles therof being made. *Ibid.* 18 b/2 A flatte plumaciolle or tent made of linte.

†Pluma·de. *Obs. rare.* [app. corrupt. of *plumard*: cf. *cockade*. (Palsgr. has 'Busshe of oystrisshe fethers, *plumart*', f. *plume* + *-art*, -ARD.)] A mourning plume for a horse.

1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6084/4 A Mourning Horse covered with black Cloth,...with Plumades before and behind. 1736 LEDIARD *Life Marlborough* III. 418 The second Mourning-Horse, covered with black Cloth, caparisoned with the same Arms.., with Plumades, led by a Groom on Foot.

Plumage (plū·mėdʒ). Also 5 **plomage**, 7 **plummage**. [a. OF. *plumage* (14th c., *plumaige*, in Littré), f. *plume* PLUME: see -AGE.]

1. Feathers collectively; the natural covering of a bird.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xvi. 102 The pecock..is moche prowde of his fair fethers and plumage. 1486 [see MAIL *sb.*[1] 5]. 1630 DRAYTON *Noah's Flood* Wks. (1748) 467/1 Pruning his plumage, cleansing every quill. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Plumage*, a term in Hawking for the Feathers under a Hawks Wing. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 47 No painted plumage to display. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 54 We are not.. to conclude, that the goose alone afforded the plumage for the arrows. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 16 The period at which the perfect plumage is acquired varies.

fig. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, While she was thinking what to say, Marie gradually wiped away her tears, and smoothed her plumage in a general sort of way.

† b. *spec.* in *Falconry.* Feathers given to a hawk as a casting (CASTING *vbl. sb.* 3 c). *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A iij b, Euer fede hir with vnwassh meet and looke that hir castyng be plumage. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 117 Giue hir casting or plumage agayne according as hir state dothe require. 1633 LATHAM *Falconry* Words Art Expl., *Plummage* are small downy feathers which the Hawke takes, or are giuen her for casting.

2. *fig.* a. In reference to the use of plumes.

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 296 All the strength and plumage of thy youth. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xii, This expression of liberality and trust..gave full plumage to Mistress Deborah's hopes. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* ix. (1873) 327 The false plumage of an expiation.

b. Jocularly applied to dress.

1895 RASHDALL *Univ. Europe* I. 22 The Doctor of Music, who in spite of his gorgeous plumage is not a member of Convocation.

3. A bunch or tuft of feathers used as an ornament; a plume. Now *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plumage*, feathers or a bunch of feathers. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1206/1 Having Scarlet, and other fine Coats, all richly laced, and bearing very rich Plumages, Scarfs, and Embroidered Belts. 1738 GLOVER *Leonidas* I. 400 The purple plumage nods. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. x. (1872) III. 174 Nothing of the soldier but the epaulettes and plumages.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **plumage-stitch** (*Embroidery*), a stitch or arrangement of stitching designed to imitate plumage; **plumage-work**: see quot. 1886.

1886 LADY ALFORD *Needlework as Art* vi. 207 The 'Opus Plumarium' is one of the most ancient groups, and includes all flat stitches...I propose to restore its original title of plumage work. 1901 L. F. DAY & MARY BUCKLE *Art in Needlework* vii. (ed. 2) 62 [Feather-stitch] is not to be confounded with what is called 'plumage-stitch', which..is a version of satin-stitch. *Ibid.* x. 100 The worker adapts..the length of the stitch to the work to be done, directing it also according to the form to be expressed, and so arrives,..by way of satin-stitch, at what is called plumage-stitch.

Plumaged (plū·mėdʒd), *a.* [f. prec. + -ED[2].] Furnished with or as with plumage, feathered; having plumage.

1820 KEATS *Caþ & Bells* v, On they swim With the sweet princess on her plumag'd lair. 1837 H. AINSWORTH *Crichton* I. 297 Parrots, and other gaily plumaged birds. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *Summ. Skye* (1880) 287 Every knoll plumaged with birches. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 302 They..became very finely plumaged by the fall. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* 87 Flocks of bright-plumaged water-fowl.

Plumagery (plū·mėdʒri). [f. as prec. + -RY.] (See quot.)

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 204/2 The Chinese are now very skilful and ingenious in the art of plumagery or feather-working.

Plumash: see PLUMACH.

†Pluma·sse. *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *plumasse* (1505) a great plume, f. *plume* PLUME + augment. suffix *-asse*:—L. *-ācea*, adj. suffix.] = PLUMACH.

1494 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 396 Therll of Suffolkes..crest.. was a lion of gold, the taille fourched, sett in maner of a curnalles with plumasses whit and grene.

†Pluma·ssery. *Obs. rare*—°. [a. OF. *plumasserie* ornament of feathers (Godef.), f. *plumasse*: see prec., and cf. next.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plumassery*, a plume or bunch of feathers. [So 1775 in ASH; and in subseq. Dictionaries.]

Plumassier (plumăsĭə·ɹ). Also 6 **-asier.** [a. F. *plumassier* (1480), f. *plumasse*: see above and -IER.] One who works or trades in feathers or plumes for ornamental purposes.

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 250 The couerings of his tent.. are all of gold..with the curious workemanship of plumasiers. 1812 MOORE *Post-bag* (heading) Anacreontic to a Plumassier. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 46 Lady Downingstreet must take care that her Royal Highness's court plume come home in due time from the plumassier. 1894 *Spectator* 20 Jan. 80/1 The plume of egret's feathers, or 'ospreys', as the plumassiers..chose to call them.

Plumate (plū·mēt), *a. Entom.* [ad. L. *plūmāt-us*, pa. pple. of *plūmāre* to cover with feathers.] Feathered, covered with plumose down.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 324 *Plumate*..when the awn is feathered. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Plumate antenna*, an aristate antenna with the arista covered with fine hairs, as in many flies.

†Plu·matile, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plūmātilis* (Plautus) embroidered like feathers, f. *plūma* feather.] Made of feathers.

1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* II. i. 279 That plumatile kind of Work..brought to us from the utmost Parts of the West Indies.

†Pluma·tion. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [n. of action from L. *plūmāre* to feather: see -ATION.] An application of a feather or of down to a sore, etc.

1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 206 Sometimes the tumor is so malignant, that..we are constrained to apply actuall cauters, or tents, and plumations what [? wet] in oyle of Vitreoll.

†Plumative, *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *plumāt-us* feathered + -IVE.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Plumatiue*, made of feathers. [1644 Ridiculed in *Vindex Anglicus* 5, 6.]

Plumb (plʌm), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 **plumbe**, 3–9 **plum**, 4–7 **plumme**, 5 **plomme**, 5–6 **plombe**, 5–7 **plume**, 6 **plome**, 7– **plumb.** [ad. F. *plomb*:—L. *plumb-um* lead; the ME. forms *plumbe*, *plombe*, *plomme*, app. a. OF. **plombe*, *plomme* (1309 in Godef.) sounding lead:—late L. **plumba*, orig. pl. of *plumbum*. In sense 2 app. f. PLUMB *v.*]

1. A mass or ball of lead, used for various purposes. a. The weight attached to a mason's plumb-line, to secure its perpendicularity; also a weight attached for the same purpose to a quadrant.

Off or *out of plumb*, out of the perpendicular.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2247 Wit cord and plum [*v.rr.* plumbe, plumme] þai wroght sa hei. 14.. in Halliw. *Rara Math.* (1841) 58 Til..þe tbrede whereon þe plumbe henges falle vpon þe mydel lyne of þe quadrant. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plumbe, of wryhtys or masonys (*K.*, *P.* plumme..), *perpendiculum*. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plumbe for a carpenter, *riglet*. 1769 WALES in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 151 The spirits of wine, in which the plumb of the quadrant is immersed. 1858 W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heaven* Ser. II. xv. 128 They suspend their plumb, not from the middle, but from one edge of the rule. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Mar. 3/2 The column is seriously off plumb. 1906 *Expositor* Feb. 180 It is not level .., and therefore, being out of plumb, must sooner or later fall.

b. A sounding-lead, a mariner's plummet; also a plummet used by anglers to measure the depth of a stream or pond. Also *fig.*

[Cf. 1309 JOINVILLE *Vie de S. Louis* CXXII. (Godef.), Giete ta plomme.] *c* 1440 LOVELICH *Merlin* 4564 He Sank a-down lik a ploin of led. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plumbe for a shyppeman, *plomb de sonde*. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* ii. 8 For once that word had weight, a whineing Man Hangs to the Plumme. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xi. 276 His mind intellectual plumb hath never yet sounded.

c. In other senses (chiefly *obs.*), as: a small piece of lead with which a scourge or rod is loaded; a weight of a clock or of a similar instrument; a small weight attached to a fishing-line below the float, to keep the latter in an upright position; a ball or bullet of lead as a missile; a kind of dumb-bell.

a 1350 *St. Laurence* 191 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 110 With staues he bad þai suld him bete And pelt on him with plumes of lede. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* V. 1133 Bete hir and reende hir with Iern and plummes of leed! *a* 1450 *Fysshynge w. an Angle* (1883) 16 þe next plume to the hoke schall be ther from a large fote & more and euery plumbe of quantite to þe gretnes of the lyne. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 28 To..wynde vp the peys and the plummys as ofte as nede is. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 293 Lede to 3et the plumbis. *Ibid.* 295 To cary the plumbis of lede fra the Abbay to the clos cartis. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 281 The plumbe of a clocke, being the first moouer, doth cause all the other wheeles to mooue. 1625 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 296 For a rope for the great plume of the clocke, 2s. 6d. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. § 14 (1689) 46 The least weight of Plumb or Lead you can. 1867 J. B. ROSE tr. *Virgil's Æneid* 211 They..hurled from slings the deadly plumb of lead.

2. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 'A deep pool in a river or the sea; a perpendicular fall' (E. D. D.). (Usually spelt *plum.*)

1819 in R. Ford *Harp Perth.* (1893) 208 (E.D.D.) Yon fause stream, that near the sea, Hides monie a shelve and plum. 1835 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1856 IV. 235 Tak tent you dinna droon me in some plum. 1895 OCHILTREE *Redburn* XV. 144 The 'plums' were the only parts of its narrow channel that showed signs of water.

3. *Comb.*: **†plumb-right** *a.*, exactly vertical; **†plumb-wise** (**plim-wise**) *adv.*, in the manner of a plumb-line, perpendicularly.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 826/2 Wyth a strynge by the halfe keepe them plume right vnder. 1552 HULOET, Plummeryght downe, *perpendicularis*. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* vii. 26 The Waight *C* is attracted plim-wise to the Axis *A. B.*

Plumb, plum (plʌm), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: 5 **plom**, 6 **plome**, **plum(m)e**, 6–7 **plumbe**, 5– **plum**, 7– **plumb** (9 **plomb**). [f. PLUMB *sb.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Vertical, perpendicular.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 520 The water, syn she [the dove] com, Of depnes plom, Is fallen a fathom. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 240 All wallis..muste be made leuell and plumme. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 142 A waight..fastned at the bottome to hold this ring plumbe and steady. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 1 The care of erecting the Walls very plum. 1897 BAILEY *Princ. Fruit-growing* 245 Necessity for staking and tying the trees to keep them plumb.

2. a. Downright, thorough-going; sheer.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) IV. xi. 259 Neither can an opposition, neither can a ministry, be always wrong. To be a plumb man, therefore, with either is an infallible mark, that the man must mean more and worse than he will own he does mean. 1894 *Chicago Advance* 6 Sept., Nothing but pests—just plum pests. 1904 C. MARRIOTT *Genevra* VI. 106 Addling their brains with plum trash about love and all.

b. *Cricket.* Of the wicket: Level, true.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 3/2 To witness a modern first-class match on a 'plumb' wicket. 1903 LD. HAWKE in *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Mar. 9/2, I believe there are counties who go into the field on a day when, we will say, there is a plumb wicket, and say 'we shall be here until half-past six'.

B. *adv.* [Cf. F. *à plomb* straight down.]

1. Of motion or position: Vertically, perpendicularly; straight *down*; rarely, straight *up.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 1833 Hit was diked doun plum, That no man myȝth ther-ouer com. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 24 Diches..so brode and so plume [*ed.* 1550 plum, GRAFTON plumme] stepe yᵗ was wondre to behold. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 8 When the Sunne shineth directly plumbe ouer mens heads, and causeth no shadow. 1640 G. ABBOT *Job Paraphr.* 252 The eagle is so strong as to mount plum up..to an infinit height. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 933 Fluttring his pennons vain plumb down he drops. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* V. Wks. 1757 IV. 240 Shall we rush, as down a precipice, and leap plumb into the jaws of extempore death? 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xiii, The Abbot, starting plumb up..answered [etc.]. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* IV. § 11. 103 Drapery..fell from their human forms plumb down.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* a. Exactly, directly, precisely.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. XXXIV. 609 The wind Septentrio that bloweth plumbe North, is far more daungerous and mischievous. 1701 CIBBER *Love Makes Man* II. ii, Lay your Lips softly, softly, close and plum to hers. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. lvi. 303 Her daughter..imagined herself plumb against me. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* XX. 147 Most of them [Delawares] can hit 'plumb centre' with any of their mountain associates. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 246 The famous diatribe against Jesuitism in the Latter-Day Pamphlets..points plumb in the same direction.

b. Immediately, directly, straight.

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 144 (1740) 216 If the Lords had come plumb upon their Trial, and..had been acquitted, the politic Crisis had been at an End.

c. As an intensive: Completely, entirely, absolutely, quite. Chiefly *U. S. slang.*

1587 *Misfortunes of Arthur* (1828) II. iv. *Chorus* 41 Then rowles and reeles and falles at length plum ripe. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, *Plum pleasant*, very pleasant. 1882 BURDETT *Life Penn* V. 83 Penn..wrote his wife and children a long letter..which filled them plumbfull of good advice. 1893 *Harper's Weekly* Christmas 1211/1 'You're plumb crazy', she remarked, with easy candor. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* 21 You've turned up, plain, plumb providential for all concerned.

Plumb (plʌm), *v.* Also 4 **plumben**, 5 **plome**, 5–7 **plumbe**, 6 **plombe**, 6–9 **plum.** [f. PLUMB *sb.* and *a.*, in various unconnected senses; partly perh. after F. *plomber* (1539 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

I. †**1.** *intr.* To sink or fall like a plummet; to fall or plump straight down. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 186 þer hertis ben so hevy þat þei plumben doun to helle.

II. 2. a. *trans.* To sound (the sea, etc.) with a plummet; to measure (the depth) by sounding.

a 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 29 Plum weill the grund quhat evir 3e doo. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Plomber*, to plombe or sounde the depth of a thing. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. iii. (1737) 10 Poole's-Hole..has been plumbed to the Depth of 800 Fathom, and yet no Bottom found. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, I consulted the most experienced seamen upon the depth of the channel, which they had often plummed. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* ii. (1880) 71 The depth having been carefully plumbed.

b. *fig.* To sound the depths of; to fathom, to reach the bottom of.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* xii. 40 Though Plato and Hermes haue plumbd it deeply, must wee reach no further, then their shallow sounding? 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* ii, Silently she looked down, and plumbed them all [infirmities]. 1849 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* v. 151 So I plumb the deeps of depression.

c. *To plumb a track* (*U. S. colloq.*), to trace or follow out a road.

1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 205 Plumbing the track, the Texan term for tracing a road, is, at all times, a slow and tedious operation. 1892 J. L. LAWLESS in *Country Church* (Buckland, Mass.) 16 Mar., I..always noticed that when Old Rover took one track and plumbed it through, he holed the game.

III. 3. To render vertical, to adjust or test by a plumb-line. Also *fig.*

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 162 To *Plum*, to hew any Piece downright, or perpendicular. 1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 448 Slender staffs were..made upright, by being plumbed in directions at right angles to each other. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 23 They are valuable aids in plumbing the frames and keeping the side of the ship fair.

4. To place vertically above or below.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 235/1 Above will be elegant sheds and powerful cranes, to plumb the hold. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 264 The shears should be so placed that a boat..may come under them, or be 'plumbed' from their heads when sloped.

b. *intr.* To hang vertically.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *To plumb*, to form the vertical line. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 121 The purchase [will] plumb clear of the ship's side.

IV. †**5.** *trans.* (?) To solder with lead. [Cf. Cotgr. '*Plomber*, to lead, or tinne; also, to soulder, or colour with lead,' etc.] *Obs.*

c 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 271 A standing cuppe with a cover therto plommed.

6. To weight with lead.

a 1450 *Fysshynge w. an Angle* (1883) 16 Your lynys must be plomed with leyd. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 512 After your hooke is thus fastened, you shall plumbe your line; which is to fasten certain pieces of lead.. about it. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 243 Stake this Net athwart the River; the bottom being plumbed, that it may sink about six inches. 1811 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVI. 464 The oars are plumbed in the handle, so as to balance on the edge of the boat.

7. To seal (luggage) with a leaden seal.

1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 20 When your luggage has been searched, you had better have your trunk plumbed with a leaden stamp for Paris. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 473, I shall have the whole corded and plumbed by the Custom house here. 1820 MRS. STARKE *Direct. Trav. on Cont.* ii. 36 We had our trunks plumbed, in order to secure them from examination [by the custom-house officers].

V. [Back-formation from *plumber*.]

8. *intr.* To work in lead as a plumber. Also *trans.* (*colloq.*)

1889 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy*, etc. (1892) 217, I am a plumber...I have plumbed in the very best families. 1901 *Speaker* 30 Mar. 703/1 There was once a perfect being who did actually plumb. *Mod. newspaper*, The house has been duly plumbed, painted, and whitewashed.

Hence **Plu·mbing** *ppl. a.*, doing plumbers' work.

1896 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/1 Even the plumbing fraternity cannot grumble. It is a mistake..to suppose that a very rigorous winter is the best for plumbers.

Plumb: see PLUM.

Plumbagin (plʌmbæ·dʒin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *plombagine*, f. L. *plumbāgo* (see PLUMBAGO) + *-ine*, -IN 1.] The acrid principle of the root of *Plumbago europæa*. (See PLUMBAGO 3.)

1830 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XVII. 385 *Plumbagine*, a new vegetable substance...M. Dulong has obtained a particular vegeto-principle from the roots of the *Plumbago Europæa*. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 767 Plumbagin..was discovered by M. Dulong d'Astafort, in the root of the *plumbago Europæa*, in 1828. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 685 *Plumbagin*..crystallises in delicate needles or prisms often grouped in tufts; has a styptic saccharine taste, with acrid biting after-taste.

†**Plumba·gine.** *Obs.* Also plomb-. [ad. F. *plombagine* (1572 in Godef.), ad. L. *plumbāgo*, *-inem*: see PLUMBAGO.]

1. See quots. (Perh. never in Eng. use.)

[1611 COTGR., *Plombagine*, f., pure lead turned almost into ashes by the vehemence of the fire: This is th'artificiall *Plombagine*, and comes of lead put into a furnace with gold, or siluer oare, to make them melt the sooner...There is also a naturall, or minerall *Plombagine*, which (as Mathiolus thinketh) is no other then siluer mingled with lead-stone, or oare.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plumbagin* [quoting Cotgr. verbatim]. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Plumbagin* [1706 -ine], silver mingled with lead stone, or oar. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Plumbagine*, lead naturally mingled with silver.

2. = PLUMBAGO 2.

1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 304 In the banks of the same river [Ayr] some miles higher up, he [Dr. Hutton] found a piece of coal..involved in whinstone, and extremely incombustible. It consumed very slowly in the fire, and deflagrated with nitre like plumbago. This he considered as the same fossil which has been described under the name of *plombagine*. 1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* I. 552 Anthracite seems to have been first observed by Dolomieu; but Born..has classed it under graphite, which he calls *plombagine*, or carburet of iron. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 384 Crystallized carbon is .. found naturally .. as a mineral species known by the appellation plumbagine. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 245 Vauquelin takes it to be a carbonaceous matter, such as plumbagine or black-lead.

Plumbaginous (plʌmbæ·dʒinəs), *a.* [f. L. *plumbāgo*, *-in-em* PLUMBAGO + -OUS.] Of the nature of or pertaining to plumbago or graphite.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 184 Plombaginous, or micaceous iron ore. 1820 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* xvi. (1859) 77 It.. considerably resembles the plumbaginous powder..obtained by the action of acid on cast iron. 1845 LYELL *Trav. N. Amer.* I. 249 In the plumbaginous anthracite of Worcester the proportion of volatile matter is about 3 per cent. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* v. 77 The variety plumbaginous schist contains plumbago in its layers.

Plumbago (plʌmbē·go). Also 7 **plumbage**, 8 **plombago**. [a. L. *plumbāgo* a species of lead ore, also a plant, leadwort, fleawort (Pliny): in both senses rendering Gr. *μολύβδαινα* of Dioscorides, deriv. of *μόλυβδος* lead. For the original meaning and complicated history of the word, see note below.]

†**1.** Applied to the yellow oxide of lead (litharge); also sometimes to the sulphide (galena); and (in quot. 1612) app. to minium or red oxide of lead, obtained from litharge by further oxidation. *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 77 Plumbago, or red lead, hath the force of binding. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 38 Plumbage [L.] *Plumbago*. P[lace] It sticks to the furnace in the purifying of silver or gold. M[atter] of Silver or Gold purified with lead. N[ame] Μολυβδαινα Molybdæna..it's like litharge in vertue. 1669 ROWLAND tr. *Schroder's Med.-Chem. Pharmacop.* xix. 245–6 Molybdena or Plumbago. It is natural or artificial: the first is Lead Ore or that mixed with silver. The artificial is a kind of Litharge, that sticks to the bottom of the Furnace [etc.]

2. *Min.* Black lead or graphite; one of the allotropic forms of carbon: used for pencils, also, mixed with clay, for making crucibles; and for many other purposes.

'Black lead' is the popular, and 'graphite' the strictly scientific name; but the term 'plumbago' is largely used in the arts, esp. in mining.

1784 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* 158 Plumbago, *Reissbley .. Blyertz* of the Swedes...In a strong heat and open fire it is wholly volatile. 1786 tr. *Scheele's Chem. Ess.* 243 The black lead or plumbago which is generally known in commerce, is very different from molybdæna. *Ibid.* 250 Hence I am convinced, that plumbago is a kind of mineral sulphur or charcoal; the constituent parts of which are aerial acid and a considerable quantity of phlogiston. 1788 *Cronstedt's Min.* (ed. 2) II. 451 Black lead or plumbago is a fossil substance extremely black. 1795 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 335 The black matter was therefore a compound of iron and carbon, or, as some chemists term it, plumbago; and which in the new system is denominated a carburet of iron. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 58 Plumbago. Graphite of Werner..carbon combined with one tenth or one eighth of its weight of malleable iron. 1799 — *Geol. Ess.* 191 Probably because the iron..had absorbed too great a quantity of carbon, and was thus converted into plombago. 1808 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (ed. 5) 242 Another combination of iron and carbon, which is a true carburet of iron, is the substance called plumbago, or black-lead, used in fabricating pencils, and in covering iron to prevent rust. [So 1815 (ed. 7) II. 120.] 1843 HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.* (ed. 2) 32/1 Anthracite resembles and appears to pass into plumbago. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 619 That very rare mineral called black lead, plumbago, or wad, is found in Borrowdale, in Cumberland. The mines in this place have been wrought since the days of Queen Elizabeth, and furnish the very best material hitherto discovered for making pencils. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 82 Graphite, or Plumbago, crystallizes in six-sided plates.

3. *Bot.* A genus of herbaceous plants, inhabiting Southern Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, having spikes of subsessile flowers, with a tubular five-parted calyx; leadwort: so called from the colour of the flowers. [Pliny's name (rendering Gr. Μολύβδαινα), adopted as generic name by Tournefort, 1700.] Also *attrib.*

[1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 336 There groweth commonly an herbe named in Greeke Molybdæna, that is to say in Latine, *Plumbago*, euen vpon euery corne land.] 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 42 Infusion of Leaves of Plumbago in Olive Oil. 1776 LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. (ed. 3) 337 Leadwort, *Plumbago*. 1877 J. A. CHALMERS *Tiyo Soga* vi. 53 He distributed twigs from the plumbago plant to be worn round the neck. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 346 Pale blue plumbagos, yellow canariensis.

[*Note.* In Dioscorides, *μολύβδαινα*, f. *μόλυβδος* lead, was applied to a mineral substance (v. 97, 100), and a plant. The former was yellow oxide of lead (PbO), esp. the litharge produced in the extraction of gold and silver from ores containing lead. By Pliny this is latinized as *molybdæna*, also once (xxxiv. 18. 50) by *plumbāgo*, which, as well as *galēna*, were applied by him to the yellow oxide, but prob. included as an inferior variety the sulphide (PbS), called by Dioscorides *μολυβδοειδὴς λίθος*, 'lead-like stone', the modern GALENA. For the plant Pliny always uses *plumbago*. In the French transl. (1572) of Matthioli's Commentary on Dioscorides, *μολύβδαινα* = *plumbago* is rendered *plombagine*, in It. *piombaggine*, and is stated to be identical with litharge; but other ores may have been included. Thence the explanations of the word in Cotgrave and other English writers down to *Bailey*: see PLUMBAGINE, and sense 1 above. In Holland's *Pliny*, *plumbago* is rendered *litharge*. In the 16th c., to Agricola and others in Germany practically interested in mining, *plumbago* mainly meant the sulphide of lead, but also included other substances similar to this in appearance, and in the property of staining the fingers and marking paper, esp. the native sulphides of antimony and molybdenum, STIBNITE (Sb_2S_3) and MOLYBDENITE (MoS_2), and the mineral graphite. In 1567 Christoph. Enkel (Encelius) of Saalfeld, while identifying Pliny's *molybdæna*, *galēna*, and *plumbāgo*, distinguished the 'productive' species (i. e. the oxide and sulphide of lead) from the 'barren' (*sterilis*), which yielded no lead, and was mainly graphite; the latter was described by Ferrante Imperato in 1599 as employed in the *grafio piombino*, 'leaden pencil'. In 1779 Scheele found that certain samples of the 'barren' plumbago, on being burnt, were dissipated into carbonic acid gas, and that in fact they consisted of carbon: see quot. 1786 in sense 2. In 1789 Werner and Karsten proposed the name GRAPHITE instead of the ambiguous 'plumbago'. But its composition was still disputed. An analysis, made by French chemists in 1786, had given, after volatilization, a residue of iron, and plumbago was pronounced a carburet of iron (see quot. 1795). This view prevailed until Karsten in 1826 and Sefström in 1829 proved that the iron was only an impurity in the specimens analysed, and that graphite or plumbago was, as Scheele had said in 1779, really a mineral form of carbon. (See paper by Dr. John W. Evans, F. G. S., in *Trans. Phil. Soc.* 1907.)]

Plumba·goed, *a.* [f. prec. + -ED 2.] Covered with plumbago, black-leaded.

1860 ALEX. WATT *Electro-Metallurgy* 58 A solution of nitrate of silver..will answer well for depositing on plumbagoed surfaces.

Plumba·llophane. *Min.* [See PLUMBO-.] 'A variety of allophane containing a little lead' (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

†**Plumbane.** *Chem. Obs.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -ANE 2 a.] Davy's proposed name for chloride of lead, horn-lead.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 397 One combination only of lead with chlorine is known..called horn lead by the old chemists...The name proposed for it is plumbane.

†**Plum·bary.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *plumbārius*, f. *plumbum* lead.] Lead ore, galena.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 428 Lead..is extracted also out of a certain Plumbary, effoded out of Mynes, which stone they call Molybdoides; the Lead thus secerned and melted, is poured into water, while hot, till it leave its dross.

Plumbat, obs. Sc. form of PLUMMET.

†**Plu·mbate** 1. *Obs.* Also 7 (?) **plumbet.** [app. ad. late L. *plumbātæ* leaden balls, also (Cod. Theodos.) a scourge to which leaden balls were attached, f. *plumbāre* to make of lead; but cf. PLUMMET *sb.* 4.] In *pl.* The leaden balls with which a scourge was loaded.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 94/1 Then Decius moued with anger commaunded hym to be beaten with plumbattes (which is sayth Sabellicus, a kinde of scourging). 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 330 Sericus and Asbolius..he caused to be killed with the mightie pelts of plumbets.

Plu·mbate 2. *Chem.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -ATE 1 1 c.] A salt of plumbic acid.

1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 555 The solution of plumbate of potassium forms with metallic salts precipitates of analogous composition.

‖ **Plumba·tor.** [med.L. *plumbātor*, f. L. *plumbāre* to solder with lead.] In the Papal service, A custodian of the leaden seal.

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. xii. 229 Innocent 8... His new office of Plumbators..brought him in 26000 crowns.

Plumb-bob (plʌ·mˌbɒb). The leaden bob, usually conoidal, forming the weight of a plumb-line.

1835-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 16 If he is found here after twenty-four hours, they'd make a carpenter's plumb-bob of him, and hang him outside the church steeple. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 190/1 A spirit level is laid upon its edge, or a plumb-bob is dropped from its middle point.

†**Plu·mbean,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *plumbe-us* leaden + -AN.] Resembling lead; leaden; lead-coloured.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plumbean*, *Plumbeous*, of the colour and property of lead; leaden; also dull, blunt. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* I. iii. § 7 To make wisdom.. to be..regulated by such a..'plumbean and flexible rule' as that is, is quite to destroy the nature of it. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 312 He had..a pale plumbean countenance.

Plumbeous (plʌ·mbiəs), *a.* [f. L. *plumbe-us* leaden (f. *plumb-um* lead) + -OUS.]

1. Made of or resembling lead, leaden; lead-coloured. Chiefly in *Zool.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Plumbeous*, full of lead, heauie. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Plumbeous*, leaden, of the colour of lead; also blunt, or dull. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 284. 1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 115 Another and smaller species, the plumbeous or sooty redstart. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 321 Feathers..plumbeous at base and brown at tip.

b. *Ceramics.* Lead-glazed.

1875 FORTNUM *Maiolica* i. 4 Glazed and enamelled wares ..plumbeous or lead glazed. 1879 J. J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 63 Silicious, or glass-glazed, and plumbeous, or lead-glazed, both of which are transparent.

†**2.** *fig.* Heavy, dull, ponderous, leaden. *Obs.*

1578 SIDNEY *Wanstead Play* in *Arcadia*, etc. (1629) 622 Attend and throw your eares to mee..till I haue endoctrinated your plumbeous cerebrosities. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 30 The motion of Saturn,..plumbeous, long, and heavy. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. ix. 284 Whether he be such a Plumbeous Blew-nosed Planet as Antiquity marks him.

Plumber (plɔ·mər). Forms: 4 plomber, 4–8 plummer, 5 plomere, plommer, plumbar, 5–6 plomer, 5–7 plumer, 6 plommar, *Sc.* plummair, 5– plumber. [a. OF. *plummier* (1266), *plommier*, mod.F. *plombier* :—L. *plumbārius* a plumber, f. *plumbum* lead.] An artisan who works in lead, zinc, and tin, fitting in, soldering, and repairing the water and gas pipes, cisterns, boilers, and other work executed in these metals in the construction of a dwelling-house or other building. Originally applied to a man who dealt and worked in lead.

1385–6 [see b]. 1399 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 129 In salario Willelmi Bettys, plummer, operanti super corpus ecclesiæ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/1 Plumber, or plomere, *plumbarius*. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 212 Vyncent the plomer is a nothir that chal bere the dawnger. 1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 4 Any.. Brick-maker, Tile maker, Plummer or Labourer. 1584 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 17 Item given to the plumer for mendinge the leades, xiij s. iiij d. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, And, early in the morning, will I send To all the plumbers, and the pewterers, And buy their tin, and lead vp. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 47 Sauder, wherewith an unconscionable Plummer can ingrosse his Bill. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plummer*, one that deals, or works in Lead. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 130 Within the last four years, zinc has been extensively employed instead of lead, and the plumber has undertaken the execution of such works. 1887 *Spectator* 29 Oct. 1445 All the tradesmen employed, down even to the plumber.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plumber-house*, *-work*; *plumber's force-pump*, *furnace* (see quots.).

1385–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 Pro punctura x rod' et dimid. de Wrigthous et le Plomberhous. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 195 Of the specifications of plumber-work..done after the carpentry. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plumber's force-pump*, a pump used by plumbers for testing pipe or withdrawing obstacles from a gorged pipe. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl., *Plumbers' furnace*, a portable soldering furnace.

Hence **Plu·mbership**, the office of plumber.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 316/2 Th' office of Plummership of the Castels of Carnarvan, Beaumares and Hardlagh.

Plumber-block: see PLUMMER-BLOCK.

Plumbery (plɔ·məri). Also 5 plomerye, 6 plombmery, plumery. [ME. a. OF. *plommerie* (1304), *plomberie* lead-work, plumber's workshop, f. *plommier* plumber; in med.L. *plumbāria*; cf. L. *plumbārius* of or belonging to lead, *plumbārium* a place to keep leaden vessels in.]

1. A plumber's workshop.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 603/34 *Plumbaria*, a plomerye. *c* 1544 in *Wiltsh. Archæol. & Nat. Hist. Mag.* (1867) X. 79 To cary the leed outh of the halle to the plombmery. 1649 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 416 One room, called the Plummery, and several other rooms and lodgings belonging to the Clerk of the Works. 1823 *Mechanic's Mag.* No. 13. 205 Stating that a plumbery had been burnt at Dover, and that the fire was occasioned by..workmen permitting some lead to boil over. 1896 ST. JOHN HOPE in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* Ser. II. XVI. 164 The room..was formerly the plumbery, and has in the centre a large table for casting sheets of lead.

2. Plumber's work, plumbing.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 547/2 Th' office of Serjeaunt of oure Plumbery within this our Reaume. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 228 *Plumbery*..the Art of Working in Lead. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 403 The Art of Plumbery comprehends the practice of casting and laying sheet-lead. 1853 TURNER *Dom. Archit.* II. i. 18 The jurors found that ..plumbery was needed to the value of 20 marks.

† Plumbet. *Obs.* Also 6 plumet, plommett, plomet, -it. [app. a deriv. of F. *plomb* lead, PLUMB *sb.*, perh. in reference to its colour, and thus practically a parallel form of PLUNKET, of which it appears to be a synonym. Note the alteration of *plumbet* to *plumket* in the later edition of Udall.] A woollen fabric; app. the same as PLUNKET. Also *attrib.*

1533 UDALL *Floures Lat. Spekynge* 199 b, *Cæsius*,..and *glaucus*,..is blew or grey, as the sky is when it hath litle specklesse of grey clowdes in a faire day, as it were a plumbet [*ed.* 1560 plumket] colour. 1590 *Lanc. & Chesh. Wills* III. 68 My best cloke my jirkine and breeches of stript plumet. 1661 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* (ed. 3) 156 Plumbet colour, i. e. like little Speks of gray clouds in a fair day. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. ix. 180/1 The sorts of this new Drapery [time of Q. Eliz.] were various. They were Bays,..Rash or Stannet,..Serche,..Plomets, Carells, Fustians of Naples. *Ibid.* 181/1 Plomits, wrought with Silk, or otherwise. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Plommetts, pommetts*, stuffs mentioned in 1592 as being in pieces of fourteen yards each, of four pounds weight, and valued at £1.

Plumbet, var. PLUMBATE; obs. f. PLUMMET.

Plumbe·thyl. *Chem.* [See PLUMBO- and ETHYL.] A compound of lead with molecules of ethyl, as *plumbotriethyl*, $Pb_2(C_2H_5)_6$, the *methplumbethyl* of Löwig, a yellowish mobile oil; *plumbotetrethyl* $Pb(C_2H_5)_4$, diethylide of lead, a transparent colourless liquid.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 214 Oxide of Plumbethyl (hydrated). 1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 291 Löwig has more recently described another metallothylic base...This is his Plumbethyl.

Plumbic (plɔ·mbik), *a.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -IC. Cf. F. *plombique*.] Of or pertaining to lead. **a.** *Chem.* Combined with lead; applied to compounds in which lead has its higher valency (divalent), as *plumbic acid*, dioxide of lead, PbO_2. *Plumbic ochre*, lead ochre, massicot.

1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* (1799) 119 The plumbic phosoxyd evidently contains oxygen and light. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 465 Three combinations are known of oxygen with lead...The latter [the binoxide] is sometimes denominated plumbic acid. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 555 With bases, peroxide of lead unites more readily than with acids, behaving towards alkalis like a weak acid, and may therefore be called plumbic acid. 1873 — *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 593 Plumbic Ethide is produced by the action of plumbic chloride on zinc ethide.

b. *Path.* Due to the presence of lead.

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 38 Plumbic renal degeneration is evidently the result of a long-continued irritation. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 979 Occasionally in plumbic paralysis a small indolent swelling on the back of the wrist is noticed.

Plumbi·ferous, *a.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -FEROUS. Cf. F. *plombifère*.] Containing lead.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 222 The Plumbiferous Silver Ore also contains 48 per cent. of Lead. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 748 The total thickness of the plumbiferous formation. 1879 J. J. YOUNG *Ceram. Art* 56 Transparent glaze may be plumbiferous or alkaline.

† Plu·mbine, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -INE[1].] Of leaden colour.

1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 17 The Melancholicke which is..of colour, livide, & plumbine.

Plumbing (plɔ·miŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the vb. PLUMB, in various senses; now *esp.* the work of a plumber.

1666 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* I. 335 What methods the minemen use in following the Vein, and tracing their passages under ground (which they call Plumming and Dyalling) according to the several exigencies? 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 162 *Plummet*, a Weight hanging by a Line to prove the Plumming. 1884 CHANDLER in *Pall Mall G.* 24 July 11/2 Three years ago..a plumbing law was passed, which placed the control of plumbing and drainage in all new houses in the hands of the Board of Health. 1886 *York Herald* 3 Aug. 7/6 'Plumbing' was largely indulged in, top fishing being abandoned except in a few cases.

b. *concr.* That which is made by this action; lead-sealing; plumber's work.

1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 33 As soon as you enter Paris, you will be stopt in your chaise, and your pass and plumbings, and every corner of the whole chaise will be examined. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 2/3 They tore down gas-pipes, water-pipes, and electric wires from the walls, demolished the fixtures, wrenched the plumbing apart.

c. *attrib.*, as **plumbing-line, -rope,** a lead-line, sounding-line.

1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 136, I do not find that mens..plumming lines have reached above one mile of that great number. 1693 OLIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 908 Fastening our Bottle to our Plumbing-rope.

Plumbism (plɔ·mbiz'm). *Path.* [f. L. *plumb-um* lead + -ISM.] Lead-poisoning.

1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 227 In prescribing the preparations of lead for internal use, the danger of producing plumbism should not be overlooked. 1878 A. M. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 410 The tremor from lead is attended usually by colic and other symptoms of plumbism. 1901 *Speaker* 16 Nov. 174/1 It is the solubility of the lead when taken into the system that causes plumbism.

Plu·mbiso·lvent, *a.* Erron. **plumbo-solvent.** [f. L. *plumbum* lead + SOLVENT: for the form cf. L. *tergiversans, velivolans, bellipotens*, etc.] Acting as a solvent on lead, capable of dissolving lead. Hence **Plumbiso·lvency,** capacity of dissolving lead.

1892 M. MACKENZIE in *Youth's Comp.* 31 Mar. 162 (Funk) Lead is a fruitful source of disease in certain districts..where the water has what is termed a plumbo-solvent quality. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 965 Occasionally it is necessary to test the 'plumbo-solvency' of a suspected water. *Ibid.* 966 Water..may..dissolve lead by a true plumbo-solvent action.

Plu·mb-joint. [For *plumbed joint*: cf. PLUMB *v.* 5.] A lap-joint in sheet-metal in which one of the edges to be joined is laid flat over the other and soldered down; a soldered lap-joint.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1751.

Plumbless (plɔ·mlės), *a.* [f. PLUMB *v.* + -LESS.] That cannot be plumbed; fathomless.

1651 OGILBY *Æsop* (1665) 209 May..quaff If he had twenty Plumbless Oceans. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* XV, The moment shot away into the plumbless depths of the past.

Plumb-line (plɔ·mlәin), *sb.* Also 7 plim-.

1. A line or cord having at one end a metal bob or plummet, for testing or determining vertical direction; sometimes = PLUMB-RULE.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Perpendiculum*, a plumlyne, such as masons and carpenters haue, with leadde at the ende. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* xxxiv. 11 A measure shal be stretched out upon it, to bring it to nothing, and a plumme line unto destruction. 1611 COTGR., *Aniveller*, to..square by plumbe-line, or plumbe-rule. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 43 A plim line fastened to one end of the diamiter. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plumb-Line, Plumb-Rule*, or *Plummet*, an Instrument us'd by Carpenters, Masons, Bricklayers and others, to find whether a Pillar, Wall, etc. stand upright. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 277 The attraction of a lofty mountain is found to draw a plumb-line..a little out of the perpendicular.

b. *fig.* A means of testing or judging; a standard.

1570 T. NORTON *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 182 To be directed and tried by the most precise rule, and, as it were, by the plumbline of God's law and judgment. 1666 SANCROFT *Lex Ignea* 18 We have no Plumb-line of Reason.

† 2. *Geom.* A vertical or perpendicular line; a straight line at right angles to another. *Obs.*

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., When one line lyeth flatte (whiche is named the ground line) and an other commeth downe on it, and is called a perpendiculer or plumme lyne. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. x. 3 A perpendicular line, commonly called among artificers a plumbe lyne. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Plumb-Line*, the same with Perpendicular.

3. A mariner's sounding-line: *fig.* something with which to fathom intellectual or moral depths.

1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* I. 116 This is an unsoundable Gulfe, here any plumb-line faileth me. 1864 *Spectator* 7 May 527/2 This truth..that degrees of guilt are so utterly beyond the fathoming powers of our plumb-lines without a knowledge of the moral opportunities and antecedents of every life. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* Pref. (1892) 6 The plumbline of human degradation surely never touched a lower depth.

Hence **Plu·mb-line** *v.*, to sound, or determine, as by a plumb-line.

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 3 The moment a presumptuous individual acts or thinks an inch out of the plumb-lined perpendicularity exacted by the formalities of society. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* II. II. § 78. 90 Some unattainable depth to be postulated, but not plumb-lined.

Plumbo-, before a vowel **plumb-,** used as combining form of L. *plumbum* lead, forming chemical and mineralogical terms.

Plumboca·lcite *Min.*, an isomorphous mixture of the carbonates of lead and calcium, $Pb''CO_3.32Ca''CO_3$, occurring in rhombohedral forms at Leadhills and Wanlockhead (Watts). **Plumbocu·prite** *Min.* = CUPROPLUMBITE (Chester). **Plumbogu·mmite** *Min.* [f. F. *plombgomme* + -ITE[1], a hydrous phospho-aluminite of lead resembling gum. **Plumboma·nganite** *Min.*, a sulphide of lead and manganese, PbS.3MnS. **Plumbome·thyl** *Chem.*, a compound of lead with molecules of methyl, as *plumbotrimethyl* $Pb(CH_3)_3$; *plumbotetramethyl* $Pb(CH_3)_4$, a colourless mobile liquid (Watts *Dict. Chem.* III. 563). **Plumbore·sinite** *Min.* = *plumbogummite*. **Plumbosta·nnite** *Min.* [L. *stannum* tin], sulphantimonide of tin, lead, and iron (Chester). **Plu·mbostib, -sti·bnite** *Min.* [L. *stibium* antimony] = BOULANGERITE.

1834 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XXVI. 386 *Plumbocalcite.., described by Johnson as a mineral found at Wanlockhead in Scotland. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 855 *Plumbogummite. 1877 J. B. HANNAY in *Mineralog. Mag.* 149 *Plumbomanganite. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 685 *Plumboresinite, *Plombgomme*. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 99 **Plumbostib* is also from Nertschinsk. It consists, according to Plattner, of antimony, arsenic, sulphur, a little iron, with 58·8 p. c. of lead; and appears to be boulangerite.

Plumbo-solvent, erron. f. PLUMBISOLVENT.

Plumbous (plɔ·mbəs), *a.* [ad. L. *plumbōs-us* full of lead: see -OUS. Cf. F. *plombeux*.]

† 1. Leaden; *fig.* dull; = PLUMBEOUS. *Obs.*

1685 H. MORE *Illustration* 336 Such a senseless conceit, that nothing can be more wooden or plumbous. 1737 G. SMITH *Curious Relations* I. iv. 550 To be of a plumbous or leaden Temper and Colour.

2. *Chem.* Applied to compounds in which lead has its lower valency; as in *plumbous acid* 'term for *plumbi oxidum* in combination with potassium and other bases' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). Cf. PLUMBIC a.

† Plum-broth. *Obs.* A kind of thick broth or soup made of beef, prunes, raisins, currants, white bread, spices, wine, sugar, and other ingredients; formerly a Christmas dish. Probably dried plums or prunes were the original characteristic.

a 1613 OVERBURY *Charact., Puritan*, Good bits he holds breed good positions, and the Pope he best concludes against, in plum-broth. 1652 COLLINGES *Caveat for Prof.* xxx. (1653) 118 He hath more mind to the plum-broth then the devotion of the day. 1713 *Queen's Royal Cookery* (Nares) To make plumb-broth. Take a leg of beef, and a piece of the neck..two pound of currans..three pound of raisins of the sun, three pound of prunes well stew'd.. have a two-penny white loaf grated, mix it with some of the broth, and put the pulp of the prunes to it..garnish the dish with some of the stew'd prunes, some raisins and currans out of the broth. 1724 POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 283 A thing call'd Christian Chearfulness, (not incompatible with Christmas Pyes and Plum-broth). [1864 *Chambers' Bk. Days* II. 755/2 Plum-broth figures in Poor Robin's Almanac for 1750, among the items of Christmas fare.]

Plumb-rule (plɔ·mˌrūl). [f. PLUMB *sb.* + RULE *sb.*] An instrument used by builders, masons, carpenters, etc., for ensuring or testing the verticality of an erection; consisting of a plummet and line attached to and swinging freely on the surface of a narrow straight-edged board, marked with a longitudinal line which, when its position is vertical, coincides with the string.

c 1392 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 38 Set thy pyn by a plom-rewle euene vpryht. 1578 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Ad perpendiculum*, to trie by the plumbe rule. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 27 Brick-layers..to use often their line, and plum-rule. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 140/2 *note*, A plumb-rule is a straight piece of wood, to which is attached a string with a plummet or lump of lead.

† Plu·mby, *a. Her. Obs.* [ad. OF. *plomé* (*a* 1449 in Godef.) lead-coloured:—L. *plumbātus*, pa. pple. of *plumbāre* to make of lead.] Lead-

coloured. In quot. 1586 app. confused with PLUMMY *a.*[2], as if it meant 'plum-coloured'.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* a iij, The iiij. stone is calde a Margarete a clowdy stone, plumby hit is calde in armys. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 246 Purple was called Plumby.

Plum-cake. A cake containing raisins, currants, and often orange-peel and other preserved fruits. As to the name, cf. PLUM-BROTH.

1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 148 Your Schoolefellow With whome you usd to walk to Pimblicoe To eate plumbe cakes and creame. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 798 And cramm'd 'em .. With Cawdle, Custard, and Plum-cake. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* lxi. (1840) III. 396 The splendid iceing of an immense historic plumb-cake, was embossed with a delicious basso-relievo of the destruction of Troy. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* ii, Hadn't we better begin..by getting her a plum-cake?

Plum-coloured, -curculio: see PLUM *sb.*

Plum-da'mas, -da'mis. *Sc.* Also 6 **plum-damus**, 7 **plum**(be)**-dames, plomdaimes**, (8 erron. **plumdanes**). [f. PLUM *sb.* + OF. *Damas* Damascus; see DAMASK, DAMSON 1, 3 (damson plum).] A (? dried) damson plum; a prune.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 Wyne, vennagir, plumdamas, buttir, cheise. 1577 *Ibid.* II. 645 Ane hundrith pund wecht of plum damus. 1621 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 626/2 Feggis Raisingis plumdames almondis and vther vnconfected fruittis. 1675 in Hunter *Biggar & Ho. Fleming* vi. (1862) 61 A quarter of pund of plomdaimes. 1692 *Scotch Presbyt. Eloq.* (1738) 138 Lord, feed them with the Plumdanes and Raisins of thy Promises. *a* 1780 SHIRREFS *Poems* (1790) 210 Guid barley broth .. Wi' raisins and plumdamis mixt. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* ii. 25 The table was covered with dishes full of jargonelles and pippins, ..shell-walnuts, and plumdamases.

Plum-du'ff. Also **-dough.** [f. PLUM *sb.* 4 + DUFF *sb.*[1]] Plain flour pudding with raisins or currants in it, boiled in a cloth or bag.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* viii. 18 This day was Christmas .. The only change was that we had a 'plum duff' for dinner. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 197/2 Plum dough is one of the street-eatables. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* (1886) 241 Alive, and fit, and full of good plum-duff.

Hence **Plum-du'ffer,** a seller of plum-duff.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 198/1, I have ascertained.. that take the year through, six 'plum duffers' take 1*s.* a day each.

Plume (plūm), *sb.* Also 6 **plome.** [a. OF. *plume*:—L. *plūma* a small soft feather, down.

OE. had (*a* 1050 in *Lib. Scintill.*) *plūm-fēðer*, down, from L. *plūma*; but this has no historical connexion with the ME. and mod. word.]

1. A feather; now chiefly *poet.* and *rhet.*; also, a large or conspicuous feather, such as are used for personal adornment, as a plume of an ostrich or egret; in *Ornith.* a contour-feather, as distinguished from a plumule.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 49 Thanne cometh..Anoþer proud partriche..And sesith on hir sete, with hir softe plumes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. vi. 113 My feris lost, with plumys in the ayr As thame best lykis ar fleand our alquhair. 1552 HULOET, Plume, *pluma, et plumula*, a very yonge fether. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 37 Contemplation makes a rare Turkey Cocke of him, how he iets vnder his aduanc'd plumes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 286 Like Maia's son he stood, And shook his Plumes. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 22 With ruffled plumes and flagging wing. 1851 *Times* 3 Sept. 7/2 The *Trogon resplendens* clad in golden iridescent green, with long lax flowing plumes. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 241 The dorsal plumes of the Egrets.

b. *fig.* With various reference to the feathers of birds as used in flight, displayed in pride, raised or ruffled in excitement, or borrowed in pretentious display (as the peacock's plumes assumed by the jackdaw in the fable).

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 7 Let frantike Talbot triumph for a while, And like a Peacock sweepe along his tayle, Wee'le pull his Plumes, and take away his Trayne. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 22 Farre above the pitch of my low plumes. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 4 They stole them out of holy Writ, and pride themselves in the plumes of a Prophet indeed. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* III. iv. 20 If we but glaunce upon the knowledge of our selves, our plumes fall, and we begin to be humble. 1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxvi. (1653) 185 Let him that flatters himself to raise good Clover upon barren heathy Land..pull down his Plumes after two or three years experience, unless he devise a new way of Husbandry. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 268 In the process of his examination, he is stripped of his borrowed plumes. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xxxii, My soul..in the rapid plumes of song Clothed itself sublime and strong.

2. Downy plumage, down; plumage generally.

† *Of a plume*: cf. *of a feather*, FEATHER *sb.* 2 c.

1552 HULOET, Thystle toppe, whych is lyke plume, *pappus*. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 280 A second commoditie that Geese yeeld..is their plume and downe. For in some places their soft feathers are pluckt twice a yeare. 1633 LATHAM *Falconry* Words Art Expl., *Plume* is the generall colour or mixtures of feathers in a Hawke, which sheweth her constitution. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 21 To interdict him with the Earls of Somerset, Middlesex, Bristow, (all of an inclination, though not all of a plume). 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 186 The Bird of Jove..Two Birds of gayest plume before him drove. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 600 Vaunt not, gay bird! thy gorgeous plume. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 312 The lower barbs in feathers are usually loose, and form the down, which is called the 'accessory plume'.

b. The web or vane of a quill; the feathering of an arrow.

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. (1810) 150 They buried the arrow to the plume in the animal. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* III. 38 Carroll held a quill pen in his hand...The hand looked steady, but the quivering plume told how tense the nerves were.

3. An ornament, usually symbolizing dignity or rank, consisting of a large feather or bunch of feathers, or a waving feather-like tuft or bunch of hair, etc.; esp. when attached to a helmet, hat, or other head-dress as an aigrette or crest, or worn in the hair, as the *court plume* of ostrich feathers; also borne in processions and used at funerals.

† *Plume of feathers*: see FEATHER *sb.* 8 b.

1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Plome of oystrydge fethers, *plummart.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 One parte had their Plumes all white, another had them all redde. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 126 Your Enemies, with nodding of their Plumes Fan you into dispaire. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 42 ¶ 1 The ordinary Method of making an Hero, is to clap a huge Plume of Feathers upon his Head. 1822 BYRON *Werner* v. i, We will lay Aside these nodding plumes and dragging trains. 1832 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* II. iv, A funeral, with plumes and lights And music. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. ii, His hat white with a plume of white feathers. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 335 The grenadiers flung away their black plumes.

b. *fig.* (Cf. *a feather in one's cap.*)

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 3 It was accounted one of the fairest and most glorious Plumes in the triumphant Diademe of the Roman Empire. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 161 Well thou comst Before thy fellows, ambitious to win From me som Plume. 1848 DE QUINCEY *Pope* Wks. 1858 IX. 14 An error in which Pope himself participated, that his plume of distinction from preceding poets consisted in correctness.

4. *transf.* Anything resembling the down of feathers or a feather, in form or in lightness.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 239 The plume or downe which it beareth,.. cureth the inordinat flux of waterish humors into the eies. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* IV. iv, The shadow of the Cocoa's lightest plume Is steady on the sand. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xx, The plumes of the woodland are alight. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 357 A boy's figure,..with a curling plume of hair. 1878 STEVENSON *Edinburgh* (1889) 25 The long plume of smoke over the plain.

b. *Bot.* (*a*) A plumose pappus or other appendage of a seed, by which it floats away; † (*b*) = PLUMULE I (*obs.*).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxiv. 36 Which [flowers] at length do turne into downe, or Cotton, and the plume is carried away with the winde. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. § 14 The Plume is that Part which becomes the Trunk of the Plant. *Ibid.*, These three Parts, sc. the Main Body, the Radicle, and the Plume, are concurrent to the making up of a Seed. 1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 947 If gleamy Weather happen at that time, it breeds a small Flie, which consumes the Plume of the Plant. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Malt*, Malt which has not had a sufficient time to shoot, so that its plume, or acrospire as the adepts in malting call it, may have reached to the inward skin of the barley, remains charged with too large a quantity of it's unattenuated oils. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 70 In every seed there is to be distinguished 1. the organ of nourishment. 2. the nascent plant or the plume.

c. *Zool.* A plumose or feather-like part or formation, as a plumate hair of an insect, a ciliated or branchiate organ of a crustacean or mollusc, a plume-like tuft of zoophytes, etc.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 487 There is a double range of numerous tentacula on the mouth, curved into a half moon, forming a plume of that figure. *Ibid.*, The species are very numerous in fresh water..They form bushes, arbuscles, plumes, &c. &c. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 19 A single plume of a species found upon our shores has been estimated to contain 500. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* ii. 78 This stem [on the gills] divides into two parts, that in front, the plume, resembling the free end of one of the gills. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 182 The stem of the branchia bends at right angles to this base and divides into an apical plume and a lamina. The free extremity of the plume is simple and filiform.

d. *Astron.* A plume-like projection of the solar corona.

1887 LOCKYER *Chem. Sun* 441 There is an exquisite tracery curved in opposite directions, consisting of plumes or panaches. 1902 MRS. W. MAUNDER in *Knowledge* Feb. 33 In an eclipse like that of May 1901 the polar regions are left absolutely free [of synclinal rays] except for the beautiful and regular tufts of light which have earned for themselves the appropriate name of 'plumes' or 'panaches'.

† e. *Confectionery.* One of the degrees in boiling sugar; = FEATHER *sb.* 13. *Obs.* [F. *plume.*]

1658 SIR T. MAYERNE *Archimag. Anglo-Gall.* § 156. 107 Seeth your sugar untill the plume or skin appear.

5. Short for *plume-moth*: see 6.

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 409 *Pterophorus pentadactylus.* The large white Plume. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterflies & Moths* 231 The Six-cleft Plume (*Alucita hexadactyla*, Haworth).

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plume-feather, -maker, -trade*; *plume-bearing, -crowned, -decked, -dressed, -embroidered, -fronted, -soft, -uplifting, -waving*, adjs.; **plume alum,** a pseudo-alum crystallizing in tufts of silky fibres: see ALUM 4; **plume-bearer** = *plume-holder*; **plume-bird,** a bird with conspicuous plumes, such as are used for ornament; *spec.* a bird of paradise of the subfamily *Epimachinæ*; **plume-bouquet,** a loosely constructed, spray-shaped bouquet; **plume-dark** *a.*, dark with the feathers of flying birds; **plume-grass,** a grass of the genus *Erianthus*, having a plume-like inflorescence, a Woolly Beard-grass; **plume-holder,** that which holds a plume, *spec.* a small tube attached to a helmet for that purpose; **plume-hunter,** a man who kills wild birds to supply the plume trade; **plume-moth,** any species of the family *Pterophoridæ* (*Alucitidæ*), small moths whose wings are divided into feathery lobes; **plume-nutmeg,** a tree of the N.O. *Atherospermaceæ* (see quots.); *esp.* the Tasmanian Sassafras, *Atherosperma moschata*; **plume-plucked** *a.*, stripped of plumes, humbled: see 3 b; **plume-stick,** a small stick surmounted by a feather, used in religious rites by certain American Indians; † **plume-striker:** see quot.; **plume-thistle,** a thistle having a feathery pappus, as *Carduus lanceolatus* and the genera *Cirsium* and *Cnicus*.

[*c* 1530 *Hickscorner* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 178 He .. privily spake To a prentice..for a halfpenny worth of *alum plumb.*] 1780 J. T. DILLON *Trav. Spain* (1781) 378 The white stone called plume alum, or *pseudo asbestus*. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 21 Plume Alum is a kind of natural Alum, composed of a sort of threads or fibres, resembling feathers, whence it has its name. 1730–46 THOMSON *Autumn* 869 Infinite wings! till all the *plume-dark air And rude-resounding shore are one wild cry. 1857 G. THORNBURY *Songs Cavaliers & Roundheads* 300 Two crones ..Stood by a *plume-decked bed. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 210 Upon his head an old Scotch cap he wore, With a *plume feather all to peeces tore. 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 402 **Plume-holder.* 1894 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 5/6 The armet having been strained to close it over a plume-holder above the nape of the neck. 1898 *Nat. Science* June 369 The most destructive agencies are sportsmen, *plume-hunters, boys after eggs. 1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* Index, *Plume moth. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* 365 The nuts are enclosed in the tube of the perianth, and the persistent styles grow out from their feathery awns, whence the plants are called *Plume-nutmegs. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Atherospermaceæ* (Plume Nutmegs). A small natural order of trees from Australia and Chili, deriving their English name from their aromatic nuts being furnished with a permanent style, clothed with long hairs. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 108, I come to thee From *plume-pluckt Richard, who with willing Soule Adopts thee Heire. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* III. v, They turn their *plume-soft bosoms to the morn. 1882 *N. Y. Tribune* 5 Mar., The prayers .. were addressed directly to the *plume-sticks, which were placed one by one in the bottom of the hole, the feathers standing upright. 1658 PHILLIPS, A **Plumestriker*, a parasite, or flatterer, so called from pulling hairs, or feathers off from other mens Cloakes. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 942 In pastures, the biennial spear *plume-thistle, *Cnicus lanceolatus*, is prevalent. 1882 J. HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 468 The melancholy plume thistle (*Carduus heterophyllus*) was very prevalent. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. ii. 53 A *plume-uplifting wind. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 99 But him, *plume-waving Hector answered not.

Plume (plūm), *v.* Also 4–5 **plewme, 5 plomme.** [a. OF. *plumer* to pluck (a bird) (12th c. in Godef.), to pull out (hair), pillage, f. *plume* PLUME *sb.* In branch II, f. PLUME *sb.*, or ad. L. *plūmāre* to cover with feathers, embroider, intr. to become fledged.]

I. † 1. *intr.* In *Falconry*: To pluck the feathers of its prey, as a hawk; const. *upon, on. Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 163 Than bated he bolde-liche, as a bird wolde, To plewme on his pray þe pol ffro þe nekk. *c* 1430 *Bk. Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 297 While the hawke plumyth on the perrich. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C viij, She plommyth when she pullith federis of ony fowle or of any thyng and castys hem from her. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 125 Lette hir grype and seaze the praye at hir pleasure, and lette hir also plume thereupon as long as she will. 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* III. i, Look, how he peeps about, to see if the coast be clear; like an hawk that will not plume, if she be looked on.

fig. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 312 One of these at the Sea in a Navie of common vessels, being able to make havocke, to plume, and to pray upon the best of them at her owne pleasure. 1577 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* 164 Beeing so possest by straunge women, where they haue no possibilitie to marry with you, they will plume vpon you, till they haue left you neyther fether nor flesh.

2. *trans.* To pluck, 'case' (a bird); hence, to strip, bare. Now *rare.*

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 21 No Caterpillers .. To rauish leaues, or tender buddes to plume. 1602 HEYWOOD *Woman killed w. Kindness* Wks. 1874 II. 98 *Char.* [*to the Falconer*]. Now she hath seis'd the Fowle, and gins to plume her, Rebecke her not. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* IV. iv, Madame, you take your Hen, Plume it, and skin it, cleanse it o' the inwards. 1706 PHILLIPS, *To Plume*, to pick, or pluck the Feathers off. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii, I will so pluck him as never hawk plumed a partridge. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry in Valley of Indus* vi. 67 *note*, A few victims..which she is allowed to..tire and plume as much as she pleases.

† **b.** To pluck (feathers) from a bird. Also *fig.*

1524 J. CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 309 Ther shold be fownd manye ryght mean powars in Italy that wold plume his fethers. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 920 A numerous faction..In Sanhedrins to plume the regal rights.

† **c.** *fig.* To 'pluck', despoil, rob, plunder. *Obs.*

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 82 Without respect to God or feir of faith, Plumand, but pietie I did oppres the pure. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 111 To say 'That the King cared not to plume his Nobilitie and People, to feather himselfe'. 1667 DRYDEN *Maiden Queen* II. i, One whom instead of banishing a day, You should have plum'd of all his borrow'd honours. 1760 *Impostors Detected* III. v, One of the ladies who had the day before so finely plumed our missionaries.

II. 3. *trans.* To furnish or cover with plumes,

feathers, or plumage; to fledge, feather; to adorn with a plume or plumes. Also *fig.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xciv, With wingis bright, all plumyt, ..There sawe I sitt the blynde god Cupide. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) 10 Report is plumed with times feathers. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 10 The Swan..is a Bird excellently plumed. 1754 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1862) 285 How many girls, that have plumed, and tiffed, perhaps turned down their hats, for him, will be disappointed! 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 54 It was necessary.. to have several arrows .., plumed with feathers from different wings, to suit the diversity of the winds. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 205 My dark tall pines, that plumed the craggy ledge High over the blue gorge.

b. To set or place as a plume. *rare.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 989 His stature reacht the Skie, and on his Crest Sat horror Plum'd.

4. *refl.* **a.** Of a bird: To dress its feathers. **b.** To dress oneself with borrowed plumes. Chiefly *fig.*

1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* V. 293 The Masters of the Porch .. have plum'd themselves from the Peripateticks and Academicks, that is, they have taken their Sense of Things to themselves, and impos'd new Turns of their own Devising. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 264 Swans ..being a large Fowl, must not be kept in a strait place,.. but in some inclosed Pond where they may have room to come ashore and plume themselves. 1744 PARSONS *Muscular Motion* i. 12 in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII, Authors..who, by pluming themselves with his Feathers, had monopolized much..Attention. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 144 When he has plumed himself in the merit of them for a while, I'll strip the gawdy daw of his stolen feathers. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xi, Like a veritable cock of the walk literally pluming himself in the midst of his possessions.

c. *fig.* Usually with *on, upon* († *for,* † *in,* † *over,* † *with*): To take credit to oneself, pride oneself, congratulate oneself, show self-satisfaction, esp. regarding something trivial, ridiculous, or unworthy, or to which one has no just claim.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 8, I have seen a Grammarian towr and plume himself over a single line in Horace, and shew more pride in the construction of one Ode, than the Author in the composure of the whole book. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 388 Admiring and pluming himself for that glorious Emendation. 1715 SOUTH *Serm.* VI. 118 Pluming and praising himself, and telling fulsome stories in his own commendation. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 58 Some gentlemen..have plumed themselves upon introducing a more frequent use of sea water. 1760 HOOPER in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 83, I am told the Duke of Bedford plumes himself with hopes of great support. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* cvi. (1783) IV. 17, I see nothing wherein to plume ourselves, as to that prerogative. 1823 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 265 The atheist here plumes himself on the uselessness of such a God. 1884 J. PAYN *Lit. Recoll.* 25 N. plumed himself on his judgment of sheep.

† **5.** *intr.* = 4 c. *Obs.*

1707 HEARNE *Collect.* 30 Aug. (O. H. S.) II. 39 A certain Gent..plumes a little. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 140 Our modern Arians plum'd also upon the unnecessary Heats of two English Doctors. 1753 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 221 Mrs. C. plumes extremely upon it.

6. *trans.* To preen, trim, or dress (the feathers or wings); to prepare for flight. Also *fig.*

1821 BYRON *Heav. & Earth* iii. 222 The winds, too, plume their piercing wings. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xii, Pluming a smile upon his succulent mouth. 1867 'OUIDA' *C. Castlemaine* (1879) 17 Herons plumed their silvery wings by the water-side. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. v. 273 And calumny plumed her wings for a fresh attack. 1878 M. A. BROWN *Nadeschda* 26 She sits there..Pluming daintily her feathers.

Plume, obs. form of PLUMB.

Plumed (plūmd, *poet.* plū·mĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PLUME *v.* + -ED[1].]

† **1.** Plucked; stript of plumes or feathers. *Obs.*

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. (1584) R viij b, The goarie blood, and feathers plumed flit the ayer about. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvi. (1739) 31 Kings were not then like unto plumed Eagles, exposed to the charity of the Fowls for food. 1730 *Hist. Litteraria* I. 31 He opened a Salamander's Mouth, and endeavoured to make it bite a young plumed Chicken.

2. Furnished with a plume or plumes; feathered.

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 479 Your Counterfet Countenaunce is all of Nysyte, A plummed partrydge all redy to flye. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 31 Quite it clove his plumed crest in tway. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle,* etc. (1871) 132 When Dædalus his plumed bodie brings Safe to the shore. 1805 PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD *Dom. Recreat.* vi. (1806) 89 The bell-flower animal, or, as some term it, the plumed polype. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xi, The plumed bonnet and the plaid By these Hebrideans worn. 1882 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. at Home* ii. *Roughing It,* etc. 272 The plumed hearse,.. the flags drooping at half-mast.

Plumeless (plū·mlĕs), *a.* [f. PLUME *sb.* + -LESS.] Destitute of plumes or feathers.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 277 Hencé plume-less wings. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* II. 38 The Plumelesse Pigeon..addressed multitudes of supplications to him that was intrusted as his guard. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath,* etc. (ed. 6) 65 To her plumeless brood Bears off the prize. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* x. 314 Her dragons .. fold their plumeless wings.

Plumelet (plū·mlĕt). [f. PLUME *sb.* + -LET.]

† **1.** *Bot.* = PLUMULE 1. *Obs.*

1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* II. 17 The plumelet was still enveloped in the seminal leaves. *Ibid.* II. 224 But the fluid, which has been thus conducted to the radicle, .. ascends ..to the plumelet through the..tubes of the alburnum.

2. A minute plume.

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xci, When rosy plumelets tuft the larch. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 57 The plumelets of the butterfly's wing.

Hence **Plu·meletage** (*nonce-wd.*), small delicate plumage.

1855 BAILEY *Spirit. Leg.* in *Mystic,* etc. 97 Bright humming-bird of gem-like plumeletage, By western Indians living sun-beam named.

Plu·me-like, *a.* [f. PLUME *sb.* + -LIKE.] Like or resembling a plume; feathery.

1847 LONGF. *Ev.* II. ii. 15 Green islands where plumelike Cotton-trees nodded their shadowy crests. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 62 The respiratory organs consist of two or four plume-like gills. 1883 G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 8 June 336/1 Tufted flowers hanging loose in graceful plume-like panicles.

Plu·meopi·cean, *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. L. *plūme-us* feathery + *pice-us* pitchy + -AN.] Composed of tar and feathers: alluding to the practice of tarring and feathering an obnoxious person.

1843 SYD. SMITH *Let. Amer. Debts* II. Wks. 1859 II. 331/2, I will appear on my knees at the bar of the Pennsylvanian Senate in the plumeopicean robe of American controversy. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 573 Those whom it proposed to teach would destroy the types, and invest the compositors with the plumeopicean robe of the republican Nemesis.

Plumeous (plū·mĭəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *plūme-us* downy + -OUS: see -EOUS.] Of the nature of down or fine feathers; feathery.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 401* The last is often called plumeous Alome. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 8 The Butter-Fly..Nature having imp'd her wings (for her better flight) with those plumeous excrescences.

† **Plumer**[1], *Obs. rare.* [ME., prob. AF., corresp. to an AF. or OF. **plumier,* L. *plūmārius,* f. *plūma* PLUME. Cf. PLUMIER.] A dealer in plumes or feathers.

1282 in *Cal. Let. Bk. A Lond.* (1899) 46 John de Cestrehunte 'plumer'. [Cf. *Ibid.* 57 Fethermongere.]

† **Plu·mer**[2]. *Obs. rare*[−1]. ? A bird having plumes; a fully fledged bird.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 603/29 *Plumacius,* a plumere, *avis est.*

‖ **Plumeria** (plumī·rĭă). *Bot.* Also **Plumieria.** [mod.L.; named by Tournefort, 1700, after the botanist C. Plumier (*Plumerius*).] A tropical genus of trees (N. O. *Apocynaceæ*), having large fragrant salver-shaped flowers, white, yellow, or purplish, in terminal cymes. There are about forty species, among them the *Red Jasmine tree, Nosegay-tree,* and *Pagoda-tree* of the West Indies.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., The plumeria with a rose-coloured and very sweet flower [etc.]. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 215 Plumeria or Red Jasmine has two reflex follicles, with the seeds flat, winged, and imbricate. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY *Humboldt's Trav.* xiv. 168 Arborescent ferns, more than twenty-seven feet high, heliconias, plumerias, browneas,..palms, and other plants. 1882 *Garden* 9 Sept. 225/1 The most beautiful Plumieria we have seen.

Plumery (plū·məri). *rare.* [f. PLUME *sb.* + -ERY.] Plumes collectively, mass of plumes.

1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in Azt.* XXV, Twice ten thousand feathered helms, and shields, Glittering with gold and scarlet plumery. 1810 — *Kehama* X. XX, The bird of gorgeous plumery. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Marvel & Bp. Parker* Wks. 1853 II. 112/2 Before there strutted under a triumphal arch of curls, and through a Via Sacra of plumery, Lewis the fourteenth.

Plumery, obs. form of PLUMBERY.

Plumet (plū·mĕt). *rare.* [a. F. *plumet* (15th c.) a small plume: see PLUME *sb.* and -ET.] A small plume.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. ix. 84 b, Certain common plumets of Eastrige feathers. 1895 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 5/4 The newest thing took the shape of the plumet or feathery tuft in the képis of the chasseurs-à-pied of the Empire. 1902 J. CONRAD *Youth,* etc. (1903) 192 He .. brushed the oil painting .. with a plumet kept suspended from a small brass hook by the side of the heavy gold frame.

Plumet, var. PLUMBET *Obs.*; obs. f. PLUMMET.

‖ **Plumetis** (plūmə·tĭs). [F. *plumetis* (1495 in Littré), f. *plumeté* adj. (in Heraldry) sprinkled with spots like bunches of feathers.] Tambour-work.

1850 *Harper's Mag.* I. 720 The lower part of the body.. is round and stiffened, from which descends a *chatelaine,* formed by a wreath of *plumetis.* 1904 *Daily Chron.* 3 May 8/1 The new Plumetis batistes, in which floral designs in variegated tones are worked upon white, cream or buff ground.

Plu·micome, *Zool.* [mod. f. L. *plūma* feather + *coma* the hair of the head.] In sponges, Lendenfeld's name for a hexaster, the rays of which terminate in a number of plumose branches. Hence **Plumi·comous** *a.*, having the character of a plumicome.

1886 VON LENDENFELD in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 562 *Plumicome.* Rays terminated with a number of plumose branches.

Plu·micorn, *Ornith.* [f. L. *plūma* PLUME, feather + *cornu* horn.] One of the pair of horn-like or ear-like feathers on the head of several species of owl, often called horns or ears.

1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 503 Bubo..[Generic characters]..Plumicorns highly developed.

Plumier (plū·mĭəɹ). *rare.* [f. PLUME: cf. F. *plumier* feather-dealer, and PLUMER[1].] A featherer of arrows.

1887 E. GILLIAT *Forest Outlaws* 295 The booths of the vintners, the fletchers, the plumiers, and wymplers.

Plu·mification. *rare.* [n. of action f. L. type **plūmificāre,* f. *plūma* PLUME: see -FICATION.] The action of feathering or fact of being feathered.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 75 If Leigh Hunt had ever had the misfortune to have been tarred and feathered, he would have written a sonnet on his plumification. 1834 MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 313 The relation between the economy of nest and the progress of plumification.

Plumiform (plū·mifɔm), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *plūma* PLUME + -FORM.] Feather-shaped.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 247 Their branchiæ, composed of plumiform lobes, are situated on the hind part of the back. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 227 A dense villous coat, the hairs of which are plumiform.

Hence **Plu·miformly** *adv.*, in the manner of a feather.

1798 MITCHELL tr. *Karsten's Min. Leskean Museum* 329 Plumiformly streaked Native Bismuth.

† **Plumifo·rmar,** *a. Anat. Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. as prec.] Feather-shaped; penniform, pennate.

1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. X. § 17 These Muscles are called plumiformar, because the moveable Tendon has inserted into it, on both Sides, a great Number of carnous Fibres, all which, like the single Feathers of a Quill, run parallel to each other.

Plumigerous (plumi·dʒĕrəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *plūmiger* feather-bearing (f. *plūma* PLUME + *gerĕre* to bear) + -OUS.] Plume-bearing; relating to the wearing of plumes.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plumigerous,* that beareth feathers. 1721 in BAILEY. 1827 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 475 Military colleges, with thirty-four professors, educating seventeen ensigns per annum,..with every species of nonsense, athletic, sartorial, and plumigerous.

† **Plu·minary.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. PLUME: cf. med.L. *plūmināre* (Du Cange from *Modena Chron.* 1329) a pillow stuffed with feathers.] ? A worker or dealer in feathers.

a 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes,* etc. (1652) 59 Embroiderers, Painters and such Artificers of curious Vanities, which the vulgar call Pluminaries.

Plu·miness. *rare.* [f. PLUMY *a.* + -NESS.] Plumy or feathery quality or condition.

1802 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 410 Even the Scotch firs luxuriate into beauty and pluminess.

Plu·ming, *vbl. sb.* [f. PLUME *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PLUME, in various senses.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 71 Againste whiche daie she made greate preparation, for the plumyng of her self in gorgious arraie. 1633 LATHAM *Falconry* Explan. Words, *Plumming,* is when a Hawk ceaseth [= seizeth] a fowle, and pulleth the feathers from the body. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 54 The feathers .. he thought were preferable to any others for the pluming of an arrow.

Plu·miped, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *plūmipēs, -pedem* feather-footed, f. *plūma* PLUME + *pēs, ped-* foot.] Having plumed or winged feet.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Plumipede,* having feathered feet. *a* 1890 R. F. BURTON tr. *Catullus, Carmina* lv. 25 Not if with Pegasèan wing I sped, Or Ladas I or Perseus plumiped.

Plumist (plū·mist). *rare.* [f. PLUME *sb.* + -IST.] A maker of plumes, a feather-dresser.

1812 MOORE *Anacreontic to Plumassier* 2 Fine and feathery artisan, Best of Plumists (if you can With your art so far presume) Make for me a Prince's Plume. *Ibid.* 24 Bravo, Plumist!—now what bird Shall we find for Plume the third?

Plumket: see PLUNKET.

Plumless (plʊ·mlĕs), *a.* Without plums.

1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 618 Here we have the plumless plumpudding.

Plummer, obs. form of PLUMBER.

Plummer-block (plʊ·məɹˌblɒk). *Mech.* Also 9 **plomer-, plumber-.** [Second element BLOCK *sb.* 6; first uncertain. No evidence of any connexion with PLUMBER *sb.* ? From a personal surname.] A metal box or case for supporting a revolving shaft or journal, having a movable cover secured by bolts, so as to admit of the bearings being tightened when required; = *pillow-block* (PILLOW *sb.* 6).

1814 R. BUCHANAN *Ess. Millwork* (1823) 547 Hence the term pillow block, and sometimes, corruptly, Plumber Block. In Manchester they are called Pedestals. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 373 This trough is firmly fixed by means of a plumber block .. which has the top coupling screwed down fast, and the trough is supported at the other end by means of a cylindrical pin, which works in a hole in the cap. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 91 The plomer blocks are sockets, in which all the shafts or axes, used in the engine, revolve. 1875 J. W. BENSON *Time & Time-Tellers* (1902) 126 By means of a contrivance, known to engineers as plumber blocks, any part of the mechanism may be removed without disturbing the remainder. 1894 *Daily News* 28 July 6/4 In connection with the gigantic wheel at the exhibition at Earl's Court .. the axle of the wheel was hoisted to its position on the plummer blocks on top of the towers.

Plummet (plʊ·mĕt), *sb.* Forms: 4-7 **plomet,** 5 **plomm-, plombette,** 5-6 **plom-, plummette,** *Sc.* **plumat,** 5-7 **plumet,** 6 **plom-, plumbete, plomm-, plumet**)e, *Sc.* **plumbat, plummett,** 6-8 **plumbet,** 6- **plummet.** [ME. a. OF. *plommet, plombet, plummet* ball of lead, plummet, dim. of *plomb* lead: see PLUMB *sb.* and -ET.]

1. A ball or piece of lead, or other weight, at-

tached to a line, and used for determining the vertical; a plumb-bob.

a. The bob of a plumb-line used by masons, builders, carpenters, etc.; also, the whole instrument, consisting of bob, line, and board.

1388 Wyclif *Zech.* i. 16 Myn hous schal be bildid in it,.. and a plomet [1382 an hangynge lyne] schal be streiȝt out on Jerusalem [Vulg. *et perpendiculum extendetur super Jerusalem*]. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* II. § 23 A plomet hanging on a lyne heyer than thin heued on a perche. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. iv. (1495) b iij/1 Hangynge plometes and mesures. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 159 The Carpenter hath his squire, his rule, and his plomette. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 77 No Architect with Levels and Plummets could build a Room more regular. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 97 As we were..exposed to fresh gales of wind..there was no trusting to the perpendicularity of Threads and Plumbets. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* II. I. 7 The plummet showed Their height the same.

b. A similar appliance attached to a scientific instrument, as a quadrant.

1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. viii. D j, Conuey the left side of your quadrant Geometricall towarde the Sunne, the threade and Plummet hauing their free course. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. vi. (1635) 157 The line and plummet falling on the Basis shall make right Angles with it. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 99 Hold your Quadrant so as that your Plummet may fall on 45 Degrees. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1870) 22 A small plummet hangs down from the object-glass of the theodolite.

c. *fig.* A criterion of rectitude or truth.

1553 Bale *Gardiner's De vera Obed.* 5 By the perfect line and plummet of Gods word. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xviii. (1592) 293 That he may holde the Plommet of his minde steddy without shaking or stirring. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* III. xvii. 140 Lay all to the Line and Plummet of the written Word.

d. A suspended weight used as a metronome.

1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 140 The Music for Slow and Quick Time is to be practised..with the plummet, until the prescribed cadence has been acquired.

2. A piece of lead or other metal attached to a line, and used for sounding or measuring the depth of water; a sounding-lead.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxvii. 28 The whiche sendinge doun a plomet, founden twenty pasis of depnesse. 1555 Eden *Decades* 121 He coulde at no tyme touche the grounde with his soundynge plummet. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* III. iii. 101 Therefore my Sonne i'th Ooze is bedded; and I'le seeke him deeper then ere plummet sounded. 1713 Young *Last Day* I. 300 Where plummet never reach'd, he draws his breath. 1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xiii. § 574 The greatest depths at which the bottom of the sea has been reached with the plummet are in the North Atlantic Ocean. *fig.* 1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* II. ii, Your politicians with their..plummets of wit, sound the depth of me. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 1860 Man's science is the culture of his heart; And not to lose his plumbet in the depths Of nature, or the more profound of God. 1849 Lytton *Caxtons* I. iii, Certainly there were deeps in his nature which the plummet of her tender woman's wit had never sounded.

†**3.** The pommel or knob on the hilt of a sword (sometimes weighted with lead). *Sc. Obs.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Chron.* III. i. 46 His suerd at he baire prevely [He] put it in his wambe sa fast Till it in to þe plomat past. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XII. xii. 97 Quhen that he saw hys rycht hand wapynles, And persauyt the plummet was onknaw. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 205 The plumbattis or gairdis of ane of thair swerdis. *?a* 1600 *Dick o' the Cow* xl. in Scott *Minstr. Scott. Bord.* (1869) 124 Dickie could na win at him wi' the blade o' the sword, But fell'd him wi' the plummet under the e'e.

†**4.** A ball or lump of lead used for various purposes; e. g. as a missile, fastened to a line, as a weapon or instrument of scourging, etc. *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xvii. 53 Yf one threwe a stone or an heuy plomette of leed that wel weyed. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 171/1 Thenne dyd he doo bete Saynt Urbane wyth plommettys. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 596 They toke stonys & plummettes of lede, & trussyd them secretely in theyr sleuys & bosomys. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 769 They themselves were also hurt by them with their Darts and Plummets of Lead. 1612 Dekker *If it be not good*, etc. Wks. 1873 III. 269 Wey down his loftiest boughes With leaden plomets.

b. *fig.* That which presses or weighs down, like a dead weight.

a 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Laws Candy* IV. i, When sad thoughts perplex the mind of man, There is a plummet in the heart that weighs, And pulls us, living, to the dust we came from. 1672 Sir T. Browne *Let. Friend* § 45 Hang early Plummets upon the Heels of Pride. 1874 in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 25 Earthly cares and sins have.. attached a leaden plummet to the wings of a soul which .. would fain soar upwards.

5. *spec.* †**a.** A leaden weight used in gymnastic exercises; a weight enclosed in a cestus. *Obs.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 49 b, The plummettes, callid of Galen Alteres, being of equall weight and accordyng to the strength of him that exerciseth,.. holdynge in euery hande one plummet, and lyftyng them on high, and bringing them downe with moche vyolence. 1538 Elyot, *Cæstus*, a weapon hauyng great plummates hangyng at the ende of a clubbe. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstone* 12 b, Plumbetes .. one borne in eche hand vp and downe the stayers .. may bee a good and profitable exercise. 1616–61 Holyday *Persius* 322 The cæstus .. some describe to have been a kind of club, having plummets of lead fastned to it, which some call a whorle-bat.

†**b.** A weight of a clock; also *fig.* a motive force, spring of action. *Obs.*

1594 Nashe *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 233 Such is our braine oppressed with Melancholly, as is a clocke tyed downe with two heauie weights or plummets. 1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* VIII. 2561 The Clock, whose plummets are not weight, Strikes sometimes one for three, and sixe for eight. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* II. ii. (1713) 185 Let us now see what are the springs or plummets that set this great engine on work. 1697 *Davies' Immort. Soul* Pref. b j b, Remarking how one part moves another, .. from the first Springs and Plummets, to the very Hand that points out the visible and last Effects.

c. In angling, a small piece of lead attached to a fishing line, as a weight to keep the float in an upright position, as an anchor in ledger fishing, or as a sounding lead to measure the depth.

1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 512 You shall vnderstand, that your first plummet would be a foot from the hooke, the rest not aboue an ynch one distant from another, & not being aboue fiue or seuen at the most. 1651 T. Barker *Art of Angling* (1653) 3 Feeling the Plummet running on the ground .. plumming my line according to the swiftnesse of the stream. 1653 Walton *Angler* vii. 155 If you would have this ledger bait to keep at a fixt place..then hang a small Plummet of lead, a stone, or piece of tyle. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 332 A Piece of thin Sheet-lead rolled up, of about an Ounce or better, makes the best Plummet.

†**6.** A pencil of lead, formerly used to rule lines; a lead-pen. *Obs.*

1634 J. B[ate] *Myst. Nat.* 104 Then with your blacke chalke or blacke lead plummets, draw it as perfectly..as you can. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. iv. 16 You must rule your Paper or Parchment with an obscure plummet. 1811 *Self Instructor* 26 A leaden plummet or pencil to rule lines. 1828 Webster, *Plummet* .. a piece of lead used by schoolboys to rule their paper for writing.

7. *Comb.*, as *plummet-line*; *plummet-like, -shaped* adjs.; *plummet-wise* adv.; **plummet-level**: see quot. 1875.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. IV. *Columnes* 747 Pale Phlegm, moist Autumn, Water moistly-cold, The Plummet-like-smooth-sliding Tenor hold. 1863 Hawthorne *Our Old Home* (1879) 122 Shakespeare has surface beneath surface..adapted to the plummet-line of every reader. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Plummet-level*, that form of a level having a suspended plummet in a standard at right angles to the base-piece. A mason's level. 1895 K. Grahame *Golden Age* (1904) 18 On the blue ocean of air, a hawk hung ominous; then, plummet-wise, dropped to the hedgerow. 1899 *Daily News* 20 June 5/5 A piece of turned steel..with a plummet-shaped head sharply pointed.

Hence **Plu·mmetless** *a.*, unfathomable.

1893 *Nat. Observ.* II Mar. 413/2 There is no deep so plummetless.

Plu·mmet, *v. rare.* [f. Plummet *sb.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To fathom, sound. *Obs.*

1626 T. H[awkins] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 221 Depths are plummeted.

†**2.** To let fall or draw (a vertical line) by means of a plummet. *Obs.*

1711 W. Sutherland *Shipbuild. Assist.* 67 Strike the streight Line 4. 3. 1. 5. and plummet that Line down at the Ends of your Piece.

3. *intr.* To fish with a line weighted with a plummet: cf. Plummet *sb.* 5 c, Drail *sb.* 1.

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 180 It is not known when the custom of drailing for mackerel was first introduced,.. it is [the common method] in the present day in England, under such names as 'whiffing', 'railing', 'drailing' or 'plummeting'.

†**Plu·mmy,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. stem of Plum *v.* + -y.] Loose in texture, spongy, porous.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxiii. (Tollem. MS.), The tre [beech] is not ful sad and faste in substaunce, but plummy [*ed.* 1535 pory] and ful of holes [*orig.* Non est autem [fagus] in substantia arbor multum solida sed rara potius et porosa].

Hence †**Plu·mminess,** sponginess, porousness.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (Bodl. MS. lf. 189 b/2), Aristotel seiþ þouȝe somme treene haue prikkes, þat comeþ nouȝt of þe entente of kinde þat gendreþ þe tree, but happeþ of plumines [*MSS. and ed.* 1495 plummes] of þe tree, þat draweþ colde humoure þat is litel digeste, and passeþ out atte plumines [*MSS. and ed.* plummes] of the tree, and is iharded into a prik oþer a þorne bi heete of þe sonne. [*Orig.* Sed accidit ex raritate arboris siue plante per quam attrahitur humor frigidus parum coctus & exiens per illam arboris raritatem a calore solis in spinam coagulatur.]

Plummy (plʌ·mi), *a.*[2] [f. Plum *sb.* + -y.]

1. Consisting of, abounding in, or like plums.

1759 Miss Talbot in *Eliz. Carter's Lett.* (1808) I. 448 You have been all your life in a great error in eating that strange jumble of substantives, *plumb-cake*, when the adverb *plumby* is plainly the right thing. 1861 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* III. clvii. 164 They do not want the cake to be shorn of its plums. It would not do, to have the 'plummy stuff' taken out. 1885 L. F. Day in *Art Jrnl.* 213/1 The ground of a plummy brown.

2. *fig.* Of the nature of a 'plum'; rich, good, desirable. *slang* or *colloq.*

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, *Plummy*, right; very good; as it should be: expressing your approbation of any act, or event. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* II. xvi, Signing one's self over to wickedness for the sake of getting something plummy. 1890 *Tablet* 10 May 729 So far from getting anything plummy by becoming Catholics, Anglican clergymen have often to make great sacrifices.

Plumose (plūmō·s), *a.* [ad. L. *plūmōsus* covered with down (f. *plūma* Plume): see -ose.] Furnished with feathers or plumes, feathered; feathery; resembling a feather or plume in having two series of fine filaments on opposite sides: esp. in *Zool.*, *Bot.*, and *Min.*

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Plumose*, full of feathers.

a. in *Zoology.*

Plumose anemone, a sea anemone, *Actinoloba dianthus.*

1752 J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 361 The cuneiform-tailed Psittacus, with naked temples, and plumose lines. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 324 *Plumose*... Antennæ feathered on all sides with fine long hair. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 227 One of the plumose hairs of the villous coat. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* xiii. (1883) 385 The barbs of the feathers..are filamentous or plumose.

b. in *Botany.*

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. xiv. (1765) 37 *Plumose*, feathery. 1831 J. Davies *Manual Mat. Med.* 271 Fruits elongate, surmounted by a plumose pappus. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* App. 310 Stigmas plumose.

c. in *Mineralogy*, etc. *Plumose alum*, feather or plume alum: see Alum 4.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 34 Sal Ammoniac... Its Crystals are plumose. 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 58 Crystals of gypsum and plumose alum. 1826 Henry *Elem. Chem.* I. 467 Plumose branches of ice dart from the sulphuret to the bottom of the vessel, and the whole water is suddenly frozen. 1834 Baird in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 49 Mixed with the 'comoid' variety of 'cirrus',..accompanied with some specimens of the 'plumose' variety.

Hence **Plumo·seness.**

1730–6 in Bailey (folio).

Plumosite (plūmǒ·sait). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *plumosit*, named by Haidinger 1845, f. L. *plūmōsus* downy + *-it*, -ite[1], after the older Ger. name *federerz* 'feather-ore'.] = Jamesonite.

1864 in Webster. 1881 *Academy* 7 May 341 The recent discovery of plumosite which is a double sulphide of lead and antimony.

Plumosity (plumǫ·sĭti). *rare.* [f. as Plumose + -ity.] Feathery or feathered condition.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Plumosity* (*plumositas*), fulness of feathers. 1730–6 Bailey (folio), *Plumoseness, Plumosity*, ..a being full fledg'd. 1782 Lemon *Diss. Shooting Flying* 15 Before the birds are ripe in plumosity.

Plumous (plū·məs), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *plūmōsus*, F. *plumeux*: see Plumose and -ous.] Feathery, downy.

1822 T. Taylor *Apuleius* X. 254 What was intended also to be our genial bed,..was tumid with a plumous heap, and florid with a silken coverlet. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Plumosus*.., plumous.

Plump (plʊmp), *sb.*[1] Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 **plomp, plowmpe,** 5–6 **plompe**; 5–7 **plumpe,** 6– **plump** (6–7 ?**plumb**(e). [Of uncertain origin.

There appears to be no corresponding or related sb. in the other langs. In English, the only apparently earlier word of the *plump* group is Plump *v.*[1], with which this can hardly be directly connected. If the original notion were that of an unshaped or irregular assemblage or cluster, it might conceivably be connected with the MLG. and MDu. *plump* adj. in the sense 'massive, unshapen', whence the later Eng. Plump *a.*[1] But cf. also the words *lump* and *clump* in allied senses; sense c below is exactly = Clump *sb.* 2.]

A compact body of persons, animals, or things; a band, troop, company; a flock; a cluster, bunch, clump.

a. Of persons. *Obs.* exc. in archaic phrase *a plump of spears*, a band of spearmen (revived by Scott).

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2199 Thane..þe riche kynge..Presede in-to þe plumpe, and with a prynce metes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) 252 Whan thei will fighte, thei wille schokken hem to gidre in a plomp. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xxv. 80 Take hede that thyn enemyes make not a plowmpe of theyre folke to entre and breke thy bataylle. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 32 b, The kynges speres passed and skyrmyshed wyth the plumpe of speres that Sir Jhon spake of. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 46 So vpon a plumbe going together as neere as they might, escaped. *a* 1600 *Flodden F.* I. (1664) 9 A Knight of the North Country, Which leads a lusty plumpe of Spears. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 36 Comming in an huge plumpe from the utmost coasts of the earth. *Ibid.* 171 They [Cimbrians] came rolling down upon Italy in plumbs. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. iii, And soon appears O'er Hornchiff-hill, a plump of spears. 1826 Hor. Smith *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 42 We are too old skirmishers to be frightened by a few plumps of spears.

b. Of animals that go in flocks.

1591 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 11 The manner of the seals is..to gather all close together in a throng or plumpe. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* XII. 374 A plump of Fowl he spies, that swim the Lakes. 1834 H. Miller *Scenes & Leg.* xvii. (1857) 250 They saw a plump of whales blowing and tumbling. *Ibid.* 251 The plump had gone high up the frith. 1854 Thoreau *Walden, Spring* (1863) 334 A 'plump' of ducks rose at the same time.

c. Of trees, shrubs, or plants: = Clump *sb.* 2.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xvi. 60 [The knights] tooke newe sperys and sette them on theire thyes and stode stille as hit had ben a plompe of wood. 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 73 They go to the plumpes and tufts of coleworts or of hasill nuts or grene corne. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 203 We laid vs downe in the bottome vnder a plump of trees. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 24 In Hedge-rows and Plumps they will thrive very well. 1868 Lowell *Invitation* x, Plumps of orchard-trees arow. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Aberdeen to Lincolnsh.).

d. Of other things, material and ideal.

1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 70 b, Many conjectures and great presumptions .. heapyng them al into one plumpe whiche before were sparpled abrode. 1568 T. Howell *Newe Sonets* (1879) 157 O plumpe of paines, O endles woes, O man infortunate. 1624 Bacon *Consid. War w. Spain* Wks. 1879 I. 542/2 England, Scotland, Ireland, and our good confederates the United Provinces, lie all in a plump together, not accessible but by sea, or, at least, by passing of great rivers. 1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 279 Let us not admit them [resolutions] in a plump. 1893 *Nat. Observer* 23 Dec. 135/1 The little plump of yachts cast anchor.

†**Plump,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **plompe, (plummpe),** 6–7 **plumpe.** [A collateral form of

PUMP *sb.*, found also in LG. *plumpe* and vb. *plumpen* to pump. Perh. due to association with PLUMP *v.*[1] and its cognates, from the plumping or plunging action of the piston.] An obsolete by-form of PUMP. Also in *Comb.*

a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith 1778) 268 Unius plumpmaker villæ Bristolliæ. 1505–6 *Oriel Coll. Treas. Acc.* 509 Item, primo die Maii pro reparacione ly plumpe xij[d]. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 12 Some the anker layde, some at the plompe a sayll swepe. 1517 *Ratton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 136 Payd .. for drawyng up y[e] plummpe to y[e] welle, j[d]. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 112 Manye drawe water at a plompe, that knowe not the cause, why the water dothe ascend. 1663 WOOD *City of Oxford* (O.H.S.) I. 477 Opposite to the two fact [= faced] plumpe.

Plump (plʊmp), *sb.*[3] Also 5 plumbe, 9 plomp. [f. PLUMP *v.*[1]]

1. An act of plumping (see PLUMP *v.*[1] 1); the fall of a solid body into water, mud, etc., with little or no splash; an act of dropping flat on the ground; an abrupt plunge or heavy fall. *familiar.*

a 1450 *Fysshynge w. Angle* 18 Kepe hym euer [under] þe rod..So þat ȝe may susteyne hys lepys & plumbes [cf. 1496 in PLUNGE *sb.* 3]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 161 With a plumpe he fercelie fallis in al kynde of misheife. 1694 R. OVERTON *Defiance of Act Pardon* 7 A mighty stone fell .. and gave a mighty plump. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 295 The waggon came into a deep hole, with such a plump. 1884 G. M. BARKER *Tea Planter's Life in Assam* viii. 208, I heard..a 'plomp' as he made a hole in the water. 1896 J. LUMSDEN *Poems* 169, I will lichten an' brichten As weel as plumps in Tyne.

† **2.** A firm blow. *slang. Obs.*

1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* I. 135 Challenging him to fight, and before he can be on his guard, hitting him a plump in the bread-basket, that shall make him throw up his accounts. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s. v., I'll give you a plump in the bread-basket..I'll give you a blow in the stomach.

3. A sudden heavy fall of rain. Chiefly *Sc.*

1822 GALT *Steam-boat* xi. 261 The thunder plump that drookit me to the skin. 1857 COL. K. YOUNG *Diary & Corr.* (1902) 273, I wish it would come down a good plump of rain. 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 74 The whole day was showery, with occasional drenching plumps.

Plump (plʊmp), *a.*[1] Forms: 5–6 **plompe**, 6–7 **plumpe**, 6– **plump**. [In senses 1 and 2 corresp. to MDu. *plomp* blunt, in both senses 'not pointed' and 'not sharp', Du. *plomp* blunt, obtuse (of weapons), thick (as a nail), coarse, clumsy, also rude, clownish, blockish, dull, MLG. *plump*, *plomp* massive, unshapen, obtuse, blunt, stumpy, LG. *plump* coarse, clumsy. The later Eng. senses appear to belong to the same word, passing through the sense 'blunt, rounded, not sharp or angular', into a eulogistic sense (? possibly through some association with PLUM *a.* and *v.*). In MLG. Schiller & Lübben quote *Vocab. Engelh.* for 'corpulentus, *plumpich*'.

From LG. come also Da., Sw. *plump* rude, coarse, clumsy, unfashioned, unpolished, clownish. The ulterior origin is obscure. Doornkaat-Koolman takes the original notion as 'cut off short or suddenly, docked', and connects it with the echoic int. and adv. *plump*, *plumps*, expressing sudden action: cf. PLUMP *int.* and *adv.*]

I. †**1.** Blunt (in manners); not 'sharp' in intellect; dull, clownish, blockish, rude. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiv. 100 But rude and plompe beestis [*orig.* ruyde ongheuallighen beesten] can not vndertonde wysedom. *c* 1620 MORYSON *Itin.* (1903) 370 The Hollanders have of old beene vulgarly called *Plumpe*, that is blunt or rude.

† **2.** Of an arrow-head: Blunt and broad (? rounded). *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 137 There be dyuerse kyndes, some be blonte heades, some sharpe, some both blonte and sharpe. The blont heades men vse bycause they perceaue them to be good, to kepe a lengthe wyth all..bycause a man poulethe them no ferder at one tyme than at another. For in felynge the plompe ende alwayes equallye he may lowse them.

II. 3. Of full and rounded form; sufficiently fleshy or fat to show no angularity of outline; chubby; having the skin well filled or elastically distended. **a.** Of persons, animals, or parts of the body; **b.** also of fruit, grain, etc., and *transf.* of a well-filled bag or purse, a springy cushion, etc.

a. 1545 [implied in PLUMPNESS 1.] 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 46 Riche Grahame callit the Plump. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 142 My flesh is soft and plump. 1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Witches Lanc.* IV. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 223 You may see by his plump belly..he [a horse] hath not bin sore travail'd. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 78 Having so jolly plump lasses under your care. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 41 All as a partridge plump, full-fed, and fair. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 342 In his other pictures..all his figures are very plump. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 595 The plump convivial parson. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 209 The Arabians, Caffres, and Hottentots, consume vast quantities of locusts when they are plump. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Harold lifted his arm and spread out his plump hand.

b. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. iii, To see how plumpe my bags are, and my barnes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 417 After they [dried grapes] be well drenched and infused in some excellent wine vntill they be swelled and plumpe, they presse them. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 322 To keep the Ball-Leathers plump the longer. 1794 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* (1799) 298 It produces excellent crops of plump grain. 1845 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 339 He .. looked as plump as a pincushion.

c. Of coins: Of full size and weight, not clipped.

1867 SIR C. BLACKBURN in *Law Rep., Queen's Bench* II. 175, I do not believe that the coins in actual currency at that time were 'plump'. I think it probable that they were much clipped and sweated.

d. *fig.* (with various shades of meaning): 'Fat', rich, abundant; well-supplied; full and round in tone; great, big; complete, round. *familiar.*

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. iii. 74 Will no plump Fee Bribe thy false fists, to make a glad Decree? 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 18 What a plump endowment to the .. mouth of a Prelate. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Plump-in-the-pocket*, flush of Money. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary, Lett.* 10 June, Such a powerful voice!..her shake—so plump—so true, so open! 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* III. 153 The stripling youth of plump unseared hope. 1857 TROWBRIDGE *Neighbor Jackwood* ix, I hold not a very plump opinion of them.

e. *Comb.*, as *plump-cheeked*, *-faced*, *-thighed* adjs.

1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, You Plump-cheek'd, merry-ey'd Rogue. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ¶ 3 A plump-fac'd, hale, fresh-colour'd Girl. 1891 C. T. C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 22 The stubble fields were tented thick with sheaves of plump-faced wheat.

Plump, *a.*[2] : see PLUMP *adv.*

Plump (plʊmp), *v.*[1] [A Common LG. verb. = MLG., LG. *plumpen*, MDu., Du. *plompen* to fall or plunge into water with the characteristic sound, EFris. *plumpen* to make a hollow sound as water when anything falls into it, to fall with such a sound; thence, Ger. *plumpen* to fall plump or abruptly, also to beat water with a heavy stick, Da. *plumpe* to plunge, Sw. *plumpa* to plump, to fall with impact. Prob. of echoic origin, expressing a sound and action akin to those of PLOP *v.*, but with more distinct expression of the liquid 'gulp' made by water when a body falls into it.

Cf. numerous more or less echoic or onomatopœic words in *-ump*, as *bump*, *dump*, *mump*, *stump*, *thump*, *tump*. Some have compared L. *plumbāre* to cover with lead, later prob. to throw the lead-line, whence It. *piombare*, Pr. *plombar* to plunge (see PLUMB *v.*, PLUNGE *v.*); but the approach of form between *plombar* and the LG. *plump-*, *plomp-*group seems merely fortuitous.]

1. *intr.* To fall, drop, sink, plunge, or impinge, with abruptly checked movement, as when a solid body drops, (**a.**) into water, etc., or (**b.**) upon a surface; to fall, plunge, or come down (or against something) flatly or abruptly (usually implying 'with full or direct impact').

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5760 (Bodl. MS.) Þo hij seiȝe þat folk i wys Hii plumten doune as an doppe In þe water at on scoppe Þoo hij plumten þe water vnder þe folk had of hem grete wonder. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. iii, The poor lad plumped over head and ears into the water. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 279 The tradesman plumps into a pond. 1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Isl.* V. 112 The heavy penguin, neither fish nor fowl, .. Plump'd stone-like from the rock into the gulf. 1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* (ed. 2) 305 The rain still plumped like a vast shower-bath.

b. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 492 ¶ 2 It will give you a Notion how Dulcissa plumps into a Chair. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 13 Aug., Others .. plumped down on both knees, and could hardly get up again. 1844 THACKERAY *Wand. Fat Contrib.* i, I removed to the next seat..He plumped into my place. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* 86 A vast cavern into which the upper crust subsequently plumped down. 1888 LD. WOLSELEY in *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 287 The horror of hearing bullets plump into the bodies of their comrades with a horrible thud.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* To come plump, i.e. all at once (into some place or condition); to plunge, burst (*in* or *out*). *familiar.*

1829 LAMB *Lett., to Procter* (1888) II. 219 Lest those raptures..should suddenly plump down..to a loathing and blank aversion. 1835 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 27 Through them we have plumped into as pretty an Irish connection as one would wish. 1843 — *Let. to Carlyle* 11 July, For God's sake do not let John plump in upon me in my present puddlement. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. vii. 212 With a convulsive gurgle, out plumped the words. 1884 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. vi. 84 We..plumped into bitter cold weather.

2. *trans.* To drop, let fall, throw down, plunge abruptly (into water, etc., or upon a flat surface); to pay *down* at once and in one lot; *refl.* to 'let oneself fall', drop down abruptly and heavily.

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 51 Fyrst sly thy capon over tho nyȝght Plump hym in water wher he is dyȝt. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 53 Seeith water and plump therein plenty of sloes. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 405 As what a Dutchman plumps into the lakes, One circle first, and then a second makes. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* i. (1872) 3 The sun has plumped his hot face into the water. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* vii. (1856) 35 A..man brought in some ..bags, and plumped them down in a corner. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 27 [He] plumped himself down on the grass, and declared he would go no further. 1888 *Ch. Times* 24 Aug. 720/1 We may as well plump a shot or two into him. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 79 She plumped down the money and walked out.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*: esp. in reference to speech: To utter abruptly, to blurt *out*. [Cf. *to say, utter, blurt out plump* in PLUMP *adv.* 3.] *familiar.*

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 96 This is a verie peremptorie sentence, plumped downe of you. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, I plumped out that St. P ul's was the finest cathedral in England. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. viii, If, it ain't a liberty to plump it out', said Mr. Boffin, 'what do you do for your living?' 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 7/1 When you must plump the question square at a man and simply get a cold and passionless reply.

† **4.** *slang.* To give (one) a blow; to shoot. *Obs.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s. v., Plump his peepers, or daylights, give him a blow in the eyes; he pulled out his pops [= pistols] and plumped him.

5. *intr.* [Short for *to vote plump* or *give a plumper.*] To vote at an election *for* one candidate alone (when one is entitled to vote for two or more).

The original sense was app. to give a direct, straight, unqualified, or absolute vote *for* a person; this implied no weakening or qualifying of it by voting for any other. See PLUMP *adv.* 4, *a.*[2] 2, PLUMPER[2] 2.

1806 in *Acc. Elect. Liverpool Nov.* 1806, For Tarleton, a plumper, let's vote one and all,..We'll plump for Tarleton, to prove we are free. 1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXV. 427 (*heading*) Plumping at Elections. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxviii, Friendship .. induces me to plump for St. Michaels. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xi, I'll plump or I'll split for them as treat me the handsomest and are the most of what I call gentlemen. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Apr. 415/2 The method of voting..is that of the 'general ticket'. Each voter would be required to vote for as many candidates as there were vacancies, and no voter would be allowed to give more than one vote to any candidate. This secures against the danger of 'plumping' in any form.

Hence **Plu·mping** *vbl. sb., ppl. a.*

c 1829 H. MILLER *Lett. on Herring Fish.* iv, They [herrings] .. sunk with a hollow plumping noise. 1878 STEVENSON *Edinburgh* (1889) 2 Among bleak winds and plumping rain.

Plump, *v.*[2] [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] 3.

(But the first quot. is somewhat earlier than any found for the corresponding sense of the adj.)]

1. *trans.* To make plump; to cause to swell; to fill *out*, dilate, distend; to fatten *up*.

1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Weather* Plays (1905) 115 For springing and plumping all manner corn Yet must ye have water or all is forlorn. 1631 CHETTLE *Hoffman* IV. H j, Art not thou plumpt with laughter my Lorrique? 1661 BOYLE *Spring of Air* (1682) 93 These particles [of air] so expanding themselves, must necessarily plump out the sides of the bladder..and so keep them turgid. 1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1621 If the..Grain were well soakt and plumpt up with Water. 1775 JOHNSON *Journ. West. Isl., Coriatachan*, Fowls..not like those plumped for sale by the poulterers of London. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* XXXVII, Dolly .. plumping and patting the pillows of the bed. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 469 The oil..has plumped his cheeks..and expanded his whole form. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 371/1 The hide is unhaired by being placed in a liquid, which..plumps the hide.

b. *fig.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] x. 27, I will..plumpe my ioyes by letting them surprize mee. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. iii. § 17 Which made them ..'to plump up the Hollownesse of their History with improbable Miracles'. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 671 The godly faction [was] then plump'd up with hopes to carry on their diabolical designes. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 109 Heaven! 'tis heaven to plump her [England's] life.

2. *intr.* To become plump; to swell *out* or *up*.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. v, Swell, plump, bold heart; For now thy tide of vengeance rowleth in. 1612 R. DABORNE *Chr. turn'd Turke* 1498 You Manticora, that plumpe vpon raw flesh. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 166 Their Fruit begins to plump at the full Moon. 1843 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 358 He [a dog] is plumping up, his coat glossy. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXV. 687 Her cheeks had plumped out.

Hence **Plu·mping** *vbl. sb.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 145 They shew the swellings of their mind, in the swellings and plumpings out of their apparrayle. 1700 FLOYER *Hot & Cold Bath.* I. 36 Hot Baths .. cause the plumping up of the Habit of the Body. 1890 LE GALLIENNE *G. Meredith* 85 That plumping of her exquisite proportions on bread and butter.

Plump, *v.*[3] [f. PLUMP *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *intr.* To form plumps; to mass or crowd together. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 661/2 What meatte yonder men to plompe togyder yonder, .. *qui sarrountent aynsi?* 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* XV. 8 The depes plomped together in y[e] myddest of the see.

† **b.** *To plump out*, to come out in a mass. *Obs.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. F viij, The barel now broken, the swarme plomped out.

2. *trans.* To sow (seed) in plumps or clumps.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 750 The plumping mode, as this method of sowing by intervals is termed.

† **Plump,** *v.*[4] An obsolete by-form of PUMP *v.* Cf. PLUMP *sb.*[2]

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1112 To Plumpe, v. pumpe.

Plump (plʊmp), *int., adv.*, and *a.*[2] [app. the onomatopœic stem of PLUMP *v.*[1] used to express the manner of the action, or the echoic imitation of the sound of the act.]

A. † *int.* Imitative of the sound made by a heavy body falling into water.

[Cf. LG. *plump*, 'an interjection which expresses the sound made by anything heavy when it falls into water' (*Bremisches Wbch.*).]

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 121 [They] threw them peecemeale into a deepe well, to heare them crie plumpe.

B. *adv.* (Mostly *familiar.*)

1. With a sudden drop or fall into water.

1610 B. JONSON *Masque Oberon* Wks. (Rtldg.) 583/1, I would fain..to some river take 'em, Plump; and see if that would wake 'em. *c* 1614 FLETCHER, etc. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* I. i, The art of swimming, he that will attain to 't Must fall plump, and duck himself at first. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 50 ¶ 4 The lover, with much amazement, came plump into the river. 1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iii,

(1859) 40 But no sooner was the last fold of blubber..hoisted in,..than it [the carcase] sank plump down.

2. With a sudden or abrupt fall or sinking down; with sudden direct impact, flat upon or against something; with a sudden or unexpected encounter.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (Grosart) 9 There hence againe, to pastures of Tortose, Plump downe directly leuels he his flight. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. ix. 69 As we were a-going up Snow-Hill, plump we comes against a cart. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) x. vi, Sitting plump on an unsuspected cat in your chair. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Marie Mignot*, Her Ladyship found Herself plump on the ground. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. i, I took a shot at him and brought him down plump.

3. *fig.* Directly, at once, straight, without hesitation or circuitous action; *esp.* in reference to a statement or question: Directly, without circumlocution or concealment, in plain terms, bluntly, flatly.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (K. O.), Refuse plump. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* Dec., The shortest way of doing this is by coming plump upon the question. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. vii. P 4 If you must have it plump, I was born to live and die a poet. 1811 *Minutes Evid. Berkeley Peerage* 202, I question whether I ever said plump Miss Tudor, I said Ma'am. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* iv, Hayes first said no, plump. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlviii, He told us, plump and plain, that he wasn't going to shift. 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 368, I lied..plump and pat, I will confess.

†**4.** *To vote plump*, to vote 'straight' or without any qualification. *U. S. Obs.*

1776 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 398 New Jersey has dethroned [Govr. William] Franklin, and in a letter, which is just come to my hand from indisputable authority, I am told that the delegates from that colony 'will vote plump!' [*sc.* for the Declaration of Independence.]

C. *adj.* **1. a.** Descending directly, vertical, sheer. **b.** Directly facing in position.

1611 COTGR., *Escore*,..plumpe, or straight down, in depth. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 287 In buildings, plump views are objectionable; they should always be taken at an angle.

2. *fig.* Of statements, etc.: Direct, blunt, straightspoken, downright, unqualified, 'flat'. *familiar.*

1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Dec., She .. made the most plump inquiries into its particulars, with a sort of hearty good humour. 1803 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* xvii, I hate qualifying arguers; plump assertion or plump denial for me! 1828–32 WEBSTER s.v., A plump lie. 1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. Flirt* i, She gave a plump decline, and said something about his morals. 1872 H. LAWRENNY in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 321 Neither man nor woman would dare to answer with a plump No.

3. Plumped down; paid down at once.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiii, Paying up in full, in one plump sum.

Plumpen (plʌ·mpĕn), *v. rare.* [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] + -EN [5].] *trans.* To make plump, swell out.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* I. 13 As if it were likely that the Sun .. had only been kindled to ripen their Medlars, and plumpen their Cabbage! 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 121 They shall go plump into our book, line for line, and word for word, and serve to plumpen the two voluminous volumes.

Plumper [1] (plʌ·mpəɹ). [f. PLUMP *v.*[2] + -ER [1].] That which plumps or makes plump.

a. A small light ball or disk sometimes carried in the mouth, for the purpose of filling out hollow cheeks.

1690 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 189 And that the cheeks may both agree, Plumpers to fill the cavity. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 120 With one blow of her fist she not only made several of her Teeth leap out of her Mouth, but also two little Cork plumpers, which served to fill out her hollow Jaws. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 Two Pair of brand-new Plumpers, Four Black-lead Combs, Three Pair of fashionable Eye-brows. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 77 P 1 Vamped up for show with paint, patches, plumpers, and every external ornament that art can suggest. 1905 *Dial* 16 Feb. 116/2 She..was charged by some of the ladies at the summer boarding house where we met with wearing 'plumpers' in her cheeks.

†**b.** A contrivance for expanding the skirts; a bustle or hoop, a pannier. *Obs.*

1749 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1813) III. 86 Old Mrs. Ashley has added a yard of whalebone to her plumpers merely on his account.

Plumper [2] (plʌ·mpəɹ). [f. PLUMP *v.*[1] or *adv.*] **1. a.** An act of plumping, as into water, or to the ground; a fall from a horse.

1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 138, I had such a plumper off the old mare the first time I went out! *Ibid.* III. 79 After my plumper, the animal made for the woods.

†**b.** *slang.* A heavy blow. *Obs.*

1764–72 T. BRYDGES *Homer Travest.* 378 (Farmer) Gave me a plumper on the jaw, And cry'd: Pox take you! 1796 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 145 Which was immediately followed by a plumper just under the right eye.

2. [Cf. PLUMP *a.*[2] 2, and PLUMP *adv.* 4.] A vote given solely to one candidate at an election (when one has the right to vote for two or more). Also attrib. *plumper vote.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v. *Plump*, A *plumper*, a single vote at an election. 1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXV. 427 C, who splits none of his votes, will have seven supporters. The majority falls to the lot of the candidate [C] whose adherents give plumpers. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. I. v. 95 They shall not have my vote..; you shall have a plumper. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* XI. xiii, If canvassing for yourself alone, you could not carry a sufficient number of plumper votes. 1894 J. K. FOWLER *Recoll. Old Co. Life* i. 8 An old printed document..giving..the number of plumpers, or single votes, polled for each candidate.

b. A voter who 'plumps'. *rare.*

1818 in TODD Suppl. 1832 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* I. 28 The numerous plumpers..being constantly interrupted in their endeavours to go to the hustings.

3. A downright lie. (Cf. *cracker*, *whacker*, etc.) *vulgar.* ? *Obs.*

1812 *Salem* (Mass.) *Gaz.* 26 Nov. 3/3 A Plumper.—The Gazette .. states [etc.]. .. A more barefaced falsehood never was published. *a* 1814 *He must be married* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 234, I will propose you to him—I shall tell him a few plumpers. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Plumper*,.. a full unqualified lie. (*In vulgar use.*) Hence in mod. Dicts.

4. *attrib.* **Plumper line,** a rope used by divers in making their descent.

1896 *Strand Mag.* XII. 349/1 The [pearl-divers'] descent is made by means of a rope called the plumper line. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/7 Three or four of these [descents] were spent in restoring the plumper-line, which Diver May finally secured to the ring of the trap-door of the specie tank.

Plumper [3]. [f. PLUMP *sb.*[1] or *v.*[3]] A machine for sowing seed in 'plumps' or clumps.

1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 788 The drill-sowing machines .. are designated in Scotland plumpers, from their dropping their gifts on one point. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. I. 110 They are..dibbled by a machine called a plumper or sown in shallow drills by the hand.

Plum-pie. [f. PLUM *sb.* 1, 4 + PIE.]

†**1.** A pie containing raisins and currants; esp. a mince-pie. *Obs.*

a 1660 [Mock sermon] *Brewerton Ch.* cxix. *Ver.* xxxi, '*And they did eat their Plum-pies, and rejoiced exceedingly*', (Bodl. Lib.) p. 6, Here now we are to consider what sort of Plum-pye this was, and how many sorts of plum pyes there are...There is your Christmas pye and that hath plums in abundance, that is your Metropolitan plum pye, tis the cream of all plum pyes, and in brief there is no plum pye like it...Mark but the ingredients..Minced pyes are beset with plums and spice...Your Neat's tongue..your Currants ..your raisins. [Cf. 17.. *Hist. Jack Horner* i. 4, Jack Horner, in the Corner, Eats good Christmas Pye, And with his Thumbs pulls out the Plumbs, And said, Good Boy am I.]

2. A pie containing plums or prunes.

1830 MAUNDER *Dict.*, *Plumpie*, a pie with plums in it. 1846 in WORCESTER. 1847 in WEBSTER. 1880 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 70, I lunched with Cardinal Manning, and he gave me such a plum pie.

Plumpish, *a. rare.* [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] + -ISH [1].] Somewhat plump.

1758 J. CLUBBE *Misc. Tracts* (1770) I. Pref. 11 My body ..which was once plumpish, and inclined to be fat upwards.

Plumply (plʌ·mpli), *adv.*[1] [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] + -LY [2].] To a plump degree, with plumpness.

1611 COTGR., *Rondement*, roundly, circularly, orbicularly; fully, plumply. 1860 LEVER *One of Them* xiv, A long silk purse, plumply filled. 1895 *Harper's Weekly* Feb. 337/2 One of those plumply mellow quadrigenarious bodies.

Plumply, *adv.*[2] *familiar.* [f. PLUMP *a.*[2] + -LY [2].]

1. Directly, without hesitation or circumlocution, plainly, flatly: = PLUMP *adv.* 3.

1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Aug., I proposed it myself. The offer was plumply accepted. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 144 The last I contradict plumply. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. iv. 130 It's out at last plainly and plumply.

2. With direct impact; full against something: = PLUMP *adv.* 2.

1846 JOYCE *Sci. Dial.* I. xiii. 34, I have sometimes shot my white alley against another marble so plumply, that [etc.].

Plumpness [1] (plʌ·mpnĕs). [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being plump; fullness and roundness of form; fatness, fleshiness.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* (1564) 18 b, In softnes of skin and plumpnes of the body. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Exp. iv, This plumpness of the bladder proceeded from..the stronger spring of the air remaining in the bladder. 1704 NEWTON *Opticks* (1721) 13 For those Convex glasses supply the defect of plumpness in the Eye...And the contrary happens in short-sighted Men whose Eyes are too plump. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 850/1 Plumpness sheathes the nerves and gives an impression of good humour.

Plumpness [2]. *familiar.* [f. PLUMP *a.*[2] + -NESS.] Directness or bluntness of statement.

1780 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Apr., She .. speaks her opinion .. with a plumpness of honesty .. that both pleases and diverts me. 1879 HOWELLS *L. Aroostook* v, 'Yes, Maria, I be', returned her father, with uncommon plumpness. 1906 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 6 Sometimes the more simple-minded apologists..put the thing with astonishing plumpness and plainness.

†**Plum-porridge.** *Obs.* Porridge containing prunes, raisins, currants, etc.; formerly in favour as a Christmas dish. Probably, as in *plum-broth*, the dried plums or prunes were the original characteristic, and gave the name.

1591 LYLY *Endym.* v. ii. 69 A great platter of plum-porridge of pleasure wherein is stued the mutton of mistrust. 1608 HEYWOOD *Rape Lucrece* III. Wks. 1874 V. 200 My Lords, the best plumporedge in all Rome cooles for your honours. 1698 W. KING tr. *Journ. London* 5 Prunes .. they have not had enough to lay round their Plum-porridge at Christmas. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. v, Plum-porridge and minced pies. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 67 There the huge sirloin reeked; hard by Plumb-porridge stood, and Christmas pye. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 25 Dec. 5/1 The plum-pudding may be said to be a work of evolution, and to have supplanted entirely the older dish of plum-porridge, with its congeners the December and Christmas pies.

†**Plum-pottage.** *Obs.* ? = prec.

1573 BARET *Alv.* P 555 Plumme potage, or potage made thicke with meate or crummes of bread, *puls*, *pultis*. 1658 J. HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* Wks. (1700) 297 We, who have bin us'd to our Plumpottage, are like enough to make faces (as did the King of Pontus) at the Lacedemonian black broth. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 43 Christmas pies, Plum-potage, Cake and Puddings. 1864 *Chambers' Bk. Days* II. 755/2 In old times plum-pottage was always served with the first course of a Christmas dinner. It was made by boiling beef or mutton with broth, thickened with brown bread; when half-boiled, raisins, currants, prunes, cloves, mace and ginger were added.

Plum pudding, plum-pudding (plʌ·mˌpu·dĭŋ). A pudding containing plums.

a. (= *Christmas plum-pudding*) *spec.* A boiled pudding now composed of flour, bread-crumbs, suet, raisins, currants, and other fruits, with eggs, spices, etc., sometimes flavoured with brandy or other spirit, eaten at Christmas; also, an ordinary suet pudding with raisins.

1711 *Vind. Sacheverell* 75 This is just as proper as I had a good Plumb Pudden to day with a Mixture of Flower and Raisins. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 302, I gave the cook order to make every mess a good plum-pudding. 1778 MACKENZIE *Man World* II. xi. (1823) 478 A plumb-pudding of a very uncommon circumference was raised conspicuous in the middle. 1797 *Lond. Complete Art Cookery* 69 An excellent Plumb-Pudding. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 25 Dec. 5/2 Plum-pudding gradually came into the bills of fare in the early years of the eighteenth century.

b. A pudding of fresh plums contained in a crust.

1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXV. 233 Little Jack Horner, we fear, misapplies the word *plum*, when he calls a dried raisin, or currant, by that name. The bullace pudding, the prune pudding, and the damascene pudding, are better entitled to be called plum-puddings than the currant, or raisin, puddings, which have usurped that appellation. *c* 1900 *Beeton's Every-day Cook. Bk., Plum Pudding.* (Fresh Fruit).. Seasonable with various kinds of plums, from the beginning of August to the beginning of October.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (esp. in names of things resembling a plum pudding in shape or mottled appearance), as *plum-pudding head, horse*; (*b*) **plum-pudding breed, -dog,** the Dalmatian or Spotted Coach breed of dog; **plum-pudding stone** (*Geol.*), a term applied orig. to a conglomerate of flint pebbles embedded in a siliceo-calcareous matrix; now, *loosely*, to any conglomerate; **plum-pudding voyage,** a short voyage for which a supply of fresh provisions is carried, including plum-duff (*U. S. slang*).

1776 FOOTE *Capuchin* I. Wks. 1799 II. 385 Victuals! Lord help your roast-beef and plum-pudding soul! 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 June 8/1 Mademoiselle has probably by this time mastered the art of plum-pudding making. 1900 *Ibid.* 14 Feb. 8/1 'Mr. Goodnight' is a plum-pudding horse with a brain as near that of a human being as it is permitted for a four-footed creature to possess. 1902 *Little Frolic* 36 Greedy..saw two grinning little men with plum-pudding heads.

(*b*) 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 4/1 The '*plum-pudding' breed, as the Dalmatian or carriage dog is commonly termed, is so well represented as to make it obvious that this breed is rapidly coming to the front again. 1881 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 5/2 The Dalmatian pointer, commonly known as a *plum-pudding dog. 1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 53 Stones commonly call'd *Plumb-pudding Stones. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iv. (1814) 195 Plum pudding stone (a secondary rock) consisting of pebbles cemented by a ferruginous or siliceous cement. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvii. 94 Some sailors who had just come from a *plum-pudding voyage as they called it.

Hence **Plum-pu'ddinger,** a whaling ship employed in short voyages; cf. *plum-pudding voyage.*

1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals* II. iv. 241 Provincetown has ever been foremost with her numerous fleet of plum-puddingers, .. which are small vessels employed on short voyages in the Atlantic Ocean.

Plumpy (plʌ·mpi), *a.* [f. PLUMP *a.*[1] + -Y.] Characterized by plumpness; plump.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 121 Come thou Monarch of the Vine, Plumpie Bacchus, with pinke eyne. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 13 Her mouth was little, encircled by the plumpy lip. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* I. 9 That mild-eyed, soft, round, plumpy prettiness gives way beneath such a weight as that.

Plumrock, -rose, Sc. corrupt ff. PRIMROSE.

1787 BURNS *Let. W. Nicol* 1 June, A new blawn plumrose in a hazle shaw. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 1 Hail, lovely Spring! thy bonny lyart face, And head wi' plumrocks deck'd, bespeak the sun's Return.

†**Plu·mster.** *Obs.* [f. as *plummer*, PLUMBER, with suffix -STER: cf. *brewster*, etc.] A plumber.

c 1440 *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 686/33 *Hic plummarius*, a plumstere.

Plum-tree (plʌ·mˌtrī). The tree which bears plums; = PLUM *sb.* 2. Also *attrib.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 310 Nim plum treowes leaf, wyl on wine, & swile mid bone muþ. *c* 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 162 Asch, brom, plum-tre. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 649 (E. E. T. S.) Plumtre, bolastre and hookus [Fr. *Pruner, creker, et chene*]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 16 Piries and Plomtres weore passchet to þe grounde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 A Plowmbe tre garthe, *prunetum*. 1552 HULOET, Plumbe tree, *prunus, spinus*; *prunetum, spinetum*, the place wher plumme trees growe. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. 57 The Violet and Premorden Plum-trees are very great bearing trees. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 4 An ever-green, with leaves resembling those of a pear or plumb-tree.

‖ **Plumula** (plū·miŭlă). *Bot.* [L. *plūmula* (Colum.), dim. of *plūma* PLUME.] = PLUMULE 1.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. vii. (1765) 15 *Plumula*, a scaly Part of the Corculum, which ascends. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 253. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 85 The plumula begins to grow; and when this has grown to a certain extent within the grain, the further germination is checked by exposing the grain on a kiln.

Plumulaceous (plūmiulē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *plūmula* (see prec.) + -ACEOUS.] Of the nature of or resembling a plumule, downy.

1879 in WEBSTER Suppl. 1890 COUES *Gen. Ornith.* 139 The ventral feathers are usually more largely plumulaceous, and less flat and imbricated.

Plumular (plū·miŭlăr), *a.* [f. L. *plūmula* (see above) + -AR.] Of or pertaining to a plumule.

1881 F. O. BOWER in *Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Jan. 18 The size and form of the plumular leaves .. may be gathered from figs. 7 and 8. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plumularia (plū·miulē·riă). *Zool.* [mod.L.; f. *plūmula* (see above).] A genus of hydroids having a plume-like form. Hence **Plumula·rian**, *a.*, of or pertaining to *Plumularia*, or the family of which it is the type; *sb.*, a member of this family.

1859 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 4) 74 Mingled with them are Plumulariæ, always to be distinguished from Sertulariæ by polypes growing on one side of the branch, and not on both. 1872 ALLMAN *Gymnobl. Hydroids* 156 The beautiful plumularian group represented by the genus *Aglaophenia*. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 765 The colonies [of *Hydroidea*] .. occasionally attain a great height, e. g. a Plumularian in the Pelew Islands that of a man.

Plu·mulate, *a. Bot.* [f. L. *plūmul-a* + -ATE 2 2.] Minutely plumate or plumose. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Plumule (plū·miŭl). [ad. L. *plūmula* (see above), or perh. a. F. *plumule*.]

1. *Bot.* The rudimentary shoot, bud, or bunch of undeveloped leaves in a seed; the stem of the embryo plant.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Plume* or *Plumule*, .. a little member of the grain or seed of a plant; being that which in the growth of the plant becomes the stem, or trunk thereof. 1805 KNIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 262, I have never been able to satisfy myself that all the buds were eradicated without having destroyed the base of the plumule. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 560 The shoot which developes from the plumule becomes the primary stem of the plant.

2. A little feather; *spec.* in *Ornith.*, a down-feather. Also *fig.*

1847 EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* Wks. (Bohn) I. 439 Fled the last plumule of the Dark, Pants up hither the spruce clerk. 1856-8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* II. 380 Nostrils not covered by plumules. 1867 TEGETMEIER *Pigeons* 8 The whole of the feathers of the pigeon are destitute of the small second feather or accessory plumule.

b. *transf.* The plumose pappus of a seed.

1894 CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* 46 The plumules were blowing off freely now.

3. *Entom.* a. A little plume-like organ or ornament. b. One of the peculiar obcordate scales found on the wings of certain lepidopterous insects, as *Pieridæ*.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Plumule*, .. 2. *Entom.* A plume-like appendage.

Plumuliform (plū·miŭlifōrm), *a.* [f. L. type **plūmuliform-is*, f. PLUMULA: see -FORM.]

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Plumuliformis*, .. having the appearance of a small feather: plumuliform. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plumulose (plū·miŭlōs), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *plūmulōs-us*, f. PLUMULA: see -OSE.] (See quots.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 276 *Plumulose*, .. when the hairs branch out laterally like feathers. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Plumulosus*, .. having or full of plumes; plumulose. *Entomol.* having the form of a small plume, as the hair of the *antennæ* of the *Phyllis plumulosa*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plumy (plū·mi), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PLUME *sb.* + -Y.]

†1. Composed of down, downy. *Obs.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 What feathers plumye she beareth, So manye squint eyebals shee keeps.. So manye tongues clapper. 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 54 But whilst a plumy curtaine she doth draw, A Chrystall Mirror sparkles in thy breast. 1700 DRYDEN *Pygmalion* 56 Her head did on a plumy pillow rest.

2. Characterized by or abounding in plumes or feathers; feathery; feathered.

1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat., Defiance to Envie* 37 Or would we loose her plumy pineon. 1715-20 POPE *Iliad* XXIV. 363 Let the strong sovereign of the plumy race Tower on the right of yon ethereal space. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 642 What plumy people sing in every grove! 1855 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) 737 It causes their plumy covering to repel moisture.

3. Adorned or decked with a plume or plumes.

1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arcite* III. 452 Crested morions, with their plumy pride. 17.. BEATTIE *To Lady C. Gordon* iii, The plumy helmet. 1891 ATKINSON *Last Giant-killers* 186 He saw the horses and the plumy black wain.

4. Plume-like, feathery.

*c*1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 158 When a drift wind shakes Blacke clouds in peeces, and plucks snow in great and plumie flakes. 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Summer* 136 When the first sheaf its plumy top uprears. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* July 200/1 Great plumy bunches of asparagus.

5. *Comb.* as *plumy-crested, -pounced, -varnished.*

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Vill.* II. vii. 203 Drawn through the eare with Ribands, plumy crested. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 36 Ulysses bears The plumy-crested helms. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* VI. lix, Two doves of plumy-varnish'd throat.

†B. *sb.* A person wearing a plume. *Obs.*

1687 MRS. BEHN *Emperor of Moon* I. i, I have been at the Chapel, and seen so many Beaus, such a number of Plumeys.

Plunder (plv·ndəɹ), *sb.* [f. PLUNDER *v.*2 (Not from Ger. *plunder* trash, lumber, obs. Du. *plunder* household stuff (Plantin), to which however the American sense 3 may be immediately due.)]

1. The action of plundering or taking as spoil; *spec.* as practised in war or a hostile incursion; pillage, spoliation, depredation. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parlt.* IV. 29, I abhorre all violence, plunder, rapine, and disorders in Souldiers. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* V. 125 The Merchants, fearing an universall plunder, shut their doors, and barricadoed them. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 15/2 After the plunder and spoiling of the Temple. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlix. VI. 187 This was a signal for indiscriminate plunder. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 331 The English should..advance as far as possible into the heart of the kingdom, carefully abstaining from plunder.

b. *transf.* The acquisition of property by violent, questionable, or dishonest means; spoliation.

1672 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. vi. 243 Those Reforming Harpies, who, by Plunders and Sequestrations, had scraped together three or four Thousand a Year. 1841 COBDEN *Let.* 4 Mar. in *Westm. Gaz.* 4 June (1904) 13/1 It is a dishonour to the name and character of Englishmen to submit to such a system of aristocratic plunder as the Corn Law is now proved to the world to be. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. i. 180 The wretched novice was an object of general plunder till he had learnt how to take care of himself.

2. Goods taken from an enemy by force; spoil, booty, prey, loot.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 59, I would not speake thus..for all the plunder your plunderers have pillaged. 1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* 27 Apr. an. 1650, The most certain Fairs for the Sale of their Plunder. 1726-31 TINDAL tr. *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) II. XVII. 146 Being impatient to return with his plunder to England. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 428 The instigator of the depredations.. sharing in the plunder.

b. *transf.* Property acquired by illegal or questionable means; also (*slang*), profit, gain.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 224 They would not hear of transferring the whole plunder of the kingdom to the stockholders in Paris. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 175 I'll get more for it in the cavaldry..there's better plunder there. (*Plunder*, I may explain, is a common word in the horse trade to express *profit*.) 1865 HOLLAND *Plain T.* V. 188 A set of men .. actuated by no higher motive than a love of plunder and of place.

3. Personal belongings or household goods; luggage, baggage. *U. S. local.*

1817 J. K. PAULDING *Lett. fr. South* I. 38 We accordingly set forth on horseback, carrying our *plunder* (as the Virginians call baggage) in a light Jersey wagon. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 286 Are you pedling? Is it goods or plunder that you have got? *Note*, Plunder is a cant term used in the western country, signifying travelling baggage. 1827 F. COOPER *Prairie* I. ii. 31 You seem to have but little plunder, stranger, for one who is so far abroad. 1873 *Lynch Law in Sucker State* (Farmer), Two long dug-outs, loaded with plunder, stopped at the cabin...This was the family and property of Hank Harris.

4. *Comb.*, as *plunder-master*; *plunder-fed* adj.

1646 *Querela Cantabrigiensis* 13 They have constituted a decay'd Hatter, Plunder-master Generall. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* 19 On a vicinary bench, sate a plunder-fed soldier.

†**Plu·nder**, *v.*1 *Obs.* [A variant of BLUNDER *v.*, to confuse, confound, distract: the phonetic change is unexplained.] *trans.* To confuse, confound, distract, muddle. Hence †**Plu·ndered** *ppl. a.*: cf. BLUNDERED; †**Plu·ndering** *vbl. sb.*

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 255 Howsoeuer they might by wit and learning shuffle it ouer, and in a plundred sort, speake reason: yet had they no feeling of that which they said. 1611 COTGR., *Academié*,.. besotted, puzled, or plundered, with too much skill or studying. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 228 Our peace both of Church and Common-wealth hath beene a little plundered and perplexed. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* xl. 282 But for all their plundering, and confounding, their bold pretences have made this discourse necessary.

Plunder (plv·ndəɹ), *v.*2 [a. Ger. *plündern* (also †*blündern*), late MHG., MLG., LG. *plünder(e)n*, *plünnern* (early mod.Du. and Du. *plunderen*, also †*plonderen*, Kil.) to pillage, sack, lit. to rob of household effects, f. MG., MHG. *blunder*, *plunder* bed-clothes (14th c.), clothing, household stuff, whence obs. Du. *plunder*, *plonder* household stuff (Plantin, in Kil. 'vetus, Germ.'); in mod.Ger. *plunder* lumber, trash. Cf. MLG., MDu. *plunde*, *plunne*, in LG. also *plünde*, *plünne*, household stuff, clothes, often depreciatory, 'duds', rags, Du. *plunje* clothes, baggage. (In Swiss dial. *plündern* is 'to remove or "flit" with one's household goods' (Grimm).)

The word was much used in Germany during the Thirty Years' War, in reference to which it was current in England from *c* 1630; here, word and thing became familiar on the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642, being especially associated with the proceedings of the forces under Prince Rupert.]

1. *trans.* To rob (a place or person) of goods or valuables by forcible means, or as an enemy; esp. as done in war or a hostile incursion; to pillage, rifle, ransack, spoil; to rob systematically.

1632 *Swedish Intelligencer* II. 179 The Swedish Dragoones .. plundered the Townes of Wurtbach and Waldsee, neere unto Weingarten. *Ibid.* 180 Both [Bishoprics] are plundered and disarmed, and the best Ordnance sent to Auspurg. 1642 (Nov. 24) *Relation of King's Army at Braintford* (in *Exact Collection* (1643) 761), The Kings Army upon Saturday the twelfth of November after they had possessed themselves of [Braintford], they plundered it without any respect of persons. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parlt.* IV. 28, 29, I think the Parliament never yet approved the plundering (or in plain English, robbing) of any man, by any of their forces; they having plundered no places taken by assault, for ought I hear; though the Kings forces on the contrary, have miserably plundered all the Kingdom almost. 1647 MAY *Hist. Parl.* III. i. 3 Many Townes and Villages he [Prince Rupert] plundered, which is to say robb'd, for at that time first was the word plunder used in England, being borne in Germany. 1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* V. 119 Twelve Thousand Persons made Prisoners, and the Town first plundred and then Burnt. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 323 Searching about for gold in the brooks and small streams, .. and that after they had as it were plundered them at the first discovery. 1769 *Junius Lett.* XXXV. (1820) 161 The people of Ireland have been uniformly plundered and oppressed. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. XXXIII. 308 The royal troops plundered the camp of all that fell in their way. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 12/1 The church of S. Francesco was plundered of the 'Descent from the Cross',..by Paul V., and the picture is now in the Borghese Gallery. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 424 A crowd of negligent or ravenous functionaries..plundered, starved, and poisoned the armies and fleets of William.

2. *trans.* To take (goods, valuables, etc.) with illegal force, or as an enemy; to appropriate wrongfully, embezzle; to take by robbery, steal.

1645 FEATLY *Dippers Dipt* (1646) 131 The graces of the Spirit, which cannot be plundered. 1651 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 543 Those..I can by no means find, and do much fear that they were plundred, among my other Books and Papers, by the rude Welch in Glamorganshire. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 235 The inhabitants .. were determined to plunder Darius's treasures. 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 151 If they feed themselves honestly, and neither steal men or plunder their goods. 1883 J. W. SHERER *At Home & in India* 141 Wrecking a village.., unroofing the houses and plundering the sweetmeats and grain.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To commit depredations.

1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 167 Impiety is no Zeal, Cruelty no Valour,.. open and violent Oppression and Robberies, or your Plundering, no fair Stratagems. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* IV. 57 The Imperialists on their side plundered upon the Turks. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 447 When the Hungarians..pushed on.. westward, plundering and laying waste by the way. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* X, You will find it so to your cost, .. if you attempt to plunder here.

Hence **Plu·ndered** *ppl. a.*, **Plu·ndering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1638, 1643 [see 3, 1]. 1649 *Comm. Adv. Money* (1888) II. 1127 Divers plundering officers and soldiers of the late King. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvii. (1674) 117 The ruines, plundrings, affronts, and .. desolations which she had received. 1663 COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St.* V. i, I shall ha' some plunder'd Plate, I hope, to entertain my Friends with. 1693 G. STEPNEY in *Dryden's Juvenal* VIII. (1697) 201 The Plundred still have Arms. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 78 Henry VIII..gave him a large share of the plundered church lands. 1859 R. F. BURTON in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 116 A place of comparative plenty when the plundering Wahumba do not interfere.

Plu·nderable, *a.* [f. PLUNDER *v.*2 + -ABLE.] That can be plundered or subjected to spoliation.

1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 334 Persons in whose purses any considerable quantity of plunderable matter was seldom to be found. 1825 [see next].

Plunderage (plv·ndərėdʒ). [f. PLUNDER *v.*2 + -AGE.] The action of plundering; pillage, spoliation; *spec.* in *Maritime Law*, 'embezzling goods on shipboard' (Wharton 1848-83); *concr.* spoil obtained by such means.

1796 COLQUHOUN *Treat. Police Metrop.* 427 That Wharfingers should be liable for plunderage of Goods. 1816 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 142/1 Some plunderage took place by the negroes. 1825 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indications* (1830) 26 As plunderable matter increases, so will plunderage. 1831 *Examiner* 139/2 Plunderage of the Chancery Suitors. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. VIII. vii. 363 To form another system of docks at Wapping,..with the view of saving lighterage and plunderage, and bringing the great mass of commerce so much nearer to the heart of the City.

Plunderer (plv·ndərəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1. Cf. obs. Du. *plunderer* (Plantin), G. *plünderer*.] One who plunders; a pillager, spoiler, robber.

1647 [see PLUNDER *sb.* 2]. 1649 PRYNNE *Demurrer to Jews' Remitter* 73 One of them formerly a Trooper and Plunderer in Prince Ruperts army. 1675 COCKER *Morals* 34 Learning, not Gold, defies the Plunderer. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. vi. 417 The plunderer of all Temples, houses, and the whole City. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 169 So dont ye [mice] drive your jokes too far, Ye cupboard-plunderers as ye are. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 214 Of the [Irish] Roman Catholic peasantry..the majority had enlisted in the army or had joined gangs of plunderers.

Hence **Plu·nderess**, a female plunderer.

1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 214 The royal plunderess thought that she could thus .. procure a warm addition to her nest.

Plu·nderless, *a. nonce-wd.* [See -LESS.] Characterized by no plunder or wrongful profit.

1808 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* (ed. 11) 130 A lean and plunderless integrity.

Plunderous (plv·ndərəs), *a. rare.* [f. PLUNDER + -OUS.] Given to or characterized by plundering.

1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) I. 110 Royalism and plunderous Rupertism. 1865 — *Fredk. Gt.* XX. vii. (1872) IX. 147 A foolish love for their horses makes them astonish-

ingly plunderous of forage. 1881 HENFREY in *Antiquary* Apr. 181/2, I think it very likely.. that the owner of this little hoard buried his money on the approach of the King's army, and Rupert's plunderous troopers, in September 1642.

Plunge (plʌndʒ), *sb.* [f. PLUNGE *v.*]

I. 1. A place where one plunges or may plunge; a deep pool, a depth. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 5546 In at a wicket he went, & wynly it speris; Princes pointid it with pik, & he þe plunge entres [L. *descendit in profundum maris*]. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 113 And he lay at the plunge evirmair, Sa lang as any ravin did rair. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Plunge*, a deep pool. *Somerset.*

2. An act of plunging; a sudden downward or head-foremost movement into water or the like; a dive, dip; also *fig.*

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 94 ¶ 9 After his first Plunge into the Sea. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 113 Descartes..was preserved by his strong sense of personal activity, from sinking his individuality in the ocean of being. But..the plunge was made by Malebranche and Spinoza. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* x, Her first plunge into the pleasures of civilized life. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* III. xiii, The plunge of our anchor sent up clouds of birds wheeling and crying over the woods.

3. *transf.* A sudden and heavy or violent pitching forward of the body.

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* 20 Kepe hym [the fish] euer vnder the rodde..: soo that your lyne may susteyne and beere his lepys and his plungys [*a* 1450 plumbes: see PLUMP *sb.*[3] 1]. 1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 123 Like a furious beast wrapt in the cordes..after many a vayne plunge which he giues to breake away. 1889 R. S. S. BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 106 By directing the animal's plunges judiciously I got him also on *terra firma.*

b. A heavy downward blow.

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xiii, Two boys fight..; one of them gets a plunge on the nose.

4. The fall or breaking of a wave; a heavy downpour of rain (*rare*).

1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 616 The weight of the former [water spout], by heavy plunges raised the sea into mountains. *c* 1841 CARLYLE in *Atlantic Monthly* (1898) LXXXII. 450/2 Before that it was as bad as weather at any time need be: long continued plunges of wet [etc.]. 1862 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 96 Then walk or ride three hours under a plunge of rain. 1862 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. *Prel.* 264 The plunge of the implacable seas.

II. 5. The point of being plunged or overwhelmed in trouble, difficulty, or danger; a critical situation, crisis, pinch, stress, strait; a dilemma; esp. in phr. *at* (*in*) *a plunge, to put to* or *into the plunge* or *plunges. Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1535 FISHER *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 1. 415 When a person hath deserued a great open shame, & is broght euen to the plunge of the matter, and yet by the meanes of helpe he is deliuered. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 186 To bee putte to the plounge or makynge or marryng & .. to wynne al, or to lese al. 1553 *Short Catech.* in *Liturgies*, etc. (Parker Soc.) 522 We beseech our Father, that he bring us into no such hard escape and peril, nor leave us in the very plunge of danger. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 900/2 Or if it bee the deuill that worketh by the inchaunters hands, will not men say that God is put to his plunges to ouercome Satan? 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Breviaire, Il est au bout de son breviaire*, he is at a plunge, or nonplus; he hath no more to say. *c* 1656 SIR H. CHOLMLEY *Mem.* (1870) 28 When I was in the greatest plunge for money. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 264 The Captain demanding payment of his Money, put the Prince to a great plunge. 1740 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* VI. vi. III. 670 As he had no great Stock of Argument,..at a Plunge any Thing would be acceptable that came to his Relief. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Enquiries* Wks. (1841) 454 At length, after various plunges and various escapes, it [the Eastern empire] was totally annihilated in the fifteenth century. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Plunge*, a strait, a difficulty. 'I was put to a plunge'. 1884 *Upton-on-Severn Gloss., Plunge*, a falling into, or going under trouble or sickness.

III. 6. = PLONGE.

1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 260 The top [of the parapet] is formed with a slight declivity towards the country, which is called the superior slope, or plunge.

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 'done by or used with a plunge') *plunge-bath, -net*; **plunge-churn**, a simple form of churn consisting of an upright wooden cask in which a plunger is worked up and down; **plunge-pole**, the hollow pump-rod of a pumping-engine (Ogilvie, 1882).

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. ix. 99 Submitting ourselves to a succession of *plunge-baths as often as we trusted our weight on the ice-capped stones above the surface. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 37 Taking headers into the large plunge bath there [at Marylebone Gardens]. 1815 *Pennecuik's Wks.* 84 *note*, A wooden armed chair..a few stools.. and a *plunge churn, completes the inventory of household furniture. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 899 The old-fashioned upright hand plunge-churn is now confined chiefly to the use of small farmers and cottars. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* 64 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) *Choba.*—A *plunge-net, used chiefly in shallow water to capture fish which lay half-concealed in the mud. From Poona.

Plunge (plʌndʒ), *v.* Forms: 4- **plunge**, 5 **plownge**, 5-6 **plounge**, 5-7 **plonge**, (6 **plong**, 6-7 **plundge**). *β.* 5 **plonchyn**, **plounch**, **plunch**(e. [ME. *plunge*(*n*, *plonge*, *plonche*, a. OF. *plunjer* (Oxford Psalter, *a* 1140), *plung*(*i*)*er*, *plong*(*i*)*er*, *ploncier*, *plonchier*, *plouncher*, F. *plonger*, OPicard *plonkier*, Picard dial. *plonquer* to plunge, dive, (according to Diez):—late L. **plumbicāre* to heave the lead, f. *plumbum* lead.]

1. *trans.* To put violently, thrust, or cast *into* (or † *in*) a liquid, a penetrable substance, or a cavity; to immerse, to submerge; in quot. *c* 1380, † to baptize by immersion (*obs.*).

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1085 And het him sone þat he wer dijt, To blessy þe holy fanston,..þe prelat dide al so he hijt, & plungede him sone þer-on. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431/1 Other there wende that the shyppe shold haue broken and be plonged in the see. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxxviii. (1870) 300 To plounge the eyes in colde water in the morenyng. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 15 The riuer Mosa..plungeth him selfe, not in the ocean, but in the Rhene. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 64 Sometimes the one would lift the other quight Above the waters, and then downe againe Her plong. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* (1619-20) II. 371 If thou be not mercifull vnto me, I shall eternally be plundged into the nethermost hell. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 94 ¶ 8 The holy Man bid him plunge his Head into the Water. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 24 Plunge a thermometer into the mixture, and its temperature will be found to be two degrees. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xv. 163 The lance is plunged into the left side. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 77 You have only to plunge a lighted taper into it.

β. c 1440 STAUNTON *St. Patr. Purg.* (1900) 71 Fendes takyng þilk bisshop..and plunchyng him in þat blak water. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 87 Of cursyd custum plounchyd in the myre.

† **b.** *Plunge up*, to heave up, pump up. *Obs.*

1567 in Turberville *Epitaphs* 78 b, Plunge vp a thousande sighes, for griefe your trickling teares distill.

2. *fig.* To thrust, force, or drive *into* (or † *in*) some thing, condition, state, or sphere of action.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. ii. 51 (Camb. MS.) And many folk..wenen þat it be ryght blysful thyng to plowngen hem in voluptuos delit. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6762 Y-plonged in ful gret distresse. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 51 Quhomlit in sorow and plungeit in cair. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 75 The Councels themselves were fouly corrupted with ungodly Prelatisme, and .. plung'd into worldly ambition. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 87 The young Prince having plundg'd himself into the excesses of Wine and Women. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 181 Violent passions always plunge the soul into contrary extremes. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxii. III. 227 The commotion, which .. agitated Syracuse, and threatened to plunge it into a civil war. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 373 We are plunged at once into philosophical discussions.

β. c 1440 LYDG. *Compleynt* 376 in *Temple of Glas*, etc. (1891) 64 Now canst thow sette men aloft, And now hem plonchyn ful vnsoft, Doun from hegh felycyte.

† **3.** *fig.* To overwhelm, overpower, esp. *with* trouble or difficulty; to put to straits, embarrass.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 462 This womans harte is plungid with payn. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 888 Plonget with sorowe, syghynge day and nyght. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 191 What is all this to plunge his abilitie who can do everie thing. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 21 [He] was so plunged and gravelled with three lines of Seneca, that all our Antidotes..could not expel the poyson of his errour. 1681 *Relig. Clerici* 188, I am more and more plunged and puzled in this point.

4. *Gardening.* To sink (a pot containing a plant, less usually, a plant itself) in the ground.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 13 Plunge it [the branch] half a foot under good mould. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 132 Chrysanthemum indicum might be introduced when in bloom, and plunged in the borders as if growing there. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 87, I would recommend plunging the pots, but be sure you have a dry bottom. 1869 P. HENDERSON *Pract. Floriculr.* xxix. 200 (Funk) These pots should be planted, or, as we term it, 'plunged' to the rim, or level with the surface.

5. *intr.* To throw or hurl oneself *into* water or the like; to dive head-foremost; to fall or sink (involuntarily) *into* a deep place (as a pit or abyss); also, to penetrate impetuously *into* a crowd, a forest, or any thing or place in which one is submerged or lost to view.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 355 For the best, and the worthiest ..Plungyt in the stalwart stour, And rowtis ruyd about thaim dang. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5784 How þat þys water ys arayed, þat y schal plungy on. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 112 A yonge childe..that wente forto bathe hym, and happed to plonge and to fall in a depe pitte withinne the ryuer. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xx. 243 Many tymes his hors and he plonged ouer the hede in depe myres. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 105 Accoutred as I was, I plunged in, And bad him follow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 84 From yon high Cliff I plunge into the Main. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* Iv. (1790) 633 It is now fashionable for persons of all ranks to plunge into the sea, and drink the mineral waters. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lix, He plunged into the thickest portion of the little wood. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. 58 Saw the stream plunge into a shaft.

β. c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 96 þe sawle shall plunche into þe depnes of helle.

b. *transf.* To enter impetuously or abruptly *into* (a place). Also with *upon.*

1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 110 We .. plunged into the high road leading to Duclair. 1841-71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 341 Others [tubes] without any vesicular enlargement, plunge at once into different textures, and supply the viscera and internal organs. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 Jan. 5/2 Under a well-organised fire from the works, the Arabs plunged forth upon the square. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 202 He stumbled across the landing and plunged into Torpenhow's room.

c. *transf.* To descend abruptly and steeply; to dip suddenly (as a road or stratum).

1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* ii. 31 They are seen to fold over and plunge to the east-south-east. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* i, The stage-road that plunged from the terrace .. into the valley below.

6. *intr.* To enter impetuously or determinedly *into* some state, condition, or affair; to involve oneself deeply.

a 1694 TILLOTSON (J.), He could find no other way to conceal his adultery, but to plunge into the guilt of a murther. 1714 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, Bid me for honour plunge into a war Of thickest foes. 1771 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 252 The character of their party is to be very ready to plunge into difficult business. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, It was only to plunge into new errors. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 5 We plunge abruptly into the subject of the dialogue.

7. *transf. intr.* To fling or throw oneself violently forward, esp. with a diving action: said of a horse (opposed to REAR *v.*[1] 15 b); of a ship: = PITCH *v.*[1] 19 b; of the chest: to expand with falling of the diaphragm.

1530 PALSGR. 661/2, I plunge, as a horse dothe, *je plonge.* 1633 HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fort. by Land & Sea* III. i. Wks. 1874 VI. 392 Our teems..plunge in pain. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 334 Wounded, he rears aloft, And plunging, from his Back the Rider hurls Precipitant. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xvi. 137 He taught Sawney to rear and plunge, whenever his legs were touched by the broom. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 17 Dick kept plunging with his favourite right-handed hits. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, The frigate..no longer jerked and plunged as before. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 115 The water came in every time the ship plunged. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 287 The chest may plunge, but there is no expansion of the thoracic cavity.

b. *trans.* With complement: To make oneself (weary, etc.) by plunging.

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 95 They will, after they haue plunged themselues weary, fall downe.

c. Of a horse: To throw or pitch by plunging.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 66 At the farther side of the river [he] was plunged by his horse, at his landing, that he was taken up for dead.

† **8.** *trans.* To penetrate by plunging, diving, or digging; to plunge into or through. *Obs. rare.*

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 1 Vaunt not, rich pearl, red coral, which do stir A fond desire in fools to plunge your ground. 1724 RAMSAY *Health* 313 He'll plunge the deep, And with expanded arms the billows sweep.

9. *absol.* Of artillery: To send shot downwards from a higher level. Cf. *plunging fire* in PLUNGING *ppl. a.* **c.**

1815 SCOTT *Paul's Lett.* (1839) 123 Our artillery on the ridge were brought to plunge into it.

10. *intr.* To spend money or bet recklessly; to speculate or gamble deeply; to run into debt. *slang.*

1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxxviii, They plunged as regarded hansoms, paying whatever was asked with an airy prodigality. 1883 MISS BRADDON *Phant. Fort.* xliv, She has been plunging rather deeply. 1886 *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 319 'Plunging' was the order of the day, and lansquenet was the game at which most of this..was done.

Hence **Plunged** *ppl. a.*

1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 177 The plunged state, wherein I lyue and dwell. 1767 BEVIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 378 Depending on the relation of the height *a* to the plunged part.

† **Plungeon.** *Obs.* [a. F. *plongeon* (OF. *plongon*, Flor. et Blanc.) a diver, a bird of genus *Colymbus*, f. *plonger* to dive, PLUNGE + *-eon*:—L. *-iō*(*nem*: cf. PIGEON.] A diving bird; a diver.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. xxii, Because he plongeth contynuelly in such manere, he is called Plongeon or Dyvar. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1704 A Plungeon: a kinde of water fowle with a long reddish bill, *Phalacrocorax.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 296 Among the Alps: where also the Plungeons [L. *mergi*] or bald Rauens be, which heretofore were thought proper and peculiar to the Baleare Islands. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Plungeon* or *Diver*, a sort of water-fowl. Hence 1730-6 in BAILEY (folio); 1755 in JOHNSON.

Plunger (plʌ·ndʒəɹ). [f. PLUNGE *v.* + -ER[1].]

I. 1. One who plunges; a diver. (So F. *plongeur.*)

1611 COTGR., *Plongeur*, a plunger, ducker, diuer. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Plunger*, a diver. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* III. 46 Here, the pride of the plunger, you stride the fall and clear it; Here,..into pure green depth drop down from lofty ledges. 1893 *Tablet* 18 Feb. 272 Would the plunger hold his own in the vortex of troubled waters?

† **b.** A diving bird; *spec.* the Black Gull. *Obs.*

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 194 White Gulls, Grey Gulls, and Black Gulls (commonly termed by the Name of Plungers and Water-Crows).

2. In various technical applications, an instrument or part of a mechanism which works with a plunging or thrusting motion.

a. Any solid piston, as that of a force-pump, *esp.* the piston of a Cornish pump; a hollow piston forming the bucket of a lift-pump. **b.** The dasher of a churn. **c.** The firing-pin in some breech-loading firearms; also, a bolt sliding in a groove on the breech for securing the barrel in firing position. **d.** A metallic cylinder or plug for regulating an electric current. **e.** *Pottery.* A vessel in which clay is beaten to paste or slip. **f.** Short for *plunger-brake* (see 5). Also in other applications: see quots.

1777 MACBRIDE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 115 Stirring it [the leather] up with the utensil called a plunger, which is nothing more than a pole with a knob at the end of it. 1822 J. IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 457 Plungers are pistons that nearly fill the working barrel. 1831 LARDNER *Pneumat.* vi. 312 A heavy beam, or plunger, suspended from a chain, and capable of descending by its own weight in water. 1837 *Flemish Husb.* 62 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Sometimes .. a dog walks in a wheel, which turns the machinery by which the plunger is moved up and down [in churning]. 1839 R. S. ROBINSON *Naut. Steam Eng.* 83 It is .. very

usual to see two plungers attached, one on each side of the cross-head of the air pump; one works a bilge pump, the other the feed pipe. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 355 The barrel is closed by a sliding plunger or bolt, which can be pushed forward against the barrel, or withdrawn for the admission of the cartridge. 1870 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 2 The cartridges fall into slots in the barrels, and are gradually pushed into the firing position by 10 plungers or pistons. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1778/2 The clays are..prepared by mixing them in a plunger containing a large wheel, by which they are, with the addition of water, converted into a mass of the consistency of cream. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 424 Hydraulic power is obtained by a 40-horse engine, pumping the water into two upright cylinders, fitted with solid plungers. 1881 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 2/5 Uxbridge.. signalled a couple of 'beats' to the West Drayton box, when the officer there in charge replied with four beats, pressed the 'plunger' and took off the lock at Uxbridge signals.

II. 3. *Mil. slang.* A cavalry man.

1854 THACKERAY *J. Leech's Pict.* 82 He used rather to laugh at guardsmen, 'plungers', and other military men. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xvi, It's an insult to the whole Guards,..after refusing two of us, to marry an attorney, and after all to bolt with a plunger.

4. *slang.* One who bets, gambles, or speculates rashly or recklessly.

1876 *World* V. No. 115. 4 The prince of plungers, with hat jauntily cocked over one eye. 1877 BESANT & RICE *Son of Vulc.* I. i, Plungers in baccarat, badminton, loo, and opera-dancers. 1892 JESSOPP *Stud. by Recluse* vi. (1893) 192 He took to the turf, .. was a regular plunger, and got deeply into debt.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plunger-button, -case, -pole, -rod*; **plunger-brake**: see quots.; **plunger-bucket, plunger-lift,** in a pump, a bucket having no valve; also = next (*b*); **plunger-piston,** (*a*) a solid cylindrical piston used in a plunger-pump; (*b*) a similar piston used in a pressure-gauge, steam-indicator, etc.; **plunger-pump,** one with a solid piston, as a force-pump.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 3/2 With my *Plunger brake I rode down every inch of the descent from the top of the Grimsel Pass to the Rhone Glacier. [1898 *Cycling* ix. 52 [A brake] actuated by means of a lever attached to the handle bar, which is connected by a hinged joint with a plunger.] 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Plunger-bucket*, one without a valve. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 41/1 Motion is given to the piston, bucket, or *plunger-pole of the pump. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U.S.* 147 Stationary double *plunger pumps. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 52 The water is taken out of the mines by means of two Rittinger telescopic plunger pumps, placed at the present lowest level, one hundred and eighty feet below the adit. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 187 There is also a rack and toothed sector, with a balance weight connected to the inclined plane at the top of the *plunger-rods. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 929 The very unfavourable position in which a man applies his force directly to the plunger-rod of this churn.

Plunging (plʌ·ndʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb PLUNGE in various senses; *spec.* † immersion in baptism (*obs.*).

a 1450 MYRC 609 Whenne thou comest to the plungynge. 1532 FRITH *Mirror* (1829) 234 The sign in baptism, is the plunging down in the material water, and lifting up again. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 93 A mare .. which..was naturally giuen to the vice of plunging. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredh. Gt.* XVIII. vii. (1872) VII. 221, I could..leave Fortune to her whirlings and her plungings. 1883 MRS. BISHOP in *Leisure Ho.* 143/1 At times..came huge plungings, with accompanying splashings.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *plunging bath, -hole, -material, -pit*; **plunging-battery** (*Electr.*), a battery in which the plates may be plunged into or withdrawn from the fluid, when the battery is or is not in use (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **plunging-siphon,** a small tube with open ends, used to draw a small quantity of liquor by plunging it into the bulk, and stopping one end with the finger (Dunglison, 1857).

1843 SIR C. SCUDAMORE *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 70 Neither plunging bath nor douche were used. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 49/2 Plants of two or three sorts should be selected from the cold plunging pits. 1885 ELDER in *Our Corner* V. 177 Cocoanut fibre may be put on as a plunging material into which pots, seed-pans, or boxes can be plunged.

Plu·nging, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That plunges.

a. Of a horse or its action, a wave, a ship, etc.: Diving; rushing or falling forward or downward; pitching; sinking steeply.

1538 ELYOT, *Sternax*, a steerynge or ploungynge horse. 1548 *Ibid.*, *Sternax equus*, a plungyng hors that casteth his ridar. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xvii, The steeds rush on in plunging pride. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 172 Richard, light-hearted as a plunging star. 1875 H. JAMES *Passionate Pilgr.*, etc. 236 She sat on an ivied stone, on the edge of a plunging wall. 1885 BLACK *White Heather* v, In the darkened and plunging waters.

b. *fig.* in various senses: see the verb.

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 37 Most greedy gripes with plunging paines, do pierce my ruthfull hart. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 442 His unbridled licence of language, and his plunging desperate doctrines.

c. Plunging fire, artillery or rifle fire directed downwards from a higher level. Cf. PLUNGE *v.* 9.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Plunging-fire*, .. shot fired at an angle of depression below point-blank. 1891 G. W. BAIRD in *Century Mag.* July 357 The Indians held the sharp crests of the steep hills, and were delivering a plunging fire into the troops.

Hence **Plu·ngingly** *adv.*

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* liii, Fred hesitated an instant, and then went on plungingly.

Plungy (plʌ·ndʒi), *a. rare.* [f. PLUNGE + -Y.] Causing or coming in plunges; bringing heavy showers, rainy (*obs.* or *dial.*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. iii. (Camb. MS.), The fyrmament stant dirked by wete plowngy [*v. r.* ploungy] clowdes. *Ibid.* III. met. i, The sterres shynen more agreablely whan the wynd nothus leteth hise plowngy blastes. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* VII. F iij b, Pufte up with pleasures plungie puffes.

Plunk (plʌŋk), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [In senses 1 and 2 app. echoic; sense 3 may be the same, or an altered form of *plump*: cf. also northern Fr. *plonquer* to plunge. Sense 4 may be from PLUNK *sb.* Sense 5 is of obscure origin: cf. early mod.Du. *plencken* 'vagari, divagari, palari, errare' (Kilian). There may be two or three different words here.]

I. 1. *trans.* To pluck (a string) so as to cause an abrupt vibratory sound; to twang sharply.

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1808) 229 Let Europe plunk her fiddle strings, *Till* them to unison she brings. 1898 *Chicago Advance* 31 Mar. 436/1 Robert marched out plunking the banjo, Charles rattling the bones.

2. *intr.* To croak or cry as a raven. *Sc.*

? *a* 1800 *Scotch Song* (Jam.), The corpie plunkin' i' the bog, Made a' my flesh turn cauld.

II. 3. *intr.* To plump, to drop down abruptly.

1808 JAMIESON, *Plunk*, v. n., to plunge with a dull sound, to plump. 1888 E. MOTT in *Chicago Herald* (Farmer), B' that time the ol' man had plunked inter a bar'l. 1891 J. H. PEARCE *Esther Pentreath* I. i. 15 He 'plunked-down' all-of-a-heap on a neighbouring balk of timber.

III. 4. *trans.* To drive or propel with a sudden push (? like a cork from a bottle).

1884 A. A. PUTNAM *Ten Yrs. Police Judge* v. 29 The especial bull's-eyes which the rocks of reform were aimed to hit, and, as it were plunk out. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invent.* 104 The moving galley's bow was plunking them [oars] back through their own oar-holes. 1899 J. COLVILLE *Scott. Vernacular* 11 (E. D. D.) Whin and broom pods plunkt their peas on ruddy cheeks.

IV. 5. *intr.* and *trans.* To play the truant; to be a truant from. *Sc.*

1808 JAMIESON, To *Plunk*, .. to play the truant. 1870 J. NICHOLSON *Idylls* 36 Shinties to fung the fleeing bool, An' aiblins gar me plunk the schule. 1898 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 28 Oct. 2 He and his brother 'plunked' the school frequently, and were afraid to go home.

Plunk, *sb., adv., int.* Chiefly *dial.* [f. PLUNK *v.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** The action of the verb PLUNK; the resonant sound of a heavy blow, or of a plunge; the blow or plunge itself; also, the sound made by the drawing of a cork, etc.

1809 T. BATCHELOR *Anal. Eng. Lang.* 140 *Pelsy, Plungk*, a blow. 1813 G. BRUCE *Poems* II. 166 In his guid naig's fat rump it [a dirk] stuck: Whilk nae being us'd to sic a plunk, Gae suddenly a fearfu' funk. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 313/1 The King's name, and the plunk of corks drawn to drink his health, resounded in every house. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 167 We hear .. the pistol-like report of beer, and the more soberly alluring plunk! of wine-corks. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 2/1 Suddenly there was a plunk! splash! Haw-haw-ooof! 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 59 Swipey..planted a gob of mud right in the middle of his brow... Beneath the wet plunk of the mud John started back.

2. *slang.* † **a.** A large sum, a fortune. *Obs.* **b.** A dollar. *U. S.*

1767 JOSIAH WEDGWOOD in *Life* x. (1894) 102 He is in no danger of making a Plunk, or what would be esteemed a Fortune by any other than a little country manufacturer. 1901 H. MCHUGH *John Henry* 12 Sarah Bernhardt at five plunks a chair.

B. *adv.* and *int.* With a plunking noise; plump.

1894 [W. D. LATTO] *Tammas Bodkin* XXX, Afore ye cud hae said sax the train played plunk into Moncrieff Tunnel. 1895 'IAN MACLAREN' *Brier Bush* v. 188 They slip aff sudden in the end, and then they juist gang plunk. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 114/2 He poised on the edge of the pier. Then he went down—plunk—and came up in a moment. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* v. 52 [Peas] are a' vera weel in broth, but if ye got them plunk on the jaw wi' a strong chairge o' powder ahint them, they might bring the water to your e'en.

† Plu·nket, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 **plunkett,** 4–7 **plonket,** 5 **-ete, -eut, -ett, plounkette,** 5–6 **ploncket,** 5–8 **plunket,** (6 **plumket, pluncket**). [ME. *plonket, plunket*, app. derived from OF. *plunkié* (1254), *plonquié* lead-coloured, lead-grey, also a kind of grey cloth (pa. pple. of *plonquier* to cover with lead:—late L. **plumbicāre*, f. *plumbum* lead: see PLUNGE *v.*).

The ending *-et* may be the earlier form of *-é*; but cf. other names of coloured fabrics, as BLANKET, BLUET, BURNET, RUSSET, WATCHET. See also BLUNKET (app. an alteration of this, perh. associated with *blanket*); also PLUMBET.]

A. *sb.* A woollen fabric of varying texture, app. of a grey or light blue colour. Cf. BLUNKET *sb.*

1375–6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 582 Pro xij uln. de plunkett. 1377–8 *Ibid.* 586, xiij uln. de Plonket empt. pro tunicis, pro pagettis xiij s. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 493 My master delyverd .. xviij. yerdes of fyne plonket .. to dye into fyne morrey engreyned. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 8 § 4 That this Acte .. extende not .. to the makynge .. of eny clothe called Vervise, otherwise called Plounkettes Turkyns or Celestrines, with broade Lists. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 22 Sodainly the Mount opened, and out came sixe ladies all in Crimosin satin and plunket, enbroudered with Golde and perle. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Plonkets*, a kind of wollen cloth. 1721 C. KING *Brit. Merch.* II. 96 What is become of our noble Manufacture of Plunkets, Violets, and Blues, formerly made in Suffolk? 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 402.

B. *adj.* Of a greyish blue colour; light blue. Cf. BLUNKET *a.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/1 Plunket (*K.*, *P.* coloure), *jacinctus*. 1465–6 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 329, xxiij. narow clothes called statutes, of the .. color of red viij., and of the colour of plonkeut xv. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* (1883) 10 Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 596 In two or thre places the saied sleues were cut, and fastened together againe with a plunket ryband. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 50 The Duke of Vaudosme and his bende in clothe of golde, and pluncket veluet. 1560 Plumket [see PLUMBET, quot. 1533].

Plunther (plʌ·nðəɹ), *v. dial.* [Akin to PLUNDER *v.*1] *intr.* To flounder.

1839–41 S. WARREN *Ten Thous. a Year* ix. I. 274 The little doctor was plunthering on, ankle-deep in snow, towards the vicarage. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 51 We went plunthering along, sinking deeply at every step.

Pluperfect (plu·pə·ɹfĕkt, plū·pə·ɹfĕkt), *a.* (*sb.*) Also **plus-**. [Contracted from *plus-quam-perfect*, ad. L. (*tempus præteritum*) *plus quam perfectum* '(past tense) more than perfect', transl. Gr. (χρόνος) ὑπερσυντελικός. Cf. F. *plus-que-parfait* (1521).

400 MACROBIUS *De different. Verb.* 7 In Græcis verbis quæ in Ω exeunt omne perfectum tempus mutat in fine A in EIN et facit plusquam perfectum quod illi ὑπερσυντελικὸν vocant. *c* 500 PRISCIAN 805 (Putsch) Praeteritum plusquamperfectum, in quo iampridem res perfecta ostenditur.]

1. *Gram.* Applied to that tense of the verb which expresses a time or action completed prior to some past point of time, specified or implied. Also *absol.* or as *sb., ellipt.* for *pluperfect tense.*

1530 PALSGR. 88 The Preter Pluperfit Tens. *Jaudye parlé*, I had spoken. *Ibid.* 113 Verbes actives circumlocute theyr preterperfit and plus perfit tenses throughe all theyr modes, ..with the tenses of *je ay* and the participle preterit. 1599 MINSHEU *Span. Gram.* (1623) 22 Indicatiue moode. Pres. Imperfect. First preterperfect. Second perfect. Pluperfect tense. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 124 The Pluperfect Tense represents a thing, not only as past, but also as prior to some other point of time specified in the sentence: as, 'I had finished my letter before he arrived'. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 52 By means also of the auxiliary verb two other tenses are defined; namely, the imperfect and plusperfect. 1879 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* IV. xvii. § 1487 The Pluperfect denotes an action in past time, done before another past action.

2. *gen.* More than perfect; in quot. 1802 misused for 'superfluous'; *spec.* in *Mus.* (rarely) applied to an augmented (as distinguished from a perfect) fourth or fifth.

1802 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XIII. 12 Junius had a dislike to the letter *k*..: it would have been more rational to indulge an antipathy against *c*, which is a very pluperfect letter, and represents sometimes *k*, sometimes *s*, and sometimes *ts*. 1856 *Leisure Ho.* 31 Jan. 74 It will happen in all binderies .. that on examination certain volumes are found imperfect or pluperfect, either wanting a sheet, or having a sheet too much. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Interval*, Intervals greater than major or normal have been termed (besides *augmented*) extreme, sharp, superfluous, pluperfect. 1876 HULLAH *ibid.* s.v. *Nomenclature*, Imperfect as applied to the exceptional fifth. As an antonym to this I have long used the epithet pluperfect, which has been very largely adopted.

† Plu·racie. *Sc. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *plūs, plūr-* more: cf. med.L. *plūritās*.] = PLURALITY.

1581 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 211/1 It being found maist difficill, That in þe charge of pluracie [*ed.* 1597 pluralitie] of kirkkis ony ane minister may instructe mone [1597 monie] flokis.

Plural (plū·ɹăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 4–5 **plurel,** 5–6 **-ell**(e, 5–7 **-all.** [a. OF. *plurel* (12th c.), or ad. L. *plūrālis* (Quint.), f. *plūs, plūr-* more: see -AL.]

1. *Gram.* Applied to the form of a word which denotes more than one (or, in languages having a dual form, more than two): opposed to *singular.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 237 Three propre persones ac nouȝt in plurel noumbre, For al is but on god. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 171 He moste be i-cleped Argi in þe plural nombre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 285/1 Plurelle, *pluralis*. 1530 PALSGR. 4 The thyrde parsonnes plurelles of verbes actyves in the frenche tonge .. ende in *ent*. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrowes* III. § 72. 320 Nor is it [*Jehovah*] declined: nor hath it the plurall number. 1764 W. PRIMATT *Accentus Redivivi* 111 Provided they were third persons plural. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* ix. § 1 (1862) 113 They speak in the plural number, and the reader is utterly deceived. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 28/1 Quintilian .. observes, that there were some writers..who contended that the dual number, in the third person plural of verbs, was properly marked by the termination *e*; as *consedere* if two persons sate together, *consederunt* if more than two; but, adds he, this rule is observed by none of our best writers.

2. More than one in number; consisting of, containing, pertaining to, or equivalent to, more than one.

Plural livings: see PLURALITY 3. *Plural vote*, the right of giving more than one vote, or of voting in more than one parliamentary constituency; hence *plural voter, voting.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 52 Better haue none Then plurall faith, which is too much by one. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* vii. 66 God is a plurall God, and offers himselfe to all collectively; God is a singular God, and offers himselfe to every man distributively. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 73/1 Until there shall have been devised .. some mode of plural voting which may assign to education, as such, the degree of superior influence due to it, and sufficient as a counterpoise to the numerical weight of the least educated class. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 6 Dec. 6/7 One of the few beneficed clergymen holding plural livings. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.*

10 Aug. 8/1 In spite of the law which forbids it, polygamy still prevails in Utah... In Salt Lake City they don't call it polygamy, but 'plural marriage'.

B. *sb.* a. *Gram.* The plural number. b. The fact or condition of there being more than one.

Plural of excellence or *majesty*, *plural intensive*, terms applied in Hebrew Grammar to a plural sb. used as the name of a single person; the typical example being אֱלֹהִים *ĕlōhīm*, lit. gods, deities, used as the name of (the one) God.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. cxxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Porrum .. is hoc Porrum in þe singuler & hij porri in þe plurel. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* ii. ii. § 56 If respect be had to the severall Arts there professed, Sigebert founded Schools in the plurall. 1756 F. Greville *Maxims* 27 We confess our faults in the plural, and deny them in the singular. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 202/2 The number three, as being the first of plurals. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 186/1 This literary fashion of speaking in the plural, sadly puzzles an old gentleman unused to composition, like myself. 1837 G. Phillips *Syriac Gram.* 103 A *plural of excellence* the Syrians have not. *c* 1860 *Gesenius's Heb. & Chaldee Lex.* 30/2 The plural of majesty, אֱלֹהִים; occurs more than two thousand times. 1898 F. Brown *Heb.-Eng. Lex.* 43 Pl. intensive.

1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 277 Do not make a singular into a plural, as the facetious say of those who break a thing.

Pluralism (plū·răliz'm). [f. Plural + -ism, after Pluralist.] The character of being plural; the condition or fact of being a pluralist.

1. a. *Eccl.* The system or practice of more than one benefice being held at the same time by one person. b. The holding of two or more offices of any kind at one time.

1818 Bentham *Ch. Eng.*, *Catech. Exam.* 248 Obtainment on false pretences, as proved by Non-Residence, Pluralism, and Sinecurism. *a* 1882 Sir R. Christison *Life* (1885) I. 411 Pluralism was at this period [1822] in the ascendant in the Scottish Church. 1892 J. C. Blomfield *Hist. Heyford* 68 The last [century] .. so sadly notorious for the pluralism and non-residence of the parochial clergy. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 24 Nov. 6/2 (*heading*) Justice Buckley on Pluralism in Directorships. *Ibid.*, It did not follow .. that a rich man was the best administrator, but if the system of payment he suggested were adopted there should be an end of pluralism.

2. *Philos.* A theory or system of thought which recognizes more than one ultimate principle: opposed to Monism.

1887 Bowne *Philos. Theism* i. (1902) 62 We replace..the pluralism of spontaneous thought by a basal monism. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 416 Philosophically this is neither Pluralism nor out-and-out Monism. It is not the former because ultimately no other source of being but God, no principle of life but the Divine, is recognised. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 170/2 Thus we reach a pluralism. It is, however, the pluralism, not of Leibnitz, but of Lotze. The monads are not absolute, but interact.

Pluralist (plū·rălist). [f. Plural + -ist.]

1. *Eccl.* One who holds two or more benefices at the same time. Also *attrib.*

1626 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 82 A bill is also talked of for pluralists to allow their curate, of the benefice they reside upon, £50 per annum. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 456 Branded with the odious Names of Pluralists and Non-residents. 1760 Jortin *Erasm.* II. 188 He seems to have had in view.. Cardinal Wolsey, who had been a scandalous pluralist. 1804 *Ann. Rev.* II. 217/1 The Rev. James Hook..had .. taken up the gauntlet in favour of his pluralist and non-resident brethren. 1859 Geo. Eliot *A. Bede* v, A pluralist at whom the severest Church-reformer would have found it difficult to look sour.

b. In extended use, One who combines two or more offices, professions, or conditions. Also *attrib.*

1842 R. Burns *Mem. Rev. Dr. MacGill* i. 14 The idea of a pluralist, he could not..endure; and in his instant declinature of the tempting proposal [of the Chair of History at St. Andrews, when he already had a small country parish] we discover the germ of [his] opposition..to the pluralising system. 1851 Ruskin *Stones Ven.* I. App. v. 354 Patriots rather than pluralists. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Oct. 13 M. Doré is, in fact, a pluralist in point of styles, and he has given us at least three or four distinct and separate ones in this work. 1869 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 2 Mr. White is a pluralist in treasurerships. 1891 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 5/1 The whole land will soon be too hot to hold the pluralists of matrimony [practisers of 'plural marriage']. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 18 May 7/4 Mr. Bowles..never heard of a private secretary who received £300 a year under one vote, and £800 a year under another. .. He objected strongly to these pluralist appointments.

2. *Philos.* One who holds the theory of pluralism.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Pluralistic (plū·răli·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -ic: see -istic.] Of or belonging to a pluralist or to pluralism, in any sense; *spec.* in *Philos.* recognizing more than one ultimate principle in ontology: opposed to Monistic.

1877 Winchell *Sci. & Rel.* ii. (1881) 40 The later Eleatics were pluralistic—holding to the distinction of matter and spirit. 1884 *Lotze's Metaph.* I. 443 What I looked for in vain in other statements of the pluralistic hypothesis. 1892 F. C. S. Schiller *Riddles of Sphinx* 403 The pluralistic answer given to the ultimate question of ontology.

Hence **Plurali·stically** *adv.*

1880 *Athenæum* 25 Dec. 851/3 [Julius Bahnsen's] philosophy..defines the 'Ding an sich' of Schopenhauer, the Will, pluralistically, and not, as Hartmann does, monistically.

Plurality (pluræ·liti). [a. OF. *pluralite* (14th c.), ad. late L. *plūrālitās* (Ambrose), f. *plūrāl-is* Plural.]

I. Related in sense to *plural.*

1. The state of being plural; the fact or condition of denoting, comprising, or consisting of more than one.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xviii. xxxii. (MS. Bodl.), Pluralite of hornes folowiþ þe clifte of fote [in four-footed beasts]. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Of Cert. Places of Script.* I. (1859) 374 The plurality of wives was by a special prerogative suffered to the fathers of the Old Testament. 1624 Gataker *Transubst.* 183 To shew how in one nature there may be a plurality of persons. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., A plurality of worlds is a thing which Mr. Huygens has endeavoured to prove in his Cosmotheoros. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 103 Many of the Armenian nobles still refused to abandon the plurality of their gods and of their wives. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 27 The..question of the unity or plurality of authorship of the poem. 1898 J. R. Illingworth *Divine Immanence* (1904) vii. 86/2 The fact that there is plurality, triune plurality in God.

b. The fact of there being many; numerousness; hence, a large number or quantity; a multitude.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 27, I haue studiede that hit schal be called *Policronicon* of the pluralite of tymes whom it dothe conteyne. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 7 In sic pluralite of writaris my fame is obscure and of litill estimatioun. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 445 Pluralitie of meit and drink siclike, Forbiddin wes bayth for puir and ryke. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* iv. iii, Doe you count it lawfull to haue such pluralitie of seruants? 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 37 Through a good Microscope, he may easily see..variety in the plurality, paucity, and anomalous Situation of eyes. 1859 Mill *Liberty* iii. (1865) 42/2 Europe is, in my judgment, wholly indebted to this plurality of paths for its progressive and many-sided development. 1866 Rogers *Agric. & Prices* I. xx. 512 The money-chest was also secured by a plurality of locks.

2. *Eccl.* a. The holding of two or more benefices or livings concurrently by one person. b. A benefice or living held concurrently with another or others; *pl.* two or more benefices held together.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 197 Dewid he is also, And haþ possessions & pluralites for pore menis sake. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 18 Alle þey bene acurssed, þat receyvin & holdyn pluralyte of cherchys. 1551 Crowley *Pleas. & Pain* 533 Geue ouer your pluralities..betake you to one benifice. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 325 Who ingrosse many pluralities under a non-resident and slubbring dispatch of soules. *a* 1715 Bp. Burnet *Own Time* vii. (1823) VI. 646 The scandalous practices of non-residence and pluralities. *Ibid.*, I do not reckon the holding poor livings that lie contiguous, a plurality, where both are looked after, and both afford only a competent maintenance. *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 50 There are two congregations in North-Haven: a Presbyterian, and an Episcopal. The latter is a small plurality, under the care of a neighbouring minister. 1877 Freeman *Norm. Cong.* (ed. 3) II. vii. 83 This holding of sees in plurality..was by no means uncommon at the time.

c. *transf.* of offices or positions generally.

1678 Lady Chaworth in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 47 Some mention the laying sums upon all pluralities of qualities, dignities, and offices. 1850 Lyell *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 82 Some wealthy slave-owners of Alabama have estates in Mississippi. With a view of checking the increase of these 'pluralities', a tax has recently been imposed on absentees. 1893 *Law Times* XCIV. 452/1 There is a growing feeling that plurality in the matter of directorships is dangerous and to be deprecated.

II. Related in sense to L. *plus* more.

Etymologically, these are improper uses, being in form derivatives of *plural*, while in sense they are derivatives of *plūs, plūr-*. On the analogy of *major-ity*, *minor-ity*, *superior-ity*, etc., the etymological form is Plurity.

3. The greater number or part; more than half of the whole; = Majority 3. [At first Scotch, from F. *pluralité.*]

1578 *Bk. Univ. Kirk of Scotl.* (Bann. Cl.) 412 For electioun of ane Moderatour, Mrs Johne Row, David Fergusone and Johne Duncansone was proponit in leits, and be pluralitie of votes Mr Johne Row [Minister at Perth] was chosin Moderatour. 1581 *Ibid.* 522 The said Mr Johne, be pluralitie of votes, was chosin Moderator hac vice. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 228 The pluralitie of voices refusing to accept the armes. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* (1839) 528 To bring the people together, to elect them by plurality of votes. 1654 Fuller *Comm. Ruth* (1868) 37 Verity consisteth not in the plurality of voices. 1683 Evelyn *Mem.* (1857) II. 187 The plurality of the younger judges and rising men judged it otherwise. 1703 Duke of Queensberry in Ellis *Orig. Letters* Ser. II. IV. No. 394. 227 This was thrown out by a great plurality. 1794 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 91/1 The plurality..of their chiefs endeavoured in vain to stem the torrent of disobedience. 1823 *Niles' Register* XXIV. 217/2 At the late election..[in Maine], only three gentlemen were chosen...Neither of the others had a plurality of the whole number of votes. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 74 Socrates would rather not decide the question by a plurality of votes.

4. *U. S. Politics.* An excess of votes polled by the leading candidate in an election above those polled by the one next to him, in cases where there are three or more candidates; as distinguished from *majority*, which in such cases is applied to an absolute majority of all the votes given.

(The earlier sense (3) was in use in 1823: see above.)

1828 Webster s. v., In elections, a plurality of votes is when one candidate has more votes than any other, but less than half of the whole number of votes given. 1846 Worcester s. v., A candidate, in an election, receives a plurality of votes, when he receives more than any other candidate; and he receives a majority of votes, when he receives more than all others. 1864 Webster s. v., *Plurality of votes*, the excess of votes cast for one individual over those cast for any other of several competing candidates. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Nov. 4/7 Governor Cleveland had a thousand plurality in New York State, and was elected President. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 8/2 He ran again last fall, and had a plurality over the Republican candidate; but as it requires in that State [Connecticut] a majority over all to elect, the Legislature elected his Republican competitor.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 307 The non-resident and plurality-gaping Prelats, the gulphs and whirle pooles of benefices. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 863 The differences on which the plurality hypothesis is founded.

Pluralize (plū·rălaiz), *v.* [a. F. *pluraliser*: see Plural and -ize.]

1. *trans.* To make plural; to attribute plurality to; to express in the plural.

1803 *Monthly Mag.* XV. 3 We cannot well avoid the use of many ancient words unaltered, as English nouns; but I would lay it down as a rule, never to pluralize them by inflection, but simply by the addition of the *s* or *es*. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 520 Gulliver, to magnify present times, pluralises them all and each. 1864 *Mattie, a Stray* II. 251 'Perhaps it serves *us* right', said Mattie, pluralizing the case after her old fashion. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 382 Those words which we have adopted from Latin or Greek..unaltered, have usually been pluralised according to Greek and Latin grammar.

b. *intr.* Of a word or phrase: To become plural; to assume plural form.

1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 599 Any part of speech will assume in compounding the substantive character, and will pluralise as such.

2. *intr.* To hold more than one benefice (or office) at one time; to be or become a pluralist.

1842 [see Pluralist 1 b]. *a* 1875 [see Pluralized].

Hence **Pluralized** *ppl. a.*, **Plu·ralizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pluraliza·tion**, the act of pluralizing; **Plu·ralizer**, *spec.* = Pluralist 1 (Webster 1864).

1813 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* LXXI. 475 The pluralizing formulas [in language]. 1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* I. ix. 133 Clement, by his use of a pluralising phraseology in the first person, shews us [etc.]. *a* 1875 R. S. Hawker *Prose Wks.* (1893) 169 A pluralised clergyman of the days of the Georges. 1878 H. Spencer in *Pop. Sc. Monthly* July 300 'Inferiors invariably use the third person plural in addressing their superiors': a form which, while dignifying the superior by pluralization, increases the distance of the inferior by its relative indirectness.

Plurally (plū·răli), *adv.* [f. Plural + -ly2.] In the plural number; so as to express or imply more than one; in a plural manner.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 345 Whan God bihiȝte Abraham þat he shulde ȝyve þat lond to him and to his seed, he seid not pluraliche, þat he shulde ȝyve it to his seedis. 1552 Latimer *1st Serm. Lord's Prayer* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 5 Mark that he saith, *advocatum, non advocatos.* He speaketh singularly, not plurally. *a* 1666 C. Hoole *Accidence* (1671) 3 Nouns be declined with six Cases, Singularly and Plurally. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Cor. xii. 23, 24 That Christ gave it them together plurally. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. vii. iv. § 27. 152 'The heavens' when used plurally.. remained expressive of the starry space beyond. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 5 Mar. 4/6 Mormons who were (plurally) married before polygamy was made illegal.

†**Plura·nimous**, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *plūs, plūr-* more + *animus* mind + -ous; after *unanimous.*] Not unanimous.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 28, I could demonstrate it to be Heterogeneous, Heterodoxous,..Omnigenous, Pluranimous.

†**Plu·rar**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *plūs, plūr-* more + -ar; = OF. *plurier* plural: app. after *singular*, F. *singulier.*] = Plural.

a 1613 Overbury *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 93 To bee briefe he is a Heteroclite, for hee wants the plurar number.

Plurasie, -esie, -esy, obs. forms of Pleurisy.

Plurative (plū·rătiv), *a.* [ad. L. *plūrātīvus* adj. (Gell.) plural, f. L. *plūs, plūr-* more, after grammatical terms in *-ātīvus*, as *nōminātīvus, comparātīvus, indicātīvus*, etc. So obs. F. *pluratif* (E. Deschamps in Godef.).]

†1. *Gram.* = Plural *a.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1585 Foxe *Serm. on 2 Cor. v.* 6 This nominative (*Nos*) in the plurative number, is not here to be expounded after the stile of Rome.

2. *Logic.* (See quots.)

1867 Atwater *Elem. Logic* 102 Plurative Judgments are those in which more than half, but not all of the subject is taken. 1870 Jevons *Elem. Logic* xxii. 191 The name of Plurative propositions has been proposed for all those which give a distinct idea of the fraction or number of the subject involved in the assertion.

Pluri- (plū·ri), combining form of L. *plūs, plūr-* more, pl. *plūr-ēs* several, as in the following:

Plurica·psular *a.*, having several capsules, as a radiolarian. **Plurice·llular** *a.*, composed of several cells. **Plurice·ntral** *a.*, having more than one centre or nucleus. **Pluricipital** *a. Bot.* [L. *caput, -cipit-* head], having more than one head, as a root-crown (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Pluricu·spid** *a.*, having several cusps, as a tooth. **Pluride·ntate** *a.*, having several tooth-like processes or appendages (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pluriflagellate** *a. Zool.*, having many flagella (*ibid.*). **Pluriflo·rous** *a.* [L. *flōs, flōr-* flower], many-flowered (*ibid.*). **Plurifoeta·tion**, the conception of more than one fœtus at once. **Plurifo·liate** *a. Bot.* [L. *folium* leaf], having many leaves (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Plurifo·liolate** *a. Bot.* [L. *foliolum* leaflet], having many leaflets, as a compound leaf

(Webster 1864). **Plurigu·ttulate** *a. Bot.* [L. *guttula* droplet, f. *gutta* drop], containing many drops or drop-like bodies (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pluri·li·teral,** *Heb. Gram.* [L. *littera* letter], *a.* containing more than three letters in the root; *sb.* a root consisting of more than three letters: cf. BILITERAL, TRILITERAL. **Plurilo·cular** *a. Biol.* [L. *loculus* little place], containing many cavities or cells. **Plurima·mmate** *a. Zool.* [L. *mamma* pap], having more than two paps (*S. S. Lex.*). **Plurino·minal** *a.* [L. *nōmen* name], consisting of or involving more than one name; *spec.* in *Nat. Hist.*, applied to a system of nomenclature or a name not confined to two terms; polynomial. **Plurinu·cleate** *a.*, having several nuclei; so **Plurinu·cleated** *a.* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pluripa·rtite** *a.*, deeply divided with numerous incisions (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858): cf. PARTITE. **Plurise·ptate** *a.*, having several septa or partitions (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Plurise·rial** *a.*, consisting of several series or rows; hence **Plurise·rially** *adv.* **Plurise·riate** *a.*, arranged in several series. **Plu·risetose** *a. Bot.* and *Zool.*, having many setæ or bristles (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Plurispi·ral** *a.*, having many spiral coils (*ibid.*). **Pluri·sporous** *a.*, having more than one spore (*ibid.*). **Plu·rivalve** *a. Bot.* and *Zool.*, having several valves or appendages of valve-like form; multivalve (*ibid.*). **Pluri·vorous** *a.* [L. *-vorus* devouring], living or feeding on hosts belonging to widely differing families, as a fungus.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pluricapsular. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 61 Among the branched forms,..those described under the unicellular hairs recur as *pluricellular. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 908 Cancers either started from one centre (unicentral or monocentral), or from many centres (multicentral or *plurocentral). 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 194 A jaw-like bar with *pluricuspid teeth. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Plurifetation. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Pluriliteral [*adj.* and *sb.*]. 1831 LEE *Hebr. Gram.* (1832) 221 On these pluriliteral verbs [etc.]. 1839 PAULI *Analecta Hebr.* xxviii. 209 It does not belong to the province of this book to trace the Pluri-literals..to their original roots. 1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 83 Having the appearance of being *plurilocular, but proceeding from an unilocular ovarium. 1881 *Times* 12 Mar. 11/2 M. Gambetta..is thought to be anxious to return to the *plurinominal system of voting..while M. Grévy.. adheres to the uninominal system. *Ibid.*, According to the alternative system of *scrutin de liste*, or plurinominal method of voting, the department is taken as the electoral unit. 1888. COUES in *Auk* VI. 320 (Cent. Dict.) Perceiving sundry objections to binomial, etc., some have sought to obviate them by using binominal, uninominal, plurinominal, etc. 1887 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 190/1 Small and *pluriserial on the upper parts of the body and tail, large and uniserial on the abdomen, and generally biserial on the lower side of the tail. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 521 In general so arranged that the sieve-tubes form single, biseriate, or *pluriseriate, tangential rows. 1899 *Nat. Sci.* Dec. 389 Professor Dietal..considers the question of their descent from one or more *plurivorous forms—forms, that is, which inhabited indifferently hosts belonging to the most different families of flowering plants.

Plurice, obs. form of PLEURISY.

‖ **Pluries** (plūə·ri,īz), in full **Pluries capias.** *Law.* [L. = '(thou mayest take) several times': late L. *plūriēs* oftentimes, frequently, f. *plūs, plūr-* more, several.] The name given to a third writ of attachment, issued when the first (see CAPIAS) and second (see ALIAS *sb.* 2) prove ineffectual; so called from the Latin phrase *pluries capias* occurring in the first clause.

1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 109/2 To award and directe the seide Writts of Pluries Capias and Exigent, to the Shiref. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 217 Your councell thynketh it were well don that ye gete an *allias* and a *pluries* that it myght be sent don to the scheryf and than he can mak non excuse. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Nat. Brev.* 19 If he make [nat] execution, then shal there go out a sicut alias..and after that one pluries. 1607 MIDDLETON *Phœnix* II. iii. F ij b, For all your *Demurres, Plures, Sursurarers*, which are all Longswords: that's Delaies: al the comfort is, in nine yeares a man may overthrowe you. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiv. 314 If he cannot be taken upon the first *capias*, a second, and a third shall issue, called an *alias* and a *pluries capias*.

† **Plurifa·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *plūrifārius* manifold, various (f. *plūs, plūr-* more: cf. *multifārius*) + -OUS.] Manifold, multifarious.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Plurifarious*, of divers fashions.

† **Plu·rified,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of a vb. **plurify*, a. obs. F. *plurifier* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. med.L. *plūrificāre* to multiply, increase, f. *plūs, plūr-* more: see -FY.] *lit.* Made more than one, multiplied, multiple; hence *Eccl.* Holding a plurality of livings.

1590 [J. GREENWOOD] *Confer.* iii. 57 Endowed Curats..are but the Parsons substitutes to help a dumbe or plurified Parson. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 85 What do they with these plurified liuings? 1604 H. JACOB *Reasons*, etc. 29 Plurified men may haue their 2 Benefices neare togither.

Pluriparous (pluri·părəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *pluripar-us* (f. *plūs, plūr-* more + *-parus* bearing) + -OUS.]

1. *Zool.* Bringing forth two or more at a birth.

1882 OGILVIE cites H. SPENCER.

2. Being the mother of two or more children.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pluripa·rity,** pluriparous state.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pluripresence (plūə·ripre·zĕns). [f. L. *plūs, plūr-* more + PRESENCE.] Presence in more than one place at the same time.

1773 JOHNSON 7 May in *Boswell*, (*Toplady*) Does not their invocation of saints suppose omnipresence in the saints? (*Johnson*) No Sir, it supposes only pluri-presence. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 496 What was more impolitic than to reject the services of good soldiers, seamen, lawyers, diplomatists, financiers, because they hold unsound opinions about the number of the sacraments or the pluripresence of saints? 1865 LECKY *Ration.* I. i. 80 The miracle of transubstantiation seems to destroy all the improbability of the pluri-presence of a human body.

Plurisie, -sy, obs. forms of PLEURISY.

‖ **Pluris petitio** (plūə·ris pĭti·ʃio). *Sc. Law.* [L. *petītio* asking, *plūris* of more.] The asking more judicially than is truly due.

1760 LD. KAMES *Equity* I. I. (1767) 226 It is admitted that where the *pluris petitio* is occasioned by an innocent error ..the adjudication ought to be supported as a security for what is justly due. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v., Where an adjudication is led for a larger sum than what is actually due to the adjudging creditor, it is said to be a *pluris petitio*. 1902 *Scotsman* 3 Jan. 7/3 It is not, I am afraid, a mere matter of pluris petitio. For it brings up at once a difficulty which goes to the substance of the demand.

† **Plu·rity.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *plūritās*, f. *plūs, plūr-* more: see -ITY.] *prop.* Moreness (cf. PLURALITY II): but in quot. = PLURALITY 2.

1600 THYNNE *Epigrams* xiii. 1 Pruritie of wemenn.. Seekes pluritie of men to worke satisfaction.

Plurocentral, erron. f. *pluricentral*: see PLURI-.

Plus (plʊs). [a. L. *plūs* more. As in the case of MINUS (q. v.), the quasi-prepositional sense I did not exist in Latin, but the words *plus* and *minus* were used by Leonardo of Pisa in 1202 for the excess and deficiency in the results of two suppositions in the Rule of Double Position.

The signs + and − are used, app. as well-known signs, in the *Behende und hübsche Rechnung auf allen Kauffmannschafft* of Joh. Widmann 1489 (and subseq. edd. to 1526); but while he refers to the latter as *minus*, the former is said to stand for *mer* (i.e. *mehr*) 'was − ist, das ist minus, und das +ist das mer'. So far as yet collected, English examples of *plus* do not occur so early as those of *minus*.

As to the origin of the symbol +, various conjectures have been made; perhaps the most likely is that it originated in the MS. abbreviation of the L. *et* 'and' (which Leonardo always uses in his additions). Cantor *Vorlesungen über Geschichte der Mathematik* (1899) II. 230–1, from which these facts are mainly taken, cites, from mathematical MSS. of the beginning of the 15th c., and a non-mathematical MS. of the beginning of the 14th, a form of & = *et* which might easily pass into +.]

1. quasi-*prep.* Placed between two expressions of number or quantity to indicate that the second is to be added to the first. In mathematical use only as the oral rendering of the symbol +. Hence, in non-technical use: With the addition of; with... besides. (Opp. to MINUS 1.)

1668 [see 4]. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 58 Four like Rowers shall move the same Vessel..12000 feet, in 1800 seconds *plus* 360 seconds, or in all 2160 seconds. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Character*, It [+] is also the sign of addition, and is read *plus*, or *more*; thus 9+3 is read 9 *plus* 3, or 9 more 3; that is, 9 added to 3, or the sum of 9 and 3, equal to 12. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. xii. § 4 (1872) 224/1 Wages plus the allotment. 1850 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 86 A compound of one equivalent of hydrogen plus two of oxygen. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 58/1 The same sum as that stated in the balance order, *plus* further interest.

b. *predicatively.* † (*a*) Abundantly supplied *with*, containing an excess of something (*obs. rare*⁻¹); (*b*) *colloq.* Having (something) in addition, having gained (opp. to MINUS 1 b).

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 462 In all chalky soils, and such as are plus with the calcareous principle. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xii. 132 Bonsall was minus a big toe-nail, and plus a scar upon the nose.

2. As the oral rendering of the sign + in its algebraical use to denote a positive quantity, as $+x$, read *plus x*. Hence *attrib.* or *adj.* in *plus quantity*, a quantity having the sign + prefixed (or not having the sign −), a positive quantity. (Only as opp. to MINUS 2, 2 b.)

1579 [see MINUS 2].

b. *Electr.* (*a*) *adv.* Positively. (*b*) *adj.* Positive; positively electrified. (Opp. to MINUS 2 d.)

1747 [see MINUS 2 d]. 1789 NICHOLSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 279 When the one ball was electrified *plus* and the other *minus*, the signs of both electricities appeared. If the interval was not too great, the long zig-zag spark of the *plus* ball struck to the strait flame of the *minus* ball. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 112 The small residuary charge will be *plus*. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 225 Electrified + or plus.

3. *adj.* Additional, extra.

1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) II. 79 When they are abroad, it is at a plus-expense. 1869 *Daily News* 19 May, Somehow or other no Bill securing the tenant the plus-value added to the land by his labour and industry has yet been passed. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Plus System*, also called 'bonus' system, is one by which a certain proportion of wages, called 'subsistence money', is paid every day, and the remainder on the completion of the job or contract. This remainder is called the *plus*, or 'contingent money'. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 5/1 After a ship was discharged, there was generally 8s. or 9s. for the men to receive as 'plus' money. 1897 *Ibid.* 18 Feb. 8/1 The disposal of the 'plus values', that is, surplus of the revenues assigned to the service of the debt.

4. *sb.* in various applications. a. The mathematical symbol +; also *plus sign.* b. A quantity added; something additional or extra; an addition, a gain. c. A positive quantity (also *fig.*). Opp. to MINUS 3.

1654 [see MINUS 3]. 1668 BRANCKER *Introd. Algebra* 3 The Sign for Addition is + i.e. *Plus*, more. 1685, 1708 [see MINUS 3]. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Addition*, The character of Addition is +, which we usually express by *plus*. [*Ibid.*, *Positive quantities* are design'd by the character + prefixed to them, or supposed to be prefixed.] 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxvi, A slate-full of plusses, minusses. 1843 MILL *Logic* v. vii. § 2 (1856) II. 396 *Minus* multiplied by *plus* gives *minus*, and *minus* multiplied by *minus* cannot give the same product as *minus* multiplied by *plus*. 1862 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* 131 The *plus* quantities, or—if I may be allowed to coin an awkward plural—the *pluses*, make a very positive and venerable appearance in the world. 1891 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 3/1 Representatives of the dockers watched over their interests in the matters of labour, pay, and 'plus'.

‖ 5. *Plus minus* [late L.]: more or less. *Obs.*

1615 CORYAT *Crudities*, etc. (1776) III. L ij b, The Persians [revenues are] fiue millions *plus minus*. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* i. 1 There were two thousand years, *plus minus*, before the law.

‖ **Plus-chaud,** *a. Obs.* Also **plusechaud.** [F. (plʉ ʃo) hotter.] Extra hot.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 299 Bote hit weore Fresch Flesch or elles Fisch I-Fri3et, Bope chaud and pluschaud for chele of heore Mawe. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 130 Metes of þe best.. well di3t wiþ spicerie chaud and plusechaud.

Plush (plʌʃ), *sb.* [ad. F. *pluche*, contracted form of *peluche* a hairy fabric, shag, plush = OSp. *peluza*, mod.Sp. *pelusa* down on fruit, nap on cloth, velvet, Cat. *pelussa* down on fruit (cf. It. *peluccio, peluzzo* a little hair, soft down, fine hair), f. late L. type **pilūceus, -ea*, f. L. *pilus* hair.]

1. A kind of cloth, of silk, cotton, wool, or other material (or of two of these combined), having a nap longer and softer than that of velvet; used for rich garments (esp. footmen's liveries), upholstery, etc. In quot. 1633, taken as the typical livery of the 'fool' or clown.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 50 The trappings of his horse were pounced and bolstered out with rough plumed siluer plush. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 338 Wast coats of silke plush laying by. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1650) 25 He sate alone, upon Cushions, of a kinde of excellent Plush, blew. 1633 SHIRLEY *Bird in Cage* v. i, All places he is free of, and fooles it without blushing At Maskes and Playes, is not the Bayes thrust out, to let the plush in. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 72 A fair silk Cassock, richly lin'd with Plush. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 11 As yet black breeches were not, satin smooth, Or velvet soft, or plush with shaggy pile. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.* s. v., Plush may be described roughly as long-napped velvet, and any kind of stuff may be used in its manufacture—cotton, silk, wool, any kind of hair, or even swansdown.

b. *pl.* Plush breeches (as worn by footmen).

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxiv, A footman in green plushes and a powdered head. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 14 His lace-bedaubed coat, gold-gartered plushes and stockings.

2. *transf.* A natural substance likened to the preceding.

a 1619 FLETCHER *Knt. Malta* I. i, O my black swan, sleeker than signet's plush. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. xiii. (1718) 177 The proud summer-meadow, which to day Wears her green plush, and is to morrow hay. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 117/1 Plush [is] the middle of..Marigolds, &c., of some termed..Thrummy heads; of others Hairy heads. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* (1874) 56 Eggs, from which emerge ..bodies enveloped in a soft plush of grey yarn.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.*, usually in sense Made or consisting of plush; also, of or pertaining to plush. (In quots. 1629, *a* 1640, Clad in plush.)

1629 B. JONSON *New Inn*, *Ode to Himself*, Brave plush and velvet-men. *a* 1640 DAY *Parl. Bees* To Rdr. (1881) 9 Some Plush-Midas that can read no further But 'Bees'. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 28 They unmantled him of a new plush cloak. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 31 Riding in black plush breeches. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* vii, Pea-green plush inexpressibles.

b. *Comb.*, as *plush-weaver*; *plush-coloured, -covered, -wearing* adjs.; **plush-copper** (see quot.); **plush-stitch**, a kind of stitch in worsted or wool work, forming projecting loops which can be cut so as to make a long nap as in plush; **plush-velvet**, a kind of plush with short nap, resembling velvet; **plush-velveteen**, a cotton plush imitating silk plush as velveteen does velvet.

1678 T. JORDAN *Triumphs Lond.* 7 A Sky-colour'd Scarf Fringed with Silver, *Plush-colourd Hose. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Plush-copper*, chalcotrichite, a fibrous red copper ore. 1882 Miss BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 58 In the spacious *plush-covered chair. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 252 The *plush-weavers.. took into consideration a general stoppage of the looms.

Plush, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. prec. sb.] **a.** *intr.* Of velvet: To have the nap crushed or flattened by pressure or wet. **b.** *To plush it*: to wear plush, i. e. to act as footman.

1867 W. H. L. TESTER *Poems* 54 He plush'd it there for many a day. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 8/5 Corduroy velvet would certainly look well, but it would be less suitable than the woollen on account of its greater weight and liability to 'plush' with damp or pressure.

Plushed (plʌʃt), *a.* [f. PLUSH *sb.* + -ED 2.] **a.** Made with a long nap like plush. **b.** Clad in plush, wearing plush. **c.** Of velvet, etc.: Having the pile crushed or flattened.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 171 Hidden vnder cloth rough plushed and wouen like eglantine and woodbine. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 438 The plushed poacher pursuing the ptarmigan. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 368 The Latins used a sort of thick, plushed, cloth.

† **Plu·sher.** *dial. Obs.* [app. f. **plush* vb., in mod.Cornish dial. *plosh* to plunge or splash in water or mud; cf. *plosher* a half-grown bream.] Some kind of sea fish.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 34 The Pilcherd are pursued and devoured by a bigger Kinde of fish, called a Plusher, being somewhat like the Dog-fish.

Plushette (plʌʃe·t). [f. PLUSH *sb.* + -ETTE: cf. *flannelette*, etc.] An inferior kind of plush.

1887 *Queen* 29 Oct. 558/2 Your plushette is a lovely colour. 1893 MRS. T. COKE *Gentlew. at Home* vi. 87 Curtains .. of Indian red plushette.

Plushy (plʌ·ʃi), *a.* [f. PLUSH *sb.* + -Y.] **a.** Of the nature of or resembling plush; soft and shaggy. **b.** Covered or adorned with plush.

1611 FLORIO, *Villóso* .. shaggie, plushie, or hauing a high nap. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 169 The top of the stalk supports a blunt-pointed conic plushy tuft. 1890 H. M. STANLEY *Darkest Africa* I. xi. 250 A variegated green of plushy texture. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Epis.* 190 The horrid plushy little room.

Plu·squam-, L. *plus quam* more than, as in *plus quam perfectum* pluperfect, used with adjs. to form compounds, chiefly humorous nonce-wds.

1824 *Edin. Rev.* XLI. 15 By a kind of *plusquam-perfecting* operation. 1832 *Examiner* 49/2 The plusquam perfect wisdom of Legislators. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* i, Long constructions strange and plusquam Thucydidean. 1896 *Daily News* 6 June 5/7 Fanatics of the ultra-clerical and the plusquam-clerical type.

Plutarchian (plutā·rkiăn), *a.* [f. L. *Plutarchi-us* adj. from *Plutarchus*, Gr. Πλούταρχος, proper name (lit. master of riches).] Pertaining to Plutarch, a famous Greek biographer of the first century A. D.; hence, of the class of distinguished men whose lives were written by Plutarch.

1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcvi. XII. 512 *note*, In the next page of the very same Plutarchian life. 1899 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 6/2 Plutarchian heroes were they, in their virtues.

So **Pluta·rchic, -ical** *adjs.*; hence **Pluta·rchically** *adv.*, in the style or after the comparative manner of Plutarch in his 'Lives'.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 588 Comparing me most Plutarchically with Waithman.

Plutarchy (plū·tărki). [f. Gr. πλοῦτος wealth, riches + -αρχία rule; after *monarchy*, etc.] The rule or dominion of wealth, or of the wealthy; plutocracy.

c 1643 *Maximes Unfolded* 28 When the best in wealth and estates governe the poore, it is called Plutarchie, the Empire of riches. 1652 [see PLUTOMANIA 1]. 1834-43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cii. (1862) 233 We had our monarchy, our hierarchy, our aristocracy,..but we had no plutarchy, no millionaires, no great capitalists to break down the honest and industrious trader with the weight of their overbearing and overwhelming wealth. 1890 A. CARNEGIE in *Pall Mall G.* 5 Sept. 7/1 It is said that in America, although we have no aristocracy, we are cursed with a plutarchy... A man who carries a million dollars on his back carries a load. He cannot be elected for anything.

‖ **Pluteus** (plū·ti,ŭs). Pl. **plutei** (-i,əi). [L. *pluteus*: see sense 1.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.*, etc. **a.** *Arch.* A barrier or light wall placed between columns. **b.** *Mil.* A kind of shed or penthouse for protection of the soldiers, sometimes movable and running on wheels. **c.** A shelf for books, small statues, busts, etc.

1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. ii. 16 The pillars of the upper portico..stood upon a sort of *pluteus*. 1895 *Nation* (N.Y.) 9 May 359/1 The entrance and the wooden ceiling, as well as the reading-desks or *plutei*, were of Michelangelo's designing.

2. *Zool.* The larva of an echinoid or ophiuroid: known from its shape as the 'painter's easel larva'.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 565 Where an Echinopaedium stage exists, the larva is a Pluteus. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 569 The free swimming larva [in Ophiuroidea] is a Pluteus, and differs from the Echinoid Pluteus in possessing a pair of lateral arms.

Hence **Plu·teal** *a.*, pertaining to a pluteus; **Plu·teiform** *a.*, of the form of a pluteus (sense 2).

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 544 The vermiform Holothurid and the pluteiform Ophiurid or Echinid larvae. 1900 E. R. LANKESTER *Treat. Zool.* III. 292 The young of Echinus .. undergo metamorphosis during the development and resorption of the pluteal skeleton.

Plutocracy (plutǫ·krăsi). Also **plout-**. [ad. Gr. πλουτοκρατία, f. πλοῦτο-ς wealth, riches + -κρατία power: see -CRACY. So F. *plutocratie*.]

1. The rule or sovereign power of wealth or of the wealthy.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 270 That poverty is an enemy to the exercise of vertue, is not unknown to any acquainted with Plutocracy, or the sovereign power of money. 1839 *Morn. Herald* 3 Sept., Of all systems of tyranny a plutocracy is the most cruel, selfish, and grinding. 1887 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* Jan. 17 Let us be jealous of ploutocracy, and of its tendency to infect aristocracy, its elder and nobler sister; and learn, if we can, to hold by or get back to some regard for simplicity of life. 1898 BODLEY *France* IV. ii. 359 The aggressive march of plutocracy which has transformed the character of English society.

2. A ruling or influential class of wealthy persons; a body of plutocrats.

1832 in Fonblanque *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) II. 205 This infernal Bill, which..is only to create a Plutocracy in lieu of the aristocracy, under which old England has flourished. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 4 An ignorant proletariat and a half-taught plutocracy. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 56 The dominant class in the one is the bureaucracy, and in the other the plutocracy.

Plutocrat (plū·tǫkræt). [f. prec., after *aristocrat, democrat*, etc.] A member of a plutocracy; a person possessing or exercising power or influence over others in virtue of his wealth.

1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xli, When they, the tyrants of the earth,..the plutocrats, the bureaucrats,..are crying to the rocks to hide them. 1880 *Spectator* 3 Jan. 10 Aristocrats have a great place and plutocrats a great place in our society. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 190/1 The plutocrat ..can buy as many ancestors and ancestral relics as he will.

So **Plutocratic** (plūtǫkræ·tik) *a.*, of or pertaining to plutocrats; characterized by plutocracy.

1866 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Apr. 480/1 The Oriental empires and African kingdoms or republics (if that term can be applied to the timocratic or perhaps ploutocratic Carthage). 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* June 769 The plutocratic elements..are, in an increasing degree, becoming detached from Liberalism. 1905 *Outlook* 11 Nov. 650/1 In Ohio and New Jersey..democracy had been supplanted by a plutocratic despotism.

Plutolatry (plutǫ·lătri). [f. Gr. πλοῦτος wealth + -λατρεία (-LATRY), after *idolatry*.] Worship of wealth.

1889 LOWELL *Stud. Mod. Lang.* Latest Lit. Ess. (1891) 157 The barbarizing plutolatry which seems to be so rapidly supplanting the worship of what alone is lovely and enduring. 1895 L. F. WARD in *Forum* (U. S.) Nov. 301 Of the other sentiment,..'plutolatry'—the worship of wealth—even the victims show traces.

Plutology (plutǫ·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -LOGY.] The science of wealth; political economy. Hence **Pluto·logist**, one versed in plutology.

1864 W. E. HEARN (*title*) Plutology; or the Theory of the Efforts to Satisfy Human Wants. 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* v. 261 As the plutologists say. 1893 *Athenæum* 1 Apr. 405/2 This ignorant peasant did not act up to certain well-ascertained laws of the 'science of wealth'. Plutology is not everything.

‖ **Plutomania** (plūto,mē·niă). Also 7 **plutomanie**. [mod. L., f. as prec. + MANIA.]

† **1.** Insane love or pursuit of wealth. *Obs.*

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 280 A meer Plutarchy, Plutocracy, or rather Plutomanie; so madly they hale after money.

2. *Path.* A form of insanity in which the person imagines himself possessed of immense wealth.

1894 E. L. GODKIN in *Forum* (U.S.) June 394, I should conclude .. that he was laboring under the well-known hallucination called plutomania. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Plutonian (plutō·niăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *Plūtōnius* (ad. Gr. Πλουτώνι-ος, f. Πλούτων Pluto, the god of the infernal regions) + -AN. So F. *plutonien*.]

1. Of or pertaining to Pluto; belonging to or suggestive of the infernal regions; infernal.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 444 He..from the dore Of that Plutonian Hall, invisible Ascended his high Throne. 1831 POE *Raven* Poems 47 Tell me what thy lordly name is on the Night's Plutonian shore. 1889 R. DOWLING *Isle of Surrey* (1891) 171 In the plutonian darkness under the bridge.

2. *Geol.* = PLUTONIC 1.

1828 WEBSTER s.v., The *Plutonian* theory of the formation of rocks and mountains is opposed to the *Neptunian*. 1860 *All Year Round* IV. 250 The moon is the object in which to study plutonian action.

B. *sb. Geol.* = PLUTONIST.

1828 WEBSTER, *Plutonian, n.* One who maintains the origin of mountains, etc. to be from fire. *Journ. of Science.*

Plutonic (plutǫ·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Gr. Πλούτων Pluto: see prec. and -IC. So F. *plutonique* (16th c.).]

1. *Geol.* **a.** Pertaining to or involving the action of intense heat at great depths upon the rocks forming the earth's crust; igneous. Applied *spec.* to the theory that attributes most geological phenomena to the action of internal heat: cf. PLUTONIST.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 455 There is another system which attributes not only to basalts, but to all stony substances, an igneous origin. .. This may be called the *Plutonic* system. 1840 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 6) I. I. xiii. 320 Several modern writers, without denying the truth of the Plutonic or metamorphic theory, still contend that the crystalline and non-fossiliferous formations,..such as gneiss and granite, are essentially ancient as a class of rocks. 1847-8 H. MILLER *First Impr.* iii. (1857) 32 Both the denuding and the Plutonic agents. 1870 E. L. GARBETT in *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 625/1 All this is apart from plutonic heat. 1871 HARTWIG *Subterr. W.* i. 4 Plutonic and volcanic eruptions and upheavings..have in many places deranged .. strata deposited in horizontal layers at the bottom of the sea, or of large inland lakes.

b. *spec.* Applied to that class of igneous rocks, such as granite and syenite, which are supposed to have been formed by fusion and subsequent slow crystallization at great depths below the surface, as distinguished from *volcanic* rocks (which have been formed at or near the surface).

1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 353 The unstratified crystalline rocks have been very commonly called Plutonic, from the opinion that they were formed by igneous action at great depths. 1849 DANA *Geol.* x. (1850) 539 Far the larger part of the land consists of ancient Plutonic and stratified rocks. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* II. II. vi. 134 Granite is thus a decidedly plutonic rock.

2. Belonging to or resembling Pluto; Plutonian.

1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (1820) 65 Winter—a Plutonic thief, Coming to claim thee for his Mourning Bride. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* 113 The Plutonic drama concluded with a violent earthquake.

B. *sb. Geol.* (*pl.*) Plutonic rocks.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xi. 112 The bottom series of plutonics rises to grand and mountainous proportions. 1881 R. F. BURTON in *Academy* 21 May 366/2 Here begins the new land of clayey schist and mica-slate contrasting with the plutonics of Bihé.

† **Pluto·nical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. **2.**

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* xii. 39 Making Hell..to bee nothing but that Platonicall and Plutonicall Hades of the Heathen. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 207 Which had so long time beene kept in that Plutonicall Mansion.

Plutonism (plū·tŏniz'm). *Geol.* [f. as PLUTONIC + -ISM. So F. *plutonisme*.] The Plutonic theory: see PLUTONIC *a.* 1 a. 1847 in WEBSTER.

Plutonist (plū·tŏnist). *Geol.* [f. as prec. + -IST. So F. *plutoniste*.] One who holds the Plutonic theory: see PLUTONIC *a.* 1 a.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 336 It is in vain..that volcanists, or rather plutonists, ascribe these slips, and the disorders that accompany them, to subterraneous eruptions. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1871) III. v. 397 In the history of geology, the followers of Werner are known as Neptunists, and those of Hutton as Plutonists. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* III. I. iv. § 2. 298 In the geological contest..between the Neptunists and the Plutonists, the two great battle cries were, on the one side, Water, on the other, Fire.

‖ **Plutonium** (plutō·niŏm). [L. *Plūtōnium*, ad. Gr. Πλουτώνιον, f. Πλούτων Pluto.] A place where there are mephitic vapours.

1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 292 Hierapolis was noted, besides its hot waters, for a Plutonium. *Ibid.* 294, I renewed my inquiries for the Plutonium, and an old Turk .. told me he knew the place, that it was often fatal to goats.

Plu·tonize, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. Πλούτων Pluto + -IZE.] *trans.* To make infernal.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metamorph.* iv, O who hath metamorphosed My sence? and plutoniz'd my heauenly shape?

Plutonomy (plutǫ·nŏmi). [f. Gr. πλοῦτος wealth, riches + -νομία arrangement; after *economy*. So F. *plutonomie*.] The science of the production and distribution of wealth; political economy.

1851 J. M. LUDLOW *Chr. Socialism* 24 [Political economy] confessing its own limited nature by the mouth of its greatest exponent—by its own showing a mere *plutonomy*. 1862 T. SHORTER in *Weldon's Regr.* Aug. 9 Plutonomy, as it has been designated, is regarded by Mr. Ruskin as a base or bastard science. 1900 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 4/6 Plutonomy is a more accurate name, but the man in the street .. would be apt to think it pedantic.

So **Plutonomic** (plūtonǫ·mik) *a.*, pertaining to plutonomy, politico-economic; **Plutonomist** (plutǫ·nŏmist), one versed in plutonomy, a political economist.

1851 J. M. LUDLOW *Chr. Socialism* 28 Some of the worst culprits in this respect are precisely those plutonomists. 1860 — in *Macm. Mag.* May 51 Those plutonomic doctrines which are erected into a faith for states or for individuals, and which tend to supplant everywhere duty by interest. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 2/2 Fundamental and eternal differences of plutonomic opinion forbid it [federation]. 1896 F. HARRISON in *19th Cent.* Dec. 972 The terms and dogmas of the older plutonomists.

Pluvial (plū·viăl), *sb. Eccl. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also **pluviale.** [ad. med.L. *pluviāle* (also *pluviālis*, Du Cange), prop. rain-cloak, orig. neut. of L. *pluviālis* pertaining to rain. So F. *pluvial* (12th c. in Godef.). Cf. It. *piviale, pieviale*, perhaps influenced in form by *pieve* rural deanery (*plebs*).

(But Diez takes **plēbiāle*, from *plēbs*, as the real source, and *pluvial* as due to popular etymology.)]

A long cloak worn by ecclesiastics as a ceremonial vestment; = COPE *sb.*1 2 (where see note); also, a similar garment used by monarchs as a robe of state.

1669 G. FOX *Arraignm. Popery* 44 They put upon the Pope a red Cope, called a Pluvial. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2533/2 The Deputies of Nuremburg placed the Mantle or Pluviale of Charlemagne on his Shoulders. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 63 The Priest had a Pluvial or Cope, besides the Habit with which he is cloath'd, when he celebrates the Mass. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 404 Over the whole is thrown the cope or pluviale (literally, rain-cloak) because first adopted, merely as a covering from the weather. 1886 *Athenæum* 7 Aug. 180/3 The pluvial of St. Silvester seems to her to be English.

Pluvial (plū·viăl), *a.* [ad. L. *pluviāl-is* of or belonging to rain, f. *pluvia* rain. So F. *pluvial*.]

Of or pertaining to rain; rainy; characterized by much rain.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pluvial*, of rain, like to rain, rainy, waterish. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 185 A Bath .. of Sweet water, whether pluvial or fluvial. 1832 C. Nicholson *Ann. Kendal* iv. (1861) 157 The butter-women were exposed to the pluvial elements. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* v. 145 Such uncommon pluvial descents may follow.

b. *Geol.* Caused by rain.

1859 Page *Geol. Terms* s.v., We speak of the denuding or degrading effects of 'pluvial agency', just as we speak of 'atmospheric', 'fluviatile', or other similar agency. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* ix. 131 The particular kind of denudation effected by means of rain is called pluvial denudation.

Pluvialiform (plūviæ·lifɔim), *a. Ornith.* [ad. mod. ornith. L. *Pluviālifōrmēs*, pl. of *Pluviālifōrmis*, f. *Pluviālis* plover: see next and -FORM.] Of or pertaining to the *Pluvialiformes*, a series of swimming and wading birds related to the plovers; having the form or character of the plover family.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pluvialine (plū·viălәin), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod. L. *Pluviālēs*, the group of the plovers and allied birds, rain-birds, pl. of *pluviālis* rainy, as sb. a plover or rain-bird, whence specific name of the Golden plover, *Charadrius pluvialis*: see INE 1.] Pertaining to a plover, resembling the plovers.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pluviameter, erron. var. PLUVIOMETER.

Plu·vian, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pluvi-us* rainy + -AN.] Rain-giving; rainy (in quot. = L. *Jupiter pluvius*).

1851 R. F. Burton *Goa* 368 Irritated by the pertinacious viciousness of Pluvian Jove, we ride along the slippery road which bounds the East confines of the lake.

† **Plu·viatile,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pluviātilis* (Cels.) belonging to rain.] Of rain, rain-(water).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 47/1 Take Hogges suet lb 6. Terebinthine which hath binne washed in pluviatile water lb *s.*

Pluviograph (plū·viǒgrɑf). [f. L. *pluvia* rain + -GRAPH.] A self-recording rain-gauge.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 257/1 In Beckley's 'pluviograph' a pencil, attached to a vessel which sinks as it receives the rain, describes a curve on a sheet of paper fixed round a rotating cylinder. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pluviometer (plūviǫ·mĭtəɹ). (Also erron. -iameter.) [f. L. *pluvia* rain + -METER. So F. *pluviomètre* (1788 in Hatz.-D.).] An instrument for measuring the rainfall; a rain-gauge.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. I. 133 In the construction of the Pluviometer..there is a method to prevent evaporation. 1828–32 Webster, Pluviameter (cites *Jrnl. Sci.*). 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Phys. Geog.* 40/1 (U. Knl. Soc.), Observing the height of the water collected in a pluviometer or rain-gauge. 1863 R. F. Burton *West Africa* I. 148 There fell in twenty-four hours 9·12 inches measured by Pluviometer, and half the island was under water.

Hence **Pluviome·tric** *a.*, pertaining to the measurement of rainfall; so **Pluviome·trical** *a.*; whence **Pluviome·trically** *adv.*; also **Pluvio·metry,** the measurement of rainfall.

1884 *Daily News* 2 Jan. 5/8 The Committee of the Central Meteorological Society, Switzerland, has resolved to establish .. a great number of observatories, which will be known as *pluviometric stations. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Aug. 2/1 In Indo-China alone there are 345 pluviometric stations. 1818 *Niles' Register* 17 Jan. 331/2 *Pluviometrical Observations. 1828–32 Webster, *Pluviametrical.* 1882 *Nature* XXV. 502/2 The number of pluviometrical stations in the whole of France is 1561. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pluviometrically*, **Pluviometry.*

Pluvioscope (plū·viǒskoup). [f. as prec. + -SCOPE.] = PLUVIOMETER.

1887 *Nature* 17 Mar. 479/1 Pluviometric observations taken at Paris during the years 1860–70 with the pluvioscope invented by the author. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Pluvio·se,** *sb.* [F. *Pluviôse* (plüviô·z), ad. L. *pluviōsus* rainy: see next.] The fifth month of the French revolutionary calendar, extending (in the year 1794) from 20 Jan. to 18 Feb.

1796 Burke *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 106 On the day which, in their gipsey jargon, they call the 5th of Pluviose.

Pluviose (plū·viōus), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *pluviōsus* rainy, f. *pluvia* rain: see -OSE.] Rainy, watery. In quot. *fig.* tearful.

1824 *Examiner* 337/1, I was moved to vent my pluviose indignation.

Pluviosity (plūviǫ·sĭti). *rare.* [f. L. *pluviōs-us* (see prec.) + -ITY.] The quality of being rainy or of giving rain.

1845 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 105 Whether in a .. heavy shower, or under the artificial pluviosity of the gardener's watering-pot. 1877 Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 110 It was at least a gain to pay homage to that faculty .. which had brought the forces of nature,—its pluviosity, nivosity, germinality, and vendemiarity,—under the yoke for the service of men. [Alluding to Pluviose *sb.*]

Pluvious (plū·viəs), *a.* [a. OF. *pluvieus* (1245 in Godef.), F. *pluvieux*, or ad. L. *pluviōsus* rainy.] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by rain; full of or bearing rain or moisture; rainy.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VI. 66 In places ouer colde And pluuyous, olyues is to done To kitte, and mosse awey be rased wolde. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/2 The ayre is to moyste and pluviouse or raynye. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. iv. 346 The Rainebow.. declareth a pluvious disposure in the ayre. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 371 The pluvious metropolis of the west. *a* 1876 M. Collins *Th. in Garden* (1880) II. 235 Dost thou not find that this pluvious weather produceth much newspaper stupidity?

Plwch, plwe, obs. north. forms of PLOUGH.

Ply (plәi), *sb.* Also 6–7 **plie.** [a. F. *pli* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) a fold, bend, altered from OF. *ploi* (12th c.), vbl. sb. f. *ployer*, later *plier*: see PLY *v.*1 Sense 4 was developed in OF., and appears in Sc. before the more literal senses.]

I. 1. A fold; each of the layers or thicknesses produced by folding cloth, etc.; a strand or twist of rope, yarn, or thread. *Two-ply, three-ply, four-ply*: a fold of two, three, etc., layers; used *attrib.* to designate fingering or worsted, and carpets made of two or more interwoven webs.

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 77 Lyning fustiane to be ane plie betwix the utir half and the lyning of the ..doublat. 1539 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* I. 297* Blak grey to stuff þe plyise of hir goune with. 1678 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 92 They double it into many plies, till it be but four or five Fingers broad. 1784 J. Barry in *Lect. Paint.* iii. (1848) 121 The plies and wrinkles in the body of the Christ in Rembrandt's famous Descent from the Cross. 1883 Mrs. Bishop in *Leisure Ho.* 199/1 These pests bite through two 'ply' of silk. 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* iv, The carpets were of many plies and agreeable in colour. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 76 If the knife is properly sharpened..it will not be difficult to cut through the four-ply which will necessarily result from this method of folding.

2. A bend, crook, or curvature; *esp.* the elbow or middle joint of a limb; *spec.* in *Falconry*, of a hawk's wing. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 267 Specially about hir heade, the plie of hir wings and hir trayne. 1597 Lowe *Chirurg.* (1634) 117 Within 8 weekes after it brake out in the ply of her arme, and under her oxter. 1678–9 Newton in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 409 The rays of the sun..ought..to receive a ply from the denser ether. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 237/1 The Ply, or bent of the Wing, is the middle joynt in the pinion. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3), *Gascoin*, the hinder Thigh of a Horse, which begins at the Stiffle, and reaches to the Ply, or bending of the Ham. 1825 Loudon *Encycl. Agric.* 918 Scurfy, scabby eruptions, affecting the back of the knee, and ply of the hock; common..in cart-horses.

3. The condition of being bent or turned to one side; a twist, turn, direction; a bent, bias, inclination, or tendency of mind or character; esp. in phrase *to take a* (*the, one's*) *ply*. Chiefly *fig.*

1605 Bacon *Advanc. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 33. 112 In some other it is..a conceite that they can bring about occasions to their plie. 1612 — *Ess.*) *Cust. & Educ.* (Arb.) 370 It is true that late learners cannot so well take the plie. 1673 Wycherley *Gentl. Dancing-Master* IV. i, When once they have taken the French plie (as they call it) they are never to be made so much as Englishmen again. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* II. 117 They have taken their Ply, and will never be set right. 1873 H. Rogers *Orig. Bible* viii. (1875) 356 The natural bent and ply of man's nature. 1880 Green *Hist. Eng. People* IV. VIII. iv. 107 England took a ply which she has never wholly lost.

II. 4. Plight, condition; esp. in phrases *In* († *into*) *ply, in good ply*: in good condition, fit; so *out of ply. Sc.*

c 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) xxi, Quhen hir sister in sic ply hir fand, For verray pietie scho began to greit. *Ibid.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) viii, Kiddis, lambes, or caponis in to ply. 1508 Dunbar *Flyting w. Kennedie* 170 Thy pure pynit throtl, pelit and owt of ply. 1824 Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* (1876) 22 Few gourmands are very fat, they eat themselves out of ply. 1831 Shennan *Tales* 44 The riders mount to try If a' things be in proper ply. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 7/2 The Carron..is one of the best spring rivers in East Ross-shire when in ply.

Ply (plәi), *v.*1 Now *rare* or *dial.* Pa.t. and pple. **plied** (plәid). [ME. *plien*, a. OF. *plier*, secondary form of *pleiier* (3 sing. pres. *plie*, Roland, 11th c.), mod. F. *plier* and *ployer*:—L. *plicāre* to fold.

In imitation of OF. *preiier*:—L. *precāre*, 3rd sing. *prie* (whence *prier*), *pleiier* took 3rd sing. *plie*, whence a secondary form *plier*, beside *pleiier, ploiier, ployer.* Cf. Plov *v.*, Playe.]

1. *trans.* To bend, bow; to fold or double (cloth or the like); to mould or shape (anything plastic). Now chiefly *dial.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 343 He..plyit þat bil, ore he wald leef, & It closyt in his nefe. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 186 Right as men may warm wex with handes plye. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 121 Whan every feld hath corn in honde And many a man his bak hath plied. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 284/1 To Plye, *flectere*,..*vbi* to bowe. *a* 1592 Greene *George a Greene* Wks. (Rtldg.) 256/2 So have I liberty to ply my bow. 1593 Q. Eliz. *Boethius* III. metr. ii. 47 The twig drawen ons with mighty fors Bowing plies her top. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 27 Plying the necks of the rockets at top, to the right. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 381 With the first act of plying or doubling, which is introduced in the process of spinning. 1896 A. E. Housman *Shropshire Lad* xxxi, The gale, it plies the saplings double.

† **b.** *fig.* To bend in will or disposition; to bend the sense of (words); to adapt, accommodate. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 274 Ther mai no gold the Jugge plie, That he ne schal the sothe trie. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 150 God leadeth and boweth .. every person inwardly by his owne will, nor plyeth hee any man otherwise then voluntaryly. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 27 If other Arts have their particular tearms which they ply not to accomodate themselves to such as make no profession of them. *a* 1657 Sir W. Mure *Hist.* Wks. (S. T. S.) II. 251 Haveing plyed himself much to the hwmore of the Duke of Albany.

† **2.** *intr.* To bend or be bent; to yield, give (*to* pressure or movement); to be pliable or yielding. *Obs.*

13.. [see *plying* below]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1113 The coyne .. wolde rather breste atwo than plye. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6810 Glas ys..Redy to breke but nat to plye. 1578 T. Proctor *Gorg. Gallery* Hiij, No more then Waues..May stir the stedfast rocke, that will not ply. 1600 T. Creed tr. *Ovid's Remedie of Loue* xlv, Behold the Apple bough how it doth ply And stoope with store of fruit that doth abound. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* ccxv. (1714) 233 It blew a Violent Storm. The Willow ply'd and gave way to the Gust. 1753 *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 29 From the coarctation of her breast, all its bones plying inwardly.

† **b.** To bend in reverence; to bow. *Obs.*

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 138 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* 269 Þe prelate passide one þe playne: þer plied to hym lordes.

† **c.** To bend one's body forcibly; to twist, writhe. *Obs.*

1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.*, Throttling, pressing in their arms, struggling, plying on all sides. 1845 T. B. Shaw in *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 34 'Gainst the bank, like a Wrestler, he struggleth and plyeth.

3. *intr. fig.* To yield, give way *to*; to incline, tend; to submit, comply, consent; to be pliant or tractable. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 196 þat .. prynce þat paradys weldez Is displesed at vch a poynt þat plyes to scape. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 227 And thanne a king list noght to plie To hiere what the clamour wolde. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. lxxxix. 125 b/1 For noo prayer he wolde not plye ne consente therto. 1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* (1837) 18, I am content to plie unto your pleasures out of hande. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) I. 426 As they never disagreed, so all plied before them. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 615 Expecting that all things and all persons should ply to their interests and desires. 1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* I. 40 With kindly indulgence plied into the daughter's will.

† **4.** *trans. Ply over*: to overlay or cover with something bent or folded. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1517 He plyes ouire þe pauement with pallen webis Mas on hiȝt ouire his hede for hete of þe sone. *Ibid.* 5260 Hire palais was .. Plied ouir with pure gold all þe plate-rofes.

† **5.** *Ply out*: to get or draw out by bending or twisting, as with pliers. *Obs. rare.*

1667 Dryden *Sir Martin Mar-all* II. i, You must..still ply out of them your advantages.

Hence **Ply·ing** *ppl. a.*, bending; pliant.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 439 Hit watz playn in þat place for plyande greuez. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 777 With pykes fulle perilous, alle plyande þame semyde. 1598 Q. Eliz. *Plutarch* xii. 10 Hither turne our witz sharpnis and pliing mind. 1710 Philips *Pastorals* v. 84 Like winds, that gently brush the plying grass.

Ply (plәi), *v.*2 Pa.t. and pple. **plied.** [ME. *plye*, aphetic form of ME. *aplie*, *aplye*, Apply *v.*, which see for derivation and development of senses.]

I. To apply, employ, work busily at.

† **1.** *refl.* To apply oneself assiduously (*to*), exert oneself (*with* a weapon, etc.); = Apply *v.* 14. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 265 For ay the mor that he envieth The more ayein himself he plieth. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxxvi. 253 Thys Henry in his youth plyed hym to suche study yᵗ he was enstructe in the .vii. artys lyberallys. 1590 Webbe *Trav.* (Arb.) 23 The women of ye towne did plie themselues with their weapons, making a great massacre vpon our men.

† **b.** To address or betake oneself (*to*): = Apply *v.* 27. *Obs.*

1668 Owen *Exp. Ps.* CXXX. Wks. 1851 VI. 379 He plies himself to God in Christ for pardon and mercy.

2. *intr.* To employ or occupy oneself busily or steadily; to work *at* something; to apply, attend closely *to*; = Apply *v.* 15. Now *rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1385 Þe place, þat plyed þe pursaunt wythinne. 1644 Milton *Educ.* Wks. 1738 I. 137 Ere half these Authors be read (which will soon be with plying hard and daily). 1714 *Orig. Canto Spencer* XXXVI, The strugling Fly..Who still for Freedom plies both fierce and bold. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 578 He that plies to his business finds it, when grown familiar to him, a state of satisfaction. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 13, I plied at Cicero and Demosthenes, I devoured every treatise on the art of rhetoric. 1849 Longf. *Build. Ship* 182 Around the bows and along the side The heavy hammers and mallets plied.

3. *trans.* To use, handle, or wield vigorously or diligently (an instrument, tool, weapon); to employ, exert (a faculty); = Apply *v.* 16 b.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 732 Artow lyk an asse to þe harpe That hereth soun whan men þe strenges plye. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 25 Theyr wyt & body all hole do they ply. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 33 Lamedon so plide his teeth, that all supper he spake not one word. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. vi, 19 During which time her gentle wit she plyes To teach them truth. *c* 1595 Capt. Wyatt *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 The lande forces .. plied their shott soe thick that our men weare forced to place all the Spanish prisoners between themselves and the shott. 1603 Drayton *Odes* xvii. 109 Suffolke his Axe did ply. 1620 Middleton *Chaste Maid* I. ii. 112 Go to school, ply your books, boys. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 20 He plies his small Shot;..Ply your Hand-Granadoes and Stink-Pots. 1718 Prior *Pleasure* 41 A thousand maidens ply the purple loom. *a* 1873 Lytton *Ken. Chillingly* II. ix, Thou canst ply a good knife and fork. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* III. 128 Together their oars they ply.

b. To apply oneself to, practise, work at (one's business, an industry, a task, etc.); = Apply *v.* 16 a.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. CXXXiv. 120 Then they plyed no thynge that was worldly, but gaue them to prechynge and techynge. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. xii. 269 Diligently to plye the reading of holy scripture. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* vi, When youths ply their stolne delights. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 442 Clothing is plied in this city with great industry and judgment. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 150 The needle plies its busy task. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* vi. (1880) 97 The town in which they plied their trade.

†**c.** With indef. *it*, in various preceding senses.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. lxxviii. 160 b, Also there were many Paraos and Tones,..a lading as fast as they could plye it. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. iii, A courtier would not ply it so, for a place. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 80 They forthwith plyde it with Oare and Saile. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Ab.* § 110, I will ply it close, but I will have my end accomplished.

4. *trans.* **a.** To keep at work at, to work away at; to attack or assail vigorously or repeatedly (*with* some instrument or process). **b.** To offer something to (a person) frequently or persistently; to press (one) to take; to continue to supply *with* food, drink, gifts, etc.; = APPLY *v.* 17.

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* Pref. a ij, Begunne, bylded, and soo well plyed in woorke, that in a fewe wekes..they wear made and left defensyble. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 307 That wound neuer groweth to a skarre, which is not plyed with playsters. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 267 Marcellus plied him so..with continual alarums and skirmishes, that he brought him to a Battell. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 544 Almond trees if they be plied with digging, will either not bloome at all, or else shed their floures before due time. 1602 ROWLANDS *Tis Merrie* 11 She ply'd him with the Wine in golden Cup. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 11 Causing the ghing to ply the sea with their oares. 1767 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* II. 181 The bomb-ship.. plied the French with her shells. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 172 To ply them more pressingly with food than with arguments.

5. To solicit with importunity or persistence; to importune, urge; to keep on at (a person) *with* questions, petitions, arguments, etc.; † *spec.* of a porter, boatman, etc.: To solicit patronage from (*obs.*); = APPLY *v.* 17.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 149 He daily plyde her mayde, Thereby to make her graunte And yelde him his desire. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 279 He [Shylock] plyes the Duke at morning and at night. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 74 The Governors Brother did earnestly ply him to relinquish the English Alliance. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 747 Ply her with love letters and Billets. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Rattling Mumpers*, such [beggars] as run after, or ply Coaches. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 292 He was overtaken by the waggon, the driver of which plied him in the usual way to take a place. 1777 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 215 One Holderness, a waterman, plied some gentlemen, and, when in his boat, asked where they were going. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* ii. 24 Her filial duty, religion, and love, all plied her at once in favour of an immediate marriage. 1883 EDERSHEIM *Life Jesus* (ed. 6) II. 572 In vain did he ply Christ with questions.

II. In nautical and derived uses.

6. *intr.* To beat up against the wind; to tack, work to windward. (Cf. APPLY *v.* 22.)

1556 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 110 We wayed and plyed backe againe to seeke the Hinde. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 11 Neither might wee plie up unto that iland, the winde was soe contrarie for our course. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 142 They always go before the Wind, being unable to Ply against it. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 127 Her people were..so..weakned by sickness, as not to be able to ply up to windward. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. and Voy.* iv. 52 It ..assisted us very much in plying to windward. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Ply*,..to work to windward, to beat.

b. with *about, off and on, to and again, up and down*, and the like.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 13 Afterwards..wee plied up and downe to finde the other carvell. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 7 The wind came easterly, so that wee plyed to and againe along the Spanish shore. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1738 II. 15 Commanded to ply up and down continually with Relief where they saw Need. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. v. 175 Plying on and off till the 6th of October.

fig. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 184 His own Testimony by plying off and on, as he hath continually done, is so little to be valued.

c. *gen.* To direct one's course (in a ship or otherwise), to steer; to move onwards; to make *towards*. Now only *poet.* = APPLY *v.* 24.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 4 Returninge with thease advertisements unto our Generall, wee plied for Plimworth. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. i. 38 They chaunced to espie Two other Knights, that towards them did ply With speedie course. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 207 Oh, how fair have many ships been plying before the wind that, in an hour's space, have been lying in the sea-bottom! 1779 E. HERVEY *Naval Hist.* II. 158 Returning light discovered the enemy seven leagues off Weymouth, whither the English plied, and came up with them in the afternoon. 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 309 We plied towards the land. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *Qua Cursum Ventus* ii, When fell the night, upsprung the breeze, And all the darkling hours they plied.

†**d.** *trans.* To use (a tide, etc.) to work a ship up a river, to windward, etc. *Obs.*

1556 S. BURROUGH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 279 We stopped the ebbes, and plyed all the floods to the windewards, and made our way Eastnortheast. 1673 R. HADDOCK *Jrnl.* in *Camden Misc.* (1881) 29 We wayed to plye up, and plyed the tyde to an end.

7. *intr.* Of a vessel or its master: To sail or go more or less regularly to and fro *between* certain places; also said of land-carriage.

1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 370 A detachment..which plies between the Godavery and camp, will keep me free from want. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 256 A passage-boat, which plies between the hamlets of Eaux Vives and Le Paquis, situated at opposite sides of the lake. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 263 The *Richmond*, a small vessel which was built in the year 1815 and plied between London and Richmond. 1878 GLADSTONE *Primer Homer* xii. 139 We hear..of the ferryman plying between Ithaca and Cefalonia.

b. *trans.* To traverse (a river, ferry, passage) by rowing or sailing.

1700 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 13 Ordered also That no fferryman shall be permitted to ply the River Delaware. 1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 115/1 James Dean..who plies the passage from Bulwell to Milford. 1897 *Daily News* 6 July 5/3 Hardy bargemen who ply Father Thames by day and night from Twickenham Ferry to the Nore.

†**8.** *trans.* To bear or bring *to* a place by journeying to and fro. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) F j, The labouring Bees ..Plied to the hiues sweet honey from those flowers.

9. *intr.* Of a boatman, porter, hackman, etc.: To wait or attend regularly, to have one's stand *at* a certain place for hire or custom.

1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* III. i, Here's Tom Errand, the Porter, that plys at the Blew Posts. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 94 ¶ 8 He was..forced to think of plying in the Streets as a Porter. 1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 71 Room..for the Watermen to ply for Fares. *c* 1770 DIBDIN *Song, Waterman*, And did you not hear of a jolly young waterman Who at Blackfriars Bridge used for to ply? 1885 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Jan. 778, I must on no account ply for hire.

Ply, var. of PLEA. **Plyades**, obs. f. PLEIADES. **Plyar, plyer**: see PLIER.

†**Plychon.** *Surg. Obs.* [? corruption of PELICAN.] (See quot.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 238/2 *A Plychon.* It is an Instrument to pull out Teeth.

Plycht, plyght, plyȝt, obs. forms of PLIGHT.

Plyd, obs. form of PLAID.

Plying (plәi·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PLY *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The action of PLY *v.*[2], in various senses. *attrib.* **Plying-place**, a place where a porter, hackney-carriage, or boat stands for hire (PLY *v.* 9).

1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 21 Paul's-wharf, a public plying-place for watermen and water-carriage. *Ibid.* 242 At the south extremity of Water-lane is the common plying-place and ferry.

†**Plym, plymme**, *v. Falconry. Obs.* A parallel form of PLUME *v.* 1.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C v, Let hir plym vppon it as moch as she will, and when she hath plymmed Inough go to hir softely for frayng. *Ibid.* D ij, Yf she haue fownde the fowle and desire to flee ther to, let hir slee it, and plymme well vppon hir.

Plymouth Brethren. [See *Brethren* in BROTHER 3 b.] A religious body calling themselves 'the Brethren', recognizing no official order of ministers, and having no formal creed, which arose at Plymouth *c* 1830. **Plymouth brother**, a member of this body.

1842 R. M. BEVERLEY *Ch. Eng. Exam.* (1844) 1 The views of those whom he chooses to call 'the Plymouth Brethren'. 1865 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 614 The Plymouth Brethren reject every distinctive appellation but that of Christians. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes, Valley of Tarn*, He was, as a matter of fact, a Plymouth Brother.

Hence **Plymouth-brethrenism, Plymouth-brotherism**; also **Plymouth sister.**

1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* viii. 197 Where else will you go? Not surely to Methodism or Plymouth-brotherism. 1860 MISS YONGE *Hopes* II. xiii. 250 She is a Plymouth sister. 1879 CROSKERY (*title*) Plymouth Brethrenism, a refutation.

†**Plymouth cloak.** *Obs. slang.* A cudgel or staff, carried by one who walked *in cuerpo*, and thus facetiously assumed to take the place of a cloak. (For the reason of the name, see quot. *a* 1661.)

1608 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* III. ii, Shall I walke in a Plimouth Cloake, (that's to say) like a rogue, in my hose and doublet, and a crabtree cudgell in my hand? 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* I. i, And I must tell you if you but aduance, Your plimworth cloke, you shall be soone instructed. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Devon* (1662) 248 *A Plimouth Cloak.* That is a Cane or a Staffe, whereof this the occasion. Many a man of good extraction, comming home from far Voiages, may chance to land here [at Plymouth], and being out of sorts, is unable for the present time and place to recruit himself with Cloaths. Here (if not friendly provided) they make the next Wood their Drapers shop, where a Staffe cut out, serves them for a covering. [1670 RAY *Prov.* 225 adds: For we use when we walk *in cuerpo* to carry a staff in our hands, but none when in a cloak.] [*a* 1668: see CLOAK *sb.* 5.] 1677 MRS. BEHN *Rover* III. i, Walking like the Sign of the naked Boy, with Plimouth Cloaks in our hands. *a* 1688 DENHAM *Ballad on Sir J. Mennis* vii, He being proudly mounted, Clad in cloak of Plymouth. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, Thou wilt please to lay down that Plymouth cloak of thine.

Plymouthism (pli·məþiz'm). [See -ISM.] The system or doctrine of the Plymouth Brethren. So **Ply·mouthist, Ply·mouthite**, a member of this body; also *attrib.*

1876 SPURGEON *Commenting* 61 We do not endorse the Plymouthism which pervades these notes. *Ibid.* 115 First published in the Plymouthite Magazine. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 238/2 French Switzerland has always remained the stronghold of Plymouthism on the Continent. *Ibid.* 239/1 There are..at least five official divisions or sects of Plymouthists.

Plymouth Rock (pli·məþɹɒ'k). [The spot at which the passengers of the Mayflower landed in New England in 1620.] Name of a breed of domestic fowls of American origin, characterized by large size, ashen or grey plumage barred with blackish stripes, and yellow beak, legs, and feet.

1873 in L. Wright *Bk. Poultry* (1874) 436 Our modern Plymouth Rock fowl is in no way whatever connected with the Plymouth Rock produced by Dr. Bennett some twenty-five years since, from a cross with the Asiatic fowls. 1892 J. K. FOWLER *Echoes Old Country Life* 238 Another capital race is the Plymouth Rocks bred by the Americans from, I think, a cuckoo-coloured fowl and the Cochin. 1900 *Field* 23 June 903/2 The Plymouth rock, a useful second class general utility fowl, is not as popular as it was.

†**Ply·-pot.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PLY *v.*[2] + POT *sb.*] One who plies the pot; one addicted to drinking.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Gobelin, Face gobeline*, a crimzon face; the visage of a plie-pot.

Plyt, -e, obs. forms of PLIGHT *sb.* and *v.*

P.M., abbrev. of POST MERIDIEM, afternoon, q. v.

Pn-, an initial combination occurring only in words from Greek; the *p* is usually mute in English. (The *p* is pronounced in French, Spanish, Italian, German, Dutch, and other European langs.; also by Englishmen in reading Greek. It is to be desired that it were sounded in English also, at least in scientific and learned words; since the reduction of *pneo-* to *neo-*, *pneu-* to *new-*, and *pnyx* to *nix*, is a loss to etymology and intelligibility, and a weakening of the resources of the language.)

Pneo- (pnī·o, nī·o), combining element from Gr. *πνέ-ειν, πνεῖν* to blow, breathe, used in a few rare scientific terms.

‖ **Pneobiognosis** (-bəi,ognō·u·sis) [mod. L., f. Gr. *βίος* life + *γνῶσις* investigation, knowledge, after *diagnosis*], in *Medical Jurisprudence*, the test, by the presence or absence of air in the lungs, whether a child has been born alive; also called PNEUSIOBIOGNOSIS, or ‖ **Pneobioma·ntia** [Gr. *μαντεία* divination]; whence **Pneobioma·ntic** *a.*, **Pneobioma·ntics. Pneodyna·mics** [DYNAMICS], the science of the forces concerned in respiration. ‖ **Pneoga·ster** [mod.L., f. Gr. *γαστήρ* belly], term for the whole respiratory tract, considered as a specialized portion of the intestinal tract; hence **Pneoga·stric** *a.* **Pne·ograph** [-GRAPH], (*a*) an instrument invented by Mortimer Granville for indicating the force and character of expiration by means of a light disk suspended in front of the mouth and connected with a needle which makes an automatic tracing; (*b*) = next. **Pneo·meter** [-METER], an instrument for measuring the amount of air inspired and expired, a pneumatometer, spirometer; so **Pneo·metry**, the measurement of the amount of air inspired and expired, pneumatometry. **Pne·oscope** [-SCOPE], an instrument for measuring the extent of movement of the thorax in respiration. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 984/2 Pneobiomantia. *Ibid.*, Pneobiomantics. *Ibid.*, Pneobiomantic. 1888 *Lancet* 13 Oct. 724/1 A Pocket Clinical Pneograph...The tracing of the pneograph shows the expiration by a more or less vertical line, the duration of the expiratory effort being indicated by the length of the line traced by the needle before it descends, at the moment when inspiration commences.

Pneum, -e (pniūm, niūm). *Mus.* [ad. Gr. *πνεῦμα*: see next.] = PNEUMA 2 b, NEUME 2.

1879 HELMORE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 17/1 Accents or marks, sometimes called *pneums*, for the regulation of recitation and singing were in use among the ancient Greeks and Hebrews, and are still used in the synagogues of the Jews. 1890 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 450/3 Twenty specimens.. selected to illustrate the gradual development of the ancient pneumes into the characters now used on a staff of lines and spaces. 1890 *Daily News* 1 May 7/5 Showing how the pneums and points gradually assumed the form of our modern notes.

‖ **Pneuma** (pniū·mă, niū·mă). [a. Gr. *πνεῦμα* wind, breath, spirit, *prop.* that which is blown or breathed, f. *πνέειν, πνεῖν* to blow, breathe.]

1. The Greek word for 'spirit' or 'soul', occas. used in Eng. context.

1884 W. G. STEVENSON in *Pop. Sc. Monthly* XXIV. 761 [Hippocrates] taught the existence of an 'intermediate nature', which though distinct from the mortal Soul or pneuma, was the source of vital activity. 1894 *Daily News* 25 Oct. 6/2 The pneuma, the overshadowing spirit of the new man who is sought after by Angela, the Psyche or feminine principle of aspiration and intuition.

2. *Mediæval Mus.* **a.** A long ligature or group of notes sung to one (inarticulate) syllable at the end of a plain-song melody: = NEUME 1. **b.** One of a set of signs indicating the tones of the chant: = NEUME 2, PNEUM.

1880 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 691/2 The very essence of the Pneuma lies in its adaptation to an inarticulate sound. 1881 *Ibid.* III. 4/2 The Preface to the Ratisbon Gradual directs that the Pneuma shall be sung upon the vowel A.

Pneumathæmia (pniːmăþīˑmiă, niˑ-). *Path.* [f. Gr. *πνεῦμα, πνευματ-* (see PNEUMA) + *αἷμα* blood; cf. *hyperæmia*, etc.] 'The presence of air in a blood-vessel' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 239 In the blood, pneumathæmia.

Pneumatic (niumæˑtik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *pneumaticus* of or belonging to air or wind (Vitr., Plin.), a. Gr. *πνευματικός* of, caused by, or of the nature of wind, breath, or spirit. So F. *pneumatique* (1520 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Pertaining to, or acting by means of, wind or air. **a.** Chiefly applied to various mechanical contrivances which operate by pressure or exhaustion of air.

Pneumatic cabinet, differentiation (Med.): see quot. 1895. *Pneumatic caisson*: see quot. 1875. *Pneumatic dispatch*, a system by which parcels, etc. are conveyed along tubes by compression or exhaustion of air. *Pneumatic engine*: formerly applied *spec.* to the air-pump. *Pneumatic paradox, railway, telegraph*: see quot. 1875.

1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* Pref. 1 Pneumatike Inventions; viz. Engins moving by the force of Air. 1667 BEALE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 425 The Pneumatick (or Rarifying) Engine of Mr. Boyle. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* i. 9 In a glass-receiver of the Pneumatick Engine. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 375 This part of the process I call the pneumatic pressure. 1856 BREES *Gloss. Terms, Piles* (*pneumatic*), hollow iron piles, driven into the ground..by withdrawing, internally, the sand or other matters filling the space in which they stand by suction. 1858 LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil., Hydrost.* etc. 214 The pneumatic screw.—The screw of Archimedes..is also used for the ventilation of mines. 1866 BESSEMER in Joynson *Metals* (1868) 88 The metal which had been previously rendered malleable by the pneumatic process becomes less red-short. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s.v. *Railroad*, Carried out in London by the Pneumatic Despatch Company with success. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pneumatic Caisson*, one which is closed at top and sunk by the exhaustion of the air within or by the weight of the masonry built thereupon as the work progresses. *Ibid., Pneumatic Paradox*, that peculiar exhibition of atmospheric pressure which retains a valve on its seat under a pressure of gas, only allowing a film of gas to escape. *Ibid., Pneumatic Railway*, a railroad whose rolling stock is driven by the compression or exhaustion of air in a tube laid parallel to the track. *Ibid., Pneumatic Telegraph*, a telegraph used before the times of Morse and Wheatstone for communicating information by the impulse given to a column of water by pneumatic pressure. *Ibid.* 1756/2 The pneumatic dispatch-tube was started by a company in London in 1859, for conveying parcels and light goods between the Euston Square Station and the Post-Office in Eversholt Street, London. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 65 The pneumatic action is an ingenious arrangement by which the bulk of the pressure is taken from the key, by means of small power-bellows. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., P[neumatic] cabinet*, name for the air-tight compartment in which a patient is placed for treatment by the inhalation of compressed air...*P. differentiation*, term for the treatment of certain lung diseases by inhalation of air either denser or less dense than that of the surrounding atmosphere. 1898 F. W. ROGERS in *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 3/2 The pneumatic brake will do very well for Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire.

b. Applied to things which are inflated, or filled with compressed air, for some purpose; esp. to the tires of the wheels of bicycles, and the like.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XII. 22 Self-righting, indestructible pneumatic life-boat. 1890 *Patent Specif.* No. 4206 Large rubber tyres..known commercially as (1) Pneumatic tyres, (2) Cushion tyres. 1891 *Bicycling News* 21 Feb., Tacagni's method of holding a Pneumatic tyre between two rims is worth more attention than it at first sight deserves. 1896 G. J. JACOBS *Addr. Inst. Brit. Carriage Manuf.*, Only six months later, June 10, 1846, he [William Thomson, C.E., of Adelphi Street, Strand] patented the india-rubber pneumatic tyre on the principle of those so much in favour to-day. 1898 *Cycling* (Ward, Lock & Co.) iv. 23 Cyclists owe much to the inventor of the pneumatic tyre.

†**c.** Of a musical instrument: Played by the breath or by compressed air; 'wind-'. *Obs.*

1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 176 All other musical instruments..whether pulsative or pneumatick.

d. Belonging to or transmitted by pneumatic dispatch: see a. above.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 2/1 Any resident within Paris may either buy at any bureau a blue pneumatic letter-card stamped with a threepenny stamp, and generally known as a *petit-bleu*, or may write an ordinary letter, weighing not more than seven grammes,..writing across the top of the envelope the word 'Pneumatic'.

2. Of, or relating or belonging to, gases. Now *rare*, exc. in *pneumatic trough*, a trough by means of which gases may be collected in jars over a surface of water or mercury. (See HYDRO-PNEUMATIC.)

1793 BEDDOES *Let. to Darwin* 59 We owe to Pneumatic Chemistry the command of the elements which compose animal substances;..it is the business of Pneumatic Medicine to apply them with caution and intelligence. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* 54 Fill a bottle with hydrogen gas, and having taken it from the pneumatic tub, immediately apply to its mouth a lighted taper. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 489 When pneumatic medicine was at the height of its popularity, much benefit was supposed to be derived from the use of oxygen and hydrogen and dilute chlorine gases [in asthma]. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 21 Place the jar, filled with water and inverted, over one of the funnels of the shelf of the pneumatic trough. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 63 Priestley's entire force was directed upon Pneumatic Chemistry. 1881 ROUTLEDGE *Science* xiv. 342 The 'pneumatic trough' used at the present day differs from Hales' apparatus only in having a more convenient arrangement of its parts.

3. *Zool., Anat.*, and *Phys.* **a.** Pertaining to breath or breathing; respiratory. *rare.*

1681 tr. *Willis's Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Pneumatic*, windy, or belonging to wind or breath. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. XXXVIII. 37 The external respiratory organs of insects...Spiracles; Respiratory plates; and branchiform and other pneumatic appendages. 1903 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 43 Heart weakness, pneumatic troubles and rheumatism.

b. Containing or connected with air-cavities, as those in the bones of birds, or the swimming-bladder of some fishes.

Pneumatic duct, 'a short tube by which the air-bladder communicates with the œsophagus in physostomous fishes' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* s. v. *Ductus*).

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* x. (1833) 259 Those beautiful pneumatic contrivances by which insects, fishes, and even some lizards are enabled to support the weight of their bodies against the force of gravity. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* 7 A large aperture, called the 'pneumatic foramen', near one end of the bone, communicates with its interior. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 7 In the ostrich the bones are more pneumatic than in the gulls and in the smaller song-birds. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 604 The mastoid in children may be as pneumatic or diploetic as in adults.

c. *Hist.* Applied to a school of ancient Greek physicians (Gr. *οἱ πνευματικοί*, L. *Pneumatici*) who held the theory of an invisible fluid or spirit (*πνεῦμα*) permeating all the body, and forming the vital principle on which health and strength depended. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895, s. v. *Pneumatici.*)

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Pneumatic Physicians*, name given to a sect of physicians, at the head of whom was Athenæus, who made health and disease to consist in the different proportions of an element—which they called Pneuma, *πνεῦμα*—to those of the other elementary principles.

4. Belonging or relating to spirit or spiritual existence; spiritual. (Usually with direct reference to Gr. *πνευματικός*, esp. in N. T. and Christian use.)

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 525/1 This animal spirit, which blessed men have called the pneumatic soul. 1811 JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 50 My bodily health has..improved; my mental and pneumatic part has been..dubious. 1890 J. F. SMITH tr. *Pfleiderer's Develop. Theol.* II. iv. 162 The God-man as the absolute pneumatic personality of universal spiritual power is not merely the head of men but also of angels. 1894 SWETE *Apost. Creed* ii. 28 Primitive Christianity, as he [Harnack] conceives it, had two Christologies, the one pneumatic, the other adoptionist. The former regarded the Christ as a preexistent Spirit who was made Man. 1899 STALKER *Christology Jesus* i. 30 The Gospel of St. John—the pneumatic gospel, as it was called, or gospel of religious genius.

†**b.** *Pneumatic philosophy*: = PNEUMATOLOGY 1. So *pneumatic philosopher. Obs.*

a 1744 BOLINGBROKE *Ess.* II. viii. Philos. Wks. 1754 II. 79 Those..may be called..by the title..of pneumatic philosophers, since their object is spirit and spiritual substances; how ridiculous soever it be to imagine spirit less an object of natural philosophy, than body. 1745 SIR J. PRINGLE *Let.* 19 Mar. in Bower *Hist. Univ. Edinb.* II. 294, I do hereby resign my office of Professor of ethic and pneumatic philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 329 Bolingbroke..deriding the doctrine of spiritual substance under the name of pneumatic philosophy.

5. *Comb.*, as **pneumatic-tired** (**-tyred**) *a.*, fitted with pneumatic tires, as a bicycle, etc.

1894 L. ROBINSON *Wild Traits* iii. (1897) 79 A pneumatic-tired sulky is worth several seconds in the mile to an American trotter. 1895 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 6/7 The pneumatic-tire folk are apt to despise the poor cyclist on his wretched 'old crock' and to regard him as a nuisance. 1896 *Daily Tel.* 10 Feb. 5/4 A smart pneumatic-tyred roadster.

B. *sb.* **1.** = PNEUMATOLOGY 1 a. *rare*—[1].

1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1859) I. viii. 134 *note*, The terms Psychology and Pneumatology, or Pneumatic, are not equivalents.

2. Name in Gnostic theology for a spiritual being of a high order.

1876 tr. *Hergenröther's Cath. Ch. & Chr. State* II. 293 The Church had long rejected the Gnostic distinction between pneumatics and sarcics. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 927 The Gnostics taught a transplantation of the highest order (the pneumatics) into the world of the pleroma.

3. A pneumatic tire, or a cycle having such tires.

1890 WILLOUGHBY & LYNDE *Specif. Patent*, The advantages of the pneumatic are as follows. 1891 *Bicycling News* 21 Feb., Riders of solid-tyred machines, when changing to Pneumatics. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 June 10/2 Breakdowns [of motor-cars] are reported in scores; punctured pneumatics and broken wheels without number.

b. A pneumatic bellows, tube, or other part of the pneumatic action in an organ.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pneumatical, *a.* (*sb.*) Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** = prec. 1. *Obs.*

1609 BOYS *On Ps.* xcviii. 4–6 Wks. (1629) 36 All kind of musicke, Vocall..Chordall..Pneumaticall, With trumpets. 1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat.* 28 Amongst all these experiments pneumaticall, there is none more excellent than this of the Weather-Glass. 1660 BOYLE (*title*) New Experiments..Touching the Spring of the Air..Made..in a New Pneumatical Engine. *Ibid.* Experim. i, The Dilatation of the Air in Wind-Guns and other pneumatical Engines wherein the Air has been compress'd. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s. v., An Organ is a Pneumatical Instrument. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 31 The thermometer is a chemical rather than a pneumatical instrument.

†**2.** Of the nature of air, gaseous; relating to gases (= prec. 2). *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 29 The Race and Period of all things, here above the Earth, is to extenuate and turn things to be more Pneumaticall and Rare. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 254 Fluids, whether Visible or Pneumatical. 1793 D. STEWART *Outl. Moral Philos.* § 272 (1855) 140 The pneumatical discoveries of modern chemistry. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. xi. 431 Mr. Boyle..obtained a pneumatical fluid, answering his then only criterion of air.

3. As rendering of Gr. *πνευματικός* in philosophical or theological use: cf. prec. 4, 4 b.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 789 One of which they called, Pneumatical, or the Spirituous Body; which is weaved out as it were to it, and compounded of the Gross Sensible Body (it being the more Thin and Subtle part thereof). 1708 H. DODWELL *Nat. Mort. Hum. Souls* 46 The Psychical Body must be cleathed up with a Pneumatical Body. 1741 in Grant *Univ. Edinb.* (1884) I. 273 Professor of Pneumatical and Ethical Philosophy. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VII. 599 The resurrection is not that of the disembodied *ψυχή* at the moment of death, nor of earthly relics, but the transformation from a psychical to a pneumatical body. 1891 tr. *Sabatier's Paul* iv. § 3. 90 That which for lack of another name we have called the pneumatical life, taking its rise at the point of contact between the human soul and the invisible world.

†**B.** *sb.* A gaseous substance (cf. 2 above). *Obs.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 98 The Spirits or Pneumaticalls, that are in all Tangible Bodies are scarce known. *Ibid.* § 354 In the inferior order of pneumaticals there is air and flame; and in the superior there is the body of the star and the pure sky.

Hence **Pneuma·tically** *adv.* (in various senses of PNEUMATIC or PNEUMATICAL).

c 1700 D. G. *Harangues Quack Doctors* 15 Hypnotically..Pneumatically, or Synechdochically. 1800 HOWARD in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 216, I resolved it into these different principles, by distilling it pneumatically with nitric acid. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 17 Sept. 5/5 The Welch patents for fastening a detachable outer case to the pneumatically-tyred rim of a wheel, thus rendering rapid roadside repairs possible, finished their thorny course yesterday.

Pneumaticity (niumătiˑsĭti). [f. PNEUMATIC + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being pneumatic (in quots., in sense 3 b of the adj.).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pneumaticitas*, term for that condition of the skeleton of birds into most of the bones of which the external air has the faculty of entering: pneumaticity. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 17 The greater pneumaticity which the individual bones ordinarily possess. 1882 W. K. PARKER in *Nature* XXVI. 254/2 The pneumaticity of the crocodile's endocranium.

Pneumatico-, combining form from L. *pneumaticus* or Gr. *πνευματικός* PNEUMATIC: see quots., and PNEUMATIC *a.* 1, 4.

1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 257 The syphon is properly a pneumatico-hydraulic machine, the action of water and of air being both necessary to its effect. 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 90 *Pneumatico-Hedonistics*, such as have for their objects those more refined classes of pleasures which, passing through one or more of the inlets afforded by the body, find their ultimate seat in the mind.

Pneuma·tics. [In form, pl. of PNEUMATIC *a.* = pneumatic treatises or matters: see -IC 2.]

1. That branch of physics which deals with the mechanical properties (as density, elasticity, pressure, etc.) of air, or other elastic fluids or gases.

[1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pneumaticks*, books treating of Spirits or the winds.] 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Pref. 3 They may look upon these Narratives as standing Records in our new Pneumaticks. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6045 The whole Science of Pneumatiques. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 226 Pneumatics is the science which treats of the properties of air, or elastic fluids. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.* etc. 914/2 The science of pneumatics has been created entirely by modern discoveries. Galileo first demonstrated that air possesses weight. His pupil Torricelli invented the barometer.

2. = PNEUMATOLOGY 1 a, b. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[*a* 1650 J. PRIDEAUX (*title*) Hypomnemata, Logica, Rhetorica, Physica, Metaphysica, Pneumatica, Ethica, Politica, Œconomica.] 1695 *Evid. bef. Scott. Univ. Comm.* 1690 (1837) I. *Edinb.* App. 42 That..the pneumatics or speciall metaphysicks [be composed] by the colledge of Edinburgh. *Ibid.* III. *St. Andrews* 217 In the third year, we teach the metaphysicks and with them the Pneumaticks...We do not hold it necessary to add to the Physicks any thing *de anima*, for all questions concerning it may be discust in the Pneumaticks. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Pneumatics*, in the schools, is frequently used for the doctrine of spirits; as God, angels, and the human mind. 1734 *Rules made for Sir J. Pringle* in Grant *Univ. Edinb.* (1884) II. 336 The Pneumatics: that is, the being and perfections of the one true God, the nature of Angels and the soul of man, and the duties of natural religion. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. i. (1869) II. 355 What are called metaphysics or pneumatics were set in opposition to physics. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* X. 407 It was not to be..any metaphysical pneumatics woven out of scholastic brains.

Pneu·matism. *rare.* [f. Gr. *πνεῦμα, πνευματ-* (see PNEUMATO-) + -ISM.] The doctrine of the pneumatists: see next, 2.

1884 [see next, 2]. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Pneumatism* .., doctrine of the pneuma or special vital principle.

Pneu·matist. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -IST.]

†**1.** A student or practitioner of pneumatic medicine: see PNEUMATIC *a.* 2, quot. 1822–34. *Obs.*

1799 SIR H. DAVY in Beddoes *Contrib. Phys. & Med. Knowl.* 114 The chemical principles of the most celebrated pneumatists.

2. *Hist.* A 'pneumatic physician': see PNEUMATIC *a.* 3 c.

1884 W. G. STEVENSON in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXIV. 761 The pneuma was deemed such an important factor in the

explanation of vital phenomena, that a school called 'Pneumatists' was founded in the first century of our era... For fourteen hundred years 'pneumatism' under various forms was the accepted philosophic belief of the civilized world.

Pneumatize (pniū·mătəiz, niū-), *v. rare.* [f. Gr. *πνευματ-* (see next) + -IZE; cf. Gr. *πνευματίζειν* to fan by blowing.]

1. *trans.* To pass a blast of air through (molten metal) in the process of converting it into steel by the Bessemer process.

1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 86 The silica which is found in Spiegeleisen has the effect of reducing the boiling or agitation of the pneumatised metal, when poured into moulds, and is therefore beneficial.

2. To furnish with air-cavities, render pneumatic: see PNEUMATIC *a.* 3 b.

1890 COUES *Ornith.* II. iv. 200 Ordinarily, the greater part of the skull, and the lesser part of the trunk and limbs, is pneumatised.

Pneumato- (pniūmătɔ, niū·-), before a vowel **pneumat-**, a. Gr. *πνευματο-*, combining form of *πνεῦμα* air, breath, spirit: see PNEUMA. Used, with various senses, chiefly in scientific and other technical words; for the more important of these, see their alphabetical places. (Also contracted to *pneumo-*: see PNEUMO-, and cf. *hæmo-*, etc.)

† **Pneumato-che·mical** *a.*, pertaining to 'pneumatic chemistry', or the chemistry of gases; *p. trough* = *pneumatic trough* (see PNEUMATIC *a.* 2). **Pneumatomo·rphic** (-mɔ̄·rfik) *a. nonce-wd.* [after ANTHROPOMORPHIC] (see quot.). **Pneumatophany** (-ɔ̄·făni) *nonce-wd.* [after CHRISTOPHANY, THEOPHANY], an appearance or manifestation of the Holy Spirit. **Pneumatophilo·sophy**, the philosophy of spirit or spiritual existence. **Pneumatophobia** (-fōu·biă) *nonce-wd.* [-PHOBIA], dread or abhorrence of the spiritual. **Pneumatophony** (-ɔ̄·fŏni) [Gr. *φωνή* voice], 'spirit-speech', i. e. the supposed utterance of articulate sounds by disembodied spirits; hence **Pneumatopho·nic** (-fɔ̄·nik) *a.* † **Pneumatopy·rist** [Gr. *πῦρ* fire] (see quot.). **Pneumatotherapeu·tics, -the·rapy** [see THERAPEUTIC], treatment of diseases, esp. of the lungs, by inhalation of compressed or rarified air (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pneumatotho·rax** *Path.* = PNEUMOTHORAX.

1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 56 The *pneumato-chemical trough, or pneumatic cistern. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* II. 12 An improved pneumato-chemical apparatus. 1886 *Kernel & Husk* 62 Metaphors .. which would subtilize Him down to a thought, or a mind, or a spirit, may be called phronesimorphic, noumorphic, *pneumatomorphic. 1892 BRIGGS *Bible Church & Reason* 163 The Theophany, the Christophany, and the *Pneumatophany are the sources of the miracles of the Bible. 1847 TULK tr. *Oken's Physio-philosophy* 2 Physio- and *Pneumato-philosophy range, therefore, parallel to each other. Physio-philosophy, however, holds the first rank, Pneumato-philosophy the second; the former, therefore, is the ground and foundation of the latter, for nature is antecedent to the human spirit. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. II. ii. 64 All Atheists (says he) are possess'd with a certain kind of Madness, that may be call'd *Pneumatophobia, that makes them have an irrational but desperate Abhorrence from Spirits or Incorporeal Substances. 1687 H. MORE *Answ. Psychop.* (1689) 107 The Psychopyrists (for so rather I call them, than *Pneumatopyrists); ..philosophers that make the essence or substance of all created spirits to be Fire. 1825 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 2) V. 436 The pneumo-thorax of Itard and Laennec, or the *pneumato-thorax, as it is more correctly called, of Dr. John Davy.

Pneumatocele (pniū·mătosīl, niū·m-). *Path.* [ad. Gr. *πνευματοκήλη* a flatulent tumour, f. *πνεῦμα* (see PNEUMATO-) + *κήλη* tumour. So F. *pneumatocèle*.] A tumour or hernia containing air or gas.

1693 *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pneumatocele*, a windy Rupture, when the Skin of the Cods is distended with Wind. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pneumatocele* or *Physocele*. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 199 The spurious [herniæ] derive their names .. from their supposed contents, as the pneumatocele, hæmatocele, and hydrocele. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 253 Case of .. formation of a circumscribed Pneumatocele in the Neck.

Pneu·matocyst (-sist). *Zool.* [f. PNEUMATO- + CYST.] **a.** An air-sac serving as a float in certain 'colonial' or compound Hydrozoa; the pneumatophore, or the cavity contained in this. **b.** An air-sac in the body of a bird.

1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 6 In the adult, this sac, which I shall term the *pneumatocyst*, is sometimes open at the apex (*Physalia, Rhizophysa*), and can communicate with the exterior by a pore which traverses the ectoderm of the pneumatophore. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cælent.* 113 *Apolemiadæ*. Pneumatocyst small. Cœnosarc filiform. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 200 The Pneumatocysts.—A bird is literally inflated with these great membranous receptacles of air, and draws a remarkably 'long breath'—all through the trunk of the body, in several pretty definite compartments. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex. Pneumatocyst*, an air-sac, as found in birds, hydrozoa, etc.

Hence **Pneu·matocy·stic** *a.*, belonging to or of the nature of a pneumatocyst. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pneu·matogram (-græm). [f. as prec. + -GRAM. (See also PNEUMOGRAM.)]

1. A diagram or tracing of the movements of the chest in respiration, obtained by a pneumograph.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pneumatogram*, the graphic representation of the respiratory movements by a curved tracing.

2. [after *telegram.*] A message sent by pneumatic dispatch: see PNEUMATIC *a.* 1.

1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* v. vi, [The pneumatic tube system] began with the dispatch of pneumatograms, following the example of Paris.

Pneu·matograph (-grɑf). [f. as prec. + -GRAPH.] = PNEUMOGRAPH.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pneu·matogra·phic, *a.* [f. prec. or next + -IC.] **a.** Pertaining to pneumatography. (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.) **b.** Pertaining to a pneumograph; pneumographic.

Pneumatography (-ɔ̄·grăfi). [f. PNEUMATO- + -GRAPHY.]

1. 'Spirit-writing', i. e. writing alleged to be done directly by a disembodied spirit, without the hand of a medium or any material instrument.

1876 ANNA BLACKWELL tr. *Kardec's Medium's Bk.* xxxii. 447 *Pneumatography*... This word denotes the direct writing of spirits, without the use of the medium's hand.

2. A description of supposed spiritual beings, or of beliefs about them; the descriptive part of PNEUMATOLOGY (sense 1 a).

1881 O. T. MASON in *Smithsonian Rep.* (1883) 501.

† **Pneumatolo·gic,** *a. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *pneumatologia* PNEUMATOLOGY + -IC: cf. F. *pneumatologique.*] Of or pertaining to PNEUMATOLOGY (1 a).

1695 *Evid. Sc. Univ. Comm.* (1839) I. *Edinb.* App. 41 His determinationes ontologick and pneumatologick [mispr. *-ica*].

Pneu·matolo·gical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Pertaining or relating to pneumatology.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 189 The jurisprudential operators fall far beneath the medical and pneumatological. 1841 PHILIP *Ess.* in *Bunyan's Wks.* p. xxxv, Here I apprehend is the origin of Bunyan's pneumatological Allegory. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 3/1 He has laid down his own pneumatological pen for an instant, and has collected from 'the Elite' their opinions on these profound questions.

So **Pneumato·logist** [cf. F. *pneumatologiste*], one versed in pneumatology.

1800 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 227 To encourage the experimental pneumatologist to go on with his observations. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Pneumatologist*, one versed in pneumatology.

Pneumatology (pniūmătɔ·lŏdʒi, niū-). [ad. mod.L. *pneumatologia* (J. Prideaux *a* 1650): see PNEUMATO- and -LOGY. So F. *pneumatologie* (D'Alembert 1751).]

1. **a.** The science, doctrine, or theory of spirits or spiritual beings: in the 17th c. considered as forming a department of metaphysics called *Special Metaphysics* as opposed to *General Metaphysics* or ontology, and comprehending the doctrine of God as known by natural reason, of angels and demons, and of the human soul: cf. PNEUMATICS 2.

[1695 *Evid. Sc. Univ. Comm.* (1837) II. *Glasgow* 270 That in the fourth class be taught the Speciall Physicks and the Pneumatologia.]

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 26 Those atomical physiologers that were before Democritus and Leucippus were all of them incorporealists; joyning theology and pneumatology .. together with their atomical physiology. 1755 [A. GERARD] *Plan Educ. Marischal Coll. & Univ. Aberdeen*, Pneumatology or the natural philosophy of spirits, including the doctrine of the nature, faculties and states of the human mind. 1765 JOHNSON *Shaks. Wks., Ham.* I. i. *note*, According to the pneumatology of that time, every element was inhabited by its peculiar order of Spirits. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* V. i. (1869) II. 356 Pneumatology, comprehending the doctrine concerning the nature of the human soul and of the Deity. 1834 S. JACKSON tr. Jung-Stilling (*title*) Theory of Pneumatology; what ought to be believed or disbelieved concerning Presentiments, Visions, and Apparitions. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 155 Pneumatology can be nothing more than a doctrine of our necessary ignorance of a certain problematical class of beings. 1882 STALLO *Concepts & The. Mod. Physics* 128 Faith in spooks ..is unwisdom in physics no less than in pneumatology.

With the neglect of the doctrine of supernatural beings, due to the philosophical tendencies of the 18th century, Pneumatology came to deal with human souls only, and to mean:

b. The science of the nature and functions of the human soul or mind, now commonly called PSYCHOLOGY.

1785 REID *Intell. Powers* Pref. (1803) 9 There are two great branches of philosophy, one relating to body, the other to mind...The branch which treats of the nature and operations of minds has by some been called Pneumatology. [HAMILTON, in note (Reid's Wks. 1846), Now properly superseded by the term *Psychology.*] 1790 BEATTIE *Moral Sc.* I. Introd. 13 The Speculative part of the philosophy of the mind has been called Pneumatology. 1814 D. STEWART *Human Mind* II. Concl. 485, I have accordingly entitled my book, Elements—not of Logic or of Pneumatology, but —of the Philosophy of the Human Mind. 1877 SHIELDS *Final Philos.* 178 Descartes .. had given the death-blow to the whole of scholastic pneumatology, with its complex series of vegetative, appetitive, sensitive souls.

2. *Theol.* The, or a, doctrine of the Holy Spirit.

1881 O. T. MASON in *Smithsonian Rep.* (1883) 507 Inasmuch as we have borrowed a specific term from the theologians to stand for the whole study of man, we may be compelled to take the word pneumatology, meaning with them the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. 1882 SCHAFF *Hist. Christ. Church* § 95 II. 778 The pneumatology of Ephesians resembles that of John, as the christology of Colossians resembles the christology of John.

3. The science or theory of air or gases; pneumatics; 'pneumatic chemistry'; 'pneumatic medicine'.

1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* 16 In a treatise on barometrical pneumatology. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygeia* IX. 15 Considerable discoveries have however been made in pneumatology. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pneumatologia, Med., Pathol.*, term for the doctrine of air or breath: pneumatology. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 20, (1) Contributions to the Pneumatology of the Blood.

Pneumatomachian (-mɔ̄·kiăn), *sb.* and *a. Ch. Hist.* [f. late Gr. *πνευματομάχος* (Athanasius, A.D. 360) an adversary of the (Holy) Spirit (f. *πνεῦμα* spirit + *-μάχος* fighting, fighter) + -IAN.]

a. *sb.* An adversary of the Spirit; a name applied to a sect or party (or a group of such) in the 4th century, who denied the divinity or personality of the Holy Spirit. **b.** *adj.* Belonging to such a party, or holding such a doctrine. So **Pneumatomachist** (-ɔ̄·măkist) = a.; **Pneumato·machy,** opposition to the Spirit.

1654 BOREMAN *Triumph Faith* 5 Thus much you must know and believe against the Pneumatomachists, that this Procession of the Holy Ghost from the Father and the Sonne denotes his Communion with both in the Essence or Substance of the Deity. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 297 A Heretick of Zizicum of the Sect of the Pneumatomachians. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* IV. ii. (1876) 303 Macedonius .. passed through Semi-Arianism to the heresy of the Pneumatomachist, that is, the denial of the Divinity of the Holy Ghost, of which he is theologically the founder. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1650 The Council of Constantinople in 381 opposed the Pneumatomachians, whose definite exclusion from the orthodox church dates from that time. 1889 C. I. BLACK (*title*) The Pneumatomachy of the Day: the Clergy and the Scriptures.

Pneumatometer (-ɔ̄·mĭtəɹ). [f. PNEUMATO- + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the amount of air breathed in or out at each inspiration or expiration, or for measuring the force of inspiration or expiration; a spirometer.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 395 *note*, Dr. Marshall Hall's .. contrivance for measuring the quantity of respiration with minuteness..is named the *pneumatometer*. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 17 By the suitable modification of the index, it is used as a pneumatometer for measuring the capacity of the chest. 1877 HOLDEN in *Amer. Jrnl. Med. Sci.* Apr. 391 This instrument..furnishes a portable and reliable pneumatometer. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., P[neumatometer], Holden's* .. consists of a tube .. containing a syrẹn. .. The variations in the note produced serve to test the individual power, both in inspiration and in expiration.

So **Pneumato·metry,** measurement of the force or amount of breath; use of a pneumatometer.

1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* IV. 284 Pneumatometry, recently introduced by Waldenburg, as a method of clinical exploration.

Pneumatophore (pniū·mătɔfōəɹ, niū·-). [f. PNEUMATO- + Gr. *-φορ-os* bearing.]

1. *Zool.* In certain 'colonial' or compound Hydrozoa of the order *Siphonophora*, A specialized part or individual of the 'colony', containing an air-cavity (*pneumatocyst*) and serving as a float.

1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 5 The float or pneumatophore..is..a most remarkable and well-defined structure. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 82 The large proximal dilatation of the coenosarc is termed the 'pneumatophore'. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 771 The pneumatophore or float, an air-vesicle distinctive of *Physophoridæ, Physalidæ*, and *Discoidææ*.

2. *Bot.* A structure having numerous lenticels, and supposed to serve as a channel for air, arising from the roots of various trees which grow in swampy places in the tropics.

1901 HENSLOW in *Gardener* 9 Mar. 1241/3 The formation of 'knees' or 'pneumatophores', i. e. air conveyers.

Hence **Pneumatophorous** (-ɔ̄·fŏrəs) *a.*, of the nature of or pertaining to a pneumatophore.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Pneumatosis** (pniūmătō·sis, niū-). [mod.L., a. Gr. *πνευμάτωσις* inflation.]

† 1. *Old Physiol.* The supposed production of ANIMAL SPIRITS in the brain. *Obs.*

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pneumatosis*, the Generation of Animal Spirits, which is performed in the barky Substance of the Brain; the little Arteries there are emptied and the Spirits distill, which after they are come as far as the middle of the Brain, they actuate and invigorate all the Nerves. 1704 in HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1706 in PHILLIPS.

2. *Path.* A morbid accumulation of gas in the bodily cavities or tissues; emphysema.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 333 This [cellular inflation] is the pneumatosis of Sauvages and Cullen. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pneumatosis*, windy swelling;..also termed *Emphysema.*

Hence **Pneumatosic** (-ɔ̄·sik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with pneumatosis. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pneume: see PNEUM, NEUME.

Pneumectomy (pniūme·ktŏmi, niū-). *Surg.* [f. PNEUMO- b + Gr. *ἐκτομή* cutting out.] (See quot.)

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pneumectomy* (for *pneumonectomy*, from Gr. *πνεύμων*, a lung..), term for excision of part of the

lung, an operation which has occasionally been tried in some forms of Phthisis.

Pneumic (pniū'mik, niū'-), *a. rare.* [a. F. *pneumique*, erron. for *pneumonique*, f. Gr. *πνεύμων* lung: see -IC, and cf. PNEUMO- b.] Pertaining to the lungs, pulmonary: = PNEUMONIC 1.

Pneumic acid: see quot. 1866.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 685 *Pneumic acid*, an acid existing, according to Verdeil.., in the parenchyma of the lungs of most animals. It is very soluble in water. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pneumic*, belonging to the lung. *P. acid*, ..is said to be formed by the union of lactic acid and taurin.

Pneumo- (pniūmo-, niū-), combining form and verbal element, a. Gr. *πνεῦμα* wind, spirit, etc. (see PNEUMA), = the fuller form PNEUMATO- (cf. Gr. *αἱμο-* = *αἱματο-*, etc.), in various scientific terms. b. Short for *pneumono-*, f. Gr. *πνεύμων*, *-μον-*, lung; chiefly in terms of pathology, most of which occur also in the fuller form PNEUMONO-.

For the more important of these in either sense, see their alphabetical places.

‖ **Pneumocace** (pniūmǫ'kăsĭ) = *pneumonocace.*

‖ **Pneumocarcino'ma** = *pneumonocarcinoma.*

Pneumocele (-sēl) [Gr. *κηλή* tumour], hernia of the lung. ‖ **Pneumoconio'sis** (also -kon-) = *pneumonoconiosis.* **Pneumodyna'mic** *a.* [DYNAMIC], acting by the force of air. **Pneumodyna'mics** [after *hydrodynamics*], that branch of physics which treats of the forces exerted by air or gases (esp. in motion); pneumatics. ‖ **Pneumo-empye'ma**, *Path.* [EMPYEMA], the presence of air or gas together with pus in a cavity of the body. ‖ **Pneumo-enteri'tis** [ENTERITIS], name introduced by Klein for 'swine-fever' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Pneumo-hæmotho'rax**, *Path.* [cf. *hæmothorax* s. v. HÆMO-], the presence of air or gas together with blood in the pleural cavity (A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1866–80) 152). **Pneumohydrotho'rax**, *Path.* [cf. HYDROTHORAX], the presence of air or gas together with watery fluid in the pleural cavity (*Ibid.*). **Pneumolith** (-liþ) [Gr. *λίθος* stone], a stony concretion or calculus in the lung; so ‖ **Pneumolithiasis** (-liþəi'ăsĭs), the formation of pneumoliths. **Pneumomyco'sis** = *pneumonomycosis.* **Pneumo-peritoni'tis**, *Path.*, peritonitis caused or accompanied by the presence of air or gas in the peritoneal cavity. **Pneumo-phthi'sis**, *Path.*, pulmonary phthisis (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1853). ‖ **Pneumo-pleuri'tis**, inflammation of the lung and pleura; pleuro-pneumonia. **Pneumopytho'rax**, *Path.* [PYOTHORAX], the presence of air or gas together with pus in the pleural cavity (A. Flint). ‖ **Pneumorrhagia** (-rē'ı̆dʒĭă), hæmorrhage in the lung, pulmonary apoplexy. **Pneumoske'leton**, a hard external structure (exoskeleton) developed in connexion with a respiratory organ, e.g. the shell of a mollusc in connexion with the mantle; hence **Pneumoske'letal** *a.* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pneumo'tomy** [after *anatomy*, etc.], (*a*) dissection of the lungs; (*b*) incision into the lung. **Pneumo-ty'phoid** *a.*, applied to typhoid fever accompanied with pneumonia. **Pneumo-ty'phus**, (*a*) pneumo-typhoid fever; (*b*) typhus fever accompanied with pneumonia.

1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk.* 196 Traumatic *Pneumocele. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* II. 41 Hernia of the lung, or pneumocele is a rare consequence of a punctured wound of the thorax. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Pneumoconiosis.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 242 Pneumoconiosis, pneumonoconiosis, or .. 'Dusty-lung-disease'..has attracted but little attention in this country. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 85 This train of events most often follows..the pneumokonioses. 1876 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XVI. 286 A new telegraphic machine called a '*Pneumo-dynamic' Relay Sounder, where the local battery is replaced by compressed fluid,..condensed air. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 111 General Properties of Fluids in Motion. (Hydro- and *Pneumodynamics.) 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 361 In the case of *pneumo-empyema the pericardial sac may contain air, as well as pus. 1900 *Field* 1 Sept. 374/1 Swine fever, with its several names of typhoid fever of the pig, soldier, red disease, *pneumo-enteritis. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Pneumolith*, pulmonary concretion. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 250 Another peculiarity of the dust of stone is that it tends to collect in masses, forming concretions (pneumoliths). 1890 BILLINGS, *Med. Dict.*, **Pneumomycosis.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 257 Hughes Bennett in 1842, described the first example of pneumomycosis. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pneumoperitonitis*, term for the condition in which air finds entry in the peritoneal cavity. 1811 HOOPER *Dict. Med.*, **Pneumopleuritis*, an inflammation of the lungs and pleura. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pneumopleuritis*,..(should be *Pneumonopleuritis*). 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pneumorrhagia*, Hæmoptysis. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 274 Pneumorrhagia, or the extravasation of blood into the aircells and frequently also into the interstitial tissue, is commonly known as pulmonary apoplexy. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 35 The shell may be regarded as a *pneumo-skeleton. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pneumotomy*, dissection of the lungs. 1890 BILLINGS, *Pneumotomy*, incision of the lung to open a cavity. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 812 These cases are known as *pneumo-typhoid. 1890 BILLINGS, **Pneumotyphus*, typhoid fever with croupous pneumonia.

‖ **Pneumococcus** (pniūmǫkǫ'kŭs, niū-). [mod. L., f. PNEUMO- + Gr. *κόκκος* berry: cf. *micrococcus.*] Name for two different micro-organisms of oval form (Friedländer's and Fränkel's) which have been found in the rusty sputum of pneumonia, and supposed to be the cause of the disease. Hence **Pneumococcal** (-kǫ'kăl), **Pneumococcic** (-kǫ'ksik), **Pneumococcous** (-kǫ'kəs), *adjs.*, pertaining to or caused by a pneumococcus.

1890 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 3/6 What is peculiar in this disease is the alliance with this bacillus of pneumococcus, which also lives in Russian marshes, river mud, and village pools. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 518 Experiments on pneumococcal infection in rabbits. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 113 The diplococcus described by Fränkel (now often called pneumococcus, in succession to the title enjoyed for a short period by Friedländer's bacillus). *Ibid.* 27 Varieties of membrane, .. described as primary diphtheritic and primary pneumococcic. *Ibid.* 348 Primary pneumococcous pleurisy is a common disease.

Pneumoderm (pniū'mǫdēm, niū'-). *Zool.* [f. PNEUMO- b + Gr. *δέρμα* skin.] A gymnosomatous pteropod of the family *Pneumodermidæ* (typical genus *Pneumodermon* or *Pneumoderma*), having processes of the skin which serve as gills.

[1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 326 In Pneumodermon .. two of these bodies are beset with suckers. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim Life* 468 The general surface of the body is respiratory in *Gymnosomata. Pneumodermon*, however, possesses three contractile and richly ciliated processes at the apex of the visceral dome, in and out of which the blood passes.]

Pneumogastric (niūmogæ'strik, pniū-), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [mod. f. PNEUMO- b + GASTRIC. So F. *pneumogastrique* (Chaussier).] Pertaining to the lungs and the stomach or abdomen; *spec.* in *pneumogastric nerve*, name for each of the tenth pair of cerebral nerves, the most widely distributed of all these (hence also called VAGUS), which, with their branches, supply the lungs and other respiratory and vocal organs, stomach, œsophagus, spleen, liver, intestines, heart, etc.

Hence applied to connected structures, as *p. ganglion*, *p. plexus*; *p. lobule* of the cerebellum (= FLOCCULUS 2).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 287 The lower edge..allows the inferior laryngeal branch of the pneumo-gastric nerve to pass under it anteriorly. 1842 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (ed. 2) 384 The Pneumogastric lobule .. is situated on the anterior border of the cerebellum. *Ibid.* 403 The Pneumogastric Nerve (vagus) arises by numerous filaments from the respiratory tract immediately below the glosso-pharyngeal.

B. *elliptic.* as *sb.* The pneumogastric nerve.

1874 ROOSA *Dis. Ear* (ed. 2) 66 An auricular branch from the pneumogastric. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 608 If the trunks of the pneumogastrics had been the seat of disease, the paralysis would have been still more extensive.

Pneumogram (pniū'mogræm, niū'-). [f. PNEUMO- + -GRAM.] A tracing taken with the pneumograph (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*): = PNEUMATOGRAM 1.

Pneu'mograph. [f. as prec. + -GRAPH.] An instrument for automatically recording the movements of the chest in respiration; also called *stethograph.*

1878 FOSTER *Phys.* II. ii. § 1. 258 The pneumograph of Fick is somewhat similar. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 July 4/1 The sphygmograph was followed by the cardiograph, for exploring the movements of the heart, and the pneumograph, for the study of the respiratory movements.

Pneumography (pniumǫ'grăfi, niu-). [f. as prec. + -GRAPHY.] a. A description of the lungs. b. The recording of the respiratory movements, as by a pneumograph.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pneumography*, the part of anatomy which describes the lungs. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pneumography*, a description of the lungs. Also, a recording of the respiratory movements.

Hence **Pneumographic** (-græ'fik) *a.*, a. pertaining to or of the nature of a pneumograph; b. 'pertaining to pneumography' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1895 WOLFENDEN tr. *Joal's Respiration in Singing* 175 Scarcely revealed, except..by pneumographic instruments.

†**Pneumo'logy** [1]. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PNEUMO- a + -LOGY.] A discourse concerning spirits; = PNEUMATOLOGY 1 a.

1613 W. B. (tr. *Michaelis*) (*title*) The Admirable Historie of the Possession and Conversion of a Penitent woman, Sedvced by a Magician that made her to Become a Witch, .. wherevnto is annexed a Pnevmology, or Discourse of Spirits. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Pneumology* (Gr.), a speaking or treating of spirits or winds.

Pneumo'logy [2]. *rare.* [f. PNEUMO- b + -LOGY.] A treatise on, or the scientific description or knowledge of, the lungs.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pneumolo'gical** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890.)

Pneumometer (pniumǫ'mĭtəɪ, niu-). [f. PNEUMO- + -METER.] = PNEUMATOMETER. So **Pneumometrograph** (-me'trograf): see quot.; **Pneumo'metry** = PNEUMATOMETRY.

1857 J. MILLER *Alcohol* (1858) 79 The mercury in the animal pneumometer .. does not .. fall back to the old level. 1887 *Homeopath. World* 1 Nov. 527 There is an arrangement (the pneumometrograph) for measuring the amount of medicated vapour which the patient inhales. 1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pneumometry*, measurement of the capacity of the lungs for the air.

Pneumonalgia, Pneumonectomy: see PNEUMONO-.

Pneumonia (niumō'niă). *Path.* Also rarely in anglicized form: 7 **pneumonie**, 9 **pneumony**. [a. medical L. *pneumonia*, a. Gr. *πνευμονία* (Plut.) inflammation of the lungs, f. *πνεύμων*, *πνευμον-*, lung. So F. *pneumonie* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Inflammation of the substance of the lungs; a disease having many varieties, induced by cold or various other causes.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1012 The beginning of the Pneumonie or inflamation of the lungs. 1783 W. CULLEN *First Lines Pract. Phys.* § 354 Wks. 1827 II. 56 Pneumonia, like other inflammations, often ends in suppuration. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 252 In consequence of imprudent exposure to a cold wind, she was seized with symptoms of pneumonia. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Pneumonia*, *Pneumony*. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 147 Pneumonia occasionally attacks all cattle, but more particularly working beasts, and those that have been driven a long way. 1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pneumony*, pneumonia. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 110 Apical pneumonia of one lung is often accompanied by basal pneumonia of the other.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pneumonia patient*; **pneumonia bacillus, coccus, microbe** = PNEUMOCOCCUS.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 434 'Poultice' or 'Pneumonia jackets' are garments made of a strip of thin flannel or flannelette. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) iv. 144 Some notice of the position which may be accorded to the pneumonia-coccus. *Ibid.* 146 The subject of the pneumonia-microbe needs further elucidation.

Pneumonic (niumǫ'nik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. medical L. *pneumonicus*, a. Gr. *πνευμονικός* of the lungs, affected with lung-disease. So F. *pneumonique.*]

1. Pertaining to the lungs; pulmonary. *rare.* ? *Obs.*

1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 506 This Pneumonique Engin, lodged in the breast [the Lungs]. *Ibid.*, When the Blood does not duly circulate through the Heart and the Pneumonique Vessels; which may sometimes be caus'd within the right ventricle of the heart, or the Pneumonique Arteries. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 216 It [the Hydromel]..stuffing up the pneumonic Passages, causeth an Orthopnæa.

2. Pertaining to, of the nature of, characterized by, or affected with pneumonia.

1783 S. CHAPMAN in *Med. Commun.* I. 297 The expectoration..produced by pneumonic inflammations. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 122 A pneumonic patient. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 3/3 The disease which has broken out in Vienna is not bubonic but pneumonic plague.

B. *sb.* †a. A person affected with lung-disease. *Obs.* b. A remedy for lung-disease. *rare*—°.

1681 tr. *Willis's Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Pneumonic*, one sick of the disease of the lungs. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Pneumonics*, medicines proper in diseases of the lungs, where respiration is affected. 1818 in TODD. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pneumonic.* .. 3. A remedy suitable for diseases of the lungs.

‖ **Pneumonitis** (pniūmonəi'tis, niū-). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πνεύμων* lung + -ITIS.] = PNEUMONIA. Hence **Pneumonitic** (-i'tik) *a.* = PNEUMONIC 2.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 441 Thus it occurs to us in pleurisy, in pneumonitis. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 160 Pneumonia is the name commonly used: pneumonitis is the more appropriate term, being in conformity with the plan of distinguishing inflammatory affections by the suffix *-itis.* 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pneumonitic*, of or belonging to pneumonitis, or inflammation of the lungs.

Pneumono- (pniūmono, niū-), before a vowel **pneumon-**, combining form of Gr. *πνεύμων*, *πνευμον-* lung. (Often contracted to PNEUMO-.)

‖ **Pneumonalgia** (-æ'ldʒĭă) [Gr. *ἄλγος* pain], pain in the lungs. **Pneumonectomy** = PNEUMECTOMY (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Pneumonocace** (-ǫ'kăsĭ) [Gr. *κακή* evil], decay or gangrene of the lung (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Pneumonocarcino'ma** [CARCINOMA], cancer of the lung (Mayne). **Pneumonocele** = *pneumocele*: see PNEUMO- (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1853). ‖ **Pneumonocirrho'sis**, cirrhosis of the lung (Mayne). ‖ **Pneumonoconio'sis** (also -kon-) [Gr. *κόνις* dust], disease of the lungs produced by inhalation of dust. ‖ **Pneumonody'nia** [Gr. *ὀδύνη* pain], pain in the lung (Mayne). **Pneumonolith** (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*), **Pneumonolithi'asis** (Mayne) = *pneumolith*, *-lithiasis*: see PNEUMO-. **Pneumono'meter** [-METER], an instrument for measuring the capacity or strength of the lungs (= PNEUMATOMETER, PNEUMOMETER) (Mayne). ‖ **Pneumonomyco'sis** [Gr. *μύκης* fungus], growth of a fungus in the lungs. **Pneumonophorous** (-ǫ'fŏrəs) *a.* [Gr. *-φόρος* bearing], bearing or having lungs. ‖ **Pneumonorrhagia** (-rē'ı̆dʒĭă) = *pneumorrhagia*: see PNEUMO- (Mayne).

1857 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sc.*, **Pneumonalgia*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pneumonalgia*, pain in the lungs. A term used by Alibert for *angina pectoris*, which was the fifth genus of pulmonary diseases (*pneumoses*) in his nosology. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 185 Under the generic name *pneumonokoniosis, proposed by Zenker, are included the various affections of the lung produced by the inhalation of dust-like particles. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 631 Other pneumonoconioses arise in a similar manner. 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* V. 468 Vegetable Parasites [of the lungs]—*Pneumonomycosis. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life*

148 The..ambulacral vessel in all the *pneumonophorous Holothurioidea.

Pneumootocous (pnĭūmoʊˈtŏkəs, nĭū-), *a. Zool.* Also **pneumo·tocous.** [f. mod.L. *Pneumōotoca, Pneumōtoca* (Owen), f. PNEUMO- b + Gr. ᾠοτόκος egg-laying, oviparous.] Belonging to the *Pneumootoca*, or vertebrates that breathe air by means of lungs, and lay eggs, as birds and reptiles.

1890 *Cent. Dict., Pneumoötokous..Pneumotocous.*

Pneu·mo-perica·rdial, *a. Path.* [f. PNEUMO- b + PERICARDIAL.] Applied to a sound heard in pleurisy, attributed to the friction of the investing membrane of the lung against the pericardium: = *pleuropericardial* (see PLEURO-).

1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 595 This sound is called the extra-pericardial, pneumo-pericardial or pleuro-pericardial friction sound.

‖ **Pneu·moperica·rdium.** *Path.* [mod.L., f. PNEUMO- + PERICARDIUM.] The presence of air or gas in the pericardium. So ‖ **Pneu·moperi-cardi·tis,** pneumopericardium accompanied by pericarditis (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890).

1854 JONES & SIEV. *Pathol. Anat.* xvii. 297 A condition of the heart rarely found until after death, and termed by Laennec pneumo-pericardium, consists in an effusion of air into the sac. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 801 Pneumo-pericardium is extremely rare.

Pneumothorax (pnĭūmoʊˈθɔ·ræ̆ks, nĭū-). *Path.* [f. PNEUMO- + THORAX.] The presence of air or gas in the cavity of the thorax, i.e. of the pleura; usually caused by a wound or by perforation of the lung. Also *pneumatothorax* (see PNEUMATO-).

1843 SIR T. WATSON *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* liii. II. 120 When the pleura contains air alone, the patient is said to have pneumothorax. 1894 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Dec. 7/3 It seems not improbable that the immediate cause of [Stevenson's] death may have been pneumothorax.

‖ **Pneusiobiognosis** (pnĭūˌsaɪəbəɪˌɒgnōʊˈsis). *Med. Jurispr.* [mod.L. f. Gr. πνεῦσις a blowing, breathing + βίος life + γνῶσις investigation, knowledge.] = *Pneobiognosis*: see PNEO-.

1857 in DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sc.*

‖ **Pnyx** (pniks). [a. Gr. Πνύξ, *genitive* πυκνός, probably f. πυκνός packed, crowded.] Name of the public place of assembly in ancient Athens, a semicircular level cut out of the side of a little hill west of the Acropolis.

1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 16 The pnyx was a public place, which derived its name from the number of stones with which it was filled. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 289 (ed. 2) 320 The stage then certainly took the place of the simpler bema on the pnyx, which was in like manner constructed in the theatrical form. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 146/2 Afterwards they [the ἐκκλησίαι] were transferred to the Pnyx.

† **Po**[1], **poo.** *Obs.* Forms: α. 1 páuua, páwa, pawe, 5 paa, pae. β. 4–5 po, 4–6 poo. [OE. *páwa* (*pauua*) = OLG. **pāwo* (MLG. *pāwe*, LG. *pau*, Da. *paa*), OHG. *pfāwo* (MHG. *pfāwe*, Ger. *pfau*), both wk. m.; WGer. a. L. *pāvo* peacock. Thence (through *pā(w)a, pa(we)*, ME. north. *paa, pa-*, midl. *pō, poo* (cf. OHG. *phāo*, MHG. *pfā*). OE. had also the form *péa* from **pau* (see Sievers, ed. 3, § 111 A. 2), whence ME. *pē-* in *pēcock, pēhenne*: see PEACOCK, etc.] A peacock.

† *Feathered with po*, i.e. with peacock's feathers.

α. *a* 700 *Epinal Gloss.* (O.E.T.) 826 *Pavo*, pauua. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 35 *Pauo*, pawa. *c* 1000 — *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 131/9 *Pauo, pauus*, pawe. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 196 Fuglas þa þe heard flæsc habbað, pawa swan æned. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4983 Þar bade a brid on a boghe..Was of a port of a paa. 14.. in *Langtoft's Chron.* (Rolls) II. App. iv. 452, I beheld that litel man .., His berd was syde ay large span, and glided als the fethere of pae.

β. *a* 1307 *Sat. Consistory Courts* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 159 A pruest proud ase a po, Seþþe weddeþ us bo. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* ix. 21 Thei brouȝten thennus gold, and syluer, and yuer, and apis, and poos [1388 pokokis, *v. r.* pekokis]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6961 With bowe and arwe fedred with po, He wroght amonges hem mechel wo. *c* 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 136 Aftir thies wordes, was brought yn a Poo by ij. gentilwomen.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a 1300–1520 Pakoc, pacok, poucok, pocok, etc. [see PEACOCK *sb.* 1 β and γ]. *c* 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 782 (E. E. T. S.), Storke pecok and pohenne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 257 By þe po feet is vnderstonde..fals frendes.

† **Po**[2]. *Obs.* [Origin obscure.] (See quot. 1838.)

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1395 This is some Pettifogging Fiend,..That undertakes to understand, And juggles at the second hand; And now would pass for Spirit Po, And all mens dark Concerns foreknow. [1838 SOUTHEY *Doctor* cxxxix. V. 25 One Mr. Duke, a busy fanatic, in Devonshire in Charles II.'s days, whom old Sir Edward Seymour used to call Spirit Po, that said Po being a *petit diable*, a small devil that was *presto* at every Conjuror's nod.]

Po: see POH and next.

‖ **Poa** (pōʊˈă). *Bot.* [mod.L., a. Gr. πόα grass.] A large genus of grasses widely distributed in temperate and cold regions; meadow-grass.

1753 in CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xiii. (1794) 137 There are four sorts of Poa very common in most meadows. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) II. 57 A mixture of..burnet, and dwarf poa.

b. *Comb.* **Poa-grass** († **po-grass**), a grass of this genus; meadow-grass.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xlii. 183 We have a far better grass, under the name of po-grass. 1766 *Ibid.* VI. 121, I could not distinguish the desired kind from these intruders; particularly the poa-grass.

Poach (pōʊtʃ), *v.*[1] Forms: 5 pocche, 6–8 poche, potch, 7– poach. [a. OF. *pochier* (12th c. in Godef.), later *pocher* to enclose in a poke or bag, to bag; also in senses 1 and 2 below; f. *poche* poke, bag (Diez, Littré): see POKE *sb.*[1] The Eng. uses were adopted separately. The *o* seems to have been originally short as in Fr.]

I. 1. *trans.* To cook (an egg) by dropping it, without the shell, into boiling water.

[F. *pocher*, in this sense, is usually explained as referring to the enclosure of the yolk in the white as in a bag.]

[?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* § 90. 46 Pochee. Take Ayren and breke hem in scaldyng hoot water [etc.]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 24 Eyron en poche. Take Eyroun, breke hem, and sethe hem in hot Water; þan take hem Vppe as hole as þou may; þan take flowre, and melle with Mylke. *c* 1450 *Douce MS.* 55 § 100 Egges pocchez.] *c* 1450 [see POACHED *ppl. a.*[1]]. 1530 PALSGR. 663/1, I poche egges, *je poche des œufs*. He that wyll potche egges well muste make his water sethe first. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xvii. (1541) 33 They [eggs] be moste holsome whan they be poched. 1598 *Epulario* Lj, To poche Egges..To poche them in milke or wine. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 53 The Yolkes of Eggs..so they be Potched or Reare boyled. 1679 JENKINS in R. Mansel *Narr. Popish Plot* (1680) 99 She poach'd Eggs for them both. 1742, 1889 [see POACHED *ppl. a.*[1]].

fig. and *transf.* 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Laugh & be fat* Wks. II. 76/2 This man hath played the cooke And potch'd this Ginnie Egge into thy bowle. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xx. 169 As if he had been to potch them in a Skillet with Butter and Eggs.

† 2. To sketch roughly. *Obs. rare.*

[F. *pocher*, in this sense, appears to have arisen from the obs. and dial. sense 'to make blots or blurs': cf. Cotgr. '*cet encre poche*, this Inke blurres'.]

1651 CLEVELAND *Poems* 44 Whose fervour can Hatch him, whom Nature poach'd but half a man.

Poach (pōʊtʃ), *v.*[2] Forms: 6–7 poche, 7– potch, poach. [In 16th c. *poche*; app. in the main a palatalized collateral form of POKE *v.*[1], q.v. But sense 1 c appears to be immediately from OF. *pocher* 'to thrust or dig out with the fingers' (Cotgr.), in *pocher un œil, les yeux* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*) to thrust or gouge out an eye, to put out the eyes (in mod.F. to give any one 'a black eye' with a blow); itself prob. of LG. origin; and quots. 1528, 1542 in 1 b may be related to OF. *pocher* to put into a sack, to bag: see prec. The *o* was app. mostly short in 16–17th c., and *potch* is still widely spread in the dialects.]

I. 1. *trans.* To push or stir (anything) *with* the point of a stick, a finger, a foot, etc.; = POKE *v.*[1] 1; to stir *up* by this means; *fig.* to instigate. Now *dial.*

[*c* 1386: see POKE *v.*[1] 1.] 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 75 Then..tried his armour everywhere by potching it, to see if he could find any place unarmed. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* I. i, A Woman who..watch't her Opportunity, and poach'd me up for the Service of Satan. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. iv, He bid him beat abroad, and not poach up the Game in his Warren. 1859 in J. Watson *Living Bards of Border* 92 (E. D. D.) We'll poach the fire, an' ha'e a crack aside the chumla lug.

b. To ram, shove, or roughly push (things) together, or in a heap. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1528 *Impeachm. Wolsey* 59 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 353 Þou haste purposyd To mynester grete extorcion, By the whyche haste so furiously encrochyd, In Chestis, baggis hepyd & pochyd, Of every man Takyng A porcion. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xi. (1870) 259 Mestlyng breade is made, halfe of whete and halfe of Rye. And there is also mestlyng made, halfe of rye and halfe of barly. And yll people wyll put whete and barly togyther. Breade made of these aforesayde grayne or cornes, thus poched togyther, maye fyll the gutte, but it shall neuer do good to man. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Warwicksh.), Potch these oddments in the corner. These things are all potched togethér.

c. To thrust or poke *out* (the eyes); = OF. *pocher l'œil, les yeux. Obs.* or *dial.*

[*c* 1380: see POKE *v.*[1] 1.] 1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* VI. in *Sylvester's Wks.* (1621) 752 And with their fingers poched out his eyes. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 1179 O! poach not out mine eyes.

d. To strike, rap, slap. [Perh. for Ger. *pochen.*] *slang.*

1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 87 My mother potched my face...I shall never forget that slap.

2. To thrust or push (a stick, a finger, a foot, etc.) into any hole or thing. Now chiefly *dial.*

1673 TEMPLE *United Prov.* i. 5 His [Charlemagne's] Horse poching one of his legs into some hollow ground, made way for the smoaking water to break out, and gave occasion for the Emperor's building that City [Aix]. 1822–56 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* (1862) 133 Lest some one of the many little Brahminical-looking cows..might poach her foot into the centre of my face. [See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]

b. *intr.* To poke or probe (e.g. with a stick, etc.); also, to poke, thrust oneself, intrude. Now *dial.*

a 1550 *Hye Way to Spyttel Hous* 308 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 41 One tyme to this spyttell, another to that, Probyng and pochyng to get somwhat; At euery doore lumpes of bread or meat. 1657 DAVENANT *1st Day's Entertainm. Rutland Ho.* 72 Your Bastelier..with her long pole gives us a tedious waft, as if he were all the while poaching for Eels. 1859 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Eternally poachin' amang my feet.

† 3. *trans.* To thrust, stab, pierce. *Obs.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 31 The Flowk, Sole and Playce followe the tyde vp into the fresh riuers, where, at lowe water the Countrie people..take them vp with their hands. They vse also to poche them with an instrument somewhat like the Sammon-speare. 1644 W. NEWPORT *Fall of Man by Sin* 4 Potch a dead man with knives, stab him with daggers, &c.

† b. *intr.* To make a stab or thrust *at* as in fencing. Also *fig. Obs. rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. x. 15 Ile potche at him some way, Or Wrath, or Craft may get him. 1624 BACON *War w. Spain* Wks. 1879 I. 531/1 They have rather poached and offered at a number of enterprizes, than maintained any constantly.

II. 4. *trans.* To thrust or stamp down with the feet; to trample (soft or sodden ground) into muddy holes; to cut *up* (turf, etc.) with hoofs.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 247 The Horses going .. in a string and keeping the furrow, to avoid poching the Land. 1768 EARL HADDINGTON *Forest-trees* 46 Cattle should be taken off, lest they potch the ground. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiii, The cattle of the villagers .. had poached into black mud the verdant turf. 1816 — *Old Mort.* xv, The passage of the main body, in many instances, poached up the swamps through which they passed. 1849 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 194/1 The land..ought not to be cut up and poached by the cart-wheels and horses' feet. 1894 *Times* 18 Nov. 4/3 Pastures are soddened to an extent that must result in their being badly 'poached' where the stock cannot be taken off them.

5. *intr.* To sink (into wet heavy ground) in walking; to plod over soft ground, or through mud or mire; to tramp heavily or plungingly.

1600 NORTHBROOKE *Poore Mans Gard.* To Rdr. 2 Poching in the mire vp to the calfe of the legge. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 88 How uncomfortable..for a traveller in Heaven's road..to go potching in the dark. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 176 The soyl so extreamly fat, that our Horses had much a do to poach along. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* (1794) I. 241 The hedges and ditches confine the carriages to poach through the mud. 1837 HOGG *Tales I. Wool-gatherer* 213 Plunging and poaching to make all the fish take into close cover.

6. *intr.* Of land: To become sodden, miry, and full of holes by being trampled.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 15 The Chalky and Clay Lands..have also the inconveniencies..to burn in hot Weather, to chap in Summer, and poach in Winter. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 105 Cattle unavoidably do great mischief to grass land, when it is so wet as to poach. 1807 A. YOUNG *Agric. Essex* (1813) I. 24 Strong, wet, tenacious land, poaching with rain, and sticking to the horses' legs. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 378 The ground..is still soft, and will poach under the hoofs of cattle.

7. *trans.* To soak, make sodden.

1881 *Times* 14 Apr. 10/5 As in many parts of England, along the banks of streams and rivers are considerable areas of good land, poached and scoured by frequent floods.

8. To mix with water and reduce to a uniform consistency. In *paper-making*, to mix thoroughly (the half-stuff from the breaking-engine) with the bleach-liquor, in the poacher. (Also *potch.*)

1873 ROBERTSON *Engineering Notes* 49 The clay should be free from stones and must be well poached. 1877 W. ARNOT *Cantor Lectures* in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXVI. 63/1 The breaking, poaching, and beating processes..are all conducted in machines or engines of the same general construction. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 36/2 For potching half-stuffs previously gas bleached, the quantities are [etc.].

III. 9. *intr.* To encroach or trespass (*on* the lands or rights of another) in order to possess oneself unlawfully or unfairly of something, esp. in order to steal game; hence, to take game or fish illegally, or by unsportsmanlike devices.

1611 COTGR., *Pocher le labeur d'autruy*, to poche into, or incroach vpon, another mans imployment, practise, or trade. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Duke of Guise* IV. iii, I scorn to poach for power. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *poach*,.. to destroy Game by unlawful means, as by laying Snares, Gins, etc. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 228 For Attic Phrase in Plato let them seek, I poach in Suidas for unlicens'd Greek. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 27 Jan., The pettish resentment that you might entertain against one who had poached on your manor. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shaks.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 So keen was the hope to discover whether the boy Shakespeare poached, or not. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* IX, Poaching on her lodgers' mutton. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 72 A region in which the politician feels that he is poaching on the preserves of the geographer. 1885 *Standard* 20 Nov. 3/8 All the owners poached for salmon.

10. *trans.* a. To trespass on (land or water), esp. in order to kill or catch game.

1715 GARTH *Claremont* 8 They poach Parnassus, and lay snares for praise. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 814 He poach'd the wood, and on the warren snared. 1858 F. E. PAGET *Curate Cumberw.* (1859) 319 A fellow who had poached lands and fished waters which Mr. Soaper himself had hired. 1885 *Field* 3 Oct. (Cassell), The Greta is not nearly so much poached as formerly.

b. To catch and carry off (game or fish) illegally; to capture by illicit or unsportsmanlike methods such as a poacher uses. Also *fig.*

1862 *Cornh. Mag.* VI. 651 Some are famished to death, and some are poached, and some get hooked. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 1/3 You were always 'poaching' our best men. 1903 *Ibid.* 28 Mar. 2/1 She's a poacher, that woman—poaches children...Yes; poaches them;.. takes them away from other teachers who've taught in those families for years.

c. *Racing slang.* To filch (an advantage, e. g. at the start in a race) by unfair means.

1891 *Licensed Vict. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 182/1 Seward maintained that the start was a false one, and that his opponent poached full five yards before he [Seward] moved. 1892

Daily News 16 May 3/5 Several [jockeys] displayed a marked desire to 'poach a bit' at the start. **1894** *Ibid.* 16 Mar. 6/5 The scratch poached the start, and gained fully half a length, rowing up to 44 to the minute against Oxford's 40.

Hence **Poa·ching** *ppl. a.*

1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* xxx. § 1 (1689) 166 To be used by none but idle pouching [*sic*] fellows. **1886** C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 200 In a few minutes the poaching flock is sent scampering back to their own proper walk.

Poached, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Poach *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Of an egg: Cooked in boiling water, without the shell.

c **1450** *Two Cookery-bks.* 94 Potage de egges. *MS. Douce,* Pocched egges. **1528** Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* F j b, Pocched egges are better than egges rosted hard or rere. **1620** Venner *Via Recta* v. 84 A couple of potched [*ed.* **1650** poched] Egges. **1742** Fielding *Jos. Andrews* i. xv, Whether a poached egg, or chicken broth. **1889** A. Lang *Prince Prigio* ii. 10 Why the king..should have poached eggs and plum-cake at afternoon tea.

b. *Poached egg,* (*a*) name of gastropod shells of genus *Ovulum*; (*b*) see quot. 1903.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 257/1 *Ovulum,* (..commonly called Poached Eggs). **1903** *Windsor Mag.* Sept. 385/2 The ball in a stroke of this kind will assume an oval shape something like a cucumber. This stroke is called in Stické parlance 'a poached egg'.

Poached, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Poach *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] In senses of the verb: *esp.* **a.** Trodden or trampled into miry holes. **b.** Acquired by poaching; illegally captured.

1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 110 The cattle will soon render the whole bedding a poached mass. **1883** Jefferies *Nature near Lond.* 166 This very pond..is muddy enough, and surrounded with poached mud. **1889** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 July 3/2 France..is made the market for English poached fish, and French poached fish find a market in England.

c. *Poached eyes* = F. *yeux pochés,* eyes swollen as if with a blow or weeping. [Cf. Poach *v.*[2] 1 c.]

1904 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 408/3 Samuel re-entered with poached eyes.

Poacher[1] (pō·ʊtʃəɹ). Also **potcher.** [f. Poach *v.*[2] + -er[1].]

1. One who poaches or trespasses in pursuit of game; one who takes or kills game unlawfully.

1667 Evelyn *Publ. Employm.* Misc. Writ. (1805) 552 The young potcher with his dog and kite, breaking his neighbours hedges, or trampling o're his corn for a bird not worth sixpence. **1668** Wilkins *Real Char.* 265 Huntsman, Hunter, Fowler, Fisher,..Game, Pocher. **1680** Otway *Orphan* III. i. 810 So Poachers basely pick up tir'd Game Whilst the fair Hunter's cheated of his Prey. **1774** Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 12 They are shot at by poachers; traced by their footsteps in the snow; caught in springs. **1863** Kingsley *Water-Bab.* i, A keeper is only a poacher turned outside in, and a poacher a keeper turned inside out.

transf. **1702** Yalden *Æsop's Fables* VI. 1 Ren, an old poacher after game, Saw grapes look tempting fine. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 10/1 To escape the jaws of the large pike, the only permitted poachers which exist at the lake.

2. a. (*U. S.*) The widgeon, *Mareca americana*: said to be so called from its habit of seizing the food for which other ducks have dived. (But cf. Pochard.) **b.** The sea-poacher, a fish of the family *Agonidæ.* (*Cent. Dict.*)

3. *Paper-making.* One of the series of engines by which rags, etc., are comminuted, washed, bleached, and reduced to pulp; a poaching-engine.

1877 W. Arnot in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXVI. 91/2 The second engine is called the 'poacher', the roll of which..does little more than mix the stuff and the bleach liquor. **1883** R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 392/1 Reduce them [rags] to half-stuff, and as soon as possible empty into the poacher..and bleach with great care. **1906** Beadle *Papermaking* II. 65. **1906** J. Castle (Wolvercote Paper Mill) in *Let.,* Potcher or Poacher.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (sense 1), as *poacher-court, -herd, -work.*

1784 Burns *Ep. J. Rankine* viii, I .. brought a Paitrick to the grun'...Somebody tells the Poacher-court The hale affair. **1834** *Tait's Mag.* I. 767/2 'It was no poacher work, Matthew', he said. **1897** Crockett *Lad's Love* xxii. 226 It was a portentous thing to see the poacher-herd so keen on the proprieties.

Hence **Poa·chery** *nonce-wd.*

1831 T. L. Peacock *Crotchet Castle* ix. (1887) 109 Witchery, devilry, robbery, poachery, piracy, fishery, gipsy-astrology.

Poacher[2] (pō·ʊtʃəɹ). [f. Poach *v.*[1] + -er[1].] A vessel or pan for poaching eggs.

1868 Mary Jewry *Model Cookery* 82/1 The egg may also be done in a regular egg-poacher.

Poaching (pō·ʊtʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Poach *v.*[1] + -ing[1].] The action of Poach *v.*[1]

1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cxciii. (1636) 174 [Eggs] be sodden two wayes;..the first is called seething..the second poching of egges. *a* **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Poching,* ..an Egg Boyled in Water out of the Shell.

Poa·ching, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Poach *v.*[2] + -ing[1].] The action of Poach *v.*[2]

a. Trampling (of land) while in a sodden condition; becoming poachy.

1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 116 Lands..sound enough for winter feeding without poaching. **1802** C. Findlater *Agric. Surv. Peebles* 159 The parks were extremely subject to Winter poaching. **1879** *Amateur Poacher,* The green drive shows traces of the poaching it received from the thick-planted hoofs of the hunt when the leaves were off.

b. Trespassing in pursuit of game; taking of game or fish illegally or by unsportsmanlike methods. Also *fig.*

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* IV. i, He hunts too much in the purlues, would he would leave off poaching. **1821** Egan *Life in Lond.* II. iv. (Farmer), You shall be admitted into the preserve; but remember no poaching. **1892** *Athenæum* 20 Aug. 246/3 He has kept free from any suspicion of.. literary poaching.

attrib. **1832** Ht. Martineau *Homes Abroad* I. 1 News of murderous poaching expeditions. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 3/2 What some consider the poaching tactics of the music-halls.

c. *Paper-making.* See Poach *v.*[2] 8; **poaching or potching-engine** = Poacher[1] 3.

1877 W. Arnot in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* XXVI. 89/2 The bleaching or poaching engine. **1880** J. Dunbar *Pract. Papermaker* 27 The quantities of half-stuff filled into the potching engine should at all times be as uniform as possible.

Poachy (pō·ʊtʃi), *a.* [f. Poach *v.*[2] + -y.] Of land: Spongy, retentive of moisture, and so liable to be trampled into muddy holes; sodden, swampy.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 56 If much Rain come upon it while it lies flat, it will make it so poachy that you cannot plow it, (especially if 'tis a wet Clay Land). **1802** C. Findlater *Agric. Surv. Peebles* 158 The land is put into a poachy state by every heavy shower of rain. **1844** Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 45 A heavy rain may fall for some days, and render the land quite soft and poachy.

Hence **Poa·chiness.**

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 48 The lower Vallies, because of the poachiness of them, they keep for Grass.

Poad, -e, obs. forms of Pode, Pood.

Poadler, dial. var. Podler, young coal-fish.

Poak(e (pōuk). [Origin obscure.] (See quots.)

1846 Worcester, *Poake,* waste arising from the preparation of skins, composed of hair, lime, and oil. *Farm. Encycl.* **1858** Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Poak.*

Poak(e, Poakmantie, obs. ff. Poke, Pockmanteau. **Poale,** obs. f. Pole. **Poan,** var. Powan. **Poar, Poareblind, Poast, Poat,** obs. ff. Pore *v.*, Purblind, Post, Pote.

Pob (pɒb). *Sc.* Also *dial.* **pab.** [Origin obscure.] The refuse of flax or (more recently) jute.

1747 R. Maxwell *Bee-master* (1750) 21 The Hive to be laid over with the Refuse of Flax, commonly called Pob-tow. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 46 If the flax is to be stacked, it should be set in an airy place, upon a dry foundation, such as pob-middings or the like. **1803** *Prize Ess. Highl. Soc.* II. 10 At an old lint mill in Fife, a great heap of this refuse, or pab tow, as it is called, had been formed about 60 years ago. **1818** *Edinb. Mag.* Aug. 126/1 Observe their harness, the collars are made of straw or *pob*; (the refuse of flax when skutched). **1876** Laing *Liudores Abbey* xxvi. 389 The boys..gathered pob, heather, and other inflammable materials in a great heap.

Pobble, obs. or dial. var. of Pebble.

Pobs (pɒbz), *sb. pl. dial.* Also **pobbies.** Occas. in *sing.* (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*). A dialect and nursery name for porridge, pap, bread and milk.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), Pobs, Poddish, Porridge. **1848** Mrs. Gaskell *M. Barton* ix, The child..were awake, and crying for its pobbies. **1894** Hall Caine *Manxman* VI. iv, He was ladling the pobs into the child's mouth.

† Pocalips, -yps, obs. aphetic ff. Apocalypse.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 90 He hath dronken so depe he wil deuyne sone, And preuen it by her pocalips and passioun of seynt Auereys. *a* **1440** [see Apocalypse 1].

Pocan (pō·ukăn). [app. native Indian name.] The Virginian Poke or Poke-weed (*Phytolacca decandra*); = Poke *sb.*[4] 2 a.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Pocan-bush,* a name in the United States for the *Phytolacca decandra.* **1866** [see Poke *sb.*[4] 2 a].

Pocar, Pocard, Poccoon, Poccoson, obs. ff. Poker, Pochard, Puccoon, Pocoson.

† Pocerounce, pokerounce. *Obs. rare.* A confection mentioned in the 15th c.: see quot.

c **1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 3 Kalendare de Leche Metys [see Leach *sb.*[1] 2]..Pocerounce. *Ibid.* 41 *Pokerounce.* Take Hony, & caste it in a potte tyl it wexe chargeaunt y-now; take & skeme it clene. Take Gyngere, Canel, & Galyngale, & caste þer-to [etc.].

Pocession, obs. form of Possession.

‖ Pochade (pɒʃā·d). [Fr., a rough sketch, f. *pocher* to sketch in the rough, also to blur: see Poach *v.*[1] 2 and -ade.] A rough, smudgy, or blurred sketch.

1872 Browning *Fifine* xxxvi, So, any sketch or scrap, pochade, caricature, Made in a moment, meant a moment to endure, I snap at..

Po'chaise, po'chay, pochay, colloq. contractions of Post-chaise.

1827 Scott *Chron. Canongate* Introd. iv, Its associations of 'pochays' and mail-coaches. **1871** G. Meredith *H. Richmond* I. 135 There was a saying in the county that to marry a Beltham you must po'chay her. *Ibid.* 158 'She's past po'chaises', Squire Gregory sighed.

Pochard (pō·ʊtʃ-, pō·ukăɹd, pɒ·tʃ-, pɒ·kăɹd). Forms: *α.* 6 **pocharde,** (8 **poachard**), 7- **pochard.** *β.* 6–9 **pocard,** 7 **pocker, -ard,** 9 **pockard,** 7- **poker.** [Of uncertain origin: perh. augmentative of OF. and mod.F. *poche,* in mod.F. *poche-cuiller* the spoonbill: see -ard. (But there is little likeness between the pochard and the spoonbill.) It might also be a deriv. of Poach *v.*[2], Poke *v.*[1] The pronunciation seems quite unfixed, Prof. A. Newton makes the *ch* = *k*; but Johnson made it as in *poacher.*] A European diving bird, *Fuligula* or *Æthyia ferina,* of the family *Anatidæ,* characterized by the bright reddish-brown colour of the head and neck; also called *red-headed pochard, poker, wigeon, red-eyed poker,* Dun-bird. Also applied to other species, as the African P., *Æthyia* or *Fuligula capensis*; the Red-crested P., *F.* or *Nyroca rufina,* of India; the Tufted P., *A.* or *F. cristata,* of Europe and Asia; and in U. S. to the Red-head, *Anas americana.*

α. **1552** Elyot, *Boscha,* a water foule like to a ducke, but somwhat lesse: I iudge it a pocharde. **1611** Cotgr., *Albrent,* .. a Pochard. **1678** Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. 367 The Poker, or Pochard, or great read-headed Wigeon. **1752** J. Hill *Hist. Anim.* 431 The Anas, with grey wings, and a black rump. The Pochard. **1755** Johnson, *Pochard,* a kind of water fowl. **1820** Jodrell s. v., I know no reason, why Johnson should have .. printed this word .. differently from any other author, and spelled it 'poachard'. **1882** *Three in Norway* viii. 65 A brood of pochards under the leadership of the old duck. **1894** Speight *Nidderdale* 203 The bittern, pochard, scaup, common scoter and the tufted duck have been seen in the park. **1894** Newton *Dict. Birds* 734 *Pochard, Pockard* or *Poker,* names properly belonging to the male of a species of Duck (the female of which is known as the Dunbird).

β. **1598** Florio, *Bosca,* a bird called a pocard. **1674** Dent *Let.* in *Ray's Lett.* (1718) 21, I have put up in a Box some Water Fowl, *viz.* a Pocker, a Smew,..a Widgeon, and a Whewer. **1678** Poker [see *α*]. **1706** Phillips, *Pocard,* a kind of water-fowl. **1709** Derham in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 466 *Anas fera fusca*...The Poker. **1768** Pennant *Zool.* II. 470 The Pochard... In London markets..known by the name of Dun birds. **1843** Yarrell *Hist. Birds* III. 233 The Pochard, or Dun-bird, for this species is known by various names, as Red-headed Poker, and Red-eyed Poker.. is a winter visiter to this country. **1895** A. Patterson *Man & Nature* 85 We blazed away several times, pickin' up near twenty pokers (pochards).

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *pochard-duck*; **pochard-grass,** *dial.* some water-plant, app. a species of Polygonum (Newton *Dict. Birds* 735 note).

1833 Baird in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 1. 16 He had..received .. a specimen of the pochard duck (*Anas ferina* Lin.). **1879** R. Lubbock *Fauna Norf.* 137 A particular weed,—Pochard Grass, as it is called.

Poche, obs. form of Poach, Pouch.

† Pocill. *Obs. rare.* In 6 **pocyll(e.** [ad. L. *pōcillum* a little cup, dim. of *pōculum* cup.] A small cup, a phial; *transf.* a draught, a potion.

1572 J. Jones *Bathes Buckstone* 19 Take in the morninge fastinge, in pocyll whay, made with ale, to purge choller. In pocyll whay made of whyte wyne, to purge fleme. *Ibid.* 20 Of herbes for your brothes and pocylles, mallowes, cychorye, endyue, vyolettes, pacyence.

† Po·cillator. *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *pōcillātor* (Appul.), f. *pōcillum*: see prec.] A cup-bearer. So **† Pocilla·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−0].

1658 Phillips, *Pocillation,* the waiting on a great mans cup. **1661** Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Pocillator* (Lat.), he that waiteth on a great persons cup, a cup-bearer. **1705** Elstob in *Hearne's Collect.* 30 Nov. (O. H. S.) I. 107 King of Pocillator's.

Pocilliform (pɒsi·lifɒɪm), *a. rare.* [f. L. *pōcillum* (see Pocill) + -form: cf. Poculiform.] Of the shape of a little cup.

1846 Dana *Zooph.* 506 This species..has pocilliform cells.

Pocion, obs. form of Potion.

Pock (pɒk), *sb.* Forms: 1 **poc,** 4–6 **pokke,** 4–8 **pocke,** 5 **pok,** 5–6 **poke,** 6 *Sc.* **poik,** 6– **pock.** Pl. 1 **poccas,** 4–6 **pokkes,** (5 **pocken**), 4–8 **pockes,** 6 **pocques,** 6– **pocks**; also 6–7 **poxe,** 6– **pox**: see Pox. [OE. *poc, pocc-* pustule, ulcer, = MDu., MLG. *pocke* (*poche*), Du. *pok,* LG. *pocke,* EFris. *pok, pokke,* HG. dial. *pfoche, poche* (mod.Ger. *pocke* from LG.). So obs. F. *pocque, pokke, poxse, paucque* (1400–1514 in Godef.), from LG. or Eng. These continental words are all fem.; OE. *pocc* was masc. (in one place app. fem.). Kluge and Franck refer *pocc, pocke* to the OTeut. vbl. stem **puh(k)-*, to swell up, blow up, whence also OE. *pohha, pocca* bag: see Pocket, Poke *sb.*[1]]

1. A pustule or spot of eruption in any eruptive disease, esp. (since *c* 1700) in small-pox.

c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 104 Drenc wiþ poc adle wyl wæter on croccan, do huniz on [etc.]. *Ibid.,* Smire þær hit utslea on þone poc. *Ibid.,* Drenc wiþ poccum bisceop wyrt [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. 4 ȝif poc sy on eaȝan, nim mærc, sapan..mid Godes fultume he sceal awez. *c* **1386** Chaucer *Pard. Prol.* 30 And it is hool anon, and forthermoor Of pokkes, and of scabbe, and euery soor. **1477** Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 97 He [Alexander] was of sangweyn colour, his face ful of pockis. **15..** *Prol. Rom.* in *N. Test. in Scots* (S. T. S.) III. 318 Ewin as anne ewill skabbe or anne poke cann not alwayis be keipit in with the violence of medicynne. **1583** Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 96 It bringeth ulcerations, scab, scurf, blain, botch, pocks. *a* **1585** Montgomerie *Flyting* 316 The powlings, the palsay, with pockes like pees. **1706** Phillips, *Pock,* a Scab of the Small-Pox. **1720** Becket in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 56 Having great Pockes or Pustules on the Surface of their Bodies, from whence the Pox is denominated. **1760–72** H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 40 A few of the pock appeared on his face. **1877** Roberts *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 150 The number of spots or 'pocks' varies from a few to thousands, but as a rule from 100 to 300 are present. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 559 With the retrogression of the pock and the subsidence of the areola the local phenomena of a normal vaccination are at an end.

b. *transf.* A spot or mark like a pustule.

1894 Doyle *Mem. S. Holmes* 99 Holmes..would..proceed to adorn the opposite wall with a patriotic V. R. done in bullet-pocks.

2. A disease characterized by pustules or eruptive spots; *esp.* (*a*) small-pox; (*b*) 'great (French or Spanish) pox', syphilis: = Pox *sb.* 1 b, e.

a. in *pl.* Now written Pox. (Rarely construed with vb. in singular.)

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 161 *Viroles*, pockes. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 97 Kynde come after with many kene sores, As pokkes and pestilences, and moche poeple shente. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* vii. (1520) 127 b/1 Also that tyme a sekenes that men call the pockes slewe bothe men and women thrugh theyr infectynge. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lv. 30 Quhill that thai gatt the Spanzie pockis. 1518 Pace *Let. Wolsey* 14 July (Cal. State Papers Hen. VIII), They do die..of the small pokkes and measels. 1529 S. Fish *Supplic. Beggers* 6 They .. that catche the pokkes of one woman, and bere theym to an other. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 190 Item that he hauing the Frenche pockes presumed to come and breth on the kyng. 1552 *Ordre Hosp. St. Barthol.* Pref. A v, This Hospital .. where..there haue bene healed of the pocques, fystules.. to nombre of .viij. hundred. 1615 Sandys *Trav.* 109 The pocks is vncredibly frequent amongst them. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 481 The disease of the Spanish Pocks.

β. in *sing.* Now *dial.* or *vulgar.*

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 1. 461 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 Seint Nicasse had a pokke small. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Pokke, sekenesse, *porrigo*. 1530 Tindale *Answ. Sir T. More*, etc. (Parker Soc., 1850) 105 If God punish the world with an evil pock, they immediately paint a block and call it Job, to heal the disease. 1530 Palsgr. 256/1 Pocke a great pocke, *la gorre*, *la grosse uerolle*. Pocke a small, *uerolle*. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52 Would it were not an infectious bane, or an incroching pocke. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. v. (1881) 264 Glad you got through the pock so well—it takes a second time, some say. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 405/2 As soon as ever the pock began to decay, it took away my eyes altogether.

† b. *fig.* (*sing.*) *Obs.*

1545 Brinklow *Compl.* 32 The same pock that was in the clargys wyne and clothes, hath so infected the gentylmen of the temporaltye. 1555 Eden *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 52 Hathe not the pocke of thy licentiousnesse bruste furth in maner to thyne owne destruction? 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* A iij b, Neither can the waters .. be cured of their spirituall barrennesse, or of the Romish pock and Ægyptian scab.

† c. In imprecation or exclamation: see Pox *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

† **3.** *sing.* and *pl.* A disease of sheep: = Pox *sb.* 1 c. *Obs.*

1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 30 Who dare deny saynt Anthony a flese of wol .. leste he sende the pockes amonge our shepe. 1548 Elyot, *Mentigo*, the scabbe which is among shepe, called the pockes [1552 Huloet, pocke].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **pock-arr** (*dial.*), **-frecken**, **-fret**, **-hole**, **-mark**, a scar, mark, or 'pit' left by a pustule, esp. of small-pox; **pock-arred** (*dial.*), **-broken**, **-eaten**, **-frecken**, **-freckled**, **-fret**, **-fretted** (**-fretten**), **-holed**, **-marked**, **-pitted** (**-pitten**) *adjs.*, scarred, marked, or 'pitted' with pustules, esp. of small-pox; † **pock-break**, (?) a breaking out or marking due to some form of pox; **pock-house** (*U. S. dial.*), a small-pox hospital; **pock-lymph**, the lymph of cow-pox, as used in vaccination; **pock-pit** *v. trans.*, to 'pit' or mark with pustules (in quot. *fig.*); † **pock-royal**, satirical name for a pustule of the 'great pox'; **pock-sore**, a sore caused by a pustule, or by the pox; † **pocks-rotten** *a.*: see Pox *sb.* 4; **pock-stone**, local name for a hard greyish stone found in the Staffordshire coal-measures: see also *pox-stone* (Pox *sb.*); † **pock-tree**: see Pockwood.

1611 Cotgr., *Fossetteux*, .. full of little pits, *pockars, or pock-holes. 1655, 1691 [see Arr]. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pock-arr*, *Pock-mark*, a scar or mark left by the small pox. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*, **Pock-arred*,.. pitted with the small-pox. [See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] *a* 1568 Montgomerie *Misc. Poems* liv. 2 Fyndlay McConnoquhy, fuf McFadzan, Cativlie geilzie with ye *poikbraik. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 *Pokbrokyn, *porrigi-nosus*. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 17. II. xxv. § 4 (1679) 322/1 What a beauty Man was, till he was pock-broken (if I may say so) by sin. 1862 Borrow *Wild Wales* xxxvii, His face was long and rather good-looking, though slightly pock-broken. *a* 1550 *Hye Way Spyttel Hous* 112 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 28 Scabby and scuruy, *pocke eaten flesh and rynde. 1530 Palsgr. 256/1 *Poke frekyns, *picquetevre* or *picquottevre de uerolle*. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3134/4 Mary Scarlet, .. thin visage, swarthy complexion, pock frecken. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 5223/4 A spare middle-siz'd Man, *Pockfreckled and Ruddy Complexion. 1731 Medley tr. *Kolben's Cape G. Hope* II. 198 Several hairs would remain in the *pock-frets. 1744 *Boston Post-Boy* 1 Oct. 4/2 Byrn..looks pale and *pockfret. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2843/4 Pale-faced, and a little *Pock-fretted. *c* 1640 R. James *Poems* (1880) 213 A Virginne..proper of all things but a pale *pock fretten face. 1840 Mrs. F. Trollope *Widow Married* i, A deal better chance that your child will be like what you see there, than to poor pock-fretten Phebe. 1552 Huloet, *Pocke hole or scarre. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1145/4 A full set Woman with Pockholes in her face. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4487/3 Having a thin pockhole Face. 1682 *Ibid.* No. 1722/4 He is a little broad Man, *Pock-holed. 1845 S. Judd *Margaret* II. v, A *Pock House was established, ..and a general beating up for patients was had throughout the region. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter of Air* 119 A quantity of matter, comparable in smallness to the *pock-lymph held on the point of a lancet. 1673 *Wedderburn's Vocab.* 20 (Jam.) *Foveae variolarum*, *pock-marks. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* ii. 15 His flat broad face was.. thinly sprinkled with deep pock-marks. 1756 *N. Jersey Archives* (1898) XX. 16 Terence Milford, ..has short brown hair, a little *pock-marked. 1899 Stead in *Review of Rev.* May 493/2 The whole area is pock-marked with public houses. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 225 It becomes a plague, a moral small-pox, .. *pockpitting his small modicum of brains. 1862 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 332 He was under the middle size, *pockpitted. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's F.* 256 Did Sir Aylmer know That great *pock-pitten fellow had been caught? 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. v, Embroider'd o'er the Phiz with Carbuncles, Pushes, and *Pockroyals. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* III. 89 Neither must the Chyrurgion dresse their wounds, or *pock-soars. 1902 C. G. Harper *Holyhead Road* ii. 33 (Wednesbury) Those foundations have an unusual interest, built as they are of the material called '*pockstone'. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in Palsgr. 914/3 The *pocke tre, *gaiaqz ou eban*.

Pock, *v. rare.* [f. Pock *sb.*] *trans.* To mark with pocks, or (*fig.*) with disfiguring spots.

1841 Murray *Let.* in Smiles *Mem.* (1891) II. xxxv. 474 Houses, .literally peppered and pocked from top to bottom with shot-marks. 1869 Blackmore *Lorna D.* lix, This tufty flaggy ground, pocked with bogs and boglets. 1889 *Lancet* 29 June 1314/1 The posterior parts of both lungs were pocked with tubercle in the softening stage.

Pock, variant Sc. spelling of Poke, bag.

Pocker, obs. variant of Pochard.

Pocket (pǫ·kėt), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **poket**, 5 **-ett**, 5–8 **pockett**, 6 **-ette**, (**pokit**, 7 **poccet**), 6– **pocket**. [ME. *poket*, a. Anglo-Norman *pokete* (13th c. Godef.), mod.Norman dial. *pouquette*, dim. of ONF. *poke*, *poque*, *pouque* = F. *poche*, whence dim. *pochette*: see Poke *sb.*[1], Pouch *sb.* OF. had also a masc. form *pochet*, *pouchet* (1396 in Godef.), still *dial.*, also in mod.Norman dial. *pouquet*.]

1. A bag or sack. Sometimes used as a measure of quantity, varying in capacity according to the commodity contained, and the locality.

Now chiefly used for hops and wool, a pocket of wool being half a sack (in 13th c. a quarter), a pocket of hops about 168 lbs.

1280 *Memoranda Roll*, K. R. m. 13[d], Venerunt coram Baronibus et recognoverunt se teneri Bonruncino et sociis suis mercatoribus de Luk' in quatuor saccis lane et uno pochetto, id est in quarta parte unius sacci. *c* 1340 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 385/1, xx sacz & ix peres de Leyne trovez en xxiii sarplers & en 1 poket. 1526 in Dillon *Calais & Pale* (1892) 90 Item, for evry horseloode of pocketts iiij d. 1535 in G. Schanz *Engl. Handelspolitik* (1881) II. 385 The canvas, that goeth to the pokit with the hey and threde, that goeth to yt, weyeth about 2 nailles. 1706 Phillips, *Pocket of Wool*, the Quantity of half a Sack. See Sack of Wool and Sarplar. 1724 De Foe *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 128 Here [at Stourbridge Fair] I saw what I have not observ'd in any other Country of England,.. a Pocket of Wool. This seems to be first call'd so in Mockery, this Pocket being so big, that it loads a whole Waggon,..and these ordinarily weigh a Ton or 25 Hundred weight of Wool, all in one Bag. 1767 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 130/1 There were only eleven pockets of new hops, the quality of which was very bad. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract. Agric.* II. 755 The brightest hops, and those which have the finest colour, are put into bagging of a better quality, and termed pockets. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 126, 147 pockets of hops, each weighing 1 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. 1876 *S. Kens. Mus. Catal.* § 2107 Model of a hand loom..designed to weave sacks or pockets without a seam either at the sides or end.

2. A small bag or pouch worn on the person; *spec.* one inserted in or attached to a garment, for carrying a purse or other small articles.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 62 'Apparaile þe propirli', quod Pride, 'Loke þi pockettis passe þe lengist gise'. *a* 1450 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 1. 61 in *Anglia* XVIII. 296 In a poket þou it do, þat þe water may renne þer-fro. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 192/1 He bare alwayes about hym, in hys bosome or pocket, a litle booke contayning the Psalmes of Dauid. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 61 Haue you enquir'd yet who pick'd my Pocket? *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 446 A Prodigal is a Pocket with a Hole in the Bottom. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 67 Here walk'd a French Fop with both his Hands in his Pockets. 1701 Swift *Mrs. Fr. Harris' Petit.* 7 All the money I have ..I keep in my pocket, tied about my middle, next my smock. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4072/6 Left in a..Coach.., a white Damask Pocket. 1869 Trollope *He knew*, etc. xxvii, He carried the letter with him in his pocket. 1906 *Weldon's Ladies' Jrnl.* Sept. 90/3 This theatre pocket is a Parisian novelty, worn suspended from the waist, and is intended to hold the handkerchief, fan, opera glasses, etc.

b. *esp.* That in which money is carried; hence typically used for one's purse or stock of cash; pecuniary resources, private means. *Empty pocket*: (*transf.*) a person without money.

1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Princess of Wales* 1 Apr., I would have paid them the money out of my own pocket. 1731 Gay in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 133, I had flattered myself, your law-suit was at an end, and that your own money was in your own pocket. 1765 Foote *Commissary* 1. Wks. 1799 II. 9 The bridegroom may put the purchase-money .. into his pocket. 1781 Cowper *Truth* 322 Yon cottager..Just earns a scanty pittance, and at night, Lies down secure, her heart and pocket light. 1834 L. Ritchie *Wand. by Seine* 252 War empties the pocket; no kingdom can go to war with empty pockets. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 492 The slave-masters were touched in their pockets, and it filled them with fury. 1892 Baring-Gould *Trag. Cæsars* I. 15 Only the empty pockets and lacklands were excluded. 1894 R. Bridges *Feast of Bacchus* II. 743 A gentleman can't consider his pocket. *Mod.* One's hand has to be constantly in one's pocket here.

3. Hence, in various phrases:

a. *In pocket*: (*a*) Having money available; in possession of funds; (*b*) Having (so much) money left over or to profit, as 'to be ten shillings in pocket by the transaction'. **b.** *Out of pocket*: † out of funds (*obs.*); *to be out of pocket*, to be a loser (by some transaction).

1751 *Affect. Narr. of Wager* 154 We might indeed have starved..if Bulkeley had not happened to be somewhat in Pocket. 1755 Smollett *Quix.* (1803) IV. 143 At the end of their peregrination, they are above a hundred crowns in pocket. 1846 Jerrold *Mrs. Caudle's Curtain Lect.* xxx, If you'd a chaise of your own..you'd be money in pocket.

1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* II. i, But, egad, I'm a little out of pocket at present. 1737 Logan in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 319 The proprietors..complain they are yet out of pocket by it. 1787 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 212 If she goes soon he will still be out of pocket by the Appointment. 1837 Sir F. Palgrave *Merch. & Friar* Ded. (1844) 6, I shall be pounds out of pocket by my conscientious refusal. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* III. iv. 74, I am out of pocket for my expenses.

c. *To put in one's pocket*: To pocket, take or keep to oneself, conceal, suppress.

1652 Collinges *Caveat for Prof.* vi. (1653) 32 You had as good have put your tongue in your pocket. 1885 W. E. Norris *Adrian Vidal* xlii, I put my pride in my pocket.

d. *In (some one's) pocket*: (*a*) Quite close to, in close attendance upon (some one); (*b*) Under the personal control or direction of (some one).

1812 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 42 Lord Gower.. seemed charmed with her, sat in her pocket all the evening, both in a titter. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* ii. (1858) 58 He was sitting with the family seat in his pocket. 1881 Mallock *Rom. 19th Cent.* IV. iii, He sits in her pocket every evening.

† **4.** A pouch- or pocket-shaped net. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, Elleswhere þei sle hem with smale poketes and with pursnettes, with smale nettes, with hare pipes, and with longe nettes.

5. *Billiards.* One of the open-mouthed bags or pouches placed at the corners and on each side of the table, into which the balls are driven.

1754 J. Love *Cricket* (1770) 5 Or when the Ball, close cushion'd, slides askew, And to the op'ning Pocket runs, a Cou. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. i. § 16 At the commencement of the last century, the billiard-table was square, having only three pockets for the balls to run in, situated on one of the sides. 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* iii, The billiard-ball eyes..fell plump into the pocket of his heart. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 258 They let their adversary spot the red and take the balls out of the pockets.

6. *Zool.* and *Anat.* A sac-shaped or pocket-like cavity in the body of an animal; *spec.*

(*a*) A blind sac. (*b*) The cheek-pouch of some rodents, e. g. the *Saccomyidæ*. (*c*) The abdominal pouch of a marsupial. (*d*) The abdominal cavity of a halibut or other fish.

1773 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 127/1 The Iceland fishermen ..beat the bone upon a block with a thick stick, till the pockets, as they term them, come out easily, and thus preserve the sounds entire. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 894 This disposition [in perityphlitic abscesses] to the formation of loculi or pockets often causes much difficulty in the healing. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Dec. 12/1 The bullet had struck between the pocket of the arm and the shoulder-blade. 1906 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 13 Jan. 79 A small walled-off pocket of pus.

b. A sac-like cavity in a plant.

1862 Darwin *Fertil. Orchids* iv. 133, I found pollen masses which had their broad ends pushed by insects into this pocket.

7. a. *Mining.* A cavity in the earth filled with gold or other ore; an abruptly dilated part of a vein or lode; also, an accumulation of alluvial gold. **b.** A small cavity in a rock; *esp.* in *Geol.* a cavity in a rock or stratum filled up with foreign material. **c.** A subterranean cavity containing water.

a. 1850 B. Taylor *Eldorado* ix. (1862) 89 We found many persons at work..searching for veins and pockets of gold. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 576 It [hæmatite iron ore] lies especially in fissures or as the miners call them 'pockets', in the rock. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 255/2 The ores [of manganese] are rich, and are found in pockets in a schistose rock. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Jan. 39 [He] had come upon a small 'pocket' of nuggets.

fig. 1879 F. Harrison *Choice Bks.* (1886) 21 When our reading, however deep, runs wholly into 'pockets'. 1889 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 7/2 A theological romance, which turned out to be a perfect 'pocket', was not accepted by an Editor.

b. 1850 *Lit. Gaz.* 15 June 405/2 The sands which had gathered in the crevices and pockets of the rocks. 1872 Dasent *Three to One* III. 251 A great pocket of clay crops out at the edge of the Bagshot sand. 1893 *Times* 3 June 6/6 The chalk..presents..a precipitous front of white, unbroken except by an occasional 'pocket' of red soil from above.

c. 1852 C. W. Hoskins *Talpa* 3 Water .. without even a 'pocket' to run into for escape or concealment. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Pocket*...a natural underground reservoir of water.

8. a. A wide pit-like hollow in a cañon or fissure. **b.** A deep glen or hollow among mountains. **c.** A spot hemmed in on all sides by high ground. **d.** A hollow cut out in wood-carving.

a. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* ix. 250 Fissures..open sometimes into pockets or cavities of larger area. 1884 J. G. Bourke *Snake Dance Moquis* ix. 86 The cañon widened into a pleasant little pocket.

b. 1885 Roosevelt *Hunting Trips* v. 128 In many of the pockets or glens in the sides of the hill, the trees grow to some little height.

c. 1897 Bailey *Princ. Fruit-growing* 59 The grower should avoid flat lands which are hemmed in on all sides by elevations, for these 'pockets' are nearly always frosty.

d. 1892 El. Rowe *Chip-carving* (1895) 33 A combination of triangles and diamonds all treated as sunk pockets.

9. A recess or cavity resembling a pocket in use or position, as **a.** The slot for the reception of the

vertical side-pieces of a sash-frame; **b.** A receptacle in the cover of a book for a folded map, etc.; **c.** A small cabin or coal bunker on board ship; **d.** The trap of a weir in which fish are caught.

1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 830 A close inspection of the side of frame will show the amateur where the 'pocket' A is. 1898 *Century Mag.* Feb. 531/2 The single females are stowed in 'pockets' on both sides of the ships. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 95 In coaling ship the work of distributing the coal throughout the series of pockets that are plastered all around the engines and boilers is of incredible severity. 1900 *Journ. Wm. of Rubruck* (Hakl. Soc.) Contents, Map to Illustrate the Two Journeys. . .In pocket.

10. A baggy place, a bulge (in a sail).

1899 *Daily News* 21 Oct. 3/4 The mainsails of both yachts were glaringly faulty. There was a big pocket in the Shamrock's, pinching her to leeward.

11. *Racing.* The position in which a competitor is hemmed in by others and so has no chance of winning. (Cf. POCKET *v.* 1 c.) 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (passing into adj.) **a.** Adapted or intended to be carried in the pocket.

1612 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) I. 156 Here is a proclamation coming out this day against pocket-dags. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASS. *Cust. Country* II. iii, Out with your bodkin, Your pocket-dagger, your stiletto. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* IV. ix, The multiplicity of pocket-watches. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* IV. 153 A pocket-dyal with a magnet needle. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) II Directing our course by our Pocket Compasses. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/8 Lost.., a large blue Turkey-Leather Pocket-Case. 1715 *Ibid.* No. 5336/3 A neat Pocket Edition of the Odes..of Horace. 1740 J. WILLIAMSON (*title*) The British Angler, or a Pocket-Companion for Gentlemen-Fishers. 1793 BEDDOES *Math. Evid.* 138 It is not very easy to believe, that words have the property of shutting up all at once, like pocket telescopes. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 205, I..looked at the film of liquid through a pocket-lens. 1864 G. MEREDITH *Emilia* xxxiv, I would buy a pocket-dictionary at one of the ports.

b. Small enough to be carried in the pocket, or figured as being so; tiny, diminutive.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 508 Two poore Breuiarists, with our small pocket-learning. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Land* Wks. (Bohn) II. 18 A pocket Switzerland, in which the lakes and mountains are on a sufficient scale to fill the eye and touch the imagination. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* iv, Now this pocket-athlete [a dwarf] was insanely fond of griping the dinner-table with both hands and so swinging.

c. (from 2.) Having reference to money; arising from pecuniary considerations.

1705 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 156 The personal interest and pocket gain of one Single person. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 160 All persons are most open to pocket arguments, and here came one.

d. Private, secret.

1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 543 Being by a secret or pocket deed to be defeated of the incumbrance he has advanced his money for.

13. Special Comb.: **pocket-borough**, a borough of which the parliamentary representation was under the control of one person or family; **pocket-burner** (*humorous*), a coin in the pocket (in allusion to the saying used of one who cannot keep money, that the coin burns a hole in the pocket); †**pocket-cloth**, a pocket-handkerchief; **pocket-cutter**, a thief who cuts pockets; **pocket-expenses**, small personal outlays; **pocket-filled** *a.*, having the pockets full, rich; **pocket-fish** = ANGLER[1] 2; **pocket-flap**, **pocket-lid**, a lappet covering a pocket; †**pocket-hay**, **pocket-net**: see quot.; †**pocket-hoop**, a hoop consisting of two parts, one worn on each hip, and serving as a pocket; **pocket-judgement**: see quots.; **pocket-like** *a.*, resembling a pocket; **pocket-mouse**, a rodent of the family *Saccomyidæ*, a pouched mouse; **pocket-pedlar** *U. S.* (see quot.); **pocket-plum** = *bladder-plum* (BLADDER 10): see quots.; **pocket-rat** = GOPHER *sb.*[1] 1; **pocket-sheriff**: see quots.; †**pocket-tortoise**, a pocket tortoise-shell comb; **pocket veto**: see quot. See also POCKET-BOOK, -HANDKERCHIEF, etc.

1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxiv, Satisfied that, despite the unheard-of absurdity of a contested election, his *pocket-borough was quite secure. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* iv, There was not half as much mischief done by the old pocket-borough system as there is by this money qualification. 1895 C. R. B. BARRETT *Surrey* iii. 80 Horne Tooke.. sat for the pocket borough of Sarum. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. iv, One that..never met you after a hail-storm without lightening himself of a few *pocket-burners. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Two Oxf. Schol.* Wks. 1730 I. 3 Cannot I wipe mine eyes with the fair *pocket-cloth? 1885 *Milnor* (Dakota) *Teller* 5 June 2/3 Deck hands on the steamer .. were being robbed by *pocket-cutters among the roustabouts. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xxxiii, A purse..to defray her *pocket-expenses in her absence. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 237 Let the empty titles and empty pockets marry the title-mad and *pocket-filled Jewesses. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 8/1 The angler is known by various names, including *Pocket-fish, Sea-devil, Fishing-frog, Toad-fish, Briarbot, and Wide-gab. 1704 *Dict. Rust. et Urb.*, **Pocket-Hayes*, .. certain short Nets wherewith to take Pheasants alive...They are about a yard long. 1790 R. TYLER *Contrast* I. i, You really think the *pocket-hoop unbecoming. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* xxii. (1847) 416 The pocket hoop is ridiculed in 1780 by a print in which a girl so attired is placed beside a donkey laden with a pair of panniers. 1736-59 M. BACON *Abridgm. Law of Execution* (1778) II. 331 The addition of the King's Seal, which was never required to any Contract at Common Law, was to authenticate and make the Security of a higher Nature than any other then known..thus it must be presumed from the force of them, which is equal to Judgments of the Superior Courts, they obtained the Name of *Pocket Judgments. 1872 *Wharton's Law Lex.* (ed. 5), *Pocket-judgment*, a statute-merchant which was enforceable at any time after non-payment on the day assigned, without further proceedings. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 15 May 3/2 There is a new tailor-made jacket called the 'Cavalier'...It falls down to the hips and has heavy *pocket-lids and lappels. 1880 A. WILSON in *Gentl. Mag.* CCXLVI. 48 Nose, eyes, and ears.. arise as *pocket-like ingrowths from the epiblast or outer layer of the body. 1884 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 124 These animals [*Saccomyidæ*] .. by American writers..are called '*Pocket Mice'. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 28 July 66/1 *Pocket-pedlers .. who stand on the street corners with a bottle in one pocket and a glass in the other, and will sell you a drink in a doorway or a horse-shed. 1899 MASSEE *Text-bk. Plant Dis.* 85 '*Pocket-plums', or 'Bladder-plums'. .. The .. disease of plum-trees .. caused by a minute parasitic fungus [*Exoascus pruni*]...Instead of developing into a normal plum,.. grows .. into a deformed, useless structure...The entire structure is dry, and not at all fleshy..[and] also hollow, the 'stone' containing the seed not being developed. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 560/2 Many of these Taphrineæ are important parasites—*e.g.* Pocket plums and Witches' Brooms on Birches, &c., are due to their action. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* (1768) I. ix. 342 The practice of occasionally naming what are called *pocket-sheriffs, by the sole authority of the crown. 1809 CHRISTIAN *Blackstone's Comm.* I. ix. 341 *note*, When the king appoints a person sheriff, who is not one of the three nominated in the exchequer, he is called a pocket-sheriff. It is probable, that no compulsory instance of the appointment of a pocket-sheriff ever occurred. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellam.* Prol., Wks. 1722 II. 87 Nor Perruque comb'd, nor *Pocket-Tortoise stirr'd. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. 74 *note*, If Congress adjourns within the ten days allowed the President for returning the bill, it is lost. His retaining it under these circumstances at the end of a session is popularly called a '*pocket veto'.

Pocket (pɒ·kėt), *v.* [f. POCKET *sb.*: cf. F. *pocheter* (1610 in Godef.).]

1. *trans.* To put into one's pocket. Also with *up*.

1589 *Pasquill's Counter-C.* 4 The goodly frame of this Common-Weale shall fall, and Banck-rouptes and Atheists pocket uppe the peeces. 1615 DAY *Festivals* xii. (1615) 338 Yet would hee not pocket a Penny of it. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* I. ii, Petitions not sweetened With gold,..if received, are pocketed, not read. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Bl.* I. ii. I. 5, I stopt short, and pocketting my ducats in a great hurry, took out some rials. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xviii, He shut up and pocketed his sermon, and followed his flock. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 219 Our friendly hoveller pocketed his five pounds and departed.

b. To confine or enclose as in a pocket: in quot. 1681, to imprison. (Chiefly in *passive.*)

1681 DRYDEN *Span. Fryar* IV. ii, With Intent to sell the publick Safety, And pocket up his Prince. 1877 WINCHELL *Reconc. Sci. & Rel.* v. (1881) 100 It has been assumed that energy may be pocketed in portions of matter, to be let loose on certain occasions. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., A pocketed valve. 1897 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 753 The petty port of Guaymas, pocketed on the California Gulf.

c. *Racing.* To hem in (a competitor) in front and at the sides, so as to prevent him from winning.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1901 *Scotsman* 16 Sept. 3/5 He tried to squeeze through between Fleur d'Eté and Sidus, and for his indiscretion he was very properly pocketed.

2. To take possession of for one's own, to appropriate: sometimes with implication of dishonesty.

1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* II. 41 Pocketing and pursing up..the fruits of other mens labours. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xxix. (1799) I. 204 *note*, She ordered every gown and trinket to be sold, and pocketed the money. 1786 JEFFERSON *Corr.* (1829) II. 11 They [the English] say, they will pocket our carrying trade as well as their own. 1879 J. C. COX *Ch. of Derbysh.* IV. 77 These sums were pocketed by Edward VI, or rather by his advisers. 1898 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 99 The object of Sweden being .. to .. realise her long-cherished hopes by quietly 'pocketing' Norway.

3. *fig.* **a.** To take or accept (an affront, etc.) without showing resentment; to submit to, endure meekly, 'swallow'. †Formerly with *up*.

1589 GREENE *Spanish Masquerado* Wks. (Grosart) V. 273 Thus the great Generall of Spaine was content to pockette vppe this Dishonour to saue his life. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 200 Well ruffian, I must pocket vp these wrongs. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 214 If he..pocket a wrong, and hold his hands, he is a coward. 1737 *Common Sense* I. 139 Some great Men who can pocket up a Kick or a Cuff with as good an Air as they cou'd a Bribe. 1769 *Polit. Register* V. 229 Your grace would have pocketed the affront. 1891 *Leeds Mercury* 2 May 7/1 The United States must pocket the rebuff with a pleasant diplomatic smile.

b. To conceal, give no indication of, suppress (pride, anger, or other feeling); to refrain from publishing (a report, letter, etc.); in U. S. politics (of the President or the Governor of a State): To retain (a bill) unsigned, so as to prevent it from becoming law (cf. *pocket veto*, POCKET *sb.* 13).

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 67, *Ant.* If but one of his pockets could speake, would it not say he lyes? *Seb.* I, or very falsely pocket vp his report. 1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 1 Nov., Pocket all your knowledge with your watch, and never pull it out in company unless desired. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 115 The other generals, pocketing their pride,..handed over the undivided responsibility to Xanthippus. 1885 L. W. SPRING *Kansas* 260 Legislators who..could not be thwarted by any such trifle as the pocketing of a bill.

4. *Billiards.* To drive (a ball) into one of the pockets. (POCKET *sb.* 5.)

1780 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 16/1 It was absolutely necessary to make it rebound from two different parts of the cushion before it could pocket the other. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 481 After being pocketed or forced off the table, the red ball must be spotted on the top spot.

5. To hold under private control; *esp.* the representation of a constituency. Cf. *pocket-borough*, POCKET *sb.* 13.

1882 SCHOULER *Hist. U. S.* I. 10 He was fond of his State.., and loyal to some one of the blood families who contended for the honor of pocketing the borough in which he voted.

6. To furnish with pockets. (Chiefly in *passive.*)

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Jan. 2/1 One block of beautiful wavy white quartz was thickly pocketed..with the yellow metal.

7. *Path.* and *Surg.* To convert or form into a pouch, cavity, or depression.

1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 612 The exudation being so effused into the meshes of the papillæ and Malpighian layer that the cavity is 'pocketed' and shows a central depression or umbilicus. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pocketing* (*Med.* and *Surg.*), forming a pocket or pouch;..a method of treating the pedicle in ovariotomy.

8. *intr.* To form pockets or bag-like recesses. **b.** To pucker or become bagged. *rare. U. S.*

1614 CAMDEN *Rem., Apparell* 234 Of the long pocketting sleeues in the time of King Henry the fourth, Hocciue..song. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* XXV, That carpet?..why, it hadn't begun to pocket yet. 1884 *N. & Q.* 29 Mar. 259/1 In describing the pocketing sleeve of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, to draw attention to the fact that it still exists in the heraldic charge known as the *maunch*.

Hence **Po·cketed** *ppl. a.*, **Po·cketing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1597 *1st Pt. Return Parnass.* v. i. 1448 A Iunaticke bawdie trull, a pocketinge queane. 1614, 1884 Pocketing sleeve [see 8]. 1638 FORD *Fancies* IV. i, The pocketing Of some well-looking ducats. 1885-8 Pocketed [see 7].

Pocketable (pɒ·kėtăb'l), *a.* [f. POCKET *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be put or carried in the pocket.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Portable*, Pocketable. 1704 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1585 (2) These Instruments are..easily carried about,.. the latter especially, which may be made pocketable. 1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 632 The volume is small and pocketable. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *My Shipmate Louise* XV, There is pocketable booty in the mail-room.

Hence **Poc·ketableness.**

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Aug. 230/2 Pocketableness..is the great point of a guide.

Pocket-book (pɒ·kėt,buk).

1. A small book, adapted to be conveniently carried in the pocket. Now usually two words.

1617 *Jonua Ling.* Advt., To render the volume as portable ..and if not as a manuall or pocket-booke, yet a pectorall or bosome-booke, to be carried twixt ierkin and doublet. 1648 A. ROWLEY (*title*) The Scholler's Companion, or a Little Library, containing all the Interpretations of the Hebrew and Greek Bible,..brought into a Pocket Book. 1658 A. FOX tr. *Würtz' Surg.* II. Introd. 45 A small Enchiridium and pocket book, easily to be carried about one. 1678 AUBREY in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 129 A little pocket-book, which may be of use where the larger tables cannot be had. 1882 SAINTSBURY in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 318/2 La Rochefoucauld ranks among the scanty number of pocket-books to be read and re-read with ever new admiration, instruction, and delight.

2. A book for notes, memoranda, etc., intended to be carried in the pocket; a note-book; also, a book-like case of leather or the like, having compartments for papers, bank-notes, bills, etc.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2001/4 Lost.., a Pocket-Book, having an Old Almanack in it of the Date of the Year 80 or 81. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 130 A merchant's pocket-book, or letter-case. 1797 HOLCROFT *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. lvii. 325 A lady..makes a memorandum..in her pocket-book. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. i. 4 A cheque..said to have been stolen out of a pocket-book.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1819 *P. O. Lond. Direct.* 365 Wells, T., Pocket-book-maker. *a* 1860 *Tricks & Traps N. York* 24 (Bartlett), No man, boy, or greenhorn was ever yet victimized by the Pocket-book Droppers..who didn't have so strong a spice of the scamp in his own composition, as to think he was coming a sure and profitable swindle upon some one. *Ibid.*, Pocket-book Dropping may almost be considered as one of the by-gones. 1894 H. H. FURNESS *Address* 4 Our ideal Provost must know the exact location in every rich man's body of the pocket-book nerve.

†**Pocketeer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. POCKET *sb.* + -EER.] A pickpocket.

c 1626 *Dick of Devon.* II. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 40, I am no pocketeer, no diver into slopps: yet you may please to empty them your selfe, good Don.

Pocketer (pɒ·kėtəɹ). [f. POCKET *v.* + -ER[1].] One who pockets or appropriates.

1825 COBBETT *Hist. Prot. Reform.* vi. § 176 The tyrant was .. the great pocketter of this species of plunder. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 501 Nominal editor of the work, but regular pocketer of the salary.

Pocketful (pɒ·kėt,ful). [f. POCKET *sb.* + -FUL.] As much (of anything) as fills a pocket.

1611 COTGR., *Pochée*, a pocket-full, poke-full, sack-full, of. 1718-19 ARBUTHNOT *Let. Swift* Misc. Wks. 1751 II. 120 Formerly, when you had Wit in Pocket-fulls, and no Money. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, A whole pocketful of money. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. ii. 35 They are sitting eating the pocketfuls of corn maize they have stolen.

Pocket-handkerchief (pɒ·kėt,hæ·ŋkəɹtʃif). A handkerchief carried in the pocket.

1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, She would wave a white pocket-handkerchief out of the coach window. 1825 T. H. LISTER *Granby* x, I am sorry for the poor Duke; he loses his pocket handkerchief at *Bath*. 1861 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.*

III. 90 Mr. C. saw fit to spread his pocket-handkerchief on the grass..and sit down on it.

Pocket-hole (pǫ·kĕtˌhōul). The opening in a garment through which the hand is put into the pocket.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Pet. Poem* 20 The Women call'd me Woman, till the Fools Spy'd their Mistake thorough my Pocket Holes. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 15 P 2 She walks.. with her arms through her pocket-holes. 1801 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 283 The jacket is all in one with the body, and comes as far as the pocket-holes. 1900 CROCKETT *Fitting of Peats* v. Love Idylls (1901) 35 Take that hand out of your pocket-hole.

Pocket-knife (pǫ·kĕtˌnəif). A knife with one or more blades which fold into the handle, for carrying in the pocket.

1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 42 Having nothing but a pocket-knife to cut it with. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* i. 16 When a boy finds that his pocket-knife will attract steel filings and take up a needle.

attrib. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 9/5 One of the largest houses..has nearly 100 pocket knife cutlers and grinders idle.

Pocketless (pǫ·kĕtˌlĕs), *a.* [f. POCKET *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a pocket; having no pocket.

1889 *Chicago Advance* 3 Jan., Ulster pockets are swept out of existence. The women are pocketless again. 1897 J. A. GRAHAM *On Threshold Three Closed Lands* vii. 101 A scantily clothed and pocketless Lepopa crofter. 1903 *Month* Aug. 161 A charming billiard-room with a long pocketless table.

Po·cket-mːoney. Money carried in the pocket for occasional expenses; *esp.* that allowed to those who have no other money under their control, as schoolboys or schoolgirls.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 345 We were both robbed of our cloaks and pocket-moneys. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. xx, One Monday-Morning..he came, as usual, to bring John Bull his Weekly Pocket-Money. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, He inquired compassionately, whether she was allowed any pocket-money? 1883 TROLLOPE *Autobiog.* (ed. 2) I. i. 13 Every boy had a shilling a week pocket-money, which we called battels, and which was advanced to us out of the pocket of the second master.

attrib. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* i, On pocket-money day, that is to say, on Saturday. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 June 6/3 His advice to women was, 'Don't take up pocket-money work'.

Po·cket-piːcking. 'Picking' of pockets: see PICK *v.*[1] 9; stealing from the pockets of others. So **Po·cket-piːcker**, a pickpocket.

1622 ROWLANDS *Good Newes & Bad N.* 42 A Pocket-picker most exceeding braue (For true mens purses did maintaine the knaue). 1662 PETTY *Taxes* x. Tracts (1769) 56 Such as have abused their dextrous use of them [fingers] by pocket-picking, counterfeiting of seals and writings &c. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xi, More..people were bubbled out of their goods and money by it in one twelvemonth, than by pocket-picking and shop-lifting in seven. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 199 As naturally..as the disappearance of watches in a London mob is attributed to pocket-picking.

Po·cket-piece.

1. A piece of money carried in the pocket as a charm, a 'lucky' coin; often a coin which is for some reason not current, or is damaged or spurious.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4209/4 Lost .., a Silver Snuff-box,.. with some other Silver Things, Pocket-Pieces, and Money. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 8 He soon knew the Piece to be his Wife's,..being the same he had some time ago given her for a Pocket-piece. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, He got two doubtful shillin's and sixpenn'orth o' pocket-pieces for a good half-crown. 1905 SIR J. EVANS in *Numismatic Chron.* III. 312 The milled sixpences [of Q. Eliz. 1561–75].. were [not improbably] frequently treasured as pocket-pieces.

2. The socket or cavity on each side of a sash-frame in which the weights run: see POCKET *sb.* 9 a.

1901 *J. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 48 We now work along the 'pulley-stile' for a transverse cut, which marks the extremity of the 'pocket-piece', or receptacle for the weights.

Po·cket-piːstol. [See POCKET *sb.* 12.]

1. A small pistol to be carried in the pocket.

1612 S. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 240 There are they say pocket pistols of five and six inches. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 102 P 6 It shall make a Report like a Pocket-Pistol. 1784–5 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 323/2 At Dover..the large gun, well known by the name of Queen Anne's pocket pistol. 1850 in McCrie *Mem. Sir A. Agnew* xi. (1852) 277 It [a pamphlet] served him as a pocket-pistol on such occasions.

2. *humorous.* A pocket spirit-flask.

c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 298, I had always on my journeys a pocket-pistol loaded with brandy mixed with juice of lemon. 1864 BABBAGE *Passages Life Philos.* xvi. 218 A glass bottle enclosed in a leather case, commonly called a pocket-pistol. 1882 MCQUEEN in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 162 The rests had been frequent on the road, as had also been the applications to the pocket-pistols.

Pockety (pǫ·kĕti), *a.* [f. POCKET *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Of a mine or mineral deposit: Characterized by pockets; having the ore unevenly distributed.

1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 370 The vein is irregular and pockety. 1877 *Ibid.* 177 Rich but 'pockety' mineral deposits. 1896 *Naturalist* 289 The sandstones.. and seams of lignite rapidly alternate one with another, assuming lenticular, pockety and other forms.

2. Of the nature of a secluded hollow.

1893 E. L. WAKEMAN in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 18 May, A tiny, pockety vale whose surface is almost level on either side to the edges of noble wooded bluffs.

Po·ckify, *v.* ? *Obs.* [f. POCKY *a.*[1] + -FY.] *trans.* To make pocky: to infect with pox or syphilis. Hence **Po·ckified** *ppl. a.*

1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* 49 If the priests lungs bee but a little vlcerated or pockified. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* III. xvi. 265 If Mercury should be used to a wound of a pockyfied party, that morbus would be rowzed. 1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Commander* 26 Thou soul-destroying ..vice,..That dost effeminate and pockifie Those Creatures called men. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pockified* or *Pocky*, that has got the French-Pox.

Po·ckily, *adv.* [f. POCKY *a.*[1] + -LY [2].] In a pocky manner; with pox or syphilis.

1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 136 A young Girl that was pockily infected by one that gave her only a kiss as she was dancing.

Po·ckiness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of being pocky.

1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Pockynesse, *fossetterie.* 1611 COTGR., *Fossetterie*, pockinesse, or the being full of pock-holes. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pockiness*, pocky State or Condition.

† **Po·ckish,** *a. Obs.* [f. POCK *sb.* + -ISH [1].] Infected with pox (in quot., with small-pox).

1567 Q. MARY *Let.* in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* IV. an. 1567. Note *m*, [Darnley is called a] pockish man.

Pockmanteau. *Sc.* Also **poke-, poak-, pack-, -mantie, -manty, -manky.** Corruption of PORTMANTEAU, confused with *pock*, POKE, bag.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 564 How y[t] his packmantie was maed, I think it best for to declair. 1638 J. ROW *Red-Shankes Serm.* (1828) B iv b, They were posting to Rome with a Poakmantie behind them, and what was in their Poakmantie, (trow ye?) 1723 MESTON *Poet. Wks., Knight* 9 Bearing his luggage and his lumber,..In a pockmanteau or a wallet. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, It's been the gipsies that took yoar pockmanky when they fand the chaise stickin' in the snaw! 1893 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 69 A man canna gang aboot six year wi' a pokemantie withoot seein' somethin' o' baith sides o' life.

Pock-pudding, Sc. var. POKE-PUDDING.

† **Po·ckwood.** *Obs.* [f. POCK *sb.* + WOOD *sb.*] The wood of a tree of the genus *Guaiacum*, formerly used for the cure of syphilis: = GUAIACUM 2, LIGNUM VITÆ 2: cf. *pock-tree* in POCK *sb.* 4. b. *attrib.* **Pockwood-tree:** = GUAIACUM 1, LIGNUM VITÆ 1.

1590 HESTER *French-Pockes* P iij b, *Lignum Guaiacum*, commonly called Pockwood. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 357 That wood..is used by the African phisicians for the curing of the French poxe, whereupon it is commonly called by the name of pock-wood. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Pock-wood-tree*,..an Indian Tree, the Wood whereof is brought over in great quantities, by reason of its great virtue, and use in Physick. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 103 Holy-wood, or Pock-wood is the Wood of a Tree that grows very tall in the East-Indies. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 37 *note*, The *lignum vitæ* or pockwood-tree.

Pocky (poːki), *sb. Sc. dial.* [f. *pock*, POKE *sb.*[1] + -Y, dim. suffix.] A small 'pock' or bag.

1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* XX. 190 There's the pocky ..ye gae me to keep the sewin' things in.

Pocky (pǫ·ki), *a.*[1] Now *rare.* [f. POCK *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Full of or marked with pocks or pustules; *spec.* infected with the pox (i. e., usually, syphilis).

c 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* 198 (E. E. T. S.) *Femme ad face verolee*, Woman hath face pokky [*MS.* polky]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/1 Pokky, *porriginosus.* 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 313 Our fair young daughter was sent to the old pocky king of France, the year before our mortal enemy. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 47 b, The Dutchmen..spake shamefully of this mariage, that a feble old & pocky man should mary so fayre a lady. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 450 Under colour of giving physicke to their pockie patients. 1730 SWIFT *Lady's Dressing-room* 134 To him that looks behind the scene, Statira's but some pocky queen. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 601 *note*, A healthy wet nurse, getting a sore nipple, in consequence of suckling a pocky child.

† **b.** As a coarse expression of reprobation or dislike, or merely intensive. In quot. 1601 as *adv.* (Cf. *mangy.*) *Obs.*

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* v. ii, Plaguy boy! he sooths his humour; these French villains have pocky wits. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. Darrel* 79 Were not this pockie good stuffe..to pester your Pulpit withall? *a* 1619 FLETCHER *Bonduca* v. iii, Oh villain, pocky villain! 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* IV. i, But that's his pocky humour.

2. Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a pock or pustule, or the pox (i. e., usually, syphilis; sometimes, small-pox); syphilitic or variolous.

1555 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 135 With theyr pockeye plasteres and sores. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* ix. 15 But neuer in like pockie heate before. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. xviii. 129 Mercurial Ointment is good for lameness and pocky biles. 1752 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 504 A pledgit dipp'd in the pocky matter was applied to the excoriated part. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 499 The pocky itch is so denominated from the resemblance of the pustules to minute small-pox. 1843 SIR T. WATSON *Lect. Princ. Physic* LXXXIX. II. 781 This has needlessly been made a separate species of itch, *scabies purulenta*, pocky itch.

Pocky, *a.*[2] *Sc. local.* [f. *pock*, POKE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Characterized by having pokes or bags; baggy; popularly applied in Orkney to a form of cloud, called by some *mammato-cumulus*, the lower surface of which consists of an assemblage of rounded forms like small bags.

(Not in Eng. or general Sc. use.)

1862 C. CLOUSTON in A. Mitchell *Pop. Weather Prognostics Scotl.* 15, I first observed this kind of cloud (cumulous-like festoons of drapery) on 5th March 1822... When properly developed, it was always followed by a storm or gale within twenty-four hours. It is called 'Pocky cloud' by our [Orkney] sailors. 1867 — *Explan. Pop. Weather Progn. Scotl.* Pref. 4 The festooned or pocky cloud. *Ibid.* 14. 1880 C. LEY in *Nature* XXI. 210/2 The clouds which have been in England [i. e. in Orkney] denominated 'pocky clouds'. 1887 ABERCROMBY *Weather* iii. 78 In Orkney, this is known as the 'pocky cloud', and is there usually followed by a severe gale of wind.

‖ **Poco-curante** (pōːkoˌkuraːnte), *a.* and *sb.* [It., f. *poco* little + *curante*, pr. pple. of *curare* to care:—L. *cūrāre.*] **a.** *adj.* Caring little; careless, indifferent, *nonchalant.* **b.** *sb.* A careless or indifferent person; one who shows little interest or concern.

1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. XX, Leave we my mother—(truest of all the *Poco-curante's* of her sex!) careless about it. 1815 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) II. 76 That idlest of all *poco-curante* places, Dublin. 1823 PRAED *Troubadour* I. 74 Poco-curante in all cases Of furious foes, or pretty faces. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 9 July 32/1 Lord Granville's pleasant faculty of pococurante conversation.

Hence **Poːco-curaːntish** *a.*, having a *poco-curante* character, somewhat careless; **Poːco-curaːntism, -teism,** the character, spirit, or style of a *poco-curante*; indifference; indifferentism.

1821 *Examiner* 491/1 Criticism has been a little Poco-curantish of late years. 1824 *Ibid.* 250/1 This poco-curantish disposition. 1831 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 228 So far did this poco-curantism of theirs extend, that, even in the trifling article of franking, not one of them..ever offered, when in office, to be of any service to me. 1835 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life* (1845) I. vii. 419, I suppose that Pococuranteism (excuse the word) is much the order of the day amongst young men. 1846 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* III. v. ii. 202 His great and fatal fault..his affectation of scepticism and *pococuranteism.* 1882 *Times* 1 Mar., The House of Commons was counted out...This demonstration of pococurantism may be thought somewhat surprising after the heat and storm of the past few days.

Pocook, obs. form of PEACOCK.

Pocones, -is: see PUCCOON.

‖ **Pocosin, poquosin** (pǫ̆kōuˈsĭn). *Amer.* Also 7 **poquosin, -on,** (8 **percoarson, -koson**), 8–9 **poc(o)oson,** 9 **pocasan.** [Algonquin *poquosin.*

According to W. W. Tooker in *Amer. Anthropologist* Jan. 1899 (N. S.) I. 162–170, meaning 'at or near the opening out or widening', f. *poquo* to break, open out, widen + (*e*)*s* dimin. + *-in*(*g*) locative suffix. 'The application of the term therefore..was to indicate or describe a locality where water 'backed up' in spring freshets, or in rainy seasons, and which by reason of [this] became more or less marshy or boggy.' As the name of a river in Virginia, the word is found as early as 1635.]

In Southern U. S., A tract of low swampy ground, usually wooded; a marsh, a swamp.

1709 J. LAWSON *Hist. Carolina* 26 The Swamp I now spoke of, is not a miry Bog,..but you go down to it thro' a steep Bank, at the Foot of which, begins this Valley...The Land in this Percoarson, or Valley, being extraordinary rich, and the Runs of Water well stor'd with Fowl. *Ibid.* 57 We lay in a rich Perkoson, or low Ground, that was hard-by a Creek, and good dry Land. 1711 in *Virginia Mag. Hist. & Biogr.* V. (1897) July 9 The rest carried the horses 3 mile through a terribly mysery Pocoson to a verry great marsh to a River side. 1760 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1889) II. 163 Black mould taken out of the Pocoson on the creek side. 1784 J. F. D. SMYTH *Tour U. S.* I. 106 Rode along upon a wooden causeway, through a marsh, which is here [North Carolina] called a poccoson. 1875 W. C. KERR *Rep. of the Geol. Survey of N. Carolina* I. 15 There is a large aggregate of territory (between 3,000 and 4,000 square miles), mostly in the counties bordering on the seas and the sounds, known as Swamp Lands. They are locally designated as 'dismals' or 'pocosins', of which the great Dismal Swamp on the borders of North Carolina and Virginia is a good type. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Nov. 358 The various stages of sound, lagoon, salt marsh, and pocoson are too familiar.

Pocques, obs. form of *pocks*: see POCK *sb.*

† **Poculary,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. mod. L. *pōculāri-us*, f. *pōcul-um* cup: see -ARY [1].] Pertaining to a cup, i. e. to drinking; in quot. absol. as *sb.* A pardon or indulgence for drinking.

Erroneously explained as='cup' by Davies, whence in other Dicts.: cf. note s. v. MANUARY on the same passage.

1537 tr. *Latimer's Serm. bef. Convoc.* D j b, Some brought forth canonizations, some expectations, some pluralities and unions, some tot-quots and dispensations, some pardons, and these of wonderful variety, some stationaries, some jubilaries, some pocularies for drinkers, some manuaries for handlers of relicks..some oscularies for kissers.

Poculaːtion. *nonce-wd.* [As if f. L. **pōculārī* to frequent the cup, f. *pōcul-um* (see prec.): see -ATION.] Drinking (of wine or other intoxicating liquor).

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIX. 580 The art of poculation, if so it may be termed, being of the highest antiquity, and the claims of Bacchus as the inventor of the art being unquestioned.

† **Poːculent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pōculentus* drinkable.] Fit for drinking; furnishing drink.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 630 Some of those Herbs, which are not Esculent, are notwithstanding Poculent; As Hops, Broom.

Poculiform (pǫ·kiūlifōrm), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. L. *pōcul-um* (see POCULARY) + -(I)FORM.] Of the form of a cup or drinking-vessel; cup-shaped.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* IV. 379 *Poculiform*, cup-shaped, with a hemispherical base and an upright limb; nearly the same as campanulate. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 55 Cup poculiform, oblique, substipitate.

Pocyll(e: see POCILL.

Pod (pǫd), *sb.*[1] [Origin obscure: it does not seem to be connected with the later word POD *sb.*[2]]

1. The earlier form of PAD *sb.*[3] 8: the socket of a brace in which the end of the bit is inserted.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 Strong exeltred cart, that is clouted and shod, Cart ladder and wimble, with percer and pod. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 254 The lower part of the other limb of the stock is of brass, which is fixed by means of a screw passing through two ears of the brass part, and through the solid of the wood. This brass part is called the pod, and is furnished with a mortise, in the form of a square pyramid, for receiving different pieces of steel, which are secured by means of a spring in the pod. *Ibid.*, Bits are those pieces of steel which are inserted in the pod.

b. 'The straight channel or groove in the body of certain forms of augers and boring-bits'.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *Comb.* **pod-bit**: see quot.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Pod-bit*, a boring-tool adapted to be used in a brace. It has a semicylindrical form, a hollow barrel, and at its end is a cutting lip which projects in advance of the barrel.

Pod (pɒd), *sb.*[2] [A comparatively recent word, first found with its compounds and derivatives late in 17th c. Origin unknown.

Pod and *podder* appear first *c* 1680, the latter being known earlier than the former; PODWARE occurs 1584, but in origin is not certainly a compound of *pod*. The earlier word for *pod* was *cod*, spec. in *pease-cod*; in 1681 *podders* were explained as 'pease-cod gatherers about London'.]

1. A seed-vessel of a long form, usually dry and dehiscent; properly of leguminous and cruciferous plants; a legume or siliqua; but often extended to other long fruits.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 85/1 The pod, or berry; is the first knitting of fruit, when the Flower is fallen off. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pod*, the Husk of any Pulse. 1731-3 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Pisum*, Causing their Leaves to flag, and their Blossoms to fall off without producing Pods. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. vi. (1765) 13 *Siliqua*, a Pod, is a Pericarpium of two Valves. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* I. 604 *note*, The pods [of the cacao]..seldom contain less than thirty nuts of the size of a flatted olive. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* iii. (1794) 38 You will understand this distinction..if you open the pod of a pea and of a stock at the same time. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 501 From opening pods unbinds the fleecy store. 1833 R. WALKER *Flora Oxfordsh.* 210 The singular figure of the pods of the Horse-shoe vetch must strike the most casual observer. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pod*, the capsule or seed-case of leguminous and cruciferous plants, those of the former being called legumes, and those of the latter siliques, and silicules. 1882 MRS. RIDDELL *Daisies & B.* I. 114 Where the broad-beans are now in pod. 1904 *Speaker* 23 Apr. 90/1 He gained a copper to buy some pods of red pepper to season the coarse bread. 1905 *Ibid.* 30 Dec. 322/1 These poems are as like as peas in a pod.

2. *transf.* a. The cocoon of the silk-worm. b. The case or envelope of the eggs of a locust.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. v. lxiii. 291 The size which we usually most esteem, is wound off sixteen or eighteen pods or cocoons. 1880 *Times* 10 Nov. 4/6 The cases or 'pods' (as they are called from their shape) of locusts' eggs. 1884 J. G. WOOD in *Sunday Mag.* May 307/1 When these [locusts'] eggs are laid, they are enclosed in a horny envelope called a 'pod', each pod containing thirty-five eggs.

3. A large protuberant abdomen. *dial.*

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pod*, a fat protuberant belly. 1888 *Berkshire Gloss.*, *Pod*, a large stomach.

4. A purse-net with a narrow neck for catching eels. Also *pod-net*.

1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 103 The pods are hauled into the boat and detached from the main net and their contents emptied into a tub. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xxxii. (1884) 246 The eels passing down the river make their way into the long 'pods' through the narrow necks or apertures of the stops, and cannot find their way back. 1892 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 88 In this long wall of net are three or four openings, to which purse-nets, about eighteen feet long, stretched on hoops..are attached, the far ends being closed. These 'pods' as they are called, are extended down stream and attached to stakes in the river bottom, their positions being marked by floats. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 99 The method of working the pod-net is the same in principle.

†5. The blade of a cricket-bat. *Obs.*

1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 111 When the practice of bowling length balls was introduced..it became absolutely necessary to change the form of the bat...It was therefore made straight in the pod. 1850 'BAT' *Crick. Man.* 31 Instead..of the curved form of the pod, it was made straight. *c* 1862 *Handbk. Cricket* (Rtldg.) 11 The regulation size of the bat is thirty-eight inches in length, of which twenty-one inches are taken up by the pod, or, according to the more modern term, the blade.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pod-flower*, *-seed*; *pod-bearing*, *-like*, *-shaped* adjs.; **pod-fern**, a name of *Ceratopteris thalictroides*, a peculiar tropical aquatic fern, the fertile fronds of which are divided into linear and somewhat siliquose segments; **pod-lover**, collector's name of a noctuid moth, *Dianthœcia capsophila*; **pod-pepper**, a common name for capsicum; **pod-shell**, an American kind of razor-shell, *Pharus*; **pod-shrimp**, an entomostracan having the carapace hinged lengthwise upon its back, so as to close like a bivalve shell.

1878 J. R. LUMBY in *Queen's Printers' Bible-Aids* Gloss. s.v. *Pulse*, 'Pulse' in 2 Sam. xvii. 28 means *pod-bearing plants, such as beans, pease, or lentils. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 386 Yellow *pod-flowers every slope adorn. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 396 Plants of a strange Nature, bearing *pod-like Fruit. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 260 A very long pod-like capsule. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iii. 51 The cheapest corn year is the dearest for *pod-seed. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 20 Fruit .. *pod-shaped and dehiscent. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 663/2 *Nebalia* ..seems but the puny and degenerate representative of the once giant *pod-shrimps of Silurian times.

† **Pod**, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [Origin obscure. Cf. early mod. Fris. *pudde* 'mustela piscis' (Kilian).] A young jack or pike (fish).

1587 HARRISON *England* III. iii. (1878) II. 18 The pike as he ageth, receiueth diuerse names, as from a frie to a gilthed, from a gilthed to a pod, from a pod to a iacke, from a iacke to a pickerell, from a pickerell to a pike, and last of all to a luce.

Pod, *sb.*[4] orig. *U.S.* [Origin unknown.] A small herd or 'school' of seals or whales, or sometimes of other animals; a small flock of birds.

1832 D. WEBSTER *Let. to White* 14 Sept. in *Priv. Corr.* (1857) I. 526 We saw several small pods of coots go by. 1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 171 The Sperm Whale is gregarious; and usually occurs in parties, which are termed by whalers 'schools' and 'pods'. 1897 *Speaker* 16 Jan. 68/2 The 'bachelors' [seals] are driven into pods. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* v. 36 Small pod o cows [whales], an one 'r two bulls layin' off to west'ard of 'em.

Pod (pɒd), *v.*[1] [f. POD *sb.*[2]]

1. *intr.* To bear or produce pods.

1734 CURTEIS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 273, I planted six Beans in a Pot,..they bloom'd as freely as those which are planted in the Ground, but did not pod so well, having not above a pod or two on each Plant. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 464 The best way to make peas pod well. 1833 *Ridgemont Farm Rep.* 141 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Beans certainly pod much better when not crowded together. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 6/2 The peas have failed to pod, and are being cut for fodder.

2. *trans.* To gather (peas, etc.) in the pod.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 587 The business of picking or podding the peas is usually performed by the labourers at a fixed price.

3. To hull or empty (peas, etc.) out of the pods.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 558/1 By the aid of modern machinery..the peas are podded by a 'huller'.

4. *intr.* To swell out like a pod.

1890 *Columbus Dispatch* 9 July, Twelve intelligent eyes podded until one could have snared them with grape vines.

Hence **Po·dding** *vbl. sb.*, the production or formation of pods.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Pease*, Both these kinds of..peas are particularly apt to degenerate, and become later in their podding. 1893 *Times* 6 July 4/6 Spring sorts [of beans] shed their flowers without podding.

Pod, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* [Origin obscure.] *trans.* To prod, to poke.

1530 PALSGR. 661/2, I podde. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 155/38 To Podde, or porre, *pungere*. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Pod*,.. to poke. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., He podded mi i' t'ribs wi' his walkin' stick.

Hence **Po·dder**, one who prods.

a 1640 JACKSON *Creed* x. xxxix. § 19 To use some in our parliaments as their podders, to drive us into it.

Pod, *v.*[3] [f. POD *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To drive (seals, etc.) into a 'pod' or bunch for the purpose of clubbing them.

1887 *Fisheries of U. S.* Sect. v. II. 366 *note*, A singular lurid green light suddenly suffuses the eye of the fur-seal at intervals when it is very much excited, as the 'podding' for the clubbers is in progress. 1897 *Speaker* 17 Jan. 68/2 Females [seals] are often podded with the 'bachelors'.

Pod: see PAD *sb.*[1], toad, frog; also PODE.

† **Po·dage**. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *podāgium* (1259 in Du Cange), variant of *pedāgium*.] = PEDAGE: see quot. *c* 1425 s. v.

‖ **Podagra** (pɒ·dăgră, pɒdæ·gră). *Med.* [L. *podagra*, a. Gr. *ποδάγρα* gout in the feet, lit. a trap for the feet, f. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot + *ἄγρα* a catching.] Gout in the feet; by extension, gout generally.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lviii. (Bodl. MS.), Podagra is a sore yuel in þe feete and namelich in þe wrestes and in soles. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 40 Podegra, and that seknes thei sey cometh of grete plente of mete and mech rest. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 259 The Podagra or Gout, quhilk of the Vehemencie of calde he contracted, Vttirlie ouirthrew his preclare Jugementis. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 149 According to the opinion of the celebrated Prof. Tode,.. hypochondriasis is merely an imperfect podagra residing in the stomach and bowels. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 577 True gout, Podagra, consists, according to some, of the decreased excretion of uric acid by the urinary organs and an accumulation of it within the blood.

Podagral (pɒ·dăgrăl), *a.* [f. PODAGRA + -AL.] Of or pertaining to gout; gouty.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 685 A long train of dyspeptic, hepatic or podagral symptoms. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 396 Suspected of making his podagral ailments.. cover a multitude of sins. 1872 JEAFFRESON *Brides & Bridals* I. ii. 159 The land of gouty humours and podagral sufferers.

† **Poda·gre**, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 3 **poudagre**, 4-6 **podagre**, 4-5 **potagre**, 5 **potacre**. [a. OF. *podagre*, ad. L. *podagra*: see PODAGRA. (The popular repr. of *podagra* in OF. was *poacre*, *pouacre*.)] = PODAGRA.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 424/128 In his fot ane hote goute, þat poudagre icleopeod is. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2993 Som sal haf in alle þair lymmes obout, For sleuthe, als þe potagre and þe gout. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. viii. (Bodl. MS.), Gelded men haue not podagre for þei seruep nought venus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Potacre, or podagre, sekenesse, *potagra*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C iij b, When yowre hawkes fete be swollyn she hath the podagre. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xv. 337 Good for podagres and aches of ioyntes.

† **Poda·gre**, *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 4 **podagere**, 4-5 **potagre**. [a. OF. (F.) *podagre*, a. L. *podager*, *-grum* (Ennius), ad. Gr. *ποδαγρός* adj., pertaining to gout: see PODAGRA.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to gout; suffering from gout, gouty.

13.. *Cursor M.* 11825 (Fairf.) Þe gutte podagre [*C.* þe potagre, *G.* podagere, *Tr.* potagre] es il to bete. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 713 Potagre and gowty & halt he was eek. 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund* III. 649 Oon was podagre in handis, leggis, knees.

B. *sb.* A sufferer from gout.

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxviii, The port-admiral, for such was the ancient podagre.

Podagric (pɒdæ·grik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *podagric-us*, a. Gr. *ποδαγρικός* of or pertaining to gout, f. *ποδάγρα*, PODAGRA.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to gout; gouty.

1702 FLOYER *Cold Baths* I. ii. (1709) 44 Both Hot and Cold Water are good..for Podagrick Pains without Ulcers. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 292 The..constitution of a podagric patient. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 197 In later life,..somewhat podagric by inheritance.

B. *sb.* A sufferer from gout.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 56 We podagricks you know, primiers imitate, For tho' pains gnaw within, yet without we look great. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 101 Let the Podagric enjoy his savoury dishes, on condition that every fourth day he submits to eat..plain meat.

† **Poda·grical**, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. adj.

1576 FLEMING *Panop. Epist.* 237 If you meane not to beget to your selfe the Podagricall disease for your daughter. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 73 That a Loadstone held in the hand of one that is podagricall doth either cure or give great ease in the gout. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 4028 Some Podagrical people,..happening to be seized by the Plague, lost the Gout, and recover'd of the Plague too.

Podagrous (pɒ·dăgrəs), *a.* [ad. L. *podagrōsus* gouty, f. *podagra*: see PODAGRA and -OUS. So obs. F. *podagreux* (Godef.).] Gouty.

1851 COCKERELL in Lady Holland *Mem. Syd. Smith* (1855) I. 249 A podagrous disposition of limbs. 1863 SALA in *Temple Bar Mag.* VIII. 73 If it be a crime to be hereditarily podagrous, take me to the Tower.

† **Po·dagry**. *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *podagrie* gout (16th c. in Godef.), on med.L. type **podagria*, f. Gr. *ποδαγρός*: see PODAGRE *a.*] = PODAGRA; in quot., dodder, or the condition of a plant infested with it (a sense of OF. *podagre* and med.L. *podagra*).

[1640 PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* 11 Cuscuta .. upon Line or Flax, called *Podagra Lini* and *Angina Lini*.] 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 237 They..mistake, who take the podagry of other plants for true Cuscuta and Epithyme.

Podal (pō·dăl), *a. Zool.* [irreg. f. Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot + -AL.] Belonging to feet, or foot-like organs; *spec.* applied to a membrane fringing the outer margin of the neuropodia and notopodia or ventral and dorsal foot-stumps of certain Annelida.

1896 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* II. 323 The podal membrane reaches to the tip of the gill in the anterior segments.

‖ **Podalgia** (pɒdæ·ldʒiă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot + *ἄλγος* pain.] Pain in the foot, as from gout, rheumatism, or the like.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Podalgia*, pain in the foot: almost the same as Podagra.

Podalic (pɒdæ·lik), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot, after *cephalic*.] Of or pertaining to the feet.

Podalic version (*Obstetrics*), the operation of changing the position of the fœtus so as to bring the feet to present in delivery.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Version*, *podalic*, [an operation in obstetrics] when one or both feet are brought down. 1900 *Lancet* 30 June 1886/1 Its aim being 'podalic', as it was to bring the lower limb to present.

Podar. *dial.* Also **poder**. [app. a. Cornish *podar* rotten, worthless.] A local name of MUNDIC or copper pyrites.

[1754 BORLASE *Antiq. Cornw.* Cornish-Eng. Voc. 403/2 *Podar*, rotten: corrupt: id. Mundic: ugly.] 1816 PARIS *Guide Mount's Bay & Land's End* 117 Upon the first discovery of copper ore, the miner, to whom its nature was entirely unknown, gave it the name of *Poder*...About the year 1735,..Mr. Coster a mineralogist of Bristol observed this Poder among the heaps of rubbish.

‖ **Podarthritis** (pɒdăɹbrəi·tis). *Med.* [f. Gr. *ποδ-* (see PODO-) + ARTHRITIS.] Inflammation of joints of the foot.

1857 in DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sc.*

Poddasway, obs. Sc. f. PADUASOY.

Podded (pɒ·dėd), *a.* [f. POD *sb.*[2] + -ED[2].]

1. Bearing pods; leguminous; growing (as a seed) in a pod.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Lotus*, The yellow, podded, sea lotus, with a thick, fleshy, and smooth leaf. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 465 In the culture of this, and indeed of all other podded grains. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 622 For cleaning and earthing up different sorts of podded crops. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* (1874) 94 Podded seeds that cannot be reaped, or beaten, or shaken down, but must be gathered green.

2. *fig.* (transl. F. *cossu* podded, fig. well-off.) Well-off, comfortable, snugly secure from harm.

1889 *Spectator* 16 Nov., The working city being tainted with the deep envy of superiors, and especially of superiors leading joyous or 'podded' lives—as the French describe

the lives of well-to-do citizens. 1895 *Ibid.* 21 Dec. 886/1 They may trade with profit and live on the profit in podded luxury.

Podder[1] (pɒ·dəɹ). [f. POD *sb.*[2] or *v.*[1] + -ER[1]; orig. a local term.] A person employed in gathering peas in the pod.

1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), *Podders*, Pescod-gatherers about London, so called. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Podders*, poor People employ'd to gather Pease, Pease-cod Gatherers. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 248 Those who have seen..the weeders, podders, and hoppers, who swarm in the fields. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 587 The expence of gathering green peas is different, according to the difficulty of procuring podders [etc.]. 1884 *Cheshire Gloss., Podder*,..one who gathers field peas for market.

Podder[2]: see PODWARE.

Podder[3]: see under POD *v.*[2]

†**Po·ddinger.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: 5 **puddyngare**, 6 **podenger, -ynger**, (*dial.* -9) **poddinger**, 8 **podinger**. [An altered form of POTTINGER, perh. associated with *podyng*, PUDDING. (Intermediate between *pottinger* and *porringer*: cf. PODDISH, PODDIDGE.)] = POTTINGER, PORRINGER.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/1 A Puddyngare, *tucetarius, tucetaria*. 1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 1 A broken krock, a plater, a podynger and a sawcer. 1552 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 142, iiij^or^ pewter disshes, sixe sawcers, iij poddingers. 1599 *Acc.-Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243, iiij podengers. 1721 in *Girl's Own P.* (1886) VII. 627 Put ye soup into it [a stewpan] by podingers, and lett every podinger full boyle up as you put it in. *c* 1812 T. WILKINSON in Gilpin *Pop. Poetry* (1875) 204 Poddingers on ivery truncher stood.

Po·ddish, poddidge. Now *dial.* Also 6 **podech**, 6–7 **podge**, 9 *dial.* **podditch**. [Altered form of POTAGE, POTTAGE, perh. due to some analogy: cf. PODDINGER.] = POTTAGE, PORRIDGE; now chiefly applied to oatmeal porridge.

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 130 Yf the podech [*Wks.* 1573 porage] be burned to or the meate over rosted, we saye, the bysshope hath put his fote in the potte [etc.]. *a* 1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* (1846) 50 How saist thou, Hodge, What, art thou hungrie? wilt thou eat my podge? 1611 COTGR., *Brouët*,.. any liquor, podge, or sauce, of the thicknesse, or consistence of that whereof our pruine-tarts are made. *c* 1746 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 68 Boh it leet weell atth' Podditch wur naw scawding. 1869 'EAVESDROPPER' *Vill. Life* 4 (E. D. D.), I can git poddige for mysel' and t' barns. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* I. vii, I know the way to my mouth with a spoonful of poddish, and that's all. *Ibid.* II. xv, May they never lick a lean poddish-stick.

Poddock, dial. f. PADDOCK *sb.*[1], frog, toad.

Po·ddy, *a. colloq.* [f. POD *sb.*[2] + -Y.] Corpulent, obese.

1844 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 138 It is a grievous thing to grow poddy: the age of Chivalry is gone then.

†**Pode.** *Obs.* Also 6 **poade**. [Parallel form of PAD *sb.*[1]] A toad: perh. also applied to other creatures reputed to be venomous; also *transf.* to persons.

c 1250 [see PAD *sb.*[1] 1]. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 810 in *Macro Plays* 98 Tyl Mankynde fallith to podys prys, Coueytyse schal hym grype & grope. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 156 in *Anglia* XVIII. 298 Rancle .. of venym, As of jrannys or podys or vermyn. 1528 ROY & BARLOW *Rede me* (Arb.) 43 Was nott theare one called Coclaye, A littell pratye foolysshe poade?..Yett men saye he lacketh no gall. More venemous then any toade. 1549 CHALONER *Erasmus on Folly* Q j, Thei good podes are wholy addicted to fooles and trifle-talkers.

Pode, obs. form of POOD.

Podel, podell(e, obs. forms of PUDDLE.

Podeon (pɒ·dĭən). *Entom. rare.* [a. Gr. *ποδεών* a narrow end, f. *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] A term for the petiole in the petiolate Hymenoptera: see quots.

1841 E. NEWMAN *Introd. Hist. Insects* 144 The sixth segment, *podeon* or *peduncle*, is usually much smaller than either of the preceding. 1844 GOSSE in *Zoologist* II. 587 That segment which Mr. Newman has called the *podeon* is furnished with a curious hooked spur.

Poder, variant of PODAR.

‖**Podestà** (podesta·). Also 6–8 **podestate**, 7–8 **podestat**. [It. *podestà*:—OIt. *podestate*:—L. *potestātem*, power, authority, hence public officer, magistrate. So F. *podestat* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*).] **a.** A governor appointed by the Emperor Frederick I (Barbarossa) over one or more cities of Lombardy. **b.** A chief magistrate elected annually in mediæval Italian towns and republics with judicial functions and almost unlimited powers. Also *transf.* **c.** A subordinate judge or magistrate in modern Italian municipalities.

1548 T. HOBY *Trav.* (1902) 10 No man weareth his weapon within the town, but such as are licensed by the Podesta. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxv. (Arb.) 308, I haue sene of the greatest podestates and grauest iudges and Presidentes of Parliament in Fraunce. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 135 [In London] we have a Podesta, or Maior, that keepeth a Prince-like house. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 341 The Venitians maintain a Podestat in the Island to gather the Tribute. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* ii, Every..village elects by majority of votes a Podesta and other two magistrates. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* Pref., When podesta and captain at Treviso. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* ii. 39 When the podestà of the Emperor arrived at Milan to take possession of the tribunal, he was sent contemptuously away. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 53. 71 On the following night, the Podestà of the city suddenly died.

So **Pode·sterate** [f. It. *podesteria* office of a podestà + -ATE[1]], the rule or office of a podestà.

1787 J. ADAMS *Def. Govt. U. S.* (1794) II. 305 In the next year, 1280, in the podesterate of Alberigo Signoregi of Bologna.

‖**Podetium** (pɒdī·ʃĭəm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., arbitrary f. Gr. *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] In some lichens (as *Cladoma*), a stalk-like or shrubby outgrowth of the thallus, bearing the apothecium or fruit; also, any stalk-like elevation.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 445. 409 In that genus we have the first indication of a stem to the apothecia, or, as it is called, a podetium. 1870 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (ed. 2) 375 In the latter case the stalk has received the name of podetium.

Hence **Pode·tiform** *a.*, shaped like or resembling a podetium.

‖**Podex** (pō·ˌdeks). Now only *Zool.* [L. *pōdex, pōdic-ĕm* anus, fundament.] The fundament, the rump; also, the last dorsal segment of the abdomen of insects, the pygidium.

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in his Hum.* v. i, How Saturn, sitting in an ebon cloud, Disrobed his podex. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Podex*,.. the Fundament, or Breech. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. vi. 415 The Male is less than the Female,.. and its Podex not so sharp as the Females is. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 4 These substances are contained in the respective sexes in two bags that unite near the podex. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 390 *Podex*, the last dorsal segment of the abdomen.

Pod-fern: see POD *sb.*[2]

Podge (pɒdʒ), *sb. dial.* or *colloq.* [A parallel form, app. of later origin, of PUDGE *sb.*] Anything podgy; *spec.* a short fat man or woman; a short stout thick-set animal. (In quot. 1833 applied to an epaulette.)

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* viii, That man with the gold podge on his shoulder [the first lieutenant]. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Podge*, a dirty, fat person. 1876 *Mid.-Yorks. Gloss., Podge*,..the term is .. freely bestowed, in a good-natured manner, upon children of a fleshy appearance..'Come hither, thou old podge'. 1901 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang Dict.*, Podge (colloquial). 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Aberdeensh. to Cornwall.

Podge, *v.* Now *dial. intr.* To walk slowly and heavily. Hence **Po·dging** *ppl. a.*

1638 N. WHITING *Hist. Albino & Bellama* 141 My Dames will say, I am a podging Asse. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Podge*, to walk with short heavy steps. 1876 *Mid.-Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., *Podge* is also a *v*[*erb*] *n.* denoting the heavy irregular gait usual to very fat persons.

Podge, obs. form of PODDISH, PODDIDGE.

Podger (pɒ·dʒəɹ). *rare.* ? A stiff blow.

1816 LD. CAMPBELL in *Life* (1881) I. 334 He cannot deal the knock-me-down blows of old Brough, and if you watch your opportunity you may give him a podger.

Podgy (pɒ·dʒi), *a.* [f. PODGE *sb.* + -Y: a parallel form, somewhat later in appearance, of PUDGY.] Short, thick, and fat; squat.

1846 THACKERAY *Cornh. to Cairo* iii. 37, I wish I had had a shake of that trembling, podgy hand. 1856 MAYHEW *Rhine* 143 A shaggy, podgy, black pony. 1858 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) 26 The slow oily stream, beneath whose willows lurked .. podgy perch. 1861–2 *Vac. Tour.* 24 A priest on the podgy side of forty. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 832 Massage is very useful in emaciated or podgy people.

Hence **Po·dgily** *adv.*, in a podgy way or degree.

1893 'J. S. WINTER' *Aunt Johnnie* I. 2 She was not only fat, but she was podgily fat.

Podia, plural of PODION, PODIUM.

Podial (pō·ˌdiăl), *a.* [f. PODI-UM + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a podium. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Podical (pō·ˌdikăl), *a. Zool.* [f. L. PODEX, *pōdic-* + -AL.] Pertaining to the podex, anal.

Podical plates, two or more small pieces surrounding the podex in some insects.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 406 When the tenth tergum and the podical plates are removed, a very singular apparatus .. comes into view. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 142 Common Cockroach. .. The anus .. lies between two triangular podical plates.

Po·dicate, *v. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ATE[3].] *intr.* To slide or move along on one's posteriors. So **Podica·tion** (in quot. = a blow or kick on the posteriors).

1853 JERDAN *Autobiog.* IV. 180 We managed to roll, slide, stagger and podicate to the foot in the dark. 1884 *World* 20 Aug. 9/1 Unless he wishes to risk podication.

‖**Podion** (pɒ·ˌdiɒn). *Zool.* Pl. **podia.** [mod. L., a. Gr. *πόδιον*: see PODIUM.] One of the tube-feet of an echinoderm.

1900 E. R. LANKESTER *Treat. Zool.* III. 291 Water from the reservoir or ampulla is driven into the podion, and the tube-foot is thus rendered tense and rigid.

Podism (pɒ·ˌdiz'm). *rare.* [ad. late L. *podismus* (Veg.), a. Gr. *ποδισμός* a measuring by feet, f. *ποδίζειν* to measure by feet, also to bind the feet, f. *πούς, ποδ-* foot.] †**a.** A measuring by feet. *Obs. rare*—°. †**b.** A footing. *Obs. rare*—[1]. **c.** *Path.* Spasm or cramp in the foot. *rare*—°.

1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), *Podism* (*podismus*), a measuring by feet. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 89/1 Allowing to euery souldier a larg podisme or place to stand in. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Podismus*, a term for spasm of the foot, or of the toes..: podism.

Podite (pɒ·dəit). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πούς, ποδ-* foot + -ITE[1].] A leg or ambulatory limb of an arthropod, esp. of a crustacean. Usually in compounds denoting a part or appendage of such a limb: see quot. 1875, and the words themselves.

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 151 The joints have the following names; the proximal, short and thick, *coxopodite*; the next, small and conical, *basipodite*; next, cylindrical and marked by an annular constriction, *ischiopodite*; the next, longer, *meropodite*; then successively, the *carpopodite, propodite*, and *dactylopodite*. 1878 H. WOODWARD in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 635/2 These podites are usually seven-jointed, and each bears a gill on its basal-joint.

Hence **Poditic** (pɒdi·tik) *a.*, belonging to a podite. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖**Podium** (pō·ˌdiŏm). Pl. **podia.** [L. *podium* an elevated place, balcony, ad. Gr. *πόδιον*, dim. of *πούς, ποδ-* foot.]

1. *Arch.* **a.** A continuous projecting base or pedestal, a stylobate. **b.** A raised platform surrounding the arena in an ancient amphitheatre. **c.** A continuous seat or bench around a room.

[1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 164 (*Venice*) Euery Palace of any principall note hath a prety walke or open gallery betwixt the wall of the house and the brincke of the riuers banke... Suetonius calleth these kinde of open galleries Podia.] 1789 P. SMYTH tr. *Aldrich's Archit.* (1818) 149 The *podium* (the bottom part of the wall) projects at its lower extremity. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. iv. 54 Along the whole runs a sort of *podium* or base. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* § 233 The amphitheatre at Nismes...Its exterior wall has three stories of Tuscan pilasters on the face of the wall, the two upper whereof stand on podia. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 176 Standing figures .. are ranged in two rows on podia between the piers. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* viii, Up from the podium to the beetling height I turn'd one dying look. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Mar. 4/1 The podium of the Albert Memorial is almost as fresh as the day the structure was uncovered.

2. *Anat.* and *Zool.* **a.** The fore or hind foot (*manus* or *pes*) of a mammal or other vertebrate; in birds, the junction of the toes, or the toes collectively. **b.** In compounds denoting parts of the foot of a mollusc: as EPIPODIUM, MESOPODIUM, METAPODIUM, PROPODIUM.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Podion*, *Podium*, applied by Illiger to the junction of the toes at the extremity of the *tarsus*, upon which the leg rests in birds; to the inferior part of the limb, comprehending, before, the *carpus, metacarpus*, and toes; behind, the *tarsus, metatarsus*, and toes in the *Mammifera*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

3. *Bot.* A footstalk or other supporting part. (Chiefly in compounds.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Podium*, *Podus*, a stalk, or receptacle, or torus; used only in Greek compounds.

Podler (pɒ·dləɹ). *Sc.* and *north.* Also **poadler, poodler, puddler.** [An altered or differentiated form of next.] A young coal-fish: see quot. 1838.

1835 S. OLIVER *Rambles Northumbld.*, etc. 23 By September they increase to about a foot in length, and are then called poodlers. 1838 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 6. 173 When young it is called with us the Podlie; when somewhat larger the Podler; and when full grown the Coal-sey, or Black-coal-sey. 1859 W. WHITE *Northumbld. & Border* xix. 273 Codlings and puddlers. 1875 G. C. DAVIES *Rambles Sch. Field-Club* XXXV. 262 Occasionally we got a gurnet or a 'poadler'.

Podley (pɒ·dli). *Sc.* Forms: 6 **podlo**, 7 **pudlo**, 7–8 **podly, -lay**, 8–9 **-lie**, 9 **podle, -ley, poddle, -lie.** [In 16th c. *podlo'* for *podlock*, early form of POLLACK, q. v. (Cf. *banno'*, *banna*, *bannie*, from BANNOCK, *haddo'*, *haddie*, from HADDOCK, etc.)]

The fry or young of the coal-fish (*Pollachius* or *Merlangus carbonarius*); also, the true pollack (*Pollachius pollachius*). Cf. PODLER, POLLACK.

1525 in *Exc. e Libris Dom. Jac. V* (Bann. Cl.) 8 Bukez, solis, podlois. 1684 SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. III. 23 *Asellus fuscus*:..a Podly. 1698 M. MARTIN *Voy. St. Kilda* (1749) 16 There are also..Pudloes, Herring, and many more. 1753 MAITLAND *Hist. Edin.* II. 189 Perches, Podlays, Skate. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 537 A few small cod, podlies, and flounders. 1806 D. GRAHAM *Writings* (1883) II. 220 Lobsters, partans, podles. 1838 [see prec.]. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 209 The podley is hardly to be regarded as a dainty for the table. 1896 J. H. CAMPBELL *Wild Life Scot.* 131 Among the poddles, as the young of the saithe and lythe are called.

Podo- (pɒdo), before a vowel **pod-**, a. Gr. *ποδο-*, combining form of *πούς, ποδ-* a foot, an element in terms of Natural History, etc.: e. g.

Po·dobranch (-brænk) *Zool.* [Gr. *βράγχια* gills], a breathing organ of crustaceans attached to the legs; a foot-gill; so **Podobranchial** (-bræ·ŋkiăl) *a.*, of or pertaining to podobranchs or foot-gills; **Podobranchiate** (-bræ·ŋkiĕt) *a.*, having or provided with foot-gills (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Po·docarp** *Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], a footstalk bearing the fruit of a plant (Webster *Suppl.* 1879). **Podoca·rpous** *a.*, *Bot.*, of or akin to the genus *Podocarpus*, N.O. *Taxaceæ*, containing coniferous trees of tropical Asia and Australasia. **Podoce·phalous** *a.*, *Bot.* [Gr. *κεφαλή* head], bearing a head of flowers on a long footstalk. ‖**Podogynium** (-dʒi·niŏm) *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *γυνή* female], = BASIGYNIUM; so **Po·dogyn, -gyne** [F. *podogyne*], in same sense; **Podogynous** (-pɒ·dʒinəs) *a.*; **Podo·logy** [F. *podologie*], the science which treats

of the foot; also, a treatise on the foot; so **Podo'logist.** **Po'domancy** [Gr. *μαντεία* divination], divination from signs derived from inspection of the feet (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Podo'meter** = PEDOMETER 1. † **Podo'metry:** see quots. **Po'doscaph** [Gr. *σκάφος* ship], a canoe-shaped float attached to the foot, or a pair of these, for moving on water; also, a water-velocipede, or boat propelled by treadles like a bicycle; hence **Po'doscapher. Podo'scopy** = *podomancy.* **Podosomatous** (-sō^{u}'mătəs) *a.*, *Zool.*, of or pertaining to the *Podosomata* or sea-spiders, an order of *Arthropoda* having long many-jointed legs; syn. with *Pycnogonidæ.* **Po'dosperm** *Bot.* [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed], the stalk of a seed; = FUNICULUS 3. **Podosto'matous** *a.*, *Zool.* [Gr. *στόμα* mouth], belonging to the *Podostomata*, a group of *Arthropoda* characterized by having a foot-like mouth. ‖ **Podothe'ca** *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *θηκή* sheath], the scaly leg-covering of a bird or reptile; also, the sheath covering the leg of an insect; hence **Podothe'cal** *a.*

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 182 The epipodite (so-called) of the first maxilliped represents the base, stem and lamina of a *podobranch. 1882 J. S. GARDNER in *Nature* XXV. 229/1 There are fruits from Sheppey which I believe to be *podocarpous, one at least seeming identical with *P[odocarpus] elata* of Queensland. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Podocephalus*.., applied to plants that have flowers united into heads borne upon long peduncles ..; *podocephalous. 1879 in WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Podogynium*, ..a fleshy and solid projection which..serves to support the ovary..; a *podogyne. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Podogyn*, shortened form of the word *Podogynium.* 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* Pref. 7 Diseases of the Nails, Immoderate Perspiration of the Feet, &c...which merit the attention of the *Podologist. *Ibid.* Pref. 6 It might .. be ranked under the new title of *Podology, embracing the whole Art of Preserving the Feet. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, **Podometer*, or *Pedometer.* 1775 in ASH. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Podemetry*, foot measure, or a measuring by the foot. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Podimetry*, (Greek) a measuring by the foot. 1693 RYMER *Short View Tragedy* 119 They must have played bare foot: the spectators would not have been content without seeing their Podometry. 1858 *Chamb. Jrnl.* X. 340/2 Heer Ochsner of Rotterdam..astonished his countrymen by appearing on the Maas, wearing a *podoscaph fifteen feet long on each foot, and holding a pole, flattened at one end as a paddle, in his hand. 1864 in WEBSTER. [1868 *Lond. Society* Nov. 414 The latest novelty in the velocipede line is the podoscaphe or vélocipède-marin.] 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Podoscaph*, a foot boat; one in which canoe-shaped floats are attached to or support the feet. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 6/3 It bears the peculiar name of podoscaph, and is a sort of tiny raft. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 4/2 The treatises also contain occasional digressions on onychomancy,..*podoscopy, spasmatomancy. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. IX. (ed. 2) 235 A species..of the curious group of *podosomatous crustaceans, resembling a transparent spider, without head or body. 1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 22 When a seed bends back suddenly in a direction contrary to its *podosperm..it is *reclined* by its proper direction. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 234 A fully developed ovule is usually attached to the placenta by a short stalk, called the funiculus, podosperm, or umbilical cord. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 46 The naked part of the leg is covered, like the bill, by a hardened, thickened, modified integument, which varies in texture between corneous and leathery. This is called the *podotheca. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 511 The *podotheca* or covering of the tarsus. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Podothecal.

Podophthalmate (pɒdɒfθæ'lmĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot + *ὀφθαλμός* eye + -ATE 2.] Having the eye at the end of a movable stalk, stalk-eyed; of or pertaining to the stalk-eyed crustaceans. So † **Podophtha'lma, -tha'lmia, -thalma'ta** [mod.L. pl.], an order of Crustacea, including those with eyes set on movable foot-stalks, as crabs and lobsters; **Podophtha'lmian,** *a.*, pertaining to the *Podophthalmia*; *sb.*, a member of the *Podophthalmia*; **Podophtha'lmatous, Podophtha'lmic,** *adjs.* = *podophthalmate*; **Podophtha'lmite,** the distal joint of the eye-stalk in podophthalmate Crustacea; hence **Podophthalmi'tic** *a.*; **Podophtha'lmous** *a.* = *podophthalmate.*

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 762/1 A corresponding structure is observed in certain Podophthalmia. *Ibid.* 756/1 This dorsal shield..occurs among the whole of the Podophthalmians. 1841–71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 442 In the two highest orders of Crustacea, hence called Podophthalmia, the eyes are placed at the extremity of moveable pedicles articulated with the first cephalic ring of the external skeleton. 1855 GOSSE *Marine Zool.* I. 116 Among the *Podophthalma*, or Stalk-eyed Crustacea, the Shrimps or Sand-raisers..burrow in sand, mostly in shallow water. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 990 *Podophthalmous*, applied by Desmarest and Leach to a vast number of the Crustaceae, having the eyes placed at the extremity of a mobile peduncle. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 713 The Podophthalmata, or Stalk-eyed Crustaceans. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 369 The organisation of the Stomatopoda is more Edriophthalmian..than Podophthalmian. *Ibid.* 315 The peduncles of the eye..are composed of two joints, a small proximal basiophthalmite, and a larger terminal podophthalmite. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 265 A point of affinity to the Podophthalmate Malacostraca. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* vi. 341 Podophthalmatous Crustacea.

Podophyllous (pɒdɒfi'ləs), *a.* [f. Gr. *ποδο-*, PODO- + *φύλλον* leaf + -OUS.]

1. *Entom.* Having, as some insects, compressed leaf-like locomotive organs or feet.

1858 in MAINE *Expos. Lex.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. *Zool.* In *podophyllous tissue*, the layer of tissue composed of leaf-like vascular lamellæ beneath the coronary cushion of a horse's hoof.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Podophyllum** (pɒdɒfi'lŏm). [mod. Bot. L., f. Gr. *ποδο-*, PODO- + *φύλλον* leaf.] **a.** *Bot.* A genus of *Ranunculaceæ* with two known species, *P. peltatum* of eastern N. America, and *P. Emodi* of the Himalayas, having long thick creeping rhizomes, large long-stalked palmately lobed leaves, and a solitary white flower. **b.** *Pharm.* The dried rootstock of *P. peltatum.* Also *attrib.* Hence **Podophy'llic** *a. Chem.*, of or pertaining to podophyllum; esp. in *podophyllic acid*, a crystalline acid obtained from podophyllin; **Podophy'llin** *Chem.*, a yellow bitter resin having cathartic properties, obtained from the dried rhizome of *P. peltatum*; = *resin of podophyllum.*

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Table I. (1788) 292 *Podophyllum*, Duck's-Foot, or May Apple. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (1855) s. v., The root or rhizoma, *Podophyllum* (Ph. U. S.), is purgative in the dose of 20 grains. 1863 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 457 The action of podophyllin is favourably contrasted with that of calomel. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 53 Podophyllin. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 183 The resin or Podophylline is a pale greenish-brown amorphous powder. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 471 Podophyllum acts as a purgative like jalap, but more slowly and more continuously.

‖ **Podostemon** (pɒdɒ,stī'mŏn). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. PODO- + Gr. *στήμων*, taken as = stamen: from the two stamens with filaments united for about half their length.] The typical genus of the N.O. *Podostemaceæ*, comprising moss-like aquatic herbs with apetalous flowers, natives chiefly of S. America. So **Podostemaceous** (-ē'ʃəs) *a.*, belonging to this order; **Podoste'mad** [cf. ARAD], a plant of this order.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 482 Hypogynous Exogens. *Rutales*. .. *Podostemaceæ*.—Podostemads. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. xliii. 71 This stream is rapid, ..with many podostemons at the bottom. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 303 The wet stones were covered with Podostemads, herbaceous branched floating plants, with the habit of liverworts.

‖ **Podura** (pɒdi'ūră). *Entom.* [mod. L. *podūra* (Linn. 1748), f. Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot + *οὐρά* tail.] A genus of apterous insects, having a terminal forked springing organ; hence known as springtails. Hence **Podu'ran,** *a.*, of or pertaining to the genus *Podura*; *sb.*, an insect of this genus or of the family *Poduridæ*; so **Podu'rid** *a.* and *sb.*; **Podu'roid** *a.*, having the form or character of the *Poduridæ.*

1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 129 Pray look at these scales of the podura in the engiscope. 1848 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* xii. (1872) 498 In one curious family, that of the Poduras or Spring-tails, the leap is accomplished by the sudden extension of the tail. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 58 The Podura scale appears to be a compound structure. 1883 LESLIE *Nordenskiold's Voy. Vega* 60 Arachnids, acarids, and podurids occur most plentifully.

Po'dware. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7–9 podder. [Of uncertain origin: cf. CODWARE, 1398–1699, and PEDWARE, 1577–1706.

The first element suggests POD of pease, beans, etc.; but this is not known till nearly a century later than *podware*, which moreover in quot. 1584 is not applied to pulse or podded plants, and in quot. 1677 has not necessarily such a sense. In quot. 1736 the word is associated with *pod.*]

Field crops; fodder for cattle; in later use app. pulse, or plants having pods (= CODWARE).

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. vi. (1886) 179 [They] suffocate and spoile .. grasse, greene corne, and ripe corne, and all other podware. 1617 in *Archæol. Cant.* (1902) XXV. 15 Robert Terry [presented] for profaning of the Sabbath Day, by binding barley, and powting [=stacking] of podder, upon the Sabbath. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 153 Dill or Lentills, in poor stone-brash land, which are a good podware for cattle. 1736 J. LEWIS *Hist. Thanet* Gloss. s. v. *Libbit*, The hagister..was in the poddergrotten. *Ibid.*, *Podder*, podware; beans, peas, tares or vetches, or such ware as has pods. 1794 BOYS *Agric. Kent* 31 Some farmers are bound to sow wheat after beans, on land not fit to produce beans; to leave a quantity of podware gratten, for a wheat tilth on farms where some sorts of podware is the worst tilth known to sow wheat upon. [1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, *Podder*, a name given to beans, peas, tares, vetches, or such vegetables as have pods.]

† **Po'dy co'dy,** app. a perversion of *body of God*, in a profane oath.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. XXXVI. 298 By the Pody Cody, I have fished fair.

Poë, variant of POI, Hawaiian food.

Poë-bird (pō^{u}·i,bɔ̄ɹd). Also 8 poy-, pue-bird. [See quot. 1865.] The name (given by Capt. Cook, and retained in some English ornithological works) for a New Zealand bird, *Prosthemadera novæzelandiæ*, now called by the English settlers PARSON-BIRD (q. v.) and by the Maoris *tui.*

1777 COOK *Voy.* I. 97 Amongst the small birds I must not omit to particularise the wattle-bird, poy-bird. [In the illustration spelt *poe-bird*, and in the list of plates, *poi.*] *Ibid.* 98 The poy-bird is less than the wattle-bird. The feathers of a fine mazarine blue. *a* 1802 BOWLES *Poems* (1855) I. 120 The poe-bird flits,..With silver neck and blue enamelled wing. 1865 HOWITT *Discov. Austr.* I. vi. 111 This bird they called the Wattle-bird, and also the Poy-bird, from its having little tufts of curled hair under its throat, which they called poies, from the Otaheitan word for ear-rings. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* XXV. 470 The splendidly decorated Poe Birds. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* (ed. 9) 237 Poë Honey-eater.

‖ **Pœcile** (pī'silē). [a. Gr. (*ἡ*) *ποικίλη* (*στόα*) the many-coloured or painted porch.] Name of a famous portico in the market-place of ancient Athens, adorned with a variety of paintings.

1819 in *Pantologia.* 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 139/1 The only reward Miltiades obtained after the battle of Marathon, was to have his picture drawn..and to have it hung up in the Pœcile. 1846 ELLIS *Elgin Marb.* I. 32 The Pœcile, or painted piazzas.

† **Pœcilite** (pī'silait). *Geol. Obs.* [f. Gr. *ποικίλος* variegated + ITE 1; after F. *terrain pœcilien* (Brongniart 1829).] A name proposed for the Upper New Red Sandstone (cf. Ger. *bunter sandstein*). Hence **Pœcilitic** (pīsili'tik) *a.*, of or pertaining to the Upper New Red Sandstone formation; = POIKILITIC.

1832 W. D. CONYBEARE in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 379 The next geological group..beneath the lias and oolites, is that..characterized by the new red or variegated sandstone... I will venture therefore to propose the term Pœcilite..and hence denominate the group, pœcilitic. Brongniart has already adopted the Gallicised form *Pœcilien.*

Pœcilo- (pī'silo), before a vowel **pœcil-**, from Gr. *ποικίλο-ς* many-coloured, variegated, various, a formative element in scientific terms (in some of which the form POIKILO- is preferred).

Pœ'ciloblast, Pœ'cilocyte: see POIKILO-. **Pœ'cilomere** [Gr. *μέρος* part], a part of the body of an animal in which variations of colouring tend to appear first. **Pœ'cilonym** [Gr. *ὄνομα, ὄνυμα* name], one of various names for the same thing; a synonym (*Cent. Dict.* cites Wilder); hence **Pœcilony'mic** *a.*, having a variety of names; **Pœcilo'nymy. Pœ'cilopod** [Gr. *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot] *Zool.*, a member of the *Pœcilopoda*, in Latreille's classification (now abandoned), a division of *Crustacea* distinguished by limbs of varied form and functions, e. g. prehensory, ambulatory, branchial, and natatory; hence **Pœcilo'podous** *a.* **Pœcilothe'rmal, Pœcilothe'rmic:** see POIKILO-.

1905 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 342/1 That colour-variations tended to appear first of all on certain definite parts of the body, and that these parts, to which the name '*pœcilomeres' had been given, were common to mammals and birds alike. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 528/2 An unusually complete combination of *pœcilonymic ambiguities. *Ibid.* 517/1 Terminological variety, such as occurs in the passages quoted, may be expressed by the single word, *pœcilonymy. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xiv. 22 The *Pœcilopods differ [from the Branchiopods] by the different structure and uses of their legs, which are not branching. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1308 Characteristic species of Pœcilopods.

Poed, Poeir, obs. forms of POOD, POWER.

Poele, obs. var. of POLE *sb.*

Poem (pō^{u}'ĕm). Also 6–7 **poeme.** [a. F. *poème* (in Oresme 14th c.), ad. L. *poēma* (in Plautus), a. Gr. *πόημα* (4th c. B.C.), early variant of *ποίημα*, thing made or created, work, fiction, poetical work, f. *ποιεῖν* (early variant *ποεῖν*) to make. (If *ποίημα* had been the form introduced, the L. would have been *pœēma.*)

The word *poem* was app. not in use till about the middle of the 16th c.; the sense was previously, from 14th c., expressed by POESY, sense 2.]

1. 'The work of a poet, a metrical composition' (Johnson); 'a work in verse' (Littré); a composition of words expressing facts, thoughts, or feelings in poetical form; a piece of poetry.

In addition to the metrical or verse form, critics have generally held that in order to deserve the name of 'poem', the theme and its treatment must possess qualities which raise it above the level of ordinary prose. Cf. quots. 1575, 1689, 1841, and see POETRY.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Poema*..a poetes inuencion, a poeme [*ed.* 1538 *Poema*..a poetes warke]. 1568 T. HOWELL (*title*) The Arbor of Amitie; wherin is comprised pleasant Poems and pretie Poesies. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Notes Eng. Verse* § 1 in *Steele Glas*, etc. (Arb.) 31 The first and most necessarie poynt..meete to be considered in making of a delectable poeme is this, to ground it upon some fine inuention. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 23 And may not I..say that the holy Dauids Psalmes are a diuine Poem? 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. 1641 II. 126 Even one alone verse sometimes makes a perfect Poeme. *Ibid.*, These three voices differ, as the thing done, the doing, and the doer; the thing fain'd, the faining and the fainer; so the *Poeme*, the *Poesy*, and the *Poet.* 1689–90 TEMPLE *Ess. Poetry* Wks. 1731 I. 236 The Frame and Fabrick of a true Poem, must have something both sublime and just, amazing and agreeable. — *Ess. Learning* Ibid. I. 298 The Language is but the Colouring; 'tis the Conception, the Invention, the Judgment, that give the Life and Spirit, as well as Beauty and Force, to a Poem. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Poem*, a Piece of Poetry, a Composition in Verse, a Copy of Verses. 1736 SHERIDAN in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 181, I have written a little pretty birth-day poem against St. Andrew's day, which..I intend for Faulkner to publish. 1828 WHATELY in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 290/1 Any composition in verse, (and none that is not,) is

always called, whether good or bad, a Poem, by all who have no favourite hypothesis to maintain. 1841-4 EMERSON *Ess., Poet* Wks. (Bohn) I. 157 It is not metres, but a metre-making argument, that makes a poem. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. Notes 319 Everything in this poem is perfect, thought and expression, Rhythm; but one thing it lacks: 'tis not a poem at all.

b. *transf.* (or in more general sense): Applied to a composition which, without the form, has some quality or qualities in common with poetry.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 28 Xenophon, who did imitate so excellently.. the portraiture of a iust Empire vnder the name of Cyrus, (as Cicero sayth of him) made therein an absolute heroicall Poem. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* III. xxxiv. 6 Do you know what a play is? or what a poem is? or what a novel is?..You had better first, for clearness' sake, call all the three 'poems', for all the three are so, when they are good, whether written in verse or prose.

2. *fig.* Something (other than a composition of words) of a nature or quality akin or likened to that of poetry (with various implications, as artistic or orderly structure, noble expression, ideal beauty or gracefulness, etc.).

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 270 He who would not be frustrate of his hope to write well hereafter in laudable things, ought him selfe to be a true Poem, that is a composition and patterne of the best and honourablest things. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 421 There being as much continued and coherent Sence..in this Real Poem of the World, as there is in any Phantastick Poem made by men. 1843 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 108 We shall have no need to write poetry—our life will be a real poem. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 24 The Celts ..gave to the seas and mountains names which are poems, and imitate the pure voices of nature. 1899 W. R. INGE *Chr. Mysticism* 47 The world is the poem of the Word to the glory of the Father.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poem-book, -maker, -play.*

1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* (1807) II. 268 The public did not concern itself about the poem, or the poem-maker. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk. Jas. I & Chas. I* (1898) 138 A small brown Poem-Book, not without merit. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xlvii, 'The Royal Poet' straightway put in type His poem-prophecy.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Po·emet, Po·emlet** [see -ET, -LET], a small or short poem; **Po·eming**, composing or reciting of poems.

1799 W. TAYLOR *Let. to Southey* 4 Jan. in Robberds *Mem.* I. 244 A regular receptacle for those *poemets ..which aspire only to a summer's existence. 1871 H. B. FORMAN *Living Poets* 210 We have a great number of these 'poemets', bearing no traces whatever of the triviality of occasional verses. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 84. 2/2 Loud Tawkings and *Poemings. 1887-9 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* II. 369 Many of her verses she set to music, especially one little *poemlet, which I remember to this day.

Poema·tic, *a. nonce-wd.* [ad. Gr. *ποιηματικ-ός* (Plut.) poetical.] Of the nature of a poem.

c 1819 COLERIDGE in *Rem.* (1836) II. 321 Conscious of the inferiority, the too poematic *minus*-dramatic nature of his versification.

Poemell, obs. form of POMMEL.

Pœnal(l, obs. form of PENAL.

Pœne, obs. var. PAIN, after L. *pœna* (B. Jonson).

Poephagous (pōi·e·făgəs), *a. Zool. rare.* [f. mod.L. *Poëphaga*, neut. pl. (ad. Gr. *ποηφάγος* (Arist.) eating grass or herbs, f. *πόα* grass + *-φάγος* eating) + -OUS.] Eating grass or herbs, herbivorous; *spec.* belonging to the division *Poephaga* of marsupials.

1866 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 294 Some palæontologists ..have been led astray in .. referring it to the 'Poephagous Potoroos and Kangaroos'.

Poer, obs. form of POOR, POWER.

‖ **Poe·sis.** *Obs.* The Greek and Latin word for POESY, formerly sometimes used by English writers.

1567 DRANT *Horace* To Rdr., We write Poesis apace, and of all handes, sum wyth more, and sum with lesse learnynge. 1613 W. SHIPTON *Elegy on Sir T. Overbury* O.'s Wks. (1856) 11 This cynosure in neat poesis.

Poeste, var. of POUSTIE *Obs.*, power.

Poesy (pōu·ĕsi), *sb. arch.* Forms: *α.* 4 **poysi**, 4-5 **poisie**, 4-6 **poysee**, **-ie**, **-ye**, 5 **poise**, **-ei**, **poyse**, **poyesye**, 6 **poisee**, **poysy**. *β.* 5-7 **poesie**, **-ye**, 6 **poesi**, **poezi**, 5- **poesy**. See also POSY. [a. OF. *poesie* (*c* 1335 in Godef. *Compl.*) = Pr., Sp., Pg., It. *poesia*, Common Romanic formation for L. *poēsis* poetry, a poem, a. Gr. *πόησις*, early variant of *ποίησις* a making, creation, poetry, a poem. *Poesy* and *poet* occur earlier than *poetry* and *poem.*]

1. = POETRY. **a.** Poetical work or composition; poems collectively or generally; poetry in the concrete, or as a form of literature. (In early use sometimes including composition in prose, esp. works of imagination or fiction: cf. POEM 1 b, POET 1 b, c, POETRY 2.) Now an archaic or poetical synonym of *poetry.*

13.. *Min. Poems fr. Vern. MS.* lv. vii. 73 Salamon seide in his poysi, He holdeþ wel betere wiþ an hounde þat is lykyng and Ioly,.. þen be a Leon,..Cold and ded. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 406 Thanne piped pees of poysye a note. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 148 Ovide .. tolde a tale in Poesie, Which toucheth unto Jelousie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 418 As put is in poise and prikkit be Ouyd. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* 108 b, The perfeccion that poesie, paintyng, and writing, is now brought vnto. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 49 It is not ryming and versing, that maketh Poesie. One may bee a Poet without versing, and a versifier without Poetry. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. iv. § 1. 1636 DENHAM *Destr. Troy* Pref. (1656) A iij, Poesy is of so subtle a spirit, that in pouring out of one Language into another, it will all evaporate. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. Antients* Wks. 1730 I. 14 The Satirical poesy of the Greeks. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 405 Among the arts of English poesie, the most ample and most curious is an anonymous work. 1883 *Congregationalist* Mar. 265 The Book of Psalms ..is the Paradise of Devotion, the Holy Land of poesy.

b. Poetry in the abstract, or as an art. **c.** Faculty or skill of poetical composition.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 79 O pierlesse Poesye, where is then the place? 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. i. (Arb.) 79 Poesie is a skill to speake & write harmonically. 1636 B. JONSON *Discov.* Wks. 1641 II. 125 A Poeme..is the worke of the Poet..Poesy is his skill, or Crafte of making. 1686 DRYDEN *Ode Anne Killigrew* 57 O gracious God! how far have we Profaned thy heavenly gift of Poesy! 1807 OPIE in *Lect. Paint.* ii. (1848) 273 Painting..has been called mute poesy. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* ii. 29 In *Lycidas* (1637) we have reached the high-water mark of English Poesy and of Milton's own production.

2. (with *a* and *pl.*) **†a.** A poetical composition; a poem. (In early use often in more general sense: An inventive or imaginative composition.)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 124 þei prechen cronyclis & poisies & newe fyndynges of hem self. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 143 He made wonder poysies as it were of alle þe stories of holy writte. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xii. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 67 b/2 He reherced many poysies. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poyse, *poema.* 1552 HULOET s.v., He that maketh such poesies or Balades. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 5 [She] pronounced a proper poezi in English rime and meeter. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 9 Holding them but as diuine poesies. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* I. (1728) 194 Thymætes..wrote a poesy called Phrygia. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. iii, George of Clarence hath some pretty taste in the arts and poesies.

†b. *pl.* Poetical expressions or ideas. *Obs. rare.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) I. 57 Thy wordes may nat be queynt, ne of subtel maner understandinge. Freel-witted people supposen in suche poesies to be begyled.

†3. A motto or short inscription (often metrical, and usually in patterned or formal language). *rare.* = POSY 1, q. v. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 65 And for youre poyesye these lettres v. ye take, Of this name Maria, only for hir sake. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 65 b, The tente was replenished and decked with this poysie [1568 GRAFTON poesie], 'After busie laboure commeth victorious reste'. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiii. 172 b, There was also a superscripcion or poisee written on the toppe of the crosse, derectely ouer his head, in Greke, in Latin, and Hebrue letters. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 450 Out of the very same old word .. is framed his Poesie, or woorde upon his armes (Ic Dien) I serve. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 148, 151. 1602 — *Ham.* III. ii. 162 Is this a Prologue, or the Poesie of a Ring? 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 975/4 A Wedding Ring with this Poesie ('In thee my Choice, I do rejoyce').

†4. A bunch of flowers, a nosegay: = POSY 2.

1572 GASCOIGNE (*title*) A Hundreth sundrie Flowres bounde up in one small Poesie. 1629 R. HILL *Pathw. Piety* (ed. Pickering) I. 146 They do offer a poesy of flowers. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 64/1 Sweet William is (as it were) many Pinks growing together like a Poesy.

5. *attrib.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* Prol. 25 There ben some that speken their poysye mater in Frenche, of whiche speche the Frenche men have as good a fantasye as we have in hering of Frenche mennes English. 1861 *Our Eng. Home* 151 The banqueting stuff..spread out on painted trenchers and 'poesie roundels'.

Hence **Po·esy** *v. intr.* (*rare*), to compose or recite poetry; to speak or write poetically.

1819 KEATS *Isabella* ix, So said, his erewhile timid lips grew bold, And poesied with hers in dewy rhyme.

Poet (pōu·ĕt). Forms: 4-5 **poyete**, 4-6 **poete**, 5 **poiet**, **poyte**, 5-6 **poite**, **poiett**, **poyet**, 4- **poet.** [ME. *poete*, *poyete*, a. OF. *poete* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *poète*, ad. L. *poēta* (Plaut.), ad. Gr. *ποιητής*, early variant of *ποιητής* maker, author, poet (cf. MAKER 5), f. *ποεῖν*, *ποιεῖν* to make, create, produce. (An early Gr. word in L.; if introduced at a later period, the form would have been *poēēta.*)]

1. One who composes poetry; a writer of poems; an author who writes in verse. (The ordinary current use; but now usually implying more or less of the sense of c.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8531 (Cott.) Homer þe poet [*v. r.* poete], þat was sa rijf, Liued in þis king dauid lijf. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xvii. 28 As also summe of 3oure poetis seiden, And we ben also the kynde of hym. 14.. *Nom.* in WR.-WÜLCKER 680/23 *Hic poeta*, a poyte. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 204 Sekys poece [= poets'] tayllys. 1526 TINDALE *Tit.* i. 12 Won..which was a poyet of their owne. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* viii. 2 Skorner of poitis and sklanderus knaif! 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 146 In Fez there are diuers most excellent poets, which make verses in thair owne mother toong. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Poet*, a verse maker. 1623 COCKERAM, *Poet*, one that writeth well in verse. 1665 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* (1889) 67 Shakespeare..was the man who of all modern, and perhaps ancient poets, had the largest and most comprehensive soul. 1755 JOHNSON, *Poet* .. a writer of poems, one who writes in measure. 1765 GRAY *Shaks.* 6 Fumbling baronets and poets small. 1844 BECK & FELTON tr. *Munk's Metres* 30 The poets have not all avoided the hiatus with equal care. 1876 STEDMAN *Victorian Poets* 281 She [Miss Rossetti] is a poet of a profound and serious cast.

†b. Formerly (after Gr. and L. use), in more general sense: One who makes or composes works of literature; an author, writer. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 129 Plato þe Poyete I [Studie] put him furste to Boke. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XII. 260 þus þe poete [Aristotle] preues þat þe pecok for his fetheres is reuerenced. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 306 All þat poites haue pricket of his prise dedis, I haue no tome for to telle. *Ibid.* 9075 Ne noght put in our proses by poiettes of old. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 319 Cornelius Nepos an eloquent Poet in the time of Cicero. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. 163 The soul, ..in sleep or dreams,..seems to be surprized with unexpected answers and reparties, though it self were all the while the poet and inventor of the whole fable. 1755 JOHNSON, *Poet*, an inventor, an author of fiction; [etc.].

c. In select or emphatic sense: A writer in verse (or sometimes, in extended use, in elevated prose) distinguished by special imaginative or creative power, insight, sensibility, and faculty of expression. (Cf. POETRY 3 c.)

1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Poet, a connyng man, *poete.* 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii, Semblably they that make verses, expressynge therby none other lernynge but the crafte of versifyeng, be nat of auncient writers named poetes, but onely called versifyers. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 Onely the Poet .. lifted vp with the vigor of his owne inuention, dooth growe in effect, another nature, in making things either better then Nature bringeth forth, or quite a newe formes such as neuer were in Nature. *Ibid.* 29 That fayning notable images of vertues, vices, or what els, with that delightfull teaching which must be the right describing note to know a Poet by. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 12 The Poets eye in a fine frenzy rolling, Doth glance from heauen to earth, from earth to heauen. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. iii, Euery man, that writes in verse is not a Poet. 1636 — *Discov.* Wks. 1641 II. 125 Hence he is call'd a Poet, not hee which writeth in measure only, but that fayneth and formeth a fable, and writes things like the Truth. 1806 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* iv, The Poets, who on earth have made us heirs Of truth and pure delight by heavenly lays! 1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 80 Whom, then, shall we call poets? Those who are so constituted, that emotions are the links of association by which their ideas, both sensuous and spiritual, are connected together. 1844 LONGF. *Rain in Summer* 61 These, and far more than these, The Poet sees! ..He can behold Things manifold That have not yet been wholly told. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. i. § 14 The power of assembling, by the help of the imagination, such images as will excite these feelings [of 'noble emotion'], is the power of the poet or literally of the 'Maker'. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* viii. 249 Aristophanes is essentially a poet—a poet in what we are apt to call the modern sense of the word—a poet, that is to say, endowed with original intuitions into nature, and with the faculty of presenting to our minds the most varied thoughts and feelings in language uniformly beautiful, as the creatures of an exuberant and self-swayed fancy.

d. Hence occas., by further extension, applied rhetorically in a similar sense to one who practises any of the fine arts.

1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav. East* 27/1 The poet,..—and by poet I mean whoever creates ideas in bronze, in stone, in prose, in words, or in rhymes—the poet stirs up only what is imperishable in nature and in the human heart. 1874 F. CROWEST (*title*) The Great Tone-Poets, being short memoirs of the greater Musical Composers.

e. *Poet-in-ordinary*, a poet ordinarily employed (after *physician-in-ordinary*, etc., ORDINARY *sb.* 18 b). *Poet-laureate*: see LAUREATE *a.* 2 b.

c 1386-1843 [see LAUREATE *a.* 2 b]. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, Godson of the great earl, and poet-in-ordinary to the band. 1894 A. BIRRELL *Ess.* xiv. 159 Spenser is sometimes [erroneously] reckoned amongst the Poets Laureate.

Hence **Poet-laureateship** = LAUREATESHIP **a.**

c 1836 in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 523/2 Pye, the predecessor of Mr. Southey in the poet-laureateship, died in 1813. 1874 C. GIBBON *Casquet of Lit.* V. 358/2 Thomas Warton .. obtained the poet-laureateship in 1785.

f. *fig.* Applied to a singing bird.

a 1748 THOMSON *Ode*, O nightingale! best poet of the grove. 1892 TENNYSON *Throstle* i, Summer is coming, summer is coming, I know it, I know it, I know it...Yes, my wild little Poet.

g. A scholar in the poetry class: see POETRY 6.

1679 *Trials of White & Other Jesuits* 47, *Parry.* I was a Student there, a Poet.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** appositive (= 'that is a poet'), as *poet-actor, -artist, -bird,* **†** *-bounce* (BOUNCE *sb.*1 4 b), *-boy, -dramatist, -historian, -humorist, -musician, -novelist, -painter, -pilgrim, -ploughman, -preacher, -priest, -princess, -saint, -satirist, -seer, -singer,* **†** *sucker* (= 'sucking' poet), *-thinker, -warrior, -woman,* etc. etc. **b.** Of or pertaining to a poet, as *poet-craft, -heart, -nectar, -song, -soul,* etc.; so *poet-wise* adv. **c.** objective, etc., as **†** *poet-ape* (one who apes a poet), *-hater, -whipper, -worship.* **d.** instrumental, etc., as *poet-haunted, -hymned* adjs.; *poet-like* adj. and adv.

1867 *Cornh. Mag.* XV. 666 The stage whereon the *poet-actor was enacting the counterfeit presentment of a king. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 The cause why it [Poesie] is not esteemed in Englande, is the fault of *Poet-apes, not Poets. 1817-18 SHELLEY *Rosalind & Helen* 1119 The nightingale .. the *poet-bird. 1632 BROME *Novella* Prol., Those *Poet-Bownces that write English Greeke. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* VIII. iii, A dream that had hovered over the *poet-boy. 1863 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 354 A controversy ..lost in the mysteries of *poetcraft. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 48 Not onely in these *Mysomouσοι*, *Poet-haters, but in all that kinde of people, who seek a prayse by dispraysing others. 1895 MARIE CORELLI *Sorrows of Satan* xxxiii, The beautiful autumnal woods of *poet-haunted

Warwickshire. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* Concl. viii, Is no woman far above me Found more worthy of thy *poet-heart than such a one as I? 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 331 The poet-satirist succeeds the *poet-humorist. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* vi. 7 Yet dooth not David enlarge his sorowe *Poetlike. 1842 Tennyson *Edwin Morris* 27 Poet-like he spoke. 1839 Clough *Early Poems* ii. 19 A fount Of the true *poet-nectar whence to fill The golden urns of verse. 1892 Zangwill *Childr. Ghetto* I. 164, I sing .. the restoration of our land, and become the *poet-patriot of my people. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Vis. Poets* Concl. ii, That same green forest where had gone The *poet-pilgrim. 1886 Blackie in 19*th Cent.* Apr. 534 The great *poet-ploughman of Scotland. 1821 Byron *Elegy on Keats* ii, The *poet-priest Milman (So ready to kill man). 1847 Tennyson *Princ.* III. 256 If that strange *Poet-princess with her grand Imaginations might at all be won. 1645 R. Stable *Elegy on Quarles, Sol. Recant.* 64 A *Poet-saint he was. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* xxi, All were silent, for the *poet-singer was a favourite. 1828 Carlyle *Misc., Burns* (1857) I. 200 A true *Poet-soul, for it needs but to be struck, and the sound it yields will be music. 1614 B. Jonson *Bart. Fair* I. i, Gi' mee the man, can..giue the law to all the Poets, and *Poet-suckers i' Towne, because they are the Players Gossips. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 47, I imagine, it falleth out with these *Poet-whyppers, as with some good women, who often are sicke, but in fayth they cannot tel where. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Vis. Poets* cvii, And Sappho .. O *poet-woman! 1856 — *Aur. Leigh* v. 545 They sound strange As .. lovely *poet-words grown obsolete. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xx. (1852) 370 There is a *poet-worship, one of other Which is idolatry, and not the true Love-service of the soul to God.

e. Combinations with *poets'* or *poet's*: **poets' cassia**, the fragrant shrub anciently called *cassia*, supposed to be *Osyris alba* (see Cassia[1] 3); **Poets' Corner**, (*a*) name for a part of the south transept of Westminster Abbey, which contains the graves and monuments of several distinguished poets (called, in the *Spectator* 1711, 'the poetical Quarter': see Poetical *a.* 1); (*b*) applied humorously to a part of a newspaper or other periodical containing short poetical contributions; **poets' narcissus**, the common white narcissus, *N. poeticus*; **poets' rosemary** = *poets' cassia*.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 *Poet's Cassia, *Osyris.* 1765 Falconer *Demag.* 235 While his demure Welch goat, with lifted hoof, In *Poet's corner hangs each flimsy woof. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 417 An iron gate opens into the south cross isle; which from the number of monuments erected therein to celebrated English poets, has obtained the name of *The Poets Corner*. 1785 Crabbe *Newspaper* ad fin., The Poet's Corner is the place they choose, A fatal nursery for an infant Muse; Unlike that Corner where true Poets lie. 1881 *Antiquary* Oct. 137 Westminster Abbey: a Study on Poets' Corner. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. vi. 1110 The *Poets Rosemarie or Gardrobe, Casia Poetica L'Obelij. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Poet's Rosemary, *Osyris.*

Poetaster (pōu·ètæ·stəɹ). [a. med. or mod.L. *poëtaster* (Erasmus *Let.* 25 Mar. 1521), in It. and Sp. *poetastro*, obs. F. *poetastre* (1554 in Sainte-Palaye): see Poet and -aster.] A petty or paltry poet; a writer of poor or trashy verse; a rimester.

1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, Madam Moria..is like one of your ignorant poetasters of the time. 1601 — (*title*) The Poetaster; or, His Arraignment. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xvii. (1632) 359, I know a Poetaster, gainst whom both weake and strong,..affirme and say, he hath no skil or judgement in Poesie. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 358 Besides all this, He serv'd his Master In quality of Poetaster: And Rhimes appropriate could make, To ev'ry month in th'Almanack. 1762–71 Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 15 One Robert Whitehall, a poetaster of that age, wrote a poem called Urania, or a description of the painting at the top of the Theatre at Oxford. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 369 An envious poetaster demonstrated that Venice Preserved ought to have been hooted from the stage. 1883 J. Hawthorne *Dust* I. 201 There are always poetasters enough; but of great poets .. there are never so many as not to leave room for one or two more.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Poeta·stering** *sb.* and *a.*, acting the poetaster, composing poor or feeble verse; **Poeta·sterism, Poeta·stery, -try**, the work of a poetaster, feeble verse or versification; **Poeta·stress**, a female poetaster; **Poeta·stric, -ical** (also, erroneously, **poetastic, -tical**) *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a poetaster.

1695 Cotton tr. *Martial* II. lxxxvi. (1860) 127 Make not the echo in my verses play, After the Grecian poetastering way! 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 645 Examples .. drawn from Italianized poetasterisms. 1830 Mackintosh *Rev. of* 1688, Wks. 1846 II. 223 Mrs. Behn, a loose and paltry poetastress of that age. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VIII. 38 Fitzgerald is insulted as much for his politics as his poetastery. 1845 Thackeray *Crit. Rev.* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 83 Away with all poetastering at dinner-parties. 1858 *N. Y. Tribune* 13 Feb. 4/4 May some good genius save them from such poetastical platitudes! 1864 Webster, *Poetastry*. 1867 W. C. Hazlitt *Offspring Th. in Solit.* (1884) 232 The foregoing proverbial poemet or poetastrical proverb. 1893 *Temple Bar Mag.* XCIX. 295 His father thought his poetastic mother a fool. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 205 No more poetry or even poetastery for me.

Po·etdom. *rare.* [f. Poet + -dom.] The condition or status of a poet; poetship.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 2/2 Giving him no claim even to the honour of minor poetdom.

Poete·sque, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -esque.] Suitable for a poem.

a 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 225 Happiness is not very picturesque, or poetesque either, far less dramatic, for it is serious without being tragic.

Poetess (pōu·ètès). [f. Poet + -ess. So It. *poetessa* (Florio 1598), F. *poëtesse* (1642 in Hatz.-Darm.), Sp. *poetisa*, etc.] A female poet; a woman who composes poetry.

1530 Tindale *Answ. More* xvi. (Parker Soc.) 92 Our lady hath .. emptied her of much high learning, which, as a goodly poetess, she uttered in rhymes. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 186 The heauenly deuises of the delitious Poetesse Sappho. 1748 Lady Luxborough *Let. to Shenstone* 28 Apr., I am no Poetess; which reproachful name I would avoid, even if I were capable of acquiring it. 1830 Wordsw. in Chr. Wordsw. *Mem.* (1851) II. 226 British poetesses make but a poor figure in the 'Poems by Eminent Ladies'. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* v. 129 Among the ancients Sappho enjoyed a unique renown. She was called 'the poetess', as Homer was called 'the poet'.

Poethood (pōu·ètˌhud). [f. Poet + -hood.] The position or status of poet; the domain or fraternity of poets.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 25 Give me .. the healthy, wholesome loveliness, that shines on the face of the poethood of Britain. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 704/2 His flourishing time of poethood and peerhood when Louis Philippe was king.

Poetic (pōˌe·tik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **poetique**, 7 **-icke**, 7–8 **-ick**. [a. F. *poétique* (*a* 1400 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *poëtic-us*, a. Gr. ποιητικός, ποιητικός, f. ποί(ε)ητής Poet: see -ic. So It., Sp. *poëtico*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Belonging or proper to poets or poetry. In quot. 1610, Fictitious, fabulous.

Poetic Justice, Licence: see the sbs.

1530 Palsgr. 321/1 Poeticke in maners, *poetique*. 1585 James I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 13 This onely thing I earnestly requyre, That thou my veine Poetique so inspyre. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. City of God* XVIII. viii. (1620) 626 Her [Minerva's] originall was vnknowne, for that of Ioues braine is absolutely poetique. *a* 1687 Waller *To Ld. Admiral* Wks. (1729) 47 With courage guard, and beauty warm, our age; And lovers fill with like poetic rage. 1693 Congreve in *Dryden's Wks.* (1701) III. Introd. 4 The God of Musick and Poetique Fires. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 52 Poetic Justice, with her lifted scale. 1786 Burns *Brigs of Ayr* 38 What warm, poetic heart, but inly bleeds, And execrates man's savage, ruthless deeds! 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 127 An unjustifiable poetick licence. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, 'My friend Mr. Snodgrass has a strong poetic turn', said Mr. Pickwick. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. ii. 185 The poetic faculty.. secures to those who have it the admiration of every person.

2. a. That is a poet.

a 1640 Day *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 37 What Perseus..spoke of the Crowe-poets .. may trewlie be said .. of vs poetickepies in this adge. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 303 The great reformer of our poetry..was the poetic Earl of Surrey.

b. Of a poet or poets.

1712–14 Pope *Rape Lock* v. 124 Markt by none but quick, poetic eyes. 1780 Cowper *Table Talk* 768 'Twould thin the ranks of the poetic tribe. 1791 — *Retired Cat* 89 A long and melancholy mew, Saluting his poetic ears. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* iii. 71 Chapman was a poet worthy of our great poetic period.

3. Of the nature of poetry; consisting of or written in verse; = Poetical 3.

1656 Sir J. M[ennis] & J. S[mith] (*title*) Musarum Delicæ: or the Muses Recreation. Conteining severall Pieces of Poetique Wit. 1749 *Power Pros. Numbers* 38 When Prosaic Numbers are too much bound, the Stile is Poetic Prose; when Poetic Numbers are too free, it is Prosaic Poetry. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. 377 A poetic paraphrase of certain portions of the service.

b. Having the style or character proper to poetry as a fine art; poetically beautiful or elevated.

1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* III. vi. (1864) II. 78 Producing a vast mass of what was truly poetic. 1877 Shairp *Poetic Interpr. Nat.* viii. 110 In our own day such poetic descriptions of Nature have burst the bonds of metre altogether, and filled many a splendid page of poetic or imaginative prose.

4. Relating to or dealing with poetry. (= Poetical 4.)

a 1704 T. Brown *Prol. 1st Sat. Persius* Wks. 1730 I. 51 My verse has never yet stood trial Of Poetick Smiths. 1867 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 332 Wordsworth..talked a great deal; about 'poetic' correspondents of his own (i. e. correspondents for the sake of his poetry; especially one such who had sent him, from Canton, an excellent chest of tea).

5. Celebrated in poetry; affording a subject for poetry. (Cf. Historic *a.* 2.)

1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 489 While thro' Poetic scenes the Genius roves. 1883 Warner *Roundabout Journ.* xi. 94 When you are on the east coast of Sicily you are in the most poetic locality of the classic world.

6. In etymological sense of Gr. ποιητικός: Making, creative; relating to artistic creation. *rare.*

1872 Morris tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* I. (Cent.), Poetic philosophy is a form of knowledge having reference to the shaping of material, or to the technically correct and artistic creation of works of art. 1885 J. Martineau *Types Eth. Th.* I. 57 [God] becomes a true Creator, with poetic function (ποιητής) as disposer of the ideas.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A writer of poetry, a poet. *Obs.*

c 1650 J. Parry *To Cleveland* C.'s Wks. (1687) 286 Where all Poeticks else may truckle under. 16.. — *Elegy on Cleveland* 40 ibid. 285 'Tis your Crime T'upbraid the State-Poeticks of this time.

2. *sing.* and *pl.* That part of literary criticism which treats of poetry; also, a treatise on poetry: applied esp. to that of Aristotle.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Aristotle's *poetics* is a work infinitely valued..Horace, Vieta, Vossus, and Scaliger, have likewise published *poetics* in Latin. 1776 Burney *Hist. Mus.* I. Pref. 8 It is imagined that Plutarch took it either from his [Aristotle's] Treatise on Music, or the second book of his Poetics. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 335/2 Aristotle's genuine extant works may be divided into three classes: 1. Those relating to the philosophy of the mind... To this head may be referred .. his Rhetoric and Poetic; the last of which works is imperfect. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* xiii. 200 The principle of the Aristotelean Poetic.

3. *pl.* Poetic composition; the writing of poems.

1851 Carlyle *Sterling* III. iii. (1872) 194 Our valiant friend ..was not to be repulsed from his Poetics either by the world's coldness or by mine.

Poetical (pōˌe·tikăl), *a.* [f. L. *poëticus* (see prec.) + -al: see -ical.]

1. Of, belonging to, or proper to poets or poetry. (= Poetic *a.* 1.)

Poetical Justice, Licence: see the sbs.

c 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 5 Here art poetical be shewed. 1530 Palsgr. 44 Whiche auctors do rather by a lycence poetycall. 1654 Trapp *Comm. Job* xxxviii. 19 These are Poetical terms likewise. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 26 P 4 In the poetical Quarter [of Westminster Abbey], I found there were Poets who had no Monuments, and Monuments which had no Poets. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 135 Poetical expression includes sound as well as meaning. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. ii. 185 Keble..possessed..the gift of expressing himself in the musical form which is called poetical.

†**b.** Such as is found only in poetry or imaginative writing; fictitious, feigned, imaginary, ideal. *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

1555 *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* To Rdr., Breakynge out.. into theyr poetycall fictions. 1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 168 b, It is manifest that it is altogether poeticall and fabulous. 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* v. (1652) 54 He found many reasons to make question whether it would prove Poetical, or reall on their part. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 126 Plato, who first banished Poets his Republic, forgot that that very Commonwealth was poetical.

†**c.** *Poetical rising* and *setting* of a star: see quots., and Acronychal, Cosmical, Heliacal.

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* III. I. xxxv. (1636) 348 The Poeticall rising is the appearing of some starre above the Horizon, determined by the Sunne. *Ibid.*, The Poeticall setting, is either the going downe of some starre under the Horizon, or else the hiding thereof under the beames of the Sunne. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., The Ancient Poetical Writers..refer the Rising and Setting of the Stars, always to that of the Sun; and accordingly make three sorts of Poetical Rising and Setting. *Cosmical, Acronycal*, (or as some write it, *Acronychal*) and Heliacal.

2. Characteristic of a poet or poets.

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 42 This Poet being full of poeticall spyte and indignation. 1876 L. Stephen *Eng. Th.* 18*th Cent.* II. 350 Pope had at least two great poetical qualities. He was among the most keenly sensitive of men, and he had an almost unique felicity of expression.

b. Having the character of a poet; possessing the imaginative power, insight, sensibility, or skill in verse-writing, of a poet.

1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 36 The Historian, bound to tell things as things were, cannot be liberall (without hee will bee poeticall) of a perfect patterne. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 16 Truly, I would the Gods hadde made thee poeticall. 1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 129 Ouid is more Poeticall then Virgil. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. i. 2 And this is most remarkable in proportion as he is a poetical poet—a high lover of fiction.

†**c.** That is a poet; composing in verse. *Obs.*

1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* I. iv. § 1 That their first writers were Poetical, and apparently fabulous. 1720 Swift *Fates Clergymen* Wks. 1755 II. II. 29 He was a thousand times recommended by his poetical friends to great persons.

3. Composed in poetry; written in verse.

1549 *Compl. Scotl.* x. 82 Quhou beit that the said poietical beuk be dytit oratourly. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* I. v. 207 Alas, I tooke great paines to studie it, and 'tis Poeticall. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 8 Some Poeticall descriptions of our ancient Poets. 1710 Swift *Lett.* (1767) III. 21, I am now writing my poetical *Description of a Shower in London*, and will send it to the *Tatler*. 1855 Brimley *Ess., Tennyson* 97 A poetical monument to a personal friend.

b. Of the style or character proper to poetry as a fine art; having the qualities of good poetry.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 3 The forme of procedyng artificyal Is in no wyse ner poetycal. 1717 Pope in *Lady M. W. Montagu's Lett.* Oct., The poetical manner in which you paint some of the scenes about you. 1868 *Morn. Star* 25 Feb., She combines the real with the poetical in that degree which assuredly marks the true artist.

4. Relating to or dealing with poetry; occupied with or fond of poetry.

1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 5 Dryden's Fables ..were much in the hands of poetical readers. 1851 Brimley *Ess., Wordsw.* 122 A new poetical philosophy. *Ibid.* 133 His poetical creed.

5. Worthy to be celebrated in poetry; = Poetic *a.* 5. *rare*—[1].

1878 Seeley *Stein* II. 364 A man may also be poetical in the sense of being a good subject for poetry...In this sense, Stein was eminently a poetical person.

†**6.** In etymological sense of Gr. ποιητικός: Creative, formative; relating to artistic creation or composition. *Obs. rare.* (= Poetic *a.* 6.)

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., The second may be called Syntactical, Poetical, or effectiue.

Hence †**Poetica·lity** = Poeticalness (in quot. 1575, a poetical expression).

1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 47 To cum oout of oour poeticalitéez, & too talk no more serioous tearms. 1607 Heywood *Fayre Mayde* Wks. 1874 II. 48 Requires much poeticality in the subscription.

Poetically (poe·tikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a poetical manner, style, or form; in poetry or verse; in a way suitable to poetry or a poet.

1552 HULOET, Poeticallye, *poetice*. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 5 To be enlarged poetically, and with glisteringe ornaments of words. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 132 Some have written Poetically as Ovid. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* xi. 90 How poetically doth the action..carry on the allusion to speed. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Concl. 6 What, if you drest it [the story] up poetically!

b. In relation to poetry; as respects poetry.

1697 DRYDEN *Eneid* Ded. a ij b, It is not necessary the Manners of the Heroe should be virtuous. They are Poetically good if they are of a Piece. 1845 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* III. xi. 197 Books typographically worth about eightpence—poetically good for nothing.

Poe·ticalness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Poetical quality or style.

1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 314 Job stood..brooding in speechless poeticalness on his own thoughts. *a* 1881 S. LANIER in *Century Mag.* (1883) May 135 A single fact in proof of this exceeding poeticalness will suffice.

Poetician (poetiˈshăn). [f. POETIC + -IAN; cf. *rhetorician, mathematician,* etc.] A student in the poetry class: = POET 2 g: cf. POETRY 6.

1895 J. GILLOW *Bibl. Dict. Eng. Cath.* IV. 34 Guliel. Killick and Jacobus Gooden, poeticians at St. Omers College.

Poeticism (poe·tisiz'm). *nonce-wd.* [f. POETIC + -ISM.] The practice of poetry; a being poetic.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 15 The sacred flowers and other minor embodiments of a religious poeticism. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 May 3/3 As long as the author..is content to confine the expression of his poetry to poeticism, the answer will not matter to him in the least.

Poe·ticize (-sīz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make poetic; to treat poetically; to put into poetry, write poetry about.

1804 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 141, I think its author has poeticized, if I may be allowed the word, the new and fortunate subject. 1833 S. AUSTIN *Charac. Goethe* I. 315 *note*, Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship..is a poeticized, civic and domestic story. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 870 The working class was..idealized and poeticized by wayward genius.

2. *intr.* To write or speak as a poet.

1850 MAZZINI *Royalty & Repub.* 169 It pleases you to poeticize over the ruins of an institution, which was sublime.

Poe·ticness. *rare.* [f. POETIC + -NESS.] The quality of being poetic.

a 1631 DONNE *Litany* viii, Pray for mee, That I by them excuse not my excesse In seeking secrets, or poetiquenesse.

Poetico- (poe·tiko), used as combining form of L. *poēticus* POETIC, with other adjs., to denote a combination of the poetic with some other quality, as *poetico-antiquarian, -architectural, -grotesque, -philosophic.*

1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* 109 Ministers of the Established Church are, according to the system of poetico-architectural divinity, 'the pillars of divine truth'. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc., Goethe* (1869) 183 Götz became the parent of an innumerable progeny of poetico-antiquarian performances. 1878 GROSART in *H. More's Poems* Mem. Introd. 31/1 The peculiarity of More is in that poetico-philosophic mist, which ..bangs in light and beautiful festoons over his thoughts.

Poeticule (poe·tikiul). [f. L. *poēta* POET + -CULE.] A petty or insignificant poet.

1872 SWINBURNE *Under Microscope* 68 A poor young poeticule of the same breed as his panegyrist. 1880 — *Stud. Shaks.* 240 The obtuseness of a full-grown poeticule or poetaster. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 53 All the poeticules and prelatry of the court of Louis X.

‖ **Poeti·to.** *rare.* [It. deriv. of L. *poeta* poet.] A paltry poet, a poetaster.

1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* Induct., We haue diuers, that driue that trade, now; Poets, Poet'accios, Poetasters, Poetitos. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury Fair* Prol., Those wretched poetitos who got praise For writing most confounded loyal plays.

Poetize (pōu·ėtəiz), *v.* [ad. F. *poétiser* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.); see POET and -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To play the poet; to compose poetry; to write or speak in verse, or in poetical style.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 60 Not onely to read others Poesies, but to poetise for others reading. 1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 23 Free Poesie is made a marchandize, Onlie to flatter is to Poetize. 1630 DRAYTON *Muses Elizium* (1892) 11 They very curiously could Paint, And neatly Poetize. 1731 *Hist. Litteraria* II. 165 It is but a bold and vain Attempt to poetize in any Language learnt only by Grammar. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 355 Go over all the poets who have poetized about the sea.

† b. To deal in poetical fiction; to feign; to 'romance'. *Obs.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. vi, I versifie the troth, not poetize. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 58 It seems they no whit Poetize, who say that Arithmetick cannot multiply so farre.

† 2. *trans.* (with *simple obj.* or *obj. cl.*) To record or tell in poetry. *Obs.*

1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* XIV. *Schol.* 383 It is poetised of him that in the Elisian field after his death he espoused Medea. 1614 T. ADAMS *Fatal Banquet* iii. Wks. 1861 I. 212 What Ovid did but poetize, experience doth moralise, our manners actually perform.

3. *trans.* a. To make poetical; to turn into poetry; to imbue with the spirit or style of poetry.

1762 GOLDSM. *Ess.* XV. *Poetry disting.*, Virgil has .. poetized (if we may be allowed the expression) a whole sentence by means of the same word, which is *pendere*. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII. 473 He had poetised..the commonest objects of external nature. 1878 DOWDEN *Stud. Lit.* 32 Shelley poetizes the doctrine when Leon bids the tyrant Othman go free.

b. To celebrate in poetry; to compose poetry upon; to write or speak poetically about.

1837 EMERSON *Address, Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 187 Instead of the sublime and beautiful, the near, the low, the common, was explored and poetized. 1884 J. PARKER *Larger Ministry* II It is irrational..to poetise the moon, and ignore the sun which she modestly reflects.

Hence **Po·etized** *ppl. a.*, **Po·etizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Po:etiza·tion,** the action of poetizing, a turning into poetry; also quasi-*concr.* a poetical version *of* something; **Po·etizer,** one who poetizes.

1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 191 Would find a *poetization of that enterprise a rather tough morsel to swallow. 1889 CHURCH *Let.* 9 Nov., Life (1894) 341 A most melancholy, but in parts beautiful book, Edwin Arnold's poetisation of Buddhism. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 78 Only *poetised philosophical speeches. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 298 The Religion of Duty lacks a vital mark of religion, and cannot be regarded as more than a highly poetized morality. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 20 These be the tales that *Poetisers sing. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 342 The Eastern poet is superior to the duller poetisers of more western countries. 1651 STANLEY *Cupid* Poems 69, I first admir'd, then transferr'd my excesse of Admiration to the folly of *poetizing. 1894 *Athenæum* 2 June 702/3 A poet like Keats ..has no need to subject his lines to the poetizing process of Wordsworth.

Po·etless, *a.* [See -LESS.] Destitute of poets.

1875 S. MANNING *Land of Pharaohs* 113 Poetless as they were, they had a national genius.

Po·etling. [See -LING.] A young or budding poet; also, a petty or inferior poet, a poetaster.

1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 117 One of those poetlings in bud which never ripen. 1830 LYTTON in *Select. Corr. M. Napier* (1879) 86 What is the meaning of this Bible mania among the poetlings? 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xiv. 240 All classes, from popes and princes down to poetlings and pedants.

Po·etly, *a. rare.* [See -LY 1.] Befitting a poet, poetical.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* iv, He, in his poetly report, In philosophy can him to confort.

‖ **Poetomachia** (poetomēkiă). [In form L., f. Gr. *ποιητ-ής* poet + *-μαχία* fighting: see -MACHY.] A quarrel or contest of poets.

1602 DEKKER *Satiromastix* To World, That terrible Poetomachia, lately commenced betweene Horace the second, and a band of leane-witted Poetasters. 1898 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 562 Never has a clearer picture been drawn of the poetomachia or theatre war, and of the other discordant elements that made up Shakespeare's every-day environment.

† **Po·etress.** *Obs.* Also -is, -esse. [a. obs. F. *poetresse, poetrice,* f. L. *poētria* or *poētris* poetess, with suffix conformed to the fem. endings *-esse, -ice,* -ESS.] = POETESS.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 24 The Poetris and Maistres eik Sappho. 1591 SPENSER *Tears Muses* 576 [She] is her selfe a peereles Poetresse. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* iv. (1634) 36 Those foure sisters, the learned daughters of Sir Anthony Cooke, and rare Poetresses. *a* 1640 EARL STIRLING *Poems* 285 (Jod.) The poetress's hasty resolution. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lvii, Making Poets of Ravens..and Poetresses of Magpies. 1756 J. KENNEDY *Curiosities of Wilton House* (1786) 47 The Busts of Sulpitia, the Poetress.

† **Po·etrize,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. POETRY + -IZE.] *intr.* To compose poetry (= POETIZE 1); to write in verse.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 78 b, Henry the third, honoured therewith his brother Richard King of the Romanes, a Prince no less plentifully flowing in wealth, than his brother was often driuen to extreame shifts through needinesse, which made that barbarous age to poetrize: Nummus ait, pro me nubit Cornubia Romæ.

Poetry (pōu·ėtri). Forms: 4-7 **poetrie,** 5 **-trye, -terye,** 6 *Sc.* **poyetrie,** 5- **poetry.** [ME. = OF. *poetrie, poeterie* (13-14th c.), old It. *poetría* (Florio); ad. late and med.L. *poetrīa,* f. *poēta* poet.

Poetria occurs in a scholium on Horace *Epist.* II. i. 103, written (according to O. Keller, *Pseudacro*) *c* 650, perh. in North Italy, and preserved in MSS. of 10th c.; also in 9th or 10th c. MSS. of Martianus Capella. It is used as the title of treatises on the art of poetry, esp. the *Nova Poetria* of Gaufrei de Vinsauf (Galfridus de Vino Salvo, also called Galfridus Anglicus) about or soon after 1200; and in various works of the 13th c., as the *Græcismus* of Eberhardus Bethuniensis *c* 1212 ('Arte poetria fungor dum fingo poema'), the translation of Averroes' paraphrase of Aristotle's Poetics by Hermannus Alemannus *c* 1260, and the *Catholicon* of Joannes de Janua, 1286 ('a *poeta, poeticus,* et hæc *poetria* ars poetica'). (I. Bywater.) The relation of the word to L. *poētria,* Gr. ποιητρια, poetess, is not clear; but, from its antiquity, its formative suffix cannot be identified with F. *-erie,* Eng. *-ery, -ry,* in such words as *chirurgery, drollery, bigotry, mimicry.* Our earliest English examples are from Chaucer, to whom the *Nova Poetria* of Galfridus was well known, as he makes the Nun's Priest refer to it in his Tale (l. 527) and apostrophize the author as 'O Gaufred deere Maister soverayn'.]

I. In obsolete senses.

† 1. A rendering of med.L. *poetrīa* in sense of an *ars poetica* or treatise on the art of poetry. *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 3 Galfridus Anglicus in hys newe poetrye.

† 2. Applied to imaginative or creative literature in general; fable, fiction: cf. POET *sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 493 When thou redest poetrie How goddes gonne stellifye Briddes fisshe best. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 279 Of þe bryngynge forþ of mawmetrie com wel nyh al þe feyninge of poetrie [L. *De ortu idolatriæ omnia pene figmenta manarunt*; 1432-50 Alle figmentes toke begynnenge allemoste of ydolatry]. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. Proem, Fable is as moche to seye in poeterye as wordes in theologye. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 268 They..feigned Miracles, and gaue themselues only unto poetry, and shut up the scripture. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 607 Their profession of Poëtry, that is to say, of faining and deuising fables, may in some sort excuse them.

II. In existing use.

3. The art or work of the poet; a. With special reference to its form: Composition in verse or metrical language, or in some equivalent patterned arrangement of language; usually also with choice of elevated words and figurative uses, and option of a syntactical order, differing more or less from those of ordinary speech or prose writing.

In this sense, poetry in its simplest or lowest form has been identified with versification or verse: cf. quots. 1658, 1755.

1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's Prol.* 33 Fraunceys Petrak .. whos Rethorik sweete Enlumyned al Ytaille of poetrie, As Lynyan dide of Philosophie. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxv. (MS. Digby 230), Til þat he [Chaucer] came and with his poetrye Gan our tunge first to magnifye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/2 Poetrye, *poetria.* 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* (Percy Soc.) 2 Nothinge I am experte in poetry, As the monke of Bury, floure of eloquence. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 9 Thair plesand flowre of Poyetrie. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 21 Poetrie..may properly be defined, the arte of making: which word as it hath alwaies beene especially vsed of the best of our English Poets, to expresse ye very faculty of speaking or wryting Poetically. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Poesie,* or *Poetry,* the art of making a Poem, *i.* any kind of subject consisting of Rythm or Verses. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The rules of poetry and versifying are taught by art, and acquired by study...Its *matter,* long and short syllables, and feet composed hereof, with words furnished by grammar; and its *form,* the arrangement of all these things in just and agreeable verse, expressing the thoughts and sentiments of the author. 1755 JOHNSON, *Poetry,* metrical composition; the art or practice of writing poems. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xii. 116 The first period of Greek poetry..is entirely filled by the names of Homer and Hesiod. 1906 J. W. MACKAIL (*Communicated*), In general, the essence of poetry as an art is not so much that it is rhythmical (which all elevated language is), or that it is metrical (which not all poetry is, except by a considerable extension of the meaning of the word), as that it is *patterned* language. This is its specific quality as a 'fine art'. The essence of 'pattern' (in its technical use, as applied to the arts) as distinct from 'composition' generally, is that it is composition which has what is technically called a 'repeat'; and it is the 'repeat' which technically differentiates poetry from non-poetry, both being (as arts) 'composition'. The 'repeat' may be obvious, as in the case of rhymed lines of equal length, or it may be more implicit, to any degree of subtlety; but if it does not exist, there is technically no poetry. The artistic power of the pattern-designer is shown in the way he deals with the problem of 'repeat'; and this is true of poetry likewise, and is probably the key (so far as one exists) to any technical definition or discussion of the art.

b. The product of this art as a form of literature; the writings of a poet or poets; poems collectively or generally; metrical work or composition; verse. (Opp. to *prose.*)

1586 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* 28 The first wryters of Poetry among the Latines, shoulde seeme to be those, which excelled in the framing of Commedies. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. i. 14 Cornelia neuer with more care Read to her sonnes, then she hath read to thee, Sweet Poetry, and Tullies Oratour. 1749 *Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 75 Speak here..of the several Sorts of English Poetry, as divided into Heroic, Pastoral, Elegy, Satire, Comedy, Tragedy, Epigram and Lyric. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* xiii. 223 If the Poet select and adapt proper Music to his Poem; or the Musician select and adapt proper Poetry to his Music. 1798 WORDSW. *Lyr. Ballads* (ed. 2) Pref. *note,* I here use the word 'Poetry' (though against my own judgment) as opposed to the word Prose, and synonymous with metrical composition. But..the only strict antithesis to Prose is Metre; *nor* is this, in truth, a strict antithesis. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 216 The end of poetry..is to please—and *the* name, we think, is strictly applicable to every metrical composition from which we receive pleasure, without any laborious exercise of the understanding. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 290/1 Good Poetry might be defined, 'Elegant and decorated language in metre, expressing such and such thoughts'. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* II. 39 Poetry was the only form of literary composition found in the primeval age.

c. With special reference to its function: The expression or embodiment of beautiful or elevated thought, imagination, or feeling, in language adapted to stir the imagination and emotions, both immediately and also through the harmonic suggestions latent in or implied by the words and connexions of words actually used, such language containing a rhythmical element and having usually a metrical form (as in a); though the term is sometimes extended to include expression in non-metrical language having similar harmonic and emotional qualities (*prose-poetry*).

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 28 Verse being but an ornament and no cause to Poetry: sith there haue beene many most excellent Poets, that neuer versified. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 165, I will proue those Verses to be very vnlearned, neither sauouring of Poetrie, Wit, nor Inuention. 1689-90 TEMPLE *Ess. Poetry* Wks. 1731 I. 235 Nor is it any great Wonder that such Force should be found in Poetry, since in it are assembled all the Powers of Elo-

quence, of Musick, and of Picture, which are all allowed to make so strong Impressions upon humane Minds. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Waller* Wks. II. 267 The essence of poetry is invention; such invention as, by producing something unexpected, surprises and delights... Poetry pleases by exhibiting an idea more grateful to the mind than things themselves afford. 1798 WORDSW. *Lyr. Ballads* (ed. 2) Pref., Poetry is the breath and finer spirit of all knowledge; it is the impassioned expression which is in the countenance of all Science. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. II. xx, All Christ's teaching is a Divine Poetry, luxuriant in metaphor, overflowing with truth too large for accurate sentences, truth which only a heart alive can appreciate. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* vi. (1857) 220 A strain of prose which is poetry in all but poetry's metrical music. 1885 WATTS-DUNTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 257/2 Absolute poetry is the concrete and artistic expression of the human mind in emotional and rhythmical language. 1906 H. B. YEATS *Poems* Pref., Poetry..is in the last analysis an endeavour to condense as out of the flying vapours of the world an image of human perfection, and for its own and not for the art's sake.

d. Extended (with reference to the etymology) to creative or imaginative art in general. *rare.*

[1815 D. STEWART in *Encycl. Brit., Suppl.* I. 5 *note*, The latitude given by D'Alembert to the meaning of the word *Poetry* is a real and very important improvement on Bacon, who restricts it to fictitious History or Fables...D'Alembert, on the other hand, employs it in its natural signification, as synonymous with *invention* or *creation*.] 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. i. § 15 Painting is properly to be opposed to speaking or writing, but not to poetry. Both painting and speaking are methods of expression. Poetry is the employment of either for the noblest purposes.

4. *pl.* Pieces of poetry; poems collectively. *rare.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 388 Oon seyde Omere was [*v.r.* made] lyes Feynynge in hys Poetries. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. (1592) 372 What shall we say then to the Poetries [of our Scriptures], specially of Dauid, considering that he was afore all the Poetries of the Heathen? 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 284 Desired that she might see both their Poetries; which after she had perused several times, and duly considered them, she..chose Mauro's *Fava*. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, And this young birkie here,..will his stage-plays and his poetries help him here, d'ye think..?—Will *Tityre tu patulæ*, as they ca' it, tell him where Rashleigh Osbaldistone is? 1886 M. F. TUPPER *My Life as Author* 222 If some few have appeared among other poetries in print, they shall not be repeated here.

5. *fig.* Something resembling or compared to poetry; poetical quality, spirit, or feeling.

1816 KEATS *Sonn. Grasshopper & Cricket*, The poetry of earth is never dead:..a voice will run..about the new-mown mead; That is the Grasshopper's. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* II. xiv. 1 The sudden charm, which accidents of light and shade, which moon-light or sun-set diffused over a known and familiar landscape..these are the poetry of nature. 1846 MACKAY *Poems, Railways* 1 'No poetry in railways!' foolish thought Of a dull brain, to no fine music wrought. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 70 To live poetry, indeed, is always better than to write it.

6. The name given to the sixth, or (reckoning the *Preparatory* as one, the seventh) class from the bottom or third from the top, in English Roman Catholic schools, seminaries, or colleges, on the continent, and subsequently in England. The class so called comes between *Syntax* and *Rhetoric*.

1679 *Trials of White & other Jesuits* 56 *Fall.* I saw him when I was in my Syntax, and now I am in Poetry. 1906 ['Still in use at Stonyhurst, etc.; also at St. Edmund's or Douay College, now located at Woolhampton in Berks.' (Rev. Sir D. O. Hunter Blair, O.S.B.)]

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1798 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Tales of Hoy* Wks. 1812 IV. 410 He scrawls the chairs and tables over, and walls whenever the poetry-fit is upon him. 1846 THACKERAY *L. Blanchard* Wks. 1900 XIII. 477 The young fellow..poetry-stricken, writing dramatic sketches. 1885 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Nov. 468/3 The book is one on which every poetry lover should form his own opinion. 1887 DOWDEN *Transcripts* (1896) 516 The ignominious years of dreaming, poetry-making, and the receiving of wretched praise.

Hence **Po·etryless** *a.*, devoid of poetry.

1854 H. STRICKLAND *Trav. Th.* 28 A soulless, poetryless, utilitarian, money-making Englishman is bad enough.

Poetship (pō·ĕt,ſip). [f. POET + -SHIP.] The position or function of a poet; also with *poss. adj.* as a mock title for a poet.

1781 COWPER *Let. to Y. Newton* 25 Aug., Johnson uses the discretion my poetship has allowed him, with much discernment. 1834 SIR J. STEPHEN in *Sir H. Taylor's Corr.* (1888) 59 Do not let your poetship snort and grow saucy. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* l, Fury of favour, Royal Poetship, Prophetship.

Poeuere, poeure, obs. forms of POOR.

Poff, obs. form of PUFF.

Poffle (pǫ·f'l). *Sc.* Also **paffle.** [Deriv. obscure: cf. PIGHTLE, and the phonetic variations under HICKWALL.] A small parcel of land: cf. PENDICLE 2 b.

(*Max poffil*, the poffle of Maccus, now Maxpoffle in Roxburghshire, is mentioned in 1317.)

1797 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIX. 328 Some places are parcelled out into small poffles or farms, few of which are above 30 acres each. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* Ded., Disclaiming all intention of purchasing that pendicle or poffle of land called the Carlinescroft. 1901 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 380 In Spot itself he purchased a poffle or pendicle of land.

† **Poge.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. repr. It. *appoggio* leaning place, stay, help: cf. *poggio* mounting block:—L. *podium*; see PEW.] Stay, support.

c 1525 BP. CLERKE *Let. to Wolsey* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 308 His Holynes being excluded frome the help and poge of other Princes.

Pogge (pǫg). [Origin unascertained.] A name given to certain fishes. **a.** The armed bull-head, *Cottus cataphractus*, having a large broad flat head and sharply tapering body, armed with spines and bony plates. **b.** *Aspidophorus*, an acanthopterygian genus, armed with shield-like scales.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Ichthyogr.* (1686) Tab. N. 6, 2 Cataphractus supinus Schonfeldij. 3 idem. a Pogge. 1740 R. BROOKES *Art of Angling* II. xxix. 137 The Pogge..is about two Hands breadth in Length. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Pogge*, or *Cataphractus*. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 178 The pogge is very common on most of the British coasts. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Pogge*,.. a sort of Bull-Head, the *Cottus cataphractus* of Linnæus, a fish having the head larger than the body. 1856 GOSSE *Marine Zool.* II. 200 *Aspidophorus* (Cuv.). Pogge. Body eight-angled, enclosed in plates; recurved spines on the snout; teeth only on the jaws; lower jaw fringed.

Poggy (pǫ·gi). Also **poggie.** [Origin unknown.] A small arctic whale; supposed to be the young of the common whale, *Balæna mysticetus*.

1874 SCAMMON *Marine Mamm.* I. v. 60 The whales of this sea [Sea of Okhotsk]..are the same species as those of the Arctic; although in the bays is found, in addition, a very small whale called the 'Poggy', which yields but little oil.

Pogh(e: see POH *int.*, POUGH *sb. Obs.*

Poghaden, the menhaden: see PAUHAUGEN.

‖ **Pogoniasis** (pōgonəi·ăsis). *Phys.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πωγώνι-ον*, dim. of *πώγων* beard + -ASIS.] Excessive growth of beard; also, growth of beard in a woman.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Pogoniasis*, a female beard. Also, great strength or quantity of beard. 1895 *Syd. Soc. L.*

Pogo·niate, *a.* [Cf. Gr. *πωγωνιάτης* bearded man.] **a.** *Zool.* Bearded. **b.** *Ornith.* Webbed, as a feather.

[1786 *Pogonologia* 19 The emperor Constantine is distinguished by the epithet of Pogonate, which signifies the Bearded.] 1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pogonic (pǫgǫ·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πώγων* beard + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a beard.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pogonicus*, of or belonging to the beard: pogonic.

So **Pogono·logist,** a writer on beards; **Pogono·logy,** a treatise on beards; **Pogono·tomy** [Gr. *τομή* cutting], the cutting of the beard; **Pogono·trophy** [Gr. *τροφή* nourishment], cultivation of the beard, beard-growing.

[1786 (*title*) Pogonologia, or a Philosophical Essay on Beards, translated from the French.] 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* I. ii. 24 It would not be surprising to see a barber style himself..Pogonologist. 1801 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 422 Some years ago we had to read the Pogonology. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 261 Ten years' experience may have made ourselves a little enthusiastic in favour of pogonotrophy. 1883 ROLLESTON in *Archæologia* XLVII. 455 There appears to be some necessary correlation between Hippophagy, Pogonotrophy, and perhaps Paganism. 1897 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* Jan., Pogonotomy is what the Greeks used to call the gentle art of self-shaving.

‖ **Pogrom** (pŏgrō·m). [Russian погромъ, devastation, destruction.] An organized massacre in Russia for the destruction or annihilation of any body or class: in the English newspapers (1905–6) chiefly applied to those directed against the Jews.

[1882 *Times* 17 Mar. 3/6 That the 'Pogromen' (riots against the Jews) must be stopped.] 1905 *Daily News* 12 June 5 The only means of combating the 'pogroms' is armed resistance. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 June 12/1 The Russian word 'pogrom' (pronounced with stress on the final syllable) is generally translated 'desolation, devastation'. The word is related to the Russian words *grom*, thunder, the thunder-clash, and to *gromit*, to thunder, to batter down as with a thunderbolt, to destroy without pity.

Pogy (pō·ugi). local *U. S.* Also **pogie.** [Contr. from *pauhaugen*.] Local name of the menhaden: see PAUHAUGEN. *Comb.* **pogy-catcher,** a vessel employed in the menhaden fishery; **pogy-gull,** a sea-gull found near Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fish* 385 North of Cape Cod the name Pogy is almost universally in use, while in southern New England the fish is known only as the menhaden.

Poh (pǫ), *int.* Also 7–8 **pough,** 8 **pogh,** 9 **po.** An ejaculation of contemptuous rejection. (Cf. POOH.)

1679 PRANCE *Narr. Pop. Plot* 13 Pough, Pough, said Sr. Edmundbury, refusing at first to trouble himself. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* II. i, *Sir Fran.* For what? *Marpl.* Po'gh, for a hundred Things. *c* 1738 SWIFT *Lit. Ho. at Castleknock* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 306 Poh! fellow, keep not such a pother. 1787 *Minor* 174 Pogh; thought I, why should I fear a man. 1820 COBBETT *Gram. Eng. Lang.* § 210 Poh! Never think a man either learned or good merely on account of his being called a Doctor. 1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. vii, Po! yours are as the pebble-stones on the seashore to the jewels that may be bought in Ghent.

‖ **Poi** (poi). Also poe. [Hawaiian name.] A dish made in Hawaii from the root of the taro or kalo plant, by grinding, mixing, and allowing it to ferment; also, a dish made from the banana and pandanus fruit. Also *attrib.*

1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 213 They eat it in the form of a paste, or poë. 1877 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* (1878) 289 Poi is generally eaten from a bowl placed between two people, by dipping three fingers into it, giving them a twirl round, and then sucking them. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIII. 392/1 The poi-pudding tasted like fig-pudding and was extremely palatable.

† **Poid,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Sc. Obs.* Also **poyd.** [perh. a. OF. *puit, puet, put*, etc., good for nothing, dirty, evil.] Vicious, evil, vile; as *sb.* a vile person.

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. 641 And all the court in haist thair horsis renȝeit, Proclamand loude, quhair is ȝone poid that plenȝeit, Quhilk deith deseruis committand sic dispite. 1513 — *Æneis* IV. Prol. 190 Sic poyd makrellis for Lucifer bene leche.

Poiet, obs. form of POET.

Poietic (poiĕ·tik), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *ποιητικός* active, effective, f. *ποιεῖν* to do, make. (So spelt and pronounced to differentiate the sense from *poetic*, of identical origin.)] Creative, formative, productive, active.

1905 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 519/3 There are four classes in the State: the Poietic, the Kinetic, the Dull, and the Base. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* July 73 As its organisation becomes settled and efficient the State loses its poietic activity.

Poietic, -al, obs. Sc. ff. POETIC, -AL.

Poignado, poinado (poinā·do). *Obs.* or *arch.* Also 6 **poineado, poinardo,** 6–7 **poynado,** (7 **poinadoe, -adow, poynedo**). [An alteration of PONIARD, app. through *poniardo*: see -ADO.] A small dagger; a poniard.

1567 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* To Rdr. A iv, A short dagger; which is vsed in the warres, or a Poineado. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 168 Perchance they perswade themselues that their seruaunts can not helpe themselues with their Poignadoes. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Q. Cordila* XXXVIII, Poynadoes all bedyde With bloud. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 226 What will he do .. with the tempestuous Engins of his owne wit, that keepeth such a horrible coile with his Schoole-fellowes poinardo? 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 408 Duke John his nephew drew his poinado out of his sheath. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* XXIV. 341 Brennus..did end his life with his Poynedo. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Poinard*, or *Poinado*. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. ix. (1737) 34 Poinadoes, Skenes, Penknives. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXIX, A melancholy gallant; who..has his hand on his poignado, and swears death and fury!

Poignance (poi·năns). *rare.* [f. POIGNANT: see -ANCE.] = next.

1782 ELPHINSTON tr. *Martial* III. ii. 132 To lend the pepper poignance. 1893 A. L. HADDON *What ails the House?* I. 129 Everything that surrounded me..lent poignance to my uneasiness.

Poignancy (poi·nănsi). [f. POIGNANT: see -ANCY.] The quality or fact of being poignant.

1. Pungency of taste or smell. Also *fig.*

1730 SWIFT *Let. to Gay* 19 Nov., I..sat down quietly at my morsel, adding only..a principle of hatred to all succeeding measures..by way of sauce..; and..one point of conduct in my lady duchess's life has added much poignancy to it. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 50 Aromatic herbs of the most acrid poignancy. 1814 SCOTT *Chivalry* (1874) 11 Sated with indulgencies which soon lose their poignancy.

2. Keenness or sharpness of pain, distress, or grief; also, of pleasure (cf. next, 3 b).

17.. J. RYLAND in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. LXXVII. 6 Sometimes this reflection..adds a poignancy to our distress. 1787 J. BARLOW *Oration 4th July* 15 The tidings [were] received with a peculiar poignancy of grief. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 June 5/4 The remembrance..gives our regrets a poignancy due to something like personal gratitude.

3. Piercing quality of words, expressions, looks, etc.; sharpness, keenness; piquancy.

a 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Militant Couple* Wks. (1775) 125 Those words..have lost all the poignancy of their signification. 1719 J. WELWOOD in *Rowe's Lucan* Pref. 36 The first [Virgil] surpasses all in solid strength; the latter [Lucan] excells in vigour and poynancy. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xviii. 83 Feelings..deeply stung by the poignancy of their wit.

Poignant (poi·nănt), *a.* Forms: 4–6 **poynaunt,** 4–8 **-ant,** 7–8 **poinant,** 7– **poignant,** (5 **pugnaunt, ponȝeand, -yaunt, -yawnt, poygnaunt, poyngnant**). [ME. a. OF. *puignant* (12th c. in Godef.), *poignant* (13th c.), pr. pple. of *poindre*:—L. *pungĕre* to prick, pierce.]

† **1.** Of weapons, or other pointed material objects: Sharp-pointed, piercing. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1879 The God of Love an arowe took; Ful sharp it was and ful pugnaunt. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 141 The Scottis..With ponȝeand speris throuch platis prest of steylle. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 69 b, Poynant hornes of fell and yrefull bulles. 1624 GEE *Hold Fast* 51 This weapon, being made so poinant and deadly, that it would pearce..reasonable good armour. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 339 They were dispatch'd themselves by a more poinant stroke.

b. *fig.* Of the eye or look: Piercing, keen.

1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 15 Jeffery was not so slim, or was his eye so poignant. 1820 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* II. v. 120 Jeffrey has a singular expression—poignant, bitter, piercing—as if his countenance never lit up but at the perception of some weakness in human nature.

2. Sharp, pungent, piquant to the taste or smell.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 14 Of poynaunt sauce hir neded neuer a deel. *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 1949 Wyn..Ponyaunt, delectable, sharp in savour. *c* 1450 *Douce MS.* 55 (Bodl.) iii, Sesyn hit..so that hit be poynant. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. ii, Drest with an exquisite, and poynant sauce. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI. 44 Those charms are greatest which decline the sight, That makes the banquet poignant and polite. 1864 HAWTHORNE *Dolliver Rom.* (1879) 61 The rich, poignant perfume spread itself through the air. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 237 A laboratory of poignant scents.

3. Painfully sharp to the physical or mental

feelings, as hunger, thirst, a pang, an affront; also said of a state of feeling, as grief, regret, despair.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 56 And this sorwe .. shal been heuy and greuous and ful sharpe and poynant in herte. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. i. (1739) 3 The last affront was from France, and that..more poinant. 1728 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 10 This final Answer threw the King of Portugal into the most poinant Despair. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 233 Those rare excellencies which make one grief poignant. *a* 1881 ROSSETTI *Ho. Life* ii, Creature of poignant thirst And exquisite hunger. 1887 LOWELL *Democr.*, etc. 48 This pang is made more poignant by exile.

b. Stimulating to the mind, feelings, or passions; pleasantly or delightfully piquant.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccclxvi, Better rellish, [which] in this poynant State Might give an Edge to Witt, at less expence. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. viii. (1713) 113 That Delights thereby may become more poinant and triumphant. 1772 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 17 Those poignant joys, which are the lot of the affluent. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xliii, Sensible of a more poignant felicity than he had yet experienced.

4. Of words or expressions: Sharp, stinging; severe; also, pleasantly keen or pointed, piquant.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 290 b, With these sharpe & poynaunte woordes he clene putte awaye y^e^ fearefull trembleyng of all the legions. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (Ker) I. 103 Quick and poynant brevity. 1678 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, Poinant and sower Invectives. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 208 Witticisms which you think so delicate and poignant. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) I. v. 157 A witty repartee or a stroke of poignant raillery. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Mrs. Battle's Opinions on Whist*, Her illustrations were apposite and poignant. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i, Poignant sarcasm.

Poignantly (poi·nănt‖li), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a poignant manner; piercingly, pungently, acutely, keenly.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xvii. 250 How poignantly this loss [of sight] was felt by our great poet is painfully evident from his own words. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenst.* xii. (1865) 147 They often..suffered the pangs of hunger very poignantly. 1837–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. ii. v. § 16. 192 Burlesque poetry, sometimes poignantly satirical. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* I. iv. 8, I have a piece of red oxide of copper..which grieves me poignantly by losing its colour.

Poignard, variant of PONIARD.

† **Poigne** (poin). *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *poigne*, fem. form parallel to *poing*:—L. *pugn-um* fist.] The closed hand or fist: in phr. *kept in poigne* (fig.).

a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 139 (1740) 107 The Witnesses, which the Faction kept in Poigne (like false Dice, high and low Fullhams) to be played forth upon Plots, and to make Discoveries as there was Occasion. *Ibid.* II. v. § 126. 393 The Engineers .. determined what was to be communicated,.. and what to be kept in Poigne, secret from them.

† **Poignet,** *sb. Obs.* Forms: 5 **ponyet, poinett, punȝet,** 5–6 **poynett,** 6 **poygniet,** 9 **poignet.** [a. F. *poignet* wrist, in 14th c. *poingnet*, OF. *pugnet* (13th c.), deriv. of *poing* fist.]

1. An ornament for the wrist or hand; a wristlet or bracelet.

1402 *Will of Matilda Sweeton* (Fairholt), 1 par de ponyets de scarlet. 1416 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* (Bundle 10 No. 3), Poynetts, iid. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/2 Ponyet, of a sleue,..*premanica, mantus*. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 44/1 Whan he had seen the ryngis in his susters eeris & her poynettis or armyllis on her hondes. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Poygniet for ones sleves, *poignet*. *c* 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* B j b, Theyr bonettes and theyr poynettes. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 38 Hiz doobled sleeuez of blak woorsted, vpon them a payr of poynets of towny Chamblet laced a long the wreast wyth blu threeden points.

¶ 2. *erron.* The handle or hilt of a dagger. (For F. *poignée*.) *rare*—1.

1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvi, The *poignet* being of silver exquisitely hatched.

Hence † **Poi·gnet** *v. Obs. trans.*, to put cuffs on (a garment); whence † **Poi·gneting** *vbl. sb.*

1555 T. MARSHE *Instit. Gentleman* I vj b, A certayne kyng of Inglande caused his doublet to bee half stocked with foresleues of veluet, called in those dayes, poignetting of a doublet.

Poigniard, Poik: see PONIARD, POKE *sb.*1

Poikilitic (poikili·tik), *a. Geol.* Also **poic-**. [var. of PŒCILITIC.] A term formerly applied to the Triassic and Permian systems, as being mainly composed of variegated rocks.

1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* II. 38 The word *Pœcilitic* is in sound so like to *Pisolite*, that it may be better to adhere more literally to the Greek root ποικίλος, and apply the common name of *Poikilitic* group to the strata in question. 1846 DE LA BECHE in *Mem. Geol. Surv. Gt. Brit.* I. 239 Poicilitic or New Red Sandstone Series. 1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 59 The reconstruction of the cretaceous, poikilitic, oolitic, or silurian landscape, peopled with revivified Batrachians. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-Bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 748 The term 'Poikilitic' was formerly proposed for them, on account of their characteristic mottled appearance.

Poi·kilo-, a formative element from Gr. ποικίλος variegated, various, used in modern scientific terms (in some of which the Latinized form PŒCILO- is preferred):

Poi·kilobla·st, Poi·kilocy·te, names for red blood-corpuscles of irregular shape, elongated, pyriform, etc. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **Poi·kilocyto·sis,** the condition of the blood when it contains poikilocytes. **Poikilothe·rmal, Poikilothe·rmic** *adjs.*, said of animals in which the bodily heat varies with the temperature of the environment; cold-blooded.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 578 Irregular forms of red corpuscles which are generally included under the name of *poikilocytes. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 42 Gräber believes that the poikilocytes do not exist in the circulating blood. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 62 The name *poikilocytosis has been proposed to designate the condition of blood in which the corpuscles present manifold variations in shape. 1884 tr. *Claus' Zool.* I. 74 Most of the lower animals are *poikilothermic, or, as they have less appropriately been called, cold-blooded.

‖ **Poil.** *Obs. rare.* [F. *poile, poêle* a stove, OF. *poisle, peisle*:—L. *pēsile, pensile* adj. neut. hung, suspended, f. *pendĕre* to hang.] A furnace, a stove.

1756 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 374 (from Berlin) He would find the ashes in the poil or furnace where they were burnt. *Ibid.* 377 They immediately put them into the poil or furnace, and set fire to them.

Poil, poill, obs. Sc. ff. POLE, POLL.

† **Poile.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *poil*:—L. *pil-um* hair.] Down, fine hair.

1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 180 (transl. fr. French) Its Substance was crumbling .. like the Membrane of the Bladder, having a fungous Poile on it.

Poimenic (poime·nik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. ποιμενικ-ός relating to a shepherd (ποιμήν): see -IC.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to pastoral care.

1902 in WEBSTER *Suppl.*

B. *sb.* (Chiefly pl. *poimenics.*) Pastoral theology, or the study of it.

1883 W. G. BLAIKIE *Ministry of Word* 296 Ample treatises on Homiletics, Liturgics, Catechetics and Poimenics. 1892 SCHAFF *Theol. Propædeut.* Pref. 3 (Funk), I beg the indulgence of the English reader for introducing a uniform terminology in the singular form for the several departments, as Isagogic,..Poimenic, Evangelistic.

† **Poin,** *v. Obs.* Also poyn. [f. stem *poign-* of OF. *poindre* to pierce, prick:—L. *pungĕre*: cf. *join* from *joindre*.]

1. *trans.* To prick; to harass, annoy.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16218 The power of Cadwalyn was mikel, Penda poyned hym [Oswy] als a prykel.

2. To stitch or sew through and through, to quilt (cf. BROCHE *v.*); to ornament with stitching.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 217 Pyȝt watz poyned & vche [*ed. Gollancz* pyght and poyned wacz uche] a hemme. 1395 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 6 A keuerlit of selk ypoynet. ?*a* 1400 *Marte Arth.* 2623, I poyne alle his pavelyouns þat to hymselfe pendes, Dyghttes his dowblettez for dukes and erles. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1491 Quyltus poyned of that ylk.

3. To thrust (a spear).

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14263 Eyther on other her speres poygned, Wel hard to-geder tho thei Ioyned.

Hence † **Poi·ning** *vbl. sb.*, piercing, stitching.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxi. (1869) 59 Riht as the doublet is maad with poynynges.

Poinado, -ardo: see POIGNADO.

Poinard, variant of PONIARD.

Poind (see next), *sb. Sc.* [f. POIND *v.*] a. An act of poinding, a distraint. b. A beast or other chattel poinded. *Dead poind*, a poinded article of goods as opposed to live cattle.

1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 259 The poindis takin thairfoir to be restorit to the said George. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 71 Gif ane takes ane poynde for debt, within ane other mans land, without licence of him, or of his Baillie. *Ibid.* [see POINDER]. 1676 LD. FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) III. 61 Poinded goods, .. if they be a dead poind, that puts the creditor poinder to no .. expence in keeping it. 1813 N. CARLISLE *Topogr. Dict. Scot.* II. s.v. *Priestwick*, Sometimes Poinds are driven, and executed at the Cross of Priestwick. 1868 J. SALMON *Gowodean* 63 (E. D. D.) Glad to catch him with your poind and horn.

Poind (pünd, pind), *v. Sc.* Forms: *α.* 5–7 **pund,** 6 **puind, pwynd.** *β.* 5–8 **poynd,** 6– **poind.** [Sc. repr. of OE. *pyndan* to enclose, shut in, impound, = Eng. PIND. The *u, ui, wy*, symbolized the vowel (ü), representing, as in BUILD (*Sc.* büld), an OE. *y*. Of this, *oi* is a 16th c. spelling, retained in the law-courts. The Sc. pronunciation is (pünd) or (pind: cf. *mither, brither*); (poind), given in dictionaries, is merely founded on the spelling.]

1. *trans.* To distrain upon (a person or his goods); to seize and sell under warrant (the goods of a debtor): = PIND *v.* 2.

a. a 1400 *Burgh Laws* iii. (*Sc. Stat.* I), Of punding of uplandis men in burgh. 1500 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 393 To pund Thomas Fresale for viij li. vij s. vj d. 1531 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 54 To pas to pwynd the Shereff off Renfrew and utheris for restis of the chakkar. 1604 *Urie Crt.-bk.* (1892) 4 The transgressouris thairof to be punddit preceislie as is aboun wryttin.

β. 1516 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* V. 85 To Dauid Lowry..to poynd xxxiij lordis and lardis absent fra the assis. 1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 317 Lettres to be direct to poind .. the said complenaris and thair gudis for the soum of thre hundreth pund stirling. 1698 *Min. Baron Crt. of Stitchell* (1905) 132 He was poynding the defender at the instance of James Hoggart. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 98 He'll apprehend them, poind their gear. *a* 1803 *Lament Border-Widow* iii. in Child *Ballads* IV. (1886) 429/2 He slew my knight, and poind his gear. 1886 *Act* 49 *Vict.* c. 23 § 3 (2), The right to poind the ground hereinafter provided.

b. *absol.* To distrain.

a. 1500 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 457 Falyeing of the said preif the said schiref sal pund for the said thre termez. 1532 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 146 Tha ordanit Henry Irvein, bailȝe,..gif neid beis, to cause puind for the same.

β. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 21 Quhair his officiaris ar deforcit in poynding for the said taxt. 1641 *Ferguson's Sc. Prov.* (1785) § 936 Ye may poind for debt but not for unkindness.

2. To impound (stray cattle, contraband goods, etc.): = PIND 1 b.

[*c* 1450: see POINDER.] 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* x. xii. (1541) 144/1 All othir beistis that eittis mennis corne or gres salbe poyndit quhil the awnar thairof redres the skaithis. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 9 What shall poore sillie sheep doe that are poyndit in a fold where there is no meat? 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxvi. § ii. (1699) 130 The Customers Officers were about to poynd some unfree goods. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* vii, Their asses were poinded by the ground-officer when left in the plantation.

† 3. *intr.* To plunder. *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xliv. 6960 The qwhethir offt ryot wald thai ma To pryk, and poynd, bathe to and fra.

Hence **Poi·nded** *ppl. a.*, **Poi·nding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*: see also MULTIPLE-*poinding*.

1401 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 380 Sa that hym nedit nocht in tyme to cum til mak sic pundyng and namly in our toon. 1540 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 50 The vrangus punding of Robert Dauidsone. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. to Ane actioun and caus of double-poinding. 1676 Poinded [see POIND *sb.*]. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxvi. § iii. (1699) 131 Poyndings .. cannot be execute after the Sun is set, because a Poynding is a sentence. 1746–7 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 43 § 28 It shall .. be lawful for the officer executing such poyndings, to carry the goods poynded..to the market cross. 1899 *Scotsman* 6 July, Notes of expenses of carrying through sales under sequestration or poindings, and also .. of carrying back poinded or sequestrated effects.

Poi·ndable, *a. Sc.* [f. POIND *v.* + -ABLE.] Liable to be, or capable of being, poinded.

15.. *Aberdeen Regr.* XXV. (Jam.), To seiss geir poindabill quhaireuir he may apprehend the same. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 457 Substantious inlandit men, poindabill. 1772 *Weekly Mag.* 25 June 398/1 He has poindable goods.

Poi·nder. *Sc.* Also 5 **pundar,** 9 **-er.** [f. POIND *v.* + -ER 1.] A person, esp. an official, who poinds or distrains goods; also, b. 'A person who has the charge of hedges, woods, etc., and who pounds cattle that trespass' (Jam.).

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 783 The Corn Crake, the pundar at hand, Had pyndit all his pryss horss in a pundfald. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* II. 12 The poynds .. salbe reteined .. in sic ane place pertaining to the poynder .. quhere sic poynds or distresse may remaine and be keeped. 1676 [see POIND *sb.*]. 1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* (1808) 146 The punder's axe, with ruthless rap, Fell'd down their favourite tree. *Ibid.* 147 For sure this tree's enormous trunk Defies the punder's axe. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, I'll..get my bit supper frae Ringan the poinder up by. 1886 *Act* 49 *Vict.* c. 23 § 3 (1) Any arrester or poinder .. who shall be thus deprived of the benefit of his diligence.

† **Poindfald, poyndfauld,** obs. Sc. ff. PINFOLD.

1494 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 185/1 Anent ..doune castin of xii Rudis of dik of þe said Samellis landis, and doune castin of the poyndfalt of Akinbar. 1650 in *Spottiswood Misc.* (1844) I. 211 Ther were neuer such a company of bedlames driuin wnto ane poyndfauld as wee.

† **Poindlar, pundler.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 **poundler,** 8 **punler.** [A parallel form of POINDER, with changed suffix. Cf. PANTLER.] = POINDER.

1533 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 149 The prouest, bailȝeis, and counsaill,..ordanit Georg. Annan pyndler of thar kirk yard, and ordanit the pundlene of euery best to be four d. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 603 To poind thame, letting thame out for reasonable poindlaris fee, unhoundit, slayne, or hocht. 1673 *Min. Baron Court of Stitchell* (1905) 64 For scandallizing Andro Burn poundler. 1715 PENNECUIK *Poems* 52 The trusty Punler of the Newland pease. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Pundler*, Even of late, a person employed to watch the fields, in order to prevent the grain from being stolen or injured, was called a pundler. *Angus.*

Poineado, Poinred: see POIGNADO, PONIARD.

Poiner, dial. var. of PINER 1, labourer.

‖ **Poinsettia** (poinse·tiă). [mod.L.; named 1836 after the discoverer J. R. Poinsett, American Minister to Mexico.] A Mexican species of Euphorbia, *E.* (*Poinsettia*) *pulcherrima*, formerly made the type of a genus, having large scarlet floral leaves surrounding small greenish-yellow flowers; much cultivated in conservatories as Mexican Flame-leaf and Lobster-flower, called in America Easter-flower or Christmas-flower.

1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* iv, What is this that hangs over into the road, some fifteen feet in height ..? What but the Poinsettia, paltry scions of which..adorn our hothouses and dinner-tables. 1872 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 170, I have been more than once assured that butterflies like bright colours—for instance, in India the scarlet leaves of Poinsettia. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 3 Over the rubbish .. still waved magnificent poinsettias and oleander trees.

Point (point), *sb.*1 Forms: 3– **point**; also 3–6 **pointe, poynte,** 4–8 **poynt,** (4 *pl.* **poyns**), 5 **pointt(e, puynt, pynt, pyntte,** 6 **poinct, -e, poynct, -e,** *Sc.* **pwint.** *β.* 4–5 **pont, -e,** 5–6 **pounte,** 6 **powne,** 6–9 *Sc.* **pount.** Also **punt**: see PUNCT. [In origin, two, or perh. three, words. In A., a. F. *point* = Pr. *punt*, Sp., It. *punto*, Pg. *ponto*:—L. *punct-um* that which is pricked, a prick, a minute mark like a prick, a dot, a point in writing, a point in space, a point of time,

a small measure, a particular of a discourse, etc.; subst. use of pa. pple. neuter of L. *pungĕre, punct-*, F. *poindre, point* to prick, pierce. In B., a. F. *pointe* = Pr., Sp., It. *punta*, Pg. *ponta*:— Com. Romanic (and med.L.) *puncta* the action of piercing, the piercing part of anything, a sharp or pointed extremity (in med.L. the point of a knife, shoe, foot, promontory, etc.); ppl. sb. fem. from *pungĕre* (parallel to those in *-āta, -ada, -ée*). In C., in some senses, app. an independent derivative, as a noun of action, from F. *poindre*, or *pointer*, or from Eng. POINT *v.*[1] In ME., through the loss or non-significance of final *-e*, *point* and *pointe* ran together, combining under the same form two senses which in all other langs. are kept apart (e. g. Ger. *punkt, spitze*). Transferred and fig. senses subsequently arose related to both primary notions, so that in senses where there is no corresponding F. *point* or *pointe*, the development is often very difficult to determine. The occasional spellings *pynt, pyntte* prob. indicate a pronunciation formerly prevalent and still dialectal of *oi* as *ī*, *point* being pronounced like *pint*. The *β*-forms in *pont, pount, pownt*, are difficult to place; perh. they ought to be equated with *punt*, and so rather to be included under the by-form PUNCT.]

A. = F. *point*.

I. A prick, a dot.

†**1.** A minute hole or impression made by pricking; a prick, a puncture. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 142 Make a poynt bi þe space of a litil syngre from þe oon eende of þe wounde, & anoþer poynt at þe oþere eende of þe wounde. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/2 Poynte, *punctus* vel *punctum*. [1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 270 *A Point* (*Punctum*), a minute impression upon the surface, but not perforating it.]

2. A minute mark on a surface, of the size or appearance of a fine puncture; a dot, a minute spot or speck; also, anything excessively small or appearing like a speck.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 65 Which [Astrolabe] was of fin gold precious With pointz and cercles merveilous. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 202 Now he only subscribed *Rey*:·· pointed with fiue points, called by the Portugals the fiue wounds. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 4 This invention..so abbreviated that a point onely sheweth distinctly and significantly any of the 24. Letters. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xiii. (ed. 2) 228 As the fix'd Stars..appear but as so many points. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 468 The pupil, instead of being dilated, is contracted to a point. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 468 Body dotted with numerous red points. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 550 The lesions begin as minute scaly points in the epidermis.

3. A dot or other small mark used in writing or printing.

a. A punctuation-mark; *esp.* the *full point* or full stop; also extended to the marks of exclamation (!) and interrogation (?); and sometimes to reference-marks, as the asterisk, obelisk, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 927 And þer a poynt, for ended is my tale; God send euery trewe man boote of his bale. 1530 PALSGR. 15 b, A poynt, whether it be suche as the Latins call *punctum planum* thus made . , ... or with suche as the Latins cal *comma* thus made ⁝ , or *uirgula* thus made /. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* 40 In yᵉ pause of a ful point. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* ad init., The Saxon vseth our note of Full-point commonly for all other distinctions. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 161 Commas and points they set exactly right. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 258, ¶ The Paragraph. † The Obelisk. ‡ The Double Dagger. ‖ The Parallel. § The Section. * The Asterism. These are the Names and Figures of what Founders reckon among Points, and Printers call References. *Ibid.* 262 He assigned the former Points their proper places..and added the Semicolon..to come in between the Comma and the Colon. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 406 The point of Interrogation, ? The point of Exclamation, !. 1891 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XII. 99/2 All abbreviations being uniformly denoted by the full-point.

b. In Semitic alphabets, Any one of the dots, minute strokes, or groups of these, which are placed over, under, or within the letters or consonants, in order to indicate the vowels; in Hebrew also to indicate variation or doubling of the consonant, stress accent, punctuation, etc.; in Arabic and Persian to distinguish consonants otherwise identical in form, as ב *n*, ת *t*, ת *ṯ*, ב *b*, ב *i*, ב *p*, etc., called *diacritical points*.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 102 The three words haue ouer the Aliphs their point Vashlu. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 167 They added the points (which wee call vowels). 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 365 That Argument..against the Antiquity of the Hebrew Points, or Vowels. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. on Man* I. iii. 312 The Manner of writing Hebrew without Points. 1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* iii. 11 When final..it [ה] has often two points above. *Ibid.*, Like ا and ى..it [ى] is considerably influenced by the vowel points. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 219/1 In it [the Cufic character] the Koran was written, originally without diacritical points and vowels. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 3 The points of the vowel Zekofo may coalesce with the point of the letter. 1891 A. F. KIRKPATRICK *Bk. Psalms* I. Introd. vii. 51 The present elaborate system of vowel marks or 'points', commonly called the 'Massoretic punctuation' or 'vocalisation'.

c. A dot used in writing numbers. (*a*) In decimals, separating the integral from the fractional part; also, placed over a repeating decimal, or over the first and last figures of the period in a circulating decimal. (*b*) A dot or stroke used to separate a line of figures into groups.

1704 [see DECIMAL *a.* 1 b]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 312/2 Decimals are distinguished by a point, which separates them from integers, if any be prefixed. 1900 *Daily News* 9 June 5/3 Two 'four-point-sevens', .. two naval twelve-pounders .., and two five-inch guns. *Mod.* We read 4·6 as 'four point repeating six'.

4. A dot or mark used in mediæval musical notation (med.L. *punctus* or *punctum*).

a. A mark indicating a tone or sound; corresponding to the modern 'notes'. (Cf. COUNTERPOINT *sb.*[1])

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* III. 1 Counterpoint..was the old manner of Composing Parts together, by setting Points or Pricks one against another. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. i. 39 Points were first used simple, afterwards with tails.

b. = DOT *sb.*[1] 5 d.

Point of alteration or *duplication*, a dot placed before two short notes in 'perfect' or triple rhythm, to indicate that the second of them is to be reckoned as of twice its ordinary length. *Point of augmentation*, a dot placed after a note in 'imperfect' or duple rhythm, to lengthen it by one half (as in modern music). *Point of division* or *imperfection*, a dot placed between two short notes in 'perfect' rhythm, of which the first is preceded and the second followed by a long note; indicating a division of the rhythm (like the bar in modern music), and rendering the two long notes 'imperfect'. *Point of perfection*, a dot placed in 'perfect' rhythm after a long note which would otherwise be 'imperfect' by position, to indicate that it is to be 'perfect'.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 12, I pray you say what Prickes or poynts..signifie in singing.

II. 5. A separate or single article, item, or clause in an extended whole (usually an abstract whole, as a course of action, a subject of thought, a discourse, etc.); an individual part, element, or matter, a detail, a particular; sometimes, a detail of nature or character, a particular quality or respect; † an instance (of some quality, etc.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 178 ȝif eni ancre is þet ne veleð none uondunges, swuð drede hire iðet point. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 27/30 Fondede in eche pointe to answerien heom wel quoynteliche. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23261 (Cott.) Bot a point es þar þam pines mare, þan elles al þair oþer fare. *Ibid.* 26092 Þe toþer pont es scrift o muth. 1340 *Ayenb.* 33 And yet eft þer byeþ zix poyns kueade, huerby sleuþe brengeþ man to his ende. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 6 These ben þe poyntz & þe articles ordeyned of the bretheren of seint Katerine. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 6 In my paternoster iche poynt after oþer. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 657 Ther er the pontes of perfite lifyng That nedful er to old and ȝing. *c* 1400 *Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 157 He sent worde..þat þai shulde done out and put awey þat o pynt of restitucion. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlv. 17 It is ane pount of ignorance To lufe in sic distemperance. 1526 TINDALE *Jas.* ii. 10 Whosoeuer shall kepe the whole lawe, and yet fayle in one poynt, he is gyltie in all. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 55 The ix artikil. I trou that thair is ane halie chrissine kirk and ane communione of sanctis. Thir ii pwintis ar baith bot ane thing. 1541 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 135 That..this my last will and testament be fulfillid in every poynte. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 7, I have prefaced and scholied sufficiently unto the Text, I come now to seek out first the parts, and then the points of it. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 49 The censure of the Surveyor, on the point of all the materialls which are brought in. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. ii. 74 This is the point upon which the whole reasoning turns. 1784 J. POTTER *Virtuous Villagers* II. 23 We shall never agree on these points, so we'll drop them. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* v. 55 If they had known what point was in dispute. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* v, Is it a point of conscience with you? 1897 J. T. TOMLINSON *Prayer Bk., Articles & Hom.* VII. 211 We shall find.., that..he [Cosin] never adopted any one of the 'six points' of modern Ritualism.

†**b.** *To stand (up)on (one's) points*, to insist upon details of conduct or manners which one has espoused; to be punctilious or scrupulous. *Obs.*

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* i. 122 Our country Margret is so coy, And stands so much vpon her honest points, That marriage or no market with the mayd. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 118. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) I. ii. 32 He stood vpon poynts with me too. 1685 BUNYAN *Pharisee & Publican* Wks. 1861 II. 237 For a man here to stand thus upon his points, it is death.

c. *To* STRAIN OR STRETCH *a point*: see the verbs.

III. A minute part or particle of anything; the smallest unit of measurement.

†**6.** The very least or a very small part *of* something; a jot, whit, particle. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 338 O poynt of ore pine to bate in the world ne is no leche. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lv. 182 Neuere Man On hym Cowde Aspye that Evere he hadde poynt of Meselrye. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 368 Nor neuer hafe felt a poynt of vnhelth, nor sekenesse. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 104 By one point of excesse all your Warke is shent.

†**b.** *No point* (cf. F. *ne point*): not a bit, not at all, not in the least. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 137 Diogenes esteemed the fruite to bee no poyncte the more polluted. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 190 *Boy.* Will you prick't with your eye? *La. Ro.* No poynt, with my knife. 1610 *Histrio-m.* III. 266 The Players now are growne so proud, Ten pound a play, or no point Comedy.

†**7.** The smallest or a very small portion of time; a moment, instant. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* liv. 7 At a poynt in a litil I forsoc thee. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* 106 In a poynt we lyfe, ȝa les þen a poynt, for [if] all our lyfe to lyfe euerlastynge we wald likkyn, noȝt it is. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Kkj b, Theyr felicitie hath been but a shorte poynt.

†**8.** *Sensible point*: the least discernible portion of matter or space. *Obs. rare.*

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xv. § 9 A sensible Point, meaning thereby the least Particle of Matter or Space we can discern, which is ordinarily about a Minute, and to the sharpest Eyes seldom less than thirty Seconds of a Circle, where the Eye is the Center. 1704 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I.

9. *Mus.* A short strain or snatch of melody; esp. in phr. *point of war*, etc., a short phrase sounded on an instrument as a signal. *arch.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 890 Of þat songe myȝt synge a poynt. 1578 GOSSON in T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* ad fin., When .. threatnying trumpet sounde the poyntes of warre. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 52. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 48 Make me a straine;.. Breath me a point that may inforce me weepe. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlvi, To perform the beautiful and wild point of war. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 127 His guardian drew The horn from off his neck, and thereon blew A point of hunting known to two or three. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* viii. (1896) I. 152 Bid him put ghostly trump to lip and breathe a point of war.

b. An important phrase or subject, usually in a contrapuntal composition, esp. in relation to its entry in a particular part; the entry of such a phrase or subject.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 76 There can bee no point or Fuge taken without a rest. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1649) 48 The Contrapunctum figuratum, consisting of Feuges, or maintaining of Points. 1881 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 7 *Points*, a term applied .. to the opening notes of the Subject of a Fugue, or other important Motivo, to which it is necessary that the attention of the Performer should be particularly directed.

†**10.** In mediæval measurement of time: The fourth (or according to some, the fifth) part of an hour. (See ATOM *sb.* 7.) *Obs.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. (W. de W.) 354 An houre conteynyth foure poyntes [*Bodl. MS.* punctes] and a poynt ten momentes. [*Ibid.* xxi. 359 A puncte is the fourth partye of an houre.] 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. xi. 158 Twenty-four hours, each of which admits of four different subdivisions, into four points [etc.].

†**11.** The twelfth part of the side or radius of a quadrant, etc.: *spec.* in *Astron.* One of the 24 (or, according to some, 12) equal divisions of the diameter of the sun or moon, by which the degree of obscuration in an eclipse was measured.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 12 The skale..that seruith by hise 12 poyntes..of ful many a subtil conclusioun. *c* 1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 59 Þe 12 departynges of aiþer of þo sides are called poyntes, þan es a poynte þe twelft parte of any thyng, namely of ouþer side of þe quadrat in þe quadrant. 1550 W. LYNNE *Carion's Cron.* 252 b, The third Eclipse was of the Moone..the Moone was darkened .xvii. pointes and .xxv. minutes. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. xv. (1636) 309 The Astronomers do divide the Diameter as well of the Sunne, as of the Moone into 12, and some into 24 parts, which they call points.

12. *Nine* or *eleven points*, usually in the saying 'Possession is nine (*formerly* eleven) points of the law', i. e. is = nine or eleven out of a supposed ten or twelve points (= a vast majority of the points) that may be raised in a legal action. So by hyperbole, *ninety-nine points* (out of a hundred).

1697–8 WATTS *Relig. Fwv.* (1789) 149 Prejudice and education had eleven points of the law, and it was impossible for arguments to dispossess them. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* X. x. ¶ 20 She had possession, and that is nine points of the law. 1863 READE *Very Hard Cash* xliii, Possession is ninety-nine points of Lunacy law.

13. A unit of count in the score of a game.

1746 HOYLE *Whist* (ed. 6) 69 *Points.* Ten of them make a Game. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 261 *note*, The five is called Towser. The six, Tumbler, which reckon in hand for their respective number of points. 1856 LT. COL. B. *Whist-player* (1858) 21 The party revoking forfeit three points. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 14 The game (1200 up) was won by Cook by 117 points. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Dec. 7/1 Cumberland scored 14 points [at Football].

b. Hence, *to give points to* [F. *donner, rendre des points*], to allow (a rival) to count so many points at starting, to give odds to; *colloq.* to have the advantage of; so *to gain a point, to get points*, to gain an advantage.

1871 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. xii. 400 The English Minister can often gain a point by dexterous dealing in Parliament. 1881 *Confess. Frivolous Girl* 106, I got more [bouquets] than she did; thereby (to use a bit of slang) getting points on her for the time being. 1883 *American* VI. 333 Any average Eton boy could give points to His Holiness in the matter of Latin verses. 1895 F. E. TROLLOPE *F. Trollope* II. i. 16 She could give points to many younger women and beat them.

c. *spec.* in *Piquet*: The number of cards of the most numerous suit in one's hand after discarding; the number scored by the player who holds the highest number of one suit. See PIQUET[1].

1719 R. SEYMOUR *Court Gamester* 75 He who reckons most in this Manner [either by greater number of cards, or, in case of equality, of Pips, Ace = 11, Court cards 10 each] is said to win the Point. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Piquet*, The carte blance [sic] is the first thing that reckons; then the point. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xvii. ¶ 3 Point,

quint, and quatorze. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xviii, By an infraction of the laws of the game [piquet],..Lord Etherington called a point without showing it.

d. *pl.* Name of a particular game at bowls.

1902 J. A. Manson in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 329/1 (*Bowls*) On Scottish greens the game of Points is occasionally played. ..Three points are scored if the bowl come to rest within one foot of the jack...It is obvious that the Points game demands an ideally perfect green.

14. A unit in appraising the qualities of a competitor, or of an exhibit in a competitive show. Also *fig.*

1777 Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* iv. iii, Charles's imprudence and bad character are great points in my favour. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. xxi. 179, I cannot accept it as a point in a clergyman's favour, that he should be opposed to his bishop. 1886 Stevenson *Dr. Jekyll* ii, All these were points against him.

15. A recognized unit in quoting variations in price of stocks, shares, and various commodities, differing in value according to the commodity in question. In *Betting*, a unit in stating fluctuations of the odds.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 54 Betting reduced two points. 1890 *Daily News* 13 Nov. 2/4 Cotton.—Liverpool. .. 'Futures' advanced 2 points, but the improvement has not been maintained, and prices are now one point below yesterday's closing rates. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 9/3 An important advance in American cotton has set in in Liverpool, the rise at noon to-day being nine points, or one-eighth per pound. 1901 Mary E. Wilkins *Portion Labor* 159 The mining stock dropped fast—a point or more a day. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 11/1 The Brighton dividend is 3½ per cent. on ordinary, preferred, and A stock alike. The price has fallen 3 points.

†**16.** A measure of length, the twelfth part of a French line: cf. Line *sb.*2 16. *Obs.*

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 472 The smallest no more than one-half of a Paris point, or the 144th part of an inch in diameter .. is said to magnify the diameter of an object 2560 times.

b. *Printing.* A unit of measurement for type bodies: in the French or Didot system the seventy-second part of a French inch (i.e. twice the amount of prec.); in the U. S. system slightly smaller (in the proportion of about twelve to thirteen), i.e. .0138 of an inch.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The American point was adopted by the United States Type-Founders' Association in 1883. 1900 H. Hart *Century of Oxford Typog.* 154 The typographical unit is the point. *Ibid.*, Oxford Press Type-bodies ..Nonpareil, 5·68 Didot Points..Brevier, 7·35 Didot Points. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 4/3 The type..must be at least 'eight-point', and the lines must be separated by at least two points.

17. In Australian use: A unit in measuring rainfall, the hundredth part (·01) of an inch.

1889 *Australasian* 20 Apr., The following reports have been received:—Brewarrina, 40 points; Bourke, 47 points; .. Ivanhoe, 100 points; Mossgiel, 188 points; .. Hillston, 288 points. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 May 2/1 In the district of the Thompson River there had only been nine points of rain in 15 months. 1895 *Queenslander* 7 Dec. 1061 Rain set in early this morning, ninety-eight points having fallen up to 2.30 p.m.

IV. Something having definite position, without extension; a position in space, time, succession, degree, order, etc.

18. *Geom.* That which is conceived as having position, but not magnitude (as the extremity of a line, or the intersection of two lines).

c 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 18 This forseide cenyth is ymagened to ben the verrey point ouer the crowne of thyn heued. 1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., A Poynt or a Prycke, is named of Geometricians that smalll and vnsensible shape, whiche hath in it no partes, that is to say: nother length, breadth, nor depth. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* *j, A Point is a thing Mathematicall, indiuisible, which may haue a certayne determined situation. 1660 Barrow *Euclid* I. Defin., i. A Point is that which has no part...iii. The ends, or limits, of a line are Points. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., If a Point be supposed to be moved any way, it will by its Motion describe a Line. 1828 J. H. Moore *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 20) 11 To draw a Circle through any Three given Points not situated in a right Line. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 946/1 It is sometimes convenient to consider a point as an evanescent circle or sphere.

b. In various phrases with *of* (in *Geom.*, *Optics*, and *Perspective*), as *point of contrary flexure*, *p. of convergence*, *p. of dispersion*, *p. of distance*, *p. of divergence*, *p. of incidence*, *p. of inflexion*, *p. of osculation*, *p. of reflection*, *p. of refraction*, *p. of sight*, *p. of vision*, etc.: see these words. See also Vanishing *point.*

c. *Astron.*, etc. Applied with qualifying adjs. to special points of the celestial sphere, etc.: see Cardinal, Equinoctial, Solstitial, Vertical.

Cardinal points = Fr. *points cardinaux*; but *the 32 points of the compass* (sense B. 9) = Fr. *pointes de la boussole, ou du compas.*

†**d.** Middle or central point, centre. *Obs. rare.*

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xx. 59 No more than hath the poynt or pricke in the myddle of the most grete compaas that may be. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 227 Our Ecclesiasticall writers haue thought Iudea to be the middle of the Earth, and Ierusalem the very poynt.

19. A place having definite spatial position but no extent, or of which the position alone is considered; a spot.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 68 In þat Cete my saȝes soghe alle aboute, þat, in þat place at þe poynt, I put in þi hert. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 564 The perlouse pointtes þat passe you behoues. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 698 King Edward.. was not a little troubled .. and driuen to seeke the furthest poynt of his witte. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* iv. xi. 178 If you keep a true Account of the Ship's way.., you may at any time have the true Point where the Ship is. 1710 J. Clarke *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* (1729) I. 263 All the Rays which come from any Point of the Object, and fall upon the whole Superficies of the Glass do .. enter into the Pupil. 1837 Lady W. de Eresby in *C. K. Sharpe's Corr.* (1888) II. 498 The nearest way from point to point. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 411 Susa was a good point, whence to invade Babylon.

b. *spec.* The spot at which a policeman is stationed. (Cf. Point-duty.)

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 2/1, I came..in search of a constable: the one on 'point' at Holborn Town Hall could not come.

c. *Hunting. colloq.* A spot to which a straight run is made; hence a straight run from point to point, a cross-country run. Cf. D. 11. *To make his point* (of a fox, etc.), to run straight to a spot aimed at.

1875 Whyte-Melville *Riding Recoll.* (1879) xi. 185 In Leicestershire especially, foxes..will make their point with a stiff breeze blowing in their teeth. *Ibid.* xii. 211 A sportsman must .. admit that 'ten mile points' over grass with one of the handsomest packs of [stag-]hounds in the world, are most enjoyable. 1883 R. E. Egerton-Warburton *Hunting Songs* (ed. 7) Introd. 36 The increase of..dwellings prevents a fox, headed at every corner, from making straight to his point. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 9/1 The Belvoir hounds made an eight mile point in a little over 45 minutes.

20. *Her.* **a.** One of nine particular spots or places upon a shield, which serve to determine accurately the position a charge is to occupy. **b.** The middle part of the chief or base, as distinguished from the dexter or sinister divisions. **c.** One of a number of horizontal stripes of different tinctures into which a shield may be divided. (See also B. 3 c, D. 4 c.)

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 562 þe penounes & þe pomels & poyntes of scheldes Wiþ-drawen his deuocion. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 414 A stark gallowis, ane wedy, and a pyn, The hede poynt of thyne elderis armes ar. 1658 Phillips, *Points*, in Heraldry are certain places in an Escutcheon diversly named according to their several positions. 1725 Coats *Dict. Her.* s.v., There are nine principal Points in any Escutcheon...A..the Dexter Chief. B. the .. Middle Chief. C. the Sinister Chief. D. the Honour Point. E. the Fesse Point, call'd also the Center. F. the Nombril Point, that is, the Navel Point. G. the Dexter Base. H. the Sinister Base. I. the precise Middle Base. 1865 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 626 In order to facilitate the description of a coat-of-arms, it is the practice to suppose the shield to be divided into nine points.

†**21.** One of the squares of a chessboard. *The four points*, the four centre squares. *Obs.*

c 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 6044 The vnkouth craft of the tabler And the poyntes of the chekker. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 71 (Harl.) The chekir or þe chesse hath viij. poyntes in eche partie. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* 135 The bordeure about is hygher than the squarenes of the poyntes. *a* 1500 *MS. Ashmole* 344 (Bodl.) 10 This is a fair Jupertie to mate a man in on of the iiij poyntes for it cumyth offt in play.

22. A definite position in a scale of any kind; a position reached in a course (e.g. Dead point); a step, stage, or degree in progress or development, or in increase or decrease; an exact degree of some measurable quality or condition, as temperature (e.g. *boiling-point*, *dew-point*, *freezing-point*, *melting-point*).

a 1425 *Chaucer's Pars. T.* ¶ 847 (Harl. MS.) Whan naturel lawe was in his first [*6-text* right] poynt in paradis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, [This] declareth some poynt of our iourney. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 678 The extreme poynt of decay of his house and estate. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 206 Her beauty and comely grace..amounted unto a high point. 1747 Freezing Point [Freezing *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1773 Boiling point [Boiling *vbl. sb.* 5]. 1792 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XII. 177 Differences in political opinions are as unavoidable, as, to a certain point, they may perhaps be necessary. 1871 B. Stewart *Heat* § 89 The melting points of various substances. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 324, I was brought to the point of trying to learn to sing. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 93/2 The shares reached their highest point on the 13th June 1890, when they might have been sold for £600.

b. A critical position in the course of affairs; a decisive state of circumstances, a juncture; the precise moment for action, an opportunity. Now only in phrases *when it comes* (*came*) *to the point*, and *at*, *on*, *upon the point of* (see D. 1 c, 5).

1375 Barbour *Bruce* VII. 500 In all that tyme schir Amery, ..In carleill lay, his poynt to se. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xiii. 114 Atte laste he sawe hys poynte whan that his enemyes were wery. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* liii. 178 When it cometh to the poynt ther as strokes shold be gyuen. 1612 Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* iv. iii, But now, when it comes to the point, 'Who am I?' 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xxvii, Her father..who, when it came to the point, so little liked her going, that he told her to write to him.

23. In time, that which has 'position' but not duration (as the beginning or end of a space of time); the precise time at which anything happens; an instant, moment, as the moment of noon, the moment of death.

a 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8080 Drecchynge by tymes haue [*Petyt MS.* poyntes haf] þey wrought. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 28 To ani man in þe poynt of deþ. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. xlii. (1859) 47 In this poynt I herde ..a lusty melodye of wonder swete songe. 1653 Holcroft *Procopius* IV. 151 The point of opportunity being past, the greatest endeavours afterward faile. 1737 Whiston *Josephus Hist.* I. iii. § 5 Four hours .. are over already, which point of time renders the prediction impossible. 1833-6 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. iv. ii. 380 There is..no assignable point at which the belief was introduced. 1844 Mrs Browning *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 30 Though at the last point of a million years.

b. *At* or *on the point of*: see D. 1 c, 5.

†**24.** A (specified) degree of condition; condition, plight, state, case (good, evil, better, etc.) (Cf. F. *en bon point.*) *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8868 Engelond & normandie in goo point he broȝte. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 315 To godus pay is our peple in bettur point founde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 200 A lord ful fat and in good poynt. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* CXV. 173 The barons toke counseyl .. how they myght conteyne them in this greuous poynt in whiche they were. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* xcv. 307 She demaundyd of hym yf he were hole and in good poynt. 1563 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 246 The said kirk is at sik ane point that throw decaying thairof,..the wallis in sindrie partis are revin. 1685 Evelyn *Mrs. Godolphin* 176 Daniell and his companions .. looked fairer and in better point than all the rest. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 283 Know thy own point..this due degree Of blindness, weakness, Heav'n bestows on thee.

V. Figurative and transferred senses.

†**25.** The highest part or degree; the height, summit, zenith, acme. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1502 In þe poynt of her play he poruayes a mynde. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist. 17 margin* It is the point of folly to shew a will to hurte him, whom thou canst not .. by any meanes annoy. 1640 Quarles *Enchirid.* (1641) Ded., Your Highnesse is the Expectation of the present Age, and the Poynt of future Hopes. 1728 Ramsay *Bonny Chirsty* v, This point of a' his wishes, He wadna with set speeches bauk.

26. A distinguishing mark or quality; a distinctive trait or feature; a characteristic.

c 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xxiv, This suddane semblie .. Haifand the pointis of ane parliament *c* 1530 H. Rhodes *Bk. Nurture* 438 in *Babees Bk.* 94 To forbeare in anger is the poynt of a friendly leeche. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 449 b, A shyft of subtle sophisters, and not a poynt of sober Divynes. 1604 James I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 111 It is become .. a point of good fellowship..to take a pipe of Tobacco. 1694 Atterbury *Serm. On Prov.* xiv. 6 (1726) I. 184 To be cautious, and upon our Guard, in receiving Doctrines..is a Point of great Prudence 1889 T. A. Guthrie *Pariah* I. ix, Description was not Lettice's strong point.

b. *spec.* A physical feature in an animal; *esp.* one by which excellence or purity of breed is judged. Hence *transf.* in reference to a person or thing. (Cf. 14.)

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 52 She hath one poynt of a good hauke, she is hardie. 1841 Borrow *Zincali* II. ii. 56 Much better versed in the points of a horse than in points of theology. 1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* xxxvii, She seemed to scan his points approvingly. 1894 G. Armatage *Horse* ii. 14 They [American and Canadian horses] are not remarkable for beauty, though not showing any peculiarly unsightly points. *Ibid.* 20 That the race horse should have all his various points in true relative development. *Ibid.* iv. 47 The points essential to a hunter are a lean head and neck [etc.].

27. *The point*: the precise matter in discussion or to be discussed; the essential or important thing. Often in phr. *to come to the point*, *to keep to the point*, etc.: see also *in point*, *to the point* (D. 4 d, 6 c).

c 1381 Chaucer *Parl. Foules* 372 But to the poynt, nature held on hire hond A formele egle of shap the gentilleste That euere she a-mong hire werkis fond. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 790 This is the poynt, to speken short and pleyn. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxix. 236 Come to yᵉ poynt, and vse no more such langage nor suche serymonyes. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iii. (Arb.) 68 But the point is, I know not how to better my selfe. 1693 Creech in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. Argt. (1697) 319 Then coming closer to his Point, he tells him,..The Wicked are severely punish'd by their own Consciences. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 12 Let us now come to the Point in Hand. 1791 Mrs. Radcliffe *Rom. Forest* ii, 'Is it impossible for you to speak to the point?' said La Motte. 1868 Helps *Realmah* (1876) 256 Do keep to the point, my excursive friends. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 18 The point is not who said the words, but whether they are true or not.

b. *To make a point of* (= F. *faire un point de*): to treat or regard (something) as essential or indispensable; to make (it) a special object. Usually with vbl. sb. or gerund: formerly also *to make a point to do* something.

a 1778 Goldsmith in Boswell *Johnson* 9 Apr., Whenever I write any thing, the publick make a point to know nothing about it. *a* 1806 Fox *Hist. Jas. II* (1808) 12 The King made no point of adhering to his concessions. 1823 W. Tennant *Cdl. Beaton* IV. iii. 121, I mak a pount to be a e'e-witness o' ilka business o' that sort. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Brooke Farm* vii. 88 Her husband made such a point of his tea that she had little hope of persuading him to give it up. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. App. 581 A former colleague of mine in the Oxford Schools always made a point of describing him as 'William the Purchaser'.

28. That at which one aims, or for which one strives or contends; aim, object, end. Often in phr. *to carry one's point*: see Carry *v.* 17 b.

13.. *De Sancta Anastasia* 86 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 26 þe prynce..Upon a day his poynt wold proue. 1581 Sidney *Ps.* xxxi. vii, They their counsells led All to this point, how my poore life to take. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. ii. 4

It remaines, As the maine Point of this our after-meeting. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1727 II. 250 The Magistrate..will have his Will, and carry his Point. 1700 PEPYS *Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 217 The old East India Company have..obtained their great point against the new, by having got their Bill passed. 1776 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* vii. (1876) 408 If they make it the point of their ambition. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. ii, She ended..by carrying her own point, and having her own way.

b. *To make a point*: to establish a proposition, to prove a contention; also *gen.* to attain something that one is aiming at.

1809 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* v. (1839) 112 Two points have been made in this cause. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* ii. (1875) 87 All it exists for is to get its ends, to make its points. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Nov. 3/1 His evident desire to make every point that can possibly be made against the Clark lecturer.

29. A conclusion, completion, culmination, end, 'period'. Also *full point*. ? *Obs.*

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 278 Habent mortem sine morte et finem mortis sine fine. Hij sholen haue deþ wid-oute deiing And point of deþ wid-outen ending. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2107 But shortly to the point thanne wol I wende, And maken of my longe tale an ende. *c* 1540 HEYWOOD *Four P. P.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 352 Ye shall never have them at a full point. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* Ded. 3 To bring that to some good pointe, that earst I had begonne. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 10 First,..say what the play treats on: then read the names of the Actors: and so grow on to a point. 1633 DURIE in *Presbyt. Rev.* (1887) 307 Thought it necessarie to put the matter to some poynt at that diet. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* v. (1750) 245, I thought I had made so full a Point at the Conclusion of my last Letter, that I should not have given you the Trouble of reading any more Letters. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale Tyne* I. 7 He *is* bringing his invention to a point.

†**30.** Determination, decision, resolution. *Obs.*

1477 [see *at a point*, D. 1 d]. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* xxxii. 68 At thende the kyng cam so to poynt that they were appeased goodly. 1530 CRANMER in Strype *Life* (1694) App. 5 After all this he commeth to the poynte to save the Kyngs honour. 1578 T. WILCOCKS *Serm. Pawles Cr.* 22 A great sorte are at a playne poynt, they are carelesse of their soules, so their bodye maye bee free. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 6, I begin to come to a point; I intend to go along with this good man. 1738 [see *at a point*, D. 1 d].

VI. From 16th c. F. *point* = 15–16th c. It. *punto*; derived from the sense *prick*, through that of *stitch, work done with stitches* with the needle.

As English used the native word *stitch* (OE. *stice*, from OTeut. **stikan* to prick, stab, etc.) for the prick of the needle in sewing, the corresponding Fr. use of *point* was not adopted, and the development of this sense was entirely in Italian and French. The It. name *punto in aria* occurs at Venice in 1476.

31. Thread lace made wholly with the needle (also called more fully *point lace, needle-point lace, needle-point*); also improperly applied to pillow lace imitating that done with the needle, and sometimes to lace generally: often named from the place of manufacture, as *Alençon point, Venetian point, point of Genoa, Spain*, etc.: cf. POINT *sb.*3 b.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 56 Isabella, who was his wife, publish'd a book of all the sorts of Points, Laces, and Embroderies. 1673 RAY *Trav.* 156 Venice is noted .. for Needle-work Laces called Points. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 148 To know the Age and Pedigrees Of Poynts of Flandres or Venise. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2150/4 Lost .., Two Pieces of Old Point of Spain Three Yards long; and a Quarter of a Yard broad, some of it sowed upon a Parchment, and new Purled. 1745 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 186 Another would not for the world wear lace; but she will wear point, and sees no harm in it at all. 1864 MRS. PALLISER *Hist. Lace* xiii. (1902) 198 A costly work of Alençon point appeared in the Exhibition of 1855. 1882 A. S. COLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 186/1 The different sorts of early Venetian point laces are called 'flat Venetian point', 'rose (raised) point', 'caterpillar point', 'bone point', &c. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 3/1 The Irish crochet point is..the best-known of all Irish laces. 1906 *Ibid.* 28 Feb. 12/1 Bucks lace, or 'Bucks pillow point', as the fine work is usually called, dates back .. as far as the sixteenth century.

attrib. 1672 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* III. i, My new point gorget shall be yours upon't. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 252 Fine point or Lace sleeves and Ruffles.

b. A piece of lace used as a kerchief or the like.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Oct., My wife in her best gowne and new poynt that I bought her the other day, to church with me. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellam.* I. Wks. 1722 II. 90 She..had but one poor Point of her own making. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD *Jrnl.* (1884) 308 Her hair curled and powdered, with a little cap, or perhaps but a point, and nothing more on their heads.

B. = F. *pointe*. (L. *cuspis, mucro*, Ger. *spitze*.)

I. 1. A sharp end to which anything tapers, used for pricking, piercing, scratching, pointing out, etc.: as of a weapon, tool, pin, pen, pointer.

a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 1059 Thi swerd..The point is in min aumenere. He tok the point, and set ther to. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1791 *Lucrece*, This swerd thour out thyn herte shal I ryue..And sette the poynt [*v.r.* swerd] al sharp vp-on hire herte. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 40, I tok a subtil compas, & cleped þat on poynt of my compas A, & þat oþer poynt F. Than tok I the point of A, & set it in [the] Ecliptik line euene in my zodiak. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 27 Take also a litill bawme on þe poynt of þi knyffe. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10626 (Trin.) May no mon write wiþ penne point. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/2 Poynte, of a scharpe toole, .. *cuspis, mucro, pennum*. 1483 *Wardr. Acc.* 1 *Rich. III*, iij swerdes whereof oon with a flat poynt, called curtana. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 798 It lyith one your speris poynt. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 It is not so moche as a pynnes poynt, compared to yᵉ hole erth. 1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xvii. 1 The sinne of Iudah is written with a pen of yron, and the point of a diamond. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 5 Particles that affect the Taste with Points sharp and piercing. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxv, Scarce could they hear, or see their foes, Until at weapon-point they close. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 316 Scorpions have .. an arcuated and excessively acute point or sting. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* i. 6 The point of the finest needle. 1897 MERRIMAN *In Kedar's Tents* xxvii, It is a pretty spot for the knife—nothing to turn a point.

†**b.** Rendering L. *acies* ('front of an army').

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xx. 2 The preest shal stoond bifore the poynt [Vulg. *aciem*], and thus he shal spek to the puple.

c. Short for *point of the sword* (or other weapon). *To come to points*: to begin fighting (with swords).

1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, v. iv. 21, I saw him hold Lord Percy at the point. 1652 TATHAM *Scotch Figgaries* IV. i, But mayn't I Bar points, being the Challenged? 1762 SMOLLETT *Sir L. Greaves* iii. (1793) I. 70 They would have come to points immediately, had not the gentlemen interposed. 1887 SIR F. POLLOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 801/2 The effective use of the point is a mark of advanced skill. *Ibid.*, St. Louis anticipated Napoleon in calling on his men to use the point.

d. *fig. phr. To put too fine a point upon*: to express with unnecessary delicacy; not to state bluntly or in plain terms.

1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, He was—not to put too fine a point upon it—..hard up!

2. The (or a) salient or projecting part of anything, of a more or less tapering form, or ending in an acute angle; a tip, apex; a sharp prominence.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 7 At the poynt of thy label in the bordure set a prikke .. at the point of thi label set a-nother prikke. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 80 Stanes, þe whilk er noȝt so hard as dyamaundes, and comonly þaire poyntes er broken off. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 285/2 A Poynte of a nese, *pirula*. 1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, II. i. 7, I prethee Tom, beate Cuts Saddle, put a few Flockes in the point: the poore Iade is wrung in the withers. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 69 Hold up the Hand hollow above the Shoulder points. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 154 The Stern is very low, but the Head is as high again, and draws into a sharp point as the Gondolos of Venice. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xiii. 276 By spreading their sails horizontally, and by putting bullets in the centers of them to draw them to a point, they caught as much [rain] water, as filled all their cask. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 441 The chrysalides are always rounded, or without angular elevations or points. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* iii, Let them get round yon point of the rock. 1881 C. GIBBON *Heart's Problem* iii, Mr. Calthorpe tapped the points of the fingers of each hand together.

fig. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. v, He is my Nephew, and my Chiefe, the Point, Tip, Top, and Taft of all our family!

b. *spec.* The tapering extremity of any promontory or piece of land running into the sea; a tapering promontory, a cape: often in geographical names, as Start Point, Point of Ardnamurchan. Also, A peak of a mountain or hill.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 32 He discouered a corner or poynt of the sayd mayne land. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xviii, The point of the Sarail, whereupon the sea beateth. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* i. (1892) 4 From Kemes head called Pen Kemes pointe North, to St. Gouens pointe in the Southe. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxvii. 201 The land .. casting his capes, points and tongues farre into the sea. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 260 The Mountain of Elwend, which is discover'd .. by the whitenesse of its sand and by the extraordinary height of its points. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., The Seamen also call the Extremity of any Promontary (which is a Piece of Land running out into the Sea) a Point; which is of much the same Sense with them as the Word Cape. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 144 The party landed, and encamped at the bottom of a small bay within point George.

†**c.** The wing of a fleet or army. *Obs.*

1550 T. NYCOLLS *Thucidides* 222 b, The Peloponesians auaunced .. to the ende to haue enclosed with their left poyncte, the ryght poynct of the Athenians. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* v. v. § 8. 698 The Latines, as vsually, were in the points; the Romans, in the maine battell.

d. *Mil.* The small leading party of an advanced guard (consisting usually of an experienced non-commissioned officer and four men).

1589 *Discourse Voy. Spain & Port.* 30 Sir Henrie Norris (whose Regiment had the poynt of the Vangard). 1903 LD. WOLSELEY *Story of a Soldier's Life* I. ii. 62 What is now commonly called 'the point of the advanced guard' consisted of four privates and myself.

e. *pl.* The extremities of a horse.

1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* xliii, A particularly fast mare ..bay, with black points. 1872 R. F. BURTON *Zanzibar* I. ix. 347 The favourite charger of the late Sayyid is a little bay with black points. 1883 W. H. BISHOP in *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 720/2 He is sixteen hands high, dark bay, and has black points.

3. An object or instrument consisting of or characterized by a point (in sense 1), or which pricks or pierces. **a.** A pointed weapon or instrument for stabbing or piercing; a dagger, pointed sword, or the like; also, a bodkin.

1488 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 5 Item,..within the said box a point maid of perle contenand xxv perle with hornis of gold. *c* 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* 134 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 157 Howe many poyntes were they nowe a dayes And yet a good poynte amonge them were to fynde Daggers of vengeaunce, redy to make frayes. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iv, I will learne you .. to controll any enemies point i' the world. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* III. 54 Lidian, who entring with a point upon his enemy,.. ran him cleane thorow. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* III. i, Let each man bear A steady point, well levell'd at his heart.

b. 'An iron or steel instrument used with some variety in several arts' (Chambers *Cycl.*); e. g. a pin-pointed tool used by etchers and engravers, an etching-needle: cf. *dry-point* (DRY *a.* C. 3); a small punch or chisel used by stone-workers, etc.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Engravers, etchers, wooden-cutters, stone-cutters, etc. use points to trace their designs on the copper, wood, stone, etc... Statuaries..have likewise points in manner of little chissels, used in first forming or sketching out their work...Lapidaries have iron points, to the ends whereof are fastened pieces of diamonds, serving to pierce the precious stones withal. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* II. 40 If the lines are too small, pass over them again with a short but round point. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 341 The Point is the smallest kind of chisel used by masons. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. VII. ii. § 6. 115 *note*, No cloud can be drawn with the point; nothing but the most delicate management of the brush. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXXI. 9 The Royal sketches evince a true feeling for art, and much ability with the etching point.

c. *Her.* A bearing resembling a pile, usually occupying the base of the shield; reckoned a 'diminution' or mark of dishonour.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 124 He beareth a poynte playne, Geules, in a fielde, Or. This is for hym yᵗ telleth lyes, to hys soueraigne. 1830 ROBSON *Hist. Her.* Gloss., *Point*, according to Edmondson, (meaning the point pointed), is an ordinary somewhat resembling the Pile, issuing from the Base.

d. A tine of a deer's horn.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii. (1874) 69 You may know some day .. what his rights mean, if he has them, brow, bay, tray, and points. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* iv. 68 An antler is judged by the number of points or tines which spring from the beam. The beam is the main stem, and the points are the branches. 1885 ROOSEVELT *Hunting Trips* iv. 107 He was a fine buck of eight points.

e. *Electr.* A metallic point at which electricity is discharged or collected; also, each of the carbon points or pencils in an electric light (see CARBON 2).

1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 261 The influence of points in receiving and carrying off electricity has already been adverted to. 1849 CRAIG, *Point*, .. in Electricity, the acute termination of a body which facilitates the passage of the fluid to or from the body. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sc.* I. 136/2 As the points burn away, the springs keep up a fresh supply. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 10/1 At the rate of a foot in five minutes the carbon point wrought its way, and in a short time the enormous mass of steel had been reduced to fragments that could be easily handled.

f. On a railway: A tapering movable rail by which vehicles are directed from one line of rails to another. Usually in *pl.*

1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 27 Moveable points or sliding-rails, and the requisite machinery for moving them. 1885 *Scotsman* 11 June, A south bound goods train .. ran into the safety points, crashing against the buffer end with great violence. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 53 It is impossible for the signalman to lower the signals..until the 'points' or 'switches' have been placed in their proper position.

g. One of the twelve tapered divisions on each 'table' of a backgammon board.

1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 9 That his friend Egistus had entered a wrong pointe in his tables. 1595 SOUTHWELL *Tri. Death* (1596) 22 God casteth the dice, and giueth vs our chaunce; the most we can doe, is, to take the poynt that the cast will affoord vs. 1680 COTTON *Gamester* XXV. 109 Of Irish. ..The men which are thirty in number are equally divided between you and your Adversary, and are thus placed, two on the Ace point, and five on the sice of your left hand Table. *Ibid.* XXVII. 114 (*Tick-tack*) Boveries is when you have a man in the eleventh point of your own Tables, and another in the same point of your Adversaries directly answering. 1870 HARDY & WARE *Mod. Hoyle, Backgammon* 142 The next best point .. is to make your bar-point. 1905 FISKE *Chess in Iceland* 279 Some confusion is caused by the fact that we English use *point* both for the 'dots' on the dice and the twenty-four *points* (Fr. 'flèches') on the board.

In other applications

h. †A kind of nail or spike (*obs.*); a glazier's sprig (*Cent. Dict.*). †**i.** An agnail or hangnail; = AGNAIL 3 *Obs.* †**j.** A small piece of heavy wood pieced into the butt of an arrow to counterbalance the head. *Obs.* **k.** †A rough diamond of a certain shape (*obs.*); also, an angular fragment of diamond adapted for glass-cutting (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). **l.** A thorn. **m.** One of the interchangeable pointed legs of a pair of compasses. **n.** A name of certain surgical instruments.

h. 1590 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 374 A gr[oss] doble hard poyntes, iis. iid. **i.** 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 73 If about these nails be an excoriation of the flesh, which is commonly called 'points'. **j.** 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 127 Two poyntes in peecing be ynough, lest the moystnes of the earthe enter to moche into the peecinge, and so leuse the glue. Therefore many poyntes be more pleasaunt to the eye, than profitable for the vse. **k.** 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 213 The Names of Rough Stones [diamonds], according to their Forms and Substance... A Point...An ½ Point [etc.]. **l.** 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xvii. 373 Every one tooke a poynt of Manguay, which is like vnto an awle or sharpe bodkin, with the which .. they pierced the calfes of their legges neare to the bone, drawing foorth much blood. 1893 P. H. EMERSON *On Eng. Lagoons* xxxix. 231 That's good for drawing points..out of your hand. **m.** 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. ii. 53 A Brass pair of Compasses to go with an Arch and Screws..and four Steel Points to take in and out. **n.** 1890 A. WHITELEGGE *Hygiene & Public Health* xii. 263 The lymph may be sealed in capillary tubes or dried upon ivory points. *Ibid.* 264 If stored calf-lymph is used, two large 'points' are needed

for each child. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 776 Our practice is confined to two methods, namely tonsillotomy and the galvano-caustic point.

4. *Printing.* One of the short sharp pins fixed on the tympan of a press so as to perforate the sheet and serve to make register.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 19 This Point is made of a piece of small Wyer about a quarter and half quarter of an Inch high. *Ibid.* xxiv. ¶ 7 To large Paper he chuses Short Shanked Points, and to small Paper Long Shanked Points. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Printing*, To regulate the margins, and make the lines and pages answer each other when printed on the other side; in the middle of the wood, in the sides of this tympan, are two iron points, which make two holes in the sheet. 1825–88 [see *paste-point*, PASTE *sb.* 8].

b. Short for *point-plate* (see D. 14).

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 19 The Points are made of Iron Plates about the thickness of a Queen Elizabeth Shilling: .. at the end of this Plate .. stands upright the Point. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. 514 Points are made of sheet iron, of different lengths, about the sixteenth part of an inch thick... The spur of the point is rivetted at the small end, and projects about three eighths of an inch.

II. 5. A tagged lace or cord, of twisted yarn, silk, or leather, for attaching the hose to the doublet, lacing a bodice, and fastening various parts where buttons are now used; often used as a type of something of small value (esp. *blue point*). Now *arch.* or *Hist.*

[In this sense *point* renders F. *aiguillette*, orig. an *aglet* or metal point of a lace or cord, thence a lace with an aglet. English (on the whole) retained *aglet* for the metal point or tag, and translated it by *point* for the cord.]

1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 35 Johanni Dounton pro j gros poyntes, iij s. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 33 Y might, and y satte lowe, breke sum of my pointes. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 241 Two doseyn poyntys of chevelerelle, the aglottes of sylver feyn. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Poynt for ones hose, *esguillette*. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 675/2 It is not al worth an aglet of a good blewe poynte. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 117 He made hys pen of the aglet of a poynte that he plucked from hys hose. ? *a* 1550 *Debate Somer & Wynter* 132 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 41 All is not worthe a poynte of lether. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1094 [They] made thongs and points of the skins of men and women, whom they had flaine quick. 1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* vi. 265 He hath hardly earned a blew point for his daies worke. 1647 PEACHAM *Worth of Penny* 17 So naturally sparing, that if a point from his hose had broken, he would have tied the same upon a knot, and made it to serve againe. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 260 A chilling Fear surprizes all his Joints, And makes him ready to untruss his Points. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xx, Assistance in tying the endless number of points, as the laces which attached the hose to the doublet were then termed. [See also AGLET *sb.* 1.]

† 6. A plait of hair; a pigtail. *Obs.*

1603 B. JONSON *Entertainm. Coronat. K. Jas.* Wks. (1616) 844 Her hayre bound into foure seuerall points.

7. *Naut.* One of the short pieces of flat braided cord attached near the lower edge of a sail for tying up a reef; a reef-point: see REEF *sb.*[1] 3.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) H h iv, The courses of large ships are either reefed with points or..reef-lines. 1801 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 44 [He] called to the boatswain to bring a point (a rope doubled with knots at the end), and give the plaintiff a 'starting'. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 17. 399 Midshipmen into the tops to see the points tied!

8. A short buckling strap.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Point..*17. (*Harness.*) A short strap stitched to a wide one for the purpose of attaching the latter to another strap by a buckle. The end of any strap that is provided with holes for the buckle-tongue.

III. 9. Each of the equidistant points on the circumference of the mariner's compass, indicated by one of the thirty-two rays drawn from the centre, which serve to particularize the part of the horizon whence the wind is blowing or in the direction of which an object lies; also *transf.* the angular interval between two successive points (one-eighth of a right angle, or 11° 15′). Hence, any of the corresponding points, or in general any point, of the horizon; thus often nearly = Direction. (In ordinary use, usually *point of the compass*; in absol. use chiefly *Naut.*)

a 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 86 When the wynde is in any poynte of the northe all the fowle stynke is blowen ouer the citee [London]. 1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 257 The roses of the windes or pointes of the compasse. 1556 BURROUGH *ibid.* (1886) III. 117 The land lyeth North and halfe a point Westerly. 1592 LYLY *Gallathea* I. iv. 33 The two and thirty poynts for the winde. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 206 To this day they [Chinese] haue but eight points vnto their Compasse. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vi. (1840) 103 They bent their course one point of the compass..to the southward of the east. 1798 MILLAR in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. cliv, The leading Ship to steer one point more to starboard. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* xiv. (1858) 463 The Latin Church..regardless of all points of the compass, has adopted for its Altar the Holy Tomb itself. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 54/1 Lights .. were seen from four to five points on the port bow of the *Y. M. Stevens.*

IV. 10. a. The salient feature of a story, discourse, epigram, joke, etc.; that which gives it application; effective or telling part. Also, A witty or ingenious turn of thought.

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 254 All arm'd with points, antitheses and puns. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xi, The young ladies might have rather missed the point and cream of the jest. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 An inscription..in which the moral was better than the point. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 29 So as to be able to turn the point of an argument. 1876 *World* V. No. 106. 3 Full of capital points, blunted in delivery. 1891 LD. COLERIDGE in *Law Times Rep.* LXV. 581/1 He has somewhat misapprehended the point of those observations. *Mod.* He did not see the point of the joke.

b. That quality in speech or writing which arrests attention; appealing, convincing, or penetrating quality; pungency, effect, value.

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *On Fletcher* Comedies, etc. (1651) 8 All point! all edge! all sharpness! 1675 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 114 'Tis epigram, 'tis point, 'tis what you will, But not an elegy. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1816) I. Introd. 10 Any thing..which my illustrious friend thought it worth his while to express, with any degree of point. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. viii. 135 A stanza, which has the point of an epigram with all the softness of a gentle truth.

V. 11. *Cricket.* The position of the fieldsman who is stationed more or less in a line with the popping-crease, a short distance on the off-side of the batsman (orig. close to the point of the bat); also *transf.* the fieldsman himself.

1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 41 The point of the bat... The young fieldsman who is appointed to this situation, should possess a quick eye... For the position of body in the point, I can do no better than refer him to instructions.. given to the wicket-keeper. *Ibid.* 42 The point all the while must keep his face towards the batter, and his arms and hands in their proper position. 1849 *Laws of Cricket* in 'Bat' *Crick. Man.* (1850) 57 No substitute..shall be allowed to..stand at the point, cover the point, or stop behind. 1850 *Ibid.* 43 The Point requires a fieldsman with a very quick eye... The distance at which he stands from the point of the bat, varies from five to seven yards. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide Cricketers* 68 Templar .. has succeeded to his [brother's] place as point. 1870 SEELEY *Lect. & Ess.* 165 What can be more serious than a game of Cricket?..Point does not chat with cover-point.

b. In *Lacrosse*, The position of the player who stands a short distance in front of the goal-keeper, or the player himself. **c.** In *Baseball*, The positions occupied by the pitcher and catcher.

1887 *Boy's own Bk., La Crosse*, There is a goal-keeper; a point, placed twenty yards a-head of the goal-keeper; and a coverpoint.

C. Noun of action of French or English origin (including some senses of doubtful origination).

† 1. A feat; *esp.* a feat of arms, a deed of valour, an exploit; also, an encounter, skirmish. [OF. *pointe.*] *Points of war*: warlike exercises. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IX. 631 This wes a richt fair poynt, perfay! *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 540 And puttes you to perell in pointis of armes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 345 For that the kynge hadde slain oon of his newewes at a poynt, that hadde be by-fore the town. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 138 With oile anoynt, Nakit worsling and strougling at nyse poynt. 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XVIII. ix, He me warr points did show, Strengthning mine arms, that I could break an iron bow. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 696 Besides he could doo manie other poynts, The which in Court him served to good stead. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi. 945 Seeing him practise his lofty pointes, as his crospoynt and his backcaper.

† 2. A hostile charge or accusation. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7900 The triet men of Troy traitur hym cald, And mony poinntes on hym put for his pure shame. *Ibid.* 11751 Er any troiens with truthe might telle suche a fawte, Or soche a point on me put in perlament her aftur. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXLII. (1482) 277 To ansuere to all maner poyntes that the kyng and his counceyll wold put vpon hym.

† 3. Trial, examination: in phr. *put to point. Obs.*

1469 in *Archæologia* XV. 168 That the money .. be newe molton and reforged .. till it be putte to poynt. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 611 To have thair maters callit and put to poynt in ordour. 1584 *Ibid.* 687 Quhill the samin be decydit or utherwise put to point.

4. *Falconry.* Of a hawk: The action of rising vertically in the air; esp. in phr. *to make* (*her*) *point.* [F. *la pointe de l'oiseau.*]

1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. XXVII. (1739) 125 Like the Eagle they make many points before they stoop to their Prey. 1828 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Observ. Hawking* 23 The hawk will make his point—that is, rise perpendicularly in the air over the spot where the bird got into cover. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry in Valley of Indus* iii. 29 The Shikrah .. 'makes her point' and takes her stand on some neighbouring tree or eminence. 1883 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falconry in Brit. Isles* Gloss. 152 *To make its point*, the mode a Hawk has of rising in the air, by which the place is marked where the quarry has 'put in.'

5. A direct forward advance, a charge. [F. *faire pointe* to make a charge.]

1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 27 It seems they had all in turn made a dead point at this young earl, though unsuccessfully. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 239 Just in my way as I was making my point for Lancashire.

6. Of a pointer or setter: The act of pointing; the rigid attitude assumed on finding game, with the head and gaze directed towards it. Usually in phrases *to make, come to a point.* Also *fig.*

1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feel.* Introd 3, My dog had made a point on a piece of lee-ground. 1892 *Field* 7 May 695/1 Raffle made two good points on birds. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 510/2 The method of approaching the point is explained. *Mod.* A dog that comes to a point well.

7. The act of pointing: in the humorous phrase *bread* or *potatoes and point*, the action of merely pointing or looking at the relish, such as cheese, bacon, fish, etc., and making one's meal of bread or potatoes only. (*dial.*)

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x. (1871) 195 The victual Potatoes-and-Point not appearing, at least not with specific accuracy of description, in any European Cookery-Book whatever. 1897 *Ch. Times* 15 Oct., A poor family, who could not afford to eat meat, and who, we will say, dine on potatoes, would .. be commonly said to have for dinner potatoes and point.

8. An indication; a hint, suggestion, direction.

1882 B. HARTE *Flip* iv, One of these officials comes up to this..ranch..to get points about diamond-making. 1886 *Halford's Adviser* 20 Jan., There are friends who honestly and in all good faith give a 'point' as to buying this or that Stock. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Oct. 263/2 A clever young man easily makes the mistake of supposing that he could have given Solomon points about women.

9. *Arch.* Amount or degree of pointedness: in phrase *of the third* (or *fourth*) *point*, rendering It. *di terzo* (or *quarto*) *acuto.*

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 8 Arches of the 3d. and 4th. Point .. So our English Authors call 'em, but the Tuscan Authors calls them *di terzo*, and *di quarto acuto*, because they always concur in an acute Angle at the Top. 1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Tierce point*, the vertex of an equilateral triangle. Arches or vaults of the third point, which are called by the Italians *di terzo acuto*, are such as consist of two arcs of a circle intersecting at the top.

D. Phrases and Combinations (chiefly from A.).

* With prepositions.

1. At point. [= F. *à point.*] **† a.** Aptly, fitly, properly, suitably, conveniently. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 702 For wynd at poynt blawand thai had. *Ibid.* VI. 406 He wes arayit at poynt clenly, Outakyn that his hede wes bair. *Ibid.* X. 283 He wes.. Curtas at poynt, and debonar And of richt sekir contenyng. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 113 Ane gude knycht..suld sett all his study till arm him at poynt, and hors him. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 25 The fame wherof so wandred it at point [L. *ea fama vagatur*].

† b. (Also *at a point.*) In readiness, prepared.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 347 Tis politic and safe to let him keep At point a hundred knights. 1611 FLORIO s.v. *Punto, Essere in punto*, to be in a readinesse, to be at a point.

c. *At point to, at the point to* (with inf.): ready to, on the point of, just about to. Cf. *at the point of* (see f.); *on or upon the point of* (see 5). *arch.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 Whan they were at the poynt to haue passed ouer the seconde flode called Jordayn. 1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* II. 15 Pyrrhus was at the poynte to have fled. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* liii. 12 My hairt .. At poynt to speid, or quikly to despair. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. i. 33 Who already..are at point To show their open banner. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXV. 32, I am at the point to die. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 195 Being at the poynt to leaue this world. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 228 He seemed at point his whole desire to gain.

† d. *At a point*: agreed; settled, decided, determined, resolved. See A. 30. *Obs.*

1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 169 Ye promysyd me, that ye wold never breke the mater to Margrery unto suche tyme as ye and I were at a point. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 60 Yet was [he] at a pointe in his owne mynde, toke she it wel or otherwise. 1555 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1562/1, I .. was at poynt with my selfe, that I woulde not flye. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 189 Is he at a poynte with his creditors? 1660 BUNYAN in *Life* (1870) 97 When they saw that I was at a point, and would not be moved nor persuaded. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 85 His Highness [Cromwell] was at a point, and obliged them to deliver up the island of Polerone in the East Indies.

e. *At all points*: in every part, in every particular or respect. (Usually with *armed.*) (Cf. a.)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3332 Wel armed ȝe arn at alle maner poyntes. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 607 Armyd at all poyntes, for a day ys sette. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. viii. 129 A good knyght that was redy to doo bataill at all poyntes. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. ii. 200 Arm'd at all points exactly, *Cap a Pe.* 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. Pref. 39 They were armed at all points. 1894 G. ARMATAGE *Horse* ii. 13 Easily beaten at all points by an English horse of second-rate powers.

f. *At the point of*, on the very verge of, just about to do something. † *At the point of day* [F. *au point de jour*], at daybreak (*obs.*). (See also c.)

c 1450 *Merlin* 585 Be redy at the poynte of day for to ride. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* vi, Whanne he was atte thartycle and at the poynt of dethe he wold make his testament. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxiv. 396 This should be eaten at the point of day. 1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 74 The lord Berkley was at the point of sayling. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed..2) III. 285 A rich man who was at the point of death. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* III. ix, I..told him they were at the point of going.

† 2. By point of. By virtue or force of. *rare*—[1].

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 156/2 Governours afore rehersed, or other entitled by poynt of Chartour.

3. From point to point. From one point or detail to another, in every particular, in detail. *Obs.* or *arch.* [OF. *de point en point.*]

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 333 Fro point to point al sche him tolde, That sche hath longe in herte holde. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 43 And than thei..tolde it hym from point to point. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 8 It standeth me upon to answere from point to point, to the reasons which you have brought. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* x. 31 Then I recounted to him from point to point how I was cast away. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xv, From point to point I frankly tell The deed of death as it befell.

4. In point [OF. *en point*]. **† a.** In proper condition, in order. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* CXXXI. 145 They toke counseyl.. and made theyr shippes to be in poynt and redy. 1490 — *Eneydos* vii. 30 They dyd doo repayre theyr nauyre, &

sette it..alle in poynte, wyth alle thynges to theym necessarye.

† b. At once, on the instant. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 247 To cut off his Head if he had not done it in point.

c. *Her.* (*a*) Said of two piles borne in a shield so as to meet at their points. (*b*) *Point in point*: a bearing (sense B. 3 c) issuing from the base, resembling a pile reversed, but with concavely curved sides; reckoned a mark of dishonour.

1562 Leigh *Armorie* 124 He beareth a pointe in pointe, Or, in a fielde Sable. This is for them yᵗ are slowthfull in warres. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., He beareth two Piles in Point.

d. *predicatively.* (Cf. F. *à point* = *à propos.*) Apposite; appropriate.

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 254 Some play or other is in point. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. 274 They are in point to the present subject. 1796 Mrs. J. West *Gossip's Story* I. 198 Not recollecting any similitude in point. 1885 Sir N. Lindley in *Law Rep.* 30 Ch. Div. 14 The case of *Stokes* v. *Trumper* is not really in point. 1888 Burgon *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. iii. 340, I recall another humble incident somewhat in point.

e. *In point of*: in the matter of; with reference or respect to; as regards. *In point of fact*: see also Fact 6 b. (From A. 5.)

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 3 States were too busy with their laws and too negligent in point of education. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 France may vie and weigh even with Greece it self, in point of Learning. 1656 H. Phillips *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 2 Much might be said to this in point of law. 1777 A. Hamilton *Wks.* (1886) VII. 515 He agrees with me in point of the enemy's numbers. 1812 *View State Parties in U. S.* (ed. 2) 32 In point of date, the two events correspond with a singular exactness. 1887 Sir E. Fry in *Law Times Rep.* LVIII. 163/2 The evidence..amply justifies the verdict and judgment in point of fact, if they can be justified in point of law.

† f. *In point to* (*of*): in a position ready to, on the point of; in immediate peril or danger of. Cf. *at the point* (1 c, f), *on the point* (5). *Obs.*

c 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II.* 432 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 343 That al Engelond i-wis was in point to spille. *a* 1350 *Cursor M.* 4760 (Gött.) Iacob and his sonis ware wid hunger in point to for-fare. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiii. 57 He.. was in poynt to drowne, and Criste tuke him by þe hand. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 87 [He] put all the lave in poynt of perdicioun. 1479 *Presentm. Juries in Surtees Misc.* (1888) 28 The crosse in the merkythe place, that it is in pounte to fall. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. xi. 55 Dido standis redy to cum in point to de. 1572–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 189 Quhairof he hes lyne continewalie bedfast sensyne, and in poynt and dangeare of his lyff. 1641 W. Hakewill *Libertie of Subject* 90 The people were in point to rebell had not the king stayed the proceedings.

5. **On or upon the point of** († to). [F. *sur le point de.*] On the very verge of; usually in reference to action, Just about to, just going to do something (now with vbl. sb. or n. of action, formerly also with inf.). Formerly also in reference to a specified time or a number: Very near, close upon.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 55/52 A churche .. þat ope þe poynte was to falle a-doun. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1457 Þe brutons were vpe þe pointe to fle. 1525 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 320 The gales [=galleys]..ar not yet departed, but upon the pointe of departing; tarying for wynde and weder. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 32 b, He had askryed a nomber of horsemen..vppon the poynct of syx thowsand. 1607 Middleton *Your Five Gallants* II. iii. 247 *Tai.* What's a'clock?..*Gol.*..'Tis upon the point of three. 1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* II. 10, I was upon the point of sending my footman to you. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* I. II. 100 When he was upon the point to fall upon the City, and Castle of Clisson. 1712 Budgell *Spect.* No. 307 ₱ 12 He ..was upon the Point of being dismissed. 1771 T. Hull *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) I. 75 Such a father!..upon the point to die! 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* ii, 31 Everything seemed on the point of moving.

6. **To point.** † a. Into proper condition; to rights. [F. *à point.*] *Obs.*

1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xii. 37 So in lyke wyse trauaylleth Phisyque to brynge Nature to poynt, that disnatureth in mannes body whan ony maladye or sekenes encombreth hit.

b. To the smallest detail; exactly, completely. *arch.* (Cf. *at point, at all points*, 1 a, e.)

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 16 Seeing one in mayle, Armed to point. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 194 Hast thou, Spirit, Performd to point, the Tempest that I bad thee? *a* 1625 Fletcher *Chances* I. iv, *Duke.* Are ye all fit? 1 *Gent.* To point, sir. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* III. 282 All things thus happily performed to point.

c. *To the point* (of speech or writing, or *transf.* of the speaker or writer): Apposite, apt, pertinent. (Cf. A. 27.)

1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. i. 34 Show, that..the evidence which you call for is evidence to the point. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 111 He makes a long speech not much to the point. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 146/2 The notes are short and to the point.

7. **Upon point.** † a. On peril, on penalty. *Obs.*

1642 W. Bird *Mag. Honor* 40 The Clerks of the Chancery..shall not leave out or make omission of the said Additions..upon point to be punished.

† b. As a matter of fact, in reality. *Obs.*

1642 Rogers *Naaman* To Rdr. § 2 In this sense it is (upon point) no other then the old Adam. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* (1865) II. 15 Diligence..and Faithfulness..is all that is upon point required of him.

c. *Upon the point of*: see 5.

** With other sbs.

† 8. **Point and blank** (*points and blank*): = Point-blank. *Obs. rare.*

1590 Sir J. Smyth *Disc. Weapons* 14 b, The Mosquet ranforced and well charged with good powder, would carrie a full bullet poynt and blancke 24 or 30 scores. *Ibid.* 28 The arrowes doo not onelie wound, and sometimes kill in their points and blank, but also in their discents and fall.

9. **Point of honour** [F. *point d'honneur*]. A matter regarded as vitally affecting one's honour. Hence, the obligation to demand satisfaction (esp. by a duel) for a wrong or an insult.

1612 E. Grimstone tr. *Turquet's Gen. Hist. Spain* XXVII. 971 *margin*, Moderne combats and the Maximes of the point of honour at this day. 1659 B. Harris *Parival's Iron Age* 52 Points of honour make them run into the Field ..in such sort, as that the greatest part of the Nobility unhappily falls in Duels. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 233 When we say a Point of Honour, we mean a Rule, a Law, and a Maxim of Honour. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 99 ₱ 2 The great Point of Honour in Men is Courage, and in Women Chastity. 1782 Cowper *Conversation* 163 The Point of Honour has been deemed of use, To teach good manners, and to curb abuse. 1850 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) II. xiii. 91 To obey the call of the commonwealth was the point of honour with the Roman statesman.

10. **Point of horse** (*Mining*): see Horse *sb.* 11.

1882 Ogilvie (Annandale), *Point of horse*,..the spot where a vein, as of ore, is divided by a mass of rock into one or more branches.

11. **Point-to-point,** *a.* a. (Made, reckoned, etc.) from one point or place to another in a direct line: chiefly of a cross-country race; hence *ellipt.* as *sb.* a cross-country race, a steeple-chase. See A. 19 c.

1883 C. Pennell-Elmhirst *Cream Leicestersh.* 236 The winner of the Quenby point-to-point chase. 1895 *Baily's Mag.* May 333/1 The so-called 'point-to-point' steeplechase —i. e., the original form of the sport. 1900 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Apr. 3 Major—conducted the point to point meetings.

b. Direct, straight, categorical.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 15 July 4/3 Random assertions are at once challenged and point-to-point question and answer are sometimes insisted upon.

12. **Point of view** [F. *point de vue*]: the position from which anything is viewed or seen, or from which a picture is taken; also, the position or aspect in which anything is seen or regarded. *lit.* and *fig.*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Point of view*, with regard to building, painting, etc., is a point at a certain distance from a building, or other object, wherein the eye has the most advantageous view or prospect of the same. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 143 That he has seen the disputed subject in the same point of view. 1844 Macaulay *Misc. Writ.* (1860) II. 114 In a literary point of view, they are beneath criticism. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 2 Every generation..demands that the history of its forefathers be rewritten from its own point of view. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xxvi. 367 From no single point of view..can all the Dirt-Bands of the Mer de Glace be seen at once. 1893 *Bookman* June 85/1 From the world's point of view his unpopularity was richly deserved.

*** Attributive uses and Combinations.

13. General Combinations, as *point-aglet, -angle, -cleaner, -end, -holder, -hole* (Printing), *-law* (Law *sb.*3), *-making, -mark, -pair, -pinner, -rod, -shape, -side, -system, -triplet*; *point-eared* adj. In Phonetics, used to describe a consonant articulated with the point of the tongue, as *t, d*; also in comb. as *point-side* (as *l*), *point-teeth* (as *þ*) adjs.

1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 151 Larrees [Persian coins] fashioned like *point-aglets, and are worth ten pence. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Arm.* iv. (1874) 67 The blade [of the Roman sword] was straight .. and cut at an obtuse angle to form the point. In process of time this *point-angle becomes more and more acute. 1888 Sweet *Hist. Eng. Sounds* § 11 *Point consonants admit of inversion..and protrusion. 1894 Gladstone *Odes of Horace* III. xix. 4 Goat-footed, *point-eared Satyrs too. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 335 [He] presses a little gently upon the Tympan just over the *Point-ends of each Point. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 330 A shallow half-moon cut out of the back [of a bowie-knife] at the point end. 1897 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 7/3 *Point holder, employed by the Midland Railway Company. 1602 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1848) II. 229 The said schip sall ly on the *poyntlaw within the herbrie. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 4 Dec. 3/3 The book depends for effect rather upon its natural, facile 'talkativeness' than upon any sort of conscious *pointmaking. 1902 *Ibid.* 23 May 6/5 Dialogue sure to evoke laughter when delivered by such experts in point-making. 1897 *Archæologia* Ser. II. V. 402 A complete circle, with the *point-mark of the compass in the middle. 1858 Cayley *Coll. Math. Papers* II. 563 [The] equation..represents..a system of *m* points, or point-system of the order *m*...When *m* = 1 we have of course a single point, when *m*=2 we have a quadric or *point-pair, when *m*=3 a cubic or point-triplet, and so on. 1877—in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 727/1, 2*u*—*v* point-pairs (that is, conics, each of them a pair of points). 1808 E. Sleath *Bristol Heiress* II. 34 She is as vain of the..breadth and texture of her *point-pinners as of her coronet. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 75 '*Point-rod Compensator', which automatically compensates for the expansion or contraction from heat or cold of the rods which actuate the points. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1911/4 Mantua's, Petticoats, *Point-shapes, etc. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 199 There is in every card what is called the *point side and the smooth side, the former being the side towards which the wires point. 1901 *N. E. Dict.* s. v. L, The 'point-side' consonant admits of considerable diversity in mode of articulation and consequently in acoustic quality.

14. Special Combs.: **point-bar,** in the Jacquard apparatus, one of the needles governing the warp-threads, by the motion of which the pattern is produced; **point-brass** (see quot.); **point-circle,** a point considered as an infinitely small or evanescent circle; **point-constable,** a constable on point-duty; **point-draughtsman,** one who draws with the point, an engraver; **point-finder,** an instrument for determining the vanishing point in making projections (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **point-handle,** the lever by which a point or railway switch is moved; **point-head,** a headdress of point-lace (see Head *sb.* 5); **point-iron** (cf. *point-brass*); **point-lever** = *point-handle*; **point-net,** simple point-lace; **point-paper,** pricked paper for making, copying, or transferring designs (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **point-plate** (*Printing*), the adjustable plate carrying the points (B. 4); **point-policeman** = *point-constable*; **point-screw** (*Printing*), the screw by which the point-plate is fastened down; **point-shot,** point-blank distance (see Point-blank); **point-sphere,** a point regarded as an infinitesimal sphere; † **point-tag,** the aglet of a lace; † **point-tagger,** a maker of point-tags; **point-tool** (*Turning*), a flat tool having the end ground to a point; **point-trusser,** a valet or page who trussed or tied his master's points. Also Point-duty, Point-lace, etc.

1836 Ure *Cotton Manuf.* II. 350 Projects of bobbins, pushers, lockers, *point-bars, and needles. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 138 *Point-iron* or **brass*, a larger sort of plumb, formed conically and terminating in a point, for the more nicely adjusting anything perpendicularly to a given line. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.* II. 946 A **point-circle* has the equation $x^2+y^2=0$, and a *point-sphere* the equation $x^2+y^2+z^2=0$. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Aug. 8/2 A *point constable is on duty twenty yards away. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's Nest* Pref. 7 The four greatest *point-draughtsmen hitherto known, Mantegna, Sandro Botticelli, Dürer, and Holbein. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 4/5 The *point handles always stop half-way while being moved over. 1702 Farquhar *Twin Rivals* II. iii, 'Tis conscience I warrant that buys her the *point-heads and diamond necklace! 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 Oct., She had bought a fine point head. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 8/1 In Edinburgh Station the lines are worked from 565 signal and *point levers. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 243 The *point-net machine. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ₱ 19 A round Pin filed with a Male-Screw upon it, to..hold the *Point-Plate fast in its Place. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 321. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 7/1 One o'clock in the morning, at which hour the '*point' policeman outside the house goes off duty. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* x. ₱ 10 In the middle of each long Rail of the Tympan, is..an Hole..for the square Shanks of the *Point Screws to fit into. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 521/1 She engaged within *point musket shot, every ship of the enemy from rear to van. 1866 *Point-sphere [see *point-circle*]. 1649 Davenant *Love & Honour* II. i, Her Fingers I think they are smaller than thy *point-tags. *a* 1652 Brome *New Acad.* II. i. Wks. 1873 II. 23 Thought'st ha' me like the hair-brain'd *Point-tagger. 1594 Nashe *Unfort. Trav.* Induct., Wks. (Grosart) V. 10 This fore-mentioned catalogue of the *point trussers. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. iii, Let me be a point-trusser while I liue if he vnderstands any tongue but English.

† **Point,** *sb.*² *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. Point *v.*²] An appointment, a preferment.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 250 ȝif þei [poor priests] schullen haue ony heiȝe sacramentis or poyntis of þe heiȝe prelatis, comynly þei schulle bie hem wiþ pore mennus goodis wiþ hook or wiþ crok.

‖ **Point** (pwæn), *sb.*³ The French for Point *sb.*¹ A., in various senses; occurring in several phrases used in English, as *point d'appui*, point of support, fulcrum; *point d'arrêt, point saillant* (Geom.); *point de repère*: see quots.

1819 Lady Morgan *Fl. Macarthy* I. iv. 241 (Stanf.) The boatman, with his spoon-shaped paddle fixed against a jutting rock, for a *point d'appui*. 1871 Todhunter *Diff. Calculus* (ed. 5) xxii. § 304 A *point d'arrêt* is a point at which a single branch of a curve suddenly stops. *Ibid.* § 305 A *point saillant* is a point at which two branches of a curve meet and stop without having a common tangent. 1886 Gurney, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 468 Some point of external space at or near the seat of the imagined object plays a real part in the phenomenon. To this M. Binet gives the name of *point de repère*; and he regards it as producing a nucleus of sensation to which the hallucination accretes itself. 1903 Myers *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss., *Point de repère*, guiding mark. Used of some (generally inconspicuous) real object which a hallucinated subject sometimes sees along with his hallucination, and whose behaviour under magnification, &c., suggests to him similar changes in the hallucinatory figure.

b. *esp.* In names of various kinds of lace (Point *sb.*¹ A. 31), as (from the real or supposed place of manufacture) *point d'Alençon, point d'Espagne, point de Venise*, etc.; also *point d'Angleterre*: see quot.; *point d'esprit*, applied to small square or oblong figures used to diversify the net ground of some kinds of lace; also in names of various stitches in lace and embroidery, as *point de minute, de reprise, de Sorrento*, etc.

1645 Evelyn *Diary* June, Broad but flat tossells of curious Point de Venize. 1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* III. ii, *Sir Fop.* I never saw anything prettier than this high work on your *point a'Espagne*. *Emil.* 'Tis not so rich as *point de Venise*. 1688 Shadwell *Sq. Alsatia* II. i. (1699) 18 *Termagant.* Devil! I'll spoil your Point de Venice for you! (*Flies at him.*) 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xi.

His hat laced with *point d'Espagne*. 1850 *Harper's Mag.* I. 431 A Pelerine..made of embroidered net trimmed with three rows of *point d'Alençon*. 1882 A. S. Cole in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 188/1 In the 17th century pillow lace in imitation of the scroll patterns of point lace .. produced chiefly in Flanders, went under the name of 'point d'Angleterre'. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 769/2 A skirt of lilac satin covered with a *point d'Alençon* tunic. *c* 1890 *Weldon's Pract. Needlework* VIII. No. 90. 6/2 A network of buttonhole stitches worked in pairs—the same stitch which by lace workers is technically termed 'Point de Sorrento'. *Ibid.* 7/2 Point de reprise is familiar to workers of point lace, and is also used..in drawn thread embroidery. *Ibid.* IX. No. 100. 13/2 Worm stitch, also known as 'twisted stitch', 'bullion', 'roll picot', or 'point de minute'. 1898 *Daily News* 3 Dec. 6/4 Spotted net, or point d'esprit, ..has come into fashion again for evening dresses for girls. 1902 *Mrs. Palliser's Hist. Lace* vii. 123 *Brussels point à l'aiguille, point de gaze*, is the most filmy and delicate of all point lace. *Ibid.* xvi. 229 Embroidered tulle or point d'esprit was made in Brittany..Denmark, and around Genoa.

Point (point), *v.*[1] Also (4 **pownt**), 4–6 **poynte.** [orig. ME. a. OF. *point-er*, in its twofold capacity, 'to prick, to mark with pricks or dots', deriv. of F. *point*, and 'to furnish with a point', deriv. of *pointe*: parallel to It. *puntare*, Sp. *puntar*, from *punto*, *punta*, and med.L. *punctāre* from *punctum*, *puncta*. But some of the senses app. arose immediately from the Eng. Point *sb.*[1], from which indeed, if no such verb had existed in French, the Eng. vb. might have arisen independently.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To prick with something sharp; to pierce, puncture. *Obs.*

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1058 But aftirward they prile [? prike] and poynten, The folk right to the bare boon. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. viii. 55 It is hye tyme that they brenne, and poynte [other folk] no more. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 46 So goodly by & by hit is to poynt. *c* 1490 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 (MS. K) Poyntyn, *puncto*. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 215/37 To Poynt, *pungere*.

†**2.** To mark with, or indicate by, pricks or dots; to jot down, note, write, describe. *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1009 To poynte hit 3et I pyned me parauenture. *a* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 105 Eueri fote þat þou gas, Þyn Angel poynteþ hit vch a pas. 1565–73 Cooper *Thesaurus* s. v. *Diductus*, *Diuisio in digitos ducta*, a deuision poynted or noted vpon the fingers. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvii. 205, I draw or point out an occult Parallel, and reckon 52 deg. 35 min. from..Lundy towards the West.

3. To insert the proper points or stops in (writing); to make the proper stops or pauses in (something read or spoken); to indicate the grammatical divisions, or the pauses, by points or stops; to punctuate. Also *absol.* Now *rare*.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2161 A reder that poyntith ille, A good sentence may ofte spille. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poynton, or pawson, yn redynge, *pauso*. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 67 They also that rede in the Couente ought..to ouerse theyr lesson before .. that they may poynte yt as it oughte to be poynted. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 70 When sentences be euill pointed, and the sence thereby depraued. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 51 Weele point our speech With amorous kissing, kissing commaes. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 265 Neither written nor pointed right. 1760 Lloyd *Actor* (1790) 15 Some .. Point ev'ry stop, mark ev'ry pause so strong. 1886 W. D. Macray in *Pilgr. Parnass.* Pref. 11, I have supplied the punctuation, the MS. itself being but scantily pointed.

b. To mark (the Psalms, etc.) for chanting, by means of points.

1604 (*title*) The Psalmes of David after the Translation of the Great Bible, pointed. 1636 (*title*) The Booke of Common Prayer, and administration of the Sacraments, etc. of the Church of England; with the Psalter pointed. 1887 *Cong. Ch. Hymnal* II. Editorial Note, Selections from the Book of Psalms, and from other parts of Holy Scripture, pointed and arranged for chanting.

c. To insert the vowel (and other) points in the writing of Hebrew and other Semitic languages; also, in shorthand.

1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 71. 315 Where they found *Iehovah* expressed, they read *Adonai*, which is pointed with the same pricks. 1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 7 They did not know how to point them or vowel them. 1847 J. Kirk *Cloud Dispelled* x. 152 The men who pointed the prophet's language.

d. To separate or mark *off* (figures) into groups by dots or points; *esp.* to mark *off* the decimal fraction from the integral part.

1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 28 Having placed the Numbers, and pointed them as the Rule Directs. 1827 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 130 Also, to divide by 100, is done by only pointing off two figures for decimals. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 37 Point off as many decimals.

II. 4. To furnish with a point or points; to work or fashion to a point, to sharpen. Also *fig.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5831 A pale wel y-poynt. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 120 John Poyntmaker for poynting of xl dosen points of silk pointed with ageletts of laton. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 215/38 To Poynt a knife, *acuere*. 1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. iii. 19 Till the diminution Of space, had pointed him sharpe as my Needle. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 35 Point them or burn the Points of them in a Fire to harden them. *Mod.* An instrument for pointing pencils.

b. *To point a cable* or *rope*: see quots.

1625–44 Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict.* 76 They use also to undoe the Strond at the end of a Cabell (some 2 foot long) and so make Synnet of the Roape-Yarne, and lay them one over another againe, making it lesse towards the end, and so at the end, make them all fast with a peece of Marling, or the like. This is called pointing the Cabell. The use whereof is to keepe the Cabell from farssing, but chiefly to see that none of the end be stolne off, and cut away. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 50/1. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pointing the Cable*. 1706 in Phillips. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 31 How do you point and graft a rope? If it is a small rope measure five inches from the end you intend to point, then put on a good whipping, unlay the rope and strands to the whipping, take all the outside yarns, and bring them back on the rope, and stop them there, then take all the inside yarns, scrape and taper them down, until the end will be half the size of the rope, marl it down taut with twine, split the outside yarns, and lay them up each into two (two-yarn nettles); when they are all laid up, see that there is an even number, then take every alternate nettle and lay along the pointing, pass the filling, and work down once and a-half the round of the rope, and then finish off.

5. *fig.* †**a.** To make (food) pungent or piquant.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Do þer-to hwyte Hony or Sugre, poynte it with Venegre.

b. To give point to (words, actions, etc.); to give force, piquancy, or sting to; to lend prominence, distinction, or poignancy to.

a 1704 T. Brown *Eng. Sat.* Wks. 1730 I. 25 That Poet .. pointed his verses with revenge and wit. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. 396 And now the Martial Maid, by deeper wrongs To rouze Ulysses, points the Suitors tongues. 1727 Gay *Fables* I. xxxix. 38 Beauty with early bloom supplies His daughter's cheeks, and points her eyes. 1748 Johnson *Van. Hum. Wishes* 222 To point a moral, or adorn a tale. 1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 29 Who vote for hire, or point it with lampoon. 1839 De Quincey *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 29 The circumstances..which pointed and sharpened the public feelings on that occasion. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Jan. 4/7 Pointing his remarks by reference to art matters in this city.

†**6.** To fasten or lace with tagged points or laces; to adorn with such points. *Obs.*

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* V. x. 177 To poynte his paltockes. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 55, j¾ elne of vellus to be Bell a paire of sleifis with cuffis, and to poynt his jaket. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Place & Time of Prayer* I. (1640) 126 Poynting and painting themselves to be gorgeous and gay. 1597–8 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. iv. 44 Poynted on the shoulders for the nonce.

III. 7. To work or deepen with a point or graving-tool. ? *Obs.*

1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* 75 Which he engrav'd after a new way, of Etching it first, and then pointing it (as it were) with the Burine afterwards.

8. a. *Building.* To fill in the lines of the joints of (brickwork) with mortar or cement, smoothed with the point of the trowel: cf. Pointing *vbl. sb.*[1] 5.

1375 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 9 [The roll of 1374–5 contains an account..for] powntyng [the chambers]. [1391 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 167 In salar. Willelmi Sklater punctantis super dictam domum per iiij dies, 20*d.*] *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5546 In at a wicket he went... Princes pointid it with pik. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 89 Item, to a sclatar for the poyntin of al the place off Stirling. 1572 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 151 Paid for ij[th] horse loode of lyme to point the wales. 1694 Addison *Virgil* Misc. Wks. 1726 I. 16 Point all their chinky lodgings round with mud. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 239 The joints having been carefully pointed up to the upper surface. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 1061 To repair and 'point' a piece of garden wall.

b. *Gardening.* To prick *in* (manure, etc.) to a slight depth with the point of the spade; also, to turn *over* (the surface of the soil) in this way; to prick *over*.

1828 Steuart *Planter's G.* 496 Let it be pointed with the spade, to the depth of two inches only, into the original soil. 1881 Eleanor A. Ormerod *Man. Injur. Insects* 44 Gas-lime, sown broadcast and then pointed in. 1897 *Garden* 16 Jan. 42/1, I do not dig the borders at all, and the surface is merely lightly pointed over.

c. *Naut.* To insert the point of (a mast or spar) through an eye or ring which secures its foot; to thread.

1882 Nares *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 116 How is a topmast pointed?

IV. 9. *intr.* To indicate position or direction by or as by extending the finger; to direct attention *to* or *at* something in this way. (With *indirect passive.*)

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 291 Til him thai 3eid..; On athir sid fast poyntand at his ger. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 148 He shewed hym, pointyng with his finger, a man with a bottle Nose. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 343 They them selues [were] poynted at with fingers. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 877 There (wold the father point to the child) goes a Viracochi. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 44 ¶ 1, I turned to the Object he pointed at. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* (1841) I. Introd. 5 Pointing this way and that way. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 416, I shall therefore, as I go along, point at the rocks on which we split. 1898 Rider Haggard *Doctor Therne* I. 14 She pointed through the window of the coach.

b. *fig.* To direct the mind or thought in a certain direction: with *at* or *to*; to indicate, suggest, hint *at*, allude *to*.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 298 By seynt paul,.. thou poyntest neih þe treuthe. 1598 R. Haydocke tr. *Lomazzo* II. 10 They do..point to the rootes whence they spring, and discover the causes. 1637 Heylin *Antid. Lincoln.* II. 109, I rather shold conceive, that the word .. points not to a table. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* g ij, This little Manuall doth .. point at the Choise of Surveyors. 1885 Sir N. Lindley in *Law Times Rep.* LII. 319/2 Criminal informations are within the mischief pointed at by sect. 2. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 2 Jan. 5/3 Everything pointed to the probability of a French protectorate being proclaimed over Burmah.

10. *trans.* To indicate the place or direction of (something) with the finger or otherwise; to indicate, direct attention to, show. Now almost always *point out*. Also with obj. clause.

c 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* IX. 239 Men shall poynte me wyth the fynger, and shall say. 1526 Skelton *Magnyf.* 727 My purpose is to spy and to poynte euery man. 1530 Palsgr. 661/2, I poynte or shewe a thyng with my fyngar. 1579 Lodge *Def. Poetry* C iij b, Then should the wicked bee poynted out from the good. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 43 To detect the erroneous Ways, and to point forth the true. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XXIV. 106 All..May point Achilles' tomb, and hail the mighty ghost. 1777 S. Martin in *Sc. Paraphr.* XII. i, She has no guide to point her way. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 166 He has pointed out a method of cure. 1885 *Athenæum* 18 July 76/1 He has always pointed out the necessity of rigorous observance of ascertained phonetic law. *Mod.* He pointed out that there were certain formalities to be observed.

11. Of a hound: To indicate the presence and position of (game) by standing rigidly looking towards it. See Point *sb.*[1] C. 6. **a.** *intr.*

[1717: implied in Pointer 4.] 1742 Somerville *Field-Sports* 257 My setter ranges in the new-shorn fields,..there he stops..And points with his instructive nose upon The trembling prey. 1837–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* IV. IV. ii. § 21. 13 This wise and faithful animal..had acquired..the habit of standing still, and as it were *pointing*, when he came near an antiquity. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 306/2 Trained to stop and point where the game lies.

b. *trans.*

1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* I. 94 The lurking spaniel points the prize. 1850 Keightley *Fairy Mythol.* 310 He knew an old man whose dog had *pointed* a troop of fairies. 1879 Jefferies *Wild Life in S. Co.* 328 Young pointers will point birds' nests in hedges or trees. 1892 *Field* 7 May 695/1 In the next field Satin pointed a leveret.

12. To direct (the finger, a weapon, etc.) *at*, to level or aim (a gun) *at*; to direct (a person, his attention, or his course) *to*; to turn (the eyes or mind) *to* or *upon*.

1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxxii. (1870) 205, I..poynted them to my hostage [landlord]. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. ii. 55 To make me The fixed Figure for the time of Scorne To point his slow, and mouing finger at. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Sat. agst. Woman* Wks. 1730 I. 57 They point fools swords against each other's breasts. 1706 Phillips, To *Point a Cannon*, to level it against a Place. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xii, Whenever she ventured to look round, the eyes of the abbess seemed pointed upon her. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* II. i. § 6 (1864) 83 These influences .. seem merely to direct or point the course of the current. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1869) III. ii. 113 It was they who pointed the finger of scorn at kings and nobles.

13. *intr.* Of a line or a material object: To lie or be situated with its point or length directed *to* or *towards* something; to have a specified direction; also, of a house, etc., to look or face.

1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* v. 95 The Teeth are filed to an angle, pointing towards the end of the Saw. 1788 Charlotte Smith *Emmeline* (1816) III. 205 A boat..was pointing to land just where she had been sitting. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* vi. 71 The churches of Europe were ordinarily built pointing to the east. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 102 Such loops..'point' as it were at right angles to the denuded surface. 1901 *J. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 37 This may be noticed in any house which points on to a busy thoroughfare.

b. *intr.* To aim *at*, have a motion or tendency *towards* or *to* (also with *inf.*).

1771 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) V. 498 Dost thou point at him [Jesus] in whatsoever thou doest? 1795 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 12 Our Ships endeavouring to form a junction, the Enemy pointing to separate us, but under a very easy Sail. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* V. (1875) 58 It was the goal towards which the policy of the Frankish kings had for many years pointed.

†**14.** *intr.* To project or stick *out* in a point. *Obs.*

1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* II. 24 Which running on, the Isle of Portland pointeth out. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 233 The market place .. out of which the streets do point on the Round. 1670 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 76 It shews like a great building of a Castle; for it points off with a Race from the other Mountains. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 271 They.. are each about 4 Inches broad, and 8 Inches long, pointing out short at the narrow end, about 2 Inches.

15. *intr.* Of an abscess: To form a point or head; to come to a head.

1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 177 The skin is inflamed, and shows a tendency to point. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 176 The abscess..pointed and became red. 1885–8 Fagge & Pye-Smith *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 56 The thinning of the roof of an abscess which is about to point.

16. *trans.* To place (a man) in Backgammon, etc., on a point. *rare.*

1680 Cotton *Gamester* XXVI. 112 (*Backgammon*) The advantage of this Game is to be forward if possible upon safe terms, and to point his men at that rate that it should not be possible for you to pass.

†**Point,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [Aphetic form of Appoint *v.*]

1. *intr.* To agree, settle *upon*: = Appoint *v.* 1.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 107 b, The counsell, so often tymes promysed and poynted vpon.

2. *trans.* To fix, determine (a time or place); to prescribe, ordain, decree; to nominate (a person) *to* an office: = Appoint *v.* 7, 8, 11, 12.

c 1440 *Alphab. Tales* 275 So þai poyntid a day of disputacion. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. viii. 184 If God..pointe and chese the placis. 1485 in Drake *Eboracum* I. iv. (1736) 120 There to poynt such Personnes as shuld take Wages. 1533 J. Heywood *Play of Wether* (1903) 1045 Poynt us a day to pay hym agayne. 1598 Bp. Hall *Sat.* IV. i. 124 Go bid the banes, and poynt the bridall-day. 1625 Bacon

Ess., Building (Arb.) 550 If you doe not point any of the lower Roomes for a Dining Place of Seruants. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 114 ₱ 7 If..every Man would point to himself what Sum he would resolve not to exceed.

3. To equip, furnish, fit up: = APPOINT *v.* 14, 15.

1449 J. METHAM *Amor. & Cleopes* 303 Qwat yt myght be, that poyntyd was with so merwulus werkys. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xiv. 47 The prouostis men, whiche was all prest and redy poyntted to the Iouste. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) p. liv, Yet shall they.. poynt the place nothing after thy will Eyther nere a privy, a stable or a sinke.

Hence † **Pointing** *vbl. sb.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repressor* II. viii. 184 Eny such pointing, chesing, or assignyng.

† **Point,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Erroneously deduced from *point-device.*] Complete; ready.

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* III. iv, And if the dapper priest Be but as cunning, point in his device, As I was in my lie.

† **Point,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [Short for POINT-BLANK.] Directly.

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) II. iv. 64 All the Christian doctrines..are point against it [*sc.* duelling].

Poi·ntable, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. POINT *v.*^{1} + -ABLE.] Capable of being pointed out; visible, apparent.

a 1555 BRADFORD *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 552 In Elias' time, both in Israel and elsewhere, God's church was not pointable; and therefore cried he out that he was left alone.

Pointal, variant of POINTEL.

Point-blank (poi·nt blæ·ŋk), *a.*, *sb.*, and *adv.* Also 8–9 **-blanc.** [app. f. POINT *v.*^{1} + BLANK, the white spot in the centre of a target, = F. *blanc*, Sp. *blanco* (in Eng. also called 'the WHITE').

It has been conjectured that *point-blank* represents a F. **point blanc* meaning the *white point* or white spot on the target, but no such use is found in Fr., or in any Romanic lang. The phrase appears exclusively of English origin and use; and there is no evidence that in Eng. the 'blank' or 'white' was ever called the *point blank*. The probability therefore is that *blank* is here the sb. (BLANK *sb.* 2), and *point* the vb. (POINT *v.*^{1} 12), referring to the pointing of the arrow or gun at the 'blank' or 'white'; *point-blank* being a combination of the same class as *break-neck, cut-throat, save-all, stop-gap*, etc. It may have started as an adj., in *point-blank shot, distance, reach*, or *range*, i.e. that in which one *points* or aims at the *blank* or white spot.]

A. *adj.*

1. That points or aims straight at the mark, esp. in shooting horizontally; hence, aimed or fired horizontally; level, direct, straight; as in *point-blank shot, fire, firing, trajectory. Point-blank distance, range, reach*: the distance within which a gun may be fired horizontally at a mark; the distance the shot is carried before it drops appreciably below the horizontal plane of the bore.

(As to the inexactness of the notion that the course of the projectile is level within this distance, see quot. 1804.)

1591 DIGGES *Pantom.* 179 The first parte of the violent course of Gunners, commonly termed the peeces pointe blanke reache. 1627 *Taking of St. Esprit* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 551 Some ships of our fleet.. have bestowed divers shot on the French, though without point-blank distance. 1748 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* ii. (1757) 89 They were..within point blank shot of the enemy. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) G g iv, The *point-blank* range of the piece.. may be defined the extent of the apparent right line, described by a ball discharged from a cannon. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 327/2 It is generally thought that the ball goes out of the piece in a straight line to a certain distance, which they call the point-blank shot. This is a mistake; for the ball immediately falls from the axis of the gun, the tangent of the curve described, though but insensibly for a short time; but the line in which gunners take sight is usually contrived to make a small angle with the axis, so that.. the ball will rise above the line of sights, and then, by the force of gravity, be made to fall again into it, at the place called the point-blank shot. 1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* iv. (1870) 106 The battery is not so point-blank. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 375/2 Large muskets, whose point-blanc range is estimated at about 300 yards. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 89 Then they..endeavoured to crush our line with a heavy point-blank musketry fire. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. xii. 361 At archery.. his arrows had a more point-blank trajectory than those of his competitors.

2. Straightforward, direct, plain, 'flat', blunt.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. liv. (1674) 204 [They] hoped to hear.. excellent discourse in that point-blank argumentation. 1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* I. Wks. 1799 II. 56 This is point blank treason against my sovereign authority. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Jan., What a point-blank question! who but Sir Joshua would have ventured it! 1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXVIII. 513 The dialogues in *Othello* and *Lear* furnish the most striking instances of plain, point-blank speaking. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 294 The English people give this a point-blank denial. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Mar. 9/3 A point-blank refusal to go into the division lobbies.

B. *sb.*

1. = *Point-blank range* or *distance*: see A. 1.

1591 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxx. I iv, Hauing a table of Randons made, mounting your peeces accordingly, no vessel can passe by your platfourme (though it be without poynte blancke) but you may with your ordinaunce at the first bouge hir and neuer bestow vayne shotte. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xvi. (1877) I. 281 How manie scores it [the shot] doth flee at point blanke. 1671 S. PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Proportion* 85 If the best Randon and point-blank of the one Piece be given. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 We receiv'd not one Shot from them, though within point blank, six of them at once bore down upon us. 1846 GREENER *Sc. Gunnery* 381 As many opinions exist as to the exact distance for what is termed *point blank*..it may be expedient to come to some determination.

† **b.** *fig.* Range, reach (of jurisdiction, etc.). *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 28 Now art thou within point-blanke of our Iurisdiction Regall. 1652 *Persuasive to Compliance* 16 The King professeth His Person .. out of the point-blank of Law.

† **2.** A point-blank shooting or shot. *Obs.*

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 100 Training .. his Archers to shoot compasse, who had bin accustomed to the point blanke. *a* 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 169 He should not receive them thus by a glance, but by a level point-blank from my pen. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 20 Apr., She carried the same bullet as strong to the mark, and nearer and above the mark at a point blank than their's. 1781 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* III. 275 No necessity of circumstances..can turn the point-blank of this dreadful canon from the unhappy objects of its vengeance.

¶ **3.** 'The second point at which the line of sight intersects the trajectory of a projectile' (*Cent. D.*).

18.. *U. S. Army Tactics*, When the natural line of sight is horizontal, the point where the projectile first strikes the horizontal plane on which the gun stands is the point-blank, and the distance to the point-blank is the point-blank range.

₱ This is a faulty use, arising from misinterpretation of *point* in 'point-blank.'

C. *adv.*

1. With a direct aim; esp. in a horizontal line. Of a missile: Without dropping below the horizontal plane in which the barrel lies. Of a gun: With the axis of the bore horizontal.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 23 How to make a Pistol whose barrell is two foote in length to deliver a bullet point blank at eight skore. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 34 This boy will carrie a letter twentie mile as easie as a Canon will shoot point-blanke twelue score. 1611 FLORIO, *Tirare la giòia*, to shoote by the vpper superficies of the cornish of the mouth of the piece, which the Italians call point blanke. 1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Phil. Trans.* II. 473 To know how Far a Gun Shoots Point-blank (as they call it) that is, so near the Level of the Cylinder of the Peece, that the difference is either not discernable, or not considerable. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xi. 46 If the Piece lie point blank. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U. S. Munitions War* 70, Fig. 1 shows the movable stock and sights arranged for firing point-blank. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 20 Any man .. can fire point-blank into a hustling mob of animals.

2. In a direct line, directly, straight (in space).

1607 *Lingua* IV. i, This done, he sets me a boy sixty paces off, just point-blank over-against the mouth of the piece. 1641 HOBBES *Lett.* Wks. 1845 VII. 459 The motion of the water, when a stone falls into it, is point blanke contrary to the motion of the stone. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 437 Unless it be that Cannon-Ball, That, shot i' th' air point-blank upright Was borne to that prodigious height. 1675 TEONGE *Diary* (1825) 51 Wee..doe steare our course poynt-blanke for Trypoly. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* ii. (1877) 17 Led him point blank to the bed. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. ix. 137 [He] stood for a second, staring point-blank at her.

b. *fig.* Directly, exactly (in purport or effect). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel., Democr. to Rdr.* (1676) 6/1 If it be not point-blank to his humour, his method, his conceit. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. ii. 77 So point-blank against the common sentiment and appearance. 1756 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (1782) II. x. 134 If you calmly read every particular of that description you'll find almost all of 'em point-blank the reverse of that persons villa.

3. *fig.* Of a statement, declaration, question, etc.: **a.** Without qualification or circumlocution; directly, flatly. **b.** Without deliberation or consideration; straight away, offhand.

a. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 61 Spencer is point-blanck charg'd with Insolency. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 528 Thus Ralph..Spoke Truth point blank, tho' unaware. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. iii. (1673) 47 Origen point blanck denies the charge. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 16, I would ask him point blank what religion he was of. 1851 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* I. 146 She .. had offers every week; refused them point-blank.

b. 1679 *Trials of Wakeman*, etc. 24, I cannot point blank tell the time. 1887 LOWELL *Democr.* 4 Called upon to deliver his judgement point-blank and at the word of command.

Point-devi·ce, *phrase, a., adv. Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: see POINT *sb.*^{1}; 4–5 **devys,** 4–6 **devyse,** 5 **devis,** 5–7 **deu-, devise,** 6 **devyce,** 5– **device.** [Orig. in ME. phrase *at point devis, at poynt devys*, app. representing an OF. or AF. phrase **à point devis*, not actually cited in Old French, which had however both the advb. phrase *à point* 'to point, to the point aimed at, to the proper or utmost point or degree, to the point of perfection', and the word *devis*, as ppl. adj. 'devised, arranged', and as sb. 'a device, arrangement, will, wish, desire'. The construction in *à point devis* requires the adj. sense, so that the phrase may be construed either 'to (the) point arranged', or, as *devis à point*, 'arranged to a proper point or degree, arranged properly or to perfection'. The latter appears to M. Paul Meyer the better construction of the words.

OF. had also the phrase *à devis, tout à devis.*]

A. *phrase.* † *At point device*, at or to the point of perfection, perfectly; precisely; with extreme nicety or correctness. *Obs.*

? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 830 So faire, so joly, so fetys, With lymes wrought at poynt devys. *Ibid.* 1215 Hir nose was wrought at poynt devys. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 122 Jesus, sib he was bobe God and man, dide alle his dedis at point devys. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 409 That saw in dreme, at poynt devys, Helle and erthe and paradys. *c* 1386 — *Sqr.'s T.* 552 So peynted he and kembde at point deuys As wel hise wordes as his contenance. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 5995 Armyd thei be eche on atte poynte device. [1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to Mr. T. H.* 75 You think to blow him vp with a Syllogisme: Now then haue at your Point-deuice.]

† **b.** So *To the point device, by point device.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 204 He sawe..all other thynges after a woondreful gorgeous sorte furnished euen to y° pointe deuise. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 104 And seld they past the boundes of reasons lore; By poynte deuise they skirmished at will.

B. *adj.* **point-device** (-yse, etc.). Perfectly correct, perfect, at the point of perfection; neat or nice to the extreme; extremely precise or scrupulous. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1526 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 852 Properly drest, All poynte deuyse. 1593 PEELE *Chron. Edw. I*, Wks. (Rldg.) 379/2, I pray thee, then, defer it till the spring, That we may have our garments point-device. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 401 You are rather point deuice in your accoustrements. 1639 J. SALTMARSH *Policy* 261, Thomas his faith was the worse for being so point-device. 1872 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. *Emma & Eginhard* 35 Thus he grew up, in Logic point-device, Perfect in Grammar, and in Rhetoric nice;.. A Minnesinger.

C. *adv.* Completely, perfectly, to perfection; in every point; = *at point device* in A. *arch.*

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) 591, I know dyuers persones..That can you serue alway poynt deuyce. 1530 PALSGR. 436 This shyppe is armed or decked poynte devyse, *ceste nauire est betreschée en tous poynts.* 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* C ij, But thus was I deckt at all poyntes poynt deuyce. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 176. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 290 When..point deuice a man must iumpe in Iudgment and practise with vs. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 212 To set every thing about the body, point device by art and number. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 13 Apr. 5/2 These latter..attired point-device in the garb of ancient Athens.

Poi·nt-duty. The duty of a police constable stationed at a particular point in a thoroughfare, to regulate the traffic, etc.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 3/2 A policeman was standing on point duty at the corner of the street, within twenty yards, without .. perceiving him. 1894 *Times* 16 Apr. 6/5 No one happened to be near except a constable on point duty. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 14 Nov. 4/3 The policeman on point duty had signalled to the traffic going west to stop.

Pointed (poi·ntĕd), *ppl. a.*^{1} [f. POINT *v.*^{1} and *sb.*^{1} + -ED^{1}.]

1. Having a point or points; tapering to or ending in a point. *Pointed box*: see quot. 1881.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6342 Smot him..Wiþ a long ipointed [*v. r.* pointed] knif iegged in eiþer side. *c* 1400 MAUNDEVILLE (1839) xiv. 158 Thei [diamonds] ben square and poynted of here owne kynde. 1552 HULOET, Poynted, or hauynge a poynte, *cuspidatus, mucronatus.* 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 51 Beautifyed with great Diamons, Emerauds, Rubyes, and Saphyres: poynted, tabld, rok, and roound. 1725 COATS *Dict. Her., Pointed*, a *Cross pointed*, is that which has the Extremities turn'd off into Points by strait Lines. 1747 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 67 The wonderful effect of pointed bodies, both in drawing off and throwing off the electrical fire. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 158, I saw a row of pointed rocks at some distance below me. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Pointed boxes*, boxes in the form of inverted pyramids or wedges in which ores, after crushing and sizing, are separated in a current of water.

b. *Arch.* In *pointed arch*, an arch with a pointed crown; hence applied to the style of architecture characterized by this feature: cf. GOTHIC 3 b.

1750 S. WREN in *Parentalia* 273 They had not yet fallen into the Gothick pointed-arch. 1812 RICKMAN *Archit.* (1817) 41 Pointed arches are either equilateral..or drop arches..or lancet arches. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* Gloss., *Pointed architecture*, that style vulgarly called Gothic, more properly English. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 47 The apse-windows are late Pointed, of two lights trefoiled. 1874 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* I. ii. 21 The First Pointed style in England is..the style of the twelfth century. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 18 The round-arch variety [was perfected] in the twelfth, and the pointed-arch in the two succeeding centuries.

2. *fig.* Having the quality of penetrating or piercing the sensations, feelings, or mind; piercing, cutting, stinging, pungent, 'sharp'; having point.

1665 DRYDEN *Ind. Emperor* I. ii, Turn hence those pointed Glories of your Eyes. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* 3 'Tis pointed Truth must manage this Dispute. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. on Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 62 Th' impartial muse, in pointed stabbing verse, Shall all thy several villanies rehearse. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Pal. Fortune* Poems (1777) 25 A weak defence from hunger's pointed sting. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 92 Some put their trust in answer smart or pointed repartee. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 245 The air was raw and pointed. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 May 2/3 The most pointed thing to say about a person is that he 'means well'. 1904 E. RICKERT *Reaper* 261 A wee thing with pointed black eyes.

3. Fitted or furnished with tagged points or laces; wearing points; laced. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* IV. 21 For xj elne satin to be ane pointit cote to the King. 1552 HULOET, Poynted, or tyed wyth poyntes, *ligulatus.* 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. vi, Young men, trunked, puffed, pointed, trussed and doubleted.

4. Directed, aimed; *fig.* particularly directed or aimed; marked, emphasized, clearly defined, made evident.

1578 WHETSTONE *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* I. i. G iij, So ofte as men, with poynted fingers tell Their friendes, my faultes.

1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) II. xxvii. 167 His attention..is so pointed, that it always confuses me. 1798 Jane Austen *Northang. Abb.* xxix, Only ten days ago had he elated her by his pointed regard. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. App. 646 The pointed marking out of Thored as 'Eorl'..is an unusual piece of accuracy.

b. Exact to a point; precise.

1727 P. Walker *Life Peden* (1827) 85, I doubt nothing of the Truth of them in my own Mind, tho' I be not pointed in Time and Place. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* III. cxv. 48 The identical member..who was most pointed in showing up the dishonesty of the act inculpated. 1878 Gladstone *Prim. Homer* vi. 63 Its harbour is described with pointed correctness. 1893 Mrs. Oliphant *Lady William* I. viii. 130 How often must I tell you not to be so pointed with your half-hours?

5. In various other senses of the verb: see quots.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 406/2 Poyntyd, or prykkyd, *punctatus*. 1659 Leak *Waterwks.* 29 Another marked with pointed lines. 1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.* I. 168/2 *Pointed Ashlar*, the face-marking done by a pointed tool or one very narrow. *Mod.* Such is the reading of the pointed Hebrew text.

6. *Comb.*, as *pointed-arched* adj., *-wise* adv.

1611 Florio, *A spicchio*, made pointed-wise, like the streakes of the Sunne. 1900 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* Mar. 66 The wide pointed-arched window in the west wall.

† Poi·nted, *ppl. a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. Point *v.*[2] + -ed [1].] = Appointed.

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 420 Before the quenes grace, In whose court poynted is your place. 1580 Sidney *Ps.* xxi. xii, Thou shalt a-row Set them in pointed places. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. i. 19 Ile not be tied to howres, nor pointed times. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 152 At pointed Seasons. 1709 Prior *Ode to Col. Villiers* 17 Poems (1711) 136 Pow'r, To hasten or protract the pointed Hour.

Pointedly (poi·ntėdli), *adv.* [f. Pointed *ppl. a.*[1] + -ly [2].] In a pointed manner. **a.** With point or piquancy; wittily. **b.** With directness; explicitly; markedly. **c.** With precision or exactitude; exactly, definitely, punctually.

1680 Dryden *Pref. Ovid's Ep.* Ess. (Ker) I. 234 He often writ too pointedly for his subject. 1775 in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 7 At this post I have pointedly recommended vigilance and care. 1786 Washington *Writ.* (1891) XI. 18 Whatever agreement is previously made shall be pointedly fulfilled on my part. 1792 Mary Wollstonecr. *Rights Wom.* v. 229 The contempt and obloquy that men .. have pointedly levelled at the female mind. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 63 The negroes turned out pointedly to the hour. 1870 E. Peacock *Ralf Skirl.* I. 168 Pointedly refusing the offered hand. 1895 H. A. Kennedy in *19th Cent.* Aug. 324 He..has more to say and says it more pointedly.

Pointedness (poi·ntėdnės). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being pointed; chiefly in reference to the expression of thought.

1636 B. Jonson *Discov.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 759/1 The vicious language is vast, and gaping, swelling and irregular: when it contends to be high, full of rock, mountain, and pointedness. 1693 Dryden *Disc. Orig. & Progr. Sat.* Ess. (Ker) II. 19 You add that pointedness of thought, which is visibly wanting in our great Roman. 1801 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 124 The eulogium .. united pointedness and energy with the simplicity of truth. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 113 This pointedness of wing constitutes the great advantage of the falcons as sporting birds. 1882 C. E. Turner in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 480 The contrast is brought out with a force that is almost stern in its pointedness.

Pointel (poi·ntėl). Now *rare*. Forms: 3–pointel; also 3 pontel, 4 poyntele, -til, 4–6 -tell, -e, 4–7 -tel, 6 -tyl(l, *Sc.* poyntal, 6–7 pointell, 7–8 -til, 7–9 pointal. [a. OF. *pointel* (mod. *pointeau*) point of a spear, etc. = It. *puntello, pontello* a bodkin, a prick (Florio), dim. of *punto* point; cf. late L. *punctillum* little point, dot, dim. of *punctum*.]

† 1. A small pointed instrument. **a.** A writing or graving instrument; a stylus, a pencil. (Also erron. written *pointrell, poitrel(l.) Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11087 (Göt.) Þan asked þaim sir Zachari, Tablis and a pointel [*Cott.* pontel] tite, And he bigan þe name to write. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* I. pr. i. 2 While þat I...markede my weply compleynte with office of poyntel. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 331 Iohn Scotte..was sleyne with poyntells of childer whom he taughte at Malmesbury. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. iv. (1634) 312 The Lord doth .. grave them with an yron pointell in an adamant stone. [1659 Hoole *Comenius' Vis. World* xci. (1672) 186 The Ancients writ in Tables done over with wax with a brasan poitrel [*stilo*]. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Poitrel*, a Brasen or Iron Instrument, with the sharp end whereof Letters are ingraven, and rubbed out with the broad end. 1853 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 129 The stilus, or graphium, was called a pointel.]

† b. (In form *pointal.*) A stiletto or dagger.

† c. A plectrum. *Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. x. 46 Now with gymp fingeris doing stringis smyte, And now with..poyntalis lyte. *Ibid.* VII. xii. 59 Wyth round stok suerdis faucht thai in melle, Wyth poyntalis.

2. The pistil or style of a flower; formerly also applied to a stamen. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. li. 267 Small white flowers with yellow pointels in the middle. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* ciii, In the middle part of them [lily flowers] do grow small tender Poyntels, tipped with a dusty yellow colour. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 166 With a Pointal or Rudiment of a Seed in the Cavity of the Flower. 1770–4 A. Hunter *Georg. Ess.* (1803) I. 487 The pointal, or female part of the flower. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* i. (1794) 23 This, taken in its whole, is called the pistil or pointal. 1831 Howitt *Seasons* (1837) 263 Saffron,..consisting of the pointals of the crocus.

† 3. A slender style-like organ on the body of an animal, as the 'horn' of a snail, the *halteres* or poisers of a dipterous insect. *Obs.*

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 560 (Creatures in Africa), The Basiliske .. is not halfe a foot long, and hath three pointels (Galen saith) on the head. 1689 J. Banister in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 670 These..have growing out of their Body, under each Wing, a small flexible .. Pointel, with which they poise their Body. 1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* VIII. iv. (1727) 366 Such as have but two [wings, have] Pointels, and Poises placed under the Wings, on each Side of the Body.

† 4. *Glass-blowing.* = Pontil, Punty. *Obs.*

[1788 Rees *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v. *Glass*, They dip an iron rod, or ponteglo, in the melting-pots.] 1865 *Chambers' Encycl.* IV. 779 A little boy now comes forward with an iron rod, the pointel, upon the end of which has been gathered a small lump of metal.

¶ An alleged sense 'a floor set into squares, or lozenge forms', in Parker *Gloss. Arch.*, ed. 3, 1840, s.v. *Poyntell* or *Poyntill* (copied in Gwilt 1842–76, Halliwell 1847–78 (*Pointel*), Webster, Knight, Ogilvie, Cassell, *Century Dict.*, Funk's *Standard Dict.*) following Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* ix, is an attempt to explain *poynttyl*, an erroneous reading, in the 1553 print of *Piers Plowman's Crede*, of the two words *peynt tyl*, i. e. painted tile.

Pointer (poi·ntəɹ). [f. Point [1] + -er [1].]

† 1. A maker of points or laces for fastening clothes. *Obs.*

1500 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 72 Ricardi Byrch, poynter. 1520 Whitinton *Vulg.* (1527) 16 b, In the townes ende be pynners, poynters,..dyers, tanners. 1609 in *Digby Myst.* (1882) p. xxii, Hatters, Poynters, Girdlers.

2. One who points anything, who puts on or sharpens to a point, as a pointer of pins, pencils, etc.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 956 The intermediate portions are handed over to the pointer.

3. One who or that which points out. **a.** A person who points or indicates with his finger or otherwise. *rare.* **b.** A rod used by a teacher or lecturer to point to what is delineated or written on a map, diagram, blackboard, or the like.

The meaning in quot. 1621 is doubtful.

1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* III. iii, Do'st thou hear boy, thou pointer? 1658 J. Spencer in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 71 God's rod is as the schoolmaster's pointer to the child, pointing out the letter. 1887 *Overland Monthly* (Farmer *Amer.*), On the march the mighty herd sometimes strings out miles in length, and then it has pointers, who ride abreast at the head of the column. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 6/5 He has died from the results of a blow from either a ruler or pointer. *Mod.* No pointer had been supplied to the lecturer.

c. The index-hand or indicator of a clock, balance, or other instrument.

1667 Hooke in *Phil. Trans.* II. 544 The distance of the Object-glass from the Pointers. 1672 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 338 For putting on the pointer of the clocke, 6*d.* 1774 M. Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* 37 The Pointer of the Vernier. 1834 J. Todd *Lect. Childr.* I. 3 You hear it tick and see the pointers move. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 424 The divisions being read off by a pointer or vernier attached to the frame of the instrument. 1894 Bottone *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 119 A small pointer..is to be lightly glued to the top of the pivot at right angles to the needle below.

d. An indicator used in whale-fishery to point out to the boats the place of the whale: see quots.

1877 W. H. Macy *There she blows!* 143 The extended 'pointer' (a light pole with a black ball on the end of it, to be used at the masthead, when the boats are down) told us that the whale was off the ship's lee bow. 1887 *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 258 *note*, In right whaling, a pointer .. is often used. The pointer is a large basket or frame of wood covered with canvas and painted black, placed at the end of a 12 foot pole, used at mast-head and pointed in the direction of the whale.

e. Short for Station-pointer.

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

f. *U.S. colloq.* A hint, a point; a piece of information; a suggestion.

1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 10 Oct. 5/2 There's a pointer for you! 1887 Bulloch *Pynours* v. 41 In this fact there seems to be another pointer to the fishing population. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 247 Let me give any equestrian photographer a pointer. Don't tie your instrument to yourself, tie it to your horse.

4. A dog of a breed nearly allied to the true hounds, used by sportsmen to point at or indicate the presence of game, especially birds; on scenting which the dog stands rigidly, with muzzle stretched toward the game, and usually one foot raised. (In quot. 1717, the proper name of a dog.)

1717 Prior *Alma* I. 319 The sport and race no more he minds; Neglected Tray and Pointer lie: And covies unmolested fly. 1768 Pennant *Zool.* I. 54 The Pointer, which is a dog of foreign extraction, was unknown to our ancestors. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 753 Booted sportsmen, oftener seen With belted waist and pointers at their heels. 1837 T. Bell *Hist. Brit. Quadrupeds* 217 The Spanish Pointer was formerly well known as a stanch, strong, and useful, but heavy and lazy dog. The English breed, however, is now very much preferred. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. (1873) 25 The English pointer has been greatly changed within the last century.

5. *pl.* The two stars α and γ in the Great Bear, a straight line through which points nearly to the pole-star. Sometimes also applied to the two stars α and γ in the Southern Cross, which are nearly in a line with the South Pole of the heavens.

1574 Bourne *Regiment for Sea* VI. (1577) 28 b, If the two Starres of Charles wayne, called the poynters, be due East from the north Starre. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* II. x. 76 The lower of the Pointers. The White or North Pointer. 1879 Newcomb & Holden *Astron.* 4 The two stars which form the pointers in the constellation *Ursa Major.* 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 34 High overhead..the noble Southern Cross and its pointers gleam like a piece of jewelry in a deep blue setting.

† 6. *pl.* The antennæ of an insect or crustacean.

1664 H. Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 2 The Flea .. hath .. two pointers before which grow out of the forehead, by which he tryes and feels all objects. *Ibid.* II A Wood-Louse.. hath two pointers..like a pair of pincers.

7. *Printing.* A layer-on who secures the register in printing the reverse side by 'threading' the sheet through the point-holes made in printing the first side.

1882 Southward *Pract. Printing* II. xxiii. 543 The word 'pointer' has lately come into use to describe a man who can do work requiring exact register, with points. 1888 in Jacobi *Printer's Voc.* 102.

8. *Naut.* (*pl.*) Timbers sometimes fixed diagonally across the hold, to support the beams.

1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789) H iij b, The pointers, if any, are .. fixed across the hole diagonally to support the beams. 1820 Scoresby *Arctic Regions* II. 191–3. 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIX. 219/2 In the plates of a Dutch work of the date of 1697, there are diagonal pointers in an athwartship direction. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., All braces placed diagonally across the hold of any vessel, to support the bilge and prevent loose-working, are called pointers.

9. In various technical applications:

a. A name of particular pointed tools used in various trades, for boring, cutting, graving, etc. e.g. a pointed chisel used by stonemasons, a silversmith's pointer. **b.** A bricklayer's tool for clearing out the old mortar between the courses of bricks in a wall which is being pointed. **c.** In U.S., the lever by which a railway switch is moved, a point-lever. 1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.*

10. [f. Point *sb.*[1]] With a prefixed numeral: A stag having horns bearing so many points, e.g. *ten-pointer, fourteen-pointer*, etc.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 6/3 The magnificent 20-pointer shot .. in Glenquoich is said to be the only stag of the kind ever killed in a Scottish forest. 1899 H. Maxwell in *Pall Mall G.* 3 Oct. 3/2, I stood beside a ten-pointer.

-pointic, *a. Math.* [arbitrarily f. Point *sb.*[1] + -ic.] An element of adjectives, as *two-pointic, three-pointic, n-pointic*, = having, pertaining to, or passing through two, three, or *n* points.

1879 Salmon *Higher Plane Curves* vi. 214 An ordinary (two-pointic) contact of two branches of the curve.

‖ Pointillage (pwæ̃ntⁱyāg). [F., f. *pointiller* to dot: see -age.] 'Dotting; in Therapeutics, term for massage with the finger-tips' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1888 D. Maguire *Art of Massage* iii. (ed. 4) 48 Pointillage vibrations, or pointed vibrations..by striking with the points of the fingers formed into a small or a large circle.

‖ Pointi·lle. *Obs. rare.* [F. *pointille* (pwæ̃ntⁱy'), ad. It. *puntiglio*, dim. of *punto* point; L. type **puncticulum*, dim. of *punctum* point.] A small point, a trifle, a fine distinction; = Punctilio.

1626 C. Potter *Hist. Quarrels* 427 The Cardinall .. omitting pointilles and subtilties, did not say at Venice all that which the Court of Rome had wished.

‖ Pointillé (pwæ̃ntⁱye), *a.* (*sb.*) [F., pa. pple. of *pointiller* to mark with small points or dots, f. *pointille* (see prec.), L. type **puncticulāre*.] Ornamented with designs engraved or drawn with a sharp-pointed tool or style.

1903 *Tregaskis's Catal.* Jan. 10/1 Old French Locket Case, ..red morocco faded, gold tooled with small pointille scrolls and border of similar style.

Pointillism (pwæ̃ntⁱiliz'm). Also ‖ **-isme.** [ad. F. *pointillisme*, f. *pointiller*: see prec. and -ism.] A method, invented by French impressionist painters, of producing luminous effects by crowding a surface with small spots of various colours, which are blended by the eye.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 22 Oct. 3/2 Segantini..has broken the *banalité* of Alpine lines by the shimmering of his *pointillisme*. 1902 *Nation* (N.Y.) 2 Jan. 16/3 He [Segantini] painted without any adherence to systematic process, but used pointillisme as it served his purpose. 1904 *Athenæum* 2 Apr. 441/1 Modern Dutch artists .. seem to be taking pointillism with a stolid seriousness which its inventors never can have intended.

So **Poi·ntillist** [ad. F. *pointilliste*], an artist who follows the style of pointillism.

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Mar. 3/3 Mad imaginings of the various modern schools of impressionists, pointillistes, and so on. 1899 *Daily News* 30 May 9/3 Of the Seasons by the pointillist Pissarro, 'L'Automne' is the most realistic and spacious.

attrib. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Feb. 174 The 'Neo-Impressionist' or Pointillist painting.

Pointing (poi·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Point *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of Point *v.*[1], or its result.

† 1. Pricking or marking with a pointed instrument. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poyntynge, or prykkynge, *punctacio*.

† b. *Hunting.* (*concr.*) The foot-print or track left by a beast. *Obs.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiv, Þat somme man mete þer with and bloweth þe reghtes and halowes, or elles þat he fynde her poyntynge, or pryckynge.

c. The preparation of slates for roofing. ? *Obs.*
1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 244 The Pointing of Slates..is hewing them, and making them fit for the Work.

d. *Printing.* Placing the sheets on the points of the press. See POINT *sb.*[1] B. 4.
1880 *Printing Times* 15 Feb. 31/1 The pointing and taking-off at the machines are done by intelligent-looking boys or young men.

e. *Sculpture.* (See quot.)
1883 *Mag. of Art* Oct. 514/1 Here is done the pointing, as it is called; the marking out with mathematical accuracy upon the marble the points that shall guide the workman whose labour it is to block out from the rough..the potentiality of a statue, its rude semblance.

2. The insertion of stops; punctuation; the marks made, or the method of punctuating.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poyntynge, or pawsynge in redynge, *punctuacio.* 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 456, I passe ouer howe M. Heskins hath corrupted Tertullian by false pointing. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* viii. 162 The Sence..may seem to require another Pointing. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 420 The compositor should amend bad spelling and pointing. 1896 J. HUNTER *Hymns Faith & Life* (new ed.) Pref., Mr. B. Sykes..has revised the pointing of the Psalms and Canticles.

b. In Semitic languages: The insertion of the vowel (and other) points; the system of doing this.
1659 J. OWEN *Integr. & Purity Hebr. & Grk. Text* Wks. 1853 XVI. 376 What is the state and condition of the present Hebrew pointing. 1847 J. KIRK *Cloud Dispelled* x. 153 In the Hebrew the sense is obscured by false pointing.

3. Furnishing with a point; sharpening.
1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1705 A finer file-wheel by which the process of pointing is finished.

b. *Naut.* (See quot. 1867.) Also *concr.* The tapered end of a rope.
1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxv. 134 The neat work upon the rigging,—the knots, Flemish eyes, splices, seizings, coverings, pointings, and graffings. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 31 Take every alternate nettle and lay along the pointing. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Pointing*, the unlaying and tapering the end of a rope, and weaving some of its yarns about the diminished part.

4. The removing of points.
1879 WEBSTER Suppl. (citing HORSFORD). 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pointing*, a preliminary in the preparation of grain for the mill in the modern process; it consists in rubbing off the points of the grain, clipping the brush, and removing the germ end.

5. The filling up with special strong mortar of the exterior face of the joints in brickwork; *concr.* the protecting facing thus given to the joints. (In the earlier quots. applied to a similar operation in reference to the tiles or slates of a roof.)
Flat pointing: that in which the mortar is left even with the wall. *Tuck pointing*: that in which the mortar slightly projects from the joints, and the lines of mortar have parallel edges contrasting in colour with the central part.
1483–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 120 Payde to a tyler for iiij dayes & di. in poyntyng of dyuers houses. 1502–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 102 Pro le puyntyng super le caponhous. 1609 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 61 Item payed to Nichollas Yonger for laying the lead and for pointing of the slates, xviij d. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 228 The swell had washed some of the pointing out of the exterior joints. *Ibid.* § 233 We took this .. opportunity of carefully making good all our pointings and groutings. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 354 Pointing..consists in raking out some of the mortar from the joints, and filling them again with blue mortar. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 1201 In building there are two kinds of pointing, distinguished as flat pointing and tuck pointing, the latter being more ornamental than the former.

6. The action of indicating or directing; the indication of place or direction, as with the finger or the point of anything; expression by sign or gesture, dumb-show; also *fig.* a prompting, impulse; a hint in words.
1553 *Short Catech.* in *Lit. & Doc. Edw. VI* (1844) 495 That by certain questions, as it were by pointing, the ignorant might be instructed. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 34 With sygnes and poyntinges (as the dumme are wont to speake with the dumme). 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xiii. (1700) 76 The Needle's pointing at the Poles. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i. 181, I found by their pointing towards me .. that they plainly discovered me. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 318 One of those natural Pointings, as I may call it, that is implanted in every Creature, teaching it to chuse its Good, and to avoid its Evil. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 98 The Old Testament abounds..in pointings and approximations to it.

b. Of a yacht, etc.: The action of sailing with the prow close to the wind.
1899 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 6/6 The Shamrock footed the faster, but the Columbia counteracted this by her superior pointing. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 6/1 The spin showed that she is not only very fast in a breeze that puts her rail awash, but that she is a wonder at pointing.

c. Of a pointer or other dog: see POINT *v.*[1] 11.
1877 J. GIBSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 328/2 This habit [of crouching], like that of pointing, is probably .. 'merely the exaggerated pause of an animal about to spring on its prey'. *Ibid.* 330/1 The strength of this pointing propensity.

7. The coming of an abscess to a point or head; *concr.* the conical head thus formed.
1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pointing*, term for the conical softish projection, of a light yellow colour, observable in an abscess when nearly ripe. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 451 Tumours..which after 'pointing' opened spontaneously.

8. The disposition of the points (POINT *sb.*[1] B. 3 f) on a railway.
1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 6/2 The cause of the accident was undoubtedly an error in the pointing.

9. *Needlework.* A kind of ornamental stitch.
1888 *Catholic Househ.* 1 Sept. 14/1 The fine needlework on muslin which includes 'veining', 'stroking', 'pointing' and 'lace stitching'.

†**10.** *Fishing.* (?) The action of using the point of the rod as a means of hooking a fish: a practice followed by poachers. *Sc. Obs.*
1860 *Act* 23 & 24 *Vict.* c. 45 § 1 That it shall not be lawful ..to fish for trout or other fresh water fish..with any net,.. or by striking the fish with any instrument, or by pointing.

11. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in names of things used for pointing (see quots. and various senses of POINT *v.*[1]), as *pointing-breed, -dog, -forge, -machine, -trowel, -wire*; †**pointing-mark,** = *pointing-stock*; †**pointing-ribbon,** a ribbon used as a lace or point (POINT *sb.*[1] B. 5); so **pointing-silk**; **pointing-rods,** rods used in the exercise of guns and mortars; †**pointing-stock,** a person pointed at; an object of scorn, derision, or ridicule.
1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 956 A carrier, which takes the pin to the *pointing apparatus. 1754–6 *Connoisseur* No. 64 (1767) II. 224 [Dogs] of the *Pointing-breed. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* v. iv, A great *Pointing-dog bit him through the Leg. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 139 We would stand by his *pointing forge when he'd be sharpening picks in the early morning. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pointing-machine*, one for pointing rails, pickets, matches, etc. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 292 Suffer mee not to be a *poynting marke for others, and a shame among my neighbours. 1572 in Cunningham *Revels at Court* (Shaks. Soc.) 19 *Poynting Ribbon of golde sylv[r] and sylke 102 yardes at viij[d] the yarde. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Trena o trença*, a lace, a pointing ribbon, *taenia, offendix.* 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 121 The mortar is ..laid, not directly on the object, but upon two pickets, called **pointing rods.* 1571 *Inventory* in Beck *Draper's Dict.* 190, ij peces and ix yeardes of *pointinge silk, 6*s. 8*d*. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iv. 46, I, his forlorne Duchesse, Was made a wonder, and a *pointing stock. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XIX. 75 Not to liue pleasantly, but to be a pointing stock for the multitude, and a remembrancer of calamities. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 249 A small *Pointing Trowel, to go into sharp Angles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pointing-wire*, an iron wire with a loop at one end, used for sighting mortars by, when the proper line of fire has once been found.

Pointing, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see POINT *v.*[2]

Pointing (poi·ntiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. POINT *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That points, in various senses of the vb.
1630 MILTON *Epit. Shaks.* 4 Or that his hallow'd reliques should be hid Under a Star-ypointing Pyramid. 1667 — *P. L.* I. 223 The flames Drivn backward slope their pointing spires. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* i. (1697) 408 To see The Crowd, with pointing Fingers, cry, That's he. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 61 The tumor .. became conical like a pointing abscess.

b. *Pointing doors* (in a canal, etc.), two doors of a sluice closing against each other in a point or mitre, or at an angle, so as to resist the pressure of the water; *pointing sills*, also called *pointings*, the sills of such doors.
1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Navig.* Add. 178 A new sea sluice, with pointing doors to sea and land. *Ibid.*, The new cut..is to be not less than four feet below the pointings of the present sluice. [A depth of '4 feet below the pointings' means 4 feet below the upper surface of the sills of the lock or sluice, called pointing sills or pointings. (H. Congreve, M.Inst.C.E., Manchester.)]

Poi·ntingly, *adv. rare.* [f. POINTING *ppl. a.* + -LY [2].] In a way that points out; pointedly.
1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., Where haue I bin particular? Where personall, except to .. creatures (for their insolencies) worthy to be tax'd? or to which of these so pointingly, as he might not, either ingeniously haue confest, or wisely dissembled his disease?

Poi·nt la·ce. [f. POINT *sb.*[1] A. 31 + LACE *sb.* 6.] Lace made with the needle on a parchment pattern, as distinguished from that made with bones or bobbins on a pillow. Also *attrib.*
1672 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 736/4 A Lawn Pocket handkerchief, .. laced round with a fine Point lace about 4 fingers broad. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 41 Furniture for Beds of raised Point-Lace, &c. 6 per Cent. *ad valorem.* 1775 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 311 Mrs. Howard had a point-lace trimming that cost 500 l. 1881 A. LANG *Library* 65 The .. pattern of the gilding resembles the Venetian point-lace. 1882 A. S. COLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 184/1 Drawn and cut works were ancient forms of embroidery which directly developed into point lace.
Hence **Point-laced** *a.*, adorned with point lace.
1665 *Intelligencer* 5 June II. 402 Six Handkerchers,..one point-laced set on Tiffany.

Pointless (poi·ntlĕs), *a.* [f. POINT *sb.*[1] B. + -LESS.]
1. Without a point; having a rounded or blunt end; blunt.
a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 1047 The Fader amerueiled wes Whi his sword was point les. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 25 b, After the procession folowed therle of Northumberlande with a poincteless sword naked. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 420 You lay that pointless clergy-weapon by, And to the laws, your sword of justice, fly. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xx. 539 For I wield also not a pointless beam. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvii, 'My pencils are all pointless', she said.
2. Without point or force (POINT *sb.*[1] B. 10); ineffective, meaningless.
1726 POPE *Odyss.* xx. 448 The suitors..aim to wound the Prince with pointless wit. 1760 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 7 Aug. (1827) III. 13 Why should a little pointless raillery make us ashamed? 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. iv, He said something rather pointless about admiring everything that is beautiful. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Dec. 3/1 This is a pointless little story.

3. Of a competitor or side: Not having scored a point. Of a game or contest: In which no point is scored.
1882 *Daily News* 17 Feb. 3/5 Ben-y-Lair..was beaten almost pointless. 1891 *Ibid.* 6 Nov. 2/6 The latter did not long remain pointless, and after a long run by Hubbard, Fegan registered a try. 1892 *Standard* 3 Oct. 7/6 A pointless draw was the result of the meeting.

4. Having no characteristic or distinctive marks.
1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 26 It was the most pointless labyrinth.
Hence **Poi·ntlessly** *adv.*; **Poi·ntlessness.**
1885 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Nov. 599 The greatest charm of Lord Iddesleigh's performance was, to speak paradoxically, its pointlessness. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 436 It is not the monotony of life which destroys men, but its pointlessness. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, Pointlessly.

Pointlet (poi·ntlĕt). [f. as prec. + -LET.] A small point. Hence **Poi·ntleted** *a. Bot.*, terminating in a minute point; apiculate.
1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 80 *Dianthus cæsius*... Bracts adpressed, ovate, obtuse, pointleted. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Pointletted*, the same as Apiculate. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xii, Below were tassels, tufts, and pointlets.

Poi·ntling, *sb. nonce-wd.* [? f. POINT *v.*[1] + -LING [1] 2.] A little index-finger.
1840 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVII. 608 There was not a syllable said either of thumbkin, or pointling, or gold-finger.

†**Poi·ntling, -lings,** *adv. Obs.* [f. POINT *sb.*[1] B. + -LING [2], -LINGS.] Point foremost.
1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XI. iv. 578 He myght wel see a spere grete & longe that came streyghte vpon hym poyntelynge. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 135 Gret kairnis of stanes,..scharpe abone, ryseng vpe poyntlings lyke a steiple.

†**Poi·nt-maker.** *Obs.* A maker of points or laces (for fastening apparel): see POINT *sb.*[1] B. 5.
1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 Iren, wolle, wadmole, gotefel, kydefel also, For poyntmakers fulle nedefulle be the ij. 1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Poynt maker, *esguilletier.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 234 He was a citezen and poynt-maker of London. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Agujetero*, a point maker.

Poi·ntment. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Aphetic form of APPOINTMENT: cf. POINT *sb.*[2], *v.*[2] (Cf. OF. *poyntement* (1418 in Godef.).)] = APPOINTMENT 2, 3, 6.
c 1400 *Song Roland* 145 The sairsinis be set the poyntment to hold. *a* 1440, *c* 1440, 1521 [see APPOINTMENT 2, 3, 6]. 1466 *Cal. Anct. Recds. Dublin* (1889) I. 326 The .. poyntment of their wages. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 33 Did ye not erewhile Make pointment openly, To come again all to supper? 1581 RICH *Farewell* (Shaks. Soc.) 149 Accordyng to poinctmente comes Maister Doctour, disguised like a right porter. 1885 *Rep. Provinc.* (E. D. D.), I have made a pointment with Mr. — to-morrow.

Pointrel (poi·ntrĕl). *rare.* [dim. of POINT *sb.*[1] B.: cf. *cockerel.*] **a.** = POINTEL 1. **b.** The pointed extremity of the lobe of a leaf.
1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (ROXB.) 19/2 The Poitrell or Pointrell is a brasse Instrument formerly used to write withall on tables. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pointrel*, a graving-tool. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* i, Broad leaves spreading into pointrels, waved and cut with crisp indenture.

Pointsman (poi·ntsmăn). [f. POINT *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]]
1. A man who has charge of the points on a railway: see POINT *sb.*[1] B. 3 f.
1849 SIR F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* viii. (1851) 79 To increase precaution, the pointsman has always the signal of danger on. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 624 Pointsmen have very responsible duties.
2. A police constable stationed on point-duty.
1883 *Globe* 5 Apr. 5/1 Supplemental police 'pointsmen' have been placed at several of the public buildings. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Oct., If the 'point' system is retained, a pointsman ought to be kept on duty throughout the night.
So **Poi·ntswoman** (cf. sense 1).
1871 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* ii. 66 Much it amazed us to see continually on French railways these female officials, down to signalwomen and pointswomen.

†**Poi·nture.** *Obs.* Also 5 **-yr.** [a. F. *pointure* = Pr. *pointura*:—L. *punctūra* PUNCTURE.] Pricking.
1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 119 The lusti Maii, Whanne every brid upon his lay Among the griene leves singeth And love of his pointure stingeth..The youthe of every creature. 1461 *Liber Pluscardensis* XI. viii, The pointyr of a preyn.

†**Point-vice,** *a.* and *adv. Obs.* [var. of POINT-DEVICE.] Perfect; perfectly, exactly.
a 1607 BRIGHTMAN *Revelation* (1615) 48 Men..who thinke all that to be point-vice, which they read to haue been in vse in these tymes. *a* 1663 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 127 Clamour against the Times, because everything is not point-vise just as we would have it.

Poi·ntways, *adv.* [f. as next + *ways*, genitive of WAY *sb.*] = next; with projecting points.
1892 J. T. BENT *Ruined Cities Mashonaland* iv. 107 A pretty little bit of wall with the stones placed pointways for about a yard..formed a sort of dentelle pattern.

Poi·ntwise, *adv.* [f. POINT *sb.*[1] B. + -WISE.] In the manner or way of a point.
1545 ELYOT, *Cuspidatim*, poyntyng, or poyntwyse. 1611 FLORIO, *Stipula*, the spindling vp point-wise of any thing namely of corne. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* IX. 197 Gnartolite .. whome Akafir, well eienge, point wise smote. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 4/1 The bodice..enriched with further appliqués of guipure to extend the fronts pointwise.

Pointy (poi·nti), *a.* [f. POINT *sb.*[1] B. + -Y.]

1. Characteristically or notably pointed.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xv. § 1. 130, I haue seen some very high, and pointy spire steeples do the like.

2. Of a fleece: Having many points; bearing wool of uneven length.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 891 A good fleece should have the points of all its staples of equal length, otherwise it will be a pointy one.

3. Full of point; pithy, terse. *slang.*

Poinyard, obs. form of PONIARD.

Poiology (poiɒ·lŏdʒi). [f. Gr. *ποῖο-ς* of what kind or nature (= L. *quālis*) + -LOGY.] Bentham's proposed term for the doctrine of quality, as opposed to *posology* the doctrine of quantity. Hence **Poiolo·gical** *a.*

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 119 Exhibiting Posology and Poiology together, in the character of two branches comprehending between them the whole contents of Somatology. *Ibid.* 86 Poiological Somatology.

Pois, obs. form of POSE *Sc.*, treasure, etc.

† **Poi·sable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [a. late AF. *poisable*, f. *poiser* to POISE + -ABLE.] That may be weighed.

[1429–30 *Act* 8 *Hen. VI* c. 5 Toutz manners des choses poisablez.] 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 82 The ferme of the grete beame shall bye nor selle any wares or marchaundises peysed or poysable at y^e^ grete beame.

† **Poi·sage.** *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *poisage*, = PEISAGE.] Weighing, expense of weighing.

1611 COTGR., *Droict de poisage*, poisage; or, a fee due in some places, vnto the king, for the weighing of wares in the Market-hall, or Towne-house.

† **Poi·sant,** *a. Obs.* In 4–5 **poysaunt, 6 -sent.** [a. OF. *poisant*, variant of *pesant, peisant*: see PEISANT, and POISE *v.*] Weighing; heavy, weighty (in various senses): = PEISANT.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 26 Two candels poysaunt viij. pounde. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 17 Gyuyng to hys enemye many strokes terryble and poysaunt. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* I. ix. 24 More poysaunt and namely bygger armures. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 111 Right poysent bloe he stroke.

Poise (poiz), *sb.* Forms: 5 **poys,** 5–6 **pois,** 5–7 **poyse,** 6–7 **poiz, poyze,** 6–8 **poize,** 7 **poix,** 8 **poice,** 5– **poise.** [late ME. *poys*, a. Central OF. *pois* (now *poids*), from earlier OF. *peis* weight = Pr., Cat. *pes*, Sp., Pg., It. *peso*:—late pop. L. *pēsum* for cl. L. *pensum* weight, from *pendĕre* to weigh. Cf. PEISE *sb.*]

I. Weight.

† **1.** The quality of being heavy; heaviness, weight. Also in semi-concr. sense; cf. *weight, load, burden. Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Chorle & Byrde* (1818) 15, I to haue more poise closid in myn entraille Than alle my body set for the counteraylle. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 153 The toure was of merueyllouse poys and heuy. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* iii. 49 As if their owne poize did .. giue them that proper place. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 169 For the holding the grain and water, whose poyse and weight might otherwise endanger a weaker substance. 1665 EVELYN *Let.* 9 Sept. in *Diary*, etc. (1827) IV. 157 We should succumb under the poiz.

† **b.** *fig.* 'Weight'; gravity, importance; load, burden; burdensomeness. *Obs.*

1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 375/1 As the mater is so high, and of soo grete wyght and poyse. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. vii. 15 Their offyce passeth in poys and perill alle other. 1593 SOUTHWELL *St. Peter's Compl.* 67 My sinnes doe ouercharge thy brest, The poyse therof doth force thy knees to bow. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή Diat. iii. 140 The poyse of Charity must incline the beam toward the better part. 1752 HUME *Pol. Disc.* xi. 270 To put all these circumstances in the scale, and assign to each of them its proper poize and influence.

† **2.** Definite or specified weight; the amount that a thing weighs. *Obs.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290 Wolles of gretter poyse thenne were contened in thaire Cokett. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxviii. 121 After that it is of poyse. 1580 *Reg. Gild Co. Chr. York* (1872) 310 Poiz nyne unces and half an unce. 1620 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) XVII. 195 Poix, altogither One hundred twentie and three Ounces. 1706 MAULE *Hist. Picts* iii. 20 Brazen Pieces, or Rings of Iron duly weighed and tried to just Poise.

† **b.** A measure or standard of weight. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 183 One hundred talentes, that is of englishe poyse, nyne thousande three hundred poundes of weight. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 234 They are soulde by a poyse or weight which they caule Mangiar. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 408, 300 shekles of brasse, which make nine pound three quarters of our poizes.

† **3.** *concr.* A weight; a piece of some heavy substance used for some purpose on account of its weight, e. g. a weight of a clock. *Obs.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xvi, Laborynge with poyses made of leadde or other metall. 1533 — *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 51 Takyng vp plummettes or other lyke poyses on the endes of staues, .. these do exercise the backe and loynes. 1561–2 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 282 To the plum'er for casting of the poyses for the chyme and clok. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife, &c.* (1638) 104 It keeps his mind in a continuall motion, as the poise the clocke. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 323/2 The Shanks or Arms, and the Poises or Lead Balls at the ends.

b. *fig.* Something that acts like a weight; a bias; one of the *halteres* of a fly: see POISER 2. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanthropy* Ep. Ded. 2, I have seldom pretended that common poyse, that..sets so many mad pens, like wheeles, a running, importunacy of friends. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* VIII. iv. 406 These Poises or Pointils are, for the most part, little Balls set at the top of a Slender Stalk, which they can move every way at pleasure. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. III. XXXV. 162 It of course fell where they had given the poise, which was on the right side. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I. ix, Such a hint was likely enough to give an adverse poise to Gwendolen's own thought.

† **4.** Forcible impact, as of a heavy body; momentum; a heavy blow or fall. *Obs.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* li. 194 Sadoyne, .. wyth xv. thousaund gode knyghtes, valyaunt & hardy, that al at one poyse smot hem self wythin Alymodes folke. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 207 The Ramme that batters downe the wall, For the great swing and rudenesse of his poize, They place before his hand that made the Engine.

II. Equality of weight, balance.

5. *Equal* or *even poise*: The condition of being equally weighted on both sides; balance, equilibrium, equipoise. *lit.* and *fig.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 94 A payre of balances whose weyght inclynynge from the equall poyse in the myddest towarde eyther of the sydes. *a* 1650 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 276 O Heart! the æquall poise of love's both parts. 1692 NORRIS *Curs. Refl.* I This already reduces me to an even Poise. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 797 And that demands a mind in equal poize. 1875 JOWETT *Plato, Phaedrus* (ed. 2) II. 124 The chariots of the gods in even poise, obeying the rein, glide rapidly.

6. Hence *absol.*, in sense of 5: Balance, equilibrium (in reference to material things).

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. I. iii. 215 The Central Powers, which hold the lasting Orbs in their just Poize and Movement. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 253 The animal .. loses his poise, .. gasps and apparently dies. 1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* xvii, Panting, at poise, upon a rocky crest! 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 324/2 Which accelerates its velocity until the balance has passed the point where the spring is in poise.

b. The way in which the body, head, etc., is poised; carriage.

1770 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 310 Great attention should always be had to the poize of the body. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* v, An expression carried out in the backward poise of the girl's head. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* ii. 46 Some infirmity, either of the eye, or the hand, or of our posture, or of our poise and balance.

c. A balanced or hovering condition; suspense of movement; a pause between two periods of motion or change.

1867 SWINBURNE *W. Blake* (1868) 57 With tender poise of pausing feet. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* Introd. 13 The Muse will not descend from her airy poise. 1878 GILDER *Poet & Master* 14 At the poise of the flying year. 1889 SIR F. LEIGHTON in *Times* 11 Dec. 7/1 The poise of the flood-tide..was only of brief duration.

7. *fig.* Balance, equilibrium, steadiness, stability (in reference to abstract or immaterial things).

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1864) 82 Sweet as her voyce That gave each winding law and poyze. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 277 All Is off the poise within. 1801 COXE *Trav. Switz.* (ed. 4) I. Introd. 32 The government, losing its poise, was only considered as a provisional committee. 1901 A. SHAW in *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 610 Men who have at the same time the intellectual range and poise that he has acquired.

b. The condition of being equally balanced between alternatives; state of indecision; suspense.

1713 POPE *Let. to Addison* 14 Dec., 'Tis enough to make one remain stupify'd in a poize of inaction. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 145 The event was long on the poise. 1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* 407 Great affairs of state hang at poise.

Poise (poiz), *v.* Forms: 5– **poise,** (5–7 **poyse,** 6–7 **poyze,** 6–8 **poize**). [late ME. *poise* (parallel form to PEISE), repr. OF. *poise*, from earlier *peise*, the stem-stressed form of *peser* = Pr. *pessar, pezar*, Sp., Pg. *pesar*, It. *pesare*:—late pop. L. *pēsāre* for cl. L. *pensāre* to weigh, freq. of *pendĕre* to weigh.

L. *pēsā·re, pē·sat*, became according to stress, in early OF., *pese·r, (il) pei·se*, later, in Central OF. *(il) poise*. In mod.F., the *oi* forms have been levelled under *e, il pèse, ils pèsent*; but in late OF. the *e* forms were sometimes levelled under *oi*, giving *poiser, poisant*, etc., as still in Picard and Burgundian. Late Anglo-Fr. had in the stem-stressed forms both the Norman *peise* and the Parisian *poise*, whence late ME. and early mod.E. had both PEISE and *poise*, of which *poise* has been, since the 17th c., the Standard Eng. form, though *peise, paise, pese*, are retained dialectally.]

† **1.** *trans.* (or *intr.* with *compl.*) To have a specified weight, to weigh (so much): = PEISE *v.* 6.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 18 He shal haue two candels poysand vj. pounde of wax. 14.. *Langland's P. Pl.* B. v. 217 Þe pounde þat she payed by poised [*v.rr.* peised, weyed; *A, C*, peysed, peised] a quarteroun more Than myne owne auncere. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 85 Presents of gould, ful weightelye poysing. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. xvi. (1877) I. 282 He had two other..whose shot poised aboue two talents in weight.

† **2.** *trans.* To measure or estimate the weight of (by a balance, or by lifting and holding in the hand); to weigh: = PEISE *v.* I, I c. *Obs.*

1593 DRAYTON *Ecl.* ii. 82 Whereby it doth all poyze and measure. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 159 The officers Poys'd it, and felt every where. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 235 The old Romans had this custom of poyzing the money which they paid.

3. *fig.* To weigh in the mind; to consider, ponder; to estimate, value: = PEISE *v.* 2. Now *rare.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 20 All the intermixtions poysed by wysedom & worshipp. *c* 1495 *Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 392 Gewellys .. poysyd at grete valoyre. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. (1623) 568 So vneuenly doth some mens judgement poyse. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xvi. 209 Let us now poize the circumstances which are all weighty. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xvi, A thousand resolutions .. weighed, poised, and perpended. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1877) II. xvi. 276 They would have seen him turn crimson in poising the question.

† **4.** To add weight to; to weight, load, burden; to weigh *down*, oppress; to incline or sway as by weight. *lit.* and *fig.* (Cf. PEISE *v.* 4.) *Obs.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 43 The innumerable multitude of those, .. whom with the weight of his endlesse wealth, hee poized downe that they durst not then whisper in secret, what now they openly discouer. 1598 CHAPMAN *Blinde Begger* Wks. 1873 I. 39 When such young boyes, Shal have their weake neckes over poisd with crownes. *a* 1677 MANTON *Serm. Ps. cxix.* clxxxii. Wks. 1872 IX. 234 When a man is biassed and poised by his heart to a thing. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 25 ¶ 2 As soon as I find my self duely poised after Dinner, I walk till I have perspired five Ounces and four Scruples.

† **b.** *intr.* To press or tend *downward* by its weight: = PEISE *v.* 4 b. *Obs.*

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanthropy* 20 Like the Pinacles on some Battlements that point upward to heaven and poyse downward to their center.

† **c.** *trans.* To steady or render stable, as by adding weight; to ballast. *Obs.*

1642 J. M. *Argt. conc. Militia* A iij, Everyman ought to have his conscience poysed by good grounds and principles, lest that it suffer shipwrack. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 181 ¶ 1 That Sobriety of Thought which poises the Heart.

d. With *equally* or *evenly*: To weight evenly, to cause to have equal weight on both sides; to put in equilibrium, to balance (= 5). *Obs.* or merged in 5. (Cf. POISE *sb.* 5.)

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* vi. § 2 (1643) 194 The earth .. is so equally poysed on every side, that it cannot but be firmly upheld. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 71 A Bowl equally poized and thrown upon a smooth Bowling-green. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xviii. (1820) 77 The scales are equally poised.

5. To place or keep in equilibrium; to hold supported or suspended; to make even; to balance. *lit.* and *fig.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. vii. (1840) 127 At last he resolved .. openly to poise himself indifferent betwixt these two kings. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 579 Where Earth now rests Upon her center pois'd. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 11 By what Artifice they poise themselves. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, XII. III. 396 The balance of power among the Italian States was poized with greater equality. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 36 Her small head was perfectly poised on a slender neck. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. vii. 265 Showing us men poised between the two infinites.

b. To weigh or balance (one thing *with* or *against* († *by, to*) another, or two things against each other); to bring into or hold in mutual equilibrium; to equalize (quot. 1697). Usually *fig.* Now *rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 100 Tut, you saw her faire, none else being by, Herselfe poys'd with herselfe in either eye. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* (1657) 338 Poysing past and future events as two scales in a balance. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 46 Wilt thou bless our Summers with thy Rays, And seated near the Ballance, poise the Days? 1781 COWPER *Expostulation* 342 Who poises and proportions sea and land, Weighing them in the hollow of his hand. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xi. 237 Again was Cartwright poised against Whitgift.

† **c.** To be of equal weight with (usually *fig.*); to balance, counterbalance; to equal, match. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, 'Twill scarce poize the obseruation else. 1667 H. STUBBE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 498 Two contrary Winds poise each other, and make a Calm in the midst. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 426 Thirst of applause calls public judgment in, To poise our own, to keep an even scale.

† **d.** *intr.* with *against*: To counterbalance, compensate. *Obs. rare.*

a 1718 PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 700 They have others that will more than Poize against the Growing Power of it.

6. *trans.* To hold or carry in equilibrium; to hold balanced in one's hand, on one's head, etc.; to carry steadily or evenly.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 36 Poizing the pike with an equall poize vpon his thombe and shoulder. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 55 The 8. elephant supporters not being able to poize it on their heads. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 32 His Pistol steadily pois'd in his Hand. 1863 BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 238 The largest masses can be lifted, poised, or laid down at any point with the nicest accuracy. 1870 W. CHAMBERS *Winter. Mentone* i. 13 Their favourite mode of carrying things is to poise them on the top of the head.

† **b.** To cause to sway or swing to and fro like something suspended. *Obs.*

1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. vi. (1635) 85 The Water .. will oftentimes poize it selfe hither and thither, seeking an æquilibration.

† **c.** To heave, lift. *Obs. rare.*

1689 'PHILOPOLITES' *Grumble. Crew* 4 To use their Skill and Care, in weighing and poising up again this same forsaken and sinking Vessel.

7. *intr.* for *refl.* To be balanced or held in equilibrium; to hang supported or suspended; to balance itself in the air, to hover.

1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* ii. (1848) 20 As of some breath-

less racers, whose hopes poise Upon the last few steps. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 36. 219 To observe the keen swift kyjiks poise and skim over the Bosphorus. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 63 A butterfly .. Poising in sunshine.

Hence **Poised** *ppl. a.*, balanced, etc. (in quot. *a* 1643, weighted, loaded); **Poi·sing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*, balancing, weighing, hovering, etc. (see senses above).

1545 Elyot, *A scalon*, an hebrue woorde, signifieth a poysyng, or a balance. *a* 1643 W. Cartwright *Ordinary* II. iii, Your poyz'd dye That's ballasted with quicksilver or gold Is grosse to this. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 344 The heavier Earth is by her Weight betray'd, The lighter in the poising Hand is weigh'd. *c* 1760 Smollett *Ode Indep.* 107 Where the poised lark his evening ditty chants. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) I. ii. 44 When over crags and piny highlands The poising eagle slowly soars. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* ii, Something almost majestic..in the poising of her head.

Poise, poisee, poisei, obs. ff. Poesy.

Poiser (poi·zəɹ). Forms: 5 **poisour, poysour,** 7 **poyser,** 9 **poiser.** [In sense 1, a. AF. *poisour* = OF. *peseor, peseur*, agent-n. f. *peser* to weigh; in other senses f. Poise *v.* + -er[1].]

†**1.** One who weighs; *spec.* an officer appointed to weigh goods (cf. Peiser 2). *Obs.*

1422 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) III. 17 þe revenues.. ben gretly encresede or anientischede by coustumers countrollers poisours serchers and alle suche obere officers. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 268/2 *No* Sercheour, Gaugeour of Wyn, .. Poysour, Collectour of Custims. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini, Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 267 [These] might be weighed severally apart..if the poyser were able to do it.

2. That which poises or balances; an organ used for balancing; *spec.* in *Entom.*, each of the pair of appendages which replace the hind wings in dipterous insects: see Balancer 4, Halteres 2.

1805 Priscilla Wakefield *Dom. Recreat.* i. (1806) 10 Two little balls, or poisers, united to the body under the hinder part of each wing. 1852 T. W. Harris *Insects New Eng.* 501 Some of these insects have wings; but others have neither wings nor poisers. 1883 H. Lee in *Knowledge* 15 June 360/1 The flippers or 'paddles' [of the dolphin].. are only used as rudders and poisers.

3. One who holds something poised or balanced.

1884 H. C. Bunner in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 304/2 These poisers of the airy racket.

Poisie, obs. form of Poesy.

Poison (poi·z'n), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: *a.* 3 **poysun,** 4 **poisoun,** 4–6 **poysen,** 4–7 **-soun, -e,** 4–8 **-son,** 5 **-syn,** (**poyssone**), 5–6 **poysone,** 4– **poison.** *β.* 3–4 **puisun,** 4 **puison**; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 5 **puso(u)n, puyso(u)n, pwsoune,** 6 **pussoun** (9 *dial.* **puzzen**). [ME. *puison, poison*, a. OF. *puison* (12th c. in Godef.), *poison* 'drink, draught', later 'poisonous draught' (14th c.) = Pr. *poizo, poyzon*, Sp. *pocion*, It. *pozione*:—L. *pōtiō-nem* a drink, potion, poisonous draught, f. *pōtāre, pōt-um* to drink: see Potion.]

†**1.** A drink prepared for a special purpose; a medicinal draught; a potion. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 52 And poysoun on a pole þei put vp to his lippes. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* II. xx. 110 Waters..whiche somme men drynke for to be heled of their maladyes in stede of poyson. 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 150 Y⁰ Phisition by minglyng bitter poysons with sweete lyquor, bringeth health to the body.

b. *esp.* A potion prepared with a deadly or deleterious drug or ingredient; also, such an ingredient of a drink or food. *Obs.* or merged in 2.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 Tu wilt inoh rade..makien puisun & ȝeouen bale i bote stude. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1932 And drinke ferst of þe win, þat no poisoun was þer in. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 533 And Alexander the conqueroure .. Wes syne destroyit throw pwsoune. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 699 He deit..of a fellone poyssone, myngit and mad be tresone. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 218 By the meane of a sleapyng poyson or drinke that he gaue to his kepers..he escaped.

2. Any substance which, when introduced into or absorbed by a living organism, destroys life or injures health, irrespective of mechanical means or direct thermal changes. Popularly applied to a substance capable of destroying life by rapid action, and when taken in a small quantity.

But the more scientific use is recognized in the phrase *slow poison*, indicating the accumulative effect of a deleterious drug or agent taken for a length of time.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 339 Venym and poysoun i-brouȝt þiderward out of oþer londes. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. iii. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 190/2 Ofte þinge þat is holsome and goode to men is poyson to oþer bestes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/1 A Puson, *aconitum, toxicum, venenum.* 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxxxix. [cxl.] 3 Adders poyson is vnder their lippes. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* vii. 295 Heere is also a most strong and deadly poison, one graine whereof being diuided amongst ten persons, will kill them all. 1616, *a* 1623, 1809 [see Meat *sb.* 1 c]. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. v. 348 [He] put an end to his life by poyson. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* I. i, Each breath Of foreign air he draws seems a slow poison. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxv. 372 A virulent poison may differ from the most wholesome food only in the difference of quantity of the very same ingredients. 1885 J. Stevenson in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 275/2 An exact definition of 'poison' is by no means easy. There is no legal definition of what constitutes a poison.. In popular language, a poison is a substance capable of destroying life when taken in small quantity. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 464 'Poisons' manufactured within the economy can act in a similar manner, as evidenced by uræmic poisoning. *Mod. colloq.* They hate each other like poison.

3. *fig.* Any principle, doctrine, or influence, the reception of which is baneful to character, morality, or the well-being of the body politic; any baneful element taken in from without.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* x. 97 Tresonable folk thair mater wyrkis throu lyst. Poyson sen syn at the Fawkyrk is cald. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 A poyson of all poysons in religion moost to be feared. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xv. 17 My breist is woyd and purgit of pussoun. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxix. 168 The poyson of seditious doctrines. 1728 Eliza Heywood tr. *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 157 Flattery is a Poison easily swallowed. 1838 Thirlwall *Greece* III. xxi. 204 The poison of incurable suspicion perverted every noble feeling.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Attributive, as *poison-apparatus, -bag, -bowl, -breath, -canal, -dew, -duct, -fang, -flower, -gland, -organ, -sac, -scrub, -shrub, -slime, -sting, -thorn, -tooth.* **b.** Objective and obj. gen., as *poison-bearing, -breathing, -shooting* adjs.; *poison-eater, -maker, -secretor, -seller, -swallower.* **c.** Instrumental, parasynthetic, etc., as *poison-barbed, -dipped, -laden, -proof, -sprinkled, -tainted, -tipped, -toothed* adjs.

1835–6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 208/2 Scorpions have also a *poison-apparatus. 1816 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xvii. (1818) II. 67 Their abdomen is also furnished with a *poison-bag.., in which is secreted a powerful and venomous fluid. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 124/1 Their arrows, *poison-barbed. 1838 Lytton *Leila* I. ii, Imprisoned..with the *poison-bowl or the dagger hourly before my eyes. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkworms* 67 Of brittle Ash, and *poyson-breathing vgh [yew]. 1849–52 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. 888/2 The tooth itself is crescentic, with the horns..so as to circumscribe the *poison-canal. 1835 Talfourd *Ion* III. ii, The tree, whose branches stifling virtue, Shed *poison-dews on joy. 1866 Ruskin *Crown Wild Olive* iii. (1898) 147 A *poison-dipped sceptre, whose touch was mortal. 1849–52 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. 888/1 The *poison-duct..rests in a slight groove..on the convex side of the fang. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 409 Its venomous maxillæ the *poison-fangs. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 809 When the snake opens its jaws before striking the poison-fangs are erected. 1819 Keats *Isabella* xiii, Even bees..Know there is richest juice in *poison-flowers. 1849–52 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* IV. 888/2 The fang appears..to be perforated by the duct of the *poison-gland. 1552 Huloet, *Poyson maker, *veneficus.* 1679 Dryden *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii, Their horse-bodies are *poison-proof. 1902 H. H. Prichard *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* iii. 44 A low green belt of *poison-scrub. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xli. 127 In the Scorpion..the *poison-secretor is clothed externally with a horny thickish membrane. 1552 Huloet, *Poyson seller, *venenarius.* 1840 Eliza Cook *World* viii, There are spots where the *poison-shrub grows. 1819 R. Sheil *Evadne* II. i. 19 Thou shed-dest thy *poison-slime upon the flower Of a pure woman's honour. 1856 Aytoun *Bothwell* II. xvii, I've heard that *poison-sprinkled flowers Are sweeter in perfume. 1873 *France, Empire & Civiliz.* 43 Which has left a *poison-sting in many hearts. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 226 The *poison-tainted Air. 1899 Werner *Capt. of Locusts* 151 The boy hurt his hand badly—spiked it on some *poison-thorn, I think. 1596 Fitz-Geffray *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 29 *Poyson-tooth'd viper, impiously that bites The wombe of those who are her favorites.

5. Special Combs.: **poison-cart** (*Austral.*) a cart carrying poisoned meat for the destruction of the dingo; **poison-cup,** (*a*) a cup containing poison; (*b*) a cup or other vessel reputed to break on poison being poured into it; **poison-flour,** a name for sublimated arsenic trioxide (flowers of arsenic) in the process of refining; **poison-lime,** a preparation of lime in which skins are immersed in order to remove the hair before tanning; **poison-ring,** a ring by which poison was communicated in the grasp of the hand; **poison-tower,** a chamber in which the poisonous fumes are condensed in arsenic works; **poison-vent,** a channel through which the fumes pass into the *poison-tower.*

1898 'R. Boldrewood' *Rom. Canvas Town* 61 All this time the *poison-cart was kept going. 1826 Mrs. Hemans *Forest Sanct.* I. xx, I flung it back, as guilt's own *poison-cup. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 56 According to the quality of the *poison-flour [previously called 'arsenic meal'] it yields from ⅔ to ⅞ of its weight of the glass or enamel. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 372/1 The unhairing in lime-pits is done..with the so-called '*poison-lime'. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 433 A *poison ring of curious construction is described by Mr. Fairholt. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 55 A vertical section of the *poison tower. *Ibid.* 823 There are poison towers and extensive condensing chambers attached. *Ibid.* 56 Pipes leading to the *poison vent.

b. *esp.* in names of plants (or parts of them) having poisonous qualities: **poison-ash** = *poison-sumac*; **poison-bay,** *Illicium floridanum* (N.O. *Magnoliaceæ*), the leaves of which are reputed poisonous; **poison-berry,** any plant (or its fruit) of the genus *Cestrum* (N.O. *Solanaceæ*), of the West Indies and Brazil; also, 'the boraginaceous shrub *Bourreria succulenta*' (*Cent. Dict.*); **poison-bulb,** a South African bulbous plant (or its bulb), *Buphane toxicaria* or *Hæmanthus toxicarius* (N.O. *Amaryllidaceæ*); also the allied *Crinum asiaticum*; **poison-bush,** (*a*) a poisonous species of *Euphorbia*; (*b*) a West Indian shrub, *Thevetia neriifolia* (N.O. *Apocynaceæ*); **poison-dogwood, poison-elder** = *poison-sumac*; **poison-flag,** an American species of Iris (*I. versicolor*); **poison-hemlock,** *U.S.* the common hemlock, *Conium maculatum*; **poison-ivy,** a trailing or climbing species of sumac, *Rhus Toxicodendron*, of N. America, having trifoliolate leaves, and producing poisonous effects when touched; **poison-nut,** (*a*) the violently poisonous seed of *Tanghinia venenifera* (N.O. *Apocynaceæ*), used by the natives of Madagascar in trial by ordeal; also the tree; (*b*) = Nux vomica (Webster 1864); **poison-oak,** the low-growing variety of *Rhus Toxicodendron* (see *poison-ivy*); also the allied *R. diversiloba* of Pacific N. America, which has similar properties; **poison-pea,** *Swainsona Greyana* (see next); **poison-plant,** name in Australia for several leguminous plants whose leaves are poisonous to cattle, as species of *Gastrolobium, Swainsona Greyana*, and *Lotus australis*; **poison-root** (of Carolina), *Æsculus pavia*, the twigs and roots of which were used to stupify fish; **poison-sumac,** *Rhus venenata*, a tall N. American shrub with pinnate leaves, also called *poison-ash* or *poison-elder*, and having properties resembling those of the allied *poison-ivy*; **poison-vine,** (*a*) a climbing plant of Mediterranean regions, *Periploca græca* (N.O. *Asclepiadaceæ*), having poisonous milky juice (also called *milk-vine*); (*b*) = *poison-ivy*; †**poison-weed,** ? = *poison-ivy*; **poison-withe**: see quot. See also Poison-tree, Poisonwood.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 *Poison Ash, *Rhus.* 1763 W. Lewis *Comm. Phil. Techn.* 330 Mr. Catesby.. describes one, called there the poison-ash, from whose trunk flows a liquid, black as ink. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 619 In Alabama..*[*Illicium*] *floridanum*..has..acquired the name of *Poison-bay. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* (1789) 173 Blue *Poison Berries...The nightingales are said to feed upon the berries of this shrub, which are reckoned very poisonous. 1864 Webster, **Poison-bulb.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 181 *B[uphane] *toxicaria* is called the Poison Bulb, and is said to be fatal to cattle. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 *Poison Bush, *Euphorbia.* 1871 Kingsley *At Last* i, It proved to be *Thevetia neriifolia*...This was the first..warning which we got not to meddle rashly with 'poison-bush'. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 456 *Rhus venenata*, *Poison-Elder or Poison-Sumach. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 979 Poison Sumach or Poison Elder, is a tall shrub with pinnate leaves. 1845–50 Mrs. Lincoln *Lect. Bot.* 140 Species of Iris, one of which, the common blue flag,..is sometimes called *Poison flag. *Ibid.* 151 *Poison hemlock, (Conium,) water parsnip,..water cowbane, are among the poisonous plants of this tribe. 1857 Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 34 By these rootlets..the Ivy of Europe, and our Poison Rhus,—here called *Poison Ivy,—fasten themselves firmly to walls. 1883 C. Phelps in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 282/2 The poison-ivy was gorgeous with a fatal beauty. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 512 The seeds of .. the Madagascar *Poison-nut are very deadly. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 *Poison Oak, *Rhus.* 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 42 An abominable shrub or weed called poison-oak, whose very neighbourhood is venomous to some. 1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, *Swainsona Greyana*, Darling River Pea, Horse-poison-plant,..or *Poison Pea, of Australia. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 521 A number of the species of this [*Gastrolobium*] and of allied genera are known in Western Australia as *Poison-plants; and farmers lose annually a large number of cattle through their eating the foliage. *Ibid.* 522 Dr. Harvey says the worst of the Poison-plants is *G[astrolobium] *bilobum*. 1712 Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 424 Carolina *Poyson Root. .. Castaneæ Equinæ facie, Arbor..flore galeato spicato. 1857–66 *Poison-sumach [see *poison elder*]. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* 170 The poysoned weed [in the Bermudas] is much in shape like our English Iuy. *margin*, The *poison weed. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 619 The *Poyson-Wyth of Barbados, which is a kind of Bryony.

B. *adj.* Poisonous, poisoned, envenomed. *Obs.* exc. as coinciding with the attrib. use of the sb. in 4 a.

1530 Tindale *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 17 With what poison, deadly, and venomous hate hateth a man his enemy. *Ibid.* 18 To make him of so poison a nature. 1531 *Ibid.* II. 143 Ye have chewed and mingled it with your poison spittle. 1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1063/2 A crosse..,the beholdynge wherof deuowred and destroyed the venome of al the poyson serpentes. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 257 Their arms are..poison arrows. 1822 Shelley *Scenes fr. Faust* ii. 78 They dart forth polypus-antennæ, To blister with their poison spume The wanderer. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 464 If he claims the ordeal,..he usually has to take a poison drink.

Poison (poi·z'n), *v.* Forms: see the sb.; also 4 **poisone,** 5 **poysn-yn, poysne, poysyn,** (**posyn**), 6 **poisin.** [ME. *poison-en*, a. OF. *poisonn-er* to give to drink (cf. mod.F. *empoisonner* to poison), f. *poison* Poison, or refashioned from an OF. **poisnier*:—L. *pōtiōn-āre* to give (any one) to drink, to drug, f. *pōtiō-nem* drink, poisonous draught, Potion. So Pr. *pozionar*, Sp. *ponzoñar.*]

1. *trans.* To administer poison to; to introduce poison into the system of (man or animal); to kill or injure by means of poison, poisonous gases, etc.

13.. *Coer de L.* 2732 He leet taken alle the cors..And caste into the watyr off our welle, Us to poyson and to quelle. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1095 Poysened & parlatyk & pyned in fyres. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 333 þe pope & þe emperour myȝte priuely be poysined bi suche fadres. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 303 He was i-poysened wiþ venym þat was i-doo in his chalys. *c* 1400 Maundev.

(Roxb.) vi. 19 þis same sowdan was puysond at Damasc. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/1 To Puson, *toxicare.* 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 b, Lyke as the worme yᵗ is crusshed or poysoned. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 260 b, The Pope hireth men to poyson other. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. iii, *Sir Fop.* I sat near one of 'em.. and was almost Poison'd with a pair of Cordivant Gloves he wears. *Lov.* Oh!.. How I hate the smell! 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 813 The Water-Snake .. lyes poyson'd in his Bed. 1786 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III* (1839) 327 He was charged with having poisoned the queen. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumberld. Ball.* 35 Peer Jemmy was puzzen'd, they say, by a black. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* 119 Boys of ten years had learnt the art of poisoning their fathers.

b. To produce morbid effects in (the blood, a wound, a limb, etc.) by impregnation or infusion of poison, decomposing organic matter, ptomaine, etc. Cf. *blood-poisoning* in POISONING *vbl. sb.* b.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vi. 70 Tooth that poysons if it bite. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 203 The raw nocturnall ayre that had poysoned the wound. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* I. No. 38. 157 Mrs. M——had been pushing back the nail-fold at the root of the nail with a penknife and had as she suspected poisoned it. *Mod.* His hand was poisoned by being pierced with an old nail. The bite of some insects may poison the blood. A foot poisoned by the action of a dye-stuff on an excoriated part.

2. To impregnate, taint, or infect (air, water, etc.) with poison so as to render it poisonous or baneful; to charge or smear (a weapon) with poison. See also POISONED 2.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 62 Thru..corrupcion Of þe ayre þat he wald poyson. 1548 ELYOT, *Inficere pocula veneno*, to poison the drynk, to put poyson in the cuppe. 1552 HULOET, Poyson a place wyth carrayne, *funesto.* 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 127 As if one should poison a Conduite hedde, or a River, from whence all menne fetche their water. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* Wks. (Rtldg.) 36/2 To have poison'd his prayer-book, or a pair of beads, The pummel of his saddle,..Or the handle of his racket. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 725 A Plague .. Pois'ning the Standing Lakes, and Pools Impure. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxvii, Indians .. engaged in poisoning the points of their arrows.

3. *fig.* a. To corrupt, pervert morally; to turn to error or evil, influence perversely.

1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 99 It is feynid now that symple prestis wolen poisone men with gastli venym, that is, errour othir eresie. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 68 E ij b, Monster de Labright .. whose ancetours you poysoned with money causyng them to be traytours to Englande. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 112 Did you, by indirect, and forced courses Subdue, and poyson this yong Maides affections? 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-Moth.* II. ii. 787 Hast thou not With thy false Arts poyson'd his Peoples Loyalty? 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 137 There was another voice at the royal ear, ever ready to poison the royal mind.

b. To prove destructive or fatal to (an action, state, condition, etc.).

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 39 Meeting heere the other Messenger, Whose welcome I perceiu'd had poison'd mine. 1687 BOYLE *Martyrd. Theodora* ix, The deadly draught.. poysoned not his [Socrates'] reputation,..but that of his accusers and his judges. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 40 Lest his ill Arts or his malicious Tongue Shou'd poison, or bewitch my growing Song. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. Wks. 1799 II. 15 The slightest suspicion wou'd poison your project. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. x, Tom could not deny himself a word of bitterness to poison the pleasure.

4. *transf.* To render (a thing) foul and unfit for its purpose by some noxious or deleterious addition or application.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lix. 9 That fulle dismemberit hes my meter, And poysound it with strang salpeter. *a* 1693 LUDLOW *Mem.* (1771) 31 Confessing that he had accordingly poisoned two cannon and the Harquebuz that was broken. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Poison a Piece*, a Term in Gunnery. See To Cloy and to Nail. 1765 *Museum Rust.* III. 284 Some .. were exactly level, so as to be quite poisoned with the wet, which could not drain off. 1816 VANDERSTRAETEN *Impr. Agric.* 6 The land will be poisoned with noxious roots and plants. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 66/2 They pronounced it to be full of arsenic and antimony; so..that their furnaces were, as they said, 'poisoned', and rendered unfit for refining.

5. *Saltworks.* (See quots.)

1885 HOLLAND *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Poisoning*, .. said of a pan when some ingredient is put into it to make the brine work differently. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Queen of L.* II. 16 A little glue or soft soap is put into the brine—this is called 'poisoning' it—to collect the impurities.

Poisonable (poi·zənăb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.]

†1. Having the property of poisoning; poisonous.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 313 (Bann. MS.) Thy meit wennome, thy drink is pysonable. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* B iv, Three thinges there be to man as venim poysonable. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Lect. Passion*, etc. (1616) 551 The drinking of deadly and poysonable things. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 368 Without the which they may be hurtfull and poisonable unto us. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* II. liv. (1738) 207 The biting of a mad Dog, is not so poisonable as is generally supposed.

2. Capable of being poisoned; subject to poison.

1846 in WORCESTER. 1871 SIR J. PAGET in *Mem. & Lett.* iii. 246 My blood and textures regained the state they had before..and I became again more poisonable.

†**Poi·sonal**, *a. Obs. rare.* [See -AL I.] Poisonous.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Arch. Soc.) I. 132 That prejudicious and poysonall peace. *Ibid.* III. 85.

Poisoned (poi·z'nd), *ppl. a.* [f. POISON *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Of men or animals: Affected with, sickened with, or killed by poison.

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 21056 (Edin.) Þe pussund [*v. rr.* puisund, poysoned] men he raisid raþe þat war stan-dede for suilc a drinc. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poysenyd, *intoxicatus, virulentus.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/1 Pusond, *toxicatus, venenatus.* 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 887 In certain poisoned conditions of blood .. fatty degeneration of the muscular fibres of the heart may be very extensive. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 641 There is a distinct history of a poisoned wound.

b. *fig.* Affected with moral poison; corrupted.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxx. 430 A Pharisee, who maketh a glorious and beautifull shewe, but inwardly is of a corrupt and poysoned nature.

2. Impregnated, imbued, charged, or smeared with poison.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. iii. 729 And soo it befelle.. a good knyght..to take a poysond Appel. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 27 Which causeth them to shoote poisoned arrowes. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 11 This euenhanded Iustice Commends th' Ingredience of our poyson'd Challice To our owne lips. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 89 For fear of poisoned arrows.

b. *fig.* Charged with moral poison.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 537 That the youtheid be nocht infectit be poysonit doctrine. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 3 The Scripture is..a Physi[ci]ons-shop of preseruatiues against poisoned heresies. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 391 The flatteries and poisoned honors of the Senate.

†3. Endowed with poison; venomous. *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1063/2 Al yᵉ poysoned serpentes of hell. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 124 Taken out of the heade of the poysoned Dragon. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 The owtpeaking from weeds of poysoned adder.

†b. *fig.* Full of moral poison; envenomed, malignant. *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 70 It salbe blawin owt, How that thow, poysonit pelor, gat thy paikis. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 3 Right poysond, persecuting and terrible priests.

Poisoner (poi·zənəɹ). [f. POISON *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which poisons (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxii. 15 Houndes, and venym doers (*gl.* or poyseners], and vnchaast men. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 83 They that were posynners and posynyd folke. 1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* Wks. 1888 I. 52 Poysonnaris of the peple of God. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 352, I must be the poysoner Of good Polixenes. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* VI. (1697) 159 So many Mischiefs were in one combin'd; So much one single Pois'ner cost Mankind. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. ix. 413 Having..stooped to the trade of a secret poisoner. 1889 *Century Mag.* Aug. 516 The cobra surpasses as a poisoner all of our American snakes. 1893 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 5/1 It renders the animal proof against the attacks of the poisoner microbe.

Hence **Poi·soneress** (*rare*), a female poisoner.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* XIII. iv. 183 Nero..commanded the poisoneresse [Agrippina] to be put to death. 1611 COTGR., *Empoisonneresse*, a poisonneresse, a woman that impoisons.

Poi·sonful, *a. Obs.* or *dial.* [f. POISON *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of or containing poison; poisonous, venomous, deadly, baneful. a. *lit.*

1554 BECON *Supplic.* Wks. 1563 II. III. 22 Vnto these vnwholsome and pestilent and poysonfull Pastures the dryue the shepe. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* 26 There breed diuers poysonfull wormes and serpents. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 45 Poysonfull smoke. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlv. 7 He makes of a poisonfull viper, a wholesome triacle. 1693 I. MATHER *Cases Consc.* (1862) 262 The vulgar Error concerning the Basilisks killing with the Look of his Poysonful Eye. [1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., 'The house was parfitly puzzomful'.]

b. *fig.* Poisonous to the mind or morals.

1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 22 (20) What is so detestable to a man as this poysonfull couetyse? 1534 — *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 20 Mischevous and poysonfull flaterers. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 233 They vented their damnable and poisonful doctrine. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 157 This is such a poisonful position.

Hence †**Poi·sonfully** *adv.*, venomously.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 20 Marrow, verely serpentine and viperous,..poysonfully sprinkling his Grace.

Poisoning (poi·zənin), *vbl. sb.* [f. POISON *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb POISON.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Poysenynge, *intoxicacio.* 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 30 b, Treasons and poysoninges, with the practise of art Magike or sorcery. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 915 Poisoning of air is no less dangerous than poisoning of water. 1631 *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 10 A poysoninge of my Lord's honor with the Duke, with the King, and with the rest of the nobility. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iii. 34 In case of murder by poisoning, a man may be a principal felon, by preparing and laying the poison.

b. As the second element in combinations with words denoting (*a*) the agent or medium, as *beer-, food-, fungus-, phosphorus-poisoning*, (*b*) the object, as **blood-poisoning**, 'a term in popular use to denote diseases arising from the introduction into the blood of decomposing organic matter' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1881); toxæmia.

1897 Phosphorus poisoning [see PHOSPHORUS 4]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 6/2 The number of persons .. who have been or are suffering from beer-poisoning amounts to about 1,200. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Sept. 3/4 The microbe .. discovered by Dr. Klein in the Welbeck food-poisoning cases. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Oct. 10/1 A very considerable number of the cases of fungus-poisoning recorded annually.

Poi·soning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That poisons; poisonous.

1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* 24 The poisoning quality of Arsenicke. 1828 A. JOLLY *Sunday Serv.* (1840) 246 Temporal quiet often proves intoxicating and poisoning by its ..pleasures. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Woodnotes* II. 69 Whom the city's poisoning spleen Made not pale, or fat, or lean.

Poi·sonless, *a. rare.* [f. POISON *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from poison.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 272 Their [English spiders'] byting is poysonlesse. 1654 W. JENKYN *Fun. Serm.* II Not only poisonlesse but wholsome. 1895 C. F. NICHOLS in *Review of Rev.* Mar. 292 A commune..would require..to be poisonless, at least with regard to virulent..disease.

†**Poi·sonly**, *adv. Obs. rare*—1. [f. POISON *a.* + -LY 2.] Poisonously, after the manner of poison.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 214 Thy prophesy poysonly to the pricke goth.

†**Poi·sonment**. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. POISON *v.* + -MENT: cf. F. *empoisonnement.*] The act of poisoning; in quot., a means of poisoning, poison.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCX. v, Some in his sherte put oft tyme venemyng, And some in meate and drinke great poysonement; Some in his hose, by great ymagenement.

Poisonous (poi·zənəs), *a.* [f. POISON *sb.* + -OUS.]

1. Containing or of the nature of poison; having the quality or properties of a poison; venomous.

1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 546 Poisonous. Venemous, full of poison, stinking, of an euill taste, *virulentus.* 1665 DRYDEN & HOWARD *Ind. Queen* III. i, Yet we destroy the poisonous viper's young. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 209 Nor pois'nous Aconite is here produc'd. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 15/2 A Steam..so poysonous, that..it..infected all Asia. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 109 The Deadly Nightshade... All parts of the plant are poisonous. *Ibid.*, When taken in large or poisonous doses.

2. *fig.* Morally destructive or corrupting; conveying an evil influence; malevolent, malignant.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* civ, Enuious wits, what hath bene mine offence, That with such poysonous care my lookes you marke? 1660 *Trial Regic.* 14 Many Poysonous Opinions having gone abroad. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xv, The falsehood of their poisonous lips. 1904 BENSON *Challoners* xiii, Yes, it is nonsense... It is poisonous, suicidal nonsense. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 6 Mar. 4/7 'Awfully', 'rotten' —and 'poisonous', which is rapidly superseding both—are probably the most ill-used words in the English language as it is spoken.

†b. With *of*: Having the quality of poisoning or destroying; destructive *of. Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. iii. 135 You might condemne vs As poysonous of your Honour.

3. *Comb.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 5 What false Italian, (As poysonous tongu'd, as handed)?

Hence **Poi·sonously** *adv.* (in quot. 1646 = by poison); **Poi·sonousness.**

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 175 The Antipathy between a Toad and a Spider, and that they poisonously destroy each other, is very famous. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Poisonousness*, poisonous Quality. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. viii. 245 Foul air which acts poisonously upon the system.

†**Poi·sonsome**, *a. Obs.* [f. POISON *sb.* + -SOME.] Charged or tainted with poison, poisonous.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 19 This ilande beinge soe poisensome a place .. might breed some contagious infection amonge our men. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 425 Most huge Dragons and poisonsome. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist., Calvin* (1654) 638 The poysonsom Doctrines of the Libertines and Carpocratians. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 123/1 Poisonsom Smokes..are..in their Kinds and Degrees hurtful.

Hence †**Poi·sonsomeness.** *Obs.*

1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 143 Because there are principles of hurtfulnesse and poysonsomnes in them.

Poi·son-tree.

1. Name for various trees with poisonous properties.

†a. Some West Indian tree (? of the N. O. *Euphorbiaceæ*). *Obs.* b. The poison-sumac, *Rhus venenata*, and other poisonous species of *Rhus.* c. The upas-tree, *Antiaris toxicaria.* d. *Acacia varians* of Australia. e. *Croton Verreauxii* of Queensland.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 622 There is an Arborescent sort with a very large Leaf, no less venomous than the *Mancinello*,..by those of Barbados called the Poyson-tree. 1721 SHERARD *ibid.* XXXI. 147 The Poyson-Tree grows to the bigness of Elder. 1811 J. J. STOCKDALE (*title*) Civil and Military Sketches of the Island of Java,..comprising .. authentic particulars of the Celebrated Poison-Tree. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 459 *Acacia varians*, of Australia, has been called the Poison-tree. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Poison-tree, ..Queensland, *Croton Verreauxii.* 1893 SPON *Mechanic's Own Bk.* (ed. 4) 163 Excoecaria Agallocha (Poison Tree)..wood is hard, and fine-grained.

2. *gen.* Any tree of poisonous or deleterious nature. Also *fig.* (Cf. *upas-tree.*)

a 1835 MRS. HEMANS in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1837) I. 273 From such agonizing strife the mind will often seek refuge—though it be the shelter of a poison-tree. 1849 tr. *Fouqué's Sir Elidoc* 70, I feel myself like a poison-tree in the dukedom.

Poi·sonwood. a. Name for certain poisonous species of *Rhus*, as *R. venenata*, the Poison-sumac of N. America, and *R. Metopium* of the West Indies. b. *Sebastiania lucida* (N.O. *Euphorbiaceæ*), of the West Indies.

1721 DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXI. 145 The Poyson-Wood-Tree grows only in Swamps, or low wet Grounds, and .. is by some called the *Swamp Sumach. Ibid.* 146 The Poyson-Wood..has this effect only on some particular Persons and Constitutions. 1730 MORTIMER *ibid.* XXXVI. 430 *Toxicodendron, foliis alatis*,..the Poison Wood. This Tree distills a Liquid, black like Ink, which the Inhabitants say is Poison. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Poisonwood, W. Indian, *Sebastiania lucida.*

†**Poi·sony**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. POISON *sb.* + -Y.] Containing or of the nature of poison; poisonous.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 709 The poysonie Serpents that unpeople quite Cyrenian desarts. *Ibid.* 1072 Pale Envies poysonie heads. 1746 BREINTAL in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 145 (149), I .. cupp'd it, and drew out a Quart or more of ugly poisony slimy Stuff.

‖ **Poissarde** (pwasa·rd). [F., a low foul-mouthed woman, a market-woman, fem. of obs. *poissard* pickpocket, rogue, f. *poix* pitch + -ARD, because things 'stick to his fingers'; also a fish-wife (by association with *poisson* fish).] A Frenchwoman of the lowest class, *esp.* one of the Parisian market-women, who led riots during the first revolution.

1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Berry* 3 July, The poissardes huzzaed them. 1797 CANNING, etc. in *Anti-Jacobin* No. 4 (1799) 137 While her sportive Poissardes with light footsteps are seen To dance in a ring round the gay Guillotine. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Fr. Wines & Pol.* vii. 109 The shrill voiced poissardes were broiling their rations, or heating their strong liquors. 1848 A. FONBLANQUE in *Life & Labours* ii. (1874) 223 The women .., animated with the spirit of the poissardes of '93.

b. A French fishwife.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 161 The bathing women, the poissardes of the coast, in their blue flannel dresses. 1860 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. ix. 294 A friendly turn of mind towards herring fishing, whaling, Calais poissardes and many other of our choicest subjects in after life.

Poist, obs. Sc. form of POST.

† **Poister**, *v. Obs.* [app. a variant of PESTER *v.*; cf. OF. *enpaistrier* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To hopple, fetter, entangle, encumber.

In quot. 1523 (which is earlier than any instance of *pester, empester, or impester*), the sense is not very clear.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. Pref. 2 [History] depresseth, poystereth, and thrusteth downe such as ben wicked, yuell, and reprouable. 1567 J. SANFORD *Epictetus* 6 When his foote is poistered and shakled, the bodie is also cumbred.

† **Poi·sure**. *Obs. rare.* [f. POISE *v.* + -URE. Cf. OF. *poisure* weight, what serves to weigh.] Poise, balance.

a 1619 FLETCHER *Wit without M.* I. i, Nor is this forc'd, but the meer quality and poisure of goodness. 1643 HERLE *Answ. Ferne* 33 The priority of the Peeres gives order and poysure .. to the whole body. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 313 The pressure of ayr within and .. without the glass are brought to an .. equal poysure.

† **Poisy**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. POISE *sb.* + -Y.] Heavy or bulky of body: cf. PEISY.

1538 ELYOT, *Crassus*, fatte, fleshy, thycke, grosse, poysye.

Poite, obs. form of POET.

Poitrel (poi·trĕl). Now *Hist.* and *arch.* Forms: 5–6 **poytrell**, 6 **poiterell**, 6–8 **poitrell**, 7 **-il**, **poictrel**(1, **poytrel**, 6–9 **poitrel**, 7–9 **-al**, 9 **-ail**. [a. OF. *poitral*, orig. *peitral*, now with change of suffix *poitrail*:—L. *pectorāle* breast-plate, PECTORAL. *Poitral* is the Central or Parisian Fr. form, introduced into Eng. app. by Caxton, the earlier form from Norman Fr. being PEITREL, q. v.]

A piece of armour to protect the breast of a horse: often richly gilt and ornamented, and retained for ornament after its defensive use had ceased.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 197 The horses gyrthe nor the poytrell myghte not helpe. 1552 ELYOT, *Cucumis*, .. a bullion of copper, set on bridels or poitrels of horses, for an ornament. 1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 14 b, To the fore gyrth on eyther side was buckled a riche and gorgeous poiterell. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIX. 370 Alcymus put poitrils on, and cast upon their jaws their bridles. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* IV. xxvi. § 6. 408/1 The horse had .. a pendant Jewel of Precious Stones at his Poictrel. 1714 STEELE *Poet. Misc., Ninth Thebais* 270 Below his Breast .. a bending Poitral hung. 1745 S. MADDEN *Boulter's Mon.* 67 Her beauteous Breast a golden Poitrell grac'd. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 86 Steeds .. Their chains and poitrels glittering in the sun. 1866 CONINGTON *Æneid* VII. 228 Golden poitrels grace their necks.

b. *transf.* A breast-plate; a stiff stomacher.

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 156, I haue .. heard of certaine gentlewomen .. who made no bones to weare poytrels or stiffe stomachers, endangering thereby the life of their child. 1717 BULLOCK *Wom. a Riddle* II. 24 Your own puissant eyes against which no Poitrel is able to defend the heart of man.

Poitrell, error for POINTEL I.

‖ **Poitrinaire** (pwatrine·r). [F., f. *poitrine* chest + *-aire*:—L. *-ārius*: see -ARY [1].] A person suffering from chest or lung disease.

1882 *Standard* 22 Dec. 5/1 Comparatively youthful invalids, .. described graphically, if not gracefully, by the foreign name of *poitrinaires*. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Sept. 2/1 The soft, warm air so dear and necessary to the poitrinaire.

‖ **Poivrade** (pwavra·d). Also 7–8 **poiverade**. [F. (1505 in Hatz.-Darm.) f. *poivre* pepper: see -ADE.] Pepper-sauce. Also *attrib.*

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* App. O b, How a Poiverade is made. 1792 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Desmond* I. 85 There was neither game gravy, nor poiverade, nor even bread sauce. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 215 When cold, and cut into slices, it eats well with poivrade sauce. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Jan. 8/4 To make the poivrade sauce.

Po·kable, *a.* [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] Capable of being poked.

1882 C. W. SIEMENS in *Nature* XXVI. 396/1 The advantages .. claimed for the open fireplace are, that it is cheerful, 'pokable', and conducive to ventilation.

Poke (pōuk), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *dial.* Forms: *α.* (3) 4– **poke**; also 5–7 **pooke**, 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **poake**, 7– **poak**; *Sc.* 5 **poyke**, 5–6 **poik**, 6 **polk**. *β. Sc.* and *north. dial.* 5 **pok**, 5–6 **pokke**, 7 **pocke**, 8–9 **pock**. (9 *dial.* **puok**, **puock**, **pooak**, **pwok**(**e**, **pwoak**; also **pook**, **pouk**, **powk**: *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Not in OE.: ME. *poke* from 14th c., represented 1276 by Anglo-L. *poka* (*unam pokam lanę*), agrees in form with ONF. *poque* (12th c.), *poke* (14th c. in Godef.) = F. *poche*; also Icel. *poki* (13th c.), early mod.Flem. *poke* (Kilian); also Ir. *poc*, Gael. *poca* bag; the affinities of which are uncertain, as is the question of their relationship to OE. *pohha*, ME. *powhe*, *pouh*, POUGH, bag (for which Lindisf. Gl. has also *pocca*). The later Eng. spellings *pook*, *poak* imply lengthened *o*, as do also the Sc. *poik*, *polk*. A form with short *o* (*pok*(*k*, *pock*) is found in Sc. and north. Eng. from 15th c., but this is not (*ǫ*), but (*o*), a vowel which, like that of Sc. *puock* and north. Eng. *pwoke*, *pwooak*, represents ME. *ō* from *o* in an open syllable. The mod. Sc. *pouk*, north. Eng. *pook*, with (*u*, *ū*), may correspond to NF. dial. *pouque* beside *poque*. The phonology offers difficulties both in Eng. and Fr.: cf. POUCH.]

1. A bag; a small sack: applied to a bag of any material or description, but usually smaller than a *sack*. Now *dial.* exc. in *to buy a pig in a poke* (PIG *sb.*[1]), in Sc. *a cat in a poke*, F. *chat en poche*.

In Sc. applied to the bags or wallets in which a gaberlunzie or beggar carried provisions and portable property.

α. 1276 *Rot. Hundred.* (1812) I. 398/2 Quidam judei Lincolnie .. furebantur unam pokam lane. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 780 Hise pokes fulle of mele an korn. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 358 Þan shulde pees be in þe chirche wiþouten strif of doggis in a poke. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 358 They walwe as doon two pigges in a poke. 1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. poke cum salt, vd. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/1 Pooke (or poket, or walette), *sacculus*. 1488 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 12 In a canves poik within the said box tuelf hundreth & sevin angel nobilis. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 147 3e gang With polkis to mylne, and beggis baith meill and schilling. *c* 1530–1860 [see PIG *sb.*[1] 10 a, b]. 1558 in *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 20 Two secks and two lesse pookes. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 51 A gathering Apron like a Poake. 1648–60 HEXHAM, *Koren-sack*, a Corne-sack, or a corne-pooke. 1723 SWIFT *New Year's Gift* 17 A pair of leathern pokes [*rime* folks]. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xiii, The hare-brained goose saw the pokes. 1875 *Brighton Daily News* 10 Mar. 2/5 Bringing a poke of bran down a step-ladder. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xix. (1884) 141 The eel-net is set across the dyke to catch them in its long 'poke'. 1883 J. Y. STRATTON *Hops & Hop-pickers* 34 From the bin the hops are carried in 'pokes' to the 'oast-house'. 1902 *Berea* (Kentucky) *Quarterly* Nov. 17 It usually comes in two-pound paper packages, or 'pokes'.

β. 1447 in *Dundee Charters* (1880) 24 b, And of al vthir thinges pok, pak, and barel proporcionablie. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* II. (*Town & C. Mouse*) XV, Pokkis [*v.r.* sekkis] full of grots. 1599 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 Item iij sakes, iij pokkes. 1625 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 296 Given for a pocke of coles, 2d. 1733 in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* I. 29 Ye shall hae twa good pocks. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, The pock of siller.

b. A bag holding a definite quantity, varying according to the nature of the commodity, as wool, coal, meal, hops; used as a measure of capacity.

(It is not clear whether the early quots. belong here.)

1347–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 215/2, xi pokes de madder. 15.. *Aberdeen Regr.* XVI. (Jam.), Polk of wool. 1855 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1125/3 *Poke*, of wool, 20 cwts.

c. A pocket worn on the person. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 20 Then he drew a diall from his poake. 1675 COCKER *Morals* 6 All are but Smoke To him that has no mony in his Poke. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* iii. (1709) 16 With his Pockes as empty as his Brains. 1880 WEBB *Goethe's Faust* III. x. 183 Apart from this I've nothing in my poke.

2. A bag or bladder filled with air, used by fishermen as a buoy. *U. S.*

1887 *Fisheries U. S.* Sect. v. II. 270 When the 'pokes' are used, the officer gives the order to 'Blow up! Blow up!' and a man with sound lungs grasps one of these membranous pouches and inflates it. .. It is then attached to the whale.

† **3.** A long wide or full sleeve. *Obs.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 69 The pokes of purchace hangen to the erthe. 1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 514 Grete insolence of vesture .. gownes with longe pokus, made in the maner of a bagpype. [1706 PHILLIPS s. v., Pokes were also a sort of long-sleev'd Gowns, which Fashion grew so affected and extravagant, that the wearing of them was forbidden.]

† **4.** A kind of net, a bag-net. *Obs.*

1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 147/1 That destroyis the smoltis and fry of salmond .. be polkis, creillis, trammelnettis, and hery watteris.

5. A morbid bag-like swelling on the neck. † **a.** In man, The goitre, also called *Bavarian poke*.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. II. i. (1676) 42/2 Aubanus Bohemus referrs that *Struma*, or Poke of the Bavarians and Styrians to the nature of their waters. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 143 We saw .. many men and women with large swellings under their chins .. called .. by some in English, Bavarian Pokes.

b. In sheep, A bag growing under the jaws, symptomatic of the rot; hence, the disease itself.

1798 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XX. 469 Seldom subject to that disease called by sheep-farmers the poke, (a swelling under the jaw), or to the scab... The poke, particularly, often proves fatal. 1878 *Cumberland Gloss.* 76/1 Sheep tainted with rot often exhibit the symptom of a poke or bag under the jaws.

6. The stomach of a fish. *colloq.* or *dial.* Also, the sound or air-bladder of a fish (*Cent. Dict.*).

1773 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 117 Mr. Hunter opened a charr .. and found the poke, as our fishmongers call it, very different. 1897 W. KINGSTON in *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/1, I once saw a gold ring taken out of a cod's poke.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **poke-bag** (*dial.*), the Long-tailed Titmouse (*Acredula rosea*); **poke-boy** (see quot.); **poke-cheeked** *a.*, having baggy cheeks; **poke-hooked** *a.* (see quots.); **poke-horse**, a pack-horse carrying loads in two pokes or bags; **poke-(pock-) net** (see quot. 1805); **poke-(pock-) nook**, one of the corners at the bottom of a bag or sack; *one's own poke-nook*, one's own means, one's private resources; **poke-(pock-) shakings**, the last portions of meal, etc., shaken out of a sack; *fig.* the smallest of a litter of pigs; the youngest child in a family; † **poke-sleeve**, a deep and broad sleeve: see sense 3. Also POKE-PUDDING.

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 32 The penduline form of the nest, and the feathers which compose the lining, have obtained for the bird the names of .. Poke pudding or *Poke bag, .. Feather poke. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 753 (*Hops*) Another person will be requisite in the hop-plantation, in order to pick up the scattered branches of the binds, and convey the produce to the kiln. A boy is in general employed in this business, who, from the nature of his work, is commonly called the *poke boy. 1843 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) 320 A long, soft, *poke-cheeked face, with busy, anxious black eyes. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 902/1 Many .. fish .. are caught, not by the hook entering the jaws of the fish, but because it is fastened in their stomach, .. a fish so captured is called '*poke-hooked'. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iii, Help us here, Harve. It's a big un. Poke-hooked, too... He had taken the bait right into his stomach. 1669 in *Northumbld. Gloss.* s. v., Bring all the *Poke-horses that trespasse upon the ffell into the comon pinefold. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* (1806) III. 389 Drag-nets, or *pock-nets, that is, nets in form of a bag, are often used. 1845 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIV. 165 Catching fresh water fish with a kind of pock-net. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 661 Bot menstrallis, serving man, and maid, Gat Mitchell in ane auld *pocke nucke. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xiv. (1850) 57 It was thought that it [the cost] would have to come out of their own pock-nook. 1844 BALLANTINE *Miller of Deanhaugh* i. 18 Your mouter fills mony a pock nook. 1808 JAMIESON, **Pock-shakings*.., a vulgar term, used to denote the youngest child of a family. .. It often implies the idea of something puny in appearance. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 700 The small weak pigs are usually nicknamed *wrigs*, or *pock-shakings*. 1592 STOW *Ann.* 519 Gownes with deepe and broade sleeues, commonly called *poke sleeues. 1714 *Spectator* No. 619 ₱ 9 My learned Correspondent who writes against Master's Gowns and Poke Sleeves.

Poke, *sb.*[2] [app. either an application of prec. (from its shape or appearance), or (as more generally held) from POKE *v.*[1] (from its poking out or projecting). Actual evidence is wanting.]

1. A projecting brim or front of a woman's bonnet or hat.

(The meaning in quot. 1770 is not clear: cf. 1815 in sense 2.)

1770 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 28 Dec., The headdress .. must be black, that is to say the poke and the lappits, but upon the head you are permitted to wear the ribbon of the colour of your robe. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Lett.* (1893) 61 An immense quilling of lace or ribbon round the poke. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* I, The close poke of her little black bonnet hid her face from him.

b. Applied to a 'sun-shade' or 'ugly', i. e. a detachable brim affixed to a bonnet to shade the wearer's face.

1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxix. 341 Ladies .. with blue pokes to their bonnets.

2. Short for POKE-BONNET. (In quot. 1815, perh. a woman's muslin cap, formerly worn.)

1815 LADY GRANVILLE *Let.* 5 Sept., Miss Smith in a little crushed muslin poke. *a* 1845 HOOD *Literary & Literal* xi, They came—each 'Pig-faced Lady', in that bonnet We call a poke. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* III. xxiv, A grey frieze livery and a straw poke, such as my aunt's charity children wear. 1896 GEORGIANA M. STISTED *Life Sir R. F. Burton* xi. 269 [In Gt. Salt Lake City] A poke-bonnet was universally worn—why is the Poke a symbol of piety, Quakers, Salvationists, Mormons, Sisters of Mercy retiring alike inside its ungraceful shape?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **poke-brim**, a projecting brim of a bonnet or hat; hence **poke-brimmed** *a.*; † **poke fly-cap**, app. a fly-cap (FLY *sb.*[1] 11) provided with a poke.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 19 May 1/3 The 'Mentone' is a smart hat for the races. It is of fawn straw, with a *poke brim of moderate size lined with apple-green velvet, and a crescent-shaped back. 1899 *Daily News* 3 June 8/3 The *poke-brimmed hat, reminiscent of the thirties, is in cream-coloured straw trimmed with tulle. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 106 Her hair was .. adorned with a *poke-fly cap, and long lace lappets.

Poke, *sb.*[3] [f. POKE *v.*[1]]

1. An act of poking; a thrust, push, nudge. (In *obs. slang*, A blow with the fist.)

1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *Poke*, a blow with the fist; I'll lend you a poke. 1831 *Society* I. 155 With a poke at the fire to make it blaze the brighter. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Giving her such jerks and pokes from time to time. *Ibid.* xvii, The Captain making a poke at the door with the knobby stick to assure himself that it was shut. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* XVII. i, With a sly look .. giving me a poke in the ribs.

b. with advbs., as **poke-out**, an act of poking

out; **poke-round**, a going round and poking into places; **poke-up**, an act of poking or stirring up.
1874 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 3 We go into the Sacristy and have a reverent little poke out of relics. 1901 L. MALET *Sir R. Calmady* VI. vii, We could ride over that ..land and have a poke round for sites. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 3/1 All the birds sit so close that 'good dog Ponto' almost has to give them a poke-up with his..nose to induce them to rise at all.

2. A contrivance fastened upon cattle, pigs, etc., to prevent them from breaking through fences: see quots.
(Supposed to refer to its action in poking the animal.)
1828 WEBSTER, *Poke*, in New England, a machine to prevent unruly beasts from leaping fences, consisting of a yoke with a pole inserted, pointing forward. 1859 HOLLAND *Gold F.* iv. 43 We put a poke upon a vicious cow. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Poke*, a device..to prevent its [an animal's] jumping over, crawling through, or breaking down fences. ..They vary with the kind of stock to which they are attached,—horses, cattle, hogs, or geese.

3. (See quots.)
1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Poke*, a lazy person, a dawdle; as 'what a slow poke you are!' A woman's word. 1864 WEBSTER, *Poke*,..a lazy person; a dawdler; also, a stupid or uninteresting person.

Poke, *sb.*[4] Also 7 **poak(e, pooke.** [Of N. American Indian origin; in sense 1, app. the same as the Virginian word cited by early travellers as *uppowoc, apooke*, smoke, in Narraganset *puck* smoke; in sense 2, app. shortened from POCAN.]

†**1.** Some plant smoked by the North American Indians, hence called Indian tobacco. *Obs.*
It has been variously conjectured to be *Nicotiana rustica* (see quot. 1865); *Antennaria plantaginifolia* (in Britton & Brown *Flora Northern U.S.* III. Index, called 'Indian tobacco', 'Ladies' tobacco'); *A. margaritifera* (see quot. 1865); and *Lobelia inflata*, very commonly referred to as 'Indian tobacco'.
[1599 T. HERIOT in Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 271 There is an herbe..called by the inhabitants uppowoc..the Spanyards call it tabacco. 1615 W. STRACHEY *Hist. Trav. Virginia* 121 There is here great store of tobacco which the salvages call apooke.] 1634 *Relat. Ld. Baltimore's Plantation* (Maryland) (1865) 20 After this, was brought..a great Bagg, filled with a large Tobacco-pipe and Poake, which is the word they vse for our Tobacco. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 155, I..have far greater hopes of the flourishing of this wild plant, than of Tobacco (either of that which in New-England is called Poak, much differing from the Virginian, or of that other commonly used and sown in Virginia). 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 54 Tobacco, ..the Indians make use of a small kind with short round leaves called Pooke. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 126 A running vine, bearing a small berry, and a round leaf, which Josselyn (who wrote in 1672) says, the fishermen called poke; it is known to the hunters by the name of Indian tobacco. 1865 TUCKERMAN *Josselyn's N. Eng. Rarities* 85 (note to quot. 1672, above) The weak tobacco, cultivated..by the Indians..was not..colt's-foot, but *Nicotiana rustica* L., well known to have been long in cultivation among the American savages...The name *poke*, or *pooke*,—if it be, as is supposable, the same with *puck* 'smoke' of the Narraganset vocabulary of R. Williams..was perhaps always indefinite. *Ibid.* 87 The species intended by Josselyn [referred to by him as 'Live-for-ever, a kind of cud-weed'] is our everlasting...The dried herb [was] used by the fishermen instead of tobacco, and no doubt called by them poke.

2. a. A name for American species of *Phytolacca*, esp. *P. decandra*, Virginian Poke, Poke-berry, Poke-weed. **b. Indian Poke**, the Green Hellebore or Poke-root, *Veratrum viride.*
1731 CATESBY *Carolina* I. 24 They feed much on the berries of Poke, i. e. *Blitum Virginianum.* 1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict., Phytolacca*;..American Nightshade, .. commonly call'd Virginian Poke or Porke Physick. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Virginian Poke, *Phytolacca.* 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* (1772) I. 153. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 885/2 The Pocan, or Virginian Poke or Poke-weed, is a branching herbaceous plant, with a smooth green or sometimes purplish stem .. with large green or purplish leaves. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 382 Green Hellebore Root. The dried rhizome of Veratrum viride; American or Green Hellebore; called also Swamp Hellebore and Indian Poke. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 455 Poke has been proposed as an emetic, but .. the great depression of the powers of life which it causes..will ever prevent its employment.

3. Comb.: **poke-berry**, the black berry of *Phytolacca decandra*, also the plant (2 a); **poke-milkweed** (see quot.); **poke-root**, (*a*) the white hellebore of N. America, *Veratrum viride* (2 b), also its root; (*b*) the root of **poke-weed**, *Phytolacca* (2 a).
1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Poke-berries, Poke-root. 1869 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 50 Pokeberry juice, whereof we used to make a delusive red ink when we were boys. 1899 *Academy* 11 Feb. 184/1 Woollen cloth was dyed crimson in the juice of the poke-berry. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Poke-milkweed, the *Asclepias phytolaccoides*, which is not unlike Poke-weed. 1687 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 150 When they design to give a Purge, they make use of.. *Poake-root, i. e. *Solanum bacciferum.* 1698 G. THOMAS *Pennsylvania* (1848) 19 There grows also in great Plenty the Black Snake-Root, ..Rattle-Snake-Root, Poke-Root, called in England Jallop. 1807 *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 295 Proofs of the efficacy of the poke-root. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 232 *Poke-weed. This plant is..commonly found in all the cooler hills. 1880 *New Virginians* I. 53 They had stained it pink with poke-weed berries. This poke-weed is the Phytolacca—a tall, handsome plant which grows in fence corners.

Poke, *sb.*[5] The small green heron of U. S.
1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 165 Green Bittern. Poke. Skouk. *Ardea virescens.*

Poke (pōuk), *v.*[1] Forms: 3- **poke**; (4 **pok**), 5 **pooke**, 6–7 **poak**. *β.* 5 **pouke, pukke, pucke.** [ME. *pōken* = late MDu., Du., MLG., LG. *pōken* to poke, thrust; whence also OF. *poquer, pocher* to poke, thrust out (e. g. an eye) (Godef.). Cf. MDu. *poke*, Du. *pook*, MLG. *pōk*, LG. *poke*, a dagger, Sw. *pāk*, a stick. These words seem to imply an OTeut. stem **puk-*, **pūk-*, preserved only in the LG. branch. But the history of the *β* forms is obscure. (Gael. *puc* push, jostle, Ir. *poc* a blow, kick, Corn. *poc* shove, push, are app. from Eng.)]

1. *trans.* To thrust or push (anything) with one's hand or arm, the point of a stick, or the like, usually so as to move or stir it.
c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 249 Aleyn the clerk..He poked John and seyde slepestow. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13849 An Aungel Pookede hym and made hym ryse. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 92 The bellows is used at once to blow and to poke the fire. 1828 WEBSTER, *Poke*,..to thrust at with the horns, as an ox; a popular use of the word in New England. 1889 HURST *Horsham, Sussex Gloss.*, Doant goo into that field, may be you'll be pooked [by a bull or cow] if you do. *Mod. colloq.* He poked me in the ribs.
β. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 620 Wrathþe .. pukketh [*v.rr.* puckeþ, poukeþ, pokeþ; A. VI. 100 puiteþ; C. VIII. 263 pokeþ] forþ pruyde to prayse þi-seluen. *Ibid.* 643 'Jus', quod Pieres þe plowman and pukked hem alle to gode. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 367 Bohors..come to hym .. and putte the poynte of his swerde on his shelde and be-gan to pouke hym, and cleped 'Rise vp'.

b. Hence, to thrust or push (a thing) *away, out, in, up, down*; *from, into* (a place); etc.; *to poke through*, to thrust through (*with* a weapon).
c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 12 And þan maist þou poke beter þe mot fro þi broþir. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. Appeal* I. 20 To poak out Leviathan, from under that shelf of prejudice. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 327 We found them [Pagods] ruin'd .. and poked again in the dark hole. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May, I poked the three guineas in his hand, and told him I would come again another time. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 171 When Montgomery poked out the eye of Henry II in the tilt-yard. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, I cannot have you poked through with a Zeeland pike.

c. To shut *up* or confine in a poky place. *colloq.*
1860 MISS YONGE *Hopes* II. x, Poking himself up in such a horrid place. 1864 MRS. RIDDELL *G. Geith* I. xiv. 266 It would break her heart, .. to be poked up in a town. 1881 MISS YONGE *Lads & Lasses of Langley* iii. 124, I suppose she is not much of a lady, living poked up there.

d. To make, find *out*, produce, stir *up*, by poking.
1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xx. 155 If also these black extremities, or presumed eyes be clipped off, they [snails] will notwithstanding make use of their protrusions or hornes, and poke out their way as before. 1823 *Examiner* 337/2 Like children who poke a hole in a drum to see what it is. 1884 *Spectator* 12 July 201/2 To poke up a great conflagration in the country.

2. *fig.* To urge, incite, stir up, excite, irritate. Now *rare* or *Obs.*
13.. *Cursor M.* 11818 (Cott.) þe parlesi has his a side þat dos him fast to pok [*v. r.* poke] his pride. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. II. 129 Lucifer..For prude þat hym pokede hus peyne hath no ende. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i, You must still bee poking mee, against my will, to things. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Poked*, offended, piqued. 'Aw've poked him, sare'. 1851 *Lit. Gaz.* 7 June 388/3 A little too fond of poking up the prejudices and peculiarities of priests and bishops.

†**3.** To crimp, form the folds in (a ruff) with a poking-stick. Also *absol. Obs.*
1592 *Nobody & Someb.* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 318, I shall turne Laundresse now, and learne to starch And set, and poke. 1614 J. COOKE *Tu Quoque* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1780) VII. 19 For pride, the woman that had her ruff poak'd by the devil, is but a puritan to her. 1636 DAVENANT *Platonic Lovers* Wks. (1673) 298 And then for push o' Pike, practise to poke a Ruff.

4. *intr.* or *absol.* To do the action of thrusting; to make a thrust or thrusts with a stick, the nose, etc.
1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 50 Now our Philosophical Poker pokte on, and poynted to a strange shew. 1643 DAVENANT *Unfortunate Lovers* v. i, Swords they have all .. they'll serve To poke. 1784 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 15 Jan., I was really obliged to go and poke at the fire with all my might. 1828 WEBSTER s. v., *To poke at*, is to thrust the horns at. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* vi, I saw them..poking with a long stick in the pond. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lvii. 136 He raised his umbrella and poked angrily at the..notice. 1901 MAURICE HEWLETT *New Canterb. T., Dan Costard's T.* 79 It [a babe] .. poked for the nipple and found it not.

5. *trans.* To thrust forward (the finger, head, nose, etc.); *esp.* to thrust obtrusively.
1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 97 One of them would have been poking a Cranes Bill down his Throat. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 Jan., He pokes his nose more into one's face than ever. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Baby's Debut* ii, He pokes her head between the bars, And melts off half her nose! 1826 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 15 Feb., Everybody poking in their little efforts at the expiration of the Carnaval. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 217 A fig-tree poking ripe fruit against a bedroom window. 1884 A. LANG in *Century Mag.* Jan. 324/1 The poles .. are everywhere to be seen poked out of windows.

b. *To poke fun* (*at*), to assail with jest, banter, or ridicule, esp. in a sly or indirect manner.
1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* 157 The American..in a dry way began to poke his fun at the unfortunate traveller. 1844 THACKERAY *B. Lyndon* i, She was always 'poking her fun' as the Irish phrase it. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xiv, The first thing you do is to poke fun at me out of your wretched classics. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* IV. xxxiii. 320 London wits poke fun at him.

6. *intr.* **a.** To poke one's nose, go prying into corners or looking about one; *fig.* to make curious investigation.
1715 PRIOR *Down-Hall* 11 Hang Homer and Virgil; their meaning to seek, A man must have pok'd into Latin and Greek. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb., Acc. Author* (1849) 14 He was a very inquisitive body, and when not in his room was continually poking about town. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* VI. iv, No longer imitating Pope, In that barbarian Shakespeare poking. 1850 T. A. TROLLOPE *Impress. Wanderer* xvi. 255 In vain I poked among its obscure lanes. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* xx, Having a lawyer to poke and pry into his accounts. 1898 *Eliz. & Germ. Gard.* (1899) 38 She is off .. to poke into every corner .. and box, if necessary, any careless dairy-maid's ear.

b. To potter; to move *about* or work in a desultory, ineffective, or dawdling way.
1796 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* II. iii, Lord bless me! how do you think I can live poking by myself? 1839 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 49, I dare say you think it very absurd that [I] should poke about here in the country, when I might be in London seeing my friends. 1877 MAR. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* viii, I should enjoy poking about a bit on Dinah's back.

7. trans. *To poke the head*, and absol. *to poke*; to carry the head thrust inelegantly forward; to stoop.
1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 185 'A quarter's dancing' would be well bestowed on the young lady, as she certainly poked most terribly. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Poke*, to stoop. 'To poke the head'. 18.. MISS H. SHELLEY in Symonds *Shelley* ii. (1878) 45 It was not worn as a punishment, but because I poked. 1847 [see POKING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1900 EL. GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 3 They both poke their heads, and Jane turns in her toes.

b. *colloq.* To project obtrusively, to stick *out.*
1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Poke*, to project, to lean forward, to bag out.

Poke, *v.*[2] *Sc.* Also 6 **polk.** [f. POKE *sb.*[1]]
†**1.** *trans.* To catch fish with a poke-net (see POKE *sb.*[1] 4). *Obs.*
1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 399 Slauchter of blak fische, polking and polting or ony uther crymes.

2. To put in a poke or bag; to bag; *to poke up*, to put up in a bag or pocket.
1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 49 Perhaps thou hast a minde to poke vp thy dish when you likest thy meate well. *a* 1758 RAMSAY *Eagle & Robin* 49 Poke up your pypes.

Poke, *v.*[3] *U. S.* [f. POKE *sb.*[3] 2.] *trans.* To put a poke on.
1828 WEBSTER s. v., To poke an ox.

Po·ke-bo·nnet. [f. POKE *sb.* or *v.*[1]: see POKE *sb.*[2]] Colloquial name for a bonnet with a projecting brim; *spec.* one of this shape worn in the early part of the 19th c. Also *attrib.*
1820 *Hermit in London* xcii. V. 35 Another street nuisance is your poke-bonnet ladies, who sometimes put out your eyes with these pent-house projections. 1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride, Widow* viii, For young women as likes to look about 'em, them poke bonnets is old nick. 1837 LYTTON *E. Maltrav.* IV. vi, A few ladies of middle age .. wear .. straw poke bonnets. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* ix, [*A*] lady .. painted in one of the old poke bonnets of former days. 1884 *Century Mag* XXVIII. 14 Eight or nine ladies, gentlemen, and children, in the poke-bonnets and high-collared coats of the year 1839.

b. Applied to the form of bonnet worn by Quakeresses, and later to that of Salvation Army women, etc.; hence, to the wearers of such.
1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Poke-bonnet*, a long, straight bonnet, much worn by Quakers and Methodists. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. lvi. 264 We dined at a farmhouse.., the property of Anabaptists, a sect most numerous in Götland. There's no mistaking the women by their downcast looks and black poke-bonnets. 1877 *Sat. Rev.* 12 May 577/2 At Croydon, Dorking, and other favourite haunts of Friends, the .. broad-brimmed hats for the men, and close poke-bonnets for the women, may still be seen. 1899 *St. James' Gaz.* 17 Aug. 11/2 Never reached by the Church,..or any other spiritual organisations, except possibly the 'poke bonnets' at the corners of the streets. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 107 The poke bonnet and dark blue dress, which I thought I would not get until I had spent a few days investigating what was the best way to join the Army.
Hence **Poke-bo·nneted** *a.*, wearing a poke-bonnet.
1877 *Sat. Rev.* 23 June 755/1 Marching in.., hatted or poke-bonneted, and silent, when it [a religious observance] is Quaker. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 16 Nov. 3/2 The poke-bonnetted young ladies who resided in the charming suburb of Paddington-green.

Poked (pōukt), *a.* [f. POKE *sb.*[1], [2] + -ED [2].]
1. Furnished with a bag or poke; dilated.
1611 MARKHAM *Countr. Content.* I. xix. (1668) 83 She must be of large body, well poked behind for large Eggs. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Poked*, having a bag or poke under the jaw, which is generally the case with consumptive or rotten sheep.

2. Of a bonnet or cap: Furnished with a poke.
1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* x, He..in a poked cap and without a cravat made a figure at which his mother cried every Sunday. 1871 MISS MULOCK *Fair France* iv. 125 Those frightful white poked caps or bonnets, which often hide such sweet, saintly, and even beautiful faces.

Poked, *ppl. a.* [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]
1. Thrust, pushed, stirred, etc.: see the vb.
1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 3/1 These .. may be found in the poked-away forgotten trays of our jewellers' shops.
†**2.** Of a ruff: Crimped with a poking-stick. *Obs.*

1593 *Pass. Morrice* (1876) 74 The delight of their curious poked ruffes would be set aside. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* III. Wks. 1874 I. 113 They shall weare Beaver Hats, Poak'd Ruffes, Grogram Gownes, or..wrought Taffata.

Pokeful (pōu·kful). [f. POKE *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] A bagful, a small sackful.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 191 A poke ful [1393 C. X. 342 poke-ful; A. VIII. 178 *v.r.* pokeful] of pardoun þere, ne prouinciales lettres. 1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 91 Ifte bee not worth a pokefull of pence. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 125 b, As farre dissentyng from the purpose of this Prophecie, as if he were demaunded the way to Canterbury, he might aunswere, a poake full of Plummes.

‖ **Poke-lo·ken, pokelo·gan.** *U.S.* [a. Odjibwa *pokenogun.*] (See quots.)

1848 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 68 Now and then we passed what McCauslin called a pokelogan, an Indian term for what the drivers might have reason to call a poke-logs-in, an inlet that leads nowhere. *Ibid.* 132. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* II. 404 A poke-loken is a marshy place or stagnant pool connected with a river. 1872 DE VERE *Americanisms* 20 The term pokeloken, an Indian term, signifying 'marsh', .. is still largely used by the lumbermen in Maine, and..in the Northwest.

Pokemantie, variant of POCKMANTEAU.

Po·ke-pu·dding. Also (*Sc.*) 9 **pock-pudding,** *contr.* 8–9 **pock-pud.** [f. POKE *sb.*[1] + PUDDING.]

1. A pudding made in a poke or bag, a bag-pudding. Now *Sc.* and *dial.*

1552 HULOET, *Poke puddynge, maza, farrata.* 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. Poetry* Gloss., *Poh-puds,* bag-puddings, dumplings. 1825 JAMIESON, Pock-pudding.

2. *Sc.* Applied contemptuously to a corpulent or gluttonous person; an opprobrious designation in Scotland for an Englishman. Now *humorous.*

c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1754) I. vi. 138 My Countrymen .. all over Scotland, are dignified with the Title of Poke Pudding, which, according to the Sense of the Word among the Natives, signifies a Glutton. *a* 1776 in Herd *Sc. Songs* I. 118 They'll fright the fuds of the Pockpuds, For mony a buttock bare's coming. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XX, 'We maun gar wheat-flour serve us for a blink', said Niel,.. 'the Englishers live amaist upon't; but, to be sure, the pock-puddings ken nae better'. 1827 — *Diary* 20 Dec., Anent the copyrights—the pockpuds were not frightened by our high price. 1870 RAMSAY *Remin.* vi. (ed. 18) 228 A set o' ignorant pock-puddings. 1885 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 143 Whether pock-pudding prejudice or not, I can't bring myself to love that country [Scotland].

3. A local name of the Long-tailed Titmouse.

1856 *Eng. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* IV. 203 This is the Poke Pudding, Huckmuck, and Mum-Ruffin of the English. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 32 (British Long-tailed Titmouse) Poke pudding or Poke bag (Gloucestershire; Salop). Pudding bag (Norfolk).

Poker (pōu·kəɪ), *sb.*[1] [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. An instrument for poking or stirring a fire, consisting of a stiff metal rod, one end of which is fitted with or formed into a handle.

Jew's poker: see quot. 1899.

1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 126 He ..came downe with a poker in his hande. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 608 P 13 By her good Will she never would suffer the Poker out of her Hand. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* I. 70 The men say she is as stiff as a poker; and the women are afraid of her, she is so proud and prudish. 1829 LYTTON *Disowned* xviii, The ancient domestic ..came, poker in hand, to his assistance. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *A. Lunel* III. vi. 176 Of a stiffness so perfect that part of his toilette seemed to be swallowing a poker. 1899 R. WHITEING *No.* 5 *John St.* xix, A Jew's Poker is a Christian person who attends to Jewish fires on the Sabbath day.

b. *fig.* (in allusion to its proverbial stiffness): A person with a rigid stiff carriage or manner.

1812 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 184, I dare say our new cousin is just such a poker as Lord Selkirk, with an iron head and an iron heart. 1838 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 14 July, He .. would be very handsome if he would not stoop..Liz is a poker in comparison.

† 2. = *Poking-stick*: see POKING *vbl. sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 25 Where's my ruffe and poker, you block-head? 1606 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. If you know not me* L Wks. 1874 I. 258 Now, your Puritans poker is not so huge, but somewhat longer; a long slender poking-sticke is the all in all with your Suffolke Puritane.

3. In various transferred uses. a. (See quot.)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Poker* .. or *driver,* an iron instrument, of various lengths and sizes, used for driving hoops on masts. It has a flat foot at one end, and a round knob at the other.

b. *humorous.* The staff or rod of office carried by a verger, bedell, etc.

1844 [implied in *poker-bearer*: see 8]. 1905 H. S. HOLLAND *Personal Stud.* ix. *Westcott* 130 Under the haughty contempt of the solitary verger [in Peterborough Cathedral], who had been forced to lend the authority of his 'poker' to those undignified and newfangled efforts.

c. *University slang.* One of the university bedells at Oxford and Cambridge, who carry staves or maces ('pokers') before the Vice-Chancellor.

1841 *Rime of New-Made Baccalere* (Farmer), Heads of Houses in a row, And Deans and College Dons below, With a Poker or two behind. 1867 *London Society* XII. 347 We attended duly at St. Mary's to see the vice-chancellor, doctors, proctors, 'pokers', &c. in their robes of state. 1897 *Jowett's Life & Lett.* II. viii. 226 There was a great procession, the Chancellor in black and gold, Doctors in scarlet gowns, the Vice-Chancellor with pokers.

4. *Red-hot poker,* a popular name of species of *Tritoma* (or *Kniphofia*), South African liliaceous plants, bearing elongated spikes of scarlet or yellow flowers; called also *flame-flower* (FLAME *sb.* 10).

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.,* Red-hot-poker-plant. 1899 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 2/2 The clustered sunflowers and 'red-hot pokers', most gorgeous of September's old-fashioned blooms. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 179 Scarlet tritomas (red-hot pokers) look splendid among the deep greens of the summer grass.

5. The implement with which poker-work is done; hence, short for POKER-WORK. Also *attrib.*

1827 *Seaham Par. Reg.,* A drawing in poker, by him, of the Salvator Mundi, after Carlo Dolci. 1854 [see *poker-picture* in 8]. *c* 1900 W. D. THOMPSON *Poker Work* 10 The pokers were anything, from a knitting needle to an iron rod ½ in. thick, and were bound with yarn or other material to protect the hands from being burnt, and to enable the worker to obtain a firmer grip of the implement. *Ibid.* 17 The 'Pyro'..is another development in Poker machines which .. does away with the spirit-lamp. *Ibid.* 24 Poker artists will find it convenient to be in possession of the principal manufacturer's list of Poker materials. — *Instruct. 'Pyro' Poker Machine,* Before starting any piece of work it is wise to become familiar with the lighting and working of the poker.

6. A person who pokes; *esp.* one who pokes or pries into things.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 50 Now our Philosophical Poker pokte on, and poynted to a strange shew. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxxix. 359 Such thoughtful *futurity pokers* as I am!

7. Phrase. *By the holy poker.* A humorous asseveration, of Irish origin and uncertain meaning.

1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Limerick Gloves* ii, 'By the holy poker', said he to himself, 'the old fellow now is out there'. 1828 *Lancet* 23 Feb. 773/2 He swears by the 'holy poker' and 'St. Patrick', that he will never again go to St. Bartholomew's. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 134 By the holy poker, sir,..you've just hit it there.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *poker-arm*; *poker-backed, poker-like* adjs.; **poker-bearer,** a mace-bearer, a University bedell; **poker-drawing, poker-painting** = POKER-WORK; **poker-picture,** a picture made by poker-work; **poker-style,** the style of poker-work. (See also sense 5.)

1890 *Scots Observer* 25 Jan. 267/2 Mannerisms noticed thirty years ago on St. Andrews Links .. Alexander Hill's tip-toe eccentricities, and Mill's *poker-arm, imbecile, pushing motion! 1885 *Fortnight in Waggonette* 6 To assume his usual *poker-backed style of seat. 1898 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Mar. 2/2 The journal..assumes its most poker-backed 'we-told-you-so' attitude. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ix, From vice-chancellor down to vice-chancellor's *poker-bearer. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 3/3 'Black Rod', ..carrying a three-cornered hat in one hand, and a short gilt-headed *poker-like stick gracefully poised in the other. 1895 CLARA H. STEVENS in *Proc. 14th Conv. Amer. Instr. Deaf* 365 The art of *poker-painting has had more attention in England than elsewhere. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Arts,* **Poker-pictures,* imitations of pictures or rather of bister-washed drawings executed by singeing the surface of white wood with a heated poker, such as used in Italian irons. 1887 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 183 Some decoration that she was doing in the *poker-style, burning the pattern in.

Po·ker, *sb.*[2] Now *U. S. colloq.* Also 7 **pocar.** [perh. from Norse; corr. to Da. *pokker,* Swed. *pocker* the devil. Cf. also PUCK, POOK.] A hobgoblin, bugbear, demon. *Old Poker,* the devil.

[1598: see HODGE-POKER.] 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 109 Euen as a mother, when her childe is wayward,.. scareth it with some pocar, or bull-begger, to make it cling more vnto her and be quiet. 1784 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Hon. H. S. Conway* 5 May, The very leaves on the horse-chesnuts .. cling to the bough as if old poker was coming to take them away. 1828 WEBSTER, *Poker,* any frightful object, especially in the dark; a bugbear; a word in common popular use in America.

† **Po·ker,** *sb.*[3] *dial. Obs.* [f. POKE *sb.*[1] sack + -ER[1].] (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Poker,* one that conveys Coals (at Newcastle) in Sacks, on Horseback.

Po·ker, *sb.*[4] Chiefly *U. S.* [Origin uncertain. Cf. Ger. *poch,* also *poche, pochen, pochspiel,* a similar bluffing card-game of considerable age, f. *pochen* to boast, brag, lit. to knock, rap.] A card game, popular in America, a variety of BRAG, played by two or more persons, each of whom, if not bluffed into declaring his hand, bets on the value of it, the player who holds the highest combination of cards as recognized in the game winning the pool.

[1855 GEO. ELIOT in Cross *Life* (1885) I. 356 One night we attempted 'Brag' or 'Pocher'.] 1856 MRS. S. T. L. ROBINSON *Kansas* 156 Jones and others came in at night and 'played poker at twenty-five cents ante'. 1856 G. D. BREWERTON *War in Kansas* 354 He could cheat his companion at a 'friendly game of poker', and shoot him afterwards .. with as little remorse. 1869 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. of Life, Cinders from Ashes* (1891) 255 Do the theological professors take a hand at all-fours or poker on weekdays? 1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 169 Poker, they call it ashore; but, as gambling is not allowed on government vessels, it becomes whist at sea.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *poker-game, -player.*

1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xiv. 285 They shoved the jury into a commodious poker-room, where were seats grouped about neat, green tables. 1882 *N. York Times* 11 Mar., Poker-playing was carried to England in the old packet-ships.

Poker, *sb.*[5], a kind of duck: see POCHARD.

Po·ker, *v.* [f. POKER *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* a. To use a poker to; to poke, stir, or strike with a poker. b. *Poker up*: To stiffen up, or make as stiff as a poker. *nonce-uses.*

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 June, I thought you had been too good-natured .. to poker the people in the King's-house! 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XX. XXV. 254 Portraits..of your host's family all pinched and pokered up in the incredible costumes of their several centuries.

2. To draw in or adorn with poker-work.

1897 *Daily News* 2 June 5/2 The Duchess..had executed several kid sachets in pokerwork, and her daughter, Princess Alice of Albany, had pokered a wooden stand. *c* 1900 W. D. THOMPSON *Poker Work* 12 Illustration of various articles which have been pokered by accomplished designers and artists.

Hence **Po·kering** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1880 LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 21 In..the 'front' plate, are placed..the working door, pokering door, and means for getting at the grates.

Po·kerish, *a.*[1] [f. POKER *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Inclined to be 'stiff as a poker', esp. in manner. Hence **Po·kerishly** *adv.,* **Po·kerishness.**

1848 HAWTHORNE in *Life Longfellow* (1891) II. i. 36 A man of thought and originality, with a certain iron-pokerishness, an uncompromising stiffness in his mental character. 1867 MISS BROUGHTON *Cometh Up as Flower* XXXVI, 'I am afraid I'm interrupting a pleasant tête-à-tête!' says the old lady, pokerishly. 1880 *Argosy* XXIX. 230, 'I regret to have lost it', I said, stiff to pokerishness. 1888 *Century Mag.* May 35/1 Ella called her 'stiff and pokerish'.

Po·kerish, *a.*[2] *U. S. colloq.* [f. POKER *sb.*[2] + -ISH[1].] Fraught with a kind of mysterious dread; ghostly, uncanny.

1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xli. 28 A pokerish-looking dwarf. 1853 LOWELL *Moosehead Jrnl.* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 36 There is something pokerish about a deserted dwelling, even in broad daylight. 1871 MRS. STOWE *My Wife & I* viii, It was a lonesome and pokerish operation to dismantle the room that had long been my home. 1874 B. TAYLOR *Prophet* IV. vi, A pokerish place! There's something in the air Breeds thoughts of murder.

Po·ker-work. [f. POKER *sb.*[1] + WORK *sb.*] Artistic work done by burning a design on the surface of white wood with a heated pointed implement.

Originally, a pointed poker was used, later the 'heater' of an Italian iron (see quot. for *poker-picture* s.v. POKER[1] 8), etc.; now done with a special apparatus the essential feature of which is a platinum point or pointer kept continuously hot for the purpose.

1813 J. FORSYTH *Remarks Excursion Italy* 91 *note,* The process called cestrotum was, in my opinion, nothing but poker-work. 1892 EL. ROWE *Chip-carving* (1895) 37 Ready-made objects, such as are sold for painting or poker work. 1894 *Daily News* 2 May 8/4 There is a cedar-lined escritoire in deep poker work, a really beautiful piece of furniture.

Poking (pōu·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of the vb. POKE: thrusting, pushing; projecting forward.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 60 With the push and poaking of launce hee perceth his entrayls. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* (1812) I. 189 The poking, and a bad inclination of her left foot, he cared not for. 1902 H. S. MERRIMAN *Vultures* i, Mr. Mangles..who carried his head in the manner..known at a girls' school as 'poking'. *attrib.* 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* vii. (1903) 232 This poking fight of rapier and dagger will come up then. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, I helped Pinniewinks to sharpen his pincers and his poking-awl. 1855 CARLYLE *Misc.* IV. 345 Madam, I drilled him soundly with my poking-pole.

2. **Po·king-stick (-iron).** A rod used for stiffening the plaits of ruffs; originally of wood or bone, afterwards of steel so as to be applied hot. *Hist.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 44 That sinwashing Poet that made the Ballet of Blue starch and poaking stick. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* III. iii. 106 Your ruff must stand in print; and for that purpose, get poking-sticks with fair long handles. ?1606 ROWLANDS *Terrible Battell* (Hunter. Cl.) 12 The poking yron is too hot. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 228 Pins, and poaking-stickes of steele. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 4 Her Needles, Poking-sticks, and Bodkins. 1869 MRS. PALLISER *Lace* xxii. 268 When the use of starch and poking-sticks had rendered the arrangement of a ruff easy, the size began rapidly to increase.

Poking (pōu·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -ING[2].]

1. Projecting; thrust forward: esp. of the head.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 22 June 3/3 A repulsive kind of hat, which may be called the poking hat; it has a long projection, like the beak of a snipe. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B.* I. iv. 70 [The giraffes'] necks .. make a feeble-looking, obtuse angle, completely answering to the word 'poking'.

2. Of a person or his work: That pokes or potters; pottering, peddling; hence petty, mean. Of a place: Petty, in size or accommodation; confined, mean, shabby, insignificant. = POKY *a.*[1] 1 a, b.

1769 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 22 June, I am never so angry, as when I hear my acquaintance wishing they had been bred to some poking profession, or employed in some office of drudgery. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xii, That poking old woman, who knows no more of whist than of algebra. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xxiv, I shall be shoved down into some poking little country-curacy. 1864 M. EYRE *Lady's Walks in S. France* viii. (1865) 94 A chapel, which we reached..through a poking little room.

Poky (pōu·ki), *a.*[1] [f. POKE *v.*[1] + -Y.]

1. a. Of a person, or his life or work: Pottering, peddling; taken up with petty matters or narrow interests: = POKING *ppl. a.* 2.

1856 MRS. STOWE *Dred* iv, If religion is going to make me so poky, I shall put it off as long as I can. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* iii, I laughed at myself for being so soft as to choose a hard-working pokey kind of

life. *Ibid.* xlvii, The people .. had lived a pokey life .. for many a year.

b. Of a place: Petty in size or accommodation; affording scanty room to stir; confined, mean, shabby: = POKING *ppl. a.* 2.

1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* xx. 174 In a little poky cottage under the hill. 1860 J. WOLFF *Trav. & Adv.* I. iv. 87 Sent to a poky lodging-house in High Holborn. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. v. 74 It is monstrous to think of burying his talents in a poky little hole. 1894 JESSOPP *Random Roaming* i. 18 Chichester seemed to me ..a poky place.

c. Of dress, etc.: Shabby, dowdy.

c 1854 THACKERAY *Wolves & Lamb* 1, Why do you dress yourself in this odd poky way? 1855 — *Newcomes* lvii, The ladies were in their pokiest old head-gear and most dingy gowns.

2. *Cricket.* Inclined to 'poke' when batting.

1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* 263 Against a poky batsman, on a sticky wicket, he has often as many opportunities as point of bringing off a smart catch.

Hence **Po'kiness.**

1886 *Chicago Advance* 14 Jan. 18 He detected the pokiness of the entire household this morning.

Poky, *a.*[2] and *sb. rare.* [f. POKE *sb.*[2] + -Y.] In *poky bonnet,* also *poky* sb. = POKE-BONNET.

1861 MRS. BROWNING *Lett., to Isa Blagden* (1897) II. 430 The nearest approach to a poky bonnet possible in this sinful generation. 1880 *Daily News* 2 July 5 A pleasing contrast to those oppressive times when inexorable custom compelled all to wear spoon-bills or pokeys or Leghorns.

‖ **Pol.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *pol,* contracted from *Pollux.*] A form of asseveration. Cf. EDIPOL.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) III. 8 By Poll and Aedipoll I protest. 1600 DEKKER *Shoemaker's Holiday* i. (1862) 9 Your pols and your edipols. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV. 378 Hee has his pols, and his ædypols, his times and his tricks.

Pol, obs. form of POLL, POOL *sb.*[1]

‖ **Polacca**[1] (polæ·kă, ‖ pola·kka). [It., orig. adj. fem. of *polacco* Polish, ad. Ger. *Polack,* a. Pol. *Polak* a Pole, a native of Poland.] A Polish dance, a polonaise; also the music for it.

1813 *Sk. Character* (ed. 2) I. 222 Maria had brought home some new music, and was in the middle of a favorite Polacca, when Gifford entered. 1862 E. PAUER *Programme* 8 Mar., Polacca, Polonaise. A Polish dance in ⅜ time; its character is strictly solemn and dignified, and must express chivalrous firmness, combined with grace. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., In No. 3 of Handel's twelve grand concertos is a polonaise or polacca.

† **Polack** (pōu·lăk), *sb.* (*a.*) *Obs.* Also 7 **Polaque, -eak, -ach,** (9 **-ak**). [a. Pol. *Polak* a Pole; Ger. *Polack,* F. *Polaque.*] A native or inhabitant of Poland; a Pole; in quot. 1609, the king of Poland. So † **Po'laker** *Obs. rare.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 192 Then for his Catholikes the Polakers, they clearly slip collar. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 127 The last of these fower vertues the Polacks want, that is, celeritie. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 63. 1609 MIDDLETON *Sir R. Shirley* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 307 He was received with great magnificence .. both of the Polack himself and of his people. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* (1676) 80 *margin,* The Moscovites discomfited by the Polacks in the battle of Orsa.

B. *adj.* Polish.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. xii, Any soldier, were he but a Polack Scytheman, shall be welcome.

Polacre (polā·kəɹ), **polacca**[2] (polæ·kă). Forms: α. 7, 9 **pollacre,** 9 **poleacre,** 8– **polacre.** β. 7 **polacra,** 8 **polacco,** 8– **polacca.** γ. 7 **polach, pollacke,** 7–8 **polaque.** [In α and γ forms a. F. *polacre, polaque* = It. *polac(c)ra, polacca,* whence directly the β forms. So Sp. *polacra,* Pg. *polacra, -aca, polharca*; Du. *polaak,* Ger. *polack(e, -er.* Origin uncertain; F. *polacre, polaque,* It. *polacca,* Ger. *polacke,* mean also Polish, Pole; but it is difficult to understand how a Levantine or Mediterranean vessel should be so described.]

A three-masted merchant vessel of the Mediterranean. See quot. 1769–76 in α.

α. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. vi. 885 Here our Admirall had hyred a Pollacre about the burden of one hundred and twentie tunne. 1755 *Acts Gen. Assemb. Georgia* (1881) 53 All Masters of Vessells..shall pay into the Public Treasury ..for every Snow Brig Polacre or Sactia Twenty Two shillings and Six pence. 1764 SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. 222 The harbour .. is generally full of tartanes, polacres, and other small vessels, that come from Sardinia, Ivica, Italy, and Spain, loaded with salt, wine, and other commodities. 1769–76 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Polacre,* a ship with three masts, usually navigated in the Levant, and other parts of the Mediterranean..generally furnished with square sails upon the main-mast, and *lateen* sails upon the fore-mast and mizen-mast. Some of them however carry square sails upon all the three masts, particularly those of Provence in France. Each [mast] is commonly formed of one piece, so that they have neither top-mast nor top-gallant-mast. 1820 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 1 Sept., She had two lieutenants of the English Navy with her in the polacre. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* (1890) 223 The high-sterned pollacre..is riding within musket-shot of the beach.

β. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 36 Wee descryed a vessell (which wee made for a polacra) plying vp to windeward. 1794 NELSON 6 Feb. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 350 Burned four polaccas loaded with wine for the French Ships at Fiorenzo. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xcv, He hired a vessel come from Spain, Bound for Corfu; she was a fine polacca, Mann'd with twelve hands and laden with tobacco.

γ. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 316/1 At his departure from Alexandria, there entred a French Polach. 1675 *Ibid.* No. 1024/1 All their Men of War are in Port, save a Pollacke, which is got out, and gone *in Corso.* 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 228 On Wednesday..a Polaque fell in among us,..running foul of our Sanbiquer.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1745 *Gentl. Mag.* 695 A Spanish polacco ship. 1780 CAPT. KNOWLES in *Naval Chron.* II. 518 They were two ..Xebec ships, polacre rigged. 1801 *Ibid.* VI. 412 The Neapolitan polacre brig *Madona de Laure.* 1846 RAIKES *Life of Brenton* 301 We gave chase to a polacre ship.

Polaile, variant of PULLAILE *Obs.,* poultry.

† **Polaine.** *Obs.* Also 6 **pulleyne.** See quots.

1582 in *Archæol. Æliana* XVI. 209 Foure threave of hempe and pulleyne iiij *s.* 1631 *New Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 63, 4 pieces of polaines ffor sailes ffor shallops, at 25*s* per piece,..1 quoile of cordage.

Polaly, variant of PULLAYLY *Obs.,* poultry.

† **Polan.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *poul(a)in* Polish, a Pole.] A Pole, a native of Poland.

1502 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 50 The Hungaries, Boyams and the Polans. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. x. 44, I might discourse over..Italians, Polans, Germanes.

Polan, var. POLAYN *Obs.,* knee-armour.

† **Pola·ncre.** *Naut. Obs.* Also **pollankre.** [Related to F. *palanc* (16th c. in Littré), now *palan,* a combination of two pulleys connected by a rope: cf. *palanquer* to hoist with tackle; also It. *palanga* a hoisting or raising apparatus, a lever, a roller, L. *p(h)alanga* a carrying pole, a roller on which a heavy body is rolled, Gr. *φάλαγξ* a round piece of wood, a trunk, block, log, pole.

(Fr. has also *palancre, palangre,* of the same origin, in the sense of a stout buoyed fishing-rope to which a series of lines are attached bearing the hooks.)]

A kind of pulley or tackle for hoisting heavy articles.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 47 Swyftyng takles.. xj, pollankres..vj. *Ibid.* 75. 1485 *State Papers, Chapter Ho. Bk.* VII, Polancres with shivers of brasse. 1514 *Inv. Stores Henry Grace à Dieu,* Poleancres with shivers of wood, poleancres with shivers of brasse.

Poland (pōu·lănd). Also 6–7 **Poleland.** [f. POLE *sb.*[4] + LAND *sb.* (or perh. ad. Ger. *Polen,* MHG. *Polân,* with ending assimilated to *land*).] A country of E. Europe, formerly an independent kingdom; hence short for *Poland oats* or *wheat, Poland fowl.*

1564 *Brief Exam.* Div, O woulde to God the state of the Churches of..Poleland were brought to this poynte. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 17 The Bridges of Poleland. 1812 *Examiner* 4 May 282/1 Oats 52*s*..57*s*. 0*d*. Polands 58*s*., 59*s*. 0*d*. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1858) 56 The newly-hatched chicks are grey, much resembling those of the silver Polands.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Poland breed, oat*; **Poland fowl,** one of a breed of domestic fowls, having black plumage and a white topknot; **Poland manna:** see MANNA[1] 6; **Poland wheat,** white cone wheat (*Triticum polonicum*).

1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 476/2 The *Poland breed, which is black-feathered, with white topknots, lays well. 1830 'B. MOUBRAY *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 15 The *Poland fowls, as they are generally called, were chiefly imported from Holland. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xxxv. 155 Most of my neighbours prefer the white *Poland oat. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 342 White-Lammas, or *Poland-wheat.

Hence **Po'lander,** a native of Poland, a Pole (*obs.*); also a Poland fowl.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 133 He [was] .. inforced to leaue the whole possession of Liuonia to the Polander. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 450 You will not see .. regiments formed of Russians, of Polanders, or of Venetians. 1830 'B. MOUBRAY' *Dom. Poultry* (ed. 6) 16 The Polanders .. are one of the most useful varieties.

Polar (pōu·lăɹ), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. med.L. *polār-is,* f. L. *pol-us* POLE *sb.*[2]: see -AR[1]. Cf. It. *polare* (*c* 1300 in Dante), Sp. *polar,* F. *polaire* (1556 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *Astron.* and *Geog.* Of or pertaining to the poles of the celestial sphere or of the earth; situated near or connected with either pole.

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 41 Recken from one of the poles..23 degrees and an halfe,..draw a circle of that circuit about eche Pole...These circles maye well bee called Pole circles, or Polar circles. 1594 J. DAVIS *Seaman's Secr.* II. (1607) 6 The Artick Polar circle is one of the lesser circles, deuiding the Sphere into two vnequall partes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 289 As when two Polar Winds .. together drive Mountains of Ice. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. ii. 5, [I] call it a Polar Plane, because the Poles thereof are in the Poles of the World. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 120 Devotion cold as Polar Ice was grown. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 277 The polar diameter of the earth. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiii. 302 Well known to the Polar traveller. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 178 The cold polar waters sink by their density.

b. In specific combinations with sbs.; e.g.

Polar anæmia, anæmia due to residence in the polar regions during the sunless winter. *P. bear,* the white bear, *Ursus maritimus. P. circle,* each of the circles parallel to the equator at the distance of 23° 28′ from either pole, bounding the Arctic and Antarctic zones. *P. dial,* a dial having its guomon in the plane of the earth's axis. *P. distance,* the angular distance of any point on a sphere from the nearer pole; the complement of declination or latitude. *P. hare,* the white hare, *Lepus arcticus. P. lights,* the aurora borealis or australis. *P. plant,* a name for *Silphium laciniatum,* from the fact of its leaves pointing due North and South (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). *P. projection*: see PROJECTION. *P. star* (mod.L. *stella polaris siue Polus,* in *Alphonsine Tables,* Venice 1518), the POLE-STAR; also *fig.* = guiding star, guide, cynosure.

1551–94 *Polar circle [see 1]. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polar Dyals,* are those whose Planes are parallel to some Great Circle that passes thro' the Poles, or parallel to some one of the Hours. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 35 From the azimuth, the *polar distance and the complement of latitude, compute the altitude. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 329. 146 Sometimes the distance from the north celestial pole is given instead of that from the celestial equator. This is called north-polar distance. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxxv, We were traversing the region of the '*polar plant', the planes of whose leaves, at almost every step, pointed out our meridian. 1885 *Girl's Own Paper* Jan. 171/1 The Compass plant—variously known, also, as the pilot weed, polar plant, and turpentine weed. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.,* Pole Star, or *Polar Star. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 366 If we lose sight of our polar star, we shall quickly wander into inextricable difficulties. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, Guided over the deep waters only by the polar star. 1854 MOSELEY *Astron.* iii. 14. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lxv, His pure and unrivalled love for Margaret had been his polar star.

2. *Magn.* Disposing itself in the direction of the poles of the earth; having polarity; of or pertaining to a magnetic pole or poles (see POLE *sb.*[2] 5); magnetic.

1692 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 88 The Polar Vertue of the Loadstone was unknown to the Ancients. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 2 In Loadstones it is commonly known that there are Polar Points, called North and South. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 296 The pole *N*, of the magnet..acts favourably in inducing south polar magnetism in *n*, and north polar at *S*. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* I. xx. 142, I examined the stones .. and found them strongly polar. 1872 SIR W. THOMSON *Reprint Papers* 421 A polar magnet, as I shall henceforth call anything magnetized after the manner of a loadstone or a steel magnet. 1891 S. P. THOMPSON *Electromagnet* 39 The pole or polar region of a magnet is simply that part of the surface of a magnet whence the internal magnetic lines emerge into the air.

3. *Electr.* Pertaining to the poles of a voltaic battery; having positive and negative electricity.

1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 320 The decomposition was perfectly polar, and decidedly dependent upon a current of electricity passing from the zinc through the acid to the platinum in the vessel *c*, and back from the platinum through the iodic solution to the zinc at the paper *x*. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* x. (ed. 2) 352 Rendering the substances ..positive and negative, or, to adopt the explanation of Faraday, causing a polar state in their particles. 1893 SLOANE *Stand. Electr. Dict.* 454 *Polar Region.* In electrotherapeutics the area or region of the body near the therapeutic electrode.

4. *Physics.* **a.** Of forces: Acting in two opposite directions. (Also in figurative applications.)

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 55 There is, strictly speaking, no proper opposition but between the two polar forces of one and the same power. 1862 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 4) 38 Cases where a dual or polar character of force is manifested. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 45 The thought of centres of force becomes that of polar force, where the most entire union is produced by the most complete opposition.

b. Of molecules: Regularly or symmetrically arranged in a definite direction (as though under the action of a magnetic force, e.g. like iron filings under the influence of a magnet).

1850 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 2) 36 At the point of maximum density the molecules of these bodies assume a polar or crystalline condition. 1862 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) 39 In the rupture of crystals, we are dealing with substances having a polar arrangement of particles—the surfaces of the fragments cannot be assumed to be molecularly identical. 1870 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (ed. 2) I. v. ii. 517 Adjacent molecules will be unsymmetrically placed .. they will not stand in polar order.

5. *Biol.* Of or pertaining to the poles of a nerve-cell, an ovum, etc. See POLE *sb.*[2] 7.

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 111 The polar areas, which are surrounded by short fringe-like processes. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 581 In some instances the two polar nuclei meet, not in the centre, but towards the upper end of the embryo-sac. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 22 *note,* A clear spot, the polar spot or corpuscle, may appear at each pole of the spindle. *Ibid.* 23 As soon as the ovum has attained its definitive size, it very generally ..gives origin to two polar bodies, or globules, or directive vesicles. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* IX. No. 36. 356 Opacities in the vitreous and posterior polar cataract had made their appearance.

6. *Geom.* Relating or referred to a pole (see POLE *sb.*[2] 8); *spec.* Reciprocal to a pole; of the nature of a polar (see B.).

Polar co-ordinates: see CO-ORDINATE B. 2. *Polar curve* with respect to a line, the locus in tangential co-ordinates corresponding to the polar curve with respect to a point in polar co-ordinates. *Polar equation,* an equation in polar co-ordinates. *Polar surface,* in geometry of three dimensions, a locus analogous in all respects to a polar curve in plane geometry.

1816 tr. *Lacroix's Diff. & Int. Calculus* 129 The variables in this equation are what Geometers have called polar co-ordinates. 1831 HIND *Diff. Calc.* 262 If *r* be the radius vector of a polar curve, and *θ* be the angle which it makes with a fixed axis. 1848 G. SALMON *Conic Sect.* (1855) i. § 44 To find the polar equation of a right line. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 134 The polar figure to any continuous curve on a spherical surface is the locus of the ultimate intersections of great circles equatorial to points taken infinitely near each other along it.

7. *fig.* **a.** Analogous to the pole of the earth, or to the pole-star; of or pertaining to a central or directive principle.

1799 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 156/1 Universal Emancipation, with Representative Legislature, was the polar principle which guided the Society of United Irishmen. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* I. i. (1872) I. 4 A king over men; whose movements were polar, and carried..those of the world along with them. 1899 A. Black in *Expositor* Jan. 51 Both the Church and the world depend in crisis on the man of insight:..the polar primary man.

b. Directly opposite in character, action, or tendency. (See also 4 a.)

1832 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 998 Rusticity and Urbanity are polar opposites. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. (1872) 90 Dante felt Good and Evil to be the two polar elements of this Creation, on which it all turns.

B. *sb. Geom.* A curve related in a particular way to a given curve and a fixed point called the pole; in conic sections, the straight line joining the points at which tangents from the fixed point touch the curve.

1848 G. Salmon *Conic Sect.* (1855) vi. § 86 Whether the tangents from $x'y'$ be real or imaginary, the line joining their points of contact will be the real line $xx'+yy'=s^2$ which we shall call the polar of $x'y'$ with regard to the circle. *Ibid.* xv. § 302 The relation between the curves is reciprocal, that is.. the curve S might be generated from s in precisely the same manner that s was generated from S; hence the name 'reciprocal polars'. 1885 Leudesdorf *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 201 The straight line s determined in this manner by the point S is called the polar of S with respect to the conic; and, reciprocally, the point S is said to be the pole of the straight line s.

†**Po·larchy,** obs. erron. form for Polyarchy, government by many, or by a number of persons. So †**Po·larch,** one of the persons so governing; †**Pola·rchical** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a 'polarchy'; †**Po·larchist,** an advocate of 'polarchy'.

1647 M. Hudson *Div. Right Govt.* I. viii. 63 The Erection or institution of any Polarchicall Government. *Ibid.* II. iv. 95 A Polarchy in its own nature is inconsistent with Peace and Unity. *Ibid.* 99 The vocation and profession of Polarchs is cursed, unlawful and unwarrantable. *Ibid.* v. 102 In all which sorts of Polarchy, both Polarchs and Polarchists are obliged in conscience to endeavour the reducement of that Government to a Monarchie by all lawful meanes. 1648 Prynne *Plea for Lords* 4 Popular Polarchy and Tyranny. 1660 Bond *Scut. Reg.* 183, I appeal to the whole World, and even to the Consciences of our wicked Polarchical upstarts.

Polard(e, obs. forms of Pollard.

Polari- (pōlæ·ri), combining form of med.L. *polāris* polar; as in **polari-guttulate** *a.*, having polar guttules (see Guttulate); **polari-nucleate** *a.*, having polar nuclei.

1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 276 Sporidia 8, linear-oblong, straight or curved, polari-nucleate. *Ibid.* 361 Sporidia 8, elliptic or slightly turbinate, polari-guttulate.

Pola·ric, *a.* [f. Polar + -ic.] = Polar *a.* 4.

1863 *Atlantic Monthly* Oct. 499 The currents of that polaric opposition. 1864 in Webster.

†**Po·larily,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. Polary *a.* + -ly 2.] In a polar manner: see Polar *a.* 2.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 61 Iron..already informed by the Loadstone and polarily determined by its preaction.

Polarimeter (pōulări·mĭtəɹ). [f. med.L. *polāri-s* Polar (with reference to Polarization) + -meter.] A form of polariscope for measuring the amount of rotation of the plane of polarization, or the amount of polarized light in a beam.

1864 in Webster. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 24 Dec. 357/3 The detection..may be effected with the polarimeter, as pure glycerine has no action upon polarised light. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 214 Grape-sugar deflects polarised light to the right, and upon this is based a method of estimation by means of a somewhat expensive instrument called a polarimeter. 1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 162 The rotatory power of each of the four fluids is ascertained by means of the polarimeter.

Hence **Polarimetric** (polærime·trik) *a.*, of or pertaining to a polarimeter or polarimetry; **Polari·metry,** the art or process of measuring or analysing the polarization of light.

1864 Webster, *Polarimetry.* 1899 Cagney tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 88 The polarimetric test may be applied. *Ibid.* v. 163 This method..requires a very accurate polarimeter, light polarimetric examinations, and a highly-complicated calculation.

Polariscope (polæ·riskōup). [f. med.L. *polāris* Polar (cf. prec.) + -scope. Cf. F. *polariscope.*] An instrument for showing the polarization of light, or viewing objects in polarized light; consisting essentially of two plates or prisms, a *polarizer* and an *analyser*; made in various forms, simple or complex, according to the special use. Also *attrib.*

1842 G. Francis *Dict. Arts* etc., *Polarising Apparatus, Polariscope,* any instrument which is capable of showing the phenomena of polarised light. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 228 The plates of topaz sold in the opticians' shops, for polariscope purposes, have been obtained by cutting the crystal perpendicularly to one of the optic axes. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sc.* I. 81/1 In every polariscope there are two essential parts; namely, the *polariser* and the *analyser*; the former receives and polarises the incident rays of light, and the latter presents to the eye the polarised ray either by reflection or by refraction. 1866 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.*, etc. II. 951/1 The polariscope proposed by Arago is formed of a tube closed at one extremity by a plate of rock crystal cut perpendicularly to the optical axis, and about five millimetres..in thickness, and having at the other end, where the eye is applied, a prism possessing the property of double refraction placed transversely to the axis of the tube.

Hence **Pola·riscopist,** one skilled in the use of a polariscope; **Polariscopy** (polæ·riskōupi), the art of using a polariscope.

1872 Proctor *Ess. Astron.* xviii. 212 More likely to supply a correct answer..than either spectroscopy, polariscopy, or photography. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Polariscopist.

Polariscopic (polæriskɒ·pik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to, made, obtained, or viewed by, a polariscope.

1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 44. 112 Admirable polariscopic objects. 1872 Proctor *Ess. Astron.* xiii. 193 The spectroscopic and polariscopic analysis of the corona. 1887 *Athenæum* 1 Oct. 442/3 The gaseous molecules and the dust particles which polariscopic observations show are present in the corona.

Polari·stic, *a. rare*—0. [erron. f. Polarize: see -istic.] = Polaric.

1864 Webster, *Polaristic,* pertaining to or exhibiting poles; having a polar arrangement or disposition; arising from, or dependent upon, the possession of poles or polar characteristics; as polaristic antagonism.

Pola·ristrobo·meter. [mod. f. med.L. *polāris* Polar + Gr. στρόβος a whirling round + -meter; devised 1865 by Prof. H. Wild of Zurich. (He objected to the term *polarimeter* for an instrument that measures, not the amount of polarization, but the angle of rotation of the plane of polarization.)] A form of saccharimeter, giving a very delicate means for measuring the rotation of the plane of polarization produced by the sugar solution.

1870 *Chemical News* 21 Jan. 35 Newest shape of M. Wild's Polaristrobometer (Saccharimeter, Diabetometer). 1882 Robb & Veley *Landolt's Handbk. Polariscope* 98 The so-called polaristrobometers, what in England are known as polariscopes, which indicate the amount of rotation in angular measure.

Polarite (pōu·lărəit). [f. Polar *a.* + -ite 1.] Trade name for an insoluble porous mineral substance, containing about fifty-three per cent. of magnetic oxide of iron, with silica, lime, magnesia, carbon, etc., and having the power of absorbing and giving off oxygen. Used in conjunction with 'Ferrozone' in the so-called 'International' process of sewage treatment. Also *attrib.*

1889 *Patent Specif.* No. 8088 The filtering medium..is that now known as 'Polarite'. 1891–2 *Proc. Assoc. Munic. & County Engineers* XVIII. 318 A magnetic oxide of iron (to which the trade name of 'Polarite' has been given). 1898 *Engineer. Mag.* XVI. 157/1 The Purification of Sewage by the Ferrozone Polarite System.

Polarity (polæ·rĭti). [f. Polar *a.* + -ity: cf. F. *polarité* (1806 in Hatz.-Darm., 1835 in *Dict. Acad.*) A form tried earlier was Polity 2.]

1. *Magnetism.* The quality or property possessed by certain bodies, as a lodestone or magnetized bar, of turning (when free to move) so as to point with their two extremities to the two (magnetic) poles of the earth; the quality of being polar, or possessing magnetic poles.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 59 This polarity from refrigeration upon extremity and in defect of a Loadstone might serve to invigorate and touch a needle any where. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 157 You may change the Polarity of many feeble Stones, by a long Position, in a contrary posture to that which it naturally affects. *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 64 One of their compasses which had quite changed the polarity, from north to south, is still extant in that country. 1751 Franklin in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 289 By electricity we have here frequently given polarity to needles. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 176 If the bar be inverted, the polarity will be instantly reversed; so that in all cases the lower extremity is, in this hemisphere, the north pole: but on the south side of the equator, the lower extremity is always the south pole. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 166 An invention..securing a more accurate polarity to the mariner's compass. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sc.* I. 81/1 Magnetic polarity, or that power by which a magnetised needle arranges itself in reference to the magnetic poles of the earth.

2. Hence in generalized sense: A property of matter or force, analogous or compared to that of a magnet or magnetism. **a.** The having of an axis with reference to which certain physical properties are determined; the disposition of a body or an elementary molecule to place its mathematical axis in a particular direction.

1674 Petty *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 128 All Atoms by their Motion of Verticity or Polarity, would draw themselves, like Magnets, into a streight Line, by setting all their Axes in *directum* to each other. 1827 Arnott *Physics* 33 When atoms are allowed to cohere according to their natural tendencies, they always assume a certain regular arrangement and form, which we call crystalline. Because in this circumstance they seem to resemble magnets, which attract each other only by their poles; the fact has been called the polarity of atoms. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 184 In crystals it is necessary to admit, besides ordinary attraction and repulsion, a third molecular force called polarity. *Ibid.*, A molecule endowed with unequal attractive forces in different directions may be said to be possessed of polarity.

b. The quality of exhibiting opposite or contrasted properties or powers in opposite or contrasted directions; the possession of two points called poles having contrary qualities or tendencies.

1818 Coleridge *Method* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. Introd. 12 Contemplating in all Electrical phenomena the operation of a Law which reigns through all Nature, viz. the law of polarity, or the manifestation of one power by opposite forces. 1840 Whewell *Philos. Induct. Sc.* I. v. i. 337 The general notion of polarity—opposite properties in opposite directions. 1841–4 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. I. iii. (1876) 81 Polarity, or action and reaction, we meet in every part of nature. 1866 Dk. Argyll *Reign Law* v. (ed. 4) 257 One of whose essential properties is Polarity,—that is, equal and similar action in opposite directions. 1870 Tyndall *Lect. Electr.* 7 Two opposite kinds of magnetism may be supposed to be concentrated at the two ends. In this doubleness of the magnetic force consists what is called magnetic polarity.

c. Tendency to develop in two opposite directions in space, time, serial arrangement, etc.

1848 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 165 This disposition to develope in two diametrically opposite directions, sometimes called polarity, is found in all embryos. 1853 E. Forbes *Addr. Geol. Soc.* in Wilson & Geikie *Mem.* xv. (1861) 544 We speak of two [organic] groups [e.g. animals and vegetables] being in the relation of polarity to each other when the rudimentary forms of each are proximate, and their completer manifestations far apart. 1856 Woodward *Mollusca* III. 418 This group shows a tendency to 'polarity', or excessive development at the ends of the series.

d. *Uterine polarity*: see quot.

1881 *Trans. Obstetric Soc. Lond.* XXII. 47 The conditions of 'uterine polarity' enunciated by Reil at the beginning of this century. This 'uterine polarity' is exemplified by the antagonism which exists between the two poles of the uterus, contraction of one being accompanied by dilatation of the other. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Polarity*..applied metaphorically, *e.g.* to the uterus, in reference to the fact that as the fundus contracts the cervix tends to relax and *vice versâ*.

3. *Electr.* The relation of a body to the poles or electrodes of an electric circuit; the electrical condition of a body as positive or negative.

1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 353 That side of the spiral which is towards the north, acts as the north pole; and the south side has an opposite polarity. Each side powerfully attracts iron filings. 1872 C. B. Fox *Ozone* 10 One of the Peroxides is in an opposite condition of polarity to that in the other. 1879 Du Moncel *Telephone* 16 The adjacent poles of the two rods are of opposite polarity. 1887 Gumming *Electr. treated Experimentally* 289 Its change of polarity at each half rotation keeps up a constant rotation.

4. *Optics.* The quality of light which admits of its polarization; hence, the condition of being polarized. (An inaccurate use.)

[1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 53 The important discoveries..of a property analogous to polarity in light.] 1861 Herschel in G. F. Chambers *Astron.* (1876) 319 The light reflected from which [cloud] .. exhibits no signs of polarity. [1866 — *Fam. Lect. Sci. Subj.* viii. 347 It would seem almost as if light consisted of particles having polarity, like magnets.]

5. *fig.* **a.** (from 1.) Direction (of thought, feeling, or inclination) towards a single point; tendency or trend in a particular direction; 'magnetic attraction' towards a particular object.

1767 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) IV. 249, I find you are in motion and with a Polarity to Dresden. 1800 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 61/2 Launching forth on the ocean of possibility..conducted, not merely by shores and landmarks, but chiefly by the polarity of reasons. 1834 H. Rogers in *J. Edwards' Wks.* I. p. liii, This polarity of mind, this intellectual magnetism towards universal truth, has always been a characteristic of the greatest minds. 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xii. 226 One great change .. affected the polarity of the whole political and geographical organisation of the country. 1878 Emerson *Soc. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) III. 381 Now men fall abroad—want polarity—suffer in character and intellect.

b. (from 2 b.) Possession or exhibition of two opposite or contrasted aspects, principles, or tendencies.

1862 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 442 The whole system of the Church of England..has, like all Truth, two faces: one silver, the other gold. Every part of it has a double polarity. 1870 Emerson *Soc. & Solit.* iv. 80 Wherever the polarities meet, wherever.. the instinct of freedom and duty come[s] in direct opposition to fossil conservatism and the thirst of gain. 1888 R. Burn *Rom. Lit. & Art* 43 The Roman women, with that curious polarity which often sets the fashion in exactly the opposite direction to what would be expected, held that a narrow forehead with the hair drawn down over it was pretty and attractive.

c. (from 3.) Condition of consciousness as subjective or objective.

1846 Trench *Mirac.* v. (1862) 174 That quick shifting, so to speak, of the polarity, so that at one moment the human consciousness became the positive, at another the negative pole.

Polarizable (pōu·lărəizăb'l), *a.* [f. Polarize + -able.] Capable of being polarized. Hence **Polarizabi·lity.**

1846 Worcester, *Polarizable,* that may be polarized. *Phil. Mag.* 1878 *Smithsonian Rep.* 364 Albumen electrodes (*i.e.*, non-polarizable electrodes). 1900 Iles *Flame, Electr. & Camera* 252 The conductivity, polarisability and other electrical properties of matter.

Polarization (pōu·lărəizē·ʃən). [In sense 1, a. F. *polarisation,* n. of action f. *polariser* (both introduced by Malus, 11 March 1811): see Polarize. In later uses, n. of action from the vb. in corresp. senses.] The condition or fact of being polarized; the action of polarizing.

I. 1. A modification of the condition of light or radiant heat, whereby the ray exhibits different properties on different sides, so that opposite sides are alike, while the maximum difference is between

two sides at right angles to each other; the production of this condition, the action of polarizing. See POLARIZE *v.* 1.

Angle of polarization = *polarizing angle*: see POLARIZING *vbl. sb. Circular, elliptic, plane polarization*: see POLARIZE 1. *Plane of polarization*: the plane which contains the incident ray and the reflected or refracted ray which is polarized.

1812 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXXIII. 345 By giving to these sides [of the ray] the names of poles, Malus has given the name of Polarisation to that modification which imparts properties to light which are relative to these poles. 1813 (23 Dec.) BREWSTER in *Phil. Trans.* (1814) 188 A ray of light transmitted through a plate of agate cut by planes perpendicular to the laminæ of which it is composed suffers polarisation like one of the pencils formed by double refraction. 1814 *Ibid.* 219 (*title*) On the Polarisation of Light by oblique transmission through all Bodies, whether crystallized or uncrystallized. 1831 — *Optics* xxvii. 225 A new species of polarisation, which I have called elliptical polarisation, and which unites the two classes of phenomena which constitute circular and rectilineal polarisation. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 354 When light suffers double refraction through a crystal with a positive axis.., as quartz, the plane of polarization of the ordinary ray.. is horizontal, and that of the extraordinary ray vertical. In negative crystals, as Iceland spar, the direction of these rays is reversed. *Ibid.* 362 The angle of complete polarization for any substance, may be readily determined by the fact, discovered by Sir D. Brewster, that:—The index of refraction is the tangent of the angle of polarization. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s. v., Analogous phenomena to those of the polarization of light have been found to belong also to radiant heat. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* iv. 50 A long-lived soap bubble displays every colour which can be produced by polarization. 1906 *Harmsworth Encycl.* 4811/3 The doubly refracted rays have what Newton called 'sides'; and it is this sidedness, or laterality, which is known as polarization.

fig. 1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 172 In whom a moral polarization of light has taken place. 1900 F. H. STODDARD *Evol. Eng. Novel* 108 It is not history; it is rather the romantic polarization of history.

II. 2. *Electr.* and *Magn.* **a.** See POLARIZE *v.* 2.

1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 53 The pail was thus subjected to polarisation. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 254 All electrical phenomena within S_1 which in the ordinary theory are due to the action of E_2, are on the polarisation hypothesis deducible from the given polarisation.

b. In voltaic electricity, The production of an electromotive force at the electrodes, due to the presence of the products of electrolytic decomposition of the fluid between them, and acting in an opposite direction to the original current, thus producing an apparent increase of the resistance.

1839 GROVE *Contrib. Sc.* in *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1874) 237 It occurred to me that the inaction of amalgamated zinc was the effect of polarization. [*Note.* I know of no other word to express the effect here alluded to; the word is used in this sense by most French writers, but, from its numerous applications, is sadly inaccurate.] 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 318 When an electric current is passed through an electrolyte bounded by metal electrodes, the accumulation of the ions at the electrodes produces the phenomenon called Polarization.

3. The arrangement of molecules, etc., in a definite direction.

1846 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* 21 Exceptions..explicable by other interfering dynamic causes, such, possibly, as crystalline polarization, leaving interstitial spaces.

4. *fig.* See quot. and cf. POLARIZE 3.

1871 H. B. FORMAN *Living Poets* 6 The process of 'translating to our purposes' words already current, by giving them a new and special shade of meaning—a process best characterised as the polarisation of language.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *polarization force*; **polarization-microscope**, an instrument combining the functions of a polariscope and microscope.

1881 S. P. THOMPSON in *Design & Work* 24 Dec. 454 The degree to which a counter-electromotive force or polarisation force is set up depends very greatly on the quantity of current per unit of surface of the electrodes employed. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *P[olarisation]-microscope*, an instrument in which a polariscope and a microscope are combined; used particularly in petrography.

Polarize (pō·ŭlărəiz), *v.* [In sense 1, a. F.. *polariser* (Malus, 11 March 1810), in form f. mod.L. *polāris* POLAR + *-iser*, -IZE, but referred by its author directly to F. *pôle* POLE *sb.*2 In other senses, f. POLAR + -IZE.]

See Malus in *Nouveau Bulletin des Sciences* No. 42, March 1811, p. 252 *Lumière polarisée*. Also *ibid.* No. 45, June 1811, p. 292 (*transl.*) 'In giving to these sides [of the vertical ray] the name of *poles*, he calls the modification which imparts to light properties relative to these poles, *polarization*... This new expression .. signifies simply the modification that light has undergone in acquiring new properties, relative not to the direction of the ray, but solely to its *sides*, considered at a right angle, and in a plane perpendicular to its direction'. But this unfortunately assumed a sense of *pole* quite different from its use in astronomy, geography, and magnetism, with the consequence that *polarization* as applied to light and radiant heat has nothing in common with magnetic or electric polarization.

I. 1. *Optics.* (*trans.*) To cause the vibrations of light (radiant heat, etc.) to be modified in a particular way, so that the ray exhibits different properties on different sides, opposite sides being alike, and those at right angles to each other showing the maximum of difference.

A ray of polarized light is reflected in different degrees in different positions of the reflecting body, and transmitted by certain crystals in different degrees in different positions of the crystal, and (in each case) completely quenched in one particular position. This is accounted for by supposing the etherial vibrations to be restricted to one plane (*plane polarization*), instead of being, as in ordinary light, performed in all directions perpendicular to that of the ray. Light is also said to be *circularly* or *elliptically polarized*, or to undergo *circular* or *elliptic polarization*, when it exhibits (in a polariscope) certain colour-phenomena, or modifications of the phenomena of plane polarization, which are accounted for by supposing the etherial particles to move in circles or ellipses. Polarization is produced (variously in the case of different media) by reflection, or by ordinary or double refraction.

1811 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XXX. 192, tr. *Let. fr. Paris* 17 July, Mr. Malus is still pursuing with success his inquiries concerning *polarised light*. 1812 (Dec.) *Ibid.* XXXIII. 347 Transparent bodies totally transmit the light which they polarise in one direction or manner, and reflect that which is polarised in a contrary manner. 1813 (23 Dec.) BREWSTER in *Phil. Trans.* (1814) 192 That kind of crystallisation which polarises the incident light by separating it into two pencils. 1819 *Edin. Rev.* XXXII. 177 All diaphanous bodies polarise light at certain angles. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 104 Bérard and Professor Forbes .. succeeded in polarizing heat (non-luminous) by the agency of reflection. 1855 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 3) 114 A ray of light once polarized in a certain plane continues so affected throughout its whole subsequent course. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 7 *note*, A ray of light is said to be polarized when it has properties relating to its sides, which are identical on opposite sides of the ray.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To polarize the incident light; to exhibit the phenomena of polarization.

1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 82 The latter polarizes towards the left. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 113 The whole crystal passes into zeolitic matter which polarises in variegated colours.

II. 2. *Magn.* and *Electr.* To give polarity to; to give opposite magnetic properties to opposite ends of (a bar, coil, etc. of iron or other substance). Also *intr.* To acquire polarity.

1838 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* (1839) I. 542 It is not the particles of oxygen and lead which polarize separately under the act of induction, but the molecules of oxide of lead which exhibit this effect. *Ibid.*, The reproduction of compound particles, which can again polarize as wholes. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 5 It is this double manifestation of force which constitutes the *polarity* of the magnet, and a bar of iron which is made to assume these poles is said to be polarised. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 7 A conducting particle through which there is a current of electricity may be said to be polarized, because if it were turned round, and if the current continued to flow in the same direction as regards the particle, its direction in space would be reversed.

b. In voltaic electricity: see POLARIZATION 2 b.

1856 WALKER tr. *De la Rive's Treat. Electr.* II. 671 When the zinc *z* is plunged into water..its molecules polarize each of the molecules of water that touch it; these polarize the following; and so on. 1864-72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 429 Plates of platinum become polarised in a similar manner, when immersed in water either pure or acidulated, and connected with the poles of a battery, the effect, in this case, being due to the films of hydrogen and oxygen which collect on the negative and positive plates respectively.

c. In generalized sense: see quot. *rare.*

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 60 An elementary portion of a body may be said to be polarized when it acquires equal and opposite properties on two opposite sides. *Ibid.* II. 7.

III. 3. *fig.* To give an arbitrary direction, or a special meaning or application, to.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* i, The word, and consequently the idea it represents, is *polarized*. 1886 W. C. WILKINSON in *Homiletic Rev.* (U.S.) Mar. 252 That word [self-denial] also has been polarized somewhat — that is, twisted out of its right original meaning.

b. To give unity of direction to.

1868 BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* 171 It is not enough to rally their inventiveness, doing nothing to polarize their aim. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Mar. 2/2 A coherence of policy ..cannot be secured until the atoms of the Council, now facing every way, are polarised by party discipline.

Polarized (pō·ŭlărəizd), *ppl. a.* [f. POLARIZE *v.* + -ED 1.] Subjected to polarization.

1. Of light or radiant heat. (See prec. 1.)

1811 July [see POLARIZE *v.* 1]. 1813 (23 Dec.) BREWSTER in *Phil. Trans.* (1814) 199 The coloured image is..alike produced by polarised or depolarised light. 1831 — *Optics* xviii. 158 These two beams..are therefore said to be polarised, or to be beams of polarised light, because they have sides or poles of different properties. 1845 KELLAND *Young's Lect. Nat. Phil.* 371 Light which consists of vibrations in one direction only is termed polarized light. 1894 TURPIN *Org. Chem.* 103 Three isomeric forms of malic acid which differ chiefly in their action upon polarized light.

†**2.** *Path.* **a.** Having a particular centre or axis, or a definite direction. **b.** Of a convex body: Having a pole or centre of convexity. *Obs.*

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 36 In one or two examples..there was neither a polarized pain nor fluctuation. *Ibid.* 351 The centre [of the vaccine vesicle] dips, instead of being polarized, and is less elevated than the circumference. *Ibid.* III. 152 In the former [disease, i. e. presbyopia] the cornea is in all cases too much flattened, in the present it is too convex or polarized.

3. *Magn.* and *Electr.* (See prec. 2.)

1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 39 He considers the first effect of an excited body upon neighbouring matter, to be the production of a polarized state of their particles, which constitutes induction...If the particles can maintain this polarized state, then insulation is the consequence; and the higher the polarized condition, the better the insulation. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 251 Such a system of polarised molecules as we are supposing gives rise to localised distributions with solid and superficial densities of determinate values throughout given regions and having the same potential at every point of the field as would result from such localised distributions.

b. See quot. 1886.

1878 CULLEY *Handbk. Pract. Telegraphy* (ed. 7) 277 In the polarized relay the force of the spring is replaced by magnetic attraction. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* p. ii, In 1830 he set up an electro-magnetic telegraph in Albany, ..using a polarized relay. *Ibid.* 26 Polarized magnets.. so named on account of their armatures being permanent magnets. 1886 S. P. THOMPSON *Electromagnet* 291 It is usual to refer to those [electromagnetic] devices in which a permanent magnet comes into use as *polarized* mechanisms, while the ordinary electromagnets are *non-polarized*.

4. *fig.* Specialized in meaning or application.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* i, The religious currency of mankind,..consists entirely of polarized words.

Polarizer (pō·ŭlărəizəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] One who or that which polarizes; *spec.* That plate or prism in a polariscope which polarizes the incident ray of light (opp. to *analyser*).

1854 PEREIRA *Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 50 There is no essential difference between the two parts,..and either part ..may be used as polarizer or analyzer; but whichever we use as the polarizer, the other then becomes the analyser. *Ibid.* 132 On rotating the film (the analyzer and polarizer remaining still), a brilliant colour is perceived at every quadrant of a circle, but in intermediate positions it vanishes altogether..so that when the film alone is revolved one colour only is seen, but when the analyzer alone is revolved, two colours are seen. 1863 [see ANALYSER 3]. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* vii. 48 The polariser should revolve with perfect freedom.

Po·larizing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. POLARIZE, in various senses. Also *attrib.* as in *polarizing angle* (Optics), that angle of incidence (differing for different substances) at which the maximum polarization of the incident light takes place.

1812 (19 Dec.) BREWSTER in *Phil. Trans.* (1813) 105 The explanation which has now been given of the polarising power of the agate should be confirmed. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Polaris. Light* ii. 9 (U. K. S.) Placed at an angle of 52° 45', the polarising angle for water. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* 193 Mr. Barlow concludes that every place has its particular polarizing axis. *fig.* 1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 16 Jan. 4 The newspaper..renders possible the polarising of millions of men with one great idea.

Po·larizing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That polarizes or produces polarization.

1. *Optics.* (See POLARIZE 1.)

1813 (23 Dec.) BREWSTER in *Phil. Trans.* (1814) 207 When we examine the transmitted light, either with the naked eye or with polarising crystals, no coloured fringes are visible. 1816 — in *Edin. Phil. Trans.* VIII. 353 On the Laws which regulate the Distribution of the Polarising Force in Plates, Tubes, and Cylinders of Glass, that have received the Polarising Structure. 1869 PHIPSON tr. *Guillemin's Sun* (1870) 89 Polarising helioscopes have been manufactured.. and have realised the ideas of the illustrious English astronomer. 1890 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 407/3 The method of evaluating the absorption of different thicknesses by comparison with a polarizing photometer.

2. *Magn.* and *Electr.* (See POLARIZE 2.)

1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 131 Instead of one polarizing force there are several, all acting in the same direction. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 32 One of these —the polarizing helix—is somewhat longer than the other.

Polarly (pō·ŭlăli), *adv.* [f. POLAR *a.* + -LY 2.] In a polar direction, manner, or degree; after the manner of or with reference to poles.

1830 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 415 The miserable confusion of ideas polarly opposite. 1834 R. MUDIE *Feathered Tribes Brit. Isl.* (1841) I. 15 Birds which migrate polarly, or for the purpose of breeding. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 47 [The particles] being, as wholes, conductors, they can readily be charged either bodily or polarly. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 274 We have thus only one section polarly identified.

†**Pola·rtike,** *Obs.*, i. e. *pole arctic*, the north pole or pole-star: see POLE *sb.*2 1, ARCTIC.

c 1390, 1513 [see POLE *sb.*2 1]. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6321, I se Polartike in the North appeir. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 90 Was..seine, betueine Pol artik and the Pleiades..a maruellous gret Comet.

Po·larward, *adv.* (*a.*) [f. POLAR *a.* + -WARD.] Towards the polar regions.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 28 In the polarward parts of Thalabaw. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) x. § 488 The water..goes polar-ward, dispensing warmth and moisture as it goes. 1890 *Nature* 16 Oct. 603/1 Polarward winds blow across the 45th degree of north latitude.

†**Po·lary,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 -arie. [ad. med.L. *polāris*, f. L. *polus* POLE *sb.*2: see -ARY 2: cf. F. *polaire* (1556 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to a pole or the poles of the heaven or earth; = POLAR *a.* 1.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 64 Vnder the two polary circles in the Heauen. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* VII. viii. 243 The Polarie and Septentrionall Nations. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 181 The poor inhabitants of the Moone have but polary life.

2. Of magnetic polarity; = POLAR *a.* 2.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 60 All which acquire a magneticall and polary condition, and being suspended, convert their lower extremes unto the North. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 351 That the Polary Direction was altogether unknown unto the Ancients, is agreed by most.

‖ **Polatouche** (pɒlătu·tʃ). *Zool.* [F. *polatouche*, ad. Russ. полетучій *poletuchiĭ* flying; cf. летучая

бѣлка *letuchaya bélka* flying squirrel.] The small flying squirrel of Europe and N. Asia, *Sciuropterus volans*.

1827 Griffith *Cuvier's Anim. K.* III. 84 Their molars .. are the same as those of the squirrels and polatouches. 1861 Wood *Nat. Hist.* I. 594 The polatouche of Siberia. 1896 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 89.

Polax, pol-ax, obs. forms of Pole-ax.

Polayl, -aylle, var. of Pullaile *Obs.*, poultry.

† Polayn, poleyn. *Obs.* Forms: 4 poleyn, -e, 4–5 polayne, 5 polan, polayn, *Sc.* pu(l)lane. [ME. *poleyn, polayne*, a. OF. *po(u)lain*. Origin unknown.] A piece of defensive armour covering the knee.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10027 Doublet & quysseux, wiþ poleyns ful riche. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 576 His legez lapped in stel with luflych greuez, With polaynez piched þer-to. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 176 Hawberke, spere, ner poleyne, ner pole. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 1203 His leg harnes he clappyt on so clene: Pullane greis he braissit on full fast. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 468 His Pulanis full prest of that ilk peir.

Polayn(e, variant of Poulaine, Pullen *Obs.*

Pold, obs. spelling of Polled.

Poldavy (pǫldā·vi), **poldavis** (pǫldā·vis). Now *rare*. Forms: 5– **poldavy**; also 6–7 **pole-**, 7 **pool-**, **poole-**, **powle-**, 7–8 **poll-**, **poul-**; 6 **-dawy**, 7 **-daui**, **-davye**, **-davie**, 9 **-davey**; **poldway**. β. 5–8 **-davys**, 6–7 **-daves**, 6–8 **-davies**, 7 **-davyes**, **-dauice**, 6– **-davis**. [app. f. *Poldavide*, a place on the south side of Douarnenez Bay, on the coast of Brittany. About 1548 a warrant for £70 11*s.* was issued to pay for bringing over certain Bretons to teach men here the art of making poldavies (Oppenheim *Royal Navy* 98, 103). The forms *poldavies, -davys, -davis*, etc. appear to have been the collective plural (cf. *silks, sheetings*, etc.), but were very often used as singular.]

A coarse canvas or sacking, originally woven in Brittany, and formerly much used for sailcloth.

1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 37 Item, for trusing..a piece poldavy of xx. yerdes iij. quarters. 1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 225 He coft five ballis of poldavy and uther claith. 1613 Markham *Eng. Husbandman* I. II. xix. (1635) 225 A Canvasse of the best Poldavie. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gent.* vi. (1634) 54 If they have any wit at all, they set it like Velvet before, though the backe (like a bankerupts doublet) be but of poldavy or buckram. 1795 J. Aikin *Manchester* 302 The manufacture of sail-cloth or poldavy was introduced. 1860 Weale *Dict. Terms, Poldavy*, coarse sacking for coal-sacks, etc. 1882 Jago *Cornish Gloss., Poldavy*, a very coarsely woven linen cloth.

β. 1482 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamb. Cases* 9, x. boltes of canuas callid poldavys. 1515 in Oppenheim *Royal Navy* 98 Canvas: Olron..Vitery..Poldavys. 1552 T. Barnabe in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. II. App. E. 152 Whether yt were poldavis for saylis, or any other thing. 1604 *Act* 1 *Jas. I*, c. 24 (*heading*) An Acte againste the deceiptfull and false makinge of Mildernix, and Powle Davies, whereof Saile Clothes for the Navie .. are made. 1614 'Tobias Gentleman' *Eng. Way to Wealth* 22 Ipswich .. is a principall place .. for spinning of yarne, for the making of pouldauice. *a* 1642 Sir W. Monson *Naval Tracts* VI. (1704) 523/2 As also Pole-Davies for Sails. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 190 The Linens called Poliseaux, or Poldavies shall be made Half Ell one Twelfth..broad. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Poldavis* or *Poldavy*, a canvas from Dantzic, formerly much used in our navy.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1558 in *Verney Papers* (Camden) 91 Francis Owdrey, of Abendon, in the countie of Berk, poldavis weaver. *Ibid.* 92 Frauncis Owdreyne, of the towne of Ippiswitche, poldavyes maker. 1572 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 134 Fyve quarters poledawy canves. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* II. x, You must be content with homely Polldaui ware from me.

Polder [1] (pōu·ldəɹ). Also 7 **polther**. [a. Du. *polder*, MDu. *polre, polder*; so EFris. *polder, poller*.] A piece of low-lying land reclaimed from the sea, a lake, or a river, from which it is protected by dikes: so called in the Netherlands; rarely used of similar land in other countries.

1604 E. Grimstone *Hist. Siege Ostend* 3 The *Polder* (so they call a..field wonne from the sea or riuer). 1632 *Contn. Weekly Newes* 25 July 8 (Stanf.) They did cut the dikes and drowned the enemies polther..and put all vnder water. *a* 1669 Somner *Rom. Ports & Forts Kent* (1693) 65 The soil is moorish, boggy and fenny, such as our Ancestors have usually called *Polder*:..i. e. a marish fenn, a meadow by the shore side, a field drain'd or gain'd from a river or the sea, and inclosed with banks. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 484 Several of them [lakes] have been drained and dyked under the name of *Polders*. 1839 W. Chambers *Tour Holland* 39/1 When the superincumbent mass has been entirely removed, the cleared space becomes a fertile polder. 1861 Smiles *Engineers* I. I. iv. 66. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 8/1 Much of the asparagus eaten in London is grown in the polders reclaimed from the sea near Mont St. Michel.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *polder-land*; **polder-boy, polder-man,** a labourer employed in making polders. (All in reference to Holland.)

1873 W. K. Sullivan *O'Curry's Anc. Irish* I. Introd. 212 The privileges of the Abbey of St. Pierre of Ghent of about the year 830 mention the existence of a partnership..for the working of some polder-land. 1884 G. H. Boughton in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 338/1 Little scattered hamlets of the fisher people and the polder-men. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 6/1 This particular form of labour requires skilled navvies (polderboys we call them).

† Polder [2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [Corruption of *poller*, variant of Pollard.] A pollard tree.

1704 *Dict. Rust., Polders*, are old Trees usually lopped, of which see *Shrowding of Trees*. 1736 Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.* I, Polders (old trees lopped), *arbores cæduæ*. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Aug. 1/3 A canal fringed with polders.

Polder, -dyr, obs. ff. Powder. **Polderne, -drand, -dren, -dron(e,** var. Pouldron *Obs.*

Pold-gate. ? *Obs.* See quot.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 147 Pold Gates..are such as are set in Fences for to shut up the Passages into Fields, and..are of 2 sorts, either of sawed, or cleft Timber.

Pole (pōul), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1 **pál**, 4 **pool**, 4–**pole**; also 4–6 **poole**, 5 **poll** (**pulle**, *Sc.* **poille**), 6 **polle**, **poule**, **poale**, 6–7 **powle**, 9 (*dial.*) **powl**. [OE. *pál* = OLG. **pâl* (OFris. *pâl*, MDu. *pael*, Du. *paal*, MLG., LG. *pāl*), OHG. *phâl* (MHG. *phâl, pfâl*, Ger. *pfahl*), ON. *páll* (Norw. *paale*, Sw. *pāle*); ad. L. *pāl-us* stake, prop. OE. *pál* gave regularly ME. *pôl*, mod.Eng. *pole*; the phonology of 15th c. *pulle*, 16th c. *poule*, and mod. dial. *powl, pow*, is obscure.]

1. In early use, A stake, without reference to length or thickness; now, a long, slender, and more or less cylindrical and tapering piece of wood (*rarely* metal), as the straight stem of a slender tree stripped of its branches; used as a support for a tent, hops or other climbing plants, telegraph or telephone wires, etc., for scaffolding, and for other purposes. (See also 2.)

The modern sense becomes clear first *c* 1440.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 334/2 *Palus*, pal. 1340 *Ayenb.* 203 þe eddre of bres arered ine þe pole. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 52 Poysoun on a pole þei put vp to his lippes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 369 3if a pole [Higd. *palus ligneus*, *Harl. MS.* a staffe or a thynge of a tree] is i-pi3t þerynne, þat partie of þe pole [Caxton shaft or pool, *Harl. MS.* that tre] þat is in þe erthe schal turne in to iren. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Pole, longe rodde, *contus, pertica*. *c* 1445 Lydg. *Nightingale* 309 This was the poole and the hygh[e] tree, Whilom sette vp by Moyses of entent. 1457 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 365 For c. allor polls vs. viiijd. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* II. 33 He bar a sasteing in a boustous poille. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* V. xiii. 91 b, I shalle haue alle the rote the pulle [*radices cum tota columna*] or maste and alle the braunches. 1541 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 383 For iij. powlez to make reylez in Cow Lane. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 160 The Capitayne..caused his head to be cut of, and pitched it on a highe poole. *Ibid., Hen. VIII* 139 b, The kyng..lept ouer a diche beside Hychyn, with a polle and the polle brake. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 15 Some saie a long poule. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Jack Cade* XV, On a poale. 1568 Bible (Bishops') *Num.* xxi. 8 Make thee a fyerie serpent, and set it vppon a pole [*Vulg.* pro signo, 1382 Wycl. for a tokne; 1388 for a signe; 1535 Cov. for a token; 1539 (*Great*) for a sygne (so 1560 *Geneva*)]. 1607 in Stonehouse *Axholme* (1839) 404 [The boundary] towards the north, as the powles and stoupes were set [in the moors] by the said order, to Briscoe Dyke north east. 1616 Sir C. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 250 Lest a man be like a hop without a pole. 1717 Prior *Alma* II. 12 If, after some distinguish'd leap, He drops his pole, and seems to slip. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 323 A conical tent, with a single pole. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* (1905) 286 On the earliest telegraph lines square poles..were employed. *Ibid.* 295 In countries where wood is extremely perishable..iron poles are very extensively used.

2. In specific applications: **a.** A long tapering wooden shaft fitted to the fore-carriage of a vehicle and attached to the yokes or collars of the draught-animals, serving to guide and control the vehicle, and sometimes also bearing the whiffle-trees.

The application in quot. 1390 is uncertain.

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 7 Cum emptione poles, girthes, sursengles et aliis necessariis.] 1619 (implied in *pole-piece* in 5 c). 1647 (implied in Poleless). 1683 Wood *Life* 9 Nov. (O.H.S.) III. 79 The pole of a coach hit against his brest. 1699 S. Sewall *Diary* 27 Sept., Pole of the Calash broken by the Horses frighted with a Pistol. 1813 *Sk. Charac.* I. 114 The pole of our carriage ran against the splendid chariot of the Marchioness of Arrangford.

b. Used as a tradesman's sign. Cf. Ale-pole, *barber's pole* s. v. Barber 3.

1566 *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* (1890) 181 No Barber shall.. put out any bason or basons..upon his poule on Sundays or Holy days. 1641 Tatham *Distracted State* IV. i. (1651) 22/2 *Scotch Apothecary*..I ha not ben a Poles-Screamer this twenty yeers far naught. 1797 Ld. Thurlow in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1825) I. 1269 By a statute still in force, the barbers and surgeons were each to use a pole. 1887 T. Hardy *Woodlanders* i, A master-barber that's left off his pole because 'tis not genteel.

c. *Naut.* A ship's mast: in phr. *with* or *under (bare) poles*: with no sail set, with furled sails. Also, The upper end of a mast, rising above the rigging.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 17 We may have .. to spoon before the Sea with our Powles. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* (1699) 415 We scudded..before the Wind very swift, tho' only with our bare Poles. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 20 July 2/4 The brig is painted black, with..no pole to her fore top gallant-mast. 1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* II. 22 The vessel rolls, At ocean's mercy under poles.

d. The long handle of a scythe or the like. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pow*, a pole, a scythe pow, the long handle of a scythe. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, (*S. Lancs.*) Scythe pow, stang pow.

3. A pole (in sense 1) of definite length used as a measure; hence, name of a lineal measure, esp. for land: in Statutory Measure, equal to 5½ yards or 16½ feet, but varying locally; a Perch, a Rod.

1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 173 In dyuers odur placis.. they mete ground by pollis gaddis and roddis some be of xviij foote some of xx fote and som xvi fote in lengith. 1579 J. Stubbes *Gaping Gulf* F iij, Thold English liberall measure of syxtene foote and a halfe to the pole. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 133 In some place the pole is but ix foote, and in some place xij foote. 1706 Phillips, *Pole*, a long Stick: In measuring, it is the same with Pearch or Rod, or as some call it Lugg: By Stat. 35 Eliz. this Measure is a length of 16 Foot and a half, but in some Countries it consists of 18 Foot and is called Woodland-Measure; in some Places of 21 Foot termed Church-Measure; and in others of 24 Foot under the Name of Forest-Measure. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Mile*, Every Furlong forty Lugs or Poles .. every Pole sixteen Foot and a Half. 1813 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts* App. 268 A rod, pole, or perch .. is of three lengths in this county: 15, 18, and 16½ feet.

b. As a measure of area: A square rod or perch; 30¼ square yards.

1637 in *N. Riding Rec.* IV. 77 To be rated by acree and powle. 1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 19 A rod or pole of ground, which is the square of sixteen feet and a half. *Mod.* The land is let in ten-pole allotments at sixpence a pole.

4. In sporting phraseology: The tail of certain beasts and birds, as the otter, pheasant, etc.

1863 Atkinson *Stanton Grange* (1864) 202 His hand missed the otter's hind-quarters, but closed upon its pole (or tail). 1900 *Shooting Times* 15 Dec. 15/2 *Pole*, the tail of an otter. *Ibid., Pole*, the tail of a pheasant. 1904 *Westmld. Gaz.* 2 July 5/5 Captain T. presented the pole to Miss L., the pads to the Misses C., .. and the mask most deservedly to.. the huntsman.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Simple attrib.: Pertaining to, consisting or made of a pole or poles, as *pole-bridge, -end, -fence, -futchel, -head* (cf. *pole-mast* in c.), *-topmast, -wood*. **b.** Objective and obj. genitive, instrumental, etc., as *pole-balancing, -bearer, -jump, -jumper, -leaper, -leaping, -setter, -setting, -vault, -vaulter*; *pole-armed, -shaped* adjs.

1800 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 28 The *pole-bearers were followed by a large ship. 1900 G. C. Brodrick *Mem. & Impress.* ii. 38 In the early summer of 1844 I took part as a 'pole-bearer' in the last Montem. [See Poleman b, quots. 1844, 1898.] *a* 1817 T. Dwight *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 131 Mr. L's horse, crossing a *pole bridge, fell through, and threw his rider. 1835–40 Haliburton *Clockm.* (1862) 229 Who should I see but Bobbin in his waggon ag'in the *pole fence. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, **Pole-futchel*, the jaws between which the hinder end of a carriage-tongue is inserted. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 16 *Top-gallant-masts*..have commonly *pole-heads, either stump, common, or long. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 3/4 A party of his pupils are exercising at the *pole-jump, across a ditch. 1892 A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 363 After the *polesetters had done their work the wires were quickly strung. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Sept. 7/1 An elderly man .. fights with a *pole-shaped stick against a constable. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Maté en caravelle*, fitted with *pole topmasts. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 154/2 He has..held the world's record in the *pole vault for distance. *Ibid.*, Harding..began training as a *pole-vaulter in 1891. 1742 *MS. Agreement* (co. Derby), [Lessee] to fall or cut all the large or *pole wood grounds.

c. Special Combs: **pole-bean,** any climbing bean (Webster, 1890); **pole-bracket,** a bracket on a telegraph pole for supporting the wires; **pole-burn,** a disease affecting tobacco during the curing process, due to overheating when hung too closely on poles (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); so **pole-burn** *v. intr.*, (of tobacco) to be discoloured and lose flavour by overheating (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **pole-cap,** the insulating cap of a telegraph pole; **pole-carriage** (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875), **pole-cart,** a vehicle furnished with or drawn by means of a pole; **pole-chain,** (*a*) a measuring chain = Chain *sb.* 9; (*b*) the chain by which the end of a carriage-pole is connected with the collar; **† pole-clipt** *a.*, hedged in by poles; **pole-crab,** a double metal loop affixed to the end of a carriage-pole to receive the breast-straps of the harness (Knight); **pole-ground,** ground or river-bottom suitable for poling a barge, etc.; **† pole-hammer,** properly **poll-hammer,** the war-hammer or martel-de-fer; **† pole-hatchet,** ? = *pole-ax*; an opprobrious appellation (cf. Hatchet-face); **pole-hedge** = Espalier 1; **pole-hook,** (*a*) the hook on the end of a carriage-pole; (*b*) a boat-hook (Knight); **pole-horse,** a horse harnessed alongside of the pole, a wheeler as distinguished from a leader; **pole-lathe,** a lathe in which the work is turned by a cord passing round it, and fastened at one end to the end of an elastic pole, and at the other to a treadle; **pole-mast,** a mast formed of a single spar; so **pole-masted** *a.*; **pole-net,** a net for catching fish, etc., fastened on a pole or poles; **pole-pad,** a stuffed leather pad fastened on the point of the pole of a gun-carriage, to prevent injury to the horses; **pole-piece,** (*a*) a heavy strap which attaches the end of the pole to the horse's collar; (*b*) in roof-construction, a ridge-pole; **† pole-pike,** ? a pike fixed in the end of a pole, a pike-staff; **pole-plate** (see quots.); **pole-**

prop, a bar for supporting the end of the pole (esp. of an artillery carriage) when the horses are unhitched (Knight); **pole-puller**, one who is employed in drawing the poles in a hop-garden; so **pole-pulling**; **pole-rack**, a rack on which drying-poles are supported in dyeing, tanning, and other trades; **pole-railroad, -railway**, a temporary track constructed of two parallel lines of barked poles, serving as rails for the removal of the logs of a district to the sawmill; **pole-reed** (also *pool-reed*), *Phragmites communis*; **pole-road** = *pole-railroad*; **pole-rush** (also *pool-rush*), the Bulrush, *Scirpus lacustris*; **pole-screen**, a fire-screen mounted on an upright pole or rod, on which it may be fixed at any point; **pole-shank** = *pole-staff*; **pole-sling**, a kind of palanquin or travelling seat suspended from a pole or poles carried by bearers; †**pole-square**, a square pole; **pole-staff**, a net-pole (*Cent. Dict.*); **pole-strap** = *pole-piece* (*a*) (Knight); **pole-tip**, a metal cap covering the point of the pole of a carriage; **pole-tool**: see quot.; **pole-torpedo**, a torpedo carried on the end of a pole projecting from the bows of a vessel; a spar-torpedo; **pole-trap**, a circular steel trap set on the top of a post; **pole-trawl**, a trawl-net of which the mouth is kept open with a pole; so **pole-trawling**; **pole-wedge** (also poll-), in a plough: see quots.

1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 211 *Pole-brackets ..are of a tubular form..and made of malleable iron. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 78/1 Insulators. *Pole Cap. 1833 *Wauldby Farm Rep.* 102 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The wain or *pole-cart dragged by oxen is unknown here. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Surveying*, The surveyor .. furnish'd..with a well divided *pole chain or off set rod. 1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 102 The accidental breakings of reins, pole-chains, hame-straps. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 68 Thy *pole-clipt vineyard, And thy Sea-marge stirrile, and rockey-hard. 1773 in Crisp *Richmond* (1866) 316 From the depth of water, the want of *Pole ground would render it difficult..to work the Craft. 1873 SULLIVAN *O'Curry's Anc. Irish* I. Introd. 459 In the fourteenth century the war hammer was in general use...The foot soldiers had it fixed on a long pole, whence the name *Pole-hammer. [This is an error, founded on false etymology; the *poll-hammer* (M.Du. *pol-hamer*) had its name from *poll* head, like *poll-ax*, POLE-AX.] *a* 1529 SKELTON *My darlyng dere*, etc. 28, I wys, *powle hachet, she bleryd thyne I. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 98 You pennyless pole-hatchet. 1665 REA *Flora* (ed. 2) 6 Pallisados (or as we usually call them, *Pole-hedges) are much in fashion in France. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 91 The Cultivation of Vines in Vineyards, on Pole-Hedges. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 66 The *pole lathe..made of the cheapest materials, and in the simplest manner. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 539 The pole lathe and the 'dead-centre' lathe are..the most simple forms of this useful contrivance. 1730 in *Patents Specific., Masts*, &c. (1874) 1 A *pole mast vessell for the better .. catching .. of all sorts of fish. 1824 *Ibid.* 19 Double pole masts. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) B b ij b, A mast..is either formed of one single piece, which is called a *pole mast*, or composed of several pieces joined together. 1894 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 2/1 The Britannic is rigged as a *pole-masted schooner. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pole-net*, a net attached to a pole for illegal fishing in rivers. 1885 BOMPAS *Life F. Buckland* 163 Imagine an old fashioned, bag-shaped night-cap, with a stick fastened on each side of it, and you have a pole net. 1619 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 108 For a paer of duble cotch rains and 2 *poolpeseis. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 212 *Pole-pieces* are the straps which couple the horses to the pole, and are regulated by the size and weight of the carriage. 1901 *J. Black's Illustr. Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 22 Deal rafters .. the lower ends of which rest on the wall plates,..and the upper extremities ..abut on the 'ridge' or 'pole piece'. 1451-2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 147 Pro j *polepike et quinque Sholyrnez, ijs. ijd. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 128 A *pole-plate is a beam over each opposite wall, supported upon the ends of the tie-beam. 1889 *Cath. Household* 30 Nov. 4 Bold king-post principals and traceried windbraces to the purlins and pole plates. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 753 The *pole-puller and pickers..in the hop plantation. 1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 6 Apr., They use on these *pole railroads trucks with iron wheels. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. liv. 514 This plante is called in..English, Common *Pole Reede, Spier, or Cane Reede. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxiv. § 6. 34 *Arundo Cypria* .. in English, Pole reede, or Cane, or Canes. 1879 PRIOR *Names Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 187 *Pole-reed*,..in our western counties, Pool-reed. 1879 *Lumberman's Gaz.* 16 July 6 The *pole road, ordinarily, is constructed of poles 4 or 5 inches in diameter, of pine or hard wood. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 708/2 'Pole-roads' ..where cars with wheels with concave faces run on poles instead of rails. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lii. 511 The fourth [kind of Rush] is called .. in English, the *pole Rushe, or bull Rushe, or Mat Rushe. 1870 MRS. OLIPHANT *Autobiogr. & Lett.* (1899) 225, I have just finished the most enchanting *pole-screen. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 250 In this is inserted the end of the *pole-shank. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 86 Allowing a Bushel to a *Pole-square, or a hundred and sixty Bushels to an Acre. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Pole-tools*, the tools used in drilling with rods. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 386 The *pole-torpedo could not..avail. 1892 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 5/7 Most cruel of all the instruments of destruction used by gamekeepers ..is the '*pole trap'. 1836 *First Rep. Irish Fisheries* 166 The *pole-trawl, used in shoal water, is the only one known here. 1774 WALSH in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 471 Small vessels, with which they practise *pole-trawling. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxi. 308 The Coulter, which is wedged tight up to it [the Coulter-hole] by the *Poll-Wedge. *Ibid.* 309 Three Wedges at least will be necessary to hold the Coulter; the Pole-Wedge before it,..another Wedge on the left Side of it above, and a third on the right Side underneath.

Pole, *sb.*[2] Forms: 4- pole; also 4 pool, 4-6 pol, 5-6 poole, 6 powle, *Sc.* poill. [ad. L. *pol-us* the end of an axis, a pole ((Astron.) Plin.), the sky (Virg.), a. Gr. *πόλος* a pivot, axis, in Astron. the axis of the sphere (Plato), the sky (Æsch.). In OF. *pole* (1372 in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *pôle*; so It., Sp., Pg. *polo*, Ger. *pol*, Du. *pool*, all from L.]

1. Each of the two points in the celestial sphere (*north pole* and *south pole*) about which as fixed points the stars appear to revolve; being the points at which the earth's axis produced meets the celestial sphere. Sometimes also = POLE-STAR.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 22 The heyhte of owre pool Artik fro owre north Orisonte. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxii. (Bodl. MS.), Polus is a fulle litel sterre...And twei *Polus* [ed. 1495 Polis] there bene, þat one hatte Articus ..þe oþer pole hiȝt antarticus. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. iii. (1555), To enhaunce thyne honour to the heauen Aboue the poole and the sterres seuen. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 261 Alle the grownde that lyethe over the occean..vnder the northe pole. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. i. 34 Dedalus, the wrycht,..To aventur hym self heich in the sky,.. Towart the frosty poil artik he flaw. 1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 253 The altitude of the Poles, that is the North and South starres. 1602 H. BRIGGES (*title*) A Table to find the height of the Pole; the Magnetical Declination being given. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 15 To cast water on the burning Beare, And quench the Guards of th' euer-fixed Pole. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 741 All one cope Of starry glitter, glows from pole to pole. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* § 328. 145 The points where the terrestrial poles would pierce this sphere, if they were long enough, we shall call the celestial poles.

fig. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 65 The Souldiers pole is falne: young Boyes and Gyrles Are leuell now with men.

2. Each of the extremities (North and South) of the axis of the earth; also of any rotating spherical or spheroidal body (*pole of revolution*).

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., The two poyntes that suche a lyne maketh in the vtter bounde or platte of the globe, are named polis, wᶜʰ you may call aptly in englysh, tourne pointes. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 228 Those found neere the pooles are not perfect, but are of a thick colour; whereas such as are found neere the line, are most orient and transparent. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 19 They entertained a notion that I was going ..to search for the South pole. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. i, Oh sleep! it is a gentle thing, Beloved from pole to pole! 1820 W. SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 46 The opinion of an open sea round the Pole is altogether chimerical. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. I. 159 Resolved..that another Expedition to the North-Pole shall be undertaken. 1834 *Nat. Philos.* III. *Astron.* iii. 83/1 (U. K. Soc.), The points *M* and *m* are called..the poles of the moon. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 111 As for matters of the heart between us, we're as far apart as the Poles.

fig. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* v. (1555) D j, The lady Gramer .. To whose doctrine, I dyd me aduertise For to attayne, in her artyke poole, Her gylted dewe, for to oppresse my doole.

† **b.** Each extremity of the axis of a lens. *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pole of a Glass* (in Opticks) is the thickest part of a Convex, but the thinnest of a Concave Glass..sometimes called, The Vertex of the Glass.

† **c.** Each of the two ends of any axle; a peg on which anything turns. *Obs. rare.*

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 124 The Poles upon which the Wheel of Cardinalism ought to turn. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 303 These Doors have a round Hole in the Threshold, and another above, into which the Poles of the Impost entered.

3. *Geom. Pole of a circle of the sphere*: Each of the two points on the surface of the sphere, in which the axis of that circle cuts the surface; as the poles of the ecliptic on the celestial sphere. The poles of any great circle of a sphere are also the poles of every small circle parallel to it.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 18 This senyth is the verrey pool of the orisonte in euery regioun. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 33 If I make B. D. the poles of th' equinoctiall..then can thei not be the poles of the zodiack. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* III. I. xvi. (1636) 311 In this Colure there are set downe the two Poles of the Ecliptique line, being distant from the Poles of the world three and twenty degrees and 30'. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. ii. 3 Every Dial Plane hath his Axis, which is a straight Line passing through the Center of the Plane, and making Right Angles with it; and at the end of the Axis be the two Poles of the Plane, whereof that above our Horizon is called the Pole Zenith, and the other the Pole Nadir of the Dial. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* II. 255/1 The Pole of a great circle is a point upon the sphere equally distant from every part of the circumference of the great circle. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 2 They all describe circles having the same point for their Pole.

b. Hence in *Cryst.*, the point at which a straight line perpendicular to a face or plane of a crystal meets the (ideal) sphere of projection.

1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 31 The points in which the perpendiculars .. meet the surface of the sphere are called the poles of the respective faces. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 27 A pole may therefore also be defined as the point of contact of the sphere and a tangent-plane parallel to a plane of the system on the same side of the origin with the plane.

4. *poet.*, after ancient Greek and Latin usage; also *pl.* The sky, heavens. *arch. or Obs.*

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXX. 134 The storme approches quhen ye Poills are fairest. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cclxxiii, Hee,..Ambitious of the Pole, has got moe Eyes But wᵗʰ less ease. 1715-20 POPE *Iliad* VIII. 692 Stars unnumber'd gild the glowing pole. 1770 W. HODSON *Ded. Temple Sol.* 2 Mingled Thunders shake the lab'ring Pole. 1794 BLAKE *Songs Exper., Poison-Tree* 14 When the night had veil'd the pole.

5. *Magn.* Each of the two opposite points or regions on the surface of a magnet (when of elongated form, usually at its ends) at which the magnetic forces are manifested.

So called originally by analogy with the poles of the earth or the celestial sphere, when it was discovered that a lodestone tends to dispose itself with one extremity towards the north, and the other towards the south.

1574 EDEN *Prof. Bk. Navigation* (1579), For lyke as in heauen are two poynts immoueable ..vpon the which the whole frame of heauen is turned..euen so the stone Magnes reduced into a globous or rounde forme, laying thereon a needle turneth and resteth, thereby is shewed the place of the poles. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. iii. (1635) 57 Let the two poles both North and South bee marked out in the Loadstone. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 60 A Loadstone..wherein only inverting the extremes as it came out of the fire, wee altered the poles or faces thereof at pleasure. 1738 J. EAMES in *Phil. Trans.* Abridgm. VIII. 246 Concerning Magnets having more than two Poles. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* x. 93 A steel wire .. became magnetic by exposure to the white light of the sun; a north pole appearing at each polished part, and a south pole at each unpolished part. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 37 Gilbert considered the north pole of the magnet to be a south pole, as he took the north pole of the earth as his standard north pole. 1870 AIRY *Treat. Magnetism* 12 This suggests the idea that the whole of the magnetism peculiar to that end of the magnet is collected into that one point: and that point is called a 'pole'. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 3 The ends of a long thin magnet are commonly called its poles.

Comb. 1884 S. P. THOMPSON *Dynamo-electr. Mach.* 124 By substituting a four-pole field for the original two-pole field..they could get exactly double. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 748/2 There being two generating sets, with two-pole dynamos. *Ibid.* 754/2 A twelve-pole machine, the connections of whose winding can be altered so as to furnish pressures from 385 to 4,000 volts.

b. *Magnetic pole*: each of the two points in the polar regions of the earth where the dipping needle takes a vertical position.

1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* I. ii. 9 The Magnetick Poles are also a great Secret; especially now they are found to be distinct from the Poles of the Earth. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) X. 435/2 The magnetic poles of the earth may be considered as the centres of the polarities of all the particular aggregates of magnetic substances. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 178 It is found, that the magnetical poles of the earth change their situation, and this singular circumstance has opened a wide field for speculation.

6. *Electr.* Each of the two terminal points (positive and negative) of an electric cell, battery, or machine.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 319 It is particularly through the medium of the organs of sight and taste, that we find some difference in the respective action of the two poles. 1834 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* (1855) I. 196 The poles, as they are usually called, are only the doors or ways by which the electric current passes in or out. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 290 The termination of the conductors or wires, connected with the opposite ends of the voltaic battery, are commonly termed its positive and negative poles. 1881 S. P. THOMPSON *Elem. Less. Electr. & Magn.* 127 The copper strip, whence the current starts on its journey through the external circuit, is called the *positive pole*, and the zinc strip is called the *negative pole*. 1905 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 15 *note*, The connection at the negative plate is the positive pole and that at the positive plate the negative pole.

7. *Biol.* Each extremity of the main axis of any organ of more or less spherical or oval form.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 462 Their parts are arranged round an axis and on one or several radii, or on one or several lines extending from one pole to the other. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 22 It is rare for the chromatin to be grouped in two masses on the equator [of the spindle] and the split of the nucleus to take place through its poles. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatscheh's Amphioxus* 39 The upper pole of the egg. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 338 The upper pole of the right kidney is 5 cm. external to the tip of the eleventh thoracic spine.

8. *Geom.* **a.** A fixed point to which other points, lines, etc., are referred: as, the origin of polar co-ordinates; the point of which a curve is a polar.

b. The point from which a pencil of lines diverges.

1849 CAYLEY *Wks.* I. 425 A fixed point *Q* (which may be termed the harmonic pole of the point *P* with respect to the system of surfaces). 1863 R. TOWNSEND *Mod. Geom.* I. x. 216 The inverse of the foot of the perpendicular from the centre of a circle upon any line is termed the pole of the line with respect to the circle. 1873 WILLIAMSON *Diff. Calculus* (ed. 2) xii. § 175 The position of any point in a plane is determined when its distance from a fixed point called a pole, and the angle which that distance makes with a fixed line, are known; these are called the polar co-ordinates of the point. 1885 A. G. GREENHILL *Diff. Calculus* (1886) 241 The locus of *V*, the foot of the perpendicular on the tangent of a curve drawn from the origin *O*, is called the pedal of the curve with respect to *O*, and *O* is called the pole of the pedal.

9. *fig.* Each of two opposed or complementary principles to which the parts of a system or group of phenomena, ideas, etc., are referable.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* IV. xv. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 147 Losyng and knyttyng therefore be Principalls two Of thys hard Scyence, and Poles most pryncypall. 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 30 Apr., The .. Nominalists and Realists..*each maintained opposite poles of the same truth.*

1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 350 To develope itself [i. e. syphilitic poison] according to certain antitheses (poles or metastases). 1861 E. Garbett *Bible & Critics* 245 Reverting..to the very opposite pole of religious thought and practice.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **pole-cell** (sense 6); **pole-changer**, a switch or key for reversing the direction of an electric current; †**pole-dial** = Polar *dial*; **pole-piece**, a mass of iron forming the end of an electromagnet, through which the lines of magnetic force are concentrated and directed.

1893 Tuckey tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 173 The *pole-cell of the mesoblast still distinguishable. 1884 Knight *Mech. Dict.* Suppl., *Pole-changer. 1905 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 209 Introducing the pole-changer and compound relay. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* vii. A aaaij, A Globe with two *Pole-Dials, and one Shadow-Dial. 1883 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/1 The *pole-pieces of the field magnets. 1884 Higgs *Magn. & Dyn. Electr. Machines* 171 The distribution of the electromotive force in the various sections of the coils on the armature depends very greatly on the shape of the pole-pieces.

Pole (pōul), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [a. F. *pole* 'the Sole-fish called a Dogs-tongue' (Cotgr.).] A species of deep-water flounder, *Pleuronectes* (*Glyptocephalus*) *cynoglossus*. Also *pole-dab*, *-flounder*, *-fluke*.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 3. 141 Plain or flat fish .. having the mouth on the left side of the eyes, having bigger scales. Pole. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 260 In Greenland they are said to feed upon the pole-flounder. *Ibid.* 331. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pole-dab. 1890 Webster, *Pole-flounder* .. native of the northern coasts of Europe and America..called also *craig flounder*, and *pole-fluke*.

Pole, *sb.*[4] Also 6 Poyle, Poole. [a. Ger. *Pole*, sing. of *Polen*, in MHG. *Polân*, pl. *Polâne*, a. Polish *Poljane* lit. field-dwellers, f. *pole* field.]

†**1.** Poland. *Obs.*

1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 34 In any other countrey than England, Scotland, Ireland, & Poyle. 1565 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 368 Ireland, Poole, Denmarke, Sweden, and Hungarie. 1671 Fraser *Polichronicon* (S. H. S.) 491 After the peace he went up to Pole with other Scotsshmen.

2. A native of Poland.

Earlier names were (*pl.*) *Polones* [from L.] (1555 Eden *Decades* 278, 280), Polack, Polander.

1656 B. Harris *Parival's Iron Age* (1659) 308 After many hot charges, .. the Poles confusedly fled. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* vi. ann. 1697 (1734) II. 196 To distribute Eight Millions of Florins among the Poles. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 324/1 The emperor Nicholas..exercised the utmost severity against the Poles.

b. A Poland fowl.

1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1268/3 Polands. Golden spangled Poles, perfect birds.

Hence **Po·less**, a female Pole, Polish woman.

1828 Carlyle *Werner* Misc. Ess. 1872 I. 102 A young Poless of the highest personal attractions.

Pole, *v.* Also 7–9 poll (8 pool). [f. Pole *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* †**a.** To set on a pole. *Obs.*

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. xc. (1612) 365 From whom ..they hewd his better-worthie head, And pold it on their Citie walls.

b. To convey (hay, reeds, etc.) on poles. *local.*

1828 Webster, *Pole*..to bear or convey on poles; as, to pole hay into a barn. 1892 P. H. Emerson *Son of Fens* xvii. 173 We began to pole it inter the boat. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Pole*, to heap or move grass or reeds, etc., on long poles.

2. To furnish with poles. (Cf. *to stake*.)

1573 [see Poling *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1594 Plat *Jewell-h.* I. 48 *margin*, New manner of poling of hops. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* 135 Disperse your Poles between the Hills before you begin to pole, and begin not to pole till your Hops appear above the Ground. 1893 Kate Sanborn *Truthf. Wom. in S. California* 134 Beans do not need to be 'poled' here, but just lie lazily along the ground. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Aug. 5/2 The military telegraph wire is poled to this place.

3. To attach (a horse) to the carriage-pole.

1861 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xxi, Crasher..was.. revolving in his own mind..whether he wouldn't pole up Marathon a little shorter going home.

4. To push, poke, or strike with a pole; to stir *up*, push *off*, with a pole.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Polling*, in gardening, the operation of dispersing the worm-casts all over the walks, with long ash-poles. 1870 Keim *Sheridan's Troopers* 270 While one was poling up the unknown occupants within, the others stood around the entrance with pistols..ready to greet the first appearance of the denizens. 1897 M. Kingsley *W. Africa* 381 The only thing was to pole the logs off.

b. To strike or pierce with a carriage-pole.

1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* II. i, If we had a mind to stand in his way, he wou'd pool us over and over again. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XI. 450 Yon heedless hack Has poled a deaf old woman's back. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. ix, With a footman up behind, with a bar across, to keep his legs from being poled.

†**5.** *intr.* (?) To use a pole as a weapon; to fight or fence with a pole. *Obs.*

a 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 6, I am as perfect in my Pipe, as Officers in poling, Courtiers in flatterie, or Wenches in falling. *c* 1645 T. Tully *Siege Carlisle* (1840) 35 One Watson, poleing with a Skott, was shot by his Comraid. Scisson to revenge his death cut 2 of the Scotts.

6. *trans.* To propel (a boat or raft) with a pole.

1774 D. Jones *Jrnl.* (1865) 47 The canoe was poled up the stream. 1799 J. Smith *Acc. Remark. Occurr.* (1870) 43 Sometimes paddling and sometimes polling his canoe along. 1893 F. F. Moore *Gray Eye or so* II. 57 The boat..was being poled along in semi-darkness.

b. *intr.* or *absol.*

1831 R. Cox *Adv. Columbia River* II. 193 After pushing off we poled away with might and main. 1895 H. Norman *Peoples & Pol. of Far East* xxxii. 537 We poled and paddled up the river.

7. To stir (molten metal or glass) with a pole of green wood, with the object of reducing the proportion of oxygen in the mass.

1842 [see Poling *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1869 Roscoe *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 265 In order to get rid of the last traces of oxide, the molten copper is 'poled' or stirred up with a piece of green wood. 1884 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 1 Dec. 766/1 The tin is first melted and 'polled'—that is, stirred up with a stick of green wood.

Pole, obs. form of Paul, Poll, Pool, Pulley.

-pole, combining element from Gr. *-πώλης* a seller, dealer (as in *οἰνοπώλης* wine-seller), f. *πωλεῖν* to sell, used rarely to designate a merchant, as in Bibliopole, Pharmacopole.

Pole-ax, -axe, poleaxe (pōu·l,æks), *sb.* Forms: (4 **poleax**), 4–7 **pollax, polax,** 5 **polle axe, polex, pollex** (**pol hax**), 5–7 **pollaxe,** 6 **pol-axe, pol-ax** (**pulaxe**), 7 **poll-ax,** 7– **pole-ax,** (6) 7– **pole-axe,** 6– **poleaxe.** *β. Sc.* 6 **pow ax,** 7 **pow-aix.** [ME. *pollax*, *polax*, Sc. *powax* = MDu. *polaex*, *pollaex*, MLG. and LG. *polexe*, *pollexe* (whence MSw. 15th c. *polyxe*, *pulyxe*, MDa. *polöxe*), f. *pol*, Poll *sb.*[1], Sc. *pow*, MDu., MLG. *polle*, *pol* head + Ax: cf. MDu. *polhamer* = poll-hammer, also a weapon of war. It does not appear whether the combination denoted an ax with a special kind of head, or one for cutting off or splitting the head of an enemy. In the 16th c. the word began to be written by some *pole-ax* (which after 1625 became the usual spelling), as if an ax upon a *pole* or long handle. This may have been connected with the rise of sense 2. Similarly, mod.Sw. *pålyxa* and Westphalian dial. *pâl-exe* have their first element = pole. Sense 3 may be a substitute for the earlier *bole-ax*, which was applied to a butcher's ax.]

1. A kind of ax formerly used as a weapon of war, a battle-ax; also, a form of this retained till the end of the eighteenth century in naval warfare for boarding, resisting boarders, cutting ropes, etc.

It probably varied in form at different times, but originally (and in naval use to the end) it was a short-handled weapon, which could be hung at the saddle-bow or held under the shield, and used in close fighting: in the quot. from Chaucer it is one of the short weapons specially forbidden at the combat. Its use to render L. *bipennis* two-edged ax, in the Promptorium and Catholicon, and by Sandys, suggests that it had usually a cutting edge or point also on the side opposite the broad face.

13.. *Coer de L.* (W.) 6870 If the dogge wyl come to me, My pollax schal hys bane be. *Ibid.* 6972 [cf. 5053 Hys ax on his fore arsoun hyng]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1686 No man ther fore vp peyne of los of lyf No maner shot polax [*v.r.* pollax] ne shorte knyf In to the lystes sende ne thider brynge Ne short swerd for to stoke with poynt bityngе. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 328 They..pletid with pollaxis and poyntis of swerdis. 1422–61 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 20 [He] woulde haf slayne me with ane polle axe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Polax, *bipennis*. 1465 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 215 Sum of hem havyng rusty polexis and byllys. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/1 A Pollaxe, *bipennis*. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. xiii. 105 Hyr braid pollax, rasit sa on hie [*validam..securim, altior exsurgens*]. 1530 Palsgr. 179 *Bec de faulcon*, a poll-ax. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 14 b, Sir Piers..with a strooke of his Pollax felled hym to the ground. 1551 Robinson *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 262 At hande strokes they vse not swordes but pollaxes. 1561 *Burgh Rec. Prestwick* (Maitl. Cl.) 66 Ane slot staf, or ane pow ax. 1567 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 86 My pulaxe..ij bills or pulaxes. 1604 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* II. II. 432 With hagbuttis, pistolettis,..pow-aixes. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1626) 160 Behold, Ancæus with a polax [*bipennifer Arcas*]. *Ibid.*, In both his hands Aduanc't his polax [*Ancipitemque manu tollens utraque securim*]. 1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. xxii. 320 Snatching their Pole-axes which hung by their saddle-bowes, they fell afresh to the combat. 1644 Vicars *God in Mount* 164 They presently fell to it pell mell with their Swords and Pole-axes. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 291/2 Their Cutting Knife..many would rather take to be a Poll-ax. 1715–20 Pope *Iliad* XIII. 766 His right [arm], beneath, the cover'd pole-ax held. 1769–76 Falconer *Dict. Marine*, *Pole-axe*, a sort of hatchet .. having an handle about 15 inches in length, and being furnished with a sharp point, or claw, bending downwards from the back of it's head... It is principally employed to cut away .. the rigging of any adversary who endeavours to board. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 45 His henchman.. Wi' ane pow-axe intill his hand. 1850 Prescott *Peru* II. 211 To deal furious blows with their pole-axes and war-clubs.

†**b.** (?) Applied to an industrial implement. *Obs.*

Mentioned along with an iron hammer and 3 quarry wedges.

1356–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 557 *Marescalcia.* In uno malleo ferreo et 1 poleax, 3 Wharelwegges faciendis de proprio ferro.

2. A halbert or similar long-handled weapon carried by the body-guard of a king or great personage. (In quot. 1585 applied (as shown by the accompanying plate) to a small ax-blade on a long lance.)

The original *pollax* of the body-guard may have been the same weapon as in sense 1, mounted on a long staff or pole; but it became mainly an ornamental weapon, often gilt and of various fanciful shapes.

a 1562 G. Cavendish *Wolsey* (1893) 31, iiij footmen with gylt pollaxes in ther hands. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, His right hand bare a long launce, the poleaxe at the point being well steeled. 1598 Florio, *Mazziére*,..a halbardier or poleaxe man, such as the Queene of Englands gentlemen pencioners are. ? *a* 1600 *Bk. Precedence* in *Q. Eliz. Acad.*, etc. 22 (MS. 1604) Then the Pentioners with ther poleaxes on each side of her maiestie. [1611 Cotgr., *Bec de faulcon*, a fashion of Pollax borne by the Peeres of France, and by the French kings Pensioners.] 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 326 His [Wolsey's] palaces .. and body guards with gilded pole axes.

3. An ax with a hammer at the back, used to fell or stun animals; a butcher's **ax.**

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. iii. 53 An ox is felled with a pole-axe. 1837 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* II. 7 The ox is first stunned by a violent blow on the head with a pole-axe.

Hence **Po·leax** *v. trans.*, to fell with a pole-ax; also *fig.*; whence **Po·leaxed** *ppl. a.*; **Po·leaxer**, one who uses a pole-ax; **Po·leaxing** *vbl. sb.*

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Nov. 5/1 By the Christian mode of poleaxing, sensibility was almost instantaneously destroyed. 1898 *Daily News* 27 July 8/6 She ought to be poleaxed. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 3/3 Your valiant poleaxer has returned to the fray. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* May 701/1 The slaughterer pole-axes an ox.

Polecat, pole-cat (pōu·lkæt). Forms: *a.* 4–7 **polcat,** 5 **-kat,** 6 **-catte,** 6–7 **pol-cat,** 7 **pol-cate, -catt, poll-cat,** 8 **poll cat,** 9 **pole cat,** 6– **pole-cat,** 7– **polecat.** *β.* 5 **pulcatt, -kat**; 6 **poulcatte,** 6–8 **-cat, powl(-)cat, poul-cat,** 9 **poulecat**; dial. **pow-cat.** [ME. *polcat*, *pulcatt*, the second element being Cat *sb.*[1]

The element *pole*, *pol-* (as already pointed out by Prof. Skeat) may have been OF. *pole*, *poule*, chicken, fowl (cf. *sparrow-hawk*, *gos-hawk*, *honey-bear*); this is favoured by the forms in *pul-*, *poul-*, *powl-*; but *pow-cat* offers difficulty.]

1. A small dark-brown coloured carnivorous quadruped, *Putorius fœtidus*, of the *Mustelidæ* or Weasel family, a native of Europe; called also *fitchet*, *fitchew*, *foumart*.

1320 *Acc. Roll* No. 27205 *Westminster Deanery* 13–14th Edw. II (Surrey) Anceres..item in deuoracione per Polcat vj. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 527 And eek ther was a polcat in his hawe That as he seyde hise capons hadde yslawe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Pulkat, idem quod *fulmere*. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 52 Nyghtecrowes and poulcattes, foxes and foumerdes, with all other vermine. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. i. 29 Powlcats? There are fairer things then Powlcats, sure. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 218 Grayes, Polcats and Brocks. 1714 Gay *What d'ye call it* I. i, How should he then Who killed but Poulcats, learn to murder Men? 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 363 The Polecat is larger than the weasel, the ermine, or the ferret, being one foot five inches long. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pow-cat*, the pole cat. 1876 Smiles *Sc. Natur.* vii. 111 The bite..of a polecat..is anything but agreeable.

b. Applied to other species of the genus *Putorius*, e.g. *P. nigripes*, the American Polecat, *P. eversmanni*, the Siberian P., *P. sarmaticus*, the Mottled P., of Eastern Europe and Western Asia; also to other *Mustelidæ*, esp. in *U. S.* the skunks.

1688 J. Clayton in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 124 There are [in Virginia] several sorts of Wild Cats, and Poll-Cats. 1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connecticut* 252 The Skunk is..very different from the Pole-Cat, which he is sometimes called. 1860 Warter *Sea-board* II. 210 During the long winter, it [the *Mustela Vison* of N. America] leaves the frozen waters, and preys like other polecats on mice and land animals. 1864 Webster, *Zorilla*..called also *mariput*, *Cape polecat*, and *African polecat*.

2. *fig.* Applied contemptuously to a vile person; a courtesan, a prostitute.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 195 Out of my doore, you Witch, you Ragge, you Baggage, you Poulcat, you Runnion, out, out. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Northw. Hoe* I. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 4 To take their leaues of their London Polecats, (their wenches I meane Sir). *a* 1640 Day *Parl. Bees* x. (1641) G j b, Hee's a male powl-cat; a meere heart-bloud soaker. 1717 L'Estrange & Ozell tr. *Sovorcano* (*title*) The Spanish Pole-Cat, or the Adventures of Seniora Rufina. 1790 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Advice to Fut. Laureat* II. vi, Brudenell, thou stinkest; weazel, polecat, fly!

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *polecat head*, *perfume*, etc.; **polecat ferret,** a brown variety of the ferret; **polecat weed,** in *U.S.*, the skunk cabbage, *Symplocarpus fœtidus*; **wild polecat weed,** *Convolvulus panduratus* (Miller *Plant-n.*, 1884).

1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* 59 With one Pol-cat perfume or another hee will poyson thee. 1631 P. Fletcher *Sicelides* I ij, That same Foolishes had a pole-cat head. 1844 Dunglison *Med. Lex.*, Polecat weed, *Dracontium fœtidum*. 1869 G. Rooper *Flood, Field & Forest* (1874) 178 The young ferret came but once a year. I refer to the polecat ferret. 1893 J. Watson *Confess. Poacher* 123 In the north we have two varieties of ferret,—one a brown colour, the polecat-ferret; the other the common white.

Poledavy: see Poldavy. **Pole-evil,** obs. f. Poll-evil. **Pole-footed,** error for Polt-footed.

Po·lehead, powhead. Now only *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 3 **polheuede,** 6 **poled, polet,** 6–7 **pole-head**; *Sc.* 8– **pow-head** (9 **powet**). [ME. *polheuede*, the second element being *head*; the first is uncertain, though perh. the same as in *tadpole*; the Sc. form *pow-* suggests that it is Poll *sb.*[1], and that the etymological spelling would be *poll-head.*] A tadpole. Also *fig.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2977 Polheuedes, and froskes, and podes swile, Bond harde egipte folc in sile. 1530 Palsgr. 256/2 Poled a yonge tode. ..Polet the blacke thynge that a tode cometh of, *cauesot*. 1607 Marston *What you will* II. i.

Cj, Why thou Pole-head, thou Ianus, thou poultron,..thou Eare-wig that wrigglest into mens braines. 1611 COTGR., *Cavesot*, a Pole-head, or Bull-head; the little black vermine whereof toads, and frogs do come. 1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons* 12 Powheads spartle in the oosy slosh. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* xliii, I would as soon meet wi' a pow-head in my porridge. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* i. 8 No end of horse-leeches, powets .., frogs, and other creatures that abound in..muddy water.

Poleine, variant of POULAINE *Obs.*, a shoe.

Poleis, obs. Sc. form of POLISH *v.*

Poleless (pōu·l|lès), *a.* [f. POLE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Having no pole.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* x. 182 Horses that draw a pole-lesse chariot. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 141 A pal, or small poleless tent, such as is customary for the wives of travelling natives.

Polell, variant of PULLAILE, *Obs.*, poultry.

Poleman (pōu·lmăn). [f. POLE *sb.*[1] + MAN.] A man who uses, carries, or fights with a pole.

1838 W. HERBERT *Attila* 321 A good horseman, a good archer and poleman. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 35 The pole-men lower the pole [of a tent]. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Feb. 3/2 Others [blocks of ice] are detached with ice chisels, and guided by the polemen to the bank. 1904 *Daily News* 11 Aug. 9 A poleman in the employ of a tramway company.

b. At Eton: see quots.

1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* I. xi. (Montem at Eton), And all the Oppidans of the fifth form .. class as 'Corporals'; and are severally followed by one or more lower boys, who are denominated 'Polemen', but who appear in their ordinary dress. 1898 A. D. COLERIDGE *Eton. Forties* 332 The lower boys carried long white poles, from which they derived the name of polemen.

Polemarch (pŏ·lĭmāik). *Anc. Hist.* Also 7 -mark. [ad. Gr. *πολέμαρχ-os*, f. *πόλεμ-os* war + *-αρχος* ruling, ruler. So F. *polémarque.*] The title of an officer in ancient Greece, originally, as the name implies, a military commander-in-chief, but having also civil functions varying according to date and locality.

In Athens, the third archon, originally the titular military commander-in-chief; afterwards a civil magistrate having under his care the children of parents who had lost their lives in the service of their country, and the resident aliens.

[1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 747 Demetrius..made him [Pisis] Polemarchus (to wit, Camp-master).] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polemark*, a Lord Marshal of the field, a chief Officer of War. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* XII. 157 Polemarchs, that is, generals of the army and supreme magistrates of Thebes. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* II. vii. 155. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 274 The polemarch had more particularly the strangers and sojourners of Athens under his care. 1859 RAWLINSON tr. *Herodotus* VI. iii. III. 500 [At Marathon] Callimachus the polemarch led the right wing, for it was at that time a rule with the Athenians to give the right wing to the polemarch. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antig.* (ed. 7) 301/1 The polemarchs of Sparta appear to have ranked next to the king.

transf. 1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* 56 Troops and Companies that were held in perpetuall discipline under the Command of a Magistrate called the Polemarche.

Polemic (pole·mik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *πολεμικός*, f. *πόλεμος* war. So F. *polémique* (*a* 1630).]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to controversy; controversial, disputatious.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* I. iii. 10 All truthes, Polemicke, positive,.. are of neere consanguinity. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 86 Wee may bee alway sure in all Polemicke learning, to have some men of valour. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 182 The master peece of Polemique Divinity of all extant. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 129 On several such like Polemick occasions. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. II. vi. 373 To wrangle upon senseless questions of polemic theology. 1872 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 33 They displayed far less polemic bitterness.

B. *sb.*

1. A controversial argument or discussion; argumentation against some opinion, doctrine, etc.; aggressive controversy; in *pl.* the practice of this, esp. as a method of conducting theological controversy: opposed to *irenics.*

1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 172 Unhappy we, amidst our many and diverse contentions, furious polemicks, endless variances,..debates and quarrels! 1706 PHILLIPS, *Polemicks*, Disputations, Treatises, or Discourses about controversial Points. *c* 1800 H. K. WHITE *Lett.* (1837) 201 Religious polemics .. have seldom formed a part of my studies. 1847 HAMILTON *Let. to De Morgan* 40 My confessed dislike of the polemic. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 247 In his most impassioned polemic he always unites a perfect conciliatoriness of tone with an absolute rigidity of statement. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* iii. 128 A direct polemic against idols starts from the prophets of the eighth century, and more especially from Hosea.

†**b.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—°.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polemicks*, verses treating of war, or treatises of war, or strifes; disputations.

2. One who writes or argues in opposition to another; a controversialist; esp. in theology.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 217 They did..like Polemics of the Post pronounce The same thing to be true and false at once. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 22 He dy'd a real Polemick, if not a Martyr for the Church. 1825 THIRLWALL *Crit. Ess.* p. CXXXVII. *note*, An orthodox polemic in Tertullian's time. 1886 *Athenæum* 21 Aug. 239/1 The divines of James I.'s court were all casuists and polemics.

Pole·mical, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -AL.]

†**1.** Of or pertaining to war; warlike, military.

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 164 Davids Polemicall or warre-like Acts and Atchievements. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polemical*, pertaining to War, warlike, military. 1659 *Quæries Proposalls of Officers of Armie to Parlt.* 2 The third and fourth proposalls of these Polemicall gentlemen, (now plunged in politicks).

2. = POLEMIC *a.*

1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* II. i. 4 Those Polemicall discourses, which have beene so learnedly written of the severall points of difference. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Ep. Ded., Not .. to engage you to a Polemical Defence of it. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polemical*, is a Word used in Reference to that part of Theology which relates to Controversie; which..is called *Polemical Divinity.* 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 55 ¶ 1 It is usual with polemical writers to object ill designs to their adversaries. 1878 GLADSTONE *Glean.* V. i. 81 *note*, This paper may be termed polemical, but I republish it..because it is also and yet more properly historical.

B. as *sb.* A polemical discussion, a controversy: cf. prec. B. 1. *rare.*

1808 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 423 Few things could be more truly delightful, than to see fierce polemicals thus charmed away, by the bland and kindly influences of affection and good will. 1844 B. BARTON *Select.* (1849) 63, I am not over-fond of polemicals; they are almost as bad as galenicals.

Hence **Pole·mically** *adv.*, in the manner of a polemic; controversially, disputatively.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. I. i. (1852) 281 He was also sometimes put upon writing yet more polemically. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 3/2 A second article..which is able, sound, and polemically effective.

Pole·micist (-sist). [f. POLEMIC *sb.* + -IST.] A writer of polemics; = POLEMIST.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1884 A. M. FAIRBAIRN in *Brit. Q. Rev.* Apr. 384 The Church has had .. able ecclesiastics, effective polemicists and apologists.

Polemist (pŏ·lĭmist). [ad. Gr. *πολεμιστής* a warrior, f. *πολεμίζειν* to wage war; see POLEMIZE. So F. *polémiste.*] One versed in polemics; a controversialist; = POLEMIC *sb.* 2.

1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. II. 228 Cardinal of St. Sabin and polemist. 1888 J. KER *Lect. Hist. Preaching* IV. 62 He was a critic, a polemist, an apologist.

Polemize (pŏ·lĭməiz), *v.* [ad. Gr. *πολεμίζειν* to wage war, f. *πόλεμος* war.] *intr.* To argue or write polemically; to carry on a controversy.

1828 PUSEY *Hist. Enq.* I. 150 Substituting common-place moral notions for its energetic doctrines .. or polemizing against them under the title of the oriental idioms of the New Testament. 1898 DRIVER *Introd. Lit. O. T.* (ed. 7) 3 Prof. Sayce..polemizes much against the 'higher critics'.

Pole·momania. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πόλεμος* war + MANIA.] Rage for war.

1874 L. TOLLEMACHE in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 243 At the thought of the 'giant liar', the poet is seized with a sort of polemomania.

Polemoniaceous (pŏlĭmōuni|ē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod. Bot. L. *Polemōniāceæ* (f. *Polemōnium*, a. Gr. *πολεμώνιον* the Greek Valerian, f. proper name *Πολέμων*, or, according to Pliny, from *πόλεμος* war): see -ACEOUS.] Of or belonging to the *Polemoniaceæ*, a family of herbaceous plants, chiefly natives of temperate countries, the typical genus of which, *Polemonium*, contains the Jacob's ladder or Greek Valerian, *P. cæruleum.*

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polemoscope (pole·mŏskōup, pŏ·lĭmo-). [ad. mod.L. *polemoscopium* (Hevelius *a* 1668), f. Gr. *πόλεμο-s* war: see -SCOPE. So F. *polémoscope.*] A telescope or perspective glass fitted with a mirror set at an angle to the line of vision, for viewing objects not directly before the eye. (So called from its proposed use in war.)

1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 729 Some years ago I was framing one of Hevelius's Polemoscopes. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Any telescope will be a polemoscope, if the tube be but crooked, like a rectangular syphon .. and between the object glass .. and first eye-glass .. be placed a plain mirror. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., s.v., Hevelius chose the name of polemoscope, because he thought the instrument might be applied, in time of war, to discover what was going on in the camp of the enemy, while the spectator remained concealed behind a wall or other defence.

b. (See quot.)

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Polemoscope*, a reflecting apparatus consisting of two plane mirrors so inclined as to enable the spectator, by glancing into one of them, to see the images of objects separated from direct view by intervening obstacles.

†**Pole·my.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Gr. *πόλεμ-os* war + -Y: cf. Gr. (*τὰ*) *πολέμια* (Thuc.) matters of war, neut. pl. of *πολέμιος* adj.] Warfare, strife; controversial or polemical writing.

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 85 You will maintaine the Pen as well as the Pulpit, Polemie as well as persuasive learning. *Ibid.* 86 For perfect Polemy in letters, you may guesse what our Universities can yeeld.

†**Pole·nt.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. = next.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Josh.* v. 11 They did eate of the corne of the Land the next day, azyme loaves and polent of the same yeare [*Vulg.* azymos panes et polentam ejusdem anni].

‖ **Polenta** (pole·ntă). Also poll-. [L. *polenta* peeled or pearl barley; in later use, repr. It. *polenta* 'a meate vsed in Italie made of barlie or chesnut flowre soked in water, and then fride in oyle or butter' (Florio 1598); now made also of maize flour.]

†**a.** Pearl-barley. *Obs.* †**b.** A kind of barley meal. *Obs.* **c.** Porridge made from steeped and parched barley or, later, of meal of chestnuts, maize flour, or other substances: now largely used in Italy.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* v. 11 Hiz .. æton .. polentan. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. lxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Som men meneþ þat polenta is a manere potage made of moste pure & dere floure. *Ibid.*, Pollenta is corne isode ipeled & holed & ischeled with frotinge of handes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 16 b, Polenta..is made of fried or perched barley. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* III. viii. (1639) 111 Polenta is barly steeped in water one night, then fried, and then ground. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 561 The ordinarie drie grout or meale also Polenta, which the Greeks so highly commend, was made of nothing els but of barley. 1764 SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. xx. 319 The nourishment of these poor creatures consists of .. a kind of meal called polenta, made of Indian corn, which is very nourishing and agreeable. 1768 JOS. BARETTI *Mann. & Cust. Italy* II. 192 As to the generality of our peasants and lower sort of people, they breakfast on polenta. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* vi, Golden mountains of polenta (a thicker kind of mush or hasty-pudding made of Indian meal and universally eaten in Italy). *attrib.* 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 14/2 The shepherd youths..eat their polenta cakes. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 5/2 The polenta pot..simmering over the glowing logs.

†**Polen wax.** *Obs.* Also 5 pulleyn, poleyn. [Meaning and origin of *polen* uncertain; perh. a. OF. *poul(a)in* Polish.] A kind or quality of wax, used for wax candles before the Reformation.

[1450 cited in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* III. 299/4.] 1464 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* (Bundle 41, No. 8), C de pulleyn wax et quarter de lussheban wax. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCVII. v. Wynes swete, and mykell poleyn waxe. 1490-1 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 38, iiij pounde & di. of polen wex for makynge of the Pascall. [1898 *Athenæum* 27 Aug., 'Polen wex' is believed to have been a product of Livonia and other districts east of the Elbe.]

Pole-pad to **Pole-staff**: see POLE *sb.*[1], [2].

Poler (pōu·ləɹ). [f. POLE *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ER[1].]

†**1.** A stirring pole: see quot. 1688. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 350/2 A Tanners Pooler, or Poler .. is .. to stir up the Ouse, or Bark and Water. 1704 *Dict. Rust.*, *Pooler*, or *Poler*. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Pooler*, *Poler*. 1775 ASH, *Pooler*. So in mod. Dicts.

2. One who sets up or fixes hop-poles.

1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 552 That the polers may place the poles to suit the apparent wants of the hills. *Ibid.* 554 If new poles require to be carried .. the poler is paid extra.

3. The horse or other draught-beast harnessed alongside the pole; a wheeler.

1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensland* I. iv. 40 The intelligence displayed by the leaders and polers [bullocks] was very great. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* (1890) 45 To..work like an old nearside poler.

4. One who propels a barge, boat, or canoe by means of a pole.

1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 71/1 A pole is attached to the bow of the lighter; the other end is held by a bare-footed negro. .. There are generally two polers to each lighter. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 15 Aug. 9/3 The poler, standing in the stern, can always push the stern out and so bring the bow into the bank. *Ibid.*, It is possible with one poler to keep a perfectly straight course, but it is not easy.

Poler, var. POLLER. **Polerde, Polesh(e,** obs. ff. POLLARD *sb.*[2], POLISH *v.* **Poless:** see POLE *sb.*[4]

†**Pole-ri·vet.** *Obs.* [f. *pole* (?) + RIVET *sb.*[2], bearded wheat: the meaning of the first element is obscure.] Bearded wheat.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 98 'Tis much sown in Essex upon their Hazelly Brick-earths or Loams, as the Red-wheat and the Pole-rivet or Bearded-wheat is there.

Pole-star (pōu·l|stāɹ). [f. POLE *sb.*[2] + STAR *sb.*]

1. The star *α Ursæ Minoris*, at present about 1½° distant from the northern pole of the heavens; also called *Polar star*, and *Polaris.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 32 The starre which we caule the pole starre or northe starre .. is not the very poynte of the pole Artyke. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 94 The Pole-starre .. in the tip of the little Beares taile. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 515 We find, that the remarkable star called the pole-star is more or less elevated, according to the different parts of the earth from which we take our view.

2. *fig.* That which serves as a guide or director, a lodestar, a governing principle; a centre of attraction; a cynosure.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* IV. ii. § 3. 147 Pleasure is the pole-stare of all inordinat passions. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VI. § 19 Common-sense alone is the pole-star by which mankind ought to steer. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 387/2 His moral pole-star was duty. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. xiii, The pole-star of my life is gone out.

Polet, obs. f. POLE-HEAD. **Polete, -ette,** obs. ff. PULLET. **Poletyk,** obs. f. POLITIC.

Poleward (pōu·lwŭɹd), *adv.* and *a.* [f. POLE *sb.*[2] + -WARD.]

A. *adv.* Towards or in the direction of the (north or south) pole.

1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* viii. 139 To produce a general flow of the upper portion of the ocean poleward. 1895 J. W. POWELL *Physiogr. Proc.* 2 The air about the equator rises, and flows poleward in both directions.

B. *adj.* Directed or tending towards the pole.

1881 W. C. LEY in *Nature* XXIV. 8/2 The pole-ward, and .. eastward movements of the atmosphere. 1901 *Dundee Advert.* 14 Jan. 5 Plans for the Poleward journey in the *Fram.*

Polewards (pōu·lwŭɹdz), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -WARDS.] = prec. A.

[1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XX. § 1. 176 The ayre which

cometh from the polewardes, is heauyer then the ayre of the torride zone.] *a* 1866 WHEWELL (Ogilvie), The regions further polewards. 1896 J. C. IRONS *Autobiog. Sk. Y. Croft* 229 A general movement of the ocean polewards.

Polewig (pōu·lwig). *local.* [See POLLIWOG.]

1. A tadpole: see POLLIWOG. 1882 in OGILVIE.

2. The name given by the Thames fishermen to a small fish, the Spotted or Freckled Goby.

1880-4 F. DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 166 *Gobius minutus*... Freckled or spotted goby. Polewig or pollybait, Thames local name.

Polex, pol hax, obs. forms of POLE-AX.

Poley, polley (pōu·li), *a. Eng. dial.* and *Austral.* [f. POLL *sb.*[5] + -Y.] Hornless, polled.

1844 *Port Phillip Patriot* 4 July 1/5 Impounded..one mouse-coloured poley cow. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxix, If it had been any other beast which knocked me down but that poley heifer, I should have been hurt! 1872 C. H. EDEN *My Wife & I in Queensland* 83 A polley cow. Hornless cattle are so called. 1876 *Surrey Gloss., Poly-cow*, a cow without horns.

Poley, obs. form of PULLEY.

Poley, poley-mountain: see POLY.

† Poleyn. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *po(u)lain* a colt, young animal: see PULLEN.] *attrib.* or as *adj.* Young male (horse).

[1314-15 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 302/2 Mesmes celes aveynes pristent pur los Poleyns. 1347 *Ibid.* II. 169/1 Les Chivalx le Roi, la Roigne, & le Prince pullains & autres.] *c* 1443 LYDG. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 213 With a sharp swerd he sauh ridyng oon, Ffers and proudly, upon a poleyn steede.

Poleyn, variant of POLAYN, POLEN (see POLEN WAX), POULAINE, PULEYNE, PULLEN.

Polhode (pǫ·lhoud). *Geom.* [mod.f. Gr. πόλος *pole* + ὁδός way, path (Poinsot 1852).] The non-plane curve traced on the surface of an ellipsoid with fixed centre by its point of contact with a fixed plane on which it rolls, as in the revolution of a top. Cf. HERPOLHODE.

1868 E. J. ROUTH *Rigid Dynamics* 329 The point of contact of the ellipsoid with the plane on which it rolls traces out two curves, one on the surface of the ellipsoid, and one on the plane. The first of these..is called the polhode. 1882 CAMPBELL & GARNETT *Life J. C. Maxwell* 500 The curve which the extremity of the axis of rotation describes on the invariable plane is called a herpolhode, while that which it describes on the surface of the ellipsoid is called a polhode.

Poliad (pǫ·liăd). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. πόλις city + -AD 1 b, after OREAD, etc.] A city nymph.

1818 SHELLEY *Let. to Peacock* 16 Aug., Pray, are you yet cured of your Nympholepsy? 'Tis a sweet disease: but one as obstinate and dangerous as any—even when the Nymph is a Poliad. 1887 DOWDEN *Life Shelley* II. v. 188 *note*, This poem [in Leigh Hunt's 'Foliage'], with its Oreads, Napeads, Limniads, Nepheliads, probably suggested to Shelley the word 'Poliad', a city nymph.

Poliadic (pǫliæ·dik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. Πολιάς, -αδ- (female) guardian of the city, epithet of Athene as tutelary goddess of Athens (f. πόλις city) + -IC.] Of the nature of a tutelary deity of a city or state.

1886 E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* App. vii. 174 The poliadic or state divinity Yahveh being erected into the supernatural god of the universe.

Polian (pōu·liăn), *a. Zool.* [f. proper name *Poli*: see below + -AN.] Of, pertaining to, or named after J. X. Poli, a Neapolitan naturalist (1746-1825), as in *Polian vesicle*, one of the cæcal canals or sacs, generally five, connected with the circular vessel of an Echinoid or Holothurioid.

1841-71 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 229 The Polian vesicle (*b*) is largely increased in size. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ix. 547 The circular vessel of the ambulacral system not only gives origin to polian vesicles, madreporic canals and tentacular vessels, but five canals proceed from it.

† Po·lible, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *polī-re* to polish: see -IBLE.] Capable of being polished.

1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 66 Soe that it be polible withall.

Police (pǫlī·s), *sb.* Also 6 polyce, -yse, pollice. [a. F. *police* (1477 in Godef.), organized government, civil administration, police, ad. med.L. *politia* for earlier *politīa*: see POLITY, POLICY, and -ICE. In early use commonly pronounced (pǫ·lis), as still often in Scotland and Ireland.]

I. † 1. = POLICY *sb.*[1] 3, 4, 4 b. *Public police* = public policy. *Obs.*

c 1540 *Surr. Northampton Priory* in Prance *Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* 36 Steryng them with all perswasions, ingynes, and Polyce to dedd Images and Counterfeit Relicts. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* iv. (1870) 137 My scyences and other polyces dyd kepe me in fauour. *Ibid.* xxv. 186, I werke by polyse, subtylyte, and craught. 1632 BROME *North. Lasse* v. v, The plot smells of your Ladiships police. 1640 NABBES *Bride* I. iii, What more police Could I be guilty of? 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 208 Assisted by the police and interests of the Roman see. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws of Scotl.* (1773) I. 152 If..the public police shall require that a highway be carried through the property of a private person.

II. † 2. Civil organization; civilization. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 167 *Police*, polyce. 1536 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII* c. 42 § 1 The knowlege of suche other good letters as in christoned Realmes be expedyent to be lerned for the conservacion of their good pollices. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 145 Nature prouokit them to begyn sum litil police, for sum of them began to plant treis, sum to dant beystis, sum gadthrid the frutis. 1791 BURKE *Let. Memb. Nat. Ass.* Wks. VI. 22 A barbarous nation [the Turks], with a barbarous neglect of police, fatal to the human race. 1820 J. R. JOHNSON tr. *Huber on Ants* 2 These insects, whose faculties, police, and sagacity have been, by some authors, as much overrated, as by others not duly appreciated. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. iii, These hovels were in many instances not provided with the commonest conveniences of the rudest police; contiguous to every door might be observed the dung-heap.

3. The regulation, discipline, and control of a community; civil administration; enforcement of law; public order.

The early quotations refer to France, and other foreign countries, and to Scotland, where *Commissioners of Police*, for the general internal administration of the country, consisting of six noblemen and four gentlemen, were appointed by Queen Anne, 13 Dec. 1714. This was app. the first official use of the word in Great Britain. In England, it was still viewed with disfavour after 1760. A writer in the *British Magazine*, April 1763, p. 542, opines that 'from an aversion to the French..and something under the name of *police* being already established in Scotland, English prejudice will not soon be reconciled to it'. (The name *Commissioners of Police*, or *Police Commission*, was in the 19th c. given to the local bodies having control of the Police force in Burghs and Police Burghs in Scotland.)

1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5449/3 Charles Cockburn, Esq. to be one of the Commissioners of Police in North Britain. 1732 SWIFT *Exam. Abuses Dublin* Wks. 1761 III. 219 Nothing is held more commendable in all great cities..than what the French call the *police*; by which word is meant the government thereof. 1733 P. LINDESAY (*title*) The interest of Scotland considered, with regard to its Police, in imploying of the Poor, its Agriculture, its Trade [etc.]. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* III. 60 [Scotland] A List of the Lords and Others, Commissioners of Police. 1751 CORBYN MORRIS *Pres. State of London* (title-p.), Observations [etc.]..to which are added, some Proposals for the better Regulation of the Police of this Metropolis. 1756 CHESTERF. in *World* No. 189 P 1 We are accused by the French .. of having no word in our language, which answers to their word *police*, which therefore we have been obliged to adopt, not having, as they say, the thing. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 502 (*Lucca*) Their police is very commendable, and great attention is shewn in suppressing luxury, superfluous magnificence, and .. dissipations. 1757 LD. KAMES *Statute Law Scotl.* 269 Police [Heading of a section of regulations as to prevention of fires, closing of taverns, etc.]. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 556 The right hon. lord Napier is appointed one of the lords of police in Scotland, in the room of the earl of Hopetoun. *a* 1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws of Scotl.* (1773) II. 714 Offences against the laws enacted for the police or good government of a country, are truly crimes against the state. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xiii. 162 By the public police and economy, I mean the due regulation and domestic order of the Kingdom. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 263 The police of the town is managed by two constables. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* iii. 156 Preventive Police may be considered as a New Science, yet in its infancy, and only beginning to be understood. 1817 H. A. MEREWETHER (*title*) A New system of Police; with Reference to the Evidences given before the Police Committee of the House of Commons. 1826 KENT *Comm.* 43 The consular convention between France and this country in 1778 allowed consuls to exercise police over all vessels of their respective nation. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xix. § 3 (1862) 324 By police is properly meant the care of preventing infractions of the law, detecting offenders, bringing them to justice. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) II. xvii. 249 The police of the seas was imperfectly kept. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xvii. § 2. 30 The strict police of his [William I's] reign began already; robbers, murderers, .. were kept in check. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 39 Such legislation was part of the general police of the realm.

† b. In commercial legislation, Public regulation or control of a trade; an economic policy. *Obs.*

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. III. (1869) I. 191 The elegant author of the essay on the Police of Grain. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 141 Of such consequence it is to a country, and indeed to every country, to have a good police of corn; a police that shall, by securing a high price to the farmer, encourage his culture enough to secure the people at the same time from famine. [1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. viii. 146 The importance of the trade is proved by the strict police exercised upon the importation.]

c. The cleansing or keeping clean of a camp or garrison; the condition of a camp or garrison in respect of cleanliness. *U. S.*

1893 *Outing* (U. S.) May 158/1 The police of the camp was found to be excellent. 1894 *Ibid.* July 312/2 The camp was at all times in good police.

4. The department of government which is concerned with the maintenance of public order and safety, and the enforcement of the law: the extent of its functions varying greatly in different countries and at different periods.

c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 140 By the way, this police is still a great office in Scotland,..it is grown into disuetude, though the salaries remain. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 232 Since we are so happy as not to have a certain power among us which in another country is call'd the Police, let us rather bear this insult than buy its remedy at too dear a rate. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 128 The police of Glasgow consists of three bodies; the magistrates with the town council, the merchants house, and the trades house. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 110 An insinuation so injurious to the honour of my country; which is governed by so supremely vigilant and wise a police. 1825 in HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 441 Stepney, Hampstead, Westend, and Peckham fairs have been crushed by the police, that 'stern, rugged nurse' of national morality. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. vi. 667 The police of the country, by which is meant that department of government which has for its object the maintenance of the internal peace and prevention of crimes, the protection of public order and public health.

5. The civil force to which is entrusted the duty of maintaining public order, enforcing regulations for the prevention and punishment of breaches of the law, and detecting crime; construed as *pl.*, the members of a police force; the constabulary of a locality.

Marine Police, the name given to the force instituted *c* 1798 (orig. by private enterprise) to protect the merchant shipping on the Thames in the Port of London. (The earliest use in this sense.)

New Police (quots. 1830, 1831, 1884): the name by which the police force established for London in 1829 (Act 10 Geo. IV, c. 44) was for some time known.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* 165 The vigilance of the Marine Police detected one of the Boats conveying it on shore. *Ibid.* 219 To place their Vessels..under the protection of the Police. 1826 SCOTT *Mal. Malagr.* ii. 41 A strong and well-ordered police would prevent the fatal agitations of a mob. 1830 WELLINGTON *Let. to Peel* 3 Nov., I congratulate you on the entire success of the Police in London. It is impossible to see anything more respectable than they are. 1830 JEKYLL *Corr.* 13 Nov., It is incredible with what spirit and firmness the new police has defeated the canaille. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 87/1 The alleged incompetency and misconduct of watchmen formed the great pretext for establishing the Police. *Ibid.* 104/1 The establishment of the New Police will .. be pronounced a sufficient reason for retaining it. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. viii. 60 Later in the day, he declared that the police should fetch him. 1884 E. YATES *Recollect. & Exper.* I. 45 In those days [1836-47] the 'new Police', as they were still called .. were very different in appearance from our present guardians. *Mod.* The police are on his track.

b. *transf.* Any body of men, officially instituted or employed to keep order, enforce regulations, or maintain a political or ecclesiastical system.

1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 13/2 Flags of different colours hoisted to various heights, and worked by the railway police, to notify any..stoppages or accidents. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke* (1851) II. 132 The new spiritual police was every where. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, II. vi. (1857) 259 To maintain the troops in the Netherlands, as an armed police on which he could rely to enforce the execution of his orders. 1859 MILL *Liberty* 52/1 They employ a moral police, which occasionally becomes a physical one, to deter skilful workmen from receiving, and employers from giving, a larger remuneration for a more useful service. 1880 *Contemp. Rev.* XXXVII. 477 He believed in a..kind of watchful police of spirits and local heroes dead and gone before. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 5/1 The vexed question whether the police of the seas should be armoured or unarmoured.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly in senses 4 and 5), as *police act, barge, camp, colonel, constable, control, district, duty, establishment, force, gazette, house, inspector, lieutenant, post, protection, rate, sergeant, -ship, spy, -tax, -woman*; also *police-guarded, -harassed, -ridden* adjs.; **police board,** 'in several of the United States, a board constituted by the justices of the county for the control of county police, public buildings, roads, bridges..etc.' (Murfree, *Justices' Practice*); **police burgh:** see quot.; **police captain,** a subordinate officer in the police force in New York and other large cities of U. S.; **police judge** (*Sc.*), a stipendiary police magistrate; **police jury,** the name in Louisiana of the local authority in each parish invested with the exercise of police powers; **police magistrate,** a stipendiary magistrate who presides in a police court; **police-manure,** (*Scotl.*) manure collected in the streets, street-sweepings; **police-master,** a superintendent or chief of police in Russia; hence **police-mastership; police-monger,** *nonce-wd.*, one who busies himself about a police system; **police officer,** † an official charged with the maintenance of public order (*obs.*); a member of a police force, a constable; † **police-runner,** a police officer of the lowest rank: cf. RUNNER. See also POLICE COURT, etc.

1758 SIR J. FIELDING (*title*) An Account of the Origin and Effects of a *Police Act, set on foot by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in the year 1753. 1838 MISS PARDOE *River & Desert* II. 111 The gaily-painted and clean-looking *police-barge. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* 207 The constant perambulation of the *Police Boats, both by night and by day. 1889 *Act* 52 & 53 *Vict.* c. 50 § 105 The expression '*police burgh' means a populous place, the boundaries whereof have been fixed and ascertained under the provisions of the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862, or of the Act first therein recited, or under the provisions of any local Act. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlix, All accounts..may be sent to the *Police Camp. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* 206 A 'Caution against Pillage and Plunder' which the *Police Constables were instructed to read aloud as soon as the Lumpers and Coopers were assembled. 1855 *London as it is* 366 During two months out of every three, each police constable is on night duty. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 252/1 Expediency of placing discharged criminals under *police control. *Ibid.* 249/2 The metropolitan *police district, according to that act [of 1829], consists of about ninety parishes, and ultra-parochial places, in and surrounding the metropolis. 1906 *Harmsworth Encycl.* 4814/3 At the present time the Metropolitan Police district is nearly 700 square miles in extent. 1798 DK. PORTLAND *Let.* 16 May in COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* (1800) 160 *note*, The expence of the Marine *Police Establishment, which appeared to me ought to be borne by Government. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 334 The establishment of a new *police force for the metropolis, in 1829, has done more towards exhibiting the advantages of em-

ploying a trained body of men for all the purposes for which the old constabulary was appointed, than any other circumstance. 1883 Anna K. Green *Hand & Ring* iii, He is a member of the police force. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 251/1 An official newspaper, called the *Hue and Cry* or **Police Gazette*, is also circulated amongst the authorities, throughout the kingdom. 1855 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xxxiv, 'It's nothing, miss', said Dixon..'Only a *police-inspector. He wants to see you, miss.' 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 289 If the police inspector pooh-poohed his appeal and turned him out of the police station. [1823: cf. *Judge of Police* in Police Court.] 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 35 § 25 If adjudged by any magistrate or *police judge of any royal or parliamentary burgh. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* 199 Any *Police Magistrate .. may assist the Magistrates in their judicial Functions. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 250/1 When a complaint is made to a police magistrate he issues his warrant as he sees occasion, to a constable..or to one of the metropolitan force. 1883 J. Shields in *Trans. Highl. Soc. Agric.* XV. 38 The whole was manured with *police manure—about 30 tons per acre. 1863 Mrs. Atkinson *Tartar Steppes* 224 We drove to the house of the *police-master, who courteously invited us to be his guests. 1883 Reade in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 258/1 Vladimir got the promise of a *police mastership. 1808 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXVI. 111 For the sake of pretending to be useful, these new *police-mongers will pry into every peculiarity, and meddle with every amusement of the people. 1800 Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* 206 A gang of Lumpers .. quitted their employment instantly on the appearance of the *Police Officers. 1806 A. Duncan *Nelson's Fun.* 26 Special, petty, and other constables, and all the police officers of every description .. were on duty. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* vi, He returned with a police-officer. 1863 Alcock *Capit. Tycoon* I. 28 They pay road and *police-rates. 1885 *Globe* 20 Apr. 1/4 The comparatively rare complaint of being too much *police-ridden. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 23 Sept. 3/4 The patience of this police-ridden nation. 1818 Cobbett *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 520 *Police-runners had never been thought of as protectors of the lives of the Members of the two Houses. 1852 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 204 In the kitchen stood two *police-sergeants. 1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 329 He went on board the *police-ship stationed on the Thames. 1897 Mrs. E. L. Voynich *Gadfly* (1904) 114/1 'I am a minister of religion', he said, 'not a *police-spy.' 1884 *Chr. World* 20 Mar. 206/1 He has advised the farmers ..to refuse to pay the *police-tax. 1853 Hickie tr. *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 398 You say well. Where is the *policewoman? 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 June 3/3 A plea for policewomen.

Hence (*nonce-words*) **Poli·ceful** *a.*, full of policemen; **Poli·celess** *a.*, without police; **Policeocracy** (pəlīsɒ·krăsi), the rule of the police.

1903 *Speaker* 9 May 133/1 To substitute a peaceful for a *policeful Ireland. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 June 1/3 Chevaliers of industry migrating to a *policeless Alsatia. 1900 H. G. Graham *Soc. Life Scot. in 18th C.* VII. i. (1901) 230 When a rare opportunity happened in policeless, jailless districts they [statutes] were carried out with rigour. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 1 A Protest against *Policeocracy.

Police (pəlī·s), *v.* Also 7 **pollice.** [In senses 1, 2, a. F. *policer* (formerly *politier*, *policier*) (1461 in Godef.), f. *police*, *police*; in senses 3, 4, f. Police *sb.*]

†**1.** *intr.* or *absol.* ? To enclose and improve land; to make policies. *Sc. Obs.* (Cf. Policy *sb.*[1] II.)

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* II. 106 The nobillis als of thame tha had sic want, But thame micht nother police nor 3it plant. *Ibid.* 144 And gaif thame landis as tha lest, To plant and police quhair thame lykit best.

†**2.** *trans.* To keep in (civil) order, organize, regulate (a state or country). Chiefly in *passive. Obs.*

1589, 1605 [see Policing *vbl. sb.* a]. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* (1644) 78 Humane lawes, by which Kingdomes are policed. 1670 *Tryal R. Moor*, etc. in *Phenix* (1721) I. 406 Complaining of Julius Cæsar's Violation of that course of Law whereby the State was polliced. 1689–90 Temple *Ess. Heroic Virt.* Wks. 1731 I. 205 By such Methods and Orders, the Kingdom of China seems to be framed and policed with the utmost Force and Reach of Human Wisdom, Reason and Contrivance. 1791 W. Maxwell in Boswell *Johnson* an. 1770 (1831) I. 389 That country must be ill policed, and wretchedly governed.

b. To make or keep clean or orderly; to clean up (a camp): cf. Police *sb.* 3 c. *U. S.*

1862 Trollope *N. Amer.* II. vii. 192 Of the camps.. 44 per cent. [were] fairly clean and well policed.

3. To control, regulate, or keep in order by means of the police, or some similar force.

1841 R. Oastler *Fleet Papers* I. No. 22. 176 Englishmen are too fond of Royalty to submit to be commissioned, and centralized, and policed, and bastiled. 1855 Browning *Bp. Blougram* 469 A vague idea of setting things to rights, Policing people efficaciously. 1891 *Review of Rev.* 14 Mar. 214/2 The maintenance of the navy which polices the seas. 1899 S. R. Gardiner *Cromwell* 183 The plan of policing the country by a militia of Major-Generals had broken down financially.

b. To furnish, provide, or guard with a police force, or some force having similar functions.

1858 *Times* 4 Nov. 6/5 Even the mouth of the Canton River may perhaps be well policed. 1868 M. E. G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 84 They are building gunboats to police their coasts. 1882 *Spectator* 11 Mar. 315/1 Why should not dangerous districts be decently policed?

c. *fig.* To keep in order, administer, control.

1886 Symonds *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) I. ii. 89 He .. left that institution [the Inquisition] .. to pursue its function of policing the ecclesiastical realm. 1893 K. Grahame *Pagan Papers* (1894) 104 Policing the valleys with barbed wires.

4. To do *out of*, do *away*, or bring *into* a state or place by police administration.

1839 *Morning Herald* 17 June, That work of destruction by which the British nation is to be policed out of its immemorial liberties and franchises. 1876 Birch *Rede Lect. Egypt* 40 Internal administration and microscopic regulations had policed away the spirit of the people.

Police, obs. form of Policy *sb.*[2], Polish *v.*

Police court. A court of summary jurisdiction for the trial or investigation of charges preferred by the police. (At first called Police office.) Also *attrib.*

1823 Stark *Picture of Edinb.* (ed. 3) 152 An application was made to Parliament, in 1805, for a police bill for the city .. and a police court [was] opened in Edinburgh, on 15 July 1805..under the superintendence of a Judge of Police. 1839 *Act* 2 & 3 *Vict.* c. 71 § 1 The several police courts now established under the names of the public office in Bow Street and the police offices in the parishes of .. [seven named] .. shall be continued. 1882 Serjt. Ballantine *Exper.* ii. 24 Police-courts were called offices [in the early part of this century]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 2/3 So far the latter have escaped police-court proceedings.

Policed (-ī·st), *ppl. a.* [f. Police *v.* or *sb.* + -ed. Orig. (pɒ·list).]

1. Politically organized, regulated, or ordered; governed, disciplined. (In quot. 1735 pɒ·list.)

1591 Lambarde *Archeion* (1635) 65 The necessitie of an Officer of this sort is inevitable in every well-polliced Kingdome. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1634) 189 Amongst the best policed and formalest nations. 1735 Thomson *Liberty* IV. 734 As when, with Alfred, from the wilds she came To polic'd cities and protected plains. 1770 *Antig.* in *Ann. Reg.* 104/2 Such a dispersion was little promotive of trade, which loves large and policed communities. 1858 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) II. 39 In this policed society the old 'social contract' theory strictly applied.

2. Provided with or guarded by a police force.

1897 *All About Diamond Jubilee* (ed. Newnes) 58/1 London will be probably the best policed city in the world on June 22nd.

Policedom (pɒlī·sdəm). [f. Police *sb.* + -dom.] The police system as represented by its personnel.

1889 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Nov. 691/1 The hue and cry of the ten thousand hounds of policedom. 1892 *Argosy* May 380 He is one of the sleuth hounds of policedom.

Policeman (pɒlī·smăn). A member of the police force; a paid constable. *New Policeman*, a constable of the New Police of 1829.

1829 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* 28 Sept., I find a general opinion prevailing that your policemen are not paid sufficiently. 1830 *Morn. Chron.* 18 Aug. *heading*, Murder of a New Policeman by a Gang of Burglars. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. viii. 60 He would not go before the magistrates..unless the policemen came and fetched him. *fig.* 1887 Rider Haggard *Allan Quaterm.* 20 The stern policeman Fate moves us and them on.

b. A soldier-ant.

1877 Pascoe *Zool. Classification* (1880) 149 *Heterogyna.*—Males, females and neuters,..workers and soldiers. ..The soldiers (or 'policemen') have very large heads.

Hence **Poli·cemanlike** *a.*; **Poli·cemanship,** the function, office, or action of a policeman.

1874 R. Tyrwhitt *Sketch. Club* 142 That policemanlike faculty of coming round a corner. 1887 Wallace in *Pall Mall G.* 2 Feb. 6/1 [In determining to restore order and neglecting to do justice, the Government .. was exhibiting] policemanship, not statesmanship. 1897 A. Herbert in *Daily News* 30 Aug. 5/7 One thing we have to resist is the growth of that ugliest of all ugly things, which goes by the name of 'policemanship'.

Police office. The head-quarters of the police force in a city or town, as of the Metropolitan and the City police in London, at which the police business is transacted.

These formerly included a court-room in which offenders were tried, as well as a place of detention in which they were confined till trial; hence the name was formerly regularly applied to what is now called a Police court, and is still in many places applied to a Police station, when this has a place of detention. The earliest name was Public office (in Act of 1792). *Police office* appears to have been first applied to the Marine or Thames Police Office at Wapping. (See Police *sb.* 5, *Marine Police.*)

1798 *Resolution* in Colquhoun *Comm. Thames* (1800) 224 Under the Regulation of the Marine Police Office No. 259, Wapping New Stairs. 1800 *Ibid.* 161 His indefatigable attention [as resident magistrate] to the public interest, since he has presided at the Marine Police Office. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. i. 32/1 The account of a transaction which took place in May last, at the Police-office in Hatton-Garden. 1817 Cobbett *Wks.* XXXII. 120 What, then, do the Pig-tail gentry, assembled at the 'Police Office, Manchester', object to this? 1826 J. Wilson *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 113 Ye might hae been lugged awa to the Poleesh Office wi' a watchman aneath each oxter. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Prisoners' Van*, We were passing the corner of Bow Street..when a crowd assembled round the door of the police-office attracted our attention [referred to below as 'Public Office, Bow Street']. *Ibid.*, Turn to the prisons and police-offices of London. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 249/2 The public office in Bow Street was for some time the only place in the metropolis where a police magistrate sat regularly, without the jurisdiction of the city of London. Seven additional police offices were established in 1792, by the act 32d Geo. III. cap. 53, and the Thames police-office in 1798. 1855 *London as it is to-day* 366 The City of London...There are two police offices, one in the Mansion House, where the lord mayor presides; and the other at Guildhall, where the aldermen sit in rotation. 1862 *Act* 25 & 26 *Vict.* c. 35 § 19 (Scotland) And may be taken into custody .. and detained in any police office or station house, or other convenient place. 1875 McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 95 On the ground-floor is also the police-office. 1882 Ogilvie (Annandale), *Police office, police station.* (So 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*) 1903 *Whitaker's Alm.* 183 Metropolitan Police Office, New Scotland Yard, S.W...City Police Office, 26 Old Jewry, E.C.

Police station. The office or head-quarters of a local police force, or of a police district.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Police-station*, the receiving-house where offenders are taken by the police; the place where the police assemble for orders, and to march out on duty. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. iii, A little winding through some muddy alleys, .. brought them to the wicket-gate and bright lamp of a Police-station. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 2/1 This police-station confession proved (unlike most of such self-accusations) to be true.

Polich, obs. form of Polish *v.*

Polichinelle, -i, -o, obs. ff. Punchinello.

Policial (pəli·shăl), *a. rare.* [f. Police *sb.* + -al, after *office, official.*] Of or belonging to the police.

1843 Poe *Purloined Let.* Wks. 1864 I. 273 When the case is of importance—or, what amounts to the same thing in the policial eyes, when the reward is of magnitude. *Ibid.* 276 The invariable principle of policial action in searches for articles concealed.

Polician, variant of Politian *Obs.*

†**Poli·ciar.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. Policy *sb.*[1] + -ar [2].] The improver of a 'policy' or estate.

1562 Winȝet *Last Blast* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 45 Quha.. trampis down the heuinlie incres and all decent policie of the samyn winȝarde, drest and deckit be the former workmen, vnfenȝeit policiaris of the samin.

Policied, *ppl. a.*, **Policier:** see Policy *v.*[1], [2].

Poli·cing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Police *v.* + -ing [1].]

†**a.** The ordering or regulation of a state. *Obs.*

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. viii. (Arb.) 36 The right pollicing of their states. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. vii. § 6. 34 b, For..pollicing of Cities, and Commonalties, with new ordinances and constitutions.

b. The action of keeping in order and cleaning up a camp. *U. S.*

1893 Leland *Mem.* II. 60 There was no drill now .. no special care of us, and no 'policing', or keeping clean.

c. The action of furnishing with a police force or the like for the maintenance of law and order.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Feb. 11/2 Holding him responsible .. for the policeing of the frontier. 1887 *Ibid.* 18 Mar. 5/1 They deal with the 'policing' of the whole river from Teddington Lock to Cricklade. 1890 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/2 A lively agitation..against the continued policing of the borough by the county constabulary.

d. The fact of being or acting as a policeman.

1899 *Tablet* 15 Apr. 570 Tired of policing, a wearisome life for an educated man.

Policitation, obs. form of Pollicitation.

†**Po·licize,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Policy *sb.*[1] + -ize.] *intr.* To use policy; to scheme, manœuvre. Hence †**Policizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, scheming; †**Po·licizer,** one who practises policy, a schemer.

1809 Mar. Edgeworth *Tales Fash. Life* III. *Manœuvring* 4 *note*, (Irish labourer) 'I'd call her a policizer—I would say she was fond of policizing'. *Ibid.* 85 For a week it might be practicable to keep them asunder by policising, but this could never be effected if he were to settle..in the country. 1820 C. C. Colton *Lacon* ii. (1833) 16 As a policiser, the marquis reasoned badly. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 85 The indignities which spring up in the crooked paths of policizing favouritism.

Po·licize, *v.*[2] *rare.* [f. Police + -ize.] *trans.* To organize, administer, discipline, reduce to law and order. Hence **Po·licized** *ppl. a.*

1840 *Tait's Mag.* VII. 392 The woman, as lady Morgan would say, of a more 'policized society'.

Policlinic (pɒlikli·nik), *a.* Also *erron.* **poly-.** [ad. Ger. *poliklinik*, f. Gr. πόλι-ς city + *klinik* medical teaching at the bed-side of the patient (= Clinic *sb.*[2]), hence a hospital by which this is provided, ad. Gr. κλινική the clinic art or practice.] *orig.* 'A clinic held in private houses in the town, as opposed to one held in a hospital' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). Subsequently often extended to a dispensary, or that department of a hospital, at which out-patients are treated. Cf. Polyclinic.

The original system continues at smaller places in Germany, e. g. at Jena; in larger cities, e. g. Leipzig, the latter obtains. Cf. Brockhaus *Konvers.-Lex.* (1846) s. v. *Klinik*: '*Poliklinik* [as distinguished from the *stationäre klinik* or hospital treatment of in-patients, and *ambulatorische klinik* or hospital treatment of out-patients] consists in the fact that the patients are treated in their own dwellings by the advanced medical students, while the professor, to whom these regularly report and who supervises the whole treatment of the patients, himself but seldom visits them'.

1827 *Lancet* 17 Nov. 256/2 [In Germany] Those students who have duly attended the clinics, are admitted to the policlinics. In these, poor patients are treated by students, under the superintendence of an experienced..physician. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2284, 1,805 indoor-patients, and 73,432 outdoor-patients in polyclinique. 1886 Gairdner in *Life of Sir R. Christison* II. vii. 121 His was a true 'poliklinik', though in full operation here before the term was invented in Germany. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 341 One woman out of every five or six in the polyclinic of the Augusta hospital, Berlin.

Policy (pɒ·lĭsi), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–7 **policie,** 5 **-ecye,** 5–6 **-icye, -ycie, -ycy**(e, **-ecy, -esy,** 6 **-ecie, -esie, -esye, -izy** (*Sc.* **-acie**), 5– **policy**; (also 5 **polleci, -isye,** 5–6 **-ecy,** 5–7 **-icie,** 6 **-icye, -yci, -ycy,** 6–7 **-icy,** 7 **-ecie**). [In Branch I, ME. *policie*, a. OF. *policie* (14th c. in Oresme) civil administration, government, ad. L. *politīa* (Cic.), a. Gr. πολιτεία citizenship, government, constitution, polity, f. πολίτης citizen, f. πόλις city, state. See Police *sb.* Branch II appears to be

due to the association of this Græco-L. word with L. *polītus* polished, refined, pa. pple. of *polīre* to polish, adorn, refine, cultivate, and late L. *polītiēs*, *policiēs* polish, elegancy (Quicherat *Addenda*), Romanic type **polītia*, whence It. *pulizia* cleanness, neatness: cf. Sp., Pg. *policia* police, politeness, neatness.]

I. 1. An organized and established system or form of government or administration (of a state or city); a constitution, polity. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 78 To sene smale and lowe governe the hye and bodies above. Certes, that policye is naught. 1488-9 *Act* 4 *Hen. VII*, c. 19 To the subvercion of the polecy and gode rule of this lond. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 33 Suche peoples as do lyue to gethere in a cyuyle pollycye and good ordre. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 433 He furnished his realme both with good learnyng, and Ciuile pollicie. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* X. lvii. (1612) 251 French Pollicie consists of Three Estates, The Princes, Nobles, Commons. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 41 Consultatioun was had how a good and godlie policie might be established in the church. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* VI. Wks. 1813 I. 461 The forming of a system of discipline, or ecclesiastical policy. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* v. (1852) 136 In well constituted policies provision is always made for the exercise of clemency.

† **b.** An organized state, a commonwealth. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf. III.* 141 With the wyndes whiche he bloweth Ful ofte sythe he overthroweth The Cites and the policie. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 28 Hym that was be tyrannye That tyme prynce of ther polycye. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B viij, The diminyshing of the auncient Polycie of Rome. 1558 C. Goodman *Obed. Superior Powers* Pref., Most discreet governors of commonwealths and policies.

† **2.** Government, administration, the conduct of public affairs; political science. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Pard. T.* 272 If that a Prynce vseth hasardrye In alle gouernance and policye He is..Yholde the lasse in reputacion. *c* 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* XV. (1885) 148 Thies counsellors mowe..delibre vppon ..þe materes off þe pollycye off þe reaume. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. i. 45 Turne him to any Cause of Pollicy The Gordian Knot of it he will vnloose. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 33 There .. is no art that hath bin more canker'd in her principles, more soyl'd and slubber'd with aphorisming pedantry then the art of policie. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 514 We are now left as a flocke without a pastor, in civill policie. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 625 By policy I mean not the modern art of deceiving mankind,..but..the antique art of governing them, which is a great virtue.

b. *Court of Policy*: the Legislative Council in British Guiana (which already existed when that country was a Dutch colony).

1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 353 The lands are granted *gratis*, by the Governor and Court of Policy. 1824 Mackintosh *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 1 June, Wks. 1846 III. 432 They resolved, that the King and Parliament of Great Britain had no right to change their laws without the consent of their Court of Policy. 1903 *Whitaker's Almanack* 528 British Guiana...The Government consists of a Governor and a Court of Policy of 15 other members.

3. Political sagacity; prudence, skill, or consideration of expediency in the conduct of public affairs; statecraft; diplomacy; in bad sense, political cunning.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 304 Of worldly wysdom, sate the forteresse Callyd Othea, chyef grounde of polycy. *c* 1470 G. Ashby *Active Policy* 643 But to youre richesse make neuer man liche, If ye wol stande in peas and be set by. So wol god and polleci sykerly. 1555 Eden *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 56 By the pollicie and wisedome of the Frankes, it came so to passe. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 108 Neuer did base and rotten Policy Colour her working with such deadly wounds. 1715 South *Serm.*, *1 Kings xiii.* 33. 126 Jeroboam being thus advanced, and thinking Policy the best Piety. 1728 Eliza Heywood *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 220 He had the Policy to discharge his new Subjects from the Impositions which their former Masters had laid on them. 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. vii, King Robert's eye Might have some glance of policy. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 435 In this..he was actuated by policy rather than by sentiment.

4. In reference to conduct or action generally: Prudent, expedient, or advantageous procedure; prudent or politic course of action; also, as a quality of the agent: sagacity, shrewdness, artfulness; in bad sense, cunning, craftiness, dissimulation.

c 1430 Lydg. in *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* 15, I Counselle, .. Off polycye, forsight, and prudence. 1477 Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 187 It weer not polesy for me to sett that maner in suche case for alle maner of happis. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* v. Wks. 941/2, I wyl peraduenture .. here after..vse the same circumspeccion & polycye that I learne of his ensample here. 1587 *Mirr. Mag., Malin* x, Secretly by pollecy and sleight Hee slewe mee with his swoord, before I wist. 1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 102 Our grosse conceipts, who think honestie the best policie. 1604 Drayton *Owle* 419 In this base Bird I might well descry, The prosperous fruit of thriving Policy. 1752 Fielding *Amelia* IX. ix, Tom, Tom, thou hast no policy in thee. 1791 Burke *Corr.* (1844) III. 255 Have they no way of convincing this .. illustrious person, ..that her only policy is silence, patience, and refusal? 1868 Helps *Realmah* iv. (1876) 56 If this is policy, then are the ways of children politic. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 409/2 The policy of allowing this sweeping right of appeal was doubted by many.

† **b.** A device, expedient, contrivance; a crafty device, stratagem, trick. *Obs.*

1406 Hoccleve *La male regle* 252 Whan þat Vlixes saillid to and fro By meermaides this was his policie, Alle eres of men of his compaignie With wex he stoppe leet. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 152 The besegers haue commonly one manere of a polycye. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm Par. Acts* xxvii. 87 They used other policies to preserue the shyp. 1640 Yorke *Union Hon., Battells* 18 By policy of these Iron stakes against the English horse, King Edward's battell was discomfited. 1678 Worlidge *Bees* (1691) 23 A swarm [of bees] drawn from one place to another by stales, baits, calls, or such like policies. 1849 Hare *Par. Serm.* II. 194 When a man is sharpening his policies he will grind them away to nothing.

5. A course of action adopted and pursued by a government, party, ruler, statesman, etc.; any course of action adopted as advantageous or expedient. (The chief living sense.)

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 82 Wherfor late soverayns use this policye, What ever they do late it in mesure be. 1544 *Supplic. to Hen. VIII* in *Four Supplic.* (1871) 35 Thys was the crafty polycye of the clergye. 1599 Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) 1 Eche one .. did, in the begynnynge of the monthe of Januarye .. presente somme gyfte unto his frende .. a pollicye gretlye to be regarded. *a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 23, I now come to the first Policy of the Dutch, viz. Liberty of Conscience. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 64 France, by her policy, has done the same. By policy, I mean the encouragement of arts and sciences. 1840 Thirlwall *Greece* lv. VII. 75 The project attributed .. to Alexander, is not the less in perfect harmony with his general policy. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 Edward's foreign policy led him to draw closer the ties which connected our country with Germany.

II. Scotch senses influenced by L. *polītus* polished, late L. *polītiēs*, *policiēs* elegancy. (Cf. Police *v.* I.)

6. † **a.** The improvement or embellishment of an estate, building, town, etc. *Obs.*

1475 *St. Giles' Charters* (1859) p. lxviii, For reparacioun, beilding and polesy to be maid in honour of .. sanct Johan. 1535 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 343/1 Item for polecy to be had w'in þe Realme In planting of woddis making of Edgeis orchartis ȝardis and sawing of browme. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* XI. x. (1541) 163/2 Scho knew the mynd of kenneth geuyn to magnificent bygyng & polesy [Boece, *Magnifica ædium structura atque ornatus delectaret*]. 1555 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 491/2 It salbe lesum for policie and eschewing of deformitie of the towne.

† **b.** The improvements and embellishments so made; the buildings, plantations, etc. with which an estate is improved or adorned; property created by human skill and labour. *Obs.*

1535 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 349/1 All or souerane lordis burrowis are .. waistit and distroyit in þeir gudis and polecy and almaist Ruynous. 1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* VII. vi. (1541) 84 b/2, The Pychtis spred fast in Athole, & maid syndry strenthis and polecyis in it [*arcibus, munitionibus castellisque plurimum ornantes*]. 1562 Winȝet *Last Blast* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 45 Quha .. trampis down the heuinlie ingres and all decent policie of the samyn winȝarde. 1563 — *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* lxxx. ibid. 128 Quhy hef ȝe wappit doun the monasteriis, and principal policeis of this realme? 1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 279 Apperandlie the haill polecie in that part is lyke to pereis, without sum substantious ordour and remedie be prouydit. [*Note.* A declaration that the woods are decaying through cutting and bark peeling.] 1594 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 71 Oure souerane lord .. apprevis the actis and statutis maid..for the..reparatioun of the decayed policie w'in burgh;..and gif the samyn be found auld, decayed and rwinous in ruif, sklattis, durris..to decerne that the coniunct fear..sall repair the saidis landis and tenementis.

c. The (enclosed, planted, and partly embellished) park or demesne land lying around a country seat or gentleman's house.

1775 G. White *Selborne* I. xlii, Lord Breadalbane's seat and beautiful policy are too curious and extraordinary to be omitted. 1775 Johnson *Journ. West. Isl., Aberbrothic*, A small plantation, which in Scotch is called a policy. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 207 The policies about the Noblemen and Gentlemen's houses..are but thinly scattered. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I. 242 The gravel-walks of our policy. 1875 Jas. Grant *One of the* 600 iii, The demesne (Scotice 'policy') around this picturesque old house, was amply studded with glorious old timber. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Nov. 9/1 The Prince of Wales went out yesterday with Lord Fife and party, and enjoyed some splendid shooting in the policies.

† **7.** **a.** The polishing or refining of manners. **b.** Polish, refinement, elegancy; culture, civilization. (Cf. the Latin words rendered.) *Obs.*

a. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 160 Plutarchie sa artificiouslie quha could illustir histories, and was sa notable in the policie, dekking, and outset of maneris and honestie [L. *historiæ illustrandæ, morumque excolendorum insignis artifex*]. **b.** *Ibid.* 9 In this north parte [of Scotland] ar sum prouinces sa plentifull and of gretter Ingines, that throuch thair policie [L. *politia*] thay ar athir to mony in the South compair, or than thay excel mony in the South. *Ibid.* 131 His people .. allutterlie rude, and wtout all policie and ornat maneris [L. *rudes, nullaque morum elegantia politos*].

Policy (pɒ·lĭsi), *sb.*[2] Also 6 **police**, 7 **-cie**, **-zy**. [ad. F. *police* (1371) bill of lading, contract of insurance, etc., according to Hatz.-Darm. ad. Pr. *polissa*, also *polissia* (1428 in Diez), *podiza*, Cat. *police*, = Sp. *póliza*, Pg. *apólice*, OIt. *póliza*, *pólisa*, also *polizia*, It. *polizza*, 'schedule, bill, note, writing, remembrance, bond, inuentorie, obligation, ticket' (Florio), also in 16th c. 'bill of lading'; according to G. Paris *Romania* X. 620:—med.L. *apódissa*, *apódixa*, 'a receipt or security for money paid', altered from L. *apódixis*, a. Gr. *ἀπόδειξις* a making known, demonstration, evidence, proof. The word appears to have had in Italian a very general sense, being applicable to a writing setting forth or serving as evidence of any kind of transaction.

The form-development *apódissa*, *pódissa*, *pólissa*, is supported by Pg. *apólice*:—L. *apódixem*, and the Prov. form *podiza*. The Eng. final *-ie*, *-y*, either represents the variants *apodixia*, *polissia*, or perhaps merely followed Policy *sb.*[1] as a representative of F. *police*. Earlier suggestions of a derivation from L. *polyptĭchum* rent-roll, register, schedule, pl. *polyptycha* (5th c. Vegetius), registers, account-books, or from *pollex* thumb (as the supposed means of sealing a document), or from *pollicēri* to promise, are all untenable.]

1. More fully, *policy of assurance* or *insurance policy*: A document containing an undertaking, in consideration of a sum or sums paid down at the time, or to be paid from time to time, called a *premium* or *premiums*, to pay a specified amount or part thereof in the event of a specified contingency, such as the loss of property at sea, or its destruction by fire, or, in the case of a life insurance, on the death of the person named in the policy.

Also called *bill of assurance* in Lumbard Strete in 1562 (Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admir.* II. 52). *Floating policy*, *open policy*: see quots. *Wager* or *wagering policy*, a policy of insurance taken out where the insured has no real interest in the thing insured: declared illegal by various statutes as a species of gambling.

[1523 in Pardessus *Collect. Lois Marit.* (1837) IV. 609/1 Non..essere tenuto a mostrare alcuna polizza di caricamento.] 1565 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admir.* (Selden) II. 56 [transl. of French document] Any order made..agaynst the tenor of this present Police of Assuraunce. 1601 *Act* 43 *Eliz.* c. 12 By meanes of which Policies of Assurance it commeth to passe, vpon the losse or perishing of any ship, there [etc.]. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 219 Policy of Assurance is a course taken by Merchants for the assuring of their adventures upon the sea. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1668/4 That all Persons that Insure their Houses shall have liberty till the First of January 1682, to bring back their Policies, and the Insurers will oblige Themselves and their Security by Indenture on their Policies, to accept of a Surrender, and repay their Premium. 1710 *Tatler* No. 241 ¶ 2 In all the Offices where Policies are drawn upon Lives. 1828-32 Webster s.v. *Policy*, Wagering policies, which insure sums of money, interest or no interest, are illegal. 1848 Arnould *Mar. Insurance* I. I. ii. 17-19 A wager policy is one which shows on the face of it, that the contract it embodies is not really an insurance, but a wager... An open policy is one in which the value of the subject insured .. is left to be estimated in case of loss. .. A time policy is one in which the limits of the risk are designated only by certain fixed periods of time. 1901 *Ibid.* (ed. 7) I. 11 A floating policy is one in which there is no limitation of the risk to a particular ship, as where goods 'on ship or ships' are insured for the same voyage. 1902 R. G. Marsden in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* XVI. 83 A policy of 1545 is the earliest known example of a policy entered into in England. It is a remarkable document, the body of it being in Italian, and the subscriptions in English.

b. A conditional promissory note, depending on the result of a wager.

1709-10 Steele *Tatler* No. 124 ¶ 1 If any Plumb in the City will lay me an Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds to Twenty Shillings .. that I am not this fortunate Man, I will take the Wager .. having given Orders to Mr. Morphew to subscribe such a Policy in my Behalf, if any Person accepts of the Offer. 1832 J. Taylor *Rec. My Life* I. 338 Policies were opened to ascertain his sex, while he appeared in male and female attire.

c. A form of gambling in which bets are made on numbers to be drawn by lottery: cf. *policy-shop* in 3. *U. S.*

1890 Webster s.v., To play policy.

† **2.** = It. *polizza*, ticket; voting-paper; voucher, warrant. *Obs.*

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. II. 261 In this Scrutiny, all the Cardinals put in their Polizys open. *Ibid.* 285 Each of the Cardinals orders his Conclavist to bring him a Polizy, or Ticket of the vote he desires to give in the morning. 1675 tr. *Machiavelli's Prince* (Rtldg.) 285 Having received a new policy from three months to three months, the pensioners..go then to the receivers.

¶ Johnson, as his only recognition of this word, has (1755) 'a warrant for money in the publick funds' (ed. 1785 adds 'a ticket'); and this is repeated in mod. Dicts. as a distinct sense; Mason (1801) drew attention to its incorrectness: 'Neither of these definitions extend to the most usual meaning of this word "*policy of insurance*". The interpretation should have been A warrant for some peculiar kinds of claim'.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *policy-book*, *-holder*; **policy-shop**, in *U. S.* a place for gambling by betting on the drawing of certain numbers in a lottery; **policy-slip**, in *U. S.* 'the ticket given on a stake of money at a policy-shop' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Policy-book*, a book kept in an insurance office for making entries of policies granted. **Policy-holders*, the persons insured in an office. 1906 *Times* (weekly ed.) 31 Aug. 549/4 Three leading American insurance companies will discontinue granting rebates on the annual premium to British policy-holders on account of British income-tax. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 17 Grand jury of London..presented the *policy officers about wagers. 1879 Webster *Suppl.*, **Policy-shop*, an office opened for gambling in connection with lotteries. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Nov. 5/3 He .. has closed every gambling-den, pool-room, disorderly house and policy-shop that the extreme of vigilance could discover.

† **Po·licy**, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *policier* (1540 in Godef.) to administer, f. obs. F. *policie*; see Policy

sb.[1], Police *v.*] *trans.* To organize and regulate the internal order of, to order; = Police *v.* 2. Hence † **Po·liced** *ppl. a.*, civilly organized.

1565 Smith in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1863) VIII. viii. 165 There is no realm in Christendom better governed, better policied. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vi. 302 Canaan and Ægypt;.. which he found well peopled and policied into Kingdomes. 1647–8 Cotterell *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 2 Well policied Government. 1788 Priestley *Lect. Hist.* v. xliv. 324 We are not..to consider all countries as barbarous that are not policied as ours. 1824 Landor *Imag. Conv., Pericles & Soph.* Wks. 1853 I. 147/1 A wide and rather waste kingdom should be interposed between the policied states and Persia.

† **Po·licy,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* In 5 poll-. [f. Policy *sb.*[2] or F. *police*, in its early sense.] *trans.* To furnish with a certificate; to examine and certify to the purity or quality of. Hence † **Policier** (in 5 poll-), the officer who performed this function.

c 1450 *Oath* in *Cal. Let. Bk. D Lond.* (1902) 196 The Office of Garbeler and pollicier of wex within the Citee of London. ..And after that ye have garbeled any bale or merchandises ye shall mark and signe the same bale by you garbeled and wex by you pollicied wt a mark to thentent that the common weyer may have knowledge thereof &c.

Po·licy, *v.*[3] *U. S. slang.* [f. Policy *sb.*[2] 1 c.] 1889 Farmer *Dict. Amer.* 429/2 *To Policy*, to gamble with the numbers of lottery tickets.

‖ **Po·liencephali·tis.** *Path.* Also (*erron.*) **polio-encephalitis.** [mod.L., f. Gr. πολιός grey + ἐγκέφαλος brain + -itis.] Inflammation of the grey matter of the brain.

1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, *Poliencephalitis*, acute localized encephalitis, affecting chiefly the motor region of the cortex. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 May 1145 Strümpell has suggested that the disease is acute polioencephalitis.

† **Poli·fugal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *polus* Pole *sb.*[2], after Centrifugal.] Tending away from the pole.

1740 Stack in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 421 By the Assistance of the polifugal Force.

Poligamous, -gamy, obs. ff. Polygamous, -gamy.

Poligar (pɒ·ligāɹ). Also 8–9 **polygar.** [ad. Marāthī *pālegār*, or Telugu *palegādu* (cerebral *d*), ad. Tamil *pālaiyakkāran* the holder of a *pālaiyam*, Pollam.] In S. India, The holder of a pollam or feudal estate; a subordinate feudal chief.

1681 in J. T. Wheeler *Madras* (1861) I. 118 They pulled down the Poligar's house. 1761 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 6/2 There are..among the..mountainous parts..several petty princes, or heads of clans, distinguished by the name of Polygars. 1783 Burke *Sp. Fox's India Bill* Wks. IV. 25 To..Mahomet Ali they sold at least twelve sovereign princes called the Polygars. 1868 J. H. Nelson *Madura* III. 157 Some of the Poligars were placed in authority over others.

b. *transf.* One of the predatory followers of such a chief; the race descended from these.

1776 Pigou in *Gentl. Mag.* (1792) 14/2 A people called Polygars, who inhabit [the woods] and attack, rob, and murder passengers. 1869 Sir W. Elliot in *Jrnl. Ethn. Soc.* I. 112 There is a third well-defined race mixed with the general population...I mean the predatory classes. In the South they are called Poligars, and consist of the tribes of Marawars [etc.].

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **poligar-dog**: a variety of dog from the poligar country.

1800 Dk. Wellington in Arbuthnot *Mem. Munro* (1881) I. p. xcii, His operations were seldom impeded by poligár wars. 1830 Marryat *King's Own* xlviii, It's a Polygar dog from the East Indies. 1885 G. S. Forbes *Wild Life in Canara* 45 A poligar dog that was with me started off in pursuit.

Hence **Po·ligarship,** the office of a poligar.

a 1881 in Arbuthnot *Mem. Munro* I. p. xcii, The Mysore system, which removed all poligárships [and] expelled their turbulent chiefs.

Polihistor, obs. f. Polyhistor. **Polimechany, Polimite,** var. Polymechany, Polymite, *Obs.*

† **Polinc'd,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*—[0]. [For *pollinct*, ad. L. *pollinct-us*, pa. pple. of *pollingĕre* to wash and prepare (a corpse) for the funeral pile.] 1623 Cockeram II, *Embalmed*, Polinc'd.

Poling (pōu·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Pole *v.* + -ing[1].] 1. The action of the verb Pole in various senses; furnishing or supplying with poles; the propelling of boats or canoes with poles; the stirring of a bath of copper, tin, or lead with a pole of green wood, to cause ebullition and deoxidation; etc.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 83 To arbor begun, and quick setted about, No poling nor wadling till set be far out. *a* 1601 [see Pole *v.* 5]. 1753 [see Pole *v.* 4]. 1816 Brackenridge *Jrnl. Voy. Missouri* in *Views Louisiana* 205 The water is generally too deep to admit of poling. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 169/2 The process of 'polling', .. carried on by stirring .. the copper while in a fluid state with poles of green wood. 1864 Watts *Dict. Chem.* II. 29 If..the poling has been continued too long, the copper again becomes brittle, .. in this state it is said to be overpoled.

2. *concr.* Poles collectively, as used for poling hops, or for lining the sides of a tunnel.

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts* etc., *Poling*, the small boards supporting the earth during the formation of a tunnel. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, *Polings*, poles used instead of planks for lagging.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **poling-board,** one of the boards used to support the sides in the excavation of a tunnel; **poling-ground,** shallow water where poling or punting is possible.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 146/2 They frequently push the poling boards before them. *Ibid.* 326/2 Each division .. has boards in front .. (known by the technical name of poling boards). 1901 J. G. Millais in *Daily News* 8 Feb. 6/4 No punt sman should ever venture off poling ground in Scotland when the wind is in the south.

‖ **Poliomyelitis** (pɒ:liˌoˌmaiˌĕləi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. πολιό-s grey + μυελός marrow + -itis.] Inflammation of the grey matter of the spinal cord.

1880 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* 747 Anterior poliomyelitis, signifying inflammation of the anterior gray substance. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 798 The facial nucleus was affected by acute poliomyelitis.

So **Poliomyelo·pathy,** *Path.* [-pathy], any disease of the grey matter of the spinal cord.

1890 in Billings *Med. Dict.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 495 The so-called system diseases; such as ascending and descending lateral sclerosis .. the poliomyelopathies. *Ibid.* 502 Nuclear lesions or poliomyelopathies .. are often the starting points of such secondary degenerations.

Poliorcetic (pɒliɒɹse·tik), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. πολιορκητικ-ός, f. πολιορκητής besieger, f. πολιορκεῖν to besiege a city, f. πόλι-s city + ἕρκ-os fence, enclosure. So F. *poliorcétique*.] Of or pertaining to the besieging of cities or fortresses.

a 1859 De Quincey *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 98 The 'arietes', or battering-rams..were amongst the poliorcetic engines of the ancients. 1898 *Athenæum* 24 Sept. 423/2 The poliorcetic principles displayed at Château Gaillard.

Poliorce·tics, *sb. pl.* [ad. Gr. (τὰ) πολιορκητικά things or matters pertaining to sieges, neut. pl. of πολιορκητικός: see prec.] The art of conducting and resisting sieges; siegecraft.

1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 33 b, Poliorcetickes, fitte aswell for the warres, as buildinges, & other vses. *a* 1859 De Quincey *War* Wks. 1862 IV. 284 Into castrametation, into poliorcetics. 1893 T. A. Archer in *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 341 *note*, The whole science of mediæval poliorcetics was based on the principle of..outworks.

Polip(e, -ippe, polipus, obs. ff. Polyp, -us.

Poliphant, obs. corrupt form of Polyphone.

Polipode, -pragmatick, -pragmon: see Polypode, etc.

-polis, repr. Gr. πόλις city, as in Metropolis, Necropolis; sometimes used (in the form *-opolis*) to form names or nicknames of cities or towns, e. g. Cottonopolis, *Leatheropolis, Porkopolis*.

1868 W. M. Punshon in Macdonald *Life* (1887) 305 Cincinnati, the 'Porkopolis' of the Union. 1881 *Chicago Times* 16 Apr., She [Chicago] has reached the position of the porkopolis of the world. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Oct. 8/1 The first time the great annual gathering of Churchmen has taken place in Leatheropolis [Northampton].

Polish (pɒ·liʃ), *sb.* [f. Polish *v.*] 1. The act of polishing or condition of being polished; smoothness and (usually) glossiness of surface produced by friction.

1704 Newton *Optics* (1721) 24 Another Prism of clearer Glass and better Polish. 1705 Addison *Italy* 352 Consider the great Difficulty of hewing it.., and of giving it the due Turn, Proportion and Polish. 1777 Mudge in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 325 In the beginning of the polish,..I worked round and round. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 247/2 Some of the stones .. take a very high polish. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* viii, You must be content with giving yourself a dry polish till we break the ice in the well.

2. *fig.* Refinement: see Polish *v.* 2.

1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 19 This poore pamphlett,.. wthout fynenes of methode, or pullishe of art. 1713 Addison *Cato* I, What are these wond'rous civilizing arts, This Roman polish, and this smooth behaviour? 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxvi, Where my education and manners might receive their last polish. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. Ind.* I. 425 What polish they have seems borrowed from the Mussulmans. 1902 F. W. H. Myers *Wordsw.* 105 Poetry depends on emotion and not on polish.

3. A substance used to produce or to assist in producing smoothness or glossiness on any surface. See also French polish, Furniture-*polish*, Shoe-*polish*, Stove-*polish*, Varnish-*polish*, etc.

1819–1874 [see French polish]. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mech.* § 1624 The method of applying these polishes is the same for all. A flannel rubber is..dipped in the polish.

4. *Comb.*, as *polish-brush, -powder, -stone.*

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 143 With a polish-stone and the whiten, polish your foils. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Polish-powder*, a preparation of plumbago for stoves and iron articles. 1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 48 No blacking-brush is needed, nor polish-brush either.

Polish (pōu·liʃ), *a.* [f. Pole *sb.*[4] + -ish[1].] Of or pertaining to Poland or its inhabitants.

a 1704 T. Brown *Lett. to Gent. & Ladies* Wks. 1709 III. II. 96 The unkinging of his Polish Majesty. 1831 Sir J. Sinclair *Corr.* II. 292 There is hardly any resemblance between the Polish Diet and the English Parliament, at least at present.

b. In the names of things of actual or attributed Polish origin; as **Polish disease, plait:** see Plait *sb.* 2 c; **Polish draughts,** a variety of the game of draughts played on a board of 100 squares with 20 men a side; called in French *le jeu de dames à la polonaise* (Manoury, 1750), in Poland itself *French draughts*; **Polish fowl** = Poland *fowl*; **Polish manna:** see Manna 1 6; **Polish wheat** = Poland *wheat.*

1849 D. J. Brown *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 60 The *plica polonica*, or *Polish disease, in which the hair in the human subject grows into an immense matted mass. 1733 R. in *Craftsman* No. 376. 156 The game of *Polish Draughts, where you will see the whole Board engaged in the important business of making Kings. 1768 Baretti *Mann. & Cust. Italy* xxxiii. 217 As chess is superior to polish-drafts. 1816 Keatinge *Trav.* (1817) I. 308 They play at what we call Polish drafts. 1849 D. J. Browne *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 12 *Cirrus* is the Latin word..adopted by Aldrovandi to express the topknot of *Polish fowls. 1864 *Chambers' Encycl.* VI. 308/1 Known in shops as *Polish Manna, Manna Seeds, and Manna Croup. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food* 34 *Polish Wheat—*Triticum polonicum* .. is now to be found here only in botanic gardens.

† c. *absol.* Short for *Polish draughts. Obs. rare.*

1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. xv. 67 Can you play at draughts, polish, or chess?

Polish (pɒ·liʃ), *v.* Forms: see below. [ME. *polis-, -iss-, -issh-*, a. F. *poliss-*, lengthened stem of *polir*:—L. *polīre* to polish, smooth, refine: see -ish[2].]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 3–4 **polis-,** 4–5 **polys**(e, -yce, 4–6 **police,** 5–6 **polise,** *Sc.* **poleis.**

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9975 (Cott.) Þat roche Þat es polist sa slight. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1131 He may polyce him.. Wel bryȝter Þen Þe beryl oÞer browden perles. *Ibid.* 1134 Polysed als playn as parchmen schauen. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 127 And was policed ek so clene. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 347 Ane poleist glas.

β. 4 **polich,** 4–5 **polisch**(e, **-issch**(e, 4–6 **-issh**(e, 5 **-esh**(e, **-ysh, -ysch, pollishe,** 5–6 **polys**(s)**h**(e, **-ishe,** 6–8 **pollish,** 5– **polish.**

c 1340 *Cursor M.* 9975 (Gött.) Þe Roche Þat es polichit [*a* 1425 polisshid] so slight. 1362 [see B. 1]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3223 Polyshyd all of pure gold. *Ibid.* 5129 With pellicans & pape-ioyes polischt & grauen. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 406 Polish al vp thy werk. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 36 Thou thynkest hir pollisshed whan she is ful of rust. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 138 The more it is polysshed or rubbed. 1552 Huloet, Polyshe paper or parchment smothe.

γ. 5 **pulisshe, -isch**(e, **-ich**(e, 5–6 **pullysshe, -ysh**(e, 5–7 **pullish**(e. (Cf. It. *pulire, pulito.*)

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 80 Þai myȝt not Þe pulischt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/1 To Pulische (*A.* Puliche). 1555 Eden *Decades* 194 As fayre and nette as though it were pullysshed. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 13 The rules will helpe, if they be laboured and pullished by practise.

δ. 4–5 **pul(s)che,** 5 **pul(s)she, polshe.**

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 121 Portreid and paynt & pulched full clene. *c* 1400 *Chaucer's Merch. T.* 338 (Petw.) A myrour polshed bright. *c* 1400 *Beryn* 1734, I-pulsshid, & I-pikid. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 5766 The cristal pulshede was so clene. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pulchon, *polio.*

B. Signification.

1. *trans.* To make smooth and (usually) glossy by friction.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9887 (Cott.) Dunward Þan es [Þis castel] polist slight. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 257 Þat Penitencia is pike he schulde polissche newe [*v. rr.* polisch, pulsshe]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xvii. 79 Þai er so hard Þat Þare may na metell pulisch Þam. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 156 b, These candelstickes wer polished lyke Aumbre. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 719 Before it be polished, it is of a reddish and rusty colour. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 213 Hard Wood they polish with Bees-wax...But Ivory they polish with Chalk and Water. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 201 For the purpose of being polished and shaped into a column. 1878 W. S. Gilbert *H.M.S. Pinafore* I I polished up the handle of the big front door. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 7/2 A negro whose boots he had declined to polish.

b. *intr.* for *passive.* † (*a*) To become bright. *Obs. rare.* (*b*) To become smooth, take a smooth and (usually) glossy surface.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4589 Zeforus with softe wyndes soberly blew, Planettes in the pure aire pullishet full clene. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 849 A kind of steel..which would polish almost as white and bright as silver. 1728 Young *Love Fame* III. 224 'Tis solid bodies only polish well. 1898 J. Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* IX. 314 None of these patches ..shewed the least tendency to polish.

2. *fig. trans.* To free from roughness, rudeness, or coarseness; to imbue with culture or refinement; to make more elegant or cultured; to refine. (In quot. 13.., To cleanse, purify.)

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* cxxxix. 3 Þai polyst Þe wordis of Þaire felony as neddirs. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2393, I halde Þe polysed of Þat plyȝt, & pured as clene. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4427 Bot he can practise & paynt & polisch his wordis. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 3 Thou maiest finde Some matters (though not pullished with art,) To make thee laugh. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 610 Arts that polish Life. 1773 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 14 Sept., The eldest [daughter] is the beauty of this part of the world, and has been polished at Edinburgh. 1818 Macaulay in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1876) I. ii. 90 Books of amusement tend to polish the mind.

† b. To smooth or gloss over. *Obs. rare.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 61 By hem..that confessithe hem to the preest .. that in shryfte excusithe hem and polysshithe her synne.

c. With adv. or advb. phr.: To do *away*, put *out*, bring *into* some state by polishing.

1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 370 ₱ 2 Such elegant Entertainments as these, would polish the Town into Judgment in their Gratifications. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 39. 281 An over-judicious Authour..polishes away the Strength and Energy of his Thoughts. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 148 The wholesome coarseness..which no education ..can polish out of the genuine Englishman.

d. *intr.* for *passive.* To become refined.

1727 Swift *Let. on Eng. Tongue* Wks. 1755 II. i. 185 The French [language] for these last fifty years hath been

polishing as much as it will bear. 1776 FOOTE *Capuchin* I. Wks. 1799 II. 384 She insists upon his polishing a little.

3. *trans.* To bring to a finished or complete state; to deck out, adorn. Const. *out, up.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxi. (1887) 89 To polishe out this point with those effectuall reasons. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* C iv, Other .. there be .. that pinche their bellies to polish their backs. 1885 DUNCKLEY in *Manch. Exam.* 15 June 6/2 To dot his i's and cross his t's and polish up his manuscript.

4. *To polish off*: to finish off quickly or out of hand; to do for or get rid of summarily. *colloq.* (orig. *Pugilistic slang*).

1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 247 Ned having polished off his sturdy opponent in thirty rounds. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxv, Mayn't I polish that ere Job off, in the front garden? 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairleigh* (1894) 53 He can polish off a boy half a head taller than himself. 1872 *Punch* 10 Aug. 66/1 We nearly polished off the Licensing Bill in the Commons. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 282 The two between them could polish off a bottle of sherry in less time.

Polishable (pɒ·lĭʃăb'l), *a.* [f. POLISH *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being polished.

1611 COTGR., *Polissable*, polishable, burnishable, furbishable. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 10, I do not look upon that Subject as any thing polishable by my hand. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 107 The lighter-coloured, but polishable and well-grained teak.

Polished (pɒ·lĭʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Made smooth and (usually) glossy by friction.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (*Katerine*) 107 Schenand thru gold & polist stanys. *c* 1400 *Sege Jerusalem* 472 A plate of pulsched gold. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 708 Throw platis of polist steil. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 23 O polïish'd Perturbation! Golden Care! 1736 GRAY *Statius* I. 41 In dust the polish'd ball he roll'd. 1860 TYNDALL *Glaciers* I. xv. 100 The road..lay right over the polished rocks.

b. Having naturally a smooth glossy surface.

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 76/2 *Acer lævigatum*, the polished maple.

2. *fig.* Refined, cultured, elegant: see POLISH *v.* 2.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2939 Weyuë fauel with his polysshid speche. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1093 Noble Chaucer, whos pullisshyd eloquence Oure englysshe rude so fresshely hath set out. 1639 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 100 Grace them with your more perfect and polished expressions. 1763 JOHNSON 16 May in *Boswell*, In more polished times there are people to do every thing for money. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* vi, I consider it as one of the first refinements of polished societies. 1894 LD. WOLSELEY *Life Marlborough* I. 239 Charles..liked his polished manners.

Hence **Po·lishedly** *adv.*, **Po·lishedness.**

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* ix. (1596) 121 He could not..deliuer his mind in them polishedly. *Ibid.* 123 Esay ..had ornament and polishednesse of speech. 1737 COVENTRY *Phil. to Hyd.* II. 9 A general Polishedness of Manners, and inward Character. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman!* ix, Polishedly polite to his equals.

Polisher (pɒ·lĭʃəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.]

1. One who polishes or produces a smooth and (usually) glossy surface on anything. Often in comb., as *brass-, shoe-, silver-, stone-polisher.*

1552 HULOET, Polisher of old wares to seme salable or new, *interpolator.* 1685 BOYLE *Effects of Mot.* Suppl. 144 A Polisher of Gems. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 James Whitelegge,.. Looking-Glass Polisher. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 607 The thick varnish which polishers or sword-cutlers use. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 5 A polisher of parquet-flooring.

2. A tool or appliance for polishing anything.

1598 FLORIO, *Frucatore*, an iron furbishing toole, a rubber, a polisher. 1777 MUDGE in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 318 The .. polisher is..made by covering the tool with sarcenet. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 201 Polishers for steel are ..of soft steel, iron, bell-metal, tin, zinc, lead or boxwood.

3. *fig.* One who refines: see POLISH *v.* 2.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 355 You are the neate Polishers of the rude antient Latine and Greeke. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. v, Those great polishers of our manners .. dancing-masters. 1801 HAN. MORE *Wks.* I. 26 Conversation, heav'nly fair..Soft polisher of rugged man!

Polishing (pɒ·lĭʃĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb POLISH.

1. The action of making the surface of anything smooth or glossy; the fact of being polished.

1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Polysshing makyng smothe of a thynge, *polissure.* 1611 BIBLE *Lam.* iv. 7 They were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, Till artful polishing has made it shine. 1894 *Athenæum* 4 Aug. 149/3 Some of the gems he has extracted need no polishing.

b. *pl.* The particles removed by any polishing process, *esp.* the dust produced in polishing articles of precious metal, or in cutting precious stones. (Cf. *filings.*) 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *fig.* The action of refining: see POLISH *v.* 2.

1617 BRATHWAIT *Smoaking Age* O iij b, Yea, he dislikes this polishing of Art, Which may refine the Core, but spoiles the heart. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. R. Soc.* 41 The English language ..has been hitherto a little too carelessly handled; and I think, has had less labor spent about its polishing, then it deserves. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* ix, My wife..adding, that there was nothing she more ardently wished than to give her girls a single winter's polishing.

†b. The action of glossing *over. Obs. rare.*

1646 JENKYN *Remora* 21 This impure polishing over of Sin.

3. *attrib.* in names of tools, appliances, etc., used in producing a polish (in some of which *polishing* may be the ppl. adj.); as *polishing-block, -brush, -disk, -file, -hammer, -iron, -jack, -machine, -paste, -powder, -room, -stick, -stone, -tool, -wheel*; **polishing-bed,** a machine in which the surface of stone is rubbed smooth (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **polishing-cask,** (*a*) a barrel in which articles are rolled and polished by friction with each other or with some polishing-powder; (*b*) a barrel in which grained gunpowder is placed with graphite to glaze it (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **polishing-mill,** a lap of metal or other material used by lapidaries in polishing gems (Knight); **polishing-slate,** (*a*) a grey or yellow slate found in the coal-measures of Bohemia, etc., used for polishing; (*b*) a kind of whetstone; **polishing-snake,** a kind of serpentine used formerly for polishing lithographic stones (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858); **polishing-tin** (*Bookbinding*), a thin plate of tinned iron placed between the covers and the first and last leaves of a book, to keep the linings smooth and protect the leaves from the dampness of the cover (Simmonds).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Polishing-block, a.* a block between the jaws of a vise on which an object is laid to polish it...*b.* A block shod with polishing material and moved over the face of the object to be polished. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Polishing-brush*, a hand brush for shining stoves or grates with black lead. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Polishing disk*,.. small instruments .. placed in a drill-stock, to polish the surfaces of dentures, teeth, or fillings. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Polisher*,.. a *Polishing-Iron. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Polishing-iron*, a smoothing iron. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Polishing Jack*,..a machine..for polishing leather when considerable pressure is required. 1853 BYRNE *Artisan's Handbk.* 205 Thus we have..the smoothing-mill, and the *polishing-mill, all generally of metal. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 88 Polishing mills are usually of ivory or tortoise-shell. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Polishing-paste*, a kind of blacking or paste for harness and leather;..[or] for giving a polish to articles of household furniture. 1854-67 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.* 542/2 A *polishing powder, made by dissolving copperas in water [etc.]. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 131 The smooth plate then finds its way to the *polishing-room, where the tables travel under a double series of rubbers. 1849 CRAIG, **Polishing-slate*, the Tripoli, or Polierschiefer of geologists, a substance used in polishing, and entirely composed of the silicious shields of microscopic Infusoria. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Polishing-slates*, a name for hone-slates or whet-stones. 1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 29, I generally use a *polishing-stick, a contrivance of my own. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Polidero*, a *polishing toole, *politorium.* 1867 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.* (ed. 3), **Polishing wheel*, a small wheel with the peripheral surface covered with buck-skin or other soft leather, and made to revolve on the mandrel of a lathe.

Po·lishing, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That polishes.

1825 *Eng. Life* II. 92 She would send them to the most polishing boarding-schools.

†**Po·lishment.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] The action of polishing; the fact of being polished.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 124 The practise of languages, and the ornament and polishment of speech may verie well be ioyned with positiue diuinitie. 1633 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1672) 465 It is strange to see what a polishment so base a stuffe doth take. 1694 PHILLIPS *Milton's Lett. St.* p. xxxii, The person that took the pains to prepare it for his Examination and Polishment.

†**Po·lishure.** *Obs. rare.* Also **polissure.** [a. F. *polissure* vbl. sb.: see POLISH *v.* and -URE.] The fact or condition of being polished.

1611 COTGR., *Polissure*, polissure, burnishment, smoothnesse. 1652 J. HALL *Height of Eloquence* p. lxiii, His elegancie and polishure in all these..is inimitable.

‖ **Polissoir** (polĭswār). [F., a polishing instrument; f. *poliss-*, lengthened stem of *polir* to polish + *-oir* :—L. *-orium.*] A polishing instrument; = POLISHER 2. *spec.* a. in *Glass-manuf.*, A smooth block of wood with a long iron handle, used for flattening glass cylinders newly opened out; b. *Toilet.* An implement for burnishing the finger-nails (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

18.. *Glass-making* 129 (Cent. Dict.), The flattener now applies another instrument, a *polissoir*, or rod of iron furnished at the end with a block of wood. 1897 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Dec. 367 The desirability of trimming them [flint implements] to the shape which could most easily be ground down afterwards on a polissoir.

Politarch (pɒ·lĭtāɹk). *Anc. Hist.* [ad. Gr. πολιτάρχης (Acts xvii. 6), f. πολίτης a citizen + -αρχης ruler, governor.] A governor of citizens; the title of civic magistrates in some Oriental cities, as Thessalonica, under the Romans.

1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) I. ix. 308 At Thessalonica we find an assembly of people and supreme magistrates, who are called politarchs. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 513 They seized Jason and one or two others, and dragged them before the Politarchs. 1884 *United Presb. Mag.* Apr. 178/1 The seven politarchs who ruled the city when the arch was built.

Polite (pɒlə·ĭ·t), *a.* Also 5 **polyt, pollyte,** 6 **polyte.** [ad. L. *polīt-us* polished, accomplished, refined, cultivated, polite, prop. pa. pple. of *polīre* to smooth, polish. Cf. It. *polito* (Florio), F. *poli* (12th c. in Littré), etc.]

†1. *lit.* Smoothed, polished, burnished. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1485 The Arche withinne & without was hiled with golde polyt. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 1082 Throu polyt platis with poyntis persyt thair. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, I am enamour'd of this street now..tis so polite, and terse. 1671 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 8 Potters-Earth .. became like Sand .. exceeding polite and smooth. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 731 Polite Bodies, as Looking-Glasses. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antig.* XV. ix. § 6 Edifices..made of the politest stone.

†b. Cleansed, furbished, trim, neat, orderly. *Obs.*

1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* E j, Theyr monestery in every corner therof is all pollyte & clene. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C., Glaris* 427 At Suitz..the people..keep their houses neat and cleanly, and withal very polite and in good repair. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 77 To preserve these Chambers of the dead polite and clean.

2. *transf.* a. Of the arts, or any intellectual pursuits, esp. literature: Polished, refined, elegant; correct, scholarly, exhibiting a refined taste. (Now only in certain collocations.)

1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. viii, 3one is..the court rethoricall, Of polit termis. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. v, That they speke none englisshe but that which is cleane, polite, perfectly and articulately pronounced. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* vi. 98 That polite Poem (in whose composition Apollo seemes to haue giuen personall aide). 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 49 All the Lovers of Polite Learning .. give me thanks. 1726 C. D'ANVERS *Craftsm.* i. (1727) 4 My natural inclination to the politer arts. 1785-7 BONNYCASTLE *Astron.* i. 12 One of the most useful branches of a polite education. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 174 Every polite tongue has its own rules. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 532/1 In it metaphysics have again condescended to speak the language of polite letters.

b. Of persons (*a*) in respect of some art or scholarship, (*b*) in respect of general culture: Polished, refined, civilized, cultivated, cultured, well-bred, modish.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* viii. 91 One of the politest wits in the Kingdome for the Law. *a* 1664 KATH. PHILIPS *To Abp. of Canterb.* Poems (1667) 166 Majestick sweetness, temper'd and refin'd, In a Polite, and comprehensive Mind. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 39 ¶ 2 In all the polite Nations of the World, this part of the Drama has met with publick Encouragement. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 47 ¶ 14 Since his acquaintance with polite life. 1777 SIR W. JONES *Ess. Poetry E. Nat.* Poems, etc. 187 A very polite scholar, who has lately translated sixteen Odes of Hafez. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke* (1851) II. 142 Whatever the polite and learned may think.

c. Of refined manners; *esp.* showing courteous consideration for others; courteous, mannerly, urbane. (The chief current use.)

1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xxxix, [He] perceives that the wise are polite all the world over, but that fools are polite only at home. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man World* II. xx. (1823) 492 The French are the politest enemies in the world. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 151 Narses .. was endowed with the most polite and amiable manners. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 841 To them, to all, he was polite and free. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 426 He sent me the following polite acknowledgment of his having received the work. 1856 'Doing the polite' [see Do *v.* 11 j]. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 5/5 Lord Dufferin obtains..polite promises, but is not in a position to get anything more.

†**Polite,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *polīt-*, ppl. stem of *polire* to polish.] *trans.* To polish, refine; to clear up.

a 1676 HALE *De Successionibus* (1735) 50 There was some incertainty in the business of Descents, or Hereditary Successions, though it was much better polited than formerly. 1704 RAY *Creation* I. (ed. 3) 112 Exercises .. which polite Men's Spirits.

Poli·teful, *a. rare.* [f. POLITE *a.* + -FUL.] Full of politeness.

1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 436 The angrier..for being *done* by a frog-eating bloody-politeful set of Frenchmen. 1896 *Daily News* 27 June 8/4 They were not politeful these footpads.

Poli·tely, *adv.* [f. POLITE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a polite manner. †a. Smoothly. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* lf. xiv b/2 A soundinge..iron, the end wherof is rounde, and politely polishede. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* vii. Wks. 1851 III. 133 No marble statue can be politely carv'd, no fair edifice built without almost as much rubbish and sweeping. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 288 The rustick Work..is executed more politely.

†b. In a polished elegant manner; elegantly.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 265 In the middle is a neat Bridge, built more politely than the other. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 21 Thy comedies..shine, And read politely well. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* xiii. (ed. 2) 214 A Niece, whom he has politely educated in expensive finery.

c. Courteously; with refinement of manners.

1748 in Lady Chatterton *Mem. Ld. Gambier* (1861) I. ii. 18 We were very politely entertained with tea, &c. *c* 1775 WARTON (Mason), With the use of which I have been politely favoured. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* (1848) 191 He received us politely, but with a good deal of state.

Politeness (pɒlə·ĭ·tnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being polite.

†1. *lit.* Polish, smoothness of surface. *Obs.*

1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 5 Smoothnesse, and Politenesse, of Bodies. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. iii. 47 Glasse is clear from its politenesse.

2. Mental or intellectual culture; polish, refinement, elegance, good taste (of writings, authors, etc.). Now *rare.*

1641 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Aug., The politeness of the character and editions of what he has publish'd. 1725 COTES tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 215 The Elegance and Politeness of the Stile of it. 1768 HUME *Ess., Civil Liberty* xi. 51 Dresden, not Hamburgh, is the centre of politeness in Germany. 1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. § 86. 78 In politeness of Latin style .. we find an astonishing and permanent decline both in France and England.

3. Polished manners, courtesy. Also as a mock title for people of polite manners.

1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 108 Politeness may be defined a dextrous management of our Words and Actions whereby we make other people have better Opinion of us and themselves. 1735 J. THOMSON *Let.* 20 Oct. (*in Sotheby's Catal.* 19–22 Feb. (1896) 87) The gallant French this year have made war upon the Germans (I beg their Politeness's Pardon) like vermin—eat them up. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. i, The French will treat us with their usual politeness. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. vii. 45 Real politeness only teaches us to save others from unnecessary pain. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 83 Politeness is the ritual of society, as prayers are of the church. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 207 If politeness would allow me I should say, Perish yourselves.

‖ **Politesse** (pŏlĭtē·s). [F. *politesse* (1611 in Cotgr.), ad. It. *politezza* (Florio 1598), f. *polito* polite.] Politeness; in mod. usage generally with depreciatory connotation.

1717 GAY *To W. Pulteney* 152 Pardon me, Sir; we know the Paris mode, And gather *Politesse* from Courts abroad. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 200 He..reserves his *politesses* pretty much for his favourites. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 28 Sir Paul is skilled in all the tricks Of politesse and politics. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* ix. 228 Think, too, of the Tuileries etiquette;..the powdered and embroidered politesse of the guests.

† **Politian** (pŏlĭ·shăn). *Obs.* Also 6 politien, 6–7 pollitian, 8 polician. [a. obs. F. *policien* (Godef.) a citizen, a politician, f. *police* (POLICE *sb.*) + *-ien* (see -IAN).] One who studies or is expert in polity; a politician.

1584 LYLY *Sappho* I. iii, We pages are Politians. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 159 Politien is rather a surueyour of ciuilitie than ciuil, and a publique minister or Counseller in the state. 1649 W. G. *Surv. Newcastle upon Tine* A iij b, Mechanicks will presume to Step into Moses Chaire, and become Politians to contradict and controle whatsoever is acted and done. 1788 *Trifler* No. 3. 34 A polician..frequently effects such great revolutions in empires and kingdoms, as to a superficial observer would appear beyond the bounds of possibility.

Politic (pŏ·lĭtik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5 poli-, poletyk, 5–6 politik, polytyk, -e, 6 poli-, polyticque, -tick, -tik, -tyke, -tycke, 6–7 politicke, -tike, -tique, 6–9 politick, 7 pol'tick, 6– politic. Also 5 polly-, 5–6 polle-, 5–7 polli-, -tick(e, -tique, etc. [a. F. *politique* (14th c. as adj. in Godef.) political, ad. L. *politicus*, a. Gr. πολιτικός pertaining to citizens, civic, civil, political, f. πολίτης citizen (f. πόλις city, state): see -IC.]

A. *adj.* † **1.** = POLITICAL *a.* 1 (by which it is now superseded).

† *Politic translation*, the translation of a Jewish feast on grounds of public expediency. † *Politic year* = CIVIL year.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1742 They polytyk philosophyrs & poetes were. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11791, I am callyd 'vertu moral Polytyk & general'. 1556 BP. PONET (*title*) A Shorte Treatise of politike Pouuer, and of the true Obedience which Subjectes owe to .. ciuile Gouernours. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxii. 136 b, The politique estate of the Ragusins, is Aristocratie. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxi. (1623) 999 His ripe knowledge in politicke affaires. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* III. (1641) 124 The reason of Politick translation, was, that two Sabbaths or feast dayes might not immediately follow each other. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Com. Athens & Rome* Wks. 1755 II. I. 50 Those, who in a late reign began the distinction between the personal and politick capacity. 1709–29 V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Astron.* III. II. ii. 411 A Politick or Civil Year, is a certain number of whole Days, collected either from other causes or reasons, or from the Sun or Moon, or from the Periods of both Motions;..these being instituted by the People of any Nation, they are received. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. xxiv, Their superiours in politick and military virtues.

b. Pertaining or relating to a constitutional state, as distinct from a despotism; constitutional. *rare.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xviii. 105 Gouernauncis .. suche that ben politik (that is to seie, suche wherbi .. ouerers gouerne othere men vndir hem bi..worldli policie). 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 160 Græcia.. In the end from honest common wealthes, and politike government, the inhabitants were brought under tiranny. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 243 The politic royalty of England, distinguished from the government of absolute kingdoms by the fact that it is rooted in the desire and institution of the nation.

† **c.** *Politic body* = *body politic*: see BODY *sb.* 14.

1604 JAS. I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 97 It is the Kings part (as the proper Phisician of his Politicke-body) to purge it of all those diseases, by Medicines meete for the same. 1625 BACON *Ess., Boldness* (Arb.) 519 As there are Mountebanques for the Naturall Body: So are there Mountebanques for the Politique Body. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* III. ii, I being the stomach To the politic body of the state.

2. Characterized by policy; of persons, Apt at pursuing a policy; sagacious, prudent, shrewd; of actions or things, Judicious, expedient, skilfully contrived. **a.** In political or public affairs.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 163 Set a myrour of hine discrecioun To-fore youre face by polityk gouernaunce. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 139 Good, trewe, and pollettique councellours. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* Pref. (Arb.) 8 The wise, politike, and quiet spirites of this worlde. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, II. iii. 20 Then this Land was famously enrich'd With politike graue Counsell. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 348 He being a prudent and Politick Captain, ..resolv'd to make a desert of all the Country. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 249 Henry of Navarre was a resolute, active, and politick prince. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* III. ii, If this be politic, And well for thee and England .. Care not for me who love thee.

b. In non-political or general sense.

c 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl 1898) 356 3yt well ȝe se, he ys polytyke. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* viii. (1539) 13 More polytike in wysedome to improue their tenementes. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 273 Conserynyge theyr polytycke wyt and lerenyng in Physycke. 1688 PRIOR *Ode on Exod.* iii. 12 The helm let politic Experience guide. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 8 P 5 To learn of an enemy has always been accounted politick. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. E.* III. xvii. 473 Irritation is a passion which it is seldom politic to excite.

† **c.** Of an appliance: Ingeniously contrived; well adapted to its purpose. *Obs. rare.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 Schips, marchantdreis, ande mony politic verkmanlumis for mecanyc craftis.

d. In a sinister sense: Scheming, crafty, cunning; diplomatic, artfully contriving or contrived.

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 225 For greater daunger is ther to ariue in a straunge countrey where the inhabitants be pollitique. 1609 DEKKER *Foure Birdes Noah's Arke, Pellican* Wks. (Grosart) V. 79 Breake (O my God) all the snares which daily and howerly this politick hunter [Satan] pitcheth to intrap me. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 12 These being the craftiest and politiquest sort of knaves. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* ii. 95 The very notion we have of a Politic or Cunning Man,..one that knows how to compass his End. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 27 They are not so weak as to..imagine that you or I are playing any politic game with regard to them. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. xvi. 169 The one great fact of which her politic suiter took account.

¶ **3.** Polished, refined, cultured. *Sc. Obs.*

Erron. rendering of L. *politus*.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 85 The Ingles men, evin as the mair politick [L. *politiores*] Scottis, vses that ald Saxone toung. *Ibid.* 96 Vthiris of the mair politick sorte amang vs [L. *politiores*]. *Ibid.* III. 178 Thir verses albeit nocht verie politik [L. *politi*], ȝit throuch commendatione of ancient antiquitie maist probable.

B. *sb.* [With 1, cf. Gr. πολιτικός a politician; with 2 (OF. *politique*, 13th c. in Godef.), Gr. ἡ πολιτικὴ (τέχνη) the art of government; with 3, Gr. τὰ πολιτικά affairs of state, politics.]

† **1.** A politician. *Obs.*

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* C j, I doubte not, they had these consideracions that our polytikes haue. 1598 BACON *Sacr. Medit., Atheisme* Ess. (Arb.) 125 Amongst states men and politikes. 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 274, I could wish all Christian politiques to consider, that righteousnes is the best vpholder of states, and transgression in the issue proues their ouerthrow. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. Ded. 24 Now again, they are a Cabal of mere Politiques.

† **b.** An indifferentist in matters of religion, a temporizer, a worldly-wise man: orig. with reference to the *politiques* of France: see POLITIQUE.

1589 NASHE *Pasquil & Marfor.* 8 Secretarie Machiauell, a pollitick not much affected to any Religion. 1600 O. E. *Repl. Libel* I. v. 106 A carnall fellow, and a meere politicke. 1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 425 Worldlings, and Depraued Politickes, who are apt to contemne Holy Things. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 127 Play not the hypocrite, nor the politicke, who cares not what Religion bee, so some be.

† **2.** Policy; politics. *Obs.*

1588 SIR W. STANLEY *Dr. Allen's Seditious Drifts* 88 *margin*, Certeine ouersights in policie escaped this great politicien in this Pamphlet, which is mere politike. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 10 Those lewd bookes, which..may very justly be termed the politick of the vicious and the Libertines. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 190 The politick they pitch'd upon was this: some noblemen, barons, and burgesses .. met at Edinburgh. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* X. 361 This did not suit with Popish Politic.

3. *pl.* **Politics.** The science and art of government; the science dealing with the form, organization, and administration of a state or part of one, and with the regulation of its relations with other states (hence, *imperial, national, domestic, municipal, communal, parochial, foreign politics*, etc.). Also † *the politics*, public or social ethics, that branch of moral philosophy dealing with the state or social organism as a whole (*obs.*).

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 625 But noble men borne To lerne they haue scorne,..Set nothyng by polytykes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Ciuilis, Scientia ciuilis*, morall philosophie, the politikes. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xiv. § 2 (1622) 356 Morall Philosophie..hath three parts: Ecclesiastickes, Oeconomickes, and Politickes. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. (1847) 100/2 The next removal must be to the study of politics; to know the beginning, end, and reasons of political societies. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* (1874) I. Introd. 307 Politics consider men as united in society, and dependent on each other. 1789 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 94, I mean politics in the great sense, or that sublime science which embraces for its object the happiness of mankind. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 339 'The art of governing mankind by deceiving them', as politics, ill understood, have been defined. [Cf. POLICY *sb.*[1] 2, quot. 1796.] 1883 J. A. SYMONDS in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 150/1 Machiavelli..founded the science of politics for the modern world, by concentrating thought upon its fundamental principles. 1900 E. JENKS *Hist. Politics* 1 By *Politics* we mean the business of Government, that is to say, the control and management of people living together in a society.

b. *The Politics*: name of the treatise on political science, τὰ πολιτικά, by Aristotle.

1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* iii. § 13. 46 Aristotle in his first book of Politiques affirmes as a foundation of the whole politicall science, that some men by nature are made worthy to command, others only to serve. *a* 1656 USSHER *Power Princes* II. (1683) 134 As is observed..by Aristotle in his Politicks. 1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 529/1 His [Aristotle's] two treatises of the *Nicomachean Ethics* and the *Politics*, are together a refutation of the erroneous doctrines in moral and political philosophy contained in Plato's political speculations.

† **c.** Political actions or practice; policy. *Obs.*

1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Pop.* 23 O that our Courtiers at Oxford would admit of such politicks, and blush to publish any directly contrary. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Mem.* (1819) II. 137, I looke upon our neglect of severely punishing them as an high defect in our politiques. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 411 Calm, thinking villains, whom no faith could fix, Of crooked counsels and dark politicks. *c* 1740 CAREY *God save the King* ii, Confound their politicks, Frustrate their knavish tricks. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. ix. 259 What strange politics do we pursue?

d. Political affairs or business; political life.

1693 *Humours Town* 42 The Coffee-house Politicks are but Fewel to Factions. 1710–11 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 141, I was an hour with him [Harley] this morning deep in politicks, where I told him the objections of the October Club. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 117 She now agrees with me, that Politicks is not the Business of a Woman. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. i, There is no act of treachery, or meanness of which a political party is not capable; for in politics there is no honour. 1879 GLADSTONE *Sp. at Dalkeith* 26 Nov., I said myself in 1865, and I believed, that it was out of the range of practical politics, that is to say the politics of the coming election. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 124/1 Sugden .. re-entered politics, and sat in the House of Commons.

e. The political principles, convictions, opinions, or sympathies *of* a person or party.

1769 *Junius Lett.* iv. (1772) I. 35 Most men's politics sit much too loosely about them. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 656 Whig politics .. appear to exert a peculiarly unhappy influence upon character. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 77 Too pleasing a vision to be shattered by..the politics of shoemakers and costermongers. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 74 Oh what are all your politics to women? A woman's politics are the man she loves.

f. *fig.* Conduct of private affairs; politic management, scheming, planning.

1693 *Humours Town* 135 Thou art as much out in thy Politicks, as a Niggardly Father is. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVI. vii, Mrs. Western was reading a lecture on prudence, and matrimonial politics to her niece. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* iii, The governor's letter contains a budget of family politics. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 3/2 The fall of a skirt is a point second to none in importance in the politics of a costume.

Political (pŏlĭ·tikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *politicus*, a. Gr. πολιτικ-ός (see prec.) + -AL.]

1. Of, belonging, or pertaining to the state or body of citizens, its government and policy, esp. in civil and secular affairs; public, civil; of or pertaining to the science or art of politics.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 15 b, The politicall lawe doeth cause an outward discipline to bee obserued, euen of the wicked. 1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* II. Pref., We must discerne betweene .. political order .. and .. the vices incident thereunto. 1646 S. BOLTON *Arraignm. Err.* 317 In the execution of them, the King performs his part in a politicall way, the officers of the Church in an ecclesiasticall way. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* V. xxxix. 282 The share that he may have in directing the affairs of the society may be called his political liberty. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* I. ii. 310 The distinct nationalities that composed the empire [Rome]..had lost all care for political freedom. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* vii. 100 What they [the Achaians] seem to have brought with them was the true political spirit; the faculty of nation-making.

b. Of persons: Engaged in civil administration; civil, as distinct from military; *spec.* in India, having, as a government official, the function of advising the ruler of a Native State on political matters, as *political agent, resident*, etc.

1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 212 The junior political officers who served under the Envoy, or the Political Agent in Upper Sindh. 1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 29 July, The civilian Generals, or 'political' chiefs, are obnoxious to the regulars. 1880 GEN. ADYE in *19th Cent.* Apr. 699 The first class comprises political residents, commissioners of provinces, magistrates, officers of police and public works. 1903 *Whitaker's Almanack* 495/2 States of India..governed by their native Princes, Ministers, or Councils, with the help and under the advice of a political officer of the Supreme Government.

2. Having an organized government or polity. † Said also of animals such as bees and ants (*obs.*).

1657 S. PURCHAS (*title*) Theatre of Politicall Flying-Insects. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 921 The Philosopher doth rightly reckon them in the number of the Civil or Political sort of Insects. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. vii. § 89 There only is a Political or Civil Society. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* xii. 358 Every independent political community, that is,..every independent community neither in a state of nature..nor in a state of anarchy.

3. Relating to, concerned or dealing with politics or the science of government.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 65 Beside his politicall wisdome; his knowledge in Philosophie was very large. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 5 P 3 Men of a more political understanding are persuaded that we shall now see..the ambassadors of France supplicating for pity. 1830 *Declar.* 25 Jan. in C. M. Wakefield *Life T. Attwood* x. (1885) 134 We propose to form in Birmingham a General Political Union of the Industrious Classes, for the Protection of Public Rights. 1888 *Spectator* 16 May, The ladder which leads to the highest positions in political life.

4. Belonging to or taking a side in politics or in connexion with the party system of government; in a bad sense, partisan, factious.

1769 *Junius Lett.* iii. (1772) 27 It has all been owing to the malice of political writers, who will not suffer the best and brightest of characters..to take a single right step for the honour or interest of the nation. 1846 WRIGHT *Ess. Mid. Ages* II. xix. 259 The oldest English political song preserved relates to the battle of Lewes in 1264. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxv. V. 241 He tried to make what is, in the jargon of our time, called political capital out of the desolation of his house and the blood of his first born. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Assessment*, Political assessments, in the United States, contributions of money levied by political committees upon..office-holders..in order to defray the expenses of a political canvass. 1900 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 7/1 Another feature of an American Presidential campaign is the lavish display of political 'buttons'.

† **5.** = POLITIC A. 2. *Obs.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. i, I cannot beget a project with all my political brain yet. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 106 And sometimes suggested dangerous, but political Counsels to the Tartars. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. x, 'Twas natural and very political too in him, to have taken a ride to Shandy-Hall. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 19 From two to three hundred acres..is the most political Farm. *a* 1817 in Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. i. 334 Whether it would be political to interfere, or whether ..it would be expedient, must continue a doubt with us.

6. Phrases. † *Political arithmetic*, statistics of the population, trade, revenue, expenditure, etc. of a state; *political day* = *civil day* (DAY 6); *political economy*, *economist*: see ECONOMY 3, ECONOMIST 4; *political geography*, that part of geography which deals with the boundaries, divisions, and possessions of states; *political prisoner*, a person imprisoned for a political offence; *political verse*, in Byzantine and mod. Gr. literature (Gr. *πολιτικός* popular), verse composed by accent, not quantity, with an accent on the last syllable but one, esp. an iambic verse of this kind of fifteen syllables.

1682 PETTY *Tracts rel. Ireland* (1769) 90 (*title*) Essay in *Political Arithmetick, concerning the Growth of the City of London. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Political Arithmetick*, is the Application of Arithmetical Calculations to the Extent and Value of Lands, Number of People, Publick Revenues, Taxes, Commerce, Manufactures, or whatever relates to the Power, Strength, Riches, &c. of any Nation or Common-wealth. 1735-7 BERKELEY *Querist* § 530 Whether a little reflection and a little political arithmetic may not shew us our mistake? 1766 PHILLIPS s.v. *Day*, The Parts of a *Political or Civil Day. [1615 ANTOINE DE MONTCHRESTIEN (*title*) Traicte de *l'Œconomie Politique.] 1740 LD. WESTMORELAND in Johnson *Debates* (1787) I. 109 As in private life, so in political œconomy, the demands of necessity are easily supplied. 1767- [see ECONOMY 3]. 1780 HARRIS *Philol. Inq.* II. ii. Wks. (1841) 410 There are *political verses of the same barbarous character by Constantinus Manasses, John Tzetzes, and others of that period. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* liii. (1828) VII. 132 [Byzantine poets] confound all measure of feet and syllables in the impotent strains which have received the name of political or city verses.

B. *sb.* (elliptical use of the adj.)

1. A political person; in various senses: **a.** = Political agent, officer, resident: see above, 1 b.

1848 SIR H. B. EDWARDES in Lady Edwardes *Mem.* (1888) I. 152 Another of your Lordship's 'young politicals' joined me in the middle of all this fighting, Edward Lake. 1856 J. W. COLE *Mem. Brit. Gen. Penin. War* I. ii. 71 He was superseded..by a 'political', who..involved him in a carte and tierce correspondence with the Madras officials. 1898 GEO. SMITH 12 *Indian Statesm.* ii. 27 A man of action, whether as a soldier, a 'political' in the Anglo-Indian sense, or an administrator.

b. A politician; a political writer. *rare*—[1].

1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* II. App. 97 If there is a heaven for politicals, you and I, Sir, will ask for a corner of the Tory bench.

c. = *political prisoner*: see above, 6.

1888 *Century Mag.* XXXV. 402 Politicals suffering from nervous affections, .. are often put in the same ward with insane criminals. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Mar. 2/3 The flogging of politicals, and their degradation to the general treatment of thieves and murderers.

† **2.** *pl.* Political matters, politics. *Obs.*

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 521 Alway in Naturalls: sometime in Politicalls. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 308 He held a due respect to superiors, especially in politicals.

Hence **Poli·ticalism**, political activity or partisanship; **Poli·ticalize** *v.* **a.** *trans.* to make or render political; **b.** *intr.* to practise or discourse on politics; **Poli·tcaliza·tion**, the action of making political.

1846 WORCESTER, *Politicalism..(Ch. Ob.).* 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* X. 11 If you continue to allow him to politicalize in your paper. 1902 *19th Cent. & after* Nov. 733 In America the politicalisation can do more harm than elsewhere.

Poli·tically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].]

† **1.** In a politic manner; = POLITICLY. *Obs.*

1588 *Exhort. Her Majesty's Faithf. Subj.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 95 The general musters, and training up of men, most prudently and politically commanded. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 226 Henry politically pretended the utmost submission to the pope's decrees. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 348 The protest .. was only made politically, in order to deprecate my vengeance.

2. In a political manner; in respect of politics; from a political point of view.

a 1638 MEDE *Daniels Weeks* xxvii. Wks. (1672) 707 They should serve them not religiously, but politically, inasmuch as they were to become Slaves and Vassals to Idolatrous Nations. 1750 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 19 Mar., Never lose view of..the political affairs of Europe. Follow them politically, chronologically, and geographically, through the newspapers. 1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 1 A national establishment of religion is essentially vicious in its constitution—philosophically, politically and religiously. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 91 That part of the old Danish realm..which is now politically part of Sweden.

† **b.** As an organized state. *Obs.*

1779-81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 73 Society, politically regulated, is a state contra-distinguished from a state of nature.

So **Poli·ticalness.** *rare.*

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Politicalness*, political quality.

Politicaster (politikæ·stəɹ). *rare.* [ad. It. (or Sp.) *politicastro*: see POLITIC B. and -ASTER.] A petty, feeble, or contemptible politician.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 56 Though all the Tribe of Aphorismers, and Politicasters would perswade us there be .. reasons against it. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 200 But those politicasters who to Spain are not just, will to Germany not be generous. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Nov. 2/2 The country is very sick of the parliamentary squabbles of politicasters.

Politician (politi·shăn). Forms: 6 **politicien, -itien**, 7 **-isian, -ition, poll-**, 7- **politician**, (7-8 **-itian**). [f. as POLITIC + -IAN. So F. *politicien.*]

† **1.** A politic person; chiefly in a sinister sense, a shrewd schemer; a crafty plotter or intriguer. *Obs.*

1588 SIR W. STANLEY *Dr. Allen's Seditious Drifts* 89 Some ouersights euen in pollicie, escaped this great politicien. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* A ij b, The Diuel..was..so famous a Politician in purchasing, that Hel, which at the beginning was but an obscure Village, is now become a huge citie. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 241, I am whipt and scourg'd with rods, Netled, and stung with Pismires, when I heare Of this vile Politician Bullingbrooke. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. B. D'Ambois* I. i. Plays 1873 II. 119 This was a sleight well maskt. O what is man Vnlesse he be a Politician. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ii, The squire ..was, however, in many points, a perfect politician. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 352 Ah, Bever, Bever! you are a miserable politician. Do you know, now, that this is the luckiest incident that ever occurr'd?

2. One versed in the theory or science of government and the art of governing; one skilled in politics; one practically engaged in conducting the business of the state; a statesman.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. iii. (Arb.) 23 Poets.. were the first lawmakers to the people, and the first polititiens, deuising all expedient meanes for th'establishment of Common wealth. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 33 That felicity Politisians search after, as being the end of civil life. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Politician*, one that understands the Art of Governing, or judges of it according to the Parts he has acquired. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. 96 Sir Edward Coke, and the politicians of that time, conceived great difficulties in carrying on the projected union. 1886 M. ARNOLD in *Times* 22 May 15/6 Lord Salisbury's bad and arbitrary temper (I mean, of course, as a politician,..) is as great a misfortune to the country as Lord Randolph Churchill's intriguing.

b. One keenly interested in politics; one who engages in party politics, or in political strife, or who makes politics his profession or business; also (esp. in *U. S.*), in a sinister sense, one who lives by politics as a trade.

1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* IV. ii, So politicians thrive, That with their crabbed faces, and sly tricks,..do wriggle in Their heads first, like a fox, to rooms of state. 1632 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Iron Age* Wks. 1874 IV. 364, I am a pollitician, oathes with me Are but the tooles I worke with, I may breake An oath by my profession. 1646 BUCK *Rich. III*, I. 17 Lewis.. was meerly a Politician, and studied only his owne ends. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. ix. 14 Politicians you suggest, Should drive the nail that goes the best. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. Nat.* IV. ii. (1869) II. 41 That insidious and crafty animal, vulgarly called a statesman or politician, whose councils are directed by the momentary fluctuations of affairs. 1828 MACAULAY *Hallam* Ess. (1887) 96 A politician, where factions run high, is interested not for the whole people, but for his own section of it. 1879 SIR G. CAMPBELL *White & Black* 68 The word 'politician' is used in a bad sense in America, as applied to people who make politics a profession, and are skilled in the art of 'wire-pulling' and such practices.

† **3.** = POLITIQUE, POLITIC B. 1 b. *Obs.*

1656 M. CASAUBON *Enthus.* iii. 171 The use of this Theologie, doth most properly belong unto Jesuits,..and Jesuited Politicians, whether they call themselves Lutherans, or Calvinists, or otherwise. 1672 [H. STUBBE] *Rosemary & Bayes* 7 The Ecclesiastical Polititon writ in England. 1681 BAXTER *Acc. Sherlocke* iv. 189 Their minuter differences have made some called Lutherans,.. some Independents, and some Politicians or Erastians.

4. (See quot.)

1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 247 The White-Eyed Flycatcher (*Muscicapa cantrix*) .. uses so much newspaper in the construction of its home, that it has gone by the name of Politician.

5. *attrib.*

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 43 This is one of your politician subtleties, to make Angoulesme passe for a Frontier Towne. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1195 Your ill-meaning Politician Lords,..Appointed to await me thirty spies. 1885 A. FORBES *Souvenirs Continents* 247 A turbulent..sea of political or rather politician quasi-social life.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Politi·cianess**, a female politician; **Politi·cianism**, practice characteristic of a politician; **Politi·cianize** *v. trans.*, to involve in party politics.

1887 *Sat. Rev.* 11 June 833/1 Mr. Lawson, and the other Radical politicians and *politicianesses who went out for to see what was to be seen at Bodyke. 1843 R. PAUL *Let.* 15 Aug. in *Mem.* xiii. (1872) 168 Lord Aberdeen has got his bill passed. It is a mere piece of *politicianism. 1893 *Resolution* in *Voice* (N. Y.) 26 Oct., The corrupt ring that has bound this city hand and foot,..*politicianizing the public schools and perpetrating bold, gigantic robberies upon the taxpayers.

† **Politi·cious**, *a. Obs.* Also 9 **-itious.** [irreg. f. *politic* or *politici-an* + -OUS.] Politic; political.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 171, I could..perceive that Mahomitan Princes are terrible crafty or mysteriously politicious. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, One of the public and polititious warldly-wise men that stude up to prevent ane general owning of the cause in the day of power.

Poli·ticist (-sist). *rare.* [f. POLITIC + -IST.] A student of political science: see quot.

1885 SEELEY *Pol. Sc.* (1896) i. 26 The historian,..according to me, is distinct. He is not an anthropologist or an ethnologist, but if I may coin a word, he is a politicist. The political group or organism—the state—is his study.

Politicize (poli·tisəiz), *v.* [f. as POLITIC + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To act the politician; to discourse *on* or engage in politics.

1758 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 11 June, But while I am politicising, I forget to tell you half the purport of my letter. 1759 *Ibid.* 13 Sept., Not to politicize too much, I believe the world will come to be fought for somewhere between the North of Germany and the back of Canada. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* v. (1872) 177 Burns .. could have governed, debated in National Assemblies; politicised, as few could. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Dec. 2/2 We talk and squabble and politicize about education as a vote-catching agency.

2. *trans.* To render political, give a political character to.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xi. I. 285 It was the tendency of the enlightened men of Athens, from the days of Solôn downwards, to refine and politicise the character of Thêseus. *Ibid.* xiv. 351 Conôn .. historicises and politicises the whole legend. 1887 *Hour Glass* I. 60 The opinion of a literature-taster..whose intellectual palate is so 'politicised' that he detects a smack of the hustings where there is none.

Hence **Poli·ticizing** *ppl. a.*, talking politics.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 578 Besides the politicising and haranguing crowds..your course is hemmed by countless others. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 711 Politicizing sophists threaten to be a perfect curse to India.

† **Po·liticless**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. POLITIC *a.* or *sb.* + -LESS.] Void of policy; impolitic.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxix. 34 Betwene his politikelesse pittie (erst saide) And his pitteles polisie, (here erst laide).

Politicly (pŏ·litikli), *adv.* [f. POLITIC *a.* + -LY [2].] In a politic manner; with policy or skilful management; shrewdly; artfully, craftily.

1477 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 188, I thynke notte a mater..weell handelyd, nor poletykly dalte with. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 9 Your maiestie most victoriously prudently politikely and indifferently hath .. ruled this realme. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 230 The allegacions were well proued by the Englishmen, and pollitiquely defended by the Frenche men. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* 255 The death of Mahomet had been politiquely concealed one and fortie daies. 1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* 5 They rule so politickly and so well. 1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 147 As if he had purposely and politicly selected them as a foil to himself. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* I, He had politicly relaxed a little towards her.

‖ **Politico** (poli·tiko). Now *rare.* [It. or Sp. *politico* politic, a politician.] A politician: chiefly with bad connotation.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* A ij b, The nimblest Politico's of these active times. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* II. xxxii. 256 He is counted cunning, a meere politico, a time-server, an hypocrite. 1692 *Vindication* Pref. A ij, Methinks I hear now our cautious Politico's asking, What ayls this Person? 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 129 Academic London politicos.

Politico-, combining form of Gr. *πολιτικό-ς* civil, political, prefixed to an adj. to denote **a.** 'politically, as applied to politics', as *politico-arithmetical*, *-ethical*, *-geographical*, *-moral*, *-orthodox*; **b.** 'political and . . .', as *politico-commercial*, *-ecclesiastical*, *-judicial*, *-military*, *-peripatetic*, *-sacerdotal*, *-scientific*, *-social*, *-theological*; also used to form sbs., as *politicoma·nia*, a mania for politics; *politicopho·bia*, a horror of politics.

In **a.** used in the formation of adjectives from phrases containing *political*: e. g. from *political arithmetic*, *politico-arithmetical*; from *political economy*, *politico-economical.*

1815 J. LAWRENCE in *Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 21 Of .. greater weight in the *politico-arithmetical scale. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 420/2 The construction of the *politico-commercial road from Darjiling to the Jyalap Pass. 1811 I. MILNER in *Life* xxiii. (1842) 467 Ecclesiastical..and *politico-ecclesiastical questions of great magnitude. 1884 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* July 45 Study of men's *politico-ethical ideas and sentiments. 1805 *Edin. Rev.* VI. 468 Mr. Cockburn's *politico-geographical sketch. 1825 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indic.* (1830) 76 One *politico-judicial virtue his lordship has. 1785 *Eng. Rev.* VI. 349 The *Politico-mania, and passion for news, our author alledges are unfavourable to literature. 1853 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxxi. 230 In all the Spanish possessions in America, we must distinguish between the ecclesiastic, *politico-military, and financial divisions. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 128 The question .. is at present a very serious one, involving .. many moral and *politico-moral issues. 1802 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 7 This *politico-orthodox rage in the mouth of a preacher may be profitable as well as sincere. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. ii, Those wise tenets,..so well inculcated in that *Politico-Peripatetic school of Exchange-alley. 1830 HAY & BELFRAGE *Mem. A. Waugh* iii. (1839) 225 Many others displayed unmanly fears and the horrors of a *politicophobia. 1824 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Infidelity* (1833) 83 The code of religion, which he [Moses] delivered.., was not a *politico-sacerdotal fraud. 1778 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 338 The *politico-scientific ladies of France. 1856 MORRIS in

Mackail *Life* (1899) I. 107, I can't enter into *politico-social subjects with any interest.., things are in a muddle. 1752 Warburton *Letter to Hurd* (1809) 108 *Politico-theological dissertations on Calvinism, Jansenism, Quietism, &c. 1890 Lowell *Milton's Areop.* Latest Lit. Ess. (1891) 95 Williams .. lived long enough to learn that there were politico-theological bores in Rhode Island.

Poli·tico-econo·mical, *a.* [See Politico-.] Pertaining or relating to Political Economy.

1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* i. (1868) 69 The real politico-economical signification of every one of those, beautiful toilettes. 1873 H. Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* (1882) 44 Certain classes of sociological facts (as the politico-economical).

‖ **Politicone** (-ōˈnē). *Obs. rare.* [It. f. Politico + *-one*: see -oon.] A politician: with hostile or contemptuous connotation.

a 1734 North *Exam.* (1740) 118 He was certainly a true Matchiavellian Politicone, and his Skill lay in the English State. — *Life L.d. Guilford* (1808) I. 155 (D.) Formal visitants and politicones often found him out at his chambers.

Poli·tico-reli·gious, *a.* [See Politico-.] *prop.* Pertaining to religion as influenced by politics; but commonly used as = Pertaining to politics as influenced by or dependent on religion; at once political and religious.

1754 O. in *Connoisseur* No. 47. P1 We were inspired with a detestation of the pope and pretender by the *Nonjuror*, the *Jesuit Caught*.. and such other politico-religious dramas. 1804 C. B. Brown tr. *Volney's View Soil U. S.* p. xiii, A power raised upon a politico-religious foundation, like that claimed by the Stuarts of England. 1841 Trench *Parables* iii. (1877) 46 The parables of Jesus have not primarily a moral, but a politico-religious, or theocratic purpose. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 80 The politico-religious schemes of the Lollards.

So **Poli·tico-reli·gionist,** one whose religion is of a political character, or a matter of politics.

1835 *Brit. Mag.* VII. 596 Candour.. is a quality well nigh banished from the morale of the politico-religionist.

Politied (pǫ·litid), *a. rare.* [f. Polity 1 + -ed 2.] Having or provided with a polity.

1816 G. S. Faber *Orig. Pagan Idol.* III. 625 A powerful and regularly politied people. 1827 — *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) III. 63 A distinct and regularly politied Church. 1838 — *Inquiry*. 571 Communions, which God himself has declared to be Churches, however they originated, and however they were politied.

† **Poli·tion.** *Obs. rare*−°. [ad. L. *polītiōn-em* polishing.]

1623 Cockeram, *Polition*, a diligent trimming.

‖ **Politique** (polĭtī·k). [F., prop. adj. 'political': see Politic.] One of an opportunist and moderate party, which arose in France *c* 1573, during the Huguenot wars, and regarded peace and political reform as more urgent than the decision by arms of the religious quarrel; also, a sympathizer with this party elsewhere, and, opprobriously, an indifferentist, a temporizer: = Politic B. 1 b.

1609 Bible (Douay) *Exod.* x. Comm., Because Gods servants may not temporize in religion, politiques unjustly charge them to have bad intentions. 1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* A ij b, Interpreters henceforth grow out of date, While Politiques usurpe the Sultans state. 1879 Saintsbury in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 564/1 The middle party, the Politiques of Europe,—the English, that is, and the Germans,—sent help to Henry. 1888 *Q. Review* CLXVII. 21 At Court three great parties were contending for power in the King's name—the Guises, the Reformers, and the Politiques.

Politique, -ly, obs. forms of Politic, -ly.

Po·litist. *rare.* [f. Polity 1 + -ist.] A student of or writer on polity.

1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 132 The pleasant society of Politists and Legists like Hooker, Taylor, &c.

Polititian, -ious: see Politician, -ious.

Po·litize, *v. rare.* [f. Polity 1 + -ize.]

† **1. a.** *trans.* To deal with or treat (a matter) politicly, diplomatically, or craftily. **b.** *intr.* To deal politicly or diplomatically. *Obs.*

1598 Tofte *Alba* (1880) 65 Matters of state we vse to politize, Procrastinating for aduantage great. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 66 Let us not.. stand hankering and politizing, when God.. points us out the way.

2. *intr.* † **a.** To have political relations. *Obs.* **b.** To deal in politics. *rare.*

1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 12 The Hebrew it selfe.. temporizing with Ægypt, politizing with Chaldea, merchandizing with Syria,..&c. grew so out of knowledge among the people, that they vnderstood not our Sauiours *Eli, Eli*. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 182/1 To politise in advance is foreign to our nature.

3. *trans.* To make into citizens.

1884 J. Rae *Contemp. Socialism* iii. 123 Its [the state's] inhabitants must be politized, for they, all of them, constitute the *polis*.

† **Po·liture.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *politure* (Godef.) = It. *politura*, L. *polītūra* polishing, smoothing, f. *polīt-*, ppl. stem of *polīre* to polish: see -ure.] Polishing; polish, smoothness.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 21 Arch.. of a rare and subtile devise, and exquisite polyture. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* I. vii. (1635) 183 The roundnesse and politure, wherein Art should shew as much exactnesse as shee can. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. iii. § 2. 62 Stones.. either of a Shining Politure, or capable of it. 1776 Da Costa *Conchol.* 59 The beauty, politure, and hardness of shells, render them very fit for luxurious uses.

b. *fig.* Elegance of form; polish of style, manners, or habits; refinement.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 232 If you should lende it (from the beginning to the ending,) but sutable descriptionate politure. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* Ep. Ded., The neatness and politure of the Cat and Peacock. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 69 To reduce them [men] from the politure and improvement of after times.. to their first caves and cottages. 1720 J. Johnson *Canons Eng. Ch.* Pref. to Rdr. 64 Men who wanted the Politure and Fineness of this Age.

Polity 1 (pǫ·lĭti). Also 7 **pollity.** [a. obs. F. *politie* (1419), ad. L. *polītīa*: see Policy *sb.*1]

1. Civil organization (as a condition); civil order.

1538 Starkey *Englande.* ii. 51 Pepul, rude, wythout polyty, can not vse that same [riches] to theyr owne commodyte. 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* III. ii. § 1 The necessitie of Politie, and Regiment in all Churches may bee held, without holding any one certayne forme to bee necessary in them all. Nor is it possible that any form of politie, much less politie ecclesiasticall should be good, vnlesse God himselfe bee authour of it. 1763 J. Brown *Poetry & Mus.* iv. 40 In the Course of Time, and the Progress of Polity and Arts, a Separation of the several Parts.. would naturally arise. 1868 Gladstone *Juv. Mundi* vi. 171 At a period antecedent to the formation of anything like polity in Greece.

b. Administration of a state, civil government (as a process or course of action).

1715 Atterbury *Serm., On Matt.* xxvii. 25 (1734) I. 127 They .. were permitted.. to retain some Shadow of their Domestick Polity and Government. 1774 Jefferson *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 144 The original constitution of the American colonies possessing their assemblies with the sole right of directing their internal polity. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 60 To.. help the growth Of civil polity, and self-control.

2. a. A particular form of political organization, a form of government.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxix. § 3 We preferre .. the Spartan before the Athenian Politie. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 4/2 Of this kind also are the several Polities, and forms of Government. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Queen-bee*, Some authors who have written of the polity of bees. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* I. i. 3 *note*, The polity of Scotland remained as yet Celtic, though it very soon afterwards became feudal.

b. An organized society or community of men; a state. Also *fig.*

1650 Trapp *Comm. Exod.* xx. 17 Moses his politie could not consist of true worshippers and professed Idolaters. 1828 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) I. 152 The polity of Literature is called a Republic. 1840 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1842) V. xv. 244 The soul of man is intended to be a well-ordered polity. 1894 Huxley *Evol. & Ethics* 23 Those who should be kept, as certain to be serviceable members of the polity.

† **3.** Mode of administering or managing public or private affairs; *esp.* skilful, prudent, or crafty management; statecraft; = Policy *sb.*1 2–4. *Obs.*

1562 Pilkington *Expos. Abdyas* Pref. 9 It is wonderfull to consider the foolishnes of the wicked, which in politie wold seme so wise. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* I. i, Tis your best politie to be ignorant. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* vii. 229 The false Polity of Raising and Sinking. 1828 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, II. xii. 310 The age of heroism .. was now settling into the age of polity. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* III. iii, I know little of stratagem and polity, wars and kings.

† **4.** A political principle. *nonce-use. Obs.*

1642 J. M[arsh] *Argt. conc. Militia* 27 This is the reason of that pollity of Law, that the King is body politick.

† **Polity** 2. *Obs.* [erron. f. Pole *sb.*2 + -ity.] = Polarity I.

1613 M. Ridley *Magn. Bodies* vi. 23 This alteration of polity is to be obserued likewise in Magneticall needles. *Ibid.* xvii. 64 From those paralels and parts, neere adioyning to the pole, the greatest vigour of politie Magneticall doth proceed. *Ibid.* xx. 72 That contrary nature of pollity that was in the weake Load-stone.

Politzerize (poli·tsĕrəiz), *v.* [f. name of Adam Politzer, a physician of Vienna, who introduced the method: see -ize.] *trans.* To inflate the tympanic cavity of (a patient) through the Eustachian tube. Hence **Poli·tzerizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Poli·tzeriza·tion.**

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 786 Politzerising is now performed carefully several times, when a perforation sound is heard. *Ibid.* 791 The Eustachian tube.. was found to be pervious, as ascertained by auscultation during Politzerisation. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 116 Politzerization.

Poliue, obs. form of Pulley.

Polk (pōulk), *v.* [ad. F. *polker* (Littré), f. *polka* Polka *sb.*1] *intr.* To dance the polka.

1845 M. J. Higgins *Ess.* (1875) 219 He waltzes smoothly, and gallops rapidly, and polks intricately. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVI. 704 He.. waltzed and polked with their daughters. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* II. xi, I shall not waltz or polk with any one.

Polk, obs. Sc. spelling of Poke; var. Pulk 1 and 2.

Polk, -e, obs. and dial. var. Pulk, pool.

Polka (pōu·lkă), *sb.*1 [= Fr. and Ger. *polka*: of uncertain origin. The dance being of Bohemian origin (orig. called *Nimra*), it has been suggested that *polka* was a corruption of Czech *pulka* half, 'a characteristic feature being its short half steps'. Another suggestion is that the actual form, whether or not altered from *pulka*, is due to the Polish *Polka*, fem. of *Polak* a Pole: cf. *polonaise* (also a dance), and *mazurka*.]

1. A lively dance of Bohemian origin, the music for which is in duple time.

Danced at Prague in 1835, at Vienna 1839, Paris 1840, London in the spring of 1842: see *Memoirs of Anna M. W. Pickering* (1903) xvi. *Polka-mazurka*, a modification of the mazurka dance to the movement of a polka.

1844 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Mar. 184 The Polka is an original Bohemian Peasant Dance, and was first introduced into the fashionable saloons of Berlin and St. Petersburg, about eight years since. 1844 Lady Eastlake *Jrnls. & Corr.* I. 153 A polka danced, only fit for children, because so evidently taught by a dancing-master. 1846 Smart Suppl., *Polka*, an Hungarian dance lately fashionable in France and England. 1852 Miss Yonge *Two Guard.* xiii. (1861) 237 'Thank you, I don't dance the Polka', she replied. 1881 *Academy* 15 Oct. 293 Prof. Helmar has the credit of being the inventor of the polka. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 28 Apr. 5/1 It was Taglioni who introduced into England the polka. 1898 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* 372/1 The polka was so popular that it absorbed every other dance for a time. Articles of food, of clothing and of ornament, were named after it. *attrib.* 1844 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 May 301/1 You perform the galop waltz, substituting the Polka step just described.

2. A piece of music for such a dance, or in its time or rhythm.

1844 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Apr. 280 The fourth polka by Jullien. Composed on National Bohemian and Hungarian Melodies. 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxv, You recognise those polkas? They were played at Devonshire House .. the day of the grand fête. 1867 Miss Braddon *R. Godwin* I. i. 16 The guard's horn playing a joyous polka made itself heard among the trees.

3. On account of the popularity of the dance, *polka* was prefixed as a trade name to articles of all kinds (cf. quot. 1898 in 1); e.g. the *polka curtain-band* (for looping up curtains), *polka-gauze, polka hat*; **polka-dot,** a pattern consisting of dots of uniform size and arrangement.

1846 W. S. Cotterell (*title*) Polka Song Book and Old Friends Olio, containing Comic and Sentimental Songs, Duets, Glees, etc. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* I. 367/1 We won't give a farden for the polka hats with the low crowns. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 378/1 To the end of which [line] he looped,.. what is known, technically, as the 'polka', with scarlet body, red hackle, brown and white tail, and wings of the spotted feathers of the guinea-fowl. 1884 J. G. Bourke *Snake Dance Moquis* xi. 119 Covered with white spots which .. resolved themselves into white arrow-heads and polka-dots, the latter arranged longitudinally, two and two. 1894 Eliz. L. Banks *Camp. Curiosity* 160, I bought a black and white polka-dot blouse and apron for work in the laundry.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Po·lka** *v. intr.*, to dance the polka; **Polka·ic** *a.*, of the character of a polka; **Polkama·nia,** a mania for dancing the polka; **Po·lkery,** an assembly for polka dancing; **Po·lkist, -iste,** one who dances the polka.

1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 299 It does my heart good .. to see the .. children in our crowded London courts and alleys waltzing and *polkaing to the Italian organ-grinder's music. 1873 Miss Broughton *Nancy* II. 174 We have at length.. left them to polka and schottische their fill until the morning. 1884 G. Moore *Mummer's Wife* xii, He thought Offenbach too *polkaic. 1845 *Punch* VIII. 86 The *Polkamania is said to have originated in Bohemia. 1883 W. B. Squire in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 8/1 Vienna, Paris, and London were successively attacked by this curious 'polkamania'; clothes, hats, and streets were named after the dance. 1845 M. J. Higgins *Ess.* (1875) 218 Morning *polkeries in Grosvenor Square. 1846 G. Warburton *Hochelaga* I. 93 Some of them are the best waltzers and *polkistes I have ever seen. 1851 (*title*) The Lorgnette or Studies of the Town,.. contains Notices of Lodgings in Town, Fashionable Man,.. the Polka and Polkists, Watering Places, [etc.].

Polka (pōu·lkă), *sb.*2 [f. prec. sb., perh. with reference to Polish *Polka* a Polish woman: cf. *polonaise.*] A woman's tight-fitting jacket, usually knitted: more fully *polka-jacket.*

1844 Thackeray *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1898 VI. 89 Ladies with the most flaming polkas, and flounces all the way up. 1849 *Mechanic's Mag.* 17 Nov. 479 The Lady's Winter Polka Jacket. 1851 *Voy. to Mauritius* vi. 224 A sort of polka-jacket of dark cloth with many buttons. 1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 185 Stalls, laden with pretty gimcracks,.. wax flowers and Berlin and crochet work, prints, and polkas, and women's ware of all sorts.

Poll (pōul), *sb.*1 Forms: 3–7 **polle,** 4–7 **pol,** 5–7 **powle,** 6 **poulle, poule, poil** (*Sc.*), 6–7 **powl** (9 *north. dial.*), **poul(e, pool(e,** 6–9 **pole,** 5– **poll**; *β.* 5– *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **pow.** [ME. *polle* = obs. Du. *polle* 'le sommet de la teste' (Plantin), *polle, pol* 'caput', 'cacumen, fastigium' (Kilian), LG. *polle* head (Brem. Wb.); cf. Sw. dial. *pull* (Rietz), Da. *puld* crown of the head.]

I. The head of man or beast.

1. The human head. (Not now in serious literary use, but common dialectally everywhere.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 309/325 Þe deuel.. wolde fain henten heom bi þe polle. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1265 Pulden prestes by þe polle & plat of her hedes. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5530 Thei stroke to-gedir with so gret myght, That bothe vpon here pol lyght. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Pol, or heed, *caput*. 1584 Hudson *Du Bartas' Judith* vi. in *Sylvester's Wks.* (1621) 750 From his shoulders flew his powle. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 282 Looke, if the wither'd Elder hath not his Poll claw'd like a Parrot. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 71 Keeping his poule warm. 1820 L. Hunt *Indicator* No. 22 (1822) I. 172 Receiving the full summer showers with an uncovered poll. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Powl*, the head. 1876 Browning *Pacchiarotto* ix, From silk shoe on heel to laced poll's-hood.

β. a 1500 P. Johnston *Thre deid Powis*, Behold our heidis thre Oure bolkit eine, oure peilit powis bair. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 122 Andro Bartayne.. slew sa mony piratis, that mony puncheounis full of thair powis he sent to Scotland, in gifte, to the king. 1828 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, The..veteran soldier that has..heard the bullets whistle as often as he has hairs left on his auld pow.

1871 C. Gibbon *Lack of Gold* xx, How is she ever to get married wi' a shaven pow?

† b. The figure or representation of a head.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 246 A pardoun with a peys of led and two pollis amydde.

† c. A skull. *Obs. rare.*

1721 Ramsay *Elegy on Patie Birnie* viii, He..strak sounds fast and clear Out o' the pow [a mare's skull]. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* ii. ii, Boils up their livers in a warlock's pow.

2. *spec.* **a.** The part of the head on which the hair grows; the head as characterized by the colour or state of the hair.

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* iv. v. 196 His Beard as white as Snow, All Flaxen was his Pole. 1713 C'tess Winchelsea *Misc. Poems* 105 With wadling Steps, and frowzy Poles. 1790 Burns *John Anderson my Jo* i, Blessings on your frosty pow, John Anderson, my jo. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* xix. 308 His back was bunch'd, his visage swarthy, curl'd His poll. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* vi, His bald head might be seen alongside of Mr. Quilter's confidential grey poll.

b. The crown or top of the head; the vertex.

1382 Wyclif *Dan.* xiv. 35 The angel of the Lord toke hym in the poll of hym [1388 top, *Vulg.* in vertice], and bare hym in an her of his hed, and putte hym in to Babyloyne. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 217 He wolde bende his heer from þe pol toward þe foreheed [L. *a vertice ad frontem*]. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 127 A great round hole in the pole of his head. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 359 Of diseases incident to the eares, and poll of the head. 1622 Walter *Diary* (Camden) 62 The said fish [a Caaing whale] had no gills, but put out his water at his pole.

c. The nape of the neck.

1671 Blagrave *Astrol. Physic* 120, I did..apply raw-fresh meat to the powl or Neck to help..divert the humour from the Eyes. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* (1677) 260 The arrow pierc'd his neck from throat to poll. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 259 ₱ 1 You shall sometimes see a Man begin the Offer of a Salutation, and..stop short in the Pole of his Neck. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVII. 302 An old hare.. having a wire round its neck so tight as to have sunk beneath the skiff in its pole. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 48 The bend should be from the poll of the neck.

† **3.** *spec.* The head and shoulders of the ling (as a dish). Cf. Jowl *sb.*3 2. *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. iii, Hee lookes like a shield of brawne,.. or a drie Poule of Ling vpon Easter-eue, that has furnisht the table all Lent. 1671 Crowne *Juliana* iii, I was to go buy a pole o' Ling for the womens dinner.

† **4.** As the prominent or visible part in a crowd, put for: A person or individual in a number or list (= Head *sb.* 7 b); esp. in phrases, e. g. *by* (*the*) *poll*, by counting of heads; *poll by poll*, one by one; *per poll*, for each person. *Obs.* (exc. in legal phr. Challenge *to the polls*.)

c 1325 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 237 Of gedelynges, gromes,.. Harlotes, hors-knaves, Bi pate and by polle. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 33 Payde to here lordes for euery pol twenty schillynge. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 21 § 2 None of the said petite Jury..shall..have any Chalenge to tharray or to any persone or poll therin being ympanelled. *c* 1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 4 Ye shall here the names poll by poll. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 329 The people greatly murmured for the payment of foure pence the polle. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* xiii. vii. (1622) 188 There was bestowed a gift of forty sesterces by powle to the people. 1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt. Parall.* 20, I agree to pay for the carriage of euerie poll or person of them a certaine summe of money. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* 167 Some small tax..as a Penny vpon euery Poll, called a head-penny. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 51 Challenge to or by the Poll, is where exception is taken to any one, or more, as not indifferent. 1648 Prynne *Plea for Lords* 27 Take them poll by poll. 1678 Wood *Life* 20 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 401 An act for raising money by the poll. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 516 Voting by poll..and by orders.

† **b.** A unit in numbering domestic animals, chattels, etc. (Plural after a numeral also *poll.*) Cf. Head *sb.* 7 c. *Obs.*

1494 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 322 A dosyn pollys of pewter vessell. 1534 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 30, ij powles of peauter vessell. 1544 R. Broker *Will* (B. M. Addit. MS. 24925 lf. 21 b), Twenty poule of pultrey. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* iv. iii. 190 The muster file, rotten and sound,..amounts not to fifteene thousand pole.

5. Short for Poll-tax. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

1684 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 99 Ordered That a pole Proportionably Layd, be debated y^e^ first thing tomorrow. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2449/4 An Act for Raising Money by a Poll, and otherwise, towards the Reducing of Ireland. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 71 The Jews, even the poorest of them in the time of their Commonwealth, paid a Poll. 1884 S. Dowell *Taxes Eng.* III. 6 When.. in 1379 an immediate sum of money was required..recourse was again had to a poll.

II. From I. 4, app. influenced by Poll *v.*

† **6. a.** Number of persons as ascertained by counting heads; muster. *Obs.*

1607 Shaks. *Cor.* III. i. 134 We are the greater pole, and in true feare They gaue vs our demands. *a* 1613 Overbury *Trav.* 6 The List and the Poll are neuer far disagreeing.

† **b.** Counting of heads or persons; census. *Obs.*

1659 J. Harrington *Lawgiving* ii. ii, As appears by the Pole made of Israel in the Wilderness of Sinai. 1674 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 137 He is.. afraid to come either to the pole or to the scale; either to weigh, or to number authorities with us. 1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* I. ii. (1715) 8 He instituted a Poll causing every one of the Men to cast a Stone into a place appointed.., and..found them to be in number Twenty-Thousand.

7. The counting of voters; the entering of votes, in order to their being counted: esp. at the election of parliamentary or other representatives.

1625 Sir G. Moore in *Commons Debates* (Camden) 36 Sir John Savill had sufficiently proved the pole demanded. 1653 *Relat. Proc. late Parlt.* 10 The Question being put, the No's,..had they been prosecuted to the pole, had hazarded the passing of it. 1706 Phillips s. v. *Poll* vb., To take a Poll, to set down the Names and reckon up the Number of Persons concern'd in an Election. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. ii. 178 All soldiers quartered in the place are to remove..and not to return till one day after the poll is ended. 1857 Maurice *Ep. St. John* xiii. 204 It is not a question to be decided by a poll. 1863 H. Cox *Institl.* I. viii. 113 If..a poll be demanded on behalf of any candidate rejected on the show of hands, the returning officer is bound to grant the poll.

b. The voting at an election; the action, or time and place, of voting.

1832 *Act* 2 *Will. IV*, c. 45 § 67 The Poll shall on no Account be kept open later than Four o'Clock in the afternoon of such Second Day. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 321 What pious men in the parlour will vote for what reprobates at the polls! 1866 Bright *Sp., Reform* 16 Oct. (1876) 379 Come to the poll and give their vote for the election of a new Parliament. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xxv, The recent reverses at the poll were only the result of a temporary irritation. 1883 *Women's Suffrage Jrnl.* Nov. 198/1 The exclusion of women from the poll was, in his opinion, nothing short of an injustice.

c. The numerical result of the voting; the total number of votes recorded, as *a heavy* or *light poll.*

1853 Lytton *My Novel* xii. xxxii, He stood at the head of the poll by a majority of ten. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 July 5/3 At Wednesday's election there was a lighter poll. 1906 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 7/5 After the declaration of the poll Mr. —— thanked his constituents for their splendid victory.

III. Transferred uses.

8. a. The top or crown of a hat or cap.

1704 J. Pitts *Acc. Mohammetans* vii. (1738) 99 Some what like the Poll of a Man's Hat-case covered with Broad-cloth. 1819 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 7/2 Surmounted by the poll of an old hat without a brim. 1875 R. F. Burton *Gorilla L.* (1876) II. 116 From the poll of his night-cap protruded a dozen bristles of elephant's tail hair.

b. The flat or blunt end of the head of a miner's pick or similar tool.

1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 91 Pickaxes with a rounde poll. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 835 The pick...One side used as a hammer is called the poll, and is employed to drive in the gads. 1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss., Poll* (Cornw.), the head or striking part of a miner's hammer.

¶ **9.** The chub or chevin. (? an error: cf. Pollard *sb.*3)

1755 in Johnson. 1773 *Ainsworth's Lat. Dict.*, A poll (club fish), *capito* [edd. 1736–61 Pollard, or chub fish, *capito*].

IV. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 7) *poll-list, -room*; (sense 1) *poll-clawed* adj.; **poll-adz**, an adz with a poll or striking face opposite the cutting edge (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **poll-book**, an official register, previous to the Ballot Act, of the votes given; now, of those qualified to vote; † **poll-booth**, the booth or temporary structure at which the poll was formerly taken at a parliamentary election, a polling-booth; **poll-clerk**, a clerk who records the votes polled; a clerk officially connected with an election; † **poll-gatherer**, the collector of a poll-tax; **poll-hill**, *humorous*, a 'bump' on the head; † **poll-mad** *a.*, wrong in the head, mad-brained (cf. Bilwise); **poll-pick**, a miner's pick with a poll: see quot. 1865; **poll-shorn** *a.*, having the head or crown shorn; *esp.* tonsured; **poll-sickness** = Poll-evil; † **poll-silver** = Poll-tax; **poll-suffrage**, universal suffrage (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). Also Poll-bill, etc.

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 51 (1713) II. 70 A Man in Authority promises to examine a *Poll-book by the Poors-book,..if he put off the Performance of it till the Poll being declared, it cannot answer any End. 1832 *Act* 2 *Will. IV*, c. 45 § 68 The Poll Clerks at the Close of each Day's Poll shall enclose and seal their several Poll Books, and shall publicly deliver them..to the Returning Officer or his Deputy. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* xii. xxvii, Convinced by his poll-books that he is not able to return both himself and his impertinent nephew. 1810 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 51 It [Parliament] is becoming a *poll-booth of faction, a place for giving public suffrages on those questions of opinion, which divide the metropolitan public. 1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 280 Divide it into four practically equal districts, and, in a central spot of each, place the Poll-booth. 1855 Browning *Old Pict. Florence* xxviii, You bald old saturnine *poll-clawed parrot. 1832 *Poll Clerk [see *poll-book*]. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* xii. xxxii, Even the poll-clerks sprang from the booth. 1646 G. Daniel *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 99, I'de nothing Glorie, if I had ben made *Poll-gatherer of the Groats. *a* 1845 Hood *Craniol.* i, Scratching o'er those little *pole-hills. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkb.* 244, I saw by the *poll-list that he voted for the Prince. 1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 6 Cicero..perceiving his countrimen to become changelings, in being bilwise and *polmad, and to sucke with the Greeke the conditions of the Grecians. 1865 Bauerman *Geol. Models* 22 **Poll pick*, single-armed pick with a short bluff point, used for hard veins and working into rock where the slitter is too slight. 1874 J. H. Collins *Metal Mining* (1875) 60 In the.. West of England the picks are usually of the form.. called the 'poll-pick', having its head or 'pane' steeled as well as its point.. It serves as a hammer as well as a pick. 1859 Smiles *Self-Help* 30 A sum sufficient to have him put in a state fit to appear in the *poll-room. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 144 Lecherous *polleshorne masse monging priestes. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sculler* xxviii. Wks. iii. 21/2 All the poleshorne crew of Antichrists. 1809 Rider Haggard in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 529 *Poll-sickness..is a kind of sore or abscess which horses get from knocking their heads against low door-ways and is commonly supposed to be incurable. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 100 The Tribute Capitatio [*margin* *Pol-silver], which was personall and imposed upon the poll or person of every one. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex., Poll-money, Poll-silver, Poll-tax*, a capitation-tax.. formerly assessed by the head on every subject according to rank.

Poll (pǫl), *sb.*2 [An alteration of *Moll*, a familiar equivalent of *Mary*: cf. *Peg* = *Meg*, Margaret.] A familiar equivalent of the name *Mary* (see also Polly), used as the conventional proper name of any parrot; hence, = parrot. So **Poll-parrot**, also used *fig.*, and *attrib.*, with reference to the parrot's unintelligent repetition of words.

[1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Epigrams* xxxi. Wks. ii. 265 A Rope for Parrat..O, pretty Pall, take heed, beware the Cat.] 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 27 ₱ 6 Among the Favourites to the Fair One, he found her Parrat not to be in the last Degree: He saw Poll had her Ear, when his Sighs were neglected. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) I. viii. 141, I..learnt him [a parrot] to know his own name;..Pol. *Ibid.* xiii. 214, I had taught my Poll. *a* 1800 Cowper *Parrot* iii, Sweet Poll! his doating mistress cries, Sweet Poll! the mimic bird replies. *a* 1845 Hood *Batchelor's Dream* iv, The mother brought a pretty Poll. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* iv. 30 You've no more manners than a poll-parrot. 1861 Sala *Dutch Pict.* xv. 235 This one poll-parrot cry had been taught him. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 347/1 Their mania for seeing spies in poll-parrots.

Hence **Poll-parrot** *v. trans.* and *intr.* = Parrot *v.*; **Poll-parroty** *a.*, of or proper to a parrot.

a 1845 Hood *Hymeneal Retrospect.* i. iv, A sort of Poll-Parroty bill! 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* ii. xii, Ain't you got nothing to do but..stand a Poll Parroting all night? *Ibid.*, I am willing to be silent for the purpose of hearing. But don't Poll Parrot me.

Poll (pǫl), *sb.*3 *Camb. Univ. slang.* Also **pol.** [Traditionally explained as ad. Gr. *οἱ πολλοί* the many, the multitude.] *The Poll*: those students who read for or obtain a 'pass' degree; the passmen. *To go out in the Poll*: to come out in the list of those who take a pass degree. † *Captain of the Poll*: formerly, the highest amongst those who passed without honours.

[1791 in Bp. Wordsw. *Scholæ Acad.* (1877) 323 Poor Quiz Carver is one of the *οἱ πολλοί*.] 1831 Darwin in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 183 You will see what a good place I have got in the Poll. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 289 Those who do not aspire to honours and in the vernacular of Cambridge are styled the Poll (*οἱ πολλοί*). 1852 Bristed *Eng. Univ.* 342 There are also many men every year contending for the Captaincy of the Poll, some for the honor, such as it is, others because it will help them to get Poll pupils afterwards. 1889 W. A. Wright *FitzGerald's Lett.*, etc. I. 2 FitzGerald..modestly went out in the Poll in January 1830, after a period of suspense during which he was apprehensive of not passing at all.

b. Short for *poll degree, poll examination.*

1884 Payn in *Cornh. Mag.* Apr. 370, I took my degree, however—a first-class 'Poll'; which my good folks at home believed to be an honourable distinction.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poll coach, degree, -man.*

1837 B. D. Walsh *Hist. Acc. Univ. Cambr.* (ed. 2) 88 In the examination for an ordinary, or Pol degree.., the subjects are very limited. 1848 '*New Triposes*' in C. Whibley *Cap & Gown* 228 Go, Pollmen! nay, ye needs must go; for so the Heads determine. 1865 L. Stephen *Sketches Cambridge* 99 Next above schoolmasters in the scale of misery, I should place what we call a 'poll coach'. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. vi. cii. 446 Separation.. between pass or poll men and honour men. *Ibid.* 448 The poll or pass degrees of Cambridge or Oxford.

† **Poll, polle**, *sb.*4 *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Origin unascertained.] A measure of land in Ireland, of 50 or 60 acres.

1607 Davies *Lett. Earl Salisb.* i. Tracts (1787) 223 They reserved unto him a chief rent of ten shillings out of every poll (being a portion containing three score acres or thereabouts) in lieu of all Irish cuttings and exactions. 1689 R. Cox *Hist. Irel.* i. Expl. Index, *Polle* of Land is fifty Acres.

Poll (pōl), *a.* and *sb.*5 Also 6–8 **pole**, 5–7 **pol-**. [Short for *pold*, Polled *ppl. a.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Polled or cut even at the edge (see Poll *v.* 3): applied to a legal writing or deed executed by a single party, and therefore not indented, as in Deed poll, Poll deed (q. v.), *writing pole.*

1523– [see Poll deed]. 1588– [see Deed poll]. 1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* i. (1635) 43 Such a lease [a lease for years] may be made by writing Pole.

2. in *Comb.* **a.** in names of animals without horns, as *poll-sheep.*

1773 G. White *Selborne, Let. to D. Barrington* 9 Dec., As soon as you..mount Beeding-hill, all the flocks..become hornless, or, as they call them, poll-sheep.

† **b.** (Usually *pol-*.) In names of beardless varieties of cereals, as *polbarley, polbere, polwheat.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Polbere, corne, idem quod hastybere, *trimensis*. 1574 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* XIV. 234 All manner of croppe ȝerelie..viz. wheet, rie,..barley, ottes, bigge, polbarley. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 559 Pol-wheat both red and white, yea and Barley also, is threshed and driuen out of the husk vpon a floore.

B. *sb.* Short for *poll-beast, -ox, -cow* (see A. 2 a); *esp.* one of a breed of hornless oxen.

1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 73 The cattle are.. hardier than the Galloway Poles, or the short-horned breed. 1876 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 2/2 [They] gather in admiring groups

behind Tillyfour's big poll. 1880 *Ibid.* 7 Dec. 2/3 The first prize in one of the classes for Scotch Polls.

Poll (pōul), *v.* Forms: 4–5 **pollen**, 4–6 **polle**, 5– **poll**; also 5–7 **powle**, 6 **pol**, 6–7 **powl**, **poul(e**, **poulle**, **poole**, 6 **pol**, 7–8 **pole**. *Pa. pple.* (see POLLED *ppl. a.*). [A number of disconnected derivatives of POLL *sb.*[1] in its various senses. Branch I is the most difficult to account for, since the expected primary sense would be to take, not the hair, but the poll or head off: cf. HEAD *v.* 1. No corresponding vb. is recorded in the cognate langs. which have the sb.]

I. 1. *trans.* To cut short the hair of (a person or animal); to crop, clip, shear; also **b.** with the head, hair, etc. as object. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xli. 14 Anoon at the comaundement of the kyng thei polliden Joseph [1382 doddiden, L. *totonderunt*] led out of prisoun. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 155 Many shepe can she polle, bot oone had she ay. 1540 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 302 To Edmond Gresbroke, barbar, for pollying my Lord Talbot.., xx*d*. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D iij b, I come plain to be polde, and to haue my beard cut. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 174 Polling and shaving him. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 56 He .. who being singular is Poled and closely Cut among those who wear a Bush. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 128/2 Pole me, is cut my hair.

b. 13.. [see POLLED *ppl.a.* 1]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 101 Sche pollyd here hevyd priuely,..& in an Abbey, ferre thens, sche was made a munke. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1619) ***iij/2 The Romaines were in Rome 454 yeares without eyther powling or shaving the haires off the bearde of anie man. 1572 R. H. tr. *Lauaterus' Ghostes* (1596) 59 Putting knives unto his head, and therewith polling off his haires. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 192 Being commaunded to come and pole the Emperours head. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus' Antiq.* VII. xi. § 3 David .. was in such grief that he had not polled his head. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 62 They polled their crowns.

II. 2. To cut off the top of (a tree or plant); *esp.* to top or head (a tree) at a few feet from the ground that it may throw out branches; to pollard; also, to lop the branches of.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 105 Some trees there are, which if you cutte and poule often, will fade and die. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxxvii. § 2. 139 Ciues are.. cut and polled often, as is the unset Leeke. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 91 We prune, and poll, and cut our trees into unnatural shapes. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 486 Again I'll poll The fair-grown yew tree, for a chosen bow. 1889 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 221 There were some beautiful willows, and now the idiot Parson has polled them into wretched stumps.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Glasse* G.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 139/2 When ministers powl the pride of common-weal. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 159 Powle the broad Plains of their branchy glades. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 215 He will mowe all downe .. And leaue his passage poul'd.

† **c.** To cut off the head of an animal or thing; to behead: cf. HEAD *v.* 1. *Obs.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 35 Some [pilchards] are polled (that is beheaded), gutted, splitted, powdred and dried in the Sunne. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVI. 112 Twas Ioues deed: Who, as he pold off his darts heads; so, sure he had decreed, That all the counsels of their warre, he would polle off like it, And giue the Troians victorie. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cornwall* I. (1662) 194.

3. To cut even the edge of (a sheet, as in a deed executed by one person). Cf. POLL *a.* 1.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 229 A Deed poll is that which is plaine without any indenting, so called, because it is cut euen, or polled. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 296 A deed made by one party only is not indented, but polled or shaved quite even. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1875) 151.

4. To cut off the horns of (cattle). See POLLED *ppl. a.* 2.

III. 5. *fig.* To plunder by or as by excessive taxation; to pillage, rob, fleece, strip; to despoil (a person or place) *of* (anything). *arch.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxii. 119 Whiche were wythin their enmyes tentes & pauyllions, whiche they powlyd & brought doune. 1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* 3 Subiectes..that be after this facion yerely polled. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 46 Their tenauntes.. whom they polle and shaue to the quycke by reysing their rentes. 1565 *K. Daryus* (Brandl) 775 He doth poule poore men and lyueth by theyr sweat. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 158 Daily new devices to poll the poor priests of their money. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* I. 134 The people here mow their hay three times a yeare, and I am affrayd they are powled [*ed.* 1698 polled] as often with taxes. 1681 WHARTON *Mutations*, etc. *Empires* Wks. (1683) 139 When the Prince doth too much Poll his Subjects with heavy Tributes and Exactions. [1874 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. XXI. i. 123 Men whom he had tolled and polled..assailed him in the public streets.]

† **b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To practise extortion, commit depredations. *Obs.*

1521–2 *Cardnall Wolse* 61 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 335 All prowde knavys full of dysdayne, And þat Can bothe polle & shave. 1566 DRANT *Horace* iii. B v, He, for to lend to moe, Doth sheare, and shave and powle, and presse. 1613 *Answ. Uncasing of Machivils Instr.* E iv, But if too nerely thou dost pinch or poule, It may be burdensome vnto thy soule.

† **c.** Phr. *To poll and pill*: see PILL *v.*[1] 9. *Obs.*

1545, etc. [see PILL *v.*[1] 9]. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 287 Not to poll and pill, to extort and wring out of the people what he could. 1650 CROMWELL *Lett. & Sp., Declar.* Jan., Whom you have fleeced and polled and peeled hitherto.

† **d.** *trans.* To get by extortion or pillage. *Obs.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Mowbray's Banishm.* xxii, Myghty summes whiche I had from hym polde.

IV. † 6. To pay as poll-tax. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* III. (1697) 57 The Man that poll'd but Twelve-pence for his Head.

V. † 7. To count heads; to enumerate (persons, etc.). *Obs.*

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 160 To little purpose is it that we should stand powling the reformed Churches, whether they equalize in number those of his three kingdoms. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 65 So prodigious a number ..as are said to have been poll'd in the Twelve Tribes at one time. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) I. 148 If they can poll an indifferent number out of a mob..to attest a story of a witch upon a broomstick, .. they triumph in the solid proof of their new prodigy.

8. To take the votes of, register the suffrages of; in *pass.* to have one's vote taken, to record a vote.

1625 [see POLLING *vbl. sb.* 5]. 1679 WOOD *Life* 27 Feb. (O. H. S.) II. 443 We were poled by two writers, without swearing, in the Divinity School. 1679 *Essex's Excell.* 7 There were about 500 came to the Town on purpose to be Polled for Collonel Mildmay and Honeywood. 1723 DR. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 9 I. 79 Whether some Hundreds of Persons were not polled for Hopkins and Feast. 1858 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 10 Dec. (1876) 297 Would it be tolerated by the people of this country, if they were fairly polled? 1867 *Ibid.* 20 June 403 That more excellent way of polling by the Ballot. *a* 1888 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches*, etc. 379 (Cent.), I believe you might have polled the North, and had a response, three to one: 'Let the Union go to pieces, rather than yield one inch'.

b. Of a candidate for election: To bring to the poll as voters; to receive (so many votes).

1846 in WORCESTER. 1864 in WEBSTER. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. iii. 71 Don't poll your men. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 26 Nov. (Cassell), His Liberal opponent polled two thousand four hundred and eighty-six votes. 1892 GOLDW. SMITH *W. L. Garrison* viii. 102 Birney polled just enough votes to defeat Clay and throw the government directly into the hands of Slavery.

9. *intr.* To vote at a poll; to give one's vote.

1678 SIDNEY in *S. Papers* (1746) I. 153 Many refused to pole, and others would give no Voice. 1679 *Essex's Excell.* 8 Those that Polled against the Collonel. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 73 P 15 All such that shall Poll for Sir Arthur de Bradly, shall have one Chaldron of good Coals gratis. 1885 *Act* 48 *Vict.* c. 17 § 9 (3) So that..an equal number of electors may..poll in each district.

b. *trans.* To give or record (a vote).

1717 TICKELL *Lady to Gentl. at Avignon* Poems (1790) 189 Shall he .. pole for points of faith his trusty vote? 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 117 Votes were not polled in the Olympus of Homer.

10. *Comb.* **Po·ll-groat**, *a.*, that polls groats, extortionate.

1888 MORRIS *Dream J. Ball* 15 The valiant tiler had smitten a poll-groat bailiff to death with his lath-rending axe.

Hence **Po·llable** *a.*, that can be polled; having the right to have one's vote recorded.

1844 (*title*) List of Pollable Persons within the Shire of Aberdeen, 1696. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 83 Supposing all votes to be pollable.

Poll, obs. erroneous f. POLE; obs. f. POOL *sb.*[1]; var. POL *Obs.*

Pollack, pollock (pɒ·lək). Forms: (6 *Sc.* **podlok**), 7– **pollock, pollack.** See also PODLER, PODLEY. [Origin obscure: Gael. *pollag*, Ir. *pollóg*, *pullóg*, seem to agree in form, but are applied to fresh-water fishes, entirely different from this (see POLLAN, POWAN); Ger. and Du. *pollack* are from Eng. The 16th c. Sc. was *podlok* (whence later *podlo'*, PODLEY, etc.). It does not appear which of the two forms *podlok* and *pollock* was the original.]

A sea-fish of genus *Pollachius*, allied to the cod, but having the lower jaw protruding; comprising several species used for food in Europe and America, *esp.* the true or whiting pollack, *P. pollachius*, of European seas, also called *greenfish, lythe*, etc.; and the green pollack or COAL-FISH, *P. virens* or *carbonarius*, of the North Atlantic generally.

[1502 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 148 Item, to the men that brocht podlokis to the King in the schip,..xij d. 1525 in *Exc. e Libris Dom. Jac. V* (Bann. Cl.) 7 Grenbans, podlokis, .. crunans.] 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 32 Brets, Turbets, Dories, .. Pollock, Mackrell, &c. *a* 1672 Rawlin Pollack [see RAWLIN]. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 154 The Pollack... During summer they are seen in great shoals frolicking on the surface of the water. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 172 The Pollack is much less abundant on some parts of our coasts than the Coalfish. 1864 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 80. 1885 *American* X. 78 The pollack is a large fish, often running up to twenty pounds or more. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 354 The liver of the Pollock yields a great quantity of oil.

† **b.** Applied to the Powan of Loch Lomond. *Obs.*

1827 AIKMAN tr. *Buchanan's Hist. Scot.* I. 28 One [fish] of a peculiar species and very delicious flavour, which they call the pollack [*orig.* I. xxiii. pollacas vocant].

† **c.** See quots. *Obs.*

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 271 (*Hebrides*) See several small whales, called here Pollacks. *Ibid.* 323 Whales, pollacks, and porpesses.

d. as *Comb.* 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 331/1 A couple of hours pollock-fishing.

Hence **Po·llacking** *vbl. sb.*, fishing for pollacks.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 370 Going out pollocking with some of the wild youngsters of the west. 1886 *Globe* 22 July 3/1 Equipped for an evening or morning's pollacking.

† **Po·llage.** *Obs.* Also 6 **pollag.** [app. f. POLL *v.* + -AGE, after *pillage*, etc.; but often associated with the exaction of *poll-money*.] **a.** Extortion or legalized robbery. **b.** Exaction of a poll-tax.

1538 BALE *Brefe Comedy* in *Harl. Misc.* (Math.) I. 206 A publicane I am, and moch do lyve by pollage. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiii. (1874) 55 Some wil say yes, his tributys, and other pollagys, be taken from him. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 32 As though these pollages and pillages were not ill enough. 1894 *Pop. Sc. Monthly* XLIV. 299 In Switzerland this pollage is still levied.

‖ **Pollam** (pɒ·lăm). *East Ind.* [ad. Telugu *pāḷemu*, Tamil *pālaiyam*: cf. POLIGAR.] A feudal estate or territory held by a poligar.

1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill* Wks. IV. 79 There was no pollam, or castle, which in the happy days of the Carnatick was without some hoard of treasure. 1795 WYNCH in J. H. Nelson *Madura* IV. (1868) 15 Having submitted the general remarks on the Pollams I shall..observe that in general the conduct of the Poligars is much better than could be expected. 1798 WELLINGTON *Suppl. Desp.* (1858) I. 148 The polygars of the neighbouring pollams.

Pollan (pɒ·lăn). Also 8 **pullein**, 8–9 **pollen.** [Cf. Gael. *pollag*, Ir. *pollóg*, *pullóg*, ? f. Ir. *poll* inland lake + *-óg* (*-ag*), *-an*, Celt. deriv. formatives.] A species of fresh-water fish, *Coregonus pollan*, found in the inland loughs of Ireland (L. Neagh, Earne, Derg, Corrib, etc.). It belongs to the same genus as the Powan or Gwyniad, and the Vendace (with both of which it has been mistakenly identified, as by Pennant and R. C. Hoare).

1713 NEVILL *Lough-Neagh* in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 262 The English call them fresh Water Herrings, for want of another Name; for Pollan is an Irish Name. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 177 (*Ireland*) The Pullein, or, as some call it, the fresh-water herring. 1807 SIR R. C. HOARE *Tour Irel.* 224 The pollen, which is the same as the *ferra* of the lake of Geneva. 1864 J. G. BERTRAM in *Vac. Tour* 65 The powan of Loch Lomond and the pollan of Lough Neagh are not the same fish, but both belong to the Corregoni; the powan is long and slender, while the pollan is an altogether stouter fish. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Mar. 9/4 Notice that it is illegal to buy, sell, or expose for sale, .. any fresh water fish other than pollan, trout, char, and eels, between the 15th day of March and the 15th day of June, both inclusive.

† **Pollange.** *Obs. rare.* [? a. OF. *palange* (14th c. in Godef.) a lever for launching boats (in 13th c. *palanche, palangue* a pole or yoke for carrying buckets) = It. *palanga*, L. *p(h)alanga* carrying pole, roller: see POLANCRE.] ? Some appliance for lifting.

1373 in Riley *Lond. Mem.* (1868) 369, 2 upties, 2 pollanges ..20 poleynes, 2 wyndyng poleys, 2 skeynes of poletwyne.

Pollankan, obs. form of PALANKEEN.

† **Po·llantine.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Origin unknown. Cf. POLLACK c.] ? A porpoise.

1557–8 PHAER *Æneid* V. O iv, Onweldy whales..And pollantines, and armies broade of seales, and dolphins blewe.

Pollarchy (pɒ·lăɹki). *rare.* [f. Gr. πολλ-οί in phr. οἱ πολλοί the many, the multitude, after *monarchy, oligarchy*, etc.: cf. POLYARCHY.] The rule of the multitude; government by the mob.

1862 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* II. 340 A contest.. between those representing the oligarchical principle and the pollarchy. 1881 E. PEACOCK in *Academy* 15 Oct. 287 Pollarchy .. if used with circumspection would raise any rural person.

† **Po·llard,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [app. f. POLL *sb.*[1] + -ARD (in reference to its device, a head: cf. the names *crocard, rosary, leonine, eagle*, etc. given to other foreign coins).] One of various base coins of foreign origin, current in England in the end of the 13th c., as an equivalent of the penny; in 1299 declared illegal.

1299 in *Liber Custumarum* (Rolls) I. 187 Ordene est par nous e nostre Counsaill, .. qe la mauveise moneie, qe hom apele 'crocard' e 'pollard', e autre tele male moneie, ne courge en nostre dit reiaume, auxi com ad fait cea en ariere. 1308–9 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 273/2 A ly furent disaloue sur sun ascunt LIV li del polards, del temps qe ele pollard corust pur une Esterlyng. *a* 1363 HIGDEN *Polychronicon* (Rolls) VIII. 288 Rex Edwardus damnavit subito monetam surreptitiam et illegitimam quam pollardas, crocardos, rosarios nominabant, qui paulatim et latenter loco sterlingorum irrepserant. 1387 TREVISA *transl.*, Kyng Edward dampned sodeynliche fals money þat was slyliche i-brouȝt up: Men cleped þe money pollardes, crocardes and rosaries, and were putte forþ litel and litel and priveliche in stede of sterlynges. First þey made oon of hem worþ an half peny, and þan he fordede hem all out. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 182. 1601–2 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 41 If .. the obligee refuseth the money when it is tendered in pollardes, which afterward are embased. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1636) 186 The same King likewise called in certaine counterfeit pieces coyned by the French called Pollards. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 78 Forreign Coyns and Counterfeit-Money, cry'd down, or considerably loar'd by Edw. I by the Name of Pollards, Crocards, Staldings, Eagles, Leonines, Rosaries, and Steepings. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. ii. 178 A considerable circulation of Flemish coins, apparently of low purity... Pollards, Crockards, Scaldings, Brabants, Eagles, Leonines [etc.].

Pollard (pɒ·lăɹd), *sb.*[2] (*a.*) Also 6 **polerde**, 6–8 **-ard**, 7 **-ord.** [In senses 1–3, prob. also in 4, f. POLL *v.* + -ARD.]

I. 1. An animal of a kind naturally horned, as an ox or stag, which has cast or lost its horns; also, an ox, sheep, or goat of a hornless variety.

1546 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 251 Ye shall se a polard or tow, both rid & falow, & se all our good coxs fight. 1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Philaster* v. iv, 2 *Cit.* He has no horns, sir, has he? *Cap.* No, sir, he's a pollard. 1623 Cockeram, *Pollard*, is a Stagge, or any other male Deere, having cast his head. 1658 in Phillips. 1736 Bailey *Househ. Dict.* 304 The sort of goat without horns or such as are call'd pollards, are much commended.

2. A tree which has been polled or cut back, at some height above the ground, so as to produce at that point a thick close growth of young branches, forming a rounded head or mass.

1611 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For sa[w]ling and cleving owt of polords vj^{d}. 1662 Petty *Taxes* 44 The same ill husbandry, as to make fuel of young saplings, instead of dotards and pollards. 1796 *Campaigns* 1793–4 I. II. ii. 103 Impenetrable hedge rows, composed of sturdy pollards. 1816 Southey *Poet's Pilgr. Waterloo* I. xx, The pollard that the Flemish painter loves. 1859 W. S. Coleman *Woodlands* (1866) 89 Even the stunted pollard..is not without its pictorial value.

Comb. 1885 G. Allen *Babylon* xxix, Long straight pollard-lined roads.

†**3.** Short for *pollard wheat*: see B. I. *Obs.*

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 49 White pollard or red, that so richly is set, for land that is heauie is best ye can get. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 543 The next is small Pollard, which loues an indifferent earth. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 268/2.

II. 4. Bran sifted from flour; *techn.* a finer grade of bran containing some flour; also, flour or meal containing the finer bran. Cf. Toppings.

1577 Harrison *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 154 The coursest of the bran (vsuallie called gurgeons or pollard). 1601 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 291 The Serjeants of the pastry..to have for their fees all the pollard which comes of the meale. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxi. 309, I feed my horse with the chaff, and add but one eighth part of pollard. 1817–18 Cobbett *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 160 Will it be believed, in another century, that the law-givers of a great nation actually passed a law to compel people to eat pollard in their bread,..for the purpose of..adding to the quantity of bread in a time of scarcity? 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 405 A bushel of wheat..will yield, on being ground,—Of bread flour 47, fine pollard 4¾, coarse pollard 4, bran 2¾, Loss of weight..2; =60 lbs.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

†**1.** Of wheat: Beardless, awnless. *Obs.*

1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 34 Polerde wheate hath noo anis. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 26 b, We call it pold or pollard, that hath no aanes upon the eares. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Middlesex* 189 The Mildew..which sticketh on notted or pollard Wheat. 1765 [see Polled *ppl. a.* 4].

2. That is a pollard (tree); polled, lopped.

1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 108 These Pollard or Shrowded Trees need no Fence to be maintained about them. 1776 Pennant *Zool.* (1812) I. 264 Grubbing up an old pollard ash. 1815 M. Birkbeck *Journ. France* 48 The olive is a miserable looking tree, most like a pollard willow. 1831 Lytton *Godolphin* xii, Grassy banks, over-grown with the willow and pollard oak. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xxxiv. 487 The pollard firs upon the ramparts stood out distinctly in fantastic forms.

b. *transf.* or *fig.* Bald-headed.

1855 Dickens *Dorrit* xxxi, Flecks of light in his flat vista of pollard old men.

†**Po·llard,** *sb.*^{3} *Obs.* [f. Poll *sb.*^{1} + -ard: from its large head, whence also the names *testard, chevin, capito*, etc.] A fish: the chub or chevin.

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 65/2 *Capito, ...cephalus fluuialis.* Munier,..vilain,..testard, a capitis magnitudine, A Polard. 1611 Cotgr., *Munier*, a miller..; also, a Pollard, or Cheuin (fish). 1706 in Phillips. 1721 Bailey, *Pollard*, a Chevin or Chub-fish. 1736–61 in Ainsworth *Lat. Dict.*

Pollard (pɒ·lɑ̈d), *v.* [f. Pollard *sb.*^{2}] *trans.* To cut off the branches of (a tree), leaving only the main trunk; to make a pollard of.

1670 Evelyn *Sylva* xviii. § 1 (ed. 2) 80 The Black Poplar is frequently pollar'd when as big as ones arm, eight or nine foot from the ground. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 39 Those that are pollarded grow the most knotty and full of Burs. 1887 Molonry *Forestry W. Afr.* 420 In order to obtain as large a yield of juice as possible the natives pollard the trees when at a height of ten to twelve feet.

fig. 1836 Hare *Guesses* Ser. II. (1874) 75, I hate to see trees pollarded—or nations. 1858 W. Johnson *Ionica* 62 They are pollarded by cares And give themselves religious airs And grow not. 1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* II. x. 185 Richard having been, as it were, pollarded by Destiny, was now to grow up straight.

Hence **Po·llarded** *ppl. a.* (also *fig.*); **Po·llarding** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.* as *pollarding-knife*).

1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing* v. 286 Lopping and pollarding also produce wonderful changes on the aspect of trees. 1827 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 519 A few pollarded, or at least mutilated Trees. 1830 Coleridge *Table-t.* 15 June, The pollarded man, the man with every faculty except the reason. 1868 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* II. viii. 287 A tree whose branches are cut off by the pollarding-knife.

Po·llardy, *a.* [f. Pollard *sb.*^{2} 4 + -y.] Of the nature of pollard or fine bran.

1872 J. G. Fennell in Taunt *Map Thames* 15/1 The bran we get from the mill is either too coarse or too pollardy.

†**Pollart.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [perh. the same word as Pollard, f. Poll, head.] One of the fanciful names given in ME. to the hare.

a 1325 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 134 The fnattart, the pollart, His hei nome is srewart.

Pollax, -axe, obs. forms of Pole-ax.

Pollayne, variant of Pullen *Obs.*, poultry.

Poll-bill. [f. Poll(-money), or Poll *sb.*^{1} + Bill *sb.*^{3} 3.] A bill for levying a poll-tax.

1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 304 Sir Simon d'Ewes his Speech concerning the Assessing of the Peers in the Poll-Bill. 1666 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II: 191 Forain excise, home excise, a poll-bill.., have been all more or lesse disputed. 1761–2 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. lxiii. 680 Sums..levied..by a poll-bill and new assessments.

Poll-cat, obs. f. Polecat. **Polldavy,** obs. f. Poldavy. **Pollderon,** obs. f. Pouldron.

Po·ll deed. Now *rare.* [f. Poll *a.* + Deed.] = Deed poll.

1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 20 Estates made of free lande by polle dede or dede indented. 1597 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 146 As by the said pole deede, and the chirographe of the said fine..yt doth and maye appeare. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* I. v. 47 The Pole-deede of their evidence, is this. 1854 W. Peirce *Princ. & Polity Wesleyan Methodists* Index, Poll Deed [i. e. 'The Deed of Declaration of the Reverend John Wesley']. 1899 *Daily News* 19 July 3/5 The President thought he would prepare to some extent for the duties, so read the Poll Deed.

Polle, obs. form of Pole, Poll, Pull.

Polled (pōld), *a.* [f. Poll *sb.*^{1} + -ed ^{2}.] (In comb.) Having a poll or head of a specified form or appearance, as *curly-polled.*

1795 *Fate of Sedley* I. 59, I would as soon marry a curly-poled nymph from Otaheite.

Polled (pōld), *ppl. a.* Also 4 **pollid,** 6 **poulde,** 6–7 **pold**(e, 7 **powled, poled.** [f. Poll *v.* + -ed ^{1}.]

†**1.** Having the hair cut short; shorn, shaven; also of the hair: cut off, clipped. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 216 Neptanabus in theo way stod, With pollid hed, and of his hod. 1388 Wyclif *Job* I. 20 Thanne Ioob roos, and to-rente hise clothis, and with pollid heed [1382 hed shauen: *Vulg.* tonso capite] he felde doun on the erthe. 1555 Eden *Decades* 299 Men of meane stature, with roughe and thyck beardes and poulde heade. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1622) 187 These polled lockes of mine. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* viii. (1653) 144 In the Province Cusco,..are those Auriti or great Ear'd Men,.. who alwaies goe poled.

2. Hornless; having shed or been deprived of horns; of a hornless breed.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 490 The horned Beast .. is apter to fight then the pold Sheep, and also more luxurious among the Ewes. 1758 R. Brown *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 32 The polled sheep (that is sheep without horns) are reckoned the best breeders. 1835 Kirby *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ii. 59 Some varieties of the common ox are polled. 1902 *Times* 13 Mar. 6/1 A herd of Red Polled cattle.

3. Of trees: Pollarded.

1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Fustée, Bois de fustée*, branchlesse wood; naked, or powled trees. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Tempt.* I. 213 Standing behind a row of polled trees.

†**4.** Of wheat: Awnless, not bearded. *Obs. dial.*

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxiii. 285, I wish I had it in my power to satisfy E. S. concerning the pollard wheat he mentions; but I can learn nothing of it, unless it is a bearded great wheat, which, in Suffolk, they formerly let stand in the field till the awns dropped off, and then they called it poll'd wheat.

†**5.** Plundered, pillaged. *Obs.*

1538 Elyot, *Compilati*, polled by extorcion. 1552 Huloet, Polled or brybed, *compilatus, exactus.*

†**6.** *Polled deed* = Poll deed. *Obs.*

1706 Phillips, *Polled Deed.* See Deed-poll.

7. *Comb.*, as *polled-headed* adj.

1583 Foxe *A. & M.* 1268/1 A man of talle stature, polled headed, and on the same a rounde Frenche cappe of the best.

Pollen (pɒ·lĕn), *sb.* [a. L. *pollen, -inem* fine flour, fine dust, in sense from mod.L. (Linn.).]

†**1.** Fine flour or meal; fine powder. *Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xvi. 18 As well of pollen, as of other vitailes. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. x. I. 564 Wheat flower called Pollen. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* i. 17 *Polten* is the purest part of the meale, that is, the finest part of the flower. 1730–6 Bailey (folio), *Pollen*,..a sort of fine bran.

2. *Bot.* The fine granular or powdery substance, produced by and discharged from the anther of a flower, constituting the male element destined for the fertilization of the ovules.

[1751 Linnæus *Philos. Bot.* 56 Pollen est pulvis vegetabilium appropriato liquore madefactus.] 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. iv. (1765) 10 The Pollen, Meal, contained within the Antheræ, is a fine Dust secreted therein. 1792 J. E. Smith *Eng. Bot.* 43 *Papaver hybridum* .. flowers .. deep crimson, or purplish, pollen bright blue. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 355 Furnished with a tuft of hairs proper for collecting the pollen of flowers. 1881 Lubbock in *Nature* XXIV. 404/2 He proved that flowers fertilised with pollen from the other form yield more seed than if fertilised with pollen of the same form.

3. *Comb.*, as *pollen-bearing, -covered, -devouring, -dusted, -eating, -like* adjs.; **pollen-basket,** a hollow structure on the leg of a bee, adapted for carrying pollen; = Basket 7, Corbicula (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895); **pollen-brush,** a set of hairs forming a fringe on the *pollen-basket*; **pollen-catarrh** = *pollen-fever* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **pollen-cell,** (*a*) a cell which develops into a pollen-grain, or forms part of one; (*b*) = *pollen-sac*; (*c*) a cell in a honeycomb in which pollen is stored; **pollen-chamber,** the cavity in which the pollen is deposited at the tip of the ovule in Gymnosperms; **pollen-fever** = Hay-fever; **pollen-grain,** each of the grains of which pollen consists (usually a single cell, sometimes two or more united, of varying form and size in different plants, and having two coats, the *intine* and *exine*); **pollen-granule,** each of the ultimate granules contained in a pollen-grain; also = *pollen-grain*; **pollen-mass** = Pollinium; **pollen-paste,** a substance consisting of pollen mixed with a little honey, made by bees for feeding their larvæ (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **pollen-plate,** a flat or hollow surface fringed with hairs, occurring on the legs or body of bees, used for carrying pollen (cf. *pollen-basket*); **pollen-sac,** each of the (usually four) cavities or loculi of an anther, in which the pollen is contained; **pollen-sporangium,** a name for the antheridium in club-mosses, which contains the pollen-spores; **pollen-spore,** a name for the microspores in club-mosses, as analogous to pollen-grains; **pollen-tube,** a tube formed by protrusion of the intine of a pollen-grain when deposited upon the stigma, which penetrates the style so as to convey the fertilizing substance to the ovule.

1860 *Chambers' Encycl.* I. 799/1 (*Bee*) Neither males nor queens have wax-pockets, nor have they *pollen-baskets. 1900 Cunningham *Sexual Dimorphism* v. 261 In the hive bee the *pollen-brush on the legs is wanting in the queen, but present in the worker. 1857 Henfrey *Elem. Bot.* § 928 Compound pollen-grains, consisting of a number of *pollen-cells permanently coherent. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 440 The four young pollen-cells are now freed by the rapid absorption of the cell-wall which surrounds and separates them. 1888 *Chambers' Encycl.* II. 22/2 A pollen-cell is (frequently at least) sealed with honey, and over this a thin cream-like pellicle is formed, which can be pushed aside for the deposition of more honey. 1887 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 304 The nucellar apex is hollowed out in order to receive the pollen-grains, giving rise to the so-called *pollen-chamber. 1898 *Ibid.* II. ii. 438 [The ovules of Cycas] are atropous, and provided .. with a cavity, the pollen-chamber, in which the pollen-grains..accumulate preparatory to fertilisation. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 92 Carried..by the *pollen-devouring insects from flower to flower. 1883 G. Allen in *Knowledge* 8 June 336/2 *Pollen-eating flies, weevils, and caterpillars. 1887 Sir A. Clark in *Lancet* 11 June 1169/1 The epithets of 'hay fever', 'hay asthma', '*pollen fever', 'rose cold', and 'peach cold'. 1835 Henslow *Princ. Bot.* § 262 The inner membrane of the *pollen grain. 1872 Oliver *Elem. Bot.* I. i. 8 The fine powder is the pollen, and each of its globular cells is a pollen-grain. 1835 Henslow *Princ. Bot.* § 262 A sort of rude sack, termed a 'pollen tube',..contains a liquid, the 'fovilla', in which are dispersed a number of very minute '*pollen granules'. 1863 Grosart *Small Sins* 83, I brushed off the fine *pollen-like powder of its wings. 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 166 Glands of the stalks of the *pollen-masses naked. 1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 12 In the species with *pollen plates, the pollen is made into a mass of a clay-like consistence. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 426 The surrounding layers of tissue become developed into the wall of the *pollen-sac. *Ibid.* 433. 1861 Bentley *Man. Bot.* I. v. 375 The antheridia or *pollen-sporangia are somewhat reniform, two-valved cases..containing a large number of small spores (microspores), in which spermatozoids are ultimately produced. *Ibid.* 372 The antheridia contain a number of small cells. .. These..are sometimes called *pollen-spores or small spores, while the large germinating spore is called the ovulary-spore or large spore. 1895 *Pollen-tube [see *pollen-granule*]. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 71 A pollen grain deposited on the stigma, sends out a hypha-like prolongation, the pollen tube, which elongates, passes down the style, and eventually reaches the micropyle of an ovule.

Hence **Po·llen** *v. trans.*, to convey pollen to, to pollinate; to cover or sprinkle with pollen; **Po·llened** (-ĕnd) *a.*, containing pollen.

1877 Lanier *Bee* 42 He beareth starry stuff about his wings To pollen thee and sting thee fertile. 1880 Tennyson *Voy. Maeldune* v, And we wallow'd in beds of lilies .. Till each like a golden image was pollen'd from head to feet. 1895 A. Austin in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 527 She made The gold of the pollened palm to float On her budding bosom.

Pollen, variant of Pollan, Pullen.

Pollenarious, Pollenation, erron. ff. Pollin-.

Pollency (pɒ·lĕnsi). *rare.* [ad. L. *pollĕntia* strength: see Pollent.] Power, strength.

1623 Cockeram, *Pollencie*, power. 1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 238 To determine readily what Pollency the Buble hath.

Pollenger (pɒ·lĕndʒəɹ). *dial.* [? f. Polling *vbl. sb.* + -er ^{1}, or for earlier **pollager*, f. Pollage + -er ^{1}.] A pollard tree.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 78 Now lop for thy fewell old pollenger growen [*ed.* 1557 the powlinges well growen]. 1610 in *Coke's Rep.* (1738) XIII. 67 Consuevit ad ejus libitum amputare ramos omnimodarum arborum, called pollengers, or husbords. 1738 *transl.* A custom .. to cut down and take at their pleasure all manner of trees called pollengers or husbords.

Polleniferous, erron. form of Polliniferous.

†**Po·llenin.** *Chem. Obs.* [ad. F. *pollénine*, f. Pollen: see -in ^{1}.] A supposed peculiar substance obtained from pollen, and from the spores of *Lycopodium*: see quots.

1816 *Thomson's Ann. Philos.* VII. 49 The pollen, he [Professor John] finds, always contains a peculiar substance, which has hitherto been considered as albumen; but to which he has given the name of pollenin. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 293 Pollenin is obtained from the pollen of the pinus sylvestris; it is yellow, and has neither taste nor smell. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pollenin*, name incorrectly given to the combustible substance which forms the residue after treatment of Lycopodium powder with dilute alcoholic solution of potash. Lycopodium powder is formed of spores, and is not composed of pollen.

Pollenize, etc.: see Pollinize, etc.

Po·llenless, *a.* [f. POLLEN + -LESS.] Destitute of pollen.

1882 H. MÜLLER in *Nature* XXV. 241/2 The anthers being pollenless. 1888 HENSLOW *Orig. Floral Struct.* XXV. 241 Their anthers become brownish and pollenless.

Pollent (pɒ·lĕnt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *pollĕntem*, pr. pple. of *pollĕre* to be strong: cf. *equipollent*.] Powerful, strong.

1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 1193 An unimportant sword and blunderbuss, Against a foe pollent in potency.

Poller (pō·u·ləɹ). [f. POLL *v.* + -ER 1.]

†1. A barber or hair-cutter. *Obs.*

1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cassandra* V. iv, *R.* I know him not, is he a deaft barber? *G.* O yea, why he is Mistris Lamias powler. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Right Hand* 78 Bald-pated all, like to an holy Friar, That lately had been in the Pollers hands. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 128/2 *Poler*, an ancient term used for the cutter of hair.

b. One who polls trees (Webster, 1828).

†2. A plunderer, spoiler, extortioner, despoiler.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2401 True men myght lyue without vexacyon; Pollers, promoters, had no domynacyon. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) p. liv, Porters & poulers, & specially false takers On these.. spare must thou none expence. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 246 It was not enough for Zacheus, that..hee was no poller or robber of the poore. 1640 SIR J. CULPEPER in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 33 A Nest of Wasps, or Swarm of Vermin, .. the Monopolers and Polers of the People. 1674 [see PILLER 1β].

3. a. One who votes at an election; a voter. b. One who registers voters (Webster, 1828).

1776 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 121/1 The total number of pollers at this election. 1807 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XI. 58 Who'll come forward and now be my poller?

Pollerone, obs. form of POULDRON.

†Pollet, -ette. *Obs.* [app. aphetic form of F. *épaulette* (16th c. *espaulette*): see EPAULET.]

1. A small pouldron: = EPAULET 3.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 One sorte had the vambrases the pacegardes the grandgardes, the poldren the pollettes parted with golde and azure. 1846-60 FAIRHOLT *Costume* Gloss. (ed. 2), *Pollets* or *Epaulettes*, were small overlapping protections of plate for the shoulders.

†2. ? (Something pertaining to chimes.) *Obs.*

1633-4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 317 A pollett for y^e^ Chimes, 2d. 3 clackes and 3 pollettes for the bigger bells, 1s.

Polleti(c)ke, -tique, obs. forms of POLITIC.

Po·ll-e·vil. Also 7–8 pole-evil. [f. POLL *sb.*1 + EVIL *sb.* 7 a.] An inflamed or ulcerous sore between the ligament of the neck of a horse and the atlas or first bone of the neck.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 280 The Poll evill..is a disease like a Fistula growing betwixt the ears [of a horse] and the poll or nape of the neck. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1883/4 She hath the Pole-Evil, and there are white Spots in the place. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 451 To cure the Poll-Evil, and swell'd Neck from bleeding. 1755 *Pennsylvania Gaz.* 14 Aug. 3/2 They took with them a large bay horse, that has the pole-evil. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 153 Now comes the whole art of treating the poll-evil.

‖ **Pollex** (pɒ·leks). *Anat.* Pl. **pollices** (-isēz). [Lat., = thumb, also great toe.] The innermost digit of the fore limb in air-breathing vertebrates; in man, etc., the thumb. Sometimes used to include the corresponding digit of the hind limb (the great toe), distinctively called HALLUX.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 571/2 The pollex in the great whale has two bones. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 231 The pollex, or the first digit, exceeds the third..in length. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* iv. (1873) 174 When a digit is wanting it is generally the pollex, as in spider monkeys.

Polley, obs. form of PULLEY.

Pollical (pɒ·likăl), *a. Anat.* [f. L. *pollex, pollic-em* (see POLLEX) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the pollex or thumb, as *pollical muscles*.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Po·llicar, *a.* [ad. L. *pollicāris*, f. *pollex* thumb.]

†1. (See quot.) *Obs. rare* −0.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pollicar*, of or belonging to a thumb or toe; of an inch in length or breadth.

2. *Anat.* = POLLICAL.

[1656: see 1.] 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *P[ollicar] artery*, a syn. for the *Arteria princeps pollicis*.

Pollicate (pɒ·likĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *pollex, pollic-em* (see POLLEX) + -ATE 2.] Having thumbs; belonging to the obsolete order *Pollicata*, including the Quadrumana and most Marsupials, with an opposable digit or thumb on each limb.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pollicate*, possessing *Pollices*.

Pollicate, dial. variant of PULLICATE.

Pollice, Pollicie, -cy, obs. ff. POLICE, POLICY.

†Polli·citate, *v. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *pollicitāt-*, ppl. stem of *pollicitārī*, freq. of *pollicērī* to promise: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To promise.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 294 It evacuates blood and pollicitates many more commodities. [1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Pollicitates*, promises, assures, warrants.]

Pollicitation (pɒlisitē·ʃən). [ad. L. *pollicitātiō-nem*, vbl. sb. of *pollicitārī* to promise: see prec. and -ATION. So F. *pollicitation* (15th c. in Godefroy).] The action of promising; a promise; a document conveying a promise; *spec.* in *Civil Law*, a promise not yet formally accepted, and therefore in certain cases revocable.

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. li. 133 As yet the pope's holiness hath not required the king's pollicitation. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 182 His promise and pollicitation passed upon the same. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 14 Vaunting Pollicitations of binding Beares, and mooving Mountaines. 1715 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* III. II. 41 These are in the Promise, or Pollicitation, which I do now publish. 1726 FIDDES *Wolsey* I. 433 His Holiness..signed a Pollicitation, whereby he obliged himself to confirm the sentence. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 360 Pollicitation is the offer of the one party before it is accepted by the other. 1894 MRS. HOPE *1st Divorce Hen. VIII* 121 They were to try to get a 'policitation', or promise, from the Pope that he would not remove the cause to Rome.

Pollinar (pɒ·linăɹ), *a. rare*−0. [ad. L. *pollināris* of or belonging to fine flour: see POLLEN.] = POLLINOSE.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pollinaris*, applied to a surface ..covered with a very fine dust resembling pollen: pollinar.

†**Pollina·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*−0. In 19th c. Dicts. erron. **pollen-.** [f. L. *pollinārius* of or belonging to fine flour (see POLLEN) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pollinarious* ..,pertaining to fine flower or meal. 1830 MAUNDER *Dict.*, *Pollenarious*, consisting of meal.

‖ **Pollinarium** (pɒlinē·riŏm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. as next, after *ovarium* ovary, etc.] a. In phanerogams, = POLLINIUM. b. In cryptogams, = CYSTIDIUM 2.

1881 BENTHAM in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 301 His representation of the pollinarium of *Monomeria*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pollinarium*, one of the organs of which several are present on the *hymenium* of certain Fungi, and which some observers consider to be male organs.

Pollinary (pɒ·linări), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pollen, pollin-*, in mod. Bot. L. = POLLEN 2 + -ARY 1.] Of or pertaining to pollen; concerned in the production of pollen.

1881 BENTHAM in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 285 The confusion occasioned by the term [*caudicle*] having been applied to three very different parts of the pollinary system.

Pollinate (pɒ·linĕit), *v. Bot.* [f. as prec. + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To besprinkle with pollen or shed pollen upon (the stigma, or the nucleus of the ovule in Gymnosperms) in order to fertilization.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 813 In protogynous flowers..the stigma has already been pollinated by foreign pollen or has even withered up and fallen off. *Ibid.*, While the insect is moving about .., its back laden with pollen comes into contact with the stigmatic surface and pollinates it.

Pollination (pɒlinē·ʃən). *Bot.* [f. as prec. + -ATION.] The action of pollinating; deposition of pollen in order to fertilization.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 429 A considerable time, occasionally even months, often elapses between pollination and fertilisation; but commonly only a few days or hours. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 307/1 The insects which visit particular species and assist in their pollination.

†**Polli·nctor.** *Obs.* [a. L. *pollinctor*, agent-n. from *pollingĕre* to wash (a corpse) and prepare it for the funeral pile.] One who prepared a dead body for burning or embalming, by washing, anointing, etc.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xix. 384 What is delivered by Herodotus concerning the Ægyptian Pollinctors, or such as annointed the dead. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 315 One of the greatest secrets used by our pollinctors and mountebanks who pretend to this embalming mystery. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2107 An Embalmer or Surgeon; a Pollinctor or Apothecary.

So †**Polli·ncture** *Obs.* [ad. L. *pollinctūra*], the washing, anointing, etc. of a dead body, in preparation for burning or burial. (In first quot. *fig.*)

16.. *Inscription on brass in Tredington Churchyard*, Praises on tombs are but a pollincture. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 188 [He] had skill to dissect bodies in order to their pollincture.

Polling (pō·u·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. POLL *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb POLL, in various senses.

I. †1. The cutting of hair; shearing, clipping, cropping. *Obs.*

1439 *Litt. Réd Bk. Bristol* (1900) 153 That no Craftesman ..do not ocupye his seid Crafte in schavyng nor polling..in non Sonday. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 325 It cost him [Samson] a polling, wherein stood his strength. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* XI. 32 Had not man sinned, his hair would have had no need of polling.

2. The cutting off of the top of a tree.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 58 The oft cutting, or Polling of Hedges, Trees, and Herbs, doth conduce much to their Lasting. *Ibid.* § 424 The Powling and Cutting of the Top, maketh them grow spread and bushy.

†3. Plundering, extortion, spoliation, pillage, robbery; an instance of this. *Polling and pilling*: see PILLING *vbl. sb.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 159 Extorcion, pollynge opteyned no grace. 1544 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 150 For misusinge of the Kinges commission and powelinge of his subjectes. 1547–1661 [see PILLING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 402 b, To prevent this peltyng powlyng of the Proctours. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 31 Polling, pilling and shauing of his poore tenants. 1651 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I*, etc. 205 The High-Commission Court .. in which all Pollings and tyrannizings over our Estates and Consciences were practised. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 302 The unexpected Charges of the War, though oftentimes under that pretence, are hidden all manner of Deceit and Polling.

†4. *concr. pl.* The results or proceeds of polling (in various senses): see quots. *Obs.*

1557 TUSSER 100 *Points Husb.* lxvi, Then lop for thy fewel, the powlinges well growen. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomenclator* 167/1 A Barbars towell,..for the cuttings or pollings of the haire to fall vpon. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. (1688) 440 Crammed with the Spoils and Pollings of the poorer sort. 1835 C. W. STOCKER *Juvenal* 57 *note*, The wealthier Romans, on arriving at manhood, dedicated the first shavings of their beard and pollings of their hair to some deity.

II. 5. The registering or casting of votes.

1625 in *Commons Debates* (Camden) 45 The pollinge would last three days. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* Introd. (1699) 5 Which Party soever should upon Polling appear to have the Majority, they should keep the Ship. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. 2 Orphans* I. 67 By keeping the estate in his hands, tho' mortgaged.., he preserved his right of poling at an election for the county. 1839 M^c^CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* II. 100 Such polling is to continue for two days only, being successive days, for seven hours on the first day, and eight hours on the second day of polling. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Oct. 4/6 The polling in the election of nine members of the..School Board.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* †a. in sense 3; b. in sense 5, as *polling-agent, -book, -booth, -clerk, -day, -district, -place, -station*.

a. 1557 STAFFORD *Proclam.* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxxi. 262 This whole realme of Englande shall..be delyvered from all suche powling paymentes, as the quene dothe daylye geve to Spanyardes. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 404 Peradventure these fellowes are to much ashamed of theyr powlyng prancke, and..can render no reasonable excuse for their bribery and pilladge. 1613 WITHER *Abuses Stript* I. viii, What Rascall poling sutes doe they devise, To adde new Summes unto their Treasuries.

b. 1832 *Act 2 Will. IV*, c. 45 § 70 In case the Proceedings shall be so interrupted or obstructed at any particular Polling Place or Places. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xl, Away to hustings and polling-booths. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. viii. 113 The vote is given *vivâ voce*, and entered in a polling-book by the polling-clerk. *Ibid.*, Not more than a limited number of voters may be polled at each polling-place. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Polling-sheriff*, in Scotland, the presiding officer at a polling-station.

Polling (pō·u·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. POLL *v.* + -ING 2.] That polls; †that plunders; extortionate, exacting; cheating (*obs.*). See also PILLING *ppl. a.*

1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 234 This [Valenciens] ys waxed the derest and pollyngst town of the worlde. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 147 Would thale wife [the ale-wife] play the poulyng queane: Yet measure will not lie. 1612 BACON *Ess., Judicature*, Amongst the briers and brambles of catching and poling Clearkes and Ministers.

†**Polling-penny, -pence,** *pl. Obs.* [f. POLLING *vbl. sb.* + PENNY, PENCE.] Money paid or exacted as poll-tax; hence, esp. in *pl.*, a poll-tax.

1555 BRADFORD *Supplic. Q. Eliz.* F ij, Wil englishmen.. suffer to be poled and pilled moste miserably, in payeng continually suche polingpence, and intollerable tollages? 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 42 Neuer an Italian priest of them all, shall eyther haue tythe, tole, or polling penny out of England. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* C j b, Yea rather than thy brauery should faile begge powling pence for the verye smoke that coms out of poore mens chimnies. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* III. (1617) 35 To get vnhonest polling pence to their owne purses.

Pollinic (pɒlinik), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pollen, -in-em* + -IC.] Pertaining to, consisting of, or containing pollen. *Pollinic chamber* = pollen-chamber; *pollinic mass* = pollen-mass: see POLLEN 3. Also **Polli·nical** *a.*

1856 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pollinicus*..L. C. Richard terms *pollinic masses* the heap of compact pollen that fills each partial cavity of the anther in the *Orchideæ* and *Asclepiadeæ*. 1882 *Pop. Sc. Monthly* XX. 780 Designate the cavity as the pollinical chamber. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 438 A sort of depression at the summit of the endosperm, which has been called the pollinic chamber.

Polliniferous (pɒlinifĕrəs), *a.* Also erron. **pollen-.** [f. as prec. + -[I]FEROUS.]

1. *Bot.* Bearing or producing pollen.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 249 The male flowers consist of a peltate scale, around which are arranged several polliniferous cavities. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 727 The polliniferous portion of the anther consists of a single sac.

¶ 2. *Entom.* = next. (*erron.*)

1866 W. E. SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 20 A bee without polliniferous organs cannot collect pollen.

Pollinigerous (-i·dʒĕrəs), *a. Entom.* [f. as prec. + -[I]GEROUS.] Carrying, or adapted for carrying, pollen.

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 272 Hinder feet not pollinigerous. 1866 W. E. SHUCKARD *Brit. Bees* 103 Pollinigerous and honey-collecting organs. 1895 E. SAUNDERS *Brit. Hymenoptera Aculeata* 303 Pollinigerous hairs either on the tibiae..or on the ventral surface of the abdomen.

‖ **Pollinium** (pɒli·niŏm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod. L., f. *pollen, pollin-*, POLLEN 2 + *-ium* as in *antheridium, archegonium*, etc.] A coherent mass of pollen-grains in each cavity of the anther, characteristic of the *Orchidaceæ* and *Asclepiadaceæ*.

1862 DARWIN *Orchids* Introd. 5 The pollen-masses, with their caudicles and other appendages, are called the Pollinia. 1863 — in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 264 He has actually seen crowds of bees flying round Catasetum, with the pollinia sticking to their backs. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 488 Contrivances by means of which insects.. extract from the pollen-sac the pollinia or the masses of pollen which are glued together.

Pollini·vorous, *a.* (erron. pollen-.) [f. as prec. + L. *-vor-us* devouring + -OUS.] Devouring or feeding on pollen.

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 897/2 In some of the pollenivorous..genera..the clypeus posterior seems to have become entirely obliterated.

Po·llinize, pollenize, *v.* [f. L. *pollen, pollin-* (or directly f. POLLEN) + -IZE.] *trans.* = POLLINATE. So **Polliniza·tion** (**-en-**) = POLLINATION.

18.. *Nature* (O.), No flower gave a fruit without having its stigmata pollenized by crossing. 1878 T. MEEHAN *Flowers & Ferns U. S.* I. 59 The pistil has been fully developed and is ready for pollenization. 1896 HENSLOW *Wild Flowers* 167 A very similar method of pollinization will be seen in the enchanter's nightshade.

‖ **Pollinodium** (pŏlinō·diŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. as prec. + *-ōdium*; see -ODE.] The antheridium or male reproductive organ in ascomycetous fungi, which grows close to the ascogonium or female organ of the same plant, and in fertilization unites with it directly or by an outgrowth. Hence **Pollino·dial** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a pollinodium.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 258 From the lowest coil of the ascogonium two slender branches now shoot out..; one of these developes more quickly.. This branch is the Antheridium (Pollinodium of De Bary). 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 311 The carpogonia and pollinodia are developed together at the points at which the mycelial filaments cross one another..They are both small lateral branches. 1886 — in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 428/2 In some plants..which have pollinodial antheridia, self-fertilization alone is possible.

Pollinoid (pŏ·linoid). *Bot.* [f. as prec. + -OID.] Each of the (non-motile) male fertilizing cells of certain Cryptogams, as the red seaweeds, and the ascomycetous fungi.

1892 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 289/1 (*Seaweeds*) The male organs [of Dictyotaceæ] produce non-motile fertilising cells resembling the pollinoids of the Rhodophyceæ.

Pollinose (pŏ·linōus), *a. Entom.* [ad. mod.L. *pollinōs-us*, f. as prec.: see -OSE.] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 275 Pollinose.. Covered with a loose mealy and often yellow powder resembling the pollen of flowers.

Pollipode, obs. f. POLYPOD. **Pollish(e,** obs. ff. POLISH *v.* **Politick(e,** etc., obs. ff. POLITIC. **Pollity,** obs. f. POLITY [1]; var. POLITY [2] *Obs.*

Polliwog, pollywog (pŏ·liwŏg). *dial.* and *U. S.* Forms: *α.* 5 **polwygle,** 7 **porwig(g)le,** 9 **porriwiggle, purwiggy.** *β.* 6 **polwigge,** 7 **polewigge, po(o)lwig,** 9 **polliwig, polly-wig, polliwog, pollywog.** [ME. *polwygle*, f. POLL *sb.*[1] + WIGGLE *v.* The forms *polwig*, etc., are either shortened from *polwygle*, or formed with the dial. *wig* vb. to wag.] A tadpole.

α. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/1 Polwygle, wyrme. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 329 The spawne is white, contracting by degrees a blacknesse, answerable .. unto the porwigle or Tadpole, that is, that animall which first proceedeth from it. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Purwiggy*, a tadpole. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Porriwiggles*, tadpoles and other tortuous animalcula in water.

β. 1592 NASHE 4 *Lett. Confut.* (1593) 63 Thou hast a prety polwigge sparrows taile peake. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 265 Some little mites of blackish flesh, which they call Tadpoles or Polwigs. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Polliwigs.* 1835-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 321 Little ponds .. nothing but pollywogs, tadpoles, and minims in them. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. 80 'Lord knows', protest the polliwogs, 'We're anxious to be grown-up frogs'. 1892 *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* Oct. 124 In this pond dwells the pollywog, loggerhead, or tadpole.

b. *U. S.* As a political nickname.

1854 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* (1887) 47 Filibusters, pollywogs, and a host of other nicknames. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., 'The slimy machinations of the pollywog politicians have usurped the government of our city', said Poer.

† **Poll-money** (pō·l,mʌ·ni). *Obs.* [f. POLL *sb.*[1] + MONEY *sb.*] Money levied, exacted, or paid, at a fixed rate per head for every person, or (quot. *a* 1618) for every head of cattle; capitation; poll-tax.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xvii. 24 They that were wont to gadre poll money, cam to Peter. *Ibid.* 25 Of whome do the kynges off the erth take tribute or poll money? *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1665) 54 By reason of the troublesome gathering of the polemony upon sheep, .. this act of subsidy was repealed. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Irene* Wks. (1711) 169 To be slaves to your fellow-subjects, pay them intolerable taxes, loans, pole-monies, and odious excises. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* vii. Tracts (1769) 50 Poll-money is a tax upon the persons of men, either upon all simply and indifferently, or else according to some known title or mark of distinction upon each. *Ibid.*, The poll-monies which have been levied of late, have been wonderfully confused. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Apr., This morning come to me the Collectors for my Poll-money...I paid for my title as Esquire and place of Clerk of Acts, and my head and wife's, and servants' and their wages, £40 17*s.* 1692 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 386 Apr. 8 [Paid] pol-money *vli. ix.*, to carry on a vigorous war against the French king...April 13 .. paid 21*s.* for a gent. and my pole .. whereas the fellowes of houses .. pay but their pole 1*s.*—a very heavy and unjust tax. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Poll-money*, or *capitation*, a tax imposed ..either on all indifferently, or according to some known mark of distinction, as quality, calling, etc. .. Thus, by the statute 18 Car. II every subject .. was assessed .. according to his degree; every duke 100*l.* marquis 80*l.* baronet 30*l.* knight 20*l.* esquire 10*l.* etc. and every single private person 12*d.* 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 28 Paper, corporations, land, houses, and poll-money, also raise a considerable sum.

Pollock: see POLLACK.

Poll-tax (pō·l,tæks). [f. POLL *sb.*[1] + TAX *sb.*] A tax levied on every person; a capitation or head-tax. A later name for POLL-MONEY.

1694 MOLESWORTH *Account of Denmark* 111 Here is commonly one Poll-tax at least every year. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 462 The Dutch..exact from all the men a Poll-Tax of a dollar a month. 1794 SOUTHEY *Wat Tyler* II. iii, Why is this ruinous poll-tax imposed, But to support your court's extravagance? 1825 JEFFERSON *Autobiog. & Writ.* Wks. 1859 I. 29 The practice of the Southern colonies has always been to make every farmer pay poll taxes upon all his laborers, whether they be black or white. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iv. 84 The limit of age in the first poll-tax was sixteen, in the second fifteen, years.

† **Pollu·cible,** *a. Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *pollūcibilis* sumptuous, f. *pollūcēre* to offer as a sacrifice.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Pollucible*, gay, sumptuous.

Po·llucite. *Min.* [orig. named *Pollux* (Breithaupt, 1846), being associated with *Castor* or CASTORITE.] Silicate of aluminium and cæsium, found in brilliant transparent colourless crystals.

[1847 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. II. III. 430 Pollux resembles castor in crystallographic and physical characteristics.] 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 249 Pollucite. 1896 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. IV. I. 458 Pollucite is not very abundant.

Pollutant (pŏlī·ūtănt). *rare.* [f. POLLUTE *v.* + -ANT [1].] A polluting agent or medium.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Dec. 6/2 Waste acid as a pollutant.

Pollute (pŏlī·ūt), *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *poet.* [ad. L. *pollūt-us* defiled, pa. pple. of *polluĕre* (see next).] = POLLUTED *ppl. a.* (Originally as pa. pple.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 12 (Camb. MS.) Þat I hadde polut and defowled my conscience with sacrilege. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 181 Tyme in his owne kynde may neþer be holy ne pollut. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* V. ix. 1663 A woman þan of pollute fayme, þat callit Melancia was be nayme. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3473 Lest the .. wiked myscreauntes With pollute handes .. Shulde touche her body. 1629 MILTON *Nativity* 41 And on her naked shame, Pollute with sinfull blame, The Saintly Vail of Maiden white to throw. 1830 W. PHILLIPS *Mt. Sinai* III. 327 With moral leprosy pollute of heart, And dead to righteousness. *Ibid.* IV. 150 The people..drank The wave pollute.

Pollute (pŏlī·ūt), *v.* Also 4-7 **polute,** 5 **polewt.** [f. L. *pollūt-*, ppl. stem of *polluĕre* to soil, defile, f. **por* (= *pro*) forth + *luĕre* to wash.]

1. *trans.* To render ceremonially or morally impure; to impair, violate, or destroy the purity or sanctity of; to profane, desecrate; to sully, corrupt.

[*c* 1374: see POLLUTE *ppl. a.*] 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* XXI. 6 Holi thei shulen be to her God, and thei shulen not polute [1388 defoule, Vulg. *polluent*] his name. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 36 Wiþ swilk cursidnes þei polewt þe hous. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66, I may not, I dare not pollute Gods heaunlye, with handling. 1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-M.* I. III. iii. 92 Grosse abominations..the very relation of which is sufficient to pollute the eares that heare them, the common aire that receives them. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. (1869) II. 466 Churches and altars were polluted by atrocious murders. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. viii. 526 The clergy..urging him to extermínate the heretics, whose presence they thought polluted France.

2. To make physically impure, foul, or filthy; to dirty, stain, taint, befoul.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 223 Thei..with their proper bloud, embrued and polluted their awne handes. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. ii. 115 No drop of the bloud should fall into the water, least the same shuld therby be polluted. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXXV. (1674) 42 Cicero's divine and painfull labours .. were polluted by flies and moths in every Bookbinders shop. 1719 POPE *Iliad* XIX. 30 Shall flies and worms obscene pollute the dead? 1860-1 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 20 Within the last few years, a large part of London was in the daily habit of using water polluted by the drainage of its sewers and water-closets.

† **b.** *pa. pple.* Marked as if stained. *Obs. rare.*

1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 972 The wings are long and blackish, and polluted with little black spots.

Hence **Pollu·ting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1580 H. GIFFORD *Epist. Claudius Pholomæus* Wks. (1875) 35 Euery one holdes her [poverty] in contempt, filling her with..most spitefull pollutinges. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iii. 183 Factors for lewdnes, Brokers for the deuill, Infect our soules with all polluting euill. 1609 DOWNAM *Chr. Liberty* 31 The contrarie to sanctifying, is polluting. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 160 Her pining sons uplifted Their prostrate brows from the polluting dust. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 475 It saved the polluting of a long stretch of market road.

Polluted (pŏlī·ūtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED [1].] Defiled, rendered impure or unclean.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 53 Wen þe body and blod of Crist is tretid wiþ foul hands, and polutid conciens. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* XXIII. 11 The prophetes and the prestes them selues are poluted Ypocrytes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 110 Resolving from thenceforth To leave them to thir own polluted wayes. 1777 LOGAN in *Scott. Paraphr.* VIII. iii, Can troubled and polluted springs a hallow'd stream afford? 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. v, She has been using that polluted water for the last three weeks—and poisoning a whole village.

Hence **Pollu·tedly** *adv.*, in a polluted condition, with pollution; **Pollu·tedness,** polluted state.

1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 344 There is naturally a kinde of pollutednesse in the lips of man, whereof Isaiah complayned. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* I. 28 Polluted̃ly into the world I came; Sad and perplext I liv'd.

Polluter (pŏlī·ūtəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER [1].] One who pollutes; a defiler; one who profanes.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 65 A defyler of relygyon and polluter of their holye ceremonyes. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 232 Purged and rid of such polluters and profaners of their dignity. 1823 *Examiner* 706/2 The polluter, not the purifier, of his fellow creatures.

Pollution (pŏlī·ūʃən). Forms: 4 **pollusyone,** 4-5 **pol(l)ucio(u)n,** 5 **polucyon,** 7 **pollusion,** 6- **pollution.** [ad. L. *pollūtiōn-em* defilement, noun of action from *polluĕre* to POLLUTE. So F. *pollution* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The action of polluting, or condition of being polluted; defilement; uncleanness or impurity caused by contamination (physical or moral).

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1301 Safe I wold desyre yow spare Pollucion. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1988 Hys pryde owt of my love xall have polucyon. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 13 His purse was .. I think verily a puritane, for it kept it selfe from any pollution of crosses. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Wks.* (1835) I. 114 The soul and body of all mankind are stained by the pollution of sin. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* III. xliv. 195 Such a mode of warfare was a contamination, a pollution of our national character. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* II. 16 It seemed to him that there was pollution in such contact. 1894 *Daily News* 25 Apr. 2/2 One of the principal difficulties of freeing the river from pollution was that certain persons had prescriptive rights to pass their sewage into the Thames at Staines and some other places.

b. *concr.* Anything polluted.

1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. I. 17 The warriors purified the camp, And, casting the pollutions to the waves, They burned to Phœbus chosen hecatombs.

2. Ceremonial impurity or defilement; profanation of that which is sacred.

1382 WYCLIF *Judith* IV. 10 Lest weren 3yuen ther childer in to prei,..and the holi thingus of hem in to pollucioun. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. lv. 72 They will make a precedent prayer to their soules to depart from their bodies in the interim, for fear she partake of the same pollution. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 355 Thir strife pollution brings Upon the Temple. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 194 The contrary to Consecration is Pollution, which is said to happen in Churches by Homicide.

3. Seminal emission apart from coition; self-pollution.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 11 Alswa here es forbodene all maner of wilfull pollusyone procurede..agaynes kyndly oys. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 238 He had a pollucion of his sede. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pollutio nocturna*, an involuntary Pollution in the Night, caused by lecherous Dreams. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 828 This kind of loss is called a pollution.

Hence † **Pollu·tionate** *a.* [cf. *affectionate, compassionate*, etc.], charged with pollution, foul; whence † **Pollu·tionately** *adv.*, foully.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 57 No Hog-sty is now so pollutionate as the earth of Palestine. *Ibid.* 146 Their transplendent iuyce so pollutionately employd.

† **Pollu·ve,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [perh. for *polluue, pollue*, a. F. *polluer*, L. *polluĕre*: see POLLUTE *v.*] *trans.* = POLLUTE *v.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. vii. (S. T. S.) I. 271 Herdonius.. duelling proudlie in þe tempil of Jupiter, polluving [*v.r.* polloving] and defouling euery thing in it?

Pollux (pŏ·lŭks). [a. L. *Pollux*, in earlier form *Pollūcēs*, ad. Gr. Πολυδεύκης.]

1. *Gr. Myth.* Name of one of the twin sons of Tyndarus and Leda; hence in *Astron.* the second star in the constellation Gemini: see CASTOR [3].

1526, 1647 [see CASTOR [3] 1]. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 324 Above Procyon, and towards the Zenith, Castor and Pollux point out the Twins.

2. *Min.* = POLLUCITE: see quot. 1847.

Polly (pŏ·li). Dim. of POLL *sb.*[2] (cf. *Patty, Peggy*); as female name, and name for a parrot.

[1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* I. ci, And we will have no Poolye or Parrot by.] 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 311 One of these 'images' was a 'Polly'.

b. *Weeping Polly* (Australia): see quot.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 174/1 The native [Queensland] grasses are nearly a hundred in number..the weeping Polly is *Poa cæspitosa*.

Polly, obs. f. PULLEY. **Pollygony, Pollymite, Pollypod,** obs. ff. POLYGONY, etc. **Pollytick, Pollywog:** see POLITIC, POLLIWOG. **Polment,** var. PULMENT *Obs.*, pottage.

Polo (pō·lo). [a. Balti *polo*: cf. Tibetan *pulu*.]

1. A game of Eastern origin resembling hockey, played on horseback with long-handled clubs and a wooden ball.

An ancient game of the East; still played in the upper Indus valley, and in Manipur. Introduced first at Calcutta and a little later (*c* 1864) in Punjaub. Played in England in July 1871. (Yule.)

[1842 VIGNE *Trav. Kashmir* II. 289 At Shighur I first saw the game of the Chaughán...It is in fact hockey on horseback...The ball, which is larger than a cricket ball, is only a globe made of a knot of willow wood, and is called in Tibeti *Pulu*.] 1872 *Daily News* 20 July, The ball of contention once cast into the open field, Polo was entered upon in real earnest. 1875 BROWNING *Inn Album* I. 333 Polo, Tent-pegging, Hurlingham, the Rink, I leave all these delights. 1886 *Athenæum* 18 Sept. 367/3 The first historical event recorded in this volume is the death at polo of the Sultan Aikbar.

2. Hockey played on the water (*water polo*); hockey played on skates (*rink polo*).

1884 *Graphic* 30 Aug. 219/1 Polo proper may be defined as hockey on horseback, or rather pony-back, and ..water

polo is hockey on the water. 1890 in WEBSTER. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *polo-ball, -match, -player, -playing, -pony, -stick.*

1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 221 Two or three good nags, which are used as chargers and polo-ponies. 1892 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 40 In 1872 the Monmouthshire Polo Club was established. 1895 KIPLING *Day's Work* (1898) 241 (*Maltese Cat*) The native officers held bundles of polo-sticks, long cane-handled mallets. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVI. 478/1 The regulation polo-ball is of bass-wood, three inches in diameter, and painted white. Lightness and toughness are necessary. 1897 *Ibid.* XXX. 479/2 The long coat and linen dusters which every polo-hitter affects.

Hence **Po·loist,** a player of polo.

1891 *Blackw. Mag.* May 651 The veteran poloist. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 5/2 As a horseman and poloist he had not many rivals.

† **Poloe,** obs. f. PILAU [after Urdū *pulao*].

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 134 To make a Poloe.

Poloid (pōu·loid), *sb. Geom.* [f. Gr. *πόλος* axle, POLE *sb.*[2] + -OID.] = POLHODE (which is now the usual term). Also *attrib.* or *adj.* in *poloid curve.*

1862 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* IV. 571 The 'Extrait'.. establishes also the notions of the Poloid and Serpoloid curves. *Ibid.* 572 The pole of the instantaneous axis describes on the ellipsoid a certain curve, the 'Poloid', which is the locus of all the points for which the perpendicular on the tangent plane has a given constant value.

Polonaise (pɒlŏnē·z, pōul-), *sb.* Also 8 **polo-noise.** [a. F. *polonaise*, prop. adj. fem. of *polonais* Polish; lit. a Polish *robe* or *redingote.*]

1. A name applied, at various periods from *c* 1770 onward, to an article of female dress originally suggested by that of Polish women, being a dress or over-dress, consisting of a bodice, with a skirt open from the waist downwards; variously modified at different times.

1773 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 266 The four ladies were to be dressed in white polonaises. 1790 *Guthrie's Geog. Gram., Poland* (ed. 12) II. 542 The habit of the women comes very near to that of the men, a simple Polonaise, or long robe edged with fur. 1820 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 153 An added *or moulu* border to the Polonaise. 1835 *World of Fashion* Feb. 35/1 The Polonaise, is a very becoming carriage dress. The form resembles a short pelisse. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 Tabs are universal. They appear on tunics, polonaises, bodices, and sleeves. 1899 *Daily News* 15 Apr. 8/5 There is one point of difference between the modern polonaise and its ancestor...The former is rigidly tight, and plain about the hips.

† **b.** A similar garment worn by young boys: = POLONY[1] A. 2. *Obs.*

1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xvii, This dress..bore some resemblance to that called polonaise, still worn by children in Scotland of the lower rank.

c. A kind of overcoat for men, usually short and edged with fur. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. A slow dance of Polish origin, consisting chiefly of an intricate march, procession, or promenade of the dancers in couples; also, the music which accompanies this dance, or any music written in its peculiar triple rhythm.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 466 The thirteenth [movement], a Polonoise, is characterised by much sweetness and novelty. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Lett.* (1893) 93 The ball began with polonaises, which are in fact only walking in time. 1861 *Daily Tel.* 22 Oct., The ball, as is usual..in Germany, commenced with a sort of general perambulation in couples. It is not dancing,..it is simply walking to the music. This solemn promenade is known as a Polonaise.

Hence **Polonai·se** *v. intr.*, to dance a polonaise; to move in a slow and stately manner; **Polonai·se-wise** *adv.*, in the manner of a polonaise.

1828 DE QUINCEY *Rhet.* Wks. 1860 XI. 363 Milton .. polonaises with a grand Castilian air, in paces too sequacious and processional. 1858 LADY G. BLOOMFIELD *Remin.* (1883) II. xiv. 64 After the presentations .. Her Royal Highness polonaised with twenty-two Princes. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 10 Feb. 1/3 The ball is opened by their Majesties and their Court parading round the house in polonaise-wise. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 3/2 A cherry red *voile* set in deep tucks placed polonaise-wise on the skirt.

† **Polone·se,** *sb.* and *a. Obs.* Also 8 **poloneze.** [ad. F. *polonais* Polish, It. *Polonese*, f. med.L. *Polonia* Poland: see -ESE.]

A. *sb.* **1.** = POLONAISE 1. Also apparently applied to the material for this.

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 52 I. 312 Some squire's aukward daughter, who never yet heard of a Poloneze. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 199 Her gown was a white silk polonese. 1774 *Lady's Mag.* July 379/1 Lady T—nell.. chiefly wears a white Persian gown and coat, made of Irish polenese...The Irish polenese is made very becoming—it buttons down half the arm—no ruffles, [etc.].

2. A native of Poland, a Pole. (Sing. and pl.)

1810 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* (1839) 47/1 Their features are those of the Polonese.

b. The Polish language.

1828 WEBSTER cites *Encyc.*

B. *adj.* = POLISH *a. Polonese coat* = POLONAISE 1 c.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 288 It is not possible..to fix a standard for the dress of Gentlemen:—The Polonese Coats, with a silk edging, still prevail.

† **Polonia** (pɒlōu·niă). *Obs.* [med.L. *Polōnia* Poland.] The country Poland. *attrib.* † *Polonia heel*: cf. POLONY[1] B.

1611 ROWLANDS *More Knaves yet* (Percy Soc.) 83 Bootes and stockins to our legs doth finde Garters, polonia heeles, and rose shooe-strings. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* 144 Austria, Polonia and other places.

Polonian (pɒlōu·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of Poland; = POLISH *a. Obs.* or *arch.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126 b, A long cappe after the Polonian or Georgian fashion. 1655 OWEN *Vind. Evangelicæ* Wks. 1853 XII. 18 This Captain-general of the Polonian forces. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* Introd. 55 He was a Polonian Jew by birth.

B. *sb.* **1.** A native of Poland, a Pole. *arch.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 210 Which is the case of the Polonians and Venetians at this present. 1704 J. TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. i. 70 The rough insolence of stern Polonians. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 179 Scottish colonels that served..against the Tartar, and the Polonian.

† **2.** A (woman's) polonaise. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* IV. 216 Ladies,..their number quite countless—dressed in green pollonians, and grass-green bonnets on their heads. 1818 — *Brownie of B.* II. 183 The bogles will .. hae to pit on their pollonians o' the pale colour o' the fair day-light.

So † **Polo·nic,** † **Polo·nish** *adjs.* = POLISH; **Po·lonism,** a Polish characteristic or peculiarity; **Poloniza·tion,** the process of making Polish; **Polonize** (pōu·lŏnəiz) *v.*, to make Polish.

1612 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* Pref. 22 The Belgick, *Polonick, Argentine, Augustane, Saxonick,..Bohemick or Waldensian Confession. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 121 Reported by the *Polonish Ambassadour. 1649 S. CLARKE *Lives Fathers, Luther* (1654) 253 A certain Polonish Jew. 1901 *Speaker* 9 Mar. 637/1 To discount .. the *Polonisms of Chopin..and the Gallicisms of Berlioz. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Oct. 4/1 Demanding..the *Polonisation of the Galician railways. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 286 That their residence there tends to *Polonize the districts in which they live. 1902 *Speaker* 6 Sept. 594/2 Instead of the Prussians Germanising the Poles, the Poles are Polonising the Germans.

Polonium (pɒlōu·niŭm). *Chem.* [mod.L. and F. *polonium*, f. med.L. *Polōnia* Poland + -IUM: see quot. 1900.] A highly radio-active metallic element or form of matter, discovered in 1898 by Prof. and Mme. Curie in pitchblende.

1898 SIR W. CROOKES *Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 24 A new constituent of the uranium mineral pitchblende,..The radiant activity of the new body, to which the discoverers have given the name of Polonium, needs neither the excitation of light nor the stimulus of electricity. 1900 *Nature* 14 June 151/2 That [substance] associated with bismuth being named polonium, a name derived from the Polish nationality of Mme. Curie. 1906 *Athenæum* 20 Jan. 82/1 In six days it becomes radium F, which Prof. Rutherford identifies with the polonium of Madame Curie and the radio-tellurium of Prof. Marckwald.

† **Polony**[1], *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *Polōnia* Poland, F. *Pologne.*]

A. *sb.* **1.** Poland.

1634 E. KNOTT *Charity Maintained* I. iv. § 16 In Polony, Hungary, and Transilvania.

2. A kind of long coat or gown for young boys, having a close-fitting body with loose skirt; = POLONAISE 1 b.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* v, The blue polonie that Effie made for him..was the first decent dress the bairn ever had on. 1825 — *Lett.* II. 257 A sort of dress worn by children in Scotland, and called a polony..which is just a jacket and a petticoat all in one.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* Polish: in names of various articles of apparel, etc.

1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Marke-all* (Hunter. Cl.) 23 It is a Polony Shoe with a Bel. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 77 We wear Polony heels; or it may be Chopines. *c* 1660 *Gd. Counsel agst. Cold Weather* 14 Beloved, your Polony heel is good, your Wooden heeles better, but those of Corke the best of all. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 129/1 The Caster [hat] is made of Coney Wool, mixt with Polony Wooll.

Polo·ny[2]. Also 8 **pullony.** [Origin uncertain: perh. the same as prec.; perh. corruption of BOLOGNA, q. v.] In *Polony sausage*, a sausage made of partly cooked pork.

1764 ELIZ. MOXON *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 75 To make Pullony Sausages. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sausage Maker's Ghost* ii, Preferr'd to all polonies, saveloys, And other foreign toys. 1878 GILBERT *H.M.S. Pinafore* I, I've chickens and conies, and pretty polonies, And excellent peppermint drops.

‖ **Polos** (pɒ·lɒs). [a. Gr. *πόλος* axis, sphere, vault of heaven; in late Gr. (Pausanias) a head-dress.] A head-dress of cylindrical form, seen in some representations of Greek and Oriental goddesses.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* (ed. 2) § 363 Artemis Lusia is also perhaps to be recognised in the idol with the polos and torch and bow on the vase-painting at Berlin. 1887 B. V. HEAD *Hist. Numorum* 394 Europa sometimes .. wears upon her head a polos, showing that she was regarded at Gortyna in the light of a powerful goddess.

Polpody, Polron(d, obs. ff. POLYPODY, POULDRON.

‖ **Polroz** (pɒ·lrōuz). *Cornwall.* [a. Corn. *pulros*, f. *pul*, Welsh *pwll* pit + *ros*, Welsh *rhod*:—L. *rota* wheel.] The pit under a water-wheel.

1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 278 These..terms appear strange to the English language. I might add the words 'bryle', 'chats', 'terluing', 'dzhu', 'polroz', 'zyghyr', and others. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Polroz* (pronounced *Polrose*, Corn[wall], the pit underneath a water-wheel.

Polshe, obs. form of POLISH *v.*

† **Polshred,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [prop. *poll-shred*, f. POLL *sb.*[1] + SHRED *v.*] *trans.* = POLLARD *v.*

1530 PALSGR. 614/1, I loppe a tree, I croppe, I polshred.

Polt (pōult), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Origin obscure: in sense 1 it may be a variant of PALT *sb.*; but cannot easily be connected with *pelt.* It is not certain that sense 2 is the same word.]

1. A blow, a hard rap or knock. Now *dial.*

c 1610 *MS. Bodl.* 30 lf. 24 b, I tooke him a polt of the pate. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Polt on the Pate*, a good Rap there. 1700 J. ASGILL *Argument* 103 If any one hath spite enough to give me a polt,..I only desire them first to qualify themselves for my Executioners. *a* 1739 JARVIS *Quix.* II. x. (1749) 162 One of those who stood close by him..lifted up a pole he had in his hand, and gave him such a polt with it as brought Sancho Pança to the ground. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. ix, He'd go nigh to give me a good polt of the head. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Polt*, a hard driving blow. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 702 [It] fetched me an awful polt in the right side.

† **2.** A pestle or club (cf. POLT-FOOT). *Obs.*

1612 CAPT. SMITH *Map Virginia* 17 Their corne they rost in the eare greene, and bruising it in a morter with a Polt, lappe it in rowles in the leaues of their corne.

† **b.** The club-shaped stem and bulb of a leek.

1635 MARKHAM *Eng. Husb.* II. i. ii. 9 You shall cut the blades [of leeks] to the polt.

Polt, *v.* Now *dial.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To knock, thrash, beat, bang.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 179 Then polt it, or faulter it as some call it, that is, beat it over again in the husk. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 329 To *Polt*, to beat or thrash. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Polt* (Country-Word), to beat, bang, or thrash. 1831 LOWER *T. Cladpole* CXXXVIII, I aim'd ma swish an levell'd well, To polt un on de head.

Hence **Polting-lug** (*dial.*): see quot.

1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 441 In Herefordshire the ordinary mode of gathering the fruit is by sending men to beat the trees with long slender poles or rods,..these poles are provincially termed 'polting lugs'.

Polt, obs. form of POULT.

† **Polte,** var. *pulte*, pa. t. of PILT *v. Obs.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2976 Þe hardieste þat were of al þe trome polte hem to þe fliȝt.

‖ **Poltergeist** (pɒ·ltər,gəist). [Ger. f. *polter* noise, uproar + *geist* ghost.] A spirit which makes its presence known by noises; a noisy spirit.

1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. 176 Vampires appear in the character of the poltergeist or knocker. 1898 *Month* Sept. 229 If there be nothing in hallucinations, apparitions, scrying, second-sight, poltergeists, and the rest. 1902 F. PODMORE *Mod. Spiritualism* I. i. ii. 25. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 308 Most poltergeists are not content with mere noises.

Po·lt-foot, *arch.* Also 6 **powlt-,** 6–7 **poult-,** 7 **polte-.** [app. f. POLT *sb.* sense 2 + FOOT *sb.*]

1. A club-foot.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 97 Venus was content to take the blake Smith with his powlt foote. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 81 My eldest son had a polt-foot, crooked legs. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 338 The women are commonly modest,..shewing nothing but their polt-feet, which from their infancy are straitned. 1659 *Lady Alimony* v. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIV. 308 Vulcan's poult foot or his smutted look. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v. 266 'Polt-foot', sang they, 'was in a pitfall now'.

2. *attrib.* (often **poltfoot**) = *polt-footed.*

c 1589 NASHE *Almond for Parrat* B iv b, My Bedlam brother Wig. and poltfoote Pag. with the rest of those patches. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. vii, What's become of..the poult-foot stinkard, her husband? 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 185 The rough construction and the poltfoot metre, lame sense and limping verse.

Hence **Po·lt-footed** *a.*, club-footed.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 39 Though he [Vulcan] was polt-footed, yet he was a God. *c* 1619 B. JONSON *Merc. Vind.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 595/1 This polt-footed philosopher, old Smug here of Lemnos.

Polther, Poltice, obs. f. POLDER, POULTICE.

Polt-net: see POUT-NET.

Poltre, obs. form of POULTRY.

Poltroon (pɒltrūn'n). Forms: 6 **pultrowne, pultron,** 6–7 **pultrone,** 6–8 **poultron,** 6–9 **poltron,** 7 **poultroone, pultroon, poultran, -oun,** 7–9 **paltroon,** 7– **poltroon.** [a. F. *poltron* (also in 16th c. *poultron*) 'a knaue, rascall..; dastard, coward; sluggard, lazie-backe, base idle fellow' (Cotgr.), ad. It. *poltrone* 'a poltron, an idle fellow, a base coward, a lazie, lither or slothfull sluggard, a lout' (Florio 1611), whence also med.L. *pultro, -onem* (S. Francis *c* 1220, Du Cange), Sp. *poltron*, Pg. *poltrão*; f. It. *poltro* 'sluggard, idle, lazie, slothfull' (Florio) + *-one*: see -OON. The 16th c. spelling may have been influenced by med.L. Originally stressed *pu·ltron*; *poltroo·n* (after Fr.) appears in 1664.

It. *poltro* adj. was app. from † *poltro* couch, bed (Florio): cf. Milanese *polter*, Romagn. *pultar* resting-place, Venet. *poltrona* couch, Pg. *poltrona* large arm-chair, and It. † *poltrare, poltrire*, beside *poltronare, poltroneggiare* 'to play the poltron,.. to loll and wallow in sloth and idlenesse, to lye lazilie in bed as a sluggard' (Florio). *Poltro, polter, pultar*, are referred by Diez to OHG. *polstar* pillow, bolster. The fantastic conjecture of the derivation of *poltron* from L. *pollice truncus*, 'maimed or mutilated in the thumb' (*scil.* in order to shirk military service), was offered by Salmasius, and long passed current as an 'etymology'; it prob. gave rise in the 18th c. to the use in Falconry (sense 2).]

1. A spiritless coward; a mean-spirited, worthless wretch; a craven.

a 1529 SKELTON *Howe the douty Dk. of Albany* 170 Suche a proude pultrowne. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 235 That pultron and vyle knave Davie was justlie punished. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 374 Fortune helps the hardie ay, And pultrones plaine repellis. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV*, III. ii, Poltron, speak me one parola against my *bon gentilhomme*, I shall [etc.]. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 62 Patience is for Poultroones, such as he: He durst not sit there, had your Father liu'd. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. Table 509 A French Pultrone, playing the Palliard. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 232 They that..think one beating may for once Suffice, are Cowards, and Pultroons. 1678 *Ibid.* III. i. 346 And held my Drubbing of his Bones Too great an Honour for Pultrones. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Iliad* I. 413 For who but a poltron, possess'd with fear, Such haughty insolence can safely bear? 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 66 As arrant a poltroon as ever was drummed out of a regiment. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1861) 214 As did Homer make that fine fellow Hector scamper like a poltroon round the walls of Troy.

attrib. 1645 HAMMOND *Serm. Acts xxiv.* 25, Wks. 1683 IV. 521 Our hellish oaths and imprecations, (that pultroon sin, that second part of Ægyptian plague of frogs and lice, and locusts). 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 36 He is like to be mistaken, who..relieth upon the Reed of narrow and poltron Friendship.

2. *Falconry.* (See quot.)

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Poltroon*, in falconry, is a name given to a bird of prey, when the nails and talons of his hind-toes are cut off, wherein his chief force and armour lay; in order to intimidate him, and prevent his flying at great game.

Hence **Poltroo·nish** *a.*; **Poltroo·nism**; **Poltroonize** *v. intr.*, to play the poltroon.

1611 COTGR., *Poltroniser*, to pultronize it; to play the knave, scowndrell, coward. 1644 S. KEM *Messengers Preparation* Ded. 2 It would conclude me guilty of Poultranisme, to feare the *Sciopii* and *Pacientii* heere, when not the *Zosimi* at Oxford. 1837 MISS SEDGWICK *Live & let L.* (1876) 205 Patience may be very Christian in you, but it is very poltronish in me. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 363 Collinson—a weak, almost poltroonish creature.

Poltroonery (pǫltrū·nəri). [ad. F. *poltronnerie* (1573 in Hatz.-Darm.), = It. *poltroneria*: see POLTROON and -ERY.] The behaviour of a poltroon; † laziness; pusillanimity, cowardice.

1590 R. HICHCOCK *Quintess. Wit* 35 b, Firste they are industrious, suppliant, modest; and after, with pultronerie and in pride doo lead their age. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* III. iv, There's no cowardize, No poultrounerie, like urging why? wherefore? 1677 *Govt. Venice* 125 That 'tis laziness and poltronery to retire from the Government to spend our age in ease. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) II. 608/2 His poltroonery and mean submission..deserve the greatest reproach. 1897 GLADSTONE *East. Crisis* II Counsels that had hitherto resulted in a concert of miserable poltroonery.

Polulogy, Polumath, etc.: see POLYLOGY, etc.

Polut(e, obs. forms of POLLUTE.

† **Po·lverine.** *Obs.* [ad. It. *polverino*, f. *polvere*:—L. *pulverem* dust, powder + *-ino*, -INE 4.] The calcined ashes of a plant, probably *Salsola Soda*, brought from the Levant and Syria, of the nature of pot- or pearl-ash, and used in glass-making; glass-makers' ashes.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* I. i *Polverine*, or *Rochetta*, which comes from the Levant.., is the ashes of a ..herb. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 104 Crystal Fritt, made with Polverine, or Pot-Ashes, and Salt of Tartar. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Crystal*, Mix this powder with the pure salts of polverine. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Polverine.* 1828 WEBSTER, Polverin, polverine.

Polvil, obs. form of PULVIL.

Pol-wheat: see POLL *a.* 2 b.

Polwig(ge, polwygle, obs. var. POLLIWOG.

† **Poly, poley** (pō·li). *Obs.* [ad. L. *polium, polion* (Plin.), a. Gr. πόλιον (Theophr.) an aromatic herb, perh. f. πολιός hoary.] A species of Germander, *Teucrium Polium*, an aromatic herb of Southern Europe; also extended to other species of *Teucrium*, as Golden P. (*T. aureum*), Yellow P. (*T. flavescens*).

In quot. 1527 erroneously for PULIOL.

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* C iv, Water of poley. Pulegium in latyn. The best tyme of hys dystylacyon is all the herbe chopped whan it bereth floures, and so dystylled. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxvi. 233 Poley.. is of two sortes, whereof one may be named..Poley of the Mountaine: and the other.. small Poley. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 618 The herb called Poley, Fern, and all other things that have a strong or vehement ill savour. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Poly, *Teucrium Polium.*

b. *Grass Poly*: see GRASS *sb.*1 13.

c. Poly-mountain, also **poly of the mountain, mountain poly** [ad. L. *polium montanum*], name of an aromatic herb: identified in *Treas. Bot.* with *Bartsia alpina*; by Britten and Holland with *Calamintha Acinos*; by earlier writers app. also with *Teucrium Polium* (=POLY). See also PELLA-MOUNTAIN, *pulimountain* in PULIOL.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxvi. 233 Poley of the Mountayne is a little, small, tender, base, and sweete smelling herbe, having small stemmes, and slender branches. *Ibid.*, It is called..in English Poley and Poley mountayne. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* 676, I haue sometimes seene it [*Calamintha Acinos*] brought to Cheapside market, where the herbe women called it Poley mountaine, some it may bee that haue taken it for *Polium montanum* [*Teucrium Polium*, L.] mis-informing them. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 244 Where.. grew the Mountain-Poly, which struck our Scent. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 82 Poley Mountain..is a Plant of the Height of half a Foot; having small, thick indented Leaves. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 913/1 Poly mountain, *Bartsia alpina.* 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.* 385 Poley Mountain, *Calamintha Acinos.*

Poly, obs. form of PULLEY.

Poly- (pǫli), repr. Gr. πολυ-, combining form of πολύς, πολύ, much, in pl., πολλοί, -αί, -ά many, forming the first element in a large number of words, mostly scientific or technical.

The second element of such compounds is properly of Greek origin, but in recent formations is often of Latin; occasionally (chiefly in nonce-wds.) *poly-* is prefixed to an English word. The more important compounds will be found in their alphabetical places; those of less importance follow here.

1. General words.

Polyacanthous (-ăkæ·nθəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. ἄκανθα spine, thorn], having many thorns (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). † **Polyacou·stic** *a.* and *sb.* [see ACOUSTIC]: see quots. **Polya·cron** (pl. -ons or -a), *Geom.* [Gr. ἄκρον summit], a solid having many vertices or solid angles; a polyhedron (classed according to the number of its vertices). **Po·lyact** (-ækt), **Polyactinal** (-æ·ktinăl) *adjs.* [Gr. ἀκτίς, ἀκτιν- ray], having numerous rays, as a sponge-spicule; multiradiate. **Polyadamite** (-æ·dăməit) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), asserting a plurality of 'Adams' or first parents of mankind. **Polyadenopathy** (-ædĭnǫ·păθi), *Path.* [Gr. ἀδήν gland: see -PATHY], 'simultaneous disease of several lymphatic glands' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Polyadenous** (-æ·dĭnəs) *a. Bot.* [see prec.], having many glands (Mayne). ‖ **Polyæsthesia** (-ĭsθī·siă), *Path.* [Gr. αἴσθησις sensation]: see quot.; hence **Polyæsthetic** (-ĭsθe·tik) *a.* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Poly-affe·ctioned** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), having a multiplicity of affections. † **Po·ly-angle,** a figure having many angles, a polygon; so **Polya·ngular** *a.*, having many angles, polygonal. **Polyarthritic** (-i·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with polyarthritis. ‖ **Polyarthritis** (-aɪþrai·tis), *Path.* [see ARTHRITIS], 'inflammation of several joints at once' (Billings); **Polyarthrous** (-ā·ɹþrəs) *a.* [Gr. ἄρθρον joint], 'having many joints' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Polyarti·cular** [L. *articulus* joint], = prec.; also (*Path.*) affecting many joints. **Polyaxial** *a.*, having several axes (see AXIS). **Polyaxon** [Gr. ἄξων axis], *a.* = prec.; *spec.* of a sponge-spicule, having more than six axes of growth; *sb.* a polyaxon sponge-spicule. **Polybathic** (-bæ·þik) *a.* [Gr. βάθος depth], living at great depths in the sea. **Polybi·gamy** (*nonce-wd.*), repeated bigamy or re-marriage during the life of the first wife or husband. **Po·lyblast** (-blæst), *Biol.* [-BLAST], a mass of many cells, as that formed by the segmentation of the ovum (also called *morula*); hence **Polybla·stic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a polyblast. **Po·lybranch** (-brænk), *Zool., a.* having many branchiæ or gills, as a mollusc or crustacean; *sb.* a polybranch mollusc or crustacean; so **Polybra·nchian,** *a.* and *sb.*; **Polybra·nchiate** *a.* **Polybu·ttoned** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), wearing many buttons. **Polycellular** *a.*, composed of many cells, multicellular. **Polyce·ntric** *a. Biol.*, having several centres, as a cell. † **Polycharacteri·stic** *a. Obs.*, having the characteristics of many (deities); ‖ **Polycholia** (-kō·liă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. χολή bile; in F. *polycholie*], excessive secretion of bile. ‖ **Polychorion** (-kō·riǫn), *Bot.* [see CHORION]: see quot.; hence (irreg.) **Polychorio·nic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a polychorion. ‖ **Polychromia** (-krō·miă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. χρῶμα colour (cf. Gr. πολύχρωμ-ος many-coloured)], excessive formation of colouring matter, e. g. of bile-pigments. **Polychu·rchism,** the doctrine or system of a multiplicity of churches; so **Po·lychurch** *a.*, of or belonging to such a system; **Polychu·rchist,** an adherent of such a system (*nonce-wds.*). **Polycoccous** (-kǫ·kəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. κόκκος berry], composed of several separate carpels or *cocci*, as a fruit. **Polycœlian** (-sī·liăn) *a. Zool.* [Gr. κοιλία hollow, cavity], belonging to the *Polycœlia*, a synonym of CRANIATA, as having the brain-cavity divided into several chambers or ventricles. **Polycormic** *a. Bot.* [Gr. κορμός trunk of a tree], having lateral stems equal to or co-ordinate with the main stem, as certain coniferous trees (opp. to *monocormic*). **Polycracy** (pǫ·li·krăsi) [-CRACY], government by many rulers: = POLYARCHY 1 (Smart 1836). **Polycrotic** (-krǫ·tik) *a. Physiol.* [after DICROTIC], (of the pulse) exhibiting more than two beats or waves for each beat of the heart. **Polycyclic** (-si·klik) *a.* [Gr. κύκλος circle], having or consisting of many rounds, turns, or whorls. ‖ **Polycythæmia** (-səiþī·miă), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. κύτος (see -CYTE) + αἷμα blood], excess of red blood-corpuscles. **Polydiabo·lical** *a.*, relating to a plurality of devils; in quot. as *sb.* = *polydiabolist*; so **Polydia·bolism,** belief in many devils; **Polydia·bolist,** one who believes in many devils (*nonce-wds.*). **Polydi·gital** *a. Zool.*, having several (separate) digits. **Polydime·nsional** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), having, or relating to, more than three dimensions of space. **Polydo·ggery** (*nonce-wd.*), the keeping of a number of dogs. **Polyeidism** (-əi·diz'm), *Biol.* [Gr. εἶδος appearance, form], metamorphosis in which an organism passes through several different forms in different stages. **Polyenzymatic** (-enzəimæ·tik) *a.* [*enzyme*, f. Gr. ἐν in + ζυμή leaven], producing several different ferments. **Polyepic** (-e·pik) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. ἔπος word], consisting of several words.

(*Continued on next page.*)

1683 in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 483 By a Polyphone or *Polyacoustick well ordered one sound may be heard as many. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polyacousticks*, are Instruments contrived to Multiply Sounds, as Multiplying-glasses or Polyscopes do Images of Objects. 1755 JOHNSON, *Polyacoustick, adj.*, that multiplies or magnifies sounds. 1862 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* V. 38 A method of the derivation of the A faced *polyacrons of a given number of summits from those of the next inferior number of summits. 1886 LENDENFELD *Sponges* in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 560, I. *Anaxonia.* Without definite axes and with numerous rays—*polyact. 1832 *Philol. Museum* I. 312 If any advocate of the *polyadamite doctrine, as it has been called. 1888 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VI. 396/2 *Polyæsthesia, is a rare disturbance of sensation..in which the point of a pin, when applied to the skin, is felt as two or more points. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 5 Jan. 15/3 Any such hackneyed creation as an Osric of the emotions, without depth, or a *poly-affectioned Lothario. 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* ix. 70 If the wheeles should haue beene made square, trencher wise, or in any other *poly-angle, forty horses would not so easily draw them beeing laden, as two doth now with both speed and ease. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 438 Of divers Figures or Faces, of a *Polyangular shape. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 221 These hollow spandrils may be cylindrical, triangular, quadrangular, or polyangular. 1901 *Lancet* 16 Mar. 776/1 In addition to such *polyarthritic forms there is yet a fourth group of cases in which only one or two joints are involved. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 863 Rheumatic fever, or acute *polyarthritis. 1874 VAN BUREN *Dis. Genit. Org.* 86 Associated with the *poly-articular variety of gonorrhœal rheumatism. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1026 There were no rheumatic phenomena for thirteen months when polyarticular rheumatism appeared. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 416/2 Desma of an anomocladine Lithistid (*polyaxon). 1898 *Nature* 27 Jan. 310/2 A fauna capable of living and developing at depths of over 2000 metres, to which the name *polybathic is given. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 37 *note*, A great *polybigamy case. 1873 E. R. LANKESTER in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Feb. 86 The first step in development, after the formation by cleavage of the mass of embryo-cells or '*polyblast'. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 566 The clasmocytes of Rauvier and Marchand, some of the polyblast of Maximow..all belong to this category of cells. *Ibid.* 596 This last stage of the development of the *polyblastic cell. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1 Gastropods, are divided into..1. Nudibranchians (Anthrobranchians and *Polybranchians). 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polybranchiatus, Zoöl.* applied..to an Order (*Polybranchiata*)..*polybranchiate. 1846 R. CHAMBERS *Tradit. Edinburgh* 300 The little *polybuttoned personages. 1887 H. M. WARD in *Nature* 27 Jan. 301/2 As soon as the sap-vacuoles appear, in many cases making the cell not monocentric but *polycentric. 1705 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2107 Prophylactic and *Polycharacteristick Statues. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Polycholia.* 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 396 Vulpian believes that jaundice from emotion may be caused by a catarrh of the ducts, by an abundant polycholia. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* iii. 78 Polycholia is a constant and often urgent feature in most malarial fevers. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 913 **Polychorion*, a polycarpous fruit like that of Ranunculus. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polychorionic.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 21 It is not a polycholia..but a *polychromia. *Ibid.* 61 The hæmoglobin liberated leads to an increased formation and excretion of bile pigments (polychromia). 1883 H. T. EDWARDS in *Ch. Times* XXII. 10/1 When a chapel is in debt, the *Polychurch hierarchy furiously rage against the Church. *Ibid.* XXI. 971/1 The large sums which they [the Welsh] spend upon '*Polychurchism'. 1891 BP. JAYNE in *Daily News* 21 Nov. 5/3 [He finds in the circular he has received a strong flavour of] what has been aptly termed the theory of Polychurchism. 1899 *Nature* 9 Nov. 28/1 *Polycormic forms are met with in cypresses and junipers, in which the lateral branches are not all reduced to subordinate and graduated positions. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polycyclic.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 553 A curved figure, having a polycyclic outline. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 60 An increase..in the number of the red blood-corpuscles beyond the healthy limit..constitutes..*polycythaemia. 1876 *Tinsley's Mag.* XVIII. 150 Whether we cast in our lot with Bishop Butler or the *Polydiabolicals. *Ibid.* 149 Why has no interesting heretic gone in for *Polydiabolism? *Ibid.* 150 The *polydiabolists would put it in the plural, and say evil spirits. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 28 The evolution of the horse's leg from a *polydigital extremity to its present form. 1884 *Nature* 1 May 24/2 L. Martin, on the *polydimensional argument. 1875 MISS COBBE *False Beasts & True* 190 *Polydoggery is a thing against which all proper feeling revolts. 1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* iv. 80 Those cases in which animals or plants pass through a succession of different forms might be distinguished by the name of dieidism or *polyeidism. 1892 THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* xiii. 239 It is a *poly-enzymatic gland, that is, one which produces diverse digestive ferments. 1811-31 BENTHAM *Language* Wks. 1843 VIII. 333/1 This proposition will consist of one word only, or of divers words,—will be either monoepic or *polyepic.

Poly- combining form. 1. General words.
(*Continued from preceding page.*)

Polyergic (-ɔ̄·ɹdʒik) *a.* [Gr. ἔργον work: cf. πολύεργος hard-working], acting in many ways, having various functions. **Polyethnic** (-e·þnik) *a.* [Gr. ἔθνος nation], belonging to or containing many nations or races. **Polyfene·stral** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [L. *fenestra* window], having many windows. **Po·lyfoil** *a.* and *sb. Arch.* = MULTIFOIL. **Po·ly-gra·mmar** (*nonce-wd.*), a grammar of several different languages. **Po·ly-groove** *a.*, having many, i. e. more than three, grooves, as a rifle; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* a poly-groove rifle; so **Po·ly-grooved** *a.* **Polygyral** (-dʒəi·ɹrăl) *a.* [Gr. γῦρος circle, ring], having many whorls, as a shell. **Poly-ide·ism,** the presence of many ideas or images at once. **Poly-la·minated** *a.*, having many laminæ or layers. **Polyle·mma,** *Logic*, a complex syllogism resembling a dilemma but involving several alternatives. **Polylepidous** (-le·pidəs) *a.* [Gr. λεπίς scale], having many scales (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). **Polyli·nguist** *nonce-wd.* [see LINGUIST], a person learned in many languages. **Polylithic** (-li·þik) *a.* [Gr. λίθος stone], made of several stones: opp. to *monolithic*. **Polylobular** (-lo·bĭlăɹ) *a.*, having many lobules. † **Poly·loquent** *a. Obs. rare*—° [L. *loquent-em* speaking], 'that speaketh much' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656). **Polylychnous** (-li·knəs) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. λύχνος lamp], having many lamps or lights. **Poly-ma·gnet,** an instrument consisting of two or more electromagnets so arranged as to admit of considerable variation in the field of magnetic force. ‖ **Polyma·nia,** *Path.*, mania affecting several mental faculties: opp. to *monomania*. **Polyma·stigate, Polyma·stigous** *adjs. Zool.* [Gr. μάστιξ, μαστίγ- whip], having many flagella, as an infusorian; pluriflagellate. **Polyme·tallism** (*nonce-wd.*) [after *bimetallism*], the use of several different metals for money. **Polyme·tame·ric** *a. Anat.*, pertaining to or connected with several metameres, as a muscle supplied with nerves from several portions of the spinal cord. ‖ **Polymetochia** (-mĭtōu·kiă), *Philol.* [Gr. μετοχή a participle: cf. POLYSYNDETON], the frequent use of participles or participial constructions; so **Polymetochic** (-mĭtɒ·kik) *a.*, characterized by polymetochia. **Polymi·crian** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. μικρός little], containing much within a small space. **Polymi·croscope,** a microscope in which various objects are mounted on plates attached to a revolvable band, so that they can be brought successively into the field of observation. ‖ **Polymyositis** (-məi,ɒsəi·tis), *Path.* [see MYOSITIS]: see quot. 1890. ‖ **Polyneuritis** (-niuɹəi·tis), *Path.*, see quot. 1886. **Polynuclear** (-niū·klĭăɹ), **Polynu·cleate, -ated** *adjs. Biol.*, having several nuclei, multinucleate. **Polyodic** (-ɹ·dik) *a. Mus.* (*rare*) [Gr. ᾠδή song] = POLYPHONIC. **Polyœstrous** (-ī·stɹəs) *a. Zool.* [see ŒSTRUM]: (see quot.). **Polyommatous** (-ɹ·mătəs) *a.* [Gr. ὄμμα, ὀμματ- eye], having many eyes. **Polyora·ma** [after PANORAMA], an optical apparatus presenting many views, or a view of many objects (Worcester 1846). **Polyorga·nic** *a. Biol.*, having many different organs. † **Polyo·tical** *a. Obs.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. οὖς, ὠτ- ear], having many ears. **Po·lypage** (-pēidʒ) *a.* (*Printing*), comprising several pages, as a *polypage* (stereotype-) *plate*. **Polypa·ntograph,** a form of pantograph producing several identical designs simultaneously from one pattern (Knight *Dict. Mech.*). **Poly·parous** *a.* [see -PAROUS], 'bringing forth many' (Webster 1864); multiparous. **Polyped** (pɒ·liped) [after *quadruped*], *sb.* an animal having many feet; *adj.* many-footed. ‖ **Polyphobia** (-fōu·biă), *Path.* [-PHOBIA], morbid fear of many things. **Polyphotal** (-fōu·tăl), **Po·lyphote** (-fōut) *adjs.* [Gr. φῶς, φωτ- light], applied to an electric arc-lamp so constructed that several may be used on the same circuit. † **Polypi·ety** (*nonce-wd.*), piety of many forms. **Po·lyplacid** (-plæ·sid) *a. Zool.* [irreg. f. Gr. πλακοῦς flat cake], having more than one madreporic plate, as a starfish; opp. to *monoplacid*. **Polyplastic** (-plæ·stik) *a.* [PLASTIC], having or assuming many forms (Dunglison, 1844). ‖ **Polypnœa** (-pnī·ă), *Path.* [Gr. πνοή (Dor. πνοά, πνοιά) breathing (cf. πολύπνοια a violent wind); in F. *polypnée*], 'very rapid respiration' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Polyponous** (-i·pɒnəs) *a.* (*nonce-wd.*) [Gr. πολύπονος much-labouring], occupied with many labours. **Polyposist** (-i·pɒsist), *nonce-wd.* [cf. Gr. πολυποσία hard drinking, πολυπότης a hard drinker], one who drinks much, a hard drinker. **Po·lyprism, Polyprisma·tic** *a. Cryst.*: see quots. **Polyprothesy** (-pɹɒ·þĭsi), *Gram.* [Gr. πρόθεσις preposition: cf. POLYSYNDETON], the frequent use of prepositions; so **Polyprothetic** (-prɒþe·tik) *a.*, characterized by polyprothesy. **Polypseudonymous** (pɒlisiudɒ·nimәs) *a.*, having many pseudonyms or aliases. † **Po·lypyrene** (-pəi·ɹīn), † **Polypyre·nous** (-pəiɹī·nəs) *adjs.* [Gr. πῦρήν stone or hard seed of fruits], having two or more stones or kernels, as a fruit. **Polyrhizal** (-rəi·zăl), **Polyrhi·zous** *adjs.* [Gr. ῥίζα root: cf. F. *polyrrhize* adj.], having many roots. **Polysemant** (-sī·mænt) [ad. late Gr. πολυσήμαντος adj., having many significations], a word having various senses; so **Polysema·ntic** *a.*, having various senses. **Polysemous** (-sī·məs) *a.* [f. med.L. *polysēm-us* (Dante), a. Gr. πολύσημ-ος of many senses, f. πολυ-, POLY- + σῆμα sign, σημαίνειν to signify], having many meanings. **Polyse·nsuous** *a.* [f. L. *sensu-s* sense + -OUS] = *polysemous*; hence **Polyse·nsuousness.** **Po·ly-sided** *a.*, many-sided. **Polysiphonic** (-səiɸɒ·nik), **Polysiphonous** (-səi·ɸɒnəs) *adjs., Nat. Hist.*, having or consisting of several siphons or tubes. **Po·lysoil** *a.*, containing various kinds of soil. **Polysoma·tic** *a.* [Gr. σῶμα body], applied to a grain of sandstone or the like which consists of an aggregation of smaller grains. **Polysomatous** (-sōu·mătəs) *a.* [as prec.], applied to a monster having two or more bodies combined. **Polysomitic** (-sɒmi·tik) *a. Zool.*, composed of a number of somites or body-segments. **Po·lyspire,** a form of sponge-spicule: see quot. **Polystachyous** (-stæ·kiəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. στάχυς ear of corn: cf. πολύσταχυς rich in ears of corn (Theocr.)], having many ears or spikes, as a grass (Mayne). **Polystelic** (-stī·lik) *a. Bot.* [Gr. στήλη post, pillar, etc.], applied to a stem or root having more than one internal vascular cylinder or *stele*. **Polystemonous** (-stī·mŏnəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. στήμων, taken as = stamen: cf. F. *polystémone* adj.], having the number of stamens more than double that of the petals or sepals. **Polystethoscope** (-ste·þɒskoup): see quot. **Polystichous** (-i·stikəs) *a. Nat. Hist.* [Gr. στίχος row: cf. DISTICHOUS], arranged in numerous rows (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Po·lystigm** (-stim), *Geom.* [Gr. στιγμή point], a figure made up of a number of points. **Polystigmatic** (-stigmæ·tik) *a.* (*humorous nonce-wd.*) [Gr. στίγμα mark, spot], relating to numerous spots. **Polystigmous** (-sti·gməs) *a. Bot.*, having many stigmas, as a flower (*Cent. Dict.*). **Polystylar** (-stəi·lăɹ), **Po·lystyle** *adjs. Arch.* [Gr. στῦλος column], having or characterized by many columns. **Polystylous** (-stəi·ləs) *a. Bot.*, having many styles, as the ovary of a flower (Mayne 1858). **Polysy·llogism** (*Logic*), a combination or series of related syllogisms; so **Polysyllogi·stic** *a.* [F. *polysyllogistique*], pertaining to or consisting of a polysyllogism. **Po·lyta·sted** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), having many tastes or flavours. **Polythelemism** (-þĭlī·mizm), *nonce-wd.* [Gr. θέλημα will]: see quot. **Po·lytone** [cf. F. *polytone* adj. (Voltaire)], varied tone, as in ordinary speaking: opposed to *monotone*. **Po·lytope,** *Geom.* [Gr. τόπος place], a form, in geometry of more than three dimensions, corresponding to a polygon in plane, or a polyhedron in solid geometry. † **Polyto·pian** (*nonce-wd.*) [as prec.], one who visits many places. † **Polytra·gic** *a.*, containing many tragedies. **Polytrichous** (-i·trikəs) *a. Nat. Hist.* [Gr. θρίξ, τριχ- hair], very hairy; thickly covered with hair (Mayne 1858). ‖ **Polyuresis** (-iuɹī·sis), ‖ **Polyuria** (-iūə·riă), *Path.* [Gr. οὔρησις urination, οὖρον urine], excessive excretion of urine; hence **Polyuric** (-iūə·rik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with polyuria. **Polyvo·ltine** [Ital. *volta* turn, time], a silkworm of a breed which yields several broods of cocoons in a year.

1889 BURDON SANDERSON *Address to Biological Section British Assoc.* in *Nature* 26 Sept. 524/1 Plant protoplasm, though it may be structurally homogeneous, is dynamically *polyergic—it has many endowments. 1888 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 1/2 For purposes of communication and for interchange of ideas the polyglott, *poly-ethnic Indian continent has become one country. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 311/2 There is no proportion observed between the *polyfenestral building itself, and the range of columns stuck up against it. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc., **Polyfoile*, an ornament, like a leaf, of many round lobes. 1812 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* VIII. 97 The title of this *polygrammar must not be admitted as a proof that he was qualified for the task which he undertook. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U S. Munitions War* 88 These guns are rifled on the *polygroove system, and use lead-coated projectiles. 1886 *Field* 9 Jan. 54/3 Greatly improved the shooting of the old muzzle-loading polygroove. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 403 They will shoot as well as *poly-grooved rifles. 18.. W. G. BINNEY (Cent. D.), *Polygyral. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 47 In one word, hypnosis is a state of *poly-ideism, not of mono-ideism. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 333 Single or *poly-laminated cylindrical, and ciliated epithelia. 1867 ATWATER *Logic* 151 The names Trilemma, Tetralemma, *Polylemma have been sometimes given to this sort of Syllogism according to the number of members or horns. 1873 M. COLLINS *Squire Silchester* II. xix. 232 An old friend .. famous as *polylinguist, philologist, archæologist. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 368/1 *Polylithic statues, or those composed of several stones. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 117 Small round cells with *polylobular and fragmented nuclei. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 709 Freely dispensing light from the huge *polylychnous gas-burners to a whole neighbourhood. 1828 *Lancet* 19 Apr. 73/2 Dr. Epps enumerated monomania; that is, when one faculty is affected: *polymania where more than one faculty is deranged. 1893 *Chicago Advance* 10 Aug., *Polymetallism is historical, and iron, copper, shells and wampum have all been used as money. 1888 *Nature* 13 Dec. 151/2 Most muscles, Fuerbringer argues, are *polymetameric, *i. e.* they receive nervous fibres from two or more spinal roots. 1900 H. W. SMYTH *Grk. Melic Poets* p. lvii, The periods [in the dithyramb] were disjointed .. and *polymetochic: the heaping of participles added pomp and rapidity. 1899 W. I. KNAPP *Life Borrow* I. 70 A small 4to volume .. in his *polymicrian handwriting. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Polymyositis*, inflammation of a number of muscles, simultaneous or successive. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 461 Primary affections of the muscle. (a) Acute polymyositis. 1886 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* I. 91 The term 'multiple neuritis' or '*polyneuritis' is applied to the condition in which many nerves are inflamed simultaneously or in rapid succession. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 496 Certain mineral poisons .. induce paralysis by the establishment of polyneuritis. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 273 In atrophic increase of fat, in *polynuclear bone-cells. 1901 W. OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* I. 19 Acute diseases, in which the polynuclear neutrophiles are increased, 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Polynucleate*, multinucleate. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 138 In some examples there are large *polynucleated cells. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* i. 26 Poly-nucleated leucocytes. 1818 BUSBY *Gram. Mus.* 99 *note*, The first of these styles of melody they term monodic, the second *polyodic. But this polyodic style of composition, after all, is nothing more than a compounding of harmony with melody. 1900 HEAPE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Nov. 16 There are two forms of sexual season evident in female mammals; the monœstrous, in which there is only a single œstrus at one or more particular times of the year (bitch), and the *polyœstrous, in which there are two or more concurrent dicœstrous cycles at a particular time of the year (mare). 1864 WEBSTER, **Polyommatous*, having many eyes. 1884 *Ch. Times* 8 Feb. 101 Like the mysterious Beings in the Apocalypse, polyommatous—full of eyes. 1887 *Science* 3 June 534/2 In the natural world some beings are monorganic, others are *polyorganic. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* II. xxvii. § 3 As visually is found in any *polywticall Argus-eyed tyrannie. 1822 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 87 It is all right and fitting that a quadruped, or *polyped, like Jack-with-the-many-legs, should go on foot. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 193 Though it cannot be thrown down by a tempest, it may be shattered by it, and its polyped unity destroyed. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 5 *Poly-piety is the greatest impiety in the world. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polypnœa.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 485 A probable compensatory polypnœa or attack of dyspnœa. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 179 We have never had such a *polyponous individual as the Rector of Lyndon. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 53 The ancients boasted the power of their *Polyposists. 1873 GANOT *Physics* (ed. 6) VII. iii. § 502 That the angle of deviation increases with the refractive index may be shown by means of the *polyprism. This name is given to a prism formed of several prisms of the same angle connected at their bases. 1849 CRAIG, **Polyprismatic*, presenting numerous prisms. 1864 WEBSTER, *Polyprismatic*, having many lateral secondary planes, with or without the primary planes; said of a prismatic crystal. 1896 J. DONOVAN in *Classical Rev.* Feb. 62/1 The gradual development from extreme oligoprothesy to considerable *polyprothesy, in the Tragic writers, is especially dwelt on. *Ibid.*, The enquiry leads to the general law that prose is *polyprothetic and poetry oligoprothetic. 1876 *World* V. No. 105. 9 If it is..intolerable for one gentleman to call another a *polypseudonymous writer. 1902 SWINBURNE in *Q. Rev.* July 30 The polypseudonymous ruffian who uses and wears out as many stolen names as ever did even the most cowardly and virulent of literary poisoners. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 928 The Pomiferous Trees and Shrubs, ..these are all *Polypyrene. 1706 PHILLIPS, **Polypyrenous Fruit*,..such Fruit of Trees, Herbs, etc. as contain two or more Kernels or Seeds within it. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polyrhizal.* 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Polyrhizus*,..having many roots,..*polyrhizous. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 170 Multivocals .. are of three sorts. I. *Polysemants, where there is identity of form in the symbols of primary significations and their derivatives; as (*a*) *burst, cast, cost, cut, hit*, presents, preterites, and participles; as (*b*) *love*, substantive and verb, or *ill*, adjective, adverb, and substantive; and as (*c*) *post, stage*, the substantives. II. Homographs, identical to the eye; ..III. Homophones, identical to the ear only. 1862 — *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 75 *note*, This is not the Sánkhya 'nature', *prakriti*, but our own *polysemantic 'nature'. 1884 *Athenæum* 17 May 628/2 What Dante himself, in his dedication to Can Grande, calls the '*polysemous' character of the poem. [DANTE *Epist.* x. § 7 Istius operis non est simplex sensus, immo dici potest polysemum, hoc est plurium sensuum.] 1904 GARDNER *Dante's Ten Heavens* 11 We are told in the Letter to Can Grande that the poem is **polysensuous*. 1899 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 211 We do not think that Mr. Paget Toynbee quite realises in the Dictionary .. the *polysensuousness of Beatrice. 1862 H. W. BELLEW *Jrnl. Pol. Mission Afghanistan* 316 The only clean .. building is a *polysided domed mosque .. that stands on an eminence overlooking the village. 1898 SEDGWICK *Textbk. Zool.* I. 125 *note*, The cœnosark or hydrocaulus is said to be fascicled or *polysiphonic when it is composed of several adherent tubes. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 133 Of

those green Algae which are masked by calcareous matter, there are two series distinguished by their monosiphonous or *polysiphonous stems. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 18 A Unisoil Farm requires fewer Implements than a *Polysoil Farm. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1643/2 The subject of *polysomatous terata. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 251 Groups of *polysomitic segments, which .. receive the name of thorax and abdomen. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 (*Sponge*) A continued spiral growth through several revolutions gives the *polyspire. 1888 — in *Challenger Rep.* XXV. p. lxii, *Polyspire*... A spire of two or more revolutions. 1896 CORMACK in *Trans. Linn. Soc., Bot.* Ser. II. V. 275 His description of the *polystelic condition of stems of *Pteridophyta. *Ibid.*, With polystelic roots must be classed certain abnormal Palm-roots. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 392 If the stamens are double the sepals or petals .. the flower is *diplostemonous* ..; if more than double, **polystemonous*. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 254 *Polystemenous* [sic], ..as in the Rose. 1889 HANDERSON tr. *Baas' Outl. Hist. Med.* 1016 The stethoscope of Landouzy (*polystethoscope) with several tubes at one end, so that several persons can listen to the same murmur at once. 1863 R. TOWNSEND *Mod. Geom.* I. 144 A complete figure which .. may be termed a *polystigm in the former case, and a polygram in the latter. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* x. I. 152 As the *polystigmatic view deepened, her name accrusted finally to the positive form of 'Spotty'. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 195/1 A picturesque piece of *polystylar composition. *Ibid.* 263/2 Such apertures must prove .. at variance with its columnar and *polystyle character. 1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xix. (1866) I. 363 A series of correlative syllogisms, following each other in the reciprocal relation of antecedent and consequent is called a *Polysyllogism. 1709–10 HENLEY in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 452/2 When the *polytasted wine excited jovial thoughts and banished serious reflections. 1905 *Faith of Christian* (ed. 2) 12/1 We have simply substituted what may be called *polytheleмism, or the doctrine of many wills, for the doctrine of polytheism. 1852 *Ecclesiologist* XIII. 63 They are read,— we mean read in *polytone,—by the Priest. 1866 J. B. DYKES in P. Freeman *Rites & Ritual* 106 The use of the monotone dropped and gave place to our modern careless unecclesiastical polytone. 1611 B. JONSON in Coryat *Crudities, Charac. Authour*, The character of y^e^ famous Odcombian or rather *Polytopian Thomas the Coryate. 1605 EARL STIRLING *Alexandræan* Argt., Which multitude of murthers gave .. to me the subject of this *Polytragicke Tragedie. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Polyuresia, **Polyuresis*. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen Pathol.* (ed. 6) 584 *Polyuria is absent, but there exists a frequent desire for micturition. 1890 *Lancet* 1 Nov. 938/1 Reducing the polyuria and the thirst. 1885 W. ROBERTS *Urinary & Renal Dis.* II. i. (ed. 4) 245 In *polyuric subjects the contractile power of the renal vessels is apparently paralysed. 1890 *Pop. Sc. Monthly* Feb. 500 For the protection of the mulberry-trees, the raising of *polyvoltines, or worms that hatch several broods a year, is forbidden in many countries.

2. In *Chemistry*, a prefixed element indicating generally the higher members of a series of *mono-*, *di-*, *tri-*, etc. compounds; sometimes including all except the primary or *mono-* member.

a. Prefixed to sbs., forming sbs. used as the names of compounds formed by the combination of two or more atoms, molecules, or radicals (sometimes with elimination of hydrogen atoms, water molecules, etc.), as *polye·thylene* = $(C_2H_4)_n$, (e. g. hexethylene alcohol $(C_2H_4)_6H_2.O_7$); *polyglyce·rin*: see quot. 1877; *polyo·xide*, a binary compound containing several oxygen atoms, as a pentoxide; so *polysu·lphide*, *polyte·rebene*, *polyte·rpene*, etc.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 353 The designation of polysulphurets has been applied. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 251 *note*, These bodies [Glycol, Diethylene alcohol and Triethylene alcohol] .. are termed *polyethylene alcohols* by Wurtz. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 687 *Polyterebenes*, hydrocarbons polymeric with oil of turpentine. 1871 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 215 From the formation of polysulphides of ammonium and water. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 185 *Polyglycerins*. Two, three, or more molecules of glycerin can unite into a single molecule, with elimination of a number of water-molecules less by one than the number of glycerin molecules which combine together. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 615 Some sulphurets from Nevada County were digested in a solution of sodium polysulphide, with the addition of free sulphur. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Polyterpene*, .. any one of a class of substances polymeric with the terpenes.

b. Prefixed to adjs. or sbs., forming adjs., meaning 'containing or derived from two or more molecules of the substance expressed by the second element': e. g. *polya·cid*, *polyca·rbic*, *polyethe·nic*, *polyo·xygen*, *polysu·lphuretted*. See also POLY-ATOMIC, POLYBASIC, POLYTHIONIC.

1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 353 These polysulphuretted combinations are decomposed. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 113 We cannot doubt that corresponding acids with three and four atoms of oxygen are also formed, as in other modes of oxidation; .. such poly-oxygen acids being much less volatile. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 621 Polyethenic alcohols .. contain the elements of two or more molecules of ethene oxide combined with one molecule of water. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. Th.* 198 Some time afterwards, when the existence of polyacid bases was admitted, .. Graham discovered polybasic acids.

Polyacanthous to **Polyactinal**: see POLY-.

Polyad (pɒ·lɪˌæd). *Chem.* [f. POLY-, after *dyad, triad*, etc.] A polyatomic element or radical.

1879 ROSSITER *Dict. Sci. Terms* 270/2 *Polyads* = Polyatomic elements: triads, tetrads, hexads, &c.

‖ **Polyadelphia** (pɒˌlɪădɛ·lfɪă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1735), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἀδελφός brother + -IA [1].] The eighteenth class in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising plants whose flowers have the stamens united in three or more bundles. Hence **Po·lyadelph** (*rare*—⁰), a plant of this class; **Polyade·lphian** (*rare*—⁰), **Polyade·lphous** *adjs.*, belonging to this class; having the stamens so united; also said of such stamens.

1828 WEBSTER, **Polyadelph*. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, **Polyadelphia*, .. a class of plants, whose stamina are formed into three or more separate bodies. 1770 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 521 In the class of Polyadelphia. 1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* § 138. 149 The class Polyadelphia is exceedingly small (the genus Hypericum forming its most prominent feature). 1828 WEBSTER, **Polyadelphian*. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 450 Nor does it appear to be *polyadelphous at all. 1860 OLIVER *Less. Bot.* (1873) 145 Hypericum is the only British genus with polyadelphous stamens. 1878 MASTERS *Henfrey's Bot.* 224.

Polyadelphite (pɒˌlɪădɛ·lfəɪt). *Min.* [f. as prec. + -ITE [1]: so named as consisting of five different silicates united.] A massive brownish-yellow variety of iron garnet, found in New Jersey.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min.* I. 154 Polyadelphite .. was sent me by Mr. Nuttall. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 443.

Polyadenopathy to **Poly-affectioned**: see POLY- 1. **Polyæmia**: see POLYHÆMIA.

Polyander (pɒˌlɪæ·ndəɹ). [In sense 1, ad. med.L. *polyandrum*, for earlier POLYANDRIUM. In sense 2, ad. F. *polyandre* adj., ad. mod.L. *polyandrus* POLYANDROUS. Cf. DIANDER.]

†**1.** = POLYANDRIUM. *Obs. rare.*

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 241 Ethelbert lieth here closde in this Polyander. *a* 1683 STAVELEY *Hist. Ch. Eng.* xv. (1712) 255 Famous King Ethelbert lies here, Clos'd in this Poliander.

2. *Bot.* A plant of the class *Polyandria*. *rare*—⁰. 1828 in WEBSTER.

Polyandria (pɒˌlɪæ·ndrɪă). [mod.L., a. Gr. πολυανδρία, n. of state from πολύανδρος having many men or husbands (f. πολυ-, POLY- + ἀνδρ- man, male), employed by Linnæus (1735) in the sense 'having many stamens or male organs'.]

1. *Bot.* The thirteenth class in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising plants having twenty or more stamens inserted on the receptacle (cf. ICOSANDRIA). Also the name of one of the orders in certain classes, as *Monadelphia*, *Gynandria*, *Monœcia*, in which the number of stamens is used to subdivide them into orders.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Polyandria*, .. a class of plants with hermaphrodite flowers, and a large number of stamina, or male parts, in each. 1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* § 138. 148 In Icosandria they [the stamens] adhere to the calyx .. whilst in Polyandria they are free from the calyx, or are hypogynous.

2. *Zool.* and *Anthrop.* = POLYANDRY.

1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 56 It is a case of polyandria which we see realized in the Scalpellum. 1879 KEANE *Lefèvre's Philos.* i. 28 A long period of polyandria in which the mother was the centre and only bond of the family.

Polyandria, pl. of POLYANDRIUM.

Polya·ndrian, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -AN.]

1. *Bot.* = POLYANDROUS 1.

a 1794 SIR W. JONES *Tales* (1807) 170 Taught .. To class by pistil and by stamen, Produce from nature's rich dominion Flow'rs polyandrian monogynian.

2. = POLYANDROUS 2.

1809 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* II. 115 In Malabar the polyandrian system of polygamy prevails. 1891 G. W. COOKE *Browning Guide-Bk.* 385 Of this polyandrian lady, no further mention occurs.

Hence **Polya·ndrianism.** = POLYANDRY.

1820 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 200. 1829 — *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 199 The regulated polyandrianism which Cæsar found established in the south of Britain.

Polya·ndric, *a. rare.* [f. Gr. πολύανδρ-ος (see POLYANDROUS) + -IC. So F. *polyandrique*.] = POLYANDROUS 2. (Corresp. to POLYGYNIC.)

1868 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 410 The tradition of their polyandric marriage. 1875 A. WILSON *Abode of Snow* xxiv. 234, I never knew of a case where a polyandric wife was left without the society of one at least of her husbands.

Polyandrion: see POLYANDRIUM.

Polyandrious, *a. Bot. rare*—⁰. [f. POLYANDRI-A + -OUS.] = POLYANDROUS 1.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Polya·ndrism. *rare.* [f. Gr. πολύανδρ-ος (see POLYANDROUS) + -ISM.] = POLYANDRY.

1800 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 473 Here polyandrism prevails.

Polyandrist (pɒˌlɪæ·ndrɪst). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who practises polyandry; a woman who has several husbands at the same time. In quot. 1887 *euphem.* for 'prostitute'. Also *attrib.* (= POLYANDROUS 2). (Corresp. to POLYGYNIST.)

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIII. 143 Her elder sister, Imagination, once so prolific in her loveliness, a Polyandrist with all her Passions of old. 1878 C. S. WAKE *Evol. Morality* II. 241 From the legend of the Pendavas, .. it would seem that they [the Kshatriyas] were actually polyandrists. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 2/1 Attempts to make the regulation of the movements of female polyandrists a police function.

‖ **Polyandrium** (pɒˌlɪæ·ndrɪŏm), **-ion** (-ɪən). Pl. **-ia.** [Late L. *polyandrium*, *-ion*, a. Gr. πολυάνδριον, as below, prop. neut. sing. of πολύανδριος adj., of or relating to many men.] In *Gr. Antiq.* A burial-place for a number of men, esp. those who had fallen in battle. Hence allusively.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Warwick.* (1662) III. 121 Then each Church yard was indeed a Polyandr[i]um, so that the Dead might seem to justle one another for room therein. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. xi. 335 That polyandrium which covered the remains of those brave Thebans who fell in defence of Grecian liberty. 1846 C. MAITLAND *Ch. Catacombs* 55 Tombs .. mentioned by antiquarians under the name of *Polyandria*.

Polyandrous (pɒlɪæ·ndrəs), *a.* [f. Gr. πολύανδρος (see POLYANDRIA) + -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Having numerous stamens; *spec.* belonging to the class *Polyandria*.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 259 In this order .. there are polyandrous species: a remarkable anomaly in monocotyledons, which rarely exceed the number 6 in their stamens. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 367 Flowers 1-sexual, polyandrous .. Sagittaria.

2. Having more than one, or several, husbands; practising, pertaining to, or involving polyandry. (Corresp. to POLYGYNOUS 2.)

1865 MCLENNAN *Prim. Marriage* viii. 171 The polyandrous arrangement. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civilis.* iii. (1875) 134 The passage .. in Tacitus does not appear to me to justify us in regarding the Germans as having been polyandrous. 1882 *Athenæum* 22 Apr. 501/3 The existence of the ancient, uncivilized, and polyandrous forms of the family.

b. *Zool.* Characterized by polyandry, as a species.

1885 C. TROTTER in *Academy* 6 June 395/3 He also records a polyandrous species among the birds. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 495 Cuckoos are probably polyandrous.

Polyandry (pɒ·lɪˌændrɪ). [ad. Gr. πολυανδρία: see POLYANDRIA. So F. *polyandrie*.] That form of polygamy in which one woman has two or more husbands at the same time; plurality of husbands. (Corresp. to POLYGYNY.)

1780 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* (1781) I. 279 This surely affords a strong proof that polyandry (as it is called) is contrary to nature. 1816 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 18, I can account for the system of Polyandry, as he calls it, only in one way; .. that it originated in necessity. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. vi. 104 The custom of female infanticide .. rendering women scarce, led at once to polyandry.

b. *Zool.* The fact of a female animal having more than one male mate.

1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. viii. 269 Three starlings not rarely frequent the same nest; but whether this is a case of polygamy or polyandry has not been ascertained.

Polyangle, Polyangular: see POLY- 1.

Polyanth (pɒ·lɪˌænθ). *rare.* Anglicized form of POLYANTHUS.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polyanth, Polyanthos.* 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 41 Polianth narcissuses are annually imported from Holland, with tulips, and other Dutch bulbs.

†**Polyanthea** (pɒlɪæ·nθɪ·ă). *Obs.* [a. med.L. *polyanthēa*, f. Gr. type **πολυάνθεια*, f. πολυανθής much blooming (f. ἄνθος flower).] A collection of the 'flowers' of poetry or other literature, i. e. of choice literary extracts; an anthology.

Appears in 1503 as title of a work by Domenico Nani Mirabelli, *Polyanthea, idest Florum multitudo* (Savona 1603); subseq. in titles of many similar works, as the *Polyanthea Nova* of J. Lange (Geneva 1600).

1618 SELDEN *Hist. Tithes* Pref., What were patcht up out of Postils, Polyantheas, common place books. 1641 '**SMECTYMNUUS**' *Vind. Answ.* Pref. a ij b, As destitute of all learning, as if our reading had never gone beyond a *Polyanthea*. [1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Polyanthéa*, a famous collection of common places, in alphabetical order, made first by *Domini Nanni de Mirabella*, of great service to orators, preachers, &c. of the lower class.]

Hence †**Polyanthe·an** *a. Obs.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or using a 'polyanthea'; also as *sb.* one who uses a 'polyanthea'.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xv, [One] that by .. some trivially polyanthean helps, steals and gleans a few notes from other men's harvests. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 38 My selfe, a poore Postillating Polyanthean Clergy-man. *Ibid.* 434 As we poore Breuiarists and Polyantheans of the Clergie vse to do.

Polyanthous (pɒlɪæ·nθəs), *a. rare*—⁰. [f. as next + -OUS.] Bearing many flowers, or many blooms in one flower.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Polyanthus, Bot.* applied to a plant which bears many flowers, .. as in the *Narcissus polyanthus*. Applied by Wachendorff to plants the flowers of which are compound or aggregate: polyanthous.

Polyanthus (pɒlɪæ·nθəs). Also 7–8 **-os.** [a. mod.L. *polyanthus*, f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἄνθος flower: cf. Gr. πολύανθος much blooming.]

1. A favourite ornamental cultivated form of *Primula* (supposed to have originated from the cowslip, *P. veris*, or a cross between that and the primrose, *P. vulgaris*), having flowers of various shades, chiefly brown or crimson with yellow eye and border, in an umbel on a common peduncle.

[Cf. 1583 DODONÆUS *Stirp. Hist. Pempt. sex* 146 Primularum Veris una maior et polyanthemos. 1625 TABERNÆMONTANUS *Neu u. volkom. Krauterbuch* II. 33 Primula veris multiflora. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* XXXV. 242 *Primula veris & Paralysis*, Primroses and Cowslips. *Ibid.* 244. 9. *Paralysis altera odorata flore pallido polyanthos*, the Primrose Cowslip.]

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Flower*, You are now also to transplant your Seedling Polyanthos upon a shady Border, and divide the old Roots. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 531 The daisy, primrose, violet darkly blue, And polyanthus of unnumbered dyes. 1748 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Lett. to*

Shenstone 16 Oct., [We] have now primroses and polyanthuses growing. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* II. ii, The vulgar wallflower, and smart gillyflower, The polyanthus mean, the dapper daisy. 1840 E. ELLIOTT *Withered Wild Flowers* I, Thy gemm'd auricula, a growing flame, Or polyanthus, edged with golden wire, The poor man's flower. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii, As smart as a gardener's dog with a polyanthus in his mouth.

2. *attrib.* or *adj.* *Polyanthus Narcissus*: any one of a group of species of Narcissus, as *N. Tazetta*, which have the flowers in an umbellate cluster on a common peduncle. So *Polyanthus Primrose*, = sense 1.

[1856: see POLYANTH.] 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 776 The numerous species of Narcissus..have been thrown into several groups or subgenera,.. *Ajax*: the Daffodils.. *Ganymedes*: the Rush Daffodils... *Hermione*: the Polyanthus Narcissus, distinguished by the slender cylindrical tube and shallow cup, the filaments unequally adnate near the mouth, and the style slender, as in *N. Tazetta*. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 119/2 The centre bed is filled with..pale-coloured Polyanthus Narcissus, and Lily of the Valley. *Ibid.* 13 May 323/1 The Polyanthus Primrose sent is an undoubtedly novel form of the ancient Jack-in-the-Green.

Polyarch (pɒ·lɪˌɑɪk), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἀρχή beginning, origin.] Proceeding from many points of origin: said of the primary xylem or woody tissue of a stem or root.

1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 351 The xylem is according to the particular case diarch or polyarch, and its starting-points .. all lie at equal distances from one another.

Polyarchal, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as POLYARCHY + -AL.] Having many rulers. So **Polyarchical** *a.* (*rare*), of the nature of or pertaining to a polyarchy (opp. to *monarchical*); **Polyarchist** (*rare*), one who advocates or believes in a polyarchy.

1896 BOSCAWEN *Bible & Monuments* v. 112 The Deluge formed the rubicon between the mythic period and the heroic and *polyarchal age. 1660 R. SHERINGHAM *King's Supremacy Asserted* viii. (1682) 84 The state of a Commonwealth is either Monarchical, or *Polyarchical. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Vind. Dutch War* To Rdr. 13 It was a maxime transmitted unto them from the first Pr. William that this Polyarchical Government could not subsist without a State-holder, who was to reconcile all emergent difficulties betwixt the Towns and Provinces. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 403 Yet is it undeniably evident, that he [Plato] was no *Polyarchist, but a Monarchist, an assertor of One Supreme God.

Polyarchy (pɒ·lɪˌɑɪki). Also 7–8 erron. **polygarchy.** [ad. Gr. πολυαρχία rule by many, f. πολυ-, POLY- + -αρχία rule. The β form **polygarchy**, after med.L. *polygarchia*, obs. F. *poligarchie*, Sp. *poligarquia*, Pg. *polygarchia*, It. *poligarchia*, arising (in med.L. or the Romanic langs.) from assimilation to *oligarchia*, OLIGARCHY, was the usual one in 17–18th c.]

1. The government of a state or city by many: contrasted with *monarchy*.

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1634) 5 The Bees abhor as well Polyarchy as Anarchy. 1686 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1696) 56 Any Government..whether it be Monarchy or Polyarchy. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. 615 The inevitable ruin which a polyarchy of independent Juntas would bring on. 1890 J. H. STIRLING *Gifford Lect.* viii. 153 Polyarchy is anarchy.

β. [1611 COTGR., *Poligarchie*, a monarchie diuided into sundrie parts; or such a diuision.] 1643 HERLE *Answ. Ferne* 32 The extreames of these three kinds of..Government are tyrannie, oligarchie, polygarchie (i.e.) of one, of many, and of all, when arbitrary and unbounded in their governments. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polygarchy*. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Polygarchy*, the Government of a Commonwealth in the Hands of many. 1721–90 BAILEY, *Polygarchy*. 1804 *Ann. Reg.* 682 It was thought that an infallible remedy had been discovered for popular convulsions in a polygarchy.

¶ b. (erron. use, after *heptarchy*.) A group of many kingdoms.

1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 68 Wessex, one of the most flourishing kingdoms of the Anglo-Saxon polyarchy. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1862 IX. 200 A polyarchy (such as the Saxons established in England).

2. *Bot.* [f. POLYARCH; cf. *dichogamy*, *heterostyly*, etc.] The condition of being polyarch.

1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 357 The thick roots of Iris, Asparagus, Smilax (Sarsaparilla), Palms, &c., are examples of a high degree of polyarchy.

Polyargite (pɒlɪˌɑ·ɹdʒəit). *Min.* [ad. Swed. *polyargit* (L. F. Svanberg 1840), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἀργός shining, sparkling: see -ITE 1.] A rose-coloured lamellar variety of PINITE.

1844 DANA *Min.* 303 Polyargite..occurs in larger grains than Rosite.

Polyargyrite (pɒlɪˌɑ·ɹdʒɪɹəit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *polyargyrit* (F. v. Sandberger 1869), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἄργυρος silver: see -ITE 1.] Sulphantimonide of silver containing a very high percentage of the latter metal.

1872 DANA *Min.* App. I. 12 Polyargyrite...Lustre metallic Color iron-black to dark blackish-gray... The mineral is between argentite and pyrargyrite. 1893 CHAPMAN *Blowpipe Pract.* 115 Polyargyrite is closely related [to polybasite].

Polyarsenite (pɒlɪˌɑ·ɹsɛnəit). *Min.* [mod. (L. J. Igelström 1885) f. POLY- + ARSENITE.] A synonym of SARKINITE.

Polyarthritic to Polyarticular: see POLY- 1.

Polyatomic (pɒlɪˌätɒ·mik), *a. Chem.* [f. POLY- + ATOMIC. So F. *polyatomique*.] Containing or consisting of many atoms of some substance; *esp.* having many replaceable hydrogen atoms; also = multivalent. See DIATOMIC, TRIATOMIC, TETRATOMIC, HEXATOMIC.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 431 Another class..which may be termed polybasic or polyatomic alcohols. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 242 Amongst the carbon compounds some radicals exist in which more than one combining power remains unsaturated, and which therefore act as polyatomic radicals. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 89 Other facts .. introduced into science .. the clearly defined notion of polyatomic compounds.

Polyautography (pɒ·lɪˌɒtɒ·gɹäfi). [f. POLY- + AUTOGRAPH, after words in -GRAPHY.] Early name for LITHOGRAPHY, as applied to the production of numerous copies of autographs or original drawings, etc.

1806 (*title*) Specimens of Polyautography consisting of impressions taken from original drawings made on stone purposely for this work. 1819 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIX. I. 350 This useful invention [lithography] introduced into this country a few years since, and then called Polyautography. 1898 *Daily News* 11 May 9/7 Mr. Pennell prefers the term 'polyautography', the word lithography being 'a seed-bed of misconceptions'.

Polybasic (pɒlibē·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. POLY- + BASIC. So F. *polybasique*.] Having more than two bases, or atoms of a base. *Polybasic acid*: an acid containing three or more atoms of replaceable hydrogen. (See DIBASIC, TRIBASIC.)

1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 68 By a polybasic acid is meant an acid, one equivalent of which requires more than one equivalent of a base to form a neutral salt. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 76 The discovery of polybasic acids proved a serious difficulty to the theory of equivalence.

Hence **Polybasicity** (-bēsi·sĭti), the property of being polybasic. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polybasite (pɒli·bäsəit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *polybasit* (H. Rosé 1829), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + βάσις, in sense of BASE *sb.*1 13: see -ITE 1.

According to Chester, alluding to the large amount of the base, sulphide of silver, in proportion to the acids, sulphides of arsenic and antimony.]

A sulpharseno-antimonite of silver and copper, of an iron-black colour, and metallic lustre, occurring in short tabular hexagonal prisms, also massive and disseminated.

1830 *Edin. Phil. Jrnl.* VIII. 148 A new species of mineral named polybasite. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 107 Stephanite and pyrite occur as pseudomorphs after polybasite. 1879 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 319 Rich silver-ores, such as ruby silver, stephanite, polybasite and tetrahedrite.

Polybathic to Polyblastic: see POLY- 1.

Polyborine (pɒli·bŏrəin), *a. Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Polyborinæ*, f. *Polyborus*, name of the typical genus.] Belonging to the subfamily *Polyborinæ* of *Falconidæ*, comprising the Caracaras or American Vulture-hawks.

1884 *Ibis* 360 A specimen of the very singular Polyborine form, *Polyboroides typicus*, from West Africa.

Polybranch to Polycarbic: see POLY-.

Polycarpellary (pɒ·lɪkäˌɹpelări), *a. Bot.* [f. POLY- + CARPEL, as CARPELLARY.] Having or consisting of several carpels.

1860 OLIVER *Less. Bot.* I. iv. (1872) 31 Bramble...Pistil superior, apocarpous, polycarpellary. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 492 A polycarpellary ovary is always the result of the union of all the carpels of a flower, the number being usually two, three, four, or five, arranged in one whorl, and the floral axis terminating in the midst of them.

Polycarpic, *a. Bot. rare.* [f. as next + -IC.] = next (in both senses).

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 634 *Polycarpic*,..those which flower and fruit several times before the entire plant dies. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Polycarpicus*,..applied by de Candolle to plants that bear fruit many times during their existence. Applied by Bartling to a Class .. in which the ovaries are often in indefinite number: polycarpic.

Polycarpous (pɒlikäˑɹpəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πολύκαρπος rich in fruit (f. πολυ-, POLY- + καρπός fruit) + -OUS.] †**a.** Bearing fruit many times, as a perennial plant; sychnocarpous. **b.** (More properly) = POLYCARPELLARY.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 401 *Polycarpous* (better sychnocarpous), having the power of bearing fruit many times without perishing. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 913 *Polycarpous*,.. more properly, bearing many distinct fruits or carpels in each flower. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 560 When the gynæceum of a flower consists of a single ovary only one fruit is formed, and the flower is said to be monocarpous.., in contradistinction to the polycarpous flowers, the gynæceum of which consists of several isolated ovaries from which the same or a smaller number of fruits are developed.

Polycellular, Polycentric: see POLY- 1.

Polycephalic (pɒ·lisĭfæ·lik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. πολυκέφαλος many-headed + -IC.] Having many heads; many-headed. So **Polycephalist** (-se·fălist), one who has or acknowledges many heads or rulers; **Polyce·phalous** *a.*, many-headed.

1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 36 One of those [*sc.* nomes] to Apollo was called, from its compass and variety of parts, the *Polycephalic, or many-headed, Nome. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* IV. xix. 541 Both which methods must have left the..Churches of Christ either Acephalists, confused without any head, or *Polycephalists, burdened with many heads.

1824 MCCULLOCH *Highl. Scotl.* IV. 138 The *polycephalous monster. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* xv. 90 They [capsules] are monocephalous, as in the lily, or polycephalous, as in Nigella. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 484 The form of a multitudinous, polycephalous beast, having a ring of heads of all manner of beasts.

Polychæte, -chete (pɒ·likĭt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Polychæta*, f. Gr. πολυχαίτης having much hair, f. πολυ- much + χαίτη mane (here taken in sense 'bristle': cf. OLIGOCHÆTE).] *a. adj.* Belonging to the *Polychæta*, one of the two divisions of the *Chætopoda*, a class of worms (see CHÆTOPOD), characterized by numerous bristles on the foot-stumps or parapodia. **b.** *sb.* A worm of this order or division.

1886 *Athenæum* 3 July 19/1 The entire twelfth volume .. is devoted to Prof. W. C. M'Intosh's monograph on the polychæte annelids. 1896 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* II. 243 The worm itself [Dinophilus] is more like a larval Polychaete than a full-grown worm.

So **Polychætan** (pɒlikĭ·tăn), **Polychæ·tous** *adjs.*

1877 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 581 The spines of the polychætous worms. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 184 Among the polychætous Annelida. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 582 Larval or provisional nephridia .. occur in many Polychætan Trochospheres.

Polycharacteristic, Polycholia: see POLY- 1.

Polychœrany: see POLYCŒRANY.

Polychord (pɒ·likɒɪd), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -cord. [ad. Gr. πολυχόρδ-ος many-stringed, f. πολυ-, POLY- + χορδή CHORD.]

A. *adj.* Having many strings, as a musical instrument.

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 60 He with his Harp, or Polycord Lyra, expressed such effectual melody. 1728 NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 43 It was plainly revealed by the polychord instruments. 1899 A. LAYARD *Mus. Bogeys* 36 The Poly-chord Bogey performs on three strings.

B. *sb.* **1.** An instrument having ten gut strings, resembling a double-bass without a neck, played with a bow or with the fingers; invented by F. Hillmer of Leipzig in 1799, but never generally used. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 311/1.

2. Trade-name for a kind of octave-coupler.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Polychord*,.. an apparatus which couples two octave notes, and can be affixed to any piano-forte or similar instrument with keys.

Polychotomous (pɒlikɒ·tŏməs), *a.* [Erroneously formed by substituting POLY- for *di-* in *dicho-tomous*, DICHOTOMOUS.] Divided, or involving division, into many (or more than two) parts, sections, groups, or branches: = POLYTOMOUS. So **Polycho·tomy**, division into more than two parts or groups, as in classification: = POLYTOMY.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Polychotomus*, applied to a body that is divided into numerous articulations..; polychotomous. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* Oct. 915 Polychotomy is probably never more than provisional, and all classification will eventually be dichotomous.

Polychrest (pɒ·likrest). ? *Obs.* Also 7 in Gr.-L. forms **polychrestum, -on.** [a. med.L. *polychrēstus*, a. Gr. πολύχρηστος useful for many purposes, f. πολυ-, POLY- + χρηστός useful. So F. *polychreste* (1690).] Something adapted to several different uses; *esp.* a drug or medicine serving to cure various diseases.

[1620 BACON *Instauratio Magna*, *De Augm. Scient.* III. v, Inventorium opum humanarum, et catalogus polychrestorum.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polychrests*, things of much use, fit for many uses, or divers ways profitable. *Bac.* 1685 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* VII. I. (ed. 4) 263 Many Physicians have studied out Polychrestons. 1729 *Evelyn's Sylva* IV. I. 313 There is nothing necessary for life..which these Polychrests afford not. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 382 Of admirable use: like most other articles in the catalogue, a polychrest.

†**b.** *attrib.* *Polychrest salt* (also *salt polychrest*): 'an old name for neutral sulphate of potassium; and for sodio-potassic tartrate' (Watts *Dict. Chem.*).

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Sal Polychrest* is a compound salt, made of equal parts of salt-petre and sulphur. 1750 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 550, I have taken Salt Polychrest and Cheltenham waters. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Diseases Children* (ed. 4) I. 91, I have usually directed .. the polychrest salt and rhubarb occasionally in the course of the day.

So **Polychre·stic** *adj.*, serving for various uses; *sb.* = *polychrest*; †**Polychre·stical** *adj. Obs.* = prec.; **Po·lychresty**, adaptation to various uses, capability of being used in several ways.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 124 Other medicaments, called polychrestical, which consist of contrary medicaments. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 213 These names shew it was a great Polychrestick. · 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 518/1 The same word may do duty in many different connections...Such words, useful in many ways, may be called *polychrestic*, although this adjective is commonly applied to drugs of various utility. *Ibid.*, In a greater or less degree polychresty is predicable of many other words, e. g., frontal, dorsal, etc.

Polychroic (pɒlikrōˑuˑik), *a. Cryst.* [a. F. *polychroïque*, f. Gr. πολύχροος many-coloured (f. πολυ-, POLY- + χρόα colour) + -IC.] Showing different colours when viewed in different directions; more properly called PLEOCHROIC. So **Po·lychroism** = PLEOCHROISM.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Polychroism. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 125 Nature..is no monochromist, but polychroic. 1890 *Nature* 2 Jan. 215/1 Optical properties of the polychroic aureolas present in certain minerals.

Polychroite (pŏ·likrŏ₁əit). *Chem.* [a. F. *polychroïte* (*Ann. Chim.* 1806), f. Gr. πολύχρο-ος (see POLYCHROIC): see -ITE 1.] Name for the colouring matter of saffron (also called SAFRANIN), which exhibits various colours under various reagents.

1815 W. HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 254 *Polychroite.* This name has been given, by Bouillon La Grange and Vogel, to the extract of saffron prepared with alcohol. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 245 The substance.. denominated Polychroite, is but a compound of colouring matter and volatile oil. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 373 Saffron.. yields to water and alcohol an orange-red colouring matter called polychroite, changed into blue by oil of vitriol.

Polychromatic (pŏ·likrŏmæ·tik), *a.* [f. POLY- + CHROMATIC: see below. Cf. Gr. πολυχρώματ-ος many-coloured.] Having or characterized by various colours; many-coloured.

Polychromatic acid (Chem.): = POLYCHROMIC *acid*, q. v.

1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* I. i. 40 The polychromatic effect.. was sought after in these early times. 1884 T. WALDEN in *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 434/2 The glory of polychromatic decoration. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 479 A 'polychromatic edition of the Old Testament' is being published in America.

So **Polychromatist** (-krŏ·mătist), one who uses, or favours the use of, many colours (in painting or decoration); **Polychro·matize** *v. trans.*, to paint or adorn with many colours; **Polychro·matous** *a.*, many-coloured.

1849 *Ecclesiologist* IX. 160 It is slightly polychromatized. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 319 The new professors, polychromatists, must bring out..new editions of all our classics. 1889 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 3/7 Paris is now the most polychromatous city in the world...General Boulanger..changes the colour of his posters. He has had every shade of green, of yellow, of orange, of grey, and red from pink to magenta.

Polychrome (pŏ·likrŏum), *a.* and *sb.* Also 9 (as *sb.*) **polychrom.** [a. F. *polychrome*, ad. Gr. πολύχρωμος many-coloured, f. πολυ-, POLY- + χρῶμα colour.]

A. *adj.* Many-coloured, polychromatic; *esp.* painted, decorated, or printed in many colours.

1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 72/2, I have already had occasion to construct a great polychrome edifice, a post-office. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 414 (ed. 2) 576 The probably Lucanian vase, found in Magna Grecia, is polychrome. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 834/2 Old pieces of faïence and polychrome ornaments. 1898 (*title*) The Polychrome Bible. Edited by Paul Haupt. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 July 8/1 A Chantilly lace shawl,..wrought of polychrome threads like Venetian embroidery instead of being in one colour only.

B. *sb.* **1.** A work of art executed or decorated in several colours; *spec.* a coloured statue.

1801 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* i. (1848) 351 The superinduction of different colours, or the invention of the polychrom. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* II. 462 We should be glad to hear no more of..polychroms.

2. A collection or association of many colours; varied colouring. Also *fig.*

1882 *Macm. Mag.* Feb. 326 Having abandoned ourselves to the perfume, the polychrome, .. the penetrative music of his art. 1889 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* XXV. 155 A side of human nature that..was also necessary for the completion of the rich polychrome exhibited by a man in whom exacting business and overwhelming care never arrested.. the lively..play of the affections.

3. *Chem.* A name for ÆSCULIN, from the fluorescence of its solution and infusion.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 96 [Raab's] name of *schillerstoff*..was by Martius of Erlangen translated into *bicolorin*, and by Kastner into *polychrome*. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 513.

Polychromia: see POLY- 1.

Polychromic (pŏlikrŏ·mik), *a.* [f. as POLYCHROME + -IC.]

1. = POLYCHROMATIC, POLYCHROME *a.*

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 367/2 Thence originated polychromic sculpture. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 310 Polychromic decoration was added to many parts of the architectural details. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 420 It would be impossible to so easily obtain with fat ink polychromic prints at one operation.

2. *Chem. Polychromic acid*: a name for aloetic acid, from the various colours it exhibits in powder, in solution, and in combination.

1863–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 148 *Aloetic Acid...Polychromic Acid*...Produced by the action of nitric acid upon aloes, chrysammic acid being formed at the same time... The acid is obtained in the form of an orange-yellow powder...It..dissolves..in boiling water, forming a solution of a splendid purple colour. 1866–8 *Ibid.* IV. 687 *Polychromic* or *Polychromatic Acid*, syn. with *Aloetic Acid.*

So **Po·lychro·mist** (*nonce-wd.*), one who holds a theory of polychromy; one who holds that statues ought to be painted in the natural colours; **Po·lychromize** *v. trans.*, to render polychromic, to execute in or decorate with several colours; **Po·lychro·mous** *a.* = POLYCHROME *a.*

1861 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IX. 424/1 Is the addition of coloring to statues..an advance in art, or a retrogression? The *polychromist will..hold it to be the former. 1864 *Sat. Rev.* 21 May, The unquestioning assumption of the polychromists that 'circumlitio' in this passage means 'painting'. 1881 *Eng. Mechanic* No. 874. 373/2 Any metallic piece, *polychromised by his process, is covered at once with a layer of pure copper, of fine red colour, when treated with nascent hydrogen. 1882 *Nature* 30 Nov. 119/2 He presented pieces of gold and silver jewellery, polychromised industrially with oxides of copper, by his processes. 1880 *Academy* 2 Oct. 245 Have reproduced this MS. in facsimile by their *polychromous phototype or light-printing in many colours. 1894 DU MAURIER in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 337 A polychromous decoration not unpleasing.

Polychromy (pŏ·likrŏmi). [ad. F. *polychromie*, f. as POLYCHROME: see -Y.] The art of painting or decorating in several colours, esp. as anciently used in pottery, architecture, etc.

1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 38 In polychromy several colours are, of course, employed. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* I. ix. 193 Polychromy is observable in all the architectural subjects throughout the [Anglo-Saxon] manuscript. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* 311 In the best polychromy great use is made of outlines or contours. 1883 *Athenæum* 30 June 834/3 An Egyptian bas-relief in red granite, with traces of polychromy.

‖ **Polychro·nicon.** *Obs.* [med.L., f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + χρονικόν (neut. sing. of χρονικός adj. concerning time), in pl. (sc. βιβλία books) annals, chronicles.] A chronicle of many events or periods.

[*a* 1363 HIGDEN (*title*) Polychronicon.] 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 124/2 In whyche persecution our stories and Polichronicon do recorde, that all Christianitie almost in the whole Ilelande was destroyed. 1815 W. H. IRELAND (*title*) Scribbleomania; or, the printer's devil's polichronicon.

Polycie, obs. form of POLICY.

Polyclad (pŏ·liklæd), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [Short for **polycladid*, ad. mod.L. *Polycladida*, neut. pl., f. POLY- + Gr. κλάδος branch: see -ID 3.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the division *Polycladida* of turbellarian worms, having a main intestine with more than four branches. **b.** *sb.* A worm of this division. (Distinguished from TRICLAD.).

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 578 A more or less apparent radial symmetry is observable in some Polyclad *Turbellaria*. *Ibid.* 672 Two curious Polyclads have..been described with certain Ctenophore-like characters.

Polycladose (pŏ·liklădōs), *a.* [f. as next + -OSE.] Many-branched: said of a sponge-spicule.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/1 *Candelabra* (a polycladose microcalthrops).

Polycladous (pŏ·li·klădəs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πολύκλαδος having many branches + -OUS.] Having many, or more than the normal number of, branches; much or excessively branched. So **Polyclady** (pŏ·li·klădi), the formation of an abnormal number of branches.

[1866 *Treas. Bot.* 913 *Polycladia*, the same as *Plica.*] 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Polyclady. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Polycladous.

Polyclinic (pŏlikli·nik). [app. an alteration of the earlier word *policlinic*, in which it is referred to the Greek πολυ- (see POLY-), and used in a different sense.]

1. 'A general clinic devoted to the treatment of various diseases' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); (*a*) 'an institution furnishing clinical instruction in all kinds of diseases'; (*b*) 'a hospital in which all forms of disease are treated'.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Policlinic*..sometimes written *polyclinic*. A general city hospital or dispensary.

2. (See quot. 1900.)

1898 *Times* 16 Dec. 9/5 Mr. Hutchinson's 'Polyclinic', a title which, whatever it has 'come to denote', seems an odd one to apply to an institution which will have 'no beds of its own'. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Feb. 3/2 The 'Medical Graduates College and Polyclinic' is an association for giving gratuitous consultations to patients, and at the same time affording opportunities to medical men for obtaining advanced knowledge. The word *Polyclinic* implies that we have made arrangements to include many (or all) branches of practical medicine and surgery. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 May 7/2 A distinguished professional company assembled at the Polyclinic yesterday to hear Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson's account of his tour in India and Ceylon.

Polycoccous, Polycœlian: see POLY- 1.

† Polycœ·rany, -chœrany. *Obs. rare.* Also 7 -coyranie, -coiranie. [ad. Gr. (Ionic) πολυκοιρανίη, f. πολυ-, POLY- + κοίρανος ruler, prince.] A government by many rulers or princes.

1640 BP. HALL *Episc.* III. vi. 34 What doe you think of this lawlesse Polycoyranie? 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 411 The Government of the World would be a Polychœrany or Aristocracy of Gods.

Polyconic (pŏlikpnik), *a.* [f. POLY- + CONIC.] Involving or based upon a number of cones; applied to a system of map-projection in which each parallel of latitude is represented by the development of a cone touching the earth's surface along that parallel. Also *sb.* a polyconic projection.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1879 A. R. CLARKE in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 209/1 Polyconic Development. [See description.] 1901 C. F. CLOSE *Map Projections* 31 Simple polyconic projection... The employment of polyconics saves much tabulation, and they are well suited for a topographical series. They are not so well adapted for single maps of large areas. *Ibid.* 32 Rectangular polyconic projection, sometimes called the *rectangular tangential.*

Polycormic: see POLY- 1.

Polycotyledon (pŏ·likŏtilē·dŏn). *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Polycotylēdonēs* (pl.); cf. DICOTYLEDON.] A plant of which the seed contains more than two cotyledons. So **Po·lycotyle·donary, Po·lycotyle·donous** *adjs.*, having more than two cotyledons in the seed, as many Gymnosperms; **Po·lycotyle·dony**, the condition of being polycotyledonous.

[1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xi. (1765) 199 *Polycotyledones*, with many Cotyledones.] 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 70 These plants are called polycotyledonous. 1828 WEBSTER, *Polycotyledon*. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* ii. (ed. 6) 23 The Polycotyledonous Embryo is one having a whorl of more than two seed-leaves.

Polycracy: see POLY- 1.

Polycrase (pŏ·likrēs). *Min.* [ad. G. *polykras*; named by Scheerer, 1844, f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + κρᾶσις mixture, from its many constituents.] A shining black mineral, consisting of columbate and titanate of uranium, zirconium, yttrium, and other bases.

1845 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XLIX. 394 Polycrase is near polymignite. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 745 Scandium is prominent in the spectrum of the American polycrase.

Polycrotic, Polycyclic: see POLY- 1.

Polycystic (pŏlisi·stik), *a. Path.* [f. POLY- + CYSTIC.] Having or consisting of several cysts, as a tumour.

1872 PEASLEE *Ovar. Tumors* 30 The tendency to become monocystic or to remain polycystic. 1872 T. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 665 The monocyst..develops the power of cysto-genesis and becomes polycystic.

Polycystid (pŏlisi·stid). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polycystid-ea* (neut.pl.), as POLYCISTINE: see -ID.] A member of the order *Polycystidea* of Gregarines, having the body divided into three (rarely two) segments.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 858 A Polycystid possessing all three segments is known as a Cephalin or Cephalont. *Ibid.* 859 The Polycystids lose the epimerite wholly or in part.

Polycy·stidan, *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. as prec., or (in b.) from mod.L. *Polycystida* + -AN.] **a.** Belonging to the *Polycystidea*; as *sb.* one of these: see prec. **b.** Belonging to the *Polycystida*, a family of *Polycystina*; as *sb.* one of these: see next.

Polycystine (pŏlisi·stəin), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polycystīna* (neut. pl.), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + κύστις bladder, CYST: see -INE 2.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Polycystina*, a group of Radiolarians (also called *Nassellaria*), characterized by a fenestrated siliceous shell or skeleton divided into several chambers. **b.** *sb.* A radiolarian of this group.

1862 WALLICH *N. Atlantic Sea-bed* 127 The Barbadoes and other Polycystine earths have a calcareous basis derived from the same source..as the pure calcareous deposits of the deep-sea bed. 1862 MRS. BURY (*title*) Figures of Remarkable Forms of Polycystins, or allied Organisms, in the Barbados Chalk Deposit. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 371 If the Polycystine urn be broken, no inorganic agency can build it up again.

Polycyttarian (pŏlisitē·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polycyttari-a* neut. pl. (f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + κύτταρος cell) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the group *Polycyttaria* of Radiolarians, comprising compound or 'colonial' forms with several central capsules; pluricapsular. **b.** *sb.* A member of this group.

Polydactyl (pŏlidæ·ktil), *a.* (*sb.*) Also **-yle.** [a. F. *polydactyle*, ad. Gr. πολυδάκτυλος many-toed; see POLY- and DACTYL.] Having more than the normal number of fingers or toes. **b.** *sb.* A polydactyl animal. So **Polyda·ctylism** [so F. *-isme*], **Polyda·ctyly**, the condition of being polydactyl; **Polyda·ctylous** *a.* = *polydactyl* adj.

1894 BATESON *Variation* 324 Some normal cats belonging to this family gave birth to *polydactyle kittens. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 9/2 You will entail on your grandchildren sterility, *polydactylism, and all sorts of physical and moral imperfections. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. xii. 12 Polydactylism graduates by multifarious steps from a mere cutaneous appendage, to a double hand. 1858 MAYNE *Exp. Lex.*, *Polydactylous. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 412 Cæsar's favourite horse was polydactylous, and so was Alexander's Bucephalus. 1886 J. B. SUTTON in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 552 The majority of cases of *polydactyly occurring in Horses.

Polydæmonism, -demonism (pŏlidē·mŏniz'm). [f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + δαίμον divinity, demon + -ISM, after *polytheism*.] A belief in many divinities (i. e. simply, supernatural powers, or *spec.* evil spirits: see DEMON 1, 2). So **Polydæmoni·stic** (**-de-**) *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by polydemonism.

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. 13 All these sorts both of dæmonism, polytheism, atheism, and theism, may be mix'd..; which opinion may be call'd polydæmonism. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 5 The polydæmonistic magic tribal religions of the present day. *Ibid.* 10 An unorganised polydæmonism, which does not, however, exclude the belief in a supreme Spirit. 1881 MONIER WILLIAMS in *19th Cent.* Mar. 505 Hinduism developed into an all-comprehensive corrupt system which may be described as a loose conglomerate of pantheism, dualism, polytheism, and polydemonism held in cohesion by an alleged monotheism. *Ibid.*, A combination of dualism with polytheistic and polydemonistic ideas.

Polydiabolical, -dimensional: see POLY- 1.

‖ **Polydipsia** (pŏlidi·psiă). *Path.* (In 7 anglicized as **poludipsie.**) [a. Gr. type **πολυδιψία*: cf. *πολυδίψιος* very thirsty, *πολύδιψος* causing excessive thirst. So. F. *polydipsie.*] Morbidly or abnormally excessive thirst. In quot. 1660 *fig.*

1660 HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* (1661) 40 Such is some mens prophane Boulimy and insatiable Poludipsie after Gold. 1795 *Gentl Mag.* LXV. II. 926/1 About the time this case was first published a case of Polydipsia occurred in this country. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem* II. 305 Hydruria, which is also known as diuresis, polyuresis, and polydipsia, seems to be capable of continuing sometimes for several years without..any other morbid symptoms than a frequent desire to micturate, and an insatiable thirst.

Polydromic (pŏlidrǫ·mik), *a. Math.* [f. POLY- + Gr. *δρόμος* course + -IC: cf. *δρομικός* good at the course.] = POLYTROPIC 2. (Opp. to *monodromic.*)

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polydymite (pŏli·diməit). *Min.* [Contr. for **polylidymite*; named by Laspeyres, 1876, f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *δίδυμος* twin.] Sulphide of nickel, of a light grey colour, with metallic lustre, occurring in polysynthetic twin crystals.

1878 *Min. Mag.* II. 98 Polydymite.. occurs in macled octahedrons. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 75 A nickel ore from Sudbury.. corresponds to .. the general formula of polydymite.

Polydynamic (pŏ·lidəinæ·mik, -din-), *a.* [f. POLY- + Gr. *δύναμις* power + -IC: cf. *dynamic.*] Relating to or possessing many forces or powers.

1828 E. HENDERSON in *Congregational Mag.* Jan. 31/2 The Cocceian, or polydunamic hypothesis, according to which, the Hebrew words are to be interpreted in every way consistent with their etymological import, or, as it has been expressed, in every sense of which they are capable. 1872 THUDICHUM *Chem. Phys.* 18 It is a polydynamic alcohol capable of forming ethers analogous to fats.

Polye, obs. form of PULLEY. **Polyedral,** etc.: see POLYHEDRAL, etc. **Polyeidism:** see POLY- 1.

Polyembryonate (pŏliˌembri,ǫnĕt), *a. Bot.* [f. POLY- + EMBRYON + -ATE 1.] Containing more than one embryo, as a seed. So **Polyembryo·nic** *a.* = prec.; also, pertaining to polyembryony. **Polye·mbryony,** the formation or presence of more than one embryo in a seed.

1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 509 Cases of polyembryony in Coniferæ, Cycadaceæ, Mistleto, Onion, &c. *Ibid.* § 586 In Coniferæ, Cycadaceæ, Mistleto, &c., there are frequently several embryos, giving rise to what is called polyembryony. 1864 WEBSTER, *Polyembryonate .. Polyembryonic.*

Polyenzymatic to **Polyfoil:** see POLY- 1.

Polyff, obs. variant of PULLEY.

Polygalaceous (pŏliˌgălē·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Polygalace-æ* (f. *Polygala* (pŏli·gălă), name of the typical genus, f. Gr. *πολύ* much + *γάλα* milk) + -OUS: see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the Natural Order *Polygalaceæ* or Milkwort family.

Mod. The species of the polygalaceous genus *Securidaca* are mostly natives of tropical America.

Polygalin (pŏli·gălin). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Polygala* (see prec.) + -IN 1.] A substance obtained from the root of *Polygala Senega*; also called SENEGIN, and **Polyga·lic** *acid.* Hence **Poly·galate,** a salt of polygalic acid.

1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 146 M. Reschier is also said to have procured a principle called Polygaline from the same plant [Polygala Senega]. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 164 The alkaline polygalates are obtained by saturating the aqueous solution of polygalic acid with the respective bases. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 716 Senegin or polygalin is contained in the cortical part, which has a short fracture.

‖ **Polygamia** (pŏligæ·miă). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus).] The twenty-third Class in the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising species which bear both hermaphrodite and unisexual (male or female) flowers, on the same or different plants. Hence **Po·lygam,** a plant of this class; **Polyga·mian** *a.*, belonging to the class *Polygamia*; *sb.* = *polygam.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Polygamia*..a class of plants, which have a diversity of combinations of the male and female parts of their flowers, and many ways of fructification in the same species. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* ix. (1794) 96 It is entitled *polygamia*, from this variety in the flowers. 1828 WEBSTER, *Polygam, Polygamian.* 1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* § 139 In Polygamia..we have three kinds of flowers, which may all, or some only, be placed on the same plant.

Polygamic (pŏligæ·mik), *a.* [f. late Gr. *πολύγαμος* often married, polygamous + -IC. So F. *polygamique.*] Of or pertaining to polygamy; (less correctly) practising polygamy, polygamous.

1819 SHELLEY *P. Bell* Prol. 36 He was an evil Cotter, And a polygamic Potter. 1882 *Athenæum* 23 Sept. 393/1 Umpengula's account of the [Zulu] law of heritage in polygamic households. 1884 J. W. BARCLAY in *19th Cent.* Jan. 183 Governor Murray lays comparatively little stress on the polygamic difficulty.

So **Polyga·mical** *a.* (*? obs.*); **Polyga·mically** *adv.*, in the way of polygamy.

1819 *Metropolis* II. 156 With every polygamical inclination, neither of his present wives seem to claim him. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xx, To suppose the family groups of whom the majority of emigrants were composed, polygamically possessed, would be to suppose an absurdity.

Polyga·mious, *a. Bot.* [f. POLYGAMIA + -OUS.] Belonging to the Linnæan class *Polygamia.*

1761 STILES in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 259 Not only in the Diœcious plants, but in the Monœcious and Polygamious also.

Polygamist (pŏli·gămist). [f. late Gr. *πολύγαμος* (see POLYGAMIC) + -IST.] One who practises or favours polygamy; usually, a man who has several wives: cf. POLYGAMOUS 1.

1637 G. DANIEL *Genius this Isle* 245 A Profane, Profuse, Proud Polygamist. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 271 The first author of polygamy.. was Lamech .. as was also Esau another polygamist. 1861 *Times* 21 Aug., In order to distinguish the wives of a polygamist from each other, the Christian name of each is prefixed to the husband's name; as, for instance, Mrs. Anna Young, Mrs. Mary Young, &c. 1886 P. S. ROBINSON *Valley Teet. Trees* 84 The sparrow is accused as being 'a bird of bad habits and of infamous character...a communist and a polygamist'.

b. *attrib.* Practising polygamy, polygamous.

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed 2) III. 163 Polygamist peoples either import and adopt children from other countries, or dwindle in numbers. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Oct. 3/2 That it was a greater evil to dissolve *bonâ fide* marriages .. than to refuse baptism to polygamist husbands and their wives.

Hence **Polygami·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to polygamists or polygamy; favouring polygamy.

1875 POSTE *Gains* IV. Comm. (ed. 2) 545 A monogamist forum will not enforce polygamistic laws. 1885 *Chicago Advance* 12 Feb., What reply do the polygamistic Mormons make to the non-polygamistic Josephites?

Poly·gamize, *v. rare.* [f. late Gr. *πολύγαμος* (see above) + -IZE.] *intr.* To practise polygamy.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-crafts* 693 Did it not suffize (O lustfull Soule!) first to polygamize? 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 20 May, Things which David and Solomon actually did,..making a treaty with Egypt, laying up treasure, and polygamising.

Polygamous (pŏli·gămǝs), *a.* Also 7 poli-. [f. late Gr. *πολύγαμος* (see POLYGAMIC) + -OUS.]

1. Practising or addicted to polygamy; of, pertaining to, or involving polygamy. Usually said of, or in reference to, a husband having several wives (distinctively expressed by *polygynous*), but including also the case of a wife having several husbands (*polyandrous*).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 266 His daughter Fatima (the onely issue of this libidinous poligamous Prophet) married to Hali. [Not in BAILEY, JOHNSON, ASH.] 1828 in WEBSTER. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* XXVI. 373 This strange polygamous family. 1885 SIR J. W. CHITTY in *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 712/2 The marriage was a Mahommedan and by consequence a polygamous marriage. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 387 Even in a polygamous community it is usually only a minority who have more wives than one.

2. *Zool.* Having more than one, or several, mates of the opposite sex, as an animal; characterized by polygamy, as a species. Usually used as = *polygynous*: cf. 1.

1834 R. MUDIE *Feathered Tribes Brit. Isl.* (1841) I. 24 Other [*Gallinidæ*] are polygamous; or have a number of females united with one male. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 88 The war is, perhaps, severest between the males of polygamous animals.

3. *Bot.* Bearing some flowers with stamens only, others with pistils only, and others with both, on the same or on different plants; belonging to the Linnæan class *Polygamia.*

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 64 *Polygamous*, such as either on the same, or on different Roots bear Hermaphrodite Flowers; and Flowers of either or of both Sexes. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 138 Flowers [of *Pittosporeæ*] terminal or axillary, sometimes polygamous. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 206 The flowers of Common Ash are termed polygamous, because they are either staminate, pistillate, or hermaphrodite, and the different kinds of flowers may be upon the same or different trees.

Hence **Poly·gamously** *adv.*

1874 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* iv. (1882) 24 Their [women's] ideas are always married to themselves—and sometimes polygamously to somebody else besides. 1886 *Princeton Rev.* July 47 The polygamously disposed party.

Polygamy (pŏli·gămi). Also 6–8 poli-. [ad. F. *polygamie* (*a* 1564 Calvin in Godef.), ad. eccl. Gr. *πολυγαμία*, f. *πολύγαμος* often married, polygamous; f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *γάμος* marriage.]

1. Marriage with several, or more than one, at once; plurality of spouses; the practice or custom according to which one man has several wives (distinctively called *polygyny*), or one woman several husbands (*polyandry*), at the same time. Most commonly used of the former.

a 1591 R. GREENHAM *Wks.* (1599) 29 Poligamie was not very hurtfull, so long as it was within Lamech his house. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 41 Though Poligamy be permitted among them, (I meane the hauing of many wiues for one man). 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xiii. 163 Polygamy can never be endured under any rational civil establishment. 1857 GLADSTONE *Gleanings* VI. I. 79 Among the Greeks of Homer we find no trace of polygamy. 1906 N. W. THOMAS *Kinship Organisation* 108 This state is constituted by the union of several men with several women. It may be distinguished, as before, into primary and secondary polygamy.

b. *fig*: esp. applied to plurality of benefices.

1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 63 Monsier.. shall send you word, whether he persist in his pernicious design, to bring Polygamie into France...I meane whether he have a good word from those nine Sisters to all whom he hath offered his Services. 1710 BURNET *Autobiog.* II. (1902) 501 For the heaping up of benefice upon benefice that were well endowed,.. I openly declared against such as I found possessed of them as .. living in a spirituall poligamy. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* IV. v. (1876) 165 A sort of polygamy to have different pursuits.

2. *Zool.* The habit of mating with more than one, or several, of the opposite sex; usually, one male with several females (*polygyny*), as in gallinaceous birds.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†3. *Bot.* The condition of being polygamous: see POLYGAMOUS 3. *Obs. rare.*

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s.v *Polygamia*, This term Polygamia or Polygamy, as applied to a compound flower,.. signifies that several distinct flowers (called Florets) are included in one common calyx.

Polygar, variant of POLIGAR.

Polygarchy, obs. form of POLYARCHY.

Polygastric (pŏligæ·strik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. F. *polygastrique*: see POLY- and GASTRIC.] Having many stomachs or digestive cavities; belonging to certain infusorians formerly called *Polygastrica*, in the belief that their food-vacuoles were separate digestive organs. b. as *sb.* A 'polygastric' animalcule. Also **Polyga·strian** *a.* and *sb.*

1845 WHEWELL *Indic. Creator* 39 The lowest kind of animal developement, which has been termed polygastric monads. 1846 DANA *Zoöph.* vii. § 106 (1848) 107 The Lernæoid division appears to reach the Polygastrics in the Acephalocist. 1864 WEBSTER, *Polygastrian, Polygastric*.. An animal having, or supposed to have, many stomachs. 1865 *Intell. Observ.* No. 47. 389 Ehrenberg's polygastric theory.

Polyge·neous, *a. rare.* [f. POLY-, after *heterogeneous.*] Of many kinds; heterogeneous.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 305 A patched, pyebald, and polygeneous affair. *Ibid.* IV. 356 As motley and polygeneous an array, as ever found the elements of ruin in disunion.

Polygenesis (pŏliˌdʒe·nĭsis). *Biol.* [f. POLY- + GENESIS.] (Theoretical) origination of a race or species from several independent ancestors or germs: in reference to man usually called POLYGENY. Hence **Polygenesic** (-dʒĭne·sik) *a.* = POLYGENETIC 1; **Polyge·nesist** = POLYGENIST.

1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* V. 214 The ethnological polygenesists assert that, during the whole historic period, there have existed the same differences in the human races that are seen at the present time. 1864 *Reader* No. 91. 476/3 System of polygenesic doctrine. 1882 OGILVIE, *Polygenesis.*

Polygenetic (pŏ·liˌdʒĭne·tik), *a.* [f. prec., after GENETIC.]

1. *Biol.* Of or pertaining to polygenesis.

1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* (1862) 348 Professor Pott, the most distinguished advocate of the polygenetic dogma, has pleaded the necessity of admitting more than one beginning for the human race and for language.

2. *Geol.* Having more than one origin; formed in several different ways.

1873 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. V. 429 A composite or polygenetic range or chain, made up of two or more monogenetic ranges combined.

Hence **Polygene·tically** *adv.*, by, or in the way of, polygenesis.

1900 E. R. LANKESTER *Treat. Zool.* III. 158 *Eucladocrinus* ..was evolved polygenetically by modification of the arms.

Polygenic (pŏliˌdʒe·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *γενικός*, f. *γένος* kind, or (in sense 2) from -GEN 1 + -IC.]

1. *Geol.* = POLYGENOUS 1.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polygenicus*,..applied to a rock which owes its origin to fragments of different rocks united by calcareous cement ..; or to divers fragments of homogeneous rocks being united by a variable cement: polygenic.

2. *Chem.* Forming more than one compound with hydrogen or other monovalent element.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 231 All other elements are polygenic, uniting with the Monogens. 1877 *Ibid.* (ed. 12) I. 261 It seems most probable that the true quantivalence or atomicity of a polygenic element is that which corresponds with the maximum number of monad atoms with which it can combine.

Polygenism (pŏli·dʒĭniz'm). [f. as next + -ISM. So F. *polygénisme.*] The doctrine of polygeny; the theory that mankind are descended from several independent pairs of ancestors, or that the human race consists of several independent species.

1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 554 Belief in the authenticity of the Mosaic records, which no sophistry on the part of the advocates of polygenism has been able to shake. 1880 A. H. KEANE in *Nature* XXIII. 199/1 More rational and philosophic than any conceivable form of polygenism.

Polygenist (pŏli·dʒĭnist). [app. f. POLYGENY + -IST: cf. *botany, botanist*, etc. So F. *polygéniste.*] An adherent of the theory of polygeny.

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 544 Among the polygenists (or upholders of a plurality of species) there are many sincere, if not very logical, Christians. 1881 A. H. KEANE in *Nature* XXIII. 251/1 All polygenists..have regarded the Malays as one of their human species.

attrib. 1865 HUXLEY *Critiques & Addr.* (1873) 163 The granting of the Polygenist premises does not, in the slightest degree, necessitate the Polygenist conclusion. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* Introd. 15 The opposite, a polygenist school..maintained the plurality of races.

Hence **Polygeni·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to polygenists or polygenism.

1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Species* 47 We shall have undermined the foundation of the whole polygenistic doctrine.

Polygenous (pŏli·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. πολυγεν-ής of many kinds (f. πολυ-, Poly- + γένος kind) + -ous: perh. associated with words from L. such as *indigenous*, *calcigenous*, etc.]

1. Composed of constituents of different kinds; *spec.* in *Geol.* composed of various kinds of rocks.

1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 164 Some are unigenous, consisting for the greater part, at least, of one species of stone or aggregate; some polygenous, consisting of various species, alternating with, or passing into, or mixed with each other. *Ibid.* 226 Secondary mountains are either formed of one species of stone, or of strata of different species,..the former I call unigenous, the latter polygenous: these are commonly stratified, the former often not.

2. *Chem.* = Polygenic 2.

1870 F. Hurter in *Eng. Mech.* 11 Feb. 524/1 Chlorine forms only one compound with hydrogen, whilst oxygen and carbon form several compounds with that element. Chlorine may, for this reason, be called a monogenous element: the others..polygenous elements.

3. Of, pertaining to, or involving polygeny.

1860 *Reader* 15 Sept. 796 Thus domestic pigeons may be said to be 'monogenous' as to their origin from one wild species, 'polygenous' as to the individual ancestor of each variety.

Polygeny (pŏli·dʒĭni). [f. Poly- + Gr. -γενεια birth.] The (theoretical) origination of mankind (or of any species) from several independent pairs of ancestors; *loosely*, the theory of such origination, polygenism.

1865 *Reader* 14 Oct. 433/3 An anthropological paper entitled 'Monogeny and Polygeny'. 1879 *Athenæum* 30 Aug. 276/1 Nowadays both slavery and polygeny have so dropped out of sight that a single paragraph is enough to record their unholy alliance. 1893 S. Laing *Hum. Origins* 405 Polygeny, or plural origins, would at first sight seem to be the most plausible theory to account for the great diversities of human races.

Polyglot (pŏ·liglɒt), *a.* and *sb.* Also **-glott.** [ad. Gr. πολύγλωττ-ος many-tongued, speaking many languages, f. πολυ-, Poly- + γλῶττα tongue. So F. *polyglotte* (1639 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.* 1. Of a person: That speaks or writes many or several languages.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Polyglot*, that speaks many Languages, a Linguist. 1854 *L'pool Albion* Nov., Always remarkable for plain speaking in his mother-tongue, though a polyglot linguist. 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* III. IX. (1875) 124 That there should be polyglot waiters who can tell us when the train starts in four or five languages.

2. Of or relating to many languages; *esp.* of a book or writing: In many or several languages.

1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlewom.* 11 The Authors of the Polyglot-Bible. 1706 Phillips, *Polyglott*, that is of many Languages, as, The Polyglott Bible, a Polyglott Dictionary. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 208/1 A French meteorological balloon sent up..with a polyglot request that it be forwarded by the finder to the address given.

B. *sb.* 1. One who speaks or writes several languages.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* III. viii. (1650) 16 A polyglot or good linguist may be also term'd a usefull learned man,'specially if vers'd in School-languages. *a* 1840 [see Polymath]. 1842 Mrs. Browning *Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 151 As learned a polyglott as ever had been. 1867 Baker *Nile Tribut.* i, The interpreter was nearly ignorant of English, although a professed polyglot.

† b. A bird that imitates the notes of other birds.

[1706 Phillips, *Polyglotta*, the American Mock-bird, so call'd because it imitates the Notes of all Birds. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, *Polyglotta avis*..the name of a bird described by Nieremberg.] 1770 G. White *Selborne* 15 Jan., The [sedge-bird] has a surprising variety of notes resembling the song of several other birds..It is..a delicate polyglot. 1776 Pennant *Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 322 It [sedge warbler] is a most entertaining polyglot, or mocking bird.

2. A book or writing (*esp.* a Bible) in several languages.

1666 Pepys *Diary* 5 Oct., Among others, the Polyglottes and new Bible. 1725 Henley tr. *Montfaucon's Antiq. Italy* (ed. 2) 9 A Polyglot of the Acts of the Apostles, .. in Armenian, Arabic, Coptic, Ethiopic. 1840 [see Complutensian]. 1892 C. A. Briggs *Bible, Ch. & Reason* iv. 96 The great Polyglotts had settled that.

b. A mixture of several languages. *rare.*

1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. Pref. 6, I wish I had a Polyglot into which I might render it. 1830 Cunningham *Brit. Paint.* II. 311 His wrath aired itself in a polyglott. 1862 Miss Jewsbury *Mem. Lady Morgan* II. 457 The style is not so much disfigured by a polyglott of languages.

C. *Comb.*, as **polyglot-wise** *adv.*, in a polyglot manner, or like a polyglot; in several languages.

1875 Jas. Grant *One of the 600*, vii. 53 We shall have.. talked polyglot-wise with fellows of all nations.

So **Polyglo·ttal, Polyglo·ttic, Po·lyglottish** (*nonce-wd.*), **Polyglo·ttous** *adjs.* = *polyglot* A.; **Polyglo·ttally** *adv.*; **Po·lyglotted** *ppl. a.*, furnished with or speaking several languages; **Po·lyglottism,** polyglot character, use of or acquaintance with many languages; **Po·lyglottist** = *polyglot* B. 1; **Po·lyglotti·ze** *v. trans.*, to render polyglot; † **Po·lyglotto·logy** [see -logy], a speaking in many languages (*obs.*).

1827 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 670 Panurge the *Polyglottal. 1892 *Athenæum* 16 July 90/1 A profuse display of easy polyglottal information. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XIX. 680 Most *polyglot[t]ally rendered in our own pages by Father Prout. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Jan. 6/3 A *polyglotted giant bows you into a luxurious chair, and there you sit, waiting for your host. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 2/1 'The meat, m'sieu',—though polyglotted, he is a Frenchman, I believe. 1801 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* XII. 583 The author is *polyglottic as the hydra. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 11 July 5/1 Pope Gregory the Sixteenth .. was correcting the proof-sheets of a polyglottic book that Wiseman was bringing out. 1878 E. Jenkins *Haverholme* 206 Screeching their raven-voiced praises in *polyglottish discord. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 106 The *polyglotism implies so close a familiarity with many literatures. 1889 Lowell *Latest Lit. Ess.*, *Stud. Mod. Lang.* (1891) 139, I will not say..with Lord Burleigh that such polyglottism is but 'to have one meat served in divers dishes'. 1890 *Spectator* 29 Mar., The great *polyglottist, Mr. Thomas Watts, who probably surpassed the more famous Mezzofanti, gives his testimony to the linguistic importance of the work in a notable letter. 1871 Miss Mulock *Fair France* i. 37 Plain English (which we found ourselves rapidly forgetting, and becoming *polyglottized). 1658 Rowland *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 907 At the first Honey had but one name, called in the Hebrew *Dabesch*; but since that strange and confused *Polyglottology, or speaking with divers tongues it was called of the inhabitants of Arabia, *Hel*, *Han*; of the French, *Miel*;..of the English, *Honey* [etc.]. 1861 Max Müller *Sc. Lang.* iv. 130 While working as a missionary among the *polyglottous tribes of America. 1885 Greswell in *Sat. Rev.* 26 Dec. 845 [The temptation to talk of a Kaffir policeman as] a polyglottous individual.

Polyglycerin: see Poly- 2.

Polygon (pɒ·ligŏn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 7 **polygone.** [ad. L. *polygōnum*, a. Gr. πολύγωνον, prop. neut. of πολύγωνος adj. polygonal, f. πολυ-, Poly- + -γωνος, from stem of γωνία angle. Cf. F. *polygone*, † *poligone* (Cotgr. 1611). Used at first in Latin forms **polygō·num, polygō·nium.**]

A. *sb.* 1. *Geom.* A figure (usually, a plane rectilineal figure) having many, i. e. (usually) more than four, angles (and sides); a many-sided figure.

Complete polygon, a polygon in which lines are drawn connecting each angular vertex with every one of the others. *Stellated polygon*, a polygon which wraps its interior more than once, the continuous joining of alternate or more remote angles, producing a stellate or starlike figure, as in the Pentagram (q. v.) which is a stellated pentagon wrapping its interior twice. So with similar figures of 7, 8, 9, 10, etc. points, in which the variety of form increases with the number of different points that can be continuously joined.

1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. Elem. B iij b, Polygona are such Figures as haue moe than foure sides. *Ibid.* II. XX. O iv, To diuide the superficies of any irregular Pollygonium. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Polygon*, a Geometrical figure, that hath many corners. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* iv. 22 Instead of..circular bases, polygons of different but even numbers of sides, have been substituted. 1881 Routledge *Science* ii. 37 The circle is .. said to be the limit of the inscribed polygon.

b. *Polygon of forces*: a polygonal figure illustrating a theorem relating to a number of forces acting at one point, each of which is represented in magnitude and direction by one of the sides of the figure, analogous to the *parallelogram of forces*; hence, the theorem itself. So *polygon of velocities*, etc.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Polygon of forces*,..a theorem, the discovery of which is attributed to Leibnitz. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 256. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* I Linear velocities follow the same laws of composition and resolution as Forces in Statics; and with these (such as the parallelogram and polygon of velocities) the student is assumed to be already familiar.

c. *Arith.* A polygonal number: see Polygonal 2. Hence extended to higher orders of figurate numbers, as the Pyramidal numbers, etc. *rare.* (Cf. *square, cube.*)

1842 Brande *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s.v. *Figurate Numbers*, First sums, or polygons of the first order. Tri. 1, 3, 6, 10. Sq. 1, 4, 9, 16. Pent. 1, 5, 12, 22. Hex. 1, 6, 15, 28. Second sums, or polygons of the second order. 1, 4, 10, 20. 1, 5, 14, 30. 1, 6, 18, 40. 1, 7, 22, 50.

2. A material object of the form of a polygon. *Funicular polygon*: see Funicular 2.

1669 Staynred *Fortification* 1 The Semidiameter of the Outward Polygon. 1706 Phillips, *Polygon*... Also a spot of Ground of that Figure, which is, or may be fortify'd according to the Rules of Art. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 318 Very seldom in pellucid needles, tables, or polygons. 1853 Stocqueler *Milit. Encycl.*, *Polygon*, the name applied to the many-angled forms in which the outer walls of all fortified places are built. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 608 Four large vessels which here form the remarkable anastomosis known as the circle, or polygon, of Willis.

† B. *adj.* Having many angles; polygonal. ? *Obs.*

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* IV. xvi. 125 A Poligonon figure is a figure consisting of many sides. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* vii, § 7 (1689) 77 The best Rivers to angle in, are .. such as have many Polygone windings, and turnings. 1761 Da Costa in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 103 The rocks .. rise into polygon pillars. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* II. 182 The surface of the causeway exhibiting to view a regular and compact pavement of polygon stones.

Polygonaceous (pŏli·gonē·ĭəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Polygonaceæ* (f. Polygonum) + -ous: see -aceous.] Belonging to the Natural Order *Polygonaceæ*, of which the typical genus is Polygonum.

1874 Cooke *Fungi* 41 The species attack the flowers and anthers of composite and polygonaceous plants.

Polygonal (pŏli·gŏnăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *polygōn-um* Polygon + -al. So F. *polygonal.*]

1. Having the form of a polygon; having many, i. e. (usually) more than four, angles (and sides); many-sided. As applied to a solid body, denoting a prismatic or similar form whose base or section is a polygon.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Polygonal column.* 1756 *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 513 Its whole surface is covered with small shallow polygonal cells. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 652 The mutual pressure of cells..converts the spheroidal into polygonal forms. *a* 1878 Sir G. G. Scott *Lect. Archit.* I. 195 The polygonal chapter-house is an equally English feature. *Comb.* 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 516/1 Polygonal-celled serous membranes.

2. *Arith.* Applied to the several series of numbers, each beginning with unity, and obtained by continued summation of the successive terms of an arithmetical progression whose common difference is a whole number. So called because each of these numbers, represented (e. g.) by dots, can be arranged according to a certain rule in the form of the corresponding regular *polygon* (the term being here extended to a figure of any number of sides).

Thus the A. P. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ... (comm. diff. 1) gives, by summation of successive terms (1, 1+2, 1+2+3, etc.), the series of *triangular* numbers 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21...Similarly, with comm. diff. 2, 3, 4, etc., are obtained the series of *square*, *pentagonal*, *hexagonal*, etc., numbers. The polygonal numbers constitute the first order of figurate numbers: see Figurate *ppl. a.* 3 b.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polygonal Numbers*, are such as are the Sums or Aggregates of Series of Numbers in Arithmetical Progression, beginning with Unity; and so placed, that they represent the Form of a Polygon. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. 1842 Brande *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s.v., A very general and remarkable property of polygonal numbers was discovered by Fermat:—Every number whatever is the sum of one, two, or three triangular numbers; the sum of one, two, three, or four squares; the sum of one, two, three, four, or five pentagonal numbers; and so on.

b. as *sb.* A polygonal number. *rare.*

1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.*, *Polygonal Numbers*,.. are called Polygonals, because the number of points in them may be arranged in the form of the several Polygonal figures in geometry.

Hence **Poly·gonally** *adv.*

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 254 A polygonally-shagreened capsule. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 374 The outermost layer, which .. consists of polygonally prismatic cells in uninterrupted connection.

Poly·gonar, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. type **polygōnār-is*: see prec. and -ar 1.] = prec. 1.

1836 Cdl. Wiseman *Sc. & Relig.* I. ii. 102 The polygonar structures of the ancients.

Polygonate (pŏli·gŏnĕt), *a. Nat. Hist. rare*—0. [f. Gr. πολυ-, Poly- + γόνυ knee + -ate 2.] Having many joints.

1856 Thomas *Med. Dict.* (1864) 436 *Polygonate*, applied to certain plants and animals.

Polygoneutic (pɒ·ligonĭū·tik), *a. Zool.* [f. Poly- + Gr. γονεύ-ειν to beget: cf. πολυγονεῖσθαι to produce much offspring.] Producing several broods in a year. So **Polygoneu·tism,** polygoneutic character or condition.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Polygoneutic*, having several broods or litters every year. *Polygoneutism*, the state of being *Polygoneutic.*

† **Polygo·nial,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. L. *polygōni-us* polygonal + -al.] a. *adj.* = Polygonal *a.* b. *sb.* = Polygon.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 238 Polygonial Turrets. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, To find the content of a regular polygonial, or multangular figure. *Ibid.*, [How] to divide triangles, parallelograms, and regular polygonials, in an artificial way.

Polygonic (pɒligo·nik), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. Gr. πολύγων-ον (see Polygon) + -ic.] = Polygonal *a.* Hence **Polygo·nically** *adv.*

1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 151/1 The earliest buildings were circular, octagonal, or polygonic. 1852 T. Wright *Celt, Roman, & Saxon* (1861) 183 Flag-stones cut square or polygonically.

Polygo·nic, *a.*[2] [f. Polygon-um + -ic.] Pertaining to the botanical genus *Polygonum*; *polygonic acid*, an acrid crystallizable acid, found by Rademacher 1871, in *Polygonum Hydropiper.*

1890 in Billings *Med. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Polygonometry (pɒligonɒ·mĕtri), *Math. rare.* [f. as Polygon + -metry. So F. *polygonométrie.*] A branch of mathematics dealing with the measurement and properties of polygons, as trigonometry with those of triangles. Hence **Polygonometric** (pŏli·gonoˌmĕ·trik) *a.*, pertaining to polygonometry.

1811 Hutton *Course Math.* III. 148 The theorems and problems in Polygonometry bear an intimate connection and close analogy to those in plane trigonometry. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Polygonometric.*

Polygonoscope (pŏli·gŏnŏskoup). [f. as Polygon + Gr. -σκοπος, -ον viewing, he or that which views.] An instrument on the principle of the kaleidoscope, consisting of two mirrors connected by a hinge, and capable of being set at any required angle, so as to produce an indefinite variety of patterns, which may be copied or photographed for artistic purposes.

1884 in Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl.

Polygonous (pŏli·gŏnəs), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. L. *polygōn-um* + -ous.] = Polygonal *a.*

1660 Barrow *Euclid* XII. k 296 Like polygonous figures.. described in circles .. are one to another, as the squares described of the diameters of the circles. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Column*, Polygonous Column has several sides, or faces; the most regular of these have eight faces.

1789 J. KEIR *Dict. Chem.* 172/1 This ammoniacal salt shoots into polygonous crystals. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 726 Harmony of design seems entirely wanting in this vast polygonous building.

‖ **Polygonum** (pŏlĭ·gŏnŭm). *Bot.* [mod.L. *polygonum* (*polygonos, -us, -on* Plin.), a. Gr. πολύγονον knotgrass, etc., f. πολυ-, POLY- + γόνυ knee, joint.] A large and widely distributed genus of plants, type of the N. O. *Polygonaceæ*, consisting of herbs (rarely undershrubs), with swollen stem-joints sheathed by the stipules, and small apetalous flowers, usually with red or white perianth.

It includes knotgrass (*P. aviculare*), snakeweed (*P. Bistorta*), black bindweed (*P. Convolvulus*), water-pepper (*P. Hydropiper*), persicaria (*P. Persicaria*), buckwheat (*P. Fagopyrum* or *Fagopyrum esculentum*), etc. The *polygonum* of Sturt (1833) is a *Muehlenbeckia*, N. O. *Polygonaceæ*.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Polygonum*, Polygony or Knot-grass, an Herb chiefly us'd for stopping all sorts of Fluxes, Wounds [etc.]. 1833 C. H. STURT *Two Exp. Interior S. Austral.* I. 146 Its [the creek's] bed was choaked up with bulrushes or the polygonum. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 974 The *bidens* .. in general did not vegetate so long as the polygonum. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 580 We also find that the ants rear the young, before the ground is planted, upon the roots of *Setaria* and *Polygonum*.

b. *attrib.* as *polygonum creek, flat* (i.e. covered with a growth of *Polygonum* or *Muehlenbeckia*).

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvi. 190 He had shot more than one polygonum creek, straight and true as an Indian. 1898 — *Rom. Canvass Town* 126 They drew back by degrees into the polygonum flat which at that point bordered the river.

† **Poly·gony.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *polygoni-um* (Scribonius) f. Gr. πολύγονον.] A plant of the genus *Polygonum*; esp. Snakeweed, *P. Bistorta*, the astringent root of which was formerly used in medicine.

1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 30 Take wormode, .. and lete it boyle with the Rote þat is callid Pollygony, .. and wasshe welle þi mouth therwith. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. v. 32 There, whether yt divine Tobacco were, Or Panachæa, or Polygony, Shee fownd, and brought it to her patient deare. 1706 [see POLYGONUM].

Polygram (pŏ·ligrăm). [f. POLY- + Gr. γραμμή line; (cf. Gr. πολύγραμμος many-lined, Arist.).] A figure or design consisting of many lines. (In quot. 1903 in imitation of *monogram*.)

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Polygram*, a Geometrical Figure that has many Lines. 1863 R. TOWNSEND *Mod. Geom.* I. 144 A complete figure which in the absence of any as yet generally recognized nomenclature may be termed a polystigm in the former case, and a polygram in the latter. 1903 G. F. ABBOTT *Tour Macedonia* 43 A mystic design which .. in reality was the imperial polygram. The document, polygram and all, cost me five shillings.

Hence **Polygramma·tic** *a.*, pertaining or relating to a polygram. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polygraph (pŏ·ligrɑf). [ad. Gr. πολυγράφ-ος, -ον adj. writing much; cf. F. *polygraphe* (1536 in Hatz.-Darm.), It. *poligrapho* (Florio) in sense 4. In senses 1–3, app. directly f. the Greek elements.]

I. 1. a. An apparatus, on the principle of the pantograph, for producing two or more identical drawings or writings simultaneously. b. An apparatus for taking a number of copies of a writing; *esp.* a gelatine copying-pad.

[Cf. 1763 *Hist. Acad. des Sci.* 147 Un instrument, inventé et présenté par M. de Cotteneude auquel il donne le nom de *polygraphe* ou *Copiste habile*.]

1805 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 33, I have laid aside the copying press, for a twelvemonth past, and write always with the polygraph. 1807 YOUNG *Lect. Nat. Phil.* II. 100 An ingenious instrument .. by means of which copies may be multiplied with great facility; it is called the polygraph. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Copying*, Fig. 4 represents one of Hawkins' patent polygraphs [Patent dated 1803 No. 2735]. 1829 MACKENZIE *Five Thous. Receipts* 394 To frame a polygraph, or instrument for writing two letters at once. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp., *Polygraph*, one of the names given to the gelatine copying pad.

† 2. *fig.* (in allusion to POLYGRAPHIC 2). A person who imitates, or is a copy of, another; an imitator or imitation. *Obs.*

1794 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 117 The move of bepraising a man by enumerating the beauties of his polygraph is at least an original one. 1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 10 A polygraph is a fellow that apes one's dress and manners.

3. An instrument for obtaining tracings of movements in various parts of the body; a myograph.

1876 A. RANSOME *Stethometry* vi. 126 A tube, placed in the trachea of a recently killed dog, is made to communicate with the drum of a polygraph. 1890 in BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Polygraph*, a syn. for *Myograph*. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 93 J. Mackenzie has made an exhaustive study of hepatic pulsation by means of the polygraph, a modification of the cardiograph.

II. 4. A writer of many or various works; a voluminous author. [Cf. F. *polygraphe* one who writes on many subjects (1536).]

1883 *Century Mag.* VI. 251 M. Jules Claretie, most prolific of polygraphs, has .. added another novel to his already long list. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Aug. 152/1 M. Auguste Vitu was .. what his own countrymen call a 'polygraph'.

5. A collection of many or various writings. *rare*—°. 1882 in OGILVIE (Annandale).

† **Poly·grapher.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 poli-. [f. Gr. πολυγράφος (see POLYGRAPH) + -ER 1.]

1. A writer of POLYGRAPHY (sense 1).

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 29 Whose mightie and wonderfull proceedings no Poligrapher can expresse, or Stegonographer decipher.

2. = POLYGRAPH 2.

1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 7, [I] wear my hat in half a dozen positions, so that I defy the mimickry of a polygrapher.

Polygraphic (pŏligræ·fik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Gr. πολυγράφ-ος POLYGRAPH, or f. POLYGRAPHY, + -IC. So F. *polygraphique*.]

1. Writing much; voluminous or copious, as an author; treating of many subjects, as a book. *rare.*

1735 (*title*) Dictionarium Polygraphicum: Or, The Whole Body of Arts Regularly Digested. (*heading of text*) The Polygraphick Dictionary. 1807 T. HORNE tr. *Goede's Trav.* II. 131 The polygraphic Nicolls has contrived to swell his work into 20 volumes.

† b. Pertaining to POLYGRAPHY (sense 1). *Obs.*

1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1867) 481/2 This ingenious abbot's [Trithemius] polygraphic attempts at secret writing.

2. Applied to a method of mechanically copying pictures: see POLYGRAPHY 3 a.

1788 J. BOOTH (*title*) An Address to the Public on the Polygraphic Art; or the copying or multiplying Pictures, in Oil Colours, by a Chemical and Mechanical Process. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 161 These, by means of the polygraphic art, may be multiplied. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1853 I. 290/2 Polygraphic transparencies .. to be had for next to nothing. 1864 BOULTON *Rem. conc. Photogr. supposed of early date* 8 There can .. be little doubt that these pictures are specimens of the 'polygraphic' process.

† 3. *fig.* (in allusion to 2, or to POLYGRAPH 2). That is an exact copy or imitation of another. *Obs.*

1797–1805 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* V. 400 A sort of polygraphic copy of a man, that might be seen in some corner of almost every collection in London. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* v, He began to doubt whether the Lady Penelope and her maidens .. were not .. actually polygraphic copies of the same individuals.

† b. as *sb.* = POLYGRAPH 2. *Obs. rare*—1.

1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* II. 100, 'I shall leave Bath to-morrow', cried the polygraphic of Narcissus.

4. Of or pertaining to a polygraph (POLYGRAPH 1 a, 1 b); used for multiplying copies of a drawing or writing; produced, as a copy, by a polygraph.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polygraphic, Polygraphical* .. 2. Done with a polygraph; as, a polygraphic copy or writing. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 189/2 Place a sheet of damped polygraphic paper on each page.

So **Polygra·phical** *a.* (in quot. = sense 1 b above: cf. POLYGRAPHER 1).

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 65 A booteles labor, to make a special Analysis, either of their Abcedary and Alphabeticall Spels, or of their Characteristicall, and Polygraphical suttelties. 1828 [see 4 above].

Polygraphy (pŏli·grăfi). [ad. Gr. πολυγραφία a writing much; see prec. So F. *polygraphie* (1561 in Hatz.-Darm.) in sense 1.]

I. † 1. A kind of cipher or secret writing (? a combination of various ciphers, or ? an abbreviated cipher resembling shorthand, i.e. containing much in little space): a. orig. An arbitrary name by Trithemius 1518 for his system of secret writing. b. Applied by Aulay Macaulay to his system of shorthand. *Obs.*

[1518 J. TRITHEMIUS (*title*) Poligraphiæ libri VI, cum clave seu enucleatorio.] 1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 56 The Histories were written in some strange kind of polygraphy and steganography. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. v. (1651) 498 Such occult notes, .. Polygraphy, .. or magnetical telling of their minds. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Polygraphy*, .. the art of writing in various unusual manners or cyphers; as also of decyphering the same... The word is usually confounded with steganography and cryptography. 1747 A. MACAULAY (*title*) Polygraphy; or Short-Hand made easy .. Being an universal character fitted to all Languages. 1855 *Chamb. Jrnl.* IV. 134/2 These decipherers gave the high-sounding names of Cryptography, Cryptology, Polygraphy, and Steganography, to their art.

II. 2. Much writing; copious or various literary work.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cambr.* (1662) I. 162 One, considering his Polygraphy, said merrily, 'that he must write whilst he slept, it being unpossible he should do so much when waking'. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 715 Even Sir Walter Scott, with all his multifarious polygraphy—what is he beside the goodly *Summa Theologiæ* of Thomas Aquinas? 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 602/2 It has been too much the fashion to dismiss his wonderful 'polygraphy', his miscellaneous journalism .., with a sort of allowance as merely wonderful of its kind.

III. 3. a. A method of producing copies of paintings, invented by Joseph Booth *c* 1788: see POLYGRAPHIC 2.

1788 J. BOOTH *Addr. Polygraphic Art* 13 Having thus considered the invention of Polygraphy.

b. The use of a polygraph (POLYGRAPH 1 a).

1828 WEBSTER, *Polygraphic, Polygraphical*, pertaining to polygraphy, as a polygraphic instrument. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Polygraphy* .. 3. The art of making a number of drawings or writings simultaneously. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Polygraphy.* 1. The use of a polygraph.

Poly-groove, -grooved: see POLY- 1.

Polygyn (pŏ·lidʒin). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *polygyn-us*: see POLYGYNIA.] (See quot.)

1828 WEBSTER, *Polygyn*, a plant having many pistils.

Polygynæcial, -œcial (pŏ·lidʒinĭ·siăl), *a. Bot. rare*—°. [f. POLY- + *gynæcium*, GYNÆCEUM + -AL.] Applied to a multiple fruit formed by union of the pistils of several flowers.

1876 BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 150/2 Multiple fruits are called polygynœcial, as being formed by many gynœcia.

Polygynai·ky. *rare*—1. [f. POLY- + Gr. γυναικ-, stem of γυνή woman, wife + -Y.] = POLYGYNY.

1880 T. E. HOLLAND *Jurisprudence* (1882) 131 Polygamy, i.e. polygynaiky or polyandry, has been and is recognised as marriage in many parts of the world.

‖ **Polygynia** (pŏlidʒi·niă). [f. mod.L. *polygyn-us*, f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + γυνή woman, wife (taken by Linnæus in sense 'pistil').]

1. *Bot.* An order in some classes of the Linnæan Sexual System, comprising plants having flowers with more than 12 styles or stigmas.

[1748 LINNÆUS *Hortus Upsal.* 154 Polygynia.] 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. viii, *Polygynia*, comprehending such Plants as have many Styles. 1770 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 528 Dr. Linnæus .. places it among the Dodecandria Polygynia.

2. = POLYGYNY. *rare.*

1865 MCLENNAN *Prim. Marr.* viii. 181 In certain cantons of Media, according to Strabo, polygunia was authorised by express law which ordained every inhabitant to maintain at least seven wives.

Polygy·nian, *a. Bot. rare*—°. [f. prec. 1 + -AN.] = POLYGYNOUS 1.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polygynian*, having many pistils.

Polygynic (pŏlidʒi·nik), *a. rare.* [f. as POLYGYNY + -IC.] = POLYGYNOUS 2.

1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* (1885) I. III. ix. 675 Among the Esquimaux, .. we see, along with monogamic unions, others that are polyandric and polygynic.

Polygy·nious, *a. Bot. rare*—°. [f. mod.L. POLYGYNI-A + -OUS.] = POLYGYNOUS 1.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polygynius*, .. applied to an order .. of plants .. polygynious.

Polygynist (pŏli·dʒinist). [f. as POLYGYNY + -IST.] One who practises (or favours) polygyny.

1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* I. III. iv. § 285 The Fuegians .. are polygynists. *Ibid.* ix. § 315 The Merovingian kings were polygynists.

Polygynous (pŏli·dʒinəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *polygyn-us* (see POLYGYNIA) + -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Having many pistils, styles, or stigmas; *spec.* belonging to the order *Polygynia*.

1846 WORCESTER, *Polygynous*, having many styles. *Loudon.* 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 261 Less general .. terms are such as .. *Polygynous* (of many pistils).

2. Having more than one, or several, wives (or concubines); practising, pertaining to, or involving polygyny. (Corresp. to POLYANDROUS 2.)

1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* xi. 337 A legal polygynous connexion. 1876 FOX BOURNE *Locke* I. viii. 429 The frivolous, corrupted, polygynous and polyandrous society by which he was surrounded. 1891 E. WESTERMARCK *Hist. Hum. Marr.* (1894) 439 Even in Africa, the chief centre of polygynous habits, polygyny is an exception.

b. *Zool.* Of a male animal: Having several female mates; characterized by polygyny, as a species. (Corresp. to POLYANDROUS 2 b.)

Polygyny (pŏli·dʒini). [f. POLY- + Gr. γυνή woman, wife; corresp. to a Gr. type *πολυγυνία, f. πολυ- many + γυνή woman, wife. So mod. F. *polygynie*.] That form of polygamy in which one man has several wives at the same time; plurality of wives (or concubines). (Corresp. to POLYANDRY.)

1780 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* II. 91 There is not a nation under heaven, where polygyny is more openly practised, than in this Christian country. 1861 *Times* 21 Aug. 10/2 It is doubtless this teaching that polygyny is a divine institution which has such an effect in repressing the rebellious instincts of the women. 1876 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* (1877) I. 646 Where wife-stealing is now practised, it is commonly associated with polygyny. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 24 Nov. 398/3 The license, not of polygamy but of polygyny, was completely established in the case of kings.

b. *Zool.* Of a male animal: The having more than one female mate.

Polygyral: see POLY- 1.

‖ **Polyhæmia** (pŏlihī·miă). *Path.* Also **polyemia, -æmia, -hemia.** [mod.L., a. Gr. πολυαιμία, f. πολυ-, POLY- + αἷμα blood.] Fullness or excess of blood; plethora.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polyæmia*, abundance of blood; an old term for true Plethora. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 61 Recent experiments on animals render improbable the existence of a permanent polyæmia. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 543 Polyhæmia, and polycythæmia as well, are in most cases only transitory states.

Polyhalite (pŏlihæ·ləit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *polyhalit* (Stromeyer, 1818), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ἅλς salt: see -ITE 1.] Hydrous sulphate of calcium, potassium, and magnesium, usually occurring in fibrous masses of a red or yellowish colour.

1818 *Q. Jrnl. Sc.* VI. 170 It .. has now received the name of polyhalite. 1852 *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 538 Polyhalite .. is found with rock salt. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvi. 305 These deposits consist of a series of saliferous strata —carnallite .. polyhalite, etc.

Polyhedra, pl. of POLYHEDRON.

Polyhedral (pŏlihī·drăl, -he·drăl), *a.* Also **polyedral.** [f. Gr. πολύεδρος (Plut.) (f. πολυ-, POLY- + ἕδρα base, side of a solid figure) + -AL.]

1. Of the form of a polyhedron; having many faces or sides, as a solid figure or body.

1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* I. 324 A granular serpentine,.. which..splits in small polyhedral fragments. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 81 The fat vesicles .. assume a polyhedral figure more or less regular. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 47 Starch..occurs as minute..polyhedral granules.

2. Pertaining or relating to a polyhedron; in *Higher Algebra* applied to a class of functions.

1880 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* XI. 183 The functions so transformable into themselves must be Polyhedral functions ..the linear transformations..corresponding to the rotations whereby the spherical polyhedron can be brought into coincidence with its own original position.

3. Of an angle: Formed by three or more planes meeting at a point. (Usually called a *solid angle.*) Cf. DIHEDRAL. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Polyhedric (pŏlihe·drik), *a.* Also **polyedric.** [f. as prec. + -IC.] = prec. 1. Also *fig.* 'many-sided'.

1819 SHELLEY *P. Bell the Third* Ded., Peter is a polyhedric Peter, or a Peter with many sides... He is a Proteus of a Peter. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xliii. (1856) 400 The ice, broken into polyhedric masses, gave at a few hundred yards no indications to the eye of the lines of separation. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Jan. 88/1 Most questions are polyhedric.

So **Polyhe·drical** *a. rare.*

1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* I. iii. § 6 The protuberant particles may be of very great variety of figures, spherical, elliptical, polyedrical, and some very irregular. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 42 They all seem like Fragments of Crystal ..of irregular polyhedrical figures. *c* 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* II. 199 Which body must be spherical or polyedrical.

Polyhedrometry (*-ǫ·*métri). [f. POLYHEDRON + -METRY, after *geometry* or *trigonometry.*] That part of solid geometry which deals with the numbers of faces, edges, and angles of polyhedra. Hence **Polyhedrometric** (*-o*me·trik) *a.*, pertaining to polyhedrometry. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polyhedron (pŏlihē·drǫn, -he·drǫn). Also **polyedron.** Pl. **-a** (rarely **-ons**). [a. Gr. *πολύ-εδρον* a polyhedron, prop. neut. of *πολύεδρος* adj.: see POLYHEDRAL.] *Geom.* A solid figure contained by many (i. e., usually, more than six) plane faces; a many-sided solid. Hence, a material body having such a form.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XII. xvii. 377 A solide of many sides (which is called a Polyhedron). 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 289 In the Sphere *EDF* inscribe a Polyedron. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Gnomonic Polyhedron*, is a stone with several faces, whereon are projected various kinds of dials. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. vii. 181 Holding a pair of compasses, and by his side a Polyedron, composed of twelve pentagons. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. xii. 368 The little polyhedra become converted into laminæ.

fig. 1851 J. HAMILTON *Royal Preacher* xiv. (1854) 180 They are the polyhedrons of the Church, each punctilio of their own forming a several face.

b. *spec.* A lens having many facets, multiplying the image of an object; a multiplying-glass.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The eye, through a polyhedron, sees the object repeated as many times as there are sides. 1764 REID *Inquiry* VI. xii. (1801) 272 Instances wherein the same object may appear double, triple, or quadruple to one eye, without the help of a polyhedron or multiplying glass.

Polyhe·drous, *a.* Also **polyedrous.** [f. as POLYHEDRAL + -OUS.] = POLYHEDRAL.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 531 The same Object beheld through a Polyedrous Glass .. is thereby rendred Manifold to the Spectator. 1769 RASPE in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 582 Many of these are formed in polyedrous pillars. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 586 He not only sees double, but through the polyedrous eyes of a dragon-fly.

Polyhistor (pŏlihi·stǫr). Also **6 polihistor.** [a. Gr. *πολυΐστωρ* very learned, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *ἵστωρ* (see HISTORY).] A man of much or varied learning; a great scholar.

[1573–80 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 166 He hath bene countid heer..a *πολυΐστωρ*, and in deed is so commonly termid amongst us.] 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 63 In poets, philosophers, polihistors, antiquaries, philologers, schoolemen, and other learned discoursers. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 453 So great a polyhistor as Ioseph Scaliger. 1885 MASSON *Carlyle* ii. 63 Himself a polyhistor or accomplished universal scholar.

So **Polyhisto·rian** = *polyhistor*; **Polyhisto·ric** *a.*, of or pertaining to a polyhistor, widely erudite; **Polyhi·story,** the character or quality of a polyhistor, wide or varied learning.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. iii. 20 Alexander the *Polyhistorian cites this. 1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 808 He regrets the loss also of many Polyhistorians, as, Theopompus, Phavorinus, and Alexander Polyhistor. 1881 MASSON *De Quincey* xi. 137 Much of that *polyhistoric character, that multifariousness of out-of-the-way learning. 1819 J. RICHARDSON *Kant's Logic* 61 Mere *polyhistory is, so to say, learning which is cyclopic, or wants an eye—that of philosophy. 1869 A. W. WARD tr. *Curtius' Hist. Greece* II. iii. iii. 509 Sophistry..thus necessarily led to a vain and superficial polyhistory, such as was most fully represented in the person of Hippias of Elis.

Poly-laminated to **-lobular:** see POLY- 1.

Polyle, variant of PULLAILE *Obs.*, poultry.

Polylogy (pŏli·lŏdʒi). *rare.* Also **7 polu-.** [ad. Gr. *πολυλογία*, f. *πολυλόγος* loquacious: see POLY- and -LOGY.] Much speaking, loquacity. So **Poly·logize** *v. intr.* (*nonce-wd.*), to talk much.

1602 R. T. *Five Godlie Serm.* 287 Vsing Polulogies and Battologies that is vaine repetitions, and much babblings. 1621 T. GRANGER *On Eccles.* 115 Many words, (batologie or polylogie) .. are signes of a foole. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. ii, I have 'polylogized' quite long enough. 1890 *My Curates* 19 Mr. Slimmer's vigorous energy in polylogy (if I may coin a word).

Polyloquent to **-mastigous:** see POLY- 1.

Polymastodont (pŏlimæ·stŏdǫnt), *a.* and *sb. Palæont.* [f. mod.L. *Polymastodon, -ont-*, f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μαστός* breast, nipple + *ὀδούς* tooth: cf. MASTODON.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the genus *Polymastodon* or family *Polymastodontidæ* of small extinct N. American marsupials, having numerous tubercles on the molar teeth. **b.** *sb.* A marsupial of this genus or family.

Polymath (pŏ·limæþ), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 7 **polumathe.** [ad. Gr. *πολυμαθής* having learnt much, f. *πολυ-* much + *μαθ-*, stem of *μανθάνειν* to learn. So F. *polymathe.*] A person of much or varied learning; one acquainted with various subjects of study.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. (1676) 4/2 To be thought and held Polumathes and Polyhistors. *a* 1840 MOORE *Devil among Schol.* 7 The Polymaths and Polyhistors, Polyglots and all their sisters. 1855 M. PATTISON *Ess.* I. 290 He belongs to the class which German writers..have denominated 'Polymaths'. 1897 O. SMEATON *Smollett* ii. 30 One of the last of the mighty Scots polymaths.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Very learned.

1881 *Athenæum* 31 Sept. 300/3 [His] literary criticism..is generally judicious and free from 'polymath terminology'. 1893 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Dec. 657/1 A polymath headmaster.

So **Polyma·thic** *a.*, pertaining to a polymath, characterized by varied learning; † **Poly·mathist** = *polymath*; **Poly·mathy** [ad. Gr. *πολυμαθία*], much or varied learning, acquaintance with many branches of knowledge.

1828 WEBSTER, **Polymathic*, pertaining to polymathy. 1849 OTTÉ tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* II. 541 Necessity for a certain amount of polymathic learning. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 322 An Atlas of Learning, the only *Polymathist of the World. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. viii. 13 Polymathists, that stand poring..upon a moth-eaten Author. 1642 HARTLIB *Ref. Schools* 53 That high, and excellent learning, which men, for the large extent of it, call *Polymathie. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. ii. 88 Aristotle.. exhibits .. much of that polymathy which he transmitted to the Peripatetics generally. 1895 BENEKE *Comparetti's Vergil in Mid. Ages* 224 The tendency .. of the scholars of the time,..was entirely towards polymathy.

Polymatype (pŏ·limătəip). *Printing.* [a. F. *polymatype*, arbitrary f. POLY- + TYPE *sb.*] A method, now disused, of casting a large number of types at one operation. Also *attrib.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 416 Didot's polymatype mould, made to cast fifty types at one operation.

† **Polyme·chany.** *Obs. rare.* Also **poli-.** [ad. Gr. *πολυμηχανία* fullness of resources, inventiveness, f. *πολυμήχανος* adj., f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μηχανή* contrivance, MACHINE.] Multifarious contrivance or invention.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 230 In actuall Experimentes, and polymechany, nothing too-profound.

Polymely (pŏli·mĭli). *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *polymelia*, f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μέλος* limb.] The occurrence of supernumerary or redundant limbs or members, as a monstrosity. So **Polyme·lian** *a.*, exhibiting polymely.

1890 *Cent. Dict., Polymelian..Polymely.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1899 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 857 *note* (Cassell *Suppl.*), New growths comparable to the bifid or trifid regenerated tails of Lizards, and to the polydactyly and even polymely arising from mutilations in Batrachians.

Polymeni·scous, *a.* [f. POLY- + MENISCUS + -OUS.] Composed of many lenses, as the eye of an insect.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 492 (*Arthropoda*) A polymeniscous eye. 1899 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* xiv. 304 They have only one lense (monomeniscous), whereas the compound forms have many lenses (polymeniscous).

Polymer (pŏ·limər). *Chem.* [mod. (Berzelius, 1830) f. Gr. *πολυμερ-ής* having many parts, manifold, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μέρος* part, share; so mod.F. *polymère* adj. See ISOMER.] A substance polymeric with another; any one of a series of polymeric compounds.

1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 314 Cyanuric Acid.., This polymer of cyanic acid is a solid crystalline substance formed on heating urea. 1889 CROLL *Stellar Evol.* 95 The bodies thus formed are known as polymers.

Polymeric (pŏlime·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IC, after Ger. *polymerisch* (Berzelius, 1830).] Of two or more compounds, or of one compound in relation to another (const. *with*): Composed of the same elements in the same proportions, but so that the numbers of atoms of the several elements in the molecule in one substance are some multiple of those in another, and thus the molecular weight of the one is the same multiple of that of the other. (Distinguished from ISOMERIC.)

1847 TURNER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) 175 The second case of isomerism is that of bodies in which, while the relative proportion of the elements are the same, the absolute number of atoms of each element, and consequently the equivalent or atomic weights of the compounds, differ... Such compounds are called polymeric. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 265 Olefiant gas and cetene are polymeric bodies. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 233 Asserted to be polymeric with bilirubin.

Polymeride (pŏ·limĕrəid). *Chem.* [f. as POLYMER + -IDE.] = POLYMER.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. i. 5 The formation of isomerides, metamerides, and polymerides..can only be accounted for by supposing that differences of chemical arrangement occur in these different cases. 1864 H. SPENCER *Biol.* I. 10 Essential oil of turpentine being converted into a mixture of several of these polymerides, by simple exposure to a heat of 460°.

Polymerism (pŏ·limĕriz'm). [f. as POLYMER + -ISM; cf. F. *polymérisme.*]

1. *Chem.* The condition of being polymeric.

1847 TURNER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) 679 It is by the assumption of compound radicals, that we are enabled to explain the numerous cases of isomerism and polymerism which occur in organic chemistry. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* viii. (ed. 2) 265 The former case Berzelius has distinguished by the term polymerism; the latter, by that of metamerism. 1882 STALLO *Concepts Mod. Physics* 302 This rule applies..likewise to cases of allotropy and polymerism.

2. *Biol.* The condition of being polymerous.

1849 CRAIG, *Polymerism*, the state of monstrosity in which an animal or plant is characterized by the presence of a multiplicity of parts. 1871 ALLMAN *Monogr. Gymnoblastic Hydroids* I. p. xiv, Polymerism... Simple multiplicity of the component zooids of the colony.

Polymerize (pŏ·limĕrəiz), *v.* [f. as POLYMER + -IZE.]

1. *Chem.* **a.** *trans.* To render polymeric; to form a polymer of. **b.** *intr.* To become polymeric; to be converted into a polymer.

1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 247 That..two molecules of the same body, when formed side by side, shall become polymerized or dimerized into a compound of double equivalent weight. 1883 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 447/3 M. Berthelot..is led to suspect that .. the various kinds of carbon which occur in nature are in reality polymerized products of the true element carbon.

2. *Biol.* (*trans.*) To render polymerous.

1879 W. DITTMAR in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 98/1 *note*, The vibriones are seemingly nothing more than polymerized bacteria, with intensified powers of locomotion. With regard to their position in the world of life, present evidence leaves it uncertain whether they are plants or animals.

Hence **Poly·meriza·tion,** the action or process of polymerizing; formation of polymers.

1880 *Nature* XXIII. 193/2 This one fundamental form yields our ordinary elements and many others by ordinary polymerisation. 1900 *Nation* (N.Y.) 10 May 366/2 That the same matter exists everywhere throughout the stellar system in a few different grades of evolution—that is, of polymerization and combinations of polymers—depending upon the temperature to which it is subjected.

Po·lymerone. *Chem. rare.* [a. F. *polymérone* (Laurent), f. as POLYMER + -ONE a.] An organic compound constituted of two or more aplones or simple groups of molecules, as salicin, $= C_6H_{12}O_6 + C_7H_2O_2 - H_2O$. Also *attrib.*

1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 30 We regard highly complex or polymerone bodies as compounds formed by the union of less complex or aplone bodies with one another. *Ibid.* 83 Capable of entering into combination with one another .. to form still more numerous and complicated polymerone bodies.

Polymerosomatous (pŏ·limĕrǫsō·mătǫs), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *polymerosōmātus* (f. Gr. *πολυ-μερής* having many parts + *σῶμα* (*σωματ-*) body) + -OUS.] Having the body composed of many segments, as in the order of *Arachnida* containing the scorpions and allied animals.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polymerosomatus*, applied by Leach to an Order (*Polymerosomata*) of the *Arachnides Cephalotomata*, having the body formed of a long series of rings: polymerosomatous.

Polymerous (pŏ·limĕrǫs), *a.* [f. as POLYMER + -OUS.]

1. *Nat. Hist.* Composed of many parts, members, or segments.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polymerus*,..applied by Blainville to the *Chetopoda*, which have numerous articulations: polymerous. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 915 *Polymerous*, consisting of many parts. 1869 *Student* II. 12 Polymerous leaves are those in which the bundles anastomose once or more between their two extremities. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 71 In these regions the leucocytes were mainly polymerous or multinuclear.

2. *Chem.* = POLYMERIC. *rare*—0.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Polymetallism to **-microscope:** see POLY- 1.

Polymeter (pŏli·mĭtəɹ). [mod. f. POLY- + -METER: in F. *polymètre.*] A technical or trade name given to various measuring devices.

Among these are: **a.** 'An instrument for measuring angles' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875). **b.** An apparatus for testing the distance between railway rails, and detecting inequalities of elevation [= F. *polymètre*, of Couturier 1879]. **c.** A form of hygrometer with thermometer and tables of dew-points, etc., attached (Funk's *Stand. Dict.*).

Polymignite (pŏlimi·gnəit). *Min.* [Named by Berzelius, 1824, f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μιγνύναι* to mix + -ITE 1.] A rare mineral, containing the oxides of titanium, zirconium, yttrium, iron, cerium, calcium, manganese, and other metals; occurring in thin slender black crystals with submetallic lustre.

1826 *Thomson's Ann.* XI. 23, I have named it Polymignite, from the multiplicity of its elements. 1892 DANA *Min.* (ed. 6) 743 The axial ratios of polymignite and æschynite are closely similar.

† Po·lymite, polimite, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *poli-, polymite*, ad. late L. *poly-, polimitus* of many colours (Vulg. *Gen.* xxxvii. 3, tr. Gr. *ποικίλος* in LXX), a. Gr. *πολύμιτος* composed of many threads.] Woven of many different, or different-coloured, threads; many-coloured, as a garment.

c 1410 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* MS. Soc. Antiq. 134 lf. 13 (Halliw.) Of 3onge Josephe the cote polimite [= Vulg. *tunicam polymitam*] Wrou3te by the power of alle the Trinite. 1412–20 — *Chron. Troy* III. xxii. (1555), Though my wede be not pollymyte As of coloures forth I wyll endyte. [1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* i. 3 So as to work the cloths called polymita.]

† Po·lymix, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *polymixe* (Rabelais), ad. L. *polymixos* (Martial), f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μύξα* lamp-nozzle.] Having many wicks.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxxiii, Martial's Polymix Lantern made a very good Figure there. [1832 GELL *Pompeiana* I. vi. 94 Names expressive of the number of burners, as..polymixi.]

Polymorph (pŏ·limɔ̄f). [mod. f. Gr. *πολύμορφ-os* of many forms, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μορφή* form. Cf. F. *polymorphe* adj. multiform.]

1. *Nat. Hist.* A polymorphous organism, or an individual of a polymorphous species.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polymorph*, a name given by Soldani to a numerous tribe or series of shells, which are very small, irregular and singular in form, and which cannot be referred to any known genus. *Dict. Nat. Hist.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Polymorph*, one of a series the members of which are characterised by *Polymorphism*.

2. *Chem.* and *Min.* A substance that crystallizes in two or more different forms: see POLYMORPHOUS 3. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

3. *Biol.* A polymorpho-nuclear leucocyte.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 583 The polymorpho-nuclear neutrophiles, or as I shall call them for the sake of brevity, polymorphs...There is no relation between the transitionals and the polymorphs. *Ibid.* 584 They [transitionals] are not increased in number in the blood in a polymorph leucocytosis.

Polymorphean, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. as POLYMORPH, after words in *-ean*.] = POLYMORPHOUS 1.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polymorphean*, of many forms or fashions. 1658 in PHILLIPS. 1874 tr. *Lange's Comm. Zeph.* 30 The polymorphean practics of error.

Polymorphic (pŏlimɔ̄·rfik), *a.* [f. as POLYMORPH + -IC.]

1. Multiform; = POLYMORPHOUS 1.

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 49 Every animal was a symbol or form of the great polymorphic deity. *Ibid.* III. 642 The polymorphic images of the principal hero-god. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Apr. 5/1 Other varieties of independent fancy, in which word-twisting scholars have chosen to discover but the one polymorphic and elusive sun-god.

2. *Nat. Hist.*, etc. = POLYMORPHOUS 2.

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1860) 46 Genera which have been called 'protean' or 'polymorphic', in which the species present an inordinate amount of variation. 1881 *Gard. Chron.* XVI. 621 Polymorphic states of a Phoma. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 416 The shape of the nucleus is constantly undergoing variation, for which reason it is generally described as polymorphic.

Polymorphism (pŏlimɔ̄·rfiz'm). [f. as POLYMORPH + -ISM; so F. *polymorphisme*.] The condition or character of being polymorphous; the occurrence of something in several different forms.

1. *gen.*: cf. POLYMORPHOUS 1.

1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 699 The various portraits of her majesty astonish by their perplexing poly- or heteromorphism. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* iii. (1872) 112 This polymorphism of the Christian character .. secures the charm and the contrast of an endless variety.

2. *Nat. Hist.*, etc.: cf. POLYMORPHOUS 2.

1857 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 101 The perplexing subject of polymorphism. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 4 What is now known of the polymorphism of fungi. 1899 CAGNEY tr. *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* i. (ed. 4) 56 The plague bacillus exhibits an unusual degree of polymorphism.

3. *Chem.* and *Min.*: cf. POLYMORPHOUS 3.

1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. vii. 400 *note*, The difficulties introduced into the study of minerals by the discovery of isomorphism and polymorphism. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 83 Dimorphism and trimorphism are particular cases of polymorphism.

Polymorphi·stic, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ISTIC.] Of or relating to polymorphism.

1897 *Nat. Science* Aug. 107 We find in Kützing the belief that lower algae transform themselves into higher forms, even into moss-protonema. Hitherto these polymorphistic ideas..have not succeeded in establishing themselves.

Polymorpho-, combining form repr. Gr. *πολύμορφος* multiform (cf. POLYMORPHIC, POLYMORPHOUS): in **Polymorpho-ce·llular** *a.*, 'composed of cells of various shapes' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895); **Polymorpho-nu·clear, -nu·cleate** *adjs.*, having several nuclei of various shapes.

1901 *Lancet* 23 Mar. 848/1 A leucocytic count now gave: large mononuclear, 24 per cent.; small mononuclear, 10 per cent.; and polymorphonuclear, 66 per cent. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 June 1606 The polymorphonuclear leucocytes are essentially derived from the bone marrow. 1904 *Ibid.* 10 Sept. 560 The polymorpho-nucleate cell.

Polymorphous (pŏlimɔ̄·rfŏs), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολύμορφ-os* (f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μορφή* shape) multiform + *-ους*.] Having, assuming, or occurring in, many or various forms; multiform.

1. *gen.*

1823 DE QUINCEY *Herder* Wks. 1863 XII. 116, I still find it difficult to form any judgment of an author so 'many-sided' (to borrow a German expression)—so polymorphous as Herder. 1888 M. THOMPSON in *Literature* (N. Y.) 22 Sept. 330 Hayne .. did not take kindly to that flexible, elastic, polymorphous vehicle through which .. our later poets deliver their imaginings. 1894 ABP. BENSON in *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Sept. 1898, 1/3 These terrors of a polymorphous religion in which a child is being taught in one standard by a Baptist, and in the next by a Congregationalist, and in the next by a Roman Catholic, and in the next by an agnostic, do not exist.

2. *Nat. Hist., Biol., Path.* a. Having or occurring in several different forms in different individuals, or in different conditions of growth; having many varieties: as a species of animal or plant, the zooids of a compound organism, an eruptive disease etc. b. Assuming various forms successively; of changing form: as an amœba, infusorian, etc. c. Passing through several markedly different forms in successive stages of development; having several definitely marked metamorphoses.

1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxv. (1794) 368 There is a species of Medicago called polymorphous or many-form. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 447 Infusoria. Microscopic animals, gelatinous, transparent, polymorphous, and contractile. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 56 Stentor...Body conical, from its contractility polymorphous. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 55 The polymorphous erythemata. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 636 A polymorphous eruption accompanied by itching.

3. *Chem.* and *Min.* Crystallizing in two or more forms, esp. in forms belonging to different systems; dimorphous or trimorphous.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 687 *Polymorphism.* A body is said to be polymorphous when it crystallises in two or more forms not derivable one from the other.

4. *Mus.* Applied to contrapuntal compositions in which the subjects are treated in various ways, as by inversion, augmentation, diminution, etc.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 in STAINER & BARRETT *Dict.*

Polymorphy (pŏ·limɔ̄fi). [ad. Gr. *πολυμορφία* multiformity: see POLYMORPHOUS and -Y; so F. *polymorphie*.] = POLYMORPHISM.

1846 WORCESTER, *Polymorphy*, state of having many forms. *Ec. Rev.* 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 185 Two distinct kinds of phenomena have been grouped under the term 'polymorphy'.

Poly-mountain: see POLY c.

Polymyarian (pŏ·limə̇i,ə̇·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polymyārii-* pl. (Schneider) (f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μῦς, μῡ-* muscle + *-ari-us*: see -ARY¹) + -AN.] a. *adj.* Belonging to the section *Polymyarii* of Nematode worms, having many muscle-cells in each quadrant of the body. b. *sb.* A worm of this section.

Polymyodian (pŏ·li,mə̇i,ə̇·diăn), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Polymȳōdi* pl. (Müller 1847) (irreg. f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μῦς* muscle + *ᾠδή* song) + -AN; cf. MESOMYODIAN.] Belonging to the division *Polymyodi* of passerine birds, having numerous muscles of the syrinx or 'song-muscles': corresponding to OSCINES 2. Also (erron.) **Polymy·oid** *a.*

1867 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 471 In no one of them does the structure of the skull differ so much from that of a typical polymyodian Coracomorph (e.g. one of the Corvidæ) as does that of the also polymyodian Coccothraustes.

Polymyositis: see POLY- 1.

Polymythy (pŏ·limi,bi). [ad. mod.L. *polymȳthia*, f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *μῦθος* fable, story + *-ia*, -Y: cf. Gr. *πολύμῡθος* wordy, full of story.] Combination of a number of stories in one narrative or dramatic work.

[1725 POPE *Odyssey* I. *View Epic Poem* iv. p. xii, This Multiplication cannot be call'd a vicious and irregular *Polymythia*.] 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Polymythy*,..a multiplicity of fables in an epic or dramatic poem. 1879 *N. Shaks. Soc. Trans.* 46* Polymythy..in Shakespeare's Dramatic Poems.

Polyneme (pŏ·linēm). [ad. mod.L. *Polynēm-us* (Gronovius 1754), f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *νῆμα* thread.] A fish of the genus *Polynemus* or family *Polynemidæ*, found in tropical seas, and characterized by having the lower part of each pectoral fin divided into a number of slender rays. So **Polyne·miform** *a.*, having the form or structure of a polyneme; **Polyne·moid** *a.*, resembling a polyneme; *sb.* a polynemoid fish.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polyneme...Pennant.*

Polynesia (pŏlinē·ʃiă, -siă). [mod.L. form of F. *Polynésie* (De Brosses 1756), f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *νῆσος* island.

(It has been asserted that the name had been used by certain authors two centuries before De Brosses. This is an error, app. founded on the circumstance that De Brosses in the *Table des Articles* of his *Histoire*, arranges the voyages under his three heads of *Magellanie*, *Australie*, and *Polynésie*, and also uses these designations in the headings which he prefixes to the narratives themselves, in the originals of which no such terms occur. These headings are retained by Callander in his *Terra Australis*, 1766 (an unacknowledged transl. of De Brosses).]

Collective name for the numerous small islands in the Pacific Ocean, east of Australia and the Malay archipelago (or, in restricted sense, for those east of Melanesia and Micronesia). Hence allusively.

[1756 DE BROSSES *Hist. Navig. aux Terres Australes* Pref. 2 La division de la terre australe y étoit faite [i.e. in a memoir previously read by De Brosses to a private literary society, which formed the germ of his *Histoire*], relativement à ces trois mers, en Magellanique, Polynésie et Australasie. *Ibid.* vi, Surtout dans la Polynésie.] 1766 J. CALLANDER *Terra Australis Cognita* I. 49 We [i. e. De Brosses] call the third division *polynesia*, being composed of all those islands, which are found dispersed in the vast Pacific Ocean. *Ibid.* 73 (*Heading*) Ferdinand Magellan to Magellanica and Polynesia [DE BROSSES I. 121 Ferdinand Magellan en Magellanique & en Polynésie]. 1815 TUCKEY *Maritime Geog.* IV. 1842 M. RUSSELL *Polynesia* i. 22 The name Polynesia was first applied to this interesting portion of the globe by the learned President de Brosses, in his *History of Navigation.*

fig. 1889 *Cornh. Mag.* July 69 On the floor a polynesia of spittoons in a sea of sawdust.

Polynesian (pŏlinē·ʃiăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. POLYNESIA + -AN; cf. F. *polynésien*.] a. *adj.* Belonging to Polynesia. b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Polynesia, a South Sea islander.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polynesian*, pertaining to Polynesia. 1842 M. RUSSELL *Polynesia* i. 33 The Indo-Americans and Polynesians are one people. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* II. xxxviii. 458 The possibility of an early communication between South America and the Polynesian world. 1899 ELLA in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* XXIX. 158 Tongues of mixed Polynesian and Melanesian origin.

Polynesic (pŏlinē·sik), *a. Path.* [f. as POLYNESIA + -IC.] Occurring in insulated patches.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 50 Multilocular sclerosis, Polynesic sclerosis.

Polyneuritis: see POLY- 1.

‖ Polynia (poli·niă). Also **-nya.** [Russ. полынья *polŭinya* a rotten place in the ice, an open place amidst ice, f. root of *pole*, *polyana* field.] A space of open water in the midst of ice, esp. in the arctic seas.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 544 It is an annulus, a ring surrounding an area of open water—the Polynya, or Iceless Sea. 1856 — *Arct. Expl.* I. xx. 244 The streamholes (stromhols) of the Greenland coast, the polynia of the Russians. 1870 J. K. LAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* iv. 235 Adm. Von Wrangell found open water—or what is now often called a 'Polynia', an open sea. 1894 CAPT. F. G. JACKSON *Thous. Days in Arctic* (1899) I. 39 Lay all day in a 'polynia'.

Polynoid (pŏ·linoid), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polynoidæ*, pl. f. generic name *Polynoë* (Savigny *Système des Annélides*, 1809), f. Gr. Πολυνόη, name of one of the Nereids or sea-nymphs of Greek mythology: cf. *πολύνοος* much thinking, thoughtful. See -ID.] a. *adj.* Belonging or allied to the genus *Polynoë* (poli·nŏi) of polychæte worms, having a flat body covered with a series of plates or elytra. b. *sb.* A polynoid worm.

1896 *Camb. Nat. Hist.* II. 262 Probably the typical number [of tentacles] is three .. as in Polynoids, Syllidæ, and some Eunicidæ.

Polynome (pŏ·linōm), *sb.* and *a. rare.* Also **-nom.** [Back formation f. next.]

A. *sb.* = POLYNOMIAL B. 1.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polynome*, in *Algebra*, a quantity consisting of many terms. 1868 SANDEMAN *Pelicotetics* 113 A polynome is said to be homogeneous of which all the terms are homogeneous.

B. *adj.* Having many names.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 130 His father was as well known as polynom Wellesley.

Polynomial (pŏlinō·miăl), *a.* and *sb.* [Hybrid f. POLY- after BINOMIAL (irreg. f. L. *nōmen* name).]

A. *adj.* 1. *Alg.* Consisting of many terms; multinomial. *Polynomial theorem* (also called *multinomial theorem*): an extension of the binomial theorem, for the expansion of any power of a polynomial expression.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polynomial*, or *Multinomial Roots*, in Mathematicks, are such as are composed of many Nomes, Parts or Members; as, $a+b+d+c$. 1706 in PHILLIPS.

2. Consisting of, or characterized by, many names or terms: as the old scientific nomenclature in which species were denoted by names of more than two terms, or any modern nomenclature in which the genus, species, sub-species, variety, etc. are indicated by a number of terms (instead of only the genus and species by two terms: see BINOMIAL A. 2).

1828 WEBSTER, *Polynomial*, containing many names or terms.

B. *sb.* 1. *Alg.* An expression consisting of many terms; a multinomial.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 273 Those knit together by both Signs are called..by some Multinomials, or Polynomials, that is, many named. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., To raise a polynomial to any given power, may be done by Sir Isaac Newton's binomial theorem. *c* 1865 in *Circ. Sc.* I. 481/1 We conclude that the polynomial is not a square. 1906 *Athenæum* 19 May 613/3 The Expansion of Polynomials in Series of Functions.

2. A scientific name consisting of many terms (see A. 2).

1885 *Nature* XXXI. 413/1 Trinomials—that is the usage of three names, of which the last is that of the sub-species—are in great favour...Quadrinomials and Polynomials must necessarily follow.

Hence **Polyno·mialism,** a system of polynomial nomenclature; **Polyno·mialist,** one who uses or favours polynomial nomenclature.

Polynomic (pŏlinǫ·mik), *a. rare.* [f. POLYNOME + -IC.] = POLYNOMIAL A. 1, 2.

1868 SANDEMAN *Pelicotetics* 112 The symbolized result of ..a Polynomic Expression or Polynome in *x*. 1898 *Nature* 1 Dec. 114/2 To make a polynomic terminology of members run parallel with a polyphyletic development.

Polynuclear to **-ommatous**: see POLY- 1.

Polyodont (pǫ·lĭi,ŏdǫnt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Polyodon, -ont-* (Lacépède 1798), generic name, ad. Gr. πολυόδους, -οδοντ- having many teeth, f. πολυ-, POLY- + ὀδοντ- stem of ὄδους tooth; so F. *polyodonte.*] **a.** *adj.* Having many teeth; *spec.* belonging to the genus *Polyodon* or family *Polyodontidæ* of fishes, which in the young state have numerous crowded teeth. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this genus or family.

Polyonym (pǫ·lĭi,ŏnim). *rare.* [ad. Gr. πολυώνυμ-ος: see POLYONYMOUS.]

1. Each of a number of different words having the same meaning; = SYNONYM. *rare* or *Obs.*

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 241/1 The Stoics wished to substitute the term polyonyms for that of synonyms, and no reader of Plato will need to be reminded of the banter with which Prodicus is more than once assailed on account of his lectures on synonyms.

2. Proposed by Coues for: A scientific name (of a species, etc.) consisting of more than three terms.

1884 COUES in *Auk* Oct. 321, I would therefore suggest and recommend as follows:—.. *Polyonym.* An onym consisting of more than three terms.

3. Used by Buck for a technical term consisting of two or more words, as *pia mater, ascending vena cava.*

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 518/1 There are two methods of securing mononyms from pre-existing polyonyms: A. By the omission of unessential words...B. By the compounding of two or more of the separate words. *Ibid.* 524/1 In reducing polyonyms to mononyms the retained word should be as distinctive as possible.

So **Polyo·nymal,** *a.* = POLYNOMIAL A. 2; **Polyo·nymist** = POLYNOMIALIST.

Polyonymic (pǫlĭi,ŏni·mik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of the nature of a polyonym or name consisting of several words.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 516/2 The conversion of the polyonymic, simile name into one which is mononymic and metaphorical, may commonly be effected by omitting the common noun and reducing the adjective to the substantive from which it was derived.

Polyonymous (pǫlĭǫ·nimǝs), *a.* Also 9 *erron.* **-onomous.** [f. Gr. πολυώνυμος having many names (f. πολυ-, POLY- + ὄνομα, Æol. ὄννυμα name) + -OUS: cf. *anonymous.*] Having many names or titles; called or known by several different names.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 477 The supreme God amongst the Pagans was polyonymous, and worshipped under several personal names. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 97 That polyonymous officer aforesaid. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ccix. (1848) 565/2 The polyonomous Arabian philosopher Zechariah Ben Mohammed Ben Mahmud Al Camuni Al Cazvini. 1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise Christendom* 469 Their mysterious and polyonymous ancestry.

b. Applied to the various names given to the same thing. (Usually *synonymous.*) *rare*—1.

'Συνώνυμα were called πολυώνυμα by the Peripatetics' (Liddell & Scott s. v. πολυώνυμος).

1856 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) II. xvi. 52 The large proportion of .. polyonymous terms by which every ancient language is characterized.

Polyonymy (pǫlĭǫ·nĭmi). Also 9 *erron.* **-onomy.** [ad. Gr. πολυωνυμία a multitude of names, f. πολυώνυμ-ος: see prec. and -Y.]

1. The use of several different names for the same person or thing; variety of names or titles (esp. in ancient mythology).

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* Pref., The Many Pagan, Poetical and Political Gods,.. prove them Really to have been, but the Polyonymy of one God. 1803 G. S. FABER *Cabiri* I. 177 Remarks on the polyonymy of the solar Noah. 1895 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 227 The Normans .. had .. a system of polyonomy which led to much confusion.

2. The use of a designation consisting of several names; the use of scientific names consisting of more than two terms or words, to denote species, varieties, etc., of animals or plants; polynomial nomenclature.

‖ **Polyopia** (pǫlĭi,ōu·pĭă). *Path.* Also in anglicized form **po·lyopy.** [mod.L., f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + ὤψ, ὠπ- eye: cf. *amblyopia, diplopia, myopia.*] An affection of the eyes in which one object is seen as two or more; multiple vision.

1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, Polyopy. 1879 P. SMITH *Glaucoma* 75 The effect upon the refraction was such as to produce polyopia. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 107 Monocular diplopia, that is the seeing of two or even of more (polyopia) images with one eye.

So ‖ **Polyo·psia** [Gr. -ὀψια, from ὄψις sight] = POLYOPIA.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Polyopsia,* ..vision is so called, when multiple. 1896 BALDWIN tr. *Binet's Alt. Personality* 67 On the left the field of vision is normal. Further, there is achromatopsia and monocular polyopsia.

‖ **Polyoptron** (pǫlĭǫ·ptrŏn), **-um** (-ŭm). [mod. L., f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + -οπτρον, naming instruments of sight: see DIOPTER.] An optical instrument through which objects appear multiplied; a multiplying-glass (see quot. 1842). Cf. POLYSCOPE 1.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Polyoptrum,* ..a glass through which objects appear multiplied, but diminished. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Polyoptron,* in Optics, a glass through which objects appear multiplied, but diminished. It consists of a lens one side of which is plane, but in the other are ground several spherical concavities.

Polyorama to **Polyoxygen**: see POLY-.

Polyose (pǫ·lĭ,ōus). *Chem.* [f. POLY- + -OSE 2.] A general term for those carbohydrates in which the complex molecule contains several groups of sugar-molecules.

1900 *Nature* 15 Mar. 462/1 The complex polyoses, such as starch and cellulose.

Polyp, polype (pǫ·lip). Forms: 5 **polippe,** 6 **polipe,** 7 **polip,** 7– **polype, polyp.** See also POULP. [a. F. *polype* (*polipe,* v. r. *polpe* in Brun. Lat. 13th c.), ad. L. *polyp-us*: see POLYPUS.]

†**1.** *Zool.* Properly, an animal having many feet or foot-like processes: but in use restricted to certain organisms, not all answering to this description. † **a.** *orig.* A cephalopod having eight or ten arms or tentacles, as an octopus or a cuttle-fish; = POULP (F. *poulpe*). *Obs.*

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 257 The Polipe chaunge themselues into the likenesse of euerie obiect. 1590 LODGE *Euphues' Gold. Leg.* (Hunter. Cl.) 12 Their passions are as momentarie as the colours of a Polipe, which changeth at the sight of euerie obiect. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 10 Beeing himselfe more variable then the Polyp. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.* s. v., Inconstant persons are sometimes said to be Polypes. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 108 The Preak (by some called the Polyp). 1752 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 462 The great sea polype (which is eaten in Lent in the Mediterranean).

b. In later use, widely applied to various animals of low organization; chiefly to cœlenterates of different classes, esp. a hydra or other hydrozoan, a 'coral-insect' or other anthozoan; also to the polyzoa, to certain echinoderms, and loosely to rotifers, infusorians, etc. **c.** Many of the above being compound or 'colonial' organisms, the term is hence used *spec.* for a single individual, 'person', or zooid of the colony (also POLYPIDE, POLYPITE).

1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. v. 97 A Creature called Polype found adhering to the Lens Palustris. 1743 — in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 616, I chuse a Polype to my Mind, and put it in a small convex Lens with a Drop of Water. 1752 WATSON *ibid.* XLVII. 467 There are some species of the polype of the madrepora, which are produced singly, others in clusters. 1754 BRANDER *ibid.* XLVIII. 806 The polyp is an animal of the vermicular kind. 1788 SMITH *ibid.* LXXVIII. 163 But their animated flowers or polypes, in which the essence of their being resides, are endued with both these properties in an high degree. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) App. 232 The simplest form of polype is that of a fleshy bag open at one end, surmounted by a circle of contractile threads or fingers called tentacles. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 8 A 6th primary group..Cœlenterata, contains all sea-anemones, jelly-fishes, Portuguese men-of-war, and all polyps. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 98 These are Polypes, the brown ones belonging to the species termed *Hydra fusca,* the green to that called *H. viridis.* 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xv. 256 The growth of the coral polypes. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefages' Hum. Spec.* I Polyps were long regarded as plants. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 726 The zooids are sometimes dimorphic and then are known as autozooids (= polypes).

fig. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 41 The polype of human happiness, though cut in pieces and turned inside out, still lives, and applies itself to multiply and grow.

2. *Path.* = POLYPUS 2. *rare.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 19 In doynge awey polippis [*v.r.* polippes] þat is fleisch þat growiþ wiþinne þe nose. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 35 The iuice healeth the polip in the nose. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 823 When a polyp exists at the apex of the intussusceptum, it forms..a very definite impediment to reduction.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *polyp-bearer, -cell, -colony, -cup,* † *-fish* (= 1 a), *-mass*; **polyp-stem, -stock,** the stem, stock, or common support of a compound polyp; = POLYPARY, POLYPIDOM; † **polyp-stone,** app. some precious stone supposed to change colour like the 'polyp' (see 1 a).

1846 DANA *Zooph.* ii. (1848) 15 *note,* Polypifer, polypary, and polypidom, signifying *polyp-bearer, or a hive or house of polyps. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 22 The stem is covered with one continuous living membrane, in which are the *polype-cells. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 182 Nine to twelve lamellæ meet at each *polyp-centre. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* x. 214 The parent *polype-cup. *a* 1618 DAVIES *Wittes Pilgr.* G j, The *Polipp Fishe sitts all the Winter longe Stock-still, through Slouthe. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 20 A community, forming altogether a *polype-mass, variable in form, and strengthened in different ways. 1884 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 99 In larger specimens the length of the nectostem is about one-third that of the *polypstem. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 77 Comparing them to the *Polipe stone, that chaungeth colours euery houre.

Polypage to **Polyparous**: see POLY- 1.

Polypary (pǫ·lipări). Also 9 in Lat. form **polyparium** (pǫlipē·rĭǝm), pl. **-ia**; erron. sing. **polyparia,** pl. **-iæ.** [ad. mod.L. *polypārium,* f. *polypus* POLYP + -ARIUM.] The common stem, stock, or supporting structure of a colony of polyps (see POLYP 1 c), to which the individual zooids are attached, usually each in a cell or cavity of its own; also called POLYPIDOM.

1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 107 The size and shape of this polypary is sufficiently seen in Fig. A. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. v. 166 A fixed calcareous house or polypary as it is called consisting often of innumerable cells. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cœlent.* 85 The firm horny layer, or polypary, which the cœnosarc excretes in *Tubularia* and its allies. 1872 DANA *Corals* i. 17 Science is hardly yet rid of such terms as polypary, polypidom, which imply that each coral is the constructed hive or house of a swarm of polyps. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 131/1 The superficial portion of the polyparium. 1880 H. S. COOPER *Coral Lands* I. iii. 24 Polyparia are composed of two separate parts.

Hence **Polyparian** (pǫlipēə·rĭăn) *a.*, of or pertaining to a polypary.

Poly·pean, *a. rare.* [f. L. *polyp-us* POLYP + *-ean,* after L. adjs. in *-eus*: see -AN.] Pertaining to, or resembling that of, a polyp.

1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 110 Dividing their discourses into heads—Cerberean, Polypean, and Hydraform. 1825 *Ibid.* XIII. 212 His polypean power was in his faculty of reproduction.

Polyped: see POLY- 1.

Po·lypetal, *a.* and *sb. Bot. rare.* [ad. F. *polypétale* (1732), or ad. mod.L. *polypetal-us* (fem. pl. *-petalæ,* Tournefort 1694), f. Gr. πολυ-, POLY- + πέταλ-ον leaf, PETAL.] **a.** *adj.* = POLYPETALOUS. **b.** *sb.* A polypetalous plant.

[1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* II. iii. (1765) 79 Polypetala is expressive of such Plants as have many Petals.] 1802 *Ann. Reg.* 761/2 It is of the genus of the polypetal plants. 1882 G. ALLEN *Colours Flowers* iii. 63 They [Geraniaceæ] are on the whole a comparatively high family of polypetals.

Polypetalous (pǫlipe·tălǝs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *polypetal-us* (see prec.) + -OUS.]

1. *Bot.* Literally, Having many petals; but commonly used for: Having the petals distinct or separate, not coherent or united. Also *apopetalous, choripetalous, dialypetalous, eleutheropetalous.* Opp. to *monopetalous* or *gamopetalous.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polypetalous Flower,* is the Term in Botany for the Flower of a Plant which consists of more than six distinct Flower-leaves set round to form it; and which fall off singly. 1767 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 427 Pedunculated flowers, or fruit, with their polypetalous cups. 1881 GRIFFITHS in *Science Gossip* No. 203. 248 The calyx is polysepalous and inferior; the corolla is polypetalous and hypogynous.

2. *nonce-use.* Having many leaves, as a book.

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 431 The polypetalous tomes of an encyclopædia.

‖ **Polyphagia** (pǫlifē·dʒiă). Rarely in anglicized form **polyphagy** (pǫ·lifădʒi). [mod.L., a. Gr. πολυφαγία, f. πολυφάγος: see POLYPHAGOUS. So F. *polyphagie.*]

1. *Phys.* and *Path.* Excessive eating, or desire for eating; voracious or ravenous appetite, esp. as a morbid symptom.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Polyphagia,* the taking much Aliment. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 285 Cit. Percy .. concludes from the numerous examples of Polyphagy which he has collected, that the unhappy subjects of it most frequently find the end of their miseries in death before the age of forty years. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 474 The polyphagia which attends diabetes thus becomes a cause of dilatation.

2. *Zool.* The habit of feeding on various kinds of food; polyphagous character. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

So † **Po·lyphage,** *Obs., rare*—0 [cf. F. *polyphage*], one who eats much or to excess; **Polypha·gian** *a.*, eating much; *sb.* = prec.; **Polyphagic** (-fæ·dʒik) *a.* = POLYPHAGOUS; **Poly·phagist,** one who eats much, or who eats many kinds of food.

1623 COCKERAM, **Poliphage,* an extraordinarie eater. 1658 PHILLIPS, **Polyphagian,*..one that eats much, a great feeder. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIII. 481 Without possessing his polyphagian powers. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polyphagic.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1819 *Sporting Mag.* V. 15 All the *polyphagists, or general devourers,..are superseded by the famous Tarrare.

Polyphagous (pǫli·făgǝs), *a.* [f. L. *polyphag-us* (a. Gr. πολυφάγος (Hippocrates) eating to excess, f. πολυ-, POLY- + -φάγος eating) + -OUS: see -PHAGOUS.] Eating much, voracious; *Zool.* feeding upon various kinds of food.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 30 Some larvæ are polyphagous, or feed upon a variety of plants. 1838 J. G. MILLINGEN *Curios. Med. Exper.* (1839) 196 Dr. Boehmen..witnessed the performance of one of these polyphagous individuals, who commenced his repast by eating a raw sheep. 1879 tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 51 Polyphagous creatures, which eat a variety of food or even anything that comes in their way.

Polyphagy: see POLYPHAGIA.

Polyphant (pǫ·lifănt). Properly **Pollaphant,** name of a place between Bodmin and Launceston, whence *polyphant stone,* a kind of Cornish pot-stone, in colour between greenish and iron-grey.

[1830 H. BOASE in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Cornwall* (1832) IV.

224 Greenstones, both compact and schistose, prevail between Trewint and Pollaphant. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. 59 Near Pollaphant there is a kind of potstone which has been noticed by Dr. Boase, who states that not long before he wrote .. several vessels formed of this stone had been discovered under the rubbish of an old quarry about a quarter of a mile distant.] 1899 Baring-Gould *Bk. of West* II. 88 In the porch under the stone bench, a hare hunt is carved on polyphant stone.

Polypharmacy (pŏlifā·rmăsi). *Med.* [= F. *polypharmacie*: see Poly- and Pharmacy; cf. Gr. πολυφάρμακ-ος knowing or characterized by many drugs or poisons.] The use of many drugs or medicines in the treatment of disease.

1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 214 Polypharmacy was never carried to a greater excess. 1832 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 253 The murderous polypharmacy of the Solidists. 1904 J. F. Payne *Eng. Med. Anglo-Sax. T.* 148 The profuse polypharmacy of the old Anglo-Saxon leechdoms.

So † **Polypha·rmacal** *a. Obs.*, 'that hath many medicines' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656); **Polypha·rmacist** (-sist), one who practises polypharmacy.

1886 W. T. Gairdner in *Life Sir R. Christison* II. vii. 134 Dr. Graham, a strong and unhesitating therapeutist, and also not a little of a polypharmacist.

Polyphase (pŏ·lifēiz), *a.* (*sb.*) *Electr.* [f. Poly- + Phase 3.] *lit.* Of many phases: applied to systems of alternating electric currents (magnets, transformers, etc.) in which are employed two, three, or more such currents of identical frequency but differing from one another in phase, that is, which recur one after the other with regular successions of phase; also called *multiphase*.

1891 *Electrician* XXVII. 376 Three articles on the polyphase alternate current system. 1895 S. P. Thompson *Polyphase Electric Currents* 53 By the adoption of polyphase systems, as compared with single-phase systems, there is effected a saving. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 754/1 In other fields the rotary or polyphase current has of late made marked advance.

b. as *sb.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 Nov. 7/3 The witness .. came to discover that the polyphase was capable of being stopped within a remarkably short space.

Polypheme (pŏ·lifēm). Also 7 **Polyphem.** [a. F. *Polyphème*, ad. L. Polyphemus.] Name of a Cyclops or one-eyed giant in Homer's *Odyssey*; hence used allusively.

1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 215 Goe therefore .. to heave and hale your mighty Polyphem of Antiquity to the delusion of Novices, and unexperienc't Christians. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Polypheme*, generally taken for a Gyant, or any big, over-grown, disproportionate fellow. 1814 Mrs. J. West *Alicia de Lacy* II. 311 Such prodigality as will suffice to gorge a race of Polyphemes. 1878 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 637 His Handel-strain As of some angry Polypheme.

So **Polyphe·mian, Polyphe·mic, Polyphe·mous** *adjs.*, belonging or relating to, resembling, or having the character of, Polyphemus.

1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 124 Nor doe I enuie *Polyphemian puffes, Swizars slopt greatnesse. 1610 *Chester's Tri.* (Chetham Soc.) Chester's last Speech 3 That can escape the Poliphemian eye of Envie, that for ever lookes awry. 1796 Burney *Mem. Metastasio* II. 49 There comes an order from Court for a little *Polyphemic Cantata. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 236 With my agonized gaze still fixed on the Polyphemic orb of my loathsome neighbour. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polyphemous*, one-eyed, monocolous, cyclopean.

‖ **Polyphemus** (pŏlifī·mŭs). [L., ad. Gr. Πολύφημος (lit. many-voiced, also much spoken of) name of a Cyclops in *Odyssey* IX.]

1. = Polypheme; a Cyclops, a one-eyed giant.

1829 J. L. Knapp *Jrnl. Naturalist* 317 It riots the polyphemus of the pool. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* v. (ed. 2) 99 When the eyes of the many open, their Polyphemus will cease to be famous for his cyclopean vision.

2. *Zool.* **a.** A (naturally or abnormally) one-eyed animal. **b.** The common name for a very large American silkworm-moth, *Telea polyphemus*. (*Cent. Dict.*)

Polyphloisboian (pŏ·lifloisboi·ăn), *a.* Also **poluphloisboian, polyphlœsbœan, -phloisbean.** [Humorously f. Gr. πολυφλοίσβοιο (θαλάσσης) 'of the loud-roaring (sea)', echoic phrase often used by Homer; Epic gen. of πολύφλοισβος, f. πολύς much + φλοῖσβος roaring, din. The Roman spelling is *polyphlæsbæ-*, whence various intermediate adaptations.] Loud-roaring, boisterous.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 675 We leave that .. to critics of a more polyphloisboian note. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iv, Two men are walking by the polyphlœsbœan ocean. 1881 T. Davidson in *Fortn. Rev.* No. 179. 560 The unreliable, erratic, polyphloisbean Loewenbruk also put in an appearance.

So **Poly-, poluphloisboi·ic, -phloisboio·tic, -phloisboiotato·tic** [as if f. Gr. superlat. suffix *-οτατος*], **Poluphloisboi·sterous** [with allusion to Boisterous] *adjs.*; all humorous nonce-words. Also **Polyphloisboi·oism, -boism,** noisy bombast.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 157 What hammering of epithets! .. what helpless polyphloisboioism! 1843 Thackeray *Irish Sk. Bk.* xxix, The line of shore washed by the poluphloisboiotic, nay, the poluphloisboiotatotic sea. 1863 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 294 How is it the Islandic .. was not more Poluphloisboi-ic? 18.. in A. Godley *Verses to Order* (1892) 25 Poluphloisboisterous Homer of old Threw all his augments into the sea. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 395 An ororotundity, a polyphloisboism that is delicious.

Polyphobia: see Poly- 1.

Polyphone (pŏ·lifōn). Also 7 **poli-, 7–9 -phon**; *β.* 7–8 (corruptly, in sense 1 a) **poliphant.** [mod. ad. Gr. πολύφων-ος having many tones, manifold in expression, f. πολυ-, Poly- + φωνή voice, sound; cf. F. *polyphone* adj. polyphonic. In sense 1 c, generally spelt *polyphon*, Ger. *polyphon*.]

1. † **a.** A musical instrument formerly in use, somewhat resembling a lute, but having a large number of wire strings. *Obs.*

1655 F. Prujeane in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 5 The polyphon is an instrument of so different a stringing and tuning that its impossible to play what is sett to it on any other hand instrument.

β. 1674 Playford *Skill Mus.* Pref. 8 Queen Elizabeth .. did often recreate herself on an excellent Instrument called the Poliphant, not much unlike a Lute, but strung with Wire. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* (ed. 2) III. i. 15.

† **b.** Some instrument or apparatus for producing a variety of sounds or notes. *Obs.*

1683 *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 483 By a Polyphone or Polyacoustick well ordered one sound may be heard as many.

c. A large kind of musical box, driven by clockwork or by hand, and capable of playing any tune when the corresponding perforated disk is inserted.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Apr. 8/5 Polyphon for Sale, including stand; cost £14.

d. *fig.*

1875 Lanier *Symphony* 106 Life's strident polyphone.

2. *Philol.* A written character having more than one phonetic value; a letter or other symbol which stands for different sounds.

1872 Sayce *Assyr. Gram.* Pref. 7 Polyphones—that is, characters with more than one value .. actually exist in Japanese for the same reason that they existed in Assyrian. 1880 R. N. Cust *Linguistic & Oriental Ess.* 350 It was all very well to tolerate Ideographs and Polyphones in documents .. relating to the future world. 1896 Boscawen *Bible & Mon.* i. 18 Its elaborate syllabary, the use of polyphones .. all tend to show clearly that this writing was not the invention of the Semites.

† **Polypho·nian,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Gr. πολύφων-ος (Polyphone) + -ian.] Many-voiced.

1635 Quarles *Embl.* v. vi, I love the air; .. Her shrill-mouth'd choir sustain me with their flesh, And with their polyphonian notes delight me.

Polyphonic (pŏlifŏ·nik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ic.]

1. *Mus.* Composed or arranged for several voices or parts, each having a melody of its own; consisting of a number of melodies combined; contrapuntal; of or pertaining to polyphonic music.

1782 Burney *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. ii. 88 He asserts that he not only invented polyphonic music, or counterpoint, but the polyplectrum or spinet. 1876 tr. *Blaserna's Sound* vii. 121 In the tenth and eleventh centuries an attempt was begun .. at polyphonic music. 1884 *Athenæum* 13 Sept. 346/1 The choruses .. are marvellous specimens of the composer's polyphonic skill.

b. Applied to an instrument capable of producing more than one note at a time, as a keyboard instrument, a harp, etc. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. Producing many sounds; many-voiced.

1864 Webster, *Polyphonic*, having, or consisting of, many voices or sounds. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Apr. 496/2 The barking crow [of British Columbia] possesses the most remarkable polyphonic powers. It can shriek, laugh, yell, shout, whistle, scream, and bark. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 5/4 A grand organ .. called a polyphonic organ. .. The chief characteristic of this organ is the perfect imitation which it can produce of almost the whole orchestra, especially of the strings and the wood wind.

3. *Philol.* Of a letter or other written character: Having more than one phonetic value (as *c*, *g*, *s*, and the vowels in many European languages).

1891 tr. *De La Saussaye's Hist. Sc. of Relig.* lIii. 463 They are often polyphonic, that is the same sign represents various sounds. 1901 *Speaker* 1 June 244/2 His feeling for the colours of vowels and the polyphonic properties of consonants was impeccable.

So **Polypho·nical** *a. rare* (in quot., in sense 2).

1864 A. M°Kay *Hist. Kilmarnock* 259 The greatest success has attended his polyphonical and gastriloquial displays.

Polyphonism (pŏ·lifoniz'm). *rare.* [f. as Polyphone + -ism.]

1. Multiplication of sound, as by an echo.

1713 Derham *Phys.-Theol.* IV. iii. 133 The magnifying the Sound by the Polyphonisms, or Repercussions of the Rocks, Caverns, and other phonocamptick Objects .. in the Mount.

2. *Mus.* The use of polyphony; polyphonic style or composition.

1864 Webster, *Polyphonism* .. composition in parts; contrapuntal composition.

Polyphonist (pŏ·lifonist). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ist.]

1. One who produces a variety of vocal sounds; a ventriloquist.

1829 W. E. Love in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXXIV. 161 The Peregrinations of a Polyphonist. 1846 Worcester, *Polyphonist*, one producing many sounds. *Black.*

2. *Mus.* One versed in polyphony; a polyphonic composer or theorist; a contrapuntist.

1864 Webster, *Polyphonist.* .. a master of the art of polyphony; a contrapuntist.

Polyphonous (pŏ·lifŏnəs), *a.* [f. Gr. πολύφων-ος (see Polyphone) + -ous.]

1. = Polyphonic 2.

1677 Plot *Oxfordsh.* 13 Tautological Polyphonous Echo's, such as return a word or more, often repeated from divers objects by simple reflection. 1846 Worcester, *Polyphonous*, having many sounds. *Dr. Black.* 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 36 One of these polyphonous pantomimic gentlemen offers to exhibit himself.

2. *Mus.* = Polyphonic 1.

1872 F. Hüffer in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 277 Hence the prodigious skill in the polyphonous texture of Bach's and Handel's Counterpoint. 1876 *Macm. Mag.* XXXIV. 193 The rich harmony of polyphonous church music.

3. *Philol.* = Polyphonic 3.

1880 Sayce in *Nature* 19 Feb. 380/1 [We] cling so tenaciously to our own polyphonous alphabet. 1905 W. T. Pilter tr. *König's Bible & Babylon* Notes 121 The majority of signs were polyphonous .. they had more than one syllable value.

Polyphony (pŏ·li·fŏni, pŏ·lifouni). [ad. Gr. πολυφωνία variety of tones or of speech, f. πολύφωνος: see Polyphone. So F. *polyphonie*.]

1. Multiplicity of sounds: = Polyphonism 1.

1828 Webster, *Polyphonism, Polyphony.*

2. *Mus.* The simultaneous combination of a number of parts, each forming an individual melody, and harmonizing with each other; the style of composition in which the parts are so combined; polyphonic composition; counterpoint.

1864 [see Polyphonist 2]. 1867 Macfarren *Harmony* i. 20 Let me not arrogate .. that the origination of polyphony belongs to this country. 1898 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LIV. 232/2 The tendency to a harmonized melody, to homophony rather than polyphony.

3. *Philol.* The symbolization of different vocal sounds by the same letter or character; the fact or quality of being polyphonic.

1880 Sayce in *Nature* 19 Feb. 380/2 The whole cumbrous hieroglyphic system with its ideographs, its syllabic values, and its polyphony. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 583 The difficulty of reading which this polyphony involved.

Polyphore (pŏ·lifoəi). *Bot. rare.* [a. F. *polyphore* (Richard *c* 1810), ad. Gr. πολυφόρος bearing many.] Term for a receptacle bearing a number of ovaries, as in the buttercup, strawberry, etc.

1835 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 176 Richard calls it *Polyphore*. 1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 915.

Polyphorous (pŏli·fōrəs), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. πολυφόρος (see prec.) + -ous.] † **a.** Of wine: That will bear much water, strong. *Obs.* **b.** Bearing or producing much, fruitful.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 220 Wines differenced .. from their virtue, vinous, aquous, polyphorous .. and oligophorous. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Polyphorus*, bearing or yielding much; fruitful; polyphorous.

Polyphotal, Polyphote: see Poly- 1.

Polyphyletic (pŏ·li,fəile·tik), *a.* [f. Poly- + Gr. φυλετικ-ός Phyletic, after G. *polyphyletisch*.] Belonging to several tribes or families; originating, as a species, from several independent ancestors or sources; relating to such origination; polygenetic.

1875 tr. *Schmidt's Descr. & Darw.* 325 The hypothesis of descent from many families (*polyphyletic*) possesses more probability. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. xix. 182 Comparative Philology has recently shown that the present human language is polyphyletic in origin. 1881 Wetterhan in *Nature* 17 Mar. 458/1 The question of monophyletic or polyphyletic evolution of species.

Hence **Polyphyle·tically** *adv.*

1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 429 The epibolic gastrula of *Polyxenia leucostyla* might arise polyphyletically from totally different methods of forming the endoderm.

Polyphyllous (pŏlifi·ləs), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. πολύφυλλ-ος many-leaved + -ous.] Properly, Having or consisting of many leaves; usually, Having the (perianth-) leaves separate, not united. Also *apophyllous, dialyphyllous, eleutherophyllous*. (Cf. Polypetalous, Polysepalous.) Opp. to *monophyllous* or *gamophyllous*.

1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* XV. (1794) 160 The two genera .. agree in having the common calyx polyphyllous, or consisting of many leaves. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 189 We have a regular polyphyllous perianth in the Tulip and Lily.

So **Polyphy·lline** *a.* = prec.; **Po·lyphylly,** the condition of having the number of (foliage or floral) leaves in a whorl in excess of the normal.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Polyphyodont (pŏli·fiodŏnt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. πολυφυ-ής manifold (f. πολυ-, Poly- + φυή growth) + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth, after Diphyodont.] Having several successive growths or sets of teeth.

1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 552 The change of teeth in the Mammalia may be regarded as a process which has been developed from a polyphyodont condition.

Polypi, plural of Polypus.

Poly·pian, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *polyp-us* Polyp + -ian.] Belonging to a polyp.

1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* xxii, It is something for the animal to have had such mere fleshly polypian experiences.

Polypiarian (pŏ·lipi,ē·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polypiaria*, neut. pl., f. *polypus* Polyp.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Polypiaria*, a division in some classifications nearly conterminous with the

modern *Cœlenterata*. **b.** *sb.* An animal belonging to this division, a polyp (see POLYP 1 b).

1849 CRAIG, *Polyparous, Polypiarian.*

Polypide (pɒ̀·lipəid). *Zool.* [f. POLYP + *-ide*; cf. -ID 3.] An individual or zooid of a compound polyzoan. (Cf. POLYP 1 c, POLYPITE.)

1850 ALLMAN in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1851) 307 For the term Polype, therefore, originally applied not only to the Anthozoal radiata, to which its use ought to be confined, but also to the retractile portion of the Polyzoa, I have substituted in the following Report that of Polypide. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 453 Each zooid which buds from the common stock is a polypide.

Polypidom (pɒ̀li·pidǫm, pɒ̀·lipidǫm). *Zool.* [f. L. *polyp-us* POLYP + *domus*, Gr. *δόμος* house.] The common supporting structure of a colony of polyps, regarded as the dwelling-place of the individual zooids: = POLYPARY.

1824 tr. *Lamouroux (title)* Corallina; a Classical Arrangement of Flexible Coralline Polypidoms. 1838 G. JOHNSTON *Brit. Zooph.* 31 *note*, *Polypidom.* I borrow this term from the translator of Lamouroux's work on Corallines. ..Kirby .. uses the word *Polypary* to express the same thing. Both of them are translations of *Polypier*, a word invented by Reaumur, and now in general use among the French naturalists. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 18 Their common habitat or 'polypidom' assumes a tree-like aspect. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) App. 233. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* iii. 67 The coral animalcule rears its polypidom.

Polypier (pɒ̀·lipɪəɹ). *Zool.* [a. F. *polypier* (polɛ̀pye) (Réaumur *a* 1757), f. *polype* POLYP + *-ier*, as in *poirier, pommier*, etc.] = POLYPARY; sometimes applied to a distinct part of this to which an individual zooid is attached.

1828 WEBSTER, *Polypier*, the name given to the habitations of polypes, or to the common part of those compound animals called polypes. *Dict. Nat. Hist.* 1856 MILNE-EDWARDS *Man. Zool.* § 619. 486 Sometimes each polyp has a distinct *polypier*, but in general it is the common portion of a mass of aggregated polypi which presents the characters peculiar to these bodies. 1868 WRIGHT *Ocean World* vi. 121 Their polypier is often formed of spiculæ.

Polypifer (pɒ̀li·pifəɹ). *Zool.* [f. L. *polypus* POLYP + *-fer* bearing; after mod.L. *Polypifera*: see next.] A polyp-stock, polypary, or polypidom; also, the whole compound organism; usually in pl. as an English equivalent of *Polypifera.*

1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 149 Large masses, supposed to be the work of myriads of polypifers. 1875 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. III. xlix. 613 The stone-making polypifers grow most luxuriantly on the outer edge of the island.

Polypiferous (pɒ̀lipi·fĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. mod. L. *polypifer*, f. *polypus* + *-fer* bearing (in *Polypifera*, a former division of Invertebrates) + -OUS.] Bearing polyps, as a polyp-stock or polypary.

1775 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 6 He thinks that there is a communication of juices from the polypiferous pores on the cortical part to the inside or horny part. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 422 For a long period these polypiferous masses were conceived to be marine plants. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 334 In Cristatella the polypary is free, disciform, and polypiferous on the margin.

Polypiform (pɒ̀·lipifǫɪm), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *polypus* + -FORM.] Having the form of a polyp.

1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 20/2 Animals polypiform. 1849–52 *Ibid.* 850/2 The quondam polypiform being.

Polypigerous (pɒ̀lipi·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool. rare*—°. [f. as prec. + -GEROUS.] = POLYPIFEROUS.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polypine (pɒ̀·lipəin), *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + -INE 1.] Of the nature of or belonging to polyps.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 433 The best known examples of this kind of generation occur in the polypine.. animals. 1859 *Ibid.* V. 41/2 The free polypine stock is first developed from the fecundated ovum.

Polypiparous (pɒ̀lipi·părəs), *a. Zool. rare*—°. [f. as prec. + -PAROUS.] Producing polyps; polypiferous. 1864 in WEBSTER.

Polypite (pɒ̀·lipəit). [f. L. *polyp-us* POLYP + -ITE 1.]

1. *Palæont.* A fossil polyp. (Webster 1828.)

2. *Zool.* An individual or zooid of a compound polyp, esp. of a cœlenterate. (Cf. POLYP 1 c, POLYPIDE.) Also sometimes applied to a free polyp, as a *Hydra.*

1867 MURCHISON *Silvria* App. (ed. 4) 539 Common cœnosarc continuous with the polypites. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 372 Hydrozoa .. A branched, composite hydrosoma, carrying many polypites. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 133 A hydranth or polypite attached to the centre of a gelatinous contractile swimming disk.

Polyplacid: see POLY- 1.

Polyplacophoran (pɒ̀·liplăkɒ̀·fŏrăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Polyplacophora*, neut. pl. (J. E. Gray, 1821), f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πλάξ, πλακο-* tablet, plate, etc. + *-φορος* bearing.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the division *Polyplacophora* of isopleurous gastropod molluscs, having a dorsal shell composed of a series of eight plates, as the CHITONS. **b.** *sb.* A mollusc of this division. So **Polyplacophore** (-plæ·kofoɪ) *a.* and *sb.*; **Polyplaco·phorous** *a.*

[1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1 Cyclobranchians (Chismobranchians and Polyplaxiphores).] 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Polyplacophorous. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Polyplacophoran .. Polyplacophore.

Polyplastic, Polypnœa: see POLY- 1.

Polypla·stid, -ide, *sb. Biol.* [f. POLY- + PLASTID.] An organism consisting of many plastids or cells: opposed to *monoplastid(e.* Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1895 MOORE in *Sci. Progress* June 323 There are many monoplastid forms with affinities among the polyplastids.

Polypod (pɒ̀·lipɒd), *sb.*[1] Now *rare.* Also 5 **pollypod**, 7 **poli-, polli-, polypode.** [a. OF. *polipode* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm., mod.F. *polypode*), ad. L. POLYPODIUM.] = POLYPODY.

[*c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/4 *Felix arboratica, i.* pollipode, *i.* eneruern.] 14.. *Nominale* ibid. 711/37 *Hoc polipodicum*, a pollypod. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 217 Heere findes he on an Oake Rheum-purging Polipode. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1679) 27 Nor may we here omit to mention the Galls, Missletoe, Polypod, Agaric.. Fungus's..and many other useful Excrescencies [of the oak]. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvi, The bright green polypods and maiden's-hair waved in silent feathery harmony.

Po·lypod, *a.* and *sb.*[2] *Zool.* Also **polypode.** [a. F. *polypode* adj., f. Gr. *πολυποδ-*, stem of *πολύπους* many-footed: see POLYP.]

A. *adj.* Having many feet or foot-like organs; *spec.* belonging to the *Polypoda*, a name for various groups of animals in different classifications, as (*a*) a former division of insects, corresponding to the modern class *Myriapoda* or millepeds; (*b*) a division of worms; (*c*) of cephalopod molluscs, having more than eight arms or tentacles; (*d*) of crustaceans, having more than ten feet.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 344 Polypod...Having more than eight legs but under fifty.

B. *sb.* An animal having many feet; a member of the *Polypoda* in any sense (see A.).

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl., Polypodes*, a word used by some as a name for the millepedes. 1828 WEBSTER, *Polypode*, an animal having many feet; the milleped or woodlouse. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* i. 11 The cachalot lives principally on cuttle-fish and polypods. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* lvi, Like a polypod awash, or a basking turtle.

Polypodiaceous (pɒ̀·lipɒ̀dĭi,ē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Polypodiăce-æ*, f. POLYPODIUM: see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the Natural Order (or sub-order) *Polypodiaceæ*, comprising the large majority of Ferns.

1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. viii. 282 A beautiful fern,..a new genus of the order of polypodiaceous plants. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

‖ **Polypodium** (pɒ̀·lipɒ̀u·diŏm). *Bot.* Also 6 polipodium. [L. (Pliny), a. Gr. *πολυπόδιον* (Theophr.) a kind of fern, f. *πολυ-* many + *πούς, ποδ-* foot, with dim. suffix *-ιον*: from the numerous branches of the root-stock.] A large and widely distributed genus of ferns, of various forms.

1525 *Herball* G j, Polipodium. This is called Pollypody. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* X iij b/1 This figure of polipodium. ?1540 tr. *Vigo's Lytell Practyce* D j b, Take Polipodium of the oke. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Polypodium*, Okeferne : a kind of hearbe like Ferne, growing much about the roots of oakes. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 352 The disposition of its fructification accords with the Polypodium's.

Polypody (pɒ̀·lipɒdi). Forms: 4–5 **polypodye, 5 pollipodie, polipodi, 5–6 polipodie, 5–7 -pody, 6 pollypody, polypodie, 7 -podi, 6– polypody.** [ad. L. *polypodium* (Plin.): see prec.] A fern of the genus *Polypodium*; esp. *P. vulgare*, the Common Polypody, a widely distributed species, growing on moist rocks, old walls, and trees (hence formerly known as *polypody of the oak* or *of the wall*).

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* i. 455 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 The rotys of polypodye, þat is wylde brake. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/1 Polypodye, herbe, *polipodia.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C v, Take smale flambe rotis and polipodi. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 4 Polypody drieth and lesseth or thinneth the body. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccli. 972 Wall Ferne, or Polypodie of the wall. 1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 140 Take the stinking oil drawn out of Polypody of the Oak, by a retort mixt with Turpentine. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 490 Common Polypody has pinnatifid fronds. 1863 ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* (1864) 157 All three of the commoner polypodies.

Polypoid (pɒ̀·lipoid), *a.* [f. L. *polyp-us* POLYP, POLYPUS + -OID.]

1. *Zool.* Resembling or of the nature of a polyp.

1850 ALLMAN in *Brit. Assoc. Rep.* (1851) 305 Those polypoid molluscous animals. 1871 — *Gymnobl. Hydroids* 17 The polypoid phases of the *Hydroïda.* 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 294 The larval form of most if not all Medusae is a compound polypoid animal.

2. *Path.* Resembling or of the nature of a polypus.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 334 Polypoid condylomata. These were fleshy, roundish, soft. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 365 Polypus and polypoid thickening of the mucous membrane of the nose.

So **Polypoi·dal** *a.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 693 The growth has been somewhat soft and of a polypoidal appearance.

Polypomedusan (pɒ̀·lipoˌmĕdiū·săn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod. Zool. L. *Polypomedūsæ* pl. (f. *polypo-*, comb. form of *polypus* POLYP + MEDUSA) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the *Polypomedusæ*, a group of *Cœlenterata* comprising the *Hydrozoa* and *Actinozoa.* **b.** *sb.* A cœlenterate belonging to this group. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polypomorphic (pɒ̀·lipomɒ̀·ɪfik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πολυπο-*, f. *πολύπους* POLYP + *μορφή* form + -IC.] Having the form of a polyp, polypiform, polypoid; *spec.* Belonging to the *Polypomorpha*, a synonym of *Hydrozoa.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polyponous: see POLY- 1.

Polyporite (pɒ̀li·pŏrəit). *Palæont.* [f. *Polypor-us* (see next) + -ITE 1 2 a.] A fossil resembling a species of *Polyporus* (see next), found in the Welsh coal-measures.

1846 SMART Suppl., *Polyporite*, a many-pored fossil plant.

Polyporoid (pɒ̀li·pŏroid), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Polyporus* (Fries 1836–8) (a. Gr. *πολύπορος*: see next) + -OID.] Resembling or belonging to *Polyporus*, a large widely distributed genus of hymenomycetous fungi, growing in the form of projecting shelves or brackets on dead or decaying trees.

[1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 334 Nylander and Karsten find it on poplar and elder, also on dead polyporus.] 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polyporous (pɒ̀li·pŏrəs), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. Gr. *πολύπορος* having many passages (see PORE *sb.*) + -OUS.] Having many pores. 1858 in MAYNE.

Polypose (pɒ̀·lipōus), *a.* [ad. L. *polypōsus* (Martial) in sense 2: see POLYPUS, POLYP, -OSE.]

1. *Zool.* = POLYPOUS 1.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. i. 32 One may question whether in animals of the serpentine Form, and in all those of the polypose Kind, the Sensorium be not equally diffused over the whole medullary Substance.

2. *Path.* = POLYPOUS 2.

1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. (1735) 162 It will produce Polypose Concretions in the Ventricles of the Heart. 1761 PULTENEY in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 346 To suppose an aneurism, rather than polypose affections. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 350 Polypose Strangury.

Polypostyle (pɒ̀·lipoˌstəi·l). *Zool.* [f. *polypo-*, Gr. *πολυπο-*, from *πολύπους* POLYP + *στῦλος* pillar.] An imperfect zooid in certain Hydrozoa: = DACTYLOZOÖID. Hence **Polyposty·lar** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a polypostyle.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Polypotome (pɒ̀·lipotoum). *Surg.* [f. as prec. (see POLYPUS 2) + Gr. *-τομος* cutting.] (See quot. 1857.)

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict., Polypotome*..an instrument for the removal of polypus by excision. 1872 T. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 516 Should the pedicle be within reach of knife or scissors, it may be divided; or if higher..the polypotome may be employed.

Polypous (pɒ̀·lipəs), *a.* [f. L. *polypus* POLYP, POLYPUS + -OUS; so F. *polypeux* (1552 in sense 2).]

1. *Zool.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a polyp; also *fig.* like that of a polyp (esp. in reference to its reproduction by budding, as in *Hydra*).

1748 B. MARTIN *Eng. Dict.* Introd. § 111 Little aware.. that it [*sc.* the distinction of sex] was deficient in any sort of animals, as we are assured it is (by late discoveries) in all the Polypous kinds. 1862 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* IV. 146 If that ploughshare did nothing but beget other ploughshares, in a polypous manner,..it would have lost its function of capital. 1866 SIR J. E. TENNENT in Felton *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. II. vii. 396 Extortion..insinuated itself with polypous fertility into every relation and ordinance of society.

2. *Path.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a polypus; characterized by polypi.

1758 WRIGHT in *Phil. Trans.* L. 597 Polypous concretions in the larger vessels. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 455 In one of these the ventricles of the heart had polypous concretions. 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 211 An early stage of the same polypous formation.

Polypragmatic (pɒ̀·liˌprægmæ·tik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Gr. *πολυπράγματ-ος* busy about many things, overbusy (f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πράγμα(τ-)* thing done) + -IC.] Busying oneself about many affairs (that are not one's own); meddlesome, officious.

1616 Jas. I *Sp. in Starre-Chamb.* 20 June 48 For those Polypragmaticke Papists, I would you would studie out some seuere punishment for them. 1638 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Lines on Bishops* Poems (1856) 340 Like to polypragmatic Machiavel. 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Aug. 248/2 Troublesome and polypragmatic operosity.

† **B.** *sb.* A meddlesome person, a busybody. *Obs.*

1636 H. BURTON *Apology* Ep. to Nobility 20 Shall we see Religion overturned..by a Faction of Iesuited Poly-pragmatiques? 1684 T. GODDARD *Plato's Demon* 23 Do you not think it a little arrogance in our Polypragmatick .. to assume the Title even of Plato himself?

So † **Polypragma·tical** *a.*; **Polypra·gmatism,** officious or over-busy conduct; **Polypra·gmatist,** † **Polypra·gmist,** a busybody; **Polypra·gmaty,** 'the state of being over-engaged with business or matters' (Webster 1864).

1597 in G. Harvey *Trimming Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 13 To the *polypragmaticall..Puppie, Thomas Nashe. 1657 PURCHAS *Pol. Flying Ins.* 329 This idle Gamster with a blind bone out of his jugling box, with the activity of a polypragmaticall finger, can .. undoe many an hopefull heire. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 24 May 622/2 The Council's elder brother in extravagance and *polypragmatism, the School

Board. 1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Elis.* Pref. (1641) 7 And such *Polypragmatists this age is full of. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Countersnarle* 4 This *Polypragmist, forsooth, to shew his inuincible courage..hath vndertaken the Combat.

† **Polypra·gmon.** *Obs.* [a. Gr. *πολυπράγμων*: see prec.] A meddlesome person; a busybody.

[1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 28 At the motion of two or thre *πολυπράγμονες*, home he knew ful wel to be mi enneinies.] 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 282 This most Atheall Polypragmon father Parsons. 1679 PRANCE *Addit. Narr. Pop. Plot* 40 The Jesuites, who are the great Polypragmons, or Busie-bodies amongst them all.

Hence † **Polypragmone·tic** (irreg.), **Polypragmo·nic** *adjs.*, of the nature of a 'polypragmon' (= POLYPRAGMATIC); † **Polypra·gmonist** = *polypragmon*; † **Polypra·gmony**, the character or practice of a 'polypragmon' (= next).

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xx, What is it that this *Polypragmonetick Ardelione to all the Fiends of Hell doth aim at? 1866 BLACKMORE *C. Nowell* xiv, [He] admitted the *polypragmonic doctor. 1609 DEKKER *Gvlls Horne-bk.* Proem. (1812) 18 Good dry-brained *polypragmonists. 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 20 *Polypragmony is the Companion of Ignorance, and common Pest of Mankinde.

† **Polypragmo·syny.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. Gr. *πολυπραγμοσύνη* (f. *πολυπράγμων*), with the termination assimilated to that of words in -Y.] Meddlesomeness. So **Polypragmosy·nic** *a.* (*rare*⁻¹), officious, meddlesome.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 219 Seditionaries, who in their polypragmosynie, minister vehement causes. 1886 BP. STUBBS *Visit. Charges* (1907) 53 The excitable, the idle, and the polypragmosynic among the laity.

Polyprism to **Polyprothetic**: see POLY- 1.

Polyprotodont (pɒlipro͡u·tədɒnt), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πρῶτο-ς* first + *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth; cf. DIPROTODONT.] **a.** *adj.* Having more than two front or incisor teeth in the lower jaw, as the carnivorous and insectivorous marsupials. **b.** *sb.* A polyprotodont marsupial. (Opp. to DIPROTODONT.) Hence **Polyprotodo·ntid** *a.*, of or belonging to the polyprotodonts.

1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* (ed. 3) II. 1273 A feature occurring in many recent Polyprotodonts. 1892 *Athenæum* 14 May 636/2 He came to the conclusion that this anomalous form [*Notoryctes typhlops*, a newly discovered mammal of Central Australia] should stand as a distinct family of polyprotodont marsupials. 1900 B. SPENCER in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 794 The ancestors of the recent Diprotodontia were beginning to diverge from the original Polyprotodontid stock.

Polypseudonymous: see POLY- 1.

Polypsychical (pɒlipsəi·kikăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *ψῡχή* soul: cf. *psychical.*] Having many souls, many-souled. So **Polypsy·chic** *a.* = prec.; **Polypsychism** (-psəi·kiz'm), **a.** the belief in a multiplicity of souls in one person; **b.** the belief in a multiplicity of spiritual beings as the causes of natural phenomena.

1842 MRS. BROWNING *Grk. Chr. Poets* 206 The master [Wordsworth], indeed, was a prophet of humanity;..a poet of one large sufficient soul, but not polypsychical like a dramatist. 1856 W. A. BUTLER *Hist. Anc. Philos.* I. 237 Even in the human frame itself there is found among savage nations the belief of a multiplicity of souls; the process leading to polypsychism being exactly the same as that which multiplies the directors or animators of the universe. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 34, I regard each man as at once profoundly unitary and almost infinitely composite ..., polyzoic and perhaps polypsychic in an extreme degree. *Ibid.* I. Gloss. s. v. *Polyzoism*, Polypsychism is sometimes used to express the psychical aspect of polyzoism.

Polypterid (pɒ·liptĕrid). *Ichthyol.* [f. mod.L. *Polypterus* (Geoffroy 1802), generic name, a. Gr. *πολύπτερος* many-winged (f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πτερόν* feather, wing) + -ID 3.] A fish of the family *Polypteridæ* of crossopterygian ganoids, having the dorsal fin replaced by a series of spines with finlets attached; now represented only by the genus **Poly·pterus** of tropical African rivers. So **Poly·pteroid** *a.*, akin in form to *Polypterus*, belonging to the sub-order *Polypteroidei*; *sb.* a polypteroid fish.

1849 CRAIG, *Polypterus*, a genus of fishes. 1880 RAMSAY in *Times* 26 Aug. 5/3 The nearest analogies of the fish are, according to Huxley, the polypterus of African rivers [etc.]. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Fin-pike*, a fish of the family *Polypteridæ* and genus *Polypterus*; a polypterid. 1899 *Daily News* 29 Nov. 7/2 Two examples of a most ancient African fish have just been deposited in the new Tortoise House at the Zoological Gardens..The name of this fish is Polypterus, and it belongs to a group which has mostly become extinct.

Polyptote (pɒ·liptō͡ut), *a.* and *sb. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. Gr. *πολύπτωτ-ος*, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πτωτός* falling, cognate with *πτῶσις* case, f. *πίπτ-ειν* (stem *πετ-*) to fall. So F. *polyptote.*] **a.** *adj. Gram.* Having many cases, as a noun. **b.** *sb.* (*a*) *Gram.* A noun having many cases. (*b*) *Rhet.* = next.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Polyptote*, (*polyptoton*) that hath many cases. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Polyptote*, in Rhetorick Polyptoton.

‖ **Polyptoton** (pɒliptō͡u·tɒn). *Rhet.* [L., a. Gr. *πολύπτωτον* adj. neut.: see prec.] A rhetorical figure consisting in the repetition of a word in different cases or inflexions in the same sentence.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 86 *Polyptoton* or *Traductio*, when one word is often repeated by variety of cases. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* 50 b. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Hosea* x. 1 A dainty agnomination, and a double polyptôton. *a* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* IV. vi. (1681) 151 [Repetition of sounds] unlike:..a small changing of the end or case, as Polyptoton.

Polyptych (pɒ·liptik). [ad. late L. *polyptycha*, neut. pl. account-books, registers, ad. Gr. *πολύπτυχος* having many folds, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *πτυχή* fold. Cf. mod.F. *polyptyque* (1732 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Anything consisting of more than three leaves or panels folded or hinged together, as a picture or an altar-piece. (Cf. DIPTYCH, TRIPTYCH.)

1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 307 The great altar-piece of the Van Eycks at Ghent is a polyptych. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 711/1 There are triptychs, and polyptychs, and statuettes, and pastoral staves, of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 345 They carried off a vast but not altogether first-rate polyptych, 'The Virgin and Child with Saints'.

Poḷypus (pɒ·lipŏs). Forms: 5–8 **polipus**, 6 **polippus, polipos**, 6– **polypus**. Pl. **polypi** (-pəi); also (7 **polypodes, polipusses**), 8 **polypuses** (-pusses). [a. L. *pol-, pōlypus, -pi* cuttle-fish, etc., also polypus in the nose, a. Doric or Æolic Gr. *πωλύπος*, gen. *-που* = Ionic *πουλύπους* (acc. *-οδα* and *-ουν*), Attic *πολύπους* a cuttle-fish, etc., also polypus in the nose, f. *πολυ-* many + *πούς* foot.]

1. a. A cuttle-fish, an octopus; = POLYP 1 a. *Obs.* (exc. in allusion to Lat. or Gr.).

c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* lxvii, Polippus hath gret strength in his fete, what he therin cacheth, he holdeth it fast. 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* v. 153 This Polypus can change himselfe into all colours. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* VIII. i. (1643) 378 These Polypodes suddenly prey upon them [fish] and devoure them. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. ii. (1737) 9 The Sea-pulp, or Polypus. 1839 T. BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* 57 The octopus..was the animal denominated polypus by Aristotle. 1877 BRYANT *Odyssey* v. 518 To the claws of polypus, Plucked from its bed, the pebbles thickly cling.

b. = POLYP 1 b, c. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Polypodes*, Sows, Hog-lice.] 1742 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 219 A small Insect called a Polypus, which is found sticking to the common Duck-weed. *a* 1759 SIR C. H. WILLIAMS *Isabella* Odes (1780) 7 It's call'd a Polypus..And 'tis a reptile of so strange a sort, That if 'tis cut in two, it is not dead; Its head shoots out a tail, its tail a head. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 160 Those who have changed their opinion..upon the sexes of blossoms, or upon the hatching of polypuses. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 417 The class of Polypi or Zoophytes is one of the largest and most singular of the Animal Kingdom. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* i. (1852) 99 Each polypus, though closely united to its brethren, has a distinct mouth, body and tentacula.

2. *Path.* A general term for tumours of various kinds, arising from a mucous or serous surface, usually pedunculated, and having ramifications like the tentacles of a polyp. Also formerly applied to a fibrinous blood-clot occurring in the heart or blood-vessels.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. xxii. (Bodl. MS.), Polipus is a superfluite of flessch growing of þe nostreiles. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. cxii. 305 Being layd to with Copperous..it taketh away..the Polypus growing in the Nosthrilles. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 118 In a Polypus the Pulse intermits, and vibrates, and is obscure. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 265 Being mix'd with the Blood in the Veins would produce Polypus's in the Heart, and Death. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 367 By a polypus is meant a diseased mass, which adheres to some part of the cavity of the uterus, by a sort of neck or narrower portion. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 110 Forms of softer polypi and cutaneous pendulous tumours.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1 a) *polypus-arms* sb. pl., *-fish*; (in sense 1 b) *polypus-like, -wise* advs.; (in sense 2) *polypus-growth.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 121 Whom Oppianus compareth to the Polypus fish. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France*, etc. II. 60 The polypus fish, who..extend their arms for prey. 1809 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 552, I will divide them polypus-wise, so that the first half should get itself a new tail of its own, and the latter a new head. 1815 SIMOND *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 199 London extends its great polypus-arms over the country around. 1865 PUSEY in Liddon, etc. *Life* (1897) IV. iii. 80 We cannot divide Holy Scripture or Christianity, polypus-like, so that one part might be cut off, and the rest remain in the same life as before. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 689 Every characteristic of ordinary polypus growth.

Polypyrene to **Polyrhizous**: see POLY- 1.

Polys, obs. form of POLISH *v.*

‖ **Polysarcia** (pɒlisā·rsiă). [late L. (Cæl. Aurel., 6th c.), a. Gr. *πολυσαρκία* fleshiness, f. *πολύσαρκος* very fleshy, f. *πολυ-* POLY- + *σάρξ, σαρκ-* flesh.] **1.** *Path.* Excessive growth of flesh (or, loosely, of fat); corpulence, obesity.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Polysarcia*, Corpulency. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Polysarcia*, bigness, or grossness of Body. 1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 84 A disease, which has been not very correctly called polysarcia. 1875 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* (1876) I. 64 Both sexes, even when running to polysarcia, have delicate limbs and extremities.

2. *Bot.* (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 916 *Polysarcia*, an excess of sap, giving rise to unnatural growth, &c.

So **Polysarcous** (-sā·rkəs) *a.*, affected with polysarcia, corpulent.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Polyschematist (pɒli,skī·mătist), *a. Pros.* [ad. Gr. *πολυσχημάτιστος* 'multiform; of verses, composed of various metres'.] Having many forms: said of ancient metres in which feet not metrically equivalent to the normal ones may be substituted for them. Also **Polyschema·tic** *a.*

1846 WORCESTER, *Polyschematist*, *a.*, having many forms. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Polyschematic.*

Polyscope (pɒ·lisko͡up). [f. POLY- + -SCOPE; so F. *polyscope.* Cf. Gr. *πολύσκοπος* far-seeing.]

1. An optical instrument through which objects appear multiplied; a multiplying-glass: *spec.* (see quot. 1842). Cf. POLYOPTRON.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Polyscopes*, or *Multiplying Glasses*, are such as represent to the Eye one Object as many. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Polyscope*, .. a lens plane on one side..of which the convex side is formed of several plane surfaces, or facettes, so that an object seen through it appears multiplied.

2. (See quots.)

1881 *Eng. Mechanic* 18 Feb. 562/1 M. Trouvé described his polyscope, an apparatus for examining cavities of the body with the aid of incandescent platinum. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Polyscope*, an apparatus invented by Trouvé, consisting of a combination of the instruments for visual examination of the eye, ear, larynx, urethra, etc., and fitted up with an electric light.

Polyse, obs. form of POLICE, POLISH *v.*

Polysemant to **Polysensuous**: see POLY- 1.

Polysepalous (pɒlise·păləs), *a. Bot.* [f. POLY- + mod.L. *sepal-um* SEPAL + -OUS: cf. POLYPETALOUS. In F. *polysépale.*] Properly, Having numerous sepals; but used for: Having the sepals distinct or separate, not coherent or united. Also *aposepalous, chorisepalous, dialysepalous, eleutherosepalous.* Opp. to *gamosepalous* or *monosepalous.*

1829 CLINTON tr. *Richard's Elem. Bot.* 269 The polysepalous calyx is generally caducous. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 425 Both floral envelopes present, the outer being monosepalous or polysepalous, free or united to the ovary.

Poly-sided to **Polysomitic**: see POLY- 1.

† **Po·lyspast.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. Gr. *πολύσπαστον* a compound pulley, neut. of *πολύσπαστος* drawn by many cords.] (See quots.)

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Polyspaston*, a Machine for reducing Joynts. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Polyspaston.*] 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Polyspast*, a windlass having many pullies or truckles. *Polyspast* (in *Surgery*), a machine for the reduction of dislocated joints.

Polysperm (pɒ·lispəm), *a. Bot. rare.* [ad. Gr. *πολύσπερμος* abounding in seed, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *σπέρμα* seed.] Having, containing, or producing numerous seeds; many-seeded. Also **Polyspe·rmal, Polyspe·rmatous, Polyspe·rmous** *a.*

1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 287 Those Herbs..being Polyspermous. 1719–26 QUINCY *Med. Dict.*, *Polyspermous*, .. those Plants are thus called which have more than four Seeds succeeding each Flower, and this without any certain Order. 1729 *Evelyn's Sylva* II. iii. 118 Easily rais'd of the Kernels and Nuts, which may be gotten out of their Polysperm and Turbinate Cones. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* iv. 26 Ovary polyspermous, many-celled. 1882 OGILVIE, *Polyspermal, Polyspermous.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Polyspermatous.*

[*Polysperm*, as *sb.*, in various Dicts., an error due to misquotation of Evelyn, quot. 1729 above.]

Polyspermy (pɒ·lispəmi). *Phys.* [mod. ad. Gr. *πολυσπερμία* abundance of seed, f. *πολύσπερμ-ος*: see prec. Cf. F. *polyspermie.*] Impregnation of an ovum by more than one spermatozoon.

1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* 34 It has, however, been shown..that 'polyspermy', or the entrance of more than one sperm, is extremely rare. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1643 The phenomenon of polyspermy or the fertilization of the ovum by more than one spermatozoon, the cause, according to modern ideas, of double monsters.

Polyspire: see POLY- 1.

‖ **Polysporangium** (pɒ·li,sporæ·ndʒiŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. POLY- + SPORANGIUM.] A sporangium containing numerous spores.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Polyspore (pɒ·lispo͡ə). *Bot.* [f. POLY- + SPORE; cf. Gr. *πολύσπορος* bearing much fruit. So F. *polyspore.*] **a.** A spore-case containing numerous spores. **b.** A compound spore, as in certain algæ.

1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 221/1 The term *Polyspore* is usually applied..[to] a gelatinous..pericarp or conceptacle. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 272 The first form to which the term *polyspore* has been applied, is that of a gelatinous or membranous pericarp or conceptacle in which an indefinite number of sporidia are contained.

Polysporean (pɒlispō·rĭăn), *a* and *sb.* [f. mod. Zool. L. *Polysporea*, neut. pl. of *polysporeus* (f. Gr. *πολύσπορ-ος* + *-eus*) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Polysporea*, a group of Protozoa of the class *Sporozoa* and family *Coccidiidæ*, which produce numerous spores (distinguished from *Monosporea* and *Oligosporea*). **b.** *sb.* A sporozoan of this order.

Polyspored (-spō·ɹd), *a.* [f. POLY- + *spored*, f. SPORE.] = next. Also **Polysporic** (-spɒ·rik) *a.*

1882 J. M. CROMBIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 555/1 In some species..they [the spores in each theca] are 20–100, when the thecæ are said to be polyspored.

Polysporous (pɒlisˈpɔ̆rəs, pɒlispōˈrəs), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πολύσπορ-ος* (see POLYSPORE) + -OUS.] Having or producing numerous spores, as certain cryptogamous plants and protozoans.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Polysporous. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 375 In rare cases the asci have a large number of spores, and are hence said to be polysporous.

Polystachyous to **-stigmous**: see POLY- 1.

Polystomatous (pɒliˌstɒˈmătəs), *a. Zool.* [f. POLY- + Gr. *στόμα, στοματ-* mouth + -OUS: cf. next.] Having many or several mouths or suckers; *spec.* belonging to the *Polystomata*, a name for the Sponges, and also for the acinetiform Infusoria.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 137 The polystomatous condition..brought about.

Polystome (pɒˈlistoum), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *polystome* (1813 in Littré), ad. Gr. *πολύστομ-ος* many-mouthed, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *στόμα* mouth.] **a.** *adj.* Having many mouths. **b.** *sb.* An animal having many mouths or suckers, as a sponge, an acinetiform infusorian, or a parasitic trematode worm or fluke of the genus *Polystomum* or sub-order *Polystomea* (polystome-fluke). So **Polyˈstomous** *a.* [f. Gr. as above + -OUS], many-mouthed, polystomatous; ‖ **Polystoˈmium** (pl. -ia) [mod.L.], each of the fine pores which represent the original mouth in certain medusæ.

1859 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Protozoa* 77 'Acineta Forms'..rather constitute a distinct group of *Infusoria*, to which the term '*polystome' might, without objection, be perhaps applied. For each of the radiating filaments..with which the *Acinetæ* are provided is, in truth, a retractile tube, susceptible of elongation to a remarkable extent, and furnished at its extremity with an adherent disk. 1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 79 Included in the *Polystomous section. 1878 BELL *Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 116 Branched canals, which open at the ends of the ramifications of the arms by numerous fine pores (*polystomia).

Polystylar to **Polysulphuretted**: see POLY-.

† Polysyllabe. *Obs.* [a. F. *polysyllabe* (1464 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. med.L. *polysyllabus*, a. Gr. *πολυσύλλαβος* polysyllabic, f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *συλλαβή* syllable.] = POLYSYLLABLE *sb.*

[1580 G. HARVEY *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 105 You shal as well..heare *fayer*, as *faire*, .. with an infinyte companye of the same sorte: sometime *Monosyllaba*, sometime *Polysyllaba*.] 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 59 Gif zour Sectioun be nocht..a monosyllabe,..bot the first syllabe of a polysyllabe.

Polysyllabic (pɒˌlisilæˈbik), *a.* [f. med.L. *polysyllab-us*, Gr. *πολυσύλλαβ-ος* (see prec.) + -IC. So F. *polysyllabique* (1550 in Hatz.-Darm.).] **a.** Of a word: Consisting of many (i.e., usually, more than three) syllables. **b.** Of language, etc.: Characterized by polysyllables.

1782 WARTON *Rowley Eng.* 42 He would rather have acquiesced in this laxity of the polysyllabic termination. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* II. xx. 113 In the 'Excursion' the number of polysyllabic..words is more than usually great. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 244 Their greatly varying dialects are polysyllabic and agglutinative. 1906 *The King's English* iii. (ed. 2) 171 Polysyllabic humour.

So **Polysyllaˈbical** *a.*, in same senses. Hence **Polysyllaˈbically** *adv.*, in a polysyllabic manner, in polysyllables; **Polysyllaˈbicism** (-siz'm), *nonce-wd.*, polysyllabic style; **Polysyllabicity** (-iˈsĭti), *nonce-wd.*, the condition of being polysyllabic.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Polysyllabical*, that hath many syllables. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 7 As for Polysyllabical articulate Echo's, the strongest and best .. is in the Park at Woodstock. 1868 J. H. NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occasions* 25 Terms strange and solemn That figure in polysyllabical row In a treatise. 1893 *Star* 18 May 1/6 The temptation to talk *polysyllabically to a popular audience. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 274 Having the *polysyllabicism without the precision of Johnson. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 14 Inflections .. are there [in Gothic] seen standing forth in all their archaic rigidity and *polysyllabicity.

Polysyllabilingual (pɒlisiːlăbiˌliːngwăl), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. as POLYSYLLABE + LINGUAL.] Relating to polysyllabic languages.

1824 *Crit. Res. in Philol. & Geog.* 172 The practice of the Chinese, and other monosyllabic tongues, absolutely stultifies the polysyllabilingual theorist.

Polysyllabism (pɒlisiˈlăbiz'm). [f. as POLYSYLLABE + -ISM.] The use of polysyllables (as a stage in the development of language).

1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 181 The progress to polysyllabism from a state originally monosyllabic. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 211 A primitive period of polysyllabism.

Polysyllable (pɒlisiˈlăb'l), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 polli-, poli-, **-sillable.** [f. med.L. *polysyllaba*, fem. (sc. *vox* word) of *polysyllabus* (see POLYSYLLABE), after SYLLABLE.] **A.** *sb.* A word of many (i. e., usually, more than three) syllables.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* Pref., In the Pollisillables, by diuersitie of pronunciation,..one worde maye haue diuers significations. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xii. (Arb.) 126 Our vulgar Saxon English standing most vpon wordes monosillable, and little vpon polysillables. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict., Eng. Gram.*, Polysyllables..are seldom compared otherwise than by *more* and *most*, as *deplorable, more deplorable, most deplorable*. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* li, My father was losing his remarkably moderated tone, and threatening polysyllables.

B. *adj.* = POLYSYLLABIC. Now *rare*.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xii. (Arb.) 131 The ill shapen sound of many of his wordes polisillable. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref. (1634) ¶ viij b, For them that find fault with polysyllable meeter. 1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 101 In a Poly-syllable word. 1817 COLERIDGE *Satyrane's Lett.* iii. in *Biog. Lit.* (1882) 268 *note*, The German, not less than the Greek, is a polysyllable language.

Polysyllogism, -syllogistic: see POLY- 1.

Polysymmetrical (pɒˌlisimeˈtrikăl), *a.* [f. POLY- + SYMMETRICAL.] Symmetrical about several planes of division; chiefly *Bot.*, divisible into exactly similar halves by two or more different planes, as a regular flower; actinomorphous. Hence **Polysymmeˈtrically** *adv.*; **Polysyˈmmetry**, the condition of being polysymmetrical.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 183 So-called 'regular' flowers, stems with alternating whorls, and most roots, are polysymmetrical. *Ibid.* 533 If..the parts are all arranged in whorls, they are usually distributed monosymmetrically or polysymmetrically on the receptacle. *Ibid.* 184 The same relationship occurs between polysymmetry and multilateral arrangement as between monosymmetry and bilateral arrangement; polysymmetry must also be considered only as a particular case of the multilateral structure.

‖ **Polysyndeton** (pɒlisiˈndĭtŏn). *Rhet.* Also 6 **polisindeton.** [mod.L., a. Gr. **τὸ πολυσύνδετον*, prop. neut. adj. (cf. ASYNDETON), f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *σύνδετος*, verbal adj. f. *συν-δέ-ειν* to bind together.] A figure consisting in the use of several conjunctions in close succession; usually, the repetition of the same conjunction (as *and, or, nor*) to connect a number of co-ordinate words or clauses. Opp. to ASYNDETON.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvi. (Arb.) 186 Ye haue another maner of construction which they called *Polisindeton* we may call him the *couple clause* for that euery clause is knit and coupled together with a coniunctiue. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* II. viii, The two general exceptions are termed, Asyndeton and Polysyndeton. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 184 Polysyndeton,..a figure signifying superfluity of conjunctions. 1883 MARSH *Anglo-Sax. Gram.* 141 There may be too many conjunctions (polysyndeton).

Polysynthesis (pɒlisiˈnpĭsis). [f. POLY- + SYNTHESIS.] Synthesis or composition of many elements; complex or multiple synthesis; *spec.* in *Philol.* the combination of several words of a sentence in one word: = INCORPORATION 1 b, INCAPSULATION.

1869 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* iv. (1873) 130 Polysynthesis is the synthesis of many words into one.

Hence **Polysyˈnthesism** = POLYSYNTHETISM.

1881 R. BROWN *Language* 21 Others see in polysynthesism a survival of the universal early state of languages.

Polysynthetic (pɒˌlisinpĕˈtik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολυσύνθετος* much compounded; of clauses, united by many particles: see POLY- and SYNTHETIC.] Of the nature of or characterized by polysynthesis; combining numerous elements; complex. *spec.*

1. *Cryst.* Applied to a compound crystal consisting of a series of twin crystals united so as to form a laminated structure.

1805-17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 207 When the form is very complicated, as in the polysynthetic tourmaline. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* x. 109 In such polysynthetic crystals the twinning planes lie in four directions.

2. *Philol.* Characterized by combining several words of a sentence (as a verb and its object or complement) into one word: = INCORPORATING *ppl. a.* c, INCAPSULATING *ppl. a.*

1821 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 271 The polysynthetic, to which the various languages of the American tribes belong. 1869 FARRAR *Fam. Speech* iv. (1873) 132 Its structure is polysynthetic. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 231 Mr. Romanes describes .. the Isolating, Polysynthetic, Agglutinative, Inflectional and Analytic forms of language.

Hence **Polysynthetical** *a.* (*rare*—⁰) in same sense; **Polysynthetically** *adv.*; **Polysynthetˈicism** (-siz'm), **Polysyˈnthetism,** polysynthetic character or condition; **Polysyˈnthetize** *v. intr.*, to use polysynthesis, exhibit a polysynthetic character.

1846 WORCESTER, *Polysynthetic*, **Polysynthetical*, forming a manifold compound or composition. 1880 *Athenæum* 9 Oct. 459/2, 'I strike him with a sword to kill him' is another thought. Must all this be expressed *polysynthetically? 1862 R. G. LATHAM *Elem. Compar. Philol.* lxv. 520 There is *polysyntheticism to a certain degree—though much of it is of the grammarian's making. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 172 Agglutination or *Polysynthetism is the name which has been invented for the complex condition of early language, when words follow each other in a sort of idyllic and *laissez-aller* carelessness, and the whole sentence, or even the whole discourse, is conjugated or declined as though it were a single word, every subordinate clause being inserted in the main one by a species of incapsulation. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 262 All sign of polysynthetism has been denied to the great Tupi-Guarani stock. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* ii. 93 The *polysynthetising languages of North America, where the idea of time or mode is altogether absent from the verb.

Polyte, obs. form of POLITE.

Polytechnic (pɒliteˈknik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. F. *polytechnique* (*école polytechnique*, 1795), f. Gr. *πολύτεχνος* skilled in many arts + *-ique*, -IC: see POLY- and TECHNIC.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to, dealing with, or devoted to, various arts; esp. in *polytechnic school*, an educational institution for giving instruction in various technical subjects.

Orig. applied to that established in Paris in 1794 by the National Convention, under the name of *École des Travaux publics*, changed in 1795 to *École Polytechnique*, and more particularly devoted to the instruction of recruits for the corps of civil and military engineers. *Polytechnic Institution*: name of an institution in London, opened in 1838, for the exhibition of objects connected with the industrial arts, and providing a laboratory and theatre or lecture-room; closed in 1881, and subsequently re-opened as a technical and recreative school.

1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 258 The polytechnic school has long been distributing among select pupils, all the military sciences, through the best teachers. 1807 *Ibid.* V. 579 The Tractate of Education is a singular plan for a polytechnic school. 1838 [Royal Polytechnic Institution, 309 Regent St., London, opened, Aug. 6]. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* ii. (ed. 2) 29 Polytechnic science may invent the instruments which shall dive as his substitute into the bowels of the earth. 1881 ROSCOE in *Nature* XXIII. 217 The scientific training they had received at their universities and polytechnic schools. 1888 *Resolution at Meeting Mansion H. London* 8 June, That this meeting being convinced of the urgent need in this country of technical and commercial education approves of the scheme for the establishment in South London of Polytechnic institutes to be endowed by public subscription with the aid of the Charity Commissioners.

B. *sb.* **† 1.** (app.) Collective industrial action. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 278 It has, however, been the fate of this *polytechnic*, as of the best philanthropic dispensation ever made to man, to be misrepresented and reviled.

2. Short for *Polytechnic Institution* (rarely for *polytechnic school*): see A. Hence used as the name for several similar technical schools in different parts of London, etc.

1881 in *Daily News* 12 Sept. 2/4 Mr. Buckland..concluded his entertainment with the following address, which was cheered to the echo:—This very night the Polytechnic dies, Dies as a good Knight should, in martial guise. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Sept. 2/2 An excursion made by some sixty boys from the Young Men's Christian Institute at the Polytechnic to Belgium, Germany, and Switzerland. 1903 *Whitaker's Alm.* 267/2 The passing of the City of London Parochial Charities Act in 1883..provided for the establishment of polytechnics in various parts of London on the model of Mr. Quintin Hogg's original institution at Regent Street.

3. *pl.* 'The science of the mechanical arts' (Ogilvie, 1882). *rare*—⁰.

So **Polyteˈchnical** *a.* = A. (in quot. 1880, Practising many arts); **Polyteˈchnican** (*nonce-wd.*), a member of the or a Polytechnic; **Polytechnician** (-tekniˈshăn), [F. *-nicien*] a student of a (French) polytechnic school.

1846 WORCESTER, **Polytechnical*, same as *polytechnic. *Clarke.* 1880 BIRDWOOD *Indian Arts* I. 138 The trade guilds of the great polytechnical cities of India. 1892 K. GOULD tr. *von Kobell's Convers. Dr. Döllinger* iv. 75 Professor of Mathematics at the Gymnasium and Polytechnical School. 1894 *Daily News* 12 Mar. 5/4 M. Carnot, who, with his brother, graduated at the Polytechnique, and was so permeated with its spirit as only to be able to enjoy the company of 'Pipos', or old-boy *Polytechnicans. 1904 *Dundee Advertiser* 10 June 10 A number of Polytechnicians were so dealt with quite recently by General André.

Polyterebene, -terpene: see POLY- 2.

Polythalamous (pɒliþæˈlăməs), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *θάλαμος* bed-chamber (see THALAMUS) + -OUS.] Having or consisting of several chambers or cells; many-chambered, multilocular.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiv. (1828) I. 451 Some galls are polythalamous or consisting of several chambers. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 517/2 A..series of minute polythalamous shells. 1876 PAGE *Text-bk. Geol.* xx. 428 Calcareous ooze and marls, rich in polythalamous..foraminifera.

So **Polythalamaceous** (-ēˈʃəs) *a.*, belonging to the *Polythalamăcea*, an order of cephalopods with many-chambered shells, as the nautilus (synonymous with *Tetrabranchiāta*) (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858); **Polythalamian** (-þălēˈmiăn) *a.*, belonging to the *Polythalamia*, a division of Protozoa, having a many-chambered test; **Polythalamic** (-þălæˈmik) *a.* = *polythalamous.*

[1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xiv. § 616 *note*, Polythalamia are abundant in the Arctic Seas. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 376 The Polythalamia or Multilocular Rhizopods, in their earliest state are unilocular.] 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* App. (ed. 3) 529 Mr. Chydenius obtained .. *polythalamian shells. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Polythalamic.*

‖ **Polythecium** (pɒliþēˈʃiŭm, -þēˈsiŭm). Pl. **-ia.** *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *θηκίον*, dim. of *θήκη* box, case.] Name for a colony or zoothecium of certain infusorians, in which the loricæ are united by their stalks. Hence **Polytheˈcial** *a.*, pertaining to a polythecium.

1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 360 Forming by the serial conjunction of their respective loricæ a more or less extensive branching colony-stock or polythecium.

Polytheism (pɒliþiˌizˈm). Also 7 poli-, polu-, (polythisme). [ad. F. *polythéisme* (16th c.), f. Gr. *πολύθεος* of or belonging to many gods (f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *θέος* god): see -ISM.] Belief in, or worship of, many gods (or more than one God).

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 49 An exchanged Polytheisme in worshipping of Saints, Images, and the Host. 1638 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 315 Some Temples.. furnisht with wooden gods for polittheisme. 1658 Br. REYNOLDS *Van. Creature* Wks. (1679) 8 There is yet a bitter root of Atheisme, and of Polutheisme in the minds of Men by nature. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. I. 101 Celsus ..justifies the polytheism of the heathens. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 183 It has sometimes been made a question whether polytheism or monotheism is the more ancient form of natural religion.

Polytheist (pŏ·liþi,ist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. as prec. + -IST. Cf. F. *polythéiste* (1762 in Hatz.-Darm.).] One who believes in or worships many gods (or more than one); an adherent of polytheism.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. vi. § 3 (1622) 45 They were of all other the most palpable Polytheists. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 11 To believe no one Supreme designing Principle or Mind, but rather two, three, or more ..is to be a Polytheist. 1877 CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 109 The Aryans like the Indo-Germans, were polytheists.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* = next.

1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxi. (1877) 583 For the first time the two principles of faith, the monotheist and the polytheist, met in combat.

Polytheistic (pŏ·liþi,i·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC: see -ISTIC.] Of, pertaining to, holding, or characterized by polytheism.

? *a* 1770 ADAM SMITH *Hist. Astron.* iii. Ess. (1795) 25 All Polytheistic religions. 1773 BURKE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* Wks. 1869 VI. 108 Was it ever heard that polytheism tolerated a dissent from a polytheistick establishment? 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* vi. 92 Zeus..appears to be..a representative of an old monotheism which merges into supremacy in a polytheistic system.

Polythei·stical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.] † **a.** = prec. *Obs.* **b.** In distinctive sense: Having a polytheistic character or quality.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 298 That Orpheus, the Orphick Doctrine, and Poems, were Polytheistical, is a thing acknowledged by all. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 191 Remarks upon the Polytheistical Religions of the Antient World. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. 47 He was a monotheist in contradistinction to his polytheistical contemporaries. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxx.

Hence **Polythei·stically** *adv.*

1846 WORCESTER cites Dr. ALLEN.

Polytheize (pŏ·liþi,əiz), *v. rare.* [f. as POLYTHEISM + -IZE: so F. *polythéiser.*] *intr.* To act the polytheist; to profess or practise polytheism.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1882 OGILVIE cites MILMAN.

† **Polytheous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *πολύθεος* (see POLYTHEISM) + -OUS.] Relating to many gods; polytheistic.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xxi. lviii, Heav'n most abhor'd Polytheous Piety.

Polythionic (pŏliþəi,ŏ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. POLY- + *-thionic*, f. Gr. *θεῖον* sulphur: see DITHIONIC.] Containing several atoms of sulphur in combination with H_2O_6 (distinguished from *sulphuric*, in which S is combined with H_2O_4); in *polythionic acids*, a general name for the acids of this constitution, e. g. *pentathionic acid*, $H_2S_5O_6$.

1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 57 Besides the oxides of sulphur already described, three new acids have lately been added. These are known as the polythionic acids,—a name given them by Berzelius. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 540 A remarkable series..called polythionic acids, containing six atoms of oxygen and two or more atoms of sulphur.

† **Polythore.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. App. an error for *polyphone*: see POLYPHONE 1 a, quot. 1655.

1661 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Aug., He plaid to me likewise on the *polythore*, an instrument having something of the harp, lute, theorbo, &c.

Polytick, -tik(e, etc., obs. forms of POLITIC.

Polytocous (pŏli·tŏkəs), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολυτόκος* producing numerous offspring, prolific + -OUS.]

a. *Zool.* Producing several young at a birth; multiparous. **b.** *Bot.* Bearing fruit many times: a term proposed instead of POLYCARPOUS. So † **Poly·toky** *Obs. rare* [Gr. *πολυτοκία*], production of numerous offspring, fecundity.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. xxix. 165/1 Altho' New England has no Instances of such a Polytokie, yet it has had Instances of what has been remarkable: one Woman has had not less than Twenty two Children. 1715 THORESBY *Ducatus Leodiensis* App. 608 Dorothy..Wife of Mr. Joseph Cowper of this Parish, died in childbed of her twenty-fifth or twenty-sixth Birth, which is the greatest Instance of such a Polytokie in these Parts. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 33 *note*, Polytocous (bearing many times) would be more appropriate [than polycarpic].

Polytomous (pŏli·tŏməs), *a.* [f. Gr. type **πολύτομ-ος* (f. *πολυ-* much + *-τομος* cut) + -OUS.] Divided, or involving division, into many parts.

1. *Bot.* **a.** *spec.* Applied to a leaf having several divisions, but not articulated with the midrib so as to form leaflets (e. g., a pinnatifid or pinnatipartite leaf). **b.** Applied to branching in which the axis divides into more than two secondary axes at the same point.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polytomus, Bot.*, applied by L. C. Richard to leaves the median nervure of which, not the foliaceous part, is combined with the common petiole, but without articulation, which distinguishes them from compound leaves: polytomous. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 917 *Polytomous*, pinnate, but without having the divisions articulated with the common petiole.

2. *Logic.* Involving polytomy: see next, 2. Distinguished from DICHOTOMOUS and TRICHOTOMOUS.

Polytomy (pŏli·tŏmi). [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *-τομια*, f. *-τομος* cut. Cf. F. *polytomie.*] The condition or character of being polytomous. (Distinguished from DICHOTOMY and TRICHOTOMY.)

1. *Bot.* Division into several (more than two) branches at the same point.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 148 Dichotomy (rarely Polytomy)..is caused by the cessation of the previous increase in length of a member at the apex, and by two (or more) new apices arising at the apical surface close to one another, which..develope in diverging directions.

2. *Logic.* Division into several (usually, more than three) members.

1864 BOWEN *Logic* iv. 101 Division into many members may be called a polytomy. 1867 ATWATER *Logic* 71 A division in three members is called a Trichotomy: into many members, a Polytomy.

Polytone to **Polytopian:** see POLY- 1.

† **Polytrich** (pŏ·litrik). *Obs. rare.* (Erron. **politrich.**) [ad. L. *polytrichon*, Gr. *πολύτριχον*, name of two ferns = MAIDENHAIR 1 a, b; f. *πολύς* much + *θρίξ, τριχ-* hair.] A rendering of L. *Polytrichon*, under which the herbalists (e. g. Dodoens and Lyte) included the ferns *Adiantum Capillus-veneris* and *Asplenium Trichomanes*, both called Maidenhair, and the moss *Polytrichum commune* (Golden Maidenhair).

[1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxviii. 409 The first kinde is called ..in Latine *Adiantum*, *Polytrichum* [etc.]. *Ibid.* lxix. 410 This herbe is called .. in Latine .. *Trichomanes*; in the Shoppes *Polytrichon*. *Ibid.* lxxi. 412 [Mosse] 3. Goldylockes, *Polytrichon*, or Golden Maydenheare. The third kind which some call Golden Polytrichon, hath very small slender stalkes.] 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v., The Virtues of Politrich are to dry, dissolve, and digest.

Polytrichous: see POLY- 1.

Polytrochal (pŏli·trŏkăl), *a. Zool.* [f. mod. L. *polytrochus* (Ehrenberg) (f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *τροχός* wheel: see below) + -AL.] **a.** Having several circlets of cilia, as the larva of a polychæte worm. **b.** Belonging to the division *Polytrocha* of rotifers, in which the trochal disk or 'wheel' has several lobes. So **Polytroch** (pŏ·litrŏk), a polytrochal animal; **Poly·trochous** *a.* = *polytrochal.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polytrochus*, applied by G. C. Ehrenberg to two Families .. of the *Infusoria Rotifera*, having many crowns of hairs: polytrochous. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 137 The larvæ of the Chætopoda are divided into mesotrochal, telotrochal, and polytrochal forms. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Polytroch.*

Polytrophic (pŏlitrŏ·fik), *a.* [In sense a, f. Gr. *πολυτρόφος* giving much nourishment (f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *τρέφειν* to feed) + -IC; with sense b, cf. Gr. *πολύτροφος* (f. as above) highly nourished.] † **a.** ? Affording much nourishment; highly nutritive. *Obs.* **b.** Of a parasitic organism: Infesting more than one host. So **Poly·trophy,** abundant or excessive nutrition (? *obs.*).

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 16 Hoggs flesh .. is of easie concoction,..polytrophick, and of a thick and viscous juyce. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Paint.* IV. viii, Themselves must share in this Polutrophy. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Polytrophia*, term for excessive nutrition: polytrophy. 1900 *Nature* 13 Sept. 465/1 Sometimes parasitic (facultative parasites), monotrophic or polytrophic [bacteria].

Polytropic (pŏlitrŏ·pik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολύτροπος* turning many ways, versatile, etc., also much-travelled (epithet of Ulysses in the *Odyssey*), f. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *τρόπος* turn.]

1. Capable of turning to various courses or expedients; versatile.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 506 In the Odyssey..his polytropic powers are brought into full play. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 243 We may encounter men in that city who are as polytropic as Ulysses.

2. *Math.* Turning several times round a pole; also applied to a function which has several different values for one of the variable (opp. to *monotropic*).

Polytyke, obs. form of POLITIC.

Polytype (pŏ·litəip). [a. mod.F. *polytype*: see POLY- and TYPE.] A cast, or form of stereotype, made from an intaglio matrix obtained by pressing a woodcut or other plate into semi-fluid metal; also, a copy of an engraving, of printed matter, etc. made from such a cast. Also *attrib.* So **Po·lytypage** [F. *polytypage*], the art of making polytypes; **Po·lytype** *v. trans.* [F. *polytyper*], to produce by polytypage.

1802 *Paris as it was* II. lxxxiv. 534 *note*, The learned Camus, in his 'Historical Sketch of Polytypage and Stereotypage'. 1839 T. C. HANSARD in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 567/1 (*heading*) Of Polytypage. *Ibid.* 567/2 Guillot .. reported that from one engraving, for the 400 livres assignats, he had struck or polytyped 897 mother-punches and 1487 daughters. *Ibid.*, Didot .. issued proposals for printing polytyped editions of the classics. *Ibid.* 568/1 Professor Wilson of Glasgow .. thought it possible to make polytypes of glass from engraved copperplates. 1864 WEBSTER, *Polytype, a.*,..as, a polytype plate. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 6/1 A handsome quarto volume with portraits, twenty phototypes, and three polytypes.

Polytypic (pŏliti·pik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *τυπικ-ός*, f. *τύπος* TYPE.] Having or involving several different types. Also **Polyty·pical** *a.*

1888 J. T. GULICK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Zool.* XX. 201 Polytypic evolution or Divergent Evolution is any transformation of a species in which different types appear in different sections. 1890 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XXXIX. 22 'A new species' may be one that has been formed by monotypic transformation, the old form disappearing with the production of the new, or it may be one that has arisen through polytypic transformation.

Polyue, obs. form of PULLEY.

Polyuresis to **Polyuric:** see POLY- 1.

Polyvalent (pŏli·vălĕnt), *a.* [Hybrid f. POLY- + VALENT.]

1. *Chem.* = MULTIVALENT.

1881 WILLIAMSON in *Nature* 1 Sept. 417/1 Polyvalent atoms can combine partly with one element, partly with another, and also..like atoms can combine with one another.

2. *Med.* ? Having the property of counteracting various poisons.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 574 One can easily obtain polyvalent antivenenes. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 155 The hypodermic injection of a bactericidal serum which is polyvalent.

Hence **Poly·valence,** the character of being polyvalent; multivalence.

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 918 The polyvalence of the amboceptor would be more difficult to understand [etc.].

Polyvoltine: see POLY- 1.

‖ **Polyzoa** (pŏlizō·ă), *sb. pl. Zool.* Sing. **polyzoon** (-zō·ŏn). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πολυ-*, POLY- + *ζῷον* an animal.] A class of compound or 'colonial' aquatic (chiefly marine) invertebrate animals (sometimes reckoned as a group of *Mollusca*), of small size and various forms, often plant-like; popularly called *moss-animalcules, sea-mosses, sea-mats*, etc. Also called BRYOZOA.

[1830 J. V. THOMPSON *Zool. Res. & Illustr.* V. 89 (*heading*) On Polyzoa, a new animal discovered as an inhabitant of some zoophites. *Ibid.* 92 The Polyzoa will probably be found in many dissimilar Genera of the Zoophytes.] 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Polyzoons, Polyzoa*, a class of compound animals, resembling in their organs of support the Sertularians, but in their internal organization approaching nearly to the compound Ascidians. 1847 G. JOHNSTON *Brit. Zooph.* (ed. 2) I. 256 The Polyzoa or ascidian polypes the Creator has cast in the mould not of the Radiata, but of the Mollusca. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 468 The resemblance of the larval Brachiopod to a Polyzoon, and especially to Loxosoma, is striking. 1901 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* II. 475 The name Polyzoa being employed by the majority of English writers..while Bryozoa is employed by practically all the Continental writers.

b. A name for the colonial Radiolarians, also called *Polycyttaria*: see POLYCYTTARIAN.

Hence **Polyzo·al** *a.*, = next, a.

Polyzoan (pŏlizō·ăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. POLYZOA + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to or having the character of the *Polyzoa*. **b.** *sb.* A polyzoan animal, a polyzoon; an individual polyp or zooid of a polyzoan colony.

1864 WEBSTER, *Polyzoan*, one of a compound group among the *Bryozoa*...*Dana*.

Polyzoary (pŏlizō·ări). *Zool.* Also in Lat. form **polyzoarium** (pŏlizō,ē·riŏm), pl. **-ia.** [ad. mod.L. *polyzoārium*, f. POLYZOA + *-arium*, -ARY 1.] The polypary or polypidom of a colony of *Polyzoa*, or the colony as a whole.

1856 GOSSE *Man. Marine Zool.* II. 5 The entire assemblage of cells springing from one root-thread, or originating from a single cell, is called the *polyzoary*. 1872 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vii. (ed. 6) 192 [Avicularia] Their movement caused the whole polyzoary to tremble. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 663 The general shape of the whole group, or 'polyzoary',.. is very shrub-like, standing bodily erect, and giving out branches by two and two. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 459 The polyzoarium of Cristatella is free and creeps about as a whole.

Hence **Polyzoarial** (-zō,ē·riăl) *a.*, pertaining or relating to a polyzoary.

1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 431/2 'Ectocyst' and 'endocyst'..form part of a special 'polyzoarial' nomenclature, but do not appear to be any longer needful.

Polyzoic (pŏlizō·ik), *a.* [f. POLYZOA + -IC. So F. *polyzoique.*]

1. *Zool.* Pertaining to or of the nature of the Polyzoa; composed of a number of individual zooids constituting a 'colony', compound, colonial.

1855 *Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 858/2 The Polyzoic type [of Mollusca] itself presents five subordinate modifications in the five principal orders of the group. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. II. 60 Duvernoy believed in the polyzoic nature of the Tænias and similar animals. 1903 [see POLYPSYCHIC].

b. In *Sporozoa*, Applied to a spore which produces many germs or sporozoites.

1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 153 The archispores .. form a definite number of sporozoites, varying from one (monozoic) or two (dizoic) to many (polyzoic).

2. *Anthropol.* Characterized by a belief in many imaginary living beings.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 367/2 Perhaps the best name for this first stage of religious development might be the 'polyzoic' stage.

So **Polyzoism** (-zō·iz'm), the character of being polyzoic (sense 1).

1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss., *Polyzoism*, the property, in a complex organism, of being composed of minor and quasi-independent organisms (like the *polyzoa* or 'sea-mats').

Polyzome (pɒ̄·lizōum). *Geom.* [f. POLY- + Gr. ζῶμα girdle.] (See quot.) Hence **Polyzo·mal** *a.*

1867 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* VI. 470 If *U*, *V*, &c., are rational and integral functions..., all of the same degree *r*, in regard to the coordinates (*x*, *y*, *z*), then $\sqrt{U}+\sqrt{V}+$ &c. is a polyzome, and the curve $\sqrt{U}+\sqrt{V}+$ &c. $= 0$ a polyzomal curve.

Polyzonal (pɒlizō·năl), *a.* [f. POLY- + ZONAL.] Applied to a form of lens invented by Brewster, composed of a number of annular segments or zones; chiefly used in lighthouses.

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* XXXVIII. 323 Those compound lenses, to which I have given the name of *polyzonal* lenses. 1863 TYNDALL *Heat* xvii. 504 With a large polyzonal lens, Melloni converged an image of the moon upon his pile. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 258/2 A polyzonal lens, such as was employed..at the South Foreland lighthouse.

Polyzooid (pɒlizō·oid), *a. Zool.* [f. POLYZOA + -OID.] Resembling or of the nature of the Polyzoa; polyzoan, polyzoic.

1884 tr. *Claus's Zool.* 210 The polyzooid nature of these [sponge-stocks] is made apparent by the presence of many oscula.

Polyzoon, sing. of POLYZOA, q. v.

Polyzoonite (pɒlizōo·ŏnəit). *Zool. rare.* [irreg. f. POLYZOON + -ITE[1]: cf. POLYPITE.] An individual zooid of a polyzoon.

1871 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 504 When the Polyzoonite retires into its abode, the setæ and soft termination of the cell are gradually folded inwards, in the manner exhibited in the annexed figures.. representing the various stages of the process.

‖ **Poma** (pōu·mă). *Anat.* [a. Gr. πῶμα, -ατ- lid.] The occipital operculum of the brain of a monkey.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 162/1 Since the dorsal termination of the occipital fissure is covered by the poma, there results an apparent continuity of the pomatic and occipital fissures. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pomace (pō·mės). Forms: 6 **pomes**, **pomois**, 7– **pomace**; also 7 **pumis**, 8–9 **pom(m)ice**, **pummice**, **pummace**. See also POMMEY. [A derivative of L. *pōmum* or F. *pomme* apple: the form *pomace*, if original, appears to correspond to med.L. *pōmācium*, *pōmātium* cider (? for L. **pōmāceum*); but the sense makes a difficulty, as do also the variant forms.

Cf. also OF. *pomat* (Godef.), in mod. patois of Yères (near Havre) *poma* 'la masse de pommes, après que le pressoir a exprimé le jus': thus exactly = Eng. *pomace*.]

1. The mass of crushed apples in the process of making cider: **a.** after the juice is pressed out; **b.** before the juice is pressed out.

a. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* 6 Though the Pepins be sowen of the pomes of Peares and good Apples. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Dec. (1729) 225 Sow, as yet, Pomace of Cider-Pressings to raise Nurseries. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 133 Scalding water wherein you may boyl apple-pumis. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., *Pomace*, is the mash which remains of pressed Apples, after the Sider is made, used for producing of Seedling Stocks in Nursery-Gardens. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 5 If you sow Apple or Crab Kernels, sow the Pummace with them, which will come up the first Year. 1884 T. HARDY *Wessex Tales, Interlopers at Knap* (1889) 157 Where the..dunghills smell of pomace instead of stable-refuse. 1897 *Evesham Jrnl.* 16 Jan., The pomice or must after cider abstraction.

b. 1764 CROKER, etc. *Dict. Arts*, etc. s. v. *Cyder*, The apples are then ground, and the pummice is received in a large open-mouthed vessel. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Pummace*, the mass of apples mashed under a stone roller before they are placed between layers of straw or the cyder-press. 1886 [see POMMEY].

2. *transf.* **a.** Anything crushed or pounded to a pulp. **b.** Any solid refuse whence oil has been expressed or extracted; e. g. the refuse of the menhaden and other fish after the oil has been extracted, formerly known as *fish-guano*, *fish-cake*, *pogy-chum*; also, the cake left after expressing castor oil from the beans; both used as fertilizers.

a. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 101 Then put they the fisshe into the hollowes of the rocques, and beate it to pomois. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. i. 13 Thus we poor frail Mortals (like Corn between two great contrary Mill-stones) are bruised to Pommice. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Madder*, These roots are cut..and pounded in mortars .. till they are reduced into a kind of pummice.

b. 1861 *Agric. Maine* VI. 44 The residuum left after expressing the oil, that is the cake, pumice, or as commonly called, the *chum*, which contains nearly the whole fertilizing portions of the fish. 1864 *Ibid.* IX. 43 Fish pomace, or the residuum of herring after the oil is pressed out, is greedily eaten by sheep, swine and fowl. 1898 *U. S. Comm. Fish & Fisheries* XXII. 479 The 'fish cuttings' and refuse fish which accumulate at the canneries are made into pomace and sold for fertilizer.

1877 *Rep. Connecticut Board of Agric.* (1878) 395 In some [fertilizers], castor pomace, leather scraps, and other cheaper materials are used. 1878 *Ann. Rep. Connecticut Agric. Exper. Station* (1879) 38 Castor Pomace,..the crushed seeds of the castor-oil plant after the extraction of the oil—is a long-known and well-tested fertilizer. 1895 *Yearbk. U. S. Dept. Agric.* (1896) 192 Castor-oil plants...The pomace is considered valuable for fertilizing purposes.

†**3.** The head, heart, lights, liver, and windpipe of a sheep or lamb. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 83/2 Pomass of a sheep, is all the Intrals. *Ibid.* 88/1 Sheep Pummices is the Head, Heart, Lights, Liver, and Wind-Pipe of a Sheep all hanging together. 1750 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 14) 66 To bash a Lamb's Pumice.

4. *Comb.*, as **pomace-shovel**, a shovel used for pomace (in sense 1).

1886 T. HARDY *Woodlanders* xxviii, The blades of the pomace-shovels, which had been converted to steel mirrors by the action of the malic acid.

Pomacentroid (pōmăse·ntroid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. mod.L. *Pōmacentrus* (Lacépède 1802), generic name (f. Gr. πῶμα lid, cover + κέντρον centre) + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or resembling the *Pomacentridæ*, a family of tropical fishes, of which *Pomacentrus* is the typical genus. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this family. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pomaceous (pɒmē·ʃəs), *a.*[1] [f. mod.L. *pōmāceus* (f. L. *pōmum* apple) + -OUS: see -ACEOUS.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or consisting of apples.

1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. (1706) 128 Apples and pomaceous Juices, are the greatest Pectorals. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 58 English Plains Blush with pomaceous Harvests, breathing Sweets. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 61 Lawns, and purple groves Pomaceous.

fig. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* I. 486 An extra feast of pomaceous trash, in the shape haply of..*Clarissa Harlowe*.

2. *Bot.* Of the nature of a pome or apple; of or pertaining to the *Pomeæ*, a division of rosaceous trees bearing pomes or pome-like fruits.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pomaceus*, *Bot.*..pomaceous.

Poma·ceous, *a.*[2] *rare*—[0]. [f. POMACE + -EOUS.] Resembling or consisting of pomace.

1828 in WEBSTER. 1882 in OGILVIE.

†**Poma·da, poma·do.** *Obs.* Also 7 **pommada**, **-ado**, **pom(m)ade**. [a. It. *pomada*, *-ata* (Florio), f. *pomo* pommel of a saddle: see -ADA. In form *pomm-*, after F. *pommade*; see also -ADO.] An exercise of vaulting upon or over a horse by placing one hand on the pommel of the saddle.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 28 Mercury..to inspire my pen with some of his nimblest Pomados and Sommersets. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, How oft he hath done the whole or the halfe pommado in a seuen-night before. *a* 1697 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 418 He was .. very.. active. He did the pomado in the saddle of the third horse in his armour. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pomada*. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Pomada*, an exercise of vaulting the wooden horse, by laying one hand over the pommel of the saddle.

†**Poma·de,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [= med.L. *pōmāta* (Du Cange), obs. F. *pommade* (1514 in Godef., from Gascony or Bearn), Pr. *pomada* cider: see POME *sb.*, -ADE I.] A drink made of apples; cider.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 412 May no pyement ne pomade ne presiouse drynkes Moyste me to þe fulle ne my þurst slake.

Pomade (pɒmē·d, ‖poma·d), *sb.*[2] Also 6–7 **pomado**, 7 **pomada**, **-ata**, **pommade**. [a. F. *pommade* (in this sense) = Sp. *pomada*, It. *pomata*. See POMATUM, and cf. prec.] A scented ointment (in which apples are said to have been originally an ingredient) for application to the skin; now used esp. for the skin of the head and for dressing the hair.

Pomade divine, name of a healing salve.

1562 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* II. 11 To make a sweete Suet called in Frenche and Italian Pommade in latine pomatum. 1598 FLORIO, *Pomada*, *Pomata*, a pomado to supple ones lips, lip-salue. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 264/2 [Recipe for] an excellent spanishe Pomado. 1611 COTGR., *Pommade*, Pomatum, or Pomata (an oyntment). 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* x. 28, I have a Pomada to make fair the skin. 1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Pomada*, or *pomata*, a sweet smelling salve made of apples. 1756 FOOTE *Eng. fr. Paris* II. Wks. 1799 I. 122 Your washes, paints, pomades. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Children* (ed. 4) III. 107 A cold.. usually requires nothing more than a little pomade divine.. to be put to the nostrils. 1874 BURNAND *My time* vi. 48 He was partial to sweet-smelling pomade.

Hence **Poma·de** *v. trans.* [cf. F. *pommader* (18th c. in Godef.)], to anoint or dress with pomade: whence **Poma·ded** *ppl. a.*

1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentlem.* xliv, A powdered and pomaded woman like Mrs. Sam. Crockford. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances Back* I. xxi. 411 The bachelors..pomaded their hair with great liberality.

Pomage, obs. form of POMMAGE.

Pomaise, Pomall, obs. ff. PUMICE, POMMEL.

Pomander (pōu·-, pɒ·măndəɹ, pɒmə·ndəɹ). Now *Hist.* Also 6 **pomaunder**, **pommaundre**, **pomemaunder**, **pom(e)amber**, 6–7 **pommander**. [Early mod.E. *pom(e)amber* (whence by dissimilation *pomander*), a. OF. **pome ambre*, *pomme d'embre* (13th c.), f. *pome* apple (see POME) + *ambre* AMBER; in med.L. *pōmum ambræ* (13th c.).

Stressed *poman'der* by Skelton, J. Heywood, Wither, and so given by Bailey, Ash, Walker, Smart, Worcester; *pom'mander* or *po'mander* in *Dr. Dodypoll* (1600), Drayton, G. Herbert, Herrick, and so given by Johnson, Webster 1828, Ogilvie, Cassell.

c 1280 *Roman de la Rose* 21008 Plus olant que pomme d'embre. 13.. *MS. Harl.* 2378 in Henslow *Med. Wks. 14th C.* 122 *Pomum ambre*.]

1. A mixture of aromatic substances, usually made into a ball, and carried in a small box or bag (see 2) in the hand or pocket, or suspended by a chain from the neck or waist, esp. as a preservative against infection.

1492 *Privy Purse Exp. Hen. VII* in Bentley *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 90 To one that brought the King a box with pomandre 10*s*. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXVII. 125 The rofe was..Knotted with pomaunders right swetely, Encencing out the yll odours misty. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1027 Colyaunder, Swete pomaunder, Good cassaunder. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* XXVII. (1870) 290 Make a pome-maunder vnder this maner. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark*, *Bk. Simples* 59 b, A precious Pomamber to be worne against foule stinkyng aire. 1564–78 — *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 49 Be not without a good Pomeamber made of Storax, Calamite [etc.]. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* II. 9 Or like Pomanders of a curious Sent. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple*, *Odour* iv, Then should the Pomander, which was before A speaking sweet, mend by reflection. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Pomander Bracelet*, The beads I kist, but most lov'd her That did perfume the pomander. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 55 Balls are therefore called vulgarly *poma ambræ*, or Pomanders. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1804/4 A little Gold Box, with a sweet Pomander in it. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 P 2 Bracelets of braided Hair, Pomander, and Seed-Pearl. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xi, The courtier .. bowed out of the room, leaving an odour of pomander behind him. 1864 HAWTHORNE *Dolliver Rom.* (1879) 23 Pomanders, and pomades, the scented memory of which lingered about their toilet tables.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Something scented, or having a sweet odour.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vii, [said to a fop] Away, good pomander, goe. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* v. i, Oh what a stinking thief is this?..Tames street to him Is a meere Pomander. 1629 R. HILL *Pathw. Piety* II. 185 [We] God's Pomander, smell better by rubbing.

2. The case in which this perfume was carried, usually a hollow ball of gold, silver, ivory, etc., often in the shape of an apple or orange.

1518 *Privy Purse Exp. Princess Mary* 1 Jan. (1831) p. xxii, To the frenche quenes seruant that brought a pomander of gold. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 605 A ball or pomander of crystall held opposit between the member and the Sun beams. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 108 Abundance of Hair Bracelets, Lockets, Pomanders, Knots of Ribbands. 1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* (1882) II. 272 He himself carried a pomander of silver in the shape of an apple, stuffed with spices.

b. *fig.* Applied to a book containing a collection of prayers; also of secrets, etc.

1558 BECON (*title*) The Pomander of Prayer, wherein is contained many godly Prayers, whereunto are added certayne Meditations, called S. Augustin's. *Ibid.* Ded., I thought it good..to geue vnto you this mi Pommander of praier, wher in ar breifli contained such godli praiers as ar most mete in this our age to be vsed of al degres & estates. 1650 (*title*) The Divine Pymander of Hermes Mercurius Trismegistus,..Translated..into English By.. Doctor Everard.

3. *attrib.*, as *pomander box*, *bracelet*, *chain*.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, Walkes all day hang'd in pomander chains. 1610 — *Alch.* I. iv, Offring citizens-wiues pomander-bracelets, As his preseruatiue, made of the elixir. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VII. Wks. 1813 I. 527 An *Agnus Dei* hung by a pomander chain at her neck. 1906 *Athenæum* 3 Feb. 133/1 We see the clouded cane and pomander box of Sir Plume.

‖ **Pomard, pommard** (pɒmā·r). [From Pomard, Pommard, the name of a village in the department of Côte d'Or, France.] A red Burgundy wine.

1833 C. REDDING *Mod. Wines* v. (1836) 100 Pomard, of somewhat more body than Volnay. 1883 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 Dec. 787/1 A dozen of oysters .. and a bottle of pomard. 1905 *Wine Merchant's Price List*, *Burgundies*...Pommard, a fine full-flavoured wine.

Pomarine (pɒ·mărəin), *a. Ornith.* [ad. F. *pomarin*, arbitrary repr. of mod. L. *pōmatorhīnus*.] = POMATORHINE; applied to a species of Skua.

1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVI. 633/1 The skua..the pomarine jager .. and Richardson's jager. 1863 *Spring Lapl.* 359, I could never detect the pomarine skua..breeding in this district. 1885 SEEBOHM *Brit. Birds* III. 349 *note*, The Pomarine Skua does not differ from the other Skuas in the structure of its nostrils.

†**Poma·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *pōmāri-us* of or relating to fruit (f. *pōmum* fruit, *pōmus* fruit-tree) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pomarious*,..of or belonging to an Orchard or to fruit in general, but most commonly Apples. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pomarious*, (lat.) belonging to a Pomary, i. an Orchard, or place set with Apple-trees. 1775 in ASH.

†**Po·marist.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *pōmārium* (see next) + -IST.] The keeper or proprietor of an orchard.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 86/1 Pomarists or Lovers and Keepers of Orchards.

†**Po·mary.** *Obs.* In 4 **pomeri**, 5 **-arie**. [ad. L. *pōmārium* an orchard, prop. neut. of *pōmārius* adj., f. *pōmum* fruit.] A fruit-garden; an orchard.

a 1380 *Pistill of Susan* 63 Euery day bi day In þe Pomeri þei play. *Ibid.* 209 Þorw-out þe pomeri we passed us to play. *? a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3364 Was no pomarie so pighte of pryncez in Erthe. [1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pomary*, a place set with Fruit trees, an Orchard; also an Apple Loft.]

Pomate (pōu·mēt), *sb. rare. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 8 *Sc.* **pomet**. [ad. mod.L. *pōmātum*: see -ATE[1].] **a.** = POMACE 2 a. **b.** = POMATUM 1.

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 175 There is made a Mash or Pomate of this Root. 1773 FERGUSSON *Auld Reikie* Poems (1785) 206 The pomet slaister'd up his hair. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Pomate (pōmē·it), *v. rare. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f.

POMATUM: cf. -ATE 3.] *trans.* **a.** To reduce to a pomatum or paste. **b.** To dress (the hair) with pomatum.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 743 Tincture of Steel pomated. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* xliii, His hair..was as if it had been pomated.

Pomatic (pomæ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πῶμα, πωματ-* lid, cover (see POMA) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the poma; arising from the overlapping of the poma, as a fissure in a monkey's brain.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 162/1 A lateral between the pomatic margin and the ectal surface of the temporal gyre. *Ibid.* [see POMA].

Pomatioid (pomæ·tiˌoid), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pōmātias*, generic name, a. Gr. *πωματίας* a snail with an operculum (*πῶμα*).] Resembling or pertaining to the genus *Pomatias*, or the family *Pomatiidæ*, of operculated terrestrial snails.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Pomatorhine (pōʊ·mătorəin), *a. Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *pōmatorhīnus* adj., f. Gr. *πῶμα, -ατ-* lid, cover + *ῥίς, ῥιν-* nose.] Having the nostrils partly covered with a scale. Applied ineptly to a single species of *Stercorarius* or Skua, all the genus being really 'pomatorhine': cf. POMARINE.

1884 YARRELL *Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) III. 671 The Pomatorhine Skua is said..to deposit two eggs in a mere depression of the moss on the tundras of the Taimyr. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* 530 *Stercorarius pomatorhinus* (Temm.), Pomatorhine Skua.

Pomatum (pomē·ˈtŭm), *sb.* [a. mod.L. *pōmātum*, f. *pōmum* apple + *-ātum*, -ATE¹.]

1. = POMADE *sb.*²

1562 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* II. 42 b, This Pomatum wil be as whyte as snowe. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. XCV. 1276 There is likewise made an ointment with the pulpe of Apples and Swines grease and Rose water, which is vsed to beautifie the face..called in shops *Pomatum*, of the Apples whereof it is made. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CLXVIII. 258 Pomatum, which is of much use to soften and supple the roughnesse of the skin. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 129 Gums and Pomatums shall his flight restrain. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 240 Its essence is mixed with pomatums for the face and hands. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* ii, Their..hair..disguised with powder and pomatum.

attrib. 1629 DAVENANT *Albovine* V. i, They say it is your custom to sleep in Pomatum Masques. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1808/4 One Silver Pomatum-Pot. 1885 T. A. GUTHRIE *Tinted Venus* X. 121 Your bottles and pomatum-pots.

†**2.** = CIDER. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1657 *Physical Dict., Pomatum*, a drink made of apples.

Hence **Pomatum** *v. trans.*, = POMADE *v.*; **Pomatumed** (-ŭmd) *ppl. a.*, anointed with pomatum; **Pomatumy** (-ŭmi) *a.*, sticky with pomatum.

1786 *Pogonologia* 80 His whiskers..combed, and pomatumed by his mistress. 1821–30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* i. 29 Powdered and pomatumed hair. 1857 LD. CAMPBELL *Lives Chief Justices* III. lii. 250 The wigs that had been properly frizzed and pomatumed. 1894 MRS. RITCHIE *Chapters fr. Mem.* i. 10 Features, ornamented with little pomatumy wisps of hair.

Pomayse, obs. form of PUMICE.

‖ **Pombe** (pǫ·mbe). [Swahili *pombe*.] An intoxicating drink made by fermentation from many kinds of grain and some fruits in Central and East Africa.

1857 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* (1860) I. iii. 95 Grain is so abundant that the inhabitants [of Zungomero] exist almost entirely upon the intoxicating pombe, or holcus-beer. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* V. (1873) I. 117 The chief brought a huge basket of *pombe*. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. vii. 151 The great jar of froth-topped pombé is then brought up.

Pombgranade, obs. form of POMEGRANATE.

Pombil: see POMELY *a.*

Pome (pōʊm), *sb.* (Also in comb. 5 powm(e, 6 poum, 6–7 pom.) [a. OF. *pome* (F. *pomme*):—late L. or Romanic **pōma* apple, orig. pl. of L. *pōmum* 'fruit', later, 'apple'.]

1. A fruit of the apple kind or resembling an apple; now only *poet.* an apple. † *Punical pome*, pomegranate: = Apple Punic (APPLE 3).

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 742 Ox dong aboute her roote if that me trete, The pomes sadde & braune wil hit gete. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Ballad Commend. our Lady* 121 O punical pome ayens al pestilence. 1589 FLEMING *Virg. Georg.* II. 22 A taste .. of wholsome cytron pome. 1729 *Evelyn's Sylva* II. v. 154 They have sometimes produced a pretty small Pome. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XXVII. (1852) 466 Like her of old, ere dropped the golden pome.

b. *Bot.* A succulent inferior fruit, consisting of a firm fleshy body formed of the enlarged calyx, inclosing two or more few-seeded carpels (rarely only one) of cartilaginous or bony texture, forming the core: as an apple, pear, quince, haw, etc.

1816 KEITH *Phys. Bot.* II. 160 In the pear the pome tapers down gradually to the point of insertion. 1853 in *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 14 The fruit is a small black pome.

†**2.** The heart or head of a cabbage, cauliflower, or broccoli. (F. *pomme.*) *Obs.*

1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 178 When their heads, and pomes are formed, if you perceive any of them ready to run to seed, draw the plant half out of the ground. 1664 — *Kal. Hort.* Aug. (1729) 213 Cauly-flowers over-speeding to pome and head.

3. *transf.* A ball or globe, especially of metal; the royal globe or ball of dominion = *golden apple* (APPLE 6); see also quot. 1866.

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3355 And syne profres me a pome pighte fulle of faire stonys..In sygne þat I sothely was soueravne in erthe. 1579 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 293 A belt with .. ane pome garnissit with perll. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XVIII. 131 Where was the rubied crown, the sceptre where, And where the golden pome. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 257 *Pome*, a round ball of silver or other metal; which is filled with hot water, and is placed on the altar in winter months to prevent danger or accident with the chalice, from the hands of the priest becoming numb with cold.

†**4.** *Fortif.* The rounded projecting shoulder of a bastion. *Obs.*

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 125 The parts of a Bulwarke are..the Orecchion or Pome, or gard, or shoulder. 1598 FLORIO, *Orecchione*, that part of a bulwarke which is called by some the pome, guard, or shoulder.

†**5.** = POMANDER 1. *rare.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 146 Precyus invnctment, salve, or fragrant pome.

6. *Comb.*, as *pome-bearing, -shaped* adjs.; †**pome-adam** [in F. *pomme d'Adam* = mod.L. *pomum Adami*] = ADAM'S APPLE 1, lime-fruit; †**pome-paradise** [cf. F. *pomme de paradis* (Cotgr. 1611)], a sweet kind of apple, = PARADISE APPLE a, HONEY-APPLE b; †**pome-quince,** ? an apple-shaped variety of quince; †**pome-warden,** ? = POME-PEAR. See also POME-CITRON, etc.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. XXVI. 482 As for *pome-adams [*Fr. orig.* pommes d'Adam] they are round, twise or thrise as great, as orenges. 1901 *G. Nicholson's Dict. Gard., Cent. Suppl.* 645/2 *R[osa] pomifera* (*pome-bearing). Great Apple Rose. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 164 The *Pome-Paradise, or hony Apples called Melimela. 1611 COTGR., *Passe-pomme*, the Pome-paradice, Honny-apple, or Honny-meale; (an apple thats quickly ripe, and quickly rotten). 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pome-paradice*, a fruit called a John-apple. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 105 A liniment of it and *Pome-quinces or Peare-quinces, easeth the head-ach. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pomiform*, *pome-shaped. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 605 Other more comon fruytes; as costardes, wardens, *pomewardons, richardons, damysyns, and plummes.

†**Pome,** *v. Obs.* [ad. F. *pommer*, f. *pomme*: see prec.] *intr.* To form a close compact head or heart, as a cabbage, lettuce, etc.; to head, to heart.

1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 175 There is another sort of cabbage..they seem to me the most natural of all the rest; for they pome, close to the ground. 1699 — *Acetaria* (1729) 150 Lettuce ty'd close up, Pome and Blanch of themselves. 1727 S. SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* III. XXIII. 130 The time of sowing the chief of the *Brassica's*, especially those that pome or cabbage.

Pomeamber, obs. form of POMANDER.

†**Pome-apis.** *Obs.* Also 7 **pome-appease,** 8 **pomme d'Api, -d'Apis.** [ad. F. *pomme d'api*: cf. L. *malus appiana* (Pliny), f. the name of one *Appius*, who is said to have grafted the apple on a quince-stock.] A variety of apple.

[1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 87 In the olde time the cheefest Apples were .. Claudians, Matians, and Appians, so called of their first founders. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Pomme, Pomme Appie, ou d'Appie*, an Apple thats like a Quince, both in smell, and bignesse.] 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 232/1 Fruit Trees .. for a moderate Plantation. Apples .. Passe-pome: Pome Apis: Cour-pendue. 1669 WORLIDGE *Cyder* (1691) 211 There is a curious apple newly propagated, called Pome-appease...I suppose this is that which is called the Ladies Longing. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 361 Pomme d'Api,.. and some Apples of less Account. 1767 J. ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 671 Apples... Aromatic russet, Pomme d'Apis, Newtown pippin.

†**Pome-ce·dre.** *Obs.* [f. POME + F. *cèdre*, It. *cedro* citron.] = next.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 The pome-cedre corageos to recomfort. 1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) F iv, Pomegarnades, orenges, figges, dates, almandes, pomecedres.

†**Pome-ci·tron.** *Obs.* [f. POME + CITRON. Cf. L. *mālum citreum.*] = CITRON 1.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 81 A great frute as bygge as pome citrons. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 92 If they [citrons] be very great and rounde like Pompeons, they call them Pomcidrons. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 359 The Pomecitron is not so good to be chewed and eaten of it selfe. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. 1173 The Iland yeeldeth Figs, Pomegranates, Muske-millions, Pome-Citrons very faire. 1709 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. II. 56 Pine-Apples, Pome-citrons, Pomegranates, and other sorts of Fruits. 1802 JAMIESON *Use Sacr. Hist.* I. II. 439 The pome-citron is said to bear fruit at all times.

b. *Comb.*, as *pome-citron pill, tree, wood.*

1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* XVI. 66 In stead of incense they vsed Cedar or Pomecytron wood for perfume. 1641 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Song Sol.* VIII. iii, From under the Pomecitron tree. 1675 H. WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 177 The Pomo-citron-pills preserve and help digestion.

†**Pome-dorry.** *Obs.* Also 5 **-dorreng, -de Oringe.** [f. POME + DORY *a.* 2, F. *doré* gilded.] In *Old Cookery*, A meat ball or rissole coated with yolk of egg, etc.: cf. ENDORE *v.*

c 1381 *Anc. Cookery* § 42 (1780) 106 For to make Pommedorry. Take Buff and hewe yt smal al raw..rost yt and endorre yt wyth 3olkys of eyryn. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 37 For powme dorrys .. Endore hit with 3olkes of egges. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 58 Pome dorreng. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 442 Frasure to make Pome de Oringe. Take the lyvre of porke, and bray hit all rawe right smal [etc.]..do therto a lytel floure, and endore hom therwith in the rostynge.

Pomege, obs. form of PUMICE.

Pomegranate (pǫm-, pʊmˌgræ·nėt, pǫ·m-, pʊ·mˌgrænėt). Forms: 4 **pomme-, poom-, powmbe-,** 4–5 **poum(e-, pum-,** 4–6 **powm-,** 4–8 **pom-,** 6 **pomb-,** 4–8 **pome-**; *a.* 4–6 **-garnade, -garnard(e, -garnat(e, -garnet(t(e,** (4 **-gernett,** 5 **-garned**); *β.* (5 **-grenet**), 5–7 **-granad(e, -granat,** 5 **-granarde,** 6–8 **-granet**; *γ.* 4 **pown-, poun-garnette,** 4–6 **-garnard,** 4–7 **-garnet,** (5 **-karnet**); 5 **pon-,** 6 **poyngarnette, ponegarnarde, pound garnette.** *δ.* 5 **bamegarnade,** 6 **palm-garnete.** [ME. a. OF. *pome* (*pomme, pume*) *grenate, -ade, -et(t)e, garn-, gharn-, guarn-, guern-, gern-ate, -ade, -et(t)e*, f. *pomme* apple + *grenate*, in mod.F. *grenade* = It. *granata*, Sp. *granada*:—pop.L. or Com. Romanic *grānāta* for cl. L. *grānātum* (= *mālum grānātum*, in med.L. *pōmum grānātum*), a pomegranate, lit. (an apple) having many grains or seeds. The stem-part *gren-* became in OF. by metathesis *gern-, garn-*, whence the Eng. forms in *-garn-* from 14th to 16th c.; the OF. ending *-ate* became in Eng. *-at(e, -ette, -et(t*, the F. *-ade* of southern origin (see -ADE) gave Eng. *-ade* and *-ard*. (Cf. GARNADE¹, GARNET², GRANATE², GRENADE¹.) The first element (in Norman F. *pume, poume*) became in ME. variously *pomme, poom, pome, pom, pomb*, and *poum, pum, powmb*, corrupted to *poun, pown, pon, poyn*, and *pound*. Stressed by the poets generally from 17th to 19th c., and by Bailey, Johnson, Walker, Smart, *pomegra·nate*; in some recent dictionaries *po·megranate.*]

1. The fruit of the tree *Punica Granatum*, N. O. *Myrtaceæ*, a large roundish many-celled berry, with many seeds, each enveloped in a pleasantly acid juicy reddish pulp, enclosed in a tough leathery rind of a golden or orange colour tinged with red.

a. 1320–30 *Horn Ch.* 374 A poumgarnet þer sche brak. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1466 As þay prudly hade piked of pomgarnades. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xiii. 24 [23] Of the powmgarnettis [1388 of pumgarnadis] for sothe..thei token. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. xcix. (Bodl. MS.), Malus granata is a tre þat bereth pommegarnettes. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 84 Take þe iowse of þe poume garnet. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 Orengis, almondis, and the pome garnade [*rime* glade]. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 186 Pumgarnetis & many other spycis. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Pome garnet, *pomme de granade*. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N j b, Ye must gyue hym some of a pomgarnade to eate. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cxliii. 53 The juyce of pome Garnardes. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Pomegarnet*, or *pomegranet*, a kind of fruit.

β. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 244 Gourdes and Poumgrene[t]s. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 108 Bawmes, oliues, pomegranardes. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. vii. (1541) 21 b, Pomegranates be of good iuyce, and profitable to the stomacke. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 35 The tree, that beareth the pomgranate. 1590 WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 33 Al manner of fruites whatsoeuer,.. Pombgranades, Orenges, Limons. 1591 DRAYTON *Harmonie of Ch.* (Percy Soc.) 27 Pleasant liquor that distils from the pomgranet fine. *c* 1620 ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 1095 Her temples, peices of Pomegranates seeme. 1655 E. TERRY *Voy. E. Ind.* 96 Here are..store of Pome-granats, Pome-citrons. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VII. 149 With deeper red the full pomegranate glows. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 681 Nor, on its slender twigs Low-bending, be the full pomegranate scorn'd. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. 632 Pomegranates are quoted in 1284 at a shilling each.

γ. 1382 Poungarnet [see b]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (MS. Bodl.), Almaundes and poungarnardes leueþ here malice bi crafte of tileinge. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 647/37 *Hoc malum granatum*, pounkarnet. 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 330 Item, for xvj. pongarnettes, the same day, ij.s. vj.d. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 74 A present of poyngarnettes and apulles. 1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij b, Pound garnettes the M. vis. iiiid. 1545 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 224 Unum pomum granatum vocatum 'a pound gayner' [? *error for* garnet]. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* XXXIX. (1870) 218 Olyues, ponegarnardes, .. Figges and Raysins, and all other fruites. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* III. (1596) 97 Granadas, which wee call Poungarnardes. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. XXVI. 281 Like vnto the graines of a Poungarnet. 1660 R. MAY *Accomplisht Cook* 2 Almonds, Poungarnet and Lemons.

δ. 1480 Bamegarnade [see 5]. 1599 DALLAM *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 85 Heare dothe grow good store of..palm garnetes.

fig. a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 39 With Kateryne incomparable,.. That pereles pomegarnet. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Times* 80 Those precious Spirits that can deal The Pomegranates of Grace at every Meal.

b. The tree (*Punica Granatum*) which bears this fruit, a native of northern Africa and western Asia, now naturalized in the warmer regions of the globe generally; a POMEGRANATE-TREE.

1382 WYCLIF *Song Sol.* VI. 10 [11] Beholde, if..the poungarnetis [1388 Pumgranate trees] hadden burioned. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb., A labyrinth of cypresse, noble hedges of pomegranates. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 380 There are several other Trees and Shrubs..now in Flower, as..Pomegranates with double and single Flowers. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 493 The young pomegranate's blossoms strew Their bloom in blushes ever new. 1856 BRYANT *Momero* ii, I see thy fig-trees bask, with the fair pomegranate near. 1856 DELAMER *Flower Gard.* (1861) 127 The Double-

flowered Pomegranate will thrive out-doors, in England, against a wall.

c. The flower of the pomegranate; usually scarlet, rarely white or yellowish.

1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarèl* II. 122 A woman goes by with a knot of pomegranate in her dark hair. 1886 SHELDON tr. *Flaubert's Salammbô* 14 As rosy as a half-opened pomegranate.

2. A carved or embroidered representation of a pomegranate as an ornament or decoration.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxviii. 34 In the myddil litel belles menged, so that the litel belle be gold, and a powm garnet [1388 pyn appil]. *Ibid.* xxxix. 23 Litil bellis of moost puyr gold, the whiche thei puttiden bitwix the powmbe garnettis [1388 pum garnadis], in the nether more party of the coote bi enuyroun. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 168 Tapstre warke with pounde garnettes. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. iv, Those walls were ornamented with the pomegranate consecrated to Isis. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 33 For finial, it [the Old Cross of Wigtown] has a pomegranate cut in stone.

3. Applied, with defining words, to other trees in some way resembling the pomegranate; as the Native P. (*Capparis nobilis*), and Small Native P. (*Capparis mitchelli*) of Australia.

1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Native Plants* 12 'Small Native Pomegranate', 'Native Orange'. 1894 *Melbourne Museum Catal., Economic Woods* 10 (Morris) Native Caper Tree or Wild Pomegranate. Found in the Mallee Scrub.

†**4.** *transf.* A rissole. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 38 Pome-Garnez.—Take lene Raw Porke..& hew it smal..panne make þer-of pelettys, as it were Applys, be-twene þin hondys.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pomegranate apple, bark, colour* (hence *pomegranate-coloured* adj.), *kernel, root*; *pomegranate-like, -red* adjs.; **pomegranate-water**, a drink made from pomegranates.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* x. iv, Trees beryng Bamegarnade apples. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 77 Her cheekes like .. faire pomegranade kernels washt in milke. 1754 J. BARTLET *Farriery* 22 Take pomegranate bark, or oak bark, two ounces. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 692 The tongue..is now dry, livid, black or of a pomegranate colour. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 130 (*Dahlia superflua*), the purple..brick-red, dark red, pomegranate-coloured, dark purple. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 177 Grenadia, and bark of the pomegranate root. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* viii, That small pomegranate-like mouth. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 87 Pomegranate-water..an agreeably cooling drink.

Pomegranate-tree. = prec. I b.

1382 WYCLIF I *Sam.* xiv. 2 Saul dwellide..vndur a poomgarnet tree. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/1 A Pomgarnett tree, *malogrenatus*. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* I. (1596) 7 The Balsamo..is made of a tree greater then a Powngarnet Tree. 1680 OTWAY *Caius Marius* IV. i, Nightly on yon Pomegranate-tree she sings. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 325 The pomegranate tree is a native of the south of Europe, Asia, and Barbary.

Pomeis: see POMEYS.

Pomel, -ele, -ell, -elle, obs. ff. POMMEL, -ELLE.

†**Po·meled**, *a. Obs.* [f. OF. *pomelé*: see POMELY.] Dappled; = POMELY *a.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v, þer kyddes ben kydded with pomeled here, as þe hynde calfes. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 587/28 *Guttatus*, pomeled *ut equus*.

Pomelion, variant of POMMELION.

Pomelo (pǫ·mĕlo, pǫ·mēlo). Also **pomello, pum(m)elo, pomolo, pommelo.** [Of uncertain formation and history; app. related to *pomum, pomo, pome* apple.] **a.** In the East Indies, a synonym of the POMPELMOOSE or SHADDOCK (*Citrus decumana*). **b.** In America, applied to the variety or sub-species of *Citrus*, also called 'grape fruit' and (in the English market) 'forbidden fruit'.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pomelloes*, a name under which forbidden fruit is sometimes sold in this country by fruiterers. 1859 *All Year Round* No. I. 17, I cannot agree ..that the Amoy pomelo is the finest fruit in the world. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 332 Mangosteen, pomolo, banano. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 139 The orange, lemon, shaddock, pomelo,..were weighed down by their own golden fruit. 1886 *Guide Mus. Econ. Bot., Kew Gardens* No. I. 29 Pumpelmousse or Shaddock, fruit of *Citrus decumana*... The Pumelo is a smaller fruited variety.

†**Po·mely**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 5 **pomely, pomly, pomelee** (also *Sc.* **pommill, pombil, pompyll, poumle**), 7 **pomele.** [ad. OF. *pomelé* (mod.F. *pommelé*) marked with round spots, dappled, f. OF. *pomel* little apple: see POMMEL, and cf. DAPPLED.] Marked with rounded spots, dappled.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 616 This Reue sat vp on a ful good stot That was al pomely grey. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 288 In Arabye þei ben clept Gerfauntz, þat is, a best pomelee or spotted. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 829 The pomly gray for hym y vndirtake. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. iii. 217 Apone a coursere pommill [*v. rr.* pombil, poumle, pomely, pompyll] gray Adressaly he sat. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 844 Upon a pomely palfray. [1658 PHILLIPS, *Pomelegryse*, (old word) dapple-gray.]

Pomemaunder, obs. form of POMANDER.

†**Pome-pear.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 **powmpere, 6 poumper, 7 pom-poire, pome-peare, 7–8 pompire.** [f. POME + PEAR *sb.*, after F. *pomme poire*, 'a peare apple' (Cotgr.), or med.L. *pomum pirum*.] See quot. 1640.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Powmpere, frute, *pomum pirum*. 1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poumper, frute. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 438 The Melapia: for their resemblance and participation of apples and peares together, as a man would say, Peare-apples, or pom-poires. 1617 RIDER *Dict.*, A Pompire, or Peare maine. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* XVI. lxxii. 1501 The Pome-peare, or Apple-peare, which is a small Peare, but round at both ends like an Apple, yet the tree is a Peare tree.

Pome-pirk, abbrev. form of POMPERKIN.

Pomeranian (pǫmĕrē·niăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. *Pomerania*, name of the province, a. med.L. *Pomerānia*, f. *Pomerānī* a Slavonic tribe. (Ger. *Pommern.*)] Of or pertaining to Pomerania, a district on the south coast of the Baltic Sea, now a province of Prussia. **b.** *sb.* Short for *Pomeranian dog.*

P. bream, a variety of bream (*Abramis buggenhagii*) supposed to be a hybrid between the Bream and the Roach. *P. dog*, a small dog of a variety characterized by a pointed muzzle, pricked ears, full eyes, and long thick silky hair, either black, white, or cream-coloured.

1760 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 604 A droll Pomeranian puppy. 1787 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 265 The shepherd's Dog in Germany, called Pomeranian. 1865 COUCH *Fishes Brit. Isl.* IV. 42 Pomeranian Bream. 1882 EDNA LYALL *Donovan* v, The handsome Pomeranian.. his tail bristling with wrath. 1884 DAY *Fishes* II. 194 Pomeranian bream. .. This gregarious fish, which is of a hardy nature, is found in many sluggish rivers, canals, ponds, broads, and lakes in this country.

Pomeri, variant of POMARY.

Pomeridian (pǭᵘmĕri·diăn), *a.* [ad. L. *pōmerīdiānus* postmeridian, f. *post* after + *meridiānus* MERIDIAN.] †**a.** = POSTMERIDIAN *a. Obs.*

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 485 About the third hour Pomeridiane. 1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 40 The West windes are attendants of the Pomeridian or afternoon houres.

b. *Entom.* Flying in the afternoon, as some lepidopterous insects. **c.** *Bot.* Opening or closing in the afternoon, as a flower.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pomeridian*, occurring in the afternoon.

Pomerium, obs. form of POMŒRIUM.

†**Pomeroy.** *Obs.* Also 7 **pome-roie, pomroy.** [app. f. F. *pomme* (OF. *pome*) apple + *roi* king.] An old variety of apple; perh. = king-apple.

1600 BRETON *Strange Fort. Two Princes* (Grosart) 19/2 Plucking off an apple called a Pome-roie. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 92 Thou Pomroy or thou apple of mine eye. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* I. 2. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Jan. (1729) 191 Apples .. Pome-water, Pomeroy. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Pomeroy*, a good-tasted apple, not very juicy, but of a pulpy substance.

†**Pomeroy·al.** *Obs.* Also 6 **pome riall.** [app. f. F. *pomme* (OF. *pome*) apple + *royal* royal.] Some kind of apple, ? the same as POMEROY.

1534 T. GOLDWELL in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 288 We have one frute growing here with us in Kent, the which is called a Pome riall. He is called a very goode apull, and goode to drynke wyne withall. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 87 The Pippen, the Romet, the Pomeroyal. 1617 RIDER *Dict.*, A Pomeroiall, *Malum apionium*.

†**Po·mery.** *Rom. Antiq. Obs.* Forms: 6–7 **pomerie, 7 pomœrie, 7–8 pomery.** [Anglicized form of L. *pōmērium*.] = POMŒRIUM.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. x. (S. T. S.) I. 61 Than sall his hede be coverit, his body skurgit, owthir vtouth or Inwith þe pomerie, and eftir all hingit on ane vnhappy tre. *Ibid.* xvii. 97 Pomerie is callit ane certaine boundis passand round about ony toun nixt þe wallis þareof. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. xxvi. 19 Having whipped and scourged him..either within the Pomœrie or without. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pomery.* [1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 83 A..church,..known by the name of St. Martin in the Pomery.]

†**Po·met.** *Obs.* (?)

1583 *Rates of Customs* D vj b, Passemin lace, look pomet lace. *Ibid.* D viij, Pomet lace of silk the groce viii *s.*

†**Pomet,** in *pomet touris*, error for *pount*: see PONT[1].

Pometée, -etie, -ettie, obs. ff. POMMETTY.

Po·mewa·ter. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6–7 **pom-.** [app. f. POME + WATER *sb.*] A large juicy kind of apple.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 15 The pomewatyr, and the gentylle ricardons. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 4 Ripe as a Pomwater. 1600 DEKKER *Old Fortunatus* I i, Tis de sweetest apple in de world, tis better den de Pomewater, or apple John. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 72 The fruit when 'tis ripe, as big as the largest Pomewater. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pome-water*, a large sort of Apple full of a very sweet Juice. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 116 The pomewater..far surpasses the queening. 1883 *Hampsh. Gloss., Pomewater*, a large apple, tempting to the sight, but excessively sour.

b. *fig.* (Cf. *apple of his eye.*)

1607 W. S[MITH] *Puritan* C j b, The Captaine louing you so deerely, I, like the Pomwater of his eye, and you to be so vncomfortable, fie, fie.

Pomeys, pomeis (pōᵘ·mis), *sb. pl. Her.* Also *sing.* (in Dicts.) 8 **pomey**, 8–9 **pomme.** [Of uncertain form, app. only in plural, which may possibly be an antiquated spelling of *pommes*; cf. later quots.] The name given to roundels when of a green colour.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 150 He beareth Argent iii. pomeis in pale, which is as much to be vnderstand as iii. grene Appels. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xix. (1660) 352 Pomeis are taken for Apples without their Stalkes. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pomey*, (in Heraldry) the figure of an Apple or Ball, which is always drawn of a green Colour. 1766–87 PORNY *Her.* Dict., *Pommes*, green roundelets used in Coats-of-arms. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 3) 73 Roundles...The Pomme..*vert.*

Pomeys, obs. form of PUMICE.

Pomfret (pǫ·mfrĕt). Also **pamflet, pomphlet.** [App. derived from Pg. *pampo*, F. *pample*, said to be applied to the same fish. A dim. **pamplet* may have become *pamphlet, pomphlet*, and *pomfret.*] A fish of the genus *Stromateoides*, inhabiting the Indian and Pacific Oceans, much esteemed for food, particularly the two species *S. niger*, the *black pomfret*, and *S. sinensis*, the *white pomfret*, which when young is known as *silver pomfret*, and when old is the *grey pomfret.*

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 393 A very delicious Fish called the Pamplee, comes in Sholes. 1812 in Mar. Graham *Jrnl. India* App. ii. 201 Another face look'd broad and bland, Like pamflet floundering on the sand. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 52–3 The pomfret is not unlike a small turbot,..epicures esteem the black pomfret a great dainty. 1886 YULE *Hobson-Jobson* 545 The French of Pondicherry call the fish *pample*. 1891 *19th Cent.* Jan. 98, I have enjoyed .. pomphlet at Bombay, and blue-fish at Boston.

b. A species of sea-bream, *Brama Rayi*, found near Bermuda.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*, and in later Amer. Dicts.

Pomfret-cake (pǫ·mfret kēik). [f. *Pomfret* (AN. and ME. *Pontfret*, now spelt *Pontefract*), a town in Yorkshire.] A liquorice cake made at Pontefract.

1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 347/2 The soil around it [Pontefract] .. produces..liquorice-roots, from the juice of which the medicine called pomfret-cakes is made. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* v, He'll have the run of the pomfret cakes. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 7/1 The Pontefract (or Pomfret) cake is a dainty little circular confection, into the composition of which liquorice enters largely.

Pomgarnade, -garnat(e, -granat(e, etc., obs. ff. POMEGRANATE.

Pomice, obs. form of POMACE, PUMICE.

Pomiculture (pōᵘ·mikᵿ·ltiŭi). [f. L. *pōm-um* a fruit + CULTURE.] The art or practice of fruit-growing. Hence **Pomicu·lturist.**

1876 A. J. EVANS *Thro' Bosnia* vi. 250 The Bosniacs show themselves absolutely incapable of pomiculture. 1894 *Tablet* 27 Oct. 648 Valuable directions .. with reference to pomiculture. 1895 *N. B. Daily Mail* 27 Sept. 4 We pay .. upwards of seven hundred thousand pounds annually .. to Transatlantic pomiculturists.

†**Pomier.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *pomier*, F. *pommier* an apple-tree:—L. *pōmārius*.] A pome-bearing tree; an apple or pear tree.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIV. xii, She lovyd nothynge savyng trees and gardyns, as pomiers or apple and pere trees.

Pomiferous (pomi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *pōmifer* (f. *pōmum* apple, fruit + *-fer* bearing) + -OUS.]

1. Producing fruit, or specifically apples; *spec.* in *Bot.*, applied to trees and plants bearing pomes or pome-like fruits (formerly including cucumbers, melons, and the like), as distinguished from bacciferous or berry-bearing plants.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pomiferous*, that beareth fruit. 1664 H. POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 48 The Seeds of all pomiferous Plants. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 101 All Pomiferous Herbs, Pumpions, Melons, Gourds, Cucumbers. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pomiferous Trees*,..are such as have their Flower on the top of the Fruit, and their Fruit in the Form of an Apple or Pear. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 121 By pomiferous fruits I would be understood to mean all of the Apple kind, such as have thick fleshy substance inclosing many seeds. 1851 GOSSE *Nat. in Jamaica* 145 Sunny, spicy, pomiferous groves. 1893 *Cornh. Mag.* July 60 The sunny sloping pomiferous town of Hexham.

2. Carrying an apple. *nonce-use.*

1757 STUKELEY *Medallic Hist. Carausius* 29 A coin represents Adam pomiferous in this manner.

Pomiform (pōᵘ·mifōm), *a.* [f. L. type **pōmiformis*, f. *pōmum* fruit, apple: see -FORM.] Having the shape of a pome or apple.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pomiformis*,..having the round form of an apple .. pomiform. 1892 *Tablet* 16 Apr. 633 It would not surprise us if pomiform galls were some day found on the willow.

Pomiglion, obs. form of POMMELION.

Pomis(e, Pomised, obs. ff. PUMICE, PUMICED.

Pomivorous (pomi·vŏrəs), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pōmum* fruit + -VOROUS.] That devours apples.

1855 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 262 The common boy. The small and pomivorous animal which we so call.

Pomly, variant of POMELY *Obs.*

Pommada, -do, var. POMADO *Obs.* **Pommade, Pommander, pommaundre**, obs. ff. POMADE, POMANDER.

Pommage (pǫ·mĕdʒ). Also 6–8 **pomage.** [Cf. F. *pommage* cider harvest or production, f. F. *pomme* apple + -AGE. In sense 2 perh. a variant of POMACE.]

†**1.** Cider. *Obs. rare.*

1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 4 In the wealdish, or woody places,..of late daies they used muche pomage, or cider for want of barley. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 161 In some places of England, there is a kind of drinke made of apples, which they call cider or pomage.

2. = POMACE 1.

1789 W. MARSHALL *Glocestershire* (1796) II. 304 In common practice, the pomage is pressed, immediately as it is ground. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 291 The bridge or cross-piece which acts on the pommage. 1884 THUDICHUM *Alcoholic Drinks* 32 The ground apples are

termed pommage. A man grinds, with one horse, between two and three hogsheads of pommage a day.

Pommard, Pomme: see POMARD, POMEYS.

‖ **Pommé, -ée** (pome), *a. Her.* [F. *pommé*, pa. pple. of *pommer* to come to a round head, f. *pomme* apple: see POME.] = POMMETTY.

1725 COATS *Dict. Her.* s.v. *Pommettée*, A Cross Pommettée is certainly the same above call'd Pommee and Pommelee. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, A *cross-pommé*, or *pommetté*, called also *trophee*, is a cross with a ball or knob, like an apple, at each end. 1882 [see POMMELLÉ].

Pommel (pŏ·měl), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 4–7 (9) pomel, -elle, 5 poomel, 5–6 pomele, 5–7 pommell, 6- pommel, (6 pomall, poemell, pomeaw). *β.* 5 pumelle, 6 -ill, 6–7 -el, -ell, pummell, -ill, 6–9 pummel. [ME. a. OF. *pomel* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm., mod.F. *pommeau*) rounded knob, pommel of a sword or of a saddle, = Pr. *pomel*, It. *pomello*:—late L. type **pōmellum* (med. L. *pōmellus* in Du Cange), dim. of *pōmum* apple (see POME).]

I. †**1.** A globular body or prominence; a ball; a round boss, knob, or button. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxv. 11 A goldun pomel in beddis of siluer is he, that spekith a word in his time. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6717 Lower doun ek ther was set A-nother poomel, wych off makyng Was lasse & Round, (to my seemyng). 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xxxi. 125 In the mone is a body polysshyd and fair lyke a pommell right wel burnysshed. 1541 COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* F j, Makynge a party of the orbytall or emynent pomall that is rounde bryght. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 325/1 He beareth..a Rowel of six points, at each a pomell or Button.

†**2.** A ball or spherical ornament placed on the summit of a tower, dome, gable, or pillar, at the corners of an altar, etc.; the ornamental top of the pole of a tent, a flag-staff, or the like; a finial. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 249 The pomel aboue the led Is iwrout with so moche red. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 562 Þou3 a man in her mynster a masse wolde heren, His siȝt schal so [be] set on sundrye werkes, Þe penounes & þe pomels & poyntes of scheldes Wiþ-drawen his deuocion. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 136 Abouen þe principall toure er twa pomelles of gold. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 357 Euery yere vpon the last day of August was sene a grete hand that toke the pommel of the said toure & pullyd it fro the toure. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. III. viii. 639/2 A new Cross, with a Pomel well gilt, [was] set on the Top thereof [the Spire]. [1842–76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Pomel*, a globular protuberance terminating a pinnacle, etc.]

3. A rounded knob; an ornamental knob generally.

a. The knob terminating the hilt of a sword, dagger, or the like.

α. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10037 Ffro þe hilte vnto þe pomel Was twenti vnche large. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. xix. 99 Merlyn toke his swerd and toke of the pomel and set on an other pomel. 1584 LYLY *Sappho* II. iii, Hee that can..weare his dagger pomel lower then the point. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 167 The Gentlemen..that haue priuiledge to weare Swords, as the Doctors of Ciuill Law, haue plaine pommels to them, neuer guilded. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. 256 It is also charged upon a small shield upon the pommel of his sword-hilt.

β. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/2 A Pumelle (*A.* Pomel), *tolus*. 1583 FLEETWOOD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 291 His man haithe stricken the carrman with the pumell of his sword. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 618 The pummell of Cæsars Faulchion. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2050/4 A Rapier Sword, the Hilt of which was made with a whole Shell, and a long Bar from the Shell to the Pumel. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. III. iv. 136 The two Pummels or Ends of this Staff, which jutted out.

†**b.** The knob on the breech of a muzzle-loading cannon; = CASCABEL 1: cf. POMMELION. *Obs.*

1639 R. WARD *Animadv. Warre* 129 The Center of the pummell or Caskable of the Peece. 1672 W. P. *Compl. Gunner* iv. 5 The Pumel or Button at her Coyl or Britch-end is called the Casacabel. 1692 in *Capt. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. vi. 94 The Cascabel or Pummel.

†**c.** An ornamental knob on a chair, the cover of a cup, etc. *Obs.*

1424 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 57 My flat couered pece [of plate] whith a sqware pomell. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 745 Ye shall..ryde, my doughter, in a chare,..Your pomelles shalbe ended with gold. 1526 *Inv. Goods Dk. Richmond* in *Camden Misc.* (1855) 19 A Chaire of clothe of golde, frynged with redde silk and gold, with iiij. pomelles of silver and gild. 1608 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in One* Induct., To touch the pomel of the king's chair..is better security..than three of the best merchants.

†**d.** The pole-star (? the knob of the sky). *Obs.*

1503 *Kalender of Sheph.* L j b, The stern that we cal the pomeaw of hewyns & ryght vnder yt ys the sown at the howr of mydnyght. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 56/45 A Pomel, *polus, i.*

†**4.** A rounded or semi-globular projecting part. *Obs.*

a. The rounded top of the head; the crown.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1831 He pighte hym on the pomel of his heed.

b. A woman's breast. *poet.*

1413 HOCCLEVE *Compl. Soul* 199 Wks. (E.E.T.S.) III. p. lvii, Of this pomel will I my selfe rest...That is, thi selfe, moder, maide and wiffe, The sustenaunce and solace of my liffe. *a* 1586 *Bankis of Helicon* 63 in *Montgomerie's Poems* (S.T.S.) 275 With yvoire nek, and pomellis round, And comlie intervall.

c. The lower side of the closed fist.

1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 75 The nether part of this Hand in this posture Chiromancers call the pomell or percussion of the Hand.

d. A bastion.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 18 A square Castle, with a Tower, joined to it by a Pomel of a Wall.

5. The upward projecting front part of a saddle; the saddle-bow.

α. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 191 Their swerdes hangynge at the pomell of theire sadeles be-fore. 1591 FLORIO *2nd Frutes* 41 Now hold me that stirop. Get vp, and hold fast by the pomell. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 109 ₱ 3 Taking him.. before him on the Pommel of his Saddle. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 367 The rider..was forcibly thrown forward on the pommel of the saddle.

β. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xiii. 79 This bottle hanging at the pummel of my saddle. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1242/4 A large Scar under the pummel of the Saddle. 1720 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* viii. (1731) 126 A Saddle broad under the Pummel is always very uneasy.

II. [? f. POMMEL *v.*, PUMMEL *v.*]

6. *techn.* **a.** (In form *pummel.*) A square-faced tool used by stonemasons as a punch. **b.** An oblong wooden block with a convex ribbed face for making leather supple and graining it.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 36 The three holes were broke into one, by square-faced Pummels. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 465 All leather should be submitted to the action of the pommel. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pommel*,..a block of hard wood used by curriers in pressing and working skins to render them supple. It is flat above and rounded below.

7. The bat used in the game of 'knur and spell'.

1845 [C. ROGERS] *Tom Treddlehoyle's Thowts*, etc. 39 (E.D.D.) Burd-caiges, pumils, waukin-sticks, an' knurs. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Jan. 48 The bats, or sticks, known as pommels. 1893 'SILPHEO' *Random Rhymes* 8 (E.D.D.) Those who the 'pummel' well can wield With 'spell and bullet' take the field.

8. *Comb.* **Pommel-foot, pummel-foot, club-foot.**

1861 W. BARNES in *Macm. Mag.* June 127 Man may be marred..by perverse fashions—as in the pummel feet of Chinese women. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pommelfoot*, a syn. for *Clubfoot*.

Pommel (pŏ·měl), *v.* Also 6 pomel(l: see also PUMMEL. [f. POMMEL *sb.* 3 a, *lit.* to strike with the pommel of a sword instead of its edge or point,] *trans.* To beat or strike repeatedly with or as with a pommel; to beat or pound with the fists; to bruise.

1530 PALSGR. 662/1, I pomell, I beate one aboute the eares, *je torche*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 49 b, Ye duke ..tooke hym..and pomeled so aboute the hed that the bloud yssued out of hys nose. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 645 Calling in his imps to hold their arms while he pommels them. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Old Benchers I. T.*, He.. pommelled him severely with the hilt of it [a sword]. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 70 There is a degree of absurdity in two mortals setting solemnly to work to pommel one another.

Hence **Po·mmelling, -eling** *vbl. sb.*; also **Po·mmeller, -eler,** one who pommels.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 334 The old man's ire was somewhat appeased by the pommeling of my head. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xvii. 146 A contention in which your pommellings are active. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pommeler.

†**Pomme·lion.** *Obs.* Forms: 8 pomiglion, pummelion, 9 pommillion, pomelion, pommelion. [An unexplained extension of POMMEL in sense 3 b; said to be originally a sailors' word.] A cascabel: = POMMEL *sb.* 3 b.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) H j, The..cascabel of the gun..sailors call the pomiglion, or pummelion. 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Pomelion*, the cascabel, or hindmost knob of a cannon. 1837 MACDOUGALL tr. *Graah's E. Coast Greenland* 74 The entire length of the gun, from muzzle to pommillion, was sixtyfive inches and a half. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Pommelion.*

‖ **Pommellé, -elé** (pŏ·mĕle), *a. Her.* Also -elly. [F. *pommelé*, pa. pple. of *pommeler* (in obs. sense) to assume a rounded or knobbed form, f. OF. *pommel*: see POMMEL.] = POMMETTY *a.*

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 61 b, A crosse pomelle, Sable. This is so termed for the roundness thereof at the endes. 1725 COATS *Dict. Her., Pommee, a Cross pommillee.* 1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, Pomelled (*Her.*) or Pommelly. 1882 CUSSANS *Her.* (ed. 3) 62 A Cross, the limbs of which are terminated by a single ball, is termed a Cross Pommé, or Pommelé.

Pommelled, pomelled (pŏ·měld), *a. Her.* [f. POMMEL *sb.* + -ED 2.] Of a sword: Having the pommel of a specified tincture.

1766–87 PORNY *Her.* (ed. 4) 182 Three Swords in Pile .. Pearl, pomeled and hilted Topaz. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. § 10 (ed. 3) 317 A sword erect gu., hilted and pomelled or.

b. = POMMELLÉ. 1823 [see prec.].

Pommes, obs. form of PUMICE.

Pommetty (pŏ·mĕti), *a. Her.* Also 7 -etie, 8 -etée. [a. F. *pommetté*, f. *pommette*, dim. of *pomme* apple.] Terminating in a knob or knobs, as the arms of a cross. So †**Po·mmeture,** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *pommeture*], the condition of being pommetty.

1611 COTGR., *Pommetté, ée*, pommetie;.. *Pommeture*, pommeture; or the being Pommetie. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 6 Nov. (O.H.S.) II. 302 Three Crosses pometées. 1766–87 PORNY *Her.* (ed. 4) Dict., *Pommetty*, this is said of a cross, whose extremities terminate with a button or knob at each end, like an apple.

Pommey (pŏ·mi). *dial.* Also **pommy, pummy.** [app. a. obs. F. *pom(m)ee, pomeye* cider, also apple sauce (Godef.):—L. type **pōmāta*; see POMADE. But it may be a popular corruption of POMACE (*pommis, pommice*), or in some other way related to that word.] = POMACE 1.

1843 FALKNER in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 383 The pommey (that is, the pulp after it has been pressed) will generally contain a large number of entire seeds. 1874 T. HARDY *Madding Crowd* II. 275 Saying 'ware o' the pommy ma'am; 'twill spoil yer gown'. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pummy*, ground apples, in process of cider making. Always so called before the juice is expressed; and the same word is applied to the refuse when pressed dry; this latter is, however, sometimes called cider-muck.

Pommice, -is, obs. ff. POMACE, PUMICE.

Pommill: see POMELY *a.*, dappled.

Pommillion, variant of POMMELION *Obs.*

†**Pomming-stone.** *Obs.* = PUMICE-STONE.

1615 SWETNAM *Arraignm. Wom.* (1880) p. xv, In their loue a woman is compared to a pomming-stone, for which way soeuer you turne a pomming stone it is full of holes.

Pommy, var. POMMEY; obs. form of PUMICE.

‖ **Pomœ·rium.** *Rom. Antiq.* Also 7 pomerium. [L. *pōmœrium, -mērium*, f. *post* behind + *mœrus, mūrus* wall.] The open space running inside and outside the walls of a city, which was consecrated by the pontifex and ordained to be left free from buildings; = POMERY. Hence *transf.*

1598 R. GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* XII. vi. (1622) 162 After that, the circuit or pomœrium was augmented, according to the fortune and riches of the Kings. 1618 BACON *Let. to King* 2 Jan. in *Cabala* (1654) I. 9 The City grown from wood to brick, your Sea-walls or *Pomerium* of your Island surveyed. 1814 *Regent's Park* 25 It reserves a great pomœrium for the public health and recreation. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) II. xxiv. 382 The ancient wall, with its once sacred pomœrium, was rather an object for antiquarian interest..than any protection against the enemies.

Pomois, obs. f. POMACE. **Pomolio:** see PUMILO.

Pomolo, variant of POMELO.

Pomology (pŏmo·lŏdʒi). [ad. mod.L. *pōmologia*, f. *pōm-um*: see POME and -LOGY. So F. *pomologie* (Littré).] The science and practice of fruit-culture; also, a treatise on fruit-culture.

1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. I. 160/1 Repeated experiments.. which I made for the promotion of Pomology. 1839 *Pomological Mag.* I. 106 Diel, in his Pomology.. suggests its having been derived from a kind of Spanish gold coin called a real. 1851 R. HOGG (*title*) British Pomology—The Apple. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 8 May 613/1 No intelligent pomologist, whether grower or amateur, should neglect to furnish his shelves with so thorough a directory..to our more familiar branch of pomology, apple and pear fruits.

Hence **Pomolo·gical** (pōu·mo-) *a.*, **Pomo·logist.**

1839 (*title*) The Pomological Magazine; or, Figures and Descriptions of the most important varieties of fruit cultivated in Great Britain. *Ibid.* 14 The Summer Bonchretien Pear...By some Pomologists it is supposed to be the Regalia of Valerius Cordus. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* I. 14 Our pomologists..select the three or the six best pears 'for a small orchard'. 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *My Farm of Edgewood* 153, I once had the hardihood, in a little group of pomological gentlemen, to express a modest opinion in praise of the flavor of the Bartlett pear.

Pomona (pomō·u·nă). *Rom. Mythol.* [L. *Pōmōna.*] The goddess of fruits and fruit-trees; hence, the fruit-trees of a country, or a treatise on them (cf. *flora*). *Pomona green*: see quot. 1842.

1584 PEELE *Arraignm. Paris* I. i, To them that do this honour to our fields Her mellow apples poor Pomona yields. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pomona*, a Nymph of Latium reckon'd to be the Goddess of Orchards and Fruits; whence the Word is taken for a Title to several Treatises of Fruit-trees. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 663 Bear me, Pomona, to thy citron groves. 1833 T. HOOK *Love & Pride, Widow* ii, The pleasing viridity..of her mother's pomona pelisse. 1842 D. R. HAY *Nomencl. Colours* (1846) 44 *Pomona green* is the popular name of all full-toned greens in which yellow predominates. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 48/1 The rose colour, cornelian red, and pomona green require a less degree of heat.

Pomonic (pomo·nik), *a.* [f. POMONA + -IC.] Consisting of or pertaining to fruits.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1890 TALMAGE *Pathw. Life, Jesus* 332 (Funk) What floral and pomonic richness!

†**Pomou·n.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *poumon* lung.] The lungs.

13.. *K. Alis.* 4374 (Bodl. MS.), He carf his herte & his Pomoun [*v.r.* pomon] And þrew hym ouere his arsoun.

Pomp (pŏmp), *sb.* Also 4–7 pompe, 5 pumpe. [a. F. *pompe* (13th c. in Du Cange):—L. *pompa*, ad. Gr. *πομπή* a sending, a solemn procession, a train, parade, display, pomp, f. *πέμπειν* to send.]

1. Splendid display or celebration, magnificent show; splendour, magnificence.

c 1315 SHOREHAM iv. 260 Who hys hit þat neuer yþou3t Of pompe þat he se3? 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7077 Þus salle alle þair pomp oway pas, And be als thyng þat never was. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 317 b/2 For the pompe of my clothynge men calle me Margaryte. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* v. 8 What profit hath the pompe of riches brought vs? *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 54 Thys mariage of prince Arthur was kept at London with great pompe and solempnitie. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 354 Farewell..The Royall Banner, and all Qualitie, Pride, Pompe, and Circumstance of glorious Warre. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Nahum* ii, Thine enemy..shall come fiercely upon thee, with great pompe of terror. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 559 High o'er the Main in wat'ry Pomp he rides. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* ix, The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lxiii. 453 He generally avoids publicity, preferring the substance to the pomp of power.

b. with *a.* and *pl.*

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Dying* v. § 8 (1727) 250 In the

grave of her husband, in the Pomps of mourning. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shaks.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 352 The church has reared him amidst rites and pomps.

c. *fig.* Said of the splendours of nature.

c 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegies* i. 39 Where the turf diffus'd its pomp of flow'rs. 1825 LONGF. *Sea-Diver* vii, I saw the pomp of day depart. 1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 48 The whole landscape is now covered with this indescribable pomp.

† **2.** A triumphal or ceremonial procession or train; a pageant; a splendid show or display along a line of march. *Obs.*

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 43 By the vyctoryse pompys of her enmyes. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Pompe tryumphe, *triumphe.* 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 58 In olden dayes, good kings..Contented were, with pompes of little pryce. 1583 FULKE *Defence* xxi. (Parker Soc.) 564 As for the Greek word πομπεύειν, it signifieth to go in a solemn pomp, such as your processions are. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. IV. i. (1903) 334 In the Pompe the wemen goe first and of them the best and the neerest frendes next to the herse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 564 The Planets in thir stations list'ning stood, While the bright Pomp ascended jubilant. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 317 Here, while the proud their long-drawn pomps display. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* I. i. 7 Those pomps or processions of young men and damsels..who..displayed themselves at the festivals.

† **b.** *fig.* (Cf. *train.*)

1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 61 With Goddess-like demeanour forth she went; Not unattended, for on her as Queen A pomp of winning Graces waited still.

† **c.** *fig.* Said of any great natural movement.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* II. vii, How Thames, inricht with many a Flood..Glides on, with pompe of Waters. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 420 ¶ 3 Worlds .. sliding round their Axles in such an amazing Pomp and Solemnity.

† **3.** Ostentatious display; parade; specious or boastful show; vain glory; esp. in phr. *pomp and pride. Obs.*

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 158 Gret los of pompe and pride, *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxi. 12 Paire pompe in speche, fordo it, that neghis noght til the in meknes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3785 Pompe and proude wordis ay þe prinse hated. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. CCXXV. [CCXXI.] 704 Bycause they suffred the prelates of the churche to medell so moche; therfore some sayde, it was tyme to abate their pompes, and to bringe them to reason. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 98 For all the pompe and Pryde, the Bodie tournes to dust. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* (1659) 49 After a long pomp and tedious preparation out of heathen authors. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 376 Deceiving the World with a Pretence and Pomp of Godliness. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 390 A mere piece of pomp and parade.

b. *pl.*

In the baptismal formula, repr. L. *pompa* or *pompæ diaboli* (and c., Tertull.), orig. the processions, public shows, spectacles of the circus, etc., associated with or sanctioned by the pagan worship (see sense 2 above); then, more vaguely, any 'shows' held to be under the patronage of the devil; finally (from 17th c.) tacitly transferred to those of 'the world', and associated with its 'vanities'.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4665 Y forsake þe, here, Satan, And alle by pompes, and all thy werkys. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 169 b, Whether thou renounce & forsake yᵉ deuyll & all his pompes. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Comm. Prayer, Catechism,* That I should forsake the deuil and all his workes and pompes, the vanities of the wicked worlde. [1603 the deuill and all his workes, the pomps and vanities of the wicked world.] 1746 EARL OF KILMARNOCK in A. McKay *Hist. Kilmarnock* (1880) 89 The pomps and gaudy shows of the world. 1835 MRS. SHERWOOD *Stories Ch. Catech.* (1873) 401 *Q.* What are pomps and vanities? *A.* All kinds of fine things which we use, or wear, to gratify our pride or vanity. 1845 G. A. POOLE *Churches* vii. 73 His armorial bearings (the very essential hieroglyphic of the pomps of this world which we renounce at Baptism). 1858 MISS SEWELL *Amy Herbert* x. 128 The pomps and vanities of the world are different to different people. If Susan Reynolds..were anxious to..wear a silk dress like yours, she would be longing for pomps and vanities, because she would be coveting something beyond her station.

† **4.** *concr.* Something to make a brave show.

1632 BROME *North. Lasse* I. ii, Here's five peeces to buy pomps against my Sisters Wedding.

5. Phrases. † *Magistrate of the pomps*: a sumptuary officer in Venice. † *To save one's pomp*: see quot. 1801.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 78 The Magistrate of the Pomps is oblig'd by his Office to see that no Body wears the Cloth of another Country. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 101 To save one's pomp at whist, is to score five before the adversaries are up, or win the game.

6. *Comb.*, as *pomp-fed, -like, -loving* adjs.

1711 HICKES *Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 107 The highest pomp-like celebrity of words. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 245 A pomp-fed king. 1903 BRANDES *Poland* I. iii. 24 An enthusiastic and unpractical people..pomp-loving and volatile.

† **Pomp,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. late L. *pompāre* to do (a thing) with pomp (Sedul.); obs. F. *pomper* to celebrate with pomp, act splendidly, etc.] *intr.* To exhibit pomp or splendour; to conduct oneself pompously. Also *pomp it.* So † **Po·mping** *a.*, in *pomping pride*, prob. a corruption of *pomp and pride*: see prec. 3.

c 1500 *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 172 He pryked forth before the oste For pompynge pryde to make great boste. 1555 BRADFORD *Supplic.* B ij b, For example, take their pompynge pryde. *c* 1632 B. JONSON *Expost. to. Inigo Jones* 29 What is the cause you pomp it so, I ask?

Pomp, *v.*[2] Now *dial.* [A variant of *pamp*, radical of *pamper* vb. See PAMP *v.* (the existence of which it confirms).] *trans.* To feed (any one) luxuriously, feed up, pamper.

[? *a* 1400: see PAMP *v.*] 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* v. (1554), The pomped carkes wyth fode delicious They did not fede. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2012 Where that ye were pomped with what that ye wolde, Nowe must ye suffre bothe hunger and colde. 1884 LAWSON *Worc. Gloss., Pomp, v.*, to pamper or feed up; spoiled children are said to be pomped up; also horses and other animals for sale. 1896 OUTIS *Vig. Mon.* in *Berrow's Worc. Jrnl.* (E. D. D.), [The ladies] wuz hall pomped hoff and togged up.

Pomp, pompe, obs. forms of PUMP.

Pomp, erron. form of POP *v.*[2]

‖ **Pompa.** Latin for POMP.

a 1704 T. BROWN tr. *Æneas Sylvius' Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. 1709 III. II. 79 'Tis true, you put on Mourning..and all the *Pompa Rogi* in wonderful Decency and Order. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 387 (ed. 2) 503 Pan..sitting.. over a grotto in which the great mother and the nymphs.. are likewise receiving a pompa.

Pompadour (pǫ·mpădūəɹ). Also 8 **pompedore.** After the Marquise de Pompadour, mistress of Louis XV (1721–64), used subst. and attrib. to designate fashions, a colour, etc.: either contemporary by way of compliment, or in later times with reference to the fashions of her time.

1. *gen.* Designating fashions of dress, hair-dressing, furniture, etc.: see quots.

1752 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 110, I think there is a time of life..when very gaudy entertainments are as unbecoming, as pink colour and pompadours! 1755 *Ibid.* 321, I don't know what you mean by a *pompadour*, unless it is what we call in this part of the world a *pelisse*; which in plain English is a long cloak made of satin or velvet,..lined or trimmed with silk, satin, or fur,..with slits for the arms to come out and a head like a capuchin. 1756 *Univ. Mag.* XIX. 133/2 No decent coif—but just before Was grandly plac'd a pompedore. 1765 *Ibid.* XXXVII. 366/1 Much resembling the modern pompadour. 1849 *Sidonia Sorc.* I. Pref. 9 In her hand she [Sidonia] carries a sort of pompadour of brown leather, of the most elegant form and finish. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* (1891) 77 She had a Pompadour stick with a big silver knob on top. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pompadour parasol*, a form of parasol used by women about 1860, having a folding handle, and generally covered with moire antique, or other heavy silk.

2. A shade of crimson or pink; also, a fabric of this colour. Also *attrib.*

1756 COWPER in *Connoisseur* No. 119 ¶ 9 His taylor..having dressed him in a snuff-coloured coat, instead of a *pompadour.* 1762 SMOLLETT *L. Greaves* XXV. (1793) II. 272 Mr. Clarke was dressed in pompadour, with gold buttons. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 31 He .. ever recommended a coat of pompadour, or some conspicuous colour. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 110 His coat was chocolate brown, with a pompadour velvet collar. 1896 *Daily News* 29 May, The stall-holders will be in the dress of Irish peasants—green petticoats, pompadour polonaises, and kerchiefs worn picturesquely over their heads.

3. Designating a pattern consisting of sprigs of flowers in pink, blue, and sometimes gold, scattered on a white ground.

1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 146 My aunt..put on her pompadour taffeta gown, and sallied forth to lament the misfortune of her dear friend. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. *Fashions* p. ix/2 Pompadour satins, a white ground embroidered in bouquets of different flowers in colours, are much in request. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Jan. 6/1 A very becoming loose cloak of some pompadour-looking material. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 3/2 Wearing a delicately Pompadour-patterned muslin frock.

4. A tropical S. American bird (*Xipholena pompadora*), characterized by the brilliant crimson-purple hue of its plumage. Also *attrib.*

1759 G. EDWARDS *Gleanings* III. 275–6 The Pompadour... Birds taken in a French prize...They were said to be for Madam Pompadour. It being a Bird of excessive beauty, I hope that Lady will forgive me for calling it by her name. ..Mr. Brisson..calls it Cotinga Pourpre. 1871 W. H. G. KINGSTON *Banks of Amazon* (1876) 462 The delicate white wings and claret-coloured plumage of a lovely pompadour would glance from the foliage. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 86 *Xipholena pompadora*—known as the Pompadour Chatterer, is of a hue scarcely to be seen in any other bird.

5. a. *U.S.* A fashion of dressing men's hair. Also *advb.*

1895 *Weekly Examiner* (San Francisco) 19 Sept. 1/7 Henry Jacob has a pompadour and a profile not unlike Durrant's. 1905 *News* (Malden, Mass.) in *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Nov. 12/1 Because Congressman Roberts has been so successful a campaigner and still had his hair cut pompadour, it does not follow that General Bartlett can win with his hair cut banged.

b. A style of arranging women's hair, in which it is turned back off the forehead in a roll, sometimes over a pad. Also *attrib.*

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 May 4/2 The hairdresser..might.. cease to coax us to the conviction that a .. pompadour puff of his manufacture were better. 1902 *Daily News* 23 Mar. 6/6 The hair dressed low in the neck and arranged in a Pompadour roll round the face. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 Oct. 8/5 It is absolutely impossible for a woman..to produce the strange erections known to-day as Pompadours, Regency curls, &c., naturally.

Pompal (pǫ·mpăl), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *pompālis*: see POMP and -AL.] Of the nature of a 'pomp' or procession; splendid, showy.

1650 TRAPP *Comm. Num.* x. 7 The sound of Gods word, must not be broken or quavering; (Pompall, Tertullian calleth it). *a* 1784 *Fall Duch. Gloster* in Evans *Old Ball.* (1784) I. 318 In height of all his pompal majesty, From Cobham's house with speed he marry'd me. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 336 (ed. 2) 397 In Dionysian pompal processions.

Pompano (pǫ·mpăno). Also pompono, pompinoe. [a. Sp. *pámpano*, applied to a stromateoid fish, *Stromateus fiatola.*]

1. One of various W. Indian and N. American fishes, highly esteemed for the table; as **a.** In the W. Indies, *Trachynotus carolinus*, a deep-bodied fish with blunt snout. **b.** In California, *Stromateus simillimus.* **c.** In Florida, *Gerres olisthostoma*, known as the *Irish pompano.*

1863 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* I. 340 The best dish was, unquestionably, the pompinoe, an odd fish, something like an unusually ugly John Dory. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Mar. 5/1 Soft shell crabs, terrapin, canvas-back ducks, blue fish, and the pompono of New Orleans, are all wonderful delicacies. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 198 The Pompano .. is not an angler's fish. 1891 V. STUART *Adv. Forests S. Amer.* 138 Another excellent fish was the pompono, several of which jumped on board.

2. **Pompano-shell.** A bivalve shell of the genus *Donax*; a species of wedge-shell, found on the coast of Florida. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

(Said to be so called because eaten by the pompano.)

† **Pompardy.** *Obs. rare.* Alleged name for a disease of horses.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy of Land Ships* Wks. I. 90/1 The Chinegall, the Nauelgall, Windgall, Spurgall,.. the Anticore, and the Pompardye.

† **Pompatic** (pǫmpæ·tik), *a. Obs.* [ad. late L. *pompāticus* showy, splendid (Tertull.), f. *pompātus*, prop. pa. pple. of *pompāre* to do (a thing) with pomp, f. *pompa* POMP *sb.*] Pompous, splendid, ostentatious. So † **Pompa·tical** *a. Obs.*

1535 JOHN AP RICE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 356 In his going he is too insolent and pompatique. 1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 78 He deuiseth by the pride of this Pompaticall title to subdue to himselfe. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1687) 122 These pompatick, foolish, proud, perverse, wicked, profane words. [1903 G. F. BROWNE *St. Aldhelm* 255 The genius of Aldhelm was on the whole too pompatic to be pleased with the lilt of pentameters.]

Pompeian (pǫmpī·ăn), *a.* Also 9 Pompeiian. [ad. L. *Pompeiān-us*, f. *Pompēii*: see -AN.] Of or pertaining to Pompeii, an Italian town, buried by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79 A.D., and since 1755 gradually laid bare by excavation. Hence *Pompeian red*, a shade of red resembling that found on the walls of houses in Pompeii.

1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. iii, A tolerable notion of the Pompeian houses. 1882 J. HATTON in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 21/2 The balustrades of the stairs, Pompeian red.

† **Pompelmoose, pampelmouse** (pǫ·mp-, pæ·mp'l,mūs). Forms: 7–8 **pompelmoes,** 7 **pampelimouse,** 8 **pomplemose, pumplemus,** 8–9 **pompelmoose,** 9 **pompel-mos, pompelmousse, -mouse, -mous; pumple-, pamplemousse, pampelmouse;** also 7–9 **pumplenose,** 8 **pumble-, pummel-, pimple-nose.** [A name which arose in the Dutch Indies in 17th c., and is given by early writers as the Dutch name of the fruit. Du. *pompelmoes* is recorded from 1676; F. *pampelimouse* (now *pamplemousse*) from 1696.

There is no native name in Malaysia resembling *pompel, moes*; the Javanese name is *djeroek*, the Chinese *yu.* In the opinion of Dr. Kern of Leiden, who has given special attention to oriental words, this is a compound, of which the second element is prob. *limoes* (in Fr. orthography *limousse*), a name applied to this fruit in Old Javanese, Malay, and Lampung, borrowed from the Pg. *limoes* pl. of *limão*, lemon, citron, under which the Portuguese included the species of *Citrus* found by them in the East. In Malay, *limu* or *limau* is still used in this general sense. The first element may prob. represent the Du. *pompoen* pumpkin, in reference to the large size of *Citrus decumana*, so that *pompelimoes, pompelmoes* may have been compressed forms of *pompoenlimoes*, i. e. 'pumpkin-like citron', an apt descriptive designation. The name *pompone* was actually applied to the fruit by Tavernier, *Voyages aux Indes*, Paris 1676, Eng. translation, London 1677; see POMPION 2. The corrupt Tamil *bambolmas*, given by Littré and Hatz.-Darm. as source of the Fr., with the more correct Tamil *pampalimāsu*, and numerous variants cited by Watson, Yule, etc., are merely corruptions of the Du. or Fr. form. The fruit is not native to India, but was introduced from Java (app. in the 17th c.), in Ceylon under its Dutch name; in Bengal its source is indicated by the designation *Batavī-nīmbū* or *nebū*, Batavian Citron.]

The large fruit of *Citrus decumana*, a native of Java and Malaysia, now established in many tropical countries, called also SHADDOCK; esp. the larger variety: cf POMELO. Also the plant itself.

[1676 SCHOUTEN *Oost-Indische Voy.* II. 165 De vrucht by de Nederlanders *pompelmoes*, en by de Portuguesen *jamboa* genoemt, *i. e.* The fruit named by the Dutch *pompelmoes*, and by the Portuguese *jamboa.*] 1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 212 Malus arantia, fructu rotundo maximo pallescente humanum caput excedente. Malus Arantia Indica, fructu omnium maximo, pumpelmus dicto medulla pallescente... *The Shaddock Tree.* In hortis & agris Insularum Jamaicæ & Barbados ubique provenit. 1696 PLUKENET *Almag.* 239 in Sloane *Voy. Jamaica* I. 41 Belgis orientalibus Pompelmus, Virginiensibus nostratibus (ab Inventoris nomine qui ex Ind. orient. ad oras Americanas primo transtulit) *Shaddocks* audiunt. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 587 They have Limons, Citrons, Pampelimouses, Limes. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. I. vii. 125 The Pumple-nose is a large Fruit like a Citron, with a very thick tender uneven rind. *a* 1706 RUMPHIUS *Herbarium Amboin.* (1741) II. 96 Limo Decumanus, Pompelmoes, Lemon Cassomba quam

ob ejus magnitudinem Decumanam cognovimus. 1711 C. Lockyer *Trade in India* vi. 177 The Pumplemus is like a pale Orange, contains a Substance much like it, and is five times as big. 1737 tr. *Bruyn's Trav.* II. lxv. 92 Two large Pompelmoeses. 1770 *Cook's Voy.* Dec. in *Hawkesworth's Voy.* (1773) III. 734 Pumplemoeses, which in the West Indies are called Shaddocks. These were well flavoured, but not juicy. 1773 E. Ives *Voy. India* 468 Chaddock .. the fruit..grows as large as a man's head, and is round; it is a fine pleasant fruit,..there are plenty of them at Ceylon and other places, and they commonly are called pumple or pimple-noses. 1792 Forrest *Voy. Mergui Archip.* 32 In his garden we found limes, oranges and pummel noses. , 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* LXIV. II. 811/2 The woods of Leuconia produce the *pomplemous*, a kind of orange near five inches in diameter...This is what our sailors commonly call the *pumblenose*. 1813 Maria Graham *Jrnl. India* 96 The fruits are..the pamplemousse or shaddock, the plantain and the orange. 1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 458 The Orange, Lemon, Lime, Shaddock, Pompelmoose, Forbidden Fruit, and Citron, Indian fruits.

Pompeon, -eous, obs. ff. Pompion, Pompous.

†Pomperkin, pompirkin. *Obs.* Also 8 **pome-pirk.** [Origin uncertain: ? f. *pome* or *pome-pear.*] A 'small drink' made from refuse pomace and water; ciderkin.

1637 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome* A iij b, The sixt sort of Brittish drinkes is Pomperkin..being nothing but the Apples bruised and beaten to mash, with water put to them. 1744-50 W. Ellis *Mod. Husbandm.* IV. iv. 15 The Produce of large Quantities of Cyder, and what we call Pompirkin, or Cyderkin. *Ibid.* V. i. 101 Pome-pirk, which they generally prefer to any of the best small Beer.

Pompernickel, obs. form of Pumpernickel.

†Po·mpery. *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *pomperie* pomp, display, f. *pompe* Pomp *sb.*: see -ery.] Pomp, splendour, magnificence.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2668 The vij sciencis, & eke lawe of Armys, Experimentis, & pompery, & al maner charmys. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xlii. 170 (Harl. MS.) Þe whiche in tyme of baptime made homage to god, & forsoke the devill and alle his pomperis. 1491 Caxton *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xli. 65/2 In her grete beaulte and pompery.

Pompet, -ett, obs. variants of Pumpet.

Pompey (pɒ·mpi), *v.* [Extended form of Pomp *v.*[2]; a word of Dickens.] *trans.* To pamper.

1860 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* vii, When I was old enough, I was to be apprenticed to Joe, and until I could assume that dignity I was not to be what Mrs. Joe [Gargery] called 'Pompeyed', or (as I render it) pampered. 1885 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 4/8 Now boys are 'pompeyed', in a Pumblechookian sense, to a degree which makes men envious. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Aug. 213/2 This kind of notoriety cannot but 'pompey' boys.

Pompeyous, obs. form of Pompous.

Pompholygous (pɒmfɒ·ligəs), *a.* [f. as next + -ous.] Affected with pompholyx. Also *fig.* puffed up.

1855 Tennyson in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* I. xix. 410 That mighty man, that pompholygous, broad-blown Apollodorus, the gifted X. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pompholygodes*,.. pompholygous.

Pompholyx (pɒ·mfŏliks). [a. Gr. *πομφόλυξ* (-λυγ-) a bubble, the slag of ore.]

†1. *Chem.* Crude zinc oxide, flowers of zinc.

1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Pompholix* [1706 Pompholyx], a small and volatile spark, which whilest Brass is trying in the Furnace, flies upwards and adheres to the upper part of the Furnace. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Prick in foot*, The Ointment of Pompholix is also an excellent Remedy for Oxen that are prick'd in the Feet. 1836-41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 771 The whiter parts of such oxide used to be called pompholix, and the gray..portions, tutty. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 688 *Pompholyx*, an old name for impure zinc-oxide, sublimed in the roasting of zinc-ores.

2. *Path.* A vesicle on the skin; also, an eruption of vesicles, without inflammation or fever, appearing chiefly on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet.

[1706 Phillips, *Pompholyx*, a Bubble of Water.] 1818-20 E. Thompson tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 328 Pompholyx; Water Blebs. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 359 Certain peculiarities of erysipelas and pompholyx. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 751 In addition to the typical pompholyx vesicle, sudamina are often present.

Pompian, obs. form of Pompion.

‖ Pompier (pɒ·mpiəɹ). [F. *pompier* (poñpye), f. *pompe* Pump *sb.*: see -ier.] The French name for a fireman. Hence **Pompier ladder**, a firemen's scaling ladder, having a central pole and cross-bars for rungs, and a hook at the top to attach it to a building, etc.

[1838 H. Greville *Diary* (1883) 120 Last night the Italian Opera House was burnt to the ground, and poor Severini.. lost his life, as did several of the *pompiers*.] 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 4/3 Their apparatus consisted of a water tower, a gun shot life line, a pompier ladder, and two horses. 1905 *Prot. Alliance Mag.* Aug. 89/1 Rescue was effected..by means of Pompier ladders.

†Pompi·llion. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Cf. Pompion 2.] A term applied in contempt to a man.

a 1625 Fletcher *Women Pleas'd* III. iv, He, hang him, poore Pompillion.

Pompillion, erron. f. Populeon, an ointment.

Pompine: see next. **Pompinoe,** var. Pompano.

Pompion, pumpion (pɒ·mpiən). Now *rare.* Forms: 6-7 **pompon, -one**; (6 **pompine**), 6-7 **pompeon**, 6- **pompion, pumpion**, (7 **pom-, pumpian**). [Orig. a. obs. F. *pompon* 'a pumpion or melon' (Cotgr.), nasalized form of *popon, poupon*, also in 16th c. *pepon*, ad. L. *pepo, -onem*, a. Gr. *πέπων, -ον-*, large melon, pumpkin. From F. also MDu., Du. *pompoen.* In Eng. *pompon* has undergone two anomalous transformations, first to *pompeon, pompion, pumpion*, and finally to *pumkin*, Pumpkin, q. v.]

1. The large fruit of a cucurbitaceous plant (*Cucurbita Pepo*); a pumpkin; also the plant itself.

a. 1545 Elyot *Dict.*, *Pepo*,.. a kynde of Melones called Pompones. 1555 Eden *Decades* 127 Gourdes melones cucumers pompons citrons. 1587 Harrison *England* II. xiii. (1877) I. 259 An acre of ground..whereon to set cabbages.. pompons, or such like stuffe. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XIX. v. 14 Now when they exceed in greatnes, they be called Pepones, i. Melons or Pompons.

β. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 95 Herbes and rootes to boile or to butter...Pompions in May. 1577 [see Pome-citron]. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 326 They haue great store of Maiz,..pompines and mellons. 1640 Brome *Sparagus Garden* III. viii, Pompeons are as good meat for such a hoggish thing as thou art. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 33 Pompians of a rare kind, almost as sweet as Milions. 1828 W. Irving *Columbus* xii. (1848) I. 380 Melons, gourds, pompions, and cucumbers.

γ. 1599 R. Gardiner *Kitch. Gard.* 12 Pumpions, Cucumbers, Beanes and Radish seedes. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 486 Take Cucumbers, or Pumpions, and set them (here and there) among Musk Melons. 1771 Lady Mary Coke *Jrnl.* 22 Nov., Yesterday I tasted some bread the half of which was made with pumpion. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xv, Pumpions are raised on a moderate hot-bed in April or May.

†2. Sometimes applied to the Pompelmoose. *Obs.*

1677 J. Phillips tr. *Tavernier's Voy., India* III. xxiii. 199 Coming to Bantam..We had also Mango's, and a certain large Fruit call'd Pompone [*orig.* gros fruit qu'ils nomment Pompone], red also within, the meat of it being soft and spungy, but of an excellent taste. 1704 tr. *Jan Nieuhof's East Indies* in *Churchill's Voy.* II. 326 The apples call'd pompions by the Dutch [*orig.* De vruchten of appelen, pompelmoesen by d'onzen..genoemt],.. grow scarce anywhere else in the Indies but in the Isle of Great Java.

†3. Applied in contempt to a (big) man. *Obs.*

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IIIa iii. 43 We'l vse this vnwholsome humidity, this grosse-watry Pumpion. 1623 Fletcher *Rule a Wife* I. v, O here's another pumpion, the cramm'd son of a starv'd usurer. *a* 1625 Fletcher & Massinger *Cust. Country* I. ii, What Should I call thee? Pompeon, Thou kisse my lady?

4. †a. *attrib. fig.* Swelling, big, magniloquent.

a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 120 Without pumpian words and ruffling grandiloquence.

b. *Comb.* as *pompion-bottle, -twine*; **pompion berry**: see quot. 1872.

1672 tr. *Bernier's Mem. Gt. Mogul* III. 16 That..the servants may easily, with their Pompion-bottles, water them. 1840 Browning *Sordello* II. 775 Observe a pompion-twine afloat. 1872 Schele de Vere *Americanisms* 403 Hack berries or Pompion berries..are obtained from a shrub.. (*Celtis occidentalis*), and are sweet and edible.

Pompious, obs. f. Pompous. **Pompire, pompoire,** var. Pome-pear. **Pompirk, -pirkin:** see Pomperkin. **Pompkin,** obs. f. Pumpkin.

†Pomple, pumple. *Obs.* [Etymology unascertained.] Some kind of fodder for oxen used in the north of England in the 14th century.

One suggestion is that it was vetches (*Lathyrus sativus*) still commonly sown with oats as green fodder; another that it was a mixture of pease and oats, which was even in the 19th c. a common fodder in the district. But the season of the year in the one case, and the association with hay (*cum feno*) in the other, make difficulties.

1347 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 42 [Feb.] In xliij travis straminis avenæ et xxiij travis de Pomple, emp. pro sustentacione Boum, xj s. viij d. [April] In xliij travis straminis avenæ et xxij travis de Pomple cum feno, xj s. iiij d. q[a]. 1348-9 *Ibid.* 43 [Feb.] In xlij travis straminis x travis de Pomple et feno emp. xv s. Extra Coq. In xxiij travis straminis et viij travis de Pomple cum feno empt. pro bobus pascendis. *c* 1350 *Ibid.* 44 [December] In..iiij travis de Pumple. 1349 *Finchale Invent.* (Surtees) p. xxxiij, xviij qu. vj bus. avenæ et pomple. 1394 *Jarrow & Wearmouth Invent.* (Surtees) 183 In campis seminatæ sunt .. xxxij. acræ frumenti,..lj. acræ cum fabis et pisis, x. acræ avenæ et pumpyl. [1900 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 235 A field of six acres on .. Bury (or Berry) Court Farm in Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent, was long known as 'Pompill Croft', ..in a bill in Chancery..*temp.* James I,..'Pumple Croft'.]

Pomplemose, variant of Pompelmoose.

Pompless (pɒ·mplės), *a.* [f. Pomp *sb.* + -less.] Without pomp.

1792 R. Cumberland *Calvary* (1803) II. 7 The cold dust, in which I sleep Pompless and from a scornful world withdrawn. 1848 Lytton *K. Arthur* VII. lxii, With burghers in his pompless train.

Pompoleon (pɒmpō·uliən). [a. F. *pompoléon* (Littré); cf. *Citrus Pompoleum*, the shaddock, in Buisson 1779; app. connected with *pompelmoose.*] A name in some places of the Shaddock or Pompelmoose (*Citrus decumana*).

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 215/2 Shaddocks .. when they arrive at their greatest size they are called Pompoleons, or Pomplemousses. 1848 D. W. Hoffmeister *Trav. Ceylon* 99 Tropical fruits new to me, pompoleons or shaddocks, jamboos, and mangoes.

Pom-pom (pɒ·mpɒm). [From the sound of the discharge.] The name given during the South African war, 1899-1902, to the Maxim automatic quick-firing gun: see Maxim *sb.*[2] Also *fig.*, and *attrib.* as *pom-pom gun, ammunition.*

1899 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 5/4 Automatic guns, nicknamed pom-poms. *Ibid.* 26 Dec. 2/3 An automatic gun, which Tommy Atkins, with his aptitude for expressive phrases, promptly christened 'Pom! Pom!' 1900 *Ibid.* 5 Mar. 2/3 Near where the 'pom-pom' gun was placed, is the overflowing supply store. *Ibid.* 25 June 3/3 We secured a Hotchkiss gun, 500 rounds of pom-pom ammunition. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Jan. 1/2 The fact..has never influenced him..towards a modification of his verbal pom-poms.

Pompon (pɒ·mpɒn, ‖ poñpoñ). Also 8 **pong pong, pomponne**, 8-9 **pompoo·n**, 9 **pompom, ponpon, pompone.** [a. F. *pompon* (1725 in Hatz.-Darm.) a tuft, top-knot; of uncertain origin; possibly a colloq. deriv. of *pompe*, Pomp.

OF. had *pompon*, Pompion, but this seems unconnected.]

1. A jewel or ornament attached to a long pin; a tuft or bunch of ribbon, velvet, flowers, threads of silk, etc., formerly worn in the hair, or on the cap or dress; now worn on women's and children's hats and shoes, and used to ornament the borders of mantles; also, the round tuft on a soldier's or sailor's cap, the front of a shako, etc.

1748 *Song* in *Charmer* (1751) II. 51 While you're placing a patch, or adjusting pong pong. 1748 *Lond. Mag.* (Fairholt), *Pong-pong*, an ornament worn by the ladies in the middle of the forepart of their head-dress. Their figures, size, and composition are various, such as butterflies, feathers, tinsel, coxcomb lace, etc. 1753 Chesterf. in *World* No. 18 P 11 'How do you like my *pompon*, papa?' continued my daughter ..putting up her hand to her head, and showing me in the middle of her hair a complication of shreds and rags of velvets, feathers, and ribbands, stuck with false stones of a thousand colours. 1754 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 300 Lady Betty is to have a very fine sprig of pearl diamonds and turquoises for her hair, by way of *pomponne.* 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* I. v, A milliner may have sent a wrong pompoon. 1826 *Hist. Pelham, Mass.* (1898) 191 Voted that the town will furnish the Money to purchase Pompons and feathers. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech Folkest.*, Pieces of black pointed wire with which, in the days of toupees and pompoons, our foremothers were wont to secure their fly-caps and head-gear. 1887 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 3/1 Black gauze dotted over with pompons of chenille of about the size of a shilling. 1897 S. Crane in *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 2/2 The blue sailor bonnets with their red pom-poms.

2. A variety of Chrysanthemum, and of Dahlia, bearing small globular flowers. Also *attrib.*

1861 *Morn. Post* 12 Nov., The pompons, or dwarf chrysanthemums. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s. v. *Chrysanthemum*, Chrysanthemums are classed by growers into Large-flowered, Anemone-flowered, Pompons, and Anemone-flowered Pompons. *Ibid.* s. v. *Dahlia*, A race of pompons with remarkably small flower-heads has been obtained. 1891 *Times* 15 Oct. 5/5 The four great divisions of show dahlias, cactus dahlias, decorative dahlias, and pompons.

Hence **Po·mponed** *a.*, decked with pompons.

1753 *World* No. 22 P 7 Exhibiting themselves in public places,..patched, painted and pomponed. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 109 The Head frizzled, egretted, pomponed, befeather'd, and beribbon'd all over.

Pompon, -pone, a pumpkin: see Pompion.

Pompoon, Pompose: see Pompon, Pompous.

Pomposity (pɒmpɒ·sĭti). In 5 **pomposite.** [ad. med.L. *pompōsitās*: see Pompous and -ity.] The quality of being pompous.

†1. Pomp, solemnity. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 Iulius Cesar ordeneide by the cownselle of the senate sette *in* pomposite alle the worlde to be dimencionate.

2. Display of dignity or importance in deportment or language; ostentatiousness. (In quot. 1620 as a mock-title.)

1620 Shelton *Quix.* (1746) IV. xi. 92 Let not your Pomposity forget to write to me. 1763 in Boswell *Johnson* 25 June, An affectation of pomposity, unworthy of a man of genius. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 135 Furious Latinisms, bristling with polysyllabic pomposity. 1879 M. Arnold *Mixed Ess., French Critic on Goethe* 302 Some acute remarks on the pomposity of diction.

Pompous (pɒ·mpəs). *a.* (*adv.*) Also 5 **pompyus**, *Sc.* **pomposs**, 5-6 **-ouse**, 5-8 **-ose**, 6 **-os**, *Sc.* **-us**, 6-7 **-eous**, 6-8 **-ious.** [=F. *pompeux* full of display (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *pompōsus* pompous, stately, solemn, f. *pompa* Pomp: see -ous.]

1. Characterized by pomp or stately show; magnificent, splendid; †processional.

1430-40 Lydg. *Bochas* VIII. xxvi. (MS. Bodl. 263) 2 With a gret host, most Pompous in his glorie. 1528 Roy *Rede me* (title-p.), I will ascende makynge my state so hye That my pompous honoure shall never dye. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xix. (1634) 724 They..goe in a long pompous shew to carrie a Pageant of holy oyle. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 60 The Poets bring..upon a stage..all what is pompous, grave, and delightfull. 1720 Waterland *Eight Serm.* 175 Upon this Occasion,.. it pleased God, in the most solemn and pompous Manner to proclaim the high Dignity of God the Son. 1738 Birch *Milton* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 47 The pompous Edition of it [*Paradise Lost*] printed by Subscription in 1688. 1841 Elphinstone *Hist. India* II. 342 There was a general fair and many processions and other pompous shows. 1896 T. F. Tout *Edw. I*, iv. 82 At the head of a pompous embassy.

2. Characterized by an exaggerated display of self-importance or dignity; boastful, vain-glorious, arrogant; consequential, pretentious, ceremonious; of language: inflated, turgid.

c 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 565 Was neuere Capitayn vnder a kyng..moore pompous in heigh presumpcioun Than Oloferne. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* 1125 in *Macro Plays*, Conforme

yow not to þis pompyus glory, But reforme in gostly felynge. 1529 More *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 225/2 If they kepe few seruauntes we call them nyggardes. If they kepe many we cal them pompouse. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 785 Coming, after a pompous and bragging manner. 1749 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) II. 311 In spite of all the pompous and specious epithets he may assume. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 108 It has, however, often been dignified with pompous names. 1814 Jane Austen *Mansf. Park* viii, Mrs. Rushworth, a well-meaning, civil, prosing, pompous woman, who thought nothing of consequence, but as it related to her own and her son's concerns. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 118 Those who spin pompous theories out of nothing.

comb. 1897 Flandrau *Harvard Episodes* 44 In one hand he carried a pompous looking bottle.

B. as *adv.* = Pompously.

1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) II. 55 The Earl having talked extremely pompous of the Honour and Antiquity of his Family.

Pompously (pǫ́·mpəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] 1. In a pompous manner; with magnificence or splendour; in pomp or state.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* XI. ii. 53 And bad thai suld tak gud kepe and attend, To leid the pray per ordour pompusly. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 125 Their horses, were all pompously garnished with golde and siluer. 1737 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. (ed. 33) 275 The Benefactor's Body having been pompously buried before in Barbados, was yet..brought over.

2. With display or parade; with affected dignity; ostentatiously, vauntingly.

1718 Hickes & Nelson *J. Kettlewell* III. li. 318 Preferring Truth and Righteousness to all other Considerations how Pompiously soever set off. 1847 C. Brontë *J. Eyre* viii, This charge which Mr. Brocklehurst has weakly and pompously repeated at second-hand.

Pompousness (pǫ́·mpəsnės). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or condition of being pompous: see the adj.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxh.) 243 Quoth Agas I sey yt for no pompousnesse A jentyl wumman I am as bern wytnesse [etc.]. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* clx. 992 If wee haue wherewith to maintaine ourselues well, we fall to gluttonie, pompousnesse, whoredom, and other loosenesse. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* I. iv. Rule ii. ¶ 14 They [Christ's miracles] had nothing of pompousness and ostentation. 1793 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 283 The pompousness of this Embassy could not but excite the attention of England. 1870 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 76 In verse, he had a pomp, which, excellent in itself, became pompousness in his imitators.

Pompyll: see Pomely *a.*

‖ **Pomum** (pǫ́·mŏm). *Bot. Obs.* [L., = fruit of any kind; in med.L. an apple.] = Pome 1 b.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. vi. (1765) 14 *Pomum*, is a fleshy or pulpy Pericarpium without Valve, containing a Capsule. 1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* XXVIII. (1794) 451 They all agree in..a *pomum* for a fruit.

Pomyce, pomys, obs. forms of Pumice.

Pon, obs. f. Pan *sb.*1, Pawn *sb.*1 (at Chess), Pond, Pone 3. **Ponade, -ado,** obs. ff. Panade 2, Panada. **Ponard,** obs. form of Poniard.

Ponce (pǫns). *slang.* [perh. from Pounce *v.*] (See quots.)

[1861 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* III. 354/1 The 'pounceys'; (the class I have alluded to as fancy-men, called 'pounceys' by my present informant).] 1872 *Clerkenwell News* 27 Jan., Prostitutes, or their 'ponces' or bullies. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Oct. 3/1 The ruffians who form the rank and file of the predatory gangs, are almost always the bullies or 'ponces' of prostitutes.

‖ **Ponceau** (pǫ̃sō̃·). [F. (OF. *pouncel* poppy, 12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] The bright red colour of the corn poppy. Also the name of a coal-tar dye of red colour.

1835 *Ladies' Cabinet* Feb. 135 Those [flowers] of cherry colour..are now superseded by ponceau, which has a much better effect by candle-light. 1861 J. Brown *Horæ Subs., Myst.* (1882) 132 A gown of rich ponceau satin. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 19 [Name of the dye] Ponceau.

Poncelet (pǫ́·nslėt). [After J. V. Poncelet, a French mathematician, 1788–1867.] A unit for measuring the rate of expenditure of energy, equal to 100 kilogrammeters per second.

Poncer, Ponchion, obs. ff. Pouncer, Punchion.

Poncho (pǫ́·ntʃo, pǫ́·nso). Also 8 **puncho, pancho,** 9 **poncha, poncha.** [a. S. Amer.-Sp. *poncho*, a. Araucanian *poncho, pontho*. (See Febres *Dict. Araucanian* 1765, repr. 1883, Granada *Vocab. Rioplatense*, Montevideo 1890.)] A South American cloak, consisting of an oblong piece of cloth with a slit in the middle for the head; hence applied to similar garments worn elsewhere: see quot. 1849.

1748 *Earthquake of Peru* iii. 287 The Men instead of the Poncho have a Surtout made like a sack. 1768 J. Byron *Narr. Patagonia* 174 A puncho, which is a square piece of cloth, generally in stripes of different colours, with a slit in the middle of it wide enough to let their heads through. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* IV. 207 The savages supply it [Chili] chiefly with the Pancho. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* iv. 137 The 'poncho', or South American cloak, of which specimens are to be seen in the smart shops of some of our London tailors. 1849 *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 May 296/2 One of the chief novelties of the season, suitable for promenading or for evening wear, is the Poncho, a description of shawl mantilla, somewhat resembling, in shape, the mantilla worn by the Spanish senoras. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 323 The poncho is a piece of oilcloth with a slit in the centre, through which the head is put. 1887 J. Ball *Nat. in S. Amer.* 179 A genuine poncho woven by the Indian women.

b. *attrib.*, as **poncho-mattress,** a poncho adapted for use as a mattress.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XII. 26 Granulated cork poncho-mattress.

Hence **Ponchoed** *a.* [-ed 2], wearing a poncho.

1901 Sir M. Conway *Bolivian Andes* XXV. 289 The sun shining on this field of ponchoed natives.

Poncho(u)n, ponchong, obs. ff. Puncheon.

Pond (pǫnd), *sb.* Also 4–7 **ponde,** 4–5 **poond(e, pounde,** 5 **poynde,** 5–6 **pownde,** (7 **pon**); *dial.* 7–9 **pownd,** 9 **pound.** [ME. *ponde*, app. a variant of Pound *sb.*2, which is commonly used in the same sense in Sc., and Eng. dialects.]

1. A small body of still water of artificial formation, its bed being either hollowed out of the soil or formed by embanking and damming up a natural hollow. Often described according to its use, etc., as a *compensation-pond* (for a canal, etc.), *duck-pond, fish-pond, mill-pond, parish* or *village pond, skating-* or *curling-pond*, etc. Formerly often *spec.* = fish-pond.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1173 (Laud MS.) My net hys ney honde In a wel fayr ponde [*Harl. MS.* hende..pende; *Cambr. MS.* stronde]. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 69 Wateres fallynge of þe hiȝest hill of Paradys makeþ a grete ponde [*aquae lacum efficiunt*]. 1388 Wyclif *Ps.* cxiii[i]. 8 Which turnede a stoon in to pondis [*v.r.* a poond; 1382 poolis] of watris. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xiv. (1495) 447 A ponde is water gaderyd to fedynge of fysshe, though ofte gaderynge of water wythout fysshe be callyd ponde by contrary meanynge. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 652/35 *Hoc stagnum*, poynde. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 228 Hit is a shrewde pole, pounde, or a welle, That drownythe the dowghty, and bryngethe hem abeere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/1 A Poonde, ..*piscina, stagnum, viuarium.* 1552 Huloet, Ponde for fyshe, *lucana, piscina*... Ponde to washe shepe in, *probatica piscina.* 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* XXVIII. 1197 Near to the foot..it makes a little pon, Which in a little space converteth wood to stone. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 60 A Pond is a standing Ditch cast by labor of mans hand in his private grounds for his private use,..but a Pool is a low plat of ground by nature, and is not cast by mans hand. 1676 Lady Chaworth in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 34 Drownded by the breaking of ice upon a pond where he was sliding. 1684 G. Meriton *Praise Yorks. Ale* 132 Our awd meer is slidden into th' pownd. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 346 A large pond, or ditch, on the east side of the city wall being drained. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v. *Pounded*, A mill-pound is the backwater which is held in reserve for the supply of the mill. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* ii, The pond and the fountain were as old as the house.

b. Locally in England (esp. in Surrey), also in New England, etc., applied to a natural pool, tarn, mere, or small lake; in colonial use also to a pool in a river or stream.

1480 Caxton *Descr. Brit.* 6 Ther is a grete ponde that conteyneth lx ilondes. 1765 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* I. 459 The Nipnets .. were seated upon some lesser rivers and lakes or large ponds, more within the continent. 1809 Kendall *Trav.* II. 39 Valleys and hollows that contain small streams, and lakes or pools, in New England always denominated *ponds*. 1835 *Trans. Zool. Soc. Lond.* I. 234 A tranquil part of the river, such as the colonists call a 'pond'. 1900 G. C. Brodrick *Mem. & Impress.* xiv. 304 The county of Surrey, with..its numerous heaths, its lonely tarns modestly called 'ponds', its hollow lanes.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1526 Tindale *Rev.* XIX. 20 These bothe were cast into a ponde off fyre burnynge with brymstone. 1555 R. Smith in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1697/1 That I may passe out of this ponde, Wherein I am opprest. 1792 A. Young *Trav. France* 65 His pond of quicksilver is considerable, containing 250lb.

2. Applied *fig.* or humorously to the sea, esp. the Atlantic Ocean; cf. Herring-pond.

1641 *Time's Alterations* in N. Wallington *Notices Chas. I* (1869) II. App. 306 It seems that you have taken flight over the great Pond, pray what newes in England? 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 374 Through this Womb of moisture the great pond of the World (as Bishop Hall terms the Ocean). 1780 *Royal Gaz.* (N.Y.) 22 Jan., Then Jack was sent across the Pond To take her in the rear, Sir. 1832 Motley *Corr.* (1889) I. ii. 11, I should have been very sorry to have crossed the Atlantic (or the pond, as the sailors call it) without a single storm. 1864 Thoreau *Cape Cod* x. (1894) 329 It is but a step from the glassy surface of the Herring Ponds to the big Atlantic Pond where the waves never cease to break. 1902 *Outing* (U.S.) June 345/1 [They] have hardly sustained their reputation on either side of the big pond.

3. In a canal: = Pound *sb.*2 q. v.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pond-beetle, -carp, -dregs, -earth, -maker, -mud, -mussel, -side, -water*; **pond-apple,** a small tree (*Anona laurifolia*) of the W. Indies and Gulf States, or its fruit (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **pond-barrow:** see quot.; **pond-bay,** a dam; † **pond-caster,** one who digs out ponds; **pond-dogwood,** the Button-bush of N. America (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*); **pond-duck,** the wild duck; **pond-fish,** (*a*) a fish usually reared in a pond, as the carp; (*b*) *spec.* in U. S., a fish of the genus *Pomotis* or *Lepomis*, a sunfish or pond-perch; **pond-head,** a bank or dam which confines a pond; **pond-hunter,** a naturalist who investigates pond-life; **pond-land,** marsh, fen-land; **pond-life,** the animals, esp. the invertebrata, that live in ponds or stagnant water; **pond-lily,** a water-lily, as the yellow *Nuphar lutea*, or the N. American species *N. advena*, or the white *Nymphæa alba*; **pond-perch** = *pond-fish* (*b*); **pond-pickerel** = Pickerel 1 b; **pond-pine,** see Pine *sb.*2 2; **pond-shrimp,** a fairy shrimp (Fairy C. 2); **pond-snail,** any freshwater snail inhabiting ponds; **pond-spice,** a N. Amer. shrub (*Litsæa* or *Tetranthera geniculata*) growing in sandy swamps (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **pond-tortoise, -turtle** (*U. S.*), any freshwater tortoise of the family *Emydidæ*; a terrapin or mud-turtle; **pondwort, knight's p.,** Water-soldier (*Stratiotes*); † **pond-yard,** a yard containing a fish-pond or ponds.

1845 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XIV. *Ross-shire* 254 On the north-west side of Knock-farril is a circular enclosure or ring, formed of small stones, having the earth somewhat scooped out in the interior...They are not unlike the *pond-barrows of Wales...The common people call them fairy-folds. 1863 Smiles *Indust. Biog.* 32 Dams of earth, called '*pond-bays', were thrown across watercourses. 1602 *Burford Reg.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) *Varr. Collect.* I. 166 [Wages for the day] For a *Bondcaster..iij. 1655 *Ibid.* 172 For a Pondcaster v^d. 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 22 *Pond-dregs laid on a clayey Meadow, in November, are of no obvious service. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 129 *Pond-ducks..have a straight and narrow bill, a small hind toe, and a sharp pointed train. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. ix. 208 Carps, Tench, and divers other *Pond-fish. 1567 in F. J. Baigent *Crondal Rec.* (1891) 166 Mylles, weares, myldammes, brydges, pondes, and *ponde heades within the same mannor. 1821 Clare *Vill. Minstr.* II. 24 On the sloping pond-head. 1896 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 6/2 Kept in captivity..in the *pond-hunter's aquarium. 1686 *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield* (1899) II. 270 Twenty acres..of *Pond or Low Land by the Way to Hadley. 1886 E. A. Butler (*title*) *Pond Life. 1778 J. Carver *Trav. N. Amer.* 167 The lake is covered..with the large *pond-lily..is a splendid..plant. 1632–3 *Canterb. Marr. Licences* (MS.), William Cook of Hollingbourne, *pondmaker. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 79 You must cool the Mould about the Roots with *Pond-mud and Cow-dung. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (1878) 67 The Common *Pond-Mussel (Anodon Cygneus). 1621 Lady M. Wroth *Urania* 471 By a *Pond side, where the Stagge had taken soile. 1889 Mary E. Bamford *Up & Down Brooks* 50 *Pond-snails.. surrounded by dancing beetles. 1896 Lydekker *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 68 The *pond-tortoises differ by having the toes fully webbed, and also by the more elongated tail. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* 556 *Emys orbicularis* (Linn.), European Pond-tortoise. 1633 T. James *Voy.* 45 This *pond-water had a..lothsome smell. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 47 Chara flourishes in pond-water under the influence of sunlight. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. ci. 143 Knights *Pondeworte. 1485 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 235 Pro firma Piscarii vocat' le *pond-yarde per annum xv^s. 1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 142 He.. built Verulam House, close by the pond-yard.

Pond (pǫnd), *v.* [f. Pond *sb.* See also Pound *v.*]

1. *trans.* To hold *back* or dam *up* (a stream) into or as into a pond; to pound.

1673 *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield* (U. S.) (1899) II. 119 Provided it be not prejudiciall to the high way nor to any mans propriety by ponding up of water. 1694 *Ibid.* 283 [He] did desire..the stream of Pacowseek Brooke to set a Saw mil on, and the Low land for ponding. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 319 Another Flood-gate..ponds the whole River [Exe], so as to throw the waste Water, over a strong Stone Weir, into its natural Chanel. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 139 The water was ponded above the North Bridge. 1865 Geikie *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* vii. 200 The mass of ice which choked up the mouth of Glen Spean, and ponded back the water. 1894 Sir C. Moncrieff in *Working Men's Coll. Jrnl.* Dec. 130 Drop-gates, to be kept down during low Nile so as to pond up the water.

fig. 1810 Bp. Copleston *1st Repl. Edin. Rev.* Mem. (1851) 299 By so doing, we..pond back the wealth which ought to circulate through a thousand ducts and channels.

2. *intr.* Of water, etc.: To form a pool or pond; to collect by being held back.

1857 Ruskin *Elem. Drawing* i. 35 The use of turning the paper upside down is to neutralise the increase of darkness towards the bottom of the squares, which would otherwise take place from the ponding of the colour. 1893 H. M. Wilson in *Whitby Gaz.* 3 Nov. 3/7 So that no sewage can pond in the channels or escape from them.

† 3. *trans.* a. To confine in a pond. b. To dip or submerge in a pond. *Obs. rare.*

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* V. XXVII. 120 The Citizens, like ponned Pykes, The lessers feede the greate. 1657 J. Watts *Dipper Sprinkled* 107 You ran out to the Anabaptist to be dipt and laver'd in a Pond, or to be ponded and plunged at Laver [in Essex].

Hence **Ponded** *ppl. a.*; **Ponding** *vbl. sb.*

1589 Ponned [see sense 3]. 1673 Ponding [see sense 1]. 1697 R. Peirce *Bath Mem.* II. i. 251 There is..some Ponded Water also in the little Ditches. 1830 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* I. 291 The ponding back..of this great body of fresh-water. 1838 Mary Howitt *Birds & Fl., Heron* XXXV, Where mountain-torrents run and moan, Or ponded waters sleep. 1857 Ponding [see sense 2]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 July 1/3 The cutting of a channel..set free at first an enormous quantity of ponded-up water.

Pond, -e, obs. forms of Pound, weight, etc.

Pondage (pǫ́·ndėdʒ). [f. Pond *sb.* + -age. See also Poundage.] Storage or ponding of water; the capacity of a pond or dam for holding water.

1877 J. T. Fanning *Water-Supply Engineering* iv. 68 Basins having limited pondage or available storage of rainfall. 1885 *Sanitary Engineer* 24 Dec. 80/1 The stream was surveyed, and the survey demonstrated the practicability of pondage far beyond the necessities of city supply.

Pondage, obs. form of Poundage.

† **Ponder,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* [f. Ponder *v.* to weigh,

or ? immed. f. L. *pondus, ponder-* weight. (No corresponding sb. is recorded in F.)] Weight, heaviness; in quot. 1613, a heavy blow.

?1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 58 For God made all things, and set it sure, In Number, Ponder, and in Measure. 1613 HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 142 Il'e lay so huge a ponder on thy skull. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 175 The rock .. By his owne ponder firmely fortifi'd. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* 201 To sustaine the bodies ponder and grossnesse.

†**Ponder,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. PONDER *v.*] An act of pondering (or ? something to ponder on).

1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* II Jan., He..soon after took his leave, not without one little flight to give me for a ponder.

Ponder, -dre, *sb.*[3] : see POUNDER[1].

Ponder (pɒ'ndəɹ), *v.* Also 4 poundre, pundre, 4–6 pondre, 5 -yr, punder (also 9 *dial.*), 6 pondur. [ME. a. OF. *ponder-er* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *pondérer* to weigh, poise, ad. L. *ponderāre* to weigh, f. *pondus, ponder-* weight.]

†**1.** *trans.* To ascertain the weight of; to weigh. In quot. *c* 1470 *absol.* Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXVI. viii, Vnegally he pondred then and peysed. 1532 FRITH *Mirror* Wks. (1829) 263 If all men living were pondered in one balance. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* Pref. 2 b, To ponder and way the dregges or porcions the whiche ought to be ministred. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* 203 A Rule, Line, Square, Measure, and Ballance, whereby must be framed, ordered, measured, and pondered.

†**2.** Of a thing: To weigh (so much), to amount in weight to. *Obs.*

1524 in G. Oliver *Hist. Coll.* (1841) App. 17 On [chales].. all goolde, with the Patent of goolde ponderyng 15 oz. 10 dwt. 1553 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees, No. 97) 89 Two bells, pondryng by estymacion seven hundreds. *Ibid.* 92 One chalise of sylver, pondring iiij unces.

†**3.** To estimate or judge the worth, value, or amount of; to estimate, appraise, value. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 110 Þe date of Ihesu pundred, þat men tellis bi, A þousand & a hundred & sex & þritti. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 155 Eche man dede aught to be poundred or demed after þe entencioun of hym þat doþ. *c* 1435 B. BURGH *Cato* in Herrig's *Archiv* (1906) CXV. 308 Peise nat the gifte, ne pondre nat the pris. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 23 To pondyr the dayes of grete festes with the dayes of abstinence. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 44 Vertues are not to be pondered by the sexe or kinde by whom they be done, but by the chaste and honest minde.

4. To weigh (a matter, words, etc.) mentally; to give due weight to and consider carefully; to think over, meditate upon.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 433 3it þei pondren blasphemye in among þis apostasye. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 134 Consydre thys mater and ponder my cause. 1511 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 4 Y..pray yow iiij arbitrers to pondre the seying. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* II. 244 The cause being heard, and all the Allegations on both sides exactly pondered, his Majesty .. gave Sentence. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 789 The modest queen..Ponder'd the speech, then briefly thus replies. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* i. 13 Alfred pondered the matter as he went home. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* V. iv. 418 He and the council had already pondered the list of members returned to the parliament.

b. with *obj. clause.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 456 þei ponderen wiþ þis suspending þat þey don it for riȝtwisenesse to teche curatis obedience. 1519 *Interl. Four Elements* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 7 Which in his mind hath ofttimes pondered, What number of books..be made and imprinted. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 151 Pondring in his thought To howe extreme a poynt by wyle Of Rosmond he was brought. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* I. 119 [He] at that very instant, was pondering only how he might save that monarch's crown. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. I. viii. 116 The government should ponder well whether the prize would be worth the cost.

c. To find or make out by pondering. *rare.*

1816 H. KER *Trav.* 117 Expecting he should have to ponder his way through wilderness on foot.

5. *intr.* To consider, meditate, reflect; to think deeply or seriously *on*, muse *over.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 24 This tempest will not giue me leaue to ponder On things would hurt me more. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* I. 311 Pondering thus on human miseries. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XX. 30 So he from side to side roll'd, pondering deep. 1832 TENNYSON *Œnone* 165 Here she ceased, And Paris ponder'd, and I cried, 'O Paris, Give it to Pallas!' 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* XXXI, Pondering on his unhappy lot. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. 10 A message from the dead, to keep and ponder over?

†**6.** *trans.* To support the weight or severity of, to bear. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 217 For our faithe & fidelitee, He ponderite the rigore Off his passion.

Hence **Po'ndering** *vbl. sb.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* XII. 43 He had some consideracion & pondringe of yᵉ life yᵗ is after this tyme. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (title-p.) The unutterable ponderings of Walter the Doubter.

Ponderable (pɒ'ndərăb'l), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *ponderābilis* that may be weighed: see PONDER *v.* and -ABLE. Cf. F. *pondérable* (15–16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] Capable of being weighed; having appreciable weight.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXVII. 177 If the bite of an Aspe will kill within an houre, yet the impression scarce visible, and the poyson communicated not ponderable. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. XI. 448 Water constitutes the ponderable part of all aeriform fluids. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) ii. § 120 All substances, whether ponderable or imponderable. 1881 ARMSTRONG in *Nature* XXIV. 450/1 In the ponderable application of falling water in hydraulic machines.

b. *fig.* Capable of being mentally weighed; appreciable.

1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXI. 306 Still it is ponderable in the scales of criticism. 1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Pred.* IX. 361 Any ponderable qualities of craftsmanship.

B. as *sb.* A substance or object having weight; *pl.* heavy articles.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. viii. 85 Put out all our boats and filled them with ponderables alongside.

Hence **Ponderabi·lity** [= F. *pondérabilité*], **Po·nderableness,** weight, heaviness.

1846 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* xlix. 368 Let us not be confused by the ponderability and gravitation of heavy matter. 1846 WORCESTER, Ponderableness. 1890 R. H. HUTTON *Newman* v. (1891) 61 The ponderability of the atmosphere.

Ponderal (pɒ'ndərăl), *a.* [f. L. *pondus, ponder-* weight + -AL: cf. L. *ponderāle* place where weights were kept, in origin neuter of an adj. **ponderālis*; also mod.F. *pondéral* relating to weight (a neologism in Littré).] Of or pertaining to weight; determined or estimated by weight.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 89 Whether by confounding the Attick and Roman Sextaries, or the Pounds Mensural or Ponderal,..I know not. 1705 ARBUTHNOT *On Coins* (1727) 20 Thus did the money Drachma in process of time decrease: but all the while we may suppose the ponderal Drachma to have continued the same. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 322 The atomic weights..only express ponderal relations.

Ponderance (pɒ'ndərăns). [f. L. *ponder-āre* or F. *pondérer* (see PONDER *v.*) + -ANCE.] Weight; gravity, importance. So **Po·nderancy,** weight, weightiness; **Po·nderant** [= F. *pondérant* (15th c.)]: see quot.; **Po·nderary** *a.*, = PONDERAL.

1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVIII. 503 The ballanced *ponderance of opinion under Julian. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* II. 468 Which of my exploits are of greater ponderance in this history? 1676 H. MORE *Remarks* 44 The virtue of this twelve pound perpendicular *ponderancy is felt entire still. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 122 He will distinguish the glare of tinsel from the ponderancy of gold. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 351 The body which presses is called the *ponderant. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 41 The unit of the British Indian *ponderary system is called the tola. It weighs 180 grains English troy weight.

†**Po·nderate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *ponderātus,* pa. pple. of *ponderāre* to weigh: see PONDER *v.*] Weighed: = PONDERATED. (Const. as pa. pple.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 347 Theire intencions be ponderate afore Allemyghty God. *Ibid.* VII. 155 Everyche operacion or dede of man awe to be ponderate [*librari*] after the intencion of the doer.

Ponderate (pɒ'ndəreɪt), *v.* [f. L. *ponderāt-,* ppl. stem of *ponderāre*: see prec. and -ATE[3].]

1. *intr.* **a.** To have weight or heaviness; to be heavy, to weigh. †**b.** To weigh down, press down, 'gravitate' (*obs.*).

1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1701) 577/1 The Center, towards which, all things that ponderate are directed in a streight line. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 103 The Ayr.. also ponderates, and is heavy, in its own Atmosphære. 1698 W. CHILCOT *Evil Thoughts* iii. (1851) 29 The soul..thereby ..ponderates towards God. 1730 SAVERY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 331 This must make it apparently .. to ponderate less, as is the Case of Stilliards. 1775 FALCK *Day's Diving Vessel* 14 The upper column of water ponderating downwards. 1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus' Comm.* II. 3 We desire it may be granted .. that things equally heavy, from equal lengths, will equally ponderate. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. xiv. (1872) VI. 300 To ponderate or preponderate there.

†**2.** *trans.* To weigh down, press down; to influence, bias. *Obs.*

1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch.-Div.* 156 His opinion,..or secret affection, doth byas and ponderate his mind, more to one side than to the other. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) II. 232 Those persons .. put Favour and Corruption in the Ballance, ponderating the Scale, not as they ought, but as they will.

†**3.** *trans.* To weigh in the mind, ponder. *Obs.*

1513 JAS. IV *Let. to Hen. VIII* in Hall *Chron.* (1548) 30 The greate wronges and vnkyndnes done before to vs and our lyeges we ponderate. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 760 Thay .. Ponderat weill the falt superlatiue. 1626 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xii. § 8 If wee ponderate S[t] Luke's relation of his agony aright. 1752–3 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 18 They is to ponderate how far they agrees.

†**b.** *intr.* (with *on, upon*). *Obs.*

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* IX. 483 They ordinarily ponderate and deliberate upon every thing more than how it becomes them to live.

4. *trans.* To estimate the importance or value of; to appraise. *rare.*

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Answ. to Objections,* Wks. (1711) 214 The baseness of the deed would be ponderated. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 39 Mr. Lowe 'ponderates' (as he says) education more by the value of the thing learnt than by the value of the process in learning. *Ibid.* 41 The attempt to 'ponderate' various kinds of learning.

Hence **Po·nderated, Po·nderating** *ppl. adjs.*

1892 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 505/2 Sarcey's ponderated common-sense prose. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Ponderating sinker.

Ponderation (pɒndərē'·ʃən). [ad. L. *ponderātiōnem,* n. of action f. *ponderāre*: see PONDER *v.* So F. *pondération* (1519 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Weighing; balancing; adjustment of weight. Also *fig.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 196 Upon an immediate ponderation, we could discover no sensible difference in weight. 1658 — *Hydriot.* ii. (1736) 26 The common Fraud of selling Ashes by Measure and not by Ponderation. 1706 *Art of Paint.* (1744) 28 In the Attitudes, the Ponderation and the Contrast are founded in nature. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT (J.), The quantity of perspired matter, found by ponderation. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 408 The ponderation of air, the fixation of mercury. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 608 A juster ponderation of property would increase its value by promoting its stability. 1866 MILL in *Edin. Rev.* CXXIII. 303 After a comparison and ponderation of evidence. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* IV. Comm. (ed. 2) 538 The numeration, ponderation, or mensuration of the principal.

2. Mental weighing (of the importance of a matter); grave consideration or meditation; pondering. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lvi. 43 Weing this thing in ponderashin, In hering of him what equaltie ye show. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* VI. 346 Most of those meanes..require a certaine meditation and ponderation. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 12 The consideration and ponderation of which .. maketh mee not so promptly to approve [etc.]. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 110 Your nicest ponderation ought to be imploy'd.

†**3.** Gravitation. *Obs. rare.*

1661 BOYLE *Examen* (1682) 95 Ponderation is an endeavour every way by right lines into the centre of the earth.

4. The fact of weighing more; preponderance.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 35 It is not the ponderation of personal evidence for or against a word that should accredit or discredit it.

†**5.** Something that adds weight. *Obs.*

1609 SIR E. HOBY *Let. to T. Higgins* 74 Who with a Catalogue of great names, with Ponderations, and Considerations thinke to beard the truth. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clergy* III. xiii, Because his heart told him how light these proofes were, he layes in the scales with them certaine graue ponderations.

†**Po·nderative,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *ponderāt-,* ppl. stem of *ponder-āre* to weigh: see -ATIVE.] Given to weighing mentally or judicially.

1610 HEALEY tr. *Vives' Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 354 We haue the minde and the ponderatiue iudgment of reason.

Ponderer (pɒ'ndərəɹ). [f. PONDER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who ponders.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Pensif[at]or,* a ponderer or wayer. *Verborum pensitatores subtilissimi,* the mooste subtyll ponderers of wordes. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 149 The Ponderer and shaper of his Discourses. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* x, He made an attempt to attract the attention of the silent and sullen ponderer.

Po·ndering, *ppl. a.* [f. PONDER *v.* + -ING[2].] That ponders; meditative, thoughtful.

1680 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Apr., He is a sober, wise, judicious, and pondering person. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* I. ii, His pensive cheek and pondering brow Did more than he was wont avow.

Hence **Po·nderingly** *adv.*, in a pondering way.

1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* ii. 14 When he reades the Scripture more ponderingly. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 318 And going ponderingly She noted her grey shadow slim to see.

†**Ponde·rity.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *ponderitās* (Attius) weight.] = PONDEROSITY.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Ponderity,* weightiness, heaviness, ponderosity. 1775 in ASH.

†**Po·nderize,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *pondus, ponder-* weight + -IZE.] *trans.* To weigh.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 150 The sheepe are sweete, and fattest in the taile, whose weight oft ponderizes twenty pound, and many times their whole body [*ed.* 1665 and may well ballance the rest of the carcass]. [1656 BLOUNT, *Ponderize,* to ponder, weigh, poise, or consider. (*Herb. Trav.*)]

Po·nderling. *nonce-wd.* [f. PONDER *v.* + -LING[1]: cf. *suckling, foundling.*] A child that is weighed.

1860 READE *Cloister & H.* XXXVI, The child was weighed, and yelled as if the scale had been the font...She hushed her ponderling against her bosom, and stood aloof watching, whilst another woman brought her child to scale.

Ponderment (pɒ'ndəɹmĕnt). [f. PONDER *v.* + -MENT.] Pondering, cogitation, thought.

a 1763 BYROM *Robbery of Cambridge Coach* xii, In deep and serious Ponderment I watch'd the Motions of his next Intent. 1898 MÉNIE M. DOWIE *Crook of Bough* 20 Her lips folded too tight, her cheeks sucked to the hollows of indecision, ponderment, and perplexity.

Ponderomo·tive, *a. Physics.* [f. L. *pondus, ponder-* weight, after *electromotive.*] That tends to move a weight; weight-moving.

1884 tr. Clausius in *Phil. Mag.* Jan. 59. 1884 HIGGS *Magn. Dyn. Electr. Mech.* 272 The other ponderomotive force which the rotating helix experiences from its magnetic iron core..further depends upon the magnetic moment of the iron core.

†**Po·ndero·se,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *ponderōsus* heavy, weighty, f. *pondus, ponder-*: see -OSE.] Weighty, ponderous, huge.

[*c* 1400, *c* 1485: see PONDEROUS 1, 3.] *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 98 (1740) 191 Bulky Sums paid, ponderose Armies raised. *Ibid.* III. vi. § 64. 470 A grand Alliance, with the Emperor and Spain, brought down a ponderose Army out of Germany.

Ponderosity (pɒndərɒ'·sĭti). [ad. med.L. *ponderōsitās* (Wyclif *c* 1381), f. L. *ponderōsus* heavy, weighty (see prec.) + -ITY.]

1. The quality of being ponderous or weighty; heaviness, weightiness, weight.

c 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 1798 Whoo slepith wel be natural reson, Tyl wombe avoyde al ponderosite, Excludyng

seknesse stant in liberte. 1519 *Interl. Four Elements* (1530) A vij, The yerth because of his ponderosyte Avoyd-yth equally the mouyngs great Of all extremytes and sperys that be. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 328 Yow owght to consyder of what ponderositie of weyght they are. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 240 Ponderosity is a naturall inclination to the Center of the World. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Baroscope*, The Tube by its Ponderosity presses downwards into the Vessel. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. i. § 10 (1879) 11 Those most general Properties of Matter, resistance and ponderosity.

2. *fig.* Weightiness, importance; profoundness, seriousness (*obs.*); heaviness, dullness. (Chiefly of literary productions or style.)

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvi. (Arb.) 185 The most excellent makers of their time, more..respecting the fitnesse and ponderositie of their wordes then the true cadence or simphonie. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* II. 2 With all the ponderosity of Arguments and solidest tractats. 1780 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* IV. Advert. 5 If, as refinement generally verges to extreme contrarieties, Kent's ponderosity does not degenerate into filligraine. 1787 *Minor* 107 Your late rare history has conferred so large a portion of ponderosity on your opinions. 1881 SHAIRP *Asp. Poetry* v. 139 He falls into ponderosity and pomposity.

Ponderous (pǫ·ndərəs), *a.* Also 5–7 **-owse**, 6 **-ouse**, 7 **pondrous**. [ad. F. *pondéreux* (*c* 1410 in Godef.), ad. L. *ponderōsus*: see prec. and -OUS.]

1. Having great weight; heavy, weighty; massive; clumsy, unwieldy.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 88 Þe rotynes þat goiþ out þerof is greet in substaunce, ponderous [*Add. MS.* ponderose] & vneuene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D iij b, An Egle, a Vawtere, a Melowne .. theis be not enlured, ne reclaymed, by cause that thay be so ponderowse to the perch portatiff. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 16 Clusters of grapes very ponderous. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iv. 50 Why the Sepulcher .. Hath op'd his ponderous and Marble iawes, To cast thee vp againe? 1725 POPE *Odyssey* IV. 892 The pondrous engine raised to crush us all. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* Introd. ii, Whose ponderous grate, and massy bar, Had oft rolled back the tide of war. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* i. (1862) 38 The stout coachman driving the ponderous gilt wagon.

b. *fig.* (Of things non-material.)

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 80, I am sure my loue's More ponderous then my tongue. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 771 Ponderous bequests of lands and goods. 1835 BROWNING *Paracelsus* IV. 157 To sink beneath such ponderous shame.

†c. Having some weight; = PONDERABLE. *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 196 After a draught of wine a man may seem lighter in himself .., although he be heavier in the balance, from a corporall and ponderous addition.

†d. Tending by its weight *towards*. *Obs.*

1792 SIR W. HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 16 If it be founded on such a construction of the figure of the secondaries, as makes them more ponderous towards their primary planets.

2. Of great weight in proportion to bulk; of high specific gravity; = HEAVY *a.* 2. *Ponderous earth, spar*: = HEAVY SPAR. ? *Obs.*

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. i, The erthe, which is of substance grosse and ponderous. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xix. 143 A Liquor so much less ponderous then Quick-silver, as Water is. 1669 — *Contn. New Exp.* I. (1682) 37 One of the ponderousest Liquors I have prepared. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, Globes, or balls, of a most ponderous metal. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 187 It [barytes] was called Ponderous Earth, Ponderous Spar. 1800 VINCE *Hydrostat.* vii. (1806) 80 The condensed and ponderous air from the neighbourhood of the pole.

†**3.** *fig.* Of grave import; weighty, serious, important, profound. *Obs.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) IV. 1328 The wordes of Andrewe beyn sadd & ponderose. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 73 That words be ponderous and emphaticall, where the matter seemeth to bleed. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 179 Some of acute and ponderous Judgement. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. ii. (1817) 50, I know nothing which would have so great force as strong ponderous maxims, frequently urged and frequently brought back to the thoughts of the hearers.

†**4.** Given to weighing, considering, or pondering matters; grave, deliberate. *Obs.*

1641 SYMONDS *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* B j b, Take what I am saying into thy most ponderous thoughts. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* (1857) 35 Both he lays Together; in his pond'rous mind both weighs. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 3 The next perplexed Question with pious and ponderous men.

5. Of a literary or other task: Heavy, laborious. Of style: Laboured, lacking lightness of touch; gravely grandiloquent; dull, tedious.

a 1704 T. BROWN *1st Sat. Persius Imit.* Wks. 1730 I. 53 More pond'rous guess with lighter banter meets. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* Introd., Sir John Hawkins's ponderous labours..exhibit a farrago. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* i. 3 The ponderous minuteness and luxury of citation in the works of the former. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 20 'Your son has made a good choice of locality', said Mr. Dennis, in his rather ponderous manner.

Po·nderously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a ponderous manner; heavily, weightily; gravely.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 9 Slepe me gan oppresse So ponderously, I cowde make noon obstacle. 1637 BASTWICK *Answ. Inform. Sir J. Banks* 8 That they may more ponderously waigh the businesse in hand. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 267 Old houses built ponderously of stone. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 16 May 471/1 Mr. C.. was ponderously dull.

Ponderousness (pǫ·ndərəsnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being ponderous; heaviness, weightiness, weight. **a.** Of things material.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5 b/1 Whether the bullet, throughe his ponderousnes, might be descended. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 4096 By finding out the Ponderousness of Crystal in reference to Water. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* II. vii. § 10. 239 Thus the greater ponderousness of the traceries is only an indication of the greater lightness of the structure.

b. *fig.* Of a task, words, style, etc.

1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 28 Pacuuius .. is commended of Quintilian for the grauity of his sentences, the ponderousnesse of his words. 1664 FLECKNOE *Love's Kingd.* etc., *Disc. Eng. Stage* G vj, Shakespear excelled in a natural Vein, Fletcher in Wit, and Johnson in Gravity and ponderousness of Style. 1881 M. ARNOLD in *Macm. Mag.* XLIII. 370/2 The slovenliness and tunelessness of much of Byron's production, the pompousness and ponderousness of much of Wordsworth's.

Pondfolde (a pound): see PINFOLD.

Pondlet (pǫ·ndlėt). [f. POND *sb.* + -LET.] A very small pond.

1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* I. xiv. 264 A thin film of ice was formed about the edges of these pondlets. 1830 I. D. HARDY *New Othello* I. iv. 75 Tiny shallow pondlets.

Pond-lock, obs. variant of POUND-LOCK.

†**Pondre**, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. F. *pondre* to lay eggs:—L. *pōnĕre* to deposit.] *intr.* To lay eggs; to engender, breed.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xix. (1869) 145 She dooth bisinesse to sette bras and yren to brode, for to engender oother pondre [*v.rr.* poudre, powdre].

Pondur, -dyr, obs. forms of PONDER.

†**Pondure.** *Obs.* app. = PONDER *sb.*^{1}, weight.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xlix. 282 When Man shall be over-swayed by the pondure of his own corruptions.

‖ **Pondus** (pǫ·ndŭs). *Obs.* [L. *pondus* weight: formerly often used in English context.] A weight; chiefly *fig.* power to influence or bias; moral force.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 20 By Love, as a Divine pondus, the Soul reduceth althings to its last end, namely God. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Disc. John* i. 13 Wks. 1684 II. 175 Unless God give a *pondus* to his own motion. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 263 Devotion fervent he instills, And turns to God the Pondus of our Wills. 1719 F. HAUKSBEE *Phys. Mech. Exp.* v. 116 As reasonable, as that a greater Power should sustain a greater Pondus, or take off more of the Pressure of the same Pondus.

Po·ndweed. [f. POND *sb.* + WEED.] An aquatic herb that grows in ponds and still waters: *spec.* in Great Britain, the species of *Potamogeton*. With distinguishing prefix applied to other aquatic plants; as American, Canadian, or Choke P., *Elodea canadensis* (*Anacharis Alsinastrum*); Cape P., *Aponogeton distachyon*; Horned or Triple-headed P., *Zannichellia palustris*; Tassel P., *Ruppia maritima* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxi. 104 The first .. of these kindes of floting herbes .. is called water spyke, or most commonly Pondeweede. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. xv. 94 Pondweed with a flower like Patience. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Pond-weed, *Potamogiton*. *Ibid.*, Pond-weed, Triple-headed, *Zannichellia*. 1789 J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 344 *Potamogeton natans*. Broad-leaved Pond-weed. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 206 Some of the more delicate pond-weeds, such as Callitriche, Potamogeton pusillum. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Zannichellia palustris*, the Horned Pondweed. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 2/1 In the stream,..the creamy Cape pond weed sent out the delicious perfume from its quaint large flowers. 1901 *Ibid.* 26 Nov. 12/2 The career of the Canadian pondweed (*Anacharis alsinastrum*..) is interesting because of the extraordinary rapidity with which it spreads itself throughout the country. 1902 *Ibid.* 17 Oct. 10/1 The American pondweed seems to be playing havoc with angling in Loch Leven.

Pondy (pǫ·ndi), *a. U.S.* [f. POND *sb.* + -Y.] Abounding in ponds or pools; marshy, swampy.

1687 *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield* (1899) II. 266 Thirty or forty acres of wet Pondy Land at poor brooke. 1711 *Ibid.* 317 Two or three acres of Pondy Land at the South end of his medow neer the Ponds. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 501 In swamps and pondy ground.

‖ **Pone**^{1} (pō·unė). *Law. Obs.* [L. *pōne* 'place thou', sing. imper. of *pōnĕre* to place.] **a.** A writ by which a suit was removed from an inferior court to the Court of Common Pleas. **b.** A writ requiring the sheriff to secure the appearance of the defendant by attaching his goods or by causing him to find sureties for his appearance.

1292 BRITTON VI. iv. § 3 Et puis tendra lu le *Pone* a remuer la parole jekes par devaunt nos Justices. [*tr.* After that, a Pone will lie to remove it before our Justices.] *Ibid* x. § 5 El plee de *Pone* [in the plea of Pone]. *a* 1500 *Natura Breuium* (1531) 2 b, Si le plee soit remoue par vn Pone hors del countie en le banke. 1544 *transl.*, Yf the ple be remoued by a Pone out of the counte in to the comon banke. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Pone*, is a writ, whereby a cause depending in the County court, is remoued to the common Banke... *Pone per vadium*, is a writ commaunding the Shyreeue to take suretie of one for his appearance at a day assigned. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xix. 280 The next process is by writ of attachment or *pone*. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* ii. § 2. 73.

Pone^{2} (pō·un). [Derivation as in prec.] In certain card games: see quots.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pone*, in the game of vingt-et-un, the player to the left of the dealer; the eldest hand. 1901 R. F. FOSTER *Bridge Manual* 5 The leader, or eldest hand, is on the dealer's left, and the pone, or leader's partner, is on the dealer's right.

Pone^{3} (pōun). [ad. Algonkin *pone* (see quot. 1683), *apone* (Strachey *Vocab. Virgin.* *c* 1615), *oppone* (Beverley), bread, perh. orig. a pa. pple. 'baked'.] *orig.* The bread of the N. Amer. Indians, made of maize flour in thin cakes, and cooked in hot ashes; now, in southern U. S., any bread made of maize, esp. that of a coarse or poor kind; also, very fine light bread, enriched with milk, eggs, and the like, and made in flat cakes. Also *attrib.*

[1612 CAPT. SMITH *Map Virginia* 17 Eating the broth with the bread which they call Ponap.] 1634 *Relat. Ld. Baltimore's Plantat.* (1865) 17 Their ordinary diet is Poane and Omine, both made of Corne. 1683 PENN *Let. Descr. Pennsylvania* 5 Of words of Sweetness, *Anna*, is Mother .. *pone*, Bread, *metse*, eat. 1708 E. COOK *Sot-weed Factor* (1900) 14 While Pon and Milk, with Mush well stoar'd, In wooden Dishes grac'd the Board. *a* 1716 BEVERLEY *Virginia* IV. § 72 (1722) 253 The Bread in Gentlemen's Houses, is generally made of Wheat, but some rather choose the Pone, which is the Bread made of Indian Meal,..so called ..from the Indian Name *Oppone*. 1799 J. SMITH *Acc. Remark. Occur.* (1870) 160 We are not above borrowing language from them, such as homoni, tomahawk, pone, &c. 1861 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 229 To see how he liked pork 'n' pone. 1901 MAX ADELER *Capt. Bluett* 108 Becky's surpassing power with pone muffins.

b. A cake or loaf of such bread.

1796 B. H. LATROBE *Jrnl.* (1905) 16 A few biscuits, and pones of Indian and wheat bread. 1887 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 31 Dec. 2/4 The meal consisted partly of half a dozen pones. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 201/1 In a short time the pones were shaped and placed in the ashes.

Pone, -garnarde, obs. ff. POON, POMEGRANATE.

Po·nency. *rare.* [f. L. *pōnent-em*, pr. pple. of *pōnĕre* to place, put: see -ENCY.] The action of positing or stating the existence of anything, as in *self-ponency*, the positing of one's own existence.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Dec. 741 The Absolute Will in the act of self-ponency, which constitutes the personality of the Divine Nature, does not and cannot affirm Himself to be finite.

Ponent (pō·unĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. It. *ponente*, Sp. *poniente*, obs. F. *ponent*, *-ant*, med.L. (It. 13th c.) *ponens*, *-entem*, west, west wind, sunset, lit. setting, pr. pple. of L. *pōnĕre* to put, place, set, lay down; in Sp. also 'to set' as the sun or a star.]

†**1.** Situated in the west, western; occidental. Also as *sb.* The place or direction of the sunset; the west; the occident. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Occidens*, *tis*, the west, or ponent. 1561 EDEN *Arte Navig.* II. xvi. 43 The true ponent or west. 1568 C. WATSON *Polyb.* 2 b, Nations which inhabite towardes the Ponent, or west parts. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 2 His next neighbour towards the Ponent is the kingdome of Quachin china. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 704 Forth rush the Levant and the Ponent Windes. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* III. 655 The ponent wind in vain he plies.

2. *Geol.* Name (proposed by H. D. Rogers) for the twelfth of the fifteen subdivisions of the Palæozoic strata of the Appalachian chain.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. II. 749 These periods, applicable only to the American Palæozoic day, are the Primal, Auroral, Matinal, Levant,..Ponent, Vespertine, Umbral, and Seral,—signifying the periods, respectively, of the Dawn, Daybreak, Morning, Sunrise,.. Sunset, Evening, Dusk, and Nightfall. *Ibid.* 756 Ponent series, or Catskill Group of New York. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms*, *Ponent*, .. the 'Sunset' of the North American palæozoics, and the equivalents of our Upper or true Old Red Sandstone.

3. *Logic.* That posits or affirms.

1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* XVIII. (1866) I. 344 The Ponent or Constructive Syllogism:—If Socrates be virtuous, then he merits esteem; But Socrates is virtuous; Therefore, he merits esteem.

Ponerid (pǫne·rid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Ponēra* (Latreille 1804), generic name (a. Gr. πονηρά, fem. of πονηρός wicked) + -ID 3.] Of or pertaining to the *Ponērĭdæ*, a family of tropical ants. *sb.* An ant of this family. So **Ponerоid** (pǫnī·ǝroid) *a.*, related in form to the *Ponerĭdæ*.

Ponerology (pǫnĕrǫ·lŏdʒi). *Theol.* [f. Gr. πονηρός evil, wicked + -LOGY.] The theory or doctrine of evil or of the evil one.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 *Q. Rev. United Brethren* July 274 It ['evil' in the Lord's Prayer] may stand for both the abstract and concrete idea, and so comprehend the whole circle of moral evil, embracing the science of ponerology.

Ponewe, Poney, Poneyard, obs. ff. PENNY, PONY, PONIARD. **Ponfald, -folde**: see PINFOLD.

Pong (pǫŋ), *sb.* [Echoic.] The sound of a ringing blow; a bang; taken as the name of such a blow, or of an explosion. Cf. PING.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 502 (Devon Dial.) To-day have I dealt thee a pong in the midriff. 1896 *Daily Chron.* 25 Aug. 3/5 The deafening 'pong' of the Hotchkiss strikes on the jaded ear.

Pong (pǫŋ), *v. Theatrical slang.* Of an actor: To amplify the text of his part; = GAG *v.*^{1} 5.

1893 J. PITT-HARDACRE in *Clarion* (Summer No.) 30 (Funk) Ponging is a lost art...Consisting as it did, of a kind of bold free-hand dramatic sketching, Ponging had no place in an age of 'photographic acting'. Hence we pong no more. 1894 *Even. News* 18 Oct. 2/6 If he expands the text he is said 'to pong'...Why will not 'gag' do instead of 'pong'?

Pongarnette, obs. form of POMEGRANATE.

Pongee (pǫndʒī·). Also 8–9 **paunche**; cf. also BUNGEE. [perh. ad. North Chinese *pŭn-chī*, for Mandarin *pŭn-kī* own loom, or ad. *pŭn-chŏh* own weaving, *quasi* 'home-made'. (Here *ŭ* means *v.*)]

A soft unbleached kind of Chinese silk, made from the cocoons of a wild silk-worm (*Bombyx Pernyi* or *Fantoni*) which feeds on oak-leaves; known in the East as Chefoo silk. Also *attrib.*

1711 C. Lockyer *Acc. Trade India* 122 Wrought Silks are cheap and good, of innumerable Sorts..Damasks, Sattins, Taffetas, Paunches. 1813 W. Milburn *Oriental Comm.* II. 518 China wrought Silks..paunches, plain blues, pinks and whites. 1883 Mrs. Rollins *New Eng. Bygones* 102 The shawl she wears, of some printed pongee stuff, is a family heirloom. 1890 Sarah J. Duncan *Social Departure* 193 In garments of pongee silk and a pith helmet. 1893 C. King *Foes in Ambush* 2 A broad-brimmed straw hat, a pongee shirt, loose trousers.

‖ **Pongo** (pǫ̇ŋgo). [Native name in a dialect of Angola or Loango; cf. also the forms *mpongo*, *mpongi* (Bentley *Dict. Congo Lang.* 1887), *impungu*.] A name in early writers of a large anthropoid African ape: variously identified with the Chimpanzee, and the Gorilla.

1625 Battel in Purchas *Pilgrims* II. vii. iii. 982 Here are also two kinds of Monsters, which are common in these Woods [of Mayombe], and very dangerous. The greatest of these two Monsters is called, *Pongo*, in their Language: and the lesser is called, *Engeco*. This Pongo is..more like a Giant in stature, then a man: for he is very tall, and hath a mans face, hollow-eyed, with long haire vpon his browes. [1766 Buffon *Hist. Nat.* (1837) III. 590 Pongo, nom de ce même animal à Lowango, province de Congo.] 1766 *Ann. Reg.* II. 104/2 The Pongo..is of a very great size, sometimes eight feet in height. 1781–5 Smellie tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 77 In the East Indies this animal is called orang-outang; in Lowando, a province of Congo, pongo. 1861 Du Chaillu *Equat. Afr.* xx. 361 The gorilla has been mentioned..under the following names: *pongo*, by Battel, 1629; *ingena*, Bowditch, 1819. [1876 R. F. Burton *Gorilla L.* II. 5 The Gorilla and perhaps the more monstrous 'Impungu' ('Mpongo').]

b. Erroneously transferred to a large anthropoid ape of Borneo, prob. the Orang-outang.

1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 44 There is a monkey in Borneo, hitherto known only by his skeleton, called the *Pongo*, which so closely resembles the Ourang-Outang..that we are tempted to consider him an adult—if not of the species of the Ourang-Outang, at least of one very nearly allied to it. 1861 Du Chaillu *Equat. Afr.* xx. 342 In 1780 the skeleton of another large ape was sent from Batavia to Holland by Baron Wurmb, the resident governor, who called it the Pongo. It received from naturalists the name *Pongo Wurmbi*.

Poniard (pǫ̇·nyărd), *sb.* Forms: 6– **poniard**; also 6 **poynyard**, 6–7 **poyniard**, **puniard**, 6–8 **poynard**, 7 **ponard**, **poneyard**, **poigniard**, **poinyard**, **pugniard**, **punyard**, (**poinred**), 7–8 **ponyard**, 7–9 **poin-**, **poignard**. See also Poignado. [a. F. *poignard*, *poingnart*, *poyniard*, *pognard* (1519 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *poing* fist: see -ard.]

1. A short stabbing weapon; a dagger.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 120. *c* 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* vi. 132 'Twere a long poniard, my lord, to reach between Oxford and Fressingfield. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. iv, Let your poynard maintain your defence, thus. 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 120 If his skinne be ponyard proofe. 1631 Massinger *Believe as You List* IV. ii, What have wee heere? A poinard and a halter! 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* III. 89 He weareth .. a broad Ponard ouerthwart his belly. *Ibid.* VIII. 350 A French Ponyard. *Ibid.* 351 My gold and my Poneyard. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xviii. (1674) 20 Puniard, venom, or any other mischievous machination. *Ibid.* II. xcviii. 250 The twentieth blow that he hath received .. by Pugniard or Cudgel. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 27 Oct., Ugly knives, like poignards. *c* 1680 *Jus Populi* 414 in G. Hickes *Spirit of Popery* 68 They need not fear either Dag, or Dagger, Pistol, or poisoned poinyard. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* XI. 120 Sheath thy ponyard. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 287 Here are several daggers or poignards. 1780 Cowper *Progr. Error* 305 Worse than a poinard in the basest hand. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* I. iv, The stranger warded off the thrust of the poniard. 1869 Boutell *Arms & Arm.* ix. (1874) 179 A dagger, sometimes so short that it is really a poignard.

fig. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* II. i. 255 Shee speakes poynyards, and euery word stabbes. 1641 Earl Monm. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* v. 104 Every motion made them give Allarum's, all which were punyards which wounded Philip. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 220 Gibraltar is a poniard, always plunged into a wound that has never been healed.

2. *dial.* (See quot.)

1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Madding Crowd* xxxvii, He had stuck his ricking-rod, groom, or poignard, as it was indifferently called—a long iron lance, sharp at the extremity and polished by handling — into the stack to support the sheaves.

Poniard (pǫ̇·nyărd), *v.* Forms: see the sb. [f. Poniard *sb.* Cf. F. *poignarder* (16th c.).]

trans. To stab or pierce with a poniard; *esp.* to stab to death by this means.

[1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 123 He was all to be beponyarded in the Senate house.] 1601 W. T. *Ld. Remy's Civ. Consid.* 16 In continual feare to be poyniarded. 1718 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Mar* 10 Mar., She threw herself at the sultan's feet, and begged him to poniard her. 1781 Cowper *Charity* 508 Prepared to poignard whomsoe'er they meet. 1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iii. (1890) 76 He was poniarded in self-defence by..a serving-man.

† b. To furnish or fix up with long pins. *rare.*

1620 Middleton & Rowley *World Tost at Tennis* 834 Those fair ladies .. are neither trimmed, nor trussed, nor poniarded.

† **Ponibi·lity.** *Obs. rare.* [f. **ponible* (f. L. *pŏnĕre* to place) + -ity.] Capability of being placed.

1734 tr. *Barrow's Math. Lect.* x. 176 Space is nothing else but the mere Power, Capacity, Ponibility, or (begging pardon for the Expression) Interponibility of Magnitude.

Ponissement, obs. form of Punishment.

[**Ponk** in Johnson, etc., mispr. for *pouke*, Puck.]

Ponne, obs. form of Pan *sb.*[1], Pun *v.*[1]

‖ **Pons** (pǫnz). The Latin word for 'bridge': used in certain phrases.

1. **Pons asinorum** (= bridge of asses): a humorous name for the fifth proposition of the first book of Euclid, from the difficulty which beginners or dull-witted persons find in 'getting over' or mastering it. Hence allusively.

1751 Smollett *Per. Pic.* I. xviii. 130 Peregrine..began to read Euclid..but he had scarce advanced beyond the *Pons Asinorum*, when his ardor abated. 1845 Ford *Handbk. Spain* I. 217/2 This bridge was the *pons asinorum* of the French, which English never suffered them to cross. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 4 Feb. 502/1 He knows the operation .. to be the *pons asinorum* of incompetent workmen. 1877 Besant & Rice *Harp & Cr.* xxvii.

2. **Pons Varolii** (= bridge of Varolius or Varoli, an Italian anatomist of the 16th c.), also **pons cerebri** or **cerebelli**, and often simply **pons** (*Anat.*): a band of nerve-fibres in the brain, just above the medulla oblongata, consisting of transverse fibres connecting the two hemispheres of the cerebellum, and longitudinal fibres connecting the medulla with the cerebrum.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pons varolii*, certain globous Processes of the *Cerebellum*. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pons Cerebri*,.. is a Congeries or Heap of innumerable Filaments divaricated out of the Solider Substance of the Brain. 1831 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* I. App. 420 The average of children under seven, exhibits the Pons, in proportion to the cerebellum, much smaller than in the average of adults. 1875 H. Walton *Dis. Eye* 324 Disease of the pons is a very rare condition.

attrib. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 807 In thirty cases of pons tumour..in five only was there defect of hearing.

Pons, obs. f. *pence*, pl. of Penny.

Ponsion, ponsone, obs. ff. Puncheon.

[**Ponsondie,** mispr. for *pousoudie*, Powsowdy.]

Ponsway, also **pauncesoy, ponsoy, ponsay,** variants of Panchway, E. Indian boat.

1737 in C. R. Wilson *Old Fort William* (1906) I. 147 Two Carts broke to pieces and four Ponsways. 1742 *Ibid.* 162 Pauncesoys. 1744 *Ibid.* 177 Ponsoys. 1756 *Ibid.* II. 58 His servant who stood in a Ponsay a little above the Gaut.

† **Pont**[1]. *Obs.* Also 4–5 **pount(e.** [a. F. *pont*:—L. *pons*, *pont-em* bridge. So Welsh *pont*.] A bridge.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XI. i. 571 Syr launcelot rode on his aduenture tyl .. he past ouer the pounte of Corbyn. 1639 *Glasgow Council Rec.* 11 Oct., Ordanit that ane dyke be built at Stockwall-heid, and ane Pont put therein. [1875 W. McIlwraith *Guide Wigtownshire* 25 Strange thoughts present themselves anent the old pont.]

b. **Pont tournis.** [OF. *pont torneïs*, f. *pont* bridge + *torneïs*, L. type **tornātīcius*, f. late L. *tornare* to turn.] A drawbridge.

13..*Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 743 The leuedi stod, in pount tournis, For to bihelde the burdis. *a* 1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* (Kaluza) 1385 Boþe lordes and ladis Leyn out in pount tournis [*v. rr.* pomet tours, pount tornere, etc.] To se þat selly siȝt.

‖ c. **Pont-volant.** [F. (pɔ̃vɔlɑ̃), = flying-bridge.] (See quot.)

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Pont volant, flying bridge*, a kind of bridge used in sieges; made of two small bridges laid one over another, and so contrived by means of cords and pullies placed along the sides of the under-bridge, that the upper may be pushed forwards, till it join the place where it is designed to be fixed. 1861 in Buchanan *Dict. Arts.* 1864 in Webster; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Pont**[2]. *Obs.* [a. Du. *pont*(*e*: see next, and cf. Punt *sb.*[1]] a. A large flat boat or transport; a float; = Pontoon 1. b. = Caisson: see quots.

a. 1631 Pory *Let.* 22 Sept. in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 133 King of Spain's forces by sea,..taken by the Prince of Orange..ten great pontes, in every one of which fourscore men. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 99 You must also have..a Boatman to keep your Float or Pont steady. 1816 W. S. Mason *Statist. Acc. Irel.* II. 267 Two boats, called by the fishermen [on Lough Neagh] ponts, of 30 cwt. each, used principally in the carriage of turf.

b. 1721 Perry *Daggenh. Breach* 31 Large Ponts or Chests ..he propos'd to sink at about twelve Foot space from each other, beginning from a Peer. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 106/2 Mr. Boswell was first to make piers and then sink 6 ponts or chests 60 feet in length, 30 feet broad.

‖ **Pont**[3] (pɒnt). [Du. *pont* ferry-boat, pontoon:—MDu. *ponte* = MLG., LG. *punte*, ad. L. *ponto*, *-ōnem* a punt, a pontoon, a floating bridge, f. *pons* bridge.] Name in S. Africa for a large ferry-boat attached to an iron or steel cable.

1775 Masson *Journ. to Cape* in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 279 We came to the pont or ferry. 1899 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 5/3 The Boers have seized the pont on the Orange River at Prieska, and cut the wire cable attached to it. 1900 *Ibid.* 13 Jan. 5/2 Pont is the name given in South Africa to the ferry boats plying on the large and more rapid rivers, and worked by steel cables.

Pont, obs. form of Pant *v.*

Pontac (pɒ·ntăk). Also 7 **-aque**, 7–8 **-ack**, 9 **-ak**, **-acq**. [a. F. *Pontac*, local name.] A sweet wine obtained from Pontac in the Basses Pyrénées, in the south of France. Also, a South African wine.

1674 Blount *Glossogr.* To Rdr. (ed. 4) A ij b, The Vintner will furnish you with .. Alicant,.. Pontac, Tent. 1680 A. Ratcliffe *Ovid Travestie* (1705) 18 Wine in abundance,—I drank none but Sack, But all you Men did ply it with Pontack. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 118 Those, that cannot purchase true hermitage or pontack, will be glad of more ordinary French claret. 1812 A. Plumptre tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. S. Afr.* I. 151 Du Toit gave us an excellent sort of wine, called here Pontac, a sweet deep-red wine. 1868 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* 365 An excellent omelette for breakfast, with a very fair amount of Pontac.

Pontage (pɒ·ntĕdʒ). Now *Hist.* or *local.* [a. OF. *pontage* (1401 in Godef.):—med.L. *pontāticum* (Du Cange) a bridge-toll, f. L. *pons*, *pont-em* bridge + *-āticum*, -age.] A toll paid for the use of a bridge; a tax paid for the maintenance and repair of a bridge or bridges; bridge-toll.

[1157 in *Chron. Stephen*, etc. (Rolls) IV. App. 337 Fecit liberas de omni consuetudine et theloneo et passagio et pontagio. 1292 Britton I. xx. § 1 Lestage .. ou murage, ou pontage, ou cheminage.] *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 666 A Charter..to the mynchons..for tol, passage, pountage, and all custome thurgh all Englond. *a* 1500 tr. *Charter Rich. II* in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 22 Vt they .. be quyt for euer of pauage pontage and murage by al our reame. 1597–8 *Act* 39 *Eliz.* c. 34 § 6 Pontage shall be payde .. at the sayde Brydge .. for every..Wayne, Carre, or Carte .. two pence. 1735 J. Price *Stone-Br. Thames* 5 A House on each Head of the Bridge, erected to receive the Toll or Pontage. 1895 *Glasgow Weekly News* 19 Jan. 7/8 Subscriptions so as to have the Leven bridges free from the objectionable pontage.

† b. *Free pontage*, freedom from bridge-toll.

1695 Kennett *Par. Antiq.* ix. 201 All right and title to a new Mill,..with free pontage or passage over the River.

Pontal (pɒ·ntăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *pons*, *pont-em* + -al.] Of or pertaining to a bridge, or (in *Anat.*) to the *pons Varolii*: = Pontic *a.*[2]

1863 P. S. Worsley *Poems & Transl.* 11 A league above this pontal arc, Now seeming one with heaven. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pontal*, same as *pontile*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Ponte, pontee, obs. forms of Punty.

Pontic (pɒ·ntik), *a.*[1] [ad. L. *Ponticus*, a. Gr. Ποντικός, f. πόντος sea, spec. the Black Sea, hence the country of Pontus.]

1. Of, belonging to, found in, or obtained from, the district of Pontus: esp. in names of plants and animals, e.g. Pontic nut, the hazel nut; Pontic rhubarb, *Rheum rhaponticum*; Pontic wormwood, *Artemisia pontica*.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. A iv, Those ij. kindes of wormwode which diuerse take for pontyke wormwode, are none of pontike wormwod. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. lxxix. § 4. 317 The Ponticke Rubarbe is lesser and slenderer then that of Barbarie. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 127 Those that haue their skins red, are the right Ponticke Nuts, and are .. the best Filberds. 1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.*, *Providence* viii, Gladly will I, like Pontick sheep, Unto my wormwood-diet keep.

b. *Pontic Sea*, the Black Sea.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus*, *Germanie* i. (1622) 258 Danubius ..falleth by six channels into the Ponticke sea. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 453. 1865 Swinburne *Atalanta* 2132 The thunder of Pontic seas.

† 2. Having a somewhat sour and astringent taste. [? like Pontic rhubarb, or Pontic wormwood.] *Obs.*

1477 Norton *Ord. Alch.* v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 74 And so is Sowerish tast called Sapor Pontick, And lesse Sower allso called Sapor Stiptick. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* III. 26 b, Spittle, not bitter, but pontique or harshe. 1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 218 Somewhat tart and sowrish, and as it is commonly tearmed, Ponticke: such a relish..as is in a Grape..being not as yet come to his perfect ripenesse and maturity. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 272 Causticks..close and bind the Veins, by reason of their pontick, styptick parts.

Pontic, *a.*[2] *Anat.* and *Path.* [f. L. *pons*, *pont-em* bridge + -ic.] Pertaining to the *pons Varolii* (see Pons 2): = Pontal, Pontile, Pontine.

1890 *Lancet* 5 Apr. 739/2 The only case over forty being one of pontic abscess.

† **Ponti·city.** *Obs.* [ad. OF. *ponticité*, ad. med.L. *ponticitās* (Constantinus Africus, 11th c., in Du Cange), f. *Ponticus*: see -ity.] The quality of having a 'pontic' flavour (see Pontic *a.*[1] 2).

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 98 Egrenesse & vnsauournesse, ponticite, stipticite, & acuement. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 391 That Must or newe wyne .. dothe get a certain ponticitie or tast lyke wormwood and bynding. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 68 The over acidness or spurious ponticity of the stomachical ferment.

‖ **Pontifex** (pɒ·ntifeks). Pl. **pontifices** (pɒntɪ·fisīz). [L. *pontifex*, *-icem* a Roman high-priest: app. f. *pons*, *pont-em* bridge + *-fic-* from *facĕre* to make; but the first element was perh. Osc.-Umb. *puntis* propitiatory offering, assimilated to *pons*, *pont-em*.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* A member of the principal college of priests in ancient Rome, the head of which was the *Pontifex Maximus* or chief priest.

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 73 The first and chiefest of these bishops, which they call the great Pontifex. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 63 There was in Rome a colledge of pontifices, which were exempted from the authority of any lay-court of judicature. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* I. 16 From the commencement to nearly the conclusion of the Roman empire, the king was always priest or pontifex. 1881 S. H. Hodgson *Outcast Ess.* 384 Long as the Pontifex and Silent Maid Shall go together up the Capitol.

2. *Eccl.* A bishop; *spec.* the pope: = Pontiff 2.

[1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 42 Bisshopes .. bereth many names, *Presul* and *pontifex* and *metropolitanus*, And other names an hepe, *episcopus* & *pastor*.] 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iv. xlv. (1839) 661 The bishop of Constantinople..pretended to be equal to the bishop of Rome; though at last, not without contention, the Pope carried it, and became the *Pontifex Maximus*. 1851 Hussey *Papal Power* v. 132 The Bishop of Rome, the Pontifex, is the spiritual sovereign of the world.

†3. = Pontiff 3. *Obs. rare.*

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* iii. vi. § 35 In their spiritual government they [the Jews in England] were all under one Pontifex, or High Priest.

4. With allusion to the reputed etymological meaning: = Bridge-maker.

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* i. xi, Never perhaps since our first Bridge-builders, Sin and Death, built that stupendous Arch from Hell-gate to the Earth, did any Pontifex, or Pontiff, undertake such a task. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.* v. 7 Well has the name of Pontifex been given Unto the Church's head, as the chief builder And architect of the invisible bridge That leads from earth to heaven.

Pontiff (pɒ̈ntif). Also 7 **-ife**, 7–8 **-if**. [a. F. *pontife* (*pontif* 1516), ad. L. *pontifex*: see prec.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* = Pontifex 1.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 771 Livy doth relate, that there were found..two coffins..whereof the one contained the body of king Numa,..and the other, his books of sacred rites and ceremonies, and the discipline of the pontifs. 1706 Phillips s. v. *Pontifex*, There were also *Pontifices Minores*, or Inferiour Pontiffs who were Assistants to the chief Pontiff. 1845 Graves *Rom. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 755/1 It is probable that Papirius, who was himself a pontiff, directed his attention principally to religious ceremonies. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* 303/1 The Roman pontiffs formed the most illustrious among the great colleges of priests.

2. A bishop (of the mediæval Western church); *spec.* and usually, the bishop of Rome, the pope (in full, *sovereign pontiff*).

a 1677 Barrow *Pope's Suprem.* (1680) B iv b, We..pronounce it to be of necessity to Salvation..to be subject to the Roman Pontife. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV, viii. 105 The then reigning pontiff having favoured duke William in his projected invasion. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 275 By far the most remarkable among modern pontiffs, was Sixtus the Fifth, the son of a peasant in the March of Ancona. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* vi. i. (1864) III. 369 The Bishop of Toul did not travel to Rome as a pontiff, but as a pilgrim. 1906 *Q. Rev.* July 267 M. Loubet had grievously offended the Sovereign Pontiff.

3. *gen.* A chief or high priest (of any religion). Also *fig.*

1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 711 Coy-fi, who had beene a Pontife or Bishop of the heathen rites and ceremonies. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Pontifex*, The Jews too had their pontif or high-priest. 1878 G. Smith *Life J. Wilson* xvii. (1879) 306 These pontiffs of Krishna waxed fat with organised adultery. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Sept. 2/3 Which only shows that the Pontiffs of Science are no more infallible than other Infallibles.

4. *attrib.* Pontiff purple, a shade of purple.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* iii. 204 'Twas not the strife of malice, but of pride; The strife of pontiff pride, not pontiff gall. 1900 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 6/5 In all the new colours, brown, mauve, heliotrope, Pontiff purple.

Pontific (pɒntɪ·fɪk), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. L. *pons*, *pont-em* bridge + *-ficus* making; but used in sense of *pontificius*: see Pontifical.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* = Pontifical *a.* 5.

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 37 What their twelve Tables, and the Pontifick College with their Augurs and Flamins taught them.

2. = Pontifical *a.* 1–3.

1716 *Loyal Mourner* 64 For both Pontific, and Schismatick Chair; Nay, all the World of Errors stood in fear. *a* 1770 Akenside *Poems* (1789) II. 45 [He] to eternal exile bore Pontific rage and vassal dread. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) I. 342 The Pontific power arrogated by the Head of the Law.

3. ? = Pontifical *a.* 4.

1716 Swift *Pethox* 94, You o'er the high triumphal arch Pontifick made your glorious march.

¶4. *catachr.* Pertaining to a bridge. (Cf. Pontifical *a.* 6.) *humorous nonce-use.*

1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1775) II. 125 To be driven forth out of my house by domestic winds, and despoiled of my castor by pontific ones.

†**Ponti·ficacy.** *Obs.* [irreg. f. med.L. *pontificātio*: see **-acy** 3.] = Pontificate *sb.*

1529 Rastell *Pastyme* (1811) 53 Put downe from hys Pontyfycacy. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* 839 An evill prognostication of his Pontificacie. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 267 Omar sat twelve years..in the Pontificacy. 1793 Hely tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* II. 202 Lucius consulted pope Eleutherus at the beginning of his pontificacy.

Pontifical (pɒntɪ·fɪkăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad L. *pontificālis* of or belonging to a Pontifex: see **-al**. So F. *pontifical* (1404 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.* I. Pertaining to a pontiff.

1. Pertaining or proper to a bishop or prelate; episcopal.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 A holie hermett .. saw þis Basilius on a tyme walk in his pontificall abbett. 1530 Palsgr. 321/1 Pontyfycall, belongyng to a bysshop, *pontifical, episcopal.* 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* vi. Wks. 1851 III. 126 The rending of your pontificall sleeves. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* iii. 176/2 The Mitred Abbot .. exerciseth Pontifical, or Episcopal Jurisdictions. 1890 *Durham & Northumb. Arch. Trans.* IV. 19 Mr. Bond..has omitted the Pontifical years of the Bishops of Durham altogether.

2. *spec.* Of or pertaining to the pope; papal.

1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 95 That he wold be so bestyal To forsakyn hys glorye pontifical. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. clv. 426 She came to the popes palays in Auignon, and..went to se the pope, who sate in consystory in a chayre pontyfycall. 1614 Jackson *Creed* iii. xxxi. § 1 Thus did Innocent the third, and other Popes, write diuers books,..as if they had proceeded from their Pontificall authority. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. Introd. iii. 82 Besides these pontifical collections, which, during the times of popery, were received as authentic in this island. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xiii. (1875) 218 Leo III did not suppose .. that it was by his sole pontifical authority that the crown was given to the Frank.

†b. Adhering to the pope or the papacy; popish, papistical. *Obs.*

1533 Tindale *Supper of Lord* B vij b, Lorde how thys pontificall poet playeth hys parte.

3. *gen.* Of or pertaining to a chief or high priest; high-priestly.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 207 As I [Caiaphas] am pontificall prince of all prestis. 1578 T. N. tr. *Cong. W. India* 380 Then came the high priest cloathed in his pontificall vestmentes. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* iv. Note 20 It will be therefore askt, Why I make him here perform the Office of the High-Priest, and dress him in the Pontifical Habits? 1708 Ockley *Saracens* (1848) 141 Omar was invested with the regal and the pontifical dignity, and saluted by universal consent 'the Caliph of the Apostle of God'. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 81 Their pontifical office descends by inheritance to the eldest.

4. Characterized by the pomp, state, dignity, authority, or dogmatic character of a pontiff.

1589 *Marprel. Epit.* F iij, As though he could not be as popelike and pontificall, as my Lorde of Canterburie. 1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph., Pontificall*, lordly, stately, Bishoplike. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* iv. i, *Luke.* You know Mistress Shave'em? *Gettall.* The pontifical punk? 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* i. 32 The..leading party of the English Clergy..retained such a Pontifical stiffness towards the foreign Divines. 1892 Morley in *19th Cent.* Feb. 313 Littré..less provoked..by Comte's arrogance, his pontifical airs, and his hatred of liberty.

b. Applied to a shade of purple. (Cf. Pontiff 4.)

1899 *Daily News* 27 Feb. 6/6 A new half-mourning dress ..in cloth of a pontifical purple tint.

II. 5. *Rom. Antiq.* Of or belonging to the *pontifices* of ancient Rome: see Pontifex 1.

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 73 The great Pontifex..hath the place, authoritie, and dignitie of the..maister of their pontificall lawe. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 124 This practice, Pliny adds, still remains in the pontifical discipline. 1897 A. Drucker tr. *von Ihering's Evol. Aryans* iv. v. 360 All the branches of the pontifical duties may be traced back to the original demands laid upon the technical bridge-makers of the migratory period.

III. 6. In reputed etymological sense: Bridge-making, bridge-building.

1667 Milton *P. L.* x. 313 Now had they brought the work by wondrous Art Pontifical, a ridge of pendent Rock, Over the vext Abyss. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. xi. 402 The single-arched bridge..signed for sacred pontifical work by a cross high above the parapet.

B. *sb.*

†1. A papal document or edict. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 480 Alle þes pontificals ben bynepe hooly writ, so þat 3if þey alle weren brent cristendom shulde stonde wel.

†2. a. *pl.* The offices or duties of a pontifex or a pontiff. b. The office of a pontiff, pontificate. c. An office celebrated with pontifical ceremony. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 405 To fulfelle the ministery off pristes to the peple commenge to theyme, and notte the pontificalles [*non autem pontificalia*]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 178 Thocht thow be Paip or Cardinall, Sa heich in thy Pontificall. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 459 Hee was..skilfull in the Romane Histories, Religion, Pontificals, and Ceremonies. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* 217 The whole Ceremony is carried on at their own Charges, and the Feast they make is called a Pontifical. *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 223 She had been so extreamly satisfi'd with the Pontifical, which had been celebrated with so much Pomp and Majesty.

3. A bishop's or priest's robe; now always *pl.* the vestments and other insignia of a bishop (or of a priest): = Pontificalia.

13.. *Leg. St. Erkenwald* 130 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Þe prelate in pontificals was prestly atyride. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 19 Salisbury, Norwiche, and Ely, In pontificalle arrayed richely. 1559 in *Reg. Episc. Aberdonensis* (Spalding Cl.) I. App. 89 Item the pontificall, viz. a chesabill, 4 tunicks, 3 stols. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* ii. ii, For a bishop to ride on hunting in his pontificals..is against public honesty. 1774 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 37 Next morning he [an Episcopal clergyman] appeared with his clerk and in his pontificals, and read several prayers. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. ii. vi. 463 The archpriest robed in his most stately pontificals.

†b. A bishop's ring; also ? a ring or some ornament in imitation of this. *Obs.*

1507 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) IV. 319 For a pontificall put upon my lordes fynger in tym of sering [= cering] xvj d. 1508 *Will of Joan Hampton* (Somerset Ho.), A peyre of owches otherwise callid pontificalles of siluer & gilt.

4. An office-book of the Western Church, containing the forms for sacraments and other rites and ceremonies to be performed by bishops.

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* xv. xxvii. (1886) 375 Certaine conjurations taken out of the pontificall and out of the missall. 1624 Bp. Hall *Impress of God* i. Wks. 445 If euer play-booke were more ridiculous, than their Pontificall, and booke of holy Ceremonies. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 296 The pontifical of Archbishop Egbert. 1905 C. E. Osborne *Life Father Dolling* xix. 168 The discovery of the Canons of Hippolytus, and of the Pontifical of Bishop Serapion..has drawn attention to the primitive and Catholic character of this rite.

†5. A papal or episcopal court. *Obs.*

1628 Gaule *Pract. The.* (1629) 241 Though their owne Pontificall might Conuent and Accuse, yet must anothers Tribunall Condemne and Execute.

†6. a. A pontiff, a church dignitary. b. Alleged name for a company of prelates. c. An adherent of the pontiffs or prelates. *Obs.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4336 Relygeous reveste in theire riche copes, Pontyficalles and prelates in precyouse wedys. *c* 1470 in *Hors, Shepe & G.* etc. (Caxton 1479, Roxb. repr.) 31 A pontifical of prelates, a state of princes, a dignite of chanons. [Cf. Pontificality 2.] 1590 Greenwood in L. Bacon *Genesis New Eng. Ch.* vii. (1874) 125 Hence arise these schisms and sects in the Church of England;..these are hereupon called Precisians, or 'Puritans', and now lately 'Martinists'. The other side are the 'Pontificals', that in all things hold and jump with the time, and are ready to justify whatever is or shall be by public authority.

‖ **Pontificalia** (pɒntifikē·liă), *sb. pl.* [L., neut. pl. of *pontificālis* adj. pontifical. (In med.L., in Matthew Paris 1259.)] The vestments and other insignia of a bishop; pontificals (see prec. B. 3). Also *transf.* Official robes.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* II. 31/2 In another prouince he may be in his pontificalibus, so that pontificalia differeth from the pall. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* II. 114 He appeared in his *Pontificalia*. 1754 Shebbeare *Matrimony* (1766) I. 189 When we see a Doctor in Divinity dressed in his Pontificalia, we conclude that these Robes include a pious, learned, and humane Man.

‖ **Pontifica·libus.** [Lat., abl. of *pontificālia* (see prec.), in phr. *in pontificālibus* in pontificals.] Used as = prec., almost always in phr. *in his* (or *their*) *pontificalibus*, in imitation of the L. phrase (see ‖In 13). Hence (sometimes) improperly as if an ordinary Eng. noun (quots. 1620, 1772, and 1855 in b).

[1306 in *Beverley Chapter Act Bk.* (Surtees) I. 120 Imago Episcopi stantis in pontificalibus induti.] 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 69 Þis Baldewyn had..songe in every cathedral chirche of Wales a masse in pontificalibus. *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 402 The byshop of Pancopone, reuest in his *pontificalibus*. 1577–87 [see prec.]. 1591 G. Fletcher *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 23 The patriarch, with metropolitanes, bishops, abbots, and priors, all richly clad in their *pontificalibus*. 1620 Melton *Astrolog.* 64 Pope Sylvester the second,..with such learning had attained to his *Pontificalibus*. 1728 Fielding *Love in Sev. Masques* iv. vii, The parson is drest in his Pontificalibus. 1772 tr. *J. F. de Isla's Fr, Gerund* iv. iii. 70 It was an ornament as necessary as precious to the bravery of his pontificalibus.

b. *transf.* Official or ceremonial attire.

1693 Rymer *Short View Tragedy* 3 The Venetian Senate in their Pontificalibus. 1855 Smedley, etc. *Occult Sc.* 189 The proper attire or 'pontificalibus' of a magician.

Pontificality (pɒntifikæ·lĭti). [ad. obs. F. *pontificalité* (Godef.) pontifical dignity: see Pontifical and **-ity**.]

1. Pontifical office or dignity. a. The office, state, or dignity of a bishop, esp. of the pope.

1556 Olde *Antichrist* 89 b, The 40 daye of his pontificalitie. 1581 Hanmer *Answ. Jesuit's Challenge* 19 Places where the Pope dareth not once peepe, for all hys Pontificalitye at Rome. 1587 Harrison *England* ii. ii. (1877) i. 47 Cobham..during the time of his pontificalitie there [at Worcester], builded the vault of the north side of the bodie of the church. 1641 *Parallel betw. Wolsey & Laud* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) IV. 465 By which he might make so vain-glorious a shew of his pontificality, or archiepiscopal dignity. *a* 1656 Ussher *Judgm. See of Rome* (1659) 20 When the Pontificality was first set up in Rome.

b. *transf.* or *gen.* Priesthood; high-priesthood. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 83 How the Principalitie, or Pontificalitie of a Minister according to the degenerate Sanedrim, should be sett-vpp. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* vi. xii. 532 One Marvan seized on the Pontificality. 1651 *Raleigh's Ghost* 211 As if Moses and Aaron had ambitiously sought the Principality and Pontificality.

†2. Alleged name for a company of prelates. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vij, A Pontificalite of prelatis. [Cf. Pontifical B. 6 b.]

†3. (Usually in *pl.*) Pontifical robes, pontificals.

1602 Deacon & Walker *Answ. to Darel* To Rdr. 2 Like a pettie new Pope among his owne Cardinals;..and that also in his pontificalities. 1611 Coryat *Crudities* 28 He himselfe was that day in his sumptuous Pontificalities. *a* 1645 Habington *Surv. Worc.* in *Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.* i. 120 The Bishop of Chester is set out in his pontificality.

4. Pontifical air or demeanour; pomposity, stateliness of manner; dogmatic assumption.

1600 J. Melvill *Diary* 245 Placing himselff besyde me with a grait pontificalitie and big countenance.

5. A pontifical rite, ceremony, or function.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. (1858) 259 All cathedrals, pontificalities, brass and stone,..are brief in comparison to an unfathomable heart-song like this. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* vi. vi. (1872) II. 204 A Public Mass, or some other so-called Pontificality.

Pontifically (pɒntɪ·fɪkăli), *adv.* [f. Pontifical + **-ly** 2.]

1. In a pontifical character; as a pontiff or bishop (in quot. *a* 1711, as a high priest).

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 143 Þei maken a grete lowe voice in blissynge & masse syngynge pontificaly. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 303 The Priest is pontifically attyred in pure fine Lawne. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 19 The Patriarch,

attended by almost 400 Priests, all Pontifically habited. *a* 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 256 Aaron when pontifically dress'd. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 10 July 15/2 Dr. Manning preached his first sermon since his accession.., having previously assisted pontifically at high mass.

2. In a pontifical or stately manner; with the air of a pontiff; in grand style; dogmatically.

1590 MUNDAY *Eng. Rom. Life* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 185 He..liueth there among the Theatines very pontifically. 1661 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Feb., After sermon the Bishop..gave us the blessing very pontifically. 1906 *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 304/1 From this to giving them the right to decide pontifically on questions of science is a long step.

Pontificate (pɒntiˈfikĕt), *sb.* [ad. L. *pontificātus* the office or dignity of a pontifex: see -ATE 1. So F. *pontificat* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] The office or dignity of a pontiff; the period during which any person holds this office. **a.** The office of an ancient Roman *Pontifex*.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 219 Cesar at his going furth from his house in his sute for the great pontificate. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 304/2 Whatever..civil or military office..a pontifex maximus held beside his pontificate.

b. The office, or period of office, of a bishop; usually, of the pope; papacy; popedom.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2081/1 [The Pope] entred that day into the tenth year of his Pontificate. 1756-7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 119 Imperiali.. having been in a fair way of obtaining the pontificate. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 54 In the sixteenth century the Pontificate, exposed to new dangers ..was saved by a new religious order. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* I. vi. 310 During Etheldred's pontificate ..Cameliac came to Canterbury to be consecrated.

c. *gen.* High-priesthood (of any religion).

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Imam*, Some think it [the imamate] of divine right, and attached to a single family, as the pontificate of Aaron. 1833 CRUSE tr. *Eusebius* I. x. 39 With the pontificate of Annas. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 677 The pontificate of these truckling Sadducees.

Pontificate (pɒntiˈfikĕt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *pontificāre* to perform pontifical functions, f. *pontific-em* PONTIFEX: see -ATE 3.]

1. *intr.* To perform the functions of a pontiff or bishop; to officiate as a bishop, esp. at mass.

1818 HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 262 When the Pope pontificates, the Senator stands amidst a seated assembly. 1898 BODLEY *France* I. I. iv. 220 Talleyrand..publicly pontificated as a bishop.

b. *trans.* To celebrate (mass) as a bishop.

1889 *Cath. Househ.* 11 May 5/1 The Holy Sacrifice [was] pontificated by Cardinal Schiaffino.

2. *trans.* To act the pontiff, assume the airs of a pontiff; to behave or speak in a pompous or dogmatic manner. (Cf. PONTIFICAL *a.* 4.)

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 164/1 A sample of his admirable faculty of pontificating. 1901 *Academy* 16 Nov. 459/1 Victor Hugo pontificating in his own salon.

† **Pontifica·tion.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [n. of action from med. L. *pontificāre* to perform pontifical functions.] = PONTIFICATE *sb.* b.

1521 LD. DACRE *Answ.* in *Archæologia* XVII. 206 The xiijth yere of the Pontificacion of the said lord Thomas [Wolsey].

† **Po·ntifice** 1. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pontifex, -ic-em*: see PONTIFEX.] = PONTIFEX 1.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 441 You shall have this day your sonne to be chiefe Pontifice and high priest, or else banished from the citie of Rome.

† **Po·ntifice** 2. *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *pons, pont-* bridge, after *edifice*: cf. L. *pontificium* office of a *pontifex*.] The edifice of a bridge; a bridge. (Cf. PONTIFICAL *a.* 5.)

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 348 At the brink of Chaos, neer the foot Of this new wondrous Pontifice.

† **Pontifi·cial,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *pontificius* pertaining to a pontifex (f. *pontifex, -icem*) + -AL.]

A. *adj.* **I. 1.** = PONTIFICAL *a.* 1, 2. *Pontificial law*, canon law.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* 279 *note*, Giuen them by the Pope, who sent them the Pontificiall banner. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 132 By the Rules of the Civill and Pontificiall Law. 1758 BLACKSTONE *Study of Law* in *Comm.* (1765) I. Introd. i. 15 The law of the land takes place of the law of Rome, whether antient or modern, imperial or pontificial. 1769 — *Comm.* IV. viii. 109 This plan of pontificial power was..so indefatigably pursued by the unwearied politics of the court of Rome.

2. = PONTIFICAL *a.* 2 b.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. 1. i. 290 Our Pontificiall writers retaine many of these adiurations. 1641 SIR S. D'EWES in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 314 The other Pontificial Princes and Prelates, the sworn Enemies to the Protestant Religion. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* I. 261 The protestant authors having lessen'd the authority of traditions, the pontificial doctors content themselves to insist only upon such as they thought useful or necessary.

3. = PONTIFICAL *a.* 4.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 280 The Caliph..setting aside all his Pontificiall formalitie. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 1 (1716) *note*, Metellus his riotous pontificial supper. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. vii. 106 Simple men without pontificial ornaments to set them out.

II. 4. = PONTIFICAL *a.* 5.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 89 The rites under the pontificiall priests and their Colledges.

B. *sb.* **1.** An adherent of the prelates, or of the pontiff.

1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 128 The Pontificials pronounce that the Lords day, is onely a Canon law. 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 262 The people..inclined to maintain what the Pontificials were pleased to call heresy.

2. = PONTIFICAL *sb.* 4.

1660 J. LLOYD *Prim. Episc.* 63 The Form of Ordination, both in our Church, and in the Roman pontificial.

† **Pontifi·cially,** *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] = PONTIFICALLY.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 188 The Pope himselfe, seated royally and pontifically in the midst. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1667/2 To assist at the Mass of the Holy Ghost, which was said Pontifically by the Archbishop of Paris.

† **Pontifi·cian,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. L. *pontifici-us* (see PONTIFICIAL) + -AN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** = PONTIFICIAL *a.* 1.

1645 BP. HALL *Peacemaker* xii. 103 The Pontifician Lawes. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 397 The Pontifician Power, which is a kinde of revived Image of the Pagan Imperial Power of Rome. *a* 1709 ATKYNS *Parl. & Pol. Tracts* (1734) 280 There was an Endeavour to bring in part of the Pontifician Law.

2. = PONTIFICIAL *a.* 2.

1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 78 Moderate men, either of the Pontifician or Protestant side. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* vi. 84 The Albigenses, which were martyred in the Field by the Pontifician Forces. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* ix. (1882) 67 The scholastic definition of the Supreme Being..was received in the schools of Theology, both by the Pontifician and the Reformed divines.

3. = PONTIFICIAL *a.* 3.

1629 H. BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 100 Shee..is all for outward glory, Pontifician honour, splendour and magnificence.

B. *sb.* = PONTIFICIAL B. 1.

1614 T. ADAMS in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. i. 2 The pontificians beat off the common people..by objecting this supposed difficulty: Oh, the Scriptures are hard to be understood. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 513 He was.. a severe enemy to the Pontificians.

† **Pontifi·cious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Papal.

1624 *Gag for Pope* 36 The Maiesty of England hath written a discourse against this Pontificeous vsurpation. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 186 How defective this particular is in proofs, I appeal to all Pontificious Writers, and indifferent Readers.

Pontify (pɒ·ntifəi), *v.* [ad. F. *pontifier*, ad. med.L. *pontificāre*: see PONTIFICATE *v.*] *intr.* To play the pontiff; to speak or behave 'pontifically', or with assumption of authority or infallibility.

1883 *Times* 19 Feb. 8 Wagner always seemed to pontify when he talked. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 28 May 635/2 He is one of the few scientific men who do not 'pontify'. 1900 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 185 Stevenson was always inclined to preach, to pontify, to be didactic.

Pontil (pɒ·ntil). *Glass-making.* [a. F. *pontil*, app. ad. It. *pontello, puntello*, dim. of *punto* point, etc.] An iron rod used for handling, and especially for rapidly twirling the soft glass in the process of formation, esp. in the manufacture of crown-glass. Also called PUNTY.

1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 171 At this stage another implement, called a punt, or pontil, is brought into use. *Ibid.* 214 The glass is then..separated from the pontil, and immediately removed to the hottest part of the annealing oven.

Pontile (pɒ·ntəil), *a. Anat. rare.* [ad. L. *pontīlis* pertaining to a bridge, f. *pons, pont-em* bridge: see -IL, -ILE.] Of or pertaining to the pons of the brain; = PONTINE.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 524/1 Among the mononyms which may now be said to be in somewhat common use are *pons, thalamus* [etc.]. In some cases also the appropriate adjectives are employed, e. g. pial, dural.. pontile (sometimes, incorrectly, pontine or pontal).

Pontinal (pɒ·ntinăl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Ichthyol.* [f. as next + -AL.] Name for a special bone in the skull of dactylopteroid fishes: see quot.

1888 GILL in *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 358 The third developed as a small special bone (pontinal) bridging the interval between the second suborbital and the antero-inferior angle of the preoperculum.

Pontine (pɒ·ntəin), *a. Anat.* and *Path.* [f. L. *pons, pont-* + -INE 1.] Pertaining to or occurring in the *pons Varolii*: = PONTAL, PONTIC *a.*2, PONTILE.

1889 [see PONTILE]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 849 In cerebral hæmorrhage and in pontine hæmorrhage, pin-point pupils are usually present. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 782 The sixth nucleus appears to be the pontine centre for conjugate movement.

Pontioune, obs. form of PUNCHEON.

Po·ntitecture. *nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pons, pont-em* bridge, after *architecture*.] Bridge-building.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 681 There is perhaps no other form of pontitecture which can compete with the wrought-iron girder when the clear space exceeds 70 feet.

‖ **Pont-levis** (‖ pɔ̃lə·vi, pɒntlə·vis). Also 5 **pount.** [a. F. *pont-levis*, f. *pont* bridge + *levis*, OF. *leveïs*, adj. movable up and down = Pr. *levadis*:—L. type **levātīcius*, f. *levāre* to raise.]

1. A drawbridge.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. K ij, Pount leveiz that be made faste therto whiche are called flyghyng brygges. 1844 BROWNING *Sibrand. Schafnab.* iii, Yonder's a plum-tree with a crevice..A lap of moss like a fine pont-levis In a castle of the middle age, Joins to a lip of gum, pure amber.

2. *Horsemanship.* (See quot.)

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pontlevi's* (in Horsemanship) is a disorderly resisting Action of a Horse in Disobedience to his Rider, in which he rears up several Times running, and rises up so upon his hind Legs, that he is in Danger of coming over.

Ponto (*Cards*, and *Glass-blowing*): see PUNTO.

Pontoneer, -ier (pɒntənīə·r). *Mil.* Also **pontooneer, -ier.** [ad. F. *pontonnier* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.):—med.L. *pontōnārius* (855 in Du Cange) a ferryman, f. *ponto, -ōnem* PONTOON: see -EER.] One who has charge of pontoons, or of the construction of a pontoon-bridge.

1830 MAUNDER *Dict.*, *Pontonier*, a constructer of pontoons. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 130 With an expert corps of artificers and pontoneers, such boats might very soon be put together. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. vii. (1872) VII. 71 We had with us..only Four Pontoneers, or trained Bridge-builders. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 280 The drilled engineers and pontoniers of the regular army.

Pontoon (pɒntū·n), *sb.* Forms: 7-9 **ponton,** 8- **pontoon.** [ad. F. *ponton* (14th c. in Littré) a flat-bottomed boat, a pontoon:—L. *ponto, -ōnem* a punt, floating bridge, pontoon, f. *pons, pont-em* bridge: see -OON.]

1. A flat-bottomed boat used as a lighter, ferry-boat, or the like (cf. PONT 2 and 3); *spec.* in *Mil. Engineering*, such a boat, or other floating vessel (as a hollow metal cylinder), of which a number are used to support a temporary bridge over a river.

[1591 BURGHLEY in *Unton's Corr.* (Roxb.) 266, 3,000 charrets laden with certeine peeces of wood, 'quilz appelent le ponton, pour faire les pontz'.] 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1087/4 One of the Batteries is raised upon Pontons on the Water. 1681 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 5), *Ponton*, a Wherry, or Ferry-Boat. *Gazette.* 1690 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 286 He layed a bridge of pontoons over the Shannon. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3785/2 A great number of Pontons made of Leather, of a new Invention, very useful and light of Carriage. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v., The late Invented Ponton is a Boat of Tin or rather Latten, eight Yards long and two broad, having a large Ring at each Corner. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* I. 9 It was proposed to the Czar to make a Bridge on Pontons over it. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 556 He was..pleased..to order the tin pontoons of the Marquis of Kildare's regiment of artillery to ply on the rivers, where the bridges have been broken down, till they can be repaired. 1811 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VII. 414 Tin pontoons are just as good as others.. they will positively bear field pieces. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 206 The ponton..to be formed of oval plates (in pairs) each of these being hollow in the middle,..and two being laid together, the edges are to be soldered, or welded strongly, and the case or ponton is complete.

† **b.** Sometimes applied to the floating bridge so formed. *Obs.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Ponton*, in Fortification, is a Bridge made of two Boats, at some Distance one from another, both covered with Planks; as also the Internal Space betwixt them. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xli. 546 They..had observed our pontoon without meddling with it.

2. *Naut.* A large flat-bottomed barge or lighter furnished with cranes, capstans, and tackle, used for careening ships, raising weights, etc.

1769-76 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Pontoon*, a low flat vessel, nearly resembling a lighter, or barge of burthen, and furnished with cranes, capsterns, tackles, and other machinery, necessary for careening ships of all sizes. These are very common in the principal parts of the Mediterranean, but are rarely used in the northern parts of Europe. 1867 in SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

3. *Hydraulic Engineering.* = CAISSON 2 c, 2 d.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1764 *Ponton*..3. *a.* A water-tight structure..placed beneath a submerged vessel and then filled with air to assist in refloating the vessel. *b.* A water-tight structure which is sunk by filling with water, and raised by pumping it out, used to close a sluiceway or entrance to a dock. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IX. 162 The entrances to docks are sometimes closed by means of pontoons, which are large hollow vessels fitted with a kind of keel or projection round the sides and bottom.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pontoon equipment*; **pontoon-bridge,** a bridge constructed upon pontoons; **pontoon-train,** a train of wagons carrying pontoons.

1796 *Campaigns* 1793-4, II. 68 On the 21st, a Pontoon Bridge was thrown over the Rhine. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 132 An army provided with a good pontoon train cannot be prevented effecting the passage of a river, if that army be skilfully commanded. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 327/2 The pontoon equipment having been landed on the Marsh, a bridge consisting of 20 pontoons at open order,..was laid across the Medway.

Pontoo·n, *v.* [f. prec.: cf. *to bridge*.] *trans.* To cross (a river) by means of pontoons. Also *fig.*

1864 BLACKMORE *Clara V.* lxii, For this power..a great historian employs a happy expression not welcomed by our language; he calls it the power to 'pontoon the emergency'. 1870 *Daily News* 6 Dec., It is believed that they had pontooned the stream. 1890 *Spectator* 8 Mar., They would have pontooned the distance, agreeing to do the work over and over again when needful.

Hence **Pontoo·ning** *vbl. sb.*

1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 142 Cultivating, practically and experimentally, the art of pontooning. 1878 W. S. SHERMAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 206 A school of instruction in pontooning. 1893 MRS. SWINTON *Lady de Ros* 79 To..witness their pontooning operations.

Pontooner (pɒntū·nəɹ). [f. PONTOON + -ER 1.] = PONTONEER.

1799 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 283/1 The marquis having sent an officer of pontooners..to reconnoitre the banks of the river. 1832 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* III. 699 The Spaniards could not prevent the pontooners from completing their work.

Pont-tournis, Pont-volant: see PONT[1].

Ponty, variant of PUNTY.

Pony (pōu·ni), *sb.* Forms: 7–9 *Sc.* **powny,** 8 *Sc.* **powney, -nie,** 8–9 **poney,** 8– **pony.** [Sc. *powney*, prob. (as suggested by Prof. Skeat, 1890):— **poulney*, ad. OF. *poulenet* a little foal (1444 in Godef.), dim. of *poulain, polain* a foal, colt:—late L. *pullānus*, f. L. *pullus* young animal, foal: see POLEYN. (Examples of an earlier spelling in *poul-* or *pol-* are wanted to make the origin certain.)]

1. A horse of any small breed; *spec.* a horse not more than 13 or (in popular use) 14 hands high.

1659 *MS.* (Scot.) *Diary* in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 163/1, I caused bring home the powny & stugged him. 1710 *Acc. Last Distemper T. Whigg* II. 19 Union Ponies, a Kind of Horses foaled upon the Borders, and occasionally owning either Country. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Pony*, a little Scotch horse. 1751 HOLCROFT *Mem.* (1816) I. 6 He had a beautiful poney (at least so he called, and so I thought it). *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Rising of Session* Poems (1845) 28 The powney that in spring-time grazes Thrives a' the year. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 467 To cross his ambling pony day by day, Seems at the best but dreaming life away. 1785 BURNS *Epist. to J. Lapraik* 21 Apr. i, While..pownies reek in pleugh or braik. 1789 *Bath Jrnl.* 22 June Advt., Stolen or stray'd .. A Black Poney, about thirteen hands high. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 384/2 The 'Shetland pony' is now well known...These diminutive horses..are only from nine to eleven hands high. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* v, Clive..much preferred poneys to ride. 1902 *Badminton Mag.* XV. 699 A pony, I find it stated, is strictly applicable to an animal under 13 hands; above 13 and up to 13–3 the creature should be known as a galloway, and over 13–3 it becomes a horse. This, however, is not the modern interpretation...I should be inclined to say that in general parlance anything under 14 hands is a pony.

2. *slang.* The sum of twenty-five pounds sterling.

1797 Mrs. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* II. 97 There is no touching her even for a poney. [*Note.* Half a rouleau or twenty-five guineas.] 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* v, 'Done, for a poney,...', said the Squire. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii. (1889) 26 Well done, Jack,.. you've saved your master a pony this fine morning.

3. *U. S. slang.* A literal translation of a classical text, for the use of learners; a school or college 'crib': cf. HORSE *sb.* 13.

1832 *Tour through College* 30 (Farmer), Their lexicons, ponies, and text-books were strewed round their lamps on the table. 1893 W. W. GOODWIN in *Classical Rev.* Apr. 162/1 A 'crib' or 'pony' to help them to learn their Greek lessons without the aid of dictionary and grammar.

4. *slang.* A small glass or measure of liquor.

1884 *U. S. Newspaper*, A 'Pony'..in America a glass of beer. 1885 *New York Jrnl.* Aug. (Farmer), A pony of beer. 1896 *Omaha Daily Bee* (U. S.) 18 Feb. 4/7 A couple of ponies of brandy. 1896 *N. B. Daily Mail* 7 Apr. 2 The pony, another Glasgow beer measure, contained 9-10ths of an imperial gill of beer.

5. A name of *Tecoma serratifolia* (N.O. *Bignoniaceæ*), a small tree of the West Indies.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Tecoma serratifolia*, 'Pony', Saw-leaved Trumpet-flower.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** General, as *pony-back* (cf. HORSEBACK), *-carriage, -cart, -chair, -chaise, -girl, -horse, -mare, -pack, -phaeton, -sled, -track, -trap*; *pony-buyer, -buying, -catcher, -catching, -hunter, -hunting, -rearer*; *pony-mounted* adj.; (in sense 2) *pony point.* **b.** Special combs. (often in names of things that are small of their kind): **pony-engine,** a small locomotive for shunting: **pony-express,** a postal agency using relays of ponies for the transmission of mails, etc.; **pony-glass,** a small glass holding a pony (sense 4); **pony-purse, pony-putter,** see quots.; **pony-truck,** a two-wheeled leading or trailing truck in some forms of locomotive; **pony-truss,** a truss so low that overhead bracing cannot be used (Webster 1890).

1813 *Examiner* 26 Apr. 265/1 A well-known quack .. appeared on *poney-back. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 401 We commenced the ascent on ponyback. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 510 Holborn and Snow Hill are crowded with *pony-carts. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xi, The only things she cared for in the country were a hall and a *pony-chair. 1852 MISS MITFORD *Recoll.* I. 301 The place in the *pony-chaise..was found vacant. 1900 EL. GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 81 One of those old-fashioned, very low pony-shays, with a seat up behind for the groom. 1864 WEBSTER, **Pony-engine.* 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 12 Oct. 386 The American *Pony Express, en route from the Missouri River to San Francisco. 1886 *Kansas Hist. Coll.* III. 395, I was present when the first fleet horse of the pony express started. 1894 *Daily News* 1 Oct. 5/5 The pony express from Pekin brought the Viceroy many despatches. 1889 T. A. GUTHRIE *Pariah* VI. i, I'm not a horsewoman yet. If I'm anything, I'm a *pony-girl. 1880 *Barman's Man.* 58 Fill the *pony-glass with Sasarac. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* III, vii, Do..come..and look at my *pony-phaeton. 1892 M. WILLIAMS *Round London* (1893) 202 He plays whist at his club for *pony (twenty-five pound) points. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, **Pony-purse*, a subscription collected upon the spot, or from a few persons. 1883 GRESLEY *Coal Mining Gloss.*, **Pony-putter*, a boy who drives a pony in the workings. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 149 To the left will be seen a *pony-track which winds over the hill to Watendlath. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* I. 85 To sit in my *pony-trap. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp!., **Pony Truck*, a truck with a single pair of wheels.

Pony (pōu·ni), *v. U. S. slang.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* and *intr.* To pay *up*, settle *up.*

1824 *Atlantic Mag.* I. 343 Every man..vociferously swore that he had ponied up his 'quarter'. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* 367 'Pony up or we will run you in' is the formula. 1903 *Architect* Suppl. 24 Apr. 28/2 To-day a walking delegate told him he would have to pony up 10 dols. if he wanted to stay on the job.

2. *trans.* To prepare (lessons) by means of a pony or crib.

1852 *Yale Tomahawk* May (Bartlett), We learn that they do not pony their lessons.

Ponyard, Ponysch, etc., obs. ff. PONIARD, PUNISH. **Poo,** obs. f. POOH; Sc. and n. dial. f. PULL.

‖ **Pooah** (pū·a). [Native name in Nepālese.] An urticaceous plant of North India, the fibre of which is used for cordage, sail-cloth, etc.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 153/2 This plant [*Böhmeria Puya*] is called Pooah or Puya in Sikkim and Nepal.

Pooch, obs. and dial. form of POUCH.

‖ **Pood** (pūd). Forms: 6–7 **pode,** 7 **poude,** 7–8 **poad(e,** 8 (**pœd**), **pudde,** 8–9 **pud,** 9 **poud,** 7– **pood.** [Russ. пудъ *pud*[u], ad. LG. or Norse *pund* POUND.] A Russian weight, equal to 40 lb. Russian, or slightly more than 36 lb. avoirdupois.

1554 J. HASSE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1903) II. 274 The pode doth containe of the great weight, 40 pounds, and of the smal 80: there goe 10. podes to a shippond. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 474 Of Wax fiftie thousand poad; every poad contayning fortie pounds. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 111 Raising the Poude (that is 40. pound) of Salt, to thirty pence. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* I. 76 At the Rate of four Rubels a Pudde. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xiii. 58 These waggons usually carry from twenty-five to thirty poods. 1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav.* 297 Rock salt..in large..blocks, weighing five or six pud. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Sept. 5/2 The gold mines of Russia have yielded 31,627 poods. 1890 *Daily News* 27 Nov. 6/4 The Russian poud weighs as nearly as possible thirty-six English pounds,..there are nearly sixty-two pouds to the ton.

Poodding, pooding, -ynge, obs. ff. PUDDING.

Poodle (pū·d'l), *sb.* [a. Ger. *pudel*, short for *pudelhund* (so LG., Swed., Da. *pudel*, Du. *poedel-(-hond)*) a poodle, f. LG. *pud(d)eln* to splash in water, the poodle being a water-dog. Cf. Ger. *pudel* a pool, PUDDLE; *pudelnass* dripping wet.]

1. One of a breed of pet dogs, of which there are numerous varieties, with long curling hair, usually black or white, which is often clipped and shaved in a fantastic manner.

1825 LYTTON *Falkland* I. xi, Mrs. Dalton..asked very tenderly after your poodle and yourself. 1858 WHEWELL *Hist. Sci. Ideas* II. 133 The Poodle and the Greyhound are well marked varieties of the species dog. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* XXV, A fat asthmatic poodle lay at her feet upon the hearth-rug.

† **2.** A woolly sort of cloth; a garment of this cloth. *Obs.*

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XX. 167 A good drab surtout—if not a poodle. 1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* xxii. 254 A short green cloak, adorned with a collar of the woolly texture, generally denominated poodle.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poodle-barber, -clippers, -clipping, -coat, -dog, -head*; *poodle-like* adj.; *poodle collar* (in sense 2).

a 1839 PRAED *Belle of Ball-Room* x, Her poodle dog was quite adored. 1859 SALA *Gas-light & D.* x. 121 A short cloak, decorated with the almost obsolete poodle collar. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* vii. (ed. 4) 109 The Fox may be known by his bark, which resembles that of a poodle dog. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 169 Having purchased a pair of poodle clippers..I myself became his barber.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Poo·dledom, Poo·dleish** *a.*, **Poo·dleship.**

1883 Mrs. LYNN LINTON *Girl of Period* I. 263 Many a fine stalwart fellow..sinks into mere poodledom at home. 1888 H. W. PARKER *Spirit of Beauty* (1894) 118 His owner should have been able to tell fifty like anecdotes of his poodleship. 1890 B. L. GILDERSLEEVE *Ess. & Stud.* 260 His whole demeanor was poodleish in the extreme.

Poo·dle, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To make into or treat as a poodle; to clip and shave the hair of. Hence **Poo·dled** *ppl. a.*, **Poo·dling** *vbl. sb.*

1828 *Lancet* 16 Feb. 725/2 Simply twisting it up, without the present fashion of poodling the head. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* July 45/2, I thought it as well to 'poodle' him [a dog] occasionally. 1905 *Ibid.* Dec. 816/1 The poodled Spitz, in Germany apparently a favourite animal, I avoid.

Poodler, dial. var. PODLER, young coal-fish.

Poof (puf), *int.* Also **pouf.** [A natural utterance. Cf. F. *pouf.*] A sound imitating a short sharp puff of the breath as in blowing something from the mouth, or blowing out a candle; hence an expression of contemptuous rejection: cf. POOH *int.*

1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* II. iii, Pouf! the very anticipation of them [clouds of dust] chokes me already. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 55 As for the others, poof! 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, Call that a quantity.. Poof! What do you say to the rest of it? 1868 YATES *Rock Ahead* I. iv, 'She will go out like that—pouf!'..blowing out an imaginary candle in explanation.

‖ **Poogye** (pū·gĭ). Also **-gyee, pungi.** [Hindī پونگی *pūngī* (*ūñ* = nasalized *ū*).] The Hindū nose-flute.

1864 ENGEL *Music Ancient Nations* 59 One of the most curious double-pipes at present extant in Asia is the poogyee of the Hindoos .., the tubes of which are inserted into a gourd, and are blown with the nose instead of with the mouth. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Poogye*, the nose-flute of the Hindoos.

Pooh (pū, pŭh), *int.* (*v.*, *sb.*) Also 7 **puh, pue, pow,** 7–8 **pugh,** 8– **poo:** see POH, POOF. [A 'vocal gesture' expressing the action of puffing or blowing anything away. Prob. orig. (*pux, puh*), whence also the variants *pough, pogh, poh, po*; and cf. POOF.] An ejaculation expressing impatience, or contemptuous disdain or disregard for anything. Cf. PHEW, PHO, PHOO.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 101 Affection, puh! You speake like a greene Girle. 1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* I. vi, Pugh!..Thou speakest like a fool. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 157 *Virgil.* The Gods graunt them true. *Volum.* True? pow waw. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Quiet Life* II. i, Pue wawe, this is nothing, till I know what he did. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* I. ii, Pooh, ha, ha, ha, I know you envy me. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. ix, 'Pugh', says she, 'you have pinked a man in a duel, that's all'. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 151 Poo! said they, we have no money. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. ii, 'Pooh, man', said Tarleton haughtily, 'none of your compliments'. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. 378 'Pooh', he said, as he read it, and tore it up.

B. as *sb.* An utterance of this.

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 29 July, With that she made a slighting puh with her mouth. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* VII, A thing which causes many 'poohs' and 'pishes'. 1861 CLAYTON *F. O'Donnell* 23 This puffy one always ended his subject with a long 'pooh'.

Hence **Pooh** *v.*, *intr.*, to utter the exclamation 'pooh!'; *trans.*, to say 'pooh!' to.

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Apol. for Watermen* Epil., Wks. II. 267/2 The wrymouth'd Critick..That mewes, and puh's and shakes his brainlesse head. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 44 The Doctor..pshaw'd and pooh'd for some time. 1858 POLSON *Law & L.* 15 'Pooh! pooh!' re-echoed his mother, 'don't pooh me, John'.

Pooh pooh (pū·pū·), *int.* (*sb.*, *a.*) Reduplication of POOH *int.*

[1679 Pough, Pough: see POH.] *a* 1814 *Woman's Will* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 90 Poo, poo, you know not what you say. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xii, Pooh, pooh! ..Never mind that. 1902 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 146 The sceptic will say 'Pooh pooh!' (at least on paper—nobody ever *says* 'Pooh pooh!')

B. *sb.* (*pooh-pooh*). **a.** An utterance of the exclamation 'pooh pooh!' **b.** One who is addicted to using this exclamation.

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 6 Before the Doctor had vented his pshaws and pooh poohs. 1867 *Morn. Star* 6 Aug. 6/4 The Pooh-poohs think the rest of mankind was made for their pleasure and profit. 1875 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. of Life, Crime & Automatism* (1891) 326 This is the tribe of the Pooh-Poohs, so called from the leading expression of their vocabulary. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Cong.* III. ii. 29 Dartrey blew his pooh-pooh on feminine suspicions.

C. *attrib.* or *adj.* (pū·pu), as in *pooh-pooh theory*, a humorous designation of the theory that language is a development of natural interjections. Cf. BOW-WOW *theory.*

1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Late Gt. Victories* (1876) 40 A Saturnine philosopher..has a pooh-pooh expression as the triumph passes. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* ix. 352 These cries or interjections were represented as the natural and real beginnings of human speech...This is what I call the Interjectional, or Pooh-pooh, Theory.

Pooh-pooh (pupū·), *v.* [f. prec. int.] *trans.* To express contempt or disdain for; to make light of, dismiss as unworthy of notice.

1827 J. W. CROKER *Diary* Feb. (1884) I. xii. 365 Peel pooh-poohed that difficulty. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech of Folkest.* (1877) 376 An old gentleman..was deservedly pooh-pooh'd down. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* XXXII, [They] pooh-pooched away every attempt at further enlargement of the suffrage. 1854 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. viii. 119 A stipend..between £800 and £1200 a year is not to be pooh-poohed. 1893 *Times* 22 Apr., Mr. Gladstone cannot pooh-pooh difficulties in Committee.

Hence **Pooh-poo·hing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pooh-poo·her, Pooh-poo·hist.**

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* XXV, Slatter..was..silenced by the unanimous pooh-poohing of the assembly. 1861 W. H. W[HITE] in *Rec. Astro-meteorol. Soc.* No. I. 13, I mean the Pooh-poohists. These objectors..rear high their crests on the announcement of any novelty in practical science. 1862 FURNIVALL *Let. to Sub-editors N. E. Dict.* 4, I believe that more roots will prove to be *imsons* than is supposed by pooh-poohers of the bow-wow theory. 1906 SLADEN *Lovers Japan* IV, I had not the courage to tell her pooh-poohing uncle so.

‖ **Poojah, puja** (pū·dʒa). *E. Indies.* Also **pooja.** [a. Skr. *pūjā* worship.] Rites performed in Hindū idol-worship; any Hindū religious ceremony or rite; also *fig.* (in ridicule).

c 1806 Mrs. SHERWOOD in *Life* xxi. (1847) 361 To this he made his daily poojah, or worship. 1826 HOCKLEY *Pandurang Hari* I. ii. 18 The person..now approached the sacred tree, and having performed *pūjā* to a stone deity at its foot, proceeded [etc.]. 1863 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 295 The high festivals of our religion would be among the most popular Poojahs of the year. 1875 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 95 My sin is that of not doing poojah to old Carlyle, who..took upon himself to write some nonsense about early kings of Norway.

Pook (puk), *sb. local.* Also 9 **puck.** [Goes with next: derivation uncertain.]

1. A heap; *esp.* a roughly thrown up heap of hay, a cock; also, a heap of oats, barley, or other unsheafed produce, not more than 5 feet high, pitched together for carting to the rick.

1718 HEARNE *Rem.* II. 80 [The farmer and his men] went up into the common fields..to fetch home two loads of oats,

and the land not being yet in cocks or pooks [etc.]. 1853 Miss Yonge *Heir of Redclyffe* vii, She saw Guy's ready greeting, and their comparison of the forks and rakes, the pooks and cocks of their countries. 1863 Morton *Cycl. Agric.* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Pucks* or *Pooks* (West Eng.), are large heaps, little ricks of hay, corn, &c. 1868 Tregellas *Cornish Tales* 20 O'er shoading-heaps and pooks of turves. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 July 3/1 The hay was dry and 'up in pook'.

2. A thin tall stack of corn in the sheaf, in shape a steep cone, 9 or 10 feet high, built up temporarily in the harvest-field in wet seasons, for drying the corn before it is carried to the main rick. So generally in s.w., but in central Dorset called more definitely a 'wind-mow'. (T. Hardy.)

a 1722 Lisle *Husb.* (1757) 211 In making the wheat-pooks in Wiltshire, the sheaves are set [etc.]. *Ibid.*, In a pook may be put a load or two. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s. v. *Harvest*, In their wheat-pooks..in Wiltshire, the sheaves are set in a circle, with their ears uppermost, and another circle of sheaves is placed upon that, and so on, contracting each round, till the pile ends in a point, upon which a sheaf opened, and turned with the ears downward, is placed, like the shackle of a hive. .. A load, or two loads, may be thus put into a pook, which is a very good way to secure corn against rain. 1829 Knapp *Jrnl. Nat.* 28 Saving our crops in bad and catching seasons, by securing the hay in windcocks, and wheat in pooks.

Pook (puk), *v.*[1] *local.* [Goes with prec.] *trans.* To heap up; *esp.* to put up (newly mown hay or unsheafed corn) in cocks or pooks (Pook *sb.* 1).

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Bladud* xv, Beneath on earth pompe, pelfe and prayse they pooke. 1627 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For gathering of viij busshells of apples & for pookeing. 1718 Hearne *Rem.* II. 81 The master and the other servant were pooking in part of the land. 1813 T. Davis *Agric. Wilts.* Gloss. s. v. *Cocked*, Barley and oats are always pooked or cocked, seldom carried from the swath...Hay is pooked, cocked, first in foot-cocks, and when dry in hay-cocks. 1901 *Times* 19 Aug. 11/1 Experience shows..that where barley is pooked, as it often is in the south, it takes less harm from heavy rain and dries much sooner than where it is sheafed.

b. To put up (corn) in pooks (Pook *sb.* 2).

a 1600 'A Wiltshire Rent Roll, temp. Q. Eliz.' in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VII. 277/1 The tenant to cut down, sheafe, pooke, and rake the said thirdes and tenths [of wheat and barley].

Hence **Poo·king** *vbl. sb.*; also *attrib.* in *pooking-fork* (see quot. 1893); also **Poo·ker.**

1635 *Wilts. Rec.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) *Varr. Collect.* (1901) I. 169 Men labourers in haymaking, pookeing, or gripping of Lent corne shall not take by the day..of wages above vi*d*. 1794 T. Davis *Gen. View Agric. Wilts.* 90 The price is seldom higher than eighteen-pence per acre for mowing, and one shilling for pooking, etc. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Pooker*, a woman employed in pooking. *Pooking-fork*, the large prong, with a cross handle, for pushing along in front of the pookers, to make up the hay into pooks. 1894 *Times* 14 Aug. 15/1 The relative merits of pooking and sheafing in the work of barley-harvesting are sure to present themselves for consideration...The barley lies strewn over the entire surface, to be occasionally turned with the pooking fork till the crop is ready for stacking.

Pook (puk), *v.*[2] *Sc.* Forms: (7 puik), 8–9 pouk, 9 pook. [Origin unascertained.] *trans.* To pluck, pull, pick, or pinch with the thumb and finger: e. g. in plucking a fowl, picking the stalks off fruit, and the like. Also *fig.*

1633 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Abbotsford Club Misc.* 154 The said Catrein cam in to the said Barbarayis house to puik sum bair. 1785 Burns *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xiv, The weans haud out their fingers laughin And pouk my hips. *a* 1810 in Cromek *Rem. Nithsdale Song* 74 I'll clip, quo' she, yere lang gray wing, An' pouk yere rosie kame. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* III. 205 Pook a craw with us. 1823 Galt *Entail* lii, Pooking and rooking me, his mother, o' my ain lawful jointure. 1894 Crockett *Raiders* 274 Your leddyship will hae to come and pook the chucky.

Hence **Pooked** (pukt), *Sc.* **pookit** (pu·kit) *ppl. a.*

1818 Miss Ferrier *Marriage* xxxiv, They hadnae thae pooket-like taps ye hae noo. 1824 — *Inher.* lxxxiv, It [the name] 's rather short and pookit. 1894 Hunter *J. Inwick* ii. 20 He's a puir, poukit-like cratur. 1895 Crockett *Men of Moss-Hags* lv, I had not the spirit of a pooked hen.

‖ **Pooka, phooka** (pū·kă, p^{h}ū·kă). *Irish.* [Ir. *púca* (gen. and dat. with article *an phúca*), = OE. *púca*, ON. *púki*, ME. *pouke* (see Puck), Welsh *pwca* goblin.] In Irish folk-lore, A hobgoblin, a malignant sprite.

1825 T. C. Croker *Fairy Leg.* I. 316 Irish superstition makes the Phooka palpable to the touch. To its agency the peasantry usually ascribe accidental falls. 1847 Le Fanu *T. O'Brien* 74 The Cavalier had heard of Phookas and other malignant sprites who..scare..the benighted traveller. 1888 W. B. Yeats *Fairy & Folk T.* 94 The Pooka..seems essentially an animal spirit;..[a] wild, staring phantom. 1894 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 331 The pranks of the Phooka..and the vision of the long-haired, long-robed Geilt.

‖ **Pookaun** (pūkō·n). *Irish.* Also **pookawn, pookhaun.** [Ir. *púcán.*] A small Irish fishing-boat, for rowing or sailing, in the latter case having a single mast with a kind of lateen sail.

1878–84 D. Kemp *Yacht Sailing* xxiv. 337 The Galway pookhaun is a smaller boat than the hooker, and used for both rowing and sailing. 1892 Jane Barlow *Irish Idylls* v. 108 On board quaint little curraghs and pookawns. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 490/2 The pookaun, a small boat with a sort of lateen sail, pretty to look at, but dangerous.

Pooke, obs. f. Poke; var. Puke *Obs.* (colour).

‖ **Pookoo, puku** (pū·ku). [ad. Zulu *mpuku.*] A red water-buck or antelope (*Cobus vardoni*) found in southern Central Africa.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 Selous *Trav. S. E. Africa* 245, I saw three roan antelopes and a few pookoos (*Cobus vardoni*). 1894 Lydekker *Royal Nat. Hist.* II. 304 The puku is about the size of the pala, standing some 3 feet 3 inches at the shoulder.

Pool (pūl), *sb.*[1] Forms: 1–4 pól, (1 poll, 4 powl), 5–6 pole, 5–7 poole, 3, 5– pool. Also *β. Sc.* 5 poll, 5– pule, 6– puil, 8–9 (*n.e. dial.*) peel. [OE. *pól* masc. = OLG. **pôl*, MLG., MD. *pōl*, LG. *pōl*, *pohl*, *pūl*, Du. *poel*; WGer. stem **pôlo-*. OE. had also *pull* and *pyll* (see Pill *sb.*[3]), ON. *pollr*, Sw., Da. *pöl*, the relations of which to OE. *pól* are obscure, as are also those of the Celtic words: W. *pwll*, Corn. *pol*, Breton *poull* pool; Ir. *poll*, *pull*, Gael. *poll* hole, bog, pond, pit, mire, Manx *poyll* pool, puddle.]

1. A small body of standing or still water, permanent or temporary: chiefly, one of natural formation.

c 897 K. Ælfred *Gregory's Past. C.* xxxviii. 278 Salomon sæde þætte swiðe deop pol wære gewered on ðæs wisan monnes mode. *Ibid.* xxxix. 282 Swelce mon deopne pol [*Hatton MS.* pool] gewerize. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 11 Gaa to ðæm pole [Siloam] & aduah. *c* 1205 Lay. 21748 þer, if æluene þloe in atteliche pole. *c* 1275 *Vices & Virtues* 81 Ifulled is þat fule pool þat euer is hot, and neuer cool. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2773 Let delue vnder þe foundement, & me ssal binebe finde A water pol. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 310 Alle þe gotez of þy guteres [*text* guferes], & groundelez powlez. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 653/3 *Hec piscina*, pole. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Pool, or ponde for fysche kepynge, *vivarium, stagnum.* 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 202/1 Ryvers, Pooles [204/2 Poles], Milnes, Fisshing places. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* ii. 13 They met together by the pole [1611 poole] at Gibeon, and these laye on the one syde of the pole, the other on the other syde. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 7 Poles, stankes, and standeng Lochis. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Hymn of Alms* 135 His Fens with Fowl, his Pils and Poles with Fish; His Trees with Fruits, with Plenty every Dish. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 59 A Pool is a meer standing water, without any current at all, and hath seldom or never any issue to convey away the waters. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 119 The noisy geese that gabbled o'er the pool. 1846 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* I. II. v. i. § 4 There is hardly a road-side pond or pool which has not as much landscape in it as above it.

β. 1487 *Barbour's Bruce* XII. 395 In the kersse pollis [*MS. E.* pulis, *ed. Hart* puilles] ther war. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 342 Thou come, Fule! in Marche or Februere, Thair till a pule, and drank the paddok rod. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 185 Stinkand pulis of euerie rottin sink. 1789 Ross *Helenore* 58 She..made nae stop for scrabs, or stanes, or peels [*ed.* 1768 pools]. *a* 1828 in P. Buchan *Ballads* I. 26 Then she became a duck..To puddle in a peel.

†**b.** Applied to a whirlpool. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* IX. xxi. (1821) II. 108 Comparit justly to ane insaciabil pule.

c. A small shallow collection of standing water or other liquid; a small plash, a puddle.

1843 Macaulay *Lays Anc. Rome, Horatius* lii, Where, wallowing in a pool of blood, The bravest Tuscans lay. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xvii. 317 One of the little pools upon the surface of the glacier. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* xv. (1870) 291 Those little pools that are left behind among the rocks by the retiring tide. *Mod. Sc.* Keip oot o' the puils.

d. *transf.* and *fig.*

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1352/2, [I] was forced to open the poole of my head, and to unstop the gate of my heart. 1870 Mrs. Riddell *Austin Friars* i, A quiet pool apart from the human torrent. 1875 G. Macdonald *Parables, Somnium Mystici* x, On the floor I saw..A little pool of sunlight. 1894 Weyman *My Lady Rotha* xxxi, The very gules and purpure that lay in pools on the floor. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 114 Hid in the marsh of years, Lies the still pool of memory.

e. (See quot.)

1883 *Century Mag.* July 324/1 When once a new 'pool' or belt of [oil-] producing territory is found.

2. A deep and still place in a river or stream.

The Pool: the part of the Thames between London Bridge and Cuckold's Point.

a 1000 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* I. 57 Of þane grete wiþig endlonge burne in þane pol buue Crocford. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I. i, The ship is safe in the Pool, then? 1661 Walton *Angler* I. xx. (ed. 3) 241 Such Pools as be large and have most gravel. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 111 The river..between the houses which we call Ratcliff and Redriff, which they name the pool. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 272 After passing the linn, it [R. Isla] forms a deep pool of water, called Corral. 1812 J. Wilson *Isle of Palms* II. 171 A stream comes dancing from a mount...Then, tamed into a quiet pool Is scarcely seen to glide. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 Appeal Cases 380 It is not a very big burn, but there are some very deep pools in it.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pool-bird, -ground, -side*; *pool-haunting* adj.; **pool-lily,** a water-lily; **pool-measure, pool-price,** the measure or price of coal at the Pool on the river in London; **pool-pass,** a fish-way into or out of a pool (Pass *sb.*[1] 3 h); **pool-reed** (called also *pole-reed* and *pull-reed*), the common Reed (*Phragmites communis*); **pool-root,** White Snakeroot, *Eupatorium ageratoides* (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); **pool-rush** (called by Lyte *pole-rush*), the Bulrush, *Scirpus lacustris*; sometimes erroneously, *Typha latifolia*; **pool-snipe,** †**-snite,** the Redshank, *Totanus calidris*; **pool-spear** = *pool-reed*; **poolwort,** a name given in U. S. to *Eupatorium aromaticum* (Billings).

1591 Fraunce *Heliodorus' Æthiopia*, Fit neast for a *poole-byrde. 1847 Emerson *Poems, Monadnoc*, Pasture of *pool-haunting herds. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 576 Her heart sank like a *pool-lily at shadow. 1768 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 74/2 An action brought..against two coal merchants..for selling five chaldrons of coals for *pool-measure, without delivering the full quantity. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Plan and Section of Fish Pass.. example of a *Pool Pass. 1832 *Examiner* 23/1 Upon each chaldron of coals brought to the market twelve shillings.. was added to the *pool or market price, which addition furnished the profits to the merchant. 1587 T. Newton *Lemnie's Bible Herbal* 150 Another kinde of Reede there is growing by the banks of standing waters, and on the shores of riuers, which hath a long, round and hollowe stalke or strawe, full of knottie ioints..This kinde, is our common *Poole Reede, Spear or Cane reede. 1879 Prior *Names Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 187 *Pole-reed*, properly..called in our western counties, Pool-reed, from its place of growth, *Arundo Phragmites*. 1712 M. Henry *Life P. Henry* i. Wks. 1853 II. 608/2 If we lay our children by the *pool-side, who knows but the Blessed Spirit may help them in, and heal them. 1892 Jean A. Owen *Within an hour of London Town* (ed. 2) 256 The redshank, *pool-snipe, teuke or took..; all these names are given to him. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 182 *Poole-snite...They have a strong and unpleasant rellish, and live wholly upon fish.

Pool, *sb.*[2] *local.* [Origin unascertained.] A measure of work in roofing and flooring: see quots.

1669 S. Colepress in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1010 Charges of Covering Houses with Slate...Every Poole of work is either 6 foot broad and 14 foot up, on both sides, or 168 foot in length and one in breadth. 1847–78 in Halliwell. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., In building, it is usual to speak of 'a pool of joists'; meaning the number of joists sufficient for the space between the wall and a beam or girder, or between two beams... The word only applies where main beams or short joists between dwarf walls are used...Also used for a similar space on a roof, which is covered by a 'pool o' rafters'.

Pool, *sb.*[3] [= F. *poule* in same sense (1676 in Mme. de Sévigné): see Note below.]

1. In certain card games, etc.: The collective amount of the stakes and fines of the players joining in the game.

[If, as appears to be the fact, sense 2 was derived from 1, this must have been in use before 1693.] 1711–12 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 26 Jan., I played at cards this evening at Lady Masham's, but I only played for her while she was waiting; and I won her a pool. 17.. *Reversis*, So that the great quinola pool will consist of 26 fish, and the little quinola pool of 13 fish. Each time that the stakes are drawn, or when there are fewer fish in the pool than the first original stake, the pool must be replenished as at first. 1766 [C. Anstey] *Bath Guide* viii. 90 Industrious Creatures that make it a Rule To secure half the Fish, while they manage the Pool. 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 29 Miss D——n..was hopping away with the pool from the Coterie. 1776 Mrs. Harris in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 341 The ton here is the game of 'Commerce', which the fine people play immoderately high, sometimes 1000*l.* the pool, the lowest hand giving ten guineas each deal. 1887 Black *S. Zembra* 215 They continued the game..with the addition of a half-a-crown pool to increase the attraction.

b. The receptacle containing the stakes; the pool-dish. (Quot. 1886 appears to be an error.)

1770 *Streets & Inhabitants of Birmingham* 87 Enamel Manufacturers. These ingenious Artists make Candlesticks, Snuff Boxes, Ink Stands,..Quadrille Pooles, Smelling Bottles ..and all sort of small Trinkets for Ladies Watches, etc. 1816 Singer *Hist. Cards* 262 (*Gleek*) If an odd number is given the eldest hand claims the largest half, or else the odd one is given to the pool [1680 Cotton *Gamester* 65, 1734 Seymour *Compl. Gamester* 26, or else it is given to the box]. [1886 F. G. S. in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. I. 477/2 Quadrille pools are the fishes or other counters used in playing the old-fashioned game of quadrille.]

†**2.** A party in a card-game, as comet or quadrille, in which there is a pool; a 'game' or match. *To make* (*up*) *a pool*, to form or make up the party or requisite number of players for such a game. *Obs.*

1693 Southerne *Maid's last Prayer* III. iii, What say you to a Pooile at Comet, At my House? 1732 Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr. & Corr.* (1861) I. 346, I played two pools at commerce. 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xiv, She..had sent for him only the Saturday before, to make up her pool of quadrille in the evening. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 21 Our party was put off till the Monday, when we played six pools. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* ix, I daresay the resolute lady sat down with her female friends to a pool of cards and a dish of coffee.

3. A game played on a billiard-table, in which each player has a ball of distinctive colour with which he tries to pocket the balls of the other players in a certain order, each player contributing an agreed sum, the whole of which at the end falls to the winner; also, a similar game in U. S. played with balls numbered 1 to 15, the number of each ball a player pockets being added to his score.

1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxiii, He plays pool at the billiard-houses, and may be seen engaged at cards and dominoes of forenoons. 1851 Fitzgerald *Euphranor* (1904) 26 He was waiting till some men had finished a pool of billiards upstairs. 1873 Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 5 'French billiards' was essentially single pool. 1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* x, They played billiards, pool, or pyramids with skill and success.

4. a. *Rifle-shooting.* A contest in which each competitor pays a certain sum for every shot he fires, the proceeds being divided among the winners. Also *attrib.*

1861 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 57 The attractions of the review and the temptations of pool targets have filled up the void left by the slackness of contributions. 1862 *Ibid.* 5 July 7

The sort of pot-hunting known at Wimbledon and elsewhere as Pool, where the value of a bull's-eye is much more considered than the credit of handling with success the Queen of weapons. 1869 *Daily News* 6 July, Pool and other breech-loading firing is made continuous instead of intermittent.

b. *Betting.* The collective stakes of a number of persons who each stake a sum of money on one of the competitors in some contest, the proceeds being divided among the backers of the winner.

1881 [see PARI MUTUEL].

5. A common fund into or from which all gains or losses of the contributors are paid; hence, a combination of capitalists for united speculative operation in a stock or commodity; a combine.

1872 W. R. TRAVERS in *N. York Herald* 25 Nov. 8/3, I find myself charged by Mr. Jay Gould .. with being interested in a put or pool in Northwestern common with Mr. Drew, .. and others. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 29 Jan. 4/4 Stamford rich men have formed a pool to pay the fines imposed upon them for fast driving. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 146/1 His little history of the fifty-million dollar pool in Union Pacific Preferred Stock showed that it was a 'blind pool', to run for five years.

6. An arrangement between previously competing parties, by which rates or prices are fixed, and business or receipts divided, in order to do away with mutually injurious competition: see quot. 1882. Also *attrib.* Originally *U. S.*

1881 *Chicago Times* 1 June, The marine insurance men are still striving to form a pool, and expect soon to succeed. *Ibid.* 4 June, The company will now compete with the other pool lines leading eastward. *Ibid.* 17 June, The agreement for a reorganization of the south-western freight pool. 1882 BITHELL *Counting Ho. Dict.* (1893) 231 The object of a 'pool' is to put an end to the 'war of rates' which breaks out so frequently between two or more competing lines... Sometimes the proceeds of the traffic on competing lines are put into a common fund, and afterwards distributed according to conditions previously agreed on. This is called a 'Financial Pool'. In other cases, arrangements are made for a distribution of the traffic, each line agreeing to accept a specified proportion. This is called a 'Physical Pool'. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 12/1 Salt is the latest commodity placed under the control of a pool in the United States... The object of such a pool is 'to keep up the price of salt, and to be able to compete with the foreign manufacturers'.

7. *Fencing.* A contest between teams, in which each member of one side fights each member of the other.

1901 *Oxford Times* 9 Mar. 12/4 What is termed a Poule à l'epée was arranged between teams of six a side, each member of the one team fighting a duel with the six members of the other, in rotation. *Ibid.*, Came out head of the pool, receiving only one hit in his six engagements.

8. *Comb.*, as (in sense 1) *pool-dish, -game*; (sense 3) *pool-ball, -table*; (sense 4 b) *pool-check, -room, -seller, -selling, -ticket*: see also 4 a and 6.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pool-balls*, ivory balls, 9 or 12 to the set, about 2 inches in diameter, for playing a kind of billiards. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 11, I walked up ter see wot the preacher had giv' him; boys, 'twas nothing but a brass **pool-check*. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 19 The Dealer then setting the **pool-dish* at his right hand, places in it five points. 1865 *Compl. Domino-Player* 16 Domino **Pool Game*.. is played by fitting the same numbers together, as in all the games with dominoes, except the matadore. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 13 Oct. 6/1 The betting .. is now mostly done in **pool-rooms*. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 5/1 Only one or two of the women came out of the pool-room with more money than when they entered it. *Ibid.*, The New York police have steadfastly resisted the efforts of enterprizing '**pool-sellers*' to make betting on horse racing as easy for women as for men. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 12 Mar. 5/1 Wagering, or, as it is called on the other side of the Atlantic, **pool-selling*. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxiii, Tom's good eye and steady hand, and the practice he had had at the .. **pool-table*, gave him considerable advantage.

[*Note.* In Eng. use this word has undoubtedly from the 18th c. been identified with POOL *sb.*[1]: see quots. 17.., 1766 in sense 1, with their references to the *fish* in the *pool*. But the French use of *poule* for the same thing, with the fact that the French is found earlier, makes it almost certain that the term was taken from Fr., and associated with the Eng. word *pool*. F. *poule* is held to be a sense of *poule* hen, chicken, being perh. at first slang for 'booty, spoil, plunder'. Mme. de Sévigné in a letter of 29 July 1676 uses *poule* exactly in the sense of Eng. *pool*; and in a letter of 30 June 1680 says 'Si Denjean est de ce jeu, il prendra toutes les poules: c'est un aigle', a play upon the sense 'hen'. The Dict. of the Académie, ed. 1, 1694, and that of Furetière, ed. 2, 1701, also explain *poule* almost in the words in which it stands in the Dict. Acad. ed. 7, 1878: 'Poule se dit, à certains jeux, de la quantité d'argent ou de jetons qui résulte de la mise de chacun des joueurs et qui appartient à celui qui gagne le coup. *La poule est grosse. Mettre à la poule. Gagner la poule*'. There is perh. a similar relation between F. *fiche* a fish at cards, and the Eng. 'fish' in the 'pool'.]

Pool (pūl), *v.*[1] [f. POOL *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** *intr.* Of land: To be marshy or full of pools. Of water: To form pools, to stand, stagnate. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 89 Ne poole [*v. r.* pulle; L. *stagnet*] hit not, but goodly playn elonge. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 537 On the other side the Water must but Slide, and not stand or Poole.

2. *trans.* In quarrying granite: To sink or make (a hole) for the insertion of a wedge; hence *pool-hole*, a hole made in this process. In coal-mining: To undermine (coal) so as to cause it to fall.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 91 Holes or notches, cut (or, as they term it, *pooled*) in the surface of the stone. *Ibid.*, These pool-holes are sunk with the point of a pick. 1816 J. A. PARIS *Guide Mounts Bay & Land's End* ii. 45 The method of splitting it [granite] is by applying several wedges to holes cut or (pooled) in the surface of the stone. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 979 The first set [of workmen] curves or pools the coal along the whole line of walls, laying in or pooling at least 3 feet. 1863 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 5 May, [He] was working at the face of the seam, undermining or pooling the coal so as to bring it down.

Pool (pūl), *v.*[2] [f. POOL *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To throw into a common stock or fund to be distributed according to agreement; to combine (capital or interests) for the common benefit; *spec.* of competing railway companies, etc.: To share or divide (traffic or receipts).

1879 *Daily Chron.* 30 Apr., A diminution in the volume of traffic passing over the line under the arrangements made with competing lines to 'pool', or, as in England would be said, to 'divide' the traffic carried. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* III. iii. (1881) 166 It is this general averaging, or as we may say, 'pooling' of advantages, which necessarily takes place. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Aug. 5/1 The arrangement for 'pooling' the Continental traffic of the two companies to Folkestone. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 1/3 The endowed funds of the Church ought to be pooled, equalised, and redistributed according to the work done.

Hence **Pooled** *ppl. a.*; **Poo·ling** *vbl. sb.*

1884 *American* VII. 229 A pooling combination to regulate prices. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Apr. 11/1, I don't think this pooling of the [railway] rates will stand. 1888 *Ibid.* 21 Jan. 2/2 Negotiations .. with a view of extending the pooled area. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 15 Dec. 446/1 The repeal of the section of the law prohibiting railway pooling.

Pool, dial. f. PULL *v.* **Pool, poole,** obs. ff. POLE, POLL. **Pooler,** var. POLER (sense 1). **Pool-hole**: see POOL *v.*[1] 2.

Pooly (pū·li), *a.* [f. POOL *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Resembling a pool; abounding in pools; swampy.

1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg., Wallace* viii, As angler in the pooly wave. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 181 The water struggled onwards through narrow gullets, boiling caldrons, and pooly whirls.

Pooly, obs. f. PULLEY. **Poomel,** obs. f. POMMEL. **Poomgarnet, -gernett,** obs. ff. POMEGRANATE. **Poompe,** obs. f. PUMP.

‖ **Poon** (pūn). Also 7 **pone,** 9 **puhn, puna, poona, -ay.** [Singhalese *pūna,* Tamil *punnai.*] One of several large East Indian trees of the genus *Calophyllum*, esp. *C. Inophyllum*; also, the timber furnished by these trees, used for masts and spars, and for building purposes. Chiefly *attrib.*, as *poon-mast, -spar, -tree, -wood*; **poon-oil,** a dark-green thick oil, having a strong scent and bitter taste, expressed from the seeds of *C. Inophyllum* (poon-seed), used in medicine and for burning in lamps.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. I. 64 For Masting, the Fir and Pone Trees are the best. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxii. 264 There is good Poon Masts, stronger, but heavier than Fir. 1840 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XXI. 300/2 Poon is also of two kinds, the dark and the light. It is a wood that answers very well for masts... The Malacca red poon is that of which masts and yards are made. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Poon-wood*, an Indian wood, .. used for ship-building, for planks, and also for spars. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Perav. Bark* 377 The poon trees .. are chiefly found in Coorg.

‖ **Poonac** (pū·năk). [Tamil *Punnakku,* Singhalese *Punakku.*] The oil-cake or mass left after the oil has been expressed from coco-nut pulp: used as fodder or manure.

1890 in WEBSTER. 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Poonah (pū·nă). Name of an Indian city in the Bombay Presidency; *attrib.* in **Poonah painting,** an artistic process in imitation of oriental work, in which pictures of flowers, birds, etc. were produced on rice (or other thin) paper, by the application of thick body-colour, with little or no shading, and without background: fashionable in England in the early part of the 19th c. So **Poonah brush,** a stumpy round-headed brush used for this; **Poonah paper,** the paper on which it was done; **Poonah-painted** *a.*; **Poonah painter.** (See *N. & Q.* 10th s. VII. 107, 152.)

1821 *Examiner* 272/2 The Poonah taught in a superior style. Ladies instructed in the above Elegant Art. 1822–3 *Pigot & Co's Directory,* Cheltenham .. Stanton Mrs., Indian poonah painter, 21 Bath Street. 1829 *Yng. Lady's Bk.* 469 A piece of tracing-paper, of a peculiar manufacture, which is sold at the stationers' shops as Poonah-paper. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 153 What are called 'mezzotinto' pencil-drawings, 'poonah paintings', and what not. 1849 SALA *Two round Clock* (1861) 179 Two pairs of silver grape-scissors, a poonah-painted screen, a papier-mâche work-box. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 48 It may be applied by using a strong hog hair or poonah brush charged with vermilion.

Poonahlite (pū·năləit). *Min.* Also **poona-, punah-.** [f. *Poonah* (*Púna*) in India, where found + -LITE.] A variety of SCOLECITE from Poonah.

1831 H. J. BROOKE in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. II. X. 110 *Poonahlite* .. a beautiful variety of apophyllite from Poonah, .. accompanied by some slender crystals, which I at first supposed were mesotype or needle-stone, but which differ from both substances in measurement; the *Poonahlite* being a rhombic prism of 92° 20'. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 689 Poonahlite. *Ibid.* Index, *Punahlite.*

Poond, -e, obs. ff. POND, POUND (an enclosure).

‖ **Poonga-oil** (pū·ŋgă,oil). [f. Tamil *punga* or Malayal(an) *pungam*, name of the plant.] A dark-yellow oil expressed from the seeds of the KURUNG, *Pongamia glabra*, and used in India as lamp-oil and as a remedy in skin-diseases; Kurung oil.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 919/1 In India an oil, called Kurunj, or Poonga oil, is expressed from the seeds. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* II. 370/2 Poonga oil is in high repute in India as an application for scabies and other skin diseases.

‖ **Poonghie, phoongyee, phungyi** (pō·ŋgȳī, pʊ·ndʒi). Forms: 8 **pongui,** 9 **phonghi, -gee, phoongee, -gye(e, poongee, -ghee, -ghie, -gy, -gyee.** [Burmese *hpōngyī*, f. *hpōn* glory, *kyī* great.] The name generally given in Burma to a Buddhist priest or monk. Also *attrib.*

1788 F. MAGNUS tr. *Sonnerat's Voy.* III. 17 Their Priests .. are called Ponguis, and are less informed than the Bramins. 1834 BP. BIGANDET in *Jrnl. Ind. Archip.* IV. 222–3 (Y.) The Talapoins are called by the Burmese Phonghis, which term means 'great glory'. 1879 F. POLLOK *Sport Brit. Burmah* II. 7 The poonghee houses or monasteries are splendid. 1897 LD. ROBERTS *41 Yrs. India* lxvi. (1898) 518, I still hear occasionally from one or other of my Poonghie friends. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 302 Yellow-garbed, close-shaven Phoongyees were squatting all over the pavement.

Poop (pūp), *sb.*[1] Forms: 5 **pouppe, pope, poppe,** 5–7 **powpe,** 6 **pupe, pewpe,** 6–7 **poup(e, poope, puppe, pup,** (7 **pub**), 7– **poop.** [ME. a. OF. *pupe, pope* (*c* 1400 in Godef. *Compl.*), F. *poupe* = It. *poppa,* Prov., Sp., Pg. *popa*:—late L. **puppa* for L. *puppis* poop, stern.]

1. The aftermost part of a ship; the stern; also, the aftermost and highest deck, often forming the roof of the cabin built in the stern.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. ii. 93 The pouppe whiche is the hindermost partye of the shippe. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 195 In the poppe of the seid shipp. 1496 *Ibid.* 176 The dekke ovyr the somercastell & the pope. 1497 *Ibid.* 227 The powpe abaft. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 203 The highest parte of the Castel of the poope. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* I. A ij b, There fell a sea that made the puppe to yelde. 1566 J. PARTRIDGE *Plasidas* 492 The lusty fish begin at payned pupe to toy. 1573 TWYNE *Æneid* x. E e j, She with right hand pup did shoue. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 452 The chief prore and pewpe (as the Proverbe is) and shooteanker of their whole Idolatrous Sacrifice. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 197 The Poope was beaten Gold. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 209 Those are equally safe who are in the fore part, as those who are in the puppe. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* xxi. 101 Made in the fashion of half a boat having .. the poupe of one flat board. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Poop of a Ship*, is the Floor or Deck over the Round-house or Master's Cabbin, being the highest part or uppermost part of her Hull astern. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 53 High on the poop the skilful master stands. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* § 1305 When the prisoners are on deck, the detachment of Troops is to be on the poop.

† **b.** *At poop, in (the, one's) poop,* of the wind: Astern. Hence *fig. Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid* XII. 148 b, The thousand shippes had wynd at poope. 1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 31 They goe to Pegu, with the winde in powpe. 1598 BARCKLEY *Fellc. Man* (1631) 411 They continue with him so long as the wind bloweth in the poope. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* IV. ix. 255 When they saw the wind blew merrily in their poope. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 16 We bore away to the starboard .. with a Wind in Poop.

c. *transf.* A cabin built on the after part of the quarter-deck; a round-house. *rare.*

1551 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1891) III. 257 The covering of clothe of golde belonging to the captaines cabane or powpe of the Gallie.

† **2.** *transf.* The dickey or seat at the back of a coach; the hinder part of a man or animal, the posteriors, rump. *colloq.* or *vulgar. Obs.*

c 1614 FLETCHER, etc. *Wit at Sev. Weap.* IV. i, If you .. meet a footman by the way, in orange-tawny ribbands, running before an empty coach, with a buzzard [the bare-headed lackey] i' th' poop on't. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 25 She took a mouthfull of claret, and spouted it into the poope of the hollow bird. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 96 While he manages his Whip-staff with one Hand, he scratches his Poop with the other.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poop-cabin, -deck, -end, -ladder, -rail, -staff*; **poop-lantern, -light,** a lantern or light carried at the stern to serve as a signal at night; **poop-royal,** the deck forming the roof of the poop-cabin; a top-gallant-poop.

1851 W. COLTON *Deck & Port* I. 16 Another order soon came for the construction of a *poop-cabin. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xvii, A large, clumsy ship, .. with her top-masts stayed forward, and high *poop-deck. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* x, Philip remained on deck by the *poop-ladder. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Ship*, Plate, Hull .. *Poop Lanthorns. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Aiguille de fanal*, an iron crank or brace, used to sustain the poop-lanthorn. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* lvii, We carried .. the customary *poop-light of the commodore. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Poop-rails*, the stanchions and rail-work in front of the poop. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Dunette sur Dunette*, the *poop-royal. 1800 *Naval Chron.* III. 274 The poop royal, in our present first rates is omitted. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxvi. IV. 472 Kynegeirus .. in laying hold on the *poop-staff of one of the vessels, had his hand cut off by an axe.

† **Poop** (pūp), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 6 **poope.** [Echoic, or f. POOP *v.*[1] Cf. LG. *pup, pūp*, Du. *poep* crepitus ventris.] A short blast in a hollow tube, as a wind instrument; a toot; a gulping sound.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. i. (Arb.) 32 Then to our recorder with toodleloodle poope As the howlet out of the yuie bushe should hoope. *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* v. vii. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), I taught them thier lerrie, and thier poop to, for their knacking. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 37 *Poops*, Gulps in drinking. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 99/1 When this captain [frog] gives the signal for stopping, you hear a note like *poop* coming from him.

† **Poop,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* In 6 **pope, 7 poope.** [Origin unascertained.] Some part of the furniture of a church bell: "perh. the 'stay' by which the swing of a bell is regulated, moving against the 'slider'" (*Gloss.* to work cited for quot. 1625).

1507–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 264 Item, payd for v bell popys for the bell Ropys xv d. 1625 *Churchw. Acc. St. Mary, Reading* (1893) 137 Paid for a board for the treble poope to save it 11 d. 1631 *Ibid.* 147 Paid to willis for poopes and strapes for the bell this yeire, 9s. 9d.

Poop (pūp), *v.*[1] Forms: **5 poupe, powpe, pope, 6– poop,** (9 *dial.* **pup**). [ME. *poupen*, of echoic origin: cf. MLG., LG. *pūpen*, MDu., Du. *poepen*.] † *intr.* To make an abrupt sound as by blowing a horn; to blow, toot; to gulp in drinking.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 579 Of bras they broghten bemes and of box Of horn of boon in whiche they blewe and powped [*v.rr.* poupid, pouped, poped]. *c* 1386 — *Manciple's Prol.* 90 And whan he hadde pouped in this horn To the Manciple he took the gourde agayn. 1593 R. BARNES *Parthenophil & P.* Ode xi. in Arb. *Garner* V. 457 The Shepherds poopen in their pipe.

b. (See quots.) *dial.* and *vulgar.*

1721–36 BAILEY, *To Poop*, to break Wind backwards softly. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, Poop, *v.*, *Cacare*, used of and by children.

† **Poop,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 6 **powp(e,** 6–7 **poup(e, poop(e.** [Of obscure derivation: cf. Du. *poep* a clown (Franck).] *trans.* To deceive, cheat, cozen, befool.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* II. i, But there ich was powpte indeede. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 134 Wee shall .. trumpe and poope him well enough if .. he will needes fall a comedizing it. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. ii. 25, I, shee quickly poupt him, she made him roast-meate for wormes. *a* 1650 MAY *Satyr. Puppy* (1657) 26 My two Gallants, (being poopt of what they enjoyed meerly to feel misery in the losse). 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* IV. ii, Hee's poopt too.

Poop (pūp), *v.*[3] *Naut.* [f. POOP *sb.*[1]] *trans.* Of a wave: To break over the stern of (a vessel).

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ii. 319 A large tumbling swell threatened to poop us. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) Ll j b, The principal hazards incident to scudding are generally, a pooping sea; the difficulty of steering. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, The frigate was pooped by a tremendous sea, which washed all those who did not hold on down into the waist.

b. *transf.* Of a ship: To receive (a wave) over the stern; to ship (a sea) on the poop.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Dec. 5/1 An enormous wave was pooped which demolished the hatchways and flooded the hold with several feet of water. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* xxviii, The supreme test .. is the length of time she will scud before a gale without 'pooping' a sea.

Poope, obs. f. POOP, POPE *sb.*[1]

Pooped (pūpt), *a.* [f. POOP *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Having a poop: chiefly in comb. as *high-pooped.*

1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* i. 7 Magellan dropped anchor there, with his quaint, high-pooped craft. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 1/3 There were soldier sentries .. ready to shoot from the pooped watch-tower [on a convict-ship].

Poope-holy, variant of POPE-HOLY *Obs.*

Poopet, obs. form of POPPET.

† **Poo·p-noddy.** *Obs.* [? f. POOP *v.*[2], to cheat, cozen + NODDY, fool, simpleton, as if = cozen-the-simpleton.] ? = CONY-CATCHER, CONY-CATCHING. Cf. NODDYPOOP.

1606 *Wily Beguiled* C j b, I am sure I saw them close together at Poop-noddie, in her Closet. 1616 J. DEACON *Tobacco Tortured* 57 Alas poore Tobacco..thou that hast bene hitherto accompted the Ale-knights armes, the Beere-brewers badge,..the Poope-noddies paramour, the Ruffians reflection.

Poor (pūəɹ), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: *α.* 3–5 **pouere** (**povere**), 3–6 **pouer** (**pover**), (4 **poeuere, poeure, pouir**), 4–5 **poer, powere,** 5 **poyr,** 5–6 **power,** (6 **poware**). *β.* 3–5 **poure,** 4–6 **powre, pour.** *γ.* 3–7 (–9 *dial.*) **pore,** 4–7 **poore,** (6) 7– **poor.** *δ. Sc.* and *north. dial.* 4–6 **pur,** 4–8 **pure,** (4 **puyre,** 5 **pwyr, poyr,** 6 **peur(e, pwir, puire**), 6–**puir**(ü), (9 **peer**). [ME. *pov(e)re, pouere, poure*, a. OF. *povre, -ere, poure*, in mod.F. *pauvre*, dial. *paure, pouvre, poure* = Pr. *paubre, paure*, It. *povero*, Sp., Pg. *pobre*:—L. *pauper*, late L. also *pauper-us*, poor. The mod.Eng. *poor* and Sc. *puir* represent the ME. *pōre*: with mod. vulgar *pore*, cf. *whore* and the pronunciation of *door, floor.*

On account of the ambiguity of the letter *u* and its variant *v* before 1600, it is uncertain whether ME. *pouere, poure, pouer*, meant *pou-* or *pov-*. The phonetic series *paupere(m, paupre, paubre, pobre, powre*, shows that *povre* preceded *poure*, which may have been reached in late OF., and is the form in various mod.F. dialects. But the 15th and early 16th c. literary Fr. form was *povre*, artificially spelt in 15th c. *pauvre*, after L. *pauper*, and ME. *pōre* (the source of mod.Eng. *poor*) seems to have been reduced from *povre* like *o'er* from *over*, *lord* from *lowerd*. Cf. also POORTITH, PORAIL, POVERTY. But some Eng. dialects now have *pour* (puur), which prob. represents ME. *pour* (pūr).]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. *c* 1205 LAY. 22715 Riche men and pouere. *c* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19775 (Edin.) Wip pouir [*v. r.* pouer] widus umbisette. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 453 Vith powere folk. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 69 Be þe peple neuere so poer. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 518 Poeure nedy men. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xli. 48 And yf so be that she be power [*rime* honoure]. 1434 MISYN *Mending Life* iii. 110 Blissyd be þai þat ar poyr in spirytt. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 108 My power frendes and neghbors. 1554–9 in *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 11 Uppone the poware commens.

β. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Gif hie was poure. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4375 (Cott.) Leuer es me be pour [*v. rr.* pouer, pore] and lele. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 117 The foure powre knyghtes. *Ibid.* xviii. 400 He lived like an heremyte a poure liffe. 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 125 The helpe and socour of my pour soule.

γ. *c* 1275 LAY. 22715 Riche and pore. *a* 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 84 [Ps. xl. 17] Forsoþe y am a beggere and poore. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 73 The pore comons. 1536 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 132 Desyuryng you..to be good and gracyus lord unto me synful and poor creatur. 1592 COUNTESS SHREWSBURY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 165 Againste the pore chyld. 1611 BIBLE *Jas.* ii. 2 A poore man in vile raiment. 1689 SIR W. MURE *True Crucif.* 2587 In soule most pore [*rime* Ore]. 1650 Poor [see B. 1 c]. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 To honour my poore house.

δ. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 509 Naked we come hider, and bare And pure. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 365 Puyre and riche men elyke. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 467 Our rewme is þur, waistit be Sotheroun blud. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/1 Pure (*A.* Pwyr). 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 14 Thair pwir frendis. 1539 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 165 Puyr boddeis. 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 82 Quhat cummer castis the formest stane..At tha peure winschis. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumberld. Ball.* 43 She..can always feel For peer fwok when distrest.

B. Signification.

I. 1. Having few, or no, material possessions; wanting means to procure the comforts, or the necessaries, of life; needy, indigent, destitute; *spec.* (esp. in legal use) so destitute as to be dependent upon gifts or allowances for subsistence. In common use expressing various degrees, from absolute want to straitened circumstances or limited means relatively to station, as 'a poor gentleman', 'a poor professional man, clergyman, scholar, clerk', etc. The opposite of *rich*, or *wealthy*. *Poor people*, the poor as a class: often with connotation of humble rank or station.

c 1200 [see A. *β*]. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *Cott. Hom.* 261 Ich iseh þe apostles poure ant lah on eorðe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13312 (Cott.) To petre þat he pouerest fand, Of all he mad him mast weldand. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 155 He wiste wel his pours was povere. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 7 The son of a pover wedowe. 1547–8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 12 Ther is within the saide paryshe a house of poore people, callyd the spitle howse. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 21 If thou be'st as poore for a subiect, as hee's for a King, thou art poore enough. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 8 This *Poor* hath been an Epithete for Scholars in all Ages. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* Pref., The whole Kingdom grows every day poorer and poorer. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 23 Mothers of the poorer sort. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* IV, They are almost like poor people's children!

b. In proverbial comparisons: see CHURCH-MOUSE, JOB *sb.*[4] 1, RAT *sb.*[1] 2 c.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 211 To ben for evere til I deie As povere as Job. 1533, etc. [see JOB *sb.*[4] 1]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iv, See, he's as poor as a rat. 1900 WEYMAN *Sophia* v, All as poor as rats, and no one better than the other.

c. Of, involving, or characterized by poverty.

13.. *Cursor M.* 13272 (Cott.) Mene men o pour lijf [*Fairf.* men of pouer fode]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 518 Crist wiþ his apostlis lyvede most povere lif. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. vi. 143 Here he [Christ]..had his poor and painfull education, working on his Fathers trade. *a* 1661 — *Worthies* (1662) I. 57 Forced..to take..poor and painful Employments for their Livelyhood. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, I'm sorry to see ye in sic a peer state, man.

d. *fig.* (or in generalized sense).

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 164 Þouh man haue muche katel .. 3it he may be pore of mod And low of herte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 128 So is he povere, and everemore Him lacketh that he hath ynowh. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 48 Blissed be þai þat er pouer in spirit. 1867 JEAN INGELOW *Regret* 12 They are poor That have lost nothing; they are poorer far Who, losing, have forgotten. 1876 C. D. WARNER *Wint. Nile* ii. 33 People are poor in proportion as their wants are not gratified.

2. Lacking, ill supplied; having a want or deficiency of some specified (or implied) possession or quality: const. † *of* (obs.), *in.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 301 Pore of possessioun in purse and in coffre. 1393 *Ibid.* C. XVII. 161 He þat haþ londe and lordshep,..Shal be pourest of power at hus partyng hennes. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 22 He hadde ynow3 of all rychesse, But he was pore of all godenesse. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 717 So long as God is not poore of mercie, so long cannot I be poore of merite. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 30 They that are poore in reputation ought to presse up to the trenches. 1842 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1876) II. ix. 109 The English language is not so poor but [etc.]. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 157 Stratified masses, rich in organic remains, though poor in mineral substances.

b. Of soil, ore, etc.: Yielding little, unproductive.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (Shaks. Soc.) 32 Onely poore England giues him bread for his cake. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 30 All other delights that poore Iland coulde yeelde. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. v. 218 They cal that [ore] poore which yields least silver. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 475 The poor clays require such manures as contain the greatest plenty of the vegetable food. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 192 Poor and hungry soils. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 385 The poor slag contains about 7 ounces of silver and a trace of gold. It is too poor to treat, and is thrown away.

3. In lean or feeble condition from ill feeding.

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Gen.* xli. 19 Seuen other kyne .. poore [COVERD. thynne] and very euell fauored and leane fleshed. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXI. xl. 415 Their horses, no other than lame jades and poore hidebound hildings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 321 Before his Training, keep him poor and low. 1716 SWIFT *Progr. Poetry* Wks. 1755 III. II. 161 Cackling shews the goose is poor. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* XXXI, The horse perished, as 'poor' horses are apt to do.

† b. Out of health, unwell: = POORLY *a. Obs.*

1758 L. LYON in *Milit. Jrnls.* (1855) 15 Corperal Carpenter was taken poor. *Ibid.* 25 This day at night Leiut. Smith came back and very poor he was. 1758 S. THOMPSON *Diary* (1896) 12 Our men are very poor, and we scarce could get men for work or for guard.

4. Small in amount; less than is wanted or expected; scanty, insufficient, inadequate.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 Hwar was euer iȝiuen to eni blodletunge so poure pitaunce? 13.. *Cursor M.* 11307 (Cott.) Pouer gift can sco for him giue þat com in pouert for to liue. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 239 Schir Modred, his power wes so puir, Into the feild no langar micht induir. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xv. 16 b, By reason of the poore treasure of the religious.. [the place] coulde not haue bin fortified. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 493 Every man and maid servant, or Orphant, having any poor stock may venture the same in their Fishing-voiages. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* II. i. 850 Death is too poor a Name, for that means Rest. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 314 The crop of wheat would be thought poor if it did not exceed twelve millions of quarters.

b. Depreciatively, with a numeral, connoting the smallness of the number or sum.

1596 SHAKS. I *Hen. IV*, III. iii. 180 One poore peny-worth of Sugar-candie. 1600 — *A. V. L.* I. i. 2 It was..bequeathed me by will, but poore a thousand Crownes. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. ii, What are twenty-two poor years towards the finishing a Lawsuit? 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 11 All..he had wagered was poor Thirteen-Pence. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. viii, It is but poor eight miles from Shandy-Hall. 1819 KEATS *Isabella* XXVI, A poor three hours' absence.

5. Deficient in the proper or desired quality; of little excellence or value; not worth much; of inferior quality, paltry, 'sorry'; mean, shabby. Usually of abstract things: in reference to material objects, often approaching 1 c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14869 Þis folk..O littel wijt, o pour resun. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 71 After some men of pover and breve intellecte, and also of lytelle experience. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 62 b, Although it be a poore helpe. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 51 Such poore bridges, onely made of a few cratches thrust in the o[o]se, and three or four poles laid on them. 1714–15 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 37 Twas a poor Discourse. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xiii. 264 They made but poor work of it. 1777 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 149 The House never made so poor a figure as in the debate on that bill. 1843 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 252 Seditious cries will make a poor battle against cannon. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. liii. 301 The poor paving of the streets and their lack of cleanliness. *Mod.* It was poor consolation to me to know [etc.].

b. Mentally or morally inferior; mean-spirited, sneaking; paltry, despicable, 'small'; wanting in courage, spiritless.

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 19 So fals, and so pouere,—but he was nevere of my kyn. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* II. v, A poore spirit is poorer than a poore purse. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 17 A Man of a poore Minde, and not valiant. 1685 EARL OF ROCHESTER *Valentinian* V. ii, Shall I grow then so poor as to repent? 1796 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. lxxxviii, He is a poor creature and more of a Genoese than an Englishman. 1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts., Rajah's Diamond*, He seemed altogether a poor and debile being. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/1 From the intellectual point of view, there could not be a poorer creature.

c. Slight, insignificant, of little consequence.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1 The glorious Empire of the Turkes,.. hath .. nothing in it more wonderfull or strange, than the poore beginning of itself. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. iv. 38 Henry Earl of Surrey .. for .. the poor crime of assuming somewhat into his coat of arms, was actually beheaded. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* 2 Each one of those great sciences was in its dim and poor beginning.

d. In modest or apologetic use, said depreciatively of oneself, one's performance, or something belonging to or offered by oneself: Of little worth or pretension; humble, lowly, insignificant.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xciv, Vnto 3oure grace lat now ben acceptable My pure request. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) 250 Well is me that I may se thy face, here in my house, this poore place! 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* Ep. Ded., To exclude olde men .. is (in my poore conceipt) palpable erronious. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 131 For mine owne poore part, Looke you, Ile goe pray. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* Ded. 1 This silly pittiful, and poore Treatise. *a* 1745 SWIFT (J.), To be without power or distinction, is not, in my poor opinion, a very amiable situation to a person of title. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* III. 118 If from my poor retirement ye had gone Leaving this nook unvisited.

6. Such, or so circumstanced, as to excite one's compassion or pity; unfortunate, hapless. Now chiefly *colloq.*

In many parts of England regularly said of the dead whom one knew; = late, deceased.

c 1275 LAY. 15421 To 3am saide þo þer þe pore king Vortiger. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 296 This yonge lord..Al naked in a povere plit. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9596 Then Deffibus..Pletid vnto Paris with a pore voise. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. iv, Thus was the poure sheep vaynquysshed. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* in Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 776 Going her waye, leaving the poore innocent childe weeping as fast as the mother. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 113 If Osorius would leaue of..his ouer rancke rayling against poore Luther. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 85 Betwixt the Oke and it [the Olive] there is great hatred .. though you cut downe the Oke, yet the very Rootes poysoneth and killeth the poore Oliue. 1691 J. WILSON *Belphegor* v. iii, Poor comfortless Woman; she's fall'n asleep at last. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 26 Feb., Till his [Boswell's] book of poor Dr. Johnson's life is finished and published. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* II. 347, I often think of poor Leyden's lines. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 330 He looked dreadfully weak still, poor fellow! 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 82 The poor thing had fallen asleep also. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., People who are dead are always spoken of as *poor* so-and-so..'You mind the poor old Farmer Follett, that's th' old Farmer George's father you know'. 1887 *How to Make a Saint* viii. 114–15 In common parlance the word 'poor' had by general consent been prefixed to the names of the dead in this country..[They] had been in the habit of speaking of their departed friends as 'poor So-and-so'. *Oxford boatman.* 'When my poor dad was ferryman here'.

II. 7. *absol.* or as *sb.* (almost always in sense 1). **a.** *absol.* in *pl.* sense (usually with *the*): poor people as a class; those in necessitous or humble circumstances (often contrasted with *the rich*); *spec.* those dependent upon charitable or parochial relief; paupers.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 50 Poure ba & riche comen þer to-foren him. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Hwen þus is of þe riche, hwat wenes tu of the poure? 13.. *Cursor M.* 4707 þe wrecche pouer [*Gött.* þe wrecched pore] moght find na fode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 276 Bath pur, and thai off hey parage. *c* 1475 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 141 Aswell to the power as to the riche. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 5 It myght have been soolde for more then two houndred pens, and bene geven vnto the povre. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 47 b, Colledges and such other places were fyrst founded for the pore. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* I. i, What poor attend my charity to-day, wench? *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 80 The poor of France have generally less Wages than in England. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* viii, The short and simple annals of the poor. 1795 BURKE *Th. Scarcity* Wks. VII. 377 Nothing can be so base and so wicked as the political canting language, 'The labouring poor'. 1864 TENNYSON *Northern Farmer, New Style* xii, Taäke my word for it, Sammy, the poor in a loomp is bad. *Mod.* Money left to the poor of the parish.

† **b.** *sing.* = poor man, poor person. (In quot. 13.., in sense 5 d.) *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 615 Passe neuer fro þi pouere, 3if I hit pray durst, Er þou haf biden with þi burne & vnder boȝe restted. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5601 But the povre that recchith nought, Save of his lyflode, in his thought. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* iii, I byleue not that this poure may be maculed ne gylty of the blame. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 480 Thoucht now I stand dispitit as a pure. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* v. xvi. § 6 He had given somewhat to every poore in the Parish.

† **c.** *sb. pl. poors. Obs.*

[1343 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 136/2 La Lei eit owel Cours entre Poures & Riches.] 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* I iv b, Who that receyueth the prophetes the predycatours and the poures he receyueth my owne self. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate* 336 Quhilk nother techis ryche nor puris. 15.. *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* I. 395 (Jam. *Suppl.*) Sua that the gude toun nor nane resortand thairto sall be trublit with thair puris.

d. possessive *poor's* (in sing. or pl. sense). Now *rare* exc. *dial.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4893 þat your hye dygnite .. No desdein haue of þe pores sentence. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 19766 (Trin.) To sewe þe pores clobing. *a* 1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* III. *Serm.*, etc. (1673) 16 It is the poors money, and the Talent of thy Lord which thou hidest under the ground. 1844 A. PAGE *Suppl. Kirby's Suffolk Trav.* 799 The poor's estate comprises a cottage .. and 13 A. 3 R. 7 P. of land. *Sc. dial.* She is now in the Poor's-house.

III. Combinations and Phrases.

8. Qualifying a sb. in special collocations: **poor child**, a pupil at a charity school (CHILD *sb.* 4); **poor Clares**, an order of nuns (see CLARE); **poor debtor** (see DEBTOR 1 c); **poor preachers, poor priests**, an order of itinerant preaching clergy founded by Wyclif; **poor relation**, a relative or kinsman in humble circumstances (also *transf.*); † **poor Robin** *sb.*, an almanack (from the title of *Poor Robin's Almanack*, first published in 1661 or 1662); *v. intr.* (with *it*), to play the part of 'poor Robin' (? in allusion to *Poor Robin's Jests*, *c* 1669, or one of various works with similar titles); **poor vicar** (see VICAR); **poor white** (see WHITE *sb.*). See also POOR JOHN, POOR MAN.

1706 *Poor children [see CHILD *sb.* 4]. 1714 J. WALKER *Suff. Clergy* II. 214/2 Educated at Queen's-College in Oxford; where he became successively Poor Child, Taberder, Fellow and Proctor. *c* 1380 in *Wyclif's Wks.* (1880) 245 (*title*) Whi *pore prestis han none benefice. *Ibid.* 248 3it þou3 pore prestis myȝtten frely geten presentacion of lordis to haue benefices wiþ cure of soulis. 1880 F. D. MATTHEW *ibid.* Pref. 16 Wyclif's aim in instituting the poor priests was to supply the defects of the existing parsons, who too often, after collecting their tithes and dues,..left their flock without preaching or spiritual instruction. 1804 COLERIDGE *Lett.* II. 475 You sometimes see thirty or forty together of these our *poor relations [monkeys]. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, A Poor Relation—is the most irrelevant thing in nature,—a piece of impertinent correspondency,—an odious approximation,—a haunting conscience,—a preposterous shadow, lengthening in the noontide of your prosperity. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 2/1 The discarded ones [clothes]..were not sold. They were bestowed on the Poor Relation. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 82 (1713) II. 251, I never *Poor-Robin'd it, I never fasten'd upon any notorious Servant of the City, the Name of Sir Thomas Creswel, upon the score of any private Immoralities. 1716 *Gentlem. Instructed* (ed. 6) 120, She discern'd .. a Feast from a Feria, without the Help of poor Robin.

9. General Combs. **a.** Attributive (from the absol. or sb. use), Of or for the poor, as *poor-hour, -money, -relief, -school.* **b.** Objective, as *poor-bettering, -feeding* adjs. **c.** Parasynthetic and adverbial, as *poor-blooded, -charactered, -clad, -looking, -minded, -sighted* adjs.

1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* 90 *note*, The objection, urged against that system.., in the name of the *Poor-bettering Society. 1889 W. F. RAE *Austrian Health Resorts* 71 *Poor-blooded patients may indulge in a little old red wine. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 80 He might produce..a *poor Charactered man, to do something for them. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 82 To heare The *poore-clad truth of loues wrong-ordred lot. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 7/1 Shivering, starving, poor-clad men and boys. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 265 Is it not to deal our bread unto the hungry, etc., *poor-feeding fasts? 1897 H. DRUMMOND *Ideal Life* 68 The soul-sick had to take their turn like the out-patients at the *poor-hour outside the infirmary. 1622 DEKKER & MASSINGER *Virgin Martyr* II. i, To..give your *poor-minded rascally sérvants the lie! 1796 J. BENSON in *Mem.* (1822) 295 The choice of stewards to manage the *poor-money. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 131 Questions of property, capital, labour, and *poor-relief. 1857 G. OLIVER *Collect. Hist. Cath. Relig. in Cornwall*, etc. 427 He established a *poor-school on the premises. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 3/2 In the poor-schools where the bairns get more warmth .. than anywhere else. 1898 J. D. REES in *19th Cent.* June 1023 These beasts [elephants] are very *poor sighted, though their noses are extremely good.

10. Special Combs.: † **poor and rich**, name of some game; **poor-chest** = POOR-BOX; **poor-farm** (U. S.), 'a farm maintained at public expense for the housing and support of paupers' (*Cent. Dict.*); **poor-fellow** *v. trans.* (*nonce-wd.*), to address commiseratingly as 'poor fellow' (cf. 6); **poor-master** (*U. S.*), a parish or county officer who superintends the relief and maintenance of paupers; † **poor-tax** (also *poor's tax*), a tax for the relief of the poor, a poor-rate; **poor-thing** *v. trans.* (*nonce-wd.*), to speak of or address as 'poor thing' (cf. *poor-fellow*). See also POOR-BOOK, -BOX, etc.

1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* D iv, At Nouum, Mumchance, mischance,..or at *Poore and rich. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 67 Hadst thou a gainefull hand a rich *poore-chest. 1889 G. HUNTINGTON in *Chicago Advance* 31 Jan., Now don't *poor-fellow me, or imagine that I find life a bore. 1883 *American* VI. 40 When he spares both undertaker and *poor-master further trouble. 18.. *Amer. Mission.* XXXIX. 8 (Cent.) The Agent of the United States to the Sioux Indians was to act as a sort of national poor-master, and deal out rations. 1721 BERKELEY *Prev. Ruin Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1871 III. 198 If the *poor-tax..was fixed at a medium in every parish. 1793 *Friendly Address to Poor* 3 The Poor's Tax is much increased in every part of the kingdom. 1860 *New Virginians* II. 9 In my inexperience I '*poor thinged' her from the bottom of my heart

Poor, *v.* Forms: see prec. adj. [f. POOR *a.* Cf. OF. *pouverir* to impoverish (Froissart).]

† **1.** *intr.* To become poor. *Obs. rare.*

c 1275 *Digby MS.* 86 lf. 126/1 Now þou art riche, and now þou pouerest [*rime* couerest].

† **2.** *trans.* To make poor, impoverish. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 216 þus ben lordis and rewmes poorid. *c* 1450 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1872) 280/2 Thus is he riched, the kynge pouered. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 43 This land is purd off fud that suld ws beild. *a* 1500 *Priests of Peblis* in Pinkerton *Scot. Poems* (1792) I. 14 Your tennants..ar puird: And, quhan that thay ar puird, than are yé pure.

3. To call 'poor' (POOR *a.* 6). *nonce-use.*

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. iv, Miss Lavinia .. put in that she didn't want to be 'poored by pa', or anybody else. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* viii. (1869) 227 Don't 'poor' me, Sir. Nobody ever 'poored' me before.

† **Poo·rable,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 6 **pooreable.** [Anomalous f. POOR *a.* + -ABLE.] Able through poverty, poor enough.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* Ep. Ded., His [Huloet's Dict.] is great & costly, this is little & of light price, his for greter students, & them yᵗ are richable to haue it, this is for beginners, & them that are pooreable to haue no better.

† **Poora·lity.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. POOR *a.*, app. after *commonality*.] The poor (collectively).

1536 *Petit. Lincoln Rebels to Hen. VIII* (P. R. O.), Whereby..the poralitie of your Realme be vnreleuyd.

Pooranic, Pooraun: see PURANIC, PURANA.

Poorblind, obs. form of PURBLIND.

† **Poo·r-book.** *Obs.* Also 7 **poor's-book.** A book containing a list of the poor in receipt of parish relief.

1681 [see *poll-book*, POLL *sb.*^{1} 10]. 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 165 Such poor people who goe to conventicles, and not to their parish churches, shall be putt out of the poors book, and have no parish collections. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 274 It [a parish meeting] was called for the inspection of our poor-book.

Poo·r-box. Also 7–9 **poor's box.** A money-box (esp. in a church) for gifts towards the relief of the poor. Cf. *poor man's box*, POOR MAN 4.

1621 B. JONSON *Gipsies Metamorph.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 624/2 On Sundays you rob the poor's box with your tabor. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Mar., To the pewterer's, to buy a poore's box, to put my forfeits in, upon breach of my late vows. 1708 *Diss. on Drunkenness* 27 Overseers go to the Tavern and get drunk with the Poor's Box. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* II. ii, She draws her mouth till it .. resembles the aperture of a poor's-box. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 76/2 The magistrates..gave me 2*s.* out of the poor's-box. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 591 In Ireland the Poor Man's Box, or 'poor-box', as it is generally called, is still in use. It is an oval box, half-covered, of copper or wood, with a long handle.

Poorche, obs. f. PORCH. **Poore,** obs. f. PORE, POUR, POWER; var. PORR *v. Obs.* **Poore-blind,** obs. f. PURBLIND. **Poorety,** obs. f. POVERTY.

† **Poo·rful,** *a. Obs.* In 4 **porful.** [irreg. f. POOR *a.* + -FUL. Cf. *direful, fierceful.*] Poor; thoroughly poor.

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 226 Iesu, swete son dere! On porful bed list þou here, And þat me greueþ sore.

Poorge, obs. form of PURGE.

† **Poo·rhead.** *Obs.* In 4 **poure-, pouerehede.** [f. POOR *a.* + *hede*, -HEAD.] The condition of being poor; poverty.

1340 *Ayenb.* 130 Huanne þe man..onderstant and knauþ his pourehede, þe vilhede, þe brotelhede of his beringe. *Ibid.* 138 þe guodes þet byeþ in guode pouerehede.

Poorhouse (pū·rhaus). A house in which poor people in receipt of public charity are lodged; a workhouse.

1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 376 Examination of the Poor-house at Heckingham. 1821 BYRON *Occas. Pieces, Irish Avatar* xix, And a palace bestow for a poor-house and prison! 1894 BARING-GOULD *Kitty Alone* II. 74 The parish officers would interfere, and carry her off to the poor-house.

Poo·rify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. POOR *a.* + -[I]FY (with pun on *purify*).] *trans.* To make poor.

1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 6 That Prince seem'd calculat rather for Poorifying (pardon the Clench) than Purifying the Church.

Poorish (pū·riʃ), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ISH^{1}.] Somewhat poor, rather poor (in various senses).

1657 in R. Potts *Liber Cantabr.* (1855) 408 Born of poorish parents. 1766 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 9 Jan. in W. Stork *Acc. E. Florida* 29 Generally poorish land. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 34 His honour is living, though in a poorish state of health. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* 236 It's poorish weather for a fight, I'll allow.

† **Poor-Jack.** *Obs.* = next, 1. Cf. JACK^{1} 30 d.

c 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 93 The sort of Cod that is caught near the Shore, and on the Coast of Newfoundland and dryed, is called Poor-Jack. 1775 R. TWISS *Trav. Spain & Port.* 267 Salt bacallão, which is like the fish called poor-jack.

Poor John, poor-john. [f. POOR *a.* + proper name JOHN: cf. prec.]

1. A name for hake (or ? other fish) salted and dried for food; often a type of poor fare. ? *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1585 T. CATES *Drake's Voy. W. Indies* in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1905) X. 100 In this ship was great store of dry Newland fish, commonly called with us Poore John. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 37. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* II. 1, Poore-Iohn, and Apple-pyes are all our fare. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 113 Two barrels of salt Fish, and 500 poor-Johns, which we have from New England. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. vii, I warrant nou he'd rather eat a Pheasant, than a Piece of poor John. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 157 When cured it [the hake] is known by the name of Poor John. 1841 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) p. xlii, Salted cod, and hake or Poor John, had been in long esteem as Lenten food.

† **b.** Applied to a person. *Obs.*

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* 29 It is your poore Johns, that with your painted consciences haue coloured the religion of diuers.

2. Name for some sea bird. ? *Obs.*

1775 DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 399 A. M. saw a bird like a booby, but shorter winged and necked, called by sailors, poor John. 1778 *Ibid.* 404 Saw several poor Johns, some sheerwaters, and a young alcatrass.

Poork, Poork poynt, obs. ff. PORK, PORCUPINE.

Poor-law (pū·rlɔ). The law, or system of laws, relating to the support of paupers at the public expense.

1752 T. ALCOCK (*title*) Observations on the Defects of the Poor Laws. [1758 J. MASSIE *Plan for Charity-Houses* (title-p.), Considerations relating to the Poor and the Poor's-Laws of England.] 1764 R. BURN (*title*) The History of the Poor Laws. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 165 In these documents..the calamities of the nation have..been traced back to the Poor-Laws. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vii, The abuses of the old poor-laws were rife in his neighbourhood.

b. *attrib.*, as *poor-law bill, officer, system*, etc.; **poor-law parish**: see PARISH *sb.* 2.

1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xi, How the new Poor Law Bill will work remains to be proved. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two V. Ago* viii, In the present dependent condition of poor-law medical officers.

Hence **Poo·r-lawism** (*nonce-wd.*), the framing and practical application of poor-laws.

1858 S. G. OSBORNE in *Times* 12 Nov. 7/4 Something more was wanted than stringent poorlawism.

Poo·rless, *a. rare.* [See -LESS.] Free from poor people.

1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Wimborn*, When Harley

is hareless, Cranborn whoreless, and Wimborn poorless, the world will be at an end.

Poorliness: see after POORLY *a.*

†**Poo·rling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. POOR *a.* + -LING[1] 1.] A child of poverty, one of the poor.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 147 Be there not as vntoward poorelinges, as there be wanton wealthlinges?

Poorly (pūə·rli), *adv.* and *a.* [f. POOR *a.* + -LY [2].] In a poor manner or condition.

A. *adv.* **1.** In a state of poverty or indigence; indigently, necessitously. Now somewhat *rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 157 Poureliche yfostred vp was she. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* D iij, Bycause that nature hath created the pourly & al naked. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* 31 Poorely content is better then richlye couetous. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 121 The Banyans that live poorly and meanly. 1876 S. C. J. INGHAM *White Cross* xxxvii, I will use all these ill-gotten gains in doing good, while I live poorly myself.

2. With deficiency of supply, or of some desirable quality; scantily, inadequately, insufficiently, imperfectly, defectively; in mean style, in lowly guise, humbly; in an inferior way, not well, rather badly, with no great success; not highly, with low estimation.

c 1300 *Havelok* 323 And ther-hinne dede hire fede Poure-like in feble wede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 554 Oonly a Squier..Which was disgised pourely as he was. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* H ij b, The poure wymmen that lay pourely in theyr childbedde. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Luke* ii. 6-7 Rem. (Parker Soc.) 98 His first coming is but very poorly, without any jollity or pomp. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 669 If you sow one ground still with..the same kind of grain, as wheat, barley, &c. it will prosper but poorly. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* IV. an. 1686 (1823) III. 98 Their books were poorly but insolently writ. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 320 They knew how poorly she was manned and provided for struggling with so tempestuous a gale. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. 772 From the beginning Sir John Moore had thought..poorly of the Spaniards. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, Long lines of poorly-lighted streets. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Parish of Hilby* xviii. 219 Even now the wives and children came but poorly off.

b. Often with ppl. adj. (to which, when used *attrib.*, it is properly hyphened).

1877 BLACK *Green Past.* v, A spacious, poorly-furnished chamber. 1894 SIR E. SULLIVAN *Woman* 19 Male births are more numerous than female births amongst the poorly-fed of the country. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 4/3 The best modes of dealing with poorly-gifted children.

†**3.** In a way unworthy of one's position; unhandsomely, meanly, shabbily. *Obs.*

13.. *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 579 Þe penaunt porliche he gret [*Cotton MS.* Gregori wiþ scorn he gret]. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Aug., They told me how poorly my Lord carried himself the other day to his kinswoman, Mrs. Howard, and was displeased because she called him uncle. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. i, The Gods have poorly robb'd my Virgin Bloom. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. vii. 738 'Twas poorly done, unworthy of your self. 1723 STEELE *Consc. Lovers* II. i, A Man, who poorly left me, to marry an Estate.

4. Piteously, abjectly, humbly; despicably, contemptibly; mean-spiritedly, without courage.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxiii. [cix.] 326 To put hymselfe poorely, without any reseruacyon into his obeysaunce and commaundement. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 64 Out throw the thrang rycht puirlie he flaw. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxviii, To set free the minds of Englishmen from longing to return poorly under that captivity of Kings. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Dec., He, instead of opposing..did poorly go on board himself, to ask what De Ruyter would have. *a* 1811 LEYDEN *Lord Soulis* Poet. Wks. (1875) 82 Young Branxholm peeped, and puirly spake, 'Oh, sic a death is no for me!'

B. *adj.* Chiefly *colloq.* [app. evolved from the *adv.*, through such a use as *to look poorly*: cf. *to look ill.*] In a poor state of health; somewhat ill; unwell, indisposed. (Always *predicative.*)

[1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 79 Some cattle waxe faint, and looke poorely and thin.] 1750 B. LYNDE *Diary* (1880) 171 All summer I complaining and poorly, and my eyes troublesome. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. & Orphans* III. 201 This quotation caused even Mrs. Nightley to laugh, tho' she was but poorly. 1797 J. BENSON in *Mem.* (1822) 304, I have been rather poorly today. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 530 His wife had..been poorly.

Hence **Poo·rliness**, the condition of being poorly; **Poo·rlyish** *a.*, somewhat poorly. Both *rare.*

1827 J. J. GURNEY in Braithwaite *Mem.* (1854) I. 323 Notwithstanding my poorliness. 1827 LAMB *Let. to Barton* 28 Aug., I am but poorlyish, and feel myself writing a dull letter.

Poor man.

1. *lit.* A man who is poor (in any sense of the adj.); *esp.* a man who is indigent or needy, or who belongs to the class of the poor.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 Ase þe þe seið to þe knihte þet robbeð his poure men. *a* 1350 *Cursor M.* 10386 (Götf) To godd he gaue þe lambis to lottis, And to þe pore men þe bole stottis. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 101 In þat land es na beggar, ne na pouer man. *c* 1450 in Parker *Dom. Archit.* III. 82 Be hit distributed & deportyd to poure men, beggers, syke folke & febull. 1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 169 But the poor Man is forced many times to buy his Materials he makes his Commodity with, of some of his own Trade.

2. Applied in Banffsh., Aberdeensh., etc., with the local pronunciation *peerman* (pī·rmăn), to a rude device for holding a fir-candle (i.e. a splinter of resinous wood), formerly the ordinary source of artificial light in farm-houses, barns, and cottages. In the times of licensed mendicancy, the duty of holding and attending to the fir-candle was usually imposed upon the 'bedesman' or vagrant 'poor man', who was granted a night's shelter; and it is generally believed that from him the name *peer-man* passed to the mechanical holder.

1866 GREGOR *Dialect of Banffsh.* 123 *Peer-man*, a candle-stick for candles made of bog-fir..with a cleft piece of iron into which the candle was fixed. 1870 — *Echo of Olden Time* 20 Light was given either by pieces of bog-fir laid on the fire, or by *fir-can'les*, that is thin splinters of bog-fir, from one to two and a half or three feet long, fixed in a sort of candle-stick called the *peer-man* or *peer-page*. 1880-83 J. LINN in *Trans. Inverness Scientific Soc.* II. 342 It was from this [employment of a mendicant] that the stand on which the fir-candle..was fixed..got its name Peer-Man, Pure-Man, or Puir-Man, these being local pronunciations of Poor Man.

3. *Poor man of mutton* (Sc. colloq.): name for the remains of a shoulder of mutton, consisting mainly of the blade bone, broiled.

1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xix, I should like well..to return to my sowens and my poor-man-of-mutton. *Ibid.* (note), I think, landlord..I could eat a morsel of a poor man.

4. Combs. with *poor man's* (or *poor men's*): †**poor man's (men's) box** = POOR-BOX (*obs.*); **poor man's** MUSTARD, PARMACETY, PEPPER, PLASTER, TREACLE (see these words); **poor man's remedy**, local name for wild valerian, *Valeriana officinalis*; **poor man's salve**, local name for *Scrophularia nodosa* and *S. aquatica* (Britten & Holl.); **poor man's sauce**: see quot.; **poor man's weather-glass**, the pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*, from its closing its flowers before rain.

1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, So many as are disposed, shall offer vnto the *poore mennes boxe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 70 The rest to be geven to the poore mens boxe. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* 220 Of Valerian...They never make any pottage or broath for any one that is sick, but they put some of this Herb therein, be the disease what it will, and is called of them, *The *Poor Mans Remedy*. 1706 PHILLIPS, **Poor-man's Sauce* or *Carrier's Sauce*, Sauce made of a Shalot, cut very small, with Salt, white Pepper, Vinegar and Oil. 1847 *Nat. Cycl.* I. 661 The Pimpernel, or '*Poor Man's Weather-Glass', so called because its flowers..refuse to expand in rainy weather.

Poorness (pūə·rnės). [f. POOR *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being poor; poverty.

†**1.** Want of wealth or possessions; indigence. *Obs.* (Now replaced by POVERTY.)

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 113 in *O. E. Misc.* 75 Þe poure may wel mysse Bute he his pouernesse Mid mylde heorte þolye. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xxii. 14 Loo! I in my lytyl pornesse haue mad redy before the expenses of the hous of the Lord. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 71 For powrenesse of his vicariage. 1613 CHAPMAN *Revenge Bussy D'Ambois* I. i, See how small cause..the most poore man [has] to be grieu'd with poorenesse. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) III. 11 Which See,.. for the poorness thereof, lay Bishopless for three years.

b. *fig.* (Cf. POOR *a.* 1 d.)

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* 1265 (Lamb. MS.) To schew hem meknesse and porenesse to stoppe pride. 1786 A. MACLEAN *Christ's Commission* iii. (1846) 129 [The Gospel] enjoins poorness of Spirit.

2. Deficiency in some good constituent; unproductiveness; leanness or want of vigour caused by ill feeding; thinness, scantiness, insufficiency.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 142 b, Lacke of good feeding, whereof proceedeth poorenesse, and of poorenesse, skabbes and mangines se. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 665 The Poornesse of the Herbs..shew the Poornesse of the Earth. 1782 H. WATSON in *Med. Commun.* (1784) I. 89 From the poorness of the blood contained in its vessels. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 904 Exhausted from poorness of diet.

3. Deficiency in some desirable quality; smallness of worth; inferiority, paltriness, meanness. Also (with *pl.*) an instance of this, a paltry or inferior piece of work.

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* v. 1493 Let none the poorenesse of my gifts deride. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 285 ¶ 4 Ovid and Lucan have many Poornesses of Expression upon this Account. 1884 *Law Times* 29 Nov. 73/2 The poorness of the accommodation provided for the judges.

b. Want of spirit or courage; paltriness or meanness of character or conduct.

1625 BACON *Ess., Simulation* (Arb.) 507 A Habit of Dissimulation, is a Hinderance, and a Poorenesse. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 226 Those indeed .. would, no question, account all refusal of a duel poorness and pusillanimity. 1822 C. WELLS *Stories after Nat.* 99 The duke unhorsed the lady, chiding Alfred for his poorness.

Poo·r-rate. Also 8-9 **poor's rate.** A rate or assessment, for the relief or support of the poor.

1601 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 80, ixs. xd...for the pur rait mony. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iv, I pay the poor's rate, and that's what I call charity enough for any man. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 74 The exorbitant poor-rates with which the public there have been burthened for some time past. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xlix, Poor's rate, Reform, my own, the nation's debt. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. ix. 730 Householders..paying poor-rates and borough-rates.

Poo·r-spi·rited, *a.* Having or showing a poor spirit (cf. quot. 1611 s. v. POOR *a.* 5 b); †having a paltry spirit, low-minded (*obs.*); deficient in spirit or courage, cowardly.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 170 Certain pittifull and poor-spirited reasons. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 363 That sottish and poor-spirited Vice, the Vice of Covetousness. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. v, Master Blifil was generally called a sneaking rascal, a poor-spirited wretch, with other epithets of the like kind. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. i, Mr. Tulliver would never have asked anything from so poor-spirited a fellow for himself.

Hence **Poo·r-spi·ritedness.**

1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 19. xiii. § 2 (1669) 515/2 Ye that think it childish and poor-spiritedness to weep at a Sermon. 1898 R. F. HORTON *Commandm. Jesus* iv. 50 He does not praise poverty as such, still less does He refer to what we mean by poor-spiritedness.

‖**Poort** (pōət). *S. Afr.* [Du. *poort* (pōrt) gate, PORT *sb.*[2], in S. Africa, a pass.] A mountain pass.

1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ii. 149 We entered the poort, or gorge of the mountains, through which the River of Baboons issues. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 45 This poort, or mountain pass, the terror of waggon-drivers. 1894 B. MITFORD *R. Fanning's Quest* xxii, A poort is a pass or defile as distinct from a kloof.

Poort, Poort colyce, obs. ff. PORT, PORTCULLIS.

Poortith (pūə·rtiþ). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 **purteth, puirteith,** 6- **puirtith,** 8- **poortith.** [a. OF. *pouer-, poverteit* (12th c. in Littré), *povretet* (1329 in Godef. *Compl.*), *poevreteit* (1466 Ibid.), *povretez* (pl. of *-tet*, 15th c. Ibid.):— L. *paupertāt-em*, accus. of *paupertās* POVERTY. The examples cited show the OF. form in *-tet*, surviving almost to the date of the Sc. examples in *-teth.*] The condition of being poor; poverty.

1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 118 Bot now, in winter, for purteth thow art traikit. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 73 Extreime puirteith, nor greit ryches, Thow gif me not. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 199 Curs'd poortith! love and hymen's deadly fae. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 104 They're no sae wretched's ane wad think, Tho' constantly on poortith's brink. *a* 1839 PRAED *How Poetry is best paid for* i, Though sorrow reign within his heart, And poortith hold his purse. [In E. D. D. from Shetland to Northumbld. and Cumbld.]

Poorty: see POVERTY.

Poo·r-will. [So named in imitation of its disyllabic note: cf. WHIP-POOR-WILL.] A bird of the N. American genus *Phalænoptilus*, esp. *P. nuttalli*, common in the Western United States.

1888 ROOSEVELT in *Century Mag.* Mar. 664/2 At nightfall the poor-wills begin to utter their boding call from the wooded ravines back in the hills; not 'whip-poor-will', as in the East, but with two syllables only. *Ibid.*, A poor-will lit on the floor beside me.

Poory, Poose, Poost, obs. ff. PORY *a.*, POSE, POST. **Pooste,** var. POUSTIE, power.

Poot (put), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *north.* A dial. form of POULT, applied not only to chickens and young game birds, but to the young of various other animals, e. g. a small haddock, a young trout.

(In the latter application some would refer it to OE. *pūta* in *æle-pūta* eel-pout.)

1512 *Will of J. Barlowe* (Somerset Ho.), Fur of fox pootes. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 679 Partridge, pheasant, quaile, raile, poots, and such like. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 311/1 A Cock [is called] first a Peep, then a Chicken, then a Poot. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 573 Found them as big as Poot-Eggs. 1825 JAMIESON, *Poot*, this seems to be the same with *Pout*, used to denote a small haddock, *Fife.* 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Poot*, a young growse or moor poot. 1890 J. SERVICE *Thir Notandums* i. 5 The lambin' o' the yowes, the cleckin' o' the poots.

Poot, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [A variant of POTE *sb.*[1]: cf. *poot* POTE *v.*] A stirring rod: see quot.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xviii. ¶ 2 A long strong round Iron Stirring Poot; the Handle of which Stirring Poot is also about two Yards long or more, and the Poot it self almost twice the length of the depth of the Melting Pot.

Poot, poote, var. POTE *v.*; obs. or dial. f. PUT *v.*

†**Pooter.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *poot*, POTE *v.* + ER[1].] = POTING-STICK, or POKING-STICK.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvii. 218 Busks, Perrewigs, Maskes, Plumes of feathers fram'd, Supporters, Pooters, Fardingales aboue the Loynes to waire, That be she near so bomle-thin, yet she crosse-like seem's four-squaire.

Poother, obs. or dial. f. POTHER, POWDER.

Pop (pɒp), *sb.*[1] Forms: see POP *v.*[1] [Onomatopœic: goes with POP *v.*[1]]

1. An act of popping. **a.** A blow, knock, stroke, slap; now, a slight rap or tap. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4421 Philomene..3aff him certes suche a poppe, That he fel ouer his hors croppe. *Ibid.* 9300 He hadde laust many a pop, For ther was many a strok 3euen. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/2 A Poppe; vbi a strake. 1825 JAMIESON, *Pap, pawp*, a blow, a thwack. *Aberd.* 1857 G. OUTRAM *Lyrics* (1887) 137 Ilka pap wi' the shool on the tap o' the mool.

†**b.** A humorous remark, a joke; cf. CRACK *sb.* 5. *Obs. rare.*

a 1550 *Image Hypocr.* I. 518 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 420 With your mery poppes: Thus youe make vs sottes, And play with vs boopepe.

2. A short abrupt sound of explosion.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Buchete*, the cheeke and a pop with the mouth. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Wks.* 629 By the only regresse of the extended muscles into themselves.. somewhiles with a noyse or pop. 1855 CHAMIER *My Travels* II. vi. 91 The common pops of the squibs and crackers. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxix, I cannot bear people to keep their minds bottled up for the sake of letting them off with a pop.

b. The moment occupied by a pop; *at a pop*, in one instant, suddenly. *dial.* [cf. F. *tout à coup, tout d'un coup.*]

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1202/2 At a poppe, down they descende into hell. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Pop*, a short space. *Lanc.* 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

3. A shot with a fire-arm. Also *fig.*

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi Κοινή* xxiv. 249 They have onely faced the enemy,..given a pop or two, and raised a smoak. 1829 W. T. Moncrieff *Giovanni in Lond.* II. i, You've quite made up your mind to have a pop at him? 1881 Freeman in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. ix. 228 Prestige, you know, I always like to have a pop at.

b. *transf.* A pistol. *slang.*

1728 [De Foe] *Street Robberies Consider'd* 33 *Popps*, Pistols. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* viii, I gleaned a few things, such as a pair of pops, silver mounted. 1834 H. Ainsworth *Rookwood* III. v, His pops in his pocket. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 784/2 Pops all put away, so she won't be finding one and be killing herself.

4. In the names of two West Indian species of *Physalis* (Bladder-herb or Winter Cherry): the *Cow-pop* or *Pops*, and *Horse pop* or *Pop-vine*: see quots.

1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 161 Pops; *Lat.* Alkekengi Indicum majus. This Plant hath..thin bluish capsular Pods, which inclose a round .. Fruit of about the Bigness of a small Cherry. ..There is another Plant, which bears the same kind of Fruit .. being a creeping scandent Plant. .. This is called the Pop-Vine, and grows in most Parts of the Island. 1848 Schomburg *Hist. Barbados* 610 *Physalis barbadensis*, Jacq. Pop Vine, *Hughes*. Horse Pop. *Physalis angulata*, Linn. Pops, *Hughes*. Cow Pop.

5. A name for any effervescing beverage, esp. ginger-beer or (later) champagne, from the sound made when the cork is drawn from the vessel containing it. *colloq.*

1812 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 284 A new manufactory of a nectar, between soda-water and ginger-beer, and called pop, because 'pop goes the cork' when it is drawn. 18.. J. Wilson *Laking* in *Casquet of Lit.* I. 39/2 With plenty of ginger-beer,..soda, and imperial pop. 1884 H. Smart *Post to Finish* II. xvi. 251 He don't warrant my calling for 'pop' [champagne]. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 214 [A man], when he calls champagne fizz, or a less aristocratic beverage pop, is following in the wake of the inventors of Language.

6. A mark made by a slight rapid touch; a dot; a spot, a speck. Also *fig.*

1718 Mrs. Bradshaw in *Lett. C'tess Suffolk* (1824) I. 28 You are a pop nearer being a countess than you was last week. *c* 1840 J. D. Harding in Collingwood *Life Ruskin* (1893) I. viii. 92 That marvellous pop of light across the foreground. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 138 The draft ewes..only receive a 'pop' or dot of the same tar from a round stick on the shoulder. 1894 R. S. Ferguson *Westmorland* xviii. 290 Strokes and pops and letters marked with tar or ruddle.

b. *Pops and pairs*: app. a corruption of *post and pair* (see Post *sb.*4).

c 1780 M. Lonsdale *Upshot* in S. Gilpin *Songs* (1866) 276 At pops an' pairs laikt long an' sair. 1804 R. Anderson *Cumberld. Ball.* 94 Pay me the tuppence I wan frae thee Ae neet at pops and pairs.

7. *slang.* The act of pawning. *In pop*: in pawn or pledge: cf. Pop *v.*1 7, Pop-shop.

1866 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 292 'Great shame—put him in pop—gentleman's son'..I knew that her 'put him in pop' meant that I was pawned when a baby. 1886 J. K. Jerome *Idle Thoughts* (1896) 7 Yet what a piece of work a man makes of his first 'pop'...He hangs about outside the shop..he enters..he comes out of the shop [etc.].

Pop (pɒp), *sb.*2 [app. short for Poppet or Poplet. Cf. also obs. F. *popine, poupine* a pretty little woman (see Poppin).] A term of endearment for a girl or woman; darling; also, a mistress, a kept woman.

1785 G. A. Bellamy *Apology* II. 39 A few nights after my benefit, Lord Tyrawley came into the room smiling, and said,..'Pop, I have got you a husband!' 1825 T. Creevey *Papers*, etc. (1904) II. 87 When I look at these three young women, and at this brazen-faced Pop who is placed over them,.. the marriage appears to me the wickedest thing I ever heard of. *Ibid.* 209, 268. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 11 June 201/1 Well, pop, since I'm your father, I'm going to give you a ticket to the circus.

Pop, *sb.*3 *dial.* [perh. from prec. sb.] A local name of the Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*).

1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2258 The redwing is a 'pop'.

Pop (pɒp), *sb.*4 A colloquial abbreviation of *popular concert*: see Popular 3 b.

1862 Geo. Eliot in *Life* (1887) 355 We have been to a Monday Pop, to hear Beethoven's Septett. 1891 *Newcastle Even. Chron.* 14 Dec. 2/6 The Saturday Pops in Newcastle are in a bad way.

Hence **Po'ppite**, a performer at, or a frequenter of, the popular concerts.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Nov. 3/2 The death of that old and famous 'Poppite', Sir Charles Hallé. 1902 *Ibid.* 13 May 1/3 The itinerant muffin-man who vexes the souls of devout 'Poppites' on Saturday afternoons.

Pop, *sb.*5 [Said to be so called from L. *popina*, or Eng. *lollipop shop*, 'the rooms having been orig. in the house of Mrs. Hatton, who kept such a shop'.] At Eton College, The name of a social club and debating society, founded in 1811.

1865 *Etoniana* 207 (Farmer) The chief attraction of Pop lies in its being a sort of social club,..the members are strictly limited (originally twenty-two, since increased to twenty-eight). 1883 J. B. Richards *Seven Years at Eton* xxxiii. 366 He [W. W. Wood] was one of the most fluent speakers at 'Pop'. 1889 Maxwell Lyte *Hist. Eton College* 375 Pop has always had a great social power. 1902 G. W. E. Russell in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 733/2 He [Gladstone at Eton] was seen to the greatest advantage..in the debates of the Eton Society, learnedly called 'The Literati' and vulgarly 'Pop'.

Pop (pɒp), *v.*1 Also 5–7 poppe, 7–8 popp, 9 *dial.* pap, pawp. [Onomatopœic; goes with Pop *sb.*1, *int.*, *adv.*]

1. *trans.* To strike, rap, knock (? *obs.*). Also, to strike with a slight rap or tap. *dial.*

c 1386 [implied in Popper *sb.* 1]. *c* 1442 *Chron. London* (1827) 130 Redy to a popped hym in the face with his dagger. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/2 To Poppe; vbi to stryke. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* I. 336 She popped her master on the forehead.

2. *intr.* To make a small quick explosive sound; to burst or explode with a pop.

1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* 124 b, Popping or smacking with the mouthe. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* X. iii. P 9 The report of musketry, popping so near the head-quarters of our repose. 1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 179 When you hear the first gun pop at the unhappy partridges. 1859 [see 3]. 1894 K. Grahame *Pagan P.* 159 When the chestnuts popped in the ashes.

†b. Of the eye: To protrude (as if to burst *out*).

1680 J. Aubrey in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 565 Full eie, popping out and working.

3. *trans.* To cause to make a sudden explosive report; to fire, let off, as an explosive or fire-arm (also *fig.*); to cause (anything) to burst with a pop. *To pop corn*: see quot. 1859, and cf. Pop-corn.

1595 *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 23 We popt away powder and shott to no purpose. *a* 1652 A. Wilson *Inconstant Ladie* II. i, Haue a speech readie to popp of in triumph. 1832 Lytton *Eugene A.* I. ix, When a musket's half worn out, schoolboys buy it—pop it at sparrows. 1859 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *To Pop Corn*, to parch or roast Indian corn until it 'pops' open..'A little boy sat by the kitchen fire A popping corn in the ashes.' 1883 O. W. Holmes *Seasons* in *Pages fr. Old Vol. Life* 160 The ginger-beer carts rang their bells and popped their bottles. 1887 *Daily News* 17 June 5/1 There was popped corn.

4. *intr.* To shoot, fire a gun. *colloq.*

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *To pop*, to fire a Pistol. 1776 Earl Percy *Lett.* (1902) 74 They sent down..a number of their rangers to pop at our advanced posts and sentries. *a* 1845 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Ld. Thoulouse*, Popping at pheasants. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xix, 563 We heard our sportsman popping away..in the barley.

b. *trans.* To shoot *down*; to pick *off* with a shot.

1762 *Pennsylv. Archives* (1853) IV. 84 They knew the woods well, and would pop them down 3 for 1. 1813 Sir G. Jackson *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) II. 280 Many unwary stragglers have been popped off in this way. 1861 Du Chaillu *Equat. Afr.* ix. 106 Keeping our guns in readiness to pop down anything which should come in our way.

5. *trans.* To put promptly, suddenly, or unexpectedly (sometimes implying quiet or furtive action): usually with some extension, as *down, in, on, out, up, into* or *out of* (a place), etc.

a 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* 122 Whan ye..porisshly forthe popped Your sysmaticate sawes Agaynst Goddes lawes. 1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) v. vii. 18 He vaire [= fair] popt me to silence. 1567 Golding *Ovid* VI. 73 b, Now diue they to the bottome downe, now vp their heades they pop. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 329 To put by him that poppeth in any other seeds. 1587 Greene *Trita. meron of Loue* Wks. (Grosart) III. 77 What moues you .. to pop forth so sodainlie this darke probleme? 1596 Nashe *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 174 You .. popt out your Booke against me. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* § 82. 109 She..popt it into her mouth, and swallowed it all at once. 1750 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 355 Another fellow of Eton has popped out a sermon against the Doctor since his death. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* xxxiii, He takes and pops me into the ditch! 1834 Lytton *Pompeii* I. vii, To..pop him slily into the reservoir. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* ix, Popping his head out of some window or door. 1860 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Screens in Dining Rooms*, One dear little lady .. popped her paper under the tablecloth.

b. *spec.* To put *out* (a light) suddenly; to jot *down* (words); † to put *off* (a person) *with* (something), put *off* or put aside (a thing).

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Ile conquer Rome, Pop out the light of bright religion. 1602 — *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 16 Swarthy darknesse popt out Phœbus eye. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Noble Gent.* I. i, And do you pop me off with this slight answer? 1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 149, I would have you not to pop off the question. 1774 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) I. 304 Popping down my thoughts from time to time upon paper. 1822 E. A. Porden in L'Estrange *Friendships Miss Mitford* (1882) I. v. 141, I..shall at once pop down what occurs to me. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xxviii, Pop me down among your fashionable visitors. 1894 A. Dobson *18th Cent. Vignettes* Ser. II. i. 3 He popped out the guttering candle.

6. To put (a question) abruptly, to 'come out with' († also with *out*); spec. *to pop the question* (*slang* or *colloq.*), to propose marriage (also ellipt. *to pop*).

1725 Byrom *Rem.* (1854) I. i. 148 Dear Governor and Governess, the boy here having given me leave to ask you how you do, I have made bold to pop the question to you. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1810) VI. xx. 101 Afraid he would now, and now, and now, pop out the question; which he had not the courage to put. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. i. P 6 You..pop the question without making any bones of it. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 432, I have reason to think the formidable interrogatory, which is emphatically called 'popping the question', is actually the only question which he has never popped. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. 58 'Is it settled?' she asked. 'Has he popped?' 1885 E. C. Johnson *Track of Crescent* xv. 190 When a young man wanted to 'pop' to the object of his affections, he called at the house.

7. To put in pledge, to pawn. *slang.*

1731 Fielding *Lett. Writer* II. ii, Ay,..he'll make us pop our unders for the reckoning; we'll not go with him. 1851 Mayhew *Lond. Lab.* I. 474 [She] took one to pop..for an old 'oman what was on the spree. 1902 Barrie *Little White Bird* vi, It was plain for what she had popped her watch.

8. *intr.* To pass, move, go or come promptly, suddenly, or unexpectedly (*up, down, in, out, about, between*, etc.).

1530 Palsgr. 662/1 He went so nere the banke that soudaynly he popped in to the water over heed and eares. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 25 The temperature of the wether will not permitte them to pop into the open ayre. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* v. ii. 65 He that hath..Popt in betweene th' election and my hopes. 1660 Fuller *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 200 Some presently popped up into the pulpit. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 76 A hundred or more Cartesian Puppits pop up upon Deck. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 67. 3/1 She might Pop in. 1770 J. Baretti *Journ. Lond. to Genoa* IV. App. 266, I expected..to see some beautiful damsel pop out suddenly. 1780 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 6 Dec., In the evening..I just popped down to play one rubber with dear Mr. Thrale. 1829 Scott *Jrnl.* 27 Feb., Some [copies] .. will be popping out one of these days in a contraband manner. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* 421/2 Just pop home for a bundle of prospectuses. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Log Sea-waif* 151 He requested me to 'pop across the road' and get him a drop of rum.

b. To come *on* or *upon* abruptly, suddenly, unexpectedly, or by chance; to light *upon*, happen *upon*.

1741 Richardson *Pamela* (1824) I. 61, I was but talking to one of her maids just now,..and she popt upon us. 1759 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* I. xiv, I had the good fortune to pop upon the very thing I wanted. 1791 Mary Wollstonecr. *Rights Wom.* v. 131 We pop on the author when we only expected to meet the father. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 165 She pops, as perchance, upon kind Mistress Meeke.

c. *To pop off* (also *off the hooks*): to die. *slang.*

1764 Foote *Patron* I. (1781) 17 If Lady Pepperpot should happen to pop off. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Lett.* 5 July, What a pity it would have been had I popped off in my last illness. *c* 1820 Keats *Let. to Haydon* Poet. Wks. (1886) 24, I am afraid I shall pop off just when my mind is able to run alone. 1887 G. R. Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* 112 He'd said his mother would soon pop off the hooks, and he'd have all her money.

† **Pop,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* (Also 5 erron. papphe.) [Origin uncertain: cf. OF. *popiner* (later *poupiner*) to adorn (oneself), said of a woman (Godefr.), f. *po(u)pin* dressy, showy: see Poppin.] *trans.* To paint or patch (the face) with a cosmetic.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1019 No wyntred browis had she, Ne popped hir, for it neded nought To wyndre hir, or to peynte hir ought. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 1368 It needed noght to papphe hir face, For she was .. Ryght agreable of look and chere. 1430–40 — *Bochas* I. xx. (MS. Bodl. 263) 81/1 To farce and poppe ther visage. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 68 Whi popithe they, and paintithe, and pluckithe her visage? 1483 *Quatuor Sermones* in *Festivall*, etc. a v b, Ne haue not your vysage poppyd, ne your here pullyd or crowlyd [*ed.* 1532 pomped].

Hence † **Po'pping** *vbl. sb.* Also b. *concr.* (?) materials used in painting the face.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 13372 In ffrench ycallyd 'ffarderye' And in ynglyssh, off old wrytyng, Ys ynamyd ek 'poppyng'. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 70 Doughtres, takithe here..ensaumple to leue all suche lewde folyes and counterfeting, poppinge, and peintinge. b. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 562/1 *Acumen*, a popyn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/2 Poppynge, *acus, cerusa, stibium, venenum.*

Pop (pɒp), *int.*, *adv.* [The same onomatopœic word as Pop *sb.*1, Pop *v.*1, used interjectionally and adverbially.] With (the action or sound of) a pop; instantaneously, abruptly; unexpectedly.

Pop goes the weasel, name of a country dance very popular in the 'fifties', in which these words were sung or exclaimed by the dancers while one of them darted under the arms of the others to his partner; also the name of the tune; hence as a vb. and in other humorous uses. See *N. & Q.* (1905) 10th Ser. III. 492, IV. 209.

1621 Fletcher *Pilgrim* III. ii, Into that bush Pop goes his pate, and all his face is comb'd over. 1672 Villiers (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* I. (Arb.) 31 As soon as any one speaks, pop I slap it down, and make that, too, my own. 1801 G. Colman *Poor Gentlem.* I. ii, It fell out unexpected—pop, on a sudden; like the going off of a field-piece. *c* 1854 (*Musicseller's Advt.* in *Newspaper*), The new country dance 'Pop goes the weasel', introduced by her Majesty Queen Victoria. — *Musical Bouquet* No. 409, *Pop goes the Weasel*; *La Tempête*; and *Le Grand Père*. These fashionable dances as performed at the Court balls. 1855 in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. IV. 211/1 This dance is very popular, it is without deception, 'Pop goes the weasel' has been to Court, and met a good reception. 1855 Smedley *H. Coverdale* xxxiv, Dear old Punch, with his private band pop-going-the-weasel like an harmonious steam-engine. 1855 O. W. Holmes *Poems* 139 Pop cracked the guns! *Mod.* I heard it go 'pop'.

Pop-, in *Comb.* [Cf. Pop *v.*1, *sb.*1] Usually the verb in combination with a sb. or adv., meaning something that pops, or that which pops in some way; rarely the sb. or adv.: **pop-dock, pop-glove**, the Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*); **pop-eye**, an out-starting, bulging, prominent eye; hence **pop-eyed** *a.*; **pop-in**, a drink composed of beer into which a small proportion of whisky or brandy is 'popped'; † **pop-mouth**, a mouth able to utter an exclamation with a sharp outburst; **pop-off**, the discharge of fire-arms; **pop-out**, the act of popping out, as when a cork is drawn; **pop-shooter** = Popgunner; **pop-valve** = Puppet-valve; **pop-weed**, a provincial name of the Bladderwort.

1878 Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, *Pop Dock, *Digitalis purpurea.*—Cornw...from the habit of children to inflate and burst the flower. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 29 June 13/2 She

has the ' 'pop eyes' of a voluble talker. **1860** Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, **Pop-eyed*, having prominent eyes. *Southern.* **1847–78** Halliwell, **Pop-glove*, the fox-glove. *Cornw.* **1748** Smollett *Rod. Rand.* vi, A liquor called **pop-in*, composed by mixing a quartern of brandy with a quart of small beer. **1870** J. K. Hunter *Life Stud. Charac.* 273 A 'gang o' pap-in ' was the order. **1594** Nashe *Terrors of Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 270 Fellowes they were that had good big **pop* mouths to crie Port a helme Saint George. **1843** Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 239 Not even the **pop*-off of a Milford snob to be heard. **1836** T. Hook *G. Gurney* III. 32 The creaking of a corkscrew, followed by the **pop*-out of a cork. **1845** Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 258 To avoid the 'popshooters. **1884** Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 778/1 To do away with the din of the steam escaping from ordinary locomotive **pop* valves. **1869** Blackmore *Lorna D.* vii, I stuck awhile with my toe-balls on the slippery links of the **pop*-weed.

‖ **Popadam** (pŏ·pădăm). Also **papadom, poppadum, -odam.** [Tamil *pappaḍam*, contr. from *paruppu-aḍam* 'lentil cake' (Yule).] (See quots.)

1820 *Asiat. Res.* XIII. 315 Papadoms, (fine cakes, made of gram flour, and a fine species of alkali, which gives them an agreeable salt taste and serves the purpose of yeast). **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 155 Poppadums, from Madras (cakes eaten with curries). **1904** *Daily Chron.* 19 Mar. 8/5 The Anglo-Indian may have with his curry toasted poppodams, wafer biscuits made from Indian dhall.

† **Po·pal**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Pope + -al.] = Papal *a.* So **Po·pan** *a.* = Papane *a.*

1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 175 Neither the Vestall nor the Popall Virgins will find any great cause of boasting. **1839** J. Rogers *Antipopopr.* xiii. ii. 294 Quite above the range of popan and priestal philanthropy.

† **Po·pard.** *Obs. rare.* [Origin uncertain: cf. Popeler, Poppel. The suffix as in Canard, Mallard, etc.] Some kind of fowl: ? = Poppel.

1413 in *Exeter Reg., Stafford* (1886) 403 *note*, Dorsorium largum, operatum volucribus vocatis popardys.

Popatrye, obs. form of Puppetry.

Po·p-corn. *U. S.* [f. Pop *v.*¹ 3 + Corn *sb.*¹ 5; in **a** orig. *popped corn.*] **a.** Maize or Indian corn parched till it bursts open and exposes the white inner part of the grain; 'popped' corn: see Pop *v.*¹ 3. **b.** A variety or sub-species of maize suitable for 'popping'. Also *attrib.*

[**1848** Bartlett *Dict. Amer., Popped corn*, parched Indian corn, so called from the noise it makes on bursting open. The variety usually prepared in this way is of a dark color, with a small grain.] **1858** *N. York Tribune* 14 Jan. 2/3, I got on the cars..after.. flattening out an apple-boy and pop-corn vender. **1854** in Webster. **1875** Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims* iv. 119 The pop-corn and Christmas hemlock spurting in the fire. **1893** Kate Sanborn *Truthf. Wom. S. California* 129 A farmer raised one thousand bushels of popcorn and stored it in a barn. **1903** *Book of Corn* 327 Popcorn, known botanically as *Zea everta*, is a species group, characterized by the excessive proportion of the corneous endosperm and the small size of the kernels and ear...Twenty-five varieties were catalogued by Sturtevant.

Pope (pōup), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1–2 **pápa**, 2–6 **pape**, 4–7 *Sc.* **paip(e**; *β.* 3– **pope**, 5–6 **poope**, (7 *Sc.* **pop**). [OE. *pápa*, a. eccl. L. *pāpa* (in Juvenal *pāpas*), ad. late Gr. *πάπας*, *παπᾶς*, late var. of *πάππας* father (orig. a child's word; cf. Papa). Thence also It., Sp., Pg. *papa*, F. *pape*.

In eccl. Gr. *πάπας* was applied to bishops (in Asia Minor), patriarchs, and popes; it was a recognized title of the Bp. of Alexandria, *a* 250. L. *pāpa*, used as a term of respect for ecclesiastics of high position, esp. bishops (cf. mod. 'Father'), occurs in Tertullian *a* 220, and was applied so late as 640 by St. Gall to Desiderius Bp. of Cahors. But from the time of Leo the Great (440–461) it was in the Western Church applied especially to, and from 1073 claimed exclusively by, the Bishop of Rome.]

I. 1. The Bishop of Rome, as head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Black, Red, White Pope: allusive designations: see quot. 1902.

a. a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. i. (1890) 252 þa wæs in þa tid Uitalius papa þæs apostolican seðles aldorbiscop. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1115 On þison geare sænde se papa Paschalis Raulfe ærceb' on Cantwarabyriġ pallium hider to lande. *c* 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1124 On þæs dæies .. forðferde se pape on Rome Calistus wæs ġehaten. *c* 1205 Lay. 29738 Þas þinges weoren idone þurh þene pape of Rome. *Ibid.* 29750 Of Gregorie þan pape [*c* 1275 þe pope]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22596 Gregor þat was pape o rome. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1248 A paipe of Rome. 1405 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 64 For the pape of Rome and al his cardinals. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 268/2 A Papes dygnite, *papatus*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 165 Vitht out the lecens of the pape. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 204 The Paip, that Pagane full of pryde. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Robt. III* 53 b, Induring the time of the schisme (quhilk was betwix paip Vrban the 6. and Clement the 6). 1627 H. Burton *Baiting Pope's Bull* 67 Pape and Ape differ but a letter; but their charitie to their Sonnes lesse.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 þe holie lorðewes, prophetes, apostles, popes, archebissopes, bissopes, prestes. *c* 1275 Lay. 10130 An holy man þar was pope. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 22/90 þe pope and þe king Edgar. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 8 Part in þat pardoun þe Pope haþ I-graunted. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/2 Poope, *papa*. 1503 Hawes *Examp. Virt.* xiii. iii, There was saynt peter the noble pope. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 225 Christes vicar in erth, our holy father y^e^ pope. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 163 Make not all priestes that stand vpon the bridge as the Poope passeth. 1624 Bedell *Lett.* x. 138 Paulus V. *Vice-deus* takes too much vpon him, when hee will bee Pope-almightie. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 187 By vertue of the Pop's Bulls. 1700 Farquhar *Constant Couple* I. i, I would rather kiss her hand than the Pope's toe. 1750 Gray *Long Story* iv, Tho' Pope and Spaniard could not trouble it. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 England began to look in another quarter for support against France and the Pope. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Dec. 5/1 Under this [crucifix] is enthroned Leo XIII, clad all in white—whence his name the White Pope—and receives the allegiance of the Red Pope (the Prefect of the Propaganda), the Black Pope (the General of the Jesuits).

b. An effigy of the pope burnt on the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot (Nov. 5), on Queen Elizabeth's night, or at other times. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1673 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Nov., This night the youths of the Citty burnt the Pope in effigie, after they had made procession with it. **1678** Dryden *Œdipus* Epil. 34 We know not what you can desire or hope, To please you more, but burning of a Pope. **1732** Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 214 He.. heads the bold Train-bands, and burns a Pope. **1828** *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pope*, a long pole, to which an effigy of the Pope was attached and burnt on the 5th of Nov. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. viii, II. xxv. **1887** *Kentish Gloss., Popeing*, to go popeing is to go round with Guy Fawkes on the 5th of November. 'Please, sir, remember the old Pope!'

† **c.** Short for *pope-day celebration. Obs. rare.*

1766 J. Adams *Diary* 5 Nov., Wks. 1850 II. 201 Popes and bonfires this evening at Salem, and a swarm of tumultuous people attending them. **1769** *Boston Chron.* 6–9 Nov. 361/2 Description of the Pope, 1769.

2. a. *transf.* Applied to the spiritual head of a Mohammedan or pagan religion.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxxi. 307 In þat yle dwelleþ the Pope of hire lawe, þat þei clepen Lobassy. **1613** Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 542 In this Citie dwelleth the chiefe Pope, or High Priest, of that Superstition. **1638** Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 51 (*Religion of Persees*) The *Distoore* or *Pope* ..has 13 [precepts]. **1836** *Pop. Encycl.* I. 813/2 Those who were henceforward caliphs, ..these Mussulman *popes* had not by any means the power of the Christian. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 8/1 A probability that his Majesty of Siam may soon become Pope as well as King—a Buddhist Pope.

b. *fig.* One who assumes, or is considered to have, a position or authority like that of the pope.

1589 *Hay any Work* 34 Leaue your Nonresidencie, and your other sinnes, sweete Popes now. **1689** *Andros Tracts* II. 106 We often say, that 'every man has a pope in his belly'. **1762–71** H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 67 This Coquerel, I find by another note, was Generalis monetarius, or Pope of the mint, into which the reformation was to be introduced. **1801** Strutt *Sports & Past.* iv. iii. (1876) 446 In the churches immediately dependent upon the papal see [there was elected] a pope of fools. *Ibid.* 447 The bishop, or the pope, of fools performed the divine service habited in the pontifical garments. **1854** Hawthorne in *H. & Wife* (1885) II. 40 The family are..followers of Dr. McMill, who is the present Low-Church pope of Liverpool. **1893** *Nation* (N. Y.) 19 Jan. 46/3 Burne-Jones.. accepted him [Rossetti] as the infallible Pope of Art.

† **3.** In early times, A bishop of the Christian Church; *spec.* in the Eastern Church, the title of the Bishop or Patriarch of Alexandria. *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* II. (1859) 185 *margin*, All notable Bishops were then called Popes. **1570** Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 11/1 V^e^ name Pope..may peraduenture seme more tolerable, as which hath ben vsed in the olde time emong bishops. **1635** Prynne *Unhish. Tim.* (1661) 148 From the time of Heraclas, the Patriarch of Alexandria was called Papa: that is, Pope, or Grandfather, (before the Bishop of Rome was so stiled). **1850** Neale *East. Ch.* I. 126 In correctness of speech, .. the Patriarch of Antioch is the only Prelate who has a claim to that title: the proper appellation of the Bishops of Rome and Alexandria being *Pope*, of Constantinople and Jerusalem, *Archbishop.*

† **b.** *Pope John* = Prester John. *Obs. rare.*

c **1511** *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 30/2 They of Indyen hath one prynce & that is pope Iohn. *Ibid.* 32/1 Pope Iohn..ye mooste myghtyste kynge.

II. Transferred uses.

4. A small thick-bodied freshwater fish of the Perch family; the Ruff. (So Ger. *papst.*)

1653 Walton *Angler* Table, Directions how and with what baits to fish for the Ruffe or Pope. **1740** R. Brookes *Art of Angling* I. xv. 44 The Ruff or Pope..seldom exceeds six inches [in length], and is cover'd with rough prickly Scales. **1836** F. S[ykes] *Scraps fr. Jrnl.* 21, I purchased a quantity of pope, which are much like perch. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 111 Dace [and] Pope from Thames.

† **5.** A weevil which infests malt or grain. *Obs.*

1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1086 The English call the Wheat-worm Kis, Pope, Bowde, Weevil and Wibil. **1743** *Lond. & Country Brew.* iv. (ed. 2) 259 At Winchester they call this Insect [Weevil], Pope, Black-bob, or Creeper.

6. A local name for various birds, from their colouring or stout form: **a.** The Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). **b.** The Bullfinch (cf. Ger. *dompfaff*). **c.** The Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*). **d.** The Painted Finch or Nonpareil (*Passerina ciris*).

1674 Ray *Collect., Water Fowl* 92 The Pope, called in some places Puffins. **1864** *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. V. 124/2 Pope, Nope, Alp, Red-Hoop, and Tony-Hoop, are all provincial appellations of .. the common Bullfinch. **1885** Swainson *Prov. Names Birds* 47 Red-backed shrike .. Pope (Hants). **1894** Newton *Dict. Birds, Puffin*, ..known as the Bottlenose, Coulterneb, Pope, Sea-Parrot.

III. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (all from 1), as *pope-burning* (1 b), *-conjurer*, *-trumpery*; *pope-bulled*, *-consecrated*, *-given*, *-pleasing*, *-powdered*, *-prompted*, *-rid* adjs.; **pope-catholic**, a Roman Catholic; **pope-day**, the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot (Nov. 5); **pope-fly**, an insect which infests grain (cf. sense 5); † **pope-horn**, ?a conch-shell as used in celebrating pope-day; **pope-king**, the pope as a sovereign; **pope-night**, see *pope-day*; **pope-worshipper**, hostile term for a Roman Catholic.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* ix. xlviii. 226 But Godhoode none in Indian Golde, and *pope-buld hopes shall mis. **1762** Hume *Hist. Eng.* lxviii. (1806) V. 126 One of the most innocent artifices..was the additional ceremony, pomp, and expense, with which a *pope-burning was celebrated in London. **1873** Christie *Dryden's Poems, Hind & P.* iii. 10 *note*, The pope-burnings of Queen Elizabeth's night, which had occurred every year since the excitement of the Popish Plot. *c* **1554** G. Menewe (*title*) A Plaine subuersyon ..of all the argumentes, that the *Popecatholykes can make for the maintenaunce of auricular confession. **1570** Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1705/1 *margin*, The procedinges of the Popes catholickes in maintayning their Religion. **1679** C. Nesse *Antichrist* 228 The *pope-conjurers, necromancers, robbers, murderers. **1779** Sheridan *Critic* II. ii, Haughty Spain's *Pope-consecrated fleet. **1821** *Columbian Centinel* (Boston, U. S.) 10 Nov. 1/4 Monday last, Nov. 5th, being '*Pope Day'. **1903** A. Matthews in *Publ. Col. Soc. Mass.* VIII. 104 It is possible that he [Joyce Junior] continued to parade the streets of Boston on Pope Day. **1750** G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 84 The *Pope-fly. This insect is better known..by the great destruction it causes in almost every kind of grain, than by its shape. **1772** *Boston Gaz.* (U. S.) 3 Feb. 3/2 The ingenuity of some of those nocturnal Sley-frolickers, had added the Drum and Conk-shell, or *Pope-horn, to their own natural, noisy, abilities. **1882** Mario *Garibaldi* in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 250 We will settle with the pontiff when we have dethroned the *Pope-king. **1773** J. Rowe *Lett. & Diary* 5 Nov. (1903) 254 Very quiet for a *Pope Night. **18..** Whittier *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 390 Pope Night..was celebrated by the early settlers of New England. **1556** Olde *Antichrist* 82 b, Yon *pope pleasing slaues. *a* **1683** Oldham *Wks. & Rem.* (1686) 39 By Popes, and *Pope-rid Kings upheld, and lov'd. **1603** Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* xxi. 137 To enritch their purses by selling their *Pope-trumpery. **1579** J. Stubbes *Gaping Gulf* E iij, Who so marieth with any *pope-worshipper can not tell when to be sure of him.

b. Combinations with **pope's**: † **pope's knight**, a designation sometimes applied in Scotland to a priest of the Roman Church, who was commonly styled *Schir* (i. e. Sir) So and So, as a rendering of L. *Dominus*: see Jamieson, s. v., and cf. 'Sir Hugh Evans' in *Twelfth Night*; † **pope's-milk**, a jocular name for some kind of drink; **pope's nose** = *parson's nose.*

1558 W. Mill in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1655) 95 They call me Walter, and not Sir Walter; I have been too long one of the *Popes Knights. **1795** Brydson *View Herald.* v. 175 A title [Sir] thus employed judicially, and disclaimed as characterising the pope's knights, appears to have had some other foundation, than mere courtesy. **1808** Jamieson s. v., The phrase, *Pope's Knights*, seems to have been used only in contempt. **1872** J. A. H. Murray *Compl. Scot.* Introd. 109 This Sir James Inglis, a 'Pope's Knight', was a churchman of considerable distinction at court in the reign of James V. **1635** Brereton *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 130 Burnt aquavitæ and *popes-milk. **1796** *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), **Pope's Nose*, the rump of a turkey. **1854** Thackeray *Rose & Ring* vii, Giglio..picked the last bone of the chicken—drumsticks,..back, pope's nose, and all.

Pope (pōup), *sb.*² [= F., Ger. *pope*, a. Russ. and OSlav. Поп'ъ, *popŭ*, app. ad. WGer. **papō* (whence OHG. *pfaffo*), ad. later Gr. *παπᾶς* priest; see Papa ².] A parish priest of the Greek Church in Russia, Servia, etc.

1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 139 The other Ecclesiastical Orders are distinguish'd into Proto-popes, Popes, (or Priests) and Deacons. **1723** *Pres. St. Russia* I. 86 He was followed by a great number of Popes, or secular Priests, and a multitude of People. **1855** *Englishwoman in Russia* 119 Of course, you are aware that no pope can have a cure unless he be married. **1886** W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 46 The Roumanian pope, seated opposite us, practised, amongst other vices, those of a Bacchanalian tendency. **1889** *Morn. Post* 23 Jan. 2/3 The Church in Hungary, with its keen party fights and its 'popes', whose chief function seems to be to make their parishioners dependent on their help in all the ordinary concerns of life.

Pope (pōup), *sb.*³ [Echoic: see quot.] A name given in New England to the Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*).

1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connecticut* 257 The Whipperwill has so named itself by its nocturnal songs. It is also called the pope, by reason of its darting with great swiftness, from the clouds almost to the ground, and bawling out Pope!

† **Pope,** *v. Obs.* [f. Pope *sb.*¹]

1. *intr.* (Also *to pope it.*) To play the pope, to act as pope.

1537 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 89 Paul popith Jolyly, that woll desire the worlde to pray for the kinges apeyrement. **1624** Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* 95 Urban the eight, that now Popeth it. **1646** Bp. Maxwell *Burd. Issach.* 6 There be..some few Patriarchs..who Lord it, and Pope it over the Lords inheritance.

2. **Po·ping** *vbl. sb.*, going after the pope, embracing popery. (Cf. *to go a Maying.*) See also Pope *sb.*¹ 1 b, quot. 1887.

1608 H. Clapham *Errour Left Hand* 8 Are you now ready to go a poping?..I had thought there had bin many grounds that would have kept you from poping.

Popedom (pōu·pdəm). [Late OE. *pápdóm*, f. *pápa* Pope *sb.*¹ + *-dóm*, -dom.]

1. The office, position, or dignity of pope (of Rome); the tenure of office of a pope; = Papacy 1.

a **1123** *O. E. Chron.* an. 1118 Þises ġeares eac forðferde se papa Paschalis. & ſeng Iohan of Gaitan to þam papdome. *a* **1154** *Ibid.* an. 1124 Honorius ſeng to pape dom. **1456** Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 74 Thai had na rycht to the pape dome. **1568** Grafton *Chron.* II. 103 Geuen at Laterane the tenth yere of our popedome. **1678** Wanley *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. § 74. 466/1 Leo..received the Pope-

dom at the Emperours hands. 1741 Lady Pomfret *Lett.* (1805) III. 76 The riches acquired by the family in the long popedom of their uncle, Urban the Eighth. 1825 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* 239 After as much plotting as if it had been for the Popedom he got in [to the town Council].

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Applied to a position of supreme authority in any religious system; also, satirically, in other capacities.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 22 Walde-graues profession ouerthroweth the popedome of Lambehith. 1589 *Hay any Work* 34 Good Iohn of Canterbury leaue thy Popedome. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 239 After this time was the Caliphate or Popedome diuided. 1836 *Pop. Encycl.* I. 814/1 He continued to be called caliph,.. and bequeathed the Mohammedan popedom to his posterity. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* xxxiv, Absurdities into which his reverence for the popedom of Paternoster-Row led him.

2. The papal government; esp. as a political state; = Papacy 2.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 116 What the Bishop hath laid together to make plea for Prelaty... Though indeed, if it may stand, it will inferre Popedome all as well. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 21 Yet now are many such broachars..within the Popedom. 1820 H. Matthews *Diary of Invalid* 206 His Holiness claims feudal superiority over the kingdom, as a fief of the Popedom. 1880 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xxiv, Bologna .. delivered itself up to the Popedom upon a capitulation.

b. An ecclesiastical polity resembling the papacy.

1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xiv. (1874) 36 Lesse there should want anything to a perfyght pope dome, the bisshops caused a proclamacyon to be set out in the kyngs name, that from henseforth the ceremonyes of the church, that were of the popys makyng, shuld no more be taken for the popys ceremonys, but the kyngs. 1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* iv. Wks. 1851 III. 289 A Church-government, which wants almost no circumstance, but only a name to be a plaine Popedome. 1781 S. Peters *Hist. Connecticut* 96 The lay-magistrates, who were further mortified to see Ministers among the Representatives..cried out, 'This is a presbyterial popedom'. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2520/1 Flacius, with whom he labored at one time for the establishment of a Lutheran popedom.

Hence *erron.* † **Po·pedomship.** *Obs.*

1588 J. Aske *Eliz. Triumphans* 6 His Popedomship with Myter, Crowns & Crosse, Are all bestow'd on Pius quintus grace.

† **Po·pehead.** *Obs.* [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -head.] = Popehood.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 87 Iohn þe nyntenþe, pope, satte in þe popehede fyve 3ere. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* iv. (1520) 37/2 This man lefte his popehead and wente to Agrippa. 1556 Olde *Antichrist* 91 In the thrid moneth of hys popeheadde.

† **Pope-holy,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 4 papholy, 5 poope-, poppe-, (pomp-)holy, 5–6 pop holy, 5–7 pope-holy. [app. f. Pope *sb.*[1] + Holy *a.*, but taken in some way to represent F. *papelard* hypocritical: see Papelard. In the first recorded instance translating OF. *papelardie* hypocrisy (Rom. Rose).] Pretending to great holiness; (of actions, words, etc.) characterized by a show or pretence of piety; sanctimonious, hypocritical.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 284 Was none suche as hym-self, ne none so pope-holy (*v. rr.* pomp holy, poppe holy; C. vii. 37 pop, poppe, pope, pomp holy). 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 165 þis Iulianus .. bycam a monk, and made hym ful papholy [*v. r.* pop holy] under monkes wede [L. *Cui tunc sub monachatu magnam religionem simulanti*]. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 74 Seynt gregorie seyth,..þat an ypocryte, a popholy man, is lyche an irane. *a* 1460 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 251 Ye poopeholy prestis fulle of presomcioun. *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 209 Popholy and peuysshe presumpcion prouoked them [Lollards] to publysshe and to preche .. howe it was idolatry to offre to ymages of our blessed lady. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 205 b/2 To cast ye dyrt of these Popeholy Monkes in their owne face. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 223 Some hypocrites and Pope-holie persons.

¶ **b.** *erron.* Popishly devout or holy.

1633 D. R[ogers] *Treat. Sacram.* i. 5 Pope-holy persons, who are so leavened with superstition, that they thinke the Sacraments are holy things even by the work wrought.

B. *sb.* Hypocrisy. *To play the pope-holy*: to play the hypocrite.

?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 415 Another thing was don there write, That semede lyk an ipocrite, And it was clepid Poope-holy [*Papelardie ert apelée*]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 46 For popholy and vyce loke wel aboute. *a* 1518 Skelton *Magnyf.* 467 Counterfet conscyence, peuysshe pope holy. *a* 1555 Bp. Gardiner in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 746 Though some accompt me a papist, yet I cannot play the pope holy, as thold term was.

Hence † **Pope-ho·liness** *Obs.*, sanctimoniousness, hypocrisy.

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 88 Twich the scabbbe of ypocresye or popeholynes and goo aboute to vtter their false doctrine. 1535 *Goodly Primer, Passion* v, Such is the pope holiness & feigned righteousness of hypocrites. 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* lx. 359 To their seeming it is a spice of moonkish hypocrisie or popeholinesse to thanke God.

Popehood (pō̆·phud). [OE. *pápan-hád*, f. *pápa*, Pope *sb.*[1] + *-hád*, -hood.] The condition of being pope; the papal dignity.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 126 Hwæt ða Gregorius, siððan he papan-had underfeng. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 85 þe pope Iohn satte in his popehode sex monthes. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* (Rolls) 439 Popehode is of the wil of Crist to be had in sum person to be chose as the successour of Peter. 1838 Longf. *Drift-Wood* Prose Wks. 1886 I. 376 As soon .. as he undertook the popehood, the monks were sent to their beloved work.

Popeism: see Popism.

Pope Joan. [After the fabulous female pope Joan. (But cf. its Fr. name *nain jaune* yellow dwarf.)

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 3 Sometimes she laught, as merry as Pope Jone. *c* 1597 Harington *Nugæ Ant.* (1779) II. 195 Pope Julio..was a greate and wary player,..being a goode companyon, and as the phrase is, as mery as Pope Joane.]

A card-game played by three or more persons, with a pack from which the eight of diamonds has been removed, and a tray or board having eight compartments for holding the stakes, these being won by the players who play out certain cards; see quot. 1887. Also *attrib.*

1732 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 373 After supper play at pope Joan or commerce till eleven. 1791 A. C. Bower *Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 118 We had a great Rout last night, I lost ten shillings at Pope Joan. 1826 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 90 A juvenile party closely seated round a large table, with a Pope Joan board in the middle; each well supplied with mother-o'-pearl fish and counters .. watching the turn-up, or peeping into the pool to see how rich it is. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* vi. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 66 Pope Joan has survived to the present day in the modified form of 'Newmarket'.

Popekin (pō̆·pkin). *contemptuous.* [See -kin.] A little or petty pope.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Popel.** *Obs.* Also 4 popelle, -ill, -ulle, 5 -ell, -il, -le. [ME. a. OF. *pople* (1355 in Godef.), *pouple* (Picard, Tournai), variant of *poȝre* (1316), *pop(ȝ)e, poupe*, an inferior kind of fur; derivation unknown.] The name of a kind of fur: in quot. 1351 said to be that of the squirrel.

The French documents in which it is mentioned, cited by Godefroy, belong to Flanders and Picardy. In England, frequently mentioned in documents written in Latin and French; rarely in Eng. context.

1327 *Lett. Bk. E. Lond.* lf. 183 b, Forura de popell' de vij tiris sexaginta bestias; Forura de popell' de vj tiris Quinquaginta et duas bestias. [tr. in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 153 A fur of popelle of 7 tiers, 60 beasts; a fur of popelle of 6 tiers, 52 beasts.] 1342 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* II. 539/3 (Merton Coll. Accts.) Furrura de popel. 1351 *Lett. Bk. F. Lond.* lf. 208 Furree de Pellure come de meneveyr, Gris, Purree Destranlyng, Popell' Desquirels [tr. in Riley 267 Popelle of squirrels], Bys des Conyns des levres. 1365 *Lett. Bk. G. Lond.* lf. 162 b, Qe nul entremelle Roskyn en popull'. [tr. in Riley 329 That no one shall mingle *roskyn* with *populle*.] 1380–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 590 In una furura de popill empt. pro d'no Priore, *xs.* 1421 *Will of Norton* (Somerset Ho.), Vnam de togis meis furratis cum popell. 1493 *Will of Mag. Thome Overey* 18 July, Unam togam talarem de scarlett penulatam cum popilfurr.

† **Popelard, popilarde, poplart,** etc., var. Papelard, altered after Pope or Pope-holy.

?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* v. 233 What the Devilles! eyles the poplart. *Ibid.* 273 Popelard! thou preachest as a pie. *Ibid.* (E. E. T. S.) 447 This popelard pope here present, with Couetuousnes aye was fully bent.

† **Po·peler.** *Obs.* Also 4 popler, 5 popelere. [Origin obscure: cf. Poppel, OF. *popelle*; also f. med.L. *popia* spoon (Du Cange), Popard.] A water-bird, the spoon-bill.

1400 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 276 Aulam meam cum poplers textam, et lectum meum integrum cum costeris de rubeo cum poplers et armis meis broudatum. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/2 Popelere, byrd (or schovelerd, infra), *populus*. 1459 in *Paston Lett.* I. 479, ij. clothis portrayed full of popelers. *Ibid.* 483 Item, j. hangyng clothe of popelers. [1894 Newton *Dict. Birds, Popeler*, an old name for the Spoonbill, *Platalea leucorodia*. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 3/2 The spoonbill, which still nests as near as Holland,.. used to breed in the Eastern Counties, where it was known as the popeler.]

Popeless (pō̆·plés), *a.* [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -less.] Without a pope.

1868 W. C. Cartwright *Papal Conclaves* 57 At present the peace of the Popeless city is left entirely to the care of Monsignor Governatore. 1902 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* II. xix. 518 He might become a Catholic after the manner of Henry VIII, and enforce a popeless Catholicism.

Popelican, -quan, obs. forms of Publican.

Popelike (pō̆·plɪlaik), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -like.] Like or resembling a pope.

1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 215 Their forefathers and Popelike predecessours. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 53 As popelike and pontificall, as my Lord of Canterburie. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage, India* (1864) 150 The Brama, or Popelike Bramene in these parts, who by his authority dispenseth with many of their Lawes, and dissolueth Marriages. 1808 Moore *Corruption* iii, Nor..Could pope-like kings escape the levelling blow.

b. *adv.* In the manner of a pope.

1574 *Life 70th Abp. Canterb.* Pref. C viij b, From Scotland he takes shipping, and popelike steppes over into Ireland.

Popeling (pō̆·plɪŋ). [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -ling[1] 1, 2. Perh. sometimes associated with F. *papalin*, It. *papalino*: cf. Papalin.]

† **1.** An adherent, follower, or minister of the pope; a papist; in 16th c. mostly, a popish ecclesiastic. *Obs.*

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 93 b, I can see that the old Popelynges haue all to berayde vs. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 284/1 The sentence of the pope and his popelings. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxi. (1612) 340 Nor meruell we that Popelings her nor Puritanes should brook. 1643 Prynne *Popish R. Favourite* 73 Our English Nation too, now devoted as a prey to the barbarous Irish, and other forraigne Popelings. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* I. vii. 31 Whatever wild Discourses, or Behaviours, Popes and Popelins have been guilty of. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* I. 8 How can the Pope and all his Popelings, and General Councils..be infallible in their Faith?

2. A little or petty pope; one who acts as pope on a small scale. (*contemptuous.*)

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 6 None but Antichristian popes and popelings euer claimed this authoritie vnto themselues. *c* 1629 Layton *Syons Plea* (ed. 2) 23 The Prelats .. derive their Authority from the Pope; carry themselves as Popelings. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 75 Having given a Bill of divorce to one Pope, beyond the Seas, enstal and enthrone a goodlie number of Popelings .. at home. 1799 W. Taylor in *Monthly Mag.* VII. 139 Still the pope bears sway; And would-be popelings, arm'd with Birmingham keys, Yet rouse us from the dead repose we seek. 1880 E. Herries *Mem. J. C. Herries* II. 284 An anti-Protestant Church,..over which, and over a prostrate laity, a legion of parochial popelings should reign supreme.

† **Po·pelote.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [perh. ad. OF. *poupelet* 'petit ponpon' (Godef.), with changed suffix: cf. Poplet.] A pet, darling.

c 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 68 There nas no man so wys þat koude thenche So gay a popelote or swiche a wenche.

Popely (pō̆·pli), *a.* In 6 *Sc.* paiplie. [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -ly[1].] Of, pertaining to, or befitting a pope.

a 1600 *Lindesay's Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 413 (MS. I.) His prelacie pomp nor paiplie [Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 577 papale] gravitie..Availled him nocht. 1826 Southey *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 308 Taking upon himself what may be called the Popely privilege of selling indulgences.

† **Po·peness.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -ness.] Quality or characteristic of a pope.

a 1684 Leighton *Comm. 1 Pet.* (1817) I. iii. 8 There is naturally this Popeness in every man's mind,.. a kind of fancied infallibility in themselves.

† **Poper**[1]. *Obs.* prob. = Popard.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 63 A Ryal Fest...Le iij cours. Gely. Datys in comfyte. Fesaunt. Gullys. Poper [etc.].

† **Poper** ²*. *Obs. rare*[−1]. (?) (Hazlitt suggests 'a papist'.)

1575 Gascoigne *Pr. Pleas. Kenilw.* Poems 1870 II. 93 When her maiestie entred the gate, there stoode Hercules for Porter,..presenting the keyes..with these words:.. My frends a Porter I, no Poper here am plast.

Poper: see Popper *v.*

† **Po·periche.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + Riche, after *kingrich, bishopric*, etc.] = Popedom.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 231 In þe nynþe 3ere of his poperiche. *Ibid.* VI. 409 þanne he hym self occupiede þe poperiche.

Popery (pō̆·pəri). Also 6 papry, popyrie, 7 poprie. [f. Pope *sb.*[1] + -ery.]

1. The doctrines, practices, and ceremonial associated with the pope as head of the Roman Catholic Church; the papal ecclesiastical system; the Roman Catholic religion, or adherence to it. (A hostile term.)

a 1534 Tindale *Exp. Math. v–vii.* (*a* 1550) 64 To beleue the faininges of oure mooste holy father, al his superstityouse poperye and inuisible blessynges. *c* 1540 *Pilgr. T.* 277 in *Thynne's Animadv.*, etc. (1865) App. i. 85 Nothing but papry sprong owt of Antichrist, full of foxry. 1550 Cranmer *Wks.* (Parker Soc.) I. 6 But what availeth it to take away beads, pardons, pilgrimages, and such other like popery, so long as two chief roots remain unpulled up? 1594 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* iv. iv. § 1 The name of Popery is more odious than very Paganisme amongst diuers of the more simple sort. 1638 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) I. 32 All discipline and seramonies..to haue beine estimed and damned as poyntes of poprie. 1686 Evelyn *Diary* 5 May, All engines being now at work to bring in Popery. 1689 *Declar. Right Will. & Mary* c. 2 His highness the Prince of Orange (whom it hath pleased Almighty God to make the glorious Instrument of delivering this Kingdom from Popery and arbitrary Power). 17.. *Orange Toast* in Sir J. Barrington *Recoll.* (1827) *Aldermen of Skinners' Alley*, The glorious, pious, and immortal memory of the great and good King William —not forgetting Oliver Cromwell who assisted in redeeming us from Popery, Slavery, Arbitrary Power, Brass Money, and Wooden Shoes. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Garth* Wks. III. 26 It is observed by Lowth, that..there is less distance than is thought between scepticism and popery: and that a mind wearied with perpetual doubt, willingly seeks repose in..an infallible church. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1872) 126 The cry of 'No Popery' is foolish enough in these days.

2. *fig.* Assumption, or acceptance, of authority like that of the pope.

1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 21 (1754) 106, I would therefore humbly propose a reformation of learning from the philosophical popery, which prevails at present in our universities. 1735 Berkeley *Def. Free-think. in Math.* § 16 It is even introducing a kind of philosophic popery among a free people.

Hence **Po·perypho·bia,** dread or horror of popery.

1826 [H. Best] *Four Years France* 18 My mother was perfectly free from popery-phobia. 1895 W. Mason in *Church Times* 2 Aug. 108/3 The old Poperyphobia which one had hoped had been long ago dead and buried.

Pope's eye. [Called in Ger. *pfaffensbisschen* priest's bit, prob. as being a tit-bit which the priest was supposed to claim; in F. *œil de Judas* Judas's eye; 'eye' referring app. to its rounded form.] The lymphatic gland surrounded with fat in the middle of a leg of mutton; regarded by some as a tit-bit.

1673 J. W. *Vinegar & Mustard* B iv, Husband, pray cut me the Popes Eye out of the Leg of Mutton, I'le try if

I can eat a bit of it. 1682 T. Gibson *Anat.* iv. (1697) App., A gland which we commonly call in sheep the Nut or Pope's eye. 1755 Johnson, *Popeseye*, the gland surrounded with fat in the middle of the thigh: why so called I know not. 1844 H. Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 98 The piece of fat in it called the Pope's eye, is considered a delicate morceau by epicures.

Pope's head. [From its appearance.]

1. A species of cactus, *Melocactus communis*, growing on barren sandy wastes in S. America and some of the W. Indian islands, and producing its flowers on a woolly cushion or head, beset with bristles and spines.

1699 L. Wafer *Voy.* (1729) 284 Fenced with hollow Bamboos, Popes-heads, and Prickle pears. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 733 *M[elocactus] communis*, the Turk's-cap Cactus,..sometimes called Englishman's Head, or Pope's Head.

2. A round brush or broom with a long handle, for sweeping ceilings, dusting pictures, etc.; also called *Turk's head.*

1824 Scott *Let. to Miss Baillie* 12 Feb. in Lockhart *Life*, What sweeping is required is most easily performed by a brush like what the housemaids call a Pope's head. 1825 Mar. Edgeworth *Love & Law* I. v, You're no witch, indeed, if you don't see a cobweb as long as my arm. Run, run, child, for the pope's head. 1890 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* VIII. xxix. 60 The long mops known as 'Popes' heads' were made use of as pike handles.

Popeship (pō^{u}·pʃip). [f. Pope *sb.*^{1} + -ship.]

1. The office of pope; popedom, popehood.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 402 He was asoylid, & restorid to com agayn vnto Rome; and he tuke þe popeshup agayn on hand. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 358 So he passed the blessed time of his holie Popeship with this vertuous dame. 1640 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Retig.* 23 Nov. iii. 8 Hee pleads Popeship under the name of a Patriarch. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iv. (1872) 124 Popeship, spiritual Fatherhood of God's Church, is that a vain semblance, of cloth and parchment?

2. The personality of a pope: with possessive pronoun as a humorous appellation.

1640 Sir E. Dering in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 100 The Canon-Law, of more use unto his Popeship than both the other. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* II. i. 11 And who dare.. question what his Popeship would be at? 1826 W. E. Andrews *Crit. Rev. Foxe's Bk. Martyrs* II. 187 What necessity could there be for all this attention on the part of his royal popeship?

Popess (pō^{u}·pės). [f. Pope *sb.*^{1} + -ess. Cf. Papess.] A supposed female pope.

1529 More *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 227/2 But were I Pope. By my soule quod he, I would ye wer, & my lady your wife Popesse too. 1677 W. Hughes *Man of Sin* II. xii. 239 His Farewell to her was, Were you but Popess, I would willingly relinquish my Claim. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 153 In another scene, the Virgin thus intercedes with her Son for the popess [Pope Joan] in purgatory.

Popestant (pō^{u}·pèstănt). Also 6 **popistant.** [f. Pope *sb.*^{1} after Protestant.] A nonce-word for Papist as opposed to *protestant.*

a 1550 *Pore Helpe* 270 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 262, I feare me he be wext A popistant stout. 1551 Morrvson in Froude *Hist. Eng.* V. xxviii. 339 *note*, Would God the French king were as like to become a right Protestant as our master is unlike to become a blundering Popistant. 1880 Dixon *Windsor* III. xiv. 132 Protestants and popestants were to him the same.

†Po·pet. *Obs.* A contemptuous diminutive of Pope *sb.*^{1}, perh. with allusion to Poppet, Puppet.

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 27 Moche a do had Berengarius Turonensis .. with the foreseyd Popet Nycolas, for Christes naturall presence in the eucharisticall breade. 1641 Prynne *Antip.* 114 This Popet hath blasphemed, and betrayed all Protestants.

Popet, obs. f. Poppet. **Popetishe, Popetly, Popetry,** obs. ff. Puppetish, Puppetly, etc.

Pop-eyed, *a.*: see Pop-.

Pop-gun, po·pgun, *sb.* [f. Pop *sb.*^{1} or *v.*^{1} + Gun *sb.*; prob. suggested by Pot-gun in sense 2.]

1. A child's toy, consisting of a short straight tube from the mouth of which a tight-fitting pellet is expelled with a pop by compressing the air in the tube with a piston.

1662 Hobbes *Seven Philos. Prob.* iii. (1682) 18 Tis of the nature of a Pop-gun which Children use. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* x. vi, I value a pistol, or a blunderbuss, or any such thing, no more than a pop-gun. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. iv, The trunks were succeeded by pot-guns made with hollow pieces of elder, or of quills. ..These were also called pop-guns. 1847 Alb. Smith *Chr. Tadpole* xv, Just as one pellet in a pop-gun drives out another.

fig. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 46 ₱ 6 She is a meer Sermon Popgun, repeating and discharging Texts, Proofs [etc.]. 1777 Mrs. E. Montagu in Doran *Lady of last Cent.* viii. (1873) 215 The scriblers weekly let fly their pop-guns at the Duchess. 1883 Hall Caine *Cobwebs of Crit.* iii. 54 Volleys from the popgun of criticism.

2. Contemptuously applied to a small, inefficient, or antiquated fire-arm.

1849 E. E. Napier *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 389, I instantly stepped into the next room, to get the old pop-gun there;.. my finger was in an instant on the trigger. 1864 in A. Bisset *Omitted Chapters Hist. Eng.* vi. 376 Cromwell's pop-guns, which I will engage did not kill twenty men during the action [of Dunbar].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pop-gun-pellet*, etc.

a 1704 T. Brown *Walk round Lond., Presbyt. Meeting-Ho.* (1709) 17 His merry Posture and Pop-gun-way of Delivery. 1823 Scott *Fam. Lett.* II Jan., Bells rung on the true pop-gun principle by the action of air alone. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 279 She had sitten out .. by help of..putting her fingers in her ears, two or three popgun lectures, on chemistry and mechanics.

Hence **Po·p-gun** *v. trans.*, to discharge a popgun at; **Po·pgu·nner; Po·pgu·nnery; Po·pgu·nning** *ppl. a.*

1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 48 (1726) 269 Those abominable monsters..pop-gun with their huge trunks the poor constellations, and turn the milky way into a salt posset. 1831 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 25 The..tag-rag popgunners blazing away at the fieldfares. 1846 *Ibid.* 273 Loads of popgunning blackguards. *a* 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 499 The lightness of the artillery should not degenerate into popgunnery.

Pop-holy, variant of Pope-holy *Obs.*

Popi, obs. form of Poppy.

Popian (pō^{u}·piăn), *a.* Also **Pope·an, Popei·an.** [f. *Pope*, proper name + -ian.] Of or pertaining to the poet Alexander Pope (or his poetry). *Popian couplet*: a heroic couplet in the manner of Pope.

1802 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) VI. 33 The ear may be contented to want the luxury of the Popean numbers. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Dec. 738/1 Taken as a translator of the Popian school,..Mr. Worsley deserves to rank very high. 1892 Lounsbury *Stud. Chaucer* III. vii. 136 One of several evidences that the Popean couplet existed before Pope had produced anything which any one felt it desirable to imitate.

†Po·pify, *v. Obs.* Also 8 **popefy.** [See -fy.] *trans.* To render popish.

a 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 121 As if all were well, so they be not popified, though they have departed from the church in which they were baptized. 1746 W. Horsley *Fool* (1748) II. 67 Though he may not make them Traitors, yet he may Popefy, or Papisticate them.

†Po·pil, *a.* (or *sb. attrib.*) *Sc. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [app. f. L. *popul-us* people.] Of the people; plebeian.

1536 Bellenden *Cron. Scot.* IV. xiv. (1821) I. 146 Forfair; in quhilk sumtime was ane strang castel, within ane loch, quhare sindry kingis of Scottis maid residence..thocht it is now bot ane popil town.

Popil(l, popille, obs. forms of Popple.

Popilion, early form of Populeon *Obs.*

†Po·pinal, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *popīnālis*, f. *popīna* cook-shop.]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Popinal*, of Cookery, or belonging to riot or places of riot, as Alehouses, Taverns, etc.

†Popina·tion. *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [n. of action f. L. *popīnārī* to frequent eating-houses, f. as prec.]

1623 Cockeram, *Popination*, an outragious drinking. 1658 Phillips, *Popination*, (lat.)..also a haunting Popinas, i. Taverns, or Victualing houses.

†Popi·nian. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Pope *sb.*^{1} on analogy of *Socinian.*] A Papist.

1613 Sir E. Hoby *Countersnarle* 66, I was loath such rare creatures should be ouer gudgeoned by so foule Popinians.

Popinjay (pɒ·pinˌdʒē). Forms: see below. [In ME. earliest forms a. OF. (and mod.F.) *papegai* (12th c.), *papingay* (13th c. in Godef.), AF. also *papeiaye* (= *-jaye*) (1355 in *Royal Wills*), = Pr. *papagai*, Sp. *papagayo*, Pg. *papagaio*; also MHG. *papagey*, Ger. *papagei*, MLG. *papegoie*, Du. *papegaai.* OF. had also *papegau, papegau(l)t* (13th c.), mod.F. *papegaut* = Cat. *papagall*, It. *pap(p)agallo*, med.L. *pap(p)agallus* (14th c. in Du Cange), mod.Gr. παπαγάλλος. Other forms were med.Gr. παπαγάς, Arab. ببغا *babaghā, babbaghā*, Pers. also بپغا *bapghā*, med.L. *papagen*, MHG. *papegân.* Probably the med.Gr. and Arabic represent the earliest form, due to an imitation of the cry of the bird *in* some African or other barbarian language. The form in *-gayo, -gaio, -gai*, appears to have arisen by assimilation to the name of the European chattering bird, the jay, med.L. *gaius*, Sp. *gayo*, Pr. and ONF. *gai*, central F. *geai* (= *jai*), whence the OF. and ME. *papegai* and *papejai*, subsequently changed (? after *pape, pope*) to *popegay* and *popejay*, and (like *nightingale, passenger*, etc.) to *papengay, popinjay.* The forms in *-gallus, -gallo, -gall, -gau*, appear to have been assimilated to L. *gallus* cock; the OF. *papegau* gave the Sc. *papingaw, papingo.*]

1. An early name for a parrot. *Obs.* or *arch.*

(In all the early forms *iay*, etc. = *jay.*)

α. 4 papiaye (papeiaie, -gai), 4–5 papeiay, 5 papageye, papeiai, -ioy(e, *Sc.* pape-iay(e, (7 papgay).

[*a* 1310 Papeiai: see 4 a.] 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1465 Pyes & papeiays purtrayed with-inne. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 369 Hoom he gooth murie as a Papeiay [*Harl.* papiniay]. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 117 Nyghtgales syngand, and papeiays spekand. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cx, Vnlike the crow is to the pape-iay. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 268/2 A Papeiay (*A.* A Papeioye). [1653 Papgay: see 3.]

β. 4–5 popeiay, 5 popegaye, pope iaye.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xv. 173 þe pokok and þe popeiay with here proude federes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 274 Manye Popegayes that thei clepen Psitakes in hire Langage.

γ. 4 papengay, 5 -ioye, papyniay(e, -gaye, papiniay(e, 6 -geay(e, *Sc.* -gay.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 307 Oon mette hym wiþ a papengay on his hond. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 101/251 The pellycan and the papynjaye. 1508 Dunbar *Twa Mariit Wemen* 382, I thoght my self a papingay.

δ. 4– popin-, 5–7 popen-, 5–6 popyn-, 6–8 poppin-; 4–7 -gay, 5 -3ay, -yay, 5–6 -iay, -iaye, -geay, 6 -gaye, -iae, -ioye, -gei, -giay, -gjoye, 6–7 -gaie, -iaie, 6–8 -gey, 7 -gie, -ia, -jaye, -gjay; 7–9 poppinjay, 7– popinjay.

1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 286 Pro j cage pro le popingay. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 271 Of Popengayes, as gret plentee as men fynden here of Gees. 14.. *Chaucer's Merch. T.* 1878 (Camb. MS.) Syngith ful muriere than the popyniay [*v. rr.* -iaye, -gay, popeniay]. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625/5 *Psitagus*, popynyay. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* II. viii. 84 Ther ben popengayes, whiche ben grene & shynyng lyke pecoks. 1540 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1556) 7 b, With the tounges of Popingaies, Nightyngales, and other sweete singyng birdes. 1544 Turner *Avium Præcip.* H vj, *Psitacus*, Anglicè a popiniay. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 19 There bee also grene popingeays. 1577 Frampton *Joyfull Newes* III. (1596) 94 He had eaten much fleshe of Popingeies. 1580 Babington *Exp. Lord's Prayer* (1596) 20 The Cardinals Popiniay that could pronounce distinctly all the Articles of the Creede. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 349 Of the parrat or poppiniay. These parrats are commonly founde in the woods of Ethiopia. *a* 1649 Drumm. of Hawth. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 156 The artificial notes of the learned popingayes in the guilt cages. 1657 Owen *Schism* Wks. 1852 XIII. 164 An empty insignificant word like the speech of parrots and popinjays. 1792 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Ode Directors* i, Lo, lofty poets are no longer priz'd, That to an eagle turn'd a popinjay. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* ii, The figure of a bird decked with party-coloured feathers, so as to resemble a popinjay or parrot.

ε. (*Sc.*) 6 papinga, -gaw, -go, 8 popingoe.

1530 Lyndesay *Test. Papyngo* 63 The complaynt of ane woundit Papingo. *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 148 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S. T. S.) 290 Als prowd as ony papingo. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 37 3e plesand Paun and Papingaw Cast of 3our blyithlyke cullour. *a* 1583 A. Arbuthnot *Praises of Women* in Pinkerton *Anc. Scot. Poems* I. 142 The papingo in hew Excedis birdis all. [1794 Popingoe: see 3.]

2. A representation of a parrot. **†a.** As an ornament: chiefly in tapestry. *Obs.*

[1328 *Inv. Bp. Stapleton* (Hingeston-R.) 566 Tria tapecia crocei coloris pulverizata de papegais.] 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kut.* 611 Bryddez on semez, As papiayez paynted pernyng bitwene. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5129 With pellicans & papeioyes polischt & grauen. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1480 Perreye in ylke a plas, And papageyes of grene. *? c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 798 A cloth of golde abought your heade, With popinjayes pyght with pery reed. 1546 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees, No. 97) 140 One suyt of baldking with popingjoyes. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 198 They will make a Parret or Popin Jay of mettall, that his tongue shall shake, and his heade move, and his wings flutter.

b. As a heraldic charge or bearing; also as the sign of an inn.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 817 A popyniay was hys crest; he was of gret dyffence. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2306/4 And the Thursday after, at the Popinjay in Norwich. 1858 Cussans *Her.* (1882) 92 After the Eagle and the Falcon, the Birds of most frequent occurrence in Armory are the Swan, Game-cock, Cornish Chough, Pelican, Heron, Popinjay (or Parrot). [1881 Burke *Peerage & Baronetage* 7/1 (Sir R. J. Abercromby, Bart.) Three papingoes, vert, beaked and membered, gu.]

3. The figure of a parrot fixed on a pole as a mark to shoot at. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 60, I sawe on a Sondaye this Lent .vi. C. straungiers shotyng at ye Popyngaye with Crosbowes. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 185 There is in each City a shooting with the Peece at a Popingay of wood, set upon some high Steeple. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xxiii. 107 Gargantua..shot at butmarks, at the papgay [Fr. *papegay*] from below upwards, or to a height. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 173 One is a perpendicular mark, called a popingoe...cut out in wood, fixed in the end of a pole, and placed 120 feet high, on the steeple of the monastery. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* ii, The chief [sport] was to shoot at the popinjay. 1825 C. M. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* II. 8 We'll shoot at pride and poppinjays.

4. *fig.* **†a.** Formerly applied to a person in a eulogistic sense, in allusion to the beauty and rarity of the bird. *Obs. rare.*

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 He is papeiai in pyn that beteth me my bale, To trewe tortle in a Tour, y telle the mi tale. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Commend. Our Lady* 81 O popiniay, plumed with al clennesse. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 125 The Pacoke of pryce That was Pape cald..He callit on his cubicular..That was the proper Pape Iaye, provde in his apparale.

b. More usually taken as a type of vanity or empty conceit, in allusion to the bird's gaudy plumage, or to its mechanical repetition of words and phrases, and thus applied contemptuously to a person: cf. Parrot 2.

1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 89 b, The prest ought to.. Christen them in the english tonge, and not to playe the popengay with Credo saye ye: volo saye ye and baptismum saye ye, for there ought to be no mummynge in soch a mater. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 50, I then, all-smarting, with my wounds being cold, (To be so pestered with a Popingay). *a* 1618 Raleigh *Invent. Shipping* 41 Popinjayes that value themselves by their out sides, and by their Players coats. 1678 Otway *Friendship in F.* v. i, Shall I draw my Cerebrus and cut you off, you gaudy Popinjays? 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxv, The fond fool was decked in a painted coat, and jangling as pert and as proud as any popinjay. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* II. 216, I think the players are better company than your priggish popinjays.

†5. The prevailing colour of the green parrot;

a shade of green; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*, as *popinjay blue, colour, green, yellow. Obs.*

1547 RECORDE *Judic. Ur.* 16 b, There are also oyle coloures (that is popingey grene) of iii sortes. 1573 *Art of Limming* 8 If you mingle Azure and Masticot together, you shal haue thereof a perfite Popinjay greene. 1577 BRETON *Flourish Fancie* (Grosart) 14/2 The colours of her cloath are .. red, blewe, greene, Cernation, Yelow and popyniay. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxix. 746 Couered with a barke of a light greene or Popingay colour. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vii. (1877) I. 172, I might here name .. hewes deuised for the nonce .. as .. popingaie blue. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* 114 If more inclining to a Popingjay, adde more Pinke to your white Lead. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 157/2 All mixt colours .. as carnation, Oreng-tawny, Sky colour, Popengie, Russett, are bastard and dishonorable colours. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 19 Beck had a Coat of Popin-jay. 1865 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VIII. 372/2 Popinjay-green, philomel-yellow, &c., no longer appear in the Army Lists.

† b. Name of a plant. *Obs. rare*—⁰ and *doubtful.*

1658 PHILLIPS, *Popingey*, .. also an Herb, so called from being of the colour of that bird, being a kinde of greenish colour, this Herb is called in Latin Symphonia.

6. A local name of the green woodpecker.

[1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* 128 Terpsichore would bee expressed .. vppon her head a coronet of .. those greene feathers of the poppiniaie, in token of that victory, which the Muses got of .. the daughters of Pierius, .. who after were turned into poppiniaies or wood-peckers.] 1833 *G. Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 385 Poppinjay, *Picus viridis.* 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds, Popinjay* .. has in this country been transferred to the Green Woodpecker. 1902 T. HARDY *Mother Mourns* Poems 73 My popinjays fail from their tappings.

Hence **Po·pinjayess**, *nonce-wd.*

1890 W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* 192 You sweet future popinjayess.

Popish (pō^{u}·piʃ), *a.* [f. POPE *sb.*[1] + -ISH [1].]

† 1. Of or pertaining to the pope; papal. *Obs.*

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 324/2 By the authoritie of Councels, and by some certaine lawes, both Emperiall, and Popish. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 34 b, From his foolishe usurped name and Popishe dignitee. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 204 His Popische pryde, and thrinfald Crowne, Almaist hes loste thair mycht.

2. Of or pertaining to popery; of or belonging to the Church of Rome; papistical. (In hostile use.)

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 116 Though popisshe curres here at do barcke. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 104 He wyl kepe hys possession quyetly as he dyd in the popyshe dayes. 1553 BALE *Vocacyon* Pref. 6 b, Myne hoste Lambert .. was delyuered from hys vayne beleue of purgatorye, and other Popysh peltryes. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 62 The occasyone came by popysse presttes. *Ibid.* 64 He sayd that men wolde have up agayne ther popych masse. 1685 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Nov., The King .. required .. indemnity and dispensation to Popish officers from the Test. 1689 *Declar. Rights Will. & Mary* c. 2 § 9 That it is inconsistent with the Safety and Welfare of this Protestant Kingdom, to be governed by a Popish Prince. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iv. 57 A short summary of the laws against the papists, under their three several classes, of persons professing the popish religion, popish recusants convict, and popish priests. 1862 S. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1882) III. ii. 71 It is quite sure to stir up a vast amount of prejudice from its singularly un-English and Popish tone.

3. *Comb.* **Po·pish-like** *a.*, that looks like popish.

1689 R. WARE *Foxes & Firebrands* III. 19 Neither would she Countenance any thing that would seem Popish-like. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. vii. 70 This Popish-like Adoration (I do not say *Popish*, but *Popish-like* Adoration).

Popishly (pō^{u}·piʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a popish way; in the direction of or in accordance with popish doctrine, practice, or ideas.

1538 LATIMER *Let. to Cromwell* Rem. (Parker Soc.) 403 Their school, .. maintained .. by a brotherhood, .. not without some guile, popishly pardoning, and therefore now worthily decried. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 535 He affirmes that the conuerts of these parts are more popishly Christian, then in the midst of Rome or Spaine. 1678 WOOD *Life* 1 Dec. (O. H. S.) II. 424 All such .. that are suspected to be popishly addicted. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. vii. 69 In Popishly affected, or Popishly suspected Reigns. 1896 *Protestant Echo* XVII. 126/1 This popishly styled 'Prince of the Apostles'.

Popishness (pō^{u}·piʃnés). Now *rare.* [f. POPISH + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being popish; popish doctrine or practice; popery.

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* I. ii. Wks. (1572) 280/2 To wishe them in better case, .. is fleshly mynded popishnes. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1966 The olde popyshnesse is past whych was dampnacyon. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 232 As there is no popishnesse, so, I do not see what superstitiousnesse there can be in it.

Popism (pō^{u}·piz'm). *nonce-wd.* [f. POPE *sb.*[1] + -ISM.] The papal system or religion; = POPERY 1.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* IV. (1872) 123 Formulism, Pagan Popeism, and other Falsehood. *Ibid.* 126 To .. say: See, Protestantism is dead; Popeism is more alive than it, will be alive after it!

Popisme, Popistant, varr. POPPISM, POPESTANT.

† **Po·pistry.** *Obs.* Var. PAPISTRY, after *pope.*

1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xvi. (1874) 38 That all the whole pope, with all popistry, may be vtterly denyed and banysshed.

† **Popi·ze,** *v. Obs.* [f. POPE *sb.*[1] + -IZE. Cf. PAPIZE.] *intr.* To play the pope; = PAPIZE. Hence † **Popizing** *ppl. a.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. 528/2 Some Popizing Bishops and ambitious Clerks.

Po·pjoy, *v.* ? To amuse oneself.

1853 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 472 His stream —in which he himself was wont to popjoy in a very aboriginal manner. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, And after a whole afternoon's popjoying, they caught three or four small coarse fish.

Poplar (pɒ·plăr). Forms: 4–5 poplere, 4–6 popler, 5 poppeler, populer(e, 6 popelare, poplare, popeler, 6–7 popular, 6– poplar. [ME. *popler*, a. OF. *poplier* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *peuplier*, f. L. *pōpul-us* poplar + *-ier* (:—L. *-ārius*) forming names of trees. Cf. POPPLE *sb.*[1]]

1. A tree of the genus *Populus*, comprising large trees of rapid growth, natives of temperate regions, some species remarkable for tremulous leaves, and producing soft light timber of loose texture; also, the timber of this tree. The Black Poplar, White Poplar, Lombardy Poplar, and Trembling Poplar or Aspen are the familiar European species.

The name is not native, and was used to render L. *pōpulus* before it was identified with any native or introduced tree.

1382 WYCLIF *Hos.* iv. 13 Thei brenneden tymys me vnder ook, and poplere, and terebynt. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 303 Þerfore Iacob took grene ȝerdes of populers of almand trees and of platans, and pyled of þe rynde [cf. POPPLE *sb.*[1] b, quot. 1382]. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 70 Þe palme and þe poplere, þe pirie, þe plone. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/2 Poplere, or popultre, *populus.* 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 In many places .. [they] set such wethyes and pepelers in marshe grounde to nouryssbe wode. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 98 Poplers grow by water sides and in moyst places. *c* 1630 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* 8 The Poplar spreads her Branches to the Skye, And hides from sight that azure Canopy. *a* 1800 COWPER *Poplar Field* 1 The poplars are felled, farewell to the shade, And the whispering sound of the cool colonade. 1830 TENNYSON *Mariana* iv, Hard by a poplar shook alway, All silver-green with gnarled bark.

b. With word distinguishing the species, as

Balsam Poplar (*P. balsamifera*) of N. America and Canada, with large resin-covered buds; **Black Poplar** (*P. nigra*), of wide branching habit; **Carolina** or **Necklace Poplar** (*P. monilifera*), the common Cottonwood of U.S., a tall tree, the light wood of which is valuable for making packing-cases, etc.; **Grey Poplar** (*P. canescens*), a variety of the White Poplar; **Lombardy** or **Italian Poplar** (*P. pyramidalis, fastigiata*, or *dilatata*), of tapering pyramidal habit and great height, also called **Pine Poplar** and **Po-poplar**; **Soft** or **Paper Poplar** (*P. grandidentata*), of N. America, the soft wood of which is extensively used for paper-making; **Trembling Poplar** (*P. tremula*), the ASPEN; **White Poplar** (*P. alba*), a large spreading tree, with deeply indented roundish leaves, which are downy and white beneath; the ABELE.

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Balsam Poplar, *Populus balsamifera.* 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s. v. *Populus*, [*populus*] *balsamifera*, .. Balm of Gilead; Balsam Poplar; Tacamahac. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 504 The leaues and yong buds of *black Poplar, stampt and applyed, swageth the paine of the gout in the hands or feet. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 76 Early in spring, when the branches of the Black Poplar are yet leafless, they are loaded with .. a profusion of deep red catkins, or pendulous flower-spikes. *Ibid.* 72 There is a variety .. very common in the country, and sometimes called the *Grey Poplar (*Populus alba, v. canescens*), which has leaves more heart-shaped, and less deeply indented. 1782 J. SCOTT *Poet. Wks.* 264 Hears the grey poplars whisper in the wind. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 176 The *Italian, or *Lombardy poplar, is of very quick growth, easily multiplied. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 26/1 This beautiful upright Cypress is among evergreen shrubs what the Lombardy Poplar is among timber trees. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 78 This tree is called by some the *Pine Poplar. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* LXV. II. 628 On the older leaves of the *Po-poplar it [a fungus] is observable this season very frequent. 1837 *Spirit of Woods* 66 The Lombardy or Po poplar, a native .. of Italy, where it grows very plentifully, especially on the banks of the Po. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Populus grandidentata*, Large-toothed Aspen, *Soft or Paper Poplar. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 248 Here is beheld the *Trembling Poplar. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 205 The trembling poplar does not succeed so well on stiff clayey soils, but will thrive in almost any other. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 58 b, Pine trees, and *white Populars. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 72 The White Poplar often grows into a very large and lofty tree.

2. Applied to other trees resembling the poplar in some respect: the Tulip-tree (also **Tulip Poplar**) of N. America (*Liriodendron tulipifera*); an Australian tree with poplar-like leaves, *Carumbium populifolium* (*Omalanthus populifolius*), N. O. *Euphorbiaceæ*, also called **Queensland Poplar**; a small Australian timber-tree, *Codonocarpus cotinifolius* = HORSE-RADISH *tree* (b), also called **Native Poplar**; **Yellow Poplar** = *Tulip Poplar* (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1766 *Compl. Farmer, Tulip-tree*, .. a native of North America, .. is generally known through all the English settlements by the title of poplar. 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 93 The bark of the poplar (*Liriodendron tulipiferum*) also contains tannin. 1894 *Melbourne Museum Catal., Economic Woods* No. 61 (Morris), *Raddish-Tree.* .. The poplar of the Central Australian explorers. Whole tree strong-scented. 1896 SPENCER *Thro Larapinta Land* 47 A Codonocarpus, the 'native poplar' with light green leathery leaves. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 365 *Poplar*, in Queensland, a timber-tree, *Carumbium populifolium.*

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poplar-block, -board, -branch, grove, -leaf, log, shade, -timber, -tree, -twig; poplar-covered, -crowned, -flanked, -lined* adjs.; **poplar aphis**, *Pemphigus bursarius* or *P. spirothecæ*, both of which form galls on the leaf-stalks of poplar-trees; **poplar beetle**, *Lina populi*, of the family *Chrysomelidæ*, feeding on the leaves of the poplar; **poplar birch**, (*U.S.*) the common birch, *Betula alba*; **poplar borer**, a beetle, *Saperda calcarata*, which bores into the twigs and young branches of the poplar; **poplar dagger**, a moth, *Acronycta populi*, the larva of which feeds on poplar leaves; **poplar girdler**, a beetle, *Saperda concolor*, the larva of which girdles the trunks of poplar saplings; **poplar grey**, a British moth, *Acronycta megacephala*; **poplar hawk** (moth), *Smerinthus populi*, a large species of the *Sphingidæ*; **poplar kitten**, a small British puss-moth, *Cerura* or *Dicranura bifida*; **poplar lutestring**, a rare British moth, *Ceropacha* or *Cymatophora or*; **poplar pine** = *Lombardy poplar*; **poplar-spinner**, a N. Amer. geometrid moth, *Biston ursaria*, the larva of which strips poplars of their leaves; **poplar-worm**, the caterpillar of a poplar moth.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 29 The *poplar and apple Aphis are distinct species. *Ibid.* xxi. II. 245 The grub of the *poplar-beetle .. is remarkable for similar organs. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 278 From off the *poplar-block white chips would fly. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 517 Payd to Umfray, carpenter, for c. c. of *popler bord. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 39 What wight she was that *Poplar braunch did hold? 1798 LANDOR *Gebir* VI. 157 *Poplar-crown'd Sperchios. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspectus Butterfl. & Moths* 78 *Acronycta*... The *Poplar Grey. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Alameda*, a *popler groue, *Populetum.* 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspectus Butterfl. & Moths* 23 The *Poplar Hawk. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 471/2 The Poplar Hawk Moth .. lives on Poplars and Willows, and on Laurel and Laurustinus. *Ibid.* 254/2 The *Poplar Kitten .. feeds on Aspen and other Poplars. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 13 b, Make hym a playster of *Popular leaues. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VII. 135 Their busy fingers move, Like poplar-leaves when Zephyr fans the grove. 1832 J. RENNIE *Conspectus Butterfl. & Moths* 82 The *Poplar Lutestring. 1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Hon. H. S. Conway* 25 Dec., If *poplar-pines ever grow, it must be in such a soaking season as this. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 235 Certeyn *poppeler-tymbre for making of cc pavysses. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/8 *Populus*, a *populertre. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 128 Young wood of the birch, aspen, and poplar-tree. 1899 MACKAIL *Life Morris* I. 335 Ordering three hundredweight of *poplar-twigs for experiments in yellow dyeing. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 223 Last year the *poplar-worm made its appearance.

Hence **Po·plared** *ppl. a.*, planted with poplars.

1886 Mrs. CADDY *Footsteps Jeanne D'Arc* 85 The poplared levels of the southern bank. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 7/4 The afternoon was lovely, by the poplared Loire.

Pople, obs. f. PEOPLE, POPPLE; var. POPEL *Obs.*

Popler, obs. f. POPLAR; var. POPELER *Obs.*

† **Po·plesy, po·plexy.** *Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Aphetic form of APOPLEXY. So obs. Du. *popelcye* (Plantin).] = APOPLEXY.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 21 (Harl. MS.) The goute lette hir no þing for to daunce Ne poplexie schente not hir heed. 1490 CAXTON *Enaydos* XXVIII. 110 The gowte or the poplesie. *c* 1500 *Rewlis Cursing* 43 in Laing *Anc. Poet., Scot.* 212 Powertie, pestilence or poplecy. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 322 The painfull poplesie and pest.

† **Po·plet.** *Obs.* [app. ad. OF. **poupelette*, fem. of *poupelet* darling.] A female favourite; a light woman; a wench. So † **Po·plo·lly,** a mistress.

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1808) VI. 32 The prettie poplet his wife began to be a fresh occupieing giglot at home. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Poplet*, a young wench. 1694 *Ladies Dict.* 377/1 *Popelet, lote*, a Puppet or young wench. 1825 CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) II. 86 This house .. presided over by a poplolly! a magnificent woman, dressed to perfection, without a vestige of her former habits.

† **Po·plin** [1]. *Obs.* Also 8 poupelin. [a. obs. F. *poup(e)lin, popelin* (16th c. in Godef.), mod.F. dial. *poplin*, in same sense; of uncertain origin, possibly a fanciful application of obs. F. *popelin*, 'a little finicall darling' (Cotgr.).] A kind of cake: see quots.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* V. xxii. 723 Poplins are made of the same flower, knodden with milke, yolkes of egges, and fresh butter. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Poupelin*, You must plunge the nether crust first, .. and afterwards do the same by the upper crust of the Poupelin.

Poplin [2] (pɒ·plin). [ad. F. *popeline*, for earlier *papeline* (1667 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. It. *papalina*, fem. of *papalino* adj., papal (whence F. *papalin* adj., *a* 1646 in Hatz.-Darm.); applied to this material because manufactured at Avignon, until 1791 a papal town, which still has manufactures of silk goods.] A mixed woven fabric, consisting of a silk warp and worsted weft, and having a corded surface; now made chiefly in Ireland. Also applied to imitations of this (see next).

Double poplin, a stiff poplin in which the silk warp and the worsted weft are both very heavy.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4706/4 For Sale .., Poplins, .. and other Stuffs. 1737 *N. Jersey Archives* XI. 517 The other lin'd with light colour'd Silk Poplin that is pretty well worn. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 199 (*Ireland*) The mixed goods, or tabinets and poplins have been long celebrated. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* XXXV, I have some notion of putting such a trimming as this to my white and silver poplin. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.* s. v., Many poplins now made have not a particle of silk in their structure, but are composed of worsted and flax or worsted and cotton, to the great detriment of their appearance, wear, and reputation.

attrib. 1751 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1862) III. 34, I have bought for my mourning a dark grey Irish poplin sack. 1861 Sala *Ship-Chandler* iv. (1862) 78 Ladies, with fans, and topknots, and poplin gowns, and pearl necklaces.

Poplinette (pɒplinˈet). [f. Poplin [2] + -ette.] A woollen or linen fabric in imitation of poplin.

1861 *Englishwom. Dom. Mag.* III. 69/1 Mohairs still continue in vogue, as also poplinettes and chalés. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Apr. 6/2 Favourite materials for children's dresses are poplinettes. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 16 May 8/3 Among the novelties..are the poplinettes—linen materials, so silky-looking and lustrous that they might almost be mistaken for rich silk poplins.

† **Poˈplite,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. ad. mod.L. *poplite-us*: see below.] = Popliteal.

1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict., *Poplitæa Vena*, the Poplite Vein, formed by two Branches of the Crural Vein.

Popliteal (pɒpliˈtiˌĕl), *adv. Anat.* [f. Popliteus + *-al*, towards: see Dextrad.] Towards the popliteal aspect.

1803 Barclay *New Anat. Nomencl.* 166 In the sacral extremities,..Popliteal will signify towards the popliteal aspect. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* 444 The motion popliteal, which is called extension.

Popliteal (pɒpliˈtiăl, *erron.* pɒplitēˈăl), *a. Anat.* [f. mod.L. *poplite-us* (see next) + -al.] Pertaining to, situated in, or connected with the ham, or hollow at the back of the knee; esp. in names of parts, as *popliteal artery, glands, ligament, nerve, space, tendons* (= hamstrings), *vein.*

1786 J. Pearson in *Med. Commun.* II. 99, I began by dissecting the popliteal artery. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 335 The muscles on the rotular and popliteal aspects of the legs. 1831 J. F. South *Otto's Pathol. Anat.* 454 Morgagni .. found, in a popliteal aneurysm, the nerve.. almost completely destroyed. 1892 *Lancet* 2 July 59/2 Total extirpation of the popliteal aneurysm.

‖ **Popliteus** (pɒpliˈtiˌŭs, *erron.* pɒplitēˈŭs). *Anat.* [mod.L. adj. (sc. *musculus*), f. *poples, poplit-em* ham, hough. Erroneously spelt *poplitæus*: the L. suffix is *-ĕus*, as in *corporeus, osseus, sanguineus*, etc.] More fully *popliteus muscle*: a flat triangular muscle at the back of the knee-joint.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Popliteus*, by some called *Subpopliteus*, is a Muscle of the Leg. 1840 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 80 Immediately beneath this is the groove which lodges the tendon of origin of the popliteus. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 182 On its outer surface is a pit for the tendon of the popliteus muscle.

† **Poplitic,** *a. Obs.* (erron. -et-). [f. L. *poples, poplit-em* ham, hough + -ic. So obs. F. *poplitique* (Cotgr.) the popliteal vein.] = Popliteal. So † **Poplitical** (erron. -et-) *a. Obs.*

1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* K iv, Howe many and what veynes ben let blode commonly in the great fote? Answere...The scyatyke vnder the ancle outwarde and the popletyke that is vnder the kne. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* lf. xii b/2 The Hockes, where we open the Popleticalle Vayne. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s. v. *Vein, Popletick vein*, the ham-veine. 1658 Phillips. *Poplitick* (lat.) belonging to the ham, or leg.

Poplolly: see Poplet.

‖ **Popo, popoi,** variants of Papaw.

1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 181 As hollow as a popo. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 135 Bread-fruit, mango, popoi, and other tropical fruits.

† **Popomaˈstic,** *a. Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. Pope *sb.*[1] + Gr. *μάστιξ* whip, scourge, after words in -ic.] Scourging the pope.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Sculler* Wks. III. 16/1 To you from faire and sweetly sliding Thames A popomasticke Sculler warre proclaimes.

Po-poplar, Lombardy Poplar: see Poplar 1 b.

Pop-over (pɒˈpˌiōuvəɹ). *U.S.* [f. Pop *v.*[1] + Over *adv.*] A very light cake made of flour, milk, eggs, and butter (? so called because it swells over the edge of the tin in which it is baked).

1887 A. A. Hayes *Jesuit's Ring* 120 Broiled chicken and pop-overs. 1892 Kipling & Balestier *Naulahka* 70 The hot brown pop-overs, with their beguiling yellow interiors. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1008 The cook .. is expected to have ready for breakfast either fresh baked 'biscuits' (scones), 'muffins', or 'pop-overs'.

Poˈppa. *U. S. colloq.* = Papa [1].

1902 Howells *Kentons* xii, Well, there's one thing; I won't call him *poppa* any more..and I won't say papá and mammá. Everybody that knows anything says father and mother now. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 10 May 3/3 The decline of 'poppa' and 'momma' in Ohio may convince some Western politicians that England is still exercising her insidious and baleful influence.

Poppe, obs. form of Poop *sb.*[1]

Poppeˈan, *a. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. Poppy + -an.] Of or pertaining to poppy-juice; soporific.

1790 Coleridge *Poems, Inside the Coach* 15 In drizzly rains poppean dews O'er the tired inmates of the Coach diffuse.

Popped corn: see Pop-corn.

Poppe-hoˈly, variant of Pope-holy *Obs.*

† **Poˈppel.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *popelle* (Neckham); cf. Popeler, Popard.] (?) The Spoon-bill.

[*a* 1300 Neckham *De Utensilibus* Gloss. (MS. Bruges) (Godefroy), *Alunbes*, popelles [no gloss in MS. Cotton in Wright.)] 1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xiv. 26 Dottrel, Snipe, Godwipe, Dicken, Poppel, Bitter, Hearon.

Poppell, obs. variant of Pebble.

Popper (pɒˈpəɹ), *sb.* [f. Pop *v.*[1] + -er [1].]

† **1.** A small dagger. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Reeve's T.* 11 A ioly poppere baar he in his pouche Ther was no man for peril dorste hym touche.

2. One who or a thing which makes a popping sound. **a.** A gun, fire-arm, or the like; *spec.* a pistol (*slang*). **b.** One who shoots; a gunner.

1750 Coventry *Pompey Litt.* I. xvi. (1785) 40/1, I..bought a second-hand pair of poppers. 1826 Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) I. 291 Spoiled by some rascally shore popper. 1834 Buckstone *Agnes de Vere* II. iii, I've an excellent case of poppers here that I always keep loaded. 1845 Browning *Englishm. in Italy* 280 On the plain will the trumpets join chorus And more poppers bang.

3. A utensil for popping 'corn' (maize). *U. S.*

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Popper*,..usually a wire basket, which is held over the fire and shaken or revolved so as to keep the corn moving.

4. One who moves promptly and quietly.

1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 194 The popper over to France and peep-taker at Holland.

† **Poˈpper,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. In 4 poper. [freq. of Pop *v.*[1]: see -er [5].] *intr.* To 'pop' to and fro; to 'pop about'; to trot.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 210 Ac now is religioun a ridere & a rennere aboute,..Poperip on a palfrey [*B.* x. 308 A priker on a palfray] to toune and to toune.

† **Poˈppering.** *Obs.* Forms: 6–7 poperin, 7 popring, -rin, popperin, poppring, 7–8 -ering. [f. Flem. *Poperinghe*, name of a town in W. Flanders.] A variety of pear. Also *poppering pear.*

[*a* 1529 Skelton *Sp. Parrot* 72 In Popering grew peres, whan Parrot was an eg.]

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 38 O Romeo that she were, O that she were An open, or thou a Poprin Peare. 1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* IV. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, No plums, nor no parsneps, no peares, nor no Popperins. 1611 Tourneur *Ath. Trag.* IV. i, The wanton Streame,..still seeming to play and dally under the Poppring so long that it has almost wash'd away the earth from the roote. 1750 E. Smith *Compl. Housewife* (ed. 14) 214 Take poppering pears, and thrust a picked stick into the head of them.

Poppet (pɒˈpĕt), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 popet, 5 poopet, 6 pop-, poppette, 6–8 poppit, 6– poppet. See also Puppet. [ME. *popet, -ette*, agreeing in sense with F. *poupette* doll, known in 1583, in Cotgr. 1611 'a little babie, puppet, bable'; a dim. of a form **poupe*, not found in this sense in French; but cf. It. *pupa*, also *puppa* 'a babie or puppet like a girle; used also for a lasse or wench' (Florio):—Romanic **puppa* for L. *pūpa* a girl, damsel, lass; also, a doll, puppet. Cf. Rhæt. *popa*, also late MHG. and Ger. *puppe*, MLG. *poppe*, Du. *pop*, all from Romanic, meaning 'doll'; also F. *poupée* doll (13th c. in Littré). The absence from French of *poupe* in a corresponding sense, and of *poupette* before the 16th c., makes the immediate source of the ME. word uncertain. *Poppet* was the earlier form of Puppet, with which in the earlier senses it agrees, but in sense 1 it is not contemptuous; it does not occur in several senses of *puppet*, but in sense 6 it is the usual form.]

1. A small or dainty person; in quot. 1699, a dwarf, pygmy; usually, in later use, a term of endearment for a pretty child, girl, or young woman; darling, pet. (Cf. Puppet *sb.* 1.) Now *dial.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Sir Thopas* Prol. 11 This were a popet in an Arm tenbrace For any womman smal and fair of face. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11635, I am a poopet, in sothnesse, Douhter to dame Ydelnesse. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* II. xxix. (1612) 404 As one of the three chapmen was employed .. abroad, so the pretty poppet his wife began to play the harlot at home. 1699 Garth *Dispensary* VI. (1700) 79 So when the Pigmies..Wage puny War against th'invading Cranes; The Poppets to their Bodkin Spears repair. 1728 *Free-thinker* No. 57 P 2, I have been always told that I was a very pretty Miss, and a sweet Poppet. 1830 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. IV. (1863) 253 The little girl as pretty a curly-headed, rosy-cheeked poppet, as ever was the pet and plaything of a large family. 1840 Mrs. F. Trollope *Widow Married* ii, So the darling poppet was not always prepared for company.

attrib. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 38 Maintein[e] your untruth with pretie popet demaundes. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* II. 339 Those Poppet Hours are wasted now, I'll sneak and cringe no more.

† **2.** A small figure in the form of a child or a human being; a doll; = Puppet *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxvi. 84 Childeren maken popetis for to pleyen with whyle they ben yonge. 1530 Palsgr. 256/2 Popet for chyldre to play with, *poupee.* 1531 Tindale *Exp.* I *John* v. (1537) 81 A chylde .. yf he crye .. men styll wyth a poppet. 1693 Dryden *Persius* ii. Notes (1697) 434 Those Baby-Toys were little Babies, or Poppets, as we call them. 1729 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 230 The little poppets are very well cut, but you must take more pains about the trees and shrubs, for no white paper must be left.

† **b.** A small human figure, used for purposes of sorcery or witchcraft. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 77 Of wax made him popetis, And made heom fyghte with battes [*Bodley MS.* popatrices..latrices]. 1693 C. Mather *Invis. World* vii. (1862) 35 When there can be found their [witches'] Pictures, Poppets, and other Hellish Compositions. *Ibid.* xii. 137 They did in holes of the said old Wall, find several Poppets, made up of Rags and Hogs-bristles, with headless Pins in them, the Points being outward. 1693 in I. Mather *Tryals New-Eng. Witches* (1862) 213 Without any Poppits of Wax or otherwise.

† **c.** Contemptuously applied to an image used in worship; hence, any material thing worshipped; an idol, a maumet. *Obs.*

1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* I. Pref. A vj b, Bablynges, brawlinges, processyons, popettes, and suche other mad masteries. 1553 Becon *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 88 He [Nicephorus] also destroied al her [Irene's] poppets, suffering no images to remayne in the temples. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 780 You .. will endeavour in succeeding space, Those houshold Poppits on our hearths to place. [1880 Webb *Goethe's Faust* III. vii. 164 And knead and mould your poppet well As many a foreign tale will tell.]

† **3.** A human figure with jointed limbs, which can be moved by means of strings or wires; *esp.* one of the figures in a puppet-show; a marionette: see Puppet *sb.* 3. Also *attrib. Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. (1622) 160 As if they had beene poppets, whose motion stood only vpon her pleasure. *a* 1610 Babington *Exp. Cath. Faith* v, On Easter day in the morning they raise vp a Poppet, and make him walk by wyers and strings. *a* 1694 Tillotson *Serm.* CXXV. (1743) VII. 216 These are mere engines and poppets in religion, all the motions we see without proceed from an artificial contrivance. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3823/4 No Permission shall be given for acting Plays, .. or exposing any Poppets, or other things that may disturb the Fair. *a* 1745 Swift (L.), He writ, 'A Merry Farce for Poppet', Taught actors how to squeak and hop it.

† **b.** A person whose actions, while ostensibly his own, are really actuated and controlled by another; = Puppet *sb.* 3 b. *Obs.*

1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. 78 b, Beholde here what popettes these lecherouse luskes made of their kynges. 1624 Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* vii. 62 Therefore in conclusion your texts of Scripture are not to any purpose at all to prove Peter's primacy, but you a poppet.

4. A cylindrical case for pins and needles, pencils, etc.; = Puppet *sb.* 6. Now *dial.*

1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 642 Driven into the 'pin-poppet', the old name by which these curious cases were best known. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., A smaller kind, called a pin-poppet, is used to hold pins and needles; a larger, called a pencil-poppet, is used by school-children for pens and pencils. 'I want a poppet to keep my needles in'.

5. One of the upright pieces in a turning-lathe, in which the centres are fixed on which the work turns; a lathe-head; = Puppet *sb.* 7.

1665 [see Poppet-head 1]. 1875 *Carpentry & Join.* 18 We have..designed the latter to take a circular saw as well, by adding the wooden poppets..with their centre screws. 1881 Young *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 526 From a strong frame called the lathe-bed rises a couple of uprights called heads or poppets.

b. An overhanging or projecting bracket supporting a pendulum or the like: cf. Cock *sb.*[1] 16.

1779 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1783) I. 240 The aforesaid pendulum suspended from a brass or metal poppet, called a cock.

c. = Puppet-valve.

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Poppet* (*Steam-engine*), a valve having an axial stem and reciprocating vertically on its seat. See *Puppet-valve.* *attrib.* 1902 Lieut. Dawson in *19th Cent.* Feb. 225 The inlet and exhaust valves are of the poppet type.

6. *Naut.* Applied to short pieces of wood, used for various purposes: *esp.* **a.** Stout vertical squared pieces placed beneath a ship's hull to support her in launching; **b.** Pieces on the gunwale of a boat, supporting the wash-strake, and forming the rowlocks; **c.** The bars with which the capstan is turned.

c 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 138 *Poppets*, those pieces (mostly fir) which are fixed perpendicularly between a ship's bottom and the bilgeways, at the fore and aftermost parts of a ship, to support her in launching. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v., Also, poppets on the gunwale of a boat support the wash-strake, and form the rowlocks. 1886 J. M. Caulfeild *Seamanship Notes* I Always see your poppets shipped and fenders in. 1890 W. J. Gordon *Foundry* 70 A series of struts or 'poppets' is raised on them [the sliding ways, to launch a ship].

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *poppet deity* (sense 2 c), *poppet spindle* (sense 5); **poppet-holes,** the holes in the drumhead of the capstan in which the bars are inserted; **poppet-leg** (*Australia*), one of the upright pieces of timber at the mouth of the shaft of a mine, supporting the piece from which the cage is suspended: cf. Poppet-head 2. (For *poppet-play, -show, -valve*, see Puppet-play, etc.)

a 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* iii. (1642) 184 To appease the fury, forsooth, of their angry *poppet Deities. 1886 J. M. Caulfeild *Seamanship Notes* 3 Parts of the Capstan. Drum head, .. *poppet holes. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 26 May 7/8 Wanted, 4 *Poppet Legs, bluegum, separate prices, 65 ft., 70 ft., 75 ft. long, 12 in. to 15 in. small end. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Apr. 8/1 The forests around will supply good straight timber, suitable for all mining purposes, inclusive of poppet legs. 1873 J. Richards *Woodworking Factories* 85 For drilling, have a stem pad,..to go into the *poppet spindle.

Hence † **Poˈppet** *v. trans.*, to treat as a poppet, to carry like an image or effigy. *Obs.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1810) V. ii. 15 These lines of Rowe have got into my head; and I shall repeat them very devoutly all the way the chairmen shall poppet me towards her by-and-by.

Poˈppet-head. Also *rarely* puppet-head.

1. In a lathe: = Poppet *sb.* 5, Puppet *sb.* 7.

1665 R. Hooke in *Phil. Trans.* I. 61 There must be two Poppetheads, into which the Mandril must pass. 1725 W. Halfpenny *Sound Building* 56 Two level Pieces on

each side the Puppet-Head. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Poppet-head (Turning)*, the part of a lathe which holds the back-center and can be fixed to any part of the bed. *Ibid., Puppet-head.* 1888 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 58 This will afford a bearing for the back poppet-head centre.

2. *Mining.* The frame at the top of a shaft, supporting the pulleys for the ropes used in hoisting; a pit-head frame: = HEAD-GEAR 3. (Often in *pl.* in same sense.)

1874 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* (1875) 129 Describe the construction of poppet heads, and give sketches in illustration of your answer. What will be the cost of poppet heads for whim drawing? 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. v, The wheels were spinning round in the poppet-heads as the mine slowly disgorged the men who had been working all night. 1900 *Daily News* 26 Nov. 2/1 Lofty poppet heads have been erected on this shaft, 115 ft. high, in order to raise the auriferous gravel in one operation to a considerable height above the surface of the ground.

Poppied (pǫ̈'pid), *a.* [f. POPPY *sb.* + -ED 2.]

1. Filled or adorned with poppies.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 255 Their fairest-blossom'd beans and popped corn. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 8/1 Cornfields and woodlands coming right to the edge of the poppied cliffs.

2. Having, or affected by, the sleep-inducing quality of the poppy; slumberous, drowsy, narcotic.

1805 T. HARRAL *Scenes of Life* III. 209 To admit the popied influence of Somnus. 1854 B. TAYLOR *Poems of Orient, Nubia*, A land of dreams and sleep, a poppied land! 1865 SWINBURNE *Ilicet* 6 The poppied sleep, the end of all.

Po'ppin. Now only *dial.* Also 5 popyn, 6 poppyn. [Late ME. *popyn*, ad. OF. *popine* (later *poupine*) a doll, a pretty little woman (15th c.), also *Popin* (proper name, 1390), *poupin* baby, fop (16th c. in Godef. *Compl.*); f. Romanic type **puppa*: see POPPET.] A doll, a PUPPET.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/1 Popyn, chylde of clowtys.., *pupa.* 1552 HULOET, Poppyn, *oscillum.* .. *Circulatorius*, perteynynge to poppyn players. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 134/14 A Poppin, *oscillum.* *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Poppin-shew*, a puppet-shew.

Popping (pǫ̈'piŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. POP *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of POP *v.*1 in various senses.

1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 53 Wee finde no mention of any sound made of the kissing of the hand..or ..any such popping or smacking. 1710 C. SHADWELL *Fair Quaker of Deal* II. ii. 23 Upon the first popping of the Question. 1844 THACKERAY *Wand. Fat Contrib.* v, The popping of the soda-water corks. 1887 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* (1888) 124 A peculiar popping and crackling began to be heard, as the flames attacked the abundant ivy.

Popping, *vbl. sb.*2: see after POP *v.*2

Popping (pǫ̈'piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. POP *v.*1 + -ING 2.] That pops, in various senses.

†1. Whose speech is mere popping; chattering.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 232 What, Syr, wolde ye make me a poppynge fole? *a* 1529 — *Replyc.* 39 Lyke pratynge poppyng dawes. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Miv, For a suretie this [fellow] is a very popyng foole.

2. Of firing: Desultory, occasional, dropping.

1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 139/1 The enemy annoyed us with some popping musquetry from behind trees. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 469 Many popping shots were fired at him by the rebel crew from the woods. 1836 F. SYKES *Scraps fr. Jrnl.* 149 The frequent popping noise of the sharpshooters.

†3. Of the sea: ? Tumbling, choppy. (Cf. POPPLE *v.* 1, *sb.*3 2, POPPLY.) *Obs.*

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 35 Being a high popping sea some of my shippes had like to haue bin foule of one another.

4. Of the eyes: Protuberant. (Cf. *pop-eyed* in POP-.)

a 1696 AUBREY *Brief Lives* (1898) I. 411 His eie full and popping, and not quick; a grey eie.

Po'pping-crease. *Cricket.* [f. POPPING *vbl. sb.*, prob. in sense 'striking' + CREASE *sb.*2 2.] A line drawn four feet in front of and parallel to the wicket, within which the batsman must stand.

Probably the crease orig. marked the line which the ball, when bowled or trundled along the ground (see BOWL *v.* 4), must have passed before it might be 'popped' or struck.

1774 *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 13 Ye popping crease..must be exactly 3 foot 10 inches from ye Wicket. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 28 In reaching in too, be especially careful that the right foot remain firmly in its place behind the popping-crease. *Ibid.* 35 The first player I remember to have broken through the old rule of standing firm at the popping crease for a length ball. 1897 RANJITSINHJI in *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 8/1 The rules state that a batsman is out unless his foot is within the popping-crease. A batsman often considers himself hardly treated when given out because his foot is on the line.

Poppish (pǫ̈'piʃ), *a.* [f. POP *sb.*1 5 + -ISH 1.] Of the nature of pop; effervescent.

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* (1882) III. xi. 164 The art of discharging a cork full bang, from a bottle of poppish fluid, without loss.

†**Po'ppism.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 popisme. [a. F. *popisme*, 'the popping, or smacking sound wherewith Riders incourage, or cherish, their horses' (Cotgr.); ad. L. *poppysma, -ysmus*, a. Gr. *πόππυσμα, ποππυσμός*, sbs. f. *ποππύζειν* to smack the lips, make a clucking sound.] The making of a smacking sound with the lips.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxiii. 104 The prancing flourishes, and smacking popisme [F. *popismes*], for the better cherishing of the horse, commonly used in riding. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Adoration*, The method of adoring *lightening*, .. was by poppisms, or gentle clappings of the hands.

Poppite: see POP *sb.*4

Popple (pǫ̈'p'l), *sb.*1 Now *dial.* and *U.S.* Forms: (1 popul), 4-6 popil, 5 -ille, -ul(e, 5-6 -ill, -yl(l, 6-8 pople, (8 popel), 7- popple, (9 *dial.* poople). [Late OE. *popul-*, ME. *popul*, ad. L. *pōpulus* poplar; with ME. *popil*, 16th c. *pople*, cf. obs. and dial. F. *pouple*, F. *peuple.* So MHG. *papel, popel*, Du., LG., Ger. *pappel*, Sw., Dan. *poppel*, all ultimately from L.] = POPLAR.

[? *a* 1000 (MS. 12th c.) in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 219 Of ðam ellene to populfinize; of populfinize to Lambhyrste.] 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 57 The oliue, the popil, & the oszer tree. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 110 The Cypresse, Pople, and Oake trees, grow in many places. 1699 *Providence* (R. I.) *Rec.* (1893) IV. 183 A small bush being an Aspe or Pople. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Popple*, a poplar tree. 1840 SPURDENS *Suppl. Voc. E. Anglia, Poople*, the poplar tree. 1879 A. S. PACKARD in *Hist. Bowdoin College* (1882) 91 Popple, or bass, or white maple.

b. *esp.* in *attrib.* use, as *popple tree*, etc.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 37 Jacob takynge grēen popil ȝerdis [1388 ȝerdis of popeleris], and of almanders, and of planes. 1431-2 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 446 Pro popill berd pro coopertoriis studiorum xvs. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/1 Popul tre, idem quod poplere. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Popyll tree, *peuplier.* 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 15 The Pople buddes must bee broused. 1740 *Dudley Rec. Mass.* (1893) I. 86 From thense..to a popel stump with a heap of stones about it. 1789 *Ibid.* (1894) II. 318 Thence by Browns Line on Whitfords Land to a Popple Tree.

Popple (pǫ̈'p'l), *sb.*2 Now *local.* Forms: 5 popil, -yl, -ylle, -ulle, 6 pople, *Sc.* poppill, 7- popple, (9 *dial.* poppel, *Sc.* papple). [Late ME.; origin and etymology uncertain.

A mediæval Lat.-Gr. Vocabulary quoted by Du Cange has '*populia, λύχνις*'; but although cockle is now placed in the genus *Lychnis*, it is very doubtful whether this is connected with *popple. Cockle* (*cocle, kokkel*) and *popple* (*poppel*) have the appearance of parallel forms with exchange of consonants. On the other hand, this plant appears to have been sometimes included under the name *popy* (see POPPY 2), and conversely the name *popple* is now in some districts (esp. Cumberland and Yorkshire) applied to the corn poppy; so that the names may possibly have been originally related, *popil* being a derivative either of *popi, popy*, or of one of the Romanic representatives of *papaver*: see POPPY. But further evidence is wanted.]

1. = COCKLE *sb.*1 1, i. e. the wild plant *Lychnis* (or *Agrostemma*) *Githago*, a well-known field weed.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 664/30 *Hoc lollium*, populle. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/2 Popylle, *gith* indeclinabile, *lollium, nigella.* 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Githago* siue *Nigellastrum*, ..herba illa procera, que in tritico flauescente existit .. uulgus appellat Coccle aut pople. 1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 304 It was difficult to find a sample-bag of wheat without papple. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Popple*, the common Corn Cockle. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Popple*, corn-cockle..the seeds of which are difficult to separate from or 'dress out' of the grain when thrashed.

b. Popple or cockle, being erroneously confounded by early herbalists with *Nigella*, and so with the *lolium* of Pliny and *zizania* of the Vulgate, was taken metaphorically for the darnel or 'tares' sown by the Evil One among the wheat: see COCKLE *sb.*1 2, DARNEL.

a 1532 *Will. of Thorpe's Exam.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 167/1 Thy deceit whiche thou hast learned of them that trauell to sowe popill among the wheate. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 229 Thus weidit is the poppill fra the corne. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* 72 It sprang not up till..that malicious one did sow popple among the good Wheat of Christ's field.

2. Extended locally to other field weeds and their seeds; esp. the Corn Poppy, and Charlock.

1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Popple*, the wild red poppy of the corn fields. (So in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Cumberland and Yorksh.) 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.* Pref. 19 *Brassica*, the seeds of the tribe are called Popple. 1886 BRITTEN & H. *Plant-n., Popple*..(2) *Sinapis arvensis*, Cumb.

Popple (pǫ̈'p'l), *sb.*3 Also 4 popple. [Goes with POPPLE *v.*]

†1. A bubble such as rises and breaks in boiling water. *Obs.*

a 1350 *St. Nicholas* 268 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 14 Hale and faire hir child scho fand, With þe water poples him playand. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Popple, suche as ryseth whan water or any lycour set[h]eth fast, *bouillon.*

†b. ? A swelling or bulge like, or caused by, a bubble. *Obs.*

1635 in *Earl of Stirling's Reg. Roy. Lett.* (1885) II. 819 He will mak a scheit of lead..more solide, less porie, and consequentlie more voyd of all cracks, holls, or popill.

2. An act or condition of 'poppling'; a rolling or tossing of water in short tumultuous waves; a strong ripple.

1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 80 If there is a bit of a popple at all, a big ship will lay rolling about in the sea just like a half-tide rock. 1881 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Free Lance* I. v. 252 As we neared the bay the popple grew ugly enough to demand the closest vigilance. 1897 *Daily News* 27 Aug. 3/1 There was a very nasty roll and popple on the sea.

b. The agitation on the surface of a boiling liquid; the sound of this.

1889 *Spectator* 7 Dec. 805/1 Cowper [after he heard] that popple from the urn which showed it to be..'on the boil'.

Popple (pǫ̈'p'l), *v.* Also 4-6 (6- *Sc.*) pople, 5-6 *Sc.* popule, 6 poppell. [Has the form of a frequentative of POP *v.*1, but in sense 1 prob. an independent onomatopœic formation, expressive of sound and action. Cf. MDu., Du. *popelen* to murmur, babble; to quiver, throb; med.L. *populāre* (Franck), *papellāre* (Kilian) to murmur; these refer mainly to the sound, while the Eng. word refers mainly to the action.]

1. *intr.* To roll or tumble about, to flow in a tumbling interrupted manner, as water flowing from a spring or over a pebbly surface, or boiling, or agitated by a strong wind; to bubble up, boil up; to ripple; to toss to and fro in short waves.

13.., *a* 1400-50 [see *poppling* below]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 69 Quhill brane, and ene, and blude all popillit out. *Ibid.* vi. v. 5 Popland and bullerand furth on athir hand. 1530 PALSGR. 662/2, I poppell up, as water dothe, or any other lycoure whan it boyleth faste on the fyre,.. *je bouillonne.* 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 103 His Brains came poppling out like water. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii. Prol., A little fount, Where water poplin springs. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, The bits o' bonny waves that are poppling and plashing against the rocks. 1875 R. F. BURTON *Gorilla L.* II. 90 Small trembling waves poppled and frothed in mid-stream, where the fresh water met wind and tide. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 10 The sound of waters dropping, poppling, splashing, trickling.

b. To move to and fro, or up and down, when floating or immersed in rippling or boiling water.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* xi. Q viij b, Rindles of Christalline watre. In whose botomes the grauelle, popleth like glisteryng golde. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Popple, v.* to tumble about with a quick motion, as dumplins, .. when the pot boils briskly. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* LXVI. 562 We left them poppling up and down, like a cork, in the broken water. 1881 PHILLIPPS-WOLLEY *Sport in Crimea* 322 The birds are rattling and poppling down in the dark little forest pools.

2. [app. freq. of POP *v.*1 2.] To make a continuous popping or firing.

1898 G. W. STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 81 The Maxims poppled away above them.

Hence **Po'ppling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 319 þe pure poplande hourle playes on my heued. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 1154 The wawes of þe wilde see vpon þe walle betyn, The pure popu-land perle passyd it vmbe. *a* 1801 R. GALL *Poems* (1819) 9 Upon the ear The popling Leven wimples clear. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 6 The calm guggling and poppling of the waves as they were parted by the piles. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xx. (1858) 440 A peculiar poppling noise, as if a thunder-shower was beating the surface with its multitudinous drops, rose around our boat. 1883 J. FERGUSON in *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 248 The mother stirred the poppling porridge on the fire.

†**Po'ppling.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. POPPLE *sb.*1 + -ING 3.] = POPLAR.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 136/26 A Poppling, *populus.*

Popply (pǫ̈'pli), *a.* [f. POPPLE *sb.*3 + -Y.] In a 'poppling' condition; broken, choppy, ripply.

1889 P. H. EMERSON *Eng. Idylls* 113 The popply water all streaked with foam. 1895 *Times* 15 Mar. 8/2 As they passed the Duke's Head hostelry and Alexander's boatyard some popply water caused them to splash a little. 1904 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 12/2 Off the wall at Harrod's .. the 'popply' water somewhat discomposed the Oxford crew.

Poppy (pǫ̈'pi), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 popaeg, popæg, popeg, popei, popig, 1-4 popi, 4-7 popy, 5-6 popie, 6 poppi, 6-7 poppie, 5- poppy. *β.* 1 papoeg, papig, 5 papy, 6 pappy. [Early OE. *popæg, papoeg*, app. repr. an earlier WGer. **papāg*, **popāg*, altered from **papāv-, -au*, **popāv, -au*, ad. a popular L. **papāv-um*, **papau-um* (whence OF. **pavau, pavo*), for L. *papāver*, neut. poppy. The alteration may have taken place, after the Teutonic change of stress, by assimilation to the suffix *-ag.* As with that suffix, the ending was subseq. weakened to *-ig* (cf. *ǽadig, monig* from *audag, monag*), giving the typical WSax. *popiz*, whence ME. *popi, popy*, mod. *poppy*, with doubled consonant expressing short vowel; cf. *peni, peny, penny.* (See Note below.)]

I. 1. A plant (or flower) of the genus *Papaver*, comprising herbs of temperate and subtropical regions, having milky juice with narcotic properties, showy flowers with petals (usually four in number) of delicate texture and various colours (often becoming 'double' in cultivation), and roundish capsules containing numerous small round seeds.

a 700 *Epinal Gloss.* (O.E.T.) 824 *Papaver*, popaeg. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 1516 *Papaver*, popei. *Ibid.* 1621 *Popaver*, popæg. *a* 800 *Erfurt Gloss.* 824 *Papaver*, papoeg. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Vocab.* in Wr.-Wülcker 134/33 *Papauer*, popig. *c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/30 *Astula regia, i.*, popi. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 102 Popi, which berth the sed of slep. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 787/11 *Hoc papauer*, a papy. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxxi. 431 There be three sortes of Poppie..the first kind is white, and of the garden, the two other are blacke and wilde. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxviii. 296 Double blacke Poppie. Double white Poppie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 115 Sleepy Poppies harmful Harvests yield. 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 72 The blushing poppy with a crimson hue. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 94 Many other substances besides the juice of the poppy possess Narcotic properties. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* 2 Poppies were sacred to Ceres.

b. Allusively.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* v. Wks. 1851 III. 119 He little dreamt then that the weeding-hook of reformation would after two ages pluck up his glorious poppy from insulting over the good corne. *a* 1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* II. xxiv.

(1704) 159 He..would certainly strike off the heads of the most eminent remaining Poppys. [Cf. Poppy-head 1, 1650.]

2. Rarely applied in ME. and *dial.* to the Corn-cockle; also (with qualification) to the Corn Blue-bottle (see *blue poppy* in 3); and [app. by association with Pop *v.*[1], Pop-] to plants whose corolla or calyx is inflated and 'popped' by children in sport, e.g. the Bladder Campion and Foxglove (see *frothy poppy, spatling poppy, green poppy*, in 3). (Britten & Holland *Eng. Plant-n.*)

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 200 Cokkyl or popy or wyldsanogre, *lolium.* *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/1 Popy, weed, *papaver, codia,..nigella,..git.* 1886 Britten & Holland *Eng. Plant-names*, Poppy..3 *Lychnis Githago* (W. Cheshire).

3. With qualifying words, applied to various species of *Papaver* or other genera of *Papaveraceæ* (rarely to plants of other orders: cf. 2).

Black Poppy, a variety of the *Opium Poppy*, having purple flowers and dark seeds (cf. *White Poppy*); **Blue Poppy**, (*a*) the Corn Bluebottle, *Centaurea Cyanus* (? obs.); (*b*) a blue-flowered species of *Meconopsis* (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **Californian Poppy**, '*Platystemon californicus* and the genus *Eschscholtzia*' (Ibid.); **Corn, Field Poppy**, the common wild poppy of cornfields, *Papaver Rhœas*, with bright scarlet flowers, or any other species growing in corn, as *P. dubium*; **Frothy Poppy**, the Bladder Campion, *Silene inflata*: see Frothy 1 b; **Garden Poppy**, any species of *Papaver* cultivated in gardens, *esp.* the *Opium Poppy*; **Green Poppy**, local name of the Foxglove, *Digitalis purpurea*; **Horn-Poppy, Horned Poppy**, any plant of the genus *Glaucium*, distinguished by its long horn-like capsules; esp. *G. luteum*, a sea-shore plant with yellow flowers; **Iceland Poppy**, a variety of *Papaver nudicaule*: see Iceland; **Long-headed Poppy**, *P. dubium*, a British species with long-shaped capsules; **Mexican Poppy**, *Argemone mexicana* or other species; **Opium Poppy**, *Papaver somniferum*, a species with white or light purple flowers; from the juice of the unripe capsules opium is obtained; **Oriental Poppy**, *P. orientale*, a common garden species, with very large deep red flowers; **Prickly Poppy**, *Argemone mexicana*, a native of Mexico, now widely distributed in waste ground, with yellow or white flowers and prickly leaves and capsules; **Red Poppy**, the field poppy, *Papaver Rhœas*, or other species with red flowers; **Sea** or **Seaside Poppy**, the common horned poppy, *Glaucium luteum*; **Spatling Poppy** = *Frothy Poppy*; **Spring Poppy** = *Prickly Poppy*; **Tree Poppy**, a Californian poppy, *Dendromecon rigidum*, with yellow flowers, remarkable for its shrubby growth; **Welsh** or **Cambrian Poppy**, *Meconopsis cambrica*: see quot.; **White Poppy**, a variety of the *Opium Poppy*, having white flowers and seeds (cf. *Black Poppy*); **Wild Poppy**, (*a*) the field poppy, *Papaver Rhœas*, or other wild species; †(*b*) *Bastard Wild Poppy* = *Prickly Poppy*; **Yellow Poppy**, any species of *Papaver* or allied genus with yellow flowers; *spec.* the common Horned Poppy.

14.. *Synon. Herbarum* (MS. Harl. 3388 lf. 229), Anglice *bleu popi vel carlɔ vel langwort..crescit inter frumentum et alia blada et dicitur iacintus quia assimilatur cuidam lapidi qui sic vocatur. 1671 Salmon *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 416 *Corn-Poppy, it is Narcotick, allays Pain, is used in Feavers. 1865 Gosse *Land & Sea* (1874) 115 Except the corn poppy, this [the pimpernel] is said to be the only scarlet flower we have. 1863 Hogg & Johnson *Wild Fl. Gt. Brit.* II. Pl. 147 *Papaver Rhœas.* *Field Poppy. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 842 The Field Poppy, *P[apaver] Rhœas*, one of the most brilliant of our wild plants. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 58 *Garden Poppy..is thought best to grow where olde stalkes haue been burnt. 1699 Evelyn *Acctaria* 74 To these add the Viola Matronalis,..nay the *Green Popy, by most accounted among the deadly Poysons. 1548 Turner *Names of Herbs, Papauer corniculatum* .. is called .. in englishe *horned poppy or yealow poppy. 1731–3 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Glaucium*, Horned Poppy, .. having Husks resembling Horns. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 215 The horned poppies' blossoms shone Upon a shingle-bank. 1863 *Sowerby's Eng. Bot.* I. 84 *Papaver somniferum* Sleepbearing Poppy, Garden Poppy, White Poppy, *Opium Poppy. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Poppy, *Prickly, *Argemone.* *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 134 Papauer rubeum..gall. rougerole, ang°. *redpopy. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* III. lxxxii. 433 There be two sortes of red Poppie, or Cornerose, the great and the small. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 738 The Red Poppy is found in corn-fields and on roadsides throughout Europe. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. lxviii. § 4. 295 Called..in English *sea Poppie, and horned Poppie. *Ibid.* ccxiv. 551 *Behen album*,..of some .. called *Ocymastrum*, and *Papauer spumeum*, which I have Englished *Spatling Poppie...In English Spatling Poppie, frothe Poppie, and white Ben. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Poppy, Spatling, *Cucubalus.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 392 *Dendromecon*, literally *Tree Poppy, is a most appropriate name, the plant having all the aspect and character of the poppy tribe, combined with a woody stem and branches. *Ibid.* 727 *M[econopsis] cambrica*, the *Welsh Poppy, a native of Wales, Devonshire, North Britain, and the North of Ireland. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 156 Popig..ðat grecas moecorias & romane papauer album nemnað & engle *hwit popiz hatað. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 134 Papauer album..cuius semen coconidium appellatur ang°. whatpopy. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 739 White Poppy is now cultivated in the plains of India. *c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/11 *Alimonis, i.* *wilde popi. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 212 Wylde popy, *papauard.* 1548 *Yealow poppy [see *horned poppy* above]. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxi. 200 White as parthenice, beyond Yellow poppy to gaze on.

4. The plant or its extract used in pharmacy.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 330 Not Poppy, nor Mandragora, Nor all the drowsie Syrrups of the world Shall euer medicine thee to that sweete sleepe. 1621–3 Middleton & Rowley *Changeling* I. i. 150 A little poppy, sir, were good to cause you sleep. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 41 He prepared the extract from a..quantity of poppy by decoction.

5. *fig.* or in allusive use, with reference to the narcotic or sleep-inducing qualities of the plant.

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. v. 248 The Cramp-Fish, knowing that she harboureth .. A secret Poppy, and a sensless Winter, Be-numming all that dare too-neer her venter. 1637 Cartwright *Royall Slave* III. iv, E're night shed Poppy twice o're th' weary'd world. *a* 1790 Warton *Ode to Sleep* i, On this my pensive pillow, gentle sleep! Descend,..And place thy crown of poppies on my breast. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Uses Gt. Men*, Nature..wherever she mars her creature .. lays her poppies plentifully on the bruise.

6. The bright scarlet colour of the common field poppy or other species.

1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 523 The nearer you approach to this.., the more lively and gay are the colours. You will have in succession the poppy, the orange, the yellow, the lemon, the sulphur, the white.

II. 7. = Poppy-head 2. [It is uncertain whether this is the same word, but the forms are the same. Conjectures of its identity with F. *poupée*, 'babie, puppet, or bable' (Cotgr.), or derivation from Eng. *poppet, puppet*, appear to have no foundation.]

1429 *RCc. St. Mary at Hill* 71 Also payd to Serle for makyng of þe newe porche..x marces. Also payd for a papye ..ij s. 1512–13 *Ibid.* 282 Paid for makyng of iij Mennys pewys, for the popeys & other stuff xx s. 1844 *Ecclesiologist* III. 153 In the Nave the seats terminate in square standards, but under the tower in poppies. 1875 Parker *Gloss. Archit., Poppie, Poppy, Poppy-head*, .. an elevated ornament often used on the tops of the upright ends, or elbows, which terminate seats, &c., in churches.

III. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poppy-bed*, †*-boll* (Boll *sb.*[1] 3), *family, -flower, -garland, -juice, -leaf, -plain, rain* (cf. 5), *-syrup, -wreath*; instrumental, as *poppy-bordered, -crowned, -haunted, -sprinkled* adjs.; similative, as *poppy-crimson, -pink, -red* adjs. and sbs.; **poppy anemone**, *A. coronaria*, with poppy-like flowers of various colours; **poppy-bee**, a kind of upholsterer-bee (*Anthocopa papaveris*) which lines its cells with the petals of poppies; **poppy-colour**, a bright scarlet; so **poppy-coloured** *a.*; †**poppy-grain**, a seed of the poppy; formerly used as a minute measure of length (= Poppy-seed 2; cf. Barley-corn 3); **poppy-mallow**, the N. American malvaceous genus *Callirhoe*, having poppy-like flowers; **poppy-oil**, an oil obtained from the seeds of the opium poppy; also, a similar oil from the seeds of other species; **poppy tea**, an imaginary liquor made by infusion of poppies; **poppy-tree** = *tree poppy* (see 3) (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884); **poppy-water**, a soporific drink made from poppies (also *fig.*). Also Poppy-head, -seed, -wort.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 65 The *Poppy Anemone, *A. coronaria*, ..has..large flowers,..very variable in colour. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 1/1 The mass of vivid colour in the costumes reminded one of a *poppybed. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 67/2 This Seed-Pod [of the Poppy] by all Florists is termed a *Poppy Bolle. 1825 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 542 The *poppy, cherry, rose, and flesh colours, are given to silk by means of carthamus. 1889 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 3/1 An accordion skirt of *poppy-coloured silk. 1898 G. B. Shaw *Plays* II. *You never can tell* 308 The Columbine's petticoats are .. golden orange and *poppy crimson. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* May 671 The *poppy-crowned king of sleep. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1108 In the plants of the *poppy family. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 196 Sometimes white Lillies did their Leaves afford, With wholsom *Poppy-flow'rs to mend his homely Board. 1717 Fenton *Florelio* Poems 27 Nor *Poppy-Garlands give the Nymph Repose. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 524 The measures of distances are thus; four *poppy-graines make one barley-corn. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxvi, The same who made wine made *poppy-juice. 1700 Dryden *Amaryllis* 64, I try'd th'infallible prophetick way A *poppy-leaf upon my palm to lay. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 735 To give a drying quality to *Poppy Oil. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 206 Poppy oil .. has the reputation of keeping its colour better than linseed. 1896 *Daily News* 18 July 6/3 Deep *poppy-pink geraniums. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Drama of Exile* 467 We call your thoughts home .. To the *poppy-plains. 1708 Ozell tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 35 Morpheus pours continual *Poppy Rain. 1831 Brewster *Optics* xxiv. 286 A very brilliant *poppy-red. *a* 1845 Hood *Serenade* iv, Is no *poppy-syrup nigh? 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 118 ¶ 4 Several warm Liquors made of the Waters of Lethe, with very good *Poppy Tea. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 202 And Sleep drop't *Poppy-water on her Brows. 1765 Goldsm. *New Simile* 36 No poppy-water half so good; For let folks only get a touch, Its soporific virtue's such,..That quickly they begin to snore.

[*Note.* Beside It. *papavero*, Pr. *papaver, paver*, Walloon *pavoir*, the Latin *papaver* has come down in various anomalous forms; viz. OF. *pavo* (12th c.), now *pavot*, in Berry dial. *papou*:—L. type **papāu-um, *papāv-um*; Pg. *papoula*, Sardinian *pabaule*:—L. **papaula, *papāvula.* OF. had also *popelure*, Milanese *pópola* (Lodi *pómpola*), Pavia *popolón*, Como *popolana* poppy, pointing to a L. type **papula, *popula.*]

Po·ppy, *a. colloq. rare.* [f. Pop *sb.*[1] or *v.*[1] + -y.] Characterized by popping or exploding.

1894 Kipling *Jungle Bk.* 195 Watch the little poppy shells drop down into the tree tops.

Poppych, obs. form of Popish.

Po·ppycock. *U. S. slang.* Nonsense, 'rubbish', 'humbug'.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 July 4/1 All what you see about me bein' drunk was poppycock. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 24 Nov. 386/1 Their wails were all what the boys call 'poppycock'.

Po·ppy-head.

1. The capsule of the poppy. Also *attrib.*

1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 112/2 The seuerall places wherein the seedes doe lye, as may be seene in poppie heades. 1650 R. Stapylton *Strada's Low C. Warres* I. 14 He [Death] cropt the heads of Nations, as Tarquin struk off the Poppy-heads. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed 4) II. Poppy-head fomentations. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 435 Made with decoction of boiling poppy-heads.

2. *Arch.* An ornamental finial, often richly carved, at the top of the end of a seat in a church. Also *attrib.* [See remark in Poppy *sb.* 7.]

1839 *Hints Eccl. Antiq.* (Camb. Camden Soc.) 8 St. Andrew's, Histon..viii. Ornaments, &c...8. Poppy Heads. 1841 C. Anderson *Anc. Models* 129 These seats have the ends usually ornamented, sometimes with raised ends, which are called poppy-heads. 1875 J. C. Cox *Ch. Derbysh.* I. 202 The poppy-head ends .. carved in the fleur-de-lis pattern. 1904 T. H. Longfield in *Athenæum* 9 Apr. 473/3 Many remains..of poppyhead bench-ends and benches.

Po·ppy-seed.

1. The, or a, seed of the poppy.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 579 Now popy seed in grounde is good to throwe. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 149 A cold oil is drawn from White-Poppy Seeds. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 315 Swellings, varying in size from a poppy-seed to a pea.

b. *fig.* (Cf. Poppy *sb.* 5.)

1640 *Erotomania* 40 The eyes of his soule are brought asleep by the Poppy seed of Inconsideration and Carelesnesse.

†**2.** Formerly used as a measure of length, varying from $\frac{1}{72}$ to $\frac{1}{20}$ of an inch. (Cf. Barley-corn 3.)

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. iii. 136/2 Barly Corn, is the length of 4 Poppy seeds, and 3 Corns make an Inch. 1729 Shelvocke *Artillery* I. 76 The Barley-corn (the fourth part of an Inch) is subdivided into 5 Poppy Seeds.

3. *Comb.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 832 A peculiar small poppy-seed-like growth.

Poppywort (pǫ·piwɜt). [f. Poppy *sb.* + Wort.] **a.** Lindley's name for plants of the N. O. *Papaveraceæ*. **b.** *Satin Poppywort*, a name for *Meconopsis Wallichiana* (Miller *Plant-names*).

1846 Lindley *Veg. Kingd.* 430 *Papaveraceæ*...Poppy-worts. *Ibid.*, Bernhardi..denies that true Poppyworts are universally lactescent plants. 1882 *Garden* 15 July 39/1 This Poppywort may well be reckoned amongst the best of the hardy plants introduced of late years.

Pops, a name in Barbados of *Physalis angulata*: see Pop *sb.*[1] 4.

Po·p-shop. *slang.* [f. Pop *v.*[1] 7 + Shop *sb.*] A pawnbroker's shop. Also *attrib.*

1772 *Town & C. Mag.* 73 The Pop-shop was ready for pledges, the gin-shop was ready for the money lent upon them. 1846 Lytton *Lucretia* II. xvi, I might have been wicked enough to let it go with the rest to the pop-shop. 1898 Hume *Hagar* iii. 54 Rosa .. might pawn it,.. so I sent a printed slip to all the pop-shops in London.

Po·psy. [app. a kind of nursery extension of Pop *sb.*[2], with dim. ending: cf. *Bet, Betsy, Nan, Nancy, Topsy.*] An endearing appellation for a girl. Also *popsy-wopsy.*

1862 *Pippins & Pies* 9 This I'm bound to say: that four sweeter lovelier popsies, never blessed [etc.]. 1887 E. J. Goodman *Too Curious* ix, Now go along like a good little popsy-wopsy, and don't cry to sit up. 1896 *Idler* Mar. 278/1 All right, my popsy-wopsy.

†**Po·pulable,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *populābilis*, f. *populārī*: see Populate *v.*[1] and -able.]

1623 Cockeram, *Populable*, which may be destroyed.

Populace (pǫ·piŭlės). [a. F. *populace* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. It. *popolaccio, popolazzo* 'the grosse, base, vile, common people, rifraffe people' (Florio), f. *popolo* (:—L. *populus* People) + pejorative suffix *-accio, -azzo* :—L. *-āceus.*] The mass of the people of a community, as distinguished from the titled, wealthy, or educated classes; the common people; *invidiously*, the mob, the rabble.

1572 Sir T. Smith *in* Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 378 The unruly malice and sworde of the raging populace. 1601 Daniel *Civ. Wars* (1609) VII. lxxvii, To accommodate, And calme the Peeres, and please the Populasse. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1688) III. 415 'Tis the Populass only, who see no further than the Rind of Things. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 141, I spit upon all the others. God bless the Populace. 1785 Burns *Cotter's Sat. Night* xx, A virtuous populace may rise the while, And stand a wall of fire around their much-lov'd Isle. 1792 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 191 Thank God, we have no populace in America. 1821 Byron *Two Foscari* v. i. 259 The people!—There's no people, you well know it,..There is a populace, perhaps, whose looks May shame you. 1892 Ld. Lytton *King Poppy* viii, And, being but the Populace, presumes To call itself the People.

b. *poet.* A multitude, crowd, throng. *rare.*

1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiii. 65 With a throng about the portal, with a populace in the gate.

c. *fig.*

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* III. 124 Queen lilies! and ye painted populace! Who dwell in fields, and lead ambrosial lives. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* xx, The turtle-dove, the timid fawn, the soft-eyed gazelle, and all the rural populace who joy in the sequestered haunts of nature.

†**Populacy** (pǫ·piŭlăsi). *Obs.* [irreg. formation from Populace: see -acy.]

1. The order of the common people; = Populace.

1613 T. Godwin *Rom. Antiq.* (1625) 29 The third order, or degree in the Romane Common-wealth was *Populus*, the populacy, or Commone. 1644 [H. Parker] *Jus Pop.* 59 Disputes between the optimacy and populacy. 1700 Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 356 In Peace, Nobility is dis-

tinguisht from Populacy. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. App. xx. 59 To obtain the favour of the populacy by feigned pretences of bloud. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 305 The only predilection .. shows itself in his contempt of mobs and the populacy.

fig. 1640 Gauden *Love of Truth* (1641) 11 The populacy of affections or passions are regular, and subject to the rule, and soveraignety of reason. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* vi. P 7 Or..let in the whole populacy of sin upon the soul.

2. = Populousness.

1613–18 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 8 The vicinage, and innumerous populacie of that Nation [the Saxons]. 1679 Penn *Addr. Prot.* II. vi. 197 Increasing the Trade, Populacy and Wealth of this Kingdom. 1725 *Ways Inhab. Delaware to become Rich* 2 Means in pursuit whereof we may..become rich..'Tis not Populacy only.

3. Popular government, or a popular government; also, a state so governed; democracy.

1632 H. Seile *Augustus* 22 They had naturally, and almost insensibly falne from a Monarchy, to a Populacy, or Democracy. 1679 Puller *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 193 Such democracy and populacy as is held in the Independent and Presbyterian party.

4. = Popularity 4. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1687 in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 189 Men, who are led by populacy, which is the Fool's Paradise, but the wise men's scorn.

Popular (pɒ·pi·ŭlăr), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 5–7 **populer**, 6 *Sc.* **-air**, 7 **-are**, 6– **popular**. [ad. L. *populār-is* adj. belonging to the people, f. *popul-us* people. So OF. *populeir, -ere*, F. *populaire*.]

1. *Law.* Affecting, concerning, or open to all or any of the people; public; esp. in *action popular*.

1490 *Act* 4 *Hen. VII*, c. 20 Accions populers in divers cases have ben ordeigned by many gode actes and statutes. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law, Accion populer*, is an accion which is geeuen vppon the breach of some Penal statute, which..euery man that wyll may sue for him selfe, and the Queene, by information, or otherwise,..& because that this action is not geeuen to one man specyally but generally to the Queenes people that wyll sue, it is called an actyon populer. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. ii. (1588) 132, I have knowen it doubted, whether the Suertie of the good abearing (commanded upon complaint) may be released by any speciall person or no: because it seemeth more popular, then the Suertie of the Peace. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxix. 437. 1872 *Wharton's Law Lex.* (ed. 5), *Popular action*, brought by one of the public to recover some penalty given by statute to any one who chooses to sue for it.

2. Of, pertaining to, or consisting of the common people, or the people as a whole as distinguished from any particular class; constituted or carried on by the people.

1548 W. Thomas in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. App. S. 66 What popular estate can be read, that hath thirty years together eschewed sects, sedition and commotions? 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 230 Timoleon..did by this means stablish a free State and Popular Government. 1671 Milton *Samson* 16 Retiring from the popular noise, I seek This unfrequented place to find some ease. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. liv. 170 Popular tumults were not disagreeable to them. 1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) II. vii. § 1. 269 The Legislative Assembly affords the first example,.. in modern Europe, of the effects of a completely popular election. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. lxix. 541 From 1824 till 1840, nominations irregularly made by State legislatures and popular meetings.

†**b.** Of lowly birth; belonging to the commonalty or populace; plebeian. *Obs.*

c 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 42 More ..than when it is granted to any popular or common person. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 118 Him they sent being a popular man. 1640 T. Pierse in *Horti Carol., Rosa altera*, A drop of Royall blood is dearer farre Than a whole Ocean of the popular. 1691 Norris *Pract. Disc.* 87 This is .. the Measure that all Popular Spirits do go by, and the Wisest can hardly refrain it.

†**c.** Having characteristics attributed to the common people; low, vulgar, plebeian. *Obs.*

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. i, Such as flourish in the spring of the fashion, and are least popular. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1632) 624 It is a custome of popular or base men to call for minstrels or singers at feasts. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 22 Had the House been freed of half a dozen of popular and discontented persons.

†**3.** Full of people; populous; crowded. *Obs.*

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 13 These two prouinces, which are two of the mightiest, and most popularst of people. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 184 How doth the popular City sit solitary? *a* 1699 Kirkton *Ch. Hist.* (1817) 215 The most popular part of Scotland. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 47 Oppression and Usury, and all the Evils that attend this popular World.

4. Intended for or suited to ordinary people.

a. Adapted to the understanding or taste of ordinary people, 'understanded of the people'.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 11 In philosophical disputations to give popular and plausible theams. 1759 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 188 All he said was in popular language. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 109 Every question..was debated, sometimes in a popular style which boys and women could comprehend. 1872 (Aug.) *Longmans' List Works* 8 Miscellaneous Works and Popular Metaphysics. *Ibid.* 12 Natural History and Popular Science.

b. Adapted to the means of ordinary people; low, moderate (in price).

1859 *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 July 11/2 The Monday Popular Concert..was the last of the series for this season. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 751/2 After the foundation of the Popular Concerts in 1859..he [Joachim] played there regularly in the latter part of the season. *Mod.* All seats at popular prices. A popular concert will be given.

†**5. a.** Studious of, or designed to gain, the favour of the common people. **b.** Attached or devoted to the cause of the people (as opposed to the nobility, etc.). *Obs.*

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 874 Diuers were of opinion, that he [Caius Gracchus] was more popular, and desirous of the common peoples good will and fauour, then his brother had bene before him. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII*, 165 The lord Avdley..a Noble-man of an ancient Family, but vnquiet and popular,..came in to them [rebels]. 1701 Swift *Contests Nobles & Com. Athens & Rome* iii, The practices of popular and ambitious men. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 204 The first acts of an usurper are always popular.

6. Finding favour with or approved by the people; liked, beloved, or admired by the people, or by people generally; favourite, acceptable, pleasing.

1608 Chapman *Byron's Conspir.* II. i. Plays 1873 II. 205 He is a foole that keepes them with more care, Then they keepe him, safe, rich, and populare. 1623 Cockeram, *Popular*, in great fauour with the common people. 1710 *Tatler* No. 190 P 4 This .. will make me more popular among my Dependants. 1812 *Religionism* 24 The popular Preachers,—men of high renown. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 5/4 When the bashful bard had committed his verses to print they soon became popular.

7. Prevalent or current among, or accepted by, the people generally; common, general; † (of sickness) epidemic (*obs.*).

1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1632) 432, I remember a popular sickenesse, which some yeares since, greatly troubled the townes about mee. 1616 B. Jonson *Devil is an Ass* I. iii, Sir, that's a popular error, deceiues many. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* II. xxvi. 329 Does not God plant remedies there where the diseases are most popular? 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Popular errors*, are such as people imbibe from one another, by custom, education, and tradition. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 422 In all popular diseases prostration of strength forbids its repetition. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 241 A popular aphorism of modern times.

8. *U. S. dial.* or *slang.* **a.** Conceited. **b.** Good.

1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 43 He see a cruetin Sarjunt a struttin round as popler as a hen with 1 chicking. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Nov. 590/2 New York restaurant..'I don't call this very popular pie'. They have come ..to take popular quite gravely and sincerely as a synonym for good.

9. *Parasynth. comb.*, as *popular-priced, -shaped*.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Dec. 2/7 The directors had resolved to produce popular-priced cycles. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 3/2 The popular-shaped flounce.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.* (from sense 2).

†**a.** In collective sense (with *the* or other demonstr. adj.; cf. *the public*): The commonalty, the populace. *Obs.*

1552 Lyndesay *Monarche* 4966 Ane holy exemplair Tyll ws, thy pure lawid commoun populair. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1633) 5 The rule or the usurping of the popular, or rascall or viler sort. *a* 1578 [see Popularly]. 1633 J. Done *Hist. Septuagint* 19 All the rest of the Populer..he instituted as Colonies.

†**b.** sb. pl. *Populars*, the common people, the commons. Sometimes rendering L. *populārēs*, the plebeians (as opp. to the *patricians*). *Obs.*

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* (1618) 28 He confirmed with gifts, ..the courage and intention of Iohn Lewis de Fiesguo ..and many other gentlemen and populars. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 319 Together with all the populars of euery Prince in Christendome. 1610 Healey *Vives' Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 77 The newes of his death stirred vp both Patricians and Populars to ioy and mirth.

c. Short for *popular concert*: cf. Pop *sb.*[4]

1885 Ruskin *Pleasures Eng.* 139. I suppose her presence at a Morning Popular is as little anticipated as desired. 1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 18 May 3/3 Music Hall Populars.

Hence † **Popular** *v. trans.*, to people, populate; **Po·pularish** *a.*; **Po·pularism.**

1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 181 There was but a quarter of a league distant one towne from an other, and .. in all the Prouinces of the Kingdome, it is *populared in the same order. *Ibid.* 374 Yet are they populared with much people. 1824 J. Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 721 *Butter-brodt*, as the Germans call it in their superb and now *popularish dialect. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 466/2 The *popularisms of 'pallis', 'linning', 'cushing',.. heard in London streets as corruptions and vulgarisms.

Po·pularist. [f. prec. + -ist.] **a.** A democrat. **b.** = Populist 2. Also *attrib.*

1890 *Times* 22 Feb. 1/1 Even in Alsace-Lorraine one Socialist has been returned, while the Democrat or Popularist party has again been restored to life in the persons of two members. 1895 *19th Cent.* Sept. 526 There she finds two sorts of women: if I am allowed to use two Russianisms, she finds the 'careerist', and the 'popularist'.

Popularity (pɒpiŭlæ·rĭti). [ad. F. *popularité* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) populace, popular bearing, popularity, ad. L. *populāritās* fellow-citizenship, popular bearing, in late L. population, f. *populāris* Popular: see -ity.]

†**1.** Popular or democratic government. *Obs.*

1548 W. Thomas in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* II. App. S. 65 The Swizzers, that destroyed their gentlemen in a day and that now glory most in their popularity. 1632 C. Downing *St. Eccles. Kingd.* (1634) 24 An Aristocracie cannot be immediately dissolved, either into a tyranny or a tumultuous popularity. 1701 Swift *Contests Nobles & Com. Athens & Rome* v, In a very few years we have made mighty leaps from prerogative heighths into the depths of popularity.

†**2.** The principle of popular or democratic government; democracy. *Obs.*

1574 Whitgift *Def. Aunsw.* To Rdr. a iv, Contempt of magistrates, popularitie, Anabaptistrie and sundrie other pernicious and pestilent errors. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 166 He taught, All goods should be Common; and diuers other Articles tending to Popularity. 1689 D. Granville *Lett.* (Surtees, No. 37) 71 The contagion of the age, the spirit of popularity and republicanisme.

†**3. a.** The action or practice of courting, or trying to win, popular favour. *Obs.*

1597–8 Bacon *Ess., Followers & Friends* (Arb.) 34 So it be without too much pompe or popularitie. 1690 Norris *Beatitudes* (1692) 240 A very laudable affectation of Popularity,..to engage men's affections to our Persons. 1697 Collier *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 72 Popularity is a courting the favour of the people by undue practices. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* an. 1664 (1823) I. 355 He said, there was such a remissness, and so much popularity appeared upon all occasions, that..it would be impossible to preserve the church.

†**b.** *pl.* Popular arts or practices. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1597 Bacon *Coulers Good & Evill* Ess. (Arb.) 138 It may be represented also by coulers, popularities and circumstances, which are of such force, as they sway the ordinarie iudgement.

4. The fact or condition of being approved, beloved, or admired by the people, or by many people; favour or acceptance with the people.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 526 At the next election of Magistrates, his popularitie gained him a Consulship. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 77 They have no man of eminent popularitie to head them. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xvii. § 22 By popularity is meant the property of being acceptable or rather not unacceptable to the bulk of the people. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 540 Numerous editions of these poems confirm their popularity. 1882 A. W. Ward *Dickens* I. 17 He had found the way short from obscurity to the dazzling light of popularity.

†**5.** Vulgarity in speech. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, This gallant, labouring to avoid popularity, falls into a habit of affectation, ten thousand times hatefuller than the former.

†**6.** = Populace. *Obs.*

1632 C. Downing *St. Eccles. Kingd.* (1634) 18 That was approved and received by many of the popularity for a happie equality. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 65 To curry Favour with the vulgar Popularity. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 119 [He] incensed the popularity of London, as in a common cause.

†**7.** = Populousness. *Obs. rare.*

1654 E. Johnson *Wonder wrkg. Provid.* (1867) 212 The last Church that compleated the number of 30. was gathered at Boston, by reason of the popularity thereof. 1720 Barham *Barrenness Eng.* i, Of the antediluvian world, and its popularity before the flood.

8. *Comb.*, as *popularity-hunting, -monger*.

1843 Thackeray *Irish Sk. Bk.* v, A courtly popularity-hunting air. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Eng. Char.* (1852) 10 One of the most accredited popularity-mongers of society. 1875 Jas. Grant *One of the 600* i, The sly broad-brims and popularity-hunters of the Peace Society.

Popularization (pɒ·pi·ŭlărəizē··ʃən). [f. Popularize + -ation. So F. *popularisation*.] The action of popularizing or fact of being popularized, in various senses: see the verb.

1797 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 546 The popularization of the measure. 1801 — in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 301 The popularization of those .. doctrines. 1860 Marsh *Eng. Lang.* 449 The universality of literature, its general popularization by the press. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Apr. 457/2 An advance..towards the popularization of the constituencies. 1887 Saintsbury *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* xii. (1890) 453 The popularisation of the pamphlet led the way to periodical writing.

Popularize (pɒ·pi·ŭlărəiz), *v.* [f. Popular + -ize. So F. *populariser* (1798 in *Dict. Acad.*).]

†**1.** *intr.* To act popularly; to court popular favour. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 111 Some Popes haue bene glad for their aduantage, to tyrannise Popularly, so he may chaunce be content for his aduaunçement, to popularise tyrannically: and shall not be the first..that hath cunningly done it with a comely grace.

2. *trans.* To make popular. **a.** To gain popular favour for; to cause to be generally known and accepted, liked, or admired.

1797 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 512 He depended a little on the word peace to popularize him in his own country. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 37 To preserve their power they must popularise themselves. 1879 *Brit. & For. Evang. Rev.* XXVIII. 54 These godly ballads and sacred rhymes had done their work in popularising the truth.

b. To render democratic; to extend to the common people.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 598 'Popularize the government', say they: 'reform the representation', 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 26 June 5/1 Protestations of their willingness to popularise the suffrage.

c. To present (an abstruse or technical subject) in a form popularly intelligible or attractive.

1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 80 He possesses..the power of seizing upon and popularizing the finer parts of his subject. 1850 Grote *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 451 A powerful instrument in popularising new combinations of thought with variety and elegance of expression. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 654 Engaged in the diffusion of knowledge, in popularising history or science.

Hence **Po·pularized** *ppl. a.*, **Po·pularizing** *vbl. sb.* Also **Po·pularizer.**

1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 523 One of the most successful popularizers of science. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* xiv. iii. (1864) IX. 120 The popularising of religious teaching. *a* 1882 T. H. Green *Prol. to Ethics* Introd. (1883) 2 Inferences from popularised science. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Sept. 5/3 In these days of popularised photography.

Po·pularly, *adv.* [f. POPULAR + -LY 2.] In a popular manner.

1. By or among the people at large, esp. the common people; generally, prevalently, commonly, ordinarily; by popular vote as opposed to nomination or election by one or a few.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 55 Not meete to be so popularly praysed. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 205 Hee feared many times to haue bene populerly slaine. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 185 A Dysentery slaying popularly and killing many. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. vii. 424 He had a son, who was popularly called the Boy of Egremont. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 291 The whole number .. was popularly estimated at a hundred and thirty thousand men. 1863 H. COX *Institit.* III. ix. 730 A Town Council popularly elected.

2. In the ordinary language or style of the people; so as to be generally intelligible.

1581 E. CAMPION in *Confer.* III. (1584) R iij b, Saint Augustine there speaketh popularly. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 77 They had not written so much nor so popularly. 1621 CADE *Serm.* 19 The nature of conscience, which I will describe as popularly as I can. 1680 BAXTER *Cath. Commun.* (1684) 20 You will say that the Scripture speaketh popularly, and after the manner of Men. 1861 GOSCHEN *For. Exch.* 138 The difficulty lies not in the apprehension of them, when they are plainly and popularly stated.

† **3.** In a way that wins popular favour. *Obs.*

1593 [see POPULARIZE *v.* 1]. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 336 Why then should I..Turn rebel and run popularly mad? *Ibid.* 689 On each Side bowing popularly low. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 223 To twirl the Ringlets, which in Order grow, On each Side waving popularly low.

Po·pularness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being popular, popularity.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Popularness*, a being full of People; also an Affectedness of popular Applause. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) I. 32 That ensnaring meretricious popularness in Literature.

† **Po·pulary.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *populaire*: see POPULAR and -ARY 2.] The populace.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 135 We doubt of the popularie [*v.r.* popular] quhilk appeirandlie ..fawouris the kingis partie. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. I. 249 The Populary being in suspence, by reason of the variety of reports.

Populass, -lasse, obs. forms of POPULACE.

† **Po·pulate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *poet.* [ad. late L. or early med.L. *populāt-us*, pa. pple. of *populāre* (*a* 800) to inhabit (Du Cange).] Peopled; = POPULATED *ppl. a.*2 (Const. as pa. pple.)

1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 376 The countrie of Caldea..the Region after the floud first inhabited and populate. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 42 The kingdome is much populate. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. iii. 47 In a place so populate.

† **Po·pulate,** *v.*1 *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *populārī*, *-āre* to lay waste, ravage, plunder + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To lay waste, ravage, devastate, destroy. Hence † **Po·pulated** *ppl. a.*1

1552 HULOET, Populate or conquere. Loke in Conquere, waist. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 41/1 To Populate, *populari*. 1601 W. WATSON *Import. Consid.* (1831) 23 To bring in the Spaniard to populate, waste, and destroy this whole Isle. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 242/2 Nor pines it [the rose] languid to the Sirian blaze, With flaccid leaves, and populated breath.

Populate (pɒ·pi᷄ŭlēit), *v.*2 [f. L. *populāt-*, ppl. stem: see POPULATE *ppl. a.* and -ATE 3.]

1. *trans.* **a.** To people, inhabit, form the population of (a country, etc.). **b.** To furnish or supply (a country, etc.) with inhabitants; to people.

1578 FLORIO 1*st Fruites* 7 b, Adorned with fayre women, populated of many people. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 20 They populated then The foote of fountfull Ide. 1798 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) II. 167 And would gradually populate all the sub-marine portion of the globe. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 559 Ox and deer—all of which then populated Britain. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 Feb. 5/2 The great countries we have populated in North America and at the Antipodes.

2. *intr.* Of people: To increase, grow in numbers by propagation. *rare.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 574 When there be great Shoales of People, which goe on to populate, without foreseeing Meanes of Life and Sustentation. 1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 285 As if..it would not set mankind populating faster than carpenters and bricklayers could cover in their children.

3. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To become peopled or populous. *U. S. rare.*

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 556 Its trade..must increase, in proportion as the surrounding country populates. 1822 *Niles' Reg.* 12 Oct. 96/2 This territory [Michigan] is rapidly populating.

Hence **Po·pulated** *ppl. a.*2; **Po·pulating** *vbl. sb.*

1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 8 To the populating of America. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* xvi, A populated place filled with a..number of his fellow-creatures.

† **Popula·tion**1. *Obs.* [ad. L. *populātiōn-em* devastation, n. of action from *populārī*, *-āre*: see POPULATE *v.*1] Devastation, laying waste.

1552 HULOET, Foraging, population, or wastinge of a countrey, *populatio*. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807) II. 82 The effusion of innocent bloud, the population of countries, the ruinating of ample regions. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 75 Population, ruine, and destruction of their natiue country and commonwealth. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Population* (*populatio*), a wasting, destroying, robbing, and spoiling of people. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Population2 (pɒpiŭlēi·ʃən). [ad. late L. *populātiōn-em* (Sedulius *c* 470) population, multitude, having the form of a n. of action f. *populāre* to people (see POPULATE *v.*2). So F. *population* (1335 in Godef. *Compl.*) peopling, population.]

† **1.** *concr.* A people or inhabited place. *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 130 They received their advise that neere at hand were great populations, and soone after he came to Zimpanzinco. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 479 It hath in it, by estimation, threescore thousand Populations, or inhabited places.

2. 'The state of a country with respect to numbers of people' (J.); the degree in which a place is populated or inhabited; hence, the total number of persons inhabiting a country, town, or other area; the body of inhabitants.

1612 BACON *Ess., Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 476 Not the hundreth pole will be fit for a helmet, and so great population and little strength. 1625 *Ibid., Seditions & Troubles* 405 It is to be foreseene, that the Population of a Kingdome, (especially if it be not mowen downe by warrs) doe not exceed, the Stock of the Kingdome, which should maintaine them. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 125 But now the sounds of population fail. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* I. i. 14 Population..increases in a geometrical ratio, subsistence in an arithmetical ratio. 1803 *Ibid.* I. vii. 100 The population of the tribe is measured by the population of its herds. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 48 The formidable state..in which the population should consist chiefly of soldiers and peasantry. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 281 The population of England in 1685 cannot be ascertained with perfect accuracy. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xii. (1876) 156 To make increased population the cause of improved agriculture, is to commit the absurd blunder of confounding cause and effect.

† **b.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1817 COBBETT *Taking Leave* 7 We now frequently hear the working classes called 'the population', just as we call the animals upon a farm 'the stock'.

c. *transf.* Of animals and plants.

1803 [see 2]. 1885 J. BALL in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XXI. 207 A gradual increase in the vegetable population would come about. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 76 Its resident population consists of sharks, whose annual toll of human life is said by some authorities to be fourteen.

3. The action or process of peopling a place or region; increase of people.

1776 *Declar. Indep. Amer.* in *Gentl. Mag.* XLVI. 361/2 He [the king] has endeavoured to prevent the population of these states. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 563 The population of the province was extremely rapid. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 72 Population is stimulated, and cities rise. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 232 [Polygamy]..could..be hardly looked on as on the whole conducive to population.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly from 2).

1826 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 239 The Scotch population-mongers, and Malthus and his crew. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. xvi, The Population Returns of this country are very instructive reading. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 10/2 Australia,..on a population basis, is undoubtedly one of the largest consumers of books in the world.

Hence **Popula·tional** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or based on population; **Popula·tionist** *nonce-wd.*, one who holds a theory about population, esp. a Malthusian; **Popula·tionless** *a.*, without population, uninhabited.

1865–77 H. TAYLOR *Autobiog.* (1885) I. 92 It is not long since I heard a Populationist vehemently reproach a poor but very respectable married gentleman for the sin of having nine children. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 21 Sept. 213/3 Cities..ranged according to their populational rank. 1885 HARE *Stud. Russia* ii. 76 Endless are the open spaces..almost populationless.

Po·pulator. [Agent-n. in L. form from POPULATE *v.*2] One who or that which populates or peoples.

1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), The populators of a country.

† **Po·pule,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *populāre*.] *trans.* = PEOPLE *v.* 1.

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 142 The rest were separated in the discouering and populing of other Ilands. *Ibid.* 204 The greatest towne and most populed of all that prouince.

† **Popu·leal,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *pōpule-us* of poplar + -AL.]

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 7/2 The Crown Popler, or Populeal [*misp.* -teal] Garland, is made of the Leaves of Poplar.

† **Populeon.** *Obs.* Forms: 5 popylyon, 5–7 -ilion, 6–7 -uleon, (7 pompil(l)ion). [a. OF. *populeon* (15th *c.* in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. med.L. **pōpuleum*, f. *pōpulus* poplar. OF. had *popelion* *a* 1300 (P. Meyer).] An ointment made of the buds of the Black Poplar.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. CXX. (1495) 683 Ofte of the croppe of the populer is oynement made..amonge physicyens the oynement hyghte Popilion. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* 90 An oynement þat es callyd popylyon. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* Civ b, Distempre them wᵗ populeon. 1611 COTGR., *Populeon*, popilion, or pompillion; an ointment made of blacke Poplar buds. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 41 Rub his browes and all his head ouer with oyle of Roses, Vineger, and Populeon. 1702 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1280, I then anointed the passage with Populeum [*misp.* Populkeum]. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 79 The cooling Quality of the Ointment Populeon holds not above a Year.

Populicide (pɒ·pi᷄ŭlisəid). *rare.* [a. F. *populicide* adj. (18th *c.*), f. L. *popul-us* people + *-cide*, -CIDE 1.] The murder of a people or nation.

1824 BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 544 Tyrannicide would be less flagitious than populicide. 1865 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 78, I hate regicide as I do populicide—deeply, if phrenzied; more deeply, if deliberate.

† **Populi·ferous,** *a. Obs. rare*−0. [f. L. *pōpul-us* poplar + -FEROUS.]

1696 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Populiferous*, that beareth Poplar-trees. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Populin (pɒ·pi᷄ŭlin). *Chem.* [ad. F. *populine* (Braconnot 1831), f. L. *pōpul-us* poplar: see -IN 1.] A white crystalline substance, $C_{20}H_{22}O_8$, having a sweetish taste, obtained from the bark, leaves, and roots of the aspen (*Pōpulus tremula*).

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 766 Populin has a sweet taste, not unlike that of liquorice. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 642 Populin is a substance resembling salicin in appearance.

Hence **Po·pulinate** *v. trans.*, to impregnate with populin as an antiseptic.

18.. in *U.S. Dispensatory* 1489 (Cent. D.).

Populism (pɒ·pi᷄ŭliz'm). [f. as next + -ISM.] The political doctrine or principle of the Populists.

1893 GOLDW. SMITH in *19th Cent.* July 139 The politicians have been compelled in some degree to pander to Populism. 1896 *Sat. Rev.* 9 May 468 Populism being, in fact, pretty much a resurrection of Greenbackism under another form and name. 1896 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 2/4 The central idea of Populism is a concentrated paternalism.

Populist (pɒ·pi᷄ŭlist). [f. L. *popul-us* people + -IST.] *lit.* 'A member of the People's party' (Funk).

1. An adherent of a political party formed in the U. S. in Feb. 1892, the chief objects of which were public control of railways, limitation of private ownership of land, extension of the currency by free coinage of silver and increased issue of paper-money, a graduated income-tax, etc. Also *attrib.*

1892 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 8 Oct., It is officially reported from Democratic headquarters in Cheyenne, Wyoming, that fusion with the populists has been perfected. The Democrats will support Weaver electors and the People's party the Democratic State Ticket. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Nov. 6/2 The United States Senate, after March 4, will be composed of forty-four Democrats, forty Republicans, and four Populists. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 Jan. 43/2 The situation results from the rise of the Populist party. 1893 GOLDW. SMITH in *19th Cent.* July 138 A peoples party,—Populists as by a barbarism they are called. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 278 The organization of the Populists, trampling under foot the Constitution, in pursuit of objects over a greater part of which Congress has no jurisdiction.

2. A member of a Russian socio-political party advocating a form of collectivism.

1895 P. MILYOUKOV in *Athenæum* 6 July 25/1 The first [group] values primitive collectivism because it regards it as an inalienable trait in the character of the Russian people... [It] sticks to its old name of 'Populists'. 1905 *19th Cent.* Jan. 43 Nobody but a 'populist' who loves the people.. will come and stay.

Hence **Popuri·stic** *a.*

1894 *Chicago Advance* 4 Oct., It was Mr. Bryan and his populistic ideas which were the bone of contention. 1902 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 June 490/2 The sentiment is populistic and the treatment of materials is eclectic.

† **Populo·sity.** *Obs.* [f. L. *populōs-us* full of people, POPULOUS + -ITY. So F. *populosité* (Cotgr. 1611).] = POPULOUSNESS.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. (1634) 98 That the Easterne people were most ancient in populositie. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. 305/2 For Hugeness, Concourse, Navigation, Trade and Populosity, it very hardly gives way to any City in Europe. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 3 In the present state of Populosity,..the spontaneous growth would be found far short of his indispensable exigencies.

Populous (pɒ·pi᷄ŭləs), *a.* Forms: 5–7 **popu·lus**, 6 **-os**, (**pēopulous**, *Sc.* **popelus, pepulus**), 6–7 **populouse**, 6– **populous.** [ad. L. *populōs-us* (Appuleius *c* 160), f. *popul-us* people: see -OUS. Cf. F. *populeux* (1564 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Full of people or inhabitants; having many inhabitants, absolutely or in proportion to area, etc.; thickly inhabited; fully occupied.

1449 J. METHAM *Amor & Cleopes* 302 This cuntre was gret & populus. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 75 The cuntrey hath byn more populos, then hyt ys now. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 20 The maist pepulus toune abufe the eird. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 6 An other Ilande which the captyues sayde to bee verye peopulous. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 477 The whole space betweene is as a continuall populous Market. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* II. 2 How populous of Mortals must be the Court of Pluto? how solitary that of Jupiter? 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* iv. 190 The rivers on the west coast..running through more populous districts.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Of animals or things.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 321 As habitable a Part of the Microcosme or little World as any, for abilities or vertues, though not so Populous. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 175 The river,..with many populous communities of the beaver along its banks. 18.. W. SAWYER *New Year Numbers* iv, The rain-drop glitters populous with life.

c. Of a time or season: Productive, prolific.

1789 GIBBON *Let.* 28 Mar. (in *Sotheby's Sale Catal.* 21 May (1900) 43), The Autumn was remarkably populous in such Englishmen as I am not ashamed to acknowledge in foreign countries. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 12 There is no time more populous of intellect,..than the one we are speaking of.

† **2.** Of a body of people: Numerous, abundant.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 157 And tuke thame baith,..With his power quhilk wes richt populos. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 43 Furnished with a populous army. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 212 The overthrow of the populous Navy of Xerxes. 1682 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 276 A populous posterity is the blessing of God.

3. Of or pertaining to the populace: = POPULAR *a.*, in various senses. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* I. iii. B iv, It should have bene some fine confection,.. This powder was to grosse and populos. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vi. (1657) 102 Mine Author avoucheth it rather for a populous rumor. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 35 (1726) 190 A populous scandal was invented and reported about town. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. ix. 200 The courtly flattery and the populous shout died away together. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi W.* II. 35 Between those populous rough hands Raised in the sun, Duke Leopold outleant, And took the patriot's oath.

Hence **Po·pulously** *adv.*, in a populous manner or degree.

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 562 Jewes,..in such infinite numbers, that scarce no Towne nor Village, but is very populously replenished with their families.

Populousness (pɒ̄·piz̈ləsnés). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being populous; density of population.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 47 Constantinople exceedeth all the cities in Europe in populousnes. 1761-2 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. 803 England has probably, since that time [1583], increased in populousness. 1884 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 1289/2 A bare fact, as much outside discussion as..the populousness of London.

† **b.** Numerousness; multitudinousness. *Obs.*

1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Ambrose* 361 The temperature of its Air, fertility of Soyl,..and populousness of its Inhabitants. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* I. *Guernsey* 127 From the Populaceness of the Inhabitants several Families reside in a House.

c. Prolific quality, productiveness. *rare*—[1].

1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* I. viii. 218 The wood-pigeons..were continually being increased both by their own populousness and by the arrival of fresh bands.

Pop-valve, -weed: see POP-. **Pop-vine:** see POP *sb.*[1] 4.

Po·p-vi·sit. [f. POP *v.*[1] + VISIT *sb.*] A short, hasty, or unannounced visit, in which one 'pops in'. Also *pop-in visit.*

1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxxiii, Obadiah had led his cow upon a pop-visit to him. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1823) II. 50, I have watched him, too, during one of his pop visits into the cottage. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 30 June 6/1 Mr. Balfour..is beginning to imitate the Leader of the House in the making of 'pop-in' visits.

Popych, popysh(e, -ysse, obs. forms of POPISH.

Popylyon, variant of POPULEON *Obs.*

Poquauhock, obs. or var. form of QUAHAUG.

Por, var. PORR, a poker, a thrust; obs. f. PURE *a.*

Poraceous, obs. form of PORRACEOUS.

† **Porail, poveraille.** *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 3 pouerayl, 3-4 -ail(e, 4-5 -al(e, 4 pouraille, *Sc.* 5 poueralȝe, 5-6 -all, 6 puuerale. *β.* 4-5 poral, (purraile), 4-6 porail(e, -aill(e, -ayle, 5 -ayll(e, -eil, 6 -all, poorall, *Sc.* purale, -all, (7 *Sc.* -aill). [ME. *poveraile*, a. OF. *povraille, -alle* (*a* 1236 in Godef.), collective sb. f. *povre* POOR + *-aille* :—L. *-ālia*, neut. pl. of *-ālis*, adjectival suffix.

The 16th c. Eng. and the Sc. point alike to an early ME. *pōrail*, syncopated from *poverail*, like *o'er* from *over*, *lōrd* from *hloverd*: cf. POOR *a.*]

1. Poor people as a class; the poor.

α. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5082 þe pouerail [*v.rr.* poueral, poraylle] ouer Seuerne fley þat þer was þo & bileuede vorþ in walis in sorwe & in wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 12259 þat the poueral get sum bote. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 368 The king, in set battalȝe, With a quheyn lik poueralȝe. 1514 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 90 All vther personis puueralé cumand within this burgh.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6664 How þat þe poraille [*v.r.* poueraile] Gracian slow. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5123 Neuer þe pore porayle be piled for þi sake. *c* 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 285 A ordynaunce wolde be maad for the poore porayle, That in thyse dayes have but lytyll avayle. 1503-4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 32 The poraill of his Comens of this his land. 1549 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 270 To eschait and daill the same to the purale for thair contentioun. *a* 1550 *Schole-ho. Women* 797 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 136 He gaue..so liberall Parte of his goods to the porall. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 18 Almes to the poorall.

b. *pl.* Poor persons. *rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 14 Bodily almes bi whiche þes poralis schulden be clopid and kept fro deþ. 1388 — *Prov.* xxx. 14 Nedi men of erthe, and the porails of men [1382 pore men].

2. The condition of the poor; poverty. *rare*—[1].

c 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 810 A kyng that..them Relevith that be falle in poraylle.

Poral (pō·rāl), *a.* [f. L. *por-us* PORE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the pores of the body.

1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xiv, As if it were .. by form of perspiration,..unconscious poral bountifulness.

Poran, obs. form of PURANA.

Porbeagle (pɔ̄·ɪbē·g'l). [Of uncertain origin: orig. Cornish dialect. (Has been conjectured to be f. F. *porc* swine or *porpoise* (= *porcus piscis*) + BEAGLE, though no reason for such a name appears.)] A shark of the genus *Lamna*, esp. *L. cornubica*, sometimes attaining the length of 10 feet, and having a pointed snout; a mackerel-shark.

1758 BORLASE *Hist. Cornw.* 265 We have also another shark, which we call the Porbeagle, of which I give an icon. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. II. i. 269 The Dog Fish, the Tope, the Porbeagle. 1863 C. A. JOHNS *Home Walks* 165 On two occasions I saw a shark lying on the beach. One was the species known as the Porbeagle, a malicious-looking monster about six feet long, with a mouth armed with three rows of very sharp triangular teeth. 1901 *Scotsman* 19 Sept. 5/1 The Natural History Museum at South Kensington has..just received..a porbeagle shark, caught..off..Skye..7 feet long, and weighed 350 lb.

Porcapyne, porc de spyne, obs. forms of PORCUPINE.

Porcate (pɔ̄·ɹkēt), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *porca* ridge + -ATE[2].] (See quot.) So **Po·rcated** *a.*

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 272 Porcate (*Porcata*). Having several parallel elevated longitudinal ridges. 1828 WEBSTER, *Porcated*, ridged, formed in ridges.

Porcelain (pō·ɹslɛ̄n, pō·ɹslēn). Forms: *α.* (6 porcelana, 6-7 porcellana), 7- porcelain, (6-7 -cellan, -e, 6-9 -celaine, 7 -c'lane, 7-8 -celline, 8 -c'lain, 7-9 -celane; 6 (porseland) porslin, 7 porselan). *β.* 6-7 purcelan, 7 -ane, -ain, -aine, -ine, purcellan, pourcelain; 6-7 purslane, 6-8 -laine, 7 -lan; purselan, -lain. [a. F. *porcelaine* (also OF. 13th c. *pourcelaine*, still in Cotgr. 1611), a Venus shell, cowrie, or similar univalve; hence, the dense polished substance of these shells, and (from its resemblance to this) china-ware; ad. It. *porcellana* (13th c. in Marco Polo) in same senses, a deriv., of adjective form, of *porcella*, dim. of *porca*: cf. Florio 1611, '*Porcelle*, as *Porche*, the fine Cockle or Muscle shels which Painters put their colours in'; '*Porcellana*,..Purcelane earth or dishes'. From It. also Sp., Pg. *porcelana*, and early 16th c. Eng. uses; also Ger. *porzellan*, Du. *porselein*, Da. *porcellæn*, Sw. *porslin*. In the Romanic langs., the name ran together with that of the herb PURSLANE, in It. *porcellana*, OF. *porcelaine, pourcelaine.*

The ulterior etymology of It. *porca, porcella* is unsettled; see Skeat, Mahn *Etymol. Untersuch.* (1855) 13 Körting *Lat. Rom. Wbch.* 7313.]

1. A fine kind of earthenware, having a translucent body and a transparent glaze; = CHINA[1] 3.

The name properly belongs to the hard paste or *natural porcelain*, composed of KAOLIN combined in China with PETUNTSE, elsewhere with some siliceous material; but it is also applied to soft paste or *artificial porcelain*, which is essentially a substance intermediate between glass and earthenware, and *hybrid* or *mixed porcelain*, which contains a certain amount of kaolin.

a. *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* III. II. 242, iij. potts of Erthe payntid, callyd Porseland [? Porselana]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 226 He had two vesselles made of the fine earth cauled *Porcellana*. 1582 LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xlix. 106 Sixe great Tynages of fine Earth, which they doe call Porcelanas, and the same is verye costlye. 1596 HARINGTON *Apol. for Ajax* B b vj, Serued in as fine plate, and Porslin, as any is in the North. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 524 They vse much the powder of a certaine herb called Chia, of which they put as much as a Walnut-shell may containe, into a dish of Porcelane, and drinke it with hot water. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Feb., Here [in Paris] is a shop..., where are sold all curiosities naturall or artificial, ..as cabinets, shells, ivory, porselan. 1650 *Ibid.* 25 Apr., Of earth painted like Porcelain or China-ware. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. li. 239 We have the same Sort of Clay in several Parts of Great Britain, that Porcelline is made of, but we want the warm Sun to prepare it. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 260 Porcelane or Dresden china. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Rew.* 303 The potteries of Wedgwood and Bentley have excelled the porcelain of China. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 246 Chromium Sesquioxide is employed as a green colour for painting on porcelain.

β. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 90 The meat..they lay into platters of purcelan. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 35 In sawcers of glasse or purslaine. 1653 J. HALL *Paradoxes* 95 Purselain and Venice Glasses are the most apt to be broke. 1683 *Weekly Mem. Ingen.* 95 As for the poutcelain, 'tis not made of plaster or egg shells beaten fine, but of a certain earth. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. viii. 17 China also, as Purceline. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3953/1 A Manufacture of Lame, Purslaine and Earthen Ware.

b. *fig.* with allusion to the fineness, beauty, or fragility of this ware.

1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* v. viii, She is herself the purest piece of Purslane..that e're had liquid sweet meats lick'd out of it. 1821 BYRON *Juan* IV. xi, Thrice fortunate! who, of that fragile mould, The precious porcelain of human clay, Break with the first fall. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* II. i, That fine porcelain Courtenay, Save that he fears he might be crack'd in using..should be in Devon too.

† **c.** Applied in the 17th c. to the supposed natural plaster or paste then believed to congeal into porcelain. *Obs.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 91 That earthen or pliable matter commonly called porcellan, which is pure white,.. wherof vessels of all kinds are very curiously framed. 1615 BACON *Arg'ts. Law, Impeachm. Waste* Wks. 1859 VII. 528 If we had in England beds of porcelain, such as they have in China,—which porcelain is a kind of a plaster buried in the earth and by length of time congealed and glazed into that fine substance. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Porcelane*,..also the cream, or flowring on the top of a certain chalky earth, in China steeped in water, of which they make China dishes.

2. An article or vessel made of porcelain; a piece of porcelain or china-ware. Usually in *pl.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xvii. 259 They seethe it in purcelaines. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 47 Silks, purslanes, sendals, ..come from China. 1714 J. MACKY *Journ. thro' Eng.* (1724) I. iii. 58 In another Gallery..[is] a good Collection of Porcelaines (China-ware) and other Curiosities. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Aug. 14/1 Windsor is full of these precious porcelains, and they adorn all her residences.

3. The COWRIE (*Cypræa moneta*). Hardly Eng., exc. in *porcelain shell.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 88 The third [dye or colour] is ordinarily made of the purple & porcellane shel-fishes. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 146 In the kingdomes of Caiacan and Carazan, certaine sea shels are currant, which some men terme Porcelline. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 111 It must needs extravagantly exceed the biggest Nautilus or Porcellane-shell, both in latitude and number of turns. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 129/1 In many places shells are current for coins; particularly a small white kind.., called in the Indies *cowries*, or *corris*, on the coast of Africa *bouges*, in America *porcelaines*. 1875 JEVONS *Money* iv. 24 Cowry shells, which, under one name or another—chamgos, zimbis, bouges, porcelanes, &c.—have long been used

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **a.** *lit.* Of porcelain, made of porcelain or china.

1598 FLORIO, *Porcellana*,.. porcellan dishes. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. iv, In porc'lane dishes There were some hope. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 216 The Walls cased with Porcelane Tiles. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* iv, A maid who had broken a porcelain cup. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 312 Bring the porcelain tube to a red heat. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1878) 227 Of late years these have been entirely superseded by porcelain teeth. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 8 The porcelain finger-rings of ancient Egypt are extremely beautiful.

b. *fig.* Likened to porcelain in some respect: fine, delicate, fragile; superfine.

1638 W. CARTWRIGHT in *Jonsonus Virbius*, Though those thy thoughts, which the now queasy age Doth count but clods,..Will come up porcelain-wit some hundreds hence. 1870 H. SMART *Race for Wife* i, The dispensary ball, at which the porcelain portion of the community danced. 1884 BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* 183 China creeds and delicate porcelain opinions.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porcelain-blue, earth, grain, -maker, -making, ware*; also *porcelain-like, -tinted, -white* adjs.; **porcelain cement,** a cement for mending china or glass; **porcelain colour,** a pigment employed for painting on porcelain; **porcelain-crab,** a crab of the genus *Porcellana*, so called from its smooth and polished shell; **porcelain jasper** = PORCELLANITE: see JASPER *sb.* 1; **porcelain lace,** porcelain in thin filaments made by soaking lace in the porcelain slip and then burning the threads and leaving the porcelain, used in the decorative work of Berlin porcelain; **porcelain oven,** the oven or kiln in which porcelain is baked; **porcelain-paper,** name of a kind of glazed French paper; **porcelain shell:** see sense 3; **porcelain spar,** a variety of ekebergite; **porcelain tower,** a famous tower at Nankin in China, covered with porcelain tiles.

1882 *Garden* 4 Nov. 396/1 Pretty *porcelain-blue blossoms. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 209 They haue such abundance of *porcellan earth. *a* 1774 HARTE *Confessor* 31 True fame, like porc'lain earth, for years must lay Bury'd, and mix'd with elemental clay. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 313 Porcellanite, *Porcelain Jasper, of Werner. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 259 Shales converted into porcelain-jasper. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 79/2 A smooth *porcelain-like deposit. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 12 Aug. 3/1 The influence of Japanese decoration.. was predominant with the English *porcelain-makers of the eighteenth century. 1903 *Ibid.* 7 Jan. 3/2 The historian of an art, so many-sided in its efforts,..as English *porcelain-making. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXI. 76/1 A blonde beauty, of the delicate, *porcelain-tinted type. 1752 T. SALMON *Univ. Trav.* I. ii. 8/2 The grandest of all the Chinese Buildings is the *Porcelain Tower, which stands before one of the Gates of Nankin. 1638 SIR. T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 37 The Bannians..sell Callicoes, Chena-satten, *Purcellan ware. 1899 *Daily News* 29 June 6/7 A cameo ..wrought in a beautiful *porcelain-white upper stratum of a sardonyx.

Hence **Po·rcelainist,** a maker or decorator of porcelain; a connoisseur or collector of porcelains; **Po·rcelainite,** a trade-name for certain kinds of fine white stone-ware.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Athenæum* 2 Mar. 287/3 Signatures of potters and European (not Asiatic) porcelainists.

Po·rcelain-clay. The clay used in the manufacture of porcelain; china-clay, kaolin. Also *fig.*

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. (1692) 7 This is the porcelain clay of humane kind. 1778 WOULFE in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 20 Such were the porcellane clay from Cornwall, the porcellane clay from Saxony. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. I. i, Pity-struck for the porcelain-clay of humanity rather than for the tile-clay. 1838 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* ii. (1874) 12 The purest clay found in nature is 'porcelain' clay or Kaolin, which results from the decomposition of a rock composed of felspar and quartz.

Porcelaine, -ane, -ayn, -ene, -eyne, etc., obs. ff. PURSLANE.

Porcelainize (pō·ɹslɛ̄nəiz), *v.* [f. PORCELAIN + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into porcelain or a substance of the same nature.

1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 14 It has been 'porcelainized', or baked like potter's clay. 1865 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms* (ed. 2), *Porcelainised*,..applied to clays, shales, and other stratified rocks that have been hardened and altered by igneous contact.

Hence **Porcelainiza·tion.**
1907 W. Burton *Porcelain* (in *Athenæum* 16 Feb. 203/3) So that the porcelainisation of the body and the fusion of the glaze go side by side.

Porcelainous (pōə·ɪslḗnəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ous.] = Porcellaneous.
1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 318 Its toughness [etc.] .. render this porcelainous glass well qualified for chemical vessels. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 108 Upper and under surface..shining porcelainous.

†**Porcelet.** *Obs. rare.* Also 6 **pour-**. [a. F. *porcelet* (*de S. Antoine*) a woodlouse, *lit.* little pig (of St. Anthony), dim. of *porcel*, mod.F. *porceau* pig.] A woodlouse.
1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxvii. 115 Capraria brused with pourcelets..and oyle of Roses, cureth the blind Hæmorrhoides. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 323 Being ioined with hony, it healeth the sores occasioned by the biting of the Porcelets called Multipedæ.

Porcellaneous (pōəɪsĕlḗ·ɪnĭəs), *a.* Also 9 **-ela-**. [f. It. *porcellana* Porcelain + -eous.] Of the nature of or resembling porcelain.
1799 Hatchett in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIX. 316 Of the porcellaneous shells, various species of Voluta, Cypræa, and others of a similar nature, were examined. 1800 *Ibid.* XC. 327 The porcellaneous shells resemble the enamel of teeth in the mode of formation. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* I. 91 The shell of the ammonitidæ..consists of an external porcellaneous layer..and of an internal nacreous lining. 1880 *Archæologia* XLVI. 79 From the twenty-fifth century B. C. to the ninth century B. C., an opaque or porcellaneous glass ..was pretty extensively manufactured.
So **Porcellana·ceous,** *a.* in same sense (Ogilvie 1882); **Porcella·nian,** of or pertaining to the porcelain crabs *Porcellana* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Porcellanic (pōəɪsĕlæ·nik), *a.* Also **porcelanic.** [f. as prec. + -ic. So mod.F. *porcelanique.*] Like or having the texture of porcelain.
1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 85 Limestone..of different texture and consistency, as compact, porcellanic, granular, crystalline. 1863 A. C. Ramsay *Phys. Geog.* i. 21 Shales.. hardened or baked into a kind of porcellanic substance.

Porcellanite (pɔɪse·lănəit). *Min.* Also **-ela-**. [a. Ger. *porzellanit* (J. T. A. Peithner 1794), f. *porzellan* Porcelain + *-it*, -ite [1]. So F. *porcellanite.*] A hard naturally-baked clay, somewhat resembling jasper: also called *porcelain jasper.* Also, a synonym of *porcelain-spar* (Chester).
1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 314 Porcelain Jasper, of Werner... Mr. Peithner called it porcellanite, which name should be continued. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* xi. 222 They [mountains] are generally of igneous or metamorphic rocks, clay-slate, or trap, with porcellanite and zeolite.

Porce·llanize, *v.* [f. as next + -ize.] = Porcelainize.
1882 J. Geikie in *Nature* XXVII. 45 The grits..are hardened..and the shales baked and porcellanised.

Porcellanous (pɔɪse·lănəs), *a.* [f. It. *porcellana* Porcelain + -ous.] = Porcellaneous.
1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 368 The shale is converted into hard porcellanous jasper. 1851 Woodward *Mollusca* iv. 39 The most complex shell-structure is presented by the porcellanous gasteropoda. 1870 Nicholson *Man. Zool.* 47 The porcellanous shell is quite homogeneous in its composition.

Porcellayn(e, -ine, -yne, obs. ff. Purslane.

Porch (pōəɪtʃ). Also 3–7 **porche,** 5 **poorche,** 6 **portche,** 7 **portch.** [a. F. *porche* :—L. *portic-us* colonnade, gallery, porch. (OE. had *portic* = OHG. *pforzih*, directly from L. *porticus.*)]

1. An exterior structure forming a covered approach to the entrance of a building; sometimes applied to an interior space serving as a vestibule.
c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 381/158 Est-ward þe dore and þe porche. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* cxv. 18 In porches ofe lauerdes hous. 1340 *Ayenb.* 135 He is ase þe y-maymed ate porche of þe cherche. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 225 In a somer I hym seigh, as I satte in my porche. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 143 No stynkyng flesshe myht in the poorche abyde. 1530 Palsgr. 257/1 Portche of waynscot, *conterquayre.* 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ix. 24 Of hewen stone the porch was fayrely wrought. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 99 If a Portch be affected, let it then be a vaste Portuco. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xvi, The church was old and grey, with ivy clinging to the walls, and round the porch.
b. *transf.* and *fig.*
1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* I. i, Not infants in the porch of life were free. 1692 Wagstaffe *Vind. Carol.* Introd. 12 But I stay too long in the Porch. 1866 B. Taylor *Passing the Sirens* 222 It penetrates The guarded porches of the brain.

2. In the north of England applied to a transept or side-chapel in a church.
1522 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 105 My body to be buried in the Churche of Kellowe in my Porch of o[r] Ladye. 1613 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 167 Rec. of M[r] Robert Hilyard for the halfe part of the portch in the North Allye, which part M[r] Hilyard did new build of his owne cost .. ij s. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Durham* III. 151 On the north side is a porch, in which lie the tombs of Conyers. 1893 C. Hodges in *Reliquary* Jan. 5 The term porch is used for a transept or chapel in the north of England to the present day.

†**3.** A colonnade, portico, cloister, stoa; spec. in the East, such a place used as a hall of justice; hence, the tribunal held there. Cf. Porte. *Obs.*
c 1420 Lydg. *Story Thebes* II. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 362/2 In a porche, bilte of square stones..Where the domes, and ples of the toun Were executed, and lawes of the king. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xxi. 26 b, [A] square place enuironed with ..pillers in two ranks after the manner of a porch. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. 295 Your Maiesties Embassadour resident in the blessed and glorious porch of his imperiall Highnesse. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 126 They stay for me In Pompeyes Porch: for now this fearefull Night, There is no stirre, or walking in the streetes. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 31 A Gallery or very wide vaulted Porch, runs all round the Court.
b. A verandah. *U. S.*
1840 Malcom *Trav.* 43/1 About twenty or thirty patients, mostly Chinese, meet daily in his porch at four o'clock. 1867 D. G. Mitchell *Rur. Stud.* 99 A country house without a porch is like a man without an eyebrow.

4. spec. *The Porch,* the Painted Porch (Gr. στοὰ ποικίλη), a public ambulatory in the agora of ancient Athens, to which Zeno the philosopher and his disciples resorted; hence (*οἱ τῆς στοᾶς,* those of the porch), the Stoic school, the Stoic philosophy.
[14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 613/35 *Stoica,* a porche peyntyd.] 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 101 They commended the ingenuity of the ancient Schools and Porch. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 132 Specially from Plato's Academie; some also from Zeno's porch. 1693 Dryden *Juvenal* (1697) p. lxxx, Ev'n there he forgets not the Precepts of the Porch. 1751 J. Brown *Shaftesb. Charact.* 160 In the same high style of the Athenian porch, he passeth judgment on the hopes of the religious. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* I. 51 The words of a great son of the porch.

5. *Coal-mining.* An arched excavation at the bottom of a shaft. *dial.*
1883 Gresley *Gloss. Coal Mining, Porch,* (Yorks.) the arching at the pit bottom inset. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., At the bottom of the shaft Dick and I made a porch for about 6 yards. .. From the end of the porch I cleared out and packed an old bord.

†**6.** *Billiards.* (See quot.) *Obs.*
a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pass,*..a Term of Billiards, when the Ball goes through the Court or Porch, it is said to pass.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *porch-door, -gable, -pillar, -seat, -tomb, -tower, -trellis, -way*; **porch-post support,** see quot. 1875.
c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 349 þer was made abown þe porche-dure many ymagis of stone. 1552 Huloet, Porche seate, *præstega.* 1895 *Ecclesiologist* XVI. 337 A part of this porch-gable was to be erected in 1854. 1875 Parker *Gloss. Archit.* s. v., They have sometimes rooms over them, and are carried up as many stories in height as the rest of the building, and this projection is called the porch-tower. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Porch-post Support,* a casting placed between the foot of a post and the floor of a porch to prevent decay of the two at that point. 1880 *Archæol. Cant.* XIII. 377 This porch-tomb's canopy is handsomely carved. 1884 in *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 703/2 There are.. friendly porchways to get under.
Hence **Porched** *a.* [-ed [2]], having a porch; **Po·rchless** *a.*, without a porch.
1859 F. Francis *N. Dogvane* (1888) 236 The porched doorway of the hostelry. 1873 Whitney *Other Girls* xv, The pillars in the porched veranda. 1881 T. Hardy *Laodicean* III. ii, He reached the porchless door.

Porchace, -as, -ase, -ass, obs. ff. Purchase.

Porcine (pɔ̄ɪsəin), *a.* [a. F. *porcin, -e,* ad. L. *porcīnus* of or belonging to a hog, swinish.]

1. Of or consisting of swine; related to or resembling the swine. (In quot. *a* 1845 *humorously,* Made of swine's flesh; pork-.)
1656 Blount *Glossogr., Porcine*.., of or belonging to an Hog, hogish. 1782 A. Monro *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 5 Common to all quadrupeds, the porcine kind excepted. *a* 1845 Hood *Sausage Maker's Ghost* i, He..drove a trade In porcine sausages. 1862 Trollope *N. Amer.* II. 107 In this portion of the world the porcine genus are all hogs. One never hears of a pig.

2. Resembling or suggesting a hog, like that of a hog (in appearance, manners, or character); swinish, hoggish, piggish.
1660 Gauden *Life Bp. Brownrigg* 236 Their Physiognomy is canine, vulpine, caprine, porcine, lupine or leonine. 1811 L. M. Hawkins *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 34 Do we hear of such a porcine exhibition of the philosophy of Epicurus as that of Cuzzoni? 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xvii, The porcine head of the church-warden was not on his shoulders by accident. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* i. (ed. 2) 64 Three doggrel sonnets .. noticeable only for their porcine quality of prurience.
Hence **Porcinity** (pɔɪsi·nĭti) *nonce-wd.*, porcine quality, piggishness; in quot. as a humorous title.
1859 Sala *Gas-light & D.* vi, Very few customers..at the bar of the Green Hog; yet does its verdant porcinity considerable business with Barclay Perkins [brewers].

Porcion(e, -oun, -onel, obs. ff. Portion, -al.

Porcipize, porcpisce, etc., obs. ff. Porpoise.

Porciunkle, var. form of Portiuncle *Obs.*

Porckespicke, obs. form of Porcupine.

†**Porcula·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[o]. [ad. L. *porculātiōn-em,* agent-n. from **porculāre,* f. *porculus* pig, porkling, dim. of *porcus* swine.]
1623 Cockeram, *Porculation,* a feeding of swine. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1658–78 in Phillips.

Porcules, -ier, Porcupice, obs. ff. Portcullis, Porpoise.

Porcupine (pɔ̄ɪkiŭpəin), *sb.* Forms: see below. [ME. *porke despyne, porkepyn,* etc., a. OF. and Pr. *porc espin* (*c* 1220 in Godef.), also *porc d'espine* (*c* 1275) = Sp. *puerco espin,* Pg. *porco espinho,* It. *porcospino* (also *porco spinoso*), corresp. to a L. type **porcus spinus*; f. *porco, porc* :—L. *porcus* hog, pig + *spino, espin, épin,* deriv. of L. *spīna* thorn (cf. L. *spīnus,* Sp. *espin,* OF. *espin* a thorn-tree). The genesis of the compound is not very clear, unless it began as short for *porco spinoso* :—L. type **porcus spīnōsus* spiny or prickly pig. The β, γ, and δ forms appear to be English corruptions, due to imperfect apprehension of the foreign word, and to 'popular etymology' identifying the ending with *pen, point,* etc.; the type *portepyne* may have arisen out of F. *por(c) d'épin,* with *c* mute. The ε forms really represent a different compound, viz. F. *porc-épic,* in 16th c. *porc-espic,* OF. and Pr. *porc-espi* (13th c. in Littré), in which the second element is F. *épi,* OF. *espi* :—L. *spīcus, -um,* collateral forms of *spīca* spike. (This form, confined to Fr. and Pr., was prob. an alteration of *porc-espin.*)]

1. A rodent quadruped of the genus *Hystrix* or family *Hystricidæ,* having the body and tail covered with defensive erectile spines or quills; formerly supposed to shoot or dart its spines at an enemy.
The Old-World porcupines (subfamily *Hystricinæ*) are terrestrial, and have long quills, variegated in colour, and often used for penholders; the New-World porcupines (subfamily *Sphingurinæ* or *Synetherinæ*) are more or less arboreal, and have short quills.

α. **5 porke despyne, porc de spyne,** (5 *Sc.* **porpapyne**), **6 porcapyne, porcupyne, porkepyn(e, porkpine, 6–7 porkepine, 7 porkespine, porcuspine, porcupin, porkpen, 6– porcupine.**
? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 183 Pacokes and plouers in platers of golde, Pygges of porke despyne, þat pasturede neuer. *c* 1400 Maundev. xxviii. [xxxi.], Wee clepen hem Porcz de Spyne. [*F.* Porcz Spinous, *v. rr.* porcs espinoys; pors espis]. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* clv, The nyce ape; the werely porpapyne. *c* 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xvi, Otter, and Aip, and Pennit Porcupyne [*Bann. MS.* porcapynel. 1530 Palsgr. 256/2 Porkepyn a beest, *porc espin.* 1538 Elyot, *Histrix, icis,* a beaste hauyng sharpe prickes on his backe, called a porkpine [1545, 1548, porkepyne]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 215 The Porkpen hath the longer sharp pointed quilles, and those, when he stretcheth his skin, he sendeth and shooteth from him. *Ibid.* II. 364 Whatsoever vertue we attribute unto hedgehogs, the same is more effectuall in the porkespine. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 457 Of the Porcupine or Porcupine. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 831 Here are store of Deare, Hares, Conies, Hogs,..Porkepines. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 714 That Porcupins kill Lions, by darting into their body their quills. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VII. 179 Heavy, thick-bristled with the hostile shafts, Even like a porcupine. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* iv. 93 Porcupines rattle their quills and vibrate their tails when angered.

β. **5 portpen, portepyne, 6 porpyn, -in.**
1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. viii. 55 These sowles.. were al ful of pryckes lyke to a portpen. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 154 Lyche a beeste of Inde þat is clepyd a portepyn. 1552 Huloet, Porpyn beaste, hauinge prickes on his backe, *histrix.* 1570 Levins *Manip.* 134/13 A Porpin, *histrix.*

γ. **5 poork poynt, porpoynt, perpoynt.**
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Poork poynt,..(or perpoynt,.. *MS. S.* porpoynte).

δ. **6 porpantine, -pentyn, -pintine, purpentine, 6–7 porpentine,** (6 **porcuntine**).
(*Porpentine* was the form known to Shaks. who uses it 7 times, in 4 of these as the sign of an inn.)
1530 in *Ancestor* XI. (1904) 180 Prestwich .. beryth to his creest a porpantine in his kinde. 1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 31 Nature gaue example of shotyng first, by the Porpentine, which shote his prickes. 1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 80 b, What is the nature of a beast called the Porpintine? 1585 Greene *Planetomachia* Wks. (Grosart) V. 97 The enuious Porcuntine, who coueting to strike others with her pennes leaueth her selfe void of any defence. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. [xii.] (Arb.) 118 The Purpentines nature is, to such as stand aloofe, to dart her prickles from her. 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI,* III. i. 363 And fought so long, till that his thighes with Darts Were almost like a sharpe-quill'd Porpentine. 1602 — *Ham.* I. v. 20 Each particular haire to stand an end, Like Quilles vpon the fretfull Porpentine. 1657 Howell *Londinop.* 24 Leopards, Linxes, and Porcupentines.

ε. **6 porkenpick, pork(e)pik, porkspik, porcupike, 6–7 porkespick(e, 7 porke-espike, porckespicke,** 8 (*humorous*) **porcupig.**
1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 13 They cluster together lyke porkenpickes. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 90 Their game were hare, deere, porcupikes. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 750 Pater nosters and chaines, enterlaced made of the haire of the Porkespicke died of diuers colours. *a* 1700 *Dragon of Wantley* 84 in Percy *Reliques* (1765) III. III. xi. 283 You would have thought him for to be, Some Egyptian porcupig.

b. A figure of this animal, esp. as a device. *Order of the Porcupine* (F. *ordre du Porc-épic*): see quot. 1725.
1578 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 248 Ane cannon of the fonte merkit with the porkspik. *Ibid.* 250 Ane uther cannon.. markit with the porkpik. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 118 He gaue for his deuice the Porkespick. 1725 Coats *Dict. Heraldry* 279 Lewis [XII] of France..in the year 1394..instituted this Order of the Porcupine, which he had before chosen for his Device.

†**c.** Old name of a certain fixed star. *Obs.*
1503 *Kalender of Sheph.* I vij, Wnder the syng of lybra.. wnder ys xvii. degre so aleftys oon stern fyxyt, that oon that the sheppar[s] callys pork apyk [*ed.* 1506 porcarpyke].

d. *English porcupine*: applied to the hedgehog.
1834 Mary Howitt *Sk. Nat. Hist.* (1852) 111 Thou poor little English porcupine.

2. *fig.* **a.** Applied allusively to a person. **b.** In quot. 1861, a prickly multitude (of pens).

1594 ? Greene *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 286 What are the vrchins crept out of their dens, Vnder the conduct of this porcupine? 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 27 *Ther.* Thou art proclaim'd a foole... *Aia.* Do not Porpentine, do not; my fingers itch. 1861 Fitz-Patrick *Life Doyle* (1880) II. 7 This letter to Lord Farnham drew forth a porcupine of pens.

†**3.** Name of a form in which meat was dressed. 1769 Mrs. Raffald *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 89 To make a Porcupine of a Breast of Veal. *Ibid.* 299 To make a cold Porcupine of Beef.

4. Applied to machines or mechanical devices having numerous projecting spikes or teeth; *esp.* an apparatus for heckling flax, worsted, or cotton; a kind of masher used in brewing.

1869 W. Molyneux *Burton-on-Trent* 243 *note*, At some of the breweries the porcupine is supplanted by an instrument known as Steele's Patent Mashing Machine. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Porcupine*, a heckling apparatus for flax; or a cylindrical heckle for worsted yarn. 1891 R. Marsden *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 87 The porcupine is another opener, whose chief difference from the willow [etc.].

5. a. = *Porcupine ant-eater*; **b.** = *Porcupine fish*: see 6.

1875 *Melbourne Spectator* 4 Sept. 213/2 The echidna, or native porcupine. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 205 In this limpid pool were .. the angel-fish, the parrot fish, .. the porcupine.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porcupine mustachio, quill, skin, tribe*; *porcupine-backed, -like* adjs.; **porcupine ant-eater,** an Australian monotremate mammal (*Echidna hystrix*), having spines; **porcupine crab,** a Japanese crab (*Lithodes hystrix*), having spiny carapace and limbs; **porcupine disease,** a malformation of the skin characterized by the growth of spine-like projections (Billings *Med. Dict.*); **porcupine fish,** a fish having the skin covered with spines, as *Diodon hystrix*; a sea-porcupine; **porcupine grass,** name for (*a*) *Triodia irritans* and other species, of Australia, with stiff sharp-pointed leaves; (*b*) *Stipa spartea*, of the western U. S., with long stiff awns; hence **porcupine-grass ant,** an Australian ant (*Hypoclinia flavipes*) which makes its nest round the root of a species of porcupine grass (*Triodia pungens*); **porcupine hair** (*Path.*) = Hystricias; **porcupine man** (*Path.*), a man affected with *porcupine disease*; **porcupine roller,** a roller in a spinning-machine, set with projecting spikes (cf. 4); **porcupine skin disease,** = *porcupine disease*; †**porcupine stone,** a hard concretion alleged to be found in the head or body of a porcupine; **porcupine teeth,** the teeth of a contrivance for carding wool; **porcupine-wood,** the wood of the coco palm, which when cut across shows variegated markings like those of a porcupine-quill.

1867 Wood *Pop. Nat. Hist.* I. 247 Echidna or *Porcupine Ant-eater.—*Echidna Hystrix*. 1899 *Daily News* 10 Apr. 8/2 The duck-billed platypus and the porcupine ant-eater, two of the chief objects of the expedition. 1598 E. Gilpin *Skial.* (1878) 52 Gulfe-brested is he, silent, and profound *Porpentine backed, for he lies on thornes. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. v. ii. 196 A sort of *Porcupine-Fish. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 220 From these I will proceed to the exotics,.. the Porcupine Fish, the Porcupine Globe Fish, the Porcupine Bladder Fish. 1885 Lady Brassey *The Trades* 407 'Porcupine-fish' (*Chilomycterus reticulatus*), looking .. very much more like hedgehogs swimming about than porcupines. 1880 P. J. Holdsworth *Station-hunting on Warrego*, Rough tufts of bristly grass .. stemmed like quills (and thence termed *porcupine). 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 10/2 The desert North of Lake Eyre, where the vegetation consists largely of porcupine grass—a serious obstacle to explorers and useless as fodder. 1822 Good *Study Med.* IV. 686 The hystriacis or *porcupine hair of Plenck. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vii. (1878) 201 Monstrosities, such as six-fingered men, *porcupine men. 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* B ij, The quills of his stiffe *Porcupine mustachio. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 5 Her body is .. stuck all over with great black Bristles, like *Porcupine quills, set all in parallel order. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* II. 51 A spear or bow decorated with beads, porcupine quills and painted feathers. 1884 W. S. B. McLaren *Spinning* (ed. 2) 107 A revolving brush, or star wheel, of *porcupine roller, is placed at H, .. which guides the fibres forward. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 146 The fat of our deer was melted down, and the oil filled six *porcupine-skins. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 670 *Porcupine skin disease. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 757 There is another Stone, highly esteem'd, called the *Porcupine stone, which is in the head of this Animal, though sometimes also in its belly. 1845 *Specif. Lister's Patent* No. 11004. 2 Card, or what are known in the trade as '*porcupine teeth' are caused to operate upon wool to comb the same. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 569 The wood of the Cocoa-nut Palms .. (*Porcupine-wood). 1887 Moloney *Forestry W. Afr.* 441 The wood is commercially known as Porcupine wood, and is used in India for rafters and ridge poles, house-posts, .. also for spear-handles, walking-sticks, and fancy work.

Hence **Porcupine** *v. trans.*, to make like a porcupine; to cause (the hair) to stand on end like a porcupine's quills; **Porcupinish, Porcupiny** *adjs.*, resembling or suggesting a porcupine.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 139 'Tis not call'd Declamation or Invective, or Satyr, but a certain Mediastin Genius, porcupin'd all over with all the three. 1827 *Mirror* II. 37/2 Pull your gills and porcupine your hair. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* I. 15, I had now .. a distinct sense of that sort of porcupinish motion over the whole scalp which is so frequently described by the Latin poets. 1857 R. Williams *Rev. Bp. Ollivant's Charge* 60 You may goad any one, by three years of organised libelling, .. into a porcupinish method of expressing himself. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Aug. 151/1 A rather porcupiny, and not wholly consistent bundle [of prejudices].

Porcupisce, -pise, obs. forms of Porpoise.

Porcyon(e, -oun, obs. forms of Portion.

Pore (pōəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 4–6 poore, 6 powre, poure, 5– pore. [a. F. *pore* (*porre*, 1312 in Hatz.-Darm.) = Sp., It. *poro*, ad. L. *porus*, a. Gr. πόρος passage, pore.]

1. A minute opening, orifice, aperture, perforation, or hole (usually, one imperceptible to the unaided eye), through which fluids (rarely solid bodies) pass or may pass. **a.** In an animal body (or substance); esp. applied to those in the skin (the orifices of the ducts of the sweat-glands).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 53 Þe contrarie is of norþeren men, in þe whiche colde wiþ oute stoppeþ smale holes and poorus, and holdeþ the hete wiþ ynne. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 239 Men wyche haue the complexcion hote and stronge, and haue throgh al the body the ouertures large, that clerkys callyth Pores. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 145 A stopping both of the vaines & poures. 1582 Hester *Secr. Phiorav.* I. xv. 15 Those .. you shal washe with Aqua vitæ, because it openeth the powres. 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* Prol., A freezing sweate Flowes forth at all my pores. 1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 5 A sudden Constriction of the Pores of the Skin. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 271 The articulations are long and narrow, with marginal pores by which it [tape-worm] attaches itself to the intestines. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi, As a hide fills its pores lying seven years in a tan-pit.

b. *fig.* (and in *fig.* expressions), esp. in phrase *at every pore.*

1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 53 Their raies .. penetrating through the pores of the heart, made themselves knowen. *a* 1720 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 13 Love's pow'r can penetrate the hardest hearts; And through the closest pores a passage find. 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Goethe* Wks. (Bohn) I. 388 He sees at every pore. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. x, I see him chafe and fret at every pore.

c. In a plant (or vegetable substance); as the stomata in the epidermis of leaves, etc., or the small openings in certain anthers and capsules when ripe, for the discharge of the pollen or seeds.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. i. (Tollem. MS.), Tren wiþ þinne substaunce and nouȝt harde, but ful of holes, and poores. 1634 Habington *Castara* (Arb.) 20 The flowers adore The Deity of her sex, and through each pore Breath forth her glories. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 96 A Bark that is adorn'd with Pores like Stars. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) III. 761 Leaves .. transparent, with many minute pores. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* IV. 88 Snapdragon .. capsule .. opening by pores at the top. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 16/1 This coat closes all the pores of the wood, and does not crack or scale off.

d. In inanimate bodies or substances; esp. applied to the minute interstices or spaces between the particles of matter.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. CXXX. (1495) nn iij/1 For shyrenesse of paȝtyes in suche [*sc.* thynne matere] ben many poores. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. XXVII, The eirth, .. with poris seir Vp drinkis air that mouit is be sound. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* I. VI. XXXV, The Sun, whose all-searching Beams penetrating the Pores of the Earth, do heat the Waters. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* XXI. 154 In the Pores or invisible little recesses of Water it self there lie .. many parcels .. of .. Air. 1706 Phillips, *Pores* .. are small void Spaces between the Particles of Matter, of which all Bodies are made up. 1748 H. Ellis *Hudson's Bay* 223 The Form or Essence of a Magnet .. is supposed to consist in it's being perforated by an infinite Number of parallel Pores. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* III. i. 235 Water was forced through the pores (as was said) of a golden ball.

†**e.** In abstract or collective sense. *Obs. rare.*

1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 50 The substances .. are seldom of a very strong texture, though frequently of a fine pore and smooth grain. 1773 Horsley in *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 271 A large proportion of pore, or interspersed vacuity, is sufficient for all purposes.

†**2.** A passage, channel, canal, duct (esp. in an animal body). *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8801 Þen [the balm] sewit furth soberly, & sanke fro aboue, .. Passond by poris into þe pure legges. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* N iv b, The wayes and poores wherby the vryne passeth from the reynes to the bladder. 1615 H. Crooke *Body of Man* 138 But this pore of choler is inserted into the small guts, not at their beginning, least the Choler should flye vp into the stomack .. but into the end of the Duodenum.

3. A small point or dot resembling a pore.

1833 Herschel *Astron.* v. 208 Its ground [sun's disk] is finely mottled with an appearance of minute, dark dots, or pores. 1869 Phipson tr. *Guillemin's Sun* (1870) 234 It explains neither the faculæ nor the pores nor the curious granulations known as 'willow-leaves'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pore-area, -canal, -facet*; *pore-like* adj.; **pore-capsule**: see quot.; **pore-coral, pore-stone,** a stone-coral having pores; **pore-sieve,** name for some part of a sponge.

1880 *Nature* XXI. 450/1 Hollow spines with peculiar *pore-areas at their bases. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 111 The number of these *pore-canals (dermo-gastric pores), which have consequently a dermal and gastric orifice, is generally very great. 1877 A. W. Bennett tr. *Thomé's Bot.* (ed. 6) 149 Some capsules again dehisce by pores, as the poppy .., when they are termed *pore-capsules. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 450/2 The shell has a large opening, as well as scattered *pore-facets. 1887 *Amer. Nat.* XXI. 565 Lateral surfaces with irregular, shallow, *pore-like fossæ. 1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 415/2 Section through the cortex of *Cydonium eosaster*, .. showing the *pore-sieve overlying the chone. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 The *Pore Stone, or Pore Coral.

†**Pore,** *sb.*[2] *Physiol. Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. πῶρος callus.] The callus, or matter exuded at the site of the fracture of a broken bone.

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 48 If þat ilk mater þat is restorid be ny3 as hard as is þe boon, it is clepid porus sarcoides.] 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* (1586) 273 When the bone is hardened and somewhat bound together with the pore called Sarcoeides. [1657 *Physical Dict., Poros*, that matter which consolidateth the broken bones within.]

Pore, *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. Pore *v.*] An act of poring over something; a careful or close examination.

1871 *Daily News* 12 Aug., I brought the book .. and Madge .. and myself shall have many a good pore over it.

†**Pore,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* (Said to be a Huntsman's term: see quot.)

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships, Huntsm. Ship* Wks. I. 93/1 What Necromanticke spells are Rut, Vault, Slot, Pores, and Entryes, Abatures, and Foyles, Frayenstockes, .. and a thousand more such Vtopian fragments of confused Gibberish.

Pore (pōəɹ), *v.* Forms: 4 pure, pouri, 4–5 poure, 5–7 powre, 6 poor, 6–8 poar, 5– pore. [ME. *pūren, pouren, pouri*, of obscure origin. There is no corresp. verb in OF. or OE., though the early ME. forms answer to an OE. **pūrian*. Sense 2 is strikingly identical with the main sense of Peer *v.*[2], Pire *v.*, both also of obscure origin; but, although an OE. double form **pīrian, *pȳran* would explain the forms, there is no trace of such a verb in OE. or the cognate languages. The phonology is abnormal; the ME. (pūr-) would normally have given mod. *pour* (pauəɹ), whereas in the 15th c. the form began to be *pore, poar* (pōəɹ).]

1. *intr.* **a.** To look intently or fixedly, to gaze (*in, on, upon, at, over*); to search *for* or *into* something by gazing. (Often, now always, with admixture of sense b.)

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1092 Apulf was in þe ture [*v. r.* toure] Abute for to pure [*v. r.* poure] After his comynge. 13.. *K. Alis.* 5799 There he seighen a selcouth folk Al day pouren in the walken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 177 þe men þet doþ zuo grat payne ham to kembe and to pouri ine sseaweres. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* III. 31 And for to powren [*v. r.* poure] wonder low Yf I koude eny weyes know What maner stoon this roche was. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 224 Some pores vpon the grounde as though they sought for pinnes. 1621 Quarles *Esther* Medit. v. E iv, All Creatures else pore downward to the ground, Man lookes to heauen. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 24 No wonder if they who were poring continually at the clouds, saw shapes and figures, representations and appearances. 1834 Ht. Martineau *Farrers* iv, Down on his knees, poring over the pavement, to see which way the stones were laid. 1854 Macaulay *Biog., Johnson* (1867) 82 He would stand poring on the town clock without being able to tell the hour.

b. To look at something (usu. a book) with fixed attention, in the way of study; to read or study earnestly or with steady application; to be absorbed in reading or study. (Const. *on, upon,* (now chiefly) *over*; rarely *in, into,* or absol.)

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 185 What sholde he studie and make hym seluen wood Vpon a book in Cloystre alwey to poure [*MS. Lansd.* powre]. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xvi. 87 Thou3 ȝe wolden labore, and powre, and dote alle the daies of ȝoure lijf in the Bible aloon. 1594 Lyly *Moth. Bomb.* I. iii, Instead of poaring on a booke, you shall holde the plough. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* Auth. to Rdr., I have pored upon many an old Rowle. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 37. 271 He rises by Three in the Morning to pore over Mathematicks. 1768 Beattie *Minstr.* I. li, Where dark cold-hearted sceptics, creeping, pore Through microscope of metaphysic lore. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) II. iii. 90 He had pored over their pages till he knew them by heart.

c. To fix one's thoughts earnestly upon something; to meditate, muse, or think intently; to ponder. Const. *on, upon, over*; rarely with dependent clause (quot. 1856).

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxxii, The longe day thus gan I prye and poure, Till phebus endit had his bemes bryght. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1866) I. 173 So, while he pores and gapes upon it, by little and little the love of it grows more and more in his heart, until at last he hath mind on nothing else. *a* 1628 Preston *Saint's Daily Exerc.* (1629) 138 If a man be poring on his wants still. 1722 De Foe *Moll Flanders* (1840) 64 When he has thought and pored on it. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 348 She had pored for years What sort of woman could be suitable To her sort of hate. 1882 Peabody *Eng. Journalism* xviii. 137 Dickens .. took himself off .. to Geneva, .. to pore over the story of 'Dombey and Son'.

†**2.** To look with the eyes half shut; to look closely, as a near-sighted person; to peer. *Obs.*

1699 Wafer in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 51 For they see not well in the sun, poring in the clearest day. 1706 Phillips, To *Pore*, to look close, as they do that are short-sighted. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 27 ¶ 5 Poring with her Eyes half shut at every one she passes by. 1774 Foote *Cozeners* I. Wks. 1799 II. 157 He doesn't pore, with his eyes close to the book, like a clerk that reads the first lesson. 1862 Thoreau *Excursions, Ch. Night* (1863) 310 Their eyes which are weak and poring.

3. *trans.* To bring or put into some state by poring; in phrase *to pore one's eyes out*, to blind

oneself or ruin one's sight by close reading or over-study; to tire (one's eyes) by close reading.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 43 b, I that haue poor'd out myne eyes vpon bookes. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 455 Old, rusty, Moth eaten Books, upon which a Man may pore his Eyes out before he can read a Word or a Line. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 37 He might have .. por'd himself into Stupidity. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Aug., I have been poring my eyes all the morning. *a* 1754 FIELDING *Fathers* v. v, Though I have hated books as I do the devil,..I'll pore my eyes out rather than lose her.

Hence **Po·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (whence **Po·ringly** *adv.*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1411 (1460) Dispitous day.. Thi pouryng In wol no where late hem dwelle. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 85 Bi her powring in the Bible aloon thei miȝten leerne. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 120 He that viewd them a farre off, and had not directly stood poaringly ouer them, would haue sworne they had liued. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 124 Many of the Pilgrims by poaring on hot bricks, do voluntarily perish their sights. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 191 There, dim in clouds, the poreing Scholiasts mark. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vii. 211 That disposition which..delights in poring over its own morbid emotions.

Pore, obs. (and dial.) var. of POOR *a.*; obs. f. PORR, POUR, POWER. **Pore(-)blind,** obs. f. PURBLIND.

Pored (pōəɪd), *a.* [f. PORE *sb.*[1] + -ED[2].] In parasynthetic combs.: Having pores (of some kind).

1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 945 If a Gummous Plant or Tree, that grows low, and close pored, it abounds with acid Spirits,..if it grow tall, and be open pored, it abounds with a subtile volatile Spirit.

Poreger, obs. form of PORRINGER.

† **Po·relet.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. *pore,* POOR + -LET. (Rendering L. *pauperculus,* dim. of *pauper* POOR.)] A poor man.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxvi. 2 To my porelet [1388 a pore man] and contrit in spirit.

‖ **Porencephalus, -on** (pōərense·fălŏs, -ɒn). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*[1] + *ἐγκέφαλος* brain.] A defect of the cerebral hemisphere consisting in the formation (congenital or caused by disease) of a depression or hollow, sometimes communicating with the lateral ventricle. So **Porence·phaly** [ad. mod.L. *porencephalia*] in same sense. Hence **Porencephalic** (porensĭfæ·lik), **Porencephalous** (-se·făləs) *adjs.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or affected with porencephalus.

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Porencephalus..Porencephaly.* 1890 *Cent. Dict., Porencephalic..Porencephalous.* 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 179 Atrophy of the fillet and the posterior column nuclei has resulted from porencephalon of the central convolution of the cortex cerebri. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 534 Diseases .. which give rise to a porencephalic condition. *Ibid.* VII. 292 Cases of porencephaly.

Porer (pōə·rəɪ). [f. PORE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who pores *upon* or *over* something, as a book.

1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 69 The Disputative followers of Hippocrates, Aristotle, Galen, those superstitious Porers upon the Writings of the Ancients. 1797 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 345 The multitudinous porers in black literature. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Aug. 2/1 The wielder of the spade has outrun the porer over manuscripts.

Poret(e, -ett(e, variants of PORRET *Obs.*

† **Porfe·nd,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. OF. *po(u)r-fendre* to cleave completely (*c* 1145 in Godef.), f. *pour* (:—L. *prō* forth), with intensive force + *fendre* :—L. *findĕre* to cleave.] *trans.* To cleave or split through.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* vii. 28 The goode swerde entred in to the brayne porfended, and cloue his hed vnto the chynne.

‖ **Po·rfido.** *Obs.* [It.] = PORPHYRY.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxi. § 134 The pauement ..shall be of Orientall stone: That is to say, of Alabaster, Porfido, Serpentines, and other stones of diuers colours.

Porfil, -e, porfyl, obs. ff. PROFILE, PURFLE.

Porful: see POORFUL. **Porge,** obs. f. PURGE.

Porge (pōəɪdʒ), *v. Jewish Ritual.* [app. f. L. *purgāre* to make (ceremonially) clean, to PURGE.] *trans.* To make (a slaughtered beast) ceremonially clean by drawing out and removing the sinews and veins (esp. from the hinder quarters: cf. Gen. xxxii. 32). Hence **Po·rger,** a man whose business is to do this.

1864 *Times* 4 Aug. Advt., I. I. M...Butcher..Walworth begs to inform the Jewish Public that he has succeeded in obtaining a qualified killer and porger for himself. *Mod.* (*Notice* in *Jewish Newspr.*). The licence of Mr. A. B. has been revoked for having sold (to Jewish customers) meat which has not been porged.

Porgo, pargo. [a.Sp. and Pg. *pargo,* app.:—L. *pagrus* a kind of fish.] A fish; the sea bream.

1557 W. TOWRSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 We found there certain Caruels fishing for Pargoes. 1616 CAPT. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* 12, 40 or 50 Saile yearely to Capeblank, to hooke for Porgos, Mullet, and [to] make Puttardo. 1624 — *Virginia* 227 The Duke of Medina receiueth yeerely tribute of the Fishers, for Tunny, Mullit, and Porgos, more then ten thousand pounds. [*a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* VI. (1704) 532/1 Porgus, somewhat like to an over-grown Sea-Bream, but much bigger.] 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 40/1 Fish hookes for Porgos, Bonettos or dorados. 1902 JORDAN & EVERMANN *Amer. Food & Game Fishes* 405 The Snappers, or Pargos, genus *Lutjanus*..species very numerous, Asiatic, American, or African.

Porgy (pɒ·ɹgi). Also 8 **pargie, porgie,** 9 **porgee, -ghee.** See also PAUGIE. [Of obscure and app. various origin; in part = PORGO, PARGO; in part = PAUGIE, q. v.; also corruptly for POGY, q. v. Much vagueness appears to prevail in the use of the name.] A name in U. S. applied, with or without distinctive adjuncts, to various sea-fishes, chiefly N. American species of *Sparidæ* or Sea Breams, but also locally to fishes of other families.

Among the Sparoid fish, applied to **a.** the Braise, *Sparus pagrus* (*Pagrus vulgaris*), of the Mediterranean and N. Atlantic; **b.** *Stenotomus chrysops,* the Scuppaug, Scup, or Paugie, and *S. aculeatus,* the Fair Maid, found along the Atlantic coast of U.S., to the north and south respectively; **c.** *Lagodon rhomboides,* also called Sailor's Choice and Pinfish; **d.** various species of *Calamus* found at Bermuda and near Florida; **e.** one or more species of *Lutjanus,* called also Snapper and Grunt. Among those of other families: **f.** in southern U.S. an ephippioid fish, *Chætodipterus faber,* also known as Moon-fish, Spade-fish, or Angel-fish; **g.** in Florida, the Toad-fish, *Chilomycterus geometricus*; **h.** in California, one of various viviparous perches, as *Ditrema jacksoni* or *Damalichthys argyrosomus.* ✝ **i.** Erron. for POGY, the menhaden.

1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 286 The Pargie. It was taken at Old Harbour, and reckoned very good food. 1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317, 16. *Aurata Bahamensis.* The Porgy. It is a good eating Fish. 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados* 668 *Haemulon heterodon,* porghee grunt..the peculiar noise which they emit when caught, has given rise to the vernacular name. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Fish & Fishing U.S.* 280 The colour of the Porgee is a deep brownish black on the head and back. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 170 The principal salt-water fishes are:—The Calipeva .. Hog-fish .. Porgee, Grouper, Sun-fish, Grunts, Croakers, and Drummers. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Industries U.S.* 70 Saint Jerome's Creek, Point Lookout, Maryland. A station for the artificial propagation of..the bandy porgy (*Chætodipterus faber*). 1884 *Ibid.* Sect. I. Plates. Pl. 137 The Margate Fish, Bastard Snapper, or Charleston 'Porgy', *Sparus pagrus.* 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 68 I've tossed a dead porgy to one [sword-fish] and seen him knock it up and down. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 43 In the North the Sea-Bass occupies the feeding grounds in company with the scuppaug or porgy. *Ibid.* 80 The Red-mouth Grunt, *Diabasis aurolineatus,* is probably the Flannel-mouthed Porgy familiar to Florida fishermen. *Ibid.* 92 About New York, the second syllable of the abbreviated Indian name (*mishcuppauog*) has been lengthened into 'Paugy' or 'Porgy'. *Ibid.* 99 *Lagodon rhomboides* .. in the St. John's River,..the 'Sailor's Choice' and 'Porgy'. *Ibid.* 100 There are other species known by the name of Porgy .. found in this region, such as *Calamus bajonado* common also at Charleston, where it is called the 'White-boned Porgy', the 'Jolthead Porgy' of Key West, *C. megacephalus, C. arctifrons,* the 'Shad Porgy' or 'Grass Porgy' of Key West, and *C. macrops. Ibid.* 146 The Moonfish or Spadefish, *Chætodipterus faber*..at Beaufort N.C. where it is called the Porgee or Porgy...Three-tail Sheepshead and Three-tailed Porgee are names said to have been formerly in use among the New York fishermen. 1897 H. G. CARLETON in *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 329/2 Dibbling with a light rod for little porgies and whiting.

‖ **Porifera** (pori·fĕră), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L., neut. pl. of *porifer,* f. L. *porus* (a. Gr. *πόρος*) PORE *sb.*[1] + *-fer* bearing.] The Sponges, reckoned as a class or main division of *Cœlenterata,* characterized by having the body-wall perforated by numerous inhalant pores. Hence **Porifer** (pōə·rifəɪ), a member of the *Porifera,* a Sponge; **Pori·feral** *a.* = next; **Pori·feran,** *a.* belonging or relating to the *Porifera*; *sb.* = *porifer.*

1843 CARPENTER *Anim. Phys.* ii. 113 Satisfactory reasons for placing the class of *Porifera,* or the Sponge tribe, in the animal kingdom. 1864 WEBSTER, *Poriferan,* an animal of the group comprising the sponges. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 385 The term *Porifera*..was applied by Professor Grant to designate the remarkable class of organized beings known as sponges. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iii. 113 The fundamental type of Poriferal organisation is to be sought among the Calcispongiæ. *Ibid.* xii. 678 Comparable to Physemarian or Poriferan embryos. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 716 The irregular and continuous growth of a Poriferan. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Poriferan theory,* that theory which considers the tracheæ or tubes of some animals as having a common origin with the incurrent tubes of the *Porifera* or sponges.

Poriferous (pori·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *por-us* PORE *sb.*[1] + -FEROUS: in mod.L. *porifer.*] Bearing or having pores.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* iii. 313 The poriferous side of the same. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 124 The other five double rows of plates alternate regularly with the former, and are termed the 'ambulacral areas' or poriferous zones.

Poriform (pōə·rifɔɪm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -FORM.] Having the form of, or resembling, a pore.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 706 Minute, poriform cells. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Poriformis,* .. having the form of simple pores, as the cellules of certain *polypi*.. : poriform.

Poriger, obs. form of PORRINGER.

† **Po·rime.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. Gr. *πόριμ-os* able to be passed, practicable, f. *πόρος* passage.] See quot. and APORIME.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Porime,*..in Geometry, is a Theorem or Proposition so easie to be demonstrated, that 'tis almost self-evident; as, *That a Chord is all of it within the Circle.* Hence 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1727-41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1730-6 in BAILEY (folio). 1823 in CRABB *Technol. Dict.*; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Po·riness.** *Obs.* [f. PORY + -NESS.] The condition of being 'pory' or porous; porosity; also *concr.* a porous part.

1653 WALTON *Angler* iii. 86 It is reported, there is a fish that hath not any mouth, but lives by taking breath by the poriness of her gils. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 57 Vapours may be contained in the porinesses or hollow places of the Air. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* v. ix. 392, I took off the Dressings, and set the Trepan above the fractured Bone,..considering withall the Poriness of the Bone below.

Poring, Poringly: see under PORE *v.*

† **Po·rish,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. PORE *v.* + -ISH[1].] Having the character of 'poring' or looking with the eyes half shut (see PORE *v.* 2). Hence † **Po·rishly** *adv. Obs.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 626 Sum were made peuysshe, porisshly pynk iyde, That euer more after by it they were aspyide. 1530 PALSGR. 840/2 *Porisshly,* as one loketh that can nat se well, *louchement.*

† **Po·rish,** *a.*[2] *Obs.* [f. PORE *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Porous. Hence † **Po·rishness** *Obs.*, porosity.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 119 That the stars are made of an earthy porish matter, much like to that of a pumice stone. 1670 CAPT. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 16 All barren sands are loose and light,..by reason of their porishness or hollowness.

Porism (pōə·riz'm, pɒɹ-). *Math.* [ad. L. *porisma,* a. Gr. *πόρισμα* a deduction from a previous demonstration, a corollary, also a problem, f. *πορίζειν* to carry, deduce, f. *πόρος* way. So F. *porisme.*] With the ancient Greek mathematicians, a kind of geometrical proposition, the nature of which has been much disputed; app. one arising during the investigation of some other proposition, either by immediate deduction from it (= COROLLARY *sb.* 1), or by consideration of some special case in which it becomes indeterminate.

The sense indicated by Playfair's definition (quot. 1792) is that now most generally accepted and used; but other widely different definitions have been given.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. x. 71 (Camb. MS.) Ryht as thyse geometryens whan they han shewyd hyr proposicioures ben wont to bryngen in thinges þat they clepyn porysmes or declaracioures of forseyde thinges. Ryht so wole I yeue the heere as a corolarye or a mede of coroune. [*c* 1645 *Enquiry,* etc. in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) V. 499 It may be proposed a problem, or porisma, to be considered, whether the souls of brutes are not more than rarefied, or inflamed matter.] 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Porisme.* Proclus and Pappus define this Geometrical Term to signifie a kind of Theorem, in the form of a Corollary, which is dependant upon, or deduced from some other Theorem already demonstrated. And 'tis commonly used to signifie some General Theorem, which is discovered from finding out some Geometrical Place. 1792 PLAYFAIR in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* III. II. 156 There was another subject, that of Porisms, the most intricate and enigmatical of any thing in the ancient geometry. *Ibid.* 170 From this account of the origin of Porisms, it follows, that a Porism may be defined, A proposition affirming the possibility of finding such conditions as will render a certain problem indeterminate, or capable of innumerable solutions. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s. v., Pappus says, a Porism is that in which something was proposed to be investigated. 1798 H. BROUGHAM in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 383 This is a case of a most general enunciation, which gives rise to an infinite variety of the most curious porisms. 1853 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* II. 56 Researches on the Porism of the in- and circumscribed triangle. 1855 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1890) I. 434 An epic or song..may have a human power greater than the Porisms or the Principia. 1887 H. DELEVINGNE in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. IV. 424/2 Between i. 15 and 16 occurs the first porism or corollary, to the effect that the angles formed by two straight lines at their point of intersection are together equal to four right angles.

Porismatic (pōərizmæ·tik, pɒɹ-), *a.* [f. Gr. *πόρισμα, -ατ-* PORISM + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a porism. So † **Porisma·tical** *a. Obs.* (in quot.) following immediately as a corollary; whence **Porisma·tically** *adv.* (in quot.) as a corollary, by direct inference.

1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 119 It will Porismatically follow. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl. Adv. Learn.* 11 If they be not guided by forcible demonstrations and porismaticall inferences. 1792 PLAYFAIR in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edinb.* III. II. 190 Another species of impossibility may frequently arise from the porismatic case of a problem. 1886 FARRAR *Hist. Interpr.* vii. 361 The porismatic method consisted in the abstraction of dogmatic results.

Poristic (pori·stik), *a. Math.* [ad. Gr. *πορι-στικός* able to procure, f. *πορίζειν*: see PORISM.] Relating to a porism, porismatic; having the quality of rendering a determinate problem indeterminate.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Poristick Method,* in Mathematicks, is that which determines when, by what way, and how many different ways, a Problem may be resolved. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., *Poristic points,* a set of points of the number which usually suffice to determine a curve of a given order, but so situated that an indefinite number of such curves can be drawn through them.

So **Pori·stical** *a. rare*[−0].

1828 WEBSTER, *Poristic, Poristical.* Hence in later Dicts.

Porite (pōə·rəit). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. generic name *Porītes* (Lamarck); f. Gr. *πορός* passage, pore, or ? *πῶρ-os* calcareous stone, stalactite: see MADREPORE and -ITE[1].] A coral of the genus *Porites* or family *Poritidæ* of perforate sclerodermatous corals.

1828 WEBSTER, *Porite,* a petrified madrepore. *Dict. Nat. Hist.* 1846 DANA *Zooph.* vii. (1848) 110 The Porites .. graduate into the Astræsporæ, and thence to the Astroites.

Pork[1] (pōəɪk). Forms: 3 **porc,** 5 **poork, -e,**

5–7 **porke**, 6 **porcke**, 8 **porck**, 4– **pork**. [a. F. *porc* = Pr. *porc*, It. *porco*, Sp. *puerco* :—L. *porc-us* swine, hog.]

†**1.** A swine, a hog, a pig. Sometimes distinguished from a pig or young swine. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3122 Poveralle and pastorelles passede one aftyre, With porkes to pasture at the price 3ates. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3837 Polidarius was pluccid as a porke fat. 1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* F j, Porkes of a yere or .ij. olde are better than yonge pygges. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. ix. (S. T. S.) I. 55 He slew þe pork with ane hevy stane. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1842) 145/1 There were brought to the slaughter-house .. 34 porks, 3*s.* 8*d.* the piece; 91 pigs, 6*d.* the piece. 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fishery* 83 Very large like Calves, .. and as fat as Porks. [1799 SOUTHEY *Pig* 24 Woe to the young posterity of Pork! Their enemy is at hand. 1887 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* V. 343 Hogs and porks, the word appearing to be used indifferently, are occasionally found.]

† **b.** Applied opprobriously to an uncultured person. *Obs.*

1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 358, I mean not to dispute Philosophy with this Pork, who never read any.

2. The flesh of swine used as food; *spec.* the fresh flesh.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 472/343 Huy nomen with heom into heore schip..porc, motoun and beof. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. vii. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 246 b/1 Boores flesche is more hard and drye..þan tame porke. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Poork, flesche, *suilla*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C vij, Take a quantyte of poorke and ony [= honey] and butter. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 27 b, Aboue all kyndes of fleshe in nouryshyng the body, Galene most commendeth porke. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. iv. 9/1 Porke is there a very costly dish. 1748 E. DARWIN *Let.* in *Life* (1879) 9 We affirm Porck not only to be flesh but a devillish Sort of flesh. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* XXV, Roast ribs of pork.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: simple attrib., as *pork-blubber*, *-chop* (CHOP *sb.*[1] 2 b), *-fat*, *-griskin*, *-sausage*, *-shop*; obj. and obj. gen., as *pork-curer*, *-dealer*, *-eater*, *-packer* (PACKER[1] 2 b), *-packing*, *-pickling*; **pork-butcher**, one who slaughters pigs for sale (BUTCHER *sb.* 1); **pork-fish**, a local name of various American fishes: see quots.; † **pork-hog** = PORKER 1; **pork-pit**, that part of a produce exchange where pork is dealt in. Also PORK-FLESH, etc.

1804 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) I. 114 We ate some *pork-blubber and bread. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Knights* I. iii, We'll observe *pork-butcher's laws. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Pork-chop*, a slice from the rib of a pig. 1872 *Punch* 3 Feb. 46/2 The *menu* consisted of sausages .. and pork-chops. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 232 *Pork-curers buy from farmers and dealers in the carcass. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 27 If wee grow all to be *porke-eaters, wee shall not shortlie haue a rasher on the coales for money. 1705 (*title*) A Pill for Pork-Eaters, or a Scots Lancet for an English Swelling. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xix. 193 Hung a dripping slab of *pork-fat over their lamp-wick. 1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 315 The *Pork-Fish. The Bahamians esteem this a good Fish. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 81 The Norfolk Hog-fish, *Pomodasys fulvomaculatus*,..is the ..'Pork-fish' and 'Whiting' at Key West. 1902 WEBSTER Suppl., *Pork-fish*,..a sparoid fish (*Anisotremus Virginicus*). 1727 *Pork grisking [see GRISKIN]. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 284 Attending a pork-griskin which the parson had also ordered for their suppers. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. i. 214 As fatte..as a *porke hog. 1884 SIR L. GRIFFIN in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 55 Annually, a flight of *pork-packers and successful tradesmen cross the Atlantic. 1905 *Athenæum* 5 Aug. 174/2 In a few days fashionable people, from the peer to the pork-packer, will be rushing to the Highlands. 1892 A. CRAIB *America* 66 *Pork-packing is one of the chief sources of wealth in Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 8 May 3/2 A *pork-pickling establishment..has lately been opened there. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xvi, That fellow is only fit for fly-flapper at a *pork shop!

† **Pork**[2]. *Obs.* [Echoic.] An imitative name for the hoarse croak of the raven: cf. MOREPORK. So † **Pork** *v. intr.*, to croak; hence † **Po·rking** *vbl. sb.*; and (with reduplication expressing repetition) **Pork-porking** *ppl. a.*

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Schism* 285 From the Mountains nigh The Rav'ns begin with their pork-porking cry. 1640 BROME *Sparagus Gard.* IV. iv, Harke, the Ravens cry porke for him and yet he dyes not. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* 5 They foresee by porking of raven..when it will raine.

Porke despyne, porkepine, etc., early ff. PORCUPINE. **Porkepes,** obs. form of PORPOISE.

Porker (pōə·ɹkəɹ). [f. PORK[1] + -ER[1] 1.]

1. A young hog fattened for pork; also, any swine or pig raised for food.

1657 HEYLIN *Ecclesia Vind.* 181 They sacrificed a swine or porker, with this solemn form. 1670 Capt. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 195 Beech-mast is very good feeding for Swine to make them Porkers, and for Bacon. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 201 Then sheep and goats and bristly porkers bled. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* II, As round and full as a six-weeks' porker. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* II, Even the pigs were the aristocracy of the porker tribe. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 11 Dec. 12/1 The stock.. consisted of..bacon hogs and porkers.

†**2.** A sword. *Obs. slang.* (Cf. *pigsticker*, a long-bladed pocket-knife, or sword.)

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* I. i, The Captain whipt his porker out. *Ibid.* II. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Porker*, a Sword. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.*

Porkery (pōə·ɹkəɹi). [f. PORK[1] + -ERY. Cf. ONF. *porkerie*, OF. *porcherie* herd of swine, med. (Anglo-) L. *porcaria*, *porcheria* a piggery.]

1. Swine collectively, stock of swine.

1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Emp. China & Tsing-Ti* Wks. 1853 II. 146/1, I have killed rats as good meat as your Excellencies, and where your Excellencies (pest on such porkery!) dared not come.

2. Stock of pork, bacon, ham, and the like; pork department.

1890 *Balance Sheet of Co-op. Store*, Balance to Profit and Loss Account Bakery..Porkery..General.

Porkespine, -pick, etc., obs. ff. PORCUPINE.

Porket (pōə·ɹkėt). [a. ONF. *porket*, *porquet*, OF. *porchet*, dim. of *porc* PORK[1].] A small or young pig or hog; in mod. dial. use = PORKER 1.

[1312 *Bolton Priory Comp.* 244 b, Preter, vj. bacones de dono Petri de Mytone. Et ix. porchettos de dono Eue de Landa.] 1554 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxix. 82 Nor any liberty or power upon a poor porket have al the devils in hel. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) III. 277 We are now become Gergesites, that would rather lose Christs than our Porkets. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII. 257 [He] off'rings to the flaming altars bears—A porket, and a lamb that never suffer'd shears. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* II. 139 Bring..figs to my porkets. 1900 *Oxford Times* 1 Dec. 2 Prizes..for bacon hogs and porkets.

Pork-flesh. Now *rare.* The flesh of the hog or pig; = PORK[1] 2.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 10 He commaunded that porke flesshe and camelys shold be eten. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 1417/1 He delighted greatlie in Porke fleshe and Peacockes. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* iv. 24 Bring me my pork-flesh. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 4 Aug. 3/3, I almost taste the pork-flesh of Brother Wainwright.

† **Po·rkin.** *Obs.* [f. PORK[1] + -KIN.] = PORKLING.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 134/12 A Porkin, *porcellus*. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 206 They will roundely carie a sheepe or gote or a good porkine in their mouths.

† **Po·rkish,** *a. Obs.* [f. PORK[1] + -ISH[1].] Pig-like, swinish.

1554 BALE *Declar. Bonner's Art.* 66 See..how arrogaunt this porkishe papist is here. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* (1880) 10 And rounde about his porkish necke, his Pall of passing price, He casteth on.

Porkling (pōə·ɹklin). Also 6–7 **porklin.** [f. PORK[1] + -LING[1].] A little or young pig.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 137/31 These be diminutiues, and may be expounded by this signe little, as gosling, or little goose, porkling or little porke. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 148 b, Twelve hogsties, everie stie conteyning fiftie Porklinges. 1598 FLORIO, *Maranello*, a young pig, or a porklin. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxxxix. 309 The other..devoured a whole Boar, a hundred Loaves, a Weather, and a Porkling. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 267 The little porkling might have squeezed his way through the palings. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 231/2 A mottled porkling crashed through a little rug of branches.

b. Contemptuously or derisively applied to a person. Also *attrib.*

1542 BECON *Potation for Lent* K viij, The fat Pharise.. the porkelynge Justiciarie, whiche trust in theyr owne righteousnes, are no fytte Gestes for this mooste delicious table. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. 92 b, The gloryouse glottons, and franke fedde porkelynges of that gredye gulfe ..whose God ys their bellye. 1602 *Contention Betw. Liberality & Prodigal.* v. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VIII. 369 Come, porkling, come on.

Po·rkman. [f. PORK[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man who sells pork, a dealer in pork.

1764 *Low Life* (ed. 3) 31 Pork-Men busy in their Shops and Cellars. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. v, The butcher and the porkman painted up only the leanest scrags of meat.

† **Po·rknell.** *Obs. rare.* [Arbitrary derivative of PORK[1]: cf. *cracknel.*]

1. One as fat as a pig.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6368 Polidarius, the porknell, and his pere Machaon, Suet with the xvij [batell].

2. Some part of the offal of a sheep.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 111 No more doth he feed on anie thing when he is at Saffron Walden, but trotters, sheepes porknells, and buttered rootes.

Porkpen, obs. form of PORCUPINE.

† **Pork physic,** for *Poke physic*, old name of Virginian Poke, POKE *sb.*[4] 2 a.

1733 [see POKE *sb.*[4] 2 a]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Poke*, or *Pork Physic*, the name by which the *Phytolacca* of botanists is sometimes called. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Pork-pie. [f. PORK[1] + PIE *sb.*[2]]

1. A pie of pastry enclosing minced pork.

1732 FIELDING *Miser* III. iii, Let there be..some dainty fat pork-pye or pasty. 1859 *Eng. Cookery Bk.* 202 A Plain Crust for Pork Pies. 1896 *Cassell's Dict. Cooking* 610 Pork pies are generally made of the trimmings taken from a hog when it is cut up.

2. (In full *pork-pie hat.*) Popularly applied to a hat with a flat crown and a brim turned up all round, worn by women *c* 1855–65, recalling the shape of a deep circular pie; also applied loosely to similar hats worn by men in some countries.

1860 G. A. SPOTTISWOODE in *Vac. Tour.* 98 Pork-pie hats with streaming ribbons. 1863 MRS. H. WOOD *Shadow Ashlydyat* (1878) 329 Charlotte rose..and carried the pork-pie to the chimney-glass, to settle it on. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *My Remin.* I. x. 173 He [Garibaldi] wore a sort of large pork-pie hat. 1891 *Spectator* 26 Dec. 924/1 The bull-fighter's hat known in England as the 'pork-pie'.

Porkpik, porkpin, obs. ff. PORCUPINE. **Porkpisce,** obs. form of PORPOISE.

† **Po·rkrel.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [dim. of PORK[1]: see -REL.] A young swine; a pig.

1688 CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 122 Shoats, or Porkrels are their general Food.

Po·rkwood. [f. PORK[1] + WOOD *sb.*] The name of certain trees or shrubs. **a.** A bush or small tree (*Xigellaria capensis*) found in the warmer parts of Africa. **b.** *Pisonia obtusata*, the Pigeon-wood, Beef-wood, or Corkwood of the West Indies and Florida.

1880 *S. Africa* (ed. 3) 127 In these kloofs grow..the Spechout or Porkwood.

Porky (pōə·ɹki), *a. colloq.* [f. PORK[1] + -Y.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling pork; fleshy, obese.

1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* li, Mr. Sponge was a good deal more put out by the incident..than his porky host. 1866 MRS. RIDDELL *Race for Wealth* xxix, A fat, light-haired, snub-nosed, porky kind of a child. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., A porky odor permeated the whole place.

Porle, obs. form of PURL.

Pormanton, obs. corrupt f. PORTMANTEAU.

Pornerastic (pɒ̄mĕræ·stik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πόρνη* harlot + *ἐραστ-ής* lover + -IC.] Addicted to harlotry; whoremongering.

1870 F. HARRISON *Choice Bks.* (1886) 151 We hear nothing of..those pornerastic habits in high places, ..which are too often thrust before our eyes in fiction.

[**Pornial** (in *Cent. Dict.* and Funk's *Standard Dict.*), a spurious word, due to a misreading or misprint of *primal.*]

Pornocracy (pɒɹnǫ·krăsi). [f. Gr. *πόρνη* harlot + -CRACY.] Dominating influence of harlots or prostitutes: *spec.* the government of Rome during the first half of the tenth century.

1860 EDERSHEIM tr. *Kurtz's Ch. Hist.* II. § 126. 379 For half a century Theodora..and her equally infamous daughters,..filled the See of Peter with their paramours, their sons, and grandsons, .. (the so-called Pornocracy). 1874 DEUTSCH *Remains* 245. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 484 A century of shameless intrigue and fighting—the period of the Pornocracy.

So **Po·rnocrat,** a member of a pornocracy.

1894 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 286 The most licentious and shameless of the Pornocrats.

Pornograph (pɒ̄·ɹnǫgrɑf), *sb.* (*a.*) [In sense 1, a. F. *pornographe* pornographer, ad. Gr. *πορνογράφ-ος*: see next; for sense 2 cf. -GRAPH.]

† **1.** = PORNOGRAPHER. *Obs.*

1877 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 562 He would recognize..the difference between Pheidias and the pornographs.

2. An obscene writing or pictorial illustration.

1890 in *Century Dict.*

B. as *adj.* = PORNOGRAPHIC.

1893 SALTUS *Madam Sapphira* 165 Here the reporter can be as pornograph as the Marquess of Sade, if he knows how.

Pornographer (pɒ̄ɹnǫ·grăfəɹ). [f. Gr. *πορνογράφ-ος* writing of harlots (f. *πόρνη* harlot + *-γράφος* writing, writer) + -ER[1].] One who writes of prostitutes or obscene matters; a portrayer of obscene subjects.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 429 (ed. 2) 619 The pornographers of the later times. 1886 *Lit. World* (U. S.) 1 May 152/1 They call themselves 'naturalists'... but they are in fact only pornographers, and immature, inexperienced, conceited, love-mad youngsters. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 904/2 Parisian artistic pornographers.

Pornographic (pɒ̄ɹnǫgræ·fik), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC. So F. *pornographique.*] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of pornography; dealing in the obscene.

1880 *Guardian* 27 Oct. 1450 The excesses of the [French] press designated as 'pornographic'..have..become such as to compel the authorities to adopt strong measures against them. 1881 SYMONDS *Ital. Renaiss., Ital. Lit.* II. xiv. 365 Pornographic Pamphleteers and Poets. 1894 STEAD *If Christ Came to Chicago* 117 Two booksellers .. whose windows still contain a large and varied collection of pornographic literature.

Pornography (pɒɹnǫ·grăfi). [f. as prec. + -Y. So F. *pornographie.*]

1. (See quot.)

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*, *Pornography*, a description of prostitutes or of prostitution, as a matter of public hygiene. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

2. Description of the life, manners, etc., of prostitutes and their patrons; hence, the expression or suggestion of obscene or unchaste subjects in literature or art; pornographic literature or art.

1864 WEBSTER, *Pornography*, licentious painting employed to decorate the walls of rooms sacred to bacchanalian orgies, examples of which exist in Pompeii. 1882 *Daily Tel.* No. 8313. 5/4 Pictorial and glyptic 'pornography'.. grew, flourished, declined, and fell with the Second Empire. 1896 MACKAIL *Lat. Lit.* 18 The Casina and the Truculentus [of Plautus] are studies in pornography which only the unflagging animal spirits of the poet can redeem from being disgusting.

So **Porno·graphist,** a writer on pornography.

1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Aug. 79/2 The 'grossness of the naturalists and the subtleties of the pornographists', to use the words of M. Lavisse, cannot have any other result.

Porodinic (pǫ·ɹo-, pōəɹodi·nik), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*[1] + *ὠδίς, ὠδῖν-* travail, birth + -IC.] Discharging the genital products by means of a pore: opp. to SCHIZODINIC.

1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 682/1 *note*, Cœlomate animals are, according to this nomenclature, either Schizodinic or Porodinic. The Porodinic group is divisible into Nephrodinic and Idiodinic, in the former the nephridium serving as a pore, in the latter a special (ἴδιος) pore being developed.

Poro·dinous, *a. Geol. rare.* [Improperly f. Ger. *porodine* (Breithaupt 1832) (f. Gr. *πωρώδης* having the form of stalactite (f. *πῶρος* hardened stone, stalactite) : see -INE 2) + -OUS. A better form would be *porodine*, like *crystalline, hyaline.*] See quot.

1876 A. H. GREEN *Phys. Geology* ii. § 4. 45 *Porodinous* [rocks], or those which have solidified from a gelatinous state. Certain minerals, such as Opal, .. have in all likelihood been formed in this way.

Porogamic (pŏrŏ·, pōərŏgæ·mik), *a. Bot.* [mod. f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*1 + *γάμ-os* marriage + -IC. (Treub, *Ann. Jardin Bot. de Buitenzorg*, 1891.)] Applied to fertilization in which the pollen-tube enters the ovule by the micropyle, as in most plants: opposed to *chalazogamic.* (Also said of the plant.) So **Po·rogam,** a plant characterized by this mode of fertilization.

1894 *Times* 11 Aug. 11/3 Professor Balfour hesitated to adopt Treub's division into chalazogams and porogams until the limits of the former group were better defined. 1895 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 412 This type of fertilization has been termed chalazogamic in contradistinction to the more usual micropylar or porogamic method.

† **Poro·logy.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*1 + -LOGY.] A scientific treatise on, or investigation of, pores or minute openings.

1684 BOYLE *Porousn. Anim. & Solid Bod.* i. 2 If such little things had not escaped the sight of our illustrious Verulam, he would have afforded a good Porology..among his *Desiderata.*

Porophyllous (pŏrŏ·, pōərŏfi·ləs), *a. Bot. rare*−°. [f. mod.L. *porophyllus* (f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*1 + *φύλλον* leaf) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Porophyllus, Bot.*, having leaves sprinkled with transparent points like pores..: porophyllous.

Poroplastic (pŏrŏ·, pōərŏplæ·stik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*1 + PLASTIC.] Both porous and plastic: applied to a kind of porous felt, plastic when heated, becoming stiff when cold, used for splints and other surgical appliances.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 615 Severer cases..have had the plaster-of-Paris or 'poro-plastic' jacket applied. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 July 5/1 An elastic kneecap costs half a crown, a moleskin one five shillings, a leather one five to twenty, and a poroplastic any sum.

‖ **Po·ro-po·ro.** *New Zealand.* [Maori name.] A flowering shrub, *Solanum aviculare*, with an edible fruit, called in Australia Kangaroo Apple.

1857 C. HURSTHOUSE *N. Zealand* I. 136 The Poroporo..is a sodden strawberry flavoured with apple peel. 1872 A. DOMETT *Ranolf* XVIII. vi. 312 Potato-apples of the poro-poro tall.

Porose (porōu·s), *a.* [ad. L. type **porōs-us* (in mod.L.); in It. and Sp. *poroso.*] Containing or abounding in pores; porous; now rare exc. in *Zool.*, said of corals of the division *Perforata*, as opposed to the *Aporosa*, and of the sculpture of insects dotted or pitted as if with minute holes.

[*c* 1400 : see POROUS.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Porose* or *Porous* (*porosus*), full of pores or little holes. *Bacon.* 1697 A. DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 147 There is a most delicate fine freestone,..but so porose..that, troughs being made of it, it will let the water run out for a year or two. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. (1716) 15 These Porose Bodies must be equally heavy with the most compact ones. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 270 Porose, beset with many pores. Ex. *Elytra* of most *Apions.*

Hence **Poro·seness** = POROSITY.

1746 ARDERON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 282 *note*, The Nature of these Horns seems..changed into that of Chalk; only retaining their outward Form, and the Poroseness of their inward Parts.

‖ **Porosis** (porōu·sis). *Physiol.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *πώρωσις* in same sense, f. *πωροῦν* to form a callus, f. *πῶρος* PORE *sb.*2] The formation of a callus, as in a fractured bone.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Porosis*, the breeding of callous Matter. 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Porosity (porŏ·sĭti). [ad. med.L. *porōsitās* (Albertus Magnus *a* 1250), f. L. type **porōs-us* POROUS: see -ITY. Cf. F. *porosité.*] The quality or fact of being porous; porous consistence.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. ii. (1495) e v b/1 The porosytee of the tree drawyth þe fumosyte from the rynde. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 385 This porosite also makes their vpper face smooth, and bedewed with a kind of slimy moisture. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 231 It is the porosity of this stone that renders it so light. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. v. 183 In virtue of its extreme porosity, a similar power is possessed by charcoal.

b. *concr.* A porous part or structure; an interstice or pore. (Usually in *pl.*)

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 9 b/2 The Diploe, that is, the porosityе which is betweene them bothe [tables of skull]. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 284 Sudden floods filling the porosities and chanels of the superficies of the earth. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 15 Found in the interstices of the laminæ of the compact tissue, and the porosities with which they seem perforated.

Poro·so-, combining form of mod.L. *porōsus* POROSE, as in **poro·so-pu·nctate** *a.*, minutely punctate as if with pores.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 416 Interstices smooth, porosopunctate.

Porostomatous (pŏrŏ·-, pōərŏ|stŏ·mătəs), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Porostomata* (f. Gr. *πόρο-s* pore + *στόμα* (*τ-*) mouth) + -OUS.] Belonging to or having the characters of the *Porostomata*, a group of nudibranchiate gastropods in which the mouth is pore-shaped.

Porotic (porŏ·tik), *a.* and *sb. Med.* ? *Obs. rare*−°. [ad. mod.L. *pōrōtic-us*, f. Gr. *πωρόειν* to form a callus, f. *πῶρος* PORE *sb.*2 : see -IC.] (See quots.)

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Porotick Medicines*, Medicines which by drying, thickning and astringent Qualities turn part of the Nourishment into brawny or callous Matter. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Poroticks*, a term used by the antients for such medicines as would consume callus. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Porotic*, a remedy believed to be capable of assisting the formation of callus. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Porotype (pŏrŏ·-, pōə·rŏtəip). [mod. f. Gr. *πόρος* PORE *sb.*1 + TYPE.] A print made upon prepared paper by exposing an engraving or writing to some gas which penetrates those parts not rendered impervious by the ink, and bleaches or discolours the paper so as to produce a copy of the original, in the same way as light produces a copy from a photographic negative.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Porotype*, a method of copying engravings. It depends upon the fact that the portion of the face of the print occupied by ink is non-porous.

Porous (pōə·rəs), *a.* [=F. *poreux* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), It., Sp. *poroso*, ad. L. type **porōs-us* (in mod.L.), f. *porus* PORE *sb.*1 : see -OUS.] Full of or abounding in pores; having minute interstices through which water, air, light, etc. may pass.

Porous plaster, a plaster having numerous small holes pierced through it so as to enable it to lie smoothly (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 107 It schulde ben more rare & more porous [*v.r.* porose], þat is to seie, more ful of hoolis. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 33 It is nothing solide or massie, but much porouse. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. ix. (1635) 153 The Porous and spongy nature of the Earth is apt to drinke in the water of the sea. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 207 If gold it self be admitted, as it must be, for a porous concrete. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 359 Light, in its passage, penetrates the porous vacuities. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* i. 5 Questions of water supply hinge mainly on the porous or impervious character of rocks.

b. *fig.*

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. Pref., Many [arguments] ..go through their more porous and spongy minds without any sensible impression. 1795 COLERIDGE *Plot Discovered* 19 But our minister's..style is infinitely porous. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. vii. (1872) VI. 207 Men are very porous; weighty secrets oozing out of them, like quicksilver through clay jars.

c. Acting or performed by means of pores.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 302 Porous dehiscence is an irregular kind of dehiscence.

Po·rously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a porous manner; with porousness; by means of pores.

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Po·rousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being porous; porosity.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. vii. § 6. 186 Porousness, Spunginess, fungous, sinking, hollow. 1670 CAPT. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivd* 16 Marle..by its glutinous substance being incorporated with the sand, closes the hollows and porousness thereof. 1775 STRANGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 419 This porousness I also remember to have once before observed. *Mod.* There is a constant evaporation from the surface of the jar, on account of the porousness of the material.

fig. 1904 *Daily News* 6 June 3 Not less striking was the evident porousness of this over seventy-year-old man to fresh conceptions of truth.

b. *concr.* Porous substance or part. *rare.*

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* iv. § 4. 28 They will forcibly gett into the porousnesse of it, and passe with violence betweene part and part.

Porpaise, -pas(s(e, -pes(s(e, obs. ff. PORPOISE.

Porpan-, porpentine, etc.: see PORCUPINE.

Porpere, obs. form of *purpure*: see PURPLE.

Porphere, -erie, -ier, -ir(e, -iry, -ure, -yr, obs. forms of PORPHYRY.

Porphyr-, porphyro-, repr. Gr. *πορφυρ(ο-*, comb. stem of *πόρφυρο-s* purple, and its derivatives; in Eng. (and other mod. langs.) a formative element, in senses 'purple' and 'porphyry', as in *porphyr-aceous, porphyr-ite, porphyr-ize, porphyrogenetic*, etc.

‖ **Porphyra** (pŏ·rfĭră). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Agardh), a. Gr. *πορφύρα* purple.] A small genus of Algæ or Seaweeds, type of the sub-order *Porphyreæ*, with fronds varying in colour from a clear rose to a livid purple. The chief species are *P. laciniata* and *P. vulgaris*, known as Purple Laver.

1849 CRAIG, *Porphyra*, a genus of Algæ: Order, Confervaceæ. 1857 WOOD *Com. Objects Sea-shore* 69 The ulva and porphyra, if intended to be eaten, must be gathered in the winter...The purple laver is said to be much superior to its green companion.

Porphyraceous (pŏrfĭre·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* ? *Obs. rare.* [f. PORPHYR- + -ACEOUS.] Of the nature of or allied to porphyry; porphyritic.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 207 Charpentier mentions a sort of stone which he calls porphyraceous, though he does not ascribe felspar to it. Hence 1828 in WEBSTER; and in mod. Dicts.

† **Po·rphyrat,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. as prec.: see -ATE 2.] = PORPHYRITIC.

1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* I. xl. 78/1 His ashes bestowed in a little golden potte or vessell of the Porphyrat stone, were carried to Rome.

Porphyrate (pŏ·rfĭrĕt). *Chem.* [f. as PORPHYRIC + -ATE 1.] A salt of porphyric acid.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 690 The porphyrates explode when heated.

† **Porphyre.** *Obs.* [a. F. *porphyre* (Cotgr. 1611), ad. med.L. *porphyrius*, f. Gr. *πορφύρεος* purple.] Name applied to a kind of serpent.

[1584 GREENE *Anat. Fort.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 220 He resembleth the serpent *Porphirius*, who is full of poison, but being toothlesse hurteth none but him selfe.] 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 745 Of the Porphyre. There is among the Indians a Serpent about the bignesse of a span or more, which in outward aspect is like to the most beautiful and well coloured Purple. *Ibid.*, Unto this Porphyre I may add the Palmer Serpent.

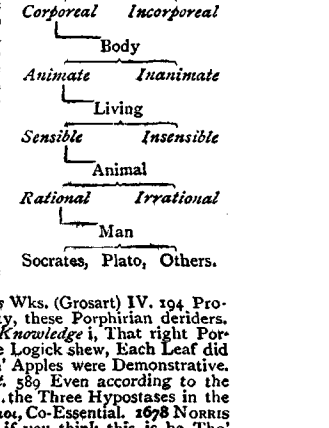
Porphyre, -ie, obs. forms of PORPHYRY.

† **Porphy·rian,** *a.*1 *Obs.* [f. med.L. *porphyri-us* (see PORPHYRY) + -AN.] Of, or composed of, porphyry.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 62 Foure hundred porphirian pillars. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 124 Many lovely Pillars of Porphyrian Marble.

Porphyrian (pŏrfi·rĭăn), *a.*2 (*sb.*) [ad. L. type **Porphyrĭānus*, f. *Porphyri-us* (a. Gr. Πορφύριος), proper name (f. *πόρφυρ-os* purple) + *-ānus*, -AN.] Of or pertaining to Porphyrius or Porphyry, the Neo-Platonic philosopher and antagonist of Christianity (A.D. 233–*c* 306), or to his doctrines.

Porphyrian scale or *tree*, a definition of *man*, in the form of a kind of genealogical table or tree displaying the series of subaltern genera to which he may be assigned below the summum genus *substance*, and the differentiæ by which each subaltern genus is distinguished within the genus next above it. The 'tree' is frequently used as an example of dichotomy. Its origin is to be found in Porphyry's *Isagoge in Aristotelis Categorias* 2 a 13 seqq. (ed. Brandis). In the diagram the names of the genera occupy the middle column; the positive differentiæ are on the left hand, the negative differentiæ on the right.



1593 NASHE *Christ's Teares* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 194 Prosecute with all your authority, these Porphirian deriders. 1656 COWLEY *Misc., Tree of Knowledge* i, That right Porphyrian Tree which did true Logick shew, Each Leaf did learned Notions give, And th' Apples were Demonstrative. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 589 Even according to the Porphyrian Theology it self..the Three Hypostases in the Platonick Trinity, are ὁμοούσιοι, Co-Essential. 1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 59 You err, if you think this is he, Tho' seated on the top of the Porphyrian Tree. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 286 Every step it takes in the region of particulars, whether downwards in the Porphyrian scale, or sideways all round in the field of circumstances affords an additional security.

B. *sb.* A disciple or follower of Porphyry; also called **Porphy·rianist.** [F. *Porphyrien.*]

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 594 The Arians (as Socrates recordeth) were by Constantine called Porphyrianists,..because Arius and Porphyrius did both of them alike, though upon different grounds, make their Trinity a foundation for creature-worship and idolatry. 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 125 In another Letter..he [Constantine] enjoins the Name of Porphyrus to be given to Arius, and his Followers to be called Porphyrians. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 640 [Diodorus] combated Platonists and Porphyrians, Manichaeans and Apollinarists.

Porphyric (pŏrfi·rik), *a.*1 *Geol. rare.* [f. PORPHYR- + -IC: in mod.F. *porphyrique.*] = PORPHYRITIC.

1824 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 43 The bold red seared line of porphyric hills lying east and west.

Porphyric (pŏrfi·rik), *a.*2 *Chem.* [f. Gr. *πόρφυρ-os* purple + -IC.] In *porphyric acid* ($C_{10}H_4N_2O_7$), obtained, as a yellow crystalline powder, or in minute crystals, by the action of nitric acid on euxanthone, and producing a blood-red colour with ammonium carbonate.

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 690 Porphyric acid is slightly soluble, with red colour, in pure water; very slightly soluble in cold, more soluble in boiling alcohol.

Porphyrine1 (pŏ·rfĭrəin). Also 6 **porphurine,** 9 **porphyrin.** [f. as PORPHYRIC *a.*1 + -INE 4.]

† **1.** = PORPHYRY. *Obs. rare.*

1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 57 Houses stuffed within with plate and outwardly decked and adorned with such curious worke of porphurine, as nature in them seemeth to be ouerlaboured with arte.

2. *Geol.* A porphyritic rock: see quots.

1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* I. 88 The Swedish porphyry, already mentioned, approaches nearer to a porphyrin, .. forming the passage from basaltin to porphyry. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 79 Porphyrine. Opaque or nearly so...Consists of feldspar; sometimes quartzose.

Po·rphyrine [2]. *Chem.* [f. Gr. *πόρφυρ-os* purple + -INE [5].] An amorphous alkaloid obtained from the bark of an Australian species of *Alstonia* (N. O. *Apocynaceæ*), which exhibits a characteristic red colour with nitric acid.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 955 On evaporating the ether, the porphyrine remains in the form of a varnish soluble in water and in alcohol. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Porphyrine*, $C_{21}H_{25}N_3O_2$, an amorphous alkaloid.

‖ **Porphyrio** (pɒfi·rio). *Ornith.* Also 7–8 **porphir-**, **-phyrion.** [L. *porphyrio* (Plin.), ad. Gr. *πορφυρίων* the purple coot. In F. *porphyrion.*] A name given by the ancients to the purple coot, sultana, or water-hen (see quot. 1894); taken by Brisson, 1760, as name of the genus of *Rallidæ* including this, distinguished by their deep-blue plumage and scarlet bill and legs, widely distributed in warm and tropical regions.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Lev.* xi. 18 The storke, and the swanne, and the onocratal, and the porphirion [*Vulg.* porphyrionem, 1611 gier eagle, 1885 vulture]. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 318 There is such a Porphyrio as they picture, akin to the Coots or Water-hens. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Porphyrio*, in zoology, the name of a bird figured and described by all natural historians from one another... It appears to be of the gallinula or moor-hen kind. 1872 A. DOMETT *Ranolf.* XIII. iv. 213 The crimson-billed porphyrio, that jerking struts among the cool thick rushes. 1890 *Victorian Stat., Game Act* Sched. iii, [Close Season] Land-rail, all other members of the Rail family, Porphyrio, Coots, &c... From the First day of August to the Twentieth day of December. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 591 Of the larger species [of the genus *Porphyrio*], *P. cæruleus* seems to be the 'Porphyrio' of the ancients, and inhabits certain localities on both sides of the Mediterranean.

Hence **Porphy·rionine** *a. Ornith.*, belonging to the subfamily *Porphyrionīnæ* of the *Rallidæ*, of which the genus *Porphyrio* is the type; *sb.*, a bird of this subfamily.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Porphyrite (pɔ̄·ɹfirəit), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **-phirite**, 7 **-phyrit**, **-pherite.** [ad. L. *porphyrītēs* a purple-coloured precious stone in Egypt (Pliny), ad. Gr. *πορφυρίτης* adj. like purple, *π. λίθος* stone of this colour, porphyry, f. *πόρφυρ-os* purple: see PORPHYR- and -ITE [1] b. So mod.F. *porphyrite*, in sense 2.]

†**1.** = PORPHYRY 1. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xx. (Arb.) 254 Polishers of marble or porphirite. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 579 A number of columns and statues there be, all of porphyrit or red marble. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 67 It was of Porphyrite, or Red Marble Stone.

attrib. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xiii. (1877) I. 253 Some were of porphyrite stone. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 573 The Porphyrite marble, which also commeth out of Ægypt, is of a red colour. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* I. ii. 14 His Ashes were collected, and..put into a Porphyrite Urn.

2. *Min.* A rock of porphyritic structure; a mass principally felsitic, containing also crystals of oligoclase (or sometimes orthoclase) felspar, and occasionally other minerals; = PORPHYRY 3.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 358 That [porphyry] described by Herman..and which he calls a *porphyrite*. It consists of small sparks of felspar, grains of quartz, splinters of hornblende, and fragments of shorl cemented together by a scarcely discernible jaspidean cement. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 162 The porphyrite of the Pentland Hills, near Edinburgh, with crystals of oligoclase, and specular-iron, sparkling in a reddish-brown matrix. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xii. 238 The porphyrites are..divided into diorite and diabase-porphyrites.

†**Porphyrite,** *a.* (*sb.*[2]) *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *porphyrīt-is* purple-coloured, a. Gr. *πορφυρίτης.*] Purple-coloured. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*: see quot.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 442 The Porphyrite Figs first shew upon the tree, and ordinarily be longest tailed. The smallest Figs..come next after and beare the Porphyrites companie. [1706 PHILLIPS, *Porphyritis*, a Fig of a purple Colour.]

Porphyritic (pɔ̄firi·tik), *a.* Also 7 **-etick.** [ad. med.L. *porphyriticus*, f. L. *porphyrītēs* PORPHYRITE; so F. *porphyritique.* The classical L. was *porphyreticus.*] Of or pertaining to the porphyry of the ancients; of the nature or structure of the porphyry of modern mineralogists; *spec.* containing distinct crystals or crystalline particles embedded in a compact ground-mass.

[1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 131 Þe emperour..made Þerynne a fount stoon of a maner stoon Þat hatte porphiriticus.] 1432–50 tr. *Higden* ibid., He made a fonte or baptistery of a ston porphiritike. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Porphyretick*, belonging to red Marble, or purple. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Porphyretick*, (lat.) belonging to *Porphyrie*, i. a fine reddish marble, streaked with diverse colours. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 303 It reposes on indurated clay, as this does on a porphyritic rock. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* 6 Pinnacles of granitic and porphyritic rock would be seen to rise out of large rounded masses of similar rock. 1878 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 80 The texture of a rock is termed Porphyritic when distinct crystals or crystalline particles are distributed through an otherwise compact principal mass or matrix. 1884 DAWSON in *Leisure Ho.* June 356/2 Two sphinxes in the porphyritic diorite of Assouan.

So **Porphyri·tical** *a.* (Worcester 1846); hence **Porphyri·tically** *adv.*

1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xi. 198 The crystals which occur porphyritically in the different varieties afford us a very imperfect clue to these relations. 1882 GEIKIE in *Nature* 7 Dec. 121/2 Mica-schists, in which crystalline aggregates of mica have been porphyritically developed.

Porphyrize (pɔ̄·ɹfirəiz), *v.* [f. PORPHYR- + -IZE. So, in sense 1, F. *porphyriser* (Dict. Trévoux).]

1. *trans.* To pound or triturate on a slab of porphyry or the like.

1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 151 The iron is reduced to an impalpable powder, which must be porphyrized, and ordered as occasion requires.

2. To cause to resemble porphyry.

1828 in WEBSTER.

Hence **Porphyriza·tion** (so F. *porphyrisation*).

1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 32 Porphyrization or levigation is an operation by means of which very hard substances .. are reduced to an impalpable powder. 1842–57 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Porphyroge·ne, *a. rare.* [See PORPHYROGENITE.] Born in the purple.

a 1849 POE *Haunted Palace* iii, Round about a throne where, sitting (Porphyrogene!)..The ruler of the realm was seen.

Porphyrogenetic (pɔ̄·ɹfiroʃdʒĭne·tik), *a.* [f. PORPHYR-, PORPHYRO- + GENETIC.] Producing or generating porphyry.

1882 in OGILVIE (Annandale).

†**Porphyro·genite.** *Obs.* exc. in L. form **porphyroge·nitus,** fem. **-a.** Also 7 **-genete.** [ad. med.L. *porphyrogenitus*, ad. late Gr. *πορφυρογέννητος*, f. Gr. *πορφυρο-*, comb. form of *πόρφυρος* purple + *γεννητός* born. So F. *porphyrogénète* (Balzac 1635).] Originally, one born of the imperial family at Constantinople, and (as is said) in a chamber called the *Porphyra* (*πορφύρα*). Hence, a child born after his father's accession to the throne; and in more general or vague sense, = One 'born in the purple': see PURPLE *sb.*

The actual origin of the name *Porphyra* is disputed.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 82 There he found Irene the Empresse,..in a house anciently appointed for the Empresses childbirth...They call that house, *Porphyra*, whence the name of the *Porphyrogeniti* came into the world. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lxxxi. 788 Not in a Palace prepared, (as the *Porphyrogeniti* had in Constantinople)..but in an Inne! *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 145 Purple is the Imperial and Regal colour, so proper therefore unto Kings and Emperours, that many of the Constantinopolitan Emperours were called *Porphyrogenites*, because at their first coming into the world they were wrapt in Purple. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Porphyrogenitus*, in antiquity, an appellation given to the children of the eastern emperors...Cedrenus will have the word to signify, *born in the purple palace*, or the *palace of porphyry*, a palace so called in Constantinople; wherein the empresses used to lie in. Others derive the appellation hence, that the imperial children, as soon as born, were wrapped *in* purple; others.., that the chamber wherein they were born was hung with purple hangings. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1790) IX. xlviii. 57 In the Greek language *purple* and *porphyry* are the same word:..an apartment of the Byzantine palace was lined with porphyry: it was reserved for the use of the pregnant empresses: and the royal birth of their children was expressed by the appellation of *porphyrogenite*, or born in the purple...This peculiar surname was first applied to Constantine the seventh. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, Anna Comnena..an imperial Princess, porphyrogenita, or born in the sacred purple chamber. 1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. iii. 210 Henry, the Porphyrogenitus, though a younger son relatively to Otho, was the eldest son of royal blood, first born after the accession of Duke Henry to the Throne of Charlemagne. 1893 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 184/2 The kind of fun which is to be got out of bringing the porphyrogenitus of the English aristocracy face to face with all that is most modern in the American democracy.

Hence **Porphyroge·nitism,** the doctrine of succession in a royal family which prefers a son born after his father's accession to one born before that event; **Porphyroge·niture,** the condition of being born 'in the purple' (see above).

1857 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 210 The doctrine of Porphyrogenitism, congenial to popular sentiment and not without some foundation in principle, prevailed influentially and widely in many countries and through many ages. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 59 This brought him within the description of porphyrogeniture, or royal birth.

Porphyroid (pɔ̄·ɹfiroid), *sb.* (*a.*) *Geol.* and *Min.* [f. PORPHYR(O)- + -OID. So F. *porphyroïde.*]

A. *sb.* A rock resembling porphyry or of porphyritic structure.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 369 Many aggregates ..cannot be arranged under any general denomination now in use. Hence I would propose to call them..*Porphyroids.* 1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* I. 88 Porphyroid. This denomination includes such substances as approach the porphyritic structure. In a strict derivation of the term porphyry,..the black and green kinds could only be termed porphyroids. *Ibid.* 211 Granitic porphyroids are so abundant in all primitive mountains, that it is scarcely necessary to select examples. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* 131 Porphyroid occurs among the schistose rocks of Saxony, in the palæozoic area of the Ardennes, as well as in Westphalia and other parts of Europe.

B. *adj.* Resembling or akin to porphyry.

1798 GREVILLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 428 Like the crystals of feldspar which we meet with in the porphyroid granites. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. ii. 96 Porphyroid masses having bases of compact feldspar. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* §85. 79 These are porphyries, or porphyroid rocks.

Porphyrous (pɔ̄·ɹfirəs), *a. poet. rare.* [f. Gr. *πόρφυρ-os* purple + -OUS.] Purple.

1884 R. BRIDGES *Prometh. Firegiver* 1272 Her porphyrous heart-veins boil.

Porphyroxin (pɔ̄fiɹɒ·ksin), *sb. Chem.* [a. F. *porphyroxine* (Merck 1837), f. Gr. *πόρφυρ-os* purple + *-ox-*, f. OXYGEN: see -IN [1].] 'Name for a neutral crystallisable substance, composed of a mixture of alkaloids (laudanin, meconidin, etc.), obtained from opium' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Annual* 332 Porphyroxin. 1854–67 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.*, *Porphyroxin*, an alkaloid, supposed to exist in Bengal opium. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 956 Porphyroxine.

Porphyry (pɔ̄·ɹfiri). Forms: *α.* 5 **porfu·rie, -fu·rye, -fo·rie, -phu·rye, -phi·ri(e, -fi·rie.** *β.* 5 **pu·rfire,** 7 **-fere, -fure**; 6 **-phure, po·rphier, -phuer,** 6–7 **-phir, -e,** 6–9 **-phyre,** 7 **-phere, pu·rphire,** 7–8 **po·rphyr.** *γ.* 6 **po·rpherie, -phury,** 7 **-phyrie, prophyry, purphorie,** 8 **porphiry,** 6– **porphyry.** [The ultimate source of the word in all its forms is Gr. *πόρφυρος* adj. purple, *πορφύρα* sb. the purple-whelk, and its dye; but the stone was called in Gr. *πορφυρίτης*, L. *porphyrītēs*, whence PORPHYRITE. The Romanic names of the stone point however to late L. forms **porphyrius, *porphyrus* (sc. *lapis*), purple (stone), or **porphyrium, *porphyrum*: cf. Romaic *πόρφυρον.* (*Porphyrius*, Πορφύριος existed as a proper name: see PORPHYRIAN [2].) For the stone, English shows three types: *α.* (in Chaucer, in sense 2) *porfu·rie, -fi·rie*, etc., a. AF. **porfi·rië* = OF. *porfi·re*, mod.F. *porphy·re*, ad. late L. type **porphy·rius, -um.* *β.* *po·rphir, -phyr*, earlier *po·rfire, po·rphyre*, app. (with shifted stress) for *purfi·re, porphy·re*, a. OF. *porfi·re.* *γ.* *po·rphyrie, -phyry*, 16th c. ad. late L. type **porphyrius, -um.*

For the relation of AF. *porfi·rië* to F. *porfi·re*, cf. AF. *navi·rie*, OF. *navi·re*, AF. *glo·rie*, OF. *gloi·re.* From F. come also Du. *porfie·r, -phie·r*, Ger. *porphy·r*, Da., Sw. *porfyr.* From the late L. **po·rphyrus, -um*, also *po·rfidum* (Dante) came It. *po·rfiro, po·rfido*, Sp., Pg. *pórfido.*]

1. The word used to render L. *porphyrītēs*, Gr. *πορφυρίτης*, the name given to a beautiful and very hard rock anciently quarried in Egypt, composed of crystals of white or red plagioclase felspar embedded in a fine red ground-mass consisting of hornblende, plagioclase, apatite, thulite, and withamite, the last two being bright red in colour. By modern poets often used vaguely, in the sense of a beautiful and valuable purple stone taking a high polish, including red granite and marble.

The site of the ancient quarries, after being long lost, was discovered by Burton and Wilkinson at Gebel Dokhān, near the Red Sea, in lat. 27° 20′ N.

In It., *porfido nero, porfido verde*, were applied to black and green rocks of porphyritic structure obtained from Sardinia, Greece, and elsewhere, and these have been englished as *black* and *green porphyry.*

β. a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5275 Þe pilars ware of purfire polischt & hewen. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Esther* i. 6 *margin*, The beds were of gold and of siluer vpon a pauement of porphyre. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) A vj b, The third is a piller of Porphier in a golden field. 1589 LODGE *Scillaes Metam.* (Hunter. Cl.) 41 Where purphure, Ebonie, white, and red, al colours stained bee. 1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 31 The Saphir [is] highlier esteemed for the hue, then the Porphuer for his hugenesse. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 278 Beautified with many great peeces of Porphire and Sarpentine. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 10 Cerigo ..once called *Porphyris* of his excellent Porphyr. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 77 Precious as Marble and Purphire. 1648 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 217 My great grinding-stonne of purfure with the muller to it, and the little grinding-stonne of purfere with the muller to it. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. viii. § 19 Let us consider the red and white Colours in Porphyre. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 227 The most durable Marbre or Porphyr.

γ. 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* (1556) 66 Pillers of Porpherie, whiche is a stone of purple colour. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxxiii. (1612) 301 The Statures huge, of Porphyrie and costlier matters made. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Oct., Red-plaster flores which are made so hard and kept so polished, that..one would take them for whole pieces of porphyrie. 1645 *Ibid.* June, The floore [of St. Mark's] is all inlayed with achats,..jaspers, porphyries and other rich marbles. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 82 ¶ 9, I have two pieces of porphyry found among the ruins of Ephesus. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lx, Her pyramid of precious stones, Of porphyry, jasper, agate, and all hues Of gem and marble. 1861 C. W. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 64 Porphyry..is easily recognised by its deep red colour, thickly dotted with small white spots. 1871 ROSSETTI *Burden of Nineveh* xiii, Made proud with pillars of basalt, With sardonyx and porphyry.

†**b.** *transf. Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Tullie's Loue* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 115 Tempering the porphury of hir face with a vermilion blush, looking like Diana when shee basht at Acteons presence.

†**2.** With *a* and *pl.* A slab or block of porphyry, esp. a slab used for grinding and triturating drugs and the like upon. *Obs.*

a. c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 222 Oure grounden litarge eek in the Porfurie [*v. rr.* porphirie, -phurye, -forie; *rime* mercu·rie].

γ. 1634 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xx. 65, I like best the porphyry, white or greene marble, with a mullar or upper stone of the same. 1644 EVELYN *Mem.* 29 Nov., The laver or basin is of one vast, intire, antiq porphyrie. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 341/2 The dried Mass to be ground each time upon a Porphyry.

3. *Geol.* and *Min.* **a.** A rock consisting of a compact base of felspathic or other unstratified rock containing scattered crystals of felspar of contemporary age.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 349 Any stone which in a siliceous or argillaceous ground, or basis, contains scattered specks, grains, or dots of felspar,..is at present denominated a *porphyry*. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* iv. (1814) 193 Porphyry..consists of crystals of feldspar. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. Gloss. 77 *Porphyry*..is hence applied to every species of unstratified rock, in which detached crystals of felspar are diffused through a base of other mineral composition. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts, Porphyry*, is a compound mineral or rock, composed essentially of a base of hornstone, interspersed with crystals of felspar. 1869 Bristow tr. *Figuier's World bef. Deluge* ii. 33 True porphyry presents a paste essentially composed of compact felspar. 1876 Page *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* vii. 134 The porphyry of the mineralogist consists of a reddish felspar basis with disseminated crystals.

b. In more general sense: Any unstratified or igneous rock having a homogeneous base in which crystals of one or more minerals are disseminated.

Variously specified as *felspar porphyry* (= a), *basaltic, claystone, granitic, greenstone, hornstone, mica, pitchstone, trachytic porphyry*, etc. *Quartz porphyry* has as groundmass an intimate mixture of orthoclase and quartz, containing distinct crystals or large grains of quartz.

The name is sometimes applied even to rocks in which the porphyritic crystals are absent. Many limitations or definitions of the term have been proposed by modern mineralogists, continental and British, but without any general agreement as to the basis of definition: see, in English, Sir A. Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 1885) 149, Prof. Bonny in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* (1886) XLI. 72, Harper *Petrology for Students* (ed. 1902) 126, etc.

1813 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 119 The term porphyry is very vague, being applied to all rocks that have a compact base or ground in which crystals of any kind are imbedded and distinctly visible. 1838 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* xxviii. (1874) 506 When distinct crystals of one or more minerals are scattered through a compact base the rock is termed a 'porphyry'. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 455 High and romantic cliffs, chiefly of porphyry or amygdaloid, abounding in agates, amethysts, &c. of great beauty and variety. 1858 Geikie *Hist. Boulder* xii. 240 When a trap displays distinct disseminated crystals..it becomes a porphyry. 1872 R. B. Smyth *Mining Statist.* 32 Quartz porphyries and felspar porphyries—massive, and dykes of diorite and diabase, occur in many parts. 1878 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 88 Porphyry is the general designation for all porphyritic rocks with compact main mass or matrix. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 690 Crystals of felspar, quartz, or calcareous spar, disseminated through a base of greenstone, form a greenstone porphyry. In the same way, there are pitchstone porphyry, basaltic porphyry, claystone porphyry, etc.

4. A collector's name for various moths (so called from the colour or markings of their wings).

1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 427 The Porphyry (*Botys cespitalis*). Chalky places. 1832 Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & Moths* 74 The Porphyry (*Scotophila porphyrea*) appears the end of July. Wings..; first pair dusky red, with a purplish tinge, with several white streaks and spots. *Ibid.* 149 The Porphyry (*Pyrausta porphyrialis*). Wings.. purplish, with a large golden red or white spot among many very minute ones.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porphyry column, grot, house, hue, mortar, slab*; **b. porphyry-chair**, a chair used in the installation of a pope; **porphyry chamber**, name of a room in the palace of the Emperors at Byzantium (cf. quot. 1727–41 s. v. Porphyrogenite); **porphyry knot-horn**, a moth: see quot.; **porphyry-shell**, a shell of the genus *Murex*, esp. that from which the purple dye was obtained; **porphyry-stone** = senses 1 and 2.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* II. v. 125 Beaten into pouder in a purphorie morter of smal bignesse. 1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* III. viii, His porphyre house glitters in purple die; In purple clad himself. *Ibid.* II. x, With luke-warm waters di'd in porphyr hue. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 103 Your Eccho deserves to dwell in som marble or porphyry grot. 1827 Faraday *Chem. Manip.* v. 150 Excellent porphyry mortars are brought to this country from Sweden. 1870 Morris *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 180 Porphyry cliffs as red as blood.

b. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Porphyry Chair*, a Chair of Porphyry Marble in the Cloister of St. John Lateran at Rome, called Sedes Stercoraria. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* iv. viii. (1864) II. 397 Constantine was seized .. conducted to the *porphyry chamber in which Irene had borne him—her firstborn son. 1832 Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & Moths* 214 The *Porphyry Knot-horn (*Phycita*) *Porphyrea*, Curtis). 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.*, **Porphyry-shell*, a name given by authors to a species of sea-shell of the purpura kind, with a short clavicle and beak. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 129 The Pope gave him a ryng and a superaltarie of *porphiri ston, whech he had hallowid and blessid. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xv. (1658) 165 A subtile pouder.. much like what filing..of leaf gold upon a porphyre stone, may reduce it into. 1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 86 It was adorn'd with white Marble, Porphyr-stone,.. and..Statues.

Porpice, -piece, -pisce, obs. ff. Porpoise.

Porpin, -pintine: see Porcupine *β*, *δ*.

‖ **Porpita** (pɒ̄·ɹpită). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πόρπη* buckle-pin, brooch.] Name of a genus of *Siphonophora*: see quots. So **Porpi·tid**, an animal of the family *Porpitidæ*; **Po·rpitoid** *a.*, resembling this genus or family.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sc.* etc., *Porpita*, the name of a genus of sea-nettles..; characterized by an internal circular flattened disk of a calcareous and horny texture. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 98 In Porpita, the disc remains flat and circular. 1883 C. F. Holder in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 107/1 Delicate shapes of ianthina, vellela, and porpita.

Porpoise (pɒ̄·ɹpəs, -pois). Forms: see below. [ME. *porpays, -peys, -poys*, a. OF. *porpeis* (12–13th c. in Godef.), *porpais, -pois* (Norman dial. of Guernsey *pourpeis*) = L. type **porcus piscis*, lit. hog-fish or fish-hog: cf. OIt. *pesce porco*, Pg. *peixe porco* = L. type **piscis porcus*. In cl. L. *porcus marīnus* (Pliny) = sea-hog, whence It. *porco marino*, Sp. *puerco marino*; cf. also Ger. *meerschwein* 'sea-swine', whence mod.F. *marsouin*. In Eng. the first element varied in 14–16th c. with *pur-* (Caxton *pour-*); the second element had many variations. In 17th c. there was an attempt to Latinize both elements as *porc-* or *porcu-pisce*, pl. *-pisces*; in the 18th c. *porpus* was prevalent; Johnson has *porpoise, porpus*; in the 19th c. usually written *porpoise* and pronounced *porpus*.]

A small cetaceous mammal (*Phocæna communis*) about five feet in length, of a blackish colour above and paler beneath, having a blunt rounded snout not produced into a 'beak' as the dolphin's. Hence extended to other species of the genus *Phocæna*, and to various small cetaceans of the family *Delphinidæ*. (Formerly also as collective pl.)

Bay porpoise or *Skunk porpoise*, a larger North American porpoise of the genus *Lagenorhynchus*, distinguished by wide bands of yellow and white along its sides.

***α.* 4 porpayse, 4–5 -pays, -poys, 4–6 -pas, 5 -peys, -e, -pys, 5–6 -pes, 6 -passe, -pose, -pyse, -pyshe, 6–9 -pesse, 7 -paise, -piece, -pois, -poce, -puis, -puise, -pisce, 7–8 -pess, -pos, -pice, 9 -pass; 6–9 porpus, 6– porpoise.**

1309–10 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 7, j porpas. 1324–5 *Ibid.* 14, j porpayse et cc Haddoks. 1329 *Acc. Chamberl. Scotl.* (1771) 7 In emptione unius porpoys, 5*s*. *?c* 1390 *Form of Cury* § 108 Porpeys in broth. 1530 Palsgr. 256/2 Porpas a fysshe, *merswyn*. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 913 Porpasse, *daulphin*. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 69 b, Greatte fyshes of the see, as thurlepole, porpyse and sturgeon. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 Sturgeon porpose or seale. 1542 Boorde *Dyetary* xiii. (1870) 268 A young porpesse, the whiche kynde of fysshe is nother praysed in the olde testament nor in physycke. 1552 Huloet, Porpysshe fyshe. 1590 Greene *Never too late* (1600) 63 Neither flesh nor fish as the Porpus. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 241 The Porpuisses..are made like the Dolphins. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* v. 80 Wallowing Porpice sport and lord it in the flood. 1628 Digby *Voy. Mediterran.* (1868) 9, I neuer yet saw store of porposes playing, but soone a storme ensewed. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 213 Porpiece. 1657 R. Ligon *Barbadoes* 28 Fishes..overgrown with fat, as you have seen Porpisces. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 217 Porpaise...Tursions or Sea Hoggs are fatter than Dolphins. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 6 A Porpess..taken with a Fish-gig above Malta. 1698 Tyson in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 128 The Dolphin and Porpois. 1700 W. King *Transactioneer* 48 He had the Misfortune to be Scratched by the Tooth of a Porpos. 1709 T. Robinson *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 45 Porpices.. which delight in sporting and playing upon the waves. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 59 A great number of Porpuses. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 329 There the porpess and the shark continue their depredations. 1802 Bingley *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 16 The Porpesse is well known in all the European seas. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* III. 416 Throwing up the water, like a porpass, in a gale o' wind. 1834 McMurtrie *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 111 The Porpoise has no rostrum, but a short and uniformly convex muzzle. 1837 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* II. 193 The grand shoal..of which the arrival is announced by the number of its greedy attendants, the gannet, the gull, the shark, and the porpus.

***β.* 4–5 purpays, 5 -peys, -paysse, -poys, pourpays, 5–6 purpose.**

1400–1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 603 Famulo .. portanti j purpays. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 427 Make the nombuls of purpoys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purpeys, fysche. *c* 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 724 Purpose rosted on coles. *c* 1483 Caxton *Dialogues* 12/2 Fro the see to you come Whales, pourpays [F. Balainnes, porc de mer]. 1586 Bright *Melanch.* vi. 27 The Monsters of the sea..are ceals purposes and such like.

***γ.* 6 pork pisce, porkepes, 6–7 porcpisce, 7 porcpis, porkpisce, porcupisce, -pice, -pise, porcupize, porc'pisce.**

1565 Golding *Ovid's Met.* I. (1593) 10 The ugly seales and pork pisces now to and fro did flote. 1595 Spenser *Colin Clout* 251 His heard Of stinking Seales and Porcpisces. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VIII. iii. 739 A great dead fish, round like a Porcpis. 1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. 67 A Sturgeon, a Sea-Calfe, a Porcipize. 1661 Feltham *Low Countries* in *Resolves*, etc. 60 The people that thrive and grow rich by war, like the Porcpisce, that playes in the storm. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* IV. i, Her Eunuch there! That Porc'pisce bodes ill Weather. 1684 O'Flaherty *W. Connaught* (Irish Arch. Soc.) 105 Eighteen porcupices.. were taken near Tombeola.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porpoise beef, diving, hide, lace, oil, skin*; *porpoise-like* adj. and adv.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) N vj, His shooes of a porkepes skynne. 1555 Eden *Decades* 351 This cape may be easely knowen, by reason the rysynge of it is lyke a porpose hedde. 1618 Breton *Courtier & Country-Man* (Grosart) 14/1 A great man..sent him for a great dainty a Porpose Pye or two cold. 1651 Davenant *Gondibert* I. xxxi, The Prince, could Porpoise-like in Tempests play. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 376/1 Some find porpoise-oil to give most uniform satisfaction [for lubricating a watch]. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 123/1 The oild porpoise-hide thigh-boots. 1898 F. T. Bullen *Cruise Cachalot* 19 Porpoise beef improves vastly by keeping. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Aug. 9/2 The 'Plunger' was put through her paces at porpoise diving, ascending repeatedly to the surface, long enough to get her bearings, and immediately disappearing again.

Porporate (pɒ̄·ɹpŏrĕt), *a. rare.* [ad. It. *porporato*, epithet of a Cardinal:—L. *purpurātus* clad in purple, Purpurate, f. *purpura* purple: see -ate 2.] Clad or robed in purple.

1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* v. 227 Paul shall be porporate, and Girolamo step Red-stockinged in the presence when you choose.

Porpore, -pre, -pur(e, obs. ff. *purpure*, Purple.

Porpos, -e, obs. forms of Porpoise, Purpose.

Porpoynte, -pyn: see Porcupine *β*, *γ*.

Porprise, variant of Pourprise *Obs.*, precinct.

Porpuis(e, -pus, -pys(he, obs. ff. Porpoise.

Porr, purr (pɒ̄r, pʊ̄r), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 4–5, 9 por, 6 porh(e, 9 pore, pur. [f. Porr *v.*]

1. A fire poker.

1357–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 124, j porr pro camino, ix d. 1387–8 *Ibid.* 266 In emendacione unius por de ferro. 1407–9 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1897) XII. 518 In iii porres alias naundirens. 1564 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 223 One Iron chimney, one porr, one payre of toynges. 1629 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 265 For mendinge the kitchinge fire porre. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Poker*, a pointed Porr to raise the Fire. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Por, Pore*, a poker for stirring the fire. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss., Porr*, the fire-poker.

2. A thrust, a poke; a kick.

1589 J. Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 273 Missing his ward, he gettes a porh at the left pape, wharof he dies. *Ibid.* 275 A porhe of a rapper. 1844 Jamie *Muse of Mearns* 155 (E.D.D.) A simple pur wi' a bodie's fit Maks 't rin a most prodigious bit. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s. v., He gave him a pur in the side with his thumb.

3. *fig.* A state of agitation or trouble.

1842 H. J. Daniel *Bride of Scio* 175 In sich a pore. 1865 Tregellas *Cornish Tales* (1868) 84 Nothing but pors will be this night.

Porr, purr (pɒ̄r, pʊ̄r), *v.* Now only *dial.* Forms: 4–6 porre, 6 poore, 6– por(r, pore, 9 pur(r. [ME. *porre* = MDu. *porren* (*purren*), Du. *porren*, MLG., LG. (whence Ger.) *purren* (LG. also *puren*), MHG. *phurren*, Ger. dial. *pfurren*, Dan. (from LG.) *purre*, to poke, prod, thrust, stir up, instigate. Cf. Gael., Ir. *purr* to thrust, drive, jerk; app. from English.

This verb has the appearance of being of onomatopoeic origin, *pŭrr* being a natural expression of thrusting. But its common use in ME., MDu., and MLG., indicates a common origin in WGer., and it is remarkable that no trace of it is found in any of the langs. before the 14th c.]

1. *trans.* To thrust, prod, poke, push (anything), as with a spear or stick. In mod. dial. esp. used of poking the fire: cf. Porr *sb.* 1.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5560 þai sett in a sadd sowme & sailid his knistis, Porris doun of his princes & persys þar schildis. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 432/2 He.. gyrneth as a dogge dooeth, when one porreth hym in the teeth with a stycke. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 155/38 To Podde or porre, *pungere*. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Purr*, to stir, poke, esp...the fire [or] the embers of a brick oven. (Cited from Lancashire, Lincoln, East Anglia.)

b. To thrust, push, poke (anything) *in*, etc.; *refl.* to intrude.

1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 579 To porre in. 1870 Axon *Black Knt.* 43 (Lancs.) If he were to pur his ugly face through th' dur hoyle. 1879 Miss Jackson *Shropshire Word-bk.* s. v., 'Er hanna invited me, so I shanna pore myself.

2. *intr.* To make a poke or thrust.

1560 Becon *New Catech.* Wks. I. 519 Let them not bite their lippes, nor scratte their heade, nor rubbe theyr elbowes, nor pore in theyr eares. *c* 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in *S.'s Wks.* (1843) I. p. lx, Then with her distaff she would poore in at hym.

3. *trans.* To stuff, stop, cram, fill (a receptacle or space) with anything.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvii. clx[i]. (Bodl. MS.), Hurden..is clensinge of offal of hempe oþer of flaxe and men in olde tyme cleped it stipa as it were stoppinge oþer porringe for þerwiþ chynes and cliftes of schippes beene porred and stoppid. 1538 Elyot *Dict., Confercio*, to stuffe, or porre. 1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 335 (E. D. D.) You quite pore me.

4. To thrust or push with the foot; to kick, 'esp. to kick with thick boots or clogs' (*E. D. Dict.* cited from Lancash., Chesh., Derby).

1812, 1827 [implied in *purring, purrer* below]. *c* 1860 Staton *Rays fro' th' Loomenary* (Bolton) 37 Hoo up wi har foot an purred th' book reet into th' lone. 1867 *Wigan Observer* 23 Feb., But Shaw would not give over, and 'purred' me behind the ear as I was picking my money up. 1886 B. Brierley *Cast upon World* xxiii. 279 Folk thinkin' if they con purr a clod i' pieces..they're fit for a farmin' job.

Hence **Po·rring, pu·rring** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*); **Po·rrer, pu·rrer,** a heavy boot or clog to kick with.

15.. in *Retrospective Rev.* Feb. (1853) 208 Lyke as the fissher wolle take on hym to selle An ele in Themmys by porrynge with his spere. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 182 Yf the cattell..be nat kepte fro the leese: they wyll be in parel of brastynge, for porrynge. 1717 *Closeburn Inv.* (Nithsdale) (Jam.), A chimney tongues, and shovel, a porring iron, and hearth besome. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 249 Carter..sent forth from the purring part of Lancashire. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 453/1 One smashed his os frontis with the nailed heel of a two-pound wooden clog, a Preston Purrer. 1855 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xxv, He and I will have an up and

down fight, purring an' a'. 1899 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 21 Jan. 12/4 You put your purring clogs on, and you insisted on having a purring match with Grey.

Porraceous (pŏrē·ʃəs), *a.* Also 7–9 erron. -acious. [f. L. *porrāceus* of or like leeks, leek-green, f. *porrum* leek: see -ACEOUS. So F. *porracé*.] Of the nature or colour of the leek; leek-green.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 198 Hard tumours, whether scirrous or porracious. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* VI. vii. 432 If the lesser Intestines be wounded, he will be troubled with poraceous Vomiting. 1730 STUART in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 347 The Vomiting of porraceous Bile. 1847 E. J. SEYMOUR *Severe Dis.* I. 48 It is known.. as 'porracious vomiting', or leek-green sickness, from its colour. 1891 MISS DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* x, The queerly-formed porraceous glass bottle.

Porray, porrey. Now *Sc.* Forms: *α.* 5 **porre, -y, -ay, -ey,** (**poyra,** 8 **poiree, porree**). *β.* 5 **pur(r)e,** 8– *Sc.* **purry.** *γ.* 4–5 **perre,** 5 **-ey(e, -y(e, pereye,** 6 **perrie.** [ME. a. OF. *porée*:—late and med.L. *porrāta*, f. *porrum* leek + *-ata*: see -ADE. The mod.F. *poirée* goes with *poireau*, OF. *porrel, porreau* leek. The history of the *γ* forms is obscure; they may have another origin.

The word was possibly associated in sense with F. *purée* thick soup: cf. 'porry of pese' with F. *purée de pois*.]

A soup or broth made of vegetables (as leeks, peas, or cabbage) or fish, boiled and passed through a sieve, and added to soup-stock or almond-milk, with various flavourings.

In *Sc.*, *purry* is pottage made of chopped kale and oatmeal.

?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* § 70 (1780) 39 Perrey of Peson. *Ibid.* § 73. 40 Take and seep white peson and take oute þe perrey. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 42 Þen þoroughe þe wyntur his curse schal holde, Neghe lentone seson þat porray be bolde. *Ibid.* 44 For blaunchyd porray. Take thykke mylke of almondes .. heke [?leke] hedes. *Ibid.*, Porry of white pese. *Ibid.* 47 Porray of mustuls [mussels]. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 14 Blawnche Perrye. Take þe Whyte of the lekys .. Almaunde Mylke, an a lytil of Rys [etc.]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Porre, or purre, potage (*S.* pese potage), *piseum*. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 90 Blanche porrey. Take blanche almondes, And grinde hem, and drawe hem with sugur water thorgh a streynour; .. þe white of lekes [etc.]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 286/2 Porray, *porreta, porrata*. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xliii. 377 The broth of a chicken, or.. Perrie made of Pease, or some other lyke liquor. 1780 FORBES *Dominie Depos'd* 9 Tartan-purry, meal an' bree, Or butt'ry brose. *a* 1800 in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 312 Put on the pat wi' the purry.

Porrect (pŏre·kt), *a. Zool.* [ad. L. *porrectus* stretched out, extended: see next.] Stretched out or forth; extended, esp. forward.

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 233 Palpi filiform .. scarcely longer than the head, porrect. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 317 Antennæ... Porrect.., when they are placed parallel with each other, and in the same line with the body. 1866 E. C. RYE *Brit. Beetles* 87 Porrect mandibles, one of which—the left—is toothed on the lower side.

Porrect (pŏre·kt), *v.* [f. L. *porrect-*, ppl. stem of *porrigĕre* to stretch out in front of oneself, put forth, extend, offer, f. *por-* = *pro-* forth + *regĕre* to stretch, direct. The pa. pple., the first part to be used, was orig. *porrect* (ad. L. *porrectus*: cf. prec.).]

1. *trans.* To stretch out, extend (usually, a part of the body). Now only in *Nat. Hist.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxviii. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 134/1 To eche partie and extremyte Of his body lyneally porrecte Thorw3 nerfe and synewe driven & directe. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 17 The Romane empyre, that was porrecte from the occean of Britteyne unto the costes of Persida. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 94 The DOCTOR again porrecting his forefingers. 1874 WESTWOOD *Thesaur Entom. Oxon.* 24 The prosternum is porrected in front of the anterior coxæ, forming a sharp, compressed, curved and setose point.

b. To hold (a thing) out *to* some one for his acceptance: cf. PORRECTION 2. ? *Obs. rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 181 Supposynge hym to have porrecte the chesable after to [*sic*] masse to oon of his ministres.

†**2.** To direct or present (a prayer or petition),

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* 18 And he..felle downe a-forne the Awter, porrectynge his meke prayers to heuyn. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 266 The praiere of certeyn peticiones whech were porrect in the Parlement. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 12 A bill of peticion which the lordes..and the commons..solemplye porrected unto the kinges highnes.

3. To put forward, tender (a document, etc.); to produce or submit for examination or correction. *Obs.* exc. in eccl. law.

1774 BP. HALLIFAX *Anal. Rom. Law* (1795) 96 By the new Law, an Actor gave caution to contest the Suit, within two Months after porrecting his Libel. 1848 in *State Trials* VI. 413, I porrect a schedule, which I pray to be read. 1872 *Wharton's Law Lex.* (ed. 5), *Porrecting*, producing for examination or taxation, as porrecting a bill of costs, by a proctor. 1880 *Times* 22 Dec., It is part of the old practice that the promoter of the suit should draw up the sentence, and 'porrect' it, as it is called, to the Judge for his adoption, subject to any alterations that he may make.

b. *humorously.* To tender, deal out.

1746 FIELDING *True Patriot* No. 13 Which I no sooner perceived than I porrected him a remembrance over the face.

Hence **Porre·cted** *ppl. a.*, extended forward.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 277 Consider the porrected form of the nose. 1848 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 6. 337 The antennæ are distant, porrected.

So **Porre·ctate** *a.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Porrection (pŏre·kʃən). [ad. L. *porrectiōn-em*, n. of action f. *porrigĕre*: see prec. So F. *porrection*.]

†**1.** Stretching out; extension. *Obs. rare.*

1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* II. iv. 154 The Broad Muscle.. by its porrection..may serve to open the Eye.

2. The action of holding out for acceptance; proffering; offer; presentation. Now only *Eccl.*

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 322 With Porrections or Surrenders of the Submissive Herba (*porrigere herbam*) or of the more Victorious Palm or Laurel. 1890 *Guardian* 25 June 1030/2 This decree declared the porrection of the cup and paten to be the matter essential to validity in the ordination of priests. 1897 *Tablet* 8 May 726 How are we to account for their retaining the porrection or delivery of the Gospel Book?

Porret (pŏ·rĕt). Now only *dial.* Forms: 4 **porete, (porrecte),** 4–6 **poret, porett(e,** 5 **porrete, -ette,** 5–7 (9 *dial.*) **porret,** 9 *dial.* **pouret(t, purrit.** [ME. *poret, porette*, a. OF. *poret* leek (also *porette* small kind of onion), f. L. *porrum* leek + dim. suffix *-et* (*-ette*), -ET.] A young leek or onion; a scallion.

[*c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/7 *Porius*, i. poret, i. lek.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 273, I haue porettes and percyl and moni Colplontes. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 107 Þe persel, þe passenep, poretes to preue. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 267/2 Thou etar of porrette wene thou to take me out of myn hows. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2 Porret yong lekes, *porette*. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* xxxix. (1878) 94 Seedes and herbes for the Kitchen..31 Poret. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 323 Why Garlick, Molyes, and Porrets have white roots, deep green leaves, and blacke seeds? 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Porret*, the common name of the plant *Allium porrum*.

Porrey: see PORRAY.

Porridge (pŏ·rĭdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 6 **porage, porradge,** 6–7 **-edge,** 6–8 **-ige,** 6–8 (9 *dial.*) **-age,** 7 **-idg,** *Sc.* (9 *dial.*) **-itch,** 7– **porridge.** *β.* 6 **parage,** 8 *dial.* **parrage,** 9 *Sc.* **parridge, -itch.** [Altered form of POTTAGE, PODDISH (cf. PORRINGER). In sense 1, possibly influenced by PORRAY. In Sc. and Eng. dial., usually construed as collective plural.]

†**1.** Pottage or soup made by stewing vegetables, herbs, or meat, often thickened with pot-barley or other farinaceous addition. Cf. GRUEL *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1070 Ye have alredy eaten your porage. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1566 They loue no pese porrege nor yet reade hearynges in lent. 1550 LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 122 Hauyng a fewe porage made of the brothe of the same byefe, wyth salte and otemell. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 18 b, Take a dishe full of Hempe sede .. Braye it well and strayne it wyth warme water so that it become as a thyn parage. 1573 *Tindale's Obed. Chr. Man* Wks. 166 If the porage [1528 podech] be burned ..or the meate ouer rosted, we say The bishop hath put his foote in the potte. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 56 This sort [of Colwoorts]..is sod with Baken and vsed in Porredge. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, He will eate a legge of mutton, while I am in my porridge. 1660–1 PEPYS *Diary* 25 Feb., There we did eat some nettle porrige, which was made on purpose to day,..and was very good. 1748 SUSANNA DARWIN in *E. Darwin's Life* (1879) 8 Till one, Pease Porrage, Pottatoes and Apple Pye. 1755 JOHNSON, *Porridge..*, food made by boiling meat in water; broth. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 427 Some persons have been rendered delirious by eating porridge, wherein it [Fool's parsley] had been used instead of parsley.

b. See PLUM-PORRIDGE.

2. A soft food made by stirring oatmeal (or occas. some other meal or cereal) into boiling water (or milk); in cooling, it becomes more or less congealed. Often with distinguishing word, as *oatmeal p., wheatmeal p., rice p.*

a 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Bill of Fare* Comedies, etc. (1651) 228 *Imprimis* some Rice Porredge, sweet, and hot. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 86 Here he had such Meat and Porridge as such People use to have. 1705 WALL *Hist. Inf. Bapt.* (1844) I. xix. 355 Having his belly filled, and his head bedulled, with Scotch porridge. *a* 1776 in Herd *Collect. Scot. Songs* II. 182 Ye's get a panfu' of plumpin parrage; And butter in them. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vi, They're gude parritch eneugh. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xix. 193 Cooked them a porridge of meat-biscuits and pea-soup. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ix. 139 Oatmeal porridge formed a considerable part of the people's food.

3. a. *fig.* A conglomeration, a hotchpotch; unsubstantial stuff.

1642 G. CALSINE (*title*) A Messe of Pottage, very well seasoned and crumbd, with Bread of Life,..against the contumelious slanderers of the Divine Service, terming it Porrage. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 24 Aug., Young people..crying out 'Porridge' often and seditiously in the Church, and they took the Common Prayer Book, they say, away. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. ii. 22 All other Devotion in the Church is but Porridge, as they prophanely word it; give us Sermons, Sermons, Long-winded Sermons. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 41 A..sermon, in which there are some good moral and religious sentiments,..mixed up in a sort of porridge of various political opinions and reflexions. 1852 *P. Parley's Ann.* 81 Peter Parley's literary porridge for the month of March.

b. *transf.* Something of the consistency of thick soup or porridge.

1700 S. SEWALL *Diary* 5 Dec., Because of the Porrige of snow, Bearers..rid to the Grave.

4. In proverbial phrases; e.g. *a mess of porridge*: see MESS *sb.* 2; *not to earn salt to one's porridge*, i.e. to earn practically nothing; *to keep one's breath to cool one's (own) porridge*, to reserve one's advice, etc. for one's own use (cf. POTTAGE 4).

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 75 He carries the poake for a messe of porredge in Christs Colledge. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. i, That is a chip in porridge; it is just nothing. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxviii. (1737) 129 Spare your Breath to cool your Porridge. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I, Wks. 1799 I. 335, I never got salt to my porridge till I mounted at the Royal Exchange. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvi, Hold your peace, sir,..and keep your ain breath to cool your ain porridge. 1836 *Magopica* 35 (E. D. D.), It's as plain as parridge that he was both a Roman and Socinian.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porridge basin, bowl, dish, pan, seasoner, -supping*; *porridge-faced, -fed, -like* adjs.; †**porridge-belly**: see quots.; **porridge-ice,** broken ice forced into a continuous mass, pack-ice; **porridge-pot,** the pot in which porridge is cooked; **porridge-stick,** a stick used for stirring porridge; **porridge-time** (*Sc.* and *dial.*), breakfast-time (or supper-time).

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Grand potager*, or *mangeur de potage*, a *porrige belly. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 446 A huge, great,..porridge-belly Friar. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* i. 45 In the case of the *porridge-fed lunatic. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* Jan. 331/2 The water was full of *porridge-ice. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* Ded. 2 A large P. with a wide mouth like a *porradge pott. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. vi, Love and raw pease are two ill things in the porridge-pot. 1895 DOYLE *Stark Munroe Lett.* iii. (1902) 53 Always a lady, whether she was [etc.]..or stirring the porridge, which I can see her doing with the *porridge-stick in one hand. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, This morning about *parritch-time.

Hence **Po·rridge** *v.*, **a.** *intr.* to form porridge; **b.** *trans.* to supply with porridge (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Po·rridgy** *a.*, resembling porridge.

1629 WINTHROP *Let.* in *New Eng.* (1853) I. 435 Let my son Henry provide such peas as will porridge well, or else none. 1859 ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 356 Their damp cloud seats and porridgy mists. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 791 Becoming gradually thicker, till in the second week a porridgy consistency may be attained.

Porriginous (pŏrĭ·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [ad. L. *porrīginōsus* full of scurf, f. *porrigo, -inem* scurf, dandruff: see -OUS.] Of, pertaining to, or affected with porrigo.

1828 *Glasgow Med. Jrnl.* I Feb., Porriginous ophthalmia is a disease of early life. 1842 T. H. BURGESS *Man. Dis. Skin* 164 They have described six varieties .. under the title of porriginous eruptions.

‖ **Porrigo** (pŏrəi·go). *Path.* [L. *porrīgo* scurf, dandruff.] A name for several diseases of the scalp characterized by scaly eruptions.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Porrigo*,..Scurf or Scales on the Head, Eyebrows, or Beard. *a* 1801 W. HEBERDEN *Comm.* xxiii. (1806) 127 The porrigo, or scald head, begins with little spots of a branny scurf. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 526 Recognised as a distinct disease under the name of 'Contagious porrigo'.

Porringer (pŏ·rĭndʒəɹ). Forms: *α.* 6 **por(r)eger, porrager.** *β.* 6 **porrynger,** 6–7 **poringer,** 7 **porrenger,** 7– **porringer.** [An alteration of the earlier *potager, poddinger*, going with *porridge* from *potage, poddige*. For the *n* cf. *passenger, messenger*.] A small basin or similar vessel of metal, earthenware, or wood, from which soup, broth, porridge, children's food, etc., is eaten: variously specialized in different localities: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1522 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 115, iiij sawcers of pewter, iij poregers of pewter. 1538 *Ibid.* 135, vj pewter porryngers. 1578 in *Gentl. Mag.* July (1861) 36, vi. porragers of pwter, xiid. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 239 Put the iuyce into a Tinne Poringer. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 145 From Spaine, what bringeth our Traueller? A scull croũd hat of the fashion of an olde deepe porringer. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iii. 64. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 29 May, Rose early, and put six spoons and a porringer of silver in my pocket to give away to-day. 1784 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 102, I ate it out of a two-penny earthen porringer. 1798 WORDSW. *We are Seven* 47 And often after sunset, Sir, When it is light and fair, I take my little porringer, And eat my supper there. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxi, A tin porringer containing his breakfast. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Porringer*.., a coarse earthen pipkin, with a loop handle at the side. 1871 G. H. NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* II. ii. 431 A porringer, graduated so as to mark the quantity of its contents, is useful.

b. A hat or cap resembling a porringer: cf. quot. 1594 in prec. *humorous*.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iv. 50 A Habberdashers Wife .. rail'd vpon me till her pinck'd porrenger fell off her head. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-bk.*, *Little Brit.* § 16 There is the little man with a velvet porringer on his head.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 39 Their little velvet porringer-caps stuck on the sides of their heads. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 132/1 Another of these porringer-shaped cups with two handles.

Hence **Po·rringerful.**

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 1517/1 Half a porringerful of foul fluid making its escape.

Porriwiggle, variant of POLLIWOG.

Po·rry. *Silk Weaving.* [?] The portion of the warp lying between the warp-roll or beam and the back of the heddles or harness through which the threads pass.

1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 166 A power of shortening the porry occasionally. *Ibid.* 169 The porry may be made

of any length. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 274 Removing all roughnesses and inequalities in the warp threads, or, as the weavers call it, picking the porry.

Porry: see PORRAY. **Pors, -e**, obs. f. PURSE. **Porselan, -seland, -slin**, obs. ff. PORCELAIN. **Porselane, -sulaigne**, obs. ff. PURSLANE. **Porsewe, -sue**, obs. ff. PURSUE. **Porsyllogism**, var. of PROSYLLOGISM.

Port (pōˑɪt), *sb.*[1] Also 4-6 **porte**, 5 **poort**. [OE. *port* haven, harbour, ad. L. *port-us* haven, harbour. In ME. reinforced by F. *port* (= Pr. *port*, Sp. *puerto*, Pg., It. *porto*) of same origin. Sense 5 directly from OF.]

I. 1. A place by the shore where ships may run in for shelter from storms, or to load and unload; a harbour, a haven.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. § 20 Þonne is an port on suðeweardum þæm lande, þone man hæt Sciringes heal. *Ibid.* § 21, He seglode on fif dagan to þæm porte þe mon hæt æt Hæþum. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 31 At a hauen of Sandwich, in þe portis mouth. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 288 He arryveth: Sauf in the port of Antioche. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 163 Hauenge also more plesaunte portes [L. *portus accommodatiores*, 1387 more profitable hauenes]. 1455-6 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 290 Al maner schyppys that cumyth withyn the portys of the cittie of Dyvelyng. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. iii. 3 The yles Baleares..haue good ports. *Ibid.* xi. 13 We arryued at the porte of Bone. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 8 Being Master of that Isle, they could break the Chain that secured the Port, which was stretched from the Castle St. Angelo to the Spur of the said Isle. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, To set me safe ashore in the first port where we arrived. 1887 STEVENSON *Underwoods* xxviii. 61 I must arise..and to port Some lost complaining seaman pilot home.

b. *fig.* A place, position, or condition which one takes refuge in, or endeavours to arrive at.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16987 To aryven vp at so holsom a Port, and at so notable an havene, to ffynde Refuyt and Refuge, O blyssed lady, in the. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 238 Thoruhe helpe of Jhesu, at gracious poort t'aryve, Ther to have mercy kneelyng on our kne. 1555 HOOPER in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 152 He by praier humbly resorted vnto god as the onely porte of consolation. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vii, 'Harmon's, up Battle Bridge way'. Mr. Wegg admits that he is bound for that port. 1879 *Echo* No. 3273. 2 Doubt was expressed ..as to the possibility of the measure reaching port this year.

2. A town or place possessing a harbour to which vessels resort to load or unload, from which they start or at which they finish their voyages; *spec.* a place where customs officers are stationed to supervise the entry of goods.

Often as a part of the proper name of towns, etc., which are also harbours, e. g. Port Arthur, Port Chalmers, Port Elizabeth, Port Erin, Port Glasgow, Port Patrick, Port Royal, Port Said, Port Victoria; also in composition as Bridport, Devonport, Maryport, etc.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. i. § 3 (1890) 256, & hine gelædde to þam porte, þe is nemned Cwæntwic [Étaples]. [1340 *Act* 14 *Edw. III*, Stat. II. c. 4 Les Custumers des portz ou les leynes se chargeront [etc.].] *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 29 Men may passe by see to þe porte Iaffe. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 417/2 Other Havenes under the Port of Chichester. 1486 C'TESS OF OXFORD in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 7 That such wetche..be used and hadde in the poorts, and creks. 1487 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 7 Every merchaunt.. which shall bryng..eny maner of goodez into any porte within this realme. *Ibid.*, The custumers of the seid porte. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxvii. 1 Tyre, which is a porte off the see y^t occupieth with moch people. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 260 The Frenche kyng wrote to the Emperor.. that his armie had gotten the isle of Wight, the Portes of Hampton and Portesmouth, & diuerse other places. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 211 The priuiledges of a port or haven town. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. Eng.* II. *Norfolk* 75 This is the greatest Port for Importation. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 264 These legal ports were undoubtedly at first assigned by the crown; since to each of them a court of portmote is incident, the jurisdiction of which must flow from the royal authority. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 302 The profit of conveying bullion and other valuable commodities from port to port.

b. *Close port, free port*: see quots.

1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 42/1 It salbe lesum to na strangear..To lois or laid bot at fre portis alanerly vnder þe pane of confiscatioun. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Close Ports*, are those within the body of a city; as those of Rhodes, of Venice [etc.]. *Free Port*,..a port open and free for merchants of all nations to load and unload their vessels in... Marseilles was declared a free port by an edict of Louis XIV. bearing date 5th March 1669. *Free Port* is also used for a total exemption and franchise, which any set of merchants enjoy, for goods imported into a state, or those of the growth of the country exported. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Close ports*, those which lie up rivers; a term in contradistinction to *out-ports*.

†**3.** *The five ports*: = CINQUE PORTS. Also the barons of the Cinque Ports. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1169 Þe vif tounes of þe vif pors [*v.rr.* ports, -es] he let walli aboute. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 252 Þe fiue portes þorgh powere þe se had so conquerd. *c* 1400 *Brut* 235 Þe V Portes token to kepe hem [sea coasts], and also the see. 1429 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 146 Six erles in their estate shewid them alle; And the v. poortis beryng up the palle. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1885) 151 Chambirlayns off Contreis, þe warden off þe portes, and such oþer. 1631 [see FIVE *a.* 1].

†**4.** The mouth of a river. *Obs. rare.*

[Rendering L. *portus*, sometimes used in this sense.]

1555 EDEN *Decades* 165 This riuer *fauleth* into the furthest corner of the goulfe of Vraba by seuen portes or mowthes.

II. †**5.** (?) A recess in the mountains; a defile, a mountain pass: applied esp. to those of the Pyrenees, in OF. (pl.) *porz d'Espagne*, med.L. *Hispani portūs, Pyrenæi portūs* (Du Cange).

[a. OF. (and local Fr.) *port*, pl. *porz, pors* (11th c. in *Chans. Roland*), *ports* = Sp. *puertos*, med.L. *portūs* 'fauces, claustra montium' (Du Cange, citing *Pseudo-Turpin c* 1125), the same word as L. *portus* haven, and app. an ancient local application of that word, perh. originally in sense 'recesses of the mountains'; cf. COVE *sb.*[1] 3, 4, 'a recess in the coast, or amid mountains', also locally in U. S. a gap, a pass.]

c 1205 LAY. 24415 Nes na cniht ne na swein..from þa porz of Spaine to þan tune of Alemaine, þat þider icomen nere, 3if he iboden weore, al for Arðures æie.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** General combs., as (in senses 1, 2) *port-bell, clearance* (CLEARANCE 8), *-gauger* (GAUGER 1), *guardship, haven, -master, -order, -trade*; *port-seizing* adj.

1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Right Hand* 51 The *Port-bell ringes, it is now about the eleuenth hower. 1815 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 136/2 Several English vessels provided with *port-clearances were fired at. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* III. xxviii. (ed. 33) II. 85 *Port-Guagers, each 66l. per annum. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 5/1 The *port guardship of l'Orient, the *Caudan*. 1662 OWEN *Animadv. on Fiat Lux* Wks. 1851 XIV. 60 This is the *port-haven of Protestants, whatever real darkness may be about them. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, IV. iii, Our *portmasters Are not so careless of their King's command. 1796 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. cxxiv, *Port-orders. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 2/2 The *port-seizing Power for the day is France, and the port seized is Hainan.

b. Special combs.: **port-admiral**, an admiral in command of a naval port; **port-bar**, (*a*) a shoal or bank across the entrance to a port: = BAR *sb.*[1] 15; (*b*) = BOOM *sb.*[2] 3 (Webster 1864); **port-bound** *a.*, detained in port by contrary winds, foul weather, etc.; **port-charge**, harbour-due (see HARBOUR *sb.*[1] 5); **port-duty** = prec.; **port-head**, the most landward part of a harbour (HEAD *sb.* 15); †**port-pass**, authorization to leave or land at a port: see PASSPORT; **port-pay**, wages due for time during which one's ship is detained in port.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, The junior *port-admiral had a spite against our captain. 1833 — *P. Simple* x, The captain applied to the port-admiral, and obtained permission to send parties on shore to impress seamen. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* III. vi, I love to roam about from Port to Port..; I could never abide to be *Port-bound, as we [sailors] call it. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* vii, Does she get rich by selling favourable winds to those who are port-bound? 1652 *Suffolk Deeds* I. 234 By their third part of 942Rs. *port chardges at St. Lucar. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* v. i. III. (1869) II. 307 A moderate *port-duty upon the tonnage of the shipping. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 154 The *Port-head at the Custom-house Quay. 1678 in Marvell *Growth Popery* 63 Having a Pass from the Lords of the Admiralty, and a *Port-Pass from Dover. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 11 He will have eight months wages remaining due to him, besides his *port-pay.

†**Port,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* or in *Comb.* [OE. *port* m. = MFl., MDu. *port* fem., town, burgh, city. In origin, the same word either as the prec. or as the following; its proper place being somewhat doubtful, it is here provisionally separated, and placed between the two. See *Note* below.]

A town: perhaps *spec.*, a walled town, or a market-town; but identified with *burh* as a rendering of L. *cīvitās*, and, like 'town', contrasted with *uppelond* 'country'.

(The Netherlandish *port* was identified with *borch*, and, generally, with *stat* 'city'; but was app. also applicable to places inferior in rank or privileges to a city.)

901-924 *Laws Eadw. I*, I. c. 1 Ic wille þæt..nan man ne ceapige butan porte [*extra portum*], ac hæbbe þæs portgerefan gewitnesse oððe oðera ungeligenra manna. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp., Capitula Lectionum Matt.* XXXI. (ed. Skeat 18), In ciuitate sua, *gloss* in buruȝ *vel* in port his. *Ibid.* XXXX, Increpat ciuitates, *gl.* burgas *vel* portas. *Ibid.* Mark vi. 6 Et circumibat castella, *gl.* ymb-eode ða portas. 10.. *O. E. Chron.* an. 1010 Ða com se here to Hamtune, and þone port sona forbærndon. *a* 1100 *Ibid.* (an. 1052 MS. D, Worc.), Þa ferdon his men dyslice æfter inne, & sumne man ofslogon of þam porte [i. e. Dover], & oðer man of þam porte heora geferan. *a* 1122 *Ibid.* an. 1087 (Laud MS.) Se cyng..bead þ ælc man..sceolde cuman to him, Frencisce & Englisce, of porte & of uppe lande. 11.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 550/7 *Castellum*, wic *uel* lutel port. [1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxv. 516 *Port*, in the sense of town, is now known only in a few compound words, like *Port-reeve* and *Portmeadow*.]

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as †*port-dog*, †*-hound*; †**port-highway**, †**port-street** (only in OE. portstræte) = PORT-WAY. See also PORTMAN, PORTMOTE, PORT-REEVE, PORT-SALE, etc.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 307/267 He [devil] fierde ase doth a *port-doggue I-norischet in port-toun: For he geth ofte in prece of Men a-mong heom op and doun. *Ibid.* 274 None more þane þe *port-hound, þat neiȝ men geth I-nouȝ. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 140 At this town [Petra] meet both the *port high waies, to wit, the one which passengers trauell to Palmyra in Syria, and the other, wherein they go from Gaza. ?*a* 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 36 In ðære *portstræt; and swa æfter ðære stræte.

[*Note.* The extension of the sense 'haven' or 'harbour-town' to an inland town presents difficulties, though an explanation has been sought in the definition of L. *portus*, in the *Digest* L. xvi. (*De verb. signif.*) 59 'Portus appellatus est conclusus locus, quo importantur merces et inde exportantur; eaque nihilo minus statio est conclusa atque munita'. The transference of sense from 'gate' to 'walled town with gates' is also unlikely. Inasmuch as PORT[1] and PORT[3], though representing respectively L. *portus* and *porta*, were both masc. in OE., the fact that this *port* was also masc. affords no evidence either way. The MFl. words are in a similar position: there *port* 'haven' and *porte* (later *poort*) 'gate' are both fem., and, *port* 'town' being also fem., the gender gives no indication. But the oldest and prevalent form of the word was *port* or *poort*, *porte* being unusual and late, and prob. due to confusion with *porte* 'gate'; Verwijs and Verdam take it therefore as certain that *port* 'town' represented L. *portus*; and if this was so in Flemish, it was doubtless so also in OE. The Netherlandish word was extensively used down to *c* 1500, and had numerous derivatives (of which *poorter* citizen, *poort-* or *poorterregt* burgess-ship, citizenship, are still in use). Cf. also PORTERY.]

Port (pōˑɪt), *sb.*[3] Also 3-8 **porte**, 5 **poort(e**. [ME. *porte, port*, a. F. *porte*:—L. *porta* door, gate. The cognate langs. had in this sense words directly adopted from L., viz. OS. *porta*, OFris., MLG. *porte*, MDu. *porte, poort(e*, Du. *poort*, OHG. *pforta*, MHG., Ger. *pforte*, all fem. OE. had irregularly *port* m. (in form identical with PORT *sb.*[1]), in several instances also rendering L. *porticus* porch, whence also OE. *portic*, OHG. *pforzih*. ON. had also *port*, perhaps from OE. If the OE. *port* survived into ME. (which is doubtful), it was then merged in the Fr. word, which became in Sc. the ordinary word for the gate of a town or city.]

1. A gate or gateway: from 14th c., usually that of a city or walled town. Now chiefly *Sc.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 13 Inngeonges ðerh nearuo port *vel* dure *vel* ȝæt forðonðiu wide ȝeat [etc.]. *c* 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John x. 23, & eode ðe hælend in tempel in ðone port salamonnes [L. *in porticu Salomonis*]. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxviii. 12 Me wiðerwearde wæron ealle, þa him sæton sundor on portum [L. *in porta*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14612 At þe port o salamon Cum vr lauerd in-to þe tun. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 221 A wal i-made of brent tile and strecchep dounward oute of þe hiȝe hulles by þe ȝate port Asinaria. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 58 Thay schall haffe iiij portes, that is to say iiij ȝattes. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiv. 49 The brydges, poortes and passages ben lefte wythoute warde. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 17 Ane fair processioun mett her at the Port. *c* 1520 M. NISBET *Acts* iii. 10 He it was that sat at almouse at the fair port of the tempile. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* xiii. 10 So these two..came thorow the valley vnto the porte of the cite. 1537 BIBLE (Matthew) *Ps.* ix. 14 *note*, The portes or gates of the daughter of Syon are the companies of the good and faythfull. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 6 Him I accuse: The City Ports by this hath enter'd. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 778 And from thir Ivorie Port the Cherubim Forth issuing .. stood armd. 1672 DRYDEN *Def. Epilogue* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 169 He [Jonson] perpetually uses ports for gates; Which is an affected error in him, to introduce Latin by the loss of the English idiom. 1712-30 *Gideon Guthrie* (1900) 21 He was passing the port of Templebar. 1802 HOME *Hist. Reb.* iii, The Scots call the gate of a town the Port. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii, Let us meet at the East Port. 1904 C. S. DOUGALL *Burns Country* i. 7 Travellers setting out through the Kyle port, the eastern exit of the 'ancient borough'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (Cf. GATE *sb.*[1] 3-5.)

1535 *Goodly Primer* (1834) 238 From the ports of hell.. Lord, deliver our souls. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* (1564) 10 The entraunce of the matrix or wombe, is named the womb port or mother port. 1601 B. JONSON *Forest* xi, Th'eye and eare (the ports vnto the minde). 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 3 This people..by the Caspian ports passing thorow the Georgian country. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 1 These five ports or gates,.. the five exterior Senses. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 292 Then first Humanity Triumphant, past the Crystal Ports of Light.

†**c.** *Sc.* An open space near the gate of a town, at which labourers were hired in open market; hence, a hiring-market or fair there held. Hence *port-day*. *Port-wages*: the rate of pay fixed at the 'port'. *Obs.*

1786 *Har'st Rig* (1801) 39 Masters far and near hae been At port, they say. *Ibid.* 41 To Dun-eudain they hie with haste The next port-day. *Ibid.* 38 The West-port of Edinburgh, or rather the Grass market adjoining, is the place where reapers are hired every day during harvest..particularly on Mondays. 1883 J. MARTIN *Remin. Old Haddington* 346 Linton..had from an early date a weekly established 'Port', every Monday morning during the harvest season for hiring shearers and fixing the wages. 1903 J. LUMSDEN *Toorli*, etc. 8 Port wages and the halesome harvest fare.

2. *Naut.* **a.** An opening in the side of a ship for entrance and exit, and for the loading and discharge of cargo. **b.** Each of the apertures in a ship of war through which cannon were pointed; now, an aperture for the admission of light and air; a PORT-HOLE.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 197 This knyht..cam to Schipe..To the porte anon he ferde:..And sodeinliche he was out throwe And dreynt. 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 164 Calkyng the porte of the seid Ship. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 259 b, The *Mary Rose*..was laden wyth muche ordinaunce, and the portes left open, whiche were very lowe,..when the ship should turne, the water entered, and sodainly she sanke. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 58 A verie fine snugg long shipp, havinge on each side vi. portes open, beside her chace and her sterne peeces. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 5 All the Ports may be of such equall height, so that euery peece may serue any Port. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Ship*, Plate, Fig. 2. 66 The Lower Tyre Ports..67 The Middle Tyre of Ports. 68 The Entring Ports. 1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 11 We came up with a French brig..I put my head out of the port to admire her. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii. 72 We were so near as to count the ports on her side. 1867

Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Entering-ports*, ports cut down on the middle gun-deck of three-deckers, to serve as doorways for persons going in and out of the ship. **1890** *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Lumber-port*, Vessel Unloading Lumber through Lumber-port.

c. The cover or shutter of a port-hole; a port-lid. *Half-port*: see quot. 1823.

c **1627** [see *port-rope* in 6]. **1669** Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 The Ports, all knockt open..to run out our Guns. **1759** *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 120/2 We..hauled our ports up and run our weather guns out. **1793** Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 290 To make the holes preparatory for hanging the Ports for the windows;..got the ports hung so as to keep the sea from coming in at the windows [in lighthouse]. **1823** Crabb *Technol. Dict.* s.v. *Ports, Half-ports*, a kind of shutters with circular holes in their centre large enough to go over the muzzles of the guns. *c* **1860** [see *port-lid* in 6].

d. *transf.* = Port-hole 2 a.

1882 Cussans *Her.* (ed. 3) 112 When the tincture of the Field is to be seen through the windows or ports, they are said to be *Voided of the Field.*

3. In various games, a passage through which a ball or the like must pass.

†**a.** *Billiards.* See quots. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 262/2 Billiards..the Port is the Arch of Ivory, standing at a little distance from the other end of the Table. **1873** Bennett & 'Cavendish' *Billiards* 4 The peculiarity of the game at this time consisted in the use of a small arch of ivory called the 'port'.

b. *Curling* or *Bowls.* A passage remaining open between two stones or bowls: see quot. 1898.

1817 *Lintoun Green* III. xiii, To draw, guard, strike, or wick, he tries, Or through a port to steer. **1820** *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 572 Anon a Port is to be taken. **1898** *R. Caledon. Curling Club Ann.* 26 d, *diagram*, Drawing through a Port. ..If the played Stone pass between these two Stones without touching either.

4. *Mech.* An aperture for the passage of steam, gas, or water; *esp.* in a steam-engine, for the passage of steam into or out of the cylinder, a *steam-port*.

1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 101 To shut the steam port before the eduction port, leaving the expansive power of the steam, already in the cylinder, to finish the remainder of the stroke. **1848** Exhaust port [see Exhaust *sb.* 3]. **1859** Rankine *Steam Engine* (1861) 487 The seat of a steam engine slide valve consists usually of a very accurate plane surface, in which are oblong openings or ports..at least two in number. **1875** Knight *Dict. Mech. 1767/1* The entering port for live steam is the inlet or induction port; the port of departure is the outlet, eduction, or exhaust port. **1895** *Model Steam Engine* 39 When both the ports are equally uncovered, the length of the eccentric-rod is correct.

5. The curved mouthpiece of some bridle-bits.

1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* (1837) 94 A pleasant porte doth rule a raging horse, When harder brakes doe breake the mouth too much. **1607** Markham *Caval.* II. (1617) 62 Many ..haue added in stead of the plights which fold the two partes of the bytte together, another peece in fashion of a round hoope, or a half moone, which they call a Port, and sometimes this Port must consist of one peece, and then it is called a whole Port, sometimes of two peeces, and then it is called a broken Port. **1875** 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Sports* II. III. i. § 3. 523 The ordinary curb with a port on the mouthpiece. **1884** E. L. Anderson *Mod. Horsemanship* I. v. 17 The mouth-piece should have a liberty for the tongue, so that the bit may take effect upon the bars of the mouth. The size of this liberty, or port as it is called, should depend upon the size of the tongue of the horse.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 2) *port-bar, -flange, -hook, -lid, -nail, -sail, -sash, -shackle, -sill, -tackle*: see quots.; †**port-base**, a small piece of ordnance, formerly in naval use; **port-bit** (sense 5), a bridle-bit of which the mouthpiece is curved into an arch; **port-face**, in a steam-engine, the flat surface in the steam-chest containing the ports or steam-passages; †**port-mouth** = *port-bit*; **port-mouthed** *a.*, having a port mouthpiece, as a bit; also *transf.*; **port-pendant** = *port-rope*; **port-piece**, an obsolete kind of ship's gun; **port-rope**, a rope for raising and lowering a port-lid; **port-stopper**, a revolving shutter for closing a port in a turret-ship; **port-way** = sense 4.

1864 Webster, **Port-bar.* **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Port-bars*, strong pieces of oak, furnished with two laniards, by which the ports are secured from flying open in a gale of wind, the bars resting against the inside of the ship; the port is first tightly closed by its hooks and ring-bolts. **1600** in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1811) IV. 47 The barke..*Content* had but one Minion, one Falcon, one Saker, and 2 *port-bases. **1662** Sir A. Mervyn *Speech on Irish Affairs* 31 If they will not mannage with a Snaffle, perchance their Heads may be brought into a Rane with a *Port-bit. **1585** *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 177 Na maner of persone .. within the kirk3aird .. to play at kylis, *portbowlis, or ony uther pastime. **1867** Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Port-flange*, in ship-carpentry, is a batten of wood fixed on the ship's side over a port, to prevent water or dirt going into the port. **1823** Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, **Port-Hooks*,..for the purpose of hooking the hinges that are fastened to the port-lids. *Ibid.*, **Port-Lids*, a sort of hanging doors that shut in the ports at sea. *c* **1860** H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 71 What are the port-lids, or ports for? For closing the ports. **1589** *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv, Thou shalt be broken..with a muzroule, *portmouth, and a martingall. **1739** *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1850) IV. 260 A *port mouthed Bitt. **1848** Eliza Cook *Curls & Couplets* xvi, The port-mouthed parapet. **1710** J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, **Port-nails*, are such Nails as are used to fasten the Hinges to the Ports of Ships. *c* **1850** *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 134 *Port nails*..are similar to clamp nails, and used for fastening iron-work. **1527** in *Archæologia* XLVII. 332 For a bumbardell, ij *portpeces with iiij. chambers of one sorte, xxxvij. barrelles saltpetre..

c. li. **1884** *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 282/2 There were..in the first period of naval history basilisks, port pieces, stock-fowlers, sakers, and bombards. **1627** Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 27 The *Port ropes hale vp the Ports of the Ordnances. **1867** in Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* **1769** Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Voiles à Lest*, *port-sails, or pieces of canvas, depending from the port-hole of the ship, into which the ballast is thrown, to the side of the ballast-lighter. **1823** Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, **Port-Sashes*, glass frames that are put into the cabin-ports and other rooms at sea. **1769** Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Sole*, a name sometimes given to the lower side of a gun-port, which however is more properly called the *port-sell. **1869** Sir E. J. Reed *Shipbuilding* viii. 149 To obtain a good height of the port-sill above the water-level. **1823** Crabb *Technol. Dict.*, **Port-Tackles*, those which serve to haul up the Port-lids.

Port (pōət), *sb.*[4] Also 4–8 **porte**, 5 **poort**. [a. F. *port* a carrying, bearing, manners, gait, etc., vbl. sb. f. *porter*: see Port *v.*[1] So It. *porto*, Sp., Pg. *porte*.]

I. 1. The manner in which one bears oneself; external deportment; carriage, bearing, mien.

c **1369** Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 834 She had so stedfast countenaunce, So noble porte and mayntenaunce. *c* **1386** — *Prol.* 69 And of his port as meeke as is a mayde. **1387–8** T. Usk *Test. Love* I. v. (Skeat) I. 73 Let thy port ben lowe in every wightes presence. *c* **1430** Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 143 [He] sauhe by ther poort that they stood in dreede. *c* **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Poort, of countenawnce, *gestus*. **1514** Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 21 Thus with proude porte to cloke theyr poverte. **1667** Milton *P. L.* IV. 869 With them comes a third of Regal port, But faded splendor wan. **1704** Addison *Poems, Campaign* 417 Such easie greatness, such a graceful port. **1805** Wordsw. *Prelude* IX. 146 His port, Which once had been erect and open, now Was stooping and contracted. **1874** Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. viii. 155 She has the proud port of a princess.

b. *fig.* Bearing, purport (of a matter).

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 721 The English Herault had shewed him playnely how to enter into the port of the treatie. **1841** Emerson *Lect. Times* Wks. (Bohn) II. 249, I wish to consider well this affirmative side, which has a loftier port and reason than heretofore. **1876** Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 285 Phrases of towering port, in which every member dilated stands like Teneriffe or Atlas.

†**c.** Behaviour, conduct. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1588 Lambarde *Eiren.* IV. xiv. 563 A Writ of allowance, testifying that he hath found suerties for his good port, according to the Statute.

d. Dignified carriage; stately bearing. *rare.*

1633 Bp. Hall *Hard Texts, Prov.* XXX. 29 Which carry.. a kinde of port, and pleasure in their motion. **1873** Holland *A. Bonnic.* I. 9 The growing port of later years, and the ampler vestments are laid aside.

e. *transf.* Habit or mode of growth (of a plant). *rare.*

1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 27 They have given the Feminine Character to some Plants for the sake of their beautiful Flowers, or from the Port or Appearance of the whole plant. **1882** *Garden* 10 June 402/2 It [the Umbrella Tree] is somewhat straggling in growth, but this does not detract from its handsome port.

2. Style of living; *esp.* a grand or expensive style; state; hence *transf.* social position, station. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xxviii. 42 Eche of them kept a great estate and port, and spared nothynge. **1530** Palsgr. 431/2 He is nat worth two pens all men payed, and yet he kepeth a porte lyke a lorde. **1570** Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 360 For that Mr Bickley is master of a house and keepeth thereby a port of worship, I think he would well serve the turn. **1657** R. Ligon *Barbadoes* (1673) 9 By his port and house he kept he was more like a Hermite, than a Governour. *a* **1713** Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1765) 5 My Father .. having accepted the Office of a Justice of the Peace..put himself into a Port and Course of Living agreeable thereunto. **1806** Scott *Fam. Lett.* 23 Nov., It became more and more difficult..to keep the name and port of gentlemen. **1839** Keightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 431 If they were spenders, they must needs have, because it was seen in their port and manner of living.

†**b.** *transf.* A train of attendants (as indicating a splendid style of living); a retinue. Also *fig.*

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* Ded. (Arb.) 13 What tyme .. your highnes .. tooke that your moost honorable and victorious iourney into Fraunce, accompanied with such a porte of the Nobilitie and yeomanrie of Englande. **1577** R. S. (*title*) The Covrt of ciuill Courtesie. Fitlie furnished with a pleasant port of stately phrases and pithy precepts. **1621** Fletcher *Pilgrim* I. ii, Well, madam, ye've e'en as pretty a port of pentioners——. Vain-glory would seek more and handsomer.

II. †**3.** Means of carriage, conveyance. *Obs.*

a **1500** *Chaucer's Dreme* 29 That some gode spirit, that eve, By mene of some curious port, Bar me, wher I saw peyne and sport.

†**4.** The action of carrying; the fee or price for carrying; postage, carriage. *Obs.*

1615 *Lett. E. India Co.* (1899) III. 194 You are to pay the bringer 5 mas port; he hath promised me to make haste. **1622** Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 24 He bethought himselfe of feigning a packet of Letters, and to put thereupon two Ducats Port. **1635** in *Secret Committee on Post-Office* (1844) 56 The further the lettres shall goe, the port thereof is to be advanced. **1692** *N. York Stat.* in *Laws & Acts N. Y.* (1694) 74 For the port of every single letter from Boston to New York..nine pence.

†**5.** Weight that has to be carried or borne. *rare.*

1660 Sharrock *Vegetables* 38 It has root to grow, body to bear the port of the plant. **1682** N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 108 And his Fat comely Corps, so thick and short Made the Soft Pillows groan under his Port.

6. Something that is used to carry, a carrier:

†**a.** A socket attached to the saddle or stirrup in which the butt of the lance rested when carried upright. **b.** Some part of the handle of a sword, ? the hilt or grip. *Obs.*

a **1548** Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 12 One company had the plackard, the rest, the port, the burley, the tasses, the lamboys,..all gylte. **1679** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1404/4 Lost..a large agget handle Sword, with a Silver Hilt Cross and Port,.. the Hilt gilt in Ports.

c. A frame for carrying; *spec.* in candle-making: see quots.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 247 A frame, or port, as the workmen call it..containing 6 rods, on each of which are hung 18 wicks. *c* **1865** Letheby in *Circ. Sc.* I. 93/2 The wicks are cut into proper lengths by a machine, according to the sort of candle to be made, and then suspended from a rod or frame, called a port.

†**7.** *Venery.* (See quots.) *Obs.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 132/2 An Harts..Footing is called, slot, or portes. *Ibid.* 188/1 Ports, or Slot, is the print or tread of a Deers foot.

†**8.** *Mus.* (See quot.) *Obs. rare.*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Port of the voice*, in music, the faculty and habit of makeing the shakes, passages, and diminutions.

9. [fr. Mil. phr. *Port arms.*] The position required by the order '*Port arms*': see Port *v.*[1] 2. Cf. Carry *sb.* 3.

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 30 The whole..drop their carbines smartly to the port. **1887** *Times* (weekly ed.) 28 Oct. 18/4, I..brought the rifle from the 'slope' to the 'port'.

†**Port**, *sb.*[5] *Obs.* [Aphetic f. ME. *aport*, Apport *sb.*[2], a. OF. *aport*, F. *apport*, f. *apporter* to bring; in med.L. *apportum* (Du Cange).] That which anything 'brings in', yields, or contributes; a customary or legal contribution, a payment in kind or money, by way of rent, rent-charge, tribute, etc.; in early use, the tribute rendered by a daughter religious house to the mother-house. Also *attrib.*, as *port-corn, port-tithe*.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 198/1 Fermez, Pensions, Portions yeerly, Portes, Annuitees, Feefermes, Knyghtes Fees, Advowsons. **1473** *Ibid.* VI. 93/1 A Graunte by us to hym made.., of a port [=*aport*] C s. by yere, to be taken by the handes of the Priour and Covent of Wenlok. **1536** Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 8 Ye haue aledgyd that I haue letten to Ferme the port tythe. **1541–2** in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 227 Which were not..let to ferme for money, but only for porte of corne or marts, or for porte of corne and money. **1715** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5394/3 Port Corn issuing yearly out of the Vicar's Part of Killrumper Tythes.

Port (pōət), *sb.*[6] (*a.*) *Naut.* [Derivation obscure: see Note below.]

1. The left-hand side of a ship looking forward: = Larboard *sb.* Opposed to Starboard. (Often in phr. *to port*, A-port.)

In recent times generally substituted for the older *larboard* to obviate misunderstandings arising from the similarity in sound of *starboard* and *larboard*. By international convention, ships, esp. steamers, carry a red light on the port side.

1625–44 'Manwayring *Sea-mans Dict., To Port.* Is a word used in Conding the Ship,..they will use the word steddy a-Port, or Steddy a Star-board, the Ship heeles to Port: bring things neere to port, or the like. **1633** T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. (1822) 562 With two takles hee might steere the Hoy either to Starboard or to Port. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 104 The ship heeled .. two streaks to port. **1813** Southey *Nelson* I. iii. 124 They..put the helm a-port, and stood after her again. **1844** *Admlty. Order* 22 Nov., The word 'Port' is frequently..substituted..for the word 'Larboard', and as..the distinction between 'Starboard' and 'Port' is so much more marked than that between 'Starboard' and 'Larboard', it is their Lordships direction that the word 'Larboard' shall no longer be used. **1846** *U.S. Navy Department Notice* 18 Feb., It having been repeatedly represented to the Department that confusion arises from the use of the words 'larboard' and 'starboard' in consequence of their similarity of sound, the word 'port' is hereafter to be substituted for 'larboard'. **1875** Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (ed. 2) 61 If two sailing ships are meeting end-on,..so as to involve risk of collision, the helms of both shall be put to port, so that each may pass on the port side of the other. **1884** *Pall Mall G.* 25 Aug. 8/2 The..port bow of the *Camden* struck the port of the *Dione* between her rigging.

2. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Situated on, or turned towards the left side of a ship: = Larboard B.

1857 R. Tomes *Amer. in Japan* vii. 149 It was thought better to stand off on the port tack, in order to get well clear of the land. **1857** Dufferin *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 226 A promising opening was reported .. a mile or so away on the port-bow. **1875** Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* I. (ed. 2) 21 The Port Wing Ship of a Column is the ship on its extreme left. **1883** *Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 332/1 The *Clan Sinclair*..was about to round Blackwall Point under a port helm. *Mod.* A green light seen on your port bow shows that a vessel is approaching on your left front on a transverse course (the green light being shown from the starboard side of that vessel).

[Note. This use of *port* may have arisen either from Port *sb.*[1], senses 1, 2, or from Port *sb.*[3], sense 2. When the steering apparatus was on the right side of the vessel (the *steereboord* or *starboard*), it would be convenient, in order to leave this free, to have the *port* (entering port) on the opposite side (the *lade board* or *larboard*). For the same reason, the vessel when in port, would naturally be placed so as to lie with her larboard alongside or facing the shore or port. For either reason, the larboard would be the port side. *Port* for *larboard* was in recorded use more than two centuries before it became official; the existence of Port *v.*[2] indicates a still earlier colloquial use.]

Port (pōət), *sb.*[7] [Shortened form of *O Porto* (*wine*), f. *Oporto* (Pg. *O Porto*, lit. 'the Port')

name of a city of Portugal, the chief port of shipment for the wines of the country, formerly also called in Eng. *Port O Port(o.* So F. (*vin de*) *Porto.*] A well-known strong dark-red wine of Portugal, having a sweet and slightly astringent taste. Also called *Oporto* (*wine*), † *Port O Port wine*, †*Porto*, and PORT-WINE.

Formerly also called *Red Port*, as opposed to *White Port*, a white wine of Portugal (now little imported).

1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 314 English ships that went to Bourdeaux and took in wine, and after sailed to port O Porto, and then came home, pretending it to be port. 1693 *Bacchanalian Sessions* 21 But we've the best Red Port—What's that you call Red Port?—a Wine Sir comes from Portugal. *c* 1717 PRIOR *Epitaph* 29 Their beer was strong; their wine was port. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 263 Wines of ev'ry Sort, From potent Cyprus down to humble Port. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 23 It was his constant custom to smoak tobacco, drink red-port. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* XXX, I mean to take my share of a bottle of Oporto. 1880 BROWNING *Clive* 77 Let alone that filthy sleep-stuff, swallow bold this wholesome Port! 1889 *N.-W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Red Port*, The generation which is passing away, and their predecessors, always spoke of port wine as red port.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *port club*, *-drinking* (sb. and adj.), *-negus*; *port-bibbing*, *-complexioned* adjs.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* IV. xcviii, [One] who had shone at almost all the Port-clubs in that end of the town. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 204 A few port-drinking people, that dine every day in the Lion. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, Miss Potterson [took] only half her usual tumbler of hot port negus. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Oct. 10/2 The old days of port-complexioned dons.

Port (pōət), *sb.*[8] *Sc.* Also 8 **porte**. [a. Gael. *port* tune, = Ir. *port* tune, jig (O'Reilly).] A lively tune, a catch, an air.

1721 KELLY *Scott. Prov.* 397 What the English call a Catch, the Scotish call a Port; as Carnagies Port, Port Arlington, Port Athol, &c. 17.. in Scott *Pirate* XV. *note*, You, minstrel man, play me a porte. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* V. xiv, The pipe's shrill port aroused each clan. 1896 N. MUNRO *Lost Pibroch* (1902) 16 You played a port that makes poor enough all ports ever one listened to.

Port, *sb.*[9], obs. form of (Sublime) PORTE.

Port (pōət), *v.*[1] Also 7 **porte**. [a. F. *port-er*:—L. *portāre* to bear, carry.]

†**1.** *trans.* To carry, bear, convey, bring. *Obs.*

1566 J. PITS *Poor Man's Benev., Ps. c*, He did vs make, and port And guyde vs all our dayes. 1608 *Act of Kirk Session Aberdeen* in *Caled. Merc.* 24 Aug. 1816 (Jam.) It becumis the people..to leave their sinnes quhilk porte on Gods judgmentis aganes us. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Epithal.* vii, The virgins .. Porting the ensigns of united two Both crowns and kingdoms, in their either hand. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Shropsh.* (1662) II. 1 They [coals] are easily ported by Boat into other Shires. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Port*, to carry, as To port Books about to sell. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 178 They had ported arms without license.

2. *Mil.* To carry or hold (a pike or the like) with both hands; *spec.* to carry (a rifle or other weapon) diagonally across and close to the body, so that the barrel or blade is opposite the middle of the left shoulder; esp. in the command *Port arms!*

1625 MARKHAM *Souldier's Accid.* 23 [In] charging [with Pikes]..Port over-hand. Port vnder-hand. 1677 R. BOYLE *Treat. Art of War* 191 And have caused my Pike-men to trail their Pikes, that they might not have been seen by the Enemy; which if shoulder'd, or ported, they would be. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 147/2 Port your pike, is in three motions to take it by the But end, with your right hand, and beare the point forward aloft. 1803 *Compl. Drill Serjeant* 18 In some regiments it is called porting arms or preparing for the charge. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* iii, To mimic the motions of the warder as he alternately shouldered, or ported, or sloped pike. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 36 Officers recover swords .., and 'Port' them. 1877 *Field Exerc. Infantry* 374 On the approach of any person, the sentry will port Arms, and call out Halt, who comes there?

Port (pōət), *v.*[2] *Naut.* [f. PORT *sb.*[6]: cf. STARBOARD *sb.* and *v.*]

1. *trans.* In *to port the helm*, to put or turn it to the left side of the ship; also ellipt. *to port.*

1580 H. SMITH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1809) I. 505 The *William* had her sterne post broken, that the rudder did hang clean besides the sterne, so that she could in no wise port her helme. 1594 [See *pop-mouth* s.v. POP-]. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 37 Port, that is, to put the Helme to Larboord, and the Ship will goe to the Starboord. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* Wks. 65/2 Cleere your maine brace, let goe the bolein there, Port, Port the helme hard. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., They never say *Larboard the Helm*, but always *Port it*; tho' they say *Starboard the Helm*, when it is to be put to the Right side of the Ship. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* XX, 'Port the helm'. ..'Port it is, sir', said the man at the helm. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (ed. 2) 59 Seamen are to be found who port at every light seen ahead, or nearly ahead.

2. *intr.* Of a ship: To turn or go to her port or left side.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Aug. 9/2 She was an unwieldy oil-tank in ballast, and for a moment her huge bulk, slowly porting, was bow on.

Port, *v.*[3] [f. PORT *sb.*[1]] *trans.* **a.** To bring to port. **b.** To land at, reach (a port). **c.** *nonce-use.* To furnish with ports or harbours.

1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i, So hoyst we The sayles, that must these vessells port [*v.r.* part] even where The heauenly lymiter pleases. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VIII. 350 Coasting the .. shoar .., I ported Ligorne, the great Dukes Sea-Haven. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* III. viii. 155 The way to Heav'n is through the Sea of Teares: Earth is an Island ported round with Feares. 1648 EARL OF WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 18 A fresh-Mackerell Gale, whose blast May Port them in true happiness at last.

Port, *v.*[4] [f. PORT *sb.*[3]]

†**1.** *trans.* To furnish or shut in with a gate. Hence **Po·rted** *ppl. a. Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 65 b, The Englishmen had their parte only barred and ported. 1616 B. JONSON *Masques, Hymenæi, Barriers*, Designing power to ope the ported skyes.

2. *Curling.* (See quot. and PORT *sb.*[3] 3 b.)

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 971 *Porting*, is to come up, *inter Scyllam et Charybdim*, i.e. to draw a shot through a strait formed by the stones upon the rink.

Port, *v.*[5] *nonce-wd.* [f. PORT *sb.*[7]] *intr.* To drink port (cf. *to wine*). Also *to port it.*

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 323, I have ported and clareted it 'many a time and oft' with Sir John.

‖**Pórta** (pōə·rtă). *Anat.* [L., a gate; also applied to a part of the liver (Cic.). See PORT *sb.*[3]] **a.** The transverse fissure of the liver, at which the portal vein, hepatic artery, etc. enter it: the portal fissure. Also applied to a similar part in other organs. **b.** The *vena portæ* or portal vein: see PORTAL *a.* 2.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxix. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 21 b/1 Oute of the brode holownes of þe lyuour comeþ a veyne, þat phisicians clepen porta. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 26 Smale veynes þat comen out of þe veyne þat is clepid porta. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Porta*, the same with *Vena Portæ*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Porta*..term applied by anatomists to that fissure in the liver (the *transverse* or *portal* fissure) by which the vessels enter...Sometimes also extended to other organs...*P. omentorum*..a name for the foramen of Winslow...*P. renum*, the hilum of the kidney.

Portability (pōə·rtăbi·lĭti). [f. late L. *portābilis* PORTABLE + -ITY.] The quality or state of being portable; fitness for being carried or moved from place to place, esp. with ease; portableness.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 23 The River of Thames, and the portability of that which it brings up to the Keyes of London. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. vi. 68 This Quadrant .. I hold to be as necessary an Instrument as Seamen can use, in respect of its plainness..and portability. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xxii. 476 *note*, Of a form the most convenient for portability and readiness in management. 1875 JEVONS *Money* v. 35 The portability of money is an important quality.

Portable (pōə·rtăb'l), *a.* [a. F. *portable*, ad. late L. *portābilis* that may be carried, f. *portāre* to bear, carry: see PORT *v.*[1] and -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being carried by hand or on the person; capable of being moved from place to place; easily carried or conveyed.

Often used to distinguish modified movable forms of machines or structures which as a rule are constructed as immovable fixtures, as *portable derrick, dial, fence, furnace, railway, steam engine*, etc.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 91 þat portable kynde...he þanne, þat yn his name racys hit, and berys it with hym clanly, he shal purchace reuerence and honour. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 36 A portable ynke to be caried in the forme of a powder in any paper, leather purse or boxe. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* lf. xvi b/1 The Instrumentes of a little portable case. *a* 1653 W. GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* II. (1655) 300 The [tabernacle] was a kind of portable Temple. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 49 Very portable and fit for his Pocket. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Portable Barometer.* 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 337 Portable Forms or Benches. 1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metr. Syst.* III. (1871) 200 The pound weight should be a specific gravity easily portable about the person. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xl. § 192. 330 A very convenient portable camera obscura. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 192 He..put up a small stock of necessaries in the most portable form. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 50 Holding property not in lands but portable goods.

b. Said of liquid substances congealed, and of gaseous substances liquefied, so as to be more conveniently carried or transported.

1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 53 Portable soop was recommended. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 192 Five pounds of portable soup, and a sufficient quantity of dried meat to allow each man a pittance of five pounds and a quarter. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 546 Large quantities of this liquid were obtained at the Portable Gas-works, by subjecting the gas produced by the decomposition of whale oil, to a pressure of 30 atmospheres. 1849 *Punch* XVII. 91/2 We have all heard of 'Portable Soup'...Now we have 'Portable Milk'. A small jar of this solidified material, we are told, contains the equivalent of six gallons of fluid milk.

c. *fig.* Easy to carry in the memory, to carry out in practice, etc.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VII. i. § 31 These Psalms were therefore translated, to make them more portable in peoples memories. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 100 ¶ 4 This portable Quality of Good-humour seasons all the Parts and Occurrences we meet with.

†**2.** *fig.* Supportable; bearable; endurable; that can be borne or tolerated. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 209 To putte me to raisounable raunson & payement portable to me. 1589–90 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 452 Fra all watcheing,.. stent or contributioun, or beiring or sustening of ony uther portable chargeis. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vi. 115 How light and portable my pain seems now. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 585 The soul puts upon Him that unsupportable yoke of Transgressions, and takes from Him the portable yoke of His commandments.

†**3.** Capable of carrying ships or boats; navigable.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 46 If you find great plentie of tymber on the shore side or vpon any portable riuer. 1645–52 BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 21 The Nuric-water .. is not portable but of very little barkes and boats, and that only when the tide is in. 1685 WOOD *Life* 23 Mar. III. 136 A drie winter: no flood: waters very low, not portable.

†**4.** Portly. *Obs. rare.*

1769 R. CUMBERLAND *Brothers* (1808) 29 He..is a little peaking, puling thing; I am a jolly portable man, as you see.

Hence **Po·rtableness**, portability.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Portableness*, capableness of being carried.

Portage (pōə·rtėdʒ), *sb.*[1] Also 7 **portaidg, -e.** [a. F. *portage* the action of carrying, in OF. a tax paid on entering a town, etc. = med.L. *portāticum* 'idem quod valvarum theloneum' (Du Cange), also *portāgium*, It. *portaggio*, etc., f. L. *portāre* to carry: see PORT *v.*[1] and -AGE.]

I. 1. The action or work of carrying or transporting; carriage.

[1252 in *Rep. Secret Comm. P.-O.* 29 Pro portagio cere quam quesierit ibidem..j d.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/1 Portage, of berynge, *portagium*. 1463 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 497/2 Their diligence and labour of gaderyng, portage and payment of the seid somes. 1487 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 32 Paid .. for the portage of the same ropes to the water side..v[s]. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1205/1 Vessels .. that should be appointed for the portage and conueieng awaie of the said things. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 138 They dispended yearely aboue an hundred crownes in the portage of Letters. 1630 M. GODWYN tr. *Bp. Hereford's Ann. Eng.* (1675) 92 Two chests .. each of them required eight strong men for the portage. 1710 *G. P. O. Notice* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4734/4 The Rates for the Portage of Letters..are as follow. 1820 JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 91 Cleopatra's Needle is not to come from Egypt to Waterloo Place, as the portage would cost £10,000. [1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* (1886) 23, I must .. take the following items for my own share of the portage: a cane, a quart flask, a pilot-jacket. ?b.]

†**b.** That which is carried or transported; cargo; freight; baggage. *Obs.*

1454 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 283 Salte, ire, pych, rosyne, collys ne no portage that commyth within the fraunches of the saide cite in no shippis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ii. 6 3e mycht haue sene the costis and the strandis Fillit with portage and peple thairon standis. 1632 *Docum. St. Paul's* (Camden) 133 That no man..profane the church by the carriage of burthens, or baskets, or any portage whatsoeuer. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 46 Fishermen, Passengers, and other Boats and Portages.

†**c.** Weight, as regards transport. *Obs. rare.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 237 Such medicines as are small of dose, and light of portage. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 152 Jewels of high value but light portage.

2. The cost or price of carriage; porterage; freight-charges; †also, a due levied in connexion with the transport of goods. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 58/2 Almaner of Freghtes, Cariage, Portage, Batellage, and other expenses. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 61 Customes, dueties, portages and other rents. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. IX. 50 The Commons..were freed of portage, tollage, and tribute. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 161 Your last hath been the cheapest Letter, that ever I paid Portage for. 1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. 12 He..saved about fifteen shillings portage. 1860 J. WHITE *Hist. France* (ed. 2) 51 The needy baron was obliged to sign away..his portage and tax on entrance within the walls.

†**3.** *Naut.* Burden of a vessel; tonnage. *Obs.*

[1378 in Selden *Mare Cl.* (1635) 192 Primerement, pur prendre de chescun Nief & Craier, de quel portage q'il soit.] 1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 500/2 Shippes, every of iiii[xx] Tonne portage, or lesse. 1532–3 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 § 1 All maner of shippes being vnder the portage of .viii.C. tonnes ..might at the lowe water easely enter into the same. 1591 *Art. conc. Admiralty* 21 July § 34 Any Ship of the portage and burthen of fifty tunnes and vpwardes. 1710 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1876) XXX. 200 The Good Ship ——, of the Portage or Burthen of thirty five tuns or thereabouts.

4. In full, *mariner('s portage*: A mariner's venture, in the form of freight or cargo, which he was entitled to put on board, if he took part in the common adventure and did not receive wages, or which formed part of his wages; the space allowed to a mariner for his own venture or to be let by him for freight payable to him in lieu of wages; hence, in late use, a mariner's wages (in recent works, erroneously explained as his wages *while in port*). (Also corruptly PORTLEDGE.) *Obsolescent.*

[*a* 1300 *Laws of Oleron* c. 28 in *Blk. Bk. Admlty.* (Rolls) I. 122 Est estably pour coustume de la mer que se les mariners dune nef soient a portage chascun deulx aura ung tonnel franc de frett. 1375 *Inq. Queenborow* c. 5 ibid. 139 Entre Londres,..et la Rochelle en vendange prendra ung mariner huit souez de loyer et le portage dung tonnel.] 1500 in J. Latimer *Merch. Venturers of Bristol* (1903) 33 The verry value of the Portage that the said maister, quarter maister, or maryner shall hold for his wages in the said ship in the same viage. 1522–3 *Ordinance of Waterford* in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) I. 136 All manere marchandis..and mariner portages commyng in ony shippe. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 247 They..have been in use and consuetude, past memorie of man, of portage as ane part of thair fie and hyir for the said navigatioun. 1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 18 b, Neither doo they carrye anye particular mans goods, sauing the portage of the Marriners and Soldiors. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* (1636) 104 A mariner may keepe either his portage in his owne hands, or put forth the same for fraight, and yet the Ship shall not stay vpon her lading of his portage. 1648 *Doc. Hist. St. Maine* III. 376 For ½ part of this Years Portage £20. 1705 A. JUSTICE *Gen. Treat. Dominion Sea*

349 The Seamen shall not lade any Goods upon their own Account, under Pretence of Portage, nor otherwise, without paying the Fraight, except it be mentioned in their Agreements. [1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 134 *Portage*, sailors wages while in port, also the amount of a sailor's wages for a voyage. So in 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*.] 1847 Sir N. H. Nicolas *Hist. Royal Navy* II. 206 Of masters and mariners who take extravagant wages or portage, contrary to ancient usage.

fig. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. i. 35 Thy losse is more then can Thy portage quit, with all thou canst find heere.

b. Comb. *portage-bill*: the register or account of the names and claims for wages, allowances, etc., of the crew of a ship.

[1679: see Portledge.] 1743 in W. B. Weeden *Econ. & Soc. Hist. N. Eng.* (1890) II. 469 *note*, A Portage bill of mens Names and Wages due on board the Snow Jolly Bachelor. 1776 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1862) VII. 553 To amount of cargo, outfits and portage bill, of the schooner Eagle, by Joseph Stanton, supposed..303 00 00. 1795 *Ship-Master's Assist.* (ed. 6) 7 Ship Favourite Nancy's Portage-Bill on a Voyage to St. Petersburgh. 1890 W. B. Weeden *Econ. & Soc. Hist. N. Eng.* II. 469 Gridley curiously enough rejected the 'Portage bill' of officers' and men's wages, £102 17*s.* 4*d.*, from Sierra Leone to Newport.

II. 5. The carrying or transporting of boats and goods from one navigable water to another, as between two lakes or rivers, or past a rapid or cataract on a river. (Originally American.)

1698 tr. *Hennepin's New Discov. Amer.* xviii. 74 We.. brought up our Bark to the great Rock of Niagara,..where we were oblig'd to make our Portage; that is, to carry over-land our Canow's and Provisions, and other Things, above the great Fall of the River, which interrupts the Navigation. 1755 L. Evans *Mid. Brit. Colonies* 16 They are obliged to make one or two very long Portages. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. ix. 96 We had a portage of about three miles, the sledge being unladen and the baggage carried on our backs. 1857 Livingstone *Trav.* xv. 264 Five or six rapids with cataracts, one of which could not be passed at any time without portage. 1879 J. W. Boddam-Whetham *Roraima & Brit. Guiana* 144 We had to unload the boats and make a portage of about two hundred yards.

b. A place or track at or over which such portage is necessary; a break in a chain of water-communication over which boats, goods, etc. must be carried; = Carry *sb.* 5, Carrying-*place*.

1698 tr. *Hennepin's New Discov. Amer.* xviii. 75 The Portage was two Leagues long. 1756 W. Shirley in *N. Hampshire Prov. Papers* VI. 462 The portage or carrying place at the fall of the Wood Creek is not above 300 yrds. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 104 Captain Clarke measured the length of this portage accurately and found it to be 18 miles. 1889 Stevenson *Master of B.* iii, As we were carrying the canoe upon a rocky portage, she fell, and was entirely bilged.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *portage beer, -duty, -money, -path, -station, strap, track*: see also 4 b.

1552 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. II. xii. 345 Whether the receiuers of the kings monies and such like officers had portage-money allowed them. 1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 353, I take the perill vpon mee of the carriage of a great masse of money; I may lawfully take portage money for my paines. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 182 All other goods..shall pay portage duties. 1720 Strype *Stow's Surv.* II. 204/2 Concerning the transporting of Beer beyond Sea, which they called Portage Beer. 1871 Huyshe *Red River Exp.* vii. 106 Indians and experienced voyageurs use a long strap called a 'portage strap'. 1894 J. Winsor *Cartier to Frontenac* 258 The party began to carry the material..along the portage track for twelve miles.

†**Po·rtage**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Port *sb.*[3] + -age.] Provision of ports or port-holes.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, III. i. 10 Lend the Eye a terrible aspect: Let it pry through the portage of the Head, Like the Brasse Cannon.

Po·rtage, *v.* [f. Portage *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To carry or transport (boats, goods, etc.) over land between navigable waters; to convey over a Portage (*sb.*[1] 5 b). Also with the place (rapids, cataract, etc.) as obj.; also *absol.* Hence **Po·rtaging** *vbl. sb.*

1864 A. Gordon *N. Brunswick* in *Vac. Tour.* 508 Some falls where we were compelled to portage the canoes. 1871 Huyshe *Red River Exp.* vii. 105 The labour of 'portaging' was very severe. 1882 G. Bryce *Manitoba* 24 Portaging around rapids too fierce to be faced. 1900 A. G. Bradley *Fight w. France for N. Amer.* iv. 109 There were numerous rapids too, and shallows to be portaged.

†**Portague, -igue.** *Obs.* Forms: 6 portygewe, -ingue, -ugue, 6–7 -ague, -egue, -igue. [App. a false singular deduced from *porta-, portegue* (Portuguese B. 3), taken as a plural, as if *portagues*.] A Portuguese gold coin, the great 'crusado', current in the 16th century; its value ranged, according to time and circumstances, between £3. 5*s.* and £4. 10*s.*: = Portugal 4.

Often kept as an heirloom or keepsake: see quots.

1532 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. xviii. 138 By Hasilwood of the receipt iiij portagues 10. 00. 00. 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 127 To my nece Harvy my portygewe of gold. 1577 Harrison *England* II. xxv. (1877) I. 364 The portigue, a peece verie solemnelie kept of diuerse. 1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xxviii. 54 Our Coyne, be they as little as Pence, or as great as Portigues. 1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* I. iii, No gold about thee? *Dru.* Yes, I haue a portague I ha' kept this halfe yeere. 1658 Phillips, *Portegue*, a certain Coyn in Gold, valuing three pound ten shillings.

Portail (pō·ɹtāl). *Arch.* Also 5 -ayl, 6 -aile. [a. F. *portail* façade of a church, containing the principal door, also † city-gate:—Latin type **portāculum*, dim. of L. *porta* gate, door. See Portal *sb.*, with which this has been confused in Fr. and Eng.] = Portal *sb.* I.

1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* F vj, She wente vp vnto a hyhe portayl or gate. 1600 Holland *Livy* x. 368 They caused to be made a brasen portaile in the Capitoll. 1723 Chambers tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 129 The Portail or Frontispiece of a Church, Palace, or any other great Building, shou'd always have a Rise of some Steps. 1749 Rhys *Tour Spain & Port.* (1760) 61 It..has a noble Portail, in which are Three Gates. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 590 *Portail*, the face of a church, on the side in which the great door is formed.

Portal (pō·ɹtăl), *sb.* Also 4 -ale, 5–7 -all, 6 -alle; (6 porthal, 6–7 port(-)hall). [ME. a. obs. F. *portal* gate, ad. med.L. *portāle* city-gate, porch (Du Cange), orig. neut. of *portālis* adj., f. L. *porta* gate: see Port *sb.*[3] and -al. Cf. Portail.]

1. A door, gate, doorway, or gateway, of stately or elaborate construction; the entrance, with the immediately surrounding parts, of an edifice, esp. of a large or magnificent building, when emphasized in architectural treatment. Hence often a poetical or rhetorical synonym for 'door' or 'gate'.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1035 Þe portalez pyked of rych platez. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Alfonce* i, That man whiche lay dede before the portall or gate of the temple. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* II. vii. (1536) 119 b, I haue sene his .. portall and gates ful of knightes, & not marchauntis. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxx. xxi. 754 The monie they laid downe in the very port-hall or entrie of the Senate house. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 575 Through Heav'n, That open'd wide her blazing Portals. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 59 ¶ 5 Erected over two of the Portals of Blenheim House. 1756 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* I. xxxvi. 323 The gates of the portal are by tradition said to be the same which St. Ambrose shut against the emperor Theodosius, till he had done penance. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* I. v, Not a foot has thy portal cross'd. 1862 *Rickman's Goth. Archit.* 424 The portals of Abbeville, ..are some of the finest specimens of this style. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxi. 76 Fling the portal apart. The bride Waits.

b. *transf.* A valve of the heart; a natural entrance, as of a cave.

1666 J. Smith *Old Age* 231 The great vein .. hath at its entrance into the heart, certain portals, from their form called *valvulæ tricuspides*. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 2, I was reposing in the vast cavern, out of which, from its northern portal, issues the river that winds through our vale. 1863 Baring-Gould *Iceland* 230 A river wending towards a portal of black rock.

c. *fig.*

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* ii. 64 The brazen walls fram'd by Semiramis, Carv'd out like to the portal of the sun. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 451 Once more the ruby-colour'd portal open'd, Which to his speech did honey passage yield. 1593 — *Rich. II*, III. iii. 64 As doth the blushing discontented Sunne, From out the fierie Portall of the East. 1727–46 Thomson *Summer* 640 Issuing from out the portals of the morn. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* x. (1862) 216 Death, which by the portal of disobedience had found entrance into natures made for immortality.

†**2.** A space within the door of a room, partitioned off, and containing an inner door; also, such a partition itself (sometimes made as a movable piece of furniture). *Obs.*

1516 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 244 Wyth 2 Portalls, wherof one shall be at the parlour doore and the other at the great Chamber doore wythin the said College. 1569 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 155, I will that theas implements,..the benche in the hall, the portall, and the skryne ..shall remayne in and withe the howse. 1598 [see 4]. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 229 *Portal*..was us'd to signifie a little square corner of a Room, shifted off from the rest of the Room by the Wainscot.

3. (See quots.)

1706 Phillips, *Portal*, a lesser Gate, where there are two of a different Bigness. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Portal*, the arch over a door or gate; the framework of the gate; the lesser gate, when there are two of different dimensions at one entrance. 1873 Hale *In His Name* viii. 70 A little side portal, which gave entrance to a vestry.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *portal arch, capital, door, gate, post, seat, way*.

1592 Greene *Cony-Catching* III. Wks. (Grosart) X. 183 Lifting vp the latch of the hall portall doore [he] saw nobody neere to trouble him. 1598 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 325 Item a portall Dore to the vpper studdye. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* VII. 292 Narrow was the portal way, To one alone fit passage. 1813 Scott *Trierm.* III. xviii, But full between the Warrior's way And the main portal-arch, there lay An inner moat. 1895 A. Nutt in *K. Meyer's Voy. Bran* I. 205 The arched doorway .. with its wide valves and portal-capitals of burnished gold.

Hence **Po·rtalage**, the construction of portals.

1903 *Architect* 24 Apr. 269/1 Some sketches in connection with portalage.

Portal (pō·ɹtăl), *a. Anat.* [ad. med.L. *portālis* of or belonging to a gate (see prec.).]

†**1.** Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a door or gate: in quot. applied to the valves of the heart.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 375 Not farre from the beginning [it] is diuided or slitte into three small but strong portall membranes or values.

2. Pertaining to the *porta* or transverse fissure of the liver. *Portal vein*: the *vena portæ*, or great vein formed by the union of the veins from the stomach, intestine, and spleen, conveying blood to the liver, where it divides again into branches; also (*renal portal* or *reni-portal vein*), a vein similarly passing to the kidney and dividing into branches there, in many of the lower vertebrates.

Hence applied to structures, etc. connected with the portal vein, as *portal canals*, the tubular passages in the liver, each containing a branch of the portal vein, hepatic artery, and biliary duct; *portal circulation*, the circulation of blood through the portal system; *portal fissure*, the transverse fissure of the liver, at which the portal vein enters it, the Porta; *portal system*, the system of vessels consisting of the portal vein with its tributaries and branches.

1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 11 The ducts .. accompany the arteries in the portal canals. Each portal vein, however small, has an artery and a duct running along it. 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 333 This is termed the portal system of vessels. 1872 Huxley *Phys.* ii. 50 The flow of the blood from the abdominal viscera, through the liver, to the hepatic vein, is called the portal circulation. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* 227 The renal portal vein: running from the bifurcation of the pelvic vein to enter the lower-outer border of the kidney. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 187 One set of canals diverge from the portal fissure, and these are called hepatic veins. 1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 353 A renal-portal circulation or supply of venous blood to the kidneys exists in all *Amphibia*.

Hence **Po·rtal-ve·nous** *a.*, of or pertaining to the portal vein.

1845 Budd *Dis. Liver* 45 Mr. Kiernan has applied to this ..the term portal-venous congestion.

†**Portal,** obs. erron. form of Portas.

1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 255 Popish Catechisms, Missals, Breviaries, Portals, Legends and Lives of Saints. 1686 Evelyn *Diary* 12 Mar., The printing Missalls, Offices, Lives of Saints, Portals, Primers, &c.

Portalled, portaled (pō·ɹtăld), *a.* [f. Portal *sb.* + -ed[2].] Furnished with or having a portal.

1635 Heywood *Hierarch.* v. 325 [Nature] hath afforded Man but one Tongue and that portall'd with lips and percullis'd with teeth. 1905 Holman Hunt *Pre-Raphaelitism* i. 8 New surprises through narrow lanes and portalled walls.

‖**Portame·nto.** *Mus.* [It., lit. a bearing, carrying.] A gliding or passing continuously from one pitch to another, in singing, or in playing a violin or similar instrument. Also *attrib.*

1774 J. Collier *Mus. Trav.* 33 Her shake was good, and her *portamento* admirably free from the nose, mouth, or throat. 1789 Burney *Hist. Mus.* IV. 40 Trills, graces, and a good *portamento*, or direction of voice. 1889 *Athenæum* 14 Sept. 361/2 Madame Albani .. marred her efforts by excessive indulgence in the *portamento* style.

Portance (pō·ɹtăns). *arch.* Also 6 -aunce. [a. obs. F. *portance* action of carrying, support, favour, importance, etc., vbl. sb. f. *porter* to carry, Port *v.*[1]: see -ance.] Carriage, bearing, demeanour (= Port *sb.*[4] 1); conduct, behaviour.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 5 In court gay portaunce he perceiv'd. *Ibid.* 21 A goodly Ladie .. That seemd to be a woman of great worth, And by her stately portance borne of heavenly birth. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* II. iii. 232 Your Loues, Thinking vpon his Seruices, tooke from you Th'apprehension of his present portance. 1881 Duffield *Don Quix.* II. 504 A good knight errant ..with a gentle portance and intrepid heart.

Portant (pō·ɹtănt), *a. Her.* [a. F. *portant*, pr. pple. of *porter* to carry, Port *v.*[1]: see -ant.]

1. Carrying. (Const. as a pple. with direct obj.)

1572 Bossewell, *Armorie* II. 52, I. beareth Azure, an Elephante d'Argente, portant a turret d'Or.

¶ **2.** = Portate. (? an error.)

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Portate*, or *Portant*, a cross portate is so called, because it..lies sloping,.. as if it were carried on a man's shoulder. 1889 Elvin *Dict. Her.*, Portante.

Portary: see Portery, *Obs.*

Portas, -eous, -es, -ess, -hos. Now only *Hist.* Forms: (3–4 portehors), 4–5 porthors, -hous, -os, 4–9 -ous, -hos, -oos, 5 -oce, -oes, -ose, -ues, -eux (?), poortos, *Sc.* porteus, -owis, -wis, 5–6 -as, -es, -us, *Sc.* -uus, -eouss, 5–9 -uous, 6 -ais, -eise, -eyse, -ew(a)s, -is, -oues, -uos, -uess, -uys, -yes, 6–7 -ass(e, -ess(e, -oose, -uouse, -use, 6–7 -house, 6–8 -uass, -uis, 6–9 *Sc.* -eous, 7 -ise, -ius, -uise. β. *erron.* 5 portor, *pl.* -eres. [ME. (*portehors*) *porthors*, a. OF. *portehors*, 13th c. (= med.L. *portiforium*, 13th c. in Du Cange) a portable breviary, f. *porte*, imperative of *porter* to carry (see Port *v.*[1]) + *hors*:—L. *foris* out of doors, abroad.]

1. A portable breviary in the mediæval church.

[1249–52 in *Camden Misc.* (1895) IX. 23 Item liber portehors, qui est Vicarij. *c* 1250 *Newminster Cartul.* (1878) 273 Unum portehors.] 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 122 A portous þat shulde be his plow, *placebo* to segge. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 194 Newe costy portos, antifeners, graielis, & alle obere bokis. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 135 By god and by this Porthors [*v. rr.* portoos, portos] I yow swere. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/19 *Portoforium*, a Porthos. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 719/32 *Hoc portiferium*, a portas. 1426 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 76 My masseboke, my portus. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/1 Poortos, booke, *portiforium, breviarium*. 1459 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 227 A Graile, a Manuell, a litel Portose, the which the saide Sir Thomas toke w[t] him alway when he rode. 1460 Edw. (IV) as Earl of March in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 10 Beseching your good lordeschip to remembre our porteux. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 755/19 *Hoc portiforium*, a portes. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 427/1 [He] bare euer with hym the byble & his breuyary or portoes. 1507 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 52 A grett portuos of prynte. 1519 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 555/2 A lytelle Portewas, called our Lady Portewas. 1528 Tindale *Obed. Chr. Man* 71 b, That know no moare scripture then is written in their portoues. 1530 Palsgr. 257/1 Portyes, a preestes boke, *bre-*

uiayre. 1533 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) II. 13 My ij portews. 1533 More *Apol.* iii. Wks. 848/1 In stede of a long portuous, a shorte primer shall serue them. 1534 — *Conf. agst. Trib.* I. xv. (1573) 31 b, No such praiers are put in the Priestes Portesse, as far as I can heare. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 1 All Bookes called..Manuelles Legends Pyes Portuyses Prymars .. shalbe .. abollished. *a* 1550 *Pore Helpe* 102 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 256 And also the Paraphrasies, Moche dyfferyng from your portaises, They wolde haue dayly vsed. 1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* I. Pref. A viij, Their babling praiers their portases, bedes, temples [etc.]. 1570 T. Wilson *Demosthenes* Ded. 3 There was never Olde Priest more perfite in his Porteise. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 77 As the doting papists did their blasphemous masses out of their portesses. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 130 Laurence the Archbishop (whom it had beseemed better to have beene at home with his porthouse). 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 9 Their Seruice bookes, Portesses, and Breuiaries. 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Vind. Answ.* v. 66 The Liturgie is never the worse, because the words of it are taken out of the Roman Portuise. 1711 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 175 Breviarie or portuass for the Quire. 1817 Scott *Border Antiq.* II. Introd. 82 A monk from Melrose, called, from the porteous or breviary which he wore in his breast, a *book-a-bosom.* 1846 Maskell *Mon. Rit.* I. p. lxxxvii, The Portiforium, with its various English names of..Portuis, Portuasse, Porthoos, and Portfory. 1890 St. John Hope in *Archæologia* LII. 706 A subject derived from the York porthos.

β. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 284 A portor [?-os] of Salusbury use. 1500 in *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. (1837) 571/2, ij porteres, off the gefte off Syr Ryc. Long.

b. *transf.* A manual (*of* some subject).

1508 *Twelve Virtues of ane Nobleman* ad fin. (Jam.), Heir ends the Porteous of Noblenes. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. (1651) 539 Their whole books are a Synopsis or breviary of Love, the portuous of Love, Legends of Lovers lives and deaths.

c. *attrib.*

1458 *Vatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 100 For byndyng ij portoce bokys. 1549 Chaloner tr. *Erasm. on Folly* P iij b, As long as they mumble ouer theyr portes seruice. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. L iij, The order of portasse men.

2. *Sc. Law.* (In later use *porteous roll.*) 'A roll of the names of offenders, which, by the old practice of the Justiciary Court, was prepared by the Justice-Clerk from the informations of crimes furnished .. by the local authorities' (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scotl.*).

1436 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 23/2 It is..ordanit, þat al crownaris sal arrest .. all þaim þat salbe gevin hym in portuis be þe Justice clerk, & nane vthir. *c* 1470 Henryson *Tale of Dog* 128 Quhilk hes ane porteouss of the indytement. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 491 The porteous and rollis of the last justice air .. wes deliverit .. to be execute. 1708 *Royal Proclam.* 11 July in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4456/1 That Porteous Rolls be orderly and in due time taken up, conform to the Law and Custom in such cases. 1752 J. Louthian *Form of Process* 230 Form of the Porteous Rolls. Names of the Criminals and their Designations...Names and Designations of the Witnesses... Indictment. 1872 C. Innes *Lect. Scott. Legal Antiq.* 301 The Raven is like a false crowner who has a porteous of the indictment. 1883 Omond *Ld. Advocates Scot.* I. 287.

Hence **† Po·rtas, portess,** *v.* (*Obs. nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to include among the saints named in the breviary; to canonize.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1217/1 After an hundreth yeares expired, they shal also be shryned and portessed, dying as they did in that quarell of the Church of Rome.

† **Port-assiet.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *porte-assiette*, f. Porte- + *assiette* plate.] A disk of metal, wood, etc., placed under a plate or dish.

1663 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 541 For 8 balls of box, with hinges and hesps, for the feet of the 2 sylver portassiets, *2s.*

Portate (pō·ɹtḗt), *a. Her.* [ad. L. *portātus* carried, borne, pa. pple. of *portāre* to carry.] In *cross portate*, a cross represented in a sloping position (*in bend*), as if carried on the shoulder.

1562 Leigh *Armorie* 54 b, Wherefore call you the same portate? For on this fashion it laye on Christes showlder, who bare the same to the mounte of Calvary. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 99 b, A Crosse portate in his propre coloure. 1725 Coats *Dict. Her.* s.v., A *Cross-Portate*,.. lies athwart the Escutcheon in Bend, as if it were carry'd on a Man's Shoulder. *c* 1828 [see Portant 2].

Portatile (pō·ɹtătil, -tīl), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. med.L. *portātil-is* (obs. F. *portatil*) that may be carried, f. L. *portāre* to carry: see -atile.]

† **1.** *Her.* = prec. *Obs.*

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1355/2 A crosse portatile gold, to the lower end whereof this distichon is fairelie fixed.

2. Adapted for carrying; = Portable, Portative *a.* 1: esp. (in later use only) of an altar.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 486 Some [furnaces] are portatile and rotund. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 143, £3000 sterling was giuen the Leutenant in readie coine, all his portatill armes [etc.]. 1710 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* I. II. xxxii. 198 That Bishops shall not..consecrate portatile altars without necessity. 1845 *Ecclesiologist* IV. 86 We think the Bishop ought..to have carried a portatile altar.

† **Porta·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *portātiōn-em* carrying, n. of action from *portāre* to carry.] The action of carrying; carriage.

1654 Flecknoe *Ten Years Trav.* 67 For the commodity of Traffique, and portation of Merchandise.

Portative (pō·ɹtătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 -if(f, 4-6 -yf, 5-6 -yue, 6 -yff(e, (portetyve). [ME. *portatif*, a. F. *portatif, -ive* adj. that may be carried, f. L. *portātus*, pa. pple. of *portāre* to carry + *-if*, -ive.]

A. *adj.*

1. Adapted for carrying from place to place; portable; *spec.* applied to a kind of small organ (cf. Positive *a.* 14): see B. 1. Now chiefly *Hist.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. I. 155 Portatyf and persant as þe poynt of a nedle. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* Prol. 3 As ferforth and as narwe as may be shewed in so smal an instrument portatif. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 133 Syngenge masse in secrete places on awters portative. 1518-19 *Will of Issley* (Somerset Ho.), To the said church my portatyf organes. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* I. 8 Portatiue tents or lodgings,..vsed by the Shepeheardes. 1656 *French Pastry Cook* 22 Others have portative Ovens. 1849 J. Whiteside *Italy* xlii. (1860) 439 The Pope is carried in his portative throne to the front window. 1905 *Ch. Times* 30 June 842/3 The portative organ, which could be carried in procession and played by the same person.

† **b.** Of a bishop (repr. L. *portātilis*: see Portatile): Not having a fixed diocese. *Obs.*

1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 196 (1877) 114 The bysshop of Rome maketh bysshoppes portatyves.

2. Having the function of carrying or supporting.

1881 Fitch *Lect. Teaching* v. 124 Some study..of the wise and practical distinction..between what he calls respectively the 'portative', the 'analytical', the 'assimilative', and the 'index' memory would be of great value. 1887 Gumming *Electricity* 37 So [to] determine its portative power [i. e. of a horse-shoe magnet]. 1892 *Amer. Ann. Deaf* Apr. 86 It is far from my purpose to lend encouragement..to any practice of making the memory a portative faculty.

B. *sb.* **1.** (usually *pl.*) A portative organ: see A. 1. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 765 Claryonis lowde knellis, Portatiuis, and bellis. 1526-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 341 Rec' of the Orgon Maker for þe olde portatyffis in þe quere xxvj s viij d. 1533 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 94 To my church of Norton a payre of portetyves that stand in the chauncell ther. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees, No. 97) 97 One peyre of portatyves. 1633 J. Clarke *Two-fold Praxis* 25 Harpers, luters,.. such as goe with..portatives, bagpipes, recorders. 1885 A. J. Hipkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 303/2 The organ and portative end at g'' instead of d'''.

† **2.** A portable breviary: = Portas 1. *Obs.*

1454 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 175 My Portatyue which I say opon my selfe, and my rede Salter.

† **3.** ? A tray or other carrying utensil. *Obs.*

a 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 75 Ewers, lavours, and cupboarde-clothes, cuppe-clothes, hangers, ferrers, and portatives. *Ibid.* 76 One page .. to helpe to wasshe barrelles, portatives, tubbes, pottes, or cuppes.

† **Portator.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 5 -ur, 6 -our, 7 -or. [a. AF. *portatour* = obs. F. *portateur* (1540 in Godef.), ad. L. **portātōr-em*, agent-n. f. *portāre* to carry.] A bearer, carrier, supporter.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 306 Also I am þe prymatt portatur next heueyn, yf þe trewth be sowth, & that I Iugge me to skryptur. 1529 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IV. 562, I haue send this present portatour to the Kingis Hienes .., amply instructit with my mynd, as he will informe 30w. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 158 Some of the ministers, portators of this money. *Ibid.* III. 68 Tellinge..that he was portator of both his parents curse.

Portature, obs. erron. form of Portraiture.

Port-bar, Port-bit: see Port *sb.*^{1} 6 b, *sb.*^{3} 6.

† **Port-ca·non, -ca·nnon.** *Obs.* [f. Port *sb.*^{4} (?) + *canon*, Canion.] An ornamental roll around the legs of breeches: = Canion.

1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 926 The French .. Now give us Laws for Pantaloons..Port-cannons, Perriwigs, and Feathers. 1677 [see Canion]. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 83 He walks in his Portcannons like one that stalks in long Grass.

Portch, -e, obs. forms of Porch.

Portclose, -cluse, obs. var. Portcullis.

Port-crayon (pō·ɹt,krḗ·ɒn), ‖ **porte-crayon** (port,kreyoñ). [ad. F. *porte-crayon*: see Porte- and Crayon.] An instrument used to hold a crayon for drawing; usually a metal tube split at the end and held by a sliding ring so as to grasp the crayon.

1720 T. Page *Art Paint.* 4 Black Lead in the Lump.. used in an Instrument..called a Porto-Crion. 1769 Sir J. Reynolds *Disc.* ii. (1876) 324 That the port-crayon ought to be for ever in your hands. 1859 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 182/2 [They] desire us to say that the testimonial is not a 'pencil-case', but a 'port-crayon'. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. ix. 304 He painted a charming water-colour of me..with a magnificent port-crayon in my hand.

Portcullis (pɔɹtkʊ·lis), *sb.* (Formerly often written as two words or hyphened.) Forms: 4 **portecules, portcoles, port colice,** 4-5 **porte-colys,** 5 **porte-colis, portecoles, -koles, port-colys, -isse,** (-culer), **porte colisse, porte colyse, poortcolys, -colyce, portculis,** *Sc.* **-culys,** 5-6 *Sc.* **portcul3eis, -cules,** 5-7 **portcullise,** 6 **port-colyse, -ece, -ice, -is, porte coullys, -colice, portcullesse, -ize, port collice, port-cullies, (portculiouse);** 6- **portcullis,** (6-8 **-cullice,** 7 **-culleis**). *β.* 4 **porcules,** (5 **-culier**), 6 **purcoloys, -cholis, -ious, percollice, -ois, -cullyze,** 6-7 **percullis, -ice,** 7 **purculleis, -ess, percullas, par-cullis, porculace.** *γ.* 6-7 **portclose,** 6-8 **portcluse.** [ME. a. OF. *porte coleïce* (*c* 1200 in Godef.) lit. sliding door or gate, f. *porte* door, gate + *col(e)ïce, couleïce* (mod.F. *coulisse*), fem. of *couleïs* adj. flowing, gliding, sliding:—L. type ***cōlātīcius,** f. L. *cōlāt-us,* pa. pple. of *cōlāre* to strain, filter, in Romanic (F. *couler*), to flow; see Coulisse. The *γ* forms simulate F. *close*, fem. pa. pple., closed, shut. The forms *portculeres*, etc. (in sense 2) are app. erroneous with *r* for *s*. (The plural was in early use the same as the sing.)]

1. A strong and heavy frame or grating, formed of vertical and horizontal bars of wood or iron (the vertical ones being pointed at the lower end), suspended by chains, and made to slide up and down in vertical grooves at the sides of the gateway of a fortress or fortified town, so as to be capable of being quickly let down as a defence against assault.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8320 Alle the gates thai schetten fast. And lete falle port colice on hast. *a* 1400 *Sir Beues* (E.E.T.S.) 67 *note* (MS. S.), With brugges and portecules. *Ibid.* 210 þe portcoles weren draw. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 674 At aither entre was, i-wys, Straytly wroght, a portculis, Shod wele with yren and stele. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/1 Poort colyce, *antephalarica.* *c* 1450 *Merlin* 254 At eche entre two porte colyses and stronge yates covered with Iren nailed. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 506 A cruell portar gat apon the wall, Powit out a pyn, the portculys leit fall. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 518 He sholde put it vnder the porte colisse that it sholde not be shet lightly agen. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 13 Drew draw briggis, and lute portcul3eis fall. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* I. 107 The which Ward in the Entering is exceding stronge with Toures and Portcoleces. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* (1565) 132 b, Towres were plaunchers, and battlements and portcolyses of timber set vp. 1600 Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, Wks. 1874 I. 15 And tear in pieces your portcullises. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. xxviii. 650 The rope was let goe, at which the port-cullies hung, and it fell downe with a mightie noise. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 874 And towards the Gate rouling her bestial train, Forthwith the huge Portcullis high up drew. 1808 Scott *Marm.* VI. xiv, Up drawbridge, grooms—what, Warder, ho! Let the portcullis fall. 1843 Lytton *Last Bar.* II. i, Under the portal as he entered, hung the grate of the portcullis.

β. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1929 Porcules and gates up he won, And let come in every man. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* ci. 335 For hast they cut a sonder the corde that helde vp the purcoloys. 1560 Whitehorne *Arte Warre* (1573) 96 b, Also they fortifie the gate with a Percullis. 1599 Hakluyt *Voy.* II. I. 125 A Portall, with a Percollois annexed to it, the which Percollois by the cutting of a small cord, was a present defence to the gate. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 160 In those trees they hang up a great par-cullis gate. *a* 1634 Chapman *Alphonsus* III. Plays 1873 III. 249 Some speedily let the Purculless down. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* IV. ix. (Roxb.) 399/1 The Earle of Worcester .. used for his badge a paire of stocks, or close Porculace.

γ. 1585 Higins *Junius' Nomencl.* 395/2 *Cataracta*, a port-cluse or percullice. 1598 Stow *Surv.* vii. (1603) 29 There hath beene two Portcloses. 1640 Somner *Antiq. Canterb.* 14 The Waterlocke, through which in Arches, with a Portclose, the Riuer now passeth. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 536 The gate-house is still standing which is fortified with a port-cluse or port-cullis.

b. *fig.*

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 237 For upon Jhesu al parfitnesse is foundid,.. Our poortcolys, our bolewerk, and our wal. *c* 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 8/2 A sure portculiouse against wicked spirites. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XXV. viii. 277 That the Emperour ..would in the same state keepe this citie, the strongest port-cluse and key of all the East. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* II. ix. 97 Ah, where's that pearle Percullis [i.e. teeth], that adorn'd Those dainty two-leav'd Ruby gates [i.e. lips]?

2. A figure of a portcullis, as an ornament or a heraldic charge. In *Her.* also applied to a design formed of a number of vertical and horizontal strips crossing each other over the field; also *lattice.*

The portcullis was the badge of the Beauforts, and hence of their descendants the Tudor sovereigns.

[*c* 1449 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 221 The castelle is wonne where care begowne, The Portecolys [= Edmund Beaufort] is leyde adowne.] 1485 in *Mat. illustr. Reign Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 16 To Mathew Hoberd, Goldsmythe, for making of cv. porculiers of siluer and gilte. *Ibid.* 18 For setting of a trappour of purpulle veluet w^{t} cii. portculeres therein. 1513 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 347 All the Wyndowes..also with Rosez and purcholious. 1563-4 *Ibid.* 571 A greate Rose A flowerdelice and a purcholis .. in the weste wyndowe. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 All suche farthinges..shall haue vppon the one side thereof the printe of the port collice. 1565 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 12 § 2 The Queenes Highnes Seale of Leade, having the Portecullies crowned, ingraued on the one syde thereof. 1697 Evelyn *Numism.* iii. 87 A pensile *Cataracta* or Portcluse and Coronet between the Chains. 1711 Hickes *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 361 The rose, portcluse, fleur-de-lis, and harp, are crowned. 1864 Boutell *Her. Hist. & Pop.* ix. 50 In Heraldry, a Portcullis is always represented as having rings at its uppermost angles.

3. † **a.** A popular name for the silver halfpenny of Queen Elizabeth (the smallest silver coin issued by her), which bore on the obverse a portcullis and a mint-mark. *Obs.* **b.** *Portcullis coins, money*, a name given by numismatists to the coins (crown, half-crown, shilling, and sixpence) struck by Queen Elizabeth in 1600–2 for the East India Company, having the figure of a portcullis on the reverse. (Cf. quot. 1523 in sense 2.)

[Cf. 1597 Bacon *Ess.* Ded., The late new halfe-pence, which though the Siluer were good, yet the peeces were small.]

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. vi, I had not so much as the least Portcullice of Coyn before. 1600 Rowlands *Lett. Humours Blood* xix. 25 Then doth he diue into his sloppes profound, Where not a poore port-cullice can be found. 1784 Pinkerton *Ess. Medals* 168 The Port-

llis coins of Elizabeth, coined in rivalship of the Spanish
ng .. of different sizes from the crown downwards. 1898
B. Rawlings *Story Brit. Coinage* 196 They [coins for
e of the E. I. C.] are called the 'portcullis-money' from
eir reverse type.

4. Title of one of the Pursuivants of the English
ollege of Arms, from his badge.

616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Percullis*, the name of an
ce of one of the Pursiuants at armes. 1631 Weever
c. Fun. Mon. 682 Segar being Portcullis Pursuiuant of
mes in the yeare 1586. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s.v.
rold, There be four others called Marshals or Pursui-
ts at Arms,..those are Blew-mantle, Rouge-cross, Rouge-
gon, and Percullis. 1722 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6084/5 Port-
lis, Pursuivant of Arms. 1905 *Whitaker's Alm.* 157/1
ns, College of, or Heralds' College... Four Pursuivants...
rtcullis, Thomas Morgan Joseph-Watkin.

5. (?) Name of some room in an inn. *Obs.*

31 Heywood *Fair Maid of West* I. Wks. 1874 II. 268
sse, you must fill some wine into the Portcullis, the
ntlemen there will drink none but your drawing. *Ibid.*
293 *Enter the Kitchin-maid. Maid.* I pray forsooth,
at shall I reckon for the Iolle of Ling in the Port-cullis?

Portcullis, *v.* In 7 **portcullice, percullis, rcullise.** [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To furnish with portcullis; to close with or as with a portcullis.

93 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iii. 167 Within my mouth you
ie engaol'd my tongue, Doubly percullist with my teeth
l lippes. 1611 Florio, *Rastellare*..to purcullise. *a* 1640
y *Parl. Bees* (1881) 25 *note*, Portcullice up the gates;
es poore and base.

Portcullised (pɔɹtkʌlist), *a.* Also 6 **port-lized, -culliz'd**; *β.* 6. **purculleised**, 7 **per-llis'd, percullist**, ? 9 **peroulaced**. [f. prec. sb. vb. + -ED.]

. Furnished with or having a portcullis; closed barred with or as with a portcullis.

572 N. Roscarrock in Bossewell *Armorie* Prelim. Verses,
hugie building olde, Portcolized and bard with bolts.
98 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Mortimer to Q. Isabel* 125
d all those Townes..Within their strong port-culliz'd
rts shall lie. 1598 Florio, *Cataratto*, purculleised or cata-
ted. 1611 Heywood *Gold. Age* IV. i. Wks. 1874 III. 58
e rest keep watchfull eye On your percullist entrance.
763 Shenstone *Progr. Taste* II. 118 The stately fort, the
rets tall, Portcullis'd gate, and battled wall. 1861 M.
rtison *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 A lofty massive front with three
tified and portcullised gateways.

. *Her.* (See quot.) Cf. Portcullis *sb.* 2.

828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Portcullised*, barred
right and across, after the form of a portcullis, termed
o *latticed*. 1882 Ogilvie, *Perculaced*, in *her.* latticed.

Porte (pōəɹt). Also 6–8 **port.** [a. F. *porte*, full *la Sublime Porte* = It. *la Porta Sublima*, nsl. Turkish (Arabic) بَابِ عَالِي *bāb-i-ʿāliy*, lit.

he sublime, high, or lofty gate', the official title the central office of the Ottoman government, mprising the office of the Grand Vezir, of the inister of Foreign Affairs, and of the Council of ate (Redhouse, *Turkish Lex.* 1890). 'Gate' supposed to refer to the ancient place of audience, c., at the gate of the tent, or the king's gate; the tribute 'high' or 'lofty' is not literal, but e honorific attribute of the Turkish government. ccording to Zenker, the Western application of Sublime Porte' to the Turkish government or ttoman state answers rather to the Turkish *wlet-i-ʿāliye*, 'the sublime empire or state.'

n the 17th and 18th c., often erroneously taken as referring the position of Constantinople as a sea-port.]

In full, *the Sublime* or *Ottoman Porte*.) The ttoman court at Constantinople; hence *transf.* he Turkish government.

600 R. C. *Fumée's Hist. Hungary* 248 [Sultan speaks] end your Ambassadours, as well towards our royall Port, s also to him. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* I. 48 Some Vizers of e Port. *c* 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) II. 44 He that had n Ambassadour at the Port to the greatest Monark upon rth. [1671 *Charente's Let. Customs Mauritania* 48 The ing of Morocco usually gives audience at the Gate of this alace, and here, as well as at Constantinople, La Porta gnifies the Court or Kings Palace.] 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 145/1 Articles of Peace concluded between the King of oland and the Ottoman Port. 1706 Phillips, The *Port*, he Court of the Grand Seignior..at Constantinople. 1721 *ond. Gaz.* No. 5983/1 Before the Port has had any Account f it. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 350/2 Report of which being ade to the sublime Porte, the sultan advanced him to the ost of Cadi. 1772 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 78/2 That haughty apital, which had been named the Porte by way of emi-ence, from its incomparable naval and commercial situation. 847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 210 A better nderstanding was in consequence soon established between im [Napoleon] and the Porte. 1886 *Queen's Speech in pening Parlt.*, Under a convention..concluded with the ttoman Porte, Commissioners have been appointed, on ehalf of England and Turkey, to confer with His High-ess the Khedive. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 470 The Sublime orte is a time-honoured institution.

‖ **Porte-** (port), Fr. imperative of *porter* to bear, arry; used in combination with a sb. as obj. in umerous compound words in Fr., several of which re more or less used in Eng.; the first element is ccasionally anglicized as *port-*; and other words ave been formed after these with the second ement English (Port-electric, Port-fire, etc.). rom French: **Porte-acide** (-asi·d), an instrument r the application of an acid to a part of the body.

Porte-aiguille (-ɛgwi·ly) [F. *aiguille* needle], a fine forceps for holding a surgical needle; a needle-holder. **Porte-bonheur** (-bonör) [F. *bonheur* good luck], an amulet, or a trinket worn like an amulet. **Porte-bouquet** (-bu*k*e), a bouquet-holder. **Porte-caustique** (-kɔ·stī·k), also anglicized *port-caustic*, an instrument for applying a caustic. **Porte-feu** (-fö) (*port-feu*) [F. *feu* fire] = Port-fire. **Porte-lumière** (-lümyɛ·r) [F. *lumière* light], an apparatus consisting of a mirror so arranged as to reflect light in any desired direction; used as a substitute for the heliostat. See also Portefeuille, etc.

1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, **Porte-acid*, a glass tube through which a platinum wire passes carrying a tuft saturated with the acid to be applied. 1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med.*, **Porte-aiguille*, an instrument for accurately laying hold of a needle, and giving it greater length. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1884 G. Moore *Mummer's Wife* (1887) 206 She had .. a little gold **porte-bonheur* .. she had bought that morning. 1900 *Daily News* 6 Nov. 6/1 Some of them [prizes] were cut chrysanthemums in artistically-carved *porte-bouquets. 1846 Brittan tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 274 Preference should always be given to a *porte-caustique like that of Ducamp for the urethra. 1884 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 252 An ingenious porte-caustique has been invented by Dr. Fauvel. 1802 James *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Entonnoir*, the tin-case or *port-feu which is used to convey the priming powder into the touch-hole of a cannon. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, **Porte-guidon*, an Ensign-bearer to a troop of men at Arms. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 238/2 This apparatus consisted of a long photometer-box with a **porte lumière* at one end.

‖ **Porte-cochère** (port,kɔʃɛ·r). Also 7–8 (anglicized) **port-cocher.** [F., f. *porte* Port *sb.*3 + *cochère*, fem. adj. f. *coche* Coach *sb.*] A gateway for carriages, leading into a court-yard; a carriage-entrance.

1698 W. King tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 3 Divers of the Citizens Houses have Port-cochers [*misprr.* -ezs] to drive in a Coach, or a cart either, and Consequently have Courts within. 1699 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* 8 All the Houses of Persons of Distinction are built with Port-cochers, that is, wide Gates to drive in a Coach. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 170 Kensington cannot be named without mentioning the King's Palace there:..there are two great Wings built..and a large Port-cocher at the Entrance, with a Postern. 1804 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 95 The darkness of their court-yards and *portes cocheres*. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lxiv, Their carriage stood in the *porte-cochère* of the hotel. 1882 *Century Mag.* XXIV. 843/1 The *porte-cochères*..afford glimpses of..court-yards.

Porte-colis, -cules, etc., obs. ff. Portcullis.

Porte-crayon: see Port-crayon.

Po·rted, *a. rare.* [f. Port *sb.*3 + -ed 2.] Having 'ports' or gates: in comb.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* IV. 433 We tooke the seuen-fold ported Thebes, when yet we had not there So great helpe as our fathers had.

Ported (pō·ɹtĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Port *v.*1 + ed 1.] Of arms: Held in the position of the port: see Port *sb.*4 9 and *v.*1 2.

1650 T. Bayly *Herba Parietis* 51 His own hair, standing stiffe an end, like ported feathers of some porcupine. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 978 Th' Angelic Squadron bright..began to hemm him round With ported Spears. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 265 The man or men going on the Post, who, with ported Arms, approach the Sentinels to be relieved.

‖ **Portefeuille** (port,fö·ly'). [F., f. Porte- + *feuille* leaf, sheet; cf. Portfolio.]

1. = Portfolio 1.

1699 M. Lister *Journ. Paris* 92 He shewed his *Portefeuilles* in Folio, of Red Spanish Leather finely adorned. 1768 in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VI. 466/1 Ninety-five capital drawings..in two Russia portefeuilles. 1815 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* (1846) VII. 227 Neither..were of any avail, till he condescended to search his portefeuille for a passport.

2. = Portfolio 2.

1792 *Amer. St. Papers, Foreign* (1832) I. 390 (Stanf.) The portefeuille was given to Monsieur Delessart. 1836 Lady H. Stanhope *Mem.* (1845) I. x. 369 It was not Napoleon that he was so much attached to; it was to him who had the *portefeuille*.

Portegue, var. Portague *Obs.*

Portekoles, obs. form of Portcullis.

Po:rt-ele·ctric, *a.* [See Porte-.] Carrying by electricity: applied to a proposed system of electric traction for transmission of parcels, etc.

1890 *Globe* 14 Nov. 3/1 The *Portelectric* car is an air cylinder 10 inches in diameter, 12 feet long, and 350lb. in weight. It runs on two wheels, one above, the other below, along an elevated railroad which supports the..hollow coils.

Portemantue, obs. form of Portmanteau.

‖ **Porte-monnaie** (port,monɛ). Also (in vulgar use) anglicized as **port-money.** [F., f. Porte- + *monnaie* Money.] A flat leathern purse or pocket-book.

1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxxix, Mrs. Mackenzie briskly shut her porte-monnaie. 1878 B. Harte *Man on Beach* 78, I left my portmoney at home. 1885 C. F. Woolson in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 785/1 A battered porte-monnaie.

Portenans, -aunce, varr. Purtenance *Obs.*

Portend (pɔɹtē·nd), *v.*1 Also 5 **portende**, 6 **pourtende.** [ME. ad. L. *portendĕre* to foretell, presage, archaic form of *protendĕre* to stretch forth, specialized in ritual sense, f. *por-* = *pro-* forth + *tendĕre* to stretch; see Protend.]

1. *trans.* To presage as an omen; to foreshow, foreshadow.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 A blasynge sterre was seene in the firmamente, whiche is wonte to portende other a pestilence of provinces other the chaungenge of a realme. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 285 [They] judged that it did pourtende and signifie some great trouble. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 146 Like as that single meteor Castor appearing without Pollux portends an unfortunate voyage. 1868 Farrar *Seekers* II. iv. (1875) 225 The croak of the raven can portend no harm to such a man.

b. By extension: To point to or indicate beforehand; to give warning of, by natural means.

1592 Kyd *Sp. Trag.* I. ii, What portends thy cheerful countenance? 1685 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Nov., Bonfires were forbidden on this day; what does this portend! 1756 Franklin in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 188 Small black clouds thus appearing in a clear sky..portend storms, and warn seamen to hand their sails. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 160 Everything portended an early renewal of the conflict.

2. Of a person: To foretell, predict, forecast, prognosticate, as by interpreting an omen. *rare.*

1611 Heywood *Gold. Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 48 What portend you in these hostile sounds Of clamorous warre? 1731 Swift *On his Death* 119 Some great misfortune to portend, No enemy can match a friend. 1851 Gladstone *Glean.* VI. iii. 2 A fact plain enough to those..who in the moral hemisphere can portend foul weather when 'the sky is red and lowering'.

† 3. To signify, symbolize, mean, indicate. *Obs.*

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 87 *Antanaclasis*, when we produce a word in a contrary signification to that it commonly portendeth. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* II. v. 130 What should that Alphabeticall position portend..? Softly, M.O.A.I. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XIX. 645 The geese (a glutton race) by thee deplored, Portend the suitors fated to my sword. 1782 Han. More *Belshazzar* II. 76 What do the mystic characters portend?

4. *intr.* To utter or give portents. *rare.*

1887 Bowen *Virg. Eclogue* I. 18 Oft from the holm-oak's hole on the left did a raven portend.

Hence **Porte·nding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also † **Porte·ndance**, † **Porte·ndment**, the quality or fact of portending; presage, omen, signification; **Porte·nder**, one who or that which portends.

1644 J. Goodwin *Fighting agst. God* 22 It is a thing of the saddest consideration under heaven, and of more grievous *portendance unto us. 1657 — *Triers Tried* 5 [It] must needs be of a sad abode and portendance unto the people. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* V. § 2 (1643) 125 They have appeared as the *portenders of change in states and kingdomes. 1675 Teonge *Diary* (1825) 26 An absolute portendor of a prosperous voyage. 1590 Watson *Eclogue Sir F. Walsingham* 419 For they portending stormie windes surcease, but by *portending cause the hearts content. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* X. 459 The portending heauinesse of my presaging soule. 1626 Bp. Hall *Contempl., O. T.* XX. ii, Like comets who were never seene without the *portendement of a mischeife. 1634 Jackson *Creed* VII. vii. § 2 It only argues some deeper insight in ominous forewarnings or portendments.

Portend (pɔɹte·nd), *v.*2 [ME. a. OF. *portend-re* to stretch forth, extend, to drape, cover, etc.:—L. *protendĕre* to stretch forth, with pop. L. *por-* for *pro-* forth. See prec. and Protend.]

† 1. *trans.* To put forward, as authority or excuse; to pretend. *Obs. rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 93 William bischop of Hely..oppressede moche the clergy, portendynge the power of the kynge [L. *regis prætendens potestatem*).

2. To stretch forth, to extend, hold out (something). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 678 The Alembick sometimes..portends out of its head..a Pipe. 1782 Mickle *Q. Emma* III. 298 Spear to spear was now portended, And the yew-bows half were drawn. 1803 *Edwin* I. xii. 192 The fury that marked my brow as I portended my sword over the senseless bodies of my wife and child.

Portent (pō·ɹtĕnt). Also 7 **portend**, and in L. form **portentum.** [ad. L. *portent-um* a portent, sign, omen, monster, marvellous tale (whence also It., Sp., Pg. *portento*, obs. F. *portente*), f. L. *portendĕre* to Portend. Orig. stressed *porte·nt*, which came down to 19th c.; but *po·rtent* is found also in 1711. Pope has both.]

1. That which portends or foretells something momentous about to happen, esp. of a calamitous nature; an omen, significant sign or token.

1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 762 (R.) A strange portent and prodigious token from heauen, in the yeare of our Lord 1505. 1596 Shaks. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iii. 65 O what portents are these? *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* II. 268 And there appear'd a huge portent, A Dragon with a bloody skale, horride to sight, and sent To light by great Olympius. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 491 As false portents, not sent from God, but thee. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* I. 22 My Loss by dire Portents the Gods foretold. 1711 Pope *Temp. Fame* 452 Of prodigies and portents seen in air. 1736 S. Wesley *Hymn*, From whence these dire Portents around, That Earth and Heaven amaze? 1814 Scott *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxx, Portents and miracles impeach Our sloth. 1821 Byron *Sardan.* II. i, Let us think Of what is to be done to justify Thy planets and their portents. 1845 Hirst *Poems* 73 Such portents shook the soul of Rome. 1871 Froude in *Devon. Assoc. Trans.* IV. 20 The early records of all nations are full of portents and marvels.

b. The fact or quality of portending; in phr. *of dire* (etc.) *portent.*

1715–20 Pope *Iliad* II. 372 A mighty dragon shot, of dire portent; From Jove himself the dreadful sign was sent.

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1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* iii. (1875) 28 A cloud of black and deadly portent was thickening over France.

c. In weakened sense: A sign of coming weather or other natural phenomena.

1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 37 Lowering with portents of rain. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* viii, She was not so familiar with the portents of the land.

2. Something considered portentous; a prodigy, wonder, marvel.

1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. x. 422 L. Antony, the portent and disgrace of his species. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1877) 671 Frederic was not one of these brilliant portents. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, If you talk of portents, what portent can be greater than a pious notary? 1881 M. G. WATKINS in *Academy* 19 Mar. 202 That portent the 'general reader' will find this book entertaining.

3. *Comb.*, as *portent-like* adj. and adv.

1744 HANMER *Shaks. Wks., L. L. L.* v. ii. 67 Portent-like [Hanmer's emendation of *pertaunt-, perttaunt-like* of the Quartos and Folios]. 1747 WARBURTON in *Shaks. Wks.* II. 256 Portent-like, i. e. I would be his fate or destiny, and like a portent hang over, and influence his fortunes.

Hence † **Porte·ntful** *a. Obs.*, portentous.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 5 There are bred those portentful comets and exhalations, out of which fantastical heads pick fanatical meanings.

† **Portenti·fical,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *portentificus* (f. *portentum* PORTENT: see -FIC) + -AL.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Portentifical,* which worketh wonders, or whereby monstrous and strange things are done.

† **Porte·ntion.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 portension. [ad. med.L. *portentiō-nem* a portent, f. *portendĕre* to PORTEND.] The action of portending; a portent.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. xiv. 417 Why although the Red Comets do carry the portensions of Mars, the brightly-white should not be of the Influence of Jupiter or Venus,.. is not absurd to doubt.

† **Porte·ntive,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *portent-*, ppl. stem of *portendĕre* to PORTEND + -IVE.] Having the quality of portending; = PORTENTOUS 1.

1594 NASHE *Terrors Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 245 Commonly that [dream] which is portentiue in a King is but a friuolous fancie in a beggar. 1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. 51* The Portentive Idolls of their Country. 1773 J. ROSS *Fratricide* IV. 9 (MS.) The Heavens Portentive roll'd their thunders o'er his head.

Portentous (pɔɹte·ntəs), *a.* Also 6 portentius, 7-9 -uous, 7 -eous. [ad. L. *portentōsus, -uōsus* (whence also obs. F. *portenteux*, It. *portentoso*), f. *portentum* PORTENT: see -OUS and -UOUS.]

1. Of the nature of a portent; foreboding some extraordinary and (usually) calamitous event; ominous, threatening, warning.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 140 With these portentius thinges albeit he was feared,..yeat, fearinge noe deceite..went forward on his waye. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 153 Such portentuous miracles then seen in Rome. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1332 Many portenteous signes were given by terrible tempests. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. ii, Stop that portentous mouth. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 45 Let the Astrologer be dismay'd at the portentous blaze of comets. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 14. 2/1 Actual Bleeding must needs be more Portentuous than a meer Dream. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 106 Having foretold the portentous events of the late meteor. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii, There is something portentous in this sudden change. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* ii. § 66. 81 The event loses from thenceforth much of its portentous significance.

2. Applied, without any connected sense of augury, to an object exciting wonder, awe, or amazement; marvellous, monstrous, prodigious; hence as an intensive (sometimes *humorous*) = extraordinary.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 36 A foure foted beast of monstrous shape..hauinge..beneath his comon belye, an other belye lyke vnto a purse or bagge, in which he kepeth his yonge whelpes...This portentous beast with her three whelpes was broughte to Cimle in Spaine. 1555 — *Decades* 159 A towne of such portentous byggenes. 1607 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 23 So nefarious, flagitious, portentuous a wickednesse, as this was. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xix. (1840) 275 By such portentous and extravagant numbers. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* III. ii. (1723) 175 Such a Deluge..would require a portentous Quantity of Water. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 252 See whether we can discover in their schemes the portentous ability, which may justify these bold undertakers. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* I. 4 Since that portentuous period, the wealth of our happy country has .. increased. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* II. i, A portentous apple-dumpling. 1877 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. xvii. 352 Russia will have to make..a portentous effort, when she is to leap from Constantinople to Calcutta.

Porte·ntously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a portentous manner; in a way that portends or foreshadows something unusual; hence (loosely) prodigiously, extraordinarily, astonishingly.

1656 TRAPP *Comm. 2 Thess.* ii. 3 That breathing devil, so portentously, so peerlessly vicious. 1755 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* (ed. 4) I. II. iv. 246 Creatures, which by a reciprocal translation of the parts to one another, became all portentously deformed. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* vii, The distant sea..lay almost portentously still. 1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. viii. 468 The decline was portentously rapid. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. (1886) 9 Portentously significant silence. 1882 HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* I. xviii, He would be portentously severe against very trifling shortcomings.

Porteous: see PORTAS. (Common in Sc. legal use.) **Portepyne,** obs. form of PORCUPINE.

Porter (pō·ɹtəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3- porter; 3-5 -ere, 4 -or, (6 *Sc.*) -ar, 4-5 -are, -our, 5 -eour, -iere, 6 *Sc.* -eir. [ME. and AF. *porter* = OF. *portier* (12th c. in Godef.):—late L. *portārius* door-keeper, f. L. *porta* door: see -ER 2.]

1. One who has charge of a door or gate, esp. at the entrance of a fortified town or of a castle or other large building, a public institution, etc.; a gate-keeper, door-keeper, janitor.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 382/210 Þat ich moste here porter beo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10013 At 3ates four er four porters [*v.rr.* -eris, -eres] Þat nathing mai cum in Þat ders. 1382 WYCLIF *John* x. 3 To this the porter openeth, and the scheep heeren his vois. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 35 Þei schal be in my sanctuari huschers, & portars. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. x. (1859) 7 Peter is porter of heuen and lyeutenant of the souerayn lord in erthe. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 475/2 By the hondis of his Portour of the said Castell. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Porter, a kepar of a gate, *portier.* *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 32 Like a porter in a great house, ever nearest the door, but seldomest abroad. *c* 1720 PRIOR *Wandering Pilgrim* 46 Let him in thy hall but stand, And wear a porter's gown. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 178 There shall be a resident Apothecary,..a Secretary, a Collector, a Porter, and such other Officers as shall be found necessary. 1885 MORLEY *Crit. Misc., Pattison's Mem.* III. 151 Accomplishments..more fitted for the porter of a workhouse than for the head of a college.

fig. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 296 And made pees porter [*C.* portor, -our] to pynne Þe 3ates. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 97 Þes v. portours byfore-sayd er Þe v. wyttes, Þat dwellys yn Þe eighen, yn Þe eryn, yn Þe nese, yn Þe tonge, and yn Þe hondes. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* CXXV, I fand, full redy at the 3ate, The maister portare, callit pacience. 1610 T. COLLINS *Mercy* in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 357 Mercy's the porter of heauen's pretious dores. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 531 Two mightie Colosses or statues of Lions, were set as porters at the doore. 1668 BP. HOPKINS *Serm., Vanity* (1685) 72 God hath set that grim porter, Death, at the gate.

b. Applied to a watch-dog. c. (See quot. 1846.)

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 37 Cerberus, the porter of hell, with hys cheyne. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) III. 18 [Mastiffs] are not (like Apes) the fooles and jesters, but the useful Servants in a Family, viz. the Porters thereof. 1846 *P. Parley's Ann.* VII. 325 Gamekeepers give various names to rabbits: with them they are warreners, porters, sweethearts, and hedgehogs...The porter's favourite haunt is in gentlemen's pleasure grounds.

† 2. *Anat.* (tr. Gr. *πυλωρός*): The pyloric orifice of the stomach, where it opens into the small intestine. *Obs.*

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 349 It beginneth at the porter of the stomach, and is so seated beside the liuer. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 119 It is called *πυλωρός* or the Porter, commonly the neather orifice.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **porter's lodge** († **porter-lodge**), a lodge for the porter at the gate of a castle, park, etc. (formerly a place of corporal punishment for servants and dependants); † **porter-vein,** the *vena portæ* or portal vein (see PORTAL *a.* 2).

1471-2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 644 Factura muri infra le *Porterloge. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 76 Strangenes, quhair that he did ly, Wes brint in to the porter luge. *a* 1592 GREENE *Newes fr. Heaven & Hell* (1593) B j, Wee be not farre from Heauen gates, and if S. Peter should understand of your abuse, I knowe he would commit you both to the Porters Lodge. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* III. ii, Fit company only for pages and for footboys That have perused the porter's lodge. 1822 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Christmas Eve,* Close adjoining was the porter's lodge. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 106 Gang doon to the porter-lodge, and wait till I come till ye. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. viii. 105 But what if such creatures were conueyed..through the mesaraicke veines into the great *porter veine? 1686 A. SNAPE *Anat. Horse* I. ix. 17 A small Vein..called *pylorica* or Porter-vein.

Hence **Po·rter** *v.*[1] *intr.*, to be or act as a porter.

1605 [see DEVIL *sb.* 23 a]. 1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* IV. xxviii, Wee'l hold their heart, wee'l porter at their eare.

Porter (pō·ɹtəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also 4 portour, 5 -oure, -owre. [ME. *portour,* a. OF. *porteour* (12th c. in Godef.) (mod.F. *-eur*) :—L. *portātōr-em,* agent-noun f. L. *portāre* to carry, PORT *v.*[1] The ending *-our* was changed in 16th c. to *-er*: see -ER 2 3.]

1. A person whose employment is to carry burdens; now *esp.* a servant of a railway company employed to carry luggage at a station (in full, *railway porter*).

† *Porter's ale, beer*: see PORTER *sb.*[3] *Porter's knot*: see KNOT *sb.*[1] 5.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Chron.* xvi. 42 The sonis forsothe of Yditym he made to ben porters. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 370 A dosen harlotes Of portours and of pykeporses and pylede toþ-drawers. 1469 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 336 If any of the portoures goo owt with cariage into the contry. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Porter of burdens, *crochetevr.* 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 114, I saw a Porter .. drink up a Flagon of Beer. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxi. P 2 About an hundred Pounds weight, viz. a Porters Burthen. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 134 Porters,.. employed to carry goods or parcels, also persons duly authorised, who attend wharfs for employment in various capacities respecting shipping. 1878 F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 621 Porters for the passenger department are not accepted if they are less than 5 ft. 8 in. high. 1890 *Daily News* 17 Nov. 5/4 The Fellowship Porters—who must not be confounded with their humbler brethren the 'Ticket Porters' and the 'Tackle Porters'—are an association with a standing that entitles them to a hearing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 July 4/2 The porter's rest, which stood so long on the north side of St. Paul's, disappeared at Jubilee time last year. 1901 *Census Schedule, Instruct.,* Porters..should specify the nature of their employment—as Railway Porter. The term Porter should never be used alone.

b. *gen.* and *fig.* One who or that which carries or conveys; a bearer, carrier.

1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 700 There is no need of porter, of a mediatour or minister, say onely, Lord haue mercie vpon me. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. xxxii, Simon of Cyrene is forced to be the porter of Thy cross. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 67 The Grecian Tongue, Porter of Wit, and Art. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 231 It enables him [the spaniel] to be a good roader, as it is styled in the south; in the north it is termed a good porter. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 868 Ships..are not such good porters of cholera as caravans, armies, hordes of pilgrims and unsanitary travellers.

c. (See quot.)

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, Porter in the circuit of Iustices, is an officer that carieth a verge or white rodde before the Iustices in Eyre, so called, *a portando virgam, an.* 13 *Ed. I cap.* 24. 1772 *Jacob's Law Dict.* s.v., There is also a porter bearing a verge before the justices of either bench.

2. An appliance for lifting, carrying, or supporting.

† a. A lever. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Palange,* leauers or porters, wherewith they left and beare tymbre, and suche like thynges of greatte weight. *Palango..,* to beare on leyuars or porters. 1566 WITHALS *Dict.* 32/1.

† b. A supporting structure of timber or stone. (Cf. BEARER 9.) *Obs.*

1591 LODGE *Diogenes* (Hunter. Cl.) 19 He..swore that he would ouerthrowe the porters and bearers, which he practising to doo, the timber fell sodainly in the midst of his sawing.

c. An iron bar attached to a heavy body to be forged, by which it may, when suspended from a crane, be guided beneath the hammer or into the furnace; a porter-rod. Also, a bar from the end of which something (e. g. a knife-blade) is forged. (Knight *Dict. Mech.*)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 78 (*Anchor*), *Porter,* a straight bar of iron, about 2 inches square, confined at one end to the end of the shank. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 44 The lower part [of an anchor] is left disunited, but has carrier iron bars, or *porters,* as these prolongation rods are commonly called, welded to the extremity of each portion. *Ibid.* 704 The *bloom* or rough ball, from the puddle furnace, is laid and turned about upon it, by means of a rod of iron welded to each of them, called a *porter.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., A cross lever fixed to the porter is the means of rotating the forging beneath the hammer.

d. A light carriage with two or three wheels, to hold up from the ground the chain or rope of a steam plough.

1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. II. 416 The Travelling-porters are intended to carry the implement rope, the outer rope being best carried by the ordinary three-wheel porters.

3. *Weaving.* (*Sc.*) = BEER *sb.*[3]

1814 A. PEDDIE *Manuf., Weaver & Warp. Assist.* (1818) 152 What the Scotch weavers term a Porter, the English term a beer. 1846 G. WHITE *Treat. Weaving* 277 The hundred splits in all kinds of reeds is nominally divided into five equal portions for the sake of calculation, called porters in Scotland and beers in England. 1867 BLACK *Hist. Brechin* xii. 271 A thirty porter or 600 reed is divided into 600 openings in the breadth of 37 inches: 20 of these openings are called a porter. 1894 *Dundee Advertiser* 5 July 4 The new duty of 20 per cent. would also apply to tarpauling up to 11 or 12 porters.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porter-beer* (see PORTER *sb.*[3]), *-clerk, -crab* (see quot.), *-guard, -riot, -rod* (= sense 2 c).

1906 *Daily Chron.* 25 Jan. 6/7 A youth of seventeen, engaged there as *porter-clerk. 1904 *Ibid.* 11 Jan. 3/3 At Patani was obtained the '*porter' crab, which lies in the mud clasping a sea anemone to its back by means of modified legs. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 181 Student-plots at Pisa, *porter-riots at Leghorn, and demonstrations at Florence. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 44 (*Anchor*) To one end a *porter rod is fastened, by which the palm is carried and turned round in the fire during the progress of the fabrication.

Hence **Po·rter** *v.*[2] *trans.*, to carry as a porter (sense 1), or by means of a porter or porters (sense 2 d); **Po·rtering,** the work or occupation of a porter.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, At night he shall be portered to our chamber. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. II. 395 It would have been interesting.. to have tested the draft of this rope dragging on the surface, against the wire rope properly 'portered'. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 4 July 6/7 Nominally he is a licensed porter,.. but he does not do much portering.

Porter (pō·ɹtəɹ), *sb.*[3] [Short for *porter's ale, porter's beer,* or *porter beer* (PORTER *sb.*[2]), app. because orig. made for or chiefly drunk by porters and the lower class of labourers: cf. the early quots. There is no direct contemporary evidence as to the origin of the name. Statements going back to *c* 1750 attribute the first brewing of the liquor to Ralph Harwood 'at the place afterwards called Doctor's Brewhouse, on the east side of High Street, Shoreditch'; but these statements concern the origin not of the appellations *porter's ale, porter's beer,* but of the term *entire.* The probability is that *porter's ale* or *beer* arose as a popular descriptive appellation.]

A kind of beer, of a dark brown colour and bitterish taste, brewed from malt partly charred or browned by drying at a high temperature.

a. 1727 SWIFT *Further Acc. E. Curll* Wks. 1755 III. I. 161 Nursed up on grey peas, bullocks liver, and porters ale. 1734 SWIFT in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 502, I cannot make shifts..by starving in scanty lodgings,..as I used to do in London, with port-wine, or perhaps Porter's ale, to save charges! 1745 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 552 Their Urine..as high-coloured as Porter's Beer. 1770 MASSIE *Reas. agst. Tax on Malt* 5 So that every

Person.., must pay more than Three Halfpence for a Pint of Porter-Beer in London.

8. 1739 'R. Bull' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 139 The Fumes of Porter, Stout, or Home-brew'd Ale. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 221 Of Brewing Butt-Beer, called Porter. *c* 1750 J. Gutteridge (of Shoreditch) in *Gentl. Mag.* May (1819) 394/2 Harwood, my townsman, he invented first Porter to rival wine, and quench the thirst. Porter,..Whose reputation rises more and more. 1772 *Town & Country Mag.* 117 Hard working people delight in a kind of strong beer called porter, brown, clear, bitter and wholesome. 1781 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 836 My electors shall have porter at threepence a pot. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* s.v., At first the essential distinction of porter arose from its wort being made with highly-kilned brown malt. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 757 Breweries...The latter principally produce porter, the favourite beverage of the Londoners.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *porter-brewer, -brewery, -malt, -pot, -pump, -shop, -yeast; porter-coloured, -drinking, -hued* adjs.; **porter-cup**, a mixed beverage containing porter (see quot.) See also Porter-house.

1818 Calvert in *Parl. Deb.* 1012 It had been proved by those *porter brewers who had been examined before the police committee. 1776 Adam Smith *W. N.* v. ii. (1869) II. 486 In the *porter brewery of London, a quarter of malt is commonly brewed into more than two barrels and a half, sometimes into three barrels of porter. 1898 Kipling in *Morn. Post* 9 Nov. 5/2 Clumps of gorse and heather and the *porter-coloured pools of bog water. 1889 *Barman's Manual* 51 *Porter Cup. Mix, in a tankard, a bottle of porter and an equal quantity of table ale; pour in a glass of brandy and a dessert-spoonful of syrup of ginger; add 3 or 4 lumps of sugar and a nutmeg grated [etc.]. 1851 G. Blyth *Remin. Mission. Life* II. 121 His *porter-drinking propensities. 1863 *Royal Exchange Assurance* Art. ii, Maltsters (who make no high-dried or *porter malt). 1824 Southey in *Life* (1849) I. 137 He used to..fling the *porter-pot or the poker at me. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xxvii, A porter-pot and a wine-bottle. 1804 Larwood *No Gun Boats* 15 The Caffés of France, and the *Porter Shops of England. *c* 1796 Sir J. Dalrymple *Observ. Yeast-cake* 2 London *porter-yeast..is preferred..by the distillers.

Porter *v.*[1, 2] : see Porter *sb.*[1, 2].

Porter, variant of Porture *v. Obs.*

Porterage[1] (pōˑɹtərēdʒ). [f. Porter *sb.*[2] + -age.]

1. The action or work of a porter; carriage or transportation of goods, parcels, etc.; also, the charge for this.

1437–8 in *5th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 541/1, 5*s.* 8*d.* received from the Porters in the Strande, for the porterage of fish this year. 1611 *Lett. E. India Co.* (1896) I. 141 Item for porterage of particulars above to the barque, 03. 13. 1671 L. Roberts *Merch. Map Commerce* (ed. 2) 54 Other charges are Boat-hire, Wharfage, Porterage and Ware-house room. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 123/2 The carrier had no right to stop the goose for the porterage. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 131 *Porterage*, the hire of porters. 1859 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* I. 241 Female porterage is the custom of the country. 1880 *Post Office Guide* 235 When the addressee resides beyond the free delivery, porterage is charged. 1884 *G. W. R. Time Tables* July 83 No charge for porterage..at Holyhead.

†**2.** Something to be carried, a burden. *Obs. rare.*

1666 J. Smith *Old Age* (1676) 179 These Porters do now become a porterage themselves, and those parts that were wont to bear the greatest burdens, are now so great a burden.

3. *attrib.* as *porterage fee, work.*

1774 *Acts Gen. Assembly Georgia* (1881) 418 For any Porterage Work from the several parts of the Town..to any of the Wharves the like rates. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Apr. 7/1 Even the British Commissioner when he journeys to and from Uganda has to employ slave labour for porterage purposes. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 5/4 A tariff regulating porterage fees.

Porterage[2]. *rare.* [f. Porter *sb.*[1] + -age.] The duty or occupation of a porter or door-keeper.

1763 Churchill *Duellist* II. 161 In rules of Porterage untaught.

Porteress: see Portress.

Porter-house. Chiefly *U.S.* [f. Porter *sb.*[3] + House *sb.* Cf. *ale-house.*] A house at which porter and other malt liquors are retailed; also, one where steaks, chops, etc. are served, a chop-house.

1800 Cobbett in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II. 531 They adjourned from the porter-houses and gin-shops to the cheese-mongers and bakers. 1807–8 W. Irving *Salmag.* (1824) 286 Those temples of politics, popularity, and smoke, the ward porter-houses. 1858 *N. Y. Tribune* 16 Mar. 3/3 This morning, an altercation took place in the porter-house of Michael Byrne,..between Joseph Kelly..and others.

b. *attrib.*, as *porter-house boy*; **porter-house steak** (*U.S.*), 'a beefsteak consisting of a choice cut of the beef between the sirloin and the tenderloin ...: supposed to derive its name from a well-known porter-house in New York' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1807 Southey *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) I. 67 Then came the porter-house boy for the pewter-pots. 1864 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 27 Sept., The 'tenderloin', the 'porterhouse' steak of America, are infinitely superior to our much-vaunted rump steak. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Apr. 6/3 Porterhouse steaks sold for 15*c.* and now sell for 24*c.*

Porterlike, *a.* [f. Porter *sb.*[2] + Like *a.*] Like a porter: = Porterly *a.*[2]

1598 Florio, *Facchinarie*, base, filthie, rascally, porter-like-tricks.

†**Porterly,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Porter *sb.*[1] + ly [1].] Proper to a porter or door-keeper.

1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 397 b, Wherein he promised full remission..in the fullnesse of his Porterly power [= power of the keys].

†**Porterly,** *a.*[2] and *adv. Obs.* [f. Porter *sb.*[2]]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to, or characteristic of, a porter (Porter *sb.*[2]); hence, Rude, vulgar, low.

1603 Florio *Montaigne* (1634) 140 Off the stage,..they are base rascals, vagabond abjects, and porterly hirelings. 1673 Kirkman *Unlucky Citizen* 108 That Porterly Game of Nine-pins. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 48. 2/2 Silly and Porterly Reflections on you. 1765 Wesley *Jrnl.* 4 Sept., His language was as..foul, and porterly, as ever was heard at Billingsgate.

B. *adv.* In a 'porterly' manner; vulgarly.

1659 Torriano, *Facchinésco*, basely, or porterly. 1663 Dryden *Wild Gallant* I. i, I was porterly drunk, and that I hate of all things in nature.

Portership[1] (pōˑɹtəʃip). [f. Porter *sb.*[1] + -ship.] The office of porter or door-keeper; also with possessive, as a humorous title.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 197/2 Th' office of the Portership of the Castell of Rutland. 1503 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 10 § 7 The office of Porter or Portershipp of the same Castell. 1592 Nashe *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 95, I commend them .. to the protection of your Portership. 1610 T. Cocks *Diary* (1901) 98 Yf Short and he got not through for the patent of the portershipp. 1886 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) II. 349 Content with a portership in the House of the Lord.

Portership[2]. [f. Porter *sb.*[2] + -ship.] The office of a porter or carrier of burdens.

1521 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* 57 The tyme yew shall contynewe in the office of portershipp of this towne.

†**Portery, portary.** *Sc. Obs.* [a. MFl. *porterie, -erije*, f. *porter* citizen, burgher, f. *port* town, city: see Port *sb.*[2]] Citizenship or burghership in a Flemish or Dutch city; the body of citizens collectively; the rights or privileges of a citizen or burgher (in the Netherlands).

(In the quotation referring to Scottish merchants or factors residing in Flanders.)

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 333 All factouris that ar Scottismen..sall answer to the Conservatour, and nocht allege fra him to thair portary; and gif thai will abyde at thair portary, and nocht obey to the said Conservatour, the Quenis majestie..charges the said Conservatour that he discharge..hir liegis.

Portes's, Porteur, var. Portas, Porture *sb.*[1]

Portfire (pōˑɹtfəiəɹ). [After F. *porte-feu*, in same sense: see Porte-.] A device used formerly for firing artillery, and now for firing rockets and other fireworks, and for igniting an explosive in mining, etc.; = Fuse, Match *sb.*[2] 2.

1647 Nye *Gunnery* ix. 77 For the priming thereof, make a Potfire [*sic*], or Fuse. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 90 Leaving a small hole for a Port-Fire. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Portfire*, is a Composition of Meal, Powder, Sulphur and Salt-Peter drove into a Case of Paper, but not very hard; 'tis about 9 or 10 Inches long, and is used to fire Guns and Mortars instead of Match. 1798 Capt. Berry in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) *III.* 52 A port fire from L'Orient fell into the main royal of the Alexander. 1859 F. A. Griffiths *Artil. Man.* (1862) 95 Portfires are of four different natures—viz., Common portfires, Percussion portfires, Miners' portfires, and Slow portfires. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* s.v., The *common portfire* is sixteen inches long, and is packed with a composition which burns at the rate of about one inch per minute. The *slow port-fire* consists of paper impregnated with saltpeter and rolled into a solid cylinder about sixteen inches long. It will burn three or four hours.

attrib. 1814 Lewis & Clark *Exp. Missouri* (1893) III. 922 Taking a port-fire match from his pocket. 1828 J. M. Spearman *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 331 Portfires...Papers for forming portfire cases. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Portfire Clipper*, a nippers for cutting off the ends of port-fires.

†**Port-flask.** *Obs. rare.* [See Porte-.] A belt or attachment for carrying a drinking-flask.

1598 R. Barret *Theor. Warres* III. i. 34 With his flaske at his girdle, or hanging by a Port-flask, or Flask-leather vpon the right thigh.

Portfolio (pɔɹtˌfōˑlio). Also 8 **porto folio, portefolio, port folio,** 8–9 **port-folio.** [In 18th c. *porto folio*, ad. It. *portafogli*, f. *porta*, imper. of *portare* to carry + *fogli*, leaves, sheets of paper, pl. of *foglio* :—L. *folium* leaf. First element altered after F. *portefeuille* : see Porte-.]

1. A receptacle or case for keeping loose sheets of paper, prints, drawings, maps, music, or the like; usually in the form of a large book-cover, and sometimes having sheets of paper fixed in it, between which specimens are placed. Also *fig.*

1722 J. Richardson *Statues, etc. Italy* 13 Another Porto Folio, all of Raffaele. 1764 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 85/1 A porto folio of choice original designs. 1768 Forster in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 215 More than 3000 MSS. maps and drawings were kept in their portefolios. 1796 *Mod. Gulliver* 53, I tied up my port folio. 1806–7 J. Beresford *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xii. vii, An huge portfolio of Miss' or Master's early school drawings. 1812 Combe *Picturesque* xiv. (1813) 113 The Doctor forward stepp'd to shew The wealth of his port-folio. 1838 Lytton *Alice* I. ix, His servant..placed his portfolios and letter-boxes on the table. 1858 C. W. Goodwin in *Cambr. Ess.* 246 The compilers did not always confine themselves to the stores of their own portfolios.

2. *spec.* Such a receptacle containing the official documents of a state department; hence *fig.* the office of a minister of state. Orig. said in reference to France and other foreign countries.

1835 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) V. xxxii. § 8. 405 The portfolio of the war office was put into the hands of Carnot. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 2 As the subs of office quit their desks when premiers deliver up their portfolios. 1860 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* I. ii. 46 On the other side of the Channel, the Minister bears his portfolio, here the Secretary bears his seal. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 May 2/2 It seems hard that Lord Salisbury may do with impunity..what would cost Lord Rosebery not merely his windows but his portfolio.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *portfolio form, -hunter* (cf. *place-hunter*); **portfolio-stand,** a piece of furniture for holding portfolios, drawings, music, etc.

1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 3/4 The present monograph will be in *portfolio form, with many illustrations. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 June 1/2 Falls of Cabinets have become a custom and startle only *Portfolio-hunters. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. 20 In his *portfolio-stands..were the entire series of the illustrations to Scott, to Byron.

Hence **Portfo·lioed** *a.*, furnished with a portfolio.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 185 All portfolioed, all handbooked..without compassion or conscience. 1892 *Review of Rev.* Jan. 6/2 Bewailing the consequences of portfolioed incapacity.

†**Port-glaive.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *porte-glaive*: see Porte- and Glaive.] A sword-bearer; a member of the military and religious Order of the Knights Sword-bearers founded 1201 in Livonia.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Portglaive*, a Sword-bearer. 1725 Coats *Dict. Her.* s.v., Knights of the Order of the Portglaive, or Sword-Bearers in Poland, in Latin called *Ensiferi.* 1755 Johnson, *Portglave*, a sword bearer.

Port-grave : see Port-reeve.

Porth (pōɹθ). *Cornw. dial.* [Corn. and W. *porth*, ad. L. *portus* Port [1].] A small bay or cove.

1860 *Biog. & Crit. fr.* 'The Times' 245 Romantic coves provincially called Porths. 1880 Charl. M. Mason *Forty Shires* 301 One of the little lovely inlets, or porths, as they are called, which break every part of the Cornish coast.

Port-hole (pōˑɹtˌhōul). [f. Port *sb.*[3] + Hole *sb.*]

1. *Naut.* An aperture in a ship's side; *spec.* formerly one of those through which cannon were pointed; now, one of the apertures for the admission of light and air; = Port *sb.*[3] 2 b.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Portañola*, a port-hole, *porta.* *a* 1618 Raleigh *Royal Navy* 26 Wont to plant great red Port-holes in their broad sides, where they carried no Ordnance at all. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. x, So contrived the Port Holes therein, that most of her Guns might point to one Center. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4329/5 [They] went through the Port-holes into the Long-boat. 1759 Falconer *90-Gun Ship* 41 Full ninety brazen guns her port-holes fill. 1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 481 The contrivance of port-holes..is attributed to Descharges, a French ship-builder at Brest, in the reign of Louis the Twelfth. 1892 Clark Russell *Marriage at Sea* iii, A black steamboat,..her portholes glittering as though the whole length of her was studded with brilliants.

fig. 1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* II. ii, The port holes Of sheathed spirit are nere corb'd up.

2. *transf.* **a.** An aperture in a wall for shooting through, etc.; an embrasure; **b.** a similar aperture in other structures, e. g. in the door of a furnace.

1644–5 N. Drake *Siege Pontefr.* (Surtees) 37 One of our men was looking out of a portholе on the round tower. 1703 Maundrell *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 19 It has the face of a Castle, being built with portholes for Artillery, instead of Windows. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. III. xxxiv. 157 This city is inclosed within a wall above a mile in each square, with a great number of regular turrets and port-holes for arrows. 1870 J. Roskell in *Eng. Mech.* 18 Feb. 547/2 The 'port holes' are left open.

3. A steam port (Port *sb.*[3] 4).

1875 in Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1888 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* 27 On turning the fly-wheel the crank draws the piston-rod out and inclines the cylinder sideways, bringing the port-hole to the left. *Ibid.* 37 Fig. 29, where the size and position of each port-hole may be seen.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *port-hole shutter, window.*

1766 Entick *London* IV. 88 The roof is .. enlightened by four port-hole windows. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 95 We now find the advantage of the port-hole shutters.

Porthors, -hos, early forms of Portas.

†**Portic.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **portick.** [OE. ad. L. *porticus* : see next; cf. OHG. *pforzih*, etc. Not in ME., where F. *porche* Porch took its place; re-introduced in 17th c.] A portico, a porch.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. iii. (1890) 106 Forðon in þone forecwedenan portic ma ne meahte beon [L. *eo quod praedicta porticus plura capere nequiuit*]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John x. 23 And ge-eade se hælend in temple in portic salamones. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John v. 2 Se mere hæfð fif porticas.

1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* I. 18 It hath on the outside a Portic round it...Each side of the Portick is of Fourteen foot long. *Ibid.* 76 A fine Mosque; whose Portick is supported by Red Marble Pillars.

b. A philosopher of the Porch; a Stoic philosopher. *nonce-use.*

a 1644 Quarles *Funeral Elegies* Poems (1717) 417 Thou dry-brain'd Portick, whose Ahenean brest Transcending passion, never was opprest With grief.

Portico (pōˑɹtiko). Pl. **-oes, -os** (also 7 **-o's**). [a. It. (also Sp., Pg.) *portico* :—L. *porticus* colonnade, arcade, porch, f. *porta* door, gate, Port *sb.*[3]]

1. *Arch.* A covered ambulatory consisting of a roof supported by columns placed at regular intervals, usually attached as a porch to a building, but sometimes forming a separate structure; a colonnade; †a pergola in a garden (*obs.*).

1605 B. Jonson *Volpone* II. i, I..wont to fix my bank in face of the public Piazza, near the shelter of the Portico to the Procuratia. 1649 Evelyn *Diary* 30 May, His Majesty's statues thrown down at St. Paule's Portico and the Exchange. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* I. 210 He caused a stately Portico to be erected at the West end of the Church. 1686 Burnet *Trav.* iv. (1750) 233 The Beauty of their Temples, and of the Porticos before them, is amazing. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4249/3 Making all sorts of Parterres, Porticoes, Arbours. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 27 The porticos where Socrates sat. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. vi. 194 Priam's noble hall, A palace built with graceful porticos. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. 325 Porticoes should not be carried on the top of arches.

b. *spec.* The Painted Porch at Athens: see Porch 4; hence *fig.* the Stoic philosophy. Also *allusively.*

1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 352 From the portico, the Roman civilians learned to live, to reason, and to die. 1825 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Barbara S—*, Poor men's smoky cabins are not always porticoes of moral philosophy. 1837 Macaulay *Ess., Bacon* (1877) 403 Suppose that Justinian .. had called on the last few sages who still haunted the Portico.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1720 Ozell *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. iv. 228 Two Javelins were fixed in the Earth, and a third fastened across upon the Points of those. All the Æqui..passed under this military Portico. 1727-46 Thomson *Summer* 1393 Now to the verdant portico of woods..they walk. 1831 Carlyle in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 226 Now it seems to me as if this life were but the inconsiderable portico of man's existence.

Hence **Po·rticoed** *a.*, furnished with a portico.

1665 J. Webb *Stone-Heng* (1725) 103 The Temples ..were circumalated, or either singly or doubly porticoed about. 1856 Miss Mulock *J. Halifax* i, The High Street, with the mayor's house..porticoed and grand.

‖ **Po·rticus.** *Obs.* [L.; see prec.] = prec.

1624 B. Jonson *Masque, Neptune's Triumph* Wks. (Rtldg.) 640/2 Till the whole tree become a porticus, Or arched arbour. *a* 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* 146 Their baths..were of a less extent then their porticus or arch'd walks. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 21 Sleep not in the Dogma's of the Peripatus, Academy, or Porticus: be a moralist of the mount. 1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* xxxii. 289 Porticus's likewise ran through the whole Ground-plot of the Temple.

‖ **Portière** (portyē·r). [Fr.:—med.L. *portāria*, prop. fem. sing. of adj. *portārius* belonging to a door or gate; see Porter *sb.*1] A curtain hung over a door or doorway, to prevent draught, to serve as a screen, or for ornament.

1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxiii, What frightful Boucher and Lancret shepherds and shepherdesses leered over the portières! 1881 *Cornh. Mag.* July 50 He drew aside the portière that concealed the door.

attrib. 1893 Saltus *Madam Sapphira* 83 There was a jostle of portière rings. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 6/5 A pair of portière curtains, old appliquée embroidery on crimson silk velvet ground.

† **Portifo·lium, portyfolyom.** *Obs. rare.* Corruption of med.L. *portiforium*, a Portas.

1546 Bale *1st Exam. A. Askew* 34 b, Their popish portyfolyoms and maskynge bokes. 1550 — *Image Both Ch.* I. 141 Though they neuer haue Beades, Latine Primers, portifolyomes, nor other signes of hipocrisie.

Po·rtify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Port *sb.*7] To convert (claret) into port; in quot. *fig.*

1861 Thackeray *Round. Papers* xiv, I grant you .. that this claret is loaded, as it were; but your desire to *portify* yourself is amiable, is pardonable, is perhaps honourable.

Portigue, -ingue, var. Portague *Obs.*, gold coin.

Portinance, variant of Purtenance *Obs.*

Portingale, -gall, etc., obs. ff. Portugal.

Portion (pō·ɹʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4 porciun, 4-6 -ion, -ioun (etc.); 4-5, 7 portioun, 7- ione, 5- portion. [ME. *porciun, portion*, a. OF. *porcion, portion* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *portiō-nem* share, part, proportion (whence also Prov., Sp. *porcion*, It. *porzione*, Pg. *porção*).]

I. 1. The part (of anything) allotted or belonging to one person; a share. Also *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4746 (Cott.) He salde ilk man his porcion [*v.rr.* -ciun, -cioun]. *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 352 (Ritson) The kyng of Esex wes riche mon, He hade to ys portion Wylteschire, Barkschyre. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xv. 12 Fadir, ȝyue to me the porcioun of substaunce, ethir catel, that byfallith to me. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3585 Gif the yonger damysele The half, or els sum porciowne, That sho mai have to warisowne. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Esdras* v. 8 Euery man sought his porcion agayne in Iewry. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. iii. 125, I vnworthy am To woe so faire a Dame to be his wife, And haue no portion in the choice my selfe. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Portion*, a Lot, or Share of any thing that is to be parcell'd out or divided. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 338 The study of the law requires but a moderate portion of abilities. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 25 He honourably performed his portion of the compact.

b. A quantity or allowance of food allotted to, or enough for, one person.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* ii, She dyd brynge to hym [a poor man] his porcion as she was custommed for to doo. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. ccxxii. [ccxviii.] 691 To close you vp in a castell, and there to be holden vnder subiection, and to lyue by porcion. 1611 Bible *Esther* ix. 22 Daies of feasting and ioy, and of sending portions one to another. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* iii. 16 Each man hath.. brought him..halfe a pound of beefe which they call their portion. *c* 1880 *Newspaper*, The demand, in London alone, for soles [fish] of the size to make one 'portion'.

2. The part or share of an estate given or passing by law to an heir, or to be distributed to him in the settlement of the estate. Also *fig.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xv. 5 He is porcioun & mede of myn heritage. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 21 In defraude of here wyves & chylderyn, to lettyn hem fro þe porcyoun þat longyth to hem, be ryȝt. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iv. 113 Inheritarys to a grete porcyon of intaylyd land. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ii. 2 Full little weenest thou what sorrows are Left thee for porcion of thy livelyhed. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xix. 437 On whom the earth as their common mother bestowed a grave for a childs portion. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 21 Sir Joseph Jekyll decreed, that the plaintiffs were entitled to their original portions, as well as to the additional portions given by the will. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 210 On what security..could any man invest his money or give a portion to his children, if he could not rely on positive laws and on the uninterrupted possession of many years?

3. Dowry; a marriage portion. Also *portion-money.* (In quot. 1511 = Dower I.)

1511 Fabyan *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 7 Also I will that my chalice, w^t my ij crewetts and pax of siluer,.. whiche before daies I gave to my wif, remayn styll to her, in augmentyng of hir porcion. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvii. 221 Who loues not for the Person but the Portion loues no whit. 1625 Boswell in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 195 Her portion money..is already paying here. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xli. (1739) 64 This custom..[was] from the Latins, who used to give Dower with the man, and receive Portion with the woman. 1726 Swift *Gulliver* I. i, I married Mrs. Mary Burton..with whom I received four hundred pounds for a portion. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 35 Edward, on his side, is to give the moderate portion of 10,000 marks with his daughter.

4. That which is allotted to a person by providence; lot, destiny, fate. † *To lay one's portion with*, to cast in one's lot with (Lot *sb.* 1 e).

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlix. [l.] 19 Þou..laid þy porcioun wyþ spouse-breches. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 51 If ani presume aȝen þis, know he him to haue porcoun wiþ Giezi. 1535 Coverdale *Job* xx. 29 This is the porcion that y^e wicked shal haue of God, and the heretage that he maye loke for of the Lorde. — *Ecclus.* xxv. 19 Y^e porcion of the vngodly shal fall vpon her. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 70 Eternal Justice ..here their Prison ordain'd In utter darkness, and their portion set. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 54 ¶ 1 When Labour was pronounced to be the Portion of Man. 1851 Neale *Hymn*, Brief life is here our portion.

II. 5. A part of any whole: = Part *sb.* 1.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 8118-20 A day here may be a porcyon Of ane hundreth yhere, als men may se, Alle-if þat porcyon fulle lytylle be. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 99 Þe norþ est portioun of Arabia hatte Saba. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* ccxvii. 204, xxx thousand pounde of syluer to be payed within iii yere..euery yere x thousand pound by euyn porcyons. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 103/1 That..portioun of the lordshipe of Dumbar boundit meithit and merchit as eftir-followes. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 416 Such a Portion of the Ecliptic, as the Sun describes in the mean while by its Annual Motion towards the East. 1831 Macaulay *Ess., Hampden* (1887) 205 Almost every part of this virtuous and blameless life..is a precious and splendid portion of our national history. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 48 A portion of the pressure was transmitted laterally.

6. A part of the whole existing stock (of anything); a (limited) quantity or amount; some.

13.. *Coer de L.* 5413 The Sarezynes .. cryede, trewes!.. To the false Kyng off Fraunse; And he hem grauntyd.. For a porcioun off golde. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipman's T.* 56 Toward the toun of Brugges for to fare To byen there a porcion of ware. 1426 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 6 He boght of John Lyllyng a porcion of alom. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, But grace, ye the leest porcyon of grace,..is sufficyent. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 8 Nujeef Khan, whose talents had..given a portion of stability to the imperial throne. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 965 It would not be surprising if a portion of water, so far from being decomposed, were actually formed by the union of its constituents previously existing in the grain.

† 7. The action of dividing; division, partition, distribution. *Obs. rare.*

c 1450 *Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4796 And parted in to twa knyghts hande, Be euen porcioune. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VI. cxlix. 136 After y^e which porcion, Charlmayne, herynge of the dyuycion & stryfe among the Almayns..sped hym thyther. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* (1670) 174 That proportion is quite taken away which God the Creator hath observed in all other things: making them all in number, weight and measure, in an excellent portion and harmony.

Portion (pō·ɹʃən), *v.* [ad. obs. F. *portionner, porcionner* (1339 in Godef.) to apportion, divide into shares (= med.L. *portiōnāre*, 1374 in Du Cange), f. F. *portion* Portion; see Apportion.]

1. *trans.* To divide into portions or shares; to assign or distribute in shares, to share *out*; = Apportion *v.* 2.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 51 Þe barons portiond þe lond euen þam bituene. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* VIII. 514 Now each partakes the feast, the wine prepares, Portions the food, and each his portion shares. *a* 1763 Shenstone *A Vision* Wks. 1765 II. 87 The journey seemed to be portioned into four distinct stages. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* xvi. 254 The petty chiefs among whom the country was portioned out. 1887 Bowen *Æneid* v. 362 After the races are ended, the prizes portioned as due.

b. To allot or assign to any one as his portion or share; = Apportion *v.* 1.

1871 Browning *Balaustion* 2326 No: it was praise, I portioned thee, Of being good true husband to thy wife! 1904 Ld. Burghclere *Virg. Georg.* I. 43 Not that the gods Have portioned them some special gift [L. *quia sit divinitus illis Ingenium*], or fate Bestowed a deeper sense of things to be.

2. To give a portion or dowry to; to dower, endow.

1712 M. Henry *Commun. w. God* (1822) 365 The Psalmist having given preference to God's favour,..and portioned himself in that, here expresseth his great complacency in the choice he had made. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.*, 449 Louis of Arnstein, having no son, married and portioned off his seven daughters, dividing among them a part of his estates. 1855 M. Arnold *Balder Dead* 114 That one, long portion'd with his doom of death, Should change his lot, and fill another's life. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, When I marry with their consent they will portion me most handsomely.

3. To mix in due proportion; = Apportion *v.* 3.

1811 *Self Instructor* 514 Roman oker..when properly portioned with gum-water.

Hence **Po·rtioned** *ppl. a.*, **Po·rtioning** *vbl. sb.*

1732 Pope *Ep. Bathurst* 267 Him portion'd maids, apprentic'd orphans blest. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 521 Revenues..consecrated to the portioning of noble young ladies in marriage. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 22 We all must bear our portioned lot.

† **Po·rtionable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Portion *sb.* + -able: cf. *proportionable.*] Proportional.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. met. ix. 68 (Camb. MS.) Thow byndest the elementus by nowmbyres porcionables, þat the colde thinges mowen acorden with the hote thinges.

Portional (pō·ɹʃənăl), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *portiōnālis* partial; see Portion *sb.* and -al.]

1. Pertaining to or of the nature of a portion or part; partial.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Esdras* viii. 31 These ben the prouostis, after ther kuntres, and porciounelis [*v.r.* porciounel, 1388 porcionel] princehodis [*Vulg.* porcionales principatus] of hem, that with me steyeden vp fro Babiloine. 1662 Gunning *Lent Fast* 30 Why apply we the 4th, and 6th day of the week to stations? (or meetings for prayer, portional-fasting, and Sacrament). *a* 1670 Hacket *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 247 The Christians should punctually observe a portional abstinence, according to the time of forty days.

2. Of the nature of a portion or dowry.

1683 Evelyn *Mem.* 16 Mar., He [Sir J. Child] lately married his daughter to the eldest son of the Duke of Beaufort,..with £50,000 portional present, and various expectations.

Hence **Po·rtionally** *adv.*, by way of a portion or part; partly, in part. *rare.*

1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* I. i. 29 Peter receiued, and receiued for himselfe,..but μερικῶς, not ὁλικῶς, portionally and particularly, not wholly and entirely. 1865 Eliza Meteyard *J. Wedgwood* I. 330 The 'Brick House and Works' stood on what now forms portionally the site of the Wedgwood Institute.

Po·rtionary. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *portiōnārius* a canon's deputy in a cathedral, receiving half a prebend (*c* 1200 in Du Cange) (so OF. *porcionaire* 1442 in Godef.): see Portion *sb.* and -ary 1.] = Portionist 2.

1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 13 § 3 That all and everie person..shall paye their tythes for thincrease of the saide cattell so goinge in the saide waste or common, to the parson vicar proprietorie porcyonarie owner or other their fermors. 1620 Brent tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VIII. (1676) 734 That in Cathedral Churches, all the Canons and Portionaries shall be Priests, Deacons, or Sub-deacons. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Wolverhampton*, In this parish K. Edgar founded a chapel of 8 portionaries, the chief of whom he made patron to them all.

† **Po·rtionate,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [ad. med.L. *portiōnātus* provided with a portion.] = Proportionate. Hence † **Po·rtionately** *adv. Obs. rare*—1, in equal shares, proportionately.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* 115 b, They so deuided the resydue of his garmentes saue his coate..that euery manne had hys parte porcionately.

Portioner (pō·ɹʃənəɹ). [f. Portion *sb.* or *v.* + -er 1, 2. Cf. med.L. *portiōnārius.*]

I. 1. *Scots Law.* The proprietor of a small piece of land forming a portion of an original forty-merk land, which has been subdivided among co-heirs or otherwise broken up; a small laird.

1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 130 Quhair happinis to be sindrie portioneris of landis within the Schyir, the Scheref sall adjown the samyn togidder, quhill he mak the fouretie mark land of auld extent. 1569 *Ibid.* 676 Alexander Chalmer portioner of Petty. 1674 in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1721) I. 367 Robert Schaw Portioner in Auchmouty [fined] in 49 Pounds. 1791 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* I. 9 There are sixteen greater, and a considerable number (about a hundred) of smaller proprietors, called here Portioners, from their having a small portion of land belonging to them. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 396 My father belonged to that respectable class of landowners termed portioners.

b. *Heir-* or *heiress-portioner*: One of two or more heirs female who succeed to equal portions of a heritage in default of heirs male; or the son or other male representative of such a joint-heiress.

1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 571 Aliseun Dunbar ane of the airis portionaris of the lordschip of Loch and Kilconquhair. 1655 in Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 29/2 We Marion Boyd and Zacharias McCallum aires portionairis to umquhill Mr. Zacharias Boyd. 1765 *Act* 5 *Geo. III*, c. 26 *Preamble*, The eldest heir female always succeeding without division and excluding heirs portioners. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 29 § 19 The eldest of such heirs portioners shall succeed to the tenancy without division.

† 2. *Eccl.* = Portionist 2. *Obs.*

1670 Blount *Law Dict., Portioner* (.. *Portionarius*),.. where a Parsonage is served by two or sometimes three Ministers alternately .. the Ministers are called Portioners, because they have but their Portion or Proportion of the Tythes or Profits of the Living. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex., Portioner*, a minister, who, together with others, serves a benefice, because he has only a portion of the tithes or profits of the living.

3. *Eng. Law.* One of several persons among

whom a settled fund is appointable; a sharer. (Cf. PORTION *sb.* 2.) *rare.*

1884 SIR E. E. RAY in *Law Times Rep.* L. 261/1 In none of the decisions or dicta has the prior right of the portioners to receive their portions out of the estate been questioned.

4. *techn.* One of a number of artificers who each contribute a certain part of the complete article.

1879 *Globe* 11 Oct. 1/4 Each of the several contributors—technically called *portioners*.

II. 5. One who divides (anything) into portions or shares. *rare*—°.

1775 in ASH; and in later dicts.

Portionist. [ad. med.L. *portiōnista* (1499 in Du Cange), f. *portiōn-em* PORTION: see -IST.]

1. A student in a college, receiving or entitled to a defined portion or allowance of food (whether as a boarder or as recipient of a benefaction).

† **a.** At St. Andrews, A student who boarded with the principal of the college, and was entitled to his 'commons'. *Obs.*

1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S. T. S.) 7 The steuart to be payit be the principal off the profet of the portionistis.

b. In reference to Merton College, Oxford: A rendering of the Latin term *portionista*, applied to the class of poor scholars usually called *postmasters*.

The official terms are, in Latin documents, *portionista*, in English, *postmaster*; *portionist* appears to be merely a 17th c. literary rendering of the former by Wood, Hearne, and others after them.

a 1672 WOOD *Life* 1 Aug. an. 1635 (O. H. S.) I. 45 The old stone-house, wherein his son A. Wood was borne (called antiently Portionists or Postmasters hall). *Ibid.* 52 The second brother of A. Wood, named Edward, became one of the portionists or postmasters of Merton Coll. [in 1642]. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 54 He..was enter'd at 15 Years of Age, as one of the Portionists or Post-Masters of Merton Coll. 1826 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIV. 343 Parkhurst (afterwards Bishop of Norwich) whose portionist and pupil he was at Merton College. 1895 RASHDALL *Universities* II. 488 The body of Portionists (now corrupted to Postmasters) was engrafted..about the year 1380.

2. *Eccl.* One of two or more incumbents who share the duties and revenues of a benefice.

1743 *Act* 16 *Geo. II*, c. 28 § 35 All..Easter offerings, and other dues..that have been usually paid to the said rector or vicar, or portionists of the parish church of Stepney. 1794 W. COMBE *Boydell's Thames* I. 59 Its parochial tithes are divided between three portionists, who are all presented by the church of Exeter. 1888 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XIII. 247/2 He was also canon resident and portionist at Hereford.

Portionize, *v. rare*—¹. [f. PORTION *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To express or describe only in part.

1594 *Zepheria* ii. 14 Then though my pencil glance here on thine eyes; Sweet! think thy Fair it doth but portionise!

Portionless (pōə·ɹʃənlĕs), *a.* [f. PORTION *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a portion; dowerless.

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. ii, Were this excellent young creature portionless, I would not hesitate in giving my consent. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* iv, Harry, Harry! I wish I had put by the money for thee, my poor portionless child. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* iii, The daughters found themselves left portionless.

† **Portitor.** *Obs. rare.* [a. med.L. *portitor*, irreg. f. *porta* door, gate.] A door-keeper, a janitor.

1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 128 To the portitour at iiij d. by the day. *Ibid.* 170 Thomas Stanes Portitour of the same grete Warderobe.

Portiture, obs. form of PORTRAITURE.

† **Portiuncle.** *Sc. Obs.* In 5 **porciunkle.** [a. F. *portioncule*, †*-uncule*, ad. L. *portiuncula*, dim. of *portiōn-em* PORTION: see -UNCLE.] A small portion (of land); a pendicle.

1470 *Burgh Recs. Prestwick* 7 May (Maitl. Cl.) 2 Efftir þe lynght of þe said porciunkle of lande. *Ibid.* 4 A porciunkle of commoun land, paiand 3erli at sanct Nicholas dai ijd to sainct Nicholas lycht in þe said kirk.

Portland[1] (pōə·ɹtlĕnd). A peninsula or 'island' on the coast of Dorsetshire; *attrib.* in names of natural and artificial products of Portland Island, or of objects connected with it; as **Portland arrowroot, Portland beds**: see quots.; **Portland cement,** a cement resembling *P. stone* in colour: see CEMENT *sb.* 1 *note*; also *attrib.*, as *P. cement maker, mill*, etc.; **Portland oolite,** a limestone of the Upper Oolite formation, especially developed in the Isle of Portland; **Portland powder**: see quot. 1858; **Portland sago** = *P. arrowroot*; also called *Portland Island sago*; **Portland sand, Portland screw**: see quots.; **Portland spurge,** *Euphorbia Portlandica*; **Portland stone,** a valuable building stone quarried in the Isle of Portland.

1854–69 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol., Portland Sago*, *Portland arrow-root, a fecula prepared from *Arum maculatum* in the Isle of Portland. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 971/1 From the tubers of this plant [*Arum maculatum*]..a starch called Portland Arrowroot was formerly..prepared. 1849 CRAIG, **Portland beds*, or *Portland limestone*, a series of calcareous strata belonging to the upper part of the Oolite formation, found chiefly..in the Isle of Portland. 1824 *Specif. J. Aspdin's Patent* No. 5022 An improvement in ..artificial stone..which I call *Portland cement. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Portland-cement Maker*, a manufacturer of cement for builders. 1885 *Times, Engineering Suppl.* 12 Apr. 6o/1 'Portland' cement..was patented in 1824 by Joseph Aspdin, a bricklayer, of Leeds, who fancied that it bore some resemblance to the oolitic limestone of Portland Island. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 July 6/3 The neighbourhood of these two rivers [Thames and Medway], from being the cradle of the Portland Cement industry, has now become the chief seat of the manufacture. 1833 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 533 Names of Strata on Mr. Smith's Map and Sections [1815]..9 Portland rock. .. Present Names [1833]..*Portland oolite. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 417 A Printed paper..recommending a revival of the old remedy for the Gout, known by the name of the *Portland Powder. From [this] we should be led to believe that this remedy was purchased and dispersed by the present Duke of Portland; whereas, it was by his father, many years ago. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Portland Powder*, a name of a formerly celebrated gout remedy, consisting of equal parts of birthwort, gentian, germander tops and leaves, ground pine and lesser centaury, dried, powdered, and sifted. 1849 CRAIG, **Portland sago.* 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Portland Stone* and **Portland Sand*, a well-known group of the upper oolite...It consists of shelly freestones of variable texture underlaid by thick beds of sand. 1885 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) 294 The cast of a spiral univalve called by the quarrymen the '*Portland Screw'..is common. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 11 Order Euphorbiaceæ...*Euphorbia Portlandica* (*Portland Spurge). *a* 1720 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1729) II. 258 Each step of one entire *Portland-stone. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xciv, Lunatic-looking erections, in what the simpletons call the modern Gothic taste, of Portland-stone.

Hence **Portla·ndian** *a. Geol.*, the specific designation of a subdivision of the Upper Oolite, developed in the Isle of Portland.

1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 798 The Upper or Portland Oolites..are divisible into three groups: (1) Kimmeridgian, at the base; (2) Portlandian...This group, resting directly on the Kimmeridge clay, consists of two divisions, the Portland Sand and Portland Stone. *Ibid.* 799 Among Portlandian fossils a single species of coral (*Isastræa oblonga*) occurs.

Portland[2]: see next.

Po·rt-last. *Naut.* ? *Obs.* Also 7 **portlasse, -lesse,** 8–9 (*erron.*) **portland.** [Original form and derivation obscure: cf. PORTLOF.] Of uncertain meaning: explained, from 1704, as the gunwale of a ship. Chiefly in phrase (*down*) *a portlast*: said of a yard.

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 11 The Portlesse of the Fore-Castell was in the water. *Ibid.* 113 The Portlasse. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. III. 64 Our Main-yard and Fore-yard were lowered down a Port last, as we call it, that is down pretty nigh the Deck. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Port-last*, the same as the Gun-wale of a Ship; therefore they say a Yard is down a Port-last, when it lies down on the Deck. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 3 By 11 of the clock we were under bare poles, with our yards a portland. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Hutter*, to lower the lower yards down a port-last. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 164 A ship lying to, with her yards a portland. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Port-last*, or *Portoise*, synonymous with *gunwale*.

† **Po·rtledge.** *Naut. Amer. Obs.* Forms: 7 **portlige, porledge,** 7–8 **portledge, -lidge,** 8 **-lege, -ledg, -lage.** [Corruption of PORTAGE *sb.*[1] in sense 4, perh. through confusion with the sometimes synonymous *privilege*.] = PORTAGE *sb.*[1] 4; usually *attrib.*, as *portledge bill, money*.

1636 *Doc. Hist. St. Maine* III. 95, I think we shall make little lesse then £11 share for the last yeares worke, which was £6 portledge, and £1 3s. 3d. for the fish deliuered Mr. Winter, and £3 you promised me for my Charge in Bringinge ouer the shippe. 1639 *Ibid.* 185 Eduard Trebie ..Creditor for his ½ share for his portledge monye 2 5 0. *Ibid.* 190 Markes Gaude..Creditor..for his porledge Money 2 Moneths. 1679 *Rec. Crt. Assistants, Mass.* (1901) II. 131 For Refusing to pay..his wages after the Rate of three pounds tenn shillings per moneth as by the Portlidge bill may Appeare. 1775 *Mass. Archives* CCVI. 94 To amount of Mens wages as per Portledg Bill 56. 17. 11½.

Portless, *a.* [f. PORT *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without a port.

1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* x. 199 Her plains, long portless, now no more complain Of useless rills and fountains nursed in vain.

Portlet (pōə·ɹtlĕt). [f. PORT *sb.*[1] + -LET.] A small or tiny port; a creek.

1587 HARRISON *England* I. xii. in *Holinshed* I. 60/2 Being past these portlets (mouths of the Erme and Yealm] then next of all we come to Plimmouth hauen. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 99 Where it maketh a portlett for smale shipp-inge. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 178 The artificial islands and portlets which he made by the seaside, are all now equally invisible. 1888 W. DENTON *Eng. in 15th C.* 89 Attacks on the ports and portlets along the south coast of England.

† **Portlike,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PORT *sb.*[4] + -LIKE.] = PORTLY.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1632) Pref. Poem, When first this portlike Frontispeece was wrought. 1748 *Drayton's Wks., Poly-olb.* v. 262/2 Where once the portlike [*edd.* 1612, 1622 portly] oak and large-limb'd poplar stood.

Po·rtlily, *adv. rare*—°. [f. as next + -LY[2].] In a portly manner.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Portlily*, statelily, gracefully.

Portliness (pōə·ɹtlinĕs). [f. PORTLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being portly. **a.** Stateliness, dignity of bearing, appearance, and manner. **b.** Fullness of body, bulkiness, corpulence.

1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Portlynesse, *magnificence*. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 8 b, A tendre young virgin, not set furth to the worlde..by famousnesse of name, not with portlynesse of life, ne with the other thynges whiche this worlde vseth to haue in high regarde. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* 4 b, His portlinesse in his gate. 1658 ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 892 As he doth excell all the rest in portliness and feature of body.

† **Portlof.** *Naut. Obs.* [a. F. *porte-lof*, f. *porte-*, PORTE- + *lof* LUFF.] ? = BUMKIN.

1397 *Foreign Acc.* No. 31 G (P. R. O.), In ij tabulis grossis de ferre emptis et expensis super le portloves diote navis iij s. iiij d.

Portly (pōə·ɹtli), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 **portely.** [f. PORT *sb.*[4] + -LY[1], [2].]

Characterized by stateliness or dignity of bearing, appearance, and manner; stately, dignified, handsome, majestic; imposing.

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 453 So myche portlye pride, with pursys penyles. *a* 1536 *Calisto & Melibæa* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 61 Her resplendent virtue, her portly courage. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 47 Ye must haue a portly bragge after your estate. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. ii. 186 To be my queen and portly emperess. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* x. lix. (1612) 257 So gracious, portly, fresh and faire..had Nature her compact. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1141 A portly prince, and goodly to the sight. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Portly*, that bears a good Port or Meen, stately, comely. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* I. 7 He was a man of portly presence, a good scholar, I believe, and much respected.

b. Now usually connoting 'Large and bulky in person; stout, corpulent'.

[Cf. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 464 A goodly portly man yfaith, and a corpulent.] 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 69 Sometimes the beame of her view guilded my foote: sometimes my portly belly. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Portly*, bulky, majestical. 1755 JOHNSON, *Portly*..2. Bulky, swelling. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* II. vii, Whatever might have been the maladies entailed upon the portly frame of Mr. Courtland..., a want of appetite was not among the number. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 403 He dwindled in a few weeks from a portly and even corpulent man to a skeleton. 1871 *Punch* 23 Sept. 127/2 He's got so round and portly.

c. Of things: Stately, magnificent, grand, fine; in quot. *a* 1845 with pun, and allusion to b.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xix. 148 Jesus..viewyng and beholdyng the same citie [Jerusalem] portely and gorgeous of buildynges. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 437 The portly gates of the pallace. 1639 MASSINGER *Unnat. Combat* III. i, Portly and curious viands are prepared. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 91 Adorned with portly and antick imagery. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 7 Dec. 771/1 Comely sentences and portly veracities. *a* 1845 HOOD *Turtles* vi, With sherry, brown or golden, Or port, so olden, Bereft of body 'tis no longer portly.

† **B.** as *adv.* In a stately or dignified manner. *Obs.*

1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* IV. viii. 250 One so fortunate..Shall bear himself more portly, live regarded, Keep house.

Portman. Now *local.* [f. PORT *sb.*[1], [2] + MAN *sb.*[1] Cf. MDu. *porter* townsman, burgher.]

1. In OE. use, a citizen of a town, a burgess or burgher; *spec.* (after the Conquest) = *capital* or *head portman*, one of a select number of citizens, chosen to administer the affairs of a borough.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* XXXIII. 749 Se port-gerefa and þa yldostan port-men. 10.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 333/11 *Ciuis*, ceasterȝewara, oððe portman. *c* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1068 (Laud MS.) Eadgar æðeling com þa..to Eofer wic & þa port men [*Cotton MS.* burh menn] wiþ hine griðedon. [1200 *Charter* (Ipswich) in Gross *Gild Merch.* (1890) II. 118 Quum citó predicti xii. Capitales Portmenni fuerant iurati. 1254 *Charter* (Reading) ibid. 202 Quod predicti burgenses habeant gildhallam suam..in uilla de rading'..cum prato quod uocatur portmanebroc.] 1346 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 26 Est ordinee qe nul portman del dit mestier soit receu en portmanrie por vendre ne achater des estraunges nul manere nouel drap. (*Mod. transl.* It is ordained that no portman of the said craft be received in the portmanry to sell to or buy any kind of new cloth from strangers.) 1527 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 103, 24 gentilmen of the countrey, besides the bayliffs, portemen of the towne. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1633/3 The Bayliffs, Portmen, and Common-Council of Your Town and Burrough of Ipswich. 1704 *Ibid.* No. 4076/3 The Mayor, Recorder, Portmen, Chief Burgesses, and Freemen, of the Corporation of Orford in the County of Suffolk. 1880 *Rep. Commiss. Munic. Corpor.* I. 88 The Corporation [of Orford] consists, as heretofore, of a mayor, eight portmen, and twelve capital burgesses. *Ibid.*, One of the portmen is coroner. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. v. 62 The twelve portmen (i.e. the two bailiffs, four coroners, and six others) were elected and sworn 'to take charge of, and to govern' the town [Ipswich], to maintain its franchises, and to administer justice.

2. A citizen or inhabitant of the Cinque Ports. (In med.L. *portensis*.)

1658 PHILLIPS, *Portmen*, a name commonly given to the inhabitants of the Cinque Ports. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 288 He [Edw. I] appointed William Leyburne captain of all the portmen and mariners of the king's dominions [1294 B. DE COTTON *Hist. Anglic.* (Rolls) 234 Capitaneus omnium portensium et omnium aliorum marinariorum].

† **Portman-mote.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. prec. + ME. *imote*, MOOT *sb.*: corresp. to an OE. **portmanna gemót*, not found.] *lit.* The assembly of the portmen; the borough-mote; the court or common council of the portmen of a borough or town.

a 1189 *Charter* in *Calr. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 25 Sciatis me concessisse..Sancto Salvatori de Beremundseia..terras suas..quietas..a placitis et querelis et hustingis et portmanmot et tunscipmot. 1198 *Chron. Jocel. de Brakelonda* (Camden) 74 Et curia celerarii veniret ad portmanne-mot. 1277 *Indent. Edmund Crouchback's Ordinances* in 8*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 409/1 Les delays de la curt de portemannemot de Leycestre. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Portmannimote*, (in ancient Deeds) the Portmote or Port-men's Court, held in any City, Town, or Community. 1881 8*th Rep.*

Hist. MSS. Comm. App. I. 409/1 The long-lost Charter of Edmund (Crouchback) Earl of Leicester: reforming the laws and processes of the Leicester portmanemote, and confirming all the franchises of the burgh, not affected by the charter.

† **Portmanry.** [f. as prec. + -RY: cf. ALDERMANRY]. The position or rank of a portman.

1346 [see PORTMAN 1].

Portmanteau (pɔɪtmæ·ntǝ), *sb.* Forms: see below. [ad. F. *portemanteau* (1547 in Godef. *Compl.*) an officer who carries a prince's mantle, a valise, a clothes-rack, f. PORTE- + *manteau* (OF. *mantel*) MANTLE; see also MANTEAU, MANTUA, POCKMANTEAU.]

1. A case or bag for carrying clothing and other necessaries when travelling; originally of a form suitable for carrying on horseback; now applied to an oblong stiff leather case, which opens like a book, with hinges in the middle of the back.

α. 6 **portmanteo, -mantieu, -manteaw(e, porte-manteau,** 7 **portmantau, -to, -toe, -tue, -tu, -tew**; also **porte-**; 6– **portmanteau,** *pl.* **-eaus** (9 also **-eaux**).

1584 W. FLEETWOOD in Wright *Q. Eliz. & her Times* (1838) II. 243 One of Mr. Docwraye's sonnes..was arrained for stealing of a portmanteo, with 84*l.* in the same, taken out of an inne in Bardey. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 171/2 *Ascopera*, a bag; a wallet; a portmanteau. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* II. 163/2 A note found in the portmantieu of doctor Allen. 1598 FLORIO, *Balice*, a cloke-bag, a male, a port-manteawe. 1611 COTGR., *Ferriere*,..a great case, or powch of leather (closed, as a Portemantue, with chaine, and locke). 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 107 A souldier came out..and demaunded of euery man fiue baocci,.. though it were onely due from them, who had portmanteaues with locks. 1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, A budget or portmantau which includes All the bawdes wealth. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 124 Taking..from off his saddle-bow a portmanteau, and out of it some victuals. 1650 B. *Discolliminium* 25, I would wish the world to chaine up its breeches to its doublet as they doe Portmantu's. 1652 *Season. Exp. Netherl.* 5 Besides what..they carryed home in their Portmantos. 1689 D. GRANVILLE *Lett.* (Surtees, No. 37) 76 They search'd my portmantoe and plundered me of a bagg of mony. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. xxxv. 8 Their trunks and portmanteaus must be carried to the Custom-house. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Feeling in his pockets for the keys of his portmanteaus. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Vixen* III. 265 Violet's portmanteaux were packed.

β. 6–8 (9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) **portmantle,** 7–8 (9 *Sc.* and *arch.*) **portmantel,** (9 **portmantillo**).

1602 Portmantle [see b]. 1612 *North's Plutarch* 977 The flesh and the portmantle [*ed.* 1595 -mantew] it was wrapt in. 1652 *Lanc. Tracts* (Chetham Soc.) 310, 600 Arms and many Portmantels and good Booty. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. ii. 181 The spoiles of Cardenio's Port-Mantle. 1702 FARQUHAR *Twin-Rivals* III. ii, What makes you sit upon the portmantle, Teague? 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* viii, The small portmantle which contained his necessaries. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 189 The portmantillos that in these days..fill up the small of each belted second horseman's back. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Nov. 21/2 A saddle-horse, which also carried the Judge's portmantle.

γ. 7–8 **port-mantua, portmantua.**

1601–2 *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) II. 41 They sent theyr portmantuas to St. Paules monastery. 1765 H. TIMBERLAKE *Mem.* 9 One of them..actually fell, letting my portmantua into the water.

δ. 7 **port-mantick, -manque, portmante,** 7–9 **-manty.**

a 1613 Port-manque [see b]. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 160 Till the Messenger with the Port-mantick came from Rome. 1680 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 394 Paid for a new large portmante 16*s.* 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2100/4 [They] had with them a Leathern Portmanty. 1897 C. M. CAMPBELL *Deilie Jock* 259 We..got oor portmantys and booked to Worcester.

ε. 7 **portmantuan, -ium, -eam, -en.**

a 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* II. v. (1642) 73 Feeling what weight the portmantuan had. 1682 *Providence Rec.* (1894) VI. 80 In ye out Celler, i Portmantium..In ye Portmanteam, 3 Cases of leather. 1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* Pref., He..is degraded to come behind with the Portmanten.

b. *fig.* (See also 4 b.)

1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 283 O thou whose breast..is.. prudences portmantle. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* (1638) 263 That the soules of Women and Lovers, are wrapt in the port-manque of their senses. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* I. iv. 11 As sure to finde the Spirit in a *Conge d'eslire*, as others not long since, in the Tridentine Port-mantile. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 3/1 The demand for the franchise was ..a kind of portmanteau into which all our grievances could be stuffed and dispatched to Pretoria.

‖ **2.** An officer of the king of France: 'The Kings Cloake-bag-bearer' (Cotgr.) [Fr.].

1597 G. GILPIN *Let.* 12 Feb. in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. IV. 537/1 Here is arrived from the King of France a porte-manteau, who brought the ratification under the great seal of the agreements and treaty.

‖ **3.** A clothes-rack, an arrangement of pegs to hang clothes on. [Fr.]

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Port-manteau*, a piece of joiners work, fastened to the wall, in a wardrobe, armory, &c., proper for the hanging on of cloaks, hats, &c. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* XXV, Not to me appertained that suit of wedding raiment:..the vapoury veil pendent from the usurped portmanteau. *Ibid.*, It took the light, held it aloft, and surveyed the garments pendent from the portmanteau.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *portmanteau robbery, thief*; *portmanteau gelding, horse* (a baggage horse); *portmanteau-maker*, † *-trunk*; **portmanteau saddle**: see quot. 1688.

1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1583/4 A coloured leather Portmantle Saddle, Blew fring in the seat. 1683 *Verulam MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1906) 210 For a portmantue trunk, 0. 11. 0. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 345/1 A Portmantle Saddle hath a Cantle behind the seat to keep the Portmantle..off the Riders back. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2996/4 A bright bay Portmantua-Gelding, about 8 l. price. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 438 Mounted on a rawboned,..hollow-eyed, pyballed portmanteau-horse. 1899 *Daily News* 19 June 6 A portmanteau maker. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Aug. 5/3 A series of portmanteau robberies from the roofs of four-wheeled cabs.

b. In the sense of 'that into which things are packed together'; originally applied by 'L. Carroll' to a factitious word made up of the blended sounds of two distinct words and combining the meanings of both; hence used *attrib.*, and subseq. extended to things that are or suggest a combination of two different things of the same kind.

[1872 'L. CARROLL' *Through Looking-Gl.* vi. 127 Well, 'slithy' means 'lithe and slimy'...You see it's like a portmanteau—there are two meanings packed up into one word. *Ibid.* 129 'Mimsy' is 'flimsy and miserable' (there's another portmanteau for you).] 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* July 25 They admirably illustrate the portmanteau word 'slithy' in the Jabberwocky poem. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 June 2/2 As a fact Lord Rosebery was guilty of what we may call a 'portmanteau' quotation, in that he combined into one what Lord Salisbury said about Ireland and South Africa. 1905 *Ibid.* 15 Aug. 4/2 It is a wise bird that will not foul its own nest, if this portmanteau proverb may be allowed.

Portment (pōe·ɪtmĕnt). *rare.* [a. F. *portement* a carrying, bearing, † behaviour, f. *porter* to carry.]

† **1.** Bearing; *portement of arms*, bearing of arms, achievement in arms. *Obs. rare*—1.

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 81 It is not redde..that euer ony man .. bare hym so wel and dyd so grete portemente of armes.

2. Deportment. *nonce-use.*

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 141 But be your portment such As breeds no shame to us.

† **Portmote.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 3 **portimote,** 4 **portemot,** (6 **portemounte**), 7 **portmoote,** 6– **portmote.** [f. PORT *sb.*1, 2 + ME. *imote*, MOOT *sb.* = OE. type **port-gemót*: cf. *burhgemót*.]

1. The court of a borough; a borough-mote. (Esp. used of cities and boroughs in the County Palatine of Chester.)

[1267 *Charter Hen. III* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1816) I. 471 Prohibeo et precipio ne ullo modo respondeant, nisi illorum proprio portimoto. *a* 1377 *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 34 De portemot', pede pulverizato, et assisa fracta.] 1574 *Acts Privy Council* (1894) VIII. 228 The same to be openly redde at the next Portemounte [at Chester] after the receipt hereof. 1601 *Act* 43 *Eliz.* c. 15 § 1 Any originall Writ or Writs of Covenant..retornable before the Mayor of the saide Citie for the tyme beinge, in the Portmoote Courte to be holden within the saide Citie [of Chester]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Portmotes are also held in some inland towns, as at Knolst in Cheshire. 1765 *Act* 5 *Geo. III*, c. 26 *Preamble*, Courts Baron, Courts of Admiralty, Courts of Portmote, and Leets. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 64 The general laws of the burghal community emanated from the burghmotes or assemblies (Court Leet, Burghmote, Portmote, &c.). 1902 (*title*) The Portmote or Court Leet Records of the Borough or Town and Royal Manor of Salford.

2. The court of a (legal) sea-port town.

(Perhaps orig. an error of the Law Dicts.)

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxiii. § 1 (1615) 217/2 Portmote is euer in a Hauen towne, for it is the Court of the Port or Hauen. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Portemote*,.. signifieth a Court kept in hauen townes..It is sometime called the Portmoote Court, an. 43 Eliz. cap. 15 [cf. quot. 1601 in 1]. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 264 These legal ports were undoubtedly at first assigned by the crown; since to each of them a court of portmote is incident, the jurisdiction of which must flow from the royal authority.

† **Portobello** (pōe·ɪtǝbe·lō). *Obs.* [The capture of Portobello in South America in 1739 prob. gave rise to the name of the game.] ? A kind of game resembling billiards.

1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* 26 Gaming in various forms is very frequent: cards, dice, skittles, Missisippi and Portobello tables, billiards, fives, tennis, &c. *Ibid.* 198 One can scarcely ever enter the walls [of the King's Bench Prison] without seeing parties at skittles, missisippi, portobello, tennis, fives, &c.

† **Portoir.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *portoir* (16th c. in Godef.), *le portoir des vignes*, 'the braunch that beares the grapes'.] A bearing branch (of a vine).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. xxi. 527 Braunches .. which were portoirs and bare grapes the yeare before. *Ibid.* XVIII. xxxi. 605 The..greene braunches called the Portcirs.

† **Portoise.** *Naut. Obs.* [Origin uncertain.] = PORT-LAST.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s. v., For a Ship to ride a Portoise, is to ride with her Yards a Portlast, or struck down on the Deck. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 255* *Portoise*, the same as *Port-last*. 1867 [see PORT-LAST].

‖ **Portolano** (pōe·ɪtolā·nō), **portulan** (pōe·ɪ·tĭlĭlăn). [It. *portolano*, f. *porto* PORT *sb.*1: cf. L. *hortulānus*, It. *ortolano* gardener, f. *hortus* garden; thence F. *portulan*.] A book of sailing directions, describing harbours, sea-coasts, etc., and illustrated with charts.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Portulan* (French), a ship-master's guide; a book containing the situation and description of sea-ports, etc., with instructions for navigation. 1878 *Nature* XVIII. 151/1 Among these old maps and portulans ..are:—1. The Medicean Portulan (1351). 2. The Catalan Atlas. 1891 J. WINSOR *Columbus* App. 530 About the beginning of the fourteenth century Italy and the western Mediterranean islands began to produce those atlases of sea-charts, which have come down to us under the name of 'portolanos'. 1894 — *Cartier to Frontenac* 7 It seems to be evident from a Portuguese portolano of 1504..that at this time they had not developed the entrances to this gulf north and west of Newfoundland.

Porto-pyæmic (pōe·ɪtoˌpəiˌi·mik), *a. Path.* [*f. porto-*, taken as comb. form of L. *porta* in *vena portæ*.] Pertaining to pyæmia of the portal vein.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 127 Porto-pyæmic liver abscess—Pylephlebitis.

Portos, portoos, portous, obs. ff. PORTAS.

Portour, Portoure, obs. ff. PORTER, PORTURE.

† **Port-pain.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 **-payne,** 7 **-pane.** [a. obs. F. **porte-pain*, lit. carry-bread: see PORTE- and PAIN *sb.*2] A cloth in which to carry bread to the table without touching it with the hands.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 262 To þe port-payne forthe ye passe, & þere viij. loues ye leese. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 164 Put thy loues in a portpayne. 1566 WITHALS *Dict.* 44 A porte payne to beare bread fro the paitree to the table with, *lintheum panarium*. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Portpain* (French), a kinde of Towel used at Court, wherein they carry their bread to serve for the Table.

Portpen, obs. form of PORCUPINE.

Portrait (pōe·ɪtrĕt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6 **purtrait, -e, -trayt, -e,** 6–7 **purtraict.** *β.* 6 **portrayt,** 6–7 **portrate, -traite, -tract,** 6–8 **portraict,** 6– **portrait.** *γ.* 6 **pourtreict, -tracte,** 6–7 **-traite, -trayt(e, -tract,** 6–8 **-traict, pourtrait.** [a. F. *portrait*, OF. also *portret* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), obs. *pourtrait*, *po(u)rtraict* sb., from *portrait* pa. pple. of *portraire* obs. to portray: cf. med.L. *protractus* plan, image, portrait, f. *protractus*, pa. pple. of L. *protrahĕre*: see PORTRAY.]

1. A figure drawn, painted, or carved upon a surface to represent some object. **a.** A drawing, painting, or other delineation of any object; a picture, design (in general). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1570 BUCHANAN *Chamæleon* Wks. (1892) 43 Mony that hes nowther sene yᵉ said beist, nor ȝa perfyte portraict of it. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 110 By this noble pourtrayt..Is plainely exprest..The sounde Pillar. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 24 The full pourtraict and proportion of which horse, he dedicated..before the Temple of Venus Genitrix. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 97 The Britans Coines, the portracts whereof I have here shewed. *c* 1620 *Mary Magd.* 1271 Yᵉ pourtract of this outward frame. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 279 The portrait of Eve is much admired by all connoisseurs. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vi. 333 The back-grounds of your portraits.

b. *spec.* (now almost always) A representation or delineation of a person, esp. of the face, made from life, by drawing, painting, photography, engraving, etc.; a likeness.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xiv. 97 The pourtractes and figures of the principallest amongst them. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 54 What's here, the portrait of a blinking idiot. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* 12 Draw thousand Pourtraits of her on your face. 1649 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1819) VI. 363/1 Ordains His Royall Name, Portract and Seal to be used in the publick writings. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 118 ¶ 6, I would rather see you work upon History-Pieces, than on single Portraicts. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. vi, The gentleman who wanted to take your portrait.

† **c.** A solid image, statue, effigy. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 151 Prometheus..inuented the natural pourtractes with the flate earth. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xciv, Her tombe was..built of polisht stone, and thereon laid The liuely shape and purtrait of the maid. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 144 On one side the gate stands a..great Elephant, on the other a Rhinoceros;..the portraicts are out of the shining Marble.

2. *abstr.* The action or art of making a portrait (in quot. 1846 in *spec.* sense: see 1 b); portraiture.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. i. (Arb.) 150 Th'excellent painter bestoweth the rich Orient coulours vpon his table of pourtraite. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. I. xiv. § 14 That habit of the old and great painters of introducing portrait into all their highest works.

3. *fig.* Something that represents, typifies, or resembles something else; an image, representation, type; likeness, similitude. (In quot. 1623 *absol.* A striking or impressive sight, a scene.)

1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 39 Poetes terme sleepe an image, or pourtraite of death. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 23 Dreadfull pourtraicts of deformitee. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 158 Then ȝoung Ascanius .. His parents portrate perfectly presenting. 1623 T. GOAD *Dolef. Euen-Song* 16 If any man could looke in at those gates,.. he would report such a pourtrait as was this spectacle. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* IV. (1875) 192 Jesus reveals a moral portrait.

b. A verbal picture or representation; a graphic or vivid description.

1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* Ded., The liuely purtraite of the foure monarchies. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* I. 126 An exact Pourtrait of natural Religion. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Mirabeau* (1875) V. 242 Her portrait, by the seconding Marquis himself, is not very captivating.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *portrait-collector, -group,*

-head, *-photographer*, *-photography*, *-sculpture*, *-sketch*, *-study*, *-work*; *portrait-like* adj.; **portrait-bust**, a bust giving an exact (i.e. not idealized) likeness; **portrait-gallery**, a gallery containing a collection of portraits, or the collection itself (also *fig.*); **portrait-lathe**, a lathe adapted for turning copies of busts or medallions; **portrait-lens**, a compound photographic lens adapted for taking portraits; **portrait-painter**, a painter of portraits; so **portrait-painting**; **portrait-ring**, a ring with a miniature portrait set in it; **portrait-statue** (cf. *portrait-bust*); **portrait-stone**, a lasque or flat diamond used to cover a miniature portrait.

1887 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 22 Sept. 4/1 Governor Ames has given the sculptor..an order for a *portrait-bust. 1814 W. H. Ireland (*title*) Chalcographimania; or, the *Portrait-Collector and Printseller's Chronicle. 1841 Emerson *Lect. Times* Misc. (1855) 215 Why not draw for these times a *portrait-gallery? 1905 J. Fitzmaurice-Kelly *Cervantes in Eng.* 4 To find place in Cervantes's rich portrait-gallery. 1899 Mackail *Life Morris* I. 277 A *portrait-head of the author. 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Portrait Lathe*, a lathe adapted to copying busts. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 1/3 He was engaged in the Paris Mint, and while there invented a portrait lathe by which medallion dies of any size might be engraved in steel. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xiii. 9 A pair of quick-acting *portrait Lenses. 1789 T. Twining *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 378 With too close and *portrait-like delineation of general nature. 1797 Tweddell *Rem.* xxvii. (1815) 155 Mad. Le Brun is most decidedly the best *portrait-painter in Europe. 1856 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 277, I have a friend, who has constituted herself a portrait-painter. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 18 Apr. an. 1775, He thought *portrait-painting an improper employment for a woman. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. (1872) 96 It is in what I called Portrait-painting,..that Shakspeare is great. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* xiv. 150 *Portrait-photography makes greater demands than any other branch on the good taste of the photographer. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 5/6 The above *portrait-pictures must include some 5,000 faces, to say nothing of busts, half, quarter lengths, and full figures. 1877 W. Jones *Finger-ring* 496, I have mentioned several *portrait-rings of remarkable interest. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* xxii. 709 *Portrait-statues of private individuals. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 3/4 A very excellent *portrait-study, a tender and loving reminiscence of the high-spirited,..noble-hearted woman.

† **Portrait**, *v. Obs.* Forms: see Portrait *sb.* [Represented first in pa. pple. *portraited* (found earlier than *portrait* §b.), being app. an extended form of the ME. (orig. French) pa. pple. *portrait* (see Portray *v.*); this implied a vb. *portrait*, which appears after 1550.]

1. *trans.* To make a portrait, picture, or image of: = Portray *v.* 1. (Also with *forth*, *out*.)

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 84 b, In it was the whole spere [= sphere] portrated. 1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* II. ii. (1591) 54 She [Venus] is not elswhere purtraited so. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. v. 12 To pourtraict beauties Queene. 1596 R. L[inche] *Diella* (1877) 73 To .. portraite forth thy Angel-hued beautie. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xxiv. 243, I am far from their opinion who damne it for superstition to portract that Glorious Virgin or her Babe. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni* 32 The perfect Image of the true Helena, pourtracted with her lively Colours. 1864 Dk. Manchester *Court & Soc.* I. xi. 216 To sit to a limner to be 'portraited', as the phrase ran.

2. *fig.* To represent or describe graphically, to set forth: = Portray *v.* 3 b, 4. (Also with *forth*, *out*.)

a 1581 N. Woods *Conflict of Consc.* I. i. A iij, I will therefore in breefe purtraict and paint him out. 1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 25 That Christ did portrait out for the regiment of his Church. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xv. § 6 Our learned Knight Eliot setting his pen to portrait a perfect Gouernour. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* I. ii. § 13 The Authour..doth pourtraict and describe the Bounty and Church-buildings of that King.

3. *transf.* To draw or make (a picture, figure, or image): = Portray *v.* 1 b.

1552 Huloet, Portraytynge of ymages in mettall or stone, *sculptura*. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 47 No image or picture, howe well soeuer it bee painted and purtrayted, is to be compared with the forme and figure of mans bodie. 1635 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 107, I caused to be pourtrayted on my shield the Impresa of the Swan. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. v. 9 To pourtraict this on a..Plane, first draw the Horizontal Line.

b. *fig.* (cf. 2).

1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 52, I will pourtrait and set before your eyes, a patterne and image thereof, first conceived in minde or imagination. 1613 Drumm. of Hawth. *Cypress Grove* Wks. (1711) 125 As those images were pourtraicted in my mind.

Hence † Portraiting *vbl. sb.*

1552 [see 3]. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 455 Such delineation and portraiting of Christ.

Portrait [F. *portrait*], obs. pa. pple. of Portray *v.*, q. v.

Portraitist. [f. Portrait *sb.* + -ist: so F. *portraitiste*.] One whose occupation it is to take portraits (by painting or photography); *esp.* a portrait-painter. (In quot. 1899 applied to a sculptor.)

1866 *Standard* 12 Sept. 2/3 After the sitter has, by movement or contortion, baffled the portraitist. 1875 tr. *Vogel's Chem. Light* 149 Most persons conceive under the term photographer only a portraitist. 1881 *Times* 5 Jan. 4/3 Gainsborough we have seen as portraitist and as landscapist. 1899 *Daily News* 24 July 7/3 Houdon was the great portraitist in marble of the eighteenth century.

† **Portraitour.** *Obs. rare.* [prob. AF. = OF. **portraiteur*, f. as next + *-our*: see -our: cf. OF. *portraitierre* (*a* 1200 in Godef.).] = Portrayer.

c 1386, *c* 1425 [see Portrayer].

Portraiture (pōˑɹtrĕtiŭɹ). Forms: *α.* 4–5 **purtreyture**, **-treiture**, 5 **-treture**, **-trayture**, **-tretur**, **-tatur**, 5–6 **-trat(o)ure**, 6–7 **-traiture**. *β.* 4–5 **portreiture**, **-treyt(o)ure**; *Sc.* **-tratore**, **-owre**, 4–6 **-treture**, 5–6 *Sc.* **-tratour(e**; 5–7 **-trature**, **-trayture**, 6–7 **-tracture**, *Sc.* **-traitour**, (6 **-turature**, **-terature**, **-tature**, **-titure**, *Sc.* **protatour**), 6–7 **portracture**, *Sc.* **-traitour**, 7–8 **-traicture**, 5– **portraiture**. *γ.* 5 **pourtreture**, 5–7 **-trature**, 5–8 **-traiture**, 6–8 **-traicture**, 7 **-tracture**. [ME. *a.* OF. *pur-*, *pour-*, *portraiture* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *pourtrait* pa. pple. and sb., Portrait + -ure.]

1. The action or art of portraying; representation of an object by painting, drawing, etc.; delineation. Also in concrete or collective sense; esp. in phr. *in portraiture* = portrayed, delineated.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 68 A paynteore, þat rycht sle wes in portratore. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* I. 131 In portreyture I sawgh anoon ryght hir figure Naked fletynge in a see. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1110 The portreiture [*v.rr.* purtreyture, pourtrature, purtratoure, etc.] that was vp on the wal. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 83 Zeuzis fond ferst the pourtreture. 1461 *Liber Pluscardensis* XI. viii, With plesand propirnes of portratoure. 1546 Langley *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. xvi. 62 Porturature Gykes a Lidiun as Plinie thinketh did first inuent & deuyse it in Egipte. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 137 As in portracture and paintyng. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 4 ¶ 7 The Portraitures of insignificant People by ordinary Painters. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 63. 56 How lovely sacred Pourtraiture appears! 1846 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* II. III. I. xiv. § 14 We find the custom of portraiture constant with them. 1874 *Edin. Rev.* July 172 Portraiture rose to its highest excellence as the nobler characteristics of sculpture faded.

2. *concr.* A figure or delineation of a person or thing; a picture, drawing, etc.: = Portrait 1, 1 b. (In quot. *c* 1440, A diagram, figure.)

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 141 With many riche portraitures. *c* 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* I. 387 In euclidis bokys wyth his portraturys. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* I. xix. 114 Picturis and portraturis or graued werk. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 88 Images and porteratures of menne. 1555 Eden *Decades* 105 Portitures of herbes floures and knottes. 1563 Man *Musculus' Commonpl.* 48 To be worshipped in images and portatures. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 257 His pourtraiture engrauen thereupon. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 210 There is a Portraicture representing Rome. 1677 R. J. Thoroton *Antiq. Nottingham* (title-p.), Beautified with Maps, Prospects, and Pourtraictures. 1873 Longf. *Chaucer*, The chamber walls depicted all around With portraitures of huntsman, hawk, and hound.

† b. A solid image, a statue: = Portrait *sb.* 1 c.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* xvi. 137 To embrace in his armes the countrefaicte porterature of a man. 1594 Constable *Diana* VI. iii, A Carver..Hewed out the portrature of Venus sonne In Marble rocke. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* Pref., A fair tomb of marble with his statue or portraiture upon it. 1720 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 122 A large Grave-stone, whereon is the portraicture of a Man, seemingly in a warlike habit.

3. *gen.* and *fig.* An image, representation, figure; a mental image, idea; † a type, exemplar (*obs.*). (Cf. Portrait *sb.* 3.)

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1785 þis purtatur he bare euer in here clene hert Of goddus Passion..& of his wo. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 53 The wyse deuises, the prudent speches, the costly woorkes, the conninge portratures practised and set foorth in .vii. goodly beutiful pageauntes. 1625 Jackson *Creed* V. iii. § 4 Him..., whose portraiture their first parents had blurred. 1650 S. Clarke *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 30 A plain Image and Portracture of that effectual Doctrine which I was thought worthy to hear. 1713 Berkeley *Guardian* No. 62. ¶ 7 The more enlarged views and gay portraitures of a lively imagination. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 288 We can recover a distinct portraiture of many of the actors in these scenes.

4. The action or art of portraying in words; verbal 'picturing', graphic description.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 211 Ploughmen, carterys,..Dichers, delverys,..The staatis alle set here in portrature. 1855 Brimley *Ess., Tennyson* 86 The poet, too, should attempt to rise above the portraiture of individual life. 1878 Seeley *Stein* II. 358 A tempting subject for literary portraiture.

b. A verbal representation or 'picture'; a vivid description: = Portrait *sb.* 3 b.

1610 North *Plutarch, Seneca* 1223 In his portraiture of this wise man, he imagineth in this life a thing that is not to be found. 1648 (*title*) Eikon Basilike. The Povrtraictvre of His Sacred Majestie in his solitudes and sufferings. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 97 A striking portraiture of antient manners. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* To Rdr., The pleasing pourtraictures of Peter Pattieson, now given unto thee. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xv. 374 Shakespeare's portraiture of John of Gaunt.

5. Figure, form, likeness, appearance (as an attribute of a thing). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 35 The Bruce .. Richt awfull, strang, and large of portratour, As nobill, dreidfull, michtie campioun. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 40 Not hir fyrst spous, for all his greit puissance, In portratour and game mycht be his peir. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* I. 30 That resplending Image thou seest, was made..for eternizing the memory of my portraiture, as I was aliue. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxiii, Every abbess..came to her imagination in the portraiture of an inexorable jailer.

† b. *concr.* A material form, shape, or figure. *Obs.*

a 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 233 Frome the waist wpe was tuo fair persouns witht all memberis and protratouris perteinand to tua bodyis. *a* 1680 Charnock *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 48 God .. draws .. from this indisposed chaos many excellent portraitures.

Portraiture, *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To make a portraiture or portrait of, to portray (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* (1807–8) IV. 164 Upon the top ..stood the armes of England, roiallie purtraitured with the proper beasts to uphold the same. 1601 Deacon & Walker *Answ. Darel* 22 Intending..to portraiture in the person of Iob, an absolute patterne of perfect patience. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 14 That the child be not pourtractured greater then the Nurse. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 225 We..shall be contented to see him portraitur'd by the artist who serves to illustrate prodigys in fairs, and adorn heroick sign-posts. 1903 G. R. Hall *Hum. Evol.* vii. 165 Men who were striving to portraiture a Christ who had not condemned wealth and the power of riches.

Portray, *sb. rare.* Also 7 **por-, pourtrai**, 7–9 **pourtray**. [f. Portray *v.*] The act of portraying; portrayal; a portrait, picture (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Proeme, Hauing thus farre trauelled in the portrai, and description of this famous Empire. 1622 Peacham *Compl. Gentl.* vii. (1634) 61 Pourtraies of their Kings and Queenes, in their seuerall Countrey habits. 1630 Lennard tr. *Charron's Wisd.* II. iii. § 6 (1670) 242 The edicts and ordinances of Princes are no other but piety and particular pourtraies thereof. 1877 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 103 We have here..a most striking pourtray..of the wondrous living guise of the Unknowable.

Portray (poɹtrēˑ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4 **purtreie**, **-treye**, 4–5 **-traye**, **-traie**, 5 **-trey**, 5–7 **-tray**. *β.* 4 **portreie**, **-traye**, 4–5 **-treye**, **-trai(e**, (5 **portrewe**, *Sc.* **-tra**, **-tura**; 6 **-try**); 5– **portray**. *γ.* 5–7 **pourtraie**, 6 **-trahe**, 7 **-trey**, 6–9 **pourtray**. Pa. pple. **portrayed**; also, in ME. [from OF.] **purtrait**, **-treit**, **portrait**. [ME. *a.* OF. *pourtrai-*, *pourtray-*, stem of *pourtraire* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) to portray, fashion, represent:— L. *protrahĕre* to draw forth, reveal, extend, prolong, in med.L. also to draw, portray, paint, f. *pro-* forth + *trahĕre* to draw.]

1. *trans.* To represent (an object) by a drawing, painting, carving, etc. (in early use also by a solid image or statue); to make a picture or image of; to delineate, picture, depict.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 51 At Westmynstere he ligges in a toumbe purtrait. — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15088 Per-on purtraied a crucyfix. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1520 (Bodl. MS.) Sonne & mone & sterren seuene, Was þereinne purtraied, & heuene. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* X. 743 Scho in hir chapell Gert weill be portrait ane castell. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 78 To portra it he had na slicht. *Ibid.* xxiii. (*vii Sleperis*) 473 Bot [þe emperoure] gert portura þare þe story. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 26 The fyve rosis portraid in the sheide. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxxvi. 124 Withyn hys halle, where as were purtrayed fulle rychely alle the kynges of his lynage, connyngly made. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ii. (1592) 19 One man portrayeth out the whole world in a little peece of Paper, painting out all the Images. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. ix. 33 In which was nothing pourtrahed nor wrought; Not wrought nor pourtrahed, but easie to be thought. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* VI. xi. 521 That Knightly Order of Saint Iames, who haue in their habite purtraied a purple sword, in token of bloud. 1675 Ogilby *Brit.* 50 A Chapel..in the Roof of which was lively Portraid His Apostles and Disciples. ? 1800 W. B. Rhodes *Bomb. Fur.* iii. (1830) 18 Painters no other face pourtray. 1852 Mrs. Jameson *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 204 It was considered little less than heretical to portray Mary reclining on a couch.

† b. *transf.* To make (a picture, image, or figure); to draw, paint, or carve; to trace. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1536 A fust faylaynde þe wryst, Pared on þe parget, purtrayed lettres. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 38 The disciplis of ypocras portreweden the liknes of her maystir. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/1 They ne shold .. pourtraye nor pycte the forme or fygure of the crosse. 1557 in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 169 Behold my picture here well portrayed for the nones. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 497 Two other statues or images portraied in clokes or mantles, were his handiwork. *a* 1604 Hanmer *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 174 One stone, whereupon the picture of a Knight is portraied.

† c. *absol.* To make drawings, pictures, or statues; to draw, paint, mould, or carve. *Obs.*

c 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 783 A white walle..hit ys redy to cachche and take Al þat men wil theryn make Whethir so men wil portrey or peynt. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 96 He koude..weel purtreye and write. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1158 Wryte he couthe & purtrey also. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xxiii. (1535) L ij b, Other coude graue images and portry in wood or erthe.

† 2. *transf.* To paint or adorn (a surface) *with* a picture or figure. *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) st. 250 A targe listed wiþ gold, Portreyd wiþ þre kinges corn, þat present god when he was born. ? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 897 His garnement was everydel V-portreyd and y-wrought with floures. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5682 The champe of the feld was goules.. with a broode bourdure Purtraied with sable and with asure. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 1003 Into a paulon made she a retrait... Portreid it was with briddes freshly. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 84 Shields..with boastful Argument portraid.

3. *fig.* † a. To form a mental image of; to picture to oneself; to imagine, fancy; in first quot., to conceive, devise, invent. *Obs.* b. To represent (e. g. dramatically).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 700 þe play of paramorez I portrayed my seluen. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 619 Him so propirli haue i peinted & portreide in herte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 255 So as him thoghte in his corage, Where he pourtreieth hire ymage. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* I. 143 Telemachus..sad amid them all he sat, Pourtraying in deep thought contemplative His noble Sire. 1798 MRS. INCHBALD *Lovers' Vows* Introd., The actor..forms his notion of the passion he is to pourtray..from the following lines.

4. *esp.* To represent or depict in words; to describe vividly or graphically; to set forth.

c 1366 CHAUCER *A. B. C.* 81 Ladi þi sorwe kan i not portreye. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 27 In þe firste book of þis werk..mappa mundi is purtrayed and i-peynt [L. *describitur*]. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. i, Well hast thou pourtray'd in thy terms of life The face and personage of a wondrous man. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* II. 237 He that desires to pourtray England in her full structure of external glory. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 315 *note*, It remains for future ages to pourtray the virtues and exploits of this truly great man. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 51 We having in the Gospels the lively representation of our Lord portrayed for us.

†**5.** To form, fashion. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 281 (Cambr. MS.) He wes of mesurabill stature, And portrait weill at all mesure [cf. PORTURAT]. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiv. 48 To deuyse the facion of the world how it is by nature made and pourtrayed of god.

Hence **Portray·ed** *ppl. a.*, **Portray·ing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Portray·able** *a.*, capable of being portrayed.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6619 þe fire þat es brinnand here, Es hatter and of mare powere, þan a purtrayd fire on a waghe. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 17, I espied the portrayed image of S. Peter erected of pure Brasse. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 62 A speedy pourtraying of the conceit. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVII. i, He is not portrayable at present.

Portrayal (poɹtrē·ăl). [f. PORTRAY *v.* + -AL 5.] The action of portraying (or its product); delineation, picturing; a picture, portrait. **a.** *lit.* Pictorial representation.

1847 WEBSTER, *Portrayal*, the act of portraying. 1872 'OUIDA' *Crayon Head* (ed. Tauchn.) 82 It is a bad portrayal of [her] face. 1881 *Times* 4 Jan. 3/5 One of the most marvellous feats, however, of photography is the portrayal of the motion of trotting, cantering, and galloping horses by Mr. Muybridge in America.

b. *fig.* Representation in general (e. g. mental, dramatic); *esp.* verbal picturing, graphic description.

1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* iii. 62 The reproduction and pourtrayal of manners and of scenes which pertain to an age..passed away. 1875 MCCLELLAN *New Test., Harmony* 374 An essential unity in the several portrayals of his Work and Person. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Sept. 6/2 Feeling genuine contempt for the pourtrayal of meanness, treachery, &c.

Portray·er. Also 4–5 **-our.** [f. PORTRAY *v.* + -ER[1] 2, for earlier -OUR. So obs. F. *po(u)rtrayeur* (16th c.).] One who portrays; a painter or drawer of pictures or portraits; a delineator (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1041 (Harl. MS.) Ne purtreyour [*v.r.* purtreiour, -traiour, -treoure; *Ellesm.* portreitour] ne keruer of ymages. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. xi. (MS. Digby 232) lf. 31/2 He sent also For euery ymagour Bothe in entaylle & euery portreyour [*MS. Digby* 230 (*c* 1425) portratoure]. 1479 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 268 The man at Sent Bridis is no klenly portrayer. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 89 Portrayers of thy wit and learning too. 1828 in WEBSTER. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. vi. § 2 (1879) 269 To bear in mind the essential difference.. between the characters of the 'subject' and his pourtrayer.

Portray·ment. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT: cf. OF. *po(u)rtraiement.*] = PORTRAYAL.

1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 II. 11, I hold it not meet to speak here, with greater pourtrayment, of the more solemn ceremonies in the chapel itself. 1891 *Spectator* 18 Apr., From this most graphic portrayment of the state of national feeling at the time.

Portred, *pa. pple.*: see PORTURE *v. Obs.*

Portreeve (pō·ɹtˌɹīv). Forms: 1 **portgerefa, -irefa,** 3 **-yreue,** 3–5 **-ereve,** 3–8 **-reve,** 6 **-rief, porte ryve, port reeue,** 7 **portriefe, -reive, -riff, port riffe,** 8 **portrieve,** 7– **port-reeve,** 9 **portreeve.** *β.* 5–7 **portgreve,** 6–8 **-grave.** [OE. *port-geréfa* (whence ON. *port-greifi*), f. PORT *sb.*[2] town + *geréfa, geréfa,* REEVE *sb.*[1]; as to the forms *portgreve, -grave,* see 1 *β.*]

1. *orig.* The ruler or chief officer of a town or borough (= BOROUGH-REEVE a); after the Norman Conquest often identified with the Mayor or holding an equivalent position, as still in some boroughs; in later times, sometimes an officer, or one of two or more officers, inferior to the Mayor; a bailiff.

901–924 *Laws of Edward I*, c. i, Ic wille ðæt..nan man ne ceapige butan porte, ac hæbbe þæs portgerefan gewitnesse oððe ofera..manna, ðe man gelyfan mæge. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiv. (Z.) 88 *Hic prefectus urbis*, ðes portgerefa oððe burhealdor. *c* 1000 — *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 111/6 *Municeps*, portgerefa *uel* burhwita. 1066–75 WILL. I *Charter to London* (Stubbs *Select Ch.* 79), Willelm kyng gret Willelm bisceop and Gosfrezð portirefan, and ealle þa burhwaru binnan Londone, Frencisce and Englisce, freondlice. 12.. *transcr.* of *Charter of Brihtmær* (1053) in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 133 Hyerto byeð ywiðnesse Lyefstan portyreue and biscop, and Eylwyne stikehare, and manie oðre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11205 Willam þe spicer & geffray of hencsei þat þo were Portreuen & nicole of kingestone þat was mere [of Oxford] Nome of þis clerkes & in prison caste. *Ibid.* 11223 Suþþe þe portereues house hii sette afure anon. *a* 1300 *St. Gregory* 601 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 65 He toke an In as a knyȝt ful large at þe portreues nous. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 155/2 The Maire, Baillifs, Portereyys, Customers .. and Sarcheours. 1541 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 242 [Not to sell] any franke tenement.. to any forrener, without speciall license of the Soverayne and Portriefs. 1599 in Harington *Nugæ Ant.* 35 Mr. Hammon..who is this year Port Reeue of Trim, as much in effect as Mayor. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* ii. (1892) 22 And licenced them to chose yeerelye amonge them selues two portriefes for theire gouernement. 1660 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 127 All mayors, sheriffs, portriffs, baylifs, and other chief officers of corporations. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3809/5 An humble Address of the Portrieves, Burgesses, and Freemen, of the ancient Borough of Tulske, in the County of Roscomon. 1824 HITCHINS & DREW *Cornwall* I. xvii. § 17. 650 Formerly the government [of Tregony] was vested in a portreeve or mayor. 1883 *Standard* 28 Sept. 3 The Drake Memorial was unveiled yesterday at Tavistock by the Portreeve. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Reeve*, the chief officer in the ancient borough of Warkworth. He is to this day usually styled the 'borough-reeve' or 'port-reeve' at that town. 1898 *Daily News* 19 Apr. 3 Hungerford is .. electing to-day, in place of Mayor and Corporation, a constable, a portreeve, a keeper of the coffers, a hayward, two aletasters and a bellman.

β. In the forms 5–8 **portgreue,** (6 **-gereue**), 6–7 **-graue, -grave,** partly scribal modifications of the OE. form, partly after MDu. *portgrave* (in Kilian *poortgrave*) and the synonymous *greyve, grave*: see GRIEVE *sb.*, GRAVE *sb.*[3] •

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 293 At the comynge of Wyllyam Conquerour into this londe..the rulers of the sayd citezens [were] named portgreuis, whiche worde is deriuat or made of .ii. Saxon wordis,..*port* is to mean a towne, and *greue* is meant for a gardyen or ruler. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 83 The same before tyme was gouerned by persones graue and wyse, and were named Portgreues, or rather Portgraues, the which is deriued of..Greue, or rather Graue, for so are the rulers of the townes in Duchelande called at this day. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1842) 185/2 In the time of King Henry II., Peter Fitzwalter was portgrave [of London]. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 378 Portgraue and principall Magistrate.. of this Citie. 1772 *Jacob's Law Dict.* s. v., Instead of the portgreve [of London], Richard the first ordained two bailiffs, but presently after him King John granted them a mayor for their yearly magistrate.

2. Erroneously referred (by later compilers) to PORT *sb.*[1] 2, as if the reeve of a sea-port town.

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Portgreue*..signifieth with vs the chiefe magistrate in certaine coast townes. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Portgreue*, a chiefe officer in certaine Port tounes. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 34 That Officer called Portgreve, which signifieth the Governor of the Port. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Portgreve*, or *Portgrave*, was anciently the principal magistrate in ports and other maritime towns. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* i. (1872) 6 When the country wanted fleets,..she had only to send for the portreeves and masters of companies.

Hence **Po·rtreeveship,** the office of portreeve.

1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 593/2 Th' Office of Portreeveship of Prestende. 1487 *Ibid.* VI. 406/2 The Portreeveshipp of Llanvayr in Buelld.

Portress[1] (pō·ɹtrés), **porteress** (pō·ɹtərés). Forms: *α.* 5–6 **porteresse,** 6 *Sc.* **-aress,** 6– **-eress.** *β.* 5–7 **portresse,** 6 **-res,** 7– **portress.** [f. PORTER *sb.*[1] + -ESS.] A female porter; a woman who acts as porter or door-keeper, esp. in a nunnery.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2615 Of the gardyn and the close She is the chiefe porteresse, Of the entre lady and maistresse. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* iv. (Percy Soc.) 16, I came to ryall gate, Where I sawe stondynge the goodly portres. 1548 Q. CATHERINE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 152 That yowr porteresse may wayte at the gate..for yow. 1613–31 *Primer our Lady* 264 The wench..that was portresse sayth to Peter, art not thou also of this mans disciples? 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii, The porteress appeared immediately upon the ringing of the bell. 1862 'SHIRLEY' *Nugæ Crit.* viii. 364 The old porteress, with her rusty keys, will admit you within the deserted church. 1895 F. M. CRAWFORD *Casa Braccio* iv, The portress and another nun came to let him in.

b. *fig.*, or in personification.

1426 LYDG. *De Cuil. Pilgr.* 4577, I am my-sylff the porteresse, (Maad off verray Ryghtwysnesse,) Off the releff that ye sen her. 1521 R. COPLAND in Barclay *Introd. to wryte French*, In eschewynge of vylenesse the portresse of vyces. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 48 The Goddesse of eloquence and perswasion was the portresse of his mouth. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 8 Sweet Memory..Thee, in whose hands the keys of Science dwell, The pensive portress of her holy cell.

†**Po·rtress**[2]. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [? corruption of obs. F. *portice* (16th c. in Godef.):—L. (*porta*) *postica* a postern. (The ending perh. influenced by *portress.*)] The gate of a fortification.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 158 The wall..has a dozen Portresses [*ed.* 1665 *adds* or Gates], of which, foure are shut up.

Port-Royal (pō·ɹtˌɹoi·ăl). The name of a convent near Versailles (*Port-Royal des Champs*) which in the 17th c. became the home of a lay community celebrated for its connexion with Jansenism and its educational work.

1692 NORRIS *Curs. Refl. Ess. Hum. Und.* 65 A sort of men whose Talent was never known to lie much towards Philosophy, will needs turn a Conventicle into a Port Royal. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 562 P 3 The Gentlemen of Port-Royal,.. were more eminent for their Learning and their Humility than any other in France. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., We say..the Greek and Latin methods of Port-royal, which are grammars of that language. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ii. 39 The excellent 'Art of Thinking', which commonly passes under the name of the 'Port-Royal Logic'. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 693/1 The establishment of a school, for which they prepared the well-known educational books known under the name of Port Royal, the Greek and Latin Grammars, General Grammar, Geometry, etc.

Hence **Port-Roy·alist,** a member or adherent of the community of Port-Royal des Champs.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Port-royal*, All that adhered to that party, took the name of Port-royalists. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. viii. (1876) 194 Why so impatient to baptize them Essenes, or Port-Royalists, or Shakers, or by any other known and effete name? 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xiii. 450 'We employ reason', said the Port-Royalist logician, 'as an instrument for acquiring the sciences, whereas we ought to use the sciences as a means of perfecting our reason.'

†**Po·rt-sale.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 **porte-, 6–7 -sail**(e. [f. PORT *sb.*[2] or *sb.*[3] (cf. sense 1 c) + SALE.]

1. Public sale to the highest bidder; sale by auction.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 594 That all marchaunt straungers shuld be set to an Englisshe boost, within .xv. dayes of theyr commynge to their porte sale. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 169 Philippus sate at the portesale his garment or robe short tucked vp about hym. 1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 1 That the saide Marchauntis doggers and fishermen at their commynge home..can [not] have porte sale nor redy utterance for their Fishe. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* S 206 To sell publikely, or by portsaile, as they sell by the crier, when ones goods are forfeited for lacke of paiement. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. 1103 Five thousand sixe hundred and two and thirtie persons were sold out-right in port-sale under the guirland [*sub corona veniere*]. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 4 They who commit uncleannesse for gain, are said to sell their body; or to set it, as we speak, to port-sail. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 168 Like the last bidding for a thing at the port-sale.

¶ Erroneously referred to PORT[1] 2: see quots.

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Portsale*,..sale of fish presently vpon returne in the hauen. Whence 1616 in BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, 1706 in PHILLIPS, 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.* (Fish are commonly sold on the strand by *port-sale* or auction: whence the error.)

2. *Comb.* †**Portsale-maker,** an auctioneer.

1552 HULOET, Portsale maker, *auctionarius.*

†**Port salu·t.** *Obs. rare:* Forms: 5 **port salut, -salow, -salue,** 6 **-salu.** [app. a. OF. *port salut*, in mod.F. *port de salut* = L. **portus salūtis* port or haven of safety.] 'Haven of safety'; the port or goal one is making for.

c 1407 HOCCLEVE *Balade to Somer* 22 Whethir our taille Shal soone make vs with our shippes saille To port salut. 1472–5 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 156/1 Such Citees or Tounes.., where any such Caryk, Galee or Shipp, shall happen hereafter to make his Port salow. 1481 BOTONER *Tulle Old Age* (Caxton) G v b, When men be vpon the riuer in to the hauen warde and to haue takyn their porte salue. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 541 When at the port salu Ye fyrste aryuyd.

Portsman (pō·ɹtsmăn). [f. PORT *sb.*[1] 3 + MAN *sb.*[1]] A citizen or inhabitant of one of the Cinque Ports. (Usually in plural.)

1626 DK. BUCKHM. in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 380 When the Kings Ships, or others, be in danger on the Goodwins, and other places within the view of the Portsmen, they have refused to help with their Boats, lest the Kings ships should command them on board. 1629 in W. Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 749 The Admiralty Court doth impose fines upon portsmen. 1755 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* IV. 161 If the king's ships..have any need of pilots for the sand coasts of Flanders or the like wherein the portsmen are best experienced they will not serve without the lord Warden's.. warrant. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 712/1 His acquaintance with the Ports and the Portsmen..is intimate and varied.

†**Port-so·ken.** *Old Law. Obs.* [f. PORT *sb.*[2] + SOKEN.] The jurisdiction of a port or town; hence, *spec.* the district outside a city or borough, over which its jurisdiction extended. Also *attrib.*

[*a* 1189 *Charter of Hen. II to Canterbury* in Somner *Gavelkind* (1660) 135 Infra urbem, & in Portsoka. 1200 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 45/2 *Carta Norhamton.* Sciatis nos concessisse burgensibus nostris de Norhamton .. quietantiam murdri infra burgum et portsoka.] 1224 HEN. III *Charter to City of London* in Coke *Instit.* IV. (1648) 252 Quod infra muros civitatis, neque in portesokne nemo capiat hospitium per vim. [*a* 1272 *Charter of Hen. III* in Somner *Gavelkind* (1660) 135 Nullus de civitate vel Portsoka sua.] 1660 SOMNER *Gavelkind* 135 Portsoken, being..I take it, the same, which at this day is known there by the name of Portsoken-Ward ..but in some ancient Charters of Liberties..you may find it spreading it self to the utmost skirts and liberties of the City without the wals. 1701 MANLEY *Cowell's Interpr., Portsokne*, the Soke or Liberties of any Port, i. e. City, or Town...Quietantiam murdri infra urbem & in Portsokne, i. e. within the..City, and the Liberties without the Walls.

Port-town (pō·ɹtˌtaun).

†**1.** A market-town or borough: = PORT *sb.*[2]

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 307/267 He fierde ase doth a port-doggue I-norischet in port-toun.

2. A sea-port town: = PORT *sb.*[1] 2.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 100 Gaza a port towne and farther within, Anthedon, and the mountain Angoris. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* III. 116 Harfleur was the chiefest Port Town of all Normandy. 1705 *Royal Proclam.* 18 Jan. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4090/1 The Civil Magistrates at ..Our Port-Towns. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 88 There are many of those houses in every port-town.

†**Po·rtuall.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [cf. med.L. *portuālia* passes in mountains (see PORT *sb.*[1] 5), It. *portuale* 'having ports or harboroughs for ships' (Florio 1598), f. L. *portu-s* harbour, port.] Open to passage; permeable, penetrable.

1603 LODGE *Treat. Plague* (Hunter. Cl.) 16 Men of vnbrideled dyet, sanguine, and such as haue large and portuall pores.

Portuary (pōˑɹtiuˌări). *arch.* [A modern formation on *portuas*, or other variant of PORTAS: perh. after *breviary*.] = PORTAS. Also *attrib.*

a 1867 (*title*) The Portuary of the Laity, containing the layman's share of the Public Offices of the Church of England. 1880 *Times* 1 Jan., The Roman Breviary..In England the more common name was Portuary. Latin 'Portiforium'. 1884 W. H. RICH JONES *Reg. S. Osmund* (Rolls) II. Gloss. 166 *Breviarium*, a breviary... Another name given to it was 'Portiforium', in English 'Portuary'.

Portuas, etc., variants of PORTAS.

Portugal (pōˑɹtiŭgăl). Forms: *α.* 5–6 **Portyngale**, 6 **-gall**, **-ggale**, **Portingaill**, 7 **-galle**, 5–9 **-gale**, 6–9 **-gal**(l. *β.* 6–7 **Portugale**, **-gall**(e, 7 **-gual**, 6– **Portugal**. [a. Pg. (= Sp., F., etc.) *Portugal*, earlier *Portucal*, ad. med.L. *Portus Cale*, the port of Gaya, Oporto. Alfonso, Count of *Portucalé*, became the first king of Portugal. Cf. MDu. *Portegale*. The form *Portingale* is perh. to be compared with *nightingale* from *nihtegale*; but cf. OF. *Portingalois* Portuguese.]

1. A country in the west of the Iberian peninsula.

α. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Epil. Nun's Pr. T.* 13 Him nedeth nat his colour for to dyghen With brasile ne with greyn of Portyngale. *c* 1435 (*title*) *Torrent of Portyngal*, Here bygynneth a good tale Of Torrente of Portyngale. ?*a* 1550 *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 72 Full longe against Portingaill they weare. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Apol.* 9 A French Shallop which he tooke in the Bay of Portingall. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. xlv, With 'Tu mi chamas's' from Portingale.

β. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 13 The Kynge of Portugall subdued this cytie. 1588 (*title*) A true Discourse of the Armie which the King of Spaine caused to be assembled in the Hauen of Lisbon, in the Kingdome of Portugall.. against England.

†**2.** A native or inhabitant of Portugal; a Portuguese. *Obs.*

α. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 383 Item,..in Dunbertane, to the Portingales in almous,..xviij s. 1582 HESTER *Secr. Phioraν.* II. xxxii. 111 Among a number of other, I cured a Portingale. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 210 The late discoveries of the Portingales and the Spaniards.

β. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 285 V° Portugalles, whose countree is called in latine *Lusitania*. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 196 A company of poore distressed Portugals and Spaniards. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 253 In Ferdinando de Soto's expedition..written by a Portugal of Elvas.

†**3.** The Portuguese language. *Obs.*

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 251 A man, who was a Chino..and could speake Portugal. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 9 Their Speech is broken Portugal.

†**4.** = PORTAGUE, the coin. *Obs.*

1546–7 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 255 M^r^ Palmer to have a portyngall of golde for his paynes.

†**5.** ? A sweetmeat from Portugal. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1560 H. MACHYN *Diary* 10 June (Camden) 249 Pepyns and marmelade, and sukett, comfets, and portynggalles and dyvers odur dyssys.

6. *a. attrib.* or as *adj.* = PORTUGUESE A.

α. 1498 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 388 Giffen to the Portingale man of the west see for the brokin schip that the King bocht. 1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij b, Portyngale skynnes the dossen. 1601 W. PARRY *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 27 There came newes of a Portingall fryer. 1655 (*title*) The Lusiad..written In the Portingall Language by Luis De Camoens..put into English By Richard Fanshawe.

β. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 178 He learned the Portugall-language most exactly. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 202 A man of letters, that divers times crossed the line in great Portugal ships. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. iii. 42, I had met with the Portugal captain.

b. in names of products, esp. species and varieties of plants, as *Portugal onion*; **Portugal crakeberry**, *Corema alba* or *lusitanicum*: see quot.; **Portugal laurel**, *Cerasus lusitanica*; **Portugal peach**, **P. quince**, local varieties of these fruits.

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Corema*, *Portugal Crakeberry. An erect much-branched low shrub of rigid habit, closely allied to *Empetrum*. 1754 *Catal. Seeds* in *Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 427 *Portugal laurel. 1839 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 7. 191 The Portugal Laurel..was not..injured. 1706 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Nov. 120 The Suckers of the *Portugal Quince. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.*, Portugal Quince,..*Cydonia vulgaris lusitanica*.

Hence †**Po·rtingaler**, †**Portuga·llian**, a Portuguese; **Po·rtugalism**, adherence to Portugal.

a 1451 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 552 Almaner Lumbardds,.. Spaynarrds, and Portyngalers. 1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 95 For the Buryyng of a portyngaler. 1601–2 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 21 The Portugallians make villaines of the Mahometistes which they sell by companies. 1676 in J. T. Wheeler *Madras* (1862) III. 419/1 [Portuguese Padrys] who used to entail Portugalism as well as Christianity on all their converts.

Portugue, variant of PORTAGUE, the coin. *Obs.*

Portuguese (pōˑɹtiŭgī·z), *a.* and *sb.* Also (6 **porteguse**), 7 **-guèze**, **-guez**, **-guise**, **-gues**(s, 7–9 **-gueze**. [ad. Pg. *portuguez*, Sp. *portugues*, It. *portoghese*, F. *portugais*, in OF. *portugalois*, med.L. *portugalensis*: see PORTUGAL and -ESE.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to Portugal or its people.

1662 HOWELL (*title*) A New English Grammar..With som special remarks upon the Portugues Dialect,..For the service of Her Majesty. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 75 P 5 He was low of Stature, and of a very swarthy Complexion, not unlike a Portugueze Jew. 1828 C. M^c^INTOSH *Pract. Gard.* I. 67 A Portuguese settlement on the coast of Africa.

b. Hence in names of various things, as **Portuguese cut**, a particular form in which brilliants are sometimes cut (*Cent. Dict.* 1889); **Portuguese knot**: see quot.; **Portuguese man-of-war**: see MAN-OF-WAR 4; **Portuguese trade-wind**, a north-east wind felt along the coast of Portugal (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895).

1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 299 A similar band is known as the Portuguese Knot used as a lashing for sheave legs.

B. *sb.*

1. A native of Portugal. [The plural *Portugueses* (*-guezes*) was used during 17th c.: since it became obs. *Portuguese* has been sing. and pl.; in modern times a sing. *Portug(u)ee* has arisen in vulgar use, esp. among sailors. Cf. CHINESE, etc.]

1622 T. ROBINSON *Anat. Eng. Nunnery* 27 Diuers Portugeses our neighbours. 1694 W. WOTTON *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1697) 269 The Portuguezes, who first made daring Voyages, by the Help of the Compass, into the Southern and South-Eastern Seas. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 38 There being.. of English and Portuguez 700. 1783 WATSON *Philip III* (1839) 133 The affairs of the Portuguese in India were more than ever neglected by the government at home. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xxviii, A Portugee, as every sailor knows, is a Portugee by birth.

2. The Portuguese language.

1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* (title-pa), In these eleuen Languages ..8. Portuguez. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* v. 12 A Breichman that spake very good Portuguese. 1840 MALCOM *Trav.* 35/1 These are adopted by one from the English, another from the Arabic, another from the Greek, and another from the Portuguese.

†**3.** = PORTAGUE, the gold coin. *Obs.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 98/1 Storing him..with seuen score porteguses. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 86 He may cast up a greater summe who hath but forty small monies, then he with twenty Portuguesses. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *News fr. Plymouth* Wks. (1673) 2 Each with a bag of Porteguez under His left arme.

†**4.** ? A kind of snuff. *Obs.*

1708 PRIOR *Mice* 84 After some thought, some Portuguese, Some wine.

Hence **Portugue·se** *v. trans.*, to make Portuguese, to assimilate to the Portuguese.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 157 The Mass of the People are..Portuguezed in Speech and Manners.

‖ **Portulaca** (pōˑɹtiuli·kă). [L. *portulāca* purslain (*P. oleracea*): taken by Tournefort, 1700, as a generic name.] A genus of plants, comprising low succulent herbs bearing white, yellow, red, or purple terminal flowers, expanding only once in direct sunshine; esp. a plant of a cultivated species of this genus.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 65 Portulaca is called in english purcellaine. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Portulaca*, Purslain, a cold and moist Herb, which stirs up the Appetite. 1866 *Harvard Mem. Biogr., Savage* I. 337 My Heliotrope is magnificent and portulacas begin to make a show. 1882 *Garden* 8 Apr. 234/2 Of all annuals that can be grown out of doors I know of none more beautiful than Portulacas.

Hence **Portulaceous** (-ē·ʃəs) *a.* *Bot.*, of or pertaining to the natural order *Portulaceæ*, comprising succulent shrubs and herbs, chiefly American, but distributed in all parts of the world.

1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 203 Most of the portulaceous plants which grow on the banks of the gulf of Cariaco. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

†**Portulace**, **-lack**. *Obs.* Also 5 **portulake**. [ad. L. *portulāca* PURSLANE: see prec., and cf. OF. *portulache*, *-lague*.] The common Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*).

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 240 þe pacient schal absteine him fro fleisch & fisch & vse lactucis, portulacis. *Ibid.* 268 An enplastre as of solatri, portulace. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 246 Yf auntes harme, a craft is ek therfore. Held on the tre the Iuce of portulake [*rime* slake] Half aysel myxt. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* (1772) II. 93 Portulack (*Portulaca oleracea*) grows spontaneously here in great abundance.

Portulan, variant of PORTOLANO.

Portunal (pōˑɹtiŭnăl). [a. Ger. *portunal*, app. ad. L. *Portūnālis* belonging to *Portūnus*: see next.] (See quots.) Also called *portunal-flute*.

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 101 Portunal is a very agreeable, open flute-register in the manual...Its beautiful tone is of a very peculiar quality, similar to that of the clarionet. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 60. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Portunal-flute*, an organ stop, the pipes of which are of wood, and are open, and larger at the top than at the mouth.

Portunian (pɔɹtiū·niăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Portūn-us* (a. L. *Portūnus* name of the god of harbours) + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Portūnidæ*, a family of swimming crabs, or to the typical genus *Portūnus*. **b.** *sb.* A crab of this family (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). So **Portu·nid** = b; **Portu·noid** *a.*, akin in form to the portunians.

†**Portu·nity**. *Obs. rare.* [Aphetic form of OPPORTUNITY; so OF. *portunité*.]

1508 *Kalender of Sheph.* (1892) III. App. 180 Cease whyle ye haue space and portunyte.

Portuos, **portuous**, etc., variants of PORTAS.

†**Porturat**, *ppl. a. Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. [? quasi-Latinized form of *porturit*, *-ed*; see PORTURE *v.* 3.] Fashioned, moulded, formed, made.

1489 *Barbour's Bruce* x. 281 (Edin. MS.) He was off mesurabill statur, And weile porturat at mesur.

†**Porture**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* Also 4 **portoure**, 5 **porteure**. [a. OF. *port(e)ure* bearing, demeanour, that which is borne, offspring:—L. type **portātūra*, f. L. *portāre*, F. *porter* to carry: see -URE.]

1. Bearing, demeanour, behaviour.

c 1305 *St. Swithin* 25 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 44 þat he teiȝte him such portoure þat to a such child bicome. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 16604 Pirrus is knyght gode & gay, Off ffair porture, of gode aray. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 121 For thoughe a man wold all this day Hyr beaute discryue, he coude not sey All hyr worshyp ne hyr porture.

2. Offspring, progeny.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIII. ix, Yet he is not fylled ne satisfyed but defowleth my porteure deed or quyke.

†**Po·rture**, *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. PORTURE *v.*] A portrait, image, effigy.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 88 The porture of a man in brasse or stone. *Ibid.* 115 b, The people of Athenes..made & sette vp..their ymages and portures in coppre. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 192/44 A Porture, *pictura*, *effigies*.

†**Po·rture**, **portere**, *v. Obs.* Chiefly in *pa. pple.* 4–6 **portred**, 5 **purtred**, 6 **portered** (-ide, *Sc.* -it), **portured** (-id, *Sc.* -yt), **po(u)rturde**, **purtured**. [A by-form of PORTRAY. Occurs first in pa. pple. *portred*, app. an anglicized form of OF. *portrait*, *portret*, pa. pple. of *portraire* to PORTRAY; from the later variants *portered*, *porterit*, *portured*, was evolved the vb. *porter*, *porture* in 16th c. But *portrewynge* vbl. sb. is found *a* 1400. Cf. CONSTER from *construe*.]

1. *trans.* To paint, or ornament with pictures.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 192 þat cloister .. was pilered and peynt & portred well clene. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* 135 That hye on horse willeth ryde In glitterand golde of grete aray, I-paynted and portred all in pryde. 1539 TAVERNER *Gard. Wysed.* II. 10 They haue the walles of theyr houses portered with armes.

2. To portray, depict. Also *fig.*

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1448 There was purtred in ston..The story of Absolon. 1511 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 181 They shall present theymself with theyr names portered in theyr shyldes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iv. 70 The ancyant king Saturne thair mycht thou se..Wyth withir prencis porturyt in that place. 1530 PALSGR. 662/2, I portyr, I make the shappe, or the portrature of a thynge, *je pourtrays*...I porter a thynge after the quycke. 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 114 There myght I se, with wondrous Arte, the Picture porturde playne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 193/15 To Porture, *pingere*.

3. To form, fashion, mould, make: = PORTRAY *v.* 5.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 189 Aurelius tua sisteris fair and gude,..he had of plesand pulchritude, Porterit but peir, full of formositie.

Hence †**Po·rturing** *vbl. sb.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. XXXVII. (Tollem. MS.), Liche to golde in crownes amonge portrewynge [1535 porturynge] and peyntoure.

Portus, **-e**, **portuus**, etc., variants of PORTAS.

†**Port-vein**. *Obs.* [f. PORT *sb.*[3], after F. *veine porte*, L. *vēna porta*.] = PORTAL *vein*.

1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* vii. 30 Drawen..out of the liuer, by a braunch of the porte vayne. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 356 The first is called the port-veine, because it is as it were the doore of the liuer out of which it proceedeth. 1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* III. *Daphnis*, Like some great port-vein With large rich streams to feed the humble plain. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Porta*... In Anatomy, the Port-vein.

Port-vent. [corresp. to a F. **porte-vent* 'carry-wind', f. PORTE- + *vent* wind.] A pipe conveying the wind in an organ or bagpipe.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Port-vent*, in an organ, is a wooden pipe, well closed, which serves to convey the wind from the bellows to the sound-board of the organ. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Mrq. Lossie* xi, Malcolm set his port vent to his mouth, rapidly filled his bag.

Po·rt-way. Now *local.* [f. PORT *sb.*[2] + WAY *sb.*] A road leading from town to town; a public highway; a Roman road.

Used by Holland in translating various L. expressions: see quots. In the Godstow Charters *c* 1285 applied to a road near Cassington, Oxon. The name survives in other localities, e. g. in the Vale of the White Horse.

c 1285 (transl. *c* 1450) *Godstow Reg.* 301 Of the whiche lond, v. acres (lien to-gedir) strecchen into the portwey [*se extendunt in to porteweye*]; And j. half acre, the whiche strecchith into porteweye [*portweye*] beside the lond of william Fitz Petir. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. XXX. 270 The whole multitude stand about the gates looking toward the high port-way [*via*] that leadeth from hence thither. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 282 The bridges of Abbindon and Dorchester, whereby London portway [*regia via*] was turned from thence [from Wallingford]. *Ibid.* 508 The high portway or Romane Street [*via militaris*]. *Ibid.* 557 The portway or High paved street [*via Romana lapidibus constrata*] named Bath-gate [at Buxton].

Po·rt-wi·ne. = PORT *sb.*[7] 1.

[1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 334 An English vessell .. with O Porto wine and some passengers on board.] *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Red-fustian*, Clarret or red Port-Wine. 1759 MOUNTAINE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 292 Six dozen of bottles of Port wine. 1836 CYRUS REDDING *Mod. Wines* viii. 220 In 1730 good port wine was sold in England at two shillings the bottle, and white wine of Portugal at the same price.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *port-wine colour*, *negus*, *stain*, *tint*; **port-wine mark** = NÆVUS.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. 276/1 He has what is called a port-wine mark on the back of his neck. 1887 MRS. EWING *Peace Egg* 9 A port-wine stain on the best table-cloth. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 123 *Of a light port-wine color.*

Hence **Po·rt-wi·ny** *a.*, smacking of port-wine.
1881 Miss Braddon *Asph.* II. 10 Those prosy port-winey old sermons of his.

Po·rty, *a.* [f. Port *sb.*[7] + -y.] Like, of the nature of, or connected in some way with port-wine: cf. prec.
1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* II. i. 7 The eloquence of that Porty reply was lost on his Client. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Dec. 1/3 As an old Academician once said, 'They [pictures] have got porty by time', and of course improved. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 387 Gout..was suggestive of fine old porty ancestors.

Portyfoliom, Portyngale: see Portifolium, Portugal. **Portygewe,** var. Portague *Obs.*

Port-yowl (pɒɹtˌyau·l). *Sc.* Also 9 **portule.** [f. Port *sb.*[8] (?) + Yowl.] A doleful cry, howl: in *to sing port-yowl*, to cry out, wail, howl.
1708 M. Bruce *Lect. & Serm.* 62 All Folks are singing Songs of Jovialty, but the people of God, they must sing Port-youl. 1722 W. Hamilton *Wallace* iii. 161 I'll make them know they have no Right to rule, And cause them shortly all Sing up Port-yeull. 1892 *Ballymena Observer* (E.D.D.), A'll mak' you sing portule wi' the wrang side o' your lip oot.

Portyr, variant of Porture *Obs.*

Porule (pō·riūl). *rare.* [f. Pore *sb.*[1] + -ule.] A minute pore.
1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 513 Porules narrow-oblong. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Cellule, Porule*, the pores in the internal texture of a corallum.
Hence **Po·rulose, Po·rulous** *adjs.*, abounding in minute pores.
1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 705 Both surfaces minutely porulose. 1858 Mayne *Exp. Lex., Porulosus*..porulous.

Porvaye, obs. form of Purvey.

Porwigle, obs. variant of Polliwog.

† **Po·ry,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **powrie,** 6–7 **porie, poory,** 7 **poary.** [f. Pore *sb.*[1] + -y.] Full of or containing pores; porous.
1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xliii. 59/2 They [the reins] ben fleshely and poory [*ed.* 1582 powrie]. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* I. 2 The bones of y[e] nose, and Ossicles of hearyng, are inwardly Porie. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 278 The stones hereof are so light and pory, that they will not sinke. 1654 Flecknoe *Ten Years Trav.* 71 The body growing Cane-wise, distinguisht by several knots, out of whose poory sides, the branches issue forth in round. 1656 tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 99. 33 The poary Spunge bred on the rocks under water. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 536 Vaulted Roofs of Pory Stone. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 401 They glide with ease through the pory earth.

Porzy, obs. form of Pursy.

Pos, variant of Poz, short for *positive*.

‖ **Posada** (posā·dă). Also 8 **possada.** [Sp., a resting place, an inn, ppl. sb. f. *posar* to lodge: see Pose *v.*[1]] A (Spanish) inn or place of accommodation for travellers.
1763 *Crt. & City Mag.* Apr. 192/2 The inside of a Spanish posada (or inn) for the night. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 212 There is no passado for the reception of travellers. 1828 W. Irving in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 285 The squalid miseries of the Spanish posadas. 1891 B. Harte *1st Fam. Tasajara* II. 102 There were some Mexicans lounging about the *posada*.

† **Po·sary.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. *Arch.* [app. f. med.L. *pōsāre* (whence It. *posare*, F. *poser*) to rest (see Pose *v.*[1]) + -ary[1].] = Podium: see quot.
1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* 124 They served for Podia or posaries of a leaning-height for which they had a slight Cornice assign'd them.

‖ **Posaune** (pozau·nĕ). Also **posaun.** [G., a trumpet, trombone (= Du. *bazuin*, Da., Sw. *basun*), MHG. *busûne, -îne*, ad. OF. *buisine* Buysine.]
† 1. A trombone. *Obs.*
1724 *Short Explic. For. Wds. in Mus. Bks., Posaune*, a Sackbut, an Instrument of Musick made use of as a Bass to a Trumpet. 1776 Hawkins *Hist. Mus.* IV. i. x. 150 The word Buzain is a corruption of Busaun, or, as it is now spelt Posaune, which signifies a sacbut or bass-trumpet. 1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav.* 101 A great posaun..of brass,.. in three divisions, which are pushed out in blowing.
2. A reed-stop on the organ, of a rich and powerful tone.
1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 108/1 The posaune is built on a large scale, and is by far the most powerful ever made. 1879 E. J. Hopkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 562/2 There are some..posaunes in the pedal organ..at Doncaster.

‖ **Posca** (pɒ·skă). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also 7 **pusca.** [L. (Plaut.), an acidulous drink of vinegar and water, lit. drink, f. root *po-*, Gr. *πο-* (*ποτ-*), to drink: cf. *ēsca* food; so It. *posca*, in same sense.] A mixture of vinegar and water; also, weak wine diluted with water or with vinegar-water.
1541 Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A iv b, Yf ye must wasshe the sore, take wyne or posca, that is to saye oxycraton, or the decoction of some sharpe herbe. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 240 The kernells of the nuts bruised and drunke with Posca possett (that is water and vinegar mingled together). 1706 Phillips, *Posca* (Lat.), a..Drink made of Vinegar and Water; also Wine diluted or mingled with Water in the Press. 1905 D. Smith *Days His Flesh* 497 They had with them a beaker of their posca or vinegar water.

† **Pose,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝepos, 4–7 (8–9 *dial.*) **pose,** 5–6 **poose,** 7 **pooss, poze.** [OE. *ge-pos* a catarrh, cough, f. Brythonic **pas-* cough, whence W., Corn. *pas*, Breton *paz* cough, from Aryan **kwes-* to wheeze, whence also Skr. *çvas-*, OE. *hwæsan*.] A cold in the head, catarrh.
c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 54 Wiþ ȝesnote & ȝeposum ȝenim oxna lyb. *a* 1050 *Herb. Apul.* xlvi. ibid. I. 148 Wiđ ȝeposu [*Ad tussim gravem*]. *c* 1305 *E. E. Poems* (1862) 37 To hele him of þe pose. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Manciple's T.* Prol. 62 He speketh in his nose And sneseth faste and eek he hath the pose. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C iij b, For the Cogh or the poose Take powdre of Bays [etc.]. 1530 Palsgr. 582/1, I have the pose, *jay la catarre* or *je suis enrimé*. 1706 Phillips, *Pose*, ..a Rheum in the Head. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Pose*, a catarrh, or cold in the head.
b. in the horse.
1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 277 If the Horse casteth little or no matter out of his nose,..it is a sign that he is stopped in the head, which we were wont to call the pose. 1610 Markham *Masterp.* I. xxxviii. 74 The cold or poze in a horses head. 1639 T. de Gray *Compl. Horsem.* 59 They be most enclined to poses, rhumes, paines in the head.

Pose (pōuz), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* Also 5 **pos,** 6 **pois, poiss,** (**poess**). [app., that which has been deposited or laid down, f. F. *poser* to place, lay down: see Pose *v.*[1]]
A hoard, treasure, secret store of money, etc.
c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/2 Pos, or depos, *depositum*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 89 Thir said princis gat, in the spulȝe..the kyng of Francis pose, quhilk vas al in engel noblis. 1563 Winȝet *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 56 Quhat wes committit to thee, lat that remane in thy poiss. 1637 Rutherford *Lett.* III. xlvii. (1881) 537 If you seek, there is a pose, a hidden treasure, a gold mine in Christ you never yet saw. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxiv, This grand pose o' silver and treasure. 1844 M. A. Richardson *Hist. Table-bk., Leg. Div.* II. 91 The 'pose' was gone, the coffer had vanished.

† **Pose,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* App. a variant of Posy. (Perh. first in the plural, *posies* being taken as *poses*.)
1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 274 b, What poses certain persones wrote under the images of Brutus & Caesar. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 3 b, Many subtleties, straunge deuises, with seuerall poses. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 100 b, If we purpose to dilate our cause hereby with poses and sentences. 15.. *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 65 Suche garded huoes, Suche playted shoes, And suche a pose, Say y never.

† **Pose,** *sb.*[4] *Obs.* [f. Pose *v.*[2]] A state of perplexity.
1616 Sir C. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 249 The Lords they say are at a pose what to do.

Pose (pōuz), *sb.*[5] [a. F. *pose*, f. *poser* to put, place: see Pose *v.*[1]] An act of posing.
1. An attitude or posture of the body, or of a part of the body, esp. one deliberately assumed, or in which a figure is placed for effect, or for artistic purposes.
1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 170 Spencer begged the cover, and read out the letter, that my *pose* might not be disturbed. 1848 Mrs. Jameson *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 213 His idea of the pose was borrowed, as we are told, from an antique statue. 1883 B. Harte *Carquinez Woods* i. 11 He unconsciously fell into an attitude that in any other mortal would have been a pose.
2. *fig.* An attitude of mind or conduct.
1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 311 There is difficulty in the silent pose, and meek opposition, of many of the learned in the presence of idealism, creating suspicion of partial acceptance. 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Coll. & Recoll.* xiii. 176 This portentous age of reticence and pose. 1904 R. J. Campbell *Serm. Individuals* vi. 109 'I thought.' He had prepared himself in his mental pose for what did not take place.
3. *Dominoes.* = Down *sb.*[3] 3: see quots.
1865 *Compl. Domino-Player* 11 The pose, or turn to commence the game, is determined in one particular manner in all games of dominoes. 1870 Hardy & Ware *Mod. Hoyle, Dominoes* 92 On the Continent..the person holding the highest double has the 'pose' or 'down', and he commences by playing that domino. If there should be no doubles, then the person holding the highest domino has the pose.

† **Pose,** *sb.*[6] *Obs.* [a. OF. *pose* a land measure (1336 in Godef.), Fr. Swiss *pose* an old superficial measure for meadows, fields, and forests, = half the *faux*, or 32,768 sq. feet (Godef.).] A superficial measure of land, = about three-quarters of an acre.
1759 J. Mills *Duhamel's Husb.* II. ii. 265 This field contains, according to our measure, six poses. Each pose contains 400 square perches, and each perch nine feet. 1763 — *Pract. Husb.* II. 306 Another field of betwixt nine and ten poses (equal to about seven acres and three roods).

Pose (pōuz), *v.*[1] *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **posed**: in ME. also **post.** [a. F. *poser* (in all the chief senses of the Eng. word):—L. *pausāre* to halt, cease, pause, in late L. to rest (see Pause *v.*), which subsequently acquired also through confusion with L. *pōnĕre* (*posui, positum*) the trans. sense to lay to rest, put or set down, place, properly belonging to the latter (so in *Leges Alam.* tit. 45, *pausant arma sua josum* they lay their arms down); so It. *posare*, Pr. *pausar*, Sp. *posar*, all trans. and intr., Pg. *pousar* intr.
The sense of *pōnere* having been restricted in the Romanic of Gaul (as shown by Fr. and Prov.) to 'lay eggs', its numerous compounds (*com-, de-, dis-, ex-, im-, op-, pro-, supponere*, etc.) were replaced in Fr. and Prov. by corresponding new compounds of *pausare*: see Appose *v.*[2], Compose, etc.; It., Sp., and Pg. retain the original compounds of *ponere*. A Com. Romanic compound of the intr. *pausare* is represented by Repose.]
† 1. *trans.* To place in a specified situation or condition. *Obs. rare.*
c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 242 Noþing is better post to þe likyng of þe fend. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 495 But xxx footis pose Vche order of from other.
b. *Dominoes.* See quot. and cf. Pose *sb.*[5] 3.
1865 *Compl. Domino-Player* 40 In placing the first domino on the table, or posing, as it is called, you might [etc.].
† 2. To suppose or assume for argument's sake. (Usually with *obj. cl.*) *Obs.*
c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 261 (310) A[s] þus I pose a womman graunte me Here loue and seyth þat oþer wole she non. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 293, I pose I hadde synned so..myȝte I nouȝte be saued? *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 285 Yet pose y that hit might amendid be. 1528 *Kalender of Sheph.* xxxvii. P vij b, Yf it were possyble that the erthe were enhabyted all aboute & pose [*earlier edd.* puttand] the case yt it were so.
3. a. To lay down, put forth (an assertion, allegation, claim, instance, etc.).
1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 92 He made iniuriously to pose and put in faite that the said duchesse had made to empoysen her husband. 1662 Glanvill *Lux Orient.* xi. (1682) 85 God himself in his posing the great instance of patience, Job, seems to intimate somewhat to this purpose. 1882 Owen in *Longm. Mag.* I. 64 What is posed as the 'Neanderthal skull' is the roof of the brain-case. 1888 *Science* XI. 256/2 M. Janet.. poses the new psychology as of French origin.
b. To propound, propose (a question or problem).
1862 Sala *Accepted Addr.* 124, I don't require any answer to my question, now that I have posed it. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* i. 14 Hesiod poses the eternal problems: what is the origin and destiny of mankind?
4. a. To place in an attitude (as an artist's model or sitter, etc.). Also *fig.*
1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 312 The model is posed or in other words 'set' in some particular attitude. 1868 Tuckerman *Collector* 70 In studied attitude, like one posed for a daguerreotype. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1881) 240 In posing a group, let it be remembered that each figure is animate, and should not be made to look as lifeless as a statue.
b. *intr.* To assume a certain attitude; to place oneself in position, esp. for artistic purposes.
1850 *Edin. Rev.* July 196 He drapes himself, and poses before you in every variety of attitude. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 834/2 Tableaux are a great improvement on drawingroom amateur theatricals,..it is more easy to pose than to act.
c. *fig.* To present oneself in a particular character (often implying that it is assumed); to set up *as*, give oneself out *as*; to attitudinize.
1840 Thackeray *Shabby Genteel Story* vi, He..'posed' before her as a hero of the most sublime kind. 1877 Black *Green Past.* xv, Was it true that these were the real objects which caused this man to pose as a philanthropist? 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxxi. 70 Politicians have of late years begun to pose as the special friends of the working man.

Hence **Posed** *ppl. a.*[1] *rare,* † **a.** composed, grave, sedate (*obs.*); **b.** placed or arranged in a pose or posture, as a sitter; whence **Po·sedness; Po·sing** *vbl. sb.*[1] and *ppl. a.*[1] (sense 4).
a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xix, An old setled Person, of a most *posed, stayed and grave Behaviour. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 137 Now this is not a 'posed' subject, but taken in an actual game, which makes it so much the more interesting. 1891 *Temple Bar Mag.* Mar. 442 It has the earnestness of Ingres, marred..by his conventionality, and a certain flat *posedness. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 88 By *posing we obtain likeness improved by beauty of outline and graceful posture. 1890 *Ibid.* III. 411 The posing chair should be a low-backed chair fastened to a platform..on castors. This enables the operator to move the sitter to any position, without the trouble of getting up. 1888 Pennell *Sent. Journ.* 149 Barbizon, with its picture galleries and *posing peasants.

Pose (pōuz), *v.*[2] Also 7 **poase,** 7–9 **poze.** [Aphetic form of Appose *v.*[1] or of Oppose, which was confused with it.]
† 1. *trans.* To examine by questioning, question, interrogate: = Appose *v.*[1] 1, Oppose *v.* 1. *Obs.*
1526 Tindale *Luke* ii. 46 They founde hym in the temple sittinge in the middes of the doctours, both hearynge them and posinge them. 1579 Fulke *Heskins's Parl.* 176 Let me pose him in his aunswere like a childe. 1612 Brinsley *Lud. Lit.* iii. (1627) 16 Let so many..stand together, and then poase them without booke, one by one. 1688 Bunyan *Dying Sayings* Wks. 50 Let us therefore be posing ourselves which of the two it will be. 1722 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 648 When posed about faith, they answered in terms of the Confession of Faith and Catechism.
2. To place in a difficulty with a question or problem; to puzzle, confuse, perplex, nonplus.
1593 Donne *Sat.* iv. 20 A thing which would have pos'd Adam to name. 1605 Verstegan *Dec. Intell.* ii. (1628) 30 Now hath Occa posed me about the countrie of India, which he expresely saith was in Africa. 1611 Cotgr., *Faire quinaut*, to pose, or driue to a Nonplus. *a* 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Cust. Country* III. ii, What precious piece of nature To poze the world? *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* (1687) I. xxiii. 309 A question wherewith a learned Pharisee thought to pose or puzzle him. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 113 ¶ 4 You must make Love to her, as you would conquer the Sphinx, by posing her. 1807 Crabbe *Par. Reg.* I. 679 Then by what name th' unwelcome guest to call, Was long a question, and it pos'd them all. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* I. i. § 2. 61 We have thus posed the mathematician.. and the historian.
† b. *transf.* To do that which puzzles (another).
1630 Cowley *Constantia & Philetus* xxiv, She took a Lute..And tun'd this Song, posing that harmony Which Poets attribute to heavenly spheres.

Hence **Posed** *ppl. a.*[2]; **Po·sing** *vbl. sb.*[2] and *ppl. a.*[2]; whence **Po·singly** *adv.* (Webster 1847); **Po·sement** *nonce-wd.*, the condition of being posed.
1820 Keats *Hyperion* II. 244 Whether through *pozed conviction, or disdain, They guarded silence. 1850 L. Hunt *Autobiog.* III. xx. 60 Puzzlement and *posement of various sorts awaited many readers. 1556 B. Greene in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1853/1 This greate chere was often powthred with

vnsauery sawces of examinations, exhortacions, *posings, and disputacions. 1841 Peacock *Ibid.* App. A. p. xiii. *note*, The process of examination was called apposing or posing. 1666 Spurstowe *Spir. Chym.* (1668) 174 Another dark and *posing thought did arise.

Pose, *v.*[3] *dial.* [f. Pose *sb.*[2]] *trans.* To hoard, store *up* (money, etc.).

1866 Gregor *Dial. Banffshire* s. v., The aul' bodie hiz a houd o' siller poset up, an's eye posin' up mair.

‖ **Posé** (poze), *a. Her.* [Fr., pa. pple. of *poser* to place, etc., Pose *v.*[1]] (See quots.)

1725 Coats *Dict. Her.*, *Posé*, ..a French Term, signifying a Lyon, Horse, or other Beast standing still, with all four Feet on the Ground, to denote thereby that it is not in a moving Posture. 1882 Cussans *Her.* 315 *Posé*, placed: as, *Posé en bande*, bendwise.

Posed, *ppl. a.*: see Pose *v.*[1] and 2.

Posedness, Posement: see Pose *v.*[1, 2].

† **Poselet,** *pa. pple. Obs.* ? Early form of *puzzled.*

a 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 151 Among þe pres þauh he were poselet, He spared no þing for no drede Among þe cristene til he were hoselet; Of such a child me tok non hede.

Poser[1] (pōu·zəɹ). Also 8 **pozer.** [Aphetic form of Apposer: see Pose *v.*[2]]

1. One who sets testing questions; an examiner; = Apposer 1. Now *rare.*

1587 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 35 When I consider ..the profit that ariseth at sundrie elections of scholars..to the posers. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) II. 258 The University.. appointed Doctor Cranmer .. to be the Poser-general of all Candidates in Divinity. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 4 Feb., To Paul's School,..and up to hear the upper form examined;.. Dr. Wilkins and one Mr. Smallwood, Posers. 1665 J. Buck in Peacock *Stat. Univ. Cambr.* (1841) App. B. p. lxv, The Posers Feast was anciently kept upon the Thursday at Night the Examination or Posing was ended. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* III. i. i. (1852) 254 The Poser trying his Hebrew skill by the third chapter of Isaiah. 1901 Rashdall & Rait *New Coll.* iii. 44 The term 'Posers' is still applied to the two Fellows [of New College] who examine at Winchester.

2. A question that poses or puzzles; a puzzle.

1793 Sheridan in *Sheridaniana* 147 This was a pozer. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* x, With the air of a man who was in the habit of propounding some regular posers. 1894 *Law Times* XCVII. 387/2 Interrupting the arguments by questions in the nature of posers.

Po·ser[2]. [f. Pose *v.*[1] + -er[1]: cf. F. *poseur.*] One who poses or attitudinizes: see Pose *v.*[1] 4.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Dec., Besides the professional posers of the studio there are..the posers of the Row, the posers at afternoon teas, the posers in politics, and the circus posers.

‖ **Poseur** (pozör). [F., agent-n. f. *poser* Pose *v.*[1]: cf. prec.] One who practises an affected mental or social attitude; an affected person. The fem. ‖ **Poseu·se** is also occasionally used.

1881 *Contemp. Rev.* May 683 The same womanish and uncontrolled *poseur.* 1887 *Athenæum* 1 Jan. 34/1 The latest attitudes in literature, art, and politics are presented in a way to make *poseurs* of all sorts either laugh or wince. 1893 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 5/1 Madame de Krudener may best be regarded as the supreme 'poseuse' of history.

Posey, variant of Posy.

Posh (pɒʃ). [dial. *posh, pash*: cf. Pash *sb.*[2] 4.]

1. *dial.* The fragments produced by a smash; a soft, decayed, rotten, or pulpy mass; a state of slush: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

[1790: see Pash *sb.*[2] 4.]

2. In full *posh-ice*: Ice broken into small fragments; brash-ice, porridge-ice.

1876 Davis *Polaris Exp.* iii. 75 The vessel was forced through brash or posh ice. 1885 Whyte Melville *In Lena Delta* ii, Forcing our way through a stream of posh.

Poshet, -(o)ote, -otte, obs. ff. Posset.

Poshteen: see Posteen. **Posie,** obs. f. Posy.

Posied (pōu·zid), *a.* [f. Posy + -ed[2].]

1. Inscribed with a posy or motto. *arch.*

1597 Shaks. *Lover's Compl.* 45 Many a ring of Posied gold and bone. 1720 Gay *To Yng. Lady* 12 Some by a snip of woven hair In posied lockets bribe the fair. 1802 *Sporting Mag.* 359 The motto'd garter and the posied ring.

2. Furnished with nosegays; flowery. Now *dial.*

1797 T. Park *Sonn.* 96 And what one corner would of flowerets yield, In posied wreaths his blooming daughter bore. 1865 E. Waugh *Lanc. Songs* 50 It winds by a rindlin' wayter side, An' o'er a posied lea. 1894 H. Speight *Nidderdale* 393 Pleasant country houses with posied gardens are everywhere around.

Posil, obs. form of Pucelle, maid, girl.

Posing, Posingly: see Pose *v.*[1] and 2.

Posit (pɒ·zit), *v.* Also 7 **-ite.** [f. L. *posit-*, ppl. stem of *pōnĕre* to place, put, lay down.]

1. *trans.* To put in position; to set, dispose, or situate; to place. (Chiefly in *pa. pple.* or *passive.*)

1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* To Rdr. 3 To vary their shape as they are posited in Signe and house. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 168 Then would those parts .. affect this .. Situation, howsoever the Loadstone was posited. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xx. 166 He posited his left Hand wholly open. 1756 Amory *Buncle* (1770) I. 87 To see how things were posited at home. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* vi. (1872) 114 The blocks..were moved and posited by a power external to themselves. 1886 W. Graham *Soc. Problem* 161 Classes .. connected with the production of wealth or positing it where it is wanted.

2. To put down or assume as a fact; to lay down as a basis of argument, etc.; to affirm the existence of; to postulate. Chiefly in *Logic* and *Philos.*

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* II. xii. 52 To Posit, or put the Antecedent or Consequent, is no more than to assume it. *Ibid.* xvii. 78 The Effect being posited, it follows that either there is a Cause Efficient, or else, that there has been one. 1709–29 [see Posited]. 1847 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* IV. 167 Either the Ego must posit the Non-Ego wilfully and consciously..or [etc.]. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* I. 157 In so far as anything is a cause, it posits something different from itself as an effect. 1898 J. A. Hobson *Ruskin* 105 The crude dualism which Huxley posits.

Hence **Po·sited** *ppl. a.*; **Po·siting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 215 An account of two unusually posited Rainbows seen. 1709–29 V. Mandey *Syst. Math., Arith.* 60 If one of the posited False Numbers is deficient from the Tree. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 6 Nov. 2/7 His hatred of compromise, his perpetual positing of the moral dilemma —'all or nothing'. 1899 A. E. Garvie *Ritschlian Theol.* III. iii. 82 A law, a thing posited, points back the understanding to the positing spirit and will.

Position (pozi·ʃən), *sb.* Also 6 **posycyon, -cion, -tyon, posicion.** [a. F. *position*, ad. L. *positiō-nem* a putting, placing, position; affirmation; theme, subject, etc., n. of action from *pōnĕre* (*posit-um*) to put, place, set.]

I. 1. The action of positing; the laying down or statement of a proposition or thesis; affirmation, affirmative assertion. Chiefly in *Logic* and *Philos.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. 125 (Camb. MS.) Ffor by grace of possession [L. *positionis gratia, ed.* 1532 posycion] ..I pose þat ther be no prescience. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 234, I do not in position Distinctly speake of her. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* II. xii. 54 The Disjunctive Syllogism,..if consisting of two Members immediately opposed, may proceed from a Position of one Member to an Eversion of the other. 1832 Austin *Jurispr.* (1879) I. v. 175 It exists by the position or institution of its individual or collective author. 1837–8 Sir W. Hamilton *Logic* xvii. (1866) I. 332 A disjunctive syllogism consists..in the reciprocal position or sublation of contradictory characters, by the subsumption of one or other. 1877 E. Caird *Philos. Kant* II. xvi. 573 The alternate position and negation leads to an infinite series.

2. A proposition or thesis laid down or stated; something posited; a statement, assertion, tenet.

c 1500 in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* App. A. p. xxii, The Father hath made on Argument agenst his Posytyon in the fyrst mater. 1597 Bacon *Ess.* x. (Arb.) 152 It is a position in the Mathematiques that there is no proportion betweene somewhat and nothing. 1684 *Contempl. State Man* II. iii. (1699) 147 It was a Position of the Stoicks, that he was not Poor who wanted, but he who was necessitated. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. xv. 374 An edict, which contains many extraordinary positions and pretensions. 1838–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. ii. iv. § 4. 122 Hooker..rests his positions on one solid basis, the eternal obligation of natural law. 1845 J. H. Newman *Ess. Developm.* II. ii. 129, I have called the doctrine of Infallibility an hypothesis:..let it be considered to be a mere position, supported by no direct evidence, but required by the facts of the case.

3. *Arith.* A method of finding the value of an unknown quantity by positing or assuming one or more values for it, finding by how much the results differ from the actual data of the problem, and then adjusting the error. Also called *rule of (false) position, rule of supposition, rule of falsehood, rule of trial and error.*

1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* II. Pref., The rule of false position, with dyuers examples not onely vulgar, but some appertaynyng to the rule of Algeber. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Position*, or the *Rule of Position*, otherwise called the *Rule of Falshood*...This *Rule of False Position* is of Two kinds, viz. *Single* and *Double.* 1806 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 135 Position is a method of performing certain questions, which cannot be resolved by the common direct rules. *Ibid.* 136 Double Position is the method of resolving certain questions by means of two suppositions of false numbers.

† **4.** The action of positing or placing, esp. in a particular order or arrangement; disposition. *Obs.*

1623 Cockeram, *Position*,..a setting or placing. 1658 Phillips, *Position* (lat.), a putting. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 158 You may change the Polarity of many feeble Stones, by a long Position in a contrary posture. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. vii. 288 In my Watch, the Law and Rule of its Motion is the Constitution and Position of its Parts by the Hand and Mind of the skilful Artist. 1735 Bertin *Chess* iii, The Game of Chess consists of two parts, the Offensive, and Defensive;..the Defensive [consists] in the due position of your own [forces], by guarding against your enemy's attack.

5. The manner in which a body as a whole, or the several parts of it, are disposed or arranged; disposition, posture, attitude.

Eastward position: the position of the officiating priest at the Eucharist, when he stands in front of the holy table or altar and faces the east.

1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 176 They should lift their Treading Leg so high, as to tire it..after it is raised to so uncommodious a position. 1790 Philidor *Chess* II. 90 In this position it is a drawn game. 1839 R. S. Robinson *Naut. Steam Eng.* 79 The position of the beam at half-stroke, horizontal. 1847 C. Brontë *Jane Eyre* xiv, I cannot see you without disturbing my position in this comfortable chair. 1866 H. R. Droop *North Side of the Table* 9 Canon law (which did not enforce an eastward position). 1874 (*title*) Reasons for opposing the (so-called) Eastward Position of the Celebrant. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 7/2 Dean Burgon never would allow the 'eastward position' to be adopted in Chichester Cathedral. 1891 Freeborough *Chees Endings* 12 There is always the general principle—the grasp of the position. 1893 Bp. Stubbs *Visit. Charges, Oxford* (1907) 159, I have, ever since my ordination in 1848, used the eastward position in the Ante-Communion, and since I was ordained priest in 1850, at the consecration prayer.

b. *fig.* Mental attitude; the way in which one looks upon or views a subject or question: often passing into the point of view which one occupies in reference to a subject, and so blending with 9.

1905 J. Orr *Problem O. Test.* xii. 435 A more moderate position is taken by Dr. Driver.

6. *Mus.* The arrangement of the constituent notes of a chord, with respect to their order, or to the intervals between them. († See also quot. 1753.)

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Position*..in music, is used for the putting down the hand in beating time. 1880 W. S. Rockstro in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 17 In whatever position they may be taken, Consonant Intervals remain always consonant; Dissonant Intervals, dissonant.

II. 7. The place occupied by a thing, or in which it is put; situation, site, station. *In position*, in its (his, etc.) proper or appropriate place; so *out of position.*

1541 R. Copland *Galyen's Terap.* 2 H iij, Yf ye knowe parfytely the posycyon, & fygure of all the bladder. 1570 Billingsley *Euclid* I. i. 1 A poynt is materiall, and requireth position and place. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xiii. § 10. 77 That our Idea of Place is nothing else, but such a relative Position of any thing, as I have before mentioned. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5) s. v., The Respect of a Planet in Astrological Figure, to other Planets and Parts of the Figure, is called his Position. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., A line is said to be *given in position*..when its situation, bearing, or direction, with regard to some other line, is given. 1774 M. Mackenzie *Maritime Surv.* 25 Having the Distance and Position of two Points *A* and *B.* 1840 Lardner *Geom.* 20 The apparent position of an object is a term used in science to express the position of the object so far as it can be determined by the sight. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* III. ii. (1874) 351 The view which we get of an object depends on the position which we take. 1874 In position [see Position *v.* 1]. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sc.* i. (ed. 2) 14 Position is a purely space relation or geometrical conception.

b. Phrases.

Angle of position: (*a*) The angle between any two points subtended at the eye; (*b*) *Astron.* The angle between the circles of declination and latitude of a celestial body; (*c*) The angle between the hour-circle passing through a celestial body, and the line joining it and a neighbouring celestial body; so in *Geog.*, the angle between the meridian of a place and the great circle passing through it and some other place. *Circle of position*: any one of six great circles of the celestial sphere passing through the north and south points of the horizon. *Gun of position*: a heavy field-gun, not designed for executing quick movements.

1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xxviii. H iv, Notyng vppon youre slate the angle of position from the dimetient to the lyne fiduciall. *Ibid.* xxxiv. K iij b, Then turne the Diameter of your Semicircle, to euery Towne, Village, Hauen, Rode, or suche like,..noting therewithall in some Table by it selfe the Degrees cut by the Alhidada in the Circle, which I call the Angles of Position. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xix. 31 Circles of Position..do all cross one another in the North and South Points of the Meridian. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., Circles of position, are six great circles passing through the intersection of the meridian and the horizon, and dividing the equator into twelve equal parts. 1812 Woodhouse *Astron.* viii. 58 Angle of Position. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 126 This result once secured, it is obvious that a field-piece or gun of position would become a rifle on a large scale. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Jan. 8/3 The 12-pounder quick-firing garrison artillery gun of 12 cwt.,..is neither a field gun nor a gun of position.

c. *Mil.* A site chosen for occupation by an army, usually as having a strategic value.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 118 To compel his adversary to relinquish this advantageous position. 1820 Scott *Monast.* ii, A position of considerable strength. *a* 1839 Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 11 On, on! take forts and storm positions. 1890 Nicolay & Hay *Lincoln* VIII. ix. 241 General Meade..manœuvred to select a position where he would have the advantage.

8. *Phonology.* The situation of a vowel in an open or closed syllable; *spec.* in *Gr.* and *L. Prosody*, the situation of a short vowel before two consonants or their equivalent, i. e. before a consonant in the same syllable, making the syllable metrically long, as in *in-fer-ret-que, con-vex-ī* = *con-vec-sī.*

In such cases it used to be said that the *vowel* was 'long by position'; but the evidence of Greek and the history of the sounds in Romanic show that the vowel remained short, while the *syllable* was metrically long. When both consonants could be taken to the following syllable, the preceding vowel might be 'in position' or not, as in *te-ne-brās* or *te-nebrās.* In English and the modern languages generally, a long stressed vowel is often shortened by position, as in *weal, wealth*; *deem, dem-ster*; *house, husband, Lyne, Lynton.*

1580 G. Harvey *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 106 Position neither maketh shorte, nor long in oure Tongue, but so farre as we can get hir good leaue. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* (Arb.) 12 And soothly..yf the coniunction *And* were made common in English, yt were not amisse, although yt bee long by position. 1775 Ash, *Position* (in grammar) the state of a vowel placed before two consonants. 1876 Kennedy *Public School Lat. Gram.* 512 In the words *fātō, mēnsīs* both syllables are long by nature: in *factās sūbsūnt* the four syllables, whose vowels are short by nature, are all lengthened by position. *H* does not give position any more than the aspirate in Greek.

9. *fig.* The situation which one metaphorically occupies in relation to others, to facts, or to circumstances; condition.

1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* v. xii, Do not believe that I am one who would presume an instant on my position. 1843 Prescott *Mexico* I. vi. (1864) 65 There is no position which

affords such scope for ameliorating the condition of man, as that occupied by an absolute ruler over a nation imperfectly civilised. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 49 In a few weeks he had changed the relative position of all the states in Europe. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ix. 64 The position was in some measure an exciting one. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 67 We are now in a position to discuss the air thermometer. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 392 Arms were extemporised for an adequate number of citizens, and the city was somehow put into a position to stand a siege.

b. Place in the social scale; social state or standing; status; rank, estate.

1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xi, His position in society was excellent and secure. 1868 *Digby's Voy. Medit.* Pref. 34 A man of considerable position. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 701/2 I've got a good position now, one that I'm not ashamed to ask you to share.

c. An official situation, place, or employment.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., A position in a bank. 1900 KIPLING in *Daily Express* 19 June 4/5 With a view to getting him a 'position in the city'. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 2/3 The old discussion as to the evolution and history of this special political position—for up to now it has been that rather than an office.

III. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *position-relation, -value*; **position angle** = *angle of position* (7 b); **position-artillery**, heavy field-artillery; cf. *gun of position* in 7 b; so **position-battery**; **position error**, the variation of a watch when laid in certain positions; **position-finder**, an apparatus by means of which a gunner is enabled to aim a cannon at an object not visible to him; **position-light**, a light carried by a ship which is in company with others to indicate its course at night; **position micrometer**: see quot.; †**position poet**, ? a poet who composes short pieces containing definite statements (as in commendation of a person).

1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 170 The angle between the pole projected on the Sun's disc and the north point is what we call the *position angle. 1898 E. A. CAMPBELL (*title*) Lectures on *Position Artillery. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 24 Only the finer class of watches..are as a rule tested for *position errors. Position errors..are often confounded with a want of isochronism. 1888 *Daily News* 16 July 3/3 The sum of 25,000*l.* was paid to Major Watkin for an invention of a *position-finder. 1902 SLOANE *Stand. Electr. Dict.* 428 The Position Finder is a simplification and amplification of the Range Finder. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 6/7 When altering the course of his ship, the *position lights were omitted to be hoisted. 1864 WEBSTER, **Position-micrometer*, a micrometer for measuring angles of position, having a single thread or wire which is carried round the common focus of the object-glass and eye-glass, and in a plane perpendicular to the axis of the telescope. 1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 14 Epitaphers, and *position Poets haue wee more than a good many. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 383 The *position-relation of any two notes forming a given interval is always exactly the same. 1849 OTTÉ tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* II. 597 Nine figures or characters, according to their *position-value, under the name of the system of the abacus.

Hence **Posi·tionless** *a.*, without a position.

1887 W. JAMES in *Mind* XII. 27 Positionless at first, it [a particular kind of feeling] no sooner appears in the midst of a gang of companions than it is found maintaining the strictest position of its own.

Position (pozi·ʃən), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To put or set in a particular or appropriate position; to place.

1817 Col. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 151 Had I..positioned the birds myself, I could not have had a more glorious opportunity. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet Player* 15 *To Position.*—An abbreviation for 'to place in position',..'to place a ball in a proper position to make its next point in order'. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 23 Feb., A brace of submarine guns in the bows..positioned so as to discharge their projectiles at a depth of ten feet below the water line.

b. To determine the position of; to locate.

1881 H. W. NICHOLSON *From Sword to Share* vi. 40 The later geological observation,..positioning the earliest volcanic action, in this group, on the island of Kanai, and the latest on that of Hawaii.

†**2.** *intr.* To take up one's position; to lay down a position or principle. *Obs. rare.*

1678 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries*, etc. (1881) II. 196 Mr Thorp position'd on this thesis. 1703 J. RYTHER *Def. Glorious Gosp.* Pref., He had preached and position'd.

Hence **Posi·tioned** *ppl.a.*, placed, situated; having or occupying a position (social or other); **Posi·tioning** *vbl. sb.*, putting in position; in *Chess*, arrangement of the men in an advantageous position.

1867 F. W. COSENS in *Athenæum* 29 June 846/3 A very rich maiden more highly positioned than himself. 1896 CHESHIRE *Hastings Chess Tourn.* 348 His style of play is firm and tenacious, aiming at accurate positioning and steady crushing rather than at brilliant attacks or rapid finishes.

Positional (pozi·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. POSITION *sb.* + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or determined by position.

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxxiv. K iv, The concourse or meeting of semblable positionall lines. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vii. 102 A strange conceit,..ascribing unto plants positionall operations, and after the manner of the Loadstone. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 157 A Magnet..acquires a new one [Magnetical vigour], according to the positional Laws in its Refrigeration. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 343 A system so constituted that the positional forces are proportional to displacements and the motional to velocities. 1881 R. ELLIS in *Academy* 9 Apr. 256/1 Why has not Mr. Butler..reproduced the Greek metre exactly, or at least with that positional quantity which seems most nearly to approach it? 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways of Lit.* x. 188 The possessive form in 's stands side by side..with the positional possessive,..God's love or the love of God. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Positional co-ordinates* (*Mech.*), quantities, employed to fix a system, occurring explicitly in expressions for kinetic and potential energies.

Positive (pɒ·zitiv), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 4 **positif, -ityue, -etyve**, 4–5 **-itife**, 4–7 **-itiue**, 5 **-ityve, -ytyfe, -atyue**, 6 **-ytive, -etyfe**, 6– **positive** (4–7 **poss-**). [ME. *positif*, a. F. *positif* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) characterized by laying down or by being laid down, ad. L. *positīv-us*, in grammar, positive, f. *posit-us*, pa. pple. of *pōnĕre* to place, put, lay down: see -IVE.]

A. *adj.*

I. Connected with the notion of formal, explicit, or dogmatic laying down of any statement.

1. Formally laid down or imposed; arbitrarily or artificially instituted; proceeding from enactment or custom; conventional; opp. to *natural*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9433 Þe first lagh was kald 'o kind'..Þe toþer has 'positiue' to nam. *Ibid.* 9449 Þe laghes bath he þan for-lete, Bath naturel and positif. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 392 I-bounden oonly by a posityue lawe. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 622/2 All the Lawes of the world..which resteth in thre;..the Lawe of God, Lawe of nature and posityve Lawe. 1594 W. CLERKE *Triall of Bastardie* (title-p.) A Table of the Leuitical, English, and Positiue Canon Catalogues. 1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 3 Habits of the Hand are purely naturall, not positive. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. (1839) 271 Again, of positive laws some are human, some divine; and of human positive laws, some are distributive, some penal. *c* 1760 WARBURTON *Unpubl. Papers* (1841) 273 The question is..whether the observation of the Sabbath was a natural or positive duty? 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 34 In the reign of Queen Anne it [copyright] became the subject of positive regulation. 1883 J. M. LIGHTWOOD (*title*) The Nature of Positive Law. 1902 FAIRBAIRN *Philos. Relig.* III. I. iv. 5 Positive is public law, proclaimed and upheld by some public authority... Founded religions are by the very necessities of their origin positive.

2. Explicitly laid down; expressed without qualification; admitting no question; stated, explicit, express, definite, precise; emphatic; †objectively certain.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 49 It is as possitiue, as the earth is firme, that Falstaffe is there. 1599 — *Hen. V*, IV. ii. 25. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 27 To..give in his positive answer to the following Articles. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. VII. 311 [They] resolv'd in the end upon a positive night, wherein with four Companies of Swisse to surprize him in his own house. *c* 1709 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Hewet* Nov., Positive orders oblige us to go tomorrow. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 437 A positive rotation of crops need not be prescribed in the lease, except to an ignorant peasantry. 1810 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 254 Positive assertion is not always polite. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 7 An express and positive devise cannot be controlled by the reason assigned, nor by inference and argument from the other parts of the will. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. 702 A strong presumption, though it does not reach positive proof.

3. Of persons: Confident in opinion or assertion; convinced, assured, very sure; also, being or expressing oneself over-sure; opinionated, cocksure, dogmatic, dictatorial.

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 105 He is pretty positive that..no rational Account can be given. 1702 POPE *Jan. & May* 144 Each wondrous positive, and wondrous wise. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 14 He is positive as to the being of God. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 146 Where men of judgment creep and feel their way, The positive pronounce without dismay. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. i. 9 *note*, Ussher is positive that the visit occurred. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 265 Nor is Socrates positive of anything but the duty of enquiry. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Clov. Foot* II. i. 16 Are you sure?..Pretty positive.

II. Unqualified, unrelated, absolute.

4. *Gram.* Applied to the primary form of an adjective or adverb, which expresses simple quality, without qualification, comparison, or relation to increase or diminution. (See also B. I.)

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 161 Be twyx them tweyn owyth no more to be Than is be twyn a posatyve and a comparatyve degre. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* B iv, The comparatiue exceedeth the positiue. 1669 MILTON *Grammar* Wks. (1847) 460/2 There be two degrees above the positive word itself, the comparative, and superlative. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Positive* Degree of Comparison in Grammar, is that which signifies the Thing simply and absolutely, without comparing it with others; it belongs only to Adjectives. 1873 MORRIS *Hist. Outl. Eng. Accid.* § 109 There are three degrees of comparison: the positive, *high*; the comparative, *higher*; the superlative, *highest*.

5. Having no relation to or comparison with other things; free from qualifications, conditions, or reservations; absolute, unconditional; opposed to *relative* and *comparative*.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. iii. 70 Patroclus is a foole positiue. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 24 A positiue argument, is that which is attributed simply, and absolutely considered in it selfe: not compared with others. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* i. Wks. 1871 I. 290 You have no idea at all, neither relative nor positive, of Matter. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 92 Such as feed upon raw Flesh are positive in their Ferocity. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Beauty is no positive thing, but depends on the different tastes of the people. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 428 Two hills of slight positive elevation, but which seem of considerable height in the low country.

b. *colloq.* That is absolutely what is expressed by the sb.; nothing less than, downright, 'perfect'; 'out-and-out'.

1802 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 15 Nothing short of a positive miracle can make him an acute reasoner. 1838 GRANVILLE *Spas Germ.* 253 It is impossible for the less bold and the timid..to stem the positive mobs by which the portico and space before the Mühlbrunn are besieged. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* X. x, You are a positive enigma. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 47 The excitement, the positive panic throughout the town, when the news came.

III. Having relation only to matters of fact.

6. Dealing only with matters of fact and experience; practical, realistic; not speculative or theoretical.

Positive philosophy, the philosophic system of Comte: = POSITIVISM 1.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* x. (1596) 140 This selfe difference there is between the Schoole-diuine and the positiue, that the one knoweth the cause of whatsoeuer importeth his faculty; and the other the propositions which are verefied, and no more. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 30 The one addicts himselfe for the most part to the study of the Law and Canons, the other to Positive and Schoole Divinity. 1856 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) II. 26 He [Gibbon] was what common people call a matter-of-fact reader, and philosophers now-a-days a positive reader.

1864 F. B. BARTON in *Soc. Sc. Rev.* Mar. 214 The teachers of the Positive Religion of Humanity hold that all theology has been an attempt of man to explain his relationship to the forces of nature to which he is subjected. 1875 BRIDGES tr. *Comte's Syst. Positive Pol.* I. 39 The charge of Materialism which is often made against Positive philosophy is of more importance.

b. Dealing with facts, apart from any theory; cf. OBJECTIVE *a.* 3 b. *rare.*

1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lxxv. 619 Stating in a purely positive, or, as the Germans say, 'objective', way, what the Americans think about the various features of their system.

c. Of a conjunction: Introducing a subordinate clause which states a matter of fact, not of hypothesis; e.g. he did *as* he was told; he came *because* he was invited.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VIII. 79/2 As to the continuatives, they are either suppositive, such as *if, an*; or positive, such as *because, therefore, as*, &c.

7. Actual, real; sensible, concrete, *rare.*

Positive image = real image: see REAL *a.* 1 e.

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* ii. 18 In concave mirrors there is, in all cases, a positive image of the object formed in front of the mirror, excepting when the object is placed between the principal focus and the mirror. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 262 The skies themselves looked low and positive, As almost you could touch them with a hand. 1897 W. P. KER *Epic & Romance* 9 Its motives of action are mainly positive and sensible,—cattle, sheep, piracy, abduction, merchandise, recovery of stolen goods, revenge.

IV. Having real existence; opposed to *negative*.

8. Consisting in or characterized by the presence or possession, and not merely by the absence or want, of features or qualities; of an affirmative nature. Often opposed to NEGATIVE *a.* 5.

1618 E. ELTON *Exp. Rom. vii* (1622) 456 The corruption of nature..is a positive thing, and hath a real being. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* IV. App. 130 Here all the kings of the Israelites..are strictly bound by God himself to negative and positive conditions. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 68 Ease from misery occasioning for some time the greatest positive enjoyment. 1794 J. HUTTON *Philos. Light*, etc. 134 Cold is an element as positive as heat; for, cold in bodies is the negative of heat, as much as heat is the negative of cold. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 122 The exceptions are forgotten;..it is the character of negative events to lay less firmly hold of the mind than positive ones. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* viii, There are blondes who are such simply by deficiency of coloring matter,—*negative* or *washed* blondes... There are others that are shot through with golden light, with tawny or fulvous tinges in various degree,—*positive* or *stained* blondes, dipped in yellow sunbeams. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vi. 185 Relieved by positive colour.

b. Of a term, etc.: Denoting the presence or possession, as opposed to the absence, of a quality.

1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 2 Terms are either positive or negative. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. i. § 1 (1864) 2 It is desirable to possess, in addition to this negative definition, ..a positive definition, or a specification of the quality or qualities that appertain to the phenomena designated mind. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* ii. 66 Negative forms of speech and thought are continually employed to express positive ideas. 'Discord', 'disunion', 'anarchy', have a very positive meaning.

9. *Alg.* Of a quantity: Greater than zero; additive: the opposite of NEGATIVE *a.* 6. *Positive sign*: the sign +, used to mark a positive quantity.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Positive Quantities* in Algebra, are such as are of a Real and Affirmative Nature, and either have, or are supposed to have the Affirmative or Positive Sign + before them. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 74, λ is any positive whole Number greater than 0. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 167 When a quantity is found without a sign, it is understood to be positive, or have the sign + prefixed. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* i. 2 Cases in which the result of progress has not been positive in adding, but negative in taking away.

b. Hence: Reckoned, situated, or tending in the direction which (naturally or arbitrarily) is taken as that of increase, progress, or onward motion. The opposite of NEGATIVE *a.* 8.

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* I. 24 If the actual rotation of the earth from west to east is taken positive. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 677 Its negative heliotropism

is..only a special case of positive heliotropism. 1893 Sir R. Ball *Story of Sun* 170 The angle between the pole projected on the Sun's disc and the north point..is reckoned as positive if it lies towards the left, that is, to the east.

10. *Electr.* Applied to that form of electricity which is produced by rubbing glass with silk; vitreous: opposed to Negative *a.* 7. (For the reason of this use see quot. 1812.)

1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 322 What they had observed of positive and negative Electricity. 1770 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 197 The result was invariably the same, whether they and the rod were loaded with positive or negative electricity. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 127 The terms negative and positive electricity have been likewise adopted on the idea that the phænomena depend upon a peculiar subtile fluid which becomes in excess in the vitreous and deficient in resinous bodies. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 283/1 It will be easy to observe the analogy between the mutual relations of the two magnetisms [Austral and Boreal], and those of positive with negative electricities. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 3 By an arbitrary convention the electricity excited on glass has been called positive, while that excited on sealing-wax has been called negative. All electrified bodies are either positively or negatively electrified.

fig. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. x, Drudgism the Negative, Dandyism the Positive: one attracts hourly towards it and appropriates all the Positive Electricity of the nation (namely, the Money thereof); the other is equally busy with the Negative (that is to say the Hunger).

b. Of or pertaining to, or characterized by the presence or production of, positive electricity; *spec.* noting that member of a voltaic couple which is most acted upon by the solution, and from which a current of positive electricity proceeds.

1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 191 Oxygen and acids..are naturally negative; hydrogen and inflammable bodies, in general, and alkalies, positive. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 321 Oxygene will separate at the positive surface, and small metallic globules will appear at the negative surface. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 243 If a tourmalin be cut into several parts, each piece will have its positive and negative poles, corresponding to the positive and negative sides of the original stone. 1836-41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 255 The conductor to which the cushion is attached is called the negative conductor; the other collects the electricity of the glass, and is called the positive conductor. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 12 The zinc is named the positive plate or element, the copper the negative plate or element. 1885 Watson & Burbury *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 243 From 284° to 330° iron is positive to copper and negative to lead; above 330° lead is positive to copper and negative to iron. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Dec. 10/2 The bare [rail] running down the centre of the track being the return or negative, and the protected one at the side the 'live' or positive rail.

11. *Magnetism.* Applied to the north-seeking pole of a magnet, and the corresponding (south) pole of the earth, or the direction in which such a pole is impelled by another or by an electric current.

1849 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sc.* XXX. (ed. 8) 351 All the phenomena of magnetism, like those of electricity, may be explained on the hypothesis of one ethereal fluid, which is condensed or redundant in the positive pole. 1873 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) II. 19-20 In speaking of a line of magnetic force we shall always suppose it to be traced from magnetic south to magnetic north, and shall call this direction positive. In the same way..the end of the magnet which points north is reckoned the positive end. We shall consider Austral magnetism, that is, the magnetism of that end of a magnet which points north, as positive.

b. *fig.* (from 10 and 11. Cf. Pole *sb.*2 9.)

1816 Coleridge *Lay Serm.* 331 Of the positive pole, on the other hand, language to the following purport is the usual exponent. 1844 Emerson *Ess., Char.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 383 Everything in nature is bipolar, or has a positive and negative pole.

12. *Optics.* **a.** Of a double-refracting crystal: Having the index of refraction of the extraordinary ray greater than that of the ordinary ray; opposed to Negative *a.* 9 a.

1831 Brewster *Optics* xvii. § 90. 147 In some [crystals] the extraordinary ray is refracted towards the axis..while in others it is refracted from the axis. In the first case the axis is called a positive axis of double refraction. *Ibid.* xxii. 196 The positive crystals, such as zircon, ice, etc. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sc.* I. 79/2 Of some bodies possessing positive axes, we may mention quartz, ice, &c.; whilst Iceland spar,..prussiate of potass, &c., have negative axes.

b. *Positive eyepiece*: an eyepiece consisting of two plano-convex lenses having their convex sides facing each other, in which the object is viewed beyond both lenses. Cf. Negative *a.* 9 b.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s. v. *Telescope*, The two lenses are usually plano-convex, with the convex faces towards the object-glass...This eye-piece is usually called the negative eye-piece, from its having the image seen by the eye behind the field-glass [i. e. between the field-glass and the eye-glass]; ..Another modification..is called the positive eye-piece, because the image observed is before both lenses [i. e. between the field-glass and the object-glass]. 1867 Hogg *Microsc.* I. ii. 51 The positive eye-piece gives the best view of the micrometer.

c. Said of a visual image of the same colour or luminosity as the original sense-impression.

1899 L. Hill *Man. Hum. Physiol.* XXXV. 439 On waking in the morning in a dark room strike a match, and immediately blow it out; a positive after-image of the light persists for a moment and then gradually dies away.

13. *Photogr.* Showing the lights and shades as seen in nature. Opposed to Negative *a.* 10.

1840 Sir J. Herschel in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 206 In order to avoid circumlocution the author employs the terms *positive* and *negative* to express respectively pictures in which the lights and shades are the same as in nature..and in which they are opposite; that is, light representing shade, and shade light. 1841 Fox Talbot *Specif. of Patent* No. 8842 The portrait..is a negative one, and from this a positive copy may be obtained. 1859 Gullick & Timbs *Paint.* 119 The artist works upon a very faint positive 'impression', ..and entirely covers it with body colour, or equally opaque coloured crayons, with the express intention of concealing the tone of the photograph. 1881 Lubbock in *Nature* 1 Sept. 410/2 He..by obtaining a negative rendered it possible to take off any number of positive, or natural, copies from one original picture.

V. Adapted to be placed or set down (literally).

14. *Positive organ*: a small organ, orig. app. portable, but placed upon a stand when played (as distinct from a *portative* organ, which could be played while being carried in procession); often used formerly as an addition to the large organ in a church (the same as *chair organ* or Choir organ in its early form), and recently revived in some churches.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Organ*, Church organs consist of two parts, viz. the main body of the organ, called the great organ; and the positive, or little organ, which is a small buffet, usually placed before the great organ. 1879 Stainer *Music of Bible* 156 The positive organ in our churches and halls, and the portative barrel-organ. 1900 *Oxford Times* 26 May 7/6 Wytham. All Saints' Church. Opening of new 'positive' organ. 1905 *Athenæum* 8 July 56/1 (Church Hist. Exhib. St. Albans) The Positive organ here shown has four stops, and is *circa* 1600; this was a larger instrument, and was placed on a stand during use, but it could be moved about when required.

B. *sb.* (absol. or ellipt. use of the adj.)

1. *Gram.* The positive degree (see A. 4); an adjective or adverb in the positive degree.

1530 Palsgr. Introd. 28 We..forme our comparatives and superlatyves out of our posytives. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 30 The positive is the first position of the noun; as, soft, hard. 1755 Johnson *Dict., Gram.*, Of adjectives...The termination in *ish* may be accounted in some sort a degree of comparison, by which the signification is diminished below the positive, as *black, blackish*. 1876 Mason *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 21) § 108 Some adjectives which are comparatives in origin are now used as positives.

2. That which has an actual existence, or is capable of being affirmed; a reality.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 93 Here is not one positiue, or being opposed to another contrarie positiue, or being,.. but the affirmation, position, being thereof, is opposed to negation, deposition, annihilation, not being thereof. 1641 R. Brooke *Eng. Episc.* I. v. 21 White and Blacke indeed are Both positives, but so is not Evill. 1878 C. J. Vaughan *Earnest Words* 145 If these are not mere names and ideas, but realities, and facts, and positives.

†**3.** That which arbitrarily or absolutely prescribes or determines. *Obs.*

1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Rom. vii. 8 A great number of Legal Positives and Ceremonials had never obliged me. 1732 Waterland *Script. Vind.* III. 37 Positives.., while under Precept, cannot be slighted without slighting Morals also.

4. Elliptically or contextually for *positive quantity* (see A. 9); *positive conjunction* (see A. 6 c); *positive plate, metal*, etc. (see A. 10 b); *positive organ* (see A. 14); *positive colour* (see A. 8); etc.

1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 35 To Connect a Negative and a Positive, is to make the one destroy the other. [1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Positive*, in music, denotes the little organ usually behind, or at the foot of the organist, played with the same wind.] 1751 Harris *Hermes* II. ii. (1765) 244 The Suppositives denote Connection, but assert not actual Existence; the Positives imply both the one and the other. 1881 Spottiswoode in *Nature* 6 Oct. 549/2 The carbon which would be connected with the copper element of a Grove battery,..and which is called the positive, is the one more rapidly consumed. 1885 A. J. Hipkins in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 303/2 The organs are Orgel (with 3 divisions of pipes), Positive (a chamber organ), Regale (a reed organ), and Portative (pipe regal). 1899 *Daily News* 7 Feb. 6/3 The picture is light in key, but though devoid of positives, save in the faint blue background, it is not really colourless.

5. *Photogr.* A picture in which the lights and shadows are the same as in nature: opposed to Negative *sb.* 8.

1853 *Fam. Herald* 3 Dec. 510/2 To obtain from those pictures good prints or positives. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 188 Collodion Positives are sometimes termed *direct*, because obtained by a single operation.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Po'sitive** *v.*, (*a*) *trans.* to affirm positively, assert; (*b*) to produce a positive picture of; **Positi'val** *a.*, see quot.; **Po'sitivize** *v. trans.*, to render positive or real.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 43, I may safely positive it, and say, that neither his Highness..nor the Parliament..might part with their Powers. 1894 Sala *London up to Date* ii. 17 Being focussed, negatived, and positived in that apparel. 1865 J. Grote *Moral Ideals* (1876) 13 For contrast to *ideal* in its adjective sense, I shall sometimes use the word *positival*. *Ibid.* 93 The notion of the summum bonum was very early de-idealized or positivized, and it was considered that nothing could..be considered to answer to this description except tangible, measurable, describable pleasure.

Positively (pɒ'zitivli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a positive manner.

1. Definitely, expressly, explicitly, directly, downright; with assurance or confident assertion.

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 83 b, I positiuely affirme it [the Plague] is for sinne. 1642 Howell *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 49 Some of the approvedst Antiquaries positively hold the Originall Language of the Celts..to be Welsh. 1699 Bentley *Phal.* 90, I do not pretend to pass my own Judgment, or to determin positively on either side. 1730 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 121 You would not so positively affirm this fact..without knowing the certain truth. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 139 Had he positively contradicted my assertion, I could have answered and confuted him in one word. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 53 A large body of Protestants..regarded prelacy as positively unlawful.

2. Not comparatively or relatively; absolutely, simply; in itself.

1597 Bacon *Coulers Good & Evill* vi. Ess. (Arb.) 146 The good or euil..may be esteemed good or euil comparatiuely and not positiuely or simply. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 220 The original town occupied the end of a positively small, but in that flat region, considerable, ridge of higher ground overlooking the river at its feet.

3. In an affirmative, real, or actual manner; in relation to what is, as distinguished from what is not; actually; opposed to *negatively*.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 309 Prepositions .. signifying some respect of Cause, Place, Time, or other circumstance either Positively or Privatively. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 116 They are rather not civil than positively incivil. 1776 Paine *Com. Sense* (1791) 5 Society is produced by our wants, and government by our wickedness; the former promotes our happiness positively, by uniting our affections; the latter negatively, by restraining our vices.

4. a. *Electr.* With positive electricity.

1747 Franklin *Lett.*, etc. Wks. 1840 V. 186 Hence have arisen some new terms among us; we say B (and bodies like circumstanced) is electrized *positively*; A, *negatively*. Or rather, B is electrized *plus*; A, *minus*. 1770 Priestley in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 197 The result was invariably the same..whether the jar was charged positively or negatively. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Electric.* ii. § 49. 13 (U. K. Soc.) Whenever they [bodies] contain a quantity of fluid greater than this, they are said to be positively electrified, or to have positive electricity. 1873 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* I. 46 A positively electrified surface.

b. In the direction taken as positive or primary.

1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 677 In the ivy..the internodes are positively heliotropic when young, but negatively when old before growth ceases. *Ibid.* [see Heliotropic].

5. Absolutely, actually, really; indeed, in truth, truly. (Qualifying the statement.)

17.. Sheridan *Sch. Scand.* I. i, So, Maria, you see your lover pursues you; positively you sha'n't escape. 1823 Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 51 This edition has undergone positively the last revisal. 1859 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) III. 2 Positively, it took away my breath. 1886 W. J. Tucker *E. Europe* 159 His Excellency positively hates the sight of him.

Positiveness (pɒ'zitivnės). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being positive.

†**1.** Reality of existence; actuality, affirmative nature. *Obs.*

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. i. § 3. 28 Positiveness, Thesis. 1678 Norris *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 302 The Positiveness of Sins of Omission, is in the Habitude of the Will only.

2. Subjective certainty; confidence, assurance; expression of assuredness; dogmatism, obstinacy.

1679 Dryden *Troilus & Cress.* Ep. Ded., He was brave without Vanity, and knowing without Positiveness. 1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 76 Positiveness without Proof is Intolerable. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* I. iv. (1849) 58 Authors who, from the positiveness of their assertions, seem to have been eye-witnesses of the fact. 1885 Ranney in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 640/1 The function of these..fibres is not yet determined with positiveness.

b. Definiteness, directness, peremptoriness.

1736 Carté *Ormonde* II. 289 If upon the literal positiveness of the King's directions we had immediately transmitted them to the commissioners.

Positivism (pɒ'zitiviz'm). [ad. F. *positivisme* (Comte), f. *positif, -ive*, Positive: see -ism; *la philosophie positive* being Comte's name for his system.

La philosophie positive occurs first in St. Simon *Introd. aux Trav. Scientif.*, Œuvres I. 198. Comte's *Philosophie positive* vol. I was published in 1830.]

1. A system of philosophy elaborated by Auguste Comte from 1830 onwards, which recognizes only positive facts and observable phenomena, with the objective relations of these and the laws that determine them, abandoning all inquiry into causes or ultimate origins, as belonging to the theological and metaphysical stages of thought, held to be now superseded; also a religious system founded upon this philosophy, in which the object of worship is Humanity considered as a single corporate being.

1854 Brimley *Ess., Comte's Positive Philos.* 330 We are obliged to conclude, then, that positivism in M. Comte's hands, while pretending to take upon itself the regulation of human conduct, fails to furnish a guiding principle for either individuals or societies. 1865 (*title*) A General view of Positivism. Translated from the French of Auguste Comte, by J. H. Bridges. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 21 Such deification of mortals..is the avowed religion of positivism. [1868 (Nov. 8) Huxley *Phys. Basis Life* Lay Serm. (1883) 140 In fact M. Comte's philosophy in practice might be compendiously described as Catholicism *minus* Christianity.' [Often referred to as 'Huxley's well-known description' or 'definition of Positivism'.] 1875 Bridges tr. *Comte's Syst. Positive Polity* I. 264 In the conception of Humanity the three essential aspects of Positivism, its subjective principle, its objective dogma, and its practical object, are united. 1892 *Monist* II. 261 Positivism i. e. the representation of facts without any admixture of theory or mythology, is an ideal which in its purity perhaps will never be realised.

2. a. Definiteness, peremptoriness. **b.** Certainty, assurance: = POSITIVENESS 2.

1854 GEO. ELIOT *Feuerbach's Essence Chr.* (1881) 32 Israel is the most complete presentation of Positivism in religion. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 150 The metaphysicians can never rest till they have taken their watch to pieces and have arrived at a happy positivism as to its structure, though at the risk of bringing it to a no-go. 1874 P. SMYTH *Our Iuher.* v. xxi. 415 The Doctor .. adopts that with positivism. 1894 E. H. BARKER *Two Summers in Guyenne* 404 The decision and positivism of the Roman character.

Positivist (pɒ·zitivist). [ad. F. *positiviste*, f. as prec.: see -IST.] An adherent or supporter of POSITIVISM; a Comtist.

1854 BRIMLEY *Ess., Comte's Positive Philos.* 324 A positivist would answer..that conscious ignorance is better than chimerical fancies, which not only themselves mislead, but prevent the growth of true doctrine. 1868 *Sat. Rev.* 25 Apr. 541/2 Christians and Positivists are agreed in acknowledging the higher virtues of self-sacrifice.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1858 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVI. 440 The smallest vestry .. would be quite sufficient to hold all the Positivist worshippers in the largest county of England. 1880 *Chr. World* 8 Jan. 25/1 The Positivist creed, stated in its best form, is that man's chief end is to glorify man and to enjoy himself now. 1889 HUXLEY in *19th Cent.* Feb. 191 The incongruous mixture of bad science with eviscerated papistry, out of which Comte manufactured the Positivist religion. 1900 W. L. COURTNEY *Idea of Trag.* 61 Auguste Comte, the Positivist philosopher, added to the list of sciences the most modern of all—sociology.

Positivistic (pɒzitivi·stik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] **1.** Of or pertaining to positivists; of the nature of positivism.

1875 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 280 A positivistic, yet anti-Comtian spirit. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 421 Roberty is professedly a naturalistic, or positivistic, sociologist.

2. Characterized by positiveness. *rare.*

1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 36 There was abundance of pretty red herrings here to draw themselves across the trail of a direct and positivistic pursuit of the real game.

Positivity (pɒziti·vĭti). [f. POSITIVE + -ITY, cf. F. *positivité, -eté.*] The quality, character, or fact of being POSITIVE in various senses; positiveness.

1659 H. HICKMAN (*title*) A Justification of the Fathers and Schoolmen: Shewing That they are not Selfe-condemned for denying the Positivity of Sin. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 8 We grant .. that sin is not a mere nothing, but has some kind of logic positivitie or notional entitie, so far as to render it capable of being the terme of a proposition. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* (1801) 75 Courage and positivity are never more necessary than on such an occasion. 1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 737 The most positive man I ever met with... There is positivity in his dark face, large eyebrows, stern features. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Positivity*, term for the state of a body which manifests the phænomena of positive electricity. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* 219 That truly free and adequate positivity which accepts all things as parts of a natural or historic order.

†**b.** A positive or real thing as opposed to a mere negation; an actuality. *Obs. rare.*

1681 *Relig. Clerici* 36 That Immaterial, Infinite and the like, were negatives indeed in words,..but properly and in themselves they were absolute positivities.

Positor (pɒ·zitəɹ). [a. L. *positor* one who places, agent-n. from *pōnĕre, posit-um* to place.]

†**1.** ? An examiner: = POSER[1] 1. *Obs.*

1557 *Baxter-bks. St. Andrews* (1903) 10 James hay.. examinyt be dauid mylis positor, thomas steyne [etc.].

†**2.** One who gives security for another. *Obs. rare.*

1584 J. NEWBERY *Let. from Goa* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 211 Both the money and goods should be deliuered into the positors hands.

†**3.** One who posits, maintains, or affirms. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Positore*, a positor, an affirmer.

4. *Med.* (See quot.) Also called *repositor.*

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Uterine positor*, instrument used to correct displacement of the uterus. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Positum** (pɒ·zitŏm). [L., pa. pple. of *pōnĕre* to place, put, lay. In med. Logic, that which is laid down as a basis for reasoning, the thing supposed, assumed, or taken for granted.] The thing laid down. *lit.* or *fig.*

1730 FIELDING *Temple Beau* v. xiv, *Young P.*..Suppose the *I'ositum* be—The woman is but half a-sleep; will it follow, *Ergo*, she is awake? *Sir Av.* The *Positum* is £20,000—ergo—I will swear any thing.

†**Po·sture.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *posture* (1547 in Godef.) ad. L. *positūra* position, posture, f. *pōnere, posit-* to place: cf. also POSTURE.]

1. The fact of being placed; placing, position, or situation.; place, locality.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXV. xxviii. 904 To view and consider the situation and positure of the place on all sides. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* IV. xxiii. (1620) 173 A temple that should haue excelled all the rest in height of positure and magnificence of fabricke. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 177 A station of very uncertain positure. 1683 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xxxii. 288 Area equal to the others, and of the like positure with the others.

2. = POSTURE *sb.* 1.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 16. 451 Idols,..in such habit and positure as if they were fighting. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1655) 63 The positure of the cherubims was such that their faces were each towards the other. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 122 Supposing every Body to have a Figure or Positure of its own, out of which it may be disturbed by External Force. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Positure*, Disposition, as The Positure of the Soul.

b. *Astrol.* Relative position (of the planets, etc.).

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 116 Hee attributeth all to the climate, and positure of the heavens. 1616-61 HOLYDAY *Persius* 331 The astrologers observe in that point the positure of the cœlestial constellations, that is the state of the planets amongst themselves, as also the fixed stars. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* IV. i, Ere The scheme, and most auspicious positure Parts o'er my head.

3. A law, or principle laid down; = POSITION *sb.* 2. *rare.*

1624 J. HEWES *Surv. Eng. Tongue* A iv, The Rules and Positures of Grammar. *Ibid.* B j, The chiefe end of our Rules and Positures.

Posnet (pɒ·snĕt). Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 4 posti-, possy-, 4-5 poste-, 4-6 posse-, 5 poscenet, 4-6 posnette, 5-6 pos(s)enett, postnet, 5-7 possnet, posnett, 7 posnit, poss-, postnett; 4- posnet. [ME. *possenet* a. OF. *poçonnet, pocenet*, dim. of *poçon* pot, vase, cup. Hence W. *posnedd.*] A small metal pot or vessel for boiling, having a handle and three feet.

1327 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 114, j postinet pro hostill. 1330 *Acc. Exch. K. R.* 24/18 Item vn possenet qe poise x. li. merche de mesme la merche. 1353 *Will John de Penreth* in *Test. Karleol.* 2 Cum una olla enea et parvam posnet. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xxxv. 13 Forsothe pesible hoostis thei seetheden in posnettis, and cawdrones, and pottis. ?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1791) 14 Do the flesh therwith in a possynet, and styre it. 1410 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 17 Also a postnet þat y lent hym. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 10 Welle alle togedur in a posnet; In service forthe þou schalt hit sett. 1442 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 178 Unum poscenet, pretii xvj d. 1459-60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89 Item iij possenettez et iij Chawfers, etc. 1612 in *Antiquary* Jan. (1906) 28 In the Kytchin..sixe brasse potts, eighte kettles, four postnetts. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1669) 136 In a Possnet set it upon a clear lighted Char-coal-fire. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 245 ¶ 2 A Silver Posnet to butter Eggs. 1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorks. Dial.*, Set the posnet on to boil the potatoes. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 345/2 The great number of pewter plates,..teapots, posnets and porringers still found in old homes in New England.

Posolo·gic, *a. rare*—°. = next.

1864 WEBSTER, *Posologic*, pertaining to posology.

Posological (pɒsŏlɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* [f. F. *posologique* (in medical sense) (see POSOLOGY) + -AL.] Pertaining to posology (in either sense).

1. *Med.* Pertaining to quantities or doses of drugs.

1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 278 The Editor has..given a copious index, a reference to the cases, a posological table, and other helps. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 110 It must be given in larger doses than the posological tables authorize.

2. (In Bentham's use.) Pertaining to the science of quantity; mathematical.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 85 Division of Somatics into Posological (Pososcopic) Somatics, and Poiological (Poioscopic) Somatics. 1831 — *Memorandum-Bk.* ibid. XI. 72 Abstraction is—1. Posological: 2. Logical.

Posologist (pɒsɒ·lŏdʒist). *nonce-wd.* [f. next: see -IST.] One who compounds doses.

1831 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 568 Subtle compounder, fraudulent posologist, did not you order me a drachm of this medicine?

Posology (pɒsɒ·lŏdʒi). [ad. F. *posologie* (in medical sense), f. Gr. *πόσος* how much + -LOGY.]

1. That department of medicine which relates to the quantities or doses in which drugs should be administered.

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict., Posology*, that part of the art of medicine which teaches the right administration of doses. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 57 Index and Posology.

2. Used by Bentham for the science of quantity, i. e. mathematics.

1811-31 BENTHAM *Logic* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 287/2 By the Greek-sprung word *posology*, the science of quantity, may, it is believed, and if so, now for the first time, not inappositely be distinguished. 1816—*Chrestomathia*, ibid. VIII. 85 For an equivalent to Posological Somatics, may be employed the single-worded appellative Posology. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 22 June 645 We hope that the distinguished editors..will not attempt..to substitute in their respective universities this meagre Posology for the somewhat undefined, but less empty abstractions which have hitherto passed under the name of Logic.

‖ **Pospolite** (pɒspɒ·lite). [Polish *pospo·lite* adj. neuter, 'general, universal', as sb. = *pospolite ruszenie* general levy.] The Polish militia, consisting of the nobility and gentry summoned to serve for a limited time.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3333/2 That the King should call together the *Pospolite* that is, all the Gentry of the Kingdom. 1763 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 46/1 Their military force consists chiefly, in the *Pospolite*, that is, the whole body of the gentry. 1822 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVII. 493 They continued..to regard the *Pospolite*..as the impenetrable bulwark of the Commonwealth. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 58 But this unwieldy *pospolite* was far from meeting David's secret anxieties.

Poss (pɒs), *v.* Now only *dial.* [Origin uncertain.

Possibly identical with **puss*, pa.t. *puste* (a. F. *pousser* to PUSH) which appears *c* 1300; the later form *push* appears rarely in 15th c., but is common after 1525. The form *posshen* in Langland may be either *push* or *poss*; but the vowel-change of *u* to *o* is not easily explained. The senses also coincide only partially with those of *push*; and, in sense 3, *poss* has much of the aspect of an onomatopœic formation. Perhaps it was an onomatopœic modification of the French vb.]

1. *trans.* To drive or thrust with a forcible or violent impact; to dash or toss with a blow or stroke; to knock: often expressing the action of waves on a boat, etc. Also *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 415 Pus possed to and fro. Al sterles with-Inne a bot am I Middis the see, bytwixe wyndis too. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 151 A cat..pleyde wiþ hem periously and possed hem aboute. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2420 (*Phillis*) The se..possith hym now vp now doun. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4479 Thus am I possed up and doun With dool, thought, and confusioun. *c* 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 236 And thus, betwixe twayne, I possed am, and all forcast in payne. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. ix. (1869) 181 In my bal day and niht I haue more ioye þan in al my fader tauhte me..; I posse it, j bandele it, j pleye þer with. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 203 Chorineus ..Syne with hys kne him possit with sic ane plat, That on the erd he spaldit him all flat. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v., 'Aw poss'd him ower heed'.

†**b.** To push, shove, move by pressure. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/2 Posson, or schowe forthe (*K.* pocyn, *P.* pressyn, or showen), *pello.* Posson, presson, or schowe togedur, *trudo.*

2. *absol.* or *intr.* To thrust, to drive; to thrust or push *at* something with a weapon.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1011 (Camb. MS.) Þe se bigan to posse Riȝt in to Westernesse. *c* 1400 *Langland's P. Pl.* A. VII. 96 Mi plouh-pote schal be my pyk and posshen [*v. r.* to posse] atte Rootes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xii. 116 Possand at hym wyth his stalwart speyr.

3. *trans.* To pound, beat down flat, squash; *spec.* to beat or stamp (clothes, etc.) in water with a heavy pestle-like instrument, or to trample or stamp them with the feet, in the process of washing.

1611 COTGR., *Mettre à la flac*, to..squash, clap, or posse downe. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1668) 138 Take it forth, posse it, rinse it, and hang it up. 1677 THORESBY *Corr.* (ed. Hunter) II. 433 Nasty women possing clothes with their feet. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* (1829) s. v., To 'poss clothes' in what is called a Poss-tub. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Poss*, to dash, to shake anything violently in the water.

†**4.** *intr.* To splash, or tramp with splashing, in wet mud or water. *Obs.*

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. iv, To dyg and delue in water, myre and claye, Sossing and possing in the durte. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 306 This it is to posse in puddles.

Hence (*dial.*) **Poss** *sb.*[1], an act of 'possing', a thrust or knock; *comb.* **poss-kit, poss-tub,** a large tub in which clothes are 'possed' with a **poss-stick** in washing. **Po·ssing** *vbl. sb.*, also attrib. *possing-tub.*

1611 COTGR., *Culassé*,..that hath receiued an arse-posse, or fall on the arse. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 432 The good old fashion..When double-girded 'possing tubs' were made. 1825 Poss-tub [see 3]. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Poss-kit*, a large tub or barrel in which linen is 'possed' in hot water. The operation of possing..is performed by means of a staff with a thick knob at the immersed end, and a cross piece for a handle at the top. 1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorksh. Dial.*, Give the linen a good poss in the peggy tub. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 1/3 That her intelligence would have soared far beyond the pounding of dirty linen in 'poss' tubs.

†**Poss,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1].

[? = post: cf. POST *sb.*[1] 1 quot. 1340; or ? = POSSE.]

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* I. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 419/1 With staves and crosses, With pillers and posses, With standers and banners, Without good life or manners.

Possable, obs. Sc. form of POSSIBLE.

Posse (pɒ·si). Also 8 possee. [a. L. *posse* to be able, have power, avail, in med.L. as sb., power, armed force (1246 in Du Cange); in scholastic terminology, potentiality, capability of being. In sense 1 short for POSSE COMITATUS.]

I. 1. *Law.* = POSSE COMITATUS.

[1314-15 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 327/1 Mandetur Majori et Balliuis [Oxonie] quod insequantur cum toto posse suo transgressores.] 1691 *New Discov. Old Intreague* vi, Who early for the Princes Cause began: The *Posse* rais'd. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 281 When Mrs. Ursula was gone down in order to raise the *Possee*, if there should be occasion. 1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 108 The polite New-Yorkers..sent the posse of Albany to eject the possessors. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 11/1 A pitched battle was fought..at Rockhill, Missouri, between the Sheriff's posse and the miners on strike.

b. A force armed with legal authority; a body (of constables).

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 483 They need not have sent an armed *Posse* for me. 1753 *Scots Mag.* June 305/2 A posse of constables..appeared. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* iii. 93 A posse of Marine Police Officers receiving information...On attempting a search [etc.]. 1884 *Graphic* 11 Oct. 371/1 An extra posse of policemen.

c. *transf.* A 'force', a strong band, company, or assemblage (of persons, animals, or things).

1645 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad T.* (1841) 13 All the *posse* of hell cannot violently eject me. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1166 No longer able To raise your Posse of the Rabble. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 85 Then you have raised the whole posse of mechanism. 1728 SWIFT *Let. Publisher Dublin Wkly. Jrnl.* 14 Sept., With these two single considerations I outbalanced the whole posse of articles that weighed just now against me. 1841 MISS SEDGWICK *Lett. Abr.* II. 71 Found her flying from a posse of cock-turkeys. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* vii, I ran ..and beheld a posse of silent people escorting a cart.

II. From use in scholastic Latin.

‖ **2.** The fact or state of being possible; possibility, potentiality (opposed to *esse*): esp. in phr. *in posse* opposed to *in esse.*

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 229 She which is vicious in her youth may be vertuous in her age: I graunt indeede it may be, but it is hard to bring the *posse* into *esse*. 1592 — *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 44 To strippe him of all that his purse had in Esse, or his credyt in Posse. 1659 BAXTER *Key Cath.* xxxix. 282 If the question [of sin] be only of the posse, and not of the act. 1756 GRAY *Lett.* Wks. 1825 II. 193 You are not however to imagine that my illness is *in esse*; no, it is only *in posse*. 1877 READE *Woman Hater* v, They existed, as the schoolmen used to say, *in posse*, but not *in esse*.

‖ **Posse comitatus** (pǫ·si kǫmitā·tŭs, -tius). [med. (Anglo) L., force of the county: see prec. and COUNTY.] 'The force of the county'; the body of men above the age of fifteen in a county (exclusive of peers, clergymen, and infirm persons), whom the sheriff may summon or 'raise' to repress a riot or for other purposes; also, a body of men actually so raised and commanded by the sheriff. (Also abbreviated to *posse*: see prec. 1).

[1285 *2nd Stat. Westminster* c. 39 Assumpto secum posse comitatus sui est [vicecomes] in propria persona.] *a* 1626 BACON (J.), The posse comitatus, the power of the whole county, is legally committed unto him. 1628 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 453 The high sheriff of Dorsetshire had order to raise *possé comitatus*, to attack those unfencers of Gillingham forest. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ix. 343 For keeping the peace and pursuing felons, he may command all the people of his county to attend him; which is called the *posse comitatus*, or power of the county. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Grey Dolphin*, Sheriff..of Kent ..with his posse comitatus.

b. *transf.* = POSSE 1 c.

1819 BYRON *Juan* I. clxiv, With him retired his *posse comitatus*. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* x. 160 On a house-top were a bevy of nut-brown maids, who .. had forgotten to veil their faces. They were consequently pelted with stones by some of the *posse comitatus*, and retired in confusion.

† **Posse'de,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 poosseede, 6 possed, posseade, 6-7 *Sc.* posseid. [= F. *posséder* to possess; but this form of the Fr. vb. is not cited before the 16th c., the 15th c. form being *possider*, ad. L. *possidēre*.] = POSSESS *v.* 1, 2, 5.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 2841 In pese & in pacience possede at he might. 1426 LYDG. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 132 Septure and crowne that he may in dede, As he hath right, in peas to possede. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 244 Tresours of fayrye which she doth poosseede. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* (1899) 41 The vertues [powers] which he posseded in his yong age. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) K v, He that loves not him selfe dothe posseade no goode. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 70 Reid how þai forcitt the Britonis folk to flitt, And ȝitt posseidis that peoples proprietie. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* iii. (1642) 203 That God transport him beyond his assise, and wholly possede him.

Possedie, *Sc. Obs.*: see POWSOWDY.

Possess (pǫze's), *v.* [a. OF. *possess-ier, -er* (1269 in Godef.) f. L. *possess-*, ppl. stem of *possidēre* to possess, perh. through influence of F. *possesseur* POSSESSOR, etc., the regular OF. repr. of *possidēre* being *posseer, -eir, -eoir*.]

I. Radical senses.

†1. *trans.* Of a person or body of persons: To hold, occupy (a place or territory); to reside or be stationed in; to inhabit (with or without ownership). *Obs.* (or merged in 2).

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431 b/2 How now..we possessen pesably our royame without ony werre. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xxiv. 4, I gaue .. Esau mount Seir to possesse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 47 b, Colledges .. were fyrst founded for the pore, but now for the most part they possesse them, which have enough besides. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 431 Dominion giv'n Over all other Creatures that possesse Earth, Aire, and Sea. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 2 The City of Destruction, a populous place, but possessed with a very ill conditioned, and idle sort of People. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 6 ¶ 3 The whole shire is now possessed by gentlemen, who owe Sir Harry a part of Education.

absol. or *intr.* 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. v. 48 Let instructions enter Where Folly now possesses.

† b. Of a thing: To occupy, take up (a space or region); to be situated at, on, or in. *Obs.* (exc. with mixture of other senses).

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xiii. 159 The waves of the South sea, runne 30 leagues, and the other 70 are possessed with the billowes and waves of the North sea. *c* 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 22 The acute [accent] .. may possesse the last syllab: ..the penult: ..the antepenult; ..and the fourth also from the end. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 205 The Addition of four Foot will be filled up and possessed by the Walls and Clay-work. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sc.* v. 22 The Solar System, in which you see the Sun possesses nearly the central Point. [1850 ROSSETTI *Blessed Damozel* xi, When those bells Possessed the mid-day air.]

† c. Of a disease, etc.: To affect, infect. *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 90 If the palsie possesse the opposite part. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Achor*, a disease possessing the hairy scalp. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 266 An error..which has possess'd the Copies of this Play.

† d. To take up the attention or thoughts of; to occupy, engross. *Obs.*

1653 WALTON *Angler* vi. 134 To enjoy the former pleasures that there possest him. 1692 LOCKE *Toleration* iv. Wks. 1727 III. 464 Affairs of State which wholly possess them when grown up. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. i. 8 The.. innocent amusements ..which before entirely possessed me, were nothing to me.

2. To hold as property; to have belonging to one, as wealth or material objects; to own.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xi. 34 Thocht all this warld thow did posseid, Nocht eftir death thow sall possess. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 15 For no mannes life stondeth in the haboundaunce of the thynges which he possesseth. 1685 LADY RUSSELL *Lett.* (1819) I. 68, I was too rich in possessions whilst I possessed him. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. i. iv. 102 It is .. 'consistent with the will of God', or 'right', that I should possess that share which these regulations assign me. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. ii. 187 He could not give to others what he did not himself possess.

b. *Law.* To have possession of, as distinct from ownership; see POSSESSION 1 b.

1888 POLLOCK & WRIGHT *Possession in Com. Law* 2 The person entitled to possess is generally (though not always) the owner.

c. To have as a faculty, adjunct, attribute, quality, condition, etc. (Often meaning no more than the simple *have*.)

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 115 The residue of my lyfe will I lead in Rhodes, where I may possesse peace and quietnes. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 40 The Quarries possess more Stone, and the Woods more Timber than a Banquet Room. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* III. I. (1765) 134 No Animal possesses its Faculties in vain. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXV. III. 367 Notwithstanding the ample means of information which they possest, great ignorance and many erroneous opinions prevailed. 1840 H. AINSWORTH *Tower of London* (1864) 235 'His folly has destroyed the fairest chance that ever man possessed', observed the bishop. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vi. 46 The former may possess many times the intensity of the latter. 1889 *Times* 27 Sept. 5/4 An elaborate hidated survey, which possesses a peculiar value from its reference to the Domesday survey.

d. *fig.* in emphatic sense.

1685–6 LADY RUSSELL *Lett.* (1819) I. 81 My weakness is invincible, which makes me, as you phrase it, ..possess past calamities. 1852 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xviii. 236 The writhings of a heart that has been made to possess its own iniquities.

e. (after F. *posséder*.) To have knowledge of or acquaintance with; to be master of, or conversant with (a language, etc.). [Cf. quot. 1674 s.v. POSSESSOR c.]

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. iii, Harry..possessed the two languages of French and English very well. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* i. 45 Every critic should try and possess one great literature, at least, besides his own.

3. To take possession of, seize, take; to come into possession of, obtain, gain, win. *arch.*

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxi. 19 With your pacience possesse your soules [1611 BIBLE *ibid.*, In your patience possesse ye your soules. 1382 WYCLIF, ȝe schulen welde ȝoure soulis. 1881 *R. V.* ye shall win your souls]. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 45 A company of rats vpon a sudden possest his house. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 51 How to effect so hard an enterprize, And to possesse the purpose they desird. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 100 There thou maist braine him, Hauing first seiz'd his Bookes. ..Remember First to possesse his Bookes. 1649 CROMWELL in Carlyle *Lett. & Sp.* (1871) II. 227 Upon Thursday the One-and-thirtieth, I possessed a Castle called Kilkenny. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 165 Turning down a narrow lane .. in order to possess a pig's stye, that we might take the gallows in flank. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 118 The strong brute forces .. leap on him, and seize him and possess His life.

4. To keep, maintain (oneself, one's mind or soul) *in* a state or condition (of patience, quiet, etc.); often in allusion to Luke xxi. 19 (the proper sense being misunderstood: see quot. 1526 in 3). Also (without *in*), to maintain control over, to keep calm or steady (cf. *self-possessed, self-possession*).

1643 EVELYN *Mem.* 2 May, Resolving to possess myselfe in some quiet, .. I built .. a study, .. at Wotton. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 27 All Christians .. are obliged to passiue obedience, to possess their souls in patience. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 137 ¶ 1 Uneasy Persons, who cannot possess their own Minds. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1775) II. 168 A man who does not possess himself enough to bear disagreeable things, without visible marks of anger..is at the mercy of every artful knave. 1890 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Chamb. Jrnl.* 4 Oct. 625/1 Every man worthy of the name of man should know how to possess his soul—bearing with patience those things which energy cannot change.

5. Of a demon or spirit (usually evil): To occupy and dominate, control, or actuate.

1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* i. 23 The Hogges without leaue [of God the Father]..he coulde not possesse. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 95 If all the diuels of hell be drawne in little, and Legion himselfe possest him, yet Ile speake to him. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 181 Some are of Opinion that Abel slew the very same Serpent the Devil had formerly possessed. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. ix. 113 The spirit which possessed him must be, they thought, divine. 1902 W. AXON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit.* Ser. II. XXIII. 99 Belfagor undertook to possess a rich lady, and not to be exorcised, save by Matteo.

b. *pass.* (usually const. *with*, in mod. use also *by*, formerly *of*). See also POSSESSED 2.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* iv. 24 Them that were possessed with devils. — *Luke* viii. 36 He that was possessed of the devyll. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 309, I am possest with the diuell and cannot sleepe. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 38 Thought by the Jewes to be possessed either with a good, or evill spirit. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. ii. (1840) 53 A set of people who were not possessed by, but rather, as it may be called, are possessed of the devil. 1829 W. IRVING *Conq. Granada* I. iv, One of those fanatic infidels possessed of the devil. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vii., II. 155 A woman eats a lettuce without making the sign of the cross. She is possessed by a devil.

6. Of an idea, a mental condition, or the like: To take or have hold of (a person); to hold, dominate, actuate; to affect or influence strongly and persistently. (Formerly also of bodily conditions.)

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 206 My eares are stopt, and cannot hear good newes, So much of bad already hath possest them. 1610 — *Temp.* II. i. 199 What a strange drowsines possesses them? 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. xi. 44 Which Tuscan superstition seasing upon Rome hath since possessed all Europe. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 3 This [suspicion] possess'd the Heads of the People very much. *a* 1814 *Gonzaga* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 102 What can possess this young lord to be out of his bed at this hour? 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 31 In a mood very different from that which now possesses them.

For the passive with *with*: see 9 d.

II. Causal uses; = cause to possess.

†7. With *in*: To put in possession (esp. legal possession) of (lands, estates, etc.); to settle or establish in. Rarely without *in*. *Obs.*

c 1465 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 4 Edwardeus Dai gracia Sithe god hathe .. posseside þe in thi right Thoue hime honour with al thi myght. 1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 518 To enter and possess the said Nicoll in his saidis landis. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* VIII. 39 He deposed Arimba from his kingly seat, and possessed Alexander therein. 1687 in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 178 Hee thought the Bishop illegally possest. 1708 in *Phenix* II. 241 Then the Just..shall be possess'd in *the* fulness of their Glory.

8. With *of* (also † *with*): To endow with, put in possession of; to bestow (something specified) upon, give (something) to. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in b or c.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 19 He possessis vthir pure pepil.. vithe the samyn reches. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xi. 21, I will possesse you of that ship and Treasure. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. (1847) 98/2 By possessing our souls of true virtue. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* vii. § 7 By possessing his heart with this virtue of contentedness. 1789 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 III. 45, I have thought it better to possess him immediately of the paper. 1784 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xii. (1876) 55 It is better to possess the model with the attitude you require.

b. *refl.* To take possession *of*, take for oneself, make one's own; = 3.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* Argt. 4 Lucius Tarquinius..had possessed himselfe of the kingdome. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 546 Then possest he himselfe with his armes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 35 ¶ 11 My Lord Orkney received Orders to possess himself of Mortagne. 1885 SIR J. BACON in *Law Times Rep.* LII. 570/1 All that the plaintiffs did was to possess themselves .. of the securities. 1888 POLLOCK & WRIGHT *Possession in Com. Law* 2 No plain man would hesitate to say that a thief possesses himself of the goods carried away.

c. *pass.* To be in possession *of*; to be endowed with; to possess (sense 2). *Possessed of* or *with*, having possession of, possessing.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* xv. xlii. (W. de W.), Creta was somtyme possessyd wyth [*Bodl. MS.* ihist wiþ] an hundryd noble cytees. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. i. 162 The plate..and moueables, Whereof our Vncle Gaunt did stand possest. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* xxix, Featur'd like him, like him with friends possest. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 137 They found the Spaniards possessed of the Towne. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 108 He..of her And her's possest, shall bear them safe away. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 122 Every human being possessed of reason. 1863 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 197 The active vigorous English workman, possessed of all his limbs. 1888 POLLOCK & WRIGHT *Possession in Com. Law* 36 The King is not unfrequently spoken of as being seised or possessed of the crown.

9. With *with*: To cause to be possessed by (a feeling, idea, or the like: see 6); to imbue, inspire, permeate, affect strongly or permanently *with*; to cause to feel or entertain.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 180 If therefore you will compose in this kind, you must possesse yourselfe with an amorus humour. 1642 *Observ. his Maj. Answ. to City Lond. Petit.* 8 To possesse the people with a fancy against that. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. I. 25 What Devil possesses them with such wicked designs? 1710 ABP. KING *Let. to Swift* 16 Sept., To possess my lord Shrewsbury and Mr. Harley with the reasonableness of the affair. 1863 GLADSTONE *Financ. Statem.* 14, I wish that I could possess the Committee with the impression..of the deep and vital importance of the subject.

b. With clause: To imbue with the notion, to persuade, convince.

1607 MIDDLETON *Michælm. Term.* I. i. 50 *Easy.* You've easily possess'd me, I am free. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. iii, He had possessed the lady, that he was the only man in the world of a sound, pure and untainted Constitution. 1747 SARAH FIELDING *Lett. David Simple* I. 278 From the time I went away, my Mother had constantly possessed her, that I did so. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Possess*, to persuade, to inform, to convince.

† c. Without const.: To influence the opinion of; to prepossess. *Obs.*

1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight Rev.* (Arb.) 15 Hoping to possesse the ignorant multitude by anticipating and forerunning false reports. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 6 Here is observed, that in all causes the first tale possesseth much. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 22 *Colledge.* Mr. Attorney, I should not interrupt you, if I were not afraid this was spoken to possess the Jury.

d. *pass.* (coinciding, and in early instances often identical, with the passive of sense 6).

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 56 A poets brayne, possest with layes of loue. *a* 1652 BROME *Queen & Concubine* II. viii, My Lord, I do presume I am unwelcome, Because you are possess'd I never lov'd you. 1661 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 395 Being possest with a deep melancholy,..he fell, as 'twere, downe right mad. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V* III. VII. 43 Henry, possessed..with an high

idea of his own power and importance. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* i. 7 He had all his life been possessed with one great conviction.

†**6.** With inverted construction: To create a possessing idea, etc., in (the mind); to infuse. *Obs. rare.*

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* IX. 42 She..possest such a superstitious toy in the heads of the people, that she made them yearly sanctifie a day and keep it holy in remembrance of him.

10. To put in possession *of*, furnish *with* (knowledge or information); to instruct *in*; to inform, acquaint, to give to understand *that*. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 35, I haue possest your grace of what I purpose. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 150 Possesse vs, possesse vs, tell vs something of him. 1607 G. WILKINS *Mis. Enf. Marriage* I. B ij b, I haue possest you with this businesse Maister Doctor. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 123 If hee had any more to possesse the King, he should first acquaint him, and consequently have an answer. 1666 WOOD *Life* 3 Feb. (O. H. S.) II. 72 He beforehand possest the Vicecancellor that I would help him. 1682 *News fr. France* 9 They are very careful to possess all people in such secret methods as they dare venture on. 1771–90 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* (1856) 91 Our debates possessed me so fully of the subject, that I wrote and printed an anonymous pamphlet on it. 1853 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 201 Contriving to possess her fellow-conspirators ..of all the particulars of his behaviour.

Possessable: see POSSESSIBLE.

Possessed, possest (pŏ'zĕst), *ppl. a.* [f. POSSESS *v.* + -ED [1].]

1. Occupied; held as property; taken possession of, seized, assumed; see POSSESS 1–3. *rare.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xxxiii, No other crosse,..But this that toucht thy now possessed hold. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* IX. 23 Her possessd greatnes,-vpstart vsurpation. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 367, I was astonish'd to see the Liberty this young Gentleman took with his Possessed.

b. Kept under control, kept calm or steady, composed. *rare*–°. (Implied in *possessedness*: see below. Cf. POSSESS 4 and SELF-POSSESSED.)

2. Inhabited and controlled by a demon or spirit; demoniac, lunatic, mad, crazy.

1534 TINDALE *Matt.* viii. 33 What had fortuned vnto the possessed of the devyls. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 141 By Nature possessed and frantike. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 33, I saw an old..Frier coniuring the Diuell out of a possessed woman. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. iii. 7 She saw the Nurse, like one possess'd, With wringing hands, and sobbing breast. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* (1862) II. 227 There were some strange weird clouds introduced, which had something demoniacal and possessed about them.

b. *absol.* A demoniac, a madman; mad folk.

1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 249 After this the Catechumens, the possessed and the penitents are dismissed. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vii. (1864) II. 155 A poor peasant receives the possessed into his house.

c. See POSSESS *v.* 8 c.

3. (In instrumental combinations.) Dominated, controlled, strongly and permanently affected.

c 1620 *Convert Soul* in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 89 Peace, catiffe body, earth possest. 1711 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 135. 2/2 My..wo-possessed Heart.

Hence **Posse'ssedness** (see 1 b), self-possession.

1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* x. (1848) 265 A man of most calm temper with great possessedness and stayedness of Spirit.

†**Posse'ssiant.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *possessant* sb., prop. pres. pple. of *possesser* to POSSESS.] A possessor.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2627 Ewsebius,..Had all the crafte & conyng in his clere wit, þat pictagoras the pure god possessiant was of.

Posse'ssible, *a. rare.* Also -able. [f. POSSESS *v.* + -IBLE.] Capable of being possessed.

1874 W. JONES *New Test. Illustr.* 278 Knowledge of divine things possessible by man. 1897 ANNE PAGE *Afternoon Ride* 9 The young beauty seemed to dissolve into more possessable mortality.

Posse'ssing, *vbl. sb.* [f. POSSESS *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the verb POSSESS; possession.

1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXVII. xix, The righteous minds Shall haue the land in their possessing. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 37. 3/1 We're cheated of the Blessing, When arriv'd at full Possessing. 17.. POPE *Imit. Swift* 1 Parson, these things in thy possessing Are better than the Bishop's blessing.

Posse'ssing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING [2].]

1. Having something as a possession; *spec.* having material possessions.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* XXVIII. (1852) 472 Seraphs and saints, and all-possessing souls, Which minister unto the universe. 1884 M. ARNOLD in *Pall Mall G.* 1 Dec. 6/1 There is in the West the possessing, the spending, and the enjoying class. 1897 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 5/6 Only representatives of the privileged and possessing classes had been convoked.

2. Inhabiting and actuating a person, as a demon or spirit; dominating as an influence.

1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. iv. § 40. 145 The political creed which actuates at present, as a possessing spirit, the great mass of the civilised world. 1902 W. M. ALEXANDER *Demonic Possession in N. T.* v. 172 Nor did He..ascribe to possessing spirits moral influence over the possessed.

Hence **Posse'ssingness.**

1882 GURNEY *Tertium Quid* (1887) II. 70 We may note the degree of possessingness and permanence in the artistic impression.

Possession (pŏze'ʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4- **possession**; also 4–6 **-ioun, -ione, -yon,** (4 **-ioune,** 5 **-yone,** 6 **-yowne**); (4 **possescyon,** 5 **possesioon, possescon,** 7 **pocessyon,** 6 **-ion**). [a. OF. *possessiun, -on* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *possessiō-nem* seizing, occupation, *n.* of action f. *possidĕre*: see POSSEDE, POSSESS.]

1. The action or fact of possessing, or condition of being possessed (see POSSESS 1, 2); the holding or having something (material or immaterial) as one's own, or in one's control; actual holding or occupancy, as distinct from ownership.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xv. 6 Merkis of my possession. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 276 And yaf therto possessioun Of lordschipe and of worldes good. 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 91/2 To the Patronage or Possession of the Chirch of Prescote. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 150 But also haue sure felynge, tastynge, possessyon, and fruicyon of his goodnes. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* IV. (1628) 91 To obtaine possessions of the whole Ile. 1690 LOCKE *Treat. Govt.* II. v. § 38 The same measures governed the Possession of Land too. 1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron.* xviii, I am not one of those *exigeante* mothers who expect always to have possession of a son's arm. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 185 Philosophy is the possession of knowledge.

b. *Law.* The visible possibility of exercising over a thing such control as attaches to lawful ownership (but which may also exist apart from lawful ownership); the detention or enjoyment of a thing by a person himself or by another in his name; the relation of a person to a thing over which he may at his pleasure exercise such control as the character of the thing admits, to the exclusion of other persons; *esp.* the having of such exclusive control over land, in early instances sometimes used in the technical sense of SEISIN.

In the Roman Law, 'possession is usually said to consist of two elements—physical control and intention to possess; but in English law the latter element does not assume the same prominence as, in the shape of the *animus domini*, it has been thought to assume in Roman law... The general rule of English law is that exclusive physical control gives legal possession, unless the apparent possessor holds only as servant or bailiff on behalf of another' (J. M. Lightwood in *Encycl. Laws Eng.* (1898) X. 229). Primarily, the term denotes a state of fact, but this fact carries with it legal advantages, and so is the source of rights. If the state of fact could always be ascertained with certainty, and if it always produced the normal legal effects, the subject of possession would present little difficulty; but it is frequently uncertain to whom the actual control of a thing is to be attributed, and, when this question is settled, the law may credit the advantages of possession to some person other than the apparent possessor...Hence arises the distinction between *actual* and *legal* possession. Actual possession denotes the state of fact; but the person to whom are credited the advantages of possession has the legal possession, whether he is the actual possessor or no. Legal possession, when not accompanied by possession in fact, is known as 'possession in law'. (*Ibid.* 228–9.) See this article; also (*inter alia*), *Essay on Possession in the Common Law* by F. Pollock and R. S. Wright, 1888, *Treatise on Possession of Land* by John M. Lightwood, 1894.

1535 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 10 Every such person .. shall hensforth stond and be seasid demed and adjuged in lawfull season estate and possession of and in the same. 1559 *Rec. Monast. Kinloss* (1872) 151 We chairg .. you .. to pas to the..landis..And ther gif him stait and possessioun be thak and raip as wse is. 1579 *Expos. Termes Law* 158 Possession is said two wayes, eyther actuall possession, or possession in law. Actuall possession is when a man entreth in deede into landes or tenements to him discended or otherwise. Possession in lawe, is when landes or tenements are discended to a man, and he hath not as yet really, actually, and in deede entred into them. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Unity of Possession*, is when the Possession, or Profit is united with the Property. Thus, if the Lord purchase the Tenancy held by Heriot-Service, then the Heriot is extinct by Unity of Possession, i.e. because the Seignory or Lordship and the Tenancy are now in one Man's Possession. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxv. 389 First then of property in possession absolute; which is where a man hath, solely and exclusively, the right, and also the occupation, of any moveable chattels. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 330 The first degree of title is the bare possession, or actual occupation of the estate, without any apparent right, or any pretence of right, to hold and continue such possession. 1837 BARON PARKE in Meeson & Welsby *Rep.* II. 331 Ownership may be proved by proof of possession, and that can be shown only by acts of enjoyment of the land itself. 1861 J. KENT *Comm. Amer. Law* (1873) II. xxxix. 493 Though the vendee acquires a right of property by the contract of sale, he does not acquire a right of possession of the goods until he pays or tenders the price. 1885 W. A. HUNTER *Roman Law* 209 Possession is the occupation of anything with the intention of exercising the rights of ownership in respect of it. 1887 LD. FITZGERALD in *Law Rep.* 12 App. Ca. 556 By possession is meant possession of that character of which the thing is capable. 1888 POLLOCK & WRIGHT *Possession in Com. Law* 1 As the name of Possession is..one of the most important in our books, so it is one of the most ambiguous. Its legal senses (for they are many) overlap the popular sense. *Ibid.* 26 The following elements are quite distinct in conception..i. physical control, detention, or de facto possession. ..ii. legal possession, the state of being a possessor in the eye of the law...iii. Right to possess or to have legal possession. *Ibid.* 27 Right to possess, when separated from possession, is often called 'constructive possession'. *Ibid.* 58 A servant in charge of his master's property, or a person having the use of anything by the mere licence of the owner..generally has not possession. 1894 J. M. LIGHTWOOD *Possession of Land* 2 Possession which is recognized by the law .. is known as civil possession. The actual possession may be held by another on behalf of the civil possessor—by his servant or tenant, for example—and here the civil possession is still based on actual possession. 1898 — in *Encycl. Laws Eng.* X. 232 A person holding land as a tenant for years is denied the special form of legal possession known as seisin. The English law, however, differing herein from the Roman law, does not refuse legal possession to bailees. *Ibid.* 236 In the case of goods..the mere right to possession is sometimes described as 'constructive possession', and is allowed the advantages of actual possession.

c. Phr. *In possession*: said (*a*) of a thing, actually possessed or held; often with possessive, *in* (one's) *possession*; (*b*) of a person, usually *in possession of*, actually possessing, holding, or occupying something. *Chose in possession*: see CHOSE. *Man in possession*, a duly authorized person who is placed in charge of chattels (furniture or the like) upon which there is a warrant for distress. *To take possession of* (†*take in possession*): to take for one's own or into one's control, to seize.

[1308–9 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 274/2 Mettre le dit nich' en corporele possession del avauntdit provendre.] *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 239 Þe londes þat þei haue now in possessioun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 26 Cirus..tok it in possessioun. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2608 Of Alexandere and Aufrike, and alle þa owte landes, I am in possessione, and plenerly sessede. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 13 He hathe Millan nowe in possession. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 417 The Queenes maiestie, nowe in possession of the English empire. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 85 Any lande..beinge in the pocession of the Churche. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxvii. (1820) 333 He loses the very property of which he thought he had gotten possession. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiv. 169, I had now the thermometers in my possession. 1886 B. L. FARJEON *Three Times Tried* I. 13/2, I..left Captain Bellwood in possession of the field. 1888 POLLOCK & WRIGHT *Possession in Com. Law* 119 When a man is away from home his household effects do not cease to be in his possession. 1897 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 3/2 (*heading*) The 'Man in Possession'. *Ibid.*, Defendant's man during the nine days only visited the house once a day and did not remain in possession. 1898 J. M. LIGHTWOOD in *Encycl. Laws Eng.* X. 237 *In possession*: as applied to an estate or interest, these words usually mean that the right is immediate, and not in reversion, remainder, or expectancy.

d. Prov. *Possession is nine* (formerly *eleven*) *points* (also *parts*) *of the law*: see POINT *sb.*[1] A. 12.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 13 Possession may be 11 points of the Law. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. iii, Possession ..would make it much surer. They say 'it is eleven points of the Law!' 1813 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Patron.* (1833) III. xli. 130 Possession..being nine parts of the law.

e. *Mining* (Derbyshire): see quots.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead Mines* (E. D. S.) 9 A cross and hole a good possession is, But for three dayes. 1681 HOUGHTON *Rara Avis* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Possession*, the right to a *meer* of ground, which miners enjoy, by having *stows* upon that ground; and it is taken generally for the *stows* themselves; for it is the *stows* that give possession. 1802 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Stowces*, pieces of wood of particular forms and constructions placed together, by which the possession of mines is marked.

†**2.** The action of seizing or possessing oneself *of*; capture: see POSSESS *v.* 3. *Obs. rare.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 231 Our future projects..with a view to the possession of this celebrated galeon.

3. *concr.* That which is possessed or held as property; (with *a*, etc.) a thing possessed, a piece of property, something that belongs to one; *pl.* belongings, property, wealth.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 8, I sall gif til þe genge þin heritage: & þi possession terms of erth. 1388 WYCLIF *Matth.* xix. 22 The 3ong man..wente awei sorewful, for he hadde many possessiouns. [1429 *Act* 8 *Hen. VI*, c. 9 Ceux qi gardent par force lour possessions en ascuns terres on tenementz.] 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 155 Thei occupiede the londes and possessiones of mony other peple. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 77 Such an idul sort, spendyng theyr possessyonys. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 729 Masham, which was the possession of the Scropes of Masham. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* ii, Beauty is a woman's best possession till she be old. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 434 One of your possessions, an ox or an ass, for example.

b. In Scotland, A small farm: see quot. 1805.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 511 The lanes include between them the breadth of two possessions only. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* I. 519 [The farms] run from £30 to £1200, if below £30, they are called *possessions*.

4. A territory subject to a sovereign ruler or state; now chiefly applied to the foreign dominions of an independent country.

1818 J. ADOLPHUS (*title*) The Political State of the British Empire; containing a General View of the Domestic and Foreign Possessions of the Crown. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* II. v. xii. 377 Canada became a British possession in 1763. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 4/1 British New Guinea has very rapidly developed from the position of a protectorate into that of a possession. 1905 *Whitaker's Almanack* 512 The British Possessions in North America include the whole of the northern part of that continent excepting Alaska [etc.].

5. The fact of a demon possessing a person; the fact of being possessed by a demon or spirit (see POSSESS *v.* 5). Also in *Psychics*: see quot. 1903.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 44 How long hath this possession held the man? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. viii. 38 Neither Moses, nor Abraham pretended to Prophecy by possession of a Spirit. 1689 C. MATHER (*title*) Memorable Providences relating to Witchcrafts and Possessions. 1746 WESLEY *Princ. Methodist* 51 If you were to suppose John Haydon .. was not mad, but under a temporary Possession. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* v. (1862) 158 The same malady they did in some cases attribute to an evil spirit, and in others not; thus showing that the malady and possession were not identical in their eyes. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. Gloss., *Possession*, a developed form of motor automatism, in which the automatist's own personality

disappears for the time, while there is a more or less complete substitution of personality, writing or speech being given by another spirit through the entranced organism.

6. The action of an idea or feeling possessing a person (see Possess *v.* 6); *transf.* an idea or impulse that holds or affects one strongly; †a dominating conviction, prepossession (*obs.*).

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 76, I come now to speake of anger and choller, which commonly keepe possession in old men. 1728 Vanbr. & Cib. *Prov. Husb.* I. i. 5, I have a strong Possession, that with this five hundred, I shall win five thousand. 1826 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 508 Old ideas still keep possession of old heads. 1867 Longf. in *Life* (1891) III. 103, I have worked steadily on it, for it took hold of me,—a kind of possession.

7. The action or condition of keeping (oneself, one's mind, etc.) under control (see Possess *v.* 4). *rare* exc. in the compound Self-possession.

a 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Luke xxi. 19 As faith gives us the possession of Christ, so patience gives us the possession of ourselves. 1710 Steele *Tatler* No. 168 ₱ 4 To acquire such a Degree of Assurance, as never to lose the Possession of themselves in publick or private. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. 237, I have need of that calm possession of my understanding,.. necessary to convince yours. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* xxxv. 12 She, if only report the truth bely not, Doats, as hardly within her own possession.

8. *attrib.* **possession-man** = *man in possession*: see 1 c.

1772 *Doc. Hist. N. York* (1851) IV. 803 The Weak pretence of Hutts hastily Built on small Spotts of Ground which they Term possession Houses. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* xiv. II. 115 The opinion that the possession-theory is ..modelled on the ordinary theory of the soul acting on the body. 1891 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 2/6 He and 'a possession man' went with a warrant of execution to levy on the defendant's goods for a debt and costs of over 7*l.* 1897 *Ibid.* 28 Apr. 6/5 He was on drinking terms with every process-server and possession-man about the place.

†**Possession,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To furnish with possessions.

1602 Carew *Cornwall* 132 b, Sundry more Gentlemen this little Hundred possesseth and possesioneth.

Posse·ssional, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -al; cf. *professional.*] Pertaining to possession; having possessions or property; propertied. Hence **Posse·ssionalism,** the doctrine or principle of individual possession or private property; **Posse·ssionalist,** one who holds this doctrine.

1872 W. R. Greg *Enigmas of Life* (1873) 48 Union among all possessional classes. 1882 Ogilvie, *Possessional*, same as *possessive*. 1903 G. R. Hall *Human Evolution* viii. 191 Some actualities of Possessionalism. *Ibid.* ix. 216 In Lower Possessionalism chattel-slavery begins to die out, industry takes on the form of serfdom...In Higher Possessionalism we find the social form of Capitalism. *Ibid.* xii. 291 Before long only two parties will exist, the Possessionalists and the Socialists...The honestly Possessionalist Cabinet.

Posse·ssionary, *a.* and *sb.* [f. Possession *sb.* + -ary 1. So obs. F. *possessionnaire* adj. (1539).]

A. *adj.* Constituted by possession; having, pertaining, or relating to possession.

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 224, I do not say this, to abate any thing of his Highness's authority...He hath a possessionary right, which, I am sure, gives him power enough to call Parliaments. *Ibid.* 590 If he is but possessionary Protector, he is then hereditary and not subject to any boundings. 1739 F. Blomefield *Hist. Thetford* 52 Athelstane, Abbot of Ramsey, had a House in Theford, for then he had a Possessionary Writ, directed to the Burghers of Theford. 1809 E. S. Barrett *Setting Sun* II. 115 The horde of possessionary and reversionary moles may deprecate an inquiry.

†**B.** *sb.* One who is in possession; = Possessioner b.

1532 Frith *Mirror* (1829) 273 It proveth our bishops, abbots, and spiritual possessionaries, double thieves and murderers, as concerning the body.

†**Posse·ssionate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *possessiōnāt-us* (in Du Cange); see Possession *sb.* and -ate 2.] Having possessions or endowments: cf. Possessioner b.

1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 459 We welde have destroyede .. the kynge, bischopps, chanons, monkes possessionate, and alle men of churche, the frers excepte oonly. 1899 Trevelyan *Eng. Age Wyclif* 151 The disendowment of the 'possessionate' clergy.

Possessioned (-e·ʃənd), *a.* [f. Possession *sb.* + -ed 2, after F. *possessionné.*] Endowed with or holding possessions.

1794 J. Gifford *Reign Louis XVI* 551 That satisfaction should be given to the princes possessioned in Alsace. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v, This of the Possessioned Princes, '*Princes Possessionés*', is bandied from Court to Court... The Kaiser and his Possessioned Princes will too evidently come and take compensation.

Posse·ssioner. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. Possession *sb.* + -er 2.] One who is in possession, or holds possession, *of* something; a holder, occupier; a proprietor, owner; an owner of possessions.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* iv. 34 How many euere weren possescioners [Vulg. *possessores*] of feeldis or howsis. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 89 They called before them the lordis and possessioners and tenauntis of the mylles. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 67 b, Possessioners of a warde of the bodye of a childe within age. 1563 Bonner in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxiv. 341 Not being lawful Bishop of Winchester, but an usurper, intruder, and unlawful possessioner thereof. 1681 Chetham *Angler's Vade-m.* xl. § 25 (1689) 299 The Owners or Possessioners thereof. 1807 Britton *Beauties Eng.* IX. *Linc.* 571 The sum of 1000*l.* borrowed of the king, lords, and great possessioners, till it could be levied by the commissioners of sewers. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 107 The grasping spirit of the new lords and possessioners.

b. *spec.* A member of a religious order having possessions or endowments; an endowed clergyman or ecclesiastic.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. v. 144 Þise possessioneres preche and depraue freres. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 212 Popis and bishopis and prestis..and þese new religiouse possessioneris and beggeris. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) IV. vi. 167/2 Yf he be a relygyous possessyoner endewed by temporal goodes, he may releue them. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 69 But the son of man hath not where to rest his head. Such possessionars were the bysshops of the prymatyue church! 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* VI. xiii. vi. 125 It was the villeins demanding manumission from their lords, not Wycliffe's disciples despoiling possessioners.

Posse·ssionist. *nonce-wd.* [f. Possession *sb.* + -ist.] One who professes to be possessed by a demon, one who holds a theory of such possession.

1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. xi. (1840) 352 The mock possessions and infernal accomplishments, which most of the possessionists of this age pretend to.

Posse·ssionless, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -less.] Destitute of possessions. Hence **Posse·ssionlessness.**

1894 Mrs. Dyan *All in a Man's K.* (1899) 235 How thankful you must be now that you are so possessionless. 1905 *Nation* (N. Y.) 27 Apr. 334/3 Those who shared and defended his superb possessionlessness.

Possessival (pɒsesəi·väl), *a. Gram. rare.* [f. as next, after *adjectival, substantival.*] Of or pertaining to the possessive case; possessive.

1873 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (ed. 2) § 572 This possessival termination ['s] detached itself, and passed into a pronoun-flexion by a sort of degeneracy, as in 'John his book'.

Possessive (pɒ̈ze·siv), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *possessīvus*, in grammar (Quintil.): see Possess *v.* and -ive. So F. *possessif, -ive* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *Gram.* Denoting possession; qualifying a thing (or person) as belonging to some other.

Possessive pronoun (*possessive adjective*), a word derived from a personal or other pronoun, and expressing that the thing (or person) denoted by the noun which it qualifies belongs to the person (or thing) denoted by the pronoun from which it is derived. *Possessive case*, a name for the genitive case in modern English, ending (in nouns) in *'s*, and expressing the same relation as that expressed by a possessive pronoun.

(The name *possessive pronoun* is sometimes restricted to the absolute possessives *mine, thine, his, hers, its, ours, yours, theirs*, the adjectival forms *my, thy, his, her, its, our, your, their*, being distinguished as *possessive adjectives*. Both classes originate in or are derived from the genitive or possessive case of the personal pronouns.)

1530 Palsgr. Introd. 41 Where as we use our pronownes possessyves. 1571 Golding *Calvin on Ps.* xxvi. 1 The piththynesse of the Pronoune possessive (my) is to be noted. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 305 Modifications of Pronouns... Possessive, denoting a relation of Propriety or Possession unto the person or thing spoken of,..as I, Mine; Who, Whose. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 461 ₱ 3 The Poet..lets a Possessive Pronoun go without a Substantive. 1763 Lowth *Eng. Gram.* 25 This Case answers to the Genitive Case in Latin, and may still be so called; though perhaps more properly the Possessive Case. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 259 One substantive governs another, signifying a different thing, in the possessive or genitive case. 1870 Helfenstein *Comp. Gram. Teut. Lang.* 199 The New Teutonic pronouns take the inflexions of the strong declension of the adjective, where they are used as possessive adjectives, as Germ. *mein, meine, mein*, gen. *meines, meiner, meines*. 1876 Mason *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 21) § 73 The apostrophe in the possessive case singular marks that the vowel of the syllabic suffix has been lost.

2. Of or pertaining to possession; indicating possession. (In quot. 1578 in sense corresp. to Possession 2.)

1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* I. 764 Greit Aduocat with power possessiue. 1578 *Let. Pat. to Sir H. Gilbert* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1810) III. 175 All such our subiects and others, as shall from time to time hereafter aduenture themselues in the sayd iourneys or voyages habitatiue or possessiue. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* v. ix. 277 What meane these liv'ries and possessive keyes? 1889 Mrs. Jocelyn *Distracting Guest* II. vii. 129 His manner was kind and considerate..; perhaps a trifle too possessive; but I rejoiced just then in that very possessiveness.

b. Having the quality or character of possessing; holding, or being in, possession.

1838 Lytton *Leila* II. i, The life of the heir-apparent to the life of the king-possessive is as the distinction between enchanting hope and tiresome satiety. 1880 Miss Broughton *Sec. Th.* III. x, Her eye, free and possessive, wanders widely round.

B. *sb. Gram. ellipt.* (*a*) for *possessive pronoun* or *adjective*; (*b*) for *possessive case.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.* B iv b, Of pronounes some are primitiues...Some are deriuatiues, called also possessiues. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Possessives* in Grammar, are such Adjectives as signifie the Possession of, or Property in some Thing. 1755 Johnson *Dict., Gram.*, The possessive of the first person is *my, mine, our, ours*. 1876 Mason *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 21) § 68 The noun in the possessive is in the attributive relation to the noun which stands for what is possessed. *Ibid.* § 142 *Their* retained a substantive force after the other possessives had become pronominal adjectives.

Possessively (pɒ̈ze·sivli), *adv.* [f. prec. adj. + -ly 2.]

1. *Gram.* In a possessive sense or relation.

1590 Stockwood *Rules Construct.* 54 When the genitiue case is taken actiuely, when passiuely, and when possessiuely. 1879 Whitney *Sanskrit Gram.* 445 Possessively used descriptive compounds..are extremely numerous.

2. In the way of possession; in a manner indicating possession; as something possessed; as one's own.

1813 Hobhouse *Journey* (ed. 2) 1021 A sale by auction of the tenths belonging to the Malikiane (or fiefs held possessively), under the annual value of fifteen thousand piasters. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 2/1 He tapped the English lady possessively on the shoulder.

Posse·ssiveness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being possessive.

1864 *Athenæum* 10 Sept. 339/2 Its operation, its possessiveness, becomes more intense. 1883 Lady V. Greville *Keith's Wife* I. 168 The man is apt to shock..by a too prompt assumption of possessiveness.

Possessor (pɒ̈ze·səɹ). Also 5–7 -our, 6–8 -er. [ME. and AF. *possessour*, = F. *possesseur* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *possessor, -ōrem*, agent-n. f. *possidēre* to possess; with later conformation of suffix to Latin: see Possess and -or 1.] One who possesses; one who holds something as property, or in actual control; one who has something (material or immaterial) belonging to him; a holder; an owner, proprietor. Const. *of*, or with *poss. pron.*

1388 Wyclif *Acts* iv. 34 How manye euere weren possessouris of feeldis, ether of housis, thei seelden. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 187/1 Possessours of the Roiall Estate and Corone of Englond. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* C vj b, The possessor of theys armys beris in latine thus [etc.]. 1535 Coverdale *Gen.* xiv. 19 The most hye God, possessor of heauen and earth. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. i. 29 She..their possessours often did dismay. 1667 Milton *P. L.* I. 252 Infernal world, and thou profoundest Hell Receive thy new Possessor. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* I, This charm was too dangerous to its possesser. 1839 Ld. Brougham *Statesm. Geo. III*, I. 36 Unlimited power corrupts the possessor. 1883 H. Walker in *Leisure Hour* 501/2 The hornbeams .. are the true autochthones and rightful prescriptive possessors of Epping Forest.

b. *spec.* (mainly *Law*). One who takes, occupies, or holds something without ownership, or as distinguished from the owner.

1565–6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 432 Summond thame to compeir befoir the Lordis of Sessioun, to heir thame decernit violent possessouris. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* N iij, Takers or Possessers have been cast and quite thrown out. 1800 Addison *Amer. Law Rep.* 129 The possessor remains liable to the true owner. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 372 Littleton..speaks of disseisins principally as between the owner and trespasser or possessor, with an eye to the remedy by assize.

c. *fig.* (*a*) One acquainted or conversant with, or master of, a subject; (*b*) One who maintains control over (himself). Cf. Possess *v.* 2 e, 4.

1674 Playford *Skill Mus.* Pref. 9 Whose love of this Divine Art appears by his Encouragement of it and the Possessors thereof. 1713 M. Henry *Ordination Serm.* Wks. 1853 II. 505/2 We are most our own possessors, when we are least our own masters.

d. *Comm.* The holder (of a bill, etc.).

1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 63 It is the Duty of the Possessor, to take care for his Bill, and to see that the same be either accepted or protested. 1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 134 *Possessor*, the person who receives a foreign bill and presents it for acceptance.

Posse·ssoress. *rare.* Also 6–7 -eresse. [a. obs. F. *possesseresse*, fem. of OF. *possesseur* Possessor: see -ess 1.] A female possessor.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 11, I am the ladye and possesseresse of this londe. 1611 Cotgr., *Possesseresse*, a possesseresse, a woman that possesses, holds, enioyes. 1681 W. Robertson *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1007 A possessoress, *domina*.

Possessorial (pɒsesō·riăl), *a. rare.* [f. as Possessory + -al.] Of or pertaining to a possessor; possessory.

1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 133 The parts of the House are Conjugall or Matrimoniall, Paternall or of the Parent, Seigniorall or Lordly, and Possessoriall [cf. Possessory 2, quot. 1586]. 1850 Ld. Osborne *Gleanings* 46 My friend must have had a very strong possessorial fit upon him.

Posse·ssorship. [f. Possessor + -ship.] The condition of a possessor; the holding of something as owner.

1885 Stevenson *Pr. Otto* I. iii. 31 The joy of possessorship. 1896 *Eng. Churchm.* 16 Jan. 35/1 The long outstanding dispute touching the possessorship of the Upper Mekong Valley.

Possessory (pɒ̈ze·sŏri), *a.* [ad. late L. *possessōri-us* adj. relating to possession, so F. *possessoire* (14th c. in Godef.): see Possess *v.* and -ory.]

1. *Law.* **a.** Pertaining to a possessor; relating to possession.

Possessory Action, an action in which the plaintiff's claim is founded upon his or his predecessor's possession, and not upon his right or title. *Possessory interdict* (Rom. Law), one of a class of interdicts for the acquisition, retention, or recovery of possession. *Possessory judgement* (Sc. Law): see quot. 1838.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 272/2 Ye matire possessorie, and ye petition yruppon given. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 2 § 2 Assice of mort auncestor..or any other action possessory. *a* 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 54 Pleas..reall, be either possessorie, to aske, or to keepe the possession: or in *rem*, which wee call a writ of right. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xiii. 197 If he omits to bring this his possessory action within a competent time, his adversary may imperceptibly gain an actual right of possession, in consequence of the other's negligence. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., A possessory judgment is one which entitles a person, who has been in uninterrupted possession for seven

years, to continue his possession until the question of right shall be decided in due course of law. 1857 LD. CAMPBELL *Chief Justices* III. xliv. 47 In the possessory action of ejectment the legal estate shall always prevail. 1894 LIGHTWOOD *Possession of Land* i. 5 The old possessory actions which were for the recovery of possession, were founded upon seisin.

b. Arising from possession; as *possessory interest, right, property, title.*

1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. I. i. § 1 Our personal election, predestination, salvation, or possessory right in state of grace. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 581 His possessory right, which was sufficient title for him to call a parliament, and for us to submit to it. 1708 *Termes de la Ley* s.v. *Property*, There are three manner of rights of Property; that is, Property absolute, Property qualified, and Property possessory. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxx. 453 The bailees .. may..vindicate, in their own right, this their possessory interest. 1881 *Times* 14 Apr. 10/1 Throughout most parts of Ireland there has grown a tacit admission..that the tenant has a possessory interest in his holding.

† **2.** That is possessed; of the nature of a possession. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 464 A house..may be divided .. into these foure parts: into matrimoniall, parentall, lordly or masterly, and possessorie part. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. iii. (1611) 260 It were an absurd thing ..that the possessorie things of the vanquished should be more priuiledged then their owners.

3. That is a possessor; holding something in possession.

1633 SIR J. BURROUGHS *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 18 When the Romans had made themselves possessorie Lords of the Island. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* I. i. 66 The possessory princes. 1886 J. A. KASSON in *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 125 Their commercial rights are to be the same as those of the possessory government.

4. Of, belonging to, or characterizing a possessor.

1639 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1701) 613/1 Domestick Prudence being either conjugal and paternal, or dominative and possessory. *c* 1660 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 303 The commaund I had that tyme of the army and strength of the kingdome was but a possessory and noe legall power. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 6 Man's possessory instinct essentially connects itself with the future. 1879 J. BEGG *Scot. Public Affairs* 6 The possessory spirit is strong enough in man.

b. Used to render Gr. κτήσιος in Ζεὺς κτήσιος Jove the protector of property. *nonce-use.*

1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 109 A plundered house By grace of possessory Jove may freight New ships with bales that far outweigh the loss.

Posset (pǫ·sét), *sb.* Now only *Hist.* or *local.* Forms: 5 posho(o)te, poshotte, poshet, possot, possyt, possate, 5–6 poset, possett, 7 possit, *Sc.* possat, 5– posset. [ME. *poshote, possot*, of unascertained origin. Palsgr. (1530) gives a F. *possette*, but this is not otherwise known to French scholars. Ir. *pusoid*, posset, is from English. Connexion with POSCA has been suggested.]

1. A drink composed of hot milk curdled with ale, wine, or other liquor, often with sugar, spices, or other ingredients; formerly much used as a delicacy, and as a remedy for colds or other affections.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 567/22 *Balducta*, a crudde, *Item dicitur*, poshet. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* ibid. 625/18 *Casius*, poshoote. 14.. *Voc.* ibid. 666/9 *Hec bedulta*, possyt. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/2 Possot, *balducta*. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 94 Milke, crayme, and cruddes, and eke the Ioncate, þey close a mannes stomak and so dothe þe possate. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 269 For bred, ale, and possets to the same persons, *viz.* 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Posset of ale and mylke, *possette*. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) T vj, Knotgrasse..the iuice therof in a posset dronken..is excedyng good. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* II. ii. 6 The surfeted Groomes doe mock their charge With Snores. I haue drugg'd their Possets. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Phillis*, Thou shalt have possets, wassails fine; Not made of ale, but spiced wine! 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 2 [He] can make a Caudle or a Sack-Posset better than any Man in England. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* xxix. (1790) 277 His supper should be light; as small posset, or water-gruel sweetened with honey, and a little toasted bread in it. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. xiii. 205, I do wish he would try a hot posset of a night, just before going to bed.

b. *attrib.*, as *posset-ale, -basin, -bowl, -cup, -curd, -dish, -drink, -pot.*

1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 299 A possetale, hauing certein herbes clarified in it. 1551–60 in H. Hall *Eliz. Soc.* (1887) 152 A possett Boule of Pewter. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 125 Hee lou'd lycoras and drunke posset curd. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 40 Posset Cuppes caru'd with libberds faces and Lyons heads with spouts in their mouths, to let out the posset Ale. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 342 Plain posset drink alone, reasonable warm, will do well. 1680 *Hon. Cavalier* 11, I know some, who prefer..the Possit-Bason before the Hallowed Font. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1765) 59 Drink a Quarter of a Pint of Allum Posset drink. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vi, A gold posset-dish to contain the night-draught.

2. *dial.* The curdled milk vomited by a baby. (Yorksh. and Lancash. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

Hence **Po·sset** *v.* † **a.** *trans.* to curdle like a posset (*obs.*); **b.** *intr.* (*a*) to make a posset; (*b*) of a baby: to throw up curdled milk.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 68 And with a sodaine vigour it doth posset And curd, like Aygre droppings into Milke The thin and wholsome blood. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxix, She broke off to go posseting for her dear invalid. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Bless its little heart, it's possetting again. [Cited from Westmld. to South Notts.]

Possibilist (pǫsi·bilist). [ad. F. *possibiliste* or Sp. *posibilista*, f. L. *possibilis*: see POSSIBLE and -IST.] A member of a political party whose aims at reform are directed to what is immediately possible or practicable; *spec.* (*a*) of a party of Republicans in Spain; (*b*) of a party of Socialists in France. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1881 *Daily News* 18 Aug. 5/7 The Opportunist, now called the Possibilist doctrine, that everything cannot be done in a day. 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 459 Communists..of the 'Possibilist' type. 1893 *Times* 8 Aug. 2/5 The Possibilists of Paris made the first notable effort to re-unite the labour parties of different countries. 1894 *Cycl. Rev. Curr. Hist.* (Buffalo, N. Y.) IV. 898 Señor Abarzuza has been virtual leader of the possibilists or moderate republicans ever since Señor Castelar announced his retirement.

Possibilitate (pǫsibi·litēt), *v.* [f. POSSIBILITY + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To render possible.

1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIX. 134 That this object has been *possibilitated*. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 2 Feb. 90/2 Theories thus miserably imperfect have nevertheless sufficed to 'possibilitate' (as a Spaniard would say) all the great engineering works of our age.

Possibility (pǫsibi·liti). Also 4–6 with *y* for *i*, and *-e, -ee, -ie* for *-y*; (6 **posabilete**). [a. F. *possibilité* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *possibilitās*, f. *possibilis* POSSIBLE: see -ITY.]

1. The state, condition, or fact of being possible; capability of being done, happening, or existing (in general, or under particular conditions).

By any possibility (formerly † *by possibility*): in any possible way, by any existing means, possibly; so *by no possibility*. † *Of possibility* (quot. *c* 1374): characterized by possibility, possible.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 399 (448) That kan I deme of possibilite. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 615 Ffor wende I neuere by possibilitee That swich a Monstre or merueille myghte be. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iii. (Skeat) I. 112 But now thou seest .. the possibilite of thilke that thou wendest had been impossible. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 39 That the comon wyt, by possibilitie, Maye well a judge the perfyt veritie Of theyr sentence. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. iv. § 3 That high perfection of blisse, wherein now the elect Angels are without possibilitie of falling. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xiv. (1648) 94 To understand that assertion of Archimedes concerning the possibility of moving the world. 1709 ATTERBURY *Serm., Luke* x. 32 (1726) II. 231 Shall we be discouraged from any Attempt of doing good, by the Possibility of our failing in it? 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 401 These continuances, therefore, take away all presumption and possibility that the judgment was given on the first day of the term. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sc.* vii. (1885) 193 Science and Revelation come into..collision on the possibility of miracles. *Mod.* If I could by any possibility manage to do it, I would.

b. *In possibility*: (*a*) not actually existing, but that may come to exist; potential: = *in* POSSE; (*b*) in relation to something possible but not actual; potentially. (See also 3 b.)

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* iv. (1592) 45 As for God, he is not a thing in possibilitie (which is an vnperfect being) but altogether actuallie and in verie deed. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 191 ¶ 9 We are apt to rely upon future Prospects, and become really expensive while..only rich in Possibility.

c. *After possibility* (Law): ellipt. for *after possibility of issue is extinct*, i. e. when there is no longer any possibility of issue.

[*c* 1350 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 401/2 Dount possibilite de issue entre eux est esteinte, Maud ad fait wast, exil, vente e destruction. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 7 b, He..is tenaunt in the tayle after possibilitie of issue extinct.] 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. xxi, If tenant after possibility make a lease for yeares, and the donor confirmes to the lessee to hold without impeachment of waste.

d. The quality or character of representing or relating to something that is possible.

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 63 In the phantasies of Painters, nothing is so commendable as that there is both possibilitie and truth in them. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. xvi, To consult on the possibility of certain views,..and the expediency of their adoption. 1890 RAYNER *Chess Problems* 5 The chief requisites of a problem are possibility and soundness...A possible position can be reached by a legal series of moves as in a game.

e. *Math.* The condition of being a possible or real quantity.

1673 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 555 About the constitution of incomplete equations, it is easy to observe that many of the roots lose their possibility.

2. An instance of the fact or condition described in 1; a possible thing or circumstance; something that may exist or happen. (Usually with *a*, or in *pl.*; in *pl.* sometimes nearly = capabilities: cf. 3.)

c 1400 *Beryn* 3544, I can nat wete howe To stop all the ffressh watir wer possibilite. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 215 Oh brother speake with possibilities, And do not breake into these deepe extreames. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 100 Our Examiner can give you a view of it in the Region of Possibilities. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 539 ¶ 2 There is a Possibility this Delay may be as painful to her as it is to me. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. i. 10 This is spoken of rather as a possibility, than as any settled intention. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* v. 48 Her clearer intellect saw possibilities which did not occur to him. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* iii. (1884) 100 Three possibilities of life..are open to all living organisms—Balance, Evolution, and Degeneration.

† **3.** Regarded or stated as an attribute of the agent: The fact of something (expressed or implied) being possible to one, in virtue either of favourable circumstances or of one's own powers; hence, Capacity, capability, power, ability; pecuniary ability, means. (In quot. 1591, Possibility or chance of having something: cf. b.) *Obs.* (or merged in 1).

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 685 Eftyr my possybilyte, Dere sone, I sal helpe þe. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxix. 99 Þou shalt þan fruisshe abundance of pes after þe possibilite of þi duellyng place. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 82 Liberalite is to yeue to nedi peple.. aftir the possibilite of the yeuer. 1544 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 249 Consider his qualeties, his living, his posabilete, and confer al together. *a* 1550 *Hye Way to Spyttel Hous* 633 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 53 Yong brethren of small possybylyte, Not hauyng wherwith to mayntene such degre. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 133 We..offerit us to do thairfor..all that lay in our possibilliteis. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 75 He that maketh Laws, must have regard to the common possibility of men. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iv. 146 Ile rather keepe That which I haue, then coueting for more Be cast from possibility of all. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 39, I haue speeded hither with the very extremest ynch of possibilitie. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* x. (1655) 33 We could not, although we proved all our possibility by night and day. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. i. 11 An instance of conformity beyond the possibility..of random writing to produce. 1815 *Zeluca* III. 78 An object who interfered with her wishes, to a degree it was not in her possibility for any other Creature to approach *to*.

† **b.** *In possibility* (later, *in a possibility*): in such a position that something (expressed or implied) is possible to or for one; having a prospect, expectation, or chance (*of* or *to do* something).

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 794 Duke Aubert had nat bene in trewe possession of Heynalt, but in possibylite therof. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref. ¶ viij b, I be in such faire possibilitie to be thought a foole, or fantasticall for my labour. 1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* Wks. 1873 I. 182 That they who are alreadie in possession of it, may beare their heades aloft .. and they that are but in possibilitie, may be rauisht with a desire to be in possession. 1605 *Play Stucley* 307 in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 170, I am in possibility To marry Alderman Curtises daughter. 1682 DRYDEN *Relig. Laici* Pref., Heathens who never did .. hear of the name of Christ, were yet in a possibility of salvation.

† **c.** *sing.* and *pl.* Pecuniary prospects. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D iij, A yoong gentleman of faire liuing, in issue of good parents or assured possibilitie. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 65 *Slen.* I know the young Gentlewoman, she has good gifts. *Evan.* Seuen hundred pounds, and possibilities, is goot gifts. 1637 HEYWOOD *Royall King* II. iii. (1874 VI. 25) You know I am my Fathers heire, My possibilities may raise his hopes To their first height.

Possible (pǫ·sĭb'l), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Also 4–6 possy-; 4 -bel, -bile, 5 -byll(e, 5–6 -bil, 6 -bill, -bul (-able). [a. F. *possible* (in OF. also *posible*, 13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), or ad. L. *possibilis* that can be or may be done, possible, f. *posse* (for *potis esse*) to be able.]

1. That may be (i. e. is capable of being); that may or can exist, be done, or happen (in general, or in given or assumed conditions or circumstances); that is in one's power, that one can do, exert, use, etc. (const. *to* the agent).

a. Qualifying a noun or pronoun, attributively or (more usually) predicatively.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 452 If possyble were her mendyng. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xviii. 27 Tho thingis that ben vnpossible anemptis men, ben possible anemptis God. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1020 (*Dido*), I can nat seyn If that it be possible. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xvii. 184 And that was possible thinge. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 123 We woll considre next his extra ordinarie charges, also ferre as may be possible to vs. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* ix. 23 All thynges are possyble to hym that belevith. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* A iij b, He ought to procede to the healyng of the pacyent in all that may lye in hym possyble. 1564 GOLDING *Justine* XI. 54 He passed the mountaine Taurus with all spede possible. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 42 To make a Triangle .. whose Base shall be equal to any (possible) Number given. 1777 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 150 When we speak only of things, not persons, we have a right to express ourselves with all possible energy. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* p. xxxv, The manners of the Esquimaux .. being the most suitable possible to the nature of the climate. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xvii. § 36 All real and wholesome enjoyments possible to man have been just as possible to him, since first he was made of the earth, as they are now. 1870 JEVONS *Logic* xxii. 187 Thomson much extends the list of possible syllogisms. *Mod.* There are three possible courses.

b. Qualifying an infinitive or other clause, usually introduced by *it*.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6328 And if possibel ware, als es noght, þat ilk man als mykel syn had wroght, Als alle þe men þat in þe werld ever was. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 32 In his hous as famulier was he As it is possible any freend to be. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 209/1 It is not vnto vs possyble for to see eche other. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 29 War it possibill that in ony corce War Salamonis witt and hie sapience. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 41 It is not possible to discern the one from the other. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 180 No, it is not possible you should loue the Enemie of France, Kate. 1705 S. CLARKE *Being & Attrib. God* x. 171 It is possible to Infinite Power, to indue a Creature with the Power of Beginning Motion. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn to Mercury* lxix, How was it possible..That you, a little child, born yesterday,..Could two prodigious heifers ever flay?

c. With infinitive or other complement (nearly coinciding with 3). Cf. IMPOSSIBLE *a.* 1 b.

1706 ATTERBURY *Serm.*, 1 *Cor.* xv. 19 (1726) II. 10 All the Advantages and Satisfactions of this World, which are possible to be attain'd by him. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* 82 A limit almost always possible of exact ascertainment.

d. In elliptical phrases, as *if possible* = if it be

(or were) possible, if it can (or could) be; *as much as possible* = as much as may (or might) be, as much as one can (or could).

1671 MILTON *Samson* 490 Let me here..expiate, if possible, my crime. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 229 Notice be given to as many of The Members as possible. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 58 ¶ 2, I shall endeavour as much as possible to establish among us a Taste of polite Writing. 1719 — *Wks.* (1721) I. Ded. to Craggs 2 That they may come to you with as little disadvantage as possible. 1882 *Knowledge* II. 70 So that she might be cured, if possible.

†e. ellipt. for 'all possible', 'the greatest possible'. *Obs. rare.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 281 Ilk flies to his awne cuntrie with possable haist.

f. That can or may be or become (what is denoted by the sb.): as *a possible object of knowledge* = something that may be an object of knowledge, that can or may be known. (See also 2 b.)

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 3 Nothing which is the possible object of knowledge..can be probable to an infinite Intelligence. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 45 The labourer is a possible lord. The lord is a possible basket-maker. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* I. xvi, Of the three possible harbours..they made no use.

2. That may be (i. e. is not known not to be); that is perhaps true or a fact; that perhaps exists. (Expressing contingency, or an idea in the speaker's mind, not power or capability of existing as in 1; hence sometimes nearly = credible, thinkable.)

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. lxv. 132 b, That you shoulde understand, wherefore and for what cause I remained in the Indias, for that it is possible that all you do not know. 1693 DRYDEN *Orig. & Progr. Sat. Ess.* (ed. Ker) II. 25 In such an age, it is possible some great genius may arise, to equal any of the ancients. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VII. XVII. 300 Swept away all actual and possible debts. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* (1837) 379 This word..relates sometimes to contingency, sometimes to power, e. g. 'It is possible this patient may recover'. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. 443 The Jats, whose possible descent from the Getæ has been discussed in another place. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 157 The thought of the possible loss of my axe at the summit was here forcibly revived.

b. That may be (what is denoted by the sb.); that perhaps is or will be . . (Cf. 1 f.)

1882 B. HARTE *Flip* i, Still less would any passing stranger have recognised in this blonde faun the possible outcast and murderer. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 10 May 5/6 Assiduous efforts..in whipping up every possible supporter of the Bill.

†3. Having the power *to do* something; able, capable. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. POSSIBILITY 3.)

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 131 Yf ye be able and possible to reedifie the churches of God. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 359 Firm we subsist, yet possible to swerve.

4. *Math.* = REAL *a.*[2] 1 d; opp. to IMPOSSIBLE *a.* 2.

1874 TODHUNTER *Trig.* xix. § 271 (1882) 216 If n be even, the last term..is possible, namely $(-1)^{\frac{n}{2}} \sin^n\theta$, and the last term but one is impossible, namely $n(-1)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \cos\theta \sin^{n-1}\theta$.

5. With ellipsis of some qualification: Possible to deal with, get on with, understand, take into consideration, etc. (Opp. to IMPOSSIBLE *a.* 3.) *rare.*

1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vii. 228 He [Joubert] was more possible than Coleridge; his doctrine was more intelligible than Coleridge's, more receivable.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. a. *absol.* (usually with *the*): That which is possible.

1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 75 If wee speake of the possible, of what may be. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Cry Children* 135 God's possible is taught by His world's loving, And the children doubt of each. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* vii. 139 The Possible is always the ultimate master of our efforts and desires.

b. as *sb.* A possible thing: = POSSIBILITY 2. (Almost always in *pl.*)

1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 173 Inferior possibles are more remote, and only thought on in the second place. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. iii. 46 Any Thing else of all the infinite Number of Possibles. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* II. xiv. 448, I know..who is a higher, and fresher, and sweeter possible of me.

¶ c. *To do one's possible* (imitation of F. *faire son possible*): to do what is possible to one, to do one's utmost, 'to do one's endeavour'.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) V. 175 He did his possible, but old Turgid was neither to be led nor driven. 1808 in Southey *Life A. Bell* (1844) II. 483, I had done my possible (in French phrase) to gratify you. 1838 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) II. 408, I would however have done my possible.

2. *slang. pl.* Necessaries, means, supplies.

1823 BEE *Dict. Turf* 96 *High-tide*, plenty of the possibles; whilst 'low-water' implies empty clies. 1824 *Hist. Gaming Ho.* 61 Dick was sadly put to his trumps to raise the possibles. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxiv, The hunters departed, each to look after his 'traps and possibles'.

3. *colloq.* (orig. *highest possible*): short for 'highest possible score or number of points' (in a competition, esp. in rifle practice).

1866 *York Herald* 6 Aug. 5/4 Two highest possibles were recorded, the 1st Glo'ster taking first prize on account of time; the second going to 1st Hants. 1894 *Daily News* 20 July 4/6 Despite the somewhat unfavourable conditions, three highest possibles were made. 1895 *Ibid.* 17 July 2/1 'Possibles' were also made by Private —, 3rd East Surrey, and Captain —, 3rd Lanark. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 9/1 Putting on a possible at 800 yards.

†C. as *adv.* = POSSIBLY. (As an intensive qualification of *can* or *could*.) *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 30 b, Crito had afore dooen all that euer he might possible dooe. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* v. 25 He furnished a fresh Nauy of Ships, with all the hast he could possible. 1678 WALTON *Life Sanderson* 53, I wonder how a person could possible be deceived with it. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Two Oxf. Scholars* Wks. 1730 I. 9, I shall certainly have..as many mischievous tricks play'd me as they can possible. 1799 MRS. J. WEST *Tale of Times* II. 223 She became as cold..in her answers as the rules of civility could possible admit.

Hence †**Po·ssibleness,** = POSSIBILITY 1. *Obs. rare.*

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 313 To assure me of the possiblenesse of obeying it. *Ibid.* 362 Shewing it an entrance and a possiblenesse of escape. 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Possibly (pɒ·sĭbli), *adv.* [f. POSSIBLE + -LY [2].]

1. In a possible manner; according to what may or can be (in the nature of things); by any existing power or means; within the range of possibility; by any possibility. (Usually, now always, as an intensive qualification of *can* or *could*.)

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. 1 Alle the conclusiouns that han ben fownde, or elles possibli myhten be fownde. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* I. 31 Sent..for as much Artillery as was possiblye to be had. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 3 When possibly I can, I will returne. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem* (1759) I. 14 Every Man amaz'd anew, How it could possibly be true. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 243 ¶ 6 He cannot possibly live till Five in the Morning. *Mod.* I cannot possibly be present. How could you possibly think so?

†b. Irregularly used instead of *possible* in adverbial phrases, as *if possibly, soon as possibly, by all means possibly. Obs.*

1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 277 Therefore out of hand with all speed possibly To have a wife, methink, would do well. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 117 b, That all South Holland, if it were possibly, might bee laide vnder the water. 1640 HABINGTON *Edw. IV* 137 Soone as possibly, he was dismist. 1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 701, I was somewhat moved..if possibly, to make her think she was mistook.

†c. As is possible to one; according to one's ability; as much or as well as one can. *Obs. rare.*

1657 CROMWELL *Speech* 8 Apr., You have provided for every one of them as a Free Man, as a man that does possibly, rationally, and conscientiously.

2. Qualifying the statement, and expressing contingency or subjective possibility (cf. POSSIBLE *a.* 2): According to what may be (as far as one knows); perhaps, perchance, maybe. (Often as intensive qualification of *may* or *might*.)

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 18 With greater libertie then possiblie reason woulde allowe. 1685 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. viii. 362 A man by mere peradventure lights into company, possibly is driven into an House by a shower of Rain for present Shelter. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 2 The Women might possibly have carried this Gothick Building much higher. 1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* iii, Possibly I might have some poor low relations. 1877 BAIN *Comp. Higher Eng. Gram.* (ed. 2) 198 We shall possibly come. 1899 T. NICOLL *Rec. Archæol. & Bible* v. 206 A Hittite woman was possibly the mother of Solomon [= it is possible that a Hittite woman was..].

Possident (pɒ·sidĕnt), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. *possident-em* possessing, pres. pple. of *possidēre* to possess.]

†A. *adj.* Possessing, holding in possession. *Obs.*

1625 W. B. *True School War* 31 That those Countries should, by the renunciation of the possident Princes, be deliuered vp vnto him.

B. *sb.* A possessor.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. ii. 49 The fensing or inclosing of the Plot appertaines to the Possident, *Ibid.* III. ii. 66 The qualities and attributes coincident to the Possident and Possession. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Oct. 6/2 One who wishes to see riches freely and equitably circulating, and looks for some adjustment between possidents and not-possidents to the ultimate advantage of peace and public safety.

Possody, obs. form of POWSOWDY, *Sc.*

Possum (pɒ·sŏm), *sb.* Now *colloq.* Also 7 **possown, -e, possam,** 8 **posom,** 9 **'possum.** Aphetic form of OPOSSUM.

1613 A. WHITAKER *Gd. Newes fr. Virginia* 41 The female possown which will let forth her young out of her bellie. 1670 D. DENTON *Descr. New York* (1845) 7 They eat likewise Polecats, Skunks, Racoon, Possum. 1698 G. THOMAS *Pensilvania* 14 That strange creature, the Possam. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Marsupiale*, in natural history, a name given by Tyson to the creature commonly called, the possum, or opossum. *a* 1813 A. WILSON *Foresters* Poet. Wks. (1846) 235 While owls and 'possums found concealment there. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 594 He's a rare dog for 'possums.

b. *To play possum* (U.S. colloq.): to feign, dissemble; to pretend illness: in allusion to the opossum's habit of feigning death when threatened or attacked. So *to act possum, to come possum over.*

1824 W. N. BLANE *Excursion* 134 It is a common saying in America..that he is 'playing possum'. 1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. to Texas* II. 216 When a slave is suspected by his employers of shamming sickness, to avoid his work, he is compared to this cunning little beast: 'Well, I guess he's coming 'possum over us'. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 5, I will play possum with these folks.

c. Applied to the Phalangers: = OPOSSUM 2.

1770 COOK *Jrnl.* (1893) 294 Here are Wolves, Possums, an Animal like a ratt, and snakes. 1869 HOARE *Figures of Fancy* 86 The 'possum prattles in the trees.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 391 The Esquimaux..say that the dogs soon learn this 'possum-playing' habit. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 645 A true 'possum hunter never aims except in the head. 1880 FISON & HOWITT *Kamilaroi* 197 Each lad has his head covered up in a 'possum rug.

Po·ssum, *v. U. S. colloq.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To 'play possum': see prec. b.

1832 T. FLINT *Geog. Mississippi Valley* (ed. 2) I. 67 In the common parlance of the country, any one, who counterfeits sickness..is said to be 'possuming' [*ed.* 1828 oppossuming]. 1888 *Daily Inter-Ocean* 6 Feb. (Farmer), With three dangerously wounded grizzlies roaming around the immediate neighbourhood, besides the possibility of possuming among those stretched out below.

2. To hunt opossums. Usually in *vbl. sb.*

1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 607 To go out with him on a 'possuming expedition. 1900 H. LAWSON *Over Shiprails* 152, I promised to go 'possuming with Johnny Nowlett.

Post (pōst), *sb.*[1] Also (4 **pos**), 5 **poost,** 5-7 **poste,** 7 **poast.** [OE. *post* a post, pillar, doorpost, ad. L. *postis* a post, door-post (in med.L. also a rod, pole, beam), whence also OHG. *pfost* (Ger. *pfosten*) post, beam, MLG., LG., MDu., Du. *post* door-post; also OF. *post* (12th c. in Godef.) (mod. dial. *pôt*) post, pillar, beam, by which prob. the OE. word was reinforced in ME.

(Dialectal plurals are *posses, postès, postesses*: see Pegge *Anecd. Eng. Lang.* and *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)]

I. 1. A stout piece of timber, or other solid material, of considerable length, and usually of cylindrical or square shape, used in a vertical position, esp. in building as a support for a superstructure.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 226 He aheng þa hæt dust on ænne heahne post. *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 164/32 *Basis*, post. *c* 1205 LAY. 28032 He bigon to hewene..and þa postes for-heou alle, þa heolden up þa halle. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7258 Þe post þat al þat huse vpbare Wit bath his handes he it scok. 1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Strang and stedeuest ase a pos ine his temple. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/2 Poost, of an howse, *postis*. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 190 b, Greate postes of streight timber set on a row equally dystant a two fote space one from another. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* xxii, Not a Poste, nor a painted cloth in the house but cryes out, Feare God. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 6 Post is equivocal, it is a piece of timber, or a swift messenger. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 262 If it be not convenient to allow the posts in partitions to be square, which is the best form.

1795 *Sporting Mag.* V. 135 With what difficulty he gets through a crowd, or clears the postesses in the fields. 1833 MARRYAT *Peter S.* iii, I inquired of the coachman which was the best inn. He answered 'that it was the Blue Postesses, where the midshipmen leave their chestesses'.

†b. Formerly sometimes applied to a beam. *Obs.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid* x. 129 Shee ryseth, full in mynd To hang herself. About a post her girdle she doth bynd. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1123 A post called the browe post, which is iust over the threshold: some call it a transome.

c. As a type of lifelessness, stupidity, ignorance, deafness, or hardness: cf. BLOCK *sb.* 1 b.

Between you and me and the post (or *bed-post*): as something that no one else is to hear or know; as a secret, in confidence.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4695 But welaway! as harde as is a post..ben hertes now! *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 61 Good conscience, goo preche to þe post, þi councel sauerib not my tast. 1617 BRATHWAIT *Drinking* 80 Till they like Posts can neither speake nor goe. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxxiii, They..know no more than the post. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* Pref. 4 The fellow, stupid as a post, Believ'd in truth it was a ghost! 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* IV. i. 205 Between you and me and the bed-post, young master's quarrelled with old master. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* x, And between you and me and the post, sir, it will be a very nice portrait too. *a* 1845 HOOD *T. Trumpet* iv, She was deaf as a post. 1873 MRS. ALEXANDER *Wooing o't* III. iv. 94 Between you and me and the post, I don't think they have much money.

2. A stake, stout pole, column, or the like, that is set upright in or on the ground, for various purposes; e. g. as a boundary mark, landmark, or monument, a stand for displaying public notices, a support for a fence, a point of attachment, etc.

Post of the post: ? one who exhibited his writings in public.

a 1300 *St. Michael* 149 in *Treat. Sc.*, etc. (Wright) 135 If ther were nou a post heȝ [*Laud. MS.* an heiȝ stepel], and a man above sete, And me seȝe him smyte an heȝ gode duntes and grete. 1417 *Searchers Verdicts* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 11 A party of the ferrest post of Robert of Feriby standys on Seint Leonard grunde. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 [They] shall..affix the same writing unto some post or other open place.. in Lumberdstrete. 1640 R. WEST in Ferrand *Erotomania* b vij, And sweare, like Poets of the Post, This Play Exceeds all Iohnsons Works. 1643 MILTON *Soveraigne Salve* 40 Like Posts of direction for Travellers. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 157 At all cross wayes there are posts with hands pointing to each road. *Mod.* The boundary is marked by a line of posts. The lane is barred by posts against riding or driving.

†b. Formerly set up by the door of a mayor, sheriff, or other magistrate. *Obs.*

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. ii. 21 Whose sonne more iustly of his gentry boasts Then who were borne at two pide painted posts; And had some traunting Merchant to his syre. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 157 Hee'l stand at your door like a Sheriffes post.. but hee'l speake with you. 1618 *Owles Alm., Painters* 57 My Lord Maiors posts must needs be trimmed against he takes his oath. 1632 ROWLEY *New Wonder* I. 7 If e'r I live to see thee Shreiffe of London, I'l gild thy painted postes. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* s. v.,

Posts, planted in the ground..were formerly placed at the sides of the doors of sheriffs and municipal authorities, probably to fix proclamations and other notices to.

3. With prefixed word indicating special purpose.

Draw-post, a post used in wire fences, provided with winders for tightening the wires; *Foot-post*, one of the posts at the foot of a four-post bedstead; *Kerb-post*, a post set at the edge of a pavement; *Race-post*, a starting-post or winning-post. See also BED-, CLOTHES-, DOOR-, GATE-, GOAL-, KING-, LAMP-, SIGN-POST; also *direction-post* (DIRECTION 11), *reaching-post* (REACHING *vbl. sb.*[1]), etc.

1643 MILTON *Soveraigne Salve* 40 Like race posts quickly to be run over. 1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* 32 From B and E, raise the Head-posts to the Frame L and M, also draw the Foot-posts and Rails. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 378 One end being attached to the winder at one draw-post, the wire is extended to the adjoining draw-post, and fixed to its corresponding winder at that post. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 1/3 Four of the cannon..now fill the lowly if useful rôles of kerb-posts and lamp-posts.

4. Contextually for various specific kinds of posts.

a. A door-post or gate-post.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6077 On aiþer post þer hus to smer, A taken o tav [T or †] on þair derner. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xvi. 3 Sampson .. took both leeues of the ȝate, with her postes and lok. — *Prov.* viii. 34 Blisful the man..that waitith at the postis of my dore. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3428 Sampson..the ȝates with the postis with hym bare he away. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 147 The Gates of Azza, Post, and massie Bar.

b. A whipping-post (?).

1624 HEYWOOD *Captives* v. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, They will spitt at us and doom us Unto the post and cart.

c. *Racing.* The post which marks the starting or finishing point; a starting-post or winning-post.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xii. 181 A Fool and a Wiseman are alike both in the starting-place, their birth, and at the post, their death. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 898 A Race, In which both do their uttermost To get befo.., and win the Post. 1708 *Yorkshire-Racers* 10 From diffrent posts the various racers start. 1885 H. SMART (*title*) From Post to Finish. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 19 Dec. 2/6 Some good horses mustered at the post. 1907 *Tribune* 23 Mar. 10/5 The hurdles...The two men were together until almost the very last fence, and then Powell shot out and won on the post.

d. *Naut.* The upright timber on which the rudder is hung; the stern-post; † hence *transf.* the stem of a ship (*obs.*).

Body post, *inner post*: see quots. *c* 1850, 1867.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 22 Our ship calked from post to stem. 1682 SIR J. BERRY in *Loud. Gaz.* No. 1720/7 A terrible blow struck off the Rother, and, as was believed, struck out a blank nigh the Post. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 126 *Inner Post*, a piece of oak timber brought on and fayed to the fore-side of the main stern-post, for the purpose of seating the transoms upon it. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Body-post*, an additional stern-post introduced at the fore-part of an aperture cut in the deadwood in a ship fitted with a screw-propeller.

† **5.** The door-post on which the reckoning at a tavern was kept; hence, the account or score. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 64 If I return I shall be post indeede. For she will scoure your fault vpon my pate. 1600-12 ROWLANDS *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 11 Score it up, when God sends coyne I will discharge your poast. 1604 — *Looke to it* 39 You that for all your diet with your Hoast, Do set your hand in Chalke vnto his Poast.

II. † **6.** *fig.* A support, prop, stay: = PILLAR 3.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 1000 That þow shalt be þe best post..Of al his lay. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 214 Vn to his ordre he was a noble post. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 29 Ful ofte a wife is a broken poste. *a* 1536 *Calisto & Melibœa* (1905) 70 Now God be their guides! the posts of my life. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut.* 46 b, H N. and his heyre Vitels, beyng great postes in his new-found Family.

III. Transferred uses.

7. a. A vertical mass or stack of stratified rock between two 'joints' or fissures.

1712 MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northamptonshire* 127 The continued Lines are the larger Perpendicular Fissures, there called Gulfe-Joints, and sometimes Damps. The Spaces inclos'd within them are the *Posts* or *Stacks* of Stone, that are thus severed from each other by means of those Gulfe-Joints. 1772 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 227 To feigh a post of stone at the said quarry.

b. Any thick compact stratum of sandstone or limestone.

1794 W. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumberld.* II. 443 Each key is composed of a number of layers of stone, of a different thickness, which the workmen call *posts*. 1812 R. GRAHAM *Agric. Surv. Stirling* i. § 5. 52 The stratum or post, as it is here called, of this quarry, is from 10 to 15 feet thick. 1876 PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* v. 92 The term post is frequently applied to express a thick uniform-grained stratum of sandstone. 1887 H. MILLER *Geol. Otterburn & Elsdon* iii. 10 A number of limestone bands, or 'posts', will be found at the head of Sills Burn.

c. Also *post-stone*: Sandstone of a fine grain.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 93/2 Of Post-stone. This is a free stone of the hardest kind..of a very fine texture.. and when broken appears as if composed of the finest sand. ..Red post is generally of a dull red colour. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Post*,..2. Sandstone (fine-grained).

d. A vertical mass or pillar of coal in a mine, left uncut to support the roof of the working. *Post and stall*: = *Pillar and stall*: see PILLAR *sb.* 7.

1811 FAREY *Agric. Derbyshire* I. 188 The method of posts and stalls, or leaving large pillars and excavating chambers between them, is resorted to. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 979 In the post and stall system, each man has his own room, and performs all the labour in it. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Post*, 1. A solid block or pillar of coal.

¶ In *Paper-making*: see POST *sb.*[5] 1.

IV. 8. Phrases.

a. *Post and paling*: see quot. **b.** *Post and pan*: applied to a building or mode of construction in which the walls are formed of a framework of beams with the spaces filled in with brickwork, plaster, or the like; also called locally *post and panel* (Eng. Dial. Dict.), *petrail*, *plaster*, *tan*. **c.** *Post and rail(s*, *railing*: see quot. 1823: also, materials for post and rail fencing; also *attrib.*; *post and rail tea* (*Austral.*): tea roughly made in which stalks, etc., are floating. **d.** *From post to pillar*: see PILLAR *sb.* 11. † **e.** *To go to the post*: = to go to the wall. **f.** *To kiss the post* (see KISS *v.* 6 h): to be shut out or disappointed. **g.** *To make a hack in the post*: to use up or consume a considerable part of something, to 'make a hole in'. **h.** *To run one's head against a post*: in fig. use. **i.** *On the right or the wrong side of the post*, etc. (referring to posts marking the right course); hence *fig.*

a. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 590 *Post and Paling*, a close wooden fence, constructed of posts set into the ground and pales nailed to rails between them. **b.** 1517 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 140 Unam domum de postis and pannes. 1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Post-and-pan*, old half-timber buildings are said to be post-and-pan. 1842-76 GWILT *Archit.* (ed. 7) Gloss. s. v. *Pan*, Called post and pan, or post and petrail work, in the north of England. 1867 HARLAND & WILKINSON *Lanc. Folk-Lore* 263 A dwelling..of clay and wood, what is called post and petrel. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 462 Their 'post and tan' cottages have passed away. 1900 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 7/1 We may see the gabled post-and-plaster house, of which the older part is late fifteenth-century work. **c.** 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 590 *Post and Railing*, an open wooden fence, consisting of posts and rails only. 1851 *Australasian* 298 (Farmer) Hyson-skin and post-and-rail tea have been superseded by Mocha, claret, and cognac. 1865 DICKSON *Poems* 98 He had fifty acres cleared, all fenced with post and rail. 1898 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Rom. Canvas Town* 33 He .. couldn't stand the rations—bad flour—post-and-rail tea and..old ewe mutton. **e.** *a* 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 118 Antichrist had no sooner gotten to high strength .. but the faithfull went to the post, and wandered vp and downe. **f.** *c* 1515-1681 [see KISS *v.* 6 h]. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 710 Troylus also hath lost On her moch loue and cost, And now must kys the post. *c* 1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* B iij, The Church they despoyle, the poore the poste may kis. 1607 DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 63 The vsurer looking as hungrilie as if he had kist the post. **g.** 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 244, £25 or £30 paid all at once for one horse makes a sad hack in the post, and cannot well be spared by a minister, unless he has a nest-egg in the bank. **h.** 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) I. 38 You have run your head against a post, as the saying is. **i.** 1792-5 AIKIN & BARBAULD *Even. at Home* xxiii, At length,..Young Peer [race-horse] ran on the wrong side of the post, was distanced, and the Squire ruined. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 94 On the right side of the Post. *a* 1814 *Fam. Politics* III. iv. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 224, I find I am on the wrong side of the post; I must flatter a little. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xx, Still, Tony, you were on the wrong side of the post then. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* (Tauchn.) II. i. 12 Though they may possibly go astray, they have a fair chance given to them of running within the posts. 1861 — *Framley P.* (Tauchn.) II. xxiii. 340 He had bolted from his appointed course, going terribly on the wrong side of the posts.

V. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *post-betting* (4 c), *-foot*; applied to implements for drawing, pulling up, or making a hole in the ground for, a post, as *post-auger*, *-driver*, *-jack*, *-puller*; also to things fixed or mounted on a post, as *post-box*, *-dial*, *-drill*, *-pump*, *-windlass*; *post-legged*, *-like* adjs.; † **postband**, ? a band in a panelled ceiling: = LAQUEAR 1; **post-bird**, **post-butt**: see quots.: **post cedar**, the white or incense cedar, *Libocedrus decurrens*; **post-driver**, (*a*) an implement for driving in posts or piles, a pile-driver; (*b*) the American bittern, the stake-driver; **post-line**, an elevated railway line (*Cent. Dict.*); † **post-metal**, the metal-work connecting a door with its post; **post-mill**, a windmill pivoted on a post, so as to be turned round to catch the wind; **post-painter**, a signpost-painter; **post-pocket**, an iron socket fixed on the outside of a railway car to receive a post; **post quintain**, a stake or post used as a quintain: = PEL; † **post-writing**, writing on a door-post: cf. Deut. vi. 9, 24. See also POST ALONE, POST-HOLE, POST-KNIGHT, etc.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commiss. Agric.* (1869) 354 Its practicability can..be ascertained by digging a well, or by boring with a pile or *post auger. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 667/19 *Hoc laquear*, *postband. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* ibid. 778/7 *Hoc laquiare*, postbondde. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Apr. 7/2 It is evident that the City and Suburban will this year be a *post-betting race. 1882 *Science Gossip* XVIII. 65/1 Local Names.—(Kent)..Spotted Flycatcher..'*Post bird'; from its habit of perching on a post, watching for flies. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Post Box*, a shafting box attached to a post. 1875 — *Dict. Mech.*, **Post-butt*, a block inserted in the ground and having a socket to hold a post. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* civ, *Post and Pocket Dials for any Latitude. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 223 Payd for a *poste fote standyng of the grounde of Robert Wodemansey, iiij*d*. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1880) 48 He was gouty, bigge, *poste legged, and of yeeres something many. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 Pyrrhus.. Downe beats with pealing thee doors, and *post metal heaueth. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 122 To effect this [i. e. bringing the sails to the wind] two methods are in general use: the one called the *post-mill; the other the smock-mill. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* I. i, Why, thou *Post-painter, thou Dauber, thou execrable White-washer. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. i. § 3 (1876) 186 The exercise of the pel, or *post quintain, which is spoken of at large by Vegetius. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Post Windlass*, a winding machine which is actuated with breaks or handspikes. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* Deut. vi. 9 Whosoever hath his phylacteries on his head and on his arme,..and *post-writing on his doore, he is fortified.

Post (pōust), *sb.*[2] Also 6-7 **poste**, **poast**, 6 *Sc.* **poist**. [a. F. *poste* (1477 in Godef.), in the same senses as in Eng., ad. It. *posta*, orig. the same word as *posta*, F. *poste* station, stand, late L. or Rom. *posta* sb. from *postus* (Lucretius) = *positus*, pa. pple. of *pōnĕre* to place. From It. also Sp., Pg. *posta*; from Fr. (app.), Du., Ger., Da., Sw. *post*. See Note below.]

I. † 1. From the beginning of the 16th c., applied to men with horses stationed or appointed in places at suitable distances along the post-roads (see POST-STAGE), the duty of each being to ride with, or forward with all speed to the next stage, the king's 'packet', and at length the letters of other persons, as well as to furnish change of horses to 'thorough-posts' or express messengers riding post. *To lay posts*, to establish a chain of such 'posts' along a route for the speedy forwarding of dispatches.

Posts were at first 'laid' temporarily only, when occasion demanded direct communication with a distant point; they were at length established permanently along certain routes. These 'posts' began in the 17th c. to be called 'post-masters' (q. v.), and were the precursors of the present local postmasters, or persons in charge of the local post offices, who receive and dispatch the local mails. In the 16th and 17th c., these 'posts' had also usually the exclusive privilege of furnishing post-horses to ordinary travellers, and of conducting the business of a posting establishment, which has since been separated from that of the Post Office.

1506 (Mar. 19) *Exch. T. R. Miscell. Bks.* 214, 46 To Gilbert Burgh one post lying at Bagshote, Thomas Anesley an other post lying at Basyngstoke [and so on, seven more to Exeter]. — (Ap. 24) *Ibid.* 56 To the 9 posts lying betwext Bagshote and Excetour..to William Okeley riding to every of the said postes to see the ordring of them...To John Heyther..riding with letters to the postes lying at London. 1533 TUKE *Let. to Cromwell* in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 404 The Kinges pleasure is, that postes be better appointed, and laide in al places most expedient. *Ibid.* 405, I never used other ordre but to charge the townshippes to lay and appoint such a post, as they will answer for. 1536 R. SAMPSON *Let. to Cromwell* Oct., To cause Mr. Tuke diligently to lay his posts betwixt his Grace and my Lord of Suffolk, to my Lord Steward from Huntingdon, also to Ampthill, and from the North to the King. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 73 That the saidis personis..have post horsis ilk ane of thame for thair awin part, at the bailis forsaidis, to await apoun the incuming of our saidis inemeis, and the samin postis to depart fra the baile of Sanctabbis heid to the Lard of Rastalrig [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 37 b, [1513-14] The erle of Surrey..layed Postes euery waye, whiche Postes stretched to the marches of Wales to the counsayll there, by reason whereof, he had knowlege what was done in euery coste. 1572 in *Rep. Secret Comm. on P. O.* (1844) 34 For the wages of the ordinarie postes laide betwene London and Barwicke and elles where within hir Maiesties Realme of Englande. 1598 *Ibid.* 37 That..you take order forthwith for the speedie appointinge and layinge of the standinge and ordinarie postes againe,..betweene the Courte and Hollyheade. 1603 *Ibid.* 39 That in all places where Posts are layde for the packet, they also, as persons most fit, shall have the benefit and preheminence of letting, furnishing, and appointing of horses to all riding in poste. 1603 *Orders for the Posts* ibid. 40 Every Post, so receiving our packets,..shall, within one quarter of an houre at the most after they come to his handes, dispatch them away in Post, and shall runne therewith in sommer..after seven miles the houre. 1609 *Orders for the Pacquet* ibid. 42 All pacquets or letters..shall bee carried by the Postes in poste from stage to stage onely, and not otherwise nor further. 1609 *Orders for the thorough Postes* ibid. 42 The horsing of al through-posts, and persons riding in poste with horne or guide,..shall be performed by our standing Postes in their several stages; who..shall..have in a readinesse..a sufficient number of poste-horses. 1628 *Ibid.* 52 The humble petition of all the Posts of England, being in nomber 99 poore men. [Cf. POSTMASTER[1] 1 b quot. 1659.]

2. One who travels express with letters, messages, etc., esp. on a fixed route; *orig.* a courier, a post-rider (now chiefly *Hist.*); a letter-carrier, a post-man (now chiefly *dial.*).

Applied in early times to special messengers or couriers bearing dispatches (*thorough posts*), as well as to those who carried them from stage to stage (*standing posts*: see 1). Still applied locally to a POSTMAN, who carries the mail in a vehicle, on horseback, or on foot (*foot-post*) between a principal post office and the various branch offices; sometimes also to a letter-carrier who delivers letters in a town or rural district.

1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 78 To the French post quhilk com heir xxviii li. *Ibid.* 82 [see 8 b]. 1513 [see 8 b; POSTMASTER 1 a]. 1533 TUKE *Let. to Cromwell* in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 405 As to postes bitwene London and the Courte, there be nowe but 2; wherof the on is a good robust felowe. (*Ibid.* passim.) 1537 CROMWELL in *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 110 Yt was thought meate that a post shulde be dyspaccheyd with dylygence. 1548 Flieng postes [see FLYING *ppl. a.* 4 b]. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 775 The prouerb sayth, that postes do bere truth in ther letters, and lyes in there mouthes. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, Induct. 37 The Postes come tyring on, And not a man of them brings other newes. 1612 J. MORE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 128 The post Diston is now scarce passed Gravesend with the King's packet. 1619 SIR I. WAKE *Let.* in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 142 The ordinary posts do come so slowly that I cannot expect by them anie answere of this letter in two months and more, which would be to much time. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 27 Who deliuered it to the Poste which comes weekely from London to S.

Omers. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Parallel in Relig.* (1651) 14 A Post came crossing by, and blew his Horn. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 195 The Post presented her with a Letter. 1765 in E. E. Atwater *Hist. New Haven* (1887) 216 A special post is appointed to carry it [Gazette] out of the common post-roads. 1823 COOPER *Pioneers* xix, The man who carried the mail, or 'the post', as he was called. 1832 MACAULAY *Armada* 14 With loose rein and bloody spur rode inland many a post. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Apr. 8/1 In early life he became post and driver of the mails, and was able to recall many interesting stories.

b. Applied to similar bearers of messages or letters in ancient times or far-off lands.

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xxx. 6 The postes [WYCLIF curours] wente with the letters from the hande of the kynge and of his rulers thorow out all Israell and Iuda, at y^e^ kynges commaundement. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 321 [They] were the Soldans foote-postes that carried letters from Cairo into Syria, and trauelled on foote three-score miles a day. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 253 That gallant race of swift Horses among the Veneti: upon these ride the posts, carrying the letters of Kings and Emperors to the appointed places. 1611 BIBLE *Job* ix. 25 Now my days are swifter than a post. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Roman Hist.* (1827) II. 369 Posts and couriers. This invention is ascribed to Cyrus.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xcv. iv, Twise twenty times my post the sun His yearly race to end had run. 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* (1660) 57 His swift Posts the Angels, when sent on Errands to us here on Earth. *c* 1673 TRAHERNE *Poet. Wks.* (1906) 123 Thoughts are the priveleged posts that soar Unto His throne.

3. A vehicle or vessel used in the conveyance of the mails; a mail-coach or -cart; † a packet-boat. † Also, in early use, a post-horse. ? *Obs.* (or merged in 4, to which quots. 1785, 1848 may belong; quot. 1904 refers to Switzerland).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 40, I haue fownd*red* nine scor*e* and odde Postes. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 75 The poasts and vessels of intelligence .. going and coming incessantly. 1684–5 *Depos. Castle York* (Surtees) 268 'Neighbour, did you heare the post of last night?' 'Yes, I heard and saw it, but what is the newes, neighbour?' 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 443 The Posts in some Foreign Countries make not more Miles in a Day. 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 283 That day arrives; no welcome post appears. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, The post had come in heavy that morning. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 July 4/1 It is the yellow 'post', drawn by five horses, and bound for the tops.

4. A single dispatch of letters (and other postal matter) from or to a place; also *concretely*, the letters, etc. collectively, as dispatched or conveyed, with that which carries them; the mail. Also *colloq.* the portion of a mail cleared from a receiving-house or pillar-box, or delivered at one house: *e.g.* 'The post had gone from our pillar-box'; 'I had a heavy post on Christmas morning'.

(In many of the following instances 'the post' may still have meant the bearer as in 2, or the conveyance as in 3.)

a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 144 There were several Letters prepared, and made up with the dates proper for many Posts to come. 1675 EARL OF ESSEX *Lett.* (1770) 349 The post being just going, I can say no more. 1683 H. PRIDEAUX in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 184 Your letters, which came hither by the last nights post. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶1 It is our Custom.., upon the coming in of the Post, to sit about a Pot of Coffee, and hear the old Knight read Dyer's Letter. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 444 The news of this must have been writ from London on the Saturday night's post. *Ibid.* (1766) II. 30 The state of foreign affairs varied every post. 1801 PITT in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 429, I have but a moment to save the post. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiv, A sharp double tap at the street-door announced the post. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 257 The post did not arrive early at Skerndale. *Mod.* How many posts have you in the day here?

5. The official organization or agency for the collection, transmission, and distribution of letters and other postal matter (= POST OFFICE 1); the official conveyance of letters, books, parcels, etc. Cf. GENERAL *post*, PENNY POST. Hence *book-post*, *parcel-post*, the departments of this organization which carry books and parcels.

The phrases *by post*, *per post*, etc., may have begun with earlier senses: cf. 8 b.

1663 PEPYS *Diary* 14 Mar., So to write by the post, and so home to supper. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 165 He sent it by the Post to the States. 1684 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 138, I received [your letter] by post, with the plants enclosed. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 444 There is establish'd another Post, called the Penny-Post, whereby.. any Letter or Parcel..is..conveyed to, and from Parts..not conveniently served by the General-Post. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 621 Nor have [I] sent advice with the needful per post. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 58 The perpetual intercourse between the court and the provinces was facilitated by the construction of roads and the institution of posts. 1812 SHELLEY *Let. to Hookham* 17 Dec., You will receive the 'Biblical Extracts'..by the twopenny post. 1885 *Act* 48 *Vict.* c. 15 Sched. iii. Precept § 11 If a letter is addressed to him by post. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 4 Mar. 9/5 A resolution..urging the establishment of a 'goods post' as a branch of the Post Office.

b. = POST OFFICE 2; also, the postal letter-box; e. g. 'to go to the post', 'to take a letter to the post'.

1808 R. C. DALLAS in *Corr. Ld. Byron* (1825) I. 9 If I were sure your Lordship is better pleased with its [the letter's] being put into the post than into the fire. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* ix, Great at that Highland post was wonder too and conjecture. 1886 *Field* 23 Jan. 91/1 Scarcely had last week's letter been dropped into the post.

† **6.** *contextually.* The charge for the carriage of letters; postage. *Obs.*

1688 BURNET *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 95 Some give out, that the Post of the Letters, that were brought him the day in which he was seised on, rose to twenty Crowns. 1701 E. HATTON *Merch. Mag.* (title-p.), The Post of Letters to and from Foreign Countries. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4105/3 For the Post of every single Letter from England to the said Islands not exceeding one Sheet of Paper, 1*s.* 3*d.*

II. 7. One of a series of stations where post-horses are kept for relays; a posting-house; also, the distance between two successive posting-houses; a stage. (So *poste* in mod.F.)

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* 133 The Sun .. Times Dispensator,..Through Skies twelve Posts as he doth run his course. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 50 (*Amiens*) 'Twill scarce be ten posts out of my way. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. Fr.* II. iii. 29 The ground is quite covered with snow, the roads bad, and the posts long. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi, They were obliged to proceed to the next post. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 39 A post in France is six miles, and one shilling and threepence is charged for each horse.

III. 8. Phrases, and senses arising out of them.

† **a.** *At (the) post*: = *in post* (see d). *Obs.*

1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 412 To Johne Dunlop to pas our the Month to bide at post before the King. 1533 *Ibid.* VI. 131 To pas with diligence at the poist all the nycht with secret writingis fra the lordis.

b. *By post*: † *orig.* by posting; by courier; with relays of post-horses (*obs.*); in current use, by the medium of the public postal service, through the post office: see sense 5.

1513 SIR E. HOWARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 148 For Godds sake sende by post all along the coste that they brew bere, and make bisket. 1513 Q. CATHERINE *ibid.* 152 Maister Almoner I receyved your Lettre by the post, Wherby I understande of the commyng hider of the Duc. 1527 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xxxix. 75 Passing from hence by post. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 496 We doubte not Your Lordship will take ordre for his passage by post, as apperteyneth. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* I. (1603) 15 When he was far from the sea, then hee would eate nothing but fish brought alive by post with an excessive charge. 1652 T. FROYSELL *Gale Opportunity* 20 Letters were sent by post into all the Kings Provinces, to destroy, to kill and to cause to perish all Jewes both young and old. 1663–1885 [see 5].

c. *By return of post* (F. *par retour du courrier*): † *orig.* by return of the 'post' or courier who brought the dispatch (*obs.*); now, by the next mail in the opposite direction.

[1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 85 The Burrough Masters..receiued letters from his Excellencie by the Poste, who was foorthwith sent backe.] 1737 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 223 Had this Government been pleased to have answered the last letter..by the return of the Post who brought it. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 95, I beg you will freely tell me by return of post.

† **d.** *In post* (= F. *en poste* (*a* 1500 in Littré), It. *in posta*), in the manner or capacity of a courier or bearer of dispatches, as a post.; hence, at express speed, in haste: (*a*) originally qualifying *ride*, *go*, *come*, *send*, *dispatch*, and the like; (*b*) at length with verbs generally, and in *fig.* uses; whence *post* becomes = haste, full speed; see POST *adv.* *Obs.*

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxv. [clxi.] 457 Thus these four rode night and day..; they chaunged many horses; thus they rode in post. *Ibid.* ccxl. [ccxxxvi.] 741 Than the bysshoppe of Caunterbury wrote letters..and sente them by a suffycyent man in post, who toke fresshe horses by the waye, and came to London the same daye at night. [1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 52, I shulde abyde the retourne of the messanger, whom my Lorde and I sent by enposte.] 1569 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 208 To Dunbar that nycht scho raid in haist Behind ane man in poist, as scho war chaist. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 385 He was able in three days to ride in such post, as was to be wondred. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 1 b, Glymes was sent with..about sixe hundred Horse in poste to surprize the Spanyardes. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* IV. x. (1622) 105 A pesant of Temerstine..killed him with one stroke; then fled in post to the woods. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 338 Sir Iohn de Courcy..sent letters in post to his brother Sir Amorick Saint Laurence. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* II. Wks. 1738 II. 17 Horsemen all in post from Quintus Atrius bring word to Cæsar, that almost all his Ships in a Tempest that Night had suffer'd wreck. 1711 *Royal Proclam.* 23 June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4866/2 If the Postmaster doth not..furnish any Person riding in Post, with ..Horses. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 426/2 He is said to travel post, or in post, i. e. in the manner of a post.

† **e.** *With post*: with speed or dispatch; cf. d.

1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. xiv. 59 The inhabitaunts .. with all possible post sent certain of their men upon Dromadaries.

† **f.** *To make the post*: to provide for the transmission of the mail; to supply horses or mounted riders to convey the mail over one stage. *Obs.*

1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 74 The said Capitane of Dunbar to mak the post to the said Priores of Northberwik..; and the said Priores to mak the post to the said Patrik Erle Boithuell.

g. *To ride post* = *to ride in post* (d): see POST *adv.*

† **h.** *To run the post* (= F. *courir la poste*, It. *correre in posta*): to run or ride as a 'post' or courier; to carry the mail. Cf. POST-RUNNER.

1507 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 82 To Alexander Gordoun yeman of the stable his wage quhilk he wanted quhen the King was at the Month, and ran the post xxviiis. 1533 *Ibid.* VI. 154 For ij hors for him and his servand to ryn the post to Cauldstreme.

† **i.** *To take post*: to start on a journey with post-horses; to travel as quickly as possible by means of relays of horses. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 21, I saw her laid low in her kindreds Vault, And presently tooke Poste to tell it you. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 4 June, They..took post about three this morning. 1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mr. W. Montagu* 9 Aug., This morning all the principal men of any figure took post for London.

IV. Transferred applications.

9. A frequent title of newspapers.

1681 (title) *The London Post.* 1708 (title) *The Flying Post* (Edinburgh). 1772 (title) *The Morning Post* (London). [See *Evening Post*, 13 Jan. 1888, 1/4.]

10. A parlour game; short for *General Post* (GENERAL *a.* 2 b (*b*)). Varieties are known as *American Post*, *Glasgow Post*, etc.

1858 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxxvi, Everybody was willing .. to engage in 'Post' or 'Slappy'. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* (1888) 290 It became quite an interesting amusement to dodge about, not unlike the game of 'post'.

11. orig. **Post-paper**: A size of writing-paper, the half-sheet of which when folded forms the ordinary quarto letter-paper; see quot. 1875. Also *attrib.*

1648 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Post-pampier*, post-paper. 1678 *Ibid.*, *Post-papier*, post-paper or Venus paper. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 40 Though the separation was only by the thickness of a piece of post-paper. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1773/2 Post paper is seldom sold in the folio, that is, flat, but is cut in halves, folded, and forms quarto post, or common letter-paper.

1711 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 18 § 37 [c. 19 § 32] For and upon all Paper usually called or knowne by the Name of Fine Large Post which shall be imported or brought in as aforesaid, the Summe of Two Shillings and Six Pence for every Reame. 1827 MACKENZIE *Hist. Newcastle* II. 727 *note*, Mr. White printed 'The Life of God in the Soul of Man' on a writing post 18mo. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xviii, Another book, in three volumes, post octavo. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* 153/2 The plain Bath or satin post may be employed. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Post*... A size of writing-paper, so called because its original water-mark was a postman's horn. Twelve varieties of post paper are made in England, of three sizes..22½×17½ [to] 19×15¼ inches.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

12. a. Simple attributive: Of or pertaining to the post, as *post clerk*, *dues*, *route*, *service*; **b.** employed in conveying the mails, or in the public conveyance of travellers by stages, as *post-ass* (cf. POST-HORSE), *-calash*, *-caroche*, *-carriage*, *-carrier*, *-courier*, *-diligence*, *-driver*, *-equipage*, *-felucca*, *-gig*, *-hackney*, *-landaulet*, *-mule*, *-nag*, *-omnibus*, *-van*, *-vehicle*; **c.** belonging to a postal station or to a posting establishment, as *post-hut*, *-shed*, *-yard*; **d.** of or pertaining to a post-road or posting route, as *post-mile*; **e.** indicating the time at which the mail leaves or arrives, as *post-day*, *-hour*, *-morning*, *-time*; † **f.** characterized by haste or speed like that of a post, as *post-business*, *-expedition*, *-pace*, *-speed*: see also POST-HASTE; **g.** conveyed by post, as *post-parcel*, *-tidings*.

1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* v. 42 At my departure from Lions I hir'd a *Post-Ass. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Cox-comb* IV. vi, What should this fellow be,.. That comes with such *post business?.. Are you the post, my friend? 1703 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 358 Returning home by the way of Italy [they] were unhappily drowned in a *post calash. 1627 DRAYTON *Moon Calf* 296 Being to travel, he sticks not to lay His *post-caroches still upon his way. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 135 While the Cæsar himself, with only ten *post-carriages, should hasten to the Imperial residence at Milan. 1855 *Englishwoman in Russia* 45 Our yemstchich had been a soldier..; but..had turned *post-driver. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* ix. 133 The driver..had forgotten to pay the *post-dues. 1813 A. BRUCE *Life A. Morris* iii. 57 The *post-equipage was ready. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart., Answ. Howell* 10 With all *post expedition, You will prepare a voyage vnto Rome. 1666 WALLIS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 467 The *post hour approaching allows me not time. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xv. 65 The *post huts on the step could not always supply us with a sufficient number of horses. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. iii. (ed. 33) 10 The Shire Town is Dorchester..112 *Post Miles from London. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 36 At the rate of fifteen post-miles each day. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xxii, On a *post-morning. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* xiii. 117 At Pucara I left post-houses and *post-mules behind me, for they exist only on the main roads. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 42 In *poste pase we past from potage to cheese. 1773 H. FINLAY *Yrnl.* (1867) 1 The *post route by lake Champlain was tedious. 1884 *Act of Congress* 1 Mar. in *U. S. Stat.* (1885) XXIII. 3 All public roads and highways while kept up and maintained as such are hereby declared to be post routes. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xv. 192 No writer gives an account of the Imperial *Post-Service. 1812 SIR R. WILSON *Pr. Diary* I. 141 We came to the next *post-shed, and found all flown, so that we were obliged to proceed with the same horses. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. x. 25 Many overhasty widows..make *post speed to a second marriage. 1628 *Brittain's Ida* v. vi, Fearefull blood From heart and face, with these *post-tydings runne. 1845 MACAULAY in Trevelyan *Life* (1876) II. 164, I was detained till after *post-time. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. v, National Convention packs them into *post-vehicles and conveyances. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, Of town and country, *post-yards, horses.

13. Special Combs.: † **post-angel**, an angel who is sent post, a swift angelic messenger; **post-box**, a box in which letters are posted or deposited for dispatch, a letter-box; **post-letter**, a letter sent

through the Post Office; **post-like** *a.*, resembling a or the post; in quot., rapid or swift in passing; **post money**, expense of travelling by post; **post-paid** *a.*, having the postage prepaid; **post-paper** (see sense 11); **post-rider**, one who rides post; a mounted letter-carrier; **post-village**, a village where there is a post office; **post-warrant**, a warrant entitling a person travelling by post to accommodation, etc.; **post-woman**, a female letter-carrier; **post-worthy** *a.*, (*a*) of a letter: worth posting; (*b*) of a place: worthy to have a post office. See also POST-BAG, -BARK, etc.

1663 COWLEY *Hymn to Light* vi, Let a *Post-Angel start with Thee, And thou the Goal of Earth shalt reach as soon as He. 1754 MISS BOOTHBY in *Life Johnson* (1805) 58 The servant put my letter into the *post-box himself. 1656 *Jrnl. Ho. Com.* 429/2 That the *Post Letters, directed to .. Members of this House,.. be free from Postage, as formerly. 1734–5 *Ibid.* 26 Feb. 1758 in Howell *State Trials* XIX. 1369, I ring the bell in Arundel-street in the Strand for post-letters. 1837 *Act 1 Vict.* c. 30 § 25 Every person .. who shall .. open or procure, or suffer to be opened, a Post Letter. 1593–4 SYLVESTER *Profit Imprisonm.* 758 Be it ne'er so long, long sure it cannot last To us whose *post-like life is all so quickly past. 1553 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 120 [Payment of £331. 7s. 4d. to] Sir gilbert Dethick .. for .. dyette and *poste mony. 1828 WEBSTER, **Post-paid*, *a.*, having the postage paid on; as a letter. 1848 THACKERAY in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 393/1, I shall send them post-paid. 1759 in *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 3 May 4/3 Ludwick Bierley, Lancaster *post-rider,.. informs his employers that it is now upwards of twelve months since he began to ride that stage. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. l. 276 Six persons were chosen as post-riders, to give due notice to the country towns of any attempt to land the tea by force. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 12/1 Queenston, a *post-village and outport of Lincoln County, Ontario. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. IV. xxiii. (1650) 127 For better assurance of Lodging wher I pass,.. I have a *Post Warrant as far as Saint Davids. 1834 JENKYNS in *Bye-Gones* 11 July (1894) 372 The *Postwoman called with four or five American papers. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Jan. 8/1 A rural postwoman whose beat is from Longniddry to Seton Castle. 1827 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 88 It is still uncertain whether I shall produce a letter that is *post-worthy. 1875 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 30, I shall post this to-morrow as I pass through Skipton or any post-worthy place.

[*Note.* The 'posts' in sense 1 correspond to the *equites dispositi* or 'posted horsemen' of classical and later times (cf. Cæsar *B. C.* III. ci). The earliest known use of *posta, poste*, pointing to the modern sense is by Marco Polo, 1298, who applies, in the French text, ch. xcvii. (ed. 1865, 335), *poeste*, and, in the Italian, ch. lxxxi. (ed. 1827, I. 91), *posta*, to the stations 25 miles apart on the great roads, at which the messengers of the Great Kaan or Emperor of China changed horses, and at each of which from 300 to 400 horses are said to have been kept for their service. The expression 'nous disons poeste de chevaus', i. e. 'we say post (or station) of horses', identifies the word originally with It. *posta* in the sense of POST *sb.*[3] The early course of the word in Europe is not altogether clear; but Milanese Latin documents of 1425–8 (L. Osio *Doc. Dipl. Milanesi*, 1872, II. 163. 357) have *portentur die noctuque celeriter per cavallarium postarum*, 'let them be carried day and night swiftly by a post-rider (horseman of the posts)', and *mittat eas per caballarios postarum*, 'let him send them by the horsemen of the posts'. In the second half of the 15th c. F. *poste* is found also as the appellation of the courier, and in this sense had become masculine before 1480. In English, also, the application of *poste, post*, to the courier is seen to go back practically to the earliest use of the word.]

Post (pōust), *sb.*[3] Also 6 **poste**. [a. F. *poste* masc. (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. It. *posto* a post, station, employment :—L. *postum* (whence also Du. *post*, Ger. *posten*), contracted from *positum*, prop. pa. pple. neut. of *pōnĕre* to place. In early use It. and Fr. had in this sense *posta, poste*, fem.]

1. *Mil.* The place where a soldier is stationed; sometimes, a sentinel's or sentry's beat or round.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. ii. 107 Not to giue it [the word] vnto the Sentinels, vntill the very point of their placing at their *standes* or *postes*. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 777 You see before the gate what stalking ghost Commands the guard, what sentries keep the post. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II, As I watch'd the gate, Lodg'd in my post, a herald is arriv'd From Cæsar's camp. 1799 SHERIDAN *Pizarro* II. iv, I will not keep one soldier from his post. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1887) 535 Clive .. was awakened by the alarm, and was instantly at his post.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* The appointed place; the place of duty.

16.. L'ESTRANGE (J.), Every man has his post assigned to him, and in that station he is well, if he can but think himself so. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 124 Whatever spirit .. His post neglects. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man World* I. ix, Though his virtue kept her post, she found herself galled in maintaining it. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. xi, My daily post was by the bed of disease and suffering. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xvii, Mr. Hall had taken his post beside Caroline. 1872 T. L. CUYLER *Heart Th.* 63 The loftiest post of honour is the lowliest post of service.

2. *Mil.* A position taken; a place at which a body of soldiers is stationed, or the force occupying this; *esp.* a strategic position taken by a commander. Cf. OUTPOST. Also *transf.* and *fig.* *To take post*: to occupy a position.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 65 Driven from all their posts and subterfuges. 1706 PHILLIPS s.v., In the Art of War, Post signifies any spot of Ground that is capable of lodging Soldiers: .. *Advanced Post* is a spot of Ground before the other Posts to secure those behind. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) II. II. ii. 2 The Gauls .. were very much surprised to find their posts in the enemy's hand. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxiii. 70 Richard .. had taken post at Nottingham. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* XI. 35 Posts will sometimes be surprised and the troops engaged be roughly handled. 1829 SIR W. NAPIER *Penins. War* II. 268 A body of two thousand men .. were .. directed to take post at the bridge of Alcantara. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 228 The line of posts which surrounded Londonderry by land remained unbroken. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vii. (1875) 273 These processions come and take post in the theatres. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 7/3 Waterholes were located at convenient intervals, and strong posts were left in occupation of them.

b. A place where armed men are permanently quartered for defensive or other purposes; a fort. Also (U. S.) 'the occupants, collectively, of a military station; a garrison' (*Cent. Dict.*); hence, the name given to a local branch of the organization of veterans called 'the Grand Army of the Republic'.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3914/5 This Post was Garisoned by 600 Men. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 351 Opposite this Island .. is a small Post, with several pieces of cannon. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 2 All the troops of Charles II would not have been sufficient to garrison the posts which we now occupy in the Mediterranean Sea alone. 1890 GARDINER *Stud. Hist. Eng.* (1892) 14 Between them was the smaller post of Uriconium.

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 6 Sept., Edwin-Humphrey Post, No. 104, G.A.R., of this town, celebrated its fifteenth anniversary by a camp-fire Friday evening.

c. *transf.* A place occupied for purposes of trade, esp. in an uncivilized or unsettled country.

1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 205 Fort Wallah-Wallah, the trading post of the Hudson's Bay Company. 1884 WHITON in *Chr. World* 4 Sept. 663/3 The dark Continent .. inviting .. schools and churches as well as trading posts.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *post-adjutant, -commander, -line, -trader.*

1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 96 Make a requisition on the commissary-general, have it certified to by the quarter-master, countersigned by the post-adjutant, and submitted by you to the War Department. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Aug. 14/1 A ten gallon demijohn of post trader's whisky. 1890 *Century Dict., Post-trader*, a trader at a military post: the official designation of a sutler. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 85/2 Beside it are the company's stables and the store and house of the post-trader where we bought our provisions. 1898 *Daily News* 31 July 5/2 General Toral has sent the members of his staff ahead to notify the post commanders of the terms of surrender.

3. An office or situation to which any one is appointed; position, place; employment.

1695–6 T. SMITH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 239, I am very glad of the new post you are preferred to, as you write, the publick Library. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 117 A Person of no Learning, and very unfit for this Post. 1760 in Cotton *Walton's Angler* II. p. xxviii, He was call'd away by some employment, or post, that was conferred upon him. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 223 Arlington quitted the post of secretary of state. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess.* 148 Those posts in the public service supposed to be posts for gentlemen.

4. *Naval.* Position as a full-grade captain, i.e. commission as officer in command of a vessel of 20 guns or more; hence, position or order of seniority in the list of captains. Used in the phrases *to give post*, said of a ship of 20 guns or more, the officer in command of which had the rank of captain; *to take post*, said of the officer, to receive the commission of captain of such a vessel, to date as captain; also *to be made post*, to be appointed post captain, to be placed on the list of captains. Now *arch.* or *Hist.* Also attrib. as *post commission, post rank*; see also below.

1720 in Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit. for 1723*, 579–82 A General List of the Captains of His Majesty's Fleet, with the Dates of their First Commissions as Captains, from which they are allowed to take Post. [Dated] Admiralty-Office 1 March, 1720. [Here follow the] Names [in order of] Seniority. [Among these] Sir William Sanderson [and others] .. Take Post by a General Order, 1 Jan. 1712–13. 1747 *Order-in-Council* 10 Feb. (Rank and Precedence of Officers) § 8 That Captains of His Majesty's Ships or Vessels, not taking Post, have rank as Majors. *Ibid.* § 11 That Post-Captains, commanding ships or vessels that do not give post, rank only as Majors during their commanding such vessels. 1800 *Naval Chron.* IV. 469 Capt. Miller was made post in 1796. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 18 Captain Nelson was made post on the 11th of June, 1779. 1849 W. R. O'BYRNE *Naval Biog. Dict.* 259/2 He was rewarded with a Post commission. 1892 BRIGHTON *Sir P. Wallis* 160 He was advanced to post rank on Aug. 12, 1819. 1907 SIR J. K. LAUGHTON *Let. to Editor*, A captain was said to *take post* from the date of his commission to a ship of not less than 20 guns: his commission to command such a ship *ipso facto* gave him *post.*

b. Post captain. A captain who 'takes post': a designation formerly applied, officially and otherwise, to a naval officer holding a commission as captain, to distinguish him from an officer of inferior rank, to whom the courtesy title of captain was often given, either as being an acting captain, or as being master and commander of a vessel not rated to be commanded by a full-grade captain, and so not said to 'give post'. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

So far as the Naval Regulations are concerned the appellation appears to date from about 1731–47, and to have ceased in 1824, when the rule was laid down that only officers appointed to command 'ships of sixth rate and upwards shall henceforth be styled Captains'. But, in unofficial language, the courtesy use of 'Captain' for the 'Master and Commander' of a smaller vessel, and the distinctive appellation 'Post-Captain', lingered to a much later period.

1747 [see above]. 1757 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* i. 21 Both post captains and masters and commanders share alike. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 217 For the above very gallant action, Captain Gordon was made a Post-Captain. 1796 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VII. p. lxxix, Captain Miller or any other Post Captain, put into Agamemnon, and a Master and Commander acting into the Post Ship, which the Admiralty may confirm or not, as they please. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 86 Mr. Hume's proposal is .. that there shall be only one post-captain promoted to the rank of admiral, for every three admirals who may die, until the number of admirals is reduced to too.

†**c. Post ship.** Also 8 **ship of post.** A ship of not less than 20 guns, the commission to command which 'gave post' to a captain. *Obs.*

1731 *Regulations rel. H. M. Service at Sea*, Commanders of Fireships, Sloops, Yachts, Bomb-vessels, Hospitals, Store-ships, and other vessels, though they may have commanded Ships of Post before, shall be commanded by junior Captains in Ships of Post, while they keep company together ..; but without prejudice to their seniority afterwards. 1747 *Order-in-Council* 10 Feb. (Rank & Precedence of Officers) § 6 That Captains commanding post-ships, after three years from the date of their first commission for a post ship, have rank as Colonels. § 7 That all other Captains, commanding Post-Ships, have rank as Lieutenant-Colonels. 1757 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* i. 21 The other rank of captains is of them, who have the command of ships of twenty guns, or upwards, which are called post ships. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 266 The Shirley-galley was .. made a post ship in the Royal Navy, and her former commander, Mr. John Rous, appointed Captain of her. 1796 [see *post captain* above].

†**Post** (pōust), *sb.*[4] *Obs.* Also 6–7 **poste.** [app. ad. It. *posta* 'a stake at any game; also a good hand drawen or winning at any game, namely at dice' (Florio); prop. a sum deposited or laid down :—L. *posta, posita*, pa. pple. fem. of *pōnĕre* to place: thus orig. the same word as POST *sb.*[2] Cf. Sp. *apostar* to bet, deposit a stake.]

A term in card-playing. **a.** Name of an obsolete card-game, app. the same as *post and pair* (see below); also, a term in that game: see quots.

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 117 In carde playinge he is a goode greke And can skyll of post and glyeke. 1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* (1611) 225 Hee commeth in onely with iolly brags, and great vants, as if he were playing at Poste, and should winne all by vying. 1611 COTGR., *Couche*, .. the Post, or most of a sute, at cards; also, a set, lay, or stake, at any game. *a* 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* IV. xii, The second game was Post, vntill with posting They paid so fast, 'twas time to leaue their bosting. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* xxii. 106 Here note, that he who hath the best Pair or the best Post is the winner. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/1 At Post the best cards are 21 viz.: two tens and an Ace, but a paire royall wins all, both Post, Paire and Seat.

b. Post and pair. 'A game on the cards, played with three cards each, wherein much depended on *vying*, or betting on the goodness of your own hand' (Nares).

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* Prol. (Arb.) 3 You that haue beene student at post and paire, saint and Loadam. 1620 L. GERNONS *Disc. Irel.* (Stowe MS. 180), When I am playing at poste and payre, my opposite challengeth w^th^ two counters; if I answer him w^th^ two other, and rest, I have but a fayntе game. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 73/1 Post and Paire is a game played thus, first stake at Post, then at Paire, after deale two cards, then stake at the seat and then deale the third card about [etc.]. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. Introd. 45 That night might .. The lord, underogating, share The vulgar game of 'post and pair'. 1874 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1893) 41 Whist and post and pair are the staple indoor amusements. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 66 Primero is the ancestor of such gambling games as Post and Pair, once a favourite game in the West of England.

Post, *sb.*[5] [app. ad. Ger. *posten* parcel, lot, a batch of ore, ad. It. *posto* :—L. *positum* that which is put or placed: cf. POST *sb.*[2] and 4.]

1. *Paper-making.* A pile of from four to eight quires of hand-made paper fresh from the mould, laid with alternate sheets of felt ready for pressing. *White post*: see quot. 1875. ? *Obs.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Paper*, The coucher, who couches it upon a felt laid on a plank, and lays another felt on it; and so successively, a sheet and a felt, a sheet and a felt, till a post, i. e. one pressing, containing six quire, be made. 1766 C. LEADBETTER *Royal Gauger* xiv. (ed. 6) 370 An Heap of seven or eight Quires, which is called a Post. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 15/1 Four to eight quires, according to the size of the paper, form a post. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v., A white post is the pile of paper sheets when the felts are removed.

2. *Metallurgy.* A batch of ore for smelting at one time.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 326 The smelting *post* or charge, to be purified at once, consists of 60 cwt. of black copper. *Ibid.* 328 For example, 1 post or charge may consist of 20 cwts. of the ferruginous slate [etc.].

Post (pōust), *sb.*[6] *Law.* [From the Lat. word *post* after, occurring in the writ: see quot. 1595.] In the phrase 'in the (†le) post', lit. 'in the (time) after (the disseisin)', esp. in the 'writ of entry sur disseisin in the post': see quot. 1895.

[1293 *Year Bks. Edw. I* (Rolls) I. 431 Adam porta bref de entre en le post ver N., en le queus yl nad entre si noun puys la disseysine ke B. fyt a meymes cely Adam.] 1495

Rolls of Parlt. VI. 472/2 Severall Writtes of Entre in le Post. 1512–13 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 18 *Preamble*, Wrytte of entre uppon dissesyen in the post be fore the Justices ..of his Comen Benche. 1595 *Expos. Termes Law* 77 And if land bee conueid ouer to manie, or if the first dis-seisor bee disseised, then the writte of Entre shall be in the *Post*, that is to say that the tenaunt hath no entry but after the disseisin which the first disseisour made to the demandant or his auncestor. *Ibid.* 77 b, And the writte shall say, *in quod A. non habet ingressum nisi post disseisinam, quam B. inde iniuste & sine iuditio fecit præf. N. vel M. proano N. cuius hæres ipse est.* 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 399 The disseisor came in in the *post*, that is, he did not claim by or from the feoffee to uses, but came in of an estate paramount to that of such feoffee. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Hist. Eng. Law* II. II. iv. 65 The statute of Marlborough .. gave the disseisee or his heir 'a writ of entry sur disseisin in the *post*', an action, that is, in which he might allege that his adversary 'had no entry into the land save after (*post*) the disseisin' that some one or another (X) perpetrated against the demandant or his ancestor. In such an action it was unnecessary for the demandant to trace the process by which the land passed from the disseisor (X) to the tenant whom the action attacked.

Post (pōust), *sb.*[7] [f. POST *v.*[1] 8.] An act of posting; an entry (in a ledger, etc.).

1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 6 Such post or entry in the Journal is called a simple post. [1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 423/1 *Post*, an operation in book-keeping. Posting in book-keeping means simply the transferring of an article to the place in which it should be put.]

Post (pōust), *sb.*[8] *Mil.* [app. from POST *sb.*[3] sense 1: short for 'call to post', or the like.] A bugle-call giving notice of the hour of retiring for the night. Usually *first* or *last post*.

Tattoo or Watchsetting is now divided into two 'posts' sounded normally at 9.30 and 10 p.m., followed by 'Lights out' at 10.15 p.m. For many years it has been customary to sound 'Last post' by a soldier's grave after the interment. [1864 *Standing Orders Roy. Reg. Artill.* 134 Watch-setting. 1st post. 2nd post. 3rd post. 4th post. [A separate tune given for each.]] 1885 *City Press* 30 Sept., First post was sounded at half-past ten. 1886 *Standing Orders, Southern District* § 12 Weather permitting, the 1st Post at Tattoo (in Portsmouth) will be sounded on the road opposite the Main Guard by the Drums and Fifes of the Regiment detailed..for that duty. 1900 *Daily News* 17 May 3/2 A few hours after, the 'last post' sounds over another victim to the pomp and glory of war! *Ibid.* 19 May 2/1 The brave dead were laid to their long rest in the veldt by their comrades at eventide, while 'The Last Post' wailed on the solemn air. 1901 *King's Regul. Army* § 252 'Tattoo' ('last post') at 10.0 p.m. *Ibid.* § 254 Which is to be sounded a quarter of an hour after 'last post' or tattoo.

‖ **Post,** *sb.*[9] *E. Indies.* [a. Pers. and Urdū پوست *pōst* skin, rind, poppy-head.] The poppy-head; opium.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 32 Upon an Offence they are sent by the King's Order, and committed to a place called the *Post* (from the Punishment inflicted), where the Master of the *Post* is acquainted with the heinousness of the Crime; which being understood he heightens by a Drink,..made of *Bang*..mingled with *Dutry* (the deadliest sort of *Solanum*, or Nightshade) named *Post*, [which] after a Week's taking, they crave more than ever they nauseated. *Ibid.* 104 The inebriating Confection of the *Post*. [1882 *Edin. Rev.* July 73 The way in which people there [in the Punjaub] talk of 'postees' or opium-eaters.]

Post (pōust), *sb.*[10] Short for *post captain*: see POST *sb.*[3] 4; ellipt. for POST ENTRY, q. v.

Post (pōust), *v.*[1] [f. POST *sb.*[2], or a. obs. F. *poster* (16th c. in Littré) 'courir les postes'. Cf. obs. Du. *posten* 'cursitare . . discurrere' (Kilian).]

I. *intr.* **1.** To travel with relays of horses (originally, as a courier or bearer of letters).

1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 123 To ane boy that postit nycht and day in the northland with lettrez. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 234 b, His servant..had put on the apparell of a messenger, that posteth with letters. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 65 Riding as fast as our horses could trot (for we had fresh horses almost thrise or four times a day) we posted from morning till night. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 253 [He was] transported from Brighthemstead..to Feecam.. whence he posted directly to Rouen. 1706 PHILLIPS, *To Post it*, to go or ride Post. 1832 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 465 We posted in an open carriage. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* viii. (1875) 201 When you are posting, you must have a horse for every adult passenger.

2. To ride, run, or travel with speed or haste; to make haste, hasten, hurry.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep. to Mæcenas* D vj, To Philippes house al sodainly hee posteth in a brade. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 53 To top hastly of turret I posted. 1595 *Blanchardyn* 208 They posted so fast [*tant cheuaucherent*], that within short time they came before the gate. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxi. 211 Had he seen Peter and John posting to Christs grave. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 214 Mistress Gilpin, when she saw Her husband posting down Into the country far away. 1851 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 214 To post about in Omnibi between Lincoln's Inn and Bayswater. 1885 STEVENSON *Child's Gard., Lamplighter* i, With lantern and with ladder he comes posting up the street.

b. *fig.*

1558 HOLLAND in FOXE *A. & M.* (1570) 2238/2 The Priestes doe so champe them and chaw them [the words of the service], and posteth so fast, that neither they vnderstand what they say, nor they that heare them. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 403 Gray haires come posting on. 1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* Ded. (1661) 7 Though they greedily post and hunt after Bishopricks. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XV. 381 He wastes away Old age, untimely posting ere his day. 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles on Etna* I. ii, We see, in blank dismay, Year posting after year, Sense after sense decay.

3. *Manège.* To rise and fall in the saddle, like a post-boy, when riding. 1882 in OGILVIE.

II. †**4.** *trans.* To cause to post or hasten; to dispatch or send in haste; to hasten, hurry (a person). *Obs.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 176/7 To Poste, *properare*. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 27 He foorth posted..Mercurye downeward. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 68 God posts away Gabriel the Harbinger with this Message. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* (1695) 184 Whom .. Saffron, by the too frequent and lavish Use thereof in the Small-Pox, hath posted to their long homes. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* v. iii, My father..posts me away to travel. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVII. 101 Posting your eye down the columns, eager to see whether the alliance between Russia and Prussia is going on.

†**b.** *Oxford Univ. slang.* To summon (a candidate) for examination on the first day of a series.

1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 42 (1754) 224 The first and the last column in the [collector's] scheme, (which contain the names of those who are to come up the first day and the last day, and which is call'd *posting* and *dogging*,) are esteem'd very scandalous. Great application is made to them..to avoid being *posted* or *dogg'd*.

III. To convey or send by post, or post-haste.

†**5.** To carry in the manner of a post; to convey swiftly. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iv. 27 The swiftest Harts, have posted you by land; And Windes of all the Corners kiss'd your Sailes. *a*1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* Sol. iv. 24 Hath Heaven ..glorifi'd thy name With honor, posted on the wings of Fame? 1682 D'URFEY *Injured Princ.* III. ii, The swiftest Racers posted you by Land.

6. †**a.** To send by special messenger. *Obs.*

1657–61 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* I. 32 The Roman Emperors; whose Edict for a General Council might speedily be posted over all the Province. *a*1662 — *Land* II. 327 The noise of these Proceedings..being quickly posted to the Scots. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 71 False Reports..were posted home by those ill affected Officers. 1724 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 417 News from Albany..which news I immediately posted to Deerfield and Northfield.

b. To send through the post office; to put (a letter, etc.) into a post office or letter-box for transmission by the post.

1837 *9th Rep. Post-Office* 85 If a letter or packet should be posted with a penny stamped cover. 1840 *Mulready Cover* (Instructions), It is Requested that all Letters may be fully and legibly addressed, and posted as early as convenient. 1852 M[c]CULLOCH *Taxation* II. vii. 317 The necessity..of paying the postage at the moment when letters are posted. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* III. 143 His letter was posted two days later. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 211/1 The bills of costs were duly posted to Bouron in Paris.

IV. **7.** *To post over, off.* †**a.** To hand over or transfer (a duty, responsibility, etc.) to another; to shift, delegate, assign; to pass off, turn off. *Obs.*

1578 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.* 104 After the example of her husband, she poasteth over the fault to another. 1578 T. WHITE *Serm.* 84 Euery body can post it [blame] off, or sport it out so prettily. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 83 b, Poste ouer the Plague to what naturall cause you will, I positiuely affirme it is for Sinne. 1618 E. ELTON *Exp. Rom. vii.* 88 It is the fashion of most men to post off the fault and blame of their sinnes from themselues. *a*1656 HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1688) 317 Nothing so well done as that which the master of the House..posts not over to his servants.

†**b.** To put off; to postpone, defer, delay. *Obs.*

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 139 He posted over and deferred his opinion from time to time. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 58 The compasse of your writing.. maketh me post off the answere. *c*1592 *Trag. Rich. III* (Shaks. Soc.) 69 But they that knew how innocent I was, Did post him off with many long delayes, Alleaging reasons to alaie his rage. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 95 Divers good Rents and Debts have for some private ends been suffered to bee posted off, *de anno in annum*.

V. *Book-keeping*, etc. (app. related to IV.)

8. To carry or transfer (an entry) from an auxiliary book to one of more formal character, esp. from the day-book or journal into the ledger, but also from a waste-book, day-book, or cash-book into the journal; to carry (an item or entry) to the proper account; also, by extension, to enter (an item) in proper form in any of the books.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 365 These seuen parcels are now put ouer into the Liedger which some call posted ouer. 1682 [see POSTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 3]. 1706 PHILLIPS s.v., To Post an Account, is to put an Account forward from one Book to another; as to transcribe, or enter what is written in a Merchant's Waste-Book into the Journal, etc. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 158 To see the crimes of new democracy posted as in a ledger against the crimes of old despotism. 1817 J. K. PAULDING *Lett. fr. South* II. 110 Old H—— was obliged to post the proceeds of the cargo to profit and loss. 1875 POSTE *Gains* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 407 At the end of each month the contents of the Adversaria were posted into the more formal journal, the Tabulae.

b. To complete (the ledger or other book) by transferring to it all the items in the auxiliary books, and entering them in their proper accounts; to make the proper entries in all the books, so that they contain a complete record of transactions; often *post up* (i. e. up to date, or to completion).

1707 *Providence Rec.* (1896) X. 94 So soone as Conveniently may be that y[e] bookes cann be posted. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. x, You have not posted your books these ten years. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xxxi. 319 He has not posted his cash-book for I know not how many months; nor posted his day-book and journal at all. *Ibid.* II. xxxiii. 62 A copy of the ledger duly posted up. 1892 STEVENSON & OSBOURNE *Wrecker* i, Take a pride to keep your books posted, and never throw good money after bad.

9. *fig.* (orig. *U. S. colloq.*) To supply with full information or latest news on a subject; to inform. Often *post up*. Usually in *pass.*

1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 619 *Posted-up* is an Americanism for well-informed, thoroughly conversant with. 1856 G. D. BREWERTON *War in Kansas* 365 As regards the details of the defences at Lawrence, we should certainly have been 'better posted' than we are. 1862 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, De Finibus*, To improve my mind and keep myself 'posted up', as the Americans phrase it, with the literature of the day. 1868 G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 19, I wish our journals would keep us better posted up with regard to events in Belgium. 1883 C. D. WARNER *Roundabout Journey* 239 The lovers of the sport always post themselves as to the character of the bulls who are to perform. 1886 MISS TYTLER *Buried Diamonds* vii, Tell me..what books you had to post yourself up in for your examinations.

Post (pōust), *v.*[2] [f. POST *sb.*[1]: in various unconnected groups of senses.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To square (timber) before sawing it, or in order to form it into posts. *Obs.* or *dial.*

*c*1520 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 204 Johanni Hogsson postyng tymber ad Ryso & alias per j diem, 5*d*. *Ibid.* 205 Will'mo Howyd postyng tymber for the sayd fertter per iij dies, & sawyng, 18*d*. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIX. XXXVI, There lay by chance a posted tree therebie. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s. v., When a tree is cut into a square form, it is termed *posted*.

II. †**2.** To furnish or set with posts. *Obs. rare.*

1716 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* Bundle 147. No. 3 Wee present the sirvairs [=surveyors] of St Mary's [parish] for not posteing the foot-way.

III. **3.** To attach or moor (a vessel) to a post.

1868 [see POSTING *vbl. sb.*[2] 1].

IV. **4.** To affix (a paper, etc.) to a post or in a prominent position; to stick *up* in a public place.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* III. 62 Divers bills posted up that threatned mischief to the Judges. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 187 A Paper was posted upon the Old Exchange..Exhorting Prentices to rise and sack his House. 1715 *Boston Rec.* (1884) II. 220 Posting up twenty of the said printed by-laws on several publick places in the said town. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Fun.* 12 A written order .. had been .. posted up. 1851 DICKENS *Repr. Pieces, Bill-sticking* (1903) 62 The old bill-stickers went to Trafalgar Square to attempt to post bills. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 221 Boards intended for posting papers upon. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Feb. 4/7 The coalmasters .. have posted a notice at the collieries intimating a reduction..in the wages of miners.

5. To make known, advertise, bring before the public (some fact, thing, or person) by or as by posting a placard. Also with *up*.

1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* I. i, If you take the wench now, I'll have it posted first, then chronicled, Thou wert beaten to it. 1694 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) III. vi. 249 Those Pretences to infallible Cures, which we daily see posted up in every Corner of the Streets. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. Ded., The grateful votaries..posted up in his temple the histories of their diseases. 1828–32 WEBSTER s. v., To advertise on a post or in a public place; as, to post a stray horse. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x, Seeing him posted in the bill of the night, I attended the performance.

b. *spec.* To expose to ignominy, obloquy, or ridicule, by this means. Now *rare.*

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 88, I may..be poasted up..as one that dares not hazard a whole National Church at blind man buffe. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 424 Here we must have an abominable falshood.., posted, and pillored. 1684 WOOD *Life* 4 Sept. (O. H. S.) III. 108 Wright Croke..was posted up for a shark and coward in Day's coffey house. 1710 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 91 Their exploits were so mean, and their actions so vain That they all deserve to be posted. 1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 146/2 A criminal information against two persons for posting a merchant of London in a coffee-house for refusing a challenge. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1867) 34 I'll post you for a swindler and a coward. 1884 *Law Times* 7 June 93/1 If he had not paid the bets..he would have been posted as a 'defaulter' at Tattersalls.

c. In some colleges: To place in a list, which is posted up, the names of (students who fail to pass in the college examinations).

In Cambridge colleges, said of those whose names are now subjoined to the lists of successful examinees as *not classed*.

1852 C. A. BRISTED *Eng. Univ.* 100 [At Trinity Coll., Camb.] should a man be posted twice in succession, he is generally recommended to try the air of some small college, or devote his energies to some other walk of life. 1859 FARRAR *J. Home* XIX, He had been posted, in company with H. and Lord F.; *i. e.* their names had been written up below the eighth class as 'unworthy to be classed'.

d. To publish the name of (a ship) as overdue or missing.

1886 CLARK RUSSELL *Voy. to Cape* (1893) 136 My sympathy with the sailor makes me feel as often as I hear of a cargo vessel being 'posted' as if a very grave wrong were done to the memory of the drowned seamen by the unconcern with which the great mass of the public receive the news. 1896 *Times* (weekly ed.) 10 Jan. 38/3 They [the ships] were posted at Lloyd's on Wednesday as missing.

6. To placard (a wall, etc.) with bills, etc.

1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* III. iv, He caused the walls to be posted with it [a broadsheet]. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Dec. 2/1 We had to fall back on posting the neighbourhoods as well as we could...We put out a poster and forty-five hand-bills to every three men who registered.

Post (pōust), *v.*[3] [f. POST *sb.*[3]; so F. *poster* (16th c.) to post, station (troops, etc.).]

1. *trans.* To place, station.

1683 PENN *Wks.* (1782) IV. 316 The place of the glass-house [is] conveniently posted for water-carriage. *a* 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Battle of Sedgmoor* Wks. (1775) 121, I suppose..that your Lordship was posted in a very strong place. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 P 3 A Country Girl, who was posted on an Eminence at some Distance from me. 1833 RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 166 He..posted himself at the door of the banqueting hall. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 223 A body of English horsemen, posted on a hill to the right, charged suddenly on the French flank.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To station oneself, stop. *rare.*

1872 H. COWLES in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xciv. 10 The question posts midway..the point of application being too obvious to need mention.

2. *Mil.* and *Naval.* To appoint to a post or command; *spec.* to appoint to command a ship which 'gave post' (see POST *sb.*[3] 4); to commission as captain. Chiefly *pass.*

1800 WELLESLEY in Owen *Desp.* (1877) 555 One additional subaltern at least should be posted to every company of artillery. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) V. 313, I am..unwilling to send Mr. Dunlop to any particular regiment lest he should not be posted to it. *c* 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuas.* xxiii, When I returned to England in the year eight, with a few thousand pounds, and was posted into the Laconia. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lii, I am posted, and appointed to the Semiramis frigate. 1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1056/1 Surgeon-Major Tuthill, on arrival from a tour of service at Gibraltar, has been posted to Dublin. 1907 SIR J. K. LAUGHTON *Let. to Editor*, Every ship of 20 guns or more was a post-ship, and a man was ordinarily said to be *posted*, that is, appointed to command a ship which gave him post as a captain.

Hence **Po·sting** *vbl. sb.*[3]

[1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 9/1 The posting the English troops too far from his own person.] 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 99 The posting of a piquet. 1880 GEN. ADYE in *19th Cent.* 701 There are palpable defects and anomalies in the Staff Corps arrangements as regards the posting of the regimental officers.

Post, *v.*[4] *Sc. dial.* [dial. var. of POSS *v.*] *trans.* To trample (clothes) in water in the process of washing them; also, to knead (clothes) with the hands for this purpose. Hence **Po·sting** *vbl. sb.*[4]

1820 ARMSTRONG *Gael. Dict.* s.v. *Postadh*, The Highland women put them in a tub,..[and] then, with petticoats tucked up..commence the operation of posting. 1893 N. MUNRO *Lost Pibroch* (1902) 18 The women, posting blankets for the coming sheiling, stopped their splashing in the little linn. *Ibid.* 71 A white blanket that needs no posting.

Post, *v.*[5] *slang.* [app. f. POST *sb.*[3] or (?) It. *posta* a stake.] *trans.* To lay down, stake, deposit, pay down.

1781 C. JOHNSTON *John Juniper* II. 48 Toby having, in his own phrase, *posted the cole* (staked down the money) ..lost a game or two, according to rule. 1781–1870 [see COLE *sb.*[8]]. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Post* or *post the poney*, to stake, or lay down the money. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. N. S. 233 Many..will recollect the needful was not posted. 1891 *Lic. Vict. Gaz.* 3 Apr. (Farmer), Done! post the money.

Post (pōust), *adv. Obs.* or *arch.* [Originating in the phrase *ride in post* (F. *chevaucher en poste*), (POST *sb.*[2] 8 d), abbreviated to *ride post*, and thence extended to other verbs.] With post-horses; by post; express; with speed or haste. Cf. F. *courir la poste*, now, to run very fast.

a. With *ride*, *run*, and other verbs of motion.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* 37 You ryde poste to the deuil. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* Ded., Riding poast towards London you chaunged horse at the universitie. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. ii. 112 Mount thee vpon his horse, Spurre post, and get before him to the King. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i, She follow'd, flyes; she fled from, followes post. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 230 Madame Raillie..sent post to the comptroller, the Laird of Pittarrow,..and called for his assistance. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 377 Men begin at leisure, but they run post before all be done. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 35 § 1 His Majestyes Post Master Generall .. shall from time to time have the receiving, taking up, ordering, dispatching, sending post or with speade, and delivering of all Letters and Pacquets whatsoever. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2485/4 A Gentleman riding Post with the Mail, was likewise taken into the said Wood. 1711 *Royal Proclam.* 23 June ibid. No. 4866/1 The Horsing of any Person..Riding Post, (that is to say) Riding several Stages upon a Post-Road, and changing Horses. 1711 *Ibid.* /2 All Letters .. shall .. be .. delivered to the Deputy .., and .. sent Post unto the .. General Post-Office. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5431/3 He set out Post for Paris. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) III. lxxxi. 166 Sir T—— sent his valet de chambre post with a letter. 1802 MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* II. 176 They were to travel post. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 83 Provided..he be not journeying post to the Rhine. 1883 STEVENSON *Treasure Isl.* II. vii, So now, Livesey, come post; do not lose an hour, if you respect me.

b. With other verbs: With speed, fast; hastily.

1632 SHIRLEY *Changes* I. i. 4 'Twere no good manners to speake hastily to a Gentlewoman, to talke post (as they say) to his Mistresse. 1634 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 4 Some haue the agilitie to ride poast, some the facilitie to runne poast, some the dexteritie to write poast, and some the abilitie to speake poast. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *2nd Elegy to B. Jonson* 53 Scriblers (that write Post and versifie With no more Leasure than we cast a Dye).

‖ **Post** (pōust), the Latin preposition meaning 'after', occurring in certain phrases used in English contexts, as *post meridiem*, *post mortem*; also in

1. Post bellum, after the war.

1883 *Standard* 17 Sept. 5/3 They were swamped by the gorgeous people of the *post bellum* epoch. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 9/3 What the post-bellum expenses of..Japan and Russia will be during the next five, or even ten, years.

2. Post diem, after the day; in *Law*: see quots.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Post diem*, is a returne of a writ after the day assigned for the returne: for the which, the *Custos breuium* hath foure pence..: or it may be the fee taken for the same. 1658 *Practick Part of Law* 8 You are to pay 4*d.* as a *post-diem* for each of the aforesaid Processe, which you bring not into the Philizer by the day of the return. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.*

3. Post hoc, after this. *Post hoc, ergo propter hoc*, after this, therefore on account of this; expressing the fallacy that a thing which follows another is therefore caused by it.

1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 221 That maxim,—*Post hoc, ergo propter hoc*,—which indeed is good logick with the vulgar,..methinks should not pass for such with the learned. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xi. 119 In the cases in which recovery is stated to have followed this practice [of mercurialization] the *post hoc* has been mistaken for the *propter hoc*. 1889 *Athenæum* 13 Apr. 468/1 We have read the whole statement without feeling convinced that 'post hoc' necessarily included 'propter hoc' in this case. 1905 *Discriminator Prosp.* 26 Inventing a dangerous post hoc explanation of a catastrophe which has surprised him.

4. Post partum, after child-birth.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*, *Post-partum*, after delivery, as, post partum hemorrhage. 1898 A. HAMILTON *Nerv. Dis.* 113 The alarming condition that we occasionally meet with after post-partum hemorrhage.

5. Post terminum (*Law*): see POST TERM.

Post, obs. form of *posed*, pa. pple. of POSE *v.*[1]

Post, variant of POUST *Obs.*, power.

Post- (pōust), *prefix*, repr. L. *post*, adv. and prep., after, behind. In L., prefixed adverbially to verbs, as *posthabēre* to hold or esteem after, *postpōnĕre* to place after, postpone, *postscrībĕre* to write after; also to pples., vbl. sbs., and other verbal derivatives, as *postgenitus* after-born, *postpositus* placed after, *postscriptus* written after, *postveniens* coming after, *postparitor* after-getter, heir. More rarely formed on the prep. and an object as, of time, *postauctumnālis* coming (*post auctumnum*) after autumn, post-autumnal; of place, *postlĭminium* (a return) behind the threshold, *postscænium* (the space) behind the scenes. In English its use has received great extension, esp. in the prepositional relation, in which compounds are formed almost at will, not only on words from Latin, but also, in technical terms, from Greek, and sometimes even on English or other words, as *post-breakfast*, *post-Easter*, *post-Elizabethan*. These are often opposed to formations in *ante-* or *pre-*.

A. Words in which *post-* is adverbial or adjectival, qualifying the verb, verbal derivative, or other adj. or sb. forming, or implied in, the second element. In compounds derived or formed from L., or on L. analogies, as POST-DATE, -EXIST, -FIX, -PONE, -POSE, -POSIT, -VENE, -GENITURE, -JACENT, SCRIPT (q. v.); also in nonce-wds., sometimes formed after, and as the opposites to, words in *ante-* or *pre-* (exceptionally *pro-*).

1. Relating to time or order.

a. In adverbial relation: = After, afterwards, subsequently. (*a*) With verbs or pa. ppples., or in nonce-wds. formed after verbs or pa. ppples. in *pre-* (*pro-*): as *post-determined* (opp. to *predetermined*), *-disapproved*. † **Postcri·brate** *v.* [see CRIBRATE], to sift afterwards; **Postmu·ltiply** *v.*, *Math.* to multiply by (or as) a *postfactor* (see b); **Post-o·ccupied** *ppl. a.* [after *preoccupied*], ? occupied with something past; † **Postpla·ce** *v.*, to place after something else; **Po·st-pro·phesy** *v.*, to 'prophesy after the event'; † **Po·stvi·de** *v.* [after *provide*], to provide for an event after it has happened; to take precautions too late. See also POSTJUDICED. (*b*) With adjectives, or forming the first element of adjectives: as **Postmu·tative** [L. *mūtāre* to change], applied to languages in which words are inflected by means of affixes placed after the stem or radical part; † **Postpa·rative** (opp. to *preparative*: see quot.).

b. In *quasi*-adjectival relation to a sb. (chiefly a verbal sb. or noun of action) forming, or implied in, the second element: = Occurring or existing afterwards, coming after, subsequent, later: as *post-acce·ssion*, *-act*, *-a·rgument*, *-co·ntract*, *-division*, *-fruition*, *-i·ssue*, *-legitima·tion*, *-opera·tion*, *-pa·rdon*, *-pe·nance*, *-si·gner*, *-varia·tion*. Also in nonce-words formed after nouns in *pre-*, as *po·st-a·mble*, *po·stdestina·tion* (hence *po·stdestina·rian*), *po·stface*, *postfiction*: see quots. Also **Po·st-ete·rnity,** eternity in the future, everlasting future existence; **Postfa·ctor,** *Math.*, the latter of two factors in non-commutative multiplication; † **Po·st-law,** ? a law made subsequently to, and annulling, some obligation, an *ex post facto* law; **Po·st-ma·rriage,** marriage subsequent to cohabitation.

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 340/1 His life is not happy, for Beatitude is a *post-accession thereto. 1851 BURRILL *Law Dict.* II. **Post-act*, an after-act; an act done afterwards. 1864 in WEBSTER; and in subsequent Dicts. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* ***iv, He liked not ouerlong Preambles, or *Postambles to short Discourses. 1622 T. STOUGHTON *Chr. Sacrif.* viii. 94 This being more then an adiunct, euen a *post argument..for confirmation of the maine argument. *a* 1610 PARSONS *Leicester's Ghost* (1641) 18 It chanced that I made a *post-contract, And did in sort the Lady Sheifield wed. *a* 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 308, I have cribrated,.. re-cribrated, and *post-cribrated the Sermon. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 70 The Arminians .. may be called..*post-destinarians for placing the eternal decree behind the race of man's life. 1656 T. PIERCE (*title*) Prædestination .. defended against *Post-destination. 1674 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 160 The Doctor's Election is a Postdestination; for it then only makes men ordained to eternal life, when..they are possessed of it. 1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 51 To prefer time before eternity, and to set up a post-destination instead of a pre-destination. 1733 POPE *Let. to Swift* in Courthope *Life* 260 It was laboured, corrected, pre-commended, and *post-disapproved so far as to be disowned by themselves. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* xxix. (1640) 287 The Schooles have made so many Divisions, and sub-divisions, and re-divisions, and *post-divisions of Ignorance. *a* 1631 — *Serm.* vii. 71 Man hath not that, not eternity, but the Image of Eternity, that is Immortality, a *Post-eternity there is in the soule of Man. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 44. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 367 The promise of eternal life is as ancient as God himself.., as it hath an ante-eternity, so it hath a post-eternity. 1782 (*title*) Paris in Miniature,..together with a Preface and *Postface by the English Limner. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Apr. 624/2 The frank admission in both preface and postface that [he] found the Japanese syllabary too many for him. 1607 HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 139 As for the latter predictions or rather *postfictions (since the bishops death) I willingly omit, concerning the successors of this bishop. 1612 CHAPMAN *Widdowes T.* II. i. Plays 1873 III. 31 Shee matching ..with some yong Prodigall: what must ensue, but her *post-issue beggerd. 1663 *Short Surv. Grand Case Pres. Ministry* 38 Oaths are sacred things, and *Post-laws are a ready Papacie to absolve them. 1780 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* (1781) I. 35 The proposers and framers of such schemes of *post-legitimation, had been convinced, that the conjugal cohabitation .. was a lawful marriage. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* II. 46 That ridicule and contempt which custom has annexed to a *post-marriage (if I may so term it). 1899 R. C. TEMPLE *Th. Univ. Gram.* 7 Languages are divisible into 1. pre-mutative, or those that prefix their affixes; 2. intro-mutative, or those that infix them; and 3. *post-mutative, or those that suffix them. 1876 M. COLLINS *Fr. Midn. to Midn.* III. iv. 8 They were for the most part silent. Lord Arthur was pre-occupied; Vance was *post-occupied. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (ed. Alford) IV. 451 All my co-operation is but a *post-operation, a working by the power of that all-preventing Grace. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* viii. (1887) 53 They that write of exercise, make three degrees in it, wherof they call the first a preparatiue,..the next simply by the name of exercise,.. the third a *postparatiue. 1625 DONNE *Serm.* 3 *Apr.* 37 Euery Pardon, whether a *Post-pardon, by way of mercy, after a Lawe is broken, or a Præ-pardon, by way of Dispensation, in wisedome before a Lawe bee broken. 1599 R. LINCHE *Anc. Fict.* G iv, I thought it fittest in this treatise to *postplace her. 1859 F. FRANCIS *N. Dogvane* (1888) 298 None *post-prophesied their convictions that 'this would be the end of it all', more loudly than Mr. Tom Sharp. 1819 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* App., Wks. 1859 I. 121 These were the only *post-signers. 1650 B. *Discoll'miniuim* 45, I and my Friends shall be allowed the full benefit of all the variations, interpretations, reservations, *postvariations, tergiversations, excusations,..that I and my Mare can devise or possibly imagine. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Chester* (1662) I. 188 When men instead of preventing, *postvide against dangers.

2. Of local position. **a.** In advb. relation to a vbl. adj. forming the second element: = Behind, posteriorly: as POSTJACENT; also **Postcommu·nicant,** communicating behind; *p. artery*, the posterior communicating artery (Wilder). **b.** In adjectival relation to a sb. forming or implied in the second element: = Hinder, situated at the back, posterior: chiefly in terms of Anatomy and Zoology, as POSTABDOMEN, etc.; **Postcho·roid,** posterior choroid (artery) (Wilder); **Posthippoca·mpal,** of or belonging to the posterior hippocampus, as in *posthippocampal fissure*; **Postscale·ne,** posterior scalene (muscle of the neck) (*Cent. Dict.* cites *Coues*); also **Post-tu·berance** *nonce-wd.* [after *protuberance*], a posterior protuberance.

1868 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* III. 135 The most .. important of these [fissures] in Man, has .. received the name of 'posthippocampal'. 1825 *Q. Rev.* XXXI. 466 Their beauty is proverbial in Africa, particularly for that..quality of being singularly gifted with the Hottentot post-tuberance.

B. Compounds in which *post-* is prepositional, the object being the noun forming, or implied in, the second element.

1. Relating to time or order: = After, subsequent to, following, succeeding, later than.

a. With substantives, forming adjectives (or attributive phrases), usually more or less nonce-wds., and of obvious meaning; as *post-Asce·nsion*, *-brea·kfast*, *-Ea·ster*, *-ele·ction*, *-evo·sion*, *-Incarna·tion*, *-Mu·tiny*, *-ordina·tion*, *-Reforma·tion*, *-Restora·tion*, *-resurre·ction*, *-Revolu·tion*, *-U·nion*, etc.; see also POST-MORTEM, POST-OBIT.

b. With adjs., or formed from *post-* + a L. or Gr. sb. with an adjectival ending. Many of these are self-explaining, esp. those formed from personal

names, as *post-Ada·mic*, *-Alexa·ndrine*, *-Carte·sian* (see CARTESIAN), *-Coleri·dgian*, *-Constanti·nian*, *-Darwi·nian*, *-Davi·dic*, *-Elizabe·than*, *-Hesio·dic*, *-Home·ric*, *-Ka·ntian*, *-Mosa·ic*, *-Pau·line*, *-Pe·trine*, *-Socra·tic*, *-Solomo·nic*, etc. So in geology, from the names of formations or periods, as *post-Ca·mbrian*, *-creta·cean*. Also terms of pathology, indicating conditions or symptoms following an attack of disease, as *post-apople·ctic*, *-diphtheri·tic*, *-epile·ptic*, *-herpe·tic*, *-influe·nzal*, *-paraly·tic*, *-paroxy·smal*, *-scarlati·nal*, *-syphili·tic*, *-ty·phoid* (see also those defined below); and many others of obvious meaning, as *post-bapti·smal*, *-bi·blical*, *-cano·nical*, *-mediæ·val*, *-observa·tional*, *-pa·gan*, *-penteco·stal*, *-prie·stly*, *-prophe·tic*, *-rebe·llionary*, *-resurre·ctional*, *-revolu·tionary*, *-talmu·dical*.

Also **Post-aposto·lic**, **-ical**, subsequent to the apostles, later than the apostolic age. **Post-ce·nal** (-cæn-, -cœn-) [L. *cēna*, erron. *cæna*, *cœna*, dinner], after-dinner. **Post-chore·ic**, *Path.*, following an attack of chorea or 'St. Vitus's dance'. **Post-comi·tial** (see quot.). **Post-connu·bial**, occurring after marriage: = POSTNUPTIAL. **Post-conque·stal**, founded after the Norman Conquest. **Post-co·smic** [Gr. *κόσμος* world], subsequent to the present world; = *postmundane*. **Post-diasto·lic**, *Physiol.*, following the *diastole* or dilatation of the heart in beating. **Post-dicro·tic**, following the dicrotic wave of the pulse. **Post-disru·ption**, subsequent to the DISRUPTION of the Ch. of Scotland and formation of the Free Ch. in 1843. **Poste·mbryonal**, **Post-embryo·nic**, subsequent to the embryonic stage of life or growth. **Post-fe·brile**, *Path.*, occurring after an attack of fever. **Post-hemiple·gic**, *Path.*, following an attack of hemiplegia or paralysis of one side. **Post-hypno·tic** (see quot. 1903). †**Postlapsa·rian**, *Theol. Obs.* = INFRALAPSARIAN or SUBLAPSARIAN. **Post-mo·rtuary**, occurring, or relating to what may occur, after (some one's) death; post-mortem. **Post-mu·ndane** [L. *mundus* world], subsequent to this present world. **Post-neuri·tic**, *Path.*, following an attack of neuritis. **Post-Nice·ne**, *Ch. Hist.*, subsequent in date to the first Nicene Council (A. D. 325); also as *sb.* a Post-Nicene writer. **Post-o·perative**, occurring after a surgical operation. **Post-partu·rient**, *Path.* [cf. PARTURIENT 3], occurring after parturition. **Post-Pura·nic**, subsequent to or later than the date of the Puranas. **Post-Ra·phaelite** *a.*, applied to schools of painting subsequent to the time of Raphael (died 1520): cf. PRE-RAPHAELITE. **Post-remo·te**, more remote in subsequent time or order: see *pre-remote*, PRE- B. 1. **Post-Ro·man**, subsequent to the Roman period. **Post-systo·lic**, following the systole of the heart. **Post-te·mporary** *nonce-wd.* [after *contemporary*], later than the time of the actual events; subsequent in date. **Post-to·nic** [see TONIC], following the accented syllable. **Post-trauma·tic**, *Path.* [Gr. *τραῦμα* wound], occurring after a wound. **Post-tride·ntine** [see TRIDENTINE], subsequent to the Council of Trent. **Post-tu·ssic** [irreg. f. L. *tussis* cough: see -IC], occurring after a cough. **Post-va·ccinal**, occurring after vaccination. **Post-va·rioloid**, *Path.*, ? occurring after a varioloid eruption. **Post-Vedic** (-vē·dik), subsequent to or later than the Rig-Veda. See also POST-DILUVIAL, -EXILIAN, -GLACIAL, -GRADUATE, -NATAL, -PRANDIAL, etc.

c. Rarely with sbs., forming sbs., as †**Po·st-noon** *Obs.*, afternoon; POST-FINE, POST TEEM, etc.

1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* vi. 136 The geologist finds no trace of *post-Adamic creation. 1901 E. L. HICKS *Man. Grk. Hist. Inscript.* (ed. 2) Pref., An indifference to *post-Alexandrine studies too common amongst British scholars. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 212 *note*, Showing a *post-Apostolic date. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 493 Immediately after the *post-apostolical age. 1895 J. KIDD *Morality & Relig.* viii. 324 The *post-ascension activity of Christ. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 226 The patient..passes into what may be spoken of as a *post-ascitic stage. 1840 G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Regen.* IV. ii. 333 With respect to *postbaptismal declarations. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 335 The ruthless dogma that there is no forgiveness for post-baptismal sin. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2184 The first *post-biblical author to mention Simon is Hegesippus. 1791 COWPER *Let. to Y. Newton* 22 July, All my *post-breakfast time must be given to poetry. 1879 J. JACOBS in *19th Cent.* Sept. 490 The analogous..Triune Deity of *post-Buddhistic Brahmanism. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* xx. 345 The longer we suppose the pre-Cambrian periods to have been, the shorter must we suppose the *post-Cambrian to be. 1899 J. STALKER *Christology of Jesus* i. 35 The forms in which the words of Jesus appear in the earliest *postcanonical literature. 1874 MIVART in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 782 If *post-cartesian philosophy has been so wanting in positive results. 1848 G. F. RUXTON in *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 430 Augustin ..was enjoying a *post-cœnal smoke. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. ii. 48. In the course of their post-cœnal talk. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 854 *Post-choreic paralysis is sometimes well-marked. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ix. 542 Literature,.. collected in *post-Christian times by the Sassanidæ. 1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849) III. xvii. 505 After every session they [the Polish electors] held what were called *post-comitial diets, the object of which was to bring him to account for the vote he had given on every occasion. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 39 *note*, By the terms connubial and *post-connubial all I mean..is the mere physical union. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Apr. 439/2 Cities are the seats of *post-conquestal bishoprics. 1901 LANCIANI in *Athenæum* 27 July 132/1 In other baptisteries of the *post-Constantinian age. 1891 *Riddles of Sphinx* 435 The *post-cosmic condition and end of the world-process. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 21 Living and *post-cretacean forms. 1890 J. MARTINEAU *Seat Authority in Relig.* II. i. 138 The *post-decretal unity seems indisputable. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Post-diastolic. Ibid.*, **Post-dicrotic wave*, a secondary recoil wave sometimes present, following on the Dicrotic wave of the pulse. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 859 *Post-diphtheritic anæsthesia tends to disappear..in the course of five or six weeks. 1889 N. KERR *Inebriety* viii. (ed. 2) 138 Though the offspring of the paternal pre-disease period showed no tendency of the kind, the paternal *post-disease child or children could only with constant supervision be kept from strong drink as soon as they began to crawl. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 16 Oct. 3/3 The men and women this preacher-poet knew in his pews in the old *post-disruption years. 1864 LUMLEY *Remin. Opera* 35 Less relished than the *post-Easter entertainment. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 304/2 This most delightful of the *post-Elizabethan poets. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 151 The perforation..falls under the *post-embryonal period of development. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 154 *Post-embryonic development, or change of form of this kind, is called metamorphosis. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 316 As the popular phrase is, the *post-epileptic patient 'was not himself'. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 3 June 6/3 In a post-epileptic state, unconscious of her acts—a sleep-walking condition. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 333 Observed in *post-epileptiform paralysis. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 449 It appears that there has been a *post-erosion subsidence to an amount from 8,000 to 12,000 feet, carrying down the Antillean plains to form the present sea-basins. 1874 BUCKNILL & TUKE *Psych. Med.* (ed. 3) 376 A prolongation of the delirium when the fever has subsided,..intended by the term '*Post-Febrile Insanity'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 149 The diagnosis of scarlet fever in the post-febrile stage. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 158 An undoubted example of *post-hemiplegic tremor. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 827 Sciatica, *post-herpetic and other neuralgias. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xviii. II. 17 The *Post-Homeric legends are adapted to a population classified quite differently. 1890 *Q. Rev.* July 255 Even *posthypnotic suggestion..was known. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. Gloss., *Post-hypnotic.* Used of a suggestion given during the hypnotic trance, but intended to operate after that trance has ceased. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 294 A result of the *post-influenzal exhaustion of the nervous centres. 1900 *Pilot* 3 Nov. 549/2 The constructive *a priori* *post-Kantian philosophy of the great German speculative thinkers of eighty years ago. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 325 The high mysteries of..Ante- and *Post-Lapsarian doctrines. 1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 6 The principle of intellectuality..does not seem to have at all entered into the theory of our mediæval or *postmediæval Sidrophels. 1902 MISS E. SPEAKMAN in *Owens Coll. Hist. Ess.* 57 A great post-mediæval movement, the active monasticism of the Counter-Reformation. 1893 *Chicago Advance* 9 Mar., He had given no one cause for *post mortuary expectations. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1791 *Post-Mosaic events and customs. 1864 *Realm* 18 May 5 The speculative gentlemen who in mythical times transferred their *post-mundane future to Mephistopheles in exchange for immediate enjoyment. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 383 Total loss of vision dependent on *post-neuritic atrophy. 1720 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* ii. 26 The *Post-Nicene Fathers Athanasius, Basil, &c. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xv. 96 At other hours of the Ante-Noon, and *Post-Noon more especially. *a* 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xxi. (1870) 346 The *post-observational simplicity of Copernicus and Newton. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 309 In the first flush of that *post-operative quiescence that we all so well recognise as a characteristic of nervous ailments. 1900 *Lancet* 20 Oct. 1152/2 A typical instance of post-operative hæmatemesis. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* vi. (1875) 252 The new, real, immense, *post-pagan world. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 464 Cases of *post-parturient anæmia. 1885 E. HATCH in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 427/1 In the later and the probably *post-Pauline epistles the apocalyptic elements are rare. 1896 J. MACNEILL *Spirit Filled Life* xiii, We live in *post-pentecostal days. 1895 A. NUTT *Voy. Bran* I. 247 The *post-Prophetic phase of Judaism. 1862 MRS. SPEID *Last Years Ind.* 192 Among the *post-Puranic religionists of India. 1899 HOBSON *Ruskin* 27 The great masters of the *post-Raphaelite schools in Italy and in England. 1870 *Athenæum* 23 Apr. 543/3 In *post-Reformation times the 'prophecies'..kept the souls..of men in continual irritation. 1902 B. KIDD *West. Civiliz.* ix. 315 The various tendencies within the post-Reformation development. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* iv. 27 The *post-resurrection period. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 11 Dec. 112/5 The few weeks of our Lord's post-resurrection life. 1814 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 243 Our *post-revolutionary youth are born under happier stars than you and I were. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 51 Referring it to *post-Roman times. 1899 R. MUNRO *Preh. Scot.* ix. 351 Many of them were utilised in post-Roman times. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 735 *Post-scarlatinal diphtheria usually occurs at a late period of convalescence. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1160 In the *post-Solomonic time, the city grew in the neighbourhood of the temple. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 145 Drugs cannot influence a *post-syphilitic cicatrix. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 159 The first sound forcible, and followed by a loud murmur (*post-systolic), which culminated at the apex. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 113 Collected by the *post-talmudical rabbins out of several ancient Copies. 1905 *19th Cent.* Jan. 63 That revelation through the fallible media of dead languages and *post-temporary chronicles. 1885 P. MEYER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 861/2 In French the first of the two *post-tonic vowels of a Lat. proparoxytone always disappears; in Prov. it tends to be preserved. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 965 The *post-traumatic disorders of the cerebro spinal system. 1845 J. H. NEWMAN *Ess. Developm.* 323 Nor am I aware that *Post-tridentine writers deny that the whole Catholic faith may be proved from Scripture. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 206 *Post-tussic suction is another highly significant sign. 1897 *Ibid.* II. 582 The nature, extent, and variety of *post-vaccinal eruptions. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 526 An example of *post-varioloid ulceration. 1895 *Daily News* 10 June 6/2 The *Post-Vedic or Brahmanic period.

2. Relating to locality: = Behind, situated at the back of, posterior to. In many adjs. (rarely sbs.), chiefly *Anat.* and *Zool.*, indicating parts or organs situated behind (more rarely, in the hinder part of) other parts or organs: as **Postaceta·bular**, behind the acetabulum or socket of the hip-bone. **Postallanto·ic**, behind the allantois. **Posta·nal**, behind the anus. **Postante·nnal**, behind the antennæ. **Postaryte·noid**, 'behind the arytenoid cartilage or cartilages' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Post-au·ditory**, behind the auditory nerve or chamber. **Postbrachial** (-brē·kiăl), situated on the back of the *brachium* or upper arm: applied to a set of muscles. **Postbranchial** (-bræ·ŋkiăl) [see BRANCHIA], behind the gills, or a gill. **Postcæcal** (-sē·kăl), behind or beyond the cæcum. **Postcalca·neal**, behind the calcaneum: applied to a lobe of the interfemoral membrane in bats. **Postce·ntral**, behind the centre: applied to a convolution of the brain, also called the *posterior central convolution*. **Postcepha·lic**, behind or posterior to the head: applied to segments of arthropods. **Postcerebe·llar**, in the hinder part of the cerebellum. **Postce·rebral**, (*a*) behind the cerebrum or brain; (*b*) in the hinder part of the cerebrum. **Postcolume·llar**, behind the columella (COLUMELLA 4). **Postco·xal**, behind the coxa or coxæ. **Postcru·ciate**, behind the cruciate fissure of the cerebrum. **Postcu·bital** [see CUBIT], behind, or on the back of, the fore-arm. **Postde·ntal** [see DENTAL], behind the teeth; in *Phonetics* applied to a consonant pronounced by placing the tongue against the gum or palate just behind the teeth. **Postdi·gital**, behind the digits or toes. **Poste·thmoid**, behind the ethmoid bone. **Post-fe·moral**, situated behind the femur or thigh. **Postge·nital**, behind the genital pores. **Postgle·noid**, behind the glenoid cavity: applied to a process of the temporal bone (*ellipt.* as *sb.*): also **Postglenoi·dal**. **Posthumeral** (-hiū·mĕrăl), behind the humerus or upper arm, or the humeri in insects (cf. HUMERAL A. 1, 3). **Postischial** (-i·skiăl), behind the ischium. **Postmeatal** (-mi̯e·i·tăl) [irreg. for **postmeatual*: cf. MEATAL, and see MEATUS], behind a meatus or opening of the body. **Postme·dian**, behind the median line or plane of the body. **Postna·sal**, behind the nose or nasal cavity. **Postœsopha·geal**, behind the œsophagus. **Posto·livary**, behind the olivary body. **Postpa·latal**, behind the palate or palatal bones; applied to one of the pterygoid bones in certain reptiles (also *ellipt.* as *sb.*): also **Postpa·latine**. **Postpari·etal**, applied to certain plates behind the parietal plates in the head of a serpent (also *ellipt.* as *sb.*). **Postpe·tiole** *sb.*, an abdominal segment in an insect immediately behind the petiole (PETIOLE 2). **Postphary·ngeal**, behind the pharynx. **Postpitu·itary**, 'situated posterior to the pituitary body' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Postpo·ntile**, behind the pons Varolii (PONS 2). **Postrhi·nal** [Gr. *ῥι-* nose], behind the nose (= *postnasal*), or behind the olfactory lobe of the brain. **Postrola·ndic**, behind the Rolandic fissure of the cerebrum. **Postro·stral**, behind the rostrum of a crustacean. **Postsa·cral**, behind the sacrum or sacral vertebræ. **Postsca·pular**, situated behind or below the spine of the scapula or shoulder-blade, as in *postscapular fossa*. **Postste·rnal**, behind the sternum or breast-bone. **Poststi·gmatal**, in an insect, behind the stigmata or breathing pores. **Postsy·lvian**, behind the Sylvian fissure of the cerebrum. **Post-ti·bial**, behind, or on the hinder part of, the tibia. **Post-tympa·nic**, behind the tympanic bone: applied to a bone, and a process of bone, in some Carnivora; also as *sb.* = *post-tympanic bone* or *process*. **Postu·mbonal**, behind the umbo of a molluscan shell. **Postu·terine**, situated behind the uterus. Also POSTLIMINARY, -OCULAR, -ORBITAL, etc.

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* II. 34 [The ilium in birds] differs in the proportions of the pre-acetabular and *post-acetabular extensions, and in the degree of divergence of the latter from the sacrum. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1632 The hind gut and its continuation—the *post-allantoic gut—are ..lor. 1888

Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 335 There is generally said to be a *post-anal section of the archenteron in Vertebrata which communicates by a neur-enteric canal with the neural tube. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1034 The number and arrangement of the four pairs of pre-anal and three pairs of post-anal papillæ on the tail of the male. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 193 This structure [the prostemmate]..is said by Sir John Lubbock to be present in some of the Lipuridæ that have no ocelli, and he therefore prefers to speak of it as the '*post-antennal' organ. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 8 The *post-auditory process of the squamosal. 1875 Huxley & Martin *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 190 The Post-auditory nerves. 1888 J. Beard in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* 179 This view..I must now also extend to the præbranchial and the sensory part of each *postbranchial nerve. 1861 Hulme tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. i. 44 The intestine is divided into the small intestine or antecæcal, and into the large intestine or *postcæcal. 1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, **Post-central convolution*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 310 The ascending parietal or post-central convolution. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Post-cephalic*, posterior to the head or cephalic segment. 1900 Miall & Hammond *Harlequin Fly* ii. 72 In a larva of one of the larger species of Chironomus the heart lies in the eleventh post-cephalic segment. 1885 Wilder in *Jrnl. Nervous Dis.* XII. 349 Cerebellaris posterior .. English paronym. *Postcerebellar. 1882 *Athenæum* 14 Jan. 60/2 Not..from the archicerebrum, but from the cords connecting this with the first *postcerebral ganglion. 1885 Wilder (as above) XII. 349 Cerebralis posterior...English paronym. Postcerebral. 1880 Watson in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc., Zool.* XV. No. 82. 91 Leaving only a central depression and a *post-columellar furrow. 1885 *Alienist & Neurol.* VI. 9 That part of the cerebral cortex which corresponds to the *post-cruciate convolution. 1903 Kjederqvist in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 107 The Pewsey *l* is also of two kinds; one is divided and *post-dental, the other has become *a*. 1891 Flower & Lydekker *Mammalia* ii. 12 The *post-digital gland of the Rhinoceros. 1870 Flower *Osteol. Mammalia* x. 136 The Orang agrees with Man in wanting this *postethmoid union of the frontals. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 235 The *postglenoid process in the horse is less developed than in the tapir. 1871 Huxley *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* viii. 361 The squamosal [of the rhinoceros] sends down an immense *post-glenoidal process. 1895 Mivart in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 373 The postaxial margin of the *postmeatal lamella. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 714 *Post-nasal adenoid hypertrophy is a disease of early childhood. 1896 *Nomencl. Dis.* 133 *Post-pharyngeal abscess. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 175 Extending from high up in the post-pharyngeal wall downwards four and a half inches as far as the fourth rib. 1885 Wilder (as above) XII. 351 Owen's prior name is *basirhinal*; the name employed by me..is **postrhinal*. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 803/2 She had a spell of sneezing, and the bullet dropped out into the postrhinal cavity. 1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 114 *Post-rostral length about equal to greatest breadth. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 72 It might be suspected from the intensity and superficialness of *post-sternal pain with tenderness. 1896 Cockerell in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 30 It may have the portion below the stigma (substigmatal) longer than that beyond (*poststigmatal), but usually they are about equal or the latter is longer. 1868 Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* III. 125 A '*postsylvian fissure'..is added. 1854 — *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 236 A well-developed *post-tympanic process. 1871 Huxley *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* viii. 368 [In the pig] the post-tympanic is closely appressed to the post-glenoidal process.

Postabdomen (pōʊstˌæbdōʊ·mĕn). [Post- A. 2.] The posterior part of the abdomen; *esp.* in insects, crustacea, or other invertebrates, the portion posterior to the abdominal cavity. Hence **Postabdo·minal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the post-abdomen.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Post-abdomen*, the name applied by Latreille to the five posterior segments of the abdomen of Hexapod insects; and to the tail of Crustaceans, which consists of analogous but more numerous segments. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 108 The post-abdominal region. 1871 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 526 In all the Polyclinian group it [the ovarium] is lodged in the post-abdomen.

Po·stable, *a. rare*—°. [f. Post *v.*[1] + -able.] Capable of being posted.

[In the quotation from Mountague cited in Todd and later Dicts. 'postable' is corrected in the Errata to 'portable'.]

Post-act: see Post- A. 1 b. **Postacetabular, Post-Adamic:** see Post- B. 2, 1 b.

Postage[1] (pōʊ·stĕdʒ). [f. Post *sb.*[2] + -age.]

I. Of letters, etc.

1. The carriage or conveyance of letters, etc., by post. Now *rare*.

1590 *Acts Privy Council* XIX. 164 Sir John Norreis, knight,.. hath made suit unto us to have certein allowaunces for howsrent, howshold stuff, postage and for transportacion booth in his going and coming [to Ireland]. 1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 5 Who weekely spends fiue or six Crownes for postage of letters onely. 1617 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) I. 465 These little pamphlets I send you for that they be of so easy postage. 1653 *Reg. Council State* XVI. 458 In the mannageing of the business of the postage of Letters. 1693 *New Hampsh. Prov. Papers* (1868) II. 100 How much a Letter [you will be pleased to allow] for postage of a single Letter from Piscataqua to Boston.

†**2.** The postal service generally; a postal service between particular points. *Obs.*

1650 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 21 Mar. 385 By direction and authority of the Parliament, I erected postages for the service of the State. 1657 *Ibid.* 28 May 553/1 An Act for the Settling the Postage of England, Scotland, and Ireland. 1707 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 442 The Post-Master-General..hath annex'd, and appropriated the Market-Towns of England so well to the respective Postages, that there is no considerable Market-Town, but hath an easie and certain Conveyance for the Letters thereof, to and from the said grand Office [in London]. 1749 W. Douglas *Summary* I. 466 From Piscataqua or Portsmouth, to Philadelphia, is a regular postage. 1779 Hervey *Naval Hist.* II. 201 In the year 1653 the postage in England, Scotland, and Ireland, was farmed for ten thousand pounds yearly.

3. The amount charged for carrying a letter or postal packet; originally, that paid to a post messenger; hence, the charge made by the post-office department for the conveyance of a letter or packet, now usually prepaid by means of a Postage stamp or stamps.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* III. viii. 119 For want of ready money, they scor'd upon his back, the postage. 1656 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 429/2 That the Post Letters, directed to the several Members of this House,..be free from Postage, as formerly. That the Letters of the several Members of this House that go to the several Parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, be also free from Postage. 1692 T. Neale *Patent* in *Hist. Suffolk, Mass.* (1894) II. 504 State letters, which are usually carried postage free here in England. 1787 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 374 To forward the packets to Colonel Platt, as early as may be, free of postage. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 388 The postage increased in proportion to the weight of the packet. 1891 Phil *Penny Post. Jubilee* 31 The postage to Aberdeen from Edinburgh was in 1777 3*d*...to Linlithgow 1*d*.

II. Of passengers.

†**4.** Travelling by means of post-horses; posting; also *transf.* a rapid journey or passage. *Obs.*

1603 in 13*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 127 The continuance thereof hath drawn with it from this poore town the postage and recourse of merchants..travelling to the sea coast...We pray that it would please you to erect a postage here and recommend unto you..James Apleton, to be the postmaster. 1627-77 Feltham *Resolves* II. lvii. 277 All the transient..pleasures that we fondly smack after in this postage of life in this world. 1808 *Cobbett's Whly. Pol. Reg.* XIII. No. 25. 968 The refusal of a licence [by] the magistrates, to any innkeeper raising the price of postage.

†**b.** The charge for hire of a post-horse. *Obs.*

1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 35 § 5 Three pence..for each Horses hire or postage for every English mile.

†**5.** A station at which horses are changed; a posting house. *Obs.* 1603 [see sense 4].

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **postage-book**: see quot.; **postage currency**, a paper currency of denominations less than a dollar, bearing a design composed of one or more postage stamps, issued in the U. S. in 1862, to take the place of actual postage stamps, which had for some time been used instead of silver coins, when these became scarce during the Civil War: also called Postal *currency*; **postage envelope**: see quot.; **postage label**, early official name for a Postage stamp; so *postage label stamp*.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Postage-book*, a memorandum-book in an office of postal expenditure. 1862 *Inscription on U. S. 5 cents bill*, *Postage Currency, Furnished only by the Assistant Treasurers and designated Depositaries of the U. S. U. S. Postage, Five Cents. *Back.* Act approved July 17, 1862. 1863 *U. S. Stat.* c. 73 § 4 Be it further enacted, That in lieu of postage stamps for fractional currency, and of fractional notes, commonly called postage currency,..the Secretary of the Treasury may issue fractional notes of like amounts. 1889 *Century Dict.* s. v. *Currency*, [On July 17, 1862], Congress authorized an issue of circulating notes called postage currency, imitating in style the stamps that had previously been used at great inconvenience, in denominations of 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents. These were superseded by the fractional currency authorized March 3d, 1863, in denominations of 3, 5, 15, 25, and 50 cents. 1860 *Murray's London* 57 (Hoppe) Others [presses] are employed in stamping the embossed medallion of the Queen on *postage envelopes. 1852 (*title*) Report from the Select Committee on *Postage Label Stamps;..Minutes of Evidence. *Ibid.* 1 Are you [H. Archer] the Inventor and Patentee of a plan for perforating the sheets of Postage Labels, so as to effect their instant separation without the aid of any cutting instrument? *Ibid.* 20 To engrave, print, gum, and perforate the postage label stamps. *Ibid.*, For engraving, printing, and gumming the postage label sheets.

Postage[2] (pōʊ·stĕdʒ). *rare.* [f. Post *sb.*[1] + -age.] The mooring of ships to posts in a harbour; the dues charged for this.

1868 *Rep. Trial* in *Exeter & Plymouth Gaz.* 13 Mar., Nothing more than postage was paid. There were three posts as shown in the map of 1738, and three or more posts along the Parlor, which had now been removed, but to which ships were moored.

Po·stage sta·mp. [f. Postage[1] + Stamp *sb.*] An official stamp, either a stamp embossed on an envelope or impressed on a card or wrapper, or else (now usually) a small adhesive label having a specified face-value (in Great Britain from ½*d.* upward), and bearing a design of a certain pattern and colour appropriated to its value, sold by or on behalf of the Post Office, to be affixed to any letter or packet sent by post, as a means of prepayment of postage, and as evidence of such payment.

The design is generally the head of the Sovereign or Ruler (whence in Great Britain the early popular appellation 'Queen's head'), or the national arms or emblems, but many countries use various symbolic or fanciful pictorial devices, historical portraits, etc.

The name *stamp* was originally applied to the marks stamped or impressed by the Post Office on letters for various purposes, among others that of stating whether they were 'prepaid', 'unpaid', 'free', partly paid, or paid by the twopenny or other post. When adhesive labels and impressed envelopes were introduced in 1840, these took the place of the 'paid' or 'prepaid' stamp, and appear to have been popularly called 'postage stamps' from the first. The official and more accurate name was *postage label*; but the popular usage prevailed; by 1850 *postage label stamp* was in official use, and finally *postage stamp* was accepted. The actual *stamps* (Ger. *briefstempel*) which continued to be impressed by the Post Office after 1840, to show the place and date of postage and arrival, and to obliterate or deface the postage-label, are now usually distinguished as *post-marks* and *obliteration-stamps* or *-marks*.

1840 *Times* 5 May 6/4 The Penny Postage Stamps... The Lords of the Treasury having fixed the 6th of May next for the issue of postage stamps. 1847 in *Rep. Sel. Comm. Postage Label Stamps* (1852) 1 The machine [Archer's] appears to be a very clever and useful invention; we are thoroughly convinced that postage stamps separated by it, having jagged edges, will adhere to letters far better than those cut from the sheets by knives or scissors. 1852 *Ibid.* 2 Mr. Bokenham told me..he was very desirous about the sticking of the postage stamps to the letters, as there were upwards of 400 found daily loose in the bags. *a* 1862 G. H. Lewes *Let. to Parker* (in *Pearson's 76th Catal.* (1894) 39), I have read Fraser, and having read it must keep it and enclose postage stamps. 1862 *Boston Even. Transcr.* 20 July 2/1 Postage stamps have come extensively into public use during the present scarcity of silver coin. They are issued by the Post Office Departments of eight values. [1862 S. P. Chase *Rep. Sec. U. S. Treas.* 4 Dec. 28 It was soon discovered that stamps prepared for postage uses were not adapted to the purposes of currency.] 1862 M. Blair *Rep. Postmaster Gen. U. S.* 1 Dec. 733 The issue of 'postage currency' by the Treasury Department will doubtless soon displace postage stamps from circulation. 1897 O. Firth *Postage Stamps* 3 Every-one is..aware of the purpose of a postage stamp, viz. to prepay postage, and to serve as an indication that the proper amount has been paid. 1907 *Post Office Guide* Jan. 139 Embossed or impressed postage stamps cut out of envelopes, post-cards, letter-cards, newspaper wrappers, or telegram forms may be used as adhesive stamps in payment of postage.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *postage-stamp damper, size, statistics, system*; *esp.* connected with the collecting of postage stamps as the objects of philatelic interest, as *postage-stamp collecting, collection, collector, dealer*, etc.; *postage-stamp album, catalogue*; **postage-stamp currency** (U. S.) = postage currency: see Postage[1] 6.

1852 *Rep. Sel. Comm. Postage Label Stamps* 2 The efficient working of the postage-stamp system. 1862 *Boston Even. Transcr.* 1 Aug. 2/3 The Postmaster-General and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue have approved of the specimens of the postage stamp currency, which will be for five, ten, twenty-five and fifty cents. 1862 (*title*) Postage-stamp Collector's Album. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 361 Postage-stamp damper.

Postal (pōʊ·stăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *postal, -ale* (1836, 'la convention postale conclue et signée le 30 mars entre la France et la Grande Bretagne'), f. *poste* Post *sb.*[2]; see -al.] Of or pertaining to the post; relating to the carriage of mails.

1843 *Rep. Sel. Comm. on Postage* 70 Postal treaties with all the countries in the world. 1844 Pres. Tyler *to Senate U. S.* in *Messages of Presid.* (1897) IV. 315, I transmit to the Senate..a postal convention between the United States and the Republic of New Granada, signed in the city of Bogota on the 6th of March last. 1848 Clough *Bothie* IV. 235 Not for the will of the wisp.. Have even latest extensions adjusted a postal arrangement. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 58. § 2 (2) Within the limit of the town postal delivery of that office. 1903 *Times* 4 May 11 Great bodies of men, such as postal servants or dockyard servants.

b. in spec. applications: **postal car**, a railway car for the carriage of mails (*U. S.*); **postal card** (*U. S.*) [cf. F. *carte postale*] = Postcard; **postal clerk**, a clerk in a travelling railway post office (*U. S.*); **postal currency** = Postage *currency* (*U. S.*); **postal guide**, a handbook of information about the postal service; a post-office guide; **postal note**, in *U. S.*, an order issued by a post office for any required sum of less than five dollars payable at any other post office; **postal order**, a form of money order issued by a post office of the United Kingdom: it differs from the *post-office order*, or original postal money order, in being for one of a number of fixed sums (from 6*d.* to 21*s.*), and in being payable at any post office; **postal union**, a union of the governments of various countries for the regulation of international postage, entered into at Berne on 9 October, 1874; on 1 Feb. 1894, all countries of the world, excepting parts of Asia and Africa and certain islands, were included.

1873 *New York Her.* 24 Apr. 10/4 The *Postal Car Problem. .. Postal Car and Mail Service on Railroads. 1872 *Act of Congress U. S.* 8 *June* Stat. XVII. 304 The Postmaster-General is authorized and directed to furnish and issue to the public, with postage-stamps impressed upon them, '*postal cards', manufactured of good stiff paper. 1873 *Chicago Tribune* 17 Apr. 4/1 Postal cards, which have been used with great favor in England and Canada for a long time, will be introduced in this country on the first of next month. 1872 *Act of Congress* Stat. XVII. 310 Every route-agent, *postal clerk, or other carrier of the mail shall receive any mail-matter presented to him, if properly prepaid by stamps. 1862 *Washington Republican* 23 Aug. 2/1 Specimens of the new *Postal Currency were received in this city this morning.., they are now for sale in exchange for specie. 1868 S. M. Clark in *U. S. Documts.* No. 1341 The postal currency was the first government issue representing fractional parts of a dollar, and was commenced in August 1862, and closed in April 1863. 1881 *Whitaker's*

Almanack 1882, 367/1 *Postal Money Orders [1880 Postal Money Notes]. Unlike post office orders, they are issued for fixed sums. 1883 *Postal Telegr. & Telephonic Gaz.*, Would it not be well if the newer issue were styled '*postal notes', as in common parlance?..'Post-office order' and '*postal order 'are too much alike in sound. 1899 *Daily News* 23 June 8/5 Judge Emden said that..he had no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that a postal order was not a negotiable instrument. 1875 (*Inscription*) Foreign Post Card for countries included in the *Postal Union. One Penny Farthing. 1876 *Brit. Postal Guide* 1 Jan., List of countries..comprised in the Postal Union.

B. as *sb.* **a.** *U. S. colloq.* Short for *postal card*; also for *postal note* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **b.** Short for *postal car*, *postal* (i. e. mail) *train*.

1871 W. Drysdale *Let.*, I have already, by postal,..acknowledged receipt of your late favour. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 193 To furnish the secretary with postals to notify the members and the press of the date of meeting. 1891 *Ann. Rep. Postm.-Gen. Washington* 583, 2 daily lines of 50-foot postals [postal railway carriages] superseding 2 lines of 40-foot. 1906 *The Missionary* (U. S.) June 249/1 The circular letter, with return postal, sent out the middle of April.

Postallantoic: see Post- B. 2.

†**Post alo·ne**, *adv. Obs.* [f. Post *sb.*[1] + Alone. (app. = standing alone like a post.)] Entirely or quite alone. (Very common in 16th c.)

1514 Q. Mary of France *Let. Hen. VIII* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 116 Now am I left post a lone in effect. *a* 1533 Frith *Answ. More* (1548) F j, I dare not lett him stonde post alone, least ye dispise him. 1543 Grafton *Contn. Harding* 454 Kyng Henry taryed poste alone in the bishoppes paleyce besyde Powles. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1593) 187 He left her post alone Upon the shore. 1619 Hieron *Wks.* I. 28 To be in a manner poast alone, like a pellican in the wildernesse, or as an owle in the desart.

Postament (pōu·stămĕnt). *Arch. rare.* (Also 8 **postment.**) [ad. It. *postamento*, f. *postare* to post, *posta* situation, placing, setting; whence also Ger. etc. *postament.*] A pedestal, a base; also, a framing, mounting, or moulding around a bas-relief, large cameo, or the like.

1738 [G. Smith] *Curious Relations* II. 392 All these Pyramids were railed in with Bannisters, on the Postments of every other were put Pots with Orange-Trees. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 191 (ed. 2) 174 Insulated pedestals of columns (stylobates) which arose from continuous postaments (stereobates).

Postanal, -antennal, -arytenoid, -auditory: see Post- B. 2; **Post-angel**: Post *sb.*[2] 13; **Post-apostolic**: Post- B. 1.

†**Po·state.** *Obs.* Aphetic form of Apostate.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 315 And postataes and evel doers he favored strongliche. 1483 Caxton *Cato* G viij, Euery one sholde say that ye were a postate.

†**Posta·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *post* after + -ation.] The placing of one thing after another.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. ii. 95 The postation of the wine doth not preiudice it, therefore the postponing of the Crosse doth not preiudice it neither.

Post-a·xiad, *adv.* (*prep.*) *Anat.* [f. as next + *-ad*: cf. Dextrad.] In a post-axial direction (from).

1895 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 331 These two grooves are separated by a..ridge (narrowing postaxiad). *Ibid.* 373 The quadrate continues onwards postaxiad the dorsal margin of the zygoma.

Post-axial (pōust,æ·ksiăl), *a. Anat.* [f. L. *post* after + Axis, Axial.] Of, pertaining to, or situated on that side of a limb (in vertebrates) which is posterior to a line drawn at right angles to the body axis through the axis of the limb.

1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 37 And in beasts posterior, can be spoken of as post-axial. 1875 Sir W. Turner in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 819/2 Quite recently the term *præ-axial* has been introduced as equivalent to atlantal, and *post-axial* to sacral. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 95 The Ulna, or post-axial bone of the forearm, is longer than the humerus.

Hence **Post-a·xially** *adv.*, in a post-axial position or direction; also as *prep.* (cf. Post-axiad).

1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 39 Distinct vertebræ are developed both pre-axially and post-axially to this strip. 1895 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 331 These vertebræ..continue on postaxially the sacral mass, narrowing as they proceed.

Po·st-bag. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Bag *sb.*] A bag for carrying letters and other postal matter; a mail-bag; *transf.* the number of letters, etc. delivered to or sent from any house or person.

1813 Moore *Post-bag* 284 The honour and delight of first ransacking the Post Bag. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xxviii. (ed. 3) 273 The Post-bag despatched every evening to one of our largest cities, Bristol, usually weighs less than a hundred pounds. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 657. 1883 J. Martin *Remin. Old Haddington* 227 Post-bags were carried on horseback from Edinburgh to London. 1898 *Tit Bits* 23 July 322/2 The Prince of Wales has the biggest post-bag of any of the Royalties.

†**Po·st-bark.** *Obs.* [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Bark *sb.*[2]] = Packet-boat.

1599 [see Packet *sb.* 1]. 1600 Mountjoy in *Cal. Doc. rel. Irel.* 423 We find great lack of a post-bark to pass to and fro between Lough Foyle and Dublin..we have adventured to erect a passage boat for that purpose, at the rate of 10*l. per mensem*, as the other post-barks have. 1650 *Cal. State Papers, Dom.* (1876) 26 The whole business of the post barks referred back to the Irish Committee. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* vi. (1658) 161 Sending away nevertheless a Post-barque to Athens, to let them know what had befallen him.

†**Post-bill.** *Obs.* [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Bill *sb.*[3]] **1.** See quots.

1847 Webster, *Post-bill*, a bill of letters mailed by a postmaster. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Post-bill*, a post-office way-bill placed in the mail-bag, or given in charge of the guard or driver. 1864 in Webster; and in later Dicts.

2. Short for *Bank Post Bill*: see Bank-bill.

1809 R. Langford *Introd. Trade* 6 Post Bills on the Bank of England.

Po·st-boat. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Boat *sb.*] A boat or ship engaged in the conveyance of the mails, esp. on a regular route at fixed times; a packet-boat, mail-boat; also, a boat which conveys travellers between certain points; a stage-boat.

1600 Sir G. Fenton in *Cal. Doc. rel. Irel.* 340, I await [at Holyhead] for a southerly wind, and a bark to put me over, the post boat being already in Ireland. 1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvi. 73 We found the place inhabited by some..tartars, who ply on the river with open post boats. 1879 Bates *Egyptian Bonds* II. vi. 162 Thence by the post-boat on the canal to Port Said. 1897 *Edinb. Rev.* Oct. 455 It is sunset when one arrives by the post-boat.

†**Po·st-book**[1]. *Obs.* [f. Post *v.*[1] 8 + Book *sb.*] A book in which accounts are posted; a ledger.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Book, Ledger*, or *Leger-Book*, sometimes also called the *great book*, and the *post-book*. *a* 1734 North *Lives* (1826) III. 165 Proposed a sort of post-book to be kept, in which the merchants should have their accounts.

Po·st-book[2]. *rare.* [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Book *sb.*] A book containing the regulations of a post-service.

1763 Smollett *Trav.* (1766) I. viii. 135, I pulled out the post-book, and began to read..the article which orders, that the traveller who comes first shall be first served.

Post-box: see Post *sb.*[1] 9, *sb.*[2] 13.

Po·st-boy. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Boy *sb.*[1]]

1. A boy or man who rides post; a letter-carrier.

1588 *Cal. Border Papers* I. 320 Sum Skotes..mett with the post boay of Morpett bychanse..and tooke away his horse and pakkett. 1624 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 527 Paid to a post boy for a letter from my Lord, vj*d.* 1672 R. Wild *Declar. Lib. Consc.* 4, I suddenly heard the Post-boy blow his Horn near my Window. 1723 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 6137/3 The Post-Boy who was bringing the Gloucester and Bristol Mails to London. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 49 P 13 A road through which..the post-boy every day and night goes and returns. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* II. vi. 122 We heard the summons of the postboy's horn, and Cicely presently ran in with a letter in her hand.

2. The postilion of a stage-coach, post-chaise, or hired carriage; = Postilion 3.

1707 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 443 If any Gentleman desire to ride Post..Post-Horses are always in readiness..only 3d. is demanded for every English Mile; and, for every Stage, to the Post-Boy 4d. for conducting. 1733 Fielding *Tom Thumb* II. v, Tho' they should fly as swift as the gods, when they Ride on behind that post-boy, Opportunity. 1777 Sheridan *Trip Scarb.* I. i, Pay the postboy, and take the portmanteau. 1782 Cowper *Gilpin* 230 Away went Gilpin, and away Went postboy at his heels, The postboy's horse right glad to miss The lumbering of the wheels. 1853 Lytton *My Novel* XII. xxxiii, The post-boys cracked their whips, and the wheels rolled away.

Postbrachial, -branchial, -cæcal, -calcaneal: see Post- B. 2; **Post-butt**: Post *sb.*[1] 9; **Post-canonical**, etc.: Post- B. 1.

Post captain: see Post *sb.*[3] 4 b.

Po·st-car. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Car *sb.*[1]] A car for the conveyance of mails; also, a car for the conveyance of travellers posting.

1694 Penn *Trav.* (1714) 203 We immediately took a Post-carr, and came next day about two in the afternoon to Cleve. 1812 Sir R. Wilson *Priv. Diary* (1861) I. 140 The boyard..gave every aid, and a little car into the bargain for the soldiers, as being larger than the post cars.

Postcard (pōu·st,kāid). [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Card *sb.*[2]] A pasteboard card of a regulation size, bearing a representation of a postage stamp or an equivalent design, officially sold to be used for correspondence. Also, since 1 Sept. 1894, a blank, private, or unofficial card of the same dimensions (*blank postcard*) to be furnished with an adhesive stamp for the proper amount of postage.

The postcard issued in Great Britain 1 Oct. 1870 cost ½*d.*; cards of higher prices from 1*d.* to 3*d.* were issued later for foreign correspondence (the first being the 1½*d.* card of 1875); since 1879 the postcard rate for countries within the postal union has been 1*d.* An equivalent rate for foreign correspondence is used in most other countries; but for internal correspondence their rates differ. *Pictorial* or *picture postcards* are cards (usually blank) bearing a picture on the reverse side, the sending and collection of which began to become prevalent shortly before 1900.

1870 Oct. 1 (*Inscription*) Post Card. The address only to be written on this side. Halfpenny. 1870 *Dame Europa's School* 16 He wrote home to his mother, on the back of a halfpenny post card, so that all the letter carriers might see how pious he was. 1872 *Punch* 3 Feb. 51/2 He gets a post-card informing him that he is proposed to the House. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 Feb. 2/3 The post-card was an Austrian invention, brought out in 1868, with a separate issue the following year for Hungary...We adopted the plan in 1870. 1899 Picture post-card [see Picture *sb.* 6 d]. 1901 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 5/1 The idea of the postcard first came to Dr. Stephan, late German Postmaster-General, who submitted his plan of a postcard, which was rejected at the time, to a German Postal Congress in 1865. *attrib.* 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 3/2 Having adopted the custom of book-retention by the post-card system. 1899 *Ibid.* 19 Aug. 8/1 They have supplied the market with a postcard album.

Post-caroche, to -carrier: see Post *sb.*[2] 12.

Post-cart (pōu·st,kāit). [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Cart *sb.*] A cart in which local mails are carried. Also *attrib.*

1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 243 Here is the post-cart coming up the road at its most respectable rumble. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Nov. 4/6 The trains are all late, and the postcarts do not reach their destinations. 1889 Barrie *Window in Thrums* 151 Jamie was to..come on to Thrums from Tilliedrum in the post-cart. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Apr. 7/1 An important post-cart service runs via Greytown and Middle Drift into the native territories.

Postcava (pōust,kā·vă). *Anat.* [f. Post- A. 2 + Cava for *vena cava.*] The inferior vena cava: so called as being behind or posterior in animals generally. Hence **Postca·val** *a.*

1866 [see Precaval]. 1882 Wilder & Gage *Anat. Technol.* 331 By Owen the two are designated as the *postcaval* and *præcaval* veins...We have ventured to omit the *vena* and to designate them as simply *præcava* and *postcava.*

Post-cedar: see Post *sb.*[1] 9. **Postcentral, -cephalic, -cerebellar, -cerebral**: Post- B. 2.

Post-chaise (pōu·st,ʃēz), *sb.* Also *colloq.* **post-chay, -shay**, Po'chaise, pochay. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Chaise.] A travelling carriage, either hired from stage to stage, or drawn by horses so hired: used in the 18th and earlier half of the 19th century.

In England usually having a closed body, seated for from two to four persons, the driver or postilion riding on one of the horses.

1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5027/5 The Earl of Strafford arrived here in a Post-Chaise. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 221 There is scarce any other way of travelling from Geneva to Italy than in post-chaises which will hold two persons, with a covering over head, and room for two trunks behind: they have but two wheels. 1757 F. Greville *Maxims, Char. & Refl.* 19 He was told of the late invention of post-chays, of their great expedition, conveniency and cheapness. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xlvii, Kit's mother and the single gentleman,..speeding onward in the post-chaise-and-four. 1889 G. Findlay *Eng. Railway* 3 At the commencement of the present century..communication between the smaller towns was by post-chaises..for the wealthy.

attrib. 1763 Stone in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 197 Cases where the patient..caught cold, as a post-chaise boy did. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* I. 8 A Chariot or Post-Chaise body. These bodies differ not in the least...By the addition of a coach-box to the carriage-part, they are called Chariots.

Hence **Post-chaise** *v.*, *colloq.*, *intr.* to travel by post-chaise; *trans.* to convey in or carry off in a post-chaise. *rare.*

1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* xv, The Colonel delighted in post-chaising—the rapid transit through the country amused him, and cheered his spirits. 1871 [see Po'chaise].

Post-cha·riot. [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Chariot.] A chariot for travelling post; *spec.* a light four-wheeled carriage of the 18th and early 19th c., differing from a post-chaise in having a driver's seat in front.

1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* 375 Messala..mounted her into a swift post-chariot, and with a maine pace rode away. 1741–70 Eliz. Carter *Lett.* (1808) 423 Miss Deane got into a post-chariot at Canterbury. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* 49 He usually travelled to Tunbridge, in a post chariot and six greys, with out-riders. 1828 Planché *Descent Danube* 69 The sight of a post-chariot whirling along.

Post-choreic, -choroid: see Post- B. 1, A. 2 b.

Post-cla·ssic *a.* = next. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Post-cla·ssical, *a.* [f. Post- B. 1 + Classical.] Occurring or existing subsequent to the classical period of any language, literature, or art; *spec.* of the Greek and Latin.

1867 Deutsch *Rem.* (1874) 1 The classical and postclassical materials that lie scattered through it [the Talmud]. 1898 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 4/5 All this..suggests that gypsies, whatever their origin, were post-classical immigrants from India into Europe by way of the Levant.

So **Post-cla·ssicism**, a grammatical or orthographical form of the post-classical period.

1906 *Academy* 7 Apr. 331/1 Perhaps the most remarkable post-classicism in the treatise is the appeal to the reader, as in διαγνῶθι ὅπως, 'observe how', in p. 29.

Postcla·vicle, *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. Post- A. 2 b.] The posterior bone of the scapular arch of some fishes.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 416 The *Ganoidei* and *Teleostei* have investing bones known as supra-clavicle, clavicle, inter-clavicle, and post-clavicle, all derived apparently from the skin and lining membrane of the branchial cavity, and present in none of the higher Vertebrata.

So **Postclavi·cular** *a.*, situated behind the clavicle; pertaining to the postclavicle.

1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 44 The clavicle overlaps a postclavicular bar.

Postclitellian (-klăite·liăn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Post- B. 2 + Clitell-um + -ian.] Belonging to that division of earthworms in which the male genital apertures are situated behind the clitellum or thickened band. **b.** *sb.* An earthworm of this division.

[1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 207.] 1888 [see Intraclitellian].

Post-coach (pōu·st,kōuʧ). [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Coach *sb.*] A stage-coach used for carrying mails, a mail-coach; a stage-coach generally.

1673 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) 69 The D. Hamilton and the E. of Tweedale..goe in coch to Belford, from thence

on horsback to York, and from thence by the post-coch to London. 1685 *Royal Proclam.* 7 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/1 That they presume not to set up any Foot-Post, Horse-Post, Post or Stage-Coach. 1787 *Hist. Europe* ii. in *Ann. Reg.* 32/1 A common travelling post coach or two, with a couple of hired chaises. 1849 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. I. 33/1 A new post-coach had been set up which performed the journey to Bath in a single day. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxiii, We got into our post-coach and drove away.

Postcolumellar, -comitial: see POST- B. 2, 1.

† Post-co·mmon. *Obs.* [Altered from med.L. *postcommūnio*: see next, and cf. COMMON *sb.*[1] 4, *v.* 8.] = POST-COMMUNION.

a 1380 *St. Bernard* 1110 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 59 God..enspired him of an orisoun, To seyn at his post-comoun. Aftur þe post-comoun was i-songe He chaunged his orisoun. *c* 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 91 When þe preste hath don his masse,..A-noþur oryson he moste say,..þe 'post comen' men don hit calle. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 33 The postcomyn is not sayd [on Easter eve]. 1683 tr. *Romish Mass-bk.* 96 After the Canon and Communion then followeth the post-common with the Collects.

Postcommunicant: see POST- A. 2 a.

Post-commu·nion, *sb.* (*a.*) [ad. med.L. *postcommūnio, -ōn-em*; cf. F. *postcommunion* (OF. also *pocumenion*, 1287 in Godef.); see POST- B. 1 c and COMMUNION.] The or a part of the eucharistic office which follows the act of communion.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 442 b/1 After the preest sayth the postcommunyon whiche is so named .. for thys that it is sayd after the preest hath receyued the precyous sacramente of the aulter. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* (Rubric), Then shall the Clarkes syng the post Communion. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* 241 The last is the Post-Communion, or, Thanksgiving, which with us is nothing but that holy Hymn [Gloria in Excelsis]. 1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 128 At the Post-Communion the Bishop again goes to the faldstool. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Aug. 5/2 The Post-Communion was said by the Archbishop and the 'Gloria in Excelsis' was sung by the choir to music by Sir John Stainer.

B. *adj.* Succeeding or following the act of communion; used after communion.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., A post-communion collect. *Mod.* The post-communion address in Presbyterian churches.

Post-connubial to -cosmic: see POST- B. 1.

Postcostal (pōʊstˌkɒ·stăl), *a.* [f. POST- B. 2 + L. *costa*, after COSTAL.] Behind a rib; *spec.* in *Entom.* situated next behind the costal vein or nervure of the wing.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 608 The Intermediate Area is that which lies between the postcostal or mediastinal nervure and the anal fold of the wing. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 927/1 The second longitudinal nervure is the post-costal. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Post-costal*, behind a rib.

Postcoxal, -cruciate, -cubital: see POST- B. 2. **Postcribrate:** see POST- A. 1.

Post-date (pōʊ·stˌdēˑt), *sb.* [f. POST- A. 1 b + DATE *sb.*] So F. *postdate*, obs. *postidate*.] A date affixed to a document, or assigned to an event, later than the actual date.

1611 COTGR., *Postidate*, a Post-date. 1701 H. WANLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1997 The Reason of these Post-Dates was, because..a Book was by how much the Newer, by so much the more Valuable.

Post-date (pōʊstˌdēˑt), *v.* [f. POST- A. 1 a + DATE *v.* So mod.F. *postdater* (1752 in Hatz.-Darm.); formerly *postidater* (1549 in Littré).] *trans.* To affix or assign a later than the actual date to (a document, book, event, etc.).

1624 DONNE *Devotions* Medit. ix. (ed. 2) 199 This were to antidate, or to postdate their Consultation, not to giue Phisicke. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 203 Our own aptness to antedate promises, and to postdate threatnings. 1701 H. WANLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1997 Other Books are Post-dated that they might be accounted New. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 17 Knowing the same [bill] to be post-dated. 1891 C. LOWE in *19th Cent.* Dec. 861 Many of the Berlin newspapers which are published in the evening are post-dated by a day. [So with the French daily papers.]

Hence **Post-da·ted** *ppl. a.*

1622 DONNE *Serm.* cxii. (ed. Alford) IV. 571 Prophecy is but antedated Gospel, and Gospel is but post-dated Prophecy. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. iii. 16 A case more frequent than that of post-dated genius. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* iv. 89 Post-dated cheques, i.e. cheques bearing date subsequent to the actual drawing, are illegal [legal since 1882].

Po·st-day. [f. POST *sb.*[2] + DAY *sb.*] The day on which the post or mail is due or departs.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 107 Every Post-day they send them whole dozens of Pacquets of Letters. 1679 HARWELL in *Jenison Popish Plot* 27, I Have expected to hear from you these three or four post-days past. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 215 Mrs. Aubrey,..recollecting that it was foreign post-day, very wisely resolved to return home immediately, and write to her husband. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 329 This particular morning happened to be that of the bi-weekly post-day.

Postdental, -digital: see POST- B. 2. **Post-destination, -determined:** see POST- A. 1. **Post-diastolic, -dicrotic:** see POST- B. 1.

Post-dilu·vial, *a.* [f. as next + -AL.] **a.** *Geol.* Posterior to the diluvial or drift period. **b.** *gen.* = POST-DILUVIAN.

1823 BUCKLAND *Relig. Diluv.* 190 The diluvial and post-diluvial formations I am now speaking of. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 194 The postdiluvial period presents man with a knowledge of the dangerous tendencies of human nature, and the retributive consequences.

Post-diluvian (pōʊstˌdilĭ·vĭăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. POST- B. 1 + L. *diluvi-um* a deluge + -AN. So F. *postdiluvien* adj. (Littré).]

A. *adj.* Existing or occurring after the Flood or Noachian deluge.

1680 LAWSON *Mite into Treasury* 9 The Ante-diluvian and Post-diluvian Patriarchs, that is, the Fathers that lived before and after the Flood. 1759 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) II. 496 Nothing on the postdiluvian earth could be more pleasant than the road from hence. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. I. i. 15 The pristine ages of the post-diluvian world. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* xiii. 285, I have referred above only to the question of historic or postdiluvian man.

B. *sb.* One who lived, or lives, after the Flood.

1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* I. 221 If they allow the post-diluvians to have liv'd six hundred..years, that being clearly beyond the standard of our lives. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 264 ₱5 Methusalem might be half an Hour in telling what a Clock it was; but as for us Postdiluvians, we ought to do every Thing in Hast. 1830 JAS. DOUGLAS *Truths Relig.* iii. (1832) 140 The history of the first postdiluvians has indeed passed away.

† Post-disseisin (pōʊstˌdisī·zĭn). *Old Law.* [f. POST- A. 1 b + DISSEISIN.] A second or subsequent disseisin; also, a writ that lay for him who had a second time been disseised of his lands and tenements by one from whom he had recovered them by novel disseisin.

[1308-9 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 276/1 Le dit Henry porta bref nostre Seignur le Roi qe ore est de postdisseisine vers le dit Johan.] 1535 tr. *Natura Brevium* (1544) 128 Yf he be put out of the same tenementes by the same person agaynst whom he hath recouered then he shal haue a post disseyson, and a reddisseyson. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Post disseisin*.. is a writ giuen by the statute of West. 2. cap. 26. and lyeth for him that hauing recouered lands or tenements by (*præcipe quod reddat*) vpon default, or reddition, is againe disseised by the former disseisour. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.*

So **† Post-disse·isor,** one who a second time disseises another of his lands.

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxix. (1739) 183 Redisseisors and Postdisseisors found upon verdict before the Sheriff, Coroners, and Knights, shall be imprisoned. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm* III. x. 188 He shall have a writ of post-disseisin against him; which subjects the post-disseisor to the same penalties as a re-disseisor.

‖ Postdo·rsolum, -ulum. *Entom.* [mod.L. f. POST- B. 2 + **dorsulum*, dim. of *dorsum* back.] 'The middle-piece between the mesophragm and the postscutellum' (Kirby and Spence).

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 570 The first external piece of the metathorax is the postdorsolum.

Post-drill, -driver: see POST *sb.*[1] 9, *sb.*[2] 12.

Poste, obs. f. POST; var. POUSTIE *Obs.*

‖ Postea (pōʊ·stĭˌă). *Law.* [L. *postea* afterwards, lit. 'after those things'; being the first word of the usual beginning of the record.] That part of the record of a civil process which sets forth the proceedings at the trial and the verdict given.

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. i. (1635) 21 Against the day they should have appeared above, to returne the verdict read in the Court above, which returne is called a *Postea*. *a* 1627 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* v. ii, *Sub-pœnas* and *posteas*. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4508/3 A Postea, or Record of Nisi Prius, between Morris, Plaintiff, and Jordan, Defendant, was..delivered by mistake..to a Person who had no Right to receive it. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxiv. 386 Whatever, in short, is done subsequent to the joining of issue and awarding the trial, it is entered on record, and is called a *postea*. 1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit.* 154 Clerk of the common bails, posteas, and estreats.

Posted (pōʊ·stĕd), *a.* [f. POST *sb.*[1] + -ED 2.] Furnished with or having posts. Also in comb., as *four-posted* (see FOUR C. 2).

1572 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 412 This shop..is made like the terrace, fair railed and posted, fit for men to stand upon in any triumph or shew. 1614 *Inv.* in *Trans. Cumb. & West. Arch. Soc.* III. 115 One posted bedd with teaster and curtaines. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 17 Nov. 2/2 A good and substantial wind corn posted mill. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 35 The furniture consisted of a table and a chair, with a posted bed.

Po·sted, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. POST *v.*[1] + -ED 1.]

† 1. Sent or gone away quickly like a post; departed quickly. *Obs.*

1602 MUNDAY tr. *Palmerin of Eng.* I. i, To recount thy posted pleasure and also to thinke on thy present ensuing paine.

2. Carried by or sent through the post; placed in a post-office letter-box for dispatch.

1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. vii. (1852) 318 There has been a great increase in the number of posted letters.

3. Entered in a ledger or account-book.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 268 Full-points serve..to lead and to connect the posted Article with its contingent valuation.

Po·sted, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. POST *v.*[2] + -ED 1.] Cut into the form of a post; 'squared': see POST *v.*[2] 1.

Po·sted, *ppl. a.*[3] [f. POST *v.*[3] + -ED 1.]

1. Set in position, stationed, arranged.

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 144 The point where the head of a column enters an alignement, and which is marked by a posted person. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 190 We drove under some posted field-batteries into Basle.

2. Pasted or fixed up in a prominent place, as a public notice.

1897 *Daily News* 8 June 3/3 The posted announcement that the 'jumping competitions would begin at three o'clock' brought numbers on to the grassy banks. 1898 *Ibid.* 10 May 6/6 The posted certificate at the booking-office [of the Alhambra]..ordered the dancer complete rest 'for her voice'.

Postee, variant of POUSTIE *Obs.*, power.

‖ Posteen, postīn. Also *erron.* **poshteen, -tin.** [Pers. پوستین *postīn* leathern, f. پوست *pōst* skin, hide.] 'An Afghan leathern pelisse, generally of sheepskin with the fleece on' (Yule).

1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 59 At that season, they also wear brown and grey woollen great coats, and posteens. 1862 *Punjab Trade Rep.* 65 (Y.) Otter skins from the Hills and Kashmir, worn as Postins by the Yarkandis. 1882 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Proper Pride* II. ii. 25 The head-man of [an Afghan] village, in a richly-embroidered poshteen. 1904 *Blue bk. Papers relating to Thibet*, We would recommend that both escort and support should have clothing on winter scale with poshtins for sentries.

† Postel[1]. *Obs.* Also 2-4 **postle, 7 postil.** [a. OF. *postel* (1160-74 in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *poteau* post, dim. of OF. *post*: see POST *sb.*[1] and -EL 2.] A door-post, gate-post.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 Þa postles and þet ouerslaht of ure huse. *c* 1205 LAY. 1316 Þa comen heo to þan bunnen þa Hercules makede mid muchele his strengðe þat weoren postles longe of marmon stane stronge. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 14980 Bunden þat þai soght þis ass þai fand bi a postel. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 54 Þe powere of þis postes [*MS. C.* postles]. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* cvii. (ed. Alford) IV. 459 The Blood of that Lamb is not sprinkled upon the Postils of that door.

† Postel[2]. *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *posterle, potelle* (1355, 1419 in Godef. *Compl.*):—late L. *posterula* POSTERN.] A postern or small gate.

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 7675 (Cott.) Bot micol vte bi night him lete, Vte at a priue dern postel [*Gött.* & *Trin.* posterne].

Postem, -e, variants of POSTUME *Obs.* **Post-embryonal, -embryonic:** see POST- B. 1.

Po·st e·ntry, po·st-entry. [POST- A. 1 b.]

1. A subsequent or late entry.

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 31 May 10/2 The entries..show..a decrease on last year's total of 122, which may possibly be made up yet by post entries. 1888 *Daily News* 9 July 5/8 Post entries have brought the number of probable competitors up to something more than the average.

2. *spec.* **a.** An additional or supplemental entry, in the manifest of a vessel, of an item or items of dutiable merchandise omitted at the time of the entry of the vessel at the custom-house. The warrant issued on this is a **Post-warrant.**

1662 *Order Ho. Comm. as to Customs* (1663) 14 Post-Entries Inward to passe without Fee under five shillings. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6433/1 They..have been..permitted to make Post-Entries thereof with the Officer of Excise. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 18 When the Post Warrant is received, the date and number of each Post Entry must be inserted. 1832-52 MCCULLOCH *Dict. Comm.* 1047 When goods are weighed or measured, and the merchant has got an account thereof at the Custom-house, and finds his entry, already made, too small, he must make a post or additional entry for the surplusage, in the same manner as the first was done...A merchant is always in time, prior to the clearing of the vessel, to make his post.

b. A subsequent entry in book-keeping.

1798 BAY *Amer. Law Rep.* (1809) I. 33 No entry was made..except a post entry, some time afterwards. 1847 WEBSTER, *Post-entry*..2. In *book-keeping*, an additional or subsequent entry.

Poster[1] (pōʊ·stəɪ). [f. POST *v.*[1] + -ER 1.]

1. One who travels 'post', expeditiously, or swiftly. Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 33 The weyward Sisters, hand in hand, Posters of the Sea and Land, Thus doe goe, about, about. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. vi. xxxviii, At this, Goltho alights as swiftly post As Posters mount. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. Pref. 9 A poster of roads will write rapidly; a sick man querulously [etc.]. *a* 1845 HOOD *Lament of Toby* i, O heavy day! O day of woe! To misery a poster.

† 2. A messenger, a carrier of news. *Obs.*

1605 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 606 The noble poster of newis athort the world.

3. A post-horse.

1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* iii, Mr. Hippy's travelling chariot was rattled up to the door by four high-mettled posters from the nearest inn. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xv, There were no cattle, save the single old pair of posters.

4. One who posts a letter.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 5/4 It will be the duty of the officer in attendance to stamp the form with the office stamp, and hand it back to the poster.

Poster[2] (pōʊ·stəɪ). [f. POST *v.*[2] + -ER 1.]

1. One who posts or sticks up bills; a bill-poster.

1864 [see *bill-poster*, BILL *sb.*[3] 11].

2. A placard posted or displayed in a public place as an announcement or advertisement.

Pictorial or *picture poster*, a placard consisting mainly of a picture or illustration.

1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxx, We'll have posters out the first thing in the morning. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 6 July 3/3 A most seditious 'poster' with which all the walls..were placarded. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* viii, The poster, scarlet letters on a white ground, was effective. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 2/3 By his cartoon for a poster, 'The Woman in White', one of his biographers states that he [Fred. Walker] may be said to have started the fashion of artistic advertising in this country.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poster artist, cloth, -collector, -designer, -hoarding, -making, -pilfering*; *poster-like* adj.; *poster-maniac*, one who has a mania for collecting posters.

1895 *Chap-Book* III. 471 For the benefit of Poster Collectors a special edition of fifty copies has been printed on Japan paper. 1895 *Standard* 23 Nov. 5/1 There exist two or three *catalogues raisonnés* which are indispensable to the postermaniac. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Dec. 8/1 An exquisitely clever and amusing design, that would take the blue ribbon, judged by the points of artistic poster-making. 1896 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 6/1 Portraits of some of the leading poster artists, with selections from their works. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 2/1 It is said..that the new custom of poster-collecting causes persons to strip these designs from the walls when opportunity offers. 1906 *Athenæum* 9 June 710/1 Whose work amongst that of our own painters seemed somewhat abrupt and posterlike.

‖ **Poste restante** (pōstˌrestäˑnt). [Fr., = remaining (at the) post office.] A direction written upon a letter which is to remain at the post office till called for; in English use, transferred to the department in a post office in which letters for travellers or visitors are kept till applied for.

1768 SARAH OSBORN *Pol. & Soc. Lett.* 9 Feb. (1890) 181 Your brother's letter to you Postrestant at Turin will acquaint you of his success. 1777 in Jesse *Geo. Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 230 You will address your answer to this to Paris, *Poste Restante*. 1816 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 5 Dec., Direct to me here, *poste restante*. 1822 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 131 Do write to me, and direct your letters 'poste restante, Dresden'. 1844 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 129 As you give me no particular direction, I wrote to you at the Poste Restante there [Florence]. 1880 *Brit. Postal Guide* 92 There is a Poste Restante both at the General Post Office St. Martin's-le-Grand, and at the Charing Cross Post Office, where letters 'to be called for' can be obtained between the hours of 9 A.M. and 5 P.M.

† **Posterga·neous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *postergāne-us* (Cælius Aurel.) (f. *post tergum* behind the back) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Posterganeous*..belonging to the backside or hinder part of the body.

Posterial (pɒstīəˑriăl), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *poster-us* coming after or behind + -IAL.]

1. Pertaining to the hinder parts or posteriors.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 171 His partes posterialle, or the instrumente of egestion. *Ibid.* IV. 371. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x, No license of fashion can allow a man of delicate taste to adopt the posterial luxuriance of a Hottentot.

2. Turned towards the hinder side.

1866 TATE *Brit. Mullusks* iv. 205 The apex is posterial and sinistral.

Posterior (pɒstīəˑriəɪ), *a.* and *sb.* (*adv.*) Also 6–8 -our. [a. L. *posterior*, compar. of *poster-us* or *poster* coming after, following, future, f. *post* prep., after. Perh. repr. AF. **posteriour* = F. *postérieur* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.*

1. Later, subsequent in time; opposed to *prior*.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1308/2 The posteriour Greekes saye, that Chryste dydde not eate his Paschall lambe in the daye appoynted by the lawe. 1653 LD. VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* A ij, The swelling criticismes, or vaine Philosophy of posteriour writers. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. iii. 125 The precepts of the art of poesy were posterior to practise. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. ii. 16 The Epistle to the Romans is posterior even to the second Epistle to the Corinthians. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 68 Proofs of the posterior origin of the lava. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* i. 3 Found only in the literature posterior to the exile.

2. Coming after in a series or order.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 115 So it is manifest, that where the anteriour body giveth way, as fast as the posteriour cometh on, it maketh no noise, be the motion never so great, or swift. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 286 While Man.. believes..often that the line is straight—seeing neither its anterior nor its posterior convolutions.

3. Hinder; situated behind, or farther back than something else. Opposed to *anterior*.

Especially frequent in Anatomy in reference to the hinder of two organs or parts.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 52 The belly of one ioyned with the posterior part of the other. 1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 47 The posterior clinoid Processes of the sphenoid Bone. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 90 Two bags, situated in the posterior parts of the body. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxxv. 288 The two parts into which the iris divides the eye are called the *anterior* and the *posterior* chambers. 1868 DUNCAN tr. *Figuier's Insect W.* Introd. 7 The legs are called anterior, posterior, and intermediate.

B. *sb.* **1.** *pl.* Those who come after; descendants, posterity; rarely *sing.* a descendant.

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1309/2 When I speake of the churche of Grece in this errour: I speake but of the posteriours. 1560 *Goodli Hist. Lucres & Eurialus* (1567) G iv, Hys posteriars shall shewe for theyr noblenes a gylted bull. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxviii, Neither he, nor his posteriors from generation to generation, shall sit upon it ony mair. 1889 in *Spectator* 9 Nov. 634/2 'No ways inferior..And lineal postarior to Ould Aysculapius'. [Anglo-Irish.]

2. *pl.* The hinder parts of the body; the buttocks. [After late L. *posteriōra*.]

1619 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Conv. B. Jonson* Wks. (1711) 225 A poor pedantick schoolmaster, sweeping his living from the posteriors of little children. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 8 You know what answer the Fox gave the Ape when he would have borrowed part of his taile to cover his posteriors. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 102 He drops upon his Knees or Posteriors. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 70 The Pigmy Ape... The posteriors are naked and callous.

† **b.** The hinder part or back side (*of* anything).

1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) I. 41 He oft could take Things from th' Posteriors of an Almanacke, Very behoofull to the Regimen Of health.

† **3.** *pl.* The later part. (*facetious.*) *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 94 To congratulate the Princesse at her Pauilion, in the posteriors of this day, which the rude multitude call the after-noone. *Ibid.* 96.

C. *adv.* Subsequently; posteriorly.

1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 43 He wrote posterior to both these Councils. 1830 PUSEY *Hist. Enquiry* II. 153 [He] wrote posterior to all these authors.

Posterioric (pɒstīəriˌɒˑrik), *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. A POSTERIORI + -IC.] Of *a posteriori* origin. Hence **Posterioˑrically** *adv.*, in an *a posteriori* way.

1895 *Athenæum* 7 Dec. 796/1 The knowledge acquired may be named prioric or posterioric, according as the one condition or the other is distinguished. *Ibid.*, A conclusion may be prioric though drawn from premises obtained posteriorically.

Posterioriˑstic, *a.* [f. POSTERIOR + -ISTIC.] Of or belonging to Aristotle's two books of Posterior Analytics; as *posterioristic doctrine*, a doctrine contained in these; *posterioristic universal*: see quot. Opposed to PRIORISTIC. Hence **Posterioriˑstically** *adv.*

c 1600 *Timon* IV. iii. (Shaks. Soc.) 67 Thou art moued formally, prioristically in the thing considered, not posterioristically in the manner of considering. 1902 *Baldwin's Dict. Philos.* II. 740/1 *Posterioristic dictum de omni* and *Posterioristic universal*: universal predication as defined by Aristotle in the fourth chapter of the first book of the *Posterior Analytics*, where it is defined as the negative of the particular:..'I call that universally predicated (*de omni*) which is not in something, in something not, nor now is, now is not'.

Posteriority (pɒstīəriˌɒˑrĭti). [prob. a. AF. **posteriorité*, ad. med.L. *posteriōritās* (13th c. in Bracton), f. L. *posterior* POSTERIOR: see -ITY. Cf. F. *postériorité* (15th c. in Littré).]

1. The state or quality of being later or subsequent in time. Opposed to *priority*.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 166 All thinges, that been in diuers times, and in diuers places temporel, without posteriorite or priorite, been closed ther in perpetuall nowe. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* (1592) 131 By a certeine maner and kinde of posterioritie. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 319 The Preposition..implies..a Posteriority in point of time. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 110 This Priority or Posteriority of Birth comes no less in enquiry to the Ordinary. 1885 SALMON *Introd. N. T.* xi. 242 To establish the posteriority of two of our Canonical Gospels.

† **b.** *Law.* See quot. 1607. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 23 b, If the tenaunt holde of two lordes by knight seruyce, of one by priorite and of another by posteryorite and dye, the lorde that the tenaunt holdeth of by priorite shall haue the warde of the body, be it heyre male or heyre female. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Posteriority* is a word of comparison and relation in tenure, the correlatiue whereof is *prioritie*. For a man holding lands or tenements of two lords, holdeth of his auncienter Lord by prioritie, and of his later Lord by posteriorite.

2. Inferiority in order, rank, or dignity. Now *rare.*

1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 123 That the..Chaunc and Schollers might be befor them.., and so to spite the said Mayr and Comminaltie from their prioritie to posteriorite. 1644 MAXWELL *Prerog. Chr. Kings* xv. 146 How can a Society be imagined without order? and how order without priority and posteriority? 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 36. 598 There must of necessity be..a priority and posteriority..of dignity as well as Order amongst them. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xiii. 571, I mean that order of priority or posteriority, according to which this application is to be made.

† **3.** The back, the back parts of the body. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

c 1532 DEWES *Introd. Fr.* II. CC iij, Moyses by the graunt of god dyd merite to se his posteriorite [F. *merita de veoir sa posteriorité*; cf. Exod. xxxiii. 23 *mea posteriora*], the whiche is to vnderstande his workes.

Posteriorly (pɒstīəˑriəɹli), *adv.* [f. POSTERIOR + -LY ².]

1. In a posterior position; behind; to the rear.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* * iv b, The two doe demonstrate all externall partes, as well anteriorlye as posteriorlye. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 141 Below the Armpit, a little posteriorly. 1843 HUMPHREYS *Brit. Moths* 9 These stripes are blue anteriorly, and white posteriorly. 1875 HOUGHTON *Sketches Brit. Ins.* 14 An oesophagus terminating posteriorly in a widened cavity.

† **2.** At a later time, subsequently. *Obs.*

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 163 Rifts posteriorly choaked up. 1849 in B. Gregory *Side Lights Confl. Meth.* 457 That pledge was given..posteriorly.

† **Posterioˑrums,** *sb. pl. Obs.* [L. *posteriōrum*, gen. pl. of *posterior* later, hinder, with Eng. pl. *-s.*]

1. The Posterior Analytics of Aristotle.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 114 As very a crab-fish at an Ergo, as euer crawled-ouer Carters Logique, or the Posteriorums of Iohannes de Lapide. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 29 Aristotle makes them these foure, as wee may finde, in the 11. chapter of the second booke of his Posteriorums.

2. The posteriors: see POSTERIOR B. 2. (*Iudicrous.*)

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 262 Shewing her posteriorums which way soeuer she went. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xliv, My Lord Posterior you shall have it upon your posteriorums.

† **Posteˑrious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. L. *poster-us* coming after, or *posterior*, *-ius* comp.: see -OUS.] Subsequent, posterior.

1672 *Mem. Fraser of Brae* in *Sel. Biog.* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 303 Election by the people is posterious to this call of God.

Posterity (pɒsteˑrĭti). [ME. *posterite*, a. F. *postérité* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *posteritās* the condition of coming after, after time, posterity, f. *poster-us* coming after: see -ITY.]

1. The descendants collectively of any person; all who have proceeded from a common ancestor. Also *pl.* (obs.: quot. 1676); also *fig.* (quot. 1847).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 115 Þe monk asked of Þe posterite of Edward and of Þe successours of reignynge. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 743 Crist moght noght be borne of hire posteritee. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* v. 25 Thy posterite shalbe as the grasse vpon the earth. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 24 They ioyne in mariage..for ye encrease of posteritie. 1676 ALLEN *Address Nonconf.* 188 The hazard we run of exposing our posterities to lose the substance by our contending for circumstance. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* i. (1728) 118 The Kingdom of Argos became divided among the posterity of Temenus. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men*, *Plato* P 2 No wife, no children had he, and the thinkers of all civilized nations are his posterity.

2. † **a.** A later generation (with *plural*). *Obs.* **b.** All succeeding generations (collectively).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxi[i]. 17 His name shal remayne vnder the sonne amonge the posterites, which shal be blessed thorow him. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 201 Hys memoryal shal endure to the last posterytie. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A vij b, Why should not we doe as much for the posteritie, as we haue receiued of the antiquitie? 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 29 It was necessary that some should write thereof for their good, as also for the benefit of posteritie. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Ivstine* VIII. 39 Their old household Goddes, to which many posterities had giuen their deuotion. 1609 TOURNEUR *Funeral Poem* 4 And that shall never dye But with it live to all Posteritie. 1650 S. CLARKE *Eccl. Hist.* I. (1654) 28 Yet his learning is admired by all Posterities. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 3 P 5 The ocean and the sun will last our time, and we may leave posterity to shift for themselves. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* ix. 284 They will deserve the Thanks of the Nation, and the Gratitude of Posterity. 1899 *Daily News* 2 May 6/6 'Posterity has done nothing for us. Why should we do anything for posterity?' Such is the simple creed of neo-Conservative finance.

† **3.** = POSTERIORITY 1. *Obs. rare.*

1531 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W.) 199 b, In god is no accidentall thynge nor priorite or posterite, ne ony order of tyme.

Postern (pōuˑstəɹn), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 4 **postorne, 5–6 postrene, -rem, 6 -ron, -rum, -rome.** [ME. a. OF. *posterne* (*Rom. de Rose* 1160–76; mod.F. *poterne*), altered from OF. *posterle*:—late L. *posterula* a back way (Ammianus *a* 400), a small back door or gate (S. Cassian *a* 450), in med.L. *posterla*, *posterna* (Du Cange), dim. of *poster-us* that is behind.]

1. A back door; a private door; any door or gate distinct from the main entrance; a side way.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 196/98 Þe Duyk..a-scapede a-wey bi one posterne stille liche. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4593 (Bodl. MS.) Darrie þerwhiles stale away By a Posterne [*v.r.* postorne] a pryue way. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 2559 Ther was A postrene yssuyng owt of the Citee. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1350 Closed at euery ende with a sure postron. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 524 At ane postrum, quhairof rycht few tuke cuir, The kingis cors rycht quyetlie tha buir. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. v. 17 It is as hard to come, as for a Camell To thred the posterne of a Needles eye. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxix, And in that window made a postren wide. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 35 The other Doors were but Posterns. 1828 ELMES *Metrop. Improv.* 21 The gate..is in 3 divisions, a carriage way and 2 posterns for foot-passengers divided by stone piers. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* II. § 7. 98 She escaped in white robes by a postern.

b. *Fortif.* (See quots.)

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Postern*, in Fortification, is a false Door usually made in the Angle of the Flank, and of the Curtain, or near the Orillon for private Sallies. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 138/2 When such a tunnel serves as the means of access to the ditch and outworks, it is called a postern.

2. *fig.* **a.** A way of escape or of refuge. **b.** An entrance other than the usual and honourable one: cf. BACK-DOOR 2. **c.** An obscure passage.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 661/1 Nowe hee began with Iesus Christe, to the ende that he might be a posterne for vs all. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 29 For this Maxime hath no posterne, *Potestas humana radicatur voluntatibus hominum.* 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxv. 229 Others..not going through the porch of humane Arts, but entring into Divinity at the postern, have made good Preachers. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 40 So closely shut up..as not to find some escape by a postern of resipiscency. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 224 Thro' the dark Postern of Time long elaps'd, Led softly, by the Stillness of the Night. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 427 Does dispensation afford a postern of escape?

† **3.** The latter or hinder part. *Obs. rare.*

1611 B. JONSON in Coryat *Crudities* Title-p., Then in the Posterne of them looke, and thou shalt find the Posthume Poems of the Authors Father. 1616 — *Devil an Ass* V. vi, Cast care at thy posternes; and firke i' thy fetters.

B. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Placed at the back; private, side, inferior, esp. in *postern door* or *gate*; also *fig.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2166 But passeden out prineli at Þe posterne gate. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 590 At a posterne gate Gamelyn out went. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 130 A posternne doore on the backsyde into the gardyne. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. v. § 9 By this postern-gate cometh in the whole mart of papal indulgences. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 92 The Bowels, and all the Intestina..issued out of the Postern passage. 1780 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) I. I. iv. 15/2 Just South, going down

divers stone Steps, is the excellent Postern Spring, with an iron Bowl and Chain fastened to catch the Water. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* v. xxix, Wilfrid half led, and half he bore, Matilda to the postern door. 1873 Hale *In His Name* ix. 78 Whom he had met so unexpectedly by the postern gate of the abbey. 1886 Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 283 A large gateway-arch flanked by a postern-arch.

b. *fig.* = 'Back-door' *attrib.*

1647 J. B[irkenhead] *Assembly-Man* (1662) 6 Yet these inferiour postern Teachers have intoxicated England. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., To Weare*, A Postern-bribe tooke, or a Forked Fee.

Postero- (pɒ·stĕro), combining form of Lat. *poster-us* hind, hinder, prefixed to adjectives, chiefly forming anatomical terms, in the sense (*a*) 'hinder and —', as in *postero-external, -inferior, -interior, -internal, -median, -superior*; (*b*) on the back part of that which is —, as **postero-dorsal**, on the posterior part of that which is dorsal; **postero-lateral**, placed at the posterior end of a lateral margin or part; **postero-temporal**, behind the post-temporal; **postero-terminal**, ending that which is terminal; **postero-ventral**, placed backwardly on the ventral aspect of something.

1847 Youatt *The Horse* xvii. 357 It is situated on the postero-external side of the haunch and thigh. 1849 Dana *Geol.* (1850) 687 Valves nearly flat, with a slight bending over the postero-dorsal margin. 1852 — *Crust.* I. 29 The posterior portion of the Carapax consists of a postero-lateral region, and a posterior region. 1854 Owen in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 197 The base of each neurapophysis has an antero-internal.., and a postero-internal surface. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 74 The postero-inferior margin of the malar is strongly concave. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 10 The postero-median columns, or columns of Goll. *Ibid* 84 The postero-parietal or superior parietal lobule [of the brain].

†**Po·stery.** *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *poster-us*, pl. *posteri*: see Posterior.] = Posterity.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 248 Perpetuall frendship betwene the postery both. *a* 1560 Becon *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 22ᵇ b, They and their postery were not onely depriued of those pleasures and commodities,.. but also vtterly damned for their disobedience. 1565 *MS. Cott. Calig. B.* x. lf. 290 Continuance of their families and posteries to enjoy that which otherwise should come to them.

Post-eternity, Postethmoid, etc.: see Post-.

Post-exilian (pōust,egzi·liăn, -eks-), *a.* [f. Post- B. 1 + L. *exilium* Exile *sb.* + -an.] Of or pertaining to the period of Jewish history subsequent to the Babylonian exile. Also **Post-exi·lic** *a.*

1871 F. Bolton tr. *Delitzsch's Comm. Ps.* cxviii. III. 223 It is without doubt a post-exilic song. 1877 Martineau tr. *Goldziher's Mythol. Hebr.* ix. 308 The postexilian interpretations occurring in that of the Babylonian Isaiah. 1880 T. C. Murray *Origin & Growth Psalms* ii. 46 The writings of the post-exilic period. 1887 E. Johnson *Antiqua Mater* 163 The ideas..date from post-exilian times.

Post-exi·st, *v. rare.* [f. Post- A. 1 + Exist *v.*] *intr.* To exist after; to live subsequently.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 37 Anaxagoras could not but acknowledge, that all Souls and Lives did Præ and Post-exist by themselves, as well as those Corporeal Forms and Qualities, in his Similar Atoms.

So **Post-exi·stence** [after Pre-existence], existence after; subsequent existence. **Post-exi·stency,** post-existent condition. **Post-exi·stent** *a.*, existing afterwards or subsequently.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 35 That Conceit of Anaxagoras, of Præ and Post-existent Atoms, endued with all those several Forms and Qualities of Bodies. *Ibid.* 38 These two things were alwaies included together in that one opinion of the Soul's Immortality, namely its Preexistence as well as its Post-existence. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 422 Not denying a pre-existency to Christ's human Body (in the Arian sense..it being suppos'd to be as much a Creature as the least post-existency of a Worm). 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 465 The spirits,..who know nothing of their pre-existence, and scarce anything of their post-existence. 1865 Grote *Plato* III. 27 The post-existence, as well as the pre-existence of the Soul is affirmed in the concluding books.

Postey, variant of Poustie *Obs.*, power.

Postface: see Post- A. 1 b.

†**Po·stfact.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *postfactum* done afterwards.] That which is done after; a subsequent act. Phr. *upon the post-fact*, rendering late L. *ex post facto* (in *Digest*), after the fact or event, subsequently, afterwards.

1631 Heylin *St. George* 91 Iust as upon the post-fact, the Normans fram'd that doughty tale of St. Romanus and the Dragon. 1641 *Proc. of some Divines* 1 Some have published, that there is a proper Sacrifice in the Lords Supper, to exhibit Christs death in the Postfact, as there was a sacrifice to prefigure in the old Law, in the Antefact. 1657 Sanderson *Serm.* Pref. ii. 4 (To) win over his affections to any tolerable liking thereof upon the Post-fact. 1687 Towerson *Baptism* 296 Being likely enough to be thereby dispos'd so far to acknowledge that authority and goodness, as to own them upon the postfact by confession.

Postfactor, -febrile, -femoral: see Post- A. 1 b, B. 1, 2.

‖ **Post factum.** [L., = after the fact.] After the event.

1753 Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. 1. vii. 28 Reasonings post factum, argue rather our experience than our wisdom.

†**Postfe·rment.** *nonce-wd.* [f. Post- A, after *preferment.*] Removal to an inferior office; the opposite of *preferment.*

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Durham* (1662) I. 294/2 Alex. Nevil .. Arch-Bishop of York .. was translated .. to St. Andrews...This his translation was a Post-Ferment, seeing the Arch-Bishoprick of St. Andrews was subjected in that age unto York.

Po·st-fine. *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. Post- B. 1 c + Fine *sb.*[1]] A duty formerly paid to the Crown for the royal licence (*licentia concordandi*) to levy a fine: = King's *silver* (*b*).

Called the post-fine as distinguished from the pre-fine which was due on the writ.

1607 Cowell *Interpr., Post fine*, is a duty belonging to the king for a fine formerly acknowledged before him in his court which is paid by the cognizee, after the fine is fully passed, and all things touching the same wholly accomplished. 1620 *Nawarth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 145 For the chargeis of a post-fyne..in Candelmase tearm for 4 tone of wyne. 1758 *Act* 32 *Geo. II*, c. 14 § 1 The Officer.. whose Duty it is to set and indorse the Pre-fine payable..; shall..at the same Time, set the usual Post Fine. 1887 *48th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Records* 642 Receipts given on behalf of the Farmers of Post Fines for the several amounts of Post Fines received from the Sheriffs of the several counties.

Postfix (pōu·st,fiks), *sb.* [f. Post- A. 1 b + Fix *v.*, after Prefix *sb.*] A word, syllable, or letter affixed or added to the end of a word; a suffix.

1805 G. Dyer *Restor. Anc. Modes bestowing Names* 43 Diminutive postfixes were added to the names of streams, &c.—*Sruth* is Gaelic for stream; *Sruthan* is little stream. 1877 Sayce in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 128 The Accadian postfix. 1881 A. H. Keane in *Nature* XXIII. 220/2 The structure of the language is entirely different, being highly agglutinating, and employing both pre- and post-fixes.

Hence **Postfi·xal** (**-fi·xial**) *a.*, of the nature of a postfix, or characterized by postfixes.

1887 Sayce in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* Nov. 170 The postfixal languages of Central Asia. 1893 T. de C. Atkins *Kelt or Gael* i. 7 The expressions prefixial, postfixial, and polysynthetic are distributed among the groups.

Postfix (pōust,fi·ks), *v.* [f. Post- A. 1 a + Fix *v.*] *trans.* To affix after, or at the end; to append as a postfix (to a word, etc.). Hence **Postfi·xed** *ppl. a.*; **Postfi·xing** *vbl. sb.*

1819 G. S. Faber *Dispensations* (1823) I. 358 See Bishop Sherlock's Dissert. i. postfixed to his Discourses on Prophecy. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 619 How impossible it is that he should prefix a *Sir*, and postfix at the same time the *Bart.* to his name. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* vii. 282 The Aryan plural is formed by a postfixed s. 1897 G. B. Gray in *Expositor* Sept. 184 In post-exilic names the post-fixing occurs many times more frequently than the prefixing.

‖ **Postfrænum, -frenum** (pōust,frī·nŏm). *Ent.* [mod.L., f. Post- B. 2 + Frænum.] (See quots.)

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 380 *Postfrænum* (the *Postfrænum*). In *Coleoptera* the part of the *Metathorax* in which the *Postscutellum* lies...In general it may be defined, the part that intervenes between the *Postscutellum* and the *Abdomen*. *Ibid.* xxxv. 570 In the Orthoptera Order, .. the *postscutellum* and *postfrænum* are mere counterparts of the dorsolum, scutellum, and frænum.

Post-free, *a.* [f. Post *sb.*[2] + Free *a.* 32: cf. Ger. *post-frei.*] Free from charge for postage, either as being officially carried free of charge, or as being prepaid.

1882 in Ogilvie (Annandale). 1886 in *Cassell's Dict.*

Postfrontal (pōust,frŏ·ntăl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. Post- B. 2 + L. *frons, front-* forehead + -al.] **a.** Situated behind the forehead, or at the back of the frontal bone. **b.** Situated in the hinder part of the frontal lobe of the brain.

1852 Dana *Crust.* I. 383 The post-frontal sutures. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 189 The post-frontal..region of the skull. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 273 The frontal lobe..must be divided into a prefrontal and a post-frontal area.

B. *sb.* (*ellipt.* for *postfrontal process* or *bone*). The external angular process of the frontal bone, which is situated at the back part of the brim of the orbit of the eye; in some animals (not above birds) found as a distinct bone.

1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 194 The post-frontal..is a moderately long trihedral bone, articulated by its expanded cranial end to the frontal and parietal. *Ibid.* 206 These characters are retained in the post-frontals as well as in the mastoids of the crocodiles. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 101 A bone exists in the skull of osseous Fishes which has often been called the 'post-frontal'.

‖ **Postfurca** (pōust,fē·rkă). *Entom.* [mod.L., f. Post- A. 2 + *furca* fork.] The hindmost of the three apodemes, or processes for attachment of muscles, in the thoracic somites of insects.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 383 *Postfurca* (the *Postfurca*). A process of the *Endosternum*, terminating in three subhorizontal acute branches, resembling the letter Y,..to which the muscles that move the hind-legs, &c. are affixed. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 404 Forked or double apodemes, the antefurca, medifurca, and postfurca, project from the sternal wall of each somite of the thorax into the cavity.

Hence **Postfu·rcal** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a postfurca. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Postgenital: see Post- B. 2.

†**Post-ge·niture.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Post- A. 1 b + Geniture.] The fact of being born after another in the same family.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* i, A person of high spirit and honour,..naturally a King though fatally prevented by the harmlesse chance of post-geniture.

Post-glacial (-glā·-ʃiăl), *a. Geol.* [f. Post- B. 1 b + Glacial.] Existing or occurring subsequent to the glacial period or ice age.

1855 Phillips *Man. Geol.* 31 Tertiary or Cainozoic Series of Strata...Formations: Postglacial...Glacial...Preglacial. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 408 The remarkable conformity of the preglacial and postglacial fauna. 1873 J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* Pref. 7 The geological history of glacial and post-glacial Scotland. 1877 Dawson *Orig. World* xiv. 295 Man comes in at the close of this cold period, in what is called the Post-glacial age.

Postglenoid, -glenoidal: see Post- B. 2.

Post-gra·duate, *a.* (*sb.*) orig. *U. S.* [f. Post- B. 1 b + Graduate.] Pertaining or relating to a course of study carried on after graduation.

1858 *N. York Tribune* 12 Nov. 5/5 Forming a portion of the Post-Graduate Course of Columbia College. 1886 Lowell *Wks.* (1890) VI. 168 Special and advanced courses should be pushed on into the post-graduate period. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 4/3 A new building in connection with the Post-Graduate College, of the West London Hospital.

B. *sb.* A student who takes a post-graduate course, or continues his studies after graduation.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Posthabit (pōust,hæ·bit), *v. rare.* [f. L. *post-habēre* to place after, f. *post* (cf. Post- A. 1 a) + L. *habēre, habit-* to hold, have.] *trans.* To place after, make or hold as secondary *to*; to esteem of less importance.

1646 J. Hall *Horæ Vac.* 128 So deare ought truth to be to us that we ought to post-habite our lives to the smallest principle of it. 1856 F. E. Paget *Owlet Owlst.* 37 Where his comfort can be increased, even in the merest trifle, she will never posthabit it to her own.

Post-hackney: see Post *sb.*[2] 12.

Post-haste (pōu·st,hē·st), *sb., adv.*, and *adj.* [app. from the old direction on letters 'Haste, post, haste', where the words are Post *sb.*[2] courier, and imper. of Haste *v.*; but afterwards taken as an attrib. comb. of Post *sb.*[2] and Haste *sb.*

1538 Cromwell in *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 139 From Saint James 4[to] Maij 30 R. R. Lorde Privie seal—In hast, hast, post hast. 1558 Q. Mary in R. R. Sharpe *Lond. & Kingd.* (1894) I. 480 Hast, hast post, hast, for lief, for lief, for lief, for lief.]

A. *sb.* Haste or speed like that of one travelling 'post'; great expedition in travelling. *arch.*

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 115 Yf he make Poste haste, bothe he that oweth the horse, and he .. that afterwarde shal bye the horse, may chaunce to curse hym. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 218 b, The Duke of Somerset, with Jhon erle of Oxenford, wer in all poste hast, flying towarde Scotlande. 1555 Philpot in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1837/1 Farewel dear brother. written in posthast because of strait keeping. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 724 Rode he all that poste haste, onely to blinde you? 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 19/1 With all the hast and post hast he could, he turneth a faire paire of heeles and runneth awaie. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* ix. 199 Messengers are sent one after another in post-haste to the Physician. 1709 Hearne *Collect.* 13 Mar. (O. H. S.) II. 176 You did not use to write in Post-Hast. 1837 *Commodore & Daughter* I. 39 It was mainly through the interest of his uncle that he was made post with such post-haste.

B. *adv.* With the speed of a post; with all possible haste or expedition.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, I. iv. 55 Old John of Gaunt..hath sent post haste To entreat your Maiesty to visit him. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 2 Such as want to ride Post-haste from one World to the other. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 2 ℙ 2 Her Coach is order'd, and Post-haste she flies. 1839 James *Louis XIV*, I. 8 This she sent post-haste to the Duke of Lorraine. 1897 'Sarah Tytler' *Lady Jean's Son* 258 The lad who travelled post-haste to bring the news.

†C. *adj.* Done with all possible speed; expeditious, speedy. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. ii. 37 The Duke..requires your haste, Post-haste appearance, Euen on the instant.

Hence †**Post-ha·ste** *v. Obs.* **a.** *trans.* To cause to hasten, to hurry. **b.** *intr.* To hasten with all speed.

1607 in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 68 He shall neither post hast them in gramer, nor dull them with exercises of writinge latine. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. xxxii. 102 The short-lyu'd Flowre, and Portion Of poore, sad life, post-hasteth to be gone.

Post-hemiplegic, etc.: see Post- B. 1.

Posthetomy (pɒsʰe·tŏmi). *Surg.* [irreg. f. Gr. *πόσθη* prepuce + *-τομια* cutting.] Circumcision. So **Posthe·tomist.**

1853 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Posthetomist*, one who performs the operation of circumcision. *Ibid., Posthetomy*, circumcision. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Posthioplasty (pɒ·sʰioplæ·sti). *Surg.* Also **postho-.** [f. Gr. *πόσθη* (see prec.) and dim. *πόσθιο-ν* + -plasty.] Plastic surgery of the prepuce. So **Posthiopla·stic, postho-,** *a.*

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Posthioplastic*, an epithet applied to the operation for restoring the prepuce. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Org.* 9 Absence of the prepuce.., the operation for its restoral, posthioplasty. 1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, Posthioplastic. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Postho-plastic..Posthioplasty, Posthoplasty.

Posthippocampal: see Post- A. 2.

Posthitis (pɒsʰəi·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πόσθη* prepuce: see -itis.] (See quots.)

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Posthitis*, inflammation of the prepuce. 1861 Bumstead *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 97 If the disease be confined..to the membrane covering the glans, it should,

strictly speaking, be called balanitis; if to the internal surface of the prepuce, posthitis.

Postho-: see POSTHIO-.

Postholder (pōu·stˌhōuldəɹ). [ad. Du. *post-houder*, f. *post* POST *sb.*[3] + *houder* HOLDER [1].] In Dutch colonial administration: A civil official in charge of a trading settlement or post.

1812 ANNE PLUMPTREE *Lichtenstein's Trav. S. Afr.* I. 177 The house of the postholder at Mosselbay..lies directly at the upper end. 1852 H. W. PIERSON *Amer. Mission. Mem.* 270 They lodged in the house of the post-holder, a Dutch officer. 1896 *Dispute with Venezuela* in *Daily News* 23 July 5/5 The Dutch .. had instituted a regular system of trading both with the Indian tribes and with their Spanish neighbours up the Orinoco; and their Postholders had special functions in controlling such trade.

Po·st-hole. [f. POST *sb.*[1] + HOLE *sb.*] A hole made in the ground to receive the foot of a post. Also *attrib.* in the name of implements serving to make such holes, as *post-hole auger, borer, digger.*

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 134 The Fence must be cross a Field..where it is easie digging the Post-holes. 1888 A. T. PIERSON *Evangelistic Work* xxiii. 236 [They] dug post-holes with their own hands. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 87 The job at which I was put first was digging post holes, and..I found it rather a tough job.

Post-horn (pōu·stˌhɔ̄ɹn). [f. POST *sb.*[2] + HORN *sb.*] A horn formerly used by a postman or the guard of a mail-coach, to announce arrival; now often used on pleasure coaches.

1675 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Post-horen*, Post-horn. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1229/4 Thomas Moris a young man .. with a gray Coat, and a leather pair of Breeches, and a Post-horn in his Girdle,..Rid away with a Chesnut Coloured Gelding. 1782 COWPER *Table Talk* 33 The wretch ..Who, for the sake of filling with one blast The post-horns of all Europe, lays her waste. 1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* 285 In the mean-time, the post-horn kept blowing. 1881 W. H. STONE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 21 *Posthorn*, a small straight brass or copper instrument, varying in length from two to four feet, of a bore usually resembling the conical bugle more than the trumpet, played by means of a small and shallow-cupped mouthpiece.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *post-horn band*; **post-horn pond-snail**, *Planorbis corneus*, also called *ram's-horn*, from the form of its shell.

1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 16 July, A post-horn band.. performing in some unlicensed place. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 3/1 A good purple dye may also be got from the posthorn pond snail.

Post-horse (pōu·stˌhɔ̄ɹs). A horse kept at a post-house or inn for the use of post-riders, or for hire for the conveyance of travellers.

1527 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. 76 Now unless post-horse serve us we cannot tell how to do. 1533 TUKE *Let. to Cromwell* in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 405 Writinges, sent for provision of post horses. 1575 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 369 Neither the horses of ye Chancellor or Schollers.., nor of their servaunts,..should be taken for post horses. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 61 In England.., Post-horses are established at every ten miles or thereabouts, which they ride a false gallop after some ten miles an hower. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Edw. VI* (1630) 100 That he intended to fly to Iernsey and Wales and laid posthorses, and men, and a boat to that purpose. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiii, From Edinburgh to Perth he took post-horses. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* iv, With post-horses and postilions we posted post haste to Brussels.

Post-house (pōu·stˌhaus). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + HOUSE *sb.*[1]]

1. A post office. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1635 *Proclamation* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 649/2 Which Letters to be left at the Post-house or some other House, as the said Thomas Witherings shall think convenient. 1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 324, I wrote to you two letters, and payd for them from the posthouse here. 1761 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Biddulph* III. 77 When I go into the country a general direction to the post house may suffice. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Posthouse*, the post-office.

† 2. An inn or other house where horses are kept for the use of travellers; a posting house. *Obs.*

1645 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Jan., We repos'd this night at Piperno, in the Post-house without the towne. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5027/5 He alighted at the Post-house to change Horses. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. ciii, They are a sort of post-house, where the Fates Change horses.. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 16 The main road running past the town.., and the post-house being at a little distance beyond.

† **Po·sthumary** *a. Obs.* = POSTHUMOUS. So † **Po·sthumate** *a.*

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 255 He left behind him a posthumary book. 1684 T. GODDARD *Plato's Demon* 47 Charyllus, Posthumate Son to Polybita.

† **Po·sthume,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [a. F. *posthume* adj. (1560 in Godef.), ad. L. *post(h)umus* last, latest, posthumous: see POSTHUMOUS.]

A. *adj.* a. = POSTHUMOUS a. Also *fig.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 953 Two births, two deaths, here Nature hath assign'd her, Leaving a Posthume (dead-live) seed behind her. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 157 This posthume Apostle..came late into Christs Livery. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cumbld.* (1662) 221/1 Posthume Children born after the death of their Father.

b. = POSTHUMOUS b.

1611 B. JONSON in Coryat *Crudities* Title-p., In the Posterne ..thou shalt find the Posthume Poems of the Authors Father. 1659 (*title*) Posthume Poems of Richard Lovelace.

c. = POSTHUMOUS c.

1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. *Charge* 23 Oh if my soule could see their Post-hume spight. 1690 BOYLE *Chr. Virtuoso* II. 21 The posthume State of Man is so dim and uncertain, that we find even the greatest Men, among the Heathen, speak..doubtfully [of it]. 1691 HEYRICK *Misc. Poems* 35 To claim The whole World's Curses and a Post-hume Fame.

d. Subsequent, residual. *rare.*

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 187 That the venal bloud..may be made wholly capable to be breathed thorow the pores, without a Post-hume or Future remembrance of a dreg. *Ibid.* 292 That post-hume and translated gouty character or impression, doth stick fast by a hereditary right.

B. *sb.* a. A posthumous child. Also *fig.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. *Sonn.* i. 14 Our dear Parent ..Who..to thy guard his Posthumes did bequeath. 1638 W. SCLATER *Serm. Experimentall* To Rdr., They shew themselves in publike but as Posthumes, raised as it were out of almost eleven yeares of obscurity. 1692 in *Macfarlane's Genealog. Collect.* (1900) II. 142 Sir Thomas Maule.. Son to Sir Thomas the Posthume.

b. A posthumous work: cf. POSTHUMUS B. b.

1631 R. SKENE in *A. Craige's Rem.* 3 This subsequent Poësie, the Posthumes of a worthie Penne. 1676 BEAL in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 585 Sir Ken. Digby's Post-hume hath great varietie of Metheglins.

† **Po·sthumed,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ED[1].] Rendered posthumous, remaining after death.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. 74 A Stranger..would hardly rally my scattered and posthumed Notes.

Posthumeral: see POST- B. 2.

† **Posthu·mial,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. = POSTHUMOUS.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas, Corona Ded.*, All the Posthumiall race of that rare Spirit..Though born, alas! after their Father's death.

† **Posthu·mian,** *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Posthumian*, following or to come, that shall be.

Posthumous (pɒ·stiźməs), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 8 **postumous.** [f. L. *postumus* last, late-born, posthumous, superl. f. *post* after; in late L. written *posthumus* through erroneous attribution to *humus* the earth, or (as explained by Servius) *humāre* to bury: see -OUS.] Used generally of anything which appears after the death of its originator.

a. Of a child: Born after the death of its father.

1619 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Conv. B. Jonson* Wks. (1711) 224 He [Ben Jonson] .. was posthumous, being born a month after his father's death. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 2 North-America this posthumous birth of time. 1709 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 110 ₱ 6 Some Posthumous Children, that bore no Resemblance to their elder Brethren. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 574 The statute of King William, which puts posthumous children on the same footing with children born in the lifetime of their ancestor.

b. Of a book or writing: Published after the death of the author.

1668 HALE *Rolle's Abridgment* Pref. a j b, It is a Posthumous work, which never underwent the last Hand or Pensil of the judicious Author. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 300 What plea..can be alledged, after the treaty was dead and gone, in favour of this posthumous declaration? 1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* (1847) III. 207 The posthumous volumes appeared in considerable intervals.

c. Of an action, reputation, etc.: Occurring, arising, or continuing after death.

1608 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 37 A posthumous, penitent confession (after the conspirators were most of them dead, and almost rotten) of one of the complices themselues. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. v. 164 For he that was buried with the bones of Elisha, by a Posthumous miracle of that Prophet, recovered his life by lodging with such a grave-fellow. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 30 Our posthumous life..may not be entirely beginning anew, but going on. 1808 SOUTHEY *Lett., to C. W. Williams Wynn* II. 50 It was well we should be contented with posthumous fame, but impossible to be so with posthumous bread and cheese. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 77 He had begged that his body might be burned without posthumous insults.

† **B.** *sb.* A posthumous child. *Obs. rare.*

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Life* (1886) 23 My brother Thomas was a posthumous..born some weeks after his father's death. 1718 S. SEWALL *Diary* 19 Mar. (1882) III. 177 Marry Sam. Badcock, a posthumous, and Martha Healy.

Po·sthumously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a posthumous manner, condition, or state; after death; after the death of the father or author.

1783 *Atterbury's Corr.* I. 23 *note*, The 'Register' [of bishop Kennet] was posthumously published, from his MS. Collections, in 1728. 1867 J. B. DAVIS *Thesaurus Craniorum* 15 The two latter [ancient Scottish skulls] are posthumously distorted. 1884 *Chr. Commw.* 12 June 833/2 He seems to be even more mischievous posthumously than while corporeally present.

‖ **Posthumus** (pɒ·stiźməs), *a.* and *sb.* [L. *post(h)umus* POSTHUMOUS.]

† **A.** *adj.* = POSTHUMOUS *a. Obs.*

1591 LD. BURGHLEY in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) Pref. 7 Though he be posthumus by his fathers death, being borne after. 1660 R. COKE *Just. Vind.* Pref. 5 No man that ever was born in the World, which was not a Posthumus King, but was born in subjection, not onely to his Parents, or as a Servant in a Family.

B. *sb.* † a. (pl. -i.) A posthumous child. *Obs.*

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 273 He was a posthumus, and the crowne set upon his mothers belly. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iv. 109 It is as evident that the Grandfather and Father and Son did as really make up a multitude,.. though the Father and Son were both *Posthumi*, as if they all had or did all now exist together.

b. *neut. pl.* posthuma. Posthumous writings.

1655 OWEN *Vind. Evang.* Wks. 1853 XII. 8 The passages intimated are in his *posthuma*. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 35, I shall quote some more remarkable Places in *Posthuma Fosteri*. 1905 G. SAMPSON *Keats's Poems* Pref., Most reprints give the order of Keats's own three volumes with Lord Houghton's posthuma appended.

Post-hypnotic: see POST- B. 1.

† **Po·stic,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *postĭcus* hinder, posterior, f. *post* behind; cf. *antĭcus* ANTIC, ANTIQUE.] Hinder, posterior, 'back'.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 237 The lowest and most postick members of all. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. (1686) 116 The postick and backward position of the feminine parts in quadrupedes. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 208 A Saxon Duke did grow so fat, That Mice..Eat Grots and Labyrinths to dwell in His postick parts without his feeling.

So † **Po·stical** *a. Obs.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 471* Two doors; one an outward door, the other postical or inward.

‖ **Postiche** (postī·ʃ), *a.* and *sb.* [F., adj., ad. It. *posticcio* counterfeit, feigned ←L. type **pos(ĭ)-tĭcius*, f. *pos(ĭ)tus* placed, put.]

A. *adj.* a. Counterfeit, artificial. b. Applied to an ornament superadded to a finished work of sculpture or architecture, esp. when inappropriate.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. xxxi. 306 Sometimes the Duchess appeared with these postiches roses, sometimes of a mortal paleness.

B. *sb.* a. An imitation substituted for the real thing. b. Counterfeiting, feigning, pretence.

1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* ii, Fastidiousness at any rate, is very good postiche for modesty. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Life* xviii. (1901) 251, [I] despised with loathing the ..humbug and postiche of the whole matter.

Posticous (pɒstəi·kəs), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *postĭc-us* hinder (see POSTIC) + -OUS.] Posterior, hinder: applied variously to parts of a flower or inflorescence.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 922 *Posticous*, turned away from the axis of a flower, as some anthers whose dehiscence takes place next the petals; also, stationed on that side of a flower which is next the axis. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 271 Stigma obtuse,..posticous lobe very small. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 6 (ed. 6) 253 An anther is Extrorse, i.e. turned outward, or Posticous, when it faces toward the perianth.

‖ **Posticum** (pɒstəi·kŏm). *Arch.* [L. *postĭcum* back door, rear of a building (Vitr.), prop. neut. of *postĭcus* adj.: see POSTIC.]

a. A back door or gate. b. A portico or apartment at the back of an ancient Greek or Roman temple, behind the *cella*, and corresponding to the *pronaos* in front: in Greek called *opisthodomos*. c. 'Eccl. A reredos' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Posticum* is the Postern-Gate, or Back-door of any Fabrick. 1776 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* xiv. 72 In the sculpture of the posticum..Theseus is distinguished in the same manner. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. x. 286 The columns..belonged either to the posticum or pronaos of the temple.

Postie, variant of POUSTIE *Obs.*, power.

† **Po·stify,** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. POST *sb.*[1], after *crucify.*] *trans.* To fix or nail to a post.

1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* 29 The nailes with which it was crucified or rather postified. This my new-coyned word fits their new-found Fable.

Postil (pɒ·stil), *sb.* Now only *Hist.* Forms: 5 (9) **postille,** (6 **posthill**), 6-7 **postell,** 6-7 (9) **postill,** 7 **postel, postle,** 5- **postil.** [ME. a. F. *postille* (1357 in Godef.), = It., Pg. *postilla*, Sp. *postela*, ad. med.L. *postilla* a gloss on the gospel. Of uncertain origin: Du Cange suggests, from the words '*post illa* (*verba textus*)' 'after those (words of the text)', with which the postil may have been introduced. Another suggestion is that the word is a dim. of *posta* in sense 'page': evidence is wanting. See also APOSTIL *sb.*]

1. A marginal note or comment upon a text of Scripture, or upon any passage or writing.

c 1420 *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 686b, Prol. 1 Cor. (MS. Em. Coll. 2), A postille here.—Poul wroot this pistil to Corinthis, that ben of Acaie [etc.]. 1587 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1872) 283/2 Pointes of the memoriall..with postils to the same. 1615 SIR R. COTTON in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 163 The Duke's letter.. answered by way of postle.. 3 proposition[s]. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 399 These his lordship had..titled..'Impudent Assertions', to which I will annex a postil for explanation. 1891 A. M. EARLE *Sabbath in Puritan N. Eng.* xii. 166 Tender little memorial postils are frequently written on the margins of the pages.

2. A series of such comments, a commentary or exposition; *spec.* an expository discourse or homily upon the Gospel or Epistle for the day, read or intended to be read in the church service.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 244/1 Mayster Alysaundre.. reherseth in hys postillys upon this worde mercy and trouthe haue mette togydre. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 248/1 The said Langton also made postils vpon the whole Bible. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) II. 290 He wrote Postills on the Proverbs, and other Sermons. 1710 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* I. III. 434 He wrote also.. some Postils or Homilies on the Gospels.

b. A book of such homilies.

1566 BECON (*title*) A new Postil Conteinyng most Godly and learned sermons vpon all the Sonday Gospelles. 1605 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 141 Item a postell, a Comunion booke, a salter. 1888 *Bibliotheca Sacra* Jan. 136 The old prayer-books and the old Lutheran postils were still frequently used.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

a 1635 SIBBES *Bowels Op.* iii. Wks. 1859 II. 40 Too much curiosity is loathsome and postill-like and calleth the mind too much from the kernel to the shell. *a* 1679 T. GOODWIN

in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xl. 7 Rejected, as being too like a postil gloss. 1721 Strype *Eccl. Mem.* III. xiii. 120 April 30 [1554] began the postil mass at St. Paul's, at five a clock in the morning every day.

† **Postil,** *v. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *postil(l)er* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. med.L. *postillāre* (1243 Trivet in Du Cange), f. *postilla* Postil *sb.* See also Apostil *v.*]

1. *trans.* To make or write comments on, or marginal notes in; to comment upon, annotate.

1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 154 Hewe a cardinal of the order of Prechoures, that postiled al the Bible. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Exod.* xx. Comm., Melancthon postilling the first Precept, sayth: Papistes invocate Sainctes, and worship Images. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 211 In some places Postilled in the Margent with the Kings hand. 1872 J. E. B. Mayor in *Jrnl. Philol.* 290 Schoolmasters and undergraduates, who..are accustomed to 'postil' their lexicons.

2. *intr.* To write comments.

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 755 To postell upon a kyry. 1617 Hales *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 19 That vein of postilling and allegorising on Scripture, which for a long time had prevailed in the Church.

Postilion, postillion (pɒstɪ·lyən). Also 6–7 **postillon**, 7 **postilian**. [a. F. *postillon* (1538 in Godef.), ad. It. *postiglione* 'a postilion, a postes guide, a forerunner' (Florio), f. It. *posta* Post *sb.*[2] + *-iglione*, compound suffix (cf. *vermilion*); so Sp. *postillon*, Pg. *postilhão.*]

† **1.** (See quots.) *Obs.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.*, *Postillon*, a postillon, a guide for a post, *dux praecursoris.* 1611 Cotgr., *Postillon*, a Postillon, Guide, Postes boy. 1658 Phillips, *Postillon*, (French) a Post's guide, or fore-runner.

† **b.** *fig.* A forerunner. *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* III. (1891) 318 But when he strake, ..his arme seemed still a postillion of death. 1647 Fanshawe tr. *Pastor Fido* I. i. 11 Seest thou yon Star of such excelling hew, The Suns Postillion?

† **2.** One who rides a post-horse, a post-boy; a swift messenger. *Obs.*

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Postilion*, a speedy poste or messenger. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1281/4 It is now four days since any Vessel, Post or Postillion came from Ghent to Bruges. 1708 *Ibid.* No. 4464/6 The Postillion of Ghent is just now arrived, with Letters to Mr. de Caris.

fig. c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. To Rdr., Those wing'd Postillions that can fly, From the Antartic to the Artic sky. *Ibid.* I. viii. 14 Those swift Postillions my thoughts find you out daily. 1685 *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 160 These are the Postillions of life, who to the swift motion of time, add the rapidity of their own minds.

3. One who rides the near horse of the leaders (or formerly sometimes, each of the riders of the near horses) when four or more are used in a carriage or post-chaise; *esp.* one who rides the near horse when one pair only is used and there is no driver on the box.

1623–33 Fletcher & Shirley *Night-Walker* II. iii, Thou shalt have horses six, and a postilion. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* II. ii, Drawn by six Flanders mares, my coachman, grooms, Postillion, and footmen. 1771 N. Nicholls *Corr. w. Gray* (1843) 118 The Yarmouth coach, when it has gone at all, has gone with eight horses and four postilions. 1811 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* VIII. 286 The account of the rations issued to the post horses and mules, and postillions. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* III. 173 They called aloud to the postilions to stop the horses.

fig. 1656 Cowley *Pindar. Odes, Muse* i, Let the Postilion Nature mount, and let The Coachman Art be set.

4. (*transf.* from 3.) See quot.

1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 8 The use of supplementary floats, or 'postillions',..to keep the line from sinking.

5. = *postilion-basque*: see 6.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *postilion harness, saddle, whip*; *postilion-wise* adv.; in recent use applied to female costume imitating that of a postilion, as *postilion-basque, -belt, -tab*, etc.

1676 W. Perwich *Despatches* (Camden) 311 They..tore all his cloaths off, and with two postilion whips scurged him ..severely. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2475/4 A Postilion Saddle of black Leather. 1794 W. Felton *Carriages* (1801) II. 153 A postillion..harness is the same expence as either the postillion or wheel harness of the other sort. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* lix, One of them..sat postillion-wise upon the near horse. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Postilion-basque*, a woman's basque having its skirt cut at the back into short square tabs or coat-tails, after the fashion of a postilion's coat. *Postilion-belt*, a leather belt with a large buckle, worn by ladies about 1860. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 Jan. 8/4 The postilion tabs at the back of the bodice. *Ibid.* 28 May 8/4 The corslet belt, with postillion back.

Hence **Posti·lioned, postill-** (-yənd) *a.*, provided with or ridden by a postilion; **Posti·l(l)ioness,** a female postilion; **Posti·lionize** *v. trans.*, to provide with a postilion, or to ride as a postilion.

1809 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XIII. 165 Then spank away drives I, .. with my six greys (postilionized) against all England! 1858 B. Taylor *North. Trav.* xxxv. 378 At Vik..we parted with the postillioness and with our host of Kettbo. 1879 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/6 Lord Rosebery,.. driving down in an open barouche drawn by four magnificent horses, daintily postillioned.

† **Po·stillary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. med.L. **postillāri-us* (Du Cange has *postillārium* as sb.), f. *postilla* Postil + *-ous.*] Of the nature of a 'postil'.

1653 Hammond *Paraphr. N. T.* Advt., Purposely abstaining from..all postillary observations.

Po·stillate, *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *postillāre*: see Postil *v.* and *-ate* 3.] = Postil *v.*

1438–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 235 Hewe frere of the ordre Precheours..whiche postillate alle the bible [*qui totam bibliam postillavit*], and compilede grete concordances on the bible. *a* 1864 C. Knight (Webster), Tracts .. which belonged to George III and in a few instances are postillated by his own hand. 1864 D. P. Kidder *Homiletics* iv. 95 With the..Reformation both the idea and the practice of postillating were superseded by evangelical preaching.

† **b.** 'Formerly, To preach by expounding Scripture, verse by verse, in order' (Webster 1847).

Hence **Postilla·tion,** the writing of postils.

1847 Webster, *Postillation*, exposition of Scripture in preaching. 1864 *Ibid.*, *Postillation*, the act of postillating.

Postillator (pɒ·stɪleɪtəɹ). Also 4 **-our.** [a. med.L. *postillātor*, agent-n. f. *postillāre*: see Postil *v.* and -or.] = next.

1382 Wyclif *Prol.* 58 Myche sharpliere and groundliere than manie late postillatouris, eithir expositouris, han don. 1613 Spelman *De non Temer. Eccl.* (1846) 38 Great Hugo Cardinalis, the first Postillator of the Bible. 1872 R. C. Jenkins in *Archæol. Cant.* VIII. 64 The Postillator on the 'Summa' of St. Raymond.

† **Po·stiller.** *Obs.* Also 6 **postilar,** 7 **postillar, -iler, -eller.** [f. Postil *v.* + -er[1]. Cf. OF. *postilleur* (1478 in Godef.).] One who makes or writes a 'postil' or 'postils'; a commentator, annotator, expositor.

1526 *Pilgr. Pref.* (W. de W. 1531) 138 Yet, after our postilars, he came agayne at y[e] passyon of our sayd lord. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 7 Not drawne out of the poysoned puddles of Popish Friers, or postillars. 1621 S. Ward *Life of Faith* 99 Subtilties of School-men, sentences and conceits of Postilers. 1662 Hibbert *Body Div.* I. 216 Shepherds (as the Roman postellers observe) must have three things, 1. scrip. 2. staffe. 3. whistle.

¶ Error for *pistoler*, Pistler.

1891 St. J. Tyrwhitt in *Colleges of Oxford* 307 A gospeller and a postiller (Bible-clerk), eight singing clerks.

† **Posti·llian,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. med.L. *postilla*: see Postil and -ian.] That writes postils.

1627 Perrot *Tithes* 45 They would censure a poore Postillian Divine that should goe about to call into question the faithfulnes of Ployden.

Postillion: see Postilion.

† **Po·stillism.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Postil + -ism.] A production of the nature of a 'postil' or comment. So † **Po·stillize** *v.* = Postil *v.*

1622 Sydenham *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1637) II. 97 If we can fleyle down the transgressions of the times by some few stolne Postellismes. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 9 Besides his postillizing the whole Doctrine of Duns Scotus.

Postin: see Posteen.

Posting (pō·ustiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. Post *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of Post *v.*[1] in various senses.

I. 1. † The dispatching of letters, etc., by a messenger riding 'post' (*obs.*). **b.** Travelling by means of relays of horses. **c.** The keeping of post-horses, -vehicles, etc., as a business.

c 1559 R. Hall *Life of Fisher* lf. 42 b, Then wanted no posting of letters betweene y[e] kinge and y[e] ambassadors. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiii. (1623) 1128 Betwixt whom were such posting of letters, such speeding to and fro. 1653 R. Sanders *Physiogn.* 157 They [persons] will be prompt, and fit for posting. 1790 Cath. M. Graham *Lett. Educ* 141 Posting on the continent is now so much the fashion, as often to oblige a man of fortune to repeat his tour, in order to gratify his family. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 459/2 Posting continues in most countries to be carried on by the state, which retains the monopoly of supplying post-horses, and..of forwarding mails and diligences. *Ibid.* 460/1 Between Vienna and Pesth there is..an independent posting establishment, the speculation of peasants who drive their own horses, and called 'Bauern post'. *Ibid.* 460/2 The great superiority of English over foreign posting [shows] that..open competition in this trade is preferable to a government monopoly and control. *Mod. Hotel Advt.*, Posting in all its branches.

† **2.** Speedy travelling: hastening, haste, hurry.

1589 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXX. (1612) 149, I say, that Beautie beggeth if by posting it be got. 1599 T. M[ouffet] *Silkwormes* 12 Whereat the fearefull maide in posting flung ..Into a secret caue. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* IX. 500 All the Gold of the Kingdome, is daily Transported away with superfluous posting for Court.

3. The dispatching or conveying of letters and other postal matter through or by the post office; the putting of a letter, etc., into the charge of the post office, or into a post-office letter-box.

1871 M. Collins *Mrq. & Merch.* I. v. 176 [He] showed her the way to the post-office, and gave her..information as to the hours of posting. 1884 *Act* 47 & 48 *Vict.* c. 76 § 19. (2) The due posting of a postal packet. 1900 *Daily News* 13 June 6/7 Late fee posting at pillar-boxes..is to be withdrawn on the 18th inst.

II. †4. The transferring (of responsibility, etc.) to another. Also with *off, over. Obs.*

a 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1866) II. 236 There will be such a posting off of sin, that never a one will be found guilty. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 13 Manifested by deed of Indenture, or posting ouer of the charge to another. 1617 Hieron *Wks.* II. 320 A shamelesse excusing of euill, with a posting it ouer vnto God.

5. *Book-keeping.* The carrying of an entry from the journal or other auxiliary book into the ledger; the formal entry of an item in a book of accounts; the bringing of account books up to date.

1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 38 In the posting of the same into his great Book, or Leidger, the Forreign Coynes must be duely expreſt. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. xxxi. 323 There is no posting the books on a death-bed.

1849 Freese *Comm. Class-bk.* 111 In order to prove the correctness of the Postings to the Ledger. 1850 *Plan for Ch. Hist. Soc.* 9 What they chiefly want is what..commercial men call 'posting up'.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: in sense 1, as *posting carriage, establishment, house, inn*; in sense 3, as *posting box, clerk*; **posting-belt,** a broad leather or other belt worn by postilions or post-boys.

1737 *Med. Ess. & Observ.* IV. 61 Our Patient..was desired to wear a posting Belt, with proper Compresses upon the Place where the Wound had been, for some time,..that upon any violent Motion a *Hernia* might be prevented. 1836 Dickens *Sk. Boz, Winglebury Duel*, The Winglebury Arms ..is the principal Inn of Great Winglebury—the commercial inn, posting-house and excise-office. 1844 — *Mart. Chuz.* xx, They had a posting carriage at the porch. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 354, I think the best posting-house at this end of the town is Tempett's. 1893 *Scott. Leader* 12 June 2/1 Posting Establishment Complete. 1895 *Daily News* 31 May 3/6 The branch and sub-offices at which the posting boxes are continuously open. 1899 A. H. Sayce *Early Israel* v. 160 Carriage roads were constructed with posting inns at intervals along them.

Po·sting, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Post *v.*[2] + -ing [1].] The action of Post *v.*[2] in various senses: *spec.*

1. The mooring of a vessel to a post. Also *attrib.* as *posting-dues.*

1868 *Exeter & Plymouth Gaz.* 13 Mar., Paying a small sum to the owner for 'posting'—that was for tying up the vessels to a post. *Ibid.*, He paid posting dues twenty-six years ago to Mr. Chapple, but not since. Harbour dues were paid to Mr. Chanter, Lord of the Manor of Northam.

2. The action of fixing a placard, notice, etc. on a post, etc., or of making anything public by this means; public advertisement by posters.

1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xl. (1674) 54 The very night after the posting up of this defiance. 1701–3 (*title of MS.*) A Book of Postings and Sale of the Forfeited and other Estates and Interests in Ireland. 1850 Ht. Martineau *Hist. Peace* II. IV. ix. 412 The people would not permit the posting of notices of arrears. 1862 *Boston Transcr.* 22 Aug. 1/2 Is there no way of protection against the posting of bills about our city?

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *posting-business*; **posting-bill,** a placard: = Poster [2] 2.

1802 *Naval Chron.* VIII. 436 Posting bills have been put up.., offering a bounty. 1884 *West. Morn. News* 30 Aug. 1/5 Particulars will appear in posting bills. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Jan. 3/1 It is now ten years ago since the picture posting business was first reduced not only to an art but almost to a science.

Posting, *vbl. sb.*[3] and [4]: see Post *v.*[3] and [4].

Posting (pō·ustiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Post *v.*[1] + -ing [2].] That posts; swift, speedy, rapid; hasty, hurrying, fleeting.

Posting fever, sweat, the sweating sickness, *sudor anglicanus*, of which several epidemics occurred 1481–1551.

c 1553 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. vii. 72 The posting sweat, that posted from town to town thorow England, and was named 'stop-gallant'. 1575 R. B. *Appius & Virginia* D j, With posting speede, to Court I do repaire. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 10 Neither did we run ouer the worke with that posting haste that the Septuagint did. 1642 Gauden *Three Serm.* 26 A few posting and perfunctory prayers. 1718 Prior *Solomon* II. 827 This only object of my real care, ..In some few posting fatal hours is hurled From wealth. 1891 Creighton *Hist. Epidemics* I. 276 Like dengue, influenza, and others of the 'posting' fevers of former time.

Hence **Po·stingly** *adv.*, hastily, hurriedly.

1636 Earl of Cork in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 259, I could neuer see that [paper]..neither can I remember the contents of it, it was so postingly read ouer vnto me.

Postique (pɒstī·k), *a.* [app. by-form of Postiche.] = Postiche A. b.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., In architecture, &c., an ornament of sculpture is said to be *postique*, when it is superadded after the work itself is done. The word is formed from the Italian, *posticcio*, added. A table of marble, or other matter, is also said to be *postique*, when it is incrustated in a decoration of architecture, &c.

Postischial: see Post- B. 2.

Postjacent (pō·ustˌdʒē·sĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *post* (Post- B. 2) + L. *jacēnt-em* lying: cf. *adjacent.*] Lying behind; posterior.

1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 455 A defensive arrangement, which extends over the postjacent branchial clefts.

Po·stjudice. *nonce-wd.* [f. Post- A. 1 b, after *prejudice.*] (See quot.) So **Po·stjudiced** *a.*

1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. vi. 174 Hence what people call my prejudiced views of things,—which are, in fact, the exact contrary, namely, post-judiced. 1905 G. K. Chesterton *R. Browning* v. 115 Prejudice is not so much the great intellectual sin as a thing which, we may call, to coin a word, 'postjudice', not the bias before the fair trial, but the bias that remains after.

† **Po·st-knight.** *Obs.* [f. Post *sb.*[1] + Knight *sb.*] = Knight of the post, a notorious perjurer.

1594 *Merry Knack to know Knave* D j, Why, I haue bene a post knight in Westminster this xii. year. 1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. III. 73/2 The sixt a post-knight, that for fiue groats gaine Would sweare, and for foure groats forsweare 't againe.

Postlapsarian, etc.: see Post- B. 1, A. 1 b.

† **Po·stle.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **postol,** 3 (Orm.) **posstell,** 3–6 **postel, postle,** 4 **postyll,** *Sc.* **-ule,** 4–5 **-il, -ill(e, -ele,** 6 **-elle.** [OE. *postol,* aphetic form of *apostol,* Apostle.] = Apostle.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke XXIV. 10 Ða oðre..cwedun ðas to ðæm postolum. *c* 1200 Ormin 5186 Cristess posstell, Sannt Johan. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20928 (Edin.) Sipin he com

to postlis state [*Gött.* postil]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Mackor*) 1552 Ihesus his postulis xij ymang. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 159 Suffreth my postles in pays & in pees gange. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 272 By saynt peter the postle. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 149 b, Ye postle maye make some bysshoppes amonge the new brethern.

Postle, variant of POSTIL, *Obs.*

Postless (pōu·stlės), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + -LESS.] Without a postal service.

1885 MRS. INNES in *Athenæum* 12 Dec. 764 A return to our..doctorless, bookless, milkless, postless, and altogether comfortless jungle.

Post-like: see POST *sb.*[1] and 2.

Postliminary (pōust,li·minări), *a.* [f. L. *post* after + *līmen, līmin-* threshold + -ARY [1]; but in sense 1 associated with POSTLIMINIUM.

The etymological derivatives of L. *postlīminium* are *postliminiar, -iary, -iate, -iation, -ious*; and those of L. *post* + *līmen* (opposed to *preliminary*, etc.), *postliminary, -liminate, -limination, -liminous.* But in some cases erroneous use confuses the two series, and exchanges the senses.]

1. *erron.* Pertaining to or involving the right of postliminium; postliminiary.

1702 WOODROFFE *Daniel's 70 Weeks* Ep. A ij b, I trust, 'twill not be long e're the Jews themselves shall return to their Postliminary Right. 1807 WRANGHAM *Serm. Transl. Script.* 21 Admitted to the postliminary perception of her inalienable rights. 1860 WOOLSEY *Introd. Internat. Law* § 145. 333 The rights and obligation of a state restored in this postliminary way.

2. Subsequent: opposed to *preliminary.*

1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvi. *note*, The rere-supper was a postliminary banquet,..which made its appearance at ten or eleven. 1827 — *Jrnl.* 23 May I. 396, I found I had mislaid a number of the said postliminary affair.

† **Postli·minate,** *v.* [f. as prec. + -ATE [3].] *trans.* To place behind, or in a subsequent place.

1690 [see POSTLIMINIATE *v.* 2, quot. 1659].

† **Postlimina·tion.** *Obs.* = POSTLIMINIATION.

1655 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* 45 An order that nothing should be transacted in their House, untill the Earl of Arundel were restored: upon which instantly ensued the Earls postlimination and readmittance.

† **Postliminiage.** *Obs. rare*—°. [f. as next + -AGE.] = POSTLIMINY.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Postliminiage*.., a return of one who was thought to be dead, and so restored to his house, not by going over the threshold, but by making a hole in the wall.

† **Postlimi·niar,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *postlimini-um* + -AR [1].] Of, pertaining to, or in accordance with the law of POSTLIMINIUM.

1681 HALLYWELL *Melampr.* 70 It may be said, that..the Soul may be rapt from this Terrestrial Body, and carried to remote and distant places, from whence she may make a Postliminiar return.

Postlimi·niary, *a. rare*—°. [f. as prec. + -ARY [1].] A more etymological form of POSTLIMINARY in sense 1. 1882 in OGILVIE (Annandale).

† **Postlimi·niate,** *v. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ATE [3].]

1. *trans.* To allow to return from banishment.

1655 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* 2 The hopes that..his Brother ..should be postliminiated and restored to his inheritance of the Palatinate. 1659 — *Alliance Div. Off.* 25 Just cause to wish either those Apocryphals postliminiated again, or others of the Canon to succeed them.

2. *erron.* for POSTLIMINATE. (See note s. v. POSTLIMINARY.)

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 303 It may seem a wonder why..this Communion Order is postliminiated [*ed.* 1690 postliminated] into that Burial Office.

Hence † **Postliminia·tion,** restoration to civic rights and privileges; reinstatement. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 323 His postliminiation gave him liberty to approach no nearer the Altar then the Cancellum.

Postliminious (pōust,limi·niəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.]

1. Of or pertaining to postliminium. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Postliminious*, pertaining to the return of one, who was thought to be dead, or to the receiving that again, which had been alienated, or lost.

2. *erron.* Done or contrived subsequently; subsequent; = POSTLIMINOUS 2. (See POSTLIMINARY.)

1684-5 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 337 They are forced..to strike in with things as they fall out, by post-liminious after-applications of them to their purposes. 1804 F. PLOWDEN (*title*) A Postliminious Preface to the Historical Review of the State of Ireland. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 268/1 The large work..to which this pamphlet, with Irish aptness, is entitled a Postliminious preface. 1826 *Blackw. Mag.* XIX. 396 Every reel has a kiss by way of introduction and postliminious preface. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* II. xiv. 146 Mr. Holme Sumner..told the House of Commons that my room had a view over the Surrey hills...I could not feel obliged to him for this postliminious piece of enjoyment.

‖ **Postliminium** (pōust,limi·niŭm). [L. *postlīminium* a return 'behind one's threshold', f. *post*, POST- B. 2 + *līmen, -in-* threshold.] In *Roman Law*, The right to return home and resume one's former privileges: = POSTLIMINY.

[1611 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 146 Being .. called in question, *post-liminio* [*abl.* = 'by post-liminium'], for the powder treason.] 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 28. 141 The Church..afterwards, as it were by the law of *Postliminium*, hath restored their Authority and Canonicalnesse unto them. 1669 in *Evelyn's Corr.* (1852) III. 219 At my postliminium, all my hope and ambition was to exchange a shilling for three groats. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* XIII. 440 The amnestied emigrants .. enjoy .. but little of the benefits of *postliminium*. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Comm. (ed. 2) 110 Postliminium is the recovery of rights by a person returned from captivity, or the recovery of rights over a person or thing recovered from hostile possession.

Postliminous (pōust,li·minəs), *a.* [f. L. *post* after + *limen, -in-* threshold + -OUS.]

† 1. *erron.* Of or pertaining to postliminium; = POSTLIMINIOUS 1. *Obs. rare.* (See note s. v. POSTLIMINARY.)

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 213 Fearing that by a post-liminous way something should bee re-annexd both to Church and Crowne.

2. Subsequent; of the nature of an appendix; = POSTLIMINARY 2: opposed to *preliminary.*

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 38 This, if I may so speak, is only a postliminous way of sinning. 1855 LD. CAMPBELL in *Life* (1881) II. 338 That he [Macaulay] should thence give a postliminous sketch of subsequent English history to correspond with the preliminary sketch, prior to the reign of James II.

Postliminy (pōust,li·mĭni). [Anglicized form of POSTLIMINIUM.] In *Rom. Law*, The right of any person who had been banished or taken captive, to assume his former civic privileges on his return home. Hence, in *Internat. Law*, The restoration to their former state of persons and things taken in war, when they come again into the power of the nation to which they belonged.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Postliminie*, the return of one, who was thought to be dead. [*ed.* 1678 *adds*, also a return from Exile or Captivity.] 1860 WOOLSEY *Introd. Internat. Law* § 143. 331 As to limit of place modern postliminy takes effect only within the territory of the captor or his ally. 1861 J. KENT *Comm. Amer. Law* (1873) I. v. 109 Movables are not entitled, by strict rules of the laws of nations, to the full benefit of postliminy, unless [etc.]. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. Comm. (ed. 2) 223 If he returned from captivity his will reacquired validity by the operation of postliminy.

Post-line: see POST *sb.*[1] and 3.

Postlude (pōu·stl,liūd). *Mus.* [f. POST- A. 1 b + L. *lūdus* play, on analogy of *prelude, interlude*; so mod.L. *postlūdium.*] A concluding piece or movement played at the end of an oratorio or the like; a concluding voluntary.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIII. 460 The prelude and the postlude, in which he has enveloped Handel, are his own. 1866 ENGEL *Nat. Mus.* viii. 279 This is sung to the following tune, in which the instruments have after each verse a little postlude of three or four bars. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Oct. 441/2 The 'postlude' of the chorus.

Po·stly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + -LY [2].] By or in the post.

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 244, I..am almost tempted to write to you there, instead of suffering mine to pass you by, as they do, *postly*, at present.

Postman [1] (pōu·stmæn). [f. POST *sb.*[2] + MAN *sb.*[1]]

1. A bearer or carrier of letters or other postal matter: a. *orig.* A courier who rode 'post'. b. Now, One who delivers letters, etc., sent through the post, or collects them from the letter-boxes, receiving offices, etc.; a letter-carrier.

1529 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 383 David Mullray usher of the kitchen door, John Anderson, postman [etc.]. 1600 *Child-Marriages* 179 Receiued one packquet..to be conveyed by the poste to Sir Roberte Cecill; which was, presentley vppon the receipt thereof, deliuered to the post-man to be conveyed accordingly. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* viii, By speedy Post men were the Letters sent. 1758 in Howell *State Trials* 1371, I received every one of these letters from the postman of the walk. 1783 JOHNSON 23 Mar. in *Boswell*, I may as well make a present to the postman who brings me a letter. 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 269 We..wait till the post-man brings the packet down. 1835 MARRYAT *Pirate* v, That's the postman's knock. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* iii, As every twopenny postman knows. 1882 'OUIDA' *Maremma* vii, The postman came over the plains..very irregularly to Santa Tarsilla. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 10/1 In the Franco-German war,.. pigeons did excellent service, and on the Continent experiments with these postmen of the air are going on continually.

c. *Comb.*, as *postman-like* adj. and adv.; **postman-pigeon,** the carrier pigeon.

1832 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. v. (1863) 410 More sins than I can remember, of forgetfulness, irregularity, and all manner of postman-like faults. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 421/1 In his home life, the postman pigeon is most exemplary. He is a faithful husband and a fond father.

† 2. A newsman, a news-writer. *Obs.*

The Postman was the name of a newspaper *c* 1700: cf. *Spectator* No. 1 P 5, etc.

1700 PEPYS *Corr.* 12 Apr., You want..some news: therefore let me be your postman, and tell you that the State has been for some time under no small convulsion in Parliament. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 18 P 6, I mean the News Writers of Great Britain, whether Post-Men or Post-Boys, or by what other Name or Title soever dignified or distinguished.

† **Po·stman** [2]. *Obs.* [Of doubtful composition: possibly allied to POST-KNIGHT, or KNIGHT OF THE POST, and *poet of the post*: see POST *sb.*[1] 2.] app. A hireling writer of libels or scurrilous falsehoods.

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 91 These men in blacking the lives and actions of the Reformers, have partly devised matter of..notorious untruth..; partly suborned other Postmen to compose their Legends, that afterwards they might cite them in proofe to the world as approved authors and histories.

† **Postman** [3]. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. POST *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A barrister in the Court of Exchequer who had precedence in motions except in Crown business, till the Exchequer was merged in the Queen's Bench Division: the name was derived from the post, the measure of length in excise cases, beside which he took his stand. Cf. TUBMAN.

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. iii. 28 *margin*, In the Court of Exchequer two of the most experienced barristers, called the postman and the tubman (from the places in which they sit) have also a precedence in motions. 1882 *Daily News* 15 Dec. 2/1 The last of the postmen was Mr. Charles Hall, Q.C., Attorney-General to the Prince of Wales. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Aug. 6/1 Sir R. Webster..was called to the bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1868, held the obsolete posts of 'tubman' of the Court of Exchequer 1872–74, and 'postman' 1874–78, and took silk in 1878.

Po·stmark, *sb.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + MARK *sb.*[1]] A mark officially impressed upon letters or other postal packages for various purposes; formerly *esp.* one bearing the name of the office at which the letter was posted, with the words 'paid' or 'unpaid', and the amount of postage; later also, a mark used to deface or obliterate the postage stamp; now, usually a mark giving the place, date, and hour of dispatch, or of the arrival of the mail, in the former case serving also to deface the postage stamp, or combined with a special obliteration-mark for that purpose.

Marks for various other purposes (e. g. to indicate deficient prepayment) are still in occasional use; see the work cited in quot. 1898.

1678 *Trial of Ireland*, etc. 47 *Mr. Oates*..the Post mark upon it was but Two-pence, to be paid for it. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* III. 94 He received a letter from Henry, without either date or post-mark. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiv, The post-mark is Plymouth. 1859 LADY MORGAN *Autobiog.* p. vii, [Letters] with their old horrible postmarks of two-and-sixpence and two-and-tenpence (which now would be a penny a head). 1891 SMILES *J. Murray* I. xiv. 344 Letter..dated..26th December, 1814, though the post-mark shows it was not delivered until the 12th of January, 1815. 1898 J. H. DANIELS (*title*) A History of British Postmarks. Illustrated. *Ibid.* 5 In 1680 William Dockwra started in London the first Penny Post, and he is also credited with the introduction of postmarks, [but] I have entire letters containing undoubted marks impressed by the General Post fifteen years previously. *Ibid.* 35 The introduction of postage-stamps took place on May 6th, 1840. The postmark used to cancel the stamp is known as the *Maltese Cross.* This was used throughout Great Britain and Ireland until 1844. *Ibid.* 2 The collecting of postmarks is gradually gaining ground as a pursuit.

Po·stmark, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To mark with the post-office stamp, esp. that showing place and date of posting. Almost always in *pass.* Hence **Po·stmarked** *ppl. a.*; **Po·stmarking** *vbl. sb.*

1716 *Admiralty Notice* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5436/3 A Letter without Date, but Post mark'd, the 24th of this Instant May. 1813 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 317 Your favor of February 3d (but postmarked the 18th). 1859 *Regul. P.-O. Department, Washington U. S.* § 397 The use of the office dating or post-marking stamp as a canceling instrument is prohibited. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* I. 9 The envelope..was post-marked 'New York'.

Postmaster [1] (pōu·stmāstəɹ). [f. POST *sb.*[2] + MASTER *sb.*[1]: = 15th c. L. *magister postarum*, obs. F. *maître de postes*, It. *maestro delle poste*, Ger. *postmeister* (in 1491 Francis de Taxis, who superintended the Imperial mails, called himself *postmaister*).]

1. † a. *orig.* A master of the posts; the officer who had the charge or direction of the post-messengers, whose office gradually developed into that of POSTMASTER GENERAL, q. v. † b. In the 17th and 18th c., The post-office servant at each of the stations or stages of a post-road, whose primary duty it was to carry the mails to the next stage, and subsequently, to receive and deliver or send out the letters for his own town or district; orig. called POST (*sb.*[2] 1); in 1668 *deputy postmaster.* c. Now, The person who has official charge of a post office, and the superintendence of all postal business there transacted.

a. 1513 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 210 Whilst I have no postis at my command,..I do my dwte in wrytynge & spende monney to send my lettyrs to th' Emperours postmastir. [1516 FRANCIS DE TAXIS (the Emperor's Postmaster) *Let. to Brian Tuke* 23 Mar. (Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII, II. 1698), [addressed] Magistro Domino meo Brianno Tuke, Magistro Postarum, Londini. 1545 *Patent Hen. VIII* in *Rep. Secret Comm. P. O.* (1844) 33 Officinam Magistri Nunciorum, Cursorum, sive postarum. 1567 *Patent Eliz.* ibid. 34 Officinam Magistri Nunciorum et Cursorum, communiter vocatam Postarum. 1572 *Ibid.*, Thomas Randolphe esquier, Maister of the Postes.] 1574-5 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 376 Item, payed for charges bestowed uppon Mr. Gasquyner the Quenes post master. [1591 *Proclam.* in *Rep. Secret Comm. on Post Office* (1844) 36 Our Master of the Postes, or the Masters of the Postes Generall of those countreys.] 1625 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 24 Questor was overthrown this day sevennight in a suit about the postmaster's office, wherein the Lord Stanhope prevailed against him. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4455/2 Count Paar, Post-Master of the Hereditary Countries, goes with her .. Majesty as far as Holland.

b, c. 1603 in *Rep. Secret Comm. P. O.* (1844) 38 It is fit and convenient, in this time so full of busines, that the postemasters of every stage be aided and assisted with fresh and able horses. 1637 *Rutland MSS.* IV. 529 Payd to a

messenger that came from the postmaster of Newarke, 2s. 1653 *Reg. Council of State* in *Rep. S. C. P. O.* 70 That the Postmasters and others employed by Mr. Prideaux, being godly and well affected, to be continued in their employments. 1659 *Jrnl. Ho. Com.* 10 June, The humble petition of the several postmasters of England in behalf of themselves, and..families, was this day read. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 322/4 Notice is hereby given, That the Post-Master-General hath contracted.., with all the respective Deputy Post-Masters, to carry from time to time all Letters directed to every particular person within Ten miles from their Stage-Towns, paying Two pence a time besides the London Post, and to bring back their Answers to the said Stage, Gratis. 1681 BOYLE *Let. to Bp. H. Jones* Wks. 1772 I. p. clxxx, I resolved to dispatch them by land to Chester, to the post-master of which place I got them particularly recommended by Mr. Dowlin, post-master of Dublin. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 442 Upon this grand Office depends 182 Deputy-Post-Masters in England and Scotland, most of which keep regular Offices in their Stages, and Sub-Post-Masters in their Branches. 1771 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 98/2 The court gave judgment,..declaring, that by the several acts relating to the post-office, all letters must be delivered by the post-master of every post-town, to the persons to whom such letters are directed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 350 The letter addressed to William Lloyd, Bishop of Norwich, was, in spite of all precautions, detained by a postmaster. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* vi. 48 These stages [of the post roads, in 17th c.] were presided over by..postmasters, whose duty it was to carry the mails each over his own stage.

fig. 1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* (1842) 33 The Postmaister of Hell plainly told them that if any so seditious a fellow as Golde were cast into prison, their fathers would never give their consent to haue him ransomed. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xxv. 11 Epimetheus' post-masters, *semper victuri*, in Seneca's sense.

2. The master of a posting station, who provides horses for posting; one who keeps a posting establishment; = JOBMASTER 1.

Originally, the same person as in the earlier stage of sense 1 b; the several postmasters who carried the mails being the only persons licensed to let horses to travellers.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 85 The Postmaister came unto him, and called twice aloude .. and forthwith there came out of the Stable a foule greate Groome..who had charge giuen him to make readie three horses. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 109 It was not Anne, but a Post-masters boy. 1603, 1659 [see 1]. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 56 The defendant is a licenced post-master in the city of London, and had let a chaise and pair of horses for the day. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 461/1 That revenue can be raised on posting, without the government acting as a postmaster, we have England for an example. 1860 SPOTTISWOODE in *Vac. Tour.* 86 The postmaster would give us no horses, as the road by which we were to proceed was not a post-road. 1865 GLADSTONE *Financ. Statem.* 84, I believe the largest post-masters in the kingdom are in London, and that their principal traffic is to the railway stations.

Postmaster[2] (pō͝ustmāstəɹ). The name given at Merton College, Oxford, from the 16th c., to the class of poor scholars instituted in 1380 by John Wyllyot; now the equivalent in that college of the term 'scholar' in general collegiate use.

For the first hundred years these appear in the College Register only as *pueri* (*M. Johannis*) *Wylyot*, 'Wylyot's boys'. But their essential characteristic was the reception of a limited weekly 'portion', *ebdomadalis portionis*; hence we find them (from 1483) styled *porcionistæ* or (1546) *portionistæ*, a term Englished in the 17th c., as by Wood, as *portionists*. The age of the term *postmaster* is not certain: it occurs in the College Records in 1593 in the established name of *Postmasters' Hall*, the dwelling opposite to the college in which the *pueri* or *portionistæ* had resided till *c* 1575, when they were moved into the college. It also appears as the appellation of the *portionistæ* in English letters of 1610 preserved in the Records. But these casual occurrences show only that it was then a long-established name. As to its origin nothing is known; it has been variously conjectured to be a corruption of *portionista*, or a rendering of **post-magister* or **post-minister*, in allusion to the fact that the *portionistæ* were at one time servitors to the Masters or Fellows, perhaps standing behind their chairs at dinner, etc. But *post-minister* does not occur in the college register, and the occurrence of *post-magister* is doubtful.

[1380 *Ordinatio M. Joh. Wyllyott* (Merton Archives), Sic admissus quomodo commune pretium modii frumenti 12d. non excedit, percipiat tum 7d. pro ebdomadali portione..ebdomadalem portionem prius limitatum. 1381 *Merton Coll. Rolls Acc.* Compotus. Magister puerorum Wylyot. 1454 *Ibid.*, Pro communibus puerorum. 1483 (Dec. 31) *Merton Coll. Reg.*, Insuper porcionistarum numerum decretum est augeri sec. magistrorum numerum. 1546 (May 11) *Ibid.*, Scholaris aulæ portionistarum. 1577 (Aug. 1) *Ibid.*, Nullus portionista admittetur qui non habeat suum magistrum tutorem et in ipsius cubiculo pernoctet.]

1593 (Mar. 31) J. LEACH (Chanc. Exeter Cathedr.) *Let.* in *Coll. Reg.*, By the ordinacion of my predecessor John Willett, founder of postmrs hall. 1610 (Aug. 1) DR. T. JESOPE *ibid.*, I have bin much sorie that I have bin so long hindered from ye performance of my long entended purpose for ye relief of the poore postmasters of Merton Colledg. [So 4 times in letter and 3 times in reply.] 1639 (May 6) ABP. LAUD *ibid.*, That no Postmaster shall hold his place after that he hath gotten his grace to be a Graduate in the University. 1647 WOOD *Life* 26 May (O. H. S.) I. 135 Samuel Jones was made from being a servitour of All Soules College, either a postmaster or a pro-postmaster. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. vi. § 8 Much honoured, in that Bishop Jewel was a postmaster before removed hence to be a fellow of Corpus Christi Colledg. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 241 Merton-College...This College has a Warden, 24 Fellows, 14 Portionists or Postmasters, and 2 Clerks. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. vii, At Merton there are fourteen postmasters.

Po·stmaster ge·neral. Pl. **postmasters general.** [f. POSTMASTER[1] + GENERAL *a.* Called in 16th c. Latin *magister postarum* (see POSTMASTER[1] 1 a); in 17th c. *magister generalis nunciorum et cursorum*, also *general postmaster*.] The administrative head of the postal service of a country or state, who is in Great Britain often, and in U. S. always, a member of the cabinet.

1626 in *Rep. Secret Comm. P. O.* (1844) 48 The matter in controversie betwixt the Lord Stanhope and Matthew de Questir, concerning the office of Postmaster-general. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 8 [Sir William Seatoun] generall postmaister to his Majestie throughout this haill kingdome. 1636 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Carriers Cosmogr.* ad fin., Let them repaire to the Generall Post-Master Thomas Withering at his house in Sherburne Lane, neare Abchurch. *c* 1638 (*title*) A discourse shewing the true State and Title of the Comptroller or Postmaster generall of England, the Lord Stanhope's right to it. 1657 [See POST OFFICE 1]. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. 35 § 2 Be it further enacted .. That such Post Master Generall..shall prepare and provide Horses and Furniture to lett to Hire unto all Through posts and persons rideing in post by Commission. 1663 *Commission* 29 Apr. in *Rep. Secret Comm. P. O.* (1844) 85 Officium Magistri nostri Generalis Nunciorum et Cursorum, communiter vocatum The Office of Post Master Generall. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. (ed. 22) 441 Of the Office of Post-Master General. This Office..is executed by Two Post-Masters-General. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 51 The lords of the Admiralty have been pleased, at the request of the Post-master-general, to order his Majesty's sloops the Alderney and Hound, to sail to Flushing. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. p. xiii, His Grace was one of the best Postmaster Generals who ever filled that important office. 1872 *Act of Congress* 8 June in *U. S. Stat.* XVII. 309 The postmaster-general shall provide for carrying the mail on all post-roads established by law.

Hence **Po·stmaster-ge·neralship.**

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 June 6/1 Lord John Manners would no doubt return to the Postmaster-Generalship.

Po·stma·stership[1]. [f. POSTMASTER[1] + -SHIP.] The office of postmaster.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 107 Howsoeuer the Iesuites take vpon them the postmastership of Angels, they are not able to tell how many miles they goe in a minute. 1623 in *Rep. Secret Comm. P. O.* (1844) 46 The office which the Lord Stanhope holdeth for Postmastership within our dominions. 1804 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 134 Lord Charles Spencer should be allowed to remain in the other joint Postmastership. 1894 *Times* 20 Sept. 4/6 [He] called at the shop of the man who had applied for the postmastership.

Po·stma·stership[2]. [f. POSTMASTER[2] + -SHIP.] The position of postmaster at Merton College, Oxford.

1814 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 386 A good thing, called by the odd name of a postmastership, has been promised him at Merton, which will materially lighten the expense. 1885 *Oxf. Univ. Cal., Merton Coll.* 118 The number of postmasterships or scholarships is 18, but may be increased.

Postmeatal, -median: see POST- B. 2.

Postmedial (pō͝ustmī·diăl), *a.* [f. POST- B. + MEDIAL.] Occupying a position posterior to that which is medial in place, order, or time.

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 327 The Postmedial Visions being all of them..to come. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 29, 4 M, a transverse areolet, just posterior to 3 M, the *post-medial*.

‖ **Po·st-mediasti·num.** *Anat.* [See POST- A.] = *Posterior* MEDIASTINUM (q. v.). So **Post-mediastinal** *a.* = posterior mediastinal (arteries, etc.).

Postmeridian (pō͝ustmĕri·diăn), *a.* [ad. L. *postmerīdiānus* (contr. *pōmer-*) adj., in the afternoon, f. *post* after + *meridiānus* MERIDIAN *a.*; cf. POMERIDIAN.]

1. Occurring after noon or midday; of or pertaining to the afternoon. Also *fig.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 57 An over hasty digestion, which is the inconvenience of postmeridian sleeps. *c* 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.*, The postmeridian degrees of civilization (to preserve the author's metaphor) are less favourable to the popularity of the drama. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 198 The pyrexia of tuberculosis attains its maximum..in the post-meridian hours of the day.

2. *Geol.* Applied by Professor Rogers to the ninth of the fifteen subdivisions of the Palæozoic strata of the Appalachian chain.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. II. 749 These periods, applicable only to the American Palæozoic day, are the Primal..Pre-Meridian, Meridian, Post-Meridian [etc.]. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Post-Meridian*,..the 'Afternoon' of the North American Palæozoics, and the equivalent, in part, of our Lower Devonians.

℔ 3. Post meridian: erron. for next.

1795 C. DIBDIN in *Life* (1803) III. 335 'Twas post meridian, half past four, By signal I from Nancy parted. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* i, About the hour of half past eleven, post meridian, the moon was shining.

‖ **Post meridiem,** *phr.* [L. *post meridiem* after midday.] After midday; applied to the hours between noon and midnight; usually abbreviated P.M. or p.m.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* iv. 34, I would erect a Figure of Heaven the sixt of January 1646, one hour thirty minutes afternoon, or P.M, that is, Post Meridiem.

Postmeri·dional, *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. POST- B. 1 + MERIDIONAL.] = POSTMERIDIAN 1.

1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 8 After our post-meridional refection.

Post-metal, -mill: see POST *sb.*[1] 9.

Postmillenarian (pō͝ustmilĭnē·riăn). [f. POST- B. 1 b + MILLENARIAN.] = POSTMILLENNIALIST. So **Po·stmillena·rianism** = POSTMILLENNIALISM (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1886 N. F. RAVELIN *Progr. Th. Gt. Subj.* v. 63 Those who think that the millennium is to precede His [Christ's] coming, are called Postmillenarians.

Postmillennial (pō͝ustmile·niăl), *a.* [f. POST- B. 1 b + MILLENNIAL.] Of or belonging to the period following the millennium. So **Postmille·nnialism,** the doctrine that the second Advent will follow the millennium; **Postmille·nnialist,** a believer in postmillennialism; **Postmille·nnian** *a.*, postmillennial.

1851 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* 196 The Day of the real Second Advent, which my correspondent fully admits to be postmillennial. *Ibid.* 192 The Judicial Destruction of the Man of Sin..is acknowledged, both by Premillennialists and by Postmillennialists, to occur immediately before the commencement of the Thousand Years. = *Ibid.* 205 The two Antichristian Confederacies, premillennian and postmillennian. 1879 *Princeton Rev.* Mar. 425 Dr. Seiss.. has described postmillennialism as papistic, Dr. Brookes .. branded it as the 'post-millennial heresy'.

‖ **Postminimus** (pō͝ustmi·nimŭs). *Comp. Anat.* [f. POST- B. 2 + MINIMUS *sb.* 2.] An additional digit found in some mammals, outside the little toe or finger. See also quot. 1895.

1889 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 260 In *Bathyergus maritimus* [a species of mole-rat] the præpollex and the postminimus are both very well developed. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Postminimus.* In *Anat.*, syn. for *Pisiform bone.* In *Biol.*, a supernumerary little (ulnar) finger or little (fibular) toe.

Postmistress (pō͝ustmi·strĕs). [f. POST *sb.*[2] + MISTRESS, after POSTMASTER[1].] A woman who has charge of a post office. Hence **Po·stmi·stressship,** the office of postmistress.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3299/4 Whoever gives notice of him ..to the Post-Mistress of York,..shall be Rewarded to Content. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xv, 'Tell her', said the faithful postmistress,..' to come back the morn at ten o'clock, and I'll let her ken; we havena had time to sort the mail letters yet'. 1884 MRS. H. WARD *Miss Bretherton* 175 At last the old postmistress..ceased to repulse him.

1867 *Contemp. Rev.* V. 106 Women were consequently excluded from post-mistress-ships in large towns.

Post-money, -morning: see POST *sb.*[2] 13, 12.

‖ **Post mortem, post-mortem,** *adv. phr., a.*, and *sb.* [L. *post mortem* after death.]

A. *advb. phrase* (*post mortem*). After death.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 132 Evidence by offices *post mortem*, charters, pedigrees. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 362 Unexpectedly made known by examination, *post mortem*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 222 The fistulas are but rarely found post-mortem.

B. *adj.* (*post-mortem*). Taking place, formed, or done after death.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 806/2 The interval between spasmodic and true *post-mortem* stiffness. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 46/1 The coroner is empowered..to direct the performance of a *post mortem* examination. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 325 Of a dark-red colour, and soft gelatinous consistence, closely resembling the post-mortem clot. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Apr. 11/1 Any man who held the theory of post-mortem salvation.

C. *sb.* Short for *post-mortem examination.*

(In quot. 1900 = post-mortem production.)

1850 SCORESBY *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iv. (1859) 53 To report a full and accurate, leisurely post-mortem of the subjects we have discussed. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 195 Two ended fatally; but no post-mortem was obtained. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 10/1 By this time the genuine Strads are pretty well known—even those post-mortems made up out of the *débris* of the great man's workshop. 1903 *Edin. Rev.* July 191 Post-mortems show the cause of death.

b. *attrib.* Connected with post-mortem examinations, as *post-mortem book, record, room, table.*

1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 345 Ascertaining in the post-mortem room the existence of the more marked structural changes. 1880 MACCORMAC *Antisept. Surg.* 205 A third..reach the post-mortem table before the disease has contracted adhesions to the surrounding parts. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 861, 60 cases.. collected from St. George's Hospital post-mortem books.

Post-mortuary, -mundane: see POST- B. 1; **Postmultiply, -mutative:** see POST- A. 1 a.

‖ **Postnares** (-nēə·rīz), *sb.pl.* Rarely *sing.* **-naris.** [mod.L., f. POST- A. 2 + L. *nārēs*, pl. of *nāris* nostril.] The posterior nostrils or choanæ, the openings of the nasal chamber into the pharynx. Hence **Postna·rial** *a.*, of or belonging to the postnares.

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* II. 426 The disproportionate shortness of the rostral or 'prenarial' to the cranial or 'postnarial' part of the skull. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 513.

Postnasal: see POST- B. 2.

‖ **Postnasus** (pō͝ustnē·sŭs). *Entom.* [f. POST- B. 2 + L. *nāsus* nose.] A former name for the division of the clypeus now called the supraclypeus.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 364 *Postnasus*.. that part of the *Face* immediately contiguous to the *Antennæ*, that lies behind the *Nasus*, when distinctly marked out. *Ibid.* xxxiv. 483 A triangular piece, below the antennæ and above the *nasus*..: this is the *postnasus* or after-nose.

Postnatal (pō͝ustnē·tăl), *a.* [f. POST- B. 1 b + NATAL.] Subsequent to or occurring after birth.

a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 16 Some far halcyon time, post-natal or ante-natal he knew not. 1866 SANKEY *Lect. Mental Dis.* vi. 127 Those whose idiocy

depends on post-natal diseases, and especially rickets. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* (1877) I. i. 122 Ideas which cannot be explained by any post-natal experience.

Hence **Postna·talist,** one who holds that the divinity of Christ was of postnatal communication; also *attrib.*

1895 HAWEIS in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 599 The Postnatalists admit human parentage on both sides. *Ibid.* 604 The Prenatalist and Postnatalist theories.

† **Po·stnate,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *postnāt-us* (Du Cange) born after, f. *post* after + *nātus* born. See PUISNE, PUNY.] Born, produced, made, or occurring after something else; later, of later date, subsequent *to*.

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. ii. § 163. 119 Practises of the Church,..evidently post-nate to the time of the Apostles. 1672–3 GREW *Anat. Roots* I. ii. § 2 Every Root hath successively two kinds of Skins...The other, Postnate, succeeding in the room of the former, as the Root ageth. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 585 Which makes..Knowledge and Wisdom, to be but a Second or Post Nate Thing. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* I. iii. § 91 Postnate to the Narrative of Dates. 1770 SIR J. HILL *Construct. Timber* 66 It is indeed postnate and comes after them in the order of time.

B. *sb.* A production of a period later than its alleged date. *rare.*

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* iii. (1642) 192 These and many such passages..in Sibyls Oracles,..our Philologers.. would perswade us, that they were counterfaits and Postnates, forged by Christians.

Hence † **Postna·ted** *a.* = POSTNATE *a.*

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 293 The Council of Laodicea,..to which Popery is post-nated above three hundred years.

‖ **Postna·tus,** pl. **-i.** [med.L. *postnātus* born after: see prec.]

1. One born after a particular event; *spec.* in Scotland, one born after the Union of the Crowns; in U.S., one born after the Declaration of Independence. Chiefly in pl. *postnati.*

1609 (*title*) The Speech of the Lord Chancellor of England touching the Post-nati. 1638 RAWLEY tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 14 This Length of Life, immediately after the Floud, was reduced to a Moitie; But in the *Post-Nati*: For Noah, who was borne before, equalled the Age of his Ancestours. 1669 DK. OF LAUDERDALE in *Collect. Poems* 231 It was..solemnly adjudged, in the Case of the *Postnati*, that those, who after the Descent of the Crown of England to King James, were born in Scotland, were no Aliens in England. 1800 LAING *Hist. Scot.* (1804) III. 14 The *postnati*, born since the death of Elizabeth, as their allegiance was indiscriminately due to James, were declared to be freely naturalized in either kingdom.

† **2.** A second son. *Obs.*

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Post-natus* is also used by Bracton, Fleta, Glanville, &c. for the second son, as distinguished from the eldest. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Postnatus*, the second son, or one born afterwards. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.*

Post-neuritic, -Nicene: see POST- B. 1.

Po·st-night. [f. POST *sb.*[2] + NIGHT.] A night on which letters are dispatched; a mail night.

1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) I. 322, I am much troubled that a post-night should pass, before you come to a resolution in this business. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2121/4 There goes a Post every Monday Night (besides the General Post-Nights) from the General Post-Office in London, to Lewis in Sussex. 1758 in Howell *State Trials* (1813) XIX. 1369, I have often received from the prisoner at the bar letters of a post-night to carry to the office in Lombard-street.

† **Po·st-note.** *U. S. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. POST- A. 1 b + NOTE.] A note made and issued by a bank or banking association, payable not to bearer but to order, not on demand but at a future specified date, and designed as part of its circulating medium.

Issued by the banks of some of the states of U.S. during the period between 1781 and 1863.

1791 JEFFERSON in *Harper's Mag.* (1885) Mar. 534/2 Rec[d] from bank a post note..for 116⅔ D. 1807 (Oct.) *Statutes of Connecticut* (1808) I. 98 Be it enacted..That the several incorporated banks in this state be..authorized to issue post-notes, payable to order and at a time subsequent to the issuing of the same. 1824 (Dec. 24) *Laws of Alabama* 25 *margin*, The issue of Post-Notes authorized. 1839 C. RAGUET *Currency & Banking* 112 *note*, The banks of New York are prohibited from issuing post-notes. 1848 (June 5) *Barbour's Repts.* [N.Y. Supreme Court] 222 Post-notes issued by banking associations having been decided to be absolutely illegal. 1862 *Merchants' Mag.* Dec. 509 The Treasury had become a bank of deposit and of circulation for irredeemable paper money, and could issue one-year certificates, answering to old United States Bank 'post notes', without stint or limit. 1896 H. WHITE *Money & Banking* 368 Some of the States had laws forbidding the issue of post notes, but they were evaded by the device of lending notes on [certain conditions]. 1896 W. G. SUMNER *Hist. Banking in U.S.* 79, 234, 268, 296.

Postnuptial (pōʊstˌnʌ·pʃăl), *a.* [f. POST- B. 1 b + NUPTIAL.] Made, occurring, or existing after marriage; subsequent to marriage.

1807 VESEY *Reports Chanc.* XII. 147 That part of the Property, which is protected by the post-nuptial Settlement. 1853 JERDAN *Autobiog.* III. 31 On their post-nuptial excursion to Paris. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxii, The bitter disillusionising experience of post-nuptial life. 1885 FARGUS *Slings & Arrows* 57 The large post-nuptial settlement which I proposed making.

Hence **Postnu·ptially** *adv.*, after marriage.

1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XIV. 441 The doctor.. insisted on its being postnuptially settled on his wife.

Po·st-oak. [f. POST *sb.*[1] + OAK.] A species of oak (*Quercus obtusiloba*) found in sandy soil in the eastern U. S., having hard close-grained durable wood much used for posts, sleepers, etc.; also called *iron-oak, rough* or *box white oak.*

Swamp post-oak, another species (*Q. lyrata*), growing in river-swamps in the southern U. S., with similar wood.

1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 257 The timber is generally ..on the prairie, post oak. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xvii, Our march to-day lay through straggling forests of the kind of low scrubbed trees .. called 'post-oaks' and 'black-jacks'. 1865 *Michaux's N. Amer. Sylva* I. 40 *Quercus lyrata*..is called the Swamp Post Oak, Overcup Oak, and Water White Oak.

Post-obit (pōʊstˌōʊ·bit, -ōʊ·bit), *a.* and *sb.* [Shortened from L. *post obitum* after decease.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Taking effect after some one's death: esp. in *post-obit bond* (see B. 1).

1788 H. BLACKSTONE *Reports* I. 95 This was a *post obit* bond, a security of a questionable nature, which had often been disputed with success. 1808 *Times* 26 Feb. 4/4 A Post Obit Bond for 37,000*l*, payable within three months after the death of a Gentleman, aged 67 years. 1816 SHELLEY in Dowden *Life* (1887) II. 8, I am to give a post-obit security for this sum. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. ii, By post-obit liquidation.

2. Done or made after death; post-mortem; occurring or existing after death. ? *Obs.*

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 357 The real nature of the swelling..can only be determined by a post-obit examination. *Ibid.* II. 12, 99.

B. *sb.* **1.** (Short for *post-obit bond.*) A bond given by a borrower, securing to the lender a sum of money to be paid on the death of a specified person from whom the borrower has expectations.

1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1845) II. 377 They talk of fourteen hundred thousand pounds on post-obits. 1821 BYRON *Occas. Pieces, Martial*, Post-obits rarely reach a poet. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxvi. 267 [He] had lent ready gold, to be paid back, post-obit fashion, on a father's coffin-lid. 1899 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 5/5 A post obit..is a bond issued by an heir to property, conceding to the holder a lien on the estates after the death of the present possessor.

2. A thing which is to pass to some one after the owner's death; a legacy or heritage. *nonce-use.*

1812 SOUTHEY in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. xi. 237 My intention to leave behind me my own Memoirs, as a post-obit for my family.

3. = POST-MORTEM *sb.* ? *Obs.* 1864 in WEBSTER.

Post-obituary (-*obi·tiuˌări*), *a.* [f. POST- B. 1 b + OBITUARY.] = POST-OBIT *a.*, POST-MORTEM *a.*

1816–30 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extract Const. Code* (1830) 15 Pensions, payable to any..relative of the functionary, on his decease. These may be styled post-obituary, or post-obit pensions. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 720 Abundantly established by post-obituary examinations. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. ii. I. 93 A triple gradation of post-obituary existence, proportioned to the character of each race whilst alive.

Postocular (-*o·kiʊˌlăr*), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. POST- B. 2 + OCULAR.] Situated behind the eye; post-orbital. **b.** *ellipt.* as *sb.* A postocular scale, as in snakes.

1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 209 Parallel curved white superciliary and postocular stripes. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., *Postocular lobes*, anterior projections of the lower sides of the prothorax [in insects], impinging on the eyes when the head is retracted.

Postœsophageal: see POST- B. 2.

Post office, post-office (pōʊ·stˌo·fis). [f. POST *sb.*[2] + OFFICE.]

1. The public department charged with the conveyance of letters, etc., by post. In early use, sometimes meaning the office of the master of the posts, or postmaster (general); in other instances it is difficult to separate it from the local centre or head quarters of the department, the General Post Office in London or other capital.

[The name appears first under the Commonwealth, the earlier name having been *letter-office*: e. g.

1635 (July 31) in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 649 A Proclamation for the settling of the Letter Office of England and Scotland. 1641–2 *Jrnl. Ho. Com.* 22 Mar., That Mr. Glynn do report to-morrow the matter concerning the sequestration of the letter-offices. 1646 *Jrnl. Ho. Lords* 3 Dec., All his estate and interest in the Foreign Letter-office.] 1652 *Jrnl. Ho. Com.* 19 Oct., Sir David Watkins, his claim to the foreign post-office. 1657 *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* c. 30 (Scobell) 512 From henceforth there be one General Office, to be called and known by the name of the Post-Office of England; and one Officer..nominated and appointed..under the Name and Stile of Postmaster-General of England, and Comptroller of the Post-Office. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 85/4 The general Post-office is for the present held at the two Black Pillars in Bridges-street. 1731 GAY in *Swift's Wks.* (1761) VIII. 130 If you don't send to me now and then, the post-office will think me of no consequence. 1738–9 KING in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 223 The ill-treatment I received from the post-office; for some time I did not receive a letter that had not been opened. 1804 BP. OF LINCOLN in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) II. 94 Lord Charles Spencer will..resign the Post-Office. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. xv, The king granted the duke and his heirs for ever, a pension on the post-office. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* vi. 46 The headquarters of the Post Office were at this time [1690] in Lombard Street. Here the postmasters-general resided.

2. A house or shop where postal business is carried on, where postage stamps are sold, letters are registered and posted for transmission to their destinations, and from some of which letters received from places at home and abroad are delivered.

The name is now commonly applied even to small branch offices, sub-offices, or receiving-houses, which sell stamps and receive letters for transmission, but from which letters are not delivered, this being generally done directly from the central or head office of a town or district.

General Post Office, the central or head post office of a country or state, as that in St. Martin's Le Grand, London; also popularly applied to the head post office in a city or town which has branch offices subordinate to it.

[1657 *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* c. 30 The erecting and setling of one general Post-office. 1660: see GENERAL *a.* 2 b.]

1675, 1708 [see GENERAL *a.* 2 b]. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 46 Some of which [Letters] were delivered to the Post-office in Russel-street; others to the Post-office General. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 19 ¶ 2, I have..looked over every Letter in the Post-Office for my better Information. 1725 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) III. 196 You do not expect I should write a detail, since I behoved to take dinner, and at eight the post-office closes. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Angelina* ii. (1857) I. 237 She actually discovered that there was a post-office at Cardiffe. 1825 AMELIA OPIE *Illustrations Lying* I. v. 125 He had reached a general postoffice. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xii. 90 Money was waiting for me at the post-office in Geneva. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lix. 168 She well remembered the number of the post-office in the Edgeware Road. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* v. 41 Up to April 1680 the General Post Office in Lombard Street was the only receptacle for letters in the whole of London. *Mod. Colloq.* In Oxford the General Post Office is in St. Aldate's Street.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *post-office clerk, employee, inspector, -keeper, servant, counter, door, window*, etc.; **post-office address** = postal address; **post-office annuity, insurance,** a system whereby annuities can be purchased and lives insured through the post office; **post-office box,** a private box or pigeon-hole at a post office, in which all the letters and papers for a private person or firm are put and kept till called for; **post-office car,** *U. S.*, a mail-van or coach on a railway; **post-office department** = POST OFFICE 1; **post-office order,** a money-order for a specified sum, issued upon payment of the sum and a small commission at one post office, and payable at another therein named, to a person whose name is officially communicated in a letter of advice; **post-office savings-bank,** a bank having branches at local post offices where sums within fixed limits are received on government security, at a rate of interest (at present) of 2½ per cent.; **post-office stamp,** a stamp officially imprinted on a letter by the post office; also the instrument used for stamping the postmark.

1901 *Tribune* (Chicago) 16 Feb., Give *postoffice address in full. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Oct. 8/4 There is..in every train..a *post-office car, which contains..a letter box, in which letters may be deposited anywhere en route. 1866 J. REES *Foot-Prints* 326 Reed was an old *post-office clerk, who..had been in the office for twenty odd years. 1782 *Jrnls. of Congress* (1823) IV. 93 Any post-master, post-rider, or other person employed in the *post-office department. 1816 *Amer. St. Papers* (1834) XV. 50 To investigate the conduct of the General Post Office Department. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, Mrs. Tomlinson, the *post-office-keeper, seemed..to have been chosen the leader of the trade party. 1850 *Advt.* in 'Bat' *Cricket. Man.* 103 A remittance or *Post-office order. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvii, No Post-office order is in the interim received from Nicodemus Boffin, Esquire. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxi. 132 The *post-office people will let us know if they hear of him. 1891 'PHIL' *Penny Postage Jubilee* ix. 156 It was not an uncommon practice of the *post-office servants to mark the postage on the envelope with pen and red ink. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* vi. 44 Out of London, the Post Office servants remained [in 1690] much as they had been ten years before, at about 239 in number, of whom all but twelve were postmasters. 1827 *Amer. St. Papers* (1834) XV. 304 William J. Stone, for *post office stamps, $128·49.

† **Po·st-o·fficer.** *Obs.* An officer or official of the post.

1669 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 406/4 The Post-Officers which were sent from hence into France to confer with Monsieur de Louvoy the French Postmaster,..are this day returned. 1738–9 KING in *Swift's Lett.* (1768) IV. 223 Whether those post-officers really thought me..a man of importance. 1843 *Select Comm. Postage* § 2834 It was supposed that a post-officer could not pass a letter containing two coins without discovering it.

Postolivary, -operative, etc.: see POST- B.

Post-oral (-ō·răl), *a.* *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. POST- B. 2 + ORAL.] Situated behind the mouth: applied to (theoretical) segments of the head in arthropods, and to certain visceral arches in the embryo of vertebrates. Opp. to PRE-ORAL.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 106 Besides the prae-oral or so-called 'supra-oesophageal' ganglionic mass .. there are twelve post-oral ganglia in the Crayfish. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 491 [The head in *Arthropoda*] consists of a prae-oral or pro-cephalic region, to which are fused a variable number of post-oral somites. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Post-oral arches*, the five subcranial plates which lie below (on the *caudal* side of) the mouth in the embryo, going to form the lower jaw and throat.

Postorbital (-ōɪ·bităl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. POST- B. 2 + ORBITAL.] Situated behind, or on the hinder part of, the orbit of the eye: applied esp. to a process (usually) of the frontal bone, which forms a separate bone in some reptiles. (Cf. POSTFRONTAL.) Also *ellipt.* as *sb.* **a.** The postorbital bone or process. **b.** A scale behind the eye in snakes (= POSTOCULAR b).

1835-6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 274/2 The post-orbital processes are most developed in the Parrots. 1866 Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 103 The bones of the dermoskeleton are—The Supratemporals..The Postorbitals..The Superorbitals [etc.]. 1882 W. K. Parker in *Trans. Linn. Soc.* II. III. 167 Besides this antorbital rudiment, there is a large postorbital cartilage.

Post-paid, -paper: see Post *sb.*2 13. **Post-painter:** Post *sb.*1 9. **Postpalatal, -palatine, -parietal,** etc.: Post- B. 2. **Post-parative:** Post- A. 1 a. **Post partum:** Post *Lat. prep.* 4. **Post-parturient:** Post- B. 1; etc.

† **Po'stpast.** *Obs.* [f. Post- A. 1 b + L. *pāstus* food, f. *pāsc-ĕre* to feed; cf. Antepast, Repast.] A small portion of food taken just after a regular meal. (Opp. to Antepast.) Also *fig.*

1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* iii. 16 An apple, or peece of cheese for their post past. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 476 Who..would needs make it the post-past to his Bill of Fare.

‖ **Postpectus** (pōustpe·ktŭs). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Post- A. 2 b + *pectus* breast.] **a.** *Entom.* The underside of the metathorax. **b.** 'The hind-breast, or hinder part of the breast' (*Cent. Dict.*). Hence **Postpe·ctoral** *a.*, pertaining to or connected with the postpectus.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 382 *Postpectus...* The underside of the second segment of the alitrunk. *Ibid.* xxxv. 543 Analogous to the scapula of the medipectus and parapleura of the postpectus. *Ibid.* IV. 344 Legs...Postpectoral...The hind-legs, affixed to the *Postpectus.*

Postpeduncle (-pĭdʌŋk'l). *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *postpedunculus*, f. Post- A. 2 b + *pedunculus* Peduncle.] The inferior peduncle of the cerebellum. So **Postpedu·ncular** *a.*, pertaining to the postpeduncle.

1857 in Dunglison *Med. Dict.* 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 128/1 A caudal [pair] (postpeduncles) to the metencephal and myel. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Postpetiole, -pharyngeal, -pituitary: see Post- B. 2. **Postplace:** see Post- A. 1 a; etc.

Post-pliocene (-pləi·ŏsēn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Geol.* Also **-pleio-.** [f. Post- B. 1 b + Pliocene.] Epithet applied to the lowest division of the Post-tertiary or Quaternary formation, immediately overlying the Pliocene or Upper Tertiary; also to the whole of the formations later than the Pliocene (so = Post-tertiary or Quaternary). Also applied to animals, etc. of this period. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.* = post-pliocene division or formation.

1841 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 2) I. ix. 212, I have adopted the term Post-Pliocene for those strata which are sometimes called modern, and which are characterized by having all the imbedded fossil shells identical with species now living. 1851 D. Wilson *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. ii. 51 Post-pliocene flint implements. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 410 A cold character of climate appears to have extended through a great part of the post-pliocene period. 1865 Tylor *Early Hist. Man.* xi. 306 In the post-pliocene of Brazil, remains have been preserved of an extinct ape. 1879 Wallace *Australasia* iv. 64 Recent quaternary or Post-pliocene deposits.

Postponable (pōustpō·năb'l), *a. rare*—°. [f. Postpone + -able.] Capable of being postponed.

1890 in *Cent. Dict. Mod.* An engagement not postponable.

† **Postponator.** *Obs. rare*—1. [By false analogy f. Postpone + -ator.] = Postponer.

1775 in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1876) XXX. 149 Rawlins postponator declares the resolution not proper to proceed from the Committee of South Carolina.

Postpone (pōustpō·n), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* **postpo(y)n.** [ad. L. *postpōnĕre* to put after, postpone, neglect, f. *post* after + *pōnĕre* to place, put down. In 16th c. exclusively Sc.; rare in Eng. before 1700.]

1. *trans.* To put off to a future or later time; to defer. (With *simple obj.*; in 16th c., also with *inf.*)

1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 90 Of vertew postponyng, and syn aganis nateur. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 151 Becaus it wes so neir that tyme the nycht, Postponit all quhill on the morne wes lycht. *Ibid.* 283 This Edilfrid and Brudeus also, Postponit hes to battell for till go. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 389 The said Robert wranguslie postponis and differis to do the same. 1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 186 Every man..wou'd have all business post-pon'd for the service he expects from a patron or friend. 1726 Berkeley *Let. to Prior* 15 Mar., Wks. 1871 IV. 124 The answer to other points you postponed for a few posts. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 177 The project had to be postponed. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 58, I propose, therefore, that we should postpone any remarks that we have to make. *absol.* 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* xxx. 28 My brethir oft hes maid the supplicationis,..To tak the abyte, bot thow did postpone.

† **b.** To 'put (a person) off', i. e. to keep (him) waiting for something promised or expected. *Obs.*

[1533 Gau *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 90 Giff vss grace to haiff pacience quhen our wil is postponit.] 1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 90 Thay ar..hinderit and postponit of payment of thair stipendis. *a* 1700 Dryden (J.), You wou'd postpone me to another reign, Till when you are content to be unjust. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 25 Nov. (O.H.S.) I. 98 Dr. Hudson..having many Promises from..the Bishops.. was yet shamefully postpon'd by them.

c. *intr. Path.* Of ague or the like: To be later in coming on or recurring.

1843 Sir T. Watson *Lect. Princ. & Pract. Physic* I. xl. 709 When the paroxysm thus postpones, the disease is growing milder; when it anticipates its usual period of attack, the disease is increasing in severity. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* ii. 42 They [i. e. malarial attacks] may occur at a later hour, in which case they are said to postpone.

† **2.** To place after in serial order or arrangement; to put at, or nearer to, the end. *Obs.*

c 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 31 We bid our inferioures, and pray our superioures, be [= by] postponing the supposit to the verb; As, goe ye and teach al nationes. 1680 G. Hickes *Spirit of Popery* Pref. 6 He hath Postponed the most scandalous part of his Speech..and put it towards the end. 1749 *Power Pros. Numbers* 66 Cicero ..often postpones to the very last, that Verb or emphatical Word on which the whole Sense of the Period depends. 1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. 55 We sometimes find the governing word postponed, as in *Elizabeth*, or temple of Eliza.

3. To place after in order of precedence, rank, importance, estimation, or value; to put into an inferior position; to subordinate.

1658 Phillips, *Postpone*, to set behinde, to esteem lesse then another. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 51 You have postpon'd the publick interest to your own. 1741 T. Robinson *Gavelkind* vi. 91 Females claiming in their own Right are postponed to Males. 1799 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) IV. 272 Postponing motives of delicacy to those of duty. 1893 Snell *Primer Ital. Lit.* 65 On the score of productiveness even Machiavelli must be postponed to him.

Hence **Postponed** (-pōu·nd) *ppl.a.*, **Postpo·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 174 They should have their money to a farthing without any postponing. 1709 Stanhope *Paraphr.* IV. 4 Ascribing the postponing of the Jews to their own Obstinacy. 1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xxv, Anxious for the postponed explanation. 1863 Reade in *All Year Round* 12 Dec. 367 [In a trial at law] the postponing swindler has five to one in his favour. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 7 June 6/7 Postponed purchases or postponed payments are the rule everywhere.

Postponement (pōustpōu·nmĕnt). [f. Postpone *v.* + -ment.] The action or fact of postponing.

1. The action of deferring to a later time; temporary delay or adjournment.

1818 in Todd. 1818 Hazlitt *Eng. Poets* viii. (1870) 192 Those minds..which are the most entitled to expect it, can best put up with the postponement of their claims to lasting fame. 1836 Sir H. Taylor *Statesman* xii. 83 The repetition of acts of postponement on any subject tends more and more to the subjugation of the active power in relation to it. 1882 Miss Braddon *Mt. Royal* I, There was no need for the postponement of our marriage.

2. Placing after or below in esteem or importance; subordination.

1830 H. N. Coleridge *Grk. Poets* (1834) 274 That spirit of comparative neglect and postponement with which the maternal relationship was generally treated amongst the Greeks. 1879 H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* § 96. 251 That postponement of self to others which constitutes altruism.

Postponence (pōustpōu·nĕns). *rare.* [f. Postpone + -ence.] = prec. 2. So † **Postpo·nency.** *Obs. rare*—1.

1755 Johnson *Dict.* s.v. *Of*, Noting preference or postponence. 1845 Carlyle *Cromwell* (1871) V. 9 It is not vain preference or postponence of one 'name' to another. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 313 Whether of Prelation and preference: or Preterition and postponency.

Postponer (pōustpōu·nəɹ). [f. Postpone + -er1.] One who postpones, puts off, or delays.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xix. (S.T.S.) I. 205 Of ane tribune þat war postponare of þe public weill [L. *moratorem publici commodi*]. *a* 1805 Paley *Serm., On Neglect of Warnings* (1810) 448 These postponers never enter upon religion at all, in earnest or effectually. 1880 G. Meredith *Tragic Com.* xiv, One of those delicious girls in the New Comedy..was called The Postponer, The Deferrer, or, as we might say, The To-Morrower.

Postpontile: see Post- B. 2.

† **Postpo·se,** *v. Obs.* [a. F. *postposer* (1549 in Godef.), f. *post-* Post- A. + *poser* Pose *v.*1] *trans.* To place after or later than (something); = Postpone: **a.** in temporal or serial order.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* I. x. (1622) 19 Doubtfull.. which first to go to: least the other being postposed should take it in disdaine. *c* 1620 A. Hume *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 31 We utter our wil be verbes signifying the form of our wil, or postposing the supposit. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* XI. v. § 24 The defense of the king's person and authority.. in this Covenant is postposed to the 'privileges of parliament'.

b. in order of estimation or importance.

1622 Donne *Serm.* (ed. Alford) V. 102 In postposing the Apocryphal into an inferior place [we] have testimony from the people of God. 1656 Hobbes *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 343 Which reputation I have always postposed to the common benefit of the studious.

Postposit (pōustpo·zit), *v. rare.* [f. L. *postposit-*, ppl. stem. of *postpōnĕre* to Postpone.] *trans.* To place after; to cause to follow; to treat as of inferior importance: = Postpone **2**, **3**. Hence **Postpo·sited** *ppl. a.*

1661 Feltham *On St. Luke* Resolves, etc. 390 Often in our Love to her, our Love to God is swallowed and postposited. 1892 W. M. Lindsay in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XIV. 161 The post-posited relative, to judge from the dramatists' versification, was fused with the preceding word.

Postposition (pōustpozi·ʃən). [n. of action f. L. *postpōnĕre, postposit-*: so F. *postposition* (Littré); but in sense **3**, after *preposition*, with *post-* in place of *pre-*.]

† **1.** The action of postponing; postponement; delay. *Sc. Obs. rare*—1.

1546 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 229 The committer of sic recent crimes of bluid wes instantly, but [= without] postposition, causit ansuir for his offensis.

2. The action of placing after; the condition or fact of being so placed.

a 1638 Mede *Daniel's Weeks* (1642) 36 Nor is the Postposition of the Nominative case to the verb against the use of the tongue. 1869 Farrar *Fam. Speech* ii. (1873) 71 Its grammar, except in the postposition of the article, closely resembles that of the other Romance languages.

3. A particle or relational word placed after another word, usually as an enclitic; *esp.* a word having the function of a preposition, which follows instead of preceding its object, as L. *tenus, versus*, and Eng. *-ward(s*, as in *home-wards*.

1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 9 In some classes of languages the whole process of formation is carried on by means of postpositions, generally of a known and determinate signification. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* x. (1864) 316 The feature ..of placing the preposition after the noun—making it, in fact, a 'post-position'—thus: He is come the village from. 1881 *Academy* 16 Apr. 283 The case-forms in Turkish may be regarded..as parts of nouns or rather as postpositions.

4. *Music.* (See quot.)

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Post position*, in Music, retardations of the harmony, effected by placing discords upon the accented parts of a bar not prepared and resolved according to the rules for discords.

Hence **Postposi·tional** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a postposition: = next.

1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 186 [In Corean] There are .. postpositional particles which, like the Japanese 'teniwoha', agglutinate themselves to nouns, verbs, and even sentences.

Postpositive (pōustpo·zĭtiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *postposit-*, ppl. stem of *postpōnĕre*: see Postpone. Cf. mod.F. *postpositif* (Littré).] Characterized by postposition; having the function of being placed after or suffixed; enclitic.

1786 H. Tooke *Purley* ix. 304 Grammarians were not ashamed to have a class of Postpositive Prepositives. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 171 We..find in the Manchu itself a postpositive participle. 1854 Latham *Native Races Russian Emp.* 266 In the [Rumanian] word *omul* we have *homo ille*; i. e. a substantive with the postpositive article. 1877 Sayce in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 140 The older postpositive conjugation.

B. *sb.* A postpositive particle or word.

1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 13 This adjective may again be declined with all the postpositives usually employed as signs of cases.

† **Postpo·sure.** *Obs. rare*—°. [f. Postpose + -ure; cf. *composure*.] The action of 'postposing'; = Postponement 2.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Postposure*, a setting behind or esteeming less. Hence 1658 in Phillips.

Postprandial (-præ·ndiăl), *a.* [f. Post- B. 1 b + L. *prandi-um* luncheon, meal + -al: cf. Prandial.] Done, made, taken, happening, etc. after dinner; after-dinner. (Chiefly *humorous*.)

1820 Coleridge *Lett., to J. H. Green* (1895) 704 The day including prandial and post-prandial. 1846 *Life J. Guthrie* in *Lives Henderson & G.* 151 This plan, most likely of post-prandial origin, was actually attempted. 1864 *Reader* 9 July 49 A capital postprandial speaker. 1890 N. Moore in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXI. 31/2 Men far advanced in post-prandial potations. *Mod.* Post-prandial oratory.

Hence **Postpra·ndially** *adv.*, after dinner.

1851 H. D. Wolff *Pict. Span. Life* (1853) 35 The crowd that postprandially collects thither.

Postpredi·cament. [ad. med. Schol. L. *post-prædicāmentum*, in Abelard *a* 1142, etc.; f. L. *post* after + *prædicāmentum* Predicament.] *pl.* The five relations considered by Aristotle at the end of his work on the ten predicaments or categories: viz. *opposites* (ἀντικείμενα), of four kinds; and the conceptions *before* or *priority* (πρότερον), of five kinds; *at once* or *simultaneity* (ἅμα), of two kinds; *motion* (κίνησις), of six kinds; and *having* (ἔχειν), of eight kinds.

[*a* 1280 Albertus Magnus *De Praedicamentis* Wks. 1651 I. 173-4 Tractatus vii, *De Postprædicamentis*..ideoque post praedicamenta oportuit sequi tractatum de his quae quidem co-ordinanda sunt sed ad unum genus praedicamenti reduci non possunt.] 1613 Wither *Abuses Stript* B viij, He.. Handles in order the ten Prædicaments, Then Postprædecaments. 1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Post-predicaments*, in logic, are certain general affections, or properties, arising from a comparison of predicaments with each other; or modes following the predicaments, and often belonging to many. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Postpubis** (-piū·bis). Pl. **-es** (-ēz). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Post- A. 2 b + Pubis.] The hinder or postacetabular part of the pubis or pubic bone, esp. when greatly developed, as in Birds and Dinosaurs. (Opp. to Præpubis.) Hence **Postpu·bic** *a.*, pertaining to the postpubis.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 65 The main portion of the bird's pubis is the homologue of the post-pubis (so called) in the same groups [*Stegosauria* and *Ornithopoda*]. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 862 The 'pubis' of Birds being in reality homologous with the *postpubis* of Dinosaurs and the *processus lateralis pubis* of other Reptiles.

Post-puller, -pump, -quintain: see Post *sb.*1 9. **Post-Puranic:** see Post- B. 1 b.

Postpyramid (pōustpi·rămid). *Anat.* [Post- A. 2 b.] The posterior pyramid (*funiculus gracilis*) of the medulla oblongata. Hence **Postpyra·midal** *a.*1, of or pertaining to the postpyramid; posterior to the pyramids.

1866-8 Owen *Anat. Vertebr.* III. 83 In advance of the post-pyramids, still deeper columns of the myelon come into view. *Ibid.* I. 273 The post-pyramidal tracts diverge,

expand, and blend anteriorly with the similarly bulging rectiform tracts, forming the side-walls of a triangular or rhomboedal cavity, called the 'fourth ventricle'. *Ibid.* III. 83 They expand as they enter the macromyelon, and form the 'post-pyramidal bodies'. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Post-pyramidal nucleus*, clavate nucleus. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Post-pyramidal nucleus*, term for the nucleus of the *Funiculus gracilis*.

Post-pyramidal (-pirǽmidăl), *a.*[2] [f. POST- B. 1 b + PYRAMIDAL.] Subsequent to the building of the Egyptian pyramids.

1883 PROCTOR *Great Pyramid* 197 The abomination of desolation to which in our own post-pyramidal days hath been assigned the name of the 'Fifteen Puzzle'.

Post-Raphaelite: see POST- B. 1 b.

†**Postre·me**, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *postrēmus* last, superl. of *posterus* coming after, following.] Last, hindmost; *absol.* one who is last.

1553 BALE *Gardiner's De vera Obed.* G j b, They were counsailed of som bodye not to contende to be called supremes, as longe as they are still postremes.

Post-remote: see POST- A. 1 a. **Postrhinal**: see POST- B. 2. **Post-rider**: see POST *sb.*[2] 13.

†**Postri·duan**, *a. Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *postriduān-us*, *-diān-us*, f. *postridie* on the next day.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Postriduan*, done the next day after or following.

Po·st-roa·d. A road on which a series of post-houses or stations for post-horses is (or was) established; a road on which mails were carried.

1657 *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* c. 30 (Scobell) 513 Letters and Pacquets..to be sent forwards to the City of London, or any other place in any of the Post-Roads, from thence towards the said City. 1685 *Royal Proclam.* 7 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/2 That no man hereafter may complain for want of a setled Post in or near particular By-Towns or Places lying on the Post-Road. 1711 *Royal Proclam.* 23 June ibid. No. 4866/1 The Horsing of any Person..Riding Post, (that is to say) Riding several Stages upon a Post-Road. 1791 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 108 The great post-road from hence into Italy, over Mount Cenis. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlv, The common post-road betwixt Edinburgh and Haddington. 1860 SPOTTISWOODE in *Vac. Tour.* 86 When we drove into the back yard of the post-station,..the post-master would give us no horses, as the road by which we were to proceed was not a post-road. 1904 (*U. S.*) *Congress. Directory* 162 [U. S. Senate Committee on] post-offices and post-roads.

Postrolandic, -Roman, etc.: see POST- B. 2, 1.

Postrorse (pǫstrǭ·rs), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *postrorsus*, f. POST(E)RO- + *versus* turned: cf. ANTRORSE.] Turned or bent backward; retrorse.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*, etc.

Po·st-ru·nner. †**a.** A 'runner' who acts as a post: see POST *sb.*[2] 2. *Obs.* **b.** One who bears messages or transports the post or mail along a certain route on foot; a post-carrier, foot-post.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 403 Thir post-rinneris beginis to contemne the command. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 336 Each village in turn received a handful of chupatties or bannocks, by the hands of the post-runners, with orders to bake others, and pass them on to the next village. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 39 A cavalcade of stride-legged ladies and a pair of post-runners.

Postsacral, -scalene, etc.: see POST-.

‖**Postscenium** (pōustsī·niŏm). *Class. Antiq.* [L. *postscænium*, f. *post* after, behind + *scæna*, a. Gr. σκηνή stage, scene.] The back part of a theatre, behind the scenes: also called *parascenium* (see PARASCENE). Cf. PROSCENIUM.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Parascenium*, among the Romans, was a place behind the theatre, whither the actors withdrew to dress, undress, &c. more frequently called *Postscenium*. 1842-76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Postscenium* or *Parascenium*, in ancient architecture, the back part of the theatre, where the machinery was deposited, and where the actors retired to robe themselves.

Postscribe (pōustskrəi·b), *v.* [ad. L. *postscrībĕre* (Tac.), f. *post* after + *scrībĕre* to write.]

1. *trans.* To write (something) after; to write as a postscript or appendix.

1614 T. ADAMS *Gallant's Burden* Wks. 1861 I. 325 The second is but a consequent of the first, postscribed with that word of inference, 'Now then'. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 125 An Appendix to the former Discourse, setting forth the reason of printing that and post-scribing this. 1687 S. HILL *Catholic Balance* 133, I thought it necessary to postscribe that I bear malice to no Men or Party under Heaven.

2. *intr.* To write afterwards or subsequently; to make a written addition *to*.

c 1662 F. KERBY in *O. Heywood's Diaries*, etc. (1883) III. 26, I will not post-scribe but subscribe to Paul.

Postscript (pōu·stskript), *sb.* Also 6 in L. form **post scriptum** (neut.), pl. **-ta.** [ad. L. *postscript-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *postscrībĕre* (see prec.) used as sb. Cf. obs. F. *postscript* (16–18th c.), mod.F., Du., Ger., etc., *postscriptum*, It. *poscritto*.] A paragraph written at the end of a letter, after the signature, containing an afterthought or additional matter.

1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 119 Post scripta. Ye shal understonde that the Kinges Grace and his Counsail ..thynke right expedient to use this way. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* 438 By the post scripta in myn other letteres unto youe..ye shal perceyve tharryval here of your servaunt Thwaytes. 1552 *Acts Privy Council* III. 409 A lettre to the Lorde Ogle..with a post script to send the sayd Irisheman by Mr. Dudley and Mr. Shelley. 1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 191 b, And yet doubting, that she might .. perceaue it, wrought underneath Post scriptum, thus, Kisse the letter. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Cunning* (Arb.) 93, I knew one, that when he wrote a Letter, he would put that which was most Materiall, in the Post-script, as if it had been a By-matter. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 191 This burthening you with Postscripts is, I confess, a rude way of writeing. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 79 ¶ 5 A Woman seldom writes her Mind but in her Postscript. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* x. CXXVI, It's like a Lady's Postscript, which, they tell you, contains the essence of the letter. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* XXII, At the end of the letter there was a brief postscript.

b. A paragraph written or printed at the end of any composition, containing some appended matter.

1638 *Penit. Conf.* xii. (1657) 317 Towards the end whereof is an Appendix or Post-script. 1707 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 200 The parliament of Ireland have burnt by the common hangman the postscript to Mr. Higgins sermon. 1769 *Junius Lett.* XX. (1772) I. 142 The gentleman, who has published an answer to Sir William Meredith's pamphlet, having honoured me with a postscript of six quarto pages. 1890 MASSON *De Quincey's Wks.* IV. 321 Postscript [to *Oliver Goldsmith*]. Ibid. *note*, What is here printed as a 'postscript' appeared as a portion of De Quincey's 'Preface' to Vol. V. of his Collected Writings.

c. A thing appended; an appendage. *rare.*

1870 THORNBURY *Tour Eng.* I. i. 5 Brentford [was] always a mere ecclesiastical postscript to Hanwell or Ealing.

†**Postscri·pt**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *postscript-us*, pa. pple. of *postscrībĕre*: see POSTSCRIBE.] Written after or subsequently.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) A ij, That were..to extinguish the light of all Histories .., the greatest part whereof were Postscript an age at least to the things recorded.

Po·stscript, *v. rare*—[1]. [f. POSTSCRIPT *sb.*] *trans.* To put a postscript to, to furnish with a postscript. So **Po·stscripted** *a.*, 'having a postscript' (Worcester 1846 citing J. Q. Adams).

1894 A. DOBSON *18th Cent. Vignettes* Ser. II. ii. 27 Defoe prefaced and postscripted this modest effort.

Postscriptal (pōustskri·ptăl), *a.* [f. L. *postscript-um* (see POSTSCRIPT *sb.*) + -AL.] Of the nature of, or relating to, a postscript.

1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* xiv. 335 His life concluding with a postscriptal chapter of misery. 1891 R. BUCHANAN *Coming Terror* 82 In the postscriptal letter published this morning. 1894 MRS. OLIPHANT *Hist. Sk. Q. Anne* iv. 217 His new wife..brought him several children, a sort of postscriptal family, in his old age.

‖**Postscutellum** (-skiute·lŏm). *Entom.* Also in anglicized form **postscu·tel.** [mod.L., f. POST- A. 2 + SCUTELLUM.] The fourth (hindmost) piece or sclerite of each of the segments of the thorax in an insect, situated behind the *scutellum*.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 380 *Postscutellum*, ..a narrow channel running from the *Dorsolum* to the *Abdomen* in *Coleoptera*, forming an isosceles triangle reversed. 1897 W. F. KIRBY in M. Kingsley *W. Africa* 727 Postscutellum black, with a yellow dot on each side. 1899 G. H. CARPENTER *Insects* i. 21 Four distinct parts placed one behind the other can sometimes be observed; they are known as the *præscutum*, *scutum*, *scutellum*, and *postscutellum*.

Hence **Postscute·llar** *a.*, of or pertaining to the postscutellum. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Po·stship.** *Obs.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + -SHIP.]

1. The office or position of a post or messenger; in quot. as a mock-title.

1607 DEKKER *Knts. Conjur.* vi. F iv, At the returne of his Post-ship and walking vpon the Exchange of the Worlde.. they will flutter about him, crying, What newes? what newes?

2. The office of post or local postman.

1545 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) I. 267 A letter to Mr. Mason, Master of the Postes, for the contynuaunce of Adam Gascoyne in the office of the Postship of Scrobye. 1583 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 76 To my wiffe and my sonne Robart the postshippe of Thirlwall, towardes the maintenance of the house.

Post ship: see POST *sb.*[3] 4 c.

Postsphenoid (-sfī·noid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [f. POST- A. 2 b + SPHENOID.] *Postsphenoid bone*: the posterior part of the sphenoid bone of the skull, which forms a separate bone in (human) infancy. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.* Hence **Postsphenoi·dal** *a.*, pertaining to the postsphenoid bone.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Postsphenoid*, *n.*, *Postsphenoidal.* 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Postsphenoid bone.*

†**Po·st-stage.** *Obs.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + STAGE *sb.*]

1. In 17th c., A stopping-place, station, or 'stage' on a post-road, to which the king's packet or mail was carried from the previous 'stage' and whence it was forwarded to the next; post-horses being kept in readiness for thus carrying the mail, and for the use of 'thorough-posts' or express messengers, as also for the service of private persons travelling 'post', who there took fresh horses.

1642 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VII. 327 [Order] for establishing post stages betuix Edinburgh and Portpatrik and Portpatrik and Carlill. 1685 *Royal Proclam.* 7 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2068/1 Not to Carry any Ship Letters.. beyond the first Post-stage to which they shall arrive in England. 1695 *Ibid.* No. 3087/4 An Act for settling Post-Stages throughout this Kingdom.

2. Short for *post stage-coach*: a mail-coach.

1771 *Boston Gaz.* 18 Feb. 3/3 The Post-stage from and to Portsmouth in New-Hampshire, lately put up at the Sign of the Admiral Vernon in King-street, Boston, is now removed to Mrs. Bean's at the Sign of the Ship on Launch.

Po·st-sta·tion. A station on a post-road, where post-horses are kept.

1812 SIR R. WILSON *Pr. Diary* I. 141 The third post-station was also abandoned, and our cattle could do no more. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 357 The first post-station is a solitary abode, called Torre di Mezza Via. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 445/1 At every forty or fifty versts..the [Russian] Government has erected what are called *Poshtova Stancia*, or post-stations, where are kept a certain number of horses.

Poststernal to **-systolic**: see POST- B.

Post-te·mporal, *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [f. POST- B. 2 + TEMPORAL.] Situated behind the temporal region of the skull: applied to a bone of the scapular arch in some fishes, also called *supra-scapula* or *supraclavicle*. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Post-temporary: see POST- B. 1.

Post term. *Law.* A partial rendering of L. phrase **post terminum** after the term, used *advb.*, as *adj.*, and as *sb.* for The return of a writ after term, and the fee payable for its being then filed.

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Post terme*, is a returne of a writ, not onely after the day assigned..but after the terme also..: it may be also the fee which the *Custos breuium* taketh, for the returne thereof. 1658 *Practick Part of Law* 13 In case of not filing your..Writs, in or of the same Term they are returnable, they force you to pay when you file them.., for the *Post Terminum* of them, which is 20*d.* for every Writ. 1672 *Cowell's Interpreter*, Post terme, Post terminum. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Post Term*, a Penalty taken by the Custos Brevium of the Common-pleas, for the filing any Writ by any Attorney after the usual Time. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. ii, To Esquire South, for *post Terminums*. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.*, *Post terminum*, (after the term).

Po·st-te·rtiary, *a.* (*sb.*) *Geol.* [f. POST- B. 1 b + TERTIARY.] Epithet of the formations, or the period, subsequent to the Tertiary; also called Quaternary; the most recent of the whole geological series. Also applied to animals, etc. belonging to this period. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1854 PAGE *Introd. Text-bk. Geol.* xiv. 121 The generality of post-tertiary accumulations being clays, silts, sands, gravels, and peat-mosses. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 151 Species which characterise the post-tertiary epoch in Europe. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xvii. 290 By others they are called the post-tertiary series.

Post-tibial: see POST- B. 2. **Post-tidings, -time**: POST *sb.*[2] 12. **Post-tonic**: POST- B. 1.

Po·st-town. [f. POST *sb.*[2] + TOWN.]

1. A town having a (head) post office, or one that is not merely a sub-office of another.

1635 *Proclamation* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1732) XIX. 649/2 To take with them all such Letters as shall be directed to any Post-Town, or any Place near any Post-Town in the said Road. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1761/4 All persons concerned are desired to insert at the bottom of their Letters the Post-Town nearest to the place their Letters are directed, for their speedy Conveyance. 1835 MARRYAT *Pacha* v, We were about five miles from any post-town. 1889 *Repentance P. Wentworth* III. 5, I walked over to the post-town for the second post.

2. A town at which post-horses are kept. ? *Obs.*

1792 G. WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I. ii. 54 During the necessary delay at some post-town, our contemplative parson rambled about after a bookseller's shop. 1838 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Germ.* 252/1 Below Rheinfels lies the post-town of St. Goar.

So **Post-township** (*U. S.*): see TOWNSHIP.

1837 *Pop. Encycl.* V. 304/1 *Onondaga*; a post-township and capital of Onandaga county, New York.

Post-trader: see POST *sb.*[3] 2 d. **Post-traumatic, -tridentine, -tussic; Post-tuberance; Post-tympanic**: see POST- B. 1, A. 2, B. 2 respectively.

Postulancy (pǫ·stiŭlănsi). [f. POSTULANT: see -ANCY.] The condition of being a postulant; the period during which this lasts.

1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1476 Those who would enter either class undergo a postulancy of six months. 1884 *Weekly Reg.* 18 Oct. 504/2 Two years make a long postulancy.

Postulant (pǫ·stiŭlănt). [a. F. *postulant*, ad. L. *postulāns*, *-āntem*, pr. pple. of *postulāre* to demand: see POSTULATE *v.*] One who asks or petitions for something; a petitioner; a candidate for some appointment, honour, or office; *esp.* a candidate for admission into a religious order.

1759 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 2 Feb., That he will have one [a garter] is very certain; but when,..is very uncertain; all the other postulants wanting to be dubbed at the same time. 1766 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 28/2 There were many postulants for the abbey of Anchin. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 133 The age at which the postulant might be admitted [i. e. into holy orders]. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xv. 245 When a young man applies for admission he is taken in for two years as a postulant. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* iv. 98 Words..often answering to calls too subtile for analysis, are constantly presenting themselves as postulants for recognition. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* 220 The public reception of a postulant into the order of 'Our Lady of Mercy'.

†**Postulary** (pǫ·stiŭlări), *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *postulāri-us* that demands or claims.] Of the nature of a postulate.

1637 JACKSON *Serm. on Matt. ii.* 17–18 § 3, I must beg one or two postulary suppositions which will go for maxims.

Postulate (pɒ·stiŭlĕt), *sb.*[1] [ad. L. *postulātum*

(a thing) demanded or claimed: see POSTULATUM. Cf. F. *postulat* (1771 in *Dict. Trévoux*).

In sense 1 representing classical L. *postulātum*; in 2, 3, = mod.L. *postulātum* for med.L. *petitio* rendering Gr. αἴτημα (Aristotle, Euclid). *Postulāta* (pl.) occurs in the L. transl. of *Rhet. ad Alex.* by Philelphus (died 1489) printed 1523, and is always used by Pacius *Aristot. Organ.* 1584. In L. edd. of Euclid, *postulāta* appears in Commandinus 1619.]

I. 1. A demand, a request; *spec.* a demand of the nature of a stipulation: cf. 1 d. Now *rare.*

1588 in Motley *Netherl.* (1860) II. xviii. 397 Our postulates do trouble the King's commissioners very much, and do bring them to despair. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Postulate*, a request, demand or suit. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* I. iii. 56 This St. Peter calls the stipulation of a good conscience; the postulate and bargain which man then makes with God. 1826 SCOTT *Diary* 4 Feb. in Lockhart *Life*, Give me my popularity, (an awful postulate) and all my present difficulties shall be a joke in four years. 1860 [see POSTULATE *v.* 1 b].

II. 2. *Logic* and *gen.* A proposition demanded or claimed to be granted; *esp.* something claimed, taken for granted, or assumed, as a basis of reasoning, discussion, or belief; hence, a fundamental condition or principle.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 25 *Ipse dixit*, or *oportet discentem credere*, ..may be Postulates very accomodable unto Junior indoctrinations; yet are their authorities but temporary. *Ibid.* III. vii. 120 This conceit was probably first begot by such as held the contrary opinion of sight by extramission,..and is the postulate of Euclide in his Opticks. 1653 HALES *Brevis Disquisitio* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 332 The Monk's Postulate in the fifth Proposition of the second Chapter: 'The Christian Faith excludes all doubting, and is certain and infallible'. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 195 Astronomers, (who..make it a Postulate, that any Star may be moved with any motion). 1860 WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gosp.* viii. (ed. 5) 400 Christianity is essentially miraculous. This is a postulate of Biblical criticism. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sc.* i. (1885) 6 The Supreme Postulate, without which scientific knowledge is impossible, is the Uniformity of Nature.

b. Sometimes with special reference to its undemonstrated or hypothetical quality: An unproved assumption, a hypothesis.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. vi. 296 Which wee shall labour to induce not from postulates and entreated Maximes, but undeniable principles declared in holy Scripture. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 155 ¶ 2 An opinion which, like innumerable other postulates, an enquirer finds himself inclined to admit upon very little evidence. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. i. § 23 (1847) I. 19 And as their reasonings commonly rest on disputable postulates, the accuracy they affect is of no sort of value. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Hist.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 15 All the postulates of elfin annals.

c. Sometimes with special reference to the self-evident nature of a proposition of fact: hardly distinct from AXIOM.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 158 ¶ 1 Any settled principle or self-evident postulate. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 326 [They] had all taken it for granted, as a postulate, which could not be disputed, that a balance of trade, either favourable, or disadvantageous, enriched, or impoverished, every commercial country. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 223 The postulate on which this rule proceeds is, that though each of the given equations is incorrect,.. there is nothing that determines the amount of the errors to be on one side more than another, or in excess rather than defect.

d. Something required as the necessary condition of some actual or supposed occurrence or state of things; a pre-requisite.

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. xxiii. 293 A Personal and Providential Deity—this is the necessary postulate of all Religion properly so called. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* xix. § 796 The low barometer, the revolving storm, and the ascending column require for a postulate the approach by spirals of the wind from circumference to centre.

3. *spec.* in *Geom.* (or derived use). A claim to take for granted the possibility of a simple operation, e. g. that a straight line can be drawn between any two points; a simple problem of self-evident nature: distinguished from AXIOM (a self-evident theorem).

The earlier Eng. term was PETITION (sense 5).

1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. (1714) 6 Postulates or Petitions. 1. From any point to any point to draw a right line...3. Upon any center, and at any distance, to describe a circle. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Postulates*, or Demands in Mathematicks, &c. are such easie and self-evident Suppositions as need no Explication or Illustration to render them Intelligible. 1814 D. STEWART *Hum. Mind* II. ii. § 3. 162 (tr. *Wallis*) According to some, the difference between axioms and postulates is analogous to that between theorems and problems; the former expressing truths which are self-evident, and from which other propositions may be deduced; the latter, operations which may be easily performed, and by the help of which more difficult constructions may be effected. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 681 Postulates are things required to be granted true, before we proceed to demonstrate a proposition. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 3 A Postulate, or Petition, is something required to be done, which is so easy and evident that no person will hesitate to allow it. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xi. 374 An indemonstrable judgment, if theoretical, is called an *Axiom*; if practical, it is styled a *Postulate.*

Postulate (pɒ·stiŭlĕt), *sb.*[2] (*a.*) *Sc. Eccl. Hist.* [ad. L. *postulāt-us*, pa. pple. of *postulāre* to ask, request, desire, etc., in med.L. to nominate or designate to a bishopric or abbacy, subject to the sanction of the Pope: see POSTULATE *v.* 2.] A person nominated by the sovereign to some superior ecclesiastical benefice, as a bishopric, etc.

'Although the Scottish kings had maintained their prerogative of appointing persons chosen by themselves to vacant Sees and Abbacies, the consent of the Pope was an indispensable form to complete an election' (Small, Wks. Gavin Douglas, I. pref. xii). A person thus nominated was in the mean time entitled 'Postulate'.

1514 *Sederunt of Council* 2 June, Gavin Douglas..Postulat of Arbroth. 1514 *Acta Dom. Concil.* 21 Sept., The Lords ordains that a letter be written under the King's Signet requiring Gavin, Postulat of Arbroth, to deliver the keyis of the Grete Sele fra him. 1515 (July 6) *Ibid.* XXVII. lf. 26 My Lord Gouernour shew that he was informit..that the said Postulat [Gavin Douglas] was promovit to the Bishopry of Dunkeld be the King of Inglandis writings..the quhilk the said Postulat denyit that he knew anything off. 1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 463 James Erle of Mortoun..George Dowglas callit the Postulat, sone naturall to umquhile Archibald Erle of Angus..with diverse utheris..delaittit of the vyle and tressonabill slauchtir of umquhile David Riccio [etc.]. 1729 in *Macfarlane's Genealog. Collect.* (1900) II Alexander Gordon Postulate of Galloway. 1755 in Keith *Hist. Catal. Scot. Bps.* (1824) 146 He [Bp. Foreman] was postulate of Moray in the year 1501. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* Introd., [An inaccurate explanation: see above]. 1830 R. CHAMBERS *Life Jas. I*, I. i. 20 George Douglas of Todholes..known by the epithet of the Postulate of Aberbrothwick.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1710 RUDDIMAN *Life Douglas* in *Æneis* 5 *note*, One is said to be Postulate Bishop, who could not be canonically elected, but may through favour, and a dispensation of his superior, be admitted.

†**Po·stulate**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *postulāt-us*, pa. pple. of *postulāre*: see next.] = POSTULATED.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 763 I'll prove that I have one: I mean by postulate illation.

Postulate (pɒ·stiŭlēlt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *postulāre* to demand, request: see -ATE 3.]

1. *trans.* To demand; to require; to claim.

1593 *Hist. K. Leir* (1605) D j, A prince perhaps might postulate my love. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 282 This doth not postulate or require the Physitians consent. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* Ded. 4 These your extraordinary Favours.. seem to Postulate from me..a Publick Recognition. *a* 1820 W. TOOKE (Webster 1828), The Byzantine emperors appear to have exercised, or at least to have postulated a sort of paramount supremacy over this nation. 1865 MILL *Exam. Hamilton* 437 Logic, therefore, postulates to express in words what is already in the thoughts.

b. *intr.* To make a request; to stipulate.

1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* II. xviii. 397 The excellent Doctor had not even yet discovered that the King's commissioners were delighted with his postulates [cf. 1588 in POSTULATE *sb.*[1] 1]; and that to have kept them postulating thus five months in succession..was one of the most decisive triumphs ever achieved by Spanish diplomacy. 1893 J. FAHEY *Hist. Kilmacduagh* 438 He was..obliged in 1866 to postulate for a coadjutor.

2. *trans. Eccl. Law.* To ask legitimate ecclesiastical authority to admit (a nominee) by dispensation, when a canonical impediment is supposed to exist (see Du Cange s. v. *Postulari*); hence, to nominate or elect to an ecclesiastical dignity, subject to the sanction of the superior authority. See POSTULATE *sb.*[2], POSTULATION 2. (The earliest use in Eng.)

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 1 No..person..to be named, elected, presented, or postulated to any archebyshopriche or bishopriche within this realme. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2389/4 The most..Reverend Cardinal..was postulated by 13 of the 24 Canons. 1710 RUDDIMAN *Life of Douglas* in *Æneis* 5 [On the death of the Bp. of Dunkeld, 15 January 1515] Andrew Stewart..Brother to the Earl of Athole, had got himself postulated Bishop, by such of the Chapter as were present. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 619 From the year 1561, Princes of the electoral house of Saxony have been constantly postulated by the chapter as administrators of the bishopric. 1874 SMALL *Douglas' Wks.* I. Pref. 16 Although Douglas was postulated to it [Abbacy of Arbroath], and signed letters and papers under this designation [Postulat of Arbroth] his nomination..was never completed. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xix. 307 The chapter was then allowed to postulate the bishop of Bath.

3. To claim (explicitly or tacitly) the existence, fact, or truth of (something); to take for granted; *esp.* to assume as a basis of reasoning, discussion, or action. [med.L. *postulāre*, transl. Gr. ἀιτεῖν.]

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iv. 78 Yet do they most powerfully magnifie him [God],..who not from postulated or precarious inferences, intreat a courteous assent, but from experiments and undeniable effects, enforce the wonder of its Maker. 1649 J. H. *Motion to Parl. Adv. Learn.* 7 They seem to be among the postulated principles of nature. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. II. i. 146 That which we must postulate as the substance of Mind. 1862 — *First Princ.* I. iv. § 26 (1875) 88 Every one of the arguments by which the relativity of our knowledge is demonstrated, distinctly postulates the positive existence of something beyond the relative. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 103 It postulated a skill in seamanship and a confidence in their own powers both of attack and defence. 1885 S. COX *Expositions* xv. 186 Reason postulates God, though it cannot prove him.

b. To assume the possibility of (some construction or operation). Cf. POSTULATE *sb.*[1] 3.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. xii. 250 In geometry the primary construction is not demonstrated, but postulated. 1882 PROCTOR *Fam. Sc. Stud.* 16 [They] might postulate,. that such lines when finite may be indefinitely produced.

†**4.** *intr.* To plead as an advocate. (So med.L. *postulare.*) *Obs. rare*—[1].

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 168 In Athenes..a yong man ..being desirous to be an orator, and a pleading aduocate, to the intent he might postulate, according to the accustomed manner of Athenes in those daies, accorded [etc.].

Hence **Po·stulated** *ppl. a.*, claimed, required.

1646–9 [see sense 3]. 1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 208 Even if we grant the postulated length of time.

Postulation (pɒstiŭlā·ʃən). [a. F. *postulation*, †*-acion* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *postulātiōn-em*, n. of action from *postulāre* to POSTULATE.]

1. The action of requesting or demanding; a request, demand, claim.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 44 Accordyng to your petycions that ye make postulacion. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 147 Postulation was made for the continuance of rest. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Tim.* ii. 1 That obsecrations, praiers, postulations, thankes-gevings be made for al men. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* I. vi. 430 Presenting his postulations at the throne of God. 1864 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* III. 375 William,..in conforming to the constitution upon the postulation of the English acted with entire consistency.

2. *Eccl. Law.* The presentation to office of some one canonically disqualified, esp. by being already vested in a similar office, in which case the recommendation took the form of a request or appeal to the supreme authority to sanction the election. (See quot. 1688.)

1567 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 306 For his election, or rather postulation, is but to be presented to the Queens Highness to have her royal assent. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2365/3 The Cardinal, as being Bishop of Strasbourg, could not, without the Pope's Dispensation, be chosen but by Postulation, which required Two Thirds of the Electors to be for him. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1753) III. iv. 209 The Cardinals postulation was defective since he had not two thirds. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xix. 307 *note*, All postulations, that is, elections of persons disqualified. 1889 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 335 The word election comprehends postulation, nomination, and presentation.

3. *Rom. Law.* An application to the prætor for authority to bring an accusation.

1851 Sir F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 23 The postulation was the regal right of the Roman Commonwealth.

4. *Logic* and *gen.* The taking for granted of the truth or existence of something unproved, esp. as a basis of reasoning or belief; an assumption.

1648 FILMER *Anarchy Lim. & Mixed Mon.* in *Free-holder*, etc. (1679) 247 Our Author expects it should be admitted as a magisterial postulation, without any other proof than a naked supposition. 1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1701) 481/1 We know how absurd this Postulation is. 1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 380 Mr. Mill cannot surely want this cumbrous allowance of postulation. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 401 The postulation of a single separate 'centre for concepts'.

5. *Math.* (See quots.)

1869 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* VII. 225 We may say that the number of conditions imposed upon a surface of the order *n* which passes through the common intersection is the Postulation of this intersection. 1870 *Ibid.* 140 The general quadric surface..can..be determined so as to satisfy 9 conditions; or, as we might express it, the Postulation of the surface is = 9.

Po·stulative, *a. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *postulāt-*, ppl. stem of *postulāre* to POSTULATE: see -IVE.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Postulative*, belonging to a request.

Postulator (pɒ·stiŭlēltəɹ). [a. L. *postulātor* a claimant, agent-noun f. *postulāre* to POSTULATE.] One who postulates; one who requests or demands; *spec.* in *R. C. Ch.* a pleader for a candidate for beatification or canonization.

1884 *Cath. Dict.* s.v. *Beatification*, The process is now opened, at the request of the *postulators*, or supporters of the beatification. *Ibid.* s.v. *Canonisation*, The postulator of the cause..asks twice that the name of the servant of God whose cause he pleads may be enrolled in the catalogue of the Saints.

Postulatory (pɒ·stiŭlătəɹi), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *postulātōri-us* adj.; see POSTULATE *v.* and -ORY[2]; cf. obs. F. *postulatoire* (1622 in Godef.).]

1. Making request; supplicatory.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* li. 509 The whole prayer is either Deprecatory..or Postulatory. 1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 392 He easily recovers the courage to turn that deprecatory prayer into a postulatory one.

2. Of the nature of an assumption; hypothetical.

1646 Sir T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 93 [He] may easily perceive in very many, the semblance is but postulatory, and must have a more assimilating phancy then mine to make good many thereof. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Hist. Nat. E. Bord.* I. 131 The resemblance between the plant and the picture of the artist is somewhat postulatory.

‖ **Postulatum** (pɒstiŭlā·tŭm). Pl. **-a**; also 7–8 **-ums** (**-a's**). [L. *postulātum* a demand, request, sb. use of pa. pple. neut. of *postulāre* to POSTULATE.

Now generally in English form, POSTULATE *sb.*[1], which see for the history of the senses.]

†**1.** A demand; a requirement. = POSTULATE 1.

1639 LAUD in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* II. 981 Concerning your *Postulata*, I shall pray you to allow me the like freedom. 1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* 93 To that purpose several irreverend Postulata were put to him. 1702 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* 359 But then that King must by his Oath assent To *Postulata's* of the Government. 1703 — in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 62 To make any postulata of future loyalty and my obedient submission.

2. = POSTULATE *sb.*[1] 2. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. i. § 4 (1622) 6 Which two *postulata*, if they be not..presumed by the Hearer, ..there cannot possibly be any proceeding. 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 12 In the same way and method as is used in the mathematicks, consisting of *postulata*, definitions, and axioms. 1698 NORRIS *Treat. Sev. Subj.* 42 For the Demonstration of this Proposition, I desire but this one *Postulatum*. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxiii, It was built upon one of the most concessible postulatums in Nature. 1827 SCOTT *Hoffmann's Novels* Prose Wks. 1835 XVIII. 292 A train of acting and reasoning in itself just and probable, although the *postulatum* on which it is grounded is in the highest degree extravagant.

†**b.** *Math.* = POSTULATE *sb.*[1] 3. *Obs.*

1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 1 Postulatum. That any Quantity may be supposed to be generated by continual Increase. *Ibid.* 5 Now by the Postulatum, these Moments will increase the Quantities x, y, which therefore will become $x+o\dot{x}$, and $y+o\dot{y}$.

†**3.** Something required to be done; a problem; a desideratum. *Obs.*

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 570 More easie wayes of performing this *postulatum*, are to be found in..Tacquet's Arithmetick. 1819 *Pantologia* X. s. v. *Quadrature*, The quadrature, especially among the ancient mathematicians, was a great postulatum.

†**Po·stule,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [a. F. *postule-r* (14th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *postulāre*.] = POSTULATE *v.* 2.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. ix. 2912 Þai postulit in til his stede Off Dunkeldyn þe bischope Ioffray: bot til hym þe pape Be na way grant waulde his gud wil.

Postumbonal: see POST- B. 2.

†**Po·stume.** *Obs.* Also 5 **postem(e, -om(me, -um, -ym(e.** Aphetic form of APOSTEM.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. 72 Catullus clepid a consul ..þat hyȝt nonius postum, or boch, as who seiþ..a congregacioun of uices in his brest as a postum is ful of corrupcioun. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 400 Alle þes newe ordris ben rotyn postumes. 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* II. 361 in *Anglia* XVIII. 316 It..distroyith venym And postemys þat waxin in man. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (1495) 80 There engendred a postom in his legge. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* XXIX. 17 A Postume is no other thynge but a collection or a runnynge together of evyll humours.

Postural (pɒ·stiŭrăl), *a.* [f. POSTURE *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining or relating to posture or position.

1857 MARSHALL HALL (*title*) On Prone and Postural Respiration in Drowning. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Postural respiration*, term for the various forms of artificial respiration in which the patient is put in certain postures or positions...*Postural treatment*, treatment by position, as.. for various fractures. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 88 The use of dumb-bells or clubs, and a variety of postural exercises.

b. Path. *Postural albuminuria*, albuminuria caused by the upright posture.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 156 Cases of 'postural' or 'cyclic' albuminuria are occasionally met with. *Ibid.* VIII. 154 If there be albumin it should prove postural ('cyclical').

Posture (pɒ·stiŭr), *sb.* [a. F. *posture* (16th c. in Montaigne *Ess.* ii.), contr. from earlier F. *positure*, ad. L. *positūra* position, posture (so also It., Sp., Pg. *postura*): see POSITURE.]

1. The relative disposition of the various parts of anything; *esp.* the position and carriage of the limbs and the body as a whole; attitude, pose.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 221, I shall see Some squeaking Cleopatra Boy my greatnesse I' th' posture of a Whore. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 124 The usuall forme of their posture at the Table. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* II. 102 In the posture of your left hand observe this Rule. *a* 1711 KEN *Serm.* Wks. (1838) 179 He draws her in three distinct postures, like a captive, like a penitent, like a conqueror. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* II. viii. (1840) 388 By mutterings and conjurings, by postures and distortions. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 231 Restlessness, which caused a constant variation of posture. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* v. 155 In burials of the Stone Age the corpse was either deposited in a sitting posture or burnt.

†**2.** The position of one thing (or person) relatively to another; position, situation. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xx. § 5 In describing the fourmes of Vertue and Duty, with their situations and postures, in distributing them into their kinds, parts, Prouinces. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* I. xi. 33 Three Provinces whose number and posture we find in the Evangelists. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. (1671) 63 He found..the Communion Table standing almost in the middest of the Quire, contrary to the posture of it in his Majesties Chappel. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. (1723) 269 An imaginary .. Earth, whose Posture to the Sun he supposes to have been much different. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) I. 44 None was found..to give intelligence of the forces, or posture of the enemy. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 54 The position of the arms..and the connecting rods..in one line will prevent the frame..from moving out of the posture it was brought into.

†**b.** *Mil.* A particular position of a weapon in drill or warfare. *Obs.*

1625 MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 24 The three Postures or words of Command, which are vsed for the Musquet in the face of the enemie..are these—1. Make readie. 2. Present. 3. Giue fire. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 262 He learned..how to handle the pike and musquet, and all postures belonging to them.

3. A state of being; a condition or situation in relation to circumstances.

Now chiefly in *the posture of affairs*, and *a posture of defence*; formerly used also of physical condition.

1642 J. M[ARSH] *Argt. conc. Militia* 11 To put the kingdome into a posture of warre. 1642 LD. WILLOUGHBY in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 676, I could not but give your Lordship an account in how good a Posture I found the Trained Bands of Lincoln, which was far beyond my expectation. 1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 293 To acquainte your Honours with the present posture of affaires here. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 192 The poor Servants and Slaves..reducing it [tobacco] to that posture wherein it is transported into Europe. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 53 Orders came to repair and put it in a posture of Defence. *a* 1741 CHALKLEY *Wks.* (1766) 23 At Night we got our Ship into a sailing Posture. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 275 Everything put into the best posture for receiving a storm. 1871 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 227 The present posture of affairs round Paris.

4. *fig.* A mental or spiritual attitude or condition.

1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) (*title*) An Apology for Private Preaching..whereunto is annexed..the Spirituall postures, alluding to that of Musket and Pike. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Apr., Therewith we broke up, all in a sad posture. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vii. § 3 [He] must .. enter into his own Thoughts, and observe nicely the several Postures of his Mind in discoursing. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sc.* I. i. 5 (Not daring to appear in a Posture of Enquiry) they knew little or nothing of the true Nature of Things. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* i. (1875) 5 He [Christ] insisted upon a certain morality and posture of the soul as proper to man's reception of this revelation.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †**posture book,** applied to a drill-book: cf. 2 b; **posture-man,** one who throws his body into artificial attitudes: = POSTURE-MAKER; so *posture-girl*.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. ii. 38 Get him the posture booke, and's leaden men, To set vpon a table,..that hee may..shew her Finsbury battells. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 31 ¶ 1 In one..there was a Rary-Show; in another, a Ladder-dance; and in others a Posture-man. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 267 Two..were *dancerinas*, or posture-girls.

Posture (pɒ·stiŭr), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

†**1.** *trans.* To place in position; to set. *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. v. xxiii. 160 As painted Diamonds being set, Cast greater lustre out of Jet, Those peeces we esteem most rare, Which in night shadows postur'd are. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 41 They..have postured him in the place and condition he now stands. 1677 GREW *Anat. Seeds* iv. § 22 The Seed is postured in much a like manner, and looks just like a couple of poynted Leavs with a very long Stalk.

2. To place in a particular attitude; to dispose the body or limbs of (a person) in a particular way.

a 1628 [see POSTURING below]. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 44 Both sides are Dilemma'd, and stand postured like Lots Wife. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 85 And still these two were postured motionless, Like natural sculpture in cathedral cavern. *fig.* 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii, There are first biennial Parliaments so postured as to be, in a sense, beyond wisdom. 1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Soc. Depart.* xii. 115 Three very gay little maids postured in the middle of the floor.

3. *intr.* To assume a particular posture of body; also, to put the limbs or body in artificial positions.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 102/1 Posturing..some people call it contortionists..is reckoned the healthiest life there is, because we never get the rheumaticks. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* XXX, Laughing at the dottrel as they postured and anticked on the mole-hills.

4. *intr. fig.* **a.** To act in an artificial or affected manner; to pose for effect. **b.** To take up an artificial mental position.

1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 149 He..after having postured and played tricks in face of the bursting deluge, and given the government the final impulse into the abyss of bankruptcy, was dismissed. 1880 F. G. LEE *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. 53 Jewell..sometimes became witty, and occasionally postured as a buffoon. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Aug. 4/1 Burning for an opportunity to posture as a supple statesman. 1889 *Spectator* 7 Dec. 803/1 Not inventing imaginary moral burdens for the conscience, such as the duty of always so posturing to our fellow-creatures as to set them what we suppose to be a good example.

Hence **Po·stured** *ppl. a.*, **Po·sturing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1628 GREVIL *Sidney* (1652) 149 With constant and obedient posturing of his body to their Art. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 129 Going on their heads, as if they were not inverted but rightly postured plants, or walking *stipites*. 1851 [see 3]. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xix, After I..had gone through an immensity of posturing with Mr. Pumblechook's very limited dressing-glass, in the futile endeavour to see my legs. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* i, What a statue gallery of posturing friends we all have! 1898 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 22 What postured statutes barred his tread.

Po·sture-ma·ker. **a.** One who makes postures or contortions; a contortionist; an acrobat: = POSTURE-MASTER 1. **b.** = POSTURE-MASTER 2.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 258 ¶ 3, I would fain ask..Why should not Rope-dancers, Vaulters, Tumblers, Ladder-walkers, and Posture-makers appear again on our Stage? 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 264 Posture-makers dislocated every joint of their body. 1874 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxviii. 9 Men need no posture-maker, or master of ceremonies, when they are eagerly pleading for mercy.

So **Po·sture-ma·king,** **a.** *sb.*, the art or practice of making postures or contortions of the body; **b.** *pr. pple.*, making postures.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 156 The posture-making of the United States is renowned. 1851 THACKERAY *Eng. Hum.* VI, He is always..posture-making, coaxing, and imploring me.

Po·sture-ma·ster.

1. A master of the art of posturing; an expert in assuming artificial postures or attitudes of the body; *esp.* an acrobat or professional contortionist.

1691 *Satyr agst. French* Ep. A ij b, Clark, the Posture-master, never knew half so many Distortions of Body, as they do. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 143 The..posture-master, rope-dancer, and equilibrist. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* viii. 234 Tricks, not much different from those exhibited by expert posture-masters of the present day.

2. A teacher of postures or callisthenics.

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 305 ¶ 9 Delivered into the Hands of their second Instructor, who is a kind of Posture-Master. This Artist is to teach them how to nod judiciously, to shrug up their Shoulders in a dubious case [etc.]. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. vii. 236 Deshayes..was rather an elegant posture-master than dancer. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* Wks. III. 174 Nature is the best posture-master.

So **Po·sture-mi·stress,** a female expert in posturing, or teacher of postures.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 206 She was a..posture-mistress in love, and could put herself into what shapes she pleased. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 28 Dec. 3/2 Posture-masters and mistresses.

Posturer (pɒ·stiŭrəɹ). [f. POSTURE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who practises postures, or poses for effect.

1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* ix. (ed. 2) 244 It seems to treat man too much as the animal or the posturer. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* I. 6 Merry crowds Gaped on the sword-players and posturers. 1896 BLACK *Briseis* xix. 244 Then there are the precious people—the posturers—strutting in front of a literary mirror and admiring themselves.

Po·sturist. [See -IST.] A professed posturer.

1882a in OGILVIE (Annandale). 1886 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 6/6 To point out to the mass that the performer they had received as altogether admirable appears from another point of view a mere mounter—an absurd posturist.

Po·sturize, *v. rare.* [f. POSTURE *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To compose into a particular posture, attitude, or expression.

1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. II. 9 When he 'ad posturiz'd his Face, And humm'd for some few Minutes Space.

2. *intr.* To assume an artificial posture, either bodily or mental; to pose.

1879 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Under which Lord?* III. xi. 254 Posturizing as a martyr, and preaching as if the Church were on the brink of persecution. 1880 F. G. LEE *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. p. xv, Their hired puppets caper and threaten, brag and posturize.

Hence **Po·sturizing** *vbl. sb.*

1862 FAIRHOLT *Up Nile* (1863) 239 There was..a performance of vaulting and posturising, by a group of Bedouins. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *C. Kirkland* II. ix. 294 There is no posturizing, no effort. 1893 A. H. S. LANDOR *Alone w. Hairy Ainu* 117 Wonderful powers of mimicking and posturising, in which grace is never lacking.

Postuterine, -vaccinal, -varioloid, -Vedic: see POST- B. 2, 1.

†**Postvene,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. POST- A. 1 + L. *venīre*, F. *venir* to come: cf. *convene*, etc.] *intr.* To come after, supervene. So **Po·stvenant** *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. F. *venant* coming], that which comes after or follows, a consequence; †**Post-ve·ntional** *a.* [cf. *conventional*] (see quot. 1678).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Postvene*, to come or follow after. 1876 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theims* (1884) I. 318 We think it will be satisfactory if we use the word ..'*postvenant' to denote what he calls 'effect'. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), **Post-ventional Full Moon*, that Full Moon which comes after any grand movable Feast, or Planetary Aspect. 1706 *Ibid.*, *Postventional*, coming, or that is come after.

Postvide: see POST- A. 1 a. **Post-village:** see POST *sb.*[2] 13.

Po·st-wa·gon. [f. POST *sb.*[2] + WAGON, repr. Du. and Ger. *postwagen*.] A mail or stage-coach (in the Netherlands, Germany, etc.).

1677-94 PENN *Trav. Holland* 31 We..began our Journey in the common Post-waggon to Osnaburg. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Netherl.* I. 49 There is also another carriage which goes from most of the principal towns, and is called the Post-waggon: it is..generally drawn only by three horses and is as expeditious as our stage coaches. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 337 Lessing..set off in frost and snow by the post-waggon..for Kamenz.

Po·stward, *adv.* Toward a post (in any sense).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Post-warrant: see POST *sb.*[2], and POST ENTRY.

Po·stwise, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. POST *sb.*[2] + -WISE.] 'Post-haste', hurriedly.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 166 Writing postwise at the same time as the dispatch was made,..they were so confounded with mistakes that they were forced to write all over again.

Post-woman, -worthy, etc.: see POST *sb.*[1], [2].

Posty(e, variant of POUSTIE *Obs.*, power.

Postyke, -tykke, obs. ff. POTSTICK.

Postzygapophysis (pōust,zigăpɒ·fĭsis). *Anat.* Pl. **-ses** (-sīz). [f. POST- A. 2 b.] A posterior zygapophysis; each of the two posterior or inferior processes (right and left) on the neural arch of a vertebra: also called *inferior* (or *posterior*) *articular process*.

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* I. 232 The postzygapophyses of the fourth, third, and second cervicals. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* vi. 277 The neural arches have well developed pre- and postzygapophyses.

Hence **Postzygapophysial** (-zigæpɒfi·zĭăl) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a postzygapophysis.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Posy (pō·uzi). Now *arch.* or *dial.* Forms: 6 posye, 6-9 posey, posie, 6- posy. [A syncopated form of POESY (which, even when written in full, was often pronounced in two syllables).]

I. 1. A short motto, originally a line or verse

of poetry, and usually in patterned language, inscribed on a knife, within a ring, as a heraldic motto, etc. *Obs.* or *arch.*

[*c* 1430–1675: see POESY 3.] 1533 *Coronat. Q. Anne* A v, Wafers with rose leaues, and about the wafers were written with letters of gold, this posey. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 160 All the stretes and waies, beyng hanged and spired with rich and costly carpets, and posies written in euery place. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Godly Advise* (1580) 31 Some haue their fansie so led as though money made men: let this be your Posie rather,..Manners makes man. 1634 BP. HALL *Cont. mpl., N. T.* IV. xii, Abrahams posie is 'in monte providebitur'. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 86 The rest is dried Bricks covered over with Posies of Arabique and like worke. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Pleasant Ep.* Wks. 1730 I. 109 Our posies for rings are either immodest or irreligious. 1896 BEAUMONT *Joan Seaton* 53 Joan was reading the posy [in the ring]—'But one for me, but one for thee, but one of thee and me'.

† b. An emblem or emblematic device. *Obs.*

[1530 PALSGR. 256/1 Poysy, devyse, or worde, *deuise.*] 1544 BULWER *Chirol.* 139 In all tacit posies of His ascention this figure..is most emphatically significant.

2. A bunch of flowers; a nosegay, a bouquet. Now somewhat *arch.* or *rustic.*

[1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IV. (1567) 47 b, A gathering flowres from place to place she strayes, And (as it chaunst) the selfe same time she was a sorting gayes, To make a Poisie.] 1573 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Admoveo, Fasciculum ad nares admouebis*, thou shalt put the posie to thy nose. *a* 1593 MARLOWE *Passionate Sheph. to his Love* iii, And I will make thee beds of roses, And a thousand fragrant posies. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xii, Marj'rum sweet, in shepherd's posie found. 1810 WORDSW. *Scenery Lakes* ii. (1823) 51 The little garden..with its borders and patches of flowers for Sunday posies. 18.. in J. Harland *Lanc. Lyrics* (1866) 64 I'll make me a posy of hyssop,—no other I can touch.

b. A collection or 'bouquet' of 'flowers' of poetry or rhetoric. Cf. ANTHOLOGY. *arch.*

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Comf. Afflict.* (1585) C vij, If it hath pleased almightie God any thing to refresh you with this my poore posy, his will be done. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* x. (1627) 153 That booke is as a most pleasant posie, composed of all the sweet smelling flowers, picked of purpose out of all his workes. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* IV. (1818) 177 Bee't so, Faustulus! there repose thee, Cheere thy country with thy posie. 1879 E. W. GOSSE in *Academy* 11 Jan. 26/1 To collect..from [these] pages a posy of funny stories and gay quips.

† II. 3. Sometimes in the sense of POESY 2, a poetical production. *Obs.*

1578 FLORIO *1st Fruites* 52 Gioconde was the Emperor Gratian when he read the Posies of Ausonius. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 63 Those, who..reade Comedies, and other posies. 1645 HARWOOD *Loyal Subj. Retiring-room* 16 Make them into a Posey.

III. 4. *attrib.* (or as *adj.*) and *Comb.*, as *posy-bouquet, -maker*; *dial.* having a flowery pattern, flowered, as *posy gown, waistcoat*; **posy-ring**, a finger-ring with a motto inside.

1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 3 The diuine Prouidence is a skilfull Posy-maker, who knoweth artificially how to mingle all sortes of flowers, to make the Nose-gay of the Elect. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* XXX, He has bought posey-rings at Tunbridge Fair. 1863 ROBSON *Bards Tyne* 89 Peg shall hev a posey gown, To mense her when she comes to town. *Ibid.* 492 A posy waiscoat aw hev got. 1896 BEAUMONT *Joan Seaton* 53 A posy-ring set with two rows of small pearls.

Pot (pɒt), *sb.*[1] Forms: 2–8 **pott**, 4–7 **potte**, (5 **putte**), 3– **pot**. (Also 4–5 **poot**, 5 *Sc.* **poyt**, mod.Sc. dial. **pat, patt.**) [Late OE. or early ME. *pott*, cognate with OFris. *pot*, MDu. *pot(t*, Du. *pot*, MLG. *pot, put*, LG. *pot(t*; whence mod.Ger. *pott*, late ON. *potte* (*c* 1300), Sw. *potta*, Da. *potte*; also with F. *pot* (12th c. in Littré), obs. It. *potto* (Florio); cf. Sp., Pg. *pote* pot, jar. The Fr. and It. point to a late L. **pottus* (found in med.L., Du Cange); this can scarcely be identified with cl. L. *pōtus* drinking, in late L. (Fortunatus *c* 600) a drinking-cup. The relation between the German and Romanic words is undetermined; Diez and Mackel view the latter as adopted from the former; but from the absence of the word in OHG. and MHG., and its lateness in English, it cannot well be Common Teutonic. The Celtic forms, Breton *pod, pot*, Corn., Welsh *pot*, Ir. *pota*, Gael. *poit*, are according to Thurneysen adopted from Fr. or Eng. The original source thus remains unknown.]

1. A vessel of cylindrical or other rounded form, and rather deep than broad, commonly made of earthenware or metal (less commonly glass), used to hold various substances, liquid or solid, for domestic or other purposes.

Often with defining word, as *glue-pot, ink-pot, jam-pot, water-pot, watering-pot*, etc.: see these words (also the specific uses below).

?*a* 1200 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 378 Nim readstalede harhuna & ysopo & stemp & do on ænne neowna pott, & flering of ða harhuna & oðer of ysopo..forð þæt se pott beo full. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 73 Al swo is þe pott ðe is idon on ðe barnende ofne. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxi. 16 Dried als a pot might be Alle mi might with innen me. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22937 Bot als potter wit pottes dos Quen he his neu wessel fordos. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 512 Thre gret poyttis..fillyt of gold to þe hals. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 23 A greet earthin potte. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 4, I was like a potte with a wide mouth, that receiueth quickly and letteth out as quickly. 1685 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. viii. 349 Agathocles first handling the Clay, and making Pots under his Father. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 77 Put rich melted butter in small cups or pots. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 79 A quantity of broken jars and pots. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 441 Blowing out the contents of each of the pipettes into a small glass pot, in which they are thoroughly stirred.

b. *spec.* Such a vessel (now usually of metal) used for cooking or boiling. Hence *transf.* the vessel with the meat or other food boiling in it; also allusively = cooking, food (as in phr. *for the pot*); also in figurative allusions.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26753 (Cott.) Alle your entrailles ilkon in welland pottes sal be don. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 197 Þei hackeden here children as small as morselis to here poot. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 16 Put alle in þe pot with grythe. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xviii, Kylling of dere with bowes..serueth well for the potte (as is the commune saynge). 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* lxiii. (1636) 75 An hearbe sometime used in Medicine, but most commonly for the Pot. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 141 The common sort set on the pot with fresh meat twise euery weeke. 1667 EARL TWEEDDALE in *Lauderdale Papers* (1885) II. 45 This was to me lik the spoonful that spoils the pot. 1783 BURKE *Sp. East-India Bill* Wks. IV. 129 Henry the Fourth [of France] wished that he might live to see a fowl in the pot of every peasant. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 38 Boiled meats which involve an apparatus of pots and pans.

fig. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Þe wombe pot þet walleð euer of metes, and more of drunches. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 32 Hote Thoght, which hath evere his pottes hote Of love buillende on the fyr. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Rich. II* cix, Gant let Glocester's pott Boyle only over, though his were as Hott. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. vi. (1872) III. 125 An ever-boiling pot of mutiny.

c. Such a vessel used to contain wine, beer, or any other drink; either for drinking out of (as a pewter pot for beer, etc.), or for pouring the drink into smaller vessels (as a coffee-pot or tea-pot). (See also 2.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 427 Þis abbot axked hym whither he went, and he said he went to giff his brethir a drynk. So he axkid hym wharto he bare so many pottis. *a* 1500 *Kyng & Hermit* 316 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 25, I haue a pott of galons foure, Standyng in a wro. 1597 *1st Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. ii. 1527 Noe pennie, noe pott of ale. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 179 The Germans drink in peuter or stone pots, hauing little or no plate. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiii, Shaking up the ale, by describing small circles with the pot, preparatory to drinking.

d. An earthenware vessel to hold earth in which a plant is grown; a FLOWER-POT.

[1598–: see FLOWER-POT.] 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 54 If you will set forth yellow flowers, take the pots of Primroses and Cowslips. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 22 It is safer to keep the bulbs in pots..in good, light, rich soil. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. iv. 141 My mother *did* like arranging the rows of pots in the big greenhouse.

e. A chamber-pot.

1705 OLIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2181 He..did his necessary occasions always in the Pot. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xviii. 290 There was very little in the pot except mucus tinged..with blood.

f. Applied to various vessels or receptacles used in manufactures, etc.: see quots.

1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 680 The Air which has been compressed in the Pot [in a fire-engine]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Glass*, Take of this crystal frit..set it in pots in the furnace, adding to it a due quantity of manganese. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 228 These coffers, or pots, as they are called [in a steel-converting furnace]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 576 The materials of every kind of glass are vitrified in pots made of a pure refractory clay. 1875 *Ibid.* III. 1011 Taken from right to left [of the figure], 1 represents the tinman's pan; 2, the tin-pot; 3, the washing or dipping pot; 4, the grease-pot; 5, the cold pot; 6, the list pot. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Pot. 1. A perforated hogs-head in which crude sugar is placed for drainage of the molasses...3. A brass-founder's name for a crucible. Graphite pots are most generally in use.

g. A vessel, generally of silver, given as a prize in athletic sports. Cf. POT-HUNTER 3. Also (*slang*) applied to any prize so given.

1885 *Cyclist* 19 Aug. 1083/2 Imagine..a three miles handicap for which the first 'pot' is a 95 guineas piano. 1886 *Ibid.* 11 Aug. 1126/2 The two best men were riding for a bigger stake than the 'pot', for were they not the representatives of rival bicycle makers? 1897 in *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 266/1 A few pots won upon playing-fields.

2. Such a vessel with its contents; hence, the quantity that fills or would fill the vessel, a potful. (Cf. CUP *sb.* 8.) a. Const. *of* (the contents).

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 218 In a fulle potte of mans blode scho it laide. 1535 COVERDALE *Bel & Dr.* 3 Sixe greate pottes of wine. 1587 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 420/1, I have sent..a pott of gelly which my servante made. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. III. (1651) 331 O that I could but finde a pot of money now. 1724 SWIFT *Bill for Clergy Residing on Livings* P 5 No entertainment..beyond a pot of ale and a piece of cheese. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 33 The good Woman had also kept a Pot of Tea warm for me. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* I. 9 A pipe and pot of porter [were] called for. 1886 *Daily News* 9 Dec. 5/2 When a pot of coins is found by some old Roman way.

b. *ellipt.* A pot of liquor; *transf.* liquor, drink; drinking, potation (also *pl.*). Cf. CUP *sb.* 10.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* iv. (1637) 39 He might with great right have destroyed us, either amongst our pots, or in our dances. 1617 BRATHWAIT *Smoaking Age* O ij b, As if no Poets Genius could be ripe Without the influence of Pot and Pipe. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* i, He carries her into a public-house to give her a pot and a cake. 1794 SOUTHEY *Botany Bay Ecl.* iii. 18, I'll wager a pot I have suffer'd more evils than fell to your lot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 338 The hedge alehouse, where he had been accustomed to take his pot on the bench before the door in summer.

3. Used as a conventional quantity or measure of various commodities: cf. *barrel, firkin*, etc.

1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Potte, a gallon measure, *pot.* 1545 *Rates of Customs* c j b, Oyle, called baume oyle, the potte, vis. viii*d.* 1662 *Act* 14 *Chas. II*, c. 26 § 1 The Pott of Butter ought to weigh Twenty pounds viz. Fourteen pounds of good and Merchantable Butter Neat and the Pott Six pounds. 1681 *Manch. Crt. Leet Rec.* (1888) VI. 123 Richard Barlow for buying twoe potts of Apples by way of forestallinge. 1775 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 143/1 A pot of sugar weighs about 70 pounds. 1825 H. M. in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1344 Apples,..from twenty to thirty pots, (baskets containing five pecks each). 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. App. A. (ed. 2) 566 The smaller divisions are into pots (half-gallon), quarts, pints, gills, and noggins (eighth of a pint).

4. A steel cap or small helmet, worn esp. by cavalry in the 17th c.; see also quots. 1676, *a* 1734. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1639 SIR E. VERNEY in *V. Papers* (Camd.) 227 If I had a pott for the hedd that were pistoll proofe, it may be I would use it, if it were light. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 66/3, 4000 Landmen..with their Officers, all compleatly armed with Back, Brest, and Pot. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* (1677) 143 To defend his head A leather cap without crest, call'd a pot. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 87 (1740) 572 There were abundance of those silken Back, Breast and Potts made and sold, that were pretended to be Pistol Proof. *a* 1845 MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* xxi, Steel morions, or pots, as they were very commonly called, guarded their skulls.

5. a. A basket, tub, or box used in pairs, in the manner of panniers with a pack-saddle, to carry manure, sand, etc. *dial.*

[1388–9: see DUNG-POT.] 1552 HULOET, Dunge potte made of wickers. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Eng.* I. 122 Dung, sand, materials of buildings, roads, etc., are carried in potts, or strong coarse panniers..The bottom of each pot is a falling door, on a strong and simple construction. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pots*, small D-shaped boxes, placed bow side outwards on either side of a pack-saddle for carrying heavy articles.

b. A wicker basket used as a trap for fish or crustaceans; a fish-pot, lobster-pot, etc.

[*a* 1555 Fish-pot: see FISH *sb.*[1] 7.] 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 256 In several great Rivers..many have set large Pots made of Osier, with bars in them, that when the Fish are in them,..they could not get out again. 1745 COLLINSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 70 The Crab will live confined in the Pot or Basket some Months. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. 90 Baskets called 'pots'..baited with worms.

c. The 'pound' or circular inclosed part of a pound-net; also called the *bowl* or *crib*. *U. S.*

1884 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl.

6. Applied to various things: as † a. A projecting band on the stem of a key, close to the bow (*obs.*); b. = CHIMNEY-POT; c. The head of a rocket.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 301/1 Pot or *Bead*, is the round under the Bow, at the top of the Shank [of a Key]. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 23, H the Shank, I the Pot, or Bread,..L the Bow. *a* 1845 HOOD *Town & Country* iii, He sinks behind no purple hill, But down a chimney's pot! 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 126/2 The rocket being then charged, the head or pot must be fixed.

† 7. a. *Pot of the head*: the skull, cranium, brain-pan. b. The socket of a bone at a joint. *Obs.*

1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* iii. (1888) 27 The Bone of the Pot of the head keeping in the Braynes. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clvii. 463 As the one end of the marrow-bone [goes] into the pot of the spade-bone, and the other end into the pot of the elbow.

8. A sausage. Now *s.w. dial.*

c 1450 *Nominale* (Harl. MS. 1002) lf. 147 *Hilla*, a white pott or sawsege. 1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* (Devonsh.) 337 (E. D. D.) The pot is a hog's black pudding..stuff'd into pigs gutts or chitterlings. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pots and puddings*, sausages made of pig's blood and fat. Same as *black-puddings*.

9. A large sum of money. *colloq.* (Cf. 2.)

1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxiv, A grandfather, who must possess pots of money laid by. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* I. xvi. 219 He went to India ..and came back..with a pot of money. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* v, You'll make a pot by it, as Barnum did.

b. *slang.* A large sum staked or betted.

1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* s. v., 'I shall put on the *pot* at the July meeting', signifies that the speaker will bet very high (at races), or up to thousands...Lord Abingdon once declared 'I will put on the *pot* to-day', and he did so with a vengeance—his groom, Jack Oakly, put *him* in the *pot*. 1840 *Sporting Rev.* Aug. 119 It needed only to lay against all, to insure a prize proportioned to the 'pot' put on. 1859 LEVER *Davenp. Dunn* I. xiv. 124 The [horse] you have backed with a heavy pot. 1880 J. PAYN *Confid. Agent* I. 214 He had solaced himself..by 'putting the pot' on at cards.

c. *Racing.* 'A horse backed for a large amount, a favourite' (Farmer *Slang*).

1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* s. v., 'Pot 8 O's', the name of a race-horse, meaning 80,000 l. or guineas. 1873 *Slang Dict., Pot*, a favourite in the betting for a race. Probably so called because it is usual to say that a heavily-backed horse carries 'a pot of money'. When a favourite is beaten the pot is said to be upset. 1883 *Graphic* 17 Nov. 494/2 Medicus, the great Cambridgeshire 'pot', and Thebais, who showed well in that race, were among the runners. 1892 J. KENT *Racing Life Ld. G. C. Bentinck* ix. 201 Horses trained at Goodwood in 1842 beat great pots from Danebury.

d. A person of importance. (Usually *big pot.*)

1891 *Licensed Victualler's Gaz.* 9 Feb., Dick pointed out some of the big pots of the day. 1899 WHITEING 5 *John St.* xiv, The father's some tremendous pot in the financial way.

e. *Cards.* 'In faro, the name given to the six-, seven-, and eight-spots in the lay-out' (*Cent. Dict.*).

10. In full, **pot-paper**: A size of printing or writing paper: originally bearing the watermark of a pot (cf. *foolscap*). Also *attrib.*, as **pot-folio, -octavo, -quarto.** (Sometimes spelt *pott.*)

The sheet measures normally 15½×12½ inches.

1579 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 165, iiij^{or} quiers of polt paper. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, He prints my blows upon pot-paper too, the rogue! Which had been proper for some drunken pamphlet. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5018/3 For all Paper called..Superfine Pot *2s.* Second fine Pot *1s. 6d.*..per Ream. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 17 Jan. 5 Only four copies of the first edition, in 'pot' folio, are known to be in existence. 1894 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Bk. Recollect.* II. xxv. 229 Legal drafts on pot-paper.

11. As the name of a substance: Earthenware, stoneware; *attrib.* made of 'pot'. Also, an earthenware chimney-piece ornament; *dial.* a boy's marble of baked clay; a fragment of pottery played with in hop-scotch or other games. Cf. PIG *sb.*[2]

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 466 A suitable thin tool or utensil of pot, of the profile of the inside, is applied. 1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 333/2 A street-seller who accompanied me called them merely 'pots' (the trade term), but they were all pot ornaments. Among them were great store of shepherdesses, of greyhounds [etc.]. *Ibid.* II. 396/2 The use of earthenware, clay, or pot pipes for the conveyance of liquids is very ancient. 1864 BRIERLEY *Layrock* iii. 40 Lookin'-glasses, an' pot dolls. 1884 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 5/1 Those who kicked against ceramic art, and protested vehemently against what they called 'decoration by pot'.

12. pl. *Pots*: short for Potashes.

1849 SAXE *Proud Miss Mac Bride* xvii, For John had worked in his early day, In 'Pots and Pearls' the legends say.

13. Phrases and Proverbs. **a.** *The pot goes so long* (or *often*) *to the water that it is broken at last* (with several variations of wording). **b.** *The pot calls the kettle black* (etc.): said of a person who blames another for something of which he himself is also guilty; so *to call each other pot and kettle*, etc. †**c.** *The pot walks*: said of a drinking bout, in which the pot of liquor is passed from one to another. (See also quot. 1691.) *Obs.* **d.** *A little pot is soon hot*: a little person is easily roused to anger. **e.** *To boil the pot, make the pot boil*: to provide one's livelihood. (Cf. POT-BOILER, -BOILING, POTWALLER.) So, in same sense, *to keep the pot boiling*; also, to keep anything going briskly. **f.** *To go to pot* (formerly also *to the pot*): to be cut in pieces like meat for the pot; to be ruined or destroyed (now *vulgar*). So †*to bring* or *send to* (*the*) *pot* (*obs.*), *put in the pot*, etc. †**g.** *To have a pot in the pate*: to be the worse for liquor. *Obs.* †**h.** *To make the pot with the two ears*: 'to set the arms akimbo' (Davies). *Obs.* **i.** *In* (one's) *pots*: in a state of intoxication (cf. *in one's cups*). **j.** Various other phrases and proverbs.

a. 1340 *Ayenb.* 206 Zuo longe geþ þet pot to be wetere, þet hit comþ to-broke hom. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 82 It is a trew prouerbe, that 'the potte may goo so longe to water, that atte the laste it is broken'. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. i. vi, That the Pot which goes often to the water, comes home crack'd at last.

b. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s.v., 'The Pot calls the kettle black A——', when one accuses another of what he is as Deep in himself. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxii, Do you know what the pot called the kettle? 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxiv, I've been as good a son as ever you were a brother. It's the pot and the kettle, if you come to that. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Mar. 10/1 There has been a good deal of 'pot and kettle' in the stories from the British and Boer camps since the war began.

c. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (Shaks. Soc.) 32 How the pottes walke about! their talking tounges talke at large. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 216 The pott continually walking, infused desperate and foolish hardinesse in many. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 157 Author .. of other little trivial matters meerly to get bread, and make the pot walk.

d. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 25 And Christ wot It is wood at a word, little pot soon whot. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 6 Now were not I a little pot, and soone hot. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* ix. (1861) 137 It is an old saying, that 'a little pot is soon hot', which was the case with William the Testy. Being a little man he was soon in a passion, and once in a passion he soon boiled over.

e. [1587 HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) I. 63 One of the best paire of bellowes..that blue the fire in his [the pope's] kitchen, wherewith to make his pot seeth.] 1657–61 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* (1674) 100 So poor, that it is hardly able to keep the Pot boiling for a Parsons Dinner. 1812 COMBE *Picturesque* XXIII. 18 No fav'ring patrons have I got, But just enough to boil the pot. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Keep-the-pot-boiling*, a common expression among young people, when they are anxious to carry on their gambols with spirit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XXX. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. ii. (1872) VI. 151 A feeling that glory is excellent, but will not make the national pot boil. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 139 To employ them, as a literary man is always tempted, to keep the domestic pot a-boiling. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 7 Oct. 15/1 His lieutenants keep the rebellion pot boiling in..Ireland.

f. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 116 The riche & welthie of his subjectes went dayly to the potte, & wer chopped up. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. in Lincoln* i. 66 They that pertayne to God,..they must goe to the potte, they must suffer here accordyng to y^e Scripture. 1573 *New Custom* II. iii. C iij b, Thou mightest sweare: if I could I would bring them to the pot. 1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (Percy Soc.) 8 All that hee can get or borrow goeth to the pot. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 32 All went to the pot [in the fourth Persecution] without respect of Sex, dignity or number. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 120 The Sea-men..resolv'd, the Passengers should be drest and eaten, before any of them should goe to the Pot. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 552 He..had been engaged..to bring in K. Ch. 2. from Scotland (for which he had like to have gone to the pot). 1823 'J. BEE' *Dict. Turf* s. v., 'Put in the pot', said of a man who is let into a certain loss—of a wager, of his liberty or life.

g. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* I. xxix. Wks. (1572) 293/1 Then goeth a part of y^e little flocke to pot, and the rest scatter. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 828 They had eaten sixe of his fellowes, and the next day he must haue gone to pot too. *c* 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* Wks. 1716 I. II. 158 Poor Thorp, Lord Chief Justice, went to Pot, in plain English, he was Hang'd. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xvi. 506 For if the Agrigentines had met with them, they [the letters of Phalaris] had certainly gone to pot. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* 91 Ev'ry thing that ev'ry Soldier got, Fowl, Bacon, Cabbage, Mutton, and what not, Was all thrown into Bank, and went to Pot. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* XII. vii, Thousands will smile to see him go to pot. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 3 Reviewers..Who..send each Author to pot, That cannot proclaim he's by birth a true Scot. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Feb. 4/2 If it were to save the whole empire from going to pot, nobody would stay at home.

h. 1658 OSBORN *Adv. Son* (1673) 28 Especially when they have got a pot in their pate. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 77 An Ox or a Cow would serve them to ride well enough, if they had only a Pot in the Pate.

i. 1618 HORNBY *Sco. Dronk.* (1859) 20 There euery vpstart, base-condition'd slaue,..A gentleman vnto his teeth will braue, And in his pots most malapertly bragge. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iv. i. (1903) 340 In theire Potts [they] will promise any thinge, and make all bargaynes.

j. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 81 He that commeth last to the pot, is soonest wroth. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 53 And I would not gladly so spend my time and trauell,..and after,..to lose both pot and water, as the prouerbe is. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. Argt. 30 Yet so, the Fancy's richer, To end in Pot, commence in Pitcher! 1687 MONTAGUE & PRIOR *Hind & P. Transv.* 12 And understanding grown, misunderstood, Burn'd Him to th' Pot, and sour'd his curdled Blood. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Clov. Foot* XXXVIII, Don't you know that vulgar old proverb that says that 'a watched pot never boils'? 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* iii. 26 While we were all in the pot together, James had shown no such particular anxiety whether for Alan or me.

14. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pot-like, -shaped* adjs.; grown or cultivated in a pot (sense 1 d), as *pot-flower, -plant, -rose*; made of 'pot' or earthenware (sense 11, q. v.); †**pot-act**, name for an Act of Parliament relating to the sale of liquor; **pot-ale**, the completely fermented wash in distillation; †**pot-ally**, a pot-mate, a companion in carousing; **pot-arch**, an arch in a glass-making furnace, in which the pots are annealed; †**pot-baked** *a.*, baked as pottery; †**pot-baker**, one who bakes clay into pots, etc., a potter; **pot-ball**, a dumpling; **pot-bank** *dial.*, a pottery (BANK *sb.*[2] 8 b); **pot barley**: see BARLEY 1 b; †**pot-birds**, a theatrical imitation of the notes of birds (? by blowing through a pipe in a pot or vessel of water); **pot-board**, a board upon which pots are placed or carried; **pot-bouls, †-bulis** *Sc.*: pot-clips: see BOUL 2; †**pot-brass**, a metal or alloy of which pots were made; **pot-builder**, a workman who constructs the large pots used in glass-works; **pot-butter**, *dial.*, butter salted and put up in pots; potted or salt butter; †**pot-cannon**, a pop-gun; cf. POT-GUN 2; **pot-celt**, a celt with a comparatively large opening (see CELT[2]); **pot-claw** = POT-CLIP, POT-HOOK; **pot-clay**, clay used for making earthenware; **pot-crook** = POT-HOOK, now *dial.*; **pot cultivation, pot culture**, cultivation of plants in pots; †**pot-dropsy**, diabetes (cf. 1 e); **pot-dung**, *dial.*, farm-yard manure, carried to the field in pots: cf. sense 5 a, and *dung-pot*; hence **pot-dung** *v. trans.*, to dung with farm-yard manure; **pot-fair**, a fair at which pots and other crockery are sold; **pot-founder**, a maker of earthenware pots, a potter; **pot-fowler**, one who catches birds for the pot, i. e. for cooking; in quot. applied to a hawk; **pot-furnace**, a furnace containing pots for glass-making; †**pot-fury**, fury or excitement caused by drinking (cf. 2 b); **pot-girl**, a girl who serves drink at a tavern, etc., a barmaid (cf. POT-BOY); **pot-gutted** *a.* = POT-BELLIED; †**pot-hardy** *a.*, bold from the effects of drink (= POT-VALIANT); †**pot-harness** (*nonce-wd.*), 'harness' or armour consisting of drink (see quot.); **pot hat** (*colloq.*), a low-crowned stiff felt hat, a 'bowler'; hence **pot-hatted** *a.*; **pot-helmet** (cf. sense 4); **pot-kiln**, a small lime-kiln; †**pot-knight**, a 'knight of the pot', a pot-valiant toper; **pot-lace**, lace having the figure of a pot or vase (often containing flowers) in the pattern; **pot-ladle**, a ladle for lifting anything out of a pot; †**pot-leech**, one who 'sucks', or drinks out of, a pot; a toper; **pot-lug**, *dial.* = POT-EAR 1; **pot-marjoram**, marjoram cultivated as a pot-herb; **pot-market**, a market for pottery-ware; †**pot-mate** = POT-COMPANION; †**pot-meal**, a drinking bout; **pot-miser**, a kind of 'miser' or boring instrument (MISER *sb.*[3]); **pot-paper** (see sense 10); †**pot-parliament**, ? an assembly of drinkers; **pot-plate**, a porcelain plate bearing the figure of a pot, vase, or other vessel; †**pot-proof-armour** (*nonce-wd.*), 'proof-armour' or defence supplied by the pot, i. e. by drinking; †**pot-punishment** (*nonce-wd.*), the punishment of being forced to drink; **pot-quarrel**, a quarrel 'in one's pots' (see 13 i); a drunken brawl; **pot-quern**, a pot-shaped quern or ancient hand-mill; **pot-revel**, a drunken revel, a drinking bout; **pot-setting**, the process of setting or placing the pots in the furnaces in glass-making; †**pot-shaken, †pot-sick** *a.*, disordered with liquor, tipsy, intoxicated; **pot-sleeper**, a metal sleeper for railways of dish-like form; †**pot-smitten** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), of a bargain, made by striking drinking vessels together; **pot-song**, a drinking song; **pot-spoon**, a large spoon for taking liquor out of a pot, a ladle; **pot-steel**, ? = *cast* or *crucible steel*; **pot-still**, a still to which heat is applied directly as to a pot, not by means of a steam-jacket; *attrib.* applied to whisky distilled in a pot-still; †**pot-sure** *a.*, bold or confident through drink (cf. POT-VALIANT); †**pot-tipt** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), of the nose, reddened at the tip by drinking; **pot-trap**, (*a*) a pot set in the ground as a trap for moles; (*b*) a kind of trap used in drainage (? a D-trap); †**pot-vertigo** (**verdugo**) (*nonce-wd.*), giddiness induced by drinking; **pot-ware**, earthenware, crockery; **pot-water**, water for cooking purposes; **pot-wheel**, a wheel with pots or buckets for raising water, a noria; †**pot-wit**, one whose wit is displayed while drinking, or through drink; **pot-work**, an establishment where pottery or earthenware is made; †**pot-wort** = POT-HERB; **pot-wrestler** (*slang*), (*a*) 'the cook on a whale-ship'; (*b*) 'a scullion (Pennsylvania)' (Bartlett); 'a kitchen-maid (*U.S.*)' (*Cent. Dict.*). See also POTASH, POT-LUCK, etc.

1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. (ed. 33) 87 Register of the Victuallers..on Account of the *Pot-Act. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 86 Indicted for using an unlicensed still, and for having in his possession vessels containing *pot ale. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 581 Feints from pot-ale (the name given to completely fermented wash). 1847 WEBSTER, *Pot-ale*, a name in some places given to the refuse from a grain distillery, used to fatten swine. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* II. i, What can all this do? Get me some dozen surfeits..And twenty *pot-allies. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 586 (Glass-making) Three of these arches exclusively appropriated to this purpose [annealing], are called *pot-arches. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* ii. 28 b, Thou didste see the yerne mixt with *pot bakt erthe. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat., Lev.* xi. 33 Vessels of *Pot-bakers earth. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 293/2 A Dumpling, or *Pot-Ball, is made..with ordinary flour and suet minced small, and mixed up with Milk or Water. *Ibid.* III. 84/1. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Lanc., Chesh., Shrops., Warw. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* LXVI. 11/1 Countless generations worked at the '*potbank'. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Mar. 7/1 We are in the heart of the Potteries, 'the potbanks', as they call them up here. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. App. 50 The expence of making *pot barley..is..2s. 6d. per boll. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgr.* v. iv. *Stage direct.*, Music afar off, *Pot-birds. 1840–1 S. WARREN *Ten Thous. a Year* (1884) 89/1 'It's a fine thing to be gentlefolk', said the boy, taking up his *pot-board. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 898 A 'pot-board' on which saucepans, kettles, etc., are placed when not in use. 1519–20 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 307 Ress'..of hym for xxix ll of olde *potbras, the ll j d ob. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 136 Three times has the whole mass to pass under his feet before it goes on to the *pot-builder. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* I. ii, One that..rose by honey and *pot-butter. 1785 *Hist. & Antiq. York* II. 109 This Market is only for Firkin or Pot-Butter. 1886 ELWORTHY *West Somers. Word-bk., Pot-butter*..in order to keep it, larger quantities of salt are needed. Hence *salt* and *pot* applied to *butter* are synonymous terms. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xix, When little boyes shoot pellets out of the *pot-canons made of the hollow sticks of..an aulder tree. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3821/8 A quantity of *Pot-Clay, and Working Tools for Bottles or Flint. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* ii. (1570) B ij b/2 Platters and dishes, morter and *potcrokes. 1816 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Middlesex Election* III. xii, E'en let'n suffer vor a rogue, A potcrook let'n veel. 1882 JAGO *Cornish Gloss., Pot-crooks*, the second form in learning to write. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 17 This species requires *pot cultivation. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 23 Another..dangerous disease..called *Diabete* or **Potdropsy*. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Dict., *Pot-dung*, farm-yard dung. *Berks.* 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 107 The home arable should be manured with pot-dung. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 524 The land..is then *pot-dunged, and sowed with white mustard. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.* 103 *note*, Certain mysterious orgies annually celebrated at Cambridge during the *Pot-fair. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. i, He was looking at the *pot-flowers on the sill. 1631 *Canterb. Marr. Licences* (MS.), John Tiler of Hawkhurst, *pot-founder. 1834 MUDIE *Brit. Birds* (1841) I. 97 [The Goshawk] is nowise inferior as a *pot-fowler, if the ground for it be judiciously chosen. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The flame that escapes from the *founding* or *pot-furnace is thus economically brought to reverberate on the raw materials of the bottle glass. 1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iii, With some *pot-furie ravisht from their wit. 1797 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 5 Jan., You cannot surely mean to degrade the

Joan of Arc into a *pot-girl. 1773 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* IV. viii, I a vessel of broth! you *pot-gutted rascal! 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 3 That garland..From th' Temples sure of some *pot hardy Poet. 1622 S. WARD *Woe to Drunkards* (1627) 36 To whet their wits with wine; or arme their courage with *Pot-harnesse. 1798 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) I. 168 She looks much as she used to do,..and wears what Mrs. Birch would call a *pot hat. 1873 *Slang Dict., Pot-hat*, a low-crowned hat, as distinguished from the soft wideawake and the stove-pipe. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 3/2 Dressed like an ordinary tourist in a tweed suit, a blue overcoat, and a pot-hat. 1899 *Daily News* 25 Sept. 7/3 A band of *pot-hatted young men linked arms, and.. marched along, followed by an enthusiastic crowd. 1634 WITHER *Emblemes* 223 Some from the *pot-kilne, from the sheep cote some Hee raised hath. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 304 They appear to pay dearly at present for lime, and the sorry pot-kilns by which it is manufactured are so badly managed. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 160 The beere..is cleere and..yellow as the gold noble, as our *potknights call it. *c* 1500 *Coventry Corp. Christi Plays* 30 Here with my *pott-ladull With hym woll I fyght. [*a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pot-ladles*, tad-poles; from their shape.] 1630 J. TAYLOR *Water-Cormorant* Wks. III. 5/1 This valiant *pot-leach, that vpon his knees Has drunke a thousand pottles vp se freese. 1797 IMRIE in *Edin. Phil. Trans.* (1798) IV. 194 *Pot-like holes..hollowed out of the solid rock. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, **Pot-lug*, the handle of a jug; the two loops at the sides of the iron porridge-pot. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 464 Of Marjoram, there are several sorts..; the vulgar sort and *Pot Marjoram is raised by slips. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne poterie*, a *potte market, the place where pots are made. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 141 Powring it into the bosome of his *pot-mate. 1624 FORD *Sun's Darling* I. i, I will..Swagger in my *potmeals. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 246/1 Among other such as himselfe to kepe a quot-libet and a *pot parlament vpon. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xl. 182 *It* [my nose] is well antidoted with *pot-proof-armour. 1598 R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* To Rdr. ¶ v b, These base fellowes I leaue in their Ale-houses, to take *pot-punishment of each other. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abinged.* B iij b, Forsooth they'l call it a *pot quarrell straight. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. vii. 213 A very ancient form of hand-mill is called the *pot querne. 1894 *Nottingham. & Derbys. N. & Q.* Aug. 109 A portion of a pot-quern, ..found at Breaston. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 95/1 They kept such *pot-reuels, and triumphant carousing, as none of them could discerne his beds head from the beds feet. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 The *pot-setting is a desperate service. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Water-Cormorant* Wks. III. 5/1 Hee's *pot-shaken, or out, two and thirty. 1893 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 195 All coming out of *pot-shaped domes. 1611 FLORIO, *Briauzesco*, tipsie, drunken, *pot-sicke. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 273 Wastage of the Suakin-Berber line,..mounds of chairs and *pot-sleepers. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 707/2 Pot Sleepers on the Great Indian Peninsula Ry. 1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* i. 117 Cup-shotten suertiships, and *potsmitten bargaines. 1850 P. CROOK *War of Hats* 49 *Pot-songs .. bawl'd in every street and lane. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 *Potspone, or ladyl. 1875 R. F. MARTIN tr. *Havres' Winding Mach.* 10 Steel tram wheels..made of a mild '*pot steel' and annealed carefully in an oven after they are cast. 1890 *Daily News* 23 July 2/8 Rums and *pot-still whiskies would not be so injuriously affected. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 Jan. 6/3 This result Professor Hewitt declared he had attained by adding certain chemical substances to the 'pot-still'. 1906 *Ibid.* 10 Apr. 3/6 This new proposal would put Lowland malt whisky and Campbeltown whisky, both made in pot-stills, on the same level as grain spirits. 1648 *Leg. Capt. Jones* 3 Arm'd against them like a man *pot-sure, They stint vaine stormes. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 23 With his nose *pot-tipt, most bravely. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 217 The *Pot-trap..is a deep Earthen-Vessel set in the ground to the brim in a Bank or Hedge-row. 1884 G. E. WARING in *Century Mag.* Dec. 259/2 An unventilated pot-trap eight inches in diameter. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* II. i, Haue you got the *pot verdugo? 1766 R. WHITWORTH *Adv. Inland Navig.* 42 Two, and sometimes three waggons go every week to Bridgenorth, and usually carry about eight tons of *pot-ware, to be conveyed to Bristol by water. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Eng.* I. Gloss. (E. D. S.), **Potwater*, water for household purposes. 1886 ELWORTHY *West Somers. Word-bk., Pot-water*, water used for drinking and cooking, as distinguished from *slop-water*. 1898 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 449 Available as pot-water for domestic use. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pot-wheel*. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Envaisselé, Vn bel esprit envaisselé*, a good *pot wit. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. v. ii. 322 The brothers Elers..erected a *potwork of an improved kind near Burslem. 1894 — *J. Wedgwood* i. 2 There were few potworks anywhere else in that county. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iii. (1628) 59 The colewurt, the greatest *pot-wurt in time long past that our ancestors vsed.

Pot (pɒt), *sb.*[2] *Sc.* and *dial.* [perh. in origin the same word as prec. (with which it is very generally identified). But used only in the north (Scotl. to Lincolnsh.) and esp. in districts where Scandinavian influence prevails; to be compared with Sw. dial. *putt, pott, pit*, water-hole, abyss, pit of hell.]

A deep hole; a pit dug in the ground; e. g. † the shaft or pit of a mine (*obs.*); a hole out of which peat has been dug; a tan-pit.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 364 He [Bruce] gert men mony pottis ma Of a fut breid round, and all tha Var deip vp till ane manis kne. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxiv. 46 And hyd thame in a pete-pot all. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 227 [Bruce] Trynchis gart mak and pottis that war deip Into the erd with greit laubour and cuir. 1567–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 612 To serche out..the saidis..myndis [= mines], and to brek the ground, mak sinkis and pottis thairin. 1601 *Charter* in Dallas *Stiles* (1697) 769 Sinks, Syers, Gutters, Eyes, levals, Pots, Airholls. 1653 in A. Laing *Lindores Abbey* xx. (1876) 231 He had drawn leather furth of ye pott upon ane Sabboth. 1721, 1800 **Peat pot** [see PEAT[1] 3 d]. 1895 T. ELLWOOD *Lakeland* 45 The deep circular holes generally filled with water, from which peats have been dug, are called pot.

† b. *fig.* An abyss; the pit of hell. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 151 in Laing *Anc. Poet. Scotl.*, Thairfoir by 30w to the pott of hell. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvi. 119 In the depest pot [*Maitl.* pit] of hell He smorit thame with smvke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. v. 128 Deip in the sorofull grislie hellis pote. 1563 WINJET *Wks.* (1890) II. 63 The botumles potis of filthines. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 149 Quhill I my self did chose the deide, To saif thé from the pot. [1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, May he be thrust down with Korah, Balaam, and Iscariot, to the most Stygian pot of the sempiternal Tartarus.]

c. A deep hole in the bed of a river or stream.

[1533 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 148 Euery half net of the pott..xx s.] *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1829) 29 About this time, a pot of the water of Brechin called Southesk, became suddenly dry, and for a short space continued so, but bolts up again. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 164 You walk up the North-side of the Water..till you come to a deep Pool or Pot. *a* 1800 *Earl Richard* xxii. in Scott *Minstr. Scot. Bord.* (1802) II. 48 The deepest pot in a' the linn, They fand Erl Richard in. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 31 July 746/1 The river has cut its way through the rock, carving it into hollows,..and round holes which the natives call 'pots'.

d. A natural deep hole or pit in the ground, such as are found in limestone districts.

1797 IMRIE in *Edin. Phil. Trans.* (1798) IV. 195 This pot is 940 feet above the level of the sea. 1874 BARING-GOULD *Yorksh. Oddities* (1875) II. 110, I had examined several.. of those curious pots which are peculiar to the Yorkshire limestone moors. These pots..are..hideous circular gaping holes opening perpendicularly into the bowels of the mountain. 1881 JESSIE FOTHERGILL *Kith & K.* xvi, He discovered some vast and awful-looking 'pots', crevasses of limestone, sinking for unknown depths into the ground.

e. *Pot and gallows* (*Sc.*), the same with pit and gallows. Aberd. (Jam.)

f. (See quot.)

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 48 In fields where the strata are not regular, there are often masses or *pots* of sandy soil, which absorb great quantities of water.

g. *Comb.* **Pot-hole** (*local*) = c, d; in *Coal-mining*, the hole left by the fall of a pot-stone; **pot-peat**, peat dug out of a pot or deep excavation; **pot-stone**, a cone-shaped mass of stone forming the base of a fossil tree-stem in a coal-mine.

1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Northumb., Cumb., Westmld., W. Yorksh.

† **Pot,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* Also 6 **potte.** [Agrees in form and sense with Fr. Swiss dial. *potte* (also dial. *pot, pout*) lip, in the phrase *faire la potte = faire la moue*, 'to make a lip', to pout; see POUT *v.*] A grimace; *to make a pot at*, to make a mouth at, to mow at. (In quot. 1566 applied to a popping sound.)

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 638/2 They call it but a parable, and almoste make a pot at it. 1533 — *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* ibid. 1130/1 Maister Masker..mocketh and moweth in that glasse, and maketh as many straunge faces and as many pretty pottes therein, as it were an olde rieueled ape. 1566 WITHALS *Dict.* 64 b/2 A potte made in the mouthe, with one finger, as children vse to doo, *scloppus*, vel *stlopus*.

b. *Comb.* **Pot-finger** (cf. quot. 1566 above).

1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. iii. 9 Didst thou ever see better weather to run away with another man's wife, or play with a wench at pot-finger?

Pot, *sb.*[4] Short for POT-SHOT.

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xvi, A tall man..took a cool pot at him with a revolver. 1900 POLLOK & THOM *Sports Burma* vi. 212, I got a cool pot at one [gaur], and my favourite shot behind the ribs.

Pot (pɒt), *v.*[1] [f. POT *sb.*[1] in various senses. Cf. Du. *potten* (Kilian) to put in a pot, hoard up.]

I. To drink from a pot.

1. *intr.* To drink beer or other liquor out of a pot; to indulge in drinking; to tipple. Also *to pot it. Obs.* or *arch.*

1594–1863 [see POTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 1]. 1622 S. WARD *Woe to Drunkards* (1627) 35 Oh but there are few good Wits .. now a dayes but will Pot it a little for company. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] lxxxiv. 242 It is lesse labour to plow, then to pot it: and vrged Healths do infinitely adde to the trouble. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* IV. I j, If thou doest love thy flock, leave off to pot. 1646 W. ELDRED *Gunner's Glasse* To Rdr., Gunners, that had rather spend their time in potting and canning.

II. To put into a pot.

2. *trans.* To put up and preserve (flesh, butter, or other provisions, usually salted or seasoned), in a pot, jar, or other vessel. Also *absol.*

1616 R. CARPENTER *Past. Charge* 50 Manna..being potted vp for a common remembrance lasted many yeares. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 126, I will assist your housekeeper,..to pot and candy, and preserve. 1754 FIELDING *Voy. Lisbon* Wks. 1882 VII. 106 Stores of butter, which we salted and potted ourselves. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 58 Prawns are potted on the South coasts.

fig. 1815 EARL OF DUDLEY *Lett.* 6 Sept. (1840) 110 Pompeii may be considered as a town potted..for the use of antiquarians in the present century. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 311 It often appears in a family, as if all the qualities of the progenitors were potted in several jars.

b. *Sugar Manuf.* To transfer (crude sugar) from the coolers to perforated 'pots' or hogsheads, for the molasses to drain off.

1740 *Hist. Jamaica* 321 From the Boiler the Liquor is emptied into a Cooler, where it remains till it is fit to be potted. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 250 About twenty-four hours after the sugar is potted, the small round hole in the bottom of each pot is unstopped. 1839–87 [see POTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 3 b].

3. † a. To put (earth) into a flower-pot (*obs.*); b. To set (a plant) in earth in a flower-pot for cultivation; to plant in or transplant into a pot.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 529 Pot that earth, and set in it stock-gilly-flowers, or wall-flowers. 1664 EVELYN *Kalendarium Hortense* April 65 Pot them [Indian tuberoses] in natural (not forc'd) earth. 1793 *Trans. Soc. Arts* (ed. 2) IV. 35, I potted them into second size pots. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 300 The young plants require to be potted off singly into the smallest-size pots. 1903 D. MCDONALD *Garden Comp.* Ser. II. 113 When in the third leaf, pot singly into 48-sized pots.

4. *Billiards.* = POCKET *v.* 4.

1860–5 *Slang Dict.* s. v., 'Don't pot me', term used at billiards, when a player holes his adversary's ball—generally considered shabby play. 1885 *Even. Standard* 18 Dec. (Farmer), After making three he potted his opponent's ball. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Mar. 10/1 With a gallery of gentlemen-cadets, he was too proud to pot the white.

5. To shoot or kill (game) for the pot, i. e. for cooking (cf. POT-HUNTER, -SHOT); to 'bag'; *gen.* to bring down or kill by a pot-shot (a man or animal). *colloq.* or *slang.*

1860 READE *Cloister & H.* viii, Martin had been in a hurry to pot her, and lost her by an inch. 1860 RUSSELL *Diary in India* I. xvii. 266, I heard a good deal of 'potting pandies', and 'polishing-off niggers'. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* I. iv. 60 Sir Piers..thought it very slow work compared with..potting a man-eater from a howdah. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* (1890) 235 He'll have to show himself, and if he does I'll pot him. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Oct. 6/1 Their evident object was to pot off the gunners and the staff officers, about whom the bullets whistled viciously.

b. *intr.* To take a pot-shot, to shoot (*at.*)

1854 *Illustr. Lond. News* 11 Nov. 489/1 The French have been..sending in their skirmishers close to the walls, to *pot* at the embrasures. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Ox.* xli, Turning out to be potted at like a woodcock. 1898 in *Globe* 4 Feb. 4/5 If..I didn't see him potting away quite cheerfully!

c. *trans.* To seize, win, secure, 'bag'.

1900 H. NISBET *Sheep's Clothing* Prol. iii. 26 However, he's in with us now, since he has potted the girl. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 12 Feb. 3/1 He has the scissors of a ready book-maker, and will 'pot' extracts from Mr. Roosevelt's writings and messages 'till the cows come home'. 1904 *Ibid.* 21 Nov. 8/5 Six of the eight points have been 'potted', and not a defeat sustained.

III. 6. To outdo, outwit, deceive. Now *slang.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 185 Pot him lacke: pot him lacke? nay pot him Iugge. To pot the drunkarde, the Iugge is the dugge. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. (1612) 156 The Clowne, no doubt, that potted Pan [won from him the woman whom Pan courted] lackt arte to glose and flatter. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 154 It is no hard matter to puzzle and to pot you with authority of Josephus in the selfesame story of Gen. 14. 1855 TAYLOR *Still Waters* ii. (Farmer), A greater flat was never potted. 1880 MILLIKIN in *Punch's Almanack* Feb., Crab your enemies,—I've got a many, You can pot 'em proper for a penny.

† 7. To cap (verses). *Obs.*

1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 37 Ile teach thee howe to pot verses an houre together. 1598 STOW *Surv.* viii. (1603) 72 The boyes of diuerse Schooles did cap or pot verses.

IV. 8. 'To manufacture, as pottery or porcelain; *esp.* to shape and fire, as a preliminary to the decoration': cf. POTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 2.

† **Pot,** *v.*[2] *Sc. Obs.* [f. POT *sb.*[2]] a. *trans.* To dig pits in, fill with pits. b. To dig a trench about; to mark off by a trench. c. To put in a pit.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 388 On athir syde the way, weill braid, It wes pottit, as I haf tald. 1595 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 129 The said..yard dyk ascendis south eist or thairby,..as the same was presentlie pottit and merkit. 1887 DONALDSON *Suppl. to Jamieson, To Pot, Pott*, to pit, trench, or mark off by furrow, as in boundaries of land...To plant or set in a pit, as in *potting* march stones: also, to pit and cover, as in *potting* or pitting potatoes [for] winter.

† **Pot,** *v.*[3] *Obs.* [f. POT *sb.*[3]] *intr.* To make a grimace; to mock. Hence † **Po'tting** *vbl. sb.*

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* S iv, Thei on the other syde did potte at him. 1553 *Short Catech.* in *Lit. & Doc. Edw. VI* (Parker Soc.) 504 At length was he [Jesus].. mocked with potting, scorning, and spitting in his face. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 326 Me they potted at, as in such cases is vsuall in Princes courts.

Pot, obs. form of POTE *v.*, PUT *v.*

Potability (pōʊtăbi·lĭti). [f. late L. *pōtābil-is* (see next) + -ITY; so F. *potabilité* (Littré).] The quality of being potable or drinkable.

1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xii. 189 That it may be brought into a condition of potability. 1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xiii, The potability of the water.

Potable (pōʊ·tăb'l), *a.* (*sb.*) (Also 7 **-abile, -ible.**) [a. F. *potable* (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *pōtābilis* (Auson.) drinkable, f. *pōtāre* to drink: see -ABLE.]

1. Fit or suitable for drinking; drinkable.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* II. 16 The water there is altogyther potable. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 369 They bore the tree with an awger, and there issueth out sweet potable liquor. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. VII. iii. 179 The water .. was so corrupted.., that it was not potable. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* ix, Huge packs of provisions edible and potable.

b. *Potable gold*: a preparation of nitro-muriate of gold deoxydized by some volatile oil, formerly esteemed as a cordial medicine; drinkable gold. So *potable Mars* (iron).

1576 BAKER (*title*) The Newe Iewell of Health, wherein is

contayned .. the vse and preparation of Antimonie, and potable Gold. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. v. 163 Other [gold] .. is more precious, Preserving life, in Med'cine potable. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 608 What wonder then if fields and regions here Breathe forth Elixir pure, and Rivers run Potable Gold. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 195/1 A Tincture of Mars from Maets, which is call'd potable Mars. 1712 SWIFT *Fable of Midas* 7 He call'd for Drink; you saw him sup Potable Gold in Golden Cup. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Aurum Potabile*, .. old term, .. Potable gold.

†2. Appropriate to drinking. *Obs. rare*—1.

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fooles* v. i. Plays 1873 I. 182 Come on, lets heare his wit in this potable humour.

B. *sb. pl.* Things potable; drinkables, liquor.

1623 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* III. i, In a well-knit body, a poor parsnip will play his prize above their strong potabiles. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 287 The sick be nourished with only potables. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 268/1 He indicates the places for peculiar edibles, and exquisite potables. 1884 *Punch* 18 Oct. 190/1 The pleasant potables they would imperiously prohibit.

Hence **Po·tableness**, potable quality; potability.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1755 JOHNSON, *Potableness*, drinkableness.

Potacre, variant of PODAGRE *Obs.*, podagra.

‖ **Potage** (potā·ʒ). [F. *potage*: see POTTAGE (which was the same word adopted in ME. and anglicized). Now, in this spelling, recognized as a French loan-word, found in 16th c. Sc., and in Eng. from 1660 chiefly in reference to France or French cookery.] Soup of any kind. *A potage*, a meal or mess of this.

1567 in Chalmers *Mary Q. of Scot.* (1818) I. 178 Bakyne meit to my Ladie, .. with potages, after thair discretioun. .. Ane kyde, with potagis refarrit to the maister houshald. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* V. 91 Eate nothing but Potages, Fricasces, and Ragusts, .. your Andoilles, your Langue de porceau, your Bisks and your Olio's. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 84/1 Potage is strong Broth of Meat, with Herbs and Spices boiled. 1691 *Satyr agst. French* 16 Soops and Fricasies, Ragou's, Pottage, Which like to Spurs, do Nature urge to Rage. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Potage*, a Jumblement of several sorts of Flesh and Fowl boil'd together with Herbs, and served up in the Broth, mix'd together after the French Fashion. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Pref., The *potage*, with another small dish or two, was equally well arranged. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Black Mousquetaire*, He quite gave up .. *potage*, or game.

†**Po·tager**. *Obs.* Forms: 4, 8 **potager**, 4–5 **-ere**, 5 **-are**, 6 *Sc.* **potiser, pottisear**. See also POTTINGER 2. [ME. *potager*, a. F. *potager*, in 15th c. a maker of potages (Littré), now obs. in this sense: see POTAGE, POTTAGE.] A maker of pottage or potage; one who cooks vegetables.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 157, I haue be cook in hir kichyne and þe couent serued .. I was þe priouresses potagere, and other poure ladyes. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 1 Cure .. most be don in thrinne degre This, hasteler, pasteler, and potagere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 288/1 A Potagare, *legvminarius*. *c* 1575 *Chalmerlane Air* in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 585 Gif thair be ony Cuikis or Pottisearis, quha bakis pyis. *a* 1578 [see POTTINGER 2]. 1727 S. SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* III. xxxiii. 177 It may be truly said, says that haughty potager [Mons. de la Quintinye, a celebrated gardener] in praise of his great master.

Potager, early form of POTTINGER 1.

†**Potagere.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *potager*, *-ère* adj. in *jardin potager*, a kitchen-garden (also *potager* sb.).] A kitchen-garden; a herb-garden.

1669 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Sept., The gardens were well understood, I mean the *Potagere*. 1699 — *Acetaria* Pref. a vij, I content my self with an Humble Cottage, and a Simple Potagere. *Ibid.* Plan b ij, Of the Hort-Yard and Potagere.

Potagerie (‖ potā·ʒərī, potæ·dʒĕri). In 7–8 also anglicized **potagery**. [F. *potagerie*, †pot-herbs or kitchen-plants collectively (now a fire-place for cooking potage).] Growing herbs or vegetables collectively; a kitchen-garden.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* Dict., *Potagery*, is a Term signifying all sorts of Herbs or Kitchen-plants, and all that concerns them, considered in general. 1727 S. SWITZER (*title*) Practical Kitchen Gardiner: or, a New and Entire System of Directions for Melonry, Kitchen-Garden, and Potagery. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. (1863) 318 The high ivied stone wall of the potagerie.

Potagre, obs. form of PODAGRE *a.* and *sb.*

Potamian (potē·miăn, -æ·miăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. Gr. ποταμ-ός river + -IAN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the *Potamites* or *Trionychidæ*, the soft-shelled river tortoises. **b.** *sb.* A tortoise of this group, a river tortoise, mud turtle.

1850 BRODERIP *Notebk. Nat.* xi. (1852) 265 A good garnish of claws to enable the Potamians to scramble upon banks and logs. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Potamian* adj.

Potamic (potæ·mik), *a.* [f. Gr. ποταμ-ός river + -IC.] Of or pertaining to rivers; fluviatile.

1883 SEELEY *Expansion Eng.* 87 In the school of Carl Ritter, much has been said of three stages of civilisation determined by geographical conditions, the *potamic* which clings to rivers, the *thalassic* which grows up around inland seas, and lastly the *oceanic*. 1904 *Times* 9 Mar. 10/1 These ideas belong to the potamic stage of the naval art.

‖ **Potamogale** (pŏtămo·gălē). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ποταμ-ός river + γαλῆ weasel.] A genus of insectivorous aquatic mammals, with one species, *P. velox* of Western equatorial Africa, the otter-shrew; taken as type of a family *Potamogalidæ*. Hence **Potamo·galid**, an animal of this family; **Potamo·galoid** *a.*, resembling the *Potamogale*.

1880 A. R. WALLACE *Isl. Life* iii. 43 The potamogale, a curious otter-like water-shrew. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, Potamogalid, Potamogaloid.

‖ **Potamogeton** (pŏtămodʒī·tŏn, -gī·tŏn). *Bot.* [L. *potamogēton* (Plin.), adopted by Tournefort 1700 as a generic name, a. Gr. ποταμογείτων pondweed, f. ποταμό-ς river + γείτων neighbour.] A genus of floating freshwater plants; a pondweed.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E. D. S.) 65 Potamogeton is called in duche Samkraute, it maye be named in englishe Pondplantayne, or swymmynge plantayne, because it swymmeth aboue pondes and standyng waters. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 250 This Potamogeton hath an adversatiue nature to Crocodiles also. 1756 J. HILL *Hist. Plants* 247 (Jod.) The oblong oval-leaved potamogeton; the potamogeton with cordated leaves surrounding the stalk. 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 248 In front of the tent I found the English potamogeton, which I had not seen since I had left Lincolnshire. 1890 *Daily News* 24 May 5/3 He could .. lament learnedly that the dropper caught in callitriche and potamogeton, .. long names for water weeds.

Potamo·graphy. [f. Gr. ποταμό-ς river + -GRAPHY.] The physiography of rivers.

1864 in WEBSTER.

Potamo·logy. [f. as prec. + -LOGY.] The scientific study of rivers.

1829 (*title*) Potamology; or, the Science of Rivers: A Tabular Description of the principal Rivers throughout the World. 1872 M. COLLINS *Pr. Clarice* II. ix. 129 Nile, Ganges, Amazon .. Seine, Marne, and Loire .. when will there be an end of geography and potamology? 1899 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 325/2 It is in America .. that the most marked advances in the science of potamology have .. been made.

Hence **Potamolo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to potamology; **Potamo·logist**, one who studies or is versed in potamology.

1863 J. FERGUSSON in *Geol. Soc. Jrnl.* Aug. 322 Consequences .. strangely overlooked both by engineers and potamologists. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Potamological.

Potamo·meter. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the force of a river current.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Potamophilous (pŏtămo·filŏs), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + Gr. -φιλ-ος (see -PHIL) + -OUS.] River-loving.

1827 *Brit. Critic* I. 474 Rowed .. in his public State barge, on the bosom of the Thames, in all the majesty and magnificence of a Fluviatile and Potamophilous Lord Mayor.

Potance, Potanger: see POTENCE, POTTINGER.

Potaquaine, erron. f. POTOQUANE.

†**Potargo.** *Obs.* Variant of BOTARGO.

1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* IV. i, Here be certain tarts of tar about me And parcels of potargo in my jerkin. 1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 96 If for the licqu'rish Appetite there are Mangoes, Potargo, Champignons, Caviarre.

†**Potaro,** erron. variant of PEDRERO.

1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S. H. S.) 374 In the Castle were .. 28 brass drakes or monkeys, 2 potaros, 800 arms.

Potash (pɒ·tæʃ), *sb.* [Early mod.E. *pot-ashes* pl., app. ad. Du. *pot-asschen* (1599 Kilian, 'quod in ollis . . . asseruentur, ne liquescentes effluant'), mod.Du. *potasch*; so Ger. *pottasche*, Swed. *pottaska*, Da. *potaske*; also F. *potasse* (1577 *potas*, at Liège, Godef.), It., Pg., mod.L. *potassa*, Sp. *potasa*.]

The sense-history of *potash* and its derivatives is involved in the advance of chemical knowledge. The earliest term was *pot ashes* or *pot-ashes* = Du. *pot-asschen*, applied to the crude products. The essential substance of these, when purified from extraneous matters, was spoken of in the singular as *pot-ash* or *potash*. In 1756 this was proved by Dr. Joseph Black of Edinburgh to be a compound substance, a carbonate, the removal from which of the carbonic acid left a 'caustic alkali' or 'lye' (really the hydroxide, or caustic potash, KHO), which chemists thereafter generally considered to be the true *potash* (in Fr. *potasse*). In 1807 this, in its turn, was shown by Sir H. Davy to be not a simple substance, but to contain a new metal, of which he believed it to be the oxide. To the metal (K) he gave the name *potassium*, to the oxide (on the analogy of *magnesium* and *magnesia*, *sodium* and *soda*, etc.) that of *potassa*. Next year, Dakeel gave reasons for believing that the latter contained also water, and it was subsequently shown to be the hydroxide or hydrate (KHO), the simple oxide being the anhydrous form (K_2O). The salts of potassium, in accordance with the chemical theory of the time, were viewed as compounds of the oxide, and variously named *carbonate of potassa*, *of potass*, *of potash* (= potassium carbonate, K_2CO_3), *chlorate of potassa*, *potass*, or *potash* (= potassium chlorate, $KClO_3$), etc. Commercially 'potash' is still often applied to the carbonate; by chemists usually to the hydroxide or hydrate, caustic potash, KHO, but sometimes to the anhydrous oxide, K_2O, and in names of compounds it is still often used instead of 'potassium', as *chlorate of potash* = *potassium* or *potassic chlorate*.

1. An alkaline substance obtained originally by lixiviating or leaching the ashes of terrestrial vegetables and evaporating the solution in large iron pans or pots (whence the name). Chemically, this is a crude form of potassium carbonate (more or less mixed with sulphate, chloride, and empyreumatic substances), but was long thought to be (when freed from impurities) a simple substance.

a. orig. plural, *pot ashes*, *pot-ashes*: now applied to the crude substance.

When purified by calcination and re-crystallization, known as *pearl ashes* or *pearl-ash*.

1648 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict.*, *Pot-asschen*, Pot-ashes. 1657 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 223, 50 lbs. of pott ashes. 1669 BOYLE *Contn. New Exp.* I. (1682) 37 A liquor made of the salt of Pot-ashes suffered to run in a sellar *per deliquium*. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 101 We sell at Paris four Sorts of Pot-Ashes. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 413 Another set of [sailors] are freezing in the north to fetch potashes from Russia. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 112 Herbs, in general, furnish four or five times, and shrubs two or three times, as much pot ashes as trees. 1885 W. DITTMAR in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 588 This calcination used to be effected in iron pots, whence, the name 'potashes' was given to the product; at present it is generally conducted in reverberatory furnaces on soles of cast iron.

β. singular, *pot-ash*, *potash*: applied esp. to the purified carbonate, as a substance.

1751 J. HILL *Mat. Med.* 801 Potash, in general, is an impure fixed alkaline Salt, made by burning from Vegetables. We have several Kinds of it in Use. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 22 In 1756, Dr. Black proved .. that the potash which the world had considered as a simple substance, was really a compound, consisting of potash and carbonic acid; that lime deprived it of this acid; and that it became more active by becoming more simple. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 320 Impure Potash. Impure Sub-Carbonate of Potash. Potashes. Pearl-ashes. .. This substance consists chiefly of subcarbonate of potash, mixed with some other salts. It is known in commerce by the name of potash; and is brought to us principally from the Baltic and America. 1861 MISS BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulchres* I. xv. 337 The 'hashish el kali' .. covered the ground: this is the plant from the ashes of which they make potash for soap.

†b. Used also to include the impure carbonate of soda, BARILLA. *Obs.*

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 150 Your potash should be of that kind termed barilla.

2. *Chem.* The hydroxide or hydrate of potassium, KHO; a hard white brittle substance, soluble in water and deliquescent in air, having powerful caustic and alkaline properties; *caustic potash*.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 171 Potash is a body, which has not hitherto been decomposed; it is of a white colour, and exceedingly caustic. .. This substance is prepared by burning vegetables, which all contain a greater or less quantity of potash; as we shall explain under the head Carbonate of Potash. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 128 If .. caustic potash be added to the mass, a considerable quantity of ammonia is given off. .. When the acid is accurately neutralized with potash, it forms an easily-soluble salt. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 692 *Potash* .. applied sometimes to the hydrate, sometimes to the anhydrous oxide of potassium, occasionally also to the crude carbonate; it is best however to restrict it to the hydrate, either in the solid state or in aqueous solution. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 198 Thrown into water, one atom of potassium displaces one of hydrogen from the water, forming potassium hydroxide, or potash. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 125 Caustic potash is usually moulded for medical purposes into small sticks about the size of a pencil, which should be white, but are often greenish, bluish, or reddish-brown from impurities.

b. Now sometimes applied by chemists to the anhydride or monoxide, K_2O, = POTASSA; in non-chemical works vaguely to any compound of potassium.

1843 J. A SMITH *Product. Farming* (ed. 2) 101 The property on which this depends is, that clay invariably contains potash and soda. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 29 Potash .. is an element in most plants. 1858 THUDICHUM *Urine* 195 There is only a very small quantity of potash present in the urine. 1866 [see 2].

c. In names of compounds = POTASSA, and now in chemical use mostly superseded by POTASSIUM.

Carbonate of potash = potassium carbonate; †*muriate of potash*, obs. name of potassium chloride; †*oxygenated muriate of potash* = potassium chlorate; *sulphate of potash* = potassium sulphate.

1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. i. 26 Acidulous tartrite of pot-ash. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 103 Remarks on the effects of the nitrous acid, the oxygenated muriate of potash, &c. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 195 Sulphate of soda may be decomposed by charcoal, phosphorus, &c. in the same manner as sulphate of potash. 1843 J. A. SMITH *Product. Farming* (ed. 2) 149 Silica enters the plant chiefly in the form of silicate of potash or soda. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 864 The carbonate, acetate, and citrate of potash are probably the best for the purpose.

3. Short for *potash-water*: see 4.

1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* XXXVIII, They drank a whole potash-and-brandy each. 1895 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 396 A stiff tumbler of whisky and potash.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *potash-lye*, *muck*, *salt*, *soap*; **potash alum**: see ALUM 2; **potash-felspar** = ORTHOCLASE; **potash-granite**, felspathic granite; **potash greensand**, a greensand yielding potash; **potash kettle**, a large vessel employed in the manufacture of potash; **potash-lime**, see quot.; **potash-mica**, a silicate of aluminium and potassium = MUSCOVITE; **potash-water**, an aerated beverage; water impregnated with carbonic acid gas, to which is added potassium bicarbonate.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 39 If *potash alum is to be formed, this sulphate of alumina is evaporated to the specific gravity of 1·38. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 55. 55 One [species of feldspar] has in addition potash and is a *potash-feldspar. *Ibid.* 56 Orthoclase or potash-feldspar. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* XV. (1873) 320 Grand bare pinnacles of a red *potash-granite. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* 402 Calcareous Marls and *Potash Greensands. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.* (1821) II. 256 The method of making potash in those large vessels, .. now known [as] *potash kettles. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 692 **Potash-lime*, a mixture of hydrate of potassium and quicklime. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 816/2 The *potash-ley will now gradually recede

into the large bulb. 1865 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 1011 Chemically, micas may be divided into *potash-micas, containing little or no magnesia..; and magnesia-micas. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xcviii. 327 The ashes, which are called *pot-ash muck, make excellent manure for some kinds of soil. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 123 Experiments..have shown that the *potash salts, when introduced immediately into the blood, are extremely poisonous. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 861 To scrape the nail thin, and then after softening it with *potash soap, to apply chrysarobin. 1802 W. SAUNDERS in *Med. & Phys. Jrnl.* VIII. 492 [N. Paul] has introduced also the gaseous *pot-ash waters.

Hence **Po·tash** *v.*, *trans.* to treat or manure with potash; **Pota·shery** [cf. *colliery*, *pottery*], a factory where potash is made; *pl.* potash-works.

1850 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Power* Wks. (Bohn) II. 332 Whether to whitewash or to potash, or to prune. 1846 G. WARBURTON *Hochelaga* I. 263 Potasheries, tanneries, breweries, iron-works, paper-works, and others.

Potass (potæ·s, pō·tæs). *Chem.* Now *rare.* [ad. F. *potasse* POTASH.] An anglicized form, variously used according to the chemical notions of the time, for potash, potassa, and (in names of compounds) potassium.

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 243 To reduce the dropsical swellings ..ten or fifteen grains of potass, two or three times a day, in some bitter draught, are directed. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 388 All the mineral acids dissolve tin, and it may be precipitated from its solutions by potass; but an excess of potass will re-dissolve the metal. *Ibid.* 414 Pure potass is extremely white, and so caustic, that if applied to the hand, the skin is instantly destroyed; it is therefore in this state called caustic alkali. The potash of commerce is always combined with carbonic acid,..this addition..reduces it to its usual state of what is called mild alkali, or by chemists carbonate of potass, or rather subcarbonate of potass, as it is not saturated with the carbonic acid. 1860 PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 26 A substance of similar composition to nitrate of potass (saltpetre).

b. Potash-water: see POTASH 4.

1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* vi, I think I will have some curaçao and potass.

c. *Comb.*: **potass-albite**, albite containing potash instead of, or besides, soda.

1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* xii. (ed. 2) 416 In a few instances, as in potass-albite,.. this base would seem to be partly soda and partly potass.

‖ **Potassa** (potæ·să). *Chem.* [mod.L.: see POTASH.] The name appropriated by Davy to potassium monoxide, K_2O, also called *anhydrous potash*; sometimes also applied to the hydrate or hydroxide, KHO ($=K_2H_2O_2$), also called *potassa fusa* and *caustic potash*.

Formerly used in names of chemical compounds in which current nomenclature uses *potassium*, as *carbonate of potassa* = *potassium carbonate*, K_2CO_3 (regarded as $K_2O.CO_2$).

Liquor potassæ, an aqueous solution of potassium hydrate, containing about 5·84 per cent of the hydrate.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 324 This substance is pure potash or potassa, which was unknown in its uncombined state till I discovered potassium, but which has long been familiar to chemists combined with water in the substance which has been called pure potash; but which ought to be called the hydrat of potassa. 1813 — *Agric. Chem.* ii. (1814) 52 Potassa or the pure caustic vegetable alkali consists of one proportion of potassium and one of oxygene. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 611 The *Liquor Potassæ* of the Pharmacopœia is directed to be prepared as follows:—'Take of carbonate of potassa 15 ounces, lime 8 ounces, boiling distilled water a gallon [etc.].' 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s.v. *Potassium*, What is called caustic potash, which is a compound of 48 potassa + 9 water. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Potassa Fusa*, fused potash; the hydrate of potash; also called *Lapis infernalis*. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 66 Liquor potassæ seems to be of use in some cases.

† **Potassamide** (potæ·săməid). *Chem.* Also **potassiamide** (Ogilvie 1882). [f. POTASS-IUM + AMIDE.] An amide of potassium, formed by the substitution of one or more atoms of potassium for those of the hydrogen of ammonia (NH_3). Two of these are known, *monopotassamide*, KH_2N, and *tripotassamide*, K_3N: see quots.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 7 Potassamide is amide of potassium. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 16 Caustic potash and potassamide may be regarded as the hydrated and ammoniated forms of chloride of potassium. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 695 Amides of Potassium. *Monopotassamide*, KH_2N, is formed when potassium is gently heated in ammonia-gas. It is an olive-green substance. *Ibid.*, *Tripotassamide* or *Nitride of Potassium*, K_3N,..is a greenish-black infusible substance.

Potassamine (potæ·săməin). *Chem.* [f. POTASS-IUM + AMINE.] A name, preferred by some, for POTASSAMIDE: see AMIDE, AMINE.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 233 When potassium is heated in ammonia-gas, a compound called potassamine is formed. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) XII. 373 The univalent radical, amidogen, NH_2,..with one molecule of potassium forms potassamine, NH_2K.

† **Po·tassa·ne.** *Chem.* [f. POTASS-IUM + -ANE.] Davy's proposed name for potassium chloride.

1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 327 Muriate of potash, which may be called potassane, consists of 75 of potassium and 67 of chlorine...Potassane is the only known combination of potassium and chlorine.

Potassic (potæ·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. POTASS-A or POTASS-IUM + -IC; so F. *potassique*.] Of, pertaining to, or containing potassium or potash; = *potassium* in comb. Also in compounds, as *mono-*, *dipotassic*; *hydropotassic* (combined with water).

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v., Berzelius termed..the combinations of the oxide [of potassium] with acids,..and of the metal with halogenous bodies, *Sales potassici*: potassic [salts]. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 121 Potassic Carbonate causes no precipitate. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) I. 338 Normal potassium carbonate, or Dipotassic carbonate, K_2CO_3. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 2/2 The Prussian Government..is a member of another 'Kartell'—that controlling the supplies of potassic salts.

Potassiferous (pŏtæsi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. POTASS-A + -(I)FEROUS.] Containing or yielding potash or potassic salts. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pota·ssio-, combining form of POTASSIUM, in the names of double salts of potassium and another substance, as *pota·ssio-pla·tinum* (attrib.), *pota·ssio-ferric* adj., of potassium and iron, *pota·ssio-mercuric*, *-plati·nic*, *-tarta·ric* adjs., *pota·ssio-ta·rtrate*, etc.

1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 108 The potassio platinum chloride removed by filtration. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 308 Potassio-platinic chloride,..insoluble in alcohol and æther. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 403 A little tartrate of potash, or potassio-tartrate of soda may be given.

Potassium (potæ·siŭm). *Chem.* [In form, mod.L. (Davy 1807), f. POTASS or POTASH (see Note there), in accordance with the names of metals in -IUM.] One of the elements, an alkaline monad metal, the basis of POTASH; it is a highly lustrous white metal with a slight tinge of pink, soft at ordinary temperatures, of specific gravity 0·865, being the lightest solid body known except lithium; when exposed to the air it at once tarnishes or oxidizes, and when thrown upon water instantly decomposes it, uniting with the oxygen and causing the liberated hydrogen to burn with a characteristic violet flame. Symbol K (for *Kalium*); atomic weight 39·1.

1807 SIR H. DAVY in *Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 32 Potassium and Sodium are the names by which I have ventured to call the two new substances. 1812 — *Chem. Philos.* 321 Small metallic globules will appear at the negative surface, which consist of potassium. I discovered this metal in the beginning of October 1807. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts, Potassium*..is a metal deeply interesting..from its having been the first link in the chain of discovery which conducted Sir H. Davy through many of the formerly mysterious and untrodden labyrinths of chemistry. 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* I. II. x. § 92. 276 Potassium alone melts at 136°, sodium alone melts at 190°, but the alloy of potassium and sodium is liquid at the ordinary temperature of the air. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLVIII. 176 Bromide of potassium in large doses..has a beneficial effect [in dipsomania].

b. *attrib.* in names of chemical compounds, as *potassium carbonate* (also carbonate of potassium, of potassa; or of potash, potassic carbonate), K_2CO_3; so *potassium chlorate*, *chloride*, *cyanide*, *hydrate*, *iodide*, *oxide*, etc.; *potassium salt*.

1865 MANSFIELD *Salts* 257 Its Potassium compound. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 17 Formed by the action of strong sulphuric acid upon a salt called potassium permanganate. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 319 Potassium Bromide is a colourless and very soluble salt. *Ibid.* 320 Potassium Hydrate, commonly called caustic potash or potassa, is a very important substance, and one of great practical utility. *Ibid.* 324 Potassium-salts are always most abundant in the green and tender parts of plants.

Pota·ssuretted, -eted, *a.* [irreg. f. POTASSA after SULPHURETTED: cf. CARBURETTED.] Combined with potassium, as in *potassuretted hydrogen*.

1815 W. HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) I. 224 Potassureted Hydrogen Gas. This name I would propose for the solution of potassium in hydrogen gas, which,..results from the action of potassium on water. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 46 We reckon at present 23 compound gases, namely, Hydruret .. of carbon, .. and..of phosphorus, arsenuretted, sulphuretted, telluretted, potassuretted, and selenuretted hydrogen [etc.]. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Potassureted Hydrogen* .. a combination of potassium with hydrogen, forming a spontaneously inflammable gas.

† **Po·tate,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *pōtātus*, pa. pple. of *pōtāre* to drink: see -ATE[2].] *lit.* Drunk: in quot. perh. = drinkable, liquid, liquefied.

Some take *silver potate* to be = quicksilver or mercury.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. ii, Eight, nine, ten dayes hence He will be siluer potate; then, three dayes, Before he citronise: some fifteene dayes, The Magisterium will be perfected.

Potation (pōtē·ʃən). Also 5 -cioune, 5–6 -cion. [ME. a. OF. *potacion*, *-ation* (obs.), ad. L. *pōtātiōn-em*, n. of action from *pōtāre* to drink.]

1. Drinking; a drinking, a drink, a draught.

1479–81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 97 In money yevyn to the poore peple, And for potacions to prestis and clerkes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 288/1 A Potacion, *potacio*. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 56 Rodorigo..To Desdemona hath to night Carrows'd Potations, pottle-deepe. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 121 The potation of the same aliment, but liquid. *a* 1687 COTTON *Epigr.*, *De Monsieur Cotin* (R.), Three or four hours of friendly potation. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xii, You..did rather abstain from potation. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 28 Indulging in moderate potations.

† **b.** A drinking party, compotation, symposium.

1512 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 456 Have, make, or vse any potacions, cockfighte or drinking. 1565 *Stat. Hartlebury Sch. Worc.* in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. IX. 90/2 The said Schoolmaster shall..take the profits of all such cock-fights and potations, as are commonly used in Schools. 1574 M. STOKYS in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. A. p. xiii, They have a Potation of Figgs, Reasons and Almons, Bonnes, and Beer, at the charge of the sayed Determiners. [1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 33 This gathering was called the 'potacion' or 'drinking' ('potacio').]

c. Indulgence in drinking alcoholic liquor; intemperate drinking.

1800 WEEMS *Washington* xi. (1877) 151 The very intemperate passions and potations of some of their officers. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* viii, In stalked three..men who were ..the worse for potation. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. vi, His face..flushed and cheeks swollen by reason of his midnight potations.

2. Liquor for drinking; a drink, a beverage.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24207 Maugre hir potacioun and dyuerse confeccioun..Maked at the potycaryes. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 138 What man drynk of this potacion,..Pleyn in his face xal shewe it owth. 1772–84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) IV. 1489 The root..from whence their favourite potation is extracted. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 109 He deserves thy kitchen's best potation.

† **b.** A deleterious drink or liquid; a potion. *Obs.*

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 176 They [be accursed] that drinken potacions or do depresse or withdraw the nurissh-ing of the byrth within the body.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: † **potation money**, money given for drink, drink-money; † **potation penny**, a contribution to the expense of a drinking entertainment; **potation-shop**, a drinking-shop.

1487–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 141 We aske alowaunce of potacions monye geven to your tenauntes in Resseyuyng of the Rentes and charges aforesaide, also in drynkkyng siluer on your werkmen. 1525 *Foundation Stat. Manch. Gram. School* 15 Apr., [The Schoolmaster or Usher shall teach the children freely] withoute any money..taking therefor, as cokke peny, victor peny, potacion peny or any other except his said stipend. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII 514 That famed potation-shop.

Hence **Pota·tionist** (*nonce-wd.*), one given to potations, a habitual or professed drinker.

1888 BLACK *Adv. Houseboat* 251 He was a powerful potationist.

Potative (pō·u·tătiv), *a. rare.* [ad. obs. F. *potatif*, *-ive* adj., f. L. *pōtāt-*, ppl. stem of *pōtāre* to drink: see -IVE.] Addicted to drink; bibulous.

1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. 73 *note*, The potative Bishops of his Time.

Potato (pōtē··to), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 6 **botata**, 6–7 **bat(t)ata**: see BATATA. *β.* 6– **potato**, (6 **potaton**, 6–7 **potade**, **potatus**, 6–8 **patata**, 6–9 **potatoe**, 7 **partato**, **potado**, **potata**, **pottato**, **puttato**, 8– *illit.* **pertater**). *γ*, *δ. dial.* and *vulg.*: see 2 d. [ad. Sp. *patata*, a variant of BATATA, orig. the native name in Haitian in sense 1. So, in same sense, F. *patate*, obs. It. *potata*, Ger. *potate*.]

Sense 1 is the original; the plant to which it is applied was to Gerarde, in 1597, 'the common Potatoes'; the plant in sense 2, on account of its general likeness to the other as producing esculent tubers, he called from its alleged source 'Virginia Potatoes', and (in his *Catalogue* of 1599) 'Bastard Potatoes'; but when this came to be an important object of cultivation as a food plant, it became 'the potato' par excellence; the exotic plant and tuber originally so named being distinguished by some adjunct. In 17th c. instances of the word it is often difficult or impossible to determine which plant is meant.

1. A plant, *Batatas edulis*, N. O. *Convolvulaceæ*, having tuberous roots, for which it is cultivated for food in most tropical and subtropical regions of the world; = BATATA. Its native region is unknown, but it appears to have been seen by the Spaniards first in the West Indies *c* 1500. Now distinguished as *Sweet* or *Spanish potato* (see 3 a).

a. The tuber.

In the 16–17th c. supposed to have aphrodisiac qualities, to which there are frequent references.

[1555 EDEN *Decades* 82 (tr. Peter Martyr, 1511–16) In Hispaniola..they dygge also..certeyne rootes growynge of theim selues, whiche they caule *Batatas* [*indigenæ batatas appellant*]...They are also eaten rawe, and haue the taste of rawe chestnuttes, but aresumwhat sweeter.] 1565 HAWKINS *Voy. Florida* (Hakl. Soc.) 27 These potatoes be the most delicate rootes that may be eaten, and doe far exceede our passeneps or carets. 1577–1876 [see BATATA]. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) I. 149 Of the potato and such venerous roots as are brought out of Spaine, Portingale, and the Indies. 1596 *Gd. Huswiues Jewell* C v b, Pare your Potaton. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 21 Let the skie raine Potatoes. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, 'Tis your onely dish, aboue all your potato's or oyster-pies in the world. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* IV. (1704) 452/1 The Potatoes make a delicate kind of Drink, both pleasant and wholsome. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 183 Throughout the whole Island there growes a root they call *Igname*, or *Patata*, from whence the invention was brought to Spain. 1689 H. PITMAN *Relation Gt. Suff.*, etc. 29 Of eatable Roots [in Providence Island, Bahamas]. there is Partatoes, Yams, Edders, &c. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 228 The West Indian Potatoes have all a sweetish taste.

b. The plant. (See BATATA, quots. 1613–1866.)

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxxxiv. 780 Of Potatoes. This plant..is generally of vs called Potatus or Potatoes. It hath long rough flexible branches trailing vpon the ground, like vnto Pompions...Clusius calleth it Battata, Camotes, Amotes, and Ignanes: in English Potatoes, Potatus, and Potades. 1681 CHR. JEAFFRESON *Let. fr. St. Kitts* 10 Nov. in *Vng. Squire 17th Cent.* (1878) I. 280 It [hurricane] broke and twisted my sugar-canes, rooted up my Cassava, and washed the graine and new-planted puttatoes. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy.*

S. Sea 203 There are Patata's of four or five several Colours. **1707, 1775** [see 3 a]. **1756** P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 154 The Potatoe and Potatoe-slip. Both these plants are now cultivated all over America, and supply the Negroes and poorer sort of people with a great part of their food.

2. The plant *Solanum tuberosum*, a native of the Pacific slopes of South America, introduced into Europe late in the 16th century, and now widely cultivated for its farinaceous tubers: see b.

Described in 1553, under the name *papas*, in the *Cronica de Peru* of Piedro Cieza, cap. xl, P 5. Introduced into Spain, it is said, from Quito, soon after 1580, and thence, *c* 1585, into Italy; in 1587 grown at Mons in Hainault, whence in 1588 two tubers were obtained and grown by the botanist Clusius, Keeper of the Botanical Garden to Maximilian *II*; described by him as *Papas Peruanum*. Soon grown in other botanic gardens, as at Breslau in 1590. The plant may have been brought independently to England, where Gerarde had it growing in 1596; but he was in error in his statement that he obtained it from Virginia (whence the erroneous name *Virginia Potatoes*, long kept up by English writers); for the plant is not a native of Virginia, and was not cultivated there in 16th c. In 1693 its introduction into Ireland was attributed to Sir Walter Raleigh 'after his return from Virginia' (where he never was); but no contemporary statement associating Raleigh's name with the potato has been found. See Brushfield *Raleghana* II. in *Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* 1898, XXX. 158–197; B. Daydon Jackson in *Gardeners' Chron.* 1900, XXVII. 161, 178.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccxxxv. 781 Of Potatoes of Virginia. .. Virginia Potatoes hath many hollowe flexible branches, trailing vppon the grounde, three square, vneuen, knotted or kneed in sundry places... The roote is thicke, fat, and tuberous; not much differing either in shape, colour or taste from the common Potatoes, sauing that the rootes hereof are .. some of them round as a ball, some ouall or egge fashion ..: which knobbie rootes are fastened vnto the stalkes with an infinite number of threddie strings. *Ibid.* 782 Because it hath not onely the shape and proportion of Potatoes, but also the pleasant taste and vertues of the same, we may call it in English Potatoes of America, or Virginia [*ed.* 1633 *adds* Bauhine hath referred it to the Nightshades, and calleth it *Solanum tuberosum Esculentum*]. **1599** GERARDE *Catalogus* 15 *Papus orbiculatus*, Bastard Potatoes. *P. Hispanorum*, Spanish Potatoes. [*Catal.* 1596 C 2/1 had only the Latin names]. **1629** PARKINSON *Paradisus* 516 Potatoes of Virginia, which some foolishly call the Apples of youth .. the flowers .. somewhat like the flower of Tobacco for the forme .. small round fruit, as bigge as a Damson or Bulleis, greene at the first, .. like vnto Nightshade. **1678** PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Potatoes*, a sort of fruit, coming originally from the West Indies, but now common in English Gardens, whose Root is of great vertue, to comfort and strengthen the Body. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* (1708) 469 Potatoes are planted in several parts of our Country, .. being easily encreased by cutting the Roots into several pieces, each piece growing as well as the whole Root. **1785** MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 201 Potato is of this genus [Solanum], as you will be convinced, if you compare the structure of the flower with that of the other species. **1832** *Veg. Subst. Food* 128 The potato is found wild in several parts of America, .. among others in Chili and Peru. **1875** W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 10 In 1728 Marshal Stair introduced the culture of the potatoe into Wigtownshire.

b. The tuber or underground stem of this plant, of roundish or oblong shape; now a well-known article of food in most temperate climates.

1663 in *Jrnl. Bk. of Royal Soc.* (MS.) 25 Mar., A Proposition to plant Potatoes through all the parts of England .. and the benefit therof in times of scarcity of Food .. their usefulness for meat and bread. **1664** J. FORSTER (*title*) Englands Happiness Increased, or a Sure and Easie Remedy against all succeeding Dear Years; by a Plantation of the Roots called Potatoes. **1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Nov. 78 Take up your Potatos for winter spending, there will enough remain for stock, though never so exactly gather'd. *a* **1687** PETTY *Pol. Arith.* ii. (1690) 42 Ireland being under peopled .. the ground yielding excellent Roots (and particularly that bread-like Root Potatoes). **1693** *Jrnl. Bk. of Royal Soc.* (MS.) 6 Dec., Dr. Sloan related that the Irish Potatoes were first brought from Virginia, and that they were the chief subsistence of the Spanish Slaves in the mines in Peru and elsewhere. **1693** *Ibid.* 13 Dec., The President [Lord Southwell] related that his grandfather brought Potatoes into Ireland, who had them from Sir Walter Rauleigh after his return from Virginia. **1714** GAY *Sheph. Week* Monday 84 Of Irish swains potatoe is the cheer. **1778** G. WHITE *Nat. Hist. Selborne* xxxvii, Potatoes have prevailed in this little district .. within these twenty years only. **1780** A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 18 The apple potatoe is liked best, because they last till the new ones come in. **1792** — *Trav. France* 350 As to potatoes, it would be idle to consider them in the same view as an article of human food, which ninety-nine hundredths of the human species will not touch. **1820** SHELLEY *Œd. Tyr.* I. 24 Ye who grub With filthy snouts my red potatoes up. **1832** *Veg. Subst. Food* 151 Potatoes .. yield a spirit of a very pure quality... They are .. cheaper .. than barley from which to extract alcohol. **1869** RUSKIN *Q. of Air* § 76 In the potato, we have the scarcely innocent underground stem of one of a tribe set aside for evil. **1903** JOYCE *Soc. Hist. Anc. Irel.* II. 497 In my grandfather's house .. a big dish of laughing potatoes was always laid aside for wandering beggars.

c. *Potatoes and point*: see POINT *sb.*[1] C. 7.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 75 The potatoes and point of an Irish peasant. **1831, 1897** [see POINT *sb.*[1] C. 7].

d. Dialectal and vulgar alterations of the name.

γ. **1788** E. PICKEN *Poems* Gloss., *Tawties*, potatoes. **1805** G. M'INDOE *Million of Potatoes* Poems (1805) 145 It's lang ere I the taties need. **1809** T. DONALDSON *Poems* 19 'Tatoes travel slawly down The throat. **1815** *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 2 A piece of taters or a few turnips. **1833** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiv, Officers who boil their 'tators in a cabbage-net hanging in the ship's coppers. **1848** THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xiv, Baked 'taturs. **1884** *Gd. Words* May 333/2 The other man .. plied a vigorous trade in 'taters and trotters.

δ. [*Pratie* is characteristic Anglo-Irish; the Irish name is, in Munster, *práta*, in Meath, *préata*, pl. *prat-, preataidhe*.]

1829 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* (1855) II. 288 Englishmen feeding on roast-beef .. or Irishmen on 'wetuns' and 'praes'. **1832–53** *Whistle-Binkie* (Scot. Songs) Ser. I. 21 When evening sets in Paddy puts on the pot, To boil the dear praties and serve them up hot. **1833** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xii, You must do something to get your own dinner; there's not praties enow for the whole of ye. **1869** M. ARNOLD *Cult. & An.* (1882) 74 When all the praties were black in Ireland, why didn't the priests say the hocus-pocus over them? **1884** CUDWORTH *Yorksh. Dial. Sketches* 121 (E.D.D.) Peeling sum porates.

3. With distinctive words. **a.** *Carolina, Spanish, Sweet potato* = sense 1. **b.** *Chilian p., Irish p.* (now U. S.), *White p.* (U. S.) = sense 2. **c.** *Virginia (-an) potato*, (*a*) = sense 2; (*b*) = sense 1.

a. **1599** [see 2]. **1629** PARKINSON *Paradisus* 517 *Battatas Hispanorum*, Spanish Potatoes. *Ibid.* 518 The Spanish Potato's are roasted vnder the embers .. put into sacke with a little sugar, or without, and is delicate to be eaten. **1634** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 12 The Spanish potato he holds as a bable. . **1707** SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Pref., The Spanish Patata, eaten commonly in Jamaica, is a true Convolvulus. **1775** ROMANS *Florida* 84 They cultivate .. the esculent Convolvulus, (*vulgo*) sweet potatoes.]**1856** EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. Eng.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 12 Shaped like a Carolina potato. **1884** *Century Mag.* Jan. 442/1 The sweet potato .. is yet known in the market as the 'Carolina'.

b. **1664** J. FORSTER *Eng. Happiness Incr.* 2 The fourth sort .. are the Irish Potatoes, being little different from those of Virginia, save only in the Colour of the Flower and time of flowering. **1693** [see 2 b]. **1819** WARDEN *United States* II. 213 Of esculent plants there are, in the Eastern parts, the sweet potatoe, red and white; the common, or Irish potatoe, which is in general use. **1870** YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 4 The Chilian potato has provided food for many millions of people. **1901** *Boston Morn. Jrnl.* 8/1 Irish potatoes .. are called Irish from the Irish, who came in 1719, settled Londonderry, N.H., and were required to pay quit rent to the amount of a peck of potatoes... The white potato, called Irish, .. did not become general until after 1800.

c. (*a*) **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* [see 2 a]. **1629** PARKINSON *Paradisus* 517 (No.) 3 *Papas seu Battatas Virginianorum*, Virginia Potatoes. *Ibid.* 518 The Virginia Potato's being dressed after all these waies .. maketh almost as delicate meate as the former. **1715** J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 272 Virginia Potatoes... We are obliged to .. Caspar Bauhine for a most accurate Figure .. of this .. Root... It was first cultivated in Ireland, and now about London, and in many Counties of Great Britain. (*b*) **1731** CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) II. 60 The Virginian Potato. Convolvulus radice tuberosa esculenta. **1736** MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 258 The Virginian Potato. The Roots of these Plants are the principal Subsistance of the greater Part of Africa, and the southern Parts of Asia, as well as most of the People, both black and white, in the Colonies in America.

4. Applied, with defining word, to various plants having tubers or tuberous roots, mostly edible.

Canada potato, potato of Canada, Jerusalem Artichoke, *Helianthus tuberosus*; **Cree potato** (*U. S.*), Indian or Prairie Turnip, *Psoralea esculenta*, N.O. *Leguminosæ*; **Hog's potato**, the Death's Quamash of California, *Zygadenus venenosus*, N.O. *Melanthaceæ* (Miller *Plant-names*); **Indian potato**, (*a*) the genus *Dioscorea* or yams; (*b*) the American ground-nut, *Apios tuberosa*; (*c*) the American genus *Calochortus*, N.O. *Liliaceæ*; **Jerusalem potato** (*dial.*), the same as *Jerusalem Artichoke*; **Native potato**, of N.S. Wales, *Marsdenia viridiflora* (Miller *Plant-names*); of Tasmania, an orchid, *Gastrodia sesamoides*; **Seaside potato**, *Ipomœa biloba* (*Pes-capræ*), N.O. *Convolvulaceæ*, a tropical creeping shore-plant of both hemispheres; **Telinga potato**, *Amorphophallus campanulatus*, N.O. *Araceæ*, cultivated in India for its esculent tubers; **Wild potato**, (*a*) *Convolvulus panduratus*; (*b*) of Jamaica, *Ipomœa fastigiata*.

1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 517 (No.) 4 *Battatas de Canada*, Potatoes of *Canada, or Artichokes of Ierusalem. **1678** PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Jerusalem Artichokes*, a Plant so called, but more truly Battatas [**1706** (ed. Kersey), Potatoes] of Canada, because they came from Canada. **1866** *Treas. Bot.*, Potato, Canada, *Helianthus tuberosus*. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, Potato, *Hog's, *Zygadenus venenosus*. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Potatoe, *Indian, *Dioscorea*. **1834** ROSS *Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 131 [It] produces bulb-tubers growing one out of another, of the size, and nearly the form, of kidney potatoes... These roots are roasted and eaten by the aborigines; in taste they resemble beet-root, and are sometimes called in the colony *native potatoes. **1857** F. R. NIXON *Cruise of Beacon* 27 *Gastrodia sesamoides*, the native potato, so called by the colonists.

5. a. In various colloq. phrases, a type of what is insignificant or of little value; esp. in *small potatoes* (orig. *U.S.*), 'no great things', said also of persons. Also *attrib.* = petty, mean, insignificant.

1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. ii, I don't value Monsieur de Champignon a rotten potatoe. **1797** COLERIDGE *Lett.* I. 224 The London literati appear to me to be very much like little potatoes, that is no great things. **1823** BYRON *Juan* VII. iv, Who knew this life was not worth a potato. **1846** *New York Herald* 13 Dec. (Bartlett), Small potato politicians and pettifogging lawyers. **1855** HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 63 It's small potatoes for a man-of-war to be hunting poor game like us. **1864** SALA in *Daily Tel.* 20 July, Bananas and oranges are reckoned 'very small potatoes' indeed; you may have them for the asking. **1885** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 647/1 The Fourth Estate .. thinks no small potatoes of itself.

b. Humorously applied to a person.

1815 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 8 Mar., How could you be such a potato? **1845** *Punch* VIII. 184/1 That fire-eating Milesian, that very hot potato, Mr. H. Grattan. **1868** BRIERLEY *Red Windows Hall* ii. 16 'You are Sam o' Ducky's' .. 'Th' same owd porrito', said Sam.

c. *The potato*: the (very, real, or proper) thing, what is correct or excellent. *slang*. Cf. CHEESE *sb.*[2]

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 370 The Bishop's first two volumes are not quite the potato. **1837** H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* Pref. 31 Larry is quite 'the potato'. **1880** R. M. JEPHSON *Pink Wedding* xxiv, I am convinced he is a first-rate one—quite the clean potato, in fact.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (almost all in sense 2); **a.** simple attrib., as *potato-bing* (BING *sb.*[1]), *-bowl, -crop, -field, -fork, -garden, -graip, -ground, *-leaf, -merchant, -plant, -riddle, -sack, -shoot, -stem, -tuber*; in names of things made of or from potatoes, or of which the principal ingredient is the potato, as *potato-brandy, -flour, -ivory, -pasty, -pudding, -soup, -starch, -sugar, -yeast*. **b.** objective and obj. gen., as *potato-assorter, -cutter, -digger, -digging, -gatherer, -grower, -lifter, -masher, -peeler, -peeling, -picker, -picking, -planter, -raiser, -roaster, -separator, -smasher, -washer* (applied to persons and to tools).

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Potato-assorter*, a rolling screen with open meshes to allow small potatoes to be sorted from the larger merchantable ones. **1786** BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 27 *Potatoe-bings are snugged up frae skaith. **1892** EL. ROWE *Chip-carving* (1895) 26 Numerous objects .. which may thus be decorated at a small cost, .. book-covers, blotters, bread-platters, *potato-bowls, ..&c. **1840** HOOD *Up Rhine* 197 Mr. Kraus .. found their *potato-brandy so poisonous. **1664** J. FORSTER *Eng. Happiness Incr.* 9 How to make *Potato Cheescakes. **1799** J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 249 When the *potatoe-crop is removed. *Note*, Potato-crop is an absurd expression, but we must use it for want of one which is more proper. **1845** *Florist's Jrnl.* 245 The disease unfortunately so very general in the potato crop. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Potato-digger*, .. an implement for digging potatoes from the row or hills. *a* **1887** JEFFERIES in Besant *Eulogy* v. (1888) 136 Let him pass to his *potato-digging. **1822** J. WILSON *Scot. Life, Moss-side* 36 The *potatoe-field beyond the brae. **1830** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 355/2 A machine for grinding *Potato-flour. **1839** *Mag. Dom. Econ.* IV. 88 The bread made of potato flour .. is nutritious, wholesome, and delicate. **1778** PENNANT *Tour Wales* (1883) I. 22 Every Cottager has his *potatoe garden .. a conveniency unknown fifty years ago. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1125 There are two modes of lifting potatoes, namely, with the plough, and with the *potato-graip. **1753** W. STEWART in *Scots Mag.* Mar. 134/1 The pannel was walking from his *potatoe-ground. **1837** *Flemish Husb.* 47 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A practice of sowing hemp in a border all round a garden or potato-ground. **1883** *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 574/2 *Potato-ivory .. of creamy whiteness .. is now made from good potatoes washed in dilute sulphuric acid, then boiled in the same solution until they become solid and dense. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Potato-lifter*, a prong; also a kind of digging machine. **1664** J. FORSTER *Eng. Happiness Incr.* 6 You must take as much Wheat or Barley Flower as your half Bushel of *Potato Meal weighs. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Potato-pasty*, a pasty made of potatoes and flour. **1896** *Daily News* 7 Apr. 3/7 Yesterday's exhibition was enlivened by competitions in *potato-peeling, boot-blacking, cookery, and recitation. **1891** *Pall Mall G.* 29 Oct. 6/3 In the Long Sutton District .. the *potato-pickers have struck work for an increase of pay. **1772** PANTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 180 The *potatoe plant has not been cultivated in any great quantities here [Anglesey] until of late years. **1857** GRAY *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 43 The subterranean growth of a Potato-plant. **1766** *Museum Rust.* VI. 396 Mashed with a trencher; as for a *potatoe pudding. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1125 The *potato-riddle is made of wire. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Potato-roaster*, a tin machine carried about by an itinerant vender, who sells hot baked potatoes. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Potato-separator*, an implement used for the purpose of sorting the tubers to size. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 690 The *potato-shoots .. are fed by the matter lodged in the tuber from which the shoots proceed. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Potato-smasher*, a cook's wooden utensil for mashing potatoes for the table. **1906** *Macm. Mag.* July 675 *Potato-soup, .. pea-soup, or even chestnut-soup for the fruitarian. **1831** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 300/1 We have been assured, that .. Indian arrowroot is nothing else than *potato starch mixed with a little gum tragacanth. **1854** *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 154 In all the starches which I have yet examined, viz., *tous les mois*, potato-starch, West Indian arrow-root, sago-meal [etc.]. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1127 The reason why the *potato-stems are thus removed. **1882** OGILVIE (Annandale), **Potato-sugar*. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 780 The Heart and Dart moth .. also attack the *potato-tuber. **1800** *Naval Chron.* III. 364 Method of making *potatoe yeast.

7. Special combinations: **potato-apple**, the small fruit or berry of the potato-plant; **potato-ball**, (*a*) = *potato-apple* (Funk 1895); (*b*) pl., in *Cookery*, mashed potatoes made into balls with milk and butter, and fried; **potato-bean**: see quot.; **potato-beetle**[1], a wooden beetle or pestle for mashing potatoes; **potato-beetle**[2], (*a*) the COLORADO Beetle, *Doryphora decemlineata*; (*b*) the Three-lined Leaf Beetle, *Lema trilineata*, or its larva (*Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1895); **potato blight** = *potato disease*; **potato-bogle** *Sc.*, a scarecrow in a potato-field; **potato-box**, *slang*, the mouth: cf. *potato-jaw, -trap*; **potato-bread**, a bread made partly of the prepared flour of potatoes; **potato-bug** = *potato-beetle*[2] (Webster 1890); **potato-cake**, a small cake made of potatoes and flour; **potato curl**, a disease of potatoes in which the leaves and young stems curl and wither, caused by a fungus, *Verticillium atroalbum*: see CURL *sb.* 4; **potato disease**, a very destructive disease of potatoes, caused by a parasitic fungus, *Phytophthora infestans*, which attacks the leaves, stems,

and tubers; also called *potato blight*, *murrain*, *rot*; **potato-eel**, a minute threadworm found in potatoes (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **potato-eye**, a bud of the potato-tuber: see EYE *sb.*[1] 10 a; **potato fern**, an Australian fern (*Marattia fraxinea*), also called HORSESHOE fern, a large part of which is edible; † **potato finger**, *fig.*, with reference to the supposed aphrodisiac quality of the sweet potato; **potato-fly**, one of the various blister beetles of the genus *Lytta*, which are injurious to potato-plants in U. S. and Canada (Mayne 1858); **potato fungus**: see *potato disease*; **potato grant**: see quot.; **potato-headed** *a.*, thick-headed, dull, stupid; **potato hook**, an implement with bent tines for digging up potatoes (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **potato-jaw**, *slang*, the mouth; **potato-loaf**, a loaf of *potato-bread*; **potato-mill**, a mill for grinding potatoes to flour; **potato mould**, **potato murrain** = *potato disease*; **potato-nose**, a nose like a potato, a bottle-nose; **potato oat**, a variety of the oat; **potato oil**, an amyl alcohol derived from potato spirit; **potato onion**: see ONION 2; **potato pen**, a compartment on a ship's deck for keeping vegetables fresh during a voyage (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **potato pie**, (*a*) a pie made with potatoes, containing meat, onions, etc.; (*b*) = *potato pit*; **potato pit**, a shallow pit, usually covered with a mound of straw and earth, in which potatoes are stored in winter; **potato race**, a race or competitive game decided by the skill and speed with which potatoes are picked up, passed on, etc.; **potato rot** = *potato disease*; **potato scab**, a brown patch on the skin of the potato, caused by a fungus, or by some irritant substance in the soil (Ogilvie 1882); **potato-scoop**, (*a*) a tool for cutting pieces of potatoes with 'eyes', suitable for planting; (*b*) a shovel for lifting potatoes, grated to allow loose earth to fall through (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **potato-shop**, a shop where fried or chip potatoes are sold; **potato-sick** *a.*, of land, exhausted by successive crops of potatoes; **potato-spirit**, alcohol distilled from potatoes; also called *potato brandy* or *whisky*; **potato-spraying**, the spraying of potato plants with some preventive against disease or insects; **potato-stalk weevil**, **potato weevil**: see quot.; **potato-stone**: see quot. 1859; **potato-trap**, *slang*, the mouth; **potato-tree**, a small tree, *Solanum crispum*; **potato vine**, (*a*) the haulm or straw of the potato; (*b*) *Ipomœa pandurata* (Miller *Plant-names*); **potato-woman**, a woman employed in gathering potatoes in the field; **potato-worm** (*U. S.*), the larva of a sphinx or hawk-moth, *Macrosila quinquemaculata* (Webster 1890).

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. v, We are ourselves curious in the fabrication of a salad,..but have never yet screwed up our courage to plunge a green *potato-apple into the bowl. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVII. 690 A girl of fourteen died from eating green potato-apples. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 628 The dark brown-coloured excrescence that grows to the size of a large horse-bean on the haulm or straw of the potatoe.. termed in some places the *potatoe bean. 1821 GALT *Ayrsh. Legatees* Let. xxvi. (1850) 261 A *potatoe-beetle is not to be had within the four walls of London. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* II. ii. (1881) 110 When the *potato blight came, they died by thousands. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi, To be hung up between heaven and earth, like an auld *potato-bogle. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxvi, As if ye had stolen the coat from a potato-bogle. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 396 He told me, it was *potatoe bread. 1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 299/2 Potato bread. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commiss. Agric.* 10 The ravages..of the *potato-bug. 1884 *Chesh. Gloss.*, **Potato cake*,..a tea cake made of mashed potatoes and flour in equal parts. 1893 COUCH *Delect. Duchy* 26 Drinking cider and eating potato-cake. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 207/2 The means employed to limit the spread of Potato Rot..are equally applicable against *Potato Curl. 1845 CLOUGH *Let.* in *Poems & Pr. Rem.* (1869) I. 104 *Potato-disease, and abolition of corn-laws. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 153 He is equally at home with the potato-disease. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Potatoe*, The *potatoe-eyes cut as before directed, are placed upon this dung,..and this trench is filled up with the mould. 1881 F. M. BAILEY *Fern World Austr.* 24 *Potatoe Fern. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. ii. 56 How the diuell Luxury with his fat rumpe and *potato finger, tickles these together. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 637 The common mould of paste,.. the green mould of cheese...The *Potato-fungus. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), **Potato Grant*, a patch of land for growing vegetables formerly granted by the owner to each of his slaves (West Indies). 1832 G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 22 The *potato-headed jury. 1791 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 4 June, 'Hold you your *potato-jaw, my dear', cried the Duke [of Clarence], patting her [Mrs. Schwellenberg]. 1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) IV. 302/2 The same price is taken for a *potato loaf. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 339 It resembles a *potatoe-mill. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1069/2 This *potato-murrain appears..to be due to the presence of a fungus, *Botrytis* (or *Peronospora*) *infestans*. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* I. 119 You wouldn't love a man with a *potato-nose or a pimply complexion, if he were morally the most perfect creature in the universe. 1808 W. MARSHALL *Review* I. 78 The '*potatoe oat',—a truly accidental variety,—being of later discovery. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 198 The American, or potatoe-oat, has been found to produce from seventy to eighty-four bushels per acre. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, Feeding on larks, sparrows, *potatoe-pies, and such good unctuous meats. 1646 J. HALL *Poems, To Yng. Authour*, Then hast thy finger in Potato pies. 1807 *Complete Farmer* II. s. v., But the best way of storing the roots is..in what are called potatoe-pies. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Potatoe-pie*, a small hillock of potatoes covered with straw, sods, and earth, to protect them from frost during the winter season. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* xi, She found the parson in his garden..making a potatoe pie for the winter. 1858 *Penny Cycl.* 2nd Suppl. 530/1 The distress occasioned by the *potato rot and bad harvests. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 11 Sept. 9/1 The 'potato-rot' made a clean sweep of their little patches. 1830 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) II. 355/2 *Potato-Scoop. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* vi, In London at a *potato-shop. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 164/3 The chances are it [the ground] is *Potatoe-sick. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 12/2 *Potato-spirit is made chiefly in Germany. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 19 Dec. 4/1 Drinking Hamburg sherry, potato-spirit and other such poison. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 8/4 The experiments in *potato-spraying were continued..with satisfactory results. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* III. 209/1 Still another American beetle that injures Potato crops is the *Potato-stalk Weevil (*Baridius trinotatus*). 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms* 301 **Potato-stones*, a quarryman's term for the geodes of the mineralogist; rounded irregular concretions of various composition. 1895 J. W. ANDERSON *Prospector's Handbk.* (ed. 6) 97 Heliotrope.., firestone and quartz cat's eye, potato-stone, &c. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.* s.v. *Red rag*, Shut your *potatoe trap. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers* iv, And now Tom..delivered a rattling clinker upon the Benicia Boy's potato-trap. 1899 MORROW *Bohem. Paris* 30 The fruit- and *potato-women came after, and then the chair-menders.

Hence **Pota·to** *v. trans.*, to plant or crop with potatoes; **Pota·toey** *a., nonce-wd.*, of the nature of a potato; **Pota·toless** *a.*, without potatoes.

1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 66 The land is potatoed the following year. 1883 *Hertfordsh. Mercury* 21 July 4/2 The plan of perpetually potatoing the land. 1865 *Reader* 29 July 119/2 As potatoey as the peach over the way. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iv. 30 Do you think that satisfaction and disaffection do not travel down from Lord Fingal to the most potatoeless Catholic in Ireland? 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xv. 324 Eating our potatoe-less breakfast.

Potator (pōtē·tər). *rare.* [a. L. *pōtātor*, agent-n. from *pōtāre* to drink: see -OR.] A drinker, toper.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 173 An exceedinge good potator in any liquor you please. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xliv. II. 106 Barnabee, the illustrious potator, saw there the most unbecoming sight.

Potato-ring. A recent fanciful appellation for Irish dish-rings of the 18th c., now collected as objects of *virtu*.

The dish-ring was a hoop of silver, often elaborately chased, or adorned with pierced and repoussé work, used as a stand for a circular bowl or the like; in use *c* 1750–1800. The appellation 'potato-ring' is due to the suggestion or unfounded notion that the hoop was used to keep together a heap of potatoes in the middle of the dinner-table.

1893 *Times* 9 June 10/4 A number of old Irish potato-rings —one pierced with cage-pattern—45[s] per oz. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 121 Two candles, in early Hanoverian candle-sticks, lit up the celebrated potato-ring in the centre of the table.

Pota·to-root. [f. POTATO *sb.* + ROOT *sb.*]

† **1.** A name formerly given (*a*) to the tuberous roots of the Sweet Potato, and (*b*) to the tubers of the common potato; also to these plants themselves.

1592 GREENE *Disput.* 17 The Apothecaries would haue surphaling water and Potato rootes lye dead on theyr handes. 1594 *Huswifes Handmaide for Kitchin* 32 A Potaton roote well pared. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* v. 549 A well disposed minde Shall no potato rootes in poets finde. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 137 Potato-roots are of a temperate quality. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 179 In this ship was brought [i. e. to Bermuda] the first Potata roots. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 324 Pottato-roots are now so common and known amongst us, that even the Husbandman buys them to please his Wife.

2. *Potato root*, the root of a potato-plant.

Potatory (pō·tătəri), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *pōtātōri-us*: see POTATOR and -ORY[2].]

1. Of, pertaining to, or given to drinking.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 586 I'll tame the potatory pride of this proud islander. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 178 His potatory prowess puts him at the head of the poll. 1860 MRS. BYRNE *Undercurrents* II. 31 Her husband's potatory tendencies.

2. Fit for drinking; potable. *rare.*

1827 LYTTON *Pelham* xxxix, I helped myself to the potatory food with a slow dignity.

B. *sb.* = DRINKABLE *sb.*

1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xiii, All the eatables and potatories were carried off.

Pot-ball: see POT *sb.*[1] 14.

Pot-bellied (pǫ·tˌbe·lid), *a.* [Parasynthetic f. next + -ED[2].] Having a pot-belly. Also *transf.*

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cl. 229 Given to tame Rabbets when they are pot-bellyed through costivenesse. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 262 He would appear in all the Deformities that can be imagin'd, as Hunch Back'd, Pot Belly'd, Sharp Breasted. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxvi, A pot-bellied Dutch bottle of brandy. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. iii. (1872) I. 294 A gluttonous race of Jutes and Angles ..lumbering about in potbellied equanimity.

Pot-belly (pǫ·tˌbe·li). [f. POT *sb.*[1] + BELLY *sb.*]

1. A swollen or protuberant belly.

c 1714 POPE, etc. *Mem. M. Scriblerus* xi, He will find himself a forked stradling Animal, with bandy legs, a short neck, a dun hide, and a pot-belly. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 224 It..gives that projecting rotundity to the abdomen which is vulgarly distinguished by the name of Pot-Belly. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 488 The pot-belly of rickety children is caused..by dilatation of the bowels with undigested food.

2. *transf.* A pot-bellied person.

1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. v. 87 The baldpate pot-belly I've noted.

Po·t-boi·ler.

1. One who boils a pot; *spec.* in *Eng. Politics* = POTWALLER. *rare.*

1824 HITCHINS & DREW *Cornwall* I. xvii. § 17. 650 The right of election is vested at present in all the inhabitants [of Tregony] who are pot-boilers. 1826 [see POTWALLER].

2. *colloq.* Applied depreciatively to a work of literature or art executed for the purpose of 'boiling the pot', i. e. of gaining a livelihood: see POT *sb.*[1] 13 e; a writing, picture, or other work, made to sell.

1864 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Aug. 275/2 Artists and novelists of a certain stamp joke about 'pot-boilers'—the name facetiously given to hasty, worthless pictures and books,..composed for the simple and sole purpose of being sold under cover of a reputation. 1882 J. C. MORISON *Macaulay* iv. 129 Macaulay's contributions to the *Edinburgh* at this period have largely the characteristics of what are vulgarly called 'pot-boilers', though..they were written to keep, not his own but another man's pot boiling. 1884 H. D. TRAILL *Coleridge* iii. 53 Such..was the singular and even prosaic origin of the 'Ancient Mariner'..surely the most sublime of 'pot-boilers' to be found in all literature. 1897 W. C. HAZLITT *Four Gen. Lit. Fam.* I. III. ii. 242 All men who have to live by their labour have their pot-boilers.

attrib. 1879 W. L. LINDSAY *Mind Lower Anim.* 20 Writing what are vulgarly known as 'pot-boiler' books.

b. A writer or artist who produces 'pot-boilers'.

1892 G. S. LAYARD *C. Keene* ii. 37 He never seemed to realize that he was anything more than a hard-working pot-boiler. 1900 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Aug. 1/2 The joys of matrimony have an odd way of turning all but the greatest into 'pot-boilers'.

3. *Anthropol.* (See quot. 1874.)

1874 DAWKINS *Cave Hunt.* iii. 91 Among the articles of daily use were many rounded pebbles, with marks of fire upon them, which had probably been heated for the purpose of boiling water. Pot-boilers, as they are called, of this kind are used by many savage peoples at the present day. 1899 J. KENWORTHY in *Essex Nat.* XI. 105 The large quantity of ashes and charcoal, with calcined pebbles and 'pot-boilers', at the bottom of the lake and upon the platform upon which the huts were built.

So (in senses corresponding to 2) **Po·t-boil** *v. intr.*, to do pot-boiling; *trans.* to produce for sale; **Po·t-boi·lery** *a.* (*nonce-wd.*), of the nature of a pot-boiler; **Po·t-boi·ling** *sb.* and *a.* in quot. 1775, in sense 'providing for the immediate necessities of life'; cf. *boil the pot*: POT *sb.*[1] 13 e.

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* cxxii. (1783) IV. 130 Send, I say, the £1. 1. just for the pot-boiling business, and who knows what tomorrow may bring forth. 1870 *Daily Tel.* 10 Feb. 5/1 The eccentric, superficial, or 'pot-boiling' qualities which degrade much of what is manufactured and sold. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* XX, I write and sell my work. It's what they call pot-boiling. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* iii. 60 A 'pot-boiling' adaptation of Troilus and Cressida was brought out. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* iv, He will be paid five hundred or a thousand pounds apiece for his most 'pot-boilery' portraits. 1891 *Murray's Mag.* Oct. 550 [They] saw themselves absolutely obliged to 'potboil', if I may be pardoned the phrase, in order to live. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 4/3 To prove..that several 'old masters'..are also 'fakes', and were 'pot-boiled' in Montmartre. 1905 J. K. JEROME in *Daily Chron.* 14 July 4/4 Every barrister who accepts a brief is pot-boiling. Every clergyman who preaches a sermon is pot-boiling. The pot has got to be boiled.

Po·t-bound, *a.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] 1 d + BOUND *ppl. a.*] Said of a plant growing in a flower-pot when its roots fill the pot and have no more room to expand. Also *fig.*

1850 *Florist* Nov. 262 To preserve plants in luxuriant health, they should not be allowed to become pot-bound. 1895 S. R. HOLE *Tour Amer.* 100 As their roots increase and before they become 'pot-bound' they must have more room. *Mod.* There is no doubt we are becoming pot-bound.

Po·t-boy. [f. POT *sb.*[1] 1 c, 2 b + BOY *sb.*[1]] A boy or young man employed at a tavern or public house to serve the customers with beer, or to carry beer to outside customers; a publican's assistant.

1795 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 2 The circumstance that led to the discovery..was that of kidnapping a pot-boy. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, The potboy..having to deal with drunken men occasionally. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xi, He rose, and the publican and the pot-boy were astonished to find the difference in the appearance of this coster's face.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Po·tboydom,** the class of pot-boys; **Po·tboyship,** the position of a pot-boy.

1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIII. 439 He..bestowed the pot-boyship upon the youthful Ginginbetters. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xiii, It is a part of his game to ingratiate himself with all pot-boy-dom.

† **Pot-carrier.** *Obs.* A perversion of *poticary*, POTHECARY: cf. POTTER-CARRIER, POTYCARYAR.

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 532 Should the learnedst Doctor or Pot-carrier of them all tell a Country-man that the best way to preserve the strength and natural Virtues of his Hay, were to dry it in the Shade or House, he could not but Laugh at their simplicity.

Potch, Potcher, var. POACH *v.*[2], POACHER[1], esp. in paper-making.

Pot-clip. *north. dial.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + CLIP *sb.*[1] 2; cf. POT-KILP.] A contrivance for suspending a pot or cauldron having no 'boul', consisting of two iron rods jointed together, with hooks at the free ends to catch hold of the ears or brim of the pot.

1459-60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 89, ij par del Potclyppez. 1465 *Ibid.* 244 Item j par de potclyps. 1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 266 One broule Iron, vij speights, iiij pair of pottclipps. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 136 *Pot cleps*, pot-hooks, from clip or clap, because they clap or catch hold of the pot. 1825 in Brockett *N. C. Gloss.*

Po·t-compa·nion. [f. POT *sb.*[1] + COMPANION *sb.*[1]] A companion in drinking; a fellow-toper.

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 77 Some sayed, he was a Samaritane, that he had a Deuyll wythin him, a gloser, a drincker, a pot-companion. 1636 HEYWOOD *Love's Mistr.* I. Wks. 1874 V. 105 A pot-companion, brother to the glasse, That roars in's cupps; indeede a drunken Asse. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Gulliver Decypher'd* Misc. Wks. 1751 I. 82 The Grand Treasurer made him his pot-companion; and the chief Secretary took him into all his pleasures. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. xx, He has promised his pot-companions to bring home a wife.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pot-compa·nioning; Pot-compa·nionship.**

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol., Whan was excessyue riotous bankettyng, pottecompanyonyng, and belychearynge more outragiously vsed? 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 167 As for your pot-companionship, I hate it.

Pote, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* See also POOT *sb.* [Connected with POTE *v.*]

1. A stick or rod for poking, thrusting, or stirring.

†**a.** In ME. *plouh-pote*, perh. the same as *plough-bat* (PLOUGH *sb.*[1] 8) or PLOUGH-STAFF.

But the various readings, and the frequent variant *plough-foot*, leave the meaning doubtful.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 96 Mi plouh-pote [*v.r.* plow-bat] schal be my pyk, and posshen atte [*v.r.* putte at þe] Rootes, And helpe my coltre to kerue, and close þe vorwes [1377 B. VI. 105 My plow-fote [2 *MSS.* plow-pote] shal be my pyk-staf, and picche atwo þe rotes].

b. A poker.

1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* 334 *Poit*, 'a fire-poit', an iron to stir up the fire with. 1808-25 JAMIESON, *Pout, poit*, a poker. 1828 in *Craven Gloss.* 1864 PRESTON *Poems* (W. Yorksh.) 10 (E.D.D.) An walked as stiff..As if he'd swollud t' poyt. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, Add., *Pote*, a poker for a fire.

c. 'A broad piece of wood used by thatchers to open the old thatch and thrust in the new straw. *Oxon.*' (Halliwell).

2. A kick or push with the foot.

1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Cumberland and Lancash. to Somerset, Devon, and Cornw.

3. *Comb.* †**Pote-stick** (in 4 **pootstikke**), ? a stick for stirring. But cf. POTSTICK.

c 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* (E.E.T.S.) 511 *Morter pil et mundiloun*, Morter pestelle and pootstikke.

†**Pote,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [a. MDu. *pôte*, Du. *poot*: see PAW.] A paw.

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* 113 The beeste..embraced hym with his potes, or feet to fore.

†**Pote,** *sb.*[3] *nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *pōtus.*] Drink.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 252 Our means of Life are Pote, and Cibe, and Vest.

Pote, *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 1 potian, 3–5 pote(n, 4 pot, 5– pote, (6 poote, poat; 9 *dial.* poat, poot, pooat, poit(e, poyt). [OE. *potian*, of uncertain etymology.]

1. *trans.* To push, thrust.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 522 Fearra ȝeliçan..hi, mid leafe þære ealdan æ, heora fynd mid horne lichamlicere mihte potedon. *a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* 235 þa deoflu hy potedon and þoddetton þa earman sawle and heton hy ut faran rade of þam lichaman. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8891 [Þey] left þer pottyng many on, ȝit stirede þey nought þe leste ston. 1340 *Ayenb.* 135 Wone is of þe zoþe milde, oþren to herie and praysy, and poten him uorþ an worþssipij. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* v. 10 He preide hym myche, that he shulde nat put [*v.r.* poten] hym out of the cuntreie. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 93 Euerlastynge potand behynde, in temporall solas & bodily lufe þa seyke to florysch. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 606 A! how pynsynesse potyt me to oppresse, that I haue synnyd on euery syde. 1530 PALSGR. 663/1, I poote. 1775 ASH, Pote (*vb. tr., a local word*), to push.

b. *esp.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) To push with the foot, to kick; also said of a horse pawing.

a 1300 *Song agst. K. of Almaigne* vii. in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 71 Al he shulde quite here twelfmoneth scot, Shulde he never more with his fot pot To helpe Wyndesore. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 37 To *Pote* the Clothes off; to kick all off; to push or put out. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pote, Paut*, to push or kick with the feet. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., 'Them lads han poted these sheets through a'ready.' 1883 *Huddersf. Gloss.* s.v., One boy poits another out of bed...' She were liggin on her rig a poitin.' 1884 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., He potes aw th' clooas off him i' bed.

2. *trans.* To poke with a stick or the like; *esp.* to poke or stir (the fire).

1709 S. BOWDICH in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 266 She.. beg'd he would not poot her too hard (as she express'd it). 1828 in *Craven Gloss.* 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Pooat*, to poke or probe into a hole. 'He now gans pooating with a stick'. 1887 *Holderness Gloss., Pooat*, to poke about. 1890 *Gloucestersh. Gloss.* s.v., Pote the fire.

†**3.** To crimp or form folds in (linen) with a poting-stick; = POKE *v.*[1] 3. *Obs.*

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* v. 215 See, how hee poats, paints, frizzles, fashions him.

4. In other *dial.* uses: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Hence **Po·ted** *ppl. a.*, crimped; **Po·ting** *vbl. sb.*; **po·ting-stick,** †(*a*) a wooden, iron, or bone instrument for crimping linen (*obs.*); (*b*) *dial.* a stick for stirring clothes when boiling.

1600 KEMP *Nine Daies Wond.* C ij b, A boy arm'd with a poating sticke. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* IV. l, He.. weares a formall ruffe, A nosegay, set face, and a poted cuffe. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvii. 314 Having ..a bucked Ruff, raised, furrowed, and ridged, with Ponting [*sic*] Sticks of the shape and fashion of small Organ Pipes. 1892 SARAH HEWETT *Peas. Sp. Devon* 114 'Avee zeed tha poteing-stick, Mary?

Pote, obs. form of PUT *v.*

Pot-ear. [f. POT *sb.*[1] + EAR *sb.*[1]]

1. The 'ear' or handle of a pot.

c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 660/26 *Hec anca*, potere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 288/2 A Potte ere, *ansa, ansula.*

2. *Geol.* (*pl.*) See quot.

1839 MURCHISON *Situr. Syst.* I. ii. 18 The quarries..exhibited the following beds of the Marlstone. 1. Lightish yellow micaceous sandstone full of Belemnites. 2. 'Pot-ears', bluish gray calcareous grit, quarried for troughs. 3. 'Pendle'.

Pot-earth. [POT *sb.*[1]] Potter's earth, potter's clay; *Geol.* the BRICK-EARTH of the London basin.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xiv. § 18. 125 The richest of such earth, (as pott earth and marle) will with much fire grow more compacted. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 201 All the hard crust of pot-earth..had been robbed by the potters. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 28 Nov. 6/7 To bridge over a weak spot from which the early potters had abstracted all the pot earth or brick earth, as we now call it.

Potecarie, -cary(e, variants of POTHECARY.

Poteen, potheen (pǫtī·n, pǫpī·n). Also 9 **potsheen, potteen, pottheen.** [a. Ir. *poitín* (potʸī·n) 'little pot', dim. of *pota, puite* POT *sb.*[1]: short for *uisge poitín* 'little-pot whisky'.] Whisky distilled in Ireland in small quantities, privately, i. e. the produce of an illicit still.

1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Absentee* x, Potsheen, plase your honour;—becaase it's the little whiskey that's made in the private still or *pot*; and *sheen*, becaase it's a fond word for whatsoever we'd like, and for what we have little of, and would make much of. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 478 Whiskey too was made, They call'd Potheen, and sold so very cheap. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* x. 87 'That is "poteen", Mr. Massingbred', said the host. 'It's the small still that never paid the King a farthing'. 1885 TENNYSON *Tomorrow* xvi, Yer Honour 'ill give me a thrifle to dhrink yer health in potheen.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poteen still, whisky.*

1826 J. BANIM *O'Hara Tales* I. xi. 273 Two [decanters] containing cold pottheen punch. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 73 The smell of what, in Ireland, is called potteen whiskey. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxvi, There's a flaunty sort of young woman at the poteen shop there. 1903 W. B. YEATS *Celtic Twilight* 148 He supplies the potheen-makers with grain from his own fields.

Poteger, early form of POTTINGER.

†**Poteller,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Also 4 poteler, 5 potteler, potler. [app. a. AF. **poteller*, f. med.L. type **potellāris* adj., f. *potellus* POTTLE.] Holding a pottle (qualifying *pot* or the like); hence sometimes as *sb.* = POTTLE-POT.

1390 *Earl Derby's Expedition* (Camden) 18 Pro ij ollis coreis galoners, et pro vj ollis coreis potellers. 1392–3 *Ibid.* 154, xij pottes galoners, viij pottes potelers. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 488 Item, iij. pottelers of lether...Item, ij pottis argenti potlers. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 492, ij. pottes pottelers parselle gyltt, weyinge lxv. unnces.

†**Potelot.** *Obs. rare.* [= G. *pottloth*, Du. *potlood* POT-LEAD 2.] Sulphuret of molybdenum.

1828 in WEBSTER, citing *Fourcroy.*

Potence[1] (pō·tĕns). [a. OF. *potence*, ad. L. *potentia* power, f. *potent-em*, pres. pple. of *posse* to be powerful or able: see -ENCE.]

1. Power, ability, strength; = POTENCY I.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxvi. 72 That he ne may it knowen as in potence that is kyndely power. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 472 Tha quha onie did excel in wisdome, or potence. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. iv. 22 His Potence, Prevalence, and Interest among the Canaanites. 1767 MRS. S. PENNINGTON *Lett.* III. 153 That there is any other being,..in the universe, which withstands the potence of God. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* I. 156 Where the blind matter brings An awful potence out of impotence. 1854 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Resources* Wks. (Bohn) III. 196 Men are made up of potences.

b. = POTENCY I b.

1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 112 And through thy frame the liquour's potence fling.

c. Sexual power.

1885 *Law Rep.* 10 Appeal Cases 173 She .. averred .. that he was impotent at the date of the ceremony...The appellant averred his potence.

2. Degree of power or intensity.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1882) 135, I shall venture to use potence, in order to express a specific degree of a power, in imitation of the Algebraists. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1870) II. xxv. 120 Derivative from the principle in its lower potence or degree. 1863 MASSON in *Reader* 26 Sept. 335/2 This, then, is the first 'potence', as the Germans would call it, of that self-culture which consists in the control of thought by and within itself.

Potence[2] (pō·tĕns). Forms: 8 **potans, (portance),** 8–9 **pot(t)ance,** 6– **potence.** [a. F. *potence* a crutch (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), also applied to various T- or Γ-shaped objects, as a gibbet, an armorial charge, a tactical formation, the potence of a watch, ad. L. *potentia* power, POTENCE[1], in med.L. a support (?), crutch. In sense 3, often written *pot(t)ance.* See POTENT *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** A cross or gibbet. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 117 There is the potence or cros wheron the good thef Dysmas was crucefyed whan our lord was nayled to the Cros for our redempcion. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 215 And, as I past, the Potence I espy, Quhair the anoyntit Bischop hung to dry. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 80 *note*, One feature disfigures the landscape [in Catalonia]; the potence. The gallows appears on every hill.

b. *Engineering.* A supporting framework formed like a gallows.

1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 362 A vertical frame, forming a potence, or gallows, was fixed upon each of the horizontal frames, with two iron rollers on the summits, over which the two suspension cables were passed.

2. *Watchmaking.* A stud screwed to the top plate in which is made the bearing for the lower pivot of the verge; hence, any stud or fixture supporting a bearing. *Counter-potence*, a stud in which the upper pivot of the verge plays.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1286/4 The Counter pottance [*misprr.* pettance] hath a tail that goeth a quarter of a circle. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Potans*, or *Potence*, a Part of a Watch. 1705 DERHAM in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 318 One of these drilled stones they fix in the cock, the other in the bottom of the portance only to carry the ballance. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Watch-work*, The potence, or pottance, which is the strong stud in pocket-watches, whereon the lower pivot of the verge plays. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 219 Supported by two counter pottances upon the upper plate. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 503 The potence,..and small or counter potence.., that hold the pivots of the balance-wheel, are small cocks seen in fig. 502, ..and are screwed to the top or upper plate within the frame. 1885 LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 329/1 Take the potence, and..screw it in its place upon the top plate.

¶**3.** Erron. for *potent* (POTENT *sb.*[1] 1). *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 24/1 The Crutch is of some termed..a Crich, but more usually a Crutch Staff, which by Old Sir Geffrey Chaucer, was called a Potence.

4. A military formation, in which a line is thrown out at right angles to the main body.

1759 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 40/2 The left of the English..was formed to prevent that design in a manner which the military men call Potence, that is, in a body which presents two faces to the enemy. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVIII. viii. (1872) VII. 243 Friedrich's line..shoots-out in mysterious Prussian rhythm, in echelons, in potences, obliquely down the Janus-Hill side.

5. (See quot.)

1887 *Jrnl. R. Archæol. Inst.* XLIV. 112 The Circular [culverhouses] were provided with a revolving machine, called a potence, by which all the nests could be conveniently got at in turn.

6. *attrib.* in sense 2, as *potence file, hole.*

1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 214 The size of the potence file most generally used is four inches long. *Ibid.* 280 The body or arbor of the verge..viewed through the follower potance hole should be seen crossing the balance wheel hole of the dovetail.

Potencé (pō·tĕnse·), *a. Her.* Also potencie; improperly **potence.** [a. F. *potencé*, f. *potence*: see POTENCE[2]. Cf. PATONCE.] = POTENT *a.*[2]

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 35 Beareth Sable, a Bende Argent, with twoo double Cotizes, Potences and Counterpotences of three peces d'Or. 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* II. xxvi. 105 That euery man .. should .. vpon their vppermost garment weare a blacke Crosse, voided with a Crosse potence. 1611 COTGR., *Potencé, ée*, like, or belonging, to a Gibbet, or Crutch; In Blason, potencie. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Potent, or Potence*, the Term for a Cross in Heraldry, formed into this Figure. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) II. xviii. 193 Richard bore on his banners the cross potence and four doves of the Saxon Saint. 1894 [see POTENT *a.*[2]].

Potency (pō·tĕnsi). [ad. L. *potentia* power: see POTENCE[1] and -ENCY.] The quality of being potent.

1. Power, ability to accomplish or effect something; inherent powerfulness or capacity; authority.

1539 HEN. VIII *Instruct.* Nov., Wyatt's Wks. (1815) App. 517 Being the end and victory not in the multitude and potency, but in the hand of God. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 67, I would to heauen I had your potencie, And you were Isabell. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 114 It wilbe a very great infamy and unbefittinge the potency of y[t] crowne. 1663 WOOD *Life* Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 473 Dr..Erbury was turned out of his fellowship of Magd. Coll. by the potency of Dr..Pierce the president. 1759 W. MASON *Caractacus* Poems (1774) 237 By the dread potency of every star..We do adjure thee. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) II. xxi. 451 The renowned name became at once a charm of magic potency. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* ii. 37 Inheriting the old potency of a great house. 1884 *Law Times* 1 Mar. 315/1 The decision..has likewise a tendency to limit the potency of garnishee procedure.

b. Power to affect one physically; of liquor, etc.: overpowering or intoxicating quality; strength.

1637 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome* Title-p., An especiall declaration of the potency, vertue, and operation of our English Ale. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* II. iv, The potency of..good October. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 51 Suffocated by the potency of their exhalations, she was forced to quit the gallery. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xvii, You would have thought..the very horse..was affected by the potency of the drink.

2. *transf.* A person or body wielding power or influence; a being possessed of power; a power.

1645 W. BALL *Sphere of Govt.* 18 We may give, or Render

too much to Cæsar, or Cæsars, Potentates or Potencies. 1741 *Barrow's Wks., Pope's Supremn.* v. I. 669 Before his time the Roman Episcopacy had advanced it self beyond the priesthood into a potency. 1887 C. J. Abbey *Eng. Ch. & Bps.* I. 119 A firm believer in ghosts, witches, fairies, and such other supernatural potencies.

3. Capability of active development; potentiality, inherent capability or possibility.

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 35 Books .. doe contain a potencie of life in them to be as active as that soule was whose progeny they are. 1645 Rutherford *Tryal & Tri. Faith* vi. (1845) 72 A plant is a tree in the potency. 1874 Tyndall *Belfast Address* 55, I..discern in that Matter..the promise and potency of all terrestrial life.

4. Degree of (latent) force. Cf. Potence[1] 2.

a 1692 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 97 To conclude readily, what potency the bubble has, by the change of the atmosphere's weight, acquired or lost. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* I. 71 The effects produced by this higher potency of the same force.

Potenger, obs. form of Pottinger.

Potent (pōu·tĕnt), *sb.*[1] and *a.*[2] [app. an alteration or variant of F. *potence* Potence[2].]

A. *sb.* †**1.** A crutch; a staff with a cross piece to lean upon; also *transf.* a crozier. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 88 Dobest is a-boue boþe, And Bereþ a Busschopes cros,..A pyk is in þe potent to punge a-doun þe wikkede. ?*a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 368 So old she was that she ne wente A fote, but it were by potente. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 28 For þe thryd fut hym worthis þen Haf a potent hym on to len. *Ibid.* xl. (*Ninian*) 495 His patent can [= gan] with hym ta Priuely, ore he wald ga [cf. 514 For-þi his stafe sone has he tan]. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Thebes* I. in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 359 b/1 He taketh a potent, And on three feete, thus he goeth ayen. 1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* xiv. xii, He..wente with a potente or stylthe on whyche he lened.

b. *fig.* A support, stay. Cf. Crutch *sb.* 1 c. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9177 Thow art hys pyler & hys potent; And ellys he were Inpotent. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 240 Jhesu be my staff and my potent. 1891 Stevenson *In South Seas* (1900) 249 He was but waiting to capitulate, and looked about for any potent to relieve the strain.

†**2.** A gibbet. *Sc. Obs. rare.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* xix. 162 [He] gart heyde them, and syne he gart hyng ther quartars on potentis at diuerse comont passagis on the feildis.

†**3.** A cross handle like the head of a crutch.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 337/1 There is an other sort of these Dung Forks..without a Raspe, or Potent, on the head.

B. *adj. Her.* Having the limbs terminating in potents or crutch-heads, as *cross potent*; formed by a series of potents. *Potent* (*and*) *counter-potent*: see Counter-potent.

1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. vii. (1660) 82 He bears..a Crosse potent. 1725 Coats *Dict. Her., Potent*,..a Cross Potent, by reason of the Resemblance its Extremities bear to the Head of a Crutch. 1766–87 Porny *Heraldry* (ed. 4) Gloss., *Potent, a*...said of a Cross terminating like a T, at its upper extremities. 1882 Cussans *Her.* (ed. 3) 54 Potent is formed by a number of figures, bearing some resemblance to crutch-heads, arranged in horizontal lines, in the same manner as Vair. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her., Potent*,..also gives its name to one of the heraldic furs, composed of any metal and colour: this is, however, usually blazoned *Potent counter-potent*. *Ibid., Potent* is also applied to the edge of an ordinary or to a line of division, though the latter but rarely. *Ibid.* s. v. *Cross, Cross potent*, written sometimes *potence* (fr. potencée): so called because its arms terminate in potents,..or like crutches. Also called a Jerusalem cross.

Potent (pōu·tĕnt), *a.*[1] and *sb.*[2] [ad. L. *potens, -ent-em* powerful, pres. part. of *posse* (*potis esse*) to be powerful or able.]

1. Powerful, possessed of great power; having great authority or influence; mighty: used of persons and things, with many shades of meaning, as the power implied is political, military, social, supernatural, moral, mental, etc. (Usually a poetic or rhetorical word, felt to be stronger than *powerful*.)

a 1500 *Priests of Peblis* in Pinkerton *Scot. Poems Repr.* (1792) I. 10 Than come he hame a verie potent man; And spousit syne a michtie wyfe richt than. *a* 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 324 The potent Prince of joy imperiall, The he surmonting Empriour abone. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. iv. 89 The Doctor is well monied, and his friends Potent at Court. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* III. viii, Thus sits the great Enchauntresse in her cell,..With Vestall fire her potent liquor warmes. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 84 The potentest state there, boasting of the bravery of 200. gallies, and eight or ten galleases. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 1 The wisest and potentest of men. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 211 Moses once more his potent Rod extends Over the Sea. 1696 Tate & Brady *Ps.* viii. 7 They jointly own his potent Sway. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 164 A smaller garrison held the town..against a potenter host. 1783 Crabbe *Village* I. 282 A potent quack, long vers'd in human ills, Who first insults the victim whom he kills. 1813 H. & J. Smith *Horace in Lond.* 38 Potent once at quoits and cricket, Head erect and heart elate. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. lxii. 375 His influence and his name were potent in every corner of the globe. 1897 W. L. Clowes *Royal Navy* I. xi. 380 The danger of making any effort of the kind in face of a 'potent' fleet.

b. Of reasons, principles, motives, ideas: Cogent, effective, convincing.

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 192 But 'gainst your priuacie The reasons are more potent and heroycall. 1679 J. Goodman *Penit. Pard.* III. vi. (1713) 385 Fear..is neither so lasting a principle, nor so potent and effective a motive as hope. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VII. vi, An objection which, however potent, is single. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* iii. 51 Ideas which should shiver into atoms some of our present most potent ideas.

2. Having strong physical or chemical properties: as a potent solvent, drug, etc.

1715 Rowe *Lady J. Gray* I. i. 25 Is there no help in all the healing art, No potent juice or drug to save a life So precious? 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 113 The most potent and probably the proper solvent of iron, is the vitriolic acid. 1807–26 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 242 With respect to mercury, or any other potent remedy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 800 Of more potent remedies, salicylic acid is perhaps the most trustworthy.

3. Possessing sexual power.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 149 Such a man..impotent awake, potent only in dreams.

†**B.** *sb. Obs.* **1.** Power; a power.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 56 To praise and honour you as well for the honoure that God hath doone to you as for your noble potentes. 1631 *Celestina* VII. 88 Such a peerelesse Potent, a commanding Power, as thy imperious unparaleld beauty!

2. One who has power or authority; a potent person; a potentate.

1595 Shaks. *John* II. i. 358 Cry hauocke kings, back to the stained field You equall Potents, fierie kindled spirits. 1642 W. Bird *Mag. Honor* 8 There be other Potents under the King, which are called Barons.

3. A military warrant or order.

1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* III. vi. 103 The Victuall-Master..may send forth his warrants or potents for the bringing in of all manner of victualls at their ordinary prizes. 1689 G. Walker *Siege of Derry* 15 A Fortnight later, we receiv'd a Potent to March to St. Johnstown. 1690 J. Mackenzie *Siege London-Derry* 5/2 The Potent being more narrowly inspected, was found defective.

Potent, *a.*[2]: see after Potent *sb.*[1]

†**Po·tentacy,** *Obs.* [f. Potentate: see -acy.] The state or rule of a potentate; supreme power.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 357 The usurping potentacie, and outragious rule of thundering Tyraunts. 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 14 Their Interests..are preserved and kept distinct, as these are often allowed to be under some conquering Potentacy. 1701 Beverley *Glory of Grace* 48 That, in which the Supreme, the Infinite Wisdom, Holiness, Dominion, Potentacy, hath placed its Glory.

Potentate (pōu·tĕnteit), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 4–6 **potentat.** [ad. L. *potentātus* (*u*-stem) power, dominion, in late L. a potentate (whence F. *potentat*), f. *potens* Potent *a.*[1]: see -ate[1].]

1. A person endowed with independent power; a prince, monarch, ruler.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 30 Til ȝe alon wil be potentats in þe kirk. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 81 b, No potentate was more piteous nor lorde more bounteous. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 136 But Kings and mightiest Potentates must die, For that's the end of humane miserie. 1667 Milton *P. L.* v. 706 All obey'd The wonted signal, and superior voice Of thir great Potentate. 1769 Gray *Installation Ode* 37 High potentates and dames of royal birth. 1867 Freeman *N. C.* I. ii. 39 The mightiest potentate of the East.

2. A powerful city, state, or body; = Power 6 b.

1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* III. 94 Carthage grew so great a Potentate, that [etc.]. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 325 The best Security against any future Designs or Attempts from the French, or any other Potentate. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 130 Nothing indicated that the East India Company would ever become a great Asiatic potentate.

†**B.** *adj.* Powerful, ruling. *Obs.*

1556 J. Heywood *Spider & F.* lxv. 54 This spider hath vsurpedlie growne To potentate state. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50/2 Those mighty and potentat Lordes. 1648 S. Fairclough *Prisoner's Praises*, etc. (1650) 39 Execute..the spirit of mortification upon your potentate and predominate sins.

Po·tented, *a. Her.* [f. Potent *sb.*[1] + -ed[2].] (See quots.) So ‖ **Potentée** *a.*

c 1828 Berry *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Potented*, or *Potentée*, ordinaries are so termed when the outer edges are formed into *potents*, differing from what is called *potent counterpotent*, which is the forming of the whole surface of the ordinary into potents and counterpotents like the fur. *Ibid., Bend potentée*, like the bend patée, is formed by one limb of the cross potent issuing from the sides. 1830 Robson *Brit. Herald* III, *Potented*, or *Potentée*. 1889 in Elvin *Heraldry* 103/2.

‖ **Pote·ntia.** [L., = power.] *In potentia* = in Posse: see ‖ In 21.

1601 A. Copley *Answ. Let. Jesuited Gent.* 26 No compleate head in *esse* but only in *potentia*.

Potential (pote·nʃăl), *a.* and *sb.* Also 4–6 **-encial**(l. [ME. *potenciall*, ad. late L. *potentiālis* (Albertus Magnus *a* 1250, but cf. *potentiāliter* adv. 5th c., Sidon.), f. *potentia* Potency + -al; so OF. *potencial* (14–15th c. in Godef.), mod.F. *potentiel*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Possessing potency or power; potent, powerful, mighty, strong; commanding. Now *rare.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 360 The myght of the fadires potenciall deite. *a* 1529 Skelton *Prayer to Father* 2 Celestial Father, potencial God of myght. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* I. ii. 13 The Magnifico is much belou'd, And hath in his effect a voice potentiall As double as the Dukes. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 683 The bark, when sufficiently masticated, operates as a very potential purge and emetic. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 19/1 The nation as a whole, and every individual composing it, are without any potential voice in their own destiny.

2. Possible as opposed to actual; existing *in posse* or in a latent or undeveloped state, capable of coming into being or action: latent.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. viii. (Bodl. MS.), Potencial liȝt þat is in a bodie medled and derke passeþ not to worke in dede but bi comynge of outeward liȝt. 1626 Prynne *Perpet. Regen. Man's Est.* 262 This..cannot imply an actuall or a potentiall fall from the state of grace. 1657 S. Purchas *Pol. Flying-Ins.* I. ii. 3 The Worm or Potential Bee. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xvi. 261 When he [a sole corporation] dies or resigns, though there is no actual owner of the land till a successor be appointed, yet there is a legal, potential ownership, subsisting in contemplation of law. 1861 Kent *Comm. Amer. Law* (1873) II. xxxix. 468 The thing sold must have an actual or potential existence. 1872 Nicholson *Biol.* 15 Life may remain in a dormant or 'potential' condition for an apparently indefinite length of time. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Mar. 6/2 The ships..put out under steam, running eight or nine throughout the night to avoid potential torpedoes.

3. *Med. Potential cautery*, an agent which produces the same effects on the skin as an *actual cautery* or red-hot iron. So *potential corrosive.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 305 He knowiþ not þe difference bitwixe a cauterie þat is clepid actuel & potencial. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 17 b/2 We vse nowe in these dayes potentialle corrosiues. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 90 In which case..a potential Caustick medicament..is convenient. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Potential Cautery*..is that which is perform'd with Limestone or other Caustick Druggs. 1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 174, I prefer the Potential Cautery, such as the Lapis Infernalis, or the Mercurial Water. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Potential cautery*, nitrate of silver..or Potassa fusa, as distinct from the *Actual cautery*, or red-hot iron.

4. *Gram.* That expresses potentiality or possibility: *potential mood*, a name sometimes given to the subjunctive mood, when used to express possibility; the subjunctive mood used potentially.

In French Grammar, sometimes applied to the Conditional (*J'aurais, je serais*, etc.).

[1524 Linacre *De Emendata Structura Latini Sermonis* (ed. Paris 1550) 30 Potentialem vocamus, quem Graeci per ἂν coniunctionem & verbum duplicis modi, alias indicatiui, alias optatiui, explicant.]

1530 Palsgr. Introd. 31 Modes: every parfyte verbe hath vi, the indicatyve, imperatyve, optatyve or potencial, the subjunctyve, the condicionall, and the infynityve. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1669) 31 How know you the Potential Mood? It sheweth an ability, will, or duty to do any thing. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Potential Mood in Grammar*, is the same in form with the *Subjunctive*; but differs in this, That it hath always Implied in it, either *Possum, Volo*, or *Debeo*; as *Roget Quis*, that is, *Rogare potest*, a Man may ask. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. ii. i. 117 That the Potential Mood should be separated from the subjunctive, is evident, from the intricacy and confusion which are produced by their being blended together, and from the distinct nature of the two moods; the former of which may be expressed without any condition, supposition, etc. 1837 G. Phillips *Syriac Gram.* 111, The tenses, especially the future, either alone or in connection with one or more particles, in many cases express a potential, subjunctive, or hypothetical sense. 1876 Mason *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 21) 60 To these moods [Infinitive, Indicative, Imperative, Subjunctive] many grammarians add the Potential Mood, meaning by that mood certain combinations of the so-called auxiliary verbs *may, might, can, could, must*, with the infinitive mood. This is objectionable.

b. With humorous play on sense **2**.

1680 T. Jordan *London's Glory* 2 [Followed by] all Lord Mayors in the Potential Mood. 1823 Byron *Juan* XI. xxxv, By those who govern in the mood potential.

5. *Physics.* **a.** *Potential function*: a mathematical function or quantity by the differentiation of which the force at any point in space arising from any system of bodies, etc. can be expressed. In the case in which the system consists of separate masses, electrical charges, etc., this quantity is equal to the sum of these, each divided by its distance from the point.

Introduced in 1828, by G. Green, with special reference to electricity. Now usually called simply *potential* (see B. 4).

1828 G. Green *Applic. Math. Anal. to Electr. & Magn.* in *Math. Papers* (1871) 9 Nearly all the attractive and repulsive forces .. in nature are such, that if we consider any material point p, the effect, in a given direction, of all the forces acting upon that point, arising from any system of bodies S under consideration, will be expressed by a partial differential of a certain function of the co-ordinates which serve to define the point's position in space. The consideration of this function is of great importance in many inquiries...We shall often have occasion to speak of this function, and will therefore, for abridgement, call it the potential function arising from the system S. 1882 Minchin *Unipl. Kinemat.* 135 The function ϕ is called the potential-function of the strain, and the curves obtained by varying the constant in the equation $\phi = C$ are called curves of equal potential.

b. *Potential energy*: energy existing in a positional form, not as motion: see Energy 6.

Introduced by Rankine in 1853, *potential* being opposed to *actual*, as in sense 2; Thomson and Tait substituted *kinetic* for *actual*, making *potential energy* the opposite of *kinetic energy*. The Latin expression *vis potentialis* had been used by the two Bernoullis and Euler *a* 1750.

[1744 Euler *Methodus inveniendi lineas curvas*, etc. 246 Quamobrem cum vir celeberrimus..Daniel Bernoulli mihi indicasset se universam vim, quae in lamina elastica incurvata insit, una quadam formula quam *vim potentialem* appellat complecti posse.]

1853 W. Rankine *Transform. Energy* in *Sci. Papers* (1881) 203 By the occurrence of such changes, actual energy disappears, and is replaced by Potential or Latent Energy; which is measured by the product of a change of state into the resistance against which that change is made. (The vis viva of matter in motion, thermometric heat, radiant heat, light, chemical action, and electric currents, are forms

of actual energy; amongst those of potential energy are those of the mechanical powers of gravitation, elasticity, chemical affinity, statical electricity, and magnetism. 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 71 We may thus render muscular force latent in a stretched bowstring, raised cannon-ball, or other instrument, for any length of time. This latent force is generally spoken of as potential energy, while the active force exertable at any moment by the flying arrow or falling ball constitutes its actual or dynamic energy. 1868 Thomson & Tait *Elem. Dynamics* 74 The *potential energy* of a conservative system, in the configuration which it has at any instant, is the amount of work that its mutual forces perform during the passage of the system from any one chosen configuration to the configuration at the time referred to. 1875 Gamgee tr. *Hermann's Elem. Hum. Physiol.* Introd. 1 The human body..is an organism in which, by the chemical change of its constituent parts, *potential* is converted into *kinetic* energy. 1876 Tait *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sc.* (1885) 364 Excellent instances of potential energy are supplied by..the wound up 'weights' of a clock.., by gunpowder, the chemical affinities of whose constituents are called into play by a spark [etc.]. 1881 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* (ed. 2) I. 16 To determine the value of the potential energy when the magnet is placed in the field of force expressed by this potential.

B. *sb.* † **1.** A potential agent, a thing that gives power. *Obs. rare.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Potentials*, things apt to breed or give power, strength or ability.

2. That which is possible, opposed to what is actual; a possibility.

1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* I. xii. 245 The *potential* works *in* them, even as the *actual* works on them! 1883 Edersheim *Life Jesus* (ed. 6) I. 634 With this belief our highest thoughts of the potential for humanity..are connected. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Ess. Crit. Method* 92 The faculty..must be held to reach its highest potential, on the side of literature, in the case of personal gift cultivated by a literary life.

3. *Gram.* Short for *Potential mood*: see A. 4.

4. *Physics.* Short for *potential function*: see A. 5 a. Hence, the amount of energy or quantity of work denoted by this, considered as a quality or condition of the matter, electricity, etc., in question. See quots.

('*Potential* as the name of a function was undoubtedly introduced by Gauss in 1840' (G. F. Becker in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* 1893, Feb. 97). [Cf. Gauss *Allgem. Lehrsätze d. Quadrats d. Entfernung* Wks. 1877 V. 200 Zur bequemern Handhabung..werden wir uns erlauben dieses *V* mit einer besonderen Benennung zu belegen, und die Grösse das *Potential* der Massen, worauf sie sich bezieht, nennen.])

1828 G. Green *On Applic. Math. Anal.* etc. in *Math. Papers* (1871) 32 This equation is remarkable on account of its simplicity and singularity, seeing that it gives the value of the potential for any point p', within the surface, when $\overline{V}$, its value at the surface itself, is known, together with [etc.]. 1853 Sir W. Thomson in *Philos. Mag.* Ser. IV. V. 288 *note*, The potential at any point in the neighbourhood of or within a charged body is the quantity of work that would be required to bring a unit of positive electricity from an infinite distance to that point if the given distribution of electricity remained unaltered. 1866 R. M. Ferguson *Electr.* (1870) 277 Instead of the word tension, used with reference to the work that can be effected by a charge when openly insulated, or electro-motive force, the word *potential* is now used. 1867 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Philos.* (1883) II. 29. § 483 This function [the potential] was introduced for gravitation by Laplace, but the name was first given to it by Green, who may almost be said to have in 1828 created the theory, as we now have it. *Ibid.* § 485 The *Potential* at any point, due to any attracting or repelling body, or distribution of matter, is the mutual potential energy between it and a unit of matter placed at that point. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 5 Potential implies that function of electricity which determines its motion from one point to another. And the difference of potential, which determines the amount of this motion, is called electro-motive force. 1879 G. Prescott *Sp. Telephone* 37 The difference .. of magnetic potential existing between the diaphragm and the core is increased. 1881 Maxwell *Electr. & Magn.* I. 76 Potential, in electrical science, has the same relation to Electricity that pressure, in Hydrostatics, has to fluid, or that temperature, in Thermodynamics, has to Heat. 1881 Jenkin *Electr.* 51 The effect of contact in producing or maintaining difference of potentials. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Feb. 6/3 (Mr. Tesla's demonstration.) Currents of these extremely high potentials appear to be absolutely without effect upon the human organism. 1902 Sloane *Stand. Electr. Dict.* (ed. 3), The magnetic potential at any point of a magnetic field expresses the work which would be done by the magnetic forces of the field on a positive unit of magnetism as it moves from that point to an infinite distance therefrom...It is the exact analogue of absolute electric potential.

attrib. 1896 *Academy* 11 Apr. 399/2 The rate of leak..was no greater when the potential difference was 500 volts than when it was 5. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 101 'High potential' electrical heat for irons, broilers, chafing dishes, and local applications. *Ibid.* 104 To run an engine dynamo ..to furnish high potential heat and light.

Potentiality (potɛnʃiæ·lĭti). [ad. med.L. *potentiālitās* (Albertus Magnus, *a* 1250), f. *potentiāl-is*: see prec. and -ITY. So F. *potentialité*.]

1. The quality of being powerful or having power: see Potential *a.* 1.

1627 Hakewill *Apol.* I. ii. 70 'Habent aliquid potentialitatis admixtum', as Lyra speakes, they haue some kinde of potentiality (I know not how otherwise to render his word) mixed with them. 1656 Hobbes *Liberty, Necess. & Chance* 266 Nor do I understand what derogation it can be to the Divine perfection, to attribute to it Potentiality, that is (in English) Power. 1820 Coleridge *Lett., Convers.* etc. I. 133, I have the power, the potentiality of walking. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 514 An unlimited and unimpaired potentiality of sovereignty.

2. *esp.* The state or quality of possessing latent power or capacity capable of development into activity; possibility of action or active existence: opposed to *actuality*: see Potential *a.* 2.

1625 Jackson *Creed* v. xiv. § 2 That potentiality or aptitude which the soul hath to be linked, and made one substance with the body. 1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 11 By Earth you are to understand, the Potentiality or Capability of the Existence of the outward Creation. 1781 Johnson Apr. in Boswell, We are not here to sell a parcel of boilers and vats, but the potentiality of growing rich beyond the dreams of avarice. 1855 Bain *Senses & Int.* III. i. § 37 (1864) 378 The mental conception that we have of empty space, is *scope for movement*, the possibility or potentiality of moving. 1862 Dana *Man. Geol.* 599 Characteristics before only foreshadowed, or existing only in potentiality, come out into full expression.

b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of this quality; a capacity or possibility, or a condition, thing, or being in which it is embodied.

1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 44 By the former it hath a potentiality, by the latter an habitude in reference thereunto. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. § 7 (1695) 160 In this looser sense, I crave leave to be understood, when I name any of these Potentialities amongst the simple Ideas, which we recollect in our Minds, when we think of particular Substances. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) II. VIII. vi. 586 In the joy of liberty regained there are massed together the potentialities and gratifications in general. 1862 — *First Princ.* I. ii. § 11. 33 The self-creation of such a potential universe would involve over again the difficulties here stated—would imply behind this potential universe a more remote potentiality. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 522/1 The seed is the potentiality of the plant. 1879 Huxley *Hume* iii. 85 The conversion, by unknown causes, of these innate potentialities into actual existences.

3. *Electr.* = Potential *sb.* 4. *rare.*

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 857 The individual, through whose body there is passing an electric current of not too high potentiality, generally experiences pain.

Potentialize (potɛ·nʃălaiz), *v.* [f. Potential + -ize.] *trans.* To make potential, give potentiality to; *spec.* in reference to energy, To convert into a potential condition. Hence **Pote·ntialized** *ppl. a.*, **Pote·ntializing** *vbl. sb*; **Potentializa·tion**, the action of making potential.

1856 P. Fairbairn *Prophecy* II. III. iv. 431 *note*, The six highly potentialized—three times repeated (666) is the utmost that could be assigned him for a symbolical indication of his nature—this is the number of his name. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lxxix. 273 Neander's attempt to substitute a mere potentialization of the water for vinous properties. 1886 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XXXI. 120 At the extreme configurations of any simple vibration, the energy of the simple movement is entirely potentialized. 1889 *Nature* 3 Oct. 562/1 With a given metal, there is large potentializing in the first stages of strain, and large dissipation in the final stages.

Potentially (potɛ·nʃăli), *adv.* [f. Potential *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. Powerfully, mightily; authoritatively. Now *rare.*

1549 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1381/2 The wordes of holy scripture doe worke theyr effectes potencially and thorowly by the mighty operation of the spirite of God. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Potentially*, powerfully, mightily, substantially, effectually. 1878 B. Harte *Man on Beach* ii. 53 'That settles the whole matter then,' said Bessie potentially.

2. In a potential or possible manner or state; in potentiality, possibility, or capability: opposed to *actually*.

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 15 Seithe Boice in Arsemetrike, that vnyte potencially is al nombre, and none in act. ‡1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 39 b/2 The matter applyed on the bodye, actuallye combureth or potentiallye, wherfore they are called actuall or potentialle Cauteryes. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* Pref. B iv, It's thought, that, in the Seed are alwaies potentially seuerall indiuiduating Qualities deriu'd from diuers of the neere ancestors. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 292 The doctrine of atoms actually, if not potentially, indivisible. *a* 1822 Shelley *Def. Poetry* Essays & Lett. (Camelot Class.) 29 The first acorn..contained all oaks potentially. 1864 Bowen *Logic* iv. 61 Every Concept must denote some existing object,—existing, that is, either really or potentially.

3. In the potential mood. *rare.*

1861 Dickens *Gt. Expect.* xlv, Imperative mood, present tense: Do not thou go home, let him not go home, let us not go home...Then, potentially: I may not and I cannot go home.

So **Pote·ntialness**, potentiality.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 28 Potentialness, Reversion, may, can. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Potentialness*, Powerfulness, Efficacy.

Pote·ntiary. *nonce-wd.* [After Plenipotentiary.] One possessing power to act.

1854 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxx, The last great potentiary had arrived who was to take part in the family congress.

Potentiate (potɛ·nʃiĕit), *v.* [f. L. *potentia* power + -ate 3. In quot. 1817 after Ger. *potenzi(e)ren.*]

1. *trans.* To endow with power or potency.

1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xii. (1882) 135, I have even hazarded the new verb potenziate, with its derivatives, in order to express the combination or transfer of powers. 1820 — in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 137 Of such exertions..I do not believe a human soul capable, unless substantiated and successively potentiated by an especial divine grace. 1827–48 Hare *Guesses* (1859) 430 The true ideal is the individual, purified and potentiated, the individual freed from everything that is not individual in it.

2. To make possible.

1865 *Englishm. Mag.* Jan. 51 Before a language can arrive at that maturity which potentiates a strict art of composition, it must pass through every intermediate phase from the formless to the regular.

Hence **Pote·ntiated** *ppl. a.*; **Potentia·tion**, the action of potentiating, endowment with power.

a 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 94 The energies of intellect..in a rich and more potentiated form. 1840 J. H. Green *Vital Dynamics* 31 That potentiation of living existence, which we name animated. 1847 — *Mental Dynamics* 10 This individuality .. which consists in a higher potentiation and happier combination of the human powers. 1861 *N. Brit. Rev.* No. 70. 377 A highly potentiated feeling of human brotherhood.

Po·tentil. *rare.* Anglicized form of next.

1884 Miller *Plant-n.*, Potentil, Marsh, *Potentilla Comarum* (*Comarum palustre*). 1906 *Daily Chron.* 4 May 6/7 Tormentil and potentil are opening in the woods.

‖ **Potentilla** (pōutĕntĭ·lă). *Bot.* [med.L. *potentilla*, f. L. *potens*, *-ent-em* Potent + dim. *-illa*; applied *a* 1500 to the Garden Valerian or Phu; in 16th c. to *Potentilla anserina*, whence adopted by Linnæus as name of the genus.] An extensive genus of *Rosaceæ*, comprising herbs and undershrubs, of which the Silverweed, Cinquefoil, and Tormentil are common British species.

[*c* 1300 Simon Januensis, *Amantilla*, potentilla, fu, valleriana idem. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 150 *Portentilla*, amantilla idem. *Ibid.* 69 *Fu*, ualeriana, amantilla, ueneria, portentilla.] 1548 Turner *Names of Herbes* H iv, Portentilla or as some write Potentilla, is named also Tanacetum syluestre..in englishe wylde Tansey. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lix. 86. 1706 Phillips, *Potentilla*, (Lat.) wild Tansey or Silver-weed; an Herb so call'd from its admirable Virtues. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 477 Which confirms the opinion of those who maintain that Potentilla and Tormentilla are not distinct genera. 1867 H. Macmillan *Bible Teach.* ii. (1870) 30 Golden *genius* and *potentillas* gleamed like miniature suns. 1883 G. Allen in *Longm. Mag.* 306 The potentillas are a group of very lowly and primitive roses.

Potentiometer (potenʃiǫ·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *potentia* power (with allusion to Potential *sb.* 4) + -meter.] An instrument for measuring differences of electrical potential.

1881 W. G. Adams in *Nature* 21 Apr. 582 The electrometer or potentiometer method, in which the difference of potential between two points in the circuit with a given resistance between them is directly measured. 1897 W. C. Fisher (*title*) The Potentiometer and its adjuncts. 1906 *Athenæum* 27 Oct. 517/3 The various methods of measuring resistances and a description of the uses of the potentiometer.

† **Pote·ntional,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. Erroneous form for Potential.

1651 French *Distill.* v. 162 Then..the earth..did specificate that potentionall salt..into a nitrous salt.

Potentite (pōu·tĕntəit). [f. L. *potent-em* Potent *a.*1 + -ite 1 4.] Name of an explosive.

1883 V. D. Majendie in *Standard* 19 Apr. 5/6 Explosives (such as dynamite, blasting gelatine,..tonite, potentite, and detonators). 1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Potentite*, an explosive used in the Cumberland and Furness mines.

Po·tentize, *v.* [f. L. *potent-em* powerful + -ize, after G. *potenzi(e)ren* to potentiate.] *trans.* To make potent; *spec.* to develop the power of (a medicine) by trituration or succussion; = Dynamize.

1857 Dunglison *Med. Dict.* s. v. *Dynamic*, By certain processes, called, in the aggregate, dynamization and potentizing, the dynamic powers of a medicine may be set free and developed—as by shaking the bottle in which the article is contained. 1881 J. G. Glover in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 127/1 The most characteristic feature of Hahnemann's practice—the 'potentizing', 'dynamizing', of medicinal substances. 1892 E. Haughton in *Echo* 1 Sept. 2/5 Some brand-new microbe, alive and kicking, is to be duly distilled and potentised, until a single drop of his juice, squirted under the skin of your back, will enable you to defy the foul fiend now, henceforth, and for ever.

Potently (pōu·tĕntli), *adv.* [f. Potent *a.*1 + -ly 2.] In a potent manner; powerfully, mightily.

1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 38 With these women, I say, did God worke potentlie. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 135 You are Potently oppos'd, and with a Malice Of as great Size. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvii. 129 The Air having more room..does less potently press upon the subjacent Mercury. 1740 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) I. 265 Idle tales, which they now potently believe. 1884 W. S. Lilly in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 261 A new conception .. destined most potently to influence the structure of society.

Po·tentness. *rare*—0. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being potent; potency; might.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Potentness*, mightiness, powerfulness.

Po·ter. *rare.* Also 7 **-our.** [app. f. L. *pōt-āre* to drink, or *pōt-us* drink + -er 1; but cf. Potter *sb.*2] A drinker, a toper.

1657 Howell *Londinop.* 392 They inquire after Potours, Panders, and Bawds. 1900 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 5/7, I fear I have given myself into the hands of the Philistines, whether they be total abstainers or good honest 'poters'.

Potere, obs. form of Pot-ear.

‖ **Poterium** (potīə·rĭŏm). *Bot.* [L. *potērium*, a. Gr. ποτήριον drinking-cup, wine-cup; also, name of a shrub. (The mod. application is said in *Treas. Bot.* to refer to the use of the Salad Burnet in flavouring Cool tankard.)] A genus of herbaceous plants of N.O. *Rosaceæ*; Salad Burnet.

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. xxiii. 1148, I haue sowen the seede of Poterion in April which I receiued.., that grew in my garden two yeres togither, and after perished by some mischance. 1706 Phillips, *Poterium*,..a sort of Thistle.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Poterium*, a word used by many for the prickly pimpernell.

Poteron, variant of POTRON *Obs.*

Pote·stal, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. next + -AL.] Of or pertaining to potestas: see next, 3.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* IV. § 78 Of opinion that my action is only suspended while the child or slave is in my *potestas*, because I cannot proceed against myself, but that it revives on the potestal relationship coming to an end.

‖ **Potestas** (pote·stæs). Pl. **potestates** (*-ēi·tīz*). [L. *potestās* power, used in certain connexions.]

†**1.** *Alg.* = POWER *sb.*[1] 11. *Obs.*

1656 HOBBES *Six Less.* Wks. 1845 VII. 330 The roots and potestates themselves. 1675 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 213 They will both ascend to the 18th potestas of the unknown symbol.

†**2.** Chemical or pharmaceutical power; active principle; = ESSENCE *sb.* 9. *Obs.*

1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 290 That Potestates or Powers of things are as if they were the Nature. 1694 — *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 152/1 After the same Manner..prepare the Potestates or Powers of other Vegetable Productions.

3. *Roman Law.* The power or authority of the head of a family over those depending on him; *esp.* parental authority.

1870 ABDY & WALKER tr. *Gaius* I. § 109. 35 Whereas both males and females may be in our *potestas*, females alone come into *manus*. 1880 [see POTESTAL].

†**Po·testate.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 **-at.** [ad. L. *potestās, -ātem* power, a ruler, supreme magistrate. So OF. *potestat* (learned form = pop. *poustee*); It. *podestà*. The pl. *potestates* is uniform with the pl. of *potestas*, and sometimes indistinguishable from it.]

1. A person possessed of power over others; a superior, potentate, ruler, lord.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 229 Eche man owiþ to be suget to heiȝere potestatis, þat is to men of heiȝe power. *c* 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 297 Wilt þou not drede þe potestate? *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 309 Whilom ther was an Irous potestat. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VII. (*Lion & Mouse*) XXXVII, Ane prince or empriour, Ane potestate, or ȝit ane king with croun. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 33 Lawfull for the potestates, the nobilitie, the gentrie [etc.]. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 120 Some Potestats are queint men. *a* 1698 WOODHEAD *Holy Living* (1688) 29 They always giving a relation, or account..to their superior potestates, or to God.

2. Rendering *potestas* in the Vulgate (Eph. vi. 12, 1 Pet. iii. 22), applied to a spiritual (angelic or demonic) 'power'.

1382 WYCLIF *Eph.* vi. 12 Aȝens the princes and potestatis, aȝens gouernours of the world of thes derknessis. 1520 M. NISBET 1 *Peter* iii. 22 Angels, potestatis, and virtues, ar made subiectis to him. 1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* XXV. Lij b, It is no man nor Aungel, but God..whome the angelike potestates do reuerently feare. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Eph.* i. 21 Aboue al Principalitie and Potestate and Power, and Dominion. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 195 They lyuing with flesh, like vnto the Potestates who want bodies, are not oppressed with the burden of their bodie.

b. *spec.*, in mediæval angelology, a member of the sixth order of angels: see ORDER *sb.* 5.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 255 b/2 The pryncypates armonysed, The potestates harped, Cherubyn and Seraphyn songen louynges and preysynges. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XV. viii. (1886) 337 Thrones, dominions, principats, potestats, virtutes, cherubim and seraphim.

3. The chief magistrate in mediæval Italian towns and republics: = PODESTÀ b; *transf.* a chief magistrate in certain Turkish towns.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 208 A noble marchand of Paris suld pas before thair Potestate of Florence. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. viii. 174 Whan ye shal come to Rome to the potestate and all the counceylle and Senate. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 187 Then folowed the potestates & gouernors of the citie [Bologna] all in Crimosyn veluet, & within a myle of the citie there met hym [Charles V] foure and twentie Cardinalles. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 One of the saide Mahomies is elected and created potestate, and chiefe iustice both ciuil and criminal [of Chios]. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 157 The potestate of Pera came by sea also with eight gallies more.

†**4.** A (collective) authority, a governing body, e. g. of a university. *Obs. rare.*

1530 *Let. fr. Venice* 1 July (*MS. Cott. Vit. B. xiii.* 92), They [all the doctors] causyd the Chanceler of the potestate [of the University of Padua] to set his hande and seale for the approbation of the authorytye off the notarye.

†**5.** Power, authority. *Obs. rare.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 110 Trowand thairof that no man dar speik ill, Becaus he is ane prince of potestate.

†**Potesta·tion.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **-acion.** [f. L. *potestās* power + -ATION; cf. *gravitation.*] Power, authorization.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 177 The prynces haue gouyn me full potestacion. 1623 COCKERAM, *Potestation*, the same that Potencie is.

Potestative (pōu·teste·itiv), *a.* [ad. F. *potestatif*, ad. late L. *potestātīvus* adj. (Tert.) denoting or containing power, f. L. *potestāt-em* power + *-īvus*, -IVE; cf. *facultative, qualitative*, etc.]

1. Befitting a 'potestate'; having power or authority; authoritative.

1630 DONNE *Serm.* xiii. 134 So I might contemplate him in a judiciary posture, in a potestative, a soveraigne posture, sitting [etc.]. 1644 [H. PARKER] *Jus Pop.* 56 All commands are not alike binding and Potestative. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 234 The abuse of the Potestative Primality is Tyranny. 1724 R. WODROW *Life J. Wodrow* (1828) 66 A probationer only, for order's sake and without any potestative mission.

2. *Potestative condition,* a condition within the power or control of one of the parties concerned.

1652 WARREN *Unbelievers* (1654) 17 We do not..make it a potestative uncertain condition. 1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 328 If we did hold faith, as it is our act to be required as a proper potestative foregoing condition of our acceptance. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 342 Such a Condition ..is said to be a Potestative Condition in respect of a third Person, but a Casual Condition in regard to the Person to whom such Legacy is given. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* 12 A potestative or arbitrary condition is that, which makes the execution of the agreement depend on the will of one of the contracting parties, or upon an event which it is in the power of that party to bring about or to prevent. 1853 WHEWELL *Grotius* II. 43 If the condition under which the thing may come into the power of the promiser be also potestative (such as he himself can bring about or accelerate).

Pote·stick: see POTE *sb.*[1] 3.

†**Pote·stolate.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* ? Humorous dim. of POTESTATE.

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 985 He is suche a grym syer, And suche a potestolate, And suche a potestate.

[Poteuere, potewer, scribal errors for *potener*, PAUTENER, purse. See Skeat *Notes Eng. Etym.* 227.

a 1650 *Sir Degree* 866 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* III. 47 By that sword I know thee heere; The poynt is in my poteuere [*Auchinleck MS.* aumenere]. *a* 1650 *Boy & Mantle* 21 *ibid.* II. 305 He plucked out of his potewer..a pretty mantle.]

‖ **Potews.** *Cookery. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *potaus* (1387–8 in Godef.), **poteus*, pl. of *potel* a little pot, POTTLE.] A fancy dish moulded in an earthen pot, which was broken when the contents had become solid.

?*c* 1390 *Form of Cury* § 177 (1780) 80 Potews. Take Pottus of Erþe lytell of half a quart and fyll hem full of fars of pomme dorryes...Whan þey buth ynow3, breke þe pottus of erþe & do þe fars on þe spyt & rost hem wel.

Po·t-eye. *Spinning.* [POT *sb.*[1]] (See quot.)

1864 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* Gloss., *Pot-eye*, a little cup with a slit in it, set in a spinning frame for the thread to run down, and to avoid friction. 1884 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 177 On a throstle frame the yarn is first passed through and rubbed against the 'pot-eye' of the wire-board, and then tightly wound round a hard bobbin.

†**Po·t-fish.** *Obs.* Also **pott-.** [ad. Du. *potvisch*, in Ger. *pottfisch*, Da., Swed. *potfisk*; the first element being perh. the same as in obs. Du. *potshoofd* thick-head (Kilian), Flem. *potshoofd* an eel-pout, in reference to the huge head of this whale.] The cachalot or spermaceti whale.

1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 611 In these Seas are Cachelots or Pot-fish, a sort of Whales, their Length 50 to 70 Feet. 1799 W. TOOKE *View Russian Emp.* III. 105 The Frozen Ocean..teems with the narhwal, the pott-fish, from whose brain spermaceti is prepared.

Po·t-fi·sher. a. = next. **b.** One who fishes merely 'for the pot': cf. POT-HUNTER 2.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Po·t-fi·sherman. A fisherman who fishes while floating on the water supported by a pot, into which also he puts the fish when caught: a method practised on some Asiatic rivers.

Potful (pǫ·tful). [f. POT *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] The quantity that fills a pot; as much as a pot holds.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 176 A potful of peosun þat pers hedde I-mad [C. IX. 182 A potful of potage þat peersses wyf made]. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 265 in *Macro Plays* 10, I was neuer worth a pottfull a wortes, sythyn I was borne. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. (1686) 65 A potfull of ashes. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* XXII. 77 A fire is started..to cook a potful of meat.

†**Pot-gallery.** *Obs.* A 'gallery' of some kind on the banks of the Thames (and perhaps other navigable rivers), which often projected over the water, and was found to be an encroachment.

(Its actual nature and purpose have not been ascertained; the suggestion that it was the outside gallery or balcony of a pot-house overhanging the river (see N. & Q. 31 Aug. 1907, p. 172) appears to be set aside by the recorded dimensions of some 'pot-galleries': see the quots.)

1630 *Sir R. Ducie's Orders* § 20 in R. Griffiths *Conservacy of Thames* (1746) 70 *Item*, That no Person do make or continue any Wharf, Building, Potgallery, or other Purpresture, or Incroachment into, upon, or over any Part of the Soil of the said River. 1684 *Survey of Buildings & Encroachments on Thames* (Bodl. Lib., Gough Maps 46 lf. 42), On the South Side..1. At Allen's Dye-house a Pott Gallery, 21 ft. E. to W., 12 ft. out into the River, Old. *Ibid.* (lf. 43), On the North Side..3. St Katherines, from Iron Gate towards St Katherines Dock are Pot Galleries, 620 ft. E. to W., 8 and 10 ft. out into the river, Old.

Po·t-ga·rden. A garden of pot-herbs, a kitchen-garden. Also *attrib.*

1511 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For dygyng off þe byen growndin þe pot gardyne. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 172 The knot-garden serueth for pleasure: the potte garden for profitte. 1642 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Mending the locke of the potgarden gate. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 503/1 The cabbage and the cauliflower and most things that grow in a pot-garden are but little known to him who sees them only in the pot or on the plate.

†**Po·t-gu·n, po·tgun.** *Obs.* Also 6 **-gonne, -goon,** 6–7 **-gunne.** [f. POT *sb.*[1] + GUN *sb.*]

1. A short piece of ordnance with a large bore, a mortar; so called from its shape.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* H iv, Another striken through with a potgonne recouered. 1557 A. JENKINSON *Voy. & Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 360 They haue..a great many of morter pieces or potguns. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 81 Then the enemies were warned by the Iewe that wrote letters to them.., that the sayd potgunnes did no harme.

2. = POP-GUN *sb.* 1.

1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 30 b, One of those potgunnes of elder, that boyes vse to shoote paper and slowes in. 1611 COTGR., *Caloniere*, a pot-gunne made of a Quill, or Elder sticke. 1660 M. R. *Exact Acc. Receipts* 3, I..wish I had been chang'd into an Elder-tree, to have been cut out into Pot-guns. 1729 SWIFT *To Dr. Delany on Libels* 14 When first in Print, you see him dread Each Pot-Gun levell'd at his Head. 1801 [see POP-GUN 1].

b. Contemptuously or ludicrously applied to a pistol or similar fire-arm; cf. POP-GUN *sb.* 2.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. vii. (Arb.) 75 Once discharge my harquebouse And for my heartes ease, haue once more with my potgoon. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* IV. iv, How! fright me with your pot-gun? 1659 SHIRLEY *Honoria & Mam.* I. i, When all your liveries go a-feasting By water, with your gally-foist and pot-guns.

3. *fig.* A loud talker, a mere boaster, a braggart; also, an unfounded report.

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* III. iii, I saw a Dutchman break his pate once For calling him pot-gun. *c* 1626 *Dick of Devon.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 9, I heard such a report, But had no faith in't: a mere Potgun! 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. viii, That sign of a man there, that pot-gun charged with wind.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1624 FORD *Sun's Darling* To Rdr., The First Season. Presents him in the Twilight of his age, Not pot-gun-proof. 1651 W. JANE ΕΙΚΩΝ ΑΚΛΑΣΤΟΣ 168 These are potgun preparations for a Civill war. 1691 *New Discov. Old Intreague* xvi, Their Pot-gun Volleys charge Her Royal Ear.

†**Po·t-ha·nger.** *Obs.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + HANGER[2].] A device for hanging a pot or kettle over the fire; a series of links, a rack, or a bar with a series of holes, on which a pot-hook or crook could be hung at different heights; = HANGER[2] 4 d. Mostly in *pl.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cramaillière*, the pot hanger. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Llares o ollares*, pot-hangers, *ollares catenæ*. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 235 They sate by the pot hangers, whereon they vsed to hang their pots. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 227 Three brass stupens [stewpans], one payer of pott-hangers. 1642 in *Archives Maryland* (1887) IV. 94, 1 Pot-hanger and potthooks. 1678–84 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict., Climacter*,..pot-hanger or pot-hooks.

†**Po·t-ha·ngings,** *sb. pl. Obs. rare.* **a.** = POT-CLIPS. **b.** = POT-HANGERS.

1521 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 119 Item a gredyern, and a andern, a payr of poott hangyngs, and frynge pan. 1530 PALSGR. 182 *Vnes ancestes*, a payre of potte hangynges. *Ibid.* 257/1 Potte hangynges, *cremilliere*.

†**Po·t-ha·ngle.** *Obs. rare.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + *hangle*, f. HANG *v.* + -LE, suffix of the instrument. (*Hangle* occurs otherwise only as var. of HINGLE a hinge.)] In *pl.* (const. as *sing.*) = prec. b.

1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 267 Item, a fryeng panne and a peyre of pothangles sold to the seyd Scudamour vj[d]. *Ibid.*, Item, sold to the baylyf of Staff. a potthangles vij[d]. 1614 *MS. Stratford-on-Avon* (Nares), Item, one pothangles, price ij.s.

Po·t-head. *colloq.* [POT *sb.*[1]] A stupid person. So **Po·t-hea·ded** *a.*, stupid, thick-headed.

1533 MORE *Apol.* xlvii. Wks. 920/2 These heretikes..some potheaded postles they haue, that wander about y[e] realme into sondry shyres. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xv, She was too good for a poor pot-head like me.

†**Pothecar(e, -aire,** *Sc.* and *north. Eng. dial. Obs.* Also 9 **potticar.** [Aphetic form of *apothecar*, = F. *apothecaire*, corresp. to Eng. *pothecary*: see next. Hence by phonetic corruption **pot(t)egar, potingar*, POTTINGAR.] An apothecary: = next.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 248 Spycis belangand to the pothecairis [*rime* electuairis = electuars], With mony hailsum sweit confectioun. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 231 This present from the pothecares [*rimes* wares, saires] Mee think meet to amend thee. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Potticar, Potecary, Pothecary*, an apothecary. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Pottiker*, an apothecary.

Po·thecary. Now only *dial.* Forms: α. 4–5 **potecarie,** 4–7 **-cary(e,** 5 **-kary,** 6 **-cari**; 5–6 **potycary(e**; 6 **poticarie, -carye,** 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **-cary**; 7 **pottecary, -icary.** β. 6–7 **pothicary,** 7 **pothecarie,** 7–8 (9 *dial.*) **-cary,** 8–9 **'pothecary.** See also prec. Aphetic form of APOTHECARY, formerly in common use.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 524 (Camb.) And forth he goth no lengere wolde he tarye In-to the toun vn-to a potecarye [so *Corp., Lansd., Harl.*; *Ellesm., Hengw.*, apothecarie; *Petw.* apot-]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24210 Sondry lettuaryes Maked at the potycaryes. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Potycary that selleth medycins, *apothecayre*. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. A iij b, If the potecari..is ignorant in herbes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 98 Abundance of Alloes.., so much esteemed by our Pothecaries. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Feb., Going to visit Roger Pepys, at the pothecary's in King's Street. 1720 W. STUKELEY in *Mem.* (Surtees) I. 112 A league between a few doctors, poticarys, and surgeons, who play into one anothers hands. 1820 SOUTHEY *Devil's Walk* vii, He saw a Pothecary, on a white horse, Ride by on his vocation. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Poticary.* 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Potecary*, apothecary...Not now of common use..but I have heard it used disparagingly.

b. *attrib.* quasi-*adj.*

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 40 § 2 Suche poticary wares drugges and stuffes. 1558 BULLEYN *Govt. Health* III Who

liueth..so euill as these pothicary men? 1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambois* v. i. Plays 1873 II. 90 If I scape Monsieurs Pothecarie Shops. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* To Rdr., Yet have I seene smiths so unprovided of Pothecary simples.

Potheen, variant form of POTEEN.

Pothel, ME. variant of *podel*, PUDDLE.

Pother (pɒ·ðəɹ, pʊ·ðəɹ), *sb.* Forms: α. 7– pother; also (7 powther), 7–9 puther, 7 (9 *dial.*) poother. β. 7– pudder. [Origin unknown: appears early in 17th c. Historically *pother* rimes with *other*, *brother*, *mother*, *smother*, the vowel app. repr. orig. *ō*; so the dial. *puther*, *pudder*. The current pɒ·ðəɹ appears to be a 19th c. literary innovation, after the spelling, and perh. influenced by association with *bother*. The form *pudder* is parallel to the dial. *udder*, *brudder*, *mudder*, *fadder*, etc. in some of which *d*, in others *ð*, is original.

Original identity with POWDER, though suggested by the sense 'dust', appears to be phonetically untenable.]

1. A choking smoke or atmosphere of dust. *To kick up a pother*, to raise a choking dust.

α. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* lxxxii, The Poke Which out of it sent such a smoke, As ready was them all to choke, So greeuous was the pother. 1637 G. DANIEL *Genius of Isle* 158, I, in this smoaking pother, Had sole the want. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s. v. *Poother*, What a poother tha kicks up wi' thi brush! [i.e. in sweeping a room]. 1887 T. DARLINGTON *S. Chesh. Gloss.* s. v., A puff of tobacco smoke directed into a person's face would be a poother. 1893 BARING-GOULD *Mrs. Curgenven* xlvi, There be such a pother o' smoke I doubt if that you can see her.

β. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 4 To lay the dust and pudder in antiquity, which he and his..are wont to raise.

2. Disturbance, commotion, turmoil, bustle; a tumult, uproar; a noise, din. Cf. DUST *sb.*1 5.

α. 1591 SYLVESTER *Ivory* 71 As a Torrent..in his furious Pother Takes Land from som, and giveth more to other. 1607 (1623) SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 234 Such a poother, As if that whatsoeuer God, who leades him, Were slyly crept into his humane powers, And gaue him gracefull posture. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 249 But Oh! these Chanters, Chanons make a Pother, A Dog can't rest, whilst one worries another. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 308 What a Noise and Pother do our Hawkers make in a Hurry about the Streets with their News-Books. *a* 1849 HOR. SMITH *Addr. Mummy* x, Didst thou not hear the pother o'er thy head When the great Persian Conqueror, Cambyses Marched armies o'er thy tomb with thundering tread? 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* 72 Smiting the sea with his mighty tail, making an almost deafening noise and pother.

β. 1623 *Shaks.'s Wks., Lear* III. ii. 50 Let the great Goddes, That keepe this dreadfull pudder [*Qos.* I. 3 thundring; *Qo.* 2 powther] o're our heads, Finde out their enemies now. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 189 A busie noise, tumultuous pudder of carriages. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* I. 4 Here's a pudder, ho! see if none of my cups or silver spoons be missing. 1673 in Halliwell *Pal. Anthol.* (1850) 109 'Twas uncivilly done Such a hideous pudder to keep. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xv, The pony, hearing this pudder over his head, began apparently to think [etc.].

b. *transf.* A verbal commotion, stir, or fuss.

α. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. v, All this pother for an apple! 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 481 When Heathen Authority hath kept all the Puther it can, with their Amphion and Orpheus. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 32 Some hold the one, and some the other, But, howsoe'er they make a Pother, The difference was so small. 1788 *Trifler* No. 13. 175 Your Sister too would make a pother, She'd never brook to call him Brother. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. Pref. 57 With high-sounding words he will make such a pother.

β. 1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 23 In this pudder of different opinions, recourse is had to the Great Oracle. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. ii, What a pudder and racket in Councils about οὐσια and ὑποστασις! 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. lvii. 223 A mortal pudder has been raised against so harmless a proposal, as that the community should have the relief [etc.].

3. Mental perturbation or tumult; trouble, fuss; display of sorrow or grief.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 3 Being scarr'd.. by the pangs, and gripes of a boyling conscience, all in a pudder shuffles up to himselfe such a God, and such a worship as is most agreeable to remedy his feare. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 34 Of Sorrow, making a most grievous puther [*rime* Mother]. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 43/1 Well! if all husbands keep so great a pother, I'll live unmarried—till I get another. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. vii. (1869) 143 This coil and mighty pudder in the breast.

Pother (pɒ·ðəɹ, pʊ·ðəɹ), *v.* Also 7 **pudder,** 9 *dial.* **puther.** [app. f. POTHER *sb.*; but sometimes app. associated with BOTHER *v.*]

1. *trans.* To put into a fuss; to fluster, worry; to confuse, perplex, trouble.

α. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 72 If at that Time he forces himself to it, he only pothers and wearies himself to no purpose. 1795 BIRCH *Adopted Child* I. ii, At his old employment, his pencils and his compasses, and I don't know what, pothering his poor little brains. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 359 But how can Cockayne..be pothered with fatting..oxen? 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. x. 324 Sir James all pothered to reply; rare for him.

β. *c* 1698 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* § 13 He..will abound in contrary Observations, that can be of no other Use but to perplex and pudder him if he compares them.

b. To get *out* by worrying.

1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 167 He must pother the Meaning..out of a Dictionary.

2. *intr.* To make a fuss; to fuss, to worry.

1735 SAVAGE *Progr. Divine* 361 Detach the sense, and pother o'er the text. 1778 *Learning at a Loss* I. 32, I found the old Gentleman..pothering over the Newspaper. 1895 R. BURTON in *Forum* (N. Y.) Apr. 251 It is idle to pother with secondary causes when here is the native source.

3. *dial.* To move, pour, or roll in a cloud, as smoke or dust.

Widely used in midland dialects from Yorksh. to Warwick, Leicester, Lincoln: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Puther*. Hence perh. *pothering* in 19th c. quots. below.

Hence **Po·thering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pothera·tion** (*nonce-wd.* after *botheration*), stir, turmoil, trouble; **Po·therment,** *dial.* petty trouble.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 30 That perplexity, puddering, and confusion, which has so much hindred Mens progress in other parts of Knowledge. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 269/1 A multitude confused of pothering odours. 1827 HARE *Guesses* Ser. I. (1873) 229 The words of their [Irish] orators are wont to roll out just like so many potatoes..rumbling, and pothering and incoherent. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Potherments*, perplexities, troubles. 1901 *Essex Herald* 9 Apr. 2/5 All the potheration had been purposely caused by the master of the house.

Pot-herb (pɒ·tˌhəɹb). [f. POT *sb.*1 + HERB.] A herb grown for boiling in the pot; any of the herbs cultivated in a kitchen-garden.

Black pot-herb, *White pot-herb*, old names for Alexanders (*Smyrnium Olusatrum*) and Corn-salad (*Valerianella olitoria*) respectively. (Gerarde 1597, 243.)

1538 ELYOT, *Caulis*...Also..an herbe called colewortes. It is somtyme taken for all pot herbes. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 290 E're he do my Lord any wrong, zounds Ile be cut smaller then pot-hearbs. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 20 Nov., The Circus Maximus, .. one entire heape of rubbish, part of it converted into a garden of pot-herbs. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 369 A spot which seemed to be part of Holland, a straight canal, a terrace, rows of clipped trees, and rectangular beds of flowers and potherbs.

¶ b. *erron.* = *pot-plant.*

1882 STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.* (1884) 101 Flowering pot-herbs garnished the sills of the..windows.

c. *attrib.* **Pot-herb butterfly,** a N. American species (*Pieris oleracea*), closely allied to the cabbage-butterfly.

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* III. i, A people, baser than the beasts they worship; Below their pot-herb gods, that grow in gardens.

Po·thery, *a.* [f. POTHER *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Choking, stifling; close, sultry; also *transf.*

1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* IV. (1722) 365 That Pothery and Sultry..Weather..we usually now feel. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & L.* Wks. 1853 II. 168/2 They [Shakspere's Sonnets] are hot and pothery; there is much condensation, little delicacy.

2. *dial.* Of sheep: Giddy and liable to fall, through water on the brain.

Perh. a different word, related to POTTER *v.*

1839 HOLLOWAY *Dict. Provinc.*, A sheep which has water on the brain, which causes it to fall down, or move in a very weak, tottering, and uncertain manner, is said to be pothery.

Po·t-hole. *Geol.* [f. POT *sb.*1 + HOLE *sb.*]

1. A deep hole of more or less cylindrical shape; esp. one formed by the wearing away of rock by the rotation of a stone, or a collection of gravel, in an eddy of running water, or in the bed of a glacier.

1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 373/1, 8 feet of the workable stone may be considered free from 'allum' or 'pot holes' containing calcareous spar, to which this stone is subject. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 641 The 'Basin' in the Franconia Notch (White Mountains) is a pot-hole in granite, fifteen feet deep and twenty and twenty five feet in its two diameters. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* (1894) 431 Large pot-holes formed on the bed of a glacier by water plunging down through crevasses. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* ix. 134 The grinding action of pebbles, when set in motion by water, is strikingly shown in the formation of potholes.

2. See quot.

1898 *Archæol. Jrnl.* Ser. II. V. 294 That the manufacture of pottery was carried on in Hayling in former times is shown by the existence of 'pot-holes', i. e. holes from which clay has been taken.

Pot-hook (pɒ·tˌhuk), *sb.* [f. POT *sb.*1 + HOOK *sb.*]

1. a. A hook suspended over a fireplace, for hanging a pot or kettle on; a crook. **b.** An iron rod (usually curved) with a hook at the end, for lifting a heated pot, stove-lid, etc.

1467 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* (Bundle 43 No. 14), ii. keteles; i. rakke; i par de pottehokes. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 770/14 *Hec capana*, a pothoke. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Potte hokes, *unes ancestes*. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 296 Setting their Earthen or Copper Pots thereon, not hanging them on Pothooks as we do. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown* vi. (1870) 56 The great black crane..swung over it, with its multiplicity of pot-hooks and trammels. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pot-hook*, an S-shaped hook for suspending a culinary vessel from a chimney-crane.

† c. *pl.* An instrument of punishment: see quot.

1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. p. lviii, For running away they put..pottocks about their necks, which are iron rings with two long necks riveted to them. 1740 *Hist. Jamaica* vi. 159 The Chain and Pot-hooks are painted by his own Order in the Picture I spoke of just now. 1751 MACSPARRAN *Diary* (1899) 52 He [a runaway slave in Rhode Island] had w^t is called Pothooks put about his Neck.

2. A curved or hooked stroke made in writing; a crooked stroke or character, a scrawl; now usually applied to a hooked stroke, as an element of handwriting, made by children in learning to write. (Often with *hanger*: cf. HANGER[2] 4 d.)

1611 COTGR., *Pasté*..a blurre, scraule, pothooke, or ill-fauoured whim-wham, in writing. *a* 1625 FLETCHER & MASS. *Elder Bro.* I. ii, *Bri.* What have we here? Pothooks and Andirons! *And.* I much pity you, it is the Syrian Character, or the Arabick. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. ii, No peeping here, though I long to be spelling her Arabick scrawls and pot-hooks. 1710 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 61 You know such a pothook makes a letter; and you know what letter, and so, and so. 1738, 1809 [see HANGER[2] 4 d]. 1799 B. THOMPSON *Kotzebue's Stranger* in *Inchbald's Theatre* I. 59 I'll go for his copybook. He makes his pothooks capitally. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* 237 She's scrawling pothooks and hangers on a dirty sheet of paper.

† b. *attrib.* in reference to crabbed or illegible writing or unintelligible characters. *Obs.*

1674 T. FLATMAN *To Mr. Austin* 9 No more, than read that dung fork, pothook hand That in Queen's Colledge Library does stand. *a* 1683 J. OLDHAM *Charact. Old P.* Rem. (1684) 112 Nonsence and the fittest Character to write it in, that Pot-hook-hand the Devil us'd at Oxford. [See *Wood's Life & Times* (O. H. S.) I. 498.]

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Po·t-hook** *v. trans.*, to curve into the shape of a pot-hook; **Po·t-hooked** *a.*, having a pot-hook (sense 2); **Po·t-hoo·kery,** making of pot-hooks or scrawls; **Po·t-hooky** *a.*, full of or consisting of pot-hooks, scrawled.

1795 T. TWINING in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 273 The Professor's conscribillatio is a more illegible..piece of pothookery than yours. 1867 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 793 It was written in a cramped, pot-hooky hand. 1875 MAUND in *Alpine Jrnl.* May (1876) 414 After packing myself away as well as I could in the shape of a pot-hook, Martin followed and pot-hooked himself alongside me. 1898 CHR. MURRAY in *Daily News* 27 Jan. 6/2 The Dreyfus letters very commonly have a curious pothooked starting point...They curl upwards at the start. There is nothing of the sort in the *bordereau*.

‖ **Pothos** (pō·u·þɒs). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1737), ad. Sinhal. *pōtha*, *pōtæ*.] A genus of climbing shrubs (N.O. *Araceæ* or *Orontiaceæ*), natives of Asia, Australia, etc.: some species are cultivated as foliage plants.

1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xviii. 271 The pothoses, arums, and lianas, furnished so thick a covering that..they were completely sheltered. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* i. (1864) 10 Climbing Pothos plants, with large, glossy, heart-shaped leaves.

Po·t-house. [f. POT *sb.*1 + HOUSE *sb.*1]

†**1.** A house where pottery is made. *Obs. rare.*

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3300/4 A very convenient Brick House to be let, having a Potthouse belonging to it, and a very fine Yard for Washing of Clay. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 95/2 A premium to..master of the stone pot-house at Fulham for..making crucibles of British materials.

2. A house where pots of beer and other intoxicants are retailed; an ale-house; a small, unpretentious, or low tavern or public-house.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6320/3 A large well built accustomed Pot-House,..known by the Name of the Hermitage Pot-House. 1748 WARTON *Panegyr. on Oxford Ale* 27 To pot-house I repair, the sacred haunt, Where, Ale, thy votaries in full resort Hold rites nocturnal. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, The paragon of all pothouses; snug little bar with red curtains [etc.]. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* iii. 92 They were extremely capable men, but they could not keep from the pot-house.

b. *attrib.* Belonging to or characteristic of a pot-house; low, vulgar.

1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XVI. 275 The class of men for whom these pot-house epistles are written, read nothing else. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxvii, Reeking yet with pot-house odours. 1895 HOLLINGSHEAD *My Lifetime* I. xiii. 124 There was no pot-house bluster about the two combatants.

Po·t-hu·nter. [f. POT *sb.*1 + HUNTER.]

†**1.** An opprobrious appellation: ? a sycophant, a parasite: cf. BARNACLE *sb.*2 3 b. *Obs.*

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 242 This indigested Chaos of Doctourship, and greedy pothunter after applause, is an apparant Publican and sinner. 1592 GREENE *Blacke Bks. Messenger* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 7 The verser in conny-catching is called the Retriuer And the Barnacle, the pot hunter. 1592 *Admonition Bk. Emm. Coll. Cambr.* in *4th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 420/1 Mr. Catsby..for saying my Lord [of Routland] hymself was but a child, and that he was maintained by pott-hunters.. was admonished.

2. 'A sportsman who shoots anything he comes across, having more regard to filling his bag than to the rules which regulate the sport' (*Slang Dict.* 1860).

1781 W. BLANE *Ess. Hunting* (1788) 102 As arrant a Pothunter as ever England bred, that..had not scrupled to kill a Buck or Doe at any season. 1825 *Bull-baiting* I. in *Howlston Tracts* I. xxvii. 9 There's nothing a regular Shot would be sooner chafed at than being called a Pot-hunter. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 109 My hope is that some traveller..who is something more than a pot-hunter, may..send home to our Museum a series of the common white-quilled black Khoorhan.

3. One who takes part in any contest or competition merely for the sake of winning a prize. (With allusion to POT *sb.*1 1 g.)

1873 *Slang Dict., Pot-hunter*, a man who gives his time up to rowing or punting, or any sort of match in order to win the 'pewters' which are given as prizes. *University*... Now much used in aquatic and athletic circles; and.. applied, in a derogatory sense, to men of good quality who enter themselves in small races they are almost sure to win. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 7 July 6/1 The increase..in the number of 'pot-hunters', as they are called—an epithet which originated in the early days of the Wimbledon meeting, when prizes were given 'in kind', and not as now in money. 1886 *Cycl. Tour. Club Gaz.* IV. 122 To tempt..many a 'pot-hunter' who follows racing for what he can get out of it.

So **Po·t-hu·nting** *sb.* and *a.* (in senses corresponding to 2 and 3 above).

1808 W. COBBETT in L'Estrange *Friendships Miss Mitford* (1882) I. 43 Rush they go, the pot-hunting crew, into that manor. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 5 July 7 The sort of pot-hunting known at Wimbledon and elsewhere as Pool, where the value of a bull's-eye is much more considered than the credit of handling with success the Queen of weapons. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropology* ix. 210 The quest of food (now often contemptuously called 'pot-hunting') becomes subordinate to the excitement of the chase. 1881 *Gd. Words* XXII. 46/1 Some men are too fond of starring or pothunting at 'sports'. 1893 SINCLAIR & HENRY *Swimming* (Badm. Libr.) 369 Some swimmers seem able..to stand the strain of racing night after night...The rage for pot-hunting is apparently unconquerable.

Poticary, obs. variant of POTHECARY.

Potichomania (pɒtiːʃoʊmēˑniă). Also in Fr. form **-manie.** [ad. F. *potichomanie*, irreg. f. *potiche* an oriental porcelain vase, also a glass vase coloured in imitation + *-manie*, -MANIA.] The craze for imitating Japanese or other porcelain by covering the inner surface of glass vessels, etc., with designs on paper or sheet gelatine; the process of doing this.

1855 *Househ. Words* XI. 129 (heading) *Potichomania.* 1855 *Mechanic's Mag.* LXII. 279 *Potichomanie* is the present fashion. 1863 SALA *Capt. Shyboots* 7 He...talked about chemistry and Mr. Faraday; taught my wife *potichomanie* and modelling in wax. 1903 *Temple Bar Mag.* Feb. 152 Hence she..cared nothing for wax flowers or potichomania.

‖ **Potin** (potɛ̃n). Also 7 **pottain.** [F. *potin* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm., also *potain* 1582 in Godef.), f. *pot* POT *sb.*[1] + *-in*: cf. -INE[4].]

1. Old pot-metal (POT-METAL 1, 3).

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 505 Such pottain or old mettall which is ouerworne, and by ordinary occupying and vsing to the hand, bright-shining. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 348 To work all the surface into furrows or grooves, in order that it may retain the substance called the potin, which is to be welded upon one side of the iron, to form the hard matter on which the holes are to be pierced. This potin is nothing but fragments of old cast-iron pots. *Ibid.* 349 It must be repeatedly heated and worked until the potin fixes to the iron. The workman then throws dry powdered clay upon it, in order..to soften the potin.

2. A name for an alloy of tin, copper, lead, and zinc, used in coining by the ancient Gauls.

1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* xi. (1876) 134 Many of the coins are of base metal (potin).

Poting, poting-stick: see POTE *v.*

Potinger, obs. form of POTTINGER.

Potion (pōʊˑʃən), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **pocion,** 5 **-oun,** (*Sc.* **poycion**), 5–6 **pocyon,** 6 **potioun,** 6– **potion.** [a. OF. *pocion, potion* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *potion*, ad. L. *pōtiō-nem* a drinking, draught, potion, philtre, vbl. sb. f. *pōtāre, pōt-um* to drink.]

1. A dose of liquid medicine or of poison; a draught: see DRAUGHT *sb.* 15.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3509 (Bodl. MS.) He dude hym bere to pavylouns, And sauid hym wiþ pocioun. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 481 It is lyk to poycion men takis fore purgacione. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 411 He hade diede anoon, but that he receyvede a pocion of Philippe his phisicion. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* i. (1888) 13 If a man may be cured with Dyet and Pocion, let there not be ministred any Chirurgerie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 244 Then gaue I her..A sleeping Potion, which so tooke effect As I intended. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 370 Bewitched by sorcerie and amorous potions. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. VII. 84 To discern the innocent..by trials of fire and potions. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 435 Neither potions nor physicians can do more than postpone the evil hour. *fig.* 1577 tr. *Luther's Comm. Gal.* iv. 95 He goeth about to qualify and mitigate his bitter Potion. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 145 Your Lordship may minister the Potion of imprisonment to me. 1631 HEYWOOD *Eng. Eliz.* (1641) 108 The bitter potion of indignity. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 140 To administer the opiate potion of amnesty.

† **2. a.** A portion of drink; a drink, a draught. **b.** A kind of drink; a beverage. *Obs. rare.*

1526 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 115 Inprimis to the justice ane potioun of wyne; item to my lord chancellar, ane potioun of wyne. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 150 They [Persians] vse another potion, faire water, juice of Lemmons, Sugar, and Roses.

3. *Comb.*, as *potion-monger.*

1894 H. A. JONES in *Daily News* 7 May 6/5 The family friend, rather than the doser and potion-monger.

Potion (pōʊˑʃən), *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. L. *pōtiōnāre* to give to drink, f. *pōtiōn-em* drinking.] *trans.* To treat or dose with potions; to drug.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xi. § 49 Hauing corrupted his Keepers, or .. hauing potioned them with a sleepy drinke, [he] escaped out of the Tower of London. 1768 FOOTE *Devil on 2 Sticks* III. Wks. 1799 II. 275 Full power ..to pill, bolus, lotion, potion,..and poultice, all persons. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 25 May 321/1 Puff'd and potion'd up like any bladder.

† **Po·tionate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *pōtiōnāre*: see prec. and -ATE[3].]

1623 COCKERAM, *Potionate*, to give a medicine.

‖ **Po·tiron.** *Obs.* [F. *potiron* (dial. *potron, poturon*) a kind of large champignon; also, a kind of pumpkin: origin unknown.] A kind of pumpkin: see quots.

1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 323 Citrules, or Pumpions, Harts Horn Sallet, Potirons, or flat Pumpeons, Parsnipe, Leeks, &c. keep their Places nine Months. *Ibid.* 324 Citruls or Pumpions, Potirons or comon Pumpions, Garlick and Shallots.

† **Po·tisuge.** *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pōtus* drink (or ? POT *sb.*[1]) + L. *sūgĕre* to suck.] A 'pot-sucker', toper.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* ii. 34 How impudently would our drunken potisuges vaunt themselues.

Po·t-kilp. *north. dial.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + KILP.] = POT-CLIP.

1542 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 31, ij. pare of pot kylpes, and a pare of tanges, xx*d.* 1611–12 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) II. 20 A paire of potkilpes. 1828 *Craven Dial.* s. v. *Kelps*, The loose handle of a kale pot is called pot-kelps. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Pot kelps*, the loose bow or handle of a porridge-pot.

‖ **Po·tlatch, po·tlach(e.** [Chinook jargon, from Nootka Indian *potlatsh, patlatsh* sb. a gift, vb. to give.] Among some N. American Indians of the Pacific coast: **a.** A gift, a present.

1883 T. WINTHROP *Canoe & Saddle* iv. 42 They [Klickatat Indians]..expressed the friendliest sentiments, perhaps with a view to a liberal 'potlatch' of trinkets.

b. A tribal feast at which presents are given and received, given by an aspirant to chiefship.

1884 *San Francisco Chron.* Sept., A potlatch is..a sort of grand reunion and general gathering.., an occasion for the exchanging of big presents. 1890 *Amer. Antiquarian* Mar. 75 On his return he again called the people together and held a big potlatch, giving the Indians what appeared to them at that time great curiosities. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 July 8/1 In a far-away corner of British Columbia, on the occasion of the last birthday..the Redskins held a 'potlach' in honour of their Great White Mother. 1907 C. HILL-TOUT *Brit. N. Amer.* 52 Occasions of public festivity such as potlatch gatherings.

Hence **Po·tlatching** *sb.*, holding a potlatch.

1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 106 After two or three days of feasting and pot-latching.

† **Pot-lead**[1]. *Obs.* Used to render F. *gluq*, 'a word used by Schollers of Paris, in derision of an absurd conclusion' (Cotgr. s.v. *Gluc*).

1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* III. xiv. § 19, 505 If he chance to speake, he entreth into a long discourse of definitions, and diuisions of Aristotle; *ergo* potlead [orig. F. *ergo gluq*].

Pot-lead[2] (pɒˑtˌled), *sb.* [ad. Du. *potlood* black-lead, f. *pot* POT *sb.*[1] + *lood* lead.] A name for black-lead or graphite, esp. as used for coating the hulls of racing-yachts below the water-line so as to diminish the friction of the water. Hence **Po·t-lea·d** *v. trans.*, to coat with pot-lead.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 72/1 The racing shell, used only three times, its bottom pot-leaded, is brought out. *Ibid.* 194/1 Using very fine sandpaper and pot lead till my boat's bottom was beautifully burnished.

Potleg (pɒˑtˌleg). [app. f. POT *sb.*[1] + LEG.] **a.** (?) The leg or foot of an iron pot. **b.** Broken scraps of cast-iron, used as shot.

1895 *Chambers' Jrnl.* XII. 738/1 Ball or shot they rarely use, but prefer a handful of broken cast-iron potleg, which at close quarters makes a ghastly wound. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 4/3 Their [Matabele] shot consisted of potlegs, stones, and pieces of iron. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 143 When the sergeant raised his officer, ragged potleg was whirring everywhere.

Potler, variant of POTELLER *Obs.*

Pot-lid. [f. POT *sb.*[1] + LID *sb.*]

1. The lid of a pot.

(When of iron, sometimes used as a warming-pan.)

1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20, j. potlede de ligno. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Potlydde for a potte, *couuerlecque.* 1590 GREENE *Never too late* II. (1616) N iv b, To bed man, to bed, and we will haue a warme pot-lid [*ed.* 1590 pot-led]. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 62 (1713) II. 134 It might be, for ought they knew, a Project for altering the Breadth of Pot-lids. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 3/2 A new hobby..is the collection of small china pot-lids; the covers of those artistic jars which long ago were used for holding shrimp-paste and meats.

2. *Curling.* A stone so played as to rest on the tee.

1853 WALTER WATSON *Poems & Songs* 63 (E. D. D.). 1885 'J. STRATHESK' *More Bits Blinkb.* xiv. 271 His stone landed on the Tee. 'A pat-lid', said Douce Davie. 1893–4 *Caled. Curl. Cl. Ann.* 114 A rare patlid, I fear your play is just owre guid.

3. *Geol.* Popular appellation of a concretion occurring in various sandstones and shales.

1827 FITTON *On Stonesfield-slate* in *Zool. Jrnl.* (1828) III. 416 Concretions of calcareous grit..that form a part of almost every group...These concretions, from a coarse resemblance, are called 'Pot-lids'; and the rock which they consist of,..bears the name of 'Pendle'.

4. *attrib.* **Pot-lid valve,** 'a cap-formed valve which shuts down like a cover upon a port or the end of a pipe'; also, 'the cover of the air-pump of a steam-engine' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

† **Po·tling.** *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + -LING[1].] ? A votary of the pot; a tippler (but cf. POETLING).

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. i, You must haue your Poets and your Potlings, your Soldados and Foolados to follow you vp and down the City.

Pot-liquor (pɒˑtˌliːkəɹ). [f. POT *sb.*[1] + LIQUOR *sb.*] The liquor in which meat has been boiled; thin broth: see also quot. 1886.

1773 GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* I. ix, Together with her broth or pot-liquor, he contrived to slip something more substantial into Dorothy's pipkin. 1803 HAN. MORE *Way to Plenty* 56 The pot liquor made such a supply of broth for the sick poor. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxvii, Mrs. Bagnet..sitting with every dish before her; allotting to every portion of pork its own portion of pot-liquor, greens, potatoes, and even mustard.! 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pot-liquor*, the water in which vegetables have been boiled; sometimes called green-liquor, when cabbage or other green vegetables have been boiled in it.

Po·t-luck. [f. POT *sb.*[1] + LUCK *sb.*] One's luck or chance as to what may be in the pot, i. e. cooked for a meal: used in reference to a person accepting another's hospitality at a meal without any special preparation having been made for him; chiefly in phr. *to take pot-luck.* Also *transf.*

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Ded., That that pure sanguine complexion of yours may never be famisht with pot-lucke. 1773 GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* IX. xii, The Gentleman said..he should be very welcome to take pot-luck with him. 1773 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* Sept., If they have any prospect of more sport, they take pot-luck at any cottage. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 253 Go home with this man, take pot-luck with him..as one of the family.

attrib. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary, Let.* Mar., [He] took the same kind of pot-luck company in those days when he was not so shy of London. 1894 J. C. JEAFFRESON *Bk. Recoll.* I. xv. 292 A suburban villa, at which he was in the habit of taking pot-luck dinner on Sunday.

Po·t-ma·ker. Now *rare.* One who makes pots or pottery; a potter.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* iv. 23 These were potmakers, and dwelt amonge plantes and hedges. 1550 — *Spir. Perle* i. (1560) 3 It is not seeming, that the pot should murmur against the potmaker. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 665 He made a herauld proclaime that all potmakers should stand vp on their feete.

† **b.** *spec.* A maker of pots or crucibles for the Mint. *Obs.*

1548 *Privy Council Acts* (1890) II. 177 For a smyth xx[s]; for a potmaker xx[s]. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1972/2 William Forleie pot-maker for the mint of the Tower of London. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 23 Pot-maker: Fee, 10. 0. 0.

Potman (pɒˑtmæn). [f. POT *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** A man addicted to pots of liquor; a toper.

1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 45 A man.. if lasciuious, good in some English deuise of verse, to conclude, a passing potman, a passing Poet. 1685 WOOD *Life* 23 Nov. (O. H. S.) III. 171 The pot men and juniors carry all before them.

2. A man employed at a public-house to attend to the pots and serve the liquor. (Cf. POT-BOY.)

1846 WORCESTER, *Potman*,.. a servant at a public house. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1862) II. 345 He got a situation as potman to a public-house. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xiii, The potmen thrust the last brawling drunkards into the street.

3. *dial.* A dealer in earthenware.

1889 in *N. W. Line. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

Pot-metal (pɒˑtˌmetăl). [f. POT *sb.*[1]]

1. An alloy of lead and copper of which pots were formerly made.

1693 POVEY in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 736 Bell-metal being Copper and Tin, Pot-metal Copper and Lead. About 20 *l.* of Lead is usually put into 100 *l.* of Pot-metal. 1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 38 Tinkers also, making pot metal,.. often came upon the scene.

2. Stained glass coloured in the melting-pot, so that the colour pervades the whole substance.

1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 290 Small pieces of glass coloured throughout during the process of its original manufacture..called by artists pot metal. 1898 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 6/1 Stained glass is coloured 'in the pot', by means of metallic oxides; hence 'pot metal', as the technical name for this kind of glass. 1899 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 171 In these windows pot-metal glass is used as far as possible for the larger pieces of ruby or other colour.

3. A kind of cast iron suitable for making pots.

1864 WEBSTER, *Pot-metal*,..The metal from which iron pots are made, different from common pig iron. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Po·t-net. [f. POT *sb.*[1] + NET *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** A net in which to boil vegetables in a pot with meat; a cabbage-net. *Obs.*

1562 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) App. 158 A brass pot and a potnet. 1599 *Acc. Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 A potte nette.

2. ? A fishing-net having the form of a pot. (Cf. *pock-net* s. v. POKE *sb.*[1] 7.) ? *Obs.*

1584 in *Descr. Thames* (1758) 63 Purse Nets, Casting Nets, ..Pot Nets, Barrock Nets at Crooks, Heaving Nets. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 224 A kind of pot-net, fastened to a long pole,..is used here.

Potok, obs. form of PUTTOCK.

Potoma·nia. [f. Gr. ποτόν drink + -MANIA.] Morbid craving for drink; dipsomania.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Potomania*,.. drink-madness. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Potomania*, dipsomania.

Potometer (pɒtɒˑmĭtəɹ). [f. as prec. + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the amount of water absorbed by a growing plant.

1884 F. DARWIN in *Nature* 1 May 7 An ingenious instrument..the Potometer. It is a modification of Sachs' apparatus for determining the amount of water which a cut branch absorbs in a given time. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Potoo** (potūˑ). [Echoic; from its cry.] The name given in Jamaica to one of the Nightjars (*Nyctibius jamaicensis*).

1847 GOSSE *Birds Jamaica* 42 The Potoo is not unfrequently seen in the evening..soon after sunset on some dead tree or fence-post, or floating by on noiseless wing, like an owl. *Ibid.* 47 The Potoo has become a proverb of ugliness. 1894 in NEWTON *Dict. Birds.*

‖ **Potoquane.** *erron.* **potaquaine.** The name of the Sable Antelope, *Hippotragus niger*, among the Southern Bechuana.

1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 140/2 Potaquaines above me, seeing nothing and smelling nothing, stood bewildered until I had reloaded, lying on my side. 1900 W. L. SCLATER *Fauna S. Afr.* I. 221.

†Poto·rious, *a. Obs. rare*⁻°. [f. L. *pōtōri-us* drinking (f. *pōtor* drinker) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Potorious*, of or belonging to drink, drinking.

‖ **Potoroo** (pɒtŏrū·). Also 8 **poto roo.** [Native name in New South Wales.] = KANGAROO-RAT 1.

1790 J. WHITE *Voy. N. S. Wales* 286 The Poto Roo, or Kangaroo Rat. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 265/2 The Potoroos..present..the same dentition as does the Koala. 1841 WATERHOUSE *Marsupialia* 172 The *Hypsiprimni*, or Potoroos, and Kangaroo-rats as they are termed, differ chiefly from the true Kangaroos, in possessing distinct canines.

Po·t-o·ven. [POT *sb.*¹] (See quot. 1750.)

1750 R. POCOCKE *Trav.* (1888) 135 Pot-ovens, a round piece of iron which is heated, on which the bread is put, and then it is cover'd over with a pot, on which they heap the embers to keep in the heat. 1899 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Irish R. M.* 189 Her potato-cakes came in hot and hot from a pot-oven.

†Potpa·nion. *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* Contraction of POT-COMPANION.

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* III. i. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), 'Tis Signor Amades, one of my masters pottpanions.

Pot-paper: see POT *sb.*¹ 10.

Pot-pie. Chiefly *U. S.* [f. POT *sb.*¹ + PIE *sb.*²]

a. 'A pie made by spreading the crust over the bottom and sides of a pot, and filling up the inside with meat, i. e. beef, veal, mutton, or fowls' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*). **b.** 'A dish of stewed meat with pieces of steamed pastry or dumplings served in it; a fricassee of meat with dumplings' (*Cent. Dict.*). **c.** 'Beef cut up into cubes, encased in dough and boiled in a pot' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

1823 F. COOPER *Pioneers* i, The snow-birds are flying round your own door, where you may..shoot enough for a pot-pie any day. 18.. CARLETON *New Purchase* I. 181 (Bartlett) An enormous pot-pie,..piping hot, graced our centre, overpowering, with its fragrance and steam, the odors and vapors of all other meats; and pot-pie was the wedding dish of the country, par excellence!..What pot could have contained the pie is inconceivable. 1883 P. E. GIBBONS in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 658/2, I suppose it resembles chicken pot-pie. 1895 *Newcastle Daily Jrnl.* 18 Feb. (E. D. D.), Four hundred pot pies and as many loaves of bread were distributed to poor people.

†Pot-piece. *Obs.* Also 6 **pottin peice.** [f. POT *sb.*¹ + PIECE *sb.* 11.] = POT-GUN 1.

a 1575 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 330 Thrie houlkis of Ingland, ladunit with ane cannone ryell, four singill cannounis, ix gross culveringis, four pottin peices. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 301 Of the said xxxij thair was mony pot peices. 1637 MONRO *Exped.* II. 214 Those peeces of Cannon that are farthest hard, are called pot-peeces or Mortiers. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 223 The prouisioun laid in the castell..as granadoes, potpeices, and vtheris.

Pot-plant.

1. A plant grown in a pot.

1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 187/1 Pot-plants that have been plunged, and gone by their prime, must be got up, and be replaced by others in good order. 1869 *Daily News* 14 July, Prizes..for fuchsias, geraniums, ferns, and other pot plants.

2. = POT-TREE 2.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Pot-plant*, a name for the *Lecythis ollaria*. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

‖ **Pot-pourri** (pōʊpu·ri, pɒtʊpu·ri). Also 7 **pot porride.** [F. *pot pourri*, in same senses, lit. 'rotten pot', f. *pot* POT *sb.*¹ + *pourri*, pa. pple. of *pourrir*:—L. *putrēre* to be rotten; translating Sp. OLLA PODRIDA.]

†1. A dish of different kinds of meat stewed together; a stew, hotch-potch. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Pot pourri*, a pot porride; a Spanish dish of many seuerall meates boyled, or stued together. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Pot-pourri*, a Culinary Term, signifying an Hotch-Potch.

2. A mixture of dried petals of different flowers mixed with spices, kept in a jar for its perfume.

1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 28 Nov., It ..might be called a *pot-pourri*, which is a potful of all kinds of flowers which are severally perfumes, and commonly when mixt and rotten, smell very ill. 1863 LYTTON *Caxtoniana* II. xxii. 94 A blue china jar, filled with *pot-pourri*. 1888 *Bow Bells Weekly* 29 June 408/2 Recipes for 'Pot-pourri'...Collect rose leaves and lavender as they bloom, and place them in a jar in layers, with common or bay-salt. ..Add to them powdered orris-root, cloves [etc.].

3. *fig.* **a.** *Mus.* A series of airs strung together into one piece; a medley. **b.** A literary medley, or collection of miscellaneous extracts.

1864 WEBSTER, *Pot-pourri*...(*c*) A piece of music made up of different airs strung together...(*d*) A literary production made up of parts brought together without order, or bond of connection. 1881 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 22 *Pot-pourri*, a name first given by J. B. Cramer to a kind of drawing-room composition consisting of a string of well-known airs. 1898 S. R. HOLE in *19th Cent.* Apr. 647 There is no time for further enjoyment of this sweet, spicy Pot-pourri; no space for further extracts from this clever and comprehensive book.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pot-pourri bowl, jar.*

1900 MARY E. WILKINS *Parson Lord* (Tauchn.) 58 Love removed the lid from a potpourri-jar. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 451/1 The pot-pourri-scented drawing-room led into a conservatory. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 17 June 8/3 The soft, delicate perfume of some old china pot-pourri bowl.

Potrack (pɒtræ·k), *v. rare.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To cry as a guinea-fowl.

1883 J. C. HARRIS *Nights Uncle Remus* 153 The squawking and pot-racking went on at such a rate that the geese awoke. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Mar. 640 The dusting of chickens, cackling of geese, and 'pot-racking' of Guinea-hens.

‖ **Potri·do.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. app. a corruption of *podrida*: see OLLA PODRIDA.

1651 OGILBY *Æsop* vii. 20 Breaches are made in trembling Custard large, Here a Potrido the bold sisters shatter.

‖ **Po·tro.** [Sp., a colt, foal.] A colt, a pony; *ellipt.* pony hide, as a material.

1879 BEERBOHM *Patagonia* iii. 38 His feet were encased in potro boots tied at the knees. 1902 H. H. PRICHARD *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* xxi. 291 Boots of *potro* hide.

†Potron or **Potrou.** *Obs. Cookery.* Also 5 **poteron** or **-ou.** [Origin and form uncertain.] A dish consisting of eggs cooked in salt.

(Cf. F. *potron-* or *patron-jaquet* in Littré; but no connexion of sense appears.)

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 53 (Harl. MS. 279), .xxviij. Potrous.—Take a schouyl of yron, & hete it brennyng hote; & þan..fille it fulle of Salt; þan make a pitte in þe Salt..; & þan caste þin whyte & þe 3olkys of Eyroun in-to þe hole of þe Salte, & lat seþe ouer þe fyre tyl it be half harde..þan take a dressoure knyf, & put vndernehe þe Salt in þe panne, & hefe it vppe so fayre, þat þe cofyn with þe Eyroun breke noȝt; þan sette it on þe dyssche wyth þe Salt, & þan serue it forth. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 93 (Harl. MS. 4016) Poterons. *c* 1440 *Douce MS.* 55 lf. 33 Potrons.

Potrunk (pōʊtrʊŋk). *Entom.* [f. L. *pō-* for POST- + TRUNK; cf. ALITRUNK.] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 532 If terms be thought necessary to designate the two intire segments into which the alitrunk is resolvable, the first may be the meditrunk (*meditruncus*), and the other the potrunk (*potruncus*).

Potscar, -scarth, -shard, -share, obs. or dial. ff. POTSHERD. **Pot(-)shaugh, Pot(-)shaw,** obs. ff. PADISHAH. **Potsheen,** var. POTEEN.

Pot-shell. *U. S. local.* = next.

1889 *Harper's Mag.* July 248 The pots are made of fire-clay..mixed in varying proportions of raw and burned clay and pieces of the broken pots called 'pot shells', freed from glass and ground fine.

Potsherd (pɒtʃɔ̄ɪd). Now somewhat *arch.* Forms: 4 **pot-schoord** (?), **potszherd,** 6 **pot-sharde, -sherde, -shearde,** (**pottsheard**), 6–8 **potsheard, -shard** (also 9 *dial.*), (7 **pottsherd**), 7– **potsherd**; 6–7 (9 *dial.*) **potshare.** *β. north. dial.* 4 **pot scarth,** 9 **potscar, -sker.** [f. POT *sb.*¹ + SHERD, SHARD, OE. *sceard*, fragment, ON. *skarð*, Da. *skaar* (whence the northern *β*-forms).] A fragment of a broken earthenware pot; a broken piece of earthenware.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 171 Va quere breses [*gloss* imbrers] en une teske [*gloss* a pot-schoord (*v.r.* szherd)]. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2124 A laudable Largesse, I tell you, for a lorde, To prate for the patchynge of a pot sharde! 1535 COVERDALE *Job* ii. 8 Iob..scraped of the etter off his sores with a potsherde. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 37 They hew'd their helmes, and plates asunder brake, As they had potshares bene. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xlv. 9 Let the potsheard striue with the potsheards of the earth. 1639 G. DANIEL *Eccles.* xxii. 20 He that would teach the foole, his labour's lost As he that glews a pottsherd, broke to dust. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Orange Tree*, Lay some Oister-Shells or Pot-shards at the Bottom of his Tubs, that the Water may the sooner drain away. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 64 Inscriptions were often written upon potsherds or trapezoidal fragments of vases.

β. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxi. 15 My vertu..dried, that is, wex vile as a pot scarth, that men settis noght by. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pot-scar*, *Pot-shard*, a potsherd. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, *Potsker*, a potsherd. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Potscar*, *Pot-share*, a potsherd.

b. *attrib.* (in quot., in allusion to Isa. xlv. 9).

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) II. 124 His almightiness is above..our potsherd strength, as his infiniteness is above..our purblind understandings.

Po·t-shop. [POT *sb.*¹] **a.** A small public-house. **b.** *local.* A crockery shop.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* liii, Mr. Ben Allen and Mr. Bob Sawyer betaking themselves to a sequestered pot-shop on the remotest confines of the Borough. 1889 E. PEACOCK *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Potshop*, a shop where earthenware and glass are sold. *Mod.* (*Linc. dial.*), You'll get it at the pot-shop a few doors off.

Po·t-sho·t, *sb.*¹ [POT *sb.*¹] A shot taken at game merely for the purpose of filling the pot for a meal, without regard to skill or the rules of sport (cf. POT-HUNTER 2), and so from any position or point of advantage. Hence *transf.* A shot aimed at a person or animal that happens to be within easy reach, without giving any chance of self-defence; e. g. at an enemy from ambush.

1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. xxxiii. 128 The volunteer corps began 'to take pot shots at them at nine or ten yards'. *Ibid.*, 'Pot shots'..when a man..shoots at partridges in a crowd upon the ground, in a way which shows a simple desire to kill for the pot. 1860 RUSSELL *Diary India* I. xvii. 265 Some dozens of the enemy..sneak along the road..in order to get a pot-shot at him. 1877 M. PRIOR in *Daily News* 1 Oct. 6/3 While..looking through my telescope, a Russian sentry took a steady pot shot at us, and I had the unpleasant satisfaction of hearing the bullet flatten itself against a stone not far ahead. 1896 *Tablet* 22 Feb. 290, I was lying by my horse, taking pot-shots when I could get the chance.

†Po·t-shot, -sho·tten, *a.* (*sb.*²) *Obs.* [f. POT *sb.*¹ + SHOT *ppl. a.* (and *sb.*)] 'Shot' or overpowered by drink; intoxicated.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* vi. 59 Edmunds..being pot-shotten and perceiuing the Moone to shine bright through the windowes, said with a loud voyce, that the holy Ghost was descended. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* Wks. I. 83/1 When any of them are wounded, Pot-shot, Jug-bitten, or Cup-shaken. *a* 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* II. vii. (1642) 108 A..Drunkard being Pot-shot and in his Cups.

B. as *sb.* **a.** A drunken person, a drunkard. **b.** Drunkenness.

1617 BRATHWAIT (*title*) A Solemne Ioviall Disputation..Which..Bacchus..hath publikely expounded to his most approued and improved Fellow Pot-shots. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylors Trav.* Wks. III. 78/1 In which kind of potshot our English are growne such stout Proficients, that some of them dares bandy and contend with the Dutch.

Potstick (pɒ·tˌstik). Now only *dial.* Forms: see POT *sb.*¹ and STICK *sb.*; also 5 **pos(s)tyke, postyk(ke.** [f. POT *sb.*¹ + STICK *sb.*] A stick for stirring porridge or anything cooked in a pot.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Stere it alle togyders agayne þe bothome of þe dysshe with a potstyke [*v. r.* posstyke]. *Ibid.*, Stere it wele aboute vpon þe fyre with a poststyke [*v. rr.* postykke, pottstik]. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 469 When hit is boyled put in a potstik and stere hit wel. 15.. *Jack Juggler* (Grosart) 36 By cokes precious potstike, I wyll not home this night. 1612 *Proc. Virginia* 44 in *Capt. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) 123 The next [had] in her hand a sword; another, a club; another a pot-stick...The rest, every one with their severall devises. 1847 MRS. CARLYLE in *New Lett. & Mem.* (1903) I. 236 A pair of stockings..which seemed to have been knitted for two pot-sticks rather than for well-shaped..woman's legs. 1869 H. USSHER in *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 271/3 It beats Sir Roger de Coverley 'to potsticks'.

Potstone (pɒ·tˌstōʊn). [f. POT *sb.*¹ + STONE *sb.*; in sense 1, tr. L. *lapis ollāris.*]

1. A granular variety of STEATITE or SOAPSTONE.

1771 J. HILL *Fossils* 26 Potstone, Ollaris, Composed of broad, narrow, uneven flakes. 1804 R. JAMESON *Min.* I. 345 Pot Stone..[is] soft, and sometimes very soft. 1882 GEIKIE *Text Bk. Geol.* II. II. 120 A finely felted aggregate of scales of talc, with chlorite and serpentine, is called Potstone.

2. Local name for large flints found in the chalk in Norfolk: = PARAMOUDRA.

1855 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* xvii. (ed. 5) 244 Huge flints, or potstones as they are called in Norfolk, occurring singly, or arranged in nearly continuous columns at right angles to the ordinary and horizontal layers of small flints...The potstones, many of them pear-shaped, were usually about three feet in height, and one foot in..diameter.

Pott, obs. or var. f. POT *sb.*¹ esp. in sense 10.

Pottage (pɒ·tĕdʒ). Forms: 3–7 **potage,** 6– **pottage,** (6 **-adge**). [ME. *potage*, a. F. *potage*, lit. that which is put in a pot: see POT *sb.*¹ and -AGE. Orig. stressed *potā·ge*, which was admitted in verse down to Chaucer and Lydgate, but *potage* is found in alliterative poems (and prose) in 14th c., and led to the later spelling. See also PODDISH, PORRIDGE, altered forms of this word.]

1. A dish composed of vegetables alone, or along with meat, boiled to softness in water, and appropriately seasoned; soup, *esp.* a thick soup. In ancient cookery, often a highly composite dish.

Now chiefly a literary word, historical, archaic, scriptural, or used of the soups of savage peoples: no longer a term of English cookery. But the French form is in use in names of dishes really French or supposed to be: see POTAGE.

a. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Hwoso is euer feble eteð potage bliðeliche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8339 Wo þat miȝte weodes abbe & þe roten gnawe Oþer seþe & make potage was þer of wel vawe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3549 Esau..for his fill o þat potage, Als a wreche, has sald his heritage. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 638 Syþen potage & polment in plater honest. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 310 Had ȝe potage and payn ynough and peny-ale to drynke..ȝe had riȝt ynough. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 443 Whanne wol the Gayler bryngen oure potage? *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 þai hafe nowþer peise ne wortes, ne oþer maner of potagez; bot in for þaire potage þai vse broth and sothen flesch. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 15 A potage on fysshday.—Take an Make a styf Poshote of Milke an Ale; þan take..whyte Swete Wyne..& put Sugre..þer-to, or hony;..kepe it a[s] whyte as yt may be, & þan serue f[orth]. *Ibid.* 29 A potage on a Fysdaye.—Take an sethe an .ij. or .iij. Applys..& Flowre of Rys..whyte Wyne..Saunderys & Safroun..Roysonys of corauns..& Almaundys..; and mynce Datys Smale.., and a lytil Hony to make it dowcet, or ellys Sugre. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii, A gentil man, er he take a cooke..wyll..examine hym, howe many sortes of meates, potages, and sauces, he can perfectly make. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xii. (1870) 262 Potage is not so moche vsed in al Crystendom as it is vsed in Englande. Potage is made of the lyquor in the which flesshe is soden in, with puttyng-to chopped herbes, and otemel and salt. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxi. 270 They..roast it, and make many sorts of potages. 1682 [see PLUM-POTTAGE].

β. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Pottage, *potage, souppe*. *Ibid.*, Pottage without herbes, *potage*. 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 92 A whit sylver goblet that I use to ett pottadge. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 101 Now leekes are in season, for pottage full good. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 142 The meat and pottage is put al in one dish; out of which euery one taketh with his greasie fists what he thinkes good. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rel. Quaker* 24 Hadst thou sweetned thy Gumbs With Pottage of Plumbs. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 203 The Papas are either boil'd, roasted, or made

into Pottage. 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physic* (1762) 85 Drink largely of Pottage made with Lentils. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Bagman's Dog*, Now just such a mess of delicious hot pottage Was smoking away when they enter'd the cottage. 1874 *Oxford Bible-Helps* 117 The red lentil is most esteemed, and is made into pottage. 1904 *Daily News* 18 Apr. 4/2 He has acquired..of the native [Kaffir] a knowledge intimate and strange, such as one can only gather by the fireside, over the pottage.

b. *fig.*: often with reference to Esau's 'mess of pottage' (Mess *sb.* 2).

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iv. (Skeat) I. 26 Thou..haste so mikel eaten of the potages of foryetfulnesse. *a* 1845 Mrs. Bray *Warleigh* xxi, Captain Butler..came up to the elbow of the temperate divine, and bidding him, very unceremoniously, 'leave off his pottage', shoved him aside, and stepped into his place. 1858 H. Law *Beacons of Bible* 228 You are self-slain when you prefer the pottage to Christ.

†**2.** Oatmeal porridge. *Obs.*

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 30 Gruels and Pottage made of Oatmeal, being made thin, and quick boyled, are of an excellent Nature. 1724 in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 89 There will be lang-kail and pottage And bannocks of barley-meal. 1794 Donaldson *Agric. Perth* 24 The food of the reapers..for supper, pottage of oat-meal, salt and water, with the allowance of milk made to the ploughman. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 203 Oatmeal is..not unfrequently used in making pottage, among the lower classes [in the West Riding].

†**3.** A poultice. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 42 Leie þerto a potage..maad of eerbis & swynes greece & water & wheete flour.

†**4.** In proverbial phrases: *A mess of pottage*: see Mess *sb.* 2; *to keep one's breath to cool one's pottage*: see Porridge *sb.* 4; *to make pottage of a flint*, to be economical or parsimonious. *Obs.*

1650 H. More *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 78 Keep your breath to your self to cool your pottage. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* III. vi. § 37. 85 For their fare, it was course in the quality, and yet slender in the quantity thereof. Insomuch, that they would, in a manner, make pottage of a flint.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pottage dish, plate, pot*; *pottage-eating* adj.; †**pottage-ware**, materials for pottage, pot-herbs.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 57 Nowe potage ware in askes mynge, and kepe In oil barelles or salt tubbis done. 1519 *Exp. Dinners* (Misc. Philobiblon Soc. (1867–8) XIII.) 40 Pottage flesche viij*d*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 17 Remembrynge..the potage potte with flesshe, the onyons and garlyke that they were wont to eate in Egypte. 1608 Armin *Nest Ninn.* Dij, If ye meete him in your pottage-dish, yet know him. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 115 You may guess Such Pottage-Eating stomackes.

Hence †**Po·ttagy** *a.*, of the nature of pottage.

1565 J. Halle *Hist. Expost.* Table 76 Substances like a whyte potagie confection (called *Puls*).

Pottager, -anger, -eger, -encher, -enger, obs. forms of Pottinger.

†**Pottagur,** obs. form of Podagre *a.*, gouty.

a 1450 Myrc *Festial* 271 He was pottagur; and wyth þat yse þay refreschet þe gret hete of his fete, as oft as hit was layde to.

‖ **Pottah** (pǫ·tä). *East Indies.* [ad. Hindī *paṭṭā* title-deed.] A lease, a deed certifying tenure.

1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 101/1 My house is in Calcutta, in Huzreymull's garden...Have you got the potta? 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. iii. 388 Prescribed forms of leases, in India known by the name of pottahs. 1871 Markby *Elem. Law* § 357 The ryots in India appear to have frequently taken pottahs from the zemindars.

Pottain, obs. form of Potin.

Pottance, variant of Potence [2] (in a watch).

Potted (pǫ·tèd), *ppl. a.* [f. Pot *v.*[1] + -ed [1].]

1. Of meat, fish, etc.: Preserved in a closed pot or other vessel.

1646 Evelyn *Diary* 22 Mar., I was invited to excellent English potted venison. 1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* IV. x, The potted Partridge is potted Woodcock, if you desire to have it so. 1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed. 3) 106 This kind of potted meat may be recommended. 1876 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* VI. 207 Plenty of salted pork,..potted shrimps.

fig. 1883 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 297 What we may call *potted* learning in the form of popular abridgments. 1901 C. H. Welch in *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 10/1 Fed and fattened as it flows With verses scanned and potted prose.

2. Of a plant: Planted or grown in a pot.

1849 Alb. Smith *Pottleton Leg.* xx. 176 The potted yew trees in the passage. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 502/2 Every window was full of potted plants.

fig. 1866 Lowell *Biglow P.* Introd., Poems 1890 II. 159 Where language is too strictly limited by convention..we get a potted literature, Chinese dwarfs instead of healthy trees.

Potteen, Potteler, var. Poteen, Poteller.

Potter (pǫ·tər), *sb.*[1] [Late OE. *pottere*, f. Pot *sb.*[1] + -er [1].]

1. A maker of pots, or of earthenware vessels.

a 1100 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 49 Of stenges heale on potteres leȝe. 1284 *Calr. Inq. P. M.* (1906) II. 322 [The manor..including 36*s.* 8*d.* rent of assize of the burgesses of Midhurst called] potteresgavel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22937 (Cott.) Als potter wit pottes dos Quen he his neu wessel fordos. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* ii. 9 As vessel of þe pottere þou sall þaim breke. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxvii. 84 More helply is a Carpenter or a potter than an Organer, a peynter or an ymager. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Pottare, *ollarius, figulus.* 1597 Middleton *Wisdom Solomon* xv. 7 Thou a potter art, Tempering soft earth, making the clay to bow. 1686 Horneck *Crucif. Jesus* xxv. 838 A potter, by the motion of his wheel, and the activity of his hand, gives the clay what form and shape he pleases. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. IV. 343 Thou and all mankind are as clay in the hand of the potter. 1867 Smiles *Huguenots Eng.* ii. (1880) 22 This wandering workman was no other than Bernard Palissy..more generally known as the great Potter.

†**b.** Applied to a maker of metal pots or vessels. *Obs. rare.*

1443 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 82 Willelmo Browne potter pro factura ij patenarum, j brasyn morter, ij parvarum ollarum, cum xvij libr. eris, xij s. vj d. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* I. 19 Ane pottar vil mak of ane masse of mettal diuerse pottis of defferent fassons.

2. A vendor or hawker of earthenware. *north. dial.* (Cf. south Sc. *mugger.*)

c 1500 *Robin Hood & Potter* xxxiv. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 111 'Pottys, gret chepe!' creyed Robyn,..all that saw hem sell, Seyde he had be no potter long. 1795 Wordsw. *Guilt & Sorrow* xlvi, Rough potters seemed they, trading soberly With panniered asses driven from door to door. 1798 — *Peter Bell* I. iii, A Potter, Sir, he was by trade. 1881 Dixon *Craven Dales* vi. 71 [He] used to boast that 'he could..wallop a potter, or preach a sermon with any man in the country!'

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (also with *potter's*), as *potter craft*; **potter's asthma**, a form of fibroid phthisis to which persons exposed to the dust of the pottery industry are subject; also called **potter's bronchitis, consumption, disease, phthisis** (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895); **potter's clay, potter's earth**, any plastic clay free from iron, and thus suitable for the making of earthenware, stoneware, or porcelain; **potter's field**, a name given (after Matt. xxvii. 7) to a piece of ground used as a burial place for the poor and for strangers; also *fig.*; **potter's lathe**, a frame with a horizontal disk revolvable at various speeds, on which the prepared clay is moulded into shape; **potter's lead, potter's ore**, lead ore used for glazing pottery, galena: cf. Pottern; **potter wasp**, a wasp which builds a cell or cells of clay in a cylindrical cavity, as the American species *Odynerus flavipes* and *Eumenes fraterna*; **potter's wheel**, the horizontal revolving disk of a *potter's lathe.*

1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 593 Sandie, stonie, grauelly, and flintie ground, as also such as consisteth of a *Potters clay in the bottome. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 180 *Potters Clay.* Colour, generally greyish white, and then called *pipe clay.* 1872 Ellacombe *Ch. Bells Devon* Pref. 4 Plaster of Paris casts, made from 'squeezes' taken..with potter's clay. 1864 H. Bruce in *Daily Tel.* 15 June, The people being liable, amongst other diseases, to one peculiar to them, called '*potter's consumption'. *c* 1450 *Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 444 For I can noȝt of *potter craft. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 *Pottarys erthe, *argilla.* 1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* 1 Where Clays are digged (as Fullers earth, Potters earth, etc.) we call them Pits. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 195 Make any utensil of fine potters earth. [1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxvii. 7 They toke counsell, and bought with them a *potters felde to bury strangers in.] 1777 J. Adams in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 259, I took a walk into the Potter's Field, a burying ground between the new stone prison and the hospital. 1906 'Mark Twain' in *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Nov. 4/2 When I wrote a letter..you did not put it in the respectable part of the magazine, but interred it in that 'potter's field', the Editor's Drawer. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Pottery*, The *potter's lathe is also a kind of wheel, but simpler and slighter. 1670 Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* v. (1706) 21 From the Metals are produced Letharges,..White-Lead, Read-Lead, *Potters-Lead and many other varieties. *Ibid.* vi. 25 Potters Lead is made by art from common Lead Oar. 1822 Cleaveland *Min.* (ed. 2) 634 Galena is sometimes ..called potters' Lead ore. *a* 1728 Woodward *Catal.* (1729) 213 *Potters-ore with a vein of white spar passing through the middle of it. 1880 *New Virginians* I. 99 The little *potter-wasp makes a nest of clay, shaped like an ancient pot, which it fills with caterpillars. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Pottery*, The *potter's wheel consists principally in its nut, which is a beam or axis, whose foot or pivot plays perpendicularly on a free-stone sole or bottom. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* I. 5 The earliest authentic records allude to the potter's wheel as to an implement of then high antiquity.

Potter, *sb.*[2] [f. Pot *v.*[1] (in various unconnected senses) + -er [1].]

†**1.** One addicted to potting; a tippler.

1632, 1663 [see Piper [2] 2].

2. One who pots or preserves meat, etc.

1857 J. Davy *Angler in Lake District* I. 10, I cannot do better than let you have the receipt of an experienced potter of charr.

3. One who pots at game (Pot *v.*[1] 5); a pot-hunter.

1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 27/2 Many a wealthy 'potter' who has..blazed away..at the deer.

4. Applied to some North American turtles: **a.** A fresh-water clemmyoid turtle, *Deirochelys serrata*; **b.** The red-bellied terrapin, *Pseudemys rugosa.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1890 in Webster.

Potter, *sb.*[3]: see under Potter *v.*

Potter (pǫ·tər), *v.* Also (6 poder), 9 *dial.* and *U. S.* putter. [app. freq. (with shortened vowel) of Pote *v.* to thrust, push, poke.]

1. *intr.* To poke again and again; to make a succession of slight thrusts. Now only *dial.*

?1530 Tindale *Expos. Matt. v.–vii.* v. 3. 16 b, Thou doest but with poderinge [*so ed. c* 1550; *Wks.* 1573 pottering] in the fyre, make the flame greater. 1646 *Topicks in Laws of Eng.* Ded., Hee will be brodding at, and pottering upon the ground, every way with his Rapier or Dagger. 1681 Cotton *Wond. Peak* (ed. 4) 64 Stooping, with our sticks t'essay, If pottering this and that way, we could find How deep it went. 1714 M. Fothergill in *Hearne's Collect.* (O. H. S.) IV. 303 Four small Coyns were..casually found by a Shepherd, pottering upon the ground w[th] his Crooke. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. E. Anglia, Potter*, to poke, pry, rummage. It seems..to imply repetition or continuance of poking. 1865 Sleigh *Derbysh. Gloss.* (E.D.D.), Poking or pottering in the earth.

b. *trans.* To poke; to move or stir (anything) by thrusting. Now *dial.*

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* K iv b, With a Stick long enough, one might potter them down out of the Roof. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Potter*, to poke, to push as with the end of a stick. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., Noo then, Anne, potter that fire, or it'll be deäd oot in a minnit.

2. *trans.* To trouble, plague, perplex, worry, bother. *dial.* Cf. Pother *v.* 1.

c 1746 J. Collier (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 40 Neaw wou'd naw sitch o Moonshine traunce Potter any body's Plucks? 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Potter*, to confuse. 'Don't potter me'. 1855 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xix, By th' twenty-first, I reckon, he'll be pottered in his brains how to get them done in time. *Ibid.* xlv.

3. *intr.* To meddle, interfere, esp. where one has no business; to tamper (*with*). Now *dial.*

1655 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 11. iii. (1669) 26/2 A Lock whose Wards have been troubled, which makes it harder to turn the Key, than if never potter'd with. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* I. 3 My lord's taking a fancy to go 'pottering'.. which meant that..the earl asked his own questions of his own tenants, and used his own eyes and ears in the management of the smaller details of his property.

4. To occupy oneself in an ineffectual or trifling way; to work or act in a feeble or desultory manner; to trifle; to dabble (*in* something).

1740 [see Pottering *ppl. a.* 2]. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Potter*, to do things ineffectually. 'How thou potters'. 1832 Manning in Purcell *Life* I. 99, I suppose your husband is pottering on in his old way. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xlvi, David pottered on at his bees and his flowers till old Simon returned. 1871 J. R. Green *Lett.* III. (1901) 294, I remember..raving against the people who pottered over Roman roads. 1887 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 535/1 Any man ..who likes to 'potter' in zoology.

b. To talk in a trifling or desultory way.

1826 Scott *Jrnl.* 6 Sept., [They] pottered away about Persia and India, and I fell asleep.

c. *trans.* with advbs. To make *out* or work *out* by pottering; to trifle *away*, to spend, waste, or lose in or by pottering.

1853 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 225, I have ordered Eastwick's Gulistan: for I believe I shall potter out so much Persian. 1883 A. Forbes in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 664 He pottered away..his opportunity to reach Verdun. 1893 W. A. Shee *My Contemp.* vii. 188 Uncles and aunts..were content to potter away their lives at Torquay.

5. *intr.* a. To move or go about poking or prying into things in an unsystematic way, or doing slight and desultory work.

1840 B. Hall *Patchwork* (1841) II. vii. 122, I pottered about in the environs of Naples. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* xiii. 220 He did not go pottering about, measuring cornices, and sticking a portico from the Parthenon here, and a pediment from somewhere else there. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* v, Pottering about in the Bodleian, and fancying I should like to be a great scholar. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* x, To potter about with your garden scissors and the watering can in the conservatories.

b. To go about or walk slowly, idly, or aimlessly; to saunter, dawdle, loiter.

1829 Lady Granville *Lett.* 2 Apr., Balls every night. After that they all potter off to their *Campagnes.* 1835 Fonblanque *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) III. 213 That lean, hobbling old fellow,..pottering about in an incapacity for any thing but to fall to and enjoy other men's meat. 1888 *Century Mag.* Dec. 219/2 The slowest of Sunday trains, pottering up to London.

Hence **Po·tter** *sb.*, trifling action or (in Scott) talk.

1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvii, That precision and easy brevity which is only acquired by habitually conversing in the higher ranks of society, and which is the diametrical opposite of that protracted style of disquisition 'Which squires call potter, and which men call prose'. 1897 *Chicago Advance* 10 June 769/1 These are little things any way, a mere potter about externals.

†**Potter-carrier.** Vulgar or provincial var. of Pothecary: cf. Pot-carrier.

1764 Foote *Mayor of G.* I. Wks. 1799 I. 161 Master Lint, the potter-carrier.

Potterer (pǫ·tərəɹ). [f. Potter *v.* + -er [1].] One who potters; one who works at things in a feeble, unsystematic, or ineffectual way; one who potters about: see the verb.

1862 Burton *Bk. Hunter* 105 A mere wayward potterer, picking up curiosities by the way for his own private individual museum. 1867 — *Hist. Scot.* I. xi. 404 That Robertson did not throw himself into our early history, but left it to a body of dreary potterers, is the more to be regretted. 1883 A. Forbes in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 664 He was not free from the imputation of being a potterer.

Pottering (pǫ·tərin), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Potter; feeble, unsystematic, or desultory working; sauntering about, etc.: see the verb.

?1530 [see Potter *v.* 1]. 1844 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 140 After my usual pottering about in the midland counties of England. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life* iii. (1861) 71 Long marches are no hardship to him...But this pottering in a few square yards of garden is dispiriting and drivelling. 1884 E. Yates *Recoll. & Exper.* II. 39 There were lovely walks and drives..potterings about with Fenn in his sketching expeditions. 1893 E. G. Duff *Early Printed Bks.* 195 Mere antiquarian pottering or aimless waste of time.

Po·ttering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That potters: see the verb.

1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 13 June, A big .. trifle-headed, old pottering minister, ..came to annoy me about a claim [etc.]. 1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 72 A plodding, pottering mind, far more expert in tinkering holes, than in forging and constructing new instruments. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Only a Clod* xl, When I am a pottering old fellow of seventy, I shall have a great fortune and a handsome wife.

2. Involving or characterized by pottering. a. Of work, etc.: Done in a feeble, unsystematic, or ineffectual way; hence, trifling, slight, paltry.

1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 28 What miserable pottering Work do the poor Boys make of it. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 383 Although a small pottering business might be commenced with a much less sum. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 52 Only a few pottering improvements were made.

b. Of movement: Slow, loitering; aimless, unsteady.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 193 With ling'ring, pott'ring pace, ..Thou, like an old man, bidd'st the world adieu. 1873 MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* II. 76 The long pottering stroll that Roger and I had taken one evening.

Hence **Po·tteringly** *adv.*

1893 G. MEREDITH in *Pall Mall Mag.* II. 194 Under one aspect we appear potteringly European; under another, drunk of the East.

† **Po·ttern,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. POTTER *sb.*1, app. after *leathern*, etc.] Of or pertaining to potters: with quots. cf. *potter's lead, ore*, POTTER *sb.*1 5.

1661 BOYLE *Unsuccessfuln. Experim.* i. Wks. 1772 I. 323 An ore, which for its aptness to vitrify, and serve the potters to glaze their earthen vessels, the miners call pottern-ore. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. i. 188 A Spar..that is shattery, and breaks in Squares, exactly like the finest Pottern-Lead-Ore.

Pottery (pǫ·təri). [In 15th c. a. F. *poterie* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *potier* POTTER *sb.*1: cf. med.L. *potārius* potter, *potāria* pottery. In later use sometimes referred directly to *pot*: cf. *crockery*.

1086 *Domesday Bk.* I. 156/1 (Bladon, Oxon.), Ibi .ii. molini de .xiiii. solidis. solidis. et .cxxv. anguillis. et de ollaria [potaria *interlined*] .x. solidi.]

1. A potter's workshop or factory; a pot-factory.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 7/13 Pottes of erthe, Cannes of erthe For to go the watre; Thise things shall ye fynde In the potterye [F. *en le potterye*]. 1780 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* 156 A prison which had been a pottery. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* vi. (1880) 105 Two potters from Antwerp.. started a pottery, though in a very humble way.

b. In *pl.*, *the Potteries*, a district in N. Staffordshire, including Hanley and Stoke-upon-Trent, the chief seat of the English pottery industry.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 485 The district called 'the Potteries', is an extensive tract of country in the hundred of North Pyrehill and county of Stafford, comprehending an area of about eight miles long, and six broad. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1009 A population of 60,000 operatives now derives a comfortable subsistence within a district.. which contains 150 kilns, and is significantly called the Potteries.

2. The potter's art, ceramics; the manufacture of earthen vessels.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Pottery*, the art of making earthen pots and vessels; or, the manufacture of earthen ware. 1872 YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 135 The Arabs were perfect masters of the art of pottery. 1891 NISBET *Insanity of Genius* 236 Pottery, when he [Wedgwood] took it up, was a rude and barbarous manufacture; he raised it to the dignity of an art.

3. The products of the potter's art collectively; pottery-ware, earthenware.

1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 21 Norwich goods, groceries, potteries, and other merchandise. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 484 The drab pottery is useful for articles which require strength to be united to ornament, as flower-pots, water-jugs, &c. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. II. vii. 481 Primitive sepulchral pottery. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* ii. 10 The pottery found associated with weapons of bronze is of a more ornamental and tasteful style than any which belongs to the age of stone. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. v, The shallow milk-pans were of Doulton pottery.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pottery kiln, manufacture, market, trade, ware*; **pottery bark**, see quot.; **pottery-bark tree**, = *pottery tree*; **pottery coal**, Staffordshire coal; so **pottery coalfield**; **pottery gauge**, see quot.; **pottery mould**, a 'brick' of soft stone mixed with pipeclay, used for whitening hearths, etc.; a hearthstone; **pottery tissue**, see quot.; **pottery tree**, one of various trees of the genus *Licania*, the bark of which is *pottery bark*.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 679/2 Several undetermined species of this genus [*Licania*] afford the *Pottery bark, the ashes of which are used by the natives of the Amazon for mixing with the clay employed in the manufacture of pottery-ware, in order to enable the vessels to withstand the action of fire. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 58 *Pottery coals and ironstone measures..with 8 to 13 seams of coal of above two feet thick..and 10 to 12 measures of ironstone. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 435 The Coal-fields of England and Wales...3. North Staffordshire sometimes called the *Pottery coal-field. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pottery-gage*, a shaper or templet for the inside of a vessel on the wheel. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 821 The apparatus then resembles certain *pottery kilns. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. § 111 (1875) 318 Witness..the absorption by Staffordshire of the *pottery-manufacture. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 416 In the *pottery-market and the vegetable-market alike. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iii, What pleasant lives these *pottery painters of the early days must have led. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pottery-tissue*, a kind of tissue-paper used to receive impressions of engravings for transference to *biscuit*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 679/2 s. v. *Licania*, The Indians call these trees Caraipe, but botanists have adopted that name for a genus of *Ternstrœmiaceæ*, owing to the *Pottery tree having at one time been supposed to belong to that order. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, **Pottery-ware*, earthenware. *West.* 1866 Pottery-ware [see *pottery-bark*].

† **Po·ttical,** *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. POT *sb.*1, after *poetical*.] Full of, or inspired by, liquor.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 37 Poets: whose potticall poeticall (I should say) heades, I would wyshe.. might..be gorgiously garnished with fayre greene Barley, in token of their good affection to our Englishe Malt. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 9 An olde sooker, that caries such Potticall verses of the State of Flanders, in a linnen bag.

Potting (pǫ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. POT *v.*1 + -ING1.]

1. Drinking (of ale, beer, or the like); tippling. *arch.* (chiefly with allusion to Shakspere's use).

1594 LYLY *Moth. Bomb.* III. ii, What Risio, how spedst thou after thy potting? 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 79, I learn'd it in England; where indeed they are most potent in Potting. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 66 Potting and sotting ..Will make a good Soldier miscarry. 1864 HEMYNG *Eton School Days* viii. 95 Bird's-eye's patrons would..sit in his cottage and smoke and drink beer, for they were 'potent at potting'.

2. The making of pottery or earthenware.

1743 *N. Jersey Archives* XII. 158 This is exceedingly good for potting or any sort of Cast ware. 1877 R. BINNS (*title*) A Century of Potting in the City of Worcester, being the History of the Royal Porcelain Works from 1751 to 1851. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 3/1 Potting is one of the oldest industries in the world.

3. The preserving of butter, meat, fish, etc. in pots or other vessels.

1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. vi. (1668) 147 Touching the powdering up, or potting of Butter. 1755 FARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 211 The cure and potting of charrs well. 1876 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* VI. 254 Catching and potting of salmon on the Columbia River. 1891 *Auckland Star* 1 Oct. 4/2 Butter...Already the low price has caused many farmers to commence potting down.

b. *Sugar Manuf.* (See POT *v.*1 2 b.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1203 The act of transferring the crude concrete sugar from the crystallisers into these hogsheads, is called *potting*. 1887 N. D. DAVIS *Cavaliers & Roundh. Barbados* 90 From the last copper the clarified liquor was run off into a cistern to 'cool', or become milk-warm, when the operation of 'potting' began.

4. Planting in, or transplanting into, a pot.

1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 83 The success of cultivation..is invariably connected with a correct arrangement and proportion of the soil, &c., in potting.

5. *Crab-potting*, the catching of crabs in pots: cf. POT *sb.*1 5 b, *crab-pot* (CRAB *sb.*1 11).

1891 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Aug. 3/1 We may meet a fisherman returning from crab potting. 1902 CUTCLIFFE HYNE in *Windsor Mag.* July (*title*) The Gentle Art of Crab-Potting.

6. Shooting; taking of pot-shots: see POT *v.*1 5. *colloq.* or *slang*.

1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 5 Dec. 4/1 The potting of Arabs rightly struggling to be free continues merrily at Suakim. 1902 *Words Eye-witness* 43 It is commonly well on into the morning before the 'potting' swells into the rattle and roll which tells that men are hard at it 'with their coats off'.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 2) *potting industry, trade*; (? in sense 3) *potting-dish*; (in sense 4) *potting-house, -shed*; **potting-cask**, in *Sugar Manuf.* (see POT *v.*1 2 b); **potting-pot**, a pot such as is used for potting meat; **potting-stick**, a flat stick used to press down the soil about the root of a plant in a pot.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1204 [The syrup] is then transferred ..into conical moulds..their capacity..is considerably less than that of the smallest *potting-casks. 1569 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 302 In the Hall..xix^th peace of puder, fyue saucers, three *pottyndysshes xij^d. 1825 CROMWELL *Hist. Colchester* 352 A Seed-shop, *Potting-house, &c. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 7/2 The dangerous processes in use in the *potting industry. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* (1767) 230 When it is beat to a paste, put it into your *potting-pot. 1897 *Garden* 2 Jan. 9/3 They place the new compost about them, and make it firm by ramming with the *potting stick.

Potting, *vbl. sb.*2: see POT *v.*3

† **Po·ttingar** (-gär). *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 **potingar, -e, pottingar, 6 potingair, pothingar**; *erron.* 7 **pottinger, 8 potinger.** [Corrupted from **poticar*, POTHECAR, Sc. form of POTHECARY. Cf. the parallel POTTINGARY, where the intermediate forms are better seen. In the later spelling confounded with POTTINGER.] = next, 1.

1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 24 Potingare [see POTTINGARY 2 b]. 1489 *Ibid.* 129 Item, to Stene pottingar.. vij *li.* xv *s.* 1533 *Ibid.* VI. 88 To Francis Aikman, potingair, for sindrie droggis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 196 He wes ane potingar richt fyne, And had grit prattik of all medicyne. *a* 1567 DARNLEY '*Quhair Luve is kendit Comfortles*' 14 (Bann. MS.) For harmes of body, handis and heid, The pottingaris will purge the panis. *a* 1585 POLWART *Flyting w. Montgomerie* 254 Passe to the pothingars againe; Some recipies does yet remaine. 1715 PENNECUIK *Truth's Trav.* in *Descr. Tweeddale*, etc. 96 The Candlemakers came and Flait, The Potingers were very Crouse. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii Pardon me', said he, 'I am but a poor pottingar. Nevertheless, I have been bred in Paris, and learned my humanities and my *cursus medendi*'.

† **Po·ttingary.** *Sc. Obs.* Forms: *α.* 5 **potigary, 6 potegarie.** *β.* 5 **potyngary,** 5–6 **pot(t)ingary, 6 pottingarie, -gry, potinchary.** [Corrupted from *poticary*, earlier form of POTHECARY, through the intermediate *potegary, potigary*: cf. prec., and *nihtegale, nightingale*.]

1. = APOTHECARY 1 (med.L. *apothēcārius*).

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* Tabil (1884) 11 Potegareis that sellis corruppit drogaris. *Ibid.* 100 Potingareis quhilk takis siluer for euil & rottin stufe and droggaris. *Ibid.* 103.

2. a. The art or practice of an apothecary; pharmacy.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Sum Pract. Med.* 16 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 402 My prettik in pottingary ye trow be als pure. 1500 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 376 *note*, Oure ..servitoure and potingare William Fowlare for his..service ..in his craft and science of pottingary. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 29 In pottingry he wrocht grit pyne, He murdreist mony in medecyne. *a* 1568 *For Helth of Body* 77 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 199 Thair is no raseth cumis of pottingary,..Till all neidrent richest detray the.

b. The drugs of an apothecary, medicines.

1474 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 23 To a Flemyng of Bruges for certane potigariis coft to the King. *Ibid.* 24 Item gevin to Stephin potingare..for certane materialis and potingaris deliuerit be him to the King, v. li. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 34 Item, to William Fowlar, for potinchary tane fra him to the King..xxiij li. iij s. vj d.

Pottinger 1 (pǫ·tindʒəɹ). Now *dial.* Forms: *α.* 5 **poteger, pottyger, 6 potteger, pattecher, 6 potager, 7 pottager.** *β.* 5–6 **potinger,** 6 **potenger, -ynger, pot(t)anger, pottencher,** 6–7 **-enger,** 7 **-inger.** [orig. *potager*, a. F. *potager*, f. *potage* POTTAGE; altered to *pot(t)enger, -inger* (cf. *passager, passenger, harbinger*, etc.); thence through *podenger*, PODDINGER, to *poreger*, PORRINGER, q. v.] A vessel of metal, earthenware, or wood, for holding soup, broth, or other liquid or semi-liquid food; a small basin, porringer.

α. [1415 HEN. V *Mandate* in Drake *Eboracum* (1736) App. 17, 24 disces d'argent aunciens, només potageers de diverses formes.] 1466–7 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 135, j poteger'. *c* 1500 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 377, iiij pottygers. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 617/1 One sponeful of good workes should no more kil y^e soule, then a potager of good wurts shuld kil & destroi y^e bodi. 1565 in *Trans. Cumb. & West. Arch. Soc.* X. 31, iiij pottegers & xij platts. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* B j b, Wodden pottagers.

β. 1494 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 321, iiij platers iiij potingers and iiij sawcers. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 7 Untrue..Workmanship of Tin or Pewter..in..Dishes, Saucers, Pottingers, Trenchers, Basons, Flaggons. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Pottanger, *escuelle, avrillon*. 1563 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 210, xij pattechers vj^s, xij saucers ij^s vij^d, xviij old dublers in the kitchin & v pottenchers. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 80/14 A Potanger, *patella, æ*. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 34 In a Glasse or Stone Pottinger. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 483 A Pottenger is..a small, but patulous vessel. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IV. 126 A Physician ordered five Pottingers of Bloud to be taken from him. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Pottinger*, a coarse earthen-ware pot, with a handle; porringer. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pottinger*, a small pewter mug or vessel, containing about three quarters of a pint: a porringer.

† **Pottinger 2** (pǫ·tindʒəɹ). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Corrupted from POTAGER: as to the form cf. prec.] A maker of pottage; a kind of cook. App. sometimes confounded with POTTINGAR, apothecary.

[*a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 263 Whitther it was by ane Italiane posset, or by French fegges, or by the potage of thare potingar, (he was a French man,) thare departed fra this lyef the Erle of Cassilles, the Erle of Rothose. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 337 Cuning baxteris and also excellent cuikis and potigeris [*mispr.* potiseris; MS. I, potingareis] witht confectiounis and drogis ffor thair desairtis.] 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxiv (quoting Pitscottie), Excellent cooks, and pottingars. 1820 — *Monast.* xvi, The wafers, flams, and pastry-meat will scarce have had the just degree of fire which learned pottingers prescribe as fittest for the body. 1866 *Illustr. Lond. News* 22 Dec. 607/2 It shows that these herbs were used for seasoning by the pottingers of the period.

Pottle 1 (pǫ·t'l). Forms: 4–5 **potel,** 4–7 **-ell,** 5 **-elle,** 5–7 **pottel**(1, 6– **pottle.** [ME. *potel*, a. OF. *potel* (1308 in Godef.) a little pot, a measure, f. *pot* POT *sb.*1 + *-el*, -LE 2.]

1. A measure of capacity for liquids (also for corn and other dry goods, rarely for butter), equal to two quarts or half a gallon: now abolished.

a 1300 *Sat. People Kildare* xvii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 155 Hail be ȝe brewesters wiþ ȝur galuns Potels and quarters ouer al þe tounes. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 59 Ye Alderman schal haue..ij galons of ale; & ye dene a potel. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 54 Þe thirde parte off a potell off butter. 1465 *Cov. Lt. Bk.* (E. E. T. S.), The wardens shall make a stryke, halfe stryke, hope & halfe hope, gallon & potell & quarte, the mesurs to be selyd & delyuered to the sellers of oton-meele. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 16 A pottell oyle for the calkers vj^d. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. xii. S j, To lerne howe many pottles or gallons is conteyned in that great vessell. 1602 PLAT *Delightes for Ladies* Recipe lii, Take a pottle of damsons. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 697 Containing each of them tenne pottels or thereabout, foure or fiue gallons. 1625 in *Nαworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 229 One potell of canary seck. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 99 Little hony at that time of the year is ordinarily to bee had; a quart, perhaps a pottle, and this is a liberal portion. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 326 Take a quarter of a pound of hartshorn and put to it a pottle of water. 1869 HAZLITT *Eng. Prov.* 473 Who'd keep a cow, when he may have a pottle of milk for a penny?

b. A pot or vessel containing a pottle, or of about this capacity.

1698 THORESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 311, I have..lately procur'd a Roman Pottle from Aldbrough, which is of the Red Clay. 17.. *Anc. Poems*, etc. (Percy Soc.) 180 We'll drink it out of the pottle, my boys, Here's a health to the barley-mow! 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* (1849) 341 Then the Van Grolls, of Anthony's Nose, who carried their liquor in fair round little pottles. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 24 By his elbow stood a pottle of spiced ale.

c. *ellipt.* A pottle of wine or other liquor; hence, drink, liquor.

a 1700 in *Roxb. Ball.* (1874) II. 258 Yet, scrambling up, a Drunkard feels no pain, But cries 'Sirrah, hoy! t'other pottle againe'. 1850 SYD. DOBELL *Roman* vii, I do not learn.. That you shall..drink your pottle weaker at the wake.

2. A small wicker or 'chip' basket, esp. one of a conical form used for strawberries.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 2 June Let. i, She sent us a pottle of fine strawberries. 1847 C. A. JOHNS *Forest Trees Gt. Brit.* I. 341 The neat-looking, but very inconvenient, basket for holding strawberries, called a pottle, is made of Beech. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* 459 One never sees a pottle of strawberries now.

3. Name of a children's game.

1822 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 334, I have as little inclination to write verses as to play at pottle or whip a top.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pottle bottle, draught, pitcher*; **pottle-bellied** *a.*, pot-bellied; **pottle-bodied** *a.*, stout, corpulent; **pottle-crowned** *a.* (of a hat), having a crown like a small pot; **pottle-deep** *a.*, of the depth of a pottle. See also POTTLE-POT.

1777 *Horæ Subsecivæ* 337 (E.D.D.) *Pottle-bellied. 1825 JENNINGS *Dial. W. Eng.* 61 *Pottle-bellied*, potbellied. 1842 TENNYSON *Will Waterproof* xvii, He saw A something-*pottle-bodied boy That knuckled at the taw. 1392-3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 154, iiij paribus *potel botels. 1459 *Invent.* in *Paston Lett.* I. 488, j. payre of potell botellys of one sorte. *a* 1648 DIGBY *Closet Open.* (1677) 30 Pour this clear liquor into pottle-bottles of glass. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 56 Rodorigo..To Desdemona hath to night Carrows'd Potations, *pottle-deepe. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 124 The life of a Lord..consists principally of his amours, his pottle deep potations, his politics, and his—hazards. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* III. iii, I shall be glad To give thanks for you, sir, in *pottle-draughts. *a* 1529 SKELTON *El. Rummyng* 402 Another..brought a *pottel pycher, A tonnel, and a bottell.

Hence **Po·ttled** *a.*, placed in a pottle; †savouring of the pottle or wine-cup (*obs.*).

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 23 As potled tales they prate aloft, so thende will proue but vaine. 1845 ELIZA COOK *Old Cries* ii, 'Old Cries', 'old cries'..From 'Hautboys', pottled in the sun, To the loud wish that cometh when The tune of midnight 'waits' is done.

†Pottle [2]. *Obs.* (See quot.)

1689 R. COX *Hist. Irel.* I. Expl. Index, Pottle of Land is twelve Acres.

†Pottle [3], erron. variant of BOTTLE *sb.*[3]

1733 FIELDING *Tom Thumb* II. ix, The unhappy sempstress once, they say, Her needle in a pottle, lost, of hay. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xvii, 'And we are to set to find a needle in the pottle of hay', replied his companion.

Pottle-pot (pɒ·t'lpɒt). [f. POTTLE + POT *sb.*[1]] A two-quart pot or tankard.

1413 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 22, Y be-quethe tho [to] William my sone, a new bras pot..an a potel pot of peuwter. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 87 There came a man out of the towne with a pinte of wine in a pottle pot to welcome the provost of that house [King's College]. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV* II. ii. 83. 1740 BAYNARD *Health* (ed. 6) p. viii, Why should Men dread a Cannon Bore Yet boldly proach a Pottle-pot? 1841 JAMES *Brigand* viii, Truth and my brains lie together at the bottom of the second pottle-pot.

b. *transf.* A heavy drinker, a drunkard.

1860 SALA in *Cornh. Mag.* I. 580 Edward Ward..although a low-lived pottlepot at the best of times, makes some honest remarks concerning the barbarous treatment of the women in Bridewell.

Potto (pɒ·to). [Alleged to be from a Guinea dialect (see quot. 1705); cf. Ashanti *apɔ̀·s(ɔ)o.* (See J. Platt in *N. & Q.* 10th ser. IV. 286.)]

1. A West African lemur (*Perodicticus potto*), commonly called a 'sloth'. Also *potto lemur.*

b. *Calabar potto*, a species of lemur (*Arctocebus calabarensis*), inhabiting the district of Old Calabar.

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 250 A Creature, by the Negroes called *Potto* [*orig.* een beest, 'tgeen by de negers de naem van *potto* draegt], but known to us by the Name of Sluggard. 1868 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 405 In the Potto the submaxillary ducts open in the usual position, upon the free margin of the sublingual. 1901 *Q. Rev.* July 18 That most typical West African creature, the potto lemur. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 12/1 To a weird-looking and nocturnal creature with the eyes of a cat and the body of a tailless monkey the name of 'Bosman's Potto' has been given. 1906 SIR H. JOHNSTON *Liberia* 685 The range of the common potto extends right across Africa from Sierra Leone to Uganda.

2. The kinkajou. Also *potto kinkajou.*

1790 BEWICK *Quadrupeds* (1824) 446 One of this species [Yellow Macauco] was shewn in London some years ago, and was said to have been brought from Jamaica, where it is called the *Potto.* 1834 M'MURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* I. 84 This is, perhaps, the only proper place for the singular genus of the Kinkajous or Potto...From the warm parts of America, and from some of the great Antilles, where it is called *Potto.* 1855 H. G. DALTON *Brit. Guiana* II. 456 The Potto-kinkajou, size of a pole-cat, a pretty looking animal, is occasionally seen.

†Po·ttock. *Obs. rare.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + -OCK.] A small pot.

1694 A. DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 54 They boyl it in iron pottoks till all the humidity be evaporated.

Pottock, corruption of POT-HOOK.

Pot-tree. 1. A tree grown in a pot.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 11 Oct. 6/4 The pot trees of..apples are weighed down with the splendid fruit.

2. A name for the S. American tree *Lecythis Ollaria*, from the shape of its fruit; also called *Monkey-pot tree.*

Pottyger, early variant of *potager*, POTTINGER [1].

†Po·tulent, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. L. *pōtulentus* (*pōc-*) drinkable, later also drunken, f. *pōtus* a drinking; cf. POCULENT.]

1. Fit to be drunk; potable, drinkable.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Potulent*, any thing that may be drunk. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 161 Potulent decoctions..are neither safe nor gratefull. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 179 Although they be troubled with thirst..yet they can bear no sort of potulent matter. 1775 ASH, *Potulent*..fit to drink.

2. Given to drink; drunken.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Potulent*,.. half drunk. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 37. 3/1 And Leave this potulent Profession. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Potulent*, pretty much in drink. Hence 1755 in JOHNSON, 1775 in ASH, etc.

B. as *sb.* in *pl.* Drinkables.

1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 315 Their way of living in Esculents and Potulents.

So **†Potule·ntal** *a.*, potable, drinkable.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 182 Vnto such, liquid and potulentall meats are not profitable.

Po·t-va·liant, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. POT *sb.*[1] 2 b + VALIANT.] Valiant or courageous through the influence of drink.

1641 TATHAM *Distracted State* III. i, You are pot-valiant, sir, it seems. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 29 May, Like a man who has drunk himself pot-valiant. 1845 MIALL in *Nonconf.* V. 181 As pot-valiant as our friend Pistol.

b. as *sb.* A pot-valiant person.

1903 *Spectator* 31 Jan. 172 The so called Irish Brigade.. composed..chiefly of Continental pot-valiants.

Hence **Pot-va·liance, Pot-va·liancy, Pot-va·liantry** = POT-VALOUR; **Pot-va·liantly** *adv.*, with courage induced by drunkenness.

1844 W. H. MAXWELL *Sports & Adv. Scotl.* xxxiii. (1855) 264 Pot-valiantly, the militia-men determined to take the road. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* III. (1881) 410 The old man is still mercurial; but his pot-valiantry is gone. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* I. i. 8 His bursts of pot-valiancy..are awful to his friends. 1884 W. E. NORRIS *Thirlby Hall* xxxii, He had worked himself up into a condition of pot-valiance.

Po·t-va·lour. [f. as prec. + VALOUR.] Valour or courage induced by drink; 'Dutch courage'.

1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. [II.] lxxxiii. 77 To see how Pot-valour thunders in a Tauerne, and appoints a Duell. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Art of Love* I. 664 Pot-valour only serves to fright the fair. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* ix, Who remembered, with all the energy of pot valor, that he was not a mere clerk.

So **Pot-va·lorous** *a.* = POT-VALIANT.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ii, Suppose champagne flowing; with pot-valorous speech. 1872 C. GIBBON *For the King* XV, Hodge was already pot-valorous.

†Pot-wa·lfish. *Obs.* [? ad. Ger. *pottwallfisch*; cf. obs. Du. *pots-wal-visch* 'Cete' (Kilian); see POT-FISH, WHALEFISH.] = POT-FISH.

1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* Introd. 23 The Trumpa Whale or Spouter, may perhaps be the Physeter, and the Sperma Ceti Whale the Pot-Walfish. 1730 S. DALE *Harwich* App. 413 The Parmacitty-Whale or Pot-Wall-fish.

Potwaller (pɒ·tˌwɒ:lər). [f. POT *sb.*[1] + *waller*, agent-n. from WALL *v.*, OE. *weallan* to boil.]

lit. = *Pot-boiler*, the boiler of a pot: the term applied in some English boroughs, before the Reform Act of 1832, to a man qualified for a parliamentary vote as a householder (i. e. tenant of a house or distinct part of one) as distinguished from one who was merely a member or inmate of a householder's family; the test of which was his having a separate fire-place, on which his own pot was boiled or food cooked for himself and his family.

According to 18th c. statements, the test was at times abused by persons not householders, who in anticipation of an election and of receiving money for their vote, boiled a pot in the presence of witnesses on an improvised fireplace in the open air within the borough, and thus passed as potwallers.

1701 *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* 28 May XIII. 583 Borough of Honyton:..That the Right of Election was agreed to be in the pot-wallers, not receiving Alms. 1710 *Ibid.* XVI. 479/2 [Taunton] At an Election, 40 Years ago, the Potwallers were refused, and none but Scot and Lot Men voted then. *Ibid.*, Copies of Returns..in the Years 1661, 79, 80, 88, and 1705, were produced; and it was proved..that several of the Persons, who signed those Returns, were Potwallers. 1715 *Ibid.* 30 Aug., That the Right of Election of Burgesses to serve in Parliament for the Borough of Taunton, is in the Inhabitants within the same Borough, being Potwallers, and not receiving Alms or Charity. 1786 *Act* 26 *Geo. III*, c. 100 § 1 An inhabitant householder, housekeeper, and potwaller legally settled. 1826 J. SAVAGE *Manual Electors Taunton* 17 In the Contest which took place in 1774..it was agreed that a Potwaller is a person who furnishes his own diet, whether he be a Housekeeper or only a Lodger. *Ibid.* 18 To be a Potwaller, or Potboiler, or to boil a Pot, was only another mode of expressing that Thomas Johnson, or any other Voter, was a man so far independent of other persons as to be visibly able to maintain himself and family by his own labour and industry.

1835 ROSCOE *Rep. Munic. Corpor. Comm.* I. 649 (Tregony) Settlement in the parish, and residence as a potwaller constitute a Burgess. 1860 BAGEHOT *Unref. Parl.* 7 Inhabitants of the said town [Ilchester] paying scot and lot, which the town called pot-wallers. 1895 BESANT *Westminster* ix. 256 The voting qualification..was..the tenant who paid scot and lot, and the potwaller.

b. Of this term there have been various popular alterations, of which POT-WALLOPER (see next) has attained greater notoriety than the original official term; also α. **pot-wabbler, pot-wobbler**; β. **pot-wallader** (? mispr. for *-walloper*).

α. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 337 It appears very singular ..that the Members of Parliament [for Taunton] should be chosen by electors of so strange a qualification as the following, viz. all pot-wabblers, or those who dress their own victuals, are entitled to vote. 1811 *Lex. Balatronicum, Pot-wabblers*, persons entitled to vote for members of parliament in certain boroughs, from having boiled their pots therein. These boroughs are called pot-wabbling boroughs. 1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 109 Boroughs..in which the right has the extent marked by the word householders, or by the word pot-wobblers.

β. 1790 M. DUNSFORD *Hist. Mem. Tiverton* IV. 180, Anno 1603. The potwalladers elected two burgesses to represent the borough of Tiverton, in the first parliament of King James I. They were returned by the portreeve.

So **Po·t-wa·lling,** also 9 **pot-wabbling,** the boiling of a pot, the being a potwaller or householder: also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1456 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 291 A sertificat [of] continuall residence and abydyng and pot wallyng wythyn any of the cytteys or towyns. 1811 [see b. α above].

Potwalloper (pɒtˌwɒ·ləpəɹ). Forms: α. 8 **pot-walloner, -iner.** β. 8– **pot(-)walloper,** 9 **-wallopper, -wolloper.** [One of the popular alterations of POTWALLER (after WALLOP *v.* to boil with agitation), which has in general use largely supplanted the original word.

It is found first in De Foe's *Tour*, ed. 1769, as an alteration of *pot-walloner*, the form in the earlier edd. 1725-53; whether as a misprint, or as an intended correction of an erroneous form, does not appear. Thence, prob., in Grose *Dict. Vulgar Tongue*, 1785. From these works app. this form became generally known, while other forms in local use disappeared.]

1. = POTWALLER.

α. 1725 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. II. 21 This Town [Taunton] chooses Two Members of Parliament, and their way of choosing is by those whom they call Pot-Walloners [*so edd.* 1742, 1753; *ed.* 1769 Pot-Wallopers], that is to say, Every Inhabitant, whether Housekeeper or Lodger, that dresses their own Victuals. ?*a* 1749 UPTON *MS. Addit. to Junius* (Halliw.), Tanodunii in agro Somersetensi vocantur Potwalliners. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Taunton*, The election of members of parliament here is very singular; every pot-walloner, *i. e.* that dresses his own victuals, is intitled to vote. 1791 W. COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* III. 226 Taunton..has returned members to parliament from the year 1294, 23 Edw. I. The right of choosing these members is vested in the parishioners boiling their own pot (hence called Pot-Walloners) residing within the limits of the borough, not being stated paupers.

β. 1769 [see quot. 1725 in α]. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T., Pot-wallopers*, persons entitled to vote in certain boroughs, by having boiled a pot there. 1791 LUCKOMBE *Beauties Eng.* I. 58 Every pot-walloper, that is, he who dresses his own victuals, is entitled to vote for members of parliament. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 33 The pot-wallopers of Westminster, Southwark, and Preston, are to vote alongside of the £10 householders of the Tower Hamlets, Manchester, and Birmingham. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vi. (1872) 206 What safety will there be in..ten thousand brawling potwallopers? 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Dec. 4/7 We shall become a nation of potwallopers, with the addition that every lodger is supposed to wallop his own kettle as well as householders.

b. applied as a term of reproach.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 80 Do you take me for..a potwalloper—an ass—a fool? 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Feb. 1/3 The term potwalloper was indignantly resented as a most improper and scandalous one, which should be withdrawn.

2. (See quots.)

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Pot-Walloper*, a scullion. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pot-walloper*...(*b*) A cook aboard ship; a pot-wrestler. (Slang.) (*c*) A scullion. *Bartlett.* 1902 FARMER *Slang, Pot-walloper*..2. (common). A scullion; a kitchen-maid; and (nautical) a cook, esp. on board a whaler: also *pot-wrestler.*

¶ **3.** Erroneously applied to something very big or clumsy. (Cf. POT-WALLOPING α. 2.)

1896 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 6/1 Others were father's boots —you know the sort of thing—regular potwallopers—tens —in which the tiny foot is almost lost.

Pot-wa·lloping, *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. POT *sb.*[1] + *walloping*: see WALLOP *v.*] The boiling of a pot; in quot. the sound produced by the boiler of an engine.

1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* § 1 Wks. 1862 IV. 303 The trumpet that once announced from afar the laurelled mail..has now given way for ever to the pot-wallopings of the boiler.

Pot-wa·lloping, *a.* [f. as prec.]

1. Boiling a pot: applied to a voter who boiled his pot, or a borough in which the voters were potwallopers (see POTWALLER).

1791-3 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1799) I. 95 Has he any close and pot-wallopping boroughs, where no property is the qualification? 1824 *Hist. Gaming* 28 A special bargain.. that his bill for garden stuff..should be paid off as the price of his pot-walluping vote. 1840 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849-50) IX. lxiv. § 55. 609 'England's pride and Westminster's glory', as he [Sir F. Burdett] was termed by his potwalloping constituents in that borough. 1893 VIZETELLY *Glances*

Back I. i. 7 Hunt managed to get elected .. for the pot-walloping borough of Preston.

¶ 2. *erron.* for *walloping* = making vigorous but unwieldy movements. (Cf. WALLOP *v.*)

1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 161 Royal lumbered through the shallows like a great pot-walloping elephant.

Pot-ware to **Pot-wrestler**: see POT *sb.*[1] 14.

†Po·tyeryar. *Obs. rare*—[1]. Extended form of *potycary*, POTHECARY: cf. *mediciner*, *practitioner*, *barrister*, etc.: see -ER[1]. (Cf. POTTER-CARRIER.)

c 1533 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 269, I was both a groser and a potycaryar.

Potynger, obs. form of POTTINGER.

Pou, Sc. and north. dial. form of PULL.

†Pou·ant. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [app. a. F. *puant ppl. a.* stinking.] A foul smell, stink, stench.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 29 It is one thing to smell of any corruption, and an other to be infected with a pouant, or stinke of the same.

Pouar, -e, obs. Sc. forms of POWER.

Pouce (pɑus, pūs). [a. F. *pousse* (dial. and commerc.) dust, in 14th c. *poulce*, a deriv. of L. *pulvis*, or a by-form **pulvus*, whence also Pr. *pols* dust, F. *poussière*.]

1. Flax-dust: so called by workers in flax-mills. Hence **Pou·cey, pou·cy** *a.*, affected with disease of the throat or lungs caused by pouce.

1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss., Pouce*, the floating dust in rooms where flax is being dressed. *Poucy*, asthmatic, from the effects of inhaling 'pouce'. 1884 *Quiver* Mar. 299/2 Hacklers' disease..is produced by a kind of 'pouce', which being inhaled causes severe tickling in the throat. 1889 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 30 Mar. 703/2 The name under which the dust is known among them is 'pouce', and those suffering from its effects are said to be 'poucey'.

2. *dial.* (spelt also **pous(e, powce, pows(e, peawse**). Dust, dirt, rubbish, refuse, in various applications. Also as *adj.* Rubbishy, good-for-nothing. See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Pouce, obs. form of PULSE *sb.*[1]

†Pou·cer, pou·ser. *Obs. rare.* [ME. (?) or AF. *pousere, pousīr* = F. *poucier* thumb-stall, f. *pouce* thumb + *-ier*, -IER. Misread (with *n* for *u*) by modern editors as *ponser(e, ponsir*, and entered in some dicts. as *pouncer.*] In the mediæval church in England, A small cap or thimble of gold or silver worn by a bishop on his right thumb after dipping it in consecrated oil; a bishop's thumb-stall.

See ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* (1849) II. vi. 167, and Latin documents there quoted. Perhaps never used in English, exc. by Rock and in mod. Dicts.

Pouch (pautʃ), *sb.* Also 4–6 **pouche, powche**, 5 **poche**, 5–8 **powch**, 6–7 (8 *Sc.*) **poutch**, 7 **pooch**, 8– *Sc.* **pootch**. [ME. *pouche*, a. ONF. *pouche* (13th c. in Littré: cf. mod. Norm. dial. *pouchet*, in Perche *pouchon* (Godef.)), parallel form of OF. *poche* bag, pouch: see POKE *sb.*[1]]

1. A bag, sack, or receptacle of small or moderate size, used for various purposes, esp. for carrying small articles; a pocket as a distinct receptacle worn outside the dress.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 11 A ioly poppere baar he in his pouche. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 408 The graynes ripe,..Putte in a poche [L. *fiscella*] of palme, and with the wrynge Let presse hem. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Powche, *marsupium*. *c* 1496 *Serm. Episc. Puer.* (W. de W.) b iij, Ther is no vanyte in no partye of the worlde but we ben redy to bye it...Euyll fasshened garmentes & deuyllysshe shoon and slyppers of frensmen, powches and paynted gyrdels of spaynardes. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 606 A Pouch: a great bag, or satchell. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 224 By his Side a Pouch he wore Replete with strange Hermetick Powder. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 234 Seven pictures of God the Father in form of a little old man in a blue and red coat with a pouch by his side. 1861 *Eng. Wom. Dom. Mag.* III. 119/1 The little Pouches..still continue to be worn, suspended from the waistband by a chain and hook, and sometimes by a cord.

b. *spec.* A small bag in which money is carried; a purse. Now chiefly *arch.* or *literary.*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 259 Of whiche [gold] to litel al in my pouche is. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 289/1 A Powche, *vbi* A purse. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) C iij/2 These ..dare I not playnly touche, For all these crosses and siluer in my pouche. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 96 Tester ile haue in pouch when thou shalt lacke. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 1134 Could Catechise a Money-Box, And prove all Powches Orthodox. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 240 Nothing so melancholy as the meditations of a poor devil without penny in pouch. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* i. 14 Out comes the pouch, as sure as I show myself to gather the rent. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xiii. 8 Know he boasts but a pouch of empty cobwebs.

c. A pocket in a garment. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1735) 9 He had always a New Testament in English in his Pouch. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 87 For fear of spoiling their Caps..in the Rain, they will put 'em in their Pouches, and go Bare-Headed. 1820 COMBE *Consol.* II. (Chandos ed.) 153 From his pouch his sketch-book drew. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xix. 180 She saw 'im twa or three times put his hand in his pouch. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 5/4 Standing about..'wi' naething in his pouches but his hauns'.

d. A leathern bag or case used by soldiers for carrying ammunition. Hence *transf.* a wooden cartridge-box.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xii. 57 You must be carefull to cleare the decks with .. fire-pots, poutches of powder. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 Their Bandaliers fill'd with Powder, and Shot in their Pooches. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 23 He brought a great Leather Pouch which held about a Pound and half of Powder, .. and another with Shot. 1810 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* VI. 217 A letter..complaining of certain pouches lately sent out from England for the use of the Portuguese troops. 1853 STOCQUELER *Mil. Encycl., Pouch*, a case of strong leather, lined with tin divisions, for the purpose of carrying a soldier's ammunition.

e. A mail-bag (also *mail-pouch*: see MAIL *sb.*[3] 4 b), esp. a smaller bag enclosed in another; also, a letter-carrier's bag.

1889 *Century Mag.* XXXVIII. 606/2 At 3 o'clock A.M. the European mails closed, and the pouches put on board the *Aller* carried the usual copies for the foreign circulation.

2. *Naut.* One of a number of divisions made by small bulkheads or partitions in a ship's hold, for stowing corn or other loose cargo.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vii. 33 The Ballast will sometimes shoot, that is run from one side to another, and so will Corne and Salt, if you make not Pouches or Bulk-heads. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pouches*, so the Seamen call small Bulkheads made in the Hold of a Ship, to stow Corn, Goods, or the like, that it do not shoot from one side to the other.

3. Applied to a natural receptacle resembling a bag or pocket. a. *Anat., Zool., Path.* A cavity in an animal body, like a bag (usually small, and either permanent or temporary); a sac, cyst. *spec.* †(*a*) the stomach of a fish: = POKE *sb.*[1] 6 (*obs.*); (*b*) the distensible gular sac beneath the bill in certain birds, as the pelican and cormorant; (*c*) a dilatation of the cheeks in certain mammals, a cheek-pouch; (*d*) the receptacle in which marsupial mammals carry their undeveloped young; the marsupium.

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Pike boyled.. Slyt the pouuche, And kepe the fey or the lyuer, and kutte awey the gall. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 68 [The shark] is the most ravenous fish knowne in the sea...In the puch of them hath beene found hatts, cappes, shooes, shirts, leggs and armes of men. 1739 S. SHARP *Surg.* XXXVI. 205 The Spot of the Vessel..where the Disease begins, generally recedes in such a manner from the Surface of the Artery by the force of the Blood..pushing it outwards, as to form a large Pouch or Cyst. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 197 This is a pouch, the entrance of which lies immediately under the tongue, and capable of holding near seven quarts of water. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 302 These pouches are often large enough to admit the end of the finger, and contain occasionally small calculi. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) I. 67 *note*, The face of this Ape is shaped somewhat like that of a Dog. The cheeks are furnished with pouches. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 299 Isopoda. The females carry their ova under the second and third segments of the body, in a pouch formed of approximated scales. 1856 HUXLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Microscop. Sc.* IV. 192 The ovum passes..into the ovicell—there as in a marsupial pouch, to undergo its further development. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 435 The respiratory system consists of gill-pouches or sacs, seven on each side in the Lampreys.

b. *Bot.* A bag-like cavity, sac, or cyst, in a plant; *spec.* a seed-vessel resembling a bag or purse, a short or rounded pod, a silicle.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 191 b, It creepeth low by the ground,..with a seede inclosed in little powches, like a shepheardes purse. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) III. 48 Isatis. Pouch deciduous. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 9 The silicle or pouch is a shorter, broader pod [than the silique]. 1862 DARWIN *Fertil. Orchids* ii. 69 As soon as the disc is drawn out of the pouch the movement of depression commences.

†4. Name of some game. *Obs.*

1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 2048 Thou and I will play at poutch, to morrow morning for a breakfast.

5. [f. POUCH *v.* 4.] A present of money, a 'tip'. *slang* or *colloq.*

1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* III. iii. 25 Your grandfather.. pouched me at Harrow, and it was the largest pouch I ever had.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pouch-belt, -lid*; formed into or having a pouch-like or baggy shape, as *pouch shirt, waist*, etc.; *pouch-like, -shaped* adjs.; **pouch-bone**, a marsupial bone (in marsupials and monotremes); **pouch-gill**, (*a*) the pouch-like gill of the *Marsipobranchii* or *Cyclostomi*; (*b*) a fish having pouch-like gills, as a lamprey; **pouch-gilled** *a.*, having pouch-like gills, marsipobranchiate; **pouch-hook** (*U.S.*), a hook on which a mail-bag is hung; **pouch-mouse**, a rodent having cheek-pouches, a POCKET-*mouse*; **pouch-toad**, a toad of the genus *Nototrema*, in which the eggs are hatched in a pouch or hole in the back of the mother. See also POUCH-MAKER, etc.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 167 Cavalry uniform, a *pouch belt, and a sabre-tache. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L iij, As ye wolde fasten a nedle with threde on your bosome or *pouche lid. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 572/2 Two prolongations..of a *pouch-like form. 1895 S. S. BUCKMAN in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 374 The pouchlike cheeks of a baby. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd.* II. *Cælent.* 117 *Pouch-shaped processes. 1898 *St. James' Gaz.* 12 Jan. 12/1 The *pouch shirt is the last new make. 1897 *Daily News* 6 July 8/4 The modified edition of the *pouch waist as adopted by most of the Englishwomen who venture on that style.

Pouch (pautʃ), *v.* [f. POUCH *sb.*; cf. POACH *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To put into or enclose in a pouch; usually, to put into one's pocket, to pocket; also *fig.* or in extended sense, to take possession of, to 'bag'.

a 1566 R. EDWARDES *Damon & Pithias* (1571) C iv, Ch a [= I've] poucht them vp all ready, they are sure in hold. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 12 He had already pouched the half ring. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Election* Poems (1845) 42 They pouch the gowd, nor fash the town For weights and scales to weigh them. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* iii. 38 He twisted their necks..and pouched them in his plaid. 1840 MRS. F. TROLLOPE *Widow Married* ii, A pretty sum you must have pouched last night. 1890 *Sci. Amer.* 25 Jan. 55/3 They [letters] have next to be 'pouched'...The packages of letters are thrown dexterously into the proper compartments.

b. *fig.* To 'pocket', put up with.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, I will pouch up no such affront before my parishioners.

2. To take into the stomach, to swallow: said of fishes (cf. prec. 3 a (*a*)), and of certain birds; also, to take into a pouch in the mouth or gullet.

1653 WALTON *Angler* vii. 154 The Pike..will have line enough to go to his hold and powch the bait. 1774 WHITE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 267 Swifts when ..shot..discover a little lump of insects in their mouths, which they pouch and hold under their tongue. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 13 First allowing the fish, by a little slackening the line a small time to pouch the bait. 1873 G. C. DAVIES *Mount. & Mere* xxiii. 201 He refused to pouch it.

†3. To swell out or protrude (the lips) into a pouch-like form; to purse the lips; to pout. *rare.*

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* xiv. 266 If this make thee frown, And pouch thy lips out. [Cf. 1680 in *pouching* vbl. sb. below.] 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) V. x. 53 He pouched his mouth, and reared himself up and swelled; but answered me not.

4. [f. prec. 1 b or c.] To supply the purse or pocket of; to give a present of money to; to 'tip'. (With the person or the money as obj., or with double obj.) *slang* or *colloq.*

1810 in Dowden *Shelley* (1886) I. ii. 53 [To him [Ed. Graham] Shelley wrote..April 1 [1810], requesting him]..to pouch those venal villains, the reviewers. 1842 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 5, I shall not have to pouch Hawtrey or my Tutor. 1845 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* 66 Charles Townley, Esq...pouched me half a guinea to purchase paper and chalk. 1864 HEMYNG *Eton School Days* i. 4 'Did your governor "pouch" you?' asked Purefoy, as they were going towards the Station. 1880 [see POUCH *sb.* 5].

5. *Dressmaking.* To make or arrange (a part of dress) so as to hang loosely in a pouch-like form. b. *intr.* said of the dress.

1897 *Daily News* 6 July 8/4 The muslin is lightly pouched over the belt. 1902 *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug. 3/3 The bodice is cut..tightly fitting at the back and sides and below the waist, yet pouching over in the front.

6. *intr.* To form a pouch or pouch-like cavity. (See 5 b, and *pouching* vbl. sb.)

Hence (chiefly in sense 6) **Pou·ching** *vbl. sb.* (also quasi-*concr.*) and *ppl. a.*

1680 BUNYAN *Badman* Wks. (ed. Virtue) 450 He would stand gloating, and hanging down his head in a sullen, pouching manner. 1698 TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 130 The pouching or bagging out at both Extreams. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 791/1 Dilations or pouchings can nowhere be seen. 1849–52 *Ibid.* V. 847/1 The great omentum is a pouching out of the meso-gastrium. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 3/2 The balloon sleeve and the pouching bodice were all too kind to the careless.

Pouched (pautʃt), *a.* [f. POUCH + -ED.]

1. Furnished with or having a pouch or pouches. a. *Zool.* (*a*) Having a gular pouch, as certain birds; (*b*) having cheek-pouches, as certain rodents, etc.; (*c*) having a pouch in which the undeveloped young are carried, marsupial. b. *Anat.* and *Path.* Having or forming pouches, cavities, or dilatations. c. *Dressmaking.* (See POUCH *v.* 5.)

1834 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* I. 337 The Pouched Storks.. which have an appendage under the middle of the throat, resembling a thick sausage. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 96 The Camas pouched rat is common in N. America, on the banks of the Columbia river. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xx. 401 Peopled exclusively with pouched quadrupeds. 1889 LUMHOLTZ *Cannibals* (1890) 252 A pouched mouse..which is tolerably abundant in the Herbert river valley. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 July 3/2 Make a simple pouched bodice of mauve and white foulard. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 825 The vessels are generally thin-walled, pouched and varicose.

2. [f. POUCH *v.* 1.] Put or enclosed in a pouch.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 3/1 Home-sick Kaffirs..trail along in Indian file with the pouched wages which are to buy wives and cattle.

3. *Comb.*, as *pouched-lipped* adj. (cf. POUCH *v.* 3).

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 137 Where the pouch'd-lipp'd cuckoo-bud From its snug retreat was torn.

†Pou·cher. *Obs.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + -ER[1]: cf. *hatter*, etc.] = POUCH-MAKER.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 109 So carpenters ne sowters, card-makers ne powchers,..this sacrament mowe treten.

Pouchful (pautʃful). [f. POUCH *sb.* + -FUL.] As much as a pouch will hold.

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, He buys some books.. And carries ay a pouchfu' to the hill.

Pou·chless, *a. rare.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + -LESS.] Not having a pouch; in quot., not marsupial.

1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 687 To be improved off the face of the earth by the keen competition of the pouchless mammals.

† Pou·ch-maker. *Obs.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + MAKER.] A maker of pouches or bags.

1362 in *Cal. Let. Bk. G. Lond.* 151 William de Thyndone, pouchemakere. 1415 in *York Myst.* Introd. 22 Pouchemakers, Botellers, Capmakers. 1533 MORE *Apol.* xxv. Wks. 890/1 In London here Bayfelde the monke, and Teurberye the powchemaker, and Baynam.

† Pou·ch-mouth, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + MOUTH *sb.*; cf. POUCH *v.* 3.] **a.** *adj.* Having a mouth like a pouch, i. e. with thick or protruding lips; in quot. 1575 said of a word (cf. *jaw-breaking*). **b.** *sb.* A person, or a mouth, with protruding lips. So **Pou·ch-mouthed** *a.* = a.

1565 *Darius* (1860) 37 Thou pouchmouth knaue! Thou shalt strypes haue. *c* 1570 PRESTON *Cambyses* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 179 Now, goodman pouchmouth, I am a slave with you! ?*c* 1570 in Nichols *Topographer* II. 400 A statue of a pouchemouthed squier. 1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 93 When I first heard that same terrible powche-mouthe and..owtelandish worde. 1611 COTGR., *Morre*, a powch-mouth; a mouth garded with great, out-standing, or slowching lips. 1863 KIRK *Chas. Bold* II. 192 From his Polish mother, Cimburga the 'pouch-mouthed', he had inherited the large protruding under-jaw which, transmitted to his descendants, is still designated as 'the Austrian lip'.

† Pou·ch-penny. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. POUCH *v.* + PENNY *sb.*] One who pockets every penny; an avaricious person.

1689 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 321 Is it you (and be naught) old Pouch-penny?

† Pou·ch-ring. *Obs.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + RING *sb.*] A ring for closing a pouch or purse.

1507 *Will of Unde* (Somerset Ho.), Vnum par de powcherynges de Argento. 1584 R. W. *Three Ladies Lond.* I. D iv, Haue you any..Powch-ringes or Buskins, to cope for new broome? *a* 1700 *Songs Loud. Prentices* (Percy Soc.) 153 Broomes for old shooes, pouch-rings, bootes and buskings! Will yee buy any new broome?

Pouchy (pau·tʃi), *a.* [f. POUCH *sb.* + -Y.] Having pouches; of the nature of a pouch; baggy.

1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 679 The mutterings..have died away like so much croaking in the pouchy throats of drought-dried frogs. 1884 BURROUGHS *Pepacton* 217 Such a flaccid..pouchy carcass, I have never before seen.

† Pouck, obs. form of POKE *sb.*⁴ 2.

1763 LINDO in *Phil. Trans.* LIII. 238 A weed called Pouck, represented to me as of a poisonous quality [in S. Carolina].

Pouclesnedele: see PUCKLE, PUCK-NEEDLE.

Poucy: see POUCE I.

Poud, variant of POOD, Russian weight.

Poudagre, variant of PODAGRE *Obs.*, gout.

Pouder, -ir, -re, -ur, etc., obs. ff. POWDER.

Poudesoy, obs. f. PADUASOY: see also POULT-DE-SOIE. **Poudre marchant:** see POWDER *sb.*

‖ Poudrette (pudre·t). [Fr. dim. of *poudre* POWDER; see -ETTE.] A manure made from night-soil dried and mixed with charcoal, gypsum, etc.

1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 72 Poudrette is the contents of privies, dried, and rendered..inodorous and inoffensive, by chemical processes. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 113 When the poudrette is decomposing .. serious consequences may certainly result.

† Poudrey·e. *Obs. rare.* Also **poudré.** [A derivative of *poudre*, POWDER: cf. OF. *poudroy* dust.]

13.. *K. Alis.* 2180 (Bodl. MS.) Ne þe sonne ne had ben yseye For þe dust & þe poudreye [*Weber*, poudré].

Pouer(e, obs. forms of POOR, POWER.

Pouerd, -ert(e, etc., obs. forms of POVERTY.

‖ Pouf (puf). Also **pouff(e.** [F. *pouf*; cf. PUFF *sb.*]

1. a. A kind of elaborate female head-dress fashionable late in the 18th century. **b.** A high roll or pad of hair worn by women. Also *attrib.*

1817 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Harrington* xiii, [Describing the mode of hair-dressing *c* 1780] At the top of the mount of hair and horsehair.., there was sometimes a fly-cap, or a wing-cap, or a *pouf*. 1893 GEORGIANA HILL *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 231 In 1825 the hair was arranged in high poufs drawn to the left side. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 3/2 It is still the wreath of little green leaves that is most popular for wearing in the hair. These are worn now just cresting the *pouf* of the hair. 1905 *Ibid.* 9 Mar. 8/2 It must mean the elevation by pouf and curl and twist and twirl of the coiffure.

2. *Dressmaking.* A part of a dress gathered up in a projection or bunch.

1869 *Latest News* 3 Oct. 5 The enormous pouffs from the waist behind .. will be abandoned with but little regret. 1874 *Echo* 30 Dec., At the back the pouff is replaced by the skirt being closely drawn together a little distance below the waist. 1884 *Bazaar* 19 Dec. 658/1 The space being filled up by an airy little pouf of tulle.

3. A very soft stuffed ottoman or couch.

1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Feb. 211/3 A very usual seat in a drawing-room now is a Moorish or oriental *pouf*. 1894 WILKINS & VIVIAN *Green Bay Tree* I. 130 Seating himself on a low pouffe at her feet.

Hence **Poufed** (puft) *a.*, decorated with a pouf; dressed, as hair, in the form of a pouf.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 17 Apr. 8/4 This collar extends just over the poufed sleeves and the fulness of the square-cut corsage. 1906 *P. T. O.* I. 44/1 There is something to be said, also, against hair too much 'poufed' out, hats poised at too acute an angle.

Pouff, pouffe, obs. forms of PUFF *sb.* and *v.*

† Pouffe. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. ? A mattress; a bag, or bunch.

1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1268/1 Hee lay harde vppon a pouffe of straw: course newe canuesse Sheetes.

† Pough, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 **pohha, poha, pohcha,** (**pocca**), 4 **powȝe, powhe,** (**pouge**), **pouhȝ,** 5–7 **poghe,** 6 **powghe,** 7 **pough.** [OE. *pohha*, app. with no exact equivalent in the cognate langs., but from the OTeut. ablaut stem *puh(h)-*, *pug(g)-* to swell up, blow, whence also EFris. *puche* a boil, MLG. *puchen, puggen*, LG. *puchen, pughen*, MDu., MFlem. *pochen, poghen*, Du. (G.) *pochen* to boast; also MDu. *pōghen*, Du. *pogen* to endeavour, lit. to pant from exertion. Radical connexion with POCK, POKE *sb.*¹ is uncertain.] A bag.

c 897 K. ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlv. 342 He leȝeð hie on ðyrelne pohhan [*v.r.* pohchan]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 8 Ne poha [*Ruskw.* pohha] *vel* posa ne hlaf. — Luke ix. 3 Ne pocca [*Ruskw.* pohha] *vel* posa. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 178 A powhe [1377 B. VII. 191 poke, *v.r.* poukȝ] ful of pardoun. 1388 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 276, I wolde ful were here pouge [? pouȝe] *tanti dulcedine roris!* *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 618 Þei may trussen her part in a terre powȝe! 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. xxix. (Tollem. MS.), A fische..when he knoweþ þat he is entrid and is within þe fischeres pouge. *c* 1450 *Douce MS.* 52 lf. 27 b, When me profereth þe pigge opon þe poghe. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 336/1 A Sack, or Pough of Corn tyed up...It is termed a Sack when it contains about 4, 5, or 6 Measures of Corn; a Pough when it holds 1, 2, or 3.

b. A swelling of the skin.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. XXXVII. iii. 607 The people..are subject to poghes under their throat...[Margin] This disease is called *Bronchocele* or *Hernia gutturis*.

† Pough, *v. Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 (*pa. pple.*) **pohhed,** 4 **powȝe, pouhe, pouwe, powe,** 5 **powȝ.** [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* Of a garment: To hang loose, bag out.

c 1100 *Rule St. Benet* (Schröer 1885) 136 (MS. F.) Hy ..habbaþ side earmellan and pohhede hosa. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6394 Þe tailors corue so moni peces uor is robe ne ssolde powȝe [*v. rr.* powe, pouwe, pouhe, powȝ, poke].

Pough, obs. form of POH *int.*

Pouk, powk (puk). Now *dial.* [In mod. dial. written also *puke, peauk, peawk, pewk, paak, pahk, poke, pook, puck*, most of which forms point to a ME. **pouk(e*, OE. **pūc-*; cf. EFris. *pūche, puche*, in same sense; perh. from OTeut. stem *puh(h)-, pug(g)-, puk(k)-* to swell up (Franck): cf. POCK, POUGH.] A small blister or pustule.

1611 COTGR., *Ampoule*, a small blister, weale, powke. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 338 Onely small watry powks. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 428/1 Water Bladders, and yellow Blisters; are Powks or Tumors. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pouk*, a pimple.

Pouk(e, obs. f. PUCK. **Poukenel,** obs. f. PUCK-NEEDLE. **Poul,** obs. f. PAUL, POLL.

‖ Poulaine (pulē·n). Also 6 **pullayne,** 8 **poleine, -eyn.** [OF. *Poulaine* Poland, *souliers à la Poulaine* shoes in Polish fashion, crakows; hence the pointed beak of such shoes.] The long pointed toe of a shoe, as worn in the 14th and 15th centuries: = PIKE *sb.*¹ 4 a. (Erron. explained by some as the shoe itself: = CRAKOW.)

1464 *Act* 4 *Edw. IV*, c. 7 Nulle persone Cordewaner ou Cobeler..face..ascuns solers galoges ou husens oveqe ascun pike ou poleine qe passera la longuer ou mesure de deux poutz. 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Pullayne, *poullane*. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xii. 299/2 Toes of an extraordinary Length, and sharp, called therefore Pykes, or Poleyns. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 202 No one under the estate of a lord was permitted to wear pikes or poleines to his shoes.. exceeding two inches in length. [*erron.* 1706 PHILLIPS, *Poleine*, a sort of shooe pick'd and turn'd up at the Toe. 1877 BOUTELL in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 469/2 The half-boots or shoes distinguished as *poulaines* continued to be long and very sharply pointed.]

Poulard (pulā·rd). Also 9 **poullard, poularde.** [a. F. *poularde*, f. *poule* a hen + *-arde*: see -ARD.] A young hen fattened for the table; a spayed hen. (Cf. CAPON.)

1732 FIELDING *Miser* III. iii, A leash of pheasants, a leash of fat poulards. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 79/1 He bespoke a poulard for dinner. 1824 COBBETT *Cottage Economy* § 180 They [fowls] are never good for anything after they have attained their full growth, unless they be capons or poullards. *c* 1865 in *Circ. Sc.* I. 343/1 He has made capons and poulards of cocks and hens by mutilation.

Poulce, obs. f. PULSE *sb.*¹ **Pouldar, -er, -re,** obs. ff. POWDER. **Pouldavy,** obs. f. POLDAVY.

Pouldron (pōu·ldrən), **pauldron** (pō·ldrən). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: α. 5 (?)–6 **polron,** (5 **polrond,** 6 **pollarone, polrynge**). β. 6 **poldron,** (**-drone, -dren, -derne, -drand, pollderon**), 6–**pouldron,** (6–7 **-dern,** 7, 9 **powldron**). γ. 6 **paleron,** 6, 9 **pauldron,** (9 **paldron**). [In 15–16th c. *polron, pollerone*, for **poleron*, in Palsgr. 1530 *paleron*, app. aphetic forms of OF. *espauleron, espalleron*, f. *espaule*, mod.F. *épaule* shoulder; subseq. with *d* developed between *l* and *r*. The rare form *pauldron*, known once in 16th c., is that employed by recent writers on armour.

Palsgrave has F. *espalleron* in this sense, as = *paleron*; but the ordinary sense of OF. *espauleron* was shoulder-blade, shoulder of an animal. Mod.F. *paleron* shoulder-blade, omoplate, is referred by etymologists to *pale* blade of an oar, which does not suit the sense of the Eng. word.]

A piece of armour covering the shoulder; a shoulder-plate.

α. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 190 As for the harnys Wyks delyveryd it .. to hym .. ij payr polronds [etc.]. *c* 1550 *Clariodes MS.* (Hall.), Some only but a sure gepon Over his polrynges reaching to the kne. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. ix. 200 Their pollerones are garnished with golde. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1895) IV. 139 With both hands strived..to rent their polrons from their shoulders.

β. 1544 in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, XIX. i. 465 Pollderon. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 82 The kyng of England ..brake his Poldron & him disarmed. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Avant bras d'vn harnois*, the polderne of an armour. 1581 STYWARD *Mar. Discipl.* I. 44 The poldrens with the Vambraces. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 3 Without either pouldrons, vambraces, gauntlets or tasses. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 401 There he raised three new redoubts, which were by a popular word of souldiery called Pouldrons. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 454 Lifting high the deadly battle-axe, Through pouldron and through shoulder deeply driven. 1840 HOR. SMITH *O. Cromwell* I. 283 Heavy cuirassiers, with helmets, breast and back pieces, poldrons and taslets.

γ. 1530 PALSGR. 251/1 Paleron, a pece of harnesse, *espalleron*. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 30 Gorgets, pauldrons, vantbrasses, tasses. 1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 186 Shoulders .. covered with overlapping plates called pauldrons. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* (1874) 204 When the shoulders were covered by the reinforce-plates, they were distinguished as *pauldrons*.

transf. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 126 His [the lobster's] compleate Armour..his tases, vauntbraces, powldrons, Coushes.

† b. *Pouldron to pouldron*: shoulder to shoulder.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 37 Causing them to march vp close pouldron to pouldron. 1672 T. VENN *Milit. & Maritime Discipl.* vii. 15 A Rank is a Row of men uncertain in Number: Pouldron to Pouldron.

c. *attrib.*

1840 BROWNING *Sordello* V. 876 [He] flung away The pauldron-rings to give his sword-arm play.

Hence **Pou·ldroned** *a.*, armed with a pouldron.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 109/2 He beareth Azure, a sinister Arme vambraced, and pouldroned.

Poule, obs. f. PAUL, POLE *sb.*¹, POLL.

Pouleine, Pouler, obs. ff. PULLEN, POLLER.

† Poules foot = *Paul's foot*: see PAUL 5.

1468 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 19 Occupies xviij poules feet of ye grounde.

‖ Poulet (pule). [Fr., a chicken, PULLET, also a love-letter, sometimes folded in the form of a wing.] A love-letter, a (neatly-folded) note.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, He..sate down to pen a *poulet*..to Mademoiselle Aménaide. 1894 S. J. WEYMAN *Man in Black* ix, Even the Commissioners..found their doors beset at dawn with delicate 'poulets', or urgent, importunate applications.

Poulle, -et, -ie, obs. ff. POLL, PULLET, PULLEY.

† Poulme. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. shortened form of next.] = next.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 16 b, The rotting of the poulme or lightes.

† Poulmon. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. obs. F. *poulmon*, mod.F. *poumon*:—L. *pulmō-nem* lung.] The lung.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 16 It is conuenient for al partes of the breste and the poulmon.

Poulp, poulpe (pulp). Also 7 **pulp,** 7–8 **pulpe.** [a. F. *poulpe* in same sense:—L. *pōlypus* POLYPUS.] An octopus, cuttle-fish, or other cephalopod: = POLYP 1 a.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 427 The Pulpe fish or Pourcuttell, maketh at the very fishooks which hee searcheth after and ..claspeth hard and gripeth round about with his clees. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. v. iv. 121 The Preke or Poulps. *Polypus*. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 527/1 The short round-bodied Octopi or Poulps. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 626 The Argonaut. —The animal, or 'poulp'..is indeed a most lovely creature, despite of its unattractive form.

Poulpy, Poulse, obs. ff. PULPY, PULSE.

Poult (pōult), *sb.* Forms: α. 5 **pult**(e, 7–**poult,** (7 pl. **poulse**), 9 **polt.** β. *Sc.* and *dial.* 6–8 **powt**(e, (6 **powtt**), 6– **pout** (7 **poot, pote**): see also POOT *sb.*¹ [ME. contr. f. *polet, poullet*, PULLET, a. F. *poulet* chicken, dim. of *poule* hen.] The young of the domestic fowl, a chicken; also of the turkey, pheasant, guinea-fowl, and various game-birds. Also *attrib.*

α. *a* 1425 *Langland's P. Pl.* A. VII. 267 (MS. U.), I haue no penyes..pultys to bugge. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pulte, yonge hen, *gallinella*. 1634 *Althorp MS.* in Simpkinson *Washingtons* App. p. xxii, 3 dozen pheasant poults from Oxford. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Pheasants, partridg, heath poulse. 1704 LOCKE in Campbell *Chancellors* (1846) IV. CXXIII. 580, 4 Turkey poults ready larded. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 291 Or where the polt, in open heath, Moves in an even line from death. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 162 Ptarmigan poults, hardly fledged.

β. 1502 *Acc. Ed. High Treas. Scot.* II. 155 To ane man brocht powtis to the King. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 95 Item the blak cok, and the gray hen vid. Item the powttis the doosen xiid. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* Commend. Hawking, When the Spaneis crosse the ronne of Fesants in the wood, Or light vpon the little Poutes. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 24 b, Of wild [birds Cornwall hath] Quaile, Raile, Partridge..Powte, &c. 1620 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 126, 7 pootes and 2 snipes. 1633 *Ibid.* 309, 3 moorefoole and 3 potes. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.*

(1751) 125 With which they persecute those poor souls, As setting dogs do pouts and muir-fowls. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pheasant-taking*, The old Cock and Hen [Pheasant], with all their young ones or Powts. 1784 BURNS *Epist. to J. Rankine* xi, As soon's the clockin-time is by, An' the wee pouts begun to cry. 1839 GLEIG *Only Daughter* (1859) 33 She was na comin' to see the pouts fed.

b. *transf.* A child; a youth. *colloq.* or *dial.*

1739 NICOL *Poems* 22 The meikle Trake come o'er their Snouts, That laugh at winsome kissing Pouts. 1790 J. WILLIAMS *Shrove Tuesday* in *Cabinet*, etc. (1794) 27 Bid the unbreech'd Poults and Pullets gaze. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xliv. 242 'He's a raw poult of a chap', replied Jack. 1897 W. D. LATTO in *Bards Angus & Mearns* 270/1 Whan I was but a feeble pout.

Poult, *v. rare.* [f. prec. sb. See also POUT *v.*[2]] *intr.* To catch chickens or poultry.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 4 No feare of losing our hauke, by going out at Cheik, or to a village to Poult.

‖ **Poult-de-soie** (pū·dəswā·). [= F. *poult-de soie* (also *pout-de-soie*), a recent alteration of *pou-de-soie* (1667 in Littré; in OF. *poul de soie, pout de soye*, 1389–94 in Godef. *Compl.*), of unknown origin, which was used in England in the form *poudesoy* from 1663 to *c* 1750: see PADUASOY. After being disused for a century (exc. as consciously Fr.), it was re-introduced *c* 1850, in the current Fr. spelling, for a material identical with or similar to the 18th c. paduasoy.] A fine corded silk; 'a plain silk of rich quality in a soft and bright *grosgrain* make' (see GROGRAM); now most frequently applied to coloured goods.

[1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. xvii/2 Gold ear-rings of a new form. Rose-coloured *pou de soie* slippers. Black lace gloves.] 1850 *Harper's Mag.* I. 287 Robe of white poult de soie. 1900 *Daily News* 21 Apr. 6/5 A blouse made of black and white striped silk has a white poult-de-soie sailor collar.

Poulter (pō·ltəɹ). *arch.* Forms: 4–6 **pulter**, 5 **-ur**, 6 **-ar**, **-or**, **powlter**, 6– **poulter** (7 **pulleter**). [ad. OF. *pouletier* (*c* 1230 in Godef.) in same sense, f. *poulet* PULLET + *-ier*, -ER 2.]

1. = POULTERER. *Obs.* exc. as name of one of the London City Companies.

a 1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 353 No ffysshyere ne no pulter ne shal bygge ffysche ne pultrye for to aȝen selle, er þat vndren be y-ronge. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 166 A pulter that sellithe a fat swan, For a goselyng that grasithe on bareyn clowris. 1548 *Act* 2 & 3 *Edw. VI*, c. 15 § 1 Bruers Bakers Poulters Cookes. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 56 To rere vp much pultrie, and want the barne doore, Is naught for the pulter and woorse for the poore. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* i. (1634) 5 Nicholas the fifth was sonne of a Poulter, Sixtus the fift, of a Hogheard. 1633 [see POULTERER b]. 1884 *Rep. Lond. Livery Comp.* III. 686 The Poulters' Company existed by prescription as early as 1345. It was, however, incorporated by Royal Charter in the 19th year of Henry VII, on 23rd February 1504.

† b. *Poulter's measure*, a fanciful name for a metre consisting of lines of 12 and 14 syllables alternately (corresponding to the modern 'short metre'): see quots. *Obs.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Instruct. making Verse* in *Steele Gl.*, etc. (Arb.) 39 The commonest sort of verse which we vse now adayes (*viz.* the long verse of twelue and fourtene sillables) I know not certainly howe to name it, vnlesse I should say that it doth consist of Poulters measure, which giueth xii. for one dozen and xiiij. for another. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 62 When one staffe containeth but two verses, or (if they bee deuided) foure: the first or the first couple hauing twelue sillables, the other fourteene, which versifyers call Powlters measure, because so they tall[i]e their wares by dozens. 1838 GUEST *Eng. Rhythms* II. 233.

† **2.** An officer of the royal or other household, or of a monastery, etc. who attended to the purchase of poultry and other provisions. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 581 in *Babees Bk.* 318 The clerke to kater and pulter is, To baker and butler bothe y-wys Gyffys seluer. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger Edw. IV* (P. R. O., Exch. T. R., Misc. Bk. 230), Anothre of these gromys ys callyd..grome surgeon, another grome pulter. 1522 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 84 Item, to appouynt iiij pulters to serue for the said persons of all maner pultry. 1601 F. TATE tr. *Househ. Ord. Edw. II* § 51 A serjant pulleter..shal..take thadvise of the asseour of the kinges table [etc.] what he shal bringe to court.

3. *Comb.*, as *poulter-man, -pannier.*

1424–5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 620, 1 par. de Pulterpanyers. 1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 126 Ye s[d] pulter man.

Hence **Poulteress,** a woman who deals in poultry, a female poulterer.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/10 Elizabeth Smith,..Poulteress.

Poulterer (pō·ltərəɹ). Also 6 **pulterer**, 7 **polterer, poultrer.** [Extended form of POULTER, perh. formed on *poultry*, POULTRY: see -ER 1 3.]

One whose business is the sale of poultry (and usually hares and other game); a dealer in poultry.

(Quot. 1534 doubtful, *pulter man* occurs on same page.)

[1534 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 126 The pulterers nor other freemen of the Towne.] 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artach.* A j b, Let Butchers, Poultrers, Fishmongers contend, Each his owne Trade in what he can defend. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1955/4 Apprentice to Mr. Bayly, his Royal Highness's Polterer..in the Pall-Mall. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 27 Poulterers hang up their animals in the feathers. 1853–8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 365 An abundance of game at the poulterers.

b. Applied to the livery company of Poulters.

1755 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xiii. 303/2 The Company of Poulterers [ed. 1633, p. 632 Poulters] were incorporated in the 19th Year of Henry the Seventh.

Poult foot, obs. form of POLT-FOOT.

Poultice (pō·ltis), *sb.* Forms: *α. pl.* 6 **pultes**, 7 **poults**; *β. sing.* 6 **pultes**, 6–7 **-esse**, 6–8 (9 *dial.*) **pultis, pultas**, 7 **pultass(e, -ise, -iss, -us**, 7–8 (9 *dial.*) **pultess, -ice**, 8 **pultoss**; *γ.* 6 **poultesse**, 7 **poultes, -ess, -us, poltis, powltice**, 7–8 **poultis, -ise**, 8 **-iss, poltice**, 7– **poultice.** [Ultimately from L. *puls, pult-em* thick pap, pottage, pulse (= Gr. πόλτος), whence It. *polta* pap (†*pulta*, Florio); F. *pulte* a poultice, in Cotgr., is unsupported. The earliest form *pultes* was app. the L. pl. *pultes* (in med.L. = pap), soon popularly taken as a sing., perh. from its collective sense. Other forms simulate Fr. suffixes *-asse, -esse, -ice.*

The form in *pult-* continued in general use till after 1750, and is still dialectal. It is difficult to account for the spelling *poult-*, which is found before 1600; the mod. pronunciation is indicated in 1645 by *poltis.*]

A soft mass of some substance (as bread, meal, bran, linseed, various herbs, etc.), usually made with boiling water, and spread upon muslin, linen, or other material, applied to the skin to supply moisture or warmth, as an emollient for a sore or inflamed part, or as a counter-irritant (e.g. a mustard-poultice); a cataplasm.

α. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 To practyse use and mynistre in and to any outwarde sore,..any herbe or herbes oyntementes bathes pultes and emplasters. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 104 The poults of mallowes, &c. must be every night applyed.

β. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1545) 64 b, Ye must laye vppon the payne a pultes made of herbes, and floures. 1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 23 b, Good to be put into glisters..and in pultases. 1563 T. GALE *Antid.* II. 72 A Cataplasme or Pultis. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. CXIII. 408 Couer the soare place..with this Pultus. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 60 The Pultass relaxeth the Pores. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* I. xx. 28 Very good to be put into pultesses. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* CXIX, It is used in Pultisses. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 8 Apply a hot Pultess to the Throat. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. *x*, Some were for emollient Pultas's. 1719 *Accomplisht Lady's Delight* (ed. 10) 46 Pultosses of Bran-meal. 1756 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 905 Which adheres to the bottom of the vessel like pultice. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 65 Salt ..discusses boils, in form of a pultis with raisins, hog's lard, or honey. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pultis*, a poultice.

γ. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. v. 65 (Qo. 1597) Is this the poultesse for mine aking boanes? 1611 COTGR., *Pulte*, a poultice. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 365 The hearb Crowes-foot, made into a Cataplasme or Poultis. 1643 STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* x. 44 With a little Vinegar and Honey make a Powltice. 1645 R. SYMONDS *Diary Civ. War* (Camden) 275 Make a poltis; lay it on with red flocks. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* I. viii. 33 There is no need of such a Poultess. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physic* (1762) 38 A white bread Poultis. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 205 A hop poultice is sometimes made by simply moistening with hot water the hops contained in a gauze bag.

fig. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 77 That Poetrie presume not for to preache, And bite mens faults with Satyres corosiues, Yet pamper vp hir owne with pultesses. 1656 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Ability* Wks. (Bohn) II. 35 When they have pounded each other to a poultice, they will shake hands and be friends for the remainder of their lives. 1902 *St. James' Gaz.* 19 July 8/2 His pleasing manner is the poultice to the bump which his fist has raised.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **poultice-boot, poultice-jacket** (see quots.); **poultice-neckerchief**, a name for the many-folded neckcloth worn *c* 1800; †**poultice-root** (see quot.); **poultice-shoe** = *poultice-boot*; **poultice-wise** *adv.*, in the way of a poultice.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Poultice-boot*, a large boot used for applying poultices to horses' legs. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 434 '*Poultice' or 'Pneumonia jackets' are garments made of a strip of thin flannel or flannelette. ..They are lined with a layer of cotton wool..and can easily be placed over the poultice. 1800 *Monthly Mag.* X. 242 The dress of our present beaux, their *poultice neckhandkerchiefs, pantaloons, overalls. 1788 M. CUTLER in *Life, Jrnls. & Corr.* (1888) I. 409 Several vegetables... Aspen, Black-poplar, *Poultice-root, etc. 1888 G. FLEMING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 202/1 For applying poultices to the feet [of a horse], a *poultice-shoe..may be used with advantage. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* III. XXXI. (1668) 81 *Pultis-wise lay it to the offended member. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 65 It is applied to strains with meal and honey, pultiswise.

Pou·ltice, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To apply a poultice to; to treat with a poultice. Hence **Pou·lticed** *ppl. a.*, **Pou·lticing** *vbl. sb.*

1730 BURDON *Pocket Farrier* (1735) 20 The same Medicine and Poulticing will cure it. 1750 *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 441 Pultised according to the Direction of our old Female Practitioners. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 39 The inflammation of the wounded part had become violent, and I ordered it to be poulticed. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 586 Brought about by continuous poulticing. 1888 *Century Mag.* XXXVI. 904 His poulticed ear and picturesque scars.

Poultry (pō·ltri). Forms: *α.* 4–6 **poultrie, -ye**, 5–6 **pultre, -erie**, 5–7 **pulletrie, -ye**, 7 **pultry**. *β.* 6 **poultrie, -ye, -ee**, 7 **poultery, powltry**, 7–8 **poultrey**; 6– **poultry**. *γ. Sc.* 5–8 **powtry**, 7 **poutry**. [ME. *pult(e)rie*, a. OF. *pouletrie* (1280 in Godef.), *poulleterie*, f. *poul(l)etier* POULTER: see -ERY 1, and cf. F. *boulangerie*, Eng. *bakery*, etc.]

† **1.** The office of a 'poulter' in the royal (or a nobleman's) household (see POULTER 2); the superintendence of the purchase of fowls and other provisions; also, the room in which such provisions were stored. *Obs.*

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 15 Super officio pulletrie per manus eiusdem pro lacte, butiro et ouis per ipsum emptis ibidem. 1392 *Ibid.* 220 Cum conductione j domus pro officio pulleterie, j duc. v s. 1393 *Ibid.* 241 Super officio poletrie.] 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 22* Th' office of the Pulterie. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 14 The serieant of the pultrie..shalbe..redie with a cocke in his hand. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 74 Office[s] of houshold seruice, as Ewery,..Buttery, Spicery, pitcher house, Larder and Poultrie. 1601 TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II* § 42 (1876) 25 A wafrer..shul take for his office..egges in the pulletrie and fuel of the scullerye.

2. † **a.** A place where fowls are reared; a poultry-yard or poultry-farm. † **b.** A place where fowls are sold for food; a poultry-market. *Obs.*

1429 *Mun. Magd. Coll. Oxf.* (1882) 16 Item, j bakhous.. cum aliis parvis domibus ibidem pro yetynghous et pultrie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pultrye, *gallinaria*. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 10/30 Goo into the pultrie, Bye poullettis, One poullet & two chekens. 1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poultry, *poullaillerie*. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. iii. 66 b, Pulteries of all kinde of foules wer instituted. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 207 b, The Poultrees, Larders, Spicereis, and Sellars of Wine were al open. 1552 HULOET s. v. *Pultrye*, The fowles fedde in a Barton or poultry. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 105/30 Poultrie, *auiarium.*

c. Hence, Name of a street at the east end of Cheapside in London, where there was formerly a poultry-market.

1432–50 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* I. Pref. 40 Oon Richard Crewe and Nicholas Vicarye sergeaunts..toke at divers tymes out of the said Saintuary..and brought theym to the Counter in the Poultre of London forsaid. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 63 Powlters of late remoued out of the Powltry. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* Title-p., Johon Lawrence at the Angel in the Poultrey.

3. Domestic fowls collectively; those tame birds which are commonly reared for their flesh, eggs, or feathers, and kept in a yard or similar inclosure, as barndoor fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea-fowls (excluding pigeons, pheasants, etc.); sometimes restricted to the barndoor fowl with its varieties; also applied to the birds as dressed for the market or prepared for food.

Usually construed as collective pl.; formerly sometimes as individual pl. after a numeral.

α. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 598 His lordes sheepe, his neet, his dayerye, His swyn, his hors, his stoor, and his pultrye [*v.rr.* pultrie, pulletrie, pultre]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 9 Venisoun, pultrie, and wylde foul. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 157 Thow plukkis the pultre, and scho pullis off the pennis. 1550–3 *Decaye of Eng.* in *Four Suppl.*, etc. (1871) 98 Where as pultrye was wont to be breade and fedde. 1581 *Calr. Laing Charters* (1899) 255 Fowir pultrie for fowir penneis the pece. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 161 The vsuall prices of Cattle, Corne, Pultry and other provisions.

β. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Pascales*, sheepe or poultrie, whiche doo feede at large. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* II. XXII. (1574) 63 Hennes, Cockes, Chickins, or any other Poultry sytting on the rowste. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 164 Many more Powltry, what was brought or bred. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 202 The servant went over only to sell his Poultery. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xix. 237, I have seen the Portugueze Subjects bring twenty or thirty Poultry to the Market. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 173 Poultry in groups still follow'd where she went. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. i. 31 They speak of hardly anything except the dogs and the poultry.

γ. 1486 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* IX. 359 Onerat se..de..xl caponibus j^c xlvj powtry...Summa..lxiiij capones j^c lxxxxiiij pultre. 1565 in J. Fraser *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 153 Aught poutry price of the pice xij d. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables* xxii. 19 Sheep and powtry, geese and ducks.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poultry-basket, -breeding, -culture, -fancier, -fancy, -fancying* adj., *-farm, -farmer, -farming, -feather, -house, -keeper, -keeping, kind, market*, † *-picking* (= stealing), *-plant* (PLANT *sb.*[1] 6), *-raising, -rearing, -shop, -show, -stall, -yard*; † **Poultry Compter,** name of a prison in the Poultry in London (see 2 c and COMPTER); **poultry-feeder,** a contrivance for feeding poultry (see quots.); **poultry-flutter,** the flutter of frightened poultry; also *fig.*; **poultry-maid,** a girl employed to look after poultry; **poultry-man,** a man who sells poultry; † **poultry-stuff,** † **poultry-ware,** poultry as a marketable commodity.

1893 Q. [COUCH] *Delectable Duchy* (1894) 305 An old countryman, with an empty *poultry-basket on his knees. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 519 Some quondam amateur of *poultry-breeding. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 15 [He] became at last Secondary of the *Poultry-Compter. 1894 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 6/7 The Committee..urge that *poultry culture as a branch of our great national industry should be no longer neglected. 1876 FULTON *Bk. Pigeons* 1 A *poultry-fancier was apt to be fought shy of. 1892 T. HARDY *Tess* (1900) 21/1 In the management of her *poultry-farm. 1894 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* June 303 From *poultry-farmers..the higglers obtain the millions of eggs which are sent into this country. *Ibid.*, Nothing has been said as to *poultry-farming. 1844 *Zoolo-*

gist II. 451 Its nest..was lined with a profusion of *poultry-feathers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Poultry-feeder*, a device to feed grain to fowls in quantity as used. 1884 *Ibid.* Supp., *Poultry Feeder*, a revolving cylinder with coops in stories and in circuit, holding fowls which are successively presented to the attendant. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* I. i. 11 We were insulted, and all in a *poultry flutter, yet no one seemed to feel it but himself! 1552 HULOET, *Pultrye house or barton, *gallinarium*,..*viuarium*. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 83 Birds of the *Poultry kind. 1897 SARAH GRAND *Beth Bk.* xii, He went to the poultry-yard, followed by Beth.., the yard-boy, and the *poultry-maid. 1573-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 338 Flescheouris,..commoun cuikis, *pultre men, and sic utheris as sellis or makis reddy flesche. 1437 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 8 In vico vocato the *Pultery market. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) xvii, It is sum wyfis malisoun .. For *pultrie pyking that lichtit hes on yow. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 181 Thou sellest ..conies in this *pultry shoppe. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 243 The old Jewess..used some years ago to have a *poultry-stall..on the market. 1531-2 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 220 They shall take noe *Poultry-ware within seven myles of London. *Ibid.*, He shall take noe *Poultry-stuff from noe Nobleman nor Gentleman's Servants. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* i. (1849) 27 Like a game-cock among the common roosters of the *poultry-yard. 1847 EMERSON *Poems*, *Threnody* v, His daily haunts I well discern,—The poultry-yard, the shed, the barn.

Hence **Pou·ltrycide** (*humorous nonce-wd.*) [-CIDE 2], the killing of poultry; **Pou·ltryless** *a.* [-LESS], destitute of poultry.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 616, I..meditated all the varieties of poultrycide. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 106 To a degree that drove us poultryless from her doors after an unsuccessful and prolonged parley.

Poultz: see PULSE *sb.*2 **Pouly**, obs. f. PULLEY. **Poum**, obs. f. POME. **Poume garnet(te, poum garnet**, obs. ff. POMEGRANATE. **Poumil, poumle**, obs. ff. PUMMEL. **Poumle**, obs. f. POMELY *a.*, dappled. **Poumper**, var. POME-PEAR, *Obs.* **Poumysshe**, obs. f. PUMICE.

Poun, obs. f. PAWN *sb.*1 (at Chess), POUND *v.*1

Pounce (pauns), *sb.*1 Also 5–8 **pownce**, 6 **pounse**, *Sc.* **punse, punss**, 9 *dial.* **punce**. [Etymology obscure: no corresponding sb. is known in French or other Romanic language. The various groups of senses are parallel to those of POUNCE *v.*1, the evidence for vb. and sb. beginning early in the 15th c., in one group the sb., in two the vb. appearing first. The connexion of the various groups of senses is far from clear; there may have been more than one origin. But the senses correspond to a considerable extent with those of PUNCH *sb.*1, and still more with those of PUNCHEON *sb.*1, which is found much earlier than either *pounce* or *punch*, and corresponds in form and sense to F. *poinçon* (also †*ponchon*), It. †*ponzione, punzione*:—L. or Com. Romanic *punctio, -ōnem*, f. L. *pungĕre, punct-* to prick, pierce, *puncta* point. *Pounce* and *punch* seem to have been in some way shortened from *ponson, ponchon*, PUNCHEON, q. v.

Senses 3, 4, 5 are in PUNCHEON from 14th c.; senses 4, 5, 7 are also in PUNCH from 16th c.; but senses 1, 2, 6, 8 do not occur in either of these words.]

I. †1. A prick, sting. In quot. *fig.* *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) I. xxii. (1859) 24, I haue ben with the whan thou knewe it nought, Enserchyng loo ! thy pounce of conscyence.

2. The claw or talon of a bird of prey; rarely of other animals; in *Falconry* formerly restricted to the innermost of the three anterior toes or claws of a hawk, sometimes applied to any of the anterior as distinguished from the posterior claw or talon.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a viij, Fyrst the grete Clees behynde that strenyth the bake of the hande ye shall call hom Talons, ..The Clees with in the fote ye shall call of right her Pownces. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. v. 118 Quhar Iovis byg fowle, the ern, With hir strang tallonys and hir punsys stern Lychtyng, had claucht the lytyll hynd calf 3yng. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 27 Festus, he is of opinion, that the Falcon is so named, bycause of hir pownces and crooked Talons, which do bend like vnto a syth, or sickle. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* V. iv. 42 And from her griping pounce the greedy prey doth riue. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 28 She [an insect] has two blackish claws, or pounces (at the ends of her feet,) which she can open and shut at her pleasure. 1700 BLACKMORE *Job* 175 Her crooked pounces bear The bloody banquet swiftly thro' the air. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* VIII. 283 In his pounces strong A fawn he bore. 1863 THORNBURY *True as Steel* I. 189 Had hawk ever a fuller eye, or larger pounces, or slenderer tail?

b. *nonce-use.* The paw of a lion.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 71 A Lion may be judg'd by these two Claws of his Pounce.

c. *fig.* in reference to persons. (Cf. CLUTCH *sb.*1)

1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. (1851) 13 They must mew their feathers, and their pounces, and make but curt-tail'd Bishops of them. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 84 (1740) 272 The King and the Duke (which latter they thought already in their Pounces). 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Wks. III. 56 Winged ministers of vengeance, who carry your bolts in their pounces. 1782 ELPHINSTON tr. *Martial* I. vi. 27 Say, whether gives thy wonder more to rove, The power of Caesar, or the pounce of Jove?

†3. *Sc.* A dagger; = PUNCHEON 1 2. *Obs.*

1545 *Aberdeen Regr.* XIX. (Jam.), Ane knapiscaw, and tua hand suerd, ane punss, ane sellet, ane denss aix [Danish ax], ane pair of pantars, ane coip burd.

†4. An engraver's burin. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Borino*, a small sharpe pounce that grauers vse.

II. †5. A die, stamp, or punch, for impressing marks on metal, etc. *Obs.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1566) 31/2 A pounse or printing iyorne to marke with, *rudicula*. *Ibid.* 35 b/2 A pounce to printe the money with, *tudicula*.

†6. A hole pinked, punched, or cut out, for the purpose of ornamenting a garment; = PINK *sb.*3

1563 *Homilies* II. *Excess of Apparel* (1859) 313 While one spendeth his patrimony upon pounces and cuts, another bestoweth more on a dancing shirt than might suffice to buy him honest and comely apparel for his whole body. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 61 If the proud would leave their superfluity in apparel,.. their vanity in cuts, guards and pounces, their excess in spangling,..and needless bravery.

III. 7. A forcible poke with hand, elbow, foot, or stick; a thrust, push, nudge; = PUNCH *sb.* Now *dial.*; in Sc. *esp.* a poke with the naked foot in bed.

1765 AMORY *Mem.* (1766) II. 91 *note*, Giving the director a pounce, and asking him what he meant by such behavior? *c* 1821 J. W. MASTERS *Dick & Sal* lxxvi. (E.D.D.), I thoft I'd fedge him one more pounce, So heav'd my stick an' meant it. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xii. 87 The command was punctuated by sundry admonitory 'punces' in the ribs. *Mod. Sc.* He gave his bed-fellow a punce with his foot to waken him.

†8. A padded sheath for the spur of a fighting cock. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xi. 252/2 *Hotts* or *Hutts*, are the Pounces or round Balls of Leather stuffed and clapped or tied on the sharp end of the Spurs, to keep Cocks that they shall not hurt one another in sparing, or breathing themselves.

IV. †9. ? Pounded meat. *Obs. rare.*

1612 tr. *Benvenuto's Passenger* I. ii. 165 Of the flesh thereof [of the Tortoise] there is made pounces for sicke men [*orig.* se ne fa pesti alli infermi] to refresh..them.

V. 10. *attrib.* (from 1): **pounce joint**, a knuckle in a hawk's toe.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 135 If it fall out that the straine do happen on any of the tallons or pownce ioynts, whereby you do perceiue that place onely to swell.

Pounce (pauns), *sb.*2 [ad. F. *ponce* pumice, also pounce = Sp. *pómez*, Pg. *pomes*, It. *pomice*:—L. *pūmex, -icem*, PUMICE *sb.*]

1. A fine powder, as pulverized sandarac or cuttle-shell, used to prevent the ink from spreading in writing over an erasure or on unsized paper, and also to prepare the surface of parchment to receive writing.

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 19 Pro xviij pellibus pergameni..iiij s., et pro pounci, j d.] 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pounce*, a sort of Powder strew'd upon Paper to bear Ink, or to soak up a Blot. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5216/3 All Persons may be supply'd with..fine Pounce. 1727 W. MATHER *Yng. Man's Comp.* 52 Use Pounce to Paper, if the Ink go thro'. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Pounce*, among writing-masters, a powder made of gum-sandarac, which being rubbed on the paper, makes it less apt to imbibe the ink; it is therefore used in this manner by those who are curious in the art of the pen, by which means the writing appears more precise, sharp, and determinate. 1839 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 162 A cuttlefish, which I never saw before, (common as the shell is for pounce). 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pounce*, common name for the powder of the concrete resin of the *Juniper communis*, or of pumice stone. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 83 The bone of the Cuttle-fish .. is used .. as a pounce to prevent ink from spreading after erasures. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 198/2 *Callitris quadrivalvis*...The resin of this tree is .. gum sandarach; while powdered it forms pounce. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xlvii, Mr. Latimer..had carefully erased with penknife and with pounce..the genuine name.

2. A fine powder, as powdered sandarac, pipe-clay, or charcoal, dusted over a perforated pattern sheet to transfer the design to the object beneath; stamping-powder.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Pounce*, among artificers, a little heap of charcoal-dust, inclosed in some open stuff; to be passed over holes pricked in a work, in order to mark the lines or designs thereof on a paper placed underneath. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 76 It [the cuttle-shell] is now only used as 'pounce', or in casting counterfeits. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 454 To obviate the difficulty and expense of drawing the pattern on every piece of a service..a 'pounce' is used. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 429/2 This powder (paper powder) makes excellent pounce.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pounce-bag, -box, powder*; **pounce-paper**, see quot. 1858; **pounce-tree**, *Callitris quadrivalvis*.

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 29 June 2/2 Slates, inkstands, pounce-boxes, sealing-wax. 1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *South-sea Ho.*, The pounce-boxes of our days have gone retrograde. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 952 Their [the moulds'] surfaces should be brushed evenly over with pounce powder (sandarach) beaten up with white of egg. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Pounce-paper*, a transparent paper for drawing, or tracing, &c. made in Carlsruhe; it is free from oily, greasy or other objectionable substance, and will therefore bear sketching and painting on. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Pounce-tree, Callitris quadrivalvis*.

Pounce, *sb.*3 [f. POUNCE *v.*2] An act of pouncing, as of a bird or beast on its prey; a sudden swoop or spring; quick or eager movement to an object: esp. in the phrase *to make a pounce*. *On the pounce*, ready to pounce, watching for an opportunity to spring upon or take one by surprise.

1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 127 The Cherkh made several unsuccessful pounces. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxxii. 69 Choosing which of them you would make a pounce upon with your collected force. 1887 E. HARRINGTON in *Ho. Comm.* (*Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 8/1), You, Mr. Speaker, have been on the pounce for me since I rose, and I claim my right to speak. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 3/1 His enemies were on the pounce to belittle his efforts and misinterpret his motives.

Pounce (pauns), *v.*1 Forms: (5 **ponse** (?), **pownece**), 5–6 **pownse**, 5–7 **pounse, pownce**, 5– **pounce** (9 *dial.* **punse, punce**). [Goes in form and sense with POUNCE *sb.*1 Senses 1, 4, 5, 6, are found also in PUNCH *v.* (sense 4 in Wyclif), sense 2 is found in *pounceon*, POUNSON *v.* (two examples in one place in Chaucer, where the MSS. are divided between *pounson* and *pounce*), a. F. *poinçonner*, OF. *ponchonner*, = It. *punzonare*. On account of the rarity of *pounson* in Eng., *pounce* and *punch* can hardly have been shortened from it; but they may have been thus formed from the Fr. vb., or in some senses from POUNCE *sb.*1 Of the Romanic langs., Spanish and Portuguese alone have a corresp. vb., Sp. *punzar* 'to punch, prick, sting', Pg. and OSp. *punçar* 'to pricke, to pounce, to foine' (Minsheu 1599); but the derivation of a 14th c. word from these langs. seems out of the question. Cf. POUNSON *v.*, PUNCH *v.*1]

I. 1. *trans.* To emboss (plate or other metal-work) as a decoration, by raising the surface with blows struck on the under side, as in *répoussé* work. See also POUNCED *ppl. a.*1 1. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1424 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 57 þe keuered pece of syluer þe which was mayster Robertis Stoneham, and is pounces whith a crane.] 1430 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) X. 594 Bassyns of Gold..Pounsed with grete Boseletts. 1465 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 424 A stondynge Cuppe, cover of sylver and alle gilte, pownsed. 1530 PALSGR. 663/2, I pownce a cuppe, or a pece, as goldesmythes do. 1552 HULOET, *Pounce*. Loke in graue, and Imboce. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 220/24 To Pounce, *insculpere*. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 934/2 The marchionesse of Dorset gaue three gilt bolles pounced with a couer. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. vii. 341 As the writing, pounced on the outside of the silver-gilt rim, tells.

b. *transf.* (in *passive*) Of the surface of an animal body. **c.** *fig.* To adorn, decorate.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 167 Rhetoricall ornamentes, which beautifie and pounce the style of an Orator. 1705 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1952 Its Back is variously pounc't with Sand-like Warts.

2. To ornament (cloth, etc.) by cutting or punching eyelet-holes, figures, etc.; = PINK *v.*1 3. Also *pounce out*. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* ¶ 344 (Hengwrt) Ther is also the costlewe furrynge in hire gownes, so muche pownsonynge of chisel to maken holes, so muche daggynge of sheris. [*Ellesm.* powsonynge, *Harl.* 1758 pounsounn-, *Petw.* pownsen-, *Egerton* 2726 pounsonyng; *c* 1425 *Harl.* 7334, *Selden* pounsyng, *Lansd.* pounseinge.] *Ibid.* ¶ 347 If.. they wolde yeue swiche pownsonyd & dagged clothynge to the pouere folk. [*Ellesm.* powsoned, *Harl.* 1758, *Petw.* pounsonede; *c* 1425 *Harl.* 7334, *Selden*, *Lansd.* pounsed.] 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. iii, To se a iuge or sergeant at the lawe in a short cote, garded and pounced after the galyarde facion. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 55 b, The syluer [cloth] was pounsed in letters, so that veluet might be sene through. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 1143 With sumptuous silks (pinked and pounc'd, and puft). 1840 W. H. AINSWORTH *Tower of Lond.* i, Over this he wore a mantle of cloth of silver, pounced with his cipher, lined with blue velvet.

b. To cut the edges of (a garment) into points and scallops; to jag. Chiefly said in *passive*, of the cloth or garment. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 313 Traillyng after hym the skyrtes of his goune all pounced in cuttes and tagges. 1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Concido*.., to cutte in littell pieces, to hacke smalle, to iagge or pounce, to beate, to kyll or flea. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* II. i, A supertunic of crimson sarcenet, slashed and pounced with a profusion of fringes.

†c. *passive.* Of leaves, etc.: To be laciniated with jags, points, and indentations on the edges. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. lviii. 519 The seconde kinde hath broade crompled leaues, al to pounced and iagged,..and set rounde about with sharpe prickles. *Ibid.* V. xlvii. 610 The leaues .. more tenderer, and more mangled, pounsed or iagged. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. II. i. 18 Every Plate [of the shell of an Armadillo] is about ½ Inch broad, curiously composed of small triangular or wedge-like pieces, indented one against another, and pounced or pricked all along their edges. 1705 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1960 Its edges are rather pounc't than notch'd.

II. †3. To bruise with blows; *esp.* to bruise, stamp, pound, or beat small; to comminute or reduce to powder by blows. *Obs.*

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 259 b, He came home with his face all to pounced [*contusa*]. 1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* in Holinshed *Chron.* (1808) VI. 8 It cutteth flegme, it..healeth the strangurie, it pounceth the stone, it expelleth gravell. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cast over Water* Wks. II. 158 I'l squeeze, and crush, and vnto poulder pounce thee. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 106 Flowers and leaves being pounced, a ferment being snatched to them, they begin to boyl and be hot, whence ariseth a Gas.

4. To poke or thrust forcibly, esp. with the foot or a stick. Now chiefly *Sc.* (*punce*).

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 139 He made for himself a lofty seat and high Throne,..after the manner of the Princes of this world, smiting the thigh with the hand,

pouncing the footstool with his feet. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 64 And in this place our glorious Peacocke pounceth out his feathers. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Punse*, to push and strike, as with a stick; to *punse* a brock in his lair, to push, or ratherly striking push, a badger in his den. 1863 B. BRIERLEY *Bundle o' Fents* (Lancash.) 25 Pepper Wild wantut us t' fasten him [the dummy] up theer [i. e. at the door] an' then punse th' dur an' see what Owd Johnny 'ud say when he coom eawt. *Mod. Sc.* I cannot have the child in bed with me, he punces so.

†b. (See quot.) *Obs.*

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1843) 11 *The way of Boreing.* We have two Labourers at a time, at the handle of the bore Rod, and they chop, or pounce with their Hands up and down to cut the Stone or Mineral, going round, which of course grinds either of them small.

5. To beat, thump, thrash (a person).

1827 CAPT. HARDMAN *Battle of Waterloo* 18 The French were pouncing us. 1847 PORTER *Big Bear*, etc. 146 He did then and there .. most wantonly and brutishly 'pounced' [sic] his old wife. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 121 Thou got punced just the same.

III. †6. To prick, puncture, pierce, stab. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Pownson (*K.*, *P.*, poyntyn), *puncto.* 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 125/2 Cut, pricke, and pounce hym, no longer forbeare. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 131 b, But if so be the blood be yet aboue the hoofe in the legges, you shall dissolue it with good rubbing, .. with scarifiyng, or Pouncing the skinne. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 235 There is a juice pressed forth both of the fruit, .. and also of the root, which somtime they do pounce and prick for to let out the liquor. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* IV. ii, Out with your knives, .. pounce him lightly And, as he roars and rages, let's go deeper. *a* 1640 DAY *Peregr. Schol.* (1881) 70 Some of his profession had .. so prickt and pownct there windie reputacons with there penns.

†7. To prick the skin in designs as a barbaric adornment; to tattoo. Cf. PINK *v.*1 4. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 359 Theyr princes .. vse to pounse and rase theyr skynnes with prety knottes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 768 The women with an Iron pownce and race their bodies, legs, thighes, and armes, in curious knots and portraitures of fowles, fishes, beasts. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 739 Barbarous People that go Naked, do not onely Paint Themselves, but they Pownce and raze their Skin, that the Painting may not be taken forth. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Pref., Painted with lists, here, naked arms behold Branded and pounc'd with colours manifold.

Hence **Pou·ncing** *ppl. a.*, piercing.

1798 LANDOR *Gebir* VII. 55 The wave, parted by the pouncing beak, Swells up the sides and closes far astern.

Pounce (pauns), *v.*2 [f. POUNCE *sb.*1 2.]

1. *trans.* To seize, as a bird of prey, with the pounces or talons; to swoop down upon and lay hold of suddenly. *To pounce away*: to pounce upon and carry off.

1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 201 Whoever pounc'd the state of Terra-firma. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 631 Each fav'rite fowl he pounc'd with deathful sway. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1853) 350 They cannot pounce the quarry on the ground. 1800-24 CAMPBELL *Dead Eagle* 76 Lately when he pounced the speckled snake. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 121 And like a hawk from covert sprung It pounc'd my peace away.

2. *intr.* To make a pounce; to swoop down as a bird of prey; to spring suddenly *upon* or *at* in the way of attack.

1744 P. WHITEHEAD *Gymnasiad* III. 76 So, when a Falcon skims the airy way, Stoops from the clouds, and pounces on his prey. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 74 The gannet instantly pounces down from above upon the board, and is killed or maimed. *a* 1885 HELEN H. JACKSON *Two Sundays* i, The kitten pounced .. At stealthy spiders that tried to pass.

3. *intr. To pounce on* or *upon*: *transf.* to fall upon suddenly and seize; to seize upon suddenly.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* i, Some years ago he pounced with deadly glee on The Opera House. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 103 A silent, watchful, crafty people, who .. may be around us .. ready to pounce upon all stragglers. 1876 SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* x, Might not his bales be pounced upon and carried away by thievish wreckers? 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Jan. 5/2 The Germans have chosen to pounce down all at once upon parts of the S. African coast.

b. *fig.* To 'lay hold of' eagerly, suddenly, or promptly.

1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 45 He eagerly pounced upon me as one with whom he could pour out his bottled-up grievances. 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* I. iii. 142 The rapidity with which he would pounce on any mistake of grammar or construction. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 12 July 40/1 Lord Hartington pounced upon Sir W. Barttelot's unlucky phrase.

4. *intr.* To spring or jump unexpectedly; to 'come down' (in some understood way).

1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. vi. 306 If I had not, by some misfortune or other, pounced into the old General's room by mistake for his daughter's. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, Mind too that I don't pounce in upon you at unseasonable hours again. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 15 July 3/1 At a quarter past seven Mr. Smith 'pounced', and the Closure was carried by 182 to 118. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 2/2 While walking rapidly along Queen's-gate the defendant suddenly 'pounced' in front of them.

Hence **Pou·ncing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 126 These fine birds, in pouncing, frequently impale themselves on its sharp horns. 1869 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* i, The pouncing proprietor .. has hard work to collect his rents. 1883 H. P. SPOFFORD in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 583/1 Her face bright with a hovering triumph on the point of pouncing.

Pounce (pauns), *v.*3 Also 6 **pounse**, 7 **pownce**. [ad. F. *poncer* (*c* 1277 in Littré) to polish or erase with pumice (:—L. *pūmicāre* to polish with pumice, f. *pūmex*, *-icem* PUMICE), also † to paint or powder (the cheeks), to pounce (a design for embroidery), f. *ponce* POUNCE *sb.*2]

1. *trans.* To smooth down by rubbing with pumice or pounce; *spec.* to smooth or finish (the surface of a hat) with pumice, sand-paper, emery-powder, or the like.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Poncer*, to pounce [cf. COTGR., *Poncer*, to smooth, polish, rub ouer, with a Pumeise stone]. 1651 G. DANIEL *Letter* Poems (Grosart) II. 206 Though the Table, Brother, (halfe pounc't to our hands) may save some Paines. 1868 J. THOMSON *Hat-making* 48 Pouncing is a term for rubbing down the outside of a hat with a piece of pumice stone, sand paper, or emery paper. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 716/1 To sand-paper—or, as it is called in the trade, to pounce—hat-bodies when in the conical form, or, when the hat has been blocked, to pounce the brim.

2. To trace or transfer (a design) on or to a surface by dusting a perforated pattern with pounce; to dust (the perforations in a pricked pattern) with pounce; also, to imprint or copy a design upon (a surface) by means of pounce.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 39 Some .. prick the pattern full of holes & so pounce it vpon another paper. 1683 CAPT. WYLDE *Let. to Pepys* in *P.'s Life* (1841) I. 422 Their patterns being drawn on paper, they prick them, and pounce them with charcoal. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 271 Draw or pounce what you design to emboss. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 147 Pricking through the lines, .. and pouncing the holes with red or black dust.

†3. To sprinkle with powder; to powder, dust; *esp.* to powder (the face) with a cosmetic. b. To sprinkle with specks, spots, or the like. *Obs.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 71 b, How you [Ladies] torture poore olde Time with spunging, pynning and pounsing. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. vi. 58 It shal not be amisse to pounce the ground with a Stainsh-Graine of burnt Allome and a double quantity of pounded Rossin both finely searced and lightly pummiced, thereby to preserue the Paper or Parchment from thorowe-piercing with the Colours. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xii. 51 Decorations, the better to pounce and set forth the great Babilonish whore. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Julia's Petticoat*, Thy azure robe .. pounc't with stars, it shew'd to me Like a celestiall canopie. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. 593 They who paint, pounce and plaister up the ruins of women, filling up their wrinkles and deformities.

Pounce commerce. [f. POUNCE *v.*2 + COMMERCE *sb.* 6.] A round game of cards similar to 'grab' or 'snap'.

1864 WHYTE MELVILLE *Brookes of B.* xxiii. (*heading*), Pounce commerce. 1888 J. PAYN *Myst. Mirbridge* viii, Love is very much like the domestic game of pounce commerce—we must .. always keep changing one's hand, as the cards come round.

Pounced (paunst), *a.* [f. POUNCE *sb.*1 + -ED 2.] Having talons like a hawk: usually in comb.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1117 Some haggar'd Hawk .. Well pounc'd to fasten, and well wing'd to fly. 1700 — *Pythagorean Philos.* 570 The strong pounc'd Eagle and the billing dove. 1787 *Generous Attachment* III. 5 The soft doves of Venus will then flit away before the strong pounced eagle of ambition.

Pounced (paunst), *ppl. a.*1 [f. POUNCE *v.*1]

1. Of metal-work: Embossed or chased by way of ornament. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1430, etc.: see POUNCE *v.*1 1.] 1502 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 258 My best pownsyd peece. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. v. 94 Twa siluer coupis .. With figuris grave and punsyt ymagery. 1552 HULOET, Pounced plate, *anaglypha*, *anaglypta*. 1582 *Lanc. Wills* (1857) I. 132 A pounse [? pounsed] bolle parcell gylt.

2. Of clothing: Perforated, punctured, or laciniated for ornament; pinked. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

c 1386 [see POUNCE *v.*1 2]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 11 b, All in Crymosyn Satyn, garded with a pounced garde of grene Veluet. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 290 Who would not thinke it a ridiculous thing to see .. a Gentleman of the Countrey among the bushes and briers, goe in a pounced dublet and a paire of embrodered hosen? *fig. a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* iv. 116 Wrought Pillow's bring Pownc'd Law, Stitched Common-wealth, and purled King.

†b. Cut or laciniated at the edges, as a leaf. *Obs.*

1681 GREW *Museum* II. v. ii. 248 The Pounced Sea-Wrack, *Alga marina.*

†3. Beaten, bruised. *Obs.*

1551 *Beware the Cat* (1570) 81 The young woman to whom she shewed her pounced thies, said I was an unnatural daughter to deal so with my mother.

†4. Pricked, marked by pricking; tattooed. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 144 With a sharpe prycke made eyther of bone or elles with a thorne, they make holes in their faces: and foorthwith sprinkelynge a pouder theron, they moiste the pounced place with a certeyne blacke or redde iuise. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 115 That their Nobilitie and Gentry thus spotted, may carrie these starres about them, in their painted pownced limmes, as badges.

Pounced, *ppl. a.*2 [f. POUNCE *v.*3 + -ED 1.]

1. Powdered, dusted.

1619 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* A viij b, And that he may obtaine his lust, compares Her eyes to starres, to Amber her pounc't hayres. 1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* I. VI. XV. 546 b, Their frizled Periwigs, Love-lockes, and long effeminate pouldred pounced haire. 1683 CAPT. WYLDE *Let. to Pepys* in *P.'s Life* (1841) I. 422 Cotton yarn .. which they dip in the liquor, squeezing it gently, .. so running along the pounced work, where it turns black in a trice. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 151 Tulips tall-stemm'd and pounc'd auriculas rise.

2. Sprinkled with minute specks as if powdered.

1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Carnation*, The Flowers of the Picketees are always of a white Ground, spotted or pounced, as they call it, with Red or Purple. 1892 E. CASTLE *Eng. Bk.-Plates* 145 The achievements and scrolls and pounced background common to the printers' mark.

Pou·nced stone, for *pounce-stone*, F. *pierre ponce*, pumice-stone.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. XXI. 58 b, With a pounced stone hee rubbeth .. the plantes of your feete.

Pounceon, var. POUNSON *Obs.*; obs. f. PUNCHEON.

Pouncer (pau·nsəɹ). [f. POUNCE *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who or that which pounces; † a pouncing tool.

1552 HULOET, Pouncer, *anaglypharius.* 1598 FLORIO, *Punzone* .. a goldsmiths pouncer or pounce. *Ibid.*, *Siggéllo*, a kinde of pouncer goldsmiths vse. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Bulino*, a kind of pouncer that grauers vse.

Pouncer, erron. f. POUCER *Obs.*, thumb-stall.

Pouncet (pau·nsĕt). [A modern appellation, app. deduced from POUNCET-BOX, and used in the same sense.] = next.

1843 JAMES *Forest Days* (1847) 263 Thou art just the height of the King's confessor, and I shall pass for his pouncet-bearer. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Aug. 1/3 Among the baubles on the chains—..the old pouncet, the seal, and the pencil-case—there was no knife. 1901 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 8/2 No. 29 .. described as a die-shaped pouncet.

Pou·ncet-box. quasi-*Hist.* [Derived in some way from POUNCE *sb.*1 or *v.*1: perh. orig. a misprint for *pounced-box*, i. e. pierced or perforated box.] app. A small box with a perforated lid, used for holding perfumes. A Shaksperian term revived by Scott. In quot. 1863 for *pounce-box*, i. e. box of pounce or powder.

1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. iii. 38 Twixt his Finger and his Thumbe, he held A Pouncet-box: which euer and anon He gaue his Nose, and took't away againe. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* XXVI, Sir Piercie Shafton knelt down, and most gracefully presented to the nostrils of Mary Avenel a silver pouncet-box .. containing a sponge dipt in the essence which he recommended so highly. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Auto-da-fé*, His pouncet-box goes To and fro at his nose. 1863 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gladiators* I. 46 She took the pouncet-box from one of the girls, and proceeded to sprinkle gold-dust in Valeria's hair. 1886 *All Year Round* 28 Aug. 80 Of far more romantic associations was the pomander, or pouncet box.

Pouncheon, obs. form of PUNCHEON.

†**Pouncil.** *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. F. *poncille* 'the Assyrian Citron' (Cotgr.).] (See quot.)

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 31 b, A great barrell of muscadel, .. and diuers other pouncils, citrons and oranges.

Pouncing (pau·nsiŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. POUNCE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of POUNCE *v.*1 in various senses. Also *attrib.*

c 1386 [see POUNCE *v.*1 2]. 1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Entrepunçasura*, pricking, pouncing, *interpunctio. Ibid.*, *Punçon*, .. a pouncing yron, .. *graphium.* 1598 FLORIO, *Broccaglio*, a bodkin or pouncing iron. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* Explan. Words, *Scarification*, is a kind of pouncing or opening of the skin by way of incision slightly, with the fleame or launcet. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* V. vii. § 2. 38 Their going naked, .. their cutting, pinking, and pouncing of their flesh with garnishments .. of sundry shapes.

Pou·ncing, *vbl. sb.*2 [f. POUNCE *v.*3 + -ING 1.] The action of POUNCE *v.*3, q. v. **Pouncing-machine,** a machine used in hat-making to smooth the nap, the hat-body being caused to rotate against a revolving cylinder of sand-paper.

1593 [see POUNCE *v.*3 3]. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1831) 35 They have spent a good part of the day in pranking and pouncing. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* II. i, What can you do now, With all your paintings and your pouncings, lady? *a* 1626 BACON *Inquis. Compound. Metals* Wks. 1879 I. 241/2 It may be also tried by incorporating powder of steel or coppel dust by pouncing into the quicksilver. 1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. (1631) 923 As in pouncing of a picture, forth Through every hole the pressed saffron goes. 1868 [see POUNCE *v.*3 1].

Pouncing, *vbl. sb.*3: see POUNCE *v.*2

Pouncing, *ppl. a.*1 and 2: see POUNCE *v.*1 and 2.

Pound (paund), *sb.*1 Forms: 1-4 (*Sc.* and *n. dial.* -9) pund, (4-5 *n. dial.* punde); 3-pound, (4-6 pounde, pownd(e; pond(e). [OE. *pund* (pl. *pund*):—WGer. stem **pundo-* pound (weight), = OSax., OFris., ON., Goth. *pund* (MLG. *punt*, LG. *pund*, MDu. *pont*, Du. *pond*), OHG. *phunt* (MHG. *pfunt*, G. *pfund*), a very early adopted word, a. L. *pondo* indecl. a pound (weight), orig. instr. abl. of **pondus*, *-um* = *pondus*, *-er-* weight, in use short for *libra pondo* a pound by weight, a pound weight.]

I. 1. A measure of weight derived from the ancient Roman *libra* (= 327·25 grams), but very variously modified in the course of ages in different countries, and as used for different classes of things; in the British Empire now fixed for use in trade by a Parliamentary standard. Denoted by *lb.* (L. *libra*).

Formerly used without change in the pl., a usage still sometimes retained after a numeral, esp. *dial.* and *colloq.*, also in *comb.* as *a five pound note*, *a twenty pound shot.*

This pound consisted originally of 12 ounces, corresponding more or less to that of TROY *weight*, q.v., which contains 5760 grains = 373·26 grams. This is still used by goldsmiths and jewellers in stating the weight of gold, silver, and precious stones; but as early as the thirteenth or fourteenth century a pound of sixteen ounces was in use for more bulky commodities. This was made a standard for

general purposes of trade by Edward III, and known as the pound *aveir de peis*, i. e. of merchandise of weight, now called AVOIRDUPOIS, q.v. This pound of 16 ounces, containing 7000 grains = 453·6 grams, has been since 1826 the only legal pound for buying or selling any commodity in Great Britain. In former times the pound varied locally from 12 to 27 ounces, according to the commodity, pounds of different weight being often used in the same place for different articles, as bread, butter, cheese, meat, malt, hay, wool, etc. See a list in *Old Country and Farming Words* (E. D. S.) 174-5. The Scotch pound of 16 ounces of Troy or Dutch Weight consisted of 7608·9496 grains; the Tron pound kept at Edinburgh = 9622·67 grains. *Pound* is also used to translate foreign names of weights, of cognate origin or representatives of L. *libra*. These vary greatly: in Italy between 300 and 350 grams, in Spain and Portugal, the Netherlands, and some German states between 459 and 469 grams, in other German states, Denmark, etc. between 477 and 510·22 grams. But the standard German *pfund* is now 500 grams, i. e. half a kilogram.

805-31 *Charter of Oswulf* (Sweet *O. E. T.* 444), iiii scep & tua hicca & v goes, & x hennfuglas & x pund caeses. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 3 Maria nam an pund deorwyrðre sealfe. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 335 An uncia stent on feower and twentiġ penegum. Twelf siðon twelf penegas beoð on anum punde. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxi. 9 Wiþ a fals punde þei begile þem þat sees þaim. 1340 *Ayenb.* 190 Uyftene pond of gold. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 155, I haue peper and piane and a pound of garlek. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 4 Of peyne of a pond wax to þe brether-hede. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Take a pownde of ryse and sethe hom wele. 1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 156, xxviij li culvering pulder, price of ilk pund iiij s. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 39 Some of them weie aboue fiue hundred pound. *Ibid.* 40 Of elephants,..some of their teeth do weigh two hundred pounds, at sixteene ounces the pound. 1602 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 71 An hundred fortie two thousand pound of siluer. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 22 This excellent balsam may be purchased for a penny a pound. 1749 REYNARDSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 59 At the same Time [1696] and Place, the Standard Troy Weights were compared with the Standard Avoirdepois,..which fixes the Pound Avoirdepois at 7000 such Grains, as the Troy Pound weighs 5760. *a* 1796 BURNS (*title*) The weary Pund o' Tow. 1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metr. Syst.* III. (1871) 113 The time and occasion of the introduction of the avoirdupois pound into England is no better known than that of the troy weight. 1855 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1125 Pound (Bucks.), sometimes 17 oz.; (Chesh.), 18 oz.; (Corn.), 18 oz.; (Derbys.), 17 oz.; (Devons.), 18 oz.; (Dorset), in some parts 18 oz.; (Durham), in many parts 22 oz.; etc., etc. 1895 *Model Steam Engine* 47 A common standard or 'unit of work' is obviously necessary. That..called the 'foot pound' is one pound raised through a space of one foot in one minute.

† **b.** A pound weight of water, forming a measure of capacity equivalent to a pint, and used in the OE. period as a standard of liquid and dry measure, in full *water-pound. Obs.*

Three Scotch pounds of the Water of Leith was the standard of the pint in Scotch liquid measure = 3 imperial pints. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 298 Pund eles ġewihð xii penegum læsse þonne pund wætres, & pund ealoð ġewihð vi penegum mare þonne pund wætres. *Ibid.* Gloss. 402 *Norma*, wæter pund.

c. *fig.* Of imponderable things; esp. in proverbial expressions.

1526, 1629, 1670 [see OUNCE *sb.*[1] 1 c]. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 114 They..affirme men..to haue a pound of folly to an ounce of pollicy. *a* 1704 T. BROWN tr. *Æneas Sylvius' Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. 1709 III. II. 83 An hundred Pound of Sorrow pays not an Ounce of our Debts.

† **d.** A pound-weight, a weight. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 314 This Tiger-footed-rage..will (too late) Tye Leaden pounds too's heeles.

† **e.** *In pound*: ? in pounds, or ? in a balance. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ii. 36 But if thou now shouldst weigh them new in pound, We are not sure they would so long remaine.

f. *Pound of flesh*: used proverbially, with reference to Shaks. *Merch. V.*: see quots.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 99 *Shylock.* The pound of flesh which I demand of him Is deerely bought, 'tis mine, and I will haue it. *Ibid.* 308 *Portia.* Then take thy bond, take thou thy pound of flesh. 1860 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 23 Who would not..have given his pound of flesh to be captain of her guard? 1887 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 14 All the other Great Powers want their pound of flesh from Turkey.

† **2.** *ellipt.* (*sc.* shot) = POUNDER *sb.*[4] 2. *Obs. rare.*

1759 ADM. HOLMES in *Naval Chron.* XXIV. 119 One carrying a 24-pound and the other a 9-pound.

II. 3. An English money of account (originally, a pound weight of silver), of the value of 20 shillings or 240 pence, and now represented by the gold sovereign. Denoted by £ before the numeral (occas. by *l.* after it), and distinguished by the epithet *sterling*.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 24 Wæs an broht, se him sceolde tyn þusend punda. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 306, xx scillingas beoð on anum punde, and twelf siðon twentiġ penega byð an pund. *c* 1205 LAY. 8907 He sæl..ælche ȝere senden þreo þusend punden. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1101, & yaf for me an hundred punde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1633 A gold ring drow he forth anon, An hundred pund was worth þe ston. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 82 A litel deed leed costiþ many þousand pond bi ȝere to oure pore land. *Ibid.* 100 Many þousand pondis. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxii, The warst hors is worthe ten pownde. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 198 Poundes, Markes, and shillings,..though they haue no coynes, yet is there no name more in vse than they. 1607 MIDDLETON *Five Gallants* II. iii. 232, I can lend you three pound, sir...There 'tis in six angels. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIII. § 33 Ten brave Spanish Horses, the worst of which cost there three hundred pounds sterling. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 445 ₱ 5 If my Country receives Five or Six Pounds a-day by my Labours, I shall be very well pleased. 1795 E. TATHAM *Nat. Debt* 14 Put the National funded Debt at Two Hundred Millions of Pounds. But what is a Pound: for that is the denominator. 1888 A. DOBSON *Goldsmith* 112 'Pounds' and 'guineas' were then [in the time of Dr. Johnson], as Croker points out in one of his notes, convertible terms.

b. Used as the type of a large sum of money, often in contrast with *penny*, or † associated with *mark*. Now chiefly in proverbial phrases. See PENNY 9.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 67 Alse mid his penie alse oðer mið his punde. *Ibid.* 296 Ne sculle hi neure comen vp for marke ne for punde. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5986 That he shal, in a fewe stoundes, Lese alle his markes and his poundes. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trump.* 1112 Thou maist for shyllinges gather poundes. 1562 MOUNTGOMERY in *Archæologia* XLVII. 240 Reamembringe that well ys spent the pennie that salveth the pounde.

† **c.** Through gradual debasement of the coinage, the 'pound Scots', originally the same as the English, was at the Union of the Crowns equal to one twelfth of a pound sterling, being divided into 20 shillings each of the value of an English penny.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 521 Lang eftir syne ransonyt wes he For tuenty thousand pund to pay. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 75 Into this realme ȝow war worth mony ane pound. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 19 Twa hundreith pundis usuall money of this realm. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* III. iv, What a Masque shall I furnish out, for forty shillings? (twenty pound scotch) and a Banquet of Ginger-bread? 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 283 The Scots of old called 20 English pence a pound, as wee in England call 20 siluer shillings a pound. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 177 That sark she coft for her wee Nannie, Wi' twa pund Scots, ('twas a' her riches). 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii, 'Donald would not lower a farthing of a thousand punds'—'The devil!' Punds Scottish, ye shall understand'.

d. Applied to the Turkish and Egyptian gold pieces of 100 piastres, the former of 111·36 grains, value at present (1907) 18*s.* 0¾*d.*, the latter of 131·18 grains, value £1. 0*s.* 3½*d.*

1883 *Whitaker's Almanac* 371, Foreign Monies; Gold coins; Ottoman Empire, Turkish pound of 100 piastres £0. 18. 0¾. 1889 *Ibid.* 657 Egypt, 100 piastre piece (Egyptian £) £1. 0. 3½.

e. Phrases. *In the pound*, † *at pound*, reckoned at so much for each pound. *Pound and* (or *for*) *pound*, one pound for another, at the same rate. *Pounds, shillings, and pence*: = money; also *attrib.* monetary; in *fig.* sense, = viewing things at their money value; matter-of-fact, realistic.

1514 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 9 Where was graunted to the King of all men's goodes 6*d.* in the pownde. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* Table 2 b, That all creditors may have pownd and pownd alyke. 1610-11 in *North Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 209 John Raynson..using the trade of usurie, taking foure shillinges at pound. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 325 A new duty from 6*d.* to 1*s.* in the pound ..imposed by statutes 18 Geo. III. c. 26. and 19 Geo. III. c. 59. on every dwelling-house inhabited, together with the offices and gardens therewith occupied. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 123 Let him calculate whether he and they would have been gainers, even in this low, pounds-shillings-and-pence point of view. 1870 J. ANDERSON in *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 426/2 Everything..narrows itself down into a pounds-shillings-and-pence question. 1900 *Daily News* 15 May 3/1 We claim to be a practical people, a pounds-shillings-and-pence people.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., in the senses (*a*) of a pound weight, as *pound-butter*, sold (in quantity) by the pound, as *pound beads, pins, yarn*; (*b*) of the amount or value of a pound sterling, as *pound matter, prize*. **b.** Special combs.: **pound brush**, a large paint-brush; **pound-day**, see quot.; **pound-nail**, see quot, 1727-41; **pound note**, a bank-note for one pound (such as are issued in Scotland and Ireland); **pound party** (*U.S.*), a party meeting without invitation at a friend's house, each member bringing a pound or so of some eatable ready for consumption, which is handed to the hostess to entertain the unexpected guests; also, a gathering to which each person brings a parcel of undeclared contents, which is sold by auction or otherwise to those present, the proceeds being devoted to charity; † **pound-pear**, an old name for a large variety of cooking pear; **pound-piece**, a piece of money worth a pound; **pound-pint**, a pint equal to the capacity of a pound of water: see 1 b; **pound-rate**, † **rent**, a rate of so much in the pound; † **pound-right** *obs.*, ? the right to the amount of moorland which went with a POUND-LAND; or ? a right to the moor valued at a pound; **pound rocket**, see quot.; **pound-velo**, a unit of momentum; the momentum of a body of mass 1 lb. moving with a velocity of 1 foot per second; **pound-worth, pound's-worth**, as much of anything as is worth or may be bought for a pound; † *spec.* a piece (of land) worth a pound a year: cf. LIBRATE *sb.* See also POUND-CAKE, etc.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Pound-beads*, a kind of bead, white or red, used in West African trade with the natives. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 106/1 The large round brush, called the *pound brush, and a smaller one called the tool, are those mostly used in plain work. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, **Pound-butter*, butter made up in pats of a pound each, as distinguished from.. butter..in bulk. 1889 *Clerks Guernsey News* 10 May 5/1 The *Pound Day at the Victoria Cottage Hospital ..was a great success, the appeal for a pound weight of some kind of grocery from each donor being very..widely responded to. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* I. (1643) 16 We would be loath to take a slip..in a twelve-*pound matter. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Nails*, **Pound Nails*, are four-square in the shank; much used in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, though scarce elsewhere, except for paling. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. x. Ah! a queer fellow; lent him a one-*pound note—never saw it again. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 22 Jan. 2/3 The old-fashioned *pound party has become this winter a fashionable city entertainment. 1889 FARMER *Americanisms, Pound party*, very similar to *Donation party*. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 99/1 *Poire de bon Chrestien, poire de liure,..a *pound-peare. *a* 1667 COWLEY *Ess. in Verse & Prose, Greatness*, He would eat nothing but what was great, nor touch any Fruit but Horse-Plums and Pound-Pears. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Pear*, The pound-pear, or black-pear of Worcester. 1889 H. JOHNSTON *Chron. Glenbuckie* xxii. 261 There are twenty gouden *pound-pieces. 1865 R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. II. 81 He told her to..get a packet of *pound pins. 1886 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* IV. 126 Pins—not the well-made ones sold in papers, but clumsy things with wire heads—'pound-pins'. 1901 E. NICHOLSON in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 283/1 Our bushel was originally the measure containing a quantity of wheat equal to the weight of a cubic foot of water at ordinary temperature, 62·3 lb., and therefore, on the *pound-pint system, containing the same number of pints of wheat. 1773 J. NORTHCOTE *Let.* (in *Sotheran's Catal.* No. 12 (1899) 39), The gentleman who won the Twenty Thousand *Pound Prize in the last Lottery. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 57 A Church-Rate .. to be made .. by an equal *Pound Rate. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 404, 125 l. raised by a pound-rate, at 4 d. in the pound. 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* xxvi. Wks. (Grosart) II. 62 That you ascertain in expresse words the summe that is to be raised by *pound rent. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 293 Item, twice fifty more Per ann. in Pound-Rents! 1586 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 128 Two lyttell croftes..called tenter croftes, with the churche yearde of Darnton, and one *powneright of Branson moore. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 124/1 A *pound rocket will admit a leaden bullet that weighs a pound. 1887 J. B. LOCK *Dynamics* 31 We shall choose as our unit mass-velocity that of a particle of 1 lb. moving with 1 velo. We shall call this unit a *pound-velo. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 668 Of the yifte of Robert, Erle of leyceter, thre *pounde-worthe of lond in Halso. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 394 The yarn spun is *pound yarn, not done in hanks at all.

Pound (paund), *sb.*[2] Forms: 4-5 **poonde**, 5 **ponde**, 5-6 **pounde**, 6 **pond**, 6-7 **pownd(e**, 6- **pound**. [Not found till near the end of the ME. period:—OE. **pund*, known only in comb. *pund-fold* (in late 12th c. MS.) and early ME. *pundbreche* (Laws of Hen. I) (see POUND-BREACH), and supported by the derivatives (*ge-*)*pyndan* to dam up (water) (K. Ælfred), *forþyndan* to exclude, bar (Cynewulf): see PIND *v.* Origin unknown; the stem has not been certainly traced in any continental language. Of this, POND *sb.* is an anomalous parallel form; many dialects have *pound* in the sense of *pond*, and the two forms are used indifferently in sense 4 b in reference to canals.]

I. 1. An enclosure maintained by authority, for the detention of stray or trespassing cattle, as well as for the keeping of distrained cattle or goods until redeemed; a pinfold.

The right to impound stray cattle still exists, but in Great Britain the impounder can put the animals in his own stable or field, so that public pounds, being unnecessary, are disappearing.

1425 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 115 (Latin) [Item to mending the way between the church of Merk and the] pownde 3*s.* 4*d.* 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 559/2 All such distresse..to put in pounde. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xxvii. (1638) 113 The owner may lawfully give the beasts meat and drink while they be in pound. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 168 To shut them up, like Beasts in Pounds, For breaking into others Grounds. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV. Wks. (Globe) 668/1 I'd sooner leave my horse in a pound. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 88 While pinders, that such chances look, Drive his rambling cows to pound. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xix, 'Where am I?' exclaimed Mr. Pickwick. 'In the Pound', replied the mob. 1846 LONGF. *Pegasus in Pound* v, The wise men, in their wisdom, Put him straightway into pound.

b. *Pound close* or *covert*, a pound to which the owner of impounded animals may not have access; *pound open* or *overt*, a pound which is not roofed, and to which the owner may have access to feed his beasts.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xxvii. 76 He that..hath the hurte may take the beestes as a dystresse, and put theym in a pounde ouert. 1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 12 § 1 No Distress of Cattle shall be driven out of the Hundred ..except that it be to a Pound overt within the same Shire. 1567 *Expos. Termes Lawes* (1579) 157 b, Poundes are in two sorts, the one pounds open, the other pounds close... Pound Close is such a place, where the owner of the distresse may not come to geue them meat and drinke, with out offence, as in a close house, or whatsoeuer els place. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. i. 13 If a live distress, of animals, be impounded in a *common* pound-overt, the owner must take notice of it at his peril; but if in any special pound-overt, so constituted for this particular purpose, the distreiner must give notice to the owner.

c. An enclosure for sheltering or in any way dealing with sheep or cattle in the aggregate; also, an enclosure in which wild animals are entrapped,

1780 A. *Young Tour Irel.* I. 340 Mr. Irwin spreads it in his pound .. for cattle to tread on. 1877 J. A. Allen *Amer. Bison* 472 The rushing of a herd over a precipice or into a pound prepared especially to entrap them. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 227 Two gates leading from the pound at the far end are now taken charge of by the black boys...The gate from the lane is opened and the 'ragers'.. rush fiercely into the pound.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A place of confinement; a pen, a pent-up position; a trap; a prison for debtors or offenders; a spiritual 'fold'; in *Hunting*, a position from which escape is impossible or difficult. (See also Lob's pound.)

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 421 Pride of men of þe world þat wolen make hem siche poondis, is an oþer rote of consense aȝenus crist lord of þis world. 1557 *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 268, I meane where you and all your flocke, Deuise to pen men in the pound. 1575 Gascoigne *Fruites of Warre* xix, Penne vp thy pleasure in Repentance poundes. 1575 — *Mask for Visct. Mountacute* Wks. 49 It pleazed God to helpe his flocke, which thus in pound was pent. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, An' hee thinke to bee relieu'd by me, when he is got into one o' your citie pounds, the Counters. 1677 W. Hubbard *Narrative* 26 The Enemy being by this means brought into a Pound. 1684 Otway *Atheist* III, Well, since I am trapt thus,..There is no replevin, and I must to pound. 1727 Swift *Imit. Horace* 47, I hurry me in haste away, Not thinking it is levee-day; And find his honour in a pound, Hemm'd by a triple circle round. 1807 Wordsw. *White Doe* VII. 253 The grassy rock-encircled Pound In which the Creature first was found. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pound*, a position from which escape seems difficult, particularly in hunting. 1887 Jefferies *Amaryllis* xxiv. 183 He's getting into a pound, he really is.

† **3.** An act or right of pounding (Pound *v.*[2] 1).

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 540/2 The Baylewik..with Poundes, Waifes, Strayes, Herbage and Pannage.

† **b.** A seizure of cattle, etc., in a raid, etc.: cf. Poind *v.* 3. *Obs.*

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* IX. ii. 12 A cumpany gat he And rade in Ingland, for to ta A pownd, and swne it hapnyd sa That he of catale gat a pray.

II. 4. a. A body of still water, usually of artificial formation, a Pond. Now *dial.* **b.** *esp.* A body of water held up or confined by a dam or the like, as in a mill-pond (now *dial.*), the reach of a canal above a lock, etc. (in which sense *pond* and *pound* are used indifferently).

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 367 Alisaundre..hadde alle maner bestes in kepyng in hyves, in layes, in fisshe weres and pondes [*MS. Cott. Tib. D. vii* poundes]. *c* 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 228 Hit is a shrewde pole, pounde, or a well, That drownythe the dowghty. 1535 Coverdale *Isa.* xix. 10 All the poundes of Egipte, all the policie of their Moates & diches shal come to naught. 1684 G. Meriton *Yorks. Dialogue* 132 (E.D.S.) Our awd Meer is slidden into't Pownd. 1805 Z. Allnutt *Navig. Thames* 29 So many more Pounds and moveable Weirs as were found necessary might be erected. 1891 Cotes *Two Girls on Barge* 46 First a pound and then a lock,..'pound' being a canal definition of the level reaches that lie between the locks. 1895 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 3/6 Witness said there were no indications to show that they were approaching a 'pound' (lodgment or accumulation of water). *a* 1900 E. Smith *MS. Collect. Warwicks. Words* (E. D. D.), Where there is a separate pool, the water above the dam is called either the mill-dam or the pound.

5. An enclosure for fish. **a.** A compartment for stowing fish on board a fishing-vessel. **b.** See quot. 1867. **c.** A net trap for fish; *spec.* the last compartment of a pound net, in which the fish are finally caught; the bowl or pocket.

1809 *Naval Chron.* XXI. 21 There are pounds or enclosures made on the deck, for each fisherman to throw in what he catches. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Pound*, a lagoon, or space of water, surrounded by reefs and shoals, wherein fish are kept, as at Bermuda. 1873 *Echo* 11 Mar. 2/2 Immense quantities are, however, taken in what are called 'pounds'. A pound is generally placed on the shallow flats of the bays where fish food is abundant...The fish..enter the pound, and find it impossible to get out again. 1883 S. Plimsoll in *19th Cent.* July 162 The haddocks..are ..stowed away in bulk in 'pound' (the pounds are like the stalls in a stable, in the hold of the ship). 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* 14 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) Wicker-work labyrinths ..acting like a pound in permitting the fish to enter with the flood, but precluding exit with the ebb.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pound-like* adj.; **pound-boat**, a flat-bottomed centre-board boat used on Lake Erie for carrying fish from the nets (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **pound-fee**, a fee paid for the release of cattle or goods from the pound; † **poundlose**, setting free or release from the pound: cf. Loose *sb.* 5; **poundman**, one employed in weir or pound fishing; **pound-master**, = Pound-keeper; **pound net**, an enclosure formed by nets in the sea near the shore, consisting of a long straight wall or leader, a first enclosure (the 'heart'), into which the fish are conducted by the leader, and a second enclosure (the pound, bowl, or pocket), from which they cannot escape; **pound scoop**, a scoop used in collecting fish from a pound (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1878 Aylward *Transvaal of To-Day* ii. (1881) 27 English settlers have been known in a poor neighbourhood to live almost entirely from *pound-fees and mileage, earned by continual .. intermeddling with their neighbours' herds. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 5/2 A corner is boarded off in a sort of *pound-like manner. 1622 in *Naworth Househ. Bks.* (Surtees) 197 For *poundlose of viij of the tenants' horses, iij'. 1888 Goode *Amer. Fishes* 222 The *pound-men..sometimes eat them and consider them better than scup. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Poundmaster. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 537/1 You get my vote the next time you run for poundmaster. 1883 Goode *Fish. Indust. U. S.* 12 Introduction of *pound-nets or stake-nets along the sandy coasts of the Atlantic and its estuaries for the capture of the migrating summer shoals. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 362/1 One of the greatest nuisances..that a seafaring man can meet with, and that is pound-nets. They lined the American shore far out into the lake.

Pound (paund), *sb.*[3] [f. Pound *v.*[1]]

I † **1.** A pounding; *pl.* that which has been pounded. *Obs. rare.*

1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 46 The poundes of the rootes [of Mandrag] must be put into a small firkin of swete wyne.

2. An apparatus for pounding or crushing apples for cider; a cider-mill.

1832 *Trans. Provinc. Med. & Surg. Assoc.* II. VI. 202 This mischievous part of the pound [i.e. lead basins used in cider presses] is now almost universally exploded, and in their place wooden ones are substituted. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pound*,..a mill in which to grind the apples for making cider.

II. 3. A mark caused by a severe blow; a bruise, a contusion.

1862 Campion *Alice* 35 [He] would frequently return [from a combat at fisticuffs] in a deluge of gore and all over pounds and bruises.

4. A heavy beating blow; a thump; also, the sound caused by this, a thud.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 June 4/1 The breathless shout, the pound of hoofs—'The Favourite! Favourite wins!'

Pound (paund), *v.*[1] Forms: *a.* 1 púnian, -igean, 4–7 poune, powne, (4–5 pone, 8–9 *Sc.* poon). *β.* 6–7 punne, 6– pun (see also Pun *v.*). *γ.* 6– pound (9 *dial.* pund). [OE. *púnian* (also *gepúnian*, ME. Ipone):—WGer. **pûnôjan*, stem *pûn-*, whence also Du. † *puyn*, mod. *puin* 'rubbish, trash or cyment of stones' (Hexham), LG. *pîn* chips of stone, building rubbish (Doorn.-Koolman). For the final *d*, cf. Astound *v.*, Bound *ppl. a.*[1], etc.]

1. *trans.* To break down and crush by beating, as with a pestle; to reduce to pulp or powder; to bray, bruise, pulverize, triturate.

a. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 176 ȝenim þas ylcan wyrte uerbascum ȝecnucude [*v.r.* ȝepunude]. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 95 Þeah þu punige [*contuderis*] stuntne on pil(an) swylce berenhula punigendum [*feriente*] bufan punere na byð afyrred fram him dysiȝnyss his. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 89 As spicerye ȝyveþ smell whan it is powned. 1382 — *Matt.* xxi. 44 Vpon whom it [this stone] shal falle, it shal togidre poune hym [1388 to-brise hym]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. i. 3 Sothrenwood pounde with a rosted Quince, and laide to the eyes. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 41 Powne and temper them altogether. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* (1650) 126 Grots pouned and sifted or strained therein. 1658 J. Jones *Ovid's Ibis* 138 Anaxarchus..being condemned..to be pound with iron pestels in a morter.

β. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* 132 Then punne it in a morter. *Ibid.* 286 Pun them that be to be pund. 1600 Heywood *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, I. ii, The honestest lad that ever pund spice in a mortar. 1662 H. Stubbe *Ind. Nectar* ii. 8 Cacao nut, punned, and dissolved in water.

γ. 1594 Southwell *M. Magd, Fun. Teares* (1823) 120 To feele more of their sweetnesse, I will pound these spices. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 138 The Peasant..who pounds with Rakes The crumbling Clods. 1765 A. Dickson *Treat. Agric.* 477 Let him..dry them, and pound them in a mortar. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Pund*, to pound. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 315 After the apples have been pressed, they may be economically pounded a second time. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* xiii, A flat stone to pound roots with.

b. *fig.*

1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 78 The word of God is not preached vnto them, and as it were braied, punned, interpreted, and expounded. 1618 Bolton *Florus* (1636) 101 He therefore so ground and punned Annibal, by coasting him thorow all Samnium. *a* 1677 Barrow *Serm.* Wks. 1716 II. 80 To think a gross body may be ground and pounded into rationality. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 12 June 570/1 The Lord Advocate..pounded it [the Bill] to powder.

2. To strike severely with the fists or some heavy instrument; to strike or beat with repeated heavy blows; to thump, to pummel. Also *fig.*

α, β. 1790 A. Wilson *Pack* Poet. Wks. (1846) 29 John swore that he wad poon you [*rimes* aboon you, spoon you]. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* in form *pounn* in Herefordsh., *pown* in E. Lanc., *poon* (pun), *pun, punn, poan*, from Cumbld. to Glouc. and Leicester.

γ. 1700 Dryden *Ceyx & Alcyone* 392 With cruel blows she pounds her blubber'd cheeks. 1795 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 199 Pounds thy pate. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* Wks. (1869) 386, I stood pounding him with my satire. 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. vi, The big boys who sit at the tables pound them and cheer. 1858 Col. K. Young *Diary & Corr.* (1902) App. 328 We pounded your regiment the other day. 1874 Symonds *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 176 Horsed sea deities pounding one another with bunches of fish. 1875 Le Fanu *Will. Die* xxviii, I danced every day, and pounded a piano, and sang a little. 1877 Clery *Min. Tact.* xiv. (ed. 3) 189 To hang closely on their rear, pounding them with light guns.

b. *with advb. extension.* To knock (something) *in, out*, etc., by pounding; to hammer, beat.

1875 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* li. 53 My foolishness is being pounded out of me. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 2/2 The fortifications might be pounded to pieces. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* xi. (1900) 193 The big drum pounded out the tune. 1898 L. Stephen *Stud. Biog.* II. v. 182 He must not simply state a reason, but pound it into a thick head by repetition.

c. *U. S. Stock Exch.* To beat down the price of (stock); = Hammer *v.* 2 d (*b*).

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 522/1 The bears let the opportunity to pound securities go by the board.

† **3.** With inverted construction: To deliver (heavy blows) *on* some one. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. iv. 31 An hundred knights..All which at once huge strokes on him did pound, In hope to take him prisoner, where, he stood on ground.

4. *intr.* To beat or knock heavily, deliver heavy blows, fire heavy shot (*at, on*). *Pound away*, to continue delivering blows; to hammer away.

1815 [see Pounding *vbl. sb.*[1] 2]. 1858–9 Russell *Diary India* (1860) I. 292, I found all our guns pounding at the Martinière. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Power* Wks. (Bohn) II. 340 The chief engineer pounded with a hammer on the trunnions of a cannon, until he broke them off. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 5/2 The Opposition are anxious to have their great guns in the Upper Chamber pounding away at the same time. 1885 R. L. & F. Stevenson *Dynamiter* ii, Within the lodging-house feet pounded on the stairs. 1895 Hare *Story of Life* (1900) VI. xxx. 400 An electric piano .. goes on pounding away by itself. 1901 H. Harland *Com. & Err.* 60 Ferdinand Augustus's heart began to pound.

fig. 1861 J. R. Green *Lett.* (1901) II. 73, I spent the bulk of yesterday pounding at Dunstan in the British Museum.

b. Of a ship or boat: To beat the water, rise and fall heavily.

1903 *Daily Mail* 21 Aug. 5/7 The sea had become rough, causing the boats to pound considerably. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 7/2 The wreck of the 'Manchuria'... The vessel is lying far inside the reef, and is pounding heavily.

5. *intr.* To walk, run, or dance with heavy steps that beat or pulverize the ground; to ride hard and heavily; *transf.* of a steamer, to force its way through the water, paddle or steam along forcibly.

1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1806) I. viii. 51 'Look at that absurd creature!' exclaimed Forester, pointing out ..a girl, who was footing and pounding for fame at a prodigious rate. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* i, A fat farmer, sedulously pounding through the mud. 1852 R. S. Surtees *Sponge's Sp. Tour* l, He thought he saw [him]..pounding away on the chestnut [horse]. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* II. 20 So he pounds along sitting well down in his saddle. 1880 Miss Braddon *Just as I am* xviii, I am not going to pound over half the county in a futile endeavour to come up with the hounds. 1898 G. W. E. Russell *Collect. & Recoll.* xxxiv. 458 Cantering up St. James's Street..or pounding round Hyde Park. 1898 *Daily News* 23 July 7/1 She [a steamer] pounded along splendidly at over 20 knots an hour.

6. *trans.* To consolidate by beating, to beat hard; *esp.* in technical use in form *pun*, to ram down (earth, clay, or rubble) as in making a roadway or embankment: see Pun *v.*[1]

1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 706 The cows so thoroughly 'pound' the ground that in summer it is in many parts as hard as a brick.

Pound (paund), *v.*[2] Also 5 pown, 7 poun. [f. Pound *sb.*[2] Cf. Pind *v.*, Poind *v.*]

1. *trans.* To place or shut *up* (trespassing or straying cattle) in a pound; to impound.

c 1450 *Oseney Regr.* 44 That þey [bestes] be not Inparkid or pownyd but þey be i-founde in open harme [cf. *ibid.* 24 inparked or y-poyned; *ibid.* 86 imparkid or poyned]. 1530 Palsgr. 663/2, I pounde, I put horse, or beestes in the pynfolde. 1673 [R. Leigh] *Transp. Reh.* 124 They exercise a petty royalty in..pounding beasts. *a* 1711 Ken *Urania* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 503 Your Neighbour Swains the Trespassers will pound. 1819 *Metropolis* II. 205 Lawsuits for trespass, for poaching, pounding cattle,..give him notoriety in the country. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 87 We must not go more than half a mile away from the road, or we [i. e. our cattle] 'll be 'pounded.

fig. 1581 Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 Me thinkes I deserue to be pounded, for straying from Poetrie to Oratorie. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) V. 179 For the Heart that still wanders, is pounded at last.

2. To shut up or confine in any enclosure or within any bounds or limits, material or otherwise. Also with *up*. Also *fig.*

1589 Nashe *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 12 Euen so these men .. do pound their capacitie in barren Compendiums. 1608 Heywood *Rape Lucrece* III. iv, Sit round: the enemy is pounded fast In their own folds. 1632 Massinger & Field *Fatal Dowry* IV. i, Married once, A man is staked or poun'd, and cannot graze Beyond his own hedge. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Relig.* (1651) 364 More might be said, if I were not pounded within an Epistle. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 48 That gallant man who thought to pound up the crows by shutting his Parkgate. 1761 Colman *Jealous Wife* II. i. (1775) 22, I wish Harriot was fairly pounded [= married]. It wou'd save us both a great deal of Trouble. 1776 *Remembrancer* (1777) IV. 272/2 Hopkins, and his little navy, are safely pounded in Providence river, near Rhode Island. 1839 Bailey *Festus* xxvii. (1848) 323 And the round wall of madness pound us in.

b. *spec.* in *Fox-hunting* (*pass.*), said of a rider who gets into an enclosed place from which he cannot get out to follow the chase. *To pound the field*: see quot. 1886.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 353 The whole field [i. e. the assemblage of riders] was fairly pounded. 1860 Whyte Melville *Mkt. Harb.* xvi. 135 Whenever one individual succeeds either in what is termed *pounding* a field, or in getting such a start of them that nobody shall have a chance of catching him whilst the pace holds. 1875 — *Riding Recoll.* viii. (1879) 131 A man who never jumps at all can by no possibility be 'pounded'. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s. v., In hunting, an impassable barrier is said 'to pound the field'. So also a bold rider who clears a fence which others cannot do is said 'to pound the lot'.

fig. 1853 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* ix, The pounding of

the same gentleman in the middle of the first chorus. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 27 Aug., The Marquis, however, in following his leader over the agricultural plough, got..pounded with him in the political field.

3. To dam (water); dam *up*. Now chiefly *dial.*

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) b ij b, Watermills, which destroy abundance of gallant Land, by pounding up the water..even to the very top of the ground. 1770 J. BRINDLEY *Surv. Thames* 1 If they be made to pound more than five or six Feet, some of the adjacent Lands will be laid under Water. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 119 Which occasioned a fall for the water to run off, and prevented its being pounded up. 1879 Miss JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s. v. *Pounded*, They'n bin gropin' fur trout I spect, I see the bruck's pounded.

4. *To pound off*, to partition off into compartments: cf. POUND *sb.*[2] 5 a.

1887 *Fisheries of U. S.* Sect. v. II. 426 In the hair-seal fishery, on the coast of Newfoundland, the vessel's hold is 'pounded off' into bins only a little larger than the skins.

Hence **Pou·nded** *ppl. a.*; **Pou·nding** *vbl. sb.*

1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 44 Here's none that can reprieve Such pounded beasts. 1641 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 60 The same hogg or swine..not to be fetched thence untill full satisfaction be made..for pounding and for carege. 1791 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames & Isis* 29 The Pounding of the water by the New Locks.

Pound, *v.*[3] [f. POUND *sb.*[1] 1.]

†**1.** *trans.* To weigh. *Obs. rare*—°.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 220/45 To Pound, *ponderare.*

2. *Coining.* To test the weight of coins (or of the blanks to be minted) by weighing the number of these which ought to make a pound weight (or a certain number of pounds), and ascertaining how much they vary from the standard.

From the earliest times, in the Indenture under which the Master of the Royal Mint produced coins for the King, a limit was assigned within which the weight was to be maintained; and as it was impossible to make every coin of the exact weight, it was customary, before 1870, to fix the number of grains variation permissible in each pound weight, taken at random from the mass of coins, this variation being termed 'remedy for the Master'. Thus, for gold coins, in which 20 troy pounds of standard gold make 934½ sovereigns, the Indenture of 1817 allows a margin of 'twelve grains in the pound weight and no more'. By the Coinage Act of 1870, the 'remedy' was fixed on the piece, as ½ grain on each sovereign, each of which is now separately tested by an automatic weighing apparatus of great delicacy.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., Pounding in coining. 1907 *Let. fr. Royal Mint*, The present law is far more stringent, but (for particular purposes) we still constantly resort to pounding in the Mint, and always in the case of bronze coins.

3. To weigh out or divide into pounds. *local.*

1876 *Whitby Gloss., Punded*, divided into pounds. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pound*,..to make up into pats or parcels each of 1 lb. weight.

Pound, *v.*[4] *slang.* [f. POUND *sb.*[1] 3.] To bet a pound, or an extravagant amount, on; esp. in phr. *to pound it*, to wager pounds in long odds; hence, to state as a certainty or strong conviction.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Pound it*, to ensure or make a certainty of any thing: thus a man will say I'll pound it to be so; taken, probably from the custom of..offering ten pounds to a crown at a cock-match, in which case, if no person takes this extravagant odds, the battle is at an end. This is termed pounding a cock. 1828 BEE *Living Pict. London* ii. 44 You'll soon be bowled out, I'll pound it. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxvi, I'll pound it, that Barney's managing properly. 1865 — *Mut. Friend* iv. xv, I'll pound it, Master, to be in the way of school.

Hence **Pou·ndable** *a.*: see quot.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Poundable*, any event which is considered certain or inevitable, is declared to be poundable, as the issue of a game, the success of a bet, &c.

Poundage[1] (pau·ndėdʒ). Also 5 **pundage,** 5–7 **pondage,** 7 **powndage.** [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + -AGE; hence med. (Anglo-) L. *pondāgium.*]

1. An impost, duty, or tax of so much per pound sterling on merchandise; *spec.* a subsidy, usually of 12 pence in the pound, formerly granted by Parliament to the Crown, on all imports and exports except bullion and commodities paying tonnage. Now *Hist.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 14 His puruyours toke, Withoute preiere at a parlement a poundage biside, And a fifteneth and a dyme eke. 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 173/2 A subsidie of Tonage and Poundage..that is to sey of every Tunne iiis; and xiid of every Pounde. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 122 The kynge hath therfore be subsidie of pondage and tonnage. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 1 Another Subsidie called Poundage, that ys to sey: of all maner merchaundises..caryed out of this..Realme or brought into the same by wey of merchaundise of the value of every xxs., xiid. 1628 CHAS. I *Speech* Wks. 1662 I. 370 As for Tonnage and Poundage it is a thing I cannot want and was never intended by you to ask. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xxiv. 150 He knowes well that cunning is no burthen to carry, as paying neither portage by land, nor poundage by sea. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 315 Those [subsidies] of tonnage and poundage, in particular, were at first granted, as the old statutes (and particularly 1 Eliz. c. 19.) express it, for the defence of the realm, and the keeping and safeguard of the seas.

2. A payment of so much per pound sterling upon the amount of any transaction in which money passes; a commission, or fee, of so much a pound.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 25 There being two-hundred in it worth three hundred pounds a piece, with poundage and shillings to the lurched. 1693 SOUTHERNE *Maid's Last Pr.* III. iii, I shall be paid in crack't money, and pay poundage into the bargain. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1775) II. 129 Pay that money..yourself, and not through the hands of a servant, who always..stipulates poundage. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. vii. (Rtldg.) 408 What cursed fools our dramatists must be, to care for anything but their poundage when their plays happen to be received! 1835 *Crompton, Meeson & Roscoe's Reports* II. 334 The sheriff is entitled to poundage on the whole amount of the goods levied. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 309 The paymaster of the forces had a poundage, amounting to about five thousand a year, on all the money which passed through his hands. 1892 E. K. BLYTH in *Law Times* XCIII. 488/2 Scandalously high court fees charged by way of poundage.

b. A percentage of the total earnings of any concern, paid as wages to those engaged in it, sometimes in addition to a fixed wage.

1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Poundage*, a system in vogue in the slate industry to adjust the wages of the workmen. Every month when the claims of the slate quarrymen are made out an addition of so much in the pound is made upon the slate bill, that is, the payment due according to the standard rates. *Poundage*, the system under which the wages of tacklers or overlookers in cotton mills are based upon the output of the looms, being so much in the pound on the total earnings of the weavers under their charge. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Sept. 8/1 The principle of poundage was agreed to by the men, who, however, prefer a higher fixed wage and less poundage.

3. A payment or charge of so much per pound weight; payment by weight.

a 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 100 To poundage perteynen that euery marchaundise that shalbe sold be weight brought in to London [etc.]. 1891 J. SIMSON *Hist. Thanet* 148 Under the act of 1812 the duties in those days called 'lastage' or 'poundage' were adjusted. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Dec. 5/2 The Commonwealth Postal Department has now finally decided not to seek to renew the contract, but to rely on getting letters forwarded on a poundage basis, as provided by the Postal Union rules.

4. *Salt-making.* The number of pounds of salt contained in one gallon of brine, or (in some places) in one cubic foot of brine.

1907 *Let. to Editor fr. Cheshire*, The weight of salt contained in one gallon of brine..is usually about 2 lb. 10 oz.; if it is as little as 2 lb. 8 oz., the brine is not worth working. The poundage is measured by a graduated hollow glass instrument, similar to that used in ascertaining the specific gravity of a fluid. (The gallon is not the imperial, but the old wine gallon. The standard poundage is thus more than 3 lb. to the imperial gallon.) The word is in constant use at the Cheshire and Staffordshire Salt Works, but is never used at Droitwich.

5. *Betting.* Extravagant odds. Cf. POUND *v.*[4], quot. 1812.

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 234 The poundage was here offered, but no takers. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* II. 83 At Newmarket it would have been poundage on my horse.

6. Weight stated in pounds. *nonce-use.*

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 60/1 Our heaviest [fish] at that date was 20 lb., and there seemed to be a want of proportion in the business, an almost indelicate exuberance of poundage.

Hence **Pou·ndage** *v. trans.*, to impose poundage upon: whence **Pou·ndaging** *vbl. sb.* In quot. *fig.*

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 64 Nothing writt'n but what passes through the custom-house of certain Publicans that have the tunaging and the poundaging of all free spok'n truth.

Poundage[2] (pau·ndėdʒ). Also 6 *Sc.* **poindage.** [f. POUND *v.*[2], *sb.*[2] + -AGE.] †The action or right of pounding stray or trespassing cattle (*obs.*); the charge levied upon the owner of impounded cattle or of anything poinded.

1554 *Act* 1 & 2 *Phil. & Mary*, c. 12 § 2 No person .. shall take for keping in [*pr.* im-] pownde impownding or pondage of any..Distres, above the somme of iiij d. 1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 524 To use the ordour of parcage or poindage establissit in the said indenture. 1660 in *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 274 And for Swine or any Cattle that are lyable to Poundage who ever shall Pound them, they shall have foure pence a head, for y° Poundage of them. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. v. (1881) 264 Molly I've known ever since she was dropt; she has brought in the strays, and many is the poundage she has saved Uncle Ket.

Pou·ndal. [f. POUND *sb.*[1]: cf. CENTAL.] See quot. (Also called *foot-poundal.*)

1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. i. § 225 We .. define the British absolute unit force as 'the force which, acting on one pound of matter for one second, generates a velocity of one foot per second'. Prof. James Thomson has suggested the name 'Poundal' for this unit of force. 1884 A. DANIELL *Princ. Phys.* ii. 19.

Pound-breach (pau·ndbrītʃ). *Law.* [f. POUND *sb.*[2] + BREACH *sb.* Early ME. *pundbreche* represents an OE. **pundbryce* not recorded.] The breaking open of a pound; hence, the illegal removal or recovery by the owner of goods lawfully impounded.

a 1135 *Laws Hen. I*, c. 40 (Schmid) Pundbreche fit pluribus modis: emissione, evocatione, receptione, excussione. 1292 BRITTON I. xxx. § 3 Ceux qi ount fet prisoun en lour mesouns, ou hamsokne, ou pountbreche. 1594 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 215 Privat force..trespas by entring into ground,.. poundbreach or otherwise. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Pundbrech*,..is the illegal taking of Cattle out of the Pound, either by breaking the Pound, picking the Lock, or otherwise. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. ix. 146 The distreinor has a remedy in damages..by writ *de parco fracto*, or pound breach, in case they were actually impounded. 1891 *Carmarthen Jrnl.* 23 Jan. 3/1 At Lampeter County-court on Tuesday..two cases of pound-breach under distress for tithes were entered for hearing.

Pou·nd-cake. [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + CAKE *sb.*] A rich cake so called as originally containing a pound (or equal weight) of each of the principal ingredients, flour, butter, sugar, fruit, etc.

1841 THACKERAY *Men & Coats* Wks. 1900 XIII. 601 It will have a great odour of bohea and pound-cake. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. ix. 138 [He] begged to recommend the pound-cake, from his own personal experience. *c* 1900 *Beeton's Every-day Cook. Bk.* 396 Pound Cake.—Ingredients of large cake: 1 lb. of butter, 1¼ lb. of flour, 1 lb. of pounded loaf sugar, 1 lb. of currants, 9 eggs, 2 oz. of candied peel [etc.].

Pou·nded, *ppl. a.*[1] Forms: see the vb. [f. POUND *v.*[1] + -ED[1].] Crushed by heavy blows to small fragments or to powder; beaten small; comminuted.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* xxviii. 181 He shall giue them parched wheate, or of pounded barly the double measure. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 33 Paper made.. with pounded cotton or reduced to a pulp. 1815 SIMOND *Tour Gt. Brit.*. I. 11 The roads are well gravelled with pounded stones. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 380 Pounded meat [etc.] should form the basis of the feedings.

Pounded, *ppl. a.*[2]: see POUND *v.*[2]

†**Pou·nder,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Forms: 5 **pounder, pondre, punder.** [app. f. POUND *sb.*[1]; perh. in reference to the fact that the auncel had at its end a knob of a pound weight as a counterpoise (see quot. *a* 1640 in AUNCEL). But it is also possible that the word in the form *pondre* was immediately from L. *pondus, ponder-* weight.] A name of the kind of balance called AUNCEL.

c 1425 *Castell Persev.* 2730 in *Macro Plays* 152 It schal bee weyen, as peys in punder [*rime* vnder]. 1429 ABP. CHICHELEY in Wilkins *Concilia* III. 516 Dicto pondere le Auncell scheft seu *pounder*..doloso quodam stateræ genere. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 30/1 On branche of disceit .. called a Schafte, othere wise called a Pondre, othere wise called an Haumcere, whiche greved many a trewe man. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Punder, *librilla.*

Pounder (pau·ndəɹ), *sb.*[2] Also (1 **púnere**), 6 **pouner.** [f. POUND *v.*[1] + -ER[1]. Cf. OE. *púnere* a pestle, f. *púnian* POUND *v.*[1]] One who or that which pounds.

1. An instrument for pounding; a pestle, a crushing beetle; a beater.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. [see POUND *v.*[1] 1] Punere [L. *pilo*]. 1564 in Noake *Worcestersh. Relics* (1877) 12 A garlics morter, a pouner. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 353 They beat in a stone mortar with a rough or Greek pounder. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 282 There were two pounders, and a third was afterwards added, all from Carron. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 313 Crush them well..with three or four strokes of the pounder. 1899 R. MUNRO *Preh. Scot.* viii. 304 With the exception of an oblong stone or 'pounder' all the stone implements were of flint.

b. A vessel for pounding in; a mortar.

1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 56 Indian women pound corn and sift the poundings, and make bread of varying grades of coarseness. A pounder is constructed of a section of a log, and is really a huge mortar, nearly three feet high.

2. A person who pounds.

1611 FLORIO, *Pestatore*, a stamper, a punner [1598, a stamper or beater in a morter]. 1834 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 254 A certain hunter of beetles, and pounder of rocks. 1894 B. THOMSON *S. Sea Yarns* 145 The kava-pounder paused, with stone uplifted.

Pounder (pau·ndəɹ), *sb.*[3] Now *rare.* [f. POUND *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One whose office it is to pound cattle; = POUND-KEEPER, PINDER, POINDER.

1622 *Canterb. Marr. Licences* (MS.), Xpoferus Hewes of St. Mary's in Dover, pownder. 1655 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 123 Tho. Alcock chosen Cow keeper for this yeare,..as also to be pounder. 1848 J. KIRKPATRICK *Relig. Orders*, etc. *Norwich* 319 At a court of mayoralty, 26 Nov. 1679, the inhabitants of the Castle and Fee have liberty to erect a pound..and the pounder to dwell upon the fee.

Pou·nder, *sb.*[4] [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + -ER[1].]

I. 1. Something of a pound weight, e. g. a fish.

1834 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 790 You may pick a pounder out of any black pool. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A half-pound trout on this tiny lake will show as good sport as a pounder elsewhere.

II. In combination with a prefixed numeral.

2. Something weighing a specified number of pounds; *spec.* a gun carrying a shot of a specified weight; *rarely*, a projectile of a specified weight.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3112/3 We found in the Castle of Namur..69 Pieces of Cannon, viz. 7 twenty four Pounders, 3 sixteen Pounders, 2 twelve Pounders, 9 ten Pounders,.. 3 three Pounders, 1 two Pounder. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 317 The French had erected a battery of twenty-four sixty pounders directly over one of the mines of the citadel. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 403 A silver-scaled twenty-pounder. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Aug. 2/1 'Everyone must bring his own mug and a cake'.. we have carried a two-pounder at the 'handle-bar'.

3. A person possessing, having an income of, or paying (e. g. as rent) a specified number of pounds sterling; a woman having a marriage-portion of so many pounds.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* III. i, I must meet a lady, a twenty thousand pounder, presently, upon the walk by the river. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 69 The eldest Daughter of..one of the richest Merchants in the City; a Seventy Thousand Pounder. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* iii, Rich Miss Dripping, the twenty-thousand-pounder from London.

b. A bank-note or other article of the value of a specified number of pounds sterling.

1755 JOHNSON s. v., A note or bill is called a twenty *pounder* or ten *pounder*, from the sum it bears. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iv, I pocketed the little donation—it was a ten-

pounder. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 2/1 It is..cheering, to discuss airily for the nonce, links which are two thousand pounders, and single pearl pins worth £1,200 each.

III. 4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **pounder pear** = *pound-pear* (POUND *sb.*[1] 4); *one-, two-* (etc.) *pounder cartridge*, 12- (etc.) *pounder gun*, etc.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 127 Unlike are Bergamotes and pounder Pears. 1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 261 What length of a 36-pounder gun [etc.]? 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* 362, 2-pounders take about 4 sheets of 12-pounder cartridge paper...½-pounders, 1 sheet of 9-pounder paper. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 95 The 12-pounder Armstrong field pieces are believed by the Committee to be efficient.

†Pou·nder, *v. Obs. rare*—°. [app. freq. of POUND *v.*[1]] = POUND *v.*[1] 1.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 78/8 To pounder, *tritumare.*

Poundfalde, obs. form of PINFOLD.

Pou·nd-foo·lish, *a.* Foolish in dealing with large sums: antithetical to PENNY-WISE, q. v. So **Pound-foolishness, Pound-folly:** see PENNY-WISDOM.

Pound garnett, obs. f. POMEGRANATE.

Pound-house. [f. POUND *v.*[1] + HOUSE *sb.*] A building in which the pounding, pulverizing, or crushing of material is done: as **a.** part of a glass-works; **b.** a cider-mill.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3821/8 A Round Bottle-Glass-House, ..with all Conveniencies, a Pound House and Smith's Forge. 1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* I. Gloss. 323, etc., Pound-house. [*Ibid.* 228 The apples being thrown into a large trough or tub, five or six persons..pounded them with large club-shaped wooden pestils...Hence, no doubt, the epithet pound is applied to the house, etc., in which the whole business of cider-making is performed.] 1899 RAYMOND *No Soul* I. vi. 122 Jacob Handsford stayed out in the pound-house..giving another screw to his apple-cheese.

Pounding (pau·ndiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Forms: see the vb. [-ING[1].] The action of POUND *v.*[1]

1. Crushing or bruising into pulp or powder; trituration, pulverizing.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Majadura*, hammering, stamping, powning. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xxvii, Verjuice may be made..by punning and stamping unripe grapes in morters. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* ii. (1872) 24 Reduced by pounding in a heavy mortar. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Aug. 4/1 The juice of the apple, after being expressed by an operation called 'pounding', ferments.

b. *concr.* The proceeds of this process; pounded substance; the quantity pounded at one time.

1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* p. xviii, The sea bottom, covered with the poundings of these rocks. 1893 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 5/5 A certain London firm had taken his whole year's 'pounding' [of cider].

2. Striking or beating with or as with the fist; beating, pummeling, knocking, thumping; heavy firing; an instance of this.

1815 in Scott *Paul's Lett.* (1839) 125 [Remark attributed to Wellington at Waterloo] Hard pounding this, gentlemen; let's see who will pound longest. 1858 COL. K. YOUNG *Diary & Corr.* (1902) App. D. 331 We should have given the rascals a regular pounding. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 424 The pounding of a form..with furious blows from a heavy mallet.

3. Heavy riding.

1883 JESSOPP *Arcady* iv. (1887) 116 The dreary pounding back at night in the dark, to find the baby sick.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pounding house, machine, mill*; **pounding barrel,** a barrel in which clothes are pounded in water to cleanse them; **pounding match** (*slang*), a fight; also *transf.*

1869 MRS. STOWE *Old Town* xxvii, The thunder of the *pounding-barrel announced that the washing was to be got out of the way before daylight. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 353 Their work-hous was called pistrinum or a *punning-hous. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 813 A stamping mill or *pounding machine. 1815 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* XII. 529 You will have heard of our battle of the 18th. Never did I see such a *pounding match..Napoleon did not manœuvre at all. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 614 A good situation on a creek, for a *pounding-mill.

Pounding, *vbl. sb.*[2], confining in a pound: see POUND *v.*[2]

Pounding, *vbl. sb.*[3], in coining: see POUND *v.*[3]

Pou·nding, *ppl. a.* [f. POUND *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That pounds, in various senses of POUND *v.*[1]

1865 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* II. xi. 105 He..strode up with pounding steps to his dressing-room. 1894 B. THOMSON *S. Sea Yarns* 143 The ringing thud of the pounding kava-stones ceased. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. viii. 113 Ah, the adventure of it, the rush of air, the pounding horse, and the safe, fierce arms!

Pou·nd-kee·per. [f. POUND *sb.*[2] + KEEPER.] One who has charge of a public pound; a pinder.

1783 COWPER *Reports* 478 If wrongfully taken, it was at the peril of the person bringing them; not of the pound-keeper, who has no right or power to judge of the legality of the capture; but is the officer of the law, and ministerial only. 1884 *Law Times* 15 Mar. 364/1 A pound-keeper obtains a penalty before the justices against the owner of some sheep for releasing them from pound. 1886 *Even. Bell* (Auckland, N. Z.) 29 June 8/4 Borough of Newton. Written applications for Poundkeeper and Ranger will be received up to 5 o'clock on Thursday, July 1.

†Pou·nd-land. *Sc. Obs.* Also pund-. [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + LAND *sb.*, repr. med.L. *librata terræ.*] A measure of arable land equal to four oxgangs or half a plough-land.

1547 in *Calr. Laing Charters* (1899) 139 Dowbill maill for ewerie pundland, that is to say, twentie punds money of this realm for the said ten pund land. 1575 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 468 Of every pundland of auld extent. 1585 *Decr. Sc. Exch.* in E. W. Robertson *Hist. Ess.* (1872) 136 Thirteen acres extendis and sall extend to ane oxgait of land, and four oxgait extendis and sall extend to ane pund land of auld extent. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Pound land*...This is also called *librata terræ*, and is used in Scotland to denote a certain portion of arable land, containing four oxengate, or fifty-two acres.

Poundlar, var. of PUNDLAR[1], steelyard.

†Pou·nd-law. *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 punlaw. [f. POUND *sb.*[2] + LAW *sb.*[1]] Amerciament for pounded cattle or pointed goods.

1463 *Burgh Crt. Rec. Newburgh* in A. Laing *Lindores Abbey* xvi. (1876) 161 Ilka man suld hald on his awyn grys a kow or a horss in tedyr, and gyff yai war foundyn loss ye pownd-lau [*mispr.* -lan] sould be iiij. d. 1541 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 59 For the quhi[l]k ilk auchenpart sall pay to him ane d., by [=besides] his punlaw. 1553 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 150 He mycht on na wyise eschaetit thaim, nor hald thai thame langar,..bot quhile thai had payit ane grote for the heid off ilk peax for thair poindlaw.

Poundler, variant of POINDLAR *Sc. Obs.*

Pou·ndless, *a.* [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without a pound (of money).

1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. xiii. 255 I'm penniless or poundless.

†Pou·nd-lien. *Sc. Obs.* In 3 ? punlayn, 6 **pundlene.** [f. POUND *sb.*[2] + LIEN[1].] Fee for the release of an animal from the pound.

c 1280 *Inquis. Miscell. Chanc.* File 67. No. 4 (P. R. O.) Dominus Thomas de Brad petiit octo denarios de punlayn de hominibus domini regis. 1533 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 149 The prouest, bailȝeis, and counsaill .. ordanit Georg Annan pyndler of thar kirk yard, and ordanit the pundlene of euery best to be four d.

†Pound-like, *adv. Obs.* [f. POUND *sb.*[1] 3 + -LIKE 1 b.] By the pound; at so much per pound.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 59/1 Deduction to be made oute of every mannes apprest pownd like.

Pou·nd-lock. Also 8–9 pond-lock. [f. POUND *sb.*[2] + LOCK *sb.*[2]] A lock on a river for pounding up the water; = LOCK *sb.*[2] 7.

1783 *Rules, Orders*, etc. *Thames* 13 Any of the pound-locks, lock tackle, weirs, bricks, winches. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Apr. 472/1 A century has witnessed the construction of the entire navigation of the Thames by pound-locks. 1879 *Edin. Rev.* CL. 447 In these side cuts the pound lock was introduced, with side weirs to enable the floods to escape.

Pou·nd-meal, *adv. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + -MEAL.] Pound by pound; by the pound.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 198 Pardoners..senden him on sonendayes with seales to churches, And ȝaf pardun for pons, poundmele [B. poundmel, C. pound-meel] a-boute. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., The market women sell their butter by the dozen or pound-meal.

Poundre, obs. form of PONDER.

†Pou·ndrel. *Obs.* Also 5 poundrelle. [Cf. POUNDER *sb.*[1] and L. *ponderāle* the public scales.]

1. Some kind of weighing apparatus.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 714/35 *Hoc ponde*, a fowdrelle [? powndrelle]. Res sit vera staterem portate statera. *a* 1450 MYRC 712 All þat falsen or vse falsé measures, bussheIles, galones, & potelles quartes or false wightes, poundes or poundrelles, or false ellen yerdes.

2. [perh. a distinct word.] ? A head.

1664 COTTON *Scarron.* 27 So nimbly flew away these scundrels Glad they had scap'd and sav'd their poundrels.

Pou·ndstone. [f. POUND *sb.*[1] 1 + STONE.]

1. A natural stone or pebble of a pound weight, formerly often used as a weight.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers of Epigr.*, etc. *Trifles* 24 Then doth the ponderous poundstone purse Bring doune their feete againe. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Pundston* or *Pundstone*, a natural stone or pebble of the requisite weight, by which farmers formerly portioned their butter into pounds of twenty-two ounces or 'the lang pund'. 1860 *Athenæum* 22 Sept. 375 Echini which they called..'pound stones', as they were often used by the dairywomen for a pound-weight in the sale of butter.

2. *Coal-mining* (*local*). See quots.

1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Poundstone*, dirt lying next under the coal,—the coal-floor. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Poundstone*, a kind of underclay.

Pou·nd-wei·ght, *sb.* (*a.*) [f. POUND *sb.*[1] + WEIGHT *sb.*] A weight of one pound; *spec.* a piece of the weight of a pound avoirdupois, and stamped to that effect, used in weighing.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *As, assis*, a pounde weyghte. *Ibid.*, *Libralis*, a pounde weight. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 282 The pound weight English, being twelve ounces Troy, doth overpoix the pound weight of Scotland foure penny weight and nine graines English. 1706 PHILLIPS, A *Pound*-Weight of Silver-Bullion is worth 3 Pounds Sterling. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 274 No man can, by words only, give another an adequate idea of a foot rule, or a pound weight.

b. as *adj.* Of equal or exact weight.

1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* IV. i. 125 Truly if my power had been pound-waight with my will.

[**Poune** in *Kyng Alis*. (Weber), mispr. for *ponne* = PAN *sb.*[1]]

Poungarnard, -garnet(te, -karnet, obs. ff. POMEGRANATE. **Pounse,** obs. form of POUNCE.

†Pou·nson, *v. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *poinsonner, ponsonner*, Picard *ponchonner* (1324 in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *poinçonner* to pounce (in goldsmith's work) = It. *punzonare* to pounce, f. OF. *poinson, ponson, ponchon*, F. *poinçon*, It. *punzone, punzone*, PUNCHEON *sb.*[1] The Chaucer MSS. are divided between *pounson* and *pounse*. The precise sense in the quot. is not recorded for OF. or It., and does not occur in PUNCHEON *sb.*[1], but is found from 16th c. in PUNCE *v.*[1] and *sb.*[1] *trans.* To stamp holes in (clothing) for the purpose of adornment; to PINK. Hence **Pou·nsoned** *ppl. a.*, **Pou·nsoning** *vbl. sb.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* 344, 347 [see PUNCE *v.*[1] 2].

Pouoir, obs. form of POWER.

Poup, -e, pouppe, obs. ff. POOP *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], [2].

†Poupe. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [? Shortened from F. *poupée* doll.] A puppet; a doll.

1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poupe for a chylde, *poupee.*

‖ Poupée (pūpe). *Obs.* [F. *poupée* baby, doll, puppet, wax figure, plaster cast, etc.] A figure used for making and exhibiting dresses, wigs, etc.

1786 *Lounger* No. 76. ₱ 3, I will take care to exhibit..a set of Poupées, which..will convey..a perfect idea of the reigning dress and undress of the fashionable world. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 25/2, I do not wish to have my head and face moulded to a poupee for the embellishment of his window.

†Pou·peton. *Cookery. Obs.* [Origin of this and next obscure.] (See quot. 1706.)

1706 PHILLIPS, *Poupeton*...In *Cookery*, a Mess made in a Stew-pan, as it were a Pie, with thin slices of Bacon laid underneath; Pigeons, Quails, or other sorts of Fowl dress'd in a Ragoo in the middle; and a peculiar Farce or Dish of stuff'd Meat called *Godivoe* on the top; the whole to be bak'd between two gentle Fires. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v., When..you have made your Flesh Poupeton after the usual Manner, let two or three Handfuls of strain'd Pease be thrown into it, before it is cover'd with its Farce, and let all be inclosed with the Godivoe.

[OF. had *poupette* a kind of pottage (Godef.); It. has *polpette*, 'oliues of veale rosted' (Florio), 'balls of mixed meate' (Baretti), and *polpettone* finger-tips; but these do not suit the sense.]

†Pou·piets. *Cookery. Obs.* [app. related to prec.] (See quot.)

Mispr. *poupicts* in J.; whence various errors in later Dicts.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Poupiets*, a Mess made of long and thin slices of Bacon, cover'd with Veal-stakes of the same Bigness, as also with a good Farce; in order to be roll'd up and roasted on a small Iron-Spit, wrapt up in Paper. 1721 BAILEY, *Poupiets*. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.*, *Poupiets*, a Culinary Term. 1755 JOHNSON, *Poupicts*. 1818 TODD, *Poupicks* (erroneously citing *Bailey*). 1828 WEBSTER, *Poupies*. 1846 WORCESTER, *Poupics.*

Pour (pōəɹ), *v.* Forms: see below. [ME. *pour-en*, evidenced early in 14th c.; not in OE., nor in the cognate langs.; source obscure: see Note below. The prevailing written form from the first has been *pour(e* (also spelt *powr(e, power*), in ME. (as still in Sc. and n. dial.) = (pūr), in mod. Eng. till 19th c. (and still dial.) = (pauəɹ), proved by the spelling *powre, power*, and by rimes in all the poets from Pope to Tennyson and Swinburne (these last have also pōəɹ): see illustration of Forms. But the spelling *pore* is found in some 15th c. writings, and *poor* (perh. = pūr) in Palsgrave and Shaks. The late 18th and 19th c. (pōəɹ), given by Nares 1784, disapproved by Walker 1791–, approved by Webster 1828, Smart 1836, is not easy to account for: it could hardly be derived from (pauəɹ); it may be a dialectal survival of the 15th c. *pore*, though connecting evidence is wanting; it may also repr. 16th c. *poor* (=pūr), altered as in *floor, door*, and vulgar *more, pore, shore, yore*, for *moor, poor, sure, your.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–7 **poure,** 5– **pour.** *β.* 5–7 **powre,** 6–8 **power.** *γ.* 5 **pore.** *δ.* 6 **poore,** 6, 9 *dial.* **poor.**

α. 13.. *Cursor M.* 5833 (Gött.) To þe water of þe flum þu ga, And poure [*Cott.* put, *Fairf.* putte] it vp apon þe land. *c* 1330–1549 (see B. 1, 3 b) Poure, pour. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 222/30 To Poure, *fundere.* 1712 POPE *Messiah* 13 Ye Heav'ns! from high the dewy nectar pour [*rime* show'r]. 1728 — *Dunc.* II. 3 Where on her Curls the Public pours ..fragrant Grains and Golden show'rs. 1780 COWPER *Table Talk* 210 Winter invades the spring, and often pours A chilling flood on summer's drooping flowers. 1781 MORISON in *Sc. Paraphr.* XXXV. vi, Through latest ages let it pour, In mem'ry of my dying hour. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* V. xxix. 1 A mighty crowd, such as the wide land pours.. like the rush of showers. [*Ibid.* II. xlii. 6, x. xi. 5, etc. *rimes with* more, gore, before.] 1830 TENNYSON *Poet's Mind* 12 Holy water will I pour Into every spicy flower. [*In later poems* pour'd *rimes with* stored, oar'd.]

β. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Be slepe and powre in water thenne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 78/10 To Powre, *fundere.* 1597 LYLY *Woman in Moone* II. i. 25 High Ioue himselfe..Receiues more influence then he powers on thee. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xlii. 4, I powre out my soule in mee. 1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 107 Then powring the matter upon a cold Table. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 22 The Light the Great Maimonides had powered into this enquiry.

γ. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 16 As a man may pore it out of þe bolle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Poryn in, *infundo*. *c* 1490 *Ibid.*, Poryn owt, *effundo.*

δ. 1530 PALSGR. 662/2, I poore drinke or lycoure in to a cuppe or vessell. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XXXVIII, Thou.. that poor'st into my verse Thine owne sweet argument.

B. Signification. **I.** *trans.*

1. To emit in a stream; to cause or allow (a liquid or granular substance) to flow out of a vessel or receptacle; to discharge or shed copi-

ously; also, to emit (rays of light). Said either of a person, or of a thing which discharges a stream. Often with advbs., *forth*, *out*, *in*, *down*, *off*, etc.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2026 The lazar tok forth his coupe of gold,..Therin he pourd that win so rich. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 648 (*Cleopatra*) He pouryth pesyn vp on the hachis sledere. 1520 M. NISBET *N. T. in Scots* (S. T. S.) III. *Prol. to Romanis* 332 Ewin as watter js powret into anne weschel. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* ix. 5 Drynke my wyne, which I haue poured out for you. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. i. 46 Drink being powr'd out of a cup into a glasse, by filling the one, doth empty the other. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxix. 418 Powring foorth many teares, with great repentance and sorrow. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* I. iii. (1668) 34 Powre a spoonful of cold vinegar into her ear. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* Wks. 1772 III. 62 The remaining matter..with the least heat may be poured out like a liquor. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. xi. 322 The Sky..being covered with black Clouds, pouring down excessive Rains. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 159 If potash be poured into a solution of this salt, it produces a precipitate. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 206 Vesicles..remain for several days, and then pour out a thin ichor. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 227 Liquid darkness, which the Deity Within seems pouring, as a storm is poured From jagged clouds. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 14 The sun had poured his last ray through the lofty windows. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho.!* iv, Campian.. trying to pour oil on the troubled waters. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 138 A large wide valley into which both mountains pour their snows. 1893 *Times* 26 Apr. 9/4 He was obliged to pour cold water very plentifully upon the zeal of his Irish friends.

b. *nonce-use.* To send (something) down a stream.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 19 But the sad virgin, innocent of all, Adowne the rolling river she did poure [*rimes* succoure, floure=floor].

c. *absol.*

1539 BIBLE (Great) 2 *Kings* iv. 40 So they powred out for the men to eate. 1560 (Genev.) *Ibid.* 41 Powre out for the people, that they may eat. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 147 Men are spunges, which to powre out, receive.

2. Said of a river, etc.: To cause the water to flow in a flood; *refl.* to flow with strong current, to fall *into* the sea, etc.

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 591 The Rhine mixeth and powres it self into Issell. 1790 BURNS *Tam O'Shanter* 97 Before him Doon pours all his floods. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. ix. 382 As a stream might pour itself into the sea. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* 269 Every gateway poured its runnel, and every flinty lane its torrent.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* To send forth as in a stream; to send forth, emit, discharge copiously and rapidly. **a.** With material object: To send forth (persons) in a stream (also *refl.*); to discharge in rapid succession or simultaneously, as missiles; to cause (money or any commodity) to flow or pass in a constant stream; to bestow profusely.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. Prol. 24 How London doth powre out her Citizens. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Sam.* xxiii. 27 Make hast, and come, because the Philistijms have powred in themselves upon the land. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 83 From all partes they powred upon us great vollyes of shot. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 74 When the Captain was come within distance [he] poured in two Broadsides among them. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* II. 790 Crete's hundred cities pour forth all her sons. *c* 1764 GRAY *Triumphs Owen* 6 He nor heaps his brooded stores, Nor on all profusely pours. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xviii, And refluent through the pass of fear The battle's tide was poured [*rime* sword]. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* XXX, At the word given, the broadside was poured in. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 495 Sixty thousand a year, little more than what was poured into the English exchequer every fortnight.

b. With immaterial object: To send *forth* or *out* as in a stream (words, music); to give free utterance or expression to (a feeling); to shed or infuse freely or continuously (an influence, etc.).

1526 TINDALE *Acts* ii. 17 Of my sprete I will poure out apon all flesshe. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* iv. 61 Daniel lykewyse cap. 9. powereth forth his herte before god. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Cor.* 38 Madde men whiche ..poure out wordes, whiche neyther themselues vnderstand nor other. — *Eph.* I Iesus Christ..that of hys free fauour, hath powred all gentle kyndenesse vpon vs. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Acts* x. 45 On the Gentils also, was powred out [WYCLIF sched out, TINDALE sheed oute] the gyft of the holy Gost. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 58 That he alone myghte..powre out all his indignation vpon them. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 19 The essentiall nature or being of God is poured into us. 1644 *Directory for Public Worship* 11 That God would powre out a blessing. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 4 The Charms which Nature has poured out upon them [Woman-kind]. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 33 Is it for thee the linnet pours his throat? 1789 BLAKE *Songs Innoc., Night* 23 They pour sleep on their head. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 325 Such words she o'er her lover pours As give herself relief. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 452 He frequently poured forth on plaintiffs and defendants..torrents of frantic abuse, intermixed with oaths and curses. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiii. 321 They..Pour'd grave inspiration, a prophet chant to the future.

†**4.** *fig. refl.* To give oneself up or over, yield, abandon oneself (*to*). *Obs. rare.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. i. 41 Þe inwarde man..neuere pouriþ himself holy to outwarde þinges.

5. *spec.* in *Founding.* To make by melting; to cast, FOUND. (= L. *fundere*, F. *fondre*.) *rare.*

1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 88 Whenever it is practicable, both sides of the bearings should be poured or moulded at one time.

II. *intr.* (for *refl.*)

6. (from 1, 2). Of liquids, etc.: To gush forth or flow in a stream; to flow strongly; of rain: to fall heavily, rain hard.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Ruo..*, to falle, to poure out. 1552 in HULOET. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 18 No, I will weepe no more; in such a night, To shut me out? Poure on, I will endure. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 174 When impetuous Rain Swells hasty Brooks, and pours upon the Plain. *Ibid.* IV. 413 The teeming Tide, Which pouring down from Ethiopian Lands, Makes green the Soil with Slime. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 74 The River Nile..running thro' the hither Ethiopia, pours down upon Egypt. 1831 WILLIS *Poem at Brown. Univ.* 172 The light Of the blest sun pours on his book. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 182 The torrent brooks ..From craggy hollows pouring,..Sound all night long. 1859 W. COLLINS *Blow up w. Brig!* The sweat poured off my face like water. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 22 Oct. 5/2 Sewer gas was pouring into the lavatories.

b. *impers.* To rain heavily or copiously. Often in proverb, *It never rains but it pours*: events (esp. misfortunes) come all together or happen in rapid succession.

1726 ARBUTHNOT (*title*) It cannot rain but it pours; or London strow'd with rarities. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. ix. ¶ 1 As it never rains but it pours, I was in the front of the battle. 1815 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 79 We were to have gone with him if it had been fine, but it is pouring. 1849 THACKERAY in *Scribner's Mag.* I. 551/1 Is it pouring with rain? 1893 [see RAIN *v.* 1].

7. *transf.* and *fig.* Of persons or things: To run or rush in a stream or crowd; to come or go in great numbers, continuously, or in rapid succession; to stream, to swarm.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 628 To Powre out, to come or runne forth in great companies. 1652 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 14 The other Muscovites came pouring into the Citie. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 11 Now the rich stream of Music winds along .. Headlong, impetuous, see it pour. 1781 J. LOGAN in *Sc. Paraphr.* x. 1, In streets, and op'nings of the gates where pours the busy crowd. 1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 1 The modern engravings which pour upon us daily. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 219 From every part of Germany troops poured towards the Rhine. 1860 L. V. HARCOURT in *G. Rose's Diaries & Corr.* II. vi. 204 After the announcement of Mr. Pitt's death, lamentations pour in. 1891 *Punch* 18 Apr. 185/1 Business prospered, and money came pouring in.

III. 8. Special uses with *adv.* or *prep.*

For general uses with *forth*, *out*, etc., see prec. senses.

†**a. Pour on** (in ME. with indirect passive). To overspread *with* something poured, to suffuse fully. [= L. *suffundĕre*.] *Obs.*

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiv. 33 Þe lecherovs men..shul be poured on wiþ brenyng picche & stynkyng brymston.

†**b. Pour out**: to scatter, spread about. In pa. pple. *poured out* = L. *effusus*, *diffusus*, spread out diffusely. *Obs. rare.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIV. vi, As sheepe..we lie alone: Scattringlie by Thee out powred. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxxi, Where, from gross mortal care and business free, They lay, poured out in ease and luxury.

[*Note.* It has been suggested that ME. *pour-en* was an irregular representative of F. *pur-er*:—L. *pūrāre* to purify (with religious rites). F. *purer*, now 'to scum', had in OF. the senses 'to purify, clarify, cleanse, rinse'; also in Norman 'to drip' (Lajoie revint tant moullé, qu'il puroyt de toutes parts, *c* 1560 in Godef.), so still in Guernsey (J'o l'cidre qui pure dans l'auge, 'I hear the cider dripping or pouring into the trough' Moisy), and in mod. Norman and other dialects 'to drip, drop, ooze, or flow out', in Burgundy, etc., 'to press, wring, or squeeze juice or water out of anything' (Godef.). English shows no trace of an original sense 'purify', nor even of 'press or squeeze out', and the intransitive sense 6, which comes near that of 'drip or flow out', is not of early appearance; so that the historical connexion of sense is not evident. The phonology also presents difficulty; it is doubtful whether Eng. has any certain instance of *ou* (or even *o*, *oo*) from Fr. *u*:—L. *ū*.]

Pour (pōəɹ), *sb.* [f. POUR *v.*]

1. Pouring, a pouring stream.

1790 D. MORISON *Rood Fair* XXV. Poems 23 O'er her nose the sweat in sooms, In pours began to tumble. 18.. TROWBRIDGE *The Pewee* ii. (Funk), Through rocky clefts the brooklet fell With plashy pour.

b. *fig.* A number of people streaming out or in.

1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* xvii, A miscellaneous pour of lads and lasses. 1898 — *Standard Bearer* xiv. 123 There cam' a pour o' men-folk frae 'tween the lintels.

2. A heavy fall of rain, a downpour.

1814 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 90 A pour of rain, which turned to snow. 1831 MISS FERRIER *Destiny* XX. (D.), He..rode home ten miles in a pour of rain. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xii. 97 Ere long, it began to rain—first of all, an ominous drizzle,..then a decided pour.

3. *Founding.* **a.** The act, process, or operation of pouring melted metal. **b.** The amount of melted metal, or other material, poured at a time.

1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 238/2 The 'pour' is preceded by a shower of sparks, consisting of little particles of molten steel which are projected fully a hundred feet in the direction of the open mouth of the converter. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 102 As the pour is ended, we look into the vessel. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 318 The core materials in each 'pipe' represent several 'pours'.

Pour, obs. form of POOR, POWER.

†**Pourallee.** *Old Law. Obs.* In 4 **pour-, puralee, porale, puraley, 6–7 purallee, pourallee.** [Anglo-Fr., f. *pur-*, *pour-*, as prefix often confused with *par-*, L. *per-* through + *alee* going, ALLEY; a literal rendering of L. *perambulātio*.] The PERAMBULATION of a forest.

a 1300 *Liber Custumarum* (Rolls) I. 197 Disantz qe nous ne voloms garder ne tenir la Grant Chartre des franchises d'Engleterre, ne la Chartre de la Foreste, ne souffrir qe la Pouralee se face. 1305 *Act* 33 *Edw. I*, Si aucuns de ceux, qi sount desafforestez par la puralee, voillent mieux estre dedenz forest..il plest bien au Roi quil soient a ceo rezteux. 1306 *Annales Londonienses* (Rolls) 146 Super absolutione juramenti domini regis Angliae de foresta, quae vulgariter et Anglice dicebatur *porale*. 1323–4 *Tower Roll* in Manwood *Lawes Forest* XX. (1598) 134 b, Icy comence le proces de la puraley de Winsor, fait en le Countie de Surrey.

¶ Erroneously identified with PURLIEU I; see also PURLEYMAN.

1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* title-p., Also a Treatise of the Purallee [*ed.* 1615 Pourallee], declaring what Purallee is, how the same first began, what a Purallee man may doe, how he may hunt and vse his owne Purallee. *Ibid.* XX. § 3. 151 All such woods and lands, as were afforested by king Henry the second [etc.], .. and were afterwards by the perambulations .. seuered from the old auncient Forrestes, and disafforested again, they were and yet still are called Pourallees... For, this woord *Pourallee* in French, is *Perambulatio* in Latin. *Ibid.* § 8. 154 The Pourallee man..must alwayes first make his course in his owne woods or lands, which he hath within the *Pourallee*, and therefore it is called *Pourlieu*, that is to say, for the place, or, for his owne woods or lands.

Pourblind, obs. form of PURBLIND.

‖ **Pourboire** (purbwār). [F., prop. *pour boire* in order to drink, for drinking.] A gratuity to be spent on drink, drink-money; hence *gen.* a gratuity, douceur, 'tip'.

[1815 SCOTT *Paul's Lett.* xiii. (1839) 235 There is always some Frenchman near, who, either merely to do the honours to Monsieur l'Estranger, or at most for *quelque chose pour boire*, walks with you through the collection [etc.].] 1836 R. LOWE in *Life* (1893) I. 116 Quarrelled with the man who led the horse because he would not go far enough. Sconsed him of his *pourboire*. 1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 55 No *pourboire* is expected. 1898 *Glasgow Weekly Cit.* 26 Nov. 16/3 The pourboire will figure as a considerable item when he sets his foot in the land.

Pourcelet, variant of PORCELET *Obs.*

Pourchace, -chasse, obs. forms of PURCHASE.

†**Pourcuttle, pourcontrel.** *Obs.* Also 6 **pourcouttell.** [Origin unascertained.

The earliest cited form is *pourcouttell*, of which *pourcontrell* might easily be a misreading. The second element would then be *coutteli* = *cuttle*. But *pour-* remains unexplained: it can hardly stand for an earlier *poul-* from *poulpe* or *polypus*. (Cf. POLLYWOG, *polwygle*, *porwiggle*.)]

An octopus.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 69/1 *Polypus..*, *poulpe*, *poupe*, a pourcouttell. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 87 Some have their heads groveling betwixt their feet (As th' inky Cuttles, and the Many-feet). [*Margin.*] Examples. The Pour-cuttle. Cuttle. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 243 Some have a tender and soft skin,..others none at all, as the Pourcuttle or Pourcontrell. *Ibid.* II. 427 The Pulpe fish or Pourcuttell. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 260 The fish called a Pourcontrell, or Manie-feet, changeth himself into what colour he lists. 1611 COTGR., *Poulpe*,..the Pourcontrell, Preke, or many-footed fish. 1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 384 You are to eat a raw Pourcontrell, or Cuttle-fish, and so to dye. 1758 BAKER in *Phil. Trans.* L. 778 The Polypus, particularly so called, the Octopus, Preke, or Pour-contrel.

Poure, obs. f. POOR, PORE, POUR, POWER, PURE.

Pourehede, Pourete: see POORHEAD, POVERTY.

Pourer (pōəɹəɹ). [f. POUR *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which pours (*trans.* and *intr.*); a vessel used in pouring anything.

1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 265 Saint Hierom calleth it the butler or pourer forth of water. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. viii. § 4 (1622) 287 He is not a rash powrer-out of his benefits. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 415 The pourer forth of notes. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* II. 333 This.. teapot .. is not a good pourer. 1894 G. A. SMITH *Hist. Geog. Holy Land* 64 What the English Bible calls the early or former rain, literally the *Pourer*.

Pourfil, obs. form of PROFILE, PURFLE.

Pourge, obs. form of PURGE.

Pourie (pū·ri). *Sc.* Also **poorie.** [f. POUR *v.* + -IE, denominative, as in *cheatie*, etc.] A vessel with a spout for pouring liquid; a jug, pitcher; *esp.* a cream-jug.

1821 GALT *Ayrshire Legatees* x. 288 Miss Jenny Macbride's side-board,..where all the pepper-boxes, poories, and tea-pots .. of her progenitors are set out. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 4 Mrs. M'Lecket had then the pourie in her hand to help my cup. 1823 GALT *Entail* II. iii. 23 The vera silver pourie that I gied her mysel..in a gift at her marriage.

Pouring (pōə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. POUR *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. POUR in various senses; also, the produce of this, a quantity poured at one time.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1411 (1460) Dispitous day thyn be þe pyne of helle...Thi pouryng In wol no where late hem dwelle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Porynge yn, *infusio*. *Ibid.*, Porynge owte, *effusio*. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* xxii. 16 The pourynges out of the See were sene. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 129 It may seeme a powring of water into the Sea. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 55 'Pretty bottle', says Sganarelle,..'How envied would be my lot, wert thou to keep always full for all my pourings!' 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.* 25 *note*, The word..literally signifies 'libations', or 'pourings out'.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pouring-bottle, -machine, -vessel*; **pouring-jack**, one of the vessels used in varnish-making.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Macc.* i. 22 The table of the shewbred,

the pouringe vessel, the chargers. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* v. xiii. § 6 He did not abstain from those pouring vessels..sent by Augustus. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1266 The assistant puts three copper ladlefuls of oil into the copper pouring-jack. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* x. 227 The mint has eight melting furnaces,..two pouring machines.

Pou·ring, *ppl. a.* [f. POUR *v.* + -ING 2.] That pours, in various senses; *esp.* raining heavily.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. ii, Powring stormes of sleet, and haile. 1625 BACON *Ess., Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 570 They haue such Powring Riuers, as the Riuers of Asia, and Affrick, and Europe, are but Brookes to them. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. xviii, When the pouring shower Streams adown the roof. 1853 *Ecclesiologist* XIV. 358 At five o'clock on a pouring morning. 1897 M. KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 360 They marched..in a pouring rain all night long.

b. adverbially (in reference to rain).

1868 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 234 It rained pouring. 1900 *Daily News* 3 July 8/1 The nights had often been pouring wet.

Hence **Pou·ringly** *adv.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 363 Who..would not suddenly haue knowne whether it had rayned or no, so powringly high, and sweetely it fell like an Aprill shower.

† **Pouriture.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. F. *pour(r)iture* a rotting, decomposition, f. *pour(r)ir*:—L. *putrēre* to rot.] Rotten or decomposed substance.

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 17 Earth is also sometimes improv'd by Mixtures of Fern, rotten Leaves, and the pouriture of old Wood.

Pourmenade, obs. form of PROMENADE.

‖ **Pourparler** (*pu*rparle), *sb.* Also in anglicized form PURPARLEY, q. v. [F. *pourparler*, subst. use of inf. *pourparler* (11th c. in Godef.) to discuss, deliberate, plot, f. *pour-* for, before + *parler* to speak.] An informal discussion or conference preliminary to actual negotiation.

1795 *Amer. St. Papers, Foreign* (1832) I. 716 (Stanf.) The *pourparlers* on foot between the two persons mentioned above. 1831 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) II. 435 After some pourparlers Mr. L——..must remain on board. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* II. viii. 230 Another pourparler took place. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 30 June 8/1 *Pourparlers* have commenced between the Powers for the creation of a permanent International Sanitary Commission in Egypt.

So † **Pourpa·rle** *v. Obs.* [ad. OF. *pourparle-r* vb.: see above] *trans.* to conduct preliminary negotiations about; **Pourpa·rler, Pourpa·rley** *v. intr.*, to carry on a *pourparler*.

1534 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 564 That He will for his parte kepe the sees and passages with a navie, being the saide entervieu so farre fourth pourparled and sett. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 25 Sept., Count Hatzfeldt is instructed to leave the task of pourparleying to the British representative. 1900 *Nation* (N. Y.) 11 Oct. 279/2 Meanwhile, the Powers are doing a vast amount of negotiating and pourparlering with each other.

Pourpartie, Pourpays, Pourpensed, obs. varr. PURPARTY, PORPOISE, PURPENSED.

Pourpiece (pōə·ɹpīs). *Typogr.* [f. POUR *v.* + PIECE *sb.*] See quot.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 228/1 The superfluous metal at the head called the 'tang', or 'pourpiece', is removed by a circular saw or sharp-pointed hook.

Pourpoint (pūə·ɹpoint), **purpoint** (pə̄·ɹpoint), *sb. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 4 **purpont,** 5 **-peynt(e, -poynt,** 9 **pour-, purpoint.** [a. OF. *po(u)rpoint* (13th c. in Littré), prop. pa. pple., as in *gambais porpoint, cuilte purpointe* (Godef.), of *pourpoindre* to perforate, f. *pour-* (:—L. *prō-*, substituted for *par*:—L. *per* through, as in POURALLEE) + *poindre*:—L. *pungĕre* to prick.]

Something quilted. **a.** A doublet, stuffed and quilted, worn by men in the 14th and 15th centuries, both as part of civil costume and of armour. (Sometimes misused by modern novelists.)

[*a* 1200 *Itin. Regis Rich. I* (Rolls) I. 99 Unde et vulgo perpunctum [*v.r.* parpunctum] nuncupatur. 1225 *Rot. Litt. Claus.* (1844) II. 51/1 Quos posuerunt in x. haubergellis et xiiij. purpuntis et xix. capellis ferreis.] 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7232 In thy diffence.. Next thy body shal be set A purpoynt or a doublet. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* 245 Now smothe, now stark, now lyk an hard purpoynt. 1830 JAMES *Darnley* xxxii, His dress was a rich hunting suit,..consisting of a green pourpoint. 1843 — *Forest Days* II. xi, A man..muffled in a large loose gabardine above his pourpoint. 1876 PLANCHÉ *Cycl. Costume* I. 403 The military pourpoint was of leather or cloth, stuffed and quilted.

† **b.** A quilt, as a bed-covering. Also in *Comb.*

pourpoint-wise *adv. Obs.*

1390 *Will of Filliolt* (Somerset Ho.), j purpont album bonum. 1418 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 4 Item Amye Irmonger j. magnam archam j. purpeynt et j. par librarum pendentium. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Pur-poynt, bed hyllynge.., *culcitra punctata*. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 483 In primis, j. feddebedde. Item, j. bolster..j. purpoynt white hangyd.

So **Pou·rpoint** *v. trans.*, to make in the fashion of a pourpoint, to quilt (whence **Pou·rpointed** *ppl. a.*, **Pou·rpointing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pou·rpointer,** a maker of pourpoints); ‖ **Pourpointerie** (pu*r*pwe̯ntə*r*ī) [F.], pourpointing work, quilting.

[1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 370/1 Henry III's great seals afford us the earliest specimen of the *ouvrages de pourpointerie*, which came more into fashion toward the latter part of his reign. His hauberk and chausses are of this padded work, stitched.] *Ibid.*, Pourpointing, or elaborate stitching,.. became at this time [Henry III's] a trade, and there were several pourpointers in Paris and London. 1860 J. HEWITT *Anc. Armour* II. 131 The 'Jack of Defence'..was a quilted coat; or it was pourpointed of leather and canvas in many folds; or it was formed of mail. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* x. (1874) 194 Third Period, to about 1360.—Splinted armour.. showing studs on the covering, together with studded *pourpointerie*, began to prevail. 1885 FAIRHOLT *Costume in Eng.* (ed. 3) 147 The heat and heaviness of this armour occasioned the invention of gamboised or pourpointed coverings for protection in war.

Pourpose, Pourpour(e, pourpre, Pourpresture, obs. ff. PURPOSE, PURPLE, PURPRESTURE.

† **Pourpri·se, purpri·se,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **purpris, -prys(e,** 5 **pourprys, porprise.** [a. OF. *porpris* and *po(u)rprise* occupied place, enclosure, verge, sb. use of pa. pple. of *po(u)rprendre* to occupy, seize, comprehend, f. *pour* for, before + *prendre* to take.] A precinct, enclosure, circuit.

a 1325 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 346 Thine palefreis ant steden ant al thi purpris Thou ne shalt with the beren, wrecche, ther thou lis. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3987 He hath not aright wrought, Whan that he sette nought his thought To kepe better the purpryse. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. xi. 91 Thenne followeth germanye..whiche conteyneth a grete pourprys toward thoccident. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 139 It carrieth a pourprise or precinct of 3 miles compasse. 1612 BACON *Ess., Judicature* (Arb.) 456 Not onely the bench, but the footepace and precincts and purprise thereof ought to bee preserued without scandall and corruption. 1725 *Nat. Hist. Ivel.* iii. 14 Havens which..are but very little, and of a small pourprise.

So † **Pourpri·se** *v.* [cf. *comprise, surprise*], *trans.* to encompass, enclose, embrace, occupy.

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. viii. 85 Thise barbaryns pourpryse xl Royammes. 1481 — *Godeffroy* cc. 292 There they lodged them, and pourprised grete space of ground. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* II. xxxv. 153 So were the walles pourprysed and sette rounde aboute wyth ladders.

† **Pou·rry,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 **poury.** [a. F. *pour(r)i* rotten, pa. pple. of *pour(r)ir*:—**putrīre* for L. *putrēre* to rot. Cf. *pot-pourri.*] Putrid.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 39 Not poury [*v.r.* moddy], but plesaunt and good to drinke.

Pourselane, -slane, obs. ff. PURSLANE. **Pourseut, Poursiewe, -su,** obs. ff. PURSUIT, PURSUE. **Poursuivant, Poursuter,** var. PURSUIVANT, PURSUITOR, *Obs.* **Pourte,** obs. Sc. f. POVERTY. **Pourtenaunce, Pourtende,** obs. ff. PURTENANCE, PORTEND. **Pourtract, -trait,** etc., **-tracture, -traiture,** etc., **-traie, -tray,** obs. ff. PORTRAIT, PORTRAITURE, PORTRAY. **Pourturde,** var. *portured*: see PORTURE *v. Obs.* **Pourvey(e, Pourveaunce, -veya(u)nce, -wiance, Pourveyo(u)r, -voyer,** obs. ff. PURVEY, PURVEYANCE, PURVEYOR. **Poury:** see POURRY.

† **Pouryvyncle,** obs. form of PERIWINKLE 2.

1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Pouryvyncle a fysshe, *niniau.*

Pous, ME. form of PULSE.

† **Pouse,** *v. Obs.* Derivation and sense obscure.

1689 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1720) II. v. xxviii. 382/2, 13. Item, That no Peterman shall hereafter, at any time of the Year, take the Tides, nor Pouse upon the whole River of Thames. 1727 DICKINSON *Rules, Orders*, etc. 7 (Guildhall Libr. Br. 270. 1) That no Persons shall, at any Time of the Year, take the Tides or Pouse, or use any Pousing-Net, upon the River of Thames, under the Penalty of [etc.].

Pouse, var. POUZE; obs. f. PULSE. **Pouse, pouss,** Sc. and n. dial. ff. PUSH *v.* **Poush,** obs. f. PUSH *sb.*, a boil. **Pousoudie, -sowdie,** obs. ff. POWSOWDY. **Pousse,** obs. f. PULSE, pease, etc.

‖ **Pousse-café** (*pus*ikafe). [F., lit. 'push coffee'.] A glass of various liqueurs or cordials, in successive layers, taken immediately after coffee. (Cf. *chasse-café* s. v. CHASSE 2.)

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1893 KATE SANBORN *Truthf. Wom. in S. California* 136 The old Spanish, the imported Chinese, the eastern element now thoroughly at home,..each..stratum as distinctly marked as in a pousse café, or jelly cake.

Poussette (*puse*t), *sb.* [a. F. *poussette*, dim. of *pousse* a push; see -ETTE.] An act of poussetting: see POUSSETTE *v.*

1814 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) II. 31 Seeing the pretty tremble of her eyelids in a poussette. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxix, The mazes of poussette and right and left. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* xii, They gave a rapid poussette like the top and bottom people in Sir Roger de Coverley.

Pousse·tte, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To dance round and round with hands joined, as a couple in a country dance.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Punch's Apoth.*, Dance, Regan! dance, with Cordelia and Goneril—Down the middle, up again, poussette and cross. *a* 1839 T. H. BAYLY *Songs & Ball.* II. 283 The young poussetting, as the old survey. 1887 CLELAND *True to Type* II. 206 The motley crowd was happy—poussetted, chassied and performed feats. *fig.* 1873 H. MORLEY *First Sk. Eng. Lit.* (1882) 172 Europe was little edified to see the dance..set up by the two aged popes, who poussetted to each other about France and Italy.

Hence **Pousse·tting** *vbl. sb.*

1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. viii. (1872) V. 258 The pains he took with her elegant pirouettings and poussettings.

Poussie, a Sc. spelling of PUSSY.

Poust (paust). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. next, by mutescence of final *e*: cf. AVOW *sb.*] = POUSTIE.

In first quot. prob. scribal error for *poste, pouste* = next.

[*c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 23 So I wille my post proue.] 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 216 Wi' great poust o' arm and leg. 1832–53 R. INGLIS in *Whistle-binkie* (Scot. Songs) Ser. III. 115 The poust that's in Scottish kail-brose.

Poustie, pousté (pau·sti). *Obs.* (or *Sc. arch.*) Forms: 4–5 **pouste·** (also 6 *Sc.*), **-ee·, powste·** (5 **-ee**), **poeste, poweste, poste** (5 **-ee**), **pauste** (5 **-i**); 5 **pooste, postey·, pou·sty,** 5–6 **po·stie, -y** (6 **-ye**), 5 (7 *Sc.*) **pausty,** 7 *Sc.* **powstie,** 7, 9 *Sc.* **poustie.** [ME. a. OF. *poesté, pouslé* (*a* 1000 *podestat*):—L. *potestāt-em* power.] Power; strength, might; authority. See also LIEGE POUSTIE.

In poustie, poste (quot. *c* 1450), in one's power, possible.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4371 (Cott.) He þat has giuen me pouste [*Fairf.* pausty] slike Godd forbedd i suld him suike. *Ibid.* 26140 To quam vr lauerd has giuen poste Bath to bind and als laus þe. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) cxlv, Sumtime ich was.. An erl of gret pouste. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 110 In-to swilk thrillage thaim held he, That he ourcome throw his powste. 1415 *York Corpus Christi Play* in *Hist. & Antiq. York* (1785) II. 130 And here I grant in your Postey Whom that ye bound, bondan shall be Ryht at your Steyne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 610 Yef it were in poste, he wolde it not haue do for all the reme of grete Breteigne. *c* 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 160, I put hem vndyr in thy poweste. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v, Whan I submysed Affrique in to your poeste. *a* 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 1330 By..all the dedly names Of infernall posty, Where soules fry and rosty. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 110/14 Postie, *potestas, atis.* 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* Ded., Statur and strength, so dexterously kythed by a peereles pausty in all campestrial prowes. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 147 Her weary knicht's ilk limb and lith Gat tenfauld poustie, pow'r, and pith. 1845 POLSON *Eng. Law* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 850/1 Hence the distinction, so well known to Scotch lawyers, of death-bed and *liege poustie*—the technical terms indicating two states of competency and incompetency to burden or dispose of an estate to the prejudice of the lawful heir.

‖ **Pou sto** (pau stōu, *prop.* pū stō). [a. Gr. *ποῦ στῶ* 'where I may stand'; from the saying attributed to Archimedes (in Pappus 8. 11., ed. Hultsch 1060), *δός μοι ποῦ στῶ, καὶ κινῶ τὴν γῆν* 'give me (a place) where I may stand, and I will move the earth'. (Usually written in Greek.)] A place to stand on, a standing-place; *fig.* a basis of operation.

1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* III. 246 She..Who learns the one POU STO whence after-hands May move the world, tho' she herself effect But little. 1859 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd. 58 Accustomed to move the world with no *ποῦ στῶ* but his own two feet.

Pout (paut), *sb.*1 Also 1 *puta, 6 poute, 8 **powt.** [OE. **pūta* in *æle-pūtan* pl., EEL-POUT = MDu. *puyt(e, pût, puut, puyde* a pout, also a frog (cf. *puytael, aelpuyt*), Du. *puit*, Flem. *puut, puud* a frog, Du. *puitaal*, EFris. *pût(-âl)*, LG. *pût(-âl), (âl-)putt, pute*, G. *(aal-)putte* eel-pout; app. from a verbal stem **put-* to inflate: see quot. 1836 and cf. next.] A name applied to several kinds of fish, most commonly to the BIB or *whiting-pout*: see also EEL-POUT, HORN-*pout*.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 94 Hwilce fixas gefehst þu? ælas and hacodas mynas and æleputan sceotan and lampredan.] 1591 NASHE *Prognost.* 17 If there bee few or none [eels] taken, and plentie of poutes to bee had [with pun on next]. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Powt*, a Fish otherwise call'd a Sea-Lamprey. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 252 We took pouts, cat-fish, cat-heads, of six pounds weight. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 159 From a singular power of inflating a membrane which covers the eyes and other parts about the head,..it is called Pout, Bib, Blens, and Blinds. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-Bks.* (1883) 65 The fish caught were..three horned pouts. 1880 F. DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 287 Bib, pout..brassie in Scotland.

Pout (paut), *sb.*2 [f. POUT *v.*1] A protrusion of the lips, expressive of pique or annoyance. *In the pouts*, in a pouting mood, sulky.

1591 NASHE *Prognost.* 17 Plentie of poutes to bee had in all places, especiallie in those coastes and Countries where weomen haue not their owne willes. 1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* i. 45 The fat is in the fire, she is in the powt, all a mort. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xv. § 2. 255 A Bessy Babe, that must be dandled, and in every thing humoured else she feeds all upon Poutes [with pun on prec.] 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. lvi, Panurge somewhat vex'd Fryar Jhon, and put him in the Pouts. 1795 *Jemima* I. 82, I could not be brought out of the pouts. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Baby's Debut*, Jack's in the pouts, and this it is—He thinks mine came to more than his. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 23 'Then you don't think it wise?' mutters the girl, with a pout.

b. *transf.* Protrusion, projection.

1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idyls* II. *Pan & Luna* 45 That pure undraped Pout of the sister paps.

c. *Comb.*, as *pout-mouthing*, † *pout-puffing.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 135 Baldwin le Peitour .. held his land in Suffolke, *Per saltum, sufflum & pettum, sive bumbulum*, for dancing, pout-puffing, and doing that before the King of England in Christmasse holy dayes, which the word *pet* signifieth in French. 1807 COLERIDGE *Lett., to H. Coleridge* (1895) 514 Your mad passions and frantic looks and pout-mouthing.

Pout, *sb.*3 *dial.* (Kent). [Origin obscure.] A small round stack of hay or straw; = POOK *sb.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 15 Cattle fed in winter time at the same pout of hay...Cattle feeding at a hay-pout. 1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms, Pout*; as an hay-pout, a round stack of hay. Plot, a Kentish author, has it. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s. v., In the field hay is put up into smaller heaps, called cocks, and larger ones, called pouts; when carted it is made into a stack.

† **Pout,** *sb.*4 *Obs.* [perh. from POUT *v.*1 or *sb.*2] A workman's name for the mount of the lens of a

simple microscope, by means of which the lens is attached to a Lieberkühn.

1832 A. PRITCHARD *Microsc. Cabinet* 189 All globular bodies, having polished surfaces, reflect an image of the cups, and the pout, if there is one, appears as a dark spot in the centre. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 31 A great deal may be done with cups having single lenses inserted in them which they do not fit, by raising or lowering their pouts or settings by means of rings of thin metal, till the focus of the lens and of the cup fall on the same point. [1907 F. A. PARSONS (*Sec. Roy. Micr. Soc.*) in *Let.*, The term *pout* probably went out of use about 1845. I have made enquiry of all the leading Microscope makers in London, but not one has ever heard of the term.]

†**Pout,** *sb.*[5] *Coal Mining. Obs.* A kind of punch: see quot.

1849 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh., Pout, Punch,* a tool used by the deputies in drawing timber out of a dangerous place. It has a shank about 8 feet long, with a spade handle, and a head, pointed and slightly curved towards the handle at one side, and like a hammer at the other. It is used as a ram to knock the props down, or to draw them out after they have been knocked down.

Pout, *sb.*[6] Sc. and dial. form of POULT *sb.*

Pout (paut), *v.*[1] Also 4-6 **poute,** 5-8 **powt,** 6 **powte, powlt.** [Known only from *c* 1300; previous history obscure. Conjectured to represent an OE. **pútian,* from a verbal stem **put-* to swell, be inflated, of which *púta,* POUT *sb.*[1], might be the agent-noun. But the evidence for this vb. in the cognate langs. is scanty: Sw. has dial. *puta* to be inflated; Sw. and Norw. *puta* pad, Da. *pude* cushion, pillow, pointing to an ON. **púta*; cf. NFris. *piitt, pute* cushion, bolster.]

1. *intr.* To thrust out or protrude the lips, esp. in expression of displeasure or sullenness; hence, to show displeasure.

?*c* 1325 *Old Age* vii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 149 Now i pirtle, i powte [? poffe], i poute, I snurpe, i snobbe, i sneipe on snovte, þro3 kund i comble an kelde. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 294 Be not gapynge nor ganynge, ne with þy mouth to powt. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 228/36 To Poute, *caperare.* 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* I. *iv, Busie brains: That powlts and swels at others toils, and take themselues no pains. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 18 Shee pouts, that Ganymed by Ioue too skitop is hoysed. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 144 (Q[0] 5, 1637) But like a misbehav'd and sullen wench, Thou pout'st upon thy fortune and thy love [*Q[0]* 4, powts vpon; *Q[0]* 2, 3, puts vp; *Folios,* puttest vp; Q[0] 1, Thou frownst vpon thy Fate that smiles on thee]. 1607 — *Cor.* v. i. 52 The Veines vnfill'd, our blood is cold, and then We powt vpon the Morning. 1655 CAPEL *Tentations* 14 Ah, this wretched flesh of mine that can pout and swell at God our best friend. 1706 PHILLIPS, To *Powt,* to look gruff or surly, to hang out the Lip. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* v, Here the girl pretended to pout.

b. Without implication of displeasure: To swell out, to protrude, as lips.

1598, 1624, 1735 [see POUTING *ppl. a.*]. 1812 BYRON *Childe Harold* I. lviii. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. iv. 121 Her lips would pout With a perpetual simper. 1869 MRS. HEATON *A. Dürer* I. i. (1881) 37 The full childish lips pout out as if waiting to be kissed. 1896 J. ASHBY STERRY *Tale Thames* (1903) 62/2 Sleeves closely furled to exhibit the charm Of a biceps that pouts 'neath a snowy white arm. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 980 He should note the shape of the anus, and observe whether it is pouting.

2. *trans.* To push out, to protrude (esp. the lips). [*c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 952 To powte, *poussir.*] 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 69 Gulchenrouz ..pouted out his vermilion little lips against the offer. 1798 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 28 Aug., She received me .. pouting out her sweet ruby lips for me to kiss. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream, Sleeping Palace* iv, Her lips are sever'd as to speak: His own are pouted to a kiss. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 144 In a starfish which has died with its stomach pouted out.

b. To utter or say with a pout.

1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 52 'Horrid old wretch'.. 'I wish he had not come', pouts Mignon. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 131 Then she pouts, 'You've had all my dances'.

Pout (paut), *v.*[2] *Sc.* [Sc. form of POULT *v.* f. *pout,* POULT *sb.*] *intr.* To shoot at poults. Hence **Pou·ter,** 'a sportsman who shoots young partridges or moorfowl' (Jam.); **Pou·ting** *vbl. sb.,* shooting at partridge or moorfowl poults; also *attrib.,* as in **pouting-net,** a net for securing poults.

a 1679 J. SOMERVILLE *Mem. Somervilles* (1815) I. 241 To take his pleasure at the poutting in Calder and Carnwath Muires. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 114 Now Willy..Wi' pointers on the hills did stan, The prince o' pouters. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xliii, Something that will keep the Captain wi' us amaist as well as the pouting. 1840 *Contemporaries of Burns* 116 The 'pouting season', as it is called, was to her a period of more than ordinary enjoyment. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 123/1 'Pouting nets' were purchased for the better securing of muirfowl and partridges.

Pout, *v.*[3] *dial.* (Kent.) [f. POUT *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To put up (hay, etc.) into pouts; to POOK.

1617 in *Archæol. Cant.* (1902) XXV. 15 Robert Terry [presented] for profaning of the Sabbath Day, by binding barley, and powting of podder, upon the Sabbath.

‖ **Poutassou** (puta·su). [Provençal of Nice.] A Mediterranean species of cod, *Gadus* (or *Micromesistius*) *Poutassou.*

1860 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 77. 1862 GÜNTHER *Catal. Fishes Brit. Mus.* IV. 338.

Poutch, obs. form of POUCH.

Pouter (pau·tə1), *sb.*[1] [f. POUT *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. One who pouts (*intr.* or *trans.*).

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. ix. P5 The pouters and ill-wishers were *soon* revenged. *a* 1861 D. GRAY *Poet. Wks.* (1874) 44 Sleep! Soft bedewer of infantine eyes, Pouter of rosy little lips!

2. A breed of the domestic pigeon characterized by a great power of inflating the crop: cf. POUTING *ppl. a.* quot. 1693.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pigeon,* Such Pigeons will breed nine or ten Pair of young ones in a Year, for the little Huff of Wind thrown in from the Powter gives them Heat and Mirth. 1766 PENNANT *Zool.* I. 218 The varieties .. are distinguished by names expressive of their several properties, such as Tumblers, Carriers, Jacobines, Croppers, Powters, ..&c. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i, The wheeling and circling flights of runts, fantails, tumblers, and pouters. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* i. (1878) 16 The pouter has a much elongated body..: its enormously developed crop, which it glories in inflating, may well excite astonishment.

3. A fish, the whiting-pout.

1889 *Lancet* 16 Nov. 1024/2 Small haddocks and rock pouters—cheap, common fish—are often .. sold at a high price for whiting.

4. *attrib.*: **pouter-fish** = 3; **pouter-pigeon** = 2.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 123/1 Specimens of the 'tumbler' but not one of the common 'pouter' pigeon. 1883 J. D. CURTIS in Moloney *W. Afr. Fisheries* 68 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) Barracouta, porpoises, bonito,..cat-fish, and pouter-fish are to be found on the Gold Coast. 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* ix. (1896) 105 Sticking out his chest, and strutting about the room like a pouter-pigeon.

Pouter, *sb.*[2]: see under POUT *v.*[2]

Pouter (pau·tə1), *v. Sc.* Also 6 **powtter,** 9 **powter.** [Origin and sense-history obscure: cf. POTTER, POTHER. (Sense 1 may be a different word.)]

†1. *trans.* (?) To span with a stride. *Obs.*

a 1568 *Droichis Part of Play* 74 (Bann. MS.), The hingand brayis on adir syde Scho powtterit with hir lymmis wyde.

2. a. *intr.* To poke, to stir; 'to rummage in the dark' (Jam.); to potter.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxiv, Powtering wi' his fingers amang the het peat-ashes and roasting eggs. 1832-53 CARRICK in *Whistle-Binkie* (Scot. Songs) Ser. II. 123 She would pouter a while, afore the fire could len' ony light for me to come hame wi'. 1838 A. RODGER *Poems* 281, I began to grape for 't syne, Thrang poutrin' wi' my staff, man.

b. *trans.* To poke; to get by poking or groping.

1835 CARRICK *Laird of Logan* 133 (E.D.D.) Just gang awa out and pouter a few [potatoes] frae the roots o' the shaws wi' your hands. 1892 LUMSDEN *Sheep-head* 208 He poutert the ase [poked the ashes] wi' his fore finger to see gin he couldna fin' some sma' unburned remnant.

Pou·tful, *a.* [f. POUT *sb.*[2] or *v.*[1] + -FUL.] Full of pouts, pouting. Hence **Pou·tfulness.**

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 309 So folded as to display the mouth in its most winning poutfulness. 1887 J. ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 31 Your pretty, poutful, child-like charm, All criticism must disarm, Miss Dimplecheek!

Pouther, Sc. and obs. form of POWDER.

Pouting (pau·tiŋ), *sb.* [f. POUT *sb.*[1] + -ING 3.] A kind of small fish; a small kind of whiting, a whiting-pout (*Morrhua lusca*).

1591 LYLY *Endym.* III. iii, For fish these; crab, carpe, lumpe, and powting. 1848 C. A. JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 247 In which were caught a few poutings, conger, and wrasse. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 13 A favourite Bait for Whiting, Pouting, Codfish, &c.

Pouting (pau·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. POUT *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of POUT *v.*[1]

1556 J. CARELES in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1933/2 Beware in any wise of swelling, powting, or lowring, for that is a token of a cruel and vnlouing heart. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieutenant* III. ii, Never look coy, lady; These are no gifts to be put off with poutings. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 8. 45 To forbear frowning upon Loyalists, and Pouting at the Government. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* ix. 232 With young children sulkiness is shown by pouting, or, as it is sometimes called, 'making a snout'.

b. *attrib.* as *pouting-cloth, -crosscloth, -place.*

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Divb, Ile make him pull his powting crosscloath ouer his beetle browes for melancholie. 1602 *Withals' Dict.* 275 A Crosse cloath (as they tarme it) a Powtingcloth, *plagula.* 1790 PENNANT *London* (1813) 163 It was successively the pouting-place of princes.

Pouting, *vbl. sb.*[2, 3]: see under POUT *v.*[2], 3.

Pouting (pau·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. POUT *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That pouts, in various senses of the vb.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* xiv, Powtyng lookes. 1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 68 His pouting cheeks puff vp aboue his brow Like a swolne Toad touch't with the Spiders blow. 1624 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. ii. 5 He had no great powting lips, nor little eyes sunke into his head. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2853/4 There is 113 pair of Pigeons,..as Carriers, Cropers,..Shakers, Pouting Horsemen, Barbaries, ..to be sold. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. viii, Yes, that you might, you pouting slut. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 89 They seek the pouting Teat That plenteous streams. 1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 159 At a sale of powting-pigeons..one pair was sold for 16 guineas. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* x, The corners of the pouting mouth went down piteously.

Hence **Pou·tingly** *adv.,* in a pouting manner.

1632 SHERWOOD, Powtingly, *rechignément.* 1832 L. HUNT *Naiads* Poems 197 Like fondled things Eye poutingly their hands. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xiv, Her lips were pressed poutingly together.

†**Poutish** (pau·tiʃ), *a. Obs. rare.* [Allied to POUTER *sb.*[1] 2, POUTING *ppl. a.*: see -ISH[1].] Somewhat pouting; akin to a pouter-pigeon.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Pigeon,* Bastard-bred Pigeons, such as Pouting Horsemen, Poutish Dragoons, from a Powter or Cropper and a Leghorn.

Pout-net (pau·tˌnet). *Sc.* Also 5-6 **polt(e-.** [Origin obscure.] A small fishing-net of conical form, its mouth framed with wood or iron into a semicircle, the flat edge of which is pushed or drawn along the bottom of a stream by means of a long pole or staff.

1443 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 82 Item in j rethe vocat. le Polte nett xvjd. 1804 *Edin. Even. Courant* 16 Apr. (Jam.), Their Association .. have .. for protecting the fry, given particular instructions to their Water Bailiffs, to prevent, by every lawful means their shameful destruction at Mill-dams and Mill-leads with Pocks or Pout Nets.

So **Poutstaff,** † **poltstaff,** the detachable pole or staff of a pout-net.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 402 Willȝham was wa he had na wappynis thar, Bot the poutstaff [*ed.* 1570 polt staff], the quhilk in hand he bar.

Poutry, obs. Sc. form of POULTRY.

Pouw, var. PAAUW, the S. African bustard.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 339/1 The Bustard, which of all others the sportsman endeavours to secure in Africa, is the Pouw.

Pouwere, obs. form of POWER.

Pouze. *local.* Also 8 pouz, 9 pouse. [Derivation doubtful: identified by some with POUCE, in dial. sense 'rubbish, refuse'.] The refuse of the crushed apples after the cider is pressed out; = POMACE 1 a.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Vinegar,* The Cyder must be drawn off as fine as may be into another vessel and a small quantity of the Must or Pouz of Apples must be added thereto. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Cider,* The use of Must or Pouze of Apples. 1881 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Pouse..*(3) The refuse of the apple pulp, when all the cider has been expressed—the 'caput mortuum'.

†**Po·verance.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. ME. *pover-en* to become or make poor (see POOR *v.*) + -ANCE.] The action of making poor; impoverishment.

1529 H. STAFFORD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 24 Greate poverance and vndoing of your saide powr subject.

Pover(e, obs. form of POOR.

‖ **Povere·tto.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [It. dim. of *povero* poor.] A poor little one.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* iii. Wks. (Grosart) I. 206 What speciall cause the Pennilesse Gentleman hath, to bragge of his birth: which gineth the woeful poueretto good leaue,.. to reuiue the pittifull historie of Don Lazarello de Thoemes.

Poverish (pɒ·vəriʃ), *v. Obs.* or *dial.* [ad. OF. *po(u)veriss-,* lengthened stem of *po(u)verir* to make poor, f. *pov(e)re* POOR. Cf. IMPOVERISH.] *trans.* To make poor, impoverish.

1382 WYCLIF *Neh.* v. 18 Forsothe the puple gretli was poueresht. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* v. vii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 266/2 Bi whos absence, feeblid is Cartage, The contre porissched [*ed.* 1554 pouerished], brouht to disencres. 1530 PALSGR. 663/1, I pouryshe, or make poure, *jappouris.* 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 156 No violent showr Poverisht the land. 1639 JOHNSTON *Diary* (1897) 72 The countrie is extremelie poverished. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xix, The lave..maun be poverees't wi' sax ouks clockin'.

Hence **Po·verished** *ppl. a.,* **Po·verishing** *vbl. sb.*; also † **Po·verishment** [ad. obs. F. *poverissement*], impoverishment, poverty.

1484 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 84 To the kinges hurt and poveresshinge of his..tenantes. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 46 In pouerishment, Shee bydes and takes hir part. 1900 F. S. ELLIS *Rom. Rose* I. 57 Earth forgets her poverished drear estate.

Povert, -te, obs. forms of POVERTY.

†**Po·vertness.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *povert,* obs. var. POVERTY + -NESS.] = next.

c 1450 R. LEVOT in Nash *Hist. Worc.* (1781) I. 421 Privey to siche matiers as my povertnesse might doo any maner of pleisir to youre goode ant bounteuouse lordship.

Poverty (pɒ·vəti). Forms: *α.* 2-5 **pouerte** (**poverte**), 4-6 **pouert,** (4 **-erd,** 5 **-ertt(e, powert**), **povert.** *β.* 3-6 **pouerte** (= *-té*), (3 **pouirte,** 4 **pouertte,** 4-5 **poerte,** 4-6 **poverte,** 5 **powerte, pouer-, povertee, pauuerty,** 6 **povarte, powertie**), 4-7 **pouertie,** 5-6 **poure-, povrete,** (6 **povertey**), 6-7 **povertie, pouerty,** 7- **poverty.** *γ.* 4 *Sc.* **purte,** 5 **pourte,** 6 **poorety,** *Sc.* **purtye.** [Repr. two OF. forms, (*α*) *pove·rte* or *poue·rte*:—L. *paupertās,* nominative, and (*β*) *poverté, pouerté, poureté,* orig. *-tet,* later F. *pauvreté*:—L. *paupertātem,* accusative, f. *pauper* poor + *-tās, -tātem*: see -TY. The *γ* forms show the early reduction of *pouerté* to *pourté,* and so to *poorty* (cf. POOR). The same reduction of the first syllable is seen in the Sc. form *purteth,* POORTITH, from OF. *pouretet.*

Here, as in the early forms of POOR, the ambiguity of *u* (*v*) before the 17th c. makes the pronunciation of many early forms uncertain. Some mod.F. dialects have *poureté, paureté,* and the original *v* was prob. vocalized or suppressed in some forms of OF., as the *γ* forms and the doublet POORTITH show that it was from the 14th c. in some ME. dialects.]

The condition or quality of being poor. (In senses 4-6 replaced to a great extent by POORNESS.)

I. 1. The condition of having little or no wealth or material possessions; indigence, destitution, want (in various degrees: see POOR *a.* 1).

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þer scal beon worldwunne, wiδ-uten pouerte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Alle sorie, þet wo & pouerte polieδ. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6073 (Cott.) And qua for

pouert [*so Fairf, Trin.*; *Gött.* pouerte] es be·hind. *Ibid.* 17117, I thold pouerd [*v. r.* pouert], pine, and scame. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 3 Forthi wil I of my pouert, Schau sum thing that I haf in hert. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 111 Was no pride on his apparail, ne no pouert noþer [B. VIII. 116 ne pouerte noyther]. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* iii, Foriugit was to pouert in exile. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 20/1 Whiche afore lyved in povert and miserye. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* D vj b, Hongre, thurst, cold, pouert, care.

β. *a* 1300 *Sarmun* xli. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 5 In wo and pine and pouerte..for as i sigge so hit sal be. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19058 (Gött.) Bihald on vs and se And vnderstand vr pouertte. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 551 And gret anoyis, and powerte [*rime* pite]. *a* 1430 *Chaucer's Melib.* P 598 (Har. MS.) Perfore clepeth Cassidore pouertee [*v. rr.* pouerte, pouert] the moder of ruyne. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 33 Pouertie in surete is better than richesse in fere. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvii. 8 With powertie I hald him schent. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 b, The thre vowes, obedyence, chastite, and wylfull pouerty. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xcvi. 312 Ther is no warre but it causeth pouerte. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1869) 165 Pouertée partth felowship, thats not trewe euer, Pouertie in beggers partth felowship neuer. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 9 Let no man hauing a fit plot plead pouerty in this case. 1798 MALTHUS *Popul.* III. v. (1806) II. 156 Almost all poverty is relative. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Nov. 3/2 Mr. Rowntree explains that of the 20,000 found to be living 'in poverty' in York, 13,000 are living in what he calls 'secondary poverty', which is defined as meaning that the income of the family 'would be sufficient for the maintenance of merely physical efficiency, were it not that some portion is absorbed by other expenditure either useful or wasteful'.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 766 Sir, purte me in sic assay Has set, þat na man wil for me Borcht na detoure noþir be. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxiii, He..was owte of the cuntray for pourte fledde. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 224 Thay passit by with handis plett; With purtye fra I wes ourtane. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xi. (Arb.) 173 Figures of rabbate..From the middle, as to say *paraunter* for *parauenture*, *poorety* for *pouertie*, *souraigne* for *soueraigne*.

† **b.** Formerly also in *pl.* (Cf. *hardships*.) *rare.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxv. 224 Ye paynes, trauelles, and pouertyes that I enduryd. *Ibid.* cxxxi. 482 When I remembre the paynes, and dolours, and pouerties, that by my cause ye suffer. 1574 R. SCOT *Hop Gard.* To Rdr., It were better..that Straungers shoulde enuie our prosperities, than our Friendes shoulde pittie our pouerties.

c. *fig.* in allusion to Matt. v. 3.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 13 Þay arn happen [= happy] þat han in hert pouerté. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 778 Ne Helye ne Austen swiche lijf neuer vsed, But in pouerte of spirit spended her tyme. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* I. xi. 278 Poverty of Spirit is an Abstraction of the Mind from the Mean and Despicable Trifles of the World.

d. Personified and applied to a person, or persons generally, in whom it is exemplified.

1813 BYRON *Giaour* xi, Alike must Wealth and Poverty Pass heedless and unheeding by. 1887 LOWELL *Democr.* 28 Poverty pays with its person the chief expenses of war, pestilence and famine. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Christmas No. 147 Several loaves..to be distributed..to whatsoever of orthodox poverty the..parish may enclose.

† **2.** *transf. The poverty*: the poor collectively or as a class. (Cf. *the laity, the quality.*) *Obs.*

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* III. 1487 Pray for knyhthod..Pray for the lawe..Pray for the plowh, pray for the pouerte. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 731 (MS. Rawlinson) To lord & to lady, & to pouert [*MS. Arundel* povert] lowe, Full foyson was þere, to eueri man. 1537 J. LONDON in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 80 The multytude of the poverty of the Town resortyd thedyr. .1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. iv. 188 If to the Parish pouerty, At his wisht death, be dol'd a half-penny.

II. 3. Deficiency, lack, scantiness, dearth, scarcity; smallness of amount.

1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* vi. 32 He that is avouter schal leese his soule, for the pouert of herte. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 331 Yf vyne abounde In leef & haue of fruyt but pouerte. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. xix. 180 Attributable ..to the poverty of modern literature at that time. 1895 H. P. ROBINSON *Men Born Equal* 66 The poverty and crudity of the available supply of domestic help.

4. Deficiency in the proper or desired quality; inferiority, paltriness, meanness: = POORNESS 3. (In quot. *c* 1600 = poor or inferior matter.)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 11, I knewe myn owne pouert, and schamede..after so noble spekers..to putte forþ my bareyn speche. 1597 BACON *Ess., Coulers Good & Evill* v. (Arb.) 146 By imputing to all excellencie in compositions a kind of pouertie or..a casualty or ieopardy. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* ciii, Alack, what pouerty my Muse brings forth, That hauing such a skope to show her pride, The argument all bare is of more worth Than when it hath my added praise beside. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. § 3 The poverty of your understanding. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 161 The peculiar quality of tone commonly called poverty, as opposed to richness, arises from the upper partials being comparatively too strong for the prime tone. 1883 MACFADYEN in *Congregat. Year Bk.* 73 The poverty of the parsonage is often reflected in the poverty of the pulpit.

5. Want of or deficiency *in* some property, quality, or ingredient; the condition of being poorly supplied with something; (of soil, etc.) the condition of yielding little, unproductiveness.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 270 And yf pouerte appere in their sellis, That robbeth hem, wel worthi go to helle is. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* May 279 Its desolate aspect and its poverty,..although..covered with pines and scrub. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* v. 209 The extraordinary poverty of north and north-eastern Africa in river-producing power.

6. Poor condition of body; leanness or feebleness resulting from insufficient nourishment, or the like.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccIxxii. 613 Sometyme they coulde get nothynge for money, so that their horses dyed for pouertie and colde. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 69 The ewes..wyll not take the ramme at the time of the yere, for pouertye, but goo barreyne. 1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 7 A strict Emaciating Diet..doth first bring Men to great Poverty and Leannesse by wasting the Juyces and Humours of the Body. 1731–3 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* 6 D/1 The Trees are render'd more vigorous and healthy, scarcely ever having any Moss or other Marks of Poverty. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife*, etc. 284 The ox..will..from mere maliciousness die of 'poverty'.

† **7.** Alleged name for a company of pipers. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f vj b, A Pauuerty of pypers.

III. 8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *poverty line*; *poverty-hardened*, *-smitten* (= next), adjs.; also in names of plants growing in poor soil, or supposed to impoverish the soil, as **poverty-grass**, (*a*) a N. American grass, *Aristida dichotoma*; (*b*) = **poverty-plant**, a small North American heath-like shrub, *Hudsonia tomentosa* (N.O. *Cistaceæ*); **poverty-weed**, in I. of Wight, purple cow-wheat, *Melampyrum arvense*, = COW-WHEAT 1.

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Poverty-weed*, purple cow-wheat. A weed growing in corn, having a fine large flower, yellow, pale red, and purple; it is very injurious, and betokens a poor, light, stony soil. 1864 THOREAU *Cape Cod* 20 A moss-like plant, *Hudsonia tomentosa*.., called 'poverty-grass', because it grew where nothing else would. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Aristida dichotoma*, Poverty-grass. 1891 T. STEVENS *Through Russia* xv. 242 This, among the poverty-hardened moujiks was..not to be expected, nor desired. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Apr. 10/1 The effect of the Bill..has been to bring to the surface all the poverty-smitten old age of the colony, all the human wrecks. 1904 *Ibid.* 22 Dec. 2/2 West Ham..contains a huge population of workers, many of whom are, even in normal times, very little above the poverty line.

Po·verty-stri·cken, *a.* Stricken or afflicted with poverty; suffering from poverty; reduced to great poverty; extremely poor or destitute.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* XV, Badged and ticketed as an utterly poverty-stricken man. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. iv. 27 A wretched poverty-stricken room.

fig. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 44 If you profess ..the possession of the pure truth, do not appear to be so poverty-stricken as to array your thoughts in the tatters of the cast-off Bible. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* V. 101 A language so poverty-stricken as the Chinese.

Po·verty-struck, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* = prec.

1813 SIR R. WILSON *Pr. Diary* II. 210 This [Fulda] is an old town,.. poverty-struck by the war, pillaged by the passing enemy, and replete with misery. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1862) 3 The cypress is a magnificent ornament to the gardens of the south of Europe;..is respectable in the south of England; shabby-genteel higher up the island; in the north, miserable and poverty-struck.

† **Povilion,** obs. erron. f. PAVILION (sense 12).

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 60/2 The Povilion, the wide end of the trumpett. *Ibid.* 62/1 The Povilion Barr.

† **Povin,** obs. Sc. var. *pown*, PAWN, peacock.

1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 97 For the feding of ij crannis and the povins in the castell of Striveling.

Pow (pou, pau). *Sc.* [A phonetic representative of earlier Sc. *poll*: see POOL *sb.*[1] Cf. Gael. *poll*, perh. the immediate source; and, for phonology, *bow*, *knowe*, *pow*, from *boll*, *knoll*, *poll* (head).] Local name for 'A slow-moving rivulet, generally in carse lands'; also a small creek where such a rivulet falls into a river or estuary, affording a landing-place for boats, esp. on the Forth; hence a wharf or quay on such a creek, as the *Pow of Alloa*, *of Clackmannan* (Jamieson).

(Pow in Sir W. Scott's ed. of Sir Tristram is an error for *polk*, PULK.)

[1483 Found in place-n. *Powfoulis*, near Airth, Stirlingsh.] 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 490 The country is intersected in different places by small tracts of water, called pows, which move slowly from the N. to the S. side of the carse. 1793 *Ibid.* VIII. 595 The quay..runs within the land, and forms a pow, or small creek, where the rivulet..falls into the river [Forth]. 1824 *Caledon. Mercury* 24 Jan. (Jam.), A cargo of peats from Ferintosh was discharged this week at Cambus Pow. 1866 *N. B. Daily Mail*, The only interruptions being an occasional 'pow', by which name curiously enough the streamlets are known.

Pow, phonetic repr. of PAAUW, S. Afr. bustard.

1892 *Daily News* 8 Mar. 5/3 Shooting in all two quagga, two koodoo,..and a pow,..an enormous bird, standing about 4ft. high, chiefly body.

Pow, Sc. and north. dial. var. POLL *sb.*[1] head; Sc. f. PULL; obs. f. POOH, *int.* **Powah,** obs. f. POWWOW. **Powair,** obs. Sc. f. POWER. **Powaix, -ax,** obs. Sc. ff. POLE-AX.

Powan (pōu·wăn, pōu·ăn). Also 8 poan. [A Scotch form of POLLAN, the two fishes being formerly identified.] A species of fresh-water fish, *Coregonus clupeoides*, found in Loch Lomond in Scotland (where locally known also as *Luss Herring*), in Windermere and Ulleswater (where known as the *Schelly*), in Conningham Mere, and in Bala Lake (where called *Gwyniad*). It belongs to the same genus as the Vendace and the Pollan, with which it was formerly identified, and is still often confused, under the name *Freshwater Herring*: see quots. 1774–7.

1633 MONIPENNIE *Abridgem. Scots. Chron.* N iv b, Loch [Lomond], besides abundance of other fishes, hath a kind of fish of the owne, named, Powan, very pleasant to eate. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 28 Aug., Powans [are] a delicate kind of fresh-water herring peculiar to this lake [Lomond]. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1769 (ed. 3) 225 Besides the fish common to the Loch [Lomond] are Guiniads, called here Poans. 1777 — in Lightfoot *Flora Scot.* (1792) I. 61 Guiniad—Found in Loch-Mabon; called in those parts the Vendace and Juvangis; and in Loch Lomond, where it is called the Poan. [Now specifically distinguished from the Vendace of Lochmaben.] 1859 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 315 M. Valenciennes..thinks that the powan is not a continental species. *Ibid.* 317 Although agreeing in the number of finrays with the pollan of Ireland, this Loch Lomond fish is at once distinguished from it by the peculiar form of its mouth. 1865 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* IV. 295. 1896 *N. B. Daily Mail* 9 June 5 A powan which scaled 1lb 9oz and measured 1ft 6in in length—a record size for this species.

Powar(e (Sc.), **Poware,** obs. ff. POWER, POOR.

† **Powart,** Sc. corr. *powhead*, POLEHEAD, tadpole.

1633 *Fife Witch Trial* in *Statist. Acc. Scot.* (1796) XVIII. App. 655 She hoped to see the powarts bigg in his hair.

Powawe, obs. f. POWWOW. **Powce,** obs. f. PULSE *sb.*[1] (of the blood). **Powch(e,** obs. f. POUCH.

Powder (pau·dəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: 3–6 **poudre**, 4 **pudre, puder**, 4–6 **powdre**, (4 **-dir**, 4–5 **-dyr**, 5 **-dur**), 4–8 **pouder**, (4–5 **-ere**, **-ur**, 4–6 **-ir**, 5 **-ire**), 4– **powder**; also 4–6 **pouldre**, 5–6 **pulder** (6 **-dre**, *Sc.* **-dir**, **-dyr**), 5–7 **poulder** (6 *Sc.* **-dar**), 6–7 **powlder**. *β.* 5 **pouþer**, 5–6 (9 *Sc.*) **pouther**, 6–7 (8 *Sc.*) **powther**. [ME. a. F. *poudre* (13th c.) :—earlier OF. *poldre*, *puldre*:—*polre* (11–12th c.) :—L. *pulver-em* (in nom. *pulvis*, whence It. *polve*, Sp. *polvo*, Pr. *pols*) dust. In 15–16th c. F. usually spelt *pouldre* (*l* re-inserted after L.); so, in 15–17th c. Eng., *poulder*, etc. With *pouther* cf. Sc. *shouther* = *shoulder*; also *father*, *mother*, *gather*, *hither*, with ð for d before *-er*.]

1. Any solid matter in a state of minute subdivision; the mass of dry impalpable particles or granules produced by grinding, crushing, or disintegration of any solid substance; dust. (Cf. DUST *sb.*[1] 1, 3 a.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 477/532 And brenden al-to poudre feor fram euerech toune. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6616 (Cott.) þis golden calf he did to brest to pudre [*Gött.* poudir]. 13.. *Ibid.* 20731 (Fairf.) Bren hit to powdre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 109 He sende, and him to pouldre smot. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 25 He brynnes him self all to powder. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xii. 44 The bodyes..conuerted in-to poulder. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 44 He shall grynd him to powder [1535 COVERDALE to poulder]. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 77 b, Fryed or layde on a burning hote stone, & made in powlder. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* III b, I will..crushe thy hedde to powther. *Ibid.* 269 b, Sodainly crummed to dust & pouther. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 21 Vas it nocht brynt in puldir ande asse? 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, To grinde hem into poulder. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 8 Dissected into parts, not beaten into pouder. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 46 There is fall of water..so violent, that breaking upon the Rocks, it is reduc'd as it were to powder. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 182 Clear your glass..from the powder that may lie upon it. 1853 W. GREGORY *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 3) 226 Peroxide of Nickel..It is a black powder. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 183 If there are laws against my having my own, to powder with the laws!

† **b.** *spec.* Earth in the state of dry impalpable particles; the dust of the ground. Often in phrases denoting a condition of humiliation, or of being dead and buried. (Cf. DUST *sb.*[1] 1, 3 a, 3 c.) *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7080 Vol of þe poudre of þe erþe. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xliii. [xliv.] 27 Our soule is lowed in poudre. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* vii. 21 Lo, nowe in pouder [1388 dust] I slepe. — *Isa.* xlvii. 1 Go doun, sit in pouder [1388 in dust], thou maiden dogter of Babilon. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xciii. 297 The sonne lost his lyght by reason of the pouder that rose vp in to the ayre.

† **c.** The material substance of which the animal body is regarded as created or composed, and to which it returns when decomposed; also, the mouldered remains of a dead body, or the ashes of one that is burnt. (Cf. DUST *sb.*[1] 3 a, b.) *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 929 (Cott.) þou nees bot a pudre [*v.r.* pouder] plain, To puder sal þou worth a-gain. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 19 For powdre thow art, and into powdre thow shalt turne [1388 dust]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 83 Of kyng Haralde Poudre þere ȝit is halde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. viii. 82 Out of thise asshes and pouldre groweth agayn another byrde. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 194 Scho departit..to Rome, berand with hir the powder of thair fader, in ane goldin poke. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5170 Thy vyle corruptit carioun Sall..remane, in pulder small, On to the Iugement Generall.

d. Applied to the pollen of flowers, or to the spores of *Lycopodium*. (Cf. DUST *sb.*[1] 1 c.)

1676 LISTER in *Ray's Corr.* (1848) 124, I..put them [Lycopodiums] in a box, and found they shed their powder of themselves. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 215 The Pollen..consists in almost all cases of a fine powder composed of microscopic vesicles. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* I. i. 8 The fine powder is the pollen.

2. A preparation in the form of powder, for some special use or purpose. (See also 3.)

a. In medicine, etc.; formerly (usually) a corrosive, stimulant, etc. for external application; in later use, a medicine, or a dose of medicine, to be

taken internally, usually in some liquid or semi-liquid vehicle.

Often named after the inventor or introducer, or from the purpose, as *Dover's powder*, JAMES's *powder*, JESUIT's *powder*, PORTLAND *powder*, *worm powder*, etc.

1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Verst he ssel þerto do þe smeringes and þe plastres of zuete warningges...þe poudres efterward and prekiinde of harde wyþminge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 357 The plastres of þe persoun and poudres biten to sore. *a* 1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 143 A good powdyr. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* A j, With waters dystyllyd, all maner of confeccyons, syropes, powders, and electuaryes be myxced. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* II. i, Giue me some wine, and poulder for my teeth. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 55 We are constrayned to inhibite and restrayne the increase with corrasiue Liniments and poulders. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* iv. (1642) 270 Mariamne had dealt with..his Cup-bearer, to give him a powder in his wine, which she said was a Love potion. 1695 tr. *Colbatch's New Lt. Chirurg. Put out* 23 Neither Tincture, Solution, nor Pouder. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 235 Such an one has great faith in Ward's pill, or James' powder. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 691 The lighter powders may be mixed in any agreeable thin liquor, as tea or water-gruel. 1865 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) III. 265 When I had finished the antifebrile powders.

b. In alchemy or magic. *Powder of* PROJECTION, *powder of* SYMPATHY: see these words.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 580, I haue a poudre heer þat coste me deere Shal make al good for it is cause of al My konnyng. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, You must be chiefe? as if you, onely, had The poulder to proiect with? 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* b viij b, That he doth really possess its true (and no imaginary) pouder of production, That of Hermes Trismegistos. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v. *Projection*, The pretended casting of the Powder of the Philosopher's Stone into a Crucible of melted Metal, in order to change it into Gold or Silver, is call'd Projection.

†**c.** Powdered salt, spice, or other condiment, for seasoning or preserving food. (Cf. POWDER *v.*[1] 1, 2.) Also *fig.* *Obs.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 3070 And soden ful hastely, With powdyr and with spysory. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 620 þe fische in a dische..With vineger & powdur þer vppon. *a* 1555 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1755/1 Haue I bene..so muche, as it were seasoned with the powder of so many experiences? 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Asserno*, *Sale vel in sale asseruare carnes*, to kepe meate in pouder. 1640 C. HARVEY *Synagogue, Return* (1647) 25 He that his joyes would keep, Must weep, And in the brine of tears And fears, Must pickle them. That powder will preserve.

d. A cosmetic in the form of powder applied to the face or skin; also HAIR-POWDER.

a 1572 JEWEL *On* 1 *Thess.* i. 7 Wks. II. 825 Such as are bathed or perfumed with precious ointments or poulders. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *Poems* (1640) 8 For, in pure love, Heaven did prepare Those powders to enrich your hair! 1663 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* Wks. (1672) 9 Our Powders and our Purls Are now out of fashion. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 5 P 11 The hair has lost its powder. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 417, I had some grains of marechale powder in my hair. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* i, We wore powder in those days. 1883 MRS. R. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* i. 6 An oval miniature, belonging to the times of powder and of puff. 1897 R. S. HICHENS *Londoners* (1902) 8 The footman looked pleased beneath his powder.

e. With *of* and the name of the substance.

† *Powder of post*: the powder of a worm-eaten post; also used as the type of a neutral and worthless medicine.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 96 A corde..Whan it with poudre is so besein Of Sulphre. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 30 Take powder of galingale, and temper with alle; Powder of gyngere and salt also. *c* 1440 *Douce MS.* 55 lf. 31 b, Kest ther to a litell powdre of pepyr. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 286 The powder of Myrrhe or burnt silk, felt, or cloth, or any old post. 1710 J. CLARKE *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* (1729) I. 139, I ordered the Third to put his upon the Wheel, and grind it plain..with Powder of Emery. 1769 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 258 Beware of swallowing ounce after ounce of indigestible powder, though it were powder of post. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 59 One of the powder-of-posts which the *Pharmacopœia*..is full of. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 95 In a tea-spoonful of honey..mix a drachm of powder of tin. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* (1851) II. vii. 101 The grubs of the law have gnawed into us, and we are all powder-post. 1860 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 639 Powder of algaroth.

†**f.** Followed by qualifying words, in names of drugs, flavouring powders, etc. *Obs.*

Powder marchant, a tart kind of flavouring powder. *Powder of prelinpinpin, powder pimp a lim pimp, pimperlim-pimp, powder le pimp*, a pretended magical powder used by conjurers; hence allusively. [= F. *poudre de perlimpinpin* (in Richelet 1680 *poudre de prelinpinpin*).]

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 381 And poudre Marchant tart and galyngale. *c* 1440 *Anc. Cookery* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 425 Colour hit wyth saffron, and do therto pouder marchant. *Ibid.* 426 Put therto pouder douce. 1534 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 190 Powder Holand. 1688 *Vox Cleri pro Rege* 55 By virtue of their Powder pimp a lim pimp, he is changed again into a limited Prince. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* V. 238 Masters in the Art of Hocus Pocus's, Legerdemain, and Powder of Prelinpinpin [*Joüeurs de passe-passe*]. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iv. 97 Peter would put in a certain Quantity of his Powder Pimperlim-pimp, after which it never failed of Success. 1737 [MORGAN] *Moral Philos.* I. 96 This clerical Religion is a new Thimble and Button, or a Powder le Pimp.

3. = GUNPOWDER 1.

[1339, xxxii libræ de pulvere pro dictis Instrumentis: see GUN *sb.* 1.] *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 554 As swifte as pelet out of gonne Whan fire is in the poudre ronne. *a* 1460 *Gregory's Chron.* in *Coll. Citizen L.* (Camden) 118 Schottys, powder, gonnys. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 141 b, Poulder failed in the fortresse. 1570 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 88 Bothwell with pulder blew him in the air. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 68 Fined corned Powder for hand Guns. 1795 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 19, I have sent Officers and Men to get the powder out of the Censeur. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, And for the pouther, I e'en changed it, as occasion served,..for gin and brandy. 1818–25 Percussion powder [see PERCUSSION 5]. 1901 *Scotsman* 14 Mar. 7/3 The Explosives Committee.. are now desirous of obtaining all the information..about the new powders that are being brought out by inventors.

b. *Powder and shot*, the matériel expended in warfare; hence, the cost or effort expended for some result; *food for powder*: see FOOD *sb.* 1 d; *the smell of powder*, actual experience of fighting; etc.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse, Apol.* (Arb.) 75 When I spare not to greete them with poulder and shot, answeares mee againe with a false fire. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 484 [To] spend all their powder and shot to the beating downe of that, which I hope they shal neuer bee able to ouerthrow. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 160 You..imagine that all His threatnings are but 'bruta fulmina', empty cracks and powder without shot. 1776 FOOTE *Bankrupt* II. Wks. 1799 II. 115 Meagre mechanics, fellows not worth powder and shot. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry and Prayer* Postscr. iii, Their gun's a burden on their shouther; They downa bide the stink o' powther. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. x. P 2 A novice, not yet accustomed to the smell of powder. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* I. iv, 'I have great faith in your canvassing,.. but still, at the same time, the powder and shot—' 'Are essential', said Lady Marney, 'I know it, in these corrupt days'.

†**4.** *Her.* (*pl.*) Spots or minor charges with which the field is 'powdered' (see POWDER *v.*[1] 4).

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 131 The sixth doublyng is called Pean, whiche is the field Sable, and the pouders Or.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** General Combs. (chiefly in sense 3), as attrib., *powder-barrel, -canister, -dust, -maker, -measure, -smoke*; instrumental, as *powder-black, -charged, -grey, -laden, -like, -marked, -pocked, -scorched, -stained, -tinged* adjs.

1769 *Powder-barrel [see POWDER-BAG]. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 12 Children play with lucifer-matches amongst powder-barrels. 1857 THORNBURY *Songs Cavaliers & Roundh.* 20 *Powder-black, bleeding lads, hungry and torn. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Jan. 7/3 The cost and weight of guns to fire such *powder-charged shells would be so enormous. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 71 They will spring in any ground, and bee nurished in fine earth like to *pouder dust. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 7 Sept. 8/3 *Powder-grey and thistle-purple sackcloth are two of his present lures. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 178 The land in a *powder-like state. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 205 Quheill makaris, smythis, and *powder makaris. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4829/4 Henry Bosseville of Hounslow,..Powder-maker. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 176 Adjust the *powder measure, put the powder into a basin, take up a full measure. 1857 THORNBURY *Songs Cavaliers* 19 Jenkin was *powder-scorched, black as a Turk. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 321 The befizzled, *powder-tinged attendant.

b. Special Combs.: **†powder-beater**, a pounder of spices, etc. (see sense 2 c); **powder beef**, powdered or salted beef; **powder-blower** (see quot.); **powder-cart**, a covered cart for carrying gunpowder for artillery; **powder-chamber**, (*a*) the cavity in a gun which contains the charge of powder; (*b*) an underground chamber in which gunpowder and bombs are stored; **†powder-corn**, a grain of gunpowder; **powder division**, a division of the crew of a man-of-war detailed to supply ammunition during action; **†powder ermine**, ? the white fur of the ermine 'powdered' with black spots (cf. ERMINE *sb.* 2, 4, and POWDER *v.* 5); **powder-flag**, the red flag carried by a *powder-hoy*, or hoisted on a ship when taking in or discharging gunpowder; **powder gas**, the gas evolved in the explosion of gunpowder; **powder-gun**, (*a*) = *powder-blower*, INSECT-*gun*; (*b*) a gun in which gunpowder is used, as distinguished from an air-gun; **powder-hose**, a fuse for firing a mine, consisting of a tube of strong linen filled with a combustible; **powder-house**, a building for storing gunpowder; **powder-hoy** (see quot.); **†powder-instrument**, a fire-arm; **powder-knife**, a blunt knife formerly used to scrape off hair-powder from the skin; **powder-lime**, lime in the state of powder, powdered lime; **powder-magazine**, a place where gunpowder is stored in a fort or on board ship: = MAGAZINE *sb.* 2 b; **powder-mill**, a mill for making gunpowder; **powder-mine**, a mine (MINE *sb.* 3) filled with gunpowder; **powder-paper**, paper impregnated with chlorate and other salts of potassium, powdered charcoal, and a little starch, used as a substitute for gunpowder; **powder-plot** (now *rare*), the GUNPOWDER Plot; so **powder-plotter, powder-plotting** *a.*; **†powder-poke** = POWDER-BAG; **powder-post** = *powder of post* (see 2 e); **powder-pot** = FIRE-POT **a**; **powder-prover**, an apparatus for measuring the explosive force of gunpowder, an éprouvette; **powder-room**, a room on board ship in which the gunpowder is stored, the powder-magazine in a ship; **powder-scuttle**, a small opening in the deck of a ship for conveying gunpowder from the powder-room; **powder-shoot**, 'a canvas tube for conveying empty powder-boxes from the gun-deck of a ship to a lower deck' (*Cent. Dict.*); **†powder-shop**, a shop for the sale of hair-powder and other cosmetics, a perfumer's shop; **powder-spot**, a spot on the skin produced by gunpowder (cf. *gunpowder spot* s. v. GUNPOWDER 4); **powder sugar**, sugar in the form of powder, powdered or crushed sugar; hence **†powder-sugar** *v.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*), to sprinkle with powder sugar (or some similar substance); **powder-tax**, a tax upon hair-powder; **†powder-traitor**, one of the conspirators in the 'powder-treason'; **†powder-treason** (= *gunpowder treason*), the Gunpowder Plot; **powder-trier** = *powder-prover*. Also POWDER-BAG, etc.

1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 20* Th'office of the Spicery.. Alexandre Rowton, Yoman *Pouderbeter. 1601 *Ibid.* 295 The Yeoman powder-beater hath for his fees, all the bagges and boxes,.. and all the barrells once emptied. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 291 My *powder-beef-slave, I'll have a rump of beef for thee. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist, Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 110 A world of carts and wagonns, loaden with powder-beefe. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Powder-blower*, an instrument for blowing powder on to plants or into crevices infested by insects. 1884 *Ibid.* Supp., *Powder Blower.* (Surgical.) An instrument for blowing a powder upon a part. 1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. VII. v, But civlyzation does git forrid Sometimes upon a *powder-cart. 1899 T. S. BALDOCK *Cromwell as Soldier* 92 A passing powder-cart blew up. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 18 The *powder-chamber will .. hold a charge of 900 lb. *Ibid.* 23 In all breechloaders..the powder-chamber is larger than the bore of the gun. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, Your complexion..Stuck full of black, and melancholique wormes, Like *poulder-cornes, shot, at th' artillerie-yard. 1534 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 207 A mantell for our lady of cloth of tysseu purfild aboute wt *powther armyn. 1536 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 45 A robe of crimson velvett furred with poudre ermyns. 1872 PREBLE *Hist. Flag* (1880) 676 A *Powder Flag—A plain red flag hoisted at the fore, denoting the vessel is taking in or discharging powder. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 21 To prevent the escape of *powder gas an elastic steel cap is fitted on the front of the breech-screw. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Powder-gun*, an instrument for diffusing insect-powder. 1832 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* III. 420 A communication [was] formed to them with *powder hoses placed between tiles. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 199 Two powder-hoses may be placed within 18 inches of one another, if covered with earth, and produce separate explosions. 1774 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 157/2 A party of troops..took possession of the powder in the *powder house. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Powder-hoy*, an ordnance vessel expressly fitted to convey powder from the land magazine to a ship; it invariably carries a red distinguishing flag. 1613 WITHER *Abuses Stript* II. iv. S iv b, The Law, that now preuents, And bars the vse of *pouder Instruments. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 7) 243 Using a *powder-knife which has so broad an edge that it grounds the powder into your skin. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 185, I..tried a quantity of *powder-lime that had fallen from a stone imperfectly burnt. 1769 *Powder magazine [see POWDER-BAG]. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 311 To remove a lighted match from its dangerous proximity to a powder-magazine. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* VII. 40 These *Powder-Milles used to be distant from Townes. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Times* Wks. (Bohn) II. 118 We walked with some circumspection, as if we were entering a powder-mill. *c* 1622 FORD, etc. *Witch Edmonton* v. i, Like a swift *Powder-Mine beneath the world, Up would I blow it. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp., **Powder Paper*, a substitute for gunpowder, invented in England...It is 5–16 stronger than gunpowder. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigrams* xcii, Of the *poulder-plot, they will talke yet. 1687–8 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 348, 5th Nov. being ye Powder Plott. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. viii, Levelled Cannon, Guy-Faux powder-plots (for that too was spoken of). 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xxxii. § 3 If *powder-plotters, or publique Assasinates may be dignified with titles of Saints. 1653 BAXTER *Worc. Petit. Def.* 34 *Powder Plotting Papists. 1532 *Acc. L. H. Tr. Scot.* VI. 155 Item, deliverit to thame [gunners] vj *pulder pokis. 1538 *Ibid.* VII. 112 For polder pokis of violat to lay amang the Kingis claithis. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 116 The Portugalls..throwing on them such and so many Granadoes and burning fire-balls, *powder-pots, and scalding Lead. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Powder-prover.* See *Ballistic Pendulum*; *Eprouvette.* 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 13 It is..very dangerous lying ouer the *Powder-roome. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 239 Now and then a loud explosion announced that the flames had reached a powder room. 1687 T. BROWN *Lib. of Consc.* in *Dk. Buckhm.'s Wks.* (1705) II. 129 You think my Trade a Nuisance, I like it better, than a *Powder-Shop. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5957/3 A blue *Powder-Spot under his Left Eye. 1624 *Althorp MS.* p. lvi. in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App., *Powther sugar 2 barrells. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 103 The Juices taken from Sugar-Canes are thicken'd, to make Powder-Sugar. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iii. 84 She *powder-sugar'd it with a little burnt Allum. 1794 J. MOSER (*title*) The Meal Tub Plot; or, Remarks on the *Powder Tax, by a Barber. 1861 THORNBURY *Turner* (1862) I. 163 The powder-tax that the Tories imposed in 1795..drove out wigs. 1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* Wks. (Grosart) II. 123 An Act against King-Killers, *Powder-Traitors, and their Abetters. 1731 T. COX *Magna Brit.* VI. 228/2 His Zeal in apprehending..the Powder Traitors. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 442 An euident instant whereof we haue had in the *powder-treason; a deuice, which a man would thinke the diuell himselfe should be ashamed to father. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iv. 57 The powder-treason..struck a panic into James I. which operated in different ways. 1667 SIR R. MORAY in *Phil. Trans.* II. 476 The Strength of the Powder must be examin'd by a *Powder-Tryer. 1781 THOMPSON *ibid.* LXXI. 298 All the eprouvettes, or powder-triers, in common use are defective.

Pow·der, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 pouder, 9 *dial.* pooder. [Origin unascertained. Identity with POWDER[1] is, from the sense, improbable;

the phonology separates it from POTHER.] An impetus, a rush; force, impetuosity. Chiefly in phr. *with* (dial. *at, in*) *a powder*, impetuously, violently.

c 1600 *Club Law* (1907) III. iv. 1295 Ile sett you in with a powder. ([Stage direction] *hee fells him.*) ?1640 *New Sermon of newest Fashion* (1877) 39 If I might have my will itt should goe downe with a pouder. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* v. v. 151 Jordan .. comes down with a powder, and at set times overflowes all his bankes. 1663 WATERHOUSE *Comm. Fortescue* 515 Then in came the French, with a powder as we say, and everything was done and said *a la mode de France*. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1055 When th' heard a knocking at the Gate, Laid on in hast with such a powder, The blows grew louder still and louder. *c* 1780 in S. Gilpin *Songs* (Cumbld.) (1866) 275 Heame set he in a powder. 1878 *Cumberld. Gloss., Pooder*, hurry: Off he went in sic a pooder. 1898 B. KIRKBY *Lakeland Words* s.v., He was gaan at a tremendous pooder.

Pow·der, *v.*[1] Forms: see POWDER *sb.*[1] [a. F. *poudre-r* to cover with powder (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *poudre*: see POWDER *sb.*[1] In some senses, prob. immediately from the Eng. sb.]

I. To sprinkle or treat with powder, or something in the state of powder.

†**1.** *trans.* To sprinkle (food) with a condiment of powdery nature; to season, spice. *Obs.*

c 1305 *Land Cokaygne* 110 Þe leuerokes .. Liȝtiþ adun to manis muþ .. Pudrid wiþ gilofre and canel. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1402 Seththe sche brouȝt hom in haste, Ploverys poudryd in paste.

† **b.** *fig.* To mix with some qualifying or modifying ingredient; to 'season'; to 'alloy'. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Sarmun* vii. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 2 Þi felle wiþ-oute nis bot a sakke ipudrid ful wiþ drit and ding. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 58 All þis speche is poudrid with gabbinge. 1534 TINDALE *Col.* iv. 6 Let youre speache be all wayes well favoured and be powdred with salt. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 270 Framed to him a very thankefull message, powdring it with some hope-giuing phrases. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Berks.* (1662) 98 Powdering their lives with improbable passages, to the great prejudice of truth. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 140 The opiate potion of amnesty, powdered with all the ingredients of scorn.

2. To sprinkle the flesh of animals with salt or powdered spice, esp. for preserving; to salt; to 'corn'; to cure. ? *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1389 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 49 In ij salmon poudrt, ijs. *xd.* *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 46 In beef daily or moton, fresh, or elles all poudred is more availe, *5d.* 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 271 Olde beefe..moderatly powderyd, that the groose blode by salte may be exhaustyd. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 27 Inuoluinge with cereclothe and pouderinge with spyces the body. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. vi. 98 Thei poudre them [Locustes] with salte, and..liue by none other foode. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 153 The Tubbes that you poulder in, must bee such as haue had Oyle in. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cornwall* (1662) 194 Imploying a power of poor people .. in Powdering, and Drying them [Pilchards]. 1715 PRIOR *Down-Hall* 79 She roasted red veal, and she powder'd lean beef. *c* 1830 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Houlston Tracts* III. No. 81. 4 My good girl,..just powder me that ham, or dish me those turnips.

† **b.** *fig.* To preserve, keep, store *up. Obs.*

1614 R. TAILOR *Hog Hath Lost Pearl* I. i. B iij, If you haue powdred vp my plot in your sconce, you may home sir. 1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 27 All Spirituall Meat is not..for our present spending and feeding thereon, but (as good Husbands) we are to powder up some for the time to come. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. vi. 434 That horrible Leviathan which is powder'd up I know not where against the manifestation of the Messias.

3. To sprinkle powder upon; to besprinkle or cover *with* or as *with* some powdery substance. (In first quot., to sprinkle with dust.)

c 1350 *Story of Holy Rood* 117 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 65 Þou sal..Fall to erth and powder þe, And pray god haue mercy on me. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Powderyd wythe powder, *pulveriatus*. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 31 Which lightly couer or poulder with earth in that place where they most swarm. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 581 The Galaxie, that Milkie way Which nightly as a circling Zone thou seest Pouderd with Starrs. 1883 SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* I. 1 Ridges powdered with light snow. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 870 It is a good plan after washing the feet to powder them..with boric acid.

b. To apply powder to (the hair, etc.) as a cosmetic. Also with the person as obj.; also *absol.* or *intr.* for *refl.*

1599 [see POWDERING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* I. i, Still to be pou'dred, still perfum'd. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* II. i, She shall no oftener powder her hair, surfeil her cheeks, cleanse her teeth. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 2 P 2 He has his shoes rubb'd and his Perriwig powder'd at the Barber's. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 10 Edward and William were scrubbing and powdering to mount behind. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iii, 'A red nose..she can always powder it'. 'She would scorn to powder it', says Edwin. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 5 [One] who was not highly rouged and powdered.

c. To whiten (a fabric) by application of some white powdered substance.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., Lace which has grown yellow is powdered by being placed in a packet of white lead and beaten.

4. In heraldry and decorative art: To strew with a multitude of (isolated) small objects or figures of the same kind; to ornament with spots or small devices scattered over the surface; to sprinkle or spangle (a surface, etc.) *with*. Also *fig.* Usually in *pa. pple.*

13.. *Test. Christi* 221 (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXIX. 432 A cote-armour I bar wiþ me .. Poudret wiþ fyue roses rede. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5680 The champe of the feld was goules, Thik y-poudred with smale foules. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 54 The erthe taketh a newe cote..of fyn gras, powdred with floures of a hundred thousande maners of colours. 1536 *Regr. Riches* in *Antiq. Sarisb.* (1771) 198 Many copes, powdered with Lyons Ostrages Troifoils, Flower de Luces and dyvers Armes, in number sixteen. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn Chamarre broché de pourpre*, a garment poudred with purple studdes. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xv. 164 Nature.. Who seemes in that her pearle [the daisy] so greatly to delight That euery Plaine therewith she powdreth to beholde. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour Italy* 21 May, Delicious vineyards, gardens, &c., powdered with little white houses. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 415 Gold shoes powdered with pearls. 1882 HARE in *Gd. Words* Mar. 180 Soon the whole country becomes powdered with ruins.

b. With the decorative objects as subject.

1867 'OUIDA' *C. Castlemaine* (1879) 17 Daisies powdering the turf sodden with human blood.

II. 5. To sprinkle or scatter like powder; to strew here and there in a multitude of minute particles; to disperse here and there upon a surface, as a number of small ornamental figures repeated. Usually in *pa. pple.* (Correlative to 4.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 44 Gilofre, gyngure & gromylyoun, And pyonys powdered ay betwene. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 8 *Preamble*, The Sellers of such course Clothes..usen for to powder and cast Flokkys of fynner Cloth upon the same. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 40 Or quhar the schene lilleis in ony steid War pulderit wyth the vermel rosis reid. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* iv. (1892) 40 As for the Irishmen they are soe powdred among the Inhabitaunts .. that in euerye village you shall find the thirde, fourth, or fift housholder an Irishman. 1744 J. PATERSON *Comm. Milton's P. L.* 374 Prodigious clusters of small stars,.. poudered or cast close together, as it were dust sprinkled upon a floor. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., To powder violets on a silk ground.

III. To reduce or fall down to powder.

6. To reduce to powder; to pulverize.

15.., in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ix. 223 Lett all these be pouldered small, and cersed [sifted] fynely. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. vii. 33 The which pouldred he prescribeth to be taken in a reale egg. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 11 In the powdering such things as Jallop, Ipecacuanha, and the like. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. iv. 74 The vast enclosure of its brick walls..now almost powdered into dust.

7. *intr.* To fall to powder, become pulverized.

1846 WORCESTER, *Powder, v. n.* to fall to dust. 1864 WEBSTER, *Powder, v. i.*..to become like powder; as, some salts powder easily.

IV. †**8.** *trans.* To charge with gunpowder; cf. POWDERED 5. *Obs. rare.*

1643 *Public Confider* 8 Not with..powdering our guns.

Pow·der, *v.*[2] *colloq.* and *dial.* [f. POWDER *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To rush; to hurry with impetuosity and rushing speed: said esp. of a rider.

1632 QUARLES *Div. Fancies* I. lxvii, Zacheus climb'd the Tree: But O how fast,..(when Our Saviour called) he powder'd down agen! *c* 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 33 About 800 horse..come powdering towards the Cowes so fast. 1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i, The Dice powd'ring out of the Box. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* 3 Down comes a kite powdering upon them in the interim, and gobbles up both together. 1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ennui* vi, You'll take four [horses]..and you'll see how we'll powder along. 1857 THORNBURY *Songs Cavaliers & Roundh.* 115 And powdering fast, the men and horses Thundering swept down Frampton Hill. 1895 A. FORBES *Mem. of War & Peace* I. 23 All Belgrade, feverish for further news, rushed out into the street as I powdered along.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 47 The refusal came powdering from him by wholesale. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxix, 'I think I see 'un now, a powderin' awa' at the thin bread an' butther'.

Powderable (pau·dərăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. POWDER *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] Capable of being powdered: i. e. **a.** of being reduced to powder; friable, pulverizable; †**b.** of being salted or preserved (*obs.*).

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiii. (1686) 132 Nor do they become friable or easily powderable by Philosophical Calcination. 1766 ENTICK *London* (1776) I. 243 Corn, wine, powderable wares, fish.

†**Pow·deral,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. POWDER *sb.*[1] + -AL.] Of the nature of powder; powdery, pulverulent.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 52 No pulverous or powderall co-mixture doth tend to generation.

Pow·der-bag. A bag for holding powder: † **a.** ? for powdered salt or spices. *Obs.* **b.** for carrying gunpowder. **c.** for hair-powder.

1392–3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 152 Super officio salsarie..pro j pare powder-baggs, iiij d. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 160 To iij careage hors to cary the gunstanis, pulder baggis, and uthir necessaris. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) D d j, Cartridges..may be kept in the powder magazine.., in the empty powder-barrels and powder-bags. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) I. 7 The man who cleans boots is running in one direction, the barber with his powder-bag in another. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Powder-bags*, leathern bags containing from 20 to 40 lbs. of powder; substituted for petards at the instance of Lord Cochrane, as being more easily placed.

Pow·der-blue, *sb.* and *a.* [POWDER *sb.*[1] I.]

1. *sb.* Powdered smalt, esp. for use in the laundry.

1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4319/3 Out of the Prize, Name unknown, Smalt or Powder-Blue. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 194 Powder-blue, mix'd with the Saffron water, makes a Green. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 15 Great quantities of Smalt imported..are used under the name of Powder blue, in washing linen. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 151 A small quantity of fine powder-blue is sometimes added.

2. *adj.* Having the deep blue colour of smalt.

b. *sb.* A name for this colour.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 3/3 A gown of powder-blue serge. 1895 CLIVE HOLLAND *Jap. Wife* (ed. 11) 121 A dressing-gown robe of blue linen, with wide sleeves and an *obi* of powder-blue muslin. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 3/2 That melton cloth boasting a whitish surface that is very happy in powder blue, greens, and dark purples.

Pow·der-box. A box for holding powder. † **a.** A box for powdered spice or salt. *Obs.* **b.** A box for carrying or containing gunpowder. **c.** A box for toilet-powder, usually also containing a powder-puff. **d.** A box with small holes in the lid, for sprinkling powder or sand upon writing to prevent blotting; a pounce-box.

1403 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20, j. poudrebox. 1424 in *E. E. Wills* (1882) 57 Powderbox and salers of siluere. 1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1452/4 Two silver Powder-boxes with a large buckle engraved on the lid of them. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* III. i. 34 Betty, bring the Powder Box to your Lady. 1713 GAY *Fan* I. 129 There stands the Toilette.. The patch, the powder-box, pulville, perfumes.

Pow·der-boy. A boy employed on board ship to carry gunpowder from the powder-room to the guns; a 'powder-monkey'.

1805 in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II. 577, I acted both in the capacity of a commanding officer, mate, midshipman, small-arm-man, and powder-boy. 1829 MARRYAT *P. Mildmay* iii, The powder-boys, each with his box full, seated on it.

Pow·der-chest. **a.** A chest for holding gunpowder. **b.** A kind of petard charged with gunpowder, scrap iron, old nails, etc., fastened to the deck of a ship to be discharged at a boarding enemy.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xiii. 86 How to make Powder-Chests. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* I. II. xxvi. 167 Our danger was the greater, as the fire was about the powder-chest. 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Pow·der-down. [f. POWDER *sb.*[1] + DOWN *sb.*[2], rendering Ger. *puder-dunen* or *staub-dunen* (pl.), lit. powder-downs (i.e. down-plumules, 'down'), introduced 1840 by Nitzsch (*Pterylographie* vii).]

Name for peculiar down-feathers or plumules, found in various birds in definite tracts or patches: so called from the bluish-white powdery or scurfy substance into which they disintegrate; by Coues called *pulviplumes*. (Sometimes, less correctly, applied to the powder or scurf.) Also *attrib.*, as in *powder-down feathers, powder-down patch* or *tract*, a patch of powder-downs.

1861 A. D. BARTLETT in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 131 This has led me to the discovery of two remarkable powder-down patches. 1867 P. L. SCLATER tr. *Nitzsch's Pterylogr.* vii. 38 The powder-down-feathers are intruded among the lateral feathers of the great saddle of the spinal tract. 1894 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 242 The 'Downs' are almost always concealed by the Contour-feathers, and are smaller, more fluffy, and more numerous...A peculiarly modified kind are the Powder-downs. *Ibid.* 738 *Powder-downs* are so called from the powder produced by the continuous disintegration of the numerous brush-like barbs and barbules, into which the barrel is constantly splitting as it grows without forming a principal shaft.

Powdered (pau·dəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. POWDER *v.*[1]]

†**1.** Of food: Sprinkled or seasoned with salt or spice. Also *fig.* 'Seasoned'. *Obs.*

1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 83 Our sighes, and powdred sobs with tears. 1587 R. BAYNES in Turberv. *Trag. T.* To Rdr., Poets pens..Whose powdred saaes are mixt, with pleasure, and delight. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 1 Reason..began this motherly, and well powdered tale.

2. Salted, pickled, or spiced for future use; preserved; cured; corned. ? *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1409 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 53 In xvj powdret fish empt. *xs.* *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 533 Mustard is meete for brawne, beef, or powdred motoun. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 52/2 By eatinge of pouldred or saulted meate. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Paint.* II. ix, Out of the very Beer, they sell the Malt; Powder of Powder, from powder'd Beef the Salt. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 322 Powdered beef and pork imported from Ireland. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvi, Lord Allan, rest his saul, used to like a pouthered guse.

† **b.** *transf.*: cf. POWDERING-TUB 2. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 62 Shee hath eaten vp all her beefe, and she is her selfe in the tub...Euer your fresh Whore, and your pouder'd Bawd.

3. Decorated with a multitude of spots or small figures scattered over the surface; spangled.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 266 A mantell..Of blak sylke, purfylyd with poudryd hermyne. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. ii. 25 On his shield..He bore a crowned little Ermelin, That deckt the azure field with her fayre pouldred skin. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* ii. (ed. 3) 12 *Powdered* or *Poudrée* is substituted for *Semée*.

b. *Zool.* Marked with numerous minute dots or spots closely placed, as if dusted over with powder. Said esp. of moths.

1832 J. RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & Moths* 57 The Powdered Quaker (*Orthosia sparsa*). *Ibid.* 62 The Powdered Rustic (*Caradrina superstes*). *Ibid.* 89 The Powdered Wainscot (*Sinyra venosa*). .. Wings .. first pair hoary, sprinkled with minute black spots.

4. Of the hair or skin: Dressed with powder as

a cosmetic. Also said of the person. Also in parasynthetic combination.

1655 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 146 A dresse of powdered hayre. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 127 The powder'd footman .. Beneath his flapping Hat secures his Hair. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, The greater part of the furniture was of the powdered-head and pig-tail period. *Ibid.* xxxviii, The powdered-headed ancestor. 1863 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1879) 10 The powdered servant who opened the door.

†**5.** [? f. POWDER *sb.*[1] 3 + -ED [2].] Charged with, or fired by, gunpowder. Also *fig. Obs. rare.*

1575 J. B. in *Gascoigne's Wks.* PPPP ij b, In bloudie broyles, where pouldred shot was rife. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* Ded. to W. Loe, You'll need no Warning to avoid our Peal; Nor are in Level of our Poudred Pen.

6. Reduced to powder or dust; pulverized.

1591 SPENSER *Ruines Rome* xxvii, Againe on foote to reare her pouldred corse. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 53 Powdered glasse emits no fume or exhalation although it bee laid upon a red hot iron. 1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 320/2 Ground and powdered refined sugar. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* x. 326 Powdered chalk .. will always be insoluble.

Pow·derer. *rare.* [f. POWDER *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] One who powders: see the verb.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* E v b, The seasoners and embalmers of the body (whome they calle poulderers).

Pow·der-flask. A case for carrying gunpowder, formerly usually of horn (see next), later of leather or metal, usually with a special device for measuring out a charge of powder; used by soldiers and sportsmen: = FLASK *sb.*[2] 2.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Powder-flasks*, in artillery, are most commonly made of horn, of any convenient size and figure, to carry powder for priming of cannon. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 360 A powder-flask, which a clerk had purchased from a Blackfoot warrior. *a* 1845 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 236/1 Irish Protestants whose .. dinner-table is regularly spread with knife, fork, and cocked pistol; salt-cellar and powder-flask.

Pow·der-horn. A powder-flask made of the horn of an ox or cow with a wooden or metal bottom at the larger end. Sometimes applied to a powder-flask of some other material.

1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 162 Item, ane pulder horne. 1695 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 3100/3 The Musket of one of them .. went off, and set his Bandeliers on fire, and they the Powder-Horns which hung in the Gun-Room. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants* Introd. § 35 You may .. stick your candle in a bottle, or .. in a powder-horn. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xv. 419 The hardy backswoodsman, .. armed with a rifle, a powder-horn, and a pouch for shot and bullets. 1906 *Athenæum* 1 Dec. 687/1 Illustrations of a papier mâché powder-horn .. decorated with designs by him.

Pow·deriness. [f. POWDERY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being powdery; pulverulence.

1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 35 (1822) I. 275 The melting powderiness of peppermint.

Powdering (pau·dəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. POWDER *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of POWDER *v.*[1], or the result of this.

1. The action of sprinkling or dusting something with powder; *spec.* the application of powder as a cosmetic to the hair or face.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Powderynge, wythe powder, *pulverisacio.* 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* Ded., It is not pould'ring, perfuming, and every day smelling of the taylor, that converteth to a beautiful object. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 78 They forbid all painting, patching, and powdering. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 673 [He] was very particular on his last day about the powdering and curling of his wig.

b. A deposit of powdery substance sprinkled upon a surface; a thin sprinkling (of something).

1834 ARNOLD in Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) I. vii. 373 We had no snow in the valleys, but frequently a thick powdering on the higher mountains. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 139 On the face and ears it [i. e. Scarlatinal peeling] usually takes the form of a fine powdering. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 10/1 On the .. 19th and 20th a powdering of snow showed on the southern side of Monte Bignone.

2. The seasoning or preserving of food with salt or spice. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 69 Powdryng of beef, or eny other fressh flessh. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Salure*, poudring, or salting. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii. (1592) 196 The Deathes of the giltlesse .. is but a powdering of their vertues, to preserue them to the vse of posteritie. 1615 (see POTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 3]. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 16 Hee is profitable in .. sauing the charge of salt; for his appetite will not waite and attend the powdring.

3. Decoration with spots or small figures disposed as if sprinkled over a surface. **b.** *concr.* (usually *pl.*) Such figures themselves collectively; *esp.* the spots on a heraldic fur, or small charges (e. g. fleurs-de-lys) scattered over the field.

1405–6 *Norwich Sacrist's Roll* (MS.), In serico et in rosis de auro emptis pro powderyng. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 116 Powderings made of bogy leggs. 1505 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 41 Item, for xxx[m] powderingis to the samyn; [the Kingis rob riall] ilk hundreth iij *s.*; summa .. xlv *li.* 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* IV. xxii. 238 A Duke's eldest sonne is borne in the degree of a Marquesse, and weares as many powdrings as a Marquesse. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Powderings*, in building, a term sometimes used for devices serving to fill up vacant spaces, in carved works: also in escutcheons, writings, &c. 1766 PORNY *Heraldry* iii. (1777) 26 Ermine is a Field Argent, with small points or spots Sable, in the form of little Triangles, which in Heraldry are generally called Powdering. 1880 *Academy* 18 Dec. 446/3 The embroiderers .. did not seek for novelty; diapers and powderings, even angel and saint, were reproduced over and over again without much change except of arrangement.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: as *powdering things*; **powdering-closet** = *powdering-room*; **powdering-dress, -gown**, a garment worn over the ordinary clothes to protect them while the hair was being powdered; †**powdering-house**, a building in which meat was 'powdered' or preserved with salt or spices; **powdering-mill**, a mill for pulverizing some substance (as ore, snuff); †**powdering pearls**, small pearls used for 'powdering' (see 3); **powdering-room**, a room appropriated to powdering the hair; **powdering-slipper**: see quot.; †**powdering trough**, a trough in which meat was 'powdered'. See also POWDERING-TUB.

1786 MISS E. CLAYTON in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* Ser. II. III. 399 A bed-chamber, two dressing-rooms, two *powdering-closets. 1875 MISS THACKERAY *Miss Angel* xv, There was a powdering-closet on the second story of the house. 1776 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 347 In his hurry, he threw his *powdering dress over his shoulders. *c* 1770 T. ERSKINE *Barber* in *Poet. Reg.* (1810) 328 Rob'd in a flannel *powd'ring goun. 1900 DOYLE *Green Flag, Capt. Sharkey* i, He wore a loose damask powdering-gown secured by a cord round the waist. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne Saliére*, a *poudring house, a salte seller. 1606 in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 61 *note*, 10 oz. and halfe of rag *poudring pearles. *a* 1774 J. & R. ADAM *Archit.* II. pl. 1 By means of an intersol over the closet and *powdering room, we have introduced a servant's sleeping-room adjoining to this apartment. 1900 BESANT in *Daily News* 3 Sept. 6/2, I wish I could show you one room in the house. It was the old 'powdering-room'. 182. MAR. EDGEWORTH *Parent's Assist., Basket-woman* (1856) 469 'These slippers are meant——'. 'For *powdering-slippers, miss'. . . 'To wear when people are powdering their hair .. that they may *not* spoil their other shoes'. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 24 July, We help her [the Queen] off with her gown, and on with her *powdering things. 1612 in *Antiquary* Jan. (1906) 29 In the larder. . . Twoe *powdringe Troves with covers, a powdringe Tubbe, twoe lesser tubbes.

Pow·dering, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. POWDER *v.*[1] + -ING [2].] That powders; that sprinkles with powder.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 318 The powdering particles, which we see on the grass and trees. 1832–53 W. MILLER in *Whistle-binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. III. 107 You've come .. Wi' your crispin' an' poutherin' gear, John Frost. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* II. xviii. 306 Some of the powdering willow dusted her bright luxuriant locks with gold.

Pow·dering, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. POWDER *v.*[2] + -ING [2].] Rushing impetuously; *fig.* impetuous, violent.

1619 BALCANQUAL in *Hales' Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 73 They were called in and dismist with such a powdering speech as I doubt not .. your Lordship hath heard with grief enough.

Pow·dering-tu·b. [f. prec. vbl. sb. + TUB.] **1.** A tub in which the flesh of animals is 'powdered', or salted and pickled.

1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poudryng tubbe, *salover.* 1534 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 189 Item a powtheringe tubb with a coveryngе. 1612 [see POWDERING *trough*]. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Netherl.* I. 44 On Sunday, a piece of salt meat is usually taken out of the powdering tub. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Love* Wks. (Bohn) I. 77 Its gravest discourse has a savour of hams and powdering-tubs.

†**2.** Humorously applied to a sweating-tub used for the cure of venereal disease. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 79 From the Poudring tub of infamy, Fetch forth the Lazar Kite of Cressids kinde, Doll Teare-sheete. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 980 Whence some Tub-holders-forth have made In Powdring-Tubs, their richest Trade. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 83 Pickl'd up to the very Nose in the Powdering-Tub of Sin and Salivation. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 90. 2/2 Away to the Powdering-Tub and burnt Mutton.

Pow·derless, *a.* [f. POWDER *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Destitute of powder; not powdered.

1887 *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 323 His brown suit, his fur cap, his powderless hair .. betrayed him [Franklin in Paris] at once.

Pow·der-man. †**a.** ? A dealer in gunpowder. *Obs.* **b.** A man who supplies the guns with powder on board a man-of-war. **c.** One who attends to the powder used in blasting operations, etc.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 67 Every Gunner may have his Peter ready made refined and in Meal at the Powder-mens, or Chandlers. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 226 Stationary powdermen are allotted to every two guns. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* LIV. 85/2 In driving the heading, each of the three shifts is made up of a boss, 4 drill men, 4 helpers on drills, 1 powder man, 1 car man, and 2 laborers.

Pow·der-mo·nkey. A humorous term for a powder-boy on board ship. Also *fig.*

1682 SHADWELL *Medal* Ep. A iv, Heaven keep us from Juries such as will give 800 l. dammages to a Powder-monkey. 1759 *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 225 Her powder-monkey was Dick Cummings, ogling and winking. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii, Ellangowan had him placed as cabin-boy, or powder-monkey on board an armed sloop. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 62/1 When his son Henry was twelve years old, he was employed as a 'powder-monkey' in making and filling blank and ball cartridges.

b. (See quot. 1893.)

1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* III. iv. 63 How to take the honey was not so easily settled, till they thought of making a powder-monkey, and so smoking them out. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Powder-monkey*, damp gunpowder, moulded into a 'devil' or cake which will smoulder slowly, used by boys for stupefying a wasp's nest.

†**Pow·derous,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. POWDER *sb.*[1] + -OUS.] Apt to crumble to powder, friable.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVI. xl. I. 490 Cherry-tree wood is pliable, but drier and more powderous.

Pow·der-puff.

1. a. A soft pad, usually of down, for applying powder to the skin. **b.** An instrument like a small bellows formerly used for powdering the hair.

a 1704 T. BROWN *Pleas., Lett. to Gent.* Wks. 1709 III. II. 16 A Powder-puff. 1841 ORDERSON *Creol.* xix. 229 This .. made him .. pass the powder-puff .. over his hair. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/3 Occupations of People .. Powder-puff maker. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. x. 206 Topsy and Mopsy were improved by the powder puff.

2. *transf.* **a.** ? Contemptuously applied to a man with powdered hair, a fop. **b.** Applied to a young gull with downy feathers.

1731 FIELDING *Lottery* ii, Is this the fellow for whom I am unknown? this powderpuff. 1891 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 2/8 Myriads of gulls .. sitting about, of all sizes, from tiny powder-puffs to the stately wide-winged, *full* grown birds.

Powdery (pau·dəri), *a.* [f. POWDER *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Of the nature or consistence of powder; consisting of fine loose particles; pulverulent; dusty.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10107 Wyth powdry sondys out off noumbre, Wych hyr passage so encoumbre. 1767 PERCIVAL in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 230 A considerable portion of it .. subsided in a powdery form to the bottom of the glass. 1799 WORDSW. *Lucy Gray* vii, Her feet disperse the powdery snow, That rises up like smoke. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 562 The cells .. forming, especially when dry, a loose, powdery mass.

b. Easily disintegrated into powder; friable.

a 1728 WOODWARD *Fossils* II. 36 A brown, powdery Spar. They say it holds Iron. Found amongst the Iron-Ore.

†**2.** Of the nature of gunpowder; inflammable, explosive. *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. XX. § 14 The lighted matches of sedition found powdry spirits, and wonderfull correspondence.

3. Covered with or full of powder; having a deposit of powder; dusty.

1708 OZELL tr. *Boileau's Lutrin* 48 When from his Powdry Roost the Bird of Night .. takes his Flight. 1784 WOODWARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 423 The powdery head is covered with a loose campanulated cap. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lix, That pollen which the bees carry off (having no idea how powdery they are). 1874 SYMONDS *Italy & Greece* 291 Delicate golden auriculas with powdery leaves and stems. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 738 The skin is everywhere wonderfully white, in some regions raised into little powdery eminences.

4. *Comb.*, as *powdery-looking.*

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 38 Note the powdery-looking upper surface, white in young specimens.

Pow·dike, po·dike. *local.* Forms: 3–5 **pokediche, -dike, -dyke**; 6–8 **powdyke, -dike**, 7 **poedike**, 7–8 **podike.** [First element originally *poke*: origin unascertained; the second is DIKE *sb.*, sense 5 or 7, or DITCH *sb.* 4, an earthen bank.] The name of an ancient dike or embankment raised to keep the fen waters out of Marshland, in the part of Norfolk west of the Great Ouse; also of a later work, the *new powdike*, constructed further to the south for the same purpose.

The old Powdike was raised *c* 1223; it ran from W. to E. separating Marshland from Bardolph Fen. The new Powdike was begun in 1423; it ran along the north brink of Well Creek, forming the southern boundary of Stow and Downham Fen. There was also a *Little Powdike*, at the west end of the old Powdike. See the Map in Dugdale *Hist. Imbanking & Drayning*, 1662, 1772, xlvi.

1293 *Pat.* 21 *Edw. I* m. 10 (P. R. O.) Forsatum quod vocatur Pokediche .. ab antiquo levatum .. pro defensione et salvacione partium ipsarum contra aquarum inundaciones. 1350 *Pat.* 23 *Edw. III*, pt. 1 m. 29 d, Fossatum vocatum Pokedyk in Mersshеland in com. Norf. 1423 (in Dugdale, as above) Pokediche, Pokedyke. 1530–1 *Act.* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 11 Dyvers evyll dysposed personnes .. maliciously at dyverse .. times hathe .. broken vp dyvers parties of the Dyke called the newe Powdyke in Marsheland in the Countie of Norfolke, and the brokyn Dyke other wyse called Old feld Dyke by Marsheland, in the Ile of Elye. 1662 DUGDALE *Hist. Imbanking*, etc. xlvi. 245/1 Upon this occasion, by a common consent amongst them, was the old Podike first raised, about the year MCCXXIII (7 Hen. 3). *Ibid.*, The said Bank called Podike. *Ibid.* 264 (*Margin*, The making of the new Pow dike, 1 Hen. 6, 12 April) That there should be another Wall or Bank made new on the North side of Salterys lode brink, by all the Landholders throughout Marshland. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 237 The old podike, the defensive bank to the country of Marshland in Norfolk, against foreign waters, was cut through by persons unknown. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xvii. 245 By statute 22 Hen. VIII. c. 11. perversely and maliciously to cut down or destroy the powdike, in the fens of Norfolk and Ely, is felony.

†**Powe,** *int. Obs.* An imitation of a knock.

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* III. ii. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), I will knocke. powe! ho? who is in the house?

Powe, obs. f. PAW *sb.*[1]; var. POUGH *v. Obs.*

Powee, variant of POWESE, the Curassow.

Powellite (pau·ĕlait). *Min.* [Named 1891, after Major J. W. Powell: see -ITE [1].] Molybdate and tungstate of calcium, of yellow colour and resinous lustre.

1897 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XLI. 138 Powellite—calcium molybdate: a new mineral species.

Power (pau·əɹ, pauəɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: see below. [ME. *poër, poeir, pouer* (= pu$_i$ĕ·r), a. AF. *poër, poair, pouair* = OF. *poër, poeir* (whence *pooir,*

povoir, mod.F. *pouvoir*), sb. use of vb. inf. *poeir, pouoir, povoir, pouvoir*:—earlier **podeir* (*podir* in *Strasb. Oaths* 842) = Pr., Sp., Pg. *poder*, It. *potere* to be able:—late pop. L. *potĕre*, which, by the 8th c. in vulgar speech, supplanted *posse* (pr. pple. *potent-*, perf. *potui*) to be able: see Diez. The *v* in Fr. *povoir* was developed by hiatus in *pooir*; the *w* in Eng. arose from change of *o* in *poër* to *ou, ow*. The spelling *power* has been the prevailing one from 14th c. Phonetic development (po$_{1}$ē^{r}, pu$_{1}$ē^{r}, pŭ^{r}er, pau^{r}əɪ, pauəɪ, in north. dial. pŭ^{r}ər, pûr).]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. (3) 4 **poer, poeir,** (3) 4 **pouwer,** 4–5 **pouwere, pouer, powere,** 5 **pouere, pouoir, powеer, -eir, pouar,** 6 **powar, -are,** *Sc.* **pover,** (3) 4– **power.**

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 4523 Gret *poer of yrlonde Modred him wan al so. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 588 Poer ynow schal come to me. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7639 Hii adde..gret *poeir sone anhonde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 127/724 Þe Erchebischop of Euerwyke fondede for-to bringe A-cord and loue bi is *pouwer bi-twene thomas and þe king. *Ibid.* 34/30 A-3ein mine godes *pouwere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10658 Fore to the fight with a fell *pouer. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3066 (Gött.) He com egayn him wid gret pouer. *Ibid.* 9780 (Trin.) For to haue *powere þere. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xiv, Haue petè un the pore, quyl thou hase *pouere. 1447–8 Q. Marg. in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. Introd. 63 To haue licence and *pouoir to ley the furst stone. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 412 With all thair strang *poweir. 1486 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* X. 100 *note*, His factouris havand *pouar of hym. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 231 Traistand..he micht na *powar be..agane tha kingis thre. 1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 35 Conuenyent powar and strenghth. 1554–9 in *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 11 Extort *poware, whiche ys no goodly faciоun. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 624 Quhilk efter him .. Come hame agane with *pover of the new. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 20/49 Þis holi Abbod..hadde gret *power With þe king Eadmund. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 376 (Bodley MS. 902) And doth what lith in his power.

β. 4–6 **pore,** 5–6 **poure,** 5–7 **powre,** 6 ? **poore, poour,** 6–7 **pour,** 7–8 **pow'r,** 9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **poor** (pŭr).

[1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2049 He nom wiþ him..gret *pore ynou.] 1461 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 62 Ye ar myche behold to the Meyir and to Gylberd,..for feythfully they owe yow good wyll to ther porys. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 33/2 They haue nat the pore to come out of that deserte. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 157 The dragons *poure..distroyed haue I. 1555 Eden *Decades* 36 A poure of armed men. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 15 A man of grete *powre. 1591 Shaks. *Two Gent.* II. vi. 4 That Powre which gaue me first my oath. 1529 Wolsey in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 11 As my *poore shall increase. 1575 Laneham *Let.* (1871) 1 But also haue *poour..to go and too see things sight worthy. 1546 *Suppl. Commons* in *Four Supplic.* (1871) 63 The *pours, whome God hathe ordeyned. 1638 Pourfull [see Powerful *a.* 2]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 500 The Western Winds with vital *Pow'r Call forth the tender Grass, and budding Flower.

B. Signification. **I.** As a quality or property.

1. Ability to do or effect something or anything, or to act upon a person or thing. (Cf. quot. 1690).

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 215 And 3af to man fre power To chese,.. Off god and yuel shed to make. 1382 Wyclif *John* x. 18, I haue power for to putte it, and I haue power for to take it eftsoone. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 2 Him is benome The power bothe of hond and fot. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* xv. ii. 657 It shalle not lye in your power .. to perysshe me as moche as a threde. 1580 Babington *Exp. Lord's Prayer* (1596) 200 That he would..keepe vs from apposings aboue our power to satisfie. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 2 By his power and wisdome he built a Temple. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. vii. § 8 Power..is another of those simple Ideas which we receive from Sensation and Reflection. For observing in our selves, that we do and can think, and that we can, at pleasure, move several parts of our Bodies which were at rest; the effects also, that natural Bodies are able to produce in one another, occurring every moment to our Senses, we both these ways get the Idea of Power. *Ibid.* xxi. § 2 Power..is twofold, viz. as able to make, or able to receive any change: The one may be called *Active*, and the other *Passive Power*. 1713 Berkeley *Hylas & Phil.* I. Wks. 1871 I. 287 Is it not in your power to open your eyes? 1741–2 Gray *Agrippina* 40 The power To judge of weights and measures. 1785 Reid *Let.* Wks. I. 65/2 Power to produce an effect, supposes power not to produce it; otherwise it is not power but necessity. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* v. 113 Money is power—power for bread and power for tinsel. 1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil., Hydrost.*, etc. 46 Fishes have the power of changing their bulk by the voluntary distension of an air-vessel. 1861 W. H. Russell in *Morning Chron.* 3 Aug., Ready to afford any information in their power.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A particular faculty of body or mind.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 352/1 In theyr bodye whiche is made of four complexions and in theyr Sowle in whiche ben thre poures. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 148 Memory, reason, & wyll. And these ben the thre powers of the soule. *c* 1540 Boorde *The boke for to Lerne* C iij b, Moderate slepe ..doth anymat and comforte all the naturall, animall, and spyrytuall, powers of man. 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* xiii. 71 When we speak of Powers and Faculties of the Soul, we intend not to assert..their real distinction from it, or each other, but only a modal diversity. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 28 Several things..affect all our living powers, and at length suspend the exercise of them. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 81 The laureate of William taxes his powers to the uttermost to set forth the greatness of the prince.

c. Sometimes the plural does not imply different faculties, but power put forth in various directions or on various occasions.

a 1586 Sidney *Ps.* xx. v, I know that He heares mee, Yea, heares with powers and helps of helpfull hand. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 9 We must consider it in its Powers and Capacities either to do or suffer. 1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 55 The patient, whose vital powers had long been greatly exhausted, died. 1852 R. Knox *Gt. Artists & Gt. Anat.* 174 His powers of attention, and his educability were admirable. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 199 Powers that fain Else would soar, condemned to grovel.

2. Ability to act or affect something strongly; physical or mental strength; might; vigour, energy; force of character; telling force, effect.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/1 Power, or strengthe, ..*potestas, robur, fortitudo, nisus, vigor.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iij, The bellis that yowre hawke shall wheer, looke .. that thay be not to heuy ouer hir power to weyr. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* iii. 209 The Bathes..Giving that naturall power, which, by the vig'rous sweate, Doth lend the lively springs their perdurable heate. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* I. i, He has great power in Corranto's and Jiggs. 1738 Wesley *Psalms* II. viii, Thou art declar'd my Son with Power. *a* 1770 Whitefield in J. R. Leifchild *Cornwall Mines* (1855) 300, I rode to St. Ives, and preached to many who gladly attended to hear the word. A great power seemed to accompany it. 1838–9 Fr. A. Kemble *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 27 Bring them by power of lungs. 1860 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 341 More power to your elbow! God bless you! 1893 Chesney *Lesters* II. xxi, Mounted on an obvious screw, but in good going condition, and with plenty of power.

b. Political or national strength.

1701 Ballance of Power [see Balance *sb.* 13 c]. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 315 The excellence of our Constitution, ..would invite great Numbers over to us, exceedingly add to our Power and Strength, and make us more a Balance to the Greatness of any Country in Europe. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Jan. 28/1 Would there be any longer a balance of power in Europe? 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 2/1 It was calculation..based on balance-of-power considerations, which come into question now.

3. Of inanimate things: Active property; capacity of producing some effect; the active principle or virtue of a herb, etc. († also *concr.*).

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 24 Within the infant rin'd of this weake flower, Poyson hath residence, and medicine power. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. § 10 Powers therefore, justly make a great part of our complex Ideas of Substances. He, that will examine his complex Idea of Gold, will find several of its Ideas, that make it up, to be only Powers, as the Power of being melted, but of keeping its weight in the Fire, of being dissolved in *Aq. Regia.* 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 10 Bathing the parts affected with the Powers of Amber, Sage and Rosemary. 1738 Gray *Propertius* III. 79 The Power of Herbs can other Harms remove. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 346 We have ascertained the power of the absorbents to be so great, as to take up not only such animal secretions as hog's lard, &c., but even grosser substances. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Optics* ii. 4 (U. Kn. S.) The number 1,336, which regulates the refraction of water, is called its..co-efficient of refraction, and sometimes its refractive power. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. ii. 241 The red rays of the spectrum possess a very high heating power. 1871 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 26 The power of heat to burn.

b. The sound expressed by a character or symbol; the meaning expressed by a word or phrase in a particular context: = Force *sb.*[1] 9.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Force*, In our language the *s* between two vowels has the Force or power of a *z*. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. xii. 470 There are twenty-six letters ..the names, powers, and sounds of which are as follow. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 242 In the familiar salutation, 'How d'ye do?' we have the same verb in two powers.

c. *Mining.* Thickness or depth (of a vein).

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 316 The power of this vein is 8 feet.

4. Possession of control or command over others; dominion, rule; government, domination, sway, command; control, influence, authority. Often followed by † *of*, † *on, over*.

1297 [see A. α]. *a* 1300 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 28 Vorte Seint dauid þe kyng com, þat was of gret power. *c* 1306 *Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Muche wes the poer that him wes byreved in londe. *a* 1330 *Roland & V.* 178 Lorain & lombardye..Schal be in þi pouwer. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) iii. 10 We trowe wele þi powere es grete apon þi subgets. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Kings* xiv. 5 Now whan he had gotten the power of the kyngdome, he smote his seruauntes which had smytten the kynge his father. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 159 They haue foure patriarches.., which doe command and haue power of the orientall churches. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 55 Thy father was the Duke of Millaine and A Prince of power. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 12 Let your plot be wholly in your owne power. *a* 1634 Coke *Inst.* IV. (1648) 36 Of the power and jurisdiction of the Parliament, for making of laws in proceeding by Bill, it is so transcendent and absolute, as it cannot be confined either for causes or persons within any bounds. 1685 Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Rom. xiii, An Usurper's Strength may be resisted; but Rightful Power or Authority may not. 1835 J. H. Newman *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. i. 7 Cut away by Supreme Power.

b. Authority given or committed; hence, sometimes, liberty or permission to act.

1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3844 Crist gave to Peter playn powere. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) iii. 9 To wham Godd gaffe full powere for to bynd and to louse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/1 Powere, of auctoryte, *auctoritas, jurisdictio.* 1570 B. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* (1880) 6 Graunting powre and leaue. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 85, I left my self full power to drop my Indian Traveller as often as I saw convenient. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 85 The bishops, who had power to arrest laymen on suspicion of heresy,..had no power to imprison priests.

† **c.** The limits within which administrative power is exercised; = Jurisdiction 3. *Obs. rare.*

c 1350 *Usages Winchester* in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 355 Bi-þynne þe power of þe town. *Ibid.* 356 Þat hit be y-lad by-þinne þe power of þe towne to selle.

d. Personal or social ascendancy, influence.

1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xxv. 2 The man was of great power, and had thre thousande Shepe, and a thousande Goates. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. viii. 35 Riches, Knowledge and Honour are but severall sorts of Power. 1750 Gray *Elegy* ix, The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r. 1829 Mill *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. xxi. 208 A man's power means the readiness of other men to obey him. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 366 The greatness of the Queen [Elizabeth] rests above all on her power over her people.

e. Political ascendancy or influence in the government of a country or state.

1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) I. ii. § 70. 165 Thus, power and influence was confined to a class. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 193 To employ the power which they possessed in the state for the purpose of making their king mighty and honoured. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XV. 613/1 The governing party has always come into power by means of revolution. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/2 Sinking individual opinion whenever it threatens to interfere with the tenure of power. *Mod.* The party at present in power in France.

5. Legal ability, capacity, or authority to act; *esp.* delegated authority; authorization, commission, faculty; *spec.* legal authority vested in a person or persons in a particular capacity.

1486 [see A. α]. 1563–4 *Reg. Pr. Counc. Sc.* I. 271 In the sycht of him, or of thame berand his power. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 370 He was demaunded how he could make anye entreatye of peace, hauing no power so to do? 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlviii. (1820) 252 He was careful not to assume any of those powers which the Constitution had placed in other hands. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 168 Powers or authorities by which one person enabled another to do an act for him, were well known to the common law. 1859 Bright *Sp., India* 1 Aug. (1876) 55 A Bill to extend and define the powers of the Governors. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 94/1 The borrowing powers of the company were nearly, if not quite, exhausted.

b. A document, or clause in a document, giving legal authority.

Power of attorney (= *Letter of attorney*), a document appointing a person or persons to act as the attorney or attorneys of the appointer. (See Letter[1] 4 c, Attorney[2] 2.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 289/1 A Powere, *apodixis.* 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4209/3 A Forged Power..for receiving the said Money. 1747 Franklin *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 92 As he has your power of attorney,..I think to put your letter to Mr. Hughes into his hands. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxvii, A power of attorney will be all that is requisite. 1844 Williams *Real Prop.* II. iii. (1845) 232 If the power should require a deed only, a will will not do.

II. As a person, body, or thing.

6. One who or that which is possessed of or exercises power, influence, or government; an influential or governing person, body, or thing; in early use, one in authority, a ruler, governor. Cf. It. *potestà*, Podestà.

1382 Wyclif *Rom.* xiii. 1 Euery soule, or lyuynge man, be suget to hiȝer poweris. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 127 O power so hye in dignitie! O prynce victorious and famous emperour! 1525 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 308 The powares of Italye, withe the helpe off his Holynes, shold be able to kepe the Emperor owt off Italye. 1526 Tindale *Rom.* xiii. 1 The powers that be are ordeyned off God. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 713 No power of Heav'n or Hell Can pacify Phanatick Zeal. 1738 Wesley *Psalms* III. v, Thou hast quell'd the adverse Power. 1833 Wordsw. *Sonn., At Sea off Isle of Man*, But element and orb on acts did wait Of Powers endued with visible form, instinct With will. 1874 Mahaffy *Soc. Life Greece* xii. 282 This remarkable banker, who was evidently something of a power in Greece. 1888 Miss Braddon *Fatal Three* I. iii, Bell was a power in the house in Upper Parchment Street.

b. in late use, A state or nation regarded from the point of view of its international authority or influence.

1726 (*title*) Acta Regia: or, An Account of the Treaties, Letters and Instruments Between the Monarchs of England and Foreign Powers..translated from the French of M. Rapin. 1790 G. Chalmers (*title*) A Collection of Treaties between Great Britain and other Powers. 1847 Mrs. A. Kerr tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 448 It had been approved of by the Commissioners, whom she, as the Power in possession of the Sovereignty, had appointed. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* I. ii. 21 All States except the five great Powers are exempt from the duty of watching over the general safety. 1872 Freeman *Gen. Sketch* xii. § 17. 229 Spain .. soon became the greatest power in Europe. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 182 That the United States had the capacity to be a Sea Power. *Ibid.* 183 There was no talk then of being a World Power.

7. A celestial or spiritual being having control or influence; a deity, a divinity. Chiefly in plural, originating in its application to the pagan divinities; often in asseveration or exclamation, as *By (all) the powers! Merciful powers!*

In quot. 1526, perh. in more general sense.

[1526 Tindale *Rom.* viii. 38 Nether deeth, nether lyfe, nether angell, nor rule, nether power [1557 *Genev.* powers; Gr. *δυνάμεις*, L. *virtutes*, Wycl. vertues], nether thynges present, nether thinges to come..shalbe able to departe vs from Goddes love.] 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 292, I would she were in heauen, so she could Intreat some power to change this currish Iew. 1610 — *Temp.* III. iii. 73 For which foule deed, The Powres, delaying (not forgetting) haue Incens'd the Seas ..Against your peace. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* v. 123 Such Honours as we pay to Pow'rs Divine, To Bacchus and to Ceres, shall be thine. — *Georg.* IV. 783 And then adore the Woodland Pow'rs with Pray'r. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* III. 192 There land, and pay due victims to the pow'rs. 1742 Gray *Adversity*, Daughter of Jove, relentless Power.

1786 BURNS *To a Louse* viii, O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us To see oursels as others see us! 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 19 No, no! by all the powers! 1835 HOOD *Dead Robbery* iii, I reckon, by the pow'rs! I've lost ten pound by your not being stiffer! 1862 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Notch in Axe*, Merciful powers! I remember. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* (1892) 153 The decline of belief in a beneficent Power.

8. In mediæval angelology, The sixth order of angels in the celestial hierarchy; = POTESTATE 2: see ORDER *sb.* 5.

[Cf. 1388 WYCLIF *Col.* i. 16 Ether trones, ether dominaciouns, ether princehodes, ethir poweris [1382 potestates, L. *potestates*, Gr. ἐξουσίαι.] 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 601 Thrones, Dominations, Princedoms, Vertues, Powers. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 200 Pow'rs for Centurions in God's Hosts renown'd. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* XXVIII. 113 [Dominations, first; Virtues, second;] and powers the third. 1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 101 The Powers and Thrones above.

9. A body of armed men; a fighting force, a host, an army; = FORCE *sb.*[1] 4; in pl. = *forces*, i. e. distinct hosts (quot. 1568), or different kinds of troops composing an army. *Power of the county*: = POSSE COMITATUS. Originally less concrete, without *a* or *pl.* Now *rare* or *arch.*

1297 [see A. β]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3966 He com again wit his poer [*v. rr.* pouer, powere]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 14 He wente..To make a werre in Orient, And gret power with him he ladde. *c* 1400 *Brut* 32 Come Iulius Cesar..into þis lande, with a power of Romayns, and wolde haue hade þis lande þrouȝ strengþ. *c* 1440 *Sir Gowther* 513 My lord hath sembled a new powere. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 414 As moche power of men of warre as they coude make. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, Delyuered from the deuyll and all his hoost or power. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* R viij, Satibarzanes..was with a power of horsemen entered agayne emonges the Arians. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 652 They with both their powers were commyng towarde London. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. i. 42 Brutus and Cassius Are leuying Powers; We must straight make head. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 262 One of them entreth into the Church with great power of Lay men, and holdeth the other out with force and armes. 1653 DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* xxiii. (1888) 116 He comes with the power of the county to demand her ..being Sheriff. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 6/2 The Albanians, who fought against Pompey with such a Power of Horse. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. xxiv, Two hundred of my master's powers. 1819 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. 213 His bones, and those of all his Power Slain here in a disastrous hour!

10. a. A large number, a multitude, a 'host' of persons (not a military force); **b.** A large number, quantity, or amount of things; an abundance, a great deal, 'a lot'. Now *dial.* or *vulgar colloq.*

a. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. 194 Imploying a power of poor people, in Polling.., Gutting, Splitting, Powdering and Drying them [Pilchards]. 1706-7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* I. i, What other Company have you in Town? A power of fine ladies. 1801 tr. *Gabrielli's Myst. Husb.* IV. 18 They had left a power of servants at their master's. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* xi, They say there is a power of them wandering about the world.

b. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 323 What sumptuous silken vestments were there... What a power of golden candlesticks. 1680 CROWNE *Misery Civ. War* I. i, They have a power o' money. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* I. i, This Spirit will bring a power of Custom to the George. 1770 GRAY *Corr. w. N. Nicholls* (1843) 113 It will do you a power of good one way or other. *a* 1797 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Posth. Wks.* (1798) III. vii. 17, I shall expect (as the country people say in England) that you will make a power of money to indemnify me for your absence. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* liii, It has done a power of work. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* iv, I've a power of things to do at home. 1899 O. SEAMAN *In Cap & Bells* (1900) 40 He was an all-round man, a scholar: knew a power of botany.

III. In technical uses.

11. † *Geom.* The square described on a given line (*obs.*) (? an error); *Math.* (in modern use), the product obtained by multiplying a number or quantity into itself a specified number of times, the number of times being indicated by an ordinal numeral.

The first power of a number or quantity is the number itself; the second power is the square, or product of the number multiplied into itself; the third power is the cube, or product of the square multiplied by the original number.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* II. Introd. 60 The power of a line, is the square of the same line. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 297 Multiply alternately..the Numbers given by the Powers of these alternate Indices for the reduced Surdes. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 25 If any Term be divided by the first Power of the variable Quantity; then the Fluxion of that Term must be found by itself thus. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 80, 2 is the root, or 1st power of 2. 4 is the 2d power, or square of 2.

fig. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 191 Even in cases where calculation in the strict sense is impossible we are inclined to use the term 'power' when the meaning and importance of a conception is raised in some peculiar manner.

† **b.** *In power* (tr. *ἐν δυνάμει*, Euclid): a phrase used in relation to the squares of magnitudes that are compared, as distinguished from the magnitudes themselves; thus magnitudes are *commensurable* (or *incommensurable*) *in power* when their squares are commensurable (or incommensurable). So *equal in power, of equal power*: see quots. *Obs.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* IV. Def. vi. T j b, A lyne is sayde to be equall in power with two or moe lynes, when his square is equall to all their squares. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* I. (1701) 9/1 Pythagoras, Sacrificed a Hecatomb, having found out, that the hypothenuse of a right Angled Triangle, is of equal power to the two sides including the right angle. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* x. Def. iii, Right lines are commensurable in power, when the same space does measure their squares. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 40 How to finde two Lines, which together shall be equal in Power to any Line given.

c. *Power of a point* with regard to a circle: the square of the distance from that point to the point of contact of the tangent drawn from it; or (equivalently) the rectangle under the segments of any chord drawn from the point.

1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 58 If through a point *O* any chord be drawn to cut a circle in *P* and *Q*, the rectangle *OP* . *OQ* is called the power of the point with regard to the circle.

12. *Mech.* An instrument by means of which energy may be applied to mechanical purposes. *Mechanical* (†*mathematical*, †*mechanic*) *powers*: the simple machines by means of which mechanical energy may be advantageously applied; now reckoned as six, viz. the lever, wheel and axle, pulley, wedge, inclined plane, and screw: cf. MACHINE *sb.* 5.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2286 The Five Mathematical Powers (as they are called) or noted Engines for the facilitation of Motion. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., The Six Mechanical Faculties; the Ballance, the Leaver, the Wheel, the Pulley, the Wedge, and the Screw; which are usually stiled the Six Mechanick Powers. 1710 *Ibid.* II, *Powers Mechanick*, of these there are five usually accounted, the Lever, the Balance, the Wedge or Inclined Plane, the Screw and the Pulley. 1827 N. ARNOTT *Physics* I. 154 No mechanical power or machine generates force. 1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 290 There are seven mechanical powers, viz.—The Lever, the Wheel and Axle, the Pulley, the Inclined Plane, the Wedge, the Screw, and the Funicular Machine. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 71 Inclined plane. The action of this mechanical power depends upon the simple principle [etc.].

13. Any form of energy or force available for application to work. *spec.* **a.** Mechanical energy (as that of gravitation, running water, wind, steam, electricity), as distinguished from hand-labour; often viewed as a commodity saleable in definite quantities. In quot. 1728 = FORCE *sb.*[1] 11 a. **b.** Force applied to produce motion or pressure; the acting force in a lever or other 'mechanical power', as opposed to the *weight*. **c.** The mechanical advantage gained by the use of a machine.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Power in mechanics denotes a force, which being applied to a machine, tends to produce motion...If the power be a man, or a brute, it is called an animate power; if the air, water, fire, gravity, or elasticity, an inanimate power. 1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 55 Caused..from the influence of the power of gravity united with the general laws of motion. 1808 J. DUNCAN *Art of Weaving* 272 Plans..for the purpose of working the weaving loom by the application of power. 1808 *Rep. High Comm. on Cartwright's Petit.* 7 The general adoption of the loom by mechanical power will operate to the prejudice of the present weavers. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 294 Three things are always to be considered..: a *weight* to be raised; the *power* by which it is to be raised; and the *instrument* or *engine*, by which that power acts upon the weight. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 65 The word *power*, as used in practical mechanics, signifies the exertion of strength, gravitation, impulse, or pressure, so as to produce motion. 1830 *Mechanic's Mag.* XIV. 448, I wish to let out power, but do not know a good and certain way of measuring it. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 89 There is great water-power, both as regards the river and the fine broad creek which..falls into the small lake below. 1889 *E'ham Daily Post* 7 Jan. 2/3 Advt., [To let] good Shopping, with and without power.

14. Capacity for exerting mechanical force, as measured by the rate at which it is exerted, or the work done by it (cf. HORSE-POWER); also applied to a measurable capacity for producing some other physical effect.

1806- [see HORSE-POWER]. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 294 In calculating the power of a machine, it is usually considered in a state of equilibrium; that is, in the state when the power which has to overcome the resistance, just balances it. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 67 The product of these two numbers 3970 will express the power of the water to produce mechanical effects. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 421 With such a battery power the sparks from the primary coil are brilliant in the extreme. 1881 *Metal Worker* No. 19. 297 Power is the product of force and velocity; that is tosay, a force multiplied by the velocity with which it is acting is the power in operation. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 263 The term 'power'..signifies time-rate of doing work, and it is already in practical use in the expression 'horse power', which stands for 33,000 foot-pounds per minute.

15. *Optics.* The capacity of a lens (or combination of lenses) for magnifying the apparent size of an object; also *ellipt.*, the lens itself.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The Power of a Glass is used by some for the distance of the convexity from its solar focus. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* v. 49 The magnifying power, or the number of times that the apparent magnitude of the object is increased. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Lt.* (ed. 2) 53 The light is polarized by this plate, and being then refracted by two plano-convex glasses (termed the power), is afterwards received on a semi-transparent calico screen. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 67/1 Another pair of lenses is generally placed between the 'power' (that is, the last lens in front of the arrangement) and the condensers. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 21 Having found an Amœba, examine with a higher power.

IV. ¶ **16.** In N.T., 1 Cor. xi. 10, a verbal rendering of Gr. *ἐξουσία*, L. *potestas*: see quots.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xi. 10 For this cause ought the woman to haue power in her heed, for the angels sake [COVERD. a power vpon hir heade, *Great, Geneva*, 1611, power on her h., *Rheims* povver vpon her head; WYCLIF 1382 a veyle [1388 an hilyng] on hir heed; *R. V.* 1881 a sign of authority on [*margin* authority over] her head; Gr. *ἐξουσίαν ἔχειν ἐπὶ τῆς κεφαλῆς*; *Vulg.* potestatem habere supra caput]. *c* 1550 *Vertuous Scholehous* B iv b, As Paule sayth, we go attyred and haue a power vpon our heades. And therefore must I nowe (for my louynge husband is dead) lette hange my power or vayle downewardes from my heade, hauynge no power or husbande that hath rule of me. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 236 For this cause (namely in signe of subjection) ought the woman to have power on her head, 1 Cor. 11. 10, where by power, the Apostle understandeth a veile.

V. Phrases and Combinations.

17. Phrases. † **a.** *After, at one's power, at all one's power*: according to one's ability; to the utmost of one's ability, with all one's might. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10861 Þer horses at þer power runnen. 1472 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 165 The sade John sal kepe his land fra guld efter his powar. 1535 COVERDALE *Tobit* iv. 8 Be mercifull after y^e^ power. Yf thou hast moch, geue plenteously. 1627 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 35 Your's at all power in the Lord Jesus, S. R. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Fam. Ep.* Wks. (1711) 138, I shall fortify and defend the true holy catholick and christian religion..at all my power.

† **b.** *By (one's) power*: according to one's ability. *Obs.*

c 1290 [see A. α]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 170 Þe onlosti þet byeþ slacke to godes seruice, þet ne byeþ ne wel chald be poer, ne wel hot. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 76, I haue anuyȝed him ofte,..And peired him bi my pouwer.

c. *In power*: (*a*) in a position of authority; † (*b*) able, competent (*to do* something). *Sc.* † (*c*) in potentiality, *in posse*, as opposed to *in exercise* or *action*. † (*d*) *Math.*: see 11 b. (*e*) *In one's power*, within one's ability, under one's control: see 1, 4.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7895 To drawe to him þe heyemen, þat in poer were þo. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 886 The tane is in power to mak that presoun. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* V. (1701) 184/2 That Intellect which is always in act,..is better than that Intellect which is in power. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* (1874) I. I. vii. 328 They are not really and in fact present to the mind, but only in power. *Mod.* [See 4 e.]

† **d.** *Of power*: able, capable, competent. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 780 We be nat of power to maken hise amendes. 1486 *Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 53 Othre thinhabitauntes, which may not.., be of power to have rede gownes. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) I vij, If ye be of power, ye maye drinke a good draught of ypocras..after meate. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 155 Of power to cheat the eye with blear illusion.

e. † *To one's power* (obs.), *to the best, uttermost*, or *extent of one's power*: as far as one is able.

[*a* 1300 in *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 241 A leur poer e a leur esseint.] 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 48 She..cherysshyth and enterteyneth hym to her power. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 138 The man they wolde haue defended to the best of their powers. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 686 King Reyner did also help his daughter to hys small power. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 137 Three things..I remember to haue kept to my power. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 97 To the best of my power you shall do it no more.

† **f.** *Upon one's power*: as well as one can. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 479 Doyng ȝoure bisynes upon ȝoure connynge ande powere.

† **g.** *Within power*, within range. *Obs.*

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* N iv b, Within pour of batrie.

† **h.** *To do* (*make*) *one's power*: to do one's best.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1855 And, for to write it wel, do thi poweer [*rime* clere]. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 13 He did his power to put it doun. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxxxii. 216 Shame haue he that dothe nat his power to distroy all. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 42 Christierne made all his power agaynste them.

i. *Power of life and death, of pit and gallows, of the keys, of the sword*: see LIFE *sb.* 1 c, PIT *sb.*[1] 7, KEY *sb.*[1] 4, SWORD.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 229 b, The power of the keyes. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 95 All Barons quha hes power of Pitt, and Gallous of thift. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. viii. 719 *note*, The power of life and death, which by martial law belonged to the Lord High Admiral.

18. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attrib., as *power-distribution, -generation, -monger, -possessor, -production, -stroke, -supply, -transmission, -word.* **b.** Operated, driven, or done by mechanical power, as *power-bellows, -blast, -crane, -engine, -forge, -hammer, -lathe, -machine, -milker, -mill, -plant, -press, -pulley, -vehicle.* **c.** Used in generating, distributing, or applying mechanical power, as *power-dam, -house, -station, works.* **d.** Objective, as *power-giving, -holding, -propelling, -seeking, -usurping* adjs. **e.** Instrumental, as *power-driven, -elated* adjs., *power-feeding, -riveting, -weaving* sbs. and adjs.; *power-arm* vb. **f.** Spec. Comb.: **power capstan**, a capstan in which the power is increased by means of gearing; **power-ender, -ending** *a.*: see quot.; **power-gas**, coal-gas used for supplying power, not illumination; **power-load** *Electr.*, the amount of current delivered for use in driving machinery, as distinguished from that used for lighting,

1856 T. AIRD *Poet. Wks.* 139 Let the National Will *Power-arm the State. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 65 The pneumatic action..by which the bulk of the pressure is taken from the key, by means of small *power-bellows. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* III. 97 A *power-blast to excite the furnace fires. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 211 A *power-crane. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Mar. 5/6 A great *power-dam belonging to the Hudson River Power Company. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 334 The *power-driven machines of a factory. *a* 1743 SAVAGE *Poet's Dependance* 56 See .. Meekness depress'd, and *power-elated pride. 1893 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* XIII. 267 The power-ending terms or *power-enders, bc^2, b^3, which end in a power. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 23 Nov., The people..in great discontent on account of the *power engines. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 143 This distinction..between a *power-feeding and a hand-feeding machine. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 89 The blocks..are prepared at the *power forges. 1901 *Nature* 10 Jan. 257/2 On *power-gas and large gas-engines for central stations. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Power-hammer*, a hammer in which the weight is raised by power of machinery. 1879 *Engineer* XLVIII. 412 It professes to be a power hammer applicable, not to one class of work, but to all purposes. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Power-house*,..a building especially provided to contain the prime motor or motors from which power is conveyed to the driven machinery. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Sept. 3/3 It is intended to supply a large proportion of power from a great power-house where electricity is generated. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Lathe*, The *power-lathe is driven by horse-power, water, or steam. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Mar. 9/2 It is only by the increase of the '*power-load' which we supply that we can hope to reduce the price of electricity for lighting purposes. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 333 Lace made by *power-machines. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 37 Now we've got the American Durand's *power-milker. 1895 *Oracle Encycl.* I. 583/2 A great number of large *power-mills have sprung up. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 396 These are sawcy Truths to obtrude on the *Power-mongers..of the World. 1870 W. GRAHAM *Lect. Ephesians* 98 This word represents the rulers of this world as mere *power-possessors. 1846 WORCESTER, **Power-press*, a printing-press worked by steam, by water, or by other power. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 9 Dec. 6/5 That a revolution in *power-production might result. 1845 J. E. CARPENTER *Poems & Lyrics* 65 Its *power-propelling properties were vain. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 2/6 The development of *power-stations all over the country. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 7/2 The *power-supply for the printing presses of the newspapers being cut off. 1891 *Times* 28 Sept. 13/6 A *power transmission..from the Palmengarten..to the exhibition, a distance of about four kilomètres. 1790 R. MERRY *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 13 While none but *pow'r-usurping slaves are free. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* 266 Fabrics which *power-weaving has been found adequate to produce. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* I. i. vi. 88 As if He had said, 'My words are *power-words indeed. They take effect'. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 5/2 The..*power works adjacent to the river.

Power, *sb.*[2] *dial.* Also 8 **poor.** [Etymology obscure (in reference to quot. 1836 it may be noted that *power* is not the pronunciation of *poor* in Cornwall).] The local name in Cornwall of a small species of cod, *Gadus minutus*, also called *power-* or *poor-cod*.

1713 JAGO in *Ray's Synopsis* 163 Asellus mollis minimus. *Cornub.* Poor vel Power dictus. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 150 Poor or Power. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 161 The Power, or Poor Cod, the smallest of its genus, so called, it is said, on account of its diminutive size, seldom exceeding six or seven inches in length. 1880 *E. Cornw. Gloss.*, *Power*, the fish, *Gadus minutus*.

† **Power,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. POWER *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To make powerful, empower, strengthen.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) K j, With silence both wisedome & chastitie be sweetly powred. 1729 YOUNG *Merchant* v. xx, Trade gilt their titles, power'd their state.

Power, obs. form of POOR, POUR.

Pow·erable, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. POWER *sb.*[1] + -ABLE: cf. *comfortable, reasonable, peaceable.*]

† **1.** = POWERFUL. *Obs.*

1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 7 Gods mighty arme that deposeth the prowde and powrable persons from their seates. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 271 Howsoeuer valiant, rich, or powerable. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epigr.* 14 The only powerable man of England in his time. 1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 724 Diuers things..very effectuall and powerable to corrupt. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrupædia* 131 In case our Associats..would be willing to stay with us, more powerable we shall be to effect any thing.

† **2.** Extreme, excessive. *Obs. rare.*

1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 28 An unbridled powrable sinner. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* III. x. (1622) 78 The memory of Quirinius was nothing pleasing, by reason..of the danger he brought Lepida into, and miserable niggishnes, and powerable old age [*sordidamque et præpotentem senectam*].

3. That can be effected by power; possible. *rare*—[1].

1860 J. YOUNG *Prov. Reason* 172 The Infinite God..can effect all the powerable.

Hence † **Pow·erableness,** powerfulness, power as a quality; † **Pow·erably** *adv.*, powerfully.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* II. xcii. (1591) 107 Powerablenesse [L. *potentia*] is neuer sure where it is too excessiue. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. II. 180 Powerably armed with that supreme and vncontrowlable authoritie. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 49 Christ..was both dead and buried..and yet not corrupted as powerably preserued *per concomitantiam diuinitatis*. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 123 Had he..in some measure broken the powerableness of the Princes.

Power-cod: see POWER *sb.*[2]

Powered (pau·ərd, pauəd), *a.* [f. POWER *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Having power (of a specified kind or degree); chiefly in parasynthetic combinations.

1879 H. F. CRAGGS in *Daily News* 19 Apr. 3/3, I must deny..that a small powered steamer is as seaworthy as one of good power. 1892 *Manch. Exam.* 30 Nov. 8/4 Not so heavily powered as some more modern vessels. 1903 *Motoring Ann.* 218 They are more highly powered in proportion to their weight than other cars.

Powerful (pau·əɹ-, pauə·ɹfŭl), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. POWER *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Full of or having power.

1. Having great power; mighty, potent.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3242 My pure powarfull [*v. r.* powerfull] gods I presstly pauoure, þine empire & þine erytage enterely þe to 3eld. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 55 The Lords of Rosse, Beaumond, and Willoughby With all their powrefull friends are fled to him. 1621 DONNE *Serm.* xv. (1640) 149 [Death] is the powerfullest, the fearefulest enemy. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxv. 305 He is reckoned the powerfullest King on the Sea-coast of Malabar. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 387 This powerful city had protested against the Recess of Spires.

2. Capable of exerting great force (physical or immaterial); strong, potent. (Of persons or things.)

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 80 The..perfect understanding of the chiefest part and most powerfull beginning of himselfe, namelie of his spirit. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, v. ii. 15 Whose top-branch..kept low Shrubs from Winters pow'rfull Winde. 1638 in *Hamilton Pap.* (Camden) I. 41 This is not nou to be doune without a pourfull force, which can not be rased heire. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 697 Extorting a confession from me by the powerfullest Rack. *a* 1711 KEN *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 275 Let thy all-powerful love abound in my heart. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 390 By the frequent and liberal use of other powerful stimulants. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. xiii, He knew to prize Lord Marmion's powerful mind, and wise. 1847 JAMES *Convict* ii, By one of the rocks were seated three powerful men. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sc.* vii. (ed. 2) 183 A performer with a powerful instrument (such as a cornopean).

3. Exerting great force or producing great effect (in quot. 1854, indicating the exertion of great force). b. Having power to influence greatly; impressive, convincing, telling.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. x. 36 Had not the Ladie with her powrefull speach Him from his wicked will uneath refrayned. 1624 DONNE *Serm.* xvii. (1640) 165 Of all proofes, Demonstration is the powerfullest. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 30 There is a powerful force in a father's command. 1799 C. B. BROWN *Edgar Huntly* (1803) I. viii. 219 Features which bore at all times a powerful resemblance to those of Mrs. Lorimer. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* iv. (1867) 63 The line of a powerful fault. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvii. 385 The sudden change of inclination producing powerful longitudinal compression. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* I. 124 The author of the most powerful book by which parental duty has been commended. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 902 A powerful fetid odour.

† **4.** Having the power *to do* something; able, capable. *Obs. rare.*

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 108 By which the Substance is able, or powerfull to doe something.

† **5.** *Math.* Involving the square or a higher power. *Obs. rare.*

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 614 A powerful Equation, wherein is some Figural number or other.

6. Great, in quantity or number; cf. MIGHTY *a.* 3. *dial.* and *vulgar.*

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii, Dat ar Tom's gwine to make a powerful deal o' trouble. *a* 1859 CARLTON *New Purchase* II. 8 (Bartlett) This piano was sort o' fiddle like—only bigger—and with a powerful heap of wire strings. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, [He] took a powerful sight of notice.

7. *Comb.*, as *powerful-engined, -handed.*

1822 GALT *Provost* xxxvi, Pulled out of the crowd by a powerful-handed woman. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 5 Jan. 5/2 The most powerful-engined liner in the world.

B. as *adv.* In a great degree; very, exceedingly. *dial.* and *vulgar.* Cf. MIGHTY *adv.*

1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xiii, He was powerful tired. 1848 W. E. BURTON *Waggeries* 23 He felt it tickle powerful from the top of his head to thee end of his starn-fin. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xviii, Rayner seems powerful anxious to get you on the paper.

Pow·erfully, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a powerful manner; with power, authority, or might; strongly, forcibly, mightily; with moving force, earnestly, impressively; greatly, exceedingly.

1602 DANIEL *Def. Rhyme* H iij, It hath stood against al the storms of factions..which so powerfully beat vpon it. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 149 He is so powerfully back'd. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* v, This well-timed present pleaded more powerfully in his favour. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* i, The short, thick-set, powerfully-built man. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 305 From May to November the sun shines powerfully.

Pow·erfulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being powerful; mightiness; strength, potency; impressiveness, convincing quality.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIX. iii, Who can maintaine With Thee in powrfullnes a rivall's quarrell? 1605 DRAYTON *Leg. Dk. Normandy* xxxiv, As though her words such powerfulnesse did beare. 1735–6 CARTE *Ormonde* I. 113 That by the powerfulness of some ministers of State..the Parliament had not its natural freedom. 1824 *New Monthly Mag.* XII. 249 A certain degree of want of powerfulness [of voice] in various parts of her scale.

Powerless (pau·əɹ-, pauə·ɹlĕs), *a.* [f. POWER *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without power or ability; devoid of power; helpless.

1552 HULOET, Powerles or lackynge power, *impos, impotens.* 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. vi. 21 His powrelesse arme, benumbd with secret feare. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVI. 87 Powerless to relieve, I must behold it. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 407 Human sense of right is powerless, when there is not the love of God's law.

Hence **Pow·erlessly** *adv.*; **Pow·erlessness.**

1823 *Examiner* 89/1 The doting Scrivener is not powerlessly conceived. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* I. vii. II. 20 [That] the large intermediate spaces..are in fact, peopled with little worlds...Now, in the powerlessness of our existing telescopes, we do not know but it may be so. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 535 The powerlessness of the remedy to effect such change. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 17 Man feels his powerlessness in the face of physical forces.

Pow·erlet. [See -LET.] A petty 'power'.

1889 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 288/1 Any actual quarrel between these Powers or powerlets could only end to the disadvantage of the Sultan.

† **Pow·erlike,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. POWER *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.] = POWERFUL.

1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 120 Rome had not..any great contestation with any powerlike Prince in her first and weakest beginning.

Pow·er-loom. A weaving loom worked by mechanical power (water, steam, etc.), as distinguished from a hand-loom.

1808 J. DUNCAN *Art of Weaving* 272 The chief working parts of the different power looms. 1827 *Edin. Rev.* XLVI. 16 The power-loom..is one of the most..useful machines that has ever been constructed. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxxii. (ed. 3) 339 A hand-weaver must possess bodily strength, which is not essential for a person attending a power-loom. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 259/1 Between 1785 and 1792 Cartwright matured his power-loom.

b. *Comb.*, as *power-loom cloth, weaver, weaving.*

1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 9 All present were spinners and power-loom weavers. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 331 Capital..expended in..the mere spinning of power-loom yarn, or the weaving of what is purchased. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 22 Power-loom weaving is combined with spinning. 1892 *Daily News* 13 Feb. 7/3 There is no change in the market for brown power-loom cloth.

Powert, -te, -tie, obs. forms of POVERTY.

‖ **Powese** (pau·īs, -īz). *Brit. Guiana.* Also 9 **powis**(**e, powee, powie, paui.** [a. Du. (of Surinam) *pouwies*, corrupt. of Sp. *pauxi* or mod.L. *pauxis*: see PAUXI. Mistaking of the final sibilant for a plural inflexion (as in *pease*) has brought a new sing. *powee, powie* into vulgar use.] = PAUXI.

1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 175 The Peacock Pheasant of Guiana..called Powese by the Natives, from their cry, which is similar to that name. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* (1882) 27 Here are also two species of the Powise, or Hocco. 1880 W. H. BRETT *Leg. & Myths Guiana* 190 The Southern Cross is supposed by many clans to represent a Paui bird. 1898 H. KIRK *Brit. Guiana* Gloss. 352 *Powis*, curassow. 1903 DES VOEUX *Col. Service* I. 73 Other birds such as powie (curassow). *Ibid.* 98.

Poweste, var. POUSTIE *Obs.*, power. **Powghe, pow3, pow3e, powhe,** var. POUGH *sb.* and *v.* **Powhead,** var. POLEHEAD, tadpole. **Powie, -is, -ise:** see POWESE. **Powin,** Sc. var. PAWN *sb.*[3] *Obs.*, peacock. **Powk,** dial. f. POKE; var. POUK. **Powke-needle:** see PUCK-NEEDLE. **Powl,** obs. f. POLE, POLL. **Powlder,** obs. f. POWDER.

Powldoody (paul,dū·di). Also **poul-, -dowdy.** [From *Pouldoody* (? *poll Dubhda*, O'Dowd's Hole), name of the inner part of a creek near Corcomroe Abbey in Co. Clare.] A celebrated variety of Irish oyster: see quot. 1890.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 718 We had some scolloped Powldoodies for supper. 1828 *Ibid.* XXIII. 388 We are willing to bet a barrel, and make the first deposit of a dozen powldoodies at Ambrose's. 1890 *Standard* 26 Dec. 6/4 Wonderfully large supplies of exquisitely flavoured 'powldoodies'.. used to be obtained from 'the..shores of the Green Isle'.

Powldron, obs. form of POULDRON.

† **Powle,** obs. f. POLL *sb.*[1] and *v.* In quot., nape of the neck: = POLL *sb.*[1] 2 c.

1603–4 *Act 1 Jas. I*, c. 22 § 23 Any parte of any Hide..called the Wombes, Neckes, Shanke, Flanke, Powle, or Cheeke.

Powle, obs. f. POLE, POOL *sb.*[1] **Powles,** etc.: see PAUL. **Powlt-foot,** obs. var. POLT-FOOT. **Powltice, Powltry,** obs. ff. POULTICE, POULTRY. **Powmbe garnette, powmgarnet, pown-garnette,** obs. ff. POMEGRANATE. **Powm(e,** obs. f. POME. **Pownage,** erron. f. PANNAGE. **Pownce, pownece, pownse,** obs. ff. POUNCE. **Pownch,** obs. f. PAUNCH. **Pownd, Powne,** obs. ff. POND, POUND. **Powney, -nie, -ny,** obs. Sc. ff. PONY. **Pownt,** obs. f. POINT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

† **Powpe,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [perh. connected with POOP *v.*[1]] A pop-gun.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Powpe, holstykke (*S.* hole styke), *capulus*.

Powpe, obs. form of POOP *sb.*[1], *v.*[1] and [2].

† **Pow-penny.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [app. f. *pow* = POLL head + PENNY.] Some payment or offering made at a funeral or on its anniversary.

1538 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 423 Item, to the powpenny deliverit to David Lindesay, Lyoun herald, ane croune of wecht..xxs. 1539 *Ibid.* VII. 181 Expensis debursit upoun the suffrage of Quene Magdelane...Item, to the Erle of Murray till offer the pow penny, xxs.

Powr, -e, obs. ff. POOR, PORE, POUR, POWER. **Powrg,** obs. f. PURGE. **Powrs, -e,** obs. ff. PULSE *sb.*[1] and [2]. **Powsh(e,** obs. ff. PUSH *sb.* and *v.*

Powsowdy (pausau·di), **powsoddy** (pausǫ·di). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 **possodie,**

-edie, 7 pow's-sowdy, 7 powsodie, 8 -sowdie, 9 -soddie, -soddy, pousoudie, -sowdie, -sowdy, 8- pow(-)sowdy. [Origin obscure: see Note.]

A name given now or formerly in Scotland and the northern counties of England to various culinary preparations, not obviously related to each other; among these (in Scotland) sheep's head broth (*? obs.*); (in Cumbld. and Westmld.) an ale posset; (in north of Eng.) Yorkshire pudding (*? obs.*); a hotch-potch or heterogeneous mixture. † Also *Sc.* used as a term of endearment (*obs.*, the earliest instance of the word). Also *attrib.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 30 Quod he, 'My claver, and my curldodie, My hwny soppis, my sweit possodie'. *a* 1685 F. SEMPILL *Blythsum Wedding* vii, There will be.. Powsodie, and drammock, and crowdie. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 24 In haf an hour hese get his mess O' crowdy-mowdy, An' fresh powsowdy. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxv, He's hovering there making some pousowdie [*note* miscellaneous mess] for my lord, for he doesna eat like ither folk neither. 1817 *Lintoun Green* ix. 92 Pow's-sowdy, king's-hoods, mony-plies, Sheep's trotters, hot and hot. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Powsoddy*, suet pudding placed under a roast. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 53 They sit down to lobscouse, and pousoudie [*misprr.* ponsondie]; .. in pousoudie we recognise the wassail .. of ale, boiled with sugar and nutmeg. 1857 J. SULLIVAN *Cumberld. & Westmorld.* 169 The ale-posset continues to appear at the village tavern on what is called the Powsowdy night. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* II. 109 The anticipation of excellent ale,..and possibly of still more excellent pow-sowdy (a combination of ale, spirits, and spices). 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Pow-sowdy*, hotchpotch, disorderment, a heterogeneous dish.

[*Note. Powsoddy* has been conjected to be a comb. of *pow*, POLL *sb.*[1] head + *sodden*, boiled; also, to be a corruption of POSSET: perh. two distinct words have been confounded, as the senses seem to have little in common.]

Powst(e, -tie, var. POUSTIE, power. **Powt(e,** obs. ff. POULT (young bird), POUT. **Powter,** obs. f. POUTER. **Powther,** obs. or dial. f. POWDER. **Powtry,** obs. f. POULTRY.

Powwow, pow-wow (pau·wau), **pawaw** (pawō·), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 7–9 **powah, -aw,** 7 **pouwau, powawe, -ahe,** 8 **pouwau, pow-waa,** 9 **powwaa, -waw.** *β.* 7–9 **pawaw, pawwaw,** 7 **pawawe, pawwau, -wawe, pauwau, -waw,** 8 **pawau, paw-waw,** 9 **pawa.** *γ.* 7– **powow, pow-wow,** 8 **pouwou,** 8– **powwow.** [An Algonkin (Narragansett) word, *pow|waw·* or *powah·*, the two syllables of which in colonial Eng. use were assimilated, and the stress transferred to the first, although in the form *pawaw·* also retained on the second.]

1. A priest, sorcerer, or medicine-man of the North American Indians.

α. 1624 E. WINSLOW *Gd. News fr. New Eng.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) IV. 1868 The office and dutie of the Powah is to be exercised principally in calling vpon the Deuill; and curing diseases of the sicke or wounded. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 131 Their Physicians are the Powaws or Indian Priests. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 177 The Indians reported that he was such a great Pouwau, that no bullet could enter him. 1766 C. BEATTY *Two Months' Tour* (1768) 87 Consulting their Pow-waas (a kind of prophets, who pretend to have converse with spirits). 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* ii. 81 The tricks practised by the Powahs, or Cunning men. 1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* I. 169 The Powwaw's charm. 1904 G. SMITH *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* II. xii. 138 In 1650 the first two 'powaws' or wizards were converted.

β. 1645 E. DOWNING in *Coll. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. IV. VI. (1863) 65 To maynteyne the worship of the devill which theire paw wawes often doe. 1670 D. DENTON *Descr. New York* (1845) 8 The day being appointed by their chief Priest or pawaw. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. ix. 201 *Pawa*, or *pawaw*, spelt also *powah*, is a word which I have not found in so general use among the Indians of New England, as it has always been among the colonists. 1832 J. DURFEE *What Cheer* VII. xliv, And oft he thought, o'er thickets brown, he saw Wave the black fox-tail of the grim Pawaw.

γ. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xii. 82 Their Powwows betaking themselves to their exorcismes and necromanticke charmes. 1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 218 The Indian Conjurer, one of those whom they call Powwows. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* I. 52 Let them come,..be it sagamore, sachem, or pow-wow. 1873 R. BROWN *Races Man.* I. 246 The *pow-wows* visited the sick, sang and invoked their gods, and applied their medicines.

2. A ceremony of the North American Indians, especially one where magic was practised and feasting and dancing indulged in; also, a council of Indians, or conference with them.

α, β. 1663 J. COTTON in Quincy *Hist. Harvard Univ.* (1840) I. 53 Such as join with them in the observance of their pawawes and idolatries. 1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 215 An ancient religious rite, called the Pawwaw, was annually celebrated by the Indians. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 263 No place could be a fitter spot for an Indian Powaw.

γ. 1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 94 The Indians made one of their hellish pow-wows, which lasted till the hour of rising. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow*, An old Indian chief, the prophet or wizard of his tribe, held his powwows there. 1887 *Daily News* 30 Nov. 5/5 To find the thief the Indians held the Pow-wow.

3. *transf.* Applied to any meeting compared to an Indian conference; e. g. a political or scientific congress, a friendly consultation, or a merry-making; a 'palaver' of any kind. (Chiefly *U. S.*)

1812 *Salem Gaz.* (U.S.) 5 June 3/3 The Warriors of the Democratic Tribe will hold a powow at Agawam on Tuesday next. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xx. 59 The Catalina had several Kanakas on board..they had a long pow-wow, and a smoke. 1863 E. HITCHCOCK *Remin. Amherst Coll.* 333 The President..is located so near College that the midnight pow-wow [of the students] can hardly fail to disturb his slumbers. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 26 May, The Abolitionists are having a great pow-wow here as to whether they shall or not maintain their organisation. 1874 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) I. xxviii. 411, I was not at the Cambridge pow-wow. 1892 *Spectator* 20 Aug. 253/1 Congresses and pow-wows of all descriptions are certainly a feature of the age.

4. *transf.* The working of cures; 'medicine'.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 126 After my skill in pow-wow had given me a sort of correlative rank among them.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *powwow-doctor*, *-wizard.*

1843 WHITTIER *Agency of Evil* Prose Wks. 1889 III. 257 Without were 'dogs and sorcerers',..Powah wizards, and 'the foul fiend'. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* III. 525 The pow-wow-doctors still repeat over many bedsides the mysterious formulas.

Hence **Pow·wowism,** the powwow practice.

1853 R. BROWN *Races Man.* I. 235 They [*sc.* the old men] are the instructors into *pow-wowism* (or oratory), in medicine and tradition.

Powwow (pau|wau·), *v.* Forms: see prec. [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* Of North American Indians: To practise medicine or sorcery; to hold a powwow.

1642 LECHFORD *Plain Dealing* (1867) 117 They will have their tomes of Powaheing, which they will, of late, have called Prayers, according to the English word. 1646 in A. S. Hudson *Hist. Sudbury, Mass.* (1889) 20 There shall be no more Powwowing amongst the Indians. And if any shall hereafter powwow, both he that shall powwow, and he that shall procure them to powwow, shall pay twenty shillings apiece. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) II. 196 After the Indians..had been Powawing together. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xi. 118 He prescribes or powwows in sickness and over wounds.

b. *transf.* To confer, discuss, deliberate, talk, hold palaver. (Chiefly *U. S.*)

1780 J. COCHRAN in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1864) XVIII. 35 He may refer the matter to Congress, they to the Medical Committee, who will probably powwow over it awhile, and no more be heard of it. 1857 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) II. 334 Senator Mason of Virginia was there, powwowing about the Union. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 13 July 32/1 Mr. Stevenson's narrative style appears to have become infected with that quality through continued pow-wowing with Samoan grandees. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 600/2 She did not..sail to powwow about the dangers of the seas.

2. *trans.* To doctor, to treat with magic.

1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xi. 116, I gave him a piece of red flannel, and powwowed him. 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 206/2 The artistic forms of the beadwork..representing the symbols of secret societies, the qualification of the worker, ..the shaman who powwowed the work.

Hence **Powwow·ing** *vbl. sb.*, the practising of powwow; conference, palaver.

1642 [see 1 above]. 1650 J. ELIOT in *Early Rec. Lancaster, Mass.* (1884) 27 At my first preaching at Nashaway sundry did imbrace the word, and called upon God, and Pauwauing was wholly silenced. 1764 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 475 *note*, Their sweatings in their hot houses was a more rational remedy than the powowing. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* ii. 84 The magic or powahing of the North American Indians. 1893 [see 1 b above].

Powwow·er. [f. prec. vb. + -ER[1].] One who practises powwow; = POWWOW *sb.* 1.

1646 *Mass. Col. Rec.* (1854) III. 98 Such..as shall assist or countenance such pawwawing.., [to be fined] ye procurer five pounds, ye pawwawer five pounds. 1699 WAFER *Voy.* 38 That the pawawers (for so they call their conjurors) might be by themselves. 1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 217 The inhabitants..held a conference to discover the reason why the devils and pawwawers had obeyed the prayers of one minister.

Pox (pɒks), *sb.* [An altered spelling of *pocks*, pl. of POCK *sb.*, used collectively as name of a disease (cf. *measles, mumps, rickets*, etc.), and at length as a singular.]

1. Name for several different diseases characterized by 'pocks' or eruptive pustules on the skin: see POCK *sb.* 2 *a.* **a.** Undefined. (Usually = e (*b*).)

[*c* 1325, etc.: see POCK *sb.* 2 *a.*] 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. xvii. S iv, Here were muche to be spoken of..saint Iobe for y^e^ pox, saint Fyacre for ague. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxii. 187 There is much of that wood which they call *Lignum sanctum*,..fit to cure the pox. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 356 Treacle is the best Alexiterick against the Pox. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. x, Here were no..fops, bullies, drunkards, strolling whores, or poxes. 1763 CHURCHILL *Duellist* III. 380 In turn to give a Pox, or take it. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, First Visit* Wks. (Bohn) II. 5 He [Coleridge] said..there were only three things which the government had brought into that garden of delights [Sicily], namely, itch, pox, and famine.

† **b.** = SMALL-POX. *Obs.*

1621 F. DAVISON *Poems* Canzonet xlvi. 143 Vpon his Ladies sickenesse of the Poxe [*ed.* 1602 Sicknesse of the Small Pockes]. 1650 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civ. War* (1832) II. 248 My lord's sizer and Mr. Adams's are sick of the pox; it is thought past the worst. 1685 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* VI. II. ix. (ed. 4) 215 Their drink all the Time until the Pox begins to dye, and after..may be Small-Beer, warm at pleasure. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxix, The Doctor paid off an old pox By borrowing a new one from an ox.

c. Some disease of sheep. *? Obs.*

[1531: see POCK *sb.* 3.] 1545 ELYOT, *Mentigo*, the scabbe whiche is amonge shepe called the poxe. 1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 476 The Holy Fire which the Shepheards call the Pox, or the Blisters, or Saint Anthonies fire.

d. Local name for a rash or eruption to which workers in antimony are liable.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 942 This eruption which is called by the [antimony] workmen the 'pox', occurs where the skin perspires most freely. *Ibid.* 944 For the skin-eruption or 'pox' as it is called..sponging with a solution of bicarbonate or biborate of soda .. is generally sufficient to give relief.

e. With qualifying words: (*a*) See CHICKEN-POX, COW-POX, SMALL-POX, SWINE-POX; (*b*) *Great, French*, or *Spanish pox*, syphilis.

1503 Frenche pox [see FRENCH A. 6]. 1529 in Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1649) 267 The foule, and contagious Disease of the Great Pox. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witches.* I. ii. (1886) 5 Our neighbours..doubted that he had the French pox. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 616 Ointments that are prepared against the French or Spanish pox. 1731 SWIFT *Cassinus & Peter* 48 Say, has the small or greater pox Sunk down her nose, or seam'd her face? 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxx, I said the small-pox has gone out of late; Perhaps it may be followed by the great.

† **2.** In *pl.* sense = *pocks*, pustules of small-pox.

c 1672–1813 [see SMALL-POX]. 1719 T. BOSTON *Mem.* (1899) 344 Jane was taken ill of the small pox..Her pox were many, and of a dangerous kind.

† **3.** In imprecations, or exclamations of irritation or impatience. Cf. PLAGUE *sb.* 3 d. *Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 46 A Pox of that iest, and I beshrew all Shrowes. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* B ij b, A pockes of that religion. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 307 A pox on him, he's a Cat still. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 187 Some said, 'a Pox take the House of Commons, let them be Hanged'. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* V. iv, O Pox, how shall I get rid of this foolish Girl? 1710 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bickerstaff's Burying* 7 What a pox, she wont die for the Man she hates. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. vi, Formalities! with a pox!..pooh, all stuff and nonsense! 1793 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 163 A pox on all sorrow! 1820 MAIR *Lat. Dict.* 415 *Væ! Vah!* wo! pox on't.

4. *Comb.*: **pox-rotten** *a.*, physically corrupted by syphilis; **pox-stone** = *pock-stone*: see POCK *sb.* 4.

1682a *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* LII. 27 A tall thin-faced fellow pocks rotten. *c* 1700 KENNETT *Lansd. MS.* 1033 lf. 305 b, Above the coal mines at Chedle in Staffordshire they have a rock of a greyish colour, called *pox-stone* so very hard, that where they doe not luckily meet with a cleft, they are forced to put fire to it, to soften it, or make it flaw.

Pox, *v. Obs.* or only in vulgar use. [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To infect with the pox (i. e., usually, with syphilis). Also in imprecations (cf. prec. 3). Hence **Poxed** (pɒkst) *ppl. a.*

1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 266 And the pox'd Nation feels Thee in their Brains. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 29 Sept., The dean friendly! The dean be pox't. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. iii, Jack..persuaded Peg that all mankind, besides himself, were poxed by that scarlet-faced whore. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) IV. xiii. 249 She..lives..to ruin the fortune, pox the body, and for ever damn the soul of the miserable man.

Poy, puy (poi), *sb.*[1] Now *dial.* Also 9 **powey, pooey** (pō·i, pū·i), **puoy.** [Etymology obscure; it has been suggested to be the same as POY *sb.*[2]; but the sense offers difficulty.]

1. A pole used to propel a barge or boat; a punting-pole; *spec.* that with an iron forked point used by keelmen on the Tyne, etc.

1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 243, vij. long polles for to make hokes and poyes. 1784 *Bishoprick Garland* (1834) 60 (E. D. D.). 1829 T. MARSHALL *Coll. Songs* 17 Ower the powey slap he fell. 1865 *Our Coal & Coal-fields* 72 Having walked the whole length of the vessel they pluck up the great oars, which they call puys, return hastily to the prow, put down the puys again and thrust as before. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Pooey, puoy, puy, powey, poy*, the pole used by keelmen to 'set' or push the keel along. Standing at the bow of the keel, the man rapidly thrusts his pooey down to the bottom of the river, where a small fork holds it in the sand [etc.].

† **2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS, *Poy*, the Pole us'd by Rope-dancers to stay themselves with. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Poy, *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* Also 7 **poye, puoy.** [perh. aphetic for **apoye*, a. OF. *apoie, appuye* 'an open and outstanding terrace or gallery, set on th' outside with railes to leane vpon' (Cotgr.). Sense 2 appears to be a distinct application of F. *appui* support.]

† **1.** (See etymology.) *Obs.*

1636 *Maldon, Essex Documents* Bundle 217 No. 22 Of Henery Adammes for his poye at his hous, 2*d.* 1656 *Maldon, Essex Borough Deeds* Bundle 87 No. 1, iid. due for quitt-rent for the poy of the howse late of Mr. Wells. 1677 *Ibid.* Bundle 100 No. 2 Paid to Mr. Finch for windowes and puoy and penthowse by him left att the howse of correction when he left itt.

2. A float used to buoy up the head of a sheep when swimming in the washing-pool. *dial.*

1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 720–7 s. v. (In E. D. D. from Linc. and Notts.)

Poy, *v. dial.* [f. POY *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To propel (a barge or boat) with a poy; to pole, punt.

1784 *Bishoprick Garland* (1834) 60 (E. D. D.) A clever blade, I'm told, as ever poy'd a keel. 1889 *Tyneside Songster* 114 (E. D. D.) Still the twe cheps kept poweyin her reet, They powey'd till they powey'd her reet out o' seet.

Poy-bird, obs. form of POË-BIRD.

† **Poyder** (pü·dər), obs. Sc. f. PEWTER.

1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 269, V dosane of Flander poyder truncheowirs...Twa lawers of Flanders poyder.

Poyesye, Poyet, obs. ff. POESY, POET.

† Poygné, poynyé. *Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **poygne, poyne,** *Sc.* **punȝe, pwnȝhe,** 5 *Sc.* **poynyhe, poyhne, ponyhe.** [a. OF. *poignié* or *poigniee*:— late L. type *pugnāta*, f. *pugnāre* to fight.] A fight, combat, skirmish.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 373 For in punȝeis is oft hapnyne. *Ibid.* XVI. 307 Bot gif that ony pwnȝhe wer That is nocht for till spek of her. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5565 He broght with him to that poyne Off gode knyghtes thousandes thre [*MS.* tweyne, but cf. *Destr. Troy* 6880]. *Ibid.* 12924 With hardy hert & gret fferte Come he thedur to that poygne. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. iii. 217 Welle thre hundyr and fourty Of Inglis at that poynȝhe war tane. *Ibid.* V. 355 Poyhneis and iuperdeis of were.

Poyle, poylley, obs. ff. PULLEY.

Poyn, var. POIN *v. Obs.*, to prick, stitch. **Poynado, poynard,** obs. ff. PONIARD. **Poynant, -naunt,** obs. ff. POIGNANT. **Poynd,** obs. f. POIND; see also quot. *c* 1450 s. v. POUND *v.*2 1. **Poynde,** obs. f. POND. **Poyne,** var. POYGNÉ, PUNYE. **Poynette,** var. POIGNET *Obs.* **Poyngarnette,** obs. f. POMEGRANATE. **Poyniard, -yard,** obs. ff. PONIARD.

Poyning's Law. See quot.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Poynings Law* is an Act of Parliament made in Ireland, 10 Hen. 7, and was so called, because Sir Edw. Poynings was Lieutenant of Ireland, when that Law was made; whereby all the Statutes of England were made of force in Ireland [etc.].

Poynson, obs. f. PUNCHEON. **Poynt,** etc., obs. ff. PAINT, POINT, etc. **Poyny(h)e,** var. POYGNÉ *Obs.* **Poynysse,** obs. f. PUNISH.

‖ **Poyou** (poi·ū). [Native name in Guarani.] The six-banded armadillo, *Dasypus sexcinctus.*

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 353/2 The *poyou*..., or yellow-footed armadillo (for thus Azara interprets the name), measures about sixteen inches from the nose to the origin of the tail. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 195. 1896 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 185.

Poyr, obs. north. f. POOR. **Poyra,** var. PORRAY. **Poyse,** obs. f. POISE. **Poyse, -see,** etc., obs. ff. POESY. **Poysen, -son, -syn,** etc., obs. ff. POISON, etc. **Poyte,** obs. form of POET.

† Poz (pɒz). *Obs. collog.* Also 8 **pos, pozz.** [Abbreviation of POSITIVE.] Positive, certain; esp. in phrase *that's poz.* Also as *adv.* = positively.

1710 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 230 ₱ 5, I can't d't, that's Pozz. 1711 — *Lett.* (1767) III. 231 'Tis very cold; but I will not have a fire till November, that's pozz. 1716 ADDISON *Drummer* III. i, I will be flattered, that's pos! 1801 SURR *Splendid Misery* II. 143 'Fie, fie, Lady Amelia', said I. 'I will, poz', replied she. 1839 THACKERAY *Catherine* ii, I will have a regiment to myself, that's poz.

Poze, Pozed, Pozer, obs. ff. POSE, etc.

‖ **Pozzolana, pozzuolana** (pɒttso-, pɒttswolā·nă) Also 8 **puzzolane**; 8–9 **pouzzo-, puzzolana,** 9 **pozzo-, puzzolano, puozzo-, puzzuolana.** [It. *pozz(u)olana*, prop. adj. (sc. *terra* earth) 'belonging to Pozzuoli' (L. *Puteolī* little springs) a town near Naples; whence F. *pouzzolane*, by which some of the Eng. spellings are affected.] A volcanic ash, containing silica, alumina, lime, etc., found near Pozzuoli, and in the neighbourhood of various volcanoes, much used in the preparation of hydraulic cement. Also, used as the name of similar artificial preparations.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pozzolana*, a kind of Sand found in the Territory of Pozzuolo near..Naples. 1777 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 6 They grind down this sort of stone ..into a powder, which they use as a puzzolane for all their buildings under water. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 185. 111 The two substances of so much consequence in water building; viz. *Tarras* and *Puzzolana.* 1818 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* xii. II. 121 A yellowish alluvial formation resembling the tuffas or puzzuolana of Iceland. 1842 *Mech. Mag.* XXXVI. 294 The clays used in the fabrication of certain pouzzolanas. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 33 Rome is built, one may say, of pozzolana.

attrib. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 190 The catacombs of Rome are hollowed in a sort of puzzolana earth, of a brown violet colour. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 45 Tartar in hogsheads of wine, and pouzzolana mortar.

Hence **Pozzola·nic** *a.*, of the nature of or containing pozzolana.

1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 85 There is also pozolanic or watery limestone.

Pra, obs. Sc. f. PRAY, PREY. **Praam,** var. PRAM.

Pra·bble, *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial. rare.* [Dial. variant (in Shaks., a Welshman's pronunciation) of BRABBLE.] A quarrel, a squabble.

1598 [see PRIBBLE]. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. viii. 69 *Fluellen*...I pray you to serue God, and keepe you out of prawles and prabbles, and quarrels and dissentions. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss.* s. v., Au darn't differ wi' him for fear on a prabble.

So **Pra·bble** *v. trans.*, to chatter noisily.

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xvi, And let the others prabble truculent philosophy.

Prace, obs. form of PRESS.

Prachant, variant of PRATCHANT *Obs.*

† Pract, *v. Sc. Obs.* [f. stem of *pract-ic, -ice.*] *trans.* and *intr.* = PRACTISE *v.* (in various senses).

a 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 121 (Bann. MS.) Yit scho callit to hir cheir On apostita freir, A peruerst perdonair And practand palmair. *Ibid.* 163 Bot presumpteouss in pryd, Practing no thing expert, In cunnyng cumpass nor kert.

Practic (præ·ktik), *sb.*1 *arch.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 **practik,** 4–7 **-ike,** 5 **-yk, -yke, -yque,** 5–9 **-ique,** 6–7 **-icke, -icque,** 6–8 **-ick,** 6– **practic**; 5 **praktik, -ike**; 7 **pracktik.** *β. Sc.* 6 **pratick, -yke,** 6–7 **prattik,** 6–8 **-ick,** 7–8 **-ique,** 7 **pratique;** 6 **prettic, -ick, -ik, -ike, -icque**: see also PRATIQUE. [ME. *practik(e*, a. OF. *practike, -ique*, variants of *prat(t)ique* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) practice, usage, intrigue, form of pleading, etc. (whence the *β* forms); ad. med.L. *practica*, a. Gr. *πρακτική* (also *πρακτική ἐπιστήμη*, Plato) practical (as opposed to theoretical) science, fem. sing. of *πρακτικός* adj.: see next.] The earlier Eng. and esp. Sc. equivalent of PRACTICE.

1. The action of practising; practical work or application of (something); practice as opposed to theory; = PRACTICE 1.

a. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 43 Wise men and wel i-taust in þe practike of gemetrie. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol., The second partie shal teche the werken the verrey practik of the forseide conclusiouns. *a* 1460 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 241 Hatrede and praptyk of fals auctorité Al good conscience they putten owte. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 77 To lerne the practique of law or custom of lande, or of civile matier. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 269 Of rhetorik the praktik he micht leir. 1598 BARRET (*title*) The Theorike and Praktike of Moderne Warres. 1600 ABP. ABBOT *Exp. Jonah* 537 Thou thoughtest it so in Theorike but beleevedst it not in Practike. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* II. i, He has the theory only, not the practic. 1700 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 317 As to the practick of it; there are..consorts of music. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 294 They ignored the practic and theoric of every sect. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* v, Amyas..cunning as a fox in all matters of tactic and practic.

β. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 30 Boith in pratick & speculation. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 221 In all prattik of weir he wes perqueir. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 2653 This wes the prettike of sum pylgramage. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. vi, [To] obstruct their pratique in those Arts of life wherein they were expert.

† **b.** As one of the ancient divisions of Philosophy.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 85 The laste science of the thre It is Practique. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 389 b/2 Phylosophye is deuyded in thre, in theoryque in practyque and in logyque.

c. An action, deed, work; *pl.* works, doings, deeds, practices; things practical, practical matters.

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* § 13 (1653) 56 Our Bishops challenge (if not in their Polemicks, yet in their Practicks) a Power that Timothy and Titus..never did. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 204 The moralls and practiques of men, as well as their intellectuals, are much to be considered. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. lxii. 355 This dear lady is prodigiously learned in theories. But as to practics, as to experimentals, must be, as you know from her tender years, a mere novice. 1889 A. GISSING *Both of this Parish* II. vi. 135 Accomplished in all the practicks of tilth and tillage.

† **2.** Mode of action or operation; custom, habit, usage; = PRACTICE 2 *c. Obs.*

a. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 187 Telle forth youre tale.. And teche vs yonge men of youre praktike. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. (Rolls) 269 The oolde practik of deuoute Cristen man. 1563 WINȝET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 57 The commoun practik of our aduersaris, to mak of obscuir mirknes a commmentare to the cleir licht. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Scarlet-Gown* Ep. Ded., Particularities of the practique..in the elections of the said Cardinalls.

β. c 1560 ROLLAND 7 *Sages* 34 Of thair prettick to me ane point propyne.

3. Legal usage; case-law; particularly in Scots Law: see quot. 1708.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I i vij, To make newe offyces and to ordeyne statutes and practikes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 353 According to the.. Actis of Parliament, lawis, and practik of this realme *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 64 The lawis and pratick of this realme. *c* 1588 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 253 The use and the prattik of the kirk. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xv. § 2 (1699) 82 Albeit the manner of death is not exprest in this act, yet practick hath determined the same to be hanging. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. v. (1737) 408 Upon the Civil Law the solemn Judgments in Law Cases have been collected, which are called Practiques [in Scotland], a Word of the same Import with that of Reports in England. *a* 1765 ERSKINE *Instit. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 47 An uniform tract of decisions of the court of session, *i. e.* of their judgements on particular points, either of right or of form.. anciently called Practics, is by Mackenzie..accounted part of our customary law. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, What say ye to try young Mackenyie? he has a' his uncle's practiques at the tongue's end.

† **4.** Practical acquaintance; habitual intercourse or dealings; experience; = PRACTICE 3. *Obs.*

1592 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1685) 663 A certain Florentine, of great prattick with Strangers. 1624 SIR T. ROE in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 206 One that hath experience and practicque with all nations. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. iv. § 140 (1740) 306 How could any one, of English Education and Prattique, swallow such a low Rabble Suggestion?

† **5.** Artful dealing, contrivance, cunning, policy; with *a* and *pl.*, an art or kind of practical skill, *esp.* an artful device or contrivance, a stratagem, trick, or deception. *Obs.*

a. c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xlii, His deith be practik may be preuit eith. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 19 [Edw. IV] willed that my lord Dynham shuld assaie some practik therin and fele the mynde of the said lord Corder. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. x. *heading*, Heyr Turnus and Camylla gan devys Practikis of weir, the Troianis to supprys. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 94 He vsit the samen practik contrar irland and valis. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 319 Medeas practicques scho had plane, That could mak auld men young agane. 1584 LODGE *Alarm agst. Usurers*, etc. (Hunter. Cl.) 62 He brought foorth a mirrour of notable operation, a practicke in prospectiue.

β. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxii. 13 Of quhome the gled dois prettikis preif. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. x. 66 A prattik of weir devys will I. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 316 To occupie the toune with sum prattick or policie. 1693 *Scotch Presbyter. Eloquence* (1738) 117 Thou art always proving Pratticks.

Practic (præ·ktik), *a.* (*sb.*2) *arch.* Forms: 4, 6 **practik,** 6–7 **-ike, -icke, -ique,** 7–8 **-ick,** 7– **-ic,** (7 **pratick**). [a. obs. F. *practique*, variant of *pratique* practical, ad. late L. *practicus* (Fulgentius, *a* 550), a. Gr. *πρακτικός* concerned with action, practical, f. *πράττειν* to do, act: see prec. and -IC.]

1. Pertaining to, consisting or exhibited in practice or action; = PRACTICAL 1.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. *heading*, The practike workinge of sondry conclusions Geometrical. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* VI. i. 182 The practike rules whereof I haue ..at large set downe. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 8 Performing the art of healing in a practick way, namely, by the hand. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* IX. ₱ 18 Our attendance on practick duties. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* V. § 4 All things of a practic nature. 1813 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Vagaries Vind.* xlix, Witlings who in practic waggery deal. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* I. 121 Spurning the dictates of a practic creed. *a* 1849 — *Ess.* (1851) I. 135 Its benign and sublimating influences are conveyed to the lower orb of practic works and secular relations.

b. Opposed to *theoretic, speculative*, or *contemplative.* (So in earliest use.) *arch.* or *Obs.*

Often applied to that department of a subject, art, or science, which relates to practice.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 241 þis cunnyng was not speculatif,..but practik, put in dede, how men shulde lyve by Goddis lawe. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XV. ii. (1886) 322 He perfectlie teacheth practike philosophie. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. i. 51 The Art and Practique part of Life, Must be the Mistress to this Theorique. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 120 Vertues are generally deuided into Speculatiue and Practike; or we may say, into Intellectiue and Actiue. 1617 J. MOORE *Mappe Mans Mortalitie* III. x. 250 Let our skill herein not onely be contemplatiue, but practique. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 280 What more pleasing studies can there be than the Mathematicks, Theorick or Pratick parts? 1715 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 103 Famous for his Knowledge in the Theory of Musick; in the practick part of which Faculty he was likewise very considerable. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Crit. Rev.* Ser. III. III. 526 These were daily instructed for some hours both in the theoric and practic parts of the Pythagorean philosophy.

† **c.** Of persons or their faculties. ? *Obs.*

1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* Pref. D iv, As the inuention of Gun-powder is attributed to a contemplatiue Monke; so these practique Monkes thought it belonged to them, to put it into vse and execution, to the destruction of a State and a Church. 1687 *New Atlantis* I. 375 The Practick Minds may in State Matters dive, In hidden Knowledge the Contemplative. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* 212 The practic Essenes were mostly occupied in keeping sheep.

† **2.** = PRACTICAL *a.* 2, 4. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Practique*, practising. 1620 DONNE *Serm.* lxxiv. (1640) 756 It shall do him no good, to say..that he was no speculative Atheist..if hee lived a practique Atheist. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 348 Practicke Atheists, who are led by sense as brute beasts.

† **3.** That has had experience in any process or course of action; experienced, practised, well-versed, skilled. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iii. 7 Right practicke was Sir Priamond in fight, And throughly skild in use of shield and speare. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 981 This Ambassadour was a practicke man, of much experience. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 14 These Pamphlets, after they have made many women bold, it makes them practick in it, they finde out subtilties, with safty in them.

† **4.** Artful, crafty, cunning. *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. viii. 8 [The corsairs] with their practick art bryng dayly too Alger a number of pore Christians, which they sell vnto the Moores. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 9 Wylie witted, and growne old In cunning sleightes and practick knavery.

† **B.** *sb.*2 [absolute use of the adj.] A practical man, a man of action, as opposed to a theorist; one who practises something, as opposed to studying it; *spec.* a member of the Jewish sect of the Essenes, who took part in the active affairs of life.

1599 DANIEL *Musophilus* CXXXVII, I grant, that some unletter'd Practick may .. with impious Cunning sway The Courses fore-begun with like Effect. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* I. xii. 62 Of these Essenes there were two sorts, some Theorikes..; others Practicks, laborious and painfull in the daily exercise of those handy-crafts in which they were most skilfull. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 3 They are mere sceptics, because they would not be practicks. 1650 ELDERFIELD *Tythes* 20 Two sorts of them there were; the students, and the practiques.

† **Pra·ctic,** *v. Sc. Obs.* Also 5 **pratik,** 6 **prattik, pretyk, practi(c)k, -ique.** [ad. F. *pratique-r*, obs. *practiquer* = med.L. *practicāre* to practise (a profession, etc.), It. *praticare*, Prov. *pratiar*, Sp. *practicar.* Subseq. conformed to Gr. and L. stem.] *trans.* = PRACTISE (in various senses). **a.** To put into action or operation. **b.** To actuate or influence craftily. **c.** in *pa. pple.* Practised, versed.

a. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 207 [They] pratik the granting of mark to ger resoun be done. 1533

GAU *Richt I'ay* 62 Peter practik[it] his keyis in the secund chaiptur of the dedis of the apostlis, be preching of ye law he brocht the pepil to knawelege of thair sine. *c* 1588 in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 253 To receaue the bodie and bluid of Chryst, as some tyme was prattiked in the kirkis of Scotland.

b. 1561 LETHINGTON *Let. to Cecil* 15 Aug., St. Pap. Scotl., Eliz. VI. 56 (P. R. O.) Thinking yt the Quenes majesty will by some meanes practique the subiectes off this Realme she [Mary] hath written to divers..to continue thintelligence.

c. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 15 Them that vas neuyr pretykkit in the veyris. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 160 Quhan ony ciwill insurrectioun wes in the cuntrie and specialie lesmaiestie aganis the kingis own persone quhairin he was well practicked.

Practicability (præ:ktikăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ITY. Cf. mod.F. *praticabilité* (Littré).] The quality or state of being practicable; capability of being done or carried out in practice; feasibility. In *pl.* practicable conditions or things.

1767 SMEATON (*title*) Report .. concerning The Practicability and Expence of joining the Rivers Forth and Clyde by a Navigable Canal. 1772-84 COOK *Voy.* (1790) IV. 1193 As to the existence, or at least as to the practicability of a northern passage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. 1816 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* (ed. 5) 191 Of all the practicabilities, which at present offer themselves to that country, the one that is most [promising] is the stability of the government of the Bourbons. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 He has..lost faith in the practicability of his scheme.

Practicable (præ·ktikăb'l), *a.* [ad. F. *praticable* (*pratiquable*, 1594 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *pratiquer* to practise: see -ABLE. Conformed in the stem to *practic, practice*, and med.L. *practicāre*.]

1. Capable of being put into practice, carried out in action, effected, accomplished, or done; feasible.

1670 MAYNWARING (*title*) Vita Sana & Longa. The Preservation of Health,..proved. In the due observance of Remarkable Præcautions And daily practicable Rules, Relating to Body and Mind. 1688 PENTON *Guardian's Instr.* 63 There was so much plain, practicable Truth in what he had said. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 169, I knew not how it was practicable to get it about. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 26 Ascended the glacier as far as practicable.

2. Capable of being actually used or traversed, as a road, passage, ford, etc.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4709/1 The Breach..being already practicable, Preparations were making for the general Assault. 1784 BELKNAP *Tour White Mts.* (1876) 16 The only practicable pass through these Mountains to the upper settlements on Connecticut River. 1828 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 309 From Gibraltar the road to Cadiz is likewise very practicable for ladies. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* II. 519 By the time the breach was practicable the town was distressed for provisions.

b. *Theatr.* Said of windows, doors, etc., which are capable of actual use in the play, as distinct from things merely simulated. Also (*colloq.*) *ellipt.* as *sb.*

1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii, He put his head out of the practicable door in the front grooves O. P. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIV. 296/1 Although they [narrow passages at the back of the stage] are, in stage language, 'practicable', hardly could they have been made use of. 1856 MAYHEW *Rhine* 92 The heads of all the tinsel busts..you now find to be 'practicable', as they say in theatrical language. 1859 WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin* xviii. 267 The machinist had put up a plank running from the stage to the end of the pit, and ..two other 'practicables', much shorter than the centre one, ran across to the boxes. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* I. 362 His [Southey's] scenery and enchantments are always 'practicable', to use theatrical language.

3. *slang.* Easily practised upon or manipulated, gullible; open to connivence or collusion; facile.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. P 5 As practicable greenhorns as ever fell into the hands of a man of genius. *Ibid.* VII. XV. P 12 You might as well be a little more practicable with the clerk of the kitchen.

Hence **Pra·cticableness**, the quality of being practicable; practicability; **Pra·cticably** *adv.*, in a practicable manner; in actual practice or operation, practically.

1643 NETHERSOLE *Proj. for Peace* (1648) 5 Without having respect to the practicablenesse thereof. 1649 *Bounds Publ. Obed.* 11 All our scruples therefore are concerning things to us practicably lawfull or unlawfull in themselves. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS J., The meanest capacity, when he sees a rule practicably applied before his eyes, can no longer be at a loss how 'tis to be performed. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 344 Which I mention only to shew the Practicableness of a Reformation. 1883 *Christian* 1 Nov. 12/1 The question of the practicableness..of the Jordan Valley Canal scheme.

Practical (præ·ktikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as PRACTIC *a.* + -AL.]

I. 1. Of, pertaining or relating to practice; consisting or exhibited in practice or action. Opp. to *speculative, theoretical*, or *ideal*.

Often applied to that department of a subject, art, or science, which relates to practice as distinguished from theory, as in *practical agriculture, arithmetic, chemistry, geometry, logic, music, philosophy*, etc. *Practical joke*: see JOKE *sb.* 1.

1617 BP. HALL *No Peace with Rome* § 8 Vnlesse it be determined (vnder some false semblance) by the verdict of our practicall iudgement, we will it not. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 211 Of Arts some contemplatiue, some practicall. 1657 *North's Plutarch* II. 19 The rest of Aristotles books must be referred to his Philosophy, which he divided into two parts, namely, speculative and practical. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 18 Hypocrisie is a lie done, a practical lie. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 282 We suppose the Maker very well versed in Practical Geometry, Mechanics and Optics. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. IX. 78 A Constitution, that at the time of the writing had not so much as a practical existence. 1849 THACKERAY *Lett.* 14 Sept., He said solemnly, that he did not approve of practical jokes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 202/2 The whole system..shows ..the practical application of technical education.

b. Having, or implying, value or consequence in relation to action; available or applicable in practice; capable of being turned to account; practically useful.

1642 HOWELL (*title*) Instructions for Forreine Travell. Shewing by what cours..one may arrive to the practicall knowledge of the Languages. 1673 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Mar., Time and experience may forme him to a more practical way..of University lectures and erudition. 1701 J. JONES (*title*) Practical Phonography: or, the new Art of Rightly Spelling..By the Sound. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 323 He should..see the joyner set and fasten it in a steady and practical position. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* Pref. 7, I make no pretension to literary style, but have aimed to produce a practical work for practical men. 1897 *Daily News* 24 July 5/2 Practical politics is to do what you can, and not what you ought. 1898 LADY MALMESBURY in *Cycling* 93 A woman's cycling dress should be, in the first place, practical —that is, composed of materials which do not suffer from rain or dust and will stand a certain amount of hard wear.

2. Actually engaged in the practice of some occupation; practising, working.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Practicall*, practising. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 23 *note*, Experience has led the practical farmers into the opinion, that these things are the food of plants. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 546 Of all this, the practical iron men are much better judges than we theorists. 1827 *Westm. Rev.* VII. 294 Had Mongolfier not been a practical man as well as a philosopher. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1872) 40 The highest botanical authorities and practical men can be quoted to show that the sessile and pedunculated oaks are either good and distinct species or mere varieties.

†b. Actively engaged *in*; active, busy. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 289 They are most practicall in all kinds of businesse. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* 13 Jan. 9 There is..scarce any of them, who is not practicall in their owne great cause in hand.

†c. Practised, experienced. *Obs.*

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 108 A Traveller..that hath given us good Discourse, and he speaks as though he were practical in things.

3. Devoted or inclined to action (as opp. to speculation, etc.); whose knowledge is derived from practice rather than theory; also, having capacity or ability for action.

1667 M. LOCKE in C. Simpson *Compendium* A v b, We poor Practical men, who doe, because we doe (as they are pleas'd to censure us). 1844 STANLEY *Arnold* I. iv. 187 He remained eminently practical to the end of his life. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* I. iii, The English..being a practical people, it is possible that they might have achieved their object and yet retained their native princes. 1861 BUCKLE *Hist. Civiliz.* II. 310 They..whose knowledge is almost confined to what they see passing around them, and who, on account of their ignorance, are termed practical men. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 76 The practical man, who relies on his own experience.

4. That is such in practice or conduct (as distinguished from belief or theory); that is such in effect, though not nominally or professedly so; virtual.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. vii. 387 In a word, if he was not a practicall Atheist, I know not who was. *a* 1688 W. CLAGETT *17 Serm.* (1699) 126 Every wicked man..may indeed be called a practical atheist. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonement* vii. (1852) 194 To suspend a law, is, in that instance, to exercise a practical veto against its being law. 1851 H. SPENCER *Soc. Stat.* xxxii. 475 We are not to be guilty of that practical atheism, which, seeing no guidance for human affairs but its own limited foresight, endeavours itself to play the god. 1882 FREEMAN *Amer. Lect.* II. v. 390 The great advantage of our practical republic over your avowed republic.

II. †5. That practises art or craft; crafty, scheming, artful. (Cf. PRACTIC *a.* 4, PRACTICE 6, 7.) *Obs.* (The earliest recorded sense.)

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1906/1 Not onely perceiuing their practicall proceedings, but also much greued with their troublesome vnquietnes.

III. 6. *Comb.*, as *practical-minded*.

1881 C. GIBBON *Heart's Problem* iv, He had endured some banter from his practical-minded friend as to the folly of thinking about love instead of law. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 14 Apr. 4/6 The practical-minded makers of modern Egypt.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*)

†1. Practical matters; points of practice. *Obs.*

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* Introd. ii. 31 How in Practicals, They Direct in wel-doing. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 20 Credenda, as opposed to the Agenda, or Practicalls of Christianity. 1737 M. GREEN *Spleen* 322 That tribe, whose practicals decree Small beer the deadliest heresy.

b. Practical jokes or tricks. *colloq.* ? *Obs.*

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii, Give over your practicals, Lucifer.

2. Practical men; persons concerned with practice.

1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 44 The Practicals never heard of it; or if they had they disdained it as visionary theory. 1844 — *Ess. Pol. Econ.* 142 The practicals would endeavour to determine this question by a direct induction.

Hence **Pra·cticalism**, devotion to practical affairs; **Pra·cticalist**, one who devotes himself to or advocates what is practical.

1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 146 Among the Parliamentary men belonging to Hardingston's set, there prevailed a tendency to practicalism, the origin of the sect of Utilitarians. 1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 88 The very practicalism of the English has guarded them against much mistaken and superficial practicalism. 1865 MILL *Comte* 86 The theorists ..have successfully retaliated on the practicalists.

Practicality (prækti·kæ·lĭti). [f. prec. + -ITY.]

1. The quality of being practical: usually in senses 1 b and 3 of the adj.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 263 If he..had not courage, promptitude, practicality, and other suitable vulpine gifts and graces, he would catch no geese. 1883 *Contemp. Rev.* June 815 A certain prosaic practicality and hard realism.

2. A practical matter or affair. (Chiefly in *pl.*)

1854 tr. *Lamartine's Celebr. Char.* II. *Fénelon* 384 These two dreams of Fénelon have been looked upon as serious practicalities by short-sighted reasoners. 1887 MISS E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* (1888) 303 Miss Wynyard had been educated to practicalities, and knew her own requirements.

Pra·cticalize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans. nonce-use.* To subject to practical jokes. (PRACTICAL *sb.* 1 b.) Hence **Practicaliza·tion.**

1818 KEBLE in Coleridge *Mem.* v. (1869) 74, I only hope I shall not be practicalized to death. 1869 COLERIDGE *Ibid.* 75 His fears of death by the slow process of practicalization.

2. To render practical.

1844 J. CAIRNS *Let.* in *Life* x. (1895) 225 Walker is thoroughly practicalised..more evangelically simple than heretofore. 1861 MILL *Autobiog.* i. (1874) 37 He made no effort to provide me any sufficient substitute for [the] practicalizing influences [of school life). 1863 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 289 The strong sense which practicalises the ideal to the common sympathies and comprehension of multitudes.

Practically (præ·ktikăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a practical manner; in the way of, or in relation to, practice; in practice; as a matter of fact, actually. Often opposed to *theoretically, speculatively*, or *formally*.

1623 T. POWELL (*title*) The Attourneys Academy: or, the Manner and Forme of proceeding practically, vpon any Suite, Plaint or Action whatsoeuer, in any Court of Record whatsoeuer, within this Kingdome. 1628 DONNE *Serm.* xxiii. (1640) 233 He loves himself..Contemplatiuely, by knowing as he is known, and Practically, by loving, as he is loved. 1646 JENKYN *Remora* 12 They said not so verbally, but mentally and practically. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 6 It being impossible a thing should be practically wrong and speculatively right. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. i, Neither physic, nor law, are to be practically known from books. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Jan. 3/1 Questions which are theoretically interesting to thoughtful people and practically interesting to every one.

2. So far as concerns practice (though not completely or formally); for practical purposes; to all intents and purposes, as good as; in effect, virtually.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 349 The true Root, or such an Approximation as is practically equivalent. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* v. 190 Their own limbs and lives ..were practically altogether at their masters' mercy. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 318 Thanks to its padding,..[the saddle] was practically unhurt, except for a broken girth. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 97/2 The application was supported by practically all the creditors.

Pra·cticalness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being practical (in various senses: see the adj.); practicality.

1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* ii. 73 The practicalness of Prudence as distinct from pure Theory chiefly consists, in that it contemplates Truth for the sake of Good. 1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc.* (1859) I. 217 From it he doubtless derived the practicalness (if the word may be pardoned) in which the more purely speculative Frenchmen of the present day..are generally deficient. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 425 A stringent practicalness worthy of Franklin.

†**Pra·cticant.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *practicans, -ant-em*, pr. pple. of *practicāre, -ārī* to practise medicine; after obs. F. *praticquant* (*a* 1550 in Godef.); so mod.Ger. *praktikant*.] One who practises (medicine); a practitioner.

1637 BRIAN *Pisse-prophi.* (1679) 66, I was then a young practicant in Physick. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 12 This is the Patient with whose hurts, sores, bruises, wounds and sorrows, these practicants have most impudently padled. 1827 *Lancet* 17 Nov. 256/2 At some [German] universities, the clinical students are divided into *auscultants* and *practicants*.

†**Pra·cticate,** *ppl. a. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 -at. [ad. med.L. *practicāt-us*, pa. pple. of *practicāre*.]

1. Practised, experienced, skilled.

c 1475 *Clariodus* (Maitl. Cl.) v. 1689 For in sik thing I am not prakticate. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 160 Quhilk he was also practicat in.

2. as *pa. pple.* Legally decided. (Cf. PRACTIC *sb.*[1] 3.)

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 173 As wes practicate, for Schir Johne Grenelaw callit civilie befoir the Lordis of Sessioun. *Ibid.* 174 As wes practicate by the saidis Lordis of Sessioun contra ane Spanyeart.

Pra·cticate, *v. rare.* [Latinized adaptation of F. *pratiquer*, after med.L. *practicāre*: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To construct: = PRACTISE *v.* 13.

1862 *Builder* XX. 8 A great centre, from which, too, there are now two near exits actually practicated.

Practice (præ·ktis). Forms: 5-6 **practyse**, 6 **-yss, praictes**, 6-7 **practis, -ize**, 6-8 **-ise**, 6- **practice.** [Formerly *practyse, -ize*, app. f. PRACTISE *v.*, substituted for the earlier PRACTIC. The later spelling *-ice* is conformed to that of the suffix in *justice, service*, etc.: see -ICE.] The action, or an act, of practising: and derived senses.

I. Simple senses.

1. The action *of* doing something; performance, execution; working, operation; method of action or working. (In quot. 1553, The bringing about, production.) *Obs.* or merged in 2. (See also 10 a.)

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Many .. haue attayned to the knowledge and practise of such wonderfull effectes. 1572 MASCALL (*title*) A Booke of the Arte and maner howe to plant and graffe all sortes of trees..With diuers other newe practise, by one of the Abbey of Saint Vincent in Fraunce, practised with his owne handes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 255 *Prin.* But did my Brother set thee on to this? *Bor.* Yea, and paid me richly for the practise of it. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. x. *note*, The practice of this and the precedent Proposition. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 121 All Vessels..may by the Practice of raising and lowering the Water in the Space between the two Pair of Gates, pass in or out of the Bason.

b. An action, a deed; *pl.* doings, proceedings, *Obs.* or merged in 2 c.

1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 237 No practise I cold vse that might vnlade my paine. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1653) 11 By death all mens thoughts perish, and so doth every mans private inventions and practises. 1734 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 551 Such Practices used on the part of Maryland.

2. The habitual doing or carrying on *of* something; usual, customary, or constant action; action as distinguished from profession, theory, knowledge, etc.; conduct. (See also 9 a, b, 10 b, 11 a.)

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 43 Therto is equypolent Evermore the perfyt practyse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 31 b, In y^e^ sayd practyse of good moralite. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. xci. (1612) 369 Times were when Practize also preacht, and well-said was well-done. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 176 He .. will find the Invention only pleasing in the Theory, but not in the Practice. 1717 ATTERBURY *Serm.*, 1 *Pet.* ii. 21 (1734) I. 164 His Practice of Religious Severities. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1887) 418 It was with difficulty that he was induced to stoop from speculation to practice. 1897 E. G. CONSTANTINE *Marine Engineers* xi. 135 The amount of success attending present-day naval practice in this direction may be ascertained from the current technical press.

b. *Law.* The method of procedure used in the law-courts. (See quot. 1809.)

1623 T. POWELL *Attourn. Acad.* 1 The practice heere before this time hath bin, That no *Sub pœna* should be sued forth of the Court of Chancerie, without a Bill of Complaint first exhibited. 1656 T. FORSTER *Lay-mans Lawyer* To Rdr. A iv, This second part of the *Practice of the Law*, containing the formes of all manner of Warrants and Precepts sent out from Authority. 1780 G. CROMPTON (*title*) Practice common-placed: or, the Rules and Cases of Practice in the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas. 1809 TOMLINS *Law Dict., Practice of the Courts.* By this is understood the form and manner of conducting and carrying on suits or prosecutions at Law or in Equity, civil or criminal..; according to the principles of Law, and the rules laid down by the several Courts. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 27 The oldest book of practice (such is the denomination used, among lawyers, to denote the books, in which a statement is given, of the operations and instruments in use, in the different judicatories, in the course of judicial procedure)..is *Powell's Attorney's Academy*, London, 1623.

c. A habitual way or mode of acting; a habit, custom; (with *pl.*) something done constantly or usually; a habitual action.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 287 By this practice, the rule and regiment of the whole realme, consisted onely in the heades and orders of the Duke and the Chauncelor. 1589 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 393 Honnest wemen,..spoted at na tyme with ony sic ungodlie practizeis. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* (1739) 5 Grafting upon them erroneous and superstitious Practices. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. vi. 26 A man of free principles, shewn by practices as free. 1815 SCOTT *Old Mort.* XXXVI, The privy council of Scotland in whom the practice since the union of the crowns vested great judicial powers.

3. The doing of something repeatedly or continuously by way of study; exercise in any art, handicraft, etc., for the purpose, or with the result, of attaining proficiency; hence, † the practical acquaintance with or experience in a subject or process, so gained. (See also 9 c.)

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxix. [clxxxv.] 577 The lorde of Coucy shewed..the great wysdome and practyse of the sayd physycion. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 3 Through practise made perfect. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 165 Proceed in practise with my yonger daughter, She's apt to learne, and thankefull for good turnes. 1605 — *Macb.* v. i. 65 This disease is beyond my practise. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. xi. 53 It was my chance lately to be in company with three Gentlemen at a Musical Practice. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 34 After a little Practice, an Angle may be taken more readily this way than with [etc.]. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 22/1 In the forenoon we had some rifle practice at a large granite stone above the town. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 141 The ascent is a pleasant bit of mountain practice. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 22, I absolutely forbid any public performances which entail many hours of daily severe practice.

† **4.** An exercise; a practical treatise. *Obs.*

c 1541 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* title-p., This lytell Practyce..in Medycyne is translated out of Laten in to Englysshe. 1571 DIGGES (*title*) A Geometrical Practise, named Pantometria, diuided into three Bookes. 1593 J. UDALL (*title*) The Key of the Holy Tongve..first The Hebrue Grammar..; Secondly, A practize upon the first, the twentie fift, and the syxtie eyght Psalmes, according to the rules of the same Grammar. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gard.* 87 The Manner of Tracing, reduced to Twenty Practices.

5. *spec.* The carrying on or exercise of a profession or occupation, esp. of law, surgery, or medicine; the professional work or business of a lawyer or medical man.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 281 The mysteries of mingled medicines, and the practise of Physicke. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 161 He liv'd by his Practice, as other Physicians did and do. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Practice*, actual Exercise, especially that of the Profession of a Lawyer, Physician, or Surgeon; the having Clients or Patients. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 456 So valuable a branch of knowledge as the practice of physic. 1884 *Law Times* 24 May 61/2 There is no barrister in practice who is so thoroughly familiar with the ins and outs of bankruptcy practice. 1898 RIDER HAGGARD *Doctor Therne* i. 5 He sold this practice and removed into Dunchester.

6. The action of scheming or planning, esp. (now only) in an underhand way and for an evil purpose; machination, treachery; trickery, artifice. (The earliest recorded sense.)

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 608 The towne of Seynt Denys.. was goten by treason or practyse of one named Iohan Notice, a Knyght of Orleaunce. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 59 The Practise of the Deuill. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* I. iv. (1622) 7 All sauing Lepidus, through Tiberius practise, for sundry pretended crimes were made away. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 201/2 The Ship..should be surrender'd without Any Practice or Treason. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, It looks as if there were practice in it to bring a stain on my name. 1834 W. GODWIN *Lives Necromancers* 445 Keeling..inclined to the belief that it might all be practice, and that there was nothing supernatural in the affair. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. v. 276 He..died a martyr's death, through the practice of the Lady Ælfthryth.

b. Dealings, negotiation, conference, intercourse; *esp.* in evil sense, Conspiracy, intrigue, collusion (*with* a person, *between* persons). *arch.*

1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 322 She ys very lothe to be knowne to have any praictes with me in any the Kinges Highnes affaires. 1572 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 156 Be ressoun of the daly traffique, practize and intelligence betuix the inhabitantis..and the declarit tratouris. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* v. viii. (1886) 85 There was not any conference or practise betwixt them in this case. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* I. ii, He has been all this morning In practice with a peruked gentleman-usher. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. XXXVI. (1674) 188 He held secret practice with all the Poets. *a* 1680 EARL OF ROCHESTER *Valentinian* v. iii, Begone and leave me I have some little practice with my soul And then the sharpest sword is welcome. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap.* III. 945 Somehow, gloves were drawn o'er dirt and all, And practice with the Church procured thereby.

c. (with *pl.*) A scheme, plot, intrigue, conspiracy, stratagem, manœuvre, artifice, trick.

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 199 A practise which I trust shal shortely come to light. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 415 This realme was..troubled with Ciuile sedition, and the craftie practises of the Frenchmen. *c* 1605 ROWLEY *Birth Merl.* II. ii. It may be a practice 'twixt themselves To expel the Britons. 1645 GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 93 How many plots and practises of the popish faction..have been discovered, defeated, and returned on the heads of those, that were either plotters of them, or imployed in them? 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 243 Giving them to understand, that he was not unacquainted with their Practices. 1740 JOHNSON *Sir F. Drake* Wks. IV. 414 Unable to obviate the practices of those whom his merit had made his enemies. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xii. 2 Left-hand practices o'er the merry wine-cup.

7. The action, or an act, of practising *on* or *upon* a person, etc.: see PRACTISE 11. *rare.*

1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* I. ii, This is a confederacy, a meere piece of practice vpon her, by these Impostors. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 140 Hee thought..that the onely practise vpon their affections, was to set vp a Standard in the field. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 423 This menace..was also another piece of practice on the fears of the assembly.

8. *Arith.* A compendious method of performing multiplication by means of aliquot parts, in cases where one or both quantities are expressed in several denominations; e. g. in finding the value of a given number of articles at so many pounds, shillings, and pence each, or that of so many hundredweight, pounds, and ounces of something at so much a hundredweight. See quot. 1727–41.

1574 H. BAKER *Well Spring Sciences* 87 b, The third parte treateth of certayne briefe rules, called rules of practise...Some there be, which call these rules of practise briefe rules;..There be others whiche call them the small multiplication. 1596 MELLIS *Recorde's Arith.* III. 406 Briefe Rules, called Rules of Practise...The working of Multiplication in Practise,..which is accomplished by meanes of diuision in taking the half, the third, the fourth, the fift, or such other parts of the summe which is to be multiplyed. 1671 J. NEWTON *Compl. Arith.* xxiii. (1692) 119 When the Rule of Three direct hath 1, or an Integer for the first term, it is commonly called a Rule of practice, not only for the speedy, but the practical resolution of such questions. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Practice*, in arithmetic, *Practica Italica*, or *Italian usages*; certain compendious ways of working the rule of proportion...They were thus called from their expediting of practice and business; and because first introduced by the merchants and negotiants of Italy. 1859 BARN. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 156 Practice is a compendious mode of finding the value of any number of articles by means of Aliquot Parts, when the value of an unit of any denomination is given.

II. Phrases and Combinations.

9. *In practice.* **a.** In the realm of action; practically, actually, as a fact. **b.** † In customary use, in vogue (*obs.*); practised, habitually performed. **c.** In the condition of being exercised so as to maintain skill or ability. So *out of practice.*

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 It is alreddy accordit and enterit in practize..that upoun the vacance of ony prelacie the kirkis thairof salbe disponit to qualifit ministeris in titill. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 221 Since he went into France, I haue beene in continuall practice. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* IV. i, Your viper wine, So much in practise with grey bearded gallants. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. (1847) 98/2 Of attainment far more certain, than hath been yet in practice. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. viii, Foreigners to the fashion or anything in practice. *a* 1700 DRYDEN (J.), Obsolete words may be laudably revived, when they are more sounding, or more significant than those in practice. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 322 Fyfe..believes that the heat actually made available from coal in practice, is nearly the same as ought to be produced, according to theory, by the quantity of coke which it yields. 1863 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* VIII. vii. 53 He [Shaw] broke loose from time to time to keep his hand in practice. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. viii. 218 A saint in practice, if not in profession. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lx. 421 In practice it is but little changed. *Mod.* He played a very poor game, he was plainly out of practice.

10. *To put in* (or *into*) *practice.* **a.** To practise, exercise, carry out in action. † **b.** To begin to practise or do, to set about (*obs.*). † **c.** To scheme, plot, attempt (*to do* something) (*obs.*). † **d.** To bring into use (*obs.*); cf. 11 b.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 30 This rule will I put in practise whan the tyme of the yeare doeth insewe. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 89 Thy aduice, this night, ile put in practise. 1592 KYD *Murther I. Brewen* Wks. (1901) 289 She put in practise to poyson him. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. ii. 206 Instruments, which the industry of man hath found out and put in practise. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 6 To haue the Scriptures in the mother-tongue..hath bene thought vpon and put in practise of old. 1706 *Royal Proclam.* 11 Apr. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4218/1 It is High Treason for any..Persons to put in Practise to Absolve, Perswade or Withdraw any of Our Subjects..from their..Obedience to Us. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. vi, I could never observe this maxim to be put in practice by any nation, except that of Lilliput.

11. † *To make practice of.* **a.** To practise, carry out in action. **b.** To make use of, use: cf. 10 d. **c.** *To make a practice of* (something), to do it habitually and of purpose.

1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law Case* II. iii, What practice do they make of 't in their lives? 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 147 The Gun (an instrument they now make practice of). *Mod.* I make a practice of walking to the train every morning. You may do so on this occasion, but you must not make a practice of it.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly in sense 3, as *practice-firing*, *-ground*, *-room*, *-school*, etc.; also (in sense 2 b) **practice court** (see quot. 1883).

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 447/1 Its Cricket Club and practice-ground. 1883 *Wharton's Law Lex.* s. v. *Queen's Bench*, Connected with the Court of Queen's Bench, and auxiliary thereto, was the Practice Court...The Practice Court (called also the Bail Court) heard and determined common matters of practice, and ordinary motions for writs of *mandamus*, prohibition, etc. 1887 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* (1889) 93 By one rapid practice-learned drag, the net was matched over. 1895 *Daily News* 23 Apr. 6/2 Herbart founded 'a practice school in which a few children should be instructed according to the most scientific methods'. 1898 KIPLING in *Morn. Post* 10 Nov. 5/3 Between the pauses of practice-firing.

Practician (prækti·ʃăn), *sb.*(*a.*) Also 6 **-icien, -isian,** *Sc.* **-iciane, 7 -itian,** (6 **praticiane**). [a. obs. F. *praticien* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), var. of *praticien*, f. L. *practica* practice + *-ien*, -IAN.] One who practises any art, profession, or occupation; a worker, practitioner; a practical man (as distinguished from a theorist, etc.).

a 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* Prohem. 62 Knawing myne vnssufficience To be comprysit praticiane [*pr.* perticiane] with prudence. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 41 In medicyne the most practicianis, Lechis, surrigianis, & phisicianis. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 196 Origenes..wald dite fastar than sevin practicianis might suffice to write. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* I. 118 Wherefore many practiciens, when they wyll gylte anye woode, laye the bottome or grounde .. of yelow. 1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 4 Twixt Musitians and Practitians, oddes is great. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. i. § 4 (1699) 5 Yet is generally concluded by the practicians of all Nations, that *simplex conatus*, or endeavour, is not now punishable by death. 1818 MOORE in *Mem.* (1853) II. 245 He..was a most learned and troublesome practician, as well as theorist, in dialectics. 1899 S. COLVIN *Lett. Stevenson* I. 12 He looked..with the eye of the poet and artist, and not those of the practician and calculator.

B. *adj.* or *attrib.* Given to practical work.

1863 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 9 Sept., The eminently adaptive and practician character of the Americans goes far to supersede the necessity of tedious drill.

† **Pra·cticous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *practic-us* PRACTIC + -OUS.] Practical.

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 18 Not to mention speculativ Infidelitie, practicous Atheism, horrid Blasphemies, and all manner of Diabolism.

† **Pra·ctisable,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 **-iseable, -iceable.** [f. PRACTISE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being practised; practicable.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j, How often, therfore, these fiue ..Operations do..differre from the fiue operations of like ..name, in our Whole numbers practisable. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 22 Certaine Vertues not practise-

able by the poor. 1644 G. Plattes in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 296 The thing itself plainly appeares to be practiceable.

† **Pra·ctisant.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. obs. F. *pra(c)tisant*, pr. pple. of *pra(c)tiser* to Practise.] ? A plotter, conspirator (cf. Practise *v.* 9); or ? performer of a stratagem (Schmidt).

1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 20 *Charles.* Saint Dennis blesse this happy Stratageme, And once againe wee'le sleepe secure in Roan. *Bastard.* Here entred Pucell, and her Practisants.

Practise (præ·ktis), *v.* Also 5 **practis**, 5–6 **-ese**, **-yse**, 5–7 **-ize**, 6 **-ysse**, *Sc.* **-isse**, **-iz**, **pratize**, 6–9 **practice**. [Known from 15th c. (or ? late 14th c.: cf. the deriv. *practisour* (Practiser) used by Langland and Chaucer). a. OF. *pra(c)tise-r* (14th c. in Godef.), = 15th c. L. *practizāre* (Du Cange) to practise; f. OF. *pra(c)tiquer*, med.L. *pra(c)ticāre*, by substitution of the suffix *-iser*, *-izāre* (see -ize) for the less common *-iquer*, *-icāre*; thence also Du. *praktizeren*, G. *praktizieren*, etc. The stress, originally, as still dialectally, on *-ize* (praktĭ·z, praktəi·z), was subseq. shifted to the first syllable, whence also the change of z to s, perh. after *practice* sb.]

1. *trans.* To perform, do, act, execute, carry on, exercise (any action or process). Now *rare*, or merged in sense 2.

c 1460 Fortescue *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 129 This maner off doynge hath be so ofte practised nerehande in euery reaume, þat thair cronicles be full off it. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* i. (Percy Soc.) 11 Thynges to practyse whiche should profyte be. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* xiv, Pricke the minde to practise any yll. 1591 Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 47 To thinke, that you haue ought but Talbots shadow, Whereon to practise your seueritie. 1600 (*title*) Certaine Experiments concerning Fish and Frvte: Practised by Iohn Taverner Gentleman. 1653 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 3 The only civility which it is proper for me to practise with so eminent a person. 1799 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 171 You shall not practise the same game with me. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* v. xv, He practised every pass and ward, To thrust, to strike, to feint, to guard.

† **b.** In special uses: To work out (a problem or result); to perform, act (a play). *Obs.*

1571 Digges *Pantom.* i. xv. E j b, Pleasanter to practize is this than the former and moste exact for Altitudes. *Ibid.* xvi. E ij, By a Glasse heighthes may be pleasantly practized and founde on this wise. *a* 1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 62 Frear Kyllour sett furth the Historye of Christis Passioun in forme of a play, quhilk he boith preached and practised opinlie in Striveling. 1685 Dryden *Alb. & Alban.* Pref., Ess. (Ker) I. 280 He [Charles II] had been pleased.. to command that it should be practised before him, especially the first and third acts of it.

c. *intr.* To act, work, proceed, operate. (In quot. 1677, ? to try experiments, to experiment.)

1553 *Respublica* III. ii. 618 We reste nor daie nor night.. [To] practise and travaile for your welth and honoure. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xiv. 23 So practice for any other Latitude. 1677 Temple *Ess. on Gout* Wks. 1731 I. 135 Being little inclined to practise upon others, and as little that others should practise upon me. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 53 Cases that require rather to be carefully watched, than vigorously practised upon.

2. *trans.* To carry on, perform, or do, habitually or constantly; to make a practice of; to put into practice, carry out in action (as distinguished from believing, professing, etc.).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, And what ye rede, se you practise it in lyfe & dede. 1559 Bp. Scot in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 17 Sute was made..to have three things graunted..to be practyssed..that is to saye, that prestes myght have wyves [etc.]. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. vi. 9 Questioned..what that usage ment, Which in her cott she daily practized. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 23 He had no Legges, that practic'd not his Gate. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 3 Whatsoeuer is to be beleeued or practised. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* IV. 76 Practice as much of Religion as you Talk, and then you have a full Licence to Talk as much of it as you Please. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 131 The method which Socrates had heard Zeno practise in the days of his youth.

b. *To practise religion* [after F. *pratiquer la religion*]: to perform the religious duties which the Church requires of its members; to be a practising and not merely a nominal member (esp. in *R. C. Ch.*). Also *absol.* or *intr.*

[1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 1 By religious, I meane..practising prayers.] 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* III. App. 15 The catholic religion is practised in this province, after the same manner as in the other provinces. 1904 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 7 The energetic priest of a very well-organised poor parish in Paris told me that, out of forty thousand inhabitants, four thousand 'practised' religion.

c. With *inf.* To be wont or accustomed. *arch.*

1674–91 Ray *Collect. Words* 192 He hath practis'd to burn the ends of all the Posts which he sets into the ground to a Coal on the outside. 1805 Wordsw. *Prelude* IX. 488 [She] from the tower.. Practised to commune with her royal knight By cressets and love-beacons.

d. *intr.* To act habitually.

1681–6 J. Scott *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 3 If we believe it, we cannot be good Christians unless we practise upon it. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 180 If he practises according to this Opinion, he so far renounces his Christianity. *Mod.* If he practises as well as he preaches, he must be a paragon.

3. *trans.* To work at, exercise, pursue (an occupation, profession, or art).

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 333 b, Whan they..practise coniuryng. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 159 [He] wyse weill leirned in devyne syences and pratizit the samin to the glorie of god. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* II. i. 71 *Sec. Fish.* Canst thou catch any Fishes then? *Per.* I neuer practizde it. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 131 They admit of no Trade, but practise Piracy. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 118 No man can practise two trades, or practise one and superintend another. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 96/1 He endeavoured ..to practise medicine, but could nowhere find patients.

† **b.** *intr.* To work (at some business or occupation). *Obs.*

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 505 Some..were holdyn in for a tyme, to practis & shewe vnto the newe how they shuld ordre & guyde the sayd offyces. 1660 Bloome *Archit.* Title-p., Carvers, In-layers, Antick-Cutters, and all other that delight to practise with the Compasse and Square.

† **c.** *intr.* To perform (musically). *Obs.*

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 11 For to practyse withe sugrid melody, He and his scolers ther wittis did apply. 1796 Eliza Hamilton *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* I. 131 The itinerant musicians that practice in the streets.

d. *spec. intr.* To exercise the profession of law or of medicine.

1538 Starkey *England* II. ii. 192 Only such whose..lernyng in the law [was]..prouyd, schold be admyttyd to practyse in causys. 1645–52 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1860) 147 Not only dwelling and practisihg at Dublin, but being Physician generall of the English Forces. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. iv. 55 The seal was committed to the earl of Clarendon, who had withdrawn from practice as a lawyer near twenty years; and afterwards to the earl of Shaftesbury, who had never practised at all. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* I. viii. 67 A medical man practising in a little village. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 597 A counsel practising at the bar.

† **4.** *trans.* To put into practice, carry out in action, execute (a law, command, etc.). *Obs.*

1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 277 This statute [of 1401] was practized in a prest, that sone aftir was brent at Smythfeld. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 b, Luther vnderstode that the Emperoure, and diuerse Princes woulde practise the decree of Wormes. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* Ded. 11 If the principles be true, why are they not practised? 1718 Watts *Ps.* CXIX. I. ii, Blest are the men that keep thy word, And practise thy commands. 1771 Goldsm. *Hist. Eng.* I. 81 Those [laws] which remain..under his name seem to be only the laws already practised in the country by his Saxon ancestors.

5. To perform repeatedly or continuously by way of study, in order to acquire skill; to exercise oneself in (any art, process, or act) for the purpose of attaining proficiency. Also with *obj. inf.*

c 1430 [see Practising *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1590 Shaks. *Com. Err.* II. i. 29 Ere I learne loue, Ile practise to obey. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 253 Shall sweet Bianca practise how to bride it? 1623–4 Laud *Diary* 24 Mar., Wks. 1853 III. 150 The Earl of Oxford, practising a tilt, fell and brake his arm. 1778 Sheridan *Camp* II. iii, To hear a march and chorus, which some recruits are practising. 1854 Thackeray *Rose & Ring* vii, She was very busy practising the piano. 1863 Mrs. Oliphant *Salem Ch.* i. 3 The young people had their singing-class, at which they practised hymns.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To exercise oneself with the view of acquiring skill or proficiency; *esp.* in the performance of music.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 83 My bookes and instruments shall be my companie, On them to looke, and practise by my selfe. 1714 Addison *Spect.* No. 556 ¶ 11 While a Man is learning to fence, he practises both on Friend and Foe. 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* I. xxx She will never play really well, unless she practises more. *a* 1817 — *Lady Susan* xvii. in *Mem.* (1871) 238 Frederica spends great part of the day there, practising as it is called [at the piano]. 1888 Mrs. H. Ward *R. Elsmere* I. ix, Catherine and Agnes are at school; and Rose, I think, is practising.

6. *trans.* To exercise (any one) *in* some action in order to make him proficient in it; to train, drill.

1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* IV. iv. 65 The children must Be practis'd well to this, or they'll neu'r doo't. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 93, I will leave this to your private considerations, to practise your wits in the depths of Christianity. 1674 *Providence Rec.* (1894) V. 292 Said william Austin Doth Couenant..and Engage..To prectice and jnstruct the Said moses Lippit in art and trade of a weauer. 1855 Trench in *Lect. to Ladies* ix. 225 We might do much..by practising the young to distinguish between words which have a near resemblance to one another. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 24 The captain practises his company in all the phases of war.

b. *pa. pple.* Experienced by practice; skilled, versed, proficient (*in*); † accustomed, used (*to*).

1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 30 The same officer was well practised and could good skille in that science. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 7 The Athenians at that time were not greatly practised to the sea. 1693 *Humours Town* 35 If they..have been well practis'd in writing *Billet deux*. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) I. 439 Till men were well practised in him, he was apt to impose on them. *Ibid.* II. 43 A satirical temper..which was imputed to youth and wit not enough practised to the world. 1887 Ruskin *Præterita* II. i. 17 He was..perfectly practised in all the college routine of business.

† **7.** To put to practical use; to use, make use of, employ. *Obs.*

1538 in *Wyclif's Wks.* (1880) 157 þe olde testament for wynnyng of tybes and offryngis is sumwhat practised. *c* 1440 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 288 And þorw þe grace of hevene kyng, þei practiseden medicines to helpe manky[n]d. 1549 Coverdale *Erasm. Par.* II. Ep. Ded. *ij b, The sacred Byble..set forth by your Maiesties appoyntment, to be dewly practised in all holy exercyses within your churches. 1659 Leak *Waterwks.* 26 This Engin is much practised in Germany. 1731 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 36 Proud to catch cold at a Venetian door. *Note*, A door or window so called, from being much practised at Venice, by Palladio and others. 1740 *N. Jersey Archives* XII. 29 The two most convenient Places for a speedy Transportation, of any yet practised from New-York to Philadelphia.

† **b.** To frequent, haunt [after F. *pratiquer*].

1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 73 He had always desired to have him live at Rome, because he had known him, and practised him, and knew very well how great service he was able to have done the Church. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* I. 825 The court he practised, not the courtier's art. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* Pref. (1721) I. 76 Several, who saw, and practis'd the World for a longer space of time. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 60 They were not in a Capacity to make any Figure by Sea; an Element, little practised by them, and less understood.

† **8.** To bring about, compass, effect, accomplish.

1550 J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 68 E ij, You practysed a maryage betwene the doughter and heyre of Nauerne, and Monster de la bright, countie de foyx. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Leg.* L ij, Seuen moneths before, the said Guisians had practised an other league in Guyenne, through the meanes of the lorde of Candales. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 23 They thought to practise some way for theyr suretie. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 173 Suppose he intendeth..to practise the sickness, death, destruction, of man or beast. 1736 Chandler *Hist. Persec.* 318, I think he can't well be excused from practising the death of Servetus at Vienne.

† **b.** To devise means to bring about (a result); to plan, scheme, intend (something to be done). With *simple obj.* or *obj. clause.* *Obs.*

1566 Painter *Pal. Pleas.* I. 132 He doth already practise a marriage betwene the King of Hungarie and me. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 76 Solon..began to practise that his Citizens should give themselves unto Crafts and Occupations. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 802 [They] Thenceforth shall practice how to live secure. 1711 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends in Surrey & Sussex* i. (1886) 9 A Preparative Meeting..for preserving the Reputation of our proffession blameles is Practised at Reigate.

† **c.** To exert oneself in order to effect (something); to attempt, endeavour, try. (With *simple obj.* or *inf.*) *Obs.*

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 48 This Prouerbe experience long ago gaue, that nothing who practiseth nothing shall haue. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 83 b, [He] practised first to kill him selfe with his owne Dagger. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXXIII. Argt. 834 Annibali having practised in Affrick to raise war. 1679 Burnet *Hist. Ref.* I. III. 201 The Ministers continued practising, to get further evidence for the Tryal.

9. *intr.* To lay schemes or plans, esp. for an evil purpose; to use stratagem or artifice; to scheme, plot, conspire, intrigue (*with* or *against* a person, *to do* something). Now *rare.*

1537 Latimer *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 379 That you may see how closely in time past the foreign prelates did practise about their prey. 1572 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 23 Melvill..was executed..for practesing with England. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 156 Hee will practise against thee by poyson. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 220 It suffereth not the one to practise against the other, upon the perill that may ensue to the offender. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. (1688) 136 He fell to plotting and practising with the Rebels, and attempted..to deliver the Queen of Scots out of Custody. 1851 [Practising *vbl. sb.* 2].

† **b.** *trans.* To plot, conspire (some evil to be done). *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 247 b, They haue practised thinges against him in Germani, and in forein nations. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 216 b, He practized the vtter ouerthrowe not onely of all Christian societie, but of the state of the whole world also. 1595 Shaks. *John* IV. i. 20, I doubt My Vnckle practises more harme to me. 1607 *God's Warning in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 64 The late papisticall conspiracie of traytors, that, with powder, practised the subuersion of this beautifull kingdome. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 234 Normall..practices her owne brothers destruction.

† **c.** To endeavour to gain (favour, etc.) by arts; to aim at in an underhand way. *Obs.*

1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* I. xxiii. (1591) 14 He had by al possible meanes practised the fauour and goodwill of the souldier. 1640 Habington *Q. of Arragon* I. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIII. 342 What can you answer for the practising The queen's affection, when Embassador, You lay here from Castile?

10. *intr.* To have dealings or intercourse, to negotiate or treat *with* a person; *esp.* to treat or deal *with* so as to influence or gain over to some course of action. Now *rare.*

1538 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* II. 559, I practysyd soo with the sayd Bryan, and with my servaunt Stephin Apparye, that they hunted the sayd Kayr. 1555 Eden *Decades* 313 He sent to his brother Bartholomewe Colon to practise with the Kynge of Englande. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. vi. 117, I haue seene and practised with diuers Persian gentlemen. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 79 Practising wth all your R. Highnesses Tenants there, by fair or foul means, to turne tenants to him. 1721 Swift *Let. to Pope* 10 Jan., The grand juries of the county and city were practised effectually with to represent the said pamphlet with all aggravating epithets. 1902 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* II. iii. 60 He and his party had long been practising with Cecil.

† **b.** *trans.* To work upon (a person, etc.), so as to persuade to some (esp. evil) course of action; 'to draw by artifice' (J.); to influence by underhand dealings, win over, 'get at', corrupt.

1570 Buchanan *Ane Admonitioun* Wks. (1892) 27 Bot Sr James.. hinderit yis purpose be sum of ye Kingis familiar seruandis yat he had practisit be giftis. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 396 He allured out of Sanctuarie his fiue Neeces..whence also, to murther them,..

hee had formerly practised the two yong Princes his Nephewes. 1640 in *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) App. 257 The Earle of Traquayre..did practize the jury with a good intent to finde the said Lo: guilty as aforesaid. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxvi. § 18 (1699) 271 A mean of corrupting Witnesses, and Assizers, who, if known, might be practised. 17.. Swift (J.), To practise the city into an address to the queen.

11. *intr. Practise on* or *upon*: To practise tricks or artifices upon; to act upon by artifice, so as to induce to do or believe something; to play a trick upon, impose upon, delude; to work upon (a person, or his feelings, etc.).

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 36 Sirs, I will practise on this drunken man. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 398, I..will so practise on Benedicke, that..hee shall fall in loue with Beatrice. 1613 Webster *Devil's Law-Case* IV. ii, Y' are practised upon most devilishly. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 148 The Court practised on her..so far that she delivered up her husband's letters. 1858 Sears *Athan.* III. ii. 268 Out of this belief papacy shaped its purgatory and practised on human credulity and fear. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 302 You have practised on her, Perplext her, made her..Swerve from her duty to herself and us.

b. To tamper with, to corrupt. *rare.*

1872 J. H. Newman *Tracts* (1874) 167 *note*, Photius considers his [St. Methodius'] works have been practised upon by heretics.

c. See also I c, 5 b.

†12. *trans.* To make trial of, try practically. *Obs.*

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 278, I haue seene the nature of this dust practised. 1796 J. Smyth in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 519 The crops I practised were 1st, oats; 2d, turnips, yams, and other potatoes; 3d, barley with grass-seeds. 1802 H. Greathead in *Naval Chron.* IX. 293, I would..recommend practising the boat.

†13. To construct. *Obs. rare.*

1739 H. Walpole *Let. to R. West* 11 Nov., At the end of a great road, which was practised through an immense solid rock by bursting it asunder with gun-powder. 1820 Shelley *Philos. View Reform* in Dowden *Transcr. & Stud.* (1888) 69 Most fatal of them all is that mine of unexploded mischief it has practised beneath the foundations of society.

Practised (præ·ktist), *ppl. a.* [f. Practise *v.* + -ed 1.]

1. That has had practice; experienced, expert, skilled, proficient. (See also Practise *v.* 6 b.)

1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 507 A companie of warlike and practised souldiours. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 332 Your Art, of which you seem to be so practised a master. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 714 To the practised eyes of the Kentish fishermen she looked much like a French privateer. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. vi. 209 My practised men fastened the sail at the top.

2. Executed or gone through beforehand in order to acquire proficiency in performance.

1590 Shaks. *Mids. N.* v. i. 97, I haue seene them shiuer and looke pale,..Throttle their practiz'd accent in their feares. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 116 Making practis'd Smiles As in a Looking-Glasse.

†3. Habitually used or frequented; accustomed.

1654-66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 658 He led us into a less practis'd walk. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 945 To serve thir Lord..with songs to hymne his Throne, And practis'd distances to cringe, not fight.

†4. (app.) Plotted against, made the object of conspiracy. *Obs. rare*—1.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* X. lv. (1612) 245 Throckmorton yeat, more priuie and more practising than those,..Did mischiefes that imported more our practiz'd State disclose.

Hence **Pra·ctisedness**, the quality or fact of being practised or experienced.

1883 J. Purves in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 352 Honesty he ascribes to practisedness in the world's ways.

†Pra·ctisement. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Practise *v.* + -ment.] The fact of practising, or that which is practised; a deed or practice.

1581 Burleigh *Let. to Walsingham* in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 379 She speaketh of a practisement by him in the Thames mouth..that you should call it to memory.

Practiser (præ·ktisəɹ). Forms: see Practise; 4–5 -our (5 -ere, -ir, 6 -ure, *Sc.* -ar), 6– -er. [ME. *practisour* prob. a. AF. **practisour*, agent-noun f. OF. *pra(c)tiser*: see Practise *v.* and -our b; the suffix being between 1450 and 1550 weakened to -er 2 3.] One who practises.

1. One who exercises a profession or occupation; a practitioner: **a.** of medicine or surgery (often opposed to one trained in the science or art).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 107 And did him assaye his surgerye on hem þat syke were, Till he was parfit practisoure. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 422 With vs ther was a Doctour of Phisik..He was a verray parfit praktisour [*Lansd. MS.* practisere]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xx. 67 (Harl. MS.), Oon [leche]..sotill in crafte, and a good practiser. 1530 Palsgr. 257/2 Practysure, *practicien.* 1579 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 133 They are like those sicke men which reiect the expert and cunning Physition,..and admitte the heedelesse practiser. 1666 W. Boghurst *Loimographia* (1894) 30 Many ignorant practizers took upon them the name of Doctors. 1767 T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* (1768) II. 274 Another practiser,..who had been a surgeon in the French army.

b. of law.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1582 Practisirs & prematis [*v. r.* practyf men in prevatez] & prestis of þe lawe. 1552 Huloet, Practiser of lawe. 1573-80 Baret *Alv.* P 641 A Chauncerie man, or practiser in the lawe, to drawe out writtes. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 182 Such barbarous cruelty who ever saw Done on a duller practicer at law?

1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 33 The worthie Societie of the Professors, Practisers, and Students of the Common Law of this Land in Lincolns Inn. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4954/1 Practicers of the Law in North Britain. 1876 Bancroft *Hist. U. S.* I. x. 332 He had been formerly a student and practiser in the courts of common law in England.

c. *gen.* One who practises any art, science, manner of life, course of action, etc.; one who carries out a theory, principle, etc., in action.

1540-1 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1556) 135 Philosophers were neuer good practisers in weale publike. 1586 *Praise of Mus.* 20 Her professors and practisers were not rewarded. 1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* III. 136 Practizers and teachers of these Geometricall conclusions. 1762-71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 218 Too illustrious a lover and even practicer of the art to be omitted. 1826 C. Butler *Grotius* vii. 113 Councillors and practisers of schemes hostile to its welfare. 1842 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 156 A believer in, if not a practiser of, animal magnetism. 1854 Cdl. Wiseman *Fabiola* II. xxxi. 340 She was..a serious, real practiser of all that she taught.

†2. A schemer, plotter, conspirator; a man of wicked or fraudulent devices. *Obs.*

1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 466 He is a gret practiser, with which honest terme we cover untrew tales tellyng, lying, dissimulyng, and flateryng. *c* 1610 Sir J. Melvil *Mem.* (1683) 158 A perfect practiser against the quiet of this state. 1643 5 *Yrs. K. James* in *Select. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 313 That my lord of Somerset was principal practiser .. in a most perfidious manner, to set a train and trap for Overbury to get into the Tower.

†Pra·ctisie. *Obs. rare*—1. [irreg. f. *practise, practice*, after words etymologically in *-sy, -cy.*] Practice, action.

1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 17 To get by honest practisie, and keepe thy gettings couertlie.

Practising (præ·ktisiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Practise + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Practise.

1. Action, performance (esp. habitual); carrying out, execution; exercise of a profession; repeated performance for the sake of becoming proficient, esp. in music.

c 1430 *Freemasonry* 229 That no mason schulde worche be nyȝth; But ȝef hyt be yn practesynge of wytte. 1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 21 That litle leasure which shalbe left you from practising on your patients. 1706 E. Ward *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 104 By much practising in hot Countries [he] gets a Skin not much unlike a Red Herring. 1843 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 264 The young lady..took a fit of practising on her..pianoforte. *Mod.* She must not neglect her practising.

Comb. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Sept. 10/1 The fields..were the chief practising-grounds for the City archers.

2. Scheming, plotting; device, conspiracy, intrigue. Now *rare.*

1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* II. 60 b, Abhominable in the practisynges of their wicked hartes. 1558 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. iv. 5 Rome..from whom nothing is to be feared, but evil will, cursing and practising. 1861 G. G. Perry *Hist. Ch. Eng.* I. iv. 162 The continued plottings and practisings of the Jesuits were ever a source of political danger.

Pra·ctising, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That practises: in senses of the verb.

1. Exercising a profession, esp. medicine or law; engaged in practice.

1625 Hart *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 16 Most of our practising Parsons and Vicars become suddenly Physitians. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 46 Running after..every practising old Woman, for Medicines. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 334 The quirk and evasion of a practising lawyer. 1900 *Expositor* Sept. 236 The practising physicians seem regularly to have been Jews. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 17 § 10 Every woman..shall before holding herself out as a practising midwife..give notice in writing.

b. Making a practice of religious duties or observances (esp. in *R. C. Ch.*). [After F. *pratiquant*: see Practise *v.* 2 b.]

1906 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 6 A 'practising' Catholic bitterly disappointed with the attitude of the Pope.

2. Plotting, scheming, intriguing. Now *rare.*

1602 [see Practised 4]. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* II. 206 A notorious Rebell..(an inward man, and a great practising instrument with Tyrone).

Practitional (prækti·ʃənăl), *a. rare.* [f. as next + -al.] †**a.** Given to 'practice' or plotting; scheming, crafty. *Obs.* **b.** Relating to practice, practical.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 201 Chiefe ambitious practitionall state Iesuits. 1807 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 1 It is the best practitional book and the truest philosophy in existence.

Practitioner (prækti·ʃənəɹ). Also 6 **practisioner, -itionere, -izioner, -ycioner,** 6–7 **-icioner.** [Erroneously extended from †*practitian*, Practician, as if from a n. of action in *-ition.* But cf. the obs. and dial. *logicianer*, (*-tioner*), *musicianer, physicianer* (*-cioner*); also *astrologer, astronomer, philosopher*, etc.: see -er 1.]

1. One engaged in the practice of any art, profession, or occupation; a practical or professional worker in anything. **a.** *gen.*

1553 Latimer *Serm., Lord's Pr.* vii. (1562) 56 b, Consider how long he hathe bene a practicioner: you muste consider what Satan is, what experience he hath, so yᵗ we are not able to match with him. 1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 106 The Schole doctours, that take no payne with their doctrine,.. ought to be called rather Speculatours, than Practicioners. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xvii. E iv, The ingenious Practisioner. *Ibid.* xxxv. L iij b, The diligent practizioner. 1704 (*title*) English Dictionary..By Edward Cocker, the late famous practitioner in fair Writing and Arithmetic. 1798 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XXV. 568 In Cimabu, Florence boasts the first native practitioner. 1827 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XXXVI. 340 The most experienced practitioners in conscience were puzzled. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Power* Wks. (Bohn) II. 341 Hence..the worthlessness of amateurs to cope with practitioners.

b. in medicine or surgery.

General practitioner, one who practises both medicine and surgery; also opposed to *specialist* in either branch.

1544 Phaer *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) C vij, An other singuler medecine..a thing experte of al the good practicioners. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* b iv b/2 M. Rabet, Chyrurgian at Paris,..the most experteste practitionere of his time. 1665 J. Tillison in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 36 As is acknowledged by our practitioners in physic. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 22/2 The use of the syringe is generally recommended by medical practitioners in deafnesses. 1848 Dickens *Dombey* i, The family practitioner opening the door for that distinguished professional. 1860 O. W. Holmes *Prof. Breakf.-t.* i, The 'general practitioners'..had to recognize that people could get well, unpoisoned. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 503 Younger practitioners who have been alarmed at what they regarded as a sign of aneurism.

c. in law.

1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 398 Sollicitors..with all that rabblement of practitioners who devoure the substance of poore men. 1631 Heylin *St. George* 80 A practitioner in the Parliamentarie Court in that City. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6384/8 John Saunders,..Practitioner of the Law. 1874 Motley *Barneveld* I. x. 379 A regular practitioner at the Supreme Court of the Hague.

†2. One engaged in practising an art or occupation for the sake of acquiring or retaining skill in it; a learner, novice, beginner; a probationer. *Obs.*

1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 221 Certain others were late practitioners and novices in the Ministry. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Nice Valour* IV. i, I'll fit you with my scholars, new practitioners. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 6 The Practitioner in Navigation, is next to learn to know.. the certain time of the Flowing and Ebbing of the Sea. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 341, 11 sub-engineers, and 16 practitioners. 1776 *Court & City Reg.* 166/1 Practitioner Engineers and Ensigns at 3*s.* 8*d.* a day. 1789 *Trifler* No. 33. 420 The discordant sounds of uninstructed practitioners on the harpsichord. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. i. 105 The practitioner was then to assail the pel, armed with sword and shield..as he would an adversary.

3. One who practises anything; one who carries on a practice or action; a habitual doer.

1548 Geste *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 125 Ye private masse suppers is..blasphemouse to God and annoyous to the practycioners therof. 1617 J. Moore *Mappe Maus Mort.* III. viii. 240 Christians must be daily practicioners of Faith and Repentance. 1779 Forrest *Voy. N. Guinea* 176 A self evident virtue, of which the practitioners only know the luxury. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Nov. 4/2 The most conspicuous professor, or at any rate the most conspicuous practitioner, of the doctrine that statesmanship is superior to the trammels of moral obligation.

†4. One who acts on behalf of another; an agent. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 227 b, Naming also certen practicioners and messagers, by whose meanes chiefly the thing was wrought. 1561 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxiv. 243 Swadell, late Dr, Boner's servant: and yet thought to be a practitioner for him.

†5. One who uses artifice or trickery; a schemer, plotter, conspirator. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 He [Luther] is wel knowen to be such a practisioner, that there is no doubt, but suche thinges as are well written he..wil corrupt and depraue. 1601 W. Watson *Impert. Cousid.* (1675) 77 Parsons and Heywood are found to be Practitioners.

Hence **Practi·tionery** (*rare*), the practice of a (mere) practitioner; empiricism.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* XXIX. 267 A character compounded of confident pretence on the one hand, and the merest practitionery on the other. 1842 F. Black *Homœop.* I. 5 For such practitionery we know no better advice than that of the judicious Huxham..to peruse the Sixth Commandment.

†Pra·ctive, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. stem *pract-* in Practic + -ive. (After *active*, etc.)]

1. Of persons: **a.** Devoted to practice or action; active; practical.

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* cxciii. v, But right practyfe thei were in couetyse. 1610 Bovs *Exp. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1622) 299 John doth resemble the contemplative, Peter the practive.

b. Apt to practice; adept, skilful, dexterous.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 1582 Practyf men in prevatez, & prestez of þe lawe. 1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 378 Gentilmen..verey experte and practyve in the countrey there. 1593-4 Sylvester *Profit Imprisonment* 94 You take your Pris'ner for a practive man of Art.

2. Belonging or relating to practice or action; practical.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 31 b, As well in maters speculatyue as practyue. 1613 Heywood *Brazen Age* II. ii. Wks. 1874 III. 185, I am Queene of loue, There is no practiue art of dalliance Of which I am not Mistresse. 1658 Slingsby *Diary* (1836) 203 Not only..how to belive but for the practive part too, what to do.

B. *sb.* Practice; actual doing or working.

1396-7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 298 [These] be þe uerray practyf of nigromancie rathere þanne of þe holi theologie. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 591 Cunnyng yea yea & wt prattife [*printed* prattise] I haue sauid many a manys lyfe. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 4 It is harde to make a man to vnderstande it by wrytynge, without he were at the operation therof, to teache the practyue. § 141 It is better the practyue or knowlege of an husbande man well proued.

Hence † **Pra·ctively** *adv. Obs.*, practically, in practice, actively.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xxxix. (1612) 191 The Preachers and the people both then practiuely did thriue. 1602 *Ibid.* IX. lii, Almes deedes, and workes of Charitie we practively professe.

Prad (præd). *slang.* [By metathesis from Du. *paard* a horse:—late L. *paraverēdus* (see PALFREY).] A horse.

1798 TUFTS *Gloss. Thieves' Jargon, Prad-holder*, a bridle. 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 352 Met Bob Blunderbuss and Ben Bounce, going out on their prads. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, He's in the gig, a-minding the prad. 1895 MARRIOTT WATSON in *New Rev.* July 9 Creech..swerved ..and ran his mare full face upon the struggling prads.

‖ **Prado** (prā·dō). [Sp.:—L. *prātum* meadow.] The proper name of the public park of Madrid, a fashionable promenade; hence sometimes in transferred applications.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. III. xv. 60 [He] went to the *Prado*, a place hard by, of purpose to take the air. [1657 J. DAVIES tr. *Voiture's Lett.* I. xxx. 58, I have not passed a fair evening in the *Prade* [Fr. fr. Sp.], but I have wished him there.] 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* I. 163 If a Lady be new-married, and longs to shew her Equipage, no Place so proper as the *Prado*. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) I. 80 St. James's Park, the Prado of London. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 218 Taking their Sunday promenade upon the fashionable prado of White Conduit House.

Præ-, in med.L. also **pre-**, a L. prep. and adv., meaning 'before'; a very frequent prefix and combining element. In Eng. the L. spelling was formerly not uncommon, but is now usual only in words that are still regarded as Latin, as *præcipe*, *præcognitum*, *præcordia*, *præmunire*, or that are terms of classical antiquity, as *prætor*. In other words PRE- is now the usual form.

There are some 17th century words that became obsolete before the *pre-* form became predominant, which are found only with the spelling *præ-*. This spelling has also been deliberately used by some writers in words commonly spelt with PRE- and so entered in this dictionary.

Præacuate to **-chordal**: see PREACUATE, etc.

‖ **Præcipe** (prī·sipē). *Law.* Also 5 **pricipe, presepe**, 6-8 **precipe**. [L. *præcipe*, imper. of *præcipĕre* to admonish, enjoin (see PRECEPT). Used as a sb. from the opening word or words of the writ, *præcipe quod reddat*, enjoin (him) that he render.]

1. (More fully *præcipe quod reddat.*) A writ requiring something to be done, or demanding a reason for its non-performance. *Præcipe in capite*: see quots. 1535, 1607.

[1215 *Magna Carta* c. 34 Breue quod vocatur precipe de cetero non fiat alicui de aliquo tenemento unde liber homo possit amittere curiam suam.] *a* 1500 transl. in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 219 A wrytte whiche is called pricipe from hensforth shall not be made too any man of ani freeholde wherthrugh a free man lese his courte. 14.. *MS. Lincoln A.* 1. 17 lf. 48 (Halliw.) Standis on bakke, For here es comene a presepe, swyche menne to take. 1535 tr. *Natura Breuium* (1544) 15 This wrytte of ryghte, Precipe in capite, lyeth for the tenaunt whiche holdeth of the kynge in chefe, as of his crowne, whiche tenaunte is deforced. 1598 KITCHIN *Courts Leet* (1675) 139 Plaint of a Croft is good, but Precipe of a Croft is not good. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Præcipe quod reddat*, is a writt of great diuersitie .. it is called sometime a writ of *Right close*, as a *præcipe in capite*, when it issueth out of the court of common plees for a tenent holding of the King in cheife, as of his Crowne, and not of the King, as of any honour, castell or maner. 1623 T. POWELL *Attorn. Acad.* 125 First draw the *Precipe* in sheetes of Paper, and Engrosse the Concord in Parchment. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 381 (1657) 142 If in a *præcipe* brought against the Husband, he plead misnosmer. 1658 tr. *Coke's Rep.* III. 6 a, Those, against whom the precipe is brought, are lawful tenants to the precipe. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xviii. 274 The *præcipe* is in the alternative, commanding the defendant to do the thing required, or shew the reason wherefore he hath not done it. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* II. II. iv. § 2. 63 The simple writ of *Praecipe quod reddat*, which is the commencement of a proprietory action that is to take place from the first in the king's court.

2. A note containing particulars of a writ which must be filed with the officer of the Court from which the writ issues, by the party asking for the writ, or by his solicitor.

1848 in WHARTON *Law Dict. attrib.* 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* XX, Mr. Fogg, where is the *præcipe* book?

Præcocial (prăkō·ʃăl), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *præcocēs* (pl. of *præcox* early mature: see PRECOCIOUS), applied in Ornithology to a division of birds: see below.] Of or pertaining to the *Præcoces*, applied to those birds whose young are able to leave the nest and to feed themselves as soon as they are hatched. Opp. to *Altricial*.

The classification of Birds into *Præcocēs* and *Altricēs*, as two primary divisions, introduced by Sundevall, was afterwards abandoned by him; but the adjectives founded upon these terms have been retained as useful in the classification of genera and families. See Newton *Dict. Birds*, s. vv.

1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* Index, *Præcoces*, birds that run about at birth. *Præcocial*, able to run about at birth. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 922 The young [of Wilson's Snipe] leave the nest as soon as they are hatched and follow the mother, or, as the naturalists would say, they are præcocial. 1885 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 146/2 There is..no objection to the next in sequence being the præcocial Anseres. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 2/1 Præcocial birds appear to have much less receptivity than altricial birds.

‖ **Præcognitum** (prīkŏ·gnĭtŭm). *Pl.* **-a.** Also 8-9 **pre-**. [L., f. *præ* before + *cognitum*, neut. pa. pple. of *cognōscĕre* to know: see COGNOSCE, PRECOGNITION.] Something known beforehand; *esp.* something necessary or assumed to be known as a basis of reasoning, investigation, or study; a principle. Chiefly in *pl.*

1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat.* 53 To set down some few *Præcognita* or Principles (as I may so call them). *a* 1667 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. John* vii. 17 Wks. 1831 IV. 24 In this inquiry, I must take one thing for a *præcognitum*, that every good man..is 'taught of God'. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* Pref. 16 It would be but lost Labour for any Person unacquainted with these *Precognita*, to spend any Time in reading this Book. 1846 T. CALLAWAY *Dislocations & Fract. Clavicle & Shoulder-joint* (1849) 5 To start with certain præcognita.

Præconize to **Præcoracoid**: see PRECO-.

‖ **Præcordia** (prīkō·rdiă). *Anat.* [L. pl. the midriff, diaphragm, the entrails, f. *præ* before + *cor*, *cord-* the heart.] The forepart of the thoracic region; the parts or region of the body about the heart.

[1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXX. v. II. 380 Now that I am come to speake of the precordiall region of the bodie, know this, That by this one word *præcordia*, I meane the inwards or entrailes in man or woman.] 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Præcordia*, the parts about the heart, as the diaphragma, or midriff. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 234/2 Fainting Fits, Swooning, Sickness at Heart, and other Diseases of the Præcordia. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 106 An uncommon degree of oppression at the præcordia. 1863 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* (1866) II. 64 A sense of fluttering in the *præcordia*, with irregular action of the heart.

Hence ‖ **Præcordia·lgia** [Gr. ἄλγος pain], pain referred to the præcordia. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Præcordiac, Præcordial: see PRECORD-.

‖ **Præco·rnu.** *Anat.* [mod.L. f. PRÆ- + *cornu* horn.] Wilder's name for the anterior horn of the lateral ventricle of the cerebellum.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 456 Cephalad of the fornix is a marked elevation, the striatum; that part of the procœlia into which it projects is the præcornu.

Præcuneus, etc.: see PRECUNEUS, etc.

Prædal to **Præfect**: see PREDAL, etc.

Præfatio: see PREFACE *sb.* I.

Præfervid (prīfō·rvid), *a.* [ad. L. *præfervid-us*: see PRE- A. 5 and FERVID.] Very fervid: an intentional alteration, after the L. original, of the usual PERFERVID, q. v.

[1714 COL. BLACKADER *Diary* Feb. in *Life* xviii. (1834) 444 Our national temper, the præfervidum ingenium imposes upon us for zeal.] 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 3/2 The praefervid Scot can tread his native heath without having to blush at the thought that [etc.]. 1890 *British Weekly* 13 June 102 The Scot .. flung into the liberal principles of the great university on the Seine his own tenacious and (as Buchanan spells it) praefervid nature.

Præ-fine: see PRE-FINE.

† **Præfi·scinal.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *præfiscinē*, also *præfascinī* in security against magic (f. *præ* before, in front of + *fascin-um* bewitching, witchcraft, fascination) + -AL.] A charm worn as a protection against magic or witchcraft; an amulet.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 192 Whether periapts [*mispr.* pericepts], amulets, præfiscinals, phylacteries,..and spels had even been used,..but for magick and astrologie?

Prægnotary, var. PRENOTARY *Obs.*

Præhallux: see PREHALLUX.

† **Præla·bour.** *rare*—[1]. [f. PRÆ-, PRE- A. 6 + LABOUR.] Intense, difficult, or immense labour.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664)·201 For these prælabours, and Toyles, do not destroy the courage, but encrease, and enlarge it by provocation.

‖ **Præla·brum, pre-.** *Entom.* [mod. L., f. PRÆ-, PRE- + L. *labrum* lip.] = CLYPEUS.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Prælect to **Præm-**: see PRELECT, etc.

† **Præme·tial,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præmētium* offering of first-fruits (to Ceres), f. *præ* before + *mētīrī* to measure.] Measured out from the first-fruits.

1621 BP. HALL *Var. Treat.* Ded. to K. James, [To] offer to your Maiestie some præmetiall handfulls of that crop whereof you may challenge the whole haruest.

‖ **Præmunientes** (prīmiūnĭe·ntēz). *Law.* [L. *præmūnientēs* (med.L. for *præmonentēs*, pr. pple. pl.) 'admonishing or warning' (see PRÆMUNIRE), occurring in a clause of the writ of Edw. I, 1295, summoning the spiritual estate to Parliament; hence applied attrib. to this clause and to the writ.]

Præmunientes clause: the clause of the writ of 1295, in which the bishops and abbots summoned to parliament are ordered to summon representatives of the minor clergy to attend with them. So *præmunientes writ.*

The words of the clause are 'praemunientes decanum (vel priorem) et capitulum ecclesiae vestrae, archidiaconos, totumque clerum vestrae diocesis, facientes quod..*dictum capitulum* per unum, idemque clerus per duos procuratores idoneos, ..una *vobiscum intersint*' [etc.]: see Stubbs *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 195 *note.*

1700 ATTERBURY *Rights Convoc.* (1701) 226 The *Præmunientes* in the Bishops Writ is not an Idle Useless Clause.. but a Real, and..Effectual Summons of the Clergy to Parliament. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Præmunientes*, are writs sent to every Particular Bishop to come to Parliament, *Præmunientes*, or warning him to bring with him the Deans and Arch-Deacons within his Diocess, one Proctor for each Chapter, and two for the Clergy of his Diocess. 1888 *Q. Rev.* July 140 The part of the writ described as the Præmunientes Writ was not disused, and the Clergy are still summoned to attend Convocation, by what may be termed the Parliamentary form. 1899 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LVII. 181/2 The movement led by Atterbury..for the revival of Convocation and the execution of the Præmunientes clause.

‖ **Præmunire** (prīmiunəi·rī), *sb. Law.* Forms: 5-8 **premunire**, 6 **-munyre, -menyre, -minire**, 7 **-muniri, -ie**, (**præ-, premonire, priminary**), 6- **præmunire.** [L. *præmunīre* vb., pres. inf. (in cl. L., to fortify or protect in front), in med.L. confused with and used for *præmonēre* to forewarn, admonish, warn, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *monēre* to warn: cf. PREMUNITION. Occurring in the text of the writ, and thence taken as a name of the writ itself, and in various extended and transferred uses.]

1. (More fully *præmunire facias.*) A writ by which the sheriff is charged to summon a person accused, originally, of prosecuting in a foreign court a suit cognizable by the law of England, and later, of asserting or maintaining papal jurisdiction in England, thus denying the ecclesiastical supremacy of the sovereign; also, the statute of 16th Richard II, on which this writ is based.

The words in the writ (1392–3) were (*Natura Brevium*, 1528, 150 b) 'precipimus quod per bonos et legales homines de balliua tua premunire facias prefatum propositum [A. B.] quod tunc sit coram nobis' (we command that through good and loyal men of thy jurisdiction thou do [or cause to] warn the aforesaid A. B. that he appear before us).

[1383 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 159/2 Ceux qi sont garniz par Brief de Premunire facias .. puissent apparer par lour Attornes.] 1449 *Ibid.* V. 149/2 To have suche Processe therin, as provided in a premunire facias. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 108 That the premenyre Is lyke to be set a fyre In theyr iurisdictions. 1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 291/1 He layeth that doctour Alein after that he was punished by premunyre for hys contempte committed against y^e kinges temporal law, was therfore by y^e bishops highly recompensed in benefices. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 50 Hun.. takynge to hym good counsayll, sued the Curate in a premynire. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 21 A premunire will take you by the backe one day, for oppressing and tyrannizing ouer her Maiesties subiects as you doe. 1598 *Expos. Termes Law, Premunire* is a writ, and it lyeth where any man sueth any other in the spiritual court, for any thing that is determinable in the kings court. 1608 DAY *Law Trickes* v. (1881) 75 If I haue wrongd the Prince I stand in compas of a præmonire. 1706 TINDAL *Rights Chr. Ch.* 388 Bishops..being under..a Premunire oblig'd to confirm and consecrate the Person nam'd in the *Conge d'Elire*. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. viii. 115 This then is the original meaning of the offence, which we call *præmunire*; viz. introducing a foreign power into this land, and creating *imperium in imperio*, by paying that obedience to papal process, which constitutionally belonged to the king alone. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 319 In the 16th year of this Prince [Richard II] was passed the important statute of 'præmunire',..This act received a very large interpretation from the judges and proved of great service in checking the papal usurpations. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xvi. II. 410 The first statute of *Praemunire*, declaring the forfeiture and outlawry of those who sued in foreign courts for matters cognisable in the king's courts, was an ordinance of 1353. *Ibid.* 415 In 1365 was passed a new statute of praemunire, definitely aimed against the jurisdiction of the papal court.

† **2.** *transf.* **a.** An offence against the statute of præmunire; also, any offence incurring the same penalties. *Obs.*

1553 *Act 1 Mary* c. 1 (*heading*), An Act repealing certayne Treasons, Felonies, and Premunire. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* App. (Camden) 134 That if the office were erected without warrant whether it were not a premunire, treason [etc.]. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* v. vi, Lest what I ha' done to them (and against Law) Be a Premuniri. 1678 COLEMAN in *Trial of C.* 63 That Bill which would have it a Premunire in a Sheriff not to raise the *Posse Comitatus.*

† **b.** The penalties incurred by an offender against the statute of præmunire, which was subsequently applied to various offences not connected with its original purpose. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, *Premunirie*, forfeiture of goods. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Premunire*, a punishment wherein the offender loseth all his goods for euer, and libertie during life. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., When any man for an offence committed, shall incur a Præmunire, it is meant, he shall incur the same punishment, which is inflicted on those that transgress the Statute made Anno 16 Ric. 2 ca. 5 (commonly called the Statute of Præmunire). 1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 256 He that did not enter into one side or other, shou'd incur somewhat like a premunire; for 'twas the forfeiture of his goods and estate, as well as the banishment of his person. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 367 Those Merchants whose Occasions require Sums of Money to be exported,..will, to keep themselves safe, rather give these Men 3*d.* 4*d.* 5*d.* nay, 6*d.* per Ounce more for foreign Silver, than for our own coined Silver of the same Fineness, which they dare not export for fear of the Præmunire. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* v. Wks. 1755 V. II. 94 A judge, who upon the criminal's appeal to the dreadful day of judgment, told him, he had incurred a premunire for appealing to a foreign jurisdiction.

† **3.** A situation or condition likened (gravely or humorously) to that of one who has incurred a præmunire; a difficulty, scrape, fix, predicament.

1595 *Maroccus Ext.* 17 But how does this landlord fall into this Præmunire? 1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. i.

489 If the law finds you with two wives at once, There's a shrewd premunire. 1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* IV. viii, I'm in such a fright! the strangest quandary and premunire! 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. xlv. 81 He would not bring himself into such a premunire again for the whole kingdom. 1814 *Stock Exchange Laid Open* 22 It made them all, like every other set..of men in similar premunires, squeak out so loudly.

Hence **Præmunire** (-ɔiəɹ) *v. trans.*, to issue a writ of præmunire against; to convict of breach of the statute of præmunire. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1681 W. ROGERS *6th Pt. Chr. Quaker* 23 Whil'st Isaac Pennington was in Prison, and in expectation of being premunired. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 166 Horn desir'd To have good Bonner præmunir'd. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1885) 252 Swear, or lie In prison, premunired, until you die. 1884 A. C. BICKLEY *Fox* xix. 291 He cast the Friend into prison and præmunired him.

†Præmuni·real, -ial, pre-, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Involving a breach of the statute of præmunire; liable to a præmunire. So **†Præmunirized** *ppl. a.*, having incurred a præmunire.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 171 The seculars ..made it a matter of conscience, thereby to refell, infringe, and abrogate all such premunireall treachery. *Ibid.*, The seculars..clearly exempt, redeeme and keepe out themselues, from acknowledging any obedience to that already premunirized Archpriest. 1601 — *Import. Consid.* (1831) 19 To draw you all into the same Predicament Premunirial and of Treason with him.

Præmunite, -nition, etc.: see PREMUNITE, etc.

Prænares: see PRENARES.

‖ **Prænomen** (prĭnōu·men). Also **pre-**. [L., a forename, f. *præ* before + *nōmen* name.]

1. In *Rom. Antiq.*, The first name, preceding the nomen and cognomen; the personal name; thus the prænomen of Marcus Tullius Cicero was Marcus. Hence, the first name of persons of other nations or times; the Christian name of later times.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Prænomen*, among the Romans, that which was put before the *Nomen*, or General Name, and signify'd as much as our Proper Name. 1745 J. WARD in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 370 Whether the C after Imp. in the others was designed for Cæsar or a prænomen, I cannot venture to assert. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 421 *note*, It need not be said, that in old times men were designated by their prænomen, rather than by their nomen, or cognomen. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 81/2 With reference to the dates, pre-nomens, and royal standards of the monarchs by whom the pyramids were erected. 1886 *Athenæum* 4 Sept. 313/1 The names of servants are generally prænomens only, *e.g.* 'Alicia seruiente predicti Hugonis'.

†2. The first of two words constituting the name of a place, as *Chipping Barnet. Obs. rare.*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cambr.* (1662) I. 153 It being usuall to leave out the Prenomen of a Town for brevity sake, by those of the Vicenage,..commonly calling Westchester, Chester, South-hampton, Hampton.

3. In the binominal nomenclature of Natural History, the first or generic name of a plant or animal, which precedes the specific name. *rare.*

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 28 Uva ursi is now preceded by the prænomen Arctostaphylos. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prenomen*, ..*Biol.*, the first or generic portion of a compound name.

Præ-notion to **Præpositor**: see PREN-, etc.

†Præpositorship. *Obs.* An incorrect rendering (cf. PREPOSITOR) of med.L. *præpositātus*, Ger. *propstei*, F. *prevôté*, the district of an ecclesiastical præpositus or *propst*, the group of parishes under one ecclesiastical superintendent; = rural deanery.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* VI. 221 In the præpositorship of Bremervorde are thirteen parochial-churches. *Ibid.* 230 Its parish-churches form a distinct præpositorship.

‖ **Præpo·situs.** Also **pre-**. [L. *præpositus* prefect, president, head, chief, in med.L. provost, sb. use of pa. pple. of *præpōnĕre* to place or set over, f. *præ* PRE- + *pōnĕre* to place.] The head, chief, president, or provost, in various institutions clerical and civil. Frequent in Anglo-Latin: see PROVOST, the mod.Eng. repr.; also PREPOST.

1607–72 COWELL *Interpr., Præpositus Villæ*, is sometimes used for the Constable of a Town, or Petit Constable. ..It is used sometime for a Reve, or for a chief Officer of the King in a Town, Mannor or Village. 1627 M. WREN *Serm. bef. King* 6 Feare..'tis Gods Præpositus in the School of Graces, it sees that none of them be out of Order, or in any kinde Faulty. 1894 R. S. FERGUSON *Hist. Westmorland* 145 By the year 1217 the Præpositus or Reeve at York had been superseded by a mayor. 1906 *Athenæum* 19 May 609/3 It seems almost certain that William the 'præpositus' owed his Norman name to a godfather belonging to the Amundeville family.

Præpostor, pre- (prĭpɒ·stŏɹ). [Syncopated form of *præpositor*, PREPOSITOR, q. v.] The name given at various English Public Schools to those senior pupils to whom authority is delegated for the management and control of the community; elsewhere called *Præfects*, or *Monitors*. Cf. PREPOSITOR.

[At Eton, in the 16th c.] 'Eighteen of the senior boys were styled *Præpositi*; but inasmuch as the same term was used to designate the head of the College, the monitors soon came to be called *Præpostores*. Under the contracted form of *Præpostor*, the name has survived to our own time, though the duties..have entirely changed' (Sir H. C. Maxwell-Lyte *Hist. Eton Coll.* (1870) viii. 142).

[*a* 1518–1682: see PREPOSITOR.] 1768 in Maxwell-Lyte *Hist. Eton* xvi. 320 Prepostors or monitors are chosen..to gather exercises, to mark the boys' names every School time and Church time, to write down the names of those who are not present at the time of absence...The sixth Form hath two Prepostors. 1813 (June) *Rugby School, Printed List* [Sixth Form called] Præpostors. 1864 T. H. GREEN *Let. fr. Rugby* Wks. 1900 III. p. xiv, It is impossible for bullying to be stopped except by præpostors. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, One of the præpostors of the week stood by him on the steps. 1881 HARE in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 359 His rapid removal..into the fifth form at Midsummer..freeing him from the terrors of prepostors and fagging. 1887 *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 569/3 He [Rev. E. Thring] strongly encouraged self-government among the boys, and threw great responsibilities upon the præpostors.

Hence **Præpo·storial** *a.*, of or pertaining to præpostors; **Præpo·storship**, the office of præpostor.

1886 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Dec. 12/1, I should say that Percival's new model of the præpostorial system, carried out on Dr. Arnold's lines, was his greatest achievement as a head master. 1884 (Oct. 2) *Eton School Rules*, The Præpostorship must be taken in School order, unless specially excused.

Præputial, Præscapula, etc.: see PREP-, etc.

‖ **Præputium** (prăpiū·ʃiŏm). *Anat.* [L. *præpūtium* foreskin.] The foreskin, the prepuce.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 174 In þe heed þerof is..a skyn, þat goiþ ouer & is clepid prepucium. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Præputium*, the fore-Skin, also the Prominency of the Clytoris. 1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 92 The Clitoris with its præputium is found between the Labia. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 174 To the end of each plaster, near the prepucium, a tape is to be fixed.

‖ **Præsepe** (prĭsī·pi). *Astron.* [L. *præsæpe* enclosure, stall, manger, hive, f. *præ*, PRE- + *sæpīre* to fence.] The name of a loose cluster of stars, appearing to the naked eye as a nebula, in the constellation Cancer.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Præsepe*, a constellation in 2 degrees 13 minutes of Leo. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* i. § 71. 29 The Hyades, in the constellation Taurus, and the Præsepe or 'Beehive', in Cancer.

Præsternum to **Præstomium**: see PREST-.

Præter *a., sb.*, past (tense): see PRETER.

‖ **Præter-** (prī·təɹ), a L. adv. and prep. meaning 'beyond, past, besides, except', frequent in composition; in Eng. entering into many compounds, in which it is now generally written PRETER-, q. v.

A few obsolete words occur only with the spelling *præter-* which is also preferred in some words by individual modern writers; for all these see PRETER-.

‖ **Prætexta** (prĭte·kstă). *Rom. Antiq.* Also **pre-**. [L., short for *toga prætexta* gown bordered or fringed in front; pa. pple. fem. of *prætex-ĕre* to weave before, fringe, border.] A long white robe with a purple border, worn originally by the Roman magistrates and some of the priests, but afterwards by the children of the higher classes, viz. by boys till they were entitled to assume the *toga virilis*, and by girls till marriage.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. i. II. 455 Whiles he was under sixteene yeares of age, and as yet in his Prætexta. 1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 153 Little boyes in the habit of a *Prætexta*. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The pretexta, at first, was a robe of state, or ceremony...In continuance of time it was permitted to noblemens children; and, at length, even to all Roman children in general. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Progr. Taste* IV. 85 'Tis the pretexta's utmost bound, With radiant purple edg'd around. 1868 *Smith's Smaller Dict. Antiq.* 380/2 Girls wore the prætexta till their marriage.

Prætor, pretor (prī·tŏɹ). Forms: 5–7 **pretour**, (6 *Sc.* **-oir**), 5– **pretor**, 6– **prætor**. [Early mod.E. *pretour* = F. *prêteur*, ad. L. *prætor*, *-ōr-em* (contracted from **præ-itor*, lit. one who goes before, f. *præ* before + *īre* to go).]

Originally the title designating a Roman Consul as leader of the army; after B. C. 366, that of an annually elected Curule magistrate who performed some of the duties of the Consuls, to whom he was subordinate. Of these magistrates there were at first one, later two (*prætor urbānus*, *prætor peregrinus*), and eventually eighteen.

a 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 1527 And of þe pretor[s] twenty men, And grettast of þe consel þen. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* L iv, Lyke as the pretours of Rome dyd set those mens names in a table hyghest, whose causes shulde first be pleaded or dispatched. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 147 He desirit the office of pretoir at the senat. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. iv. 35 The throng that followes Cæsar at the heeles, Of Senators, of Prætors, common Sutors. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* iii. 219 The Prætor bids his Lictors mend their pace. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pretor.* 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 35 The prætors, annually created as the judges of law and equity. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1862) II. xxvi. 439 The Emperor was prætor or commander-in-chief of the troops.

b. *transf.* One holding high civic office, as a mayor or chief magistrate. In 17–18th c., the title (= It. *pretore*) of the chief magistrate, or mayor, and of the podestà, in various parts of Italy.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 375 No man beynge in auctorytie of any hygh offyce, as prouost, pretour, or any lyke offyce. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 72 At the pleasure of the Chancellour or Prætor onely. 1623 COCKERAM, *Pretor*, a Maior, or chiefe Officer. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1106/2 The 30 past, the Pretor of Palermo sent to acquaint the Sieur de Haen, that the French Fleet had been seen. 1714 *Ibid.* No. 5192/2 The Prince of Scordia, Pretor of Palermo, presented him with the Book of the Constitutions and Rights of the City. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* II. 100 And now we're in London let's pass this Affair, And praise the good Prætor now sits in the Chair. 1756–7 Prætor of Verona [see PREFECT 1 c]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 705 No two of these rural prætors had exactly the same notion of what was equitable.

†Præ·toral, pretoral, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PRÆTOR + -AL.] = PRÆTORIAN.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 Kyngis..tuke mair delyit..to manure corne landis, nor thai did to remane in pretoral palecis or in tryumphand cities.

Prætorial, pretorial (prĭtō·riăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *prætōrius* belonging to a prætor + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a Roman prætor; prætorian.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* 917 [Vatinius] came verie arrogantly one day vnto Cicero being in his Prætoriall seate, and asked him a thing which Cicero woulde not graunt him there. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* I. iii. 37 Those occasional declarations of law called the prætorial edicts. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. iv. 141 Caesar..continued to administer his praetorial functions.

†b. *transf.* Judicial; = PRÆTORIAN *a.* 1 b. *Obs.*

a 1688 W. CLAGETT 17 *Serm.* (1699) 10 Confession to a priest, with attrition, being reckoned sufficient to receive a pretorial absolution, which shall be valid in heaven.

†c. *Pretorial court*, in the colony of Maryland, a court for the trial of capital crimes, consisting of the lord proprietor or his lieutenant-general, and the council. Also called *Pretorial. Obs.*

1638–9 *Laws Maryland* in *Arch. Md.* (1883) I. 50 An Act For the erecting of a Pretoriall. *Ibid.* 51 This Court..Shall be a Court of Record and Shall be called the pretoriall or the pretoriall Court, and the said Pretoriall shall or may..exercise..Jurisdictions within this Province.

Prætorian, pretorian (prĭtō·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prætōriānus*: see PRÆTOR and -IAN.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of, belonging, or pertaining to a Roman prætor, or to the office or rank of prætor.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* XII. v. (1622) 161 The Consularie ornaments were giuen to Colo, and the Pretorian to Aquila. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 124 Treves, the seat of Prætorian government, gave the signal of revolt, by shutting her gates against Decentius. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* i. 23 Two prætorian fleets..patrolled the Mediterranean. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. § 184 Another guardian.. called a praetorian guardian, because he was appointed by the praetor of the city. 1894 GREENIDGE *Infamia* iv. 114 The only object of the praetorian infamia was to preserve the dignity of the praetor's court, and to prevent the frequent appearance in it of unworthy members of the community.

b. *transf.* Applied to a judge, court, or power analogous to that of the ancient Roman prætor, esp. to a Court of Equity. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 64 In the distribution of Courts of Ordinarie Justice,..the Chancery [had] the Pretorian power for mitigating the Rigour of Law. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) I. 17 An Historian being no Pretorian Judg, his Reports cannot prejudice any peoples Jurisdiction, or persons Propriety. 1686 W. SHERLOCK *Papist not Misrepresented* 14 Attributing a Judicial and Praetorian Authority..to the Priest to forgive Sins. *a* 1709 ATKYNS *Parl. & Pol. Tracts* (1734) 237 Let not (says he) Prætorian Courts (speaking of Courts of Equity) have Power to decree against express Statutes, under Pretence of Equity.

2. Of or belonging to the body-guard of a Roman military commander or of the emperor.

Originally applied to the *prætoria cohors* or select troops which attended the person of the prætor or general of the army, subsequently to the imperial body-guard instituted by Augustus.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 115 The knyȝhtes pretorian of Rome namede Maxentius the son of Maximian emperour. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 74 The Pretorian legions..began to become rulers ouer their maisters. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 105 Hee ordained a standing Campe at Rome, wherein the Prætorian Cohorts.. might be received. 1651 R. SAUNDERS *Plenary Possess.* 18 Augustus set up the Prætorian Guard of 10000 men. 1868 LIGHTFOOT *Philippians* (1873) 99 The great camp of the praetorian soldiers. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, Æs Triplex* (1893) 159 Caligula..turned loose the Prætorian guards among the Company.

b. Of or pertaining to the prætorian soldiers.

1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 117 The eye of Rome, And the Praetorian camp. 1812 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 60/1 To raise a military depot in such a city as London, a sort of pretorian camp that could not but be grating to the feelings of the people.

c. *fig.* Like the prætorian cohort in venality.

1907 *Spectator* 5 Jan. 5/2 The calling into existence of a Pretorian band of pauper labour through doles for the encouragement of the unemployed.

B. *sb.* **1.** A man of prætorian rank; as an ex-prætor, or a legate sent as governor of a province.

1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. ii. (1826) II. 99 The prætorian Sempronius. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxii. 13 The provinces which remained under the control of the senate continued to be assigned by lot to consulars and praetorians.

fig. 1850 DOBELL *Roman* v. Poet. Wks. (1875) 71 Those proud prætorians who subverted the commonwealth of God.

2. A soldier of the prætorian guard.

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. iv. 163 Whom you have appointed in time of peace for Garrison souldiers or Pretorians. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. v. 108 These assertions..became unanswerable, when the fierce Prætorians increased their weight, by throwing..their swords into the scale. 1898 H. G. MOULE *Stud. Ep. Coloss.* vi. 120 It must have made the Praetorian wonder to see this extraordinary prisoner [St. Paul] at his prayers.

b. *fig.* One of a company whose function and interest is to defend an established power or system.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 50 The rule and reason will bee found all one, say Schoolemen, and Pretorians what they will. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* II. vii. 338 Neither would christianity have done it..without her purple and pretorians. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. i. 162 It is in the plunder of the Church...That unhallowed booty created a factitious aristocracy, ever fearful that they might be called upon to regorge the sacrilegious spoil...These became the unconscious Prætorians of their ill-gotten domains.

Hence **Præto·rianism,** a system like that of the Roman prætorian organization; military despotism, esp. when venal.

1870 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Nov./5 M. Ernest Legouvé..had to thank Count Bismarck for several benefits—for the death of Cæsarism and pretorianism, Ultramontanism and dandyism, the fusion of classes on the ramparts, the separation of Church and State. 1901 *Speaker* 9 Feb. 514/2 Nations which believed themselves far beyond the stage of Pretorianism.

† Præto·rical, pre-, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. PRÆTOR: cf. *oratorical.*] = PRÆTORIAN.

1639 GENTILIS *Servita's Inquis.* (1676) 857 That the Pretorical Deputy, nor any other Person assisting in the Governors place shall not be a Consultor.

‖ **Prætorium, pretorium** (prĭtō·rĭŭm). [L. *prætōrium* a general's tent; a provincial governor's residence, a palace; the prætorian guard; sb. use of neut. of *prætōrius* adj., belonging to a prætor.]

1. The tent of the commanding general in a Roman camp; the space where this was placed.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. xxxvi. 274 When he was come to the Pretorium, the Consull by sound of trumpet, called all the armie to an audience. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 89/2 The Prætorium, or General's Tent. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iv, 'From this very prætorium'—A voice from behind interrupted his ecstatic description—'Prætorian here, prætorian there, I mind the bigging o't.' 1843 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. 131 When one of their tribes first saw the habits of a Roman camp and observed the centurions walking up and down before the prætorium for exercise.

transf. 1636 MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* IV. iii, As I rode forth With some choice troops, to make discovery Where the enemy lay...The duke's prætorium opened.

2. The official residence of the governor of a Roman province; a governor's palace or court.

1611 BIBLE *Mark* xv. 16 The souldiers led him away into the hal, called Pretorium [*mod. edd.* Prætorium], and they call together the whole band. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Prætorium*, the place where the Prætor administer'd Justice:.. also taken for his Palace; and sometimes for his Pleasure-House. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* lx. (1879) 735 The Romans had made Herod's palace the Praetorium, or head-quarters.

b. By extension: The court or palace of an ancient king; also applied to a town-hall, etc.

1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 635 The Prætorium or rather the Stadthouse [at Nimmigen] .. is a very ancient and stately place. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 205 [Hannibal] became a client to Prusias the Bithynian king; at whose prætorium, or court, he was glad to wait for a hearing. 1820 T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. ii. 61 This palace, or prætorium, falling into decay, was replaced by a strong Saracenic fortress.

3. The quarters of the Prætorian Guard in Rome.

1670 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. 96 The ruines of the Pretorium, the Quarters of the Pretorian Bands, which the Emperours lodged here. 1904 G. SMITH *Hist. Chr. Missions* II. v. 48 Paul lived in Rome and near the Praetorium.

Prætorship, pre- (prĭ·tŏrĭŭship). [f. PRÆTOR + -SHIP.] The office of a Roman prætor; the term of this office.

1541 T. PAYNEL *Catiline* lii. 75 Changyng his apparel, and laying away the ornamentes of pretorship. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agric.* (1622) 186 His [Agricola's] Pretorship also he passed ouer in the same sort, with the like silence. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 29 Trajan..delivered a sword to the Prefect of the Pretorship, bidding him, if he were good, to use it for him; if evill, against him. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. (1846) IV. 176 The praetorship of Salvius Julian, an eminent lawyer, was immortalised by the composition of the Perpetual Edict. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* I. § 6 *note*, The peregrin praetorship was created in or about the year 507/247; the duty of the new magistrate being to administer justice between foreigners resident in Rome, or between foreigners and citizens.

b. *transf.* Chief magistracy; mayoralty.

1622 MIDDLETON *Hon. & Virtue* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 364 You [Lord Mayor] go From court to court before you be confirm'd In this high place, which prætorship is termed.

c. with *poss. pron.*, as title of a prætor.

1678 T. JORDAN *Triumphs of London* 12 The Governour Of this Plantation, doth present his Power, And Profits to Your Prætorship.

† Præ·tory, pre·tory, *sb.* (*a.*) *Obs.* [ME. *pretori*, a. OF. *pretorie, pretoire* (mod.F. *prétoire*), ad. L. *prætōrium* PRÆTORIUM; in II, ad. L. *prætōrius* one of prætorian rank.]

I. 1. A prætorium, hall, or palace.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16302 Pilate him ras, and forth yode Vte o þe pretory. *Ibid.* 16093. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxiii. 35 He comaundide him for to be kept in the pretorie [*gloss* or moote halle], of Heroude. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 387 b/2 He sente secretely..for al the grete gramaryens and rethoryceyns that they shold come hastelye to hys pretorye to alysaunder. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 235 The which Law is ingraven in a stony pillar..in the publick pretory, nigh the Emperors martial picture.

2. The prætorian guard, or their quarters.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 9 (Camb. MS.), I took stryf ayeins the prouost of the pretorie. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 Gordianus..was y-slawe of oon Phelip, prefecte of þe pretorie, nouȝt fer from Rome. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxv. 44 He was Presydente of the Pretory of Rome. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* H h ij, For that merit hee was called to be a souldiour, where..he arose to be the Maister of the Praetory.

3. The prætor's court. *rare.*

1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 82 He ordained that there should be foure prefectures of the pretorie, or Courts of soueraigne authority.

II. 4. A man of prætorian rank.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 165 Destroyede..senatoures, consuls, pretories, and edelynes, men of dignyte.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* = PRÆTORIAN *a.* In quot. *transf.* Of or pertaining to a judge. *rare.*

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 110 Esay..speaking of the iudgementes done..in the commune place as it myghte be Westminster hall, the gylde hall, the Iudges hall, the pretory house.

† Præ·turate. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prætūra* prætorship + -ATE¹ 1.] Prætorship.

1724 WARBURTON *Tracts* 7 In the Interim comes P. Accius Varus.., with the Character of the Præturate of Afric.

† Prag, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [Origin obscure: perh. earlier form of PROG.] ? A pin, nail, or spike.

1354 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 92 In mercede fabri facientis pragges et lokats de ferro suo proprio pro fenestris figendis. *Ibid.* 92, 93 Prages, Pragges.

† Prag, pragge, *sb.*² *Obs. slang.* [Origin uncertain: cf. PRIG.] ? One who 'prigs'; a thief.

1592 GREENE *Disput.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 206 More full of wyles to get crownes, than the cunningest Foyst, Nip, Lift, Pragges, or whatsoeuer that liues at this day.

† Prag, *v. Obs.* or ? *dial. rare.* In 6 **pragg.** [Origin unascertained.] *trans.* To stuff, cram, fill.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* i. C j, O, neyghbours, neyghbours, first get coyne, firste hardlye pragge the purse. *Ibid.* vii. D iv, Againe With pragged paunche assayde to goe. 1866 J. E. BROGDEN *Provinc. Words Lincs., Pragged with things*, having a great abundance.

† Prage. *Obs. rare.* [Origin unascertained: cf. PRAG *sb.*¹, PROG.]

1. Perh. = PRAG *sb.*¹

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 237 Small pragys, at iiij. s'. 1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij, Prages the groce *xs.* 1583 *Ibid.* D viij, Prages the groce xvis. viiid.

2. A spear or similar weapon.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 23 Theyre blades they brandisht, and keene prages goared in entrayls Of stags. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 133 The Zealanders ..with their long rusty prages, slew euery mothers sonne of them.

† Pra·ggish, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [? f. PRAG(MATIC) + -ISH¹.] ? = PRAGMATIC, meddlesome.

1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 46 (1726) 254 Sir, you ought to be hors'd out of all good company for an impudent praggish Jackanapes.

Pragmatic (prægmæ·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [= F. *pragmatique*, Ger. *pragmatisch*, etc., ad. L. *pragmaticus* skilled in business, esp. law (Cic.), in late L., relating to civil affairs (also sb.), a. Gr. *πραγματικός* active, business-like, versed in affairs, relating to matter of fact, also sb. a man of business or action; f. *πρᾶγμα, πραγματ-* a deed, act, affair, state-affair, business, etc., f. *πράττειν* to do.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Relating to the affairs of a state or community. *Pragmatic Sanction*, rendering late juridical L. (Cod. Justin.) *pragmatica sanctio* (*jussio, annotatio*), also *pragmaticum rescriptum*: 'an imperial decree referring to the affairs of a community', the technical name given to some imperial and royal ordinances issued as fundamental laws.

Applied first to edicts of the Eastern Emperors; subsequently to certain decrees of Western sovereigns, as the Pragmatic Sanction attributed to St. Louis of France, 1268, containing articles directed against the assumptions of the Papacy; those of Charles VII of France in 1438, and of the Diet of Mainz in 1439, embodying the most important decisions of the Council of Basle, the former being the basis of the liberties of the Gallican church. In more recent European history, applied particularly to the ordinance of the emperor Charles VI, in 1724, settling the succession to the Austrian throne; also, to that of Charles III of Spain in 1759, granting the crown of the Two Sicilies to his third son and his descendants.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 32 In this Parliament the pragmatick sanction was restored. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 17 To abrogate and to annull at the same time, the pragmatick Sanction, and the Concordat too. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* xxxvii. (1700) 385 Pragmatick Sanctions were made in several Nations to assert their Liberty. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Pragmatick Sanction*, is a Term in the Civil Law for a Letter written to a Corporation, or any Publick Body, by the Emperour in answer to their Request to enquire or know the Law of him. 1767 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 30/1 The King then published his pragmatic sanction, or royal ordinance, for the expulsion of the Jesuits. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 220 The revocation of the pragmatic act which left the youthful Isabella heiress of the Spanish crown. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. ii. I. 552 'Pragmatic Sanction' being, in the Imperial Chancery and some others, the received title for Ordinances of a very irrevocable nature, which a sovereign makes in affairs that belong wholly to himself, or what he reckons his own rights. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 657/1 After his [Charles VI's] death, the pragmatic sanction led to the War of the Austrian Succession.

2. Busy, active; *esp.* officiously busy in other people's affairs; interfering, meddling, intrusive; = PRAGMATICAL *a.* 3, 4.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, I loue to hit These pragmaticke young men, at their owne weapons. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* vi. § 33 Common estimation puts an ill character upon pragmatic medling people. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. VI. 238 Cepeda..a pragmatic and aspiring lawyer, seems to have held a secret correspondence with Pizarro. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 282 *note*, If St. Paul said *Κυρίου*, the marginal *Θεοῦ* of some pragmatic scribe might easily have obtruded itself into the text.

3. Conceited in one's own opinion, opinionated; dictatorial, dogmatic; = PRAGMATICAL *a.* 4 b.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 202 It was in vaine to chalenge the pragmatique Pagan in point of honour. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn., Moles* 17 It signifies her to be pragmatique, proud, and one that will domineer over her husband. 1771 FOOTE *Maid of B.* I. Wks. 1799 II. 214 She is as pragmatic and proud as the Pope. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* 599 A strong contrast to the pragmatic Cobbett was the amiable, indolent, speculative Sir James Mackintosh. 1872 *Spectator* 7 Sept. 1131 To spoil by..irrelevant and pragmatic dogmatism a very able and useful paper.

4. Treating the facts of history systematically, in their connexion with each other as cause and effect, and with reference to their practical lessons rather than to their circumstantial details. [= Ger. *pragmatisch*, after *πραγματικός, πραγματεία*, in Polybius.] Cf. PRAGMATISM 3.

1853 M. ARNOLD *Irish Ess.*, etc. (1882) 291 For the more serious kinds, for pragmatic poetry, to use an excellent expression of Polybius. 1854 WEBSTER, *Pragmatic history*, a history which exhibits clearly the causes and the consequences of events.

5. Practical; dealing with practice; matter-of-fact; = PRAGMATICAL *a.* 2.

1853 C. L. BRACE *Home Life Germany* 124 A strict and pragmatic people, like the mass of the Scotch. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1613 The pragmatic school only looked at Christianity as a system of doctrine. It failed to look upon it as an historical development.

6. Belonging or relating to philosophical pragmatism; concerned with practical consequences or values. See PRAGMATISM 4.

1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 518 This thoroughly 'pragmatic' view of religion has usually been taken as a matter of course by common men. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 337 Whether it is applied to knowledge or to faith, the pragmatic test is a severe one. 1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* 45 The pragmatic method in such cases is to try to interpret each notion by tracing its respective practical consequences.

B. *sb.* **1.** A decree or ordinance issued by the head of a state; = *pragmatic sanction*: see A. 1.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1364/2 His excessiue authoritie hath beene, and still is restreined, checked and limited by lawes and pragmatikes, both ancient and new, both in France and Spaine and other dominions. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pragmatic*,.. a Proclamation or Edict. 1766 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 11/2 There were even two pragmatics: one that ceded the possessions of the house of Austria to the Archduchess of Poland, the other that contended they were the property of Mary Theresa. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* vi. 286 It was a solemn occasion, and the emperor deemed it worthy of a solemn document, or 'Pragmatic', as it was called.

† 2. One versed in business; a person deputed to represent another in business or negotiation, an agent; cf. 'man of business', BUSINESS 22 d. *Obs.*

[Cf. also obs. It. '*pragmatico*, an atturnie or practicioner in the lawe, a proctor...Also one wont to stand by a pleader or oratour instructing him in lawe points. Also one expert in doing of things' (Florio 1598).]

1589 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 150 Since those busie limmes began to rowse, and besturre them, more then all the Pragmatiques in Europe. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 48. 559 Pandulphus (the Popes Pragmaticke) hauing first desired safe conduct of King John, arriues at Douer. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. v, My man o' Law! Hee's my Attorney and Sollicitour too! A fine pragmaticke!

3. An officious or meddlesome person; a busybody; a conceited person.

1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 369 These matters are not for pragmatics, and folkmooters to babble in. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* IV. xvi. 502 Such pragmaticks .. labour impertinently. 1835 *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 269 The flippants and pragmatics who infest all the highways of society.

‖ **Pragmatica** (prægmæ·tikă). [Sp. *pragmatica*, a. late L. *pragmatica* (sc. *sanctio, jussio, annotatio, constitutio*) a pragmatic sanction. Cf. It. *prammatica*, F. *pragmatique*.] A royal ordinance having the force of a law; = PRAGMATIC B. 1. (Used esp. in reference to Spain.)

1652 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 6 The Viceroy.. caus'd a Pragmatica or Proclamation to be printed and publish'd. 1838 PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xxvi. 418 The promulgation of *pragmaticas*, or royal ordinances. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 369/2 Charles V., by a Pragmatica in 1525, forbad this usage. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 811 As the power of the Spanish crown was gradually concentrated and consolidated, royal pragmaticas began to take the place of constitutional laws.

Pragmatical (prægmæ·tikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as PRAGMATIC + -AL: see -ICAL.]

1. = PRAGMATIC *a.* 1. Now *rare.*

1543 *Formul. Faith* N ij b, Sith that time, the canons pragmatical of these two counsailes, be no where used, nor yet alleged, as to be of effecte. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 274 Had he euer studied any Pragmaticall Discourse; or perused any Treaties of Confederacy, of peace, of truce, of intercourse. 1598 FLORIO, *Pragmatica*, a pragmaticall law. 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatness of Kingd.* (Arb.) 481 They are sensible of this want of Natiues; as by the Pragmaticall Sanction, now published, appeareth. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr.*

Parnass. I. lxiv. (1674) 80 Peremptory or pragmatical Laws ought..to be published to the people when they themselves desire them. 1682 BURNET *Rights Princes* vi. 222 When St. Lewis by his pretended Pragmatical Sanction, restored the Liberties of Election. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 219/2 The so-called pragmatical sanction.

2. Of, pertaining to, or dealing with practice (as opposed to theory, etc.); practical; = PRAGMATIC *a.* 5. *Obs.* exc. as used after Ger. *pragmatisch.*

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 157 But this knowledge of theirs was not a curious & idle knowledge, .. but a pragmaticall knowledge, full of labour and business. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) 17 No better, then a kinde of pragmaticall Atheists. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pragmatical*..in Physicks,or Natural Philosophy,..is sometimes used in a good Signification, and signifies the same as Practical, Mechanical, or Problematical. Thus Stevinus.. calls some Mechanical and Practical Experiments..by the Name of Pragmatical Examples. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* I. I. i. 4 The dogmatic treatment of the Life of Jesus inevitably passed into the pragmatical. *Ibid.*, The significance of Christ in relation to modern times could only be substantiated .. by treating his life as a pragmatical sequence of events on the same footing as that of other illustrious men. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 647 There is the practical or pragmatical form of Christianity usually associated with the name of James.

b. Matter-of-fact.

18.. HARE (Webster 1864), Low, pragmatical, earthly views of the gospel. 1886 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 203/3 'In One Town', though a little pragmatical and matter of fact, is not uninteresting. It..confines itself entirely to the commonplace joys and mishaps of every-day men and women.

†**3.** Engaged in action; actively engaged; prone to action or work; active, busy; business-like, methodical; brisk, energetic. *Obs.*

1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 427 A man of a very pragmaticall and stirring humour. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 16 (1619) 320 He will cling to good mens company; be pragmaticall and busie in performing many sightly duties. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 236 Can a man thus imployd, find himselfe..dishonour'd for want of admittance to have a pragmaticall voyce at Sessions and Jayle deliveries? 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 212 None of these pragmatical persons..will suffer himself to be so enslaved to his business, but he will allow himself set times ..for eating.

b. Experienced in business or affairs; expert, practised; skilled; shrewd. Now *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pragmatical*, that is expert in doing things, practised in the Law, and in many matters. 1665 LLOYD *State Worthies* II. (1677) 85 So pragmatical a person as this gentleman was necessary among the Custom-house men. 1822 HEBER in *Jer. Taylor's Wks.* (1839) I. p. ccciii, Political and pragmatical wisdom.

4. Unduly or improperly busy or forward; 'assuming business without leave or invitation' (J.); officious, meddlesome, interfering, intrusive. = PRAGMATIC *a.* 2. Now *rare.*

1611–12 BP. HALL *Impresse of God* II. Wks. (1624) 453 The absurd pragmaticall impudency of the present [Pope], in that grosse prohibition of a fauourable and naturall oath, for his Maiesties security. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 323/2 A wise man is not pragmatical; for he declines the doing of any thing that is beyond his office. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* IV. 29 Coming to-day in this pragmatical way, when nobody sent for you. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiii, How he dealt with the villains of Liege, when they would needs be pragmatical.

b. Conceited, self-important; opinionated, dogmatic; doctrinaire, crotchety.

1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 22 Those..whose Merit wholly consists in a pragmatical peremptory way of delivering their Opinions. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 481 ₱ 4 Lacqueys were never so saucy and pragmatical as they are now-a-days. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* v. Wks. 1761 III. 92 Which..may perhaps give me the title of pragmatical and overweening. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. ii, The Romans lose both by this pragmatical affectation of refinement. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 235 The pragmatical priggism which is the pedagogue's characteristic defect.

5. Of, pertaining, or according to pragmatism: = PRAGMATIC *a.* 6.

1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 577 The essentially pragmatical character of the scientific modes of ascertaining 'truth' is precisely one of the chief props of pragmatism.

†**B.** *sb. Obs. rare.* **1.** A busybody; = PRAGMATIC *sb.* 3.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 100 It is..not the busie Pragmaticall, but the close Politician, that supplanteth the puissant state. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Pragmaticall*, a busie body.

2. One versed in business, etc.; = PRAGMATIC *sb.* 2.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pragmaticall*, one that understands the Law.

3. A pragmatical statement.

1617 BACON *Let. Jas. I* 25 July, That .. your Majesty would bestow the thanks not..upon the eloquent persuasions or pragmaticals of Mr. Secretary Winwood.

Hence **Pragmatica·lity**, the quality of being pragmatical (in various senses).

1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 3 The moment an Englishman feels the pragmaticality of his native land too much for his spirits, off he goes, to relieve himself abroad. 1887 *Ch. Times* 28 Oct. 869/2 The miserable 'unsaved' pragmaticality which sends to the Independent sects a class of persons in whom there is no great relish of salvation.

Pragma·tically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pragmatical manner: see the adj.

1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 38 For such patrociny that Kirk-buriall procutors doe use pragmatically to pleade. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 7 Nor .. am I pragmatically suggesting, what I might foolishly imagine fittest to be done in State affairs. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 53 Not pragmatically prying into their Secrets or meddling with their concerns. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 94, I have tried to decipher them pragmatically, practically. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exp.* 448 *note*, Pragmatically, the most important attribute of God is his punitive justice.

Pragma·ticalness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being pragmatical; †activity, assiduity (*obs.*); officiousness, meddlesomeness; opinionativeness, dogmatism; practical or utilitarian quality; etc.: see the adj.

1643 *Let. Fr. Grave Gentleman* 1 Pragmaticalnesse and want of Charity. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. i. § 35 Monks also hated Fryers at their hearts, because their activity and pragmaticalnesse made Monks be held as idle and uselesse. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* v. 73 The Pragmaticalnesse of whose Agents will be..ready to discover every one that dissembles his Religion. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xxii. Wks. 1741 I. 219 But pragmaticalness disturbeth the world..One busybody often (as we find by experience) is able to disturb and pester a whole society. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 526/2 The usefulness of these two noble drugs, introduc'd by Priests, atone for the pragmaticalness of those who oppos'd 'em. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Nov. 600/2 The pragmaticalness of the 'fussy Bishop'.

Pragma·ticism. *rare.* [f. PRAGMATIC + -ISM.] **1.** = PRAGMATICALNESS.

1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lxxxi. Its decay as being observed by the disciples on the next [day] and not before, is pedantry and pragmaticism.

2. *Philos.* (Used to designate a specific variety of pragmatism.)

1905 C. S. PEIRCE in *Monist* April 166.

Pragmatism (præ·gmătiz'm). [f. Gr. πρᾶγμα, πραγματ- a deed, act (see PRAGMATIC) + -ISM. Cf. Ger. *pragmatismus.*]

1. Officiousness; pedantry; an instance of this.

1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 211 Our laughing at his pragmatisms and solemn coxcombry. 1895 E. J. HARDING in *Critic* (N. Y.) 9 Feb. 95 How refreshing it is, this absence of pragmatism, this genial resolve to take life as it is, for better for worse.

2. Matter-of-fact treatment of things; attention to facts.

1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lxxi, Mrs. Dollop..had often to resist the shallow pragmatism of customers disposed to think that their reports from the outer world were of equal force with what had 'come up' in her mind.

†**3.** A method of treating history in which the phenomena are considered with special reference to their causes, antecedent conditions, and results, and to their practical lessons. *Obs.*

[1832 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1853) III *note*, No word occurs more frequently in the historical and philosophical literature of Germany and Holland, than *pragmatisch*, or *pragmaticus*, and *Pragmatismus*,..the word is peculiarly employed to denote that form of history, which, neglecting circumstantial details, is occupied in the scientific evolution of causes and effects.] 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* I. II. xvi, I have drawn attention..to the prophetic pragmatism of Matthew. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss's Hist. Canon* xv. 274 According to the pragmatism of history, we should now turn our attention to the influence which the reforming movement of the sixteenth century exercised on the notion of the biblical canon.

4. *Philos.* The doctrine that the whole 'meaning' of a conception expresses itself in practical consequences, either in the shape of conduct to be recommended, or of experiences to be expected, if the conception be true (W. James); or, the method of testing the value of any assertion that claims to be true, by its consequences, i. e. by its practical bearing upon human interests and purposes (F. C. S. Schiller).

1898 W. JAMES *Philos. Concept. & Pract. Results* 5 The principle of practicalism or pragmatism, as he [C. S. Peirce] called it, when I first heard him enunciate it at Cambridge [Mass.] in the early '70s, is the clue..by following which.. we may keep our feet upon the proper trail. *Ibid.* 6 To attain perfect clearness in our thoughts of an object, then, we need only consider what effects of a conceivable practical kind the object may involve..Our conception of these effects, then, is for us the whole of our conception of the object, so far as that conception has positive significance at all. This is the principle of Peirce, the principle of pragmatism. 1900 W. CALDWELL in *Mind* Oct. 436 In this so-called Pragmatism or Practicalism of Prof. James. 1902 F. C. S. SCHILLER *ibid.* Apr. 203 To set forth fully the doctrine which he has named *Pragmatism*, and which I would fain advance against that of Aristotle. 1902 — *Personal Idealism* 63. 1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 577 Pragmatism is a new analysis of 'truth' inspired by the recent progress of psychology. 1906 SCHILLER *Humanism* 8 Pragmatism is the doctrine that 'truths' are 'values', and that 'realities' are arrived at by processes of valuation. 1906 *Academy* 4 Aug. 106/1 The most recent and (philosophically speaking) fashionable 'ism' that the new century has produced—known, by some as Humanism, and by others as Pragmatism.

Pragmatist (præ·gmătist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. A pragmatical person, a busybody.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xvi. 176 We may [say] of Pragmatists, that their eyes looke alwaies save onely inward. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 209 He is a moral teetotaller, a formalist, a pragmatist.

2. An adherent of the doctrine called pragmatism.

1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 578 A contemporaneous review of an American pragmatist. 1906 H. JONES *ibid.* Apr. 567 It is quite true, as the Pragmatists or Personal Idealists aver, that our purposes define the meaning of things. 1907 *Ch. Times* 8 Feb. 178 The pragmatist takes religion as he finds it, a working life;..he studies the Christian life, and considers that the best way to study it is to live it;..he is content to leave many things unexplained.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Of or according to pragmatism.

1903 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Mar. 578 The evidence for a pragmatist interpretation of the reason.

Hence **Pragmati·stic** *a.*

1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* 40 The pragmatistic philosophy..preserves as cordial a relation with facts. *Ibid.* 301 What I take the liberty of calling the pragmatistic or melioristic type of theism.

†**Pragmati·tioner.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. obs. F. *pragmaticien* (Estienne) a man skilled in law + -ER [1]. Cf. *practitioner*, etc.] A man skilled in affairs; a practising lawyer; = PRAGMATIC B. 2.

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 129 When they [lawyers] were called *Pragmaticiens*, that is, Pragmatitioners.

Pragmatize (præ·gmătəiz), *v.* [f. Gr. πρᾶγμα, πραγματ- a deed, act + -IZE. So obs. F. *pragmatiser* (1660 Oudin).] *trans.* To represent (what is imaginary or subjective) as real or actual; to materialize or rationalize (a myth). Hence **Pra·gmatized, Pra·gmatizing** *ppl. adjs.*

1834 KEIGHTLEY *Tales & Pop. Fict.* v. 203 Pragmatising, or endeavouring to extract historic truth out of mythic legends. 1866 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1871) 3 The old pragmatizing or Euhemeristic school of mythological interpretation. 1869 SEELEY *Lect. & Ess.* v. 136 The distinctness with which theological doctrines are pragmatised. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. x. 368 One of the miraculous passages..is traced..to such a pragmatized metaphor.

Pragmatizer (præ·gmətəizəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER [1].] One who pragmatizes.

1847 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVI. 16 Pragmatisers, astronomers, and allegorists have worn his labours threadbare. 1866 FREEMAN *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. i. (1871) 3 The pragmatizers take a mythical story; they strip it by an arbitrary process of whatever seems impossible, they explain or allegorize miraculous details [etc.]. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. x. 368 The pragmatizer is a stupid creature, nothing is too beautiful or too sacred to be made dull and vulgar by his touch.

Prahm, variant of PRAM [1]. **Prahu,** Malay boat: see PROA. **Prai(e,** obs. ff. PRAY, PREY.

†**Praiere.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 **praer, prayere.** [a. OF. *pra(i)ere* (12th c. in Godef.) meadow land:—late L. *prātāria* (832 in Du Cange) prop. fem. sing. (sc. *terra*) of *prātārius* adj., of the nature of a meadow (f. *prātum* meadow); so Prov. *pradaria*, Sp. *pradera*. Cf. PRAIRIE.] A meadow.

c 1305 *Land Cokayne* 71 In þe praer is a tre Swiþe likful for to se. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 768 Pyched on a prayere, a park al aboute.

Praiere, praire, obs. ff. PRAYER.

Prairial (prēe·riăl, ‖ prɛryal). [F. (1793) f. *prairie* meadow.] The name for the ninth month of the French revolutionary calendar, extending from May 20 to June 18.

1806 *Naval Chron.* XV. 129 On the 7th Prairial [they] went to the Diamond Quarter. 1894 *Daily News* 7 June 5/4 The unfortunate Dauphin, who, according to authentic records, died in the prison of the Temple on the 20th Prairial, Year III. of the Republic (June 8th, 1795).

Prairie (prēe·ri). [a. F. *prairie* = OF. *praerie* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) a tract of meadow land = It. *prateri·a*, Sp., Pg. *pradería*:—Romanic type **prātari·a*, f. L. *prātum* meadow (F. *pré*): see -RY.] A tract of level or undulating grass-land, without trees, and usually of great extent; applied chiefly to the grassy plains of North America; a savannah, a steppe.

In *salt* or *soda prairie*, extended to a level barren tract covered with an efflorescence of natron or soda, as in New Mexico, etc.; in *trembling* or *shaking prairie*, to quaking bog-land covered with thin herbage, in Louisiana.

[*a* 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1684) 201 The *Prerie* or large Sea-meadow upon the Coast of Provence.] 1773 P. KENNEDY *Jrnl.* in T. Hutchins *Descr. Virginia*, etc. (1778) 54 The Prairie, or meadow ground on the eastern side, is at least twenty miles wide. *Ibid.* 55 The lands are much the same as before described, only the Prairies (Meadows) extend further from the river. 1787 J. HARMAR in E. Denny *Milit. Jrnl.* (1860) 423 The prairies are very extensive, natural meadows, covered with long grass,..like the ocean, as far as the eye can see, the view is terminated by the horizon. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 7 Four hundred yards in the rear, there is a small prairie of 8 or 10 acres, which would be a convenient spot for gardens. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 264 The Plains, or, as the French denominate them, the Prairies, or Meadows, compose an extensive tract of country. 1815 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XII. 326 A large Oak tree stands alone in a *prairie*...(*Note.* If this word be merely a French synonime for savannah, which has long been naturalized, the Americans display little taste in preferring it.) 1861 DU CHAILLU *Equat. Afr.* xvi. 275 We were troubled ..on the prairie by two very savage flies, called by the negroes the *boco* and the *nchouna*. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 307 One of the few species not confined to woods, but occurring in open prairie. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 473 It was..almost exclusively an animal of the prairies and the woodless plains.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prairie country, craft, -fever, fire, flower, fly, hill, knoll, land, plateau, -ranger, steppe, stream*, etc.; *prairie-like* adj.; **prairie-alligator,** a walking-stick insect, esp. *Diapheromera femorata*; **prairie-apple** = *prairie-turnip* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **prairie-bean,** *Phaseolus retusus*, of Texas; **prairie bitters,** a drink

made of buffalo-gall and water; **prairie-brant** = HARLEQUIN *brant*; **prairie-breaker**, a plough for cutting a wide shallow furrow, and completely inverting the furrow-slice; **prairie-burdock**, the Rosin-weed, *Silphium terebinthaceum* (N. O. *Compositæ*); **prairie clipper**, a coach traversing the prairies: cf. PRAIRIE SCHOONER; **prairie-clover**, a leguminous plant of the genus *Petalostemon*; **prairie cocktail**, a raw egg, seasoned, and swallowed in vinegar or spirits (*Cent. Dict.*); **prairie-cup**, ? a wild flower growing on the prairie; **prairie-dock**, (*a*) = *prairie-burdock*; (*b*) *Parthenium integrifolium* (N. O. *Compositæ*) (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895); **prairie-falcon**: see quot.; **prairie-formation** *Geol.*: see quot.; **prairie-fowl** = PRAIRIE-CHICKEN; **prairie-fox** = KIT-FOX (*Cent. Dict.*); **prairie-goose**, *Bernicla canadensis Hutchinsii*, of North America; **prairie-grass**, (*a*) any grass growing on the prairies; (*b*) *spec.* in Australia, the grass *Bromus* (*Ceratochloa*) *unioloides*; **prairie-grouse** = PRAIRIE-CHICKEN; **prairie-hawk**, the American Sparrow-hawk, *Tinnunculus* or *Falco sparverius*; **prairie itch**, one of various skin affections, characterized by itching and eruption, caused by the fine dust of the prairies (Farmer *Amer.* 1889); **prairie loo**: see quot.; **prairie-marmot** = PRAIRIE-DOG; **prairie-mole**, a silvery mole, *Scalops argentatus*, found on the western prairies; **prairie oyster** = *prairie cocktail*; **prairie-pigeon**, a name given locally in U. S. to (*a*) the American Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus*); (*b*) Bartram's Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*); **prairie plough** = *prairie-breaker*; **prairie-plover** = *prairie-pigeon* b; **prairie rattler** or **rattlesnake**, one of various rattlesnakes of the prairies, as *Sistrurus catenatus* or *Crotalus confluentus*; **prairie-renovator**: see quot.; **prairie rent**: see *prairie value*; **prairie-rose**, *Rosa setigera*, the American climbing rose; **prairie ship** = PRAIRIE SCHOONER; **prairie-snake**, a large harmless N. American snake, *Masticophis flavigularis* (Webster 1890); **prairie-snipe** = *prairie-pigeon* b; **prairie-squirrel**, a N. American ground-squirrel of the genus *Spermophilus*, inhabiting the prairies (in quot. 1808 applied to the PRAIRIE-DOG); **Prairie State**, the State of Illinois, U. S.; in pl. in more general sense, including Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and States to the south of these; **prairie-turnip**, a hairy herbaceous plant (*Psoralea esculenta*) of N. W. America, or its edible farinaceous tuber; **prairie value** *Pol. Econ.*, the rental value of prairie land, or of any waste land; also *fig.*; **prairie wagon** = PRAIRIE SCHOONER; **prairie-warbler**, a small warbler, *Dendræca discolor*, of eastern N. America; **prairie-wolf** = COYOTE. See also PRAIRIE-CHICKEN, etc.

1894 SCUDDER in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 456 The form .. dubbed 'stick-bogs' and '*prairie alligators', our *Diaphe-romera femorata*. *a* 1860 *Scenes Rocky Mts.* 133 (Bartlett) **Prairie Bitters*, a beverage common among the hunters and mountaineers. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 12 *Anser albifrons gambeli*... Known in .. the West as *Prairie Brant, Speckled Belly, and Speckled Brant,..or Brant simply. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s. v. *Breaker*, The timber land breaker and *prairie breaker are essentially different. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1059/1 *Silphium terebinthaceum* is sometimes called the *Prairie Burdock, from its rough heart-shaped root-leaves. 1870 D. B. R. KEIM *Sheridan's Troopers* 49 The coaches or '*prairie clippers', as they are called by the denizens of the country, pitched and jolted. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard., Petalostemon*, ..*Prairie Clover... A genus comprising about fourteen species of pretty, hardy or half-hardy herbs. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii, An insight into many an item of *prairie-craft. 1880 J. HAY *Pike County Ballads* 96 *Prairie-Cups are swinging free To spill their airy wine. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 339 *Falco Mexicanus*, American Lanier, or *Prairie Falcon. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 238 The Prairie-Falcon of the western plains of North America. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii, I had caught the '*prairie-fever'! 1892 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 10 Oct. 9/3 By back-firing, the people .. saved their town from being destroyed by the great *prairie-fire. 1899 *Daily News* 20 Mar. 8/3 Since 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' there has been no such prairie fire in fiction as Mr. Charles M. Sheldon's 'In His Steps'. The book..has 'caught on' ..like a blaze in dry grass. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xliv. III. 30 Their horses were..rendered almost frantic by the stings of the *prairie flies. 1886 A. WINCHELL *Walks Geol. Field* 280 The *prairie-formation is a stratified formation of fine clay, sand, and alluvial matter. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 126 Our hunters killed 5 *prairie fowls. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 4 Sometimes they [air-sacs] form large inflatable sacs on the throat, as, for instance, in the Prairie-fowls. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 4 *Branta canadensis hutchinsii*. ..In..North Carolina, Marsh Goose, and on the coast of Texas, *Prairie Goose. 1812 *Connecticut Courant* 24 Nov. 2/3 In consequence of the Indians setting the *prairie grass on fire. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 267 The prairie-grass of America. 1861 G. F. BERKELEY *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xi. 185 Of these beautiful birds of game the *prairie grouse is the largest. 1856 BRYANT *Prairies* 17 The *prairie-hawk that, poised on high, Flaps his broad wings, yet moves not. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. (1810) App. 4 The..river is bounded here in a narrow bed of *prairie hills. 1844 G. A. MCCALL *Lett. fr. Frontiers* (1868) 418 The abrupt *prairie knolls,..seem in the distance to elevate their rocky summits. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 34 There is handsome *prairie land on the south. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 21 The green, *prairie-like, Canada shore. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 264, I was contented to wrap myself as closely as possible in my buffalo robe, and join him in a game of *prairie loo...The game consists merely in betting upon the number of wild animals seen by either party, towards the side of the vehicle on which he is. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 737/1 Prairie dog..about the size of a squirrel or large rat...A more correct name would be Barking Marmot, or *Prairie Marmot. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* 31 Caught a curious little animal on the prairie, which my Frenchman termed a *prairie mole. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Prairie-oyster. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 4 Feb. 4/7 A wistful pet name for an egg, duly seasoned and to be swallowed whole—the 'prairie oyster'. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 503 In most parts of the West, between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, this Tattler, commonly known as the '*Prairie Pigeon', is exceedingly abundant. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1782/1 **Prairie-plow*, a large plow supported in front on wheels, and adapted to pare and overturn a very broad but shallow furrow-slice. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 173 *Bartramia longicauda*...In Southern Wisconsin,..in 1851 this bird .. was known as the *Prairie Plover, and also as the Prairie Snipe. 1853 BAIRD & GIRARD *Catal. N. Amer. Reptiles* I. 14 *Crotalophorus tergeminus* ..*Prairie Rattlesnake, Massasanga. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Prairie Renovator*, an implement with tearing harrow teeth, drawn over the surface of grass land to loosen the roots and the soil,..and break up the matted vegetation. 1895 M. DAVITT in *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 3/3 The annual value of such land, in its original or pre-reclaimed condition, would be its '*prairie rent'. 1862 RIPLEY & DANA *Amer. Cycl.* XIV. 180/1 The climbing rose (*R. setigera*)..sending up shoots 10 to 20 feet high in a season; from it have originated numerous beautiful double-flowered varieties known in gardens as *prairie roses. 1888 *Century Mag.* Mar. 662/2 The carpet of prairie roses, whose short stalks lift the beautiful blossoms but a few inches from the ground. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iii, To see the long caravan of waggons, the '*prairie ships', deployed over the plain. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. (1810) 155 We..killed some *prairie squirrels, or wishtonwishes [cf. quot. 1808 in PRAIRIE-DOG]. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* s. v., *Spermophilus*..with great propriety called 'Prairie-Squirrels', for their true home is on the prairie. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Agric.* 127 Permitting the unparalleled soil of our *prairie States to grow less and less productive. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 249 The *prairie turnip is a root very common in the prairies, with something of the taste of turnip, but more dry. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxxv, A life spent beneath the blue heaven of the *prairie-uplands and the mountain 'parks'. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 185 The .. doctrine of '*prairie value', which has been held up to the Irish peasantry as the standard by which rent ought to be measured. 1893 LD. ROSEBERY in *Daily News* 2 Mar. 6/2 We took our Colonies at prairie value, and have made them what they are. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 825 Refusing to go beyond the bare etymology—'the prairie value'—of the name. 1868 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 248 Another pensile species is the *Prairie Warbler (*Sylvia minuta*). 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 63 *Dendræca discolor*...Prairie Warbler. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 40 One of our men caught a beaver, and killed a *prairie wolf. 1858 E. J. LEWIS in Youatt *Dog* i. 18 The *Canis Latrans*, or prairie wolf, who whines and barks in a manner so similar to the smaller varieties of dogs.

Hence **Prai·ried** *a.*, containing or characterized by prairies; **Prai·riedom**, the prairie region.

1845 (*title*) Prairiedom: Rambles and Scrambles in Texas or New Estrémadura. 1849 WHITTIER *Our State* i, The South land boasts its teeming cane, The prairied West its heavy grain. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* vi, (Santa Fè) The metropolis of all prairiedom.

Prai·rie-chi·cken. The Pinnated Grouse, *Cupidonia* or *Tympanuchus cupido*, a gallinaceous bird of N. America. Also applied (in regions where the foregoing does not occur) to the Sharp-tailed Grouse, *Pediœcetes phasianellus* or *P. columbianus*.

1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* ii, A dinner at the Planters', with its venison steaks, its buffalo tongues, its 'prairie chicken'. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 144 Dun-coloured prairie chickens whirring through the heather as we drove along. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Apr. 6/1 The prairie chickens (sharp-tailed grouse) meet every morning at grey dawn in companies of from six to twenty.

Prai·rie-dog. A N. American rodent animal, genus *Cynomys*, of the squirrel family; *spec. C. Ludovicianus*, the Louisiana Marmot, a thickset short-tailed animal about a foot in length, and having a cry like the bark of a dog; large numbers of these animals live together in burrows, forming a 'village' or 'town'.

1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 37 On their return [they] killed a prairie dog, in size about that of the smallest of domestic dogs. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. (1810) 156 *note*, The Wishtonwish of the Indians, prairie dogs of some travellers; or squirrels as I should be inclined to denominate them; reside on the prairies of Louisiana in towns or villages. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* iv, We struck through a village of 'prairie dogs'. 1870 KEIM *Sheridan's Troopers* 301 Early in the afternoon we entered a prairie-dog town.

Prai·rie-he·n. = PRAIRIE-CHICKEN.

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 44 Killed nothing but five prairie hens, which afforded us this day's subsistence. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xxxiii. 16 The Prairie Hen is..very much like the English grouse, or heath hen, both in size, colour, and in habits. 1888 TRUMBULL *Names Birds* 135 *note*, There is still another pinnated-grouse variety, found in the Southwest, and known in the books as *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, also as Texas Prairie Hen, Lesser Prairie Hen, and Pale Pinnated Grouse.

Prai·rie schoo·ner. *U. S.* A fanciful name for the large covered wagons used by emigrants in crossing the N. American plains, before the construction of railways. Cf. *prairie ship* (PRAIRIE b).

1858 *New York Tribune* 7 June 5/6 In our streets [Lawrence, Kansas] may be seen large covered wagons, alias 'prairie schooners'...These wagons are generally drawn by oxen, otherwise by mules. 1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 5/1 The prairie schooner, or large lumbering freight wagon,.. looms up in the distance.

Prairillon (preri·lyən). Now *rare*. [dim. of *prairie*, prob. of American French origin: cf. F. *goupillon, vermillon*, etc.] A small prairie.

a 1860 *Scenes Rocky Mts.* 172 (Bartlett) Interspersed among the hills are frequent openings and prairillons of rich soil and luxuriant vegetation. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* ii. 100 The *prairillon*, or little prairie, is fast disappearing from our idiom.

Prais, obs. Sc. form of PRESS *sb.*

Praisable (prē·zăb'l), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 7–9 **praiseable**. [f. PRAISE *v.* + -ABLE.] Deserving of praise; praiseworthy, laudable, commendable.

13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 314 In good tyme he was boren, I-wis, þat preisable is and not preised is. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xix. 24 The ferthe forsothe 3eer al the fruyt of hem shal be halowid and preysable [1388 preiseful; *Vulg.* laudabilis] to the Lord. 1388 — 2 *Tim.* ii. 15 Bisili kepe to 3yue thi silf a preued preisable werkman to God. *a* 1400 *Te Deum* in *Prymer* (1891) 22 The preysable nowmbre of prophetis [*L.* prophetarum laudabilis numerus]. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. on C'tess of Richmond* Wks. (1876) 291 She had in maner all that was praysable in a woman, eyther in soule or in body. 1602 SEGAR *Hon. Mil. & Civ.* II. xviii. 91 To encourage these Gentlemen in so praiseable an enterprise. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 424 Laudable or Praisable Subsistency or Co-originating Resultancy. 1891 *Review of Rev.* 14 Nov. 517/2 This simple and praiseable quality of work.

Hence **Prai·sableness**; **Prai·sably** *adv.*

1557 CHEKE in T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ad fin., Then doth our tung naturallie and praisablie vtter her meaning. 1648–60 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Lofwaerdigheydt*, praiseablenesse, or Laudablenesse. 1733 *Oxf. Lat. Gram.* To Rdr. A v b, No word..to be so hard..as the Scholar shall not be able praisably to enter into the forming thereof.

Praisant, obs. Sc. f. PRESENT *sb.*[2]

Praise (prēiz), *sb.* Forms: 5 **preyse**, 6–7 **prayse**, 6– **praise**, (6 **prease**, **prayes**, *Sc.* **prais**, **prayis**(*s*, 6–7 **prase**). [f. PRAISE *v.* Not known till after 1400, and not common till after 1500. Absent from Wright-Wülcker's *Vocabs.*, *Promp. Parv.*, and *Catholicon*. See also PRES *sb.*]

1. The action or fact of praising; the expression in speech of estimation or honour; commendation of the worth or excellence of a person or thing; eulogy; laud, laudation.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy) 3 This citee with lawde, preyse, and glorye, For joy moustered lyke the sone beme. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 43 For they loved the prayse that is geven off men, more then the prayse, that commeth of god. 1554–9 *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 5, I wyll not paynt to purchace prayes. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractatis* i. (S. T. S.) I. 4 Albeit the time be schort, sumthing of 3our prais man we speik. *a* 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* l. 35 Or had this nymphe bene in these dayis..Venus had not obtenit sic prayis. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* III. i. 25 These praises.. makes me wish that I had beene at Rhodes. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 95 He gave no prase, To any but my Lord of Essex dayes. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. vi. 30 The forme of Speech whereby men signifie their opinion of the Goodnesse of any thing, is Praise. 1742 YOUNG *Night Th.* VII. 420 Praise is the salt that seasons right to man, And whets his appetite for moral good. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 64 At the end of the conversation the king dismissed him with emphatic praise. *Mod.* Those who have seen the work are loud in their praises of it.

b. Viewed as a condition or quality of the receiver: The fact or condition of being praised.

1533 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 463 Some good meane founden..to the noo litle prease and profet of boothe [King and Pope]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xliv. 13 For their sakes shal their children & sede contynue for euer, & their prayse [*L. gloria eorum*] shal neuer be put downe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 632 For he the praises farre surmounts of his Progenitours. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 564 Reflecting still the same Honour, and Praise, and Glory upon it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 180 The praise of politeness and vivacity could now scarcely be obtained except by some violation of decorum.

2. The expression of admiration and ascribing of glory, as an act of worship; *hence*, as this is chiefly done in song, the musical part of worship.

14.. in *Tundale's Vision* (1843) 127 Glorye and preyse laude and hye honoure O blisfull quene be gevon unto the. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 44, I my selfe will lead a priuate Life, And in deuotion spend my latter dayes, To sinnes rebuke, and my Creators prayse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 543 To Bacchus therefore let us tune our Lays, And in our Mother Tongue resound his Praise. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* x, The pealing anthem swells the note of praise. 1776 BP. HORNE *Comm. on Ps.* xxxiii. 2 Music..is of eminent use in setting forth the praises of God. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 114 The King rejoiced at his words, and said, Praise be to God. 1866 NEWMAN *Hymn*, Praise to the Holiest in the height, And in the depth be praise. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 258 Praise of the Office. That portion of Matins and Even Song from the *Gloria* inclusive to the *Credo* exclusive. 1892 BP. TALBOT *Serm.* (1896) 76 Praise, like every real part of true religion, fits on to human nature...by fulfilling, I think, two great human instincts. They are the instinct of admiration and the instinct of love.

3. *transf.* That for which a person or thing is, or deserves to be, praised; praiseworthiness; merit, value, virtue. *arch.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 All this processe we haue made to shewe the prayse & dignite of grace. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. i. (Arb.) 150 The chief prayse and cunning of our Poet is in the discreet vsing of his figures. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 108 How many things by season, season'd are To their right praise, and true perfection. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 23 A restless crowd,.. Whose highest praise is that they live in vain. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* June xix, When she should bear a boy To be her growing stay and godlike praise.

†b. An object or subject of praise. (Sometimes, esp. *Sc. colloq.*, put instead of the divine name.) *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* x. 21 He is thy prayse, & thy God. *a* 1724 *Gaberlunzieman* v, She dancid her lane, cry'd, Praise be blest! I have ludg'd a leil poor man. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* III. 104 Of all our youth the Ambition and the Praise! 1782 CALLANDER *Anc. Scot. Poems* 45 *note*, *Praise be blest*, God be praised. This is a common form still in Scotland with such as, from reverence, decline to use the sacred name. 1787 SKINNER *Poet. Epist. to Burns* xii, But thanks to praise, ye're i' your prime.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *praise-folk*, *-giver*, *-prater*, *-song*, *-trap*; (in sense 2) *praise-book*, *-house*, *-meeting*, *-offering*, *-portion*, *-time*; *praise-begging*, *-deserving*, *-giving*, *-winning*, etc., adjs.; **praise-way** *adv.*, in the way or direction of praise.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 May 3/1 Giving to people who may use the Church Hymnary a guide..to use that *Praise Book with great interest and appreciation. *a* 1450 *Tourn. Tottenham* 215 (Ritson) The *prayse-folk, that hur led, Wer of the torniment. 1565 HARDING in Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 242 It is *praisgiuing to God, and praying for the people, for Kings, for the rest. 1869 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* 20 The little old church or '*praise-house'. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 255 Soon as *Praise-offerings at the Throne I pay. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 143 If they bestow not upon one of these *Praise-Praters the best garments they have. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 184 He made a little *praise-song about him. 1537 *Injunct. by Bp. of Worceter* in Abingdon *Antiq. Worcester* (1717) 162 That in *prase tyme no..body be browgth into the Church, but be browgth into the Churchyard. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxi. 219 Such praise-begging hypocrisy!.. Such contemptible *praise-traps! 1698 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 16. xviii. (1669) 229/2 It was faith that tuned his spirit, and set his affections *praise-way.

Praise (prēiz), *v.* Forms: 3–6 **preise**, 3–7 **preyse**, 4–7 **prayse**, 4– **praise**, (4 **preyze**, **praisse**, 4–6 **prais**, 5 **preysse**, 5–6 **prese**, **prays**, **prase**, 6 **prayes**, **prease**, **preese**, *Sc.* **preiss**, 8 (in sense 1) **praze**). [a. OFr. *preisier* (*preisant*) to price, value, prize, praise:—late L. *preci-āre*, earlier *preti-āre* (Cassiodorus *c* 550) to price, value, prize, f. *preti-um* price. At an early date in Parisian F., and afterwards also in Norman, *preisier* was levelled (under the vowel of the pres., *prise* from *prieise*) to *prisier*, mod. F. *priser*, which was also taken into Eng. in the 14th c. as *prise(n*, mod. *prize*, and here took the place of the earlier form in the more literal senses associated with the sb. *pris*, *price*; leaving to *praise* the most tropical sense = Lat. *laudare*, OE. *herian*. A little later the sb. *praise* began to be formed from the vb. in this restricted sense = Lat. *laus*; so that from the 15th c. we have *prise*, *prize* vb. beside *pris*, *price* sb., and *praise* sb. beside *praise* vb.]

I. 1. *trans.* To set a price or value upon; to value, appraise. *Obs.* or *dial.* (The late retention of this sense was probably owing to its being treated as an aphetic form of *appraise*.)

[1292 BRITTON I. vi. § 2 Ses chateus preyseez et deliverez a les villez.] 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 146 Þou praysed me & my place ful pouer & ful gnede. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 174 Þer weore chapmen I-chose þe chaffare to preise. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 9 Thritty platis of syluer, the pris [1388 prijs] of a man preysid, whom thei preysiden [1388 preiseden] of the sonys of Yrael. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 167 The whyche chalis..was praysyd at xxx. Mˡ marke. 1521 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 122 Praisid at v li, x mylch kene. 1530 PALSGR. 664/1, I prayse a thynge, I esteme of what value it is, *je aprise*. 1550–51 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 561 Mr Meres and James Goldsmyth for yer paynes in prasyng yᵉ churches stuffe iijˢ. 1554 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 415 The said silver platte..to be preasid as abowe wryttin. 1556 *Inv.* in French *Shaks. Geneal.* (1869) 472, 52 shepe presid att vij li. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxi. 74 An inventory was taken ..and all was praised at an hundred and thirty thousand Taels. 1713 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 252 His own Picture..brought to London to be prazed. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Praise*, to appraise; to value.

†**2.** To attach value to; to value, esteem; to PRIZE. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 246 (Cott.) Selden was for ani chance Praised Inglis tong in france. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5348 Wawain was the better ay, Therefore y-praised, parmafay. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 46 Jakke, thi lewid prophecie I preise not at a peese. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cxxxiii. (1869) 128 Ne hire wittes j preyse not at a budde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiii. 40 They preysed nothing the thinges that were erthely. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 285 Nother thou nor thy god I preyse not a rotyn dogge. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 19 Sum tyme in mynde sho praisit me sa hycht, Leifand all vther.

II. 3. To tell, proclaim, or commend the worth, excellence, or merits of; to express warm approbation of, speak highly of; to laud, extol. (The leading current sense.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Ne he ne cunne ou nouðer blamen ne preisen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 43/331 Among alle men.. mest ich preisie þe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3577 He praises al thing þat es gon O present thing he praisses non. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 219 He is i-preysed [L. *laudatur*] for a parfite techere of philosofie. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. vii, Men preysen somtyme that that shold be blamed. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1641) 219 They extolled and praysed him farre above the Starres. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* IX. 32 The Subjects.. praised him to the skies. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 702 What we admire we praise, and when we praise, Advance it into notice. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* V. 151 The rewards of wicked men are often praised by poets and approved by the world.

b. In proverbial phrases.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* 1, Who now so long hath prays'd the Choughs white bill That he hath left her ne'er a flying quill. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* I iv b, She doth but praise your lucke at parting. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 38 *Al.* A kind Of excellent dumbe discourse. *Pro.* Praise in departing. *a* 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (1857) 304 Praise day at night, and life at the end. *Ibid.* 317 Praise a hill, but keep below. Praise the sea, but keep on land.

†**c.** To bring praise or commendation to. *rare.*

1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* xiv. (1660) 87 As Shadowsjudiciously plac'd, do no less praise the Painter, than do the livelier and brighter Colours. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hosea* i. 24 Men shoot bullets against armour of proof, not to hurt it, but to praise it.

d. The dat. infin. *to praise* (also † *to praising* for *praisen*) used predicatively: To be praised, deserving praise. Cf. BLAME *v.* 6. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1320 Þe prinse he sede oþer king nis to preisi noȝt. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 301, I halde þat Iueler lyttel to prayse. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Also yf þe heed is to gret it is not to preysynge [*ed.* 1535 it is not to prayse; L. *est illaudabile*]. *c* 1460 ROS *La Belle Dame* 631 Suche as wil say..That stedfast trouthe is nothing for to prays. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* June 783 Yet we should have been to blame, if Shakspeare be to praise.

4. To extol the glorious attributes of (God, or a deity), especially, to sing the praises of; to glorify, magnify, laud.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18309 'Lauerd,' he said, 'i sal þe prais, For þou [has] tan me to þi pais.' 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. xviii. (1495) c iij/1 An angell..cessith neuer to worshyp and prayse god. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 18 Mi pepyl praysy me with here lyppus, here hertis ben far away [cf. Isa. xxix. 13]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxvii. 5 Let the people prayse the (o God) let all people prayse the. 1693 KEN *Doxology*, Praise God from whom all blessings flow. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 481 On Ceres let him call, and Ceres praise. *Ibid.* II. 535 In jolly Hymns they praise the God of Wine. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. i. 8 'The saints be praised', thought I.

Hence **Praised** *ppl. a.*

14.. *Siege Jerus.* 99 Preued for a prophete þrow praysed dedes. 1552 HULOET, Praysed or valued, *estimatus*. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Deut.* x. 21 *He is thy praise*] Thy praised one, *Psal.* 18. 3. or, thy praise-worthy one.

Praiseful (prēi·zfůl), *a.* [f. PRAISE *v.* or *sb.* + -FUL. (With sense 1, cf. the earlier *worshipful.*)]

†**1.** Deserving of praise or honour; praiseworthy, laudable. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* iii. 54 Blessid art thou in the trone of thi rewme, and aboue preyseful [*Vulg.* superlaudabilis, 1388 preisable]. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4037 Whare fore a praisefulle womman oure lady prefigurid. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 25 Mooued certainlye, by the praisefull deedes of their kinsemen. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* iv. 123 Which, if so praysefull in the meanest Men, In pow'rfull Kings how glorious is it then? 1766 G. CANNING *Anti-Lucretius* III. 161 No narrow preference for their native soil Restrains these heroes in their praiseful toil. 1818 LAMB *Poems, Salome*, The ruthless deed That did thy praiseful dance succeed.

2. Full of or abounding in praise; giving praise; eulogistic, laudatory.

1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii, All praisefull tongues doe waite upon that name. 1641 WITHER (*title*) Halelviah or, Britans Second Remembrancer..in praisefull and Pœnitentiall Hymns. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. ix. 56 He speaks kind and praiseful things of me. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Lusiad* 86 Had other wars my praiseful lips employ'd. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* CL. 694 Strains of praiseful lore.

Hence **Prai·sefully** *adv.*, **Prai·sefulness**.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) V. iv. 37 She must have ..heard your uncle speak praisefully of a man he is said to be so intimate with. 1867 BAILEY *Univ. Hymn* 5 Holy, and with true praisefulness inspired. 1899 CHEYNE *Chr. Use of Psalms* i. 29 Except in a general spirit of praisefulness, we cannot accompany the mass of our congregation in its jubilant singing.

Praiseless (prēi·zlės), *a.* [f. PRAISE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without praise or honour; unpraised; undeserving of praise.

1558 PHAER *Æneid.* v. M iv b, His praiseles shyp [*sine honore ratem*] Sergestus brought. 1597 BACON *Ess., Coulers Gd. & Evil* ix. (Arb.) 151 Actions of great felicitie may drawe wonder, but praiselesse. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 73 Death ..matching the Scepter, with the Spade, and the crowned Prince with the praiselesse Peasant. 1852 *Fraser's Mag.* XLV. 570 Their life is arbitrary, blameless, and praiseless.

†**Prai·sement.** *Obs.* [f. PRAISE *v.* + -MENT. Cf. *appraisement.*] Estimation of value, valuation, appraisement.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 141 Amountyng in value Aftyr the praysement of the same to cxxxvij^{li}. 1511 FABYAN *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 7 Before the praysement..of my foresaid moveables. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1657) II. vii. 143 It is beyond his..skill, to give an exact praisement of it. 1656 J. CHALONER in D. King *Vale-Royall* IV. 26 If no man will buy it, the four men are to take it by Praisment.

Praiser (prēi·zəɹ). Also 5–6 **praysour**. [a. AF. *prei-, praisour* = OF. **preiseor*, F. *priseur*; f. *preisier*, *priser*, PRAISE *v.*: see -ER 1.]

†**1.** One who appraises; a valuer, appraiser. *Obs.*

1491 *Will of Stokes* (Somerset Ho.), The Bisshopes praysours. 1529 *Act* 21 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 § 2 Their regesters, scribes, praisers, sommoners, apparatours. 1544 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 160 Rychard Ferres..for to be one of the Comen preysers in this Cytye. 1624 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 219 Oxe money..to be assessed by the foure Marchant praysers. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 22) 205 The Chancellor of the Exchequer.. hath the Gift of the two Praisers of the Court.

2. One who praises, commends, or extols; a eulogist.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvii. 21 So is preued a man in the mouth of preiseris [1388 preyseris]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 211 The sweete wordes of flateryngе preiseres. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 18 Here cometh the prayser that endyted the songe. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 30, I have bene a praiser of none save phisicians. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 472 Let your owne conscience be your owne prayser. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 245 Lady Davers was one of the kind Praisers. 1863 W. W. STORY *Roba di R.* II. vii. 175 The Past never wants for praisers and apologists.

b. One who offers praise to God or a deity; a worshipper.

1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 170 They are praisers of images. 1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Pyrnl.* (1814) 163 The loudest praiser of God.

Hence **Prai·seress**, a female praiser. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1611 COTGR., *Louëresse*, a praiseresse, commenderesse.

†**Prai·seworth**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PRAISE *sb.* + WORTH *a.*] = PRAISEWORTHY.

1591 R. W. *Tancred & Gismunda* IV. iv. F iij, This is praise-worth, not to do what you may. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 290 Elizabeth..whose praise-worth vertues if in verse I now should take in hand.

Prai·seworthily, *adv.* [f. PRAISEWORTHY + -LY 2.] In a praiseworthy manner; laudably, commendably.

1570 T. WILSON *Demosthenes* Pref. *j, To make an English man telle his tale praiseworthily. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. xii. 31 All That ever she sees doen prays-worthily. 1887 BROWNING *Parleyings, D. Bartoli* xv, Many a legend ..Do you praiseworthily authenticate.

Prai·seworthiness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being praiseworthy; laudableness.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 405 Quite contrary to the others praise-worthinesse. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 276 The Praise-worthinesse of God. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xi. 66 Where, asks she,..is the praise-worthiness of obedience, if it be only paid in instances where we give up nothing? 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xvi, His logical coolness of expostulation .. unheroic in proportion to its praise-worthiness.

†**Prai·seworthly**, *adv. Obs.* [f. PRAISEWORTH + -LY 2. The examples may belong to *praiseworthily*: but cf. *dearworthly*.] = PRAISEWORTHILY.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* 310 The menne whiche praise worthely canne obeie shal also haue knoweledge how praise worthely to rule. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 129 Some men..haue put to their helping handes, to this worke..and P. Victorius most praise-worthelie of all.

Praiseworthy (prēi·zˌwə·ɹðĭ), *a.* [f. PRAISE *sb.* + WORTHY *a.* Formerly hyphened or treated as two words: cf. b.] Worthy or deserving of praise; laudable, commendable.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 43 [He is] much more prayse-worthy, then he wych for fere and dred kepyth hymselfe in the hauen styl. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. ii. (1634) 119 Shall we thinke anything praise-worthy or excellent, which we do not acknowledge to come of God? 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 489 That right good and praise-worthy man. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* xvii. (1700) 167 All Men are so far free as to be praise-worthy or blame-worthy for the Good or Evil that they do. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* ii. (ed. 2) 21 He does not ask what is allowable.., but what is commendable and praise-worthy. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 915 Gods, found because of thee adorable And for thy sake praiseworthiest from all men.

†**b.** *Analytically*, as *great praise worthy*, worthy of great praise. *Obs.*

[1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) C iij, The whiche..maketh you of so great prayse worthye.] 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 178/2 Smal prayse worthy was it in them to kepe it. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 52/1 Great-praise-worthie was he that gaue the first aduenture.

Praising (prēi·zĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRAISE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRAISE. †**a.** Valuing, valuation, appraising. *Obs.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 17 Be tallage of þoure townes without any werre,..By preysinge of polaxis þat no pete hadde. 1524 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 22 Paid for praysyng of certayn stuff at the court..vijd. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 227 The registring, sealing, writing, praising, making of inuentaries.

b. Commending, commendation; the offering of praise to God. Also in *pl.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13401 Grete preysynge he [Arthur] made, His men to bolde, þeir hertes to glade. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 379 A litil storie is told in presing of our Ladi. 1382 — *Prov.* x. 7 The mynde of the riȝtwise [shall be] with preisingis. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xi. 43/1 Theyr Pater noster, & theyr Aue maria, aud other prayers and praysynges. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xviii. (1634) 711 Under the other kinde of sacrifice..are contained all..our prayers, praisings, giving of thankes. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744)

VIII. i. 13 Hence the very word, by which we express the praising of one, is to extol him; that is, to lift him up.

†c. The fact of being held worthy of praise; *transf.* that which is so held. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 311 At conseil & at nede he [Arthur] was a skilfulle kyng, So curteis of non men rede, ne prince of more praysing Was non in Cristendam. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 875 The thridde manere of chastitee is virginitee..she is the preisynge of this world. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* IV. iv, Thy..beaute is fayrer.. and of gretter preysynge than the songe of the nyghtyngale.

Prai·sing, *ppl. a.* [f. Praise *v.* + -ing 2.] That praises or expresses praise; laudatory.

1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xxxv. 2 Buriownynge it shal burioune, and ful out ioyen, ioyeful and preising. *a* 1586 Sidney *Ps.* v. v, They ever shall send Thee their praysing voyce. 1745 *Scot. Paraphr.* xxiv. i, Ye Heavens, send forth your praising Song.

Hence **Prai·singly** *adv.*, in a praising or laudatory manner; with praise.

1842 G. S. Faber *Prov. Lett.* (1844) II. 117 As that Father praisingly reminds them. 1889 G. Gissing *Nether World* III. xiii. 289 Miss Lanty..did not speak of her too praisingly.

†**Prai·sure.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. Praise *v.* I + -ure.] Valuation, appraisement, appraisal.

1622 F. Markham *Bk. War* II. iv. 55 The Clerk of the Band shall administer vpon his goods,..making a true Inuentorie or praysure thereof.

Prakrit (prā·krit). Also 8–9 **Prácrit,** 9 **Prā-, Pracrita, Prā-, Prā-, Prákrit.** [ad. Skr. *prākṛta* natural, unrefined, vulgar: opposed to *saṃskṛta* prepared, refined, polished (Sanskrit).] A general name for those popular languages or dialects of Northern and Central India which existed alongside of or grew out of Sanskrit.

Applied primarily to the ancient vernacular dialects, the earliest traces of which go back to *c* 500 B.C.; then to the mediæval Prakrits which succeeded these; and sometimes to the modern languages Hindī, Bengālī, Marāthī, etc. Pāli is a form of primary Prakrit.

1786 *Asiatic Miscellany* II. 502 Four unconnected Stanzas, in the Prácrit Language, which was anciently vernacular in India. 1789 Sir W. Jones tr. *Sacontalá* Pref., Wks. 1799 VI. 206 The men of rank and learning are represented speaking pure Sanscrit, and the women Prácrit, which is little more than the language of the Bráhmens melted down by a delicate articulation to the softness of Italian. 1801 Colebrooke *Sanscrit & Pracrit in Asiatic Res.* VII. 199 The Gods, &c. speak *Sanscrita*; benevolent genii, *Prácrita*; wicked demons, *Paisácht*; and men of low tribes and the rest, *Mágad'ht. Ibid.* 200 *Prácrit*, consisting of provincial dialects, which are less refined, and have a more imperfect grammar. 1837 C. P. Brown *Sanscrit Pros.* 19 The Pracrita metres do not fall within the scope of the present essay. 1861 Max Müller *Sci. Lang.* Ser. IV. iv. 138 We meet the same local dialects again in what are called the Prâkrit idioms, used in the later plays, in the sacred literature of the Jainas, and in a few poetical compositions. 1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* x. 187 One Prakrit dialect, the Pali, became in its turn the sacred language of southeastern Buddhism. 1883 I. Taylor *Alphabet* x. II. 296 The inscriptions of Asoka are written in three local Pali or Prakrit dialects, evidently derived by long continued detrition from the Sanskrit of the Vedas. 1904 *Athenæum* 18 Oct. 481/3 The literatures which were produced..by the earliest language of the Vedas, by the later classical Sanskrit, by the Pali of the Buddhist books..and by such of the other Prakrits, or popular dialects, as attained to literary form.

Hence **Prakri·tic** *a.*, pertaining to Prakrit; **Pra·kritize** *v., trans.* to turn into Prakrit.

1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* x. 187 The next stage of Indian language .. is called the Prakritic. 1881 R. Morris in *Academy* 27 Aug. 161/2 In Marâthi *inuramura*=muttering, grumbling,..seems to be a prâkritised form of the Sanskrit *murmura*, which in Pâli would become *muramura* or *mummura*.

Praline (prā·lin), **prawlin** (prɔ̄·lin). Chiefly *U.S.* Also 9 **prawlɔen, prawling, praslin, praleen.** [a. F. *praline*, f. the name of Marshal Duplessis-Praslin (1598–1675), by whose cook the confection was invented.] A confection made by browning almonds or nuts in boiling sugar; also transferred to various other preparations: see quots. 1809, 1883, 1893.

1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Almond*, Almonds fry'd, or Prawlins, a Dish prepar'd by taking a Pound of the best Jordan Almonds,..boil them to a Candy [in a syrup of loaf-sugar], constantly stirring till they are dry;..Put the Almonds again into the preserving Pan, and set them on a slow Fire, till some of their Oil comes from 'em into the Bottom of the Pan. 1809 A. Henry *Trav.* 265, I left our fort on Beaver Lake,..provided with dried meat, frozen fish, and a small quantity of praline, made of roasted maize, rendered palatable with sugar. 1833 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 159/1 Orange Prawlings.—Take 4 or 5 China oranges, and cut off the peel in quarters... Have about a pint of clarified sugar boiling on the fire;.. put in the pieces of peel [etc.]. 1893 Mary A. Owen *Old Rabbit*, etc. iii. 39 It was the fragrance of prawleens, that compound of New Orleans molasses, brown sugar, chocolate, and butter. 1901 Winston Churchill *Crisis* I. xii, He did Miss Eugénie the honour to eat one of her praleens.

Pralle, app. var. *prolle*, Prowl *v.*

‖ **Pram** [1], **praam** (prām). Also 8–9 **prahm, prame,** 9 **prahme, praum.** [Du. *praam*, MDu. *praem, prame*, OFris. *prâm*, Fris. *prame*, MLG., LG. *prâm, prame*; so MHG. *prâm*, G. *prahm-e*, ON. *prámr*, Da. *pram*, Norw. *praam*, Sw. *pråm*, also F. *prame*, all from Slav.; cf. OSlav. *pramŭ*, Pol. *pram*, cognate with OHG. *farm*, freight-boat, ferry: f. root *par-, per-, por-*: see Fare *v.*] A flat-bottomed boat or lighter, used especially in the Baltic and the Netherlands for shipping cargo, etc.

[1390–1 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 42 Et pro portagio dictorum piscium ad les prames, v scot [at Danzig].] 1548 [see d]. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 105 Some long, deepe prams, sowed together with hempe and cord (but vnpitcht or calkt). In these the Muscouian Merchants saile downe Volga, ouer the Caspian Sea. 1643 *Declar. Commons Rebell. Irel.* 49 [They] tooke a Scottish Barke and a Dover barke, and a Pram or Hute, and a Catch. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5050/2 Danish Prams, or Flat-bottom'd Boats. 1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 251 The bason where the prames and flat-bottom boats lie. 1807 Sir R. Wilson in *Life* (1862) II. vii. 218 Three English praums had also arrived. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 899 The cargo..was unloaded into praams or lighters belonging to the [Russian] government. 1844 *Hull Dock Act* 114 The word 'vessel' shall include ship, lighter, keel, barge, praam, boat, raft.

b. A large flat-bottomed boat mounted with guns and used as a floating battery.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5340, 4 Prames or large Flat-bottomed Boats, one of which is to carry 20 Guns. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 126/2 There is a kind of warlike vessel called a prame..equipping in different French ports. Each..has two decks..they are long and broad, but draw very little water, and are rigged after the manner of a ketch. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* lviii, One of the praams mounted ten guns, and the other eight. 1845 Gresley *Frank's First Trip* 166 A large sort of gun-boats, called Praams, which were flat and wide, with three keels and three masts.

c. As name of a ship's boat.

1860 Reade *8th Commandm.* 338 His work runs into the port of annihilation quicker than pirate can launch praam to attack it. 1894 *Times* 15 Nov. 7/5 A small boat, known as a 'pram', was seen to be launched. The mate..states that ..the captain ordered the boat out to row to the shore.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *praam bow, brig, ship.*

1548 *Aberdeen Regr.* XX. (Jam.), For the prame [in Jam. prane] hyir havand thair gudis to the schip. 1755 Magens *Insurances* II. 278 (Ordinance of Stockholm) Disbursements and Charges .. Pilotage, Anchorage, Beaconage, Prahm or Lighter-piles [etc.]. 1804 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 558/1 That part of the enemy's flotilla, consisting of two praam ships bearing the flag of chief of division and both under French colours. 1849 W. R. O'Byrne *Naval Biog. Dict.* 1237/2 An armed cutter, a praam-brig, and a gun vessel.

Pram [2] (præm). *vulgar* or *colloq.* [See sense 1.]

1. A shortened form of Perambulator 3.

1884 *Graphic* 25 Oct. 423/2 Another favourite custom of nurses is to walk two or three abreast, chattering and laughing as they push their 'prams'. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 2/1 The Pram and the Baby. *Mod. Advt.* Some Second-hand Prams to be cleared Cheap.

2. A milkman's hand-cart for delivering milk.

1897 *Daily News* 20 Jan. 12/6 Milkman seeks Work Milking Cows, or with a pram. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 8/2 Dairy Show..Accessories from churns and separators to milk 'prams'.

Pramnian (præ·mniăn), *a. Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.* [f. L. *Pramni-um* (*vinum*), Gr. Πράμνι-ος (οἶνος) + -an.] In *Pramnian wine*, a wine from the neighbourhood of Smyrna. Also allusively.

1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 412 The Pramnian wine (which the same Homer hath so highly commended) continues yet in credit and holds the name still: it comes from a vineyard in the countrey about Smyrna neere to the temple of Cybele. 1830 tr. *Aristoph. Knights* 57 Off, off with the cup, in the name of the Pramnian God! 1863 Ruskin *Wks.* (1872) II. 90 Pramnian wine, cheese, and flour.

Pran, obs. form of Prawn.

Prance (prɑns), *sb.* [f. Prance *v.*] The act of prancing; a prancing movement or walk.

1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 182 ¶ 11 A lady..whom by the jolting prance of her gait,..he guessed to have lately buried some prosperous citizen. 1876 T. Hardy *Ethelberta* (1890) 307 Ethelberta..swept along the pavement and down the street in a turbulent prance. 1904 J. G. Lorimer *Selfmade Merch. Lett. to Son* 243 I'm..as full of prance as a spotted circus horse.

†b. A trip, a jaunt. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1803 Dibdin *Nongtongpaw* I. xi, John Bull for pastime took a prance, Some time ago, to peep at France.

Prance (prɑns), *v.* Also 4–8 **praunce,** 5 **prawnce, praunse,** 5–9 **pranse.** [Appears *c* 1375: origin obscure: see *Note* below.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: 'To spring and bound in high mettle' (J.); to rise by springing from the hind legs, either spontaneously in gaiety, excitement, or impatience, or at the rider's will; to move by a succession of such springs. Rarely, and more vaguely, of other animals.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* I. 221 Than þenketh he þough I prounce al by-forn First yn þe trays ful fat and newe shorn, Yet am I but an hors. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. iv. (1495) 752 A lombe..lad to pasture other to deth; he grutchyth not nor prauncyth not but is obedyent and meke. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe, & G.* 344 The Goos may gagle, the hors may prike & prounce. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 21 Hartes in heirdis..Pransand and prunȝeand, be pair and be pair. *c* 1614 Sir W. Mure *Dido & Æneas* I. 783 Whil Phoebus' steeds abowt the Poles do prounce. *a* 1639 Wotton *Poems* in *Reliq.* (1651) 532 Here's no fantastick Mask, nor dance, But of our Kids, that frisk and prance. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 1 Apr., I have a little white favourite [horse]..he prances under me with so much fire. 1870 Bryant *Iliad* I. VI. 208 As when some courser..Prances o'er the plain in joy of heart.

b. *trans.* (with reference to sense 3b).

1858 Morris *Eve of Crecy* Poems 168 Look you, my horse is good to prance A right fair measure in this war-dance.

c. *trans.* To cause (a horse) to prance.

1530 Palsgr. 664/1, I prounce an horse, I make hym fetche gamboldes and to flynge, *je pourbondys.* 1609 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1812) V. 509 He and those that went with him coursed their horses, pransing them to and fro. 1611 Cotgr., *Pourbondir*..to manage, or prounce a horse; to make him leape, or bound. 1720 Mrs. Manley *Power of Love* (1741) 119 He was provoked to see Briancon vault and prounce his Horse about the Field, as if he were certain of his Conquest. 1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* III. 209 The marquis of Hartley and lord Barton..pranced their nags, each with two grooms behind them, close up to the landau.

2. *intr.* Of a person: To ride (or drive) with the horse prancing; 'to ride gallantly and ostentatiously' (J.); to ride gaily, proudly, or insolently. Also †*to prance it* (obs.).

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 41 Wherof this man was wonder glad, And goth to prike and prance aboute. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 33 b, Then vp pranced the Burgonyons and folowed the chace. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 259 The Gentry delight much in great horses, whereupon they prounce continually through the streetes. 1624 Middleton *Game at Chess* III. i. 351 So make him my white jennet when I prance it After the Black Knight's litter. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 367 Like Troops of Amazons, the Female Band Prance round their Cars. 1802 Campbell *Lochiel's Warning* 7 Proud Cumberland prances, insulting the slain, And their hoof-beaten bosoms are trod to the plain. 1854 Thackeray *Rose & Ring* xvii, His Majesty prancing in person at the head of them all.

3. *intr.* 'To move in a warlike or showy manner' (J.); to move or walk in a manner suggestive of a prancing horse, or (more generally) in an elated or arrogant manner; to swagger. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 3400 They stond in altircacioune & stryff in poynt to prounce To depart yeur goodis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. v. 8 Ilk ane of thaim, furth pransand lyke a lard. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 21/18 To prounce, *exultare.* 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 24 How well resembles it the prime of Youth, Trimm'd like a Yonker, prauncing to his Loue? *c* 1641 *Downfall of Pretended Div. Authoritie of Hierarchy* 11 How they pierck and pranse it, above all Nobilitie and Gentry. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1810) V. x. 60 She bid the servant tell Lord G. that she desired his company. Lord G. was [= had] pranced out. *a* 1784 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (1816) II. 68 *note*, Sir, if a man has a mind to prance, he must study at Christ-Church and All-Souls. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xvi, Rawdon..pranced off to engage lodgings with all the impetuosity of love.

b. *intr.* To dance, gambol, caper. Now *colloq.*

c 1450 *Mankind* 91 in *Macro Plays* 4 Yf ȝe wyll, ser, my brother wyll make yow to prawnce. 1790 D. Morison *Poems* 47 He tunes his win'some reed, The wee things loup and prance. 1817 *Lintoun Green* IX. 93 Whilst they touzle, ramp, and prance, The carles took their gill. 1883 Gilmour *Mongols* XXVI. 315 Two or more figures in uncouth masks ..prance about in the circle to the sound of music.

4. *trans.* To drive or frighten by prancing.

1812 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 4 May 281/1 Who thinks he has nothing to do but to put on a laced jacket and go prancing his enemies into a fit.

Hence **Pra·ncing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. XXII. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 106 b/1 Furious neiȝyng of many stede, Praunsynge of hors vp on ouþer side. 1552 Huloet, Praunsynge horses, *excussores equi.* *c* 1560 *Heart's-ease* 40 in T. Rychardes *Misogonus* II, Our minds to please and live at ease, And sometimes to use praunsinge. 1611 Bible *Judg.* v. 22. — *Nahum* iii. 2 The noise of a whip..and of the praunsing horses [1885 (*R.V.*) and pransing horses]. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* III. ii. 22 If the fool unstride His prauncing stallion, thou may'st up and ride. *a* 1732 Gay (J.), Now rule thy prancing steeds, lac'd charioteer. 1740 C. Pitt *Æneid* XII. 465 Shook by the prancings of the thund'ring horse. 1853 Humphreys *Coin-Coll. Man.* XXII. (1876) 278 The type of the reverse is the Dioscuri on prancing horses.

[*Note.* The phonology and spelling of *praunse, pranse, prounce, prance*, suggest French origin, but no corresponding or allied word is recorded in French. Danish dialects have *prandse, pranse* (N. Jutland), 'to go in a stately, proud fashion', with an adj. *prans, pransk* 'spirited, proud, said of a horse' (Fejlberg), whence a vb. *pranske*; other dialects have *pronse*, etc. in similar senses. These resemble the Eng. word; but their age and history are unknown. Less likely to be connected are Bavar. dial. *prangezen, prangssen* to make compliments, assume airs, *prangss* assumption of airs, affected behaviour, and Swiss dial. *spranzen* to strut. Cf. also the later Prank *v.*[3], the identity of sense of which is remarkable, since it is difficult to equate the forms: see the Note there.]

Prancer (prɑ·nsəɹ). [f. Prance *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which prances.

1. a. *Thieves' cant* and *slang.* A horse.

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 42 A Prigger of Prauncers be horse stealers; for to prigge signifieth in their language to steale, and a Prauncer is a horse. 1622 Fletcher *Beggars' Bush* v. ii, Higgen hath prigg'd the prancers in his days. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prancer*, a Horse. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* xxiii, I would have thought little to have prigged a prancer from the next common.

b. in general use: A mettled or prancing horse; a steed. Also *fig.*

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 19 Where stands this prawncer, in what inne or stable? 1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (Percy Soc.) 15 'This prauncer', said Opinion, 'hath beene a wilde colt, and leaped thorough many honest men's gates in his dayes'. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Nov., Then the Captaine..of the Castle of St. Angelo upon a brave prancer. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 151 Thus corporal's guard I've review'd on their prancers. 1842 Tennyson *Sir Launcelot & Q. Guinevere* 33 She whose elfin prancer springs By night to eery warblings.

†2. *Old slang.* A mounted robber; a highwayman. (According to Farmer, A horse-thief.) *Obs.*

c 1600 Day *Begg. Bednall Gr.* I. iii. (1881) 21 He wo'd be your prigger, your prancer, your high-lawyer. 1673 R.

HEAD *Canting Acad.* 192 The fifteenth a Prancer, whose courage is small; If they catch him horse-coursing he's noozed for al.

3. a. A rider on a prancing horse; *slang*, a cavalry officer. **b.** One who capers or dances.

1860 J. NICHOLSON *Kilwuddie*, etc. (1895) 131 (E.D.D.) My fegs, but he's a prancer..Ye ne'er saw sic a dancer. *a* 1863 THACKERAY *White Squall* 120 A Prussian captain of Lancers (Those tight-laced, whiskered prancers). 1873 *Slang Dict., Prancer*, .. in modern slang an officer of cavalry.

Pranck(e, obs. form of PRANK.

† Pra·ncome. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PRANK *sb.*^{2}; see PRINCUM (-PRANCUM).] ? Prank, freak.

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* I. ii. A iij, Gogs hart, I durst haue layd my cap to a crowne Chwould lerne of some prancome, as sone as ich came to town.

Prandial (præ·ndiăl), *a. affected* or *jocose.* [f. L. *prandium* a late breakfast, luncheon + -AL.] Pertaining or relating to dinner.

1820 [see POST-PRANDIAL]. 1821-30 LD. COCKBURN *Mem.* 36 Every glass during dinner required to be dedicated to the health of some one...This prandial nuisance was horrible. 1851 J. HARRIS in Macfarlane *Mem. T. Archer* vi. (1867) 147, I should not accept your prandial invitation. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 927/2 Expenses legal, medical, funereal and prandial.

Hence **Pra·ndially** *adv.*, in connexion with dinner.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 575 Any such social outrage..if prandially inflicted, is about as justifiable a proceeding. 1895 A. STODDART *Blackie* xii. 307 Their communion, bodily and prandially, was in one of the Princes Street hotels.

† Pra·ndicle. *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *prandiculum*, dim. of *prandium* luncheon.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prandicle*, a breakfast, a little dinner, a small pittance or repast. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Prane, Prang, obs. ff. PRAWN, PRONG.

† Pra·ngle, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Frequentative from OTeut. vbl. stem **prang-* to press, squeeze, whence Goth. (*ana-*)*praggan* to oppress, Du., LG. *prangen* to pinch, etc., Du. *pranger* a barnacle for a horse: see -LE 3.] *trans.* To press tightly, pinch.

c 1300 *Havelok* 639 And for keuel at þe laste, þat in mi mouth was þrist faste, Y was þe[r]with so harde prangled, þat I was þe[r]with ney strangled.

† Prank, *sb.*^{1} *Obs. rare.* [Goes with PRANK *v.*^{1}: see also PRANK *sb.*^{2}] A pleat, a fold.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Prank, of prankynge, *plica, plicatura.*

Prank (præŋk), *sb.*^{2} Also 6 **pranque**, 6-7 **pranck(e**, 6-8 **pranke.** [Origin unascertained. Goes with PRANK *v.*^{2}, both appearing *c* 1525.

Some would connect the vb. and sb. with PRANK *v.*^{4}, and the cognate words there mentioned, taking a 'trick' as 'an act done to show off'; but this does not appear to be supported by the early use. Others would take it as a fig. application of PRANK *sb.*^{1} fold, pleat, comparing the fig. sense of 'wrinkle', but the evidence is not sufficient to substantiate the suggestion.]

A trick; a frolic. **† a.** In early use, a trick of malicious or mischievous nature; a trick or action deserving of reprobation; a deed of wickedness; sometimes rendering L. *scelus* or *facinus. Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Scottes* 150 Your pryde was peuysh to play such prankys. 1530 PALSGR. 658 He wyll playe me a pranke, *il me jouera dune bricolle.* 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 665/2 Now hath it bene an old prank of heretykes, to vse that fashyon of malycyouse corruptynge the bookes of the holye scrypture. 1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 182 Themperour whom his grace knoweth..more to regarde his honour and profitt then to Imagyn and Consent to so an unreasonable shamefull & dishonourable pranque. 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* IV. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 230 Mother, by such a prank the matter will be worse 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIII. xxix. 841 At length they played these prancks [*facinora fecerunt*].. of malice unto them. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 2. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ezra* iv. 6 Infamous..for many lewd pranks (as that he killed his brother, and then his owne sister). 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 89 This was not the first of his pranks which he [the Devil] played upon mankind after the flood. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* IV. iii. § 5 They grew the more insolent upon this bold prank.

† b. A trick of magic, conjuring, or the like; in early times to deceive, later to surprise or amuse.

1555 J. HARPSFIELD in Bonner *Homilies* 49 Those prankes played by Simon Magus. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 433 Either iuggling or Magicall prankes practised by the Samoed-Coniurours or Priests. 1650 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 60 Like those priests of Bel, whose pranks Daniel found out. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 329 He had the honor of playing his pranks before the whole court. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Pedigree* viii, Golden bees, by alchemical prank, Gather'd gold instead of honey.

c. A trick of a frolicsome nature, or one intended to make sport; a mad frolic; a practical joke.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 282 Who in all his purposes and practises, playeth pranckes of puerilitie and childishnesse. 1602 ROWLANDS *Tis Merrie when Gossips meete* 18 But Lord the prankes that we mad-wenches playde. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* xvi. (1652) 412 Tell tales of the pranckes of your younger dayes. *a* 1713 T. ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1765) 5 Often playing one waggish Prank or other among my fellow scholars. 1844 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Tantalus* Wks. (Bohn) III. 319 See the child.. with his thousand pretty pranks, commanded by every sight and sound. 1884 LADY VERNEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 550 The pranks are not those of healthy schoolboys.

d. Said of capricious or frolicsome actions or movements of animals, and *fig.* of erratic actions of machines.

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 138 We appeal to observation, whether..all the various machins and utensils would now and then play odd pranks and capricio's quite contrary to their proper structures and the designs of the artificers. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 ₱ 5 The Cat is reported..to have played several Pranks above the Capacity of an ordinary Cat. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 52 [The dog] Then ..barks for joy. Heedless of all his pranks, the sturdy churl Moves right toward the mark.

Prank, *sb.*^{3} *rare.* [f. PRANK *v.*^{3}] Prancing, capering.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *To Flush* iv, Full of prank and curveting.

† Prank, *a. Obs.* [Related to PRANK *v.*^{4} and MLG. *prank* sb., pomp, display.] Smartly, showily, or gaily dressed.

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virginia* B ij, Ah pretie pranck parnel, the Coushen and Booke, Whereon he shoulde reade and kneele, are present here looke. 1589 R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (Chetham Soc.) 58 Their children as I sayd, so pranck in pride. 1607 *Lingua* IV. vii. I iv b, If I doe not seeme pranker nowe, then I did in those dayes, Ile be hang'd. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 209 The g. so pranke, he scarce can stand on ground, Asking who'le sing with him Mal Dixons round?

† Prank, *v.*^{1} *Obs.* [Goes with PRANK *sb.*^{1}, both appearing *c* 1440. Origin unascertained. There is nothing similar in form and sense in the Teutonic or the Romanic langs.] *trans.* To fold, plait, pleat, arrange in pleats.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Prankynge, *plicacio.* *a* 1529 SKELTON *El. Rummyng* 69 Stytched and pranked with pletes. 1530 PALSGR. 664/1, I pranke ones gowne, I set the plyghtes in order, *je mets les plis dune robe a poynt.* 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iv. 14 Some prancke their ruffes; and others trimly dight Their gay attyre.

b. *fig.* To arrange in proper order, put into order.

1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* ix. (1848) 151 Matters being in great confusion, and no appearance of pranking of them.

Hence **† Pranked** *ppl. a.*, folded, pleated, adorned with pleats; **† Pra·nking** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Prankyd, as clothys, *plicatus. Ibid.*, Prankynge, *plicacio.* *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 288 Of prankyd gownes & shulders vp set, mos & flokkys sewyd wyth in. 1676 Pranking [see b above].

Prank, *v.*^{2} *Obs.* or *dial.* [app. f. PRANK *sb.*^{2}; the sb. and vb. appear together *c* 1525.] *intr.* To play pranks or tricks, formerly sometimes wicked or mischievous, now usually in frolic; to sport.

1530 PALSGR. 664/1, I prank with one, I use craftye and subtyll maner towardes hym, *je me subtille.* *c* 1700 *Patch-Work* I. 22 Did not Somaisius and Melancton; Nay, Luther, though the Pope he prank'd on, Own him Head of the Church, ne'erless, And his Supremacy confess? 1826 HOGG *Love's Jubilee* 33 The little rays of sin That prank with the damask vein of the cheek. 1887 WILLOCK *Rosetty Ends* xii. 88 It formed a halesome lesson to him no' to prank wi' blue or red fire for a while again. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 456/2 A little wind, born in the gorge below, was pranking with the quaking asp leaves.

Prank, *v.*^{3} *Obs.* or *dial.* [Appears early in 16th c.: origin obscure: see *Note* below.]

intr. = PRANCE *v.* (in various senses, esp. with suggestion of display or arrogance); to caper; to dance. Also *to prank it.*

1519 *Interl. Four Elements* E vj b, And I can fote it by and by etc., And I can pranke it properly. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Caudatos Anglos* 57 That dronke asse..That prates and prankes. *c* 1560 *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 117 And a maid we have at home, Alison Trip-and-go..She simpereth, she pranketh, and jetteth without fail. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VI. (1593) 136 Who .. With haughtie looke and stately gate went pranking vp and downe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 24/25 To Pranke, *exultare, gestire.* 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1983/1 About a mile from the English campe were the Scots horsemen verie busie, pranking vp and downe. 1842 HALLIWELL *Nursery Rhymes* (Percy Soc.) 76 His nag did kick and prank. 1870 *Daily News* 12 July, Placid infants,..who looked anything but fit for pranking it according to Offenbach.

Hence **Pra·nking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Poems agst. Garnesche* I. 19 For alle your proude prankyng, Your pride may apayere. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. xii. 188 So the wilful lass has got her master! And a pranking rider for a bitter jade!

[*Note. Prank* has the appearance of a by-form of the earlier vb. PRANCE, with which, to a great extent, it coincides in sense. But its form makes the relationship difficult, *prance* and *pranke* being app. possible as parallel forms only in words from French. On the other hand, it may possibly be related to Du. *pronken* in the sense 'strut, parade', and so have the same ultimate origin as PRANK *v.*^{4}, although the two appear to be quite distinct words in English.]

Prank (præŋk), *v.*^{4} [Goes with PRANK *a.*, both being radically cognate with Du. *pronk* show, ostentation, finery, ornament, Ger. *prunk* pomp, parade, ostentation, MLG. *prank* pomp, display. (There is no corresp. sb. in Eng.) The vb. in Du. is *pronken* to show off, shine, strut, parade, in Ger. *prunken* to make a show or display, to 'show off'. Cf. also PRINK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To dress, or deck in a gay, bright, or showy manner; to decorate; *refl.* to deck oneself *out*, dress oneself *up.*

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1560) 22 Pranked vp with Tabernacles and lightes. 1553 — *Vocacyon* Pref. 4 b, Not pranked vp in pompe and pleasures. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 433 As willing..as you are to prancke your selues in a lookinge Glasse. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 10 b, She..spends halfe a day in pranking her selfe if she be inuited to any strange place. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 60 She..will be so pranked up on the Sundays..that one..might easily mistake her for some noble Lady. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. ii, All the burghers of New-Amsterdam with their wives and daughters, pranked out in their best attire. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. x, Women are fond..of pranking themselves continually in some new finery. 1895 ZANGWILL *Master* II. x, The little village was prankt and rejuvenated.

b. *fig.* To dress up.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 23 They doe pranke them in Authoritie Against all Noble sufferance. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 759 Obtruding false rules prankt in reasons garb. 1742 COLLINS *Odes* xi. 15 Science, prank'd in tissu'd vest.

c. *transf.* To deck, adorn; to brighten or set out with colours; to spangle. In various constructions, e. g. to prank (the field) with flowers, to prank (the garden or field) as a flower.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 446 The least Flowr that pranks Our Garden borders or the Common banks. *Ibid.* 674 The Gardens prank them with their Flowry buds. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XII. l, When opal-colours prank the orient Tulips head. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. ii, A season atween June and May, Half prankt with spring, with summer half imbrowned. 1820 SHELLEY *Sensit. Plant* I. 42 The stream whose inconstant bosom Was prankt under boughs of embowering blossom With golden and green light. 1820 — *Question* iv, Broad flag-flowers, purple prankt with white. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 200 The ground was pranked with the brightest blooms.

¶ d. *pa. ppl.* ? 'Set' (like a gem).

(App. an erroneous use, 'prankt' suggesting ideas of bespangled, begemmed.)

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. i, Poplars..whose shade did cover The waning stars, prankt in the waters blue. 1821 — *Hellas* 1049 Around mountains and islands inviolably Prankt on the sapphire sea.

2. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To show oneself off, make ostentatious show or display. Also *to prank it.*

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VIII. P iv, Yet would I make it [a tree] ere I go To kisse the clowers with her top that pranks with braunches so. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G j b, Hee shall not want silkes, sattins, veluets, to pranke abroade in his pomp. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii, That ruffe of pride..is the same With that, which the vncleane birds in seuenty-seuen, Were seene to pranke it with, on diuers coasts. 1649 tr. *Warn. Jac. Beem* xvi. 15 Wherewith I have not hitherto proudly prancked and vaunted. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Romaunt of Page* ix, Or, speak she fair, or prank she gay, She is no lady of mine. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Obermann once more* i, White houses prank where once were huts.

Pranked, *ppl. a.*^{1}, folded, pleated: see PRANK *v.*^{1}

Pranked, prankt, *ppl. a.*^{2} [f. PRANK *v.*^{4}] Decked, dressed up; decorated, bedecked.

c 1550 *Pryde & Abuse of Women* xvii. in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 237 For there are some prancked gosseps every where, Able to spyll a whole countrie. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvii. (1612) 219 Good God, how formall, prankt, and peart became I in a trice. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 92 Modwene.. forsooke the worlde, and all the gaye shewes and pranked profers thereof. 1877 LANIER *Florida Sunday* 65 Grays, whites and reds of prankt woodpeckers.

¶ See also PRANK *v.*^{4} 1 d.

Pra·nker. [f. PRANK *v.*^{3} + -ER 1.]

1. = PRANCER. **† a.** *Thieves' cant.* A horse (*obs.*). **b.** A dancer.

1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 4 They..doe take an especiall view, where prankers or horses be. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. VI. iii. (1651) 563 If she be a noted reveller, a gadder, a singer, a prañker or dancer, then take heed of her. 1886 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 24 One of the most abandoned of the prankers and myself..were tempted by cool shades of the fragrant wood to wander off.

† 2. *pl.* Prancing action (as of a horse). *Obs.*

1636 SAMPSON *Vow-breakers* V. i. I iij, Have I practic'd my Reines, my Carree'res, my Prancknes, my Ambles, my false Trotts, my smooth Ambles, and Canterbury Paces, and shall Master Major put me besides the hobby-Horse?

Pra·nkful, *a.* [f. PRANK *sb.*^{2} + -FUL.] Full of pranks; mischievous, tricky; frolicsome. Hence **Pra·nkfulness.**

1824 GALT *Rothelan* I. II. ix. 228 The prankful boy goading it with a stick, the charger reared so suddenly that the rider was unseated. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 715 Rather wounding by an unbounded prankfulness, than by a wish to inflict pain. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVII. 36 Prankful squirrels, nibbling at the rind.

Pranking, *vbl. sb.*^{1}, folding: see PRANK *v.*^{1}

Pranking, *vbl. sb.*^{2}, prancing: see PRANK *v.*^{3}

Pranking (præ·ŋkiŋ), *vbl. sb.*^{3} [f. PRANK *v.*^{4} + -ING 1.] The action of PRANK *v.*^{4}; decking, dressing up, 'titivating', 'making up'.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Attiffement*, pranking. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 77 In all their paintings and prankings they..lift vp themselues against nature. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 56 The nightly and nightlong prancking and pruning vp of old withered faces. 1664 H. MORE *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* vi. (1669) 78 Her prankings and adornings in the splendour of their Altars, and Churches, and Copes.

† Pra·nkingly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. *pranking*, pr. pple. of PRANK *v.*^{4} + -LY 2.] In a pranking or ostentatious manner, showily.

1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* XV. 43 He, his wife, and her daughter fared daintily, and went prankingly in apparell.

Pra·nkish, *a.* [f. PRANK *sb.*^{2} + -ISH 1.] Of the nature of a prank; inclined to pranks.

1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* lxxxix, My partner dear in many a prankish deed. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey*

xxxviii, She .. had quite dropt her prankish airs. **1887** Mrs. Hawes in *Pall Mall G.* 1 Nov. 1/2 Stories concerning mischievous and prankish children.

Hence **Pra·nkishly** *adv.*, in a prankish manner, by way of a prank; **Pra·nkishness**, trickiness, frolicsomeness; addiction to pranks.

1881 W. M. Rossetti in *Art Jrnl.* 262/2 The insolent prankishness of his age. **1883** Holme Lee *Loving & Serving* I. ix. 184 She had prankishly avoided him. **1892** *Nation* (N.Y.) 15 Dec. 456/1 If parents do not..have to trace prankishness and mischievousness to the same exemplars. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 15 May 1/3 If he were a very young man..we might be indulgent to this prankishness.

Prankle (præ·ŋk'l), *v.* Now *dial.* [dim. or freq. of Prank *v.*3: see -le 3.] *intr.* To prance lightly, to move in a capering way.

a **1717** Parnell *Fairy Tale* vii, He sees a [fairy] train profusely gay Come prankling o'er the place. **1829** W. Irving *Conq. Granada* I. xii. 112 The prankling army of highmettled warriors issued from the ancient gates. **1903** *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (I. of Wight), *Prankle*..to prance.

Pranksome (præ·ŋksŏm), *a.* [f. Prank *sb.*2 + -some.] Addicted to pranks; prankish, frolicsome.

1810 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XIV. 148 To swell her brazen store, With one such pranksome, titt'ring booby more. **1812** Byron *Ch. Har.* I. xiv. (Orig. Draft), And often would his pranksome prate engage Childe Harold's ear. **1876** W. H. Mason in *Macm. Mag.* XXXIV. 452 Some pranksome imp..has turned off the hot water.

Hence **Pra·nksomeness.**

1899 *Daily News* 4 Nov. 7/3 The monkey-like pranksomeness of the merry, mischievous race.

Pra·nky, *a. rare.* [f. Prank *sb.*2 + -y.] Given to or full of pranks.

a **1553** Udall *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 47 So, that is somewhat like, but prankie cote, nay whan, That is a lustie brute, handes vnder your side man. **1828** *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 10 The strangest and most curious pranky little beings that ever were born. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 16 Sept. 6/1 Merely a demonstration of pranky lawlessness.

Pranque, obs. form of Prank *sb.*2

† Pransawte. *Obs. rare*−1. [? Some kind of deriv. of Prance *v.*] (?) Prancing, showing off.

c **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 561 Thay were sturdy and hawte..Youre pride and youre pransawte, What will it gawne? Ye tolde ilk mans defawte and forgate youre awne.

† Pranso·rious, *a. Obs. rare*−0. [f. L. *prandsōri-us* pertaining to breakfast (f. *prandēre* to breakfast) + -ous.]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Prausorious*, of or belonging, or serving for dinner.

Praoe, variant of Proa.

Prase (prēiz). *Min.* [a. F. *prase*, ad. L. **prasius** (Plin.) (formerly used in Eng.), a. Gr. *πράσιος* leek-green, f. *πράσον* leek.] A cryptocrystalline or crystalline variety of translucent quartz, of a leek-green colour.

a. **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xvi. lxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Prassius is a grene stone as leke. **1601** Holland *Pliny* II. 619 As touching green stones..we reckon one of a Porret colour, which we cal Prasius. **1750** tr. *Leonardus' Mirr.* 218 Prassius, is so called from an Herb of its own Name. **1796** Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 249 *Prasium*..seems to consist of a mixture of quartz, and shoerlaceous actinolite.

β. **1788** tr. *Cronstedt's Min.* (ed. 2) I. 144 As to the prase, its name..shows it to be of a greenish-blue colour. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XII. 82 *note*, False emeralds, or prases. **1868** Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 194 Quartz..Cryptocrystalline Varieties..4. Prase. Translucent and dull leek-green... Always regarded as a stone of little value. The name is also given to crystalline quartz of the same color.

Prase, obs. form of Praise.

Praseolite (prēi·ziðlәit). *Min.* [ad. Sw. *praseolith* (Erdmann 1840), irreg. f. Gr. *πράσ-ον* or *πράσι-ος* (see Prase) + -lite.] An altered form of iolite.

1864–72 Watts *Dict. Chem.* II. 320 Hydrous Dichroite.. Praseolite from Bräkke in Norway. **1868** Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 301 The alteration of iolite takes place so readily..that the mineral is most commonly found in an altered state..as hydrous iolite, pinite,..gigantolite, praseolite, aspasiolite.

Pra·siform, *a. Min. rare.* [f. as Prase + -(i)form.] Resembling prase.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 392 Prasiform Porphyry of Karsten.

Prasilite: see *prasolite* (s. v. Praso-).

Prasine (prēi·zin), *sb.* and *a.* Also 5 **prasym,** 6 **prasne.** [ad. late L. *prasina* green chalk, fem. of L. *prasinus* adj. (Plin.), a. Gr. *πράσινος* leek-green, *λίθος πρ.* leek-green stone, an emerald or other green stone: cf. F. *prasine*, adj. (*pierre prasine* leek-green stone), and in later F. sb. fem. a green earth used as a pigment.]

A. *sb.* A green-coloured mineral: † (*a*) an earth, green chalk, or verdigris; † (*b*) a precious stone, sometimes app. the emerald; (*c*) now a synonym of pseudo-malachite (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896).

[*c* **625** Isidore *Orig.* xix. xvii. § 9 Prasina, creta viridis, etsi in aliquibus terris promiscue generetur, optima tamen in Libya Cyrenensi.]

(*c* **1305** *Land Cokayne* 91 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 158 Smaragde, lugre, and prassiune.] **1398** Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Prasyn creta is grene [*Prasina creta est viridis*] & þerof is colore made grene as leke. **1491** Caxton *Vitas Patr.* I. xlviii. (1495) 92 b/2 The partye (of the sayde chyrche) wythout forthe on the syde of the South was of the colour semblable or lyke to a precyous stone namyd Prasym. **1555** W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* I. iv. 43 Precious stones called the Jacinthe, and the Prasne.

B. *adj.* Leek-like; leek-green in colour. *rare. Prasine stone* = A. (*b*.)

1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* b iv b, One is called coler prassine, lyke the colour of y^e^ herbe called prassion. **1665** Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 351 All sorts of Stones and Mines of Gold e're-while Are found there, with the choicest Prasine-stone. **1882** *Gard. Chron.* XVIII. 40 The curious prasine peduncle is covered with numerous flowers.

Pra·sinous, *a.* [f. L. *prasin-us* (see prec.) + -ous.] = prec. B.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 281 *Prasinous*... The colour of the leaves of leeks or onions.

‖ **Praskeen** (praskī·n). *Ir.* [a. Ir. *praiscín* apron.] An apron, *esp.* a large coarse apron.

1843 W. Carleton *Traits* I. 24 A wooden dish, comfortably covered with a clane praskeen on the well-swept hearthstone. **1881** *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 396 Their own servants gave the same reason for wearing no caps or praskeens.

Praso-, repr. Gr. *πράσο-ν* leek, an element in technical words. **Prasochrome** (prēi·zokrōum) [Chrome], a dull-green incrustation on chromic iron, prob. calcite coloured by oxide of chromium (Chester *Dict. Min.* 1896). † **Prasocoride** *Obs.* [Gr. *πρασοκουρίς, -ιδ-*], a grub which destroys leeks. **Prasolite** (prēi·zolәit) (Dana) (*erron.* **prasilite**) [-lite], a leek-green fibrous mineral, probably a variant of chlorite (Chester). **Praso·phagous** *a.* [Gr. *-φαγος* eating], eating leeks; hence **Praso·phagy.**

c **1420** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 953 The Grek seith that a beest, *prosacoride [*v.r.* prasocoride] the garth ennoyeth myche. **1882** *St. James' Gaz.* 11 Feb., I should not have been *prasophagous if I had had the chance. *Ibid.*, *Prasophagy is..for a time a very cheap form of diet.

Prasoid (prēi·zoid), *a.* [ad. L. *prasoīdes*, a. Gr. *πρασοειδής* leek-green.] Resembling prase.

1849 Dana *Geol.* xvii. (1850) 632 We may distinguish it as prasoid rock. **1858** in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Prast, variant of Prest *a. Obs.*

Prat (præt), *sb.*1 and *a.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: 1 **prætt,** 1–3 **præt,** 3 (9 *Sc.*) **pret,** 5 (6 *Sc.*) **pratte,** 6–9 *Sc.* **pratt,** 7– *Sc.* **prat.** [OE. *prætt* guile, a trick: cf. MDu. *parte*, Du. *part* crafty trick, prank; also MDu., Flem. *perte*, Du., EFris., LG. *pret*, ON. *prettr*, Norw. *pretta* a roguish trick, etc. Ulterior origin obscure. See also Pretty *a.*

It is remarkable that, with the exception of the instances in Layamon (which seem to be attrib. or in comb., but may be adj.), the word does not appear between OE. times and 1478.]

A. *sb.* A trick; a piece of trickery or fraud; a prank, a frolic.

c **1000** Ælfric *Gram.* xliii. (Z.) 257 *Astu*, præt. *c* **1000** *Ags. Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 424 [*Contra mille nocendi artes*], ongean þusendfealde derigende prattas. *a* **1023** Wulfstan *Hom.* xlvii. (Napier) 245 Woze domas and prættas. *c* **1205** Lay. 81 Elene..þa Paris Alixandre mid pret wrenche bi-won. *Ibid.* 5302 [Hi] ðohten bi-pechen Belin mid heore præt wrenchen. **1478** Sir J. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 234 Iff any suche pratte scholde be laboryd, it is I hope in bettr case. **1513** Douglas *Æneis* viii. Prol. 81 Prattis ar reput policy and perellus paukis. **1596** Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* vi. 338 *marg.*, Puniset for the perte and pernicious pratt thay playd to thair Bischop. **1606** Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 18 When first this prat [of burying in Kirks] came in practise. **1785** Forbes *Dominie Depos'd* 33 Your prats [*ed.* 1780 pranks], she says, are now found out. **1812** Chalmers in Hanna *Life* (1849) I. xi. 293 Of all the pratts I ever played, none was ever carried on.. more gracefully. **1812** *Scotsman* 29 (Jam.) The bits o' prets, by quhilk they inveigle the public to buy their beuks.

B. *adj.* Cunning, astute.

? *a* **1200** *De Gestis Herwardi* in Michel *Chron. Anglo-Norm.* II. 51 Lefwinus Prat [id est] Astutus. *c* **1200** Ormin 6652 Niss he nohht hinnderrȝæp ne pratt To follȝhenn ille wiless.

† **Prat,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [app. f. Prat *sb.*1, but cf. Pract *v.*] *intr.* To practise tricks. Hence † **Pratting** *vbl. sb.* trickery, and *ppl. a.* tricky, juggling.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxii. 31 Quhais strenth and force consistis in pratting word, With Serpentis sting, under simplicitie. *a* **1572** Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 239 The Bischoppes heirat offended, said, 'What pratting is this? Lett his accusatioun be redd'. [Perhaps this is *prating*.]

† **Pra·tchant,** *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 7 **prachant,** 9 *dial.* **prajant.** [Origin unascertained.] Conceited, forward, swaggering.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* *vj, A Doctour might suppose me to be so pratchante and high-minded [as] that I sought to aequall my selfe with him. **1604** Parsons *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng.* 433 Tymes was a Curate or deacon: but so pratchant and malepart, as he ouerwent the minister in his forwardnes of answering. **1625** Ussher *Answ. Jesuit* 72 Where a pratchant deacon, called Epiphanius, confidently avoucheth, that [etc.]. **1881** *Isle of Wight Gloss., Prajant*, swaggering, conceited.

Pratal (prēi·tăl), *a. Bot. rare.* [f. L. *prātum* a meadow + -al.] Growing in meadows.

1863 J. G. Baker *N. Yorks. Stud.* 183 To designate the different kinds of locality we may employ a series of adjectives such as sylvestral, pratal, pascual, ericetal. **1883** A. Fryer in *Jrnl. Bot., Brit. & For.* 375 No hard and fast line can be drawn between Pascual and Pratal plants.

Prate (prēt), *sb.* [f. Prate *v.* Cf. MDu. (*c* 1375), WFris. *praet*, Du., LG., NFris. *praat*, EFris. *prôt*, Da., Swed. *prat* talk, tattle, rumour.] The act or action of prating; talk; now *esp.* idle, profitless, or irrelevant talk; chatter, prattle.

1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Loue, Heret. Affirm.* b ij b, Have not much prate or disputation with straungers. **1592** Greene *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 98 [He] began to hold the fellow in prate, and to question whose man hee was. **1601** ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 27 The common foode of prate: 'what newes at court?' **1704** S. Fuace in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* (1871) I. 90 'Hold your prate, Sirrah' said he.. 'you are an impudent Rogue'. **1728** Swift *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 142 How should I, alas! relate The sum of all their senseless prate? **1860** Thackeray *Lovel the Wid.* ii. (1869) 163 On I would go with my prate about my passion, my wrongs, and despair.

Prate (prēt), *v.* Also 6 **praite,** *Sc.* **prat(t.** [Not found before 15th c.: = MDu. *prāten* (*c* 1400), *praeten*, Du. *praten*, WFris. *prætten*, *praten*, *proten*, EFris. *proten*, MLG., LG. *praten*, *proten*; thence also MHG. *braten*, *braden*, Icel., Norw., MSwed., Swed. *prata*, Da. *prate*, to talk, chatter, prate. Not known in the earlier stage of the langs.; perh. a later onomatopoeic formation.]

1. *intr.* To talk, to chatter: usually dyslogistic, implying speaking much or long to little purpose; formerly also to speak insolently, boastfully, or officiously; to tell tales, blab.

c **1420** [implied in Prater]. *c* **1430** Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 155 He may weel grucche and with his tounge prate. **1550** J. Coke *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 62 (1877) 77, I mervayle, syr Heralde, how you dare so untruly prate agaynst your soveraygne lord the kyng of England. **1570** Buchanan *Chamæleon* Wks. (1892) 53 [He] prattit proudlie, vantyng yat his pen sould be worth ten thowsand men. **1581** J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 492 b, You prate hard, but you prove nought. **1605** Shaks. *Macb.* II. i. 58 Thy very stones prate of my whereabout. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* III. 992 They will prate Till they tire all men with their idle chatt. **1713** Berkeley *Guardian* No. 3 P 1 Sober wretches, who prate whole evenings over coffee. **1747** Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. viii. 54 No words! I will not be prated to. *a* **1839** Praed *Poems* (1864) II. 31 And she is prating learnedly Of logic and of chemistry. **1875** Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 212 You prate, he said, instead of answering.

b. With *at*: To scold; to 'give a lecture to'. *dial.*

1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., He might have prated at him and let it go by.

2. *trans.* To utter, say, or tell in a prating manner; to tell or repeat to little purpose.

c **1489** Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 320 What somever ye prate, say, or crake, sayd Charlemagn, ye shall not scape me. **1575** *Gamm. Gurton* II. iv. C j b, Auant..syr knaue, what pratest thou of that I fynd? **1630** B. Jonson *New Inn* I. i, He prates Latin, An it were a parrot, or a play-boy. **1697** Dryden *Virg. Past.* III. 21 What Nonsense wou'd the Fool thy Master prate. **1821** Byron *Sardan.* v. i. 292 You are sent to prate your master's will, and not Reply to mine. **1891** N. Gould *Double Event* 2 Prating mere polite nothings to a young lady fresh from school.

3. *intr.* Of hounds: To 'give tongue'. Of hens: To cluck. (*dial.*)

1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxvi. 158 Loues Beagles be vncoupeld, Beautie praites And driues my Heart from out the Thicks. **1873** Spilling *Molly Miggs* i. 6 If the hen doant prate she oant lay.

Pra·te-apace. [f. Prate *v.* + Apace.] One who prates on; a prater, chatterbox.

1636 Heywood *Loves Mistr.* II. i. Wks. 1874 V. 113 Prince of passions, prate-apaces, and pickled lovers. **1721** Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 46 (1754) 244 Mr. Prate-apace,.. nothing is more scandalous..than your charging our university with the want of civility and good manners. **1879** Browning *Ned Bratts* 126 Well, pad on, my prate-apace!

Pra·teful, *a. rare.* [f. Prate *sb.* + -ful.] Full of prate, given to prating or chattering.

1802 W. Taylor in W. Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 208 The French character seems to me much altered;..the people are more circumspect, less prateful.

Prately, -e, obs. forms of Prettily.

Pra·tement. *rare.* [f. Prate *v.* + -ment.] Prating, talking. Also allusively (quot. 1831).

1657 J. Watts *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 268 Pratements of the longest and strongest winded speaker. **1831** *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 982 In and out of Pratement—we beg pardon for that *lapsus linguæ*—Parliament.

† **Pra·tepye.** *Obs.* [f. Prate *sb.* or *v.* + Pie *sb.*1] A chattering magpie; a prater, chatterer.

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 This that prat'pye cadesse labored too trumpet in eeche place.

Prater (prēi·tәi). [f. Prate *v.* + -er 1. So Du. *prater* a talker.] One who prates; an obnoxious or idle talker, one who speaks much to little purpose, a mere talker, a chatterer. Formerly also a boaster, an evil-speaker.

c **1420** Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 674 There were bosters, braggars, & brybores, Praters, fasers, strechers, & wrythers. **1550** Bale *Apol.* Pref. 13 Though Hierome wer a great prater and boaster of virginitie, yet was he no virgine. **1622** T. Scott *Belg. Pismire* 10 He is a prater..that never doeth any thing. *a* **1680** Butler *Rem.* (1759) II. 223 A Prater..is like a Earwig, when he gets within a Man's Ear he is not easily to be got out again. **1704** Swift *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 258 Miscreant Prater,..Eloquent only in thine own Eyes, thou railest without Wit. **1883** F. Leif-

CHILD in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 51 Laertes..a prater of moral maxims, while he is all for Paris and its pleasures.

Prater John: see PRESTER JOHN.

† **Prate-rost.** *Obs. slang.* [f. PRATE *sb.* or *v.*: second element obscure.] A prater.

1671 GLANVILL *Disc. M. Stubbe* Pref. A ij b, I would not have it thought, I make dealing with this Prate-rost any part of my Business. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew., Prateroast*, a Talking Boy. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Prate-Roast.*

† **Pra·tery.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRATE *v.* or PRATER *sb.*: see -ERY. Cf. Du. *praterij* talk.] Prating.

1533 ELYOT *Pasquill* (1540) C v b, And lette vs leaue Pasquyll with his praterye.

Prati, -ie, obs. forms of PRETTY. **Pratic, -ick, -ik**: see PRACTIC *sb.*[1] and *v.*, PRATIQUE.

Pratie, dial. corruption: see POTATO 2 d δ.

Pratincole (præ·tĭŋkoul). *Ornith.* [Named by Pennant (1773), ad. mod.L. *pratincola* (Kramer 1756), f. L. *prātum* a meadow + *incola* inhabitant.] One of several species of the genus *Glareola*, grallatorial (limicoline) birds widely distributed throughout the old world and in Australia, allied to the plovers, but regarded by some as a distinct family, resembling the swallows in appearance and habits.

1773 PENNANT *Genera Birds* 48 Pratincole. Bill, short, strong, strait, hooked at the end. Nostrils, near the base, linear, oblique [etc.]. 1843 YARRELL *Hist. Birds* III. 4 The Pratincole has been arranged by some authors with the Swallows, by others near the Rails: but I believe, with Mr. Selby, that it ought to be included in the family of the Plovers. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock N.* xlvii, A woman's perception flies on the wings of the pratincole. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 July 10/1 An unfortunate black-winged pratincole that strayed from its Russian home across Central Europe to Romney Marsh has promptly been made into a specimen.

Prating (prē·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRATE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. PRATE; idle chatter; † boasting, mischievous talk.

c 1460 G. ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 684 Ye aught not to haue other in hatyng, But hertely cherissh theim withoute prating. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1783 Here is a pratynge with a very vengeaunce! 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 164 After that these two, had by ioynt and severall Pratings found tokens of consent in the Multitude. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* I. i, Hold your prating, Sirrah, do you know who you are? 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. vii, 'Peace, peace!' —He cuts their prating short. *attrib.* 1593 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 247 Since we are here, on our prating bench in a close roome.

Pra·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING [2].] That prates, talking idly, chattering.

1567 *Triall Treas.* (1850) 11 Looke on this legge, ye prating slaues, I remember since it was no greater then a tree. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxviii. (1887) 175 There be as prating boyes, as there be pratling wenches. 1676 BUNYAN *Strait Gate* Wks. (1846) 272 A prating tongue will not unlock the gates of heaven. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. xxii. 217 Can there be a greater torment than an officious prating Love? 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 464 Montague was a brilliant rhetorician, and, therefore,.. represented by detractors as a superficial, prating pretender.

Hence **Pra·tingly** *adv.*

1755 JOHNSON, *Pratingly*, with tittle tattle; with loquacity.

‖ **Pratique** (præ·tik, ‖ pratī·k). Forms: 7 **pratticke, -ike, -iq,** 7–8 **-ick, -ic,** 7– **pratique.** [a. F. *pratique* practice, intercourse, pratique = It. *pratica*, OSp. *prática*, ad. L. *practica* (see PRACTIC); orig. spelt *pratticke* (var. of PRACTIC); subseq. conformed to F. spelling.] Permission or licence granted to a ship to hold intercourse with a port after quarantine, or on showing a clean bill of health. Especially used in connexion with the South of Europe.

1609 W. BIDDULPH in T. Lavender *Trav.* (1612) 4 Zante. We staied ten daies in the rode of this city, before we could get Pratticke, that is: leaue to come amongst them, or to vse traffique with them. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 6 Not to suffer any to traffike or come ashore before they haue a Pratticke from the Signiors of Health. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pratique* (from the Span. *Pratica*),..among Merchants it is a Licence to Traffick; as in the Ports of Italy, and the Streights. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 14 Dec., To remove the inconveniences his ships are put to [at Leghorn] by denial of pratique;..a thing that is now-a-days made use of only as a cheat. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. II. xviii. 80 Ships can neither leave the port, nor be permitted to prattic but by his permission. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* xxv, And when he lay in quarantine for pratique..His wife would mount, at times, her highest attic. 1897 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 3/5 The P. and O. steamer Nubia arrived in the Thames from Plymouth yesterday afternoon...Dr. Collingridge gave the ship pratique, and the yellow flag was then hauled down amid loud cheers.

b. *attrib.* **Pratique boat, house,** the boat, and house, of the quarantine officer.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Oct., We..came on shore by the Prattiq-house [at Genoa]. 1798 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 175 The boats..to attend the embarkation at the Mole near the Pratique House. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xl, The pratique boat will not come off after sunset.

Pra·tted, *a. Sc.* [f. PRAT *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Having tricks or evil practices: in *Comb.* as *ill-pratted.*

1812 CHALMERS in Hanna *Life* (1849) I. xi. 293 You always thought me an ill-pratted chiel.

Prattelie, -ely, -ily, obs. forms of PRETTILY.

Prattie, obs. form of PRETTY.

Prattle (præ·t'l), *sb.* [f. PRATTLE *v.*] The act or action of prattling; that which is prattled; idle inconsequent talk, childish chatter, small talk.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. vii. 160 As for byeng and sellyng, or any kinde of Lawe prattle, thei [Persians] vse not. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* Ded. to Earl Pembroke, There men shall be judged according to proofe, ..not according to pratles. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIV. xxii. 1184 Let him hold him there and keep his babble and prattle to himselfe. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. iii. (1673) 35 Talkative and full of prattle. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 629 You may soon discover this by the prattle of the children, who love to repeat what they hear. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 374 [Having] since that written you a long prattle, which ought to have been forwarded to you. 1865 J. HATTON *Bitter Sweets* xxiv, Her mother was never tired of her girlish prattle.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Applied to the voice of birds, the noise of running water, etc.

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 179 The harmony of the pretty Birds, which a sort of extraordinary gayety and briskness at this time inspires with amorous prattle. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxiii, Listening.. to the prattle of the stream, that went singing along.

Prattle (præ·t'l), *v.* Also 6 **prattel**(1, **prattale, prattil,** 6–8 **pratle.** [dim. and freq. of PRATE *v.*: see -LE 3; = MLG. *pratelen, protelen* to chatter, grumble.]

1. *intr.* To talk or chatter in a childish or artless fashion; to be loquacious about trifles; formerly equivalent to PRATE; now chiefly said, without contempt, of the talk of young children.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 533/2 So he dooeth but prattle & prate of feling fayth, without the feling of any fayth at all. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) 3 *John* 10 If I come, I wyl declare his dedes whych he doeth, pratteling against vs with malicious wordes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 118 Those that cease not to prattle and babble about vaine and vnprofitable matters. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 35 He had the Mastery of his Parents ever since he could Prattle. 1722 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* (1840) 208, I talked to [the pretty little child], and it prattled to me again. 1778 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 15 Oct., I never said with Dr. Dodd that I love to prattle upon paper, but I have prattled now till the paper will not hold much more than my good wishes. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. viii. 134 The childhood of the race..when it prattles of the Golden Age.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To make an inarticulate sound resembling or likened to the talk of children: said of birds, running water, etc.

1863 B. TAYLOR *Poet's Jrnl.* III. *Under Moon*, A fountain prattles to the night. 1887 G. MEREDITH *Ballads & P.* 53 The light leaves prattled to neighbour ears.

2. *trans.* To utter in an idle, garrulous, or (now usually) childish way.

1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. I. 465 b, Whatsoeuer the Papistes..pratle in this behalf, I am sure, reason sayeth, that there remaineth bothe bread & wyne. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* ix. (1637) 92 If it be a vertue thus to prittle and prattle of every body uncertaine tales, but most certaine discredits. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* II. 160 The little birds..Shall learne to speake and prattle Rosamond. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* lviii. 3 They prattled Slander, and in Lies Employ'd their lisping Tongue. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 382 Frequent in Park with lady at his side, Ambling and prattling scandal as he goes. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* ii. 64, I am but..a mere chronicler of gossip that will not be prattled long.

b. To bring or drive by prattling *into*, etc.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. i. 46 If you prattle mee into these perilles.

† **Pra·ttle-ba·sket.** *Obs.* [f. PRATTLE *sb.* + BASKET *sb.* Cf. next.] = next.

1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* lxxiv, But if she be ilfauour'd, blind and old, A prattle basket, or an idle slut. 1690 SHADWELL *Amorous Bigot* II. Wks. 1720 IV. 248 Sweet prattle-basket, be quiet. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prattle-Basket*, a prattling child, a little young prater.

† **Pra·ttle-box.** *Obs.* [f. PRATTLE *sb.* + BOX *sb.*[2] Cf. CHATTERBOX.] A humorous name for a prattler or chatterer; a chatterbox.

1671 GLANVILL *Disc. M. Stubbe* 2 Gross Ignoramusses, Illiterate Fools, Prattle-boxes, Catch-Dotterels, .. Tories, Cheats, and poor Devils. 1696 LOCKE in Fox Bourne *Life* (1876) II. xv. 455 A very ill sign in a prattle-box of your age. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) I. ii. 21 At last the old prattlebox having made a short pause to recover breath.., 'Mr. Peter', says she, 'you look as if you did not know poor Patty'.

Prattlement (præ·t'lmĕnt). *rare.* [f. PRATTLE *v.* + -MENT.] Idle talk, prattle, prattling: in quot. 1579, a play on *parliament*.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 33 He will goe immediately to his purposed matter, to bee debated in this highe Court of prattlement. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 574 It were a word sufficient To ouerthrow this prattlement. 1779 COWPER *Let to Unwin* 31 Oct., The childish prattlement of pastoral compositions. 1901 J. DAVIDSON *Test. Vivisector* 9 The prattlement of amorists.

Prattler (præ·tlə). [f. PRATTLE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who prattles, a talkative person; a chatterer; now *esp.* a prattling child.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 90 One knaue or pratler will alwayes accompanie another. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* ix. (1637) 93 We doe not discountenance the whispering carper, we doe not eschew the reports of peevish pratlers. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Conscience* i, Peace pratler, do not lowre. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* III. vii. 1219 Go, you're an idle Pratler. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* IV. viii, My little prattler, the darling and comfort of my old age. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* IV. 204 Rosy prattlers at the feet Of a pleased grandame. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 140 Thousands of tragedy-making prattlers.

Prattling (præ·tliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRATTLE *v.* + -ING [1].] The action of the vb. PRATTLE.

1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Pratlynge, *the speche of yonge chyldren, patoys.* 1580 BABINGTON *Exp. Lord's Prayer* (1596) 233 Their priuie pratling to the hurt of their neighbours. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 367 Aged parents are delighted with the pratling and sport of young children. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 229 This prattling of theirs hardly deserves the name of sophistry. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii. 66 Save for the prattling of thy little ones.

Pra·ttling, *ppl. a.* [f. PRATTLE *v.* + -ING [2].] That prattles: see the verb.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 1 b, He would..put those prattelinge pardoners to silence. 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 170 The daft Abbottis, gukkit Prioris, guseheaddit Personis,.. and the pretland Prebendaris. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 2 Pratling Parrots, and sounding Cymbals. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* v. i. 1799 What Joys thou gav'st me in thy prattling Infancy. 1858 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* (1859) 84 Beside that prattling brook. 1862 SALA *Accepted Addr.* 91 The prattling servants from the Priory came down town.

Pratty, praty, -e, obs. and dial. ff. PRETTY.

Prau, var. PROA. **Praueine, Praunce, Praune,** obs. ff. PREVENE, PRANCE, PRAWN.

† **Prave,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prāvus* crooked, perverse, vicious, bad.] Vicious, evil, depraved.

1566 ADLINGTON *Apuleius* 2 That is accounted vntrew by the praue opinion of men. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 189 By prave concupiscence subdued to sinne. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni apud Scotos* Ep. Ded., Your Age not yet corrupted by prave opinions.

Hence † **Pra·vely** *adv. Obs.*

1598 FLORIO, *Pranamente*, wickedly..peruersely, prauely.

† **Pra·vilege.** *Obs.* Also 4 **pravelegie, -ylegie,** 6 **-ylege,** 7 **-iledge.** [ad. med.L. *prāvilēgium* (12th c.: see quot. 1432–50), a dyslogistic alteration of *prīvilēgium* PRIVILEGE, after *prāvus* perverse, bad: see PRAVE *a.*] An evil, injurious, or worthless privilege or law.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 482 Siche grauntis of þe pope þat ben not groundid in goddis lawe ben prauylegies, & litil worþ. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 409 [Pope] Paschalis the secunde..dampnede the seide privilege in this maner..that privilege grawntede late to themperoure, whiche may be called rather a pravilege then a privilege [orig. *illud privilegium quod potius vocandum est pravilegium*]. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 68 b, Dysdaynouslye changynge his pryvylege to the scornefull name of a prauylege, or writynge that stode for nought. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. vii. 113 Priviledges and pravileges, whereby every John-a-Stile shall intercept the Churches due.

† **Pra·vitous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PRAVITY + -OUS: cf. *calamitous*, etc. (In quot. improperly *pravitious*.)] Characterized by pravity; evil, bad.

1648–9 OWEN *Toleration* iii. 89 Pravitious tendence of the doctrine opposed.

Pravity (præ·vĭti). [ad. L. *prāvitās* crookedness, distortion, perverseness, depravity, f. *prāvus* crooked, distorted, perverse. Cf. DEPRAVITY, an analogical formation on this word.]

1. Moral perversion or corruption; wickedness, viciousness, depravity; *original* or *natural pravity* = DEPRAVITY **c.** Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1550 HOOPER *Serm. Jonas* Epist., To go after the prauitye and euylnes of oure owne hartes. 1618 T. ADAMS *Generation of Serpents* Wks. 1861 I. 71 Original pravity is called corruption. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. i. 5 The Pelagians, who deny Original Sin, and acknowledge not the pravity of vitiated nature. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. liii. 132 The spite of their hearts, and pravity of their dispositions. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 207 The punishment..was proportioned to the apprehended and intended consequences of the offence, not to the pravity of the offender. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* I. i. (1861) 22 The natural pravity of man is plainly asserted in Scripture.

2. *gen.* Corrupt or evil quality; badness.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iii. 64 The flesh is of a fishie sauour, which..is a note of greatest prauity. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 99 To show this progression of their favourite work, from absolute pravity to finished perfection. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 462 Blood innutritious from scarcity or pravity of food. *Ibid.* IV. 410 Pravity of the fluids or emunctories that open on the external surface.

† **3.** Deformity, crookedness. *Obs. rare.*

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. VIII. 75 Defect..whence ariseth pravity, distortion, deformity of the limbs. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pravity*, crookednesse, deformity.

† **Pra·vous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prāv-us* (see PRAVE) + -OUS.] Corrupt, evil, depraved; = PRAVE.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.*, *Moles* 26 It denotes a pravous, wicked, contentious nature. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινὴ* 141 Ignorance..becoming to a pravous disposition.

Praw(e, Malay boat: see PROA.

Prawleen, -lin(g, variants of PRALINE.

Prawn (prǫn), *sb.* Forms: 5 **prayne,** 5–7 **prane,** 6 **pran, praune, prayn,** 6–7 **prawne,** 7– **prawn.** [ME. *prayne, prane,* of unknown origin. No similar name found in other langs.

A suggested connexion with L. *perna*, F. *perne* ham, a ham-shaped shell-fish, a pinna, founded upon a blundered entry in Florio '*parnocchie*, Shrimps or Prawne fishes', (*parnocchia* (pl. *-ie*) being a variant of '*pernocchia*, a Nakre or Nacre [*misprr.* Narre]-fish') is opposed at once to the sense and the phonology.]

A small long-tailed decapod marine crustacean (*Palæmon serratus*), larger than a shrimp, common off the coasts of Great Britain, and used as food. Also extended to allied species of the family.

1426 *Court Rolls Maldon*, Bundle 16 m. 2 bk. Item dicunt q[d] Margareta vxor Rob[ti] Seyken forstallauit in foro praynes qu..emit in foro de Iohanne Gyrlfader, &c., ideo in miseri-

cordia vj d. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411 Prane, fysche, *stingus*. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Clout* 209 Ye pycke no shrympes nor pranes. 1552 HULOET, Prane fyshe, *carides, tingus*. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 104 Telling vs, she had a good dish of Prawnes. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* iv. 79 Pranes and Shrimps are of one and the same nature. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 93 Within an ace of being laid low among the prawns, pebbles, and porpoises. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* v, He..devoured gigantic prawns with the heads and tails on.

b. A figure of a prawn as an ornament.

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 171 Two collers of redde prawnes..and at euery one of them hanged eight shrimpes of gold, of excellent workemanship.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1611 FLORIO s. v. *Parnocchie*, Prawne fishes [1598 praunes]. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 39 Craw-fish, or Prawn Soup. 1836 T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. iii. 85 Egg-eating and prawn-picking are not delicate performances. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 10 Crab, Lobster, Conger, Eel, and Prawn Pots. 1891 *Daily News* 12 June 3/3 Fine net,..worn over prawn-pink satin. 1896 KIRKALDY & POLLARD tr. *Boas' Text Bk. Zool.* 226 The young one passes through a prawn-stage.

Hence **Prawn** *v. intr.*, to fish for prawns (orig. and chiefly in vbl. sb. or pres. pple. *prawning*); **Prawner**, a fisher for prawns; **Prawny** *a.*, of or pertaining to a prawn; prawn-like.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 25 Aug., Our shrimps have most prawny proportions. 1886 *Globe* 16 July (*heading*), Prawning. *Ibid.*, The hand that prawns must be quick and steady.. Every one cannot be a successful prawner. *Ibid.*, A favourite prawning ground is St. Margaret's Bay. *Ibid.*, A 'fleet' of nets for prawning consists of from four to twelve of different sizes. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 4/5 At the Place we prawn when the tide goes out.

Prawnce, obs. form of PRANCE *v.*

Praxean (præ·ksĭăn), *sb.* and *a. Ch. Hist.* [f. personal name *Praxeas* + -AN.] **a.** *sb.* A follower of Praxeas (*c* 200); **b.** *adj.* Belonging to the heresy founded by Praxeas; = MONARCHIAN *sb.* and *a.*

[1585-7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* (1625) 6 Some doe grant and acknowledge the name of three in the God-head, but deny their persons; such were the..Praxeneans.] 1719 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* 83 *note*, The Praxeans.. pleaded for themselves, and against a real Trinity; *μοναρχίαν tenemus*. Tertullian tells them, that They misunderstood *μοναρχία*. 1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects* s. v., Philaster states that the Sabellians, called also Patripassians and Praxeans, were cast out of the Church. *Ibid.*, In Praxean doctrine,..in its second stage, we have Jesus called the Son of God, solely..on account of a miraculous birth.

Praxinoscope (præ·ksinoskōup). [a. F. *praxinoscope* (M. Reynaud), irreg. f. Gr. *πρᾶξις* action + -SCOPE.] A scientific toy resembling the zoetrope, in which a series of pictures, representing consecutive positions of a moving body, are arranged along the inner circumference of a cylindrical or polygonal box open at the top, and having in the middle a corresponding series of mirrors in which the pictures are reflected; when the box is rapidly revolved, the successive reflexions blend and produce the impression of an actually moving object.

1882 *Nature* 16 Nov. 60/2 M. Gaston Tissandier describes in *La Nature* an ingenious adaptation of the praxinoscope, ..by means of which the images are projected on a screen, and are visible to a large assembly. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 98 We have all heard of Mr. Eadweard Muybridge and his studies of galloping horses, etc. Some of us have even been fortunate enough to see the real things as exhibited by his praxinoscope.

Praxis (præ·ksis). [a. Gr. *πρᾶξις* doing, acting, action, practice, n. of action f. *πράττειν* to do; whence med.L. *praxis* (Albertus Magnus *Metaphys.* v. v. ii, *c* 1255).]

1. Action, practice; *spec.* **a.** The practice or exercise of a technical subject or art, as distinct from the theory of it (? *obs.*); **b.** Habitual action, accepted practice, custom.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 39 For as Aristotle sayth, it is not *Gnosis*, but *Praxis* must be the fruit. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. 1738 I. 136 If after some preparatory grounds of speech..they were led to the praxis therof in some chosen short book. 1678 SALMON (*title*) Pharmacopœia Londinensis. Or, the New London Dispensatory .. As also, The Praxis of Chymistry. 1800 COLERIDGE *Talleyrand to Ld. Grenville* Poems 1877 II. 156 In theory false, and pernicious in praxis. 1892 J. ROBERTSON *Early Relig. Israel* xv. 390 This code is merely the embodiment of praxis or the crystallisation of custom.

2. An example or collection of examples to serve for practice or exercise in a subject, esp. in grammar.

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xx. (1627) 235 Perfected and adjoyned as a praxis in the end of the Radices. 1762 LOWTH *Introd. Eng. Gram.* 173 A Praxis, or Example of Grammatical Resolution. 1779 BEATTIE *Let.* in Forbes *Life* (1806) II. 42, I..send you inclosed a little book, containing about two hundred, with a praxis at the end, which will perhaps amuse you. 1843 W. BAILLIE (*title*) The First Twelve Psalms in Hebrew, with..Grammatical Praxis.

b. A means or instrument of practice or exercise in a subject; a practical specimen or model. ? *Obs.*

1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 114 They [mathematics] are the noblest praxis of logic, or universal reasoning. 1786-97 GILLIES *Aristotle* II. 348 (Jod.) The pleadings of the Ancients were praxises of the art of oratorical persuasion. 1800 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (ed. Ford) VII. 429 It [a Parliamentary Manual] may do good by presenting to the different legislative bodies a chaste Praxis.

Praxitelean (præksĭtĭlĭ·ăn), *a.* [f. Gr. Πραξιτέλει-ος, adj. f. Πραξιτέλης, Praxiteles + -AN.] Belonging to, executed by, or in the style of Praxiteles, a famous Greek sculptor of the 4th century B. C.

1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii, Praxitelean shapes, whose marble smiles Fill the hushed air with everlasting love. 1905 *Athenæum* 4 Nov. 616/3 Works that have recently been claimed as Praxitelean originals.

Pray (prē¹), *v.* Forms: 3-5 **preie(n**, 4-5 **preye**, 4-6 **prey, praie, praye**, 4-7 **prai**, 4- **pray** (6 *Sc.* **pra**, 7 **prea**). [ME. *preien*, a. OF. *preier* (*Eulalia a* 900), = It. *pregare*, Pg. *pregar*:—late L. *precāre* (Priscian), cl. L. *precārī* to entreat, pray. (In mod.F. *prier* the stem-vowel is levelled under that of the stem-stressed forms, *il prie*, etc.)]

I. *trans.* with personal object.

1. To ask earnestly, humbly, or supplicatingly, to beseech; to make devout petition to; to ask (a person) for something as a favour or act of grace; *esp.* in religious use, to make devout and humble supplication to (God, or an object of worship). *arch.* **a.** with personal object only.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 112/200 And preide is fader wel gerne. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xiv. 16, I schal preie the fadir, and he schal 3yue to 3ou another coumfortour. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 73 Affricanus, þe writer of stories, was i-prayed and wente to Alexandria. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 38 And than come furth, his Father kynde, And prayit him ryght feruentlie. 1611 BIBLE *John* iv. 31 In the meane while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eate. *Ibid.* xiv. 16, I will pray the Father, and hee shall giue you another Comforter [so all 16th c. vers. and *Revised* 1881]. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. lxxvi, That night the Virgin was no further pray'd.

With various extensions:

b. *to do* a thing, or *that* a thing may be.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 58, Y preye the thou here my bene. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17933 (Götl.) To prai vr lauerd drightin dere, To send me wid his messagere þe oyle of his merciful tre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 172 Preiende Achab, ..To hiere him speke. *c* 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 41 þey alle prayde þe preciouse virgyn þat þay myght be baptized. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 15 She wepte and cryde hem mercy, prayngе hem to abyde a while. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 74 That we praye god that he wyll helpe vs to be auenged of the foure sones of Aymon. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 578 The poore foole praies her that he may depart. 1613-14 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 292, I pray God your friends..stick as well to you. 1637 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 66 Mr. Atturney Generall shal bee hereby prayed and required..to proceed in examinacion..of the Warden of the Fleet and his deputy. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. x, Pray God, this Hocus be honest! 1787 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 263 Praying their Lordships to relieve him from the expenses and issue of a law-suit. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 22 They were sent to pray him not to show himself obstinately bent on thwarting her wish.

c. Const. *for* or *on behalf of* a person or thing; *for* († *of*) a thing desired.

c 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 164 (B. M. MS.) My sone .. I praie þee of þi blessing. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 34 Ladies .. y praie you of a bone [boon]. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6956 He was besy, night and day, þe saint for synfull men to pray. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* lii. 36 The bisshop prayd this kyng Aldroye of help and socour. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* lxxxiv. G vij b, How..faders and moders ought euery day to pray god for theyr children.

d. with the thing asked as second object: cf. ASK *v.* 5. *rare.*

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXV. i, All mens praiers to thee raised Returne possest of what they pray thee.

† **2.** To beg or entreat (a person) to come to a feast, or the like; to invite. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13987 At ete he praid him til his hus. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 155 þey preyed to a feste al þe grete of þe Pictes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 18 Be mouthe bothe and be message Hise frendes to the feste he preide. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xix, To pray the marchand and his wife allsoe, To soupe with him that nyzte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 292, I pray you home to dinner with me.

II. *trans.* With the thing asked as object.

3. To ask (something) earnestly in prayer; to ask or beg (a thing) with supplication; to crave.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 95 What þou hast i-prayed it is [y]-graunted to þe. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 39 Now they were inforced to pray his aid. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 218 Whether it be lawfull to pray freedome from all temptations. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 359 If a conveyance had been prayed, there must have been a limitation to trustees to preserve contingent remainders. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 403 Fair Host and Earl, I pray your courtesy. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* ii. 74 The next lay Voltaire saw his man in prison with irons on and praying an alms from the passers by. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. ii. 92 He prayed permission to introduce his mother and sisters to us.

b. with inf. or obj. cl.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7545 Preyenge .. þat he wolde ony night herberwe him wyþ. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10209 (Trin.) Childe to haue þei preyed long. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 90 And praies that you will hie you home. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* iv, Let me also pray that you will excuse my speaking to you in my native language. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 487 [They] prayed to be exempted from the operation of the law. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 176 Praying that the proper general meetings may be convened.

4. with cognate object: *to pray a prayer*, etc.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 163 To ȝe heiȝ king of heuene preieth a pater noster. *c* 1490 *MS. Advocates' Libr. Edin.* 18. 2. 8. 11. Colophon, Ane orisoune þat Galfryde Chauceir maid and prayit to þis lady. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 167 The prayer of a synner, though it deserue not to be herd of god, in that he is a synner yᵗ prayeth it. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 146 Ile pray a thousand prairers for thy death, No word to saue thee. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 197 That they shall pray prayers twice a week. 1854 R. G. LATHAM *Native Races Russian Emp.* 57 They pray a prayer, burn a portion of the offering, and spread a portion of it over the altar.

b. With the matter of the prayer as object.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVI. viii, Praise to him: who what I praid, Rejected not. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 263 They prate, they print, they pray, and preach Sedition.

III. 5. *intr.* To make earnest request or petition; to make entreaty or supplication; *esp.* to present petitions to God, or to an object of worship.

a. *simply.* To offer prayer, to engage in prayer.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19042 Arli þa postlis ilke dai Wente to þe tempil to praie. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 227 Besyd it to morne ȝe se may Twa men stannand besyd it prayand. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xi. 1 Lord, teche vs to preye, as and John tauȝte his disciplis. 1388 — *Acts* ix. 11 Lo! he preieth. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 1477 Ilke freke & euery faunt to fast & to pray. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 32 Thairfor we pra al as christ hes lerit vśz in the vi chaiptur of S. Mathew. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 169 At Galdies sepulchre he prayes eftir the consuetude. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 93 How I perswaded, how I praid, and kneel'd. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* xi, Nor is it easily credible, that he who can preach well, should be unable to pray well. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. xxii, He prayeth well, who loveth well Both man and bird and beast. 1828 SCOTT *Tales of Grandf.* Ser. II. xix, Claverhouse..said 'I gave you leave to pray, and you are preaching'. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii, 'I am dying', said St. Clare, pressing his hand; 'pray!' 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 83 To pray is to redeem any day from common-place.

b. Const. *to* a person, *for* a thing; also *for* (= on behalf of) a person, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 108 (Cott.) Scho prais ai for sinful men. *Ibid.* 3449 At pray to godd ai was sco prest. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xv. 1 þe voice of crist in his manhed prayand til þe fadere. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* liii. 12 He the synne of manye toc, and for trespasseres preȝede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 15 Thanne Bachus preide To Jupiter, and thus he seide. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 26 þei prey for plentey, & pees, & swik oþer þings. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 286 Every day iiij *d.*, to sing and pray for his sowle and myn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I beseche all them ..yᵗ shall profyte by this worke to pray for me wretche. 1641 BROME *Jovial Crew* III. Wks. 1873 III. 398 That will duly and truly prea for yee. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 191 The People that Prayed to them [images]. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* v. § 2 Shall we believe a God, and not pray to him for future benefits? 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 21 The grounds..upon which a party may pray for letters of advocation. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 73 A legislator..will pray for favourable conditions under which he may exercise his art.

c. In the formal ending of a petition to the Sovereign, to Parliament, a petition in Chancery, etc. The words after 'pray' were at length reduced to 'etc.', which is now also usually omitted.

1429 *Petition to Parlt.* (8 Hen. VI) in *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 346 Please it your right high and wise discretions to preye the Kyng oure soverayn Lorde, be the advis and assent of the Lords Espirituelx and Temporels of this present Parlement..to graunte his Letters Patentz undre his Great Seale [etc.]. And we shall preye to God for you. *c* 1432-43 *Petition in Chancery* in *Cal. of Proc. in Chancery* (Recd. Comm. 1827) Introd. 41 (To Ld. Chancellor) And your said pore oratours shall ever pray to God for your good Lordship. *Ibid.*, And she [Margt. Applegarth, widow] shall pray God for you. *Ibid.* 45 And thei shall truly pray for you. 1439 *Petition to King* in *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 10/1 And they shall pray to God for you perpetuelly, and for all your noble Progenitors. 1472-3 (12-13 Edw. IV) *Ibid.* VI. 20/2 And youre seid Suppliant shall ever pray to God for the preservation of your estate Roiall. 1485 (1 Hen. VII) *Ibid.* VI. 327 And he shal euer pray to God for the preservacion of your most Noble and Roiall Estate. 1575-1600 (Q. Eliz.) in *Cal. of Proc. in Chancery* (as above) Introd. 147 And the said John Hunt accordinge to his bounden dutie shall daily praie unto God for your majesties long & prosperous raigne over us your heighnes subjectis. 1597 WEST *Symbol.* II. *Chancery* § 104, And your said Orator shall daily pray vnto God for the long continuance of your H[ighness] in health and prosperitie. [Many variant forms are given.] 1727 [see ORATOR 2]. 1883 *Wharton's Law Lex.* 622 To the whole petition [to Parlt.] should be added the words, 'And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.'; and immediately thereupon must follow the signatures. 1896 W. P. BAILDON *Select Cases in Chancery* (Selden Soc.) Introd. xxv, The familiar expression 'and your petitioner[s] shall ever pray, &c.', in its various forms, came in about the middle of the fifteenth century.

IV. Phrases and idiomatic uses.

6. *To pray in aid*: to pray or crave the assistance *of* some one. Also *fig.* See AID *sb.* 2.

For the construction, cf. *to call in the aid of*, etc.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. vii, 16 In like wyse he may nat pray in ayde for him onelesse he knowe the pray [*ed.* 1554 prayee] have good cause of voucher and lyon, or that he know that the pray hathe somwhat to plede that the tenaunt maye nat plede as vyllynage in the demaundaunt or suche other. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 40 To drawe..by hand onely, without praying in aide of the same [perspective glass]. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 27 A Conqueror that will pray in ayde for kindnesse, Where he for grace is kneel'd too. 1625 BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 173 Yet, without praying in Aid of Alchymists, there is a manifest Image of this, in the ordinarie course of Nature. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* v. § 310. 137 The other..prayeth in aid of his coparcener. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xx. 300 In real actions also the tenant may pray in *aid*, or call for assistance of another, to

help him to plead. *Ibid.*, An incumbent may pray in aid of the patron and ordinary.

7. *trans.* and *refl.* with *compl.* To bring, put, or get into some state or condition by praying. *Pray down, out*: see DOWN *adv.* 17 b, OUT *adv.* 7, 8.

1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxii. 24 Nehemiah prayed himself pale; Daniel prayed himself sick; our Saviour also pray'd himself into an agony. 1677 I. MATHER *Prevalency of Prayer* (1864) 267 If Enemys arise, let us pray them down again. 1686 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 371 At the queens chappell at St. James are papers stuck up..for the prayeing of persons out of purgatory. 1725 POPE *Let. to Swift* 15 Oct., I would not pray them out of purgatory. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 233 One of them gifted with a loud and clear voice, drowned the other totally, and actually prayed him down. 1840 T. F. BUXTON in T. W. Reid *Life W. E. Forster* (1888) I. v. 136 All I can say is (and it applies to all cases of perplexity), pray it out.

8. † **a.** *I pray you* (*thee*): used parenthetically to add instance or deference to a question or request. So **b.** *Pray you, pray thee*, etc. (Cf. PRITHEE.) **c.** *I pray. Obs.*

1519 *Interl.* 4 *Elements* B iv, Syr, I pray you, be contente, It is not vtterly myne intente Your company to exyle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Ascrybe it (I praye you) to my insuffycyency and ignoraunce. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 35 Maister yong-man, you I praie you, which is the waie to Maister Iewes? 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* III. 302 Oh, I am maz'd with ioy, I pree-thee, sweet, Vnfold to me, what sad mischance it was.

b. 1524 Q. MARGARET in Mrs. Wood *Lett. Illustr. Ladies* (1846) I. 327 Pray your grace to pardon me that I write so plainly to you. 1590 MARLOWE *Edw. II*, II. ii, Pray thee let me know it. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 137 'Reward!' says one, 'why, pray y', what do I know?' 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* 91 But, brother, pra'ye, sit down and rest a while.

c. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. v. 36 Why what (I pray) is Margaret more then that? 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Arminn.* 134, I pray, what Scripture proues it? 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 457 Where, I pray, is it that we see it?

d. Contracted to *pray* (cf. PLEASE *v.* 6 c).

15.. in *Fyl of Brentford's Test.*, etc. (Ballad Soc.) 41 Pray doe it over again. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 18 Pray set it down, and rest you. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* III. i, Pray, sir, are the roads deep between this and Paris? 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Spain* 113 Pray consider the consequences of a lost Battle. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. viii. 61 Pray let me pass. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 33 Now pray take notice. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 354 Shall I tell you why? Pray do.

† **Pray**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. PRAY *v.*] An act of praying; a prayer.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 68 Iesu Crist..seide: 'His preie i wole do'. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 48 Be þi holie pray Nicholas þat I had loste hafe I getten agayn. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. xii. 859 They..sange & redde many saulters & prayes ouer hym. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. v. 54 Father, we are for fighting, not for pray.

Pray (prē), *sb.*[2] Now *dial.* [Deriv. unknown.] 'A wooden pin used in thatching' (E. D. D.).

1570 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1888) 170 It. for hame to thatche the churche howse, v s. iiij d. It. For prays for ye same worke..v[d]. It. for iiij[c] prays and a hundredth lydgers xij d. 1890 *Gloucesters. Gloss., Prays*, the wooden pins used in thatching.

Pray, erron. f. SPRAY (Douglas *Æneis* (ed. 1553) XII. Prol. 90). **Pray, -e**, obs. forms of PREY.

† **Pray·able**, *a. Obs.* [a. OF. **prei-, pre-, proi-, priable*, f. *preier* to PRAY: see -ABLE.] That may be prayed to or entreated.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxix. 15 [xc. 13] Turne lord hou lange: and prayabill be abouen þi seruanits. 1382 WYCLIF *Ibid.*, Preyable be thou vp on thi seruauns [1388 able to be preied, *Vulg.* deprecabilis]. 1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 116 He is then there ..no lesse honourable and prayable then in heaven.

† **Pray·ant**, *a. Obs.* [f. PRAY *v.* + -ANT 1.] Praying.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* I. xii. 93 Fanatick Errour and Levity would seem an Euchite as well as an Eristick, Prayant as well as Predicant.

† **Pray·-away'**, *sb. Obs. nonce-wd.* One who says 'Pray, (go) away', who refuses overtures.

1601 CHETTLE & MUNDAY *Death Earl of Huntington* v. i, I iv b, The pray awayes, these trip and goes, these tits.

Prayee·. *Law.* [f. PRAY *v.* + -EE.] One whose aid is 'prayed in': see PRAY *v.* 6, quot. 1531.

Prayer[1] (prēəɹ). Forms: 3–4 **preiere**, 3–6 **praiere**, 4 **preire, preyer, -or, praey-, praiyer, pray-, praior**, 4–5 **preyere, preier, preir**, 4–6 **prayere, praire, praer, prayour**, 4–7 **praier, prair**, 5 **preyȝer, prayeer**, 6 **prayar**, 7 **prayr(e**, 7–8 **pray'r**, 4– **prayer**. [ME. *preiere*, a. OF. *preiere* (12th c. in Littré), 13th c. and mod.F. *prière* = Pr. *pregaria*, Sp. *plegaria*, It. *preghiera*:—Romanic and med.L. *precāria* fem. sing., orig. neut. pl. of L. *precārius* adj., obtained by entreaty or prayer, f. *precārī* to pray. Orig. a disyllable: still so in G. Herbert.]

1. A solemn and humble request to God, or to an object of worship; a supplication, petition, or thanksgiving, usually expressed in words.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13649 (Cott.) Þis es a man þat drightin heres, And helpes oþer for his praieres. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 317 Þei passen oþere in preyeris. 1388 — *Ps.* liv. 1 God, here thou my preier. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 86 May no preiour pees make in no place, hit semeþ. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1483 Putten þaim to prayers & pennance indurett. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3911 When þe quene hadde made hurre preyȝerus þus. *c* 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref., Prayours be the which me wynneth, þe grace of god all myȝte. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 165/1 And so would I..knele me downe and make my speciall prayour to God. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 882 With praiers lowd importuning the skie. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Church-porch* lxix, Resort to sermons, but to prayers most. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 249 His Alarum to his Midnight Pray'r. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 106 This was the first Prayer, if I may call it so, that I had made for many Years. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 127 Rejoicing at that answer to his prayer. 1904 MARIE CORELLI *God's Good Man* xxix, The prayers of this congregation..are desired for Maryllia V...whose life is now in imminent peril.

b. The action or practice of praying to the Divine Being. *Passive prayer*: see quot. 1727–41.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3138 (Cott.) Þat child..was sa mani yere, Ar it was send, soght wit praiyer. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 104 Of preyere and of penaunce my plouh schal ben herafter. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 76 Preiere stondiþ principaly in good lif. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vi. 12 He..continued all nyght in prayer to god. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 156 He is fam'd for Mildnesse, Peace, and Prayer. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. xii. 142 Prayer is the ascent of the mind to God. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Passive prayer*, in the language of mystick divines, is a total suspension, or ligature of the intellectual faculties, in virtue whereof the soul remains, of itself and as to its own power, impotent with regard to the producing of any effects. 1819 MONTGOMERY *Hymn*, Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, Uttered or unexprest. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte D'Arthur* 247 More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. 1883 *Catholic Dict.* s. v. *Meditation*, It is important to notice that in passive prayer 'free will exercises itself in the whole of its extent'.

c. *pl.* Petitions to God for his blessing upon some one; hence, earnest good wishes.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. i. 14 And concludes in heartie prayers, That your Attempts may ouer-liue the hazard. 1608 — *Per.* III. iii. 34 Madam, my thanks and prayers. 1613 — *Henry VIII*, III. i. 180 He..shall haue my Prayers While I shall haue my life. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i, For it you have my prayers, The beggar's satisfaction. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 751 Give me your prayers, for he is past your prayers.

2. A formula appointed for or used in praying; e. g. the *Lord's Prayer* (LORD *sb.* 6 c).

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 23 Vis bede and preyer shal bene reherside and seyde at euery tyme. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 169 b, This prayer may be diuided in to two partes. 1545 *Primer Hen. VIII*, The Prayer of our Lord. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, The Priest..shall saie the Lordes praier. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xl. 254 That excellent prayer, used in the Consecrations of all Churches. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, A Collect or Prayer for all Conditions of men, to be used at such times when the Litany is not appointed to be read. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* x, They stopped..to repeat some prayer or sing a hymn. 1884 *Before the Altar* (1885) 60 Then the Priest kneeling says the Prayer of Humble Access, which you can follow.

3. A religious observance, public or private, of which prayer to God forms a principal part; a form of divine service; as the service of *Morning* or *Evening Prayer*, *family prayers*; in *pl.* with possessive, one's private or individual devotions.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28248 (Cott.) My prayers say was me ful lathe. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* XVI. 13 We wenten out without the gate bisydis the flood, wher preier was seyn for to be. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* iii. 1 Peter and Ihon went vp to gedder into the temple at the nynthe houre of prayer [1611 at the houre of prayer, being the ninth houre]. 1548–9 (Mar.) (*title*) The Booke of the Common Prayer and Administracion of the Sacramentes..after the vse of the Churche of England. *Ibid.* Pref., It may plainly appere by the common prayers in the Churche, commonlye called diuine seruice. 1552 *Ibid.* Pref., When menne say Mornyng and Euenynge prayer [1549 Matins and Euensong] priuatly. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 2 In the morning after praiers we looked for it. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 21 July, At night..I read prayers out of the Common Prayer Book, the first time that ever I read prayers in this house. 1662 *Ibid.* 17 Aug., This being the last Sunday that the Presbyterians are to preach, unless they read the new Common Prayer. 1678 J. PHILLIPS *Tavernier's Trav.* v. iii. 205 The Assassinates found him at his prayers. 1732 LAW *Serious C.* i. (ed. 2) 1 Prayers, whether private or publick, are particular parts or instances of Devotion. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 173 The bell.. Now chimes in concert, calling all to prayers. 1846–8 ELIZ. M. SEWELL *Laneton Parsonage* vi. (1858) 50 Madeline said her prayers in haste. 1856 *Amy Carlton* 104 The servants came in, and they had prayers. *a* 1866 KEBLE *Lett. Spir. Counsel* (1870) 105 You are often hindered from the Church prayers.

4. An entreaty made to a person; an earnest supplication or appeal for some favour.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 996 Ful prestely for þi praire..here i graunt him greþli. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol., As wel considere I thy bisi preyere in special to lerne the tretis of the astrelabie. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2821 Menelay..purpost vnto Pyle by prayer of Nestor, To solas hym a season. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* 17 Atte praier of genius the quene Vaspasianus and Aruiragus were accorded. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 115, I will fall prostrate at his feete, And neuer rise vntill my teares and prayers Haue won his grace to come in person hither. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 573 Unconstrain'd he nothing tells for naught; Nor is with Pray'rs, or Bribes, or Flatt'ry bought. 1858 G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* ix, I held it in spite of her attempts to take it from me; yes, I shame to say, in spite of her prayers, and, at last, her tears.

5. The matter of a petition, the thing prayed for or entreated; *spec.* that part of a memorial or petition to a sovereign or public body that specifies the thing desired to be granted or done.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3450 Thus hath he graunted my prayere. 14.. *Tyndale's Vis.* (Wagner) 1786 The angelle gaf hym none answere, For he wold not do his prayere. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 45 His prayer was granted by the Deity. 1836 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) II. 471 It is only on the question of receiving that opposition can be made to the petition itself. On all others, the opposition is to its prayer.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** simple attributive, as *prayer-desire, -ground, -hour, -house, -matter, -monger, -room, -test, -time, -union, -word*; **b.** obj. and obj. gen., as *prayer-answering, -grinding, -hearing, -lisping, -loving, -repeating, -saying*, etc., adjs. or sbs.; *prayer-inventor, -maker*; **c.** instrumental, etc., as *prayer-clenched, -prospering* adjs.

1770 COWPER *Hymn* '*God of my life, to Thee I call*' iv, A prayer-hearing, *answering God. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Patriot* 25 Personal relationship with a *prayer-answering and a praise-loving God. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 396 Hands—*prayer-clenched—that would not sever. 1883 JEFFERIES *Story my Heart* 188 It is not strong enough to utter my *prayer-desire. *a* 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 156 The hand of a *prayer-hearing God. 1852 CONYBEARE & HOWSON *St. Paul* (1856) I. 208 All gradations..from the simple prosecucha at Philippi to the magnificent *prayer-houses at Alexandria. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 450 A small chapel, which the negroes call their prayer-house. *a* 1847 ELIZA COOK *Future* iv, The *prayer-lisping infant. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* 128 He was absolutely the best *prayer-maker and preacher in the Army. 1680 ALLEN *Peace & Unity* Pref. 42 By such a Form *Prayer-matter is prepared with more advantage to affect such peoples minds. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. XXXVI, I have led Some camel-kneed *prayer-monger through the cave. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 2 Oct. 7/1 There are hundreds of these little meeting-places and *prayer-rooms scattered about in the side streets and alleys. 1825 R. GORDON *Scrm.* 422 Through the whole course of a *prayer-repeating life, they had never prayed at all. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* CXIII. 81 He went vnto Saynt Barnard agayn, and told hym what þoght come in his mynde in þis *prayer-saying. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* III, Every evening at *prayer-time.

d. Special combs.: **prayer-bill**: see quot.; **prayer-carpet, -mat, -rug**, a small carpet, mat, or rug used, esp. by a Moslem, when engaged in prayer; **prayer-cloak** = *prayer-shawl*; **prayer-cure**, a cure wrought by means of 'the prayer of faith' (Jas. v. 15), a faith-cure; **prayer-desk**, the desk from which prayers are read in a church; **prayer-oil**: see quot.; **prayer-scarf, -shawl**, a long scarf or shawl worn round the neck or on the head by Jews when at prayer; the tallith; **prayer-stick**, a stick decorated with feathers, used by the Zuñi Indians in their religious ceremonies; **prayer-thong**, a phylactery; **prayer-tower**, a minaret. See also PRAYER-BEAD, -BELL, -BOOK.

1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* x. 123 A Number of *Prayer-Bills, containing the Humble Petitions of divers Devoto's. 1861–2 R. NOEL in *Vac. Tour.* 458 The first thing that struck me was the sight of a camel, and his master kneeling on a *prayer-carpet by him. 1876 EDERSHEIM *Jewish Life Days Christ* xiii. 220 During prayer they wrap themselves in the great tallith or so-called prayer-cloak. 1843 *Ecclesiologist* II. 22 The *Prayer-desk faces east and west. 1892 J. C. BLOMFIELD *Hist. Heyford* 46 Hangings of dark blue cloth covered the pulpit, prayer-desk and clerk's desk. 1885 *B'ham Daily Post* 5 Jan. 6/6 The fabrics include ..*prayer mats (for South America). 1867 *Union Rev.* V. 190 *Prayer-oil is a sacrament in which the body of the sick believer is anointed with oil by the Priests of the Church. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 460/2, I worshiped it in silence,..the grass a natural *prayer-rug. 1867 *Ch. News* 10 July, The stole of the Deacon is called ὀραρίον which is etymologically the same with *prayer-scarf. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 10 Oct. 6/4 At the period of confession each man, wearing his four-cornered *prayer shawl, smote his breast as he enumerated his sins. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* v. 88, I do not know whether any of these curious *prayer-sticks are now to be seen. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 29 Symbolic slats and prayer-sticks most elaborately plumed. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 1/1 Phylactery..is the name given in the New Testament to the..(tefillin) or '*prayer-thongs' of the Jews. Every Jew wears at prayer two of these thongs.

Prayer[2] (prēəɹ). Also (for distinctness) **pray-er**. [f. PRAY *v.* + -ER[1]: cf. OF. **prei-, proi-, pri-e(o)ur*:—L. *precātōr-em*, agent-noun f. *precārī* to pray.] One who prays.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Preyare, or he that preyythe, *orator,..deprecator*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 289/2 A Prayere, ..*orator, rogator*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 165 The trew prayers wyll worshyp the father of heuen in spyryt and with trouth. 1642 R. HARRIS *Serm.* 13 A good Engineere is not the worst Souldier; nor a good prayer the worst Parliament-man. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. viii. 78 The Women Prayers amongst the Quakers. 1843 E. JONES *Sens. & Event* Poems (1877) 36 And still that earnest pray-er. 1863 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) III. 162 Anything they can say about..this and the other preacher and pray-er.

Pray·er-bead. [f. PRAYER[1] + BEAD *sb.*]

1. One of the beads of a rosary.

1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 110 Her prayer beades hanging at her girdle. 1852 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. x. 403 Jewel-studded chains, [and] prayer-beads of precious stones.

2. A seed of the plant *Abrus precatorius*: see quot. 1861, and JEQUIRITY.

1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 528 *Abrus precatorius*.—The seeds are used as beads, for making rosaries, necklaces, &c., hence their common name of prayer-beads. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 316 Crabs' Eyes, Jequerity, Prayer Beads, Jumble Beads.

Pray·er-bell. A bell rung to call a household, school, or body of worshippers, to prayer.

a 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 76 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 287 With that thay hard the prayer bell Off thair awin abbay. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* I. 34 They could smell The Kitchin Steams, though Deaf to th' Prayer-bell. 1846–8 ELIZ. M. SEWELL *Laneton Parsonage* xxxii. (1858) 339 The prayer bell had only just rung when I came down. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xii. 327 Echoing to the measured chime of the prayer-bell at morn and even.

Pray·er-book.

1. A book of forms of prayer; *spec.* the Book of Common Prayer, containing the public liturgy of the Church of England.

1596–7 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 302 Prayer booke *2d.* a Salter *4s.* 1626–7 *Ibid.* 312 Common Prayer Booke, *7s. 6d.* 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 21 July, I read prayers out of the Common Prayer Book. 1692 W. MARSHALL *Gosp. Myst. Sanctif.* xiii. (1764) 283 You must make the whole Scripture your Common-prayer-book, as the primitive Church did. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 ₱ 6, I was almost the only Person that looked in a Prayer-Book all Church-time. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 42 Editions of Prayer Books, beginning with the first impression in 1549, in folio. 1869 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Misunderstood* ii, Finding the places in his prayer-book. 1892 PHILLIMORE *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) 710 The second Prayer Book of Edw. VI omitted all reference to the manual acts, ordered in the first and last Prayer Book, attending the consecration of the holy elements.

2. *transf.* See quot.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, Smaller hand-stones, which the sailors call 'prayer-books', are used to scrub in among the crevices and narrow places.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Dec. 2/1 May I say that your lordship is a Prayer-book Churchman—by which I mean that you neither belong to the English Church Union nor the Church Association? 1899 *Ibid.* 4 Mar. 7/3 It would be much to be regretted if the influence of the Prayer-book Party were weakened by individual secessions.

Prayere, variant of PRAIERE (meadow) *Obs.*

Prayerful (prēə·ɹfůl), *a.* [f. PRAYER[1] + -FUL.]

1. Of a person: Much given to prayer, devout.

1626 R. HARRIS *Hezekiah's Recovery* (1630) 2 Tis simply necessary in afflictions to be prayerfull, in the middest of mercies to bee thankfull. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. (1853) I. 592 He was very pious in his childhood, and, because pious, therefore prayerful. 18.. WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 153 Pious, sober, prayerful people.

2. Of speech, looks, actions, etc.: Characterized by or expressive of prayer.

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* Argt. 1 Stere home a pray'rful course to Heav'n at last. 1657 M. LAWRENCE *Use & Pract. Faith* 86 Faith puts persons into a mourning, confessing, prayerful frame. 1838 HOPE-SCOTT in Ornsby *Mem. & Corr.* (1884) I. 152 A general and prayerful reading of Scripture. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 30 With prayerful earnest eyes.

Prayerfully (prēə·ɹfůli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a prayerful manner, with much prayer.

1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 39 They should prayerfully examine the momentous question. 1879 CHR. ROSSETTI *Seek & F.* 160 If we sincerely, persistently, prayerfully, desire this good estate, humility will not be denied us.

Pray·erfulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being prayerful.

1846 in WORCESTER (citing MCKEAN). 1863 MONSELL *Hymn, 'O Worship the Lord'*, He will .. Comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness. 1881 ILLINGWORTH *Serm. Coll. Chapel* 150 The secrets of all the fruitfulness of the fragmentary lives of old—humility and prayerfulness.

Pray·ering, *vbl. sb. nonce-wd.* (*contemptuous*). [f. PRAYER[1]: see -ING[1].] Offering or saying of prayers.

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii, But what is the use of all this pattering and prayering?

Pray·erless, *a.* [f. PRAYER[1] + -LESS.] Without prayer; not having the habit of prayer.

a 1631 DONNE *To C'tess Bedford* Poems (1654) 160 Who prayer-lesse labours, or, without this prayes, Doth but one half, that's none. 1653 BAXTER *Chr. Concord* 26 Those that .. live ungodly, with untaught, ungoverned prayerless families. 1734 WATTS *Relig. Jnv.* iii. (1789) 163 God forbid that any house, among Christians, should be prayerless. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxxiv, Helpless and prayerless .. not thinking of God's anger or mercy, but of her son's.

b. *transf.* (Of times, places, states, etc.)

1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* I. i. 28, I could believe That many a Sabbath had pass'd prayerless on Within its holy solitude. 1826 MILMAN *A. Boleyn* (1827) 13 Scarce a lamp Burnt on the prayerless shrines. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 526 The usual connexion between prayerless pride and abundance of bread.

Hence **Pray·erlessly** *adv.*, **Pray·erlessness.**

a 1828 T. H. SKINNER (cited in Webster), Prayerlessness. 1847 WEBSTER, *Prayerlessly.* 1861 J. STEPHEN *Utterances Ps. cxix.* iv. 81 A Saviour whose Spirit can lead from prayerlessness to godliness. 1891 *Home Missionary* (N.Y.) Dec. 378 Such enthusiasts may be said to have grasped the rope carelessly and prayerlessly. 1892 DR. PIERSON in *Daily News* 1 Feb., In this apostate day—this day of unbelief and comparative prayerlessness.

Pray·er-mee·ting. A meeting for prayer; a religious meeting for devotion, in which several of those present offer prayer.

1831 A. BONAR in *Diary & Lett.* (1893) 18 In some sort a prayer-meeting over our Studies in the Bible. 1838 MCCHEYNE *ibid.* 79 This seems a fruit of our prayer-meeting, begun last Wednesday. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 440, I invite those who take part in our prayer-meetings to lay this matter to heart.

Pray·er-mill. = next.

1870 (GORDON-CUMMING in *Gd. Words* 137/1 Many .. walk about always with a small prayer-mill in their hand, turning it as they go. 1896 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 6/2 The pious Tibetan sets his prayer mill agoing by water-power.

Pray·er-wheel. [f. PRAYER[1] + WHEEL *sb.*]

1. A mechanical aid to or substitute for prayer, used especially by the Buddhists of Tibet, consisting of a cylindrical box inscribed with or containing prayers, revolving on a spindle: see quot. 1868.

1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav.* 102 The inscriptions in such prayer-wheels commonly consist of masses for souls, psalms, and the six great general litanies. 1868 MONTGOMERIE in *Proc. R. Geog. Soc.* 15 July 154 The Tibetans .. made use of the rosary and prayer-wheel. — 155 Each revolution represents one repetition of the prayer, which is written on a scroll inside the cylinder. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 105 There was a Buddhist prayer-wheel being turned by water-power, and reeling off prayers at so many per hour.

2. A wheel set with bells and fastened to the ceiling of a chapel, formerly used for divination in connexion with masses or other devotional services.

1897 *Daily News* 26 July 5/1 Even now in Brittany a kind of prayer-wheels are kept in churches and set spinning by the devout.

Pray·erwise, *adv.* [f. PRAYER[1] + -WISE.] After the manner or in the way of a prayer.

1583 H. D. *Godlie Treat.* 70 The like phrase praierwise .. hee vseth in his praier to the Lord. 1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat.* (1639) 63 The Greeke translates it, prayer-wise, The Lord judge. 1850 J. B. JOHNSTONE *Mem. R. Shirra* iv. 41 Be frequently sending up a thought to God prayerwise.

Praying (prēi·iŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRAY *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PRAY; prayer, earnest request.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 476 Þou mayst dreme of sum euyl þyng þat may turne to better for þy preyyng. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 519 God curseþ siche mennis blissinge and preyingis. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 5 (Harl. MS.) Prayinge, Almysdede, and fastyng. 1480 CAXTON *Descr. Brit.* 22 The Saxons come atte praing of the britons ayenst the pictes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 165 There be dyuers maner of prayenges .. some openly & some pryuatly. *a* 1704 DODD in M. Henry *Fam. Relig.* H.'s Wks. 1853 I. 260/1 Either praying will make a man give over sinning, or sinning will make a man give over praying. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 253 Satan's .. whisper shoots across All singing in my heart, all praying in my brain.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* = Used for or in prayer, as *praying-cushion, -house, -place, -stool,* etc.; **praying-carpet, -mat, -rug** = PRAYER-*carpet*; **praying-cylinder, -drum, -jenny, -machine, -wheel** = PRAYER-WHEEL 1; **praying-desk** = PRAYER-*desk*; **praying-scarf, -shawl** = PRAYER-*scarf*; **prayingwise** *adv.*, in the manner of one praying.

1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess* II. 201 The old Emir .. throwing his *praying carpet on the ground. 1842 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 173, I made myself .. a sort of Persian couch out of the *praying-cushions. 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* 143 These *praying-cylinders seem to be seldom left long at rest. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 2/1 A *praying-desk .. and a table for an altar were placed in the middle of the room, and priests carried in the sacred icon from the old house of Peter the Great. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 34 Like a Buddhist priest's rotatory *praying-drum. *a* 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 402/1 A *praying-house, or chapel. 1817 *Edin. Rev.* XXVIII. 313 The followers of the grand Lama .. have invented *praying-jennies. *Ibid.*, The Kurada, or *praying machine. 1894 MRS. DYAN *All in a Man's K.* (1899) 92 Half-reclining on a *praying-mat was a young girl. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess* II. 107 The splendid marble court, studded with Mussulman *praying places. 1847 THACKERAY *Cane-Bottom'd Chair* vi, That *praying-rug came from a Turcoman's camp. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Mar. 6/2 Charged .. with stealing three '*praying scarfs' .. from the Jewish Synagogue, at Bayswater. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 3 Their phylacteries and *praying shawls. 1887 E. GILLIAT *Forest Outlaws* 247 The *praying-stool, the whip for flagellation, and the one mat. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* p. xlvii, The *praying-wheel, a box full of texts, the turning of which is supposed to be as efficacious as the actual repetition of them. 1889 *Century Mag.* Jan. 371/1 The praying-wheel exists in old chapels in Brittany as a religious toy, formerly used with rites half magical under the sanction of the local clergy. 1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 983 This Italian Mantis .. hath six feet like the Locust, but the foremost thicker and longer than the other, the which because for the most part she holds up together (*praying-wise) it is commonly called with us *Preque Dieu.* 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 236 Our *praying-work which comes up as incense.

Pray·ing, *ppl. a.* [-ING[2].] That prays.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 289/2 Prayngе, *precans, precarius, precabundus.* *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXI. i, To thee my praying voice doth fly. 1697 M. HENRY *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1853 II. 729/2 Christ's last breath was praying breath. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 285 A piece of revenge, which Philip caused to be taken upon John Sausaman, a praying Indian. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* 226 The white praying man, who had come .. to teach us people of the Zulu.

b. **Praying-insect,** the MANTIS (*praying mantis*, or *praying locust*), so called from the position in which it holds its fore-legs.

1706 Praying Locust [see MANTIS]. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 221 The genera *Mantis* and *Phasma* —named praying-insects and spectres.

Hence **Pray·ingly** *adv.*, in a praying manner.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* xi. 93 To speak prayingly.

Prayn, -e, obs. forms of PRAWN.

† Pray·-pray, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* Of or proper to one saying 'Pray! pray!'

1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1812) II. xvi. 183 'Pray, sir, forgive me'; and she held up her hands pray-pray-fashion.

Prayse, obs. form of PRAISE *sb.*, *v.*

Pre- (prī, prĭ, prĭ) *prefix*, repr. L. *præ* adv. and prep. (of place, rank, and time) before, in front, in advance. This was commonly written *prę* or *pre* in med.L., and has become *pre-* in the modern Romanic langs. In Eng. the prefix was sometimes written *præ-* after the revival of learning, but is now regularly *pre-*. In a few words recognized as Latin, and their immediate derivatives, *præ-* is now usual, though even these are frequently, esp. in America, written with *pre-*. See PRÆ-.

In L. *præ* was prefixed adverbially to a great number of verbs, as *præ-acuĕre* to sharpen in front, *præ-ambulāre* to walk before, *præclūdĕre* to shut in front, *præcognōscĕre* to foreknow, *præcurrĕre* to run before, *præ-ĕminēre* to stick out before, be prominent, *præjūdicāre* to judge or pass sentence beforehand, *præmordĕre* to bite off before the point or abruptly; also with verbal derivatives, as *præcentor* a leader in singing, *præcursor* a forerunner, *prædictio* foretelling, *præfātum* fore-speech, preface. Less often with adjs. and sbs., as *præcānus, præmatūrus* grey, ripe before (the time), *prævius* leading the way; *præminister* a servant standing before, *præmolestia* trouble beforehand, *prænōmen* a forename or first name. Also very frequently prefixed as an intensive to adjectives, as *præaltus* high before or in comparison with others, pre-eminently high, *præclārus* pre-eminently clear or bright, *præpotens* exceedingly powerful, prepotent, *prævalidus* very strong. In Latin *præ-* was rarely prefixed with prepositional force, as in *præcordia* the parts in front of the heart, *præripia* places in front of or near the bank of a river, *præmodum* adv. surpassing or beyond measure.

In English many Latin verbs and their derivatives in *præ-* have their representatives in *pre-*, and the use of this prefix has been greatly extended, so that it is now a living element, prefixable to almost any verb of Latin origin, and even sometimes prefixed to words of English or modern origin, as *pre-breathe, pre-embody, pre-plot, pre-sift.* Its use with adjectives or substantives, other than verbal, is less common, and the L. intensive use in *præaltus*, etc., though retained in a few words taken or imitated from L., is not a living use in Eng. But the prepositional construction, in which *pre-* governs the second element, which was so rare in L., has in English received vast extension, so as to become the second great living use, *pre-* being preferred to *ante-* as the opposite of *post-* in new formations, and often substituted for it, as in *pre-baptismal, pre-Christian, prehistoric, pre-Darwinian, pre-reformation* instead of *ante-baptismal, ante-Christian, ante-historic, ante-Darwinian, ante-reformation.* This preference of *pre-* may be partly due to its superior shortness and neatness, but is prob. largely in order to avoid the oral confusion of *ante-* with *anti-*, as in *ante-Christian, antichristian, ante-Darwinian, anti-Darwinian.*

Pronunciation. In all English formations in *pre-*, and some of those formed in Latin or French, in which the sense of 'before' is felt, the prefix is pronounced with a clear *e*, long or short (ī, ĭ). In nonce-combinations, the vowel is regularly long, and more or less stressed, e.g. *pre-boil* (prī·boi·l), *pre-Greek* (prī·grī·k), *pre-telegraph* (prī·te·lĭgrɑf). In words of this class of more permanent standing and more independent meaning, the *e* is long (ī) when stressed, and usually short (ĭ), but capable of being long (ī), when not under stress primary or subordinate, e.g. *prē·adā·mic* (prī-), *prēa·damite* (prī- or prĭ-). In words from Latin in which the sense 'before' is obscured or lost, *pre-*, when unstressed, is (prĭ-); when stressed, (prī-) or (pre-): thus, *prē·cinct* (prī-), *preci·nct* (prĭ-), *prē·cipice* (pre·sipis), *preci·pitous* (prĭsi·pitəs), *prefe·r* (prĭ-), *pre·ference* (pre·fĕ-). But here also (prĭ-) is lengthened to (prī-) under rhetorical or factitious stress, as in 'Did you say "repair" or "*pre*pare"?' 'not the "procession" but the "*pre*cession" of the equinoxes'.

Use of Hyphen. Nonce-words and casual compounds of English formation in *pre-* are usually hyphened, as *pre-geological, pre-instil, pre-medicate*; compounds already formed in Latin or French, and their derivatives, are regularly written *indivisim*, as *precaution, predestination, prefigure.* But between these extreme types there are very many combinations in which the use varies, the hyphen being employed whenever its use appears to add to the clearness of the writer's meaning, or when it is desired to emphasize the function of the prefix, to contrast the compound with the simple word or with the analogous compound in *post-*, or the like. In this dictionary, such words are as a rule entered in the unhyphened form, though the quotations will show that both forms are freely used. But in words in which *pre-* is prefixed to a word or element beginning with *e*, the hyphen is conveniently used to separate the two *e*'s, as in *pre-eminent, pre-engage, pre-exist.* (These are sometimes printed *prēeminent*, etc.)

In this dictionary, all important and established words in *pre-* are treated as Main words, and will be found in their alphabetical places. But compounds of rare occurrence, chiefly obsolete, and those of obvious meaning and regular formation, are given below, under their respective classes. Nonce-words and casual combinations can be formed at will, and are unlimited in number, so that only examples showing their formation and use are required.

[*Arrangement.* A. *pre-* adverbial. I. Of time or order: 1, with vb.; 2, with sb.; 3, with adj. II. Of place: 4, with adj. or sb. III. 5, Of order, rank, importance, quality, degree. IV. 6, Intensive. B. *pre-* prepositional. I. Of time: 1, with adj.; 2, with sb. or phr. II. Of place: 3, with adj.]

A. Combinations in which *pre-* is adverbial or adjectival, qualifying the verb, adjective, or substantive, to which it is prefixed.

I. Of time or order of succession.

In casual combinations better with hyphen; but often without. *Pre-* stressed (prī·).

1. With verbs, or ppl. adjs. and vbl. sbs. derived from them, in sense 'fore-, before, beforehand, previously, in advance', as PRE-ACKNOWLEDGE, -ACQUAINT, -ACT, -ADMIT, etc., and in many others of obvious meaning, as *pre-acquit, -adapt, -adjust, -adopt, -affect, -allege, -annex, -apprise, -approve,*

-ascertain, -baptize, -bargain, -boil, -breathe, -censure, -commend, -commit, -comprehend, -conclude, -confess, -conjecture, -consolidate, -constitute, -consume, -continue, -convert, -corrupt, -counsel, -dedicate (*prededicate* pa. pple.), *-demand, -demonstrate, -describe, -devise, -devour, -direct, -dissuade, -embody, -employ, -enact, -entertain, -erect, -excuse, -expose, -extinguish, -fool, -furnish, -imbibe, -imbue, -impart, -inhere, -instil, -liquidate, -make, -medicate, -model, -necessitate, -obtain, -partake, -pattern, -plot, -practise, -pronounce, -prove, -provide, -receive, -resemble, -respire, -reveal, -secure, -select, -sentence, -sift, -study, -surmise, -suspect, -teach, -torture, -understand, -unite.*

1615 T. Adams *Spir. Navig.* 30 Yea even doth Christ Jesus purpose..to suffer for us, and *pre-acquit his apostles with it? *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 23 All Sins are venial the Elect commit, Which God's Decrees Eternal pre-acquit. 1849 Sears *Regeneration* I. ii. (1859) 27 The same propensities in men will..*preadapt the organs to every shade of meaning. 1880 Burton *Reign Q. Anne* I. v. 173 The punishment *preadjusted by the Deity. 1885 Dunckley in *Manch. Exam.* 9 May 6/1 [The] result of a carefully preadjusted mechanism. 1788 D. Gilson *Serm. Pract. Subj.* x. (1807) 208 Covetous men, hastening to the grave, seem to *pre-adopt one of its qualities,—and cry out with it,—We can never have enough. 1658 Bp. Reynolds *Lord's Supper* xix, The Spirit of God doth *preaffect the Soul with an evident taste of that glory. 1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 127 Any proofes, or testimonies *prealledged in the former part. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* i. 12 (1619) 243 The iust causes prealledged. 1808 Bentham *Sc. Reform* 70 Of whose inability to give effect to it he is thus *pre-apprised. 1654 Owen *Doctr. Saint's Persev.* Wks. 1853 XI. 153 Whom He foreknows, that is, *preapproves.. them he predestinates. *Ibid.* 155 His preapproving of them ..must be His eternal acceptation of them in Christ. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 469 Quantity being *pre-ascertained or agreed on. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 53 Hereticks who used to baptize after death in case they were not *pre-baptiz'd. 1622 C. Archer in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 76 Upon..which *prebargained piece of ground a brick wall is alreadie erected. 1903 *Motor. Ann.* 294 To obviate the trouble of *pre-boiling all the water. 1886 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 1327. 1089/1 *Prebreathed air. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 461 [Children] are peculiarly sensitive to pre-breathed air. 1650 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civ. War* (1832) II. 246 The most submissive papers were *precensured by the committee. 1733 *Precommended [see *post-disapproved*, in Post-A. 1]. 1895 'H. S. Merriman' *Grey Lady* I. i, Their two lives had been *pre-committed to the parental care of their country. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 9 To *pre-comprehend all these facts,—and on them, when so pre-comprehended, to ground a set of questions. *a* 1684 Leighton *Comm. 1 Peter* Wks. (1868) 132 It was *preconcluded there that the Son should undertake the business. 1855 Bailey *Mystic* 14 Without pause, *preconfessed his sins. 1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 81 Might not Ælius..probably *preconiecture, that Adrian should be crowned Emperor? 1845 J. Phillips in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 542/1 Effects of subterranean convulsions upon the *preconsolidated strata. 1828–32 Webster, *Preconstituted [citing Paley]. 1795–1814 Wordsw. *Excursion* VIII. 288 In whom a premature necessity Blocks out the forms of nature, *preconsumes The reason. 1750 *Student* I. 43 Mahomet found most of his laws already prepared to his hands by the long *pre-continued observation of them. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 80 Mendacity..*preconverted into perjury. 1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 181 She came indeede, but *pre-corrupted by Vnfriendly Iuno, life to ruinate. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* Poems 1850 I. 186 Long ago It was looked forward to, *precounselled of. 1889 Stevenson *Master of B.* 169 The same day, which was certainly *prededicate to joy. 1652 J. Wright tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* III. 55 Without preventing their commands by a *predemanded leave or any feined distast. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* II. 130 You may..*predemonstrate them, by calculation, before the senses give an Experimental thereof. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 550 Referring back to his own *pre-described species. 1671 R. MacWard *True Non-Conf.* 254 As much..as if they were set and *predevised. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) II. 571 Where .. the Queen's kindred had *pre-devoured his estate. *a* 1678 Woodhead *Holy Living* (1688) 28 *Predirecting us in our affairs. 1626 Donne *Serm.* lxxviii. (1640) 797 May possibly..be *predisswaded and deprecated in all Civill consultations. 1875 T. Hill *True Order Stud.* 157 Prefigured and *pre-embodied in nature. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. i. 49 That false Villaine, Whom I employ'd, was *pre-employ'd by him. 1825 Coleridge *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 298 That every the least permissible form and ordinance..are *pre-enacted in the New Testament. 1819 W. Morgan in Polwhele *Trad. & Recoll.* (1826) II. 698, I *pre-entertain a high opinion of their worth. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 91 Were they..to institute their *preerected Principalities and Kings. 1670–98 Lassels *Voy. Italy* Pref. 2, I have done it..to *preexcuse some things in my book. 1817 Bentham *Parl. Reform* Introd. 326 Brought out, *pre-exposed to a damping atmosphere, and thus rendered unfit for use. 1822 'P. Beauchamp' (Geo. Grote) *Anal. Inf. Nat. Relig.* (1875) 82 All practical improvement is thus *pre-extinguished and stifled in the birth, by the sweeping epithet of unnatural. 1633 Shirley *Bird in Cage* II. i, A better project, wherein no courtier has *prefooled you. 1673 Owen *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 433 If Christ hath not pre-instructed and *pre-furnished him with gifts. 1678 — *Mind of God* V. 147 *Præimbibed opinions. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 3/4 Constitutions rendered weak by pre-imbibing more dangerous stimulants. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 349 Had he not been *preimbued with natural notions. 1865 Masson *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 384 Laws or rules of associability *pre-imparted to them. 1830 Coleridge *Ch. & St.* (ed. 2) 235 In both..the sensibility must have pre-existed, (or rather *pre-inhered). *a* 1711 Ken *Urania* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 433 All Prophecies ..Into the ancient Prophets *pre-instill'd. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 302 Binding themselves.. to pay a sum of money, *preliquidated or not preliquidated, ..in case the plaintiff should lose his cause. 1853 J. Cumming *Foreshadows* viii. (1854) 225 He went with his mind *premade up to receive a certain treatment. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xiii. I. 324 The body of Jasôn having been thus *premedicated, became invulnerable. 1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* lxxiii. (1772) 470 A *premodelling or Representation. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 162 In Defence of their *prenecessitated Constitutions. *Mod.* Unless a licence has been *pre-obtained. 1861 R. Quin *Heather Lintie* (1866) 39 [Ye] *prepartake of Hope's deliciousness. 1644 Vicars *God in Mount* 93 The great work intended and..*pre-patterned as aforesaid. 1643 Prynne *Rome's Master-Piece* (ed. 2) 32 A chiefe actor in this *pre-plotted Treason. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* XI. iii. § 14 Making it necessary for others, what voluntarily they had *prepractised themselves. 1804 Eugenia de Acton *Tale without Title* III. 34 We would *pre-pronounce the censure of little critics. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 280 A power, the existence of which is *pre-proved. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. ix. § 25 He provisionally *pre-provided Incumbents for them. 1605 A. Wotton *Answ. Popish Pamph.* 27 An externall signe, or seale, of a *prereceaued grace. 1601 Bp. W. Barlow *Defence* 34 *Preresembled in those three kings or sages, which came from farre to do perspnall homage vnto her head, and King at Bethleem. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* (1857) 213 It was certainly never *prerevealed to me that I should spend one of the few Christmas days..at sea. 1638 Mayne *Lucian* (1664) 236, I would know the nature of the Starres, of the Moone, and Sun himselfe, being *præsecur'd from their fires. 1864 Webster s. v., Stars *preselected for simultaneous observation. 1643 Fuller *Serm.* 27 Mar. To Rdr., Who have unmercifully *pre-sentenced me. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* (1692) 28 In weightier petitions..which was not to be *presifted by the other officers. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Cambr.* (1662) I. 159 A most excellent preacher, who..preached what he had *prestudied some competent time before. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* II. 122 The effect was this (as was *presurmised). 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 79 If shee bee longe in lambinge, and *presuspeckted. 1721 Amherst *Terræ Fil.* No. 3 (1726) I. 13 He takes the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, which he is *prætaught to evade, or think null. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VIII. ii. § 27 Their cruelty in *pre-torturing of many, whom afterwards they put to death. 1658 *Hist. Q. Christina of Swedland* 140 Holstenius having *preunderstood that the Baron Ghirardi had thoughts of conferring with her. 1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* xx, It doth in some sort *preunite our souls and our blessednesse together.

2. With a sb., this being usually a derivative from a verb to which *pre-* is in adverbial relation: = Existing or taking place previously, placed before (something else), previous, preceding, earlier: as *pre-accusation, -adaptation, -adjustment, -administration, -advertency, -appearance, -approbation, -approval, -arrestment, -ascertainment, -collection, -comprehension, -concession, -conclusion, -connexion, -consent, -constituent, -contemplation, -conviction, -decay, -decision, -dedication, -desert, -detainer, -discipline, -embodiment, -entail, -equipment, -excogitation, -expectation, -expounder, -fecundation, -impression, -indisposition, -inhabitation, -inquisition, -intelligence, -knowledge, -opinion, -reluctation, -remorse, -representation, -success, -surmise, -taster, -tincture, -union.* Also with other substantives: **Pre-anti·quity,** previous antiquity; **Pre-a·ptitude,** antecedent aptitude; **Pre-bo·ding,** foreboding; **Pre-ete·rnity,** previous eternity, eternal previous existence; **Pre·name,** a forename, 'Christian' name; **Pre·-part,** previous or preceding part; **Pre-sce·ne,** an anticipatory scene; **Pre-sha·dow,** a shadow of what is coming.

1847 Webster, **Preaccusation*, previous accusation. 1886 J. Ward in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 73/1 The movements are only more definite than those simply expressive of pain because of inherited *pre-adaptation. 1884 Sully *Outlines Psychol.* iv. 90 The preparation or *preadjustment of attention may be said to be perfect. 1659 Pearson *Creed* x. 735 Baptism as it was instituted by Christ after the *preadministration of S. John. 1671 Woodhead *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 22 Wittingly and with a *preadvertency of it. 1855 Bailey *Spir. Leg.* in *Mystic*, etc. (ed. 2) 77 White isles whose *præ-antiquity Transcends all date. 1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 28 In Sodom and Gomorrah, was given a *pre-appearance of the final Judgment upon the World. *a* 1652 Brome *Covent Gard.* Prol., That he besought *Preapprobation though they lik't it not. 1815 Hobhouse *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 2 *Preaptitude for such evil communication. 1822–56 De Quincey *Confess.* (1862) 243 The one counterworking secret for *prearrestment of this evil. 1826–30 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extract Const. Code* (1830) 36 For *preascertainment of the expense. 1879 H. Spencer *Data of Ethics* XV. § 104. 274 Ascertainment of the actual truth has been made possible only by pre-ascertainment of certain ideal truths. 1844 Tupper *Heart* x, With a nervous *preboding Henry took up the 'Watchman'. 1664 Bp. King in Walton *Lives, Donne* (1796) 17 By which means his and your *pre-collections for that work fell to the happy manage of your pen. *a* 1849 Poe *Dickens* Wks. 1864 III. 472 Let him reperuse 'Barnaby Rudge' and with a *pre-comprehension of the mystery. 1650 R. Hollingworth *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 1 Jeroboam..had Gods *preconcession of a kingdom. 1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XII. lxix. (1612) 291 By *pre-conclusion Twixt him and Dorcas. 1784 R. Bage *Barham Downs* II. 219 A narrative of his *pre-connexion with Mrs. Delane. 1825 Coleridge *Statesm. Man.* App. E., Wks. 1858 I. 479 Both depend on the first, logical congruity, not indeed as their cause or *preconstituent, but as their indispensable condition. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* (ed. Alford) IV. 280 The very *precontemplation and predenuntiation of that Judgment..was a..distasteful bitterness to the Prophet. 1867 Visct. Strangford *Select.* (1869) II. 56 Whether the antecedent facts supplied to meet their *preconvictions or fancies are sound or tainted. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 361 For..some *pre-decay is observable. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 869 In regard of the *predecision of the Church. 1840 De Quincey *Mod. Superstit.* Wks. 1862 III. 294 Bearing a *prededication to a service. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 4 Some good Offices we do to Friends; others to Strangers; but, those are the noblest, that we do without *Pre-desert. *c* 1624 Lushington *Resurr. Serm.* (1659) 61 His repossession of it defrauded all the *Prædetainers. 1894 *Daily News* 4 June 5/6 The General warmly commended the marching and *pre-discipline of both teams. 1863 Cowden Clarke *Shaks. Char.* xviii. 467 [She] seems a living *pre-embodiment of those ghastly spectres. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. ii. 70 As Forfeit Lands, Deliver'd up into his hands,.. By *Pre-intail of Providence. 1865 Masson *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 377 In the shape of structural *pre-equipment for the mind. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 22. 393 He seemeth, with Ocellus, to maintain the world's *Pre-eternity. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 658/1 The Past, still refluent on the deepening night Of pre-eternity. *a* 1560 Rolland *Crt. Venus* IV. 29 Greit argumentis, and *preexcogitatioun Of baith the Lawis. 1828–32 Webster, *Pre-expectation [citing Gerard]. 1816 Bentham *Chrestomathia* Wks. 1843 VIII. 111 That wordy and cloudy *pre-expounder of a nebulous original. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 24 A curious case of *prefecundation observed in a Spionide. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 32. 140, M...told me..the following *pre-impression of the event, in a dream. 1744 Fothergill in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 278 Disorders, wherein, without any obvious *Præ-indispositions, Persons in a Moment sink down and expire. 1628 Donne *Serm.* xxix. (1640) 293 The pre-possession, the *preinhabitation, but not the sole possession nor sole inhabitation of the Holy Ghost. 1824 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 416 What they all wanted was a *pre-inquisition into the mind, as part organ, part constituent, of all knowledge. 1780 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 207/2 In no instance was the effect of this *pre-intelligence so ruinous as in the loss..of the British settlements on the Mississippi. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xviii. 312 Our *pre-knowledge of the several intervening objects being equi-distant, tends still more to protract the apparent length. 1894 Du Maurier *Trilby* III. 31 Their names, *prenames, titles, qualities, age, address. 1900 *Daily News* 25 July 6/7 State pre-names (Christian names) of your parents. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. XXV. (1650) 144 Some..out of a timorous *preopinion refraining very many. 1786 J. Putnam in *Hist. Putnam Fam.* 239 The *prepart of this month. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* (ed. Alford) IV. 453 In every sin thou hast..some reluctation before thou do that sin, and that *prereluctation and *preremorse was Mercy. 1691 Beverley *Thous. Years Kingd. Christ* 19 That Great *Pre-Representation of his Kingdom. 1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 1072 This Earth with blood and wrongs polluted,..the *Pre-scæne of Hell To cursed Creatures that 'gainst Heav'n rebell. 1851 Mrs. Browning *Casa Guidi Windows* II. 560 Some *preshadow rising slow Of what his Italy would fancy meet To be called Brutus. 1891 Walt Whitman in *Pall Mall G.* 12 Dec. 3/1 If those *pre-successes were all—if they ended at that—..America..were a failure. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. i. 168 It was your *pre-surmize, That in the dole of blowes, your Son might drop. 1898 Zangwill *Dreamers Ghetto* I. ii. § 7. 56 God's Vicegerent..who dare not take the Eucharist without a *Pretaster. 1643 *Answ. Ld. Digby's Apol.* 22, I am therefore a little jealous there might be some *pretincture in your Lordshipps own eye. 1653 Manton *Exp. James* i. 2, Wks. 1871 IV. 25 A happy *preunion of their souls and their blessedness.

3. With an adj.: as *pre-coexistent, -essential, -subsistent, -thoughtful*; **Premu·tative,** inflected by means of prefixes, as a language.

c 1624 Lushington *Resurr. Serm.* (1659) 61 By natural relation his body was his own, as being the essential and proper counterpart of his soul, *præ-coexistent with it in one person. 1897 Crandall in *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 168*k*, That process of involution which is *pre-essential to evolution. 1899 R. C. Temple *Univ. Gram.* 7 Since affixes may be prefixes, infixes, or suffixes, agglutinative and synthetic languages are each divisible into (1) *pre-mutative, or those that prefix their affixes; (2) intromutative..; and (3) post-mutative. 1683 Cave *Ecclesiastici, Eusebius* 12 [He] was preexistent and *presubsistent to the whole Creation. *a* 1851 Lytton (Herrig's *Archiv* VIII. 269), *Prethoughtful of every chance.

II. Of local position. (Chiefly *Anat.*)

Usually without hyphen. *Pre-* stressed (prī·).

4. a. In adverbial relation to an adj.: = Before, anteriorly, in front: as **Prede·ntate,** having teeth in the fore part of the upper jaw only, as some *Cetacea*. Also in adjectives, introduced by Wilder, etc. = 'anterior', as **Precerebe·llar** = anterior cerebellar (artery); so **Prece·rebral; Precho·roid,** anterior choroid; **Precloa·cal,** belonging to the anterior portion of the cloaca; **Precommu·nicant,** anterior communicating (artery, etc.); **Prediga·stric,** of or pertaining to the anterior belly of the digastric muscle; also *sb.* this anterior belly regarded as a distinct muscle; **Prege·minal, Preo·ptic,** of or pertaining to the anterior *corpora quadrigemina* or optic lobes of the brain.

b. In quasi-adjectival relation to a sb.: = 'Situated in front, anterior, fore-', esp. denoting the anterior of two or more parts of the same kind; with derivative adjs.: as **Pre-abdo·men,** Latreille's name for the first five segments of the abdomen of Crustacea (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); **Predilata·tor,** the anterior dilatator muscle of the nostril; **Prefo·rceps,** the curved anterior fibres of the *corpus callosum*, which pass into the frontal lobe of the cerebrum; **Pregeni·culum,** the external geniculate

body; hence *pregeniculate* adj.; **Pre-omoste·rnum,** an anterior omosternum; hence *pre-omosternal* adj; **Prepedu·ncle,** the anterior peduncle of the brain; hence *prepedu·ncular*, *prepedu·nculate* adjs.; **Prepelviste·rnum,** an anterior pelvisternum; hence *prepelviste·rnal* adj.; **Prere·tina,** the thin lamina representing the retina in that part of the vitreous chamber of the eye immediately anterior to the *ora serrata* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); hence *prere·tinal* adj.; **Preri·ma,** an extension of the rima in advance of the porta in some animals, as Dipnoi; hence *preri·mal* adj.; **Prescute·llum** *Entom.*, a sclerite sometimes appreciable between the mesoscutum and mesoscutellum; **Prescu·tum** *Entom.*, the most anterior sclerite of the tergal portion of each thoracic segment in insects, etc.; hence *prescu·tal* adj.

1885 WILDER in *Jrnl. Nervous Dis.* XII. 349 Common Latin name. Cerebellaris anterior...English paronym. *Precerebellar. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Precerebellar artery.* 1885 WILDER (as above), Common Latin name. Cerebralis anterior...English paronym. *Precerebral. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Precerebral artery.* 1885 WILDER (as above), Common Latin name. Choroidea anterior...English paronym. *Prechoroid. 1890 in BILLINGS. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Precloacal.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Precloacal*, belonging to the anterior portion of the *cloaca*. 1885 WILDER (as above), Common Latin name. Communicans anterior... English paronym. *Precommunicant. 1890 in BILLINGS. 1834 DEWHURST *Nat. Hist. Cetacea* 130 *Predentate Cetacea; or, those with teeth only in the anterior part of the upper jaw. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Predigastric*, belonging to the Predigastricus. *Predigastricus*, Coues' term for the anterior belly of the digastric muscle. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Prediliatator*, Coues' name for the *Dilatator naris anterior. Ibid.*, *Preforceps .. *Pregeminal, *Prepeduncle, -cular, -culate. 1894 GOULD *Dict. Med.* 1177/1 **Prepelvisternum*, .. an anterior pelvisternum. 1887 WILDER in *Amer. Nat.* June 545 In *Ceratodus* alone .. is there a **prerima*,—that is, a rima extending *cephalad* from the margin of the porta.

c. In advb. relation to a vb.; in compounds formed in L., as PRECLUDE, PREFIX, PREMUNITE.

III. Of order, rank, importance, quality, degree.

5. In sense 'before in order or importance, above, in preference to, superior to, more than, beyond'.

Common in combinations already in Latin, but rare in English use. See PRECEDE *v.*, PRECEL *v.*, PREDOMINATE *v.*, PRE-EMINENCE, PRE-EXCELLENCE, PREFER *v.*, PRE-GRAVITATE *v.*, PRE-ORDINATE *a.*, PREPONDERATE *v.*, etc., in Main words. Also **Pre-epic,** surpassing the epic; **Pre-Luciferian,** surpassing Lucifer.

1630 DONNE *Serm.* XXV. (1640) 250 What a superdiabolicall, what a præ-Luciferian Pride is his that will be superiour to God. 1907 *Scot. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 166 Adventures pre-epic in their vastness.

IV. With intensive force.

6. With adjs. and ppl. adjs., in the sense 'before others, pre-eminently, exceedingly, in the highest degree'; as *pre-pious*, *pre-pleasing*, *pre-regular*: PRECLARE, PRECORDIAL 2, PRENOBLE, etc. Chiefly *Obs.*

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 846 The eldest Dochter named was ryches; The secunde, Syster Sensualytie;.. Preplesande to the Spiritualytie. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 35, I had rather suppose them to powder, than expose them to preregular, much lesse to preter-regular judgements. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 147 Single out that præpious person, that ye think is able to convert this Age.

B. Combinations in which *pre-* is prepositional, having as its object the sb. forming, or implied in, the second element.

I. Relating to time or order of succession: in which *pre-* = before; anterior, prior, or previous to; preceding, earlier than.

These may be formed for the nonce almost at pleasure; indeed, such combinations as *pre-Alfredian*, *pre-Reformation*, *pre-reformational*, *pre-Shaksperian*, *pre-free-trade*, are rather phrases than words: *pre-Shaksperian dramatists*, *pre-Reformation ritual*, *pre-free-trade conditions*, being only a compacter way of saying 'dramatists before Shakspere', 'ritual before the Reformations', 'conditions (existing) before (the era of) free trade'.

All these are properly hyphened, but the special compounds in r d are often written *indivisim*. *Pre-* is always stressed (prɪ́), and *e* long.

1. With adjectives (and their derivative adverbs and substantives), or f. *pre-* + a (Lat.) sb.+ adjectival ending, as *pre-reformation-al*; forming adjectives, with derivative adverbs and substantives.

Compounds of this type were not used in Latin, and they are of recent appearance in English. The earliest appears to be PRE-ADAMITE, formed in Lat. as a sb. 1655, whence in Eng. as sb. in 1662, and as adj. in 1786; thence *pre-adamitical* in 1716; *prediluvian* occurs 1804, *preprandial* 1822, *prenatal* 1826, *pre-Christian* 1828, *pre-millennian* 1828, *pre-Gothic* 1831, *prehuman* 1844, *prehistoric* 1851, *pre-glacial* 1855, *pre-scientific* 1858, *pre-Georgian* 1861, *pre-Roman* 1863. (Some of these may have been used a little earlier.)

a. Formed on proper nouns (or their adjectives), esp. on names of persons, races, nations, dynasties, and religions, as *pre-Alfredian*, *-Baconian*, *-Cavourian*, *-Chaucerian*, *-Columbian*, *-Copernican*, *-Dantean*, *-Darwinian*, *-Evite* [Eve], *-Galilean* [Galileo], *-Georgian* [the four Georges], *-Hieronymian* [Hieronymus or Jerome], *-Messianic*, *-Mohammedan*, *-Mosaic*, *-Newtonian*, *-Patrician* [St. Patrick], *-Pauline*, *-Pharaonic*, *-Shaksperian*, *-Socratic*, *-Solomonic*, *-Solonian*, *-Victorian*, *-Virgilian*; *pre-Aryan*, *-Assyrian*, *-British*, *-Buddhist*, *-Canaanitic*, *-Celtic*, *-Doric*, *-Gothic*, *-Greek*, *-Hellenic*, *-Islamic*, *-ite*, *-Israelitish*, *-Jewish*, *-Mycenean*, *-Norman*, *-Norse*, *-Roman*, *-Saxon*, *-Semitic*; etc.

b. In names of geological formations and of prehistoric periods, as *pre-Cambrian* (earlier than the Cambrian); so *pre-Carboniferous*, *-Laurentian*, *-Permian*, *-Silurian*; *pre-metallic* (before the knowledge of metals), *pre-palæozoic*.

c. In pathological terms, noting stages and symptoms in the progress of disease, as *pre-albuminuric* (previous to the appearance of albuminuria); so *pre-ascitic*, *-cancerous*, *-fungoidal*, *-paroxysmal*, *-phthisical*, etc.

d. Formed on other adjectives (or the L. or other sbs. to which these belong): as *pre-anæsthetic* (before the use of anæsthetics), *pre-artistic* (before the cultivation of art), *pre-commercial*, *-contemporaneous*, *-earthly*, *-elemental*, *-fabulous*, *-federal*, *-feudalic*, *-geological*, *-imperial*, *-koranic*, *-marital*, *-matrimonial*, *-mediæval*, *-memorial*, *-monadic*, *-monarchical*, *-monumental*, *-moral*, *-mortal*, *-mythical*, *-nuptial*, *-observational*, *-original*, *-political*, *-prophetic*, *-religious*, *-revolutionary*, *-scholastic*, *-secular*, *-social*, *-solar*, *-telegraphic*, *-traditional*, etc.

Also **Pre-æsti·val, -est-,** occurring before midsummer (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Pre-ba·cillary,** prior to invasion by bacilli (*ibid.*). † **Pre-beati·fic,** previous to the beatific vision. **Pre-bromi·dic,** previous to the use of bromides in medicine. **Pre-cartila·ginous,** preceding the development of cartilage in an embryo (*Cent. Dict.*). **Pre-connu·bial,** occurring before marriage. **Pre-co·smic,** previous to the present world. **Pre-crea·tive,** existing before the Creation. **Pre-diasto·lic,** *Physiol.*, preceding the diastole or dilatation of the heart in beating. **Pre-dicro·tic,** *Physiol.*, preceding the dicrotic wave of the pulse. **Pre-dyna·stic,** existing before the recognized (Egyptian) dynasties. **Pre-econo·mic:** see quot. **Pre-evolu·tional, -evolu·tionary, -evolu·tionist,** previous to the introduction of the theory of evolution. **Pre-hemiple·gic,** *Path.*, preceding an attack of hemiplegia or paralysis of one side (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Pre-hexa·meral,** occurring prior to the six days of Creation. **Pre-Inca·rial,** prior to the time of the Incas of Peru. **Pre-mani·acal,** preceding mania or madness. **Pre-mate·rial,** prior to what is material. **Pre-me·nstrual,** occurring before menstruation. **Pre-mo·rtuary,** occurring, or pertaining to what may occur, before (some one's) death. **Pre-myco·sic,** *Path.*, preceding mycosis or the development of fungi in or on the body. **Pre-nephri·tic,** *Path.*, preceding disease of the kidneys. **Pre-o·perative,** occurring before a surgical operation. **Pre-orga·nic,** prior to the existence of organic life. **Pre-place·ntal,** prior to the development of a placenta in gestation. **Pre-pu·bertal,** prior to the attainment of puberty. **Pre-refo·rmatory,** prior to the Reformation. **Pre-remo·te,** more remote in previous time or order. **Pre-rhotaci·stic,** *Philol.*, previous to the tendency to rhotacism. **Pre-se·minal, -se·minary,** *Phys.*, prior to insemination or fecundation. **Pre-splenomega·lic,** *Path.*, occurring before enlargement of the spleen. **Pre-te·mporal,** anterior to existence in time, 'before time began', antemundane. **Pre-terre·strial,** existing before what is terrestrial. **Pre-voli·tional,** existing before volition.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 338 Before the appearance of albumin in the urine ..(*pre-albuminuric stage). 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Mar. 3/2 In *pre-anæsthetic times operations were very different to what they are now. 1883 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 89/2 The silversmith's work of the late Georgian or early Victorian age which might be fairly designated the *preartistic .. period. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 209 Most others found in Greece are probably *præ-Aryan. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 111 The early or *pre-ascitic stage of cirrhosis. *a1711* KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 171 He [Stephen] had of God *pre-beatifick view. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 793 Agents of repute in the *pre-bromidic days. 1875 CROLL *Climate & T.* xx. 343 The length of time embraced by the *pre-Cambrian ages of geological history. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* X. 182 An early stage of epithelioma;—a *pre-cancerous stage. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 461 The South Welsh *pre-Carboniferous barrier of Hull, which forms the northern boundary of the visible Coal-fields. 1888 *Times* 3 Oct. 5/3 Inquirers into the *pre-Columbian history, ethnology, &c. of the American continent. 1881 W. R. SMITH *Old Test. in Jew. Ch.* xii. 348 Based on the old *precommercial state of things. 1887 F. R. STOCKTON *Borrowed Month*, etc. 201 *Preconnubial satisfaction of a very high order. 1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 170 Speculative thought, which might be debited to their *pre-Copernicanism. 1891 *Riddles of Sphinx* 234 The *pre-cosmic conditions of the world-process. 1859 MOZLEY *Ess., Ind. Conversion* (1878) II. 328 The *praecreative or praeternal spirit. 1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult. & Percuss.* 213 *note*, A *prediastolic murmur is heard. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* i. 13 A poet of Asia..would probably have called the *pre-Doric Greeks by the race-name of Hellenes. 1898 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 6/3 The Libyan stock..can now safely be assigned to the *pre-Dynastic stock, about 5000 B.C., and even earlier. 1901 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 256/1 A predynastic period of Egyptian history. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (ed. 3) 213 Cities and fanes of diamond crown the hills .. Of this *preearthly paradise. 1876 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* 11 A sort of *pre-economic age, when the very assumptions of political economy did not exist. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* xxviii. (ed. 5) 475 That peace, Premotional, *preelemental, prime. 1885 W. R. SORLEY *Ethics of Naturalism* vii. 170 A remnant of the false, *pre-evolutionist individualism. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 887 In this so-called '*pre-fungoidal' stage. 1882 G. H. DARWIN in *Nature* XXV. 213 We must put these violent phenomena in *pregeological periods. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* iv. 119 The low morals of a large mass of the clergy in the Georgian or just *præ-Georgian days. 1831 *Westm. Rev.* July 31 The Siegfried's Chapel, in primeval, *Pre-Gothic architecture, not long since pulled down. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 214 All the passages tend to mark him as non-Hellenic or *pre-Hellenic. 1861 *Chr. Remembr.* XLI. 408 Those passages tell us far more about this *pre-hexameral period,..than about the hexameron or six days work itself. 1870 J. ORTON *Andes & Amazons* II. XXXV. (1876) 454 Massive monolithic monuments,..prehistoric, *pre-incarial. 1877 DODS *Mohammed, Buddha & Christ* ii. (1878) 71 The *Pre-islamic condition of Arabia. 1876 W. R. COOPER *Archaic Dict.* 30 An ancient title of the Deity among the *pre-koranic Arabs. 1880 RAMSAY in *Times* 26 Aug. 5/4 Rocks more ancient still to afford materials for..these *pre-Laurentian strata. 1883 MAUDSLEY *Body & Will* III. v. 297 The *premaniacal semblance of mental brilliancy. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Nov. 3/1 The *premarital correspondence of Carlyle and Miss Welsh. *a1881* A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* 69 What *premarital ages of ether beyond ether it may picture. 1863 MANSEL *Lett., Lect.*, etc. (1873) 247 The genuine sensation device of a *pre-matrimonial secret. 1859 T. PARKER in Weiss *Life* (1863) II. 403 The Pope is a fossil ruler, *pre-mediæval. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 475 Still rears its crag and heathless edge Your *praememorial wall. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xxii. (1878) 315 By what then were *pre-messianic believers of Israel saved? 1899 R. MUNRO *Preh. Scot.* xii. 449 The barrows of the *premetallic period. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 403/2 *Premonarchical Israel is represented as a hierocracy and Samuel as its head. 1863 DRAPER *Intell. Devel. Europe* iii. (1865) 60 Traces of the prehistoric, *premonumental life of Egypt. 1858 G. DUFF *Sp. at Elgin* 11 Aug., Belonging as he [Lord Palmerston] does to the *premoral, as Lord Derby says he does to the prescientific, school. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (ed. 3) 201 The *premortal manhood which inhered In the conception of creative mind. 1880 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Life Christ* xiv. (1881) 244 A covenant may be a sort of *pre-mortuary testament. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Arch. Surg.* XI. 195 Typical lesions in all stages and degrees .. from the *pre-mycosic, figured eczema to nodosities. 1854 DE QUINCEY in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) II. xviii. 84 It is not only a prehistoric, but a *premythical, .. even a prefabulous and a pretraditional thesis. 1885 W. ROBERTS *Ur. & Renal Dis.* (ed. 4) III. iv. 472 During this *prenephritic stage, high tension is produced by the contraction of the muscular walls of the arterioles. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. xii. 191 *Prae-Newtonians knew not the wonders of which Newton was to find the key. 1869 J. EADIE *Comm. Galatians* 62 This *prenuptial condition ceased. *a1866* J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* xxi. (1870) 346 The *pre-observational simplicity of the philosophers whom I have just referred to. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. *Epit. Med. Lit.* 35 *Pre-operative and Post-operative Treatment in Abdominal Section. 1897 *Nat. Sc.* Feb. 79 Strictly *preorganic or azoic rocks. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* xxxiii. (ed. 5) 545 See, like clouds, the gods disperse, Into their *preoriginal nothingness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 343 They are more continuously noisy..in this stage than in the *pre-paroxysmal. 1890 J. HEALEY *Ircl. Anc. Schools* 28 Another *pre-Patrician, if not pre-Christian poet..was Torna Eigas. 1899 W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Jan. 40 The *pre-Pauline Church in Rome. 1889 *Amer. Nat.* Oct. 926 The *preplacental absorption of food by the embryos of placentalian mammals. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* ii. 100 The nature of the *pre-prophetic religion was determined by the character of its God. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 644/2 The individual may retain..the *pre-pubertal condition. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1805 In the *pre-reformatory system there were no lessons for the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. xi. 378 A *præ-religious condition of the human race. 17.. E. DARWIN (Webster 1828), In some cases, two more links of causation may be introduced; one of them may be termed the *preremote cause, the other the postremote effect. 1796 — *Zoon.* II. 451 The pre-remote cause or disposition to the gout. 1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* iv. (1876) 85 The *præ-revolutionary jurists. 1896 E. W. FRY in *Class. Rev.* May 184/1 The so-called contracted forms of which *ama-sse* is typical were *pre-rhotacistic presents in *-se* restrained from normal phonetic development. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* ii. 21 Coins..of bronze and silver belonging to the first and *pre-Roman division of the age of iron. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* xxxi. (ed. 5) 533 As in *presecular time emergent thence. 1874 E. R. LANKESTER in *Phil. Trans.* CLXV. 39 The growth of the ovarian egg and its envelopes or *præseminary development. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 247 A *pre-Shakespearean word of single occurrence in a single play of Shakespeare's. 1871 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 146, I should rely much on *pre-silurian times. 1861 MAINE *Anc. Law* v. (1876) 114 The *prae-social state. 1871 FRASER *Life Berkeley* viii. 293 And shows supposed novelties..to be as old as the Neoplatonic, or even the *Pre-Socratic age. 1855 BAILEY *Spir. Leg.* in *Mystic*, etc. (ed. 2) 75 For sun and moon *præsolar light precedes. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 307 *Presplenomegalic form in which the enlargement of the liver precedes that of the spleen. 1882 SIEMENS in *Nature* XXVI. 393 *Pre-telegraphic days, when the letter-carrier was our swiftest messenger. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* xxx. (ed. 5) 500 To meditative converse most devote, And strict collation of the Spirit-book With the *pretemporal volume, writ of

God. 1894 MITCHELL tr. *Harnack's Hist. Dogma* App. i. 319 The pretemporal existence was a matter of certainty. *Ibid.* 322 The old idea of *preterrestrial existence with God. 1866 S. H. HODGSON *Princ. Reform Suffrage* 103 A part of the *prevolitional nature of man.

2. With sbs. or phrases (adj. + sb.), forming *quasi*-adjs. or attributive phrases, usually nonce-words, of obvious meaning; as *pre-advertisement, pre-advertising* (belonging to the days before advertising was usual), *pre-amalgamation, -betrothal, -breakfast, -chloroform, -Christmas, -civilization, -convention, -crusading, -dispersion, -disruption, -dynamite, -Easter, -emancipation, -free-trade, -independence, -inscription, -Islam, -log-rolling, -marriage, -Mutiny, -pneumatic-tire, -police, -portraying, -printing, -railroad, -railway, -Reformation, -remittance, -Renaissance, -settlement, -telegraph, -treaty, -vaccination, -war, -wire,* etc. The use of these appears to have begun about 1860. b. with personal names, meaning 'before the time or public work of': e. g. *pre-Augustine, pre-Shakspere, pre-Johnson, pre-Reynolds, pre-Jenner, pre-Gladstone, pre-Chamberlain,* etc.

These combinations are formed at pleasure and without limit: a few illustrations follow in order of date.

1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, De Juventute,* We elderly people have lived in that prae-railroad world. *Ibid.,* There will be but ten prae-railroadites left. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall of Rome* xiii. 719 Early British, or pre-Augustine Christianity. 1864 *Realm* 22 June 5 The highwayman of our old-fashioned romances and pre-police reports cried, 'Stand and deliver!' as he met you. 1864 LUMLEY *Remin. Opera* 37 Whatever success attended the pre-Easter season. 1866 *Standard* 27 Aug. 4/7 Holders of pre-amalgamation preferences. 1868 A. K. H. BOYD *Less. Mid. Age* 9 Only three dwellings in the city date from pre-reformation days. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 370 It was not an uncommon event in pre-Davenport days for some mountebank to allow himself to be tied hand and foot. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, Old portraits stretching back..to the pre-portraying period. 1886 F. H. DOYLE *Remin.* 26 In the happy predynamite days. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Jan. 4/1 The simple souls of the pre-log-rolling era. 1889 *Ibid.* 6 Nov. 1/2 In the pre-advertisement era a good newspaper was the exclusive luxury of the rich. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 281 This is my ..pre-remittance stage. 1892 J. MACKINNON *Culture in Celtic Scot.* i. v. 51 The Celts carried with them in their wanderings from their predisruption home, a theology. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Jan. 3/3 Merivale ..wrote in the pre-inscription and the pre-Mommsen period. 1896 CROCKETT *Cleg Kelly* (ed. 2) 92 The men .. answering one another in pre-breakfast monosyllables. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 184 In Great Britain during prevaccination times, small-pox showed a periodic intensity of prevalence, every three, four, or five years. 1897 *Daily News* 4 Jan. 6/3 The picturesqueness of Cairo in the pre-plaster-of-Paris age. 1898 *Ibid.* 2 Nov. 2/2 A school to whose welfare I am still as much attached as I was when in the golden sixties I enjoyed the happiness of the pre-flogging, pre-bullying era. 1900 *Ibid.* 26 Nov. 8/3 Mr. Tuckwell remembers Oxford in the pre-railway, pre-science, pre-earnestness days. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 3/4 The attitude taken up by pre-Mutiny officers towards their troops. 1905 *Ibid.* 11 Dec. 3/3 The obvious fact about painting in England in pre-Reynolds days was the indifference to native practitioners.

II. Denoting local position: in which *pre-* = before, in front of, anterior to.

These appear to have arisen since 1825: see PREOCULAR 1826, *predorsal* 1831, *prepigmental* 1835.

These are generally written without the hyphen, which may however be used when it makes the composition clearer, as before a vowel. *Pre-* is usually (prĭ-), but may be (prī-) when it immediately precedes the main stress, as in *prevertebral.*

3. In adjs. (also sometimes used as sbs.), chiefly *Anat.* and *Zool.*, denoting parts or organs situated in front of (or, rarely, in the front part of) other parts or organs: as **Pre-acetabular,** in front of the acetabulum or socket of the hip. **Pre-anal,** in front of the anus. **Pre-aortic,** in front of the aorta. **Pre-apical,** *Conch.*: see quot. **Pre-auditory,** in front of the auditory nerve. **Prebasal,** in front of a base or basal part. **Prebasilar,** in front of a basilar part. **Prebrachial** (-brē'kiăl), in front of the brachium or upper arm; applied to a group of muscles; also to a vein in the wing of some insects. **Prebranchial** (-bræŋkiăl), in front of the gills or branchial region. **Prebronchial** (-brɒŋkiăl), in front of the bronchi or bronchia. **Prebuccal** [L. *bucca* cheek], situated in front of the mouth or buccal cavity; = PREORAL. **Precardiac,** in front of or (in *Human Anat.*) above the heart. **Precaudal,** situated in front of the caudal vertebræ. **Precentral,** anterior to the centre; applied to parts of the brain. **Precerebroid,** situated anterior to a cerebroid organ. **Precoccygeal,** in front of the coccyx. **Precondylar, -oid,** in front of the condyles. **Precorneal,** situated on the front of the cornea (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Precostal,** in front of the ribs. **Precrucial,** anterior to the crucial sulcus of the brain. **Predentary,** in front of the dentary bone (in some reptiles). **Predigital,** noting the two remiges attached to the second phalanx of the second digit. **Predorsal,** anterior to the dorsum or dorsal region. **Pregenital,** in front of the genital aperture or external genital organs (*Cent. Dict.*). **Preglenoid,** in front of the glenoid fossa: applied to a process of the temporal bone (also *ellipt.* as *sb.*): also **Preglenoidal** (*ibid.*). **Prelabial,** in front of the lips, or a labium (in an insect or crustacean). **Prelumbar,** in front of the loins. **Premandibular,** in front of the mandible: applied to a bone of the lower jaw in some fishes, reptiles, etc.; also as *sb.* **Prenasal,** in front of the nose or nasal region; also as *sb.* **Preoccipital,** in front of the occipital lobe of the brain. **Preœsophageal,** in front of the œsophagus, or, in invertebrates, of the œsophageal ring. **Prepalatal,** in front of the palate; also **Prepalatine** (*Cent. Dict.*). **Preparoccipital,** in front of the paroccipital convolution of the brain. **Prepatellar,** situated above or in front of the patella. **Preperitoneal,** in front of the peritoneum. **Prepigmental,** in front of the pigmental layer of the eye. **Prepituitary,** anterior to the pituitary body. **Prepontile,** in front of the *pons Varolii* (PONS 2). **Preprostatic,** in front of the prostate gland. **Prepyloric,** anterior to the pylorus or small end of the stomach. **Prerectal,** in front of the rectum. **Prerenal,** in front of the kidney. **Presacral,** in front of the sacrum. **Presemilunar,** in front of the semilunar lobe of the cerebellum. **Prespinal:** see quot. **Presubterminal,** before a subterminal. **Presylvian,** in front of the Sylvian fissure of the cerebrum. **Presymphysial,** in front of a symphysis or point of union, usually of the jaw. **Prethoracic,** in front of the thorax. **Pretibial,** in front of, or on the front part of, the tibia. **Pretracheal,** in front of the trachea or windpipe. **Pretympanic,** in front of the tympanum of the ear; also as *sb.* = *pretympanic bone* or *cartilage.* **Prevertebral,** in front of the vertebral column. **Prevesical,** in front of the bladder (*Cent. Dict.*).

1866 *Pre-acetabular [see *postacetabular*, in POST- B. 2]. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 29 The presence of praeacetabular spurs. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Preanal.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1034 The four pairs of pre-anal and three pairs of post-anal papillæ on the tail of the male. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Preaortic plexus,* aortic plexus. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Præapicālis,..applied to the hinge of a bivalve shell, when, being on the back of the valve, it is before the summit: *preapicial. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 187 The *Præauditory nerves are the following. 3. *Motores oculorum* [etc.]. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The *prebasal plate of a myriapod. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Prebasilar. 1887 COUES & SHUTE, *Prebrachial [group of muscles] (*C.D.*). 1893 E. A. BUTLER *Househ. Insects* 179 The chief difference is in the præbrachial nervure (the third on the disc of the wing towards the tip). 1887 *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* 108 The aperture in the *prebranchial zone is small. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 611/2 The prebranchial zone, which separates the branchial sac behind from the branchial siphon in front. 1883 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 870/3 The air-cells of the flamingo, which were shown to .. agree with those of storks in having the *præbronchial air-cell much divided. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Præbuccalis,.. applied to a kind of funnel which precedes the mouth .. in the Holothuriæ, termed the *prebuccal cavity. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Precardiac.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Precardiac,* on the cephalic side of, or superior..to, the heart. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* x. (1867) 238 A wide expanded *precaudal joint. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Præcentral sulcus,..furrow on convex surface of hemispheres in front of anterior central convolution, running parallel to central sulcus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 284 The ascending frontal or precentral convolution [of the brain]. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 107 Which has not any separate *præ-cerebroid ganglion frontale developed upon it as in insects. 1893 *Athenæum* 25 Mar. 382/2 The parts of the urostyle and *precoccygeal vertebræ. 1866 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* II. 78 The position..of the *precondylar groove.. helps in the determination of the bird-affinities. *Ibid.* 532 The jugular fossa is distinct from the *precondyloid and carotid foramina. 1854 — *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 197 For the insertion of the *precostal ligament. 1885 *Athenæum* 3 Jan. 20/3 A distinct and conspicuous lozenge-shaped patch of brain substance defined by the crucial and *precrucial sulci. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. 1155 The mandible [in the Iguanodontidæ], again, presents the peculiar feature of having a horse-shoe-like *predentary bone at the extremity of the symphysis. 1887 WRAY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 348 The *predigitals are the only other remiges of the manus which show modifications of any interest. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 772 They..anastomose with those of the heart and lungs, and enter the *predorsal ganglia. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Prædorsal Region* of the vertebral column is the anterior surface of the dorsal region. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 24 The anterior portion of the *prælabial plate pertains to the same segment as the second antennæ. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., The *prelumbar surface of the spinal column is the anterior surface of the lumbar portion. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 271 There are three..laniaries at the anterior end of each *premandibular bone. *Ibid.* 273 The exposed portions of the premaxillaries and premandibulars are incased by a complicated dental covering. 1900 MIALL & HAMMOND *Harlequin Fly* vi. 169 The third is the premandibular segment. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 170 The lateral angles of this truncated face are produced outwards and forwards into two flattened *præ-nasal processes. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammals* ix. 282 A peculiar prenasal bone is developed at the anterior extremity of the mesethmoid, which serves to strengthen the cartilaginous snout [in the *Suidæ*]. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 152/2 *Preoccipital fovea. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 208 The *prepalatal or naso-palatal aperture. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Prepatellar,* in front of the patella. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1900 *Lancet* 20 Oct. 1142/1 The 'deep prepatellar bursa'..is surely a misnomer, for the bursa is not prepatellar in the least degree. 1904 *Br. Med. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 83 *Preperitoneal Fatty Tumours. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 553/1 We..regard [this layer] ..as constituting a true *prae-pigmental retina. 1839-47 *Ibid.* III. 235/2 Certain accessory glands..called..*preprostatic. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 132 A short '*pre-pyloric' ossicle which ascends obliquely forwards and is articulated with the anterior edge of the pyloric piece. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 319 With this process is articulated, posteriorly, a broad prepyloric ossicle. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Prerectal. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 434 The lumbar region contains the *pre-sacral group of vertebræ. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. 1056 There are 29 vertebræ, of which 18 are presacral. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Prespinal,* that which is situate before the spine. The prespinal surface of the vertebral column is the anterior surface. 1895 MEYRICK *British Lepidoptera* 239 Discal dot beyond median *praesubterminal not black-marked. 1868 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* III. 137 Cerebral Folds: Sylvian .. *Presylvian .. Postsylvian. 1888 *Geol. Soc. Quart. Jrnl.* XLIV. 146 The largest *presymphysial bone recorded in the annals of vertebrate anatomy. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 108 The number..is never made up of the same *pre-thoracic, thoracic, abdominal, and post-abdominal factors. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pretibial,*..situate before the tibia; as the *ilio-pretibial* and *ischio-pretibial* muscles. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 457 Diminished tactile sensibility of the pretibial skin area. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 211 The glands most affected are the anterior or *pretracheal. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 178 The foremost of the two middle pieces is the '*pre-tympanic'. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pretympanic,* applied ..to the anterior subdivision of the tympanic pedicle which supports the mandible in fishes. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* iii. 55 The next bone of the series is the pretympanic or metapterygoid, a flat bone forming a bridge towards the pterygoid. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 570 A gangliated portion situated by the side of the vertebral column, and of *prevertebral plexuses.

Pre-abdomen, Pre-accusation, Pre-acetabular: see PRE- A. 4, 2, B. 3.

Preace, obs. by-form of PRESS *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Preach, *sb. colloq.* [f. PREACH *v.*; in quot. 1597 after F. *prêche* m. a Protestant sermon (16th c. in Littré), similarly f. *prêcher* to PREACH.] An act of preaching; a preachment; a discourse.

c 1500 *Wyntoun's Cron.* v. 3392 (Wemyss MS.) At Constantinople, quhare he had His duelling and his prechis [*other MSS.* prechynge] maid. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xxviii. § 3 According to this forme of theirs..No Sermon, no Seruice. Which..occasioned the French spitefully to terme Religion in that sort exercised, a meere Preach. 1643 in *7th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 445 Mr. Henderson immediately after made a thing between a speech and a preach to us. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 138 [I] took the opportunity of being alone with him to give him a preach, and try to do him a little good. 1870 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi, I preached a little preach.

Preach (prīʧ), *v.* Forms: 3-6 **preche,** 4 **preyche, preeche,** 4-6 (chiefly *Sc.*) **preiche,** 5-6 **prech,** 6 **preache,** 6- **preach.** [ME. *prechen,* a. F. *prêcher,* OF. *prechier,* syncopated form of *preëchier* (11th c. in Godefroy) from **predichier,* ad. L. *prædicāre* to proclaim publicly, announce, in eccl. L. to preach, f. PRÆ- + *dicāre* to proclaim.

The eccl. word *prædicāre* was adopted early in nearly all the Romanic and Teutonic langs., as It. *predicare,* Prov. *prezicar,* Sp., Pg. *predicar*; OSax. *predikôn,* OE. *predician,* OHG. *predigôn,* ON. *prédika.*]

I. ***intr.*** 'To pronounce a public discourse upon sacred subjects' (J.); to deliver a sermon or religious address (now usually from or on a text of Scripture).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 ȝe ne schulen..preche to none mon.. Seinte Powel uorbead wummen to prechen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 175 Iesu crist..openlik bigan to preche [*MS. F.* preyche]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 226 Þe pape his bulle sent hider vnto þe legate, & comanded him to preche þorgh alle þe lond. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 215 He hadde i-preched ayenst wommen þat pleyde aboute þe ymage of Eudoxia. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 804 in *Macro Plays* 101 ȝa! whanne þe fox prechyth, kepe wel ȝore gees! 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 6 Sic pryd with prellattis, so few till preiche and pray. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 952 To preache, *prescher.* 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 45 Till all Creature for to preiche. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 65 Christ urg'd it as where with to justifie himself, that he preacht in publick. 1574 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 6 On Sunday morneing I went to hear on Bayly of Maudlins preach. 1697 M. HENRY *Life P. Henry* Wks. 1853 II. 674/1 He preached over the former part of the Assembly's Catechism, from divers texts; he also preached over Psalm 116. 1763 JOHNSON in *Boswell* 31 July, Sir, a woman preaching is like a dog's walking on his hind legs. It is not done well; but you are surprized to find it done at all. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. iii. 138 The Greek clergy preached against them as heretics.

b. To utter a serious or earnest exhortation, esp. moral or religious; to talk seriously in the way of persuasion or moralizing. Now usually dyslogistic: To give moral or religious advice in an obtrusive or tiresome way.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxvii. 110 They were brought to his tent, and there they were so preched to that they tourned to sir Charles parte. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 126 His forme and cause conioyn'd, preaching to stones,

Would make them capeable. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) V. xxv. 168 Let us..when we are called upon to act a great or manly part, preach by action. 1806 METCALFE in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 807 To meet their ambition.. with the language of peace, would be to preach to the roaring ocean to be still. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in Patmore *Friends & Acquaint.* (1854) I. 89 'Pray, Mr. Lamb, did you ever hear me preach?' 'Damme', said Lamb, 'I never heard you do anything else'. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 45 Why do you preach to me in that manner?

2. *trans.* To proclaim, declare, or set forth by public discourse (the gospel, something sacred or religious). Also with *obj. cl.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 24/10 To preche cristendom. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1528 Seinte peter..sende seint Marc þe ewangelist in to egypt vor to preche þen gospel þat he adde imaked. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* i. 23 Forsoth we prechen Crist crucified. 1388 — *Rom.* x. 15 As it is writun Hou faire ben the feet of hem that prechen pees, of hem that prechen good thingis. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1826 Cuthbert, sittand at þe borde, Prechid to þaim goddis worde. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lxi. 1 Y^e Lorde hath anoynted me, and sent me, to preach good tydinges vnto the poore. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 53 Joseph of Arimathy, Who brought with him the holy grayle, they say, And preacht the truth. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xli. 263 He was to preach unto them, that he was the Messiah. 1864 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 21 Not preaching simple Christ to simple men.

b. To set forth or teach (anything) in the way of exhortation; to advocate or inculcate by discourse or writing; to exhort people to (some act or practice). Also with *obj. cl.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxi. 8, I prechid pes, þat neghburs & brebere be samynd in charite. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6181 [To] preche us povert and distresse, And fisshen hem-self greet richesse. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 136 [He] preched to theym that they shulde disheryte the erle Loyes. *Ibid.* 752 Than the prelates..began to preche this voiage in maner of a crosey. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 174 My M^r preaches patience to him. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* xi. 723 And to them preachd Conversion and Repentance, as to Souls In prison. 1709 PRIOR *Hans Carvel* 47 At first He therefore Preach'd his Wife The Comforts of a Pious Life. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 47 He practised the lesson..which Hesiod only preached. 1906 MARIE CORELLI *Treas. Heaven* i, Are you resolved to preach copy-book moralities at me?

c. *Preach up*: to extol, commend, or support by preaching; to discourse in praise of. So *preach down*: to decry or oppose by preaching; to discourse against; to put down or silence by preaching.

1644 J. GOODWIN *Danger Fighting agst. God* 10 [He] preacheth error up, and truth downe. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* Pref. 56 Preaching down the receiv'd notions both of Jews and Gentiles. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 190 It is easy to preach up fasting, upon a full stomach. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. iii, Last week came one to the county town, To preach our poor little army down.

3. To utter or speak publicly, deliver (now only a sermon, a religious or moral discourse).

c 1400 *Beryn* 119 Thouȝe it be no grete holynes to prech þis ilk matere, And þat som list not to her it; ȝit [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2207 When Priam hade his prologe preched to ende, Ector hym answarede esely and faire. 1549 (*title*) The fyrste Sermon of Mayster Hughe Latimer, whiche he preached before the Kynges Maiest. 1625 BP. HALL (*title*) A Sermon of publike Thancksgiuing preacht before his Matie. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 82 He cooks by the Hour-Glass, as the Parsons preach Sermons. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. iii. (1841) I. 58, I had such a lecture preached to me yesterday by..our own youngest child. 1798 COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 65 Words that even yet Might stem destruction, were they wisely preached.

†**4.** With personal obj. (orig. indirect): To preach to; to address in the way of exhortation (public or private); to exhort, instruct. *Obs.* **a.** on religious subjects; **b.** in any sense.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 89/88 Þis holie man honourede hem þe more, And prechede heom ofte of clannesse. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1932 ibid. 162 Seint thomas..Stod and prechede al þat folk þat mani a man i-sai. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 56, I Font þere Freres all þe Foure Ordres, Prechinge þe peple for profyt of heore wombes. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 96 They prechen hire, they telle hire nyght and day That causeles she sleeth hir self allas. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 82 Þys byschop had preched hym all þat he coube, and fonde hym euer þe lengur þe wors. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 196 How, sire knyght,..are ye come hither for to preche vs? 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 576 The foles & outragious people..sayd howe they were preched inough. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 45 He shall preach ye..about giving Cæsar his Due. 1709 [see 2 b].

5. To bring or put by preaching into or out of some specified state; to affect in some way by preaching. (Cf. *preach down* in 2 c.)

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. iv, We had a Preacher that would preach folke asleepe still. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) IV. 427 He may preach his heart out.., and all to no purpose. *a* 1845 HOOD *Recipe Civiliz.* 88 What reverend bishop.. Could preach horn'd Apis from his temple? 1852 M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* I. ii, These hundred doctors try To preach thee to their school.

Hence **Preached** *ppl. a.*

1854 MARION HARLAND *Alone* ix, It did me more good than the preached sermons I have listened to since. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* 36 Both the preacher—and the preached—are too weary to do justice to them.

Preachable (prī·tʃăb'l), *a.* In 5 preche-. [f. PREACH *v.* + -ABLE: cf. OF. *preëschable*, L. *prædicābil-is.*] Capable of being preached, or preached about or from; affording material for a sermon or religious discourse.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 89 Textis and parabolis and othere precheable processis. 1895 H. R. REYNOLDS *Lamps Temple* vii. 110 It is clearly your duty and function to discern the preachable aspects of theology. 1906 H. VAN DYKE *Manhood, Faith, Courage* xi. 242 Jesus Christ is the foundation of a truly preachable and powerful Gospel.

Preachee (prītʃī·). *nonce-wd.* [f. PREACH *v.* + -EE.] A person preached to; one to whom a sermon or exhortation is addressed.

1806 *Sporting Mag.* XXVIII. 237 The preachee and flogee, in the late assault and battery case. 1864 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) 141 Preaching implies some common understanding between preacher and preachee.

Preacher (prī·tʃəɹ). Forms: 3–4 **prechur**, (3 -or, 4 -ore, -ure), 3–6 **prechour**, (4–5 -oure), 4 **preychour, preichour** (also 6 *Sc.*), 4–5 (6 *Sc.*) **precheour**, 4–7 **precher**, (5 -owre, 6- ar), 5–6 **preachour**, 6 *Sc.* **preicheour**, **-eir**, **-er**, 6– **preacher.** [ME. *precho(u)r*, a. OF. *prech(e)or*, earlier *preëch(e)or* (13th c. in Godef.), popular ad. L. *prædicātōr-em* a preacher, whence also It. *predicatore*, Prov. *prezicaire*, Sp., Pg. *predicador*: see PREACH *v.* and -ER 2.] One who preaches.

1. One who proclaims or sets forth religious doctrine by public discourse; one who delivers a sermon or sermons; *esp.* one whose occupation or function it is to preach the gospel; a minister of religion; *spec.* one licensed to preach.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Prelaz & treowe prechures. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 20934 (Edin.) He firste was werrayure, eftirward bicom prechure [*v.rr.* -ur, -our, preichour]. *c* 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 314 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 79 Þe beste prechour he was iholde þat me ow[h]ar vnderstode. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* Prol. 3 Forthi suld ilke precheour schau The god that Godd hauis gert him knau. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 226 Prechoures & prestes & prentyce[s] of lawe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 23 þat suche prechoris ben heretikis. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvi. 88 A famose and a plesaunt precher to peple in a pulpit. 1530 PALSGR. 34 As a famous preachour. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 28 That now was the tyme to playe the preacher. 1561–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 202 Sustentatioun of the prechecouris and readaris. 1562 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxvii. 284 By a preacher is meant such an one as hath preached before his ordinary, and hath his approbation under seal to be a preacher. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lvii. (1640) 574 A word of the feminine gender, not Concionator, but Concionatrix, a Shee-Preacher. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 2 Nov., To church, and there being a lazy preacher I slept out the sermon. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 289 While he rehearsed his heroics, they walked cap in hand before him, respecting him like a high-way preacher. 1859–60 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) III. II. ii. 232 John of Antioch..had been the great preacher of the day. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 887 This [paralysis] gives rise to a peculiar position of the hand which has been named 'the preacher's hand'.

b. One who exhorts earnestly; one who advocates or inculcates something by speech or writing. Also *fig.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 165 Now dame..by god and by seint Ioun Ye been a noble prechour in this cas. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 9 They are our outward Consciences, And Preachers to vs all. 1706 SWIFT *Th. Various Subj.* Wks. 1841 II. 304/1 No preacher is listened to but Time. 1900 SPIELMANN *Ruskin* 107 The artists welcome him as a writer, and he would be taken for an art-preacher.

c. With *of*: One who preaches (something specified). So *preacher up* (cf. PREACH *v.* 2 c).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 428 Prechoures of goddes wordes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21179 (Trin.) þese were þe apostlis twelue..precheres [*earlier MSS.* spellers] of troube. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 6 Prechecouris of the word of God. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 4 The first Preachers of the Gospel. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xii, We have him still a perpetual preacher of his own virtues. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 158 The precipice to my left was a continual preacher of caution. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 139 The denouncer of shams, the preacher up of sincerity.

†**2.** (In full, *friar preacher.*) A name for the order of Dominican friars. Also *preaching friar*: see PREACHING *ppl. a.* Cf. PREDICANT. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10105 Ther after the verste ȝer þe ordre bigan of frere prechors. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 353 Prechouris and Menours seyn þe reverse. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 154 þanne þouȝt y to frayne þe first of þis foure ordirs, And presede to þe prechoures to proven here wille. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 130 To the frere prechours an hondred pounde. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 41 b, In the order of fryers mynoures or preachers.

3. *spec.* A name for Solomon as supposed speaker in the Book of Ecclesiastes; hence, that book itself.

1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* i. 1, 2 These are the wordes of the Preacher, the sonne of Dauid, kynge of Ierusalem. All is but vanite, saieth y^e preacher [*Vulg.* dixit Ecclesiastes, WYCLIF seide Ecclesiastes]. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 7 The book of Psalmes, the Preacher, & the song of Salomon.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly appositive, as *preacher-editor*, *-musician*, *-playwright*, *-saint*, *-teacher*; also *preacher-like* adj. and adv.; **preacher-in-the-pulpit**, a local N. American name of *Orchis spectabilis.*

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Orchis spectabilis*, Preacher-in-the-pulpit, Showy Orchis of N. America. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 7/1 He may be described as preacher-teacher to the pitmen. 1900 *Ibid.* 13 Dec. 7/3 If he thought he could help the preacher-editor he would. 1904 R. SMALL *Hist. U. P. Congregations* II. 488 [He] returned to preacher life again.

Hence **Prea·cherdom**, the realm or community of preachers, preachers collectively; **Prea·cherless** *a.*, without a preacher; **Prea·cherling**, a petty or inferior preacher; **Prea·cherly** *a.*, of or pertaining to preachers.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Nov. 516/1 The veriest dumb dog in *preacherdom. 1893 *Boston Mission. Herald* Dec. 526 The converts from *preacherless villages are swept off their feet by the tide of persecution. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* II. 27 A certain *preacherling pronounced, or was to pronounce, a funeral oration. 1905 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 376 Under any despotism, lay or priestly or *preacherly.

Preacheress (prī·tʃərès). [f. PREACHER + -ESS. Cf. OF. *proicheresse* (Godef.).] A female preacher. (Used only for distinction or emphasis.)

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 365 In the Heb. this word is ..in the Feminine Gender; and so may be translated exactly, The Congregatrix, or the Preacheresse. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 231 How come we by this preacheress? 1880 FOWLER *Locke* vi. 101 They listened to the famous Quaker preacheress, Rebecca Collier.

Preachership (prī·tʃəɹʃip). [f. as prec. + -SHIP.] The office of a preacher.

a 1656 BP. HALL *Specialities in Life* Wks. 1808 I. p. xxxii, By occasion of the public preachership of St. Edmund's Bury then offered me upon good conditions. 1757 WARBURTON *Lett. to Hurd* cxvi. (1809) 259 You have seen by the papers the disposition of the preachership to Dr. Ross. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 459 Jeremy Collier, who was turned out of the preachership of the Rolls, was a man of a much higher order. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Nov. 12/1 To secure a fitting successor to the Rev. T. W. Lupton, who has been Preacher of Gray's Inn for many years...The Preachership has been held by many distinguished men in the past. 1903 M. A. TUCKER in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 283 In 1503..the Lady Margaret preachership was founded through the influence of John Fisher, at that time vice-chancellor of the University of Cambridge.

b. With *his, your*, as a humorous title.

1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 483 What does his Preachership mean?

†**Prea·chery.** *nonce-wd. Obs.* Preaching.

1818 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* (1830) I. 107 A deistical creed..superscribed *Poetæ Kazungali*; that is, *The Poet's Preachery.*

Preachify (prī·tʃifəi), *v. colloq.* [f. PREACH *v.* + -[I]FY: cf. *speechify.*] *intr.* To preach in a factitious or a tedious way; to make a 'preachment'. Often merely contemptuous for *preach.* Hence **Prea·chifying** *vbl. sb.*; also **Prea·chifica·tion.**

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* liv. (1783) II. 147 He wrote obstinately on,..preachifying, till he piously picked my pocket of above a hundred and fifty guineas. 1828 tr. *Manzoni's Betrothed Lovers* I. vi. 180 When in his preachifying, he fixes his eyes on me, I am afraid that he will shoot out before everybody—those twenty five lira! 1843 LOCKHART in *Croker Papers* (1884) 6 Dec., Alison deserves all anybody can say..of his coxcombical pomposity and preachification. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, She has written to say that she won't stand the preachifying. 1869 MISS MULOCK *Woman's Kingd.* II. 137, I am going to preachify in earnest; and..it is about a very serious thing.

Preachiness (prī·tʃinés). *colloq.* [f. PREACHY + -NESS.] The quality of being preachy.

1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 Apr. 336/1 He made a capital speech..notwithstanding the drawback of a slight preachiness—so to speak—of tone. 1892 LOUNSBURY *Stud. Chaucer* I. iv. 478 It is pervaded..by a general flavor of preachiness, not delicate but obtrusive.

Preaching (prī·tʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.]

1. The action of the verb PREACH; the delivery of a sermon or public religious discourse; the practice or art of delivering sermons.

c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 671 in *O. E. Misc.* 56 We iherden heom heryen in heore preching After vre tunge þen heoueliche kyng. 13.. *Cursor M.* 196 (Gött.) For his preching [*v.r.* sermon] þai thrett. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 239 The prechynge of religiouse cristen men. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 6 Men are so dull þat my preching Serues of noght. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 601/1 They could not beleue it at the preaching of a woman, without any other miracle. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 60 The preaching of the Gospell. 1673 *True Worsh. God* 45 Preaching is nothing else but Publishing, Declaring, or Pronouncing what is said to be Preached. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 428 By an immediate miraculous Unction of the Holy Ghost, by which they were inspired with the Gifts of Preaching. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 96 Apostolic preaching was religious preaching,.. and it kept itself to this one theme—the turning away men from their iniquities.

2. with *a* and *pl.* **a.** The delivering of a sermon; that which is preached, a sermon or discourse; **b.** (chiefly *Sc.*) a public religious service.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 90 For without him Grees goon on out of gree and prechingis rennen arere. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 71 At playis, and preichingis, and pilgrimages greit. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 155 A preachyng or a sermon is where a conuocacyon or a gatheryng of people on holy dayes..[is] in chirches or other places & tymes set & ordeyned for y^e same. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* li. 64 Thus farre are y^e preachinges of Ieremy. — *Jonah* iii. 2 Preach vnto them the preachinge, which I bade the. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 138 b, This infamie was spoken in preachynges and euerywhere. *c* 1650 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 50 There is not a preaching preached but some gracious pickle falleth upon some heart. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 145 In New England, a vast deal of time is spent in attending preachings, and other religious meetings. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 We find the Germans .. attending the preachings in Allhallows.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *preaching age, business, place, time, tour, -yard*, etc.; **preaching-cross,**

see quot. 1882; **preaching-station**, a station or fixed place to which a missionary or preacher comes from time to time to hold a religious service. See also PREACHING-HOUSE.

1440–1 *Norwich Sacrist's Roll* (MS.), Pro magnis portis de le prechyngyerd juxta Carnarium. 1549 LATIMER *5th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 139 *Scala cæli*, is a preachynge matter..and not a massyng matter. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 20 Pecoke..stode at Powlles crosse,..& there he abjuryd & revokyd them in the prechenynge tyme in the presens of the byshoppe of Cauntorbury. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxix. 9 To appoint the temple as it were the preaching place of God's glory. 1641 *Arminian Nunnery* 7 By the preaching-place stood the Font. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 275 He left..3083 Sermons..accounted a prodigious number in this preaching age. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 86 A preaching-station in connection with the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Stranraer. 1882 OGILVIE, *Preaching Cross*, a kind of cross formerly erected on a highway or in an open place, at which the monks and others were wont to preach. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 24 Cæsar returned home from a preaching tour.

Prea·ching, *ppl. a.* [f. PREACH *v.* + -ING 2.] That preaches: see the verb.

Preaching friar, (*spec.*) a Dominican; = PREACHER 2.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 71 Are those preaching prelates,..or else reading ministers? *c* 1585 R. BROWNE *Answ. Cartwright* 12 The preaching Minister can not cause them to bee a Church of God. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* II. 35 So that nothing was done to oppose the preaching-men. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 882 The Preaching Friars and Minors exhorted him. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 140 It was known that a preaching friar had been exerting himself to inflame the Irish population of the neighbourhood against the heretics.

Hence **Prea·chingly** *adv.*, in a preaching manner.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* Post-Script, Their old method of talking preachingly, quotingly and quibblingly.

Prea·ching-house. [f. PREACHING *vbl. sb.* + HOUSE *sb.*] A house or building devoted to or adapted for preaching; *spec.* Wesley's name for a Methodist place of worship, in frequent use among Methodists in the 18th and early 19th c.

1760 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 16 Sept., I ordered all the windows of the preaching-house to be set open. *a* 1791 — *Wks.* (1830) VIII. 321 Warn them..Against calling..our Houses, 'Meeting-houses': Call them plain preaching-houses, or chapels. 1763 LADY F. GARDINER in Coke & Moore *Wesley* III. ii. (1792) 414, I have never..been at the preaching-house in a morning yet, as they preach so early. 1817 S. DREW *T. Coke* iv. 49 The building of a preaching-house [in New York] was taken into serious consideration. This was..accomplished in the year 1768, being the first Methodist preaching-house that ever presented itself to view in the western world. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 1 The old preaching-house type of the Georgian period.

† **Prea·chman.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PREACH *v.* + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man who preaches, a preacher. (Usually *contemptuous.*)

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xxxiv, Som of our Preachmen are grown dog mad, ther's a worm got into their tounges, as well as their heads. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* (1865) II. 197 Madockawando..began to demand something for Satisfaction,..not understanding before that his Father was a great Preachman, as they use to call it. 1727-8 in *Relig. Hearnianæ* (1857) II. 675 She beareth..in a field of sedition a crop-eared preachman.

Preachment (prī·tʃmĕnt). [ME. *prechement*, a. OF. *prechement*, earlier *preë(s)chement* (12th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *praedicāmentum*, in med.L. a public speech; cf. PREDICAMENT, PREACH *v.*, -MENT.]

1. The fact or action of preaching; delivery of a sermon, or of a discourse or exhortation. Now usually: Obtrusive or wearisome discourse.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 222 A legate Ottobon þe pape hider sent, To mak þe barons on þorgh his prechement. 13.. *Reinbrun* cviii. in *Guy Warw.* p. 667 Sire, let be þe prechement: Hit is þe meche schame. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 196, I take my dysport in your talkyng & prechement. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 226 They rose vp presently in armes at Saint Iohns-towne (excited by Knox his preachment). 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* VI. xiv. 255 How vain a thing is it to make this Man that Angel that preached the Everlasting Gospel, whenas that Angelical Preachment was at least seven or eight hundred years before he lived. 1672 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* II. 247, I..performed my Preachment and Disputation to the general satisfaction of all. 1889 D. HANNAY *Capt. Marryat* viii. 125 It [*Masterman Ready*] is didactic, and yet there is no preachment.

2. With *pl.* The delivery of a sermon; a sermon, discourse, or exhortation. Usually *contemptuous.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1263 Is this a sermon, or a prechement? 1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 51 b, To folow the preachments of a few apostat friers and monkes. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. liii. (1612) 238 Making teadious Preachments, of no edifying powre. 1660 MILTON *Brief Notes on Serm.* Wks. 1738 I. 604 The rest of his Preachment is meer groundless Chat. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 263 There were such Preachments against Vanities, and for Self-denials. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* App. 9 This Volume of Sermons then cannot be criticised at all as preachments; they are essays.

Preachy (prī·tʃi), *a. colloq.* [f. PREACH *v.* + -Y.] Inclined to preach; given to preaching; characterized by a preaching style.

1819 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 70 He was a very good man..though abundantly heavy, preachy and prosy. 1859 HOLYOAKE in *Reasoner* 27 Feb. 66/1 The Rev. Mr. M...was a little preachy and complacent. 1890 *Spectator* 15 Mar., It belongs to the class of preachy novels.

Pre-acknow·ledge, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To acknowledge beforehand or as a preliminary. Hence **Pre-acknow·ledged** *ppl. a.*

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 67 A preacknowledged Infallibility strengthen'd by a long Possession. *Ibid.* 655 Had there not been some preacknowledg'd power to ground and countenance such a demand.

Pre-acquaint (prī,ăkwē·nt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To acquaint beforehand, inform previously. Const. *with.* So **Pre-acquai·ntance**, previous acquaintance; **Pre-acquai·nted** *ppl. a.*, having previous acquaintance or knowledge.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* II. v, You haue beene pre-acquainted with her birth, education [etc.]. 1633 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* I. iii, My intention was to pre-acquaint you. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1693) 75 The Terms of the Common Law..seem Barbarous to the vulgar Ear and had need to be familiariz'd with pre-acquaintance. 1702 STEELE *Funeral* III. i, Leave the care of Lady Charlotte to me; I'll pre-acquaint her, that she may not be frightened. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* II. i. (1765) 223 From implying an ordinary pre-acquaintance, to presume a kind of general and universal Notoriety. 1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art Reading* 169 We are pre-acquainted with the sounds of the words.

Pre-act (prī,æ·kt), *v.* Also 7 præact. [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To act beforehand. So **Pre-a·cting** *ppl. a.*; **Pre-a·ction**, previous action.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. ii. 61 An iron..being already informed by the Loadstone and polarily determined by its preaction. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* XI. ii. § 33 Those [recreations], which, though acted after Evening-Service, must needs be preacted by the fancy..all the day before. 1660 A. SADLER *Subject's Joy* 2 She also (to acheer the King) doth..præsagingly præact his just Inauguration. 1796 C. CALDWELL *Three Phenom. Fever* 10 These phenomena can no more occur, than an effect can..take place without the pre-existence and pre-action of its cause. 1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* viii. 179 There is no form of force which is not the representative of some other pre-acting form of force.

† **Prea·cuate**, *v. Obs. rare*—°. [irreg. f. L. *præ-acu-ĕre* to sharpen at the end, or to a point (f. PRÆ- before + *acuĕre* to sharpen) + -ATE 3.] (See quot.) So † **Preacua·tion.**

1623 COCKERAM, *Præacuate*, to make very sharpe. *Ibid.* II, Sharpening or whetting, *preacuation.*

Pread, variant of PREDE *sb.* and *v. Obs.*

Pre-adamic (prī,ădæ·mik), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + ADAMIC.] Anterior to Adam: = next, B. 1.

1846 in WORCESTER citing I. TAYLOR. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 54 To him came too from Preadamic kings The shield of power. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* II. xii. (1878) 133 By geology we have learned that there was a long pre-adamic history of the globe.

Pre-adamite (prī,æ·dăməit), *sb.* and *a.* Also without hyphen, and with capital A. [ad. mod.L. *praeadamīta* (whence also F. *préadamite*): see PRE- B. 1, ADAM, -ITE 1.]

A. *sb.* **1.** One who lived (or one of a race held to have existed) before the time of Adam.

An appellation given by Isaac de la Peyrère in his *Præadamitæ*, 1655, to a race of men, the progenitors of the Gentile peoples, supposed by him to have existed long before Adam, whom he held to be the first parent of the Jews and their kindred only.

1662 STILLINGFL *Orig. Sacr.* III. iv. § 2 If the report given of things in Scripture bee true, the hypothesis of Præ-Adamites is undoubtedly false. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 11 The wild notion which some have espoused of the North American Indians being Prae-Adamites, or a separate race of men. 1879 tr. *De Quatrefage's Hum. Spec.* 31 The descendants of these Preadamites were identical with the Gentiles.

† **2.** A believer in the existence of men before Adam. *Obs.*

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 256 ¶ 4 Mr. Bickerstaff..finding Reasons, by some Expressions which the Welshman let fall in asserting the Antiquity of his family, to suspect that the said Welshman was a Præ-adamite. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 468 St. John had nothing of the preadamite belonging to him.

¶ **3.** *? erron.* for ADAMITE *sb.*[1] 2.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 69 ¶ 7 Dancing without Clothes on, after the manner of the Præ-Adamites. 1710 STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 257 ¶ 12 There were written on the Foreheads of these dead Men several hard Words, as Præ-Adamites, Sabbatarians, Camaronians, Muggletonians.

B. *adj.*

1. That existed before Adam; belonging to the time previous to that of Adam; prehuman.

1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 142 Upon two beds of incorruptible cedar, lay recumbent the fleshless forms of the Preadamite Kings, who had been monarchs of the whole earth. 1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. x. 283 The Ginn are said to be of præ-adamite origin, an intermediate class of beings between angels and men. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 271 The bones of the *Mastodon* and *Megatherium*—those terrestrial giants of the pre-Adamite earth. 1877 DAWSON *Orig. World* xv. 356 Our knowledge of pre-Adamite and present nature.

2. Relating to the time, or to a race, previous to Adam; belonging to the Pre-adamites (sense A. 2).

1882 OGILVIE, *Preadamite, a...2.* Pertaining to the Pre-adamites: as the preadamite theory.

Hence **Pre-adami·tic, -ical** *adjs.* = PRE-ADAMITE B. 1; **Pre-a·damitism**, the doctrine of the existence of pre-adamite man.

1716 *Gentleman Instr.* II. (ed. 6) 414 Upon what Memorials do you ground the Story of your Præ-adamitical Transactions? 1790 *Monthly Rev.* III. 543 The author adds a vindication of himself from an accusation of Pre-adamitism; .. he insists on it, that, provided he excepts the human species, he may believe rational animals to have existed on the earth before Adam, without being guilty of this terrible heresy. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 127 These, however, have been by some, ascribed to some fictitious Preadamitick periods. 1865 CDL. WISEMAN in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.* Ser. I. 26 How many human skeletons have been announced as found in preadamitic positions! Yet not one has yet been admitted as proved.

Pre-adapt to **Pre-administration**: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

Pre|admi·ssion. [PRE- A. 2.] Admission beforehand: *spec.* the admission of a certain amount of steam into the cylinder of a steam-engine before the end of the back stroke.

1887 J. A. EWING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 501/2 (*Steam-engine*) An effect of lead [i.e. the condition of the valve being to a certain extent open when the piston-stroke begins] is to cause *preadmission*, that is to say, admission before the end of the back stroke. *Ibid.* 502/1 The position of the crank at which preadmission occurs.

Pre|admi·t, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To admit beforehand. Hence **Pre|admi·tted** *ppl. a.*

1626 DONNE *Serm.* lxviii. 694 He pre-admitted a fearfull apprehension of Death. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 156 Any preadmitted power of the Pope.

Preadmonish (prī,ædmɒ·nĭʃ), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.]

1. *trans.* To admonish beforehand, to forewarn.

1649 CANNE *Gold. Rule* 17 Of which thing they were often preadmonished and fore-told by the prophets. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 324 Bacon and Stewart..warn and preadmonish the sincere inquirer. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 311 [He should] pre-admonish him of what ought to be foreknown by him.

† **2.** To give previous notice or warning of. *Obs.*

1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xxx. Wks. 1851 IV. 322 These things thus preadmonisht, let us enquire what the undoubted meaning is of our Saviours words. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Chesnut*, However, the Beams pre-admonish the Fall of a House by their cracking.

Preadmonition (prī,ædmŏni·ʃən). [PRE- A. 2.] The action, or an act, of preadmonishing; forewarning, premonition.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 129 Men .. stick not to accept them..as the preadmonitions of Divine Providence. 1671 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 120 To continue my annual preadmonitions of the lunar appearances. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* II. iv. 91 Whether dreams are ever preadmonitions is one of the most vexed questions of the psychologists.

† **Pre|a·dvertise**, *v. Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + ADVERTISE 4.] *trans.* To give previous notice to; to notify or inform beforehand; to forewarn.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 7 Wherefore Adam, being preadvertised by the vision, was presently able to pronounce, This is now bone of my bone, and flesh of my flesh. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 142 Johannes Bochartus..had already pre-advertized his Majesty thereof. 1675 WOODHEAD, etc. *Paraphr. St. Paul* Pref., It will not be amiss to preadvertise the reader.

Pre|advi·se, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To advise or warn before.

1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. III. 121 He certainly believ'd, these were the men appointed to kill him, as he had been pre-advis'd. 1845 T. W. COIT *Puritanism* 202 The Puritans had sent Simon Bradstreet and John Norton..to preadvise them of coming storms.

Pre-æstival, -albuminuric: PRE- B. 1 d, c.

Preak, variant of PREKE *Obs.*

Preak, Preakar, obs. Sc. ff. PRICK, PRICKER.

Preallable (prī,æ·lăb'l), *a. rare.* Also 9 præ-. [a. obs. F. *preallable*, now *préalable* going before, preliminary, f. OF. *preal(l)er* to precede (f. *pre-*, PRE- A. 1 + *aller* to go): see -ABLE; cf. obs. F. *al(l)able* passable (as a road).] Preceding, previous, preliminary. Hence **Prea·llably** *adv.*, previously, beforehand.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxvii. 93 Regular and remisse friendship, wherein so many precautions of a long and preallable conversation, are required. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 280 There are few..that have not preallably been stung with the tarantula of a preposterous ambition. 1883 H. JUTA tr. *Van der Linden's Instit. Holland* 274 It very often happens that the defendant.. before answering makes one or more preliminary or praeallable applications.

Preamble (prī·æmb'l, prĭ,æ·mb'l), *sb.* [ad. F. *préambule* (13–14 c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præambulum* a preamble (whence also It. *preambolo*, Sp., Pg. *preambulo*), prop. neut. sing. of L. *præambulus* adj. (Martial) going before: see next.]

1. A preliminary statement, in speech or writing; an introductory paragraph, section, or clause; a preface, prologue, introduction.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 831 Now dame, quod he, so haue I ioye or blis, This is a long preamble of a tale. *c* 1460 *Lydgate's Thebes* (MS. Roy. 18 D. ii, lf. 147 b/1) *Incipit Prologus.* In this preambile shortly is comprihendid A Mery conseyte of Iohn Lydgate, Monke of Bury, declarynge how he aionyde þe sege of Thebes to the mery tallys of Caunterburye. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 New testamentes, with anie suche annotacions or preambles. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1856) I. 107 Without any exordium or preamble here in the beginning of his Epistle he hits on the point straight. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) II. xxxii. 43 There needs no preamble or declaration at the head of the leaf what the meaning of the book is. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 29 A man..whose manner it was to say what he had to say without formula or preamble, in the fewest and simplest words.

b. *spec.* An introductory paragraph or part in a statute, deed, or other formal document, setting forth the grounds and intention of it.

1628 COKE *On Litt.* 79 a, The rehearsall or preamble of the statute is..as it were a key to open the understanding thereof. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 141 These French Lawes are too full of Preambles, Processes, Interims, and Provisoes. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 345 The preamble to the statutes made by the first parliament of Edward the First. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 277/1 If the committee allow that the allegations of the preamble have been proved, they proceed to consider the bill clause by clause...There are so many grounds upon which the preamble may fail to be proved..that [etc.]. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. ix. 174 Passing of Private Bills...At the close of the general case for the promoters and opponents, the committee usually decide first whether the preamble of the bill has been proved. If they decide that it has not been proved, the bill is in general lost. 1893 *Times* 8 May 9/3 Under the Standing Orders as amended in 1882 the preamble of all public Bills is reserved for consideration in Committee until after the clauses have been dealt with.

c. A (musical) prelude. *poet.*

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 367 With Præamble sweet Of charming symphonie they introduce Thir sacred Song. 1832 TENNYSON *Palace of Art* 174 No nightingale delighteth to prolong Her low preamble all alone, More than [etc.].

2. *gen.* A preceding or introductory fact or circumstance; a preliminary; *esp.* one betokening that which follows; a presage, prognostic.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xxiv. 145 Of those aduersities which I haue recyted, as of certayne preambles and tokens before ye maye gesse, that the tyme is not far of. 1663 BLAIR *Autobiog.* viii. (1848) 107 This was the preamble of the great troubles that after followed. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* iii. (1750) 146 The first Step, without any Preamble or Preparative, is downright Beastliness. 1885 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. i. § 3 (1864) 336 In writing, the sight of the part last formed is the preamble to what comes next.

Preamble (prĭ|æ·mb'l), *v.* [In branch I, ad. L. *præambulāre* to walk before: see PRE- A. 1 and AMBLE *v.*; in branch II, f. prec. sb.]

I. †**1.** *intr.* To walk before or in front. *rare*—¹.

1402 *Pol. Poems* II. 56 Poerte preamblis to presse aforne Anticristis comyng, to sleen the thridde party of men.

†**2.** *trans.* To perambulate previously. *Obs.*

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 15 To take a through view of those who have preambled this by-path.

II. 3. a. *trans.* To utter or deliver by way of preamble; to state in a preamble.

1621 [see PREAMBLED below]. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 164 All the execrable issues preambled in the Statute.

b. *intr.* To make a preamble or introductory statement.

1641 [see PREAMBLING below]. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 15 July, Which, put together with what he preambled with yesterday, makes me think that my Lord do truly esteem me still. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) II. 199 How foolishly I preamble! 1851, 1865 [see PREAMBLING below].

4. *trans.* To make a preamble to; to preface.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xciii. 272 Some will preamble a Tale impertinently.

Hence **Prea·mbled** *ppl. a.*, **Prea·mbling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1621 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 67 [These] might haue sufficiently manifested the argument, without so long a preambled discourse. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 187 Ere a foot furder we must bee content to heare a preambling boast of your valour. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 273 The upshot of which preambling is, that I heartily hate writing. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XXI. iv. (1872) X. 11 Well,..your account, without farther preambling.

Preambular (prĭ|æ·mbĭŭlăr), *a.* [f. med. L. *præambul-um* PREAMBLE + -AR; so F. *préambulaire*.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a preamble; introductory, prefatory, preliminary.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 9, I must begin with the fulfilling of your desire in a preambular way. 1648 *Regall Apology* 13 Their four last modest Bils, only praeambular to a personall Treaty. 1702 *Refl. Case W. Penn* 3 We shall not detain you by any preambular Discourse. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 351 In the first place it was preambular.

Pre|a·mbulary, *a.* [f. as prec. + ARY.] = prec.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* xi. 755 These three Evangelicall resuscitations are so many preambulary proofs of the last and generall Resurrection. 1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 363 A description of revenue not as yet known in all the comprehensive vocabulary of finance—a preambulary tax. 1882 *Edin. Rev.* July 215 Burke..scoffed at the bill..as a 'preambulary' Bill.

Preambulate (prĭ|æ·mbĭŭlē¹t), *v. rare.* [f. L. *præambulāt-*, ppl. stem. of *præambulāre* to walk before: see -ATE 3.]

†**1.** *intr.* To walk or go before or in front: = PREAMBLE *v.* 1. *Obs.*

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Being mortally assaild, he did preambulate or walk off. *c* 1660 JORDAN *Poems* §§ iij b, When fierce destruction followes to Hell-gate, Pride doth most commonly preambulate.

2. *intr.* To make a preamble: = PREAMBLE *v.* 3 b.

1608 PANKE *Fal of Babel* 113 Sanders .. preambulateth from the matter before he come to it. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 71 But I will no more preambulate. 1903 *Sat. Rev.* 16 May 614 In previous articles I have preambulated somewhat to this effect.

Preambulation (prĭ|æmbĭŭlē¹·ʃən). [Noun of action from prec.: see -ATION.]

1. The making of a preamble; a preamble, preface.

c 1385 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 837 Now dame quod he... This is a long preamble of a tale..What spekestow of preambulacioun [*MSS. Harl.* 7334, *Camb.* perambulacioun]. 1623 COCKERAM II, The first Speech of any thing, *exordium, preambulation.* 1768 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 27 Mar., And now I have done with preambulation. 1805 EMILY CLARK *Banks of Douro* III. 69 Introduced the subject.. after a long preambulation.

2. 'A walking or going before'. *rare*—⁰.

1828 in WEBSTER; hence in later Dicts.

Preambulatory (prĭ|æ·mbĭ·lătərĭ), *a.* [f. as PREAMBULATE: see -ORY 2.] Having the character of a preamble; prefatory, preliminary.

1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* Pref., A Preambulatory Epistle vnto P. R. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 551 To which, without any Preambulatory Ambages, I answer. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 109 Before the Circuit Court; i. e. (as explained in the preambulatory part of this section) 'the Circuit Court of Justiciary by appeal'.

†**Pre|a·mbulous,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. med.L. *præambul-um* PREAMBLE + -OUS.] = PREAMBULAR.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 38 He..destroyeth the principle preambulous unto all beliefe.

Pre-anal: see PRE- B. 3.

Pre-ana·phoral, *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 d + Gr. *ἀναφορά* offering.] Preceding the *anaphora* or part of the eucharistic service containing the oblation.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1326 That preceding the consecration of the elements (pre-anaphoral) and the *anaphora*, or sacramental service.

Preannounce (prĭ|ănau·ns), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To announce beforehand or previously. Hence **Pre|annou·ncer,** one who pre-announces; **Pre|annou·ncement,** a previous announcement.

1846 WORCESTER, *Pre-announce*, to announce before. *Coleridge.* 1852 C. WORDSW. *Occas. Serm.* Ser. IV. 57 The Prophet Isaiah .. pre-announces the rising of the Sun of Righteousness. 1872 W. HANNA *Resurrect. Dead* 78 The preannouncer of a singular alteration. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) IX. 227 The pre-announcement of the betrayal, of Peter's denial.

Pre|antepenu·lt, *a.* [PRE- B. 1 d.] That precedes or stands immediately before the antepenult; the last but three. Also **Pre|antepenu·ltimate** *a.* (in same sense).

1791 WALKER *Dict., Preantepenultimate*, the fourth syllable from the last. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1061 The præantepenult [joint] has the anterior seta as long as the joint.

Pre|anti·cipate, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To anticipate some time beforehand.

1658 FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 214 Warmth .. which suddenly dissolves the snow that falls preanticipating the formation of frost. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* II. 275 The approbation pre-anticipated by Lord Aberdeen on this subject, which concerns him so personally.

Pre-antiquity to -apical: PRE- A. 2, B. 3.

Preappoint (prĭ|ăpoi·nt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To appoint beforehand or previously.

1633 Bp. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 179 Those did he preappoint and predestinate to be conformable to the image of his Son. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 591 By a long series of causes pre-appointed for that purpose. 1866 CARLYLE *E. Irving* 131, I remember our..visit preappointed for us by Irving.

Hence **Pre|appoi·nted** *ppl. a.*; **Pre|appoi·ntment,** previous appointment, fore-ordination.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn. Mirac. Peace* ix, They both attain By war-like broyls their pre-appointed Reigne. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 182 April the 13. the Parliament sate according to preappointment. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 33 Whom wealth could not tempt..from their preappointed aims. 1850 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Holy Baptism* 147 It is otherwise when we pass from the region of foreknowledge to that of pre-appointment.

Preapprehension (prĭ|æprĭhe·nʃən). [PRE- A. 2.]

1. A conception or idea formed beforehand; a preconceived notion.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 93 Such as regarding the clouds, behold them in shapes conformable to preapprehensions. 1677 HALE *Contempl.* II. 90 The pre-apprehensions and Image that the mind makes to it self of them.

2. A preconceived fear of what may happen; fearful anticipation, foreboding.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 18 The..preapprehension of sickness and death, is an antedating of sickness and death. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. I. App. (1852) 343 Under these pre-apprehensions it was his own endeavor to beware of abating his own first love. 1820 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* II. vi. 308 To see the pre-apprehensions of the protestors so fearfully verified.

Pre-apprise to Pre-aptitude: PRE- A. 1, 2.

Pre|a·rm, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To arm beforehand, to fore-arm.

1615 T. ADAMS *Lycanthropy* 2 The great Bishop of our soules..heere..pre-armes them to that entertainment which the Samaritans of the world are likely to give all those whose faces looke towards Jerusalem. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* Pref. 7 To pre-arm others against its poison.

Prearrange (prĭ|ărē¹·ndʒ), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To arrange beforehand.

1851 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* (1858) 281 A theatre whose scenery is not all pre-arranged. 1896 BARRIE *Marg. Ogilvy* x, A sign, prearranged between us.

So **Pre|arra·nged** *ppl. a.*, arranged beforehand; **Pre|arra·ngement,** action of pre-arranging or fact of being pre-arranged; previous arrangement.

1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Constit.* II. xxi. (1784) 340 By a happy pre-arrangement of things. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* IV. Comm. (ed. 2) 503 Pre-determined conditions, and pre-arranged, pre-capitulated stipulations. *Ibid.* 638 There took place, by prearrangement, a molestation of one of the litigants.

Preas, prease, obs. forms of PRAISE, PRESS *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹ **Preason,** obs. Sc. form of PRISON.

†**Pre|a·spect.** *Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] An aspect beforehand, a looking forward.

1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxxiii. § 8 This law had a special ..pre-aspect unto our Saviour's death upon the crosse.

†**Pre|aspe·ction.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + ASPECTION.] Previous beholding or knowledge.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xi. 207 To beleeve they [pigmies] should be in the stature of a foot or span, requires the preaspection of such a one as Philetas the Poet in Athenæus, who was faine to fasten lead unto his feet lest the wind should blow him away.

Preassume (prĭ|ăsiū·m), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.]

†**1.** *trans.* To take previously or beforehand.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* (1650) 315 Before the meat preassumed be well concocted. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 318 If any preassume this, lethal poyson..shall not hurt him.

2. To assume or take for granted beforehand.

1789 T. TAYLOR *Proclus' Comm.* II. 129 It is necessary to pre-assume that a b is equal to c d, in order that the circles may be also equal. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesm. Man.* (1817) 365 All alike pre-assume, with Mr. Locke, that the mind contains only the relics of the senses.

Preassurance (prĭ|ăjūə·rans). [PRE- A. 2.]

1. An assurance given or received beforehand.

1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xvi. § 2 That great deliverance whereof the first Passover in Egypt was the pledge, or preassurance. 1645 *King's Cabinet Open.* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 342 The treaty shall be renewed upon .. a pre-assurance, that the rebels will submit to reason.

2. A previous assurance or feeling of certainty in one's own mind; an assured presentiment.

1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 33 Who have, many times, a pre-assurance, before..their asking, of their obtaining it. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 287 No pre-assurance common to a whole species does in any instance prove delusive.

Preassure (prĭ|ăʃūə·r), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To assure or make certain beforehand. Hence **Pre|assu·red** *ppl. a.*

1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 264 Being pre-assured of his returning Victorious. 1776 BENTHAM *Man. Pol. Econ.* Wks. 1843 III. 37 A preassured stock of the articles of subsistence. 1846 MRS. GORE *Eng. Char.* (1852) 155 Pre-assuring herself by a mysterious missive whom he will be best pleased to meet at her table.

Preast(e, variant of PREST *sb.* and *a. Obs.*

Pre|atta·chment. [PRE- A. 2.] A prior or previous attachment.

1790 *Norman & Bertha* I. 150 Some ill-fated pre-attachment..had seduced her from the paths of duty. 1814 MRS. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* I. 318 A pre-attachment was all he dreaded.

Pre|attu·ne, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To attune beforehand.

1794 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* (1895) 80, I..preattuned my heartstring to tremulous emotion. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxviii. (1852) 474 The ear which hears is preattuned in Heaven.

Preaty, etc., obs. forms of PRETTY, etc.

Preaudience (prĭ|ɋ·diĕns). [PRE- A. 2.] The right to be heard before another; precedence or relative rank (of lawyers at the Bar).

1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. iii. 28 A custom has of late years prevailed of granting letters patent of precedence to such barristers, as the crown thinks proper to honour with that mark of distinction: whereby they are entitled to such rank and pre-audience as are assigned in their respective patents. 1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 539 The remarkable contest for preaudience which occurred between Lord North and Lord Surry. 1884 *Times* 27 Nov. 9/4 Gradually their [Q.C.'s] right of preaudience under their royal patents accustomed Judges and litigants to look to them as constituting a separate class, like the Serjeants.

Pre-auditory: see PRE- B. 3.

†**Pre|au·gurate,** *v. Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + L. *augurāre* to augur.] *trans.* To prognosticate.

1635 PERSON *Varieties* II. 66 Seeing Comets portend drouth, they cannot likewise preaugurate inundations.

†**Pre|ave·r,** *v. Obs.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To aver or assert beforehand.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 778 Another, past all hope, doth pre-averr The birth of John, Christ's holy Harbenger.

Pre-a·xal, *a. Anat.* [f. PRE- B. 3 + AX-IS + -AL.] Situated in front of the body-axis; prechordal; pre-axial.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pre-a·xiad, *adv. Anat.* [f. as next + *-ad*: see DEXTRAD.] In a pre-axial direction, forward; in or towards the front.

1888 W. K. PARKER in *Proceed. Royal Soc.* XLIII. 486 Two well-marked carpals.., one of which—the radiale—lies pre-axiad and slightly proximad of the other. 1895 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 331 The prezygapophyses..of the other two extend preaxiad more and more.

Pre-a·xial, *a. Anat.* [f. PRE- B. 3 + L. *axis*: cf. AXIAL.] Situated in front of the axis of the body or of a limb. Hence **Pre-a·xially** *adv.*

1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 37 All parts which in man are relatively superior, and in beasts anterior, can be termed pre-axial in all cases. *Ibid.* 52 In the common european Terrapin we find the fourth cervical with its centrum convex pre-axially, and concave post-axially. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 819/2 Quite recently the term *præ-axial* has been introduced as equivalent to atlantal, and *post-axial* to sacral. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 169.

Prebacillary to -basilar: PRE- A. 1, B. 1, 3.

†**Pre|bea·ring.** *Her. Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 1 +

ARING *vbl. sb.* 3.] The fact of (a charge or ice) being borne previously.

52 LEIGH *Armorie* 200 Then the Herehaught shal .. ke hym out a congruent cote of armes, hauing alwaies a rde to prebearing.

rebend (pre·bĕnd), *sb.* Also 5–6 **-ende**, 6 **te**. [a. OF. *prebende* (14–15th c. in Littré), in ier popular forms *provende* (12th c. in Littré), *vende*, mod.F. *prébende*, ad. med.L. *præbenda* ension (Cassiodorus), a daily pittance, an ecclesiatical living, prebend, prop. 'things proper to be plied', neut. pl. gerundive of L. *præbēre* to offer, ıt, furnish, supply, for *præhibēre* (Plaut.), f. before, forth + *habēre* to hold.]

The portion of the revenues of a cathedral or legiate church granted to a canon or member he chapter as his stipend. Also *transf.*

400 *Plowman's Tale* 721 They han greet prebendes dere, Some two or three, and some mo. 1480 CAXTON *cr. Brit.* 37 In pryuelege of clergy and in prebendes y knowleche hem selfe clerkis. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De itatione* III. iii. 197 For a lytell fee or prebende great rneys & harde labours be take an hande for such wor[l]dly des. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. v. (1634) 536 intie men, that get their living with singing, as Prebends, nonships, Parsonages, and dignities, Chaplainships, and ch other. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Prebend*..is the porn, which euery member, or Canon of a Cathedrall church eciueth in the right of his place, for his maintenance... ebends be either simple, or with dignity. Simple Preends be those, that haue no more but the reuenew toward ir maintenance: Prebends with dignity are such, as haue ne Iurisdiction annexed vnto them according to the diuers ers in euery seuerall church. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. ws Eng.* (1874) II. 674 *note*, Such canons, however, as are ebendaries, differ from such as are not, as having a prel, or fixed portion of the rents and profits of the cathe- or collegiate church for their maintenance. 1852 HOOK *Dict.* (1871) 599 Prebend is the stipend received by a ebendary...Hence the difference between a prebend and anonry. A canonry was the right which a person had a member of the chapter. A prebend was the right to ive certain revenues appropriated to the place.

The separate portion of land or tithe from ch the stipend is gathered (hence known as the *s of the prebend*); the tenure of this as a benefice. 67 *Pipe Roll* 13 *Hen. II* (1889) 202 Episcopatus de a..Johanni Cumin .xl.s. pro prebenda sua per breue is. 1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 33/2 Ne quis Possessionem ictarum Prebendarum ingrediatur..aut Stall' in choris esiarum..occupet.] 1422 *Ibid.* IV. 194/1 The Kyng.. title to present unto the Prebend of Bykeleswade in Chirche of Lincolne. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. Whiche parke from Upton was distaunt a myle space A ende to a chanon of her mynstre and place. 1711 RNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 141 The Bp. of Durham has n..the Golden prebend to Dr. Adams. 1844 LINGARD *lo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. i. 362 Where the clergy lived ther, the land of the church was possessed by them in mon..where separately, it was divided into prebends. FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. x. 453 The Canons of Wal-n..lived..each man in his own house on his own prebend.

= PREBENDARY 1.

56 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 91 The dene with alle residew of the prebentes went but in their surples and of their abbet of the universyte. 1628 *Bp. Cosin's* . (Surtees) I. 151 Mr. Archdeacon and Mr. Robson, ends of Durham. 1661 *Colet's Serm. Conf. & Ref.* and to..these Monkes, Prebends, and Religious men, he canons be rehearsed. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* ily, The golden prebends keep plentiful tables. 1776 *isle Mag.* 13 July 4 A college of canons, or, as we now them, Prebends. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* II. x. To make him a prebend of St. Paul's.

attrib. **Prebend house.**

99 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 334 The Parsonage or ebend House in Stanwick.

ence *nonce-wd.* **Pre·bend** *v.* [= obs. F. *prender*, med.L. *prebendāre*.] *trans.* to give a daily wance to (a canon). **Pre·bendage,** name of art of the town of Southwell, formerly under collegiate chapter.

58 WALCOTT *Sacr. Archæol.* s, v., When regular canons existed, all were maintained from a common stock, which they were prebended or fed. 1759 B. MARTIN *Hist. Eng.* II. 224 *Southwell*.. is divided into two s, viz. the Burgage, which comprehends all that Part ixt the Market and the Greet; and the Prebendage of Church. The Church is both parochial and collegiate,.. has 16 Prebendaries. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 341/1 The gage, or burridge, the high town or prebendage (which divisions constitute Southwell proper).

rebendal (prĭbe·ndăl), *a.* [ad. med.L. *prædālis*, f. *præbenda* PREBEND: see **-AL**. So obs. *prebendal* (1493 in Godef.).] Of or pertaining a prebend or a prebendary.

51 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 11 Mar., Mr. Harte..has taken session of his prebendal house at Windsor. 1759 J. G. PPER tr. *Gresset's Ver-Vert* IV. Poems (1810) 535/2 No k prebendal priest could be More thoroughly devout n he. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* i, Close by, were prebendal houses,..all venerable with age.

D. *Prebendal stall*, the stall of a prebendary in athedral; hence, the benefice of a prebendary.

39 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Biog.* (1860) II. 17 The matrial hands of the metropolitan of all England..were in our n days irreverently laid on her prebendal stalls. 1856 OUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. vi. 9 He granted a prebendal stall Wells to an Italian cardinal.

Pre·bendar. *Obs.* Sc. f. of PREBENDARY.

12 *Acc. Ld. High Tr. Scot.* IV. 181 For offerand to the prebendaris first mise of Striveling, v Franch crounis. 1574 *Rec. Monast. Kinloss* (1872) 159 For the Prebendar and stallaris pensioun within the Kirk cathederall of Abirdene.

Prebendary (pre·bĕndări), *sb.* (*a.*) [ad. med.L. *præbendārius*, f. *præbenda*: see PREBEND *sb.* and **-ARY** 1.]

1. The holder of a prebend; a canon of a cathedral or collegiate church who holds a prebend.

Originally, each canon had a *præbenda* or share in the funds of the church to which the clergy-house was attached; in later times when the custom grew up of assigning a particular estate for the support of a particular canon, the latter received also the designation of *prebendary* from the estate so assigned, e.g. 'Canon of St. Paul's and Prebendary of Finsbury'. By act 3 & 4 Vict. c. 113 of 1840, the members of a cathedral chapter (except the dean) are now called *canons*; but in some chapters of the Old Foundation the name *prebendary* (with a territorial addition) is retained for the titular holder of a disendowed prebend, whose status is, in most respects, similar to that of the *Honorary Canons* in cathedrals of the New Foundation.

[1130 *Pipe Roll* 31 *Hen. I* (1833) 1 Et in Vestitura eorundem [xiij] Prebendariorum .lxv.s.] 1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 194 The said Philippe Morgan beyng Prebendiarie of the saide Prebend, was consecrate Bisshop of Worcestre. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 465 Whiche putte monkes into that newe monastery callede Hide at Wynchestre, and expulsede seculer prebendaries for theire wickede life. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* II. 43 This Robert made the Chapelle of S. George in the Castelle of Oxforde, and founded a College of Prebendaries there. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Introd. 3 The Cathedral has 30 Prebendaries. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 139 Dr. Pickering one of y^e^ Golden-Prebendarys of Durham is dead. 1732 GAY in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) I. 163 You insist upon your being minister of Amesbury, Dawley, Twickenham, Richkings, and a prebendary of Westminster...You might have a good living in every one of them. 1837 SYD. SMITH *Let. Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 256/1 Disgusted with the spectacle of rich Prebendaries enjoying large incomes, and doing little or nothing for them. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Nov. 3/2 The greatest sticklers for the title [of Canon] are the honorary canons and prebendaries,..who revel in a title conferred upon them solely by episcopal favour.

†2. The office of a prebendary; a prebend. *Obs.* (The antithesis of PREBEND 3.)

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* C], Byshopricks, Deanries, Prebendaries, and other priuate dignities, animate our Diuines to such excelence. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 109 [He] founded divers Prebendaries and Canonries in the Church of Dumblane. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 239 A Prebendary was offered me, as they call it; it was a good fat Benefice, and I accepted it.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.* = PREBENDAL.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 451 Mr. Lavington, Prebendary-treasurer of Worcester, appointed one of the Residentiaries of St. Paul's. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* IV. XIX. ii. 11 Wolsey was not satisfied with two rectories, six prebendary stalls.

Hence **Pre·bendaryship,** the office or benefice of a prebendary; a prebend.

1639 WOTTON in *Relig.* (1651) 490 My Lords Grace of Canterbury hath this week sent hither to Mr. Hales very nobly a Prebendaryship of Windsor unexpected, undesired.

†**Pre·bendate,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. *prebendāt-*, ppl. stem of med.L. *præbendāre* to endow with a prebend.] *trans.* To present to a prebend.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 102 Declaryng howe learned he [Stephen Langton] was in the liberall artes, and in diuinitie, insomuch as he was prebendated at Paris.

†**Pre·bender.** *Obs.* [A parallel form of PREBENDAR, *prebendary*: perh. ad. F. *prébendier* (1365 in Hatz.-Darm.).] = PREBENDARY *sb.* 1.

1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 91 The kynge and the qwene..came in London,..and soo to Powlles; and there was goodly resevyd of the byshopp wyth the prebenders and the holi qweer of Powlles. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 6 The Cloysterers, and suche other like Churche men..and their Associates, professed, or Prebenders.

†**Pre·bendry.** *Obs. rare*—1. [See **-RY.**] = next.

1611 COTGR., *Prebende*, a Prebendrie.

†**Pre·bendship.** *Obs.* = Prebendaryship.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 308/2 So that euery one of them should conferre one prebendshyp to the same fundation. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 256 (1810) 264 This church..was..a prebendship to the priory. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 87 He was admitted to a Prebendship in the Church of Wells. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 108 Collated to the Prebendship of Bedminster and Radclyve.

†**Prebi·tion.** *Obs. rare*—0. [ad. L. *præbitiōnem*, n. of action from *præbēre* to furnish, afford.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prebition*, a giving, a shewing, an offering, a setting before one.

†**Pre·ble.** *Obs.* Also 6 **prebill.** [Origin obscure: it has been compared with *pebble*.] Gravel.

1541 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VII. 113 To view the workes at Dover and especially a certain barre of prebill dryven in..to the mouth of the herborough. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 17 b, Varro counsels you to looke whether there be in the land eyther Stone, Marble, Sande, Grauell,..Claye, Preble [*glarea*], or Carbuncle.

Preboding to **-buscal:** PRE- A. 1, 2, B. 1, 3.

†**Pre·cable,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *precābilis* entreating, praying, f. *precārī* to ask, beg, request: see **-BLE.**] That may be asked or demanded as feudal service, impost, or tax.

1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 505/2 Pai ar ane pairt of the bodie and memberis subiect to þe payment of taxt stent watcheing warding and all vþer precable charges.

Precalculate (prĭkæ·lkiŭlēt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To calculate or reckon beforehand; to forecast. Hence **Preca·lculated** *ppl. a.*

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 470 Their consequences.. cannot be precalculated. 1875 MASSON *Wordsw.*, etc. 134 On what principles are they to be precalculated? 1881 — *De Quincey* iv. 39 A carefully præcalculated opium-debauch. 1900 B. BACON in *Expositor* July 6 The Sanhedrin..must have also relied upon a fixed precalculated calendar.

So **Preca·lculable** *a.*, capable of being precalculated; **Precalcula·tion,** the action of precalculating or reckoning beforehand.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 31 Aug., The tally of the unfortunate thus doomed is an absolute and precalculable figure. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 469 There was no precalculation with reference to the actual events of the moment.

Precant (pre·kănt). *rare.* [ad. L. *precānt-em*, pres. pple. of *precārī* to pray: see **-ANT** 1.] One who prays; a pray-er.

a 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 38 The efficacy of prayer relatively to the pray-er or precant himself.

Precantation (prīkæntē·ı̆·ʃən). [ad. late L. *præcantātiōn-em*, n. of action from L. *præcantāre* to foretell, later, to enchant.] †**a.** A singing before. *Obs.* **b.** A prophesying or foretelling.

1623 COCKERAM, *Præcantation*, a singing before. 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 331 These apply themselves to augories or to signs of the heavens or to vain precantations. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Poet* Wks. (Bohn) I. 164 The sea, the mountain-ridge, Niagara, and every flower-bed, preexist, or super-exist, in pre-cantations, which sail like odours in the air.

Precardiac: see PRE- B. 3.

‖ **Precaria,** Feudal Law: see PRECARY *sb.* 3.

Precarious (prĭkē·ərĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *precāri-us* obtained by entreaty, depending on the favour of another, hence, uncertain, precarious (f. *prec-em* prayer, entreaty + *-ārius*, **-ARY** 1) + **-OUS.**]

1. Held by the favour and at the pleasure of another; hence, uncertain. *Precarious tenure*, a tenure held during the pleasure of the superior.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 26 With more excusable reservation may we shrink at their bare testimonies, whose argument is but precarious and subsists upon the charity of our assentments. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Precarious*.., granted to one by prayer and intreaty, to use so long as it pleaseth the party, and no longer. 1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* Wks. 1731 I. 19 Out of Indignation to see himself but a precarious Governor, without Force or Dependence. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 256 ¶ 10 This little Happiness is so very precarious, that it wholly depends on the Will of others. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 73 Though the tenure is precarious, I cannot help liking the situation for you. 1878 W. E. HEARN *Aryan Househ.* xviii. § 5. 425 His holding was, in the language of the Roman lawyers, 'precarious', that is, upon his request to the owner, and with that owner's leave.

2. Question-begging, assumed, taken for granted; unfounded, doubtful, uncertain.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* II. x. 216 That the Fabrick of the Body is out of the concurse of Atomes, is a meer precarious Opinion, without any ground or reason. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 9 Because it suits with that artificial and precarious Hypothesis which was before taken up and made much of. 1779 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) IV. 148 Quite unproved, quite precarious from beginning to end. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 181 His mode of proof is precarious and unsatisfactory. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 506 Such an inference is most precarious.

3. Dependent upon circumstances or chance; liable to fail, insecure, unstable, uncertain.

1687 in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I. 247 When they see us owning the Exercise of our established Religion to be so precarious. 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcyone* 44 He but sits precarious on the throne. 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 378 His Empire is accounted precarious, and short lived. 1734 SWIFT *Pol. Tracts, Reas. agst. Bill for Tythe of Hemp* (1738) 274 The Payment of Tythes in this Kingdom, is subject to so many Frauds, Brangles, and other Difficulties,..that they are, of all other Rents, the most precarious. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 136 They afforded them but a scanty and precarious support. 1838 LYTTON *Calderon* i, His health was infirm and his life precarious. 1879 ROGERS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 87/2 There is no article in demand the value of which is so precarious as that of a book.

4. Exposed to danger, perilous, risky.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xliii. 122 There are so many Banks and Rocks under Water, that Navigation is very precarious. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, The precarious track through the morass the dizzy path along the edge of the precipice. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 253 The fisherman's life is a precarious life; he becomes hardy, resolute, self-reliant.

†**5.** Suppliant, supplicating; importunate. *Obs.*

1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 137 'He ever liveth to make intercession for them.'..Nor must we look upon this as a servile or precarious, but rather as an efficacious and glorious intercession. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Nov., He do endeavour to gain them again in the most precarious manner in all things that is possible. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* I. i, What Subjects will precarious Kings regard? A Beggar speaks too softly to be heard. 1697 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 48 Sir Edmund Andros knows nothing of this right he has *jure devoluto*, or else he would not suffer the clergy to be so precarious.

†**6.** See PRECARY *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

Preca·riously, *adv.* [f. prec. + **-LY** 2.] In a precarious manner: †**a.** By way of prayer or supplication; at the mercy or pleasure of another; with uncertain tenure; insecurely.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 42 Having once begot in our mindes an assured dependence, he makes us relye on powers which he but precariously obeyes. 1654 H.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE

L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 200 It was the 19. day precariously moved, 1. That he might be bailed. 1683 T. HUNT *Def. Charter Lond.* 45 If these Courtiers..thought ..that all Authorities and Dignities in the Government should be held precariously of the Crown, they ought to hold their honors..by the same tenure. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 21 He holds his Being as precariously as he first received it. 1728 MORGAN *Hist. Algiers* I. ii. 27 Certain strangers had as much ground precariously allotted them, as they could cover with an oxe's Hide, which they, fraudulently, cut into Thongs.

b. As a thing assumed gratuitously or taken for granted; without proof; insecurely, uncertainly.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 57 The Figures of nails and crucifying appurtenances, are but precariously made out in the Granadilla or flower of Christs passion. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 427 Precariously suppos'd without any manner of Proof. 1705 J. LOGAN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* X. 8 It is still better to have something certain than a greater share precariously. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. xlv. 43 Up this river..they kept for two or three days, supporting themselves precariously upon fish. 1896 *Current Hist.* (U. S.) VI. 822 The fragility of the basis on which the peace of Europe precariously rests.

Precariousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being precarious: in various senses of the adj.; *esp.* insecurity, liability to fail.

1687 *Gd. Advice* 59 The uncertainty and precariousness of the means of their subsistance. 1693 TYRRELL *Law Nat.* 372 The weakness, or precariousness of which Hypothesis being discovered. 1705 BLAIR in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 146 Assaulted and accused of countenancing the precariousness of the Clergy. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* viii, By reason of the danger of a winter voyage,.. as well as the precariousness of the wind, which might possibly detain me a great while. 1755 JOHNSON, *Precarious*..is used for *uncertain* in all its senses; but it only means uncertain, as dependant on others; thus there are authors who mention the precariousness of an account, of the weather, of a die. 1798 W. BLAIR *Soldier's Friend* xii. 94 The precariousness and hardships of the military life. 1817 SHELLEY *Let. to Godwin* 11 Dec., I felt the precariousness of my life. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 353 The precariousness of the land tenure is one of the greatest impediments to the outlay of capital by the tenant in the improvement of the land. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 13 The complexity can evidently only increase the precariousness of printed texts.

‖ **Precarium** (prĭkē·rĭŏm). *Rom.* and *Sc. Law.* [L. *precārium* a thing granted or lent upon request at the will and pleasure of the grantor, sb. use of neuter of *precārius* adj.: see PRECARIOUS.] A loan granted on request but revocable whenever the owner may please.

1693 STAIR *Inst.* I. xi. § 10 *Precarium* is a kind of *Commodatum*, differing in this, that *Commodatum* hath a determinat time, either expresly when the use of a thing is given to such a day, or such an use, which importeth a time;..*Precarium* is expresly lent, to be recalled at the Lenders pleasure. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v., The contract of *precarium* is a gratuitous loan, in which the lender gives the use of the subject in express words, revocable at pleasure.

Pre-cartilaginous: see PRE- B. 1.

Precary (pre·kări), *sb. arch.* [See senses.]

†1. A grant upon request, at the will and during the pleasure of the grantor. [ad. L. *precārium*: see above.] *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 132 Thare is ane othir maner of possessiounis, that ar callit precaris, that cummys for request, or lordis gevin for thair tyme, or thair will endurand. *c* 1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 458 Ane tenent beand warnit be his master at Whitsounday to flit and remove, thairefter..sufferit be tolerance and precarie of his master to sit still and remane to ane certane day.

†2. See quot. [Cf. med.L. *precaria, precatoria* (Du Cange); F. *précaire* (Littré).] *Obs.*

1694 tr. *Moreri's Hist. etc. Dict., Precary* [F. *précaire*] is a word well known in the French civil and cannon Law. Paolo saith, That the Contract called the Precary brought great Riches to the Churches...[It] consisted in a Donation that particular persons made of their Goods to the Churches. They afterwards obtained of the same Churches, by Letters which they called *precarious* or *precatorious Letters*, the same Estates again, to enjoy them by a kind of Emphyteotick Security, i.e. to improve them.

3. *Feudal Law.* = med.L. *precāria*. See quots.

[1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Precariæ*, Days Works, which the Tenants of some Mannors are bound to give the Lord in Harvest,..corruptly called *Bind days*, for *Biden days*. 1883 SEEBOHM *Village Commun.* 41 There are precariæ, or 'boon-days', sometimes called bene works—special or extra services which the lord has a right to require, sometimes the lord providing food for the day, and sometimes the tenant providing for himself.] 1906 N. J. HONE *Manor & Manor. Rec.* 226 A precary without dinner with three men.

† **Precary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *precāri-us.*] = PRECARIOUS.

1631 R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 143 Holiness hath no other but a precary time, when we will borrow it of our worke.

Precast, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To cast or calculate beforehand; to forecast. Hence **Precasting** *vbl. sb.*

1863 H. JENNINGS *Rosicrucians* I. 257 The conviction that their divulgement [of future events], as the precasting of God's purposes..is disallowed.

†**Precation.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *precātiō-nem*, n. of action f. *precārī* to pray. Cf. F. *précation* (15–16th c. in Godef.).] Praying; entreating, supplication.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 37 b, Daily praiers and continual precacions to God. *a* 1626 BP. ANDREWES *Pattern Cath. Doct.* (1642) 101 Precation is the desiring of something that is good. 1634 JACKSON *Creed* VII. XXXV. § 4 Mutual precations of peace and many happy days. *a* 1687 COTTON *2nd Epist. to J. Bradshaw* ix, And can you not, from your Precation And your as daily Club-Potation, To think of an old Friend find some vacation?

Precative (pre·kătiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *precātīv-us*, f. *precārī* to entreat, pray: see -ATIVE.] Expressing entreaty or desire; supplicatory.

In *Gram.* applied to a word, particle, or form, expressing entreaty, or the like.

1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 18. I. li. (1669) 415/1, I begin with the Petitionary part of prayer, and it is threefold, Precative, Deprecative, Imprecative. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* I. viii. (1765) 144 The Requisitive..hath its subordinate Species: With respect to inferiors, 'tis an Imperative Mode; with respect to equals and superiors, 'tis a Precative or Optative. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 5 It is a matter of controversy whether the indicative or the precative form of absolution was the earliest. 1899 BROWN *Heb. & Eng. Lex.* 609 נָא attached..to the pf. with *waw* consec., in a precative sense.

b. *Precative disposition*: cf. PRECATORY b.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. Comm. (ed. 2) 287 A precative disposition (a disposition in the form of entreaty) is a trust.

Hence **Precatively** *adv.*, in a precative manner.

1869 J. A. HESSEY in *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 180 Sung, pronounced, or uttered precatively or authoritatively.

†**Precatorious,** *a. Obs. rare*: see PRECARY *sb.* 2.

Precatory (pre·kătəri), *a.* [ad. late L. *precātōri-us*, f. *precātōr-em* one who prays, agent-n. from *precārī* to pray.] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of, or expressing entreaty or supplication.

In *Gram.*: see PRECATIVE.

1636 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xix. § 1 Some..would have this word *Hosanna*, to be merely precatory or optative: *The Lord send help or salvation.* 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 83 That precatory Hymn of *Veni Creator.* 1787 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 270 The most perfect models of precatory eloquence and civil negotiation. 1833 CARLYLE *Diderot* Misc. Ess. 1872 V. 17 Epistles precatory and amatory..he may have written. 1842 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 27 (1860) 41 Others are only precatory or exclamatory: as 'Oh that this too solid flesh would melt!' 1853 WOLFE *Heb. Gram.* 90 [The Imperative with paragogic ה] is frequently followed by the precatory particle נָא *I pray.*

b. *Precatory words*, words in a will praying or expressing a desire that a thing be done. When these are deemed to have an imperative force and to bind the person to whom they are addressed, they constitute a *precatory trust.*

1782 in W. Brown *Rep. Cr. Chanc.* I. 143 The answer is that the words are precatory, not imperative. 1803 LD. ELDON in F. Vesey *Reports* (1804) VIII. 380 Whether the terms are those of recommendation, or precatory, or expressing hope..if the objects..are certain..the words are considered imperative; and create a Trust. 1890 *Will of E. W. Harcourt* (Nuneham), [The testator expresses a hope] which is not to be construed as a precatory trust, that my successors in the Harcourt estates will carry out the wishes expressed by our common benefactor, the said George Simon Earl Harcourt, ..and will use the surname of Harcourt only. 1904 *Times* 3 Feb. 2/4 The question..was whether the bequest constituted a precatory trust.

Precaudal: see PRE- B. 3.

Precausation. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Causation beforehand; predetermination.

1670 BAXTER *Life of Faith* II. ix. 163 By his sustentation, and universal precausation and concourse. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 658 The ideas of precausation and fatality, of certainty and necessity, are so strongly rivetted together in men's minds.., that it is not easy to keep them asunder.

Precaution (prĭkɔ̄·ʃən), *sb.* [a. F. *précaution* (16th c.), ad. late L. *præcautiōn-em*, n. of action from L. *præcavēre* to guard against beforehand, f. *præ* PRE- + *cavēre* to beware of; see CAUTION *sb.*]

1. As a quality or mode of action: Caution exercised beforehand to provide against mischief or secure good results; prudent foresight.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 128 A putting by or precaution that we should not commit any of those faults. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Præcaution*, a fore-seeing, fore-warning, or preventing. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. Pref. 20, I have used all the care and precaution that I could. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 20 An object of precaution to provident minds. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 19 The danger in this place defies precaution.

2. An instance or practical application of this; a measure taken beforehand to ward off a possible evil, or to ensure a good result. (With *a* and *pl.*)

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xxvii. 93 Regular and remisse friendship, wherein so many precautions of a long and preallable conversation, are required. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 249 The Governor..had taken several precautions to prevent us from forcing our way into the harbour. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ii, This seemed a necessary precaution. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. ix. 331 They believed truly that the security of the state required unusual precautions.

†3. A caution or caveat given beforehand. *rare.*

1706 PHILLIPS, *Precaution*, Caution, Warning, or Heed, given or us'd before-hand. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 17 ¶ 1, I should call my present Precaution A Criticism upon Fornication.

Precaution, *v.* [a. F. *précautionner* (17th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *précaution* sb.]

†1. *trans.* To caution (any one) beforehand *against* something; to preadmonish, forewarn.

1654 FLECKNOE *Ten Years Trav.* 43 Let the Duke of Guise then be precautioned by the Duke of Alansons ill successe at Antwerp. 1768 *Woman of Honor* I. 13 She precautioned them against receiving implicitly any opinion.

2. To put (any one) upon his guard *against* something; esp. *refl.* to be on one's guard *against.*

1700 J. WELWOOD *Mem. Trans. Eng.* 252 They had ever the Shovel and Pickaxe in their hands, to precaution themselves against this Misfortune. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 316 Which last [Rivalling] both High and Low do Precaution themselves against. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 63 Precautioned by works of imperishable criticism against any real imprudence.

†3. To mention or say beforehand by way of caution. *Obs.*

1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* Preamble, Therefore I have here, to that end, precautioned so much as I conceive may be pertinently extracted from the subject I have now in hand. *Ibid.* 86, I will precaution a little by the way, concerning that. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 215 The reason..was not (as is already precautioned) any Absolute Merit of theirs.

†4. To take precautions against, guard against (a danger). *Obs. rare.*

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* II. i. 30 He cannot hurt me; That I precaution'd.

Hence **Precautioning** *vbl. sb.* (in sense 1).

1710 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* II. 525 The precautioning of all witnesses.

Precautional, *a. rare.* [f. as next + -AL.] Of the nature of precaution; precautionary.

1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. vi. § 3. 61 Wherefore this first filiall fear, is but virtuous and precautionall. 1887 *Scott. Leader* 9 Dec. 5 The precautional measures ..taken by the Austro-Hungarian War Office, in view of the concentration of Russian troops on the Galician frontier.

Precautionary (prĭkɔ̄·ʃənări), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PRECAUTION *sb.* + -ARY.]

1. Suggesting or advising provident caution.

1757 *Herald* No. 6 (1758) I. 89 Had the planners of the scheme no precautionary forecast? 1820 CORRY *Eng. Metrop.* 103 You are startled at my first precautionary hint. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* XXV, Jermyn's precautionary statement that he was pursuing inquiries.

2. Of, pertaining to, of the nature of a precaution.

1807 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* (ed. 2) I. IV. v. 276 The precautionary measures of Alfred. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* v. (1852) 125 A precautionary guard against what was afterwards the Arian heresy. 1880 FLO. MARRYAT *Fair-haired Alda* II. ix. 159 My measures were only precautionary.

† B. *sb.* A precautionary measure, a precaution.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. 49 Thou seest, Belford, by the above precautionaries, that I forget nothing.

Precautious (prĭkɔ̄·ʃəs), *a.* [f. PRECAUTION: see -OUS and CAUTIOUS.] Using precaution; displaying previous or provident caution or care.

1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 147 ¶ 1 This precautious way of reasoning and acting has proved .. an uninterrupted source of felicity. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 116 (1740) 93 It was not the Mode of the Court, in those Days, to be very penetrant, precautious, or watchful. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* II. 177 She was precautious to have her giant to protect her from violence.

Hence **Precautiously** *adv. rare*, in a precautious manner, as a precaution.

a 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poët. Wks. 1721 II. 333 Jesus himself precautiously withdrew, When persecuted by the furious Jew. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xii. 77 How anxious to choose and to avoid everything, precautiously, as I may say, that might make me happy, or unhappy.

‖ **Precava, præ-** (prĭkā·vă). *Anat.* [f. PRE- A. 4 b + CAVA for *vena cava*: cf. POSTCAVA.] The superior or anterior vena cava. Hence **Pre-, præcaval** *a.* (also *ellipt.* as *sb.*).

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* I. 505 The right and left precavals enter separately the auricular sinus, the left precaval opening near the postcaval vein. 1882 [see POSTCAVA]. 1884 T. J. PARKER *Zootomy* 65 A small chamber, the precaval sinus.. situated in the antero-lateral angle of the abdominal cavity.

Prece, obs. variant of PRESS.

† **Precedaneous,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 -nious, -nous; 7 precid-, 7–8 præcid-, 8 præcedaneous. [app. f. PRECEDE *v.* + *-aneous*: cf. *antecedaneous, succedaneous*; but perh. associated in origin with L. *præcīdāne-us* 'that is slaughtered or sacrificed before' (f. *cædĕre* to slay), which in med.L. (Du Cange), and perh. in late L., had in particular connexions the generalized sense 'preliminary, preceding'. Cf. the L. spelling *succīdāneus* beside *succēdāneus.*] Happening or existing before something else; preceding, antecedent, previous.

1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* iii. 19 It was but a precedaneous power, preparatory to that other of ruling. [1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Precidaneous*, that which goes before, or is cut or killed before.] 1697 R. PEIRCE *Bath Mem.* II. vi. 322 Precedanious to the Dropsie, are all Cachexies. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Plotinus* Introd. 16 Of goods, some are precedaneous and others preparative; and the precedaneous are such as are desirable for their own sakes, but the preparative, for the sake of other things.

Hence † **Precedaneously** *adv. Obs.*, previously.

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή xv. 213 There seems to result a necessity of examining Heathens precedaneously to their admission.

Precede (prĭsī·d), *v.* Also 5 **presede**, 6–8 **preceed, præcede**, 7 **precead, præceed.** [a. F. *précéder* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *præcēdĕre* to go before, precede, excel: see PRE- A and CEDE.]

†1. *trans.* To go before or beyond (another) in quality or degree; to surpass, excel; to exceed.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXVI. (*Baptista*) 177 Ymang birthis

þat weman bare þane Iohne baptiste vas nane mare; For he al vthyre in þat precedis, And ewine is to þame in gud dedis. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 150 Men in the feruencie of deuotion did not precede the weaker sex. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 84 Through the enfoldings of the stranger's modesty, Mr. Fenton discerned many things preceding the vulgar rank of men.

2. To go before in rank or importance; to occupy a position before or above; to take precedence of.

1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 14 The other grete lordes that shal be there precedyng your degree. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 117 The Colonels companie precedeth all others of his regiment. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1680) 285 Such a reason of precedence S. Cyprian giveth in another case, Because..Rome for its magnitude ought to precede Carthage. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Precedence*, All the sons of viscounts and barons are allowed to precede baronets. 1839 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. vii. 99, I have another short engagement, which ought to precede yours.

3. To go or come before in order or arrangement; to stand or be placed before or in front of.

1494 [see PRECEDING a]. 1530 [see 4]. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* V. 56 Rethelan, ..cummith of Rethe,..and Glan..; when Glan is set with a Worde præceding G is explodid. 1673 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 320 One for the Duchess of Portsmouth, preceded with a patent of indenization. 1756 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (1782) I. v. 267 Those [prologues] of Dryden..may precede any play whatsoever, even tragedy or comedy. 1879 BAIN *Higher Eng. Gram.* 145 When the adjective ends in *y preceded by* a consonant, the *y* is changed into *i*.

4. To go before, to move in front of; to walk or proceed in advance of.

1530 PALSGR. 664/1, I precede, I go byfore another to a place or in order. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 122 As harbingers preceding still the fates. 1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 55. 352 Streamers..preceded a Cart, wherein were placed three large Figures. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlv. (1869) II. 677 Terror preceded his march. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 85, I sometimes preceded him in cutting the steps.

b. *Astr.* Said of a star, etc. which in the apparent diurnal rotation of the heavens rises before and moves in front of another, i. e. which is situated to the west of it. (See also PRECEDING c.)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pisces*, Names and situation of the stars...1st of those preceding the square under the southern fish. [1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) vi. § 313 Canopus and Sirius..are high up in their course; they look down with great splendour..as they precede the Southern Cross on its western way.]

5. To come before in time; to happen, occur, or exist before; to be earlier than or anterior to.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 274/1 And Duns saith, that there is a mollifieng, that precedeth grace, whiche hee calleth attrition. 1581 NOWELL & DAY in *Confer.* I. (1584) E iij, Workes doe not preceede a man to be iustified, but doe follow him being iustified. 1653 LD. VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 161 He told them of signes which should preceed the day of Judgement. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 13 Infinite duration must have preceded the present moment. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 40 The century preceding the formation of the Hanseatic federation.

6. *intr.* or (now only) *absol.* (in senses 2–5): To go or come before (in rank, order, place, or time); to have precedence; to be anterior.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 278/2 Whether..the will of God is alonely the cause of election, or els any merite of man precedyng afore. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 123 Who..precedes now in the universal Government of Christ's flock by the name of Urban the Eight. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 640 Till then the Curse pronounc't on both precedes. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. xiv. (ed. 22) 185 The Colonel thereof is always to precede as the first Colonel. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 506 To your pretence their title would precede. *Mod.* A statement different from anything that precedes or follows.

7. *trans.* in causal sense: To cause to be preceded (*by*); to preface, introduce (*with* or *by*).

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., The emperor precedes his visit by a royal present. 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen IV.* 51 The old man..never.. addressed her, without preceding Winifred with Mrs. or Miss. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 222 No modern writer would have dared, like Shakspeare, to have preceded this last visitation by two distinct appearances. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Mar. 4/3 If it was the intention of the Government to postpone the dissolution until September or later, they would undoubtedly have to precede that by a measure of registration.

¶ 8. Erron. used for PROCEED. *Obs. rare.*

? 13.. *Cast. Love* (Halliw.) 1455 In the Fadur nome and the Sone allso, And in the Holigostys that precedit hem fro [*Vernon MS.* glit of hem bo]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 89 Ageynes whom as ofte as þe kyng precede [*procederet*], þe erle Edrik counseille nouȝt [*dissuasit*] to ȝeve bataille.

Precedence (prĭsī·dĕns). Also 5 precydence, 5–6 -sidence, 7 præ-. [prob. f. the earlier PRECEDENT *a.*: see -ENCE. Cf. F. *précédence* (16th c. in Littré).]

†1. = PRECEDENT *sb.* 2, 3. *Obs.* (In quots. 1484, 1541, perh. a corruption of *precedents*: cf. ACCIDENCE.)

1484 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 85 The bookes of accomptes..[are to] be alway in the handes of the said auditours for their presidence. 1541 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 30 These presidence was corrected and drawen out of diverse old presidence. 1558 *Ibid.*, An old book of Precedences..extracted out of the elder Precedences of the town. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. xvi. 29 b, Out of all such precedences he gathered Preceptes of Phisike.

†b. The being or serving as a precedent. *rare.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. 416 By precydence wherof all the great cyties & good townes of Fraunce were charged in lyke maner.

†2. A thing that precedes; something said or done before; an antecedent: = PRECEDENT *sb.* 1.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 83 An epilogue or discourse to make plaine Some obscure precedence that hath tofore bin saine. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 51 *Mes.* But yet Madam. *Cleo.* I do not like but yet, it does alay The good precedence. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 47 Adventure upon nothing without due consideration of the precedences and consequences thereof.

3. The fact of preceding another or others in time or succession; previous existence or occurrence; priority. (Often with mixture of sense 4.)

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 181, I doe beseech the true King, that he would not respect the precedence in time, but devotion of my minde. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 478 When it was ready to sign, the French Ambassadors offer'd to yield the Precedence in signing it to us as Mediators. 1828 J. BALLANTYNE *Exam. Hum. Mind* iv. 90 According to the law of Precedence, one idea acquires the power of suggesting others by immediately preceding them. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 158 In the chronology of our poetical collectors, Gower takes precedence of Chaucer unjustly. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 17 June 5/1 The payment of interest.. will take precedence of other Egyptian obligations.

4. The fact of preceding another or others in order, rank, importance, estimation, or dignity; higher position, superiority; the foremost place, pre-eminence, supremacy.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Præcedence*, a going before, also a surpassing, or excelling. 1694 CROWNE *Regulus* I. 8 Let me have the precedence in your heart. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Notes Ovid's Met.* III. Wks. 1721 I. 241 In which part Ovid's copiousness of invention, and great insight into nature, has given him the precedence to all the Poets that ever came before or after him. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 9 That form..Framed for the service of a free-born will, Asserts precedence, and bespeaks control. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. xiv. 52 The Andalucian horse takes precedence of all. *a* 1902 A. B. DAVIDSON *Old Test. Proph.* x. (1903) 153 The moral everywhere takes precedence of the miraculous.

b. *spec.* The right of preceding others in ceremonies and social formalities; the occupying of a higher or more honourable place in an assembly or procession, according to one's rank; ceremonial priority. Hence in generalized sense: The order to be ceremonially observed by persons of different ranks, according to an acknowledged or legally determined system of regulations.

1598 FLORIO *Ital. Dict.* Ep. Ded. I, I am no auctorised Herauld to marshall your precedence. ? *a* 1600 (*title*) The Copie of a Booke of Precedence of all estates and playcinge to ther degrees. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 529 P 1 Disputes concerning Rank and Precedence. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 288 He moved, that a letter might be writ giving him the precedence of the Lord Chancellour. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxvii. 428 The Order of Precedence..was first established upon a definite system by a Statute of Henry VIII. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 123 The president of education is to take precedence of them all. 1899 *Daily News* 21 Dec. 6/1 The great precedence question, which for a while raged so fiercely in the bosoms of our Knights Bachelors, is..now satisfactorily settled.

Precedency (prĭsī·dĕnsi). Also 7 -ie, preceed-, erron. presi-. [f. as prec. and -ENCY.]

†1. The furnishing of a precedent or setting an example; the being a precedent: = prec. 1 b. *Obs.*

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 4 (1619) 376 Let them be encouraged vnto this holy precedencie and testification of Christianity in euery word, action, and behauiour. 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devill* 5 Such..shall answere..not only for their owne sins, but for all theirs whom the pattern of their precedency has induced to the like. 1657 W. BLOIS *Mod. Policies* (ed. 7) E iv, *Fælix prædo, mundo exemplum inutile*, Happy Piracy is a thing of unhappy presidency; fortunate sins may prove dangerous temptations.

†2. A thing that precedes; an antecedent: = prec. 2. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1657 FITZ-BRIAN *Gd. Old Cause in Prim. Lustre* (1659) 6 It was an inlet, and a necessary precedency to their great mutations that were to follow.

3. Priority in time or succession: = prec. 3.

1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xii. (1634) 106 The other two may justly claime precedency of Coines, seeing they are the ingredient simples that compound them. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 5 The Precedencie which God gave this Iland to be the first Restorer of buried Truth. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Examp.* IV. i. 47 He has lov'd me long, long before you knew me, and claims a Privilege from Precedency. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 83/2 Numa seems to have taken away the precedency from March,..to show his preference of the political virtues to the martial.

4. Superiority in rank or estimation: = prec. 4.

1612 *North's Plutarch* 750 You looke here, Reader, to see to which of the two I should giue the precedencie. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 90 He speakes most of the precedency of age. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* Introd., The Pythagorick Verses deservedly call'd Golden, may justly claim the precedency. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 81 P 1 The precedency or superior excellence of one virtue to another. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* II. xii. 26 They had surrendered their ancient claim to precedency among the Gaulish states.

b. *spec.* Ceremonial priority or order: = prec. 4 b.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, One, in whom the humours and elements are peaceably met, without emulation of precedency. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* IV. ii. 37 A controversie of precedency between the younger sons of Viscounts and Barons, and the Baronets. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 P 3 There is infinitely more to do about Place and Precedency in a Meeting of Justices Wives, than in an Assembly of Dutchesses. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. vi. 43 Bills for granting honours or precedency.

Precedent (prē·sĭdĕnt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 precident, -cydent, 5– precedent (5–6). *β.* 5–6 prese-, presy-, 7 presa-, 5–8 president (5–6 -e). [a. F. *précédent*, subst. use of the adj.: see next. The *β* forms arose in Eng. through practical identity of pronunciation, and consequent confusion, with PRESIDENT.]

1. A thing or person that precedes or goes before another. **†a.** That which has been mentioned just before. Usually in *pl.*: the preceding or foregoing facts, statements, etc. *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 425/1 My Lord of Bedford..nought havyng his rewarde to yᵉ said precedents offerd and agreed hym to serve yᵉ Kyng. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 397 Whan all these presedentes were sene by yᵉ Scottes, a day was assygned of metynge at Norham. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 237 A fourth impediment, and worse than the precedents. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 105, I should here end the discourse of this beast, after the method already observed in the precedents.

b. That which precedes in time; something occurring before; an antecedent. ? *Obs.*

In first two quots. applied to a previous document, etc. serving as a guide in subsequent cases (leading to sense 2).

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 191/1 Any Graunt made by us.. of Viewe of Frauncplegge..which we graunted to hym upon certeyn precedentez allowed in Ayer to his Aunceterz of longe time paste. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 12 But yᵉ diuersytie of these tenures..can nat be knowen but by the lordes euydence, court rolles, rentayles, and suche other presydentes. 1691 BEVERLEY *Mem. Kingd. Christ* 10 The mention of the Three days, and a Half as the most Immediate Precedent of their Rising. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus' Comm.* I. 67 Things subsequent are always annexed to their precedents.

†c. One who goes or moves before or in advance of another; a forerunner. *Obs.*

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 274 Some gaine in running vpon his precedentes, some forced to come behinde those that were once foremost. 1610 *Histrio-m.* VI. 143 Ruine and Warre, the precedents of Wrath,..Have rid their circuit through this fertile soyle.

†d. The original from which a copy is made. *Obs.*

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vi. 7 Here is the Indictment of the good Lord Hastings,..Eleuen houres I haue spent to write it ouer..The Precedent was full as long a doing. 1595 — *John* V. ii. 3 My Lord Melloone, let this be coppied out, And keepe it safe for our remembrance: [Giues Meloone the Treaty.] Returne the president to these Lords againe.

†e. A sign, token, earnest, indication. *Obs.*

1581 RICH *Farewell* (Shaks. Soc.) 183 He had given..to the Kyng himself, as a president of his good will, a riche jewell. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 26 With this she ceazeth on his sweating palme, The president of pith and liuelyhood.

2. A previous instance or case which is or may be taken as an example or rule for subsequent cases, or by which some similar act or circumstance may be supported or justified. (The prevailing sense.)

α. 1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 326/2 My Lordes your Uncles [etc.]..serched precydentes of the governaill of ye land in tyme and cas semblable. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxv. § 21 That verie precedent it selfe which they propose may bee best followed. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xx. 37 St. Paul is Precedent for it. 1666–7 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Jan., The Lords did argue, that it was an ill precedent, and that which will ever hereafter be used. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 392 Be wise to-day; 'tis madness to defer; Next day the fatal precedent will plead. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 141 They consider the North American revolution a precedent for theirs. 1832 TENNYSON '*You ask me why*', etc. 12 A land..Where Freedom broadens slowly down From precedent to precedent. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. i, He promptly followed the precedent set by Oxford.

β. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 134 Soche was þe sellynge off Chirke and Chirkes landes, weroff neuer manne see a president. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 102 The president were to yvel to be admytted. 1643 MILTON *Sov. Salve* 4 By such a provision a dangerous president is introduced. 1663 CHAS. II in Julia Cartwright *Henrietta of Orleans* (1894) 151 Considering all former presadents, who are cleerly on our side. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 445 His Majesty's not interposing..was afterwards made use of as a president.

b. *Law.* A previous judicial decision, method of proceeding, or draft of a document, which serves as an authoritative rule or pattern in similar or analogous cases.

α. 1689 *Tryal Bps.* 34 Things done in particular cases in favour are not Precedents. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. iii. 69 It is an established rule to abide by former precedents, when the same points come again in litigation. 1772 *Junius Lett.* Ded. Eng. Nat. 3 One precedent creates another.—They soon accumulate, and constitute law. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 5. 502 The legal research of Noy ..found precedents among the records in the Tower.

β. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 20 The lordes court rolles, the whiche is a regester to the lorde to knowe his presydentes, customes, and seruyces. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 220 There is no power in Venice Can alter a decree established: 'Twill be recorded for a President. 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. to Printed Bk.* 25 Upon pretence of Authority of Bookcases, and Presidents. 1718 S. SEWALL *Diary* 5 Feb., Look'd [out] the presidents which made it good.

c. In collective or generalized sense (without article or *pl.*). *Without precedent*, unprecedented.

1622 DONNE *Serm.* (ed. Alford) VI. 154 To become a precedent, govern thyself by precedent first. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* Introd. 4 We will not much praise it,..for it was wrot without President. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 28 P 7 Each comforts himself that his faults are not without

precedent. 1769 *Junius Lett.* v. (1797) I. 44 Your conduct was not justified by precedent. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xvi. 362 The conservative English instinct, which..ever preferred the authority of precedent to any other guide.

† **3.** *transf.* A written or printed record of some past proceeding or proceedings, serving as a guide or rule for subsequent cases. *Obs.*

1543 (*title*) A Boke of Presidentes exactly written in maner of a Register. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. v, Of all which seuerall [news] The Day-bookes, Characters, Precedents are kept. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I* (1651) 11 He caused a whole cartload of Parliament Presidents (that spake the Subjects Liberty) to be burnt.

† **4.** An example that is, or is intended or worthy to be, followed or copied; a pattern, model, exemplar. *Obs.* (exc. as in 2.)

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* P ij b, Through the abhominable president of theyr life they dooe eftsoones crucifie hym. 1565 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xlvi. 472 [Thus..did the Admonition to the Parliament charge her Chapel, viz.] as the pattern and precedent to the people of all superstition. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* I. iv, *Piero.* That vertuous Lady! *L. Ant.* Precedent for wives! 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 299 We produce Eve only for a president.

† **b.** An example, instance, illustration, specimen.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 217 But the most notable president of this kind of chastity is the virginity of our blessed lady..married to good Joseph. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVIII. xliv. 704 Can there bee a president [L. *exemplum*] found more pregnant..to prove and enforce this point, than Anniball himselfe? 1631 R. NORWOOD *Trigonometrie* Ep. to Rdr., Some..who, when these tables were printing and almost finished, came to the printing house and not only tooke a sufficient view of them there, but carried away a president without the printer's leave. 1668 ROLLE *Abridgm.* I. 49, I will make thee an example and president for a perjured Rogue. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* II. 103 There are so many Presidents on Record in Holy Writ of this way of proceeding, that no one can be well ignorant of them.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *precedent book, precedent-worshipping* adj.

1591 NASHE *Introd. Sidney's Astr. & Stella,* Although it be..the president bookes of such as cannot see without another man's spectacles. 1853 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 374 If we can prove this point, we prove everything with precedent-worshipping John Bull.

Precedent (prĭsī·dĕnt), *a.* Now *rare*: largely replaced by PRECEDING. Forms: α. 4– **precedent**, (5 **pre·cydent**, 6 **precee·dent**, 7 **præcedent**). β. 5–6 **pre·sedent**, 6 **pre·sident**, 7 **pre·sedentt.** [a. F. *précédent* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præcēdens, -entem*, pres. pple. of *præcēdĕre* to PRECEDE. Originally stressed *precede·nt, pre·cedent* like the sb.; but in 16th c. conformed to *prece·de, prece·dence, prece·ding.*

(Pegge *Anecd.* 283 remarks on *precedent* having one sound when a sb., another sound when an adj.)]

1. Preceding in time; existing or occurring before something expressed or implied; previous, former, antecedent: = PRECEDING b.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 32 Fro the Midday of the day precedent. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Presedent, *presidens* [P. *precedens*]. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 57/1 The same accompt for the first yere precedent. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXVII. (Percy Soc.) 123 The destyny is a thyng accydent,..Tyll it be done it is ay precedent. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* I. 123 As if we were in our precedent way. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 473 There are two sorts of ends, some are precedent, some subsequent. 1616 SIR T. BUTTON in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) II. 65, I shalbe glad..to be your tenant..and give as muche rentt..as the presedentt tenant did. *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* ch. i, There's nothing modern times can own, The which precedent Ages have not known. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 88 For there could be no Law precedent to that resignation of themselves. 16.. *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 157 Our men were in precedent dayes To manly actions bent. 1787 *Minor* 201 Mr. Plodder having been busied the precedent night. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 21 The operation of control is subsequent, not precedent. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* I. 51 A host of jarring rumours..Each fresh recital with a murkier hue Than its precedent.

2. Preceding in order or succession; coming or placed before; esp. *the precedent*, that coming immediately before, the foregoing: = PRECEDING a.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* E iij b, To flee the false opynyons and errours of thauncient beforesayd in the iiii precedent commaundementes. 1484 — *Fables of Æsop* V. viii, The Auctor of this booke reherceth suche another Fable..as the precydent. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 15 b, As I have taught in the precedent chapter. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* Pref. (1714) 2 The six precedent and the two subsequent [Books]. 1741 T. ROBINSON *Gavelkind* v. 77 The Generality of the Precedent Words. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 389 Certain provincialisms..chiefly evinced..in the discord of precedent, antecedent, and relative pronouns.

b. Mentioned or spoken of just before; immediately aforesaid; preceding.

1530 PALSGR. 987 The whiche may be turned lyke the verbe precedent. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 63 This secrete with the preceedent I had of a Dutch mountbanke. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. vii. § 1. 8 The great Foxe-taile grasse.. is nothing rough in handling like the precedent. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. Ded. to King § 13 Another defect which I note, ascendeth a little higher than the precedent. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 269 A Bird not above half so big as the precedent.

3. Preceding in rank or estimation; having or taking precedence.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 340 The one precedent in age and nobilitie, the other a Leader in Warre, and Lawgiuer in Peace. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* X. (1864) 289 Laying his hand upon all the dearest and most intimate affections of life and demanding a precedent love.

Precedent (prĕsī·dĕnt), *v.* [f. PRECEDENT *sb.*] *trans.* To furnish with a precedent; to be a precedent for; to support or justify by a precedent. Now only in *pa. pple.*: see also PRECEDENTED.

1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 28 The examples of diuers..kings..do president vs in these carriages. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 18 The Ottoman Turks were precedented by those of Egypt. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 42 Otherwise the Example might be of dangerous consequence, tho' often precedented by the Popish Monks and Jesuits in their Editions.

† **b.** *refl.* To guide or support oneself *by* a precedent; to follow as a precedent. *Obs.*

1636 ABP. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* (1637) 35 Now we are no longer to president our selves, in this kind, by the Chappell, but by the Liturgie of Queen Elisabeth. 1641 BURGES *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 63 This is a memorable Instance; and I would to God you would president your selves by it.

Hence **Pre·cedenting** *ppl. a.*, setting or serving as a precedent.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 319 Prototypal and precedenting fool.

Precedent, obs. Sc. form of PRESIDENT.

Precedentable, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PRECEDENT *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being precedented; for which a precedent can be found.

c 1642 *Observator Defended* 4 Which power..can never be safe either for King or people, nor is presidentable.

Precedental (presĭdē·ntăl), *a. rare.* [f. PRECEDENT *sb.* + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a precedent; of the nature of, or constituting a precedent (= PRECEDENTIAL 1); but in quots. used as = supported by precedent, precedented (cf. PRECEDENTIAL 1 b).

1642 *Virginia Stat.* (1823) I. 237 By abollishing condemnations and censures (presidental from the time of the corporation) of the inhabitants from colonies service. 1658 *Ibid.* 499 The House humbly presenteth, That the said disolution..is not presidentall.

Precede·ntary, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -ARY^{1}.] Forming a precedent: = PRECEDENTIAL 1.

1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 396 Such a precedentary act as Lord Palmerston's despatch of the British fleet to the Dardanelles.

Precedented (prē·sĭdentĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PRECEDENT *v.* or *sb.* + -ED.] Furnished with or having a precedent; in accordance with or warranted by precedent; paralleled or supported by a similar previous case or occurrence. Usually in predicate: see also PRECEDENT *v.* (Opp. to UNPRECEDENTED.)

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 175 We..with more alacrity and celerity than ever was precedented in Parliament, did address ourselves to the Service commanded unto Us. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. Pref. 5 When one offers to the public the labours of another person, it is allowable and precedented to expatiate in praise of the work. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* II. 65 This prayer is, as we have shewn before, precedented and proper. 1880 F. G. LEE *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* I. 275 Notwithstanding their extraordinary but precedented Oath of Homage.

Precedential (presĭde·nʃăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. PRECEDENT *sb.* or PRECEDENCE, after *consequential, differential*, etc.]

1. Of the nature of or constituting a precedent; furnishing a guide or rule for subsequent cases.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 31 These were Precedentiall to their Successors. 1693 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 404 His Excell. had made many steps of Condescention to them which he had not done in another government, and [which] was not presidentiall. 1893 *Independent* (N. Y.) 19 Oct., If he is appointed, any applicant..can claim.. appointment on the strength of this precedential case.

¶ **b.** *erron.* Supported by precedent, precedented: in comb. *non-precedential*, unprecedented.

1642 R. WATSON *Serm. Schisme* 29 They..can fix on the same an unparallel'd, non-presidentiall interpretation.

2. Having precedence, preceding, preliminary.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Precedential*..that goes before or surpasseth. 1683 HOWE *Union among Protestants* Wks. (1846) 121 Negotiations..precedential to the concord they endeavoured between the Saxon and the Helvetian Churches. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 4 It becomes necessary to distinguish the several precedential or introductory facts..from the ultimate principal fact.

3. Relating to (social) precedence.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 63 Charles the Fifth settled a precedential hubbub between two dames of high degree.

Pre·cedentless, *a. rare.* [f. PRECEDENT *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no precedents to follow.

1869 *Daily News* 26 May, Admitting..that his own tradition-beridden country was being slowly but surely drawn into the wake of traditionless, precedentless America.

Precedently (prĭsī·dĕntli), *adv.* [f. PRECEDENT *a.* + -LY^{2}.] In the way of precedence; previously, antecedently, beforehand.

1624 FISHER in F. White *Repl. F.* 31 The mayne and substantiall points of faith are beleeued, not vpon Scripture, but vpon Tradition precedently vnto Scripture. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* ix. 117 For precedently he had said that [etc.]. 1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 5 From what I have precedently touched to you of her character. *a* 1848 R. W. HAMILTON *Rew. & Punishm.* I. (1853) 31 Precedently to this inquiry, another claims its notice.

Preceder (prĭsī·dəɹ). *rare.* [f. PRECEDE + -ER^{1}.] One who or that which precedes; in quot., One who furnishes an example or precedent.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xl. 144 So desirous to be a Preceder of moderation and singularity vnto others,.. that he would not permit his Empresse to weare any Iewels of high price.

Preceding (prĭsī·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PRECEDE + -ING^{2}.] That precedes: **a.** in order or arrangement: Coming or placed before something else; *esp.* coming immediately before; given, stated, or mentioned just before; foregoing.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. cxix. 95 As before is touchyd in the presedyng chapitre. 1702–3 GALE in *Pepys' Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 258 Dr. S. gave me the preceding account. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1797) II. 267, I have great faith in the preceding argument. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 127 The secondary forms belonging to the four preceding classes of primary forms, are nearly similar to each other.

b. in time: Existing, occurring, or going on before something else; previous, prior, past, anterior, former, antecedent; *esp.* occurring just before, immediately anterior, 'last'.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* V. iii. 196 Of sixe preceding Ancestors,..Hath it beene owed and worne. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Warrs Flanders* 237 They..sent them..about the end of the preceding May last [*antecedente Maggio passato*]. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. Pref. 16 The great difference between this last, and all the..preceding persecutions. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 48 Each generation improves upon the preceding.

c. in movement: *spec.* in *Astr.* said of a heavenly body, etc. situated to the west of another, and therefore moving in front of it in the apparent diurnal rotation of the heavens.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Orion*, Bright [star] in preced[ing] foot called *regel*...Preced[ing] in the girdle...Middle of three in the girdle...Third and last in the girdle. 1784 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 265 The preceding side of Mars shews the flattening of the poles, while the following is terminated by an elliptical arch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Quadrant*, In speaking of double stars, or of two objects near each other, the position of one component in reference to the other is indicated by the terms, north following, north preceding, south following, or south preceding, the word quadrant being understood.

Preceid, obs. Sc. form of PRESIDE.

† **Prece·l,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **presell.** [ad. L. *præcell-ĕre* to (rise above,) surpass, excel, f. *præ-*, PRE- A. 5 + **cellĕre* to rise higher, to tower; cf. EXCEL. Cf. obs. F. *précceller.*]

1. *intr.* To be superior; to excel, surpass.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 59 If he precelle in sciens & holines. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. i. (MS. Bodl. 263) 13/2 As we precelle in wisdam and resoun. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Tim.* iii. 9 It is conueniente, that he whiche precelleth in honor, should also precelle in vertues. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 54 (1877) 73 Malgo..precelled in beautye, puyssaunce, force, and strengthe, of all men in those dayes. 1552–1756 [see PRECELLING].

2. *trans.* To be superior to; to surpass, excel (another or others); = EXCEL *v.* 2.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 31 Bledgarec kynge precellede alle other in musike. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 26 As Phebus dois Synthia presell. 1661 CRESSY *Refl. Oathes Suprem. & Alleg.* 91 Be subject to every humane creature, to the King as precelling all others.

Hence † **Prece·lling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1532 *Remedie of Loue* Prol. v, Flouring youth, which.. a precelling haste aboue age In many a singuler commodite.

Precelland, -end, obs. Sc. ff. PRECELLING.

† **Precellence.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *præcellentia* excellence, f. *præcellĕre*: see PRECEL and -ENCE. Cf. obs. F. *précellence* (16th c. in Littré).] The fact or quality of excelling; pre-eminence.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 159 The dedes schalle schewe the precellence of oure wifes. 1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 G iij, Eyther by precellence & noblenes of y^e^ partye. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. 5 Their Divine.. Precellence beyond al human books and Records. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* Pref. Gosp. (1740) 9 The precellence of the Gospel will yet appear much greater, if we consider the imperfection of the Law.

† **Precellency.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ENCY.] The quality of being 'precellent'; pre-eminence; with *a* and *pl.* an instance of this.

1557 EDGEWORTH *Serm.*, 1 *Pet.* viii. 180 b, Sainte Peter knewe no precellencye or excellencye ouer a whole realme. 1616 R. SHELDON *Rom. Mir. Antichristian* 151 Any pre-eminence or precellencie giuen. 1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* IV. iii. 207 There are many and great Precellencies of the soule of man, above the soules of beasts. 1658 W. PERCY *Compl. Swimmer* v. 9 Fishes may challenge to themselves a precellency in Swimming.

† **Precellent,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *præcellent-em*, pres. pple. of *præcellĕre* to surpass (see PRECEL). So obs. F. *précellent* (*c* 1170 in Godef.).] That excels or surpasses; surpassing, pre-eminent.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* ii. 13 Be 3e suget to.. the kyng, as precellent [*gloss* or more worthi in staat]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 39 Fulbertus..a man precellente in the luffe of our blissede lady. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* (1870) 225 To the precellent and armypotent prynce. 1660 BURNEY *Κέρδ. Δώρου* (1661) 20 What validity is it of when precellent vertue is not valued?

b. Const. as *pres. pple.* = 'precelling', excelling.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 219 The philosophres that were diuines were precellente alle other kyndes off philosophres.

Hence † **Precellently** *adv.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* cxix. 357 Proud men lyke drosse thou wilt remoue, which iet in earth so stout Precellently.

† **Prece·lling**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* **-and, -end.** [f. PRECEL + -ING 2.] That 'precels' or excels; excelling, excellent; surpassing, pre-eminent.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 12 Ther satt a child off beauté precellyng, Middes of the trone, rayed lyke a kyng. *Ibid.* 21 Be glad, O Londone,..Citee of citees, of noblesse precellyng. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 5980 Than sall that most precelland Kyng Tyll those wrachis mak answeryng. *a* 1568 W. STEWART in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 250 Precellend prince! havand prerogatyue As rowy royall in this regioun to ring. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. Wks. 1720 I. 342 Were I as precelling in physico-mechanical investigations, as you in tropical rhetorical flourishes. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 308 The sacred confidence reposed in our representatives confers precelling dignity.

Precely, variant of PRESSLY *Obs.*, expressly.

Precent (prĭse·nt), *v.* [ad. L. *præcentāre* to sing before, or back-formation from PRECENTOR.] *intr.* To officiate as precentor; to lead the singing of a choir or congregation. **b.** *trans.* To lead in singing (a psalm, antiphon, etc.).

1732 R. ERSKINE *Diary* in Agnew *Theol. Consolation* (1881) 253 This day I precented for my colleague. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 179 Owing to some misunderstanding between the minister of the parish and the session clerk, the precenting in church devolved on my father. 1872 *Sacristy* II. 224 Lifted up his voice and precented the 'Salve, Sancta Parens!' 1893 C. L. MARSON *Psalms at Work* (1894) 177/1 It is..the hymn they sang on their way to the Mount.., and Our Lord no doubt precented it by singing the first half-verse alone. 1904 R. SMALL *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* I. 669 The employment of a student to keep school and precent.

† **Prece·ntion.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *præcentiōn-em* a singing before, a prelude, n. of action from *præcinĕre* (see next).]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Precention*, a singing before; the on-set or flourish of a Song. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Precentor (prĭse·ntŏɹ). Also 7-9 **precenter.** [a. late L. *præcentor* a leader in music, precentor, f. L. *præcinĕre*, *-cent-* to sing or play before (a person, etc.), also to foretell, f. *præ*, PRE- + *canĕre* to sing. So F. *précenteur* (16th c.), earlier *precentre*.] One who leads or directs the singing of a choir or congregation; *spec.* **a.** in cathedrals of the Old Foundation, a member of the chapter (ranking next to the dean), whose duties as precentor are now commonly discharged by the succentor; **b.** in those of the New Foundation, one of the minor canons (among whom he usually takes precedence) or a chaplain, who performs the duties in person; **c.** in churches or chapels in which there is no instrumental accompaniment, the officer who leads congregational singing. Also *transf.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 201 The Præcentor or chiefe Chorister againe rising vp saith, And we know not what to doe. 1649 *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* c. 46 (Scobell) 68 That all and every person and persons, who by an Act of this Parliament..are not disabled to hold or use the Place, Function, Office, Title or Stile of Precenter, or any other Title [etc.] are and be from the Nine and Twentieth day of March..disabled to hold the same. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* Pref. 2 Wherein also those Angels which shall then be our Præcentors are here pleased to follow. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iv. 73 The Business of the Præcentor was to Sing the first Verse, or at least the first Part thereof, that the rest of his Brethren might know what Tune to Sing, and what Pitch to take. 1757 in Calderwood *Dying Testimonies* (1806) 388 From pulpits or presenters seats. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. i. 56 In 680 John, Præcentor of St. Peter's, was sent over by Pope Agatho to instruct the Monks of Weremouth in the art of singing. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xii, The schoolmaster..was likewise session-clerk and precentor. 1840 *Act* 3 & 4 *Vict.* c. 113 The Precentor of the Cathedral Church of Saint David..shall be.. styled Dean. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 600 Formerly the precentor in most of the Cathedrals ranked next to the Dean. Now he is usually a minor canon. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* iv. 107 Observe a bevy of them seated on a door-step, joining in tiny chorus to the directing melody of an elder precentor. 1869 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxii. 22 Jesus himself leads the song, and is both precentor and preacher in his church. 1887 *Spectator* 5 Nov. 1513 [He] became a 'precentor' (or leader of the psalmody), first in a Perth Presbyterian church.

Hence **Precento·rial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a precentor; **Prece·ntory** [cf. *deanery*], the residence of the precentor in a cathedral of the Old Foundation; **Prece·ntress** = PRECENTRIX.

1825 CARLYLE *Schiller* App. 313 The precentorial spirit of his father was more than reconciled, on discovering that Daniel could also preach, and play upon the organ. 1906 E. M. SYMPSON *Hist. & Topogr. Lincoln* 310 Beneath the Precentory..still exists the Roman hypocaust. 1892 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1901) II. xi. 252 Our boys and precentress ('tis always a woman that leads) did better than I ever heard them.

Prece·ntorship. [f. prec. + -SHIP.] The office, position, or function of a precentor.

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 174 Saved..by the well-timed exaltation to a neighbouring precentorship. 1865 T. D. HARDY *Catal. Ld. Chancellors* II. 488 Besides this canonry he [Mapes] held the precentorship of Lincoln. 1868 I. BURNS *Mem. W. C. Burns* (1870) 485 A hymn was sung by the company under his precentorship. 1886 L. O. PIKE *Yearbks. 13 & 14 Edw. III* Introd. 61 A former Bishop was seised of the advowson of the precentorship as in right of his bishopric.

Precentral: see PRE- B. 3.

Precentrix (prĭse·ntriks). [a. med.L. *præcentrix* fem., corresp. to *præcentor* PRECENTOR: see **-TRIX.**] A female precentor or leader of a choir.

1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* ii. 19 He..made his Sister Præcentrix to the Women. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xix, The abbess..called on her Precentrix, and desired her to command her niece's attendance immediately. 1901 ROSA GRAHAM *S. Gilbert* 68 The Precentrix, like the Precentor, was responsible for the church services.

Precept (prī·sept), *sb.* Also 5-6 **precepte, 6 presept, -ceipt, 6-7 præcept**; 5-7 **precep.** [ad. L. *præceptum* a maxim, rule, order, command, prop. pa. pple. neut. sing. of *præcipĕre* to take beforehand, to give rules to, advise, instruct, order, f. *præ*, PRE- A + *capĕre* to take; whence also OF. *precept* (12th c. in Littré), mod.F. *précepte*.]

† **1.** An authoritative command to do some particular act; an order, mandate. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xvi. 24 Whanne he hadde takyn such a precept [L. *Qui cum tale præceptum accepisset*], sente hem into the ynner prisoun. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 982 All þe curte knyȝtis & erles Suld put þaim in-to presens, his precep to here. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1682 When Adam & Eue had broke the precept. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 18 To whom whas yoven a precepte in scripture. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. x. 26 Heir I command no tary nor delay Be maid of my preceptis, quhat I sal say.

2. A general command or injunction; an instruction, direction, or rule for action or conduct; *esp.* an injunction as to moral conduct; a maxim. Most commonly applied to divine commands.

† *The ten precepts*: the ten commandments (*obs.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* v. 6 Thei walkeden not in my preceptis [*gloss* or heestis; 1388 comaundementis]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 65 Whan thapostel speketh of maydenhede He seyde that precept ther-of hadde he noon. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XIV. vi. (W. de W.) 471 Ebal is a hyll.., theron stode the vj lignages..to curse all tho that helde not the x preceptes [*Bodl. MS.* hestes]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 The x commaundementes and other preceptes of good moralite. 1547 (*title*) The Ethiques of Aristotle .. preceptes of good behavoure and perfighte honestie. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 2 b, It is S. Paules precept, that suche as be appointed to instruct the people, should be furnished ..with holsome and sounde doctrine. 1564 *Brief Exam.* B j, Vpon the .x. preceptes. 1638 QUARLES *Hieroglyph.* i. 4 This golden Precept, *Know thy selfe*, came downe From heav'ns high Court. *c* 1670 BUNYAN *Confess. Faith* Wks. 59 Through thy preceps I get understanding. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 Though Wine seems to be Prohibited by the Alcoran, yet the good-fellows say, that it is no more but an advice or council, and not a precept. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Imit. Persius' Sat.* i. Wks. 1730 I. 53 Authority with all thy precepts go. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 190 Example draws where precept fails. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* v. 128 Teaching them, by precept and example, the great truths of our Holy Religion.

b. One of the practical rules of an art; a direction for the performance of some technical operation; a rule.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 3 In all poynctes throughly grounded and acquainted with the preceptes. 1590 RECORDE, etc. *Gr. Artes* (1646) 225 Subtraction hath the same precepts that Addition had. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 100 D, They which haue learned by heart all the tropes, figures and precepts of Rhetoricke. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VI. iii. 117, I have been the larger in this precept, that it may be a Rule of Direction. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* ix. 65 In the precept..for finding the length of the year. 1901 '*Knowledge' Diary* 11 The 'equation of time' is indicated in the Ephemeris by the precepts before or after clock.

† **3.** A written order or mandate authorizing a person to do something; a warrant. *Obs.*

1518 in Sir W. Fraser *Sutherld. Bk.* (1892) III. 69 We.. sall gif our preceppis to delyuer the saidis Jonet and Elesabeht to the seid Johune in keping. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 863 His precept of pensione furth he tuike, Biddand my Lord subscryve ane letter. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. v. (1636) 26 If a warrant or precept come from the King to sell wood upon the ground whereof I am tenant. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 907 The Pope sent his Precepts or Breves. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 5 The king sending a precept to the sheriff of Hampshire to have a chamber in the royal castle painted.

4. *spec.* **a.** A written or printed order issued by constituted authority (as the King, a court, or a judge), to require the attendance of members of a parliament, a court, or a jury, to direct the holding of an assize, to procure the appearance, arrest, or imprisonment of a delinquent, or the production of a record, or to authorize the levying of a distress; a writ, warrant.

[1344 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 154/2 Et sur cel precept, meisme le jour firent un autre precept, Sicut alias, de prendre son corps.] 1444 *Ibid.* V. 110/1 Retourne uppon eny Writtes or Precepts to theyme directed. 1503-4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 15 § 1 Every Shereff .. to whom eny writte or precepte is ..directe. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 710 Our schiref-officiar being thair present with ane precept. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. i. 14 Marry sir, thus: those Precepts cannot bee seru'd. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. XXVI. § 2 (1699) 129 Executing of any Summonds, Letters, or Precept direct by his Highness, or other Judges. 1709 *Connecticut Col. Rec.* (1890) XV. 566 Ordered, that a precept be issued to all or either of the said officers,..to bring their said prisoner..forthwith before the Governor and Council. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xix. 385, I have the original precept and panel of the Jury before me.

b. *Sc.* An instrument granting possession of something, or conferring a privilege. *Precept of sasine* (*seisin*), an instrument by which the legal ownership of land is transferred. *Precept of clare constat*: see CONSTAT 3.

1515 in Sir W. Fraser *Sutherld. Bk.* (1892) III. 59 A precept of seisyne of al and haill the erldome of Sutherland .. is direct to ws in dew form be our souerane lordis chapell. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 178 It is desyrit that preceptis be grantit be hir Grace for proving of saising to hir. 1590 *Ibid.* IV. 514 His Hienes..promittis that he sall at na tyme heireftir grant ony provisioun or precept of the dewitie foirsaid..to na maner of persoun or personis, except for [etc.]. *a* 1765 ERSKINE *Inst. Laws Scot.* II. iii. § 33. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v., A precept of sasine is the order of a superior to his bailie to give infeftment of certain lands to his vassal..There is also another precept of sasine, called a *precept of clare constat*, which is a warrant granted by a superior authorising his bailies..to give infeftment to the heir of his vassal. 1874 *Act* 37 & 38 *Vict.* c. 94 § 4 (1) When lands have been feued..It shall not..be necessary..that he shall obtain from the superior any charter, precept, or other writ by progress. 1881 *Erskine's Princ. Law Scotl.* (ed. 16) 149 *note*, The precept of sasine is no longer a necessary part of any conveyance of land...If it should now be inserted, a short form is provided by 8 & 9 Vict. c. 35.

c. A written order to make arrangements for and hold an election; usually, that issued by the sheriff to the returning officer.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* ii. 20 Upon the Death of a King, he hath the chief Management of Affairs, and issues out Precepts for the Election of a new Prince. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 177 Within three days after the receipt of this writ, the sheriff is to send his precept, under his seal, to the proper returning officers of the cities and boroughs, commanding them to elect their members. 1852-3 *Act* 16 & 17 *Vict.* c. 68 § 3 After the receipt of the writ or precept. 1865 *Morn. Star* 3 Nov., The Earl of Powerscourt..and Lord Fermoy..are candidates for the vacant representative peerage. The precept for the election has arrived. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 413 The sheriffs shall send to the magistrates..a precept for the election to be made by the citizens [etc.].

d. An order for collection or demand for payment of money under a rate.

1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 262 They constitute his precept, and so long as this is correct on the face of it he may obey its commands. 1888 *Times* 20 Nov. 5/3 Altho' the amount of the precept has been thus reduced. 1894 *Daily News* 16 Oct. 5/3 Under the Equalisation of Rates Act it was left to the Local Government Board to prescribe the forms of precepts to be used...The 'equalisation charge' may be either included as an item of the ordinary precept, or made the subject of a separate precept.

† **Prece·pt**, *v. Obs.* [Found first in pa. pple. *precept*, ad. L. *præcept-us*, pa. pple. of *præcipĕre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To seize beforehand, preoccupy, take in anticipation. *rare*—¹.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* v. I v b, In vaine wept Esau after Iacob had precept hym hys blessynge.

2. To lay down as a precept or rule; to teach, to prescribe (something) as a duty.

1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* I. (1540) 2 Most playnly those thynges seem to be evydent, whiche of offyce and good maner be gyve and precept of them. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 265 Manuall labour is amongst those acts or offices which are precepted. 1638 — *Serm. Exper.* 133 When the duties are morally prescribed, precepted, here the vow increaseth the obligation.

b. To instruct (a person) by precepts; to give a precept to, to command, direct.

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 206 Hath God .. precepted vs in vaine, to aske with assurance of audience? 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxvii. (ed. 8) 238, I do not find, but it may well become a man to..precept himself into the practice of Virtue.

Preceptacyon, obs. erron. f. PRECIPITATION.

Preceptial (prĭse·pʃăl), *a. rare.* By-form of PRECEPTUAL; consisting of precepts; instructive.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 24 Their counsaile..Would giue preceptiall medicine to rage. 1837 D. MCNICOLL *Wks.* 72 It might be edifying as preceptial and declamatory.

Preception (prĭse·pʃən). [ad. L. *præceptiōnem* a taking beforehand, the right of receiving in advance; a preconception; a precept, an imperial rescript, n. of action f. *præcipĕre*: see PRECEPT *sb.* Cf. F. *préception* (16th c. in Littré).]

† **1.** A previous conception or notion; a preconception, presumption. *Obs. rare.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. iii. § 4 (1622) 19 Which Epicurus calleth a Præsumption, or Præception. 1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* v. v. 255 If he have no Prenotion or Preception of that he seeketh, he searcheth..as in a maze of infinitie.

† **2.** A command, precept. *Obs.*

1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clergy* I. xviii, 'Let him be the husband of one wife'...Leo calls these words a Preception, I did not.

b. Instruction by a preceptor; tutoring. *rare.*

1882 *All Year Round* XXIX. 448 The statement that he had 'sat at the feet of the Gamebird of Birmingham', an allusion to his preception which was not so intelligible as the rendering of other journals, 'the Gamaliel of Birmingham'.

3. *Rom. Law.* The right of receiving beforehand, as a part of an inheritance before partition.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* II. § 216 Let Lucius Titius take my slave Stichus by preception (before partition). 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* Digest 529 A legacy by preception .. could in strictness be bequeathed only to one of several heirs ..who was thereby authorised to take and appropriate some particular item of the inheritance before it came to be divided.

Preceptive (prĭse·ptiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *præceptīvus* didactic, hortatory, or a. obs. F. *préceptif* (14th c. in Godef.): see PRECEPT *sb.* and **-IVE.**]

1. Of the nature of, pertaining to, or conveying a precept. **a.** Conveying a command, mandatory.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 106 The pape has power preceptive apon thame. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 484 Our Sauiours words, Doe this in remembrance of me, are not Preceptiue. 1672 *Toleration not to be Abused* 15 The Law hath two parts,..the Preceptive and the Punitive. 1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* 28 The penalty, as well as the preceptive tenor of that law, was sufficiently notified to him. 1845 Jebb in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 687/1 The preceptive part is the law properly so called: it includes the whole of the commands and prohibitions of the lawgiver.

b. Conveying instructions or maxims; didactic, instructive.

1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca, Epist.* iv. (1696) 483 Cleanthes allows the Parænetic, or Preceptive Philosophy, to be in some sort Profitable. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. II. ii. 258 The didactive or preceptive Manner. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 41 Denham's poetry must have been too grave and preceptive for the profligate gaiety of the habits of the monarch. 1884 *Friend* Dec. 297/2 The whole treatise is preceptive and hortatory.

†2. According to precept. *Obs. rare.*

1684 T. Hockin *God's Decrees* ix. 77 The branch..had no innate and immediate vertue to make the bitter waters sweet [at Marah], but by the preceptive use of it.

Hence **Prece·ptively** *adv.*, in a preceptive manner; in the way of precept or command.

1633 Ames *Agst. Cerem.* II. 281 God willeth..Ceremonies, onely permissively, not præceptively. 1651 *Rec. Communion* § 7 In any thing that is held forth in the Word of God, as præceptively to worthy receiving necessary.

Preceptor (prĭse·ptər). Also 5 -ur, 6 -our, 6–7 præ-. [a. L. *præceptor* a teacher, instructor, whence also F. *précepteur* (15th c. in Littré): see Precept *sb.* and -or 2.]

1. One who instructs; a teacher, instructor, tutor.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 418 One þat was callid Anaximetes, þat was his preceptur & his maister. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 48 The scholemaster is vsed, both for Præceptor in learnyng, and Pædagogus in maners. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 200 Maister George Buquhannane, pensionar of Corsragwell, his majesteis preceptor. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 277 Clemens Alexandrinus an ancient Father and preceptor unto Origen. 1771 Burke *Corr.* (1844) I. 332 History is a preceptor of prudence, not of principles. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 410 My justly celebrated preceptor, Dr. Cullen, has been quoted. 1878 G. Smith *J. Wilson* xvii. (1879) 308 Preceptors of religion unless they purify themselves, cannot expect success to attend their labours.

b. *transf.* As title of a book containing instructions for some art. (Cf. *tutor.*)

1843 *Musical World* XVIII. 431/3 Improved Preceptor for the Cornopean.

2. The head of a preceptory of Knights Templars.

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II. s.v. *Preceptorie*, The Knights Templars and Hospitalars sent part of their Fraternity to some Country Cell, which was govern'd by a Person whom they called a Præceptor or Commander. 1819 Scott *Ivanhoe* xxxv, This establishment of the Templars was seated amidst fair meadows.., which the devotion of the former preceptor had bestowed upon their Order.

Hence **Prece·ptoral** *a.* [so F. *préceptoral*], of or pertaining to a preceptor; **Prece·ptorate** [so F. *préceptorat*], the office of preceptor or giver of instruction.

c 1847 B. Barton *Select.* (1849) 46 Free from all restraint, save that of parental or preceptoral authority and affection. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 2/2 A Society for higher female education, called the Institute of Ladies of the Christian Preceptorate, by the Vicomtesse d'Adhemar.

Preceptorial (prĭseptōe·rĭăl), *a.* [f. med.L. *præceptōri-us* (see Preceptory *a.*) + -al.] Of or pertaining to a preceptor. Hence **Precepto·rially** *adv.*

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Prebend, Preceptorial Prebend*, is that prebend whose revenues are destined for the support of a preceptor or master, who is obliged to instruct the youth of the place gratis. 1830 Carlyle *Misc.* (1857) II. 130 Without any other preceptorial nourishment. 1884 *Chr. Leader* 30 Oct. 663 Where the church catechism and the ten commandments are daily taught preceptorially.

Prece·ptorship. [f. Preceptor + -ship.] The office or position of a preceptor; a tutorship.

1802 W. Taylor in Robberds *Mem.* I. 448 A travelling preceptorship would suit him. 1881 R. G. Wilberforce *Life Bp. Wilberforce* II. vii. 275 In earlier life the Bishop had sought the Preceptorship to the Prince of Wales.

Preceptory (prĭse·ptəri), *sb.* [ad. med.L. *præceptōria* (*domus*?) in same sense; cf. obs. F. *preceptoirie* (1598 in Godef.), mod.F. *préceptorerie*: see next.] A subordinate community of the Knights Templars, established on one of the provincial estates of the order; hence, the estate or manor supporting this, or the buildings in which it was housed. Corresponding to the Commandery of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 24 Aduousons, commanderies, preceptories, contribucions, responsions, rentes .. which appertained..to the priours. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 165/2 All templelands perteining to the preceptorie of Torphichen. 1661 Wood *Life* 29 June (O. H. S.) I. 403 Sandford..a house and preceptory sometimes belonging to the Knights Templars. 1722 Hearne *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 353 It was a Preceptory for the K^ts of St. John's of Jerusalem. 1878 R. W. Dixon *Hist. Ch. Eng.* v. I. 321 The establishments of the order [Templars], which bore the name of preceptories, to the number of twenty-three, were at first seized by the King and other lords, but afterwards, by a bull from the Pope and an Act of Parliament, transferred to the rival order of the Hospitallers.

Prece·ptory, *a. rare.* [ad. med.L. *præceptōrius* adj.: see Preceptor and -ory 2.] Commanding, enjoining; = Preceptive 1.

1573 A. Anderson *Exp. Benedictus* 74 The other place ..seemeth to sundrye to stande for a law preceptorie, as well to vs now, as to the Leuits then. 1882 Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 142 There is nothing false about the law or preceptory part of Scripture.

Preceptress (prĭse·ptrĕs). [f. Preceptor + -ess 1.] A female preceptor.

1784 Cowper *Task* III. 505 Experience, slow preceptress, teaching oft The way to glory by miscarriage foul. 1797 Charlotte Palmer (*title*) Letters on several subjects from a preceptress to her pupils who have left school..designed for..Young Ladies. 1809 Han. More *Cœlebs* (ed. 4) I. vi. 72 A directress for his family, a preceptress for his children, and companion for himself. 1889 Ruskin *Præterita* III. 110 The clear insight of the fearlessly frank preceptress.

Preceptual (prĭse·ptĭuăl), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. L. *præcept-us* (see Precept *v.*) or *præcept-um* Precept *sb.*, on analogy of *conceptual*, etc.] Pertaining to, consisting of, or conveying precepts. Hence **Prece·ptually** *adv.*, according to precept.

1616 J. Lane *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* I. 54 Some sonnes, livinge vnder fathers eye, may chaunce demeane them as preceptualie. 1905 P. T. Forsyth in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Oct. 69 We leave the intellectualist and preceptual notion of revelation behind us.

Precerebellar, -bral, -broid: see Pre- A. 4, B. 3.

‖ **Preces** (prī·sīz), *sb. pl.* [L. *precēs*, pl. of **prex, prec-em* prayer.] In liturgical worship, The short petitions which are said as verse and response by the minister and the congregation alternately.

1521 Fabyan *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 8, I will that he whiche is assigned to begyn 'De profundis' and saye the preces, have .iid. and to euery of the other I will be given .id. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. App. 378 The preces in the Breviary. 1882 F. E. Warren in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 707/1 The chief traces of Oriental affinity lie in..the occasional presence of 'preces', a series of short intercessions resembling the Greek 'Ektene', or deacon's litany.

†**Prece·ss,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *præcess-*, ppl. stem of *præcēdĕre* to Precede.] *trans.* To precede, to take precedence of.

1529 Frith *Epist. to Chr. Rdr.* Wks. (1829) 459 Yet chiefly..this warning precessed (in my judgment) all other words, where he exhorted us.

Precess, obs. form of Preses.

Precession (prĭse·ʃən). [ad. late L. *præcessiō-nem* (Boeth.) a going before, n. of action from *præcēdĕre* to Precede. So F. *précession* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

¶ 1. A going forward, advance, procession. (app. in every case an error for *procession.*)

13.. *Cursor M.* 20697 (Cott.) Gas þan wit fair precessiun [*other MSS.* pro-] To ierusalem right thoru þe town. *c* 1420 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 208, iij women I met with precession. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Brit.* (1811) 269 The kynge, the quene, and all the lordes, vpon our Lady-day..went a precessyon in Poules.

2. The action or fact of preceding in time, order, or rank; precedence.

a 1628 F. Grevil *Sidney* (1652) 232 To assist her in bounding out the Imperial Meeres of all Princes by the ancient precession of Right and power. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1020 Premising that the precession of the two sounds of tension is aortic in the earlier and pulmonic in the later phases of the disease.

3. *Astron. Precession of the equinoxes*, often ellipt. *precession* [*æquinoctiorum præcessio* (Copernicus): called by Hipparchus and Ptolemy *μετάπτωσις* mutation]: the earlier occurrence of the equinoxes in each successive sidereal year, due to the retrograde motion of the equinoctial points along the ecliptic, produced by the slow change of direction in space of the earth's axis, which moves so that the pole of the equator describes a circle (approximately: see Nutation) around the pole of the ecliptic once in about 25,800 years. Hence commonly used to denote this motion of the equinoctial points, of the earth's axis, or of the celestial pole or equator.

As a result of the precession, the longitudes, right ascensions, and declinations of all the stars are continually changing, and the signs of the zodiac shift in a retrograde direction along the zodiac, so that they no longer coincide with the constellations from which they were named (cf. the statement s.v. Cancer *sb.* 2 b).

Lunisolar precession: that part of the precession which is caused by the combined attractions of the moon and sun upon the mass of the earth (the remaining effect being due to the attractions of the other planets).

[*a* 1530 Copernicus *De Revolution. Orb. Cœlest.* (1543) III. (*title*) De æquinoctium solstitiorumque anticipatione. III. ii. (*heading*) Historia observationum comprobantium inæqualem æquinoctiorum conversionumque præcessionem.]

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* III. I. xxvii. (1636) 335 Spica Virginis..is found now to be in the eighteenth of Libra, the cause whereof is the precession of the Equinoctiall point or section. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (1676) 160/1 Whether there be such a precession of the Æquinoxes, as Copernicus holds. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., The Equinoctial Points, or the common Intersections of the Equator and Ecliptick, do retrocede or move backwards from East to West, about 50 Seconds each Year; and this Motion backwards is by some called the Recession of the Equinox, by others the Retrocession; and the advancing of the Equinoxes forward by this means is called the Precession of them. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 208, I cannot move with this precession of the equinoxes, which is preparing for us the return of some very old, I am afraid no golden, æra. 1816 Playfair *Nat. Phil.* II. 89 Hipparchus discovered the precession of the equinoxes, by a comparison of his own with more ancient observations. 1867 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Progr. Cult.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 228 Six hundred years ago, Roger Bacon explained the precession of the equinoxes. 1881 Geikie in *Nature* XXIII. 359/1 The alternate phases of precession, which tend to bring warmer and colder conditions of climate every 10,500 years.

b. *Physics.* Extended to any motion analogous to that of the earth's axis in the precession of the equinoxes; e.g. the slow rotation of the axis of a top spinning rapidly in a sloping position.

1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 105 The plane through the instantaneous axis and the axis of the fixed cone passes through the axis of the rolling cone..The motion of the plane containing these axes is called the precession in any such case. [See also Precessional.]

4. *Phonetics.* Advance in oral position.

1844 Crosby *Gram. Gr. Lang.* I. § 29. 17 So remarkable has been this precession (præcession, going forward) of the vowels in the Greek language, that η, υ, ει, ῃ, οι, and υι, have all lost their distinctive sounds. 1860 Haldeman *Analyt. Orthogr.* xi. 56 Precession (>) is a vowel change from a more open to a closer position of the organs, towards the lips or throat. The term is adopted from Crosby's Greek Grammar. 1870 March *Anglo-Saxon Gram.* 26.

Precession, obs. erron. f. Presession.

Precessional (prĭse·ʃənăl), *a. Astron.* and *Physics.* [f. prec. + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with precession (see prec. 3, 3 b).

1827 G. Higgins *Celtic Druids* 10 They discovered the great zodiacal or precessional year of 25,920 years. 1866 Proctor *Handbk. Stars* 4 Corrections due to the precessional motions. 1879 Thomson & Tait *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 345 The second class..may be called precessional because the precession of the equinoxes, and the slow precession of a rapidly spinning top supported on a very fine point, are familiar instances of it. 1882 Proctor in *Knowledge* No. 11. 218 Writers will often speak of the precessional reeling of the earth. The reeling itself is, of course, not precessional, it is but the cause of precession.

†**Prece·ssor.** *Obs.* Also 5–7 -our. [a. OF. *precesseur* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. late L. *præcessōr-em*, agent-n. f. *præcēdĕre* to Precede.] One who precedes another in some office or position; a predecessor.

1457 *Lichfield Gild Ord.* (E.E.T.S.) 20 Euery master of the gild, and the warden of the chapell church for the time being, shall alwayes reseyve of ther precessors the kayes, with the Indentures, of the seid cofre. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 257/2 The seid Master and College, or their Predecessours or Precessours. 1548–67 Thomas *Ital. Dict.*, *Predecessore*, the precessour or foregoer. 1655 Fuller *Hist. Camb.* iii. § 62. 57 Fordham was herein more Court-like ..then Thomas Arundel, his Precessour Bishop of Ely.

Preche, Precher, -our, etc., obs. ff. Preach, Preacher.

Prechordal, præ- (prīkɔ̄·rdăl), *a.* [f. Pre- B. 1, 3 + Chord + -al: see Chordal.]

1. *Biol.* Prior to the development of a notochord in animals, or to the evolution of the *Chordata.*

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 187/2 No other Vertebrata present larval forms which indicate the nature of the early ancestral history in what we may call præ-chordal times.

2. *Anat.* See quot.

1890 Billings *Med. Dict.*, *Prechordal*, in front of the anterior end of the notochord.

Prechoroid: see Pre- A. 4.

Pre-Christian (prīkri·styăn), *a.* [Pre- B. 1.] 1. Of or pertaining to times prior to the birth of Christ or the Christian era; before Christ.

1828 G. S. Faber *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* II. III. i. 39 A circumstance, itself fixed..to the middle of the seventh prechristian century. 1885 J. M. Ludlow in *Homilet. Rev.* Apr. 281 The Talmud and Targums..preserve for us the records of the opinions..of the pre-Christian age.

2. Prior to the introduction or local prevalence of Christianity.

1861 Wilson & Geikie *Mem. E. Forbes* i. 23 Ruins still more ancient survive from pre-Christian times. 1861 Wright *Ess. Archæol.* I. vii. 110 Anglo-Saxon antiquities of the pre-Christian age.

So **Pre-Christia·nic** *a. rare*$^{-1}$. = prec. 2.

1883 J. F. M'Lennan in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 89/2 The *loup-garou*..fell back into his pre-Christianic position of being simply a 'man-wolf-fiend'.

Preciation (prīʃĭē·ʃən). *rare.* [After Appreciation, Depreciation.] The determination of price; pricing.

1893 L. Courtney in *19th Cent.* Apr. 624 The effect upon preciation (if I may use such a word), in any market, and in relation to any commodity, of a change in the conditions of production of gold, is a function not merely of these conditions; but [etc.]. *Ibid.* 695.

†**Preci·de,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 precyde. [a. L. *præcīdĕre* to cut off (in front), f. *præ*, Pre- A. 4 c + *cædĕre* to cut.] *trans.* To cut off, esp. from communion. (In quot. 1657, *lit.*)

1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 143/2 Y^e hole congregacion of christen people professing his name & his fayth, & abiding in y^e body of y^e same, not being precided & cut of. 1537 *Inst. Chr. Man* Cj, To committe many greuous.. offences.., for the whiche they deserue to be precided & excluded for a season from the communion of this holy church. 1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Precided*, cut off.

‖ **Précieuse** (presyō·z), *sb.* (*a.*). [F., fem. of *précieux* PRECIOUS (sense 3), used as sb.; popularized in this sense by Molière in *Les Précieuses ridicules*, 1659, a comedy in which the ladies frequenting the literary salons of Paris *c* 1650 were satirized.] A woman aiming at or affecting a refined delicacy of language and taste; usually connoting ridiculous over-refinement or over-fastidiousness.

1727 H. CROMWELL in *Pope's Lett.* (1735) I. Suppl. 6 My former Indiscretion, in putting them into the Hands of this *Pretieuse*. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 5 (*Calais*) Every power..perform'd it with so little friction that 'twould have confounded the most *Physical precieuse* in France. 1830 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd., The affected dialogue of the *précieuses*, as they were styled, who formed the coterie of the Hôtel de Rambouillet. 1865 'OUIDA' *Strathmore* I. xii. 194 There wasn't a *précieuse* in England that wouldn't have sold her pure soul to the devil and the Marquis, for his settlements.

B. *adj.* Affected after the style of *les Précieuses*; cf. PRECIOUS *a.* 3.

1785 H. WALPOLE *Let. to C'tess of Ossory* 23 July, Her conversation is natural and reasonable, not *precieuse* and affected. 1841 THACKERAY *Misc. Ess.* (1885) 203 The *précieuse* affectation of deference where you don't feel it.

† **Precina·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. L. *præcin-ĕre* to sing before, utter an incantation + -ATION.] Enchantment, sorcery, divination.

1503 *Kalender of Sheph.* G iv b, Wnstabylnes, loue [of] the world, blynd thoght, loue of him self, Precynuacyon [*ed.* 1506 Precinacyon], hatrent of god, vnconsyderacion, wantonnes, wncontynens.

Precinct (prī·siŋkt), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 **-cincte, -cynct(e, 6 -cynkte, -sinkt, -sinct, -cinte,** 8 **-cint,** 6– **precinct.** [ad. med.L. *præcinctum* (also *præcincta*) enclosure, precinct, subst. use of pa. pple. of L. *præcingĕre* to gird (in front), encircle, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *cingĕre* to gird. See also the earlier PROCINCT, PURCINCT.]

1. The space enclosed by the walls or other boundaries of a particular place or building, or by an imaginary line drawn around it; *spec.* the ground (sometimes consecrated) immediately surrounding a religious house or place of worship.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* 4 Within the precynct of S. Peters church..standeth a pyller of white marble. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xx. 57 b, Without the presinct of the Mosquee, there are..tenementes for the poore of the citie. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 251 The precinct of these tombs was held sacred. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 437 In process of time not only the dwelling, but a large precinct round it, was held inviolable. 1882 MYERS *Renewal of Youth*, etc. 174 The thronged precinct of Park and Serpentine.

b. *esp.* in *pl*, often applied more vaguely to the region lying immediately around a place, without distinct reference to any enclosure; the environs.

1485 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 44 Ye citie of York, suburbs, or precinctes of ye same. 1612 BACON *Ess., Judicature* (Arb.) 456 Not onely the bench, but the..precincts and purprise thereof ought to bee preserued without scandall. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* I. i, Once out of sight of those fearful precincts, the psalm was forgotten. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xvi. 110 From the precincts of the High Court of Commission, Newton returned to Trinity College to complete the Principia.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 6 b, Brought to the faith in the precinct of this tyme. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* xxii, For who .. This pleasing anxious being e'er resign'd, Left the warm precincts of the chearful day, Nor cast one longing lingering look behind?

2. A girding or enclosing line or surface; a boundary or limit, a compass.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 217 b, The bruite of..his high praise and commendacion was not to be hidden or pended within the limites and precintes of grece. 1580–1 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 5 Wood or Underwood nowe growinge.. within the Compasse and precincte of xxij myles from and above the Cyttye of London. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 86 The enemy had passed the first Wall, and Precinct. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 45 Near about Sidon begin the precincts of the Holy Land. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* II. ii. (1864) 80 Nor to be cooped up within the precincts of a petty island.

fig. 1550 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 773/2, I haue euer bene agreable to this precinct, I haue oftentimes reasoned in it, I haue spoken & also written in it. *Ibid.* 774/1. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* 14 The Precinct's strengthened with a Ditch of Feares In which doth swell a Lake of inky Teares. 1657 OWEN *Communion* I. iii. Wks. 1851 II. 19, I intend not..to shut up all Communion with God under these precincts, His ways being exceeding broad. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. 3 He might have girdled the world about with the precinct of His own holiness, so that sin should have never entered.

3. A district defined for purposes of government or representation; a district over which a person or body has jurisdiction; a province; also, a division of a city, town, or parish; *spec.* in *U. S.*, a subdivision of a county or ward for election purposes.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 97 Wapentake and hundrede be the same as the precincte of an c. townes [1387 TREVISA, þe contray of an hondred townes], whiche were wonte to yelde there weppens in the first commenge of theire lorde. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxxii. 168 All suche Angles as dwelled there, and within ye precynct of them [the Danes], were vnder his obedyence. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 57/1 Lord lieutenant of some precinct and iurisdiction perteining to the Romane empire. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xii. (1739) 23 Dioceses have also been subdivided into inferiour Precincts, called Deanaries or Decanaries. *Ibid.*, The smallest Precinct was that of the Parish, the oversight whereof was the Presbyters work. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* iii. Tracts (1769) 311 If 100 ministers can serve all Ireland, they must have precincts of near 13 or 14 miles square. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 129 All agree, that there are three and twenty thousand Precincts in Caire...A Precinct is a Quarter, and in some of them there are several Streets. 1713 S. SEWALL *Diary* 29 Oct., Ipswich Hamlet [U.S.] petitions the Genl Court to give them the Powers of a Precinct. 1735 *Amherst Rec.* (U.S.) (1884) 5/1 The Request of several freholders of the third or East Precinct of Hadley for the Calling of a precinct Meeting. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 17 This ward is divided into ten precincts. 1884 *Boston* (U.S.) *Jrnl.* 15 Sept., The precinct election officers need not necessarily vote in the precinct in which they are appointed. 1891 *San Francisco Examiner* 15 Dec. 6/4 The place of residence, giving the ward or precinct.

fig. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71 The myddle sillables which are not very many, come for the most part vnder the precinct of Position, whereof some of them will not possibly abide the touch.

Precinct (prĭsi·ŋkt), *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. L. *præcinct-us*, pa. pple. of *præcingĕre* to gird, encircle, f. *præ*, PRE- + *cingĕre* to gird.] Girt about; girdled, encompassed. Also const. as *pa. pple.*

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 38 The sixt Persecution..[was] limited to a short time (for it was precinct with a triennial girdle). 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 176 Aristotle, who..affirmeth this sound to be made, by the allision of an inward spirit upon a pellicle, or little membrane about the precinct or pectorall division of their body. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Fasti* III. 280 The lake Arician precinct is with groves.

So **Preci·nction** [ad. L. *præcinctio* lit. a girding about, a girdle] *Rom. Antiq.*, the broad landing-place running round the amphitheatre between each tier of seats; **Preci·nctive** *a.*, see quot.; **Preci·nctuary** *a. nonce-wd.*, of or pertaining to a (cathedral) precinct or close.

1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 330 The first Bench or Precinction. *Ibid.* 343 The Space between one Bench or Precinction, and the other. 1900 D. SHARP in *Fauna Hawai.* II. III. 91 *note*, I use the word precinctive..in the sense of 'confined to the area under discussion'...'Precinctive forms' means therefore forms that are confined to the area specified. 1897 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Jan. 8/2 The Dean and Chapter..being.. artistically ignorant, and socially mundane and precinctuary, ..know no better.

Preciosity (preʃi·ɒsĭti). Forms: 4 **preciousite,** 4–5 **-osyte(e,** 5 **preci-, precyosite, -yte, -oustee, -owste,** 6 *Sc.* **pretiositie,** 7 **-ity,** 7– **preciosity.** [a. OF. *preciosité* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *precieuseté*, mod.F. *préciosité*, ad. L. *pretiōsitās, -tātem*, f. *pretiōsus* PRECIOUS: see -ITY.]

1. The quality of being precious or costly; preciousness, great worth, value. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 376 Crist techiþ here þe preciousite of his preching. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* V. xiii. (Rolls) 553 Gaynes preciosite or costiosenes. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CCVII. v, Iewelles in chestes, and stones of preciousstee. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. 439 A relyke accomptyd of great precyosyte. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 521 Vestimentis of greit pretiositie. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* i. 3 The order of dignity or pretiosity in the Metals.

2. Anything very costly, an article of value. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 179 Fyn gold and other precyosytees. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 185 The Index or forefinger was too naked whereto to commit their pretiosities. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. vi. (1713) 192 The curiosity of their application of these Preciosities. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1872) 225 Glittering manmountains filled with gold and preciosities. 1864 — *Fredk. Gt.* XV. vii. IV. 107 The Preciosities and household gods.

3. Affectation of refinement or distinction, esp. in the use of language; fastidious refinement in literary style. (See PRECIOUS *a.* 3.)

1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* I. 89 'Circle' he pronounced 'circul' with a certain preciosity which was noticeable slightly in other parts of his behaviour. 1887 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* July 176 The circles of Oxford preciosity. 1895 *Forum* (N. Y.) Oct. 191 The Parisian preciosity ridiculed by Molière. 1897 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 536 This..may be described as the *reductio ad absurdum* of the preciosity of Pater and Stevenson.

Precious (pre·ʃəs), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Forms: 3–6 **precious** (3–4 **preciuse**), 4– **precious** (4 **presci-, presi-, presh**(i)-, 4–5 **presy-, precy-, -ous**(e, **-ose, -us, -ows**(e; 6–8 **pretious, -os**). [ME. a. OF. *precios* (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *précieux*, ad. L. *pretiōsus* costly, valuable, precious (whence also Prov. *precios*, It. *prezioso*, Sp., Pg. *precioso*), f. *pretium* price, value: see -OUS.]

1. Of great price; having a high value; costly.

Precious metals: a name including gold and silver; also sometimes platinum, and rarely mercury.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1040 Þei bring o paradis þe stan, Sua preciose [*v.rr.* -ious(e, -ius] es fundun nan. *c* 1305 *St. Andrew* 76 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 100 Hail beo þu swete Rode he seide, swettest of alle treo..And of ȝymmes preciouses. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1496 His iueles..þat presyous in his presens wer proued sum whyle. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 12 Draf weore hem leuere þen al þe presciouse Peerles þat in paradys waxen. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 114 Trewe oynement and preshous. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. xiv. (Rolls) 231 Better and costioser and precioser garnementis. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 108 b, The preciousest are the Cypresse, and the Cedar Tables. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. XXXV. 219 The Generalls pretious Jewel, or his Treasure. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. iv. (1869) I. 25 In the precious metals..even the business of weighing, with proper exactness, requires at least very accurate weights and scales. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iii. (1876) 26 Money is generally, but not invariably, one or both of those metals which are called precious.

2. Of great moral, spiritual, or non-material worth; held in high esteem.

Precious blood, the blood of Christ shed for man's redemption; hence, in the names of various orders, confraternities, relics, etc.; also, the Feast of the Most Precious Blood, on the first Sunday in July. So *precious body* (of Christ).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8321 It sal be precius and prude, þe were he sal sua semele scrude. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XX. 1 He spend noght his precioune blode in vayn on vs. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* I. 19 Not bi corruptible gold, or siluer, ȝe ben bouȝt aȝen..but bi the precious blood of..Crist Jhesu. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 11 Oure lorde Jhesu Criste, that bought vs with his precyouse blode. 1578 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.* 169 The most pretious grace of God. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 2 Words of pretious esteem. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 74 Where the pretious Body of our Lord was anointed. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 205 Justice, which is a treasure far more precious than gold.

† **b.** in asseveration, for *precious blood* or *body*. Cf. 6 b. *Obs.*

1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* (Percy Soc.) 41 By Goddes precious, I wyll not unwysely suffre To do as I have done any longer. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 247 Gods precious! I forgot to bring my Page.

3. Aiming at or affecting distinction or choiceness in conduct, manners, language, etc.; fastidious, 'particular'; *esp.* in mod. use (after F. *précieux*: cf. PRÉCIEUSE), affecting, displaying, or using careful and fastidious delicacy or refinement in language, workmanship, etc.; often with an implication of being over-nice or over-refined.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 148 In swich estaat as god hath cleped vs I wol perseuere, I nam nat precius. — *Merch. T.* 718 But lest ye precious folk be with me wrooth How that he wroghte I dar not to you telle. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 306 ₱ 7 An apparent Desire of Admiration,..a precious Behaviour in their generai Conduct, are almost inseparable Accidents in Beauties. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. (1894) 145 Elaborate embroidery of precious language. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Feb. 3/1 With its brown paper cover.., its rough edges..., its twirligigs instead of spaces..., the book is everything that the most 'precious' could desire. 1894 *Athenæum* 25 Aug. 252/3 The employment of 'curious' in a somewhat precious sense at least three times.

4. *colloq.* **a.** As an intensive of something bad, worthless, or reprobated: Egregious, out-and-out, arrant; in some uses, a mere emotional intensive. (Cf. FINE *a.* 14 b.)

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 52 A precious knave that cast nevyr to thryve. 15.. *Jack Juggler* in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 142 Now walk, precious thief. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 46 Heering and seeing so precioous ado heer at a place vnlookt for. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* I. i, Your worship is a precious ass. 1610 — *Alch.* V. iv, You are a precious fiend! 1836 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 241, I find I am writing most precious nonsense. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Cockayne* Wks. (Bohn) II. 68 This precious knave became, in good time, Saint George of England. 1857 T. HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. vii, It's hard enough to see one's way, a precious sight harder than I thought last night. 1892 CHAMBERLAIN in *Westm. Gaz.* (1898) 26 Apr. 2/3 If the Liberals got into power what a precious mess they would make of foreign policy.

b. *Ironically*, Of little worth, worthless, good-for-nothing. (Cf. FINE *a.* 12 c.)

a 1619 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* III. iii, Oh, you're a precious man! two days in town, And never see your old friend! 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* V. ii, *Sir O.* Well, Sir Peter, I have seen both my nephews...*Sir P.* A precious couple they are! 1781 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 298 Are not these precious instructers of youth?

† **5.** ? Carbuncled. *Obs.* (Cf. *precious-nosed* in D.)

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 43 A poore old man, whose nose by some infirmitie, was become meruailous great, deformed, full of pimples, precious, and monstrous.

6. In special connexions. **a.** *Precious stone*, a stone which on account of its beauty, hardness, and rarity is prized for its use in ornamentation and jewellery, and has a high commercial value; a gem.

Precious is also prefixed to some names of stones, to distinguish that which is included among gems from an inferior, opaque, or unpolishable kind of the same mineral, as in *precious* GARNET, *precious* OPAL, etc.

c 1290 *St. Brandan* 42 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 221 Of suete precioue stones þat briȝte schynen and wide. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 29 In þat ryuer er oft tymes funden many precious stanes. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F viij, They shold gyue her..as many precious stones as she wold take of them. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 140 Folly to cast precious stones before hogs. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* I. 18 Eyes that out-sparkled his preciousest Stones. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 384 Precious stones are either carbonaceous, aluminous, or silicious. 1892 E. W. STREETER *Prec. Stones* (ed. 5) 286 The Almandine, or Precious Garnet. *Ibid.* 339 Any substance which can be scratched by Rock Crystal being practically of no value as a Precious Stone.

† **b.** *Precious coals*: an obsolete expletive. Cf. 2 b.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 80 When roysters ruffle not aboue their rule, Nor colour crafte, by swearing precious coles. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. i. (Arb.) 50 (He puls his Watch out) Precious coales, the time is at hand, I must meditate on an excuse to be gone. *Ibid.* ii. 54 Pretious coles, thou a man of worship and Iustice too?

† **c.** *Precious John*: corruption of PRESTER JOHN.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 130 The great Christian of Æthiopia, vulgarly cald Prester, Precious, or Priest-John.

d. *Precious metals*: see 1.

B. *sb.* Precious one, dear, darling.

1706 Mrs. Centlivre *Basset-Table* II. 25 With all my Heart, my Jewel, my Precious. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. iii. 113 In all that time I never saw my precious but at Mrs. Jones's. 1861 Dutton Cook *P. Foster's D.* iii, Well, my precious, and how are you?

C. *adv.* (qualifying adj. or adv.) a. = Preciously.

1595 Shaks. *John* IV. iii. 40 Or when he doom'd this Beautie to a graue, Found it too precious Princely, for a graue.

b. With intensive force: Extremely, very: *precious few* = few indeed. *colloq.*

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* ii, We've got a pair o' precious large wheels on. 1839 Asa Gray *Lett.* (1893) I. 268 While on the Continent I have received precious few letters. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* viii, I..took precious good care to have it. 1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xx, Kit..was 'precious raw' or 'precious deep'. 1886 Chamberlain *Sp. Ho. Com.* 26 Aug., Precious few of them have declared in favour of the bill before their constituents.

D. *Comb.* (parasynthetic.)

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 8 With balefull weedes, and precious Iuiced flowers. 1607 *Lingua* III. vi, There was an old..precious-nosed..slave. [Cf. sense 5 above.]

† **Pre·cioushead.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 5 -hed. [f. Precious + -head.] = Preciousness 1.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 75 Ryȝt so, lownesse excellyth in precyoushed alle oþere vertuys, & euere drawyth down to þe netherest place.

Preciously (pre·ʃəsli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly ².]

† 1. In a costly manner, at great cost or expense.

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 500 It nys but wast to burye hym preciously. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Good Works* II. (1859) 54 Unto whose images the people with great devotion invented pilgrimages, preciously decking and censing them, kneeling down and offering to them. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* II. xvii. (1634) 250 Paul saith that we are preciously bought. 1666 Dryden *Ann. Mirab.* xxix, Some preciously by shattered porcelain fall, And some by aromatic splinters die.

2. Valuably; as a precious thing, as a thing of value. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxi. 227 Þei worschipen the Owle. And whan þei han ony of here federes þei kepen hem fulle precyously. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4935 In thilk Arche and the potte was manna kept preciously. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 241 The time 'twixt six and now Must by vs both be spent most preciously. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 250 A coate of armes cut in a pretious sardonix-stone, and pretiously kept.

3. Very greatly; exceedingly, extremely. *colloq.*

1607 Middleton *Your Five Gallants* IV. i. 13 You're much preciously welcome. 1840 Thackeray *Cox's Diary* Aug., Wks. 1893 VIII. 572 Captain Tagrag was my opponent, and preciously we poked each other. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 5/1 To find out how preciously they had been befooled.

4. Fastidiously, scrupulously; with delicate workmanship.

1862 Hamerton *Painter's Camp* I. xxix. 390 If..you fall short of this point, your art of painting from nature is not yet quite perfectly and preciously imitative.

Pre·ciousness. [f. as prec. + -ness.]

1. The quality of being precious; valuableness, costliness; value.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 372 And eek in to greet preciousnesse of vessel, and curiositee of Mynstralcie, by whiche a man is stired the moore to delices of luxurie. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Preciowsnesse (or preciowste), *preciositas*. 1527 R. Thorne in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 252 The preciousnesse of these things is measured after the distance that is betweene vs, and the things that we have appetite vnto. 1644 Evelyn *Diary* 19 Oct., The font and pulpit.. is of inestimable value for the preciousnesse of the materials. 1663–70 South *Serm.* (1727) IV. vii. 292 The Preciousness of Gospel Dispensations. 1877 Boutell in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 454/2 (*Costume*) In the best period of Greek art,.. the Jewellery is of value according to its workmanship; but in later times preciousness of material determined the value. 1883 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xci. 185 Not calculating..any of these singular powers or preciousnesses.

b. Rare beauty or excellence, such as one prizes.

1870 Ruskin *Lect. Art* vii. 176 In some birds..the colour nearly reaches a floral preciousness.

† 2. That which is precious. *Obs. rare.*

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) v. 33 Wysdam is better than all wordly preciosnesse.

3. Over-refinement, fastidiousness, affectation of distinction; = Preciosity 3.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 800/2 At this stage of our literature, it is wiser to turn .. away from 'preciousness' of every kind. 1888 W. Morris in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 206 Perhaps I am not doing the most I can, merely for the sake of a piece of 'preciousness'.

Precioustee, -owste, obs. ff. Preciosity.

† **Pre·cipe.** *Obs.* Pl. pre- (præ-) cipes, -ees, -ies. [ad. L. *præcipēs, -cip-* (Plaut.), variant of *præceps, -cipit-* adj. headlong, precipitous, sb. a precipice; f. *præ* before, in front + *caput, -it-* head.

Chiefly in pl., which may have been meant for the L. pl. *præcipēs*; thence, perh., a sing. (? *pre-ci-pe*) was formed.]

An abrupt or steep descent; a precipice.

1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* II. (1626) 26 Up to the fixed Starres their course they take, Now clime: now, by steep Præcipies descend. *a* 1639 Wotton in *Reliq.* (1651) 9 On the Dukes part, we have no such abrupt strayns and precipees as these, but a fair fluent and uniform course under both Kings. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 41 The highest ascents make the deepest precipes. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* Ded. A ij b, Full of dangerous Precipes, Rockes,..on either hand. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 15 Honours and greatness without safety is to stand on the precipe [perh. = L. *in præcipe*] of a Precipice.

Precipe, parallel form of Præcipe.

Precipice (pre·sipis), *sb.* Also 7 præ-, (8 pri-). [= F. *précipice* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præcipitium* a falling headlong, a steep place, precipice, f. *præceps, -cipit-* headlong, steep, precipitous, or f. *præcipitāre* to throw headlong: cf. *hospitium, occipitium, flāgitium*.]

† 1. A precipitate or headlong fall or descent, esp. to a great depth. Also *fig. Obs.*

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii, Precedents, which are strong, And swift, to rape youth to their precipice. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 880 There it moveth more Swiftly, and more in Præcipice; For in the breaking of the Waves there is ever a Præcipice. 1632 Massinger *Maid of Hon.* v. i, His precipice from goodness raising mine, And serving as a foil to set my faith off. 1635 Hakewill *Apol.* v. 24, I much marvell how you will accord it with her [i. e. Nature's] wholly inclining and præcipice to corruption. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. ii. 81 Souldiers in the Precipice of their passion being sensible of no other stop but the bottome.

2. A vertical or very steep face of rock, etc.; a cliff, crag, or steep mountain side of considerable height.

1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 116 When he shall arrive on the top, he shall finde nothing but danger, and round about him a gaping precipice. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 146 The other side of this high hill is a precipice, downe which is no descending. 1681 Dryden *Spanish Friar* I. i, A Torrent, rowling down a Precipice. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* I. 95 To remove my Tent from the Place where it stood, which was just under the hanging Precipice of the Hill. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvi. § 1, I mean by a true precipice, one by which a plumbline will swing clear, or without touching the face of it, if suspended from a point a foot or two beyond the brow.

† b. The edge or brink of a cliff. *Obs.*

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 30 June, The ruines of an old..Castle ..built..on the precipice of a dreadfull cliff.

c. *fig.* A perilous situation; a hazardous position.

1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 266 You have not seen the precipices which environ beauty. 1692 tr. *Sallust* 324 For my own part, whose years are near the Precipice of death, I do not wish one minute longer of Life. 1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* II. 134 Thus mankind wishing to avoid one precipice, fall into another.

† 3. *transf.* (?) Precipitousness, loftiness as of a precipice. *Obs.*

1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 64 After he was stretch'd to such an height in his own fancy, that he could not look down from top to toe but his Eyes dazled at the Precipice of his Stature.

4. *Comb.*, as *precipice-edge, -wall*; *precipice-writing* adj.

1836–48 B. D. Walsh *Aristoph., Clouds* v. ii, An incoherent, mouthing, loud, Harsh, precipice-writing fellow. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 85 The patience clasped, totters hard on the precipice-edge.

† **Pre·cipice,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. Precipice *sb.*] *trans.* To dash down headlong; to precipitate.

1654 Z. Coke *Logick* Pref., Some of them .. (Elevated on the wings of their Ambitions) were most ingloriously dasht and precipic'd.

Pre·cipiced (-ist), *ppl. a.* [f. Precipice *sb.* + -ed ².] Having, furnished, or formed with precipices.

1873 Masson *Drumm. of Hawth.* xx. 452 Its banks terraced and precipiced by all their wealth of shrub and foliage. 1881 Shairp *Asp. Poetry* i. 28 The precipiced crags and blue mountain-peaks soar aloof.

Preci·pient, *a.* [ad. L. *præcipient-em*, pr. pple. of *præcipĕre* to command, instruct: see Precept.] Commanding, directing.

1828–32 in Webster. 1849 in Craig. In mod. Dicts.

† **Precipit,** *sb. Obs. rare.* In 7 precepit. [a. obs. F. *precipite* precipice (Cotgr.), ad. L. *præcipit-em* (nom. *præceps*) headlong, precipitous, a precipice: see next.] = Precipice.

1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 140 Go too, You take a Precepit for no leape of danger, And woe your owne destruction.

† **Preci·pit,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præceps, -cipit-em* (see prec.), f. *præ* before, in front + *caput, capit-* head.] Headlong, steep, precipitous.

1648 Earl of Westmorld. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 82 The snares of His precipit ways.

† **Preci·pit,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præcipit-āre* to cast headlong, or F. *précipite-r* (15th c. in Littré).] *trans.* = Precipitate *v.* 1 b.

1678 R.•R[ussell] tr. *Geber* III. ii. II. xx. 215 It will precipit you into the miserable State of Poverty.

Precipitability (prĭsi·pitābi·lĭti). [f. next + -ity.] The quality of being precipitable; capability of being precipitated or thrown down.

1790 Wedgwood in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 315 Precipitability by water, and non-precipitation by Prussian lixivium. 1842 Parnell *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 66 The precipitability of oxide of chromium from its solution in caustic potash by ebullition. 1881 *Nature* XXV. 142/2 The authors have examined the precipitability and precipitation of manganous and nickelous sulphates.

Precipitable (prĭsi·pităb'l), *a.* [f. L. *præcipitāre* to Precipitate + -able.] Capable of being precipitated from solution in a liquid, or from a state of vapour.

1670 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Ess.* 75 Vitriol contains a greater quantity..of a precipitable ocre. 1782 Kirwan in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 78 A very saturate solution of lead is difficultly..precipitable by iron. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1890) 37 Precipitable silver compounds.

Precipitance (prĭsi·pităns). [f. as next: see -ance.] Precipitant action or quality.

1. Very swift downward or onward movement; headlong fall or speed. *rare.*

1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 291 Thither they [waters] Hasted with glad precipitance. 1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* 107 It was not a precipitance from a more lofty to a more low. 1827 Southey *Hist. Penins. War* II. 5 The English in the precipitance of their flight had not marched upon Ferrol. *Ibid.* 769 There had been no alarm, no confusion, no precipitance upon the march.

2. Headlong action of any kind, or the quality of such action; great haste, violent hurry; *esp.* excessive or unwise haste, hastiness, rashness.

1725 Watts *Logic* II. iv. § 5 A rashness and precipitance of judgment and hastiness to believe something on one side or the other. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. iv. § 49 One.. misses his mark by circuity, the other by precipitance. 1839 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1849–50) VIII. lii. § 61. 360 His precipitance and arrogance..accelerated the catastrophe. 1907 R. Ellis *Lect. Elegiae in Mæcenatem* 11 The approbation of Augustus, who never judged with precipitance.

Precipitancy (prĭsi·pitănsi). [f. Precipitant *a.*: see -ancy.] The quality of being precipitant.

1. The quality of a headlong descent or fall, or of a very rapid onward movement; headlong speed, violent hurry; excessive suddenness or abruptness of action or occurrence.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 231 Respecting rather the acutenesse of the disease, and precipitancy of occasion, then the rising or setting of Stars. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* vii, Whence Vivaldi himself had returned with such unexpected precipitancy and consternation. 1803 Jane Porter *Thaddeus* xxxiv, Thaddeus..with delighted precipitancy caught hold of the hand. 1868 E. Edwards *Ralegh* I. xxv. 614 Several conspicuous men died under his treatment, with unusual precipitancy. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IX. 143 He was obliged to fly with the utmost precipitancy.

2. Excessive or unwise haste in action; great want of deliberation; hastiness, rashness.

a 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xiii. § 2 (1622) 136 Note the strange precipitancie of their tongue. 1685 *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 48 Precipitancy is the passion of fools, who not being able to discover the danger, act at hap-hazard. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. l. 92 Some degree of precipitancy and indiscretion. 1865 Trollope *Belton Est.* vi, He ..had gone about his task with inconsiderate precipitancy.

b. An instance of this; in *pl.* Hasty or rash acts.

1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* vii. 34 'Tis not likely, that one of a thousand such præcipitancies should be crowned with so unexpected an issue. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Shaks. Notes* (1849) 63 Youth with its follies, its virtues, its precipitancies.

Precipitant (prĭsi·pitănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *præcipitānt-em*, pr. pple. of *præcipitāre* to Precipitate: cf. F. *précipitant* (15th c. in Godef.).]

A. *adj.* (Now *rare*; usually replaced by Precipitate *a.*)

1. Falling headlong; descending vertically or steeply; headlong, directed straight downwards; falling to the bottom as a precipitate or sediment.

a 1620 [implied in Precipitantly 1]. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 563 He..without longer pause Down right into the Worlds first Region throws His flight precipitant. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* II. 68 Take care Thy muddy Bev'rage to serene, and drive Præcipitant the baser, ropy Lees. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 335 He [a horse]..plunging, from his Back the Rider hurls Precipitant.

2. Rushing headlong; hastening along at great speed; moving hurriedly or very swiftly onwards.

1671 Grew *Anat. Plants* vii. § 25 Lest its Current should be too copious or precipitant. 1725 Pope *Odyss.* I. 213 That troop so blithe and bold,..Precipitant in fear, wou'd wing their flight. 1830 W. Phillips *Mt. Sinai* II. 268 Walk'd he still erect,..quick-motion'd from the first, But not precipitant.

3. Acting or taking place with great hurry, rapidity, or suddenness; involving very rapid action; very sudden or unexpected, abrupt.

1641 Chas. I in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 403 It was hard at first either to discern the Rise, or apply a Remedy to that precipitant Rebellion. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 501 If we shall hesitate in a great and precipitant Disease, we run great dangers. 1710 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 625 The hasty reinforcements they are sending to Spain,..with other precipitant measures they have taken. 1803 tr. *P. Le Brun's Mons. Botte* III. 67 The precipitant departure of his uncle,..his last expressions.

4. Acting, or wont to act, with undue or unwise haste, or without any deliberation; excessively hurried; hasty, rash, headstrong. (Of persons, or their acts, etc.)

1608 T. Morton *Preamb. Encounter* 31 Thou hast beene rash and precipitant. 1663 Bp. Patrick *Parab. Pilgr.* ix. (1668) 40 They were..hurried by their blind and precipitant passion. 1742 Richardson *Pamela* IV. 222 She..is generous—noble—but has strong Passions, and is thoughtless and precipitant. 1896 in *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Oct. 10/2 He wants reform, but it must be gradual, not precipitant.

B. *sb. Chem.* A substance that causes precipitation; a chemical agent which, on being added to a solution, precipitates the dissolved substance. Sometimes const. *of* (the substance precipitated). Correlative to Precipitate *sb.*

1684–5 Boyle *Min. Waters* 59 A copious Precipitate, such as might have been expected from an Alkaline Precipitant. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 112 The most complete precipitant of copper known, is iron. 1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 301 The body added to the solution, in order

to obtain it, is called the precipitant. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 32 Hydrochloric acid and chloride of sodium, the ordinary precipitants of silver, also produce a precipitate with solutions of lead.

b. *fig.* (Cf. PRECIPITATE *sb.* d, *vb.* 5 c.)

1905 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 503 Such impressions..seem to be little more than irritants or precipitants of consciousness.

Preci·pitantly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a precipitant manner; precipitately.

1. With headlong fall or descent; headlong. Also *fig.*

a 1620 J. DYKE *Right Receiving* (1640) Ep. Rdr., Precipitantly falling from an higher excellency then he was any way worthy of. 1642 W. PRICE *Serm.* 14 No man precipitantly falls to the worst at first. 1773 J. ROSS *Fratricide* III. 996 (MS.) To support me To the first dreadful precipice, from whence To dash myself precipitantly down.

2. With headlong movement; hurryingly, very swiftly, at great speed; suddenly, abruptly.

1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 444 Returning precipitantly..back to the Captivity from whence he freed us. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. xliv. 300 Being forced precipitantly to quit that Kingdom. 1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 23 The Suicide urges precipitantly to the Tribunal of his offended God.

3. With undue haste; hastily, rashly.

1646 S. BOLTON *Arraignm. Err.* 98 We..are to receive them as men, that is, rationally, not precipitantly, deliberately, not rashly. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 37 (1794) II. 52 It does that coolly and temperately which might otherwise be done precipitantly and lavishly. 1821 *Examiner* 8/2 We..somewhat too precipitantly declined attention to the other performance.

Preci·pitantness. *rare*−°. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = PRECIPITANCY.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II. 1830 in MAUNDER *Dict.*

Precipitate (prĭsi·pitĕt), *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *præcipitātum* a precipitate, sb. use of neut. pa. pple. of L. *præcipitāre*: see PRECIPITATE *v.*] That which is precipitated; the product of precipitation.

a. *Chem.* A body precipitated from solution; any substance which, by the action of a chemical reagent, or of heat, etc. is separated from the liquid in which it was previously dissolved, and deposited in the solid state (usually in a powdery, flocculent, or cryptocrystalline form).

(Distinguished from *sediment*, a substance previously merely held in suspension, which subsides when left at rest.)

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 36 In the end, by a reverbatory furnesse hee turned al this great matter into a precipitate. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 353 A no lesse evident Example..we have in the precipitate of Gold and Mercury made by heat alone. 1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 376 The precipitate was at first black, then it assumed the appearance of silver. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ii. 61 Some precipitates will be days and even weeks before they will settle. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 89 All kinds of bacteria are indiscriminately mixed in the precipitate.

b. In *Old Chem.* and *Pharm.*, applied *spec.* to certain preparations of mercury obtained by precipitation; in later use, only with defining words:

Precipitate per se [= med.L. *mercurius præcipitatus per se*], or *red precipitate* [= *mercurius præcipitatus ruber*], mercuric oxide or red oxide of mercury, HgO; *sweet precipitate*, mercurous chloride or calomel, Hg_2Cl_2; *white precipitate*, mercurammonium chloride, $HgH_4N_2Cl_2$ (*fusible w. p.*), or dimercurammonium chloride, $Hg_2H_4N_2Cl_2$ (*infusible white p.*) [= *mercurius præcipitatus albus*].

1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 68 The Argent Viue that is combust (whych the Alchymistes call precipitate). 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 380/1 It will wexe a redde poudre which is called *Aurum vitæ*, and the aureate or goulden præcipitate. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 399 Rats-bane, Quick-silver, Sublimate, and Precipitate, and divers other things. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Precipitate*, a Dissolution of Mercury made by a Lamp Fire for two Months together, by which it is reduced to red and shining Powder. White precipitate is Mercury reviv'd, and Cinnaber dissolv'd in Aqua fortis of Nitre and Alum. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Precipitate*...The Chymists and Writers of Pharmacy commonly give this Name by way of Eminence to Mercury dissolved in Acid Menstruums, and then afterwards precipitated down to the bottom in fine Powders. 1784 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 158 It may further be urged that precipitate per se yields only dephlogisticated air. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 233 Oxide of mercury..reduced to a fine powder, it is changed to a yellow. It is known in pharmacy as red precipitate. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 516 In ointments, ammoniated mercury (white precipitate) is chiefly employed.

c. *Physics* and *Meteorol.* Moisture condensed from the state of vapour by cooling, and deposited in drops, as rain, dew, etc.

1832 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. xvii. 321 The heat, and the vapour, and the atmospherical precipitates. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 65 There is yet another form of atmospheric precipitate that needs a passing notice.

d. *fig.*

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. iii. (1872) 24 The Sterling household shifted twice or thrice..before the vapours of Wellesley promotions and suchlike slowly sank as useless precipitate. 1890 *Spectator* 22 Nov., The proportion of his precipitate of rascaldom which can be cured..in that way, is a very small one. 1905 G. A. SMITH in *Expositor* Oct. 309 Convulsions within Jerusalem, the precipitates from which lie heavy on the later memory of the Jewish nation.

e. *attrib.* (in sense b).

1753 BARTLET *Farriery* XXV. 230 Let the dressings be changed for the precipitate medicine. 1837 SYD. SMITH *Let. to Archd. Singleton*, Finger and thumb, precipitate powder, or anything else you please. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* 391, I entered on the use of black wash, with weak precipitate ointment.

Precipitate (prĭsi·pitĕt), *a.* Also 7 præ-. [ad. L. *præcipitātus*, pa. pple. of *præcipitāre*: see PRECIPITATE *v.*]

1. Hurled headlong; falling or descending steeply, or directly downwards; having the character of such descent; headlong.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. iii. § 7. 44 The foure Riuers (had they not fallen so precipitate) could not haue had sufficient force to haue thrust themselues vnder the great Ocean. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* III. i, Now like a Whirlwind, on the Shepherd's Fold He [an Eagle] darts precipitate. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 247 And Dadaces, the chiliarch, spear-struck fell Precipitate from his ship.

†b. Of a place, etc., without reference to movement: Having a steep or sheer descent; very steep, precipitous. *Obs.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 223 Some part of it of a plaine descent, some precipitate, some clothed with trees of seuerall kinds. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 225 (1810) 241 The way right down to the quay, they call it Precipitate.

2. Rushing or driven along headlong; moving or moved with excessive haste or speed, or having the character of such movement; violently hurried.

1654 tr. *Martini's Cong. China* 70 That vast and precipitate River which the Chineses call Hoang. 1703 POPE *Thebais* 191 Such was the discord of the royal pair, Whom fury drove precipitate to war. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* (1869) II. xlvi. 729 The general escaped by a precipitate flight. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxix. V. 92 This precipitate retreat produced consequences highly disastrous.

3. Performed, taking place, acting, or passing with very great rapidity; greatly hastened or hurried; exceedingly sudden or abrupt.

1658 ROWLAND *Topsell's Four-f. Beasts* Ep. Ded., That Art is long, Life short, Experience difficult, occasion precipitate, Judgement uncertain. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 27 Their service consisted in precipitate, and very irreverent chattering of certain Prayers and Hymns. 1845 POE *Purloined Let.* Wks. 1865 I. 280 His downfall, too, will not be more precipitate than awkward. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 737 Besides the long and difficult labour, the quick, or, in technical language the precipitate labour.

4. a. Of persons, or their dispositions, etc.: Actuated by violent or sudden impulse, without deliberation; acting with excessive or unwise haste; over-hasty, rash, inconsiderate, headstrong.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 237 They likewise fall to be so mad and præcipitate in lust, raging both with gestures and voice. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 153 Men that are hasty, and præcipitate in concluding..what to do. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 112 ₱ 5 If I could perswade these precipitate young Gentlemen to compose this Restlessness of Mind. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 123, I was determined not to be precipitate in purchasing. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 346 It was feared by some that she might be precipitate in her choice.

b. Of acts, etc.: Done in sudden haste or without deliberation; hurried, rash, unconsidered.

a 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 66 His præcipitate Councels in defacing Castles and strong palaces. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xii. 68 Our senses are not in fault, but our precipitate judgments. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1775 (1816) II. 401 Destroyed in a precipitate burning of his papers a few days before his death. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 481 The check opposed to precipitate and indiscreet zeal was not detrimental to the ultimate extension of Christianity.

†5. Thrown down (*fig.*), subjected. *Obs. rare*−1.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt*, etc. 216, I finde this age of oure markt with this fate, That honest men are still precipitate Vnder base villaines.

Precipitate (prĭsi·pitĕt), *v.* [f. L. *præcipitāre* to throw or drive headlong, to fall, be overhasty, f. *præceps*, *-cipitem* adj. headforemost, headlong, steep, rapid, violent, etc., f. *præ* before + *caput* head: see -ATE 3.]

I. 1. *trans.* To throw down headlong; to hurl or fling down. (Often *refl.*)

1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* D j b, From lofty top of Turret hie, persupetat [*sic*] me downe. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. i. (1651) 692 Salmoneus, that would in derision imitate Jupiters Thunder, he was precipitated for his pains. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 42 Water gushed out miraculously from the place into which he was precipitated. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 224 The garrison had no alternative but to perish by the edge of the sword, or to precipitate themselves into the ocean. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 36 On the brink of a precipice over which she was to be ere long precipitated.

b. *fig.* To 'hurl', 'fling', throw violently (*into* some (depressed) condition, or *upon* an object of attack).

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. l. 119 He shall precipitate himself into his enemies dedition. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 8 How often they are precipitated from the height of prosperity, into the depth of adversity. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXVI. II. 563 The invasion of the Huns precipitated on the provinces of the West the Gothic nation. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 78 A youth who could be precipitated into the writhings of dissolution, and raised out of it by a smile.

†c. *fig.* To cast down; to overthrow, ruin, destroy; to upset, disorder, derange. *Obs.*

1528 in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1679) I. *Records* II. xxii. 58 Not to suffer the Pope's Holiness, if he would thus wilfully, without reason or discretion to precipitate himself and the said See. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* liv. 10 Precipitate ô Lord, and divide their tongues.

†2. *intr.* (for *refl.* or *pass.*) To fall headlong; to fall, gravitate (quot. 1740). *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 50 (So many fathome downe precipitating) Thou'dst shiuer'd like an Egge. 1740 STACK in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 421 The Complication of these Two Forces will compel the Mobile to precipitate to the Centre ..of the Parallel it happens to be in. 1785 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 354 They precipitated from that height to the earth, and were crushed to atoms.

†b. To descend steeply, as a waterfall or river.

1644 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Nov., Aquapendente, a town situated on a very ragged rock, down which precipitates an intire river. 1793 A. MURPHY *Tacitus* (1805) VII. 8 The Rhine has its source on the steep and lofty summit of the Rhætian Alps, from which it precipitates.

†c. *fig.* To 'fall' or 'plunge' *into* some condition or act; to fall or come suddenly to ruin or destruction. *Obs.* (In quot. 1593, to come down from a lofty position or dignity, to condescend extremely.)

1593 LD. ESSEX in *Bacon's Wks.* (1862) VIII. 254 She [Q. Eliz.] should precipitate too much from being highly displeased with you, to give you near access. 1650 GENTILIS *Considerations* 160 Those who have such a mixture of great vices, and great vertues, sometimes precipitate and fall almost as soon as they are born. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 173 Exchanges are as variable as the Wind, and many times as if made, do precipitate without any known Cause or Reason. 1758 *Herald* No. 23 II. 116 While a nation is precipitating to its ruin.

II. 3. *trans.* To cause to move, pass, act, or proceed very rapidly; to hasten, hurry, urge on.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 2 Our disordinate maner of lyfe maketh vs..to precipitate our youth, and to abbreuiate much our lyfe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 614 The Goddess..Her self, involv'd in Clouds, precipitates her Flight. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. iv. Wks. 1874 I. 204 Men are impatient, and for precipitating things. 1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1871) II. viii. 554 Men will not bide their time, but will insist on precipitating the march of affairs.

b. To bring on or cause to happen quickly, suddenly, or unexpectedly; to bring to pass hastily or abruptly; to hasten the occurrence of.

1625 BACON *Ess., Ambition* (Arb.) 227 If they bee Stout, and Daring, it may precipitate their Designes, and proue dangerous. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. II. 65 The Duke of Joyeuse having precipitated the Battel of Coutras,..he there lost the Battel, with his Life. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 198 They could not precipitate his departure. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. vii, [He] often precipitated these paroxysms by denying his mother..duty and affection. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 3. 284 Its ruin was precipitated by religious persecution.

4. *intr.* To rush headlong; to make great haste, to hurry; to move, act, or proceed very quickly.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, Wks. 1879 I. 774/2 Neither..did their forces gather or increase, which might hasten him to precipitate and assail them. 1647 SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediv.* I. v. (1854) 39 It was brought to the King, that our army was flying to Northampton, which did occasion them the more to precipitate. 1758 JORTIN *Erasm.* I. 264, I precipitate rather than compose, and it is far more irksome to me to review than to write.

†b. To proceed with undue or unwise haste; to act hastily or rashly; to be precipitate in action.

1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 121 They had vsed all reasons and dexteritie possible to stay the Pope that he might not precipitate. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. I. 244 We are now deliberating about the Election of Gods Vice-gerent.., and shall we precipitate in this manner?

III. 5. *Chem. trans.* To deposit, or cause to be deposited, in a solid form from solution in a liquid, by chemical action: see PRECIPITATE *sb.* (Sometimes with the solution as object: To produce precipitation in.) Formerly sometimes in wider sense: To deposit from suspension or admixture in a liquid, as sediment, etc.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* XXXIV. § 4. 290 This steame therefore, flying still to the serous bloud which passeth by, must of necessity precipitate (as I may say) the serous partes of that bloud. 1676–7 GREW *Solution Salts in Water* I. § 14 They are both copiously and forthwith precipitated to the bottome of the Glass. 1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 375 *note*, Copper and zinc readily precipitate silver from these solutions. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 96 This acid liquor precipitates lime water. 1816 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* I. 2 The filtered solution was precipitated by carbonate of potash. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 246 This acid readily precipitates lime from all its combinations with acids.

b. *Physics* and *Meteorol.* To condense (moisture) into drops from a state of vapour, and so deposit or cause to fall, as dew, rain, etc.

1863 TYNDALL *Heat* II. § 28 (1870) 31 A very few strokes suffice to precipitate the vapour. 1869 — in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. 235 Turning in the beam we have a second cloud, more delicate than the first, precipitated. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 44 The mass of ice cools the surrounding air, and thus precipitates its moisture.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* in various applications; *spec.* in *Spiritualism* = MATERIALIZE 2.

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 189 The mercury of his blood was precipitated. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Nat.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 235 The world is mind precipitated. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 2/3 The assertion of a band of Mejnour and Zanoni brothers who possess the secret of dissolving their own senile bodies and precipitating them again in the prime of physical condition.

6. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To be deposited from solution (or from suspension); to settle as a precipitate.

a 1626 BACON *Phys. Rem.* Wks. 1879 I. 245/1 By what strong water every metal will precipitate. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 34 Which in a short time will precipitate and all sink down to the bottom of the glass. 1758 REID

tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 379 It always precipitates in the form of a white calx. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 403 Carbonate of lime..precipitates.

b. To fall or be deposited as condensed vapour. 1800 VINCE *Hydrostat.* vii. (1806) 78 [The vapours] have no inclination to precipitate and fall down in drops.

Preci·pitated, *ppl. a.* [f. PRECIPITATE *v.* + -ED 1.] In senses answering to those of the verb.

1. Hastened, hurried. Now usually PRECIPITATE *a.* 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 16 Therefore was the teacher..a stupid beast to teach him that was too precipitated. 1678 *Trans. Crt. Spain* 51 At the too precipitated death of that Gentleman of Arragon. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2377/2 The Enemies precipitated Retreat to Sendrovia. 1749 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. xlviii. 286 She set even my heart into a palpitation,..like a precipitated pendulum in a clock case. 1845 NAPIER *Conq. Scinde* II. vii. 428 The precipitated movements of the Ameer.

2. *Chem.* and *Physics.* Deposited from solution, or from a state of vapour.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. v. viii. 200 Calces of corroded and precipitated things. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 329 You must draw it off from its precipitated Lees. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. iv. 114 The cloud formed.., when the precipitated particles are sufficiently fine, is blue. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 726 A drachm of precipitated sulphur administered in milk.

Hence **Preci·pitatedly** *adv.*, precipitately, hurriedly; = next, sense 2. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* I. II. v. 101 [He] would have confirmed the suspicion..by leaving the room as precipitatedly as he had entered it.

Precipitately (prĭsi·pitĕtli), *adv.* [f. PRECIPITATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a precipitate manner.

1. With headlong fall or descent; headlong. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 392 An outragious Torrent; which precipitately deualleth. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 236 By means of this..they secure themselves from falling precipitately upon the rocks when they dive to the bottom of the sea. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii, Marks, heading the retreat down the rocks.., while all the party came tumbling precipitately after him.

†**b.** Steeply, precipitously. *Obs.* 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 19 From the heights of the mountain, which precipitately rise above this Plateau, immense avalanches often descend.

2. With headlong speed; with a sudden rush; in great haste. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 300 The Emperor himself was forced, precipitately, to come down from the Mountain. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) I. xliii. 219 Rushing precipitately into the room. 1877 CLERY *Min. Tact.* xiv. (ed. 3) 186 If the rearguard be attacked precipitately by the first troops that arrive.

3. With hurried action, hurriedly, hastily; suddenly, abruptly; with unwise haste, rashly, inconsiderately. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Rcb.* I. § 51 A new War was as precipitately declared against France. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 517 A man may determine his will precipitately as well as considerately. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xviii, That state of mind in which we all are more ready to act precipitately than to reason right. 1873 MRS. H. WOOD *Mast. Greylands* ii, The..governess had lately given warning precipitately and left.

Preci·pitateness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being precipitate; hastiness; rashness. 1669 BP. HOPKINS *Serm. 1 Pet.* ii. 12 (1685) 35 It is but precipitateness for any man to oppose himself..defenceless against armed violence. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 8 July 5/2 Captain Fournier..expressed himself in similar terms with regard to General Millot's precipitateness.

Precipitater: see PRECIPITATOR.

Preci·pitating, *vbl. sb.* [f. PRECIPITATE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRECIPITATE; usually = PRECIPITATION 5. Also *attrib.* 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 62 By attenuating the grosser parts..volatilizing some, precipitating of others. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 83 The Philosophers do write of precipitating, by which the Silver in common tin may be put down. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 400 The bath after it is withdrawn from the precipitating-tanks generally contains a little copper. 1887 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 2/6 Thirteen precipitating tanks on the land side of the existing reservoir will receive the sewage.

Preci·pitating, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That precipitates, in various senses.

†**1.** Steep, precipitous. *Obs.* 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* III. 183 This Caue is..hewne out of the precipitating rocke. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 278 The Ponds being hewne out..from the deualling face of a precipitating mountaine.

2. Falling headlong from a height; sinking to the bottom, as a deposit from a liquid. ? *Obs.* 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) II. 122 Some were covered with forest and some with precipitating streams. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 40 The progressive motion impressed upon the precipitating masses.

†**3.** Coming abruptly, abrupt or sudden. *Obs.* 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 35 Yet ere death cald for them, they were cald for, by precipitating ends.

4. Impelling headlong; hurrying violently. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 321 A whirlwind swept it on, With fierce gusts and precipitating force.

†**5.** Plunging into action without consideration; acting too hastily or rashly, precipitate. *Obs.* 1681 D'URFEY *Progr. Honesty* iv, So the reverend Sire.. thus begun To pitty and instruct his just precipitating Son. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xxx. 195 A man so generous, tho' so precipitating.

6. *Chem.* Causing precipitation from solution. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 573 The precipitating action of egg-albumen precipitin.

Precipitation (prĭsipitē·ʃən). [a. F. *précipitation* (15th c. Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *præcipitātiōnem*, n. of action from *præcipitāre* to PRECIPITATE.] The action of precipitating.

I. 1. The action of casting down or falling headlong from a height; a hurling down; the fact of being hurled down; headlong fall or descent. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 102 Wee..banish him our Citie In perill of precipitation From off the Rocke Tarpeian. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xvi. 427 Under this Assurance that He might cast Himself down from the Pinnacle, but that He should be supported in His Precipitation as well as He was in His Ascent thither. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* x. (1858) 367 The summit of a mountain, from which summit the intended precipitation was to take place.

b. Steepness of descent; precipitousness. *rare.* 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 4 Let them..pile ten hilles on the Tarpeian Rocke, That the precipitation might downe stretch Below the beame of sight. 1890 TALMAGE *Manger to Throne* 53 The hills for width and precipitation are displays omnipotent.

c. *Path.* Complete prolapsus, 'falling'. 1612 tr. *Guillemeau's Child-birth* 210 The precipitation, or comming downe of the wombe: the ligaments being loosened, and sometimes broken. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 110 *note*, In what Madame Boivin terms *precipitation* or complete *prolapsus*..any rational scheme of relief is entitled to encouragement.

†**d.** Vertical descent (of a root). *Obs. rare.* 1669 J. ROSE *Eng. Vineyard* (1675) 18 The deepness, and fatness of the earth, contributes more to the luxury of the branches..and precipitation of the roots, than to the just, and natural stature of the stem.

II. 2. Headlong rush, violent onward motion. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] x. 26 Wee goe surest, when we post not in a precipitation. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* (J.), The hurry, precipitation, and rapid motion of the water, returning at the end of the deluge, towards the sea. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 76 The violence of the current, which had set us with so much precipitation to the eastward. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Chimney-Sweepers*, Pacing along Cheapside with my accustomed precipitation when I walk westward.

3. Sudden and hurried action; sudden haste or quickness; hurry. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) IV. vi. S ij, He therin ought to procede demeurely dyscretly, without preceptacyon [*Fr.* precipitacion] in chastysynge. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 98 Mounting and falling from note to note such as be to them peculiar, and with more or lesse leasure or precip[it]ation. 1678 *Trans. Crt. Spain* 165 That so he might undo me with greater precipitation. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. vi, 'None, none!' interrupted she, with precipitation. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, The lady having seized it, with great precipitation, they retired.

b. Unduly hurried action; inconsiderate haste; rash rapidity. 1629 T. ADAMS *Medit. Creed* Wks. 1862 III. 119 Precipitation in our works makes us unlike to God: heady fool, art thou wiser than thy Maker? 1700 ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 251 Precipitation is the effect of Madness, and generally the occasion of great Perils. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 397 Some philosophers, with great precipitation have pretended to decide it by system. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xi, We must not act with precipitation.

4. The bringing on of something hastily, suddenly, or before the expected time; hastening, hurrying; acceleration. 1621 in Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 109 Then the precipitacion of justice (not hearing the proofes) is hyghe injustice. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 174 The common cause alleadged..is, a precipitation or over hasty exclusion before the birth be perfect. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 488 This, in a great measure, gave precipitation to his own downfall. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 557 *note*, He attributes to his death the precipitation of the ruin of Jerusalem.

III. 5. *Chem.* Separation and deposition of a substance in a solid (powdery or crystalline) form from solution in a liquid, by the action of a chemical reagent, or of electricity, heat, etc.

The date of first quotation is not certain: it may be 17th c. [1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vi. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 95 Longe Vessells for Precipitation.] 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 *Precipitation* is when bodies corroded by Aqua fortis, or Aqua Regia, and dissolved into water..are reverberated into Calx. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxxvii 313 The precipitation of Benjamin, and some other Resinous Bodies. 1790 KEIR in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 374 Upon adding iron to a solution of silver in the nitrous acid no precipitation ensued. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 12 For precipitations, and separating liquids from precipitates, the decanting-jar will be found useful. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 6 The precipitation of the indigo white.

b. *concr.* The product of this process, a precipitated substance; a precipitate. (In quot. 1867 in extended sense.) 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 154 The same coagulating force.. doth manifestly appeare in those preparations which are called precipitations. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* Pref. (1870) 12 Our forests, corn-fields, and coal-beds are the solid precipitations of unseen carbonic acid gas in the atmosphere.

c. *attrib.* 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 37 The clear liquor should now be run off into the precipitation cistern. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Jan. 2/2 The construction of precipitation works at one of the London sewage outfalls.

6. *Physics* and *Meteorol.* Condensation and deposition of moisture from the state of vapour, as by cooling; *esp.* in the formation of dew, rain, snow, etc. **b.** *concr.* That which is so deposited. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 468 In some..precipitations of the Air. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1732) 99 There was so strange a Condensation or rather Precipitation of the Vapours. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 322 Dew is a precipitation of humidity from the lower strata of the atmosphere. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 105 Thence the frequent precipitation of heavy rain, and the banks and sheets of morning cloud which veil the tree-clad peaks of the highest gradients. 1864 MARSH *Man & Nat.* 436 Marriotte found that but one sixth of the precipitation in basin of the Seine was delivered into the sea by that river. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 179 The excess of evaporation over precipitation in the northern portion of the land hemisphere.

7. *fig.*; *spec.* in *Spiritualism* = MATERIALIZATION 2. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Oct. 2/3 A distinguished naturalist.. assured me that he had, in his own room, with no other person present save his servant, a young man of 'mediumistic' temperament, repeatedly witnessed the process of materialization (precipitation) of a human figure slowly going on under his own eyes, developing from a nebulous shape through which he could see the furniture beyond it, to a solid human form, whose hand he could grasp firmly.

Precipitative (prĭsi·pitĕitiv), *a.* [f. PRECIPITATE *v.* (or its L. source): see -ATIVE.] Having the quality of precipitating (i. e. in quot., of accelerating motion). 1883 WINCHELL *World-Life* II. iv. (1889) 491 The precipitative tendencies of tidal action may exceed those resulting from resistances encountered in planetary space.

Precipitator (prĭsi·pitĕitəɹ). Also 7 -er. [a. late L. *præcipitātor* a destroyer, overthrower: see PRECIPITATE *v.* and -OR.] One who or that which precipitates.

1. One who brings something to pass quickly or suddenly; a hastener. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *Serm. Luke ix.* 55 Wks. 1684 IV. 590 Zealots..as it prov'd were the hastners and precipitators of the destruction of that Kingdom.

2. *Chem.* and *Physics.* Something that causes precipitation; a precipitant. **b.** An apparatus for precipitation; *spec.* a tank for purifying hard water or sewage, a precipitating-tank. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* Introd. 20, I have found Antimony, Allum, and Coral, to be most powerful Dulcif[i]ers, Precipitaters, and Expulsers of divers sorts of Acides. 1883 HALDANE *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 350/1 The mother-liquor is conducted through the pipe for mother-water to the precipitators. 1886 *American* XI. 166 The slopes of elevations towards the sea are great precipitators of rain.

Precipitin (prĭsi·pitin). *Biol. Chem.* [irreg. f. base of PRECIPIT-ATE + -IN 1.] A substance that causes precipitation from a solution: see quot. 1903. 1900 *Lancet* 14 July 99/1 Experiments..with the precipitins of egg albumen and sheep's globulin were made, and in this case also one or other of the precipitins disappeared. 1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 Mar. 655 The same explanations hold good for the action of the..precipitins, namely those substances in immune serums which cause precipitation when added to the fluids or solutions of substances used in immunization. 1904 [see PRECIPITATING *ppl.a.* 6].

†**Precipi·tious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præcipiti-um* PRECIPICE *sb.* + -OUS. In sense 1 this form is more correct etymologically than *precipitous.*]

I. 1. Of the nature of a precipice: = PRECIPITOUS 4. 1635 BRATHWAIT *Arcad. Pr.* 196 But you'r specially to shunne,..To walke..Neare a precipitious place. 1658 RAY *Rem.* (1760) 196 A precipitious solid Rock. 1721 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* Add. 6 Travelling through the Mountains, which were now somewhat more uneven and precipitious [*printed* precipititious].

b. *fig.* Involving risk of sudden fall or ruin. 1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 83 Hee cannot bee so ignorant, as to vnderstand no way to bee so precipitious for himselfe. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 60 Others have refused these royall dignities, as places too precipitious, and too full of cares and troubles.

2. Descending headlong; = PRECIPITATE *a.* 1. 1648 *Eikon Basilike* v. 35 Monarchy it self, together with Me, could not but be dashed in pieces, by such a precipitious fall as they intended. [Misquoted as *precipitous* by J.]

II. 3. Sudden, abrupt: = PRECIPITATE *a.* 3, PRECIPITOUS 2. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* VI. 24 Sutable to the Analogy of Nature, which useth not to make precipitious leaps from one thing to another, but usually proceeds by orderly steps and gradations.

4. Hasty, rash: = PRECIPITATE *a.* 4, PRECIPITOUS 1. 1613 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* 141 He..stood so betweene the kingdome and the kings rigor as stayed many precipitious violencies. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* I. ix. 78 Cross, precipitious, despiteful, revengeful. *Ibid.* I. xiii. 178 Lust..is the mother of negligence, precipitious inconsiderateness, inconstancy.

Hence †**Precipi·tiously** *adv.*, hastily, precipitately; †**Precipi·tiousness,** hastiness, rashness. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxviii. (1663) 278 In regard this execution had been done precipitiously, and without any proof. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. ¶ 10 Precipitiously it will on, where ever strong desire shall drive. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* II. iv. 261 Precipitiousness, impatience, or not staying to take the opportunity,..is frequently the ruine of many noble designs.

Precipitous (prĭsi·pitəs), *a.* [ad. obs. F. *precipiteux* (16th c. in Godef.) = It., Sp., Pg. *precipitoso*, ad. late L. or Com. Rom. **præcipitōsus*, f. *præceps, præcipit-em* headlong: see -OUS.]

I. †**1.** Acting, or done, with excessive or undue haste; rash, headstrong: = PRECIPITATE *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. v. 18 The attempts of some have been precipitous. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* v. i, I should be censur'd for being too precipitous. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 78 (1740) 564 This Discharge..was precipitous.., and done on Purpose to stop that Indictment.

†**2.** Coming on or passing very rapidly; very sudden or abrupt: = PRECIPITATE *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. vi. 117 The small and slender time of the Beares gestation,..lasting but few dayes,..the exclusion becomes precipitous, and the young ones consequently informous. 1666 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (ed. 2) 4 How precious the time is, how præcipitous the occasion, how many things to be done in their just Season.

3. Rushing headlong onwards; violently hurried or hurrying: = PRECIPITATE *a.* 2. *rare.*

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 33 The waters are discharged with a rapid precipitous current. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. viii, A course precipitous, of dizzy speed, Suspending thought and breath. 1833 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Barrenness Imag. Faculty*, Precipitous, with his reeling Satyr rout about him,.. Bacchus .. flings himself at the Cretan. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 588 The sweep Of some precipitous rivulet to the wave.

II. 4. Of the nature of a precipice; having a vertical, overhanging, or very steep face, as a rock or cliff; consisting of or characterized by precipices. (The usual sense: taking the place of the earlier PRECIPITIOUS.)

1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 449 Salisbury Craig..is noted chiefly for its steep precipitous front. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 271 Down the precipitous rocks they sprung. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 245 In the first part the shore is bold, precipitous, and picturesque. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* viii. (1858) 324 Up the precipitous ravines of Jericho and Ai.

b. Falling with extreme rapidity.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 360 The descent of the temperature is then rapid, even precipitous, falling 3° to 5° F. or more in a single night.

Preci·pitously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a precipitous manner.

1. With headlong onward movement; with a rushing violence: = PRECIPITATELY 2. *rare.*

1626 tr. *Boccalini's Newsfound Pol.* II. iv. 125 What hindred them from running precipitously to the acquisition of all Italie? 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 58 Till the victim hear within and yearn to hurry precipitously Like the leaf in a roaring whirlwind, like the smoke in a hurricane whirl'd.

†**2.** With undue haste; over-hastily, rashly: = PRECIPITATELY 3. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxi. 162 The long continuation..without any visible food, which some observing precipitously conclude they [chameleons] eate not any at all. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Vind. Dutch War* 17 Neither is it providential for a weak Prince..to run Precipitously into a War.

3. Like or as a precipice; with a precipitous slope or face; vertically or very steeply.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lxxxvi, Darken'd Jura, whose capt heights appear Precipitously steep. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 294 A smooth rock, which descends precipitously into the sea.

Preci·pitousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being precipitous.

†**1.** Hastiness, rashness, precipitateness. *Obs.*

a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm. Prov. i.* 22 Wks. 1684 IV. 576 Precipitousness, as Trismegistus defines it, *μανιας εἶδος*, a species of madness in one place,..a kind of drunkenness in another. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 572 Much of this precipitousness in judging must in candour be put down to Niebuhr's youth.

2. The quality of being precipitous as a cliff.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii. (1859) 286 The left or western bank of the narrow entrance to the harbour..ran out in all its precipitousness and beauty. 1865 GEIKIE *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* viii. 224 Where a vertical wall of granite rises into the air, it may for a long while retain its precipitousness.

‖ **Précis** (prē·si), *sb.* [F. (*presi*), sb. use of *précis* adj., cut short, condensed, PRECISE.] A concise or abridged statement; a summary; an abstract.

1760 CHESTERF. *Let. to Bp. Chenevix* 29 Apr., I hope you have seen Voltaire's *précis* of it in verse. 1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 165/1 Take with you, if you please, this *précis* of its exploits: eleven hundred men, commanded by a soldier raised from the ranks, put to rout a select army of 6000 men, commanded by General Lake. 1870 M. A. LOWER *Hist. Sussex* II. 90 The arguments are too lengthened for even a *précis* here. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 22 June 456/2 The article is so compact as to read in parts almost like a *précis*.

b. The action or practice of précis-writing.

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *précis report, -writer, -writing.*

1809 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 406 Précis-writer under his Lordship when Secretary of State. 1813 SIR R. WILSON *Priv. Diary* II. 431 To transmit home an historical *précis* detail of the operations. 1880 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* XXX. 8 The references..may be cited as the very perfection of *précis* writing.

Hence **Précis** *v. trans.*, to make a précis of; to abstract, summarize.

1863 PINKERTON in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. III. 181/1 The labour of..precising in a calendrical form such a vast chaos of documents may be readily imagined. 1889 *Official Notes Home Dept. India on Adulteration Food*, The replies to the circular letter will be found fully précised in the notes prefixed to the municipal proceedings.

Precis, obs. Sc. f. *presses*: see PRESS *v.*

Precise (prĭsəi·s), *a.* (*adv.*) Also: 6 **precyse, -syse, -sise, -size, prysyse,** 6–7 **precize,** 7 **præcise,** 9 *Sc.* **preceese.** [= F. *précis, -ise* (*prescis*, 14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præcīsus* cut off, abrupt, shortened, pa. pple. of *præcīdĕre* to cut off (in front), cut short, abridge, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *cædĕre* to cut.]

1. Definitely or strictly expressed; exactly defined; definite, exact; of a person, definite and exact in statement.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 265 There shall be streyte examinacion made, & precyse accountes required for this matter. 1550 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 162 [He] hath..vntill twysdaye next,to make a precyse Aunswer. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 49, I must needes confesse, these reasons of theirs are sifted very depe and very harde, and marueylous precise. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* xviii, That Peace is too precize, that limits the justnesse of a Warre to a Sword drawne or a Blow given. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. ii. 29 It was at last agreed that each Party should, at a precise Time send away two Men on foot. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 353 It is in a sense less strict and precise, that we take the word *habit*. 1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* Introd. 16 To be precise, it was necessary to be minute. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxv. 638 His instructions had been precise and imperative. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 187 He is very precise about dates and facts. *Ibid.* IV. 80 Let us then put into more precise terms the question which has arisen.

†**b.** Of an instrument: Exact, accurate. *Obs.*

1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* II. xvii. 45, I made experience with a precise Astrolabie.

c. Of the voice or tone: Distinctly uttered.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, In the low precise tone of one who endeavours to awaken a sleeper.

2. Strict in the observance of rule, form, or usage; formal, correct; punctilious, scrupulous, particular; sometimes, Over-exact, over-nice, fastidious. Also of a practice or action: Strictly observed.

1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Precyse, scrupulously circumspecte, *precys.* 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* I. (1859) 341 As touching the precise keeping of the seventh day after the manner of the Jews. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 426 So the presisest Virgins are to be won when they be young. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* i. (1592) 11 Mention is made of certeine presize persons, which beleeued nothing but that which they sawe. *a* 1625 *Nebuchadnezzars Fierie Furnace* (Harl. MS. 7578 lf. 50), Such fellowes proud who seem to be precise Their fantasies are onely set to please. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 134 The antient Pagans were precise To use no short-tail'd Beast in Sacrifice. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 610 Learned without pride, Exact, yet not precise. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xiii, He..was very precise about doing his duty. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 65/2 An old bachelor, precise and obstinate.

b. *esp.* Strict or scrupulous in religious observance; in 16th and 17th c., puritanical.

1566 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 278 These precise folk would offer their goods and bodies to prison, rather than they would relent. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 7 In assaulting the fort of our precise brethren. 1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) 17 The hottest precisest and most scrupulous nonconformer. 1693 WOOD *Life* 15 June (O. H. S.) III. 424 He was too precise and religious. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm., Prov.* xiv. 6 (1726) I. 195 How did they deride that Grave Preacher of Righteousness [Noah], and his Precise Family. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. iii. 167 Those..who favoured the more precise reformers, and looked coldly on the established church. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 312 Men are now called 'precise', who will not connive at sin, or allow the levity which plays, mothlike, around it.

3. Exact; neither more nor less than; perfect, complete: opposed to *approximate.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* B ij, A Semicircle..doth conteine.. the precise halfe of his circumference. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iv. 15 A man that seeketh precise truth. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vii. 39 The precise serpentine line, or line of grace. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. ii. 17 The coincidence is not so precise as some others. 1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxiv. (1860) II. 14 A definition..should be Precise, that is, contain nothing unessential, nothing superfluous. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. ii. 2 The precise adaptation of the key to every ward of the lock.

4. Distinguished with precision from all others; identified, pointed out, or stated, with precision or exactness; *the precise*, the particular, the identical, the very, the exact.

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (1868) 63 They had taken vp an euill grounded rumor, which, being traced from one to an other, euery time with some additions, came att length to vanish without finding any præcise author. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* (1839) 367 The precise day upon which he rose. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, III. x. 221 The Protestants.. insisted upon the council's copying the precise words of that instrument. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* i. (ed. 3) 10 The difficulty of finding the precise angle at which the diamond cuts. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. IV. 161 The precise character of these chemical changes we have no means of ascertaining. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 48 The precise moment at which a traveller is passing.

†**B.** as *adv.* = PRECISELY. *Obs.*

a 1400–30 *Chaucer's Astrol.* II. § 45 The 3ere of ovre lord 1400, I-wryton [*v.r.* I wold wyttyn] precise, my rote. 1567 DRANT *Horace, to Mæcenas* F vij, Sum follow so precyse A learned man, that oftentymes they imitate his vyce. 1594 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* li, Thus stood I ballanc'd equally precize, Till my fraile flesh did weigh me downe to sin.

Precise (prĭsəi·s), *v.* [a. F. *préciser* to determine exactly, f. *précis* PRECISE *a.*] *trans.* To make precise or definite; to define precisely or exactly; to particularize. Hence **Preci·sing** *vbl. sb.*

1866 T. HARPER *Peace through Truth* Ser. I. 252 Direct asseverations..which precise the meaning of terms, which might otherwise be ambiguous. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 139/1 Ask him, General, to precise his accusation against me. 1887 J. C. MORISON *Service Man* ix. 313 Its solution would seem to require a little more precising of what is meant by happiness, than is customary in ethical discussions.

Precisely (prĭsəi·sli), *adv.* Forms: see PRECISE (5–6 *erron.* **peroys-**). [f. as PRECISE *a.* + -LY 2.

Known in use earlier than *precise* adj. prob. immediately translating F. *précisément*, which is also known earlier than *précis, -e* adj., and was prob. a rendering of the L. adv. *præcīsē*, which was much more in use than the adj. *præcīsus.*]

†**1.** Definitely; entirely, absolutely. *Obs.*

c 1450 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 37 From y^e^ office of aldyrmanry vtterly and percysly to cessen. 1552 ASCHAM in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 11 My purpose is preciselie bent to mynde all dewtie. 1552 HULOET, Preciselye, *obiter, precise.* 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 768 If shee percase be so obstinate and so precisely set vpon her awne will and opinion, that [etc.]. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 49, I prescribe not these places so precisely, as that he may not live in others.

†**b.** In definite or precise terms; expressly. *Obs.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxlv. 287 Anon he demed y^e^ contrary, & sayd, presysely y^t^ other they must gyue batayll to theyr enemyes, or ellys they must flee w^t^ shame. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Four Serm. Song Ezech.* i. (1561) A viij b, Ther be also other more impudent, whiche..do plainly & precisely deny it to be sinne. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 112 God doth simply offer himselfe to vs, and precisely set downe what he will be to vs ward.

†**2.** Particularly, specifically, in particular. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 782/2 As touching saint Paule, he spake not in that place precisely of y^e^ scripture. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 124 Cajetan there speakes of Symbolum, in generall, not of the Apostles Creed precisely. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 189 The matter..was .. precisely and abstractively considered. 1697 HUMFREY *Righteousn. God* IV. 55 It may be consider'd Precisely in itself, or Complexly with its Antecedents, and Consequents.

3. With strict observance of rule, form, or usage; strictly, rigorously; minutely, punctually; punctiliously, ceremoniously; properly, with propriety.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 65 Whiche..yet to this present daye kepe the lettre of the lawe of Moyses in many thynges precysely. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 501 b, Wherefore if neither this reuerend Byshopp..is able to behaue himselfe so precisely, but that he must flee dayly with vs to the mercy seate and compassion of God: where be then these glorious crakes of integrity? 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 26 Like a wise Philosopher, conforms to Time and Place most precisely. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xiv, His other features small, though precisely moulded.

4. Exactly; with precise or exact correspondence; with precise identification, with exact or definite knowledge.

1567 DRANT *Horace, De Arte Poet.* A iv, Do not imitate So iumpingly so precyselie And step for step so strayte. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 819 To point out precisely the very place..passeth my skill. 1783 LD. HAILES *Antiq. Chr. Ch.* ii. 39 *note*, The date is not precisely known. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 156 Crystals have probably never been produced .. precisely answering to the articulated basaltic pillars. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xiv. 303 Their reports..did not always agree precisely with each other.

b. Qualifying a specified relation, time, etc., or a statement: Exactly, just; *ellipt.* just so, quite so; = EXACTLY 5 b, c.

1652 G. COLLIER *Vind. Sabbath* (1656) 39 The day Christ calls his day.. is precisely the day of his birth. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 452 P 5 It being my Design to put out my Paper every Night at Nine-o-Clock precisely. 1820 BYRON *Morg. Mag.* lxiii, Morgante at a venture shot an arrow, Which pierced a pig precisely in the ear. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* ii, That is precisely what I wanted to say a few words about to you. 1906 *Athenæum* 10 Mar. 289/1 Some of them might have been withheld without precisely damaging the author's reputation. 1906 H. BLACK *Edin. Serm.* 115 The apostle holds the precisely opposite view. *Mod.* 'Then you would advise me to wait a little and watch the course of events?' 'Precisely.'

Preciseness (prĭsəi·snės). [f. PRECISE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being precise.

1. Definiteness; exactness; minuteness, precision.

1569 GOLDING *Heminges Post.* Ded. 7 Obedience to bee performed according too the precisenesse of the word. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 293 Mainteining our opinion, with the precisenesse wherof the mindes of men are amased. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 342/1 In preciseness of Blazon ..let it be called a Mill Rinde molined. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* ix. (1874) 153, I shall not tell with any preciseness where I was. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ii. 29 A preciseness of definition which should exclude misunderstanding.

2. Strictness in behaviour, manners, morals, or religious observance; rigid propriety, primness; fastidiousness; scrupulousness, puritanical quality.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. E iij, I iudge it a no lesse vyce of curiositye to be in Reckelesness in lettynge a mans clothes fal of his backe, then in Preciseness to carie a mans head so like a malthorse for feare of ruffling his hear. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 644 Wee blame Puritanes for their affected singularitie and formall preciseness. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 12 (1619) 241 Godlines is made but a by-word, and a note of reproach..vnder the title of puritie and precisenesse. 1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 94 The discipline of several of the reformed churches, is in a stile of preciseness, which does not admit

of any innocent amusement. 1856 Miss Yonge *Daisy Chain* I. xviii, Dry experience, and prejudiced preciseness.

† b. Severity, strictness, rigorousness. *Obs.*

1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* I. xviii. (1591) 12 His too much precisenes did harme. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxvii. xxxviii. 656 The Consuls tooke musters more streightly and with greater precisenesse, than any man could remember in former yeeres. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 276 By this severity and precisenesse of rules.

Precisian (prĭsi·zăn). Also 6 **pri-, 6–7 præ-; 6 -cisean, -sician, 6–7 -cision, 7 -sisian.** [f. Precise *a.* + -ian, after *Christian*, etc.]

One who is rigidly precise or punctilious in the observance of rules or forms. a. *spec.* One who is precise in religious observance: in the 16th and 17th c. synonymous with *Puritan*.

1571 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 377 That inconvenience that Mr. Mullyns .. should openly tell the precisians that her Highness' sword should be compelled to cut off this stubborn multitude. 1572 J. Jones *Bathes of Bath* III. 24 The Puritanes, but better we may terme them piuish precisians. 1583 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 112 These presicians would haue all things remoued out of the Church which haue beene abused to Idolatrie. 1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. ii, He's no precisian, that I'm certain of, Nor rigid Roman Catholic: .. I haue heard him swear. 1612 Drayton *Poly-olb.* vi. 94 Like our Precisions .. Who for some Crosse or Saint they in the window see Will pluck downe all the Church. *a* 1652 Brome *Eng. Moor* v. iii, Forgiv' me for swearing, and turn Precisian, and pray I' the nose that all my brethren .. spend no worse. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 3 A profane person calls a man of piety a precisian. 1821 Scott *Kenilw.* vii, Here is what neither Papist nor Puritan, latitudinarian nor precisian, ever boggles or makes mouths at. 1893 Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O. H. S.) 137 Precisian as Cole was, he does not seem to have objected to card-playing.

b. Generally; or in some sphere of practice.

[1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 5 Though Loue vse Reason for his precisian, hee admits him not for his Counsailour.] 1755 Johnson, *Precisian*, 1. One who limits or restrains. 1834 Southey *Doctor* liii. (1862) 120 A man may dwell upon words till he becomes at length a mere precisian in speech. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VII. lxii. 388 He went over to the Stoics, set up for an austere precisian, and a professed opponent of the .. government. 1881 *Gd. Words* XXII. 71 A precisian desires specific rules. 1894 Grahame *Pagan* 46 A formal precisian .. during business hours.

c. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1616 T. Adams *Contempl. Herbs* Wks. 1862 II. 465 A wicked politician in a ruff of precisian set. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 18 Like the dull præcisian pædagogues to the ferulæ and pedantick Tyranny of the Stagirite. *a* 1882 *Sat. Rev.* (Annandale), A martyr to the political strategy of a precisian government.

Hence † **Precisia·nical** *a. Obs.*, puritanical; † **Preci·sianship** *Obs.*, the quality or action of being a (religious) precisian.

1573 Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 436 Their manifest precisianship is too intolerable. 1574–5 *Ibid.* 476 Saving for the common precisianship in London, I hear of no sects. *a* 1652 Brome *Covent Gard.* I. i. Wks. 1873 II. 7 And what of that in your precisianical wisdom?

Preci·sianism. Also 6 *erron.* **-onism.** [f. prec. + -ism.] The practice or conduct of a precisian; orig. applied to Puritanism.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 30 [If] ever I have maintainid ani od point of puritanism, or præcisionism mi self. 1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iv, 'Tis now esteem'd precisianism in wit, .. to love or seek good names. 1646 Buck *Rich. III* Ded., They will challenge the book at the very title; .. the Captious and Incredulous, with their jealous præcisianismes. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* Pref., Wks. 1851 III. 335 It must needs be ridiculous .. that they .. should in this one particular outstripp all precisianism with thir scruples and cases. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 272 Constrain into a precisianisme of conformity. 1884 *Jaunt in Junk* 127 To affect the precisianism of a perfect prig.

Precisianist: see Precisionist.

Precision (prĭsi·ʒən). [a. F. *précision* (16th c. in Godef.) or ad. L. *præcīsiō-nem* a cutting off abruptly, n. of action f. *præcīdĕre*: see Precise *a.*]

1. The fact, condition, or quality of being precise; exactness, definiteness; distinctness, accuracy.

Arm of precision: a fire-arm fitted with mechanical aids, such as rifling, graded sights, etc., which make it more accurate of aim than weapons without these.

1740 Cheyne *Regimen* Pref. 12 Precision is incompatible with Finitude. 1771 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* IV. i. 26 He knew how to omit exactness, when the result of the whole demands a less precision in parts. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 438 Precision is the third requisite of perspicuity with respect to words and phrases. It signifies retrenching superfluities, and pruning the expression, so as to exhibit neither more nor less, than an exact copy of the person's idea who uses it. 1860 Motley *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 36 A right-angled triangle of almost mathematical precision. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* Pref. 6 The precision of statement, which .. distinguishes science from common information. 1906 *Lists Techn. Terms Army Schools* I. *Gunnery & Artillery* 8 Precision .. [definition] Exactness, accuracy.

† b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of precision; a nicety; in *pl.* exact minutiæ. *Obs. rare*—1.

1691 Locke *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 92, I have left out the utmost Precisions of Fractions in these Computations.

† 2. The cutting off of one thing from another; *esp.* the mental separation of a fact or idea; abstraction; in quot. 1640, a cutting short; in quot. 1683 = Reservation 4. *Obs.* (App. used for *prescission*, as the sb. corresponding to Prescind *v.*)

1640 G. Watts tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* v. v. 255 We call Prenotion a Precision of endlesse investigation. 1681 Glanvill *Sadducismus* I. App. § 8 When, from this mental Precision of Cogitation from Extension, he defined a Spirit. *Ibid.*, From the precision of our thoughts to infer the real precision or separation of the things themselves, is a very putid and puerile sophism. 1683 A. D. *Art Converse* 95 You can neither tye them by Promise, nor by Oath; for if they Promise or Swear, 'tis with a mental Precision. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* Introd. § 9 As the mind frames to itself abstract ideas of qualities or modes, so does it, by the same precision, or mental separation, attain abstract ideas of the more compounded beings which include several coexistent qualities.

† b. *transf.* A precise definition. *Obs. rare.*

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* III. x. § 15 The taking Matter to be the Name of something really existing under that Precision, .. has .. produc'd .. obscure .. Discourses. 1757 Mrs. Griffith *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 186 This definition I look upon to be more imperfect, and of a more dangerous tendency, than any of the three precisions he has so ingeniously proved the insufficiency of.

Hence **Preci·sional** *a.*, of or pertaining to precision; **Preci·sioner**, = Precisionist; **Preci·sionism**, practice of precision (see also Precisianism); **Preci·sionize** *v. trans.*, to give precision to, state with precision or accuracy.

1874 Bushnell *Forgiveness & Law* II. 127 The old *precisional drill, that came so hard upon the soldier at first. 1902 *Times* 15 July 10/2 It is not an air to be breathed freely by pedants, or prudes, or *precisioners. 1868 H. Kingsley *Mlle. Mathilde* II. vi. 94 She had disliked André Desilles and his *precisionism all her life. 1847 Sir G. C. Lewis *Lett.* (1870) 153 What a pity the same man does not, in the same manner, *precisionize other .. questions of political morals. 1895 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 303 To precisionise the successive whens and wheres.

Preci·sionist. (Also *erron.* (after *precisian*) **-anist.**) [f. Precision + -ist.] One who makes a profession or practice of precision or exactness in observance or expression; a purist.

1827 *Examiner* 822/1 Enjoyment which .. precisianists, purists, and conventiclers would totally extinguish. 1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* III. iii. 229 Must He be a precisionist in order to be passed as just? 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Jan. 83/2 Well-meaning precisionists who are striving to bring back the now mongrel or mixed Romaic of the Hellenes to the purer idiom. 1873 *Spectator* 15 Feb. 203/2 Both are precisianists in utterance, and skilled in the manipulation of the finest shades of language.

Precisive (prĭsəi·siv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *præcīs-*, ppl. stem of *præcīdĕre* (see Precise *a.*) + -ive.]

1. That cuts off, separates, or defines one (person or thing) from another or others, as in *precisive abstraction*: see quot. 1725. (app. for *prescissive.*)

1679 Puller *Moder. Ch. Eng.* (1843) 232 At other times our church moderates her censures, .. using a medicinal censure, before a precisive. 1725 Watts *Logic* I. vi. § 9 This Act of Abstraction is .. either Precisive or Negative. Precisive Abstraction is when we consider those Things apart which cannot really exist apart; as when we consider a Mode without considering its Substance and Subject.

2. Characterized by precision or exactitude.

1807 Gilson *Serm. Pract. Subj.* 110 Daniel .. foretold with the greatest precisive openness the exact time of our Saviour's coming. 1897 *Daily News* 22 May 5/1 [He] has made at least one definite, precisive, and particular charge.

Pre-cited (prĭsəi·tĕd), *ppl. a.* Also 7 **præ-.** [Pre- A.] Previously cited, adduced, or referred to; before-mentioned, above-mentioned.

1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* xi. 121 This latter, besides the ordinary præcited causes, is sometimes occasioned by [etc.]. 1694 Westmacott *Script. Herb.* 93 It is easie to apply to each of these precited remedies their proper virtue. 1865 Visct. Strangford *Select.* (1869) II. 138 *note*, As we read once in the pre-cited journal.

† **Pre·clamate**, *v. Obs. rare*—0. [f. ppl. stem of L. *præclāmāre* to call out beforehand, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *clāmāre* to cry.]

1623 Cockeram, *Preclamate*, to cry before.

† **Preclara·tion.** *Obs. rare*—1. (?) Previous declaration or explanation.

1656 Hevlin *Extraneus Vapulans* 16 The Arch-bishop was not .. so ill a keeper of his own counsel, as to make any such preclaration of his reason for it.

† **Precla·re**, *a.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 6 **præ-, -clair.** [ad. L. *præclārus* very bright, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 6 + *clārus* clear.]

1. *lit.* Very clear. *rare*—1.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 63 A voice I hard preclair as Phebus schone.

2. Distinguished, illustrious.

1511 Dunbar *Poems* lxxvii. 65 O potent princes, pleasant and preclair. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 59 Richt ȝoung he wes, bayth plesand and preclair. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 92 Famous & preclare exemples of men of renoume. *Ibid.* 117 Quhais myndes deip and præclair studies hes decored. 1623 Cockeram II, Excellent .., *preclare.* 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 183 Do not therefore the preclare and illustrious Institutes or Laws of Living make way to Virtue? 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 15 Lo! on Olympus' taps preclair The goddess o' men-blessing lear.

† **Precla·red**, *a. Obs.* = prec., 2; renowned.

1530 (*title*) Here foloweth the Assemble of foules .. compyled by the preclared and famous Clerke Geffray Chaucer Imprynted in london .. by me Wynkyn de Worde.

† **Precla·rent**, *a. Obs. rare*—0. [irreg. as prec.]

1623 Cockeram, *Preclarent*, excellent.

Pre-cla·ssical, ● [Pre- B. 1 d.] Anterior to the classical age (of Greek and Roman literature).

1871 Lowell *Study Wind.* 151 He [Thoreau] .. revives the age of *concetti* while he fancies himself going back to a pre-classical nature.

Preclitellian (-kləite·liăn), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Pre- B. 3 + Clitell-um + -ian.] Belonging to that division of earthworms which have the male genital apertures in front of the clitellum. b. *sb.* An earthworm of this division.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 683/2 [see Intraclitellian].

Precloacal: see Pre- A. 4.

Preclo·se, *v. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + Close *v.*; cf. Preclude.] *trans.* = Foreclose 5.

1535 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 256 After the preclosing of the premisses, I had sure worde that O'Connor bringith with him Obrene and his power. 1898 B. Gregory *Side Lights Conft. Meth.* 501 Dr. Bunting stoutly and successfully preclosed the question.

Preclude (prĭklū·d), *v.* [ad. L. *præclūd-ĕre* to close, shut off, impede, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 4 c + *claudĕre* to shut.]

1. *trans.* To close or shut up (a passage, etc.) against any attempt to pass; = Foreclose 2.

1629 Maxwell tr. *Herodian* (1635) 133 Julian's friends counselled him to advance .. and preclude the Alpine Straits. 1652 C. B. Stapylton *Herodian* 67 His friends advise he shall the Alpes preclude. 1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learn.* 187 Preclude your ears .. against all rash, rude, irrational, innovating importuners. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 96 ¶ 16 Every intellect was precluded by Prejudice. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* II. v. 34 Having precluded every means of escape.

b. To close beforehand; = Foreclose 5.

1841–4 Emerson *Ess., Experience* Wks. (Bohn) I. 176 Shall I preclude my future, by taking a high seat, and kindly adapting my conversation to the shape of heads?

2. To 'close the door against', shut out, prevent the entrance of; to exclude, prevent, frustrate; to render impracticable by anticipatory action.

1618 T. Adams *Cosmopolite* Wks. 1862 II. 143 Though the desires of his mind be granted, yet this precludes not the access of new desires to his mind. 1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 320 As to precluding all complaints against excise, leave it to your Committee to bring in a Bill to remedy the inconveniences. 1692 Ray *Disc.* III. v. (1732) 383 If you preclude the Access of all Air. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 105 ¶ 13 They hesitated till death precluded the decision. 1813 Byron *Corsair* III. ix, Since bar and bolt no more his steps preclude. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 120 It may be as well to preclude misunderstanding by repeating.

3. To shut out or prevent (a person) *from* something by previous action: = Foreclose 3.

1736 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 103 That they may not be precluded or foreclosed from the benefit of the Governor's Grant. 1792 Burke *Let. to Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. VI. 320, I do not find one word to preclude his majesty from consenting to any arrangement which parliament may make. 1800 Wellesley in Owen *Desp.* (1877) 555 Employed in staff offices which preclude them from the performance of regimental duties. 1884 Ld. Coleridge in *Law Rep.* 12 Q. B. Div. 322 We do not preclude the duke from his remedy .. by way of action or indictment.

Preclusion (prĭklū·ʒən). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *præclūsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præclūdĕre*: see prec. Cf. obs. F. *préclusion* (16th c. in Godef.).] The action of precluding; shutting out, or preventing the entrance or occurrence of something; prevention by anticipatory measures.

1616 T. Adams *Politic Hunting* Wks. 1861 I. 9 St. Augustine's preclusion of all star-predictions out of this place. 16.. Donne *Serm.* (ed. Alford) IV. 467 Repentance of former, preclusion against future Sins. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 95 ¶ 14 The extinction of parties, and the preclusion of debates. 1820 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) IV. 122 The preclusion of disturbance and indecorum in Christian assemblies.

Preclusive (prĭklū·sĭv), *a.* [f. L. *præclūs-*, ppl. stem of *præclūdĕre* (see Preclude) + -ive.] That tends to preclude or has the effect of precluding; shutting out beforehand, preventive (*of*).

1695 *Whether Parlt. be not dissolved by Death P'cess of Orange* 41 In whom the full and entire Sovereignty .. was .. settled preclusive of all others. 1804 Laing *Hist. Scot.* IV. xi. 395 Its articles .. are too numerous, and on some occasions preclusive of improvement. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1866) 313 Obstacles the continuance of which is preclusive of all truth. 1882 Stevenson *Fam. Stud. Men & Bks.* 347 If women's rule is not unnatural in a sense preclusive of its very existence.

Hence **Preclu·sively** *adv.*

1695 *Whether Parlt. be not dissolved* 38 Preclusively from all legal Capacity and Possibility of borrowing a Duration and Continuance .. from the Life of any other. 1818 Todd, *Preclusively*, with hindrance by some anticipation.

† **Preclu·sory**, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *præclūs-*, ppl. stem of *præclūdĕre* (see Preclude) + -ory 2.] = Preclusive.

1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 179 Hee takes it .. to be a mandate preclusorie of the way to heauen.

Precocygeal: see Pre- B. 3.

Precoce (prĭkō·s), *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [a. F. *précoce*, ad. L. *præcoc-em* early ripe, premature, f. *præcoquĕre* to boil beforehand, ripen fully, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *coquĕre* to cook. Cf. Precoque.]

1. Of plants: Early flowering.

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 198 Common, double, and single Primroses, Præcoce Tulips. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 359 The Præcoce Tulip, Winter Aconite, some sorts of Anemonies.

2. = PRECOCIOUS :

1689 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan., I had read of divers forward and precoce youths. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* I. viii. 191 Is he not a trifle too precoce?

B. as *sb.* An early plant; *spec.* = *precoce tulip.*

1699 EVELYN *Acetaria* (1729) 157 The Hot Beds for the raising of those Præcoces. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 240, I shall begin with the Precoces or early blowing Tulips.

Hence † **Preco·ceness** (**precose-**), precocity, earliness in flowering or fruiting. *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* 78 As to this extraordinary Precoseness, the like is reported of a certain Walnut-tree, as well as of the famous White-thorn of Glastonbury.

Precocious (prĭkō·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *præcox, -cocem* (PRECOCE): see -IOUS.]

1. Of a plant: Flowering or fruiting early; *spec.* bearing blossom before the leaves; also said of the blossoms or fruit.

1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. (ed. 2) 79 Many precocious trees, and such as have their spring in the winter, may be found in most parts of Europe. *a* 1682 — *Tracts* (1684) 72 That there were precocious and early bearing Trees in Judæa, may be illustrated from some expressions in Scripture concerning precocious Figgs. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 234 A..tree, with..precocious hermaphrodite flowers.

2. *fig.* Of persons: Prematurely developed in some faculty or proclivity.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 21. 388 However it hath been of late so much decried..by..precocious and conceited wits also, as non-sence and impossibility. 1819 BYRON *Juan* I. liv, To be precocious Was in her eyes a thing the most atrocious. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. v, We were all three.. precocious geniuses. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xv. 299 She was somewhat precocious in love matters.

b. Of, pertaining to, or indicative of precocity or premature development.

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 28 'Tis superfluous to live unto gray Hairs, when in a precocious Temper we anticipate the Virtues of them. 1827 MACAULAY *Machiavelli* Ess. (1887) 36 Untimely decrepitude was the penalty of precocious maturity. *a* 1863 THACKERAY *Christmas Bks.* (1872) 19 His 'Love Lays'..were pronounced to be wonderfully precocious for a young gentleman then only thirteen.

c. Of things: Of early development.

1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xx, Youthful misery stalks precocious. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 668 'Specific' phenomena are more commonly observed within a comparatively short time from the date of infection, in which case they are not rightly regarded as 'precocious' symptoms.

3. *Zool.* (See quot.) Contrasted with SEROTINOUS.

1900 *Queckett Microsc. Club Jrnl.* Ser. II. VII. 260 All the social or colonial Radiolarians (Polycyttaria) and most of the Acantharia are precocious, for in them the nucleus divides early in the life history of the cell.

Preco·ciously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a precocious manner; with premature development.

1842 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* (1843) III. 269 A child in understanding, but with passions precociously vigorous. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 82 He took precociously to rhyming; like Pope he lisped in numbers.

Preco·ciousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being precocious; = PRECOCITY.

1681 MANNINGHAM *Disc.* 10 To prevent a sawcy precociousness in Learning, [they] invite others to drudge in their methods. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 44 And as natural precocity is always to be regarded with fear, so the precociousness which art produces cannot be without its dangers. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* liii, Poverty and necessity force this precociousness on the poor little brat.

Precocity (prĭkŏ·sĭti). [ad. F. *précocité* (17th c.), f. L. type **præcocitās*, f. *præcox*: see PRECOCE.] The quality of being precocious.

1. Of plants: Early flowering or ripeness.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Precocity*, early ripeness, forwardliness in ripening, over hastiness in ripening. 1875 A. R. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 86/2 The grain was very fine and well grown, which gave me the idea to..see if the following year it would preserve its precocity.

2. Early maturity, premature development.

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 102 Imputing the cause of it [his fall] to a precocitie of Spirit and valour in him. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* I. § 35 From such foundations thou may'st be Happy in a Virtuous precocity, and make an early and long walk in Goodness. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 140 Their productions..bear the marks of precocity and premature decay. 1879 GLADSTONE *Glean.* II. vi. 267 In a happy childhood he evinced extreme precocity.

b. *transf.* One in whom this quality is exemplified; a precocious child.

1882 A. MATHESON in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 488/2 George Eliot's children..They are not impossible cherubs, or wingless fairies, or idealised precocities.

† **Pre-coeta·nean.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PRE- A. 2 + COETANEAN.] An older contemporary.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. 27, I read of Petrarch, (the pre-coetanean of our Chaucer) that he was crowned with a Laurel, in the Capitol.

† **Preco·gitancy.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *præcogitānt-em*, pr. pple. of *præcogitāre*: see below and -ANCY.] Previous cogitation or thought.

c 1635 A. STAFFORD *Apol.* in *Fem. Glory* (1860) p. xxxiv, Wee speake not to Princes without great study, and precogitancy.

† **Preco·gitate,** *ppl. a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præcōgitātus*, pa. pple. of *præcōgitāre*: see next.] = PRECOGITATED.

1573 MORTON in *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1905) IV. 516 They fund the wind favorable to the executioun of thair precogitat mischeif. 1664 *Judiciary Rec.* (S. H. S.) 101 Francis Crichton without any provocation and forethought felony and precogitate malice drew his sword.

Precogitate (prĭkŏ·dʒitēt), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *præcōgitāt-*, ppl. stem of *præcōgitāre*, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *cōgitāre* to think, COGITATE: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* and *intr.* To cogitate, think, or think over beforehand; to consider beforehand, premeditate. Hence **Preco·gitated** *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Precogiter*, to precogitate, premeditate, thinke of beforehand. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xviii. 62 Precogitate thy vowes; and doe not Say From a fantastick humor, what will rise. *a* 1652 BROME *Mad Couple* III. i. Wks. 1873 I. 56, I must come on her with a little wit though, for which I will precogitate. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* Introd. It is Murder in any private Person upon precogitated malice to kill any private Man.

Precogitation (prĭkŏdʒitē·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *præcōgitāti-ōnem*, n. of action f. *præcōgitāre*: see prec. Cf. obs. F. *précogitation* (16th c. in Godef.).] Previous consideration or meditation; a thinking over beforehand.

1596 J. NORDEN *Progr. Pietie* (1847) 8 We may proceed on in our progress, with this precogitation following. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* v. 200 To spin out our awaking thoughts into the phantasms of sleep, which often continueth præcogitations; making Cables of Cobwebbes and Wildernesses of handsome Groves. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1866) 315 This purpose may have been itself excited, and this precogitation itself abstracted from the perceived likenesses and differences of the objects to be arranged.

† **Preco·gnit.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *præcognitum*, pa. pple. neut. of *præcognōscĕre* to PRECOGNOSCE.] A preliminary discussion.

1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* Introd. 18 A Compend of Chronography..intended for a previous Precognit to the two insuing Tomes.

Precognition (prĭkŏgni·ʃən). Also 7 præ-. [ad. late L. *præcogniti-ōnem*, n. of action f. *præcognōscĕre*: see PRECOGNOSCE; or perh. a. obs. F. *précognition* foreknowledge (15th c. in Godef.).]

1. Antecedent cognition or knowledge; foreknowledge.

1611 COTGR., *Precognition*, a precognition. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. viii. § 2 (1622) 56 This præcognition and anticipation of God. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 230 It acts without any precognition of an end. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 67 God..by his determinate Counsel and precognition delivered his Son to them. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xi. (1852) 136 O Thou!..Whom all the faiths and creeds, and rites of old..In precognition of eternal truth Foreshadowed and foretyped. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 31 Here again we find also precognitions which transcend what seems explicable by the foresight of every mind such as we know.

2. *Scots Law.* The preliminary examination of witnesses or persons likely to know about the facts of a case, in order to obtain, with a view to trial, a general knowledge of the available evidence; *esp.* in criminal law, an examination by a procurator-fiscal of those who can give evidence regarding a crime or offence (in older practice conducted by or before a sheriff or other judge ordinary), in order to know whether there is ground for trial and to enable a relevant libel to be prepared; also the statement itself taken down from a witness before the trial.

1661 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 22/2 That the mater of fact cannot be so well cleired at a peremptorie dyet befor the Justice without ane precognition and previous tryell of the wholl circumstances of the same. 1720 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 505 Several are taken up [= apprehended], and lawyers have taken a precognition. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 33 We have gone thro' this libel with the greatest attention, and have taken a view of the several facts, which, after a precognition of above a thousand witnesses, are set forth to support the charge against the pannel. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii, The precognition of Simon Glover and Henry Gow would bear out a matter less worthy of belief. 1887 *Law Times* LXXXII. 175/1 Prisoners are not allowed to see the precognitions for the prosecution.

So **Preco·gnitive** *a.*, of the nature of, or giving, foreknowledge.

1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 142, I mean precognitive dreams;—pictures or visions in which future events are foretold or depicted.

Precognitum, variant of PRÆCOGNITUM.

Precognizance, erron. f. PRECONIZANCE.

Precognizant, -is- (prĭkŏ·gnizănt), *a.* [f. PRE- A. 3 + COGNIZANT.] Having previous cognizance.

1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 404, I shall now state..the evidence upon which I have affirmed..that he [Knox] was precognisant of the intended murder [of Riccio]. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* iv, The wary precognisant Piper.

Precognization, erron. f. PRECONIZATION.

Precognize (prĭ·kŏgnəiz), *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + COGNIZE.] *trans.* To know beforehand.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 34 Except that the Art.., general to all Arts & inuentions called *Heuretica* be first precognized. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 189 He could not..intuitively precognize the system of Christianity.

Precognosce (prĭkŏgnŏ·s), *v. Sc. Law.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + COGNOSCE; cf. L. *præcognōscĕre* (rare) to foreknow, foresee.] *trans.* To make a preliminary examination of (witnesses), in order to enable parties to an action to set up their respective pleas and defences, and particularly in criminal suits to enable the libel to be relevantly stated and maintained: cf. PRECOGNITION 2.

1753 *Stewart's Trial* 93 The pannel's wife and his children, who, by law, cannot be called as witnesses against him, have been precognosced, or judicially examined, and.. their declarations are proposed to be produced in this trial. 1888 *Daily News* 17 July 5/2 Pending the trial of the accused, the Procurator-Fiscal 'precognosces' witnesses, and collects all available evidence, which is afterwards formulated in a detailed and printed indictment supplied to counsel, jury, and Court officials. 1901 *Scotsman* 2 Mar. 12/3 He respectfully submitted that the defence had no power to precognosce police officers.

Pre-collection, -Columbian, -communicant, etc.: see PRE-A, B.

Pre-commu·nion. [PRE- B. 2.] The part of the Communion office in the Book of Common Prayer which precedes the Communion service proper; the ante-communion service.

1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* xvii. 431 There was a full service with the pre-communion.

Precompose (prĭkŏmpō·z), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To compose beforehand.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To Mistr. Amie Potter*, Nature has pre-compos'd us both to love. 1651 H. L'ESTRANGE *Smectymnus-mastix* 30 Every man is best able to know whether his own prayers be precomposed, or of sudden conception. 1799 C. WINTER in Jay *Mem. & Lett.* (1843) 27 It is very easy to distinguish them [sermons] which were precomposed, from others which were preached extempore.

Hence **Precompo·sed** *ppl. a.*

1741 *Chr. Liturgy* Pref., Those who pray extempore,.. say, that precomposed Forms stint and restrain the Spirit of God in its Operations. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 632 The professional lecturer commonly has a set of precomposed lectures,..any of which he is ready to deliver anywhere on the receipt of his fee.

† **Preconcei·t.** *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONCEIT *sb.*] A preconceived notion or opinion.

1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iii. § 9 Which..through their misfashioned preconceit, appeared unto them no less certayne. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iii. (1739) 7 God had an eye on all this beyond all reach of pre-conceit of man. 1682 *2nd Plea Nonconf.* 79 Clear from all sinister Pre-conceits, Passion, and Disaffection to Practical..Piety.

† **Preconcei·ted,** *a. Obs. rare.* [In 1, f. PRE- A. + CONCEITED *ppl. a.* In 2, f. prec. + -ED 2.]

1. Conceived beforehand, preconceived.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 330 No man on earth can tell what gouernment it is they intend to establish,.. when they come to their preconceited monarchie. 1604 EARL STIRLING *Aurora* Song ix, Whose sweet-supposed sowers Of preconceited pleasures grieu'd me most.

2. Having a previous conception or notion.

1698 tr. *Fenelon's Maxims Saints* 110 But these two things had only their Origin from Scholastick Philosophy, whereof these Mystical Men were preconceited.

Preconceive (prĭkŏnsē·v), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To conceive or imagine beforehand; to anticipate in thought.

1597 BACON *Ess., Coulers Good & Evill* (Arb.) 144 In a dead playne, the way seemeth the longer, because the eye hath preconceyued it shorter then the truth. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. i. 37 The great Architect of the world præconceived and foreknew what he would make. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1872) I. 55 The Coliseum was very much what I had preconceived it.

Hence **Preconceived** (prĭkŏnsē·vd) *ppl. a.*

1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 291 Upoun preconsavit malice borne aganis hir thir mony yeris begane. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 205 Anticipated and preconceived Ideas of Regular Lines and Figures. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Posth. Wks.* (1706) 68 We must.. not endeavour to bring things to any præ-conceived Notions of our own. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. II. xvi. 367 Contrary to his preconceived notions. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 114.

Pre-concept (prĭkŏ·nsept). *Psychol.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONCEPT *sb.*] A term applied by Romanes to a higher RECEPT (q.v.), or rudimentary CONCEPT: see quot. 1888.

1888 ROMANES *Mental Evolut. Man* ix. 185 Higher Recepts, then, are what may be conveniently termed Preconcepts: they occupy the interval between the receptual life of brute and the earliest dawn of the conceptual life of man. A pre-concept, therefore, is that kind of higher recept which is not to be met with in any brute; but which occurs in the human being after surpassing the brute and before attaining self-consciousness. 1896 *Nat. Science* Dec. 382 From this he argues that there is a logic of recepts in animals, and probably also a logic of preconcepts.

Preconception (prĭkŏnse·pʃən). [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONCEPTION; cf. F. *préconception.*] The action of preconceiving; usually (with *a* and *pl.*), a conception or opinion formed and entertained prior to actual knowledge; a prepossession, a prejudice; an anticipation.

1625 DONNE *Serm.* lxvi. (1640) 667 God does nothing, Man does nothing well, without these Idea's, these retrospects, this recourse to pre-conceptions, pre-deliberations. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 154 Men biassed by preconceptions. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* III. (1765) 286 *note*, A Pre-conception is the natural Apprehension of what is general or universal. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 372–3 To hear an evolving roll, or a succession of leaves, talk continually the language of deliberate reason in a form of continued preconception, Y and Z already possessed, when A was being uttered. 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 175 Our preconceptions of wrong and of right. 1867 *Chronicle* 27 July 424 Mr. Longfellow's poetic reputation..establishes a preconception in his favour. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 142 Human perversity has darkened the very heavens by looking at them through the medium of its own preconceptions.

Pre-conce·ptional, *a. rare*⁻¹. [PRE- B. 1.] Previous to conception.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1644 The first, or preconceptional period of germinal life.

Preco·ncert, *sb.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONCERT *sb.*] A previous concert, agreement, or arrangement.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VI. xlv. 175 A book, which had there not been a preconcert, would not have taken his attention for one moment. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 395 A medical man being (by preconcert) at hand.

Preconce·rt, *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONCERT *v.*] *trans.* To concert or arrange beforehand.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. vii. 59 The opportunity to effect an escape which they suppose preconcerted. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. vi. 188 With this motive we must suppose them to have preconcerted their plans. 1855 PRINCE ALBERT in *Lett. Q. Victoria* (1907) III. 134 How can the Foreign Secretary and Ambassador at Paris..carry on their business, if everything has been privately preconcerted between the Emperor and the English Prime Minister?

Preconce·rted, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ED [1].] Concerted or agreed upon beforehand.

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. viii. 136 Upon preconcerted marriages, and in estates of considerable consequence, tenancy in dower happens very seldom. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. vii. 211 They do not go singly to work, but in large companies and with preconcerted deliberation. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxvii, As though the setting in of night had been their preconcerted signal.

Hence **Preconce·rtedly** *adv.* (Worcester *Dict.* 1846 cites Dr. Allen); **Preconce·rtedness.**

1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 168 The rhymes.. well express the preconcertedness of Bolingbroke's scheme.

Preconce·rtion. [irreg. f. PRECONCERT *v.*, for *preconcertation*: see CONCERTION.] The action of preconcerting; preconcert.

1846 WORCESTER cites DWIGHT. 1880 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* II. 270 Bois-Duval had come to London without preconcertion as to time.

Precondemn (prīkǫ̆nde·m), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONDEMN *v.*] *trans.* To condemn beforehand. Hence **Precondemned** (-de·md), **Precondemning** (-de·miŋ) *ppl. adjs.*; **Precondemnation** (-demnē·ʃən).

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (ed. Alford) IV. 220 Not things which make him an unmerciful, a cruel, a precondemning God. 1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-Mastix* Ep. Ded. *iv, They will quite reject and precondemne them, ere they have once examined them. 1847 WEBSTER, Precondemnation. 1864 *Realm* 30 Mar. 2 The Judge of the Assize Court of Aix.. sate as judge, having precondemned the prisoner in his own mind. 1890 TALMAGE *Manger to Throne* 587 There stood Jesus..the pre-condemned victim of an ecclesiastical..mob.

Precondition (prīkǫ̆ndi·ʃən). [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONDITION *sb.*] A prior condition; a condition required to be fulfilled beforehand; a preliminary or precedent stipulation; a pre-requisite.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 36 The ground-work and pre-condition of the spiritual state, in which the humanity strives after godliness. 1851 DE QUINCEY *Ld. Carlisle on Pope* Wks. 1859 XIII. 19 Absolute truth and simplicity are demanded by all of us as preconditions to any sympathy with moral expressions of anger or intolerance. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 165 The idea of God is the precondition of all thought and being.

Precondylar, -condyloid, -confess: see PRE- B. 3, A. 1.

Preconfigure (-fi·giŭɹ), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONFIGURE *v.*] *trans.* To configure in advance; to conform or adapt in figure beforehand.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) I. 293 It was the aweful power of Law, acting on natures pre-configured to its influences. 1835 J. HARRIS *Gt. Teacher* (1837) 237 Wherever the Bible comes, it finds our nature preconfigured to many of its truths. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1723 The country was preconfigured to its history.

Hence **Preconfigura·tion** *rare*[−1].

a 1860 in *Nonconformist*, He sees the preconfiguration of human nature to spiritual truth.

Preconfo·rm, *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONFORM *v.*] *trans.*.and *intr.* To conform beforehand.

1845 DE QUINCEY *Coleridge & Opium-eating* Wks. 1859 XII. 110 There are..two classes of temperaments as to this terrific drug—those which are, and those which are not preconformed to its power. 1847 — in *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 103 Though the passions..are such..as could not have existed under Paganism; in some respects they condescend and preconform to the stage.

So **Preconfo·rmity,** antecedent conformity.

1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 186 These holy and humanizing spells, in the preconformity to which our very humanity may be said to consist.

† **Preco·nious,** *a. Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *præcōni-us* (f. *præcōn-em* crier, herald) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Preconious*, of or belonging to a Common-cryer; also to praise or commendation.

Preco·nizance. *rare.* In 8 *erron.* **precognizance.** [f. med. L. *præcōnizāre* to PRECONIZE: see -ANCE.] = PRECONIZATION 1.

1730 *St. Trials* I. 367/2 The Lord Steward, after a solemn Precognizance, commanded the Indictments to be certified and brought in.

† **Preco·nizate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *præcōnizāt-us*, pa. pple. of *præcōnizāre* to PRECONIZE.] Summoned by proclamation. (In quots. as pa. pple.)

1529 HEN. VIII *Let.* in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1679) I. *Records* II. xxviii. 78 Wherefore she was thrice preconnisate, and called eft-soons to return and appear. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* 181 The legates caused her to be thrice preconisate and called eftsoones to return.

Preconization (prīkonəizē·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *præcōnizātiō-nem*, n. of action f. *præcōnizāre*, see next; cf. F. *préconisation* (*preconizacion*, 1321).]

1. Public proclamation or announcement. *rare.*

1644 BP. HALL *Modest Offer* (1660) 10 A publick preconization of lawful warning affixed upon the Cathedral Church door. 1649 — *Cases Consc.* Add. iii. (1654) 399 The Minister in a solemne preconization, called you..then to speake, or for ever after to hold your peace.

2. *spec.* in *R. C. Ch.* The public confirmation of an appointment (as that of a bishop) by the pope.

1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2753/1 The Dispute grew very warm ..when the Pope put a stop to it, by ordering the Preconisation of the said four Bishops to go on in the usual Form. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 1886 Preconization ..the act by which the Pope, in the assembly of the cardinals, proclaims new bishops, and assigns them their respective seats.

Preconize (prī·kǫ̆nəiz), *v.* Also **præ-.** [ad. med.L. *præcōnizāre*, f. L. *præcōn-em* public crier, herald: see -IZE; cf. F. *préconiser* (1321 in Godef.).]

1. *trans.* To proclaim or announce publicly; to publish; to commend or extol publicly, to cry up.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 86 Yet treste y crie Thy laude, and his honour eft preconise. 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 314 Louis 14th, whose reign he preconizes as the happiest period in French history. 1847 *Blackw. Mag.* LXII. 293 [They] had all praeconised their accomplishments to us. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 802 Italian ecclesiastics.. undermining the monarchical principle throughout Italy, ..preconising it in Russia.

b. To call upon publicly, to summon by name.

1863 *Church Instit. Circular* II. 139 The certificates having been read, the Registrar preconized the Bishops mentioned in the return from the Dean of the Province, and the Archbishop then referred to the Vicar-General to report upon the certificates transmitted by them and upon the letters of proxy. 1877 SIR T. TWISS in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 329/2 The clergy are præconized or summoned by name to appear before the metropolitan or his commissary.

2. *spec.* in *R. C. Ch.* Of the pope: To approve publicly the appointment of (a bishop).

1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2753/1 On Monday last the Pope held a Consistory, wherein the four last preconis'd French Bishops were confirmed. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Preconise*, .. to make a Report in the Pope's Consistory, That the Party presented to a Benefice is qualify'd for the same. 1887 *Detroit Free Press* 21 May 2/1 After eighteen months' service in Perugia, Pope Gregory preconized him [Leo XIII] archbishop of Damietta. 1892 *Times* 23 Mar. 5/5 The Pope will preconize Dr. Vaughan at the first consistory held after Easter.

Hence **Pre·conizing** *vbl. sb.*; **Pre·conizer,** one who preconizes.

1703 *Pretended Indep. Lower Ho. Convocation* 40 The great end of Preconizing, is, to know who have incurr'd the Censure due to Contumacy, in not appearing pursuant to Archiepiscopal Summons. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 320 The great disperser and preconizer of it at home and abroad. 1804 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* II. 240 He is commonly the panegyrist of event, the preconizer of destiny, he rows with the stream.

Preconjecture, -connubial, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, 2, B. 1.

Preco·nquer, *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONQUER *v.*] *trans.* To conquer beforehand.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cornw.* (1662) I. 196 He [the Duke of Medina] resolved it [Mount Edgecombe] for his own possession in the partage of this Kingdome..which they had preconquered in their hopes and expectation.

Pre-co·nqueror, *a.* [PRE- B. 2.] Anterior to (William) the Conqueror. So **Pre-co·nquest** *a.*, preceding the (Norman) Conquest; **Pre-conque·stal, -conque·stual** *a.* [PRE- B. 1], existing in, or belonging to, times preceding the Conquest.

a 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 59 There were pre-conquestal Norman and post-conquestal Saxon buildings. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Apr. 439/2 The fact of the town having been a pre-conquestal see no more makes the place a city than it makes the parson a dean. 1889 *Athenæum* 10 Aug. 184/1 Dr. Stubbs..sums up strongly in favour of the antiquity of the Leet and its jury, to which he confidently assigns a pre-conquestual origin. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* July 150 A unique collection of preconquest stones. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 15 July 5/1 Royal lineage in our noble and gentle families is common enough:..most of them derive from the Plantagenet, and not from the pre-Conqueror kings.

Preconscious (prīkǫ·nʃəs), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + CONSCIOUS *a.*] Antecedent to consciousness, or to conscious action of some specified kind.

1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 154 A preconscious exercise of the critical faculty. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. viii. (1879) 352 The Physiological doctrine of 'Unconscious Cerebration', or, in the language of German Psychologists, the 'Preconscious Activity of the Soul'. 1876 MAUDSLEY *Physiol. Mind* vi. 366 The so-called preconscious soul, of which some philosophers have written, is truly the preconscious mental life of the race. 1891 *Antidote* 9 June 180 A yearning which is at present, except in a few cases, all preconscious, but still none the less hopeful.

Preconsider (prīkǫ̆nsi·dəɹ), *v.* Also 7 **præ-.** [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONSIDER *v.*] *trans.* To consider beforehand or previously. Hence **Preconsi·dered, Preconsi·dering** *ppl. adjs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 393 A stubborn, pertinacious, preconsidered sin. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 51 They pray not for the Publick, whose interest is always præ-consider'd by our Saviour. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 18 Not to go to Prayer, without preconsidering whereon to employ it. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xi. III. 175 The new pro-bouleutic or pre-considering senate consisted of 400 members. 1873 HOLLAND *A. Bonnic.* vi, Playing a part, thoroughly pre-considered. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ii. 8 The Senate was allowed the privilege of preconsidering intended acts of legislation.

† **Preconsi·derate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 3 + CONSIDERATE *a.*] That considers or deliberates beforehand; considerate beforehand.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 98 If he be not very preconsiderate in the same, and know well the way, he runneth into these inconveniencies.

Preconsidera·tion. [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONSIDERATION.] Previous consideration; consideration beforehand; a preliminary consideration.

1598 BARRET *Theor. of Warres* 29 Without preuention, preconsideration, and forecast of such successes. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 23 Thus much for these pre-considerations: I shall now set the Tables before you. 1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 25 A Second most necessary Preconsideration in the Understanding of the Beast. 1858 SIR A. GRANT in *Oxford Ess.* 94 Chrysippus said, that 'no ethical subject could be rightly approached except from the preconsideration of entire nature and the ordering of the whole'.

Preconsign (prīkǫ̆nsəi·n), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONSIGN *v.*] *trans.* † **a.** To signify or symbolize beforehand. *Obs.* **b.** To consign or make over in advance (Bailey 1721).

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Disc. vi. § 17 St. Cyril calls baptism..'the antitype of the passions of Christ'. It does preconsign the death of Christ, and does the infancy of the work of grace, but not weakly.

Preconsolidate, -constitute, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

Preconsu·lt, *v.* Now *rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* and *intr.* To consult beforehand or previously.

1620 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1672) 527 Intending in the meanwhile to preconsult with his friends. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 14 These use to preconsult of generall matters tending to the administration of the Commonwealth..and make relation thereof to the Senat. 1683 PEPYS *Corr.* (1841) I. 336 Had my mean advice been preconsulted in it.

So **Preconsulta·tion** [PRE- A. 2], previous consultation; † **Preconsu·ltor** (præ-), one who advises or holds consultation beforehand.

c 1620 WOTTON *Election Bk. Venice* in *Reliq.* (1651) 187 During his Election, all Inferiour Tribunals cease, only the Colledge of the Preconsultors (as they term it) is daily open for the hearing of Ambassadours. 1631 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 144 What an honour is it to King Charles, that had an ambassador who was a præ-consultor to so lofty an action. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Preconsultor*, a Pre-adviser; there is a Colledge of these at Venice. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* 85 Add to the other advantages of Preconsultation that it cuts off the causes of uncertain opinions.

Precontai·n, *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONTAIN *v.*] *trans.* To contain beforehand.

1656 [? J. SERGEANT] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 283 God is a most Simple Entity, precontaining in one most simple formality, the whole plenitude of Being. 1784 KIRWAN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIV. 162 Fixed air pre-contained in the dephlogisticated.

Precontemplation, -contemporaneous: see PRE- A. 2, B. 1 d.

† **Preconte·st.** *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONTEST *sb.*[1]] A former or previous fellow-witness.

c 1570 in *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 272 One John Lawson was burying in the barn with the said Agnes brother, her precontest. 1594 *Depos. Bk. Well's Dioc. Reg.* lf. 1 b, Presente then and ther,..this Jurate, and Thomas Jeanes his preconteste.

Pre-contract (prīkǫ̆ntrækt), *sb.* Also 7 **præ-.** [f. PRE-A. 2 + CONTRACT *sb.*] A pre-existing contract; a contract or agreement previously entered into: **a.** of marriage.

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 241/1 Oone Dame Elianor Butteler,..with whome the same King Edward had made a precontracte of matrimonie. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 38 (*title*) An act concernyng precontractes of mariages. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. i. 72 Nor gentle daughter, feare you not at all: He is your husband on a pre-contract. 1657–8 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 337 The law lies very loose as to things that are naturally essential to marriages, as to pre-contracts and dissolving of marriages. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xv. 434 Of this nature are pre-contract; consanguinity, or relation by blood; and affinity, or relation by marriage. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 224 Edward being already bound by a pre-contract of marriage to the lady Eleanor Butler.

b. in general sense.

1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 125 The King of Spaine had very many subiects in that Order, to whom no other Prince pretended any such precontract or interest. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, ccclxxiii, They are never safe Who weare their Titles by a Præ-contract In Treason. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, Lawyers..to draw his contracts, his pre-contracts, and his post-contracts, and to find the way to make the most of grants of church lands, and commons, and licenses for monopoly. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 704 The Presbyterian nonjurors..held that their country was under a precontract to the Most High, and could never..enter into any engagement inconsistent with that precontract.

Precontra·ct, *ppl. a. rare. poet.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONTRACT *ppl. a.*] Pre-contracted. (Used as *pa. pple.*)

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* IX. 205 His mother precontract Was in most solemn wise Unto the King. 1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* I. ii. 137 Albeit their hands were precontract By Brute your father dying.

Pre-contract (prīkǫ̆ntræ·kt), *v.* Also 7 **præ-.** [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONTRACT *v.*]

1. *trans.* a. To engage (a person) in a previous contract of marriage; to affiance or betroth beforehand. b. To establish (an agreement, etc.) by contract in advance. c. To acquire or form (habits, etc.) beforehand. Hence **Pre-contra·cted** *ppl. a.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 639 This Lepida had been pre-contracted unto Metellus Scipio. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girle* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 209 Deere husband, pardon me, I did dissemble, Told thee I was his precontracted wife. 1631 VICARS *Eng. Hallelujah* Ps. cv. vii, That Cou'nant-good, once præ-contracted To Abraham and Isaacs Seed. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 613 If they would employ their talents sincerely for the public good, in preference to any private views or favourite schemes or pre-contracted prejudices. 1819 *Life & Death Jas. V of Scot.* 122 Notwithstanding she had been pre-contracted to Frederic, elector palatine of the Rhine. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 167 Nor could a contract with Percy have invalidated her marriage with the king..Percy having been pre-contracted to another person.

2. *intr.* To enter into a contract beforehand; to agree or arrange in advance.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 88 Having precontracted with Beyrambeg and Darab-chawn, to seize him.

Precontrive (prīkŏntrəi·v), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + CONTRIVE *v.*] *trans.* To contrive beforehand. So **Precontri·vance** [PRE- A. 2].

1751 WARBURTON *Pope's Wks., Ess. Man* III. 295 *note*, When the mind had the will to raise the arm to the head, the body was so pre-contrived, as to raise, at that very moment, the part required. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 265 Shakspeare's Art is not Artifice; the noblest worth of it is not there by plan or precontrivance.

Preconveyance (prīkŏnvē·ăns). [f. PRE- A. 2 + CONVEYANCE *sb.*] A previous or prior conveyance (of property).

1628 *Petit. conc. Recusants* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 517 This mystery of Iniquity patched up of colourable Leases, Contracts, and Preconveyances. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 221 Recusant-patrons, before their conviction, had such sleights, by pre-conveyances to make over their advowsons to others.

† **Precony.** *Obs.* Also in L. form **præconium.** [ad. L. *præcōnium* the office of a public crier, a proclaiming, laudation; sb. use of neut. sing. of *præcōnius* PRECONIOUS, f. *præcōn-em* a public crier.] Public commendation; laudation, extolment.

c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* viii. (Gibbs MS.), So that here is schewed a grete precony and worthy ensaumple of pouert. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 3 Thei ar to be enhaunsede and exaltede by merite with grete preconyes. 1653 R. G. tr. *Bacon's Hist. Winds* 208 It hath been abused both by false opinions, and false Præconiums.

† **Preco·que,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. rare.* Also 5 *pl.* **precox.** [ad. L. *præcoqu-us* (Columella), occas. equivalent of *præcox* early ripe: see PRECOCE.] Early ripe. b. As *sb.* Applied to an early fig.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxi. (Bodl. MS.), Some [grapes] ben precoque..for þei ripeþ sone. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 578 In places passyng cold, hit is most sure Precox [= precoques, L. *præcoqua*] to plaunte; her fruyt they sone enhaunce, Er shoures come.

Preco·racoid, *a.* and *sb.* [PRE- B. 3.]

A. *adj.* Situated anterior to the coracoid.

1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 31 In Menobranch the long precoracoid cartilage lies upon the omo-hyoid.

B. as *sb.* A precoracoid bone or cartilage.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 39 The prolongation of the more perfectly developed præcoracoids. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 221 The posterior end articulates with the præcoracoids and the clavicles.

Hence **Precoracoi·dal** *a.* = PRECORACOID *a.* So **Preco·raco-** in comb., as *precoraco-brachial*, (a muscle) connecting the precoracoid with the arm.

1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 33 Precoraco-brachial..arises from the whole of the outer surface of the precoracoid cartilage, with the exception of the marginal part. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 761/2 (*in some copies*) The pectoral arch in the Amphibia is distinguishable into a scapular, a coracoidal, and a præcoracoidal region.

† **Preco·rdiac, præ-,** (*a.*) *sb. Obs.* [irreg. f. PRÆCORDIA, perh. after *cardiac.*] = PRECORDIAL.

1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Physic* 83 Proceeding from obstructions and distempers of the precordiacks and arteries.

Precordial, præ- (prēkō·rdiăl), *a.*[1] (*sb.*) [f. PRÆCORDIA + -AL.] Situated in front of or about the heart; of or pertaining to the PRÆCORDIA.

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 1 Against all the aboundance of humours in the breaste or precordiall parts. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXII. viii. II. 119 For the midriffe and precordial parts, it is very wholsome. *Ibid.* [see PRÆCORDIA]. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 379 A remitting dyspnœa, attended with dry cough and precordial anxiety. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v. *Præcordia*, The Præcordial Region is the epigastric region. Also, and more properly, the region of the heart [etc.]. 1880 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 316 It may be limited to a portion of the præcordial space. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Præcordial anxiety*, a feeling of anxiety and oppression, with a sensation of constriction of the chest over the precordial region.

† B. *sb.* (absolute use of adj.) *pl.* The precordial parts; the parts in front of or over the heart. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 14 Amyde hir hart-pypys or precordialis lycht. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 66 The naturall heate is not dryuen from the owtewarde partes into the inwarde partes and precordials.

† **Preco·rdial,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 6 + CORDIAL *a.*] Exceedingly cordial; very hearty, warm, or sincere.

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 349 Brether of court, with mynd precordial, To the gret god hartlie I commend zow. 1542 BECON *News out of Heaven* Prol. A iv b, Christ sayeth here playnely, that whosoeuer hath an herty & precordial [*ed.* 1560 vnfeigned] loue toward hym, kepeth his commaundementes. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) III. 273 Mutual Tenderness, or præcordial Sympathy.

b. *fig.* Very comforting or cheering. *Sc. rare*—[1].

a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 37 Restore thairfore to glore precordiall My lif from stryf or knyf of Atropus.

Hence † **Preco·rdially** *adv.*, most heartily.

c 1531 BOORDE *Let.* in *Introd. Knowl.* (1870) Forewords 47 Venerable faþer, precordyally I commend me vnto yow with thanks. 1534 — in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 299, I humyly and precordyally desyre yo^r^ Mastershepp to be good master..to y^r^ faithfull bedmen.

† **Preco·rdium.** *Obs.* An error for PERICARDIUM (confused with PRÆCORDIA).

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H j, Wherof is the substaunce of the coueryng of the herte?..It is called precordium, & is of a skynny substaunce, wher to descendeth synewes as vnto other inwarde intraylles.

Precorneal to **-costal**: see PRE- B. 1 d, 3.

† **Precou·rse,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præcurs-us*: see PRECURSE *sb.*] Forerunning, anticipation, anticipatory action.

1678 MARVELL *Def. Y. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 226 If God do not determine men to such wicked actions by concourse, he doth it..by precourse. 1786 A. GIB *Sacr. Contempl.* III. 470 According to the doctrine of Calvinists, there is a precourse or predetermination of the divine power in respect to every action of the Soul.

Precourse (prĭkō·ə·rs), *v. rare.* [f. L. *præcurs-*, ppl. stem of *præcurrĕre*: see PRECURSE *v.*] *trans.* To run before, forerun, herald, prognosticate. In quot. 1847 *intr.* To act as a precursor.

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 643 The precursors are understood to be gentlemen in the transition state towards repeal. Some of them have, however, denied that they can be said to 'precourse' in this form. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* xl, The weighty swells which had precoursed the growth of the storm had run away down the eastern waters.

Pre-creative, -crucial: see PRE- B. 1, 3.

Pre-critical (prī̆kri·tikăl), *a.* [PRE- B. 1.] Previous to the critical treatment of a subject; in quot. 1881, previous to the development of Kant's critical philosophy as shown in his 'Critique of Pure Reason'.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 847/2 Belonging to the precritical period of Kant's development. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* ii. 83 Jeroboam's revolt can no longer be estimated as in the pre-critical age.

Precuneus, præ- (prĭkiū·nĭ·ŭs). *Anat.* [f. L. *præ* PRE- B. 3 + CUNEUS.] The quadrate lobule of the brain, situated immediately in front of the cuneate lobule. Hence **Precu·neal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the precuneus (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1890 in BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Man. Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 437 Very rarely softening is limited to the paracentral region or to the precuneus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 308 We have found that lesion of the gyrus fornicatus, at the point where it passes into the precuneus, caused loss of sensation.

Precurrent (prĭkv·rĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *præcurrens, -entem*, pres. pple. of *præcurrĕre* to run before, precede: see PRE- A. 1 and CURRENT *a.*]

1. Occurring beforehand; forerunning, precursory.

1628 J. HUME *Jewes Deliv.* ii. 29 The precurrent signes of the day of Iudgement. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childr.* (ed. 4) I. 192 An account of the various precurrent symptoms. 1893 *Athenæum* 2 Sept. 310/3 Precurrent symptoms of the transition to some such society.

2. *Anat.* Running or extending forward, i. e. towards the front or head. Opposed to RECURRENT.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Precu·rrer.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. **precur*, ad. L. *præcurr-ĕre* (see prec.) + -ER [1].] A forerunner.

1601 SHAKS. *Phœnix & Turtle* ii, Thou shriking harbinger, Foule pre-currer of the fiend.

† **Precu·rse,** *sb. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *præcurs-us* a running before, from *præcurrĕre*: see next and PRECURRENT.] Forerunning, heralding, foretokening. So **Precu·rsal** *a. rare*—[1], of or pertaining to a forerunner, precursory.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 121 And even the like precurse of fierce events, As harbingers preceding still the fates. 1817 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. 262 When John began his precursal ministry.

Precurse (prĭkə·rs), *v. rare.* [f. L. *præcurs-*, ppl. stem of *præcurrĕre* (see PRECURRENT); so F. *précurser* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To run or occur before; hence, to herald, foretoken, prognosticate. Hence **Precu·rsing** *ppl. a.*

1865 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 173 This which we hear whispered there, and see spreading we know not how through the air, is just the precursing atmosphere which comes before his [Antichrist's] advent. 1891 FROUDE *Erasmus* viii. (1895) 155 You cannot regard heresy and schism and precursing antichrist as trifles.

† **Precu·rsion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. L. *præcursiōn-em* a running before, previous occurrence, n. of action from *præcurrĕre*: see prec.] = PRECURSE *sb.* Hence † **Precu·rsionary** *a. Obs. rare*—[1].

1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 15 That such a State of Empire, was at the change of that from Pagan to Christian as a Precursion to it. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 217 The landlords not named in the lists of Precursionary proscription were to be regarded popular and unattainted.

Precursive (prĭkə·rsiv), *a.* [f. L. *præcurs-* (see PRECURSE *v.*) + -IVE.] = PRECURSORY.

a 1814 *Sorceress* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 14 Does thy simple mind See the precursive harbingers of woe Like brooding guilt? 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIX. 281 A groundswell precursive of a storm rolls in. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. xviii. 362 These rumours were..the precursive shadows which are said to be cast by coming events.

Precursor (prĭkə·rsəɹ). Also 6–7 præ-; 7 **-cursoure, -curser.** [a. L. *præcursor* forerunner, advanced guard, agent-n. from *præcurrĕre* to run before; cf. F. *précurseur* (15th c.).]

1. One who or that which runs or goes before; a forerunner; *esp.* one who precedes and heralds the approach of another; a harbinger; *spec.* applied to John the Baptist. Also *attrib.*

1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. xvii. 281 The right excellent precursor Iohn Baptyste. 1612 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 106, I knowe this wilbe the more wellcome that it is my præcursoure. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 179 Abbé Raynal, one of the undoubted precursors of the present revolution in France. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* (1857) 9 The Baptist is here in his character of Precursor. 1856 MISS MULOCK *Y. Halifax* xxiii, Shame, the precursor of saving penitence. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 173 In ancient times Procyon..was called the Precursor Dog. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. ii. 55 That dark radiation, which is the precursor..of their luminous rays.

† b. *Irish Politics.* See quots. *Obs.*

1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 643 Conservatives 39, Repealers 37, Whigs 17, Precursors 12. The precursors are understood to be gentlemen in the transition state towards repeal. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 4/7 Precursor was one of the many names that O'Connell gave to his popular organisations. The 'Precursor Society' meant that it was the precursor of O'Connell's last resource—the Repeal of the Union.

2. One who precedes in some course or office.

1792 BURKE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 540 Sufferers in one Common Cause, and .. our precursors in misfortune. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vi. 248 There is now no need that we should err as our precursors have done for want of experience. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Guide Eng. Lit.* 202 Cowper..by his genuine love of nature was a precursor of Wordsworth.

Hence † **Precu·rsorism,** the principles and practice of the Irish 'precursors' (see PRECURSOR 1 b).

1839 *John Bull* 29 Apr., Otherwise what need would there be for 'Precursorism' and 'Repeal'? 1839 *Times* 17 Sept., Precursorism has turned out to be utterly hopeless.

Precu·rsorship. [f. prec. + -SHIP.]

1. The office or function of a precursor.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 152 The Eremitship of Elias and Iohn Baptist, and likewise of the Precurs[or]ship of Elias. 1892 G. SAINTSBURY *Misc. Ess.* Pref. 9 Without the faintest intention of giving any fatuous hint of prophecy or precursorship.

2. Antecedence; prior occurrence.

1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. IV. xvii. § 21 It depends for its force on the existence of ruins and traditions,..and the precursorship of eventful history. 1867 C. J. SMITH *Syn. & Antonyms* s. v. *Antecedence*, Syn...Priority, Precursorship.

Precursory (prĭkə·rsŏri), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *præcursōrius*: see PRECURSOR and -ORY [2].] Having the character of a precursor; running before or preceding, esp. as the harbinger or presage of something to follow; preliminary, introductory. Const. *of.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 125 After the kindling of many precursorie lights of knowledge. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 77 Being a precursory provision to that end. 1796 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 16/1 Reprobated..as precursory of far greater evils. *a* 1883 D. KING in *Mem.* (1885) 357, I cannot regard it [Pentecost] as the precursory advent here designed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 835 Another symptom which is sometimes precursory of exophthalmic goitre.

B. *sb.* (the adj. used *absol.*) A precursory fact, condition, or symptom; an antecedent.

a 1660 HAMMOND *Serm. Ezek.* xvi. 30 Wks. 1684 IV. 568 Virtue is the way to Truth: Purity of affections a necessary precursory to depth of knowledge. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 692 Yet not unfrequently the blood issues suddenly without any of these precursories.

Precydence, -ent, obs. ff. PRECEDENCE, -ENT.

Precydent, obs. Sc. variant of PRESIDENT.

† **Pre·dable,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. med.L. *prædābilis*, f. *prædārī* (see PREDE *v.*) + -ABLE.] Liable to be preyed on or seized as prey.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. XX. (1660) 226 Fowles..which are Predable whereof some are Savage some Domesticall. *Ibid.* XXI. 227 From Predable Fowles that are Savage, we come to Fowles Domesticall and home-bred that are delighted with Mens Society.

† **Preda·cean.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *predace-ous*, erron. form of PREDACIOUS + -AN (after *crustacean*, etc.).] A predacious animal; a bird or beast of prey.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxiv. 481 The Predaceans and several others, when first born are blind. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Predacean*, a syn. for *Carnivore.*

Predacious (prĭdē·ĭ·ʃəs), *a.* Also erron. **predaceous.** [f. L. type **prædāx, -ācem* (cf. It. *predace*: f. L. *prædārī* to prey upon) + -OUS: cf. *audacious, voracious, ferocious*: see -ACIOUS.]

1. Of animals: Naturally preying upon other animals; subsisting by the capture of living prey; predatory, raptorial.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IX. i. (1727) 399 Those are endow'd with Poison, because they are predaceous. 1774

Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 22 These snails may be regarded as the predacious tribe among their fellows. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 195 One predaceous creature caught in the very act of gorging his prey. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* (1849) 383 They were now in a land of danger, subject to the wide roamings of a predacious tribe. 1877 Coues *Fur Anim.* iii. 60 Strictly carnivorous, predacious, and destructive to many kinds of small Mammals and Birds.

2. Of or pertaining to predatory animals.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 509 He is as troublesome by his sudden and predacious sallies. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* I. 363 A barrier against the predacious attempts on the stock. 1877 Coues *Fur Anim.* iv. 128 The instincts and predacious habits of the Weasels and Stoats.

Hence **Preda·ciousness** = next.

1904 Branford *Ideals Sc. & Faith* 118 Characterised by, on the one hand, audacity and predaciousness, and on the other by timidity and submission.

Predacity (prĭdæ·sĭti). [f. as prec. + -TY; see -ACITY.] The quality or fact of being predacious.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 971/1 Indicatory of predacity of habits in the insect. 1853 *Tait's Mag.* XX. 314 Predacity is the order of the day. Bargains are battles, in which the greatest rogue stands the best chance. 1892 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 493 Thanks to his audacity and his predacity.

† **Pre·dal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *præda* prey + -AL.] Of or pertaining to plunder; predatory.

1737 Boyse *Olive* i, Sarmatia, laid by prædal Rapine low. *Ibid.* xix, Allur'd, the prædal raven took his flight.

Predamn (prīdæ·m), *v.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *prædamnāre*: see Pre- A. 1 and Damn *v.*] *trans.* To damn or condemn beforehand.

1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 82 The deedes..for which the cities of Sodome and Gomorrha were predamned. 1794 J. Williams *Shrove Tuesday* in *A Cabinet*, etc. 14 Swear we're all predestin'd or predamn'd.

Predamnation (prī,dæmnē·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *prædamnātiōn-em*, n. of action from *prædamnāre*: see prec.] The action of condemning or condition of being damned beforehand.

1626 J. Yates *Ibis ad Cæsarem* II. 32 As for damnation, predamnation, &c., they are acts of iustice, and not to be thought vpon without sinne. *a* 1711 Ken *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 27 'Tis Predamnation to despair, 'Tis Bliss to trust God's tender Care. 1865 W. G. Palgrave *Arabia* I. viii. 367 An adequate idea of predestination, or, to give it a truer name, pre-damnation, held and taught in the school of the Coran.

Predate (prīdē·t), *v.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + Date *v.*] **1.** *trans.* To date before the actual time; to antedate.

1864 in Webster. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 486 The tendency—found in all early as well as modern writings—to pre-date the origin of empire. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 9/3 Mr. Gorst predates the fall of Lord Randolph Churchill.

2. To precede in date, to date before (something).

1889 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VII. 486/1 The Bonnington, or Lawday oak, is not a boundary tree, but it predates the times of the Tudors.

† **Preda·tion.** *Obs.* Also 5–6 -acion. [ad. L. *prædātiōn-em* a taking of booty, n. of action f. *prædārī* to plunder: see Prede *v.*] The action of plundering or pillaging; depredation.

c 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 968 On erthe ther is no thing so vnsemyng As a kynge to be in predacion, Or by compulsion to be taking. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 143 Thys sodain visitacion or predacion, cleane shaued them. [*Margin*] Predacion, that is a robbery. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* (1679) 20 The good Husbands expected..that the Fruit should improve, as freed from the predations of the Hedge.

† **Predati·tious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prædātīci-us, -ītius*, f. *prædārī, prædāt-*: see prec. and -ITIOUS [1].] Characterized by plundering or robbing; predatory.

1659 Gauden *Serm.*, etc. (1660) 25 Not predaticious to any, but propitious to all true Saints. 1675 Evelyn *Terra* (1729) 3 Provided no rank Weeds, or predatitious Plants (consummating their Seeds) be suffered to..exhaust it.

† **Predato·rial,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prædātōri-us* (see Predatory) + -AL.] = Predatory.

c 1781 (*title*) Authentic Memoirs..from the Journal of his Predatorial Majesty, the King of the Swindlers.

† **Predato·rious,** *a. Obs.* [f. as next + -OUS.] = Predatory (esp. in sense 3).

1640 Gauden *Love of Truth* (1641) 21 Interpreting that zeale, which is but naturall passion and choler, an humane, feaverish and prædatorious, not that holy, gentle, and propicious heate of love. 1659 — *Slight Healers* (1660) 56 In complicated diseases .. to give check to that, which is most accute, malignant and predatorious of the spirits. *a* 1677 Manton *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 36 xli. Wks. 1872 VI. 379 There is a vital heat necessary to our preservation, and there are unnatural predatorious heats which argue a distemper.

Predatory (pre·dătəri), *a.* Also 7–8 præ-. [ad. L. *prædātōri-us*, f. *prædātōr-em* a plunderer, agent-n. f. *prædārī*: see Prede *v.* and -ory [2].]

1. Of, pertaining to, characterized by, or consisting in plundering, pillaging, or robbery.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xviii. (Arb.) 53 So saith Aristotle,..that pasturage was before tillage, or fishing or fowling, or any other predatory art or cheuisance. 1673 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* II. 30 It is a prædatory course of life. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* lxiv. (1869) III. 611 Necessity and revenge might justify his prædatory excursions by sea and land. 1803 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 203 The Marhattas have long boasted that they would carry on a predatory war against us. 1878 Maclear *Celts* i. 9 They for a time indulged their predatory instincts unchecked.

2. Addicted to, or living by, plunder; plundering, marauding, thieving; in modern use sometimes applied to the criminal classes of great cities.

1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxvi. (1869) II. 35 He recalled to their standard his predatory detachments. 1801 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 367 A predatory and formidable race, the Mahrattas. 1841 Macaulay *Ess., W. Hastings* (1887) 638 The principle .. is fully expressed by the old motto of one of the great predatory families of Teviotdale, 'Thou shalt want ere I want'.

† **3.** Destructive, consuming, wasteful, deleterious.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 299 The Evils that come of Exercise, are:..that it maketh the Spirits more hot and predatory. *Ibid.* § 318 The cause is, for that all exclusion of open air (which is ever predatory) maintaineth the body in his first freshness and moisture. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 32 Some sorts of it [air] being as predatory and wastful of the body, as others again are comfortable and refreshing. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 122 If of himself the Patient takes no Care, But runs into the Predatory Air.

4. Of an animal: That preys upon other animals; that is a beast, bird, or other creature of prey; carnivorous. Also, of its organs of capture.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 165, I shall be content to suppose that those Animals which are now Prædatory were so from the beginning. 1861 G. F. Berkeley *Sportsm. W. Prairies* xi. 185 They will fly from a dog or a predatory animal. 1884 Sedgwick *Claus' Text-bk. Zool.* I. 562 The lower lip [of *Libellulidæ*] is modified to form a special predatory apparatus (the mask). *Mod.* The Cicindela is one of the *Geadephaga* or predatory land beetles.

Hence **Predatorily** (pre·dătərĭli) *adv.*, in a predatory manner (Webster 1847); **Pre·datoriness,** the quality of being predatory (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Predazzite (prĭda·tsəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *predazzit*, named 1843 f. Predazzo, in the Tyrol: see -ITE [1] 2 b.] 'A rock composed of calcite and brucite, long considered a mineral species' (Chester *Names of Minerals*).

1867 Brande & Cox *Dict. Sc.*, etc. III, *Predazzite*, a variety of Bitter Spar mixed with Brucite, which forms mountain masses at Predazzo in the Southern Tyrol. It has a granular structure, and is white with a vitreous lustre on the planes of cleavage.

† **Prede, pread,** *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 6 preede. [ad. L. *præda* booty, spoil.] Plunder, spoil, booty, prey.

1538 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 41 He was constreyned to leave behinde him the spoile and prede he had there takyn. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 186 They..conspired together of all the preade & bootie that thei should geat not to bryng a iote into ye kynges pauilion. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 35 For we hither sayld not,..from their region with prede too gather an heardflock. *Ibid.*, etc. 139 Not a practise honest, nor a preede toe be greatlye recounted.

† **Prede, pread,** *v. Obs. rare.* Also 6 preid. [ad. L. *prædārī* to plunder, spoil, f. *præda*: see prec.] **a.** *trans.* To plunder, rob. **b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To seize booty, to plunder. Hence † **Preding, preading,** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1577 Stanyhurst *Descr. Irel.* in *Holinshed* (1587) II. 23/1 The inhabitants being dailie and hourelie molested and preided by their prolling mounteine neighbors. 1600 Holland *Livy* III. vii. 92 To..sit still without preading, in a wast and desart countrey. 1609 — *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. vi. 12 Crewes and troupes of preading brigands. 1632 — *Cyrupædia* 66 Some Chaldees..that live by preading and robbing.

Prede, ME. dial. form of Pride.

Pre-decay: see Pre- A. 2.

Predecease (prīdĭsī·s), *sb.* [f. Pre- A. 2 + Decease *sb.*, after next. Cf. F. *prédécès* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The decease or death of one person before another.

a 1765 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* (1773) III. ix. § 21 Upon the dissolution of a marriage by the predecease of the wife without issue. 1883 *Stubbs' Merc. Circular* 28 Nov. 1046/1 The same right..which the wife formerly had in the husband's [estate] on his predecease. 1888 Ld. Watson in *Law Rep., Ho. Lords* XIII. 381 Her consent had no reference to the rights arising to her next of kin upon her own pre-decease.

Predecease (prīdĭsī·s), *v.* Also 6 præ-. [f. Pre- A. 1 + Decease *v.* Cf. F. *prédécéder* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To die before (some person, or, rarely, some event).

1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 1756 If children prædecease progenitours, We are their ofspring and they none of ours. 1828 Scott *Diary* 24 May in *Lockhart*, Burke was under the strange hallucination that his son who predeceased him was a man of greater talents than himself. 1858 Gladstone *Homer* III. 32 Several of the heroes who predeceased the war. 1872 Jacox *Aspects Authorsh.* xxii. 370 How continually do the words predecease (as they say in Scotland) the author of them!

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To die first or before the other.

a 1765 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* (1773) III. ix. § 21 Where the husband predeceases, neither widow nor children can claim a right in any part of the heirship moveables.

Hence **Predecea·sed** *ppl. a.*, previously or formerly deceased; **Predecea·ser,** one who dies before another.

1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, v. i. 76 Will you mocke at an ancient Tradition began vppon an honourable respect, and worne as a memorable Trophee of predeceased valor? 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* Digest 506 The praetors admitted the survivor of husband or wife to *bonorum possessio ab intestato* of the predeceaser, next after cognates. *Ibid.* 520 He or she might take..the usufruct..of a third part of the predeceaser's estate.

† **Predece·ss,** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [Back-formation from Predecessor.] *trans.* To precede, be the predecessor of.

1747 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 192 Lord John Sackville predecessed me here.

Predecession (prīdĭse·ʃən). *rare.* [n. of action f. stem of Predecess-or; cf. med.L. *prædēcessiōn-em* (Du Cange).] The action or condition of preceding in any position; the being a predecessor.

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 51 Progenitors have had them for four and twenty predecessions. 1855 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* (1877) III. 255 How much Judaism owes to Egyptian predecession.

† **Predece·ssive,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -IVE.] That has gone before; preceding.

1599 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* I. i, Our noble and wise prince has hit the law That all our predecessive students Have missed, unto their shame.

Predecessor (prīdĭse·səɹ, pred-). Also 6 præ-; 5–6 predy-, predi-; 4 -ur, 5 -ar, 5–7 -our, -oure, 7 -er. [ME. *predecessour* = F. *prédécesseur* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *prædēcessor* (Rutil. *c* 420), f. *præ*, Pre- A. + *dēcessor* one who goes away, departs, or dies, agent-n. from *dēcēdĕre* to go away, depart. Often used as the equivalent of L. *præcessor, antecessor.*]

1. One who has held (and ceased to hold) any office or position before the present holder; one who has preceded in the position.

[1292 Britton I. i. § 6 Si la fraunchise ne soit graunté..par nous ou par nos predecessours.] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 326 Of þi predecessare. *Ibid.* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 416 þe emperoure Oto, þat wes predecessoure Of þe gud emperoure henry. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 464 The newe pope..whiche also lyke to his predecessour was a Frensheman. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 307 b, My predecessours, Byshoppes of Rome. 1607 Topsell *Fourf. Beasts* (1658) 163 The Elephant..with his teeth digged up the ground and shewed her the naked body of her predecessor, intimating thereby .. how unworthily she had marryed with a man, murtherer of his former wife. 1768 Gray in *Corr. w. Nicholls* (1843) 83 Next day Hinchliffe made his speech, and said not one word (though it is usual) of his predecessor. 1861 Craik *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 83 Eadmer's immediate predecessor in the see of St. Andrews was Turgot.

b. A thing to which another has succeeded.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* II. 319 To-day is Yesterday return'd;.. Let it not share its predecessor's fate. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 248 This is the first clear day..Compared with the gloomy haziness of its predecessors, it was cheering. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June Suppl., This Supplement..will be republished together with its predecessor.

2. An ancestor; a forefather.

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 56 þe kyngis citee þe wich her predecessours and þe Chaldeys of olde tyme had byseged and destruyed. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 199 Somme women haue childer like to theyme, somme like to the fader, and somme like to their predecessores afore tyme. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe India* (Arb.) 4 We may perceue such magnanimitie to haue ben in our predicessours. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 248 Your Highnesse..Did claime some certaine Dukedomes, in the right Of your great Predecessor, King Edward the Third. 1656 Cowley *Verses Sev. Occas., To Roy. Soc.* v, All long Errors of the Way, In which our wandring Predecessors went. 1848 R. I. Wilberforce *Doctr. Incarnation* xii. (1852) 323 Considering the vast number of ancestors which each individual had in the twenty-seventh generation, there can scarcely have been a Jewish parent in the time of David,..who was not, according to the flesh, a predecessor of our Lord.

† **3.** One who takes precedence. *Obs. rare.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1723 Predicessour of princes & pere to þe sonn.

† **4.** One who goes before as a leader or guide.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxxiii. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 154/1 þat þou shalt firste be my predecessour And goo aforn depe doun in helle. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxi. 143 He [Jesus] shal be our helpe, þat is our leder & oure predecessour. 1656 tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 955 If they [Christians] knew their own priviledges, and composed themselves according to the pattern of their Predecessor.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1680 É. F. *Life Edw. II* 21 He exactly follows his Predecessor-precedent to the Life. 1683 J. Wilson in *Cloud of Witnesses* (1810) 216 That which their great doctor had yielded and their predecessor council had approven. 1723 Dk. Wharton *True Briton* No. 57 II. 498 This French Author celebrates his Predecessor Countrymen. 1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* III. v. (1872) I. 167 'The old castle of the Schellenbergs' (extinct predecessor Line).

Hence **Predece·ssoress,** † **Predece·ssrix,** a female predecessor; **Predece·ssorship,** the office of a predecessor.

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Decession*, a predecessorship, *decessio.* 1640 R. Baillie *Canterb. Self-convict.* 119 After the example of his glorious Father and renowned predecesrix Elizabeth. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 657 They will find no obstruction from the melodious pages of their predecessoresses.

Predeclare (prīdĭklēə·ɹ), *v. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + Declare; cf. obs. F. *prédéclarer* (16th c.).] *trans.* To declare or announce beforehand.

1633 Massinger *Guardian* I. i, I do not carry An almanack in my bones, to pre-declare What weather we shall have. *a* 1711 Ken *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 77 For God Incarnate shalt [thou] the Way prepare, His wonderful Salvation pre-declare. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* XIV. x. (1864) IX. 355 It is believed by few that the Priest..has the power of irrevocably predeclaring the doom of his fellow men.

Predecree (prīdĭkrī·), *sb. rare.* [Pre- A. 2.] A decree pronounced beforehand.

1831 Lytton *Godolphin* xxvii, Of all supernatural belief, that of being compelled by a predecree,..seems the most fraught at once with abasement and with horror. 1832 — *Eugene A.* III. vi, The invisible and giant hand..at whose pre-decree we hold the dark boons of life and death.

Predecree', *v. rare.* Also 7 præ-. [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To decree beforehand: to foreordain.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. vi. § 1 (1622) 39 All things are prædecreed vnto men by God. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Festiv.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 374 The Force he of the promis'd Seed Had felt, in Jesus pre-decreed.

Pre-dedicate, -dedication: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

Predefine (prĭdĭfəi·n), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + DEFINE *v.*; cf. obs. F. *prediffinir* (15th c. in Godef.).] *trans.* To define, limit, appoint, or settle previously; to predetermine.

1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* xliii. Q ij b, At his tyme predefined and appoynted from euerlastynge. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 29 Whatever God absolutely predefines or predestines from Eternitie he predetermines in time. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 67 Whom thy unbounded Goodness predefin'd To be the Mighty Saviour of Mankind. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 43 Much less can a general statute anticipate and pre-define it. 1836 G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. viii. 357 The number of the predestinated is predefined and certain.

So **Predefinite** (prĭde·finit) *a.*, predetermined (in quot. 1847 = PREDESIGNATE *a.* b); **Predefinition** (prī,defini·ʃən), predetermination.

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. Liv b, Vntill such time as the complet number..shuld be fulfilled and wholy accomplished accordinge to the eternall predifinition of God. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* III. 25 Some distinguish between God's predefinition and his predetermination: his predefinition they restrain to his decrees, and his predetermination to his concurse. *Ibid.* 30 The decree of God..cannot have [its effect] but by efficaciously applying the create wil to the predefinite act. 1847 HAMILTON *Let. to De Morgan* 32 In the first, common, or Aristotelic meaning, definite, or more precisely predefinite (διοριστὸς, προσδιοριστὸς) is equivalent to expressed, overt, or, more proximately, to designate and pre-designate.

Predeli·berate (prī-), *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + DELIBERATE *v.*; cf. obs. F. *predeliberer* (16th c. in Godef.).] *trans.* To deliberate beforehand, to premeditate. Hence **Predeli·berated** *ppl. a.*, previously deliberated; premeditated. So **Pre·delibera·tion,** previous deliberation.

1625 Pre-deliberations [see PRECONCEPTION]. 1649 BP. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 20 This Tumult was taken to be but a rash Emergent, without any predeliberation. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 2 Occasions of committing either mortal, or any voluntary and predeliberated, venial sin.

Predeli·neate (prī-), *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] To delineate beforehand. Hence **Predeli·neated** *ppl. a.* So **Predelinea·tion,** previous delineation; in quot. 1879 in reference to the old theory that all the parts of the complete animal body already existed in the spermatozoon: cf. PREFORMATION 2.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 119 The same spirit of Nature which prepares the matter by some general Predelineation. *Ibid.* 125 Such a soul as is most congruous to the predelineated Matter which it has prepared for her. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 37 The Animalculists, or the Believers in Sperm, looked upon the moving seminal threads as the real animal germs... Leeuwenhoek, Hartsoeker, and Spallanzani were the chief defenders of this theory of Pre-delineation.

Predella (prĭde·lă). [a. It. *predella* (prede·lla) a stool, footstool, kneeling-stool; prob. f. OHG. *pret* a board + *-ella*, dim. suffix.]

1. The step or platform upon which an altar is placed, an altar-step, foot-pace; also, a painting or sculpture upon the vertical face of this.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 6 All should communicate upon the edge of the predella. 1857 G. J. WIGLEY *Borromeo's Inst. Eccl. Build.* xi. § 2. 26 *note*, The highest or the only step of an altar is..the Predella..the name used for this platform in all works on church ceremonies. 1873 SUSAN & JO. HORNER *Walks Florence* (1884) I. xxiv. 353 In the..predella of small figures below the altar, a priest holds up the chalice.

2. A raised shelf at the back of an altar; also (more usually) a piece of painting or sculpture on the front of such a shelf, forming an appendage to the altar-piece above it: = GRADINO.

1848 MRS. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 101 In a small and very curious picture which I saw at Rome, forming part of a Predella. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 307 The 'predella' or gradus was the wooden base on which the altar-piece rested, and to which it was attached. 1873 SUSAN & JO. HORNER *Walks Florence* (1884) II. i. 2 This picture formed the predella, or lower part of an altar-piece.

b. Extended to a subsidiary painting forming a similar appendage to any picture.

1882 W. SHARP *D. G. Rossetti* 252 There is a very fine predella, or lower partition, attached to the picture, which [predella] is divided by two crossbars of the frame into three divisions. 1902 *Union Mag.* Nov. 502/1 The picture is finished with a predella consisting of a kind of Dominican tree.

c. *attrib.*, as *predella panel, picture.*

1884 *American* VIII. 202 The collection has also a small Raphael predella panel. 1884 *Athenæum* 21 June 796 The nuns of St. Anthony of Padua.. sold the fine predella pictures to Christina of Sweden.

Pre-demand, -demonstrate, etc.: see PRE-A. 1.

Predentary, -dentate, etc.: PRE- A. 4, B. 3.

† Predepo·se, *v. Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To depose, give evidence, or affirm previously. Hence † **Predepo·sed** *ppl. a.*

c 1560 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 62 As he haith predeposyd in this said matter. 1626 in *Impeachm. Dk. Buckhm.* (Camden) 29 Hee..did lade all the predeposed goods.

Pre-describe, -desert, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

Predesign (prī-dĭzəi·n), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + DESIGN *v.*; cf. late L. *prædēsignātus.*] *trans.* To design, appoint, purpose, or contrive beforehand: see DESIGN *v.* 7, 8, 10.

1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 7 Her often iterated apologies..shew neither her Matter nor Method curiously pre-designed. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* iii. 87 It seems not conceivable, how they should act constantly for ends, they are not capable of predesigning. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 166 This with the spotless Soul was pre-design'd For Social Bliss and Cement to mankind.

Hence **Predesi·gned** *ppl. a.*

1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* 358 With Consciousness of what She does, and for pre-designed Ends. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* June 825/2 A deliberate and predesigned attempt to embroil Europe in Russia's Far Eastern trouble.

Predesignate (prĭde·signĕt, -de·z-), *a.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + DESIGNATE *ppl. a.*] **a.** Designated or specified beforehand. **b.** *Logic.* Of a proposition or term: Having a sign of quantity prefixed.

1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xiii. (1866) I. 244 Propositions have either..their quantity.. marked out by a verbal sign, or they have not; such quantity being involved in every actual thought. They may be called in the one case (a) *Predesignate*; in the other (b) *Preindesignate.* 1847 [see PREDEFINITE].

Prede·signate (-nĕit), *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.]

1. *trans.* To designate or specify beforehand.

1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 153 In the calamity of dearth may be seen one of those events, of which—especially if the time of it be not predesignated with too rigid an exactness—a prediction may be hazarded.

2. *Logic.* To designate by prefixing a sign of quantity.

1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 135 *note*, The English Exclusive particles are, *one, only, alone, exclusively, precisely, just, sole, solely, nothing but,* &c. These particles annexed to the Subject predesignate the Predicate universally, or to its whole extent.

Predesignation (prīdesignē·ʃən, -dez-). [n. of action from prec.: see -ATION.]

1. The action of predesigning, or of predesignating; previous designation, appointment, or specification.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 26 For us men, ..according to Promise, Prediction, Pre-designation, God to Man, in the fulnesse of time, came downe from heaven. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. i. 36 Here is an express..prædesignation of them. 1883 C. S. PEIRCE *The. Prob. Infer.* in *Stud. Logic* viii. 162 Suppose we were to draw our inferences without the predesignation of the character *P* [for which the class had been sampled]; then we might in every case find some recondite character in which those instances would all agree.

2. *Logic.* A sign of quantity prefixed to a term or proposition.

c 1840 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* (1866) II. App. 273 They [logicians]..denominated a proposition *universal* or *particular*, as its subject merely was quantified by the predesignation *some* or *all*. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 122 Having no sign or predesignation of Quantity affixed to it.

Predesignatory (prĭde·signătəri, -de·z-), *a.* [f. PREDESIGNATE *v.* + -ORY 2.] *prop.* Having the function of predesignating; in quot. = Prefixed as a sign of quantity to a proposition (cf. prec. 2).

1853 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* App. ii. *Logical* (B) 680 Here the predesignatory words for universally affirmative and universally negative quantity are not the same.

† **Prede·stin.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PRE- A. 2 + DESTIN.] = PREDESTINY.

1558 PHAER *Æneid.* VII. T j b, But we commaunded come, and by predestin seeke this ground By tokens straunge from heauen.

Predestinarian (prĭdestinē·riăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. PREDESTINE *v.* + *-arian* (in *Trinitarian*, etc.).]

A. *sb.* One who believes or maintains the theological doctrine of predestination, esp. in an extreme form; a fatalist.

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ix. ¶ 20 Why does the predestinarian so adventurously climb into heaven, to ransack the celestial archives? 1741 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 302 There are several Predestinarians in our societies. 1782 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* I. 41 The Turks being great predestinarians. 1882 W. H. FREMANTLE in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* III. 46/2 (*Hieronymus*) Jerome is not like Augustine, a thoroughgoing predestinarian, but a 'synergist', maintaining the coexistence of free will.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, concerning, or relating to predestination; holding or maintaining the doctrine of predestination.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) p. xix, By way of Reply to the objected authority of S. Austin as to some part of the Predestinarian Controversie. 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 382 Errors to which the Divines of Marseilles gave the name of Predestinarian Heresie. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. vii. 402 Those who did not hold the predestinarian theory were branded with reproach by the names of freewillers and Pelagians. 1843 J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* (1867) 407 Every Fatalist or Predestinarian scheme destroys merit.

Hence **Predestina·rianism,** the belief or doctrine of predestinarians.

1722 DE FOE *Plague* (Rtldg.) 245 A kind of a Turkish Predestinarianism. 1831 BLAKEY *Free-will* 108 Many systems and views, both in morals and religion, are maintained upon a more slender foundation than that of predestinarianism. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 896/2 The Lutheran Church..attempted to take a middle course between predestinarianism..and synergism.

† **Prede·stinary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PREDESTINE + -ARY [1] A.] = PREDESTINARIAN *a.*

1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 172 To professe openly they will returne to the Papacie, rather than ever admit that Sacramentarie and Predestionarie [*sic*] pestilence. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Hist. Presbyter.* (1670) 21 The Zwinglian Gospellers..began to scatter their predestinary Doctrines in the Reign of King Edward.

Predestinate (prĭde·stinĕit), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prædestināt-us*, pa. pple.: see next.]

A. *ppl. a.* (as *adj.* or *pple.*) Predestined. *arch.*

1. *Theol.* Foreordained by the eternal purpose or decree of God: **a.** to salvation or eternal life.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 426 If þo pope asked me whether I were ordeyned to be saved, or predestynate, I wolde sey þat I hoped so. *c* 1535 M. NISBET *New Test. in Scots* (S. T. S.) III. 341 To searse the boddumless secrettis of Godis predestinatiounn, quhiddir thai be predestynate or nocht. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. xi. (1699) 125 The Reprobates being then in the Valley of Jehosaphat, and the predestinate in the Air. 1833 J. WATERWORTH tr. *Veron's Rule Cath. Faith* 144 Can the predestinate be lost, or the reprobate saved?

b. to any specified fate or lot in this life or after death; also of things: Foreordained by divine decree. Const. *to*, or *inf.* with *to*.

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* i. 4 The which is predestynat [*gloss* or bifore ordeyned bi grace] the sone of God in vertu. 1433 LYDG. *St. Fremund* 618 This blissid martir..Afforn predestynat to liff that is eterne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 180 She that was predestynate to be the mother of God. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb) 17 Bi Gods predestinat order. 1649 A. ROSS *Alcoran* 41 In a time prescribed and predestinate. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* III. 1044 The precious something at perdition's edge He only was predestinate to save.

2. In lighter or more general sense: Destined beforehand; fated.

c 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) 869 He ys predestynate to be a prynces pere. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 136 So some Gentleman or other shall scape a predestinate scratcht face. 1706 MAULE *Hist. Picts* in *Misc. Scot.* I. 40 Empires and monarchies cannot escape their predestinate ruines and fatal subversions. 1882 SWINBURNE *Tristram of Lyon.* vi. 109 The great good wizard, well beloved and well Predestinate of heaven. 1896 SIR T. MARTIN *Æneid* II. 81 There happy days, a realm, and royal bride Predestinate await thee.

B. *sb. Theol.* A person predestinated to eternal life; one of the elect.

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* II. Wks. 181/2 Yet may it be that there bee none other in it than predestinates. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 92 These Anabaptisticall heretickes, how boldly they dare censure of all others, and auouch themselues predestinates. 1905 G. G. COULTON in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 222 He [Newman] would have found himself in far closer and more inevitable contact with these self-elected Predestinates.

Predestinate (prĭde·stinĕit), *v.* [f. L. *prædestināt-*, ppl. stem of *prædestināre*, in cl. L. 'to appoint or resolve upon beforehand' (*prædestinare triumphos*, Livy); in Chr. L. from 4th c. (Lucifer of Cagliari *a* 370, Ambrosiaster, Vulgate (of the Epistles) *c* 384, Augustine *c* 418), rendering Gr. προορίζειν 'to determine beforehand' (Rom. viii. 29, 30); f. L. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *destināre* to make fast, establish, determine, appoint: see DESTINE *v.* In English the verb was first PREDESTINE (q. v.); *predestinat, -ate* was at first pa. pple. (= L. *prædestinātus*) and ppl. adj., later also pa. t., but became *c* 1550 the form of the finite vb. = PREDESTINE *v.* Cf. prec. and -ATE 3.]

1. *Theol.* Of God: To foreordain by a divine decree or purpose: **a.** to salvation or eternal life; to elect.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiii. 146, I preuentyd hem in blessinges of swetnes. I predestinate hem before worldes. 1530 PALSGR. 664/2 He that is predestynate is written in the boke of lyfe. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Rom.* viii. 30 And whom he hath predestinated: them also he hath called. [WYCL. bifor ordeyned: TINDALE, CRANMER, *Geneva*, ordeyned before.. appointed before: 1611 did predestinate: *R. V.* foreordained.] 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 139/1 Gentiles, whom he had predestinated by the means of the Gospel.

b. to any fate or lot in this life or after death (including to elect and to reprobate); to foreordain everything that comes to pass. Const. *to*, or *inf.* with *to*.

(But many who hold the Augustinian, Thomist, or Calvinistic doctrine of God's foreordination of all things have objected to or shrunk from the use of *predestinate* and *predestination* in reference to final reprobation. Even the Westminster Confession does not so use it: see quot. 1647).

a 1450 *Alexander* 2745 (Dublin MS.) Yff I kyd þaim ony curtasy, it Come of my-seluen.. Na we pride vs for no prowez predestinate [*Ashm. MS.* predestayned] vs here. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xx, Whom god..had predestinate to be a great kyng. *c* 1560 *Petition* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxviii. 294 That God doth foreknow and predestinate all good and goodness, but doth only foreknow, and not predestinate, any evil. 1647 *Westminster Confession* iii. §§ 3–4 By the decree of God, for the manifestation of His glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life, and others foreordained to everlasting death. These angels and men thus predestinated and foreordained [etc.]. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 44 Make Fate hang on his Lips, nor Heaven have Pow'r to Predestinate without his leave. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. ii. (1866) 20 God does not predestinate men to fail. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* I. 10 He predestinated them, first to grace in this world,

and..to glory in the world to come. 1887 G. SALMON in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* III. 449/2 These..taught that certain were by God's foreknowledge so predestinated to death that neither Christ's passion nor baptism..could help them. 1888 BP. GORE *R. C. Claims* i. (1905) 3 *note*, Be logical,.. said the Calvinist: God predestinates, and therefore man has not free will. 1901 B. J. KIDD 39 *Articles* II. II. xvii. 155 [Art. XVII] declines to be committed to the doctrine of Reprobation, according to which all who are not predestinated to eternal life were held to be predestinated to eternal death.

2. To destine (as by fate); to fix beforehand by human (or animal) determination: = PREDESTINE 1b.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 32 Infinite be that time, which is predestinated for the name of Brute and his Brutans. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 14 Not a few are predestinated thither [to the church] by their friends, from the foresight of a good benefice. 1730 YOUNG *Paraphr. Job* 228 And with a glance predestinates her prey. *a* 1845 HOOD *Desert-Born* iii, Predestinated (so I felt) for ever to her service.

Hence **Prede·stinated** *ppl. a.*, **Prede·stinating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1593 *Tell-Trothe's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 19 To shonne his predestinated fortune. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 13 Presuming upon their professed predestinating notions, and of every man's end being predetermined. 1737-69 CRUDEN *Concordance* (ed. 8) 535/1 Those that are so left [in their infidelity or their corruptions] are the Reprobate, and the others are the Elect or Predestinated. 1819 CHALMERS *Congregat. Serm.* (1836) I. 369 Mysteries attach to the counsels and determinations of a predestinating God. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VI. 204 The stagnant, dull, predestinated fool.

Prede·stinately, *adv.* [f. PREDESTINATE *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a 'predestinate' manner; by predestination.

1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. XXXIX. 87 All thyngs happen of fatal necessitie, predestinately. 1890 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 128 Mine is essentially, predestinately, and unchangeably good.

† **Predestina·tian,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prædestināt-us*, *-a*, *-um* (see PREDESTINATE *v.*) + -IAN; so mod.F. *prédestinatien* (Littré).] = PREDESTINARIAN *sb.* and *a.*

1630 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 434 Predestinatians, which was but a Nickname that the Semi-Pelagians put upon the Followers of St. Augustine. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* IV. 200 Objections..made by the Semipelagians, and not by any Predestinatian Hereticks at that time in Gaul.

Predestination (prīdestinēi·ʃən). [ad. late L. *prædestinātiōn-em* (Augustine), n. of action f. *prædestināre* to PREDESTINE: see -ATION. So F. *prédestination* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] The action of predestinating, or fact of being predestinated; the ordaining or determination of events before they come to pass; pre-appointment by, or in the way of, fate or destiny; foreordination.

1. *Theol.*, etc. The action by which God is held to have immutably determined all (or some particular) events by an eternal decree or purpose.

'*Predestination* is a theological term, sometimes used with greater latitude to denote the decree or purpose of God by which He has from eternity immutably determined whatever comes to pass; sometimes more strictly to denote the decree by which men are destined to everlasting happiness or misery; and sometimes with excessive strictness to denote only predestination to life or election' (Marcus Dods in *Encycl. Brit.* (1885) XIX. 668/1).

a. The action of God (held by Christians generally) in foreordaining or appointing from all eternity certain of mankind through grace to salvation and eternal life. (In this sense = *election*, and opposed to *reprobation*.)

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* civ. 10, I gif heuen in heritage til anly þa þat ere takyne wiþ þe strenge of predestinacioun of god. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks* III. 134 Þese two glues, of predestinacioun and of prescience of God, joynen þese two bodies. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 82 But his predestinacion may onlich save soulis, and his prevy presciens may dampne whom him list. 1562 *Articles of Religion* xvii, Of Predestination and Election. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 23 It is a most sure signe and token of our predestination, glad and willingly to heare the worde of God. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue, Brief Descr.*, The most blessed and comfortable doctrine of Predestination. 1850 BP. BROWNE *Exp.* 39 *Art.* xvii. (1878) 404 The Gallican clergy state, that their own belief had hitherto been that God's predestination was founded on prevision of faith. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* I. 11 Do not misunderstand me..as if that predestination of God in any way conflicts with the perfect freedom of the human will. 1887 E. S. FFOULKES *Predestination* in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* IV. 466/1 Predestination is but another word for election,.. carried out in instalments on earth, but registered in the archives of heaven in advance. 1901 B. J. KIDD 39 *Articles* II. II. xvii. 157 The tenet of particular redemption, which held that God's predestination had reference not to mankind at large, but to this and that particular individual.

b. The action of God (insisted upon in some systems of doctrine, esp. those associated with the names of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Calvin), in foreordaining the future lot and fate of all mankind in this life and after death (including their salvation or perdition); and, generally, His foreordaining of whatsoever comes to pass. In this sense also a doctrine of orthodox Islam.

Sometimes called *duple* or *duplex* predestination. But as to the use of the word for foreordaining to reprobation, see Note under PREDESTINATE *v.* 1 b.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 104 (Camb. MS.) To maken questions of..the ordyr of destine..predestinacion diuine and of the lyberte of fre wille. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ix. (Skeat) I. 8 Though predestinacion be as wel of good as of badde. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXVII. (Percy Soc.) 123 For many one..lytell thought that tribulacion To them was ordeyned by predestinacion. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1684) III. 292 Between Predestination and Election, this difference there is; Predestination is as well to the reprobate, as to the Elect. Election pertaineth only to them that be saved. Predestination, in that it respecteth the Reprobate, is called Reprobation: in that it respecteth the saved, is called Election. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 91 What is Predestination? It is the speciall decree of God, whereby he hath..fore-ordained all reasonable creatures to a certain and everlasting estate of glory in heaven, or flame in hell. 1673 MILTON *True Relig.* Wks. 1851 V. 409 The Calvinist is taxt with Predestination, and to make God the Author of Sin; not with any dishonourable thought of God, but it may be overzealously asserting his absolute power. 1689-90 TEMPLE *Ess. Heroic Virtue* Wks. 1731 I. 22 The Saracens..were animated by another Spirit, which was the Mahometan Persuasion of Predestination. 1755 JORTIN *Diss.* II. 29 *note*, Our King James the first made an edict, that no divine, under the dignity of a bishop or a dean, should presume to preach upon the profound mysteries of Predestination. 1882 W. H. FREMANTLE in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* III. 46/2 (*Hieronymus*) He [Jerome] reduces predestination to God's foreknowledge of human determination. 1885 M. DODS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 668/2 In Islam..the orthodox doctrine is thus stated by Al-Berkevi. 'It is necessary to confess that good and evil take place by the predestination and predetermination of God, that all that has been and all that will be was decreed in eternity and written on the *preserved table*. *Ibid.* 669/1 The doctrine of predestination was first formulated in the church by Augustine.

c. In reference to a similar doctrine in certain philosophies (not necessarily implying Divine action).

1858 R. A. VAUGHAN *Ess. & Rem.* I. 33 The gloomy fate of Aeschylus, and the predestination of the Stoics, were repugnant to a heart of such a temperament.

2. In lighter or more general sense: Previous determination or appointment; fate, destiny. Cf. PREDESTINE 1 b.

1631 JORDEN *Nat. Bathes* xii. (1669) 104 A natural necessity, or *fatum*, or *predestination*, that frames every member and part of the body to the best use for the creature. 1779-81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 73 A kind of moral predestination, or over-ruling principle which cannot be resisted. 1901 SIR W. HARCOURT in *Daily Chron.* 11 July 5/6 It is what you may call political predestination, and it appears to me that it indicates a satisfactory condition of things, because by the law of Nature we younger sons are in the majority.

Hence **Predestina·tionist** (*rare*) = PREDESTINARIAN A. So † **Prede·stinatist** (*Obs. rare*).

1630 G. WIDDOWES *Schysmatical Puritan* Pref., The Presuming Predestinatist is he, whose purenes is an inspired knowledge, that hee shalbe saved by Gods absolute election. 1894 MASKELYNE *Sharps & Flats* iii. 59 There is no such thing as chance, says the predestinationist.

Predestinative (prīde·stinĕtiv), *a. rare.* [f. as PREDESTINATE *v.* + -IVE.] Having the quality of predestinating.

1833 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 413 The predestinative force of a free agent's own will in certain absolute acts, determinations, or elections.

Predestinator (prīde·stinēitəɹ). [agent-n. in L. form f. PREDESTINATE *v.* + -OR 2; so F. *prédestinateur* (Littré), in sense 2 below.]

1. He who predestinates.

1700 C. NESSE *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 58 The act of predestination is put in the will..of the predestinated, and not in that of the divine predestinator.

† **2.** One who believes in or maintains the doctrine of predestination; a predestinarian. *Obs.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue, Brief Descr.*, Those that are called Frewil men (for so are they termed of the Predestinators). 1647 COWLEY *Mistress, My Fate* iii, Let 'all Prædestinators me produce, Who struggle with eternal bonds in vain. 1812 *Religionism* 29 Preachers, predestinators some, and others Arminians.

Predestine (prīde·stin), *v.* Also 5 **-en**, **-ayne**, **-yne**, 7 **-in**. [a. F. *prédestiner* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *prædestināre*: see PREDESTINATE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To destine beforehand; to appoint, ordain, or decree previously. **a.** *Theol.*, etc. To foreordain by an eternal purpose, in the way of a Divine decree or of fate; to appoint beforehand by destiny, or to some destiny. (Mostly in *passive*. Also *absol.*)

c 1380 [see PREDESTINING below]. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 305 Be-soȝt sekirly þis sire..þat scho myȝt weterly wete.. Quatkyn poynt or plyte predestend hire were. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* E vj, Syth al were ordeyned and predestyned whan man shold deye. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 145 If.. some bitter aduersitie and ouerthrowe be predestined vnto us. 1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 12 Heaven predestins nothing for any man that should raise him to an excess of joy or grief. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 24 The day predestin'd to reward his woes. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* v. iii, The fall of Granada is predestined. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 243 God predestines; man is free. How this is we cannot say.

b. In lighter or more general sense: To determine, settle, or fix upon beforehand; to appoint as if by fate or destiny; to fate, doom. (Usually in *passive*.)

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* viii, Voluminous papers, whose best folios are predestined to no better end than to make winding-sheets in lent for pilchers. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 194 Here the soul sits in council; ponders past, Predestines future action. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1873) 441 The white man who seems predestined to inherit the country. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CLVII. iii, Within the egg how darkly lies Even the bird of paradise, Predestined for the sunniest skies!

† **2.** *loosely.* To betoken infallibly beforehand; to presage irrevocably. *Obs. rare.*

1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Tree* v, Alas, poor Youth, thy Love will never thrive! This blasted Tree Predestines it.

Hence **Prede·stined** *ppl. a.*, destined or appointed beforehand; fated, doomed; **Prede·stining** *vbl. sb.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 179 Þe secounde persone of God..bringiþ wiþ him a grace þat clerkes clepen predestynynge. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 26 How happie floods are yee, From our predestin'd plagues that priuiledged bee. 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* IV. v, And that rich merchants, advocates, and doctors,.. were Predestined cuckolds. 1740 C. PITT *Æneid* II, 169 He..Doom'd to the slaughter my predestin'd head. *a* 1825 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 338 Predestinings of joy. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iii. 158 Marked out in the eyes of all men as the predestined heirs of Charles.

Predestiny (prīde·stĭni). *rare.* Also 5 **-destiné**. [f. PRE- A. 2 + DESTINY, after PREDESTINE, etc. In Chaucer *predestiné*, a. obs. F. *prédestinée* (Cotgr.).] Preappointed destiny or fate; predestination.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 938 (966) In here merites soþly for to be, As they shul come by predestine. 1853 JERDAN *Autobiog.* IV. xiii. 229 Instead of inherent stupidity, or a predestiny to be correct. 1875 tr. *Schmidt's Desc. & Darw.* 191 Anxious to rescue design, or at least the 'purpose'—in short predestiny in the evolutionary series of Nature.

Predeterminable (prīdĭtə·ɹminăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. PREDETERMINE + -ABLE; or f. PRE- A. 3 + DETERMINABLE.] Capable of being predetermined; determinable beforehand. Hence **Predete·rminabi·lity**, the quality of being predeterminable.

1835 COLERIDGE in *Fraser's Mag.* XII. 620 A privilege which it owes to the simplicity, the paucity, and the predeterminability of its processes. 1901 *Daily Mail* 31 Dec. 5 The sex of future man will be predeterminable. For a time one sex will predominate, then another.

Predete·rminant, *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [a. F. *prédéterminant* adj., or late L. *prædēterminānt-em*, pres. pple. of *prædētermināre* to PREDETERMINE.] Predetermining, predestinating.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 520, I, as yet, cannot..see any cogent reason, why the said previous concurse may not be termed predeterminant.

† **B.** *sb.* = PREDETERMINER b. *Obs.*

1660 PEARSON *No Necess. Reform. Doctr. Ch. Eng.* 16 No man thinks a Praedeterminant or a Jansenian to be inclining to an Arminian.

Predeterminate (prīdĭtə·ɹminĕt), *a.* [ad. late L. *prædētermināt-us*, pa. pple. of *prædētermināre* to PREDETERMINE.] = PREDETERMINED 1.

1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 54 Not casuall, but predeterminate and certaine. 1655 BP. RICHARDSON *On O. Test.* 313 We cannot break through the bounds of Gods providence and predeterminate purpose in the guidance of them [events]. 1897 *Woman's Home Comp.* Dec., There is no predeterminate set of conditions for holiday-making that need tie adventurous hands.

Hence **Predete·rminately** *adv.*

1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 241 A Doctor of Divinity.. deliberately and predeterminately lied, that he might retain possession of a few inches of wood.

† **Predete·rminate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *prædētermināre*.] = PREDETERMINE 1, 2. Hence † **Predete·rminating** *ppl. a.*

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prof.* I. ii. § 162. 118 God predeterminates men to all their Actions good, bad, and indifferent. *a* 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 13 They have made differences among them (as whether the Pope be infallible; whether God predeterminate every action). 1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* (1845) 93 The predeterminating grace of Christ.

Predetermination (prī·dĭtə·ɹminēi·ʃən). [n. of action from PREDETERMINE *v.*; or (in some uses) f. PRE- A. 2 + DETERMINATION. So F. *prédétermination* (1636 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The action of predetermining; the fact or condition of being predetermined; previous determination.

1. A previous decision; a decision given beforehand, or before due examination or discussion.

1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issach.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 287 They depose the Queen Regent; the predetermination being given, that it was lawful for them to do so, by Mr. Knox, and Mr. Wilcocks. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 254 That there appeared a manifest inequality, not to say predetermination, that Congress should request of their constituents power to judge and determine in the cause.

2. A previous determining or fixing of the limits or extent *of* something; = PRELIMITATION. ? *Obs.*

1637-50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 500 Aganis the predetermination and perlimitation of the Assemblie, they gave six Reasons.

3. The action of settling or ordaining beforehand what is to take place; the fact of being so settled; previous appointment; predestination.

1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 33 The Calvinists are fierce in the matters of absolute Predetermination. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* ii. 87 He makes this difference to arise from the forecast and praedetermination of the Gods themselves. 1836 H. ROGERS *Y. Howe* vi. (1863) 160 Those

who held extreme opinions on the subject of Divine predetermination. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 2/3 To impress us with the wonderful co-ordination and predetermination of natural laws.

4. A previous determination, tendency, or direction given (*to* something).

a 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. v. 94 Some..assert that the creature never advances into action, but by an irresistible pre-determination of the faculty to that action.

5. A previous mental determination or resolve; an antecedent fixed intention (*to do* something).

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. iii, Hear me, then, I beg of you, with no pre-determination to disregard me. 1831 Carlyle *Misc. Ess., Nibelungenlied* (1872) III. 134 In spite of her rigorous predeterminations, some kindness for him is already gliding in. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 369 Mr. Winwood Reade..went down..with a pre-determination to prove Du Chaillu was wrong.

Predeterminative, *a. rare.* [f. Predetermine or Predeterminate *v.*: see -ative.] Having the quality of predetermining.

a 1678 Marvell *Def. J. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 170 If men shall also assert a predeterminative concourse of God to our wil, it seems to have too much of original perverseness. 1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 23 This efficacious concurse, as it determines and applies the second cause to act, is both in sacred Scripture and by scholastic Theologues termed determinative and predeterminative.

Predetermine (prīdĭtē·rmin), *v.* [ad. Chr. L. *prædēterminare* (Augustine), f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *dēterminare* to Determine. Cf. F. *prédéterminer* (1530 in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To determine beforehand (in various senses: cf. Determine).

1. *trans.* To fix, settle, or decide beforehand; to ordain or decree beforehand, to predestine. Also with *obj. cl.* or *inf.*

1625 Donne *Serm.* lxvi. (1640) 668 That there was a concurrence of the whole Trinity, to make me in Adam, according to that Image which they were, and according to that Idea, which they had pre-determined. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor *Serm.* I. ix. (R.), God .. prepared joys infinite and never ceasing for man before he had created him; but he did not predetermine him to any evil. 1722 De Foe *Plague* (1840) 13 Every man's end being predetermined, and unalterably beforehand decreed. 1841 Myers *Cath. Th.* IV. xv. 259 The Gospel was no after-thought, as it were,..but came to pass as God had predetermined. 1884 W. J. Courthope *Addison* ix. 176 It had evidently been predetermined by the designers of the *Spectator* that the Club should consist of certain recognised and familiar types.

2. To give an antecedent direction or tendency to; to direct or impel beforehand (*to* something).

a 1667 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Tit. ii.* 7 Wks. 1850 VIII. 520 We are so prepossessed and predetermined to misconstruction by false apostles without, and prevailing passions within. 1678 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* III. 16 The wil predetermined to one act has an habitual indifference or radical flexibilitie to the opposite act. 1858 Buckle *Civiliz.* (1873) II. viii. 576 Those general causes..were predetermining the nation to habits of loyalty and of superstition, which grew to a height fatal to the spirit of liberty.

3. *intr.* To determine or resolve beforehand or previously (*to do* something).

1823 F. Clissold *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23, I should instantly have proceeded to the summit, had I not predetermined to abide by whatever advice the guides might .. give. 1848 Lytton *Harold* VIII. vi, He had almost predetermined to assent to his brother's prayer.

Hence **Predeterming** *ppl. a.*

a 1678 Marvell *Def. J. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 175 Another while, 'tis predetermining influence. *a* 1854 B. B. Edwards in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxix. VII. 231 If, anterior to all finite existence, his predetermining decree went forth.

Predetermined (prīdĭtē·rmind), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ed 1.]

1. Determined beforehand; settled, decided, or decreed beforehand.

1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. ix. 496 Christ was born at the predetermin'd time. 1819 G. S. Faber *Dispensations* (1823) I. 94 How shall we account..for his having beheld from afar..the predetermined day of the yet future Deliverer? 1873 Hamerton *Intell. Life* x. v. (1875) 394 A predetermined quantity of little things.

2. Resolved beforehand (*to do* something).

1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 6, I was predetermined not to give him a single sous. 1772 *Junius Lett.* Pref. (1820) 14 No reasonable man would be so eager to possess himself of the invidious power..if he were not pre-determined to make use of it. 1872 Minto *Eng. Prose Lit.* II. viii. 527 An audience predetermined not to be convinced.

Predeterminer. [f. as prec. + -er 1.] **a.** One who or that which predetermines. *rare*—0. †**b.** A believer in predetermination (prop. *predeterminist*): = Predestinator 2 (*obs.*).

a 1678 Marvell *Def. J. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 225 Its business here is to defend the predeterminers' opinion.

Predeterminism. [f. Predetermine, after Determinism.] The theory or doctrine that events or acts are predetermined; determinism.

1888 J. Martineau *Stud. Relig.* II. III. ii. 325 This Predeterminism introduces new contradictions.

Pre-devise, -devour: see Pre- A. 1.

Predevote (prīdĭvō·t), *ppl. a. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + Devote *a.*] Predevoted, foredoomed.

1819 Shelley *P. Bell 3rd* Prol., The next Peter Bell was he, Predevote, like you and me, To good or evil as may come.

Predevote (prīdĭvō·t), *v.* [Pre- A. 1.] *trans.* To devote beforehand. So **Predevo·ted** *ppl. a.*

1815 *Zeluca* I. 377 Sir John was unconsciously pre-devoted to one, and by the other Lady for the third set [of dances]. *Ibid.* III. 2 The incertitude [seemed] far more trying than conviction of Erdestone's pre-devoted affections.

Predial (prī·dĭăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 7- **prædial.** [ad. med.L. *prædiālis*, f. L. *prædi-um* a farm, estate, manor: see -al. So F. *prédial* (16th c.).]

1. Consisting of or pertaining to land or farms; 'real', landed; pertaining to the country, rural; agrarian.

a 1529 Skelton *Col. Cloute* 932 For they wyll haue no losse Of a peny nor of a crosse Of theyr predyall landes. 1592 Unton *Corr.* (Roxb.) 322, I neglect not prediall matters, though I observe most politicall. 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 207 A pecunial or prædial recompense will..be very answerable to the nature of that service. 1796 W. Marshall *W. England* I. 100 Farm lands..having passed..from the state of common pasturage, to the predial state. 1845 R. W. Hamilton *Pop. Educ.* iii. (ed. 2) 42 Against the quick, astute, excitable intellect, which is commonly allowed to a dense population,..many contrasts are set up in favour of the predial race.

2. Arising from or consequent upon the occupation of farms or lands; agrarian.

1641 *Lords Spiritual* 4 Because a Bishop having place in Parliament as a Peere, is, in respect of his possessions, as a prediall Nobility, and not inherent in his person. *a* 1667 Jer. Taylor *Serm. Gunpowder Treason* Wks. 1831 IV. 282 The delinquent loseth all his right whatsoever, prædial, personal, and of privilege. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIII. 570 To repress the predial or rural disorders of Ireland. *a* 1881 Disraeli in *Edin. Rev.* July (1903) 204 [Politicians of every school have recognised a distinction] between political and predial sources of discontent in Ireland.

b. *Predial tithe*: tithe arising or derived from the produce of the soil.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 518/2 All maner tithes, aswell prediall as personall. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. lv. (1638) 169 The predial tith of trees is of such trees as bring forth fruits. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Predial Tythes*, are those we call great Tythes, as of Corn and Hay. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 22) 128 The Priests of every particular Parish, who are commonly called the Rectors, unless the Predial Tythes are impropriated, and then they are stiled Vicars. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 71 The prædial-tithe.. arises from every product of the earth, whether grain, pulse, hay, plants, fruit, or wood, and becomes due whenever the crop is taken, even although there may be more than one grown upon the same land within the year.

3. Attached to farms or to the land; owing service as tenanting land, as *predial serf, slave, bondage, labour, servitude, slavery, villeinage*, etc.

1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. App. i. 97 There were two kinds of slaves..household slaves..and prædial or rustic. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* II. i, And here these writers fix the origin of personal and predial servitude in England. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. ii. i. 150 Scarcely raised above the condition of predial servitude. 1839 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* I. 300 The condition of the inferior ranks..had been that of villanage or predial bondage. 1864 Kingsley *Rom. & Teut.* 20 *note*, The early romancers .. give pictures of Roman praedial slavery too painful to quote. 1876 Digby *Real Prop.* i. § 3. 25 *note*, In the Domesday of St. Paul's we find that praedial services were due from three classes of persons, called villani, cotarii, bordarii.

b. *Predial servitude* (*Sc. Law*): a servitude affecting heritable property; a servitude constituted over one subject or tenement in favour of the proprietor of another subject or tenement; e. g. a right of way through the property of another.

a 1765 Erskine *Inst. Laws Scotl.* (1773) II. ix. § 5 Real or predial [servitudes are constituted] principally in favour of a tenement, and only by consequence to a person, as the owner of that tenement. 18.. W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* (1861) 754/1 The tenement over which a predial servitude is constituted is called the servient tenement,..that in favour of which the servitude is constituted is called the dominant tenement.

B. *sb.* (elliptical use of adj.) † A predial tithe (*obs.*); a predial slave.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. lv. (1638) 170 There cannot be two predials of one thing. 1844 Emerson *Addr. W. I. Emancip.* II These conditions were, that the prædials should owe three-fourths of the profits of their labour to their masters for six years, and the nonprædials for four years. 1873 Gardner *Hist. Jamaica* 293 The term of apprenticeship was limited to six years for field hands or predials, as they were termed.

Hence **Pre·dialist,** one of a class or order of landholders; **Predia·lity,** the state of being predial.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* II. 14 The archiepiscopal and episcopal gentry, who are stiled praedialists, enjoy the same privileges as the Hungarian nobility. *Ibid.* 22 The gentry are termed predialists. 1897 Maitland *Domesday & Beyond* 28 There has been in this condition of the *thetw* a certain element of prædiality.

Pre-diastolic: see Pre- B. 1.

Prediatory, *a.* [ad. L. *prædiātōri-us*, f. *prædiātor* a purchaser of mortgaged lands, a dealer in landed estates, f. *prædium*: see Predial.] Of or relating to the sale of land.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Debt, Prædiatory Debt*, is that arising from an alienation of lands, &c. the whole purchase whereof has not been paid.

Predicability (predikăbi·lĭti). [ad. med.L. *prædicābilitās* (*a* 1280 in Albertus Magnus *De Predicabilibus*), f. *prædicābilis*: see Predicable and -ity.] The quality of being predicable.

1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* v. vi. (1803) II. 178 Universals have no real existence. When we ascribe existence to them..their existence is nothing but predicability, or the capacity of being attributed to a subject.

Predicable (pre·dikăb'l), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *prédicable* adj. and sb. (1582 in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *prædicābilis*; in med.L. that may be affirmed, predicable, neut. *prædicābile*, pl. *-bilia*, as sb. (in Lambert of Auxerre, Petrus Hispanus, and Albertus Magnus, 13th c.), whence B.; f. L. *prædicāre* to Predicate: see -able.]

A. *adj.* That may be predicated or affirmed; capable of being asserted.

1598 Florio, *Predicabile*, predicable. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 51 Made that predicable of London which Florus writes of Samnium. 1722 Wollaston *Relig. Nat.* v. 73 It will always be predicable of him, that he was the doer of it. *c* 1730 A. Baxter *Enq. Nat. Soul* vii. § 18. 320 A thing that hath solidity, figure, &c., as properties belonging to it, or predicable concerning it, must be a solid, figured thing. 1842 Abp. Thomson *Laws Th.* § 69 (1860) 11 Predicable classes, or classes of conceptions which can stand as predicates. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. xii, A people of whom great good is predicable. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 142 All relations which can be discovered between the two are predicable of them on exactly the same footing.

B. *sb.* In general sense: That which may be predicated.

1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* v. i. (1803) II. 110 A predicable therefore signifies the same thing as an attribute. 1837 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. i. iv. § 79. 322 This method appears to be only an artificial disposition..of subjects and predicables, according to certain distinctions. 1906 Joseph *Introd. Logic* iv. 54 A predicable is merely that which can be predicated: viz. that which is universal, not an individual; all kinds, qualities, states, relations, etc., are predicable, and they are universal, because they may be exemplified in and belong to more than one individual subject.

b. *spec.* in Aristotelian Logic (in *pl.*, tr. Gr. *κατηγορικά*): The classes or kinds of predicates viewed relatively to their subjects, to one or other of which classes every predicated thing may be referred; second intentions of predicates considered in relation to subjects.

Of these relations Aristotle (*Topica* I. iv, v) recognized four, viz. *genus* (γένος), *definition* (ὅρος), *property* (ἴδιον), *accident* (συμβεβηκός). Under *genus* he made the subdivision of *difference* (διαφορά). The list was subsequently modified by Porphyry and by the early Schoolmen, by the omission of *definition*, and addition of *species* (εἶδος), giving the 'Five Predicables', *genus, species, difference, property, accident.*

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* 3 b, I begin with the predicables because they shewe how much every word doth comprehend in it selfe. *Ibid.*, They be called predicables because some one thing is spoken of an other. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.* s. v., In Logick there are five Predicables, otherwise called Porphyries five terms. 1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* vii, The essence of spirituality may be referred to the second predicable. 1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 112 In his analysis of Judgments, Aristotle was led to consider how many kinds of Predicates there are, when viewed relatively to their Subjects; in other words, to determine the Second Intentions of Predicates considered in relation to Subjects. Thus was formed his celebrated doctrine of the Predicables .. which was considerably modified, but not improved, by his followers, Porphyry and the Schoolmen. 1906 Joseph *Introd. Logic* iv. 92 The Porphyrian list of predicables substitutes *Species* for *Definition*. But that difference implies a change in the point of view. *Ibid.* 96 It would be well to abandon the Porphyrian list of predicables in favour of the Aristotelian.

c. In the philosophy of Kant: see quot.

1902 *Baldwin's Dict. Philos.* II. 325/2 Kant undertook to set up his own 'predicables of the pure understanding', which were to be derivative conceptions under the categories.

Hence **Pre·dicableness** (1727 in Bailey, vol. II); **Pre·dicably** *adv.*

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Predicably, prædicabiliter*, is used in the schools in opposition to *predicamentally*.—Thus, matter is said to be united to form *predicably*, or *per accidens*; to exclude the notion of a predicamental accident.

Predicament (prĭdi·kămĕnt). Also 7 præ-. [ad. late L. *prædicāmentum* (Augustine) something predicated, a predicament, a quality (transl. Gr. *κατηγορία* of Aristotle), f. *prædicāre*: see Predicate *v.* and -ment. So F. *prédicament* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. That which is predicated or asserted; *spec.* in *Logic*, (in *pl.*) the ten categories or classes of predications formed by Aristotle: see Category 1.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 195 þese foolis moten lerne predicamentis and ten kyndis of þingis, and þanne þei moun se her foli. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Aug.* (E. E. T. S.) 11 þe book of Aristotle cleped his Cathegories, we clepe hem at þese dayes þe Predicamentis. 1579 Fulke *Refut. Rastel* 752 He remembreth what the Predicament *Vbi* meaneth. 1628 Milton *Vac. Exerc.*, Then *Ens* is represented as Father of the Prædicaments his ten Sons. 1655 Culpepper *Riverius* x. ix. 308 Heat is not the chief agent in breeding of Worms, which are in the prædicaments of substance, and heat is but an accident. 1788 Reid *Aristotle's Log.* vi. § 1. 135 The predicaments and predicables have a like title to our veneration as antiquities. 1801 Woodhouse in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 99 Bringing $x\sqrt{-1}$ under the predicament of quantity. 1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 116 Having determined the Second Intentions of Predicates, which are the Predicables, Aristotle attempted to carry the analysis of Judgments one step farther by determining their First Intentions, and was thus led to form his celebrated list of the ten Categories or Predicaments, [in which] he inquired how many and what particular things may be predicated of any Subject.

2. A class about which a particular statement is made; = Category 2.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 248 b, We beyng called reasonable creatures and in that predicament, compared and

ioyned with Angelles. 1597 Howson *Serm.* 24 Dec. 26 Buying and selling are both in a [= one] predicament (for nothing is bought but that which is sold, *& contra*). 1618 Ld. Sheffield in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 52 Wherof some scandall hath fallne upon me as conceived to bee in the same predicamente. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* IX. iii, Irish ladies of strict virtue, and many Northern lasses of the same predicament. 1845 Napier *Conq. Scinde* II. i. 227 The Beloochs holding the forts were part of these bands; they belonged to the same predicament.

3. State of being; condition, situation, position; *esp.* an unpleasant, trying, or dangerous situation.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 141 Supposing that.. I should still haue found you in the same predicament, without alteration. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* II. i. 27 This squadron standeth in such predicament, that any Gentleman .. may serue as soldier in the same. 1645 Milton *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 221 Sin is not in a predicament to be measur'd and modify'd, but is alwaies an excesse. 1771 *Junius Lett.* I. (1820) 260 There is a proverb concerning persons in the predicament of this gentleman. 1827 Scott *Highl. Widow* v, His deep sense of the deceit which had been practised on him, and of the cruel predicament to which he was reduced. 1865 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XX. vii. (1872) IX. 152 Werner finds himself suddenly in a most awkward predicament. 1882 O'Donovan *Merv Oasis* I. 325 Here was a predicament, inasmuch as I was in a desperate hurry.

†4. Preaching, 'predication'. *Obs. rare*—1.

1765 *Mumbo Chumbo* 12 To 'stablish you in this, it is the Drift Of Solomon's most wise Predicament.

Hence **Predi'camentist** (*humorous nonce-wd.*), one who is in a predicament.

1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 895 Of the three classes of Predicamentists, the fiercest are the Plucked.

Predicamental (prĭdikămē'ntăl), *a.* Also 7 præ-. [f. prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a predicament, or the predicaments.

1601 Deacon & Walker *Spirits & Divels* 89 They haue ..no predicamentall, but an intelligible quantity. 1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* xxiv. 240 More can be pleaded for such a Metaphysical innovation, then can for a specifical diversity among our Predicamental Opposites. 1681 R. Wittie *Surv. Heavens* 38 God is an infinite Essence that highly transcends all Predicamental Notions. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 5 The whole Predicamental Climax, or different Gradations of Beings, Persons, Times and Places. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. vi. § 4 From the main trunk of the Predicamental Tree, which included nothing but what was of the essence of the species.

Hence **Predicame'ntally** *adv.*

c 1600 *Timon* v. iv. (Shaks. Soc.) 88 Wee say thou art an asse trancendentallie, not prædicamentally. 1727–41 [see Predicably].

Predicant (pre'dikănt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 præ-. [ad. L. *prædicāns, -āntem*, pres. pple. of *prædicāre* to cry in public, proclaim, in late and med.L. to preach, f. *præ* forth + *dicāre* to make known, proclaim; as sb. (sense B. 1), a. F. *prédicant* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or Du. *predikant* a Protestant preacher.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Given to or characterized by preaching; *spec.* applied to those religious orders who went about preaching, esp. the Dominicans or Black Friars.

1629 H. Burton *Babel no Bethel* 62 But may not some predicant Frier,..by preaching, bee a meanes to saue a soule? 1710 *Managers' Pro & Con* 76 That Ecclesiastical Incendiary, and predicant Herauld, Doctor Goddard. 1850 W. D. Cooper *Hist. Winchelsea* 38 There was afterwards added, in the reign of Edw. II, a house of the Dominicans, Black Friars, or Friars Predicant. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 657 The efficacy of a predicant order.

2. 'Uttering as an affirmation' (Webster 1864).

B. *sb.* **1.** A preacher; *spec.* a member of a predicant religious order. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1590 Greenwood in L. Bacon *Genesis N. Eng. Ch.* (1874) 126 These stipendiary, roving predicants. 1598 Hakluyt *Voy.* I. 53 Ascelline being one of the order of the Prædicants. 1625 T. Godwin *Moses & Aaron* I. vi. 28 The difference between those three sorts of predicants mentioned by Saint Paul. 1651 W. Jane Εικων Ακλαστος 240 The shopps .. are turned to pulpitts, and every Cooper growne a reverend Predicant. 1749 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* I. (1754) 14 These strolling Predicants have allured some itching Ears, and drawn them aside, by calumniating their proper Pastors. 1810 Southey in *Q. Rev.* IV. 503 A body of Protestant Predicants, not less intolerant in spirit, than their predecessors..in the Romish Church.

b. = Predikant, q. v.

2. 'One that affirms any thing' (J.).

1755 in Johnson. Thence in Todd, Webster, etc.

Hence †**Pre'dicancy**, the action or practice of preaching; †**Pre'dicante·ss**, a female predicant.

1627 Hakewill *Apol.* III. ix. (1630) 261 That little life of it [Rhetoric] which remained being reserved only in the predicancie of Postillars. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* xvi. 1 A Diaconisse to minister to the sick,..not a prædicantisse, to preach or have Peters keys at her girdle. 1662 Hibbert *Body Div.* I. 219 They were deaconisses, to minister to the sick..not praedicantisses, to preach.

Predicate (pre'dikĕt), *sb.* Also 7–9 præ-. [ad. late and med.L. *prædicātum* (= 'quod dicitur de subjecto', that which is said of the subject, Boeth.), sb. use of neuter pa. pple. of *prædicāre* (see next). So F. *prédicat* (Oresme 1391, admitted by Acad. 1878).]

1. *Logic.* That which is predicated or said of the subject in a proposition; the second term of a proposition, which is affirmed or denied of the first term by means of the copula, as in 'this man is *my father*', 'Peter is *a man*', 'all men are *mortal*', 'the sun is *rising*'. (At first used in L. form, *prædicatum.*)

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 451/1 Where the thinges that we speake of or the article or vº diuersitie of the word whiche is in the verbe in our englishe tonge, .. maketh the matter open which of the two termes we take for *subiectum* & which for *prædicatum*. *a* 1555 Ridley *Treat. Error Transubst.* (1556) G iij b, It..leaueth that to be determined and tolde by that which foloweth the word (is), that is by predicatum. 1582 Parsons *Def. Censure* 124 Nothing, but maketh a long idle speake of *prædicatum* and *subiectum*, as pertinent to the mater, as charing crosse to byllingsgate. 1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* ii. 13 (1619) 482 The Apostle..vseth but one article, to note but one subject, to whom both the predicates most truely and properly agree. 1651 Hobbes *Gov. & Soc.* xviii. § 4. 346 The Proposition is true in which the word consequent, which by Logicians is called the Prædicate, embraceth the word antecedent in its amplitude, which they call the Subject. *a* 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 95 As Aristotle observes in all Affirmation, and Negation at least, the Predicate is always Universal. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* I. iii. 16 When the Subject and Predicate of the Proposition, which affirms the Existence of any Thing, either Substance, Quality, Act or Circumstance, have a full and certain Connection, then the Existence or Being of that Thing is said to be necessary in a metaphysical Sense. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1818) III. 212 Existence is its own predicate [i. e. The word *is* when it means *exists* is a predicate as well as a copula]. *c* 1840 [see Quantification]. 1867 Fowler *Deductive Logic* II. i. 23 The term affirmed or denied is called the *predicate*, the term of which it is affirmed or denied the *subject*, the connecting verb..the *copula*. *Ibid.* iv. 34 All negative propositions distribute their predicate, whereas affirmative propositions do not.

2. *Gram.* The statement made about a subject, including the logical copula (which in a verb is expressed by the personal suffix).

The grammatical predicate is either a simple verb, or a verb of incomplete predication with its complement.

a 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 81 Thus much of the Subject, 'The Righteous': Now I come to the Predicate, 'shall be in everlasting remembrance'. [1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. i. § 6. 46 Actions or Passions of things; (..tho it be not properly one simple part of speech, but rather a mixture of two, namely the Predicate and Copula)..Verbe.] 1852 Morell *Anal. Sentences* I. § 9. 14 The predicate affirms respecting the subject either—What it is: or, What it does; or, What it suffers. Man *is mortal*. The snow *falls*. The child *was neglected*. 1858 Mason *Eng. Gram.* §§ 347–8. 92 Inasmuch as the personal terminations of a verb have no existence apart from the verb itself, it is usual (and convenient) in grammar to treat the copula as a part of the predicate. Thus in the sentence 'Time flies', *time* is called the subject, and *flies* the predicate...In using the word *predicate*, we mean the predicate and copula combined. In grammar, the terms *subject* and *predicate* are used in a more restricted sense than in Logic. 1874 Sayce *Compar. Philol.* I. 9 Every predicate must have a subject.

b. An appellation or title that asserts something.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 594 Nestorius refused to give Mary the praedicate Θεοτόκος. 1887 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. IV. 64/2 The noble author, head,..under the 'predicate' of Aghrim, of the eldest branch of the once princely house of Imaney.

c. A quality, an attribute.

1872 tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* I. § 106. 475 To the revealed God belong the divine predicates, and especially the predicate of reason. 1875 Lewes *Probl. Life & Mind* II. III. ii. § 24. 150 For predicates—qualities—are not mere patterns on the web of a subject; they are the threads of that web.

d. (= Ger. *prädikat.*) In reference to German and other foreign universities, etc.: The judgement pronounced upon a candidate's work in an examination (e. g. 'cum laude, rite, vix satis', etc.); hence, the class or position obtained by a candidate.

1899 *Daily News* 30 May 8/5 At the examination he very often was at a loss for an answer, and received very unsatisfactory predicates.

Hence **Pre'dicateless** *a.*, of which nothing can be predicated.

1863 Shedd *Hist. Chr. Doctr.* (1869) I. III. i. 241 There is no such dark predicateless ground; there is no such Gnostic abyss.

Predicate (pre'dikeıt), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prædicāre* 'to cry in public, proclaim', hence 'to declare, state, say', in med.L. 'to preach', and in Logic 'to assert', f. *præ* forth + *dicāre* to make known, proclaim: see -ATE 3 5.]

1. *trans.* To proclaim, declare; to affirm, assert; also, to set forth publicly, to preach; to preach up, extol, commend (*rare* or *obs.*).

1552 Huloet, Predicate, *prædico.* 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Predicate*, to tell abroad, to report. 1624 Abp. Abbot *Visib. True Ch.* 114 They doat much vpon themselues,..who..doe predicate and magnifie their Synagogue, as the vnspotted wife and mysticall body of our most blessed Sauiour. 1635 A. Stafford *Fem. Glory* (1869) 66 The more her Vertue is predicated, by her Cousen, the more she humbles her selfe. 1706 Phillips, *Predicate*, to publish, to cry, or preach up. 1782 V. Knox *Ess.* (1819) II. lxvi. 43 Can all this be predicated with any regard to veracity? 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 607 Composing discourses, which ..might not have been unprofitably predicated from the pulpit. 1884 *19th Cent.* Feb. 186 Many truths may be predicated about Scripture.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To assert, affirm; to make a statement.

1827 Steuart *Planter's G.* (1828) 111 To predicate, then, or affirm certainly, as to their respective usefulness.., is, properly speaking, more fanciful than real. 1866 J. Martineau *Ess.* I. 189 To think is mentally to predicate. 1879 Sala in *Daily Tel.* 15 May, It is perilous to predicate dogmatically as to the locality.

2. *spec. trans.* To assert or affirm as a quality, property, or attribute (*of* something). (In quot. 1677 *absol.*, or ? *intr.* for *pass.*)

1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 126 As it is inherent, and not predicated of the Person, its best exprest for its own Essence. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 26 Such arguments as be essentiall vnto the thing, of which they are predicated. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 248 That nothing can predicate univocally of God and the Creature, is most evident, because [etc.]. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xi. § 1 It has been shown..that goodness or badness cannot with any propriety be predicated of motives. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. iv. § 33. 170 The schoolmen..deeming it necessary to predicate metaphysical infinity of all the divine attributes. 1852 Kingsley *Lett.* (1878) I. 315 Of whatsoever you predicate Time you must also predicate Space.

b. *Logic.* To state or assert (something) about the subject of a proposition; also, to make (a term) the predicate in a proposition.

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1596/2 *Substantia* may be predicated denominatiuely..or in a figuratiue locution. 1725 Watts *Logic* III. ii. § 3 There is also a fourth figure, wherein the middle term is predicated in the major proposition, and subjected in the minor. 1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 138 To predicate..is virtually to classify, or to assign a Subject to its proper place in a class, thereby attributing to it all the Marks of that class. *Ibid.* vii. 187 The famous..*Dictum de omni et nullo*, that whatever is predicated..universally of any Class..may be also predicated of any part of that Class. *Ibid.* viii. 230 We prove that it is right to predicate *mortality* of Socrates, by showing that Socrates belongs to the class *man*, all the members of which are admitted to be *mortal*. 1867 Fowler *Deduct. Logic* II. i. 23 The predicate is said to be *predicated* of the subject. *Ibid.*, In the first case the predicate is predicated affirmatively..; in the two last negatively.

c. *transf.* To convey a predication or assertion of; to connote, imply.

1718 *Entertainer* No. 28. 190 If Atheism predicates Honesty, some of the Whigs..may put in their claim to it.

3. To affirm (a statement or the like) *on* some given grounds; hence, 'to found a proposition, argument, etc. *on* some basis or data' (Bartlett); and *transf.* to found or base (anything) *on* or *upon* stated facts or conditions. *U. S.*

1766 T. Clap *Hist Yale Coll.* 21 The Trustees .. past a Vote,..predicat d upon sundry former ones, wherein they finally settled the College at New-Haven. 1796 Washington *Writ.* (1892) XIII. 227 Was not the first application to you predicated on this information? 1814 M. Carey *Olive Branch* (1815) 220 A set of measures, all predicated upon an approaching war. 1839 C. Sumner *Lett.* (1878) II. 105 This..is predicated upon my confidence in his ability. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 46 His [Dante's] moroseness, his party spirit and his personal vindictiveness are all predicated upon the Inferno. 1888 Pres. Cleveland in *Daily News* 10 Sept. 5/4 The reform we seek to inaugurate is predicated upon the utmost care for established industries and enterprises.

¶**4.** *Erroneously* (as if irreg. f. L. *prædīcĕre* + -ATE 3) = Predict *v.*

1623 Cockeram, *Predicate*, to foretell. 1679 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1850) IV. 131 The dark Eclipses of our lights accord To praedicate a famine of ye word. 1873–4 Dixon *Two Queens* III. xiv. vi. 101 That shrewd Venetian envoy heard enough to predicate the rising of domestic storms. 1897 *Globe* 3 Dec. 1/4 Slight falls of snow..together with the appearance of large flocks of gulls inland, is held to predicate a hard winter.

Hence **Pre'dicated**, **Pre'dicating** *ppl. adjs.*

1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 19 In his doctrine of predicated arguments, hee speakes not a word of effects and subiects. 1805 Eugenia di Acton *Nuns of Desert* I. 74 This predicating congress consisted of two elderly, and one young woman. 1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 139 Any limitation of the predicated class.

Predication (predikē'ıʃən). Also 6–7 præ-. [ME. a. OF. *predicaciun* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *prédication*, ad. L. *prædicātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prædicāre*: see prec.]

1. The action of publicly or loudly proclaiming, declaring, or setting forth. **a.** *spec.* Preaching; an instance of this; a sermon, discourse, exhortation, oration. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1300 *Beket* 1969 [He] stod and prechede that folc..In his predicatioun he gan to sike sore. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Shipm. Prol.* 14 For we shul han a predicacion This lollere here wol prechen vs somwhat. 1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 101 The predicacion is not to be lawded that endureth ouer the power of the herkeners. 1533 J. Heywood *Pard. & Friar* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 235 Except that the preacher himself live well, His predication will help never a dell. 1689 *Def. Liberty agst. Tyrants* 14 The tribute of God is in Prayers, Sacraments, Predications of the pure word of God. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. 116 To bring Predications upon particular Texts of Scripture, into a regular Body of Sermons. 1827 G. S. Faber *Orig. Expiat. Sacr.* 258 Doctrines..taught and held from the very first predication of the Gospel. 1884 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 312 During half a century of uninterrupted predication.

†**b.** The action of crying up or extolling. *Obs.*

1528 Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 84 Then with grett commendacion In their flatterynge predicacion They will their actes magnify. 1533 Bellenden *Livy* II. xxvi. (S.T.S.) I. 235 Þe small pepil..hard þarefore þe blasonyng & predicatioun als plesandlie þan, quhen he was dede. 1628 Gaule *Pract. The. Paneg.* 8 That is our prayse and predication of God. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 16 This man..fell into a Hyperbolical predication of the wonderful miracles done newly by our Lady at Zichem.

†**c.** Proclamation, announcement. *Obs.*

1613–18 Daniel *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 154 Without delay predication should be made throughout the Kingdome.

2. The action of predicating or asserting, or an instance of this; assertion, affirmation.

1579 Fulke *Heskins' Parl.* 325 Is this a proper and essentiall prædication to say, Christe is a spirituall rocke? *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iv. 109 It is as true a Predication to say that these were many, as it were in case they had all coexisted. 1821 Parr *Let. to Maltby* 27 Mar., A college testimonial, wherein the word learning and all predications about it, are omitted.

b. *spec.* in *Logic*: The assertion of something of or about a subject.

a 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 253 A predication in *casu recto* is a predication of sameness, and therefore is used properly in things which are in a manner the same, as Genus and Species, *Homo est animal.* 1692 Norris *Curs. Reflex.* 40 When..the Predicate is said of the whole Subject according to the full latitude of its Predication. 1829 Jas. Mill *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. xiv. 4 Predication..is a name for the combination of three words, 'subject', 'predicate', and 'copula'. 1843 Mill *Logic* I. v. § 3 (1856) I. 103 The most generally received notion of predication decidedly is that it consists in referring something to a class, *i. e.* either placing an individual under a class, or placing one class under another class. 1863 Bain *Higher Eng. Gram.* (1879) 63 The Verb is the part of speech concerned in predication; that is, in affirming or denying. 1864 Bowen *Logic* v. 126 This rule is evidently founded upon the doctrine that all predication is classification.

¶ 3. *Erroneously* = Prediction.

1862 *N. Brit. Rev.* May 290 The foreknowledge and predication of events.

[In Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 198 b/1 *predycacyon* appears to be misprinted for *perdycyon*.]

Predicative (prĭdi·kătiv, pre·dike·ĭtiv), *a.* [ad. L. *prædicātīv-us*: see Predicate *v.* and -ive; cf. F. *prédicatif, -ive.*] Having the quality of predicating, affirming, or asserting.

1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 10 Thus the formation called the *casus substitutivus*, answering to the *nuncupativus* or predicative case of the Finnish and Lappish grammarians, may be employed either as an adverb or the stem of a verb. 1860 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) I. xv. 358 Words which always conveyed a predicative meaning. 1885 J. Fitzgerald tr. *Schultze's Fetichism* vi. § 7 These things are all predicative of the blue vault above our heads. 1892 Westcott *Gospel of Life* 103 The Divine names which are proper to the Shemitic languages are predicative and moral.

Hence **Predicatively** *adv.*, as a predicate.

1875 Whitney *Life Lang.* xii. 233 One step from nouns used predicatively. *Ibid.* 243. 1895 *Proc. 14th Conv. Instruct. Deaf* 81 A noun or pronoun used predicatively is in the nominative case.

Predicator (pre·dike·ĭtəɹ). Now *rare.* [Early mod.E. *predycatour*, a. OF. *predicatour* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), in 16th c. *prédicateur*, ad. L. *prædicātor* a proclaimer, praiser in public; in late and med.L. a preacher; agent-n. f. *prædicāre* to Predicate.] One who or that which predicates.

a. *spec.* A preacher; a preaching friar.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 431/2 The freres predycatours and mynours. 1483 — *G. de la Tour* cxxix, As the clerkes say, and the predycatours. 1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 123 A Monastery of Friers, of the order of the Predicators. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 470 Two Iesuites, one of which was Predicator, and Superiour Tiatinean Colledge. 1820 J. Cleland *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* 21 A tenement lying on the north side of the church and convent of the Predicators. 1839 Yeowell *Anc. Brit. Ch.* iv. (1847) 41 The first predicators of the gospel may..have unfolded its saving truths in the vicinity of Glastonbury.

b. One who asserts, an assertor. *rare.*

1658 R. Franck *North. Mem.* (1821) 9 Our modern assertors and predicators.

c. (See quot.)

1899 R. C. Temple *Univ. Gram.* 36 Functionally a word is either..An integer, or a sentence in itself...An indicator. ..An explicator...A predicator, or indicative of [the] predicate [of a sentence].

Hence **Pre·dica·tress,** *rare*, a female preacher.

1659 Mrs. Blomer in Fox Bourne *Locke* (1876) I. v. 254 The impudence of the female predicatress.

†**Predicato·rial,** *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *prædicātōri-us* (see next) + -al.] = Predicatory *a.* 1.

1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 469 That.. surprising monster of predicatorial excellence. 1792 G. Wakefield *Mem.* (1804) I. 407 London..the most conspicuous and promising theatre for predicatorial exhibitions.

Predicatory (pre·dikĕtəri, -ke·ĭtəri), *a. (sb.)* Also 7 **præ-.** [ad. late L. *prædicātōrius* adj., f. *prædicātor*: see Predicator. Cf. obs. F. *prédicatoire* (Godef.).]

1. Of or pertaining to a preacher; preaching.

1611 Corvat *Crudities* 350 A certayne Dominican Frier.. who was the chief reader of the Praedicatory family. 1645 *Sacred Decretal* 14 This is our predicatory Prowesse, when we advance to the Pulpit. 1804 Mitford *Inquiry* 319 The most recent examples..are of the predicatory or oratorical kind. 1847 J. Wilson in G. Smith *Life* xiv. (1879) 238, I have recommenced my usual Sabbath services both predicatory and catechetical. 1877 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* VII. lxxxi. 275 Their slightly predicatory character must be pardoned.

2. Characterized by being proclaimed or cried up.

1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 353 In his somewhat ostentatious and predicatory conversion.

†B. *sb.* (the adj. used *absol.*) One engaged in preaching; a preacher. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1686 J. S[ergeant] *Hist. Monast. Convent.* 55 The main design of their Institution being to Read, Preach, Write, and Expound the Word of God, which gives the occasion of naming them Prædicants or Prædicatories.

†**Pre·dicature.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *prædicāt-*, ppl. stem of *prædicāre* to Predicate + -ure.] Proclamation, public declaration.

1652 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 62 For as much as the Barrons of the Exchequer..have in their predicature made a doubt whether the Parliament be dissolved or not, it is declared that the Parliament is dissolved.

Pre-dicrotic: see Pre- B. 1.

†**Predi·ct,** *sb. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *prædict-um* that which is foretold, prediction: cf. F. *prédit* (obs. form *predict*).] A prediction.

c 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xiv, Nor can I fortune to breefe mynuits tell; Pointing to each his thunder, raine and winde, Or say with Princes if it shal goe wel By oft predict that I in heauen finde.

Predict (prĭdi·kt), *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. L. *prædict-us*, pa. pple. of *prædīcĕre* (see next).] Predicted. (In quot. const. as *pa. pple.*)

1839 Bailey *Festus* xviii. (1852) 213 There is but one great sinner, human nature, Predict of every world and predicate.

Predict (prĭdi·kt), *v.* Also 6-7 **præ-.** [f. L. *prædict-*, ppl. stem of *prædīcĕre* to say beforehand, foretell, give notice of, advise, charge, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *dīcĕre* to say, tell.

Cf. F. *prédire* 'to foretell, foresay, presage, diuine, prophesie' (Cotgr. 1611), It. *predire*, 'to foretell, to prophesie, to tell of a thing before it com to passe' (Florio 1598), where neither has *predict* as an English word, though both use *prediction* in explaining the corresponding noun. *Predicted* ppl. adj. was in much earlier use; but the vb. is not in Shaks., nor even in Pope; it occurs once in Milton. In dictionaries it appears in Bailey 1721.]

†1. *trans.* To mention previously in a discourse or document. *Obs. rare.*

[1546, 1599: see Predicted 1.]

2. To foretell, prophesy, announce beforehand (an event, etc.). With simple obj. or obj. clause.

[1623: see Predicted 2.] 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 356 Prediction still..supposes means, Without means us'd, what it predicts revokes. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 267 We saw all those things done by, and accomplish'd in him, which were long before predicted to us by the prophets. 1679 C. Nesse *Antichrist* 210 To prophecy, not so much by prædicting future things, as by preaching the everlasting gospel. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 104 Thus.. thou shalt predict what shall certainly come to pass. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 113 Thales..predicted an eclipse. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. viii, I predict that the beauty of next season will be a certain Caroline Lady Doltimore. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sc.* iii. (1885) 82 How often an observer can predict a man's actions better than the man himself.

3. *intr.* To utter prediction; to prophesy.

1652 Gaule *Magastromancer* 196 The devil can both predict and make predictors. 1805 Eugenia di Acton *Nuns of Desert* I. 315 The necromantic instruments..predicted to the company with such a relation to their circumstances, as filled every one..with the utmost astonishment. 1853 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) II. 225 No one can predict as to the length of her life.

Predictable (prĭdi·ktăb'l), *a.* [f. Predict *v.* + -able.] Capable of being predicted or foretold.

1857 Buckle *Civiliz.* I. i. 6 Every generation demonstrates some events to be regular and predictable, which the preceding generation had declared to be irregular and unpredictable. 1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 10 Oct., The limit of predictable weather changes varies from two to four days.

Hence **Predictabi·lity.**

1858 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sc.* IV. xi. § 3 (1875) 402 The higher the constancy, the predictability of the agent, the higher the excellence attained. 1880 A. H. Huth *Buckle* I. iv. 229 Buckle..proves the predictability of human actions by statistics.

Predi·cted, *ppl. a.* [f. L. *prædict-us*, pa. pple. of *prædīcĕre* (see Predict *v.*) + -ed^{1}.]

†1. Before mentioned, aforesaid. *Obs.*

1546 *Rep. Gild Palmers, Ludlow*, in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 198 The Salaries, Stipendes, or ffees of the predicted persons. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 27/2 We must vse this prædictede or fore rehearsed distilled water.

2. Prophesied, foretold, appointed beforehand.

1623 Cockeram, *Predicted*, Foretold. 1700 Dryden *Pythagorean Philos.* 74 Here..he built and wall'd The place predicted. *Mod.* At the predicted hour the eclipse took place.

Prediction (prĭdi·kʃən), *sb.* [ad. L. *prædictiōn-em* a saying before, premising, prediction, n. of action f. *prædīcĕre* to Predict. Cf. F. *prédiction* (16th c.).]

1. The action of predicting or foretelling future events; also, an instance of this, a prophecy.

1561 Fulke (*title*) Antiprognosticon, that is to saye, Inuectiue agaynst the uaine and vnprofitable Predictions of the Astrologians, as Nostrodame, etc., translated out of Latin. 1579-80 North *Plutarch* (1595) 1100 Aratus made no account of their prediction. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Prophecies* (Arb.) 537 Dreames, and Predictions of Astrologie. 1704 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* v. (1739) 62 He was born at Bethlehem according to the Prediction of the Prophet Micah. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 572 The prince.. predicted that Amsterdam would raise some difficulty. The prediction proved correct. 1861 *Nat. Rev.* Oct. 430 An author who evidently identifies prophecy with prediction.

†b. Applied to a portent or omen. *Obs. rare.*

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 28 Yet Cæsar shall go forth: for these Predictions Are to the world in generall, as to Cæsar.

†2. A statement made beforehand. *Obs. rare.*

1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 38, I hope it shall not be said..that you can accuse his predictions, as erroneous, who never falsified his word with you.

Hence †**Predi·ction** *v. Obs. nonce-wd. trans.* = Predict *v.*; †**Predi·ctional** *a. Obs.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of prediction.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Oxford.* (1662) II. 329, I conceive it properly to intend the contests betwixt Scholars and Scholars, which were observed predictional, as if their animosities were the Index of the Volume of the Land. 1665 Brathwait *Comment Two Tales* (Chaucer Soc.) 30 What this deep Soothsayer prediction'd before in jest, he now cals for in earnest.

†**Predi·ctious,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Prediction: see -ious.] Giving predictions; prophetic; portentous, ominous.

1644 Quarles *Sheph. Orac.* ix, There's great talk about A strange predictious Star, long since found out By learned Ticho-brachy [= Tycho Brahe].

Predictive (prĭdi·ktiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *prædictīvus* foretelling, prognosticating, f. *prædīcĕre*: see Predict *v.* and -ive.] Having the character or quality of predicting; indicative *of* the future.

1659 Pearson *Creed* ii. 150 There is scarce an action which is not clearly predictive of our Saviour. 1791 Cowper *Odyss.* II. 243 Birds numerous flutter in the beams of day Not all predictive. 1839-40 W. Irving *Wolfert's R.* iv. (1855) 49 That baleful and livid tint predictive of a storm. 1878 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* ii. 36 Using the word prophecy in its predictive sense.

b. Applied to the future tense when it simply asserts, without any admixture of will or obligation.

1811-31 Bentham *Univ. Gram.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 350 In consequence of this modification, it required to be distinguished into two species,—1. The simply predictive future; 2. The dominative future. 1841 Latham *Eng. Lang.* (1850) 463 The predictive future.—*I shall be there* .. means simply that the speaker will be present... The promissive future.—*I will be there*..means that he intends being so.

Hence **Predi·ctively** *adv.*, in a predictive manner or form, by way of prediction; **Predi·ctiveness.**

1840 Dickens *Old C. Shop* xxxi, 'It was Miss Edwards who did that, I know', said Miss Monflathers predictively. 1878 C. Stanford *Symb. Christ* vii, Anticipating the day in which we live, and predictively speaking of Christians alone. *a* 1902 A. B. Davidson *Old Test. Proph.* xiii. (1903) 232 Wherein does their predictiveness consist?

Predictor (prĭdi·ktəɹ). Also **-er.** [a. med.L. *prædictor*, agent-n. from *prædīcĕre*: see Predict *v.* and -or.] One who (or that which) predicts or foretells.

1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. 224 *Prædictor*,..a foreteller of things to come. 1652 [see Predict *v.* 3]. 1708 Swift *Death Partridge* Wks. 1755 II. i. 160 Whether he hath not been the cause of this poor man's death, as well as the predictor. 1859 R. F. Burton *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 348 The Mganga is also a predictor and a soothsayer. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 2/1 Official predicter of the weather in the United States. 1905 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 545 The barometer, as a predictor, is deceptive in the ordinary way of use.

Predictory (prĭdi·ktəri), *a.* [f. Predictor: see -ory^{2}.] Of or pertaining to a predictor; having the quality of predicting, predictive.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 48 They are..deceived, as well as deceiving, in their presaging or predictory suggestions. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, London* (1662) II. 217 Nicholas (Conquerour of his People) as his Font-name then given him, as predictory of those Victories he afterwards got. 1747 Hervey *Medit.* II. 120, I shall scorn to ask..any predictory Information from such senseless Masses. 1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 198 Arguments against the possibility of predictory power.

Predigastric: see Pre- A. 4.

Predigest (prĭdidʒe·st, -dəi-), *v.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + Digest *v.*; cf. late L. *prædīgestus* that has well digested.] *trans.* To digest beforehand (with quot. 1663 cf. Digest *v.* 8); *spec.* to treat (food), before its introduction into the body, by a process similar to digestion, in order to render it easily digestible. Also *fig.* Hence **Predige·sted** *ppl. a.*

1663 Boyle *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. App. 334 Little inferiour..to the Salt and Spirit of predigested Blood. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Predigest*, to digest more or less completely by artificial means before introduction into the body. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 May 14/1 Shakespeare..was grappled with before our time, and has been predigested for us.

Predigestion (prĭdidʒe·stʃən, -dəi-). [f. Pre- A. 2 + Digestion; so F. *prédigestion.*]

†1. Premature or over-hasty digestion. *Obs.*

1607-12 Bacon *Ess., Dispatch* (Arb.) 242 Affected dispatch ..is like that which the Phisitians call pre-digestion, or hastie digestion, which is sure to fill the body full of Crudities, and secrett seedes of diseases. 1698 F. Manning *Poems* II. (1701) 21 Seeming-Wits, whose hasty Vein Betrays a Pre-digestion in the Brain.

2. Digestion (of food) by artificial means before introduction into the stomach.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 135 After a time the degree of predigestion should be very gradually lessened. 1900 *Ibid.* V. 618 Milk cannot with safety be submitted for any great length of time to predigestion.

Predigital, -dilatator: see Pre- B. 3, A. 4 b.

‖**Predikant** (predika·nt). Also **predicant.** [Du.: see Predicant.] A minister of the Dutch Protestant church, esp. in South Africa.

[1634 Brereton *Trav. Holland*, etc. 45 On the one side, was placed the ministeʳ (the predicant).] 1849 R. Moffat in *Daily News* 24 Feb. (1900) 6/1 They have a measure of religious knowledge culled from the Bible and their itinerant predikants. 1889 Rider Haggard *Allan's Wife* 66 Your father, the Predicant, always warned me against trekking north. 1905 *Athenæum* 25 Feb. 234/2 The first of a succes-

sion of predikants at Tuticorin [Southern India] was the noted ex-Roman Catholic priest, and subsequent translator of..the Bible into Portuguese, João Ferreira d'Almeida.

Predilect (prĭ·dile·kt), *a. rare.* [ad. med. L. *prædilect-us*, pa. pple. of *prædĭligĕre* to choose or love before others: see PRE- A. 1 and DILECT.] Chosen or favoured in preference to others. So **† Predile·cted** *Obs.*

a 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 758 My predylecte sonn, where be ye? *Ibid.* 859 My predilecte specyall, ȝe are worthy to hawe my lowe. *a* 1774 W. HARTE *Charitable Mason* Poems (1810) 387/2 Heav'n to its predilected children grants The middle space 'twixt opulence and wants. 1860 MRS. BYRNE *Undercurrents Overlooked* II. 102 The felon is the predilect object of public charity in England.

Predilection (prĭdile·kʃən). [a. F. *prédilection* (16th c.), ad. L. type **prædilectiōn-em*, n. of action f. med.L. *prædĭligĕre*: see prec. and DILECTION.] A mental preference or partiality; a favourable predisposition or prepossession.

1742 HUME *Dissert.* iv. (1757) 234 It is almost impossible not to feel a predilection for that which suits our particular turn and disposition. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 180 (*Translation*), I have a predilection for the whole corps of veterans. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ix, Robert had never testified much predilection for violent exertion. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* ix. 203 Sir Robert Peel avowed his own predilection for a central bank of issue.

Predile·ctive, *a. rare.* [f. L. *prædilect-*, ppl. stem of *prædĭligĕre*: see PREDILECT and -IVE.] Of, pertaining to, or showing predilection.

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 172, I see nothing impossible in such a personage taking advantage of your predilective imprudency.

Pre-diluvial (prīdilīū·viăl), *a. Geol.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + DILUVIAL.] Of or belonging to an age before that of the Diluvium or Northern Drift.

1857 B. TAYLOR *North. Trav.* xxvi. 269 The Kiöllefjord, which in the pre-diluvial times must have been a tremendous mountain gorge.

Prediluvian (prīdilīū·viăn), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + DILUVIAN.] = ANTEDILUVIAN: **a.** *adj.* Existing or occurring before the Noachian deluge. **b.** *sb.* One who lived before the Deluge.

1804 COLLINS *Scripscrap* 169 Prediluvians, uplifted and pompous Deem'd his nautical Scheme a fantastical Dream. 1855 WYLLIE in M. Hopkins *Hawaii* (1862) 320 The original language spoken by Adam and the prediluvian race of man, if not the post-diluvian Hebrew, has disappeared.

Pre-direct, -discipline, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, 2, etc.

Prediscover (prĭdiskʌ·vəɹ), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To discover beforehand.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 52 These holy men did prudently prediscover that differences in judgements would unavoidably happen in the Church. 1766 BLACKBURNE *Confess.* (1767) 221 In his supposing them to have prediscovered the dissensions, that would happen in the church an hundred years after they were dead.

So **Predisco·very** [PRE- A. 2], previous discovery.

1653 T. HORTON *Wisdome's Judgment* 10 To shew us them, not in the event,..but afore-hand in the pre-discoveries and apprehensions of it. 1787 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 464 A question between us and..Spain, touching the prediscovery, and, consequently, the right of dominion over certain islands in the South seas.

Predisponent (prĭdispō·nĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7-8 **præ-**. [f. PRE- A. 1, 2 + DISPONENT.]

A. *adj.* Predisposing. Now *rare.*

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gl. Exemp.* II. Ad Sect. x. 6 These graces ..are given to men irregularly and without any order of prædisponent causes. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 127 Somnambulism occurs in many persons without any manifest predisponent cause.

B. *sb.* A predisposing influence or cause.

1771 *Let. to Dr. Cadogan on Diss. Gout* 7 My neighbour is free from this prædisponent, and escapes it. 1852 *Trnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. II. 375 Secondary causes, as predisponents to the disease.

Hence **Predispo·nency** [see -ENCY], the quality of being predisponent or causing predisposition.

a 1846 PARRY is cited by WORCESTER.

Predisposal (prĭdispō·zăl). [PRE- A. 2.] Previous disposal.

1795 *Jemima* I. 119 If you had not rendered that desirable event impossible, by the predisposal of yourself,.. your Jemima should have become your wife. 1830 HERSCHEL *Stud. Nat. Phil.* § 26 This contemplation of possible occurrences, and predisposal of what shall happen.

Predispose (prĭdispō·z), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + DISPOSE: cf. F. *prédisposer* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), and L. *prædisposit-us* predisposed.]

1. *trans.* To dispose (a person, etc.) beforehand; to render liable or subject *to* something; to put into a favourable or suitable frame or condition; to incline or adapt previously. Also *absol.*

1646 [see PREDISPOSED]. 1684 T. BURNET *The. Earth* I. iv. 36 Vegetable productions require the heat of the Sun, to predispose and excite the Earth, and the Seeds. *a* 1716 SOUTH (J.) Unless nature be predisposed to friendship by its own propensity. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 299 As a hot summer immediately excites the cholera, so it predisposes to diarrhœa and dysentery. 1843 BETHUNE *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 45 The relief..only predisposed him for an earlier..relapse into the same melancholy mood. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 147 The majority of his judges..came predisposed to condemn him. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 14 May 7/6 Hydrogen..being mixed with a certain quantity of air, the presence of which could only help to predispose for an explosion.

2. To dispose of, give away, or bequeath before.

1666 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 20 Finding ..the office designed for him predisposed by patent. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 531 Assured of wealth, this man of simple heart, To every friend had predisposed a part.

Hence **Predispo·sing** *ppl. a.*, that predisposes; that renders favourable, inclined, or susceptible.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. iv, His own purposes and predisposing thoughts. 1793 *Friendly Addr. to Poor* 21 Many things concur .. to form a predisposing cause for such disorders. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* xiii. (1852) 362 There is one radical defect—the need of some predisposing grace on the part of God. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 7 Sept. 640 The end of the hot season in the tropics..is very predisposing to malaria.

Predisposed (-pō·zd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Disposed or inclined beforehand; previously or already liable or subject.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 308 It concurreth but unto predisposed effects. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) II. vii. II. 218 Tales,..which a predisposed multitude eagerly swallowed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 369 A direct transmission [of disease] from one member of a predisposed family to another.

Hence **Predispo·sedness,** the quality of being predisposed; predisposition.

1645 T. COLEMAN *Hopes Deferred* 21 A praying army is a predisposednesse for successe. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* v. 141 Whether the difference lie meerly in the predisposedness of the persons..is a subtile piece of Philosophy.

Predisposition (prĭdispozi·ʃən). [f. PRE- A. 2 + DISPOSITION; cf. mod.F. *prédisposition.*]

1. The condition of being predisposed or inclined beforehand (*to* something or *to do* something); a previous inclination or favourable state of mind.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 236 That the Spirits of the Teacher put in Motion, should worke with the Spirits of the Learner, a Pre-disposition to offer to Imitate. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* II. ii. 132 St. Austin reckoning what predisposition is necessary by way of preparation to the holy sacrament. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 259 Constituent Parts of Repentance, and necessary Predispositions to Forgiveness. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke's Hist.* (1887) 577 There had long been a predisposition to heresy.

2. *spec.* A physical condition which renders its possessor liable to the attack of disease.

1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, Wks. 1879 I. 734/1 It [the sweating sickness] was conceived .. to proceed from a malignity in the constitution of the air, gathered by the predispositions of seasons. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* IV. ii. 249 External Accidents are often the occasional cause of the Kings-Evil, but they always suppose a predisposition of the Body to it. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 311 Table of the Pulses according to Diseases, and the Pre-Disposition to them. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 83 Predisposition to Smallpox. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 101 Here.. there may exist some special predisposition of the tissues themselves.

Hence **Predisposi·tional** *a.*, of or pertaining to predisposition.

1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* II. i. (1861) 247 Results from predispositional state, or initially sanctified property.

Predisti·nguish (prī-), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To distinguish by way of preference. Hence **Predisti·nguished** *ppl. a.*, distinguished before or above others.

1778 *Love Feast* 25 Of saving Grace a predistinguish'd Heir. 1817 COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* in *Biog. Lit.* (1882) 391 How shall the law predistinguish the ominous screech owl ..from the auspicious and friendly birds of warning?

† Predivina·tion. *Obs.* [ad. L. *prædīvīnātiōn-em*, n. of action from *prædīvīnāre*: see next. Cf. obs. F. *prédivination* (1552 in Godef.).] The divining of events beforehand.

1603 *Adv. Don Sebast.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 401 Many matters that he had seen take event according to his predivination. 1611 FLORIO, *Prediuinatione*, a prediuination or guessing. 1623 in COCKERAM.

† Predivi·ne, *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prædīvīnāre* to divine beforehand, have a presentiment of: see PRE- A. 1 and DIVINE *v.* Cf. obs. F. *prédiviner* (1530 in Godef.).] *trans.* and *intr.* To divine beforehand, presage, prognosticate.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 144 Which did..predivine the..eloquence of Plato. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 146 Astronomers..Can pre-divine of famines, plagues, and warres. 1622 DONNE *Serm.* 15 Sept. 42 [One who] be the intention neuer so sincere, will presage, and prognosticate, and prediuine sinister and mischieuous effects from it.

Predominance (prĭdɒ·minăns). Also 7 **præ-**. [f. as PREDOMINANT + -ANCE. Cf. F. *prédominance* (16th c.).] The fact or position of being predominant: **a.** *Astrol.* Ascendancy, superior influence.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 112 Both haue influence from one ominous star, Which bodes our happinesse or our mischance According to the starres predominance. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* III. i, The sullen Saturn had predominance at your nativity! *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 178 [A sword] which she forged under the Constellation and Predominance of such Planets, that no Enchantment might against it prevail.

b. *generally.* Prevailing or superior influence, strength, or authority; prevalence, preponderance. In early use frequently of the humours.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. ii, Ther's not a beauty lives Hath that imperiall predominance Ore my affectes. *a* 1627 H. SHIRLEY *Mart. Soldier* III. iv, Now a Scorpion is A small compacted creature in whom Earth Hath the predominance, but mixt with fire. 1668 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. xi. 420 It is really no small Argument of the Predominance of Conscience over Interest. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1716 (1816) I. 24 The early predominance of intellectual vigour. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* XXVIII. (1856) 235 This predominance of breezes from the southward and eastward.

Predo·minancy. [f. as next + -ANCY.] The quality of being predominant; an instance of this; the fact of being predominant; = prec.

1598 FLORIO, *Predominatione*, predomination, predominancie. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 368 The predominancye of Custome is every where visible. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xi. § 10 The young Queene.. tooke her selfe not to be a little wronged by this vngracious mans predominancy. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. iii. 183 An Inflammation .. Oedematous, Schirrous, Erisipelatous, according to the predominancy of melancholy, flegme, or choler. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Physic.* (1809) 276 Mars claims predominancy over all these wholesome herbs. 1739 MELMOTH *Fitzosb. Lett.* (1763) 188 To be influenced in his censure or applause..by the predominancy or deficiency of his favorite beauty. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 410 Affected with a predominancy of rigid over clonic action.

Predominant (prĭdɒ·minănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *prédominant* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. type **prædominānt-em*, pres. pple. of **prædominārī, -āre*: see PREDOMINE.]

A. *adj.* Predominating.

1. Having ascendancy, power, influence, or authority over others; superior, ascendant, prevalent.

In early use a term of Astrology, also of Physiology.

Predominant branch of a tree (Math.): see DOMINANT 5. *Predominant nerve (Bot.)*: the main or principal nerve, as in the leaves of mosses. *Predominant partner*: a phrase applied (after Lord Rosebery) to England among the several constituents of the United Kingdom.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 279 You are not ignoraunt, yᵗ melancholy being predominant,.. moueth men to madnesse. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 29 And where the worser is predominant, Full soone the Canker death eates vp that Plant. 1602 — *All's Well* I. i. 211 *Hel.* The warres hath so kept you vnder, that you must needes be borne vnder Mars. *Par.* When he was predominant. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 34 Why do not the predominant Party in Parliament..make England beyond Trent another Kingdom? 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 103 ¶ 7 The temporary effect of a predominant passion. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. i. 315 After the power of the English became predominant. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, A change which was apt to make the women's voices predominant in the chorus. 1894 LD. ROSEBERY *Sp. Ho. Lds.* 12 Mar. (Hansard IV. XXII. 32), The noble Marquess [of Salisbury] made one remark on the subject of Irish Home Rule with which I confess myself in entire accord. He said that before Irish Home Rule is conceded by the Imperial Parliament, England, as the predominant Member of the partnership of the Three Kingdoms, will have to be convinced of its justice and equity. 1894 *Times* 19 Mar. 9/3 But if only a simple majority was contemplated, why the allusion to England as the predominant partner? Mr. Gladstone had a majority, and tried by its aid to carry Home Rule against the predominant partner. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 18 Mar. 6/4 If the predominant partner theory was to be carried out in the next Government.

b. More vaguely: More abundant as an element; more frequent; prevailing, prevalent.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 488 A third [Corinthian metal] of an equall medley and temperature, wherein a man shall not perceiue any one mettall predominant. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 176 The Equator where heat is most predominant. 1709 BERKELEY *The. Vision* Ded., Those criminal pleasures so fashionable and predominant in the age we live in. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. IV. i. 179 The predominant Erse dialect. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 47 The wet side being that towards which the predominant winds blow.

† c. With *of*: Domineering over, overruling. *Obs.*

1642 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 106 They were so presumptuous, and predominant of his Majesties Resolutions, that they forbear not those outrages.

d. *fig.* Superior in position, towering *over.*

1797 HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. xliv. 96 The Cupola..rises predominant over every object. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* vii. 251 Made the roofs boldly predominant.

2. *Her.* (See quots.)

1766-87 PORNY *Heraldry* Gloss., *Predominant*, this term is sometimes used in Heraldry to signify that the Field is but of one Tincture. *Ibid.* 28 When some Metal, Colour, or Fur, is spread all over the Surface or Field, such a Tincture is said to be predominant.

B. *sb.* That which predominates: **a.** A predominating person, influence, power, or authority; a predominating quality, fact, or feature.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxii. (1612) 163 We are Predominants, say we. 1594 *Warres Cyrus* 907 Reason, my Lord, was the predominant. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* III. iii, You must first haue an especial care so to weare your hat, that it oppresse not confusedly this your predominant or fore-top. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 219 The Sun..was the Predominant in Greece, and the Moon in Persia. 1890 C. L. MORGAN *Anim. Life & Intell.* 349, I venture to call the prominent quality a predominant as opposed to the isolate.

† b. A predominating or besetting sin. *Obs.*

1633 W. STRUTHER in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. XXXVI. 4 Every man's predominant is a beast of Satan's saddling and providing. 1699 ELIZ. WEST *Ment.* (1865) 143, I was ill employed, pursuing after my idols and predominants.

c. *Welsh Phonology.* (See quot.)

1856 J. WILLIAMS *Gram. Edeyrn* § 134 Predominants .. which are f, ph, ch, ng, ngh, dd, th, l, m, n, r, mh, nh, being so called because they prevail over the umbratiles, thrust them out of the sentence, and reign by their own power in their stead.

Predo·minantly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

In a predominant manner or degree; with superior influence; preponderatingly.

1681 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* I. iii. § 2 (1684) III Our Wills being already predominantly inclined to follow God, and take example by him. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 59 A Longing to view distant Climes so predominantly reigned in my Thoughts. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Aug. 5/1 Down to the beginning of the reign of George III,..the House was predominantly Whig.

Predominate (prĭdɒ·mineĭt), *a.* Now *rare.* [app. a mistaken form for PREDOMINANT, prob. after such adjs. as *moderate, temperate.*] = PREDOMINANT.

1591 NASHE *Prognostication* To Rdr., Wks. (Grosart) II. 143 Mercury being Lord and predominate in the house of Fortune. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 509 When crueltie once begineth to bee predominat, it is so vnsatiable that it neuer ceaseth. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 145 When salt is predominate..it produceth so many kinds of diuers ulcers. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) II. xi. 136 He gave way to his predominate bias. 1800 HELENA WELLS *Constantia Neville* (ed. 2) II. 273 They commonly possessed .. the predominate bad qualities of both Europeans and Africans. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's End* 331 The denomination he [Wesley] founded seems to be the standing or predominate order here.

Predominate (prĭdɒ·mineĭt), *v.* Also 6 præ-. [f. med.L. **prædominārе* (prob. used in 15–16th c. L.): see PREDOMINE and -ATE 3. It might also be f. F. *prédominer*, like *isolate*, etc.: see -ATE 3 6.]

† **1.** *intr. Astrol.* To have ascendancy, to exert controlling influence. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 51 b/1 The astronomicall constellation which ouer vs is predominating. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 294, I shall awe him with my cudgell: it shall hang like a Meteor ore the Cuckolds horns: ..I will predominate ouer the pezant. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 147 For Saturne (principally predominating, on Saturday) disposed mens minds and bodies to a dull heavinesse.

2. *generally.* **a.** To have or exert controlling power, to lord it *over*; to surpass in authority or influence, to be superior.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 228 Our fellowes, and allies most justly demanded equall priviledge with the Romans,..to the hope whereof Drusus had raized them upon a desire to predominate. 1623 COCKERAM II, To Gouerne or rule,.. *predominate*,.. *domineere*. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 237 The women in those parts never predominate. 1807 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* (ed. 2) I. i. viii. 87 In this period of the independence of Britain, one tyrant is said to have predominated over the rest. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XI. iv. V. 102 The Frenchman soon began to predominate over the Pontiff.

b. To be the stronger, main, or leading element; to prevail, preponderate.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 83 When this element predominateth in the mixture. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* i. (1691) 15 Those who predominate in Shipping, and Fishing, have more occasions than others to frequent all parts of the World. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 141 P 2 The desires that predominate in our hearts. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. x. 137 The hornblende for the most part predominating over the felspar. 1881 OWEN in *Nature* 1 Sept. 421/1 Since the foundation of the Museum in 1753, when the collections of printed books and manuscripts predominated.

c. To occupy a more commanding position; to tower *over*.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* viii, A huge bear, carved in stone, predominated over a large stone-basin. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* v, The tall gables and elms of the rectory predominate over the tiny white-washed church.

3. *trans.* To dominate over, prevail over, control. Now *rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. iii. 142 Let your close fire predominate his smoke, And be no turne-coats. 1631 *Celestina* I. 11 You happy powers that predominate humane actions, assist. 1810 *Splendid Follies* II. 95 The frailties of your nature predominated the glare of your riches. 1892 A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) II. 573 The ambition for outside effect which predominated the original plans seems to have been disdainful of interior comfort.

Hence **Predo·minated** *ppl. a.* = PREDOMINATE *a.*

1752 HUME *Ess., Parties* (1768) 36 According to that principle which is predominated and is found to have the greatest influence.

Predo·minately, *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. PREDOMINATE *a.* + -LY 2.] = PREDOMINANTLY.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* XV. (1596) 271 Nature ..in a woman cannot be predominatly hot. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* (1848) I. 66 In persons of a predominately worldly tone of mind. 1892 *Athenæum* 13 Feb. 212/2 Used too predominately, to the dwarfing or exclusion of other feelings.

Predo·minating, *ppl. a.* [f. PREDOMINATE *v.* + -ING 2.] That predominates; controlling, ruling, prevailing; rarely, domineering, lording it.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* (1609) V. xciii, The pride of some predominating will. 1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 357 Not so much the Predominating as the Denominating Forme. 1856 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* XV, But then..that 'one' must be tender to her, not rude and predominating in his manners. 1904 *Expositor* Mar. 186 Joyousness is the predominating characteristic of Judaism

Hence **Predo·minatingly** *adv.*

1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Bean-stripe* 222 Either..seems Predominatingly the colour. 1905 ORR *Probl. O. T.* vii. 196 Portions of chapters in Genesis are marked by the use exclusively or predominatingly of the divine name Elohim.

Predomination (prĭdɒminēi·ʃən). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [n. of action from PREDOMINE, PREDOMINATE *v.*: see -ATION.] The action, fact, or condition of predominating; predominance; ascendancy. (Often in *Astrol.* and in the doctrine of the humours.)

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 105 So great a predomination hath this name of fidelity in the hearts of a number. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 332 The colour uncertaine, according to the predomination of the humour infected. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i, Have thy starres maligne bene such, That their predominations sway so much Over the rest? *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) II. 662 The perpetual conflict of the humors within us for predomination. 1654 'PALAEMON' *Friendship* 3 Mercury.. follows the predomination of those other Planets with whom he is in Conjunction. 1783 JOHNSON 28 Apr. in *Boswell*, You would not trust to the predomination of right, which, you believe, is in your opinions.

Predo·minator. *rare*$^{-1}$. [agent-n. from PREDOMINATE *v.*: see -OR.] A predominating agent.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. ii. 32 The chiefe predominator in the businesse was to be two grains of pulvis magneticus.

† **Predo·mine,** *v. Obs.* [app. a. F. *prédominer* (16th c. in Littré), ad. L. type **prædominārе* (which may have been used in med. or 16th c. L.), f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *dominārī*, later *-āre*, to be master, rule, f. *dominus* lord, master.

Like the other words of the group, in early use in Astrology, also in the doctrine of the humours.]

1. *intr.* = PREDOMINATE *v.* 1, 2.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 104 So th' Element in Wine predomining It hot, and cold, and moist, and dry doth bring. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg.* iv. 399 To my ascendant hasting then to clime, There as the first predomining the time. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* Postscr. 4 Shall partialitie so farre predomine with you, that we..must be reputed Apostates? 1678 J. BROWN *Life Faith* (1824) I. v. 109 The abounding and predomining of carnal fears.

2. *trans.* = PREDOMINATE *v.* 3.

1720 W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* i. (1731) 2 How far these predomine or influence them, we are much at a loss to know.

† **Predomineer,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PREDOMINE + DOMINEER; prob. influenced by F. *prédominer.*] *trans.* To overrule, domineer over.

1594 *2nd Rep. Dr. Faustus* iii. C ij, Being gouerned and predomineirde by that quicke and ready spirite.

† **Predomi·nion.** *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 5 + DOMINION, after *predomine*, etc.] Superior power; predominance, prevalence.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* vi. 77 Of the predominion of any element,..the complexion hath his .. denomination. 1611 FLORIO, *Predominio*, a fore-rule or predomination. 1673 GREW *Anat. Roots* II. § 70 By the predominion of the other Principles, made mild.

† **Predo·minize,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PREDOMINE (or its source) + -IZE.] *trans.* = PREDOMINATE *v.* 3.

1648 EARL OF WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 29 And so allay the Fury, stint the Rage Of madness doth predominize this age.

† **Predo·miny.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. type **prædominium*: see PRE- A. 5 and DOMINIUM.] Superior power or authority; predominance.

(Used in the translation cited, but not in Trevisa.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 231 The Romanes made promise to Marcus, a nowble knyȝhte, that he scholde haue predominy of the cite [*urbis dominium*], and a perpetualle memory if he cowthe delyuer that cite. *Ibid.* 263. *Ibid.* 351 Obteynenge the predominy by strenghte and armes. 1432–50 *Harleian Contn. of Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 500 That trowble and discorde scholde not have predominy afterwarde.

Predone (prĭdʌ·n), *ppl. a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PRE- A. 1 or (?)6 + DONE.] Already done; or (?) completely done, fordone, exhausted.

1859 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1879) II. xviii. 99, I am..as one desperate and predone with work of various kinds at once.

Predoom (prĭdū·m), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* **a.** To pronounce the sentence or doom of beforehand; to precondemn. **b.** To foreordain (some doom) *to.* So **Predoomed** (-dū·md), **Predoo·ming** *ppl. adjs.*

1618 *Owles Almanacke* Raven 2, I haue euer been held a Prædooming Bird. 1786 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 51/2 The Sheich Mansour pretended that he was pre-doomed by the.. decrees of heaven to fill up the measure of divine revelation. 1796 COLERIDGE *Dest. Nations* 182 The indwelling angel-guide, that oft..shapes out Man's course To the predoom'd adventure. 1859 TENNYSON *Lanc. & Elaine* 725 All Had marvel what the maid might be, but most Predoom'd her as unworthy. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. i. 10 He predooms future suffering to the innocent by a reckless indulgence of his own inclination in the present. 1885 R. BUCHANAN in *N. Amer. Rev.* May 452 Shall Man, predoom'd, Cling to his sinking straw of consciousness?

Predorsal: see PRE- B. 3.

† **Predour.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *predeur* (13th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prædātōr-em* plunderer, pillager.] A robber, plunderer, marauder.

1577 HOLINSHED *Descr. of Irel.* 17/1 in *Chron.* I, The Earle with his bande made hoate foote after, & dogging still the track of the predours, he came to the place where the dart was hurld.

† **Pre·dy,** *a. Naut. Obs.* [Deriv. obscure: most writers have associated it in some way with *ready.* (The suggestion has been made that the *p* was developed out of the word of command 'Make the ship *ready*' (cf. quot. 1626). This is not impossible; though it assumes the identity of the vowel sound in *ready* and *predy*, which is not proved.)] Prepared for action, ready.

1625 in J. S. Corbett *Fighting Instruct.* (1905) 69 That the hold in every ship should be rummaged and made predy especially by the ship's sides. *c* 1626 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dialogues about Sea Services* (1685) 283 When a Ship is to be made ready for a Fight, the Word of Command is, make the Ship Predy, or make Predy the Ordnance. And a Predy Ship is when all her Decks are cleared, and her Guns and all her small Shot, and everything of that Nature, well fitted for a Fight: And likewise to make the Hold Predy is to bestow everything handsomly there, and to remove anything that may be troublesome. Hence 1706 in PHILLIPS.

So † **Pre·dy** *v. Obs.*, to make ready.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 38 Predy, or make ready to set saile. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Predy the Ship*, or *Predy the Ordnance*, is as much as to make Things ready for a Fight. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word bk., Predy*, or *Priddy*, a word formerly used in our ships for 'get ready'; as 'Predy the main-deck', or get it clear.

Pre-dynastic: see PRE- B. 1.

† **Pree,** *sb.*1 *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. F. *pré*:–L. *prāt-um* meadow, or a. obs. F. *prée* fem.:–L. *prāta*, pl. of *pratum.*] A meadow.

a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 24 In a Writ the generall shall be put..before the speciall: as land before pree, pasture, wood, iuncary, marish, &c.

Pree (prī), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8– **prie.** [A shortened form of *preive, preve*, by-form of PROVE *v.*; cf. Sc. *gie, hae, lee*, for *give, have, lief.*] *trans.* To make proof or trial of; to try what (a thing) is like, *esp.* by tasting. *Pree the mou' of*, to kiss.

?*a* 1700 *Ballad*, '*Blow the winds I ho'* (in R. Bell's *Collect.* 1857), He [a horse] shakes his head above the trough But dares not prie the corn. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 91 A mill of good snishing to prie. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 103 Nae henny beik, that ever I did pree, Did taste so sweet. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* x, Rob, stownlins, prie'd her bonnie mou. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, I am in ..haste to prie your..good cheer. 1857 *Chambers' Inform.* I. 709/2 A custom..of preeing the nets—that is, lifting out a portion of a train and examining it. 1896 BARRIE *Sent. Tommy* xix. 215 He had no thought o' preeing lasses' mouths now.

Hence **Pree** *sb.*2, a trial, a taste; **Pree·ing** *vbl. sb.*, proving, trying, tasting.

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xvii, The first taste and preeing of what war is. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Rhymes* 182 Sae after some drams I gat a pree, I bade gude day. 1879 J. WHITE *Jottings* 169 Gie me a pree, but no my fill. 1883 CLELAND *Inchbracken* ix. 64 The pruif o' the puddin's the preein' o' 't.

Pre-earthly, -economic: see PRE- B. 1.

Preeche, Preede, Preef, variants of PREACH, PREDE, PROOF.

Pre-ele·ct, *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *præelect-us*, pa. pple. of med.L. *præeligĕre* to choose before, prefer; or f. PRE- A. 1, 5 + ELECT *a.*] Chosen beforehand or before others; chosen in preference to others.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxiii. 123 Ha, noble rose, pre-elect & chosen byfore all other flouris that ben about the. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 225 This gracious virgin and preelect abbasse. 1611 FLORIO, *Preeletto*, pre-elect, fore-chosen. 1858 E. CASWALL *Poems* 34 Then with all perfections deck'd As this mother pre-elect. 1870 ROSSETTI *Poems* (1881) 261 This is that blessed Mary pre-elect God's virgin.

Pre-elect (prī,ĭle·kt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To elect or choose beforehand.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 926/1 In the diuine prescience of God, whiche had chosen and preelected her before the worldes to be the mother of the Lord. 1611 COTGR., *Prééslu*, preelected, fore-chosen. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pre-elected*, elected, or chosen before-hand. 1850 NEALE *Med. Hymns* (1867) 153 Ere the world was, pre-elected.

b. To elect to an office by anticipation. *rare.*

1830 J. H. MONK *Life R. Bentley* (1833) II. 45 An appeal was also presented to the Vice-Chancellor .. against the Master, who had pre-elected his son, William Bradford, to a fellowship in a College Meeting, at which only four of the twelve Fellows were present. *Ibid.* 254 Four persons, commonly deemed his inferiors in merit, were successful; two of them being pre-elected for the following year.

Pre-election (prī,ĭle·kʃən), *sb.* Also præ-. [PRE- A. 1, 5. Cf. obs. F. *préselection* (Godef.).]

† **1.** Choice of one person or thing in preference to others; selection, preference. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xii[i]. (Arb.) 131 We must needes say, it was in many of their wordes done by preelection in the first Poetes. 1611 A. STAFFORD *Niobe* 61 A free prælection, is not but of good, nor a free shunning but of euil. 1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* III. 163 Antonine, taking small ioy in those Nuptialls, whereto hee was forcibly yoked, without any præ-election of his owne, infinitely hated both the young Lady and her Father.

2. Previous choice; an anticipatory election.

1611 FLORIO, *Preelettione*, pre-election, fore-chusing. *a* 1639 WOTTON in *Relig.* (1651) 453 We shall satisfie His Majestie with a pre-Election, and yours shall have my first nomination. 1715 H. PRIDEAUX in *Life* (1748) 212 No such pre-elections shall be henceforth made in any College. 1830 J. H. MONK *Life R. Bentley* (1833) II. 257 That three scholars should be taken from Westminster every year, and that they should never be prejudiced by pre-elections. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 596 He does not speak directly of predestination, but of præelection to temporal goods.

Pre-election (prī,ĭle·kʃən), *adj. phr.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + ELECTION.] Occurring or given before a parliamentary (or other) election.

1893 *Chicago Advance* 16 Mar., The President..refused to compromise himself by any pre-election pledges. 1896 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 207 Some of the preelection tests of statesmanship. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 May 3/1 Maybe Mr. Chamberlain was remembering his pre-election promises.

†Pre-elementation. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PRE- A. 2 + **elementation*, f. ELEMENT *v.* 3, to instruct in the rudiments of learning.] Previous elementary or rudimentary instruction or teaching.

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 98 A duty without whose pre-elementation sermons themselves edify very little.

Preem (prīm), *sb. local.* Also 7–8 **preme.** [perh. a variant of PREEN *sb.*; cf. MDu., Du. *priem*, MLG. *prême*, MHG. *pfrieme*, G. *pfriem*, *pfriemen* an awl, bodkin, etc.] (See quot. 1850.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 289/1 The Preme is made of white Wands, this is for the opening of the Yarn..so that each thred may pass clearly through the Reed. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* s. v. *Loom.* 1850 S. BAMFORD *Dial. S. Lancs.* Gloss. 185 *Preem*, a comb used by weavers, to loosen the yarn.

Preem (prīm), *v. local.* [f. prec.] In textile manufacture, To clean the teasels? with a preem or comb. Hence **Pree·ming** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pree·mer** (see quot.).

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 202 The next employment in the cloth manufacture for which boys are fit, is preeming; that is, cleaning the teasel-rods and handles. *Ibid.*, Preeming is much harder and more disagreeable work than carping. *Ibid.* 203 After the preeming period, the lads are put either to the gig-machines, or to the lewises in the cutting or shearing-room. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Preemer*, a boy who cleans teazles. W. Yks.

Preem (*Fencing*), obs. form of PRIME *sb.*

Pre-embodiment, -embody: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

Pre-e·mbryo. *Biol.* [f. PRE- B. I. + EMBRYO.] 'The inferior of the two cells opposite to the micropyle in the vegetable ovule which, by its growth and division, gives rise to the embryo' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 968 The amphibolic factor by its continued presence and influence..on the germ-cells and sperm-cells, the pre-embryo, embryo, and its primordial germ-cells, &c., renders it impossible for the germ elements ..to live the charmed life of isolation.

Pre-eminence (prɪ|e·mĭnĕns). Also 5–6 prem-, 5–8 prehem-, 7–8 præem-. [ad. late L. *præēminentia* (5th c.), f. L. *præēmināt-em* PRE-EMINENT: see -ENCE. Cf. F. *prééminence* (14th c. in Littré). The *h* in obs. spelling was inserted to avoid hiatus.] Surpassing or superior eminence.

1. Higher rank or distinction; priority of place, precedence; superiority.

1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 326/2 As toward any preeminence yat ye might have..as chief of Counseill. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 48 How Maria, whiche hadde a premynence Above alle women, in Bedlem whan she lay. 1526 TINDALE 3 *John* 9 Diotrephes which loueth to haue the preeminence amonge them receaueth vs not. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 68 As touching preheminence and dignity, he is chiefe of the Christian Princes. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. i. (1739) 1 They allowed preeminence to their Magistrates rather than Supremacy. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 10 Our Saviour is very fitly termed our Head, as that implies..Preheminence over the rest of the Body. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 97 The Venetians asserted their pre-eminence over the Genoese in a..battle.

2. Superiority in any quality; the possession or existence of a quality or attribute in a pre-eminent degree.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 244 Whil they stonde in ther fresse premynence. 1486 *Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 54 A place to my pleasour of moost prehemynence. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 179 b, The preemynence of his moost gracyous incarnacyon. 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* x. 161 The East-Indian Taprobran, now called Sumatra, had preheminence of quantity before this of ours. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxx. III. 147 The emperor Honorius was distinguished..by the pre-eminence of fear, as well as of rank. 1883 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predecess.* ii. (1890) 46 Shakspere's pre-eminence consists chiefly in this, that he did supremely well what all were doing.

†b. In lit. sense of the L.: Greater stature. *Obs.*

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xv. (Arb.) 49 The actors.. for a speciall preheminence did walke vpon those high corked shoes or pantofles.

3. With *a* and *pl.* An individual instance or case of pre-eminence: **a.** A distinction, a distinguishing privilege; **b.** A quality existing in a pre-eminent degree. Now *rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 In onliche stude he bezet þeos þreo bizeaten [2 *MSS.* preeminences]—priuilege of prechur, merit of martirdom & meidenes mede. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 432/2 All the manere of preminences and duytees belangyng therto. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 13 God, from whom mens seuerall degrees and preeminences doe proceed. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* v. 93 The City of Auxerres, and the precincts thereof, with all the above said preheminences. 1794 BURKE *Rep. Lords' Jrnls.* Wks. 1842 II. 632 The office, the powers and preheminences annexed to it, differ very widely.

Hence **†Pre-e·minenced** *ppl. a. Obs. nonce-wd.*, raised to pre-eminence; distinguished.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xix. (ed. 8) 222 They are pre-eminenc'd before the rest of the world.

Pre-e·minency. Now *rare.* Also 6 prem-, 7 præem-, 7–8 prehem-. [ad. late L. *præēminentia*, f. L. *præēminēnt-em*: see next and -ENCY.] The quality of being pre-eminent; = PRE-EMINENCE.

1560 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Wks. II. 20 b, Thou knowest, O lord..my necessytie, that I hate the token of prehemynencie, and glory or worshyppe, whyche I bear vpon my heade. 1672 O. PLUNKET (*title*) Jus Primatiale; or, the Ancient Right and Preheminency of the See of Armagh above all other Archbishopricks in the Kingdom of Ireland asserted. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark iii. 19 The foreman of a grand jury, has a precedency, but no pre-eminency. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 397 The pre-eminency of righteousness.

b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance or species of this quality; anything in which it is exhibited; a pre-eminent position.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 343 To haue certeyne priuelegies, preeminencies, and tributes. 1647–8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 4 The Royal House then enjoys two Pre-eminencies. 1757 *Herald* No. 8 (1758) I. 124 The right of precedence, which the others will not yield, notwithstanding the preheminencies of the church supersede those of blood.

Pre-eminent (prɪ|e·mĭnĕnt), *a.* Also 6–7 preh-. [ad. L. *præēminēnt-em*, pr. pple. of *præēminēre* (contr. *præm-*) to project forwards, rise above, excel, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 5 + *ēminēre*: see EMINENT. Cf. F. *prééminent* (15th c. in Littré).] Eminent before or above others; excelling or surpassing others; distinguished beyond others in respect of some quality.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Hauenge in possession dowerys preeminent [*dotes possidet præminentes*]. 1473 *Proclam.* 10 Nov. (Patent Roll 13 Edw. IV, pt. I. m. 2), Suche persoones as god hath called to the preeminent astate of princes. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 118 As superior and preheminent in office, he may commaund, ordaine, do, and vndo. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 279 Some great Maker.. In goodness and in power præ-eminent. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 6 In all pursuits which required only the native powers of the intellect..the Greeks were pre-eminent. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* (1875) vi. 257 As an object of worship..the serpent is pre-eminent among animals.

b. in lit. sense of the Latin: Rising or standing out above the rest. *rare*⁻¹.

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 128 Accident may cut off or shorten either the Taproot, or the preeminent shoots of the top.

Pre-e·minently, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pre-eminent manner or degree; in the highest degree; very highly, supremely.

1747 D. MALLET *Amyntor & Theodora* II. 190 From another's fate, Pre-eminently wretched, learn thy own. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 149 The argument of this pre-eminently learned Judge. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxix. 587 The region indicated is preeminently a cotton-field. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 83 This was pre-eminently a marriage of convenience on both sides.

So **Pre-e·minentness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Pre-employ: see PRE- A. 1.

Pre-e·mpt, *sb. Austral. colloq.* [f. as next.] A pre-emptive right.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxiv. (1891) 322 My friend has the run, and the stock, and the pre-empts all in his own hands.

Pre-empt (prɪ|e·mpt), *v.* Chiefly *U. S.* [Back-formation from PRE-EMPTION, PRE-EMPTIVE (cf. *exempt, exemption*).] *trans.* To obtain by pre-emption; hence (*U. S.*), to occupy (public land) so as to establish a pre-emptive title. Also *absol.*

1857 *Nat. Intelligencer* (Washington) 1 July (Bartlett), The laws of the United States give the right to any citizen who does not own three hundred and twenty acres of land in any State of the Union..to preëmpt one hundred and sixty acres, by fulfilling the detailed requirements of the act. 1870 B. HARTE *Luck Roaring Camp* (ed. Tauchn.) I. 15 To make their seclusion more perfect, the land on either side of the mountain wall that surrounded the camp they duly preempted. 1885 *Science* VI. 318 An unscrupulous 'colonist' can often preëmpt in several places at the same time. 1890 B. SHAW in *Fab. Ess. Socialism* 5 That specially fertile region upon which Adam pitched is sooner or later all pre-empted; and there is nothing for the new comer to pre-empt save soil of a second quality.

b. *fig.* To acquire or appropriate beforehand, pre-engage. Also *intr.*: see quot. 1889.

1888 *Literature* (N. Y.) 1 Sept. 276 [The Prohibition party] had unquestionably pre-empted for itself the proud position of the party of the future. 1889 FARMER *Americanisms* s. v., Colloquially, to pre-empt is to take possession, or to qualify for. Thus a man may pre-empt for heaven. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 283 The honours are pre-empted for other trades.

Hence **Pre-e·mpted** *ppl. a.*; **Pre-e·mptible** *a.*, capable of being pre-empted.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* May 102 Rival missionary boards over-run pre-empted ground and obliterate the boundaries of Christian comity. 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 732/1 Some public and preëmpted homestead among the surf-showered rocks. 1886 *N. Amer. Rev.* Jan. 54 As pre-emptible land recedes farther into the West.

Pre-emption (prɪ|e·mpʃən). [ad. med.L. **præemptiōn-em*, n. of action f. **præemĕre* to buy beforehand: see PRE- A. 2 and EMPTION. Cf. F. *préemption* (1812 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Purchase by one person or corporation before an opportunity is offered to others; also, the right to make such purchase; *spec.*

a. formerly in England, the prerogative of the sovereign, exercised through his purveyor, of buying household provisions in preference to other persons, and at special rates;

b. in U. S., Australia, etc., the purchase, or right of purchase, in preference and at a nominal price, of public land by an actual occupant, on condition of his improving it;

c. in *International Law*, the right of a belligerent, sometimes recognized by treaty, to seize, with indemnification of the owners, such goods of neutrals as are doubtfully or conditionally contraband.

d. *Clause of pre-emption*, in *Sc. Law*: see quot. 1861.

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 17 Certaine persons..sought to make vse of this preemption. 1610 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 16 Her late Maiestie intended to have retayned the prerogative of pre-emption. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 2 Those of Stode haue by priuiledge the preemption and choice of Rhenish Wines passing by them. 1622 MISSELDEN *Free Trade* 59 This kinde is the Preemption of Tinne here in England granted by His Maiesties gracious letters Patents to some few. 1663 F. PHILLIPS (*title*) The Antiquity..and Necessity of Pre-emption and Pourveyance, for the King. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2379/4 The Farmers of His Majesties Coynage and Preemption of Tinn,..have affix'd the Price 10 d. the Pound. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5859/9 They have..the Pre-emption of the..Lead and Iron Oars. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. iv, He consented to give me the pre-emption of twenty thousand acres. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 239 The Papal government..has the right of pre-emption whenever any relics of ancient art are discovered. 1860 WOOLSEY *Introd. Internat. Law* § 182. 403 The harshness of the doctrine of occasional contraband brought into favor the rule of pre-emption, which was a sort of compromise between the belligerents (if masters of the sea) and the neutrals. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 172/2 Clause of Pre-emption is a clause sometimes inserted in a feu-right, stipulating, that if the vassal shall be inclined to sell the lands he shall give the superior the first offer, or that the superior shall have the lands at a certain price fixed in the clause. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. 537 The prerogative of purveyance included ..the right of preemption of victuals.

e. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 92 In 1830, a bill was ..passed, granting a pre-emption right to squatters who had taken such possession of unsold lands. 1854 T. H. BENTON *Thirty Years' View* (1857) I. 102 The pre-emption system was established, though at first the pre-emption claimant was stigmatized as a trespasser, and repulsed as a criminal. 1901 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/7 The landlord buys at the pre-emption price, and sells at the market price.

Hence **Pre-e·mptioner,** 'one who holds a prior right to purchase certain public land' (Webster 1890, citing Abbott).

Pre-emptive (prɪ|e·mptɪv), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. med.L. **præemptˑ-*, ppl. stem of **præemĕre* (see prec.) + -IVE.] Relating or belonging to, or of the nature of pre-emption. Also *fig.*

Pre-emptive right, the right to pre-emption; also, in Australia, land held by such right.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* (ed. 2) 19 His, by preëmptive right, throughout all time. 1857 T. H. GLADSTONE *Englishm. in Kansas* 169 To jump a claim is to take it, notwithstanding that it is pre-occupied by one who has already given notice of his claim to a pre-emptive title. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 140 Subject to pre-emptive reservations. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 250 This occupation gave the selectors a legal right to about six thousand acres of 'pre-emptive right'.

B. *sb.* Pre-emptive right; land acquired by this.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 321 They've got, what with their selections and pre-emptives, a tidy slice..of Rainbar run. *Ibid.* 322 It's not worth any one else's while to come in, because they'd have no pre-emptive worth talking of.

Pre-emptor (prɪ|e·mptŏr). *U. S.* [f. as PRE-EMPTION + -OR; cf. med.L. *præemptor* (Gloss. Gr.-L., in L. and Sh.), agent-n. f. **præemĕre*: see PRE- A. 2 and EMPTOR.] One who acquires land by pre-emption. Hence **Pre-e·mptory** *a.*

1846 WORCESTER, *Pre-emptor* [citing JUDGE STOREY]. 1855 *Kansas Hist. Coll.* (1896) V. 168 A preemptor who complies with the requirements of the acts of congress cannot be prevented from obtaining his title. 1877 BURROUGHS *Taxation* 129 Land as such, in the occupancy of a pre-emptor..is not subject to taxation. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Pre-emptory*, relating to pre-emption.

Preen (prēn), *sb.* Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1–3 **préon,** (1 **préan**), 3 **pren,** 3–6 **prene,** 5 **preyne,** 6–9 **prein,** 8 **prine,** 8– **preen** (**prin**). [OE. *préon* a pin, brooch, fastening = MDu. *priem(e)*, Du. *priem* a bodkin, dagger, MLG. *prên, prêne, prême, prîm*, LG. *preen, preem* a pin, spike, awl, MHG. *pfrieme*, G. *pfriem, pfriemen* an awl, WFris. *prieme*, EFris. *prêm-e* an awl, etc., Icel. *prjónn* (found in 13th c. as prop. name) a (knitting-)pin, peg, plug, Norw. *prjona, prjöne*, Da. *preen* a bodkin, piercer. Cf. med.L. *premula*, dim. of **prema*. For interchange of *m* and *n* cf. PLUM. Gael. *prìne* pin is from Lowl. Sc.]

1. A pin; a brooch.

a 1000 in Thorpe *Charters* 530 Ic geann Godan minre yldran dehter..anes bendes..and twegea preonas, and anes wifscrudes ealles. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker I. 152/37 *Fibula*, preon, *uel* oferfeng, *uel* dalc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Þe vikelare ablent þene mon & put him preon in eien. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1872 Gol[d] prenes and ringes. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecile*) 533 Þi poweste lik a bose of wynd þat fillit ware, & with a prene Mocht out be latine. *c* 1420 *Auturs of Arth.* xxix. (Ireland MS.), Hur Kerchefes were curiouse, with mony a proud prene [*v. rr.* peene, pyne]. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. xvi, For wes thair nocht..That no man micht the poynting of ane prene Repreve. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 37 And we, agane, wald by ane Fraer of Fegges, Baith prenis and nedillis, and sell to landwart Megges. 1727 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* iv, She gae'd as fait as a new preen. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* II. ii, O' this unsonsy pictures aft she makes O' ony ane she hates..Stuk fou o' prins. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Prin*, a pin. 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 131 My ingle she keepit as neat as a preen.

b. *fig.* As type of a thing of small value.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 910 Off courtlynes thai cownt him nocht a preyne. *a* 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 546 For sic storyis I cuir thame not ane prene. 1728 RAMSAY *Ep. to R. Yarde* 53 Thousands a-year's no worth a Prin, When e'er this fashious Guest gets it. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* ii, You got to like books, and he didna care a prin for them.

2. (See quots.)

1864 ATKINSON *Provinc. Names Birds, Preen*, Prov. name ..for Bar-tailed Godwit, *Limosa rufa*. 1885 SWAINSON *Provinc. Names Birds* 198 Bar-tailed Godwit. Prine (Essex). From its habit of probing the mud for food.

3. See quot.: ? = PREEM.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 290/1 *Preene*,..an Instrument used by the Clothworkers..for their Handle Dressing, or picking of the Wool Flocks, .. an half round piece of Wood, with a handle..the streight side being set with Wyers like teeth.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **preen-cod, preen-cushion**, a pincushion; also *transf.*; **preen-head**, pin-head, **preen-point**, pin-point, both used *fig.* as the type of anything very small, or of small value; **preens-worth**, the value of a preen or pin.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 39 Syne said and swoir.. That he suld nocht twich hir *prenecod. 1578 *Inv. R. Wardrobes* (1815) 239 Ane preincoid of blew and yallow velvot. 1822 GALT *Provost* v, The Nabob..made [them] presents of new gowns and prin-cods. 1888 A. G. MURDOCH *Sc. Readings* Ser. II. 65 A sawdust *preen-cushion. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., 'No worth a *prein-head'. 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws* xviii. 207, I canna mind ae single Armstrong .. worth a prein-head. 1886 A. D. WILLOCK *Rosetty Lads* vi. (1887) 42 No' carin' a *preen-point for the sorrow they left ahint them. 1887 J. SERVICE *Dr. Duguid* I. iii. 20 Lord, there's no a *preensworth but Thou kens.

Preen (prīn), *v.*[1] Now *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 3 **preonen**, 4–6 **prene**, (7– **prin**), 8– **preen**. [f. prec. sb.: cf. Du. *priemen* to stab, pierce, MLG. *prünen, prunen*, LG. *prünen, prienen*, EFris. *prînen* (Doornk.-Koolman) to stitch together roughly, G. *pfriemen* to bore with an awl, Icel. *prjóna* to knit.]

†1. *trans.* To sew; to stitch up. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Death* 68 in *O. E. Misc.* 172 Me nimeð þe licome & preoneð in a clut. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vii. 26 Brusit clathis, and riche wedis, Figurit and prynnit al with goldin thredis. *Ibid.* IV. v. 163 Ane purpour claith of Tyre ..Fetisly stekit with prynnit goldin thredis.

†2. To pierce; to transfix. *Obs.*

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 859 Purgh hys herte he prenced hym with mode. 13.. *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 688 Loke al 3or loue on him beo leyd, For vs on Rode was prikket & prenet. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* xviii. 11 Forsothe Dauid harpide with his hond,..and Saul helde a spere, and caste it, and gesside that he myȝte prene [Vulg. *configere*] Dauid with the wal [*gloss* that is, perse with the spere, so that it schulde passe til to the wal]. *c* 1460 *Play Sacrament* 467 W^t y^is same dagger that ys so styf & strong In y^e myddys of thys prynt I thynke for to prene..[*Stage direct.* here shalle y^e iiij Jewys pryk y^er daggeris in iiij quarters].

3. To fasten with a pin; to pin.

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 22 My Coller, of trew Nichtbour lufe it was, Weill prenit on with Kyndnes and solas. 1675 in Hunter *Biggar & Ho. Fleming* ix. (1862) 96 For a dosen of great prinies to prin ye mortcloath and horscloath. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. ii, Prin up your aprons baith, and come away. 1832–53 *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 75 He took the dishclout frae the bink, And preen't it til her cockernony! 1888 DOYLE *Capt. Polestar* 25, I canna say I preen my faith in sea-bodges and the like.

Preen (prīn), *v.*[2] Forms: 5 **proyne, prayne, preyne, prene**, 6 *Sc.* **prein**, 7 **prain**, 8 **prine**, 8–**prin**, 7– **preen**. [app. in origin a variant of PRUNE *v.*[1] (ME. *proyne*, etc.), assimilated to PREEN *v.*[1] (early ME. *preonen*), in allusion to the boring or pricking action of a bird's beak when it preens its plumage.]

1. *trans.* Of a bird (or duck-billed platypus): To trim (the feathers or fur) with the beak.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A vj, Youre hawke proynith and not pikith and she prenyth not bot whan she begynnyth at hir leggys, and fetcheth moystour like oyle at hir taill. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 989 To pick or prain, as a bird doth herself. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 139 When..ruffled or discomposed, the Bird..can easily preen them. 1774 G. WHITE *Selborne* 28 Sept., The feathers of these birds must be well preened to resist so much wet. 1860 G. BENNETT *Gatherings Nat. Australasia* vi. 135 Besides combing their fur to clean it when wet, I have seen them preen it with their beak (if the term may be allowed) as a duck would clean its feathers. 1884 *Leeds Mercury* Weekly Supp. 15 Nov. 8/2 A cormorant..sat watching us and preening its feathers.

2. *refl.* Of a person: To trim or dress oneself up; to smooth and adorn oneself.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 768 He kembeth hym he preyneth [*v. rr.* prayneth, proynyth] hym and pyketh. 1586 *Dunbar's Tua Mariit Wemen* 374 (Maitland MS.), I wald me prein plesandlie in precious wedis. 1790 D. MORISON *Poems* 81 Ne'er price a weardless, wanton elf, That nought but pricks and prins herself. 1883 MRS. ARMYTAGE in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Sept. 344 Egyptian beauties .. sleeked and preened themselves before their brightly burnished brazen mirrors.

b. (*? catachr.*) To pride or please oneself.

1880 SHORTHOUSE *J. Inglesant* Pref. 8 They and their followers preen and plume themselves..on their aristocratic standpoint.

3. To trim (trees). *dial.*

1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Preen*, to prime, or trim up trees.

Hence **Preened** *ppl. a.*, **Pree·ning** *vbl. sb.*

1599 JAS. I Βασιλ. Δωρον (1603) 111 They should not..by their painted, preened fashion, serue for baites to filthie lechery. *Ibid.* 112 Eschewe to be effœminate in your cloathes, in perfuming, preening, or such like.

Pre-engage (prīːengē·dʒ), *v.* Also 7 præ-, 7–8 **-in-**. [PRE- A. 1.] To ENGAGE beforehand.

1. *trans.* To bind in advance by a pledge or promise; to put under obligation beforehand.

1649 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* II. 80 Things may be legally carried .. by competent Judges not preingaged. *a* 1678 in Hobbes *Decam.* Wks. 1845 VII. 141 Men have pre-engaged themselves to maintain certain principles. 1715 POPE *Lett., to Earl Burlington* (1735) I. 237 If Mr. Tonson went, he was preingaged to attend him. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* I. 117 She pressed me to stay dinner, but..I informed her that I was pre-engaged. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1882) 286 She is compelled by the silent entreaties of a father .. to give her hand, with a heart thus irrecoverably pre-engaged, to Lord Aldobrand.

b. *spec.* To engage previously to marry, to betroth beforehand. Usually *pass.* or *refl.*

1673 *Lady's Call.* II. i. § 5 That they were pre-engag'd to a better amour, espous'd to the spiritual bridegroom. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. viii, If she had pre-engaged herself to any gentleman. 1823 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* VI. 392 The princess was required to swear that she was not pre-engaged to any other person.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To pledge oneself, guarantee, or engage beforehand. (With *inf.* or *subord. cl.*)

1654 TRAPP *Comm., Ps.* ci. Introd. (1657) II. 826 A Psalm of David, wherein he promiseth and pre-ingageth, that whenever hee came to the Kingdome, he will be a singular example. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 84, I wil præengage that the Cloze shal com off sweetly. 1905 CAPT. MAHAN *Sea Power* I. Pref. 8 Still less may they rightfully pre-engage so to do.

2. *trans.* a. To win over or persuade beforehand, to prepossess.

1646 J. GREGORY *Notes & Obs.* (1650) 58 Had not Pliny preengaged us to the sense of operation. 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 44 They had the effect of an artful preface, and had pre-engaged all readers in his favour. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. ii. (1868) 153 Something done to preengage the feeling, or raise a favoring prejudice in it.

b. To bespeak or secure for oneself beforehand.

1683 *A Match* iii. in *Third Collect. Poems* (1689) 29/1 Let trusty Monsieur preingage your ready Votes. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 134 This being a Breach of Trust to preingage his Vote.

3. To occupy beforehand; to preoccupy.

1656 OSBORNE *Adv. Son* v. § 26 (1896) 124 Do not pre-engage Hope or Fear by a tedious expectation. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* vi. § 12 All their time is so pre-ingaged and forestalled, that their most important interest is left forlorn. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 311 ₱ 5 Will..tells us, that he always found her Pre-engaged.

4. To engage in combat with beforehand.

1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 46 If the French Captain had not pre-engaged me.

Hence **Pre-enga·ged** *ppl. a.*; whence **Pre-enga·gedness.**

1665 GLANVILL *Sceipsis Sci.* xiv. 94 [They] owe their credit more to customary and præingaged Assent, then to any rational inducement. 1903 A. J. WILSON in *Speaker* 28 Mar. 597/1 Demands its poverty or pre-engagedness forbids it to gratify..

Pre-engagement (prīːengē·dʒmĕnt). [PRE- A. 2; or f. prec. vb. + -MENT.]

1. The act of pre-engaging, or fact of being already or previously engaged.

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lix. (1739) 110 One that came to the Crown without pre-engagement by Promise or Covenant. 1796 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1862) III. 359 Stating to me his..pre-engagement in disposing of the present vacancy in office. 1896 'A. HOPE' *Phroso* i, Two chairs had been tilted up in token of preëngagement.

2. An engagement previously given or made.

1647 CROMWELL in Stainer *Speeches* (1901) 44 It is such a pre-engagement that there is no need of talk of the thing. 1751 *Female Foundling* II. 35 He has no Pre-engagement, and consequently no Promise to recal. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. iii. (1872) 20 He now..opened a correspondence with the *Times* Newspaper,..voluntary Letters, I suppose, without payment or preëngagement.

b. *spec.* A previous or prior marriage engagement or betrothal.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iii. 26 The Lady, being then very young, and asham'd to own her pre-engagement. 1815 *Zelnca* II. 146 As he prefers you, he has broken a pre-engagement with me.

†3. A previous or already existing tie, or business claiming attention; a preoccupation. *Obs.*

1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 38 That we may..lay down all preingagements at the foot of the throne of Jesus Christ. 1684–5 BOYLE *Min. Waters* 61 My want of health, and my preingagement to some Subjects that I am more concern'd for.

Preent(e, Prees, Preest, etc., obs. ff. PRINT, PRESS, PREST *a. Obs.*, PRIEST, etc.

Pre-erect: see PRE- A. 1.

Pre-establish (prīːĭstæ·blĭʃ), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + ESTABLISH; cf. F. *préétablir* (Leibnitz 1710 in Hatz.-Darm.).] *trans.* To establish beforehand.

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* IV. App. 77 Whereupon they elected him for their King..and calling him unto them, shewed him the Lawes they had pre-established. 1775 W. CRAIG *Serm.* (1808) II. 70 We have preestablished certain creeds or systems of religious belief as the truths of God. 1895 *Daily News* 23 May 6/3 What is very rare, Captain Bottego did not exceed the sum pre-established.

Hence **Pre-esta·blished** *ppl. a.*; **Pre-esta·blisher**, one who or that which pre-establishes.

Pre-established harmony (after F. *harmonie préétablie* Leibnitz, *Théodicée*, 1710): see HARMONY 1.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Harmony*, A pre-established harmony between the kingdoms of nature and grace. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 368 All the happiness..which.. the pre-established nature of things will admit. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. vii. 83 Leibnitz [formed] a system which has obtained the name of the pre-established harmony. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 162 [To] seek the ground of this agreement in a supersensual essence, which being at once the ideal of the reason and the cause of the material world, is the pre-establisher of the harmony in and between both. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxi. IX. 222 His pre-established reputation and the habit of obeying his orders.

Pre-esta·blishment. [PRE- A. 2.] Establishment or settlement beforehand.

1755 in JOHNSON; whence in later Dicts.

Preester, obs. form of PRESTER (JOHN).

Pre-e·stimate, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To estimate beforehand. So **Pre-e·stimate** *sb.*

1889 *Times* 17 Dec. 5/3 The magnitude of which it is not possible to pre-estimate. *Mod.* Your pre-estimate has been amply justified.

Pre-eternity, -evolutional, -ary, -ist: see PRE- A. 2, B. 1.

Preeue, preeve, obs. forms of PROOF, PROVE.

Pre-examina·tion. [PRE- A. 2.] The action of examining beforehand; a previous examination.

16.. WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1651) 462 Without a pre-examination of the foresaid Giovan Battista. 1675 in *Hacket's Cent. Serm., Life* p. xxxix, To be presented .. with the pre-examination of their several ministers.

Pre-examine (prīːegzæ·mĭn), *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To examine beforehand.

1659 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1701) 612/2 Private Prudence consisteth..in this, that a man..deliberately pre-examin the state in which he is to spend his whole life. 1828 in WEBSTER; and in mod. Dicts.

Pre-exce·l, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 5.] *intr.* To excel exceedingly, to be of surpassing excellence. Hence **Pre-exce·lling** *ppl. a.*

1611 FLORIO, *Precellere*, to pre-excell. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* II. 63 So farre pre-excelling is the one, as the other is vile, abject, and contemptible.

Pre-e·xcellence. *rare.* [f. PRE- A. 5 + EXCELLENCE; cf. F. *préexcellence* (Montesquieu, 16th c.), prob. repr. a med.L. **præexcellentia*, f. **præexcellens*: see next. (L. had *præcellentia*.)] Pre-eminent excellence. So **Pre-e·xcellency.**

1459 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 270 Be all lawis, the law of nature has prerogatyf, and preexcellence. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. l. (1632) 164 A rare preexcellencie, and beyond the common reach. *Ibid.* II. xii. 255 Without any prerogative or essentiall preexcellencie.

Pre-e·xcellent, *a. rare.* [prob. repr. a med.L. **præexcellens*; see PRE- A. 5 and EXCELLENT. (L. had *præcellens.*) Cf. obs. F. *préexcellent* (15–16th c. in Godef.).] Excellent above others; of surpassing excellence.

1611 FLORIO, *Precellente*, pre-excellent, fore-excelling. 1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 50 Peter should have something preëxcellent above those who should thrice admonish.

Pre-exilian (prīːegzi·lĭăn, -eks-), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + L. *exili-um* EXILE + -AN.] Before exile; *spec.* of or belonging to the period of Jewish history before the Babylonian exile. Also, in same sense, **Pre-exi·lic, Pre-e·xile** [PRE- B. 2], *adjs.*

1863 C. D. GINSBURG in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxiv. 8 The only pre-exile instance. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1160 Twenty thousand is probably too low an estimate for the pre-exilian time. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 303/1 The law in question is not pre-exilic. 1890 SAYCE in *Contemp. Rev.* 433 If we are ever to learn anything about pre-exilic Israel on the soil of Palestine itself, it must be by the help of the spade. 1899 *Daily News* 10 Jan. 5/5 Psalmody has its origin far back in the pre-exilian times.

Pre-exist (prīːegzi·st), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [f. PRE- A. 1 + EXIST; cf. F. *préexister* (1482 in Hatz.).]

1. *intr.* To exist before.

1599 [see PRE-EXISTING]. 1642 tr. *Ames' Marrow Div.* 36 Creation then produceth..out of matter that doth not præexist. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 165 The inorganic salts, defined in the tabular view of the composition of bone, pre-exist in the blood.

b. To exist before the present life.

1647 H. MORE *Præexistency of Soul* lxxxv, But that in some sort souls do præexist Seems to right reason nothing dissonant. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* ix. (1700) 110 They..fancied that all our Souls pre-existed in a former and purer state. 1899 J. STALKER *Christology of Jesus* ii. 62 The 'Son of Man' pre-exists with the 'Ancient of Days'.

c. To exist ideally or in the mind, before material embodiment.

1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 281 As there are no forms of art which did not pre-exist in the mind of man, so are there no forms of nature which did not pre-exist in the mind of God. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. v, Art preëxists in Nature, and Nature is reproduced in Art.

2. *trans.* To exist before (something).

1778 *Nat. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 106/1 Inhabited by a nation, that pre-existed the formation of the marine hills. 1885 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 27 It is necessary that the facts should pre-exist the theory.

Pre-exi·stence. Also 7 præ-. [f. PRE- A. 2 + EXISTENCE; cf. F. *préexistence* (17–18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] Previous existence; *esp.* of the soul before its union with the body.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 91 Mere matter could never

thus stretch forth its feeble force, and spread itself over all its own former pre-existences. 1662 GLANVILL (*title*) Lux Orientalis, or An Enquiry into the Opinion of the Eastern Sages, concerning the Præexistence of Souls. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 167 The proofs of the antiquity and the pre-existence of nations. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 332 It expresses præexistence, an eternal Existence, backwards as well as forwards, the incommunicable attribute of God.

Hence **Pre-exi·stencist,** one who believes in the pre-existence of the soul.

1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 744/2 The followers of this opinion were termed *Pre-existencists*, to distinguish them from the *Traducianists*, who held that children received soul as well as body from their parents.

† Pre-exi·stency. *Obs.* [PRE- A. 2.] = prec.

1642 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. II. i, Three apprehensions ..Concerning the souls preexistencie before into this outward world she glide. *a* 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 51 This Praeexistency of the knowledge of something in the very things unknown, and sought for, is the foundation of all our Ratiocinations.

Pre-existent (prīˌegzi·stĕnt), *a.* Also 7 præ-. [f. PRE- A. 3 + EXISTENT; cf. F. *pré-existant* (15th c.).] Existing beforehand, or before some person, thing, event, etc.

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 149 [That] the whole substance ..of bread passeth into a præexistent substance, to wit, Christ's body. *a* 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 31 There was no preexistent matter, whereof they were made. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 147 According to the Jewish notion of souls sinning in some pre-existent state. 1879 *Athenæum* 19 July 83/1 Not incapable of being harmoniously combined with pre-existent beliefs.

† Pre-existe·ntiary. *Obs.* [f. L. type **præex(s)istentia* pre-existence + -ARY [1].] One who holds the tenet of the pre-existence of souls.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 16 A Pre-existentiary easily discerns that these Monstrosities plainly imply that God does not create souls still for every humane coition. 1698 NORRIS *Treat. Sev. Subj.* 152 According to the Hypothesis of the Preexistentiaries.

So **† Pre-existe·rian** *nonce-wd.* in same sense.

1837 F. SILVER (*title*) The Pre-Eternity of our Lord Jesus Christ denied and opposed by human pre-existerians.

† Pre-existima·tion. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PRE- A. 2 + EXISTIMATION.] Previous estimation.

1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. § 4 Value the Judicious, and let not mere acquests in minor parts of Learning gain thy preexistimation.

Pre-exi·sting, *ppl. a.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + EXISTING *ppl. a.*] That pre-exists, pre-existent.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 26 Now what are seedes and egges of wormes or foule But recrements of preexisting things. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* II. iii. rule 14 § 9 (1676) 363 Whether all things were made of præexisting matter. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* II. 371 Our pre-existing station Before this vile terrene creation. 1871 HARTWIG *Subterr. W.* i. 2 Each of these sedimentary formations owes its existence to the disintegration of pre-existing mountain masses.

Pre-expectation, -expose: PRE- A. 2, 1.

Pref, obs. form of PROOF, PROVE.

Preface (pre·fĕs), *sb.* Also 4-5 **prefas,** 6-7 **præface.** [a. F. *préface* (14-15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), app. ad. med.L. *prefātia* (*prephatia* in Du Cange), substituted for L. *præfātio* a saying beforehand, etc.: see PREFATION.]

I. 1. In the Liturgies of Christian Churches: The introduction or prelude to the central part of the Eucharistic service (the consecration, etc.), comprising an exhortation to thanksgiving and an offering of praise and glory to God, ending with the Sanctus. [So F. *préface de la messe.*]

Proper Preface, a variation of the Common Preface, to be used at certain seasons, including a special part proper to and varying with the particular occasion.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 307 Gelasius..made þe comyn prefas þat is i-songe in chirches, 'Vere dignum et justum est'. *c* 1450 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. F.) 124 The prest wil sone, in that plase, Swythe begynne the preface, That begynneth with *per omnia*. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Here shall folowe the proper preface. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 896/1 The preface of the Canon from *vere dignum & iust*[*u*]*m est &c.* to *per Christum Dominum nostrum*. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. The preface to the mass anciently had, and still has, very different names in different churches. In the Gothic, or Gallican rite, it is called *immolation*; in the Mozarabic, *illation*; anciently among the French, it was called *contestation*; in the Roman church..it is called *præfatio, preface.* 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 353 The Ordinary Preface, to be said daily, except in Feasts and their Octaves having Proper Prefaces. 1880 SCUDAMORE in *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 1696/1 In every liturgy the eucharistic preface leads up to the angelic hymn.

II. 2. The introduction to a literary work, usually containing some explanation of its subject, purpose, and scope, and of the method of treatment.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 271 And of the myracle of thise corones tweye Seint Ambrose in his preface list to seye. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* i, Here begyneth the preface or prologue of the fyrste book. 1570 DEE *Math. Præf.* 2, I finde great occasion .. to vse a certaine forewarnyng and Præface. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxi. 209 One shall use the preface of a mile, to bring in a furlong of matter. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* Ded., I have run into a preface, while I professed to write a dedication. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 63 The legislator..will add prefaces to his laws which will predispose our citizens to virtue. 1895 W. A. COPINGER in *Trans. Bibliogr. Soc.* II. II. 113 The first work with a preface is the *Apuleius*, and the first with marginal notes is the *Aulus Gellius*, both works printed in 1469 at Rome by Sweynheim and Pannartz.

3. The introductory part of a speech; a prologue; an introduction or preliminary explanation.

c 1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 52 Demosthenes, in his oracyon agaynst Eschines, toke his preface out of a solempne petycyon. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, v. v. 11 Tush my good Lord, this superficiall tale, Is but a preface of her worthy praise. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 251 Adam, Heav'ns high behest no Preface needs: Sufficient that thy Prayers are heard. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 517 With artful preface to his host he spoke. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 249 Saying, by way of preface, that we know nothing of the truth about them.

† b. A prefixed epithet or title. *Obs.* ?*nonce-use.*

a 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* v. v, I say he is not worthy The name of man, or any honest preface, That dares report or credit such a slander.

c. A short paraphrase or practical comment upon a psalm before it was sung in church, formerly practised in Scotland: cf. PREFACE *v.* 1 b.

1869 LANDRETH *Life A. Thomson* iv. 261 A model preface would be a far nobler help to congregational praise than any choir or organ.

4. *fig.* Something preliminary or introductory.

1594 ? GREENE *Selimus* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 234 March to Natolia, there we will begin And make a preface to our massacres. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 183/2 Mathematick is only a preface to divine things. 1746-7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 222 Wasted, they are a sad preface to never-ending confusion and anguish. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 16 Mar. 3/7, I pray your readers to remember that this enhanced price of sugar has had a preface.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *preface-maker, -monger, -writer*; **† preface voice,** the particular tone of voice in which the preface (sense 1) is said or sung.

1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 16 He shall chaunge his voice, and sing then in preface voice unto his words *per Christum Dominum nostrum*, which words shalbe said *in vacua voce*. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 4 Our Author is already dwindled to a Preface-monger. 1905 *Athenæum* 4 Feb. 139/3 Some occult process, which is the preface-writer's own secret.

Preface (pre·fĕs), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To make introductory or prefatory remarks; to write, speak, etc. a preface.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* (1630) 326 To win credence to this mystery, hee prefaceth with mention of the word of God. 1653 WALTON *Angler* i. 12, I will preface no longer, but proceed. 1720-1 *Lett. fr. Mist's Frnl.* (1722) II. 190 Having prefaced thus much in the modern Way, I come now to apply. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 154 He prefaces with an account of the upright character of the panegyrist.

b. *Sc.* 'To give a short practical paraphrase of those verses of the Psalms which are to be sung before prayer' (Jamieson 1825). Also *trans.*

1727 P. WALKER *Remark. Passages* 150 He had .. a singular Gift of Prefacing, which was always practised in that Day. 1824 A. THOMSON in Landreth *Life* IV. (1869) 227 This must have appeared strange to a congregation whose minister 'prefaces' the psalm for a full hour. 1869 LANDRETH *Ibid.* IV. 161 Those who have a recollection of what prefacing was..will not soon propose its restoration. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* XV, Mind to tell me the Psalm upon which he prefaces.

2. *trans.* To write or say (something) as a preface; to state beforehand. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1628 PRYNNE *Brief Survay* 65 That which our Author Prefaceth concerning Ember weekes..is..transcribed out of Kellams Manuall. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* Pref. 1 It had..been requisite to Preface something to excuse the unexpected publishing of this new Treatise. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlviii. 483 The author thought fit to preface a very apt quotation out of S. Augustin's Epistle to Januarius. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 449 ¶ 2 It is necessary to Preface, that she is the only Child of a decrepid Father.

† 3. *fig.* To introduce, precede, herald. *Obs.*

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* VIII. 36 Found they weare mingled sweete, sowr, pleasant, bitter, & praefaced ioie, but steepd in sadder licor. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 71 That all terrible evils are prefac'd or attended with some prodigious and amazing alterations in the Creation. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* ix, If thus you preface what you undertake. 1807 ANNA PORTER *Hungar. Bro.* (ed. Warne) 40 When the name of Count Leopolstat prefaced his entrance.

4. To furnish (a book, etc.) with a preface; to introduce or commence (a writing or speech) with a preface or introduction.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 56 That Declaration.. wherewith we Prefaced our very first Paper. 1736 SWIFT *Let. to Lady Betty Germain* 15 June, I must preface this letter with an honest declaration. 1853 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xxi. 277 Many..who would have prefaced that rebuke with a long speech.

5. *fig.* To place before or in front of; to front or face (*with* something).

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Gen. Poems* (1677) 24, I love to wear Clothes that are flush, Not prefacing old Rags with Plush. 1762 FOOTE *Orators* I. Wks. 1799 I. 202 A smart house, prefaced with white rails. 1880 VENABLES tr. *Berthet's Sergeant's Legacy* 137 A striped..dress, prefaced by an ample apron.

6. To precede or come before as an introduction.

1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. iii, That a feat of skill with the cloth-yard might not ill preface my letter to the great earl. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* XXX, A depressing..passage has prefaced every new page I have turned in life.

Hence **Pre·facing** *vbl. sb.*

1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* § 1 (1653) 1 A constitution of the Areopagi, that such as pleaded before them should pleade without prefacing and without Passion. 1892 M^{c}CRIE *Public Worship Presbyt. Scotl.* 198 *note*, [He] identifies this calling on or exhorting of the congregation with prefacing.

Prefacer (pre·fĕsəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER [1].] One who makes or writes a preface.

1650 [? W. SANDERSON] *Aulicus Coquin.* 89 This Prefacer stickes in their stomacks. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 15. 272 The learned Prefacer to the late edition of Hierocles. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Protestant* (1895) I. 4 The Public will scarce be influenced in their Judgment by an obscure Prefacer. 1884 *Brit. & For. Evang. Q. Rev.* Oct. 702 The Antinomianism with which Hadow charges Fisher and his prefacer.

Prefacial, -tial (prĭfē·ʃĭăl), *a. rare.* [ad. med.L. *præfātia* (see PREFACE *sb.*) + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of a preface; prefatory.

1888 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* III. vii, That tentative and prefatial way which means potentialities and the hereafter rather than actualities now. 1893 STEVENSON *Vailima Lett.* xxix. (1895) 262 Leaving out all the prefacial matter.

† Prefa·cile, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [ad. L. *præfacilis*: see PRE- A. 6 and FACILE.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Prefacill*, very easie to be done.

† Pre·facive, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PREFACE *sb.* or *v.* + -IVE.] Having the quality of prefacing; of the nature of a preface.

1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I* (1651) 84 All as prefacive insinuations to obtaine offices upon his future rise.

Prefa·ctor. *Math.* [PRE- A. 2.] The first of two factors in non-commutative multiplication.

1884 J. W. GIBBS *Elements of Vector Analysis* § 131 That is, the vector $\alpha \times \beta$ as a pre- or post-factor in skew multiplication is equivalent to the dyadic $\{\beta\alpha - \alpha\beta\}$ taken as pre- or post-factor in direct multiplication.

Prefalie, obs. Sc. f. PRIVILY.

Prefar(re, obs. or dial. form of PREFER.

Prefa·shion, *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To fashion beforehand.

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xx. § 7 Not prefashioned in mind to those descriptions the Prophets had made of his first comming in humility. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 147 All your thoughts prefigured, and prefashioned, by *All the spoyles*, and *onely spoyles*. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* viii. (1861) 197 It seems to be in some sense, prefashioned by what birth and nurture have communicated.

† Prefa·tion. *Obs.* Also 4-6 **prefacion.** [ad. L. *præfātiōn-em* a saying beforehand, introductory address, preface, in med.L. also = PREFACE *sb.* 1; n. of action f. *præfārī*, f. *præ* before, PRE- A. 1 + *fārī* to speak. Cf. obs. F. *prefacion* (14th c. in Godef.).] Speaking before; prefacing.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* ii. 33 Be it ynewȝ for to haue saide so myche of prefacioun [*gloss* or byfore spekyng]. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 119/2 This protestacion and prefacion made, he said that..it were well done, to do vnto saintes or their ymages dispite or dishonour. *c* 1581 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 252 Ye confes this your selfes in the prefatione of our new Byble. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 90 Shall we attend to the præfation of irrationals and inanimate?

Prefa·tor. [a. L. type **præfātor*, agent-n. from *præfārī*: see prec.] A prefacer; a preface-writer.

1865 DE MORGAN *Budget of Paradoxes* (1872) 378 The prefator suspends his opinion as to the cause, though he upholds the facts. 1872 *Ibid.* 84 Fewer words would have been lost if the prefator had said at once that the work was from the manuscript preserved at Cambridge.

Prefatorial (prefătō·rĭal), *a.* [f. as PREFATORY + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a prefacer or a preface; prefatory. Hence **Prefato·rially** *adv.*, in the character of a prefacer, by way of preface.

1799 W. GILPIN *Serm.* Pref. 6 Much prefatorial matter also may arise, before we begin the discourse. 1865 *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) II. Pref. 5 Some prefatorial remarks.. may be of use. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 1 July 3/4 Mr. Chambers remarks prefatorially of a work which the Oxford University Press will have ready this week.

Prefatory (pre·fătəri), *a.* [f. L. type **præfātōri-us*, f. **præfātor* PREFATOR: see -ORY [2].] Of the nature of a preface; introductory, preliminary.

1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Pref. 2 Hitherto of the Undertaking.. as Præfatory to the..Business. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) I. III. iii. 329 The anticipating Manner of prefatory Discourse is too well known. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lx. VII. 445 Gylippus sent the fleet out with the usual prefatory harangue. 1896 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* XXX, Prefatory to the customary toast. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxvii. 380, The Prefatory Note which precedes the volume.

Hence **Pre·fatorily** *adv.*, in a prefatory manner; as, or by way of, preface.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. Pref. 4 But I think, the hints you have given me, should also prefatorily be given to the public. 1903 C. MAUDE *Haymarket Theatre* 8 This, I have already said prefatorily, is not to be regarded as a serious history.

Prefect, præfect (prī·fekt), *sb.* Forms: 4 *Sc.* **prefec, -fet(e, -feit,** 4-5 **-fecte,** 5- **prefect;** 7-9 **præ-.** [a. OF. *prefect* (12th c.), mod.F. *préfet* = Pr. *prefeit*, Sp. *prefecto*, It. *prefetto*, ad. L. *præfect-us* an overseer, president, commander, superintendent of a public office, civil or military; in later use the governor of a province or city; sb. use of pa. pple. of *præficĕre* to set over, place in authority over, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 5 + *facĕre* to make, constitute, appoint.]

1. A person appointed to a position of command; a chief officer or magistrate; a governor, commander, superintendent, director, overseer. Applied as a title to various officers in ancient or modern times. **a.** Representing L. *præfectus*, In ancient Rome and the Roman empire, the title of various officers civil and military, e. g. the prefect or chief

magistrate of the city, *præfectus urbi*, the civil governor of a province, a colony, or provincial city, the commander of the pretorian troops, *præfectus prætorio*, and of the fleet, *præfectus classis*.

c 1350 *St. Ambrosius* 57 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 9/1 Ambrose of Rome was prefecte. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 308 Fra Agrippe, þat prefet was of þat Cite, Fowre concubynis he drew a-way. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 368 Oon Maximus that was an Officer Of the Prefectes and his Corniculer Hem hente. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 13 A tyraunt, the prefect of that cuntre. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxxiv. 103 But Clothayre..sent his sone Merouеus, vnder the gydyng of Laundry, prefect or ruler of his paleys, into Neustria. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* i. (1614) 2/2 Severus .. divided the government therof into two Provinces, and placed two Prefects over the same. *a* 1719 ADDISON *Chr. Relig.* I. vii, The præfects and vice-roys of distant provinces. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 51 The private apartments of the palace were governed by a favourite eunuch, who, in the language of that age, was styled the *præpositus* or præfect of the sacred bed-chamber. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* s.v. *Ærarium*, In B. C. 28, Augustus deprived the quaestors of the charge of the treasury and gave it to two praefects, whom he allowed the senate to choose from among the praetors. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* i. § 2. 15 York had been the capital of Britain and the seat of the Roman prefect.

b. In other countries, in ancient times: in similar uses.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ii. 48 Thann the kyng..ordeynyde hym vpon alle prouyncis of Babiloyne prince and prefect. 1388 — 1 *Kings* iv. 7 Forsothe Salomon hadde twelue prefectis [*gloss* ether cheef minystrys] on al Israel. 1659 HAMMOND *Annot. Ps.* xxii. Wks. 1684 IV. 69 The Psalm thus composed by David, was committed to the Præfect of his Musick. 1850 W. IRVING *Mahomet, Successors* xvi. (1853) 72 The prefect of Ammon, with 5000 men, was near at hand.

c. In mod. Europe: A president, chief officer, chief magistrate, etc.

1540 COVERDALE *Let. to C. Hubert* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 507, I settled this business..in the presence and hearing of the prince, in the company of our prefect. 1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 13 Father Darcy, Præfect of the *Sodalitium Beatæ Mariæ*, and the refectory. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 86 The office of the Prefect of the Signature of Justice, is executed by a Cardinal. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 64 Andrea Cornelio,..prætor of Verona, prefect of Bressia, proveditor-general of the army on the Venetian *terra ferma*.

d. *esp.* (repr. F. *préfet*.) The chief administrative officer of a department of France. *Prefect of Police*, the head of the police administration in Paris and the department of the Seine.

1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* xxxviii, These prefects ..were each the supreme governor of a department, answering to the old lieutenants and governors of counties. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Years* I. 390 The minister of the interior wrote on the subject to the prefect of police. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 523 The experiment..seems to have satisfied the Emperor that he can rely upon his faithful prefects to supply him with a Chamber which will relieve him of the odium of extravagance without diminishing his power to squander.

e. Used to represent Chinese *chih-fu*, head or governor of a *fu* or department (cf. PREFECTURE 2 b).

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Chih-fu*, A prefect, having general supervision of all the civil business of the hiens comprising his prefecture. 1894 [see PREFECTURAL].

f. *fig.* = Director, minister, etc.

16.. B. JONSON *Hue & Cry after Cupid* Wks. (Rildg.) 563/1 Venus..is Præfect of Marriage. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 251 Angels being Prefects to particular Men; and Archangels to People or Nations.

2. *transf.* In some English Public and Secondary Schools, the name given to one of the body of senior pupils to whom authority is delegated for the maintenance of order and discipline: otherwise called *præpostors*, *prepositors*, etc.

1865 W. L. C. *Etoniana* ii. 24 The senior [præpostor] was called, as he is to this day at Winchester, 'Prefect of Hall' and the two next 'Prefects of Chapel'. 1876 R. LOWE in *Life* (1893) I. 10 In the fourth year of my residence at Winchester I became a prefect. 1879 JESSOPP *One Gen. Norfolk Ho.* 102 The next two years and a half he [Henry Walpole] spent at Pont à Mousson, during which time he was 'Prefect of the Convictors'. 1891 WRENCH *Winchester Word-bk., Præfects*, the senior members of the School, to whom authority is delegated for the management and control of the community. The number of Præfects was eighteen in College, three to each chamber...The 'Præfect of Tub'.., who presided over meals,..and the 'Præfect of Cloisters', are obsolete.

† **Prefe·ct,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *præfect-*, ppl. stem of *præficĕre*: see prec.] *trans.* To appoint to a position of command or authority.

1489 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 428/2 Kyng Henry the VI^th^..prefected and erected John then Lord Talbott..into Erle of Shrewesbury. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 § 2 Euery suche person..nominated, elected, prefected, presented, collated or..appointed to haue any..promocion spiritual. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 52 b, Rycharde Foxe bishop of Durham, was prefected to the bishoprike of Winchestre. 1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 17 The owner of the ship is ..charged, because he prefected him, and made him Master.

† **Prefe·ctor.** *Obs. rare.* Erroneous equivalent of PREFECT (after agent-nouns in -OR: cf. PREFECTORIAL). Hence † **Prefe·ctorship** = PREFECTURE 1.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. xxx. § 4. 128 Vong Gordianus vnable to endure his Prefectors designes,..complained his wrongs in open assemblies. 1790 *Bystander* 34 It is said that Sophocles was adjudged, upon a certain occasion, the prefectorship of Samos.

Prefectoral (prĭfe·ktŏrăl), *a.* [a. F. *préfectoral*, irreg. f. L. *præfect-us*: cf. next.] = next.

1872 *Daily News* 13 Aug., The prefectoral appointments in this day's *Officiel*. 1902 *Speaker* 9 Aug. 501/2 The results of this circular will be to restore prefectoral authority exactly as it was in the finest time of the Empire.

Prefectorial (prĭfektō·rĭăl), *a.* [f. late L. *præfectōri-us* (Ulpian) belonging to a prefect + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a prefect or prefects.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 717 To keep up the contemptible and anti-democratic prefectorial rule in the departments. 1895 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 381/1 At Chaot'ung, a prefectorial city, he found the people in the direst distress.

b. *esp.* in the English Public School system. (See PREFECT *sb.* 2.)

1862 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 419 Maintaining a sound and well-tempered monitorial or prefectorial system,..is involved in the true idea of a public school. 1893 *Athenæum* 22 July 130/1 It is not easy to secure..wise prefectorial authority, except by means of able boys staying out the full period of boyhood at the school.

Hence **Prefecto·rially** *adv.*, in a prefectorial capacity; by the authority of a prefect.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 8/2 If 'rational dress' be prefectorially repressed [in Paris], and the young women compelled to resume their former coquettish costumes.

Prefecto·rian, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -AN.] Of or pertaining to an ancient Roman prefect.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxvi. (1788) VI. 209 A decent respect was still observed for the Praefectorian rank.

Prefectship (prī·fekt,ʃip). [f. PREFECT *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office of a prefect; the period of tenure of that office. (= PREFECTURE 1.)

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 331 Successors after him in the Prefectship of the citie. ?17.. TUCKER *Law Nat.* 251 (L.) Under the prefectship of Pontius Pilate.

Prefectual (prĭfe·ktiu,ăl), *a.* [irreg. f. L. *præfect-us* PREFECT *sb.*] = PREFECTORIAL b.

1879 ESCOTT *England* I. 499 What is called the monitorial or the prefectual system.

Prefectural (prĭfe·ktiŭrăl), *a.* [f. PREFECTURE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a prefecture. *Prefectural town* or *city*, the chief town or city of a prefecture, the seat of the prefect.

1811 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXII. 62 There is a prefectural nursery at Colmar. 1880 E. OPPERT *Forbid. L.* iv. 108 All prefectural officials [in Japan] are taken from the upper two degrees of this class. 1882 *Missionary Herald* (U. S.) Sept. 345 The prefectural cities Ta Tung and Sho P'ing. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 2/1 Nearly every prefectural town [in Korea] has its archery ground, on which in former days very frequently the Prefect would exercise his men.

Prefecturate (prĭfe·ktiŭrĕt). [irreg. f. PREFECTURE + -ATE[1].] = next, senses 1 and 2.

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 242 The upper landvogtey contains in it thirteen prefecturates. 1873 E. C. GRENVILLE-MURRAY *Men of Third Republic* 282 The rumors that arose as to a prefecturate being offered him [Edmond About] proved unfounded.

Prefecture (prī·fektiŭr). [ad. L. *præfectūra* the office or administration of a *præfectus*: see PREFECT *sb.* and -URE. So F. *préfecture* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The office or position of prefect, ancient or modern; administration of a governor; presidency, superintendency, directorship; the time or period during which such office is held.

1608 J. KING *Serm. St. Marys* 6 Not by way of Lieutenantship, deputation, subordinate prefecture whatsoever, but as a King over subiects. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 2 All their prefecture and power [are] but derivative, subordinate, ministeriall. *a* 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (1689) 34 You would have some other kind of Præfeture, than a Mayoralty. 1756 NUGENT *Montesquieu's Spir. Laws* (1758) I. iv. viii. 54 Plato..says, that the præfectures of music and gymnic exercises [etc.]. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxvi. 188 He..occupied at the moment the most important of all charges, the prefecture of Syria. 1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 34 The old officials were retained in the prefectures.

2. A district under the government of a prefect.

1577 PATERICKE tr. *Gentillet* (1602) 367 He..commaunded they should take nothing within their prefecture or jurisdiction. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Episc.* 303 S. Chrysostome had Pontus, Asia, and all Thrace in his parish, even as much as came to sixteen prefectures. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* I. 114 The..island is divided into five Amts or Prefectures. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* I. 108 Constantine divided the empire..into four great Prefectures.

b. = Chinese *fu*, an administrative district or division of a province; also, applied to a corresponding district in Japan: cf. PREFECT *sb.* 1 e.

1885 *Whitaker's Alm.* s.v. *Japan*, Japan..has recently incorporated Loochoo under the name of 'Prefecture of Okinawa'. 1890 HOSIE *W. China* 95 The products of the prefecture are not confined to tea. 1897 A. MACPHAIL in *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 325/1, 3 classes [of roads in Japan], the national roads, the prefecture roads between these [military] stations, and the village roads.

3. The official residence of a prefect or French *préfet*.

1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 51 The insurgents..were surrounding on all sides the prefecture of police. *Ibid.* 456 A line of ramparts, along which were ranged the Hôtel-de-Ville, the prefecture, the military division and subdivision.

† **Prefe·ctureship.** *Obs.* Bad formation for PREFECTURE or PREFECTSHIP.

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* G g ij, In the time of his prefectureship. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 69 The lordship of Itter..constitutes a prefectureship. 1818 HOBHOUSE *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 545 We have received from the Roman people the prefectureship.

† **Prefe·ctury.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [irreg. f. PREFECTURE + -Y.] = PREFECTURE 2; a district; ? a shire or county.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 396 These they find in Scotland in much greater plenty, especially in the prefectury of Aberdeen.

Prefer (prĭfə·ɹ), *v.* Also (5 **prefarr, profer(e)**, 5–7 **preferre**, (6 **prefar(re, -phar(re**, *Sc.* **præfer, preffer**). [a. F. *préférer* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præfer-re* to bear or put before or forward, prefer, advance, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4, 5 + *fer-re* to bear.]

I. 1. *trans.* To put forward or advance, in status, rank, or fortune; to promote (*to* a position or office of dignity).

1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* xiii. 50 In this degre..he neither preferrith, neither makith euene himself..with the treuthe [etc.]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 180 Bot thei that wolden stonde upriht For trouthe only to do justice Preferred were in thilke office. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 343/2 In Benefices and Offices..when thai voiden, thoo that hath ben' Servauntz ..shal be preferred therto. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccii. 212 The sayde Gerbres was after this preferred by one of the Othons, Emperour, vnto the Churche of Rauenne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 62 b, Se how our lorde preferred and promoted the great synner to the hyer dignite. 1564–78 BULLEYN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 67 If any man be prepharred by another man and made riche. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 259 Soluathie..is to the kingdome preferit, elected, and crouned. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* II. ii. 13 Being now happily preferred to a gentleman's service in London. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 288 Schollers [of Eton] instructed in Grammar, and in due time preferred to the Universitie of Cambridge. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cheshire* (1662) I. 177 (After some intermediate Dignities) he was preferred Chief Baron of the Exchequer. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 ¶ 8 Happy..that he never preferred a Man who has not proved remarkably serviceable to his Country. 1878 SIMPSON *Sch. Shaks.* I. 55 To the disgust of the soldiers..he was preferred to what hitherto had always been a soldier's post.

† **b.** *refl.* To advance oneself or one's interests.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 134 Ther shall non off his tenantes aliene livelod with owt is licence, wheryn he mey best prefere hym selff. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* D iij, The buyer having an ambicious intent to prefer himselfe thereby. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 50 If hee be..a man of endeavours, and willing to preferre himselfe by service, I wish him to Historie.

† **c.** To advance or promote to a position in life; *esp.* to settle in marriage. Cf. PREFERMENT 2. *Obs.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Glocester* ix, And after in mariage I was preſarde To a daughter of Bohan an earle honorable. 1565–6 *Child-Marriages* 136 To geve and bequethe vnto my Children, beinge not Maried, and not otherwise Competentlie preferred. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 142 After [being] preferred to a good marriage by his Lord.

† **d.** *fig. pass.* To be exalted or made eminent by some quality. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 128 Nor philosophers of every regioune, Nor the prophetes preferred by Science. *Ibid.* 161 Som man is strong berys for to bynde, Anothir feeble preferryd with prudence.

e. *transf.* To promote (in various uses).

a 1533 in *More's Debell. Salem* Wks. 1008/2 It wil be hard to find any one spirituall man y^t^ is not infect with the sayd desyre & affeccion to haue the worldlye honour of priestes exalted & preferred. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 449 Alexander..pardoned his boldnesse, and preferred his arte. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 439 All Grasiers preferre their Cattell from meaner Pastures to better. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 595 Ev'n though a snowy Ram thou shalt behold, Prefer him not in haste, for Husband to thy Fold. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* V. § 33 Birds, beasts, fishes; which, upon their death, are preferred into human bodies. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1882) 81 The work was..preferred from the ominous cellar of the publishers to the author's garret.

† **2.** To forward, advance, promote (a result); to assist in bringing about. *Obs.*

1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xxi. (1577) 58 That effect is most preferred, if the Dragons head be in the beginning of the figure of Aries. 1590 LLOYD *Diall Daies* 134 To prosper the corne and the cattell, and to preferre the fruites of the fields. 1600–12 ROWLANDS *Four Knaves* (Percy Soc.) 50 Thus fingring money to preferre the case. 1627–47 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xlvii. 380 A little shaking prefers the growth of the tree.

II. † **3.** *trans.* To put or set in front or before.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* R j b, Do nat as a folysshe iudge that forthwith gyueth his sentence, but fyrste or thou gyue it preferre God before thyne eyes, and consydre dylygently [etc.]. 1575 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1577) 107 He wrote speedily to Ioab..that at the time of the assault, Vrias might be preferred to the perill of his life.

4. To put, place, or set (something) before any one for acceptance; to hold out, proffer, offer, present; to introduce or recommend. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) A iij, I have here preferred to your observance and protection, a work of great Art, and of greater Industry. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (1632) 261 Bessardus Bisantinus preferres the smoake of Juniper to melancholy persons. 1648 CRASHAW *Delights of Muses* Wks. (1904) 121 Preferre soft-Anthems to the Eares of men. 1677 EVELYN *Mem.* 13 Sept., I preferred Mr. Philips [nephew of Milton] to the service of my Lord Chamberlaine, who wanted a scholar to read to and entertain him sometimes. 1704 POPE *Summer* 53 Each am'rous nymph prefers her gifts in vain. 1725 — *Odyss.* III. 64 He spake, and to her hand preferr'd the bowl. 1867 C. B. CAYLEY in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 591 Seeking what words can avail me, What numbers even, to prefer clear light to thy aspect [*præpandere lumina menti*].

5. To lay (a matter) before any one formally for consideration, approval, or sanction; to bring forward, present, submit (a statement, bill, indictment, information, prayer, etc.). Also † *prefer up.*

1559 Bp. Scor in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 12 The contents of all the bills preferred and read here. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 162 The Marques intrateth kyng Ferdinando, that he would immediatly preferre this matter to the Emperoure. 1601 Weever *Mirr. Mart.* D ij b, That I preferd up Bills in Parliament, Whereto the King and Lords gaue all consent. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 103 Suppose that an Information were preferr'd in the Kings Bench..against Mr. Hobbes. 1768 H. Walpole *Hist. Doubts* 120 The consequence of a suit preferred by him to the ecclesiastic Court. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 18 But many a bard preferred his prayer; For many a Scottish bard was there. 1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* cii, These two have striven half the day, And each prefers his separate claim, Poor rivals in a losing game. 1884 Ld. Coleridge in *Law Times Rep.* L. 277/1 Preferring an indictment against her for stealing his goods. 1885 *Ibid.* LIII. 51/1 An information preferred against the appellant ..by the..sanitary inspector.

† **6.** To refer; to attribute, ascribe. *Obs.*

1628 Wither *Brit. Rememb.* Concl. 35 The building of a Towne we doe preferre Unto the Mason and the Carpenter. 1658 W. Burton *Itin. Anton.* 26 Jerome Surita..prefers this work to Antoninus the son of Severus.

III. 7. To set or hold (one thing) before others in favour or esteem; to favour or esteem more; to choose or approve rather; to like better. With *simple obj., inf.*, or *clause*; const. † *above*, † *before*, *to*. Now the chief sense.

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 268 Kinde [i. e. Nature]..preferreth no degre As in the disposicioun Of bodili complexioun. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 210 Trewe juges and sergeauntis of the lawe,..Mercy preferre alwey tofor rigour. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. lviii. 248 Afore all worldly thynges prefarre thou the honour & medytacion of god. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 6 Hyt ys not to be preferryd therto as a thyng to be chosen and folowyd. 1552 Abp. Hamilton *Catech.* (1884) 24, I preferre deidis of mercy abone all corporal and outwart sacrifice. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 He preferreth his owne decrees.. before the Scriptures. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 165 He should not scruple to prefer the end to the means. 1680 Morden *Geog. Rect.* (1685) 322 We may justly prefer it before the other parts of the World. 1778 *Hist. Eliza Warwick* I. 25 He would prefer seeing his daughters dead at his feet, than behold them wedded to the worthiest men without titles and riches. 1815 J. W. Croker in *C. Papers* (1884) 20 July, He preferred living like a Grecian, to dying like a Roman. 1882 Froude in *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 734 Warlike races..prefer to be under a chief. 1895 Lieut. Maguire in *United Service Mag.* 378 Because the Chinese preferred the doctrines of Confucius to ordinary military common sense.

absol. 1844 Browning *Laboratory* vii, Let her turn it and stir, And try it and taste, ere she fix and prefer! 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 512 He prefers rather than excludes.

b. *Law.* To give preference to as a creditor. Cf. Preference 5.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 432/1 Yat in paiement..y preferre youre Houshold. *Ibid.* 439 Who shuld be preferred in payement. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 764/2 In English law the term 'preferred' rather than 'privileged' is generally applied to such debts.

† **8.** To be preferable to; to surpass, excel. [= OF. *préférer* to prevail, have the pre-eminence, 15th c. in Godef.] *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Wife's Prol.* 96, I graunte it wel, I haue noon envie, Thogh maydenhede preferre [*v.r.* profere] Bigamye. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 Sen the varld vas creat, scheiphirdis prefferrit al vthir staitis. *Ibid.* 65–6 Nor orpheus..his playing prefferrit nocht thir foir said scheiphirdis; nor ȝit the scheiphyrd pan,..nor mercurius,..none of them culd preffer thir foirsaid scheiphirdis.

Preferability (pre·fĕrăbi·lĭti). [f. next: see -ity.] The quality or fact of being preferable.

1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) IV. 482 The preferability of the less injustice to the greater would scarcely be contested. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. (1872) 90 Good and Evil..differ not by preferability of one to the other, but by incompatibility absolute and infinite.

Preferable (pre·fĕrăb'l), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) [a. F. *préférable* (Cotgr. 1611), f. *préférer*: see Prefer and -able. (See also Preferrable.)]

1. Worthy to be preferred; to be chosen before or desired rather than another; more desirable.

1648 [implied in Preferableness]. 1666 S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 142 If Existence..be meerly upon this score preferable before Non-existence. 1708 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. (1737) 67 A select Number..call'd Preferable Men, who are always employ'd first after the Establish'd Men. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 177 ₱ 1 A condition far preferable to the fatigue, dependance, and uncertainty of any gainful occupation. 1850 Hawthorne *Scarlet L.* xvii. (1879) 219 Death itself,.. would have been infinitely preferable. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxiii. 161 The cold was preferable to the smoke.

† **2.** Displaying preference; preferential. *Obs.*

1747 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) I. ix. 58 What preferable favour I may have for him to any other person. 1804 *Something Odd* III. 132 Notwithstanding her preferable affection for the brandy bottle. 1811 Sheridan in Moore *Mem.* (1825) II. 412, I shall as..cordially endeavour to.. assist Mr. Benjamin Wyatt in the improving and perfecting his plan, as if it had been my own preferable selection.

† **B.** as *sb.* in *pl.* Things to be preferred. *Obs.*

1702 S. Parker tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* III. 192 Unless we render both as before, *Præposita*, or *Præcipua*, Preferables; and *Rejecta*, Things Disagreeable. 1710 tr. *Werenfels's Disc. Logom.* 20 The Stoicks..denying Riches to be good things, but calling them Preferables.

† **C.** as *adv.* Preferably, in preference. *Obs.*

1683 Temple *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 420 His entering into it with me preferable to all others. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 45 If the reader loves amusement preferable to instruction.

Pre·ferableness. [f. prec. + -ness.] The quality of being preferable; greater desirableness.

1648 W. Mountague *Devout Ess.* I. x. § 7. 121 My purpose is not to measure or weigh the preferablenesse of severall vocations. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. ii. 172 What has been said concerning the Preferableness of the mental Pleasures to the sensual. 1857 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt.* I. xxv. 97 Firmly penetrated with the preferableness of honest commerce.

Preferably (pre·fĕrăbli), *adv.* [-ly 2.]

1. In a preferable manner; in preference to others; by preference; rather.

1729 Butler *Serm., Love of Neighbour* 508 Obligations, which require that we do good to some preferably to others. 1803 Mary Charlton *Wife & Mistress* I. 67 That I may be preferably allowed to retain the guardianship of her person. 1896 *Jrnl. R. Horticultural Soc.* Nov. 202 All fruit should be carefully placed in the basket (which is preferably lined or padded).

† **2.** In the way of preference; preferentially. *Obs.*

1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VI. ix, Even Mrs. Delvile evidently desired her absence; since..she preferably addressed herself to any one else who was present. 1818 Colebrooke *Import Colonial Corn* x. 179 A generous policy, which has preferably consulted the advantage of the dependent country.

Preferee'. *rare.* In 7 preferree. [f. Prefer + -ee.] One who is preferred or receives preferment.

1676 Needham *Pacquet Adv.* 49 They [the unsuccessful candidates] resolve presently, that the Preferree is a Common Enemy, and as such to fall upon him.

Preference (pre·fĕrĕns). Also 7 -ferrence. [a. F. *préférence* (14th c. in Littré), ad. med.L. *præferentia* (1062 in Du Cange), f. L. *præferent-*, pr. pple. of *præferre* to Prefer: see -ence.]

1. The action of preferring or the fact of being preferred; liking for or estimation of one thing before or above another; prior favour or choice.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Preference*, preferment, advancement, account before, place above, others. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 257 Who (if he have a mind to keep his place) must give the same sum that the other hath offered, and so has the Preference. 1744 Harris *Three Treat.* Wks. (1841) 33 As to the preference which such poetic imitation may claim before musical,..the merits on each side may appear perhaps equal. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. vi. (1762) 56 [It] can't be that the mind is indifferent before it comes to have a choice, or till it has a Preference. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. 626 To deny that Eadward had any preference over his half-brother.

† **2.** The quality of being preferable: preferableness; precedence, superiority. *Obs.*

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 47 A man is to aime at excellencie and preference before others in good and honest things. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* 52 To discover the preference that the Humane Nature hath above the Animal Life in these most perfect faculties of Intellect. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 227 It..shewed the preference of wedging to cramping, as the cramp had failed.

3. That which one prefers; the object of prior choice; the favourite.

1864 in Webster. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 1118 And where the stretch Of barren country girdled house about, Behold the Park, the English preference! *Mod. colloq.* Of the two, this is my preference.

4. Preferment; promotion. Now *rare.*

1656 [see 1]. 1701 Rowe *Amb. Step-Mother* II. i, Is not the Elder By Nature pointed out for Preference? 1786 *Francis the Philanthropist* I. 86 Jerry, whose utmost wish was accomplished in his preference to a trust. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 683/2 A prodigious crowd of people had flocked to the city in hope of gain or preference.

5. A prior claim to something; *spec.* priority of payment given to a certain debt or class of debts; a prior right to payment.

Fraudulent preference, such payment made by a bankrupt with the object of preventing the equal distribution of his assets among all his creditors.

1665 *Ir. Act* 17 & 18 *Chas. II*, c. 2 § 38 Wentworth earl of Roscommon, and Roger earl of Orrery..shall have preference and primer satisfaction of fifty thousand pounds of their own personal arrears. 1832 Sir J. B. Bosanquet in Bingham *Reports* (1833) IX. 355 The question here is, whether the security..was given by way of fraudulent preference. [1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 71 § 92 Every conveyance or transfer of property..in favour of any creditor.., with a view of giving such creditor a preference over the other creditors, shall, if the person making .. the same become bankrupt within three months..be deemed fraudulent and void.] 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The state has a preference for taxes. 1891 *New York Tribune* 26 Nov. 4/4 (Funk) The firm..made an assignment yesterday..giving two preferences for $600.

b. Short for *preference share*: see 8.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 7/2 This they proposed to do with 7 per cent. preferences, which at the end of three years could either fall in as ordinary or continue as preference shares. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Jan. 11/1 This is the first time for many years that the holders of the 1889 Preference have received any dividend, but one by one the Preferences are being restored to the dividend-paying list.

6. *Pol. Econ.* The practical favouring of one customer before others in business relations; an advantage over rivals given to one of those with whom one deals; *spec.* the favouring of one country or set of countries by admitting their products at a lower import duty than that levied on those of other countries or of foreigners generally, or by levying a duty on the latter while admitting the former free. A term much used about and after 1900, in reference to trade between Great Britain and her colonies, as opposed to trade between either of these and foreign countries.

1887 Sir S. Griffith in *Conference Blue Book* (col. 3523) 230 Whether it should not be recognized as part of the duty of the governing bodies of the Empire to see that their own subjects have a preference over foreign subjects in matters of trade. 1891 Sir J. Macdonald *Let. to W. H. Smith* April, Canada will be quite ready to give British goods a preference of 5 or even 10 per cent. in our markets, if our products receive a corresponding preference in England. 1896 (June 3) Sir W. Laurier in Willison *Sir W. L. & Liberal Party* II. 287 To have..a new step taken which will give to the Colonies, in England, a preference for their products over the products of other nations. 1903 (May 15) J. Chamberlain *Speeches* 13 Canada in 1898, freely, voluntarily, of her own accord..gave us a preference on all dutiable goods of 25 per cent. In 1900 she increased that preference to 33⅓ per cent. —(Oct. 6) *Ibid.* 20 Still less am I afraid to preach to you preference with our Colonies. *Ibid.* 32, I make the same answer as Mr. Rhodes, who suggested reciprocal preference. —(Oct. 21) *Ibid.* 111, I made two speeches .. accepting the principle of Preference. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 289 On every hand the British consumer was mulcted by colonial preference. *Ibid.* 292 When the restrictions on colonial commerce were removed, preference went with them.

7. *Cards.* **a.** In the game of Boston: The trump suit (called *first preference*) or the suit of the same colour (*second preference*). **b.** A game resembling whist in which the trump is determined by bidding; Swedish whist.

1820 *Hoyle's Games* (1830) 31 The game of Boston... During each deal, the person opposite to the dealer should shuffle another pack to be cut by his right-hand neighbour, and turn up a card for the First Preference; the suit of the same colour, whether red or black, is styled Second Preference. 1884 H. Gersoni tr. *Turgenieff's Diary Superfluous Man* 72 A great lover of preference.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as preference bond, share, stock, i. e. on which dividend or interest is payable before any is paid on ordinary stock.

1842 *Wetenhall's Course of Exch.* 15 Mar. London & Greenwich [Railw.] Preference or Privilege (Shares). [In prec. issue 11 Mar. designated Bonds.] 1852 *Times* 1 Nov. Suppl. 9/6 The second instalment of £2 per share on each and every 5½ per Cent. preference share in this undertaking [Sambre and Meuse Railway]. 1859 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVIII. 790/1 Interest on preference stock and loans, 27 per cent. of gross receipts. 1878 F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 273 A proprietor complained that by means of certain preference shares..a priority of right would be given to outsiders over the ordinary shareholders. 1885 *Standard* 10 Apr., Egyptian Preference Bonds are largely in their hands.

† **Pre·ferency.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *præferentia*; see prec. and -ency.] = Preference 2, 4.

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 993 In the great there is no preferency. 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 207 This is noted of Arius,..that when Alexander was chosen bishop of Alexandria, he envied him the preferency, and from thence sought occasions of contention.

Preferent (pre·fĕrĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *præferent-em*, pr. pple. of *præferre* to Prefer.]

1. Having preference or precedence; having a right to priority of payment or consideration.

1883 H. Juta tr. *Van der Linden's Inst. Holland* 95 In the first rank of preferent debts are funeral expenses. *Ibid.*, The holders of special mortgages..have a preferent claim on the proceeds arising from the sale of the particular property mortgaged. 1888 Ld. Watson in *Law Rep., Ho. Lords* XIII. 233 Any miner shall have a preferent right for 7 days to take possession of the ground forfeited.

2. Displaying preference; partial.

1896 *Johannesburg Weekly Times* 8 Aug. 3 To heap.. shame upon his head for his supposed preferent safeguarding of the interests of the 'fighting port' to the detriment of the 'Bay'.

Preferential (prefere·nʃăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. med.L. *præferentia* Preference + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of preference; showing or giving, receiving or enjoying, a preference.

1849 H. Mayo *Pop. Superstit.* (1851) 76 Their preferential connection with this or that antecedent condition. *a* 1860 H. H. Wilson *Ess. & Lect.* (1862) I. 2 One division of some antiquity is the preferential appropriation of the four chief divinities to the four original castes. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 78 The king was allowed a 'preferential' claim on the public revenue. 1881 J. Simon in *Nature* 18 Aug. 373/2 That joint at once becomes a place of preferential resort to the micrococcus. 1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 148/1 Raising fresh capital by the issue of new shares, the dividends on which were to be preferential.

b. *Pol. Econ.* Of the nature of or characterized by import duties favouring particular countries, *spec.* (as used in recent discussions) in favour of trade between Great Britain and her colonies: see Preference 6.

1903 Egerton *Origin & Growth Eng. Col.* 189 When..the Canadian Government gave to English manufacturers a preferential treatment of 12½ per cent.,..the measure was received with genuine gratification in Great Britain. 1903 (Oct. 20) J. Chamberlain *Speeches* 90 Now I come to the most important of all questions to my mind raised by preferential tariffs. I advocate them because, in the first place, they will stimulate colonial trade. —(Oct. 21) *Ibid.* 111 This matter of Preferential tariffs was before both Conferences. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 279 (*title*) Preferential

Duties and Colonial Trade. *Ibid.* 289 We have now dealt with the chief articles of commerce affected by preferential duties in the past.

B. *sb.* **a.** A preferential tariff rate. **b.** A preferential or privileged creditor or claim.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 11/1 The creditors will have received..£119,238, including £669 paid to twenty-seven 'preferentials'. *Ibid.* 15 Sept. 4/1 'Who can doubt that, but for the calamity of Mr. Chamberlain's secession, the Liberal Party would have given us "preferentials" at that time?'

Prefere·ntialism. [f. prec. adj. + -ISM.] The system of giving preference in the fixing of a tariff: see PREFERENCE 6, PREFERENTIAL *a.* b.

1903 *Liberty Review* July 14 The old-fashioned protectionism, which is now popping up again under the guise of Colonial preferentialism. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 7 Sept. 3/6 This Protectionist section is coquetting with Preferentialism as a step towards a higher tariff.

So **Prefere·ntialist**, an advocate of preference in tariff relations.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Sept. 8/1 If the Inquiry is to be a mere device, under cover of which Preferentialists and Free Traders are to be enabled to assail each other to their hearts' content. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 297 The only real strength of our new preferentialists..lies in the attitude of Canada.

Prefere·ntially, *adv.* [f. PREFERENTIAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a preferential manner, by preference.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 351 The same person..will..elect 'is in preparation' preferentially to 'is being prepared'. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. ix. (ed. 5) 254 One-fourth of the shares were preferentially offered to the workmen engaged in the business. 1903 L. COURTNEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 269 The dutiable imports..preferentially favoured had risen 55 per cent.

Preferentiate (-e·nʃiˌeɪt), *v. rare.* [f. as PREFERENCE + -ATE 3 7, after *differentiate*.] *intr.* To display preference, give preferential treatment; *trans.* to treat with preference.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 565/1 We must have a fiscal policy and a tariff suited to the occasion before we can preferentiate, differentiate, or retaliate.

Preferment (prɪfə·ɹmĕnt). [f. PREFER + -MENT.]

I. †**1.** The action of putting or bringing forward; furtherance, promotion. *Obs.*

1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 254/2 To..the good spede and preferrement of the said Rescows. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 3 For the settyng forthe or preferrement of the deuorce or dissolucion therof. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xcii. (1591) 107 P. Sabinus and Julius Priscus were constituted captaines of the Garde; Priscus by Valens preferment [*Priscus Valentis gratia*] and Sabinus by Caecinaes.

2. Advancement or promotion in condition, status, or position in life; in early use, also, that which is done or given towards the advancement of the children of a family or the promotion of the marriage of a daughter.

1478 in *Verney Papers* (Camden) 26 For asmoch as my doughters dame Margarete Raleghe and Beatrice Danvers haue had their preferrement at their mariages of their porcions to theme belongyng of my goodes, and my sonnes John Verney and Rauf Verney have not hadde their suche preferrement. 1522 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 237 Towarde the preferment and maryage of the sayd Anne. 1553 BALE tr. *Gardiner's De vera Obed.* To Rdr. A vij, Vpon hope of preferment to the diuinitie lecture in Oxforde. 1558 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 77 Should either dye before she come to the preferment of mariage. 1662 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 465 There is no preferment to be had without money. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* x. (1739) 602 For the obtaining or procuring such Ecclesiastical Preferment. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxii. 385 With their idle luxury, their hunger for lands and office and preferment.

3. An appointment or post which gives social or pecuniary advancement; chiefly, an ecclesiastical appointment.

1536 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 Benefices and other preferementes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. i. 36 Further Sir, [Cromwell] Stands in the gap and Trade of moe Preferments; With which the Time will loade him. 1625 BACON *Ess., Sedition & Tr.* (Arb.) 405 When more are bred Schollers, then Preferments can take off. 1733 FIELDING *Intrig. Chambermaid* II. ix, Your interest will help him to places and preferments in abundance. 1883 LD. PENZANCE in *Law Rep.* 8 Probate Div. 197 That the defendant held no preferment within the jurisdiction.

II. †**4.** The action or fact of preferring, choosing, or favouring, as more desirable; the giving of preference; preference, advantage. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Rom.* iii. 1 What preferment then hath the Jewe? [So 1557 (Genev.).] *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Maxims St.* in *Rem.* (1661) 55 To give an equality, or sometimes a preferment to the Common People. *a* 1754 E. ERSKINE in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxix. 16 The ground of the believer's preferment and exaltation.

b. *spec.* Priority of right, claim, or privilege; *esp.* prior right to receive payment, or to purchase or offer for anything to be sold or let. *arch.*

1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 214/1 That the Act made..for youre [Hen. VI's] preferrement in payment of xx m. li...be good. 1473 *Ibid.* VI. 73/1 Rewardes, Profittes, Commodities, Preferrementes, had, made or graunted, for or by reason of the said Office. 1475 *Ibid.* VI. 124/1 That the said Priour and Covent..by the same auctorite, have preferment of and for the payment of the said vii. li. yerely. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 33 § 3 Persones which nowe have to ferme any of the seid Lordshippes..shall have preferrement in the takyng of the same..befor any other. 1587 SIR C. WRAY in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 365 The said Fellowes..shall alwaie haue the vse and preferment of two of the midle chambers. 1886 H. HALL *Soc. Eliz. Age* 93 He sent..to crave preferment of purchase if the place must be sold.

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* 440 Hope of translation, and thence the pursuit called preferment-hunting, scarcely even in Scotland can have been altogether without example. 1845 LD. CAMPBELL *Chancellors* (1857) IV. xcvi. 313 Parasites and preferment-hunters crowded the levee.

Hence †**Prefe·rmentary** (*nonce-wd.*, after *prebendary*), a recipient of preferment.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 126 This made the Graduate Divine from a Chaplin in ordinary, become a prefermentary extraordinary.

Pre-fermenta·tion. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] A preliminary fermentation.

1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* III. (ed. 2) 205 Molosses, or other Bodies that have not..undergone a Pre-fermentation.

†**Prefe·rrable, -ible,** *a. Obs.* [f. PREFER + -ABLE. *Prefe·rrable* follows the ordinary rule of English formations in *-able*: cf. *barrable, regrettable. Prefe·rrible* is partly conformed to the L. analogical form **præferibilis*, which would give *preferible*: see -BLE. Both have yielded to the French form *preferable*.] = PREFERABLE 1.

1611 COTGR., *Preferable*, preferrable. 1662 GLANVILL *Lux Orient.* iii. (1682) 27 Will..be preferrible to both the former. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* VI. iv, The question, Whether a publick or a private life be preferrable? *a* 1677 HALE *Print. Orig. Man.* To Rdr. 1 The Mosaical System..is..highly preferrible before the Sentiments of those Philosophers [etc.]. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 522 ₱ 1 He that has excellent Talents ..is preferrable to him who is only rich.

Preferred (prɪfə·ɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. PREFER + -ED 1.]

†**1.** Put forward, advanced, promoted. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 290/2 Preferryd, *prepositus, prelatus.* 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 328/1 We call not those things which are in the first place, the preferred or promoted, but those which are in the second.

2. That has obtained preferment or promotion.

1720 SWIFT *Fates of Clergymen* Wks. 1755 II. II. 28 Censorious upon all his brethren .. while they continued meanly preferred. 1772 BURKE *Sp. Acts of Uniformity* Wks. 1812 V. 328 They want to be preferred Clergymen in the Church of England as by Law established, but their consciences will not suffer them to conform to the doctrines and practices of that Church. 1837 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1850) VIII. xlix. § 31. 34 Individual injustice is not to be always excused by the merits of the preferred functionary.

3. Approved, chosen, or desired by preference.

1871 E. BURR *Ad Fidem* xiv. 273 Twist, and strain, and mutilate facts, into a preferred shape. 1887 *Lit. World* (U.S.) 23 July 228/1 His preferred plan was to betroth her to the English Prince of Wales.

4. Having a prior claim to payment; privileged. *Preferred share, stock*: = PREFERENCE *share, stock.*

1864 WEBSTER s.v. *Prefer, Preferred stock*, stock which takes a dividend before other capital stock;—called, in England, *preferential stock.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Preferred creditor. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 201 In 1805..he [Marshall] found..authority for a law making the United States a preferred creditor. 1904 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 194 The preferred stock of a combination is an investment security.

Hence **Prefe·rredness.**

a 1866 J. GROTE *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* iii. (1870) 51 This preferability he makes matter again of simple experience.. we should rather call it actual preferredness.

Preferree, -ence, obs. ff. PREFEREE, -ENCE.

Preferrer (prɪfə·rəɹ). Also 6 -erer, 6–7 -errour. [f. PREFER + -ER 1.] One who prefers.

†**1.** One who promotes or advances to office, etc.; a promoter, advancer, patron. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 35 b, Your royall person beyng my patrone & preferrer. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 129 The preferrers unto livings are no less faulty: they choose of the worst. 1577 *F. de Lisle's Legendarie* B iv b, The Constable was the only preferer of the said Lords of Guises sister..who by his meanes was preferred before many other both more marriageable and meete for such a man then her selfe. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 149 Whosoever sits in the seat, will respect more his owne safetie than the service of his preferrour. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 181 He was..a preferrer of many, and Father to his servants.

2. One who brings a matter forward; one who submits or promotes a measure.

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 318 Ye have ben, under the Kinges Highnes, a singuler patrone and preferrer of the causes of the same [' this poure lande']. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2033/2 Doct. Stephens Secretary, and Doct. Foxe Almosiner (who were the chief furtherers, preferrers and defendours on the kings behalfe of the sayd cause). 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 625 Lycurgus and Hyperides were common speakers and preferrers of matters in Councils and Senate. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Enditement*, The preferrer of the Bill in no way tyed to the proofe thereof vpon any penalty.

Preferring (prɪfə·rɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PREFER *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PREFER; preferment; preference.

a 1450 *Lett. Marg. Anjou & Bp. Beckington* (Camden) 140 We, desiring th'encres, firtherance, and preferring of oure welbeloved T. Bate..pray yow [etc.]. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 232 The preferring of true religion, the seeking of God's glory. 1642 CHAS. I in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 732 Since to the Power of punishing ..if the Power of preferring be added, We shall have nothing left for Us but to look on. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 49 A Violation of the Law of God, a Preferring of Our Unruly, Profane, Unrighteous, Evil Wills before His.

†**Prefe·stinate,** *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *præfestīnāre* to hasten before the time, hasten too much + -ATE 3: see PRE- A. 1, 6 and FESTINATE *v.*]

1623 COCKERAM, *Prefestinate*, to make too much haste.

‖ **Prefe·tto.** *Obs. rare.* [It.; see PREFECT *sb.*]

1743 POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 147 The first account I had of it..being from a manuscript journal, writ by the present Prefetto of Egypt. 1753 R. CLAYTON (*title*) Journal from Grand Cairo to Mount Sinai and back again, translated from a Manuscript written by the Prefetto of Egypt.

Preff(e, Preffer, obs. forms of PROOF, PREFER.

†**Pre·fidence.** *Obs.* [f. L. *præfidens*: see next and -ENCE.] Over-confidence; an instance of this.

1597 R. BRUCE *Serm.* (Wodrow Soc.) 186 We leave the way of prefidence to them that presume of their own strength. 16.. T. TAYLOR *Wks.* (1659) I. 11 Some through vain prefidence of God's protection run in times of contagion into infected houses. 1677 OWEN *Justif.* Wks. 1851 V. 14 All their prefidences and contrivances do issue in dreadful horror and distress.

†**Pre·fident,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præfidens, -entem*, trusting too much, over-confident, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 6 + *fīdĕre* to trust.] Over-confident, rash.

16.. BAXTER cited by WORCESTER (1846).

Prefi·gurate, *ppl. a.* [ad. late L. *præfigūrātus*, pa. pple. of *præfigūrāre*: see next.] = PREFIGURED (as *pa. pple.* (obs.), and *ppl. a.*).

1530 PALSGR. 664/2 All the mysteryes of the passyon were prefygurate in the olde Testament. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Eph.* ii. 12 *note*, In Christe all things were accomplished, which were prefigurate in the Lawe. 1881 E. MULFORD *Republic of God* v. 128 The Christ is not the prefigurate, but the real, head of humanity.

Prefigurate (prɪfi·gĭurĕɪt), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *præfigūrāre* to PREFIGURE: see -ATE 3.] = PREFIGURE.

1530 PALSGR. 664/2, I prefygurate, *je prefigure.* 1537 *Inst. Chr. Man* E v, Signified..or rather prefigurated & prophecied before. 1673 T. JORDAN *London in Splendor* 7 On his Left hand standeth a well-featured Virgin who doth prefigurate Labour. 1874 M. COLLINS *Transmigr.* II. xiii. 203 Poseidon's bull can clearly prefigurate nothing but John Bull's fleet.

Prefiguration (prɪfigĭurē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *præfigūrātiōn-em* (Jerome *c* 400), n. of action f. *præfigūrāre* to PREFIGURE. So F. *préfiguration.*]

1. The action of prefiguring; representation beforehand by a figure or type.

1382 WYCLIF *Pref. Ep.* vii. 68 Deutronomy forsothe the secounde lawe, and the prefiguracoun of the lawe of the euangelie. 1550 VERON *Godly Sayings* (1846) 111 Melchisedeche brought furth bread, and wyne in prefiguratyon of him. 1637 BP. HALL *Serm. Excester* 24 Aug. 43 Some [ceremonies] were of a typicall prefiguration of things to come. 1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* iii. 21 Slain in prefiguration of that subsequent availing sacrifice which was to take away sin.

2. That in which something is prefigured or foreshadowed; a prototype.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. vi. § 11 Many of the ancient Fathers..thought likewise their sacraments to be but prefigurations of that which ours in present do exhibit. 1652 G. COLLIER *Vindic. Sabbath* (1656) 7 Before there were any types or prefigurations of Christ. 1737 WATERLAND *Eucharist* 98 That the Legal Sacrifices were Allusions to, and Prefigurations of the Grand Sacrifice. 1851 SIR C. EASTLAKE tr. *Kugler's Schools Paint. It.* I. I. 9 The personages and events of the Old Testament were, for the most part, regarded as prefigurations of those of the New.

Prefigurative (prɪfi·gĭurătĭv), *a.* [ad. med.L. *præfigūrātīv-us* (à Kempis *De Imitat. Chr.*): see PREFIGURATE *v.* and -IVE.] Prefiguring, foreshadowing by a figure or type.

1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. i. 261 The sacryfyce of the prefyguratyue lawe that was to come. 1619 SIR J. SEMPILL *Sacrilege Handled* App. 32 These holy Feasts..being prefiguratiue of Christ. 1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xxi. 189 A Dramatical show that hath a prefigurative signification of the Happiness of the millennial state of the Church. 1865 in *Reader* No. 133. 62/2 Prefigurative of the fate of his works.

Hence **Prefi·guratively** *adv.*; **Prefi·gurativeness,** the quality of being prefigurative.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxii. § 4 This kind of honour was prefiguratively altogether ceremonial. 1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xxi. 189 It may have a kind of general Prefigurativeness of the Joy and Glory of Christ's Kingdom in the Millennium. 1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lxxxi. 278 Jesus was supposed to have done this prefiguratively during his earthly life to a tree.

Prefigure (prɪfi·gĭŭɹ), *v.* [ad. late L. *præfigūr-āre* (Cyprian *a* 250): see PRE- A. 1 and FIGURE *v.* So F. *préfigurer* (13th c. in Godef.).]

1. *trans.* To represent beforehand by a figure or type.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1841 Cristis supere was prefigurid als in the lambe paschale. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. I. 478 b, As Melchisedech brought forthe bread and wine prefiguring him. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 264 The Jews Baptisme prefigured our spiritual washing. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 83 Moses prefigur'd Bliss in Types enclos'd. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* Argt. 9 The end of all things being prefigured in their beginnings.

2. To figure or picture to oneself beforehand.

1626 T. H. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 24 Prefigure in your mind, that so many men .. are so many messengers of God. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 153 (*Paris*) My first sensations..were far from being so flattering as I had prefigured them. 1867 HOWELLS *Ital. Journ.* 232 He was not at all a fat priest, as I had prefigured him.

†**3.** To shape or fashion in front. *Obs. rare.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 52 A wel proportioned knight ..whose head piece was prefigured lyke flowers growing in a narrowe pot.

Hence **Prefi·gured, Prefi·guring** *ppl. adjs.*

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 55 Calling the supper a true sacrament of that true and prefigured Passeouer. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 116 The apt type and prefiguring promise of what Christ will be. 1853 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. I. 292 A prefiguring instinct.. of some great secret yet to come.

Prefi·gurement. [f. prec. + -MENT.] The action or fact of prefiguring; representation beforehand by a figure or type; the embodiment of this.

1843 *Tait's Mag.* X. 250 No faint prefigurement of the modern steam-engine. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 16 In my dreams were often prefigurements of my future. 1875 DARWIN *Insectiv. Pl.* xv. 336 The prefigurement of the formation of nerves in animals.

† **Pre·-fi·ne, præ-fine,** *sb. Law. Obs.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + FINE *sb.*[1]] (See quot. 1848.)

1641 W. HAKEWILL *Libertie of Subject* 14 When the Prefine is ten shillings, the Post-fine to be fifteen shillings. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. 1758 [see POST-FINE]. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Præfine*, the fee paid on suing out the writ of covenant, on levying fines, before the fine was passed.

† **Prefi·ne,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *præfīnīre* (Cic.) to determine or limit beforehand, to prescribe, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *fīnīre* to end, bound. So obs. F. *prefinir* (1392 in Godef. *Compl.*).]

1. *trans.* To limit or bound beforehand or by previous conditions; to define previously.

1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. xvi. 582 The meanes by which.. penalties and forfeitures also that are certainly prefined by words of the Statutes, may be levied and brought into the Queens coffers. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. i. § 3 (1622) 173 There is not any Body, in Nature, so infinite, but that it is prefined within some bound and limit.

2. To determine or fix (a time) beforehand.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* v. K iij b, Before the which tyme prefined by gods infallible and immutable prouidence they shall not fal nor dye. 1608 J. KING *Serm. St. Marys* 24 Mar. 19 Hee dieth..in his threescore and tenth yeare, neither sooner, nor later, but the verie middle and vmbilicke of natures prefined time. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 187 He hath also prefined a convenient..season for every thing.

† **Prefinite,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *præfīnīt-us*, pa. pple. of *præfīnīre*: see prec.] Determined or limited beforehand. (In quot. 1555 as *pa. pple.*)

1555 EDEN *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 50 Accordynge to the time prefinite by hym, who..hath suffered. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 417 This poyson hath no set and prefinit time wherin it killeth any body. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* Ep. Ded. 4 If the prefinit tearme and limit of my life permit.

† **Prefini·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *præfīnītiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præfīnīre*: see PREFINE *v.*] A previous limitation or determination.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Eph.* iii. 11 That the manifold wisedom of God may be notified.., according to the prefinition of worldes, which he made in Christ Jesus. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. vii. § 5 (1622) 270 A circumscription of their bounds; and a prefinition of their periods. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Prefinition*, a determination before.

Prefix (prī·fiks), *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *præfix-um*, sb. use of neut. of *præfix-us*, pa. pple. of *præfīgĕre* to fix in front: see PRE- A. 1, 4 c, and FIX *v.* So F. *préfixe* adj. and sb. (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *Gram.* A verbal element placed before and joined to a word or stem to add to or qualify its meaning, or (in some languages) as an inflexional formative: strictly applied only to inseparable particles, but more loosely including also combining forms, and independent words, esp. prepositions and adverbs, used in combination.

All prefixes were originally distinct words, which have been reduced to one or two syllables, and sometimes to a single letter, as *be-* in *be-fore*, *over-* in *over-ween*, *a-* in *a-rise*, *y-* in *y-clept*, etc.

[1614 BREREWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* ix. 63 Those adherents of words, which they call præfixa and suffixa.] 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 170 The Greek word *Bous*, which is a prefixe of augmentation to many words in that language. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* XIII. vi. 257 The prefix *Lamed* should in that case have been joined to the word Lips. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 77/1 The prefix *a*,..considered by some persons as necessary to distinguish Adverbs from their adjectives, as *aloud* from *loud*. 1851 J. C. BRYANT *Zulu Lang.* in *Jrnl. Amer. Orient. Soc.* I. 388 *note*, What we call the prefix in the Zulu is not something extraneous to the word and placed before it, but a part of the word itself. 1888 SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* 105 [In O. E.] Substantives corresponding to verbs with separable prefixes take the stress on the particle.

2. A title prefixed to a person's name, as *Mr., Dr., Sir, Rev., Hon., Lord*, etc.

1836 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 158 You had promised the Marquis I would write for him something...To write for people with prefixes to their names is to milk he-goats; there is neither honour nor profit. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiv, Mr. Wegg expressly insisted that there should be no prefix to the Golden Dustman's name.

3. The act of prefixing. *rare.*

1793 BEDDOES *Demonstr. Evid.* 7 *note*, By a prefix of the letter N, of which the primary sense is not known, it signifies *to have, to possess*. 1871 ROBY *Latin Gram.* I. Pref. 18 A language..in which, like English,..the adjective *great* requires, in order to gain the same meaning as *magni*, the prefix of the definite article, or the addition of the word *men*.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **prefix-language**, a language inflected by means of prefixes, e. g. those of the Bantu family.

1881 WHITNEY *Mixt. Lang.* 15 If we dispute..the validity of an *à priori* claim that a prefix-language and a suffix-language—as, for example, a South African and a Hamitic tongue—might mingle in a manner seen to be impracticable in the case of two Indo-European dialects.

† **Prefi·x,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *préfix* (1381 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præfix-us*, pa. pple. of *præfīgĕre*: see prec.] Fixed beforehand.

c 1500 *Melusine* 336 Yf within a terme prefix none came there to be hermyte, he of the nerest Celle gooyng vpward muste entre into that other Celle so exempted.

Prefix (see below), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [a. OF. *prefixer* (1392 in Godef. *Compl.*): see PRE- A. 1, 4 c, and FIX *v.*]

I. In reference to time (prī-, prĭfi·ks).

1. *trans.* To fix or appoint beforehand (esp. a point or space of time). Now *rare.*

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 549 The same day Pluto had prefyxyd for a gret mater. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 165 The day of examinacion was prefixede. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 459 About the end of the time by him prefixed both the Pope and the King dyed. 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 116 You prefixe too short a time farre: for Oakes are slow of growth. 1738 *Hist. Crt. Excheq.* x. 147 The first Thing is to prefix him [the sheriff] a day to account. 1770 *Amherst Records* (1884) 50/1 Voted That the Select Men be a Com'tee to Lay out and prefix sufficient boundaries to the Burying Yard. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. i. 3 As the fatal hour prefixed drew near.

† **2.** To fix, settle, or determine in one's mind beforehand; to set before oneself, resolve on, purpose; to make up (the mind) beforehand. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 157 This texte may gyue the a courage to prefyx thy mynd to make there thy purchase. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph*, 166 When he had prefixed & appoynted to take a certain castle & fortresse. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 194 b, This therfore dyd he pretende to bee the cause of a newe trouble and disturbaunce of the weale publicke whan he had prefixed it long before. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xii. (1660) 158 The order that I prefix to myself in treating of these Beasts. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 109 As all Pylots prefix the haven for their end..so all war hath peace for its end.

† **b.** *pass.* To be determined or purposed. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 201 He was prefixed to haue expressed Dauid his Psalter in Frenche metre. *Ibid.* 210 b, The enemies are fully prefixed to retourne to the sege of the cassel.

3. To 'fix', make fast or permanent beforehand: see FIX *v.* **5.**

1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 290 The troublesome and risky prefixing acid clearing bath is not necessary.

II. In reference to order and place (prĭfi·ks).

4. To place before or at the beginning of a book, chapter, account, or writing of any kind, esp. as an introduction or title.

1538 COVERDALE *N. T.* Ded., Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 32, I did..direct an epistle unto the king's most noble grace; trusting that the book, whereunto it was prefixed, should afterward have been as well correct as other books be. 1551 CRANMER *Answ. Gardiner* 1 Here before the beginnyng of your boke, you haue prefyxed a goodly title. 1625 BACON *Ess.* Ded. to Dk. Buckhm., I do now publish my Essays...I thought it therefore agreeable to my affection and obligation to your Grace to prefix your name before them. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Introd., We have concluded it necessary to præfix an Illustration. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. Pref. 23 These Discourses are prefixed to ten..volumes. 1833 CRUSE *Eusebius* VII. XXV. 298 The evangelist does not prefix his name. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 9 The legislator..will prefix preambles to his principal laws.

5. In reference to place generally: To fix, fasten, or put in front. *rare.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Prefixed*, set in the forepart. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Prefixe*, to fasten before. 1805 EUGENIA DI ACTON *Nuns of Desert* I. 157 He produced a pistol, and prefixed the muzzle to his breast.

6. *Gram.* To place (a word or particle) before a word, esp. in combination with it: cf. PREFIX *sb.* I. Const. *before* (rare), *to.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 104 All which in Latine old Evidences have had *De* præfixed. 1719 WATERLAND *Vind. Christ's Div.* iii. Wks. 1823 I. II. 48 You remark, that 'the article is prefixed before Θεός, in an absolute construction, when spoken of the Father; but omitted when predicated of the Λόγος'. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 69/1 In English, we generally prefix the relative Article to the names of our rivers, but seldom to those of our mountains. 1876 PAPILLON *Manual Compar. Philol.* (1877) 162 Language seems originally to have employed..the augment —in Sanskrit *a*, in Greek ε.. prefixed to aorist, imperfect, and pluperfect tenses in both these languages.

Hence **Prefi·xing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 327 They have not the patience themselves to stay out the time of their own prefixing. 1893 [see 3]. 1897 [see POSTFIX *v.*].

Prefi·xal, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. PREFIX *sb.* + -AL I.] Of, pertaining to, of the nature of, or characterized by prefixes; = PREFIXIONAL.

1863 (Nov. 6) GOLDSTÜCKER (Philol. Soc.), On the Prefixal Elements of Sanskrit Roots.

Prefixa·tion. *rare*[−1]. [f. PREFIX *v.* + -ATION.] The employment of prefixes in grammar.

1890 *Amer. Antiquarian* XII. 121 By prefixation and suffixation a considerable number of tenses and modes are formed in the verb.

Prefixed, prefixt (prī-, prĭfi·kst), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED I.]

1. Fixed, appointed, or settled beforehand.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. viii. (S. T. S.) II. 172 He admonist his army to be reddy at ane prefixt day. 1652 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 5 A Council composed of a certain prefixt number of persons. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* x. 99 There is no prefix'd Time for planting Turneps. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* III. iv. § 2 (1817) 312 Upon the strength of some prefixed persuasion. 1896 *Daily News* 1 Dec. 8/7 He proceeds..according to a prefixed plan.

2. Fixed or placed before something else.

1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 172 In support of the assumed connection between the termination or prefixed sign of the genitive case and the relative. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xii. 244 Using..suffixed instead of prefixed particles. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 6/2 Byron's signature..appears..sometimes as 'Noel Byron', or 'N. B.', the prefixed name being assumed by him for reasons here noted.

Hence **Prefi·xedly, prefi·xtly** *adv.* (*rare*), in a way fixed or determined beforehand.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 561 Sith the holy-man Fore-tels prefixtly What and Where and When. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 429 The space of a few dayes, and those prefixedly numbred, being granted.

Prefixion (prĭfi·kʃən). [a. F. *préfixion* (1372 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. type **præfixiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præfīgĕre* to PREFIX.] The action of prefixing.

† **1.** The action of fixing or appointing beforehand; preappointment. *Obs.*

Day of prefixion, a fixed day on which a sheriff (or other officer) had to appear at the court of exchequer to render an account of his expenditure.

1526 *Visit. Dioc. Norwich* (Camden) 256 If my lord of Norwiche wold vysytt (according to his prefixcion). 1536 in Strype *Cranmer* II. (1694) 36 There should be as many of such as were sufficiently learned..without prefixion of any precise nombre. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 16 § 1 Everye..shirief..shall at his daie of prefixcion..be sworne. 1563–87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 404/1 Hauing this daie and place assigned you by your own consent and our prefixion. *a* 1754 CARTE in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 142 The Sheriffs.. have their days of prefixion..for passing their accounts.

† **b.** A pre-appointed occasion. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 511 He that is missing at any of the prefixions, is sure to have many bastinadoes on the soles of his feet.

2. *Gram.* The placing of a word or particle before a word, esp. in combination with it; employment of a prefix.

1811–31 BENTHAM *Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 324/2 The accessory word..in some instances..precedes the principal word...Hence the distinction,—accessories prefixed, or in the way of prefixion. 1894 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Sept. 180/3 In some categories, as in the attributive relation, prefixion is the rule. Thus, the adverb stands before the verb and not after.

Hence **Prefi·xional** *a.*, characterized by prefixion; inflected by means of prefixes. *rare.*

1858 *Penny Cycl.* 2nd Supp. 377/2 The languages of the Kaffirs supply a broad distinction between them and other African races. They are prefixional and alliterational.

† **Prefi·xment.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PREFIX *v.* + -MENT.] Fixture beforehand; pre-appointment.

1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 3 Wee may lengthen out our daies with ioy..to the last periode of their prefixment.

Prefixture (prĭfi·kstiŭi). Also præ-. [f. PREFIX *v.* after FIXTURE.]

1. The action of prefixing, esp. in grammar.

1824 J. WINTERBOTTOM *Two French Words* 9 Warton speaks of the prefixture of the augment *y*. 1879 J. A. H. MURRAY tr. Schiefner in *Address to Philol. Soc.* 41 In this language [Abchasian] the most interesting feature is the remarkable prefixture of the personal pronouns. For example..*ab* 'father' makes *sab* 'my father', *uab* 'thy father' (masc.), *bab* 'thy father' (fem.), *yab* 'his father', *lab* 'her father', *shab* 'your father', *rab* 'their father'.

2. A word prefixed, esp. as a title or distinction; a prefix.

1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 131 The ancient fiddle, with its cognomen, or monosyllabic præfixture, was, we fancy, a low instrument. 1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manm. Amer.* I. viii. 241 The members of the Federal Senate are addressed with the prefixture of Honourable.

Prefloration (prĭflorē·ĭ·ʃən). *Bot.* [ad. F. *préfloraison* (Richard), f. *pré-*, PRE- B. + L. *flōs, flōr-em* flower: see -ATION.] = ÆSTIVATION.

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 409 The term estivation, or præfloration, is applied to the parts of the flower when unexpanded. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* IV. § 2 (ed. 6) 132 Vernation and Æstivation—Præfoliation and Præfloration are etymologically better terms substituted by Richard.

† **Prefoca·tion.** *Path. Obs.* Also præ-. [ad. L. *præfōcātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præfōcāre* to choke, suffocate, f. *præ*, PRE- + *faux, faucem* throat. So F. † *préfocation* (15th c.).] Choking, suffocation; constriction.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 401 Cures the dolour and præfocation of the uterus. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 180 She suffers strangling and prefocation, because of compression about the Heart.

Prefoliation (prĭfōu,ĭ·ēĭ·ʃən). *Bot.* Also præ-. [a. F. *préfoliation* (Richard): see PRE- B. and FOLIATION, and cf. PREFLORATION.] = VERNATION.

1856 HENSLOW *Dict. Bot. Terms* 144 *Præfoliation*,..synonyme for 'Vernation'. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* (1870) 95 The arrangement of the leaves in the bud is called vernation or præfoliation. 1880 [see PREFLORATION].

Prefool, Preforceps: see PRE- A. 1, 4.

Preform (prī·, prĭfō·ɪm), *v.* [ad. L. *præformāre*: see PRE- A. 1 and FORM *v.* So F. *préformer* (18th c. Bonnet in Littré).] *trans.* To form or shape beforehand. (Chiefly in *pa. pple.*)

1601 [see PREFORMED]. 1793 HOLCROFT *Lavater's*

Physiogn. xxiv. 122 If the germ exists preformed in the mother. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* xi. (1864) 337 God's original scheme, taken as a whole, was so planned, or preformed. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 117 Bile pigments are not preformed in the blood.

b. To determine the form of beforehand; to furnish a mould or model of (a structure to be subsequently formed).

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., Bone preformed in cartilage. The fetal skeleton preforms that of the adult.

Preformant. *Philol. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 4 + L. *formānt-em*, pr. pple. of *formāre* to FORM: see -ANT.] = PREFORMATIVE B.

1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* Notes 578 The Arabic præformant of the 3d fem. fut.

Preformation (prīfɒ:mē'ɪ·ʃən). Also præ-. [f. PRE- A. 2 + FORMATION; cf. PREFORM. So F. *préformation* (18th c. Bonnet in Littré).]

1. The action or process of forming or shaping beforehand; previous formation.

1732 *Hist. Litteraria* IV. 195 It is easy to think that the Soul is a divine Automaton, still more wonderful, and that by a divine Præformation it produces these beautiful Ideas. 1819 COLERIDGE *Rem.* (1836) II. 193 The inauspicious influences on the preformation of Edmund's character. 1838 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxx. (1866) II. 129 The blind preformations of opinion. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 442 On the other hand, the egg of Nereis..and of Beröe.. showed a high degree of 'preformation', and the early blastomeres of these eggs were not equipotential.

2. *Theory of preformation* (Biol.): the theory, prevalent in the 18th c., that all the parts of the perfect organism exist previously formed in the germ, and are merely 'developed' or unfolded (not produced by accretion) in the process of reproduction. Formerly also called *theory of* EVOLUTION (6 b); opposed to that of EPIGENESIS.

1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 68 The two styles of conversation corresponded to the two theories of generation,—one (Johnson's) to the theory of Preformation (or Evolution)—the other (Burke's) to the theory of Epigenesis. 1847 [see EPIGENESIS]. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. ii. 40 Caspar Friedrich Wolff..with his new Theory of Epigenesis gave the death-blow to the entire Theory of Preformation. 1899 THOMSON *Sci. Life* x. 119 His [Bonnet's] central idea was the 'preformation' or asserted pre-existence of the organism and all its parts within the germ.

Hence **Preformationism,** the doctrine or theory of preformation (see 2); **Preformationist,** one who holds or maintains this theory.

1888 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 815/1 The so-called 'evolutionists' of the eighteenth century, better called præformationists. 1890 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 372 Both notions have now passed along with 'preformationism' into the limbo of discarded hypotheses.

Preformative (prīfɒ:mătiv), *a.* (*sb.*) Also præ-. [f. PRE- A. 3, 4 + FORMATIVE; cf. PREFORM.]

1. Having the quality or capacity of forming beforehand. (Sometimes with allusion to the biological theory of preformation.)

1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* IV. § 33. 342 The peculiar preformative nature of the Jewish institutions and history. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 305 Under the supposition that the membrane gives rise to the first production of the Dentine, and is itself obliterated by the process, it has been called the preformative membrane of the dental papilla. 1883 SCHAFF *Hist. Ch.* I. III. xxi. 199 [That] the apostolic Christianity is preformative and contains the living germs of all the following periods, personages, and tendencies.

2. *Philol.* Prefixed as a formative element: said of a letter, syllable, etc. (esp. in Semitic languages).

1821 M. STUART *Gram. Hebr. Lang.* III. (1831) 79 The præformative affixes to the Fut., would appropriately have a Sheva for their vowel-pointing. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 61 The præformative letters are not four as in Hebrew. *Ibid.* 62 The Infinitive of all the conjugations has Mem præformative. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 269 The Georgian also employs a variety of preformative particles in conjugation.

B. *sb. Philol.* A preformative particle; a letter, syllable, etc., prefixed to a word or root in inflexion or derivation; a prefix (esp. in Semitic languages).

1821 M. STUART *Gram. Hebr. Lang.* II. (1831) 51 *Tav*, in the præformative תִּ (in Hithpael), often assimilates itself to the first radical of the verb. *Ibid.* III. 96 The Præformatives of tense and conjugation. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 85 The Olaph characteristic of the Aphel conjugation is sometimes retained with the preformatives. 1844 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 246 One of these preformatives .. is deserving of more especial notice. 1901 J. E. H. THOMSON *Recent Comm. Daniel* 12 There are remains of eastern forms..for instance, the use of the lamed as preformative for the yod in the Substantive Verb—a Mandaean i. e. eastern usage.

Preformed (prīfɒ:md, *poet.* prīfɒ·mĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PREFORM + -ED[1], or f. PRE- A. 1 + FORMED.] Formed beforehand, previously formed.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 67 The true cause,..Why all these things change from their Ordinance, Their Natures, and pre-formed Faculties, To monstrous qualitie. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 136 Alloxan, a pre-formed constituent of urine. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 217 During baking a certain amount of preformed sugar yields carbonic acid. 1889 MIVART *Origin Hum. Reason* 116 Men do not invent concepts for preformed words, but the reverse.

Preformism. *Biol.* [f. PREFORM *v.* + -ISM.] = PREFORMATIONISM. So **Preformist** = PREFORMATIONIST.

1896 *Amer. Naturalist* June 449 But this is not Preformism in the old sense; since the adaptations..are novelties of function in whole or part. *Ibid.*, The case of reflex and instinctive functions as against the old preformist or Weismannist view.

† **Prefract,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *præfract-us* abrupt, stern, inflexible, pa. pple. of *præfringĕre* to break off before the point or abruptly, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 + *frangĕre* to break.] Abrupt, stubborn, obstinate, refractory.

1555 GARDINER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 1784/2 Thou wast so prefracte and stout in religion. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 642 Which no man could deny, that were not too prefract and obstinate. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* IV. Plays 1873 II. 283 Still he stands prefract and insolent.

Prefrontal (prīfrʌ·ntăl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* and *Zool.* Also præ-. [f. PRE- A., B. + L. *frons, front-* forehead + -AL, or f. PRE- + FRONTAL.] **a.** Situated in front of the frontal bone of the skull. **b.** Situated in the fore part of the frontal lobe of the brain.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Org. Nat.* I. 194 The..prefrontal and nasal bones. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 273 The frontal lobe as so defined must be divided into a prefrontal and a postfrontal area. *Ibid.* 738 That part of the brain which is probably most intimately associated with psychical processes—the præfrontal area. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 22 May 3/4 The general consensus of opinion localises what we term 'mind' in the pre-frontal lobes of the brain.

B. *sb.* (*ellipt.* for *prefrontal bone.*) A portion of the ethmoid, which forms a distinct bone in some reptiles, batrachians, and fishes.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Org. Nat.* I. 193 There is a distinct, oval, articular surface near the anterior median angle of each frontal to which the prefrontal is attached. *Ibid.* 194 The prefrontals..are connate with the lacrymals. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 57 The prefrontals, also small, occupy the anterior margin of the orbit.

So **Prefronto-lachrymal** *a.*, at once prefrontal and lachrymal. (In quot. as *sb.*, *sc.* bone.)

1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 759/1 This meets a curved flat bone, which bounds the orbit anteriorly and internally, and articulates with an ascending process of the maxillary bone. It may..be regarded as a prefronto-lachrymal.

† **Prefruition.** *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + FRUITION.] Previous fruition or enjoyment; a foretaste.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* (1649) II. 125 Delighting in the hope of a future sin, and sin in a præfruition of his sinne, before the act. 1678 J. [JONES] *Brit. Church* 591 To be in the Church of heaven, (while he is on earth,) by prefruition.

† **Prefulgency.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as next: see -ENCY.] Pre-eminent brightness or splendour.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 31 The Patricians and Senators were so jealous of their glory and prefulgency that they allowed none participants with them. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1687) 57 By the prefulgency of his excellent worth and merit.

† **Prefulgent,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præfulgĕns, -ĕntem*, pr. pple. of *præfulgēre* to shine forth or greatly: see PRE- A. 4, 6, and FULGENT.] Greatly shining; pre-eminent in brightness.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xiv. 2 Bemis Off Phebus fair prefulgent visage bricht. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 105 As was said of the Images of Brutus and Cassius, that in a Funeral pomp they were more conspicuous and prefulgent, because..they were not seen among the others.

† **Prefulgurate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *præfulgurāre* to flash forth: see FULGURATE.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Prefulgurate*, to glister before.

† **Pregage,** *v. Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + GAGE *v.*] *trans.* To pledge beforehand, pre-engage.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 42 The members of the Councell of Trent..were by oath pregaged to the Pope 'to defend and maintain his authority against all the world'.

Pregeminal, -geniculate, -geniculum, -genital: see PRE- A. 4, B. 3.

† **Pregerminate,** *v. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prægerminārе* to bud forth early: see PRE- A. 1 and GERMINATE.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Pregerminate*, to bud before another.

Pre-glacial (prīglē·ʃăl), *a. Geol.* [PRE- B. 1 b.] Existing or occurring previous to the glacial period.

1855, 1863 [see POST-GLACIAL]. 1863 *Q. Rev.* CXIV. 407 Omitting the first or preglacial period, the estimate is made for the glacial and post-glacial period. 1882 DAWKINS in *Standard* 25 Aug. 2/4 He..felt inclined to view the river-drift man as having invaded Europe in pre-glacial times.

Preglenoid, -glenoidal: see PRE- B. 3.

Pregnable (pre·gnăb'l), *a.* Forms: 5–7 **prenable,** 6 **prenn-, prein-, preign-, preygn-, prign-,** 7 **prægn-,** 6– **prēgnable.** [Late ME. *prenable*, a. F. *prenable* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), also in OF. *pregnable* (1306 in Godef. *Compl.*), f. *prendre* (ppl. stem *pren-*):—L. *prendĕre*, contr. from *prehendĕre*: see PREHEND and -ABLE. As to the *g* see IMPREGNABLE.] Of a fortress: Capable of being taken by assault. Also *transf.*

1435 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 581 If the placis were righte prenable. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclv. 379 They thought well the towne was preignable. *Ibid.* cclxv. 392 They sawe well that ye place was prignable. 1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 165 What places he supposeth there most preinable, or facile to be had. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 14 Out of hope that it was pregnable by assault. 1591 UNTON *Corr.* (Roxb.) 66 It is hardlie otherwise prennable. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 413 *margin*, A strong hold kept by a coward is pregnable. 1632 — *Cyropædia* 107 Cyrus..desirous in very deed to see whether the Castle were any where prenable. 1845 PETRIE *Round Towers Ircl.* 371 The door alone could be pregnable. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 615 Its pregnable approaches are the portals of entrance and exit for the tube.

b. *fig.* Open to attack; assailable, vulnerable.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 334 There were but few points on which it [Libertino's character] was pregnable. 1837 SIR J. PAGET in *Mem.* v. 100 A hard-headed English infidel, pregnable to neither religion nor common-sense. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 26 Apr. 3/1 He attacks Arnold's very pregnable idea that Christianity is only Stoicism 'touched with emotion'.

¶ Erroneously used for PREGNANT *a.* 1, 2. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 69 In those elder times, wherein wisdom and invention was most pregnable. *Ibid.* 674 Leaving those brief and pregnable Narrations of Bellonius and Scaliger. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 41 These solide and pregnable reasons.

Hence **Pregnability,** pregnable quality.

1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 107 There's not a flaw In frailty coupled with defect more near Than this man's strength to pregnability.

‖ **Pregnada** (prenʸā·dă). *Obs.* [Sp. *preñada* big with child.] A variety of lemon: see quots.

a 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 178 There are [in Teneriffe] oranges and lemons, especially the pregnadas, which have small ones in their bellies, from whence they are so denominated. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) IV. 1229 Another botanical curiosity, mentioned by him, is what they call Pregnada, or impregnated lemon. It is a perfect and distinct lemon, inclosed within another.

† **Pregnance.** *Obs.* [f. PREGNANT *a.*[2]: see -ANCE.] = PREGNANCY[1] 2–4; a pregnant quality.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. viii. 15 b, Poetrie ..comprehendeth al other sciences, as for that when other faculties be deuysed by the pregnaunce of mannes wytte, this art only is giuen of nature by a diuine inspiracion. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* IV. ii. 81 Increase comprehends all profits deriued from the Pregnance and Production of the Earth. 1633 MARMION *Fine Companion* II. vi, A sonne of..such pregnance of wit and understanding. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 364 In the passage following, I cannot but admire the ripenes, and the pregnance of his native trechery. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) IV. 470, I doubt it not, having discover'd in your Nature so many pregnances and sparkles of innated Honor.

¶ *Negative pregnance*, an erroneous rendering of the mod.L. law term *negativa prægnans* = *negative pregnant*: see PREGNANT *a.*[2] 4 b.

1641 *Termes de la Ley* 209 The Defendant saith that it was not voyd being the temporalties in the kings hands by the death of W. this is a Negative pregnance, for it may be in the kings hands otherwise then by the death of W.

Pregnancy[1] (pre·gnănsi). [f. PREGNANT *a.*[2]: see -ANCY.]

1. The condition of being pregnant, or with child or young; gestation.

1598 FLORIO, *Pregnanza*, greatnes with child, pregnancie, a being great with childe or with yoong. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 62 That extraordinary extension that is requisite in the time of their Pregnancy. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 9 Those appearances, which gave rise to the belief of Mary's pregnancy, were found to be nothing but the approach of a dropsy. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 132 The phænomena of mania and pregnancy will very constantly impede the progress of pulmonary consumption. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 9/3 When Mr. Lawson Tait unravelled for himself the whole mystery of the broad ligament, the prevention of death in the awful catastrophe of tubal pregnancy was made clear to him.

attrib. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 799 The 'pregnancy kidney',..the chronic form of renal disease dependent on pregnancy. 1906 *Athenæum* 21 July 79/1 Mr. H. A. Rose ..describes in two papers the pregnancy observances in the Punjab, of the Hindu and Mohammedan populations.

b. *fig.* (or in *fig.* context).

a 1529 SKELTON *Replycacion* 371 Suche a pregna[n]cy Of heuenly inspyracion In laureate creacyon. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* vi. Wks. 1851 III. 122 Heresie begat heresie with a certaine monstrous haste of pregnancy in her birth. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 84, I have often announced to you a pregnancy of events, which have soon after been still-born.

2. *transf.* **a.** Of the soil, etc.: Fertility, fecundity, fruitfulness; abundance.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 21 [Mt. Ida] Famous for the iudgement of Paris, and pregnancie in fountaines. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. vi. (1762) 13 [The earth] will acquire such a genuine and masculine pregnancy. 1878 *Masque Poets* 48 He knows the utmost secret of the earth, The pregnancy of every blossom's birth.

† **b.** A germinating or vitalizing quality. *Obs. rare.*

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 157 Like the eggs of an Ostrich in the dust; I do but lay them in the sun; their own pregnancies hatch the truth.

† **c.** The state or condition of being impregnated with some substance. *Obs.*

1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* IV. 31 The blood..through its pregnancy with volatil aculeous salt.

3. *fig.* In reference to the mind: Fertility, productiveness, inventiveness, imaginative power; quickness or readiness (*of* wit).

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 49 b, They perceyued in hym great copye of learnynge, pregnancy of wytt. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 192 Pregnancie is made a Tapster, and hath his quicke wit wasted in giuing Recknings. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 593 Henry the eight conceiued so good an opinion of his discreet comportement, and ingenious pregnancie, that he .. made him his principall Secretary. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 267 He [Sir H. Vane] was chosen to cozen, and deceive a whole Nation..: which he did with notable pregnancy and dexterity. 1712 ADDI-

son *Spect.* No. 309 ¶ 12 The Diversions of the fallen Angels ..are described with great Pregnancy of Thought. 1833 Coleridge *Table-t.* 23 Oct., I scarcely know a more striking instance of the strength and pregnancy of the Gothic mind.

† **b.** esp. in reference to the young. *Obs.*

1599 *Broughton's Lett.* v. 16 Certaine knowledge of the Archbishops great industrie, from his youth, not pregnancie alone. 1652–62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 273 A pregnancy of judgment above his years. 1671 Clarendon *Dial.* Tracts (1727) 290 He observes a pregnancy in his apprentice, which he cherishes and instructs. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) III. VII. iii. 306 Such youths as are remarkable for the pregnancy of their parts and goodness of disposition. 1852 R. Williams *Eminent Welshmen* 342 [Thos. Morgan] was..a poor lad in a farmer's house, near Bridgewater, Somerset. The pregnancy of his genius was conspicuous, and the Rev. John Moore..offered him tuition gratis.

† **c.** *transf.* A youth of promise. *Obs.*

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* VI. 340 To select yearly one, or moe, of the most promising pregnancies out of both Universities, and to breed them beyond the seas. *a* 1661 — *Worthies, Berks.* (1662) I. 93.

4. In reference to speech, words, etc.: Latent fullness of meaning, significance, suggestiveness.

1841 L. Hunt *Seer* II. (1864) 59 Not that they want the same pregnancy in our language, but because they are neither so abundant nor so musical. *a* 1884 M. Pattison *Mem.* (1885) 63 The political pregnancy of certain words in these had excited my interest.

b. In reference to events, actions, etc.: Latent capacity to produce results, potentiality.

1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 401 The estate that was in them, was, by the statute, wholly transferred to serve the uses which were *in esse*, with a pregnancy and prospect to the contingent remainders, if they should arise in due time. 1883 Seeley *Expansion Eng.* 144 The true test of the historical importance of events..is their pregnancy .. the greatness of the consequences likely to follow from them.

† **Pre·gnancy** [2]. *Obs.* [f. Pregnant *a.*[1] : see -ancy.] Cogency, force, weight, of an argument; clearness of evidence or proof; a weighty reason.

1649 Milton *Eikon.* iii, All those pregnancies and just motives came to just nothing. 1650 *Vindic. Hammond's Addr.* § 10. 3 On purpose..to take off from the clearnesse, and the pregnancie of the probation. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 45 Illustrating his definitions by instances, as he often doth with great pregnancy. 1677 Horneck *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 106 Whatever pregnancy there may be in the motives a judicious person doth allege.

Pre·gnant, *a.*[1] *arch.* Also 5 **preign-,** ?**pren-,** 5–6 **-aunt(e.** [a. OF. *preignant* (1572 *pregnante instance,* 15.. *preignantes raisons* Godef. *Compl.*), pr. pple. of *preindre,* earlier *priembre, premhre* to press:—L. *premère*: cf. '*preignant, pregnant,* pregnant, pithie, ripe, liuelie, forcible, strong; *raisons pregnantes,* plaine, apparent, important, or pressing reasons' (Cotgr. 1611).

The word appears in Eng. much earlier than it is actually cited in Fr., though the vb. had come down in Fr. from L. In Eng. this word ran together in form with the later Pregnant *a.*[2], and it is prob. that in later times the two were viewed merely as senses of the same word, and that this was hence apt to be confused with some of the fig. uses of the next. See the quots. under ¶.]

Of an argument, proof, evidence, reason, etc.: Pressing, urgent, weighty; compelling, cogent, forcible, convincing; hence, clear, obvious.

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* IV. 1151 (1179) And þis was hym a preignant [*MS. Gg.* 4. 27 ?prenaunt] argument, That she was forth out of þis world a-gon. 1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII,* c. 4 § 2 Good and pregnaunte euidence ministred to them by persons sworne before the sayde Justiciar. 1552 Huloet, Pregnant token, *auspicium liquidum.* 1601 F. Godwin *Bps. of Eng.* 276 Because my proofes are not pregnant..I will passe him ouer in silence. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* II. i. 239. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 538 Thus elsewhere, as is pregnant by that other example, formerly alleaged out of Diodorus. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. ii. 106, I doubt not, but it will appear With pregnant light. The point is clear. 1718 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 40 That the Proofs were so Pregnant and the Crime so black. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. 84 A pregnant proof that these liberties of socage tenure were fragments of Saxon liberty.

¶ The following appear also to belong here, in the preceding range of sense, though they are in some cases susceptible of being explained as Pregnant *a.*[2]

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) Pref. a ij, For deciding the doubtes of these daies, more propre and pregnant then the other part not yet printed. 1592 G. Harvey *Four Lett.* iv. Wks. (Grosart) I. 227 Pregnant rules auail much; but visible Examples amount incredibly. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. i. 1546, I will shew you a place in Littleton, which is verye pregnant in this point. 1644 Digby *Nat. Bodies* xxviii. (1658) 307 The whole composure of his body throughout, were pregnant signes of a well tempered mind within. *c* 1680 Beveridge *Serm.* (1729) I. 47 We have as pregnant instances of it in the New Testament as in the Old. 1753 Smollett *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 23/1 This presage ..may certainly be justified by manifold occurrences in life: we ourselves have known a very pregnant example.

Pregnant (pre·gnănt), *a.*[2] (*sb.*) Also 5 **-ante,** 5–6 **-aunt, pringnant,** 6 **preignant, -aunt.** [ad. L. *prægnāns, -ānt-em* with child, pregnant; cf. F. *prégnant* (*prégnante* fem. in Rabelais 1550).

The OF. word was *prcins, preigne* = It. *pregno,* L. type **prægnus*; but in Eng. *pregnaunt* was used in 1413, and was app. common in the 15th c. in the transf. sense 3. It is remarkable that this should appear so much earlier than the literal sense. L. *prægnāns* has generally been explained as a ppl. form, from *præ* before + root *gna-* of *gnāscor, gnātus* to be born, a derivation favoured by the cognate *prægnātio* a making pregnant or being with child, and late L. *prægnāre* to be pregnant, *prægnātus* pregnant, and *prægnātus* (*u*-stem) pregnancy. On the other hand this does not explain the early collateral form *prægnās, -ātem* (Plautus), and the connexion with root *gna-* is disputed by some: see Walde *Latein. Etymol. Wörterbuch* s.v.]

I. 1. That has conceived in the womb; with child or with young; gravid. Const. *with, of* (the offspring), *by* (the male parent).

1545 Raynold *Byrth Mankynde* II. vii. 86 Hypocrates sayth: The pregnant [*edd.* 1552–65 pregnaunt, *ed.* 1598 pregnate] Woman whiche hath *Tenasmum* for the most part aborteth. 1656 Blount *Glossogr., Pregnant..,* great with child or young. 1665–6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 388 Pregnant Bitches..at certain times of their gravidation. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 779 My womb Pregnant by thee, and now excessive grown Prodigious motion felt. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 176 We are not certainly informed how long the females [seals] continue pregnant. *a* 1827 Ld. Eldon in *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 360 The child with which A. M. is now pregnant. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* II. 441 The widow of Ladhuba..was pregnant at the time of her husband's assassination. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 298 Mental changes are common in pregnant women.

b. *fig.* (or in figurative context.)

c 1630 Milton *Passion* 56 And I..Might think th'infection of my sorrows loud, Had got a race of mourners on som pregnant cloud. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* xxx. 93 One errour is a pregnant, and faithfull mother of many more. 1764 Goldsm. *Trav.* 138 The pregnant quarry teem'd with human form. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* iii. 87 Cyrnus, this city is pregnant; but I fear that it will bring forth a man to chastise our evil violence.

† **c.** *fig.* Big, laden, swelling; of a sail, bellying.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Oberon's Feast* 23 A pure seed-pearle of infant dew, Brought and besweetned in a blew And pregnant violet. *a* 1687 Cotton *Winter* x, With all her pregnant sails atrip.

† **2.** *transf.* **a.** Of a plant or seed: Fertilized, capable of germinating; fruitful. *Obs.*

1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 329 *Pregnant,* full as a Bud, or Seed, or Kernel ready to sprout. 1759 tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* I. xv. (1762) 80 May prevent the grains being render'd pregnant. 1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* I. 361 There, rich with nectar, melts the pregnant vine.

† **b.** Of the soil, etc.: Fertile, fruitful; prolific, teeming. Const. *with. Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* II. 97 The fat and pregnant slime which it [the Nile] leaueth behind it. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. IV. xix. 231 An Isle..call'd Marmora, very pregnant with Metals. 1762–9 Falconer *Shipwr.* II. 161 The clouds, with ruin pregnant, now impend. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 68 This horrible volcano..seems pregnant with wonders. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 614 Virginia is the most pregnant with minerals and fossils of any state in the Union.

II. In various mental or non-physical uses.

3. a. Of a person or his mind: Teeming with ideas, fertile, imaginative, inventive, resourceful, ready. Const. *of, in,* or *to* with *inf. arch.* or *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. x. 57 Adam was pregnaunt of vnrightwisnesse and sool disbeysaunte. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 467 Þe mynde of man is pregnante in a feire day, and feynte in a clowdy day. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 1204 Famous in victorye, preignant in wysdome. *Ibid.* 2024 Fyrst to maister Chaucer, and Ludgate sentencious, Also to preignaunt Barkley, nowe beyng religious, To inuentiue Skelton and poet laureate. *a* 1591 H. Smith *Serm.* (1637) 509 Very pregnant to devise nevv shifts to keep in their almes. 1624 R. Skynner in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 352 The Jews have always been so ready and pregnant in the Scriptures, as that they need not cite the Book, Chapter, or Verse. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VIII. 371 The exquisit ingeniosity of their best styles, and pregnant inuention. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 136 ¶ 4 A Person of so pregnant a Fancy, that he cannot be contented with ordinary Occurrences. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gypsy* iv. 34 The story of that Oxford scholar poor Of pregnant parts and quick inventive brain.

b. in *pregnant wit,* common in 16–17th c. *arch.*

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 652 A marchaunt, of pregnaunt wytte, and of good maner and speche. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 7 Divers pregnant wits be in this land. 1549 Chaloner *Erasmus on Folly* M ij, Who is he so pregnant witted that might grope out these misteries? [1578 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXX. 71 Pringnant of wit, of policie but peir. 1589 Nashe *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 17 His pregnant dexteritie of wit.] 1634 Heywood *Maidenhead Lost* I. Wks. 1874 IV. 106 Come, come, I know you haue a pregnant wit. *c* 1660 South *Serm., John vii.* 17 (1715) I. 241 Nor did ever the most pregnant Wit in the World bring forth any Thing great,..without some Pain and Travail.

† **c.** *esp.* of young persons, or their faculties: Apt to conceive or apprehend, quick-witted, of unusual capacity, full of promise, promising. *Obs.*

1557 *Order of Hospitalls* C viij, Suche of the children as be pregnant and very apt to learninge. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* vi. 223 Her apt and pregnant Youth sent hither yeere by yeere, Instructed in our Rites with most religious feare. 1635 Brathwait *Arcad. Pr.* II. 180 Whom we no lesse truly than properly call the Muses minion, the conceits pregnantest darling. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 239 She was a very pregnant Lady above her age, and died in her infancy when not full four years old. 1707 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. 425 Some of the most pregnant Lads are so good Proficients..that they are sent to the University.

† **d.** Apt to receive or be influenced; receptive; disposed, inclined, ready. *Obs.* (chiefly in Shaks.).

1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* III. i. 100 My matter hath no voice, Lady, but to your owne most pregnant and vouchsafed eare. 1602 — *Ham.* III. ii. 66 And crooke the pregnant Hindges of the knee. 1608 — *Per.* IV. Prol. 44 And cursed Dioniza hath The pregnant instrument of wrath Prest for this blow. 1628 Donne *Serm.* xxix. (1640) 290 Christ places the Comfort of this Comforter, the Holy Ghost, in this, that he shall worke upon that pregnant faculty, the Memory.

† **e.** Of hearing: Keen, sharp, acute. *Obs. rare.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 209 Their hearing is most pregnant; for the Egyptians when they signifie hearing, picture a Hare; and for this cause we have shewed you already that their ears are long like horns.

4. Of words, symbolic acts, etc.: Full of meaning, highly significant; containing a hidden sense, implying more than is obvious, suggestive; also, † full *of,* replete *with* (something significant).

c 1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 227 Discusse it with diligens, and telle iff hit be, This pagent is pringnant, sir Pilat, pardé. *c* 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 270 In breif sermone ane pregnant sentence wryte. *a* 1626 Bacon *Confess. Faith* Wks. 1879 I. 338/2 The continual history of the old world, and church of the Jews .. is .. pregnant of a perpetual allegory and shadow of the work of the redemption to follow. 1659 Pearson *Creed* (1839) 104 The best of the Latins thought the Greek word so pregnant and comprehensive, that the Latin tongue had no single word able to express it. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 133 His Epithetes were pregnant with Metaphors. 1838–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* III. III. vii. § 41. 378 The style is what was called pregnant, leaving much to be filled up by the reader's reflection. 1860 Westcott *Introd. Study Gosp.* vi. (ed. 5) 318 St. Mark compresses into this one pregnant sentence the central lesson of the trial. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* II. 188 It is impossible I think in fewer words to give the full interpretation of this pregnant thesis.

b. Phrases.

Pregnant construction, in *Gram.* or *Rhet.,* a construction in which more is implied than the words express. *Pregnant negative,* in Logic [L. *propositio categorica negativa prægnans* in Paulus Nicolettus Venetus, 15th c., Prantl IV. 129, note 545]: see quot. 1890. *Negative pregnant,* in *Law,* a negative implying or involving an affirmative.

1607 Cowell *Interpr., Negative pregnant,*..is a negatiue implying also an affirmatiue. As if a man being impleaded, to haue done a thing vpon such a day, or in such a place, denyeth that he did it *modo & forma declarata*: which implyeth neuer the lesse, that in some sort he did it. 1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 265 You put a negative pregnant upon a man, to say that sitting at the door is more profane than standing. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 552 This general denial amounts only to a denial of personal notice to herself, and is a kind of negative pregnant. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Pregnant negative,* a negative proposition affected by a reduplicative, exceptive, or other expression requiring special treatment in logic: thus, 'no man, *qua* man, ever sleeps' is a pregnant negative.

5. Fertile or fruitful in results; big *with* consequences; containing important issues; momentous.

1591 Florio *2nd Fruites* Ep. Ded. 1 In this stirring time and pregnant prime of inuention when euerie bramble is fruitfull. *a* 1674 Clarendon *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 255 Error is naturally pregnant, and the more desperate it is, the more fruitful. 1783 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 252 A critical business,..pregnant with dangerous consequences. 1820 Combe *Consol.* (Chandos) 160 They hold a pregnant lie well told, Is worth at least its weight in gold.

† **b.** Resultant, produced. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. viii. (1636) 34 Any accessary before the fact is subject to all the contingencies pregnant of the fact, if they be pursuances of the same fact.

B. as *sb.* A pregnant woman. *rare.*

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 284 Humane Policy..forbeareth execution of a condemned Pregnant (or woman with Child). 1864 in Webster [citing Dunglison, who, however, in his entry app. intends the adj.]; and in mod. Dicts.

Hence † **Pre·gnant** *v. trans.,* to render pregnant.

1652 Sparke *Prim. Devot.* (1660) 407 Pray'r..Sometime descending, Pregnanteth the Womb Of Teeming Earth.

† **Pre·gnantly,** *adv.*[1] *Obs.* [f. Pregnant *a.*[1] + -ly [2].] Of argument, proof, etc.: Cogently, forcibly, clearly.

c 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* II. 1237 And voyd 3our resoun well & pregnantly. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* IV. ii. § 1. 125 Play pregnantly prooueth passions. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 24 What more pregnantly confirm'd me he was the real Artabazus. 1765 Law tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magnum* xliii. (1772) 254 We here see very fully and pregnantly.

Pre·gnantly, *adv.*[2] [f. Pregnant *a.*[2] + -ly [2].] In a pregnant manner or state.

1. 'Fruitfully' (Johnson 1755).

b. In a form capable of development. *rare.*

1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 58 It is reiterated that all forms of life existed pregnantly in the first germs.

2. In a manner implying more than is expressed; significantly; suggestively.

1879 Whitney *Sanskrit Gram.* 359 Often, the *iti* is used more pregnantly. 1897 *New Eng. Dict.* III. 65/3 *A deal* is used pregnantly for *a good* or *great deal.*

† **Pre·gnantness.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. Pregnant *a.*[1] and [2] + -ness.] The quality of being pregnant: = Pregnancy [1] and 2.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Pregnantness,* a being great with Child; also (spoken of Evidence or Proof) Strength; also (of Invention, Wit, etc.) Ripeness, Quickness.

† **Pre·gnate,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *prægnātus* (5th cent.), pa. pple. of *prægnāre* to be pregnant.] = Pregnant *a.*[2] 1.

1598 [see Pregnant *a.*[2] 1, quot. 1545].

† **Pre·gnate,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prægnāre*: see prec.] *intr.* Of soil: To become fertile, to promote germination or growth.

1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. i. 6 Backward soils, which are long a pregnating in the Spring.

† **Pregna·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *prægnātiōn-em*: see Pregnant *a.*[2]] = Pregnancy [1].

1623 Cockeram, *Pregnation,* being great with childe.

† Pregna·tress. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as fem. of L. **prægnātor* (not found) + -ESS 1.] A (feminine) agent or power that generates or brings to birth.

1765 LAW tr. *Behmen's Myst. Magnum* vi. (1772) 26 For the Pregnatress [Ger. *Gebährerin*] of Time is a Model or Plat-form of the Eternal Pregnatress.

Pregnotarie, -y, variants of PRENOTARY *Obs.*

† Pregra·nd, prægra·nd, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prægrand-is* very large: see PRE- A. 6 and GRAND *a.*] Extraordinarily large.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 450 Not unlike a she-goat with a prægrand body.

† Pre·gravate, *v. Obs. rare.* Also præ-. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prægravāre* to press heavily upon (f. *præ*, PRE- A. 5 + *gravāre* to weigh down, f. *gravis* heavy).] *trans.* To weigh down, overweight.

1652 BP. HALL *Invis. World* II. § 1 The clog which the body brings with it cannot but pregravate and trouble the soul in all her performances. 1653 SCLATER *Fun. Serm.* 25 *Sept.* (1654) 12 The Soule (which is here clogg'd, and drossy, and much prægravated by the Body, subject to corruption).

Hence **† Pregrava·tion** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰: see quot.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pregravation*, great griefe.

† Pregra·vitate, præ-, *v. Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 5.] *intr.* To gravitate more (than something else).

1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* vi. 189 Water does gravitate in Water, as well as out of it, though indeed it does not prægravitate, because 'tis Counter-ballanc'd by an equal weight of Collateral Water, which keeps it from descending. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 187/1 Those things which do not pre-gravitate in the Air, Water, &c. the Vulgar take to have no Gravity.

† Pregre·dience. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. type **prægredientia*, f. *prægredī*, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *gradī* to step, go.] A going before or in front.

1595 CHAPMAN *Ovid's Banq. Sence* C ij, But as the Vniçorns pregredience To venomd Pooles, doth purdge them with his horne, And after him the desarts Residence May safely drinke.

† Pregre·ssion. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prægressiōn-em* a going before, n. of action f. *prægredī*: see prec.] Going before, antecedence, precedence.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pregression*, a going before. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 173 Medicines do not need the prægression of our heat. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pregression*, ..a going before, an out-going or over-passing, a preventing.

† Pregu·st, *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *prægustāre* to taste before: see PRE- A. 1 and GUST *v.*¹] To taste before. So (*nonce-wds.*) **† Pregu·stant** *a.*, tasting beforehand; **† Pregu·stic** = PREGUSTATOR.

1623 COCKERAM, *Pregust*, to taste before. 1824 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 37/2 We must tie those prægustant punishers down by one question. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xx, The Leprous were brought in by her Abstractors, Spodizators, Masticators, Pregustics [F. *Pregustes*]..and other Officers, for whom I want names.

† Pregusta·tion. *Obs.* Also præ-. [n. of action f. L. *prægustāre*: see prec. So obs. F. *prégustation* (Godef.).] A tasting before, a foretaste.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pregustation*.., a tasting or assaying before. *a* 1658 A. FARINGDON *Serm.* (1674) III. 398 The Child, when he is hungry, desires milk, because he hath a kind of prægustation of milk in his very nature. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 93 Over early pregustation of Woe. 1678 A. WALKER *Character Lady Warwick* 117 In the actual exercise of prayer, by which she so often anticipated Heaven by pregustation.

† Pregusta·tor. *Obs. rare.* In 7 præ-. [a. L. *prægustātor*, agent-n. f. *prægustāre* (see PREGUST) = F. *prégustateur*.] One whose function is to taste meats and drinks before serving them.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxiii, When her Prægustators [F. *Pregustes*] had tasted the meat, her Masticators .. chew'd it.

‖ **Prehallux, præ-** (prɪhæ·lŭks). *Anat.* and *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *præ*, PRE- B. 3 + HALLUX. Named 1885 by Bardeleben of Jena.] A rudimentary structure, osseous or cartilaginous, found on the inner side of the tarsus of some Mammalia, Reptilia, and Batrachia, and supposed to represent an additional digit.

1888 *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* 150 That the pre-hallux takes on certain of the essential relationships of a digit is beyond dispute. That it really represents one is another question. 1889 *Athenæum* 18 May 635/3 Prof. Bardeleben [sent a paper] on the præpollex and præhallux of the mammalian skeleton...He also stated that he had discovered vestiges of the præhallux and præpollex in certain Reptilia. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammalia* ii. 49 In the posterior limb the tibial sesamoid, and a fibular ossification corresponding to the pisiform, are regarded as representing a prehallux and a postminimus.

‖ **Prehalteres** (prɪ¡hæ·ltĕrēz), *sb. pl. Entom.* [mod. L., f. PRE- B. 3 + HALTERES.] A pair of small membranous scales in front of the halteres of dipterous insects; usually called *tegulæ*.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Preheminence, -ent, obs. ff. PRE-EMINENCE, -EMINENT. **Pre-hemiplegic:** see PRE- B. 1.

† Prehe·nd, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prehend-ĕre* to grasp, seize, catch, for earlier *præhendĕre* (Plaut.), f. *præ*, PRE- + **handĕre*, cognate with Gr. χανδ-άν-ειν to take in, hold. Sometimes perh. aphetic f. APPREHEND.] *trans.* To seize, catch, apprehend.

15.. Stow in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) Pref. 15 *note*, They were greatly blamed that prehended hym and comitted hym. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Mayor of Quinborough* v. i, Is not that Rebel Oliver, that Traytor to my year, Prehended yet? 1831 T. HOPE *Ess. Origin Man* II. 76 Vegetables and animals..for pursuing, prehending, and appropriating to themselves the substances they want for their further support,..want new external organs.

† Prehensa·tion. *Obs. rare.* [agent-n. f. L. *prehensāre* (*prensāre*) to seize, detain, solicit (freq. of *prehendĕre*): see prec. and cf. PRENSATION.] (?) Solicitation, suing.

1649 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* II. 145 The Domestick use of their Nomenclators, their Prehensations, Invitations, Clientships.

Prehensible (prɪ̆he·nsĭb'l), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prehens-*, ppl. stem of *prehend-ĕre* (see PREHEND) + -IBLE. So F. *préhensible*.] Capable of being grasped.

a 1832 BENTHAM *Ess. Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 315 This verbal noun..which in this its separate state, becomes the name of a sort of fictitious entity, of a sort of fictitious body or substance, is, in this state, rendered more prehensible.

Prehensile (prɪ̆he·nsil, -saɪl), *a.* Chiefly *Zool.* [a. F. *préhensile* (Buffon), f. as prec. + *-ile*, -ILE.] Capable of prehension; having the capacity of grasping or laying hold of anything.

1781-5 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 185 By..his prehensile tail, he [the Coaita] is easily distinguished from the monkeys. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* (1855) 24 Not any of the limbs of fishes are prehensile. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. iv. 142 With some savages..the foot has not altogether lost its prehensile power.

b. *Comb.*, as *prehensile-lipped, -tailed.*

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 13 M. Cuvier suspects that it [the sense of touch in the tail] has a similar existence in all the prehensile-tailed mammals. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* xii. 133 The prehensile-lipped rhinoceros. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 4/1 Prehensile-tailed creatures are, as a rule, restricted to the New World.

Prehensility (prɪ̆hensi·lĭti). [f. prec. + -ITY.] The quality of being prehensile, prehensiveness.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits* vi. 115 Their statesmen..have invented many fine phrases to cover this slowness of perception and prehensility of tail. 1869 GILLMORE *Figuier's Reptiles* ii. 40 In..the Vipers, it [the tail] is short and without any prehensility.

Prehension (prɪ̆he·nʃən). [ad. L. *prehensiōn-em* seizing, apprehending, n. of action f. *prehendĕre* (see PREHEND). So F. *préhension* (*prehencion* *c* 1400 in Godef.).]

1. The action of taking hold (physically); grasping, seizing. Chiefly *Zool.*

1828 WEBSTER, *Prehension*, a taking hold; a seizing; as with the hand or other limb. *Lawrence.* 1833 SIR C. BELL *Hand* (1834) 159 The bill of the bird..is the organ of prehension and of touch. 1884 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* July 39 Food cannot be got without powers of prehension.

b. A taking possession, occupation, seizure. *rare.*

1880 SIR J. B. PHEAR *Aryan Vill. in India* Introd. 15 The prehension and clearing of a definite tract of ground, and.. arrangements for tilling..it.

† 2. Seizure or arrest in the name of justice or authority; apprehension. *Obs.*

1534 *Act* 26 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 § 9 The nexte sessions..to be holden after the prehension or attachement of such offendour. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* I. xii. (1588) 66 The ancient Conseruator of the Peace, who had onely Coertion or Prehension in a few cases. 1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judicial Procedure* xxii. § 1 Prehension, applied to things, will be with reference to—1. A thing immoveable...2. A thing moveable...3. A stock of things moveable.

3. Grasping with the mind; mental apprehension.

1836 J. ABBOTT *Way to do Good* ix. 294 There is something in man which enables him to seize, as it were, by direct prehension, what is true and right when it is distinctly presented to him. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 375/2 Mr. Churchill's instinctive prehension of her claims to fashionable distinction.

Prehensive (prɪ̆he·nsiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prehens-*, ppl. stem of *prehendĕre* (see PREHEND) + -IVE.] Capable of seizing or laying hold; = PREHENSILE. Hence **Prehe·nsiveness.**

1857 I. TAYLOR *World of Mind* xxiv. § 885 Conscious of its want of a prehensive limb. 1897 A. LANG in *Daily News* 27 Sept. 6/5 At the Raj Kumar College..'we had a higher ideal of fielding than most English schools', perhaps a greater agility and prehensiveness.

Prehensor (prɪ̆he·nsɔɪ). [f. as prec. + -OR 2.] One who or that which lays hold of anything.

1829 BENTHAM *Justice & Cod. Petit.* 179 Distinguished by some such name as *prehensors* or *arrestors*. 1830 — *Equity Disp. Court Prop.* III. vii. 41 Three different sorts of functionaries—Prehensors, Messengers, and Consignees—for carrying on the necessary intercourse, between the judge, on the one part, and things and persons, on the other.

‖ **Prehenso·rium.** *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *prehensor*: see -ORIUM.] An apparatus or arrangement of parts adapted for prehension; *spec.* applied to a formation of the legs in some spiders and insects. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prehensory (prɪ̆he·nsəri), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *prehensōri-us*, f. as prec.: see -ORY 2.] Adapted for seizing or laying hold: = PREHENSIVE.

1826 KIRBY & SPENCE *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 240 The pupæ [of Libellulina] are furnished with a prehensory mask. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xiii. 10 The prehensory organs or arms.

Preheterocercal (prɪ¡hetĕrəsɔ·ɪkăl), *a. Ichth.* [PRE- B. 1.] Preceding the heterocercal: a supposed stage in the development of the tail in fishes.

1900 *Nature* 20 Sept. 506/1 The supposition that it represents the original 'protocercal' or preheterocercal stage.

Pre-hexameral: see PRE- B. 1.

Prehistorian (prɪ̆histō·rĭăn). *rare.* [f. as next, after *historian*.] One who studies the remains, customs, and conditions of prehistoric times.

1893 *Amer. Cath. Q. Rev.* Oct. 728 This has been either ignored or rejected..by the new school of prehistorians. 1902 *Nation* (N. Y.) 20 Nov. 398/1 Prehistorians had long known of a gentleman..who had long excavated on his own responsibility.

Prehistoric (prɪ̆histo·rik), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + HISTORIC *a.* So F. *préhistorique*.] Of, belonging to, or existing in the period antecedent to history, or to the first historical accounts of a people.

1851 D. WILSON (*title*) The Archæology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland. *Ibid.* ix, The prehistoric races of Northern Europe. 1863 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 14 The application of the term *Prehistoric*—introduced, if I mistake not, for the first time in this work. 1880 W. G. CLARK in *Vac. Tour.* 38 This tufa has been deposited..by some pre-historic volcano. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* 8 Homer and Troy lie far back in the prehistoric period. 1894 H. B. SWETE *Apostles' Creed* ii. 29 Evidence..to show that about the middle of the third century a prehistoric and premundane Sonship was ascribed by the majority of believers to Jesus Christ.

So **Prehisto·rical** *a.*, prehistoric; hence **Prehisto·rically** *adv.*, in prehistoric times.

1862 *Parthenon* 26 July 393 From a 'prehistorical' period down to the Conquest of Tamerlane (A. D. 1398). 1863 LYELL *Antig. Man* 11 Another class of memorials..has thrown light on the pre-historical age. 1895 *Edin. Rev.* July 137 The stream of communication set in prehistorically.

Prehisto·rics, *sb. pl.* [pl. of PREHISTORIC *a.*; after *economics*, *pneumatics*, etc.] Prehistoric matters as a branch of study.

1884 *Science* 4 July 212 Chinese prehistorics have not as yet been sufficiently studied to decide which metal was the first to be wrought in that distant realm. 1891 R. SEWELL in *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 226/1 A paper..on..Dravidian prehistorics in this locality, with special reference to Kapgal.

Prehistory (prɪ̆hi·stŏri). [f. PRE- + HISTORY, after PREHISTORIC.] The account of events or conditions prior to written or recorded history; hence, such events or facts, or the period when they occurred; prehistoric matters or times.

1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. 401 The history and pre-history of man take their proper places in the general scheme of knowledge. 1888 *Times* 3 Oct. 8/1 The existence of the Pelasgi as a distinct and identifiable race and element in Italian or Greek history, or rather pre-history. 1902 *Nature* 30 Jan. 299/2 The clever etchings on bone and ivory of the cave-dwellers of Western Europe..are well known to all who interest themselves in the pre-history of man.

Prehnite (prē·nəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *prehnit* (Werner 1789), f. the name of Colonel von Prehn, who brought it from the Cape of Good Hope: see -ITE 1 2 b.] A hydrous silicate of aluminium and calcium, found in more or less globular masses of a pale green colour and vitreous lustre.

1795 *Schmeisser's Syst. Min.* I. 147 Prehnite..is called after Captain Prehn who brought it first to Europe. 1802 BOURNON in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 282 That kind of prehnite which is composed of a mass of crystals confusedly aggregated. *a* 1882 SIR R. CHRISTISON *Life* (1885) I. 96 Finding prehnite on the way under the blastings of a trap cliff.

Hence **Prehnitiform** (preni·tifɔ̆m) *a.*, having the form of prehnite.

1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 152 Stilbite, both in the ordinary sheaf-shaped aggregations, and prehnitiform.

Prehni·tic, *a. Chem.* [f. prec.: see quot. 1872.] In *Prehnitic acid*: see quots.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 811 Prehnitic acid, $C_{10}H_6O_8$ ..crystallises..in large prisms resembling the mineral prehnite. 1875 *Ibid.* VII. 1006 Prehnitic acid..obtained by heating hydromellitic acid with strong sulphuric acid.

Prehuman (prɪ̆hiū·măn), *a.* [PRE- B. 1.] Preceding the human; previous to the existence of man upon the earth.

1844 R. CHAMBERS *Vest. Creation, Orig. Anim. Tribes*, Throughout the whole of the pre-human period. 1900 H. MACPHERSON *H. Spencer* 117 Studying mental processes in their earlier pre-human manifestations.

Preiche, -our, etc., obs. ff. PREACH, PREACHER.

Preid, var. PREDE *v. Obs.* **Preie, preize,** obs. ff. PRAY, PREY. **Preier(e,** obs. ff. PRAYER. **Preif, -e, preiff,** obs. ff. PROOF, PROVE. **Preignable, -ant,** obs. ff. PREGNABLE, PREGNANT. **Preignetory, -notarie, -y,** var. PRENOTARY *Obs.* **Preik,** obs. Sc. f. PRICK.

Pre-imagine (prɪ¡imæ·dʒin), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + IMAGINE; cf. med.L. *præimāginare* (1132 in Du Cange).] *trans.* To imagine beforehand; in quot. *a* 1631, to preconceive, presuppose.

a 1631 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 274 Everie addition preimagines a beeing. 1818 MOORE *Mem.* (1856) VIII. 233, I have done it,..I , as usual, not half so well as I had pre-imagined it.

So **Pre-imagina·tion,** imagination of something before the actual existence or experience of it.

1881 SULLY *Illusions* 105 The results of definite preimagination, including what are generally known as expectations.

Pre-imbibe, -imbue, -impression, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, 2. **Prein,** Sc. f. PREEN. **Preinable,** obs. f. PREGNABLE.

† Pre-ina·nimate, *v. Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To 'inanimate', vivify, or inspire beforehand.

1624 DONNE *Serm.* xlvi. (1640) 462 When he was to re-inanimate him with his spirit; rather, to pre-inanimate him; for, indeed, no man hath a soule till he have grace. *a* 1631 — *Serm.* cvii. (ed. Alford) IV. 451 That power of that Grace that prevents and preinanimates that Action.

Pre-Incarial: see PRE- B. 1.

Pre-inca·rnate, *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + INCARNATE *a.*] Existing previous to the Incarnation.

1868 LIGHTFOOT *Ep. Philippians* (1885) 131 Does the expression .. refer to the pre-incarnate or the incarnate Christ? 1895 SALMOND *Doctr. Immortality* IV. iii. 459 Is it a ministry of the pre-incarnate Christ, the disembodied Christ, or the risen Christ?

Pre-incarna·tion. [PRE- A. 2.] A previous incarnation or embodiment.

1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* II. 136 One pre-incarnation as an Indian Princess. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 May 3/2 Can this wide-eyed poet be a preincarnation of Swinburne? Alas! it is but Sir Thomas Overbury.

Pre-incline (prīinklai·n), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To incline or dispose beforehand.

1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. Pref. 33 These Saints are ..by the Holy Spirit pre-inclined..to ask. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 59 Nor do I see cause for the fear to which your statement had preinclined me.

† Pre-increpa·tion. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [PRE- A. 2.] A previous increpation, rebuke, or reproof.

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lxii. (1640) 619 God armes him with a pre-increpation upon Descents, *Nolite fieri*, Goe no lesse, be not made lower.

Pre-indesignate (prīinde·signēt, -de·z-), *a. Logic.* [f. PRE- A. 3 + INDESIGNATE.] Having no sign of quantity prefixed: = INDEFINITE *a.* 4, INDESIGNATE. Opp. to PREDESIGNATE.

1837-8 [see PREDESIGNATE]. 1846 HAMILTON *Let. to De Morgan* 2 The preindesignate terms of a proposition, whether subject or predicate, are never, on that account, thought as indefinite (or indeterminate) in quantity.

Pre-indicant (prīi·ndikănt). *rare.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + INDICANT.] Something that indicates or betokens beforehand; a prognostic.

1659 PELL *Improv. Sea* 374 If circles about the Moon.. bee double or treble, they are..preindicants of a..tempest.

Pre-indicate (prīi·ndike·t), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To indicate or point out beforehand.

1804 A. PIRIE in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxi. 3 It also pre-indicated the blowing of the gospel-trumpet. 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superstit.* iv. 72 For how many centuries were the laws of electricity preindicated by the single fact, that a piece of amber when rubbed would attract light bodies? 1867 *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 360 The Bishop..pre-indicated the essential importance..of the future production of the folio MS.

Pre-inform (prīinfō·ɪm), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To inform beforehand.

1791 *Town & Country Mag.* Suppl. 593/2 Being pre-informed that it would be a very mixed assembly. 1878 H. M. STANLEY *Dark Cont.* I. xvi. 423 As couriers had pre-informed us.

Pre-i·nstinct. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] A previous or pre-existing instinct.

1643 T. GOODWIN *Return of Prayers* 46 By an unerring providence and preinstinct infused by his Spirit.

Pre-instruct (prīinstrv·kt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1: cf. OF. *preinstruict* (*a* 1500 in Godef.).] *trans.* To instruct beforehand. So **Pre-instru·ction,** instruction in advance.

1642 *Compl. to Ho. Comm.* 12 Sollicitation and pre-instruction in Causes. 1646 MAYNE *Serm. Unity* 16 A certaine Disciple named Ananias, pre-instructed by Christ in a vision, was sent to him. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal., Def.* 204 As if Plato had been pre-instructed by men of the same Spirit with the Apostle.

Preinte, obs. form of PRINT.

Pre-intend (prīinte·nd), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To intend previously; to purpose beforehand.

1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* ii. 78 Such a succession as themselves had preintended. *a* 1652 BROME *Damoiselle* v. Wks. 1873 I. 461 That Charitable use, To which I pre-intended it.

Pre-interpret (prīintə·ɪprĕt), *v.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To interpret beforehand. So **Pre-interpreta·tion,** interpretation in advance.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1668) 307 Our Oracles, and pre-interpretations of these Decrees. 1640 NABBES *Bride* III. i, You..catch .. and preinterpret Thoughts that had never being.

Pre-intimate (prīi·ntimēt), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + INTIMATE *v.*] *trans.* To intimate beforehand or in advance. So **Pre-intima·tion,** previous intimation, a suggestion beforehand.

a 1821 T. SCOTT *Comm. Josh.* ix. 27 The transaction .. pre-intimated their admission into the church. 1828 WEBSTER cites T. SCOTT for *Preintimation.* 1896 J. E. RANKIN in *Chicago Advance* 30 Jan. 165/1 Her cheerfulness and evenness of temper..preintimate what she may become when thoroughly taught and trained.

Pre-intone (prīintō·n), *v. Eccl.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To intone the introductory part of (a melody) in a low voice for the officiant, who then intones it aloud.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 67 They accompany the Officiant to his seat, and stand before him..until the first Cantor shall have pre-intoned to him the first antiphon. *Ibid.*, The first Cantor pre-intones the Hymn for the Officiant.

Preire, obs. f. PRAYER. **Preis(e,** obs. ff. PRAISE, PRICE. **Preis, -e, preiss, Preist,** obs. Sc. ff. PRESS, PRIEST. **Preive,** obs. Sc. f. PROVE.

Prejacent (prīdʒē·sĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [a.OF. *prejacent* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *præjacēnt-em*, pr. pple. of *præjacēre* to lie in front, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 + *jacēre* to lie.]

† 1. Previously existing; pre-existent. *Obs.*

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. i. 2 Thales..said that God was an understandinge that made..all thynges of the water as matter prejacent. 1596 BELL *Surv. Popery* I. i. 1 Without any antecedent or prejacent matter. 1676 GARENCIERES *Corals* 46 Without any prejacent or evident cause. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Heb. xi. 3 The world was made, not out of any pre-jacent or pre-existent matter, but out of nothing.

2. *Logic.* Laid down previously; constituting the original proposition from which another is inferred. Hence *ellipt.* as *sb. rare.*

c 1840 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* App. (1860) II. 276 According to the doctrine of the logicians, conversion applies only to the naked terms themselves:—the subject and predicate of the prejacent interchange places, but the quantity by which each was therein affected is excluded from the movement; remaining to affect its correlative in the subjacent proposition.

3. Lying or situated in front. *rare.*

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 5 With respect to its situation on the side of France, this Circle is reckoned among the four anterior and six prejacent Circles of the Empire.

Prejinct, prejink, var. PERJINK *a.*, precise.

Prejudge (prīdʒv·dʒ), *v.* [ad. F. *préjuger* (16th c. in Littré), after L. *præjūdicāre* to prejudge, PREJUDICATE; see PRE- A. 1 and JUDGE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To pass judgement, or pronounce sentence on, before trial, or without proper inquiry; hence, to judge, to express or come to a judgement or decision upon (a person, cause, opinion, action, etc.), prematurely and without due consideration.

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 170 That, befoir he be prejudgit thairof, he may have the ordour of the law observit to him. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* Prol., [The poet] prayes you'll not preiudge his Play for ill. 1659 H. THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 595 The choice of religion cannot be prejudged by common sense. 1763 CHURCHILL *Epist. to W. Hogarth* Poems I. 131 When Wilkes, prejudg'd, is sentenc'd to the Tow'r. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliii. (1869) II. 613 The emperor had prejudged his guilt. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 259 This demand appeared to him an unauthorised attempt to prejudge the very question to be inquired into. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 340 She knew that the case was prejudged against her by the wolf, and that she must meet the lamb's fate.

† **b.** To judge unfavourably, condemn, or disparage in advance; to form a prejudice against. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 2 The expedition..was preiudged as a vast and impossible enterprize. 1622 — *Hen. VII* 4 It was a Title condemned by Parliament, and generally preiudged in the common opinion of the Realme.

c. To judge (a person) prematurely to be (something). *nonce-use.*

1822 BYRON *Werner* II. ii. 80 Stralenheim Is not what you prejudge him.

† **2.** To affect prejudicially or injuriously; to do something to the prejudice of; to prejudice, injure. *Sc. Obs.*

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 171 That samekle dewitie hes bene payit yeirlie thairfoir, and..suld nocht preiuge hir anent hir rycht of the saidis landis. 1600 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (Burgh Rec. Soc.) I. 206 The letter..sall nocht preiuge or hurte..ony vtheris. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xvii. § 6 The publick Interest could not be prejudged by any connivance or Crime of the Husband. 1707 DK. OF ATHOL in *Vulpone* 20 The Barons and Burrows are also further prejudg'd in this, That..one Commissioner will hereafter Represent several Shires or Burghs.

† **3.** To anticipate (another) in judging. *Obs.*

1626 MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 229 That we should by this Act prejudge the Parliament. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Ad Sect. xv. § 5 By this time, suppose sentence given, Caiaphas prejudging all the Sanhedrim. 1719 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 221 That they had made a publick complaint..which now lyes before the King; that it did not belong to our Province, either to prejudge his Majesty, or to decide the Points in difference.

Hence **Preju·dged** *ppl. a.*, judged or condemned beforehand; † prejudiced; **Preju·dging** *vbl. sb.*; also **Preju·dger,** one who prejudges.

a 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 20 The malitious prejudged man, and the lazy affectors of ignorance, will use the same calumnies and obtrectations toward me. 1666 OWEN *Nat. & Power Indwelling Sin* Wks. 1851 VI. 273 Conscience is a man's prejudging of himself with respect unto the future judgment of God. 1785 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) III. 39 We know that we bring before a bribed tribunal a pre-judged cause. 1838 G. S. FABER *Inquiry* 113 A malignant Inquisitor, the iniquitous prejudger of his prisoner. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip* iii, As an already prejudged man .. he obtained a change of venue.

Prejudgement, -judgment (prīdʒv·dʒmĕnt). [ad. obs. F. *prejugement* (Cotgr.): see PRE- A. 2 and JUDGEMENT.] The action or fact of prejudging; judgement beforehand; a conclusion or decision formed before examination of the facts; prejudice.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 8 To remooue stronge Preoccupations and Preiudgements. 1680 *Relig. Dutch* iii. 25 Their own prejudgments have engag'd them to accommodate the Scripture to their own Erroneous Sence. 1799 BP. W. KNOX *Serm.* 7 *Apr.* 39 It is not free and impartial inquiry that we deprecate, it is hasty and arrogant pre-judgement. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xl, I listen that I may know, without prejudgment.

† **Preju·dicacy.** *Obs.* [f. PREJUDICATE *ppl. a.*: see -ACY.] Preconceived opinion, prepossession, prejudice.

1636 SIR H. BLOUNT *Voy. Levant* 4 Mine owne eye, not dazled with any affection, prejudicacy, or mist of education. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 246 Which, I cannot think, if prejudicacy be laid aside, but that..he will acknowledge.

† **Preju·dical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [app. f. L. *præjūdicāre* (see PREJUDICATE *v.*) + -AL. (But perhaps only erroneous for *prejudicial.*)]

1. = PREJUDICIAL *a.*¹ 1.

1594 PARSONS *Confer. Success.* I. viii. 196 He ought to enjoy his preheminence, but yet so, that he be not prejudical therby to the whole body. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* V. (1841) I. 33 To be limited so as not to be prejudical to business. 1791 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 129 Those abuses were no less prejudical to the monarch than to the nation.

2. = PRE-JUDICIAL *a.*²

1864 WEBSTER s. v., A prejudical enquiry or action at law.

† **Preju·dicant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præjūdicāns, -ānt-em*, pres. pple. of *præjūdicāre*: see PREJUDICATE *v.*] Prejudging, 'prejudicating'.

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 163 If we..hear him with not too hasty and prejudicant ears, we shall finde no such terror in him.

† **Preju·dicate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *præjūdicāt-us*, pa. pple. of *præjūdicāre*: see next.]

1. Judged, settled, or decided beforehand. (Const. as *pa. pple.*) *rare.*

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1640/1 Neither were ignoraunt of the purpose of the aduersaries, and how y⁶ cause was preiudicate before. 1676-7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 507 The question..should be prejudicate and decided by making this the first or second reading.

2. Formed (as an opinion) prior to knowledge or examination of the case; preconceived.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 114 A reprobate sence, and preiudicate opinion. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 152 So many prejudicate prepossessions that do secretly taint the mind. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iv. § 1 Casting away all our former prejudicate opinions and sentiments. [1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 166 His treatment of civil transactions is more frequently marred by his (in Baconian phrase) prejudicate opinions.]

3. Affected by a preconceived opinion; prejudiced, prepossessed, biased.

1579 J. FIELD tr. *Calvin's Serm.* Ded. A iij, If men will come with preiudicate minds. 1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. 122, I would repent me were it not too late, Were not the angry world prejudicate. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 27 Their reasons enforce beliefe even from prejudicate Readers. 1716 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 131 They are strangely prejudicate against the servants of Christ in this corner.

† **Preju·dicate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præjūdicāre* to judge before, give a preliminary judgement, to prejudice, injure, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *jūdicāre* to judge.]

1. *trans.* To affect prejudicially: = PREJUDICE *v.* 1.

1553 S. CABOT *Ordinances* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 261 No particular person to hinder or preiudicate the common stocke of the companie, in sale or preferment of his owne proper wares. 1594 PARSONS *Confer. Success.* II. vii. 143 By this it is euident, that the fault of the father may preiudicate the sonnes. 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 41 He added, that our senses..did prejudicate rather then qualifie us for these speculations.

b. *intr.* To act prejudicially, to do prejudice.

1565 HARDING *Confut.* IV. viii. 190 S. Gregory might call Mauritius his lord, either of courtesie, or of custome:.. Neither did S. Gregorie by that title of honour preiudicate vnto him selfe in any spirituall iurisdiction.

2. *trans.* To judge beforehand; to form an opinion of (anything) previously, *usually* hastily or rashly; to condemn in advance: = PREJUDGE 1.

[1570: see prec. 1.] *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1629) 421 To prejudicate his determination, is but a doubt of goodnesse in him, who is nothing but goodnesse. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 342 The epistle..[the Jesuits] haue rashly preiudicated to smell of an heretical spirite. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 8 A prudent man, is so cautelous and vigillant..in prejudicating perills to come. 1660 GAUDEN *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 39 When the mists of any passions arise, either prejudicating the person for the cause, or the cause for the person. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 29 (1740) 524 If that Vote had not prejudicated the Matter.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To form a judgement prematurely.

c 1626 *Dick of Devon* I. iii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 17, I did preiudicate Too rashly of the English. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 137 You were not placed here to prejudicate in any matter.

3. *trans.* To presage. *rare.* (Cf. *judicial astrology*, and PREJUDICE *sb.* 2 b.)

1595 *Locrine* V. iv, Behold, the circuit of the azure sky.. Prejudicating Locrine's overthrow.

4. To influence or affect (persons or their opinions) beforehand; to bias: = PREJUDICE *v.* 3.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 237 That the outward apparance .. may forestall, carrie away and preiudicate mens conceits. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 37 You are prejudicated against him. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 129 Strange Vertigoes prejudicate Fancy.

Hence † **Preju·dicated** *ppl. a.*, prejudiced, pre-

possessed; †**Preju·dicating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, prejudging, prejudicing.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 47 A minde not preiudiced with a preiudicating humor. *a* 1586 — *Arcadia* (1622) 461 Although this were a great preiudicating of Pyrocles case, yet was he exceedingly ioyous of it, being assured of his Ladies life. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 92 Effects, either of secular politicy, or prejudicating and preposterous zeal. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves*, etc., *Disc. Eccl.* ii. 11 (1677) 346 A prejudicated Judg, that sentences Delinquents, when yet he has not heard the cause. 1670 H. SCOUGAL *Wks.* (1765) 306 This providence to my prejudicated fancy can appear nothing less than the rod of an offended deity.

†**Preju·dicately,** *adv. Obs.* [f. PREJUDICATE *ppl. a.* + -LY 2.] In a 'prejudicate' or prejudiced manner; with prejudice.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 125 We should consequently beleeue..this verie yeere to be that Fatall, yea that Finall yeere indeed, which so preiudicately it is supposed to be. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 32, I have no personal quarrel with any, nor do I..write prejudicately. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. iii. 126 Dr. Schelhammer prejudicately mistaketh Dr. Willis's meaning.

†**Preju·dicateness.** *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The condition of being prejudiced; prepossession; previous bias.

1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xix. 398 His malicious preiudicatenes will so blynd him, that he shall keepe no euen way. 1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 73 Read with impartiality, without prejudicateness.

Prejudication (prɪˌdʒūdikēi·ʃən). [n. of action from L. *præjūdicāre*: see PREJUDICATE *v.*]

1. The action of 'prejudicating'; a judging beforehand; a previously formed decision or opinion.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Preiudication*, a iudging before hand. 1617 R. FENTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* To Rdr., Come not therefore with prejudication, either of the matter or the person. 1764 LYTTELTON *Hen. II* (1769) I. 209 A solemn determination, which assigned the precedence to the nephew of the king above his natural son was a prejudication of the right of succession in favor of the former. 1849 J. P. KENNEDY *W. Wirt* (1860) II. xvi. 273 They have come to the examination of this case under a strong prejudication of the guilt of the respondent.

2. An occasional rendering of L. *præjūdicium*: see quot., and cf. PRE-JUDICIAL *a.*2

1854 WEBSTER, *Prejudication* .. (Roman Law), a preliminary inquiry and determination about something which belongs to a matter in dispute.

†**Preju·dicative,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. ppl. stem *præjūdicāt-* (see PREJUDICATE *ppl. a.*) + -IVE.] Characterized by prejudgement; prejudging.

1647 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. App., Pref. 189 A thing as ill beseeming Philosophers, as hastie prejudicative sentence [beseems] Politicall Judges. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 415 The irresistable Arguments and Prejudicative Prerogatives of the Law and the Testimony.

Prejudicator (prɪˌdʒū·dikeitəɹ). *rare*—1. [Agent-n. on L. type, f. L. *præjūdicāre* to prejudicate: cf. L. *præjūdex.*] One who prejudges.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* X. 679 You could have no public pretence for volunteering yourselves as my opponents, or as my prejudicators.

†**Prejudicatory,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + -ORY 2.] = PREJUDICATIVE *a.*

1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 69 To acquit my selfe from the suspected infirmity of a causelesse prejudicatory jealousy.

Prejudice (pre·dʒŭdis), *sb.* Also 4-6 **-ys**(e, (5 **pregedys**(s)e), 5-7 **prejudyce**, 6 **-ize**, 6-7 **præ-**. [a. F. *préjudice* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *præjūdicium* a preceding judgement or decision, a precedent; damage, prejudice, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 2 + *jūdicium* judgement, sentence.]

I. 1. Injury, detriment, or damage, caused to a person by judgement or action in which his rights are disregarded; resulting injury; hence, injury to a person or thing likely to be the consequence of some action. Now chiefly in particular phrases, as *in prejudice of*, to the (intended or consequent) detriment or injury of; *to the prejudice of*, to the (resulting) injury of; *without prejudice*, without detriment to any existing right or claim; esp. in *Law*, without damage to one's own right, without detracting from one's own rights or claims: see quot. 1872.

c 1290 *Becket* 1701 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 155 Þe king in preludice of him, and to bi-nimen him is riȝte, Let oþur bischopes crouni is sone. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 987 Ȝef hyt ne be nauȝt to þy prest Malice ne preiudice. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 23 To make non ordinaunce in prejudice ne lettyng of ye comoun lawe. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3918 Al thys I wrouhte, thorgh my myht, With-oute preiudyce of your ryht. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 234 Be-warre ye do no pregedyse a-ȝen þe law. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 292 The sheepe..or their fleeces, are bought up by the Netherlands, and imployed in the making of cloth, to some prejudice of ours in England. 1660-1 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43 He promised me that nothing should be done of that nature to your prejudice. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 10 To advance the Younger Son, in prejudice of the Eldest. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1667 (1823) I. 439 It was no small prejudice to him that he was recommended by so bad a man. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 184 The Fixed Stars..may be placed at different Distances, without any prejudice to this System. 1825 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 68 A material error, which I have committed in another place, to the prejudice of the Empress. 1838 in Manning & Granger *Reports C. P.* IX. 918 The above I offer without prejudice, in case it is not agreed to. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. i. (1852) 43 It is easy to see that it might be entirely swept off by a tax, without prejudice to the interests of any class except the landlords. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, People will talk to your prejudice—and Mr. Walton's too. 1872 *Wharton's Law-Lex.* 763/2 *Without Prejudice*, is [said in reference] to overtures and communications between litigants .. before trial or verdict. The words import an understanding that if the negotiation fails, nothing that has passed shall be taken advantage of thereafter.

†**b.** *gen.* Injury, damage, hurt, loss. *Obs.*

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 203 Veray lothe his highne[s] wold be to see any of them..to take any harme or preiudice at the papistes handes. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* v. (1565) 119 b, He sent hys wagoners..out of the woodes vpon our men of armes and encountred with them to their great preiudice. 1591 GREENE *Maiden's Dr.* Ded. to Lady Hatton, Whose death being the common prejudice of a present age, was lamented of most. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 591 As rauening wolues that liue by preiudice. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 135 This prejudice is chiefly caused in narrow and close grounds.. and seldome comes on hills. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xi. § 6 (1699) 61 If the prejudice be done by the Horses foremost feet, then the Rider shall be forc'd to satisfy for the Prejudice done. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 314 They were so well covered by a bank of sand, that the cannon of the frigates could not do them the smallest prejudice.

II. †2. A previous judgement; *esp.* a judgement formed before due examination or consideration; a premature or hasty judgement; a prejudgement. (Nearly always a literal rendering of L. *præjudicium.*)

1388 WYCLIF I *Tim.* v. 21 Y preie..that thou kepe these thingis with oute preiudice [1382 withouten bifore dom; Vulg. *sine præjudicio*; 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) without prejudice; 1611 BIBLE without preferring, *marg.* prejudice; 1881 *R. V.* without prejudice, *marg.* preference]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 290/2 Preiudyse, *preiudicium*. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 88 For as twelue haue giuen a preiudice against him, so twelue againe must acquit or condemne him. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. ii. 583 Least that they might seeme to approve the very same thing by their prejudice and dome aforehand. 1835 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 313, I strongly protested against the charge of 'prejudice' in the strict sense, viz., as a *pre-judicium*, a judgment formed antecedently to knowledge.

†**b.** The action of judging of an event beforehand; prognostication, presaging. *Obs. rare.* [So F. *préjudice* in Amyot, 16th c.]

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ix. 49 That nought mote hinder his quicke prejudize. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Descr. Germ.* ii. (1622) 261 So [they] trie their valour: and by that prejudice conjecture on whose side the victory shall fall.

3. Preconceived opinion; bias or leaning favourable or unfavourable; prepossession; when used *absolutely*, usually with unfavourable connotation.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 3 At a solemn Procession I have wept abundantly, while my consorts, blind with opposition and prejudice, have fallen into an excess of scorn and laughter. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) I. 340 Who rails at faults through personal prejudice Shows more his own, than shames another's vice. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 19 If a person divests himself of prejudice, and attachment to any particular opinion. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 130 Prejudice renders a man's virtue his habit.. Through just prejudice, his duty becomes a part of his nature. 1861 J. BRIGHT in *Times* 18 July, Ignorance is the mother of prejudice, whether among nations or individuals.

b. With *a* and *pl.*: An instance of this; a feeling, favourable or unfavourable, towards any person or thing, prior to or not based on actual experience; a prepossession; a bias or leaning to one side; an unreasoning predilection or objection.

1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iii. (1661) 51 God looks upon his creatures with all their prejudices, and expects no more of them then according to the talents which he hath given them. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 8 Being prepossessed with a prejudice. 1705 ATTERBURY *Serm., Luke* xvi. 31 (1726) II. 46 Such..have had all the early Prejudices of Education on the side of Truth. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* vi. (1848) 228 The works of Correggio, for which they had contracted an early prejudice. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. i. 2 He cannot..remove the prejudices which are raised against him. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Philos. Herod.* Wks. 1858 IX. 204 When a prejudice of any class whatever is seen as such, when it is recognised for a prejudice, from that moment it ceases to be a prejudice. Those are the true baffling prejudices for man, which he never suspects for prejudices. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 5 A historian dares not have a prejudice, but he cannot escape a purpose.

†**c.** Something prejudicial. *Obs. rare*—1.

1718 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts* xxvi. 26 (1734) I. 27 Those Articles of the Roman Catholick Faith..are to be received implicitly, without..Discussion...Now this is the greatest Prejudice imaginable against the Truth of the Doctrines of any Church.

†**4.** A preliminary or anticipatory judgement; a preconceived idea as to what will happen; an anticipation. *Obs.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 225 Our former despair by degrees gave place to more sanguine prejudices. 1754-8 NEWTON *Observ. Proph. Dan.* xi. 147 Let us lay aside all [traditions] and examine what prejudices can be gathered from records of good account. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 20 The..initial letters, &c. give a prejudice at sight of their being the first productions of the Art amongst us.

5. *Comb.*, as *prejudice-born*, *-breeding* adjs.

1896 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* L. 270 They did not foresee such a revival of the prejudice-breeding protectionist system. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 7/1 Error stupendous, sublime, indefensible, Prejudice-born, I am sadly afraid.

Prejudice (pre·dʒŭdis), *v.* Also 5 **-ise**, 6 **-ish.** [a. F. *préjudic-ier* (14th c. in Littré) to prejudice, to be injurious, f. *préjudice*: see prec.]

I. 1. *trans.* To affect injuriously or unfavourably by doing some act, or as a consequence of something done; to injure or impair the validity of (a right, claim, statement, etc.).

1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 25/1 That your seid Suppliant nor his heires, be in no wyse hurt nor prejudised by the same Acte. 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 67 Ye have preiudishd my good name for ever in thrustinge me thus on the stage to make tryall of my extemporall faculty. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. ix. (1840) 14 Yet no prescription of time could prejudice the title of the King of Heaven. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 110 Bestowing that title should not prejudice his right to the castle and lands. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 61 § 9 Nothing in this Act contained shall prejudice or interfere with any rights..vested in..the Lord Advocate.

b. To injure materially; to damage. Now *rare.*

1591 GREENE *Farewell to Follie* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 247 Watching either to preuent or preiudice the enemie. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 126 The egges being then most fit for that purpose, neither are they..preiudiced by thunder. 1653 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 7 This day Vantrump..discharged many cannons against the towne of Dover, whereby some howses were prejudiced, but noe persons slaine. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 9 July (O. H. S.) I. 271 The Binder has somewhat prejudic'd them. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* II. 22 A very convincing proof how much mines of copper may prejudice the atmosphere. 1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket. Ann.* 57 A wicket very much prejudiced by the rain.

II. †2. To judge beforehand; *esp.* to prejudge unfavourably. *Obs. rare.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 115/22 To Preiudice, *præiudicare.* 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33/1 We may præiudice the bones to be altered or polluted. *a* 1627 HAYWARD *Four Y. Eliz.* (Camden) 9 The Queene..desiring them,..that they would not prejudice her in their opiniones. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 258 To prejudice and forecondemne his adversary in the title for slanderous and scurrilous.

3. To affect or fill with a prejudice; to prepossess with an opinion; to give a bias or bent to, influence the mind or judgement of beforehand (often, unfairly). Const. *against, in favour of,* †*to* (= against).

1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 360, I will not preiudice the iudgement of any. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Passion* 6 Those who..are prejudiced by passion. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 318 The Perverseness and Contradiction I have too often seen.., even among People of Sense, as well as Condition, had prejudiced me to the marry'd State. 1868 KINGSLEY *Hermits, St. Simon Styl.* (1880) 196, I wished..to prejudice my readers' minds in their favour rather than against them.

Hence **Pre·judicing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1607 HIERON *Wks.* II. 222 Without any prejudicing..of the Riches of God's grace. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 143 It is not knowne that ever he did any prejudicing office against any man. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 249 Those prejudicing passions which must first be removed.

Prejudiced (pre·dʒŭdist), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Affected or influenced by prejudice; prepossessed, biased beforehand.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 60 Still to mainetayne or againe to recoover that præiudiced opinion of me amongste them, that heretofore..was conceavid. 1654 OWEN *Doctr. Saints' Persev.* Wks. 1853 XI. 375 Prejudiced men will grant it. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 55 Considering what numbers..might come to it as prejudic'd spectators. 1856 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. vi. 234 Being in some degree a prejudiced witness. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* II. 338 Interesting us even in its most prejudiced and objectionable passages.

Hence **Pre·judicedly** *adv.*, in a prejudiced manner.

1812 SHELLEY *Proposals* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 271 For the reasons above alleged, falsely, prejudicedly, and narrowly, will..they persecute those who have the best intentions towards them.

Pre·judiceless, *a.* [-LESS.] Void of prejudice.

1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Germ. Poetry* II. 206 The question needs no learning, only an honest, prejudiceless heart.

†**Prejudi·ciable,** *a. Obs.* [a. F. *préjudiciable* (14th c. in Littré), f. *préjudicier* (see PREJUDICE *v.*) + *-able*, -ABLE.] = PREJUDICIAL *a.*1

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 338/2 Whether his deliverance be not prejudiciable to y^e greet pees. 1600 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S. T. S.) 243 Thairfore this heresie..is preiudiciable to the lawful standing of noble houses. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* xiii. 66 This custom..being thought ..very prejudiciable to their herds.

Prejudicial (predʒŭdi·ʃăl), *a.*1 [In form corresp. to F. *préjudicial, -el* (1321 in Hatz.-Darm.) preceding judgement, and late L. *præjūdiciālis* belonging or according to a preceding judgement; but in sense belonging to PREJUDICE *sb.*: see -AL.]

1. Causing prejudice; of injurious tendency; detrimental, damaging (to rights, interests, etc.).

[1304 *Year-bk.* 32 *Edw. I* (Rolls) 111 La quele occupacioun..ne nous deit estre prejudiciel.]

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 472/1 The Kyng wille, that the graunte..be not prejudiciell nor hurt to the seide John. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 351 Preiudyciall to the vnyuersall weale of the realme. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 44 b, Certein thinges were enacted, which they sawe should be preiudiciall to them. 1661 SANDERSON (*title*) Episcopacy.. Not Prejudicial to Regal Power. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise of Wealth* Wks. 1730 I. 84 Nothing more prejudicial to great power than to own itself in the wrong. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 360 The existing system, it was said, was prejudicial both to commerce and to learning.

†b. Of animals: Harmful, noxious. *Obs. rare.*
1608 Rowlands *Greene's Ghost* 3 Vipers,..that for their venime and poison are hated and shunned of all men, as most preiudiciall creatures.

†c. Liable to be prejudiced or injured. *Obs. rare.*
1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1704/4 There being several great Trusts in his Name, which will be unavoidably prejudicial by his absence.

†2. Of the nature of prejudice; full of prejudice, prejudiced (†*to* = against), unfavourably prepossessed. *Obs.*
1535 Starkey *Let.* in *England* (1878) p. xxx, You schold, wythout any preiudicial affectyon taken of any man apon one parte or other..gyue your sentence. 1554 Knox *Godly Let.* C vij b, I am not preiudiciall too Gods mercies. 1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 169 The Emperor was..preiudiciall in his opinion, hauing already enacted a Law for the Arrian Doctrine. 1623 T. Scot *Highw. God* 35 Man was a Iudge preiudiciall and partiall. 1639 Holyday *Serm. Obed.* (1661) 23 To look upon the actions of Princes with a prejudicial eye. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 86 It was no time then to contend with their slow and prejudicial belief.

Hence †**Prejudi·cial** *v.* (*illiterate*), to prejudice.
1633 B. Jonson *Tale Tub* II. ii, *Basket Hilts.* Take heed; the busines If you deferre, may prejudiciall you More than you thinke-for, zay I told you so.

Pre-judi·cial (prīˌdʒudi·ʃăl), *a.*[2] *Rom. Law.* [ad. L. *præjūdiciālis*, f. *præjūdici-um* a judicial examination previous to a trial (f. *præ* before + *jūdicium* judgement): see -AL.] Applied to a class of actions in Roman Law, whereby questions of right or fact, esp. as regards status, were determined, usually with a view to further proceedings.
1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 223 Preiudiciall Actions also are reckoned among reall: now those are termed preiudiciall which arise from incident and emergent questions. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.* s.v. *Actions*, Action is Pre-judicial (otherwise termed Preparatory) or else Principal. Pre-judicial is that which grows from some question, or doubt in the Principal: As if a Man sue his younger Brother for Land descended from his Father, and it is objected, he is a Bastard...This point..must be tryed, before the cause can further proceed; and therefore is termed *Pre-judicialis, quia prius judicanda.* 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* 442 Pre-judicial [actions] were intended merely to settle a question of right or fact, without any immediate practical result.

Prejudi·cially (predʒ-), *adv.* [f. Prejudicial *a.*[1] + -ly [2].] In a prejudicial manner; to the prejudice of some one; injuriously, detrimentally, hurtfully; † with prejudice or prepossession (quot. 1589).
1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 598/1 That neither this Acte, nor any other Acte..extend prejudicially, nor be prejudiciall or hurtyng unto Richard Langport. 1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 39 My natiue home is my worst nurserie, and my friends denie that which strangers preiudiciallie grant. 1658 Slingsby *Diary* (1836) 201 Those Divine contemplations, which my late converse..had so prejudicially estranged from me. 1859 Mill *Liberty* iv. (1865) 44/1 As soon as any part of a person's conduct affects prejudicially the interests of others, society has jurisdiction over it.

Prejudi·cialness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being prejudicial; injuriousness.
1655 Owen *Vind. Evang.* Wks. 1853 XII. 131 These.. deny his determinate decrees and purposes on the same pretence..; namely, of their prejudicialness to the free will of man. 1676 Towerson *Decalogue* 503 If we consider.. their prejudicialness to our neighbour. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Prejudicialness*, injuriousness.

†**Prejudi·ciary,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *præjūdici-um* Prejudice *sb.* + -ary [1].] Prejudiced or biased unfavourably; = Prejudicial *a.*[1] 2.
1642 *Answ. Observ. agst. King* 13 That hee will not bee froward or prejudiciary to them.

Pre-ju·diciary, præ-, *a.*[2] *Rom. Law.* [f. as Pre-judicial *a.*[2] + -ary [1].] = Pre-judicial *a.*[2]
1880 Muirhead *Gaius* III. § 123 The sponsors and fide-promissors may..demand a praejudiciary inquiry.

Prejudi·cious (predʒ-), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *præjūdici-um* Prejudice *sb.* + -ous; so OF. *prejudicieux* (1371 in Godef.); see Judicious.]
1. Injurious; = Prejudicial *a.*[1] 1.
1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 225/1 Yet doeth Gods will stande for a law, & what he establisheth amongst vs, neither may nor can be preiuditious to him. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 48 This was exceedingly prejudicious to the Jews. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 100 The entrance .. is not so proper in the middle..; But if there be a constraint, which is most prejudicious to a Building, the entrance must be set as much towards the end as possible. 1731 S. Hales *Stat. Ess.* I. 325 [It] would turn rancid and prejudicious to the plant. 1899 [implied in Prejudiciously].

†2. Full of prejudice; = Prejudiced. *Obs. rare.*
1599 *Broughton's Let.* xiii. 44 Let him not bee paradoxically preiudicious. 1615 A. Stafford *Heav. Dogge* To Rdr., Either his head, his body or his taile will please thee, if modest thou art, and not prejudicious.

Hence **Prejudi·ciously** *adv. rare.*
1899 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 473 Why does the North seem to count for so little—and that little prejudiciously?

†**Preju·re,** *v. Obs. rare*—[0]. [ad. L. **præjūrāre*, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *jūrāre* to swear.] *intr.* To swear or take an oath before some one else. So †**Prejura·tion** [ad. L. *præjūrātiōn-em* a taking of an oath before others.]
1623 Cockeram, *Prejuration*, a swearing before. *Prejure*, to sweare before.

Prejurie, obs. erron. form of Perjury.

Prek, -e, etc., obs. Sc. and north. ff. Prick, etc.

†**Preke.** *Obs.* Also 7 preak. [Of unknown origin.] A polyp, an octopus.
1611 Cotgr., *Poulpe*,..the Pourcontrell, Preke, or many-footed fish. 1639 S. Du Verger tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 18 Love is like honour,..like unto the Pourcontrell, or Peake [*sic*] fish, who becomes of the same colour the things are, whereon it fastens. 1681 Grew *Museum* I. v. iv. 121 The Preke or Poulps, *Polypus.* *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii, You are likewise to abstain from Beans, from the Preak (by some called the Polyp) [*poulpe (qu'on nomme Polype)*]. 1758 [see Pourcuttle].

Preket, obs. f. Pricket. **Pre-knowledge:** see Pre- A. 2. **Pre-koranic, -labial:** B. 1 d, 3.

Prelacteal (prīlæ·ktăl), *a.* [f. Pre- B. 1 d + Lacteal.] **a.** *adj.* Preceding or anticipating the milk teeth: applied to certain calcified structures in the fœtus of marsupials. **b.** *sb.* A prelacteal tooth or tooth-like process.
1897 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Jan. 440 He viewed the calcified structures as the sole remains of an entire 'prelacteal' dentition which had otherwise become suppressed. *Ibid.* 441 The conviction that the deciduous premolar .. must belong to the same series as the so-called 'prelacteals'.

Prelacy (pre·lăsi). Also 5–6 **-asy, -asie.** [a. AF. *prelacie* (Rolls Parlt., 1306), ad. med.L. *prælātia* (*a* 1109 in Du Cange), f. *prælātus* Prelate.]
1. The office, position, or dignity of a prelate; a prelatic benefice or see. † Also with possess. pron. (*his, your prelacy*), as a title (*obs.*).
[1306 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 219/1 La primer, des Provisions; come seinte Eglise en toutz ces estats de Prelacie soit funde par le Roi et par ces ancestres.] *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 130 For it es sin quar-wit man bies Wit wer[l]des catel prelacyes. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 59 þis Wyn, after two zere of his prelacie, was i-putt oute by þe kyng. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxlvi. 548 The realme of France was reputed to be the chiefe fountayne of beleve of the christen faythe, bycause of the noble churches and prelasies that be therin. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 Upoun the vacance of ony prelacie the kirkis thairof salbe disponit to qualifiit ministeris in titill. *c* 1589 *Theses Martinianæ* 20 Praying your prelacie, if you can send one or any of my brethren any word of him. 1600 Holland *Livy* x. vi. 355 Who wanted no promotions & honors, but only Sacerdotall dignities and Prelacies. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 95. 4/1 The Pope had..given General Marsigli (who designs to reassume the Cardinal's Cap) a considerable Prelacy. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xvii. 320 Fifty-one ministers .. nominated by the king to titular bishoprics and other prelacies.

2. The order or rank of prelates; the body of prelates or of bishops collectively.
13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 107 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 268 þe primate with his prelacie was partyd fro home. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6381 That I lede right a Ioly lyf Thurgh simplesse of the prelacye. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxliii. 285 The prelasy of the londe assymyled them in counceyll. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XV. xcv. (1612) 379 The Prelacie, Nobilitie, States-men, and State betraide. 1641 R. Brooke *Eng. Episc.* 48 Our Lordly Civill Episcopacie properly called Prelacie. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. ii. 73 It was no longer possible for the prelacy to offer an efficacious opposition to the reformation they abhorred.

†3. The authority of a prelate; ecclesiastical power, as of bishops, abbots, or priors. Also, the authority of any superior, lay or clerical. *Obs.*
a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lxxii. 17 Ofte sithis a man hafs lardeshipe & prelacy till his aughen dampnacioun. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. ix. 10 It is muche more sure to stonde in subieccioun þan in prelacie. 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. (1557) 1320/2 Those .. put in prelacy and auctoritie ouer other men. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 835 They cal the power of placing of Ministers..Ecclesiasticall iurisdiction, and to consist in a certayne prelacie.

4. The system of church government by prelates or bishops of lordly rank; a term, chiefly hostile, for Episcopacy 2.
c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 455 þis prelacye is perelous, for it is not fully groundid in crist ne in oþer of his lawis. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xviii. § 1 If these three [things] be granted, then cannot the public benefit of prelacy be dissembled. 1643 *Solemn League & Covenant* § 2 That we shall .. without respect of persons, endeavour the extirpation of popery, prelacy, (that is, church-government by archbishops, bishops, their chancellors and commissaries, deans, deans and chapters, archdeacons, and all other ecclesiastical officers depending on that hierarchy,) superstition, heresy, schism [etc.]. 1644 C. Downing (*title*) The Cleere Antithesis or diametrall opposition betweene Presbytery and Prelacy. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 184 Times had now changed: England was zealous for monarchy and prelacy. 1850 Marsden *Early Purit.* (1853) 35 Others..smarting.. from their..severity began to associate prelacy with popery.

†**Pre·lal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prēlum* a press + -al; but the regular L. form would be **prēlāris* 'prelar': cf. *velar, solar, stellar.*] Of or pertaining to the printing-press; typographical.
1659 Fuller *App. Inj. Innoc.* I. ix. 7 That Prelial Mistakes in Defiance of all Care will escape in the best Corrected Book. *Ibid.* 8 Prelial Faults. *Ibid.* 58 (*Errata*) There be some Press faults in this my Book, as for *Prelial* (wherever occurring) read *Prelal.* 1670 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Prelal.*

Prelapsarian (prīlæpsē·riăn), *a.* [f. Pre- B. 1 d + L. *laps-us* fall, after *infralapsarian*, etc.] Pertaining to the condition before the Fall.
1879 M. D. Conway *Demonol.* II. iv. xix. 225 A prelapsarian perfection symbolized by nudity.

Prelate (pre·lĕt), *sb.* Forms: 3–7 **prelat,** (3 *pl.* **-laz,** 3–4 *pl.* **-las**). 4– **prelate,** (5–6 **prelatte,** 6 *Sc.* **-lot,** *pl.* **-leittis, -llattis, -lettis,** 7 **prælate**). [a. OF. *prélat* (pl. *prelaz*) = Pr. *prelat,* It. *prelato,* Sp. *prelado*; ad. L. *prælāt-us*, sb. use of pa. pple. of *præferre* to carry or place before, Prefer; in med.L. as sb. a civil or ecclesiastical dignitary.]
1. An ecclesiastical dignitary of exalted rank and authority, as a bishop, archbishop, metropolitan, or patriarch; formerly also including the abbot or prior of a religious house, or the superior of a religious order.
c 1205 Lay. 24502 Of Rome he wes legat and of þan hirede prelat. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Gode religiuse beoð i þe worlde, summe nomeliche prelaz & treowe prechures. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3686 þe bissops & oþer prelats þat of þe londe were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 237 Alsuo is þe spot of lecherie more uouler and more perilous ine clerkes and ine prelas. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 65 Wolde God þat preelatis wolde þenke on þis now. *c* 1400 Gower *Addr. Hen. IV* in *Pol. Poems* II. 11 The worldes princes and the prelats bothe. 14.. *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629/19 Prelatte or byschop, *antistes.* 1485 Caxton *St. Wenefr.* 9 Hys owne moder was prelate and chyef aboue the other relygyouse nonnes. 1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 46 Lat perversit prelettis leif perqueir. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. ix. 150 A reverend religious man, of the Order of Saint Dominike, and Prelate thereof. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 35 This project of licencing..was catcht up by our Prelates. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xi. 378 The usual method of granting these investitures, which was *per annulum et baculum*, by the prince's delivering to the prelate a ring, and a pastoral staff or crosier. 1776 Hume *Life* in *Hist. Eng.* (1812) I. Pref. 11 The primate of England,..primate of Ireland...These dignified prelates separately sent me a message not to be discouraged. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. i. 23 The presence of at least three prelates was required at the consecration of a bishop. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Relig.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 101 The curates are ill-paid, and the prelates are overpaid.

†b. Applied to a chief priest of the Jewish, or other non-Christian religion. *Obs.*
a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1529 Now passis furth þis prelate with prestis of þe temple. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xxvii. 41 Lykwyse also the prelates mockinge hym with the scribes and seniours sayde [etc.]. *Ibid.* xxviii. 11 The kepers..shewed vnto the prelattes all thinges whych had hapened. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* (1549) 2 Because he was prelate in the temple of the Son, whom the Phenices doe calle Heliogabalus. *a* 1600 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xviii. § 11 Moses and Aaron..the chief prince and chief prelate. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVII. vi. 630 C. Servilius the Prelate or Pontifex, was invested and installed in stead of T. Octacilius Crassus. 1601 — *Pliny* II. 193 The Druidæ or Prelats of France aboue named, make great account of another herb..which they name Samolus.

†2. A person having superiority or authority; a chief, head, principal, superior. *Obs.*
1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 234 Bot yit a kinges hihe astat, Which of his ordre as a prelat, Schal ben enoignt and seintefied. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. ix. 10 To stonde under obedience & lyue under a prelate, & not be at his owne liberte. *c* 1450–60 *Bp. Grossetest's Househ. Stat.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 328 3e, that be principalle heuede or prelate to alle 3oure seruauntis bothe lesse and more. 1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* II. ii. 181 The humble subieccyon of the subiecte to the prelate. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* (1644) 149 And thus dyed..These Prelates of virginitie, Captaines of Chastitie, and companions in Martyrdome. 1780 *Von Troil's Iceland* p. xvii, Dr. Von Troil..is prelate of all the Swedish orders of knighthood.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prelate founder, lord, martyr, prince*; *prelate-like* adj.; **prelate-Protestant,** hostile term for a Protestant of an episcopal church; **prelate-purple,** the shade of purple worn by bishops (cf. Cardinal *a.* 8).
1746 *Acc. French Settlements in N. Amer.* 24 The *prelate-founder has his apartments in the house. ?*a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 183 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 291 So *prelat lyk sat he in to the chyre. *c* 1646 Milton *New Forcers Consc.* 1 Because you have thrown of your *Prelate Lord, And with stiff Vowes renounc'd his Liturgie. 1641 Milton *Reform.* Wks. (1847) 18/2 For those *prelate-martyrs they glory of, they are to be judged what they were by the Gospel. 1899 *Cath. Bk.-Notes* 15 Apr. 103 To many the *prelate-prince is but vaguely known. 1680 S. Mather *Iren.* 9 Not only the Independents and the Presbyterians, but the very Papists, and *Prelate-Protestants have thought it lawful. 1895 *Daily News* 5 Feb. 6/6 The..favour in which *prelate-purple is held shows no symptom of decreasing.

†**Pre·late,** *v.*[1] *Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To act the prelate; to perform the office of a prelate. Hence †**Pre·lating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1548–9 Latimer *Ploughers* B iij, Ye that be prelates loke well to your offyce, for right prelatynge is buisye labouryng and not lordyng. 1550 Bale *Apol.* Pref. 8 b, They haue counterfeted..Iudas in kyssinge, Cayphas in prelatyng, & Pilate in washinge their handes. 1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 12 Gods true Religion is violently invaded by two..enemies;..the Papists for one party, and our Prelating faction for the other. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 22 That the Presbyterie might Prelate it under the Notion of Priests, and so crush all other Sects.

†**Prela·te,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *prélater* to prefer, advance, f. L. *prælāt-*, ppl. stem of *præferre* to Prefer.]
1. *trans.* To utter, pronounce. *rare.*
1547 Boorde *Introd. Knowl.* xxiii. (1870) 179 An Englyshman, without teachyng, can not speake nor prelate the wordes of an Italyan.

2. To exalt, raise, prefer in rank or power.
1626 T. H. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 89 To be borne into the world supereminently, prelated aboue all the creatures of the world.

3. *refl.* [transl. obs. F. *se prelater* to act the prelate, now *se prélasser.*] To affect an air of dignity and ostentatious gravity.

1685 Cotton tr. *Montaigne* III. 386, I see some, who.. prelate themselves even to the heart and liver [*orig.* qui se prelatent jusques au foye et aux intestins] and carry their state along with them, even to the close-stool.

Pre·latehood. *rare*⁻¹. [f. Prelate *sb.* + -hood.] The state of a prelate; the estate of prelates.

1804 *Captive of Valence* II. x. 96 Don't deceive yourself,..after the Friarhood will come the turn of the Priesthood, and then, my lord, that of the Prelatehood.

†**Prelate·ity.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Prelate *sb.* after *hicceity*, *paneity*, etc.] The essential quality or essence of a prelate.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* II. i. 45 Neither shall I..trifle with one that would tell me of quiddities and formalities, whether prelaty or prelateity in abstract notion be this or that.

Pre·lately, *a. rare.* [f. Prelate *sb.* + -ly¹: cf. *kingly*, *lordly*.] Prelatical.

1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* III. Bbb iv, Theyr copes, perrours, and chysibilles, whan they bee in theyr prelately pompous sacrifices.

Prelateship (pre·lētʃip). [f. as prec. + -ship.] The office of a prelate; the tenure of this office; also, with poss. pron., as a title (after *lordship*).

1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 255/2 He was content that Thurstinus should safely reenter hys realme, and quietly enioye hys prelateshyp. 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* VI. xcv, Ostia thee gav A Prelatship. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 406 They who in my Boat lament that they have among the living, Kingdoms, Prelateships, .. do bring me [Charon] but an half-peny. 1760 *Impostors Detected* II. iii. I. 180 His prelateship very graciously uncovered himself when they entered. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 547 His prelateship ordered the business of the Court to be concluded.

Prelatess (pre·lētės). [f. Prelate *sb.* + -ess.] A female prelate; an abbess or prioress: in Milton satirical; also, the wife of a prelate (*jocular*).

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 272 At the bordellos..raps up without pitty the sage and rheumatick old Prelatesse with all her young Corinthian Laity to inquire for such a one. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 368 The abbess is also still stiled..a princess and prelatess of the holy Roman Empire. 1857 Trollope *Barchester T.* xvii, Mr. Slope did not wish to have both the prelate and the prelatess against him. 1904 *Adventures of Elizabeth* vi. 181 Will no one rid me of this troublesome prelatess?

Prelatial (prĭlē·ʃăl), *a. rare.* [f. med.L. *prælātia* Prelacy + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or proper to prelacy or a prelate.

1870 Disraeli *Lothair* xviii, It [a portfolio] was of morocco and of prelatial purple. 1903 *Bulwark* Sept. 203 The Pope receives the Ring at his election...At the Gregorian Chapel he receives cardinalitial and prelatial homage.

Prelatic (prĭlæ·tik), *a.* [f. Prelate *sb.* + -ic.]

1. That is a prelate; of, pertaining to, of the nature or character of, or like a prelate; prelately.

1649 Milton *Eikon.* Wks. 1738 I. 387 We..are sure that the piety of his prelatic model glister'd more upon the Posts and Pillars..than in the true works of spiritual edification. 1821 Galt *Ann. Parish* xii, A woman..of a prelatic disposition, seeking all things her own way. 1854 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IV. iv. (1883) II. 258 Wilfrid .. blended the rigour of the monk with something of prelatic magnificence. 1871 H. S. Cuming in *Archæol. Jrnl.* Sept. 321 Egwin or Ecgwine ..whose prelatic rule extended from 693 to 717.

2. Episcopal; = Prelatical 2.

1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 94 Such of the Prelatick partie as are in love with..pomp and power. 1678 R. Barclay *Apol. Quakers* xiii. vii. 473 The Prelatick Calvinists have termed the Presbyterians Schismatical and Pertinacious. 1706 De Foe *Jure Div.* Pref. 27 In the late Proclamation for banishing Prelatick Ministers in Scotland. 1814 Scott *Wav.* xiv, The prelatic clergy. 1894 Crockett *Mad Sir Uchtred* 183 They still held prelatic services.

Prela·tical, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -al.]

1. = Prelatic 1.

1634 Canne *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 235 Their prelatical or episcopal office or ministry, is not the proper ministry of any of our church assemblies. 1660 Wood *Life* Dec. (O. H. S.) I. 355 The most exact prelaticall garb that might be. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 58 Of the Prelatical Clergy, we have Francis Godwin a Bishop, the Son of a Bishop, and Doctor John King Son to his Reverend Father the Bishop of London. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* ix, He rose and moved, with prelatical dignity, to the door. 1877 J. Ll. Davies in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 96 Gibbon..represents the behaviour of Ambrose as marked by a prelatical pomposity.

2. Governed by or adhering to prelates or prelacy; a hostile term for episcopal, episcopalian.

1641 R. Bernard (*title*) A Short View of the Prælaticall Church of England. 1641 Milton (*title*) Of Prelatical Episcopacy. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 272 That the Papists and Prelaticall party do..urge Infant Baptism to be a tradition, is no wonder. 1733 Neal *Hist. Purit.* III. 415 They insisted peremptorily on the establishment of the Presbyterian church government upon the ruins of the Prelatical. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 184 The government resolved to set up a prelatical church in Scotland.

†B. *sb.* in *pl.* Things pertaining to prelates or prelacy. *Obs.*

1643 W. Greenhill *Axe at Root* 13 It's feared we stick too much to Mosaicalls, Prelaticalls, and Traditionalls.

Hence **Prela·tically** *adv.*, in a prelatic or prelatical way; as a prelate; with reference to prelacy; **Prela·ticalness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* Concl. 53 A sort of formal outside men prelatically addicted. 1646 T. Coleman *Brotherly Exam. Re-exam.* 12, I feare lest the Presbyteriall government..should Prelatically tyrannize. *a* 1659 T. Morton *Episc.* ii. § 2 (1670) 30 This is as much as any Prelatically minded man could..say.

Prelation (prĭlē·ʃən). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ME. *prelacioune*, a. OF. *prelacion* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), F. *prélation*, ad. L. *prælātiōn-em* a preferring, preference, n. of action f. *prælāt-*, ppl. stem of *præferre* to hold forth, offer, present, prefer.]

I. †1. Utterance, pronunciation. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 Barbour *Troy-bk.* II. 304 Tune the mater of hys sermoune As he furth mayde prelacioune. 1659 Owen *Integr. Heb. & Grk. Text* Wks. 1853 XVI. 396 With reference to the quantity of time required to their prelation, whereby the same vowel becomes sometimes long and sometimes short.

II. 2. The action of preferring or condition of being preferred; preferment, exaltation, promotion; pre-eminence, superiority, dignity; preference.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4610 þat he dude fiue & twenty 3ere hurre prelacione byfore. 1585 Jas. VI *Declar. to Kirk* in J. Melvill *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 242 Haiffing thairfor sum prelation and dignitie aboue his breithren. 1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 251 This Prelation offended the Emperour, and began their enmitie. 1649 Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 369 A Prelation of wisdome before pleasure. 1885 Edgar *Old Ch. Life in Scot.* iv. 189 [In] a Presbyterian Church..there is no prelacy or prelation or precedence of one presbyter over another.

†3. The dignity of a prelate; = Prelature I. *Obs.*

1695 J. Sage *Article*, etc. Wks. 1844 I. 108 Popish Prelates might quit their errors, not their prelations.

†4. The action of placing before; prefixing. *Obs.*

1701 Norris *Ideal World* I. v. 225 As the first consideration proves that the *an* should be before the *quid*, so the other does no less strongly plead for the prælation of the *quid* before the *an*.

†**Pre·latish,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Prelate *sb.* + -ish¹.] Prelatical.

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* viii. Wks. 1851 III. 310 Any congregation..perverted with Prelatish leven.

Pre·latism. [See -ism.] Prelacy, lordly episcopacy; adherence to this. (A hostile term.)

1611 H. Barrowe (*title*) Platform, which may serve as a Preparative to purge away prelatisme. 1641 Milton *Prel. Episc.* 23 Five hundred years after Christ, the councils themselves were foully corrupted with ungodly prelatism. 1641 — *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 195 The Prelatism of Episcopacy which began then to burgeon, and spread.

Prelatist (pre·lătist). [f. Prelate *sb.* + -ist.] A supporter or adherent of prelacy; a hostile term for an episcopalian.

1659 Steward *Serm. at Paris* Pref. A v, The Preacher, as great a Prelatist as any whom unkinde or jealous Brethren have ever blasted under that title. 1721 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 594 Our prelatists and Jacobites, I hear, are much chagrined. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. vii. 414 Tolerance..of that proscribed worship, was equally abhorrent to the prelatist and the puritan.

Prelatize (pre·lătəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -ize.]

†1. *intr.* To be or become prelatical. *Obs. rare.*

1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 195 He [Cyprian] indeed succeeded into an Episcopacy that began then to Prelatize.

2. *trans.* To make prelatical; to bring under prelatic or episcopal government.

a 1864 Palfrey (W.), Laud was busy with his more important plan of prelatizing the church of Scotland. 1873 McDowall *Hist. Dumfries* xxx. 336 Efforts to prelatise the Church.

Hence **Pre·latizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 61 We may rather suspect them for some Prelatizing-spirits that admire our Bishopricks, not Episcopacy. 1882 T. A. Pope tr. *Capecelatro's Life St. P. Neri* II. 373 With all this prelatising in the Congregation we are drifting into a slavery the worse that our chains are all of gold.

Prelatry (pre·lătri). [f. as prec. + -ry.] Prelacy.

1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 42 The painted Battlements, and gaudy rottennesse of Prelatrie. 1653 — *Hirelings* (1659) 21 The whole gang of prelatry. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* 154 There is not a hint of discontent with the prelatry, once intolerable to him.

Prelature (pre·lătiŭr). [a. F. *prélature* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. med.L. *prælātūra* (in Du Cange): see Prelate *sb.* and -ure.]

1. The dignity, rank, office, condition, or function of a prelate: = Prelacy 1.

1607 Harington in *Nugæ Ant.* (ed. Park 1804) II. 99 One of the most eminent of his ranke, and a man that carryes prelature in his verie aspect. 1669 *Hist. Pope's Nephews* I. (1673) 70 He heaped Abbies and Prelatures upon them as many as they pleased. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 99 The Bishops exercised, anciently, as they do at present, both the Prelature and the Priesthood. 1844 *Life St. Wilfrid* 149 This poor statesmanship..filling prelatures with barely respectable mediocrity. 1876 Sir G. Bowyer in *Times* 8 Nov., [Antonelli] speedily rose to a judicial office, and then to the prelature, but still as a layman.

2. The order of prelates: = Prelacy 2.

1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 333 Arimbold, a member of the Roman prelature. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* XIV. i. VI. 388 The dignity, the splendid and wealthy palaces of the Prelature.

†**Pre·laty.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *prælātia*: see Prelacy.] 1. = Prelacy 4.

1641 Milton (*title*) The Reason of Church-government Urg'd against Prelaty. 1642 — *Apol. Smect.* Wks. (1847) 77/1 There be of those that esteem prelaty a figment, who yet can pipe if they can dance. 1644 — *Areop.* (Arb.) 61 That those evills of Prelaty..will now light wholly upon learning.

2. The office or superiority of a prelate.

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* iii. Wks. 1851 III. 109 Laborious teaching is the most honourable Prelaty that one Minister can have above another in the Gospell. 1642 Hales *Schism* 12 The first I mentioned was the Prelaties of Bishops in one Sea.

Prelect, præ- (prĭle·kt), *v.* [f. L. *prælect-*, ppl. stem of *prælegĕre* to read to others, lecture upon, f. *præ*, Pre- A. + *legĕre* to choose, to read.]

I. †1. *trans.* To choose in preference to others.

1620 *Swetnam Arraign'd* (1880) 22 Thou knowst with what a generall consent Of all Sicilia I was prelected By my dread Soueraigne. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Prelect*, either from *prælectus*, read before; or from *prælectus*, one chosen before another.

II. 2. *intr.* To lecture or discourse (*to* an audience, *on* or *upon* a subject); to deliver a lecture.

1785 Reid *Intell. Powers* IV. iv. 384 With no greater emotion than a professor in a college prelects to his audience. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 430 He then prelects upon the construction of the hearers. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 284 The rector of a gymnasium..sometimes yields to the temptation to prælect to his boys..upon some abstruse point..which is interesting himself. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* I. i. 44 If we could ascertain the books on which our teachers prelected in the schools before the Reformation.

Prelection, præ- (prĭle·kʃən), *sb.* [ad. L. *prælectiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prælegĕre*: see prec.]

1. A public lecture or discourse; *esp.* a lecture by a teacher to students at a college or university.

1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1310/1 His prelections or lectures which he did read in Paules, and his poore mans librarie he caused to be imprinted. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iv. 107 Let him resort to the Prelections of Faber, collected by Monsuerius. 1764 Reid *Let.* Wks. I. 39/2, I examine for an hour upon my morning prelection. 1851 Longf. *Gold. Leg.*, *School of Salerno*, Let us go in..And listen awhile to a learned prelection On Marcus Aurelius Cassiodorus. *a* 1882 Sir R. Christison *Life* I. 412 The lustre which the university prelections of many members of their Church has shed on the Church itself.

2. A previous reading. (Better *pre-lection.*)

a 1655 Vines *Lord's Supp.* xii. 159 Nor could the Disciples have sung with him in consort, except we imagine such a prælection of it to them, as is used by us now. 1857 Borrow *Romany Rye* (1858) I. 271 To induce sleep, nothing could be more efficacious than a slight pre-lection of his poems.

Hence †**Prele·ction** *v.*, *trans.* to make the subject of prelection; to lecture on. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 3 The next Scholastick Ascent is call'd Grammar, where are prelection'd Tully's Offices, Paradoxes, and Tusculan's Questions.

Prelector, præ- (prĭle·ktəi). [a. L. *prælector* one who reads an author to others, and adds explanations, agent-n. f. *prælegĕre*: see Prelect.] A public reader or lecturer, esp. in a college or university.

In Oxford formerly interchangeable with *professor* (as applied to all except the Regius Professors), as the *Prelector* or *Professor of Poetry*; in Cambridge applied sometimes to a college tutor or 'reader' in a subject of study; also to the college tutor or other officer who attends to the matriculation and graduation of members of his college.

1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* To Gentl. of Inner Temple, My reuerend Maysters the praelectors and Benchers of the same house. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 385 You shall scarce meet with a Reprover that taketh not his Friend to Taske ..with the Cathedrated Authority of a Prælector, or publike Reader, to dissect him. 1779–81 Johnson *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 50 Of the English Odyssey a criticism was published by Spence, at that time Prelector of Poetry at Oxford. 1881 E. R. Lankester in *Nature* 10 Nov. 27/1 The steadily working school of biologists which has risen around the Trinity Prælector on the banks of the Cam. 1907 *Masque Med. Learn.* in *Bk. of Words Oxf. Pageant* 56 Then as Praelector I must needs expound That ye may profit by our picturing.

Hence **Prele·ctorship,** the office of a prelector; also **Prele·ctress,** a female lecturer. *rare.*

1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 21 § 2 Every..professorship.. public readership, prelectorship, lectureship..and exhibition ..the income of which is payable out of the revenues. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 640/2 Miss Helen Taylor and her sisterhood of itinerant Home Rule praelectresses.

†**Pre·lial,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. late L. *præliāl-is*, f. *prælium* a battle: see -al.] Of or pertaining to battles; warlike, fighting.

1637 R. Humphrey tr. *St. Ambrose* I. 97 These may give them tast..of the preliall vertue, and victories of Gods people.

†**Prelia·tion.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 prœ-, (præ-). [ad. late L. *prœliātiōn-em* a battling, n. of action f. *prœliāre* to fight.] Fighting, contention; a battle.

1651 Howell *Venice* 204 In their preliations and quarrells. 1660 — *Parly of Beasts* iii. 33 We have stirred the humors of the foolish Inhabitants of the earth to insurrections, to warr and præliation. 1678 Sir J. Spelman *Alfred Gt.* (1709) 32 Their war being mostly Inroads, Foraging and Spoil, subject to Skirmishes and unexpected Præliations.

†**Pre·libate,** *v. Obs.* Also præ-. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prælibāre* (f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *lībāre* to taste).] *trans.* To taste beforehand; to give a foretaste.

1623 Cockeram, *Prelibate*, to taste first. 1645 Oughtred in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 63, I received information by a letter from Paris, wherein was prælibated only a small taste thereof.

Prelibation (prĭləibē·ʃən). Also 7 præ-. [ad. late L. *prælibātiōn-em* a tasting beforehand, an offering of the first-fruits, n. of action f. *prælibāre*: see prec. So F. *prélibation.*]

1. A tasting beforehand or by anticipation; a foretaste. Chiefly *fig.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 296 As prelibacyons or foretastynges of that endlesse glory. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 19 The wicked have a prelibation of that darkness they shall go unto hereafter. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2370 Rich prelibation of consummate joy! 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 287 That mysterious ante-dawn—that prelibation of the full daylight, which, under the name of the Zodiacal light, perplexes the oriental surveyor of the heavens. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* vii. 415 Their master had been taken from them, a sad prelibation of the deeper agony which His own true disciples would experience.

2. An offering of first-fruits, or of the first taste, of anything. Now *rare*.

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* II. Note 22 Why may we not say..that before the men were refresht by bread and wine, there was an offering or prelibation of them to God? 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Ad Sect. v. § 1 Offering them [the first-fruits of his blood] to God like the prelibation of a sacrifice. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* v. 245 Like a stalled ox ..that may not taste A flower till it have yielded up its sweets A prelibation to the mower's scythe.

So **Preli·batory** *a.*, of the nature of or affording a foretaste; preliminary. *rare*—1.

1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 201 Set forth, not as a transient preparatory purgatory, but as a dungeon of fearful prelibatory punishment to receive its completion in gehenna.

Preli·minarily, *adv.* [f. next + -LY 2.] In a preliminary manner; as an introduction.

1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 29 His reason..for not preliminarily addressing himself to Clara. 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superstit.* (1851) 188, I went over preliminarily my schoolboy recollections. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* II. viii. 207 So must we..preliminarily do something.

Preliminary (prĭli·mĭnări), *sb.* and *a.* (*adv.*) Also 7 præ-. [ad. F. *préliminaire* or mod.L. *prælimināris* (both used in Treaties of Westphalia, 1648), f. L. *præ* before + *līmen, -in-*, threshold; cf. L. *limināris* of or belonging to a threshold. The L. *prælimināris* was prob. in earlier use.]

A. *sb.* A subordinate step, measure, statement, etc., that precedes another to which it is introductory or preparatory. Chiefly in *pl.* = preparatory measures or arrangements.

1656 CROMWELL *Lett.* 6 May in *Carlyle*, There were some preliminaries to be performed by him before we could enter upon the whole body of a treaty. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* Pref. B j b, Sensible of the tædium of long præliminaries. 1693 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 24 The lords were taken up in adjusting the preliminaries for the lord Mohuns tryall. 1762 SYMMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 449 This is not the Ratification of Preliminaries simply as such, but indeed of the Treaty of Peace. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 3 The petition to the king I hold an essential preliminary. 1857 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) II. 19 The general manager..will arrange all the preliminaries for me. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 159/1 The value of systematic teaching as a preliminary to professional work.

b. (*ellipt.* use of adj.) Preliminary examination.

1882 EDNA LYALL *Donovan* xxiv, He passed his preliminary successfully. (In student slang, often *prelim.*)

B. *adj.* Preceding and leading up to the main subject or business; introductory; preparatory.

a 1667 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Jas. ii.* 24 Wks. 1831 III. 307, I shall premise some preliminary considerations, to prepare the way of holiness. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 20 ¶ 8 The Articles Preliminary to a general Peace were settled. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 241 After these preliminary steps, Mary ventured to call a meeting of Parliament. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iv. 89 The restoration of the Palatinate was insisted on as a preliminary article of the treaty. 1890 A. R. WALLACE *Darwinism* 1 It is for want of this preliminary knowledge.

C. as *adv.* = PRELIMINARILY.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. 329 But that you had preliminary bound me under a solemn vow. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIX. 438/1 [He] gathered the leashed hounds about him preliminary to a start.

Hence **Preli·minarize** *v.*, *trans.* to put forward as a preliminary.

1844 TUPPER *Crock of Gold* xiii, Let us preliminarize a thought or two.

† Prelimina·tion. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ATION.] A preliminary action or performance.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 16 These preliminations ushered in Laws of purgation.

Prelimit (prĭli·mĭt), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To limit or set bounds to beforehand; to confine within limits previously fixed.

a 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. II*, Wks. (1711) 25 The commissioners are chosen.., prepared, instructed, prelimited by him. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 81 Who have prelimited the Assembly, by their Letter and Act. 1784 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) II. vi. 288 The free election of Commissioners had been prelimited by the letter and act of the Commission. 1880 MASSON *Milton* VI. II. ii. 412 A royalty duly prelimited and constrained into respectability.

Hence **Preli·mited** *ppl. a.*; **Preli·miting** *vbl. sb.*

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 248 To thir Articles the ministers consented..for the tyme, even to be silent,..and to have a prælimited Assemblie, feareing, that if they had made any opposition, neither should a Generall Assemblie have been obtained. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1687 (1753) III. IV. 147 The prelimiting and the packing of a parliament. 1784 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) II. VI. 293 The prelimiting and corrupting of the General Assembly.

Preli·mitate, *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + LIMITATE *v.*] *trans.* = PRELIMIT.

1901 W. MORISON *Johnston of Warriston* viii. 58 Her refusal to approve the Acts of the Glasgow Assembly prelimitated the next Assembly.

Prelimita·tion. [f. PRE- A. 2 + LIMITATION.] The action of prelimiting; an instance of this.

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 35 To prepare maters for the Assemblie ensueing.., without prejudice or prælimitation of the Assemblie alwayes. 1662 R. L'ESTRANGE *Interest Mistaken* 15 The Royal Party press'd for a Free Choice and Convention, without Prelimitation.

Prelingual (prĭli·ŋgwăl), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + LINGUAL.] Antecedent to the development or acquirement of language.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 334 Theoretical admirers of the prelingual period are, possibly, scattered here and there, to this day. 1881 J. OWEN *Even. w. Skeptics* II. x. 364 The prelingual state, in which impressions of outward objects exist in the mind as inarticulate, voiceless concepts.

Prelinpinpin, in *powder of prelinpinpin*: see POWDER *sb.*1 2 f.

Preliography, prœli-. [f. L. *prœli-um* battle + -[o]GRAPHY.] 'A description of battles.'

1846 WORCESTER cites HARRIS.

† Prelleds, some obsolete game.

1448 [see *quarter-spells*, QUARTER *sb.* 30].

† Prelocu·tor. *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 preloquutour. [a. med.L. *prælocūtor* (f. L. *præloquī* to speak beforehand or before another), sometimes erron. used in med.L. for *prolocutor* (see Du Cange).] = PROLOCUTOR; an advocate, a pleader.

1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 254 Comperand personalie with Maister Alexander Sym prelocutor. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Stat. Rob. I* 23 The defender or his preloquutour sould not answer; before the complainer or his preloquutour hes spoken and said all.

[**Preloke** *v.* in passage cited, evidently some error. *a* 1547 SURREY *Ps.* lv, The bloody compackts of those That preloked on with yre, to slaughter me and myne. (? For *prikked*; the editor of 1815 (pp. 84, 397) suggests *pressed*.)]

† Prelu·cent, *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 6 preluciand. [ad. L. *prælūcēns, -ēnt-em*, pres. pple. of *prælūcēre* to shine forth: see PRE- A. 4 c and LUCENT.] Shining, resplendent.

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* II. 474 Till he come till ane Palice prelucent. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (E. E. T. S.) iv. 3 Preluciand bemes befoir þe day.

Prelude (pre·lūd, prĭ·lūd), *sb.* Also 6 preludie, 6–7 prælude. [a. F. *prélude* (Rabelais, 1532), ad. late or med.L. *prælūdium*, f. *prælūdĕre*: see next. The first pronunciation prevails in Great Britain.]

† 1. Preliminary play, before the real performance. [Cf. *Thomæ Thes. nov. Lat.* in Quicherat *Addenda*, Præludium, parvus ludus, majorem præcedens.]

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, *Cri.* It is the sute of the strange opponent..to see some light stroke of his play, commenced with some other...*Amo.* Is it your sute Monsieur, to see some prælude of my scholer?

2. A preliminary performance, action, event, or condition, coming before and introducing one of more importance; an introduction, preface.

1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* lxi. 435 *margin*, The begynninges and preludies of the Empyre translated. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxxviii. 227 It is well knowen that dancing can be no better but a prelude to whoredome, to open an entrie purposely vnto Satan. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 220 To bring this Kirk of Scotland backward to them [Popish ceremonies], (a prelude whereof wes vote in Parliament so eagerlie gone about by the King). 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 37 My warbling lute..Was but the prelude to that glorious day. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise of Poverty* Wks. 1730 I. 97 Their smiles are but the preludes of their hate. 1844 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 115 They say it is the prelude to clear weather. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1875) III. xii. 214 A sort of prelude to the still greater work which he had to do. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 722 Functional changes [in glands]..generally form a prelude to structural changes.

3. *Mus.* A movement or piece forming the introduction to a musical work; *esp.* such a movement preceding a fugue or forming the first piece of a suite.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Prælude*,..in Musick it is taken for a voluntary or flourish upon any instrument. *a* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* (1840) 500 In some kinds of orations it resembles the prelude of musicians, who first play what they list, and afterwards the tune they intended. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2081/4 Airs for the Violin: To wit, Preludes, Fuges, Allmands, Sarabands. 1880 TENNYSON *Ballads & P., Sisters* 2 By their clash, And prelude on the keys, I know the song. 1881 H. F. FROST in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 28 *Prelude*,..a preliminary movement, ostensibly an introduction to the main body of a work, but frequently of intrinsic and independent value and importance.

fig. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* III. ii, O welcome messenger! How sweetly sounds Thy prelude! 1845–6 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. II. iii. 179 The world, with all its discords, has had also its preludes to the great harmonies of redemption. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 382 In such prelude old..Sang their deep divination.

attrib. *a* 1845 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* x, So the hoarse thunder Growl'd long—but low—a prelude note of death. 1887 J. W. EBSWORTH in *Roxb. Ball.* VI. 254 *note*, Also to the same tune is marked, 'The Sweet Salutation on Primrose-Hill; or, I know you not'... It has the prelude versicle:—'I know you not! What, doth the times so change? [etc.]'

Prelude (see below), *v.* [ad. L. *prælūd-ĕre* to play beforehand, prelude, preface, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *lūdĕre* to play; so F. *préluder* (17th c. in Hatz.-Darm.). All the verse quots. and the dictionaries down to *c* 1830 have (prĭlū·d); Smart 1836 has (pre·lud), after the sb., and this is now usual, esp. in the musical sense 3. Tennyson has both: see quots.]

1. *trans.* To precede as a prelude or preliminary action; to serve as a prelude to; to prepare the way for, introduce; to foreshadow.

1655 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. *Rules & Lessons*, The Sun now stoops, and hastes his beams to hide Under the dark and melancholy Earth. All but preludes thy End. *a* 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid* XV. (1810) 549/2 When the gray Of morn preludes the splendour of the day. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* II. i. 822 The gath'ring Storm That grumbles in the Air, preluding Ruin. 1768 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 252 Their immersion was preluded by a dirge of a quarter of an hour's length. 1832 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* 7 Dan Chaucer, the first warbler, whose sweet breath Preluded those melodious bursts. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXVI. 392 Being ..preluded by an outburst more severe than usual of fever.

b. Of a personal or other agent: To introduce with a prelude or preliminary action.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XII. 160 Proudly he bellows, and preludes the fight. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. lviii. 252 He also preludes his work by saying [etc.]. 1860 ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* V. 109 A priest preluded with some prayer or pious ceremony these rounds and these profane songs. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* VI. § 38. 95 The necessity for preluding the study of moral science, by the study of biological science.

† c. To compose as a prelude. *Obs. rare.*

1785 *Eng. Rev.* VI. 204 'May I ask what subject employs your thoughts?' 'I am preluding a preface'.

2. *intr.* To give a prelude or introductory performance *to* some later action.

1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 16 They prelude to them with Tears. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg.* (1721) I. Ded. 9 He found the strength of his Genius betimes, and was even in his Youth preluding to his Georgics, and his Æneis. *a* 1729 CONGREVE tr. *Ovid's Art of Love* III. Wks. 1773 III. 279 So love, preluding, plays at first with hearts, And after wounds with deeper piercing darts. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. II. 164 He had also preluded to this great work, in a little English medical tract.

b. To form a prelude, to be introductory (*to*).

1838–43 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* III. xliii. 140 The skirmishing of the light-armed troops preluded as usual to the battle. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. xvii. 482 Much dramatic incident.. preluding to the substantive discussion.

3. *Music.* **a.** *intr.* To play a prelude or introductory movement before the main composition.

1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* I. i, As a good musician always preludes before a tune. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* XXXIII, She..seated herself at the harp, and began to prelude. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* XXVI, So soon as he began to prelude,..his countenance glowed with energy and inspiration.

b. *trans.* (*a*) To play as a prelude; (*b*) to introduce with a prelude.

1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* I. 63 If the Organist preludes an Anthem of Praise or Thanksgiving, a spirited movement is certainly in its place. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* LXXXVIII, And I—my harp would prelude woe—I cannot all command the strings. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xii. 128 The accuser rises and preludes a few discords..on a tom-tom or drum. He then passes to the charge.

Hence **Preluding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Preluder,** one who plays or performs a prelude.

a 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 220 At last..she.. drew a long preluding sigh, and said, O happy mother in thy marriage bed! 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 175 Bates sounds the soft preluding symphony. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* I. 60 Invention, science and execution, which Rousseau requires in a good Preluder. 1834 FRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vi. 214 Which much resembled the preluding quaver of the woodlark. 1841 H. F. CHORLEY *Music & Manners* (1844) III. 246 Classical preluders and steady fuguists will come in time. 1847 BUSHNELL *Chr. Nurt.* viii. (1861) 212 To act the preluding of the Christian love. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* V. ii. (1872) II. 66 The needful Parliamentary preludings are gone through.

Preludial (prĭlū·dĭăl), *a.* [f. late or med.L. *prælūdi-um* PRELUDE *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining to, or of the nature of, a prelude; serving to introduce.

1649 AMBROSE *Media* i. (1652) 2 The second is the fruit of the first, and the preludial assurance of the last. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* xix. 341 Preludial beames of the Sun of Righteousnes. *a* 1721 KEN *Anodynes Poet.* Wks. 1721 III. 394 Preludial Scorchings of eternal Fire. 1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 88 To have..no preludial education, but to begin a thing in earnest.

† Prelu·diately, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ATE 2 + -LY 2.] By way of a prelude.

1593 NASHE *Christ's Tears* Ep. Ded., Giue mee leaue with the Sportiue Sea Porposes, preludiatelie a little to play before the storme of my Teares. 1623 COCKERAM, *Preludiately-done*, done as a Prologue.

‖ Prelu·dio. *Music. rare.* [It., ad. late or med.L. *prælūdium* PRELUDE *sb.*] = PRELUDE *sb.* 3.

1724 *Short Explic. For. Words in Mus. Bks.*, *Preludio*, a Prelude; the first Part or Beginning of a Piece of Musick ..much the same as *Overture*. 1810 S. GREEN *Reformist* I. 236 She played a preludio on the fine-toned instrument. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. liv, These first twelve books are merely flourishes, Preludios, trying just a string or two Upon my lyre.

Preludious (prĭlū·dĭəs), *a.* [f. late or med.L. *prælūdi-um* PRELUDE *sb.* + -OUS.] Of the nature of a prelude; introductory, preparatory.

1651 CLEVELAND *Senses' Festival* vi, Yet, that's but a preludious bliss; Two souls pickearing in a kiss. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 78 We see the Angel Gabriel..to have a preludious mission, as of an Apostle, to preach to Daniel. 1822 NOTT *Dekker's Gull's Horn-bk.* 142 *note*, Trumpets were then the preludious instruments to a play. 1887 CLARK

RUSSELL *Frozen Pirate* II. viii. 146 Sharp cubbish snarlings preludious of the lion's voice.

Hence **Prelu·diously** *adv.*

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 150 Afterward did he shew himself upon Earth, and conversed with men: Preludiously in the Cloud and in the Bush.

‖ **Preludium, præ-** (prĭlĭū·diŭm). Now *rare.* [Late or med.L. *præludium* PRELUDE *sb.*] A prelude or introduction; a preliminary.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1594/2 So the disputation began to be set a worke by y^e^ Prolocutor with a short *Præludium.* 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 178 Euery inequality of concoction is a *præludium* of crudity. 1646 CRASHAW *Poet. Wks.* (1857) 21 This knife may be the spear's praeludium. 1678 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 66 The Birds in short præludiums tune their throat. 1712 M. HENRY *Comm. with God* (1822) 360 An earnest of the blessedness of heaven..and a preludium to it. *a* 1734 NORTH *Examen* II. iv. § 91 (1740) 276 A devillish Invention..which from the Preludiums of the Business, may be ascribed to the Lord Howard. 1885 COUPLAND *Spirit Goethe's Faust* ii. 48 The preludium prefixed to the Indian play.

Preludize (pre·lĭudəiz), *v.* [f. PRELUDE *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To play or write a prelude.

1845 C. H. J. ANDERSON *Swedish Brothers* 38 Preludising for a few moments with the air of one who is accustomed to sing. 1878 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 372 Mozart then began to preludise, and played some variations. 1902 *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 June 488/1 The chief fault of Mr. Young's book is a tendency to verbose preludizing.

Prelumbar: see PRE- B. 3.

Prelusion (prĭlĭū·ʒən). [ad. L. *prælūsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prælūdĕre* to PRELUDE.] The performance of a prelude; a prelude or introduction.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 592 Your liues..should bee prelusions and preparations for a better life to come. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* IV. ii. 102 It was a prelusion to & prefiguration of the forwardness of the Gentiles..to receive Christ as their Soveraign and Redeemer. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIII. 3 So sudden and so early a prelusion of summer..could not last. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* 314 Of the nature of a prelusion in the art of logical division.

Prelusive (prĭlĭū·siv), *a.* [f. L. *prælūs-*, ppl. stem of *prælūdĕre* to PRELUDE + -IVE.] Of the nature of or serving as a prelude; preliminary or introductory to that which is to follow.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ii. § 8 This monarchy before it was to settle in your Maiestie and your generations..had these prelusiue changes and varieties. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 174 The clouds..softly shaking on the dimpled pool Prelusive drops. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* I. 36 And scarcely have they disappeared Ere the prelusive hymn is heard. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* III. ii. 300 Christ speaks of His return as intimated by certain prelusive tokens.

Hence **Prelu·sively** *adv.*, in a prelusive manner, by way of prelude.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 451 He has but been prelusively flourishing his tool.

Prelusory (prĭlĭū·səri), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ORY [2].] = prec.

1640 *Consid. touching Ch. of Eng.* 33 A precursorie or prelusorie judgement of Christ. 1650 *Vind. Dr. Hammond's Addr.* 37 That Argument..is but prælusory and preparative. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* Pref. § 12 These are but the light prelusory skirmishes to a more dismal slaughter. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. lxix. 315 Without some prelusory trials of our strength, we ought not to commit our country.

Hence **Prelu·sorily** *adv.*

1847 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

Premandibular, -maniacal, -material, etc.: see PRE- B. **Premate, Premative,** obs. ff. PRIMATE, PRIMITIVE.

†**Prematu·rance.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as next + -ANCE.] Early ripening.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 6 In Grouth, the thriuage, verdure, fruitage, prematurance &c. of particular Vegetables are regardable.

†**Prematu·rate,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. mod.L. **præmātūr-āre* + -ATE [2]: cf. MATURATE *a.*] Done before the due time.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 479/1 It is thought also by some, that the reuoking backe agayne..was prematurate, or done all out of time.

Premature (prī·mătiū·ɹ; prī-, pre·mătiū·ɹ), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 **pri-**, 7 **præ-**. [ad. L. *præmātūr-us* very early, too early, premature, f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *mātūrus* MATURE *a.* The last pronunciation is now common in Great Britain, esp. in connexions in which there is no mental association with *mature*; the first is favoured by American dicts.]

†**1.** Ripe before the proper season. *Obs. rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Premature*, ripe before other, or ripe before due time and season. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

2. Occurring, existing, or done before the usual, proper, or appointed time; arriving or adopted too soon; too early; over-hasty.

c 1529 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 171 His so primature deathe was imputed only to nimio coitu. 1654 HAMMOND *Fundamentals* xiii, 'Tis hard to imagine what..should be able to perswade him to repent, till he hath deposited that premature perswasion of his being in Christ. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 7 ¶ 15 The account of the engagement..was premature. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 219 Too rapid growth and premature decay seem invariably connected. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. v, The constant company..made us premature adepts in the manners of the world. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xiv. 228 His birth was premature. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 426 Indications that he already felt the advance of premature age.

B. as *adv.* = PREMATURELY. (Only *poet.*)

1791 COWPER *Iliad* I. 4 Achilles..who..sent many a soul Illustrious into Ades premature.

†**Prematu·red,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + MATURED; cf. prec.] = prec.

1768 *Woman of Honor* II. 12 Its being a little prematured was of no great moment.

Prematurely, *adv.* [f. PREMATURE + -LY [2].] In a premature manner; before the proper time; too soon, too hastily.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 189 When Nurses prematurely, and without regard, commit weaker Infants to their Feet. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 136 Man's Wisdom..would have rushed forward upon it prematurely. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 367 Ascham..died prematurely. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ii, His hair was becoming prematurely grey. 1878 R. W. DALE *Lect. Preach.* ii. 39 Taking care not to exhaust the interest of your audience prematurely.

Prematureness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being premature.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Prematureness*, early Ripeness, or Ripeness before the Time. 1796 HARGRAVE *Hale's Jurisdict. Ho. Lds.* Pref. 181 [One] whose prematureness of fate..caused an almost unsuppliable interstice in the science of English equity. 1883 A. FORBES in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 671 What dealings he held with the enemy did not result in a prematureness of surrender.

Prematurity (prī-, premătiū·rĭti). [ad. F. *prématurité* (16th c. in Littré): see PRE- A. 2 and MATURITY.] The quality or fact of being premature.

†**1.** Of plants: Early ripening or flowering. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Prematurité*, prematuritie; hastie ripenesse, quicke ripening, forward or timelie growth. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 265 Their Pre-maturity is very desirable.

2. Early development, esp. of mental or physical faculties; = PRECOCITY 2.

1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) II. xxvi. 359 He [Chatterton] will appear to have been a singular instance of a prematurity of abilities; to have acquired a store of general information far exceeding his years. 1779 BURNEY in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 199 Another wonderful part of his pre-maturity was the being able at two years and four months old to transpose into the most extraneous and difficult keys whatever he played. 1823 W. FAUX *Mem. Days in Amer.* 121 Unnatural prematurity is here very common. Boys look grave, and talk, act, and dress like men. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 455 Prematurity of thought and feeling has often an early grave.

b. An example of prematnre development.

1812 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 381 Of the few, the greater part are pre-maturities.

3. Undue earliness or haste (of any action or event); hastiness, precipitancy.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Prematurity*, the State, or Condition of that which is premature. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) II. iii. 81 The only prematurity was in getting the Bill ready against it was necessary. 1825 WADDINGTON *Visit to Greece* Introd. 58 The prematurity and consequent failure of Ypsilanti's expedition. 1876 BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 12 Their early sickliness and prematurity of death. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 6/1 There is a good deal of prematurity..about most of the rumours.

Prematyue, obs. form of PRIMITIVE.

‖ **Premaxi·lla, præ-.** *Zool.* [mod.L., f. PRE- B. + MAXILLA, after next.] The premaxillary bone.

1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 95 The alveolar surface of the premaxillae is nearly perpendicular. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 115 The second element of the human maxillary bone..is termed in zootomy the pre-maxilla.

Premaxillary (prīmæksi·lări), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PRE- B. 3 + MAXILLARY.] **a.** *adj.* Situated in front of the maxilla or upper jaw; **b.** *sb.* the premaxillary bone. So **Premaxi·llo-maxi·llary** *a.*, connecting or lying between the premaxillary and the maxillary bones.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 196 The premaxillary bone is edentulous. *Ibid.* 271 The premaxillary teeth [in the wolf-fish] are all conical, and arranged in two rows. *Ibid.* 273 The exposed portions of the premaxillaries and premandibulars. 1866 HUXLEY *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 102 Only the faintest traces of the premaxillo-maxillary suture are to be seen in any of the skulls.

Preme, obs. form of PREEM *sb.*

Preme·dial, præ-, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PRE- B. 3 + MEDIAL.] Situated in front of the medial line or position. So **Preme·dian** *a.*

1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 246 The præmedial and extramedial [areolets] are usually coalescent. *Ibid.* 334 Præmedian margin abrupt. *Ibid.* 343 Breadth [of carapax] to præmedials, about one line.

†**Preme·diate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. obs. F. *prémédier*, f. L. *præ* before, in front + *mediārī* to MEDIATE.] **a.** *intr.* To be a mediator or intermediary. **b.** *trans.* To mediate in (a dispute, etc.); to plead or advocate (a cause).

1530 PALSGR. 664/2, I premedyate for him, I am meane for one, *je premedie.* It shall be no wysedome to put thyselfe to moche in prease tyll thou have some body to premedyat thy cause. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Premediate*, to advocate one's cause.

†**Preme·ditate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *præmeditātus*, pa. pple. (with passive sense, Cic.) of *præmeditārī* to premeditate: see PRE- A. 1 and MEDITATE *a.*]

1. = PREMEDITATED *ppl. a.* 1.

1555 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 128 Neverthelesse I shall declare the premedytate myschiffe. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii, (1588) 239 Manslaughter upon premeditate malice. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 82 Not making odious comparisons betwixt ..Publick prayer and Private, Premeditate prayer and Extempore. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 80 From a propense and premeditate Malice.

2. Using premeditation or previous deliberation; considerate, deliberate.

1592 G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 177 A premeditate, and resolute minde lightly shaketh off the heauiest crosses of malice. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 40 Studiouse labourers, as premeditate for doctrine and exhortation, and as carefull for good lyfe and conversation.

Premeditate (prīme·ditēlt), *v.* Also 6 **premydytatt,** *pa. pple.* **premiditat.** [f. ppl. stem of L. *præmeditārī*, or f. PRE- A. 1 + MEDITATE *v.*; cf. F. *préméditer* (14th c.)] To meditate beforehand.

1. *trans.* To ponder upon or study with a view to subsequent action, to think out beforehand; now *esp.* to plan or contrive previously.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 220 That they shoulde before hande premeditate with themselues maturely and deliberatly these thynges by her moued. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 593 Cæsar..made an oration penned and premeditated before. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xli. (1663) 161 Mendez, who had long before premeditated his answer. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 217, I began now to premeditate the Destruction of the next that I saw there. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. xx. 444 When the act is done the party contemplates the consequence, although he has not premeditated the consequence or the act.

†**b.** To think of or consider in anticipation. *Obs.*

1566 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 473 That all troubill and occasioun of disordour be afoirhand foirsene and premiditat.

2. *intr.* To think deliberately beforehand or in advance (*on* or *of* something).

1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 204 b, While the men propowned their conceites, you (faire Ladies) may haue time to premeditate and thinke on yours. 1647 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 195 It is the dutie therefore of euerie christian soe to premeditate of that day, and soe to dispose of his earthly affaires, that he may be allwayes in a readinesse. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1711) I. xix. 98 To premeditate is doubtless a very great advantage. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xi, I never premeditate, dear lady.

†**3.** To form a (specified) opinion beforehand; to think (well or ill) *of* previously. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1590 in Tolstoy *1st* 40 *Yrs. Interc. Eng. & Russ.* (1875) 368 We take hold of your loving consideracion..and will premydytatt the best of you.

Hence **Preme·ditating** *ppl. a.*; whence **Preme·ditatingly** *adv.*, with or by premeditation.

1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) III. v. 107 He was determined religiously to adhere to his promise to Julia, of not premeditatingly putting himself in her way.

Preme·ditated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED [1].]

1. Considered, contemplated, or composed beforehand; previously contrived or planned.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 96 Great Clearkes haue purposed To greete me with premeditated welcomes. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 18 Their premeditated mischief. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 75 You shall receive from me no premeditated excuses, I had rather confess my fault. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶ 3 A premeditated Quarrel usually begins and works up with the Words, *Some People.* 1870 MRS. RIDDELL *A. Friars* iii, Her going was not the result of a premeditated plan.

†**2.** Of a person: Prepared by premeditation; = PREMEDITATE *a.* 2. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 10 To argue to some conclusion, wherein it was impossible he should be premeditated.

Hence **Preme·ditatedly** *adv.*, with premeditation, advisedly, deliberately; **Preme·ditatedness,** the quality or fact of being premeditated.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Premeditatedly.* 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xxxv. 230 Resolutions so premeditatedly made. 1817 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 26 Nov., Some blunders crept in accidentally, and one or two were premeditatedly added. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* I. xii. 89 Its order, *premeditatedness, and constancy of devotion was never forbidden or disallowed by God. 1825 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Indic.* (1830) 58 Premeditatedness—is it not in possession of being regarded as operating in extenuation of moral guilt?

†**Preme·ditately,** *adv. Obs.* [f. PREMEDITATE *a.* + -LY [2].] = PREMEDITATEDLY.

1648 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* I. 42 This was cunningly and premeditately contrived, to encrease the scandall upon the City. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxviii. § 3 (1699) 274 Remissions should not be granted for Slaughter committed premeditatly. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* II. xvi, A woman who did one imprudent thing premeditately. 1803 *Forest of Hohenelbe* I. 302 The natural ingenuousness of her disposition was wounded, by acting thus premeditately.

Premeditation (prī-, prĭmeditē·ɪ·ʃən). Also 7 **præ-.** [ad. L. *præmeditātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præmeditārī* to PREMEDITATE. So F. *préméditation* (*-cion* 14th c.).] The action of premeditating; previous meditation. **a.** Previous deliberation upon or thinking out of something to be done; now *esp.* designing, planning, or contrivance to do something.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 313 Moore scharpe and apte to an answere withowte deliberacion then with premeditacion. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 158 A Crime, ..he that doth it with præmeditation, has used circumspection [etc.]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 368 Premeditation being a very necessary Preliminary to Building.

a **1832** MACKINTOSH *Revol. of* 1688, Wks. 1846 II. 40 There are probably few instances where, with so much premeditation and effrontery, the spoils of an accused man were promised..to the judge, who might have tried him. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxix, The passionate words were like blows—they defied premeditation. **1892** ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* (1895) 124 The prisoner murdered his friend and fellow-lodger.. in cold blood, and with the most careful premeditation.

†**b.** The action of thinking of or considering something beforehand or previously (without implication of purpose). *Obs.*

a **1450** *Mankind* 44 in *Macro Plays* 2, I be-sech yow hertyly, haue þis premedytacyon. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 36 Somtyme dremes may come of some premeditacyon or thought that a persone hath had þe daye before. **1685** COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1877) I. 82 The premeditation of death is the premeditation of liberty; he who has learned to die has unlearned to serve.

Premeditative (prɪ́mɛ·dɪtɛ̆tɪv), *a. rare.* [f. as PREMEDITATE *v.* + -IVE.] Given to or characterized by premeditation.

1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* vii. (1862) 137 Every first thing accordingly shows some premeditative token of every last. **1904** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 2/1 A telling meeting of extremes—the most premeditative of classic revivalists by the most 'instantaneous' of the moderns.

Preme·ditator. [Agent-n. from PREMEDITATE *v.*: see -OR.] One who premeditates. So **Premedita·trix**, a female premeditator. *rare.*

1853 MISS HARDY *The Confessor* xx. 200 The old woman at Amboise was a premeditatrix.

Pre-memorial, -menstrual: see PRE- B. 1.

†**Pre·ment.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prement-em*, pres. pple. of *premĕre* to press.] That which presses.

1700 *Phil. Trans.* XXII. 569 Any exteriour Body which may compress the Fibres..As for external Prements [etc.]..

Pre-me·ntion, *sb. rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Mention beforehand, previous notice.

a **1651** CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 46 The admissioun of ministers, elders, and deacons, is ordeaned to be made publicklie in the kirk, and pre-mentioun to be made upon the Lord's day preceding.

Pre-me·ntion, *v. rare.* Also 7 **præ-.** [f. PRE- A. 1 + MENTION *v.*; so obs. F. *prémentionner* (1588 in Godef.).] *trans.* To mention previously or beforehand. Hence **Pre-mentioned** *ppl. a.*, before-mentioned.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 21 That the prementioned Planters, by Tolerating all Religions, had immazed themselves in the most intolerable confusions and inextricable thraldomes the world ever heard of. **1660** *Charac. Italy* 4 Arguments..of greater solidity and weight than the præmentioned. **1705** HAUKSBEE in *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1866 A small quantity of the pre-mention'd Ingredients. **1793** J. WILLIAMS *Life Ld. Barrymore* 43 To build a room.. for the purpose of debating upon a pre-mentioned subject.

Premenyre, Premere, obs. ff. PRÆMUNIRE, PRIMER.

Premeridian (prīmĕri·dĭăn), *a.* [PRE- B. 1 a.] Occurring before noon; in *Geol.*, applied by H. D. Rogers to the seventh of his fifteen subdivisions of the Palæozoic strata of the Appalachian chain.

1858 [see POSTMERIDIAN *a.* 2]. **1859** PAGE *Geol. Terms.*

Premerit (prīmɛ·rɪt), *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To merit or deserve beforehand.

a **1628** PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 107 He that is capable of no gift, there can be nothing done to him, to premerit any thing. **1648** *Eikon Bas.* viii. 56 Nor is it strange that they..should not finde mercy enough to forgive him, who so much premerited of them. **1850** MARSDEN *Early Purit.* (1853) 389 That eternal life was the free gift of God through Christ, and not procured or pre-merited.

Premetive, obs. Sc. form of PRIMITIVE.

†**Pre·miable,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. type **præmiābil-is*, f. *præmiārī*: see PREMIATE and -ABLE.] Deserving of reward. Hence †**Premiabi·lity,** deservingness of reward. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

a **1450** *Mankind* (Brandl) 854 Your merytes were not premyabyll to þe blys abowe. **1675** BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. xii. 271 What word can you find? Premiability and Rewardableness are long and unhandsome, and I remember no other, without using many words.

†**Pre·mial,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. late L. *præmiālis* (August.) used as a reward, f. *præmium* reward: see -AL.] Of the nature of a reward.

a **1680** J. CORBET *Free Actions* III. xxxi. (1683) 50 If Gods Positive Denegation of further Grace be penal, why may not his conferring of further Grace be premial?

†**Pre·miant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præmiānt-em*, pres. pple. of *præmiārī*: see next.] Rewarding; prescribing or conferring a reward.

1675 BAXTER *Subst. Cartwright's Except.* 32 From the condition of premiant or penal acts. **1675** — *Cath. Theol.* II. ii. 40 Of the latter, there is a flat Promise, and premiant Law or Covenant made by God.

Premiate (prī·mieɪt), *v. rare.* Also 7 *pa. pple.* **premiate.** [f. ppl. stem of L. *præmiārī* to stipulate for a reward, also (?) to reward (f. *præmium* reward). Cf. OF. *premier* vb. (1410 in Godef.).] *trans.* To reward; to award a prize to. Hence **Pre·miated** *ppl. a.*

1537 POLE *Let. to Cromwell* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxxiv. 222 If ony man had been premiate to do him service none could have don more. *a* **1651** CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) III. 254 So she premiated and rewarded him. **1858** *Sat. Rev.* 4 Sept. 230/2 Of all the premiated competitors Mr. Scott has proved himself to be the best man. **1892** *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 326/3 A model of the arch..was tried over each of the premiated models.

Premices, var. PRIMICES *Obs.*, first-fruits.

†**Pre·mie.** *Obs.* Also **-ye.** [a. obs. F. *premie* (rare, 16th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *præmi-um*: see PREMIUM.] A reward, prize; a gift.

c **1550** BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 85 The cytie of London, through his mere graunt and premye, Was first privyleged to have both mayer and shryve. **1550** — *Image Both Ch.* Pref. A iij b, It manifesteth also what premyes, what crownes, and what glory the sayd congregation shall haue.

Premier (prɛ·mɪəɹ, prī·mɪəɹ), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 5, 7–8 **primier,** 8 **premiere,** 7– **premier.** [a. F. *premier* first:—L. *prīmāri-us* of the first rank, PRIMARY, f. *prīm-us* first.

(The first pronunciation (in Smart 1836) is now the more frequent in England. A third pronunciation (*prɪ́mɛ·ɪ*), formerly in use, is evidenced in various poems.)]

A. *adj.* **1.** First in position, importance, or rank; chief, leading, foremost.

c **1470** ASHBY *Active Policy* 2 Maisters Gower, Chauucer & Lydgate, Primier poetes of this nacion. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. (1637) 335 The Captain of the primier band of the Vetasians. **1614** CAMDEN *Rem.* 5 The Spaniard..challengeth the primier place in regard of..his dominions. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 575 That Power which is primierepresident amongst them desireth to be accounted the supreme God. *c* **1630** RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 293 (1810) 303 One of the premier knights of the order of the garter. **1762** H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. ii. 43 Henry Beauchamp, son of Richard and Isabel, was at the age of nineteen created premier earl of England. **1833** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxi, The premier violin, master of the ceremonies and ballet-master. **1889** *Pall Mall G.* 3 Dec. 2/3 The six principal exports of Brazil.. Coffee takes the premier place. **1905** *Daily Chron.* 6 Dec. 6/3 The Prime Minister is to be not only the premier Commoner, but to take precedence over all Dukes.

†**b.** *Premier minister, Minister premier* [cf. F. *premier ministre*]. = B. *Obs.*

1686 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Feb., Lord Sunderland was now Secretary of State, President of the Council, and Premier Minister. **1691** BEVERLEY *Mem. Kingd. Christ* 1 The Angel..was the Primier Minister of Prophecy from Christ, to the Apocalyptical Apostle John. **1703** *Royal Resolutions* xii. in *Marvell's Wks.* (Grosart) I. 433 My pimp shall be my minister primier. **1731** SWIFT *To Gay* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 172 Thus families like realms with equal fate Are sunk by premier ministers of state. *a* **1734** NORTH *Exam.* III. vii. § 15 (1740) 515 The Duke of Buckingham was potent, being, as I said before, a sort of primier Minister.

2. First in time; earliest.

1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* To Rdr. A iv, Vouching the legal Interess of the English Nation, in Right of the first Discovery or Primier Seisin, to Estotiland. **1768** [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xx. 161 The venerable dame of antiquity, who was recommended..to superintend my premiere actions, till I should grow into power to assist myself. **1882** J. ASHTON *Soc. Life Q. Anne* II. xxvi. 28 The premier advertisement of opera in England. **1889** *Queen* 30 Mar., A woman, who, we may imagine, was no longer in her premier youth. **1898** *Whitaker's Titled Persons* 85 Sir Hickman Beckett Bacon..Premier Baronet. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 19 June 6/1 The committee of the Post Office Savings Bank refreshment department have just issued their premier statement of accounts and balance-sheet.

B. *sb.* [Short for *premier minister.*] **a.** *generally.* The first or chief minister of any ruler; the chief officer of an institution.

1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 23, I had rather be the poor deprived priest..than be premier, or plenipotentiary to the greatest monarch. **1739** HILDROP *Contempt of Clergy* 61 He..makes him not only his Premier in Temporals, but his Vice-gerent in Spirituals. **1784** D. HERD *Let.* in *Songs* (1904) 50, I am determined to give up..this name of Premier [head of the Cape Club, Edinburgh].

b. The first minister of the Crown, the PRIME MINISTER of Great Britain or one of its Colonies.

1726 W. STRATFORD *Let.* 23 June in *Rep. MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1901) VII. 439 The Premier and his brother of All Souls called on me last week on their way to young Bromley's. **1727** LADY E. LECHMERE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VI. 53 Our Premier..is in as great favour with the King as with the Queen. **1746** DK. OF CUMBERLAND in COXE *Mem. Administr. Pelham* (1829) I. 486, I should be much better pleased..if the Premier moved it..I am fully convinced of the Premier's goodwill to me. **1799** MME. D'ARBLAY *Let.* in *Diary* VI. 193 How can the Premier [Pitt] be so much his own enemy in politics as well as in happiness? **1847** TENNYSON *Princ.* Concl. 102 A shout More joyful than the city-roar that hails Premier or king! **1888** HENLEY *Bk. Verses, If I were King,* If I were King, my pipe should be premier. The skies of time and chance are seldom clear. **1902** *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 472 The colonial premiers of Canada and Australia..have set their face against any closer linkage of the Empire as a whole.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pre·mier** *v. intr.*, to play the premier, to govern as prime minister; **Pre·mieral** *a.*, pertaining to a premier; **Pre·mieress,** the wife of a premier.

1790 BURNS *Addr. Beelzebub* 22 Nae sage North, now, nor sager Sackville, To watch and premier o'er the pack vile. **1894** *Spectator* 24 Mar. 400 Monarchy, now being replaced everywhere, more or less, by Premieral Government. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 9 Nov. 11 A gentleman who 'goes regularly into Society', 'attends the Premieress's soirées', and 'knows all the best people'.

‖ **Première** (prəmyɛ̆·r). [F., short for *première représentation.*] A first representation or performance of a play, etc.; a 'first night'.

1895 *Punch* 26 Jan. 37/1 It was a pleasant sight, on the *première* of 'King Arthur' to see [etc.]. **1896** A. W. à BECKETT in *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/2 The day before the date fixed for our premiere arrived, and I duly reported progress. **1897** 'OUIDA' *Massareues* xxvi, [He] never misses a season at Bayreuth, or a *première* of Saint-Saëns's.

Premiership (prɛ·mɪəɹʃɪp, prī·m-). [f. PREMIER *sb.* + -SHIP.]

1. The office of a premier or prime minister.

1800 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 398 An inherency of the office in the person of the King, which made the office itself a nullity, and the Premiership, with its accompanying majority, the sole and permanent power of the State. **1806** MOORE *Mem.* (1853) I. 187 The King will certainly offer the premiership to Addington. **1873** *Spectator* 9 Aug. 1001/1 Mr. Gladstone..takes the control of the Exchequer as well as the Premiership. **1893** F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 125 The premiership of Fakhry Pasha was never gazetted.

2. The state of being first in position or rank, as in a competition. Also *attrib.*

1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xvii. 138 Kinau was succeeded in the premiership by..her half-sister. **1883** *Standard* 26 Feb. 2/6 Lowland Chief maintains the Premiership in the Lincolnshire Handicap betting. **1897** *Daily News* 9 July 6/2 He also took a special prize as a 'premiership dog'.

Premillenarian (prī·mɪlĭnē·rĭăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + MILLENARIAN: cf. next.]

a. *sb.* One who believes that the Second Advent of Christ will precede the millennium; = PREMILLENNIALIST. **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to this belief or its holders. Hence **Premillena·rianism,** the premillenarian doctrine; = PREMILLENNIALISM.

1844 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. Pref. 10 The usual argument of premillennarian expositors, deduced from a combination of Dan. vii. 9–14, 25–27..is wholly inconclusive. *Ibid.* Pref. 17 The prediction of St. Peter is the millstone suspended from the neck of Premillennarianism, which no effort and no ingenuity can shake off. *Ibid.* 8 His paraphrase.. expresses my own view, though it stands opposed to that of the Premillennarians. **1879** *Princeton Rev.* Mar. 419 The rejection of the pre-millenarian advent. **1883** R. W. PATTERSON in *Chicago Advance* 6 Sept., In some respects, these Adventists agree with the pre-millenarians.

Premillennial (prī·mɪlɛ·nĭăl), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + MILLENNIAL *a.*] Occurring before the millennium; particularly said of the Second Advent of Christ; also, pertaining to the world as it now is before the millennium.

1846 G. OGILVY (*title*) Popular Objections to the Premillennial Advent considered. **1848** G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* Pref. (1851) 21 If we admit the conclusion, we shall have..a literal Premillennial Second Advent; a literal Reign, upon Earth, of the literally resuscitated Saints and Martyrs. **1868** VISCT. STRANGFORD *Select.* (1869) II. 304 A statesman who objects to our common work-a-day premillennial logic as an instrument of human education.

Hence **Premille·nnialism,** the doctrine or belief that the Second Advent will precede the millennium; **Premille·nnialist,** one who holds this doctrine; **Premille·nnialize** *v. intr.*, to preach premillennialism; hence *premille·nnializing* ppl. adj.; **Premille·nnially** *adv.*, prior to the millennium.

1848 G. S. FABER *Many Mansions* Pref. (1851) 23 The Scheme of Mr. Mede and the Premillennialists. *Ibid.* 178 A want of attention to it has led our premillennialising friends to bring forward a very inconclusive argument in support of their speculation. *Ibid.* 196 This prophecy, instead of being invincibly demonstrative of Premillennialism, is absolutely fatal to it. **1851** ELLIOTT *Horæ Apoc.* (1862) IV. 157 The martyrs and saints spoken of just before, as raised premillennially to live and reign with Christ. **1878** H. G. GUINNESS *End of Age* (1880) 92 All the primitive expositors and teachers were premillennialists. **1882–3** *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1888 From the death of the apostles till the time of Origen, premillenialism was the general faith of..orthodox Christians.

Premille·nnian, *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 + MILLENNIAN *a.*] = PREMILLENNIAL *a.*

1828 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* III. vi. viii. 449 The two theories of the literal premillennian second advent and of the universal premillennian conflagration stand or fall together. **1848** — *Many Mansions* Pref. (1851) 205 When each of the two Anti-christian Confederacies, premillennian and postmillennian, is destined to perish.

Preminire, obs. form of PRÆMUNIRE.

‖ **Pre·mio.** *Obs.* [It., ad. L. *præmium* a reward, PREMIUM.] = PREMIUM; *esp.* the earlier term for an insurance premium; also, a reward or prize; a bonus added to interest or to a payment.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 150 Concerning the price of Assurances or *Premio* (as the Spaniards call it) it is differing in all places. *Ibid.* 160 Not to assure for vnlawfull places of trade..vnlesse a good *premio* bee giuen. **1638** *Insurance Policy* in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pl. Crt. Admir.* (Selden) II. 59 All in good faith without fraud or guyle the Premio is paid as aforesaid. **1703** DE FOE *Villainy Stockjobbers* in *Misc.* 256 The Money'd Men, who obtain'd the Discount as a *Premio* added to the Interest upon the Originals. **1728** NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 117 A contribution..to be given as a premio to him that should best entertain them in a solemne consort. *a* **1734** — *Exam.* III. vi. § 91 (1740) 490 It is just as if the Ensurers brought in a Catalogue of ensured Ships lost, taking no Notice of Ships arrived and Premios.

†**Pre·miour.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. AF. *premiour*, corresp. to late L. *præmiātor* rewarder, f. L. *præmium* a reward, PREMIUM: see -OUR.] A rewarder.

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 123 b, Ihesus is and perpetually shall be to his louers rewarde and premyour.

Pre·mious, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *præmiōs-us* rich, f. *præmium* reward: see -OUS.] Rich in gifts.

1855 in CLARKE. Hence **1864** in WEBSTER, etc.

Premisal (prĭmə·zăl). ? *Obs.* [f. PREMISE *v.* + -AL.] The action of premising; the making of a prefatory or introductory statement; stating (of something) as a premiss.

1652 N. CULVERWELL *Mount Ebal* Treat. (1654) 90 Here by way of premisal; 1. It must be in a lawful and warrantable way. 1701 BEVERLEY *Glory of Grace* 22 To this Premisal of the Efficient Cause from Eternity; and the Final Cause to Eternity; ..I would add the Consideration of our Being placed into Christ. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. Pref. 10 Whether a conclusion may not immediately follow upon the premisal of one single proposition.

Premise, premiss (prē·mis), *sb.* [a. F. *prémisse* (Oresme, 14th c.), also obs. and less usual *premise* ('a foreplacing, a setting before' Cotgr.), ad. med.L. *præmissa* (*propositio, sententia*), in Logic, a proposition set in front, a premiss, pa. pple. fem. of *præmittĕre* to put before: see PREMIT.

The etymological spelling is *premiss*, pl. *premisses*, formerly used in all senses, and still frequent (but by no means universal) in sense 1; in other senses *premises* (sing. *premise*), which appears early in 16th c., is now in use. This may have been influenced by *promise, -ises*, or possibly by the 16th c. Fr. variant *prémise*.]

I. in *Logic.* (Often *premiss.*)

1. A previous statement or proposition from which another is inferred or follows as a conclusion; *spec.* in *pl.* the two propositions from which the conclusion is derived in a syllogism. (The sing. is late (17th c.) and less common.)

The two propositions in a syllogism were formerly called, collectively, the *premisses*; individually, the *major proposition* or simply the *proposition* (πρόταστς, Aristotle), and the *minor proposition* or *assumption* (πρ. ἡ ἑτέρα or ἡ τελευταία); the singular terms *major premiss* and *minor premiss* are not instanced before the 19th c.

The πρόταστς of Aristotle was orig. rendered in Latin by *propositio* (Boethius, etc.). *Præmissæ* (plural) appears first in 12th c. L. translations from the Arabic versions of Aristotle. Prantl (II. 310, n. 48) cites *duæ præmissæ* from Pseudo-Averroës (*a* 1200); *altera præmissārum* occurs in Albertus Magnus *Prior. Analyt.* I. ii. 3. *Duæ præmissæ* represents the Arabic مقدمتان *muqaddamatāni* (quoted, in a MS. of 1200, from Avicenna *a* 1037), dual of مقدمة *muqaddamah* 'that which is) put before', passive pple. of قدم *qadama*, to go before, put before, etc.; as sb. it stands for قضية مقدمة *qaḍiyyah muqaddamah*, 'propositio præmissa'. The *Mafātīḥ al 'ulūm* (Keys of the Sciences) *c* 970, in the account of the Analytics, has 'the *muqaddamah* (præmissa) is the *qaḍiyyah* (propositio): it is put before in making the deduction' (Prof. Margoliouth).

α. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. x. 71 (Camb. MS.), I se wel þat it folweth by strengthe of þe premysses [*Addit. MS.* premisses]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. (1495) b j b/1 Yf he knowe the forsayd two premisses he knoweth the conclusyon by the premysses, for he concludeth that one of that other. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10717 Thy premysses for to make Ful ffayre exaumples thow kanst take. 1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Premysses that cometh in an argument, *premisse*. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. iii. 19 b, The premisses, as they terme them, that is, the proposition and the assumption, must bee prooued and confirmed. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 485 They lay hold upon the conclusion, and by shaking that into pieces, hope to overthrow all the premisses upon which it is inferred. 1713 SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 280 Her foe's conclusions were not sound, From premisses erroneous brought. 1827 [see MINOR A. 4]. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. x, Putting consequence on premiss. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* II. VI. ii. 11 What here are the premisses and inference? 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* 5 In expressing a universal truth in the major premiss, and bringing a particular instance under it in the minor.

β. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 147 Vpon these premises, we may wel conclude [etc.]. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* I. Definitions, A Lemma is the demonstration of some premise whereby the proof of the thing in hand becomes the shorter. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. iii. § 1 In the premise all animals signifies every kind of animals. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 270 The premises in that piece conduct irresistably to the conclusion. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* I. i. § 2 23 Every conclusion is deduced..from two other propositions (thence called Premises). 1864 BOWEN *Logic* v. 134 Here the second premise is materially false.

II. in *Law* and *gen.* (Now always *premise(s.)*

2. *pl.* The matters or things stated or mentioned previously; what has just been said; the aforesaid, the foregoing. Often in legal phraseology: see also 3, 4. Rarely in *sing.* (quot. 1683 in β). Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in technical use.

α. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 352 Plese itt to youre noble discretions to considere the premisses. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxl. 126 As by the redynge of the premysses ye maye well perceyue and know. *c* 1550 LOYD *Treas. Health* X vj, Take mouse ears, betony, Sanamund, sage,..make a pouder therof & boile the premisses in wine. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 29 Now after these premisses let us..commence the matter itself. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 646, I found since I writ the premisses, that Edward the Confessour was the prime cause. 1713 WARDER *True Amazons* (ed. 2) 61 But must be fully satisfy'd in the Premisses by ocular Demonstration.

β. 1529 WOLSEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 10 Yf yt wold please you of your cherytable goodnes to shewe the premyses. 1570 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Disobedience* I, Of whiche all and singuler the premises, the holy Scriptures doo beare recorde in sundrie places. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 63 Renouncing all Claims or Demands of anything in or for ye Premise for ye future from Him. 1696 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 261 For the better inforceing the observacion of the premises. 1794 *Bloomfield's Amer. Law Rep.* 30 The Court having considered the Premises are of Opinion [etc.]. *a* 1830 in Trevelyan *Macaulay* (1876) I. iii. 137 To discuss questions conformably to the premises thus agreed on. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1877) 15 The word premises is frequently used in law in its proper etymological sense of that which has been before mentioned.

3. *Law.* (*pl.*) That part in the beginning of a deed or conveyance which sets forth the names of the grantor, grantee, and things granted, together with the consideration or reason of the grant.

1641, 1818 [see HABENDUM]. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* ii. § 161. 72 If the 'Habendum' etc. cannot stand with the Premisses but is repugnant to their premisses. 1749 E. WOOD *Compl. Body Conveyancing* I. v. § 2. 236 The premisses of a Deed is all the Forepart of the Deed, or all that is written before the *Habendum*. 1837 T. D. HARDY *Rot. Chart.* Pref. 11 The *Premises* of a Charter comprehend all that precedes the Habendum, and contain the name and titles of the grantor, the address, the name and quality of the grantee, the description of the thing granted, and the reason or consideration of the grant being made.

4. *Law.* (*pl.*) (*spec.* use of 2.) The subject of a conveyance or bequest, specified in the premises of the deed: so expressed when referred to collectively in the later part of the document; = the houses, lands, or tenements above-said or before-mentioned.

α. 1480 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 56 That..my executourrez have and resseyve alle the issuez and profytys of alle the seyd meese londys and rentys and other premissez. 1508 in Nichols *Royal Wills* 379 All which maners, londs, and tenements, and other the premisses, we late purchased. 1547 in *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 311 All gretl Trees & Woodds growyng in & uppon the premyssez, all & syngler which premyssez aboue expressed & specified. 1609 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 334 The said Tythe Corn Hay Lamb and Wool in Allerthwaite Markinton and Ingerthorpe and other the Premisses..which premisses so sold..is now worth p. Ann. 60*l.* 1774 in *Brasenose Coll. Doc.* I. 48 The Purchase money to be paid Mr. B. for Premisses.

β. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 526 Alice Higgins devised the premises, being a term for 999 years, to trustees, in trust for herself for life, remainder to H. Higgins her son and Mary his wife. 1827 JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 187 Where a testator devised a certain messuage and the furniture in it to A. for life, and after his decease he gave the said messuage and premises to B. the latter devise was held to carry the furniture as well as the messuage to B. on the principle that the word premises included all that went before.

5. *pl.* (from 4.) A house or building with its grounds or other appurtenances.

α. 1730 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6922/2 The Committee for Letting the Cities Lands..give Notice That they intend to Lett by several Leases the Premisses hereafter mentioned. 1764 HARMER *Observ.* VIII. v. 217 The Eastern villagers now have oftentimes little [wood] or none on their premisses.

β. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xx. 312 An actual seisin, or entry into the premises, or part of them. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* x. iii, Till it suits you..to quit the premises. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 685 The wife being served, on the premises, or at the dwelling house of the husband. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xiii, Allowed to make it his home for the time being, in consideration of keeping the premises in thorough repair. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 28 § 21 Nor shall any coroner's inquest be held on such licensed premises. *Mod.* Licensed to retail beer, wine, spirits, and tobacco to be consumed on the premises. All repairs done on the premises.

†**6.** *pl.* Previous circumstances or events; things happening before. *Obs.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, II. i. 63 The Law I beare no mallice for my death, T'has done vpon the premises, but Iustice. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 42 As he meant to scatter those ten Tribes..so he orders the whole frame of premises tending thereto. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* VIII. Wks. 1813 II. 86 So after these premises, the murder of the king following, we judge, in our consciences [etc.].

Premise (prĭmə·iz), *v.* Also 6 **premyse, -mysse**, 7 **præmise, premize.** [f. prec. sb.; or f. 15–16th c. F. *premis, -mise*, pa. pples. of *premetre, prémettre* to place or put forth before: cf. PREMIT.]

1. *trans.* To state, set forth, or mention before something else; to say or write by way of preface or introduction to the main subject. (With *simple obj.* or, now usually, *obj. clause.*)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 195 Whan almyghty god forbade the iewes to make..ydolles, he premysed & put before these wordes, sayenge: Thou shalt haue no god but me. 1572 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. vi. C iij, I thinke it not amisse..to premise certaine Theoremes. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* To Rdrs., With some few advertisments præmised. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 34 What we have already said to that point being premiz'd. 1781 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* I. 453, I can venture to premise that he will..be deprived of every possible means of doing harm. 1804–6 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 367 Having premised these observations, I proceed to consider [etc.]. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) II. xv. 162 He finally gave way, and accepted the commission, premising that he would only submit to it for twelve months. *absol.* or *intr.* 17.. SWIFT (J.), I must premise with three circumstances.

†**b.** To put before, prefix (words, etc.) *to* a writing, speech, etc. *Obs.* except as involved in prec.

1626 R. HARRIS *Hezekiah's Recovery* (1630) 2 Neither is there any necessitie of premising petitions to each particular thanksgiving. 1681 BOYLE *Let. to Bp. H. Jones* 8 Apr., Wks. 1772 I. Life 173 The preface that the Jansenists have premised to their translation of the new testament. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. Pref., An Introduction,..which seemed necessary to be premised to the History itself. 1828 PUSEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 36 Premising to each article a definition.

†**c.** To imply beforehand; to presuppose. *Obs.*

1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 165 The very notion of the Soul's regeneration præmising a generation.

d. *Logic.* To state in the premises. Also *absol.*

1684 BURNET *The. Earth* I. iv. 48 The Apostle's discourse here was an argumentation..'tis an answer upon a ground taken, he premiseth and then infers. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vii. 182 For if only *some* is premised, we cannot conclude *all.*

2. To make, do, perform, or use beforehand; *esp.* in *Surg.* and *Med.* to perform (an operation) or administer (a remedy) as the beginning of a course of treatment.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 142 When Antonie (the signe of the holy crosse premised) had in the name of God demaunded. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 122 This solemne prayer being ended,..and the Lords prayer premised, all communicate. 1652 WITTIE *Primrose's Pop. Err.* III. 171 They forbid to use them,..before that purging be premised. 1736 AMYAND in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 337 The Limb was immediately cut off.., having first premised a Ligature about the Flesh surrounding the Vessels. 1787 J. COLLINS in *Med. Commun.* II. 367 After premising a few drops of the antimonial wine,..I had recourse to the bark. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 209 In the first case, of ulcers, I premised a seton in the arm.

3. *transf.* To preface or introduce (*with, by* something else).

1823 CHALMERS *Serm.* I. 448 Let me premise this head of discourse by admitting that I know nothing more hateful than the crouching spirit of servility. 1847 MEDWIN *Shelley* I. 283, I shall premise it [the history] with a few observations.

†**4. a.** To send before or in advance. **b.** To send or bring before the time. *Obs. rare.*

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 104 The King premised certaine horsemen to beset all the sea coast. 1593 [see PREMISED 2].

Premised (prĭmə·izd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Stated or mentioned previously; aforesaid.

1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 247 Fre rente goinge furth of the premyssed landes. 1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* A iv b, All these premised words..inferre thus much. 1667 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 612, I shall conclude your trouble with the premised Note. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 326 The premised general notion of eternal truths.

†**2.** Sent before the time. *Obs. rare.*

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, v. ii. 41 O let the vile world end, And the premised Flames of the Last day, Knit earth and heauen together.

Premisory (prĭmə·izŏri), *a. rare*—1. [irreg. f. PREMISE *v.* + -ORY 2.] Introductory, antecedent.

1844 BABINGTON tr. *Hecker's Epidemics Mid. Ages* 190 The Sweating Sickness of 1485 did not make its appearance without great and general premisory events.

†**Premi·ssion.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *prémission* (*-icion* 15th c.), ad. late L. *præmissiōn-em* (*Pompej. gr.* p. 31, in Quicherat), n. of action from L. *præmittĕre*: see next.] A sending before or in advance.

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 247 There was a premission of him [Joseph] into Egipt. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Premission*,..a sending before.

†**Premi·t,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *præmittĕre* to send or set before, f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *mittĕre* to send.]

1. *trans.* = PREMISE *v.* 1.

1540 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 385 That the said statute to be allwaye keapte..as it is premitted. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 84 Certaine generall questions are to bee premitted. 1681 R. FLEMING *Fulfill. Script.* (1801) I. 263, I would premit here some few things. 1784 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) II. vi. 218 After premitting a declaration of their peaceful intentions, the Covenanters took possession of Newcastle.

2. = PREMISE *v.* 2.

1662 [see PREMITTED below]. 1670 MAYNWARING *Physician's Repos.* 37 Purgation is necessary to be premitted.

3. To send forth. *rare.*

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 50 Seneca would needs persuade us..that Virtue doth premit its light into the minds of al.

Hence †**Premi·tted** *ppl. a. Obs.*

1662 GUNNING *Lent Fast* 100 The Church..directed the Catechumeni to prepare themselves by premitted solemn fastings for the reception of holy Baptism.

Premities, irreg. var. PRIMICES *Obs.*, first-fruits.

Premium (prē·miŭm). Also 7–8 **præmium.** Pl. **-iums,** formerly **-ia.** [a. L. *præmium* booty, profit from booty, profit, advantage, reward, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *emĕre* to buy, orig. to take.]

1. A reward given for some specific act or as an incentive; a prize.

1601 A. COPLEY *Answ. Let. Jesuited Gent.* 107 Their martyrdomes being to them as a *præmium* for the one, and ..a sufficient *Piaculum* for the other. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* XXVIII. (1627) 283 Those [scholars] who doe best, would be graced with some *Præmium* from them: as some little booke, or money. [*Margin*] Some *Præmia* giuen. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Premium*..is used in Schools, for a reward given to that Schollar that says his Lesson, or performs his Exercise well. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 152 The Captain with his Company..received their Præmium, which was Thirty Shillings per head, for the Enemies which they had killed or taken. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. ii. 305 He knew the premium set upon his head. 1770 SMALL in J. P. Muirhead *Life Jas. Watt* xvi. (1858) 223 The French..offer large præmia for time-keepers. 1785 W. TOOKE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 429 The præmiums annexed, as incitements to Philosophical industry. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 486/1 It was resolved, that a premium of twenty guineas should be paid to the owner who shall exhibit the best three-year-old bull. 1880 WARREN *Book-plates* xiv. 168 A premium of Trinity College, Dublin. 1898 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 4/4 After all premiums had been awarded, and the winners had been paraded,..the hunter classes had their chance.

fig. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* x. vi, Misplaced mercy would

be but a premium to conspiracy. 1860 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. 208 Such an abandonment..as should be a premium on his indolence.

2. The amount agreed on, in an insurance policy, to be paid at one time or from time to time in consideration of a contract of insurance (formerly *premio*): see INSURANCE 4, POLICY *sb.*[2] 1.

[1622, 1638: see PREMIO.] 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Premium*...Among Merchants it is used for that sum of money..which the Ensured gives the Ensurer for ensuring the safe return of any Ship or Merchandize. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1668/4 The Insurers will oblige Themselves ..to accept of a Surrender, and repay their Premium, only deducting a Proportion for the time Insured. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 262 The conditions of insurance are 2s. per cent. premium. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* xxxiv. 480 The premium that might be demanded at Lloyd's. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 8/1 This seemed to him to sufficiently define 'the premiums of the company';.. the periodical sums required to be paid in respect of policies issued by the company in order to maintain such policies against the company.

3. A sum additional to interest, price, wages, or other fixed remuneration; a bonus; a bounty on the production or exportation of goods. † Formerly sometimes applied to interest on a loan.

1695 C. MONTAGU in Cobbett *Parl. Hist. Eng.* (1809) V. 968 The supplies..being so much diminished..by the unequal change, and exorbitant Premiums, before they reached the camp. 1698 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 340 An account..what imprest money has been paid to Mr. Burton and Mr. Knight for premiums for advancing money, &c., since May 95. 1729 *N. Jersey Archives* XI. 183 Any Person importing Masts into Great Britain, to be intituled to the Bounty or Praemium, must produce a Certificate. 1731 SWIFT *To Mr. Gay* 69 With Int'rest, and a Præmium paid beside, The Master's pressing Wants must be supply'd. 1748 H. ELLIS *Hudson's Bay* 103 Besides the extraordinary Wages..given, Premiums were settled in Case of Success, proportionable to the Rank of all the Persons on board. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxx. 456 If no premium were allowed for the hire of money, few persons would care to lend it. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 649 A captain is..sure to get their passage money and a premium for them.

4. A fee paid for instruction in a profession or trade.

1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xiv. 426 Sometimes very large sums are given with them [apprentices], as a premium for such their instruction. 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., The Theatre* 86 He would have bound him to some shop in town, But with a premium he could not come down. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* vii. 58 To learn a profession, like that of an architect or engineer, it is requisite to pay a high premium, and become a pupil in a good office.

5. The charge made for changing one currency into another of greater value; agio; hence, the excess value of one currency over another.

1717 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 425 At home they make their payments in gold, but will not pay in silver without a premium. 1757 JOS. HARRIS *Coins* 121 A country which oweth a ballance to another must pay a præmium upon all the bills.

6. *At a premium*: at more than the nominal or usual value; above par; *fig.* in high esteem. (Opp. to *at a* DISCOUNT.)

1828 *Harrovian* 191 John Lyon put their charms at a premium. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S.* iii. 51 It answers our purpose better to sell our claim for this money at a premium. 1856 READE *Never too late* xxv, Suicide is at a premium here. *Ibid.* [see DISCOUNT *sb.* 4]. 1861 [see DISCOUNT *sb.* 4]. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. ix. (1876) 421 When the exchange is unfavourable, and bills at a premium, this premium..varies from day to day. 1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893) 237 If £100 of Russian Stock is issued at the price of £94, then, if the quoted price on the Stock Exchange is 95½, it is said to be at 1½ premium.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *premium* (= prize) *bull, tulip*, etc.; *premium-hunter, -winner*; *premium-fed, -paying*, adjs.: **premium bonus system, premium system**, a system by which a bonus is paid in addition to wages in proportion to the amount or value of work done.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xiii, 'I am, sir', said Mr. Tigg, ..'a premium tulip, of a very different growth and cultivation'. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 249 The mine rose in value to the premium amount of £24,000 in a few days. 1895 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 5/7 What an incubus the pampered and premium-fed merchant navy is upon national finances. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 8/1 A sign that many premium-hunters will be left out in the cold. 1901 *Ibid.* 5 Sept. 8/1 Brief descriptions were given of the working and general results of the premium system. 1902a *Daily Chron.* 17 Oct. 3/3 The premium bonus system, as provisionally agreed to, seems to Mr. Webb to be an admirable expedient. 1905 *Ibid.* 30 Jan. 3/7 Parents and guardians often pay a premium to a Canadian farmer. But the best farmers will not take a premium boy.

Hence **Premiumed** (prī·miŏmd) *a.*, that has gained a premium or prize; **Pre·miumless** *a.*, without (the means of paying) a premium.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 305 A breed of these premium'd bulls. 1796 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 189 He was too young and premiumless, and no one would take him.

Premolar (prīmō·lăr), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. PRE- B. 3 + MOLAR. Cf. F. *pré-molaire.*] One of the set of molar teeth in front of the true molars, replacing the molars or grinders of the milk dentition; a false molar, in man called 'bicuspid'.

(Sometimes erroneously applied to a molar of the deciduous dentition.)

1842 OWEN in Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 326/2 The teeth.. which are analogous to the bicuspids in man are called 'præmolars' or spurious molars [in mammalia generally]. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 903/1 Those grinders which succeed the deciduous ones..are called 'premolars'. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. ii. 114 The Civet..is characterized by the possession of three false molars (premolars of Owen). 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* ii. 81. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* vii. 253 The bicuspid molars of man..are in zootomy termed premolars because they are placed in front of the true molars. 1897 [see PRELACTEAL].

B. *adj.* Situated in front of the (true) molars; that is a premolar.

1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* vi. 283 The last premolar tooth has gone over to the molar series.

† **Premolli·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [n. of action from L. *præmollīre* to soften beforehand: see -TION.] A previous softening or mitigation.

1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* Pref. 4 Sometimes without any Premollition at all, they are downright sins.

Premonarchical: see PRE- B. 1 d.

Premonish (prĭmo·nĭʃ), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *præmonēre* to forewarn, foreshow, after MONISH, ADMONISH.] *trans.* To forewarn; to advise, caution, notify, or admonish beforehand.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 201 b, Thou art agayn premonysshed, aduysed & warned neuer to..ymagyn in thy fantasy ony suche. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, Fye, I premonisht you of that. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 153 The said Committie of Estaites of Parliament doe heirby warne, premoneis and requyer all Commissares and Collectores..that they prepare thair comptes and present thame befoire the auditors. 1742 J. WILLISON *Balm of Gilead* i. (1800) 60 God doth premonish us that a storm is coming. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 191 Of whose haunting presence the delicacy of his senses had already premonished him.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To give warning beforehand.

1550 HOOPER *Serm. Jonas* i. 12 b, He is yet so mercyfull that he premonysheth & forewarneth of hys scourge to come, by hys prophets. 1625 SHIRLEY *Love Tricks* II. ii, Were it otherwise, I should elect, as you pre-monish, youth And prodigal blood. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. Test.* Matt. xxiv, 30 God premonishes before he punishes. 1894 F. P. BADHAM in *Academy* 15 Dec. 513/2 The mention of women in the genealogy..premonishes that some peculiar importance will attach to Christ's mother.

† **Premo·nishment.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -MENT.] The act of premonishing; premonition.

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* i. B v b, To observe the rules, and take the premonishementes of Godly doctrine. *Ibid.* B vij, Without premonishement or warning. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Reliq.* (1672) 40 Now, after these premonishments I will come to the Compartition itself. 1788 GILSON *Serm. Pract. Subj.* vii. (1807) 133 We are not given to know what premonishment Elijah had received.

Premonition (prīmŏni·ʃən). [ad. obs. F. *premonicion* (15th c. in Godef.), *-ition*, ad. late L. *præmonitio* a forewarning, n. of action f. L. *præmonēre*: see PREMONISH. In med.L. the word was identified in form with *præmūnītio* (prop. a fortifying in front), so that the earlier form in Eng. was PREMUNITION, q. v.] The action of premonishing or forewarning; a previous notification or warning of subsequent events; a forewarning.

[1456–1693: see PREMUNITION 2.] 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* Argt. 8 It is necessarye to note this premonicion teaching vs how we shulde knowe the chirche of God. 1577–8 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 666 Upoun sic schort and unlauchfull premonitioun. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 465 Wee have thought good (by way of friendly premonition) to declare unto them all as followeth. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* II. iii. 250 In the premonition to the reader prefixed to the second edition of his Optics. 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict. c.* 116 § 7 The lands..should be redeemable by the grantor..upon premonition of three months. 1876 FARRAR *Marlb. Serm.* xx. 195 It will be the creeping premonition of paralysis to come.

Premonitive (prĭmo·nĭtiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *præmonit-*, ppl. stem of *præmonēre* (see next) + -IVE.] Of or pertaining to premonition; premonitory.

1861 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Hebr. Poetry* 291 The present trouble ..may be interpreted as premonitive of a renewed life.

Premonitor (prĭmo·nĭtəɹ). [a. L. *præmonitor*, agent-n. f. *præmonēre* to forewarn: see PREMONISH.] One who or that which forewarns; a premonitory sign or token.

a 1656 BP. HALL *Soliloquies* lxxix, Some such like uncouth premonitors; which the great and holy God sends purposely to awaken our security. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 311 A premonitor in things dubious. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 245 Of these the Clouds are eminent premonitors. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 464 Premonitors of crime.

Premonitory (prĭmo·nĭtəri), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *præmonitōri-us*, f. *præmonitor*: see prec. and -ORY[2]. Cf. F. *prémonitoire.*] Giving or conveying premonition; serving to warn or notify beforehand.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 43 In premonitory judgements, God will take good words, and sincere intents; but in peremptory, nothing but reall performances. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. iv. 213 A Comet..following an Earthquake, though it looseth the Praemonitory part, yet it looseth not the Nature of a Sign. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Diss. Roast Pig*, A premonitory moistening..overflowed his nether lip. 1846 J. BAXTER, *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 429 We are warned of approaching danger, by certain premonitory symptoms. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IV. 1356 Signs and silences Premonitory of earthquake.

B. *elliptical* as *sb. pl.* Premonitory symptoms.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 308, I am down myself today with all the premonitories.

Hence **Premo·nitorily** *adv.*

1847 in WEBSTER. 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, Shaking her own head premonitorily.

† **Premo·nster,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* Shortened from PREMONSTRATENSIS.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. 1111 (Cotton MS.) And of þe ordyr Premonster lyk Qwhit chanownys coyme þan to Alnewyk. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Premoster, whyte chanon (*H.*, *P.* Premonster), *Premonstrensis.*

† **Premo·nstrance.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *premonstrance* (16th c. in Godef.), f. OF. *premonstrer*: see -ANCE.] A showing beforehand; foreshowing.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Nt.* F ij b, Dreames..if they haue anie premonstrance in them, the preparatiue feare of that they so premonstrate..is far worse than the mischiefe itselfe by them denounced and premonstrated. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 14 Our apostle had some special premonstrance of the nearness of his end.

Premonstrant (prĭmo·nstrănt), *sb.* and *a. Eccl. Hist.* [In form pres. pple. of OF. *premonstrer* to foreshow: used to represent med.L. PREMONSTRATENSIS.]

A. *sb.* = PREMONSTRATENSIAN *sb.*

1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 853 The Orders of the Cistercians and Præmonstrants. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 570/2 Abbeys of Benedictins, Cistercians, regular Canons, and Premonstrants, to which the king nominates.

B. *adj.* = PREMONSTRATENSIAN *a.*

1895 E. MARG. THOMPSON *Hist. Somerset Carthusians* 71 He had been Abbot of the Præmonstrant Abbey of Drybrugh. 1896 LINA ECKENSTEIN *Woman under Monast.* 195 There were also two settlements of Premonstrant nuns in England.

† **Premo·nstrate,** *sb. Obs. rare.* A shortened equivalent of PREMONSTRATENSIAN.

1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. H iv, About this time arose other sectes of perdicion, as the..Premonstrates. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 283 White Canons premonstrates.

† **Premo·nstrate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *præmonstrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *præmonstrāre*: see next.] 'Premonstrated', foreshown. (Const. as *pa. pple.*)

1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 10 When they are ordinative, methodical, and by conclusion, as is premonstrate.

† **Premo·nstrate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præmonstrāre* to show beforehand, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *monstrāre* to show.] *trans.* To point out or make known beforehand; to foreshow, portend.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 104 The same coniunction againe infusing, doth out of all doubt premonstrate the second coming of the sonne of God and man in the maiestie of his glorie. 1594 [see PREMONSTRANCE]. 1652 WHARTON tr. *Rothman's Chirom.* Wks. (1683) 550 They premonstrate Happiness to the Man in his Journeys and Messages. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 132 It is not the manner of Holy Scripture to premonstrate any certain periods.

Premonstratensian (prĭmŏnstrătē·nsiăn), *sb.* and *a. Eccl. Hist.* Also 7 præ-. [f. med.L. *Præmonstrātensis* (see next) + -AN.]

A. *sb.* A member of the Roman Catholic order of regular canons founded by St. Norbert at Prémontré, near Laon, Île de France, in 1119. Also called Premonstrants, Norbertians, and, from the colour of their dress, White Canons. Also, a member of a corresponding order of nuns.

1695 T. TANNER *Notitia Monastica* Pref. a vj b, Concerning the introducing of the Benedictine Order into this Kingdom,..as also of the Regular Canons, Austins, Præmonstratensians, Gilbertines, &c. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 290/2 The Premonstratensians procured a constitution, which was confirmed by Pope Innocent III, that all the abbots of their order should wear them [*sc.* mitres]. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* 658/2 More recently a community of French Premonstratensians has been established at Storrington.

B. *adj.* Of or belonging to this order.

1695 T. TANNER *Notitia Monastica* 123 Newhouse or Newsom. The first Monastery of the Præmonstratensian Order in England, built by Petr. de Gousla A. D. 1146. *Ibid.* Pref. b v, The Austin, Premonstratensian and Gilbertine Nuns,..were instituted by the same as the Monks of those Orders. 1864 *Churchman* 3 Nov. 64 Bishop Maxe, the general visitor of the Premonstratensian order. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* 685/1 There were at one time, according to Hélyot, a thousand Premonstratensian abbeys..and five hundred houses of nuns.

‖ **Premonstrate·nsis, præ-,** *a.* and *sb.* [med.L. 'belonging to Prémontré', med.L. (*locus*) *Præmonstrātus* 'the place foreshown' (see PREMONSTRATE *v.*), so called because the site is said to have been prophetically pointed out by St. Norbert.] = PREMONSTRATENSIAN *a.* and *sb.* Hence † **Premonstrate·nse,** *contr.* **Premonstrense,** *a.* and *sb.*; † **Premonstrate·nser** *sb.*; † **Premonstre·nsian** *a.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 459 Aboute þis tyme began þe ordre Premonstrensis [*MS.* -censis], þat is þe ordre of white chanouns. 1432–50 *Ibid.*, The ordre Premonstratense [*MS.* -cense] began abowte this tyme. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. 806 (Wemyss MS.) And in þe nixt 3ere efter þan The ordre Premonstrense [*Cott. MS.* Premonstrans; *Auchinleck* of Premonstratens] he began, That is to say of channons quhite. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 412 Þer was a blak monk þat fell in apostasye, & syne he was a Premonstratence [*MS.* -cencé] & went oute. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 78 The Premonstratensers or white chanons, came in to the realme & buylded at Newhowse in Lyncolne dyocese in the yeare of our lord a M, a C, and xlv. *c* 1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* § 134 (1810) 146 Canons of the order of Præmonstretenses. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 142 This was answered by Father Hugo, a Regular Premonstrensian Prebendary. 1805

FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* II. 18 Patrick, of the reformed order of Premonstratenses of Dryburgh.

† **Premonstra·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *præmonstrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præmonstrāre*: see PREMONSTRATE *v.*] The action of premonstrating or showing beforehand; a showing forth, making known, indication, or manifestation beforehand.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 44 The fift Chapitle vs telles oure ladys oblacionne In the temple by thre figures of premonstracionne. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 215 The Church by premonstration declareth what is the word of God. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 59 This dreame beeing a premonstration of things to come. 1623 COCKERAM, *Premonstration*, a fore-shewing.

Pre·monstra·tor. *rare.* [a. L. *præmonstrātor*, agent-n. f. *præmonstrāre*: see PREMONSTRATE *v.*] One who or that which shows beforehand.

1846 in WORCESTER, citing KIRBY. Hence in later Dicts.

Premorse (prĭmō·ɪs), *a. Bot.* and *Entom.* Also præ-. [ad. L. *præmors-us*, pa. pple. of *præmordēre* to bite (off) in front, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *mordēre* to bite.] Having the end abruptly truncate, as if bitten or broken off.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Leaf, Præmorse Leaf*,.. a leaf which is truncated and terminated by an acute sinus at the summit. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 295 *Premorse*.., terminating in an irregular truncate apex, as if bitten off. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 192 Its root is premorse or bitten. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 192 Blue Scabious..Herb with a præmorse (abrupt) rootstock. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 529 The types of the modern carrot are the tap-rooted and the premorse-rooted.

Premortal to **-Mosaic**: see PRE- B. 1.

Pre-mo·rtem, *a.* [a. L. *præ mortem* before death.] Taking place or performed before death: opposed to *post-mortem*.

1892 *Chicago Advance* 21 July, To see himself as others see him through the kindly medium of pre-mortem obituary notices. 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 339 The pre-mortem rise in temperature is usually attended by extreme frequency of pulse.

Premotion (prĭmō·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *præmōtiōn-em*, n. of action f. late L. *præmovēre* to move (anything) beforehand: see PREMOVE. So F. *prémotion* (1713 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Motion or impulse given beforehand; *esp.* applied to divine action held to determine the will of the creature.

a 1643 LD. FALKLAND, etc. *Infallibility* (1646) 133 They contend..whether with this freedome of will..Physicall predeterminations or præmotions can consist. *a* 1680 J. CORBET *Free Actions* II. vii. (1683) 18 It being to a good act, it is a Premotion perfective of our Nature, and to its well-being. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Physical premotion, according to Alvarez, Lemos, etc., is a complement of the active power, whereby it passes from the first act to the second; i. e. from a complete, and next power, to action. 1867 [see PREMOVEMENT]. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* 384/2 [About 1580] Bannez, a Dominican professor at Salamanca,..represented efficacious grace as determining the free consent of the will by 'physical premotion', and this premotion which was infallibly followed by the consent of the will came, as he alleged, from God's absolute decree that the person so moved by grace should correspond to it. 1887 *Mind* Apr. 266 This thesis is nothing more than the mere denial of 'physical premotion'.

Premo·tional, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PRE- B. 1 d + MOTION *sb.* + -AL.] Existing before motion.

1852 BAILEY *Festus* xxviii. (ed. 5) 475 At the first creation, in that peace, Premotional, preelemental, prime.

Premove (prĭmū·v), *v. rare.* [ad. late L. *præmovēre* to move (anything) beforehand, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *movēre* to MOVE.] *trans.* To move or influence beforehand; to impel or incite to action.

1508 FLORIO, *Premosso*, promoted, preferred, premooued. 1663 BAXTER *Divine Life* 141 It followeth that we have no certainty when God premoveth an Apostle or Prophet to speak true, and when to speak falsly. 1675 — *Cath. Theol.* II. viii. 190 It performeth that Act because it is premoved to it. 1867 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) II. 187 *note*, Let it be assumed, then, that God does premove earthly phenomena.

Hence **Premo·vement.** *rare.*

1867 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) II. 172 It does not follow..because they are fixed that they proceed independently of God's constant and unremitting 'premovement'. [*Note*] We do not say 'premotion', because this word has a special sense in the Thomistic philosophy, totally distinct from that here intended.

Premu·ltiply, *v. Math.* [PRE- A. 4 c.] *trans.* To multiply by (or as) a PREFACTOR, q. v.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Premunda·tion.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 præ-. [n. of action f. L. *præmundāre*, repr. by *præmundātus* cleansed beforehand, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *mundāre* to cleanse: see -ATION.] A cleansing or purification beforehand.

a 1660 HAMMOND 19 *Serm.* ix. Wks. 1684 IV. 619 A præmundation or præsanctification of them that sued to be admitted higher.

† **Premu·ne,** obs. colloq. contraction of PRÆMUNIRE (in sense 3).

1758 MRS. LENNOX *Henrietta* III. i, 'Nay, for that matter, ..I may draw myself into another premune perhaps: after what I have suffered I ought to be cautious.'

Premunire, -eal, -ize, etc.: see PRÆMUNIRE, etc.

† **Premuni·te,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præmūnīre* (see next). Cf. F. *prémunir* (14th c.).] *trans.* To fortify or guard in front or beforehand.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) 12 For the better removing of the exception..I thought good to præmunite the succeeding Treatise, with this præceding Preface. 1679 V. ALSOP *Melius Inquirendum* I. i. 53 King James sent thither [to Dort] several of his most learned and eminent divines, premunited with an instrument.

Premunition (prĭmiuni·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *præmūnītiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præmūnīre* to fortify or protect in front, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *mūnīre* to fortify, defend. In med.L. *præ-*, *pre-* 'before' was referred to time, and the verb confounded with *præmonēre* to warn beforehand, so that with the form of *præmunīre* it had the sense of *præmonēre*; whence the sb. PRÆMUNIRE, and sense 2 here (the earlier use in English).]

1. The action of fortifying or guarding beforehand; a previous securing of immunity against attack or danger; a forearming.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. IV. 177 We premise these two prouisoes and premunitions for our selues. 1622 S. WARD *Life of Faith in Death* (1627) 49 Let mee tell thee præuision is the best preuention, and præmonition the best præmunition. 1874 H. N. HUDSON *Wordsw.* i. (1884) 7 (Funk) That issue was to be forestalled by timely premunition.

2. Used, by confusion, in the sense of PREMONITION. (The earlier use.) *Obs.* exc. as in quot. 1875, referring to PRÆMUNIENTES: cf. next.

[1389 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 267/1 Soit tiel conviction ou atteindre envers luy par Brief de Premunition.] 1456 *Cov. Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 296 That all the churche-wardens.. be redy to accompt 3erely aftur premunicion made vnto theym. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 62 Upoun the premunitioun of xx^ti dayis to compeir befoir thaim. 1629 LYNDE *Via Tuta* 49 Letters of aduertisement or premunition were written..and were sent by the Orthodox Bishops and Pastors to other parts and sound Members of the Catholique Church. 1693 R. FLEMING *Disc. Earthquakes* 103 An experimental Knowledge of the Truth of Divine Premunitions, when it's too late..will be very sad. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 195 The whole body of beneficed clergy..was organised by Edward I as a portion of his parliament, by the clause of premunition inserted in the writ of summons addressed to the bishops.

Premu·nitory, *a.* [f. L. *præmūnīt-*, ppl. stem of *præmūnīre*, in med.L. used for *præmonēre* (see prec. and PRÆMUNIRE) + -ORY [2].] Used, by confusion, for PREMONITORY *a. Premunitory clause* = PRÆMUNIENTES *clause*.

1700 ATTERBURY *Rights Eng. Convoc.* (1701) 227, I..shall ..endeavour to give some account of the Original of the Premunitory Clause. *Ibid.* 241 The Præmunitory Clause. 1854 THIRLWALL *Rem.* (1877) I. 211 The præmunitory clause though seemingly become a dead letter, was really carried into effect in its spirit.

Premutative, -mycosic, -mythical: see PRE- A. 3, B. 1. **Premye:** see PREMIE.

† **Prena·de.** *Obs.* Name of a dish in old cookery.

c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 91 Prenade [*Douce MS.* Brewes].—Take wyn,..and clarefied honey, sawndres, pouder of peper, Canel, Clowes, Maces, Saffron, pynes, my[n]ced dates, & reysons, And cast thereto a litul vinegre, and sette hit ouer the fire, and lete hit boyle [etc.].

Prename, -nasal: see PRE- A. 2, B. 3.

‖ **Prenares, prænares** (prĭnē·rīz), *sb. pl. Anat.* Also in sing. **-naris.** [mod.L., f. *præ* before + L. *nārēs*, pl. of *nāris* nostril.] The anterior nares or openings of the nasal cavity; the nostrils (as opposed to the POSTNARES).

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 513 There is a tolerably direct passage from the *prænaris* to the *postnaris* through the so called *meatus ventralis* (inferior).

Hence **Pre-, prænarial** *a.*[1], belonging to the prenares.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prænarial. 1895 *S. S. Lex.*, Prenarial.

Prenarial (prĭnē·rĭăl), *a.*[2] *Anat.* [f. PRE- B. 3 + L. *nāris* nostril + -AL.] Situated in front of the nostrils.

1866 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* II. 426 *Euphysetes simus* shows the opposite extreme to *Balæna* and *Physeter*, in the disproportionate shortness of the rostral or 'prenarial' to the cranial or 'postnarial' part of the skull.

Prenatal (prĭnē·tăl), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 1 d + NATAL *a.*[1]] Existing or occurring before birth; previous to birth; antenatal.

(In quot. 1895 with reference to the prenatal divinity of Christ.).

1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 172 For his prenatal performances, and the other miracles of his early life,.. St. Fursey is as little entitled to discredit as to honour. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 103 *note*, The idea of John's pre-natal inspiration;..the supposed inspiration of the unborn John. 1895 HAWEIS in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 599 There are what I may call the Prenatal Infusion clergy and the Postnatal Transfusion clergy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 233 The principal causes [of idiocy and imbecility] may be grouped as pre-natal and post-natal.

fig. 1877 TYNDALL in *Daily News* 2 Oct. 2/4 Pre-natal intimations of modern discoveries and results are strewn through scientific literature.

Hence **Prena·talist,** one who believes in the prenatal divinity of Jesus Christ (also *attrib.*); **Prena·tally** *adv.*, in the prenatal stage or period.

1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xxxix. 286 That they were prenatally infected with the seeds of fatal disease. 1895 HAWEIS in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 599 The Prenatalists admit human parentage on one side only. *Ibid.* 604 [see POSTNATALIST].

Prence, obs. form of PRINCE.

† **Prend,** *sb. Obs.* [? for **reprend*, from F. *reprendre* to join broken parts.] ? A repaired crack.

1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 272 Item, a grete maser with a prend in the botom, and the armes of Seint Jorge...Item, a nother maser sownde in the botom and a sengilbonde.

† **Prend,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *prend-re*:—L. *prendĕre*, contracted form of *prehendĕre* to take: see PREHEND.] *trans.* To take.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 149 In hym thou prendyddyst thi symylytude.

Prender (pre·ndəɹ). *Law.* [sb. use of F. *prendre*, inf., to take.] The power or right of taking a thing without its being offered.

1597 WEST *2nd Pt. Symbol.* § 126 The Lord..shal haue such things, as lye in *prender*: as the warde of the bodie of the heire and of the land, escheates &c. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Render*, There be certaine things in a maner that lie in *prender*..and certaine that lie in *Render*. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 138 A reseruation of things in prender or vser, as to haue common for four beeues, or foure cart loads of wood, maketh no tenure. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. i. 15 Heriot custom (which Sir Edmund Coke says, lies only in prender, and not in render).

Prene, obs. form of PREEN.

‖ **Prenegard.** *Obs.* The Fr. phrase *prenez garde*, take care.

c 1400 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 50 Prenegard, prenegard, thus bere I myn baselard.

Pre-nephritic: PRE- B. 1. **Prengte, Prenk:** see PRINK *v.* **Prennable,** obs. f. PREGNABLE.

Prenoble (prĭnō·b'l), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PRE- A. 6 + NOBLE *a.*] Pre-eminently noble. So † **Pre·noble** *v. Obs.*, *trans.* to ennoble pre-eminently.

1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 40 We should prenoble priority with honourable actions. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 96 One of these prenoble and reverend Doctors of Theology.

Prenominal (prĭnǫ·minăl), *a.* [f. L. *prænōmin-*, stem of PRÆNOMEN + -AL: cf. NOMINAL.] Pertaining to the *prænomen* or personal name, as distinguished from the surname; also, to the first word in binominal specific names.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. vii. 102 So are they deceived in the names of Horse-raddish, Horse-mint, Bull-rush and many more: conceiving therein some prenominall consideration, whereas indeed that expression is but a Grecisme, by the prefix of *hippos* and *bous*..intending no more then great. 1847 SAXE *Rape of Lock* xxi, The patronymical name of the maid Was so completely overlaid With a long prænominal cover. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 219 Many other prenominal absurdities.

† **Preno·minate,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prænōminātus*, pa. pple. of *prænōmināre*: see next.] Before-named, above-named; = PRENOMINATED.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 141 In short tyme after the prenominate pagans At tamysmouth reentred this realme agayne. *Ibid.* 1486 After the decesse of Hug. Lupe prenominate. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 43 Hauing euer seene, in the prenominate crimes The youth you breath of guilty.

† **Preno·minate,** *v. Obs.* [f. late L. *prænōmināre* to name in the first place + -ATE [3]; see PRE- A. 1 and NOMINATE *v.*] *trans.* To name beforehand, to mention previously. Hence † **Preno·minated** *ppl. a.*, previously mentioned, aforesaid; aforenamed, above-named.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* xxv. 15 b, For al such matters loke in ye chapitres of the prenominated infirmities. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guilleneau's Fr. Chirurg.* 53/1 Those præcedent or prænominated occasions. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 250 Think'st thou to catch my life so pleasantly, As to prenominate in nice conjecture Where thou wilt hit me dead? 1670 *Conclave wherein Clement VIII was Elected Pope* 3 Some..did not only refuse all the prenominated persons, but would have introduced others.

† **Preːnomina·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action from prec. vb.]

1. Prior nomination; naming first; forenaming.

1575 in H. Swinden *Gt. Yarmouth* (1772) 222 We have lately tollerated youre baylives to have prenominacion to oure discredytt. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxiv. 170 In strict reason the watery productions should have the prenomination: and they of the land rather derive their names, then nominate those of the sea. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Prænomination*, a forenaming.

2. The giving of a prænomen; a first name or appellation.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 16 All Common wealths assume their prenominations of their common diuided weale, as where one man hath not too much riches, and another man too much pouertie.

† **Preno·stic,** *sb. Obs.* In 4 **-ik, -yk,** 5 **-ike.** [ad. med.L. *prænosticus*, partially Latinized form of *prognōsticus*; so *prænosticāre* vb. (Du Cange), and OF. *prenosticable* (Godef.).] = PROGNOSTIC.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 219 He seith, for such a prenostik Most of an hound was to him lik. *c* 1398 CHAUCER *Fortune* 54 Prenostik is thow wolt hir towre asayle. 1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) e vj, The dayes callid Dies cretici and dies of prenostikes of good determynacions of the passions of a mans sikenesse or the contrarye.

So † **Preno·stic,** † **Preno·sticate** *v. trans.* = PROGNOSTICATE; † **Preno·sticate** *sb.*, † **Preno·stication** = PRENOSTIC *sb.*; † **Prenostica·tion,** † **Preno·sticature** = PROGNOSTICATION (in quot. 1432-50, foreknowledge).

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XII. xvii, Ffor that day was hys deth *prenostyked, yf he wente to bataylle. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 169 Men..seide that hit was a 'pre-

nosticate and a signe that he sholde reioyce thempyre. *Ibid.* II. 283 If thay fynde the horne fulle at that tyme thei prenosticate grete habundaunce of goodes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vi. 209 Eftir that this prophet..Thir devyne answeris thus prenosticate. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 167 The *prenosticacioun of thinges that felle aftre. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 317 A scribe, hauenge prenostication of thynges to comme [L. *præscius futurorum*]. *Ibid.* VI. 217 In whiche yere ij horrible blasynge sterres apperede;.. as a *prenosticatyve of grete destruccion. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxii. 80 Dyuynacions presagyous & aruspycyous, vnto her tolde,..by the auguryes & *prenostycatures of her harde and aduerse fortunes.

† Preno·tary. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **prenotarye**, 6 **-arie, preignetory, prignatory**, 7 **pre(i)gnotarie, -ry, prægnotary, pregnotory, prenotory.** [ad. med.L. *prænotārius*, app. a latinized synonym of *prōtonotārius* PROTONOTARY: cf. AF. *prenota·rie* (Britton 1292), *preignatorie*. Prob. at first stressed *pre·nota·rie*, whence *pre·nŏtary, -nătorie, -nĕtory*, etc., and *pregn-* for *pren-*.] The chief clerk of a court of law; a protonotary. Also *fig.*

[*c* 1250 BRACTON *De Leg. Angliæ* (Rolls) III. 188 Tunc legat prothonotarius virtutem brevis ad instructionem juratorum. *c* 1290 FLETA IV. ix. (1647) 230 Tunc legat prænotarius virtutem Juratorum. 1292 BRITTON II. xxi. § 5 Adounc lour seit bref leu par le clerc prenotarie, qi dirra en ceste manere.] *c* 1450 LYDG. & BURGH *Secrees* 2399 Prenotaryes to haue I the Advyse. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 398 John Joyner the kinges Preignetory of his graces comen bench at Westminster. 1542-3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 43 Vpon euery fine..shalbe paied..twoo shillynges ..Wherof..the Prenotarie, entring the same, shall haue two pens. 1600 *Maldon, Essex, Doc.* Bundle 162 lf. 8 Vnto serjeants, prignatoryes, atturneys, and councelors. 1651 tr. *De-las-Coveras' Don Fenise* 20 The Judge of the towne assisted by the Pregnotory and serjeants came into the house. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Prægnotaries*,..in Common law, the chief Clerks of the King's Court, whereof three are of the Common pleas, and one of the King's Bench. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlii. 345 Sequestrators,..Tabellions,..Pregnatories, Secondaries.

Prenotation (prīnōtē·ʃən). In quot. præ-. [f. PRE- A. 2 + NOTATION; see next. Cf. late L. *prænotātio* a first notion (Ennod. in Quicherat).] Noting beforehand; prediction, prognostication.

1861 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Hebr. Poetry* Pref. 13 Attested by.. the Divine præ-notation of events.

† Preno·te, *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prænotāre* to mark before, in late L. to predict: see PRE- A. 1 and NOTE *v.* So obs. F. *prénoter* to note before.]

1. *trans.* To note or make mention of previously.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 178/1 This blinde ignorance of that age, thus aboue prenoted.

2. To denote or betoken beforehand, to prognosticate; to predict, foretell.

1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 63 It was not typicall; it did not prenote any thing to ensue or be accomplisht. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xxvii. 173 In what House you find Cauda Draconis, it prenotes detriment. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 143 How Prophets clearly could prenote Events remote.

Pre-no·tice. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Previous notice or intimation.

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 225 He judged it expedient to give some pre-notices of that Divine incarnation. 1814 COLERIDGE in J. Cottle *Early Recoll.* (1837) II. 218 With silent wishes, that these explanatory pre-notices may be attributed to their true cause.

Prenotifica·tion. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Previous notification.

1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. iv, Bridget's pre-notification of them to Susannah..made it necessary for my uncle Toby to look into the affair. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 197 By divine prenotification, Noah saved himself and family.

Prenotion (prīnō·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *prænōtiōn-em* a previous notion, preconception, innate idea (Cic.), transl. Gr. *πρόληψις* of the Epicureans: see PRE- A. 2 and NOTION. So F. *prénotion* (16th c.).]

1. A notion or mental perception of something before it exists or happens. Also (without *a* or *pl.*), foreknowledge, prescience; in quot. 1652, prognostication.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 77 Euen in such prenotions and premonitions..they may prouidently and reasonably foresee the consequence of Naturall or Morall effects. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. § 2 That the mind when it is withdrawn and collected into itself..hath some extent and latitude of prenotion. *a* 1607 BRIGHTMAN *Predict.* (1641) 2 Whosoever..may be amply satisfied, what prevalence his prenotions had. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 341 Many soothsaying astrologers..had gathered themselves together, to consult about the prænotion of Valens his successor. 1709 BERKELEY *The. Vision* § 148 Some glimmering analogous prænotion of things, that are placed beyond the certain discovery..of our present state. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 218 The belief that the soul, when by abstinence and observances it has been purified and concentrated, has a certain extent and latitude of prenotion.

2. A notion of something before actual experience of or acquaintance with it; a previous notion; a preconceived idea.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xv. § 3 This art of memory is but built upon two intentions; the one prenotion, the other emblem. 1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xxi. § 22 Were we well acquainted..with..those prænotions the Apostle supposed as known [etc.]. 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 42 What kind of men are there any where, who have not of themselves this prenotion of a Deity? 1846 SIR W. HAMILTON *Dissert.* in *Reid's Wks.* App. 762 Anticipations—Presumptions—Prenotions.

Hence **Preno·tional** *a.*, pertaining to a preconceived notion.

1872 DE MORGAN *Budget of Paradoxes* 383 They might have gone so far, for example, under pre-notional impressions, as the alliterative allopath, who,..opposing the progress of science called vaccination, declared that some of its patients coughed like cows, and bellowed like bulls.

† Prensa·tion. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prensātio*, n. of action f. *prensāre*, contr. f. *prehensāre*: see PREHENSATION.] Seizing; laying hold.

1620 J. KING *Serm.* 24 *Mar.* 22 How would I vrge vnto you..the presentest prensation and pursuit of the very forelock of time? *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1680) 149 By ambitious prensations, by Simoniacal corruptions,..by all kinds of sinister ways, men crept into the place.

So **† Pre·nsile** *a. Obs. rare*, perh. error for PREHENSILE; **Prension** (*rare*) = PREHENSION (sense 3).

1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* IV. ii. 322 The large red monkey of Demerara..having a long prensile tail. [*Note*] I believe prensile is a new-coined word. I have seen it, but do not remember where. [*Prehensile* was a recent word.] 1836-48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* I. iv, Verboseness, and pulsion, and prension.

Prent, -e, obs. f. PRINT *sb.* and *v.*; obs. pa. pple. of PRINK *v.*

Prentice (pre·ntis), *sb.* Now *arch.* or *dial.* Forms: 4–6 **prentis, -ys, -yse, -yce, -iz**, *Sc.* **-eis**, (4 **-yss, -ese, prenttis, printiz, -yce, preyntyce**, 5 **prentez, -isse**, 5–6 **-es**, 6 **-esse**, *Sc.* **-eiss**), 4–7 **prentise**, *Sc.* **printeis**, 6–7 **prentize**, 5– **prentice**, (8– **'prentice**). [Aphetic form of APPRENTICE. The pl. was sometimes *prentis, prentes, -ez*, etc.]

1. = APPRENTICE *sb.* I.

To send or *put to prentice*, to bind as apprentice.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12233 Als printiz [*v. rr.* prentiz, prentis] wend i him haf ouer-cummen. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 116, I seruede Simme atte noke, And was his pliht prentys his profyt to loke. 1453-4 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 280 Irysh jornaymen, Irysh prentesys. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 61 b, Then all the young men resisted the Alderman..and cryed prentyses and clubbes. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 30 Thys yere was yell May day, that yong men and prentes of London rose in the nyght. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 71 Be merry Peter, and feare not thy Master, Fight for credit of the Prentices. 1611 *Glasgow Burgh Rec.* (1876) I. 318 That na printeis heireftir salbe admittit burges except his maister compeir with him. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 107 ¶ 7 Sir Roger .. sent his Coachman's Grandson to Prentice. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 38 (1754) 202 City 'prentices and lawyers clerks. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 31 Stupid tailor's 'prentices who are always stitching the sleeves in the wrong way upwards.

† **b.** A learner generally; a disciple. *Obs.*

[1292 BRITTON VI. iii. § 3 En eyde des prentiz [for the assistance of learners].] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 248 A woman..þat..to petir printeis had bene. *Ibid.* iii. (*Andreas*) 479 Þu tak to þe þe forme of prenttis, gyf þat þu Wil knaw it þat þou speris now!

† **2.** *Law.* = APPRENTICE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 226 Prechoures & prestes & prentyces of lawe. 1399 — *Rich. Redeles* III. 350 Ffor selde were þe sergiauntis souȝte ffor to plete, Or ony prentise of courte preied of his wittis. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 277 Glendore..was first a prentise at Cort, and than a Swyere of the Kingis hous. 1484 in J. S. Davies *Hist. Southampton* (1883) 474 There was ayenst us ij sergeauntez and iiij prentez. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Prentyce in lawe a lerned man: they [French] use no suche order.

† **3.** *fig.* = APPRENTICE *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xvi. 47 He shal not be noo prentiz..in puttyng his oost in fayre ordenance. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 8 Assone as..I became prentice to the spiritual lawe of fayth. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* lxx, Sonets be not bound prentise to annoy.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prentice-boy, -girl, -lad, -years*; often implying inexperience as of a novice or beginner, as *prentice ear, hand, stroke, work*; *prentice-like* adj.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 63 Did neuer vnlouing seruant so prentiselike obey his neuer pleased mistres. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handicrafts* 596 My Prentice ear doth oft reverberate. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* II. xi, When Thelgon here had spent his prentise-yeares. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Sept., Saying that she was not a 'prentice girl, to ask leave every time she goes abroad. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* V. (1841) I. 32 There is nobody to serve but a prentice-boy or two. 1784 BURNS *Green grow the Rashes* V, Her prentice han' she tried on man, An' then she made the lasses, O. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. iv. 74 In the deft trick Of prentice-handling to forget great art. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. 212 There was likely to be no prentice-work.

Pre·ntice, *v.* Now *arch.* or *dial.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* = APPRENTICE *v.*

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. ix. G viij, But when to seruile imitatorship Some spruce Athenian pen is prentizèd, Tis worse then Apish. 1608 DAY *Law Trickes* I. ii, Thou wouldst not prentise thy affections Nor tie thy fortunes to a strangers loue. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 278 His Father was a Bookseller in Oxford, prenticed to old Hen. Davies. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlvii, 'Prenticed to my father's trade.

† Pre·nticeage. *Obs.* Also 7 **-isage.** Aphetic f. APPRENTICEAGE; also analysed as *prentice-age*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 270 Must I be the exercise of your prentice-age? 1624 *Trag. Nero* II. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 35 Full blowne Inspire me with Machlæan rage That I may bellow out Romes Prentisage. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 2 To make the confutation of that Treatise the prentisage of his endeavours in controversie.

† Pre·nticehead. *Obs.* [f. PRENTICE *sb.* + -HEAD.] = next.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxxv, On way, In gude tyme and sely to begynne Thair prentisehed. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 16 He to haue his indentour of his prentished. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than we shall be delyuered out of our prentyshed, and be made free men.

† Pre·nticehood. *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -HOOD; cf. APPRENTICEHOOD.] = next, I.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 256, I..haue ymade many a knyȝte bothe mercere & drapere, þat payed neuere for his prentishode nouȝte a peire gloues. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Cook's T.* 36 This ioly prentys with his maister bood Til he were ny out of his prentishood. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 390 Fulle vij. yere of prentishode. 1554 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 145 When he commith out of his yeres of prentiswood. 1568 FULWELL *Like will to Like* in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 310 So soon as my prenticehood was once come out. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. xliii, I serv'd no prentisehood to any Rod.

Prenticeship (pre·ntisʃip). Now *arch.* or *dial.* Forms: see PRENTICE; also contr. 6 **prentyship, prent'ship**, *Sc.* **prentischip**, 6–7 (9 *dial.*), **prentiship.** [f. as prec. + -SHIP.]

1. = APPRENTICESHIP 1, 2.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3884 He man gang till his prentischip againe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 154 To abide the paines of some more laborious prenticeship. 1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. 86 Of late did many a learned man Serue thirtie yeares Prenti-ship with Priscian. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Misc.* 81 Of too noble a nature to be learned under a Prentiship. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 181 He serv'd a 'Prenticeship, who sets up shop. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 273 In perils and alarms Was his prenticeship of arms.

2. = APPRENTICESHIP 3, 4; *transf.* a space of seven years.

1553 ASCHAM in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 16, I have allready served out three prentyships at Cambrige. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* III. i, I served two prenticeships, just fourteen years, Trailing the puissant pike. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* VII. v. (1852) 545 Men [who] had spent whole prenticeships of years in the faithful service of the churches. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sniffing a Birthday* i, Three 'prenticeships have past away,..Since I was bound to life!

† Pre·nticewick. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -WICK.] = prec. 1.

1462 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 129 At that tyme they beyng in theyre prentiswyke.

† Prenu·nce, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. OF. *prenoncer* (Froissart), or ad. L. *prænuntiāre* (*-nunciāre*) to foretell, f. *præ* PRE- A. 1 + *nuntiāre* to announce.] *trans.* = PRENUNCIATE *v.*

1580 *Hay's Demandes* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S) 48 The cleane sacrifice quhilk Malachias did prenunce and forespeake.

† Prenu·nciate, -nuntiate, *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prænuntiāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To announce beforehand; to foretell; to predict.

1623 COCKERAM, *Prenunciate*, to foreshew. *a* 1636 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Compassion Captives* Ded. Ep. (1637) 2, I come.. not as the sea-porpesses to prenuntiate a storme, but..to procure a calme. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 94 If the..conjunctions of the stars be sufficient to prognosticate and prenuntiate all manner of mutations.

So **† Prenuncia·tion,** announcement beforehand, foretelling, prediction, prognostication; **† Prenu·nciative** *a.*, **† Prenu·ncious** *a.* (*rare*⁻⁰), announcing beforehand, presaging; **Prenu·ntiate** *nonce-wd.*, used to render L. *prænuntius* masc., *prænuntia* fem., foreteller, harbinger.

1623 COCKERAM II, Fore-shewing..**prenunciation.* *a* 1626 W. SCLATER *Exp. 4th ch. Rom.* (1650) 152 Prophetical prenunciations all verified by events. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 67 To cause a falsehood in the pronuntiation, prenuntiation, or prediction. 1555 BONNER *Necess. Doctr.* Liv, The fyrste Sacramentes..were *Prenuncyatyue of Chryst to come. 1843 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) I. 47 Typical and prenunciative of the one efficacious piacular devotement of the Lamb of God. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Prenuncious*, ..that first brings tidings, that goes afore and tells news. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Fasti* II. 825 But now the bird *prenuntiate of day [*L. lucis prænuntius ales*] Proclaims the morning. *Ibid.* VI. 244 The herald priest, with javelin in hand, Prenuntiate of warfare [*L. belli prænuntia*].

† Prenzie, *a. Obs.* A doubtful word in the following passage; prob. an error.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 94, 97 *Cla.* The prenzie Angelo? *Isa.* Oh 'tis the cunning Liuerie of hell, The damnest bodie to inuest, and couer In prenzie gardes.

† Pre-obje·ct, *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. PRÆ-, PRE- A. 1 + OBJECT *v.* 3.] *trans.* To bring forward or offer in advance. So **† Pre-obje·cted** *pa. pple.*, previously offered.

1636 PRYNNE *Humb. Remonstr.* (1643) 31 For any other pretended Presidents (or Records) that may be alleadged to prove the lawfulnesse of this Tax, we intend not here..to trouble your Majestie with particular answers to them, they being all fully answered in those præobjected.

Pre-obje·ctal, *a. rare.* [f. PRE- B. 1 d + OBJECT *sb.* + -AL.] Existing before becoming an object of knowledge.

1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* I. 67 Knowledge..is the mingling of our own consciousness with a certain (so to call it) præ-objectal matter of knowledge, of which we are so far conscious, as that it is that by distinction from which we know ourselves.

Pre-obli·ge, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To oblige beforehand; to bind by previous obligation.

1644 HUNTON *Vind. Treat. Monarchy* iii. 17, I grant a people (not preobliged) fully overcome should much sin

against Gods providence by obstinacie. 1668 FRANCO *Truth Springing* 25 Onely the two last were commanded to Noah (to the other five he was preobliged). *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* lxxxv. (1742) VI. 363 Nor, lastly, was he pre-obliged by any kindness or benefit from us.

Pre-observational: see PRE- B. 1 d.

Pre-obse·rve. *rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To observe beforehand.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 11 As hath been pre-observ'd in other Insects. *Ibid.* III. 160 As has been præobserved by all Magnetick Writers. 1675 HAN. WOOLLEY *Gentlewoman's Comp.* 193, I shall give you an account of what must be pre-observed in the keeping of a Dayry.

Pre-obtain, -occipital: see PRE- A. 1, B. 3.

Preoccupancy (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭpănsɪ). [f. PRE- A. 2 + OCCUPANCY; cf. PREOCCUPY.]

1. The fact of occupying previously; previous or earlier occupancy; = PREOCCUPATION 3.

1755 JOHNSON, *Preoccupancy*, the act of taking possession before another. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 632 The Indians had an undisputed title to the..territory, either from pre-occupancy or conquest. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 167 That powerful barrier against emigration [of plants]—pre-occupancy.

2. The state of being preoccupied or engaged.

1893 *Argosy* Sept. 202 An endless restless preoccupancy vaguely followed by fear of satiety. 1898 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 2/6 He..declined repeated offers of a seat in Parliament..on the ground of his preoccupancy in the administration of Owens College.

Preoccupant (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭpănt), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PRE- A. 3 + OCCUPANT.]

A. *adj.* Previously occupying; preoccupying.

1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 56 Least a preoccupant fear possess their spirits.

B. *sb.* One who occupies (a place or region) before others; a previous or earlier occupant.

c 1826 T. ALDEN in 3 *Mass. Hist. Coll.* (1837) VI. 152 Tools, made of iron,..which, no doubt, were obtained by the tawny pre-occupants of this region from the French. 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 173 Invasions of this kind, attended by the expulsion of the pre-occupants, are almost instantaneous.

† **Preo·ccupate,** *a. Obs. rare*−°. [ad. L. *præoccupāt-us*, pa. pple. of *præoccupāre* to PREOCCUPY.] = PREOCCUPATED.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Preoccupate*, prevented, overreached, taken aforehand.

† **Preo·ccupate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præoccupāre* to PREOCCUPY: see OCCUPATE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To take possession of or seize upon beforehand or before another; to usurp.

1586 FERNE *Blas. Gentrie* 311 If..any other Captayne shall with hys insigne preoccupate the place of honor. 1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* L j b, My heart is præoccupated with better spirits, which have left no house roome. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 76 The Thebans foreseeing the war, desired to preoccupate Platea. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 252 The late Omen of approaching Evil had preoccupated his Thoughts.

2. To take at unawares, surprise, overtake.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Gal.* vi. 1 If a man be preoccupated in any fault, ye that are spiritual, instruct such an one in the spirit of lenitie. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* (1658) 59 The Spirit being preoccupated, tainted and overcome. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Deut.* xxxii. 5 They are pre-occupated, taken at unawares. 1654 *Ibid., Ps.* li. 14 If Davids adultery was a sin of infirmity (he was preoccupated, as Gal. 6. 1).

3. To take possession of the mind beforehand; to prepossess; to influence, bias, prejudice.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) Pref. b ij b, If the preiudice of any erroneous persuasion preoccupate the mind. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 256 Lest the pleasure of the Eye pre-occupate the Judgment. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Acts* xxv. 11 A corrupt Judge, notoriously forestalled and preoccupated. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Vind. Naked Truth* 2 To preoccupate and prepossess his Readers with an opinion of his Modesty.

4. To meet in advance; anticipate; forestall.

1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 287 Drawing in of strangearis, and, to preoccupat thair arryvall, hes causit his speciall kynnismen and houshald servandis surprise and occupy his Hienes awne houssis. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Death* (Arb.) 384 Revenge triumphes over death, love esteemes it not..greif flyeth to it, feare preoccupateth it. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 258 This objection is thus preoccupated by Plato.

5. To cause to seize *upon* beforehand. *rare*−¹.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1634) 503 Why is not some one of them possessed with the humor to preoccupate on his companions the glory of this chaste love?

Hence † **Preo·ccupated** *ppl. a.*; † **Preo·ccupating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 R. TURNBULL *Exp. St. James* 128 The mocking and ironicall preoccupating and preuenting of the objection. 1651 H. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Mrq. Worcester* 77 We should leave the deciding of the sense..to the pre-occupated understanding of one of the Advocates. 1651 tr. *Bergerac's Satyr. Char.* xiii. 52 For fear, least the pre-occupated should conclude, that 'tis the devill that speaks in him.

† **Preo·ccupately,** *adv. Obs. rare*−¹. [f. PREOCCUPATE *a.* + -LY².] In a preoccupied manner; in quot., so as to preoccupy.

a 1628 F. GREVIL *Hum. Learn.* xii, Abstracts the imagination or distasts With images preoccupately plac'd.

Preoccupation (prɪ|ɒkɪŭpeɪ·ʃən). [ad. L. *præoccupātiōn-em*, n. of action from *præoccupāre*: see prec. So F. *préoccupation* (15th c. in Godef. *Compl.*).] The action of preoccupying.

† 1. The meeting of objections beforehand. In *Rhet.* A figure of speech in which objections are anticipated and prevented; anticipation, prolepsis. (In quots. 1538 and thence in 1552, erroneously explained as = *paralipsis*, app. by confusing this with *prolepsis*.)

[1538 ELYOT, *Prœoccupatio*, a fygure in Rhetorike, whan we will saye that we will not tell a thinge, and yet therby couertly we wil declare the matter, or make it suspected. 1552 HULOET, *Preoccupation*.. is also a certayne fygure in rethorycke, or a darke speakynge, as when we wyll saye, I wyll not tell all (etc.).] 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* II. viii. (1886) 23 They prevent us with a figure..prolepsis or præoccupation. 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 340 The words haue in them a preoccupation, of what might be obiected against the former Doctrine. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 64 By waie..of obviation, prævention, præoccupation and anticipation.

2. Prepossession of the mind which gives it a certain disposition or tendency; bias; prejudice.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 247 These [Atheists] have some preoccupation of judgements that makes their taste wallowish and tastlesse. 1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 135 Let not your desires of promoving this great..businesse, blind you from foreseeing all sorts of preoccupations, which ..you..may perchance find greater. 1696 LOCKE *Lett.* (1708) 156 'Tis your preoccupation in favour of me, that makes you say what you do. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* IV. xxiv. (1878) 346 Starting as we believe without pre-occupation.

3. Actual occupation (of a place) beforehand.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Præoccupation*, a possessing before hand. 1706 *Ibid.* (ed. Kersey) s. v., That Land was in his Pre-occupation. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1873) 357 Preoccupation has probably played an important part in checking the commingling of the species.

4. Occupation that takes precedence of all other; 'first business'.

1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vi. 166 The first preoccupation of every Greek who visited Olympia, was to see the statue of Zeus. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 13 Oct. 7/2 The fixed pre-occupation of our agents on the spot..is to maintain the peace. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 27 June 4/1 Marrying and giving in marriage is now and always has been the great preoccupation of man and womankind.

5. The condition of being preoccupied; mental absorption or engrossment.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VIII. i. III. 264 The preoccupation of men's minds with this absorbing subject. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xiv, The stamp of gravity and intellectual pre-occupation in his face and bearing.

Preo·ccupative, *a. rare.* [f. as PREOCCUPATE *v.* + -IVE.] Characterized by preoccupying. Hence **Preo·ccupatively** *adv.*

1860 SALA *Looking at Life* 147 Mercy allows the present necessity to overshadow and pre-occupatively overcome the contingent emergency.

Preoccupied (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭpəid), *ppl. a.* [f. PREOCCUPY *v.* + -ED¹.] Occupied previously. a. Absorbed in thought, abstracted. b. *Zool.* and *Bot.* Of a name: already occupied or used for something else.

1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* viii, The pre-occupied, serious face. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xviii, Something nebulous, pre-occupied, vague, in his bearing and regard, marked him as one who probably had no very definite aim or concern about his material future. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Feb. 1/3 In the further corner..a preoccupied-looking band is exploiting the musical comedies.

Hence **Preo·ccupiedly** *adv.*, in a preoccupied manner; with preoccupation of thought.

1884 J. HAWTHORNE *Pearl-shell Necklace* xi, 'Ay, surely ..', said Poyntz, puffing his pipe preoccupiedly.

Preoccupier (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭpəɪ|ə1). [f. next + -ER¹.] One who preoccupies.

1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 430 Is he not almost the sole preoccupier of the mind whenever it recurs to these plays?

Preoccupy (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭpəɪ), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + OCCUPY, after L. *præoccupāre* to seize beforehand. Cf. F. *préoccuper* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To occupy or engage beforehand; to engross to the exclusion of other things; † to prepossess, to bias.

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* To Rdr., Amarouse Pamphlets haue so preoccupyed the eyes and eares of men. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 240 Say..that Your minds pre-occupy'd with what you rather must do, Then what you should, made you against the graine To voice him Consull. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT (J.), I think it more respectful to the reader to leave something to reflections, than preoccupy his judgment. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. Eng.* Wks. II. 13 The inconveniences..of the sea are not of any account to those whose minds are pre-occupied.

2. To occupy or take possession of beforehand or before another; to appropriate for use in advance.

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 240 The places of these Ships which by them should haue been preoccupied, may be filled vp yearely with good fish. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 69 We found the posada pre-occupied by a Marquis and his retinue. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. I. vii. 44 A Mountain-wall of forty miles.. which he should have preoccupied. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 409 The name of Antoninus being preoccupied by Antoninus Pius.

b. To occupy or fill (a thing) *with* (something) beforehand.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 307 It has..been proposed..to fight off the poison of lyssa by preoccupying the ground with the poison of a viper. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* IX. 1240 If field with corn ye fail preoccupy, Darnel for wheat and thistle-beards for grain..Will grow apace.

† 3. To possess by anticipation. *Obs.*

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 123 That they should in their life time preoccupie a lively feeling of an everlasting name. *a* 1677 MANTON *Exp. Lord's Pr.* Matt. vi. 11 Wks. 1870 I. 166 We need not anticipate and pre-occupy the cares of the next day.

† 4. To anticipate, forestall. *Obs. rare.*

a 1677 [cf. 3]. 1785 WARTON *Milton's Poems* 306 *note*, I have been preoccupied by Dr. Jortin in noting this parallel.

† 5. To wear beforehand. b. *pass.* To be dressed *in* beforehand. *Obs. rare.*

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* Argt. IV, The tailor's wife, who was wont to be pre-occupied in all his customers' best clothes. *a* 1637 — *Underwoods* lx, Whose like I have known the tailor's wife put on..ere 'twere gone Home to the customer: his letchery Being the best clothes still to pre-occupy.

Preo·ccupying, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ING 2.] That preoccupies (in various senses of the vb.).

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 259 So little can he suffer a man to measure..what is short or what tedious without his preoccupying direction. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* x, A smile..was soon quenched by some pre-occupying thought. 1893 W. G. COLLINGWOOD *Ruskin* II. 151 His patience in the midst of pre-occupying labour and severest trial.

Preocular (prɪ|ɒ·kɪŭlăr), *a.* (*sb.*) Also **præ-**. [f. PRE- B. 3 + L. *ocul-us* an eye + -AR¹.] Situated in front of the eye: *spec.* applied to certain plates in the head of a reptile.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 316 *Preocular*... When antennæ are inserted before the eyes. 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* V. 522 The preocular bristly feathers blackish.

B. as *sb.* One of the preocular plates of a scaled reptile, as a snake or lizard.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pre-œsophageal: see PRE- B. 3.

† **Preo·minate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] a. *intr.* To have a foreboding, to augur. b. *trans.* To be an omen of, to portend.

1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 255 One may aswel..by paraphrasing on smokie dreames præominate of future euents. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxii. 264 Because many Ravens were seen when Alexander entered Babylon they were thought to pre-ominate his death.

Hence † **Preomina·tion,** augury, foreboding.

1660 A. SADLER *Subject's Joy* 8 In an holy Preomination of the years succeeding.

Pre-omosternum, -omosternal: PRE- A. 4.

Pre-o·perate, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *intr.* To operate or work before or in front.

1658 BP. REYNOLDS *Van. Creature* Wks. (1677) 46 Grace must prevent, follow, assist us, pre-operate and co-operate.

Pre-opera·tion. *rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Operation or working beforehand.

1622 DONNE *Serm.* (ed. Alford) V. 109 So there is a good sense of co-operation, and post-operation; but pre-operation, that we should work, before God work upon us, can admit no good interpretation. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 248 He reasons that such a determinacion could not be grounded on what the former printes spake, and accordingly he makes pre-operation. *a* 1779 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* IX. i. Wks. 1788 III. 649 It would be trifling to speak of a pre-ordination, which was not to be understood of a pre-operation.

Pre-operative: see PRE- B. 1.

Pre-ope·rcle. Also **-cule.** Anglicized form of PRE-OPERCULUM.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s. v., A bony formation on which the *operculum*, or lid of the gills play: the preopercle. 1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, Preopercle. So *Cent. Dict.*, etc.

Pre-opercular, præ- (prɪ|ɒpɔ̄·ɪkɪŭlăr), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PRE-OPERCUL-UM + -AR 1.] Of or pertaining to the pre-operculum. Also *absol.* or as *sb.* The pre-opercular bone, the pre-operculum.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 178 The appendage..consists of four bones; the one articulated to the tympanic pedicle is called 'preopercular'. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pre-opercular*, term applied by Prof. Owen..to the first or proximal segment of the radiated appendage of the tympano-mandibular arch. 1866 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* I. 105 The preopercular,..runs parallel with, strengthens, and connects together the divisions of the tympanic pedicle.

Pre-operculum, præ- (prɪ|ɒpɔ̄·ɪkɪŭlŏm). [f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 + OPERCULUM.]

1. *Ichth.* The foremost of the four bones forming the operculum in fishes.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 454 Head scaly; operculum with spines, and the preoperculum with dentations. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 80 The side of the skull, in front of the operculum, is covered by a large irregularly-shaped bone, held by some to be the præoperculum.

2. *Bot.* = OPERCULUM 2.

1864 WEBSTER, *Preoperculum, Bot.*, the fore-lid or operculum in mosses. (Also in later Dicts.)

Pre-opinion, -optic: see PRE- A. 2, 4.

Pre-option (prɪ|ɒ·pʃən). [PRE- A. 2.] An option before any one else; right of first choice.

1666 BP. REYNOLDS *Serm. Westm. Abbey* 7 Nov. 19 He gave unto Lot the praeoption of what part of the Land he would live in. 1732 STACKHOUSE *Hist. Bible* (1752) I. v. iv. 723/2 Agamemnon, as General, had the Preoption of what Part of the Booty he pleas'd. 1830 J. H. MONK *Life R. Bentley* (1833) II. 98 *note*, The right of the senior graduates to the preoption of livings.

Pre-oral, præ- (prɪ|ōə·răl), *a.* [f. PRE- B. 3 + ORAL, f. L. *ōs, ōr-* mouth.] Situated in front of the mouth.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 106 The prae-oral or so-called 'supra-œsophageal' ganglionic mass. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 130 The labrum and the metasterna are median growths of the sterna of the præoral and post-oral somites. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 149 This diverticulum..breaks through on the left side of the body with a small opening outwards—the preoral pit.

Hence **Pre-o'rally** *adv.*

1888 *Huxley & Martin's Elem. Biol.* 184 The three anterior pairs having coalesced preorally to form the brain.

Pre-orbital (prĭ,ɒ·ɹbĭtăl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* and *Zool.* Also præ-. [f. PRE- B. 3 + ORBIT + -AL 1.] Situated in front of the orbit or eye-socket.

1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 93 Præorbital tooth acute. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 64 Each frontal bifurcates laterally into a sharp pointed 'nasal process' and a more obtuse 'pre-orbital process'. 1886 GUILLEMARD *Cruise Marchesa* I. 214 The slight developement of the pre-orbital fossa.

B. *sb.* The pre-orbital bone or process.

1897 GÜNTHER in M. Kingsley *W. Africa* App. iii. 709 Præorbital about half the area of the orbit.

Pre-ordain (prĭ,ɹɒidē·n), *v.* Also *Sc.* in 6 **pre-ordine.** [f. PRE- A. 1 + ORDAIN *v.*; = late L. *præordināre* (Vulg.), OF. *preordiner* (15th c. in Godef.), F. *préordonner.*] *trans.* To ordain or appoint beforehand; in *Theol.* to foreordain.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 68 Quhen y' time is cum preordinit be God. 1576 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 3) 102/2 No aduersitie or perturbation happeneth..which his prouident wisedome dooth not foresee before and preordaine. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xxii. 15 [14] The God of our fathers hath prëordained thee, that thou shouldest know his wil. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 127 Unweeting he fulfill'd The purpos'd Counsel pre-ordain'd and fixt Of the most High. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* III. 372 This day is preordain'd the last. 1863 KINGLAKE *Invas. Crimea* I. xiv. 295 Having preordained the question to be put to the people. 1894 PARRY *Stud. Gt. Composers, Schubert* 226 In Italian works, the form was, as it were, pre-ordained.

Hence **Pre-ordai'ned** *ppl. a.*; **Pre-ordai'ner**; **Pre-ordai'ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Pre-ordai'nment**, pre-ordination.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvi. 374 God's Will, and Præordaining of things to come. 1842 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* II. xxx. (1874) 165 Deep plans of preordaining thought. 1855 BADEN POWELL *Ess.* 479 Imagined interruptions of preordained order for the introduction of new forms of life. 1855 G. MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* (1856) 377 So was shaved Shagpat,..according to preordainment. 1890 J. MARTINEAU *Seat Authority in Relig.* IV. iii. 480 The preordainer of the whole world-scheme through its series of ages.

Pre-o'rder, *v. rare.* [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To order, arrange, or appoint beforehand. Hence **Pre-o'rdered** *ppl. a.*; **Pre-o'rdering** *vbl. sb.*

1638-48 G. DANIEL *Eclog* v. 264 Scepters, to præordred Ends must fall. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 1/2 A.. graceful pre-ordering of the Lines and Angles. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. viii, Do you believe that Heaven preorders as well as foresees our destiny? 1832 — *Eugene A.* I. iv, Shall we see..each marvel fulfilling its pre-ordered fate?

† Pre-o'rdinance. *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + ORDINANCE; cf. obs. F. *preordonnance* (16th c. in Godef.).] Previously established ordinance or rule.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) I. 144 If it wer nat in mannes own liberte of fre wil to do good or bad but to the one teied by bonde of goodes preordinaunce. 1486 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 56 God so disposith of His preordinaunce. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* Pref. A ij, Th skilfull in Architecture can applye the Stereometria..in preordinance and forecasting both of the charges, quantities and proportion of..any kinde of buyldings. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 38 These couchings, and these lowly courtesies Might ..turne pre-Ordinance, and first Decree Into the law [*pr.* lane] of Children.

Pre-o'rdinate, *ppl. a.*[1] *arch.* [ad. late L. *præordināt-us*, pa. pple. of *præordināre*: see PRE-ORDINATE *v.*] Foreordained, pre-appointed, predestined. Formerly construed also as *pa. pple.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17096 Folk predestynaat, And swych as be preordynaat To kome vn-to savacioun. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* Prolem. xxi, Kyng Richarde..whom, for his mede Kyng Henry quyt with death preordinate. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 181 This holy name was preordynate & gyuen of god. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 139/1 According to the preordinate counsayle of God. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xiii. 48 As many as were preordinate to life euerlasting. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 17 The will of His Providence, that disposeth her favour to each Country in their pre-ordinate season.

Hence **Pre-o'rdinately** *adv.*, by pre-ordination.

1894 W. D. SPELMAN in *Voice* (N. Y.) 22 Nov. 6/3 The Countess..should be summoned to court as soon as..[etc.].. which time, however, preordinately, should never come.

Pre-o'rdinate, *a.*[2] [f. PRE- A. 5 + ORDINATE *a.*, f. L. *ordo, ordinem* order, rank. After *subordinate.*] Superior in rank, importance, or degree (*to*). Opposed to *subordinate*, and *co-ordinate.*

1801 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 473 In other cases..the general executive is certainly pre-ordinate. 1863 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Gen.* i. 1 The stars which are co-ordinate with the sun, and pre-ordinate to the moon.

† Pre-o'rdinate, *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *præordināre* to order beforehand, pre-ordain; f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1: see ORDINATE *v.*] *trans.* To foreordain, predestine.

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 68 They beleaued him..who were preordinated to lyfe euerlasting. 1654 OWEN *Saints' Persev.* Wks. 1853 XI. 156 To preordinate, I fear, in Mr. Goodwin's sense, is but to predispose men by some good dispositions in themselves. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 230 It was preordinated for thee.

Pre-ordina'tion. Now *rare.* [= late L. *præordinātio* (Hilary *c* 350), F. *preordination* (16th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), n. of action from L. *præordināre* to PRE-ORDAIN.] The action of preordaining, or settling beforehand, what is to take place; the condition of being pre-ordained; predestination.

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. xvi. Q j b, Yt ys..to be mynystred vnto them by the preordynacyon of God. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xiii. *margin*, They beleeued specially by Gods grace and preordination. 1678 MARVELL *Def. K. Howe* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 213 Many who grant prescience, deny preordination. *a* 1779 [see PRE-OPERATION].

Pre-organic, -original: see PRE- B. 1, 1 d.

Preost, Preoue, obs. ff. PRIEST, PROVE, PROOF.

† Preostend, *v. Obs.* -*rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *præostend-ĕre* (Augustine), f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *ostendĕre* to OSTEND.] *trans.* To show or reveal beforehand.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3339 This delyvraunce of man also godde preostendid When he Patriarche abraham fro hurr of Caldee delyvrid.

Prep (prep), *sb.* and *a. School* and *College slang.*

1. *sb.* Short for PREPARATION (sense 1 c).

1862 [see PREPARATION 1 c]. 1899 E. PHILLPOTTS *Hum. Boy* 119 Murdoch he let crib off him in 'prep' three times. 1901 'IAN MACLAREN' *Yng. Barbarians* xv, The recreations which enliven 'prep'.

2. *U. S.* a. *adj.* Short for PREPARATORY *a.* (sense 2). b. *sb. U. S.* A student at a preparatory school, or who is preparing for college (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1905 *McClure's Mag.* June 123/2 The commercial class of prep school athletes admire their prototypes in the colleges. 1906 M. NICHOLSON *Ho. w.* 1000 *Candles* I. 3, I had thrashed him soundly at the prep school.

Prepaid: see PREPAY.

Prepalæolithic (prĭ·pælĭ,ɒlĭ·þik), *a. Anthropol.* [PRE- B. 1 b.] Preceding or anterior to the Palæolithic or Early Stone Period of human history. So **Prepa'læolith,** a stone used in this period, as a weapon or implement.

1895 H. STOPES in *Athenæum* 7 Sept. 325/3 The stones used throughout this transition or prepalæolithic time are frequently very large, generally left-handed, and nearly always rough. *Ibid.* 325/1 Some of these prepalæoliths.. are found in many positions in Swanscombe.

Pre-palæozoic, -palatal, -ine: PRE- B. 1 b, 3.

Preparable (pre·părăb'l), *a. rare.* [a. F. *préparable* (*c* 1500 in Godef.): see PREPARE *v.* and -ABLE.] Capable of being prepared.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. App. 363 More costly Spirits, scarce any of which being preparable by so safe, and compendious a way. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 167 All such preparable remedies. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* vii. § 6 Wks. 1772 V. 240 If there be any such medicine preparable by art. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. i, 'Day of the Preparation of Peace?' Alas, how were peace possible or preparable?

† Prepara'do. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. Sp. *preparada*, or a fanciful imitation of Sp., after *armado*, etc.: see -ADO.] Preparation.

1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* 21 Such as shall..haue right and title there .. may make a preparado to haue passage when the winde shall sit faire for that place.

† Pre'parance. *Obs.* [a. OF. *preparance* (14th c. in Godef.), f. *préparer* to PREPARE: see -ANCE.] The action of preparing; preparation.

1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 452 He herde his enemies made no greate preparaunce or haste. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 72 Preparaunce was made for her buriall. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 158 b, Small troops of ours..after forewarning and preparance, have wonne, possessed,..captived and carried away the townes, wealth and inhabitants.

† Pre'parate, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 4-6 -at. [ad. L. *præparāt-us*, pa. pple. of *præparāre* to PREPARE.] Prepared. (Const. as *pa. pple.*)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 257 Sal tartre Alkaly and sal preparat. 1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 5 Birie it al in hors dounge, preparate as it is seid hereafter. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3073 All thynges were redy preparate. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 225 Two drams and a halfe of scamony preparat in white vineger.

† Pre'parate, *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præparāre* to PREPARE: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To prepare (esp. a drug or compound); to make a preparation of. Hence **† Pre'parated** *ppl. a.*

1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 8 Who so coude reparale and preparate kyndely þis fier. 1569 R. ANDROSE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. I. 15 Into which is put a little of preperated Tutia. *Ibid.* II. 54 In like maner preperate Oripigment.

Preparation (prepărē·ʃən), *sb.* [a. F. *préparation* (13-14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præparātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præparāre* to PREPARE.]

1. The action of preparing, or condition of being prepared; previous putting or setting in order for any action or purpose; making or getting ready; fitting out, equipment.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 133 After the preparacion Of due constellacion. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Preparation, *apareil.* 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. i, Nowe will I traicte of the preparation of suche personages, whan they firste receyue any great dignitie. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 245 Be yare in thy preparation, for thy assaylant is quick, skilfull, and deadly. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. v. iii. 328 They are in use..as well for Church-Service as Closet-Preparation.

a 1880 GLADSTONE in *Might of Right* (U. S.) 206 It is in and by freedom only, that adequate preparation for fuller freedom can be made.

b. An act or proceeding that serves to prepare for something; usually in *pl.*: Things done by way of making ready *for* something; preparatory actions, proceedings, or measures.

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Prov.* xvi. 1 The preparations of the heart are in man: but the answer of the tongue is of the Lord. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 233 On Thursday..we went to Boulac, to see the preparations that were making for the cutting of the Khalis. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 38, I..made mighty preparations for the feast. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vii. 143 The preparations for the marriage were commenced. *Mod.* A good life here is the best preparation for a future life.

c. The action of getting ready a lesson, speech, etc., by preliminary study; *spec.* the preparing of lessons, as a part of the routine of school work (in school slang abbreviated *prep*: see PREP 1).

1862 ['Used at Clifton College, from the beginning, the boys..calling it *Prep.*' (Bp. Percival.)] 1875 A. R. HOPE *My Schoolboy Fr.* 181, I had to go downstairs to preparation. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* iii. 52 As regards ..hours of work per week, I found that, including preparation they might be taken as not less than thirty eight. *Mod.* One of the Assistant Masters who took preparation in the Long Class-room.

2. The action or special process of putting something into proper condition for use; preparatory treatment; working or making up; dressing and serving up (*of* food); composition, manufacture (*of* a chemical, medicinal, or other substance); drawing up (*of* a document).

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VI. xx. n iv b/1 In meete preparacion [*Bodl. MS.* greiþing] gooth tofore and thenne comyth chewynge. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 474 The Animall spirit is generated of the vitall spirit and the aire breathed in; whose preparation is in the labyrinthian webs of the small arteries, & in the vpper or forward ventricles. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. App. 363 The Easinesse of the preparation..will much indear it [a medicine] to me. 1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* II. 625 Owing to the unstable character of the binoxide of hydrogen (HO_2), its preparation is attended with great difficulty. 1863 H. Cox *Institl.* III. v. 657 The preparation..of Bills and Orders in Council. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxvi. 544 Another part of the work of women is in the preparation of beer. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 13/1 A new edition is in active preparation.

3. *concr.* That which is prepared for any action, esp. for warfare; an equipment; a force or fleet fitted out for attack or defence; an armament. ? *Obs.*

1583-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 639 How far his Hienes munitioun houssis, ordinance, cairtis, and utheris preparationis of weir, ar demountid and decayit. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 18 Defences, Musters, Preparations Should be maintain'd, assembled, and collected. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 221 The Turke with a most mighty Preparation makes for Cyprus. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxvi. (1869) II. 327 The preparations of three years were destroyed in a single day. 1781 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 303 Their preparation of boats is considerable.

b. *Spinning.* (See quot.)

1851 L. D. B. GORDON in *Art Jrnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. IV **/2, 160 pounds [of wool] constitute a preparation, which is confined to a given set of cards, drawers, and roving frames. One man superintends four such preparations.

† 4. A personal capacity gained by previous instruction or training; an accomplishment. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 237 You are a gentleman of excellent breeding, admirable discourse,..generally allow'd for your many war-like, court-like, and learned preparations.

† 5. An introduction, preface (to a book, etc.).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 The two first [books] be but as prefaces, preparacyons and declaracyons to the thyrde boke. 1646 *Suckling's Poems* Pref. 1 While Sucklin's name is in the forehead of this Book, these Poems can want no preparation.

6. *concr.* A substance specially prepared, or made up for its appropriate use or application, e. g. as food or medicine, or in the arts or sciences.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 28 The Chymistes ..overmagnifying their preparations. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. 263 Express'd Oils of ripe Vegetables, and all Preparations of such. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxviii, There were also various preparations of milk which..were eaten out of similar vessels. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 25 The most commonly used preparations of opium. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 17 A chapter on preparations, with directions for their manufacture.

b. A specimen of a natural object specially prepared or treated for some scientific purpose; *esp.* an animal body or part of one prepared for dissection, or preserved for examination.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Insects*, Those [animals] which so elegantly eat away the fleshy parts from the injected anatomical preparations. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. v. 433 It contained upwards of 10,000 preparations illustrative of the phenomena of nature.

7. The acts or observances preliminary to the celebration of the Jewish sabbath or other festival; hence *transf.* (= *day of preparation*) the day before the sabbath or other festival.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* xxvii. 62 The next day that folowed the day of the Preparation *of the Sabbath* [μετὰ τὴν παρασκευήν; 1539 (Great) the daye of preparinge, 1611 the day of the preparation]. 1611 BIBLE *John* xix. 14 And it was the preparation of the Passeouer. *Ibid.* 31. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 99 In old time they proclaimed the Preparation with noise of Trumpets, or hornes,

8. In devotional use: The action of preparing for Holy Communion; a set of prayers used before a celebration by the officiant and his ministers, or by a person intending to communicate; also, the first part of the Communion Office.

1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* iv. § 10 (*heading*) A Prayer of Preparation or Address to the Holy Sacrament. 1855 PROCTER *Hist. Bk. Com. Prayer* II. iii. 334 [The Office of Holy Communion] consists of three general divisions: the Preparation, the Office itself, and the service of Thanksgiving. The first part of the Preparation incites the whole congregation to the exercise of repentance, by the Lord's Prayer, the Collect for purity, and the Ten Commandments. 1880 SCUDAMORE in *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* 1060/2 This occurs in a prayer or preparation said before the priest places himself at the altar in the liturgy of St. James. 1885 *Before the Altar* 30 In using the prayers of preparation. 1890 BP. W. WALSHAM HOW *Holy Communion* 1. 21 The following Prayer on the Passion may..be used during the preparation on Friday.

9. *Mus.* The preparing of a discord: see PREPARE *v.* 8 a. Opposed to *percussion* and *resolution*.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Discord*, These Discords are introduced into the harmony with due preparation, and must be succeeded by concords; which is commonly called the *resolution of the Discord*. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp.* v. 24 The resolution of one dissonance may serve as the preparation for the next. 1877 STAINER *Harmony* vii. § 91 The note of preparation is generally heard in the same part as the dissonant note.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **Preparation day**: see 7.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) *John* xix. 42 There then layd they Iesus, because of the Iews Preparation day [so 1611; 1539 (Great) the preparing of the Sabbath of the Iewes]. 1683 J. MASON *Hymn, 'My Lord, my Love was crucified'*, These are my preparation days. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. (1697) 145 But e're she sup, Swallows a swinging Preparation-Cup; And then to clear her Stomach, spews it up.

Hence † **Prepara·tion** *v.* (*Obs. nonce-wd.*) *intr.*, to make preparations.

1770 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 10 Jan., All Monday we passed in preparationing for the evening.

Preparative (prĭpæ·rătiv), *a.* and *sb.* [ME. *preparatif*, a. F. *préparatif*, *-ive* adj. and sb. (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præparātīvus* (in Albertus Magnus (*a* 1255) and Aquinas): see PREPARE *v.* and -ATIVE.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having the function or quality of preparing; serving as a preparation; preliminary, introductory; preparatory.

1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Preparatyfe, *preparatif.* 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* Title-p., A Preparatiue Treatise to the Apologie for Herodetvs. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* (1650) 206 After he had washed the Disciples feet, and performed the preparative civilities of suppers. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 355 A subsequent statute is so particular as to prescribe the preparative qualification of the physician. 1872 BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* 58 Having a certain relationship and preparative concern.

b. *spec.* Of medicine, etc.: Serving to prepare the system for a course of treatment. Also applied to drink taken before a meal. ? *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 385 It were also fitting that there were prescribed, .some preparative medicaments. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 323 The preparative remedies of both are the same.

c. *Preparative meeting* (in the Society of Friends): a local 'meeting' acting in matters of business or discipline, which is preparatory and subordinate to the 'monthly meeting'. (Cf. MEETING *vbl. sb.* 3 b.)

1711 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends in Surrey & Sussex* i. (1886) 9 A Preparitive Meeting Recommended by a former meeting for preserving the Reputation of our proffession blameles is Practised at Reigate. 1831 *Weeks's Southern Quakers & Slavery* 300 Not a school..that is under the care of a committee of either monthly or preparative meeting.

d. quasi-*adv.* In preparation, by way of preparation: = PREPARATORY A. 1 b.

1632 TATHAM *Love Crowns the End* Prol., Our wit's the meat, Preparative to which we bid you eat. 1651 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Dec., The Holy Communion, which I received also, preparative of my journey. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* III. 120 Such notes as she had taken preparative to her trial.

2. Used in or for preparing. *rare.*

1745 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 122 Furnaces and preparative pans for boiling sea-water. 1765 *Hist. & Antiq. York* II. 376 [In the Assembly Rooms] To the Right and Left Hand are Preparative Rooms.

† **3.** *Gram.* = DESIDERATIVE *a.* 2. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1552 HULOET Aaj, All verbes endynge in *Turio*, as *Amaturio*..and suche other, be as verbes preparatyues, hauynge desyre and entente to do that that theyr..significations meane.

B. *sb.*

1. A preparative act, proceeding, or circumstance; something that prepares the way for something else; a preliminary; a preparation.

In first two quots., Something that inclines or disposes one to a course of action, an incentive.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 440 Hym had lyfter be deformyd.. þan daylie be a preparatyfe to oþer folk luste & syn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 76 b, These examples or preparatyues to vertues, put before. 1553 (see PREPARER 1 b). *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* III. ii. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), The grene sicknes, a preparatyve to the dropsie. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 193 Those are but as daies of hearing, and as preparatiues against their Courts. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 183 The preparatives against France are so terrible in Italy. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Voyage* § 1 To an American visiting Europe, the long voyage he has to make is an excellent preparative. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XX. x. (1872) IX. 179 Levying the severe contributions; speeding all he can the manifold preparatives.

b. *Med.* Something administered before medicine, or before a course of treatment, to prepare the system for it. Often in fig. or allusive use. Also, a draught of liquor taken before a meal. ? *Obs.*

a 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) II. 1086 Lo, thys be preparatyfys most souerayn Agaynst thy sores. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Lord's Supper* (1611) 82 Preparatiues are ministred alwaies before physicke. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 179 He that takes the preparative but refuses the medicine. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 2 Cold infusion of tar hath been used..as a preservative or preparative against the small-pox. 1778 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (ed. 8) 121, I have advised the Powder by way of alterative, or preparative.

† **2.** ? An omen, prognostic; a warning. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 168 A preparatif that they shul never the. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 130 Some apparant significations, or preparatives, of a Tragedy insuing.

† **3.** An act or circumstance serving as an example for subsequent cases: = PRECEDENT *sb.* 2. *Sc. Obs.*

1565-6 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 432 Gif the King and Quenis Majesteis..sall permit this preparative of removing of kyndlie tenentis to cum in the Bordouris, it salbe far aganis the commounweill. 1571-2 *Ibid.* II. 115 This salbe na preparative to uther the lyke thingis heiraftir. 1637-50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow) 237 Bidding them take heed that they made not a preparative of poore Andro Melvill.

4. A military or nautical signal sounded on a drum, bugle, etc., as an order to make ready.

1635 BARRIFFE *Mil. Discip.* xv. (1643) 376 The Drum begins to beat a preparative. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 153/2 The drumer is to beat all maner of beats, as a Call,..a Preparative, a Battalia. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 40 At the close of the preparative, the first file will begin. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 268 When the preparative is made with this signal, the bowmen are to lay their oars in.

Prepa·ratively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a preparative manner; in the way of preparation.

1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 71 Aliens, he thinks, may be won; preparatiuely at least, to thinke well of that doctrine. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xviii. 95 Can I be more preparatively condescending? 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xlvii, At noon..preparatively preceded by Mr. Putney Giles.., the guardians..waited on Lothair.

Preparator (pre·pără·tǝɹ). *rare.* [a. late L. *præparātor*, agent-n. f. *præparāre* to PREPARE.] One who makes a preparation; a preparer (of medicine, specimens, etc.).

1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxviii, Next..is Doctor Walker, preparator of his own medicines. 1864 WEBSTER, *Preparator*, one who prepares beforehand, as subjects for dissection, specimens for preservation in collections, and the like. *Agassiz.* 1882 *Smithsonian Inst. Rep.* 103 In connection with the work of the preparators.

Preparatorily (prĭpæ·rătǝrĭli), *adv.* [f. next + -LY [2].] In a preparatory manner; in or by way of preparation; as a preliminary (*to* an action).

a 1631 DONNE *Serm.* lviii. (1640) 583 Preparatorily in himself, and then declaratorily towards God. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. iii. 11, I do but baptize you preparatorily with water to repentance. 1809 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 169/2 To submit certain motions, preparatorily to a measure which he had had..in contemplation. 1886 *Nature* 8 Apr. 540/1 When we get the chromosphere agitated preparatorily to one of these tremendous outbursts.

Preparatory (prĭpæ·rătǝri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. med.L. *præparātōrius* (Digest), f. *præparātor* a preparer: see -ORY [2]. In quot. 1413, prob. ad. F. *préparatoire* (1322 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj.* **1.** That prepares or serves to prepare for something following; preliminary, introductory.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. viii. 99 This feste was but as an assaye and preparatory as an exampler to these other feestes. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Ad Sect. xv, Considerations of some preparatory accidents before the entrance of Jesus into his Passion. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. i. 152 The Sun and Moon alone..cannot be the Causes preparatory or determinant of a Showre. 1745 J. MASON *Self Knowl.* I. viii. (1853) 61 The previous steps and preparatory Circumstances. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xv, [He] had indeed swallowed a preparatory glass of punch. 1868 OUSELEY *Harmony* iv. (1875) 61 The leading note would be simply a preparatory note, introducing a Scale of the compass of a hexachord.

b. quasi-*adv.* = PREPARATORILY. Const. *to.*

1649 EVELYN *Diary* 10 June, I receiv'd the Blessed Sacrament preparatory to my journey. 1810 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 557, I will, preparatory to writing..consider whether it can be treated popularly. 1877 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* xiv. (1878) 240 They were weighing it preparatory to sending it to town.

2. Applied to a junior school in which pupils are prepared for a higher school or college.

1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* 87 The children of the rich are sent to preparatory schools. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* v, The Reverend Otto Rose, D.D., Principal of the Preparatory Academy for young noblemen and gentlemen,..took this little Lord in hand. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, The streets being for pupils of his degree the great Preparatory Establishment in which very much that is never unlearned is learned without and before book. *Mod.* Scholarships won by pupils of the Oxford Preparatory School.

b. *U. S.* Applied to a scholar at a preparatory school, or engaged in a preparatory course of study.

B. *sb.*

1. = PREPARATIVE B. 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* v. 420 He..would bee sure of the necessary preparatories, that the desired fruit might succeede. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 196 The best Preparatory for Heaven. 1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* I. 105 To a villain it was a good preparatory to his arraignment at the Old Bailey. 1824 SOUTHEY *Bk. of Ch.* (1841) 321 After these preparatories the fiery process began.

b. = PREPARATIVE B. 1 b. ? *Obs.*

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 164 The simplest and best preparatory..is..water.

2. Short for *preparatory school*: see A. 2.

1907 *Athenæum* 20 Apr. 472/1 He ought to have attacked ..the 'preparatories' where the little dears have Turkey carpets for their small feet and port for their small stomachs.

† **Prepa·rature.** *Obs. rare.* [a. obs. F. *préparature* (16th c. in Godef.), or ad. late L. *præparātūra*, f. *præparāre* to PREPARE: see -URE.] The action or process of preparing; preparation.

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1549/2 They..partly detested and abhorred thextreme cruelty of the Commissioners .., and partlye laughed at theyr folly in making such preparature.

† **Pre-pa·rdon.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 præ-. [f. PRE- A. 2 + PARDON *sb.*] Pardon beforehand; pardon for an offence before it is committed.

1625 DONNE *Serm.* 3 Apr. 38 A Præ-pardon, by way of Dispensation, in wisedom before a Lawe bee broken, is not a Destroying of this foundation. 1642 CHAS. I *Declar.* 12 *Aug.* 15 With a prepardon for whatsoever they should do under colour of these Offices.

Prepa·re, *sb.* [f. PREPARE *v.*]

1. The act of preparing; preparation. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 24 Beseikand him that he wald mak prepair In Albione sen he wes prince and air. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 17 b, Shortly such prepare should be made, that he should see and proue, that [etc.]. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 131. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 73 You see the prepare of your adversaries. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 112 Delay not thy prepare for death. *a* 1810 TANNAHILL *Meg o' the Glen* Poems (1846) 143 Meg o' the glen set aff to the fair, Wi' ruffles, an' ribbons, an' meikle prepare.

2. A substance used to prepare stuff for a dye.

1874 W. CROOKES *Dyeing & Calico-print.* II. vii. 542 As 'prepares' for steam-colours, all the antimonial compounds hitherto tried have shown themselves inferior to tin. 1893 THORPE *Dict. App. Chem.* III. 57/1 It is also used as a 'prepare' for steam colours in calico-printing.

Prepare (prĭpē·ǝ), *v.* Also (chiefly *Sc.*) 6 **prœpare, prepayre,** 6–8 **prepair.** [a. F. *préparer* (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præparāre* to make ready beforehand, prepare, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *parāre* to make ready.]

As in other verbs denoting a process (e. g. *bake, build, cook, make*) the construction *is* or *was preparing* († *in* or *a-preparing*, = *in preparation*) to form progressive tenses of the passive voice = *is* or *was being prepared*, was very common in the 17th and 18th c., and is still in colloquial use. (See PREPARING *vbl. sb.*, and -ING [2].)

1. *trans.* To put beforehand into a suitable condition for some action; to set in order previously for some purpose; to get ready, make ready, put in readiness; to fit out, equip.

1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 49 Many moo small thingis as syngyng and Redyng and preparing the bookis and Turnyng theroff to the dyvine service afore it begyne. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* iii. 4 The voyce off a cryar in wyldernes, prepare the waye off the lorde, make hys pathes straight. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 280 Prepare my Horses. 1616 T. GATAKER in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 37, I should be glad to hear..that the second part..were preparing, or fully prepared for the Press. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 74 Anointed and prepair'd for the Burial. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 241 While the center plug of this course was preparing to be fixed. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 326 In choosing and preparing the bud, fix on one seated at about the middle of a healthy shoot of the midsummer growth.

b. To bring into a state of mental or spiritual readiness; to incline or dispose beforehand; to make mentally ready or fit for something.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 162 b, Prepare our hertes to god, makyng inuocacyon for grace. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 217 These thynges..prepare also the reader and hearer to the treatise now followyng. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 555 And now prepare thee for another sight. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark xiv. 72 His sinful equivocation prepared him for a downright denial. 1898 EDNA LYALL *Hope the Hermit* xxx, You do not understand..I am trying to prepare you...He is dead.

c. To get ready by previous study, as a speech or sermon for delivery, a piece for recitation, a lesson for repetition or inspection; to 'get up'. Also *absol.* (Sometimes passing into 7 b.)

1683 WOOD *Life* 21 May (O.H.S.) III. 53 Peter Lancaster, a student of Civill Law, read a copie of English verses (for they had not time enough given to prepare). 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii, In this manner I prepared almost all my sermons that summer. *Mod.* The boys are preparing their lessons. The speech was not well prepared.

d. To fit or get ready (a person) by preliminary instruction or training (*for* college, an examination, etc.).

1891 *Spectator* 5 Dec. 817 Advt., Boys from 8 to 14 years of age are prepared for the Public Schools. 1900 *Academy* 15 Sept. 216/2 For ten years he has 'prepared' (*Anglice*, crammed) pupils for Army and other examinations.

e. *To be prepared*: to be in a state of readiness, ready; to be mentally ready, inclined, disposed (*for*, † *to* a thing); to be in a condition or position *to do* something.

1579 *Poore Knights Palace* C iij b, Who caryed forth the

Amner's hutch unto the Porters gate, And freely gave unto the poore which were preparde therat. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, I. ii. 98, I am prepar'd: here is my keene-edg'd Sword. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 48 The rest who are washed and prepared to pray. 1790 WASHINGTON *Sp. to both Ho. Congress* 8 Jan., To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual ways of preserving peace. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 1/3 He was prepared to deal with every..question on its merits.

2. *intr.* for *refl.* To put oneself, or things, in readiness; to get ready, make preparation.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 43 Nothyng prepensyng how they dyd prepare To scourge them selfe and bryng them in a snare. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 398 Prepare we for our Marriage. 1611 BIBLE *Amos* iv. 12 Prepare to meete thy God, O Israel. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 86 When they prepare to prayer. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xlix. 377 A prudent mind will be always preparing till prepared. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iv, And bade her prepare to quit the abbey. 1889 *Spectator* 19 Oct., The war against which he..incessantly prepares. 1906 D. W. FORREST *Author. Chr.* III. ii. 122 He [God] has prepared from of old for the emergencies of every passing hour.

†**3.** *refl.* and *intr.* To make preparation for a journey; to get ready to go (*to*, *into*, etc. a place); hence, to go, repair. *Obs.*

1510 *Virgilius* (1812) 1 He raysed a great armey..and prepared hym towarde the towne. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 377/2 Vnles he would prepare hymselfe into Asia. *c* 1585 PEELE *Sir Clyomon* Wks. (Rtldg.) 506/2 To Denmark will I straight prepare. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Hist. Presbyt.* v. (1670) 220 With these Instructions he prepares to the Court of Scotland. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 250 We are actually preparing for England.

4. *trans.* To get or have in readiness beforehand; to provide, furnish. Now *arch.* or merged in 1.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxiv. [lxv.] 9 Thou preparest man his corne [1611 Thou preparest them corne; 1885 *R. V.* Thou providest them corn]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 247 The Sled, the Tumbril, Hurdles and the Flail..These all must be prepar'd, if Ploughmen hope The promis'd Blessing of a Bounteous Crop. 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot & Elaine* 1115 Let there be prepared a chariot-bier To take me to the river, and a barge..clothed in black.

†**b.** With inverted construction: To provide (oneself) preparatorily *with* something. *Obs. rare.*

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* VII. vii. § 5. 1167 To prepare our selues with things necessarie for the Warre, especially of Powder.

5. To make ready (food, a meal) for eating; to cook or dress and serve up.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiii. 85 She..prepared to hym his mete, alle after his complexion. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxii. 8 Goo and prepare vs the ester lambe, that we maye eate. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 498 During the time that supper was preparyng. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 273 He found his Supper on the coals prepar'd. 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1766) II. 60 Our repast was preparing. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* iv, They were preparing their supper. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 72 Breakfast was soon prepared.

6. To bring into proper state for use by some special or technical process; to work up; to dress.

In quot. 1722, To put in proper order, make tidy.

1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 53 That every Householder do cause the Street to be daily prepared before his Door. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Insects*, Skeletons..have been prepared by burying them in an ant-hill. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 484 Pure clay..is always opaque, and the flint..always transparent; but both are prepared previously to being used. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 90/1 Sheep-skins are *sometimes* prepared to imitate morocco.

7. To make, produce, or form for some purpose; in mod. use *esp.* 'to make by regular process' (J.), to manufacture, to make or compound (a chemical product, a medicinal or other 'preparation', etc.).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xciv. [xcv.] 5 The see is his for he made it, and his hondes prepared the drie londe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 51 Prepair thy creddill in my Spreit. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* II. 77 In vain the Author had the Eye prepar'd With so much Skill, had not the Light appear'd. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 34 The stars and sparks..are prepared in the following manner. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 356, I suggested to the apothecary..to prepare some pills of five grains each. 1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* II. 451 The most convenient methods of preparing nitrogen are based upon the removal of oxygen from atmospheric air. 1865–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 193 Hydrogen prepared by dissolving zinc or iron in sulphuric acid. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 914 Writing Ink may be..prepared in many different ways.

b. To compose and write out in proper form for use; to draw up (a writing or document).

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, Do you prepare a few lines to acquaint Vivaldi with your consent to his proposal. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 271 The deed of settlement having been prepared and engrossed by the direction of Lord Coventry. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxxvii. 577 A code is preparing for the regulation of commerce. *a* 1873 WILBERFORCE *Ch. & Empires* (1874) 306 The Bulls were being prepared as speedily as was possible.

8. *Mus.* **a.** To lead up to (a discord) by sounding the dissonant note in it as a consonant note in the preceding chord. **b.** To lead up to (a shake or other grace) by a preliminary note, turn, etc.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Discord*, The Discord is prepared by subsisting first in the harmony in quality of a concord. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp.* v. 24 Always let the dissonant note be heard as a concord in the preceding chord. This is called preparing it.

Prepared (prĭpēˑɪd, *poet.* prĭpēˑrĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Made ready, got ready, fitted or put in order beforehand for something.

For *to be prepared* in reference to persons see prec. 1 e.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 73 In a prepared or disposed soule he maketh yᵉ fyrst beame of loue to shyne. 1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* 11 To resist a prepared vice. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xii. 38 Let Patient Octauia plough thy visage vp With her prepared nailes. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. Ind. Bill* Wks. IV. 32 Even in the prepared soil of a general pacification. 1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 74 A prepared pulpit should be balanced by a prepared pew.

b. Treated for some purpose by a special process; made or compounded by a special process: see PREPARE *v.* 6, 7.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 23 Taking out the more corruptible parts, and stuffing their prepar'd Skins with any convenient Matter. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 437/2 The former prepared Pouder of our Author. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 457 The nerve of a prepared frog's leg was laid on the bared muscle of the thigh of a living rabbit.

c. *Mus.* Of a discord, or a shake, etc.: see PREPARE *v.* 8.

1867 MACFARREN *Harmony* (1892) 76 A prepared 7th may be added to the chord of the dissonant 5th. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 403/2 A shake which commences with a turn is called a prepared shake.

Preparedly (prĭpēˑrĕdli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prepared manner or condition; in a state of readiness.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. i. 55 That she preparedly may frame her selfe To'th' way shee's forc'd too. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* xi. 28 But can they..at that age..examine themselves, and receive preparedly?

Preparedness (prĭpēˑrd-, prĭpēˑrĕdnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being prepared; readiness.

1590 GREENWOOD *Answ. Def. Read Prayers* 25 Except you can make all assemblies..in the same preparednes to aske,..you can make no stinted prayers for them. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 265 Then..having prayed awhile, he gave the Executioner the token of his preparednesse, whereat the Heads-man..severed his head from his body. 1736 BOLINGBROKE *Patriot.* (1749) 58 Information, knowledge, and a certain constant preparedness for all the events that may arise. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 564 Before two the capital wore a face of stern preparedness which might well have daunted a real enemy.

†**Prepaˑrement.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PREPARE *v.* + -MENT, or ad. obs. F. *preparement* (15–17th c. Godef.).] The action of preparing; preparation.

1627 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. [II.] xl. 126 The souldier that dares not fight affoords the enemy too much advantage; for his preparement, both for directing his souldiers, plotting his stratagems [etc.].

Preparer (prĭpēˑrəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.]

1. One who or that which prepares.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 32 b, I am no more but a preparer of you to a baptisme of more efficacie and vertue. 1636 PRYNNE *Remonstr. agst. Shipmoney* 11 The King hath not before this time given no wages to the said Preparers, or Counties, nor Souldiers whom they have brought. 1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. ii. App. 28 The Preparer of the Way to pure Pagan Philosophy. *a* 1890 J. BROWN *Serm.* (1892) 100 For that day of wrath, that day of hope there was to come a preparer.

b. *spec.* One who prepares, dresses, or makes up (food, medicine, manufactured articles, etc.): see PREPARATIVE *v.* 5–7.

1553 *Primer* in *Liturgies Edw. VI* (Parker Soc.) 377 In thy faithful prayers remember Thomas Cottesforde the preparer of this preparative. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VII. (1677) 525 The preparers of the poison..confessed every thing. 1753 *Act* 26 *Geo. II*, c. 20 § 2 The Growers, Preparers and Spinners of such Flax. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 441 Cloth and stuff-makers, cloth-shearers and preparers. 1891 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Preparers*, persons employed at the drawing and roving frames in preparing the wool previous to spinning: term used locally at Leicester.

2. A thing used for preparing; †*spec.* a medicine administered preliminarily to a course of treatment (= PREPARATIVE B. 1 b).

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* I. xciii. 182 Preparatiues or preparers of the body to entertaine more stronger medicines. 1632 tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 60 Preparers...Wormwood and Apples. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 157 Rape and Cole-Seed..'Tis a very good Preparer of Land for Barley or Wheat.

Preparing (prĭpēˑrĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PREPARE; preparation. (With quot. 1535 cf. PREPARATION 3.)

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 141 The preparing and reparacion with other necessaries for the Kynges..shippe. 1535 COVERDALE *Judith* vii. 2 There were..two & twentie thousande horsmen, besyde the preparynge [WYCLIF redi cumpanyes] of them yᵗ were wonne. 1586 D. ROWLAND *Lazarillo* II. (1672) 75 Whilst dinner was in preparing, they sported with the Gentlewoman. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 52 While these things were in preparing, Mary the French Queen was..Crowned in St. Denis. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 325 The killing and preparing of provisions. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, My sister..wants no preparing.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *preparing-box*, *-table*.

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 81 This is .. not unlike Clough's preparing-boxes, which first partially open the wool by slow-going fallers, before the quicker fallers. *c* 1890 W. H. CASMEY *Ventilation* 10 The fresh air..passes over the preparing machinery, carrying any little dust away with it over the cards to the fans. 1894 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Camp. Curiosity* 175, I was sent to the 'preparing-table' to sprinkle and fold some print dresses. Agnes, the head preparer, taught me.

Prepaˑring, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That prepares; preparatory; preliminary.

†*Preparing vessels* (Physiol.), a rendering of L. *præparantia vasa*, applied to the blood-vessels which supply a gland and 'prepare' its secretion, as the spermatic arteries.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char., Worthy Poet* (1857) 145 That mountebanks preparing oyle which kept his hands unscalded. 1667 N. FAIRFAX in *Phil. Trans.* II. 549 The Preparing Vessels arise on the right side, out of the Cava. 1675 COTTON *Scoffer Scoft* 35 After a few preparing rings, He makes his stoop. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Præparantia vasa*, the preparing Vessels, are Veins and Arteries which go to the Testicles and Epididymes.

Hence **Prepaˑringly** *adv.*, in the way of preparation, preparatorily.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* IV. 244 'A noble word', exclaimed the prince, and smote Preparingly on earth his firming foot.

Preparoccipital, -patellar: see PRE- B. 3.

Pre-part: see PRE- A. 2.

Prepay (prĭpēˑ), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + PAY *v.*[1] Cf. OF. *prepayer*, 1305 in Godef.] *trans.* To pay (a charge) beforehand; *esp.* to pay (the postage of a letter or parcel) before dispatching it (as by affixing a postage stamp). Also *transf.* with the letter, etc., as object.

1839 *Treasury Minute* 12 Nov. (L.), All letters and packets exceeding the weight of one ounce to be prepaid, and delivered in at the window; if not so prepaid, and delivered, to be charged double postage. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lxxviii, Pre-paying a letter..used to be thought little short of an insult. *Mod.* The school fees must be prepaid. The subscription for each half-year must be prepaid. The parcel was sent by passenger-train, carriage prepaid.

Hence **Prepaˑid** *ppl. a.* (also as *sb.* = prepaid letter or parcel); **Prepayˑable** *a.*, that may or must be prepaid; **Prepayˑment,** the act of prepaying, payment in advance; also *attrib.*

1854 FONBLANQUE in *Life* (1874) vi. 508 In a lecture on education, Dr. Whewell..cites the word **prepaid*, now in common and barbarous use..' Prepaid' was introduced with the penny postage. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 54 § 15 Every notice..sent through the post in a prepaid registered letter. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 4/1 Letters sent from this country to her Majesty's ships in any part of the world are now *prepayable at the rate of 1*d.* per half ounce. 1898 in *Rep. Sel. Comm. Postage* 62 The distinctive feature of your [R. Hill's] plan..is the compulsory *pre-payment and one rate of postage. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. xiii. 469 Some parents refused prepayment [of school fees]. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 9/1 The pioneer of the prepayment gas-meter. 1903 *Rep. West Ham Gas Co.*, The Prepayment Meter System of Supply has been put in operation.

Pre-peduncle, -cular, -culate, Prepelvi-sternal, -num: see PRE- A. 4.

Prepend (prĭpeˑnd), *v. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + L. *pendĕre* to weigh.] *trans.* To weigh mentally, ponder, consider; to premeditate. (But app. often used by confusion for PERPEND.)

a 1568 WEDDERBURN in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 839 And als ye sowld prepend bayth day and houris, To grit mischeif, misery and neid, Fra paramouris dois evir mair succeid. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* 128 (Act 28 Hen. VIII), The kings majestie..prepending and waying..how much it doth more conferre to the induction of rude and ignorant people to the knowledge of Almightie God. 1890 *Scots Observer* 4 Jan. 179 There are still amongst us people who prepend the Sphinx-torpedo question.

Hence **Prepeˑnded** *ppl. a.*, premeditated; = PREPENSE *a.* (*nonce-use.*)

1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Newspapers* 35 *Years Ago*, To get up, moreover, to make jokes with malice prepended.

†**Prepeˑndent,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. L. *præpendent-em*, pr. pple. of *præpendēre* to hang down in front, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 + *pendēre* to hang: cf. PENDENT.] Hanging down in front; overhanging. **b.** *sb.* The male member.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 20 b, Upon the which they placed a chapter with prependent folding. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 103 Like an ouer-hanging Rocke eaten on with the tyde,..so did theyr prependant breast-bones imminent-ouercanopy theyr bellies. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 252 Priapus..was expelled from Lampsacum..for the hugenesse of his pre-pendent.

‖ **Prepeˑnna** (prĭpeˑnă). *Ornith.* Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L., f. *præ*, PRE- A. 2 + *penna* feather.] A neossoptile or primitive feather of a bird.

1901 *Ibis* Apr. 343 In Apteryx the first definite feathers do not thrust out the prepennæ.

Prepense (prĭpeˑns), *a.* [Substituted for earlier *prepenst*, PREPENSED (orig. *purpensed*, OF. *purpense*), either by simple phonetic reduction, or after F. pa. pple. *-pensé*, or corresp. L. pple. *-pens-us.*] Considered and planned beforehand; premeditated, purposed; intentional, deliberate. **a.** in *Malice prepense* (*Law*): malice premeditated or planned beforehand; wrong or injury purposely done.

1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* ii. 50 Our English poets.. show a kind of malice prepense in their Satires. 1752 W. MILLER in *Scots Mag.* May (1753) 232/1 Such prepense malice. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xiv. 202 The benefit of clergy is taken away from murder through malice prepense. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) IV. xii. 137 This.. was set down to malice prepense on his side. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* III. ii. (1873) 166 To kill a man in wrath of malice prepense is murder. 1877 LONGF. in *Life* III. 277 The article..is certainly written with malice prepense.

(*b*) *humorously.*

[1792 BURKE *Let. Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1842 I. 543 You see by the paper I take that I am likely to be long, with

malice prepense.] 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, I have put in this chapter on fighting of malice prepense,..partly because of the cant and twaddle that's talked of boxing and fighting with fists now-a-days. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vii. 255 He..plunges into slang, not irreverently..but of malice prepense. 1884 J. PAYN *Some Lit. Recoll.* 98, I went up to Lakeland..with the avowed intention and malice prepense of writing my second volume of poems.

b. In other connexions.

1770 *Junius Lett.* xxxix. (1797) II. 23 From that period, whatever resolution they took was deliberate and prepense. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 268 Travelling is seldom a very prepense undertaking. 1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 143 When least meditative with any prepense or prefixed purpose.

c. Of a person: Acting with intention, deliberate. *rare.*

1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* III. ix. 160 He was an orator wilful and prepense, choice of long words, fond of climaxes.

Hence **Prepe·nse** *sb.*, forethought, purpose, intention, design. *rare.*

1847 GILFILLAN in *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 362 Her poetry is not, of prepense and purpose, the express image of her religious thought.

†**Prepe·nse,** *v. Obs.* [Altered from earlier PURPENSE, OF. *purpenser*, after words in PRE-; so in early 16th c. F. *prepenser* to think of before: see PRE- A. 1 and PENSE *v.*

In later edd. of 15th and early 16th c. documents, e. g. the *Paston Letters* and *Acts of Parlt.*, *purpense* of the original is often altered to the mod. *prepense.*]

1. *trans.* To plan, devise, or contrive beforehand. [*c* 1400–1512: see PURPENSE *v.*]

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXX. xix, Prepence [*so edd.* 1517–1555] nothynge vnto her dyshoneste. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxvi. 232/2 It was a thing prepensed by false traitoures to put the realme to trouble. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 15 It is one thing to forsake, another to propose and prepense a forsaking.

2. To weigh or consider beforehand.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XI. xxix, For to reuolue vnderstande and prepence [*so edd.* 1517–1555]..The begynnynge and the myddle certaynly With the ende or thou put it in vre. 1531 ELYOT *Gov. I.* XXV, All these thinges prepensed and gathered together seriousely. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 14 Ever in your noble hart prepense, That all the sorrow in the world is lesse Then vertues might and values confidence. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Via Media* Wks. 1808 IX. 835 A consequent will,..whereby, all circumstances prepensed, God does simply will this or that particular event, as simply good to be.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To meditate beforehand.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxiv, His [the soul's] office is, before that any thynge is attempted, to thinke, consydre, and prepence.

†**Prepe·nsed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also **prepenst.** [f. prec. vb. + -ED[1]; substituted early in 16th c. for the original PURPENSED; subsequently reduced to PREPENSE *a.*] **a.** esp. in legal phraseology in *malice prepensed, prepensed malice*, malice prepense: see PREPENSE *a.*

[1436–1548: see PURPENSED.]

1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 Manslaughter by chaunce medley, and not murder of malyce prepensed. 1531 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 104 Intendyng of malyce prepenced to putte..Govnter to..trobyll. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 664 We take more to the heart, a mocke or scornfull flout, as comming from a prepensed malice. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Murder*, Murder..signifieth in our common lawe, a wilfull and felonious killing of any other vpon prepensed malice. 1659 THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 639 What fault soever may have come..it cannot be presumed to have come upon prepensed malice. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., If there were Malice prepensed formerly between them, it makes it Murder; as it is called in some Statutes Prepensed Murder.

b. In other connexions: = PREPENSE *a.* b.

a 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 300 *heading*, An ineuytably prepensed answere to all waywarde or frowarde altercacyons. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 73 If the offence be committed vpon a prepensed mynde and wilfully. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVII. vii. 948 Having no time to put any prepensed plot in practise. 1670 PENN *Truth Rescued fr. Impost.* 40 With what prepenst Unkindness and disdainful Ketch he was treated.

Hence †**Prepe·nsedly** *adv.* = PREPENSELY.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 14 If it were proued that he killed him wittingly, willingly, and prepensedly.

Prepe·nsely, *adv.* [f. PREPENSE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a prepense manner; with deliberation or premeditation; deliberately, purposely, designedly.

1837 LANDOR *Pentameron, 2nd Day's Interv.* Wks. 1853 II. 320/1, I never could see why we should designedly and prepensely give to one writer more than his due, to another less. 1880 W. MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 13 Sonning, a village prepensely picturesque. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* iii. (ed. 2) 201 Shakespeare..has set himself as if prepensely to brutalise the type of Achilles.

†**Prepe·nsity.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 8 **præ-.** [f. PREPENSE *a.* + -ITY: cf. *immensity.*] Premeditation.

1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 43 Montaigne observes,..upon the subject of death, 'that the philosophy of the schools but increases, by prepensity, the terrors of it'.

†**Prepe·nsive,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. Factitious formation for PREPENSE *a.*

1752 FIELDING *Amelia* I. x, Carrying the penknife drawn into the room with you..seems to imply malice prepensive, as we call it in the law.

†**Prepe·ntion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [For **prepension*, n. of action from L. *præpendēre* to hang down in front.] A part hanging down in front.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 86 Where the axeltree was..ouer the naue of the wheele, there came downe a prepention ioyning to the Plynth.

Pre·perce·ption. [PRE- A. 2.] Previous perception; a condition preceding perception.

1871 FRASER *Life Berkeley* x. 402 *note*, Kant's preperception of space differs from Berkeley's, in recognising it as necessary *à priori* to all sense experience as such. 1881 J. SULLY in *Nature* XXIV. 185/2 A 'stage of preperception', during which the mind receives the impression of sense, but has not yet interpreted the impression into a coherent percept. 1896 *Educ. Rev.* Mar. 278 Prof. James has illustrated and emphasized the importance of preperception.

So **Preperce·ptive** *a.*, characterized by preperception.

1907 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 421 The suggested topic defines my purpose, gives it its orientation and its preperceptive and selective tendencies.

Preperitoneal: see PRE- B. 3.

†**Pre-peti·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [PRE- A. 2.] Petition beforehand, previous petition.

1540 in I. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden) 50 Your said oratours vppon prepeticion made vnto Sir Thomas Denys knighte [etc.], concernyng the same [etc.].

Prepigmental, -pituitary: see PRE- B. 3. **Pre-pious:** PRE- A. 6. **Pre-placental:** PRE- B. 1. **Pre-pleasing, -plot:** PRE- A. 6, 1.

†**Prepo·ll,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *præpoll-ēre* to exceed in power or strength, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 5 + *pollēre* to be strong.] *intr.* To excel in power or importance; to be prepollent, to preponderate.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 229 Is thought to prepoll in the same faculties.

Prepo·llence. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. late L. *præpollentia*, f. *præpollent-em*: see PREPOLLENT and -ENCE.] The fact of being prepollent; greater prevalence.

1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 322 The Prepollence of agreeable Tastes upon the Whole. *Ibid.* II. i. 28 The infinite Prepollence of Happiness above Misery.

Prepo·llency. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec.: see -ENCY.] The quality or fact of being prepollent.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Præpollency*, of very great force, strength, excellency, or virtue. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XVI. 576 Such things as destroy the prepollency of an acid Salt in the Blood. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* XXVI. (1819) 410 The prepollency of good over evil.

Prepollent (prĭpŏ·lĕnt), *a.* Now *rare.* Also **præ-.** [ad. L. *præpollent-em*, pr. pple. of *præpollēre*: see PREPOLL.] Having superior power, weight, or influence; predominating, prevailing.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 130 Now the basis is.. more prepollent in quality. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* V. 146 The præpollent gravity of some [bodies], sufficing to give others a comparative or respective lightness. 1752 *Gentl. Mag.* 154 Other evidence..such as has been always deemed prepollent to any other. 1825 R. P. WARD *Tremaine* III. xiii. 239 The question..whether the evil or good is præpollent. 1901 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 293 It had nowhere any current or prepollent vogue.

‖ **Prepo·llex, præ-.** *Anat.* and *Zool.* [mod. L. f. *præ*, PRE- B. 3 + POLLEX.] A rudimentary structure, sometimes osseous, similar to the prehallux, found in certain animals on the radial border of the hand or fore-foot, and supposed to represent an additional digit.

1889 [see PREHALLUX]. 1891 FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Mammalia* 49 Occasionally, as in *Pedetes caffer*, the so-called prepollex consists of two bones, of which the distal one bears a distinct nail-like horny covering.

Prepo·nd, *v.* Short for next or *preponderate.*

a 1854 CAROLINE B. SOUTHEY *Birthday* II. Poet. Wks. (1867) 50 If a mote, a hair, a dust prepond..On Inclination's side, down drops the scale.

Preponder (prĭpŏ·ndəɹ), *v.*[1] Now *rare.* [a. OF. *prépondér-er* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or L. *præponderāre* to outweigh, be of greater weight: see PRE- A. 5 and PONDER *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To attribute greater weight or importance to. *Obs. rare.*

1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. vii. 202 He..prepondereth the gyuer before all thynges gyuen.

2. To outweigh in importance, to preponderate over.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 236 [Chamnelled pillars] ought..not to be the more slender, but the more corpulent, unlesse apparances preponder truths. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Surrey* (1662) III. 76 Though the transporting thereof be by Law forbidden, yet private profit so prepondereth the publick, that Ships ballasted therewith are sent over into Holland, where they have..Magazins of this Earth.

3. *intr.* To exceed in weight, number, etc.; = PREPONDERATE *v.*[1] 1.

1676 BEAL in *Phil. Trans.* XI. 601, I found not so much difference, as could clear me from suspecting a prepondering fancy. 1820 J. CLELAND *Glasgow* 39 The Trades' Burgesses have prepondered. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 749/1 As it is, the embellishments preponder over constructive ability.

†**Pre-po·nder,** *v.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + PONDER *v.*] *trans.* To ponder beforehand.

1610 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 92 Thowgh the continuance..manie thowsande yeares may importe sufficient warrant, it will not now fall..; yet the prepondering minde of future daungers may vpon the view be easelye perswaded of perill in standinge nere it.

Preponderance (prĭpŏ·ndərăns). [f. PREPONDERANT *a.*: see -ANCE, and cf. F. *prépondérance* (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The fact of exceeding in weight; greater heaviness.

1682 GREW *Musæum* I. v. ii. 106 Little light Boats..To the side whereof, this Fish [remora] fastening her self, might easily make it swag, as the least preponderance on either side will do. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1499 Close with the side where one grain turns the scale; What vast preponderance is here! 1831 LARDNER *Pneumat.* iv. 259 The preponderance of the iron ball assists the atmospheric pressure in sustaining the column.

b. *Gunnery.* The excess of weight of that part of a gun which is to the rear of the trunnions over that in front of them. (So F. *prépondérance*, Littré.)

It is measured by the force (expressed in pounds) which must be applied under the rear end of the base-ring or neck of the cascabel in order to balance the gun with the axis of the bore horizontal, when supported freely on knife-edges placed under the trunnions.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1871 C. H. OWEN *Mod. Artillery* (1873) 2 The excess of weight in rear of the trunnions is termed the preponderance. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1783/2 The preponderance of a gun is usually $\frac{1}{16}$ of its weight. 1887 *Text Bk. Gunnery* 81 The trunnions..are generally placed a very little way in front of the centre of gravity to allow of elevating with ease; this causes a statical pressure on the elevating gear called *preponderance*, which is necessary for steadiness.

2. Superiority or excess in moral weight, power, influence, or importance.

1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xiv. § 3 The good would have an incontestible preponderance over the evil. 1808 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IV. 55 It would give Great Britain the preponderance in the conduct of the war in the Peninsula. 1883 SIR T. MARTIN *Ld. Lyndhurst* xi. 299 The Ministry had the great preponderance of popular opinion at their back.

3. Superiority in number or amount.

1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. i. (1852) 158 A consequence ..of their immense preponderance in point of numbers. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 516 The collection of animals has a strikingly Oriental character, except in the preponderance of Ungulates. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 305 The more social animals are in overwhelming preponderance over the unsocial.

Prepo·nderancy. Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ANCY.] The quality or fact of being preponderant; an instance of this.

1. Superiority of physical weight.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. vii. 196 Whereas men affirme they perceave an addition of ponderosity in dead bodies,..this accessionall preponderancy is rather in appearance then reality. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. ii. (1732) 86 By reason of the Preponderancy of the Earth. 1772 HUTTON *Bridges* 58 The pointed projections..will be a sufficient addition to the pier, to give it the necessary preponderancy. *fig.* 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 200 The permanent restoration of the balance of trade to its accustomed preponderancy in our favour.

2. Superiority of power, influence, or importance.

1692 LOCKE *Toleration* iv. Wks. 1727 III. 468 If..all Magistrates saw the Preponderancy of the Grounds of Belief, which are on the Side of the true Religion. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Disc. Philos. Necess.* iv. 40 The final preponderancy of desire is called a will, or wish to obtain it. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. v. 104 Coalition of interests..were to strike at the preponderancy of Imperial Austria.

3. Greater prevalence; = prec. 3.

1845 A. DUNCAN *Disc.* 159 The evident preponderancy of good, however unable they might be to explain the origin of evil, testified against them.

Preponderant (prĭpŏ·ndərănt), *a.* [ad. L. *præponderānt-em*, pr. pple. of *præponderāre*: see PREPONDER. Cf. F. *prépondérant* (1723 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Preponderating.

1. Surpassing in weight; outweighing, heavier.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 136 The internal Cylinder of Quicksilver in the Tube is not held up by the preponderant Ayr without.

2. Surpassing in influence, power, or importance; predominant.

1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. ii. 180 If he judge the reasons which disswade the thing..to be preponderant, then he will..abstain from doing it. 1799 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* II. i. 171 Ella is commemorated as the preponderant Saxon chief. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 239 The Roundhead party was now decidedly preponderant. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 77 Flexion at the metacarpo-phalangeal joints .. from preponderant contraction of the interossei.

Prepo·nderantly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a preponderating degree; predominantly.

1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 392 Becoming established, it [religion] became noxious,—preponderantly noxious. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xlii. (1870) II. 443 The powers.. are either preponderantly strong by nature, or have become preponderantly strong by habit. 1886 H. JAMES *Bostonians* I. ix, So preponderantly intellectual a nature.

Preponderate (prĭpŏ·ndərĕt), *a. rare.* [f. pa. pple. of L. *præponderāre* (see PREPONDER) + -ATE[2]. For sense cf. PREDOMINATE *a.*] = PREPONDERANT.

1802 BENTHAM *Princ. Judic. Procedure* Wks. 1843 II. 8/2 What security can, without preponderate hardship, be provided against falsity uttered by an individual coming in the character of a pursuer. 1818 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 766/1 Unless the fate of mankind takes some preponderate determination, it will not be easy to pronounce whether good or evil will be the final result. 1889 SEXTON *Sp.* in *Daily News* 11 Apr. 8/2 A preponderate majority of elected representatives.

Hence **Prepo·nderately** *adv.*, predominantly.

1820 BENTHAM *Liberty of Press* Wks. 1843 II. 290/1 Nothing will be done but what is bad,—absolutely bad, or

at least,..preponderately bad. 1882a *Society* 11 Nov. 27/2 Whether the style..is not preponderately heavy.

Preponderate (prɪpɒ·ndəreɪt), *v.*[1] Also 7 præ-. [f. ppl. stem of L. *præponderāre*: see PREPONDER *v.* and -ATE 3.]

I. Intransitive senses.

1. To weigh more; to be heavier; to incline the balance; to turn the scale.

1623 COCKERAM, *Preponderate*, to weigh downe more. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxxiv. 259 The Bladder appear'd to preponderate. 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 37 Where neither side doth preponderate, the balance should hang even. 1785 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 125 The cork will preponderate, and shew itself to be heavier than the lead. 1800 VINCE *Hydrostat.* ii. (1806) 26 If two bodies of the same weight in air be put into a denser fluid, the smaller body will preponderate.

b. *fig.* To have the greater moral or intellectual weight.

1659 FULLER *App. Inj. Innoc.* (1840) 288 These last reasons did preponderate with me. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xvi. § 9 As the Arguments..shall to any one appear, upon the whole matter, in a greater or less degree, to preponderate on either side. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iii, The verdict of the jury sufficiently shows how the evidence preponderated in their minds. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. i. 8 One influence preponderates in the language, the other in the polity.

c. To exceed or be superior in power, force, or influence; to exceed in amount, number, etc.; to predominate.

1799 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* II. vii. 298 Oswy is ranked by Bede the seventh .. of the kings who preponderated in the Anglo-Saxon octarchy. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vi, The good in this state of existence preponderates over the bad. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* II. i. 481 But the relics of Ferns, Conifers and Cycads greatly preponderate. 1867 *Pall Mall G.* 19 July 16 In milk,.. the heat-sustaining element preponderates largely over the nitrogenous or tissue-forming.

2. To descend or incline downwards, as one scale or end of a balance, on account of greater weight; to weigh or be weighed down; to show a preponderance. Also *fig.*

1678 HOBBS *Decam.* viii. 92 In a pair of Scales equally charged with Quicksilver, the addition of a little Oyl to either Scale, will make it praeponderate. 1725 JEFFERSON in *Athenæum* 25 June (1892) 825/1 When these have been withdrawn from us .. the balance of pain preponderates unequivocally. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 212 Suppose I take..a walking cane,..and attempt to balance it across my finger; I shall at last find some one particular part in it which being supported, neither of the ends will preponderate. 1831 LARDNER *Hydrostatics* v. 83 By the weight of this quantity the dish [of a balance] will now preponderate. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* iii. (1862) 45 It appears that the balance of probability preponderates in favour of the position.

b. To gravitate or incline more strongly. *rare.*

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vii. 255 They cannot be evenly attracted on all sides, but must præponderate some way or other. 1757 EDWARDS *Orig. Sin* iii. (1837) 24 The question ..is not whether he is not inclined to perform as many good deeds as bad ones; but which of these two he preponderates to.

II. Transitive senses.

†3. To weigh more than, exceed in weight; to turn the scale when weighed against (something else); to outweigh. *Obs.*

1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 268 The greater number of the lincks of a chain preponderating the lesse number. 1661 GLANVILL *Van Dogm.* 137 An inconsiderable weight by vertue of its distance from the Centre of the Ballance, will preponderate much greater magnitudes. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sc.* III. xii. 394 You see the Cork preponderate the Gold, as far as the Beam will admit.

†b. *fig.* To outweigh in importance, value, or influence. *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. vi. § 10 All which and some other,..must not preponderate the handling of things more rare and considerable. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VII. iii. (1821) 324 His merits preponderate his demerits. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* XXV. (1700) 280 The evil does so far preponderate the good. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 607 That the good must greatly preponderate the evil.

†4. To cause to descend, as one scale of a balance, by reason of greater weight; to weigh down. Also *fig.* To cause to incline more strongly.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvi. 324 Desiring to spare Christian bloud, preponderates him for Peace. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 360 They need not, when cast into the scale of thy thoughts, preponderate thee either way. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 117 Is not our Will.. given us to preponderate our powers to such Actions as Reason pronounceth good? 1796 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 150 The addition of my wish may have some effect to preponderate the scale.

†**Pre-po·nderate,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + PONDERATE *v.* 6.] To ponder previously; to weigh mentally or consider beforehand; = PRE-PONDER *v.*[2].

a. *trans.*

1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1853) II. 106, I have considered and preponderated all my affairs and doings. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 7 Preponderate seriously this consequent. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1737) II. II. iv. 308 How many things do they preponderate? How many at once comprehend?

b. *intr.* or *absol.*

1681 P. THACHER in *New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1868) XXII. 260, I have diligently weighed and preponderated, seriously consulted with Others. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* III. vi, The squire and his company thought proper to preponderate, before they offered to revenge the cause of their..allies. 1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 263 Deeply began she to preponderate Whether she'd cut her throat.

Hence †**Pre-po·nderated** *ppl. a.*

1653 *Nissena* 102 The first [step] required well weighed determinations and preponderated execution.

Prepo·nderating, *ppl. a.* [f. PREPONDERATE *v.*[1] + -ING 2.] That preponderates, or is superior in weight, influence, power, amount, number, etc.

1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. i. 115 Her excellencies, though solid and weighty, are less so, than the preponderating ones of Theology. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 325 That very preponderating part of the nation, which had always been .. adverse to the French principles. 1886 TUCKER *E. Europe* 211 Your mastery over a preponderating number of alienated races.

Hence **Prepo·nderatingly** *adv.*, in a preponderating or surpassing degree; predominantly.

1840 MILL *Diss. & Disc., Democr. in Amer.* (1859) II. 71 In each of them some one element..existed exclusively or so preponderatingly as to overpower all the others. 1891 *Times* 6 Oct. 8/2 [Comparative Philology] had been all along preponderatingly the science of comparing the Aryan languages with one another. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 332 The small pyramidal cells..have been assumed to be preponderatingly sensory in feature and function.

Prepondera·tion. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [n. of action f. L. *præponderāre* to PREPONDER; in late L, *præponderātio* (*Gloss. Lat. Gr.*, in Lewis & Sh.).]

1. The action or fact of preponderating or exceeding in weight; preponderance.

1653 BAXTER *Peace of Consc.* 103 If..the scales be turned but with one grain,.. its preponderation is with great wavering and mobility. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xviii. § 21 See on which side the preponderation falls. 1821 *Examiner* 77/1 We are scarcely conscious of the defects that are involved in the large preponderation of excellence.

2. The adding of weight to one side; greater inclination or bias.

1653 A. WILSON *Jas. I* 201 Which preponderation of His puts them in Æquilibrio. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 25 The only probable ballance to their mutinous preponderations. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* I. i. (1762) 4 In every Act, or going forth of the Will, there is some Preponderation of the Mind or Inclination one way rather than another. 1799 C. WINTER in W. Jay *Mem. & Lett.* (1843) 43 In such a state of preponderation as to be uncertain which way the balance will turn.

†**Prepo·nderer.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PREPONDER *v.* + -ER 1.] That which outweighs; in quot. an overbalancing branch.

1679 EVELYN *Sylva* xxvii. (ed. 3) 141 Crooked Trees are reform'd by taking off or topping the præponderers, whilst charg'd with Leaves or Woody and hanging counterpoises.

Prepo·nderous, *a. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 5 + PONDEROUS, after PREPONDERATE, etc.] Exceeding in weight, amount, or number; having the preponderance.

1700 S. PARKER *Six Philos. Ess.* 53 When once gathered to a preponderous Body they [vapours] return, and become the material Cause of our extraordinary Showers of Rain. 1900 *Yorks. Post* 5 Jan. 7/1 We are in a position to-day of being sufficient throughout and preponderous nowhere.

Prepontile: see PRE- B. 3.

†**Preport,** obs. erron. f. PURPORT *sb.* and *v.*

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 16 Accordyng to the tenure and preporte of the saied pointes. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 575 *Porauste* [v. r. *pyr*] *gaudes gaudium*, your inconstant ioy preports annoy.

†**Prepo·se,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 præ-. [a. F. *préposer* (15th c. in Godef. *Compl.*) after L. *præpōnĕre* to put before: see PRE- A. and POSE *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To set over; to appoint as chief or superior. (Cf. PRÆPOSITUS.)

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xcii. 127 b, The holy man..ordeyned there relygyouses, to the whyche he preposed & gaaf for abbot the holy man Samuell. 1655 FULLER *Waltham Abb.* (1840) 258 A dean, in Latin, *decanus*, hath his name from δέκα, 'ten', over which number he is properly to be preposed.

2. To place before or in front of something else; to preface, prefix.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 Div b, But yf any thynge be done presently thou shalt prepose two fynalytees of curacyon. 1594 W. PERCY *Sonn.* To Rdr. A ij, I did deeme it most conuenient to præpose mine Epistle, onely to beseech you to account of them [poems] as of toyes. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 218 It is either prefixed or preposed to a sentence. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. iv. 37 To words beginning with a vowel, the Æoles were wont to prepose a Digamma.

b. To put forward. *rare.*

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) 27 So that I conclude, and dare..prepose myselfe against anie man of contrarie opinion.

3. To propose, purpose, or intend.

(Perh. in most cases an error for *propose, purpose.*)

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 458 Foul brow in holl thow preposit for to pas. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 3202 Tho mankynde prepose his mynde to fulfyll, Yet god dysposeth all thynge at his wyll. 1597 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxii. 271 And Prizes were preposde for such whose Champions bore them best At Tilts and Turnies. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 187, I then would ..never have presumed to have preposed you your flight.

Hence †**Prepo·sed** *ppl. a.*, placed in front.

1608 B. JONSON *Masque Ld. Haddington's Marriage* Wks. (1692) 340/1 With this preposed part of Judgment.

†**Prepo·sital,** *a. rare.* [f. L. *præposit-*, ppl. stem of *præpōnĕre* (see prec.) + -AL.] Prepositional.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 203 In the contexture of nouns, pronouns, and preposital articles, united together.

Preposition (prepǫ́zi·ʃən). [ad. L. *præpositiōn-em* a putting before, a preposition, n. of action f. *præpōnĕre* to put before: see PRE- and POSITION. So F. *préposition* (*prepositcion*, 15th c. in Godef.).

L. *præpositio* rendered Gr. *πρόθεσις*, both terms having the wider sense, 2 below; thus, such particles as *ev-* well, and *in-* not, were included among prepositions.]

1. *Gram.* One of the Parts of Speech: an indeclinable word or particle serving to mark the relation between two notional words, the latter of which is usually a substantive or pronoun; as, sow *in* hope, good *for* food, one *for* you, Stratford *on* Avon, late *in* time. The following sb. or pron. is said to be 'governed' by the preposition, and in inflected languages stands in an oblique case. Originally, as still often, the term was applied also to the same words when combined as prefixes with verbs or other words, and to certain other particles of similar force which are used only in combination (*inseparable prepositions*).

Postpositive preposition (= POSTPOSITION 3), a word or particle, having the same function as a preposition, which follows its sb., as 'he goes homewards'; L. 'domum *versus*', Ger. 'meinetwegen'. In English, when the object is an interrogative or relative pronoun, the verb follows this pronoun, and the preposition, instead of preceding the pronoun, often follows the verb, as Whom did you go *with*? the town that he lives *in*, the place (that) he came *from*. With the relative *that* no other construction is possible.

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlvii. (Z.) 267 Præpositio est pars orationis indeclinabilis. Præpositio mæg beon gecweden on englisc *foresetnys*, forðan ðe he stent æfre on forewerdan, swa hwær swa he byð, þeo he gefeged to oðrum worde, ne þeo he.] 1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* 60 Manie such aduerbis, coniunccioun, and prepositioun ben set ofte oon for another, and at fre chois of autouris sumtyme. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. 40 They take awaye the prepositon and say, *la robbe mon maistre*. 1661 MILTON *Accedence* Wks. 1738 I. 620 A Preposition is a part of Speech most commonly, either set before Nouns in Apposition, as *ad patrem*, or join'd with any other words in Composition, as *indoctus*. 1672 DRYDEN *Def. Epilogue* Ess. (Ker) I. 168 The preposition in the end of the sentence; a common fault with him. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., 'Tis called *Præposition*, because 'tis most frequently in the Latin Tongue placed before other Words; and then either separately, as *Ad patrem*; or conjunctively, as *Admiror*. 1843 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* I. 66 The speaker made the prepositions do the work of the lost inflexions. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 124/1 These and other examples of a like kind induced some authors to make a class of postpositive prepositions;..there are languages in which all the prepositions, if we may so speak, are postpositive. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Eng. Lit.* iii. (1878) 102 That peculiarly characteristic arrangement, which puts a preposition at the end of a sentence, is eminently an English idiom. 1874 I. TAYLOR *Etruscan Res.* vii. 247 Qualifying words, which in Aryan languages would appear either as pre-positions or ..are in the Ugric languages glued on as post-positions. 1875 LELAND *Fusang* x. 102 Those Asiatic languages have, moreover, no prepositions, but only *post*positions. So likewise, has the Dakota tongue.

†2. More widely: Any word or particle prefixed to another word; a prefix. *Obs.*

1565 *Kyng Daryus* (Brandl) 838 That Preposition *In* is a pestilent fellow For it is that which maketh this variance betwene mee and you: My name is called *Iniquitee*, And thy name is called mayster *Equytie*. *a* 1633 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 5 The preposition (εὖ), with which the verb (εὐηρεστηκέναι) is compounded, signifieth 'well'. 1661 [see 1].

3. The action of placing before; the fact of being so placed; position before or in front. *rare.*

(Sometimes hyphened (*pri-*) for distinction.)

1586 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 71, I am constrayned to straine curtesy with the preposition of a worde compounded or such like, which breaketh no great square. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Preposition*, a putting or setting before. 1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* Oct. 346 Contrasting the English preposition with the French postposition of the adjective. 1901 M. CALLOWAY in *Publ. Mod. Lang. Assoc. Amer.* XVI. 153 In Anglo-Saxon the appositive participle regularly follows its principal (post-position), though occasionally it precedes (pre-position).

†b. Something placed before. *Obs.*

1635 WITHER *Emblemes* (ad init.), A proposition to this Frontispiece. 1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s.v. *Sharp*, A character, the power of which is to raise the note before which it is placed half a tone higher than it would be without such a preposition.

†4. A setting forth; a proposition or exposition. *Obs.* [Due to early confusion of *pre-* and *pro-*.]

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. CXXXII. 116 Dagobert..made a longe preposicion & oracion concernynge yᵉ allegiaunce which he exortyd his lordes to owe & bere to hym. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. CXCVI. [CXCII.] 605 This preposycion that the vnyuersite hadde made before the kynge, pleased right well the kynge. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 396 The said Sir Iohn Bushe in all his prepositions to the king, did not onely attribute to him worldly honours, but diuyne names.

5. *pl.* Premises; see PREMISE *sb.* 1.

1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* iii. 19 Gods children by better logick, from the prepositions of Gods former preservations, inferre his power.

Preposi·tional, *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or expressed by a preposition.

a 1831 BENTHAM *Univ. Gram.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 346/1 In the singular number, besides the prepositional genitive, there is the inflexional formed as above by *'s*. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 212 The pronominal and prepositional roots constitute a class apart.

Prepositionally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prepositional manner; with the force or meaning of a preposition.

1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 130/1 The same must be said of the word *along* prepositionally used by old writers to signify the relation of an effect to its cause. 1879 WHITNEY *Sanskrit Gram.* 366 Words are used prepositionally along with all the noun-cases excepting the dative.

Prepositive (prĭpŏ·zĭtiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *præpositīv-us* (Diomedes) that is set before (in gramm.), f. ppl. stem of *præpōnĕre* to put before: see -IVE; cf. F. *prépositif* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] Proper to be placed before or prefixed.

1583 FULKE *Defence* i. (1843) 139 It is a common thing in the Greek tongue, that the article prepositiue is taken for the subjunctiue. 1691 RAY *Collect. Words, Acc. Errors* 161 What is the prepositive Letter in this Diphthong is doubtful. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict., Gram.* c j, The prepositive particles *dis* and *mis*. 1808 T. F. MIDDLETON *Grk. Article* (1855) 3 Theodore Gaza..gives in his [Greek] Grammar the following account: The Article is a declinable part of speech prefixed to Nouns. It is indeed divided into the prepositive and the subjunctive; but properly speaking the prepositive only is the article. 1845 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 169 Many instances where the postfixes of older languages have become prefixes or distinct prepositive words in more recent ones. 1874 DAVIES tr. *Gesenius's Hebr. Gram.* 50 Some [accents] .. stand only on the first letter of a word (*prepositive*), others only on the last letter (*postpositive*).

B. *sb.* A prepositive word or particle.

1693 CHAUNCY *Eng. Gosp. New Law* 38 It were easie to shew upon what probable Reasons the Prepositive is added or omitted, in other places. 1786 [see POSTPOSITIVE *a.*].

Hence **Prepositively** *adv.*, by placing in front.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 50 As concerns a substantive, its subjective genitive, universally, and its objective genitive, very often, may be expressed prepositively.

Prepositor[1], **præ-** (prĭpŏ·zĭtŏi). Also 6 **-er, -our.** [Alteration of L. PRÆPOSITUS: see note s. v. PRÆPOSTOR.]

1. The name given in some English public schools to those senior boys who are entrusted with much of the discipline of the school, esp. out of the class-room; now usually PRÆPOSTOR, q. v. Also *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1941, I am Goddys Preposytour: I prynt them with a pen; Because of theyr neglygence and of theyr wanton vagys. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 92 b, I am prepositer of my boke, *duco classem.* 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 259 b, And who hath made you usher I pray you, or prepositour of Ciceroes schoole? 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* i. 2 For this end had King Solomon those prudent and meete prepositours. 1649 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* II. 30 A meer Free-schoole, where Cromwell is Head-school-master, Ireton Usher, and.. Fairfax a Prepositor. 1681–2 *Verney Lett.* in R. T. Warner *Winchester* iv. (1900) 43 He is one of the best, if not the best scholar in the Schoole of his standing, though Hee Bee not yet a Præpositor. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prepositor*, (School-Term) a Scholar appointed by the Master, to over see the rest; such a one is otherwise call'd *Observator* and *Monitor*. 1855 LADY HOLLAND *Sidney Smith* I. i. 8 Whilst at Winchester he had been one year Præpositor of the College, and another, Præpositor of the Hall. 1894 ASTLEY 50 *Years Life* I. 16 It was eight or ten days before he came under the Prepositor's ken [at Eton].

β. in corrupt form **propositor.**

1633 E. VERNEY *Let. fr. Winchester* in *Verney Mem.* (1892) I. 156 His schoole master being at London, the propositors begin to affront mee. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. i. iii. (1852) 303 He made such proficiency that while he was the least boy in the school he was made a propositor.

† **2.** The master, director, or manager (of a house, etc.); the president or head (*præpositus*) of a monastic house. *Obs.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 343 The Prepositor of each [Bathing] House [in Ispahan] gives Notice to all Comers by blowing a Horn, when the Houses are ready. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 489 The fame for sanctity of their leader —or praepositor as he was called at first—spread throughout the land.

Hence **Prepositorial** *a.*, of or pertaining to prepositors in schools.

1844 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) II. 14 Their prepositorial authority, as well as the fagging system, having been part of the old school plan, which he found going on when he came to Rugby. 1859 HODSON 12 *Yrs. Soldier's Life in India* 3 Though he immediately re-established the shattered prestige of prepositorial power he contrived to make himself very popular with various classes of boys.

‖ **Prepositor**[2], **præ-.** *Roman Law.* [L. agent-noun from *præpōnĕre* to appoint over, charge with the management of an affair; f. *præ* before, in front + *pōnĕre* to place.] The principal who deputes the management of any business or commercial undertaking to a factor, consignee, or *institor*. (Formerly used in *Scotch Law.*)

1681 STAIR *Instit. Law Scot.* I. x. § 47 By the Contracts of Institors in relation to that wherein they were intrusted, their prepositors are oblieged, as Exercitors are as to Maritime matters; so Prepositors are correspondent in Trafficque at Land. 1754 ERSKINE *Princ. Law Scot.* III. iii. § 14 Tho' the institors be pupils, and so cannot bind themselves, the prepositor..stands obliged by their deeds. 18.. W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* (1861) 451/2 Prepositors are liable for the acts of the institor.

† **Prepositure, præ-.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *præpositūra* the office of an overseer, in med.L. in eccl. sense, f. *præpositus*: see PRÆPOSITUS and -URE.] The office of a præpositus or provost of a collegiate church or priory.

a 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 34 The tyme of a 3ere turnyd abowte, succedid in-to the prepositure and the dignyte of the priore of this new plantacioun. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 280 Which dignitie is tied to the Prepositure of Bruges Church. *a* 1641 BEDELL in *Fuller's Abel Rediv.*, *Erasmus* (1867) I. 82 In the interim he sent him a collation to the præposiure of Daventry. 1758 LOWTH *Life of Wykeham* i. 28 The King gave him..the Prepositure of Wells with the Prebend annexed.

Prepositus, variant of PRÆPOSITUS.

Prepossess (prīpŏ̄ze·s), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + POSSESS.]

1. *trans.* To take or get possession of beforehand, or before another; to have prior possession of. Now *rare.*

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. v. iii. § 11. 408 All passages out of there Campe, Martius hath prepossessed, so that there is no way to escape. 1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xvii. 186 Honours seldome come to us but by the mortality of those that prepossessed them. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 349 The Enemy had prepossessed all the places more inward. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 42 Hope is that which antedates and prepossesses a future good.

† b. *refl.* with *of* or *with*: To possess oneself of beforehand; to take for oneself or make one's own beforehand; also in pass. *to be prepossessed. Obs.*

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 855 Pilate prepossessing himself with his horse and foot at the top of the hill. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antig.* XIV. viii. (1733) 368 Without more ado they prepossess'd themselves of the Temple. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 79 Some..eagerly push for the chief Place, and are mightily chagrin'd if another is prepossessed of that silly Pre-eminence.

2. To possess (a person) beforehand or cause (him) to be preoccupied or pre-engaged *with* or *by* a feeling, notion, etc.; to imbue, inspire, or affect strongly beforehand. Chiefly in *pass.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xx. (1840) 75 Being prepossessed with this intent to dispossess him of his place. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Prol., Wks. 1851 III. 258 Seeking thus unseasonably to prepossesse men of his modesty. 1657 *North's Plutarch* Add. Lives (1676) 16 They were .. prepossest with an ill opinion of him. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 288 Having been prepossessed in the Opinion, that they were all equal. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 53 They prepossess their Auditors of their own Sincerity, .. and under that Covert say the most spiteful Things. 1836 KEBLE *Serm.* viii. (1848) 201 The Creed..had prepossessed them with these truths, before ever they thought of proving them from Holy Writ. 1862 S. LUCAS *Secularia* 375 The result of a disposition by which it [the French nobility] was fatally prepossessed.

† b. with the notion expressed by a clause. *Obs.*

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 69 This brief Inventory I have here given..to pre-possess the Reader, I. That [this] is no contemptible or unworthy enquiry. *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. iii. 9 We're prepossest my Lord inherits, In some degree, his grandsire's merits. 1797–8 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxxiii, Fanny and Mrs. Ferrars were both strongly prepossessed that neither she nor her daughters were such kind of women.

3. *spec.* To cause (a person) to have a feeling or opinion beforehand against or in favour of a person or thing; to bias, prejudice; now chiefly, To impress favourably beforehand. Chiefly in *pass.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Cor.* i. 22 The reason of their rejecting the Gospel is, they are prepossessed against it. 1654 FULLER *Comm. Ruth* (1868) 129 Who have taken bribes to prepossess the Judge. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 141 An Outside so Prepossessing us in his Favour. 1846 POE *Anthon* Wks. 1864 III. 45 An attempt was made..to prepossess the public against his 'Classical Dictionary'. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 123, I was quite pre-possessed by his appearance. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xiii, His talk prepossessed me still more in his favour.

Hence **Prepossessed** *ppl.*, possessed by a preconceived idea; prejudiced, biased.

1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-M.* I. vi. xvi. 549 The sight of one onely Stage-play, though with a prepossessed opinion against it, will draw men on to frequent, applaud, and admire others. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. ii. 50 What reasons can prevail with a pre-possess'd, and exasperated multitude? 1774 FLETCHER *Ess. Truth* Wks. 1795 IV. 131 Come then my prepossessed brethren, show yourselves the children of Abraham.

Prepossessing, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ING 2.] That prepossesses.

1. Biasing; causing prejudice.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. I. xxii, I'll purge out the strong steem Of prepossessing prejudice. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. iii. i. 154 A very prepossessing Circumstance against our Author. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* III. vi. (1762) 182 Every pre-possessing fix'd Bias on the Mind brings a Degree of moral Inability for the contrary. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, This awkward prepossessing visage of mine.

2. *spec.* That predisposes favourably; causing an agreeable first impression; attractive, pleasing.

1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) III. 92 Nature had bestowed upon him a fair and prepossessing exterior. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* iv, Squeers's appearance was not prepossessing. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IX. vi, Its expression was eminently gentle and prepossessing.

Hence **Prepossessingly** *adv.*, **Prepossessingness.**

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* V. 681 A way prepossessingly earnest. 1876 *Contemp. Rev.* XXVII. 390 That which has an air of consummate truth and likelihood, the prepossessingness of that which has this air. 1883 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* Pref. 11 His prepossessingness, his grace and truth.

Prepossession (prīpŏ̄ze·ʃən). [n. of action f. PREPOSSESS *v.*; see PRE- A. 2 and POSSESSION.]

1. The having or taking of possession beforehand; prior possession or occupancy. Now *rare.*

1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* XXV. (1660) 151 Affording them a full Præpossession of all the Objects of Desire. 1654 HAMMOND *Fundamentals* viii, To give piety the prepossession, before other competitors..should be able to pretend to him. 1733 W. CRAWFORD *Infidelity* (1836) 208, I have heavenly qualities and joys already begun in me; I have a prepossession of heaven. 1820 MAIR *Tyro's Dict.* (ed. 10) 378 *Præsumptio*, .. prepossession, pre-occupation.

b. A previous or former possession.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 331 In after Ages many Colonies dispersed, and some thereof upon the coasts of Africa, and the prepossessions of his [Ham's] elder brothers.

2. The condition of being mentally prepossessed; a preconceived opinion which tends to bias the mind; unfavourable or favourable antecedent opinion; prejudice, predisposition, liking.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. v, God..blesses holy Meditations with results of Reason, and prepossessions dogmatically decreeing the necessity of Vertue. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 202 It is the noblest Act of human Reason To free itself from slavish Prepossession. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 173 The prepossessions of the Vulgar for men in power and authority are blind. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 19 June, The prepossession the Queen has taken in my favour is truly extraordinary. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. x. 247 The King's strong personal prepossessions against the ministers of the late Queen. 1871 MORLEY *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 163 To chime in most harmoniously with prepossessions.

Hence † **Prepossessionary** *a.*, having possession beforehand, of the nature of a prepossession.

1757 *Herald* No. 7 (1758) I. 106 Valour commonly carries with it a prepossessionary excuse, even for actions of temerity.

Pre-possessor. *Obs.* or *rare.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + POSSESSOR.] A previous possessor.

1684 R. BRADY *Introd. O. Eng. Hist.* Gloss. 18 They signifie only a bare Præpossessor, one that possessed the Land before the present Possessor.

† **Prepost.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præpost-us*, contr. f. *præposit-us*, sb. use of pa. pple. of *præpōnĕre* to place before.] = PRÆPOSITUS; an overseer, steward, superintendent, provost.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* i. 3 Aphanet, prepost [*gloss* or souereyne; Vulg. *præposito*] of his geldingus. — *Acts* vii. 10 He ordeynede him prepost [*gloss* or souereyn; *v. r.* prouoost; Vulg. *præpositum*] on Egipt, and on al his hous.

Preposter, erron. form of PRÆPOSTOR.

† **Prepostərate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *præposterāre* to reverse, thwart (f. *præposter-us* PREPOSTEROUS) + -ATE 3. Cf. obs. F. *prepostérer* (Cotgr.).] *trans.* To make 'preposterous'; to reverse, invert; to overturn; to pervert.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 127 Before the warres had preposterated the order of auncient government. 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 147 This sinceritie of the election, the crosse preposterateth first of all, in that it is chosen being an vnlawfull ceremonie before those that are lawfull: being a tradition of mans before Gods precept. 1628 R. HUBERT *Edw. II* clxxi, Never did princes more preposterate Their private lives.

So † **Prepostera·tion** [ad. late L. *præposterātiōn-em*], reversal, perversion.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 146 The hypocrisie and preposteration of the Crosse, in the Will, in respect of the meanes for attayning to the right end. *Ibid.* 147 Is there not a preposteration to renewe a Crosse so zealously, while we burry so carelessly this auncient custome? raysing vp in the roome thereof newe courses of our owne which doe no good.

Preposterous (prĭpŏ·stərəs), *a.* Also 7 **-postrous.** [f. L. *præposter-us* reversed, perverted, absurd (f. *præ* before + *poster-us* coming after, following) + -OUS. Cf. obs. F. *prépostère* (Cotgr.).]

1. Having or placing last that which should be first; inverted in position or order. Now *rare.*

1552 HULOET, Preposterouse, out of order, ouerthwarth, transuerted, or last done which should haue ben first. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 59 This is preposterous geare, when Gods ordinance is turned topsie turuie, vpside downe. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xx. (Arb.) 262 The preposterous is a pardonable fault...We call it by a common saying to *set the carte before the horse.* 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 56 Though the Monster lurk in Cacus cave, yet notwithstanding his preposterous steps will be discovered. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Tulip*, Which would certainly do them harm, by reason of the preposterous Motion it might give the Sprout when the Season for planting the Bulbs is come. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (ed. 4) I. 224 It is, indeed, in the literal sense of the word, preposterous. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* Introd. § 62 The fatal effects of this preposterous (in the exact sense of that word) procedure.

† b. Having the eyes set behind. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xvii. 102 Thus our Eyes like the preposterous Animals are behind us.

2. Contrary to the order of nature, or to reason or common sense; monstrous; irrational; perverse, foolish, nonsensical; in later use, utterly absurd.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* (1877) 14 He checked the preposterous & ouerthwarte iudgemente, that the common sort of people haue of thinges. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* x. vii. (1886) 148 Dreames in the dead of the night are commonlie preposterous and monstrous. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 5 Good Gloster, and good Deuill, were alike, And both preposterous. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer*

xxii. Wks. 1738 I. 281 Austin and some others, who were much taken with a preposterous admiration of single life. 1713 Gay *Guardian* No. 149 ¶ 12 The muff and fur are preposterous in June. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* i. (1790) 2 Nothing can be more preposterous than a mother who thinks it below her to take care of her own child. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* (1861) 103 To exclaim at the preposterous idea of convincing the mind by tormenting the body. 1863 P. Barry *Dockyard Econ.* 126 America has constructed, and is still constructing, ships of war of preposterous tonnage, simply because England is constructing ships of war of preposterous tonnage. 1879 Froude *Cæsar* xxviii. 480 The very notion is preposterous.

Prepo·sterously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a preposterous order or manner.

1. In an inverted or reversed order or position; with the latter part before the former; hind-side before. Now *rare*.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 269 So the sense inferreth albeit the wordes be somewhat preposterously placed. 1589 Nashe *Anat. Absurd.* D ij, Those that are called Agrippæ being preposterously borne with their feete forward. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 767 So preposterously are those Books ranged in this Catalogue. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) XI. 3 Some indeed preposterously misplace these, and make us partake of the benefit of Christ's priestly office..before we are brought under the scepter of his kingly office. 1829 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1853) 17 Preposterously..deducing the laws of the understanding from a questionable division of logical propositions.

2. Unnaturally, irrationally; perversely; absurdly.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 39 His brother Archigallo..didd preposterus̄lie exalte and honor the moste obscure and servile persons. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. ii. 112 Whatsoeuer cunning fiend it was That wrought vpon thee so preposterously, Hath got the voyce in hell for excellence. 1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 9 They doe preposterously, that bestow more cost and labours,.. vpon a Garden than vpon an Orchard. 1661 Boyle *Style of Script.* (1675) 141 Our preposterously partial Memories. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1883) 123 She is preposterously sighing after a stripling with languishing eyes and soft hair, who loves her. 1868 Farrar *Seekers* III. iii. (1875) 299 Preposterously regarded as a sure criterion of truth. 1873 Black *Pr. Thule* viii, He got up at preposterously early hours.

Prepo·sterousness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being preposterous; inversion of the natural or rational order (now *rare*); perversity; unreasonableness; absurdity.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. iii. 137 From this preposterousnesse of the Crosse setting the sense before the spirite, come wee to his Vacuitie for his inwarde Devotion. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 176 We shall..choose rather to break those laws of method..and subjoyn them immediately in this place, craving the readers pardon for this preposterousness. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Preposterousness*, the having the wrong End forward, Absurdness, contrariety to Nature or Custom. 1862 F. Hall *Hindu Philos. Syst.* I. vi. 106 So they go on, rearing one thing upon another, utterly regardless of the preposterousness of their conclusions.

Prepostor, variant of Præpostor.

Prepotence (prĭpō·tĕns). [a. F. *prépotence*, ad. L. *præpotentia*: see next.] The fact of being prepotent or of predominating; = next, 1.

1829 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Ser. II. II. 305 The consciousness of having mastered some prepotence of passion. 1857 Sir F. Palgrave *Norm. & Eng.* II. 81 Henry.. enforced his claims with stern prepotence. 1888 J. T. Gulick in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Zool.* XX. 245 It may at first appear that a slight degree of prepotence will prevent crossing as effectually as a higher degree. 1896 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 265 Challenging the prepotence on land of so mighty an empire.

Prepotency (prĭpō·tĕnsi). [ad. L. *præpotentia* superior power, f. *præpotent-em*: see Prepotent and -ency.]

1. The quality of being prepotent; superior power or influence; predominance, prevalence.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 187 If there were a determinate prepotency in the right [hand]. 1651 Howell *Venice* 178 Prepotency of plundring did facilitat the way to dispossesse me of mine own. 1815 *Zeluca* I. 135, I shall not fall into the sullens at his present prepotency. 1887 *Edin. Rev.* CLXV. 307 The destruction of that Russian prepotency.

2. *Biol.* The prepotent power of a parent organism to transmit special characteristics to offspring.

1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* viii. 274 The prepotency runs more strongly in the male ass than in the female. 1868 — *Anim. & Pl.* II. 71 The subject of prepotency is extremely intricate—from its varying so much in strength, even in regard to the same character, in different animals. 1877 — *Forms of Fl.* vi. 258 The prepotency of pollen from another individual over a plant's own pollen. 1893 *Nat. Observ.* 8 Apr. 523/2 Attributed to the Anglo-Saxon prepotency of transmission in the racial struggle.

Prepotent (prĭpō·tĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *præpotent-em*, pr. pple. of *præposse* to be more or very powerful, to have the superiority, f. *præ*, Pre- A. 5, 6 + *posse* to be able, have power: see Potent.]

1. Having great power, force, influence, or authority; pre-eminent in power.

a 1450 *Mankind* (Brandl) 759 My prepotent father, when ȝe sowpe, sowpe owt ȝowur messe. 1468 *Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 56 Most prepotent prince of power imperiall. 1591 R. Turnbull *Exp. St. James* 166 b, Excellent for wisdome, prepotent in power, renowmed for vertue. 1657 *Physical Dict., Præpotent*, strong, effectual, potent, above or before others. 1826 G. S. Faber *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 300 To borrow his prepotent bolt from the armoury of his predecessor. 1885 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Stabbed in Dark* iii, Some vague, intangible, but prepotent barrier had risen up between him and them.

b. Excelling in potency, more powerful than others; predominant.

1641 R. B. K. *Parallel of Liturgy w. Mass-Bk.*, etc. Pref. 6 Overswayed by the prepotent Popish faction. 1880 P. Greg *Errant* II. v. 59 What was the attraction prepotent over all the charms of the ball-room? 1881 Palgrave *Visions of Eng.* 153 After the ruin of the prepotent influence of Spain.

2. *Biol.* Having a greater power of transmitting hereditary features or qualities; having a stronger fertilizing influence.

1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* iv. 99 A plant's own pollen is always prepotent over foreign pollen. *Ibid.* viii. 274 When two species are crossed, one has sometimes a prepotent power of impressing its likeness on the hybrid. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* v. § 168. 173 There seems to be in many instances a prepotent influence about a newly arisen variety. 1888 J. T. Gulick in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Zool.* XX. 239 If..individuals so varying as to be prepotent with each other are very few.. they will fail of being segregated through failing to receive any of the prepotent pollen.

3. [Pre- A. 3.] Previously endowed with power or potentiality.

1874 Tyndall *Addr. Brit. Assoc. Belfast* 58 It is by the operation of an insoluble mystery that life is evolved, species differentiated, and mind unfolded from their prepotent elements in the immeasurable past.

Hence **Prepo·tently** *adv.*, in a prepotent manner; with overwhelming power.

1899 W. James in *Talks on Psychol.* 88 A single exciting word may call up its own associates prepotently.

Prepotential (prĭpǫte·nʃăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Pre- A. 3 + Potential.]

1. Having a prior or superior power; prepotent.

1888 *Academy* 24 Nov. 329/3 What a contrast between those days .. and our times of 'telegraphic ambassadors' and a prepotential 'clerkery'!

2. *Math.* (See quot.) Also as *sb.* A prepotential function.

1875 Cayley *Memoir on Prepotentials* in *Coll. Math. Papers* IX. 318 The present Memoir relates to multiple integrals expressed in terms of the $(s+1)$ ultimately disappearing variables $(x,\ldots,z,w)$, and the same number of parameters $(a,\ldots,c,e)$...Such an integral, in regard to the index $\frac{1}{2}s+q$, is said to be 'prepotential', and in the particular case $q=-\frac{1}{2}$ to be 'potential'. *Ibid.* 324 The prepotential of the whole surface in regard to the indefinitely near point P is thus equal to the prepotential of the disk.

Pre-practise: see Pre- A. 1.

Pre-prandial (prīpræ·ndiăl), *a.* [f. Pre- B. 1 + L. *prandium* luncheon (see Prandial) + -al.] Done, made, taken, happening, etc. before dinner; before-dinner.

1822 Lamb *Let. to Coleridge* Wks. (1865) 25, I have no quarrel with you about praeprandial avocations. 1862 Mrs. N. Crosland *Mrs. Blake* II. 101 The 'pre-prandial' hour or two of winter darkness. 1875 Helps *Soc. Press.* xviii. 269 That charming invention of modern days, the pre-prandial tea.

Pre-pre·ference, *a.* [Pre- B. 2.] Ranking before preference bonds, shares, claims, etc., in security, payment of dividend or interest. Cf. Preference 8.

1882 Bithell *Counting-ho. Dict.* 236 The new series of Bonds..distinguished from all the others by the name of pre-preference bonds. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 6/1 The directors..announce the issue of 6,000 Five and a-Quarter per Cent. Cumulative Pre-preference £10 shares at a premium of 10s. each. 1900 *Ibid.* 5 Mar. 11/1 The shareholders ..would not have it [the new issue] in the form of pre-preference shares, and now apparently the directors are determined to make it more pre than ever [by an issue of debentures].

So **Pre-prefere·ntial** *a.*

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 Jan. 4/7 We might..guarantee the whole loan..instead of guaranteeing only five and raising the other four by pre-preferential bonds.

Preprint (prī·print). [Pre- A. 2.] Something printed in advance; a portion of a work printed and issued before the publication of the whole.

1889 *Academy* 1 June 385/2 Dr. Charles Waldstein..has made arrangements with the American Journal of Archaeology..to issue these papers independently in a series of 'preprints'. 1903 *Dial* (Chicago) 1 Feb. 93/1 A preprint from the Decennial Publications of the University of Chicago...Other preprints in this series are as follows.

†**Prepro·perate,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. ppl. stem of late L. *præproperāre* to hasten greatly (Gloss. Philox.): see Pre- A. 6 and Properate.] *trans.* To hasten unduly or in excess. So †**Pre·propera·tion,** the action of hastening unduly. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 37 The importunity of some impatient..mindes, will put both Parliament and Assembly upon some preproperations, that will not be safe in Ecclesiasticall Constitutions. 1651 J. Rocket *Chr. Subject* viii. (1658) 77 To prevent the preproperating our misery, or lessen those evils into which..we have cast ourselves.

†**Prepro·perous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præproper-us* too quick or hasty (f. *præ*, Pre- A. 6 + *proper-us* speedy, quick) + -ous.] Over-hasty, precipitate.

1555 J. Proctor *Hist. Wyat's Rebell.* 62 Vnaduised hardinesse and preproperous haste in mooste matters haue these twoo companions: Errour in the beginning, and Repentaunce in the ende. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Leicestersh.* (1662) II. 133 By such preproperous Couling of Boyes, and vailing of Girles, Parents were cozened out of their children. 1670 Ray *Proverbs, Devon.* 226 Administring preposterous and preproperous justice.

Hence †**Prepro·perously** *adv.*, over-hastily.

1637 R. Humphrey tr. *St. Ambrose* I. 31 Why dost preproperously call for a crowne before thou overcommest?

Preprostatic: see Pre- B. 3.

Pre-prove, pre-provide: see Pre- A. 1.

Pre-pubertal: see Pre- B. 1.

Prepubic, præ- (prĭpiū·bik), *a.* [f. next + -ic; in b, f. Pre- B. 3 + Pubic.] a. Pertaining to the prepubis. b. Situated in front of the pubis.

1871 Huxley *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* v. 270 A large spatulate bone..seems to be an exaggeration of the pre-pubic process. 1872 Humphry *Myology* 13 It extends over the side of the abdomen to the middle line and the edge of the prepubic shield and cornu.

‖ **Prepubis, præ-** (prī·piū·bis). Also -es. *Anat.* [Pre- A. 4.] The pre-acetabular portion of the pubis, esp. in Dinosaurs.

1888 Rolleston & Jackson *Anim. Life* 65 This process appears to be the homologue of the prae-pubis (so-called) in the *Stegosauria* and *Ornithopoda* among *Deinosauria*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Prepubes. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* 862 The..anterior process of the *os pubis*, often called the pectineal,..is the element which in Dinosaurs is described as the 'præpubis', while in recent Reptiles it is represented by the pubis proper.

Prepuce (prī·piūs). [a. F. *prépuce* (15th c. in Godef. *Compl.*):—L. *præpūtium.*] The loose fold of integument which covers the glans penis (or the glans clitoridis); the foreskin.

c 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xi. 42 In þis temple was Charlemayne, when þe aungell broght him þe prepuce of oure Lord, when he was circumcised. 1541 R. Copland *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.*, etc. K j b, The heade hyght prepuce. *c* 1618 Morvson *Itin.* IV. v. vi. (1903) 495 Then the prepuce or foreskinne was taken out, and putt into a box of salt to be buryed after in the Churchyeарde. 1767 Gooch *Treat. Wounds* I. 433, I have divided the Prepuce several times in Phimoses, without any ill accidents supervening. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 623 The end of the clitoris is generally provided with a gland, and is also covered by a prepuce.

†b. *transf.* (*a*) The state of the uncircumcised, uncircumcision. (*b*) See quot. *a* 1682. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apoll. Loll.* 84 Poul seiþ, Noiþer prepuce nor circumcicoun is out, nor out worþ, not but keping of þe biddingis of God. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Rom.* ii. 25 If thou be a prevaricatour of the Law, thy circumcision is become prepuce. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1684) 64 As the vulgar expresseth it to take away the prepuces from such trees. [Vulgate *Lev.* xix. 23 Auferetis præputia eorum: poma quæ germinant, immunda erunt vobis.]

†**Pre·pucy.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *præpūtium*: see prec. and -cy.] The foreskin. Also *transf.* The state of the uncircumcised; uncircumcision.

1382 Wyclif *Acts* xi. 3 Whi entridist thou to men hauynge prepucie? [Vulg. *ad viros præputium habentes*]. — *Rom.* ii. 25 If thou be a trespassour of the lawe, thi circumcisioun is maad prepucie [Vulg. *circumcisio tua præputium facta est*]. 1388 — *Deut.* x. 16 Therfor circumcide ȝe the prepucie [*gloss* ethir vnclennesse] of ȝoure herte [Vulg. *præputium cordis*]. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 392/1 That I may haue the prepucye vndefouled.

Prepu·nctual, *a. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 5, 6 + Punctual.] More than punctual; coming earlier than the appointed time. So **Prepunctua·lity,** anticipative punctuality, the fact of arriving before the precise time; **Prepu·nctually** *adv.*, more than punctually.

1870 Helps in *Macm. Mag.* July 239/2 Our conjoint prepunctualities brought us to the station a good half-hour before the time. 1882 *Society* 9 Dec. 8/1 So far was prepunctuality..carried, that..Her Majesty was ten minutes before time. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prepunctual. 1894 *Story of My Two Wives* 110 We were at the agent's prepunctually.

Preputial (prĭpiū·ʃăl), *a.* [f. L. *præpūti-um* Præputium + -al; so mod.F. *préputial.*] Of or pertaining to the prepuce.

1611 Corbet in Coryat *Crudities, Panegyr. Verses*, Thy observations..Have stuft thy massie and voluminous head With Mountaines Abbies Churches Synagogues Preputiall Offals and Dutch Dialogues. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1684) 65 Those sprouts and buds which..resembleth the preputial part. 1846 G. E. Day tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 461 Preputial and urethral calculi.

Prepyloric: see Pre- B. 3.

Prepyramid (prī·pi·rămid). *Anat.* [Pre- A. 4.] The anterior pyramid of the medulla oblongata. So **Pre·pyra·midal** *a.*, pertaining to the prepyramids, or situated in front of the pyramids.

1866 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* I. 273 A narrower median 'pre-pyramidal' tract. *Ibid.* 276 The 'commissura ansulata', which crosses the pre-pyramids just behind the 'hypoaria'. 1868 *Ibid.* III. 83 The prepyramids..are long, narrow, flat, and contract as they approach the pons. *Ibid.* 86 The prepyramidal columns.

Pre-Raphael (prīræ·fe|el), *a.* (*sb.*) [Pre- B. 2.] Previous to Raphael; a painter (or painting) before the time of Raphael. b. = Pre-Raphaelite. Hence **Pre-Ra·phaelly** *adv. rare.*

1850 W. M. Rossetti *The P. R. B. Jrnl.* July in *Præraphaelite Diaries & Lett.* (1900) 275, I reverence—indeed almost idolize—what I have seen of the Pre-Raphael painters. 1850 *Germ* May 158 Mediæval, or pre-Raffaele art is seen in his youthful timid darings. 1850 Dickens in *Househ. Words* I. 266/1 That the Pre-Raphael Brother is indisputably accomplished in the manipulation of his art. *Ibid.* 265/2 As befits such a subject—Pre-Raphaelly considered. 1853 D. G. Rossetti in *D. G. R.'s Family Letters* (1895) II. 122 Fattening on ill-got pictures in his sleep, Till

some Præraphael prove for him too deep. 1878 GROSART in *H. More's Poems* Mem. Introd. 29/1 Its pre-Raphael-like studies of nature.

Pre-Ra·phaelism, prera·ph-, præ-. [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The artistic principles of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood (= PRE-RAPHAELITISM); by Ruskin and others applied, by way of distinction, to the art of the painters who preceded Raphael; see quot. 1882 s. v. PRE-RAPHAELITISM.

1853 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Præraph. Diaries & Lett.* (1900) 308 Though both Præraphaelism and Brotherhood are as real as ever. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 231 Pre-Raphaelism, though open to the charge of mannerism, was a revulsion and protest against the unmanly conventionalisms into which a portion of the English school had fallen. 1862 'SHIRLEY' *Nugæ Crit.* viii. 356 Fra Angelico da Fiesole ..is almost the only one of the præ-Raphaelites, whom a man who does not believe in præ-Raphaelism can thoroughly relish. 1882 (see PRE-RAPHAELITISM).

So **Pre-Raphaeli·stic** *a.* = next, B.

1884 R. BUCHANAN *Foxglove Manor* II. xvi. 38 One of your detestable pre-Raphaelistic drawings.

Pre-Raphaelite, preraphaelite, præ- (prīræ·fe,ēləit), *sb.* and *a.* Also -Raffael-. [f. PRE- B. 1 + the proper name *Raphael* (It. *Raffaello, Raffaele*) + -ITE 1.]

A. *sb.* **1.** An artist who aims at producing work in the spirit which generally imbued art before the time of Raphael (or, more especially, before his later work and that of his successors); *spec.* one of the group of English artists, including Holman-Hunt, Millais, and D. G. Rossetti, who *c* 1848 called themselves the 'Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood' (P. R. B.).

1849 W. M. ROSSETTI *The P. R. B. Journal* in *Præraph. Diaries & Lett.* (1900) 209. — *Ibid.* 19 Nov., ibid. 231 To-night was a P. R. B. meeting at Millais's, at which we were all present with the exception of Woolner. 1849 D. G. ROSSETTI *Let. to J. Collinson* 25 Oct., ibid. 13 Dear P. R. B. [= Brother], On the road hither last night I [etc.]. 1850 *Blackw. Mag.* July 82/1 The mountebank proceedings of a small number of artists, who..are endeavouring to set up a school of their own. We allude to the pre-Raphaelites. 1851 RUSKIN *Pre-Raphaelitism* 27 The Pre-Raphaelites imitate no pictures: they paint from nature only. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Pre-Raphaelites*, a school of modern artists, who profess to follow the mode of study and expression adopted by the early painters who flourished before the time of Raphael, and whose principal theory of action is a rigid adherence to natural forms and effects. 1862 'SHIRLEY' *Nugæ Crit.* vi. 271 We are all præ-raphaelites. Mr. Millais' gawky girls, and Mr. Dyce's skinny saints, have gained the day. 1875 HELPS *Ess.* 307 The luxuriance and beauty of the water-weeds and of the bulrushes..would have given work to a pre-Raffaelite for a year. 1882 W. HAMILTON *Æsthetic Movement* (ed. 3) 11 It pleased Mr. Buchanan, in his attack on the Pre-Raphaelites and Æsthetes, to stigmatise The Germ as an unwholesome publication. 1907 W. M. ROSSETTI in *Let. to Editor*, I myself write the words thus, *Præraphaelite* and *Præraphaelitism*.

2. One of the painters who preceded Raphael.

1862 [see PRE-RAPHAELISM].

B. *adj.* (or attrib. use of sb.)

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of the Pre-Raphaelites, or their principles and style.

1849 [see A. 1]. 1851 *Art Jrnl.* 1 July 185/1 The attempts of a few young men who style themselves the Pre-Raffael-ite school, but more properly might be called the Gothic school. 1851 RUSKIN *Pre-Raphaelitism* 27 The Pre-Raphaelite pictures are just as superior to the early Italian in skill of manipulation, power of drawing, and knowledge of effect, as inferior to them in grace of design. 1853 — *Lect. Archit.* iv. § 132 Every Pre-Raphaelite landscape background is painted to the last touch, in the open air, from the thing itself. 1857 *Athenæum* 7 Feb. 176/3 If our Crabbe be a poet (and a Pre-Raphaelite poet Crabbe was, long ere the Pre-Raphaelite style was dreamed of). 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* xxxii, A pre-Raphaelite artist..might find an admirable subject in one of these Tuscan girls. 1873 HAMERTON *Th. about Art* xiii. 184 The Pre-Raphaelite movement is understood to have combined two very distinct aims: first, the intellectual elevation of art by the choice of noble and original subjects, and, secondly, its technical advancement by a new and minute analysis of nature. 1905 HOLMAN-HUNT *Pre-Raphaelitism* I. 101 In our final estimation this picture [Raphael's Transfiguration] was a signal step in the decadence of Italian art. When we had advanced this opinion to other students, they, as a *reductio ad absurdum*, had said, 'Then you are Pre-Raphaelite'. Referring to this as we worked side by side, Millais and I laughingly agreed that the designation must be accepted.

2. Existing before Raphael.

1855 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. vi. 182 In these pre-Raphaelite productions Florence is very rich. 1882 W. HAMILTON *Æsthetic Movement* 1 Enthusiastic in their admiration of early Italian art and the mediaeval Pre-Raphaelite painters.

Pre-Raphaelitic, preraph-, præ- (-i·tik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or after the manner of the Pre-Raphaelites; = prec. B. 1.

1877 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* (1878) 5 To note the baldness of Cæsaric heads without specially organised education in this pre-Raphaelitic direction. 1881 W. G. PALGRAVE in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 23 A lofty tree of præ-Raphaelitic slenderness and grace.

Pre-Ra·phaelitish, preraph-, præ- (-əitiʃ), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ISH 1.] Resembling the work of the Pre-Raphaelites.

1865 Miss MULOCK *Christian's Mistake* ii. (1866) 38 That pale, prim, pre-Raphaelitish dame who was represented all over the College. 1889 *Art Jrnl.* Aug. 222 A picture, which he describes as very pre-Raphaelitish indeed, of a cornfield.

Pre-Ra·phaelitism, preraph-, præ-. [f. PRE-RAPHAELITE + -ISM.] The principles, methods, or style of painting adopted by the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and their followers; sometimes applied to a similar tendency in poetry and other arts.

1851 RUSKIN (*title*) Pre-Raphaelitism. 1853 *N. Brit. Rev.* 303 Pre-Raphaelitism is in painting very much what the reform led by Wordsworth was in poetical literature. 1853 RUSKIN *Lect. Archit.* iv. § 132 Pre-Raphaelitism has but one principle, that of absolute, uncompromising truth in all that it does, obtained by working everything, down to the most minute detail, from nature, and from nature only. 1858 *Edin. Rev.* July 206 Pre-raphaelitism, both of the pen and brush, is a useful correction of a previous morbid tendency. 1882 RUSKIN *Let. to Chesneau* 20 Dec. (Ashley Libr. 1894), Pre-Raphaelism would properly express the method or manner of the painters who actually lived before Raphael—as 'Raphaelism' might generally be applied to the style of all his school, at every subsequent date. Pre-Raphaelitism is, it seems to me, the proper term to express the peculiar tenets of the sect you have been examining, who called itself 'Pre-Raphaelite'; or, with still greater exclusiveness, 'The Pre-Raphaelite Brethren'.

Prerectal, -reformatory, etc.: PRE- B. 3, 1, etc.

† **Prere·gnant.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 2 + REGNANT.] One who reigns before another; a predecessor in the kingdom.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* iv. xxii. 99 Edward, King Harolds Preregnant, of this same Change foretold. 1602 *Ibid.* Epitome 376 William and Edward the Confessor Harolds Preregnant were, by the father's side, Cosen Iarmaines.

Pre-remote, -renal, etc.: see PRE- B. 1, 3, etc.

† **Prere·pt,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prærept-*, ppl. stem of *præripĕre* to snatch away in front of another, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *rapĕre* to seize. Cf. CORREPT *v.*] *trans.* To snatch away in front of any one; to anticipate or forestall in seizing.

(Known only in pa. pple. *prerept*, after L. *præpt-us*.)

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* v. 69 b, In vayne wept Esau aftir Iacob had prerept him his blyssinge.

† **Prere·ption.** *Obs. rare.* In 7 præ-. [n. of action from L. *præripĕre, prærept-*: see prec.] The action of seizing or snatching away in front of one.

1648 *Eikon Bas. x.* 79, I have none to defend my selfe, or to preserve what is mine own from their præreption.

Prerequire (prīrĭkwəi·ə·r), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [PRE- A. 1.] *trans.* To require beforehand.

1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clergy* 1. iii, All other Churches ..prerequire a necessity of Mariage in the persons to be ordained. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 223 Union..pre-requireth existence. 1696 LORIMER *Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 62 Repentance is pre-required, and always was pre-required as a necessary Condition whereby a Sinner is qualified and made meet to receive the Pardon of his Sins. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 69 (1794) III. 79, Z will not be able to move till A moves,..neither will A be able to move..till Z hath: so that the motion of every part will be prerequired to itself.

Hence **Prerequi·red** *ppl. a.*, prerequisite.

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 213 Every single motion..[owes] a dependence on..a Syndrome of præ-required motors. 1696 LORIMER *Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 62 The pre-required Condition.

Prerequisite (prīre·kwizit), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PRE- A. 3 + REQUISITE *a.* and *sb.*]

A. *adj.* Required beforehand; requisite as a previous condition.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 90 A condition prerequisite in the subject of sanctification. 1696 WHISTON *Th. Earth* iv. (1722) 382 This breaking up of the Fountains of the Deep was a prerequisite Condition. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* II. xvi. 39 For the human soul to prosper in rustic life, a certain vantage-ground is pre-requisite. 1884 J. BURROUGHS *Birds & Poets* 185 Something..which is prerequisite to any deep and lasting success.

B. *sb.* That which is required beforehand; a condition previously necessary.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 20 Knowledge is but a prerequisite to the main of obedience. 1758 *Monthly Rev.* 378 Prerequisites..expedient at least, if not wholly indispensable. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 158 All the changes in the organs..are nothing more than antecedents and pre-requisites of perception, bearing not the faintest likeness to it. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 226 The essential prerequisites for striking the balance.

† **Prerequisi·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [PRE- A. 2.] Requisition beforehand, previous requirement.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 292 That the giving of the Holy Ghost in ordinary for Regeneration, was one stated end of Baptism,..from the constant prerequisition of repentance and faith is evident to be a mistake.

Pre-reso·lve, *v.* Now *rare.* Also 7 præ-. [PRE- A. 1.] **a.** *pa. pple.* Previously resolved; having made up one's mind beforehand. **b.** *intr.* To resolve beforehand.

1633 PRYNNE *Histrio-M.* II. iv. ii. 950 No man goes thus pre-resolved to a Play. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 83, I am confident you are herein præ-resolved as I wish. *a* 1657 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* (1658) 79 They came præ-resolved, by study, of what they soon acted in the Counsel. 1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 153 He had pre-resolved to send Henry from Ether.

Preretina to **-rhotacistic:** see PRE- A. 4, B. 1.

† **Prerogancy.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *prærogā-re* to ask first or before + -ANCY.] The possession of privilege; prerogative.

[Cf. 1292 BRITTON iv. i. § 3 Nul parcener neqedent ne porra presenter sauntz autre par nule prerogaunce de einznescerie.] 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 205 The privilege or immunite of whiche place encreasede to grete prerogancy [*ad magnam prærogativam*].

Prerogatival (-əi·väl), *a. rare.* [f. next + -AL.] Of or pertaining to prerogative.

1619 SIR J. SEMPILL *Sacrilege Handl.* 73 So must it not remaine still ἐν αὐτῷ, but returne ἐπὶ χριστον. All these prerogatiual Prepositions end euer in Christ.

Prerogative (prĭrŏ·gătiv), *sb.* [a. F. *prérogative* (14th c. in Littré) a prerogative, ad. L. *prærogātīva* a previous choice or election; a foretoken, prognostic; preference, privilege, prerogative; prop. fem. sing. of *prærogātīvus* adj. (see next) agreeing with *tribus* or *centuria*, applied to the tribe or century to which it fell by lot to give its vote first in the Roman comitia.

'The box being shaken, so that the lots might lie equally, ..the century which came out first gave its vote first, and hence was called *Prærogativa*...Its vote was held of the greatest importance...Hence *prærogativa* is put for a sign or pledge, a favourable omen or intimation of any thing future;..for a precedent or example,..a choice,..or favour, ..and among later writers for a peculiar or exclusive privilege' (Adam *Rom. Antiq.* (1801) 91).

(As the sense-development took place before the word was taken into English, the chronological order here, as will be seen, does not correspond with it; the original or etymological sense is of late use: see 3.)]

1. A prior, exclusive, or peculiar right or privilege.

a. *esp.* in *Constitutional Hist.* That special pre-eminence which the sovereign, by right of regal dignity, has over all other persons and out of the course of the common law, the *royal prerogative*, a sovereign right (in theory) subject to no restriction or interference.

In Great Britain, the extent of the royal prerogative has been a matter of discussion, more especially since the 17th century: see the quots. At present it includes the right of sending and receiving ambassadors, of making treaties, and (theoretically) of making war and concluding peace, of conferring honours, nominating to bishoprics, and giving all commissions in the army and navy, of choosing ministers of state, summoning Parliament, and refusing assent to a bill, of pardoning those under legal sentence; with many other political, ecclesiastical, and judicial privileges. The exercise of many of these prerogative rights is practically limited by the rights of parliament or of other bodies or persons, the constitutional obligation to take the advice of ministers, and the need to secure the general approval and support of the nation.

[1293 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 117/1 Quod Dominus Rex Presentationem suam ratione Prerogative sue,..ad predictam Vicariam habeat. 1308–9 *Ibid.* 274/1 Pur la Prerogative & le droit le Roy.] 1404 *Ibid.* III. 549/1 By the lawe of his [the King's] land, or by his prerogatif. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 343 The wood or madde parlyament;..at this Counceyll, were made many actis agayn the Kynges prerogatyue and pleasure, for the reformacion of the state of the land. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 87 b, The kynges prerogatiue declareth his power royall aboue all other. 1637 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 88, I heare all the Judges..have concluded the Bishopps have noe whitt incroacht uppon the King's prerogative or the subject's liberties. 1678 MARVELL *Growth Popery* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 249 His [the king of England's] very Prerogative is no more than what the Law has determined. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 210 Princes had Prerogative to give Convicted Malefactors a Reprieve. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xiv. § 160 This Power to act according to discretion for the Publick Good, without the Prescription of the Law, and sometimes even against it, is that which is called *Prerogative*. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 257 The king has also the sole prerogative of making war and peace. For it is held by all the writers on the law of nature and nations, that the right of making war, which by nature subsisted in every individual, is given up by all private persons that enter into society, and is vested in the sovereign power. 1769 *Junius Lett.* viii. (1797) I. 52 Every ungracious or severe exertion of the prerogative should be placed to the account of the minister. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 410 The parliament by perseverance, and by taking advantage of foreign wars, disputed successions and other circumstances, gradually set limits to prerogative. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. ii. 592 Writers on the constitution have frequently used the word 'prerogative' in a restricted sense, confining it to those political powers of the Crown which are not conferred by statute; and in this sense the word will be here employed. 1887 *Spectator* 27 Aug. 1143 The exercise of the prerogative of mercy is no easy or pleasant duty.

b. *generally.* The peculiar right or privilege of any person, class, or body of persons; as the prerogatives of parliament, of a peer, of a manor, of a free man, etc.

14.. [see next, 2]. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 330 The kynge consyderynge the great prerogatyues belongynge to that erledome. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 34 § 1 The same Manoris ..with all liberties prerogatyves and fraunchises in the same. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 151 Thys thyng schold much intyse men to maryage, specyally yf we gaue vnto them also certayn pryuyleg̃ys and prerogatyf. 1623 GOUGE *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* § 8 The Church, and every member of it .. challengeth the speciall care of God, as a prerogative to itselfe. 1655 M. CARTER *Hon. Rediv.* (1660) 60 The Crown set on his head by the Archbishop of Canterbury, a Prerogative to that See. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* 301 Freedom, an English subjects sole prerogative. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 180 P 2 Every one must have remarked, what powers and prerogatives the vulgar imagine to be conferred by learning. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. ii, The prisoners to be plundered, which you know is the prerogative of pirates and privateers. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. i. 13 It was for their existence rather than their prerogatives that the Romans had to contend. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 52 Will he not entrust to us the prerogative of making soup, and putting in anything that we like?

2. *fig.* A faculty or property by which a being (or formerly a thing) is specially and advantageously distinguished above others; a natural or divinely-given advantage or privilege.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 213 In many poyntes of manis condicioun, of his prerogatif and his worþynesse [*orig.* in nonnullis conditionis prærogativis; 1432-50 [*Harleian tr.*] in mony prerogatifes of his condicion]. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3778 Thei are at home In here contre And that is hem [*MS.* tyme]—so mote I thryue—A wondir gret prerogatyue. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6444 [The panther] hath a prerogatyf That al[le] bestys specialy Desire of kynde hys companye And to be in his presence. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 1 This prouynce..was embellisshed and decorate with innumerable prerogatyuys. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 123 b, The gyfte of prerogatyue called discrecyon or discernynge of spirytes is but in fewe persones. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 166 Other prerogatiues whiche nature hath plentifully giuen to this blessed Iland. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. iv. (1848) 309 Rare Qualities may sometimes be Prerogatives, without being Advantages. 1773 MONBODDO *Lang.* (1774) I. Introd. 1 This distinguishing prerogative of our Nature. 1845 CORRIE *Theol. in Encycl. Metrop.* 861 It is man's high prerogative to be endowed with reason and conscience. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 37 It is the peculiar prerogative of certain minds to be able to interpret as well as to originate.

† **b.** Precedence, pre-eminence, superiority. *Obs.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 4422 Hyt hath swych A prerogatyf And of vertu so grete myght. 1412-20 — *Chron. Troy* (E.E.T.S.) 2600 For trewly ȝe..In bewte han a prerogatyfe, Passyng echon,..Amongis flouris as doth þe rede rose. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 340 The moste noble..metals haue obteyned the prerogatiue to be estemed aboue other. 1588 J. READ *Compend. Method* 62 This medicine hath a great prerogatiue in healing the French poxe. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 37 The Greek and Latin have always borne away the prerogative from all other tongues. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 22 A country that may haue the prerogatiue over the most pleasant places knowne, for large and pleasant navigable Rivers. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* iii. 41 What prerogative have Vegetables over Metals.

3. The right of giving the first vote and thus of serving as a guide or precedent to the votes that follow. (Only an etymological use in English.)

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIV. 513 When it hapned that the centurie of the younger sort was drawne out first by lot, and had the prerogative. 1897 *Daily News* 20 May 5/1 Tomorrow the vote will be given, and..Cambridge has, in this instance, to use an old word in its original sense, the prerogative. If Cambridge gives women degrees, Oxford cannot continue to withhold them. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 4 Jan. 6/6 The..attempt to get the Birmingham pollings fixed for an earlier date,..was an effort for 'prerogative' in its original sense.

4. Short for *Prerogative court*: see 6.

1603 *Constit. & Can. Eccl.* xcii, The Probate..under the seal of the Prerogative.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prerogative-monger, notion, party*; **prerogative case**, a cause within the jurisdiction of the prerogative court (see 6); **prerogative copy**, a book of which the copyright is a prerogative of the crown; **prerogative lawyer**, a lawyer retained in behalf of the royal prerogative; **prerogative man**, an advocate or supporter of prerogative; **prerogative office** = *prerogative court*: see 6.

1589 NASHE *Martins Months Minde* 51 My will, being a *prerogatiue case..will hardlie passe with such expedition, as is conuenient. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 62, I have small skill in the law especially in prerogative cases. 1667 *Modern Rep.* I. 257 The almanack that is before the common-prayer proceeds from a public constitution..and is under the government of the Archbishop of Canterbury, so that almanacks may be considered *prerogative copies. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxvii. 410. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 120 If a Controversie should arise..between the House of Commons and the *Prerogative Lawyers, about the choice of their Speaker. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. II* (1847) II. iv. 118 Beckford finished the Debate with reflections on the notorious ductility of prerogative lawyers. 1710 M. HENRY *Comm. Bible, John* iv. 46 He was an Herodian, a royalist, a *prerogative man. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) II. xxiii. 152 That little piddling part of the marriage-vow which some *prerogative-monger foisted into the office. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 136 In the *Prerogative Office of the Province of Canterbury. *a* 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) II. 399 That most dangerous spectacle in a country like ours, a *prerogative party, who take their creed wholly from the mandate of their chief.

6. Prerogative court. The court of an archbishop for the probate of wills and trial of testamentary causes in which effects to the value of five pounds had been left in each of two (or more) dioceses within his province; its jurisdiction was transferred in 1857 to the Court of Probate. **b.** In New Jersey, U. S. A.: A court held by the chancellor sitting as ordinary, in which probate and similar causes are determined.

[1603 *Constit. & Can. Eccl.* xcii, Apparitors, both of inferior courts, and of the courts of the Archbishop's Prerogative. *Ibid.*, To prove the said will..in the court of the said Prerogative.] *Ibid.*, The Apparitor of the Prerogative Court. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 181 The Prerogative Court, in which the Commissarie sitteth upon Inheritances fallen either by the Intestate, or by will and testament. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *Charac., Vertuous Widow* Wks. (1856) 138 She would doe it were there no prerogative court. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 509 The court where the validity of such wills is tried, and the office where they are registered, are called the prerogative court, and the prerogative office, of the provinces of Canterbury and York [Abbrev. P.C.C. and P.C.Y.]. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 187 The Prerogative Court has jurisdiction of all wills and administrations of personal property left by persons having *bona notabilia*, or effects of a certain value, in divers jurisdictions within the province. 1857 *Act* 20 & 21 *Vict.* c. 79 § 7 (Ireland), The Person who..may be the judge of the Prerogative Court, shall be the First Judge of His Majesty's Court of Probate.

7. Prerogative writ. A writ issued on extraordinary occasions in the exercise of the royal prerogative: see quots.

1759 LD. MANSFIELD in Burrows *Reports* II. 855 Writs, not ministerially directed, (sometimes called *prerogative* writs, because they are supposed to issue on the part of the king,) such as writs of *mandamus, prohibition, habeas corpus, certiorari*, are restrained by no clause in the constitution given to Berwick. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxiv. (1797) II. 225 Prerogative writs,..though liable to the greatest abuses, were never disputed. 1898 G. H. B. KENRICK in *Encycl. Laws Eng.*, Prerogative writs..are issued upon cause shown in cases where the ordinary legal remedies are inapplicable or inadequate. *Ibid.*, The prerogative writs in present use are the writs of *habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari, procedendo.*

Prerogative (prĭrŏ·gătiv), *a.* [ad. L. *prærogātīv-us* characterized by being asked first, deriv. of *prærogāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prærogāre* to ask before (others), f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *rogāre* to ask: see prec. and -IVE. So F. *prérogatif, -ive*. The example from Wyntoun in sense 2 stands quite alone in date.]

1. *Rom. Hist.* Characterized by having the right to vote first. Of a vote: Given first and serving as a precedent for those that follow. Also *transf.*

Prerogative century: see quot. 1850.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. 601 This fore-dome & choise of the prerogative centurie, all the rest followed after, and by their suffrages confirmed. 1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 76 The Lord High Sheriff, who..is the first Magistrate of the Phylarch, or prerogative Troop. 1783 W. GORDON *Livy* v. xviii. (1823) 425 Licinius Calvus was by the prerogative tribes chosen military tribune. 1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. ix. 387 *note*, The prerogative century was chosen by lot from the hundred and ninety-three which constituted the whole number, to give its decision first. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Nov., The municipal elections..do not constitute a 'prerogative' vote in favour of the Tories.

2. Of, pertaining to, or arising from prerogative or special privilege; held, enjoyed, or exercised by exclusive prerogative or privilege; privileged.

14.. WYNTOUN *Cron.* (Wemyss MS.) IV. 1809 To þis fredome þan, And dignite prerogative, Foroutin ganecalling or strive The Scottis fra þe Pichtis wan [*Cott. MS.* þis prerogatywe þan þe Scottis fra þe Peythtis wan].

1622 T. STOUGHTON *Chr. Sacrif.* ii. 18 He arrogateth the prerogatiue title of Christ Iesus, styling himselfe King of Kings and Lord of Lords. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xvii. 258 Much easier and more effectual remedies are usually obtained by such prerogative modes of process, as are peculiarly confined to the crown. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. iii. (1864) III. 425 It established a kind of prerogative right in the Roman clergy to the Pontificate. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. v. 28 Many of the prerogative Orders in Council have a legislative character. 1906 BP. GORE in *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Sept. 8/3 This means the establishment in the public schools of one kind of religious teaching in the prerogative position.

3. Having precedence or priority; having the right to lead, leading; pre-eminent. *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 27 The affirmative hath the prerogative illation, and Barbara engrosseth the powerfull demonstration. 1894 M. W. MACCALLUM *Tennyson's Idylls* 87 It might have been expected that the adapter of knightly stories like *Palamon and Arcite*..would above all be attracted to the prerogative romances of chivalry.

Prerogatived (prĭrŏ·gătivd), *ppl. a.* [f. PREROGATIVE *sb.* + -ED [2].] Endowed with or possessed of a prerogative. Sometimes construed as pa. pple.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N. T.* (1618) 178 The most priuiledged and prerogatiued man that is in the world. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 274. 1662 FELTHAM *Lett.* vii. in *Resolves*, etc. 71 Prerogativ'd at once to Create both a City and Church. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 182 The flattering attentions of one so privileged and so prerogatived as his capricious Lordship. 1879 BROWNING *Tray* 38 Somebody, prerogatived With reason, reasoned.

Prerogatively, *adv. rare.* [f. PREROGATIVE *a.* + -LY [2].] As a prerogative or distinctive privilege.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 32 Of these times it was said prerogatively by Esay 54. 13. 'All shall bee then taught by God'.

† **Prerogativeship.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PREROGATIVE *sb.* + -SHIP.] With possessive pronoun, as a satirical title for a holder of a prerogative.

1645 *Sacred Decretal* 23 No Petition or Remonstrance..can have a free passage for Redresse unto the Parliament, but what pleaseth their Prerogativeship.

† **Prerogator.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. med.L. *prærogātor* 'dispensator' (Gloss. Isid.), agent-n. from *prærogāre* to ask first: see PREROGATIVE.] (?) One who gives a prognostic.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 237 Such a significator, such a promissor,..such a prerogator, such a dispositor.

Prerupt (prĭrŭ·pt), *a. rare.* Also 7 præ- [ad. L. *prærupt-us* broken or torn off, steep, abrupt, rash, pa. pple. of *prærumpĕre* to break off before (the point), f. *præ*, PRE- A. 4 c + *rumpĕre* to break.]

1. Broken off before the end, or (in quot.) having the beginning broken off or lost.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. 1096 The beginning of this booke, and the greater part thereof immediatly ensuing, is lost..thus it sheweth a prærupt and broken front as ye see.

2. Abruptly broken away; precipitous; = ABRUPT *a.* 4.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1282 Prerupt and craggy rocks. 1819 *Blackw. Mag.* IV. 729 Yon craigs prerupt, which o'er the murky glare Of crimsoned smoke, their gloomy ledges shoot. 1831 J. WILSON *Unimore* vii. 254 Disjoined with horrid chasms prerupt.

3. Sudden, unexpected; = ABRUPT *a.* 3.

1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* Intr., Transferring the said calumnious reports to my ears in a prerupt and unseemly manner.

† **Prerup·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [n. of action from L. *prærumpĕre, prærupt-*: see prec.] An abrupt breaking off, a cutting off at one stroke.

a 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xi. 32 Self-murther is a violent preruption of the place, time and means of ones own repentance.

† **Pres, prese.** *Obs. rare.* [Etymology obscure: see Note.] ? Praise. Phr. *To hold in pris and pres*, to hold in esteem and (?) praise. (Cf. PRICE *sb.*)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6358 Fra þan forth held sir moyses þis [*v.rr.* þa, þer] wandes bath in pris and pres. ? *a* 1375 *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 419 Hys prese, his prys, and hys parage, Is rote and grounde of alle my blysse.

[Usually taken as a form of PRAISE *sb.*, which in both passages fairly makes sense. But it is difficult to bring *prēs* (riming in *Cursor M.* with *Moysēs*) into phonetic relation with *preyse, praise*, which is moreover unknown till after 1400. The final *e* in *E. E. Allit. P.* is not etymological.]

Pres, obs. collateral form of PRESS.

‖ **Presa** (prē·za). *Mus.* [It., = a taking, from *presa*, pa. pple. fem., taken.] (See quot. 1898.)

1724 *Short Explic. For. Words in Mus. Bks., Presa*, is a Character in Musick called a Repeat. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms, Presa*,..a character or mark used generally in continuous fugues or canons to mark the point of entry for the voices or instruments; a lead.

Presacral: see PRE- B. 3.

Presage (prĕ·sĕdʒ, prē-, formerly prĭsē·dʒ), *sb.* Also 7 præ-. [a. F. *présage* (15–16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *præsāgium* a foreboding, prognostic, f. *præsāgīre* to forebode, f. *præsāg-us* foreboding, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 3 + *sāg-us* predicting, divining. (In Gower perh. direct from Latin.)]

1. Something that portends, foreshows, or gives warning of that which is about to happen; an indication of a future event; an omen, sign, portent.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 219 And seide how that was a presage ..Of that fortune him scholde adverse. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1112 A very euil signe and presage for him, to enter into Rome with such bloudshed. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 158 They will..call them Meteors, prodigies, and signes, Abortiues, presages, and tongues of heauen. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 686 Do not the Histories of all Ages Relate miraculous presages Of strange turns in the World's affairs? 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 313 The coming of the Swallow is a true presage of the Spring. 1704 DENNIS *Faction Display'd* xvii, When Health and Vigour with a kind presage, Promis'd the hoary happiness of Age. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* II. 188 [He] drew A sure presage from ev'ry wing that flew. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 312 The dread of Mariners who draw a certain presage of a Storm from their appearance. 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* iii. 25 A presage falls upon thee, as a ray Straight from the Judge, expressive of thy lot.

b. Without *pl.* Indication of the future; chiefly in phr. *of evil* (etc.) *presage*, of (evil) omen, that presages (evil).

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1387 If there be aught of presage in the mind, This day will be remarkable in my life By some great act, or of my days the last. 1691 EVELYN *Let to Bp. of Lincoln* 15 Oct., Those furious ravages..I looke on..as ..of evil præsage. 1698 CONGREVE *Semele* I. i, This dreadful Conflict is of dire Presage. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 395 These birds of evil presage, at all times, have grated our ears with their melancholy song. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. i. 32 Filled with mystic presage chimed the church bell slowly.

2. An utterance foretelling something future; a prediction, prognostication. Now *rare*.

1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinvile* CXXXIX, Misfortune hearing this presage of life. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* iii. (1628) 67 Presages or fore-tellings of their good or euill fortune. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 103 He might reasonably have expected as ill a presage for himself from those Fortune tellers. 1681 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* I. (1726) 68 An ingenious Presage, but not true. 1871 ROSSETTI *Dante at Verona* vi, Shall not his birth's baptismal Town One last high presage yet fulfil?

3. A presentiment, a foreboding; a feeling of what is going to happen; an intuition of the future.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 142 Farewell, if hearts presages be not vaine, We three here part, that neu'r shall meete againe. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 9 The presage or forefeeling of immortalitie, implanted in all men naturally. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. 64 The natural presages of Conscience. 1812 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 115 He had a strong presage upon his mind that he had only a very short time to live. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 427. 1852 LD. COCKBURN *Jeffrey* I. 61, I have very often deep presages that the law will not hold me.

4. *Comb.* **Presage-woman**, a fortune-teller.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvi. 135 The customary style of my Language alloweth them the Denomination of Presage Women.

Presage (prĭsē·dʒ), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [a. F. *présager* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *présage* PRESAGE *sb.* The form *presagier*, ad. L. *præsāgīre* was common in 16th c. French (Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To signify beforehand (supernaturally); to portend, foreshadow.

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Sicke Men* 54 Thei dooe presage, deuine, or shewe before, what thynges doe folowe. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 56 If but one fyre is sene, it presageth a most cruell, daingerous and tempestuous storme. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 16 Hippocrates wisely considered Dreams as they presaged Alterations in the Body. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 P 2, I am not so vain as to think it [a dream] presaged any Dignity that I should arrive at. *a* 1816 JOYCE *Sci. Dial.* xv. (1846) 105 Have not eclipses been esteemed as omens presaging some direful calamity?

b. *transf.* To point to or indicate beforehand; to give warning of (by natural means).

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 191 This iarring discord of Nobilitie,..doth presage some ill euent. 1596 *Edw. III*, I. ii, Whose habit rude, and manners blunt and plain, Presageth nought. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* II. li. 326 If the Feaver continue to the third Crisis, it presages Bleeding at the Nose. 1748 GRAY *Alliance* 33 Th' Event presages, and explores the Cause. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* (ed. Webster) I. 150 The rising of the mercury presages, in general, fair weather. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Fanst* (1875) I. 399 *note*, The confusion of Margaret's thoughts, presaging her later insanity.

2. Of a person: To augur, predict, forecast. † By Spenser used for To point out, make known.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxviii. 746 If they finde..a Spider, they presage pestilence. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 12 Seest thou not all men presage I shall be King? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 61 Then seek this path that I to thee presage, Which after all to heaven shall thee send. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 174 Like Prophecy, that can presage Successes of the latest Age. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 209 Lands he could measure, terms and tides presage. 1865 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxiv. 95 *note*, The author presaged from this vision that he should write no more than the emperor had read.

b. *intr.* To form or utter a presage or prediction.

1592 *Doctor Faustus* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) III. 199 Which learned him to presage of matters to come. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 5 Men..are apt to believe as they affect, and then to presage as they believe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 483 By certain Signs we may presage Of Heats and Rains, and Wind's impetuous rage. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 87 Which not long should abide, so presag'd surely the Parcae. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iv. 73 Prophecy would fain presage auspiciously.

3. *trans.* To have a presentiment or prevision of.

1594 *1st Pt. Contention* (1843) 27 My mind presageth I shall live To see the noble Duke of Yorke to be a King. 1598 TOFTE *Alba* G v, My misgiving minde presaging to me ill. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. (1688) 145 William Herbert Earl of Pembroke,..presaging some Disaster to himself, departed this life in his Climacterical year. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) V. 146 God forgive me if I don't presage some mischief to poor Miss Rosy. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* XXV. 154 That great experiment, from the preliminaries of which he was only able to presage danger and disaster.

b. *intr.* To have a presentiment.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. vi. (1612) 22 Where, like as did his minde presage, he found it very so. 1670 G. H. tr. *Hist. of Cardinals* II. iii. 181 It succeeded as they presag'd.

Presageful (prĭsē·dʒfŭl), *a.* [f. PRESAGE *sb.* + -FUL. (The pronunc. retains the earlier stress.)]

1. Full of presage; portentous, ominous.

1591 SYLVESTER *Ivry* 182 O Princely Port! Presagefull Countenance Of Hap at hand! 1605 — *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 179 Presagefull rays of somwhat more divine. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 70 The brawling brook, And cave, presageful, send a hollow moan, Resounding long in listening Fancy's ear. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 62 (1822) II. 75 The presageful nature of the meteor. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lxxi. 584 A better chance of winning the preliminary canter, and thereby securing the advantage of a presageful victory.

2. Full of presentiment or foreboding.

1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* V. 142 No sad, presageful Thought preluded Fate. 1796 COLERIDGE *Sonn., to Friend who asked how I felt*, etc. 10 Dark remembrance and presageful fear. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 293 Ev'n such a wave,..Dark in the glass of some presageful mood, Had I for three days seen.

Hence **Presa·gefully** *adv.*

1844 BROWNING *Colombe's Birthday* III, Presagefully it beats, presagefully, My heart.

† **Presa·gement.** *Obs.* [f. PRESAGE *v.* + -MENT.] The action or fact of presaging. a. Foreshowing, prognostication; an omen, a portent.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 55 A fyre..called Santelmo or Corposantie; the which appeareth before anie tempestuous weather as a presagement of a most dainegerous storme. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Dk. Buckhm.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 118, I have spent some enquiry, whether he had any ominous presagement before his end. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 265 The falling of Salt is an authenticke presagement of ill lucke.

b. Presentiment; foretelling power; prevision.

1637 JACKSON *Serm. on Matt.* ii. 27, 18, § 8 Her own prediction or good ominous presagements of Joseph's name. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 40 His reservednesse had contrived answers, whose accomplishments were in his power, or not beyond his presagement.

Presager (prĭsē·dʒəɹ). [f. PRESAGE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which presages or portends.

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* xiii. 141 Vnvsuall signes, Presagers of strange terrors to the world. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxiii, O let my books be..domb presagers of my speaking brest. 1698 [R. FERGUSON] *View Eccles.* Pref., A Presager and Prophet, of the Fate and Destiny which did await him. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 188 An able Presager in the Events of this kind of Inflammation.

† **Pre·sagie.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *præsāgium* PRESAGE: for the form, cf. *prodigy*.] = PRESAGE *sb.*

1582 STUBBES *Two Examples* (N.), Thinke thou this is a presagie of God's fearce wrath to thee.

† **Presa·gient,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also præ-. [ad. L. *præsāgient-em*, pr. pple. of *præsāgīre* to presage: see PRESAGE *sb.* Cf. obs. F. *presagiant* (Cotgr.).] Having presentiment or foreboding.

1648 W. SCLATER *Comm. Malachy* (1650) Ep. Ded., As it were forespeaking, and (after Zanchy's expression) præsagient, conjecturing natures. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xi. (1713) 120 There not being..so comprehensive and presagient an Anxiety..in Brutes.

Presaging (prĭsē·dʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the vb. PRESAGE; prognostication.

1598 FLORIO, *Presagia*, the arte of presaging or diuination. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 241 When or where their divinations and presagings were most received. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* § 252 Plotinus observes..that the art of presaging is in some sort the reading of natural letters denoting order. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 246 Destined to fulfil in his person the presagings of the nation's seers.

Presa·ging, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That presages. a. Foreboding, portending, giving augury.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 242 Presaging tokens which I will now relate. 1704 *Hymn Vict.* lix, We had presaging Tokens of Success. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xviii. (1862) 299 The very name of the pool having in his eyes a presaging fitness.

b. That has presentiment or prevision.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 459 The portending heauinesse of my presaging soule. *a* 1664 KATH. PHILIPS *In Mem. F. P.* Poems (1667) 40 No, thou art gone, and thy presaging Mind. 1713 YOUNG *Force Relig.* II. 114 [He] wondring sees in sad presaging thought. 1893 *Standard* 14 June, So much for the presaging intelligence which first invented the fable.

Hence **Presa·gingly** *adv.*, in a presaging manner.

1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 48 How often..haue I heard Robert Parsons..presagingly hope for such contentions vpon vnion of the two kingdomes. 1660 A. SADLER *Subject's Joy* 2 The Younger is a Masquer; and she also.. doth .. præsagingly præact his just Inauguration. 1846 *Chambers' Misc.* XI. *Alex. Andrayne* 5 The jailer opened a little door studded with iron, on which my eyes had been from the first presagingly fixed.

† **Presa·gious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præsāgi-um* PRESAGE + -OUS; cf. obs. F. *presagieux* (Cotgr.).]

a. Of the nature of a presage; ominous, portentous.

b. Having a presage or presentiment.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 204 Strange visions,..confirmed with presagious chances. 1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* (1672) 9 Nor were there any presagious dreams or fearful divinations. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. IV. vii. (1852) 603 That holy..minister of the gospel at length grew very presagious that his labours..drew near unto an end.

† **Presagi·tian.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 7 præs-. [app. for **presagician*, f. PRESAGE after *magician, practician*, etc.] A professor of presages; an augur, prognosticator.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 293 Augustus had..such a confidence in this fatidical praesagitian, that he divulged his natalitial Theme.

† **Presagi·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *præsāgītiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præsāgīre* to presage: see PRESAGE *sb.*] A presaging, a presage.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 228 A presagition and token, wherebie this Edgina conceaved hope to bringe forthe a childe, which in tyme to comme showlde reigne. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 52 Have not beasts..a more perfect presagition, by their senses, than men, with all their reason, can attain unto?

Presanctify (prĭsæ·ŋktifəi), *v. rare.* [PRE- A. I.] *trans.* To sanctify previously or beforehand. Chiefly in **Presanctified** *ppl. a.* [after med.L. *præsanctificāta* the presanctified (elements), *missa præsanctificātōrum* the mass of presanctified (elements); so F. *la messe des présanctifiés*], sanctified or consecrated beforehand. *Liturgy* or *Mass of the Presanctified*, an office said in the Roman Catholic Church on Good Friday, and in the Greek Church throughout Lent (except on Saturdays and Sundays and the Feast of the Annunciation), at which the elements used have been consecrated at a previous celebration.

1853 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 242 The mass of the presanctified was celebrated. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. II. iv. 336 These two, with a third, called the Liturgy of the Presanctified,..constitute the general liturgy of the Greek Church down to the present day. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 128 The custom..of not consecrating but only of receiving the presanctified Host consecrated on Maundy Thursday.

Presanctifica·tion. Also 7 præ-. [In a, f. PRE- A. 2; in b, n. of action from prec.]

a. A previous sanctification. b. Consecration of the eucharistic elements at a previous celebration.

a 1660 HAMMOND 19 *Serm.* ix. Wks. 1684 IV. 619 A præmundation or præsanctification of them that sued to be admitted higher. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 128 It is doubtful what the usage of the English Church, in the abeyance of presanctification, ought to be.

Presand, -ant, -aunt, etc., obs. ff. PRESENT.

Pre-sartorial, *a. nonce-wd.* [PRE- B. 1.] Anterior to the rise of the 'sartorial art' or tailoring.

1871 LOWELL *Study Wind., Thoreau* 145 Bran had its prophets, and the presartorial simplicity of Adam its martyrs, tailored impromptu from the tar-pot of incensed neighbours.

† **Pre-say,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + SAY *v.*] *trans.* To say before; to preface with something said.

1722 S. SEWALL *Diary* 25 Sept., Sung 4 Staves of the 80th Psalm, the last of it; only pre-said it with, From Egypt, &c., four Lines.

Presbyope (prĕ·sbiˌōup, prē·z-). *rare*⁻⁰. [f. as next + Gr. *-ωπος* seeing.] A person affected with presbyopia. 1857 in DUNGLISON.

‖ **Presbyopia** (pres-, prezbiˌōu·piă). Rarely in anglicized form **pre·sbyopy.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρέσβυς* an old man + *-ωπία* (as in *ἀμβλυωπία* AMBLYOPIA), f. *ὤψ, ὠπ-* eye.] An affection of the eyes incident to old or advancing age, in which the power of accommodation to near objects is lost or impaired, and only distant objects are seen distinctly; a form of long-sightedness.

1793 YOUNG in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 178 The central part of the crystalline becomes rigid by age, and this is sufficient to account for presbyopia. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 151 The third variety, or that produced by old age, constitutes the presbytia and presbyopia of medical writers. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 233 Presbyopia or Long Sight is one of the first of the legion of troubles which advancing years bring upon all of us. 1881 LE CONTE *Sight* I. iii. 49 The remedy for presbyopy is the use of convex glasses. *Ibid.* 50 Myopy is a structural defect; presbyopy is a functional defect.

Presbyˌopic (-ˌo·pik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -IC.] Pertaining to or affected with presbyopia. (In the same sense ‖ **presbyops** has been used).

1801 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 6, I adapted the optometer..to presbyopic eyes. [1803 tr. *Heberden's Comm.* lxvi. (ed. 2) 330 A violent giddiness has suddenly made a person presbyops, or long sighted.] 1881 ANDERSON in *Nature* 27 Oct. 618/2 Suppose a man has become presbyopic, *i. e.* his accommodation has gradually become stiff, and its range reduced.

b. as *sb.* A person affected with presbyopia.

1864 tr. *Donders' Accom. & Refract. Eye* 308 Often hyperpresbyopics and presbyopics are met with in this group.

Presbyˌotic, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + Gr. *οὖς, ὠτ-* ear, *-ωτος* -eared + -IC.] Dull of hearing in consequence of old age.

1890 HUMPHRY *Old Age* 152 To meet the auditory defects which may be attributed to a presbyotic condition.

Pre·sbyte. [ad. Gr. *πρεσβύτης* an old man (Aristotle, *Prob.* 31. 25). So F. *presbyte*, mod.L. *presbyta*.] = PRESBYOPE.

(The modern use is not that of Aristotle, who only raises the question *why* an old man (*πρεσβύτης*) is long-sighted. Nor is it recognized even in the 1762 ed. of Castelli *Lex. Med.* I. Bywater.)

[1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Presbitæ*, are those Men who by Old Age, or other Accidents, have the Globe of the Eye so flat, that the produced Visual Rays pass the Retina before they unite. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., If the distance between the retina and the crystalline be too small, the person will likewise be a presbyta.] 1846 WORCESTER cites PROF. FARRAR for *Presbyte*.

† **Presbytee·r.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. Derisive abbreviation of PRESBYTERIAN *sb.*, after *pulpiteer*, etc. Hence † **Presbytee·ring** *vbl. sb.*, acting the Presbyterian; practice of Presbyterianism.

1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 112 The Wars that were begun In sixteen hundred forty one 'Tween Protestants and Presbyteers. 1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 461 Then leave your rebellious and damn'd Presbyteering, Or you may be glad of Poor-Jack and Red-Herring.

Presbyter (prĕ·s-, prĕ·zbitəɹ). Also 6 **presbiter.** [a. late L. *presbyter* (Tertullian), ad. Gr. *πρεσβύτερος*, in N. T. an elder of the Jewish council or Sanhedrim, an elder of the apostolic church; prop. adj. 'older, elder', compar. of *πρέσβυς* an old man. So F. *presbytre*.

The Vulgate regularly renders Gr. *πρεσβύτερος, -οι* by *senior, seniores*, exc. in Acts xx. 17, xxii. 5, where it has *majores natu*, and in Acts xiv. 23, xv. 2, 1 Tim. v. 17, 19, Titus i. 5, Jas. v. 14, where the Gr. is retained as *presbyter, -eri*. The same men who in Acts xv. 2 are called *apostoli et presbyteri*, are denominated in verses 4, 6, 22, 23 *apostoli et seniores*; the Gr. having uniformly *ἀπόστολοι καὶ πρεσβύτεροι*. Wyclif faithfully renders these Latin equivalents by 1) *elder man, eldre, eld(e)re men* (twice, in Rev., *senyoures*), 2) *the more thorw* (or *in*) *birth*, and 3) *prestis*. The 16-17th Eng. versions from the Greek, and the Revised, have uniformly *elder, -s*, in every instance. The Rhemish N. T. has *priest* wherever the Vulgate has *presbyter*; in other places regularly *auncients*; but, from 1 Peter onward (18 places) *senior, seniors*.

Notwithstanding the prevalence of *senior* in the Vulgate, *presbyter* became the official name of the ecclesiastical order, whence also the Com. Romanic *prêster*, OF. and Prov. *prestre*, F. *prêtre*, Sp. and Cat. *prete*, It. *prete*; WGer. **prester*, OS. *prēstar*, OFris. *prēstere*, MDu. and Du. *priester*, OHG. *prēstar, prēst, priast*, ON. *prestr, prest-*, OE. *preost*, Eng. *priest* (as an order in the Latin and Anglican churches): see PRIEST.]

1. An elder in the Christian church. a. In the early church: One of a number of officers who had the oversight and management of the affairs of a local church or congregation, some of them having also the function of teaching. (Cf. BISHOP *sb.* 1 a.)

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 4 The historie doth make no mention by what occasion Presbyters were instituted in Ierusalem, onely wee reade..how the like were made afterwards else where. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* II. 64 All agree in this, that in the Apostles time there was no difference betwixt Bishops and Presbyters. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxi. III. 261 After receiving, by the imposition of hands, the sacred character of a Christian Presbyter, he ventured to open the gates of the city. 1820 SOUTHEY

Wesley II. 437 [Wesley] proposed, in his character of presbyter, which, he said, was the same as bishop, to invest him [Dr. Coke] with the same presbytero-episcopal powers. 1852 CONYBEARE & H. *St. Paul* (1862) I. xiii. 406 The office of the Presbyters was to watch over the particular church in which they ministered, in all that regarded its external order and internal purity.

b. In Episcopal churches: A minister of the second order, ranking below a bishop and above a deacon; a priest or pastor. (In modern use, not an official or ordinary term, but used occasionally instead of *priest*, to connote identity with sense a, or distinction from the sense of 'a sacrificing priest' (= Gr. ἱερεύς, L. *sacerdos*): see PRIEST).

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 2 The Cleargie are either Presbyters or Deacons. *Ibid.* § 3 In truth the word Presbyter doth seeme more fit, and in proprietie of speech more agreeable than Priest with the drift of the whole Gospell of Iesus Christ. 1635 *Canons Eccles. Ch. Scot.* xviii. 39 If anie..confesse the same to the Bishop, or Presbyter,..hee shall not make knowne, nor reveale what hath beene opened to him in Confession. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Presbyter*,..a Priest; as a Presbyter of the Church of England. 1820 [see a]. 1846 SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* xiv. 443 Origen afterwards removed to Palestine, and fell under the displeasure of his own bishop for being there ordained a presbyter.

c. In Presbyterian churches: An occasional name for an elder (see ELDER *sb.*[3] 4, PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1); *esp.* one who is a member of a PRESBYTERY.

1615 HEYWOOD *Foure Prentises* I. xviii. Wks. 1874 II. 207 Should Soldan, Sophy, Priest or Presbyter, Or gods, or Diuels, or men, gaine-say our will. *c* 1646 MILTON *New Forcers Consc.* 20 When they shall read this clearly in your charge: New Presbyter is but Old Priest writ Large. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xii, She considered the comely humility of a presbyter as the wickedness of hypocrisy. 1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. v. 197 The main object was, to raise up presbyters, and to destroy bishops.

†**2.** A Presbyterian. *Obs.*

1647 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. (1701) II. 1033 He..prest him to tell him whether he was an Independent or a Presbiter? The Gentleman answered, Neither, for he was a Protestant. 1655 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Dec., The mournfullest day that in my life I had seene, or the Church of England herselfe since the Reformation; to the greate rejoicing of both Papist and Presbyter. 1660 J. C[ROUCH] *Return Chas. II* 10 Monck was not so much Presbyter. 1681 WOOD *Life* 5 Nov. (O. H. S.) II. 558 Westminster Schoolboyes burn'd Jack Presbyter instead of the pope. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* VIII. 96 Episcopalian none, nor presbyter.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **presbyter-abbot**, an abbot who was a presbyter; **presbyter-bishop** = sense 1 a, identified with BISHOP *sb.* 1 a; †**presbyter dissent**, app. a dissent on the part of presbyters or priests; †**Presbyter John**: see PRESTER JOHN; †**presbyter Scot**, a Presbyterian Scot, or ? a Scottish Presbyterian elder.

1839-47 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* ix. 97 The monastery of Iona had for its governor a *Presbyter-Abbot, to whose authority..the whole province, and also the bishops themselves, were bound to be subject. 1903 *Union Mag.* Aug. 364/2 *Presbyter-bishops were in existence before the single bishop was thought of. 1690 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Mar., He observed that the first *Presbyter dissents from our discipline were introduc'd by the Jesuites order, about the 20 of Queene Eliz. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii, While the *presbyter Scot that woos and solicits him, is neglected and put off. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 14 May, A mockery, by one Cornet Bolton,..that..did pray and preach like a Presbyter Scot.

Presbyteral (pres-, prezbi·tərăl), *a.* Also 7 -bit-. [a. F. *presbytéral* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *presbyterālis* (*c* 984 in Du Cange): see prec. and -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to a presbyter or priest; consisting of presbyters.

1611 COTGR., *Presbiteral*, Presbiterall, Priestlie, belonging to a priest. 1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VII. 652 According to the Councell of Chalcedon, at which time a presbyterall title without an Office was not heard of. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 176 Neither the Unction, nor the Delivery of the Consecrated Vessels, are the Matter of Presbyteral Ordination. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xv. I. 490 These powers, during a short period, were exercised according to the advice of the presbyteral college. 1885 LIGHTFOOT *Ep. Philippians* (ed. 8) 350 [In the *Doctrine of the Twelve Apostles*] There is no trace of the episcopal office as distinct from the presbyteral.

2. = PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1.

1651 W. JANE Εικων Ακλαστος 193 The Directory, Extemporall devotions, independent, or Presbiterall platformes. 1688 *Andros Tracts* II. 12 Dissenting Ministers in and about London, that go under the Denomination of Presbiteral and Congregational. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 49 Calvin's Presbyteral Order. 1807 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* V. 577 Zeal for a presbyteral, rather than an episcopal organization of Church government. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. Early Cent.* v. 194 There is no indication that he is upholding the episcopal against any other form of church government, as for instance the presbyteral.

Presbyterate (presbi·tərĕt, prez-), *sb.* [ad. med.L. *presbyterātus* (755 in Du Cange): see PRESBYTER and -ATE[1].]

1. The office of presbyter; presbytership, eldership.

1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epise.* (1647) 82 Why should a Deaconship, or a Presbyterate consist with the office of an Evangelist, more then a Bishoprick? 1683 CORBET *Nonconf. Plea* 12 The Ministry that I have received, is the sacred office of Presbyterate. 1833-6 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk., Prim. Chr., Apollinaris* (1872) 392 His father..rose to the presbyterate in the Church of that city [Laodicea]. 1881 STANLEY *Chr. Instit.* (1884) 36 As the Episcopate became more separate from the Presbyterate.

2. A body of presbyters; the order of presbyters.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. iii. 74 As appears by that of Paul to Timothy, on whom were laid the Hands of the Presbytery; not of the Presbyterate, or one Presbyter. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 165 The distinction of the Episcopate and Presbyterate, as of two separate Orders. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. App. 618 The mild and natural authority which the Apostle assigns to a representative presbyterate.

Presbyterate (-ĕt), *a.* [Short for *presbyterated*: see next.] Constituted of presbyters or elders.

1853 D. KING *Def. Presbyt. Ch. Govt.* VI. iii. (1854) 349 The sole or chief use of presbyterate gathering is to settle disputes.

Presbyterate (-ĕt), *v.* Also 9 -trate. [f. PRESBYTER + -ATE[3] 7.] *trans.* To constitute or organize according to the Presbyterian system. Chiefly in **Presbyterated** *ppl. a.*

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* V. ii. (1852) 208 A presbyterated society of the faithful. 1900 W. A. SHAW *Hist. Eng. Ch.* II. 126 All the Parliamentary ordinances for the county classes which have survived, only presbytrated or united into the classes, the parish churches or chapels.

‖ **Presbytère.** [F., ad. late L. PRESBYTERIUM.] A Roman Catholic priest's house; = PRESBYTERY 6.

1844 LEVER *T. Burke* II. 165, I took him home with me to my presbytère at Sevres, for that was my parish. 1857 G. OLIVER *Coll. Hist. Cath. Relig. Cornwall*, etc. 27 A convenient site was purchased..for a church, school, and presbytère. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 63. 306 At the entrance of the..village street,..stood the church, and..the presbytère and its apple garden.

†**Presbyteress** (pre·s-, pre·zbitərės). *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *presbyterissa* (*Ordo Rom.* in Du Cange, Duns Scotus *Sentent.* 4. 25. 2-6); in sense 2 for earlier L. *presbytera*: see PRESBYTER and -ESS.]

1. The wife of a presbyter or priest.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 71 Marianus sayth, she was a presbyteresse or a prestes leman, to saue the honoure of that ordre, bycause he was a monke hys selfe. [1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 21/2 Priestes then in those daies [*c* 1074] had wiues openly and lawfully .. as appeareth by the dedes and writynges of their chapter seales..and were called, by their name, presbyterisse.] 1672-5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 240 So it was in Germany long after, where the Priests Wife had the Title of Presbyteress.

2. A female presbyter; one of an order of women in the early church, having some of the functions of presbyters.

They were either widows, or matrons who had with their husbands' consent left the estate of matrimony, to devote themselves to divine service. (See Du Cange.)

1651 JER. TAYLOR *Clerus Dom.* 15 The Presbyteresses who were the..governesses of women, in order to manners and religion. 1682 *Weekly Mem. Ingen.* 342 To enquire into the quality of these Presbyteresses of the primitive church.

Presbyterial (pres-, prezbitī·riăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6-7 -bit-. [f. late L. *presbyteri-um* PRESBYTERY + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to a presbytery or body of presbyters or elders: **a.** generally.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. i. § 4 Treatises..whereby they have laboured to void the rooms of their spiritual superiors before authorized, and to advance the new fancied sceptre of lay presbyterial power. 1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* 81 Timothy received his Evangelicall Gift by the Imposition of Presbyteriall hands. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* Pref. 34 The Disputes about the *Jus Divinum*, of several sorts of Power, whether Regal, Episcopal, or Presbyterial, have had fatal Effects in their several Turns. 1840 GLADSTONE *Ch. Princ.* 410 A question of pure fact,.. whether the sufficiency of Apostolical powers has been historically transmitted in the Presbyterial as well as in the Episcopal line.

b. of a local PRESBYTERY (sense 4).

1717 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* 16/1 The Assembly of Ministers, either General, Synodical, or Presbyterial. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 271 The Presbyterian churches are governed by congregational presbyterial and synodical assemblies. 1832 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. xvii. 317 Men will not suspend their secular business on the Presbyterial fast-day. 1852 BLACKIE *Stud. Lang.* 25 Passing the entrance trials..and Presbyterial examinations.

2. = PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1. (Common in 17th c.; now *rare*.)

1592 (*title*) Conspiracie for Pretended Reformation: viz. Presbyteriall Discipline. 1593 ABP. BANCROFT (*title*) Davngerovs Positions and Proceedings, published and practised within this Iland of Brytaine, vnder pretence of Reformation, and for the Presbiteriall Discipline. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Pref., This government, whether it ought to be presbyterial or prelatical. 1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* xvi. 82 The next is the Presbyteriall way...I can poynt out when it began. 1646 CHAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 326 Many persuasions and threatnings that hath been used to me for making me change Episcopal into Presbiterial Government. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 388 The two main Rival Forms of Church Government pretending to divine Institution, are the Presbyterial and Episcopal. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 3/2 The petitioners were departing from the constitution of the Presbyterial system and were going on the worst lines of a Congregationalism no one could defend.

†**b.** as *sb.* = PRESBYTERIAN *sb. Obs.*

1647 G. PALMER *Sectaries Unmasked* 23 Another point in difference between the Presbyterialls and some of the Sectaries.

Hence †**Presbyte·rialist**, a Presbyterian; **Presbyte·rially** *adv.*, †**a.** according to the Presbyterian system of church government (*obs.*); **b.** by or on the part of a (or the) presbytery.

1647 G. PALMER *Sectaries Unmasked* 2 Conversations between those that stand for the Presbyterialists government (or at least nearest it) and those that dissent from it. 1655 S. ASHE in *R. Baillie's Lett. & Jrnls.* (Bannatyne Club) III. 307 Many act presbyteriallie in London, and in many counties, both in reference to ordination and admission to the sacrament. 1904 R. SMALL *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* I. 281 The congregation was visited presbyterially in the end of 1773.

Presbyterian (pres-, prezbitī·riăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -bit-. Now usually with capital *P.* [f. L. *presbyteri-um* PRESBYTERY + -AN; cf. F. *presbytérien* (in 15th c. an almoner, Froissart). For form cf. *episcopalian*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Pertaining to, or characterized by, government by presbyters or presbyteries; applied to a form or system of church polity (see below); belonging to or maintaining this system.

In Presbyterian Churches no higher order than that of presbyter or elder is recognized, the 'bishop' and 'elder' of the N. T. being held to be identical. All elders are ecclesiastically of equal rank; but, in their function in the church, while some are 'ruling and teaching elders' or 'ministers', others are only 'ruling elders' (popularly called 'lay elders', but erroneously, since all elders are ordained or 'in orders'). Each congregation is governed by its session, consisting of the minister and the other elders (see KIRK-SESSION, also CONSISTORY 9); the sessions are subordinate to the PRESBYTERY (see also CLASSIS), the presbyteries to the SYNOD, and (in most Presbyterian Churches) the synods to the General Assembly of the Church (see ASSEMBLY 5 b).

1641 SIR T. ASTON *Remonstr. Presbitery* Title-p., A Short Survey of the Presbyterian Discipline. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 172 In Scotland..though there were Bishops in name,..they themselves were..subject to an Assembly, which was purely Presbyterian. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 228, I am confidently perswaded, That the true way of Christ's Discipline, is parcelled out between the Episcopal, Erastian, Presbyterian, and Independents; and that every party hath a piece of the Truth in peculiar. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 191 For his Religion it was fit To match his Learning and his Wit: 'Twas Presbyterian true Blew. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) V. VII. 281 After the general vote was carried for the union [of England and Scotland], before they entered on the consideration of the particular articles, an act was prepared for securing the presbyterian government. 1750 J. EDWARDS *Wks.* (1834) I. xvii. p. clxiii/1 The presbyterian way has ever appeared to me most agreeable to the word of God and the reason and nature of things. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 10 For this purpose they erected a Presbytery at Wandsworth [1572]...This was the first Presbyterian church in England. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 365 He died at Newbury-Port, in New-England, and..was buried before the pulpit, in the Presbyterian church of that town. 1853 KILLEN *Hist. Presbyt. Ch. Irel.* III. xxxi. 585 On Friday, the 10th of July 1840,..the court was regularly constituted under the title of 'The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland'. 1876 *Proc. Union Synod* in Drysdale *Hist. Presbyt. Eng.* III. (1889) 626 *note*, That the name of the Church shall be 'The Presbyterian Church of England'. 1901 MCCRIE *Church of Scot. Divisions & Reunions* ii. 33 The polity of the Societies was presbyterian.

b. *Reformed Presbyterian*, of or pertaining to those Presbyterians who protested against the constitution of Church and State in Scotland at the Revolution Settlement in 1689, and claimed to be the true representatives of the Covenanters of the seventeenth century; also popularly called CAMERONIAN, q. v.

They consisted of members of the 'United Societies' formed in 1681, and in 1743 organized themselves under the name of *The Reformed Presbytery*, known at a later date as the 'Reformed Presbyterian Church'. In 1876 the greater part of this body in Scotland united with the Free Church; but some held out, and still constitute a separate denomination.

[1701: see B. 1744 A. MARSHALL in Hutchison *Ref. Presb. Ch.* 187 The Rev. Mr. John M'Millan and I,..with certain elders, upon the 1st August 1743, did erect ourselves into a Presbytery under the name of 'The Reformed Presbytery'.] 1806 (*title*) Reformation Principles exhibited by the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. 1860 J. GARDNER *Faiths of World* II. 745/2 A fully organized and independent section of the Reformed Presbyterian Church was formed in the sister isle. 1893 HUTCHISON *Ref. Presbyt. Ch.* ii. 25 The persecuted Presbyterians, of which the Reformed Presbyterian Church has always claimed to be the legitimate ecclesiastical successor.

c. *United Presbyterian*, of or pertaining to the united church or denomination formed in Scotland in 1847 by the union of the United Secession and Relief churches. (Abbreviated U. P.) In 1900 this body united with the (main body of the) Free Church of Scotland, to form the denomination then named the United Free Church of Scotland.

1847 *Proc. United Presbyt. Synod* 14 May 13 That the Name of the Church under the authority and inspection of this Synod be *The United Presbyterian Church*; and that the Name of this Synod be *The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church*, composed of the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church and of the Synod of the Relief Church. 1900 ROSS TAYLOR in *Proc. Assembly United Free Ch. Sc.* 64, I declare the Act of Union finally adopted, and that the Free Church of Scotland and the United Presbyterian Church are now one Church in Christ Jesus, under the designation of the United Free Church of Scotland.

2. Characteristic of a Presbyterian. *nonce-use.*

1699-1700 EARL OF BELLOMONT *Let. to Sir J. Stanley* 5 Mar. (Welbeck MSS.), He gave me a terrible hard presbyterian gripe in the articles between him and me. — *Let. to Vernon* 7 Mar. (Ibid.), When he had made me depend on him for advancing the money..he then gave me a Presbyterian gripe and fettered me in the writeings between us.

3. Of or pertaining to presbyters or priests, or the priestly order. *rare.*

1881 STANLEY *Chr. Inst.* vii. (ed. 2) 147 The texts on which the theory of Episcopal or Presbyterian absolution rests.

B. *sb.* One who maintains the Presbyterian system of church government; a member or adherent of a Presbyterian church.

Reformed Presbyterian, United Presbyterian, a member or adherent of the religious denominations so called: see A. 1 b, c.

1641 SIR T. ASTON *Remonstr. Presbit., Survey Presbyt. Discipl.* Table, Sectio 7. The Presbyterians must not be prescribed in doctrine. *Ibid.* xiii. I iij, The inordinate violence of the Presbyterians. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1753) 478 Those unhappy separatists, the Puritans,..who since are called 'Presbyterians', or 'Jews of the New Testament'. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 21 A Synod of the Presbyterians, of the Warwickshire Classis, was call'd at Coventry. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 77 The Pow'r and Interest of y^e^ Non-Conformists here [Ireland], and their greatest strength, is certainly that of y^e^ Presbiterians, who are of y^e^ Scotch nation. 1701 SIR R. HAMILTON in Hutchison *Ref. Presbyt. Ch.* v. (1893) 138, I die a true Protestant, and to my Knowledge a Reformed Presbyterian. 1732 E. ERSKINE *Synod Sermon* Wks. 1871 I. 504 All sound Presbyterians, who read the history of our forefathers, generally approve of the practice of Mr. Samuel Rutherford.. and other ministers of this church. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XV. xci, For I was bred a moderate Presbyterian. 1867 T. S. JAMES *Hist. Litigation resp. Presbyt. Chapels* 191 Milton, whatever he was, no Presbyterian. 1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects* (1886) 98/2 Under the name of *Reformed Presbyterians* the society still exists, claiming to be the representative of the old Covenanters in maintaining the Solemn League and Covenant as one of the standards, and still deploring the constitution of Church and State..as established at the Revolution of 1688 and at the Union. *Ibid.* 609/2 The United Presbyterians carry on missions..in the East and West Indies, and in Africa, together with medical missions to China. 1885 W. D. JEREMY *Presbyt. Fund & Dr. Williams's Trust* Introd. 8 *note,* In the eighteenth century, wind-guards fixed on chimney-pots were called Presbyterians, in derisive allusion to the want of fixedness in the theological opinions of the Denomination of that name.

Presbyte·rianism. [f. prec. + -ISM; cf. F. *presbytérianisme.*] The Presbyterian system of church government: see prec. A. 1.

1644 GILLESPIE (*title*) A Recrimination charged upon Mr. Goodwin, in defense of Presbyterianism. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charact., Univ. Beadle* (1860) 72 The favorites of independing presbyterianisme. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 54 P 3 The Tories tell us, that the Whig-Scheme would end in Presbyterianism and a Commonwealth. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 3 A more pious Christian, but without presbyterianism, did not exist than Captain Eliab. 1871 RAINY & MACKENZIE *Life Cunningham* xii. 164 The ineradicable Presbyterianism of the Scottish people.

Presbyte·rianize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To make Presbyterian; to organize according to the Presbyterian system. **b.** *intr.* To act as a Presbyterian, or in a way tending towards the Presbyterian system or doctrine. Hence **Presbyte·rianized** *ppl. a.*; **Presbyte·rianizing** *ppl. a.*

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Com.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 192/1 Cromwell's policy with the Independents, setting them to prepare a Confession of faith,—which would, ipso facto, have Presbyterianized them. *c* 1878 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1897) IV. xiii. 315 Our Bishops seem paralyzed by our Presbyterianizing Archbishop of Canterbury. 1885 *Ch. Q. Rev.* Jan. 494 The reaction from the unwise step of Archbishop Laud led them [Scottish Episcopalians] to all but Presbyterianize their worship at the..restoration..in 1660. 1886 BRODRICK *Hist. Univ. Oxford* 145 These bodies were equally resolved to Presbyterianise the University. 1889 DRYSDALE *Hist. Presbyt. in Eng.* 592 The need of..submitting to some more Presbyterianized development.

Presbyte·rianly, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a Presbyterian manner or direction.

1656 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Nov., Tho' the Minister was Presbyterianly affected, he yet was..duly ordain'd. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 255 This person [Thos. Vaughan] tho' presbyterianly affected, yet he had the Kings ear. 1894 W. WALKER *Hist. Congreg. Ch. U. S.* 171 This extension of the communion was not put in practice..during the first half-century..save at Presbyterianly inclined Newbury.

Pre·sbyterism. *rare.* [f. PRESBYTER + -ISM.] †**a.** = PRESBYTERIANISM. *Obs.* **b.** The office or rank of a presbyter.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 564 Anabaptisme, or Presbyterisme, or Independentisme. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 197 It looks not all like Popery that Presbyterism was disdained by the king; his father had taught him that it was a sect so perfidious, that he found more faith among the Highlanders. 1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 407 The consecration..of Archbishop Parker, even if we concede the mere Presbyterism of Barlow, will be more canonical than that of Pope Pelagius, by the precise amount of one Bishop.

‖ **Presbyte·rium, -ion.** [Christian L. (Cyprian, *a* 250), ad. Gr. *πρεσβυτέριον, -τερεῖον* (N. T.) a council of elders, Jewish or Christian; in eccl. Gr. the office of a presbyter, also the meeting-place of presbyters or elders.]

1. = PRESBYTERY 1.

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding's Answ.* III. xxvi. 196 The Quier was then..called *Cancelli,* a Chauncel, and commonly of the Greekes *Presbyterium,* for that it was a place specially appointed vnto the Priestes, and Ministers, and shut vp from al others. 1702 *Cowell's Interpr., Presbyterium,* the Presbytery *i. e.* The Quire or Chancel so called, because it was the place appropriated to the Bishop and Priests, and other Clergy.

2. = PRESBYTERY 3.

a 1886 J. KER *Lect. Hist. Preaching* iii. (1888) 46 Next was a space occupied by the Presbyterion or body of Presbyters. 1896 E. BECK in *Dublin Rev.* July 82 The college of cardinals represents the ancient *presbyterium,* or council, by which the bishop of Rome, as every other bishop, was assisted. 1902 T. M. LINDSAY *Ch. & Min. in Early Cent.* v. 196 According to the conception of Ignatius, every Christian community ought to have at its head a bishop, a presbyterium or session of elders, and a body of deacons.

Presby·tero-epi·scopal, *a. nonce-wd.* Of or pertaining to a presbyter-bishop.

1820 [see PRESBYTER 1 a].

Pre·sbytership. [See -SHIP.] The office or rank of presbyter; = PRESBYTERATE 1.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 3 Let them vse what dialect they will, whether we call it a Priesthood, a Presbytership, or a Ministerie, it skilleth not. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* 84 That no Deaconship or Presbytership is given among them, except first they have contracted a Virgin. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Tim.* iii. 13 A fair step to a higher order, i. e. to a bishopric or presbyter-ship. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 298/1 In chapter 47 he [Clement] speaks of the dignity of presbytership. 1885 E. S. FFOULKES *Prim. Consecr.* ix. 470 Thy servants, whom we dedicate to the honour of the presbytership.

Presbytery (pre·s-, pre·zbitəri). Also 5 **presbetory,** -**bytory,** 6–7 -**beterie,** -**y,** -**biterie,** -**bytrie,** 6–8 -**bitery.** [a. OF. *presbiterie* (12th c. in Littré) a priest's house, ad. late L. *presbyterium*: see PRESBYTERIUM.]

1. A part of a church, esp. of a cathedral or other large church, reserved for the clergy; formerly, the three seats or *sedilia* on the south side of the eastern part of the chancel, the remnant of the bench which in earlier times ran all round; hence, the whole of the eastern part of the chancel beyond the choir, in which the altar is placed; the sanctuary.

1412 in Raine *Catterick Church* (1834) 9 A high awter.. with three Prismatories [*sic*] convenably made be mason crafte. 1466 *Inv.* in *Archæologia* L. 34, j cloth of grene bokrame lyned for the presbetory. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 A Presbytory, *presbiterium.* *c* 1510 *Inv.* in *Papers Norf. & Norw. Archæol. Soc.* XIV. 194 Item. iij old qwishons daily lying in the presbitery. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* II. 77 A Noble Man caullid Philip Fitz Payne was buryed..under an Arch on the North side of the Presbyterie. 1845 PARKER *Gloss. Archit., Presbytery,*..the part of a church in which the high Altar is placed; it forms the eastern termination of the choir, above which it is raised by several steps, and is occupied exclusively by those who minister in the services of the Altar. 1848 *Rickman's Archit.* (ed. 5) p. xlvii, Clerestory of the presbytery, a fine rich example. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 8 The nave, or body of the church; the choir, and the sanctuary or presbytery.

†2. The office of a presbyter; eldership or priesthood; = PRESBYTERATE 1. *Obs.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Presbytery,* eldership. 1623 COCKERAM, *Presbyterie,* Priesthood. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 196 Those precise schismatics..cannot endure any precedency or priority of place to be in the church, but an equality of Presbyterie. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 74 He..ransacks the Temples or Houses of Christian Deuotion, trampling vnder-foot.. all reliques and vsefull Ornaments, belonging to Presbytery [among the Georgian Christians]. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 89 The next order in the Church of Christ to Apostles and Bishops is that of Presbytery or Priesthood. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* II. vii. (1739) 539 If the Word..Presbytery..signifies not a College of Presbyters, but the Office.

3. A body of presbyters or elders (in the early church; also in a general sense, usually with allusion to 4).

1611 BIBLE 1 *Tim.* iv. 14 Neglect not the gift..which was giuen thee by prophesie, with laying on of the hands of the Presbyterie [τοῦ πρεσβυτερίου, *presbyterii,* WYCLIF of prestis or presthod, TINDALE an elder, CRANMER presthode, *Geneva* the Eldership, *Rheims* priesthod, *Revised* the presbytery]. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 32 The bosome admonition of a Friend is a Presbytery, and a Consistory to them. 1650 BAXTER *Saints' R.* II. vi. § 1 (1651) 254 Even the Bishop with his Presbyterie was in each particular Church. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. p. li, When Alexander, bishop of Alexandria, called a Presbytery to condemn Arius, he had Deacons present with him, as well as Bishops and Priests. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 7. 4 The Bishops have no where committed it to the Presbytery. 1853 D. KING *Def. Presbyt. Ch. Govt.* v. vi. (1854) 269 The early Christian fathers frequently call the deliberative council of a particular church its presbytery.

4. In the Presbyterian system: A body or assembly of presbyters or elders, consisting of all the ministers, and one ruling elder (or sometimes two) from each parish or congregation within a particular local area, constituting the ecclesiastical court next above the kirk-session and below the synod (see PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1).

1578 *2nd Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* xi. § 11 Na man aucht to have the office of visitation [i.e. be a Superintendent] bot he that is lawfully chosin be the Presbytrie thereunto. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 476 Patrik Gillespie, moderatour of the haill presbiterie of Striveling. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 25 Some must be appoyntit in everie Presbytrie, by the Committie thairof. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. liii. 138 *note,* A presbytery in Scotland is an inferior ecclesiastical court, the same that was afterwards called a classis in England. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) p. xviii, The General Assembly..consists of commissioners, some of whom are laymen, under the name of ruling elders, from presbyteries, royal boroughs, and universities. 1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* p. viii, Having received ordination from the Presbytery,..I set out on this very morning six years ago, on my way to London. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. i. 83 In 1706 the Assembly recommended presbyteries to visit all public grammar schools within their bounds.

attrib. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 22 That they..make thair addresse to the severall presbytereis upoun the first presbyterie day after the charge.

b. *transf.* The district comprising the parishes or congregations represented by a presbytery.

1581 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 383 That thaireftir presbitereis or elderschippis may be constitute. 1591 *Ibid.* IV. 628 Maist pairt of the kirkis within the said presbiterie. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 48 Thair are ten kirkes of the presbytrie of Drumfries. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.,* etc. (1821) II. 112 He lived within the bounds of the Presbytery of Albany [U. S.]. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 500/1 In the Established Church of Scotland..there are 69 Presbyteries, each consisting of parishes in number not more than 24 nor fewer than 12. The Provincial Synods, of which there are 15,..are composed of the Presbyteries within the provinces which give name to the Synods. *Mod.* The churches in the London Presbytery.

c. By early writers, sometimes applied to the body of elders of an individual parish church (corresponding to the actual kirk-session).

[1573 SANDYS *Let. to Bullinger* 15 Aug. in *Zurich Lett.* (Parker Soc.) I. II. 173 Ecclesia Christi non admittit aliam gubernationem, quam illam solum, quæ fit per presbyterium: scilicet per ministrum, seniores et diaconum. *Ibid.,* Habeat unaquæque parochia suum proprium presbyterium. *transl.* ibid. I. I. 295–6 The church of Christ admits of no other government but that by presbyteries; viz. by the minister, elders, and deacon... Each parish should have its own presbytery. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. iii. § 8 The Nonconformists though over-powred for the present [1572] in Parliament..after the dissolution thereof,.. presumed to erect a Presbitery at Wandsworth in Surrey... This was the first-born of all Presbyteries in England, and *secundum usum Wandesworth,* as much honoured by some, as *secundum usum Sarum* by others. 1889 A. H. DRYSDALE *Hist. Presbyt. in Eng.* 121 A Congregational Eldership or parochial Presbytery, to which the Elizabethan Puritans attached prime importance. *Ibid.* 146 The Presbytery which was set up at Wandsworth was a local or parochial eldership. [But some question this view, and hold that the Wandsworth Presbytery was at least an approach to what is still known in Scotland as a presbytery (sense 4).]

†d. The ministers and elders collectively forming the administrative body of the Presbyterian church of a country. *Obs.*

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* VIII. 1705 In Scotland if I liv'd, I would deny No due respect to their Presbyterie. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* xliv. 341 The Presbytery hath challenged the power to Excommunicate their owne Kings, and to bee the Supreme Moderators in Religion, in the places where they have that form of Church government.

e. *Reformed Presbytery,* the presbytery or court of the Reformed Presbyterian church: see PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1 b.

1744 [see PRESBYTERIAN *a.* 1 b]. 1860 GARDNER *Faiths of World* II. 745/2 There being now two ministers, a meeting was held at Braehead on the 1st of August 1743, when a presbytery was the first time formed under the name of the *Reformed Presbytery. Ibid.* 749/2 The formation of the Reformed Presbytery in Scotland in 1743 was productive of much advantage to the Cameronians in Ireland.

5. The Presbyterian polity or system; Presbyterianism. (Contrasted with *episcopacy* or *prelacy,* and with *independency.*) Common in 17th c.; now *rare.*

1590 NASHE *Pasquils Apol.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 239 Thys beeing a place vppon which they haue built theyr Presbiterie, if they pull but one straw out of the nest, al their egges are broken. 1622 BACON *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Mor. & Hist. Wks. (Bohn) 499 The ministers, and those which stood for the presbytery, thought their cause had more sympathy with the discipline of Scotland than the hierarchy of England. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 66 In France..the Protestants ..carry the name of the best Subjects the King has; and yet Presbytery, if it must be so call'd, does there all that it desires to do. 1647 *Case Kingd.* 10 Presbyterie is the Rivall of Episcopacie. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 2 The Independants pretend to refine upon Presbitery (as that did upon the Church). 1846 M^c^CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 283 The Act of William and Mary, re-establishing Presbytery, passed in 1690. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 264 Prelacy was re-established 1610,..but Presbytery became finally triumphant.

6. A presbyter's or priest's house; a parsonage. (Now only in *R. C. Ch.*) Also *presbytery-house.*

1825 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIII. 136 The presbytery of the Moderator differed little either in construction or size from the hovels by which it was surrounded. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 8/3 He dated his communication from 'The Presbytery', as is usual among Roman Catholic clergy. 1902 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 584/1 They walked together to the presbytery-house.

‖ **Presbytia** (-bi·tiă). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρεσβύτης*: see PRESBYTE. Cf. F. *presbytie.*] = PRESBYOPIA. So **Presby·tic** *a.*, **Pre·sbytism.**

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Presbytia,* a dimness of Sight, when the Ball of the Eye is so flat, that the Visual Rays pass the Retina, or Net-like Coat before they are united. 1822–34 Presbytia [see PRESBYOPIA]. 1857 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med., Presbytic,* presbyopic. 1863 ATKINSON tr. *Ganot's Physics* VII. vi. § 509. 461 The most usual affections of the eye are myopy and presbytism, or short sight and far sight.

‖ **Prescapula** (prīskæ·pi·ulă). *Anat.* [PRE- A. 4 b.] That part of the scapula or shoulder-blade above (or in quadrupeds, anterior to) its spine or median axis. Hence **Presca·pular** *a.*, anterior to the spine or long axis of the shoulder-blade; *sb.* the *prescapularis* or *supraspinatus* muscle.

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Prescapular fossa*, supraspinous fossa.

Pre-scene, -scholastic: see PRE- A. 2, B. 1 d.

Prescience (prī·ʃiĕns). [a. F. *prescience* (13th c.), ad. late L. *præscientia* (Tertull.) foreknowledge: see PRESCIENT *a.* and -ENCE.] Knowledge of events before they happen; foreknowledge.

a. esp. as a divine attribute.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 974 (998) They seyn right þus þat þyng is not to come For þat þe prescience hath seyghen by-fore. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* i. 2 Up the prescience [*gloss* or bifore knowinge; Vulg. *secundum præscientiam*] of God, the fadir. *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 17 Thus it fareth by hem also that wyll ymagyne of predestynacyon and of the prescience or of the foreknowinge of god. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 787/1 Prescyence of God putteth no necessitie in thinges of their nature conuenient vnto free wyll of man. 1674 OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 106 It is utterly inconsistent with his Prescience and Omniscience. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1769 (1816) II. 100 Predestination, or what is equivalent to it, cannot be avoided, if we hold an universal prescience in the Deity. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vii. 331 If we attribute it to the divine prescience.

b. as a human faculty or quality: Foresight.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. x. (MS. Digby 230), Cassandra ..in eche arte had experience Of þinges future fully prescience To telle aforn what that shal betide. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 962 O prudent prelatis, quhare was your presciance, That tuke on hand tyll obserue Chaistytie, But austeir lyfe, laubour, and abstenance? 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 100 Nature hauing endued them with that wonderfull prescience, to auoide the inconueniences, and yet to enioy the benefit of the riuer. 1791 BURKE *Let. to Memb. Nat. Assemb.* Wks. VI. 54 Statesmen of a more judicious prescience, look for the fortunate moment too. 1856 KANE *Arct. Explor.* II. iv. 55 Resources..contingent certainly, so far as our prescience goes.

c. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of this. *rare*—¹.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* (1765) 148 We..deny ourselves.. natural gratifications, through speculative presciences and doubts about the future.

† **Pre·sciency.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.: see -ENCY.] = prec.

1572 R. T. *Discourse* 16 Partly by the Naturall motions of their myndes,..partly by the presciencie and foreknowledge of the thinges to comme.

Prescient (prī·ʃiĕnt), *a.* Also 8 præ-. [a. F. *prescient* (15th c.), ad. L. *præscientem*, pr. pple. of *præscīre* to know before, f. *præ*, PRE- A. 1 + *scīre* to know.] Having foreknowledge or foresight; foreseeing.

a 1626 BACON *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1879 I. 706/1 The providence of king Henry the seventh was in all men's mouths; who..showed himself sensible and almost prescient of this event. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 101 Præscient, the tides or tempests to withstand. 1798 CANNING, etc. *New Morality* 123 in *Anti-Jacobin* 9 July, Or, like the *anagallis*, prescient flower, Shuts her soft petals at the approaching shower. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* VI. xi, Gerard prescient that some trouble might in consequence occur there. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. iv. 46 James Harrington, one of the most prescient minds of that great age.

b. Of, pertaining to, or arising from prescience.

1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. White* I. x, The prescient sadness of a coming and a long farewell.

So † **Prescie·ntial, præ-,** *a.* = prec.

a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Love's Eye* ii. Poems (Grosart) II. 243/1 Love..into dark Futurity With præscientiall Rays doth press.

Prescientific (prīsəi,ĕnti·fik), *a.* [In 1, irreg. f. PRESCIENCE after *scientific*; in 2, f. PRE- B. 1 + SCIENTIFIC (prob. after *prehistoric*).]

I. †1. Of or belonging to prescience; *conditional prescientific*, making (the divine) prescience conditional. *Obs. rare.*

1836 G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. iii. 265 Ireneus ..has also been claimed as an advocate of the same Conditional Prescientific System: but, in truth,..he really maintained a directly opposite Scheme of causation. *Ibid.* 267 Ireneus never maintains the Conditional Prescientific Scheme.

II. 2. Of or pertaining to times prior to the rise of modern science, or to the application of the scientific method.

1858 G. DUFF *Sp. at Elgin* 11 Aug., Belonging as he [Lord Palmerston] does to the premoral, as Lord Derby says he does to the prescientific, school. 1868–70 MILL *Ess. Relig.* (1874) 241 In prescientific times men always supposed that any unusual faculties which came to them they knew not how, were an inspiration from God. 1879 *Times* 5 June 9 Their expeditions should not be regarded as either unscientific or prescientific.

Presciently (prī·ʃiĕntli), *adv.* [f. PRESCIENT + -LY².] In a prescient manner; with prescience.

1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1858) III. 454 On this memorable day a philosophical politician might have presciently marked the seed-plots of events. 1844 DE QUINCEY *Greece under Romans* Wks. 1858 VIII. 346 He legislated well and presciently, they imagine, for the interests of a remote posterity.

Prescind (prĭsi·nd), *v.* [ad. L. *præscindĕre*, *præsciss-* to cut off in front, f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *scindĕre* to cut.]

1. *trans.* To cut off beforehand, prematurely, or abruptly; to cut away or remove at once.

1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 20 The brevity of his reigne prescinded many and great hopes of his good government of the whole Empire. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 284 Therefore these surcles are prescinded, that a new spring .. may follow. 1689 *Consid. conc. Succession & Alleg.* 17 The Crown may be so entailed..to some Persons, as to bar and prescind the Title of others. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 29. 196 Kings ought..if they do fall into Mischiefs to prescind the Occasions of them, as soon as they are discovered. 1850 O. BROWNSON *Wks.* VII. 218 The ingenious writer is not at liberty to prescind from divine revelation all that he is not sure of by his own instincts.

2. To cut off, detach, or separate *from*; to abstract.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* To Rdr. 25 Nothing..but a mere Phrase, if you prescind it from what is comprized in Remission of sins. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 100 An abstract idea of happiness, prescinded from all particular pleasure. 1744 — *Siris* § 225 If force be considered as prescinded from gravity and matter, and as existing only in points or centers, what can this amount to but an abstract spiritual incorporeal force? 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* VII. 475 Nor have universal things prescinded from the particular any absolute existence.

3. *intr.* (for *refl.*) with *from*: **a.** To withdraw the attention *from*; to leave out of consideration. † **b.** To separate itself, withdraw *from* (*obs.*). † **c.** *Prescinding from*, apart from (*obs.*).

1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* A ij, They would not be prejudiced by Custom,..but prescinding from that, give their understandings. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ii. 6 The Air..must be defin'd, prescinding from all Admistions that are extraneous to it. *Ibid.* I. xii. 48 The Observer shall never find it worth while to observe Lunar Semisextiles or Quincunxes, either prescinding from their Principals. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 362 A bare act of Obliquity does not only prescind from, but also positively deny such a special dependence of it upon the will. 1713 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* VII. § 5 The abstract general idea of man prescinding from, and exclusive of all particular shape, size, complexion, passions, faculties, and every individual circumstance. 1890 W. S. LILLY *Right & Wrong* 98 In what I am about to write I prescind entirely from all theological theories and religious symbols.

Hence **Presci·ndent** *a.*, prescinding, abstracting.

1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* II. 101 Which no Body who knows the prescindent Faculties of the Soul..can deny.

† **Pre·scious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præsci-us* foreknowing (f. *præscīre* to foreknow: see PRESCIENT) + -OUS.] = PRESCIENT.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 11 Predestination..is in respect to God no prescious determination of our Estates to come, but a definitive blast of His Will already fulfilled. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* XI. 242 Thrice happy thou,..Prescious of ills, and leaving me behind, To drink the dregs of life by fate assign'd. 1765 C. SMART *Phædrus* III. ix, Cassandra's prescious care Sought, but obtain'd no credence there.

Prescission (prĭsi·ʃən). *rare.* [n. of action from PRESCIND.] The action of prescinding.

1589 NASHE *Almond* 2 If, in comparing thy knauery, my full points seeme as tedious to thy puritane perusers as the Northeren mans mile and a waybitte to the weary passenger ..till I see what market commission thou hast to assist any mans sentences, I will neuer subscribe to thy periode prescission [*printed* prescisme]. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prescission. [See also PRECISION 2.]

† **Prescit,** *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [ad. L. *præscīt-us*, pa. pple. of *præscīre* to foreknow (see PRESCIENT), in med.L. = reprobate (see Du Cange).] Foreknown (to be damned); hence, condemned, reprobate. So † **Presci·ted** *a.*

(*Præscitus* 'foreknown' was evidently employed to avoid *prædestinātus*; but the latter being commonly restricted to the sense 'predestinated to salvation', *præscītus* came to be = 'foreordained to perdition, condemned, reprobate'.)

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 7 Þe pope wat not, ne of himsilf, if he be sauid of God, or prescit to be dampnid, þat if he be prescit, silk indulgencis rennun not forþ aȝen þe ordinaunce of God. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 276 The deuout penetent and humble publican, whoe by our Sauiours verditt,..was justified, and the other, your examplare and his antigoniste, prescited, by those words *qui se humiliat exaltabitur, et qui se exaltat humiliabitur.*

Prescle, erron. form of PRESSLE *Obs.*

Prescribe (prĭskrəi·b), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [ad. L. *præscrībĕre* to write before, to appoint or direct in writing; in law, to bring an exception against, demur to, etc.; f. *præ*, PRE- A + *scrībĕre* to write.]

I. †1. *trans.* To write first or beforehand; also, to write with foreknowledge; to predict in writing; to describe beforehand. *Obs.*

1545 LELAND *New Year's Gift* (1549) D iij, There hath bene to the nombre of a full hundreth or mo, that..hath..prescribed the actes of your moste noble predecessours. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d ij, So to Paint, and prescribe the Sunnes Motion, to the breadth of a heare. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* (1627) To Rdr., For the manner of proceeding used in this worke, it is prescribed in the preface. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 133 Except you rightly understand the words of Berengarius, (hee might have said of Pope Nicolas, who did prescribe them). 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptism* 102 Esaias prescribed it excellently; The wolf shall dwell with the Lamb.

† **b.** To inscribe on the front or forepart. *Obs.*

1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* Ded., (Hauing heard your approbation of these in their presentment) I could not but prescribe them with your name.

2. To write or lay down as a rule or direction to be followed; to appoint, ordain, direct, enjoin. Const. *to* or dative; with simple obj. or obj. cl.

1535 *Goodly Primer* (1834) 204 Let us prescribe him no time, but ever submit our wills to his. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 153 The workes of charite marcy and faithe specially prescribed and commaunded in scripture. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 249 What soeuer is prescribed vnto him that killeth any of the proclamed persons. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 93 Reason prescribeth..that Whatsoeuer we attempt in the course of our life, blame may be auoyded. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 227 Your master ought not to prescribe me what I am to do. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* iv. Wks. 1761 III. 64 Wood prescribes to the news mongers in London what they are to write. 1778 JOHNSON in Boswell 17 Apr., Verses ..prescribed as an exercise. 1843 SIR J. T. COLERIDGE in Stanley *Arnold* (1844) I. i. 9, I know not whether the statutes prescribe the practice. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 415 Not even Religion should presume to prescribe to God the course which the world's development must have followed subsequently to its creation.

b. in *indirect pass.* with the person as subject.

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* IV. iv, So they were prescrib'd to goe to Church. 1879 BROWNING *Ned Bratts* 37 And ten were prescribed the whip, and ten a brand on the cheek.

† **c.** *absol.* or *intr.* To lay down a rule; to dictate, appoint, direct. Of a law or custom: To be of force. *Obs.*

1564 *P. Martyr's Comm. Judges* 189 b, These prescribe not, when as they are manifestly vicious and euyll. But that custome prescribeth, which is neither against the woord of God, nor the law of nature, nor the common lawe. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CV. vi, He rulers rules,..prescribes, and all obey. 1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 278 This Synode prescribed against the Pope's jurisdiction. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. ix. 387 Nothing..being so tyrannical as Ignorance, where Time and long Possession enables it to prescribe.

3. *Med. trans.* To advise or order the use of (a medicine, remedy, or treatment), with directions for the manner of applying it. Const. as in **2.**

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 54, I prescribe for his health this medicine. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 178 Pliny prescribeth a man which twinkleth with his eyes, and cannot look stedfastly, to wear in a chain the tongue of a Fox. 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 40 To prescribe to the people poysonous Drugs instead of wholsome food or physick. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 324 He was..prescribed a..Ptisan. 1806 BOSANQUET & PULLEN *New Rep.* I. 196 The Defendant as apothecary made up the medicines prescribed by the Plaintiff for the patient. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 97 To leech his head and prescribe tartar emetic.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* Also *fig.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 249 Methinkes you prescribe to your selfe very preposterously. 1607 — *Timon* V. iv. 84, I will..make each Prescribe to other, as each others Leach. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physick* 200 This Doctor.. Prescribes, and..gives order for a Preventive Purge to be taken next morning. 1737 WEST *Let.* in *Gray's Poems* (1775) 27 If..'Friendship be the physic of the mind', prescribe to me, dear Gray,..I shall be a most obedient patient. 1899 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 7/1 His motto was that no statesman should prescribe until he was called in. *Mod.* The physician was asked to prescribe for him.

† **4.** *trans.* To limit, restrict, restrain; to confine within bounds. *Obs.*

1596 DRAYTON *Leg.* i. 601 Prescrib'd to one poore solitary place, Who should have progres'd all a Kingdomes space. 1688 PRIOR *Exodus iii.* 14 vii, Laws to his Maker the learn d wretch can give: Can bound that Nature, and prescribe that Will, Whose pregnant word did either ocean fill. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. iii. (1840) 197 The faculties of man.. are prescribed on the other hand, and cannot sally out without leave.

II. *Law.* † **5.** *trans.* **a.** To hold by PRESCRIPTION (sense 4 b). **b.** To claim by prescription. *Obs. rare.*

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 337/1 (Anc. Pet. 1387, P.R.O.) Not withstonding that by the olde liberte and fredome of the Comyne of this londe had, enjoyed and prescribed, fro the tyme that no mynde is, alle suche persones as..beene assembled in eny parlement..ought to haue theire fredome to speke and sey in the hous of theire assemble..he was ..arrested, and..led to the Toure of London. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Prescription*, A seruant prescribeth liberty after a yeare.

6. *intr.* To make a claim by prescription; to assert a prescriptive right or claim (*to* or *for* something; also with *inf.* or *clause*).

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. l. 104 b, If a hole countrey prescribe to pay no tythes for corne, or hey or suche other, [shewe me] whether thou thynke that that prescripcion is good. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* II. xi. 42 b, A man may not prescrybe in a vyllayne in grosse without shewynge of wryttynge but in hymselfe that claymeth the vyllayne and in his auncesters whose heyre he is. *Ibid.* 47 b, If a lord of a manour wyl prescrybe that it hath ben accustomed within his manoure tyme out of mynde that euery tenaunt [etc.]. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 75 The Lord of a Manor..may prescribe to a Seat in the Body of the Church, which he and his Ancestors have immemorially used. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xvii. 264 Formerly a man might, by the common law, have prescribed for a right which had been enjoyed by his ancestors or predecessors at any distance of time. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1119 If the party has a general common, and prescribes for common for any particular sort of cattle, this will be good. 1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* (1875) 450 A man might..prescribe that he and his ancestors had from time immemorial exercised a certain right in gross.

fig. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. ix. § 2 (1622) 62 Time, which prescribeth against all humane inuentions, and which chalengeth the honour of Antiquity from them. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xii. 260 Presuming on their former victories, that in so fortunate a place they might prescribe for conquest.

† **7.** *intr.* Of a person: To plead prescription of time (PRESCRIPTION 4) *against* an action, statute, or penalty; to cease to be liable on account of the lapse of the prescribed time. *Obs.*

1595 *Expos. Terms Law* 145 b, But one may not prescribe against a statute except he haue an other statute that serueth for him. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s.v. *Prescription* A Judge or Clerk convicted for false erring of Pleas, &c. may be Fined within two years; the two years being past, he prescribes against the punishment of the said Statute. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.* s.v. *Prescription*, Whosoever offendeth

against any such Statute, and escapes unquestion'd for two years or three .. may justly be said to have prescribed against that Action.

8. *Sc. Law. intr.* Of an action: To suffer prescription; to lapse, to become invalid or void by passage of time. Of a crime, debt, etc.: To be no longer capable of prosecution.

1617 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI*, c. 12 All actions of warrandice.. shall not præscrybe [*ed.* 1816 prescryve], from the date of the band..but only from the date of the distresse. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxix. § 1 (1699) 276 According to the Civil Law, Crimes did prescribe in twenty years. 1751 Hume *Ess., Justice* (1817) II. 235 Bills of exchange and promissory notes, by the laws of most countries, prescribe sooner than bonds, and mortgages. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 773 By the act 1579, c. 82, actions of removing prescribe within three years from the term at which the tenant has been warned to remove. 1874 *Act* 37 & 38 *Vict.* c. 94 § 42 All inhibitions..shall prescribe on the lapse of five years from the date.

fig. 1847 De Quincey *Sp. Mil. Nun* xv. Wks. 1853 III. 37 The grasp of the church never relaxed, never 'prescribed', unless freely and by choice.

Hence **Prescri·bing** *vbl. sb.*; †**Prescri·bement**, prescription, prescribing. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 26/2 The matter being decised betwixt them after the popes own prescribement, themperour taketh his iourny to Papia. 1618 M. Baret *Horsemanship* I. 65 By practise it may bee better perceiued then by prescribing. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Sat. on Quack* Wks. 1730 I. 63 Whole nations might be killed by thy prescribing.

Prescribe, formerly frequent for Proscribe.

Prescribed (-skrəi·bd), *ppl. a.* [f. Prescribe *v.* + -ed [1].] Laid down, appointed, or fixed beforehand; ordained, appointed, set, fixed, defined.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 562 They..which after a prescribed manner of punishment doo penance for their sinnes. *a* 1610 Healey *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 49 To drink no colde water nor wine, but at prescribed seasons. 1728 Morgan *Algiers* II. iv. 276 Two of them seizing each prescribed Criminal. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 775 On the prescribed day, the Sheriff's officers ventured to cross the boundary. 1863 E. V. Neale *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 193 Within its prescribed limits, and under its prescribed conditions, the operations of instinct are certain.

Prescriber (prĭskrəi·bəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er [1].] One who prescribes.

1. One who appoints or ordains.

1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref., The physycians of the bodyes, haue practycioners, and potycaryes that dooe ministre theyr arte vnder theym: and themselfes are the prescrybers and appoyncters what it is that muste bee geuen to the sycke. 1557 *Pet.* in H. Swinden *Hist. Gt. Yarmouth* (1772) 428 Not as prescribers, but humbell submitters. 1630 Lord *Banians* 71 The first Prescriber of their rites. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 63, I was impelled to ..your destruction..by the bloody prescribers of custom. 1907 in *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Oct. 6/3 Prescription is all very well if you are satisfied as to the infallibility of the prescriber.

2. One who writes a medical prescription. Also *fig.*

[1548: see sense 1.] *a* 1660 Hammond *xix Serm.* xiii. Wks. 1684 IV. 652 Hence is neither the physick to be under-prized, nor the Prescriber. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. Pref., The best prescriber can hardly confide in his own prescriptions. 1851 J. Cumming *Foreshadows* viii. (1854) 233 The cure is not in the prescription, but in the prescriber.

3. One who holds or claims by prescription. *rare.*

1717 in Keble *Life Bp. T. Wilson* x. (1863) 348 Being thoroughly convinced of the Divine right of paying tithes in kind, and being one of the ancient prescribers in this isle, [he] did freely..give up the said prescription into the hands of the Bishop.

Prescript (prī·skript, †prĭskri·pt), *sb.* Also (in sense 3) **præscript**. [ad. L. *præscript-um* something prescribed, a copy, task, precept, rule, etc., sb. use of pa. pple. neut. of *præscribĕre* to Prescribe. So F. *prescript.*]

1. That which is prescribed or laid down as a rule; an ordinance, rule, law, precept, command; a regulation, direction, instruction.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 19 Emongē artificers and husbandmen it is receaved as a prescripte that thei should sweate bie noe meanes. 1543 Becon *Policy of War* Wks. 1560 I. 128 b, They worshipped and serued him ..according to the prescripte of his holy worde. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 624 To conduct the rest of their Lives according to the Prescripts of Chastity and Virtue. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 359 The legitimate contributions which he is to furnish according to the prescript of law. 1858 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 5/1 Whether the French Government was consulted before the issue of the Prescript.

2. Medicine prescribed; also *transf.* a medical prescription. Now *rare.*

1603 Harsnet *Pop. Impost.* 45 Your prescript is compounded of these delicate simples, Brimstone, Assa fœtida, Galbanum, S. John's Wort, and Rue. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxiii. 5 Like unto the foolish patient, which when the physician bids him take the prescript, eats up the paper. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* Title-p., A Body of Medicines, containing a thousand select prescripts. 1749 Shenstone *Ode after Sickness* 52 The nymphs that heal the pensive mind, By prescripts more refin'd. 1891 G. Meredith *One of our Cong.* (1892) 205 A medical prescript, one of the grand specifics.

3. *nonce-use.* That which is written beforehand or in the forepart (of a book, etc.); a preface, introduction.

1862 Ld. Stanhope *Pitt* III. 408 He proposed that the paper should be sent unsigned, and with a Preface or Præscript as follows.

P In the following, app. a misprint of the early edd. for Prescription 4 b:

1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1629) 85 In those cases prescripts will not serue, except it bee so ancient, that it hath had allowance before the Iustices in Eyre.

Prescript (prĭskri·pt), *a.* [In I., ad. L. *præscript-us*, pa. pple. of *præscribĕre* to Prescribe. So obs. F. *prescript* adj. (*a* 1430 in Godef.), F. *prescrit.* In II., f. Pre- B. 1 + L. *script-us* written.]

I. 1. Prescribed or laid down beforehand as a rule; ordained, appointed, fixed, settled. Now *rare.*

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 161 Of oolde & laudabile and lawfully prescripte custome. 1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 108 A prescripte and appointed some of money. 1586 *Exam. H. Barrowe* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 19 Whether he thinketh that any leitourgies or prescript formes of prayer may be imposed vpon the church. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxiv. 290 The Prescript Rule of Hippocrates. 1792 Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 13 The prescript form to which the Church of Rome binds its clergy. 1877 Kinglake *Crimea* VI. viii. 482 Trying to make prescript words perform the task of a General.

†**2.** Circumscribed, limited. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1645–7 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* 59 A prescript place like a Tub.

†**3.** Acquired by or based on prescription; prescriptive. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 7 If any Doctors should..say, that the Republick hath a prescript Dominion over the Adriatick Sea, with a long possession, notwithstanding they prove it not.

II. 4. Prior to the age of writing. *nonce-use.*

1883 T. Kerslake in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 283/1 The earlier southern incursions of the Patrician school [i. e. that of St. Patrick] through the estuary of the Severn, were in a darker and prescript age.

Prescri·ptible, *a. rare.* [f. L. ppl. stem *præscript-* (see prec.) + -ible; so F. *prescriptible* (*prescrittible* 16th c. in Littré), It. *prescrittibile.*] Liable or subject to prescription; derived from or founded on prescription.

1542 Henry VIII *Declar. Scots* D iij b, The hole prescription of the Scottis, if the matier were prescriptable, is thus deduced euidentely to .xiii. yere. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 31 A Sovereign Power, that neither suffers attaint, nor is prescriptible. 1795 Wythe *Decis. Virginia* 97 That the demand of the plaintiffs is in its nature prescriptible.

Hence **Prescriptibi·lity**, the quality of being prescriptible.

a 1843 Judge Story cited in Worcester.

Prescription (prĭskri·pʃən). [a. F. *prescription* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *præscriptiōn-em* a writing before or in front, a title, introduction; a pretext, pretence; a precept, rule; in law, as in sense 4; n. of action f. *præscribĕre* (ppl. stem *præscript-*) to Prescribe.]

I. 1. The action of prescribing or appointing beforehand; that which is prescribed or appointed; written or explicit direction or injunction.

1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 37 Suerlye, we wyll not exchange oure fathers doynges and tradicions, ..but cheifely lene vnto them and to theyr prescription. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* II. xiv. (Arb.) 137 Your feete of three times by prescription of the Latine Grammariens are of eight sundry proportions. 1641 'Smectymnuus' *Answ.* § 2 (1653) 8 Their prayer was not of Regular prescription, but of a present Conception. *a* 1716 Blackall *Wks.* (1723) I. 4 To lead his Life according to those Rules and Prescriptions which are here given by our Saviour. 1874 Sidgwick *Meth. Ethics* I. ix. 95 In the recognition of conduct as 'right' is involved an authoritative prescription to do it. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Apr. 7/1 Provinces..where the prescriptions of the Berlin Treaty are still unfulfilled.

2. A direction or formula (usually) written by a physician for the composition and use of a medicine; a recipe; *transf.* the medicine prescribed. In early use, more widely, any course of hygiene ordered by a physician, 'doctor's orders'.

1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* x. (1599) 413 Eating..raw apples and things contrary to the prescription of Physicke. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* I. iii. 227 You know my Father left me some prescriptions Of rare and prou'd effects. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 188 The best prescription..is to use such exercises as gently dilate and extend the Breast. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 15 This Prescription the Sub-prior faithfully made up, and put into Phials for use. 1700 Rycaut *Hist. Turks* III. 131 The Elector of Bavaria..remained at Brin to take the Air by the prescription of his Physitians. 1777 Fletcher *Bible Armin.* Wks. 1795 IV. 263 Physicians, who write their prescriptions in Latin. 1861 Flo. Nightingale *Nursing* 93 Women who will write to London to their physician,..and ask for some prescription from him, which they 'used to like'.

†**3.** Restriction, limitation, circumscription. *Obs.*

1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.*, *Prescription*, limitation, or appointing a certaine compasse. 1649 Milton *Eikon.* ix. Wks. 1851 III. 405 To limit and lay prescription on the Laws of God and truth of the Gospel by mans establishment. *a* 1718 Penn *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 451 If Men be restricted by the Prescriptions of some Individuals.

II. *Law.* **4.** Limitation or restriction of the time within which an action or claim can be raised. [L. *præscriptio*, in law, An exception, objection, demurrer; a limitation of the subject-matter in a suit; limitation as to time (*Digest* 18. 1. 76).] Now commonly called *negative prescription.*

[1292 Britton I. xix. § 7 En tel cas voloms nous qe..prescripcioun de tens courge encountre nous cum encountre autre del poeple. *a* 1377 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 409/1 La ou il ne poit assigner la dite Assise estre par prescription de temps.] 1474 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 107/1 Anentis þe act maide of befor of prescripcione of obligacionis it is ordanit [etc.]. 1542 Henry VIII *Declar. Scots* D iij b, The passing ouer of tyme not commodious for the purpose, is not allegable in prescription for the losse of any right. 1605 *Tryall Chev.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 268 Yeres limit not a Crowne; There's no prescription to inthrall a King. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* I. ix. (1840) 14 No prescription of time could prejudice the title of the King of Heaven. 1797 tr. *Vattel's Law Nat.* II. xi. 187 *Prescription* is the exclusion of all pretensions to a right—an exclusion founded on the length of time during which that right has been neglected. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 768 The negative prescription of obligations, by the lapse of forty years, was first introduced [into Scotland] by the statute 1469, c. 29. *Ibid.* 774 By 7 Will. III, c. 3 § 5, high treason committed within the Queen's dominions suffers a triennial prescription, if indictment be not found against the offender by a grand jury within that time.

b. Uninterrupted use or possession from time immemorial, or for a period fixed by law as giving a title or right; hence, title or right acquired by virtue of such use or possession: sometimes called *positive prescription.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 294 ȝif coveitouse prestis han be in possession of oþere mennus goodis fourty ȝeer or þritti, wrongfully,..þei may not be taken from hem..; þe vertu of prescripcion, bi long custom of synne, haþþe made hem lordis. 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 6 § 1 Divers Fairs have been holden..by Prescription allowed afore Justices in Eyre. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 6 This is commen appurtenaunte by prescripcyon, bycause of the vse out of tyme of mynde. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 221 Where the probation and approbation of testamentes of the tenaunts there dwelling, dooth by prescription appertaine to the principall Lord. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. xiii. 269 His title to this plain..is made lawfull by the prescription of three thousand years possession. 1682 *Enq. Elect. Sheriffs* 32 Nor were these Charters..Original Grants, but only Confirmations of what the City had by prescription possess'd and enjoy'd long before. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 194 'Tis said in our Law Books, that the Publick acquires a Right by Custom, but only private Persons acquire it by Prescription. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 276 If prescription be once shaken, no species of property is secure, when it once becomes an object large enough to tempt the cupidity of indigent power. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 467 This mode of acquisition was well known in the Roman law by the name of *usucapio*...In the English law it is called prescription. 1838 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 766 The positive prescription was introduced [into Scotland] by the act 1617, c. 12. 1876 Digby *Real Prop.* iii. § 18. 156 *note*, Prescription is where a person possesses a right by reason of the fact of long and uninterrupted enjoyment, as of right, either by himself and his ancestors, or by himself and his predecessors in title. 1895 Pollock & Maitland *Hist. Eng. Law* II. II. iv. 81 Our law [in 13th c.] knew no acquisitive prescription for land, it merely knew a limitation of actions. *Ibid.* 140 Many incorporeal things can be acquired by prescription, by long-continued user. In particular we may see this in the case of rights of common.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (*a*) Ancient or continued custom, esp. when viewed as authoritative. (*b*) Claim founded upon long use.

(*a*) 1589 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) App. 301 Yt was not fytte his Majestie should be bound to geve his letteres of protectyon by prescriptyone, but as seemed his Kyngly pleasure beste. 1605 Camden *Rem.* (1637) 109 Yet Plantagenet, Steward, Valoys, Borbon, Habsburg, &c. by prescription of time haue preuailed so farre, as they are now accounted surnames. 1652 Needham tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 170 Almost all the Principal Points of the Intervenient Law of Nations..do depend upon Prescription or antient Custom. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Praise of Wealth* Wks. 1730 I. 83 Your love to my order is of antient date and very long prescription. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 1 P 1 Some easy method ..which..might enjoy the security of prescription. 1850 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. ii. 68 His temper was moulded to the love of precedent and prescription. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 19 The..modified texts that reigned by an accidental prescription.

(*b*) 1625 Bacon *Ess., Negotiating* (Arb.) 91 Vse also such, as haue..Preuailed before in Things wherein you haue Emploied them; For that breeds Confidence, and they will striue to maintaine their Prescription. 1682 Sir T. Browne *Chr. Mor.* III. § 17 Narrow self-ended Souls make prescription of good Offices. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 334 The country gentlemen and the country clergymen (had been] on the side of authority and prescription.

†**5.** The action of 'prescribing' or claiming by prescription (see Prescribe *v.* 6). *Obs.*

1531 [see Prescribe *v.* 6]. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 222 Prescription is when a man claimeth any thing, for that he, his ancestors, or predecessors,..have had, or used any thing all the time, whereof no mind is to the contrary. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 65 A prescription *de non decimando* is a claim to be entirely discharged from tithes, and to pay no compensation for them.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prescription-book, -writing*; **prescription-glass**, (*a*) a glass vessel with measures marked on it (*Cent. Dict.*); (*b*) a lens ground according to an oculist's prescription.

1793 Beddoes *Calculus* 190 The art of pharmacy and the science of prescription-writing will become useless. 1887 J. C. Harris *Free Joe*, etc. (1888) 155 Dr. Buxton, prescription-book in hand, gazed at her..over his old-fashioned spectacles. 1888 *Sci. Amer.* 28 Apr. 259/1 The lens-grinding room..is devoted almost exclusively to making what are known as 'prescription glasses'.

Hence †**Prescri·ptionary** *a.*, arising from prescription of time, prescriptive; **Prescri·ptionist**, †**a.** one who writes a prescription (*obs.*); **b.** one who makes up medicines in accordance with prescriptions, a dispenser.

1728 Earbery tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* I. 80 We may safely, therefore, explode that old prescriptionary Maxim. 1716

M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 12 All comprehended in the honourable Tetrarchy of Physicians or Doctors (κατ' ἐξοχήν, or Præscriptionists), Chirurgians, Apothecaries, and Chymists. 18.. *Sanitarian* XVIII. 427 (Cent. D.) The apparent deterioration was due to the dishonesty of the retail druggist or prescriptionist.

†**Prescription** [2], a frequent early form of Proscription. [Due to confusion of *præ-* and *pro-*.]

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 19 Lawful cursing..is dede of þe kirk; for it is a prescripcoun fro comyning of feiþful men. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 129 Grete treasones, destruccion of citesynnes, robbenge and prescriptiones folowede [L. *proscriptiones*; 1387 exilynge]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 275 The same outlawing or prescription is against the lawes. 1639 Drumm. of Hawth. *Prophecy* Wks. (1711) 181 Nothing was heard but Prescriptions, Banishments, Assasinations, Treasons.

Prescriptive (prĭskri·ptiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *præscriptiv-us* of or relating to a legal exception or demurrer: see Prescript *sb.* and -ive.]

1. That prescribes or directs; giving definite, precise directions or instructions.

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VII. xviii. 93 A will to be executed by a father for a daughter..carries somewhat daring and prescriptive in the very word. 1788 *Trifler* No. 10. 126 Prescriptive rules for the preservation of health. 1849 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. I. vi. 92 Thus the spirit of the prescription may be still in force when the prescriptive authority is repealed.

†2. Appointed or fixed by prescription. *Obs.*

1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xviii. 485 Directions are given for appointing a new officer, in case there be no election, or a void one, made upon the charter or prescriptive day.

3. Derived from or founded on prescription or lapse of time, as *prescriptive right* or *title*.

1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxxii. 494 Lords of manors ..who have to this day a prescriptive right to grant administration to their intestate tenants and suitors. 1782 Burke *Reform Representation* Wks. 1842 II. 487 Our constitution is a prescriptive constitution; it is a constitution, whose sole authority is, that it has existed time out of mind. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 182 The ancient holiday, to which the scholars believed they had acquired a prescriptive title from immemorial usage.

4. Arising from or recognized by long-standing custom or usage; prescribed by custom.

1775 Johnson *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 11 June, Unusual compliments, to which there is no stated and prescriptive answer, embarrass the feeble,..and disgust the wise. 1805 Roscoe *Leo X*, II. 23 A work, which does not implicitly adopt prescriptive errors. 1837 Hawthorne *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. i. 9 To have his regular score at the bar..and his prescriptive corner at the winter's fireside. *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Brit. Poets* (1857) II. x. 14 To have the sun called by his simple almanac name, instead of the loftier prescriptive title of Phœbus.

5. Giving or recognizing prescription or prescriptive right. *rare.*

1785 Burke *Nabob of Arcot's Debts* Wks. IV. 226 This venerable patriarchal job,..hoary with prescriptive years. 1796 — *Let. Noble Ld.* ibid. VIII. 48 The duke of Bedford will stand as long as prescriptive law endures.

Hence **Prescri·ptively** *adv.*, by prescription; by recognized custom; **Prescri·ptiveness**, prescriptive character or quality.

1780 Burke *Œcon. Reform* Wks. III. 272 The forest lands, in which the crown has (where they are not granted or prescriptively held) the dominion of the soil, and the vert and venison. 1826–7 De Quincey *Lessing* Wks. 1859 XIII. 298 The cards themselves, by their gay colouring, and the antique prescriptiveness of the figures..throw an air of brilliancy upon the game. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* I. 178 We continue to admire pictures prescriptively and by tradition.

†**Prescri·ve**, *v. Sc. Obs.* Also 6 prǽ-, 5 -scrife. [ad. F. *prescriv-*, full stem of *prescrire* (15th c. in Godefroy *Compl.*), ad. L. *præscrībĕre* to Prescribe, after *écrire*:—*scrībĕre*. Cf. Describe.]

1. *trans.* = Prescribe *v.* 2.

1563 Winjet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* lxxxi. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 129 Of prayar at præscrivit tymes in the Kirk. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 236, I prescriue him na law. 1597 Skene *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Annuel*, Prescrived and appoynted be the law of this realm. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 97 At the expyering of everie ane of the dyets prescryvit be thir instructiones.

b. = Prescribe *v.* 3.

1861 Davidson *Poems* 77 (E. D. D.) My grannie may prescrive an herb for me.

2. (?) *intr.* To become valid by prescription.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 80 Thair possessioun..is of sa lang tyme bygane prescrivit and passit prescripcioun.

3. *intr.* Of a right or claim: To cease to be valid, to lapse by prescription of time; = Prescribe *v.* 7; also said of the prescribed period: To elapse, run out.

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 262 Efter xxx[ti] 3eris he aw nouthir till ansuer bataill na othir process, for the tyme prescryvis of lawe. 1469 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 95/1 Þe obligatione..sall prescrife & be of nain avail þe said fourtj 3eris beand Ronnyng & vnpersewit be þe law. 1474 *Ibid.* 107/1 In tyme to cum all obligacionis maid or to be maide þ[t] beis no[t] folowyt w[t]in xl 3eris sall prescrive and be of na awaill. 1540 in *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 147 Comprysit landis expiris and prescryvis sevin 3eiris being bypast; bot landis annal3eit under reversioun prescryvis nevir. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. vi. § 22 (1699) 29 If these pursuits should not prescrive with us in five years, as they do by the common Law.

¶4. *trans.* To condemn, prohibit, Proscribe. *rare*[−1].

[Due to med.L. confusion of *præ-* and *pro-*.]

1562 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 58 Bot wyte the wickit pastouris wald no[t] mend Thair vitious leving all þe warld prescryvis.

†**Prescri·ver.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. prec. + -er [1].] = Prescriber 1.

1639 Balcanquhal *Declar. Chas. I Tumults Scot.* 347 Albeit by the meaning of the prescriver of an oath, the swearer were tacitly bound to maintaine Episcopacie. *a* 1653 Binning *Serm.* (1845) 408 What is the service of him that may be called religion indeed? Should we be the prescrivers of it?

Prescutal, -scutellum, -scutum: Pre- A. 4.

Prese, obs. f. Praise, Press, Prize.

†**Pre·seance.** *Obs.* [a. F. *préséance* (*presseance* 1595 in Godef. *Compl.*), f. *pré-*, Pre- A. 2 + *séance* a sitting (see Séance), after OF. *preseer* to preside.] Presidence, presidency.

1581 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* IV. lxix. (1591) 222 Yet were they at discorde brawling about the preseance. 1602 Carew *Cornwall* 71 Who..may for their discrete judgement in precedence, and preseance, read a lesson to our civilest gentry. [1826 H. Best *Four Yrs. France* 27 To allow to the bishop of that city a préséance above all other bishops.]

Presede, obs. form of Precede.

Presedent(e, obs. ff. Precedent, President.

[Preseeing, misreading of *foreseeing* (in MS.). In *Leycester Corr.* (Camden) 170; whence in Motley, *Cent. Dict.*, etc.]

†**Presegme.** *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *præsegmen* a piece cut off, paring.]

1623 Cockeram, *Presegme*, the paring of ones nailes.

Pre-select: see Pre- A. 1. **Presell,** Sc. var. Precel *Obs.* **Presemilunar, -seminal, -ary:** see Pre- B. 3, 1.

Presence (pre·zĕns). Also 4–6 **presens, -ense,** 5 **-ance,** 6 **-enss, præsence,** 7 **præsens.** [a. OF. *presence* (12th c. in Littré) (mod. F. *présence* after new formations in *pré-*):—L. *præsentia* presence, f. *præsens* Present *a.*: see -ence.]

1. The fact or condition of being present; the state of being before, in front of, or in the same place with a person or thing; being there; attendance, company, society, association. Usually with *of* or possessive indicating the person or thing that is present.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvii. 47 Þe folke þat i visited noght with bodily presens. 1340 *Ayenb.* 161 Of blisse of þe presense of Iesu crist, and of þe uelinge of þe holy gost. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7936 Þou partid our presens with þi prise wepyn, þat with faith and affynité were festinyt togedur. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxi. 211 Ye shall se Huon, whose presence ye so sore desyre. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 Hys presence and persone is to them ryghte acceptable. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. vi. 24 By Aversion, we signifie the Absence; and by Hate, the Presence of the Object. 1671 Milton *Samson* 1321 Our Law forbids at thir Religious Rites My presence; for that cause I cannot come. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 2 They were seldom honoured with the presence of their new sovereign. 1836 E. Osler *Hymn*, O God, unseen, yet ever near, Thy presence may we feel. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. ii. 31 The junction of the..rocks..is marked by the presence of a conglomerate with a calcareo-magnesian cement. 1893 Liddon, etc. *Life Pusey* I. xii. 288 Pusey..delighted in the presence of God manifested in nature.

†b. With *pl.* An instance of being present. *rare.*

a 1635 Sibbes *Emanuell* ii. (1638) 10 There were divers presences of Christ, before Hee came.

c. In reference to the manner in which Christ is held to be present in the Eucharist. (See also Real *a.*[2] 2 b.)

[*c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1438 When they sy the bodyly presence Of that hooly Eukaryst, lowly gan they lowte.] 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* ad fin., It is not ment thereby [kneeling], that any adoracion is doone.. unto anye reall and essencial presence there beeyng [1662 any Corporal Presence] of Christs naturall fleshe and bloude. ? *a* 1555 [? Latimer] in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 979/1 This same presence may be called moste fitly, a réall presence, that is a presence not fained, but a true and faythfull presence. 1559–1882 [see Real *a.*[2] 2 b]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 369 b, The doctrine of the corporall presence of Christ in the Sacrament. *c* 1683 Burnet *Orig. Mem.* (1902) 52 He [Jas. Dk. of York] was bred to believe a mysterious sort of real presence in the sacrament. 1851 S. Wilberforce in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. iii. 105 This seems to me wholly different from speaking of the 'Presence' as the result of the faith of the receiver. 1866 R. W. Dale *Disc. Spec. Occas.* iv. 93 The presence of Christ is not in consecrated bread but in regenerated souls. 1875 Tennyson *Q. Mary* I. ii, You do not own The bodily presence in the Eucharist, Their wafer and perpetual sacrifice. 1901 B. J. Kidd 39 *Articles* II. xxviii. § 3 The presence, as being thus a spiritual presence, is at once a real presence and not a 'gross or sensible' one. 1901 Bp. Gore *Body of Christ* iv. § 2 (1907) 232 The doctrine of the objective presence in, under, or with, the consecrated elements. 1903 J. P. Whitney in *Cambr. Mod. Hist.* II. x. 332 In spite of varying views as to the exact nature of the Presence, its reality had always been admitted.

2. In certain connexions, used with a vague sense of the place or space in front of a person, or which immediately surrounds him. With *of* or possessive; usually preceded by a prep. (*in, before* (arch.), *into, to, from, out of*, etc.); also as obj. of certain verbs, as *forsake*.

In his presence = before or with him, where he is, in his company; *from his presence* = from being with him, from where he is, out of his company, etc.; also *poet.* and *rhet.* with demonstrative and other adjs. which in effect qualify the person or persons implied: e.g. *in this (august) presence* = in the presence of this (august) personage.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 329 That emperour het,..that thai brinngge him sket, To Rome toun, to his presens. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 5441 First sal þair awen conscience, Accuse þam þan in Cristes presence. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 288 He..goth to aproche The kinges Court and his presence. *c* 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 174 That he myght come vnto hys presence. 1493 *Petronilla* 92 This proude knight Made him redy to come to hir presence. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 322 Thenne came tofore the presence of Raymondyn the barons of the land. 1526 Tindale *Luke* xv. 10 Ioye shalbe in the presence off the angels off God over one synner that repenteth. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxx. 240 The duke caused them to appere before the kynges presence. *c* 1600 J. Leach in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 74 Peregrination from the præsens of your Worship. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xxviii. III. 92 *note*, A man, who even in his presence would swear by Jupiter. 1809 W. Irving *Knickerb.* I. v. (1849) 71 The five..monsters, which we have brought into this august presence. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 22 Being admitted to his presence they saluted him in the queen's name. 1878 Browning *Poets Croisic* xlii, René..palely found Way of retreat from that pale presence. *Mod.* He was always very collected in the presence of danger.

b. Without *of* or possessive; usually preceded by prep., as *in* (*the*) *presence* (†often = present), *to* (*the*) *presence*, etc.; *spec.* (now only) in reference to ceremonial attendance upon a person of superior, esp. royal, rank; formerly also = 'company', (polite) society.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 20 For aulde storys..Representis.. the dedys Of stalwart folk þat lywyt ar, Rycht as þai þan in presence war. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 154 When the court was plein, When Julius was in presence. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3328 Þe maistirs of Persy þan put þam in-to presens, as þe prose tellis. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 13 Thus all the .chyldren than beynge in presence He set in honour, & rowme of excellence. *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 14 And preiss 3ow ay in presenss to repair. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, IV. i. 62 'Tis very true: You were in presence then, And you can witnesse with me, this is true. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 20 The King of China gives not presence, but rarely at the great suit of his people. *a* 1655 Vines *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 379 His fathers corpse lying in presence in a coffin or bier. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 176 They would not have done it in the presence at St. James's. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 134 The master of the ceremonies..led Harry up to the presence. 1823 Scott *Quentin D.* xxii, A flock of sheep which, when a stranger dog is in presence may be..seen to assemble in the rear of an old belwether. 1889 *Daily News* 28 June 5/8 Eight-and-twenty gentlemen,..bent low to receive them, and backed out of the Presence as best they could with their prizes.

†c. Hence, A place prepared for ceremonial presence or attendance; a presence-chamber. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 86 Shortly after was made in Westmynster hall a scaffolde for the lordes and a presence for a Iudge railed and counter railed about, and barred with degrees. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 17 And 't please your Grace, the two great Cardinals Wait in the presence. 1735 Pope *Donne Sat.* IV. 238 The Presence seems, with things so richly odd, The mosque of Mahound, or some queer Pagod.

†d. In same sense, *chamber of presence. Obs.*

1565 Earl of Bedford in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 210 David [Rizzio] was thruste owte of the Cabinet thorowe the bede chamber into the Chamber of Presens. 1587 Fleming *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1582/1 Hir Maiesties most gratious answer, deliuered by hir selfe..in hir chamber of presence at Richmond. 1643 Evelyn *Diary* 5 Dec., He had audience of the French King..in the golden chamber of presence.

†3. *concr.* Those who are present; a number of persons assembled; an assembly, a company. *Obs.* (See also note to 2.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4560 When all the pepull were pesit, þe presens full still, Calcas to the kynges carpes thies wordes. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 216 Suche persones.. forgetten theimselfes..& maken all the presence to laughe at theim. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 536 Here is like to be a good presence of Worthies. 1624 Bp. Mountagu *Immed. Addr.* A ij b, I preached in English, vnto an English Auditorie, though composed then of Royall and Noble presence. 1674 Grew *Anat. Trunks* II. iv. § 13 In this Honourable and Learned Presence, I have formerly had occasion to shew the Experiment. 1705 Stanhope *Paraphr.* I. 192 Choosing to..have his first Presence composed, of a few humble Shepherds. 1788 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 462 The presence was so numerous, that little could be caught of what they said to the King.

4. With possessive, denoting the actual person (or thing) that is present (*his presence* = his present self, himself being present); hence sometimes nearly = embodied self, objective personality. Chiefly *poet.*

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 Where that ever [she] schewithe her presence, Sche bryngithe gladnes to citees and tounnes. 1595 Shaks. *John* I. i. 377 Your Royall presences be rul'd by mee. 1671 Milton *Samson* 28 As in a fiery column charioting His Godlike presence. 1728 Pope *Dunc.* I. 261 Her ample presence fills up all the place. 1821 Shelley *Epipsychidion* 325 And from her presence life was radiated Through the grey earth and branches bare and dead. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Lost Bower* xviii, And the blue-bell's purple presence signed it worthily across.

b. Hence, A person who is corporally present; usually with implication of impressive appearance or bearing (see 5); sometimes merely, a person of good 'presence' or aspect.

1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* II. xii, In an awkward retreat to

make way for the approaching presence. 1847 WORDSW. *Ode Install. Pr. Albert* ad. fin., That Presence fair and bright,..The pride of the Islands, Victoria the Queen. 1871 BROWNING *Balaustion* 1814 And over him, who stood but Herakles? There smiled the mighty presence, all one smile. 1896 'M. FIELD' *Attila* II. 37 Our envoy owns the Hun, When mounted on his wiry steed, a presence To pause before, admiring.

5. Demeanour, carriage, or aspect of a person, esp. when stately or impressive; nobleness, majesty, or handsomeness of bearing or appearance.

1579 PUTTENHAM *Partheniades* viii, Affable grace, speeche eloquent, and wise; Stately præsence, suche as becometh one Whoe seemes to rule realmes by her lookes alone. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 166 Her faire sister..Of such inchanting presence and discourse. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Nov., The Queene a very little plain old woman, and nothing more in her presence..than any ordinary woman. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 210 More was a man of a stately and handsome presence. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1863) 120 He must have what is called a 'presence'..his outward man must communicate ..at once and without fail, something of indwelling power. 1899 J. G. MILLAIS *Life Sir J. E. Millais* I. i. 1 He was a man of fine presence and undeniable talent.

† **b.** Carriage (of the body) in dancing. *Obs.*

1706 J. WEAVER *Art Dancing* 3 The Posture or Presence of the Body, is to have respect to that part of the Room, to which the Face or Fore-part of the Body is directed.

6. Something present, a present being (see also 4 b); a divine, spiritual, or incorporeal being or influence felt or conceived as present.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 144 To whom the sovran Presence thus repli'd. Was shee thy God, that her thou didst obey Before his voice? 1718 PRIOR *Knowledge* 589 How can good angels be in Heaven confin'd, Or view that Presence which no space can bind? 1798 WORDSW. *Lines Tintern Abbey* 44 And I have felt A presence that disturbs me with the joy Of elevated thoughts. 1857–8 SEARS *Athan.* vi. 48 Divine and celestial presences. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. ii. 17 He caused Himself to be succeeded by an eternal Presence, 'even the Spirit of Truth, which abideth for ever'.

7. *Presence of mind* (= L. *præsentia animi*): the state or quality of having one's wits about one, or of having full control over oneself, esp. in peril or emergency; calmness and self-command in trying or dangerous circumstances; freedom from embarrassment, agitation, or panic. Cf. *present mind*, PRESENT *a.* 4.

1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 38 Great courage and presence of mind. 1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* III. 96 That Commander..never wanted Presence of Mind in the most immergent Dangers. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. xix. 168, I had besides been led into a presence of mind, by being made a person of some consequence. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* IV. i, I lost my presence of mind. 1883 J. G. MCKENDRICK in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 281/2 What is called 'presence of mind' really means that power of self-control which prevents the bodily energies being paralysed by strong sensory impressions.

¶ **8.** *Catachr. This presence*: the present writing or document (corruption of *these presents*: see PRESENT *sb.*[1] 2 b). *Obs.*

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 544/1 Expresse mencyon of the verey yerly valure..in this presence is not made. 1617 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 165 The ..writinge before in this presence conteyned.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *presence-affirming* adj., *-list*, *-token*; **presence-lobby**, the lobby or anteroom of a presence-chamber; **presence-room** = PRESENCE-CHAMBER.

1633 FORD *Broken H.* II. ii, She sits i'th presence-lobby fast asleep, sir. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. iii. § 1 To convey them..to their Audience in the Brain, the mind's Presence room. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. xiv. 104 Presence-affirming terms. 1836 KEBLE in *Lyra Apost.* (1849) 178 Since holy Gabriel to meek Mary bore The presence-token of th' Incarnate Son. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 50 That morning in the presence room I stood With Cyril and with Florian, my two friends. 1904 H. HECHT *Herd's Songs* 47 The presence-lists show that Fergusson seldom missed the meetings of the Cape.

Hence **Pre'senced** (-ĕnst) *a.*, (in comb.) having (such and such) a 'presence', personality, or aspect; **Pre'senceless** *a.*, not accompanied by the presence of any one; † **Pre'sencing** *vbl. sb.* (as if from a vb. *presence*), causing to be present.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 392 Temples..Places whereunto the Gods .. were confined and limited, and for the presencing of whom a Statue was necessary. 1877 IZA D. HARDY *Glencairn* VI. xx, It..chilled him as if a presenceless voice had spoken. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. xi. 375 One of the rarest types of nobly-presenced Englishmen.

Pre'sence-chamber. [Cf. prec. 2 c, d.] The chamber in which a sovereign or other great personage receives guests, or persons entitled to appear before him; a reception-room in a palace or great house. Also *fig.*

[1565–1643 Chamber of presence: see prec. 2 d.] 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 47 The Parcæ..at high midnight, gate them gigling..into the prezens Chamber. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Consid. Parlt.* Wks. (1711) 186 That no man stand bare-headed in the presence-chamber or parliament-house of Scotland, or before any chair of state. 1667 POOLE *Dial. betw. Protest. & Papist* (1735) 143 We shew our Reverence to the King in being uncovered in his Presence Chamber, though the King be not there. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. v. 251 The peers..were excluded the presence-chamber till they made their submission. 1885 W. F. MARTIN *Mem.* vii. 160 Her closet was the presence-chamber of Deity.

† **Pre'sency.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præsentia*: see -ENCY.] = PRESENCE.

1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 169 In the prescencie of Sir Robert Gell. 1641 SIR E. DERING *Sp. on Relig.* (1642) 97 You give us..a promise of a Nationall Synod; I doe still wish the presency thereof.

Presensation (prĭsensēi·ʃən). [f. PRE- A. 2 + SENSATION.] = next.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal., Def.* 219 The presage and presensation of it, has in all ages been a very great Joy and Triumph to all holy men and Prophets. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. II. iv. 307 Beasts..have indeed Perceptions, Sensations, and Pre-sensations (if I may use the Expression). 1807 JAS. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 436 Many believe in the prescience or presensation of magpies. 1890 *Q. Rev.* July 256 Concerning the faculty of presensation, it is worth while to say a little more.

Presension (prĭse·nʃən). Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 7–8 **-tion.** [ad. L. *præsensiōn-em* (Cic.) a foreboding, presentiment, n. of action f. *præsentīre*, ppl. stem *præsens-*, to feel beforehand.] Feeling or perception of something before it exists, occurs, or manifests itself; foreknowledge, foresight; presage, presentiment.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 125 They had many sorts of predictions, presensions, forseeings. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 128 In sundry animalls, we deny not a kinde of naturall Astrologie, or innate presention both of wind and weather. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. ix. 130 A certain divination, which the Greeks call prophecy, that is a presension, and knowledge of future things. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 11 Ants have presensions of the Change in Air, And never work Abroad but when 'tis fair. 1836 DK. SOMERSET in Lady G. Ramsden *Corr. Two Brothers* (1906) 328 Major Howard..appeared to have a very decided presension of his untimely death.

Present (prezĕnt), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 6 **presant.** [a. OF. *present* (11th c. in Littré), in mod.F. *présent* (see PRESENCE):—L. *præsens*, *præsent-em* present, immediate, prompt, properly pres. pple. of *præsesse* to be before, to be at hand. In verse often stressed *prese'nt* down to *c* 1500.] An adjective of relation; expressing a local or temporal relation to a person or thing which is the point of reference.

I. Senses relating to place, etc.

1. Being before, beside, with, or in the same place as the person to whom the word has relation; being in the place considered or mentioned; that is here (or there). Chiefly in predicate. Opp. to ABSENT *a.* 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 10 Huanne he þet me spekþ of ne is naȝt present. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxix. 15 Ne to 3ow alone..but to alle present & absent. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1769 (*Lucrece*) Ryght so thogh that hir forme were absent The plesaunce of hir forme was present. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 288 Whanne he sih the king present, He preith he moste his dowhter have. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10294 (Trin.) Into wildernes he went þere as his fe was present. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 85 All present wer in twynkling of ane e. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 133 How is it possibil that the precious bodie and blude of our salviour Christ Jesus..may be really and corporally present in the sacrament of the Altar? *Ibid.* 207 That the verai body of our Lord is really and substancially present in the sacrament of the Eucharist. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 165 What is presenter, what nearer, what closer joined than every man's soul to himself? 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. ii. 17, I must be present at your Conference. 1697 DRYDEN *Alexander's Feast* ii, A present deity, they shout around; A present deity, the vaulted roofs rebound. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 252 Whom..what he views of beautiful or grand In nature..Prompts with remembrance of a present God. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 30 To be present at his burial. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xiii. 258 We are present at the details of the ancient custom. *Mod.* Were you present, when he made the statement?

b. Existing in the thing, class, or case mentioned or under consideration; not wanting; 'found'. Opp. to ABSENT *a.* 2.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 94 The reason is either lost or not lost, that is, wholly present or wholly absent. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 1003 If plants only emit oxygen gas by absorbing and decomposing carbonic acid gas,..unless carbonic acid gas be present, they can emit no oxygen gas. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 423 In the Hemiptera..wings may be present or absent.

c. *Present under arms* (Mil.): see quot.

1829 SIR W. NAPIER *Penins. War* VIII. i. II. 266 His own British and German troops, about twenty-six thousand in number; of which the present under arms, including sergeants, amounted to twenty-two thousand. [*Note*] In the British army, when speaking of the number present under arms, the corporals and privates only are understood. In the French army, the present under arms includes every military person.

2. That is actually in hand, being dealt with, written, discussed, or considered: often used in a book or writing to denote that book or writing itself, or the writer himself. (Formerly *this present* (cf. OF. *ceste present chartre*); now usually *the present* is emphatic for 'this').

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Pet.* i. 12 And sotheli I wole 3ou wityng and confermid in present treuthe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 349 And fro all maner of right and clayme therfro, they to be excluded for evermore by this present writyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I beseche all the reders so to study this present treatyse, that [etc.]. 1592 WEST *1st Pt. Symbol.* § 103 A, The said parties to these present Indentures. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xix. 354 The much greater part of them, are not brought up so well..as in the present instance. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 295 One has some hesitation in adding Hume to the list in the present connection. 1895 J. ADDISON in *Law Times* XCIX. 546/1 The entire subject ..cannot be fully considered in such a paper as the present. *Mod.* The present writer has been unable to verify this.

3. Being before or in the mind or thought; of which one is conscious; directly thought of, remembered, or imagined. Usually const. *to.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XC. 12 With all thi synnes into thi mynde present. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 344 Though the half of France divide us, yet are you as present to my spirit, as the objects I see. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvi. § 3 The ample mind takes a survey of several objects.., keeps them all within sight and present to the soul. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. iii. (1874) I. 317 When any impression has been present with the mind, it again makes its appearance there as an idea. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 6 The legends of the place are present to the imagination throughout the discourse.

4. Having the mind or thought directed to, intent upon, or engaged with what one is about; attentive (opp. to ABSENT *a.* 4); having presence of mind, collected, self-possessed (in this sense usually *present to oneself*); prompt to perceive or act, ready, quick. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E.E.T.S.) 96 Now wex he absent to seculer þingis and more present to euerlasting desires. 1548 PATTEN *Exp. Scot.* Gvj, My lord Marshal & the other, with present mynde & courage, waerely and quikly continued their coorse towarde them [=the enemy]. 1554 HOOPER *Let.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1513/2 Oure memorie..be not as present and quicke as theirs be. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 14 Shewing in all his answers a present mind and courage. 16.. L'ESTRANGE (J.), 'Tis a high point of philosophy and virtue for a man to be so present to himself, as to be always provided against all accidents. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. xv. 114 You must be present to yourself, and put in a word now-and-then. 1864 LOWELL *McClellan's Rep.* Wks. 1890 V. 115 It is the faculty of being a present man, instead of a prospective one; of being ready, instead of getting ready.

5. Ready at hand, immediately accessible or available; *esp.* ready with assistance, 'favourably attentive, not neglectful, propitious' (J.). *arch.* (See also 9.)

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* xlvi. 1 God is our hope & strength: a very present helpe in trouble. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. i. 46 He oft finds present helpe, who does his griefe impart. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* II. Chorus, Be present to her now, as then. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* I. 59 Nor cou'd I hope in any place but there, To find a God so present to my Pray'r. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. iv. 133 This sum, could it only be extorted from him, was a large and present resource.

† **b.** *Present money*: money in hand or paid at the time, ready money. *Obs.*

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 249 To whom they graunted many things, as titles,..rents for life, offices, and to some present money. 1671 TR. *Palafox's Conq. China* vii. 138 They..in exchange thereof, receive present Money. 1721 BERKELEY *Prev. Ruin Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1871 III. 200 The temptation of a pistole present money never faileth.

II. Senses relating to *time*.

6. Existing at the time of speaking or writing; that is, or that is so, at this time or now; occurring or going on now, current, contemporary; in use or vogue at this time, modern. Opp. to *past* and *future*.

At (this) present writing: at the time of writing this, as I now write (*? obs.*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3578 (Cott.) He [the old man] praises al thing þat es gon O present thing he praisses non. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* iii. 22 Either thingis present, either thingis to comynge. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 50 Any other acte or ordynance made or to be made in this present parlement. 1535 COVERDALE *Baruch* i. 19 Sens the daye that he brought oure forefathers out of the londe of Egipte vnto this present daye. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 37 Imprimis the rood mary and Jhon with all other Images of papistry—brokin and defacid in this prissent yere. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 764 If a remedy should be sought for present and future mischiefs. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* 24 Feb. (O.H.S.) II. 348 Our present ambidexter Vice-Chancellour. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 113 [To] help us to a juster estimate both of present men, and present literature. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 44 All things, past, present, and to come, are present before God. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkd.* 245 There were three candidates: the present Dean of Exeter..; the present Bishop of Winchester; and William Selwyn.

b. Actually existing, actual (as contrasted with something that may formerly have existed or in other circumstances might exist).

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 316 In the present state of nature, the means of safety are rather superior to those of offence. 1842 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 98 On the present plan, there is ample food and enjoyment for all. *Ibid.*, An immense class of animals, which, with their present constitution, could not otherwise have existed.

c. *Comm. Present value* or *worth* of a sum due at a definite future date: that sum which, together with the compound interest upon it for the time from the present until that date, will amount to the sum then due.

1797 J. GRAY *Arith.* 56 As the amount of 100*l.* for the given rate and time: Is to 100 :: So is the debt: To the present worth. 1831 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 210/2 The present value of £1 to be received certainly at the end of any assigned term, is such a sum less as, being improved at compound interest during the term, will just amount to one pound. 1868 MILL *Eng. & Irel.* 36 What annual payment would be an equivalent..for the present value of whatever prospect there may be of an increase.

7. *Gram.* Applied to that tense of a verb which

denotes an action now going on or a condition now existing (or one considered generally without limitation to any particular time). Opp. to *past* (or *preterite*) and *future*.

Present imperfect: see quot. 1866, and IMPERFECT *a.* 5. *Present perfect*: a name for the tense denoting action that is completed at the present time (usually called simply *perfect*: see PERFECT *a.* 9 b).

1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* 57 A participle of a present tens, either preterit, of actif vois,..mai be resoluid into a verbe of the same tens, and a coniunccioun copulatif. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. 31 His preterit participle and his present infynityve. 1581 FULKE in *Confer.* II. (1584) N iv b, But you did English it before, the doores being shut, which is the *present tempus*. 1669 MILTON *Accedence* Wks. 1851 VI. 448 The Present Tense speaketh of the time that *now is*, as *laudo* I praise. 1845 STODDART in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 56/1 As absolute existence is naturally contemplated under the form of a time perpetually present, it is sufficient for us to consider this as one of the uses of the present tense. 1866 MASON *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 7) § 206 The Present Imperfect, showing that an action is going on at the present time; as, *I am writing*. 1904 C. T. ONIONS *Advanced Eng. Syntax* § 118 In the earliest period of Old English..the Past tense form had the meanings of the Past, Past Imperfect, Present Perfect, and Pluperfect of Latin.

8. Existing or in use at, or belonging to, the particular time under consideration; that was, or that was so, at that time or then. Now *rare*. (Cf. FUTURE A. 3.) † *Near present* (quot. *c* 1450), near at hand, imminent (*obs.*).

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6559 He saw his dede day nere present. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 220 The whyche suffysed to obtein libertie for the present time, but littel or nothing auailed, to kepe peace and quietnes in time to come. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 343 Other Capteynes of the rebelles affirmed at the present houres of their death, the same to be true. 1622 GATAKER *Spir. Watch* (ed. 2) 90 Such holy meditations, as the present occasion should require. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lxii. 497 There was, however, a present advantage in the system, when it was successful. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. viii. 196 Roger, the present Lord of Montgomery, was, at the time of Duke Robert's death, in banishment. *Mod.* The present business was to attend to present needs; other things could wait.

† **9.** Occurring or used at the very time, without delay; immediate, instant. (In quot. 1616, Needed immediately, urgent, pressing.) *Obs.* (or merged in 6). (Cf. also *present help* in 5.)

1563 B. GOOGE *Cupido* 15 Eglogs, etc. (Arb.) 107 Care..bad me seeke sume present helpe, for to relyue my wo. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxii. 420 Such as haue eaten therof do seeme to laugh, and so they dye laughing, without some present remedie. 1597 BACON *Ess., Sacr. Medit.* ii. (Arb.) 103 Peter stroke Ananias..with present death. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. vi, Alas! the vse of it is so present. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) II. 285 The Queen..rigorously demanded the present payment of some arrears. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 241 An accident..which, without some present resolution, might have prevented my seeing the first stone placed. [1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 405/1 The attenuation .. will depend .. upon .. whether the beer is for present use or keeping.]

† **b.** Of a remedy or poison: Taking immediate effect, acting speedily; immediate. (So in 16th c. F.)

1555 EDEN *Decades* 123 The sauour of the woodde is presente poyson. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Repentance* III. (1859) 547 Most present and deadly poison. 1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 145 If a man happen to be burned in any place with fyre, that the presentest remedie is, to burne the same place againe. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. i. (1668) 13 Wash the eye therewith, and it is a present help. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 499/2 It is a present Remedy against the Suffocation of the Womb.

10. *Comb.*: chiefly phrases used *attrib.*, as *present-day, -time, -use*; also *present-minded* adj. (cf. sense 4: opp. to *absent-minded*).

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 405/1 A very good criterion is about 2-5ths of the original saccharometric gravity for present-use ale, and 1-3rd for keeping-ale. 1881 J. H. INGRAM *Mem. Poe* in *P.'s Wks.* I. p. xlviii, Cheerful and present-minded at his work. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Aug. 6/1 Replying that this was not a present-day practical question. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* June 1020 The mysterious and elaborate structure which present-time physiology attributes to the ganglions and the nerve cells.

† **B.** as *adv. Obs.*

1. At the present time; immediately, instantly; at present, now: = PRESENTLY *adv.* 2.

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 423 Or let me deye present in this place. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 880 It am I That loueth so hoote Emelye the brighte That I wol dye present in hir sighte. 1595 *Locrine* v. v, That which Locrine's sword could not perform, This present stream shall present bring to pass (*drowns herself*). 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iii. 83, I cannot pay you, what I present owe.

2. In or into the presence of some one; in the (or this) very place, there (or here).

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 2404 (Trin.) As þei þiderwarde went þis forwarde made þei þere present. *Ibid.* 3532 His broþer he fonde þat toke tent To di3te a noble mete present. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* liv. 322 That he ne schal ful sore Repente, Tyl that A worthy knyht Come presente. 1554 *Lady Jane Grey's Lament.* in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 427 The lorde Gilforde my housbande, Whiche suffred here presente.

Present (pre·zĕnt), *sb.*[1] [Elliptical or absolute use of prec. adj.: in most senses already so used in OF. In ME. orig. *prese·nt.*]

I. † **1.** = PRESENCE 1, 2, 2 b. *Obs.* Chiefly in phr. *in present* (OF. *en present*), whence *to, out of* (your, etc.) *present*.

[The OF. *en present* represented 7th c. barbarous L. *in præsenti* or *præsente*, for L. *in re præsenti, in rem præsentem*, in, into the place itself, on or to the very spot. Cf. *Lex Baiuwariorum* (Text 1, 7th c.) xiii. § 2 tunc iudex iubeat eum in præsente (*v. r.* -ti) venire, et iudicet ei 'then shall the judge order him to come before him and shall judge him'.]

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10800 3e men þat are now yn present, þat haue herd me rede þys sacrament. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 76 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 393 On knese here kneled he to Ihesu Right in þine awen present [*rimes* tent, went]. *c* 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1252 Sone unto the kirk thai went, And war wedded in thair present. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1750 And thynke ye shuld haue be shent, Had he be oute of youre present. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1287 Heir am I cumyn at this tyme to your present.

† **b.** In pl. *presents*: prob. error for *presence*.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 259 In presentis of all his lordis. 1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* III. i. 92 To make thee well assurde How well thy speach and presents liketh vs.

II. † **2.** The thing or person that is present; that which is before one, or here; affair in hand; present occasion; *pl.* things present, circumstances.

c 1325 *Lai le Freine* 163 O Lord, he seyd, Jesu Crist,.. Vnderfong this present. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3162 And he..þus ordans a pistill...'To Porrus vndire my present, plesance and ioy'. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 189 What Present hast thou there?..Some certaine treason...I beseech your Grace let this Letter be read. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 380 Ile make diuision of my present with you. 1607 — *Cor.* III. iii. 42 Shall I be charg'd no further then this present? Must all determine heere? 1764 REID *Inquiry* I. i. 29 That immediate knowledge which we have of our presents.

b. *This present*, more commonly *these presents*: the present document or writing; these words or statements: used in a document to denote the document itself (cf. PRESENT *a.* 2). (So obs. F. *ces presentes* (sc. *lettres*), 1537 in Godef.) Chiefly, now only, in legal use.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 48 Be it open and knowen..be þeis presentes, þt [etc.]. 1405 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/1 We Henry Percy..has constitut and assigned and by this presentz constitutes and assignes Sir Henry Boynton..our generalls and specialls Attornes and Deputes. 1497 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 383 Which is..ordeined and establid, by auctorite of this preseint. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 51 The saidis parteis hes subscryvit thir presentis with thair handis. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 235 As I was ready to seale these Presents. 1752 in Cruise *Digest* (1818) VI. 76 Know all men by these presents, that I John Griffin make the aforementioned my last will and testament. 1778 *Art. Confederation* in Bryce *Amer. Commw.* (1888) I. App. 575 Know ye, that we, the undersigned delegates,.. do, by these presents .. fully and entirely ratify. 1854 THACKERAY *Rose & King* xv, [The herald]..began to read:—'O Yes!..know all men by these presents, that we, Giglio, King of Paflagonia' [etc.].

III. 3. The present time, the time that now is (as opposed to *the past* and *the future*).

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXV, When I was certain ore incertainty, Crowning the present, doubting of the rest. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxix, To judge rightly of the present we must oppose it to the past. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 151 The present..is everywhere at once the child of the past, and the parent of the future. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* xviii, Better this present than a past like that.

† **b.** With ellipsis of *month* (usually *this present*): = INSTANT *a.* 2 b. *Obs.*

1509 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 435 On the tenthe day of thys present y spake wyth the kyng. 1585–6 EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 444 Your excellences letter dated the 19. of this present. 1660–1 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 42 Your kind letter of the 8th present.

c. *Gram.* Short for *present tense*: see PRESENT *a.* 7. *Present stem*, the stem of the present tense.

1530 PALSGR. 101 Of the Potentiall Mode. The present tense like the present of the indicative. 1871 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* II. xx. (*heading*), Tenses formed from the present stem. *Ibid.* § 605 The verb *sum* and compounds have apparently merely a different form of the present for the future.

4. In phrases with prepositions.

† **a.** **In present** [= OF. *en present* (10th c.)], (*a*) in or at the present time, now; (*b*) immediately (cf. PRESENT *a.* 9); (*c*) at that time, then. So *in this present* = (*a*). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4956 (Cott.) And þat find yee now in present. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 509 He bileft at hom in present, To kepe al that ther ware. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XXV. 345 What wolde þou man..in þis present? 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Mans Medley* i, Mans joy and pleasure Rather hereafter, then in present, is. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 202 Offering a very large Dowry with his Daughter in Present, and the rest of his Estate in Reversion. *a* 1797 H. HOWARD in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 434/1 Y° father could not afford to part with any thing in present upon the marriage.

b. **At present**, at the present time, now (formerly † *at this present*; so † *at that present*, at that time, then; † *at the present*, in both senses).

1547 J. HARRISON *Exhort. Scottes* C iv, The ruynes..are to be seen at this present. 1558 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 388 A parcell of our ground, being at thes presentes waste withoute proffit. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1197/1 The duke Daumale was there at that present with the Reingraue. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 254 He was not himself without that design at that present. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 99 Nations which at this present are in high repute and autoritie. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 26 ¶ 3 My Reason for troubling you at this present is [etc.]. 1837 WHEWELL in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 263, I myself am a busy man at this present.

1647–8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 40 All men believed at the present that he was poisoned. 1672 C. MANNERS in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 24 At the present the King and the Duke have put severall things into his hands.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. i. § 3 This is all we at present desire. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. iv. 128 Of miraculous interposition I think not at present. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* V. XXXV. (1879) 206 At present we are nearest to the sun about Christmas time.

† **c.** **Of present** [OF. *de present*, 14–15th c.], **On the present**, at present, now. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 45 A grete and meruayllous auenture whiche is happed as of present [Fr. *à present*] in the place. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 141 Three Talents on the present; in future, all.

d. **For the present** [= F. *pour le présent*], († formerly also, *for this present, for that present, for present*), for the time; † for that time, just then (*obs.*); in mod. use, for this time, just now.

1548 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 295 [He] wold not be spoken withall that night, nor this daye untill nine a clock in the morning, so as they departed for that present. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 Monitionis..necessar for this present. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii. 5 b, To whom, for the present they would giue no eare. 1608 *Great Frost* in Arb. *Garner* I. 91 The wounds that this frost gave the commonwealth were for that present scarce felt. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxiv. 26 Jacob gave place, for present, to his sons rage and fury. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 2, I..shall satisfie my self for the present to tell you, that..we sailed happily for some few dayes. 1709 ATTERBURY *Serm., Luke x.* 32 (1726) II. 226 They desire to be excus'd from that Duty for the present. 1885 *Bookseller* July 647/1 For the present it [the business] will be continued without change of name.

e. **Until the present, up to the present** [= F. *dès à présent*], until now, up till now. † So formerly *till, until this* or *that present*, up to this or that time (*obs.*).

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VIII. 304 Inscriptions engrauen in marble, and remaining til this present. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* vii. 16 Until this present thou wouldest not heare. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 12 From the Peace of Venice 1522 until that present. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Nov. 5/2 Up to the present the armies of France and China have not been brought into collision.

Present (pre·zĕnt), *sb.*[2] Also 3–4 **-ant**, 3–5 **-aunt**, (3 *pl.* **-auns**), 3–6 **-ente**, 4 **-end**, **-aunde**, 4–6 **-and**(**e**, 5 **-aunte**, **-awnte**, **-ond**, **-ound**, 6 **-aunt**, *Sc.* **praisant**. [a. OF. *present* (10th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = Pr. *prezens*, It., Sp., Pg. *presente* an offering, a gift. In OF., originating in the phrase *en present* in or into the presence (cf. PRESENT *sb.*[1] 1): *mettre* (une chose) *en present à* (quelqu'un), to put a thing into the presence of or before any one (i. e. to offer or *present* it to him), in which *en present* was in effect = *en don* 'in the form of, or as a gift', making *présent* at length = *don* 'gift'. Cf. PRESENT *v.* 11.]

† **1.** In the expression, *in* (*into, intil*), *to present* = OF. *en present*: in or into a person's presence, before a person (as an offering); as a gift.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 114 þet þeo ilke þet he bledde uore ne brouhten heo him to presente ne win, ne ale, ne water. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 178/22 Gold, and mirre, and An-sens, In presaunt heo him brou3ten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7588 And broght it þe king to presand. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 825 Heuedes of wild bare Ichon to presant brou3t. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 170 [Thai] send it [the head] syne in-till Ingland, To Eduard king in-till presand.

2. A thing that is offered, presented, or given: = GIFT *sb.* 3. (The ordinary current sense).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 152 þoa uormest heo unwrien þet present þet heo beren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 160 þe kynges þat him soght thre presandes til him broght. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. viii. 44 The kyng made grete ioye and sente the kynges and knyghtes grete presentes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VI. xiii. (W. de W.) m viij, To wynne the loue of her that he wowyth wyth yeftes..and wyth dyuers presents. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xvii. 19 b, The Ambassadour sent his presents vnto the Bascha. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xliii. 25 They made ready the Present against Ioseph came at noone. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 85 The Mules that carried the Presents were.. unloaded. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 7 We went to visit the Aga with a small Present in our hands. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 45 Silver and pewter plate, ..presents to the Corporation from all parts of the Continent. *transf.* 1625 BACON *Ess., Greatn. Kingdoms* (Arb.) 483 Romulus after his death..sent a present to the Romans that [L. *illud civibus suis legavit ut*] above all things they should intend arms.

b. The act or fact of presenting or giving, presentation: = GIFT *sb.* 1. Usually in phr. *to make a present* (formerly also *to make present*): to make a gift or presentation (*to* a person, or with indirect dative obj.); *to make a present of* = to present, give, bestow. With indirect passive: *to be made a present*.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1218 Over the see thenne are they went, For to make the fayr present. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 1018 Riht to my-selfe,..þu dost þi present euery dele. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1135 (MS. G g. 4. 27) How that he schulde make The presentis [*other* 5 *texts* presenting]. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XV. 110, I am ovir poure to make presande. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 44 My fader Anchises..gaif that 3oung man hys richt hand, And assuris his spreit with that presand. 1645 WALLER *Apol. having Lov'd* ii, To the first that's faire or kind, Make a present of their heart. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 379 Pausanias mentions one, which

had been made a present to the Deity at Olympia. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 667 To purchase the connivance of the agents .. by presents of hogsheads of wine, and of gloves stuffed with guineas. 1884 J. T. TROWBRIDGE *Farnell's Folly* xxvi, Marian had made her a present of a new dress.

†**c.** *spec.* A bribe: = GIFT *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 80 Bote Meede þe Mayden þe Meir heo bi-souȝte, Of alle suche sullers seluer to taken, Or presentes withouten pons as peces of seluer. *Ibid.* 208 þe pope and his prelates presentes vnderfongen.

d. An offering to God or a deity: = GIFT *sb.* 4. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxv[i]. 11 Brynge presentes vnto him yᵗ ought to be feared. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XLIII. 135 Returning from Delphos (whither they had bene sent to carry presents vnto Apollo). 1707 WATTS *Hymn*, '*When I survey the wondrous cross*' v, Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small.

†**3.** An offer, proposal. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 75 Of pes þei mad present, to turne ilkon þer pers Ageyn to Danmark go with his wille & his leue. *Ibid.* 303 To maynten þam in stoure, þei mad him þer present, Scotlond of him to hold.

4. *Comb.*, as *present-giver*, *-giving*, etc.

1895 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 6/5 It is an occasion of present-giving ad lib.; the confirmee receiving gifts from all her relatives and friends. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 4/2 A mission steamer made her usual trips present-laden to the lightships of the Thames Estuary. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 20 Aug. 5/1 The procrastinations of a present-giver indefinitely prolong and augment his sufferings.

Present (prĭze·nt), *sb.*³ *Mil.* [f. PRESENT *v.* 9 a.] The act of presenting or aiming a weapon, esp. a fire-arm; the position of the weapon when presented, *esp.* the position from which a rifle is fired.

1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 98 Bring the carbine down to the 'Present'. 1846 MARRYAT *Privateersman* xvii, 'Who are you?' said she, with the musket ready for the present. 1847 *Infantry Man.* (1854) 40*c* The first file comes to the present. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 42 The most minute attention is to be given to each man's position when at 'the present'. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maids of Paradise* vii, An Uhlan..stood on guard below the steps, his lance at a 'present'.

Present (prĭze·nt), *v.* Also 4-6 **presente**, 5 **presand**, 6-7 **præsent**; *contr. pa. t.* 4 **presende**, 4-7 **present**, 5 **presand**; *pa. pple.* 4-6 **present**. [a. OF. *presenter* (11th c. in Littré, in mod.F. *présenter*):—L. *præsentāre* to place before, exhibit, hold out, exhibit a likeness to, in late and med.L. to present to a person as a gift, lit. to make present, f. *præsent-em* PRESENT *a.*]

I. To make present *to*, bring into the presence of.

1. *trans.* To bring or place (a person) before, into the presence of, or under the notice of, another; to introduce, esp. formally or ceremoniously; *spec.* to introduce at court, or before a sovereign or other superior.

c 1290 *Beket* 289 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 115 For þe king was in Normandie, Ipresented he was To henri, is sone, in Engelonde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7837 He..went with þo worthy, &..Present hom to Priam, þat was prise lord. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxiii. 33 They delivered the pistle to the debite [=deputy], and presented Paul before him. — *Jude* 24 Vnto hym that is able..to present you fautlesse before the presence off hys glory. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* ix. 41 And when he had called the saincts and the widowes, he presented her aliue. 1612 BOYLE in *Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 13 Sir Thomas Roper presented Wᵐ my cook and his wyffe into my service. 1670 LADY M. BERTIE in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 The Dutchesse..presented mee to kisse the Queene's hand. 1716 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Lady X*—— 1 Oct., Whoever pleases may go, without the formality of being presented. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. ii, The Duke and Duchess had returned from London..with their daughter, who had been presented this year. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* v. viii, 'They say he is clever'. 'Present him, my love; I like clever people', said Mrs. M'Catchley. 1903 MCNEILL *Egregious English* 31 Sometimes even Mr. and Mrs. Man-of-Business manage to get presented.

b. To bring before or into the presence of God; to dedicate by so bringing: cf. PRESENTATION 1.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10358 (Gött.) Scho sal be al godd be-kende; To him presentyd [*Cott.* offrid: cf. 10581] at thre ȝer ende. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 269 After [þat] fourty dayes of þe nativite, in a þorsday, þe secounde day of Feverer, Criste was presented in þe temple. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) XXV. 114 þe first [feste] es at þat tyme þat þe Grete Caan was borne; þe secund es at þat tyme þat he was presented in to þaire tempill..whare he was circumcised. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* ii. 22 They brought hym to hierusalem, to present hym to the lorde. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Purification*, As thy onelye begotten Sonne was this day presented in the Temple.., so graunte that we maie bee presented unto thee with pure and cleare myndes; By Jesus Christ our Lorde. 1818 BENSON *Comm. Bible* Luke ii. 22–24 Luke himself introduces both the parents as presenting Jesus. 1881 E. A. GREENE *Saints & Symbols*, (1888) 135 When she [Mary B. V.] was three years old she was taken by her parents to be presented in the Temple.

c. A candidate is said to be presented (or to present himself) for examination; one who has passed a university examination, or is honoured with a degree, is presented for the degree; a theatrical manager is said (in recent use) to present an actor, etc.

1661 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 414 Severall noble men [were] created Masters of Art,..who were presented in scarlet robes belonging to Doctors. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 24 (1726) 131 The next congregation he was presented to his degree. 1797 *Cambr. Univ. Calendar* 143 [The public orator] His duty is to present noblemen to their degrees [etc.]. 1859 *Lond. Univ. Calendar* 51 On receiving each instalment he shall declare his intention of presenting himself at the Second Examination within two years from the time of his passing the First Examination. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 54 In infant schools, and in others where children are not presented [for examination] in needlework under Article 19 *c.* 1, but only under Article 17 f. 1906 J. WELLS *Oxford Degree Ceremony* 11 *note*, The old principle is that no one should be presented except by a member of the University who has a degree as high or higher than that sought. 190- *Mod. Newspaper* (Advt.) Charles Frohman presents Ellaline Terriss and Seymour Hickes in 'The Gay Gordons'.

†**d.** To bring (a person) by proxy or in a figure; to offer the salutation or greetings of (one at a distance); to give greeting from, to 'remember' (any one) *to*.

a 1657 R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 55 Present me tenderly to my Sisters F. and J. 1774 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 503 Present me cordially to Mrs. Champion. 1792 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) III. 495 Present me affectionately to Mrs. Gilmer.

2. *refl. To present oneself*: to come into the presence and sight of another or others, or into a particular place, esp. in a formal manner; to appear, attend.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* l. (*Katerine*) 1001 þane sir purphire ..Has present hyme befor þe king. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 152 How thai apperit to the Pape and present thaim aye Fair farrand and fre. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. vi. 79 They are bound to present themselues euery morning at his house. 1611 BIBLE *Job* i. 6 Now there was a day, when the sons of God came to present themselues before the Lord. *a* 1792 BP. HORNE *Disc. Purification* Wks. 1818 III. 157 That he who was thus offered in the temple,..still continues to present himself, to appear in the presence of God for us. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 85 [He] presented himself before the king. 1859 [see 1 *c*]. 1896 *Law Times* C. 488/1 He presented himself at the museum, and attempted to enter the reading-room.

†**b.** *intr.* in same sense. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 357 ȝif two men ben of o date, whoever presentiþ first, shal be avaunsid bifore. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. v, Has shee presented? 1626 — *Staple of N.* II. ii, I must correct that ignorance and ouersight, Before I doe present.

3. *trans.* **a.** To name and recommend (a clergyman) to the bishop for institution *to* a benefice. Often *absol.* (Cf. also 12.) Also, to introduce or recommend to a presbytery (a candidate) for licence as a preacher.

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 3/2 Quod idem Abbas permitteret predictum Ricardum presentare idoneam personam ad Ecclesiam de Shire].

1473-5 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 61 To..put youre seid besecher frome hys free nominacion and will of presentyng to the seid church. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 29 He yᵗ hath right to present to a churche at one tyme. 1595 in *Calr. Laing Charters* (1899) 319 Mr. James..has presentit and proponit him to the presbyterie of Couper.. to be tryit. *c* 1650 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 437/1 The Incumbent ..thereunto presented by the Chancellor of Ireland. 1673 P. HENRY *Diary* (1882) 259 He was praesented to a living by yᵉ lord Ward. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 415 The Patron may present several Persons to the Bishop, though he can only give Institution to one. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 26 A lunatic cannot present to a church, nor his committee. For where a lunatic is seised of an advowson, the Lord Chancellor .. presents to the living. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. iv. 291 The supposed right of the pope to present to English benefices.

b. To nominate to the benefits of any foundation or charitable institution.

1820 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Christ's Hosp.* 35 *Years Ago*, L.'s governor (so we called the patron who presented us to the foundation) lived in a manner under his paternal roof.

4. To put before the eyes of some one; to hold forth to view; to offer to sight or observation; to show, exhibit, display; also (in recent use), To offer (some quality or attribute) to view or notice; to exhibit, be characterized by. Also *refl.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxi. 30 And thy bidding we trest thay sall ganestand, Without thow cum and present thame thy face. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 65 If any would put away the red spots of the face, which do present a kinde of leaprie. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 85, I will discase me, and my selfe present As I was sometime Millaine. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 17 The Glass [microscope] failed in presenting them. 1717 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 327 In sacred vestments may't thou stand,..Present the Cross before my lifted eye. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 23 The snow-topped Apennines presented an appearance of low scattered clouds. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* (1817) I. 11 *note*, Who would have thought it should have presented the interest it does at the hour, March the 18th, 1814? 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 685/1 The shells of the Balanids present several striking peculiarities of structure. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 63 Lands, as Asia Minor, which have presented a very different aspect in different ages. 1885 SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 714 The few points which present any difficulty.

b. *Present arms* (Mil.), to hold a fire-arm or other weapon in a position expressing honour and deference, in saluting a person of superior rank.

1759 [W. WINDHAM] *Plan Discipl. Norfolk Militia* 10 *note*, Presenting the arms, being the same position as the rest, needs no further explanation; it is so termed when used as a compliment. 1796–7 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 244 The men present arms, and the officers salute, so as to drop their swords with the last motion of presented arms. 1798 *Brit. Milit. Jrnl.* Oct., Manual Exercise of Pikes [2nd word of command]..Present Pike. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, There was a general clash of muskets, as arms were presented. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl.*, *Present arms!* is the salutation of a sentry, a guard, or an entire line when a superior officer appears, or the 'colours' are saluted. The motion is performed by bringing the firelock in a perpendicular position in front of the body, and at the same time placing the hollow of the right foot against the heel of the left.

5. To make present to mind or thought, exhibit to mental perception; to offer to notice or consideration; to suggest to the mind; to set forth or describe; to represent (*as* or *to be*); to set forth.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 1001/1 To cut off all the desires which Sathan presenteth vs, to cause vs to loue the world. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 124 So iustly to your Graue eares, Ile present How I did thriue in this faire Ladies loue. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. § 32 Faith which is presented to be an infused grace. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 213 Hear what to my mind first thoughts present. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 55 The creature is presented as very shy. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 6/1 The arguments on both sides..were presented with clearness and precision.

†**b.** To offer (battle or the like); to offer or propose (a toast). *Obs. rare.*

1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 40 The lord Lieutenant..presented a charge to the rebells grosse of horse and foote. *a* 1627 HAYWARD (J.), He was appointed admiral, and presented battle to the French navy, which they refused. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* X. 431 To pledge or present his Maiesties health.

6. *refl.* (from 4, 5) Of a thing: To offer itself to view or perception; to come before one's sight or notice; to show itself, appear; to suggest itself, come into one's mind; to occur.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vii. 19 She went in perill, of each noyse affeard, And of each shade that did it selfe present. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 204 A remedie presents it selfe. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 72 Here also presenteth it selfe in the open fields a great and fearfull spectacle. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit., Tombs* (1818) 73 They look forward, and nothing presents itself but the righteous Judge; the dreadful tribunal. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. XXV. 191 The terrible possibility of his losing his hands presented itself to me.

b. *intr.* in same senses: cf. *to offer*. Now *rare.*

1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 370 Our First Principles.. govern all our Thoughts as occasion presents. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 1 Whichever way I turned, nothing presented but prospects of terror. 1805 EUGENIA DI ACTON *Nuns of Desert* II. 148 The idea of ventriloquism never presented to either of the Gentlemen or the Lady. 1868 *Chambers' Encycl.* V. 252/2 When no other resource presents.

7. *trans.* To bring before the mind by means of a symbol, to symbolize; to represent, to be the representative of; to be a sign of, stand for, denote; to be a picture of. *arch.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2189 Thou shuld..herkon my wille,.. present myn astate; To lede all my legis with likyng in werre. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* I. i, He absent, I present our Soueraigne styll. 1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* (1875) 36 Whiche venome they call by all names presentinge or signyfyinge poysone, as a toode, a dragon, a Basiliske, a serpente, arsenicke, and suche lyke. 1640 FULLER *Joseph's Coat* (1867) 55 'This is My body.' That is, that which signifies, signs, and presents My body. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 88 The Right to Present the Person of them all, (that is to say, to be their Representative). 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. XX. *note*, A remarkable figure, called Robin of Risingham, or Robin of Reedsdale. It presents a hunter, with his bow raised in one hand, and in the other what seems to be a hare.

b. To represent (a character) on the stage; to act (the character of); to personate, *arch.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. i. 124 Sir, you shall present before her the Nine Worthies. *Ibid.* v. ii. 537 He presents Hector of Troy. 1598 — *Merry W.* IV. vi. 20 To-night at Hernes-Oke..Must my sweet Nan present the Faerie Queene. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* XX. 1826 — *Woodst.* vii, We saw Mills present Bomby at the Fortune playhouse. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 193 Remembering how we three presented Maid Or Nymph, or Goddess,..In masque or pageant.

†**c.** To act (a play, or scene in a play). *Obs.*

(? With mixture of sense 4.)

a 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 50 Now they sound the Trumpets, and presently they present the Tragedies. 1637 MILTON (*title*) A Maske presented at Ludlow Castle, 1634: on Michaelmasse night. 1637 EVELYN *Diary* (1819) I. 7 At Christmas the Gentlemen of Exeter College presented a Comedy to the University.

8. *Law.* To bring or lay before a court, magistrate, or person in authority, for consideration or trial; to make presentment of. **a.** To make a formal statement of; to submit (a fact, or a request, complaint, etc.). Also *absol.*

[1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 56/2 Presentatum fuit coram eis quod Abbas Sancti Benedicti obstruxit quandam ripariam barrera et catena.]

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 206 þus wiþ cauteles qwaynt, Preostes presented þis playnt. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 212/2 The seid xii men dar noo-thing say ne present agayns the seid mysdoers. 1546 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 202 A house.. whych hath byn always employed, as hit was presented before the kynges Maiestyes Commyssioners there, to the mayntenaunce of one scolemaster ther. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 104 A sharp censure..against dissolving grand-juries..while matters are under their consideration and not presented. *Ibid.* 105 Scroggs dissolved the grand-jury of London for fear they should present; but ours in Dublin was dissolved, because they would not present. 1891 MAITLAND & BAILDON *Court Baron* (Selden Soc.) 100 The ale-tasters present that Agneta the widow brewed and sold contrary to the assize.

b. To bring (an offence, or something faulty)

formally under the notice of the proper authority, for enquiry or action.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 359 And he yat..presenteth yat offence to ye Tresorer. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 190/1 Then the same Serchours present such defautes before the Justices of peas. 1555 *Nottingham Rec.* (1889) IV. 108 We presente the common bulle, that he be put a-way, for he ys nothyng worth. 1705 HEARNE *Collect.* 2 Sept. (O.H.S.) I. 40 The Grand Juries .. presented 'the Memorial of the Ch. of England'. 1881 *Times* 28 July 9/5 There is not a rural dean in England who would not present St. Margaret's churchyard to his archdeacon at the next Visitation.

c. To bring a formal charge or accusation against (a person), to charge formally; to report or bring up for trial.

1526 TINDALE *Mark* xiii. 11 But when they leade you and present you take noo thought. 1588 W. SMITH *Brief Descr. Lond.* (Harl. MS. 6363, lf. 13), They present euery man, at whose dore the street is not well paved. 1603 *Constit. & Canons Eccl.* CXXI. 1701 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* 2 The Church-wardens are also to present all such as come not to Church. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) II. xxxix. 117 A tradesman wrangling in every bargain..should be presented as a public nuisance.

9. To place (a thing) in, or give to (it), a particular direction or position. **a.** To point (a weapon, esp. a fire-arm) at something; to hold (it) out in the position of taking aim, so as to be ready to fire immediately. Also *absol.* (esp. as word of command). (See also 4 b.)

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 227 The said George Hume presentand ane pistolet to him. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. XXXI. § 3 (1699) 158 William Hamilton pursued for wearing of Pistols, and presenting one to the Provost of Edinburgh. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. xvi. 280 He sees me cock and present. 1725 — *Voy. round World* (1840) 155 He presented his piece, and shot them both flying. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. i. § 14 According to Virgil, the Roman youth presented their lances towards their opponents in a menacing position. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* vii, He ordered his own people to present their pistols and carabines. 1853 STOCQUELER *Milit. Encycl., Present*, to level; to aim; to bring the firelock to an horizontal position, the butt resting against the right shoulder for the purpose of discharging its contents at a given object.

b. *Obstetrics.* Of the fœtus: To direct (a particular part) towards the *os uteri* during labour. Usually *intr.* for *refl.* said of the part so directed, or of the fœtus in relation to its position during labour. Also *Path.* of a tumour or abscess: To be directed, to project.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 36/1 Followinge the naturall Childebirth, the childe allways præsenteth first his heade. 1722 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.* 163/1 When the Child presents in any other Posture. 1790 R. BLAND in *Med. Commun.* II. 415 The head of the child presented. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 377 A pericesophageal abscess frequently presents laterally.

c. *trans.* To point, direct, or turn (a thing) to face something, or in a specified direction. Also *intr.*

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 225 The first course, consisting of four stones,..which, as they all presented some part of their faces to the sea, were all of Moorstone. 1820 SHELLEY *Œdipus* I. 318 The swine..with bare tusks And wrinkled snouts presented to the foe. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 128 Occasion was now offering us her forelock: we strove in vain afterwards to catch the close-shorn backhead which she presented to us in her flight.

†d. *intr.* for *refl.* Of the wind (*Naut.*): To take a favourable direction; to begin to blow from the right quarter. *Obs.*

1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2306/1 The Wind presenting fair, they were obliged to sail that Evening. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 2 A rich and numerous Fleet of Merchants,.. designed for their several Places of Traffick, when the Wind should present. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 375 In case the wind should present sooner.

10. To bring, introduce, or put (a substance) into the presence of or into close contact with another.

1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 21 If a pure Alkali be presented to a pure Acid, they rush together with violence. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 392 When the vapour of alcohol is mixed with oxygen .., the mixture detonates when presented to a lighted taper.

II. To make an offering, present, or gift of; to offer, deliver, give.

11. *trans.* To bring or place (a thing) before or into the presence of a person, or to put (it) into his hands, for acceptance; to offer, proffer, deliver, hand over, bestow, give (usually in a formal or ceremonious manner).

With various connotations: as (*a*) to offer or give as a gift (cf. PRESENT *sb.*²); (*b*) to offer as an act of worship, as a sacrifice, etc.; = OFFER *v.* 1; (*c*) to offer or hand something in ministration, service, or courtesy; †(*d*) to deliver or hand a letter: formerly used in addressing a letter; see quots.; (*e*) to offer a book or literary work to readers, to put it in their power to buy or read it. In the earliest quots. the things presented are gifts, but it is doubtful whether this was implied in the verb: there is no implication of a gift in F. *présenter* or *présentation.*

(*a*) *c* 1325 *Chron. Eng.* (Ritson) 625 He brohte a riche present,..he presentede him also Other thinges fele mo. 13.. *K. Alis.* 686 (Bodl. MS.) His man him brou3th by a cheyne A grisely beest, a hugged colte..He presented it to þe kynge. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 5138 3it sall I send 3ow..a sertan of giftis,..I presand 3ow, of panters full of proud mascles, Foure hundreth fellis. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 Three gostly giftes..Unto the kyng anone they did present. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 87 Thare saw I Nature present hir a gounn Rich to behald..Off ewiry hew. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. XV. 15 b, [They] presented vnto him a mulet. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft., Occas. Medit.* IV. iv, The best Trees present us their Blossoms, before they give us their Fruit. 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* I. 148 To present Miss Meredith in his name, a very elegant little watch. 1859 TENNYSON *Lancelot & Elaine* 70 With purpose to present them [the diamonds] to the Queen.

(*b*) 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, Here wee offre and present unto thee (O Lorde) oure selfe, oure soules, and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and liuely sacrifice unto thee. 1611 BIBLE *Rom.* xii. 1, I beseech you therefore brethren,..that ye present your bodies a liuing sacrifice, holy, acceptable vnto God, which is your reasonable seruice. 1901 BP. GORE *Body of Christ* iii. § 3 (1907) 198 The earlier practice..was to present the earthly prayers and sacrifices at the heavenly altar. 1907 *Ibid.* 310 *note*, The Fathers in general teach..that our Lord..is now acting as our great high-priest in heaven ;..presenting His sacrifice on our behalf, or presenting our sacrifices for us.

(*c*) *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlv. 150, I present you this cuppe, that ye shulde drynke therof. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 101, I thrice presented him a Kingly Crowne, Which he did thrice refuse. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 130 So Ladies in Romance assist their Knight, Present the spear, and arm him for the fight. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* xliii, Another nobleman..to hand him his wine and water, which he tastes and presents on his knee.

(*d*) 1536 in M. A. E. Green *Lett. R. & Illust. Ladies* (1846) II. cviii. 266 To the right honourable and my singular good lord, the Lord Privy Seal, this be presented. 1635 N. BACON in *Priv. Corr. Lady J. Cornwallis* (1842) 274 To my deare and loving mother, the Lady Bacon, presente these. 1642 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 2 To the hands of the Lady Marie, Princesse of Aurania, these present. 1720 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 354 To the Hon^ble^ the Lord Harley, present.

(*e*) 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 1 To present to the world..a full and clear Narration. 1662 in *Boyle's Spring of Air* Publisher to Rdr., These following answers to Franciscus Linus and Mr. Hobbs are presented in compensation of the delay. 1860 HOOK *Lives Abps.* (1869) I. i. 2 The work now presented to the reader. *Ibid.* v. 267 The document by which it was accomplished shall be presented to the reader.

b. With a person as obj.: To deliver up as a prisoner.

c 1360 *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1217 Hise gentyle..presented wern as presoneres to the prynce rychest. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XV. 301 Bot weill soyne eftir he wes tane, And presentit wes to the kyng. *c* 1820 LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* (1855) IV. ii. 93/1 They [Queen Margaret and ladies] were..discovered, and presented as prisoners to the King [Edw. IV].

c. To deliver, convey, give (something non-material, esp. a message, greeting, or the like); to offer (compliments, regards, etc.); † to offer or render (service or assistance).

13.. *Coer de L.* 2179 The messengers told al the dishonour, That them did the emperour ;..And the steward's presenting His behest, and his helping. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1297 (*Dido*) And ek mercurye his massage hath presentid. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xvi. (1495) d iv/1 What he [the wit] take of that he felyth, he presentyth to thynwytt. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xxix. 422 This Service presented, the old man returned. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 17 We shall Present our seruices to a fine new Prince One of these dayes. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 19 To present you my complements. 1656 B. HARRIS *Parival's Iron Age* (1659) 43 That..the Hollanders ..had presented all kind of help to the Venetians. *Mod.* Mr. A. presents his compliments to Mr. B., and regrets to say [etc.].

d. To deliver formally to the proper quarter (a document, as a written address, petition, order, bill, account, etc.) for acceptance, or to be dealt with according to its tenor. Also *fig.*

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXXI. (Percy Soc.) 151 In our court there is a byll presented By Graund Amour. *c* 1655 MILTON *Sonn., On his Blindness* 5 My Soul more bent To serve therewith my Maker, and present My true account. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 136 Now crowds on crowds around the Goddess press, Each eager to present their first Address. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 181 Both houses presented her warm addresses. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* II. ii. 59 But you, Orsino, Have the petition: wherefore not present it? 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. ix. 165 After a bill is prepared and presented, the question is put that it be read a first time. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Jan. 9/3 'Present again',..shows that the banker has reason to believe that the cheque will be met.

e. Of things: To offer, furnish, afford, supply.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. XXV. 197 Some [fountains] are quite dried vp, according to the force and vigour they have, and the matter that is presented. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 191 If a man when an urgent occasion is presented, expose himselfe to a certaine and assured death. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. IV. iv. 118 An opportunity which good fortune seemed to present. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* ii. 19 [Their] thatched roofs and wooden walls could present but a poor defence.

†12. To give, make presentation of (a benefice) *to* a clergyman. *Obs.* (Cf. 3.)

c 1390 *York Manual* (Surtees) 120 All those that maliciously distourbes or lettis the right presentacion of a chirche, the whiche the very patron sholde present. *c* 1425 *MS. Cott. Claud.* A. 2 lf. 124 Alle þoo þat lettuth þe rytheful patron to present his chyrche þat he hath ryte to. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 Lyke as..all benefices hes bene presentit and collationat sen the begynning of his Hienes regnne. 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* III. 33, I had, this morning, the happiness of presenting him a living in Herefordshire, (of three hundred pounds annually).

13. To make a presentation or gift to; to give a present or presents to; to bestow something upon; to endow.

[The resultant sense here is as in 11, but the person, who is the dative object in 11, is here the direct object, the thing presented being either introduced by *with*, or (in b) unexpressed. This construction appears to have been of Eng. development, there being nothing similar in OF. or med.L. It is notable that it is represented as early as sense 11.]

a. *To present* a person *with* a thing = *to present* a thing *to* a person (sense 11). Formerly in the full extent of sense 11; now always implying bestowal of something as a gift to be kept (11 (*a*)). Also *fig.* to furnish or supply *with* something.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12318 Iesus..bar it ham als in a ball, And present þan his moder wit-all. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* XXXIV. 96 When the kynges come wery, to presente hyre sone With myrre, gold, ant encenz. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1039 This present 3e schullen vnderfong,..And present þer-wiþ..Rohaut, mi kinde lord. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (ROXB.) XXV. 116 Efter þaim commez grete barounes and presandez him with sum iowell. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 304 He was..receyued with grete joye, & presented with gret ryches. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 55, I do present you with a man of mine Cunning in Musicke, and the Mathematickes, To instruct her fully in those sciences. 1660 BARROW *Euclid* II. prop. i. Schol., You must take all the Rectangles of the parts, and they will present you with the Rectangle of the wholes. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 65 The knowledge of Christ Jesus presents me with a continual Object of a higher value. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 103 To present the public with this acceptable present. 1803 J. MORSE in *M. Cutler's Life*, etc. (1888) II. 130 Yesterday week Mrs. Morse presented me with a fine daughter. 1831 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 247 Mrs. Bray..has desired to present you with a copy of Mary Colling's poem.

†b. with personal obj. only; rarely *absol.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3219 Þou scholdest vs presente & gyue, And helpe vs alle in pes to lyue; Bot now þou comest to reue vs our socour. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 237 Whan þat all men han þus presented the Emperour. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 209 [He] was by the King so bountifully presented, and louingly vsed. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 210 Francis not only richly presented him, but conducted him through the Town. 1676 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 240 In these days men present just as they soil their ground, not that they love the dirt, but that they expect a crop. 1691 tr. *Emilianne's Observ. Journ. Naples* 105 They bestow them [benefices] upon such Seculars as Present them highest. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. iv, Have I not presented you nobly? Have I not clad your whole family?

Presentable (prɪze·ntăb'l), *a.* [f. PRESENT *v.* + -ABLE : cf. F. *présentable.*]

1. That can or may be presented; capable of, or suitable for, presentation (to a person, to the mind, as a gift, etc.).

a 1626 A. LAKE *Medit.* (1629) a ij b, Faultring words, wandring thoughts, are neither of them presentable to thee. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* V. vii, Here are again two ideas not presentable but by language. 1854 FARADAY *Exp. Res.* lv. 468 Under that form it is easily presentable to the mind. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xv. 280 These possibilities of a presentable claim.

2. *Law.* That may or should be presented, or formally brought up or charged, as an offence, an offender, etc.; liable to presentment.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 43 Thinges enquirable presentable or determinable before iusticers of peas. *a* 1701 in Prideaux *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (1701) 11 They will..present such persons and things as are presentable by the Ecclesiastical Laws. 1739 *N. Bacon's Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxvi. 145 *note*, This was originally presentable and punishable in the Leet. 1863 KEBLE *Life Bp. T. Wilson* I. x. 327 It [drunkenness] should be especially enumerated among the presentable offences.

3. *Eccl.* **a.** Of a benefice: To which a clergyman may be presented: = PRESENTATIVE 1. **b.** Of a clergyman: Capable of being presented to a benefice (*rare*—⁰).

1636 PRYNNE *Unbish. Tim.* (1661) 130 Were all Appropriations, and impropriations .. made presentable. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 297 To found such a Church or Chappel, and to ordain that it shall be a donative and not presentable. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 90 No more..than Incumbents of Churches Presentable can by their sole Act grant the Incumbencies to others. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Presentable*..3. *Eccles.* (*a*) Capable of being presented to a church living; as, a presentable clerk. [So in later Dicts.]

4. Suitable, by attire or appearance, to be presented or introduced into society or company; in proper trim; of decent appearance, fit to be seen. (Properly of persons; often extended to things.) The usual current sense.

1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 29 Aug., I am glad..that his friends are so presentable. 1835 WILLIS *Pencillings* II. xlii. 34 A wash in the clean water made him once more a presentable person. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, Is he a presentable sort of a person? 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* I. 170 The pictures being in a more presentable condition than usual. 1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* V, She ..was quite a presentable young lady. 1898 MRS. CRAWFORD in *Daily News* 12 Dec., This table looks very fine set out for an official dinner, but only the ends are of mahogany and have presentable legs.

Hence **Presentabi·lity**, the quality of being presentable; (*a*) capability of presentation; (*b*) state of being fit to be seen; **Prese·ntably** *adv.*, in a presentable manner, so as to have a decent appearance.

1865 MASSON *Rec. Brit. Philos.* 297 The phænomenal presentability within it..of other and non-native sentiencies, angelic or demonic. 1888 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Relig.* I. i. iv. 124 We adopt the test of objective presentability (*Anschauung*). 1888 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 447 Old boots, which had long passed the season of presentability. 1892

A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 252 The Square was enclosed, for the first time presentably, with a fence of cedar posts and white painted palings.

Presental (prĭze·ntăl). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL 5, after *bestowal*, etc.] = PRESENTATION.

1869 *Chicago Advance* 14 Jan. (Cent.), As illustrations of the author's presental of different sides of a subject, we give two extracts.

†**Presenta·neous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præsentāneus* operating quickly (Plin.) (f. *præsent-em* PRESENT *a.* + suffix *-āne-us*) + -OUS.] **a.** Acting immediately or speedily: = PRESENT *a.* 9 b. **b.** = PRESENT *a.* 1.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Presentaneous*, present, ready, speedy, forceable, effectual. 1665 G. Harvey *Advice agst. Plague* 10 Some [plagues] partaking of such a pernicious degree of malignity, that in the manner of a most presentaneous poyson, they enecate in two or three hours. 1668 Howe *Bless. Righteous* (1821) 63 But our relation to eternity ..will render the same invariable appearance of glory always presentaneous.

†**Pre·sentary,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 præ-. [ad. L. *præsentāri-us* that is at hand, ready, quick, f. *præsent-em*: see PRESENT *a.* and -ARY 1.] = PRESENT *a.* 6, 8.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. vi. 134 (Camb. MS.) For this like infynyt moeuynge of temporel thinges folweth this presentarye estat of lyf vnmoeuable. 1621 T. Bedford *Sin unto Death* 67 He alloweth a præsentary lapse. 1657 Hawke *Killing is M.* 15 These..were the presentary and explicite Testimonies of the peoples general approbations, and congratulations.

Presentation (prezĕntā·ʃən). [ME. a. OF. *presentacion* (13th c. in Littré, mod.F. *présentation*), or ad. late L. *præsentātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præsentāre* to PRESENT.] The action of presenting, in various senses; *rarely*, something presented.

I. 1. The action of presenting or introducing a person: see PRESENT *v.* 1. **a.** The formal bringing or presenting of a person before God, as a religious act: see PRESENT *v.* 1 b.

Specifically, the *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*, as recorded in Luke ii. 22–39, and *Presentation of the Virgin Mary* as a child, narrated in the Apocryphal Gospels. Also applied to the festivals in which these incidents are celebrated by various branches of the Christian Church, the former on Feb. 2 (see Candlemas, Purification), the latter, by the Greek and Roman Churches, on Nov. 21. Also, in *Art*, a representation of either of these incidents. *Order of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary*: a Roman Catholic order of nuns, founded in 1777 in Ireland, and mainly devoted to the education of poor girls.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxii. 232 The firste feste is of his [the grete Chane's] byrthe, þat oþer is of his presentacioun in here mede..where þei maken a manere of circumcisioun. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* ix. (Shaks. Soc.) 89 Lo! sofreynes here ye have seyn, In the temple of oure ladyes presentacion. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 131 He [Simeon] hath the way nom To the temple with hye devocion To se of Cryst the presentacion. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, commonly called, The Purification of Saint Mary the Virgin. 1859 Mrs. Jameson *Early Ital. Painters* 250 (*Raphael*) The subjects.. were all from the life of Christ, and were as follows:—..4. The Presentation in the Temple. *Ibid.* 297 (*Titian*) The first of his historical compositions..is the Presentation of the Virgin in the Temple. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 34/1 (*Farinato*) In the Berlin gallery [is] a Presentation in the Temple. 1880 F. Meyrick in *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* II. 1140/1 (*Festivals of Mary*) The Greek and Latin churches agree in celebrating the Assumption and the Presentation. *Ibid.* 1144/1 The Festival of the Presentation of St. Mary..did not pass into the West till 1375...Its purpose is to commemorate the presentation of St. Mary as narrated in the Gnostic legend which is embodied in the Protevangelion and the Gospel of the Birth of Mary. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* 691/1 The story of Mary's presentation in the temple when three years old and her sojourn there till her marriage first appears in Apocryphal Gospels. *Ibid.* 691/2 Order of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary...In 1874 it possessed seventy-three houses, with 1,140 nuns and more than 20,000 pupils.

b. The formal or ceremonious introduction of a person to another, esp. to a superior; *spec.* the presenting of a person at court.

1788 Ld. Auckland *Corr.* (1861) II. 62 The presentations of our countrymen are very troublesome when they happen here. 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* v, His presentation at St. James's had made him courteous. 1863 Mary Howitt *F. Bremer's Greece* I. i. 16, I was promised an early presentation to Her Majesty. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 150 After May there would be no drawing-rooms or presentations.

c. The presenting of a candidate for examination, for admission to a degree, etc.

1683 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) III. 57 The duke, after he was presented, took his place on the right of the vicechancellor; the rest, after presentation, on the left. 1864 *Lond. Univ. Cal.* 59 A Certificate..shall be delivered at the Public Presentation for Degrees to each Candidate who has passed. 1883 *Camb. Univ. Reporter* 22 May 732 The Presentation for Doctor's Degrees..conferred *honoris causa*..shall take precedence of all others. 1906 J. Wells *Oxf. Degree Cerem.* 11 The second part of the ceremony is the presentation of the candidates to the Vice Chancellor and Proctors.

2. *Eccl.* The action, or the right, of presenting a clergyman to a benefice, or to the bishop for institution: see PRESENT *v.* 3.

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 5/1 Diu ante presentacionem factam Radulpho per regem fuit institutus.]

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 248 þou3 pore prestis myȝtten frely geten presentacion of lordis to haue benefices wiþ cure of soulis. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 599/2 The next Presentation, power and auctorite of presentyng of a..persone to the Parissh Chirche. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 55 Concerning the nomination and presentation into benefices, if any controuersie arise betweene the layetie and Clergie: or betweene one spirituall man with another [etc.]. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Presentation*..is vsed properly for the act of a patron offering his Clerke to the Bishop, to be instituted in a benefice of his gift. 1622 Callis *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 107 One who hath the presentation or nomination to a Church as Patron. 1766 [see Presentative *a.* 1]. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 14 A presentation in writing is a kind of letter, not a deed, from the patron to the bishop.., requesting him to admit the person presented to the church. 1852 Hook *Ch. Dict.* (1871) 607 Presentation.. differs from nomination, inasmuch as nomination signifies offering a clerk to the patron in order that he may be presented to the bishop. 1880 Fowler *Locke* ii. 24 Locke..was made Secretary of Presentations—that is, of the Chancellor's church patronage.

3. *Law.* †**a.** = PRESENTMENT 2. *Obs.* **b.** *Bond of presentation* (Sc. Law): see quot. 1861.

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 13/1 Certificet de presentacione facta in Itinere suo.]

1604 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 436 No presentation of blood drawing or beareing wepons of a childe, shall be presented before hee be twelve years of age. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 181 The Clerke of Presentations. *a* 1765 Erskine *Inst. Law Scot.* (1773) III. iii. § 70 The granter of a bond of presentation who has failed to present the debtor's person in the terms of his obligation. 1861 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*, *Bond of Presentation* is an obligation granted for behoof of a person in custody on a legal warrant, in order to obtain his temporary liberation. The obligant in such a bond becomes bound to present the person so liberated, to the officer holding the warrant, at a particular day and place.

II. 4. The action of offering for acceptance, esp. formally or ceremoniously; handing over, delivery; bestowal, gift, offering.

1433 Lydg. *St. Fremund* 814 To the Bysshop off the diocyse Made off his bullis presentacioun. *c* 1500 *Cov. Corp. Chr. Plays* 26 Here make owre presentacion Vnto this kyngis son clensid soo cleyne And to his moder for ovre saluacion. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. § 11 Prayers.. are..sometime a presentation of mere desires, as a means of procuring desired effects at the hands of God. 1700 C. Nesse *Antid. Armin.* (1827) 81 The two parts of his priestly office, oblation and presentation, cannot be separated. 1866 Crump *Banking* iv. 93 It would seem sufficient that the post of the second day should be the medium of presentation [of a cheque at a bank]. 1883 *Act* 46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52 § 10 The Court may..after the presentation of a bankruptcy petition stay any action..against..the debtor.

b. Something offered for acceptance; a present, gift, donation; in quot. 1714, an address presented (with allusion to sense 3 a). ? *Obs.*

1619 *Time's Storehouse* II. iv. 154/2 The height or top of an olive tree..wherof the Doue brogh a presentation to the good old man, as a symbol of grace. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* a iij, This is a kinde of Attome, in comparison of other Presentations. 1714 Steele *Lover* No. 3 (1715) 16 A Sett of Persons whom they call in their Presentation the Lovers Vagabond.

III. 5. The action of presenting to sight or view, or that by which something is so presented; theatrical, pictorial, or symbolic representation; a display, show, exhibition.

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 112 He vses his folly like a stalking-horse, and vnder the presentation of that he shoots his wit. 1672 Dryden *Ess., Heroic Plays* (ed. Ker) I. 150 These warlike instruments, and even their presentations of fighting on the stage, are no more than necessary to produce the effects of an heroic play. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 19 To aim at any other presentation of female beauty. 1898 R. F. Horton *Commandm. Jesus* v. 78 The plain presentation of it [the Passion] by the peasants of Ober-Ammergau has an overwhelming effect even on careless spectators.

b. An image, likeness, semblance (= PRESENTMENT 5 b); a representation, a symbol.

1594 Shaks. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 84, I call'd thee then, poore Shadow, painted Queen, The presentation of but what I was. 1866 J. H. Newman *Gerontius* iii. 32 Thou livest in a world of signs and types, The presentations of most holy truths.

6. The action of presenting to notice or mental view; a setting forth, a statement.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 4 This new presentation of Christ not before their eyes but within their soules. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 283, I have not further to trouble yr Excellcy then wt the presentation of my reall desires to serve you. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* x. 302 In the Bible, there are no scientific presentations of the body of divinity. 1907 *Hibbert Jrnl.* July 927 His presentations of the orthodox case are sometimes the merest travesties of what educated opponents really hold.

b. The action of representing to the mind or thought; representation or suggestion to the mind. (Cf. PRESENTIVE.)

1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1873) § 229 The letter A was once a picture, and it represented a bull's head...It began in presentation and has reached a state of symbolism.

7. *Metaph.* and *Psychol.* (tr. Ger. *Vorstellung.*) All the modification of consciousness directly involved in the knowing or being aware of an object in a single moment of thought. By some authors restricted to perceptual cognition, in order to mark the distinction between it and ideational cognition or *representation.*

1842 Abp. Thomson *Laws Th.* § 46 (1860) 71 The impression which any object makes upon the mind may be called a Presentation. 1864 Bowen *Logic* 1 Such acts are called Intuitions or Presentations; the former is the more generally received appellation. 1871 Farrar *Witn. Hist.* ii. 51 *note*, Strauss..shewed how essential were the differences between dogma and speculation, between the presentation and the notion. 1874 Lewes in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 691 The specific facts of feeling, perception, desire, will, &c., in so far as they are *known*, may on the whole be called Presentation (*Vorstellung*). 1884 Sully *Outl. Psychology* vi. 152 The percept involves the immediate assurance of the presence of the whole object. Hence psychologists commonly speak of percepts in their totality as presentations. 1886 J. Ward in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 41/1 All that variety of mental facts which we speak of as sensations, perceptions, images, intuitions, concepts, notions, have two characteristics in common: (1) they admit of being more or less attended to, and (2) can be reproduced and associated together. It is here proposed to use the term *presentation* to connote such a mental fact, and as the best English equivalent for what Locke meant by idea, and what Kant and Herbart called a Vorstellung.

8. The action of placing, or condition of being placed, in a particular direction or position with respect to something else or to an observer; the mode in which a thing is presented or presents itself.

1833 Herschel *Astron.* xi. 349 A presentation of the one planet to the other in conjunction, in a variety of situations, tends to produce compensation. 1866 — *Fam. Lect. Sc.* 205 Among them occurs every variety..of oblique presentation from a plane passing..edgeways thro' the eye of the spectator to one perpendicular to the visual line. 1881 T. W. Webb in *Nature* 10 Nov. 38/2 The Earl of Rosse..finds a narrow ray on either side, making..a singular resemblance to Saturn with a very thin presentation of the ring.

b. *Obstetr.* The presenting of a particular part of the fœtus towards the *os uteri* during labour: see PRESENT *v.* 9 b. Often with defining word indicating the part, as *arm, breech, face, foot, head, shoulder, vertex*, etc.

1754–64 Smellie *Midwif.* I. 195 The presentation of the head was always deemed the most natural. 1842 Stephens *Bk. Farm* (1849) I. 512/1 The presentation [of lambs, etc.] is sometimes made with the hind-feet foremost. 1851 Ramsbotham *Obstetr. Med.* (ed. 3) 121 Discriminating marks of a Head Presentation.

¶ **9.** Used for *presence* (app. for the sake of rime).

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) II. 180 Bounde to Ierusalem, with furyous vyolacion, Be-for cesar caypha, and annas presentacion.

IV. 10. *attrib.* in sense 4, as *presentation copy, clock*, etc.; **presentation day**, a day on which a ceremonial presentation is made, e. g. a degree-day in a university: see quots.; in sense 1 b, as *presentation frock, gown*; in sense 6 or 7, as **presentation value**, value as a fact presented to mental view or knowledge.

1819 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 337 The others [books] were all presentation copies. 1837 Lockhart *Scott* lxii. (1839) VII. 406 There are few living authors of whose works presentation copies are not to be found here. 1843 E. P. Belden *Sk. Yale Coll.* 131 A short time previous to 'Presentation Day'—the day when the Senior class leaves the Institution. [*Note*] At the middle of the third term.. certificates are presented by the Faculty to the Corporation recommending those who have passed a satisfactory examination as worthy of degree. This gave rise to the term 'Presentation Day'. 1866 *Newspr.*, Presentation Day at the University of London. 1868 Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 296 It must have been a presentation-sword. 1889 Liddon in *Pall Mall G.* 22 Apr. 1/2 The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus had a mystical side and aspect over and above their presentation value as events in the world's history. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 5/2 Presentation gown of white duchesse satin.

Hence **Presenta·tional** *a.*, of or pertaining to presentation (sense 7); **Presenta·tionalism**: see quots.; **Presenta·tionism,** the doctrine that in perception the mind has an immediate cognition of the object; **Presenta·tionalist, Presenta·tionist,** one who holds this doctrine, a believer in the immediate perception of sensible things (also *attrib.*).

1886 E. J. Hamilton *Mental Science* xviii. 131 The whole doctrine is more comprehensive than that of *presentational realism, and..may be designated by the unrestricted term '*presentationalism'. 1907 *Athenæum* 18 May 610/3 The subjective self is..an inference from certain presentational changes that cannot be ascribed to physical stimuli, and Ward's view is justified. 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.*, *Presentationalism*, the doctrine that man has an immediate perception of all the elemental forms of entity, as space, time, substance, and power; natural realism, in an extended sense. *Ibid.*, *Presentationalist. a* 1842 Sir W. Hamilton in *Reid's Wks.* (1846) 820/1 His doctrine of perception is..one of immediate cognition, under the form of real *presentationism. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 657 If the reader wants a name to characterise this system, he may call it the system of Absolute or Thorough-going presentationism. *a* 1842 Sir W. Hamilton in *Reid's Wks.* (1846) 816/1 The *presentationists or Intuitionists constitute the object of which we are conscious in perception, into a sole, absolute, or total object; in other words, reduce perception to an act of immediate or intuitive cognition. 1871 Fraser *Life Berkeley* x. 390 He is virtually a representationist as well as a presentationist. 1907 *Athenæum* 6 Apr. 407/1 Let him consider the whole 'Presentationist' controversy.

Presentative (prĭze·ntătiv), *a.* [ad. med.L. type **præsentātīvus*: see PRESENT *v.* and -ATIVE. Cf. REPRESENTATIVE.]

1. *Eccl.* Of a benefice: To or for which a patron has the right of presentation: see quot. 1766. Also said of the advowson, the tithes, etc. connected with such a benefice. Opp. to APPROPRIATE, COLLATIVE, DONATIVE, IMPROPRIATE.

1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. viii. 22 Foundations of free-chappels..to be donatyve and not presentatyve. 1612 W. Travers *Supplic.* in *Hooker's Wks.* (1888) III. 555 The place of ministry whereunto I was called was not presentative. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 300 b, Parson Impersonee is the Rector that is in possession of the Church Parochiall, be it presentatiue, or impropriate. 1646 *Spelman's De non Temer. Eccl.* b j, The same remedy both for the presentative and impropriate Tithe. 1648 Heylin *Undeceiv. People* 30 The Churches will no longer be *presentative* at the choice of the Patron; but either made *Elective* at the will of the People, or else *Collated* by the Trustees of the severall Counties (succeeding .. in the power of Bishops). 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. iii. 22 An advowson presentative is where the patron hath a right of presentation to the bishop or ordinary, and moreover to demand of him to institute his clerk, if he find him canonically qualified: and this is the most usual advowson. 1872 O. Shipley *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. *Dean*, [This] deanery is not presentative, but donative.

† **2.** Of or pertaining to presentation or bestowal.

1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 189 The manlike hand of the Poet Claudian that hath so well and eloquently set downe the presentiue Epigram of the said gift.

† **3.** = Representative *a.* 1, 2. *Obs.*

c 1430 [implied in Presentatively]. 1642 *Lett. fr. Gentl. to Friend in Lond.* 4 If the Parliament without the King make the presentative body, the King is the reall head to that body of the kingdome. 1653 H. Whistler *Upshot Inf. Baptism* 22 Christ being God the Son, spake in the glory, the Majesty presentative of Christ. *Ibid.* 86 The Angell visionally, presentative Christ our Redeemer.

4. Having the function or power of presenting an idea or notion to the mind.

1855 Brimley *Ess., Tennyson* 37 That phrase, 'a great water',..is an instance of the intense presentative power of Mr. Tennyson's genius. 1885 Stevenson in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 550 Those arts..like architecture, music, and the dance, which are self-sufficient and merely presentative.

5. *Metaph.* and *Psychol.* Of, pertaining or relating to, or of the nature of presentation (sense 7); by some authors (e. g. Hamilton and Herbert Spencer) distinguished from *representative*, but now more usually employed as the wider term including this.

a 1842 Sir W. Hamilton in *Reid's Wks.* (1846) 804 The distinction of Presentative, Intuitive or Immediate, and of Representative or Mediate cognition. *Ibid.* 805/1 An immediate cognition, in as much as the thing known is itself presented to observation, may be called a presentative; and in as much as the thing presented, is, as it were, viewed by the mind face to face, may be called an intuitive, cognition. A mediate cognition, in as much as the thing known is held up or mirrored to the mind in a vicarious representation, may be called a representative cognition... In a presentative or immediate cognition there is one sole object. *Ibid.* 823/1 If then he declare that his own opinion coincides with that of the vulgar, he will, consequently, declare himself a Presentative Realist. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. II. iv. 5 Sensations are sometimes called presentative feelings. 1871 Fraser *Life Berkeley* ii. 43 In his account of sense perception, he anticipates the spirit of the presentative psychology of Reid and Hamilton. *a* 1881 A. Barratt *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 176 This division of outer and inner seems to correspond with those between impressions and ideas, sensations and thoughts, and primary or presentative or vivid, and secondary or representative or faint states of consciousness.

Hence **Prese·ntatively** *adv.* (in quot., representatively, by representation).

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxxvii. (1869) 49 With inne this bred al the souereyn good is put,..nouht ymaginatyfliche, nouht presentatyfliche, nouht vertualliche,.. but .. bodiliche and rialliche, presentliche and verreyliche.

Presented (prĭze·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. Present *v.* + -ed 1.] Brought or placed before one, introduced; offered, bestowed, directed, etc.: see the verb. In quot. 1631 *absol.* = next, 1.

1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 405 Learne of him..To take aduantage on presented ioy. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 303 Knowing the presented, to bee a very vnlearned and vnsufficient man. 1732 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 51 Avidien, or his Wife..Sell their presented partridges, and fruits, And humbly live on rabbits and on roots. 1800 *Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 26/1 His Excellency will enter at the St. George's gate, and be received with presented arms by his Majesty's 51st regiment. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. II. vi. 245 Presented feelings hinder the representation of other feelings.

Presentee (prezĕntī·). [a. AF. *presentee* a presentee = F. *présenté*, pa. pple. of *présenter* to Present: see -ee.]

1. A person presented.

a. *Eccl.* A clergyman presented (for institution) to a benefice: see Present *v.* 3.

[1351-2 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 244/1 Vos Presentees sont a yceux Benefices ensi receuz.] 1498-9 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 132, I have..shewed to him as your mastership presented in after the deith of the last Incumbent, which presentee was in by the space of iiii or v dayes at the least. 1570-6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 229 King John presented a Clarke to the Churche and commaunded by his writ that his presentee should be admitted. 1639 Earl of Cork *Diary* in *Lismore Papers* Ser. I. (1886) V. 94 The vickaridge of colligan, fallen voide by the death of Thomas Vyning, my laste presentee. 1753 *Scots Mag.* XV. 86/1 The people of the parish had no colour of an objection to the presentee. 1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* ii. (1857) 32 Donald's minister..died in middle life, and an unpopular presentee was obtruded on the people. 1884 Sir C. E. Pollock in *Law Times Rep.* 19 Apr. 239/1 The bishop wrote to the plaintiff that..he was obliged to refuse to institute his presentee.

b. A person nominated or recommended for any office or position.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 8/1 In one old case the court rejected a nominee as not being duly qualified,..which led to the passing of an Act, which provided that, even if the presentee is reported not to be qualified, the Crown may nevertheless insist on his admission. Nowadays..the Lord Probationer is invariably found qualified, and is at once transformed from an 'apprentice' into a regular Senator of the College of Justice.

c. A person presented at court: see Present *v.* 1.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 276 In the palace, the presentees were crowded into a mob. 1897 *Daily News* 12 May 9/3 The latest 'presentees' had not all returned from the Drawing Room.

2. A person to whom something is presented; the recipient of a present or gift.

1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 385 The frequency of testimonials does not lessen their effect to the presentee. 1874-7 Sir H. Taylor *Autobiog.* (1885) II. xii. 167 Most presentees would rather dispense with the present than have to invent the necessary letters of eulogy and thanks.

† **Presente·ns.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *present tens* (mod. F. *temps présent*) present time: see Present *a.*, Tense *sb.*] **a.** Present time. **b.** Present tense.

c 1475 *Partenay* 1439 What be ye? what is your name þis presentens? 1530 Palsgr. 43 We shulde confounde the persons of this tens with the same persons of their presentenses.

Presenter (prĭze·ntəɹ). [f. Present *v.* + -er 1. See also Presentor.] One who presents, in various senses of the verb.

1. One who presents a person to a benefice, or to any position or office, or for a degree; one who formally introduces a person, esp. at court; in quot. 1597, a sponsor. (See also Presentor 1 b.)

1544 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 38 The presenter of the clercke to a benefyce. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiv. § 5 It is the Church which doth offer them to Baptisme by the Ministery of Presenters. 1706 A. Boyer *Ann. Q. Anne* IV. 254 The prolocutor..chose for his presenter the Dean of Christ Church..who accordingly presented him..with an elegant Latin speech. 1830 Godwin *Cloudesley* I. xiv. 235 We had been presented to King George the First,..the presenter being Robert earl Danvers. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 26 June 5/1 Lord Kelvin..The first honorary Doctor of Science of London University was described by his presenter on Wednesday as 'a greater philosopher than Democritus, and one in whom are united the qualities of Archimedes and Aristotle'.

2. *Law.* One who makes a presentment (of a fact, or an offence, etc.); = Presentor 1 a. Now *rare.*

1545 Brinklow *Compl.* ii. 11 The thyrd [part] to the presenter that can iustyfye the matter. 1561 in Sir J. T. Gilbert *Calr. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1891) II. 14 The presenter, fynder or spier of thoffence to have thone haulfe. 1656 in *1st Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 251 John Harman was chosen to ye Office of a Presenter to present breaches of ye Lawes. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 2 Sept. (O.H.S.) I. 40 If we consider of wt Persons the juries consist, & who are the Presenters. 1891 Maitland & Baildon *Court Baron* (Selden Soc.) 100 The said Benedict complaineth of all the presenters that falsely and maliciously have they indicted him.

3. One who makes a present; a donor, giver.

1548 Gest *Pr. Masse* Ded. to Cheke, Not respectynge so muche the vylenes therof, as the good mynde of the presenter of yᵉ same. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* Ded., One presented vnto him a booke .. the presenter replied. 1699 R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1711) 37 He tells us the Weight, the Price, and the Presenter of every Piece. 1903 *Motor. Ann.* 184 Mr. Gordon Bennett, the presenter of the Cup, is entitled to a seat on every such Committee.

4. One who 'presents' a part in a play; an actor. *arch.* or *Obs.*

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* (1622) 247 The deuice did teach the eyes the present miserie of the Presenter himselfe. 1606 Harington in Nichols *Progr. Jas. I* (1828) II. 73 Strange Pageantries..of this sort in our Queen's days I was sometime an humble Presenter and Assistant. 1634 Ford *Perkin Warbeck* III. ii, Are the presenters ready?..[*Stage direct.*] Enter at one door four Scotch Anticks [etc.]. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xx, His skill in performing the presenter of Pyramus.

5. One who presents an address, petition, memorial, an order, bill, cheque, etc.

1714 J. Macky *Journ. thro. Eng.* (1724) I. xi. 213 These Officers..are the Presenters to his Majesty of all Memorials. 1766 W. Gordon *Gen. Counting-ho.* 364 No presenter [of a bill] is obliged to wait longer. 1784 J. Brown *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) II. iii. 48 To intimidate the presenters of this remonstrance. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 27 Apr., Addresses were presented to Garibaldi this afternoon... The presenters and a large number of other persons had interviews with the General in the library. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 § 64 Any person seeking to obtain a Crown writ shall lodge..in the office of the presenter of signatures a draft of the proposed writ. 1881 *Philad. Record* (U.S.) No. 3473. 6 The rules of the bank required that the presenter of a check should be identified.

6. One who (or that which) presents something to the mind or to notice.

1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1873) § 232 But if we ask,..What idea does this word [*thing*] present? we answer, None! There is *no* creature, no subject of speech or of thought, which can claim the word *thing* as its presenter. 1897 Dowden *Fr. Lit.* I. iii. § 3. 53 The presenter in literature of this glittering spectacle is the historian Jean Froissart.

Presential (prĭze·nʃăl), *a.* Now *rare.* Also prēse-. [ad. med.L. *præsentiālis* present (Du Cange), f. L. *præsenti-a* presence: see -al.]

1. Of or pertaining to presence; having or implying actual presence with a person or in a place; present.

1635 Brathwait *Five Senses, Contin.* v. 143 To see the presentiall countenance of God with the blessed and Elect. 1647 Jer. Taylor *Lib. Proph.* xiv. 204 By fiction of Law..the paines of Hell are made presentiall to him. 1724 R. Welton *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 34 He has been pleased to exhibit to us a presential communication of Himself. 1833 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Barrenn. Imag. Faculty*, What associating league to the imagination can there be between the seers, and the seers not, of a presential miracle?

2. Mentally present; having presence of mind; attentive to the matter in hand: = Present *a.* 4.

1649 Ambrose *Media* xi. (1652) 291 One hath quickness of parts,..another is solid, but not so ready and presential. 1815 Lamb *Let. to Wordsw.* in *Final Mem.* vi. 244, I lose all presential memory of what I had intended to say.

3. Pertaining or relating to present time.

1846 Mozley *Ess., Carlyle's Cromwell* (1878) I. 232 The two worlds of futurity have a praesential existence as of imagery within the mind.

b. *Gram.* Applied to those tenses of a verb formed on the present stem.

1898 W. M. Ramsay *Was Christ born in Bethlehem?* vi. 124 Here the presential tenses [ἀπογράφεσθαι and ἐπορεύοντο] are necessitated by the sense; all persons, individually and severally, repaired to their proper cities for their respective enrolment.

Hence † **Prese·ntialist** *Obs. nonce-wd.*, a believer in the Real Presence: see Presence 1 c, Real *a.*2 2 b.

a 1655 Vines *Lord's Supp.* iii. (1657) 50 As the Romish Præsentialists and Schoolmen dream.

Presentiality (prĭzenʃiæ·lĭti). Now *rare.* [ad. med.L. *præsentiālitās* (of time, Aquinas): see prec. and -ity. So OF. *presencialité* (in Godef.).] The condition or character of being presential.

a. Presentness (in time).

1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 424 This vnion is onely accidentall, and in regard of presentialitie and vbitie. 1652 T. Froysell *Gale Opportunity* Ep. Ded. 2 Let Faith give you a presentiality of things to come...Faith gives them a present Existence. 1664 Baxter *Divine Life* I. v. 28 That terms of priority, presentiality, and posteriority, have not that significancy in or about Eternity as they have with us. 1692 South *Serm.* (1697) I. 334 Which..makes all futures actually present to him; and it is the Presentiality of the Object which founds the unerring certainty of his knowledge. 1848 Hampden *Bampt. Lect.* (ed. 3) 175 They [events] are fixed and immutable in their 'presentiality' before God, whose eternity admits no change, no succession.

b. The fact or quality of being present in place; presence.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 287 It's the significator of the presentiality of heat. 1852 Br. Forbes *Nicene Cr.* 54 Incomprehensibility implies the negation of any limit in substantial presentiality or presence. 1894 Froude *Life & Lett. Erasm.* 125 Circumincession is when a thing subsists really in something else which is really distinct, by the mutual assistance of presentiality in the same essence.

Prese·ntially, *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Presential + -ly 2. Cf. med. schol. L. *præsentiāliter*, OF. *presentialment* (Bruno Lat., 13th c.).] In a presential manner; in the way of actual presence; as being present.

1615 T. Adams *Leaven* Wks. 1862 II. 72 He reigns in this place..presentially by his grace. 1651 Jer. Taylor *Clerus Dom.* 28 Himselfe actually and presentially in heaven. 1691 E. Taylor *Behmen's Theos. Philos.* 165 How doth Christ himself teach presentially in the Office of Preaching, and yet sitteth at the Right Hand of God?

Prese·ntialness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being presential; = Presentiality (in quots., presence in space).

1692 Norris *Curs. Refl. Ess. Hum. Und.* 20, I account for the Mode of human Understanding..by the Presentialness of the Divine Λόγος, or Ideal World to our Souls. 1713 A. Collier *Clavis Univ.* I. i. § 2 (1836) 36 If..the Presentialness of the Object be necessary to the Act of Vision, the Object perceived cannot possibly be External to..us.

Presentiate (prĭze·nʃiĕit), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *præsentia* Presence + -ate 3; cf. *differentiate, substantiate.*] *trans.* To make or render present in place or time; to cause to be perceived or realized as present.

1659 Hammond *On Ps.* v. 7 Paraphr. 32 That place where thou art pleased to præsentiate thy self. 1689 W. Taylor in *Manton's Treat. Self-Denial* Ep. Ded., That faith which realiseth the unseen glory, presentiateth our future hopes, looketh beyond time to eternity. 1755 Amory *Mem.* (1766) II. 252 A realizing, presentiating faith of the unseen things promised by God. 1845-7 P. Fairbairn *Typol. Script.* (1857) I. I. iii. 66 To figure and presentiate to the soul the future realities of the divine Kingdom.

Presentient (prĭse·nʃĭĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *præsentient-em*, pres. pple. of *præsentīre* to feel or perceive beforehand: see Pre- A. 3 and Sentient.] Feeling or perceiving beforehand; having a presentiment; scenting beforehand.

1814 Southey *Roderick* xviii. 322 The ravenous fowls of heaven Flock there presentient of their food obscene. 1818 J. H. Hunt tr. *Tasso* xix. 76 Shrinks then thy heart, presentient of its doom? 1854 Patmore *Angel in Ho.* I. I. xii. (1879) 133 And, ere we reached her father's gate We paused with one presentient mind. 1888 Quiller-Couch *Troy Town* ix, Mrs. Buzza,..presentient of evil, ran downstairs.

† **Presenti·fic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. type **præsentific-us*, f. *præsenti-*, stem of *præsens* present: see -fic.] Making or rendering present. *Hence* † **Presenti·fical** *a.*, † **Presenti·ficly** *adv. Obs. rare.*

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* II. iii. II. xliv, I have already

told, and did descry How presentifick circularity Is spread through all. 1653 — *Conject. Cabbal., Def.* 171 Adam .. notwithstanding that he found no want of any covering to hide himself from that presentifick sense of him. *Ibid.* (R.), The whole evolution of times and ages, from everlasting to everlasting, is collectedly and presentifickly represented to God at once. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* v. xvii. (1713) 466 Phancy becomes sometimes presentifical, as in Mad-men and those in high Fevers, whose Phantasms seem real external Objects to them.

Presentiment (prēse·ntimĕnt). Also 8 **præsentiment.** [a. obs. F. *présentiment* (Cotgr.): see PRE- A. 2 and SENTIMENT.]

1. A mental impression or feeling of a future event; a vague expectation resting on no definite reason, but seeming like a direct perception of something about to happen; an anticipation, foreboding (most commonly of something evil).

1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 71 Some Presentiment told me this agreeable Gentleman would certainly succeed. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vi. 114 God..must have given us this discernment..as a Pre-sentiment of what is to be hereafter. 1761 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* III. 340 She seemed to have a pre-sentiment of those evils. 1830 WORDSW. *Presentiments* i, Presentiments! they judge not right Who deem that ye from open light Retire in fear of shame. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Croker Papers* I. vi. 181 They appear to have had a sad presentiment of the truth.

2. A previously conceived sentiment or opinion; a prepossession. *rare.*

1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 109 You would not give people reason to change their favourable prae-sentiments of you. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* ii. 49 The idea or presentiment of God, everywhere rooted in the mind of man.

Hence **Presentime·ntal** *a.*, of the nature of, expressing, or conveying a presentiment.

c 1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 242 The affecting beauty of the death of Cawdor and the presentimental speech of the King. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiii, Amelia..thought somehow it was a mysterious and presentimental bell.

Presenting (prīze·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRESENT *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRESENT, in its various senses. Also *attrib.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 66 Whanne a lord haþ þe gold for his presentynge [to a benefice], þe gold dwellip stille in oure lond, but whanne þe pope haþ þe furste fruytes þe gold goþ out & comeþ neuere aȝen. *c* 1410 *Sir Cleges* 401, I thanke the hartyly, seyd the kynge, Of thy yeft and presentynge. 1563 WINȜET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 43 Nocht a fenȝeit, bot a trew persoun; nocht in præsenting, bot in substance. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* v. xiii. (1840) 266 They ..as it were scattered their powder in presenting, before they came to discharge. 1720 WHITE *Monit. Clergy Peterb.* I. 29 They [churchwardens] have a general Prejudice to the sworn Duty of Presenting; for fear of offending this or that Neighbour. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vi. 75 Discovered..out of presenting-distance. 1901 BP. GORE *Body of Christ* iv. § 1 (1907) 226 The presenting before God of the one sacrifice.

b. *Presenting term*: in Ireland, the term or date for making legal presentments.

1779-80 *Ir. Act* 19 & 20 *Geo. III*, c. 19 § 1 Any person.. may sue..in the county of Dublin at the next presenting term. 1898 *Act* 61 & 62 *Vict.* c. 37 § 113 (1) The grand jury of..the county of Dublin at the Easter presenting term, next after the passing of this Act, may choose [etc.].

Prese·nting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That presents in various senses of the verb; that presents or shows itself.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 394 The integuments of the presenting arm. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xv. (1856) 114, I could see that the dark knoblike protrusions..were the presenting faces of hills. 1872 ANSTIE in *Practitioner* Jan. 62 The presenting part seemed firm.

Presentist (pre·zĕntist), *sb.* (*a.*) *rare.* [f. PRESENT *a.* + -IST.] An advocate of the present; in quot., One who believes that the prophecies of Scripture, esp. of the Apocalypse, are at present in course of fulfilment: opp. to PRETERIST and FUTURIST. In quot. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1878 H. G. GUINNESS *End of Age* (1880) 93 Three distinct classes .. denominated Preterist, Futurist and Presentist schemes of interpretation.

Presentive (prīze·ntiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [irreg. f. PRESENT *v.* + -IVE; used for distinction from the etymologically regular *presentative.*] Presenting an object or conception directly to the mind (opp. to *symbolic*); also *sb.*, a presentive word. Hence **Prese·ntively** *adv.*; **Prese·ntiveness.**

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* (1873) § 227 We will call these two classes of words by the names of Presentive and Symbolic. The Presentive are those..which present any conception to the mind. *Ibid.* § 230 The numerals I and II and III and IIII are presentive of the ideas of one and two and three and four..The figures 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 are and always were pure symbols. *Ibid.* § 232 In Chaucer's Prologue it [the word *thing*] occurs twice presentively. *Ibid.* § 235 The word *shall* offers a good example of the movement from presentiveness to symbolism. When it flourished as a presentive word, it signified to *owe*. *Ibid.* § 244 A passage with many proper names and titles in it may, however, bring the presentives up to, or even cause them to surpass, the number of the symbolics. *Ibid.* § 464 The pronoun *I*..has also a sort of reflected or borrowed presentiveness, which we will call a subpresentive power. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 187 If, as some philologists maintain, the development of a language is to be estimated by the proportion it shows of 'symbolic' as opposed to 'presentive' words.

Presently (pre·zĕntli), *adv.* [f. PRESENT *a.* + -LY 2.]

† **1.** So as to be, or as being, present; in presence; in the very place, on the spot; in person, personally.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 454 3if a man be presently ny3 his sheep, & fayle not to fede hem & to defende hem.., his bodily presense is skileful to hym to dwelle vpon þes sheep. *c* 1430 [see PRESENTATIVELY]. 1537 POLE *Let. to Hen. VIII* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxxii. 199 Places [in my book] that cannot so vively be perceived by writing as..by conferring..presently with the author. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 199 When God himselfe in his owne person, and presently spake vnto Abel. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* B ij, Whereto also the Author presently as a concordable witnes with the same doth onely point and direct us.

2. At the present time; at this time, at present, now. *Obs.* (since 17th c.) in lit. Eng. (No certain instance in Shaks.) But in regular use in most Eng. dialects, and common in Sc. writers.

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 50 Thou arte not presently in helthe of thy body. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* I. v. 11 Charles the fyfthe..fader of this that presently regneth. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G g ij b, Dedes done presently in our daies. 1637 R. HUMPHREY tr. *St. Ambrose* I. 31 A reward to be rendred hereafter, not presently. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 191 It is, says he, too long and melancholy a Mischance to relate presently. 1740 TULL *Horse-hoing Husb.* Suppl. 257 Enough to make the Horse hoing common in Time to come, if not presently. 1764 REID *Inquiry* vi. § 17 The question presently under consideration. 1826 SCOTT *Provinc. Antiq.* 85 Sir William Rae, Baronet,..presently Lord Advocate. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* vi. § 9. 171 Our presently disputed claims. 1897 GEIKIE *Anc. Volcanoes Brit.* I. i. i. 5 The presently active volcano must be the basis and starting-point of inquiry. 1901 *Leeds Mercury* 4 July, A young man belonging to Rotherham and presently staying with his parents at Bridlington.

† **b.** For the present; on the present occasion.

1593 FALE *Dialling* A ij, The making of the Horologicall Cylindre .. we have presently omitted. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 319 That which hath beene presently delivered.

† **c.** At the time referred to; for the time being; at that time, just then. (In quot. 1597, At the very time, or immediately before; 'just'.) *Obs.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 573/2 [They] fauoured not yᵉ race of the Kyngs that presently raigned. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxxv. § 4. 48 Neuer cast any colde water vpon them presently taken out of a well. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 128 Every one retaining what he presently had. 1696 STILLINGFL. 12 *Serm.* iii. 90 Although the people might not presently believe what they said. 1740 tr. *De Mouky's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) I. 46 My Illness..being presently attributed to the indifferent Health I had enjoy'd for some Days past.

3. At the very time, without any delay; at once, forthwith; immediately, instantly, directly, speedily, quickly, promptly. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1430 LYDG. *London Lackpenny* Min. Poems (Percy Soc.) 105 Then to Westmynster-Gate I presently went When the sonn was at hyghe pryme. 1537 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 90 Without some reparacion to be presently doon upon it, it canne not be enhabited. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 76 Go presently, and take this Ring with thee. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 110 The Sacrament which they administer in both kinds, and giue it to infants presently after Baptisme. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 83 It should not be done presently, lest Passion mingle with it. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* IX. iv, The poor woman,..no sooner looked at the serjeant, than she presently recollected him. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* I. xi, The terms are just and merciful indeed! But then they must be offered presently [*ed.* 1877 promptly proffered]. 1869 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* Pref., Making arrangements for the issue of this Autobiography presently after my decease.

4. In blunted sense (gradually weakened from 3): In the space of time that immediately follows, in a little while, before long, after a short time, soon, shortly. (Cf. ANON 5, BY AND BY 4, and colloq. use of *directly, immediately,* and nearly all advbs. of the same kind). Now the ordinary use.

(The growth of this was so imperceptible, that early examples, esp. before *c* 1650, are doubtful.)

a 1566 R. EDWARDES *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 90 For Pithias I bewail, which presently must die. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. ii. 99 Nay, but hee'l be heere presently: let's go dresse him like the witch of Brainford. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 5 Oct., The Polyglottes and new Bible which he believes will be presently worth 40*l.* a-piece. 1699 LOCKE *Educ.* (ed. 4) § 130 Toys..which are presently put out of order. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 10 Others, which are softer in the Quarry, grow hard and firm presently after they are taken out of it. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. xiii. 230 Pride will be presently brought down. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* iv. (1867) 73 But the very same extravagances..when caught up by inferior spirits presently lose their garb..of beauty. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* ii. 20 The elder boys might earn their own shoe-leather presently. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xi. 647 The struggle, as we shall presently see, lasted two generations. *Colloq.* I cannot attend to it at once; I will do so presently.

† **5.** Immediately (in space or relation); so as to be adjacent or contiguous; directly, closely. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 119 Neither the hils Ceraunij, nor yet the region Adiabene, do presently and immediatly confine thereupon: for the country of the Sopheni lyeth between. *a* 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Knt. Malta* II. i, I have a business Which much concerns you, presently concerns you. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 102 Presently without the Chappell is the Burse. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., The stomach is joyned presently to the mouth, and is little.

6. In the way of immediate consequence or inference; as a direct result or conclusion, directly; consequently, thereupon; necessarily, *ipso facto.*

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 292, I cannot thinke..that it is sufficient onely to slander an honest man, to make him presently wicked. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 94 We do not infer, nor doth it presently follow, that the present reading is corrupt and false. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. ix. § 11 Do not presently imagine you shall gain nothing by his Company. 1849 W. FITZGERALD tr. *Whitaker's Disput.* 296 It does not presently follow that all have the Holy Spirit who say they have it. 1859 GANDELL tr. *Lightfoot's Horæ Heb.* II. 45 Nor was he presently to be called an Eremite who dwelt in the wilderness.

† **Pre·sently,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY 1.] = PRESENT *a.* 1.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 193 God is lijk presentli euery where, and therfore he is lijk redi for to ȝeue hise gracis and ȝiftis euery where. 1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* I iv b, Though we mought praye vnto yᵉ sayd sainctes as beyng presentlye and conversaunt wyth vs.

Presentment (prīze·ntmĕnt). Also 5 (in sense 2 a) **presentamente**; 7 **presentment.** [a. OF. *presentement* (12th c. in Godef.): see PRESENT *v.* and -MENT.] The act of presenting or fact of being presented, presentation; an instance or embodiment of this: chiefly in technical or special uses.

1. The act of presenting a person to or for any office, esp. a clergyman for institution to a benefice: see PRESENT *v.* 3, PRESENTATION 2. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Darrein presentment: see DARREIN.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10944 þe order of þe bysshopes presentement. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 423 Henry the fyrst..Comandit the busshop of lincolne & hys archydiacon that edwynus the sone of Godgose shold haue in pece & rest hys chyrche of seynt Gylys, and put hys clerke whom he wold by hys presentment. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 351 The commons of the cytie of London chase vnto their maire..Thomas fiz Thomas..and made no presentement of hym vpon the morowe folowynge, nouther to the kynge nor yet to the barons of the kynges exchequer, as they of right ought to haue donn. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xxvi. 58 b, In the lawes of the realme..the right of presentment to a church, is a temporall enheritaunce. 1579 *Expos. Law Terms* 159 *Presentment* is when a man which hath right to geeue a benefice spirituall nameth the person to whome he wil giue it, and maketh a writing to the Bishop for him, that is a presentation or presentment. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* s. v., If divers coheires may not agree in presentment, the presentee of the eldest shall be admitted. [1760, 1833 Darrein presentment [see DARREIN]. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 617 The great charter of John..retains the three recognitions of Novel disseisin, Mort d'ancester, and Darrein presentment.]

2. *Law.* The act of presenting or laying before a court or person in authority a formal statement of some matter to be legally dealt with (see PRESENT *v.* 8). **a.** A statement on oath by a jury of a fact within their own knowledge. This includes:

(*a*) The statement by a grand jury at assizes or quarter sessions of an indictable offence, or of the existence of a nuisance. † (*b*) The statement by the grand jury, or (later) of a presentment sessions (see d) in Ireland, of the amount due by a county or barony, and the method of its assessment (*obs.*). (*c*) The statement by the jury of a court baron or court leet of matters from which rights accrue to the lord, or in respect of which his jurisdiction is invoked.

[1308-9 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 279/1 Le Viscunte fet travayler les gentz des ditz Hundrez a fere presentemenz devant ly en sun turn, des articles avantdiz. *c* 1340 *Modus tenendi Curias in Court Baron* (Selden Soc. 1891) 100 Ore doit le seneschal feare lever un douszeyne de fraunk tenauntz qe ount oy ceaux presentementz e serrent chargeez de touz les articles. [*trans.* Then shall the steward cause to be constituted a dozen of free tenants who have heard the presentments, and they shall be charged with all the articles].] 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 29/2 Presentamentes, Writtes, and al other maner of Recordes. 1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 134 No man shuld be putte to answere before the King or his Counseill wᵗout presentment before Justice. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Logic* I. xii. 53 b, I take a presentment to bee a meere denuntiation of the iurors themselues or of some other officer without any other information. 1615 *Henley-in-Arden Rolls* (1890), Presentments by the aletasters for vitlers: William Kerby shumaker faultie; John Knight Couper faultie; [and 10 others; each fined] xij^{d}. 1630 COKE *On Copyholds* § 57 (1668) 159 Of Acts which amount to Forfeiture, some are Forfeits *eo instante* that they are committed, some are not Forfeits till Presentment. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1823) II. 389 The grand juries made [1683] high presentments against all that were esteemed whigs and nonconformists. 1755 *Irish Act* 29 *Geo. II*, c. 14 § 6 The power given to grand-juries at quarter-sessions, to raise money by presentment for the use of houses of correction hath been frequently abused, and the money so presented misapplied. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 298 Presentment..is a very comprehensive term; including not only presentments properly so called, but also inquisitions of office, and indictments by a grand jury. A presentment, properly speaking, is the notice taken by a grand jury of any offence from their own knowledge or observation, without any bill of indictment laid before them at the suit of the king. *Ibid.* 301 The presentment of a nuisance, a libel, or the like; upon which the officer of the Court must afterwards frame an indictment, before the party presented can be put to answer it. 1798 DALLAS *Amer. Law Rep.* I. 237 The bills, or presentments, found by a grand jury are an official accusation, in order to put the party accused upon his trial. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* II. v. 457 The grand jury has also an important constitutional right of presentment of offences from their own knowledge. 1882 *Scriven's Law of Copyholds* (ed. 6) xii. § 2. 352 If no presentment was made in the court leet of articles of which that court had cognizance, they were to be presented in the tourn. 1889 MAITLAND *Sel. Pleas Manorial Courts* Introd. 24 [In 16th c.] it is still theoretical law that the jury ought to make presentment concerning all who are not in frank-pledge.

†b. A similar statement (formerly) made by a magistrate or justice of peace, or by a constable.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 20 b, I shall true constable be..and true presentment make [etc.]. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 437 (Let. to Mayor & Aldermen, etc., of Cambridge), Ye have also refused alonly this yere, to make a certain othe..for..the presentement to the vicechauncelor of vagabundes and others. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vi. 404 Of like strength also..is the Presentment of the Constables concerning sundrie poinctes contayned in the Statute of Winchester, 13 E. I. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Presentment*, is a meere denuntiation of the Iurours themselues, or some other officer, as Iustice, Constable, searcher, surueiours &c...of an offence inquirable in the court wherevnto it is presented. 1827 LD. ELDON in Barnewall & Cr. *Reports* VII. 516 The presentment of a justice on his own knowledge has, by statute, in some cases, the force of a presentment by a grand jury. 1827 *Act 7 & 8 Geo.* IV, c. 38 No petty constables shall be required at any petty session or elsewhere to make, nor shall any high constable be required at any gaol delivery, great session, or general or quarter session .. to deliver any presentment respecting popish recusants [etc.]. 1828 BARNEWALL & CR. *Reports* VII. 514 R. Hooper, high constable of the hundred of Whitley.. signed the following presentment in writing upon paper. 1875 T. S. PRITCHARD *Pract. Quarter Sessions* I. iv. § 3. 173 It may fairly be assumed that presentments by constables will be discontinued, and that..indictments will be substituted in the necessary cases.

c. *Eccl.* A formal complaint or report of some offence or fault, made by the churchwardens or other parish authorities to the bishop or archdeacon at his visitation.

1576 GRINDAL *Articles Canterb.* xliv. in *Rem.* (Parker Soc.) 170 Sums..forfeited..since the feast of Easter..until the day of giving up the presentment. *c* 1583-4 in Usher *Presbyt. Movemt. in reign Eliz.* (Camden) 86, 89. 1603 *Constit. & Canons Eccl.* cxiii, Every parson..may join in every presentment with the said church-wardens. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 195 The Church-wardens should meet twice a yeere, to haue all their presentments made perfect against the Assises. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 183 The Clergy of the City refused to make presentments. 1720 WHITE *Monit. Clergy Peterb.* I. 28 The due Presentment of Defaults and Offences by the Church-Wardens upon their Oaths. 1901 *Blunt's Bk. Ch. Law* (ed. 9) IV. i, Such presentments are now usually made once a year, at the archdeacon's or the bishop's visitation.

†d. Presentment sessions, special sessions held in Ireland for the raising of public money for certain purposes, in which certain cess-payers were associated with the Grand Jury. *Obs.*

1835 *Act 6 & 7 Will. IV*, c. 116 (*title*) An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Presentment of Public Money by Grand Juries in Ireland. *Ibid.* § 4 Such justices are hereby required to assemble..with the cess payers associated with them..to hold a special or presentment sessions for the purposes of this Act. *Ibid.* § 5 Grand juries ..are hereby required, at each assizes, to appoint..certain places..(one in each barony or half barony) where..presentment sessions shall be..holden previous to the next assizes. 1898 *Act 61 & 62 Vict.* c. 37 § 4 (1) The county council..shall..have the powers and duties of the grand jury and the said [county at large] presentment sessions. *Ibid.* § 27 There shall be transferred..to the district council of every county district, the business of any baronial presentment sessions so far as respects that district.

3. The act of offering for acceptance or consideration; the dedication of a book; giving, bestowal; handing over, delivery; the presenting of a bill or an account for payment: = PRESENTATION 4, 1 a. Now *rare*.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 27 When comes your Booke forth? *Poet.* Vpon the heeles of my presentment sir. 1608 HEYWOOD *Sallust* Ded., I haue aduentured rather to tempt your acceptance in this small presentment. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Mayor Quinborough* IV. ii, Mark but the least presentment of occasion, As these times yield enough, and then mark me. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 259 To trick up the name of some Esquire..to be his bookpatron with the appendant form of a ceremonious presentment. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* VI. 48 Lord Howard and Lord Stanley..loaded him with the presentment of their services to the King. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 244 The presentment of children at the Font, is most properly the Act of the Church. 1665 COLLINS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 459 He desires the presentment of his most humble service. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* Pref. 1 To make presentment of a new book to you. 1769 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 216 To settle matters about the presentment of the petition. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. ii. (1869) I. 327 They promised payment.. six months after such presentment. 1882 *Act 45 & 46 Vict.* c. 61 § 87 (2), Presentment for payment is necessary in order to render the indorser of a note liable.

†4. Ceremonial introduction (of a person): = PRESENTATION 1 b. *Obs. rare.*

1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 54 An exceeding joy.. that shall attend the presentment of saints there. 1754 C'TESS SHAFTESB. in *Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 81 It was to attend my niece to the ceremony of presentment.

5. The act of presenting to sight (or hearing), or something so presented: = PRESENTATION 5. a. A theatrical or dramatic representation; the performance of a play or the like. (In quot. 1881 the performance or 'rendering' of a musical work.)

c 1605 ROWLEY *Birth Merl.* III. i, Earl Cador's marriage, and a masque to grace it, So, so, This night shall make me famous for presentments. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 83 Three hours and a half, which is no more than is required for the presentment on the stage. 1834 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. 116 (C. D.) She was an honored guest at the presentment of a burlesque masque. 1841 LONGF. *Childr. Lord's Supp.* 26 The Feast of the Leafy Pavilions Saw we in living presentment. 1881 *Athenæum* 10 Sept. 348/1 Works of Beethoven and Wagner present the greatest facilities for presentment in this way.

b. Representation of an object by a picture, image, or graphic description; delineation; usually quasi-*concr.* a picture, portrait, image, likeness.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 54 The counterfet presentment of two Brothers. 1855 BRIMLEY *Ess., Tennyson* 45 A poem which consists of a series of actions admitting of splendid pictorial presentment. 1862 T. A. TROLLOPE *Marietta* I. iv. 62 Pleasing presentment of advanced old age. 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrq. & Merch.* II. i. 3 He could not recognise in his own daughter the feminine presentment of himself. 1882 STUBBS *Med. & Mod. Hist.* xiv. (1900) 368 Oxford dropped the canon law degree altogether; Cambridge, by adopting a more general form, retained a shadowy presentment of the double honour. 1885 E. GARRETT *At any Cost* xvi, Landseer's touching presentment of the faithful dog resting its head on its dead master's coffin.

c. The appearance, aspect, form, or mode in which anything is presented; exhibition, display.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 156 To cheat the eye with blear illusion, And give it false presentments. 1853-8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 247 We did not see Loch Katrine, perhaps, under its best presentment. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 65 In his presentment as a member of society he should take a sacred care to be more than he seems, not to seem more than he is. 1905 *Academy* 4 Feb. 99/2 The stories are naught, for they are a common fund, and, when stripped of the presentment, they are not very numerous.

6. The action of presenting to notice or mental perception; statement, setting forth, description; the form or mode of so presenting or stating.

1611 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* I. i, The Gods of Greece..Haue giuen old Homer leaue to view the world And make his owne presentment. 1828 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) II. 334 It is in a fair way of putting an end to that particular cause of complaint, which, in all latter presentments of the grievances of Ireland, had been made to hold the most prominent place. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 4 The feeling of the chief people in the religious world..seems to be just now..in favour of dogma, of a scientific and exact presentment of religious things, instead of a literary presentment of them. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* x. 206 Every point is too doubtful to allow of summary presentment. 1881 *Athenæum* 5 Feb. 195 Not less vivid are the presentments of character afforded us.

7. The act of presenting to consciousness, or to the imagination; suggestion; the conception thus given.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 14 That sin at the first presentment would affright a man, which he juggles on by degrees. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. ix. 144 The writings of these mystics..gave me an indistinct, yet stirring and working presentment. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. § 9 The continual presentment to the mind of this beautiful and fully realized imagery more and more chilled its power of apprehending the real truth. 1884 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 443/1 Vividness of presentment to the imagination is not all that language has to provide for.

b. *Metaph.* and *Psychol.* = PRESENTATION 7.

a 1842 SIR W. HAMILTON *Dissert.* in *Reid's Wks.* App. 819 Which .. supposes that the Idea is an original and absolute presentment, and..constitutes the doctrine of Ideal presentative perception. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* V. 144 The qualities of matter by themselves are, equally with matter itself, an objective presentment without a subject. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iv. 153 Such is our knowledge of our own sensations, emotions, and all direct presentments of consciousness apart from memory. *Ibid.* 162 All those immediate judgments which the intellect passes on the presentments of sense, or the representments of memory and imagination. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 382 The Nominalist who regards abstract terms as representing nothing but the generalisations of the mind out of concrete presentments.

Presentness (pre·zĕntnĕs). [f. PRESENT *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being present in place, time, or thought.

†1. The state of being in the presence of or close proximity to a person or thing: = PRESENCE 1. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Presentnesse, *presence.* 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxiv. 8 It was a presentnesse of his power and grace. 1609 OVERBURY *Observ. State France* (1626) 28 The presentnesse of danger inflames their courage.

2. The fact of existing at this time, or at the time referred to; present existence or condition.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 131 Not after, but euen in the instant and presentnesse of time. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 116, I can see beyond the presentness of this world. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. 119 Time is the equivalent of Pastness, Presentness, and Futureness, combined. 1885-6 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxliv. 1 It has also a presentness about it, for Jehovah is now his strength, and is still teaching him.

†3. a. Attentiveness, readiness. b. *Presentness of mind* = presence of mind: see PRESENCE 7. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. § 169 Goring had..a much keener Courage, and presentness of Mind in danger. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 310 Do you either listen and apply your hearts to a presentness in hearing. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 32 He had such an undaunted Presentness of a prepared Mind.

‖ **Presentoir** (prezāntwā·r). *Obs.* [In form French, as if:—L. type **præsentōrium*; but not known in French use; apparently of English invention.] (See quot.)

1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Presentoir* (Fr.), an ornamental cup, very shallow, and having a tall, enriched stem; it was a decorative article of luxury, serving no particular use; but was much fabricated in the sixteenth century, at which period the one engraved was executed. Hence in WEBSTER 1864, *Cent. Dict.*, etc.

Presentor (prĭze·ntŏı). [Early mod.E. *presentour*, a. AF. *presentour* = F. *présenteur*, agent-n. f. *présenter* to PRESENT: see -OR.]

†1. a. One who makes a presentment: = PRESENTER 2. *Obs.*

[*c* 1340 *Modus tenendi Curias* in *Court Baron* (Selden Soc. 1891) 97 Ore doit le seneschal fere elire xij. fraunkes tenauntz..qe puissent oier le presentement de presentour sil facent nul conseylement.]

1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII*, c. 10 The stewarde with two of the presentours shall assesse..suche amerciament to them shall seeme reasonable. 1592 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. xv. 277 Thone halfe [of the fine] to the comon chamber, and thother halfe to the presentor. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 270 Ouer euery Hundred is written (before the Iurors) *Alder. Iuratorum* with a name prefixt, then *Electores Iuratorum* with two names, and next the Presentors.

b. One who presents to a benefice: = PRESENTER 1. *rare.*

1865 NICHOLS *Britton* II. 193 If..the presentor pending the presentation dies [*orig.* IV. iv. § 13 Si..pendaunt le presentement, moerge le presentour]. 1904 A. F. POLLARD *Cranmer* vii. 195 The sale of benefices was to be punished by deprivation of the presentee, and by forfeiture of the presentor's patronage.

2. = PRESENTOIR (?misprint).

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 28 June 10/1 A silver-gilt presentor, formed as an infant Bacchus on a barrel, 9½ in. high, 290 guineas.

Presepe, obs. form of PRÆCIPE.

Preservable (prĭzē·ıvăb'l), *a.* [f. PRESERVE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being preserved.

1647 *Eng. Mountebank Casting Sickly Water of State* 5 Meere Notions, and not vindicable, nor preservable by Law. 1832 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* II. 537, I have often meditated to collect my preservable works under the denomination Wilhelm Taylor. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* Add. 232 No work can be wasted.., provided only the kind of it..be preservable and distributable.

Hence **Preservabi·lity.** *rare.*

1889 *Lancet* 27 Apr. 35 Advt., Securing safety, palatability, convenience and preservability of drugs.

Preseral (prĭzē·ıvăl). *rare.* [f. PRESERVE *v.* + -AL.] Preservation.

1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wallenstein* III. ii, To thanke you For this same deare preservall of my life. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 237 The preseral of the deposit of the sovereignty entrusted into their hands. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* L. 86 Conducive to the preseral of order.

Preservation (prezəıvē·ı·ʃən). [a. F. *préservation* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præservātio* (Duns Scotus, *Sentent.* 4. 22. 17), n. of action f. late L. *præservāre* to PRESERVE.]

1. The action of preserving or keeping from injury or destruction; the fact of being preserved (esp. with objective genitive, e. g. your preservation = your being preserved).

1472-3 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 17/2 Youre seid Suppliaunt shall pray to God for the preservation of youre moost roiall estate. 1472-3, 1485 [see PRAY *v.* 5 c]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 103 Thankes geuynge to almyghty god for his delyuery and preseruation from so many imminent perels. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 233 Remedies meete for the maintenance and preseruation of his bodie. 1641 *More's Rich. III*, Ep. Ded. 1 The great care..observed..for the preservation of antiquities. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, General Thanksgiving*, We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. 1770 *Phil. Trans.* L. 318 Varnished over with the same sort of varnish that is used for the preservation. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* XX. (1862) 387 The preservation of the peace always must be the first interest of all who have property. 1845 R. HUNTER *Landlord & Tenant* (ed. 2) II. 213 Melioration and preservation, or repairs, often admit of little distinction.

2. The state or condition of being (well or ill) preserved; state of keeping.

1751 J. STUART in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 386 The outward precinct of an Amphitheatre in excellent preservation. 1816 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1849) II. IV. 82 The foxtails are still in great preservation. 1890 BARKER *Wayfaring in France* 216 The ramparts of Aigues-Mortes..are in a much better state of preservation.

†3. The means of preservation; a preservative.

1584 COGAN (*title*) The Haven of Health...Hereunto is added a Preseruation from the Pestilence. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lv. § 2 Measure is likewise the preseruation of all things. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 166 Hallowed meddals, which they woare as preseruations against death.

†4. A thing preserved from decay. *Obs.*

1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* III. 188 We should..be in the state of those preservations which..without salting, become incorruptible when buried under a deep snow.

Preservative (prĭzē·ıvătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5–6 -yve, -if(fe, -yf(e. [ad. F. *préservatif* adj. and sb. (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præservātīvus* (R. Grosseteste *c* 1225): see PRESERVE *v.* and -ATIVE.]

A. *adj.* Having the quality of preserving; tending to preserve; protective.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxix. (Bodl. MS.), He [the physician] techeþ to vse certeyne medicines preseruatyues to [= against] feblenes. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 91 Demyng theyr odour..Was to his courage most preservatyve. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 334 b/1 The medecyne preseruatyf is that whiche preserueth fro fallyng. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xli. 501 Treacles and Mithridates, and suche lyke preseruatiue medicines. 1644 HUNTON *Vind. Treat. Monarchy* ix. 69 This is the Doctors preservative Doctrine. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Inq. conc. Virtue* I. iii. 78 Virtuous and preservative of virtue. 1827 SIR J. BARRINGTON *Personal Sk.* I. 12 A bad example may sometimes be more preservative

against error than a good one. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 929 A preservative injection for anatomical purposes.

B. *sb.* (absolute use of adj.)

1. a. A medicine that preserves health, protecting from or preventing disease; a safeguard against poison or infection; a prophylactic.

1466 *Manners & Household Expenses* (Roxb.) 369 A lyte boxe of preser[u]latyffe, and a pote of tryakel. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 176 b, Whiche place was..purged daily with fyers and other preseruatiues. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5063 To swallow a Vipers head was a most certain Preservative and Remedy against the biting of a Viper. 1779 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 17 June, I am glad that you have Heberden, and hope his restoratives and his preservatives will both be effectual.

fig. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1150/1 Tribulacion is double medicine, bothe a cure of the synne passed, & a preseruatiue fro the syn that is to come. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 3 The Scripture..is..a Physicions-shop..of preseruatiues against poisoned heresies.

b. *gen.* A thing that preserves *from* (or *against*) any danger or injury; a safeguard.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 113 b, Preseruatyues agaynst enuy & wroth. 1670 WALTON *Lives* IV. 286 Strong preservatives against all disquiet. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Rom. xi. 21 The best preservative from falling, is humility and holy fear. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 175 *note*, An infallible preservative against the legions of evil spirits. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. v. 197 A delicate sense of humour, which is the best preservative against all extravagance.

2. That which preserves, or tends to preserve or protect from decay, loss, or destruction.

1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* v. 17 Lete wysedome than be to the comfortyfe That to thy brayn is best preseruatyfe. 1520 WHITINTON *Vulg.* (1527) 5 b, Good dyet, the preseruatyue of helthe. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* v. (Parker Soc.) 93 Two preservatives and defences of unity and love. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 68 The main Preservatives of Peace are the Durability and Order of the Government. 1808 MRS. M. T. KEMBLE *Day after Wedding* 22 This preservative of happiness. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* i. 24 But Words are not only signs and preservatives, they are also substitutes, for Thoughts.

3. *spec.* A chemical substance or preparation used to preserve things subject to decomposition, as perishable food-stuffs.

[1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 36 Salt is not..an effectual preservative from putrefaction.] 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 440 M. Carville affirms that glucose acts well as a preservative. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 3/2 A question of great difficulty to the public analyst is the introduction of preservatives into articles of food. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 620 The campaign..against the use of preservatives in other food-stuffs [than milk].

†**4.** *Photogr.* Formerly used for *fixing solution*.

1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 94 The preservative is usually applied by floating it on the surface of the film for about a minute. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 288 The processes at that time known as 'dry' were those where the collodion employed had received an application of so-called preservative.

Prese·rvatize, *v.* [f. PRESERVAT-IVE *sb.* + -IZE. Cf. *sensitize*.] *trans.* To treat with a preservative.

1901 *Rep. Preservatives Com.* in *Daily Chron.* 27 Nov. 6/7 The imported goods are preservatised to a much greater extent than the home produce. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 620 Milk has never been much preservatized in Liverpool. 1905 F. L. DODD *Municip. Milk* 3 So long as it is profitable to sell dirty milk as clean, or preservatized butter as fresh, these efforts will produce but scanty fruit.

†**Prese·rvator, -our.** *Obs.* Also 6 *erron.* -itour. [ad. obs. F. *preservateur* (1514 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. **præservātōr-em*, agent-n. from *præservāre* to PRESERVE.] = PRESERVER.

1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 115 Which shall sweare by the gods preseruatours of the Citee of Rome. 1579 NORTH *Plutarch* 64 He imagined that his death..should be as a seale of confirmation of his lawe and the continuall preseruitour of his cittie.

Preservatory (prĭzə̄·rvătəri), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [ad. L. types **præservātōri-us, -ōri-um*, f. *præservāre* to PRESERVE: see -ORY[1] and [2]; cf. *conservatory, observatory*, etc.]

A. *adj.* Tending to preserve; preservative.

1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* II. iii. 128 The intentions, and indevours must be no other than preservatory. 1701–2 *Narr. Lower Ho. Convocation Vind.* 47 Business not so much Preparatory, as Preservatory.

B. *sb.* (absol. use of adj.)

1. A means of preserving; a preservative.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 410 Such vain Preservatories of us, are our Inheritances, even once removed. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 13 Most people that carry those perfumed boxes about with them, imagine them sufficient preservatories, as if the Infection were only taken by inspiration through the Nostrils. 1758 SIR J. FIELDING (*title*) A Plan for a Preservatory and Reformatory, For the Benefit of Deserted Girls, and Penitent Prostitutes.

2. A place for preserving; = PRESERVE *sb.* 4.

1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Secr. Hist. Blenheim*, Atossa.. had driven [her hunted prey] to a spot which she flattered herself would inclose it with the security of a preservatory.

3. *U. S.* An apparatus for preserving substances for food, etc.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

†**Prese·rvatrice.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [fem., in F. form, of obs. F. *preservateur* (see PRESERVATOR); ad. L. type **præservātrix, -trīcem*.] = next.

1559 BERCHER *Nobylytye Wymen* (Roxb.) 103 Lady nature, the moste sage preservatrice of hyr werkes.

†**Preserva·trix.** *Obs. rare.* [a. mod.L. *præservātrix*: see prec.] A female preserver.

1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* 15 A fond lover and preservatrix of so great a worthy. 1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* lxiii. 190 Rhodope..the Preservatrix and Bedfellow of Æsop.

Preserve (prĭzə̄·rv), *sb.* [f. next.]

†**1.** A preserving agent; a preservative. *Obs.*

1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 4926 Off Malideis it generis mony mo,—Bot gyf men gett sum Souerane preserue. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Glass* G.'s Wks. (Rtldg.) 124/1 Fetch balsamo, the kind preserve of life. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xliii. 242 Plainness and freedom are the preserves of amity.

b. Weak spectacles intended to preserve the sight (*Sc.*). **c.** Goggles used to protect the eyes from dust, excess of light, etc.

1808 JAMIESON, *Preserves*, spectacles, which magnify little or nothing. 1883 J. PURVES in *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 354 He will at a corner throw off his coat..and be at work stone-breaking with preserves on his eyes. 1887 A. BRUCE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 372/2 Preserves are used to conceal deformities or to protect the eyes in the many conditions where they cannot tolerate bright light. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 146 We carried about us stone-breakers' hammers, and 'preserves' for the eyes. *Ibid.* 147 The preserves cover the face.

2. A confectionary preparation of fruit or other vegetable products preserved with sugar; jam; often in *pl.* (cf. *conserves*).

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. li. 350 There is but very seldome any preserues made of the flowers and leaues of herbes; I vnderstand by this preserue taken properly, the preseruing of things whole and not stampt and beaten into one bodie. 1670 CAPT. J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Revivd* 198 The Syrops, Conserves, and Preserves of the said Berries are of great use in a Family. 1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* I. 8 A great manager, who..made the best pastry, pickles and preserves in the Kingdom. 1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xx, Perhaps, I might take her a little preserve, made of our dear Helstone fruit. 1888 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe*, etc. 87 My companion had a theory of his own that ginger-preserves and fruit-cake were not good for sick people.

†**3.** A thing preserved. *Obs. rare*[−1].

a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Mummies* Wks. 1835 IV. 273 Wonderful indeed are the preserves of time, which openeth unto us mummies from crypts and pyramids.

4. A wood or other ground set apart for the protection and rearing of game; a pond or piece of water for fish; a vivarium.

1807 WINDHAM *Sp.* 22 July (1812) III. 32 They secured them as country-gentlemen do the game in those places near their houses, which, by an odd misnomer, are sometimes called 'the preserve', where the game are, indeed, preserved, but only till some circumstance..shall furnish an occasion for falling upon them with redoubled fury. 1814 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 103 The pheasants from Lord Portsmouth's preserves. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 290 The moats were turned into preserves of carp and pike. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* II. lvii. 135 A husband with broad acres, a big house, and game preserves.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1829 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 44 Taken to the Ancient Music by Lord Essex..and sat in 'the preserve', as the directors' box is called. 1862 'SHIRLEY' *Nugæ Crit.* II. 134 A man unendowed with this capacity, when turned loose in a historical preserve, wanders about blindly and aimlessly, committing the most flagrant blunders. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xxi. 155 The expresses of the *Times* and the *Morning Chronicle*..did a good deal to disturb the quiet preserves of the Provincial Press. 1897 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/2 In the Colonies..we have not so much neutral markets, as preserves.

Preserve (prĭzə̄·rv), *v.* [a. F. *préserver* 'to save from an evil that might happen' (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *præservāre* (Hilary) to preserve, f. *præ* before + *servāre* to keep, protect.]

1. *trans.* To keep safe from harm or injury; to keep in safety, save, take care of, guard. Const. *from* († *of, out of*).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 608 God of mycht Preserwyt him till hyer hycht, That wald nocht that he swa war dede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 86 Forto kepe and to preserve The bodi fro siknesses alle. *c* 1430 LYDG. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 26 Daniel lay..preseruyd in prison with lyouns. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* C ij b, Thus was the cytee kept and preserued of the pestylence. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iii. 6 Whiles I may scape I will preserue myselfe. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXIX. 125 To preserue her out of captiuity. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 22 Who braggingly gaue it out, that hee had a receipt would preserue a man from growing old. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 229 Instructions..to the officers to preserve themselves from being seen from the shore. 1800 ADDISON *Amer. Law Rep.* 142 Perhaps..reasons which would preserve a presumed innocent man from a second trial would not preserve a presumed guilty man.

b. In invocations. Now esp. *Sc.* (with ellipsis).

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 173 Jesewes..preserve 30we my moste drede soveren lord in his blesed safegard. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 84 Jhesu preserve yow in helthe with myche honore. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 315 Oh, the Lord preserue thy good Grace. 1796 R. GALL *Tint Quey* Poems (1819) 28 She cried, 'Preserve us! whare's the cow?' 1885 'J. STRATHESK' *More Bits* iii. (ed. 2) 42 Preserve me, George, that's liker a 'risp' than a razor! 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* iii. 20 Preserve us a'—we mauna raise a finger against the brat.

2. To keep alive, keep from perishing (*arch.*); to keep in existence, keep from decay, make lasting (a material thing, a name, a memory).

[1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 221 If a king the lif preserve Of him which oghte forto dye. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 62 O welle of swetnes..That al mankynd preserved hast fro dethe.] 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 130 Peter Wirtemie beyng in daunger amonges the rest, at the request of the Lantgraue, was preserued. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 82 In these Monasteries many excellent manu-scripts haue bene preserued. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* Introd. 9 They preserved themselves with Geese, Ducks, vast large Muscles..etc. 1738 GRAY *Propertius* III. 100 And the short Marble but preserve a Name. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. viii. 235 These sands..have not preserved many of their exuviæ. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 3. 67 A tiny little village preserves the name of the Percy. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 238 The bodily frame is preserved by exercise and destroyed by indolence. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. Seven Ch.* i. 13 Few private letters older than the imperial time have been preserved.

b. To keep up, maintain (a state of things).

1676–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 529 The Bill from the Lords, for preserving a Protestant clergy..was read. 1810 SOUTHEY in *Edinb. Ann. Reg.* I. i. 92 Other means that would be equally effectual in preserving discipline. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. x. 223 KNOX .. preserved an uninterrupted correspondence with Calvin. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 56 To enable the striæ to preserve the same general direction.

c. To keep in one's possession; to retain (a possession, acquisition, property, quality, etc.).

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 176 The Turkish and Greekish women haue most delicate bodyes, and long preserue their beauties. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 46 There are People in Dehly, vastly rich in Jewels, especially the Rajas who preserve their Pretious Stones from Father to Son. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. XIV. 330 Cæsar contented himself with preserving the advantage he had gain'd. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. vi. 150 In politics they often yield the name while they preserve the thing. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxvi. (1849) 293 The seas preserve a considerable portion of the heat they receive in summer. 1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* II. 165 The whole preserves a venerable air of undisturbed antiquity.

3. To keep from physical or chemical change.

a. To prepare (fruit, meat, etc.) by boiling with sugar, salting, or pickling, so as to prevent its decomposition or fermentation. Also *absol.*

1579 [see PRESERVED 2]. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cv. 92 The Damasin Plummes are woont to be dryed and preserued as figges. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. v. 13 Hast thou not learn'd me how To make Perfumes? Distill? Preserue? 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 107 A Friend of..mine..hath a strange way of preserving Fruits, whereby even Goos-berries have been kept for many Moneths, without the addition of Sugar. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xii. (1813) 167 The morella cherry is..not wanted till late in the season to preserve. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 286 This art of preserving meat is one of modern times.

b. To keep (organic bodies) from decomposition, by chemical treatment, freezing, etc.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 540 Little Apes..which they used to preserve with certaine Spices, having flayed off their skinnes,..and sell them. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 72 The body of Captain Lake, preserven entire and whole and free from putrefaction by the coldness of the long winter. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Timber*, The Dutch preserve their gates, portcullices, draw-bridges, sluices, etc. by coating them over with a mixture of pitch and tar [etc.]. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S. E. Africa* 44, I shot and preserved a great many fine specimens of..antelopes. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 929 Those engaged in dissecting bodies preserved with arsenic. *Mod.* Specimens of snakes and other reptiles, locusts, etc. preserved in spirits.

c. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To remain without physical or chemical change; to remain in wholesome condition; to 'keep'; also, to endure or 'stand' preserving.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. i. 69 b, The snow..preserveth all the whole Sommer in hys accustomed nature and coldnesse without melting. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 45 The water..is excellent, and preserves at sea as well as that of the Thames.

4. To keep (game) undisturbed for personal use in hunting, shooting, or fishing; to keep (game runs, fishing rivers, etc.) for private use. Also *absol.*

1612 EARL OF EXETER in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 239 The game was well preserved by his uncle. 1807 [see PRESERVE *sb.* 4]. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VIII. v, Squire Thornhill..had taken the liberty to ask permission to shoot over Mr Leslie's land, since Mr Leslie did not preserve. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. xxii. 187 A man who preserves is always respected by the poachers. 1886 *Field* 13 Feb. 182/2 There is no better preserved wood throughout the length and breadth of the Hertfordshire country. *Ibid.* 27 Feb. 269/2 Mr. A. H. Longman has foxes strictly preserved.

Preserved (prĭzə̄·rvd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. *gen.* Kept safe, protected; kept in existence, maintained, retained, etc.: see prec. 1, 2.

1552 HULOET, Preserued, *præseruatus*. Preserued in health, *sospes*. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 680 Kept, Preserved, .. *ab hostium populatione defensa*. 1851 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* iii. 22 A strong odour of preserved tobacco-smoke. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 3/2 Professor Dixon..described the contents of libraries as the 'preserved verbosity of centuries'.

2. *spec.* **a.** Treated so as to resist putrefaction.

1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 136 Preserued Cheries and Plummes. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vi. 15 A pot a Dates preserued. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-Bk., Leg. Sleepy Hollow* § 40 Delectable dishes of preserved plums. 1861 *Times* 27 Sept., Jars of preserved meats which had been brought from England. 1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Soc. Depart.* 414 She had never seen anything so utterly horrid as a preserved Capuchin.

b. In combinations used attrib.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 May 2/2 He had the rations of con-

demned prisoners handed to him in old preserved-meat cans. 1904 *Ibid.* 12 May 2/3 The development of the marmalade and preserved-fruit industry. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 28 July 5/5 A 'preserved provision' merchant.

c. Kept undisturbed, as game or game-runs.

1881 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 5/3 The Duke of Edinburgh.. fished Lord Dalhousie's preserved water on South Esk, having good sport.

Preserver (prĭzē·ɪvəɹ). [f. PRESERVE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. A person who preserves. a. One who keeps safe from destruction or injury; a saviour.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* vii. 20, I haue offended, what shal I do vnto y[e], O thou preseruer off men? 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 2 You, whom the Gods haue made Preseruers of my Throne. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 65. 304 The Church ..is a faithful keeper and preserver of the Oracles of God. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Pr. all Conditions Men*, O God the creator and preserver of all mankind. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. ii, He hath been the preserver of me and mine. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (ed. 3) II. 2 Her open and warm expressions of thanks to the preserver of her life.

b. One who preserves the bodies or stuffed skins of animals, etc.; a taxidermist.

1770 KUCKHAN *Pres. of Dead Birds* in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 310 One fault very common with most preservers.

c. One who preserves game, fish, etc., for sport.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Apr. 4/2 It would be sad..if the efforts of preservers should succeed in reducing our already painfully small stock of native mammals by further extirpating the four or five now menaced species.

2. A thing that preserves or keeps safe from harm.

1615 LATHAM *Falconry* (1633) 110 A present and speciall remedie against such inward diseases, and a great preseruer of health and lustinesse. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 84 Coral is a wonderful preserver. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 155/1 Inverted vessels (which the inventor denominates 'preservers') fixed at or near the bottom of the boiler or pan. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 580 In the form of bandages, and..with large pieces fitting like a 'chest preserver'.

b. *pl.* Spectacles for preserving the sight; 'preserves': see PRESERVE *sb.* 1 b.

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) IV. 53 Miss put on her preservers, and said she was quite a well-grown young woman.

Hence **Prese·rveress**, a female preserver. Chiefly *fig.* and *poetic.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* (1609) 1. vi, And Memorie, preserv'resse of things done, Come thou, vnfold the woundes, the wracke, the waste. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 228 The true preserueresse of pure truths. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* iii. 62 The ancient Finns made..Antermen, 'the steam of the bath', the preserveress of vigour.

Preserving (prĭzē·ɪvĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING[1].] The action of the vb. PRESERVE, in various senses.

c 1470 G. ASHBY *Active Policy* 386 Being circumspect, as youre progenitours In suche caas haue bene, to the preseruing Of their Royal estate. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Preservyng, kepyng, *conseruation.* *a* 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 10 Whatsoever belongeth to the womens Academie, as paintings, preservings, needle-workes, and such like. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 90 Application of Lead to the preserving of Iron-work. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 221 Oh! the saltings, the picklings, the preservings ..over which she presided.

b. *attrib.* esp. designating utensils used in making and keeping preserves, and fruit fitted for being preserved.

1679 MARG. MASON *Tickler Tickl.* 1 Superintendant of her Limbecks, Preserving-Pans, and Washes. 1719 LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 87 The truly good and fair Cherries, commonly call'd preserving Cherries, are those of Montmorancy. 1886 *York Herald* 11 Aug. 1/2 Preserving Jars ..in any quantity.

Preserving (prĭzē·ɪvĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That preserves; preservative.

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 130 b, The onelie preseruing remedie against that iealousie. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 13 Which Niter is a preseruing salt. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 15 b/2 The thirde stitchinge we call the conseruatiue or the præseruinge suture, because she præserueth and keepeth the lippes of the wounde. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 663 It is because we had a preserving revolution in the seventeenth century that we have not had a destroying revolution in the nineteenth.

Preservitor, erron. form of PRESERVATOR.

‖ **Preses, præses** (prī·sĭz). Chiefly *Sc.* [a. L. *præses*, *-idem*, pl. *præsidēs*, a president, chief, guardian, prop. *adj.* presiding, f. *præsidēre* to PRESIDE.] The president or chairman of a meeting.

1637-50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 285 When he was broght before the Counsell, Bishop Bancroft, the preses, comanded him to kneele. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 470 Sharp is preses in that court. 1728 RAMSAY *Archers diverting themselves* 87 'My lord, your toast', the preses cries. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* IV. 461 The Earl of Finlater is hereditary preses or provost. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 46 § 11 (Sc.) The preses of all meetings shall ascertain the determination thereof by a show of hands. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xiii. 484 The praeses of the Pennsylvania Lutherans.

Comb. 1797 *The College* 51 Sir Spleen now mounted to the præses-chair. *Ibid.* 59 The Præses-knight amus'd you with his vision.

† **Prese·ssion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *præssessiōn-em*, n. of action from *præsidēre* to PRESIDE.] The office or function of presiding, presidence.

a 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1680) 292 The Legates of Pope Leo..would not sit down in the Synod, because the præsession was not given to their Holy See [orig. *quod non data fuerit præsessio sanctæ Sedi eorum*].

Presewme, obs. form of PRESUME.

Pre-shadow: see PRE- A. 2.

Preside (prĭzəi·d), *v.* Also 7 præ-, *Sc.* preceid, -seid. [a. F. *présider* (15th c. in Littré), ad. L. *præsidēre* to sit before, hence, to preside over, to guard, f. *præ*, PRE- + *sedēre* to sit.]

1. *intr.* To occupy the chair or seat of authority in any assembly, or at the ordinary meetings of a society or company; to act as chairman or president.

1611 COTGR., *Presider*, to preside. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 152 Nor [do I] suspect the integritie of the Judges that præside there. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 98 By his place, he presided in all Publick Councils. 1682 in *Scott. Antiq.* (1901) July 7 Possessing him selfe in preseiding. *Ibid.* 8 His possessione of preceiding in the meetingis of the facultie as formerlie. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. III. 310 Remi himself presided. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 104 Norfolk presided as lord high Steward.

b. To sit at the head of the table.

1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* XXVII. 3 So Postumia, queen of healths presiding, Bids. 1900 'SARAH GRAND' *Babs* XXIV, He led his guests into the dining-room..'Will you preside, dear lady?' he said.

c. *transf.* To take the foremost place.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 236 In the rapid Course Alternate they preside, and justling push To guide the dubious Scent.

2. To exercise superintendence, direction, or control. Also *fig.* to sit or reign supreme.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Preside*, to have authority or rule, to have the protection and tuition of any thing, place or people. 1675 OGILBY *Brit.* Introd. 3 One Alderman to each Ward, over which he Presides. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iii, That part of the earth over which the monarch presides. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* I. 201 How comes it then to pass we see preside On both their brows an equal share of pride? 1754 J. WOOLMAN *Wks.* (1840) 198 When self-love presides in our mind our opinions are biased in our own favour. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 279 In none of their meetings have they [Quakers] a President; as they believe Divine Wisdom alone ought to preside. 1823 DE QUINCEY *Lett. Educ.* ii. Wks. 1860 XIV. 32 The same ideal must have presided. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 14 Others presided over important departments of the civil administration. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 282 Some law must have presided over their formation.

3. *trans.* To direct, control. *rare.*

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 649 Some accusing the unskilfulness of those that were to preside the Naval Affairs. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 119 A trial before a jury, presided by one of the twelve judges. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. iii, He..sits there, since he must sit, presiding that Bureau of his.

4. *intr. To preside at the organ*, or *piano* (*harpsichord*, etc.). *orig.* To conduct or be ready to guide the band on the instrument in question; now, in popular use, To have general control of the instrument for the time, to be (or act as) organist or pianist during any social, religious, or musical assembly.

'In former times the chief musician sat at a pianoforte in the orchestra with the score before him; but it does not appear that he beat time continuously, or in any way influenced the band, or did more than put in a few chords now and then when the orchestra was going astray' (Grove in *Dict. Mus.* I. 390).

1799 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 451 *Preside* is the word now applied—not to the leader of the band, but to some distinguished performer—as, 'Mr. —— will *preside* at the harpsichord'. Dr. Johnson did not live long enough to insert this meaning of the word, or to inquire whether it had any. 1907 *West Cumberld. Times* 4 Dec. 2/6 The hymn 'Rock of ages' was then sung by the congregation, Mr. T. L—— presiding at the organ.

¶ 5. *catachr. intr.* To preponderate.

1718 J. FOX *Wanderer* 12 These were no sooner in the Scales, but I perceiv'd that [scale] to preside, which held so unhappy a Part of the Female World.

Presidence (pre·zĭdĕns, pre·s-). [a. F. *présidence* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præsidentia* (see next).]

1. The action or fact of presiding; superintendence, direction.

1595 J. KING *Queens Day Serm.* in *Jonas* (1618) 693 They in the proper and internall offices,.. and he for outward authority and presidence; they as ouer-seers of the flocke of Christ, hee an ouer-seer of ouer-seers. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1331 The Dæmons ordained for the presidence and superintendance of prophesies and Oracles doe faile. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. § 18. 105 By some secret law..or rather by the presidence and guidance of an unseen governing power. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 258 Presidence in worship was..the privilege merely of greater age or of family headship.

2. The office or function of president; = PRESIDENCY 1. Now *rare.*

1606 *Rep. Disc. Supreme Power* 32 The Emperours..had the primacie, and office of presidence in the eight generall Councels. 1717 L. HOWEL *Desiderius* 40 When you come to be sensible by what Methods I obtain'd the Presidence of this place. 1889 HAMERTON *French & Eng.* 136 The strong popular conservative tendency..may possibly preserve both the senate and the presidence.

Presidence, obs. form of PRECEDENCE.

Presidency (pre·zĭdĕnsi, pre·s-). [= med.L. *præsidentia* (1265 in Bonaventura), It. *presidenza*, Sp., Pr. *presidencia*, f. L. *præsidēns*, *-entem*: see PRESIDENT and -ENCY.]

1. The office or function of president; presidentship, chairmanship; superintendence, direction; also, the term during which a president holds office.

1591 PERCIVAL *Sp. Dict.*, *Presidencia*, presidencie, gouernment. 1608 CAPT. SMITH *True Relat.* Wks. (Arb.) 9 With one consent he [Capt. Wingfield] was deposed from his presidencie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 768 All which were..seruiceable in Captaine Smiths presidencie, to the English. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. i. (1821) 3 The Presidencie of Mounster being voyd, by the unfortunate death of Sir Thomas Norris. *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 136 General Washington .. remained there till 1789, when the general voice of his country called him from his pastoral pursuits to the Presidency of the Government. 1823 CANNING *Sp. Repeal For. Enlistment Bill* 16 Apr., In the days of the presidency of Washington. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. 135 Of the fifty Prytanes ten had the presidency every seven days. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 293 The presidency [of Magdalen College] was not vacant: Hough had been duly elected; and all the members of the college were bound by oath to support him in his office. 1884 *Law Times* 13 Sept. 332/2 The Queen's Bench Division, under the presidency of the late Lord Chief Justice, refused to interfere.

fig. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 91 Without the Presidency and Guidance of some superior Agent. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 92 Minds..perceived in these parts of his glorious works the presidency and the wisdom, as well as the power and majesty, of God.

b. *First Presidency* (among the Mormons): the board of presiding officers, consisting of the president of the church and two counsellors.

a 1853 GUNNISON in Gardner *Faiths World* I. 492/2 The hierarchy of the Mormon church has many grades of offices and gifts. The first is the presidency of three persons. 1858 MRS. M. E. V. SMITH *Fifteen Years am. Mormons* 151 The Prophet and his two counsellors..form that fearful centre of all ecclesiastical and temporal power in the Church known as the First Presidency or simply the 'Presidency'.

2. A district under the administration of a president; *spec.* in India, Each of the three divisions of the East India Company's territory, which were originally governed by the Presidents of the Company's three factories. Loosely, the seat of government of each of these. Also *attrib.* *Obs.* in official use: see quot. 1872.

[1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* Contents p. iv, Relation of the English Presidency at Surat. 1702 in *Charters East Ind. Comp.* 323 (Y.) Under the Presidency of the aforesaid Island Bombay.] 1796 MAJ. J. TAYLOR (*title*) Observations on the Mode proposed by the new arrangement for the distribution of the off- reckoning Fund of the several Presidencies in India. 1839 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 257 Those whose knowledge of India is limited to the Presidency, and whose native acquaintance extends only to a few writers in Government offices. *Ibid.*, It is..a Presidency prejudice that the natives are averse to being taught from books of our selecting. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 63 The enviable possession of a chaplaincy at the presidency. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lx, Jos's friends were all from the three presidencies, and his new house was in the comfortable Anglo-Indian district of which Moira Place is the centre. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 73 The doctor had been appointed a presidency surgeon, and had charge of one of the hospitals in Calcutta. 1872 *Whitaker's Almanack* 246 The term 'Presidency'..applied to the Provinces or Governments of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, is no longer applicable to the present condition of things, and in the case of Bengal is positively misleading. It is a relic of the time when the three settlements of Fort William, Fort St. George, and Bombay, each under the authority of a president, may be said to have comprised the whole of the British possessions in India.

† 3. Superior, foremost, or leading position. *Obs.*

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 12 Caietan denieth that there was any such presidencie or superiority among the midwiues. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. XX. (1739) 36 The German Priests had a liberty to be present..and to have some presidency therein.

President (pre·zidĕnt, pre·s-), *sb.* Also 4-5 preci-, precy-, 4-6 prece-, 5-6 presy-, 5-7 prese-, 6 præsi-. [a. F. *président* (1296 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *præsidēns*, *-dent-em* a president, governor, sb. use of pres. pple. of *præsidēre* to PRESIDE.]

1. The appointed governor or lieutenant of a province, or division of a country, a dependency, colony, city, etc. Now, in this sense chiefly *Hist.* (But see also 3 b.)

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 192 Befor kingis quhen ȝe sal stand or befor precydentis of þe land. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* XXIII. 24 Make ȝe redy iumentis, or hors, that thei puttinge Poul vpon, schulden lede him saf to Felix, president. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 102 He was brygbt before the false precydent Pylate. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 89 þat I schuld take up-on me to be president ouyr þis puple. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* IV. (1520) 31 b/1 Vitellus that was Presydent of Fraunce chalenged the Empyre. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* vi. 265 Warne hym that there is president, that this is fullie myne intent. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. XX. 475 They said Pizarre was afterwards vanquished, taken, and executed by the President Guasca. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *President*.. is vsed in Common law for the kings Lieutenent in any Prouince or function: as President of Wales, of Yorke, of Barwick. President of the Kings Councell. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 148 They wrote to Ætius, then President of Gallia, this short but lamentable Epistle. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 183 When the States found that the governor was equally deaf to the remonstrances of the president as he had been to theirs, they began to dread the effects of his displeasure. 1863 MARY HOWITT *F. Bremer's Greece* I. vi. 190 The presidents

are changed, and the advocates of order are often compelled to fly before the power of the lawless.

b. *fig.* A presiding deity, patron, or guardian.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 23 The God, great president of fire. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 238 The Nymphes are sayed to bee presedents or dieties of the fountaines. *c* 1650 *Don Bellianis* 216, I do most humbly beseech you (sole president of Divine Excellency..) to let me kiss the wonder of your hands. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. xx. (1715) 153 The Tutelar Deities of the Place, and Presidents of the Sea.

2. The appointed or elected head of a temporary or permanent body of persons, who presides over their meetings and proceedings.

a. In various general senses, now sometimes expressed by other terms.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 185 (213) For which was delibered by Parlement...And it pronuncede by þe precident Al-þey þat Ector nay ful ofte preyede. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 304 Thow hast be president, þe peple to stere, þou dotist in þin olde dayes now in þe dismale. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 183 Of the wych [council] the kyng schold be hede and presydent. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 178 b, He would assigne some to be as presidentes of the disputation. 1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 294 Because all meetings of many must be disorderly,..unless there be one to guide and to direct the rest, I shall desire, that in every Shire, over every Presbytery, we may establish one President. 1663 JER. TAYLOR *Funeral Serm. Bramhall* 44 He receiv'd publick thanks from the Convocation, of which he was President. 1740–1 in *Johnson's Debates* 4 Mar. (1787) I. 244 The president of the Commons, who always in a Committee takes his seat as another member, rose here, and spoke,..his honour being pay-master of the navy. 1742 J. GLAS *Lord's Supp.* V. vi. 241 The Elder, who is distinguished..by the Name President, is he who presided ordinarily in the Assemblies of the Church and had the chief Direction in their Order and Discipline. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 35 After the office of Roman consuls had been changed into a vain pageant,..the præfects ..were soon acknowledged as the ordinary presidents of that venerable assembly. *Mod.* The President of the Wesleyan Conference.

† **b.** The head of a religious house or of a college of priests; also of a hospital. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 165 Elfworde bisshop of Londoun, and somtyme abbot of Evesham,..wolde have bene president at Evesham, but þe breþer of þe place denyenge þat..he went to Ramesey. 1480 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 65 The maister, precedent, or othir reuler of the colage of preestes newe bildid within the town of Bury. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2508 [She] consyderynge herselfe a lady and presydent, Ordered her monasteryes. 1519 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 315 Master Newman, Precedent of the Chapitor of Ripon. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* C iij b, These xiij persons or vij of them at the leaste, the President being one of the Number. *Ibid.* D iv, The President of euery seuerall Howse shal be taken as chief Ruler.

c. The title often borne by the head of a college in a university, or in U.S. of a university consisting of (or originating in) a single college.

In Great Britain used in four of the Oxford and one of the Cambridge Colleges, also in some University Colleges, as Bristol, Newcastle, and the three Queen's Colleges in Ireland (instead of the more usual title *Principal*); in U.S. the most usual title of the head of a college or university. In Great Britain, also of the heads of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, and Ireland, and of a number of colleges for professional education.

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 518/1 Felawes and Scolers, President and Felawes of any College, Halle, Hospitall, Hous incorporate, or any other place. 1473 *Ibid.* VI. 74/2. 1530 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 329 He ..was ons ellect presydent of Maudlen Colledge. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. iii. (1877) I. 81 There is..in euerie house a maister who hath vnder him a president, and certeine censors or deanes, appointed to looke to the behavour and maners of the students there. 1642 (Sept. 7) *Mass. Colony Recds.* (1853) II. 30 Together with the teaching elders of the sixe next adioyning townes..and the president of the colledge [Harvard] for the time being. 1725 BERKELEY *Proposal* Wks. 1871 III. 230 Which College is to contain a President and nine Fellows. 1889 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* II. ci. 549 A visitor from Europe is struck by the prominence of the president in an American university or college, and the almost monarchical position which he sometimes occupies towards the professors as well as towards the students. 1904 *Oxford Univ. Calendar* 298 The corporate designation of the College is 'The President and Scholars of the College of St. Mary Magdalen in the University of Oxford'.

d. The person elected to preside over the meetings and proceedings of an academy, society, or institution, literary, scientific, artistic, or the like.

1660 in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 6 That the standing officers of the society be three, a president or director, a treasurer, and a register. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. Roy. Soc.* 93 Their Chief Officer, is the President; to whom it belongs to call, and dissolve their meetings;..to regulate the Proceedings [etc.]. 1725 *Act* 11 *Geo. I* (*Guy's Hospital*), The President, Treasurer, and one and twenty Committees of the said hereby erected Corporation. 1780 (Mar. 15) *Pennsylv. Acts* (1782), They [the American Philosophical Society] shall have the following officers..one president, three vice-presidents, four secretaries [etc.]. 1842 *Rules Philol. Soc.* iii, The Council..shall consist of the President, the Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, 1 or 2 Honorary Secretaries, and twenty ordinary members. 1902 (Aug. 8) *Charter of British Academy* § 5 There shall be a President and a Council of the Academy. The President and the Council shall be elected by the Fellows from amongst their own number.

e. In U. S. the title of one who presides over the proceedings of a financial, commercial, or industrial company, as a bank, railway, mining company, commercial trust, etc. (In Great Britain usually styled 'chairman'; in the Bank of England and some other banks, 'governor'.)

1781 (Dec. 31) *Jrnls. Congress U. S.*, [To] be a corporation ..by the name and stile of 'The President, Directors and Company of the Bank of North America'. 1790 (Dec. 13) in *Hist. Bank of U. S.* (1832) 31 A general meeting to be called by the President of the Bank. 1798 (Mar. 1) *Mass. Statutes*, The Massachusetts Mutual Fire Insurance Company..shall have power to choose a President..and fifteen Directors. 1808 (Dec. 15) *S. Carolina Stat.* VIII. 245 President of the South Carolina Homespun Company. 1830 (Mar. 12) *Mass. Stat.*, The said directors [of the Massachusetts Rail-road Corporation] shall elect one of their number to be president of the board, who shall also be president of the corporation. 1883 FREEMAN *Impress. U. S.* xii. 192 In England..we never, I think, give it [the title] to the head of a purely commercial body. But in America we find the President of a railroad and the President of a bank—that is, what we should call by the simpler name of Chairman. 1902 *Revised Laws of Mass.* 964 The directors [of manufacturing corporations] shall choose one of their number as president.

3. The head or chief of an advisory council, or administrative board or department of government, as, in Great Britain, the (Lord) President of the Council, the President of the Board of Agriculture, of Education, of Trade, etc.; also of certain courts of justice, as the Court of Session in Scotland, the Court of Probate in England, etc.

Lord President of the Council: an officer of the English crown whose duty is to preside at the meetings of the Privy Council, and to report to the King the business transacted there. He takes precedence next after the Lord Chancellor and the First Lord of the Treasury. *President of the Board of Control*: see CONTROL *sb.* 1.

1530–1 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 8 § 4 Provyded alwaye that the tables..shall fyrst be viewed, examyned and approved by the Chauncellour and Treasorer of England, the presydent of the Kynges Counsell, the Lorde privye Seale [etc.]. 1533 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 154 To my lord of Cambuskenneth, precedent in the sessioune, for his fee. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 For which offence [striking the Chief Justice] he [Henry] was [*a* 1412]..of his father put out of the preuy counsaill.., and his brother Thomas duke of Clarence elected president of the kynges counsaill. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 86 Fridericke Palatyne, presydent of the counsell imperiall. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 126 Ouer the Senat is set a præsident of the Ecclesiastical number, quha obteines the first place to giue out his sentence & to speik his opinione. 1607 [see sense 1]. 1644–5 MILTON *Sonn. to Lady M. Ley*, Daughter to that good Earl, once President Of Englands Counsel, and her Treasury. 1661 (Apr. 3) *Lett. Pat. Merch. Trading with E. Ind.* (Y.), Any Person or Persons, being convicted and sentenced by the President and Council..in the said East Indies, their Factors or Agents there [etc.]. 1669 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 19 The Commanders of the two Ships treated the [English] President, who afterwards return'd to Suratta. *Ibid.*, I..found company..at the Dutch Presidents, who had his Family there. 1776 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 189 The Congress..have established a board of war and ordnance and made me President of it. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. II. v. 203 The President of the Board of Control, Mr. Canning. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 28 The Bishop of Bordeaux, acting as president of the council, addressed the accused. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* 652 Legally, the highest rank in the Council belongs to the President of the Council; but according to modern usage, the chief member of the Council is the First Lord of the Treasury. *Ibid.* 653 In that year [1839]..the Crown appointed the new Board of Education, consisting of the Lord President and certain other privy councillors. 1905 *Whitaker's Almanack* 343 Court of Session—Lord President of the whole Court, Right Hon. Lord Kinross. 1908 *Ibid.* 172 Local Government Board. President, Rt. Hon. John Burns, M.P.

† **b.** Formerly the title of the chief magistrate in some of the British North American colonies, and in the States to which they gave rise.

Such a President was always associated with a Council, by whom he was usually elected, and in early instances is often denominated *President of the Council*. In 1776 the title was in use in Delaware, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Before 1800, it was exchanged in every case for 'Governor'.

1608 CAPT. SMITH *True Relat.* Wks. (Arb.) 8 The President and Captaine Gosnold, with the rest of the Counsell, being for the moste part discontented with one another. 1654 in *United Col. Recds.* (1859) II. 442 [Documt. signed] Roger Williams of Prouidence Colony Presidt. 1681 (Dec. 7) in *Publ. Colon. Soc. Mass.* (1902) V. 168 By Advice of yᵉ Honered President of this Provence [Maine]. 1732 GEO. II *Charter of Georgia* in Poore *State Constit.* (1877) I. 371 And our will and pleasure is, that the first president of the said corporation is and shall be our trusty and well-beloved, the said Lord John Viscount Percival. 1776 *Constit. of Delaware* § 7 A President or Chief Magistrate shall be chosen by joint ballot of both Houses. 1776 *Constit. of Pennsylv.* § 3 The supreme executive power shall be vested in a president and council. ['Governor' adopted 1790.] 1787 (Apr. 15) FRANKLIN in *Writings* (1906) IX. 559 Having served one year as President of Council. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 268 The President is annually elected by the people. ['Governor' adopted 5 Sept. 1792.] *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 34 Mr. Bingham, the President of the Pennsylvanian State. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 154 His Excellency Josiah Bartlett, some years since President of this State [New-Hampshire].

4. The officer in whom the executive power is vested in a modern republic, the elected head of the government, having during his term of office some of the functions of a constitutional monarch in a monarchical state.

Used first in the United States of America, and subsequently in various republics of Spanish America, etc. In U. S. the name was app. continued from that of the president or presiding officer of the congresses of the separate states, held, from 1774 onward, during the revolutionary struggle (cf. quot. 1783), which belonged rather to sense 2 a. To this also the office of President of the Swiss Confederation (quot. 1840) is more analogous than to that of the President of the U. S. under the Constitution of 1789 and its amendments.

[1783 in Hildeburn *Cent. of Printing* (1886) 4344 Proclamation. By his Excellency Elias Boudinot, Esquire, President of the United States in Congress assembled.]

1787 A. LEE in *J. Adams's Wks.* (1854) IX. 554 An oligarchy, however, I think, will spring from it [the Constitution of the U. S.] in the persons of the President and Vice-President, who, if they understand one another, will easily govern the two Houses to their will. 1789 *Constitution of U. S.* II. § 1 The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years. 1789 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 121 His Excellency the President [Washington] is to be sworn into office. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 165/1 (Mexico) The executive power is vested in a president and vice-president, both elected by the state legislatures for a term of four years. 1840 *Ibid.* XVIII. 10/1 Towards the end of 1826, the Bolivian constitution was adopted [in Peru], according to which a president was to be placed at the head of the government, with the power of naming his successor. [1840 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XXI. 47/2 The [Swiss] diet meets for two successive years by turns, at the capital..of Lucerne, Zürich, and Berne, the burgomaster or avoyer of which acts as president for the turn, with the title of Landmann.] 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1883) I. 380 In consequence of our proud prerogative of caring no more about our President than for a man of straw. 1889 BRYCE *Amer. Commonw.* I. v. 48 Four Presidents (Harrison, Taylor, Lincoln, Garfield) have died in office, and been succeeded by Vice-Presidents. *Ibid.* I. xxv. 290 Only four years after the power of the executive had reached its highest point in the hands of President Lincoln, it was reduced to its lowest point in those of President Johnson.

5. a. Trade-name of a heavy union fabric, of cotton warp and low woollen, mungo, or shoddy weft, the face resembling that of doeskin or plain dress-face cloth. **b.** A kind of damask of silk, or silk and wool, used for upholstery (U. S.) (*Cent. Dict.*).

1886 *Daily News* 6 Oct. 2/4 Some sellers of pilots and presidents have also had their stocks considerably reduced. *Ibid.* 18 Oct. 2/4 Large orders are still being placed for cheap tweeds, meltons, and low worsteds and presidents at the advanced rates lately obtained. 1894 *Times* 7 May 13/2 For other kinds of woollens suitable for the fall trade such as pilots, presidents, and reversibles, there is a scarcity of orders.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *president-founder*, *-king*, *-maker*; **b. president-general**, a president who is over all the minor presidents of a system.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 July 7/1 The Annual convention of the European section of the Theosophical Society.., under the presidency of Colonel H. S. Olcott, the President-Founder. 1899 *Daily News* 30 June 6/4 The President-maker, a man who holds in his hands all the strings of the most complex organization in modern politics. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 4 Oct. 4/6 Prince George of Denmark was elected to the throne of Greece..and on the whole he has been a popular Monarch of a democratic community—a 'President-King'.

b. 1754 in Franklin *Wks.* (1887) II. 355 That the said general government [proposed for the N. Amer. colonies] be administered by a President-General, to be appointed and supported by the crown. 1809 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 620 At the meeting of the Cincinnati at New York, when they choose Hamilton their President-General. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* IV. xii. 402 Galloway, of Pennsylvania,.. with the governor of New Jersey and with Colden of New York, proposed [in 1774] for the government of the colonies a president-general, to be appointed by the king, and a grand council to be chosen once in three years by the general assemblies. 1897 ETHELRED L. TAUNTON *Eng. Bl. Monks St. Benedict* II. 298 The high office of president-general of the whole congregation.

President (pre·zidĕnt, pres-), *a.* Now *rare*. [ad. L. *præsidentem*, pr. pple. of *præsidēre* to PRESIDE.] That presides or occupies the chief place; presiding, superintending. (Sometimes hyphenated, as if attrib. use of prec.)

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1362 It ordand es, þat a president subpriores Sal non be chosin for no chanch Bot by þe priores puruyanch. 1588 J. UDALL *Demonstr. Discipl.* (Arb.) 44 That there should be one byshop or pastor (at the least) president ouer euery congregation. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 294 The state of Venice..keepe there their Agent, president ouer other Marchants. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xv. § 4 (1622) 159 Not onely present with them, but also president among them. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 276 Mars the President-Dæmon of the Roman Polity. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 447 Whence hast thou then thy truth, But from him or his Angels President In every Province? 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. vii. (1715) 66 Mercury the President God of their Occupation. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. (1810) 208 The village of St. John's,..the residence of the president priest of the province.

President(e, obs. form of PRECEDENT.

Pre·sidentess. [f. PRESIDENT *sb.* + -ESS.]

a. A female president. **b.** The wife of a president.

1782 *Eng. Chron.* 8–10 Jan. 3/3 Beau Monde Intelligence, ..Arranged by the Ton Committees..Lady Ar— Presidentess. 1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary & Lett.* III. 171, I became by that means the presidentess of the dinner and tea table. 1801 H. C. ROBINSON *Diary*, etc. (1869) I. 91, I..was introduced to the well-bred, accomplished presidentess, Fräulein Gerstendorf. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LV. 294 La Gitana became all but presidentess of the Transatlantic republic. 1891 *Daily News* 23 June 5/4 Cards are out in Madame Carnot's name for a 'Matinée dansante'.. the Presidentess alone issues them.

Presidential (prezide·nʃăl, presi-), *a.* [ad. med.L. *præsidentiāl-is* (*c* 1120 in Du Cange), f. *præsidentia* PRESIDENCY: see -AL. Cf. F. *présidentiel*.]

1. Of or pertaining to a president or his office.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xii. 629 A President of the law .. vanted himselfe, to have hudled vp together two hundred and od strange places in a presidentiall law-case of his. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 134 Presidentiall Courts. 1668 in *R. Boyle's St. Papers* (1742) I. *Mem.* App. 52 The presidential Court of Munster. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvii. 313 With a Presidential Majesty holding his Bable. 1785 R. H. LEE in *J. Adams's Wks.* (1854) IX. 544 My presidential year being ended, I had left New York for this place. [Lee had been President of Congress.] 1797 MERY WARREN in *Abigail Adams's Fam. Lett.* (1848) 374 My congratulations on Mr. Adams's elevation to the Presidential chair. 1846 N. F. MOORE *Hist. St. Columbia Coll.* 75 The professorship which for about three years had been annexed to the presidential office. 1860 LOWELL *Election in Nov.* Prose Wks. 1890 V. 19 The next Presidential Election looms always in advance. 1869 SYMONDS in *Biog.* (1895) II. 53 Some of the presidential addresses [Social Science Association] were mildly interesting. 1906 D. M. FORREST *Authority of Christ* VII. v. 411 The mother Church of Jerusalem where James had held a presidential position.

2. Of the nature of a president; presiding.

1650 R. GELL *Serm.* 8 Aug. 10 He would..govern them.. by a presidentiall Angel. 1659 GAUDEN *Slight Healers* (1660) 105 The order and eminency of presidential Episcopacy. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess.* VI. 26 Thus Origen and others understand, that to be spoken by the Presidential Angels.

3. Of or belonging to one of the (former) East Indian presidencies.

1857 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 107 The necessity of establishing missions in the presidential and other principal cities [of India]. 1877 OWEN *Wellesley's Desp.* p. xlvi, The Presidential designation of the young civilian should be left to the Governor-General.

Hence **Preside·ntially** *adv.*, in a presidential way, in the character or person of a president.

1882 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* I. 30 She was there not officially, not presidentially. 1884 *Daily News* 24 July 5/2 On each of the six days a new president of the Conference will be elected, so that each of the great Powers will be represented presidentially.

†Preside·ntiary, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ARY 1.]

A. *adj.* = PRESIDENTIAL **2**; presiding.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. x. (1713) 439 They [Angels] are Presidentiary Powers over such in this Terrestrial Region. 1681 — *Exp. Dan.* v. 144 Michael is the Presidentiary Angel of the Jewish Nation.

B. *sb.* A presidential or presidial officer.

1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* II. 2 You are more eloquent than all the parlaments, presidentiaries, and seneschals, or the subalternate courts of justice in France.

†Presidentress, bad form for PRESIDENTESS (after words in -TRESS from *-ter, -tor*).

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* 340 Huldah's colledge...Perchance a female foundation of women alone, and she the Presidentress thereof. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 181 Flouncing on the duchess presidentress's sofa. *Ibid.* II. 41.

Pre·sidentship. [See -SHIP.] The office or function of a president; the period over which this extends.

c 1525 L. STUBBS *to Wolsey* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 66, I do thank your Grace for my restitucion of the possession of my Presedentship of Magdalen College at Oxford. 1607 SIR J. HARINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 253 He went down with the presidentship of Yorke, in the vacancie,..committed to him. 1619 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 161 They confirmed Sir Thomas Smith in his presidentship of the Bermudas, or Summer Islands. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2299/2 They ordered him forthwith to depart the College,..declaring the Presidentship to be Void. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. xxiii. (1852) 475 In..the seventeenth year of his presidentship over Harvard-Colledge. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4938/1 The Presidentship of the Council of the Finances. 1779 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 131/1 The appointment of his brother..to the government and presidentship of Madras. 1884 LADY VERNEY in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 552 A leading politician, who is looking forward to the Presidentship.

Presider (prĭ·zəi·dəɹ). [f. PRESIDE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who presides.

1692 *Christ Exalted* 117, I might refer the Bishop again to the Doctrines of the Church, (whereof he is an Honourable Presider). 1729 T. COOKE *Tales, Proposals,* etc. 4 Thou just Presider o'er th' illustrious Train. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 1 May 2/1 Melpomene, scroll in hand, as the presider over Tragic Poetry.

Presidial (prĭsi·dĭăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *présidial* (15th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), as sb. a provincial court, as adj. belonging to such a court, ad. late L. *præsidiālis* = *præsidālis,* f. *præses, -idem,* the governor of a province, esp. (in 14th c.) of one of the second rank: see PRESES and -AL. In sense 4, f. L. *præsidium,* Sp. *presidio* garrison, fort.]

A. *adj.* **1.** *French Hist.* Of or pertaining to a province, provincial. *Presidial court,* a court of justice having jurisdiction within certain limits, formerly established in France in towns or cities not having a *parlement*: see B. So *presidial seat* = F. *siège présidial.*

1611 COTGR. s. v. *Presidiaux,* The Offices of a Presidiall Seat, or Court. 1613 in *Crt. & Times Jas I* (1849) I. 267 To translate, by way of punishment, the presidial seat of justice, which is there [Nismes], to Beaucaire. 1661 CRESSY *Refl. Oathes Suprem. & Alleg.* 66 Fossart..was sentenced by the presidial Court of Justice in Caen publickly and bare-headed to acknowledge that the said propositions were false. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. IV. xix. 305 *note,* Presidial Courts are usually held in Cities, in which there are no Parliaments which are what in France they call Sovereign Courts. 1815 *Paris Chit-Chat* II. 158 A man ..who continued to talk of Metz, and of the Presidial Court,

†2. Of a Roman province: Under a præses (but sometimes vaguely or incorrectly used). *Obs.*

a 1654 SELDEN *Eng. Epin.* ii. (1683) 6 A good part of the Isle conquered, and into a presidial Province reduced. 1731 *Hist. Litteraria* II. 59 The *Consulares, Correctores,* and *Præsides* had the Government of one single Province, which from the Quality of its Governour was called *Consular, Correctorial,* or *Presidial.* 1771 MACPHERSON *Introd. Hist. Gt. Brit.* 264 They were succeeded in the presidial provinces by new levies of hardy and uncorrupted barbarians.

3. Of or pertaining to a president or the action or function of presiding. *rare.*

[1598 FLORIO, *Presidiale,* of or pertaining to a president, or presidencie, presidiall, of a garrison.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Presidial,* pertaining to a Lieutenant, Vice-Roy, chief Ruler or President. 1685 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* III. 495 Judgment holds in me a presidial seat, at least it carefully endeavours to make it so. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 98 The Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London have a Right Presidial in Southwark, and hold frequent Courts at St. Margaret's-hill in the Borough. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 215/1 Watching the scene with a suave, presidial gaze, as if he were the patron of the ball.

II. 4. **†a.** Of, pertaining to, or occupied by a garrison; fortified; = PRESIDIARY *a.* (*obs.*) **b.** Of or pertaining to a presidio.

[1598: see sense 3.] *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xxxix, There are three Presidiall Castles in this Citie. 1650 — *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. Ded., Naples, commanded by a Viceroy, and three præsidiall Castles. 1652 *Ibid.* II. 10 They plac'd presidiall forces of their own there. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 203 A second class of pueblos, called, in the legal phrase of California's later days, 'Presidial Pueblos', had originated in the settlement of the presidios.

B. *sb. French Hist.* A presidial court of justice in France: see A. 1.

1683 *Apol. Prot. France* ii. 15 He cites them before the Presidial of Nismes. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 6 Under these supreme courts, there are others for smaller matters, established in all the considerable towns of the kingdom, and distinguished by the name of presidials. 1820 A. RANKEN *Hist. France* VII. iii. 339 There shall be..a presidial in the town of Rhodes.

Hence **Presi·dially** *adv. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Présidialement,* presidially; within presidiall Iurisdiction, or compasse.

Presidiary (prĭsi·dĭări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *præsidiārius* that serves for defence, f. *præsidium* a presiding over, defence, assistance, a garrison, f. *præsidēre* to PRESIDE: see -ARY 1.]

A. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or serving as a garrison, garrisoning; having a garrison, garrisoned.

1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 57 But the Romane Conquerors kept not their presidiarie Souldiers in idle garrison. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 242 The number of soldiers in all the presidiarie places of Spaine is 8000. 1620 J. DYKE *Counterpoyson* 4 A martiall and presidiary guarding of a mans selfe. 1711 LD. MOLESWORTH tr. *F. Hotman's Franco-Gallia* (1721) 23 Those Germans which were transplanted by the Emperor Frederick the IId, into..Naples and Sicily, and establish'd there as a presidiary Colony, were called Franks. 1757 J. H. GROSE *Voy. E. Indies* 61 The presidiary force of the island [Bombay]. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxv. 217 Presidiary cohorts were stationed at every threatened point of attack. 1875 — *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxxvii, Britain had been nominally recovered, but the presidiary legions had been withdrawn.

B. *sb.* A guard, a protection; in quot. 1745, a relay, a reserve to fall back upon.

1623 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XIX. ix, Not one of those heavenly Presidiaries strucke a stroke for the Prophet. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* III. xvi, Some cuttings must be planted as presidiaries for the regular vines.

†Presi·diate, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *præsidi-um* garrison + -ATE 2.] Garrisoned.

1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* IX. 472 It is thowght that the Turke wil use his powar ayenst Albaregal, wich is rekenid strong and wel presidiate.

Presiding (prĭzəi·dĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PRESIDE + -ING 2.] That presides.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 534 The Specifick Form is often not so much as the Presiding, but only the most eminent. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vi. 245 Not the condescending, but the governing and presiding part. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 217 Awful solitude,..the natural and presiding sentiment—the '*religio loci*'—that broods for ever over the romantic pass. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 212 It is difficult..to withdraw the attention even for a moment from its presiding genius.

‖ **Presidio** (presi·dio, prĭsi·dio). [Sp., a garrison, a fort:—L. *præsidium*: see next.] In Spain and in parts of America originally settled by Spaniards, e. g. the south-western United States: A fort, a fortified settlement, a military station, a garrison town. Also, a Spanish penal settlement in a foreign country.

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. (1810) App. 28 The presidio of Rio Grande is situated on that river. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 158/1 For the protection of the latter [white settlers] the Spaniards erected [in Texas, etc.] presidios; a presidio consists of a wooden wall of a quadrangular form, within which the houses are built, and the gates are shut at sunset. 1843 MARRYAT *M. Violet* xvi, The population rose...The presidio was occupied by the insurgents. *c* 1847 IRVING *Span. Papers* (1866) I. 285 A presidio or stronghold of the Moors. 1853 CDL. WISEMAN *Ess.* III. 20 An African *presidio* or prison-fort, where galley-slaves are detained. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 763/1 The bulk of the prison population in Spain is still sent to *presidios,* or convict establishments. 1905 *Whitaker's Almanack* 620/2 Spanish Over-Sea Possessions...In Morocco are several 'Presidios'; Ifni near Cape Non, Tetuan and Ceuta.. opposite Gibraltar [etc.]. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Apr. 5/4 The presidio or fortified settlement of San Francisco was founded by the Spaniards in 1776.

†Pre·sidy, -die. *Obs.* [ad. L. *præsidium* a guard, garrison, defence, assistance, aid, etc., f. *præsidēre* to sit in front of, guard: see PRESIDE.]

1. A guard or garrison.

1529 *Let. to Wolsey* (MS. Cott. Vit. B. XI. lf. 14), To treate upon a presidie to be yeven unto the pope. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* IX. 732 It semith that the Frenchmen intendith to leve a certaine presidye in Piemont. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1128/2 The Frenche kyng hath ordeined, that Seignior Renzio shal lie in a presidie, betwene the armye of Naples and the Citie of Rome. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Presidie,* a Garrison, all manner of aid and defence.

2. Succour, remedy, aid.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 63 That drye grownde thurstethe as with owte presidye. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 113 [To] cure this symptom with these presidies.

Presign (prĭsəi·n), *v. arch.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + SIGN *v.*; cf. med.L. *præsignāre* (*præsignātor* 1088).] *trans.* To signify or indicate beforehand.

1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 121 The day presign'd being come. 1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 26 By the fourth taile is presigned the presumption of greatnesse. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 93 At the place presigned [he] calls for Assaph-chan and his Son. 1839-48 BAILEY *Festus* xix. 203 Agents of destruction, like the flood, Presign regeneration.

†Presigni·ficant, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præsignificānt-em,* pr. pple. of *præsignificāre* to PRESIGNIFY.] Signifying or intimating beforehand. So **†Presigni·ficance, -ancy,** the fact or quality of presignifying or foreshowing.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 192 My presignificant speache, and forewarning watchwordes, were counted vnworthy credite. 1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xxi. 191 This Introductory Vision..may have some more general Presignificances of the state of things in the times it may thus presignifie. *Ibid.,* This Roaring and Thundering has a presignificancy in general of the Calamities and Miseries that will befal that Party.

Presignification (prĭsi·gnifikē·ʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *præsignificātiōn-em,* n. of action from *præsignificāre* to PRESIGNIFY.] The action of signifying or indicating beforehand; an indication or sign (of what is coming).

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1191 Then is not this a bare guesse..but a præsignification and denouncing peremptorily of such things as without faile shall be. *a* 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1686) II. 130 There having scarce happened any considerable revolution..whereof we do not find mentioned in history some presignification or prediction. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 11 These ceremonies.. were presignifications of..the evangelical dispensation. 1835 J. P. KENNEDY *Horse Shoe R.* v, R. directed his eye to the presignifications of good cheer that were now before him. 1838 — *Rob of Bowl* XXV, The broad arrow, the mysterious presignification of mischief.

So **Presignificative** (-si·gnifikē·tiv, -signifikĕtiv) *a.*, characterized by presignification, giving a forecast; **†Presignificator,** one who or that which gives pre-intimation or pre-indication.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 79 Looke into the Semeioticall or presignificatiue iudgements of phisitions. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 297 The blowing of the Winds from several Coasts..are the truest Pre-significators of Thunder.

Presignify (prĭsi·gnifəi), *v.* [= obs. F. *presignifier* (*presignifié,* in Cotgr.), ad. L. *præsignificāre,* f. *præ,* PRE- A. 1 + *significāre* to SIGNIFY.] *trans.* To signify or intimate beforehand.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 20 Whereby the constancy and fortitude of the bearer is and may be secretly presignified. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 132 The hottest sommer presignifies the coldest winter. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xxi. 264 Owles and Ravens are ominous appearers, and presignifying unlucky events. 1776 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 163 A long cloud resting on Hymettus in winter presignified a violent storm. 1872 BP. FORBES *Kalendars Scot. Saints* 336 Full of years, he presignified the day of his death.

†Presle, *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 8 *erron.* **prescle.** [a. obs. F. *presle* 'small Horse-taile, Tadpipes, naked Shaue-grasse' (Cotgr.), erron. f. *prêle, la prêle* being a corruption of *l'asprele* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = It. *asperella,* dim. f. L. *asper* rough.] The rough horsetail, shavegrass, or Dutch rushes, *Equisetum hyemale.* Hence **†Presle** *v.*, *trans.* to polish with this plant.

1661 NEEDHAM in Birch *Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1756) I. 51 Rub it smooth with dried presle, i. e. the herb horse-tail. 1703 T. S. *Art's Improv.* 27 Cleanse it well with Prescle,..wash over the Wood, and hold it to the Fire until it has done smoaking; when dry, Prescle it again. *Ibid.* 45 Having.. Polish'd it [your Work] with Prescle.

Presly, variant of PRESSLY, *Obs.*

†Pre-solu·tion. *Obs. rare*−1. In 7 præ-. [f. PRÆ-, PRE- A. 2 + SOLUTION.] A preliminary or prior solution (*of* a difficulty).

1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 64 A fair præsolution of som præmised objections.

Presome, Presompcion, obs. ff. PRESUME, PRESUMPTION. **Presomtweste** (-té), var. PRESUMPTUOSITY, *Obs.* **Preson(e, -oun-e, -own-e, Presonar,** etc., obs. ff. PRISON, PRISONER, etc. **Presond, -ound,** obs. ff. PRESENT *sb.*2

Presphenoid (-sfĭ·noid). *Anat.* [f. PRE- A. 4 + SPHENOID.] The anterior part of the sphenoid bone of the skull, which forms a separate bone in (human) infancy. Hence **Presphenoidal** (prĭ-sfĭnoi·dăl) *a.*, of or pertaining to the presphenoid.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 193 The basisphenoid and presphenoid form a single bone, and the chief keel of the cranial superstructure. *Ibid.* 251 The superior turbinals extend .. below into the presphenoidal sinus. 1855 HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 85 The front part of the body, termed 'presphenoid', has two centres of its own. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 83 The anterior part of the body, or pre-sphenoidal part. 1881 — *Cat* 60 The occipital, two parietals, two frontals, two temporals, the sphenoid, the presphenoid, the ethmoid—which ten bones compose the cranium, or skull proper.

Prespinal, -splenomegalic: see PRE- B. 3, 1.

Press (pres), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 3–7 **presse**, (4 **prese**), 4– **press**. *β.* 3–6 **pres** (*dative* 3–4 **prese, prece**), 4–6 **prees, prese, prece**, 5 **preesse**, *Sc.* **preys**, 5–6 **preas, preese**, *Sc.* **preis**, 5–7 **peace, preasse**, 6 *Sc.* **preise, preiss**, ? **prais**, 6–7 **prease**. [Two distinct forms: *α.* ME. *presse*, a. F. *presse* (11th c. in Littré) = Pr. *pressa*, It. *pressa*, verbal sb. from stem of F. *presser* = It. *pressare*, L. *pressāre*, freq. of *premĕre, press-um* to press; or ? Romanic fem. sb. from *press-us, -a, -um*, pa. pple. of *premĕre*; *β.* ME. *prês, prees*, in 16–17th c. *prese, preas(e, preace*, found as a parallel form only in early senses. The relation of this to the Fr. and the *α*-forms presents difficulty. Cf. the two corresponding forms of the verb, *press* and *prese, prease*, and see Note below. (The spelling *pres* generally means *prês*, but may be sometimes = *press*. *Press* in Barbour is doubtful, and may have been = *prês*.)]

I. In reference to crowding, pressure of persons, circumstances, affairs, etc.

1. The condition of being crowded or thronged; a crowd, a throng, a multitude. *arch.*

α. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Me is loð presse. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11255 (Petyt MS.) Grete presse was at the procession. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 190 Þe king forþ com & out of þe presce [*v. r.* pres] mid strengþe him nom. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2157 The pepull was depertid & the presse voidet. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 50 Great was the press of peopill dwelt about. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* viii. 1 Great presse of people folowed him. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 76 As in a presse going in at a straight, the formost is driuen by him that is nexte hym. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 15 Who is it in the presse, that calles on me? *a* 1657 Sir J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scotl.* (1824–5) II. 170 The presse so augmented, that the Ducke was forced to returne with speed to his lodgeing. 1741–3 WESLEY *Extract of Jrnl.* (1749) 45 It was some time before I could possibly get out of the press. 1866 WHITTIER *Our Master* xiv, We touch him in life's throng and press, And we are whole again. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Purgatory* x. 64 Round about him there seemed a press and throng of knights.

β. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 101/30 [She] cam ant touchede þe lappe of ore louerdes clopes ene Ase he eode In grete prece. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11242 So þey ches, ffor to departe þer mykel pres. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 880 þay..distresed hym wonder strayt, with strenkþe in þe prece. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 522 Greet prees at Market maketh deere ware. *c* 1390 — *Truth* 1 Flee fro þe prees. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Prees, or thronge, *pressura*. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* cxcviii. 177 Anon doth hym oute of preace [*ed.* 1520 prees]. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 33 Convenient tyme, lasar, and space, But haist or preiss of grit menȝie. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* v. 27 She cam into the preace [*Great, Rhem.* preasse, *Genev.*, 1611 presse] behynde hym and tewched hys garment. 1558 PHAER *Æneid* III. G ij b, The preas with crooked paws [the Harpies] are out. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 3 Far from all peoples preace. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. ii, Those whom custome rapteth in her preasse. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 77 Great belly'd women,..would shake the preasse And make 'em reele before 'em. 1700 DRYDEN *Iliad* I. 338 When didst thou thrust amid the mingled preace [*rime* peace]?

b. A throng or crush in battle; the thick of the fight; an affray or mêlée.

† Phr. *proud in pres*, said of a knight: see PROUD *a.*

α. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 430 Thai prikyt then out off the press [*rime* wes]. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 44 Grete was the presse and the bataylle fyers. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 867 And in the press so manfully them seruith, His suerd atwo the helmys al to-kerwith. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 264 They..are seldom drawen to any presse or close fight. *c* 1764 GRAY *Triumphs Owen* 24 There the thundering strokes begin, There the press, and there the din. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 168 He..fought, sword in hand, in the thickest press.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 720 At which bataille þe Troiens lees, & fledde fro þat mykel preses. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3848 Bliue with his burnes he braide in-to prese. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1201 Mony perysshet in þe plase er þe prese [*misprr.* prise] endit. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* li. 194 He brake & departed the grete preesses, so that his enmyes made waye byfore his swerde. *a* 1500 *Sir Beues* 3087 (Pynson) Beuys thoroughe the preas dyd ryde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xiv. *heading*, Hym to ravenge his lyfe lost in the pres [*ed.* 1555 preis]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cvii. 129 They..russhed into yᵉ thyckest of the preace. 1550 LYNDESAY *Sqr. Meldrum* 1135 Than Makferland that maid the prais, From time he saw the Squyeris face, Upon his kneis he did him yeild. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 34 Into the thickest of that knightly preasse He thrust.

† **c.** *In press*: in a crowd, crowded together, in the thick of the fight. *Obs.*

β. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xliv. (Percy Soc.) 213, I marveyle muche of the presumption Of the dame Fame so puttyng in ure Thy great prayse, saiyng it shall endure For to be infinite evermore in prease [*rime* cease]. 15.. *Adam Bel* 143 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 144 Among them all he ran, Where the people were most in prece, He smot downe many a man. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xvi. (1887) 74 Here will desire throng in prease, though it praise not in parting. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1986/2 The Scots..ran sharplie forward.., and without anie mercie, slue the most part of them that abode furthest in prease.

2. The action or fact of pressing together in a crowd; a crowding or thronging together.

α. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 19 With many legions of strange fantasies, Which, in their throng and presse to that last hold, Confound themselues. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 134 There was such a presse to kisse his feet. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. xviii, Give gently way, when there's too great a press. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* iv, The press of vessels near the port is very awful. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 369 The great press was to get near the chair where John Dryden sate.

β. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 15/494 þat folk him siwede with gret pres. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 87 For to here hym wes sik prese, þat fawt of rowme gret þar wes. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 504 By the grete prees & stampyng of their horses. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 b, Where was suche presse of the people, that harnessed men had muche a do to kepe them backe. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Lady Errant* II. iv, Our loves what are they But howerly Sacrifices, only wanting The prease and tumult of Solemnity?

† **3.** The condition of being hard pressed; a position of difficulty, trouble, or danger; a critical situation; straits, distress, tribulation. *Obs.* or *arch.*

α. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 129 The King wes then in full gret press. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlviii. 289 In harde presse whan I was stedde, Of my paynes ȝe hadde pitee. 1627–77 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. lxxv. 115 Such Cordials, as frolick the heart, in the press of adversity.

β. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5608 Born in þat sith was moyses þat þe folke was in þat pres [*Trin.* prees]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 311 In alle þis grete pres praied þe kyng of France, þe Scottis suld haf þes þorgh Edward sufferance. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccIvii. 577 They wolde not medell, nor be in no busynesse nor prease. 1573 J. DAVIDSON *Commend. Vprichtnes* 153 Bot cheifly anis he was put to ane preace, Quhen that the Quene of tressoun did accuse him. 1601 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 496 But pruff thy preass can nocht be understude.

4. Pressure of affairs; urgency, haste, hurry.

α. 1641 *Vind. Smectymnuus* xi. 111 Poore men cannot have their Presse wayted on, as your greatnesse may. 1836 *Going to Service* vi. 69 Roused to the press of an occasion, as if she acquired double power of diligence. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* May 734 The eager press of our modern life. 1888 LIGHTHALL *Yng. Seigneur* 52 What..is your press about going to England?

β. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3382 For no prayer ne preese [*v. r.* pres] ne plesaunce on erth..rynne shuld he neuer. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11910 þan the grekes..With proses and pres puld vp þere ancres. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xxii. (S.T.S.) I. 222 The fray and noyis..causit þe Veanis to rusche with maist preiss to harnes. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 430 Amid the flame and armes ran I in preasse.

† **5.** Phr. *To put oneself in press*: (?) to exert oneself, use one's endeavour, set oneself, undertake. (Cf. PRESS *v.* 17.) *Obs.*

α. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1541) 135 b, Lest she be to homely, to put her self in presse, in company of her seruauntes, namely if she be yonge.

β. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* Prol., That I..wil putten me in prees to speke of loue. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1755 When the Son of Man put hym in prese, Wylfully to suffre dethe for mankynde. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Bowge of Courte* 44 But than I thoughte I wolde not dwell behynde; Amonge all other I put myselfe in prece. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* Préf. a iij, Yet am I bolde to put my selfe in preasse with suche abilitie as God hathe lente me.. to helpe my countrey men. 1551 BIBLE (Matthew) *Ps.* xxii. 21 *note*, The common people of the Iewes, who cruelly & furiously put them selues in prease agaynst Christe, cryinge, crucifie him, crucifie him. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 208 We see hym put hymselfe in prease, to occupie a place in thys most noble consistorye.

† **b.** *To put in preace*: ? to exercise, put in practice. (Perh. a Spenserian misuse.) *Obs. rare.*

β. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 69 The vaunting Poets found nought worth a pease, To put in preace emong the learned troupe.

II. In reference to the physical act or process. (Rarely in *β*-form.)

6. The act of pressing (something); pressure.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. i. 73 But eftir that the thrid syon of treis,..I schupe to haue wprevin with mair preise [*rime* peice]. 1899 E. J. CHAPMAN *Drama Two Lives, Dream's End.* 95 The proud lips meet with icy press. 1903 D. MCDONALD *Garden Comp.* Ser. II. 82 Give it [the bulb] a gentle press sufficient to more than half bury it.

7. A mark made by pressing; a crease; *fig.* an impression.

1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xl. (1631) 175 Meditation goeth with so faint a presse in my braine, that it is soon wiped out. *a* 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Restoration* (1775) 95 May their false lights undo 'em, and discover presses, holes, strains and oldness in their stuffs.

8. The action of pressing (forward).

1893 *Daily News* 14 Apr. 2/2 The press forward of the horse against the stress of the blast. 1895 *Ibid.* 16 May 6/3 Russia is beginning to feel uncomfortable from the press forward of Chinese in her Asiatic States.

9. *Naut. Press of sail, canvas* (formerly *press sail, prest sail, pressing sail*): 'as much sail as the state of the wind, etc., will permit a ship to carry' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). Cf. CROWD *sb.*[3] 3 b.

The earlier variants *press sail*, etc., leave the origin obscure.

1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 240 I my self,..make my stile carry a presse saile. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 331/2 Keeping the Sea..with a contrary Wind, foul Weather, and a press Sail. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2888/2 All Night we run along the shore with a press Sail. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s. v. *Prest Sail*, A Ship at Sea is said to carry a Prest Sail, when she carries all that She can possibly Croud. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 129 We .. carried a pressing sail, with hopes of reaching Torbay before dark.

1794 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 372 The gale.. obliged me to carry a press of sail to clear the shore towards Cape Corse. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 61 He bore away with a press of sail for Malta. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxvi, Foaming in her course, and straining under the press of sail. 1884 H. COLLINGWOOD *Under Meteor Flag* 92, I carried on under a heavy press of sail.

III. An instrument or machine by which pressure is communicated. (Only in form *press*.)

10. An instrument used to compress a substance into smaller compass, denser consistency, a flatter shape, or a required form: usually distinguished by prefixing a qualifying word, expressing purpose, as *baling, coining, copying, packing, rolling, sewing, stamping press*, the name of the thing pressed, as *bonnet, cheese, clothes, cotton, hay, napkin press*, or the power or mechanical contrivance employed, as *cam, hydraulic, screw, toggle press*; etc.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 127 Penne I drouȝ me a-mong þis drapers,..Among þis Riche Rayes lernde I a Lessun,.. Putte hem in a pressour [*v. r.* presse (so in B.); C. VII. 219 pressours] and pinnede hem þer-Inne. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Presse, or pyle of clothe, *panniplicium, pressorium*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 290/2 A Presse for clathe, *lucunar, panniplicium, vestiplicium*. 1513 *Act* 5 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Divers Strangers..dry calander Worsteds with Gums, Oils, and Presses. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 797/1 Stretched out as it wer in the presse or tenter hokes of a strong fullar. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 84/31 A Presse for backs, *prælium*. 1674 in J. Simon *Irish Coins* (1749) 138 To import such a quantitie of copper blocks or chipps as may possible with two presses, to be coyned by the spring ensueing. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., *Rolling Press*, is a machine used for the taking off prints from copper-plates. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 31 Directions for drying..Specimens of Plants...First prepare a press, which a workman will make. 1787 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 269 Another great curiosity was a rolling press, for taking the copies of letters or any other writing. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typogr.* II. xv. 553 Hydraulic Presses..are now deemed a valuable acquisition to the printing profession. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 77 The wood is fit for..screws for presses, spokes for wheels, chairs, &c. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Copying-press, Copying Machine*, a press for taking duplicate or manifold impressions on damped paper from manuscripts by a lever. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 394/1 The necessary tools for small [book-binding] work are:..a sewing press; a cutting press [etc.].

fig. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 559 And so kan leye oure lolyte on presse. And bryng oure lusty folk to holynesse.

b. The apparatus for inflicting the torture of *peine forte et dure*: see PRESS *v.*[1] 1 b.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 287 He would not plead to the country..till the press was ready; and then he pleaded, and was, at last, hanged. 1839 W. H. AINSWORTH *J. Sheppard* III. xv, The ponderous machine, which resembled a trough, slowly descended upon the prisoner's breast. Marvel, then, took two iron weights, each of a hundred pounds, and placed them in the press.

11. An apparatus for expressing or extracting the juice, or the like, out of anything: usually designated by prefixing the name of the substance extracted, as *wine, oil, cider, sugar press*, etc.

a 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* lii. 131 Til grapes to þe presse beo set, þer renneþ no red wyn in raþe. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lxiii. 3 The presse I trad alone. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxii. (Bodl. MS.), þe faster oile reneþ oute of þe presse..þe better it is acounted. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 A Presse for wyne, *bachinal, calcatorium* [etc.]. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Presse for lycour, *pressover*. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 40, 28. suger presses, to presse ye sugre whiche groweth plentifully in certaine canes or redes of the same countrey. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 430 Put them in a haire cloth or hempen bagge, for to presse in a presse that hath his planke hollow and bending downeward. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 328 After your Apples are ground they should be..committed to the Press. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 291 Presses used for expressing liquors, are of various kinds.

† **b.** *Press of Herophilus* [Gr. Ληνός (Herophilus, in Galen), L. *torcular Herophili*]: the enlarged reservoir at the union of the four sinuses of the dura mater, opposite the tuberosity of the occipital bone. *Obs.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* v. 78 The quadruplication of Dura mater..is called a presse, & lyeth betwene the brayne and Cerebellum. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 150 [A vessel] which both the Greeke & Latine physicions call by a name that signifieth a presse, because the blood is pressed into it for the nourishing of the braine.

12. In the Jacquard loom, The mechanism which disengages the needles or wires which are not to act from the lifting-bar.

1875 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 3 The name *press* is given to the assemblage of all the pieces which compose the moveable frame BB.

13. A machine for leaving the impression of type upon paper, vellum, or other smooth surface; a machine for printing, a printing-press. Often qualified, as *Stanhope, Albion, Miehle press*, etc.

[1507 in Blades *Caxton* Plate vii. (from Ascensius Bk.), Prelum Ascensianum.] 1535 [see d.] 1536 J. RASTELL *Will*, My house in St. Martyns, with my presse, notes and lettres comprised in the same. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Prelum*, a presse that eyther Printers or any other occupation vseth. 1574 *Will of Johane Wolfe*, All the presses, letters, furniture, etc., belonging to the arte of prynting. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 22 Waldegraues printing presse and Letters were takken away. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 22 Then the gouernour of the Presse taketh these last chasies or fourmes, and laieth them on the marble of his Presse. 1598 Stow *Surv.* 394 Therin [the Ambry,] Islip, Abbet of Westminster, first practized and erected the first Presse of booke Printing that euer was in England, about..1471. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 1 His Presses have a solid and firm Foundation. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 3 The privilege of keeping presses was limited to the members of the stationers' company. 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VIII. 10/1 Charles Earl Stanhope, whose versatility of talent succeeded in abolishing the old wooden printing-press, with its double pulls, and substituting .. the beautiful iron one, called after him the 'Stanhope Press'. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* (1882) 126 The last achievement in automatic printing—the Walter-Press. 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 11 A second-hand Adams press of the earliest pattern and patent.

b. Used as an inclusive name for the place of business of which the printing-press is the centre, in which all the stages and processes of printing are carried on; a printing-house or printing-office. Often used in the names of such printing establishments, e. g. the Clarendon Press, Oxford, the Pitt Press, Cambridge, the Aldine Press, Leadenhall Press, Chiswick Press, etc. Hence, contextually, for the *personnel* of such an establishment, the compositors or printers, printer's readers, etc.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* To Rdr. (Arb.) 18 Because you are learned amende the faultes freendly, which escape the Presse. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* A iij b, That worke shall come out of the Presse like a bryde from her chamber. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apol.* 1. B j, When he carried his coppie to the Presse. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 200 While these Sermons were betweene the Pulpit, and the Presse. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 104 The Presses swell'd with the most virulent Invectives against them. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 82 We should not have such libellous presses. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 87 There is a Press..for all Foreign Languages. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 46 An elegant and splendid edition of 'Archimedes', from the Clarendon Press. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., L. Hunt* (1887) 594 The Athenian Comedies .. have been reprinted at the Pitt Press and the Clarendon Press under the direction of Syndics and delegates. 1849 — *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 263 The Dutch arms..were scarcely so formidable to James as the Dutch presses. 1900 H. HART (*title*) Notes on A Century of Typography at the University Press, Oxford, 1693–1794.

c. The printing-press in operation, the work or function of the press; the art or practice of printing.

1579 FULKE *Confut. Sanders* 661 His report is more to bee credited then the Printers presse. 1641 *More's Rich. III*, Ded., Having for many yeares escaped the presse. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. XXXV. (1674) 42 Of all Modern inventions..the precedency ought to be given to the Press..; and that now the Press had.. for ever secured the past and present labours of the Vertuosi. 1663 R. L'ESTRANGE (*title*) Considerations and Proposals in Order to the Regulation of the Press. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Licensers Press*, Under..William III..the press had obtained its perfect freedom. *c* 1880 TENNYSON *Despair* xvi, These are the new dark ages, you see, of the popular press.

d. In phrases belonging to 13, b, or c, as *at, in,* †*under (the) press*, in the process of printing, being printed; *off the press*, finally printed, issued; † *out of press*, = prec., also out of print (*obs.*).

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Introd. Pref. (1848) 11 Papers.. discovered to have been lost when some of the rest were to be *at the Press. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* p. viii, After the volume has been at press upwards of a year. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 21 One bothe to wryte yt and to correcke it *in the presse. 1545 LELAND *New-Year's Gift* (1549) C iv, Part of the exemplaries,..hath bene emprynted in Germany, and now be in the presses chefely of Frobenius. 1642 CHAS. I in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* v. § 399 A Declaration now in the Press. 1670–1 T. PIERCE in *Lett. H. More* (1694) 43, I have a Book in the Press. 1764 BURKE *Let. to J. Dodsley* 9 Feb. (in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. (1898) 2/1) I suppose that by this our work is in the press. 1900 *Advertisement*, In the press, and shortly will be published, a new work by [etc.]. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* p. iv, The first intelligence..of the sheets being in hand, was the announcement that they were also '*off the press'. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1634) 128 His peeces have been long since worne *out of press. 1674 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 367 Hearing that Mr. Kersey's book is out of press, I desire you would send in the fourth part. 1612 SIR R. NAUNTON in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 113 The great work of his Chrysostome then *under press. 1721 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5961/2 A Memorial of the Grocers..said to be under the Press.

e. In many other phrases, in which *press* passes from the literal sense 13 into that of c, as *to bring, put, commit, send, submit to the press*; *to carry, see through the press*; *to come to, pass, undergo the press*; *to correct the press*, i. e. the printing, or the errors in composing the type.

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Loue* Ep. Ded., The world.. called vpon mee, to put it to the presse. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 75 If I had seene it before it came to the presse, it should not have passed so. 1605 *Gunpowder Plot* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 5 Being about to commit them to the press. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* Ded., Such trifles of mine as have passed the press. 1646 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* II. To Rdr., I know not whether they may ever undergoe the Presse. 1649 W. DUGDALE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 175 Soe may he correct the presse, which will be an especiall matter. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 696 A stop was made for some years of bringing the second [vol.] to the Press. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Author's Apol.* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 2 But when it comes to press and print You'll find, I fear but little in't. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 274 It will be submitted to the Press in the course of the ensuing month. 1848 HALLIWELL *Ingelend's Disobed. Child* (Percy Soc.) Pref., It was formerly a very common practice to correct and alter the press whilst the impression was being taken. 1867 E. QUINCY *Life J. Quincy* 477 My father took an active interest in this publication, and corrected the press himself. 1869 SIR J. T. COLERIDGE *Mem. Keble* (ed. 2) 265 A translation..is now being carried through the press. *Mod.* In his absence, I am to see the book through the press.

f. *Freedom* or *liberty of the press*: free use of the printing-press; the right to print and publish anything without submitting it to previous official censorship; see LIBERTY 2 b, and quots. So in *free press, unfettered press*, etc.

[1644 (*title*) Areopagitica; a Speech of Mr. John Milton for the Liberty of Vnlicenc'd Printing To the Parlament of England.] 1680 R. L'ESTRANGE (*title*) A Seasonable Memorial,..upon the Liberties of the Presse and Pulpit. 1681 W. DENTON *Jus Cæsaris* ad fin., An Apology for the Liberty of the Press. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xi. 151 The liberty of the press is indeed essential to the nature of a free state; but this consists in laying no previous restraints upon publications, and not in freedom from censure for criminal matter when published. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 15 July, He said, he should always consider the liberty of the press as a national evil, while it enabled the vilest reptile to soil the lustre of the most shining merit. 1789 *Constit. U. S.* Amendm. i, Congress shall make no law.. abridging the freedom of the press. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 167 The liberty of the press consists, in a strict sense, merely in an exemption from the superintendence of a licenser. 1903 in *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Aug. 8/2 It has been pointed out over and over again,..that the licence of the Press is not the liberty of the Press.

g. (Also *periodical* or *public press, daily press*, etc.) The newspapers, journals, and periodical literature generally; the newspapers and journals of a country, district, party, etc., as the French Press, the London Press, the Conservative Press, the religious press, the secular press, etc. Hence, sometimes the title of a newspaper, as *The Press, The Scottish Press, The Aberdeen Free Press*, etc.

This use of the word appears to have originated in phrases such as *the liberty of the press, a servile* or *shackled press, to write for the press*, etc., in which 'press' originally had sense c above, but was gradually taken to mean the products of the printing-press. Quotations before 1820 are mostly transitional, leading gradually up to this sense.

1797 *The Press* (Dublin) No. 1. 1 By some fatality of late, the Press of the harassed country has been either negligent or apostate; it has been a centinel a-sleep on its post...It is now proposed to establish a newspaper, to be solely and unalterably devoted to the people of Ireland and their interests, under the appellation of *The Press*. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 36. 281 For this purpose, the Press was engaged, and almost monopolized in all its branches: Reviews, Registers, Monthly Magazines, and Morning and Evening Prints sprung forth in abundance. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* X. 115 Unlimited abuse of private characters is another characteristic of the American press. 1817 COBBETT in *Weekly Polit. Reg.* 11 Jan. 53 Silencing the press would not enable them to pay the interest of the debt. 1820 *Lond. Mag.* I. 569 The Manager has thought it his duty to suspend the Free List during the representation, the public press excepted. *Ibid.* 575 The gentlemen-critics of the daily press. 1823 *Edin. Rev.* XXXVIII. 349 (*Article*) The Periodical Press. *Ibid.*, If he had not had the fear of the periodical press before his eyes. *Ibid.* 359 The staple literature of the Periodical Press may be divided into Newspapers, Magazines, and Reviews. *Ibid.* 360 This paper [the *Morning Post*] we have been long used to think the best..that issued from the daily press. 1828 *Lancet* 19 Jan. 595/1 Sir Astley Cooper, in a silly speech at a public dinner, talked of the 'reptile press'. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 194/1 The two principal persons..at this time concerned in the newspaper press. *Ibid.* 195/1 Capital to the amount of £500,000 at least is invested in the daily press of London, of which two-thirds..may be represented by the morning papers. 1843 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 3, I seldom, therefore, read..the ordinary animadversions of the press. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xiii, There was also a reporter for the press. 1885 SIR C. P. BUTT in *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 61/2 After so much discussion..in the public press on this question. *Mod.* The book has been favourably noticed by the press.

IV. 14. A large (usually shelved) cupboard, esp. one placed in a recess in the wall, for holding clothes, books, etc.; in Scotland, also for provisions, victuals, plates, dishes, and other table requisites. Cf. CLOTHES-PRESS 1. Also *attrib.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 26 His presse ycovered with a faldyng reed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. cv. (1495) gg iv/1 Whanne the cloth is to longe in presse & thicke ayre. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxi. 384 There were presses..in the whiche presses were gownes and robes of fyne golde, and ryche mantelles furryd with sabyls. 1552 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 142, I gyve her my newe cubbord with the presse in yt and too great books the Bybyll and the New Testament, with the Booke of the Kings Statuts. 1566 *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 67 One sepulcre—sold to Johnne orson and he haith made a presse therof to laie clothes therein. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 226 In the house, & in the chambers, and in the coffers, and in the presses. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 125 Each chamber hath a presse curiously painted and varnished belonging thereunto. 1686 *Inv. in Essex Rev.* (1906) XV. 172 Two chayers, one presse cubbord. 1709 HUGHES *Tatler* No. 113 ₱ 9 A Press for Books [with four shelves]. 1753 SMOLLETT *Cl. Fathom* (1784) 35/2 He should..conceal himself in a large press or wardrobe, that stood in one corner of the apartment. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 125 Coffins stood round like open presses, That shaw'd the dead in their last dresses. 1802 FINDLATER *Agric. Peebles* iii. 41 The ambry, or shelved wooden press, in which the cow's milk, and other ..provision are locked up. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xiii. 221 In a press with glass doors, she showed me some beautiful reliquaries. 1888 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* ii. 50 A 'press' or cupboard containing a fair assortment of cooking utensils. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Jan. 7/3 The Sliding Book-Press at the British Museum. *Ibid.*, The principle of a sliding or hanging press is entirely peculiar to the British Museum, and hardly could have originated elsewhere than in a building possessing..floors and ceilings entirely grated.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

15. General combinations: **a.** attributive, (*a*) of a press (senses 10, 11), as *press-bar, -beam, -block, -board, -frame, -plunger, -shop*, etc.; (*b*) of or pertaining to the printing-press, to printing, or to journalism, as *press-censorship, -correspondent, -folk* (cf. PRESSMAN), *-girthing, -mohawk, -organ, -people, -reader, -worker*. **b.** [from the vb. stem.] Used to press, pressing, as *press-barrel, -box, -harrow*. **c.** objective genitive, as *press-builder, -building, -haunter, -maker, -mauler*. **d.** instrumental, as *press-made, -noticed, -ridden* adjs.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 158 (*Bookbinding*) The *pressbar, or beam, has two holes upon its under surface, for securing it to two pegs standing on the top of the chest. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 55 **Press-barrels* are old tar-barrels filled with clay, and laid on the sledge or drag to add weight when the rope is closing. 1803 *Naval Chron.* X. 477 The [old] tar barrels..are applied to the purpose of serving as a weight in laying..rope, and are called press barrels. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 448 (*Oil-mill*), 16, the first *press-box, (also hollowed out of the block,) in which the grain is squeezed, after it has come for the first time from below the mill-stones. 17, the second press-box, at the other end of the block, for squeezing the grain after it has passed a second time under the pestles. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 194 Associated with Smith, he [Richard Hoe's father] had turned his attention to *press building in general. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 410 Press-building was not a distinct trade in 1683. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Aug. 5/1 An aggressive and oppressive *press-censorship. 1900 *Macm. Mag.* May 36 One of our *press-correspondents at the present day. 1729 SWIFT *Wks.* (1841) II. 98 Mist..happened to reprint this paper in London, for which his *press-folk were prosecuted. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 448, Fig. 460 is the elevation of the pestle and *press-frame, their furniture, the mortars, and the press-pestles. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 146 For pulverizing stiff clays, Concklin's *press-harrow is an admirable instrument. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 67 To all ballet-makers, pamphleters, *presse hanters, boon pot poets, and such like. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Sept. 14/1 The original introducer of *press-made pens. 1900 *Daily News* 11 May 3/2 The .. theory that this is a capitalist- and Press-made war. 1705 J. DUNTON *Life & Err.* 244 He has been an indefatigable *Press-mauler, for above these Twenty years. 1844 THACKERAY *Box of Novels* Wks. 1900 XIII. 399 The nation ..looks upon the *press-Mohawks..as it did upon the gallant young noblemen who used a few years since to break the heads of policemen. 1906 in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 4/2 One of the best *Press-noticed books he had ever published. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 27 Aug. 4/7 The pernicious example..was followed by more than one Parisian *press-organ. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 361/1 The die is easily reached by lifting the chamber *e*, which is done by attaching the same to the *press-plunger and elevating the latter. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* xiii. (1857) 228 This country is not priest-ridden, but *press-ridden. 1798 *Times* 28 June 1/3 At the back of the said dwelling-house are also a *press-shop and other conveniences for carrying on the Business of a Merchant.

16. Special combs. **a.** from senses 10, 11: **press-cake**, = MILL-*cake* (*a*); **press-copy** *sb.*, a copy of a writing made by transfer in a copying-press; hence **press-copy** *v.*; **press-drill**, (*a*) = LAND-*presser*; (*b*) see quot. 1884; † **press-fat**, a vat used for collecting the produce in an oil- or wine-press; **press-forged** *a.*, forged by pressure; **press-house**, the house or building containing a press; a place where pressing is done; **press-iron**, = PRESSING-IRON; **press-key**, a thumb-screw used to tighten and hold the cords of a sewing-press, in bookbinding; **press-pack** *v., trans.* to pack or compress (something) into small compass by means of a press (Webster 1864); **press-pin**, the lever of a screw-press: **press-plate**, (*a*) in Bramah's press = FOLLOWER *sb.* 5; (*b*) a plate of metal placed between the press-boards of a standing press; **press-pole**, a pole used in pleaching: see quot.; **press-printing**, printing by a press; a method of printing porcelain: see quot.; **press-ware**: see quot.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 629 It comes out in large thin solid cakes, or strata, distinguished by the term *press-cake. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 43 Two pieces of lignum vitæ .. are placed on the broken press-cakes in each sieve. 1796 GOUV. MORRIS *Let. to Lady Sutherland* 22 Aug., I will fold up in this a *press copy of my last, because the original may have been drowned. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 224/2 In such soils an artificial pan may be formed by the land-presser or *press-drill. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Press Drill*, a drilling machine largely used in gun and sewing machine work. 1611 BIBLE *Haggai* ii. 16 When one came to the *presse-fatte [1885 *R. V.* winefat] for to draw out fiftie vessels out of the presse, there were but twentie. 1895

Daily News 14 Nov. 6/5 His gun, Captain Jaques explained, would be made of a few hollow, *press-forged, cold-drawn, taper cylinders of alloyed steel. 1744 *N. Jersey Archives* XII. 211 To Be Sold,.. A new Fulling-Mill, *Press-House and Dye House. 1878 J. Inglis *Sport & W.* iv. 34 The huge lever is strained and pulled at by the press-house coolies. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 7/2 Allowing the populace to enter the press-house of the vineyard. 1832 Zangwill *Children of Ghetto* I. 45 He taught them how to handle a *press-iron. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1031 Upon the top of the ram, the *press-plate or table.. rests, which is commonly called the follower, because it follows the ram closely in its descent. 1858 *Report U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 257 Two men use the *press-pole,..the other uses the pleaching-hook. The pole is thrust through behind each stout vertical sapling, when both men pull gently and equally. Thus bent back a little, the third man cuts it two-thirds through, cutting obliquely downward with the pleaching-hook. 1875 Ure *Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 620 There are two distinct methods of printing in use for china and earthenware; one is transferred on the bisque, and is the method by which the ordinary printed ware is produced,..called '*press-printing'. 1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* 38 *Press-ware or Mould-ware is any thing that can bee made, wrought, or formed of clay and earth,.. by Presse and Mould, or by pressing and moulding.

b. (connected with printing and journalism): **press agent**, a man employed in connexion with a theatre or the like to attend to the advertising, and the reporting of the performances; **press-blanket**, a piece of flannel or felt used on a printing-press to equalize the impression of the type; **press-box**, a shelter for newspaper reporters in the open air, as at a cricket or football match; **press-boy**, a boy employed as messenger in a printing-office; in the United States, a machine-boy; **press cutting**, a paragraph, article, or notice, cut from a newspaper; also *attrib.* as *press-cutting agency*; **press-gallery**, a gallery or part of the house at any public meeting, set apart for reporters; esp. that in the House of Commons or other legislative chamber; **press-law**, a law as to the licensing of printing, esp. of the newspaper press; **press-proof**, **-revise**, the last proof examined before printed matter goes to press; **press-stone**, the bed of a printing-press; **press-tradition**, handing down in print.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 9/2 A series of scrimmages on that side of the field remote from the *press-box. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Machine-boy*, in the United States known as feeder or *press-boy. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 4 May 11/1 A Visit to a *Press-cutting Agency... For some time an agency has been at work for supplying newspaper references—at so much per hundred cuttings or a yearly subscription. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 2/3 Mr. Chamberlain has recently made a feeling protest against government by Press-cutting agency. 1901 *Cycl. Tour. Club Gaz.* Oct. 389 The press cuttings that lie before us. 1884 Yates *Recoll.* II. vii. 286, I..was in the *press-gallery of the Chamber .. on the 24th May. 1897 [see Gallery *sb.* 3 d]. 1897 Mrs. E. L. Voynich *Gadfly* ix, A new *press-law was expected. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 17 The *Press-Stone should be Marble, though sometimes Master Printers make shift with Purbeck. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. Appeal* I. 16 Conveyed down to us in the same way of pen or *press-tradition that other writings are.

[*Note.* The origin of the β forms *prês, prees, preas, prese, prease, preace*, is not clear. So far as concerns the lengthened vowel, they go with the similar forms of the verb *prése-n, preese, prease*, beside the ordinary *press-en*, Press *v.*[1] These agree with *cease, lease, decease* from OF. or ME. *cesse, lesse*, ME. *decesse*, also with *beast, feast*, in which original short *e* before *ss, st* is lengthened. (See Note to Press *v.*[1]) The special difficulty in the sb. is that ME. *prês* had no final *e* (the 15–16th c. *-e* being only graphical), so that it cannot be identified with OF. and ME. *presse*. Could it be an Eng. derivative from the long-vowel stem of the vb. *prés-e(n*? As a formation, it appears to be distinct from *presse, press*, and might have been treated as a separate word *prease* or *preace*; but being obsolete, and its senses (so far as they went) coinciding with those of *press*, it has for convenience been treated as a parallel form of this word.]

Press (pres), *sb.*[2] Now *rare*. [An alteration of or substitution for Prest *sb.*[1] 5, as in Press *v.*[2], and Press-money.]

1. The impressing of men for service in the navy or (less frequently) the army; compulsory enlistment; = Impress *sb.*[2], Impressment 2. Now *Hist.*

[1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* I. v. 27 A common presse of base, superfluous Turkes May soon be leuied. (But this may be Press *sb.*[1], crowd.)]

1599 Minsheu *Sp. Dict.*, *Léva*, a presse or taking vp men for the war. 1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 99 He giueth his captaines commissions to take vp souldiers through the whole Realme, (not by presse, as with vs) but by striking vp the drumm. 1615 *Trade's Incr.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 304 The general press that was made of men from all the coasts to man the ships. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 154/2 The Press for Seamen is great, and several Captains are imployed to raise men both in Denmark and Lubec. 1676 I. Mather *K. Philip's War* (1862) 139 At Boston there is a Press in order to sending forth another Army to pursue the enemy. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 9 It looked liker a press than a levy. 1761–2 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1806) III. xlix. 779 An English army of twelve thousand foot and two hundred horse was levied by a general press throughout the kingdom. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lix. (1797) II. 196 With regard to the press for seamen..bounties..have a limit. 1793 Nelson in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 299, I have only got a few men..., and without a press I have no idea our Fleet can be manned. 1803 *Naval Chron.* IX. 328 There was a very hot press last night throughout Plymouth. 1894 C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* 413 The 'Press' does..derive its name..from the 'prest' or 'imprest' money paid to the man on entry as an earnest of his wages on enlisting in the King's service.

† **b.** A warrant or commission giving authority to impress recruits. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1596 Shaks. I *Hen. IV*, IV. ii. 13, I haue mis-vs'd the Kings Presse damnably. I haue got, in exchange of a hundred and fiftie Souldiers, three hundred and odde Pounds. 1667 Dryden *Wild Gallant* Epil. 22 They shrink like seamen when a press comes out.

† **c.** = Press-money. *Obs.*

1626 *Faithful Friends* I. ii, *Marc.* Hold thee, here's gold; furnish thyself with speed:..These shall along with us too. Receive your press. *Calve.* Oh, good captain, I have a wife, indeed, sir. *Marc.* If she be a striker, I will press her too.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Impressment into service of any kind; a requisition.

1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. P 44, 233 'Tis this Fear [of singularity] that engages many in it; and though it hath too many voluntiers, yet sure 'tis this press that helps to make up its numbers. 1670 Eachard *Cont. Clergy* 119 If men of knowledge, prudence, and wealth, have a phansie against a living of twenty or thirty pounds a year, there is no way to get them into such an undertaking, but by sending out a spiritual press. 1855 W. Sargent *Braddock's Exped.* 166 To be reminded that such things as a Press of private means for the benefit of the State still existed. 1894 *Daily News* 25 July 5/6 The Central Government [of China] has placed an emergency press upon the fleet of the China Merchants Company to be taken when necessary for transport of troops.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *press-boat, -ketch, -smack, -vessel* (a vessel employed in pressing seamen). See also Press-gang, Press-money, etc.

1688 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 457 The next day the presse boats went down the river to presse seamen. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3164/1 On Board any of His Majesty's Ships of War, or Hire-Ships, or on any Press-Vessels, or Tenders. 1702 *Flying Post* Apr. 4/7 Some Press-Ketches in that [Dublin] Harbour have pressed 400 Seamen within a few Days, and..a great many are voluntarily come in. 1745 *Proj. Manning Navy* 6 Those who are daily dragg'd into the Press-Smacks.

† **Press,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *press-us*, of style, compressed, concise, also close, exact, accurate, precise; in origin pa. pple. of *premĕre* to press.] Concise, compendious; close, precise, exact, minute: chiefly of language.

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xiv. Comm. 199 Homers maner of writing..is so presse, and puts on with so strong a current, that it farre ouer-runnes the most laborious pursuer. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 432 There is a double acception of the word *Caput* among Physitions, one strickt & presse, another large and ample. 1661 Rust *Origen & Opin.* in *Phnix* (1721) I. 33 They observe not those terms and conditions, being drawn away from a press and careful attendance to them. 1675 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 329 Of which persuasion [that the World should have End by Fire]..were all the Stoicks; Seneca is press and full, *At illo tempore, solutis Legibus, fine modo fertur* [etc.].

Press (pres), *v.*[1] Forms: *a.* 4–5 **press-en, -yn**, 4–7 **presse**, 6– **press** (5 **pres**). *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **pressed**; also 4– **prest** (4 **yprast**). *β.* 4–7 **prese**, 4–5 **prece** (4–7 **praise**), 5–6 **preace**, 5–7 *Sc.* **preis, -ss**, 5–7 (*dial.* 8–9) **prease**, 6–7 **preasse**, 9 *dial.* **preese, -ze.** [Two forms: *a.* ME. *press-en*, a. OF. *press-er* (13th c. in Littré) = It. *pressare*:—L. *pressāre*, freq. of *premĕre, press-um* to press. *β.* ME. *prêse(n, prêce(n*, with lengthened vowel: cf. *prês, prees, prese*, parallel form of Press *sb.*[1], and see Note below. The *β* form prevails in branch III, where it appears to be the earlier; it is rare in I and II.]

I. Literal and directly connected senses. Primarily *trans.*

1. *trans.* To act upon (a body) with a continuous force directed towards or against it (the body by or through which the force is exerted being in contact with that acted upon); to exert a steady force against (something in contact), e.g. by weight (downwards), or by other physical agency or voluntary effort (in any direction); to subject to pressure.

[13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1249 Prestes & prelates þay presed to depe.] *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1787 (*Lucrece*) And as she wok hire bed she felte presse. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Pressyn, *premo, comprimo, presso.* *c* 1445 Lydg. *Nightingale* 152 Like hem that pressen quayers of entent In the pressour. 1598 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 60 Thou and Romeo presse one heauie beere. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 211 Of two moved bodies one presses the other, when with its endeavour it makes either all or part of the other body to go ou of its place. 1820 Shelley *Sensit. Pl.* II. 21 Her step seemed to pity the grass it prest. 1839 G. Bird *Nat. Philos.* 89 The layer of fluid would be submitted to unequal pressure, being in B pressed by the long column, and in A pressed only by the shorter column. *Ibid.* 341 The plane glass against which it is pressed. 1893 W. S. Gilbert *Utopia* I, You only need a button press.

b. *To press (to death)*: to execute the punishment of *peine forte et dure* upon (a person arraigned for felony who stood mute and would not plead): see Peine. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1554 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. xli. 133 He shalbe pressed to death [see Peine]. 1604 G. Dugdale *Disc. Pract. Eliz. Caldwell* B iij, According to the Law, he was adiudged to be prest, receiuing his iudgement on the Saturday, to be executed on Munday following. *Ibid.*, [He] was prest.

1675 3 *Inhumane Murthers* 6 The same day he was pressed, being very willing to dye. 1770 *Chron* in *Ann. Reg.* 129/2 Conoway at first refused to plead, but being taken down and shewn the apparatus for pressing him to death, if he refused, he relented. 1900 *Daily News* 31 Dec. 6 There can be no doubt that it was in 1736 that the barbarous practice of 'pressing to death' was last resorted to.

c. As a sign of affection or courtesy (with a person, the hand, etc. as object).

1700 Dryden *Iliad* VI. 173 She..press'd Th' illustrious infant to her fragrant breast. 1780 Cowper *Doves* 26 'Tis then I feel myself a wife, And press thy wedded side. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxxvii, The Minstrel's hand he kindly pressed. 1832 Tennyson *Miller's Daughter* 160 She..rose, and..press'd you heart to heart.

d. *intr.* To exert pressure; to bear with weight or force *on, upon, against.*

1815 J. Smith *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 76 The column sustained by the bottom of such a vessel..is therefore no more than what would press upon the bottom of a vessel Y. *Ibid.* 232 To make the surfaces intended to be in contact, press against each other simultaneously and uniformly in every part. 1837 W. Irving *Capt. Bonneville* III. 240 The heavy buffalo..are easily overtaken by the Blackfeet; whose fleet steps press lightly on the surface. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 88 Since air possesses weight, it necessarily presses upon any object exposed to its influence.

2. *trans.* To cause to move in some direction or into some position by pressure; to push, drive, thrust. (With various advbs. and preps.)

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, If..þe foote and þe knees haue .. ypressede þe grasse a doune. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11829 (Trin.) Þe dropesy so to gider him prest. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Precyn in, *ingero. Ibid.* 412/2 Presse downe, *deprimo, reprimo.* 1526 Tindale *Luke* vi. 38 Good measure, pressed doune, shaken to gedder, and runnynge ouer. 1697 Dampier *Voy.* I. xviii. 495 The Wind being on our broad side, prest her down very much. 1824 R. Stuart *Hist. Steam Engine* 196 The steam presses the pistons or valves forward in that direction. 1832 R. & J. Lander *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 84 The weight of his..ornaments almost pressed him to the ground. 1842 Tennyson *Locksley Hall* 90 Baby fingers, waxen touches, press me from the mother's breast. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 250 The blood pressed up the vena cava can be aspirated into the right heart.

b. *fig.* (usually with *down*).

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter, Cant.* 497 Noght pressid down in þe luf of þis warld. 1382 Wyclif *Bible* Pref. Ep. i. 61 Pictagorax..more wilnyng other mennus thingis shamfastli to lernen, than his owne vnshamfastli to prece forth [*sua impudenter ingerere*]. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 82 We felt the burthen of necessitie pressing downe our shoulders. 1668 R. Steele *Husbandman's Calling* vii. (1672) 188 The husbandman..hath weights to press him down, and therefore hath need of wings to lift him up.

3. To extract by pressure; to express; to squeeze (juice, etc.) *out of* or *from* something.

1388 Wyclif *Gen.* xl. 11 Therfor Y took the grapis, and presside [*c* 1430–40 *MSS. I. & S.* presside hem] out in to the cuppe which Y helde. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 49 Sethe hom in water..; þen take hom up; presse a non þe water of hom. 1546 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 246 b, This..shall presse out teares of our eyes. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 412 To gather Laurel-berries, and the Spoil Of bloody Myrtles, and to press your Oyl. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 212 Wine is pressed from the grape. 1830 M. Donovan *Dom. Econ.* I. 13 It is very probable, that it was much the same word as is used..in Gen. ix. 21, viz. יָנָה from יָנַה to press out.

4. To subject to pressure so as to reduce to a particular shape, consistence, smoothness, thinness, or bulk, or so as to extract juice, etc. from; to compress, squeeze.

c 1430–40 [see prec., quot. 1388]. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 8 That no person shall..put to sale here within the Realme..any cloth being pressed to be..worne here within the Realme of England. 1555 Eden *Decades* 3 They neuer eate *Iucca* excepte it be first sliced & pressed. 1562 J. Heywood *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 137 He hath turnd his typpet and prest it so close, That for a turnd typpet it hath a fayre glose. 1659 Leak *Waterwks.* 1 The Aire may be prest, but not the Water. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 45 You have always more dense Air in the Room, it being more press'd. 1764 Harmer *Observ.* x. iv. 155 Into these they put the curds, and binding them up close, press them. 1796 Mrs. Glasse *Cookery* xxi. 339 Press them as long as there is any milk in the almonds. 1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* iii. 106 'Pressing' it [cloth], between hot iron plates and smooth millboard.

† **5.** To print: = Impress *v.*[1] 4. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1579 Fulke *Confut. Sanders* 691 Howe proue you that this picture was pressed when that leafe came to correction? 1637 Laud *Relat. Confer.* Ep. Ded. (1639) A iij b, The Discourse upon this Conference stayed so long, before it could endure to be pressed. 1857 T. H. Warren *By Severn Sea* 32 He who pressed, He who bound.

II. Figurative senses, denoting actions compared to physical pressure. Usually *trans.*

6. *trans.* (*fig.* of I.) Of an enemy, an attacking force, etc.: To bear heavily on, to assail with much force; to reduce to straits; to beset, harass. Now chiefly in *hard pressed.*

1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 316 [He] presyt the folk that thar-in ves, Swa that nocht ane the 3et durst pas. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8606 Polidamas, the pert, was presset so fast, þat he was wonen in wer, & away led. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 353 The horsemen pressed him before, and the fotemen gaue the onset at his back. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 101 All of them being pressed with Dogs or other wilde Beasts, will fly unto a man for succour. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 94 The Generalissimo ceas'd not to press the Armenians. 1693 *Mem. Cut. Teckely* II. 153 The Place was pressed with vigour enough till the

11th of September. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, IV. Wks. 1813 V. 405 The castle of Milan was pressed more closely than ever. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 23 Although hard pressed at first, the force eventually gained a..victory.

†b. Of a tyrant, adverse circumstances, etc.: To oppress; to crush, reduce to distress or misery; to load or burden with impositions or restrictions; to distress, afflict. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5093 Non proffer, apon payne, to prese hym no more. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. 1663 (Cotton MS.) Na man sulde swa hardy be Hym to presse, to tak or sla. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 202 Chrisogonus here that moste can doe, will presse vs with his power. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xiii. 95 Yet are they pressed wyth a more grieuous tribute. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Hist. Table* II. 1079 The children of Israel were pressed with servitude in Ægypt. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. xix, So when a tyrant raves, his subjects pressing, His gaining is their losse. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. x. 153 The People, press'd by Hunger, called loudly for Bread. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 102, I should not be able to..get out when there pressed with danger.

c. To affect with a feeling (physical or mental) of pressure, constraint, or distress; to weigh down, burden, oppress (the feelings, mind, spirits, etc.).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 177, I haue this while with leaden thoughts beene prest. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physic* 259 When he ascends a steep place, he is pressed with an unusual difficulty of breathing. 1695 PRIOR *Ode Queen's Death* vi, If prest by Grief our Monarch stoops. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXXVIII. i, These horrid Clouds that press my frighted Soul.

†d. Of a difficulty or the like: = BESET *v.* 3 b.

1654 JER. TAYLOR *Real Pres.* 35 On the other side no inconvenience can presse our interpretation of 'spiritual eating Christ by faith'. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 8 The Atheist in denying a Deity, must assert something else instead of it, which is pressed with the same, if not greater difficulties, and proved by far less reason.

e. To put to straits, as by want of time, space, means, etc.: in passive, usually with *for*. (Cf. 8 b.)

1678 HICKES in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 47, I..am very sensible how much you press yourself to keep correspondence with me. 1813 MACAULAY in *Life & Lett.* (1880) I. 42 Being pressed for room, I will conclude. 1817 COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 354 In writing the last Number I was pressed for time. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* III. iii, I am pressed for business, but I will wait and watch over him till the crisis is passed. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 89 He had felt continually pressed by the necessity of economising his paper or parchment. 1866 G. A. LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* xiv, You can have money sooner, if you are much pressed for it.

7. *intr.* To produce a strong mental or moral impression *upon*; in mod. use usually (*fig.* from 1 d), to bear heavily, weigh *upon* (the mind, etc.).

1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* I. 5 Least they shoulde in al thinges seme to despise him, whoes maiestie still presseth vpon them. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xvii. 144 The reflection that he had wasted his time..pressed upon his mind. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 131 People in the South, pressed upon by northern opinion.

8. *trans.* To urge on, impel or try to impel to action; to constrain, compel, force.

[The frequency of *prese* forms in 8, 9, 9 b, perh. indicates some association with the intr. senses in III.]

α. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 217 Sodeinly the jugge he nom.. and hath him pressed, That he the sothe him hath confessed. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 184 Why should hee stay whom Loue doth presse to go? What loue could presse Lysander from my side? 1611 BIBLE *Acts* xviii. 5 Paul was pressed in spirit, and testified to the Iewes, that Iesus was Christ. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 164 The Patient being pressed to go backwards, went behind the Tent. 1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) I. i. 62 They [the Commons] could withhold the supplies, and press the king with representations against his ministers.

β. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 372 Thair Majesteis heirtofoir hes na wayis preissit ony personis in the fre use of thair conscience. 1580 *Ibid.* III. 281 They have nevir persuadit nor preissit his Majestie to this hour. 1586 J. CARMICHAEL *Let.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 444 Turncotes..if they were preasit, they wald be readie to cap, and cope, and surpleis. 1623 PR. CHARLES *Let.* (in *Athenæum* 24 Feb. (1872) 241/2) Ye euer promised that the King [my] father should be no farder preaced in matters of religion. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Mayor of Quinborough* I. (1661) 8 Great Constantine our Noble Father,..therefore prais'd me into this profession.

b. Said of danger, business, etc., or of time. Now only *absol.* or *intr.* To compel haste or dispatch; to be urgent; to be pressing; to demand immediate action. (Cf. 6 e.) So mod.F. *le temps presse*; *le péril presse.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xl. 192 Here may we notte melle of more at þis tyde, For prossesse of plaies þat precis in plight. 1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 396 The Prince wou'd have had me stay, but..I pretended some Letters press'd me, and so went away. 1746 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 44 Let it be done with Dispatch, for the time presses. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxviii, Do you think I will read all these?..I mean, is there any thing which presses? *Mod.* Time presses: I must go.

c. To impel to rapid movement; to urge on, hasten, drive quickly. *rare.*

1611 BIBLE *Esther* viii. 14 So the posts..went out, being hastened, and pressed on by the kings commandement. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xx. 198, I..pressed my dogs for the hut.

d. With the movement as obj.: To urge, hasten, execute quickly.

1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* IV. 9 Fast as they prest their flight. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiii, Tressilian and his attendants pressed their route with all dispatch.

9. To urge by words or arguments; to try hard to persuade; to importune, beg, beseech, entreat (a person *to do* something or *for* something).

α. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 273 They be Ieromes owne words that I presse you with. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 425 You press mee farre, and therefore I will yeeld. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 23 Neither they nor any other would take the least reward of mee, though I pressed them to receiue it. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* Pref., More than Four hundred Queries..to which I was pressed for Answers. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 409 He was much pressed to go into a neighbouring apartment. 1800 DE QUINCEY in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) I. iii. 53 To avoid being pressed..to stay another day. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 15, I will share the enquiry with you, but I will not press you if you would rather not.

β. 1623 PR. CHARLES *Let.* (in *Athenæum* 24 Feb. (1872) 241/2) Which the Pope so earnestlie preases to be added.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To use urgent entreaty; to ask or seek importunately. Const. *for* or *inf.*; formerly also *on*, *upon* (a person).

β. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 33 Freer, what charity is this, to prease upon a rich man, and to intice him to be buried among you from his parish church? 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 214/1 He was in his examinacion sore preaced vpon to tell for what intent he made such a sermon ready. *a* 1699 LADY A. HALKETT *Autobiog.* (1875) 43 As much as was fitt to prese for the reason.

α. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clvi. 599 Kynge Arthur hath sore pressed on me to haue my dignyte & realme. 1648 in *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 220 My Lord Newcastle hes prest mouch for his dispach, and a comision for the North. 1709–10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 121 ¶ 1 There was a Gentlewoman below who..pressed very much to see me. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* viii, And spread his vegetable store And gaily pressed, and smiled. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix, Don't press for an answer yet. 1895 LAKE in *Law Times* XCIX. 468/1, I applied for this on the 9th May, and pressed for it day by day.

10. *trans.* To urge, insist on the doing of (something); to solicit, request (a thing) earnestly. Const. *on*, *upon* (a person).

1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 16 The Apostles peremptory commaund more then once pressed in the Gospel. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 93 The discontented part of ye Citty press, that ye Election last mentiond may be confirm'd. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 143 *note*, St. Ambrose very earnestly presseth the payment of Tithes. *a* 1716 BLACKALL *Wks.* (1723) I. 294, I suppose, it was not press'd upon such, by the Apostles, as a Duty. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. iv. 65 Such a person might earnestly press the observance of a duty which himself had so well fulfilled. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 40. 2 This material part of piety..had not been sufficiently pressed on my people. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 591 Nothing now remained but to press the use of anti-pneumococcic serum.

11. To urge, insist on the belief, admission, or mental acceptance of (something); to impress (a thing) upon the mind, emphasize, inculcate earnestly; to present earnestly, plead with insistence (a claim, etc.). Const. *on*, *upon* (a person, his attention, etc.).

1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 35 It must be pressed..vpon the Magistrate, that he is bound in Conscience to pull down all Churches, once superstitiously prostituted to Popish Idolatry. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ix. 303 The Apostle presseth this advice in the text. 1781 COWPER *Conversation* 104 Remember, if you mean to please, To press your point with modesty and ease. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* vi. (1852) 174 Thus are we brought again to the conclusion already pressed upon attention. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 379 Crito is but pressing upon him the opinions of the many. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. § 664. 129 Letters ..in which he..presses on the potentates of east and west the great opportunity for ecclesiastical union.

12. To urge, thrust (something to be taken or accepted) *upon* a person.

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* i, He pressed the offer so repeatedly and respectfully that at length she accepted it. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 285 *note*, He..refused the first ecclesiastic dignities, which were unsolicitedly pressed upon him. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* v. 63 The garden-house in Aldersgate-street had before been found too small for the pupils who were being now pressed upon Milton.

13. To push forward (arguments, views, considerations, positions, etc.).

1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 355 Nor am I willing to press these conjectures any further. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. i. 17, I press not any farther an argument so exceedingly plain. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 130 Charles had no desire to press matters to extremities. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. x. 320 Stephen pressed his advantage.

III. Senses connected with the notion of a crowd or throng, or of pushing one's way as in a throng: cf. PRESS *sb.*[1] 1. Primarily *intr.* Here the β forms are usually the earlier, and predominate till *c* 1600.

As L. *premĕre* and *pressāre* and OF. *presser* were only transitive, the intransitive use appears to have been developed in Eng., and perh. in connexion with the notion of pressing or crowding upon each other.

14. *intr.* To come closely to or about a person or place; esp. of a number of persons: to come up or gather in a crowd; to crowd, throng. Also *fig.*

β. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 830 Mony proud mon þer presed, þat prynce to honour. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2796 (Gött.) Þe mare þat loth [= Lot] þaim [þus] bisoght, þe mare þai presid [*Trin.* pressed] and sesid noght. *c* 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1082 They presyd abowte syr Sampson all. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vi. 19 All the people preased to touche hym. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Worcester* xvii, I could not passe, so sore they on me preast. 1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* I. xxxii. 38 Commanding them to prease and talke with the Captaynes. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 19 No humble suters prease to speake for right. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 175 By reason of the multitude preasing up to him.

α. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 635 Ingler, and arnold, of the peres, I say, Pressen to the prince in þer palle wedis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8227 Then the grekes..Oppressit hom with pyne, pressit full hard. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. i. II. lvii, The crosse lines of a Rhomboides That from their meeting to all angles presse. 1648 in *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 210 The enemy presseth harde upon us. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. (1869) I. 341 The nations of Germany, who perpetually pressed on the frontiers of the empire. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix, The most thinking men in the crowd pressed towards the waggon. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* 106 Consisting..of 'thoughts that had been pressing in upon his own soul'. 1881 HENTY *Cornet of Horse* xxvi, All the sailors pressed up, eager to know how the pursuit had been shaken off.

b. *trans.* To crowd upon, throng. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* cxlii. 7 When thou art good to me, the just shall prease me round about. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Luke* viii. 45 Maister, the multitudes throng and presse thee [*Vulg.* te comprimunt et affligunt; WYCLIF 1382 thringen and turmentyn thee, 1388 thristen and disesen thee; TINDALE, etc. thruste the and vexe the; *Geneva*, thrust thee and treade on thee; 1611 throng thee and preasse thee; *Revised*, press thee and crush thee]. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LVI. iv, They presse me neere, my soule in snare to take.

c. *Naut. To press sail* = to crowd sail: see CROWD *v.*[1] 9, and cf. *press of sail*, PRESS *sb.*[1] 9.

1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 98 Press on sail, to see if you can come in.

15. *intr.* To push or strain forward, as through a crowd or against obstacles or hindrances; to push one's way, advance with force or eagerness; to hasten onward, urge one's way.

β. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 112 After þis fest praised Steuen with alle his here, þe castellis he seised, þat he hat neuer ere. *c* 1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13811 Among þe moste euere he presed, His harde strokes nought ne sesed. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 642 (*Cleopatra*) In with the polax presith he & sche. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5138 So þai past fro þat pales, preset vnto horse. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iii. 14, I forget that which is behynde me..and preace vnto the marke apoynted. *a* 1599 SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vi. 13 The Giantesse.., boldly preacing on raught forth her hand. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. x. (1632) 226 Sometimes they prease out thicke and threefold. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie*, etc. (1877) 257 Two iollie shepheards, that do hither prese.

α. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2156 And þus pertid þe persons & presset to þere ynnes. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5129 Ay the more I gan to presse The more my Ioy[e] gan tencresse. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 158 Efthyr them full fast I prest. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 49 Vnto no mess pressit this prelat, For sound of sacring bell nor skellat. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 136 So made way for their fellowes without, which immediately pressed in with a strong power. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xvii. 110 Air would..press in at some little Avenue or other. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* LXXXIX. iv, With Reverence and religious Dread His Servants to his House should press. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xiv, Pressing forward like the wind. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. v. 138 Trojans, great in mastery of steeds, Press on!

†b. *refl.* in same sense. *Sc. Obs. rare.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. 1310 Qwha wipe in walde presse hym out, þan hym behuffit to mak entre. *Ibid.* VII. 2570 (Cotton MS.) Wipe al þe kynge of Inglandis mycht He pressit hym [*Wemyss MS.* He schupe him] to þe cite richt.

16. *intr.* To push one's way, thrust oneself, advance into a person's presence, or into a place, boldly, presumptuously, or insistently; to approach venturously, to venture; to push oneself forward, obtrude oneself, intrude. *arch.*

β. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 212 þere þe pore preseth bifor þe riche with a pakke at his rugge. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 749 So of þat beggers brol a bychop schal worþen, Among þe peres of þe lond prese to sitten. *c* 1460 *Urbanitatis* 25 in *Babees Bk.* 13 Amonge þe genteles gode & hende, Prece þou not vp to hy3 for no þyng. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* XXV. 6 Prease not in to yᵉ place of greate men. — *Ecclus.* xiii. 10 Preasse not thou vnto him, that thou be not shott out. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 14 The peevishe puttocke may not preace in place where Eagles are. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* viii. 32 Forbidden to prease forth to do the priests office. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* IV. 663 Men's knowledges have proper limits set, And should not preasé into the mind of God.

α. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 55 There þe poure presseþ by-fore with a pak at hus rygge. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 76, I will not here presume to presse in with my determination upon this great difference and question. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 88 Pardon me Madam, that so boldly I presse into your Chamber. 1714 SWIFT *Imit. Horace* II. vi. 89 You ne'er consider whom you shove, But rudely press before a duke. 1885 G. MACDONALD *Diary Old Soul* 16 May, I would go near thee—but I cannot press Into thy presence —it helps not to presume.

†b. *refl.* To presume, take upon oneself. *rare.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXXV. 14 Me thocht Deme Fortoun ..said on this maneir..preiss the nocht to stryfe aganis my quheill. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 4 And preis the nocht my purpois till impung.

†17. *intr.* To strive, try hard, endeavour, attempt *to do* something (usually with eagerness or haste); to aim at, strive or endeavour after something. Also in weaker sense: To essay, undertake, take in hand. *Obs.* (So F. *presser* in Froissart (Godef.).)

β. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 446 To seen here goodly look be gan to prese [*rimes* encrese, cece]. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 166 3onge childre presen faste to be prestis. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 615 To cum to this Palice he preissis to preif. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xi. 193 Athir way till

assay thrys preisyt hes he. 1578 T. Proctor *Gorg. Gallery, Lament. Gentilw.*, With Poets pen, I doo not preace to write. 1586 J. Carmichael *Let.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 442 To..prease.. to wesh ane Indiane or black-more, whom al the watir in the sea can never mak quhite. *a* 1598 Peele *David & Bethsabe* Prol., Of this sweet poet, Jove's musician .. I prease to sing. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 24 The Kirk in this mean tyme preassing to keep their Assemblies, but got little good done. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 2 We had now need to prease upon more familiar acquaintance with God.

a. 1375 (MS. 1487) Barbour *Bruce* xviii. 105 And thai that pressit mast to stand War slane doune. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 79 Thai movit bataill and weris, pressand quha mycht be lord. *a* 1500 *Ratis Raving* i. 337 Bot that þow pres to do, my sone, Rycht as þow wald to the war done. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xi. 4 Lang heir to dwell na thing thow press. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* iii. 100 They had ..sworne, if I pressed to escape, before the rest.., they would throw me..into the sea.

18. *intr.* To strive, contend, make resistance. *rare.* (Now only as *fig.* from 1 d.)

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 543 Saule, saule,..is it nocht hard to þe agane þe brod þu for to prese? 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* i. xii. 19 Ne I against the same can iustly preace [*rimes* peace, release]. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* i. (1886) 3 Human nature, happily for us, presses ever against this system or that.

For the verb-stem in Comb., see Press *sb.*[1] 15 b.

[*Note.* The β forms *prês-en, prêse, prease, preace*, agree in their lengthened vowel with *cease, lease, decease*, compared with F. *cesser, lesser*, and ME. *decesse*; but while in the latter the long-vowel form alone survives (in the simple word), here *press* is the surviving form, *prease, preace*, scarcely appearing in literary Eng. after 1650, though still used in north. Eng. dialects from the Scottish border to Lancashire and Yorkshire, written *preese, prease, preese, prease* (prīz). This English lengthening of French short *e* before *ss* and *st* (cf. *beast, feast*) has not been satisfactorily explained; it is discussed (with other lengthenings) by Morsbach in *Festschrift für Wendelin Foerster* (1902) 327. The fact that OF. *presse, cesse, beste, feste*, were in Picard *priesse, ciesse, bieste, fieste*, has suggested that double ME. forms such as *pressé, prêse*, might come from two French dialects, *priesse, ciesse*, giving *prêse, cêse*, as *piece* gave ME. *pêce*; but the *e* of *prese, prease*, seems to be the open *ê*, not the close *ē* as in *pêce*.]

Press (pres), *v.*[2] *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **pressed**; also 6–8 **prest.** [Altered from or substituted for Prest *v.*[2], by association with Press *v.*[1]: see Press-money.

This result may have been facilitated by the fact that the pa. t. and pa. pple *prest* could be the pa. t. and pple. either of *prest* vb. (cf. *cast, cost, thrust*), or of *press* vb. (cf. *drest, past, tost*), so that 'he was prest' could be understood either as 'he was prested' or 'he was pressed'.]

†**1.** *trans.* To engage (men) with earnest-money for service; to enlist by part-payment or 'bounty' in advance; = Prest *v.*[2] 1. *Obs.*

1600 Holland *Livy* xxvi. xxxv. 610 When the Consuls could neither raise men enow, nor yet find monie..for to presse and hire them, and pay their wages withall.

2. To force (a man) to serve in the army or navy; = Impress *v.*[2], Prest *v.*[2] 2, with further development of the sense of compulsion.

(Quots. 1543 and 1568, from their early date, may belong to Prest *v.*[2], *prest* being a shortened form of *prested*, as in *cast, thrust*, etc.)

[1543 Bacon *Policy of War* Pref., Wks. 1564 I. 125 b, The men, which wer prest to go vnto the warres, it is almost incredible..what alacryte & quickenes of spirite was in them. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 25 Euery Souldiour there prest should pay ten shillynges, and thereupon to be discharged from that voyage.] 1578 *Court Min. Grocers' Comp.* 11 Aug., 15 men which were pressed by this Company to serue in the Quenes Ma^ties shipps. 1595 *Locrine* II. ii. D ij, O wife ..if I had bene quiet, I had not bene prest... But come,..shut vp, for we must to the warres. 1600 Fairfax *Tasso* xx. xvi, Men halfe naked, without strength or skill.., Late pressed foorth to warre, against their will. 1627–77 Feltham *Resolves* I. xlvii. 74 Like Sons prest from an indulgent Father, they would come for a sad *Vale*. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 681 The peaceful Peasant to the Wars is prest; The Fields lye fallow in inglorious Rest. 1708 Mrs. Centlivre *Busie Body* II. ii, Let me catch you no more Puppy-hunting about my doors, lest I have you prest into the Service, Sirrah. 1745 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) I. 512 The Constables and Churchwardens came to press you for a soldier. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xvi. viii, To contrive some method of having him [Jones] pressed and sent on board a ship. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* xvi, He replied that he had been pressed out of an American ship, that he was an American born, and that he had never taken the bounty. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* viii. § 3. 485 Poor men who refused to lend were pressed into the army.

b. *intr.* or *absol.*

a 1625 Fletcher *Hum. Lieut.* II. iv, Come get your men together..And presse where please you as you march. 1678 Marvell *Growth Popery* 43 The King is fain to press now. 1819 Crabbe *T. of Hall* v. 174 Gangs came pressing till they swept the shore. 1901 Ld. Raglan in *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 2/3 We pressed for the Navy until a time remembered by many present; we pressed for the Army until a much more recent period.

c. *trans.* To take authoritatively for royal or public use; = Impress *v.*[2] b.

1633 T. Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. xxiv. (1821) 450 To presse and take up any the Boats, or Vessels that are or shall bee within the compasse of your command. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 178 Saturday after noon the Cachef of Catie pressed our Camels to fetch wood from the Seaside. 1698 Crowne *Caligula* I. Wks. 1874 IV. 369 And all the horses, in, or near the town, You press'd, to bring th' imperial treasure home. 1813 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1839) X. 393 He was not authorised to press boats, yet he pressed at the British landing place boats which had been in our service two years. 1907 C. B. Winchester in *Let. to Editor*, In British India to this day every executive officer when he moves camp 'presses carts' to obtain means for transporting his tents.

d. *transf.* and *fig.* To seize and force into some service; = Impress *v.*[2] c.

1598 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. ii, Would we were eene prest, to make porters of; and serue out the remnant of our daies, in Thames-street. 1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. i. (1651) 450 They press and muster up wenches as we do souldiers. 1733 Pope *Ess. Man* III. 86 Reason..but serves when prest,..But honest Instinct comes a volunteer. 1824 Lamb *Elia* Ser. II. *Capt. Jackson*, The anecdote was pressed into the account of the family importance. 1871 Freeman *Hist. Ess.* Ser. I. iv. 85 In Thierry's well-known History..he is pressed into the service of that writer's peculiar theories. 1883 Gilmour *Mongols* xxvii. 322 The 'shirt' aforementioned..is pressed to do duty as a towel.

Hence **Pre·ssing** *vbl. sb.*, impressment; also *attrib.*

1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Maherimiento*, pressing of soldiers, *delectus*. 1640 Pym in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 23 But now there follows Pressing of men against their Wills, or to find others. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xxiv, I was disarmed, taken prisoner, and carried on board a pressing-tender. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. App. iii. 510 The power of pressing both for sea and land service.. was another prerogative. 1809 J. Adams *Wks.* (1854) IX. 327 A few words more on the subject of pressing.

Press (of parchment): see Prest *sb.*[2]

Pressable (pre·săb'l), *a.*[1] *rare.* [f. Press *v.*[1] + -able. Also in form Pressible.] That may be pressed: in various senses of the verb.

a 1652 Brome *Eng. Moor* III. iii, Of all ages that are pressable, From sixteen unto sixty. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Loud.* 156 Which,..I think..is pressable upon rich exempted persons now.

Pre·ssable, *a.*[2] *rare.* [f. Press *v.*[2] + -able.] Liable to be pressed or taken by a press-gang.

1833 M. Scott *Tom Cringle* ii. (1859) 37 Pick up all the information you can regarding the haunts of the pressable men at Cove.

Press-bed. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* A bed constructed to fold up, when not in use, into a press (Press *sb.*[1] 14) closed by a door or doors; sometimes less correctly applied to a box-bed (which does not fold up) shut in by folding doors. Also *attrib.*

1660 Pepys *Diary* 14 May, The Judge and I..lay in one press bed, there being two more in the same room. 1670 Redway in Bedloe *Popish Plot* (1679) 20 An inclosed Bed (commonly called a Press-Bed). 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 39 She removed a Table Press-Bed from the Place where the Hair Trunk stood. 1785 Boswell *Tour Hebrides* 21 Aug. an. 1773, [At Aberdeen] I was to sleep in a little press-bed in Dr. Johnson's room. I had it wheeled out into the dining-room. 1843 Ballantine *Gaberlunzie* i. 21 The press-bed doors, stools, tables, and other furniture.

So † **Press-bedstead.**

1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 590 You are to destroy all Press-Bedsteads which stand in Corners of Rooms, being made up with Boards so close, that the Air cannot penetrate or dry up and consume the..Vapours that are contracted.

‖ **Presse.** *Obs. rare.* [Fr., ad. Prov. (Gascon) *pressec* :—L. *persic-um*: see Peach *sb.*[1]] A clingstone peach.

1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxi. 294 Peaches, presses and apricockes have greatly multiplied, especially in New Spaine.

Presse (of parchment): see Prest *sb.*[2]

Pressed, † **prest** (prest), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. Press *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Subjected to pressure; forced or squeezed into a smaller volume or denser consistence than the ordinary. Often qualifying articles in the preparation of which pressure is specially used, as *pressed beef, brick, fuel, glass*, etc. Also with adv. as *hard-pressed, hot-pressed*, etc.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 81 Froo a draghte of wyn to þe quantyte of oon pressyd grape. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 399 Out of pressed milk and cruds as it were. 1594 Lyly *Moth. Bomb.* III. iv, Three damaske prunes in veluet caps and prest satten gownes. 1783 Crabbe *Library* 147 The close-prest leaves, unclosed for many an age. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 22 July 6/2 Extensive purchases of pressed hay have been effected in Holland. 1891 E. Kinglake *Australian at H.* 95 The hard pressed artist is obliged to cut down his price. 1894 *Daily News* 5 June 7/5 The best British pressed glass tumblers..are made in the North. 1896 *Ibid.* 30 Jan. 3/1 A..building erected in pressed Leicester facing bricks of dark red.

Pressed, † **prest,** *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Press *v.*[2] + -ed[1].]

†**1.** Hired, engaged (with earnest-money). *Obs.*

1650 Fuller *Pisgah* II. ii. *Gad* § 16. 79 Ahimaaz..being a messenger volunteer, would confess..no more news then what he knew would be welcome, whilest Cushi a prest Post must relate the full of his message.

2. Forced to enlist in, or seized for use in, the royal or public service.

1589 *Late Voy. Sp. & Port.* (1881) 51 Our slovenly prest men, whome the Iustices..have sent us out as the scumme and dregges of their Countrey. 1652 Collinges *Cavent for Prof.* (1653) A iij b, They were all prest men, that ran away presently. 1705 Ld. Seymour in Hearne *Collect.* 31 Oct. (O. H. S.) I. 62, 100 Volunteirs are better than 200 press'd men. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. iii. 31 The Spaniards were sensible of the disaffection of their prest hands. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 88 A great part of the naval service was still conducted by pressed ships.

Presser (pre·sər). Also 6 -or. [Partly f. Press *v.*[1] + -er[1]; partly from Pressoir, with change of suffix.]

1. One who presses. Applied to workmen in various trades, often with specification, as *cloth-presser, cotton-presser, hat-presser, stocking-presser, tailor's presser, trouser-presser*, etc. **a.** One who is employed to press cloth, felt, etc. into shape in tailoring, hat-making, etc.

1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 10 Clothworkers Dyers and Pressors howses shoppes and other places. 1724 Swift *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 95, I am not richer..with the sale of all the several stuffs I have contrived: for, I give the whole profit to the dyers and pressers. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss., *Pressers*, men engaged in pressing the seams of garments with heated irons. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 380/1 Blockers, including 'pressers' [hat-manufacture].

b. One who works a press of any kind; †a printer; a wine-presser (*obs.*).

1545 Elyot *Dict., Torcularius*, a presser. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 688 A presser, or he that presseth, *torcularius*. 1614 *Monstr. Serp.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 228 Pamphleting pressers. 1641 T. Herbert *Repl. Defence Oxford Petition* 4 It is not fit the Presser should the Vine Cut downe.

c. *Pottery.* A workman who makes plates or hollow-ware by pressing the prepared clay into plaster-of-Paris moulds. Distinguished into *flat pressers*, who make plates; *hollow-ware pressers*, who make cups, basins, vases, and the like; and *ornamental pressers*, who make ornamental porcelain, relief work, etc.

1770 A. Young *Tour N. Eng.* (1771) III. xx. 255, I had the pleasure of viewing the Staffordshire potteries at Burslem...Modellers,.. Pressers,.. Painters,..Moulders in plaister of Paris. 1898 Binns *Story of Potter* IV. i. 202 The hollow-ware presser uses a whirler, but not a jigger, and does all his work by hand...The clay is beaten out into suitable bats, and these are pressed and beaten into the mould until every crevice is properly filled.

2. One who urges or strongly inculcates.

1643 J. White *1st Cent. Scand. Malignant Priests* 35 A great practiser and presser of the late illegall Innovations. *a* 1658 J. Durham *Exp. Rev.* II. iii. (1680) 122 That learned author is an eminent batterer down of presumption and a presser of holinesse.

3. An instrument, machine, or part of a machine which applies pressure. Often with specification, as *brawn-presser, drill-presser*, etc.

Among other things, applied to a form of ironing-machine; the *presser-bar* of a knitting-machine, which drives the barb of the needle into the groove of the shank; the foot-piece or *presser-foot* in a sewing-machine which rests upon the cloth to hold it steady; the presser-roller of a drawing-frame; the spring-finger of a bobbin-frame.

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 10 The presser, which Mr. Crockatt's chaff-cutter uses. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 7 To these sort of saddles are also made pressers, whereby the cases on the roller are pressed down with a heavy hand. 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 523 The number of pressers should be increased, or a considerable extent of land be pressed before it is sown. 1852 *Trans. Soc. Arts* LVI. 475, I have made experiments with the drill and drill-presser in the same field. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 831 The legs of the flyers carry an arm called a 'presser'. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 110/2 Tobacco and Vegetable Slicers. Brawn, Tongue and Lard Pressers.

b. A cider-press or wine-press.

1570 Levins *Manip.* 73/12 A presser, *presserium*. 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 408 The way to breake them [apples] in peeces, is to put them in a presser made round. 1845 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) I. xiii. 197 From the vat of the purest presser it passed, dregless, into the vat of our memory.

†**4.** A press, a cupboard. *Obs.*

1503 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 296 Unum magnum le buke presser. 1592 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 188 One presser standinge at my bedd head.

† b. A press-bed. *Obs.*

1557 in *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) I. 159 In the Chamber ouer the Hall...A presser w^th a mattres in it v^js viij^d.

5. *Comb.*: **presser-bar,** (*a*) the presser in a knitting-machine: see 3; (*b*) the vertical bar in a sewing-machine which bears the presser-foot; **presser-flyer** (*Spinning*), a flyer (see Flyer 3 e) having a spring-arm which presses against the bobbin to regulate the tension in winding on the yarn; **presser-foot,** the foot-plate of a sewing-machine which holds the cloth down to the feed-plate; **presser-frame,** a spinning-frame furnished with presser-flyers.

† **Pre·sserage.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pressorage* (1296 in Godef.), *-oirage, -ouerage*, etc. (mod.F. *pressurage*), f. *pressoirier* (mod.F. *pressurer*) to press (grapes), f. *pressoir* a wine-press.] ?Pressing, pressure.

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xvii. (1869) 184 Wher of men haue seyn wel ofte, bi þe condyt bi which it discendeth, a gret presserage [F. *pressoueraige*] of teres.

Pre·ssful. [f. Press *sb.*[1] + -ful.] As much or as many as a press will hold.

1854 H. Miller *Sch. & Schm.* iii. (1858) 52 He possessed a whole pressful of tattered, hard-working volumes. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 128/1 The charge for a press-full is disposed between crates in thin layers, 16 in number.

Pre·ss-gang, *sb.* [f. Press *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + Gang *sb.*[1]] A body of men employed, under the command of an officer, to press men for service in the navy or army.

1693 in C. N. Robinson *Brit. Fleet* (1894) 424 That all officers who send men to the press shall give them tickets,

No. 1 to 15, expressing in their tickets what press-gang they belong to. 1707 *Inquiry Causes Miscarriages* in *Harl. Misc.* I. 566 Being the other day at the water-side, I saw a press-gang hauling and dragging a man, in a most barbarous manner, in order to send him on board a press-ketch. 1739 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 212 In the middle of the sermon, the press-gang came, and seized on one of the hearers. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Widow & Son* § 12 He was entrapped by a press-gang, and carried off to sea.

Hence **Pre·ss-gang** *v., trans.* & *intr.* = PRESS *v.*[2]; **Pre·ss-ganged** *ppl. a.*, **Pre·ss-ganging** *vbl. sb.*

1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* vii, There'll be no more press-ganging here awhile. 1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXV. 756 The surfeit of learning which so unhesitatingly leads the pressganged scholar to accelerate his emancipation from the school or university. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Mar. 1/2 Mr. George Harwood,.. member for Bolton,.. mentioned casually that his grandfather had been 'press-ganged' into the Royal Navy...The grandfather of Mr. Billson, the Radical member for Halifax, had similarly been the victim of 'press-ganging'.

Pre·ssible, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. PRESS *v.*[1], on analogy of COMPRESSIBLE, *repressible, suppressible.*] Capable of being pressed: cf. PRESSABLE.

1865 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 11/2 No doubt my friend the Italian innkeeper would be more easily pressible,—what we generally call more reasonable,—in his financial arrangements if you could argue out the question of your bed and supper in good Tuscan.

Pre·ssing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PRESS *v.*[1] + -ING[1].]

1. The action of PRESS *v.*[1], in various senses.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6436 Withoute presing more on thee, I wol forth, and to him goon. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Pressynge, *compressio.* 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 297 Then was there great preassing to take the King. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 414 Good housholders doe not loose the drosse of their pressings, but..cast them into vessells, and with..water, make Cider for the houshold. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 265 Without ye extraordinary pressing of friends I cannot remaine in it. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 10 The common Judgment of Pressing to Death must not pass upon him, but an Attainder of High-Treason. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 207 Those secret Hints, or Pressings of my Mind, to doing, or not doing any Thing that presented. 1838 JAMES *Robber* vi, The madman required no pressing. 1881 *Porcelain Works, Worcester* 21 The manufacture of soup tureens, covered dishes,.. basins, &c. is called Hollow Ware Pressing. *Ibid.*, The manufacture of plates and dishes is called Flat Pressing.

2. That which results from or remains after pressing; the product of the pressing, the juice; in *pl.* also, the solid matter left after expressing juice.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 59 Where is want of such pulse, they may give them pressings of Grapes dryed and cleansed. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 335 Which ..you may put among your pressings for a Water Cyder. 1898 *Rev. Brit. Pharm.* 32 The third pressing is evaporated to such a volume that when added to the first two the whole shall measure 2 pints.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* with sense 'used in or for pressing', as *pressing-bag, -case, -cylinder, -knife, -machine, -plank, -plate, -roller, -shed,* etc.; **pressing-boards,** boards used in bookbinding to compress the sheets or volumes, and by botanists in pressing specimens of plants; **pressing-fat** = *press-fat*: see PRESS *sb.*[1] 16 a; **pressing-paper** (sense in quot. uncertain); now, botanical drying-paper.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pressing-bag*, the horsehair cloth bag in which flaxseed or stearic acid is pressed. 1823 G. MARTIN *Bookbinder's Compl. Instr.* 9 **Pressing Boards*, are flat boards made of well seasoned beech. 1875 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) I. 424 (*Bookbinding*) The volumes are carefully laid between pressing-boards with their rounded backs put outside the edges of each pressing-board so as to escape the coming squeeze. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* I. 153 Only let me get my pressing-boards and the alpenstock. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 5/2 He expended half his spare cash on botanical books and *pressing-cases, and started off..for his first Alpine ramble. 1810 *Patent Specif.* No. 3385 Having the *pressing cylinder reduced at one side in the well-known form called the D roller (chiefly used by calicoe printers). 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 214 There shall the right *pressing-fat be set vp and made readie. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 113/1 Two Cloth Cutting Machines. One *Pressing Machine. 1545 *Rates of Customs* c ij b, *Pressing papers the C. leues xx d. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 488 Make thy *pressing plank..of the black Sapine or Horn-beam tree.

Pressing, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see under PRESS *v.*[2]

Pre·ssing, *ppl. a.* [f. PRESS *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That presses, in various senses of the verb.

1. That presses, or weighs heavily; burdensome.

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* i. 14 The heauy yoke Of pressing cares, that hang vpon a Crowne. 1657 AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* II. 15 The sense of his present misery is therefore the more pressing.

2. That presses physically; exerting or causing pressure. *Pressing sail*: see PRESS *sb.*[1] 9.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 211 Bodies, whose parts yield more or less to the endeavour which the pressing body makes at the first arrival. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* v. 65 Nor wanted 'mid the pressing crowd Deep feeling.

3. Calling for immediate attention; urgent.

1616 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 400 Providing for matters most necessary, and discharging the most pressing and crying debts. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. iv. § 42 His pressing wants call for it. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* III. 175 [He] advanced into the provinces of the South, to encounter a more pressing and personal danger. 1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 151/2 Pressing evils are not got rid of, because they are not talked of. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Ch. Div. 459 The real object..was to enable the directors to pay off pressing liabilities.

b. Of a request, invitation, etc.: Expressed with an earnest desire for compliance; also of the person: persistent in solicitation; importunate.

1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 201 They received fresh and more pressing Invitations. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 200 ¶ 2 My Mother..is very pressing with me to marry. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Pref., A new and pressing application for the Author's sentiments. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 29 They are very pressing in their invitations whenever any eating is going on. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 662 He had..come up to town..in consequence of a pressing summons from Porter.

† **Pre·ssing-iron.** *Obs.* An iron implement (= IRON *sb.*[1] 5) used by tailors, dressmakers, laundresses, etc., which is heated, and used to press down seams, smooth cloth, and the like; a smoothing-iron. Also *fig.*

1343 *Reading Abbey Tailor's Compotus* (Add. MS. 19657), In Reparacione vnius pressynge yryn pro Scissore viij.d. 1459 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* Bundle 34. No. 1 b, A pressynge yren, precii ii d. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1064/2 Then Mosbie hauing at his girdle a pressing iron of fourteene pounds weight, stroke him on the hed with the same. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 313 Take a Taylors pressing Iron made hot and rub it up and down upon the cloth. *c* 1637 WOTTON *Let. to Sir R. Baker* in *Reliq.* (1651) 446 Your worldly troubles have been but Pressing-Irons to your heavenly cogitations.

Pre·ssingly, *adv.* [f. PRESSING *ppl. a.* + -LY[2].] In a pressing manner; urgently; importunately.

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 33 The one contracts and enchaines his words, and speakes pressingly and short. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 125 First, in respect of the express testimonie of the poet;..secondly, and more pressingly (as I think) because of the absurd consequence. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) II. 149 My motive for writing to you so pressingly to come to me. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) I. 392 W. E. Forster..pressingly hospitable, took us home with him.

Pre·ssingness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being pressing; urgency; importunity.

a 1681 ALLESTREE *Serm., Matt. vi.* 22, 23 (1684) II. 258 This consideration alone might apply it self with pressingness upon us. 1684–5 BOYLE *Min. Waters* Advt., Which pressingness of theirs he could not deny to be the more excusable, on this occasion. 1881 P. BROOKS *Candle of Lord* 127 He has been allowing the nearness and pressingness of his own circumstances to delude him.

Pression (pre·ʃən). Now *rare.* [a. F. *pression* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *pressiōn-em*, n. of action f. *premĕre*: see PRESS *v.*[1]]

1. The action of pressing; pressure.

1661 BOYLE *Spring of Air* (1682) 110 This is the difference between Pression and Suction, that suction makes such an adhesion and pression doth not. 1674 GREW *Disc. Mixture* iv. § 3 Weight it self is but Pression. 1880 *Nature* XXI. 422/2 Under ordinary conditions of pression diamond will withstand a high temperature.

† **2.** In the Cartesian physics: Pressure or impulse communicated to and propagated through a fluid medium. *Obs.*

1672 NEWTON in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5089 Other Mechanical Hypotheses on which Light is supposed to be caused by any Pression or Motion whatsoever, excited in the aether by the agitated parts of Luminous bodies. 1704 — *Optics* III. (1721) 336 If Light consisted only in Pression propagated without actual Motion, it would not be able to agitate and heat the Bodies which refract and reflect it. 1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) I. 187 If the moon..by pression and attraction, was the principal cause of flux and reflux.

3. In massage: 'A method of pressing or compressing the muscles, by means of the whole hand, the tips of the fingers, or the roulette' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1887 D. MAGUIRE *Art Massage* i. (ed. 4) 15 In the sundry pressions he should not fatigue the patient. *Ibid.* ii. 27, I believe that a soft percussion..might accomplish the same result as massage by pression.

Pressiroster (presiɹ·stəɹ). *Ornith.* [ad. F. *pressirostre* (Cuvier), ad. mod.L. *pressirostris* adj., f. L. *press-us* pressed + *rostrum* beak, bill.] A bird of the *Pressirostres* of Cuvier, now included in the *Charadriomorphæ* or plover-snipe group. So **Pressiro·stral** *a.*, having the characteristics of the *Pressirostres*; **Pressiro·strate** *a.*, having a compressed beak (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858).

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci., etc., Pressirosters*, a tribe of wading birds, including those which have a flattened or compressed beak. 1847 WEBSTER, *Pressirostral*, having a compressed or flattened beak; applied to certain birds, as the lapwing. *Partington.*

† **Pre·ssitant,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. type **pressitānt-em*, pr. pple. of **pressitāre*, iterative of *pressāre* to PRESS: cf. *cursitāre.*] Continuing to press; exerting continuous pressure.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. ix. 34 Neither the Celestial matter of the Vortices nor the Air nor Water are pressitant in their proper places.

Pressive (pre·siv), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. obs. F. *pressif, -ive*, pressing, urgent, violent (16th c. in Godef.): see PRESS *v.*[1] and -IVE.]

† **1.** Pressing, urgent. *Obs.*

1619 *Times Storehouse* III. II. iii. 301/1 If the affairs are pressiue..each canton must aduertise his confederates, to be in readinesse for aduising (altogether) on that which is to bee done.

† **2.** Oppressive. *Obs.*

1623 BP. HALL *Contempl., O. T.* XVIII. i, How did he make siluer to be in Ierusalem as stones, if the exactions were so pressiue?

† **3.** Impressive. *Obs.*

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 213 These are the most pregnant and pressiue passages.

4. Characterized by pressure; pressing.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 133 From the pressive violence of the action, it has also been highly beneficial in many cases of obstruction. 1887 D. MAGUIRE *Art Massage* (ed. 4) Introd. 6 Give pressive movements to the several joints.

† **Pre·ssly,** *adv. Obs.* Also 6 **precely, 7 presly.** [f. PRESS *a.* + -LY[2]; in sense 1 perh. short for *expressly.*] **1.** ? Expressly.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2577 This mater we haue mouyd, you myrthys to make, Precely purposyd vnder pretence of play.

2. Concisely; precisely, exactly.

1636 B. JONSON *Discov., Dominus Verulamius*, No man ever spake more neatly, more presly, more weightily. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* II. ii. II. xxviii, Still more presly this point to pursue. *a* 1675 LIGHTFOOT *Rem.* (1700) 48 Study them pressly, for they are of infinite sweetness and satisfaction.

Pre·ssman[1]. [f. PRESS *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]]

1. A man engaged in a wine-press. *rare*[−1].

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 516 One only path to all, by which the pressmen came In time of vintage.

2. A man who operates or manages a printing-press; *esp.* a hand-press printer.

1598 FLORIO, *Battitóre*, .. a Printers presse-man. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 5 When the Pressman Pulls, the Tennants of the Head shall have an equal Horizontal level Check. 1763 W. LEWIS *Comm. Phil.-Techn.* 374 The care and attention of the pressmen in well working the ink on the types with the balls, are very material points. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. III. 74/1 Pressmen, who apply ink to the surface of the form of types, and take off the impressions upon paper. The pressmen who work steam presses are called machine minders. 1894 *Labour Comm. Gloss., Pressmen*, mechanics engaged in printing by the old hand presses (very few now) taking off impressions on paper, whether from type, stone, woodcuts, or metal plates.

3. One who writes or reports for the daily or weekly press; a reporter, a journalist.

1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 34 This brave old pressman, who,..when there were neither contributors nor compositors to be found at hand, bravely took off his coat, and in his shirt-sleeves first translated, and then..proceeded to set up in type his own manuscript. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 Sept. 4/2 Our Commissioner..was not the first press man presented to the Japanese Sovereign. 1898 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 6/3 (Institute of Journalists) Sir Edward Russell delivered his presidential address before a large audience of pressmen from various parts of the country.

4. In shoemaking: A workman who stamps out the sole-leather for boots or shoes with a press.

1895 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 7/3 The demand for an increase of wages to clickers and pressmen. 1897 *Ibid.* 17 Mar. 3/2 A minimum wage of 28*s.* per week for clickers and 26*s.* per week for press men.

† **Pre·ssman**[2]. *Obs.* [f. PRESS *sb.*[2] or *v.*[2] + MAN *sb.*[1] In sense 1 perh. for *prest-man.*]

1. A man 'pressed' into naval or military service; an impressed man.

1638 EARL OF MANCHESTER in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 282 The soldiers that are to go must now be press men. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 10 May, To get some soldiers..to go keep pressmen on board our ships.

2. A member of a press-gang.

1755 JOHNSON, *Pressman*, 1. One who forces another into service; one who forces away. 1775 in ASH. 1828 in WEBSTER; and in mod. Dicts.

Pre·ssmanship. [f. PRESSMAN[1] + -SHIP.]

1. Occupation as pressman in a printing-office.

1825 HANSARD *Typographia* 912 Those sheet-anchors of pressmanship called points.

2. Occupation as a writer or reporter for the press.

1882 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Apr. 409/1 During his sixteen years of pressmanship..the passion for truth has solely possessed him.

Pre·ss-mark. [PRESS *sb.*[1] 14.] In libraries, a mark or number written or stamped in or on each book (now usually on the inside of the cover), and also given in the library catalogue, specifying the room, book-press, book-case, shelf, etc., where the book is kept.

[1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 12) II. 228 *margin*, The several Marks on the Presses which contain the Records.] 1802 PLANTA *Cat MSS. Cott. Libr. Br. Mus.* p. xii. *note*, The books were deposited in fourteen presses, over which were placed the busts of the twelve Cæsars and of Cleopatra and Faustina, whence the press-marks given to the volumes in its several catalogues. 1841 HALLIWELL in *Cov. Myst.* Introd. 6 A quarto volume,.. now preserved in the Cottonian collection of manuscripts.. under the press-mark Vespas. D. viii. 1906 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 130 The press-mark was always omitted.

† **Pre·ss-ma·ster.** *Obs.* [f. PRESS *sb.*[2] + MASTER *sb.*[1]] One who was authorized to impress recruits; the officer in command of a press-gang.

1673 A. WALKER *Leet Lachrymans* 12 He that's taken by this great Press-master, must serve in person. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2541/4 These are to desire all Officers, Press-Masters and others whom it may concern, to Press the foresaid Samuel Courtner wherever they shall find him. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 52 Two men for every hundred Tun [collier] Vessel..Press free; and if any Press-master presume to press such then he shall forfeit 10*l.* 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4087/4 In case he should have been forced from his Duty by..Press Masters by Land or Sea.

Pre·ss-money, † **pre·st-money.** Now only *Hist.* Also 6 **presse-, 7 pressed-.** [Orig. *prest-money*, f. PREST *sb.*[1] + MONEY.

The change to *press-money* may have been at first a phonetic simplification, the *t* between two consonants being squeezed out, as in OE. *blōstma, blōsma*, blossom, *Christmas* (kri·smăs), *Christ-cross, criss-cross*, etc.; this would naturally encourage association with the notion of pressing and pressure, as in Press *v.*[2] Cf. the 17th c. spelling *pressed-money*, as if money paid to men when *pressed*. (Some 17th c. etymologists fancifully derived the name from Prest *a.*, and explained it as money paid to men for being 'prepared' or 'ready' for service.)]

1. Money advanced, a loan; esp. to the sovereign in an emergency; = Prest *sb.*[1] 1.

a. 1560–1 *Newcastle Guilds* (Surtees) 89 An act mayd for the payment of the prest [*misprr.* press] money. [Cf. quots. 1560–1 in Prest *sb.*[1] 1 and Prest *v.*[1] 1.]

2. Money paid in advance for work undertaken, or expenses to be incurred; = Prest *sb.*[1] 3.

a. 1445 *Order Queen's Coronation* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) XI. 83 That ye Deliver under oure saide Tresorer.. in Prest Moneye the some of Five Hundred Pounds. 1539 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 228 The said Cofferer shall give prest money beforehand to every of the said Purveyors. 1604 *Ibid.* 309 Item, that the Cofferer doe give Prest-Money before hand to Our Purvayers.

3. Earnest-money paid to a sailor or soldier on his enlistment, the acceptance of which was the legal proof of his engagement; 'the King's (or Queen's) shilling'; = Prest *sb.*[1] 4.

a. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxc. 667 Then it was ordayned..to gyue all maner of men of warre lycence to go thyder [to Spain]; And the kyng delyuered them their first prest money. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 792 Master Hugh Stuycklye..hathe..laid owt certen summes of monye for the conduyt and prest monye of such maryners as he towke up to go to Portesmouthe. 1548 Elyot *Dict., Authoramentum*,.. also earnest money, wages or hyre, preast money. 1555 Philpot in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1833/1 They haue taken his prest money a great while, and now let them shew themselues readye to serue hym faythfully. 1600 Holland *Livy* II. xxiv. 59 The comminaltie..encouraged one another not to take prest-monie, or to enter their names in the muster-masters book. 1619 Dalton *Country Just.* cvii. (1630) 280 Souldiers entered of Record and having taken prest Money. 1633 D. R[ogers] *Treat. Sacram.* I. 170 Baptisme is our prest-mony to bind us to Christ in all estates to be his souldiers. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 30 June, He had not money to pay the pressed-money to the men. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Prest Money*,..is Money given to Soldiers when they are *Prest*: and binds such as receive it to be *ready* at command at all Times appointed.

β. 1585 *Founders' Comp.* (MS.) *Acct. Books*, Imprimis payd the xvjth day of aprill unto them in presse monye.. iiij s. *Ibid.*, Itm. payd unto gefferaye voo the xxiiijt of Iuly ffor Presse monye..xij d. 1595 *Locrine* II. ii, *Thra.* My captain and the cobler so hard at it? Sirs, what is your quarrell? *Capt.* Nothing sir, but that he will not take pressemony. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V*, ccxcix, The Subtle traps Of Pay, or Press-money. *a* 1659 Bp. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) II. xxiii. 294 'Tis like Press-money, if once thou receivest it, thou art bound to do service. 1689 *Royal Proclam.* 29 Apr. in *Loud. Gaz.* No. 2450/2 Nevertheless His Majesty is informed, that several Mariners,..Press'd for His Service, and having received Press-Money, do neglect to repair to, and desert the said Service. 1714 Gay *What D'ye Call It* II. ii, Here—Peascod, take my pouch—'tis all I own...'Tis my press money—can this silver fail? *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1722) II. 41 The Justices.. resolved to press him for a Soldier..and Bennet sent Constables to give him Press-Money.

†**Pre·ssness.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Press *a.* + -ness.] Conciseness.

1728 Young *Love Fame* Pref. A iv b, An excellent critick of our own commends Boileau's closeness, or, as he calls it, pressness, particularly.

Pressor (pre·sɔi), *a. Phys.* [Agent-n. in L. form from *premĕre* to press, used *attrib.*] That presses; stimulating, exciting.

1890 Billings *Med. Dict., Pressor nerves*, nerves whose stimulation increases activity of vaso-motor centres. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pressor*, exciting, stimulating. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 258 If the basilar artery be embolised by injections into the vertebral arteries the greatest pressor effects occur. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 603 The extract.. seems to contain both a pressor and a depressor substance.

Pressor, obs. f. Presser; var. Pressour.

†**Presso·rian,** *a. Obs., rare.* [f. L. *pressōri-us* (see next) + -an.] Of or pertaining to pressing and moulding in clay: cf. *press-ware* in Press *sb.*[1] 16 a.

1612 Sturtevant *Metallica* xii. 82 Earthen pipes by the Pressorian Art, being well made are as strong to hould and conuey water as leaden pipes or potters pots.

†**Pressour.** *Obs.* Also 4–6 -ure, 5 -ur, 6 -or, (4 **presour,** 5 **prassur**). [a. OF. *pressor, -our, -eur*, variants of *pressoir* (12th c. in Littré):—late L. *pressōrium* a press for wine, oil, etc., sb. use of neut. of *pressōrius* adj., f. *press-*, ppl. stem of *premĕre* to press; cf. *pressor*. See also Presser.]

1. An apparatus or instrument for pressing or squeezing. **a.** A wine- or oil-press: = Press[1] 11.

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* lv. 1 Haly kirke as a grape in þe pressure cries god hafe mercy of me. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxi. 33 Ther was an husbondman, that plantide a vyne 3erd, ..and dalue a pressour [*v. r.* pressure, 1388 presour] therynne. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 666/14 *Hoc torcular*, prassur. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xvii. (1869) 184 It is streyned in a pressour [*F. pressouer*]. 1558 Warde tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 46 b, Presse them in a faire white linnen cloth in a pressour, vntyll there issue out a very cleare oyle. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 192/45 A Préssure, *pressorium*.

b. = Press *sb.*[1] 10.

1362 [see Press *sb.*[1] 10]. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* xix. lxxv. (1495) ll iij/2 Chese eten after meete thurstyth dounwarde þe meete as it were a pressour.

c. *fig.*

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15897 In a pressour off gret peyne They kan ful offte A man dystreyne. *c* 1445 — *Nightingale* 304 The strong pressour of oure Redempcioun, On whiche the bloode downe be his sides Ranne.

2. A clothes-press, a cupboard: = Press *sb.*[1] 14.

1471 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 154 Unum pressur in alta camera mea. 1551 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 59 My sone to have one pressour. 1564 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 218, I geue him my pressor, my gownes my surpless, my ij furred amysis..and all other rayments apperteynyng vnto me.

Pre·ss-pa·per. [ad. F. *presse-papier* (in *Dict. Acad.* 1878), *f. presse*, imperative or stem of *presser* to Press + *papier* paper.] A plain or ornamental weight with a flat base for pressing or securing loose papers; a paper-weight.

1821 Pellatt *Mem. Glass Manuf.* Expl. Plates 6 A solid square block of glass..to serve as a press paper or chimney ornament. [1877 D. M. Wallace *Russia* (ed. 2) I. 383 A library table, with ink-stand, presse-papier, paper-cutters, and other articles in keeping.]

Pre·ss-room[1]. [f. Press *sb.*[1] + Room *sb.*]

1. The room in a printing-office in which the presses stand, and where the printing is done.

1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. P 1 The Roof and Sides of the Press Room. 1824 J. Johnson *Typogr.* II. viii. 222 The press-room should, if possible, be separated from the composing-room. 1882 J. Southward *Pract. Printing* (1884) 411 The press-room is generally in the basement.

2. A room in which a press of any kind is kept.

1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3186/4 That none but Persons of Quality, and those concerned in the Coinage, be permitted to enter the Melting-houses, Mill-rooms, Press-rooms. 1839 W. H. Ainsworth *J. Sheppard* III. ix, The Press Room, a dark close chamber, near Waterman's Hall, obtained its name from an immense wooden machine kept in it, with which such prisoners as refused to plead to their indictments were pressed to death. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 863 The press-room at the Royal Mint contains eight machines.

†**Press-room**[2]. *Obs.* [f. Press *sb.*[2] + Room.] The cabin or apartment in which newly impressed men were confined.

1812 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 152/2 The new raised men on board the Neptune tender..broke through the pressroom, and took possession of the vessel.

Press sail = *press of sail*: see Press *sb.*[1] 9.

Pressumyt, obs. Sc. form of Presumed.

Pre·ssurage. *rare.* [a. F. *pressurage* the action of pressing, 'also, the fee thats due to th' owner, or giuen for th' vse, of a common wine-presse' (Cotgr. 1611), f. *pressurer* to press: see -age 3.] (See quot.)

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Pressurage*, the juice of the grape extracted by the press; a fee paid to the owner of a wine-press for its use. Hence in mod. Dicts.

Pre·ssural, *a.* [f. next + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of pressure.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 17 Feb. 4 Arrangement for obtaining pressural disturbance through a considerable space of air.

Pressure (pre·ʃiuɪ, pre·ʃər). [a. obs. F. *pressure* (12th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *pressūra*, f. *press-*, ppl. stem of *premĕre* to press: see -ure.]

I. 1. The action or fact of pressing; the fact or condition of being pressed (in the various senses of Press *v.*[1]); the exertion of continuous force upon or against a body by some other body in contact with it (the results being various according to the relative positions of the bodies, and the yielding or non-yielding nature of that which is pressed); compression, squeezing, crushing, etc.

1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* III. 98 The pressure of my haires, or the puncture of my heart, stands at the seruice of your sollide perfections. 1602 — *Ant. & Mel.* v. Wks. 1856 I. 66 In the soft pressure of a melting kisse. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 333 When two bodies having opposite endeavours, press one another, then the endeavour of either of them is that which we call pressure, and is mutual when their pressures are opposite. 1725 N. Robinson *Th. Physick* 308 Let every thing be remov'd, that may cause the least Pressure upon his Breast. 1744 Berkeley *Siris* § 46 The juice of olives or grapes issuing by the lightest pressure is best. 1815 Scott *Ld. of Isles* v. xix, Verdure meet For pressure of the fairies' feet. 1830 Kater & Lardner *Mech.* v. 55 If motion be resisted, the effect is converted into pressure. *c* 1860 Faraday *Forces Nat.* iv. 119 We can obtain heat..by the pressure of air. 1875 Whyte Melville *Riding Recoll.* xii. (1879) 216 They [blood-hounds] are sad cowards under pressure from a crowd.

2. *Physics.* The force exerted by one body on another by its weight, or by the continued application of power, viewed as a measurable quantity, the amount being expressed by the weight upon a unit area.

Absolute pressure, the total pressure (of steam, etc.), found by adding the amount of the atmospheric pressure to that indicated by the ordinary steam-gauge (which shows the *relative pressure*, or pressure above that of the atmosphere). *Pressure of the atmosphere*: see Atmospheric *pressure*. *Centre of pressure*: see Centre. *High pressure, low pressure*: see 8.

1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xliii. Wks. 1772 I. 115 The conjecture..that perhaps the pressure of the air might have an interest in more phænomena than men have hitherto thought. 1739 Labelye *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 55 Buildings of very considerable Weight and Pressure are found to stand firm on such Foundations. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 186 If the vessel filled with water be forty feet high, the bottom of that vessel will sustain such a pressure as would raise the same water forty feet high. 1820 Scoresby *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 191 At great depths, the effect of the pressure of the sea is not a little curious. 1827 N. Arnott *Physics* I. 337 In a fluid the pressure is in all directions. 1858 Lardner *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.*, etc. 287 Steam produced under a pressure of 35 atmospheres has the temperature of 419°. 1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* 91 The weight or pressure of the atmosphere is about 15 lbs. in every square inch. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 7/2 A final test ascertains what is called the 'pressure' of the powder—that is to say, its explosive impact upon the breech.

†**b.** In the Cartesian theory: = Pression 2. *Obs.*

1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Pressure*, by this word some Philosophers, addicted to the Cartesian Hypothesis, mean a kind of Motion which is impressed upon and propagated through a Fluid Medium.

c. In *Electricity*: see quots. 1907.

1889 *Nature* 24 Oct. 630/2 Currents of high tension are converted into pressures suitable for incandescent lamps by means of transformers. 1907 *Regulations Use Electrical Energy under Factory and Workshop Act* 1901 In these Regulations .. *Pressure* means the difference of electrical potential between any two conductors, or between a conductor and earth, as read by a hot wire or electrostatic voltmeter.—A. P. Trotter in *Let., Electrical pressure* is used officially in Acts of Parliament and in Regulations, in preference to *electromotive force* (which is neither electromotive nor force). But the relation between 'electrical pressure' and the ordinary pressure of mechanics or dynamics is nothing more than an analogy; the same may be said of *tension* which some prefer. Strictly speaking, *pressure, tension*, and *force* apply only to matter. In reference to Electricity, all these terms mean 'That which causes or tends to cause an electric current'.

d. *Pressure of canvas, sail* = press of canvas: see Press *sb.*[1] 9.

1823 Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 3 By carrying a pressure of canvass, we were enabled to weather the Calf of Man.

†**3.** (?) That which is pressed or prepared by pressing: see quots. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij b, Take pressure made of a lombe that was borne in vntyme..and put it in a gut of a coluer and fede her therwith. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Back-worm*, Take a Pressure made of a Lamb that was slink'd, and make thereof two or three Pieces, which put into the Gut of a Dove or the like Fowl, and feed your Hawk therewith.

†**4.** *fig.* The mark, form, or character impressed; impression, image, stamp. *Obs.*

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. v. 100 Yea, from the Table of my Memory, Ile wipe away..all presures past, That youth and obseruation coppied there. *Ibid.* III. ii. 27 To shew Vertue her owne Feature..and the verie Age and Bodie of the Time, his forme and pressure. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* v. i. P 53 No sooner did I cast my eyes on her face, than I knew ..the very form and pressure of Lucinda.

II. 5. The action of pressing painfully upon the sensations or feelings; the condition of being painfully pressed in body or mind; the weight or burden of pain, grief, trouble, poverty, etc.; affliction, oppression.

(The earliest sense in Eng.; also in 12th c. in OF.)

1382 Wyclif *John* xvi. 21 Whanne sche hath borun a sone, now sche thenkith not on the pressure [*gloss* or charge; Vulg. *pressuræ*], for ioye, for a man is borun in to the world. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 176 Thorgh thi greth grace and cheryte In alle the pressurs of my chyldyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 57 b, In all perylles, temptacyons, pressures, & necessitees. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cxix. S. ii, In presure and in paine My joyes thy preceptes give. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* p. viii, His Fatherly chastening of pains, sicknesses, and bodily pressures. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* viii. P 19 Job, whom we find not so often nor so passionately complaining of any of his pressures, as of the unkind censures of his friends. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* viii, Emily struggled against the pressure of grief. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkb.* 97 He said..that the mental pressure and excitement was far the worst; it robbed him of his sleep.

†**6.** The action of political or economic burdens; a heavy charge; the state or condition of being weighed down or oppressed by these. *Obs.*

1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos., Pressure*, an oppression. 1628 Sir H. Martin in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 581 The pressures and grievances of the people, with the easie remedies. 1642 *Ibid.* III. (1692) I. 641 Detaining our Arms, destroying our Trade and Markets, with many more Pressures upon us than we are willing to repeat. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 8 A proportion (how contemptible soever in respect of the pressures now every day imposed,) never before heard of in Parliament. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1823) II. 422 He [Baillie] thought it was lawful for subjects, being under such pressures, to try how they might be relieved from them. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 113 That our Goods were first sent into Holland, Flanders, Italy, &c., and afterwards into France, under the pressures of the high duties.

b. A state of trouble or embarrassment; *pl.* straits, difficulties.

1648 Gage *West Ind.* 68 The Common-wealth hath soon fallen into heavy pressures and troubles. 1727 Swift *Wonder of Wond.* Wks. 1755 II. II. 53 In all urgent necessities and pressures he applies himself to these deities. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 47 The finances of the Company were in their usual state of extreme pressure and embarrassment. 1858 M. E. G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 202 The summer of 1858 is remembered as a period of financial pressure.

c. Urgency; demand of affairs on one's time or energies.

1845 Disraeli *Sybil* IV. xiii, Another day: I have a great pressure of affairs at present. 1861 Dickens *Lett.* 9 Jan., I write under the pressure of occupation and business. 1885 Austin Dobson *Steele* Introd. 46 Writing hastily and under pressure, his language is frequently involved and careless.

7. The action of moral or mental force, or of anything that influences the mind or will; constraining influence.

1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 433 It was a notable Observation of a wise Father..That those, which held and perswaded pressure of Consciences, were commonly interessed therin. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. ii. (1674) 135 Rebelling against their natural Lords, at the pressure of Forrein Princes. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, His virtue, such as it was, could not stand the pressure of occasion. 1792 D. STEWART *Philos. Hum. Mind* I. IV. viii. 270 In every state of society ..the multitude has..acted from the immediate impulse of passion, or from the pressure of their wants and necessities. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 8 The pressure from without will be a benefit to outlying clergy. 1897 MISS BROUGHTON *Dear Faustina* XV, I really have some influence with her ..if I put pressure on, I really have a good deal.

III. 8. High pressure. orig. A pressure higher than that of the atmosphere, said in reference to steam-engines, but now only a relative term without any absolute limits: esp. in reference to compound engines in which the steam is used at different pressures in the different cylinders; mostly *attrib.*, as in *high-pressure cylinder, engine, steam*, etc. **b.** *transf.* of speed, work, business, conditions of life, etc., and in *Pathol.*, as a *high-pressure pulse*. **c.** In *Meteorol.* said of a dense condition of the atmosphere over a certain region, indicated by a high barometer, as in *high-pressure area, high-p. system* (of winds). So **low pressure**, of the steam-engine, and in *Pathol.* and *Meteorol.*

1824 R. STUART *Hist. Steam Engine* 67 To supersede the high-pressure engines. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. I. 97 In proportion as the fluid is more condensed—high-pressure steam is merely condensed steam, just as high-pressure air is condensed air; and to obtain a double or triple pressure, we must have twice or thrice the quantity of steam under the same volume. *Ibid.* [see Low *a.* 20]. 1851 *Illustr. Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 212 High-pressure oscillating steam-engine. *Ibid.* 213 Self-acting..damper, for high and low pressure steam. 1890 WEBSTER s.v. *Compound*, The steam that has been used in a high-pressure cylinder is made to do further service in a larger low-pressure cylinder.

b. 1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LII. 448 The importation of the battu,.. by which the slaughter of game is achieved with a high-pressure velocity, is another illustration of the same truth. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* p. xi, A small freeholder, who was working under the high pressure of a stiff mortgage. 1862 T. C. GRATTAN *Beaten Paths* II. 3 The high-pressure engine of refinement is always furnished with a safety-valve against the danger of explosion. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* XX, As for Robert, he, of course, was living at high pressure all round. 1895 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 6/6 There was no high pressure work going on, and no high pressure oratory. 1897 Low-pressure pulse [see Low *a.* 20]. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 25 Dec. 5/1 The strain of another high-pressure Session like that of last year.

c. 1891 *Daily News* 9 Feb. 2/7 About the middle of last week a large high-pressure system spread over the United Kingdom from the southward. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Aug. 4/2 A high-pressure area lies over our northern regions, but a depression exists over the west of France.

IV. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** of pressure, as *pressure height, stage*; **b.** used to indicate or ascertain the amount of pressure exerted, as *pressure-anemometer, -test*; **c.** worked by means of pressure, as *pressure fan, pump, valve*; **d.** caused by pressure, as *pressure-displacement, -figure, -forging, -sign, -symptom*; **e.** for pressing, or causing pressure, as *pressure-ball, -bandage, -bottle, -box, -forceps, -frame, -screw*; **f.** objective and obj. gen., as *pressure-fixing, -reciprocating, -relieving* adjs.; *pressure-reducer*.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 7/2 Passing a current of air by means of indiarubber *pressure-balls through a glass bottle full of glass shavings steeped in sulphuric acid. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 232 The application of *pressure bandages is very useful. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 239 In its turn it is attached by a T-tube, to a *pressure bottle. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 626 In order to utilize the pressure due to the elevated position..the water is conducted from the ditches into a tank called the '*pressure box'. 1903 AGNES M. CLERKE *Astrophysics* 38 *Pressure-displacements and motion-displacements are, in fact, respectively concerned. *c* 1890 W. H. CASMEY *Ventilation* 7 The *pressure fan..used where a small volume of air at a high velocity of pressure is required. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 821 Excision associated with the rapid application of the *pressure forceps. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Printing-frame* (Photography), also known as a *pressure-frame. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 253 At a certain *pressure-height the fluid meniscus exhibits maximal pulsations. 1881 *Nature* 15 Dec. 167 The total work done by a fluid *pressure-reciprocating engine. 1889 *Electrical Rev.* XXV. 583 An accumulator is..merely a chemical converter which is unequalled as a *pressure-reducer. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 41 The *pressure symptoms of innominate aneurisms are very variable. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 87 The muscles may be so wasted that no *pressure-test is available. 1897 *Weekly Sun* 19 Sept. 15/2 It is forced down by the tremendous *pressure-valves into a small chamber within the tank.

10. Special Combs.: **pressure-bar**, a device in a planing-machine for holding down the material to be planed; **pressure-blower**, a blower for producing a blast in which the air is driven by the pressure of pistons; **pressure-button**, a 'button' or stud, by pressing which a spring is liberated or an electric bell rung; **pressure-cylinder**, the cylinder of the pressure-gauge of an engine; **pressure-engine**, a machine driven by the pressure of a column of water, esp. one in which the piston of a cylinder is driven by water-power; a hydraulic engine; **pressure-filter**, a filter in which the liquid is forced through filtering material by pressure greater than that of its own weight; **pressure-gauge, -gage**, an instrument for showing the pressure of an elastic agent, as steam or gas; also, one for showing the pressure in a cannon or fire-arm at the instant of explosion of the charge; **pressure heater**, an apparatus for heating water, etc., by steam under pressure; **pressure-note**, *Mus.* a note marked with a crescendo; **pressure paralysis**, paralysis caused by pressure on part of the brain; **pressure-pipe**, the pipe of the pressure-gauge of a steam-engine; **pressure-point**, one of the points on the surface of the body marked by special sensibility to pressure; **pressure pouch** = PHARYNGOCELE; **pressure-register**, a recording pressure-gauge, particularly one that records the fluctuations of pressure of air, steam, or gas; **pressure ridge**, a ridge caused by pressure; *esp.* a ridge of ice in the polar seas caused by lateral pressure; **pressure-spot** = *pressure-point*.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s. v., The long suits of the Woodworth and the Woodbury Patents were upon *pressure bars and pressure rollers. 1893 *Star* 19 May 1/8 The new electric bells..the substitution of *pressure buttons for the existing lever pulls. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 2/3 Whilst carrying out a speed trial..the *pressure cylinder burst, and the engineer..got badly scalded. 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 91/1 A new steam boiler, worked by what is called a *pressure engine of about six horse power. 1853 GLYNN *Power Water* 96 By the pressure-engine and the turbine, the power of waterfalls of any height..may at once be made available. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Filtering-press*, a *pressure-filter. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XIII. 17 The Deep-Sea *Pressure-Gauge. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 211 Some mode of indicating at any moment the exact pressure which the steam exerts, and this we learn by means of the 'pressure-gauge'. 1896 *Rep. Aerated Bread Co.* 11 The little boiler which is generally termed the *pressure heater. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 658 *Pressure paralysis for the most part is rapidly recovered from. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Nov. 4/3 During her gun trials the *pressure pipe, which was 8 feet long, burst. No one was hurt. 1876 IT. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XI. 315 It is in this form of spasm that the *pressure points which are capable of inhibiting spasm have been recognised. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 363 *Pressure pouches, though often called œsophageal, in reality arise from the lower part of the pharynx. 1897 *Nansen's Farthest North* I. vi. 241 The *pressure-ridges..are apt to run at right angles to the course of the pressure which produced them. 1887 G. T. LADD *Physiol. Psychol.* 410 The finest point, when it touches a '*pressure-spot', produces a sensation of pressure, and not one of being pricked.

Pre·ss-warrant. Now *Hist.* [f. PRESS *sb.*2 + WARRANT *sb.*] A warrant giving authority to impress men for the service of the navy or army.

a 1688 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Sea Officers*, And in their Pockets carried their Press-Warrants. 1770 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 147/2 Press-warrants were sent to Portsmouth, and next morning the press-gangs went on board the merchant ships. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 3 Sept. 3/2 In 1673-4..Colonel Strode, the Governor of Dover Castle, had refused point blank to execute a press warrant till he knew what Parliament would say.

Pre·ss-work. [f. PRESS *sb.*1 + WORK *sb.*]

1. The work and management of a printing-press; the printing off on paper, etc. of what has been 'composed' or set up in type; the result of this, the work turned out from a press, esp. from the point of view of its quality.

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 47 His excellent method of disposition, composition, and press-work. *Ibid.* 52 His first works..resemble the press-work of Worde and Pinson. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* XXI. (ed. 3) 208 The press-work, or printing off, is charged at a price agreed upon for each two hundred and fifty sheets. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s.v., By *fine presswork* is meant work printed with the best paper and ink, and with the utmost care at a hand press. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 412 The new method has..cheapened common presswork.., but it has not bettered the presswork of books.

2. Literary work done for the press; journalistic work.

1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* v, His first press-work had been a series of letters he had written when at school, and contributed to a local paper.

3. *Pottery.* The making of ware by pressing the clay into moulds.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1012 A great variety of pottery wares..are made by two different methods, the one called press-work, and the other casting. The press-work is done in moulds made of Paris plaster...All vessels of an oval form, and such as have flat sides, are made in this way.

4. *Joinery.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Press-work..*, cabinet work of a number of successive veneers crossing grain, and united by glue, heat, and pressure.

Pre·ss-yard. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [f. PRESS *v.*1 1 b + YARD.] Name of a yard or court of old Newgate Prison, in which the torture of *peine forte et dure* (PEINE, PRESS *v.*1 1 b) is supposed to have originally been carried out; and from which, at a later period, capitally convicted prisoners started for the place of execution.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. v. 99 It was as good and all one, as if God had done it with the Country, or else the Presse-yard had ended the quarrell. 1717 (*title*) The History of the Press-Yard: or a Brief Account of the Customs and Occurrences..to be met with in..His Majesty's Goal of Newgate in London. *Ibid.* 3 The Press-Yard being no part of the Prison, but taken in as a part of the Governor's House..it is in the Keeper's Breast to refuse any Prisoner a Reception there without a Conditional Premium. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1722) VII. 374 Bidding the Turnkey bring down the said Prisoners to him in the Press-yard. 1771 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 161/1 Their wives and children were admitted into the press-yard to take their leave of them before they set out [for the gallows at Tyburn]. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 109 Being brought down into the press-yard, his irons were knocked off, and he was put into the cart. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Execution*, Round the debtors' door Are gather'd a couple of thousand or more; As many await At the press-yard gate. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Oct. 4/7 The new Old Bailey...There will be no 'peine forte et dure', commemorated in the name Press Yard.

† Pre·ssyly, *adv. Obs. rare*−1. [perh. after F. *pressément*, with substitution of English suffix.] Urgently, pressingly.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. lxxxii. 122 Lettres..By the whyche they wrote well pressyly that her sone sholde be delyuerde to her agayne.

† Prest, *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 5 **prestte**, 5–7 **preste**, 6 **preast(e.** [a. OF. *prest* (12th c. in Littré), mod.F. *prêt*, the action of preparing or lending, a loan, purveyance for the king's table, advance pay for soldiers; vbl. sb. f. OF. *prester*, mod.F. *prêter* to afford, lend, PREST *v.*1 So It. *presto* a loan. (In Eng. hist. documents the L. word is usually *prestitum*, pa. pple. of *præstāre*, PREST *v.*1)]

1. An advance of money; a loan; *esp.* one made to the sovereign in an emergency; a forced loan; a grant, gift, bequest.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 8/2 Ne hadde leen ye gret loones and presttes. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 80 The creditours have not been duelie paide of here lonys and prestis made to highe sovereins. *a* 1512 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 683 In thys yere [1486] a prest was made to the kynge of .ii. M. li. of the whyche the mercers, grocers, & drapers lent .ix. C. xxxvii. li. and .vi. s. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 352 The people mones For prestes and for lones Lent and neuer payd. 1560–1 *Newcastle Guilds* (Surtees) 89 A serteyn some of money beyng granted by waye of loon or prest. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1090/2 The first of September the queene demanded a prest of the citie of London of twentie thousand pounds, to be repaied againe within foureteene dajes after Michaelmasse next folowing. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 29 For lack of money, he was driven of necessitie to aske a preste of the citizens of Paris.

2. A charge, duty, or impost; a deduction made from or in connexion with any payment. See also quot. 1898.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 59/2 The said Maire, Feliship and Merchauntes [of the Staple of Caleys], nor their successours, shall not sett nor put any ymposition, prest or charge, uppon the Wolles or Wollefelles of any persone of the said Feliship. 1491 HEN. VII in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 170 We..charge you that..ye content and paye unto theim [for their wages of the half yere ended at Estre last] ..the summes aforsaid, withoute any prest or charge setting upon theim..for the same. *Ibid.* 172, 173. 1548 *Act* 2 *Edw. VI*, c. 4 § 2 [For allowance of sheriffs upon their account] That the same tayles soe hereafter there to be levyed and striken, shalbe delyvered unto everye of the same Sheriffes..without prest or other chardge to be sett upon them for the same. [1898 *Encycl. Laws Eng.* X. 327 *Prest*, a duty which sheriffs formerly had to pay on receiving their tallies for the sums standing due from them in the accounts of the Exchequer.]

3. A payment or wages in advance; money paid on account to a person to enable him to proceed with an undertaking; cf. IMPREST *sb.*1 1, PRESS-MONEY 2. *Auditor of prests*: see IMPREST *sb.*1 1 c.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 137 Sommes of money by the said Robert..by way of preste at the Receipte of the Kinges Eschequier..hade or receyued. 1515 T. LARKE in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 499 One hundreth poundes sterling to be delivered unto..the Kinges Glasier in way of prest towardes the glaising of the great Churche. 1522 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 76 Prestes to diuers personnes for prouision of vitailles for themperor. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 197 Yt was concludyd that he shold have by the way of prest, a thousand marks owt of Wynchester byshopriche, byfore hand of his pencion. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 370 The Auditor of the Prests, whose Office it is to take the Accounts of the Mint..and of all other imprested or moneys advanc'd before hand.

4. *esp.* Earnest-money paid to a sailor or soldier on enlistment, enlistment-money.

1480 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 9 [Of this sum] is prest for j. M. j.c iiij.xx marynere, every of them ij.s. for prest, C. xviij. li. 1491 *Act* 7 *Hen. VII*, c. 1 § 1 Any Souldeour ..which herafter shalbe in Wages and reteyned or take any prest to serve the King uppon the See. 1562 *Royal Letters* 23 July (City of London, Jor. 18 lf. 57), For their prest, coates, and conducte money. 1583 *Exec. for Treason* (1675) 45 As it were an earnest or prest. 1588 *Letter Bk. &c. City Lond.* lf. 200 b, Frauncys Iohnson who was appoynted to serve as a soldyar..and receyved her Maiesties prest.

5. An engagement of a person by payment of earnest-money; an enlistment of soldiers or sailors.

1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 139 We wolde you shuld provyde us of ten good dromes, and as many fifers. For the prest and setting forward of whiche persons you maye

receyve, what money you wolle desire, of our servaunt Guidenfingre. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 101 This towne furnisheth more able Mariners at euery prest for her Highnesse seruice, then many others of farre greater blaze.

6. *In prest*: As a 'prest' or loan; in advance; on account; as earnest-money. (Cf. senses 1, 3, 5.)

1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 9 Receyued..by thandes of the said Henry Palmer in prest vpon the said office..cli*li*. 1550 EDW. VI *Jrnl.* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* xxvii. (1870) IV. 518 For which I should give him 15,000*l.* in prest, and leave to carry 8000*l.* over sea to abase the exchange. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* F iv, You shall not deliuer any mony in prest to any Officer,..without the Thresorer will yow the same to doe. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* x. (1599) 456 They departed to their houses, hauing receiued in prest only one Florin of the Rhein for a man. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 999 There was taken up in prest of privat merchants in..Aleppo, only, the summe of three score thousand Cecchini.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **prest-warrant**, see quot. and cf. PRESS-WARRANT.

1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* IV. iv. 413 In Elizabeth's reign there was no great difficulty experienced in obtaining men when wanted by 'prest warrants', or warrants for paying 'prest' money.

† Prest, *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Also 7–8 **press**(e. [Of uncertain origin.] A sheet (of parchment or the like).

1405 *Will of Bullok* (Somerset Ho.), My wille as it ys wryten in a prest of parchemyne. 1658 *Practick Part of Law* 232 Fees..For the transcript of a Record, being a presse, 6*s.* 8*d.* For every presse more 6*s.* 8*d.* 1705 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 520 Yesterday the lords read .. the commons bill for relief of the poor, containing 60 presses of parchment.

† Prest, *a.* and *adv. Obs.* Also 3–6 **preste**, 5 **preest**, (**prast**), 6 **preast**, ? *Sc.* **priest**, (7 *erron.* **pressed**). [a. OF. *prest* (11th c. in Littré), in mod.F. *prêt* = Pr., Cat. *prest*, It., Sp., Pg. *presto* :—late or pop. L. *præst-us* ready (Inscr. and 5th c. in Salic Law), f. earlier L. *præstō* (*præstŭ*) adv., near at hand, in readiness, at one's service; supposed to be contr. from **præsitō*, f. *præ* before, in front + abl. or dat. of *situs* placed, situated, lying; or from **præsitŭ*, f. *præ* + *sitŭ*, abl. of *situs* situation.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Ready for action or use; at hand; prepared, or in proper order.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7217 Nou wole vr louerd ssaké is suerd, is bowe is ibend, & prest imad uor to smite men þat beþ mis wend. *c* 1300 *St. Margarete* 302 Nou in mi louerdes name prest ic am þerto. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1187 Ten þousande, al prest & 3are In to bataile forto fare. 1382 WYCLIF *Bible* Pref. Ep. vii. 68 Prest is the book of Leuy [Vulg. *In promptu est Leviticus liber*]. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1164 To Iuste thai made hem preest. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vi. 10 With eris prest stude thair als still as stone. 1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* xi. 2 Behold the wicked bend their bowes, and make their arrowes prest. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* ii. Bj, Then cums this foxe, this Fusidie, wyth money preste in hande. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* III. ii, Who styll is preast His lawles love to make his lawful wife. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* v. 282 A huge Nauy prest at all Essayes. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 733 The Victim Ox, that was for Altars prest, Trim'd with white Ribbons, and with Garlands drest.

b. Often in association with *ready, readily*.

c 1475 *Partenay* 1585 Greffon with swerdes fors was redy and preste. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xv. 42 To see that althyng be redyly prest at hande. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 304 All was prest and redy. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 200 b, xv. thousand men euen ready prest to set on the citie of Yorke. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXV. XXXV. 909 The Ætolians..were ready and prest to come to Lacedæmon. 1632 — *Cyrupædia* 27, I may find them [soldiers] prest and ready for any service. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 37 He is ready pressed to break all. *Ibid.* 396 Christ is ready prest for action.

2. Ready in mind, disposition, or will; inclined, disposed, willing; prompt, alert, eager, keen.

c 1290 *Becket* 2073 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 166 Þat min heorte prestore nis þene deþ for-to take. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25 To rede and here Ilkon is prest, þe thynges þat þam likes best. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 41 He is þe presteste payere þat pore men habbeþ. *c* 1475 *Babees Bk.* 78 Take eke noo seete, but to stonde be yee preste. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 378 This verely should..make them preste and willing to doe all thinges for your sake. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. lxxxii, Each Mind is prest, and open every Ear To hear new Tydings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 106 Every Knight is..Prest for their Country's Honour, and their King's.

b. Alert, active, sprightly, brisk.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 75 þere were papeiayes prest, Nihtgales vpon nest. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 264 As prety and as prest As my sparowe was. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 142 More people, more handsome and prest, Where find ye? (go search any coast).

3. Close at hand. (Cf. *handy*.)

c 1500 *Robin Hood & Potter* lxiii. in Child *Ballads* (1888) III. 112 Berdys there sange on bowhes prest. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 231 In presence prest of people mad or wise.

B. *adv.* Readily, quickly; = PRESTLY *adv.* 1.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5217 As prest eft sone hii come. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3145 He seyd tristrem prest, 'Now it were time to ride'. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXI. 274 Princes of þis palys prest vndo þe 3ates. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 408 Out of Paris proudly he preikit full prest. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 789 Shall not my men do on theyr armure prest? 1557–8 *Frere & Boye* 48 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 62 The lytell boye wente on his waye, To the ffellde full prest.

Prest, *ppl. a.*: see PRESSED *ppl. a.*[1] and [2].

† Prest, *v.*[1] *Obs.* [a. OF. *prester* (11th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *prêter* to furnish, place at one's disposal, lend, pay in advance (= It. *prestare*, Pr., Sp., Pg. *prestar*):—L. *præstāre* to stand before; to be superior, excel; to stand for, vouch for, take upon oneself; to perform, show, offer, furnish; in late and med.L. (5th c. Salvianus and Salic Law) to lend; f. *præ* before + *stāre* to stand.]

1. *trans.* To lend (money); to advance on loan.

1543–4 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 Money so aduanced, prested, or lent to hys hyghnes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 41 b, Requirynge hym farther to prest to hym a conveniente some of money. 1560–1 *Newcastle Guilds* (Surtees) 90 Money whyche ys prested, or lent, to the Quens Maiesties [use].

b. To get on loan, to borrow. *rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 176 Lest the lordes there should borow of them any money, as they did prest of the marchantes of the staple .xviij. M. l. late before.

2. To advance (money) on account of work to be done or service to be rendered or not yet completed.

1539 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. ii. 106 Item, prested to Anthony Chobo, the kingis Surgion, in aduauncement of his half yeres wagis beforehande..xx li. 1586 EARL LEICESTER in Motley *Netherl.* (1860) I. viii. 523 *note*, I myself have prested above 3000*l.* among our men here since I came.

† Prest, *v.*[2] *Obs.* [f. PREST *sb.*[1]; or perh. an inverted use of PREST *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To engage or hire the services of (a person) or the use of (a ship, etc.) by giving part-payment in advance.

1513 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, I. No. 3978 (P. R. O.) Shyppys prested for the King in the West Countrey. 1532 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 351 The kinges messenger..hathe repayryd..to Burrye Saynt Edmondes and therabowtt For to haue taken and prestyd masons For the accomplyshment of the kynges sayd woorkes. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 542 Suche shippez as were prested in Chestre and Bewmarres. *Ibid.* 544 Your Highnez had byn at so great chardges, both with the presting, and victualing of shippez.

2. *esp.* To engage (men) for military service on land or sea by giving part-payment or earnest-money in advance; to enlist, levy (without reference to method): passing at length into the sense of PRESS *v.*[2] 2. (Cf. IMPREST *v.*[2])

1542 HEN. VIII *Declar. Scots* B ij, In this meane tyme staied a great part of our army alredy prested and in our wages, to go forwarde. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 536 Those that be all redy comme nowe demaunde here their wages, which thei say thei be not paide; and here is non that can enforme us, whether thei be paide or not, nor for howe longe tyme thei were prested. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 395 b, They..whan this league was made, going into Germany, prested souldioures, and brought them into Fraunce. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. v. 548 So many as they thought able men of bodie to beare armes..to prest them for soldiours. *Ibid.* XXVI. XXXV. 611 One whiles buying them up to the warre, for some small peece of money: otherwhiles levying and presting them to the seas to be gallieslaues, for a thing of nothing. *Ibid.* XLII. i. 1116 Commaunded they were to prest [*scribere*] fifteene hundred footmen and a hundred horse of Romane citizens.

Hence **Pre·sting** *vbl. sb.*, hiring, enlisting.

1545 [see 1 above]. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 874 Wee have also commoned with theym of the Admyraltye, whoo have onely twoo shipps in aredynes,..wee have geven theym charge to procede, and delyvered theym money for the presting of men for the purpose.

† Prest, *v.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [? f. PREST *a.*] *refl.* **a.** To make oneself ready. **b.** To make haste, to hasten.

14.. *Lybeaus Disc.* (Ritson) 1738 A morow Lybeaus hym prest [*v.r.* was prest] In armes that wer best, And fressch he was to fyght. 1581 A. HALL tr. *Homer* I. 14 One morning Thetis from the sea to heauen hir selfe doth prest.

Prest, *obs.* ME. form of PRIEST.

Pre·stable, *a. Sc.* Now *rare.* Also 7 **-ible.** [a. obs. F. *prestable* (mod.F. *prêtable*) lendable, that may be lent (Cotgr.), also, ready to afford or give (16th c. in Godef.), f. *prester*: see PREST *v.*[1] and -ABLE.] Capable of being paid or advanced; payable; capable of being performed or discharged.

1650 *Acts Sederunt* 29 Jan. (1790) 67 After discussing of the first suspensioun for liquid soumes or deeds presentlie prestable. 1665 J. FRASER *Polichron.* (S.H.S.) 159 Sir Walter ..promised Lord Hugh all the kindness and service prestible by him, south and north. 1715 in *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 54 Seriously to consider this, and fall upon some more prestable methods. 1746–7 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 43 § 17 Recovery of multures or services payable or prestable to their mills. 1826 SCOTT *Let. to Lockhart* 20 Jan., To offer my fortune so far as it was prestable..; to make good all claims upon Ballantyne & Co. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 § 8 All feu duties or other duties and services or casualties payable or prestable to the superior.

Prestance. *rare*[−1]. [f. as next + -ANCE. Cf. F. *prestance* (prɛstɑ̃ns), ad. It. *prestanza.*] = next.

1893 *Nat. Observ.* 21 Jan. 231/2 They..put their trust in great names and social prestance.

† Pre·stancy. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præstāntia* pre-eminence, f. *præstāre* to excel: see PREST *v.*[1] and -ANCY.] Priority, superiority, pre-eminence.

1615 A. STAFFORD *Heav. Dogge* 39 If then the prestancy of instructing be such; surely Diogenes..may in name, but not in deed bee a slaue. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* iv. 30 In Adam, yet intire, there was a priority and a prestancy, but no soveraignty.

Pre·stant. *Music.* [a. F. *prestant*, ad. It. *prestante* excellent.] (See quot.)

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, *Prestant*, the open diapason of an organ, sometimes of 16 feet, sometimes of 8 feet in length.

† Presta·ntious, præ-, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *præstāntia* excellence, PRESTANCY + -OUS.] Characterized by excellence; excellent.

1638 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* 35 This innate [humour] so praestantious, so necessary, as without it mixt bodies cannot subsist.

Prestate (pre·ste·ɪt), *v. Rom. Law.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *præstāre* to stand before, to stand good for, vouch for, answer for: see PREST *v.*[1] and -ATE 3.] *trans.* To undertake, take upon oneself, become responsible for; to furnish, manifest.

1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. § 215 All that the heir is bound to prestate in such a case..is sufferance [*damnetur heres patientiam præstare*]. — *Ulpian* ii. § 9. 367 Any person to whose good faith it can be committed to prestate a thing [*ad rem aliquam præstandam*] may also have it committed to his good faith to confer freedom.

Prestation (prestē·ɪ·ʃən). [a. F. *prestation* (1272 in Godef. *Compl.*) action of lending, tendering, etc., ad. L. *præstātiōn-em*, in late L. a payment, in med.L. esp. a feudal due, n. of action f. *præstāre*: see PREST *v.*[1], PRESTATE.] The action of paying, in money or service, what is due by law or custom, or in recognition of feudal superiority; a payment or the performance of a service so imposed or exacted; also, the performance of something promised.

1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 66/1 That no prises, exactions nor prestations, shal be sette upon their persones or goodes. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Ayde*..in the common lawe, it is applied..sometime to a prestation due from tenents to their Lords, as toward the releife due to the Lord Paramount..or for the making of his sonne knight, or the marying of his daughter. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675), Not..as if the richer and mightier Church did, or could bind the smaller to the prestation of her customs. *a* 1754 SIR J. STRANGE *Reports* II. 879 The bishop libelled in the spiritual court, suggesting that Dr. *Gooche*, as archdeacon of Essex, *tenetur solvere* 10*l.* due to the bishop as a prestation, for the exercise of his exterior jurisdiction. 1788 REID *Active Powers* v. vi. 667 It is obvious that the prestation promised must be understood by both parties. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* I. ii. II. 144 The military tenant..was subject to no tribute, no prestation, but service in the field. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 Sched. (y), No. 2 The yearly feu duties and the whole other prestations. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 195 The gild merchant with the right to exact money requisitions or prestations from the brethren as well as from non-gildsmen trading in the town.

b. *Prestation-money*: see quots.

1536 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxix. 187 The Archdeacons had their acquittance of the Bp. by the name of Prestation-mony. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Commissarie*, The Bishop taking prestation money of his archdeacons yearely. *Ibid.*, *Spirituallies of a Bishop*..be those profits which he receiueth, as he is a Bishop, and not as he is a Baron of the Parlament...[e. g.] prestation money, that *subsidium charitatiuum*, which vppon reasonable cause he may require of his Clergie. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, s.v.

† Pre·ster. *Obs.* [a. L. *prēster*, a. Gr. πρηστήρ a fiery (or scorching) whirlwind, also a kind of venomous serpent, agent-n. f. πιμπρά-ναι, πρή-εἰν (root *πρᾱ-*) to burn, also to inflate, blow.]

1. A serpent, the bite of which was fabled to cause death by swelling.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. x. (Bodl. MS.), Prester is an horrible addre alwei wiþ open mouþe and castinge and schedinge venym as he goþe. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 118 The bramble..is good for the biting of ye serpent called prester. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 745 The Dipsas killing by thirst, and the Prester by heat, as their very names do signifie. 1627 MAY *Lucan* IX. 828 The Prester too, whose sting distendeth wide The wounded's foamy mouth. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prester*, a venomous Serpent, whose Sting causes a deadly Thirst. [1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Swedenborg* Wks. (Bohn) I. 328 Philosophers are, therefore, vipers, cockatrices, asps,..presters.]

2. A burning or scorching whirlwind.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 25 The same [wind], if it be more hot and catching a fire as it rageth, is named Prester; burning. 1643 HOWELL *Parables on Times* 15 As if it had been that incendiary Prester wind, or rather an Haraucana ..had blowne here. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. (1701) 61/2 Thunders, Lightnings, Presters, and Whirl-winds are caused by the wind enclosed in a thick Cloud, which..breaketh forth violently. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Prester*, a meteor, consisting of an exhalation from the clouds downwards with such violence, as that by the collision it is set on fire. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 518/2 (tr. Procl. in Crat.) From him leap forth the implacable thunders, and the prester-capacious bosoms [πρηστηροδοχοι κοιτοι] of the all-splendid strength of the father-begotten Hecate.

‖ **3.** (See quots.)

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Prester*, a word used by some to express the external part of the neck, which is usually inflated in anger. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Prester, ēris*, formerly used for the white of the eye when inflamed; also, for the veins, when swollen under excitement.

Pre·ster John. Forms: *α.* 4–6 **prestre, -ere**, 6 **preter, -our, prater, prest, priester**, (6–7 **precious**), 6–8 **presbyter**, 7 **priest**, 6– **prester**; 4–6 **Jon, Johan**, 6 **Joan, Jan**, (7 **Jack**), 8 **Jean**, 5– **John**. Also *β.* 6 **Pretian** (= Pret Ian), 7 **Prete Gianni, Janni, Prestegian, -giane**. [ME. *Prestre Johan*, a. OF. *prestre Jehan* (13th c. in Littré), mod.F. *prêtre-Jean*, med.L. *presbyter Johannes*, 'Priest John', in It. *prete Gianni*, whence OF. *prette-jan* and the *β* forms above.] The name given in the Middle Ages to an alleged Christian priest and king, originally supposed to reign in

the extreme Orient, beyond Persia and Armenia, but from the 15th c. generally identified with the King of Ethiopia or Abyssinia.

(For the history of the subject, see Col. Yule's article in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 715–718. It is there shown that from the first mention of *Presbyter Johannes* in the twelfth c. European belief placed him in some remote region of the East; but that, after growing knowledge of geography had at once cast doubt upon his existence there, and revealed the existence of a Christian king and kingdom in 'Ethiopia' or Abyssinia, 'Prester John's land' was located by the Portuguese, and after them by other writers, in the latter region. Col. Yule is even inclined to think that the original germ of the legend may have consisted in vague rumours as to the rule of a Christian king in 'Ethiopia', at a time when Ethiopia and India were still vaguely imagined to be conterminous or adjacent regions; although reports of the warlike achievements of Mongol or other Asiatic conquerors may in process of time have been credited to, or associated with, the name of 'Prester John'. As to the origin of this name or title, though numerous conjectures have been offered, there is no historical evidence.)

13.. *K. Alis.* 2589 (Bodl. MS.) Oute of Inde from prestre Johne Hym com knyttes manyon. *a* **1400** in *Rel. Ant.* I. 272 The lasse Asia and the lond of Histria; These ben Prestere Johanes londes. *c* **1400** *Three Kings Cologne* 117 He schulde be cleped preester Iohn..for þer is no degre in þis world aboue þe degre of priesthode. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii. 246 Prestre Iohan [*Roxb.* xxix. 132 Prestre Iohne] that is Emperour of the high Ynde. **1485** CAXTON *Paris & V.* 69 The londe of Prester Iohan. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 155 To reyd I begane The riotest ane ragment..Of all the mowis in this mold...The horne and the hand staff, Prater John and Port Jaff. **1562** PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* Aa iij, The Souldan, priester Iohn & other Heathen princes. **1582** N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. i. 1 That in the East India were Christians, which were gouerned by a King of great power called Præsbiter Ioan. **1620** MELTON *Astrolog.* 11 As for Prester Jacke, the Great Mogul, the Sophy of Persia, and the Great Turke, I can see them as often as I doe my Boy. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 495 P 5 Not to mention whole Nations bordering on Prester-John's Country. **1788** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlvii. IV. 597 The fame of *Prester* or *Presbyter* John has long amused the credulity of Europe.

(*b*) **1532** MORE *Confut. Tindale* 85 Bothe the Latyn chyrch & the Greke chyrche and pretour Iohns Chyrche to. **1554** W. PRAT *Africa* E ij, The kynge of Ethiope whiche we call pretian or prest John. **1555** EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 51 Preciosus Iohannes, otherwyse cauled Presbyter Iohannes, Emperour of many Chrystian nations in Ethiope. *Ibid.* 374 In the East syde of Afrike beneth the redde sea, dwelleth the greate and myghtye Emperour and Chrystian kynge Prester Johan, well knowen to the Portugales in theyr vyages to Calicut. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 b, The Prester Ian king of Ethyopia. **1598** W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. (Hakl. Soc.) I. 34 The countrey of Prester John, which is called by them the countrey of Abexines. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 21 The emperour Prete Ianni hath two speciall princely names, to wit, Acegue..and Neguz, a king. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 130 The great Christian of Æthiopia, vulgarly cald Prester, Precious, or Priest-Iohn. **1678** BUTLER *Hud.* III. *Lady's Answ.* 277 Like the mighty Prester John, Whose Person none dares look upon.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A ruler likened to Prester John; one who is supreme (in a particular sphere).

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 34 And fooles doe sit, More honored then the Prester Iohn of wit. **1667** DRYDEN *Sir Martin Mar-All* v. i, Your Prester Johns of the East Indies.

c. *Heraldry.* (In the arms of the see of Chichester.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* IV. iv. (Roxb.) 287/1 (Coates of Bishopricks) He beareth Saphire, a Prester John or Presbyter John sitting on a tombstone, haueing in his left hand a Mound, and his right extended .. with a sword in his mouth..his is the Sea of Chichester. **1894** *Parker's Gloss. Heraldry* 476 Azure, a Presbyter John hooded sitting on a tombstone.

Hence **Prester-Jo'hnian** *a. nonce-wd.*, of or pertaining to Prester John.

a **1643** W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* I. iv, On them, a lay Of Prester-Johnian whispers.

‖ Pre-ste'rnum, præste'rnum. [f. PRE- A. 4 b + STERNUM.]

1. *Entom.* = PROSTERNUM.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 279 Pre-sternum dilated at its anterior extremity. **1836** tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* IV. 141 The præsternum forms a sort of chin-cloth anteriorly.

2. *Comp. Anat.* The front part of the sternum; the part corresponding to the first segment of the human sternum.

1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 399 The præsternum is the 'manubrium sterni' of human anatomy. **1872** MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 35 The broad upper part to which the first rib is annexed is called the manubrium or pre-sternum.

Hence **Pre-ste'rnal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pre-sternum, as *pre-sternal bone, region*, etc.

1890 in WEBSTER.

Presthold, obs. form of PRIESTHOOD.

† Pre'stial, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. ME. *prest*, PRIEST *sb.* + -IAL.] Priestly.

c **1449** PECOCK *Repr.* IV. v. 450 In the lay parti of Goddis peple, and..in the prestial parti of Goddis peple.

Prestidi'gital, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. after next and *digital.*] Light-fingered; practising sleight of hand.

1856 READE *Never Too Late* vi, The two hands he gathered coin with were Meadows and Crawley. The first his honest, hard-working hand—the second his three-fingered Jack, his prestidigital hand.

Prestidigitation (pre:sti,didʒiteɪ'ʃən). [a. F. *prestidigitation*, f. as next: see -ATION.] Sleight of hand, legerdemain. Also *fig.*

1859 (see next). **1862** *Leisure Hour* No. 542. 319 The real fact upon which all prestidigitation or quick finger conjuring depends, is the fact that human hands are quicker than human eyes. **1887** STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* xi. 188 This sort of prestidigitation is a piece of tactics among the true drawing-room queens.

Prestidigitator (pre:sti,di'dʒiteɪtəɹ). Also in F. form **‖ prestidigitateur** (prɛstidiʒitatœr). [ad. F. *prestidigitateur* (J. de Rovère, *a* 1830: see quot. 1859), f. *preste* nimble (ad. It. *presto*, L. *præstus*: see PRESTO) + L. *digit-us* a finger + *-ateur*, L. *-ator* agent-suffix: perh. suggested by F. *prestigiateur* PRESTIGIATOR, or due to a perverted derivation of it.] One who practises sleight of hand or legerdemain; a juggler, a conjurer; hence *fig.* a juggler with words, a trickster.

a **1843** in Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 603/1 De M. G. Ferizer the celebrated enchanter .. prestidigitateur, and author of several experiments adapted to public amusement. **1859** WRAXALL tr. *R. Houdin* viii. 166–7 Jules de Rovère, the first to employ a title now generally given to fashionable conjurors...One day the pompous title of '*Prestidigitateur*' was visible on an enormous poster, which also condescended to supply the derivation of this breath-stopping word, *presto digiti* (activity of the fingers). *Ibid.*, The learning of the conjuror—I beg pardon, prestidigitator...This word, as well as Prestidigitation, due to the same author, were soon seized upon by Jules de Rovère's rivals. **1870** M. D. CONWAY *Earthw. Pilgr.* xvi. 201 Whether our young men should turn themselves into intellectual prestidigitateurs. **1879** BARING-GOULD *Germany* I. 392 A prestidigitator can work magic with his nimble fingers. **1905** *Contemp. Rev.* June 877 The repeated successes of the prestidigitator who is at the head of its Government.

Hence **Prestidigitato'rial, Prestidi'gitatory** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to prestidigitation.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 63. 312 Prestidigitatory elements of entertainment were not wanting. **1861** in *Daily Tel.* 22 Oct., He has managed his cards well if he has substituted prestidigitatorial feats for operatic.

Prestige (‖ prestī'ʒ, pre'stidʒ). [a. F. *prestige* (16th c. in Littré) an illusion, esp. in pl. 'deceits, impostures, delusions, iugling or cousening tricks' (Cotgr.), in mod.F. illusion, magic, glamour, ad. L. *præstigium* a delusion, illusion, usually in pl. *præstigiæ*, illusions, juggler's tricks, for **præstrigium* f. *præstringĕre* to bind fast (*præstringere oculos* to blindfold, hence, to dazzle the eyes): see PRESTRINGE.]

† 1. An illusion; a conjuring trick; a deception, an imposture. Usually *pl. Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* [from Cotgr.], *Prestiges*.., deceits, impostures, delusions, cousening tricks. **1661** *Justiciary Rec.* (S. H. S.) I. 12 The Dittay does not condescend upon the Sorcery and prestiges whereby the Pannell did effectuat the particulars lybelled. **1753–4** WARBURTON *Princ. Nat. & Rev. Relig.* v. Wks. 1788 V. 92 That faith..we are told, was founded on a rock, impregnable..to the sophisms of infidelity, and the prestiges of imposture! [**1870** M. D. CONWAY *Earthw. Pilgr.* vii. 99 Prestige is simply *præstigium*, deceit; and surely that is a dangerous weapon for a true cause to use. **1881** FREEMAN in *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 228 *Prestige*, you know, I always like to have a pop at; I take it it has never lost its first meaning of conjuring tricks.]

2. *transf.* Blinding or dazzling influence; 'magic', glamour; influence or reputation derived from previous character, achievements, or associations, or esp. from past success. [So in mod.F.]

[**1815** SCOTT *Paul's Lett.* (1839) 58 He [Napoleon] needed ..the dazzling blaze of decisive victory to renew the charm, or *prestige*, as he himself was wont to call it, once attached to his name and fortunes.] **1829** *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 397 The pleasure of these people does not consist in acting upon their maxims of *ton* among themselves, but in the effect of them on the inferior world. Dissipate the *prestige*, and you deprive them of the delight. **1837** FONBLANQUE *Eng. under Seven Administr.* I. Introd. 7 The *prestige* of the perfection of the law was unbroken. **1838** MILL *A. de Vigny* Diss. & Disc. (1859) I. 316 The *prestige* with which he [Napoleon] overawed the world is..the effect of stage-trick. **1845** FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 201 Such is the prestige of broad cloth. **1847** EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shaks.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 354 Had the *prestige* which hedges about a modern tragedy existed, nothing could have been done. **1856** KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xviii. 216 The prestige of the gun with a savage is in his notion of its infallibility. **1859** KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 11 She [Elizabeth] comes to the throne with such a prestige as never sovereign came since the days when Isaiah sang his pæan over young Hezekiah's accession. **1868** M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* IV. 66 Balliol..can set off a prestige of long standing against a deficiency in the stipend. **1871** L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* iii, In 1861..the prestige of the mountains was rapidly declining. **1878** GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* viii. 112 *Aidōs*..means honour, but never the base-born thing in these last times called *prestige*. **1898** SIR W. HARCOURT in *Daily News* 9 May 8/6 People talk sometimes of prestige...I am not very fond of the word. What I understand by prestige is the consideration in which nations or individuals are held by their fellows.

† Presti'giate, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 8 præ-. [f. late L. *præstigiāre* (f. *præstigium*: see prec.) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To deceive by jugglery or as by magic; to delude. Hence **† Presti'giated** deluded, **† Presti'giating** deluding, *ppl. adjs.*

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 17 To take Christ as himselfe hath revealed himselfe in his Gospel, and not as the Divell presents him to prestigiated phansies. **1716** M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 229 Præstigiating and ensnaring Arians.

Prestigia'tion. Now *rare.* Also 7 præ-. [n. of action from L. *præstigiāre*: see prec.] The practice of juggling, sorcery, or magic; deception or delusion by such practice; conjuring.

c **1540** tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 83 Least thei might..bee envegeled with the sorceres and prestigiation of devils. *c* **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. xxiii. 37 Examples ..of fascinations, incantations, prestigiations, of philtres, spells, charmes, sorceries, characters and such like. *a* **1670** HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 338 If such a thing come to pass by the Devil's mists and devices, then it is præstigiation or delusion. **1885** *St. James' Gaz.* 20 June, At Piccadilly Hall ..To-day. Séances of Prestigiation, Mesmerism, and Thought Transmission.

Prestigiator (presti'dʒi,eɪtəɹ). Also 8 præ-. [a. L. *præstigiātor*, agent-n. f. *præstigiāre*: see PRESTIGIATE. So F. *prestigiateur* (16th c. in Godef. *Compl.*).] One who practises 'prestigiation'; a juggler, a conjurer; † a cheat.

1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. vi. § 7 (1634) 270 Prestigiators are such as dazell men's eyes, and make them seeme to see what they see not. **1660** H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* IV. iii. 105 This cunning Prestigiator took the advantage of so high a place to set off his Representations the more lively. **1784** J. WHITE *Bampton Lect.* iii. 141 Augustus..had published very rigorous edicts against the whole race of Præstigiators. **1861** MISS BRADDON *Lady Lisle* (1885) 74 The coin which the prestigiator shows is not the first shilling at all.

† Presti'giatory, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *præstigiātor*: see prec. and -ORY 2.] Practising 'prestigiation'; juggling, conjuring; deceptive, delusive.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 66 Hypocriticall subornations, in some like prestigiatory, and sophisticall veine. *a* **1677** BARROW *Serm.* (1683) II. xx. 283 Wicked spirits deal onely in petty, low and useless prestigiatory tricks. **1681** GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. 204 By that *κλεψωκία*, or Prestigiatory art or faculty of these ludicrous Dæmons.

† Presti'gion. *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. late L. *præstigium* a delusion, illusion, trick (see PRESTIGE) + -ION.] = PRESTIGIATION.

1638 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* IX. Comm. 610 Simon Magus.. after all his cheating, jugling and prestigion (if I may so call it),..at the prayers of S^t Peter his spells failed. **1637** — *London's Mirr.* Wks. 1871 IV. 314 Pride, Arrogance, Sloath, Vanity, Prestigion.

Prestigious (presti'dʒəs), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 7 præ-. [ad. late L. *præstigiōsus* full of tricks, deceitful, f. *præstigi-um* PRESTIGE + -OUS. So F. *prestigieux* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) illusive, using charms.] Practising juggling or legerdemain; of the nature of or characterized by juggling or magic; cheating, deluding, deceitful; deceptive, illusory.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 48 b, Ashamed are not these prestygiouse Papystes, to vtter it in their storyes and reade it in their Sayntes legendes. **1607** DEKKER *Whore of Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 195 That inchantresse..by prestigious trickes in sorcerie, Has raiz'd a base impostor. *a* **1711** KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 116 As in the Mines prestigious Spirits lurk, And while the Miners sleep, seem hard at work. **1884** SWINBURNE in *19th Cent.* May 771 The prestigious influence which turned the heads and perverted the hearts of the Byrons and the Hazlitts of his day. **1887** T. CHILD in *Contemp. Rev.* May 713 The grandiose language, the ringing rhymes, and the prestigious metaphors.

Hence **Presti'giously** *adv.*; **Presti'giousness.**

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 208 He..that was prestigiously besieged, and inuisibly vndermined with that weapon of weapons. **1646** GAULE *Cases Consc.* 115 There is nothing but præstigiousnesse of Forme, End, Effect. **1664** H. MORE *Myst. Inig.* 437 Their being able to make a consecrated wafer appear to be the very Body and Person of Christ is such a piece of prestigiousness as has no parellel. **1671** SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxv. 459 We cannot be so prestigiously Impudent, as to pretend to the World..that these our Pills will Cure all diseases.

† Pre'stigy. *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 **præstigie.** [ad. L. *præstigi-um*: see PRESTIGE.] ? = PRESTIGE 1.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 250 They committed it, to nurse, to a prodigious bagge that hight præstigie.

Prestimony (pre'stiməni). *Canon Law.* Also 8 præ-. [ad. F. *prestimonie* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *præstimōnium* (781 in Du Cange), f. L. *præstāre* to furnish, etc.: see PRESTATION and -MONY.] (See quot.)

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Prestimony*, *Præstimonia*, in the canon law, a term about which authors are much divided... Upon the whole, the surest opinion seems to be this, that præstimony is a fund or revenue appropriated by the founder for the subsistence of a priest, without being erected into any title or benefice, chapel, prebend, or priory. **1848** in WHARTON *Law Lex.*; and in mod. Dicts.

Hence **Prestimonial** (-mōu'niăl) *a.*, of or pertaining to prestimony.

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. IV. XX. 332 Some simple Benefices,..also Donatives, or Prestimonial Portions, as they are called.

Prestinate, obs. form of PRISTINATE.

‖ Prestissimo (presti'ssimo), *a.*, *adv.*, *sb. Mus.* [It. *prestissimo*, superl. of *presto* adj. and adv.: see PRESTO.] A musical direction indicating very rapid performance: Very quick, very fast; as *sb.* a very quick piece or movement. Hence *transf.*

1724 *Short Explic. For. Words in Mus. Bks.*, *Prestissimo*, is Extream Fast or Quick. **1841** MARRYAT *Poacher* lxiv, At the report of the pistol, the..choristers struck up prestissimo with their feet. **1882** MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* ii, Angus had naturally taken the time of life's march prestissimo. **1904** *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 3/1 Our opponents' totals of 388 and 351 must seem big enough in England, but out here on these prestissimo wickets they are really nothing like so formidable as they look.

† Pre·stly, *adv. Obs.* Also 4–5 **pristly, prystly,** 6 **preastly.** [f. PREST *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. Readily, quickly, promptly, immediately.

1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Þe ournemens of boȝsamnesse byeþ zeuen, þet ys, þet me bouȝe prestliche, gledliche, simpleliche, klenliche, generalliche, zuyftliche, and wiluolliche. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1146 Boþe partiȝes prestly a-paraylde hem. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2762 He flenges to syr Florent, and prystly he kryes,—'Why flees thow, falls knyghte? Þe fende hafe þi saule!' *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xix, He prekut oute prestely. 15.. *Adam Bel & Clym of Clough* 451 They preced prestly into the hall. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxiv. 189 b, His speciall great strength..was preastly and readily shewed foorth at the houre of his death. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* ciii. 288 His sauing helth comth prestly on To ryd thy life from peryls all.

2. Eagerly, urgently, earnestly.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 230 Yiff þu puttes Þe pristly þis point for to do. 1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 253 Now pray you prestly on every side To God omnipotent. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. x, The heart, the heart-bloud, brains fleet aire, hot fire To be the thing that they so prestly sought, Some have defin'd.

Prest-money, earlier form of PRESS-MONEY.

† Pre·stness. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. PREST *a.* + -NESS.] Readiness, preparedness.

1582 LD. BURGHLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 100, I was glad to perceaue your prestnes to enter into Scotland.

‖ **Presto** (pre·stǒ), *a.*1, *adv.*1, *sb.*1 *Music.* [It. *presto* quick, quickly (*tempo presto* quick time):—late L. *præst-us,* f. earlier *præstō* adv., at hand, ready, in med.L. prompt, quick: see PREST *a.*]

A. *adj.* or *adv.* A direction indicating rapid performance: In quick time; fast.

1683 PURCELL *Sonnatas in III Parts* Pref., The English Practitioner..will find a few terms of art, perhaps unusual to him, the chief of which are..*Presto.* 1724 *Short Explic. For. Words in Mus. Bks., Presto Presto,* or *Piu Presto,* very Fast or Quick. *Ibid., Men Presto,* not too Quick; or not quite So Quick. 1752 AVISON *Mus. Expression* 107 The words *Andante, Presto, Allegro,* &c., are differently apply'd in the different kinds of Music. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. T., Presto,* fast.

B. as *sb.* A movement or piece in quick time.

1869 *Athenæum* 20 Nov., The final *presto* was a miracle of consentaneousness, the rapidity of the movement never interfering with the distribution of light and shade. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* 394 How the presto flew as though all the winds were behind it.

Presto (pre·stǒ), *adv.*2, *a.*2, *sb.*2 [a. It. *presto* adj. and adv., quick, quickly: the same word as prec., but the two uses are unconnected in Eng.]

A. *adv.* (*interj.*) Quickly, immediately, at once; used by conjurers and jugglers in various phrases of command, esp. *Presto, be gone, Hey presto, pass,* etc.; hence, = immediately, forthwith, instanter. Also interjectionally: see quots. 1821, 1892.

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* I. i, Presto, Go to, a word to the wise; away, fly, vanish! 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 47 Crying out *Presto,* bee gone,..hee flies away in the ayre. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Presto* .., a word used by Juglers, in their *Hocus Pocus* tricks. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 89 Hey Jingo, Sirs! What's this? 'tis Bread you see; Presto be gone! 'tis now a Deity. 1721 SWIFT *South Sea* Wks. 1755 III. II. 132 Put in your money fairly told; Presto be gone—'Tis here agen. 1821 BYRON *Vis. Judgm.* lxxviii, The moment that you had pronounced him one, Presto! his face changed, and he was another. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. iii, Hey, presto,—quick, while we turn in to wash our hands. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 72 You pressed a bell, the boy appeared with his lift, and, presto! you are in the street again.

B. as *sb.* An exclamation of 'presto!'

1622 FLETCHER *Beggars Bush* III. i. (1647) 83, 1 *B.* Cloakes? looke about ye boys: mine's gone. 2 *B.* A —— juggle 'em! [Pox] o' their Prestoes: mine's gone too. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1686) III. xvi. 185 Neither .. a spirit, that will be conjured down by a charm, or with a Presto driven away.

C. *adj.* or *attrib.* At hand, in readiness; active, ready, rapid, quick, instantaneous; of the nature of a magical transformation; juggling.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 100 Upon the hearing of which watchword they were to be presto and at Hand to execute their dumbe commands. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 80 Instantaneously she betook herself to presto-prayer. 1826 H. N. COLERIDGE *West Indies* (1832) 285 There is no hocus pocus .., no presto movements. 1877 *Paperhanger, Painter, Grainer,* etc. 107 The presto system [of graining] is very useful where work is required to be done out of hand, as it may be varnished almost immediately.

Hence **Pre·sto** *v. trans.,* to convey or transfer instantaneously, by or as by magic; to conjure.

1831 *Examiner* 92/2 The man of magic must have 'prestoed' the watch into his own pocket. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 19 The latter, by a process of etymological conjuring..have sought to presto *thunnus* out of *tannim.*

Prestod, obs. form of PRIESTHOOD.

† Pre·stolate, *v. Obs. nonce-wd:* [f. F. *prestoler* (Rabelais), ad. L. *præstōlārī* to stand ready for, wait for: see -ATE 3.] *trans.* To await.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vi. 31 We prestolate the coming of the Tabellaries [orig. *prestolans les tabellaires à venir*] from the Penates and patriotick Lares.

‖ **Prestomium, præ-** (prĭstǒ·mĭəm). [mod.L., f. PRE- B. 3 + Gr. στόμιον, dim. of στόμα mouth.] The anterior segment of the head of an annelid, bearing the eyes and tentacles. Hence **Presto·mial** *a.,* of or pertaining to the prestomium.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 232 The peristomium and the praestomium together are ordinarily confounded under the common term of 'head'. *Ibid.,* The praestomial tentacle is similar in structure to an ordinary cirrus.

† Prestri·ction. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. late L. *præstrictiōn-em* binding fast, n. of action f. *præstringĕre*: see next.] The binding or tying up of the eyes; blindfolding, blinding.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* iii. Wks. 1851 III. 213 Boast not of your eyes, 'tis fear'd you have Balaams disease, a pearle in your eye, Mammons Præstriction.

† Prestri·nge, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præstringĕre* to bind fast, also to touch upon, mention, f. *præ,* PRE- A. + *stringĕre* to draw tight, to touch.] *trans.* To touch upon, mention, refer to.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. iii. (1713) 292 The greatest Wits of the World have been such Persons as you seem so freely to prestringe.

Prest sail = press of sail: see PRESS *sb.*1 9.

Pre-study: see PRE- A. 1. **Prestwoode,** obs. form of PRIESTHOOD. **Presubsistent, Presubterminal:** see PRE- A. 3, B. 3.

Presul (prī·sŭl). *rare.* [a. L. *præsul* a dancer in public, the leader of the *Salii* (dancing priests), hence in late L. a president, in med.L. a prelate, bishop, f. **præsilīre, præsult-um,* to dance before others, f. *præ* before, in front + *salīre* to leap, dance.] A prelate, a bishop. Hence **Pre·sulate,** the tenure of office of a 'presul'.

[1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XV. 42 For bisshopes yblessed þei bereth many names, *Presul* and *pontifex* and *metropolitanus.*] 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 885 These are called both bishops, chiefe priests, and presuls. 1853 J. STEVENSON *Hist. Wks. Beda* 431 *note,* Upon which day Deusdedit..commenced the tenth year of his presulate.

‖ **Presu·ltor.** *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 præ-. [Late L. *præsultor* one who dances before others, agent-n. f. **præsilīre*: see prec.] One who leads the dance.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 397 In the world, God, as the Coryphæus, the Præcentor and Præsultor, beginning the Dance and Musick, the Stars and Heavens move round after him according to those numbers and measures, which he prescribes them, all together making up one most excellent Harmony.

† Presu·ltory, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. after DESULTORY: see PRE- A. and prec.] Characterized by leaping forward, presumptuous.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 147 Betwixt the desultory levity of an indifferent casualty and the presultory temerity of an urging and inevitable necessity.

Presumable (prĭzĭū·măb'l), *a.* [f. PRESUME *v.* + -ABLE; so F. *présumable* (16th c. in Godef.).]

1. Capable of being presumed or taken for granted; probable, likely.

1692 LOCKE *Toleration* III. viii. Wks. 1727 II. 380 Which Corruption of Nature, that they may retain .. I think is very presumable. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. i. 5 Supposing myself to consist of soul and body, 'tis fairly presumable that 'tis my soul that thinks. 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* iii. 145 No other presumable mark of violence was seen.

2. To be expected or counted on beforehand.

1825 LAMB *Let. to Old Gentleman,* Whether a person.. of sixty-three..may hope to arrive, within a presumable number of years, at..the character..of a learned man. 1860 ADLER *Fauriel's Prov. Poetry* xix. 435 The abrupt return of Philip Augustus..compromised the presumable results of the third crusade.

Presu·mably, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.]

† 1. With presumption or taking of things for granted without examination. *Obs. rare*—1.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 34 Authors presumably writing by common places, wherein for many yeares promiscuously amassing all that makes for their subject.

2. Qualifying a statement: As one may presume or reasonably suppose; by presumption or supposition; probably.

1846 POE *Kirkland* Wks. 1864 III. 38 A journal exclusively devoted to foreign concerns, and therefore presumably imbued with something of a cosmopolitan spirit. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 1257 Where all presumably is peace and joy. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* I. 2 The little household was presumably a very quiet one. 1885 SIR H. COTTON in *Law Times* LXXIX. 195/1 A vendor is presumably aware of the nature of his title.

† Presu·mant, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *présumant,* pres. pple. of *présumer* to PRESUME.] Presuming, presumptuous.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 318 If his Maiestie permit it to passe currant without due punishment inflicted vpon the presumant scribe [Father Parsons]. 1612 T. JAMES *Jesuit's Downf.* 66 This great auctority, which this presumant Scribe tooke vpon him, made him no little prowd.

Hence **† Presu·mantly** (in MS. *presumatlye*) *adv.,* presumingly, presumptuously.

c 1536 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* (1872) I. 411 She spake þes wordes presumatlye, & sayd: 'ye Byrdes, behold & se! Do nat gruge, for þis wyll hyt be; Suche ys my fortune.'

† Presu·me, *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] The act of presuming.

1. Anticipation, expectation.

? 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VIII. (*Pr. Sw.*) xxxiii, Thir small birdis..lichtit doun, Bot of the nettis na presume thay had.

2. Presumption, audacity; an instance of this.

1590 T. WATSON *Eglogue Death Sir F. Walsingham* 360 Ah but my Muse..begins to tremble at my great presume. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* Ep. Ded. 2 Praying your gracious Indulgence for my rude Presume. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 495 When their cur-like presumes More urged the more forborne.

Presume (prĭzĭū·m), *v.* Also 4 **-sewme, -sum,** *Sc.* **pressume,** 6 **preswme,** *Sc.* **presome,** 7 **præsume.** [a. F. *présumer* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *præsūm-ĕre* to take before, anticipate, in late L. to take for granted, assume, suppose, dare; f. *præ,* PRE- A. 1 + *sūmĕre* to take.]

† 1. *trans.* To take possession of without right; to usurp, seize. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 363 Þe pope mai not opinlier telle þat he is Anticrist..þan for to putte many mennis lyves for þis office þat he presumeþ. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 157 Kinadius..presumede alle the grownde [orig. *terram omnem usurpavit*].

2. To take upon oneself, undertake without adequate authority or permission; to venture upon.

a. with simple object.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 76 þei ben contrarie to alle þes newe ordris þat ben presumed a3ens Crist. 14.. *Rule Syon Monast.* liii. in *Collect. Topogr.* (1834) I. 31 If any haue desire to lyghe in her cowle, none schal presume thys, withe oute special licence of the abbes. 1490 CAXTON *How to Die* 7 Late none presume nothynge of hym selfe. 1542 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 6 Evill disposed persons,..presumynge wilfullye and obstynatlye the violacion and breach of the saide Acte. 1669 LD. CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 13, I had not præsumed so much but that I have heard my Lorde off Rutland say [etc.]. 1780 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 10 July, Hopes of excellence which I once presumed, and never have attained. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 459 One..whose powers, Presuming an attempt not less sublime, Pant [etc.].

b. with *inf.* To be so presumptuous as; to take the liberty; to venture, dare (*to do* something).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 572 [The King] swour that he suld wengeance ta Off that brwys, that presumyt swa Aganys him to brawle or rys. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 822 Fore he be-cause of cowatice, pressumyt sik a man to sla. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 43 He [Uzziah] presumed to do upon him the prestis stole. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion,* We do not presume to come to this thy table (o mercifull lord) trusting in our owne righteousnes, but [etc.]. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* To Rdr., Yet dare I presume to present thee with the true relation. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 1 Know then thyself, presume not God to scan. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* v, May I presume to ask what has interested you thus in her favour? 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxiii. 517 To his mind, it was.. intolerable that historians should presume to sit in judgment on the actions of kings.

† c. Also *presume oneself, presume upon oneself,* in same sense. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 78 (Harl. MS.) O! rybawde, whi hast þou presumyd thi self for to sey that þou were emperour? 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 108/2 Who so evere presume opon hym or thaime, to accept or occupie the seide Office of Sherreff, by vertue of such Grauntes. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. xv. 275 Noon ought to presume himself to take eny thinge of the armes of an other.

† d. *refl.* To set oneself up, be presumptuous.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 21 Presumynge of thi silfe and veynlikynge of thi silfe of eny thynge that God hath sent the bodili or gostely.

† 3. *trans.* (with *inf.* or *cl.*) To profess, pretend, make pretension. Also *presume upon oneself* (quot. 1470).

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. i. 76, I wille my self assaye.., not presumynge vpon my self that I am the best knyghte. 1557 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* III. xiii. (1568) 22 The prince whiche is vertuous, and presumethe to be a christian, .. oughte to considre what losse or profyte will ensue thereof. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 62 If a man did narowly examin y^e vyces of many, which presume to bee very vertuous. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 51 Those who will not presume to bee able to doe anie thing, knowe how to doe most thinges, and those who take upon them to knowe all thinges, are those which commonlie knowe nothing at all. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 279 Although he much presumed to be an astrologer or diviner, himselfe.

† b. *intr. Presume of*: to lay claim to presumptuously, pretend to. *Obs. rare*—1.

1599 THYNNE *Animadv.* 31, I will not presume of muche knowledge in these tounges.

4. *trans.* To assume or take for granted; to presuppose; to anticipate, count upon, expect (in earliest instances with the notion of over-confidence). *spec.* in *Law*: To take as proved until evidence to the contrary is forthcoming. **a.** with inf., obj. clause or obj. and compl.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 108 Þe cardinales atte Courte þat..power presumed in hem a Pope to make. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 259 A ful greet fool is any conseillour.. That dar presume, or elles thenken it That his conseil sholde passe his lordes wit. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 227 Fra tyme a man be ressavit in service he is presumyt ay to be servand quhill he be releschit of his service. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 121 That, by the law ys presupposyd and vtturly presumyd to be truth. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* VI. xiii. 223 Some are of opinion, that euery man is presumed to liue till he be an hundred yeares old. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 304 The proposition presumes, that one of the three must be indured, and no more but one of them. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scotl.* III. Wks. 1813 I. 236 Elizabeth, we may presume, did not wish that the proposal should be received in any other manner. 1805 E. H. EAST *Reports* VI. 82 At any time beyond the first seven years they might fairly presume him dead. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* i. 20 Cicero in one of his letters to Atticus..presumes that he would not care to have any from Britain.

b. with simple object.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 343 Hir Majestie nevir presumit alteratioun of the guid and quiet estait of the

commoun weill. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 131 We cannot presume the existence of this animall, nor dare we affirme there is any Phœnix in Nature. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. i. 19 Kind and merciful men always presume the best. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 412 Until a writ of seisin is awarded, executed, and returned, (all which must appear upon record, and cannot be presumed). 1871 Sir W. M. James in *Law Rep.* 6 Chanc. App. 357 Death is presumed from the person not being heard of for seven years.

5. *intr.* To act or proceed on the assumption of right or permission; to be presumptuous, take liberties. Often *presume on, upon* († *of*): to act presumptuously on the strength of, to rely upon as a pretext for presumption; also in neutral sense, to take advantage of.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 37 To be coupled to so hihe astate, I am unable, I am not apt thereto, So to presume. 1580 Lyly *Euphues* (Arb.) 246 Presume not too much of the curtesies of those. 1600 E. Blount tr. *Conestaggio* 16 The Catholique King knowing the Portugals to presume beyond their strength. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 6 If they presume too much upon their nobility. *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1710) II. 250 To take no care, is to presume upon providence. 1797 Gouv. Morris in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) III. 106 Ignorance will presume, and its presumption will be chastised. 1877 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 785 Lest other strangers should venture to presume on their kindred with Kings. 1885 [see Press *v.*[1] 16].

6. *intr.* To press forward presumptuously; to advance or make one's way over-confidently into an unwarranted position or place; to aspire presumptuously; to presume to go. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1430 *Freemasonry* 717 Presume not to hye for nothynge, For thyn hye blod, ny thy comynge. 1565 Stapleton tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 159, I straightly chardged him not to presume to that mynisterie which he could not do accordingly. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 13 Up led by thee, Into the Heaven of Heavens I have presumed, An earthly guest. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Past.* VII. 31 If my Wishes have presum'd too high.

7. *Presume on, upon,* († *of*): to rely upon, count upon, take for granted; to form expectations of, look for. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* XCI. ii, [Thou shalt] on his truth noe lesse presume, Then most in shield affy. 1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 46 Some haue presumed, by conjecture, vpon his going to Tarshish, and fleeing from the face of the Lord. 1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* IX–X. 125 They presumed of peace and safety, and so their destruction commeth suddenly without resistance. 1664 Pepys *Diary* 27 July, How uncertain our lives are, and how little to be presumed of. 1688 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 107 Upon which accounts I shall presume on you. 1766 Entick *London* IV. 202 These could not be presumed upon for columns exceeding four feet in diameter. 1803 *Forest of Hohenelbe* I. 9, I was not to presume on any further favours.

Presumed (prĭzi·ūmd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Assumed before or without proof; taken for granted; anticipated, expected.

1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. lx. § 6 As there is in their Christian Parents and in the Church of God a presumed desire that the Sacrament of Baptisme might be given them. 1646 Sir T. Browne (*title*) Pseudodoxia Epidemica: or Enquiries into Very many received Tenents, And commonly presumed Truths. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. IV. V. 169 The unpopularity .. of Jaffier's administration, and the presumed weakness of his government.

Presumedly (prĭzi·ūmĕdlĭ), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] As is or may be presumed; supposedly.

1869 *Daily News* 11 June, The majority .. of presumedly educated people. 1885 J. Payn *Luck Darrells* II, The cab was .. presumedly within a few doors of her destination. 1895 Salmond *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* III. i. 29 Take the synoptical account .. as presumedly the earlier.

Presumer (prĭzi·ūmə(r)). [f. Presume *v.* + -ER[1].] One who presumes.

1. A presumptuous person.

1509 Fisher *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 270 Of such presumers scante one amonges a thousande cometh vnto this grace. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 345 An illiterat, and arrogant presumer in that which hee understands not. 1791 Paine *Rights of Man* II. iv. (1792) 55 Mr. Burke is such a bold presumer. 1845 Mrs. S. C. Hall *Whiteboy* viii, The broad, vulgar, pompous presumer who dared to tattle of 'his family'.

2. One who assumes or takes something for granted, without proof.

1692 Locke *Toleration* iii. Wks. 1727 II. 462 He must pass for an admirable Presumer, who seriously affirms that it is presumable that all those who conform to the National Religion where it is true, do so understand, believe and practice it, as to be in the way of Salvation. 1708 H. Dodwell *Nat. Mort. Hum. Souls* 152 The Question .. whether the Mistakes be such as the Presumer takes them to be.

Presu·ming, *vbl. sb.* [f. Presume *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb Presume; presumption.

1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* II. 172 By the transgression of Adam, whose haughtie presuming .. thought to be as Thy selfe. *a* 1694 Tillotson *Serm. Eph. iv.* 29 Wks. 1717 II. 396 An affront to modest Company, and a rude presuming upon their approbation. 1871 R. Ellis tr. *Catullus* xxiv. 6 Ere you suffer his alien arm's presuming.

Presu·ming, *ppl. a.* [f. Presume *v.* + -ING[2].] That presumes; presumptuous, arrogant.

1604 *Supplic. Jas. I* in Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 50 The Puritan as he increaseth daily above the Protestant in number, so is he of a more presuming .. disposition and zeal. 1676 Dryden *Aurengz.* Epil. 42 He more fears (like a presuming Man) Their votes who cannot judge, than theirs who can. 1859 Mill *Liberty* IV. 139 If one person could honestly point out to another that he thinks him in fault, without being considered unmannerly or presuming.

Hence **Presu·mingly** *adv.*, presumptuously.

1608 Hieron *Wks.* I. 697 Grant that I may not bee presuminglie secure touching mine owne estate. 1852 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXII. 515 And thus may'st thou .. meet the Fate thou can'st not see, In hope, but not presumingly.

† **Presu·mpted,** *pa. pple. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *præsumpt-us*, pa. pple. of *præsūmĕre* (see next) + -ED[1].] Made or done presumptuously.

1550 Bale *Apol.* 106 b, Neither is it a poynte of infidelyte against God, in them whych hath .. dampnably vowed, nor yet a goynge backe from a godly purpose [to break a vow], the vowe beynge presumted, dyssembled, and fayned.

Presumption (prĭzʌ·mpʃən). Forms: 3 **presumciun,** 4 **-sumpciun,** 4– **presumption**; also 4–5 **-som(p)cion, -sumpsion**(e, 4–6 **-cio(u)n**(e, **-cyon,** 5 **-sumcyoun**(e, **-sumpscione,** 6 *Sc.* **-tioun,** 7 **-sumtion**; 7 **præ-**. [ME. a. OF. *presumpcion* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *presompcion*, mod.F. *présomption* = Sp. *presuncion*, It. *presunzione*, ad. L. *præsumptiōn-em* a taking beforehand, anticipation, in late L. confidence, audacity, n. of action f. *præsūmĕre* to Presume.]

† **1.** Seizure and occupation without right; usurpation; presumptuous assumption (*of* an office): cf. Presume *v.* 3 b. *Obs. rare.*

[? *a* 1135 *Leges Henrici I*, c. 10 § 1 (Schmid 442) Praemeditatus assultus; robaria, stretbreche; praesumptio terrae vel pecuniae regis.] 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 147 So that peple, of robbers made inhabitatores, occupiede the northe partes of Briteyne thro presumpcion. *Ibid.* VII. 181 Stigandus .. entrede the seete of Wynchestre by presumpcion and supportacion [L. *Wyntoniensem sedem invaserat*]. 1565 Harding *Confut. Apol.* VI. xix. 333 In their presumption of that office they are not duly called vnto. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1844) I. 34 An office which cannot be procured gratis. The industry, necessary for the due exercise of its functions, is its purchase-money: and the absence .. of the same .. implies a presumption in the literal .. sense of the word.

2. The taking upon oneself of more than is warranted by one's position, right, or (formerly) ability; forward or over-confident opinion or conduct; arrogance, pride, effrontery, assurance.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 208 Nis hit þe spece of prude þet ich cleopede presumciun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 17 Þe bridde [boȝ of prede is] ouerweninge þet we clepeþ presumcion. 1395 Purvey *Remonstr.* (1851) 132 To compel alle cristen men to believe ech determination of the church of Rome is a blinde and open presumption of Lucifer and antichrist. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 78 (Add. MS.) Thou shalt go to my lord, and there thou shalt aunswere of thyn presumpscion. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Sam.* vi. 7 God smote him there because of his presumpcion, so that he dyed there besyde the Arke of God. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 154 But most it is presumption in vs, when The help of heauen we count the act of men. 1789 Belsham *Ess.* II. xli. 544 It would be great presumption in me to attempt a reply. 1875 Manning *Mission H. Ghost* iv. 107 Presumption is a confidence founded upon ourselves.

3. The assuming or taking of something for granted; also, that which is presumed or assumed to be, or to be true, on probable evidence; a belief deduced from facts or experience; assumption, assumed probability, supposition, expectation.

13.. *Cursor M.* 27800 (Cott.) O þis bicums presumpcion, þat es hoping of vnreson. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 42 Þei puyteþ forþ presumpciun to preue þe sope. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Melib.* ¶ 440 By certeyne presumpcions and conjectynges I holde and bileeue that God .. hath suffred this bityde by Iuste cause resonable. 1533 More *Debell. Salem* Wks. 981/1 A man may sometime be so suspecte of felony by reason of sore presumpcions, that though no man saw hym doe it .. yet may he be founden giltye of it. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 150 Others haue done the contrary, rather vpon a presumption then any reason which they haue to doe so. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 230 They .. never order any to be tortured, but upon very great presumptions. 1747 Gould *Eng. Ants* 53 It will be proper to shew on what Presumptions it is grounded. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 91 We do not know the contents of the urn, but only the result of a certain number of drawings, from which we can draw presumptions .. about the whole contents. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xxi. II. 160 The presumptions are all against it. 1881 Westcott & Hort *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 8 The .. presumption that a relatively late text is likely to be a relatively corrupt text.

b. *spec.* in *Law. Presumption of fact*: the inference of a fact not certainly known, from known facts. *Presumption of law*: (*a*) the assumption of the truth of anything until the contrary is proved; (*b*) an inference established by the law as universally applicable to certain circumstances.

1596 Bacon *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. v. (1636) 25 So great a perturbation of the judgment and reason as in presumption of law mans nature cannot overcome. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. ix. 146 Having sown the land, which is for the good of the public, upon a reasonable presumption, the law will not suffer him to be a loser by it. 1844 Greenleaf *Law Evid.* I. iv. § 14. 75 Presumptions of Law consist of those rules, which, in certain cases, either forbid or dispense with any ulterior inquiry. 1877 Wharton *Law Evid.* II. § 1226. 440 A presumption of fact is a logical argument from a fact to a fact; or .. it is an argument which infers a fact otherwise doubtful, from a fact which is proved. 1895 *Pitt-Taylor's Law Evid.* (ed. 9) I. v. 69 Presumptive evidence is usually divided into two branches, namely, *presumptions of law*, and *presumptions of fact*. Presumptions of law consist of those rules, which, in certain cases, either forbid or dispense with any ulterior inquiry. Presumptions of law are sub-divided into two classes, namely, *conclusive* and *disputable*.

4. A ground or reason for presuming or believing; presumptive evidence.

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 13 If you will now aske me what presumption I haue then to charge him more then another .. I will answere you. 1658 Bramhall *Consecr. Bps.* V. 132 If the strongest presumtion in the world may have any place. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xliv. (1820) 239 The presumption is strongly against them. 1838–9 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* I. I. iv. § 81. 323 There seems strong internal presumption against the authenticity of these epistles. 1880 Carpenter in *19th Cent.* Apr. 614 The presumption is altogether very strong, that these vast masses have originally formed part of a great ice-sheet, formed by the cumulative pressure of successive snow-falls.

† **Presu·mptious,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **-tius,** 5–6 **-teous,** 6 **-tiouse, presumtious.** [ME. a. OF. *presoncieus* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. late L. *præsumptiōsus* (5th c.), f. *præsumptiōn-em* Presumption: see -ious; cf. the less regular Presumptuous.] = Presumptuous *a.* 1. (In quot. 1596 as *adv.*)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3847 Machaon the mody kyng was .. Proude & presumptius, prouyt of wille. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* I. 19 Princis .. becummis ambitius ande presumpteous, throucht grite superfluite of veltht. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 227/32 Presumptiouse, *præsumptuosus*. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. (S. T. S.) 71 Mair arrogantlie, presumpteous, and mair proudlie, than was decent. *a* 1607 Sir E. Dyer *Writ.* (1872) 39 Presumptious eye, to gaze on Phillis face. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* § 81. 108 People desperately presumptious both to abuse themselves and me. 1815 *Zeluca* II. 248 The growth of presumptious hopes.

Hence † **Presu·mptiously** *adv.*; † **Presu·mptiousness.**

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. lx, Thou .. *Presumpteouslie .. My Lady heir blasphemit in thy rime. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 *Preamble*, Presumtiously contrary to the lawes of Gode and all holy Churche. *a* 1642 Sir W. Monson *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 337/2 That he carry not himself proudly or presumptiously. 1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* § 87. 122 Some that have used it presumptiously. 1550 Veron *Godly Sayings* (1846) 91 He receiveth .. the sacrament .. too the condemnatyon of hys *presumptiousnes.

Presumptive (prĭzʌ·mptiv), *a.* [a. F. *présomptif, -ive* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), also obs. *presumptif*, ad. late L. *præsumptīvus* (Priscian), f. *præsumpt-*, ppl. stem of *præsūmĕre* to Presume: see -ive.]

1. = Presumptuous 1. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1609 Daniel *Civ. Wars* VIII. lxvii, To keepe his forwardnes Backe from presumptiue pressing. 16.. Brown (J.), There being two opinions repugnant to each another, it may not be presumptive or sceptical to doubt of both. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* (1812) I. 418 Your presumptive emulation in a much more interesting affair. 1816 J. Evans in *Monthly Mag.* XLI. 124 Having so far proceeded in a strain of dictatorship, that some .. may deem altogether presumptive. 1883 Schaff *Hist. Ch.* I. IV. XXVI. 254 He protested in presumptive modesty, when Christ would wash his feet.

2. Giving reasonable grounds for presumption or belief; warranting inferences.

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 174 Quhilk claus is adjectit to mak the mair cleir probatioun presumptive. 1685–6 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 87 The evidences against him were very many, and the circumstances very numerous and presumptive. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xiii. 197 The presumptive evidence of that right is strongly in favour of his antagonist. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1028 That will be presumptive against him, that he made that return, unless he shews the contrary. 1836–9 Dickens *Sk. Boz, First of May*, This is strong presumptive evidence, but we have positive proof—the evidence of our own senses. 1895 [see Presumption 3 b].

3. Based on presumption or inference; presumed, inferred. *Heir presumptive*: see Heir *sb.* 1 b.

1628, 1683, 1875 Presumptive heir, etc. [see Heir *sb.* 1 b]. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 89 This estate, wherein I have a reall & presumptive, tho' not a present or a certain interest. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* V, The case of Effie .. Deans .. is one of those cases of murder presumptive. *a* 1854 H. Reed *Lect. Eng. Hist.* IX. (1855) 289 The Duke of York being the heir presumptive. 1858 Sears *Athan.* II. xii. 249 Immortality is not made presumptive, as a conclusion hanging on the last link of a syllogism, but its giant glories are disclosed. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* IX. § 4. 635 As the King was childless .. Mary was presumptive heiress of the Crown.

Presu·mptively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] By presumption or inference; presumably.

a 1677 Barrow *Unity of Church* (1680) 14 Presumptively every member of this [society] doth pass for a member of the other. 1771 Burke *Powers of Juries* Wks. 1812 V. 402 When he who could read and write was presumptively a person in Holy Orders, libels could not be general or dangerous. 1885 Ld. Selborne in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 647 The furniture of an hotel is not presumptively the property of the person who is occupying the hotel.

† **Presu·mptorily,** *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. late L. *præsumptōrĭē* adv., from *præsumptōrius* adj. (rare), presumptuous: see -ory[2] and -ly[2].] = Presumptuously.

1681 in *Savile Corr.* (Camden) 234, I durst not presumptorily undertake .. that whatever stock of that kind [tin at Marseilles] they should carry over should bee safe.

† **Presumptuo·sity.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. In 5 **presomtweste.** [a. obs. F. *presomptuouseté, -osité* (15th c. in Godefroy): see next and -ity.] Usurpation; = Presumption 1.

c 1450 Lovelich *Grail* l. 340 But now knowe I wel that thilke same se, That I Inne sat be presomtweste, It Is that same seye to mene Wher as God to his disciples Made his Sene.

Presumptuous (prĭzʌ'mptiuəs), *a.* Also 4 -somptuose, 5 -sumptuose, (-suis), 5–6 -tuouse, -tuows(e. [a. OF. *presuntuex* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *presumptuoux*, mod.F. *présomptueux*, ad. L. *præsumptuōsus*, late variant of the regular *præsumptiōsus* PRESUMPTIOUS, perh. influenced by *sumptuōsus*, f. *sumptus* (*u*-stem).]

1. Characterized by presumption in opinion or conduct; unduly confident or bold; arrogant, presuming; forward, impertinent.

c 1350 *Medit. de Passione Dom.* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 92 Neuere to be presumptuous ne proud of þi 3iftis. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Presumptuowse, or bolde, or malapert (*P.* ouer bolde), *presumptuosus*. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 84 Suppose a knycht wald be.. sa presumptuous that he wald assailȝe ane hundreth knychtis him allane. 1535 Coverdale *Dan.* vii. 20 A mouth speakynge presumptuous thinges. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 157 'Tis not thy Southerne power..Which makes thee thus presumptuous and prowd. 1635 Quarles *Embl., Hieroglyph* i, That glorious, that presumptuous thing, call'd man. 1673 O. Walker *Educ.* (1677) 108 Such persons..if not well regulated become scornful and presumtuous. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* II. v. 82 Narvaez, no less brave in action than presumptuous in conduct, armed himself in haste. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xi, The tower which builders vain Presumptuous piled on Shinar's plain. 1881 P. Brooks *Candle of Lord* 299 It is almost as presumptuous to think you can do nothing as to think you can do everything.

†**2.** = Presumptive 2. *Obs. rare.*

a 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* v. (1677) 226 A number of presumptuous likelihoods and conjectures, to make it appear she was privy to the Murther. 1653 A. Wilson *Jas. I* 285 Suspected of being poisoned; the Symptoms being very presumptuous.

†**3.** That assumes beforehand; anticipative. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. (But referred by Puttenham to sense 1.)

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 239 This figure was called the *presumptuous*. I will also call him the figure of *presupposall* or the *preuenter*. [*Marginal note*: *Procatalepsis*, or the presumptuous, otherwise the figure of Presupposall.]

Presu'mptuously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a presumptuous manner; with presumption; with overweening self-confidence or forwardness.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. XII. 8 Þou woldest konne þat I can and carpen hit after. Presumptuowsly, parauenture a-pose so manye, That [etc.]. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. xliii. (1859) 49 Heretykes, and Scysmatikes presumptuously peruertyn hooly Scrypture. *c* 1536 M. Nisbet *Tindale's Prol. to Romans* in *N. T. in Scots* (S. T. S.) III. 338 They ..ar blynde, and gangis to wyrk presumptwslye. 1542 Henry VIII *Declar. Scots* B iij, All these be ouer presumptuously done agaynste vs. 1622 Rowlands *Gd. Newes & Bad* 5 Grosse ignorance presumptuously will prate Of serious matters that concerne a State. *a* 1720 Sheffield (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) II. 136 Presumptuously to arrogate a Preheminence above all their Brethren.

Presu'mptuousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being presumptuous; groundless self-confidence; over-bold forwardness.

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2810 Ny suche presumpsuisnas vpone here take. *c* 1490 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 (MS. K.) Presumptuowsnes, *presumptuositas*. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Sam.* xvii. 28, I knowe thy presumptuousnesse well ynough, and the wickednesse of thine hert: for thou art come downe to se the battayll. 1688 Bunyan *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1700) 98 This presumptuousness is a very heinous thing in the eyes of God. 1802 *Edin. Rev.* I. 201 It seems to be the business of philosophy..to restrain the presumptuousness of the theorist. 1882 A. W. Ward in *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 425 One thing..may be asserted without presumptuousness.

†**Presuppo'ne,** *v. Obs.* Chiefly *Sc.* [In 1400 ad. med.L. *præsuppōnĕre* (Albertus Magnus, *a* 1250), f. *præ*, Pre- A. 1 + *suppōnĕre* to Suppose; in Sc. perh. f. Pre- A. 1 + Suppone (found *c* 1535).] *trans.* To presuppose; to assume beforehand.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 19 þerfor þow a persoun prescit curse bi autorite of þe [kirk], neuer þe lesse he presupponiþ þe kirk. *a* 1598 Rollock *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 480 This presupponeth ..that the church is full of sin so long as it is in this world. 1609 Hume *Admon.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 583, I presuppone that theis grave personages wer alyve to behold your proceedingis.

Presupposal (prĭsʌpō'uzăl). Now *rare.* [f. next + -AL: cf. Supposal.] A 'supposal' or supposition formed beforehand; a presupposition.

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 206 If our presupposall be true, that the Poet is of all other the most auncient Orator. *Ibid.* 239 [see Presumptuous 3]. 1687 R. L'Estrange *Answ. Diss.* 35 He..Proceeds upon the Presupposal of an Imaginary Breach, and Right. 1847–8 De Quincey *Protestantism* Wks. 1858 VIII. 131 Scriptural truth..is protected by its prodigious iteration, and secret presupposal in all varieties of form.

Presuppose (prĭsʌpō'uz), *v.* Also 6–7 præ-. [a. F. *présupposer* (14th c. in Littré), after med.L. *præsuppōnĕre* (cf. Presuppone): see Pre- A. 1 and Suppose *v.*]

1. *trans.* Of a person: To suppose, lay down, or postulate beforehand; hence, to take for granted or assume beforehand or to start with; to presume.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3043 Pre-supposyd ther be no whyht To whom the offyce sholde of ryht Appertene off duete. 1482 Caxton *Trevisa's Higden* III. xv, Yf hester had be in his tyme [it] is to presuppose he wolde somwhat haue spoken of hir. 1530 Palsgr. 52 For the declaryng of whiche thyng thre thynges be to be presupposed. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 243 The lawe presupposeth that he carieth that malicious mind with him. 1641 Best *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 37 In makinge of a pyke they first frame theire staddle accordinge to the loades of hey that they presuppose shall bee layde in them. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 308 All the Authors I have met with seem to presuppose their Reader to understand Geometry. 1809 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1867) I. 179 Pre-supposing such a desire to please. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 273 You can tell that a song or ode has three parts—..that degree of knowledge I may presuppose.

†**b.** To suppose or assume the existence of (something) as prior *to* something else. *Obs. rare.*

(Here the *pre-* does not qualify the supposing, but indicates the order of the things supposed.)

1697 G. K. *Disc. Geom. Problems* 7 To presuppose the knowledge of Conick Sections to the knowledge of some necessary Problems in plain Geometry, is greatly incongruous.

2. To suppose beforehand, or *a priori*; to think or believe in advance of actual knowledge or experience.

c 1530 L. Cox *Rhet.* (1899) 87 Presupposynge hym nat to be in muche other case. 1555 Eden *Decades* 321 Presupposynge the thynge to bee impossible they neuer attempted it. 1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 25 A man wuld have præsupposid that the Masters letters to his præsident miht have dun somewhat with his præsident. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxi. § 9 Men of corrupted minds presuppose that honesty groweth out of simplicity of manners. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* I. x, With a pervading air upon him of having presupposed the ceremony to be a funeral.

3. Of a thing: To require as a necessary preceding condition; to involve or imply as an antecedent.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 22 The holy lyfe of religyon presupposeth grace. 1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) 51 Gouernement presupposeth Order, forasmuch as without Order, there can be no due gouernment. 1669 Clarendon *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 123 Princes..can have few friends, because friendship presupposeth some kind of equality. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* xxiii. (1819) 369 A law presupposes an agent, for it is only the mode according to which an agent proceeds. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 231 Healthy sleep presupposes a healthy state of brain. 1877 E. R. Conder *Bas. Faith* vii. 296 An effect presupposes a cause.

4. *passive* (from 1 or 3). To be implied or involved as something previously or already present or in existence. Formerly with *to* (cf. 1 b).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155 [This] is necessaryly required to be had, as yᵉ meane directly presupposed, before yᵗ euery persone can attayne to yᵉ perfeccyon of yᵉ contemplatyue lyfe. 1557 Edgeworth *Serm.* Repert., Faith, hope, and charitie, be presupposed to the .vii. giftes of the holy gooast. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. § 3 Other principles..although not specified in defining, are not withstanding in nature implied and presupposed. 1653 Ashwell *Fides Apost.* 142 And Christs descent into Hell, is presupposed to the Article of his Resurrection. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) IX. xi. 319 In all rational agents, before every action there is presupposed a knowledge of the thing that is to be produced by that action. 1853 Lynch *Self-Improv.* iv. 84 In all culture, nature is presupposed.

Hence †**Presuppo'se** *sb.*, a presupposition. *Obs.*

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 84 Having made thys .. swasive praesuppose..I..determined..to come backe againe to this noble..Nymph.

Presupposed (-ōu'zd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] Supposed, assumed, or implied beforehand.

1577–87 Holinshed *Chron.* III. 195/1 All which presupposed plagues concurring. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. xvi. Wks. 1851 IV. 103 The efficacie of those [rites] depends upon the presupposed fitnesse of either party. 1794 Home in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 14 It was a particular satisfaction to have an evidence who had no presupposed opinion, therefore impartial. 1840 Thackeray *Paris Sk.-bk., Case Peytel* (1872) 194 The dreadful weight of his presupposed guilt.

Presupposition (prīsʌpŏzi'ʃən). Also 8 præ-. [ad. med. L. *præsuppositiōn-em* (*a* 1308 in Duns Scotus *Rer. Princip.* 5. 21), n. of action from med.L. *præsuppōnĕre*: see Presuppone. So F. *présupposition* (14th c. in Godef.).]

1. The action or an act of presupposing; a supposition antecedent to knowledge; the assumption of the existence or truth of something, as a preliminary to action, argument, etc.

a 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* XXX. (1535) 50 To my iugement, these princis are not chosen, that they shulde eate more mete than all other,.. but with presupposition, yᵗ they ought to knowe more than all other. 1614 Selden *Titles Hon.* 4 That cannot..be conceiued.. otherwise than with a presupposition of a Democracie, out of which, as is related, a Monarchie might haue originall. 1702 Norris *Ideal World* I. v. 238 That which Suaver calls a priority of præsupposition. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 387 The verb and adjective alike have their very nature based upon the pre-supposition of the substantive.

2. That which is presupposed, assumed, or taken for granted beforehand; a supposition, notion, or idea assumed as a basis of argument, action, etc.; an antecedent supposition, preliminary assumption.

1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 383 As in a Mathematicall Proposition, there were many great conjectures and presuppositions, and many long circumstances to bring the matter to a conclusion. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* II. ii. rule vi. § 1, I will not now examine whether they certainly follow from their premises and presuppositions. 1847 Lewes *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. iv. 307 The presupposition, absurd as it really is, has been generally entertained. 1882 W. Wallace in *Academy* 1 Apr. 231/3 He sought to set before those who ignore philosophy,..the consideration that there are a few presuppositions still unanswered and apparently unanswerable by scientific methods. 1895 *Athenæum* 23 Feb. 242/3 Pre-suppositions, axioms, postulates, call them what you will, are discovered by analysis to be a necessary ingredient of knowledge; and their acceptance is an act of faith, which is justified by its results.

Hence **Presuppositionless** *a.*, without presuppositions.

1871 Davidson tr. *Trendelenburg* in *Jrnl. Spec. Philos.* V. 358. 1885 A. Seth in *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 795/1.

Pre-surmise, -suspect: see Pre- A. 1, 2.

Presydent, obs. f. Precedent, President.

Presyes, -syse, obs. forms of Precise *a.*

Presylvian, -symphysial: see Pre- B. 3.

‖ **Presystole** (prīsi'stŏli). *Physiol.* [mod. L., f. Pre- B. 1 + Systole.] The interval immediately preceding the systole. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Nature* 4 Sept. 460/1 A study of the sphincters of the cardiac and other veins, with remarks on their hermetic occlusion during the presystole state. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Presystole*, the latter part of the *diastole*, corresponding to the time occupied by the dilatation of the ventricles.

Presystolic (prīsistŏ'lik), *a. Physiol.* [f. as prec. + -IC; so F. *présystolique*.] Preceding the systole; of or belonging to the presystole.

1857 Dunglison *Dict. Med.* s. v., Presystolic friction sound. 1876 [see Peridiastolic]. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 58 He has..a well-marked presystolic thrill and a loud presystolic murmur at the cardiac apex.

†**Pret,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [short for It. *Prete Gianni.*] = Prester John, applied to the Negus of Abyssinia.

1635 Pagitt *Christianogr.* I. ii. 40 The Abassins reckon a succession of Christian Emperors..The Prets or Emperours dwell in a mooveable City of Tents.

†**Pret,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [a. mod.F. *prêt* ready: see Prest.] Ready; = Prest *a.*

1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 63 Witht laureat language and pret for till prys [=ready for to praise], His orisoun begouth he on this wyss.

†**Preta'xate,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. med.L. *prætaxāre*: see next and -ATE 2.] Estimated, or fixed as to amount, beforehand. In quot. const. as *pa. pple.* So †**Preta'xed** *pa. pple. Obs.*

c 1520 Barclay *Jugurth* li. 72 That suche excused of warr ..shulde pay a certayne somme of money pretaxed to warde the wages of such as laufully were admytted to warre. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 464/2 That no man, vpon payne pretaxate, should helpe, reskew, or relieue the sayd rebells.

Pretaxation (prītæksē'ʃən). Also præ-. [ad. med.L. **prætaxātiōn-em*, n. of action f. med. L. *prætaxāre* to count, reckon, or estimate beforehand: see Pre- A. and Taxation. The intermediate sense was app. that of giving a preliminary opinion.] The action of giving a vote before others; prior election: see quots.

1769 Robertson *Chas. V* (1796) I. 358 This privilege of voting first is called by the German lawyers the right of Præetaxation. 1864 Bryce *Holy Rom. Emp.* xiv. (1866) 251 At the election of Lothar II. A.D. 1125 we find a certain small number of magnates exercising the so-called right of prætaxation; that is to say, choosing alone the future monarch, and then submitting him to the rest for their approval. *Ibid.* 252 The right of prætaxation had ripened into an exclusive privilege of election, vested in a small body. 1878 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 417 A pretaxation was made by the ruling officers of the community.

Pre-teach, -telegraph, etc.: see Pre- A. 1, B. 2, etc.

Prete'mporal (prī-), *a.*[1] (*sb.*) [ad. mod.L. *prætemporālis*: see Pre- B. 3 and Temporal (belonging to the temple).] Situated in front of the temporal region of the skull: applied to a muscle. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.*

[1866 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* I. 223 The temporal is represented by two muscles, one of which, the *pretemporalis*.. has its origin extended forward into the orbit from beneath the postfrontal.] *Ibid.*, Its fibres pass vertically external to those of the pretemporal.

Pretemporal, *a.*[2]: see Pre- B. 1.

Pretence, pretense (prĭte'ns), *sb.* [= late AF. *pretensse* (*c* 1471 in Godef.), ad. med.L. **prætensa* vbl. sb., f. *prætens-us* for class.L. *prætent-us*, pa. pple. of *prætendĕre*: see Pretend. The spelling *pretense* is now usual in the U. S.; cf. *defense*.]

1. An assertion of a right or title; the putting forth of a claim; a claim. Now *rare.*

1425 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 19 His pretense of his title to the priourie of Bromholme is adnulled. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 47 *Preamble*, Youre seid Suppliant [hath] contynually ben seised..therof..hidirto without any pretence or clayme made therto by the seid Duke. 1522 in Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1649) 127 To prevent ambiguities and quarrels, each Prince before May 1524, shall declare his pretences. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 825 Spirits that in our just pretenses arm'd Fell with us from on high. 1683 Temple *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 410 His Highness had a long Pretence depending at Madrid, for about Two hundred thousand Pounds owing to his Family from that Crown. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 186 No Man has..more Pretence to speak of Nitre, than M. Boyle. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 679 Marlborough calmly and politely showed that the pretence was unreasonable.

b. *Her. In pretence,* borne on an inescutcheon to indicate a pretension or claim, e. g. that of a husband to the estates of his wife. *Escutcheon of pretence*, such an inescutcheon.

1562 Leigh *Armorie* 43 If the man haue maried an heyre, he shall beare her cote, none other wise, vntill he haue begotten an heyre of the heyre. Then may he, by the curtesy of armes, beare her armes in an Inscocheon, that is to saye, a scocheon of pretence. 1611 Guillim *Heraldry* II. vii. (1611) 65 Escocheon of Pretence. 1677, 1823 [see Escutcheon 1 c]. 1869 Cussans *Her.* (1882) 231 The only difference between

the Arms of William and those of Mary was, that the former bore Nassau in pretence. *Ibid.* 233 From [1801] until the accession of our present Queen, the Royal Arms were: Quarterly of four: 1 and 4. England: 2. Scotland: 3. Ireland: in Pretence, Hanover, ensigned with an Imperial Crown.

2. The putting forth of a claim to merit, dignity, or personal worth; pretension, profession; ostentation, parade, display.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 But for shame she wyll not make suche pretence as to aske them openly. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 39 My Princelie pretence began to decay. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. xiv. § 26 There are no greater fools in the world then such, whose life conformes not to the pretence of their baptisme and institution. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 87 Persons..who yet make great pretences to religion. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. iv. 20 Fashionable dialect..destitute of any pretence to wit. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Mar. 8/6 His bearing had always a kind of stateliness, utterly free from pomp or pretence.

†**3.** An expressed aim, intention, purpose, or design; an intending or purposing; the object aimed at, the end purposed. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 181 In whome he coude fynde neyther synne nor pretense of synne. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxxii. (1870) 205, I, knowyng theyr pretence, aduertysed them to returne home to England. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 102 E. Marshall. Wysheth well to the pretence of the byll, but not his vote thereunto as yt is. 1626 W. VAUGHAN *Direct. Health* vi. viii. (ed. 6) 169 Cause your bed to be heated with a warming pan: vnlesse your pretence be to harden your members. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* (1650) 3 Fainting ere their own pretences, though never so just, be half attain'd. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arcite* 306 But thou, false Arcite, never shalt obtain Thy bad pretence. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* Prol. 33 To please, this time, has been his sole pretence. 1783 BURKE *Rep. Affairs India* Wks. 1842 II. 17 It appears, that the subscription, even in idea or pretence, is not for the use of the company.

b. *esp.* A false, feigned, or hypocritical profession or pretension.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vii. 103 He shall do all his fraudelent featis vnder a meruelouse pretence of holynes innocencye and mekenes. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. v. 23 With boastfull vaine pretense Stept Braggadochio forth, and as his thrall Her claym'd. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 145 Manetho,..with very great pretence hath carried up their Government to an incredible distance before the Creation of Mankind. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* (1765) 57 How often do we see pretence cultivated in proportion as virtue is neglected. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. (1886) 8 A piece of ingeniously reticulated pretence.

4. A profession of purpose; *esp.* a false profession, a merely feigned aim or object, a pretext, a cloak.

In earlier use the falsity is only expressed by the context.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 85 Vnder the pretense and colure therof [the common weal], euery one of them procuryth the pryuate and the syngular wele. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 259 He commanded one Francisco Campana..into England, on pretence to confer with the King and Cardinal, but indeed to charge Campejus to burn the Decretal. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 694 That under the pretence of bringing in several prisoners to Gertruydenbergh, he should open the Town to the Enemy. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 195 A good Pretence to cover their Knavery. 1845 JAMES *A. Neil* iv, He had some other object—this is all a pretence.

5. An assertion, allegation, or statement as to fact; now usually with implication that it is false or misleading.

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 79 [The Drones] suffer punishment..for pretence of idlenesse, gluttony, extortion, and rauenous greedinesse, to which they are too much adicted. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* vi. § 470. 205 The wife dyeth within one day after the descent, so as the husband could not enter during the coverture for the shortnesse of the time, yet hee shall not bee tenant by the curtesie. And yet according to common pretence there is no default in the husband. *c* 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* ii. 111 How many of the orthodox Clergy without pretence of any other delinquency have been beggered? 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. i. 5 But let us, if you please, examine this Pretence. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 79 The pretence is that the noble is of unbroken descent from the Norman... But the fact is otherwise.

b. The action of pretending, as in children's play; make-believe, fiction.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii. 80 Don't you know that this is a fairy tale and all fun and pretence; and that you are not to believe one word of it, even if it is true?

6. The assertion or alleging of a ground, cause, or reason for any action; an alleged ground or reason, a plea; now usually, a trivial, groundless, or fallacious plea or reason, a pretext.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 392 b, Vnder this pretence of the law, he might by little and little tourn both him and his children out of all theyr landes. 1627 DONNE *Serm.* v. (1640) 39 Moses having received a commandement from God, ..and having excused himselfe by some other modest and pious pretences. 1654 BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 12 Heresie obtruded upon them under the specious pretences of obedience and Charity. 1674 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 422 This new bauke which occasions it, will serve for a just pretense to the variance of our judgements. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VI. Wks. 1813 I. 448 A pretence was at hand to justify the most violent proceedings. 1823 J. GILLIES tr. *Aristotle's Rhet.* xii. 228 Villany, according to the proverb, wants but a pretence. 1846 GREENER *Sc. Gunnery* 166 For what purpose? Under the pretence that the barrels are firmer, and not so liable to become loose. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* June 284 And ring for the servants on the smallest pretense.

†**Prete·nce, prete·nse,** *v. Obs.* [Back-formation from PRETENCED *ppl. a.*; or f. late L. *prætens-*, ppl. stem of *prætendĕre*: see PRETENSE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To offer, proffer. *rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 82 None ceased till they all that would entre were deliuered of their pretence in chalenge royall pretenced.

2. To cloak, to give a feigned appearance to.

1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* A j b, It is also pretensed & cloked wyth the pretence and vsurped name of the Euangelicall truthe. 1648 J. GOODWIN *Right & Might* 36 Much more may the most worthy actions and services of men, bee compelled to pretence the worst and vilest deeds.

3. To pretend, profess, allege, esp. falsely.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 525 To mak publicatioun ..that nane pretense ignorance of the same. 1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VII. XXXV. (1612) 168 A Priests base Puple, he By his Complottors was pretens'te Duke Clarence sonne to be. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 257 That impossibility, or difficulty may not be pretensed. 1691 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 27 The Nations salvation From mal-administration Was then pretenc'd by the Saints, but now 'tis abdication.

4. To intend, purpose, design.

1565 in *Calr. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 119 The overthrow of religion ys pretensed.

Prete·nced, prete·nsed (-e·nst), *ppl. a.* [orig. *pretensed*, f. L. *prætens-us* (see PRETENSE *a.*) + -ED[1] **2.**]

1. Put forward in defence or excuse; alleged, asserted, professed, claimed, esp. falsely; feigned, counterfeit, spurious; = PRETENDED 1, 2. *arch.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 273/1 Y[e] pretensed ryght of my said Lord. 1461 *Ibid.* V. 467/2 Eny Acte made in the pretensed Parlement holden at the Citee of Coventre. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 77 Vexede without cause or any pretenced occasion motioned of your saide oratours partie. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 35 Upon some pretensed crime objected against them. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 225 Such as then had obtained pretenced licences and dispensations from the See of Rome. 1798 B. WASHINGTON *Rep.* I. 39 An act against buying pretensed titles. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. iv. 11 Through the pretensed commission which they gave.

†**2.** Intended, purposed, designed. *Obs.*

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1641) 2 He set forth openly his pretensed enterprise. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 207 Thei beganne to goe forwarde with their pretenced jornie. 1543 GRAFTON *Contn. Harding* 469 His mischeuous imagened & pretenced enterprise. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807–8) IV. 245 That wicked practise missed the pretensed effect. 1596 J. SMYTH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 92 That I had a pretensed intencion to stirre the soldyers to mutynye.

†**b.** esp. in *pretenced* or *pretensed malice*, frequent in 15–16th c. for *purpensed, prepensed malice* (from similarity of sound and sense). *Obs.*

1483 *Parl. Roll* 1 *Rich. III*, m. 9 (P. R. O.) Of thair pretenced malices and traitours entent. 1542 BECON *Pathw. Prayer* vii. D vij b, It came to passe accordynge to his pretensed malyce, that he slewe his brother. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 74/2 He resisted not the Gospell, nor fought against the trueth of God of a pretensed malice.

†**3.** Seriously intended (as opposed to feigned).

1547 HOOPER *Answ. Bp. Winchester's Bk.* E iij, This reason and accompt of fayth yeuen, with a moost ernist, and pretensyd uowe to lyue for euer uerteusly.

Hence **Prete·ncedly, prete·nsedly** *adv.*, with pretence, feignedly, pretendedly. *rare.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* xvi. E viij, In case thou walke pretensedly and thereby hope to gaine. 1607 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1843) V. 191 Let the word be preached..be it sincerely, or be it pretensedly. 1885 R. W. DIXON *Hist. Ch. Eng.* xv. (1893) III. 40 The Parliament saw..their own statute of repeal traversed by these royal, or pretensedly royal edicts.

Prete·nceful, *a. rare.* [f. PRETENCE *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of pretence, or of loud pretension.

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 564 Sounding the trump ecclesiastic with pretenceful blare and fanfare.

Prete·nceless, *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without any pretence of reason; without excuse.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 41 What Rebellions, and those the basest, and most pretenseless have they not been chiefe in? 1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 26 Oh! pretenceless and inhuman tyranny! 1818 — *Ch. Eng.* 352 The number of these pretenceless instances of dereliction of duty is more than half as great again as in either of the two preceding years.

Pretend (pri·te·nd), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [ad. L. *prætend-ĕre* to stretch forth, hold before, put forward, allege, pretend, f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *tendĕre* to stretch, extend, TEND. So F. *prétendre* (15th c. in Littré).]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To stretch, extend, or hold (something) before, in front of, or over a person or thing (e. g. as a covering or defence). *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xi. 19 But Pastorella..Was by the Captaine all this while defended, Who..His target alwayes over her pretended. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 145 They may pretend them [bells of earth over plants] for the night only, and to prevent hail. 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 146 There was an opacous, dark red setling, with an enaeorema of contexed filaments pretended to the top.

†**2.** To bring or put forward, set forth, hold out, offer for action, consideration, or acceptance; to proffer, present; to bring (a charge, an action at law).

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlv. 115 Lorde, what may I.. riȝtwesly pretende ayenst þe if þou do not þat I aske? 1563 B. GOOGE *Eglogs*, etc. (Arb.) 78 Suche towardenes,..Doth sure a hope, of greater thyngs pretende. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 30 Without prejudice of the said Gilbertis actioun..that he may have, pretend, or move, aganis the airis. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xii. (1596) 198 God..had pretended a remedie in that behalfe, which was .. Manna. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle, Cert. Poems* (E. E. T. S.) 119, I had not thought..to have pretended thus conspicuously in thy sight this rude and indigested chaos of conceites. 1621–3 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* IV. ii. 91 To that wench I pretend honest love, and she deserves it. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* II. 55 Women .. offered their breasts; but the child would not take womans milk, neither would the Goat leave it; but importunatly..pretended to it her own. So that the women let it alone, and the Goat nursed it. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 345 When there is an Aequation pretended like $aa+ba+ca=-bc$, present judgement may be made.

3. †**a.** *refl.* To put oneself forward in some character; to profess or claim (with *inf.* or *compl.*).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 518 þo þat pretenden hem to ben principal folewers of Cristis steppis. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 886 He þat pretendiþ him of moost nobley. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 26 Pretendand the to wryte sic skaldit skrowis. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 252 Poor, petty, pitiful persons, who pretended themselves princes. 1672 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 246 A paper or libell..pretending itselfe to be a remonstrance. 1680 H. DODWELL *Two Lett.* (1691) Ep. Ded., None can now pretend themselves unconcerned in the Advice of a Laick, or a private Person.

b. Without reflexive pronoun, in same sense as a; gradually passing into one closely akin to 7: To put forth an assertion or statement (expressed by an *inf.*) about oneself; now usually implying mere pretension without foundation: to feign *to be* or *do* something. (A leading modern sense.)

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. x. (1555), She vnto some pretendeth to be trewe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 204 Yf he had pretended to suffre payne & had feled no smarte. 1530 PALSGR. 665/2 He pretendith to be my frynde, but he doyth the worst for me that he can. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXV. 8 Of y[e] sonne of man that is righteous as thou pretendest to be. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. i. § 10. 37, I may, and doe believe *them*, as firmely as you pretend to do. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 227 He will pretend not to have seen him. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* II. vi, He was ignorant, or at least pretended to be so. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* XXXI, The people pretend to know nothing about any prisoners. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. 10 Pretending to agree with the world when you do not. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* XXX, I cannot pretend to feel any of the interest you consider essential.

†**c.** with ellipsis of refl. pron. or inf. *Obs.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* 212 Wisest Men Have err'd, and by bad Women been deceiv'd; And shall again, pretend they ne're so wise.

d. To feign in play; to make believe. (With *inf.* as in b, or *clause* as in 7 a.)

1865 'L. CARROLL' *Alice in Wonderl.* i, This curious child was very fond of pretending to be two people. 1871 — *Through Looking-gl.* i, 'Let's pretend we're kings and queens.' ..'Nurse! do let's pretend that I'm a hungry hyæna, and you're a bone!' 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 20 The boys used to pretend that they were a court of justice, and appoint a judge, jury [etc.].

4. *trans.* To give oneself out as having (something); to profess to have, make profession of, profess (a quality, etc.). Now always in a bad sense: To profess falsely, to feign (some quality).

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 55 Anticristis menye,..the which pretenden first mekenesse of herte, and aftir rysyng to arrogaunce, disdeynynge al other. *Ibid.* 102 Thou seist that we pretenden the perfeccioun of apostlis. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. v. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 40 b/2 Thou3 þ[e] þei feith aforn pretende. 1563–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 256 Nane of his liegis pretend ignorance heirin. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* IV. ii, That comfort which The damned pretend, fellows in misery. 1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 37 Leastwise they seemingly pretended it [real piety]; and Joshua charitably beleeved it. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 203 Good Meanings rather pretended than intended, are ful of Hel, and Mischiefe. 1740 GRENVILLE in *Johnson's Debates* 4 Dec. (1787) I. 79, I do not pretend any other skill in military affairs, than may be gained by casual conversation with soldiers. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 707 The enchantress then related..how she pretended illness, and thus excited Prince Ahmed's compassion.

†**b.** *esp.* To profess or claim to have (a right, title, power, authority, or the like); to claim. *Obs.*

1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 326/2 Any right þat he wolde pretende or clayme in the governance. 1469 *Paston Lett.* II. 344 My Lorde of Norffolk pretendeth title to serteyn londys of Sir John Pastons. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 17 b, Where a man pretendeth a tytle and after releseth in the court. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* v. 133 Where the Bishop of London never pretended any Jurisdiction. 1667 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 44 Notwithstanding any priviledge hee may pretend as being our servant. 1784 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 11 Dec., Its right being at least so far a good one, that no word in the language could pretend a better.

†**5.** To put forth or lay a claim to (a thing); to assert as a right or possession; to claim. *Obs.*

1495 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 489/1 That your said Oratour may have .. the said Manours..ayenst .. all other persones and their heyres, havyng, claymyng or pretendyng any thing therin. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 39 He hath no reason to pretend the Diamond. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect., Japan* (1685) 427 At this day the Hollanders pretend all Trade at Japan. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 70 The Peach-tree might well pretend a place there, for the Excellency of its good Fruit. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 165 Seamen taken and made Slaves shall not pretend any thing for their Ransom, either of the Master, Owners or Freighters.

†**b.** with *inf.* or *clause. Obs.*

c 1500 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamb. Cases* (1903) 95 [Henry]

Erle of Northumberland claymythe and pretendythe to haue the warde and mariage of your saide Oratoure. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 129 This Prince pretended that the K. called *Lu.* should yield up his right to him. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varillas' Ho. Medicis* 36 The deputy of the Ruffians pretended to receive the full sum which his accomplices had agreed upon. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. ix. 204 As both the archbishops pretended to sit on his right hand, this question of precedency begat a controversy between them.

†6. To put forward as a reason or excuse; to use as a pretext; to allege as a ground or reason.

1456 Sir G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 191 The resoun that thai pretend is this. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt. v–vii.* vi. 67 b, Hyrelinges wil pretende their worke and saye: 'I haue deserued it, I haue done so much and so much and my laboure is worth it'. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 339 b, Thou canst not hereafter pretend the name of the Turkishe warre. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 27 At this time the Irishmen rebelled..pretending the libertie of Religion. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 54 When I pretended mine unfitnes for such a place and imployment. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xiv. § 5 We must..not pretend conscience for a cloak of stubbornness. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1684 (1823) II. 423 The only excuse that was ever pretended for this infamous prosecution was [etc.]. 1776 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1892) I. 47 Speak in honest language and say the minority will be in danger from the majority. And is there an assembly on earth where this danger may not be equally pretended?

7. To put forward as an assertion or statement; to allege; now *esp.* to allege or declare falsely or with intent to deceive. (A leading current sense.)

a. with *clause.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 362 Pretending that he was sickly. 1629 PRYNNE *Ch. Eng.* 87 If they have power to leave their sinnes as they pretend they have, why are their lives so vicious? 1637 HEYLIN *Brief Answ. Burton* 21 It is pretended that .. you were not bound to answer to it. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* 15 Noblemen wou'd cause empty Litters to be carried to the Giver's Door, pretending their Wives were within them. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 257 By this construction he pretends..that..this charge, or weight, will be stopped, or stayed by the Inverse Arches. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (ed. 2) III. App., It is pretended that to satisfy their natural impatience, he formed a hasty manner that prejudiced his works and reputation. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 537 [This] induced practitioners to suppose, or to pretend, that the small-pox sometimes degenerates into the chicken-pox. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 26 A monk wrote a letter in golden characters which she was to pretend had been given her by Mary Magdalen.

†b. *passive* with *inf.* or *compl. Obs.*

(*The work was pretended to be ready = it was pretended that the work was ready*; passive of *they pretended that the work was ready.*)

1639 LD. DIGBY, etc. *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 108 The precedency..is pretended due upon another ground also. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* i. 7 He might heare many things..from the persons prætended to have bene then consecrated. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxviii. § 10 Vertue and Vice are Names pretended and suppos'd every where to stand for Actions in their own nature right and wrong. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xii. 260 These rocks..are by the help of a little imagination, pretended to resemble the form of a cross. 1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 22, I will now consider the right they are pretended to have acquired after possession.

c. with *simple obj.* To allege the existence or presence of.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 128 Monie haue a cote and armes bestowed vpon him by heralds (who in the charter of the same doo of custome pretend antiquitie and seruice, and manie gaie things). 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 2 What ever was pretended to the contrary, England at that time flourished with able Ministers more then ever before. 1668 HALE *Pref. Rolle's Abridgm.* b j b, Men not much acquainted with the study..pretend two great prejudices and exceptions against the study of the Common-Law. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 52 To pretend difficulties and inconsistencies. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* App. (1875) 438 In any 'type' it is only analogical resemblance that is pretended.

d. with infinitive: see 3 b.

†8. To intend, purpose, design, plan. *Obs.*

a. with *simple obj.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CLXXVII. vii, Flakes..ouer the mosse ..he layde with fagottes, There gate away [= going away] and passage to pretend. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 258 Thou alonly pretendest and sekest my profyte and helthe eternall. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 152 This ende is onlye and chiefely pretended and mynded. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 110 That women when they be most pleasaunt, pretend most mischiefe. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 75 One that did pretend the spoyle, and slaughter of her sonne. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. v. (1821) 72 They pretend a journie towards the Countie of Limerick. [1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Barney Maguire*, And now I've ended, what I pretended, This narration splendid in swate poe-thry.]

b. with *clause.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 30 Pretending that men shold speke of his faytes and vailliaunces. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 36 To make a perpetual separation and enmity between the English and the Irish, pretending..that the English should in the end root out the Irish. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 298 We pretend, that this City, already famous for the Defeat of two of your Armadas, shall become far more so by the Disgrace of this your third.

c. with *inf.*

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 126 Never.. shall I departe fro this regyon where as I pretende to save my soule. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xvii. 58 They shall stray wonderfully in their course, and arrive in another place then where they pretended to go. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 99 He pretends to make a visit into England with some of his Pieces. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iii. 237 The Christians,..out of whose Hands he pretended to wrest some Place of Strength, wherein to fortify himself.

9. To aspire to; to take upon one, to undertake; to venture, presume; to attempt, endeavour, try. Const. with *inf.*

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 45 The deuyls..whyche pretendyn by mony weys of reson to haue her to hem. 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 84 In caise it sal happin ony army to pretend to invaid and persew the said fort. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* I. xiii. 43 Whether King Iosaphats fleete, pretending to go, did suffer shipwracke. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 128 P 1 Whether..there may not be a kind of Sex in the very Soul, I shall not pretend to determine. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 142 The people offered to fire at them, if they pretended to go forward. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 10 (1864) 191 How many ultimate nerve fibres are contained in each unit nerve, we cannot pretend to guess. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* X. 1781 Dost thou dare pretend to punish me For not descrying sunshine at midnight?

†10. To portend, presage, foreshow. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 38 All the elementys pretendid to the wrecchid shipmenne deith of nature. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. v. 147 The sing Pretendand tyll all mortale folk,..Contagyus infirmyteis and seyknes. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 741 It pretended by all reasone Synguler grace and goodnes to her comynge soone. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 63 b, The signes and wounders that are seene in all places, doe pretende no good. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 218 Which the standers by..said did pretend some such accident unto the elder of the two Consuls. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 16 Overmuch repleation pretendith strangling or suddaine death.

†11. To indicate, signify, import, mean. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 181 That her name pretendeth, in that she is called Maria, that is, the sterre of y^e^ see. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. iii. 395 These men be not truly Iurors, till they be sworne, as their name pretendeth. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 459 Although the curling of his haire be a token of sluggish timidity, yet if the haire bee long and curled at the top onely, it pretendeth generous animosity. 1639 CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY *Ball* III. iii, What pretends this, to dance? there's something in't.

II. *intr.* (from prec. senses.)

†12. To stretch or reach forward; to move or go forward; to extend, tend; to direct one's course *to*, to make *for. Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 110 It maketh me backwarde to meue, whan my steppes by comon course euen forthe pretende. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. xv. 168 Who pretendeth to god, God attendeth to hym. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1076, I wyll pretende To stey to my father. *Ibid.* 2073 On-to my sell I woll pretend. [*Stage direct.* Her xall þe prest go to his selfe.] 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 20 Though we pretend for heaven, yet still we bear about us a twang of our native country. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 35 Suffer none .. to pull down Thy throne, whilst they pretend for Thy scepter.

†b. *fig.* To tend in action, speech, etc. to an end or point; to extend in time. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 894 (922) For to what fyn he wolde a-non pretende þat wot I wel. *c* 1520 BARCLAY *Jugurth* (1557) 67 b, The wordes and counsel of the enchantour and preest whiche helde his sacrifice pretended to the same poynte and conclusion as the desyre of his mynde moued him longe before. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 75/1 None of his arguments pretend beyond Meton's time. 1657 JER. TAYLOR *Collect. Polemical Disc.* (1674) Ep. Ded., I find by experience that we cannot acquire that end which is pretended to by such addresses.

13. *To pretend to.* †a. To aspire to, aim at, make pretension to; to be a suitor or candidate for. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiv. 45 Some pretende to hye estates & grete richesses, & other ben content with lytil estate. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 559 Shir knycht, your lorde wondir hie pretendis, When he to me sic salutatioune sendis. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 132 To heich promotione he pretendit. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Unkindnesse* iv, When that my friend pretendeth to a place, I quit my interest, and leave it free. 1672 SIR C. LYTTELTON in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 100 My L^d^ Fanshaw was disapointed of his desire to goe to Constantinople, having long pretended to it.

b. *spec.* [ad. F. *prétendre à.*] To make suit for, try to win in marriage.

1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IV. 82 In this.. the Salvage Podolian had two ends; One, to hinder Liante from pretending to his Daughter. 1723 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 206 That..step..lays her under the foot of the man she pretends to. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxiv, He might pretend surely to his kinswoman's hand. 1874 T. HARDY *Madding Crowd* xxix, I am not such a fool as to pretend to you now I am poor, and you have altogether got above me.

c. To lay claim to; to assert a right of ownership to.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 11 The House of Commons never then Pretending to the least part of Judicature. 1683 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* (1753) 127 Yet they pretended to no Share of the Spoil. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. (1820) 70 The ministry have not yet pretended to such a tyranny over our minds. 1834–43 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CXVIII. (1848) 289/1 He was as justly entitled to the appellation of a learned man..as he was far from pretending to it.

d. To claim or profess to have; to make profession of having; to affect.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* xviii. 20 What is here meant by the cleannesse of David's hands, to which he here pretends. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 320 Lamented by all men living who pretended to Virtue. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 P 2 Persons who cannot pretend to that Delicacy and Modesty, of which she is Mistress. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) V. 223 Each party pretended to the victory. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* viii. (1870) 147 To determine the shares to which the knowing subject, and the object known, may pretend in the total act of cognition. 1843 MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 1 A bondage which it becomes all who pretend to intelligence to renounce and abjure. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* viii. (1876) 203 People who pretend to supernatural wisdom.

†e. To make pretensions or claims on behalf of, to support the claims of. *Obs.*

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 19, I know the Peripateticks pretend to four, and with the help of their Masters Quintessence to a fift Principle. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 8 Witness a late Pamphlet, pretending to the integrity and purity of the Hebrew and Greek Text. 1670 E. BORLASE *Lathom Spaw* Ep. Ded., I know, Medicinal Springs were never more pretended to than of late.

†14. To form designs; to plot (against). *Obs.*

1559–66 *Hist. Estate Scotl.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 63 She said, That it wes against her authoritie that they pretended.

15. To make pretence; to make believe; to counterfeit, feign.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 78 Pretendynge and shewynge outwardly as though it were of very mekenes, but it is of false mekenes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 125 b, The byshop nowe pretendeth as though he would calle a counsel. *c* 1640 WALLER *A la Malade* 6 Had the rich gifts, conferred on you So amply thence, the common end Of giving lovers—to pretend? 1733 FIELDING *Quix. in Eng.* III. xv, Pretend madness! Give me leave to tell you, Mr. Brief, I am not to be pretended with. 1780 COWPER *Progr. of Err.* 15 Weak to perform, though mighty to pretend.

b. In imagination or play: *absol.* of 3 d.

Let's pretend (as *sb.*): a child's game of 'make-believe'.

1893 MRS. H. BURNET *One I knew best* xiv, So she wandered about in a dream—'pretending'. That changed it all. The heaps of earth and rubbish were mounds of flowers [etc.]. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 July 8/5 She entered into the spirit of the thing as heartily as if we were at games of 'Let's pretend'. 1907 *Ibid.* 16 May 5/5 It is just a song, a jig, and 'let's pretend'.

¶16. = PERTAIN (perh. an error).

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xviii. 64 They furnysshed hem ..of good men of armes and vytaille and of alle maner of abylement that pretendith to the werre [*ed.* 1529 ordynaunce that belongeth to warre].

†**Prete·nd,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. vb.] The act of pretending; a pretension.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 15 The honour of Priesthood doth [hinder] the vsurpate pretend of Iesuiticall esteeme. *Ibid.* 314 This platforme doctrine and pretend of the Iesuits.

Prete·ndable, *a. rare.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be pretended or professed.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 592 That dwindling, puling puritanical expressions of one flock .. &c. equally pretendable (if taken alone) by Quakers, as by them. *Ibid.* 628 Motives to Unity..some of them equally pretendable nay actually pretended by Turks, Hereticks, etc.

Pretendant, -ent (prɪte·ndănt, -ĕnt), *sb.* and *a.* [a. F. *prétendant* (16th c. in Littré), pr. pple. of *prétendre* to PRETEND (also as sb.).]

A. *sb.*

†1. One who purposes: = PRETENDER 1. *Obs. rare.*

1598 FLORIO, *Pretendente*, a pretendent, a pretender, an intender, a meaner.

2. A claimant; esp. to any office or honour, e.g. to a throne. Now *rare.*

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 59 The pretendants to the succession. 1618–29 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 382 All the Pretendants were called in upon these proceedings, divers of the Ships and Goods were condemned and divers were released in a legal course. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 78 Whether of the two Pretendents had the juster Cause. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. *ii.* 315 Almost all the pretendants came into the Conclave with an absolute intention to advance every one his own proper interest. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VI. 73 All censures, excommunications, interdicts, issued by the two pretendants, were annulled.

b. A fictitious or fraudulent claimant; a mere pretender.

1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 189 They..are always heightened in proportion to the attention which the pretendant, whether knave or fanatic, obtains.

3. A suitor: a. at law; b. a wooer.

1652 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 30 It is reported that a certain Pretendent or Petitioner..had presented Xeures with a very handsom Mule. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* II. 45 By this, and other like subtilties, she screwed..a small summe of Money out of her penurious Pretendant. 1883 HOWELLS *Woman's Reason* (1884) II. 252 The good-natured slight with which husband and wife always talk over the sorrows of unlucky pretendants.

†**B.** *adj.* That claims to be (somebody); of or pertaining to a claimant. *Obs.*

1594 PARSONS *Confer. Success.* II. iv. 58 Richard Earle of Cambridge father to this Richard pretendent duke of Yorke. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xxxv, How easie had it beene for thee All the pretendant race t' haue laid full low. 1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* VII. 681 The Cardinall of Loraine came to the Councell as Head of one of the pretendent parties.

Prete·nded, *ppl. a.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ED.[1]]

†1. Put forward for consideration or acceptance.

1646 GATAKER *Mistake Removed* To Rdr. 1 A bush sufficient of itself to invite to such pretious pretended liquor.

2. Alleged, asserted; claimed to be such. a. Said of a title or designation which the speaker does not admit or allow: Reputed, so-called.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 490/2 The pretensed reigne of any of the seid late pretended Kynges. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 4 The woode and bark thairof, quhilk pertaines to the pretendit bischope of Edinburgh. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iv. 52 The Edict..allowed the Protestants the free exercise of their Religion, which..was

to be called *The Pretended Reformed Religion.* 1688 BURNET *Let.* 25 Dec. in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1886) 535 That this Assembly is to Judge..the birth of the Pretended Prince. 1709–10 STEELE *Tatler* No. 115 P1 One Isaac Bickerstaff, a Pretended Esquire.

b. Applied to things of which the speaker does not admit the existence, reality, or validity.

c 1500 in I. S. Leadam *Star Chamb. Cases* (1903) 96 The saide Erle hathe seased the body of your saide Oratoure by reason of his pretended title. 1564 in *Scott. Antiq.* Oct. (1901) 80 The makyng and compulsit grantyng of the said pretendit infeftment. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Westmld.* (1662) II. 140 A railing Jesuit wrote a pretended Confutation thereof. 1679 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Nov., Shewing with how little reason the Papists applied those words..to maintaine the pretended infallibility they boast of. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 68 Dr. Barnes was prior, who was burnt for pretended heresy. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* v. § 17. 153 A stranger instance .. of the daring variation of pretended symmetry.

c. Put forward as a pretext, excuse, defence, etc.; professed falsely or insincerely.

1643 MILTON *Divorce* ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 46 The pretended reason of it is as frigid as frigidity it self. 1695 *Eng. Anc. Const. Eng.* Pref. 7 Sacrificing (under the will-worship of a pretended loyalty) the religion, civil Liberties and properties of their country to Cæsar's will. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* i. (1875) 33 They..made the pretended service of God a reason for evading the most sacred obligations.

3. Hence, That professes or is represented to be what it is not; fictitious, counterfeit, feigned.

1727 GAY *Fables* I. xvii. 34 An open foe may prove a curse, But a pretended friend is worse. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* III. viii, With a pretended laugh, he hastily left her. 1884 D. HUNTER tr. *Reuss' Hist. Canon* xiii. 264 A pretended Confession of Faith, dated 1120, which is now known to be forged, at least antedated, and to belong at the earliest to the year 1532.

†**4.** Intended, designed, purposed, proposed. *Obs.*

1573 *New Custom* I. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 13 For the better accomplishing our subtlety pretended, It were expedient that both our names were amended. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* Author's Pref. 2 Therbye to attayne vnto his pretended intente. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 86 Two small barks..wherein he intended to complete his pretended voyage. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxxiii, The suffering Populace, whose pretended Forfeitures were granted before Conviction. 1703 DE FOE *Reas. agst. War w. France* Misc. 194 That we should .. be Insulted by the French in the Article of the pretended New King [of Spain].

Prete·ndedly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pretended manner; in or by a pretence; ostensibly, professedly: usually, and in mod. use always, implying feigning or deceit; hence, by false representation, feignedly, fictitiously, not really.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. (1623) 638 Pretendedly founded vpon that Charter. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 76 Yet liues his Heresie amongst men pretendedly most Orthodox. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* II. iii. Wks. 1851 IV. 70 If any one be truly, and not pretendedly zealous for Gods honour. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* i. 7 Those of the said Religion pretendedly Reformed..may not hereafter be overcharged or oppressed with any Imposition..more than the Catholicks. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 98 He and his English Men pretendedly fled, firing on their retreat towards the Indians that pursued them. 1788 BURKE *Sp. agst. W. Hastings* Wks. XIII. 223 Every kind of act done by Mr. Hastings—pretendedly for the Company, but really for himself. 1807 *Monthly Mag.* XXIII. 362 Things are pretendedly explained and classed in unmeaning words. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. ii. § 22. 47 The pretendedly well-informed, but really ignorant, artist.

†**Prete·ndence.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ENCE.] A pretension, claim.

1603 DANIEL *Panegyric to King* xiv, Their projects, censures, vain pretendences. 1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 100 There is no possible pretendence from one to the others getting.

Pretendent, variant of PRETENDANT.

Pretender (prɪte·ndəɹ). [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ER 1.] One who pretends.

†**1.** One who intends or purposes. *Obs. rare.*

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Pretensor,* a pretender, he that purposeth. 1598 [see PRETENDANT *sb.* 1].

2. One who puts forth a claim, or who aspires to or aims at something; a claimant, candidate, or aspirant; now, one who makes baseless pretensions.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 214 By how straight a Rule..must that Pretender carry himselfe, who is to saile thorow the sea of this world, hoping for a fortune from another mans hand? *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* XXXII. (1640) 315 The sinister supplantations of pretenders to places in Court. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 116 Every one is a pretender and a runner; but few carry the prize. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xiv. 218 The issue of the eldest son excludes all other pretenders, as the son himself (if living) would have done. 1780 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 25 May, A candidate for a school at Brewood in Staffordshire; to which, I think, there are seventeen pretenders. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. vii, I would sooner gain five thousand pounds by restoring you to your rights, than fifty thousand in establishing any of these pretenders in their base assumptions.

†**b.** One who aspires to the hand of a woman in marriage; a suitor, a wooer. *Obs.*

1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i, He, of the two pretenders, that best loves me. *a* 1699 LADY HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 17 An Earles daughter,..whose mother not allowing him to come as a pretender shee made apointmentt with him and mett him att her cousin's howse. 1728 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 235 It is not my design to dispose of Irene to the most noble, but most wealthy of the Pretenders to her Love.

c. A claimant to a throne or the office of a ruler; *orig.* in a neutral sense, but now always applied to a claimant who is held to have no just title.

The Old and *the Young Pretender* (Eng. Hist.): the designation of the son and grandson of James II of England, who successively asserted their claim to the British throne against the house of Hanover.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 93 If intestine Broils allarm the Hive, (For two Pretenders oft for Empire strive). 1708 Q. ANNE *Sp. Ho. Parl.* 11 Mar. in Chandler *Hist. Ho. Comm.* (1742) IV. 92 The French fleet sailed from Dunkirk ..with the Pretender on board. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1734) II. 503 She [Q. Anne] also fixed a new Designation on the Pretended Prince of Wales, and called him the Pretender; he was so called in a new Set of Addresses .. upon this occasion..made to the Queen. 1745 P. C. WEBB (*title*) Remarks on the Pretender's Son's Second Declaration. 1747 (*title*) Genuine Memoirs of John Murray..Late Secretary to the Young Pretender. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xvi. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xvi. 223 The pretender..had friends in the tory government more sincere probably and zealous than [the earl of] Oxford. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 633 Wullenweber..turned to the nearest protestant pretender, Duke Christian, and offered him his assistance to obtain the crown. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 442 Every province..had its own Augustus. All these pretenders could not be rightful Emperors.

3. One who pretends or lays claim *to* something; one who makes a profession, show, or assertion, esp. without adequate grounds, falsely, or with intent to deceive; a dissembler, deceiver, charlatan, hypocrite.

1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* II. i, A pretender To the art, I truly honour..your majesty's opinion. 1631 — *Believe as You List* II. ii, This false pretender To the correction of the law. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 89 So evident a lye, even in the pretenders own consciences. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 45 It is not so easy an Acquirement as a few ignorant Pretenders may imagine. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 492 That honour has been long The boast of mere pretenders to the name. 1848 Mrs. JAMESON *Sacr. & Leg. Art* (1850) 122 Simon, a Samaritan, a pretender to divine authority and supernatural powers. 1871 JOWETT *Plato* I. 28 To distinguish the pretender in medicine from the true physician.

Hence **Prete·nderism,** *Eng. Hist.* = JACOBITISM I.

1710 G. HICKES *Let.* in *Thoresby's Corr.* (ed. Hunter) II. 278 To purge themselves from all suspicion of Pretenderism (this is a new word) which their adversaries lay to their charge. 1859 W. CHADWICK *De Foe* iv. 239 The Duke.. was conquering Toryism, Churchism, and Pretenderism.

Prete·ndership. [See -SHIP.] The position or character of a pretender.

1712 SWIFT *Public Spirit of Whigs* P 48, I am at a loss how to dispose of the dauphin, if he happen to be king of France before the pretendership to Britain falls to his share. 1848 in *Life A. Fonblanque* (1874) 393 Apart from his pretendership, which has latterly been in abeyance, he is a thoroughly sensible and well-informed man. 1858 BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* i. (1864) 22 The stolidly physical pretendership of Comte.

Prete·nding, *vbl. sb.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRETEND; pretence; *esp.* the making of a profession or false show.

1647 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 405 A pretending to do that which I do not do, or to be that I am not, being..a lie in action. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. ii, When the pretending of religion grows to be a thing in request, many betake themselves to a form of religion, who deny the power of it. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i, There's no pretending about my sister.

Prete·nding, *ppl. a.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -ING 2.] That pretends, in various senses of the vb.; *esp.* making mere professions; pretentious.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 20 [The curse] be wilke þe iust man be cursid as contrari to Godds lawe, þat is but only in name or pretendand. 1657 OWEN *Commun. w. God* Wks. 1851 II. 258 The pretending spirit of our day. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iv. (1840) 105 Things out of the reach of the most pretending of the rest of his fellow-magicians. *c* 1815 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* vi. (1848) 489 Correggio's numerous pretending imitators. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 254 Remembered when more pretending edifices are forgotten.

Hence **Prete·ndingly** *adv.*; †**Prete·ndingness.**

1648 J. GOODWIN *Right & Might* 2 Many pretendingly complain of want of conscience. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* I. (1703) 2, I have a particular reason to look a little pretendingly at present. 1701 — *M. Aurel.* (1726) 135 No man could charge him with vanity, flourish, and pretendingness. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLI. 319 To smile, either really or pretendingly.

†**Prete·ndment.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRETEND *v.* + -MENT.] A pretension, claim.

1640 T. LECHFORD *Plain Dealing* (1867) 146 If the congregations be not united under one Diocesan in fit compasse, they are in a confusion, notwithstanding all their classicall pretendments. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή vi. 62 None should presume to do, but such as can justly make that pretendment.

†**Prete·nsary.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. late L. *prætens-*, ppl. stem of *prætendĕre* to PRETEND + -ARY 1.] One who makes a pretension or claim.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 14 b, Within this same writ..the vnsatiate Legates are named Catholicks and pretensaries to reforme religion, through crueltie to be exercised vpon the annointed of God.

†**Prete·nse,** *a. Obs.* Also 5 **pretence.** [ad. late L. *prætens-us* (in Quicherat *Addenda*) for cl. L. *prætent-us*, pa. pple. of *prætendĕre* to stretch forth, PRETEND.] Pretended, alleged, professed; feigned; dissembling, fictitious.

1396–7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 302 Manslaute be bataylle or pretense lawe of rythwysnesse, for temporal cause or spirituel, with outen special reuelaciun, is expres contrarious to þe newe testament. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 165 A double hert withe fayre feyned countenaunce, And a pretence face trouble in his daliaunce. 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 465/1 In a pretence Parlement.. holden at Coventree. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) ii. 22 Ther is naturell or kyndely lordshyppe. Ther is also cyuyle or seculer lordshyp. And ther is lordshyp pretense.

Pretense, *sb.* and *v.*, variant of PRETENCE.

Pretension (prɪte·nʃən). Also 7–9 **pretention.** [app. ad. med.L. *prætensio* (*c* 1150 in Thomas *Thes. Nov. Lat.*), n. of action f. *prætendĕre* to PRETEND, also med.L. *prætentio* (1100 in Du Cange), F. *prétention* (in 16th c. rarely *pretension*, Godef.).] The action of pretending.

1. An allegation or assertion the truth of which is not proved or admitted; often with an implication that it is unfounded or false, or put forth to deceive, or to provide a false excuse or ground; hence, a pretext, pretence.

1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VIII. lxi, And then, with what pretentions he might hide His priuat comming, and his oft resort. 1624 BACON *Consid. War w. Spain* Wks. 1879 I. 538/1 It was afterwards alleged, that the duke of Parma did artificially delay his coming; but this was but an invention and pretension given out by the Spaniards. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 11 The same thing..was the strongest Repulse to my Pretensions of losing my Trade and my Goods. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 Sept., The only things of which we, or travellers yet more delicate, could find any pretensions to complain. 1791 J. LEARMONT *Poems* 113, I winnae gang For nae pretension or prayer. *a* 1894 STEVENSON *Foreigner at Home* (Cent.), Miss Bird..declares all the viands of Japan to be uneatable —a staggering pretension.

2. The assertion of a claim as of right; a claim put forth, a demand.

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 60 By reason of his pretention to the Crowne. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 221 Nor can there be any question or process about the state or pretensions of the King, but in his Courts. 1700 DRYDEN *Ajax & Ulysses* 550 All these had been my rivals in the shield, And yet all these to my pretensions yield. 1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) I. CXXI. 297 The pretensions also of France, and the House of Austria, upon Naples. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* i. (1858) 39 Jebel Mûsa is now the only one [of the peaks] which puts forward any pretensions to be considered as the place. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. X. 108 Ecclesiastical pretensions were still formidable under the Tudors.

b. A rightful or justifiable claim, a title.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 207 P 3 The Courtier, the Trader, and the Scholar, should all have an equal Pretension to the Denomination of a Gentleman. *a* 1805 PALEY *Serm.* X. (1810) 163 An opinion of merit is discouraged, even in those who had the best pretensions to entertain it; if any pretensions were good. 1822 P. HENRY in *Priv. Corr. H. Clay* (1855) 67 He has pretensions [to the Presidency] in every respect —a man of business..—an elegant scholar.

3. The assertion or claim that one is or has something; profession. Also of things. Const. *to.*

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 23 Some pretensions to the Invention of Copper-cuts, and their Impressions. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 66 P 2, I..have little or no Pretensions to Beauty. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. XXXIV. 323 Sir Charles Grandison, without making an ostentatious pretension to religion, is the very Christian in practice. 1877 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) II. viii. 197 A mediæval castle and a house .. of no great pretensions. 1884 SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 23 It would be but too easy a task to .. prove by the avowal of his own pretentions that he can pretend to the credit of no such imbecility.

b. The unwarranted assumption of a quality, esp. of merit or dignity; pretentiousness, ostentation.

1727 POPE *Epitaph R. Digby* 4 Good without noise, without pretension great. 1837 EMERSON *Addr., Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 184 The world is his, who can see through its pretension. 1856 — *Eng. Traits, Manners* ibid. 50 They avoid pretension, and go right to the heart of the thing. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1875) 95 This day of self-seeking and pretensions!

†**4.** An intention, a design; aim, aspiration.

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 155 In seeking a new fortune, lose their old, and so conuert their substance into pretensions, their certainty into nothing. 1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., to W. Montagu* (1887) I. 96 They are always looked upon, either as neglected, or discontented because their pretensions have failed. 1782 Miss BURNEY *Cecilia* II. vi, Acquaint me, then, freely, what are the pretensions of these gentlemen [to Cecilia's hand]?

Hence **Prete·nsional,** †**-tional** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of pretension; **Prete·nsionless** *a.*, without pretensions, unpretending.

1659 HEYLIN *Examen Hist.* II. 98 Hitherto his intents were reall, not pretentionall only. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 751 It would..be..unjust to throw the slightest slur or stigma on the pretensionless character of a crowd of humble and high individuals. 1831 *Crayons fr. Commons* 10 A steady grave deliberative man, Pretensionless in manner, air, and tone.

Pretensious, obs. variant of PRETENTIOUS *a.*

Pretensive (prɪte·nsɪv), *a. rare.* Also 7 **-cive.** [f. late L. *prætens-*, ppl. stem (see PRETENSARY) + -IVE.]

1. Characterized by being asserted or pretended to be true; professed; feigned.

1640 H. PARKER *Case of Ship Money* 17 If danger..be far distant..though it bee certaine, and not pretensive, yet Parliamentary Aid may be speedy enough. 1658 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 213 It has been my fortune to make experience of a pretensive stay, which proved so unsteady, that [etc.]. 1851 KITTO *Bible Illustr.* (ed. Porter) VII. XXX. 112 The name [Magism] covered all that was true, all that was pre-

tensive, and all that was false, in the philosophy of the ancient Orientals.

2. Full of pretence; pretentious, ostentatious.

1876 [implied in PRETENSIVENESS]. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 120/2 Their ornament is hideously heavy and pretensive.

Prete·nsively, *adv. rare.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pretensive manner; professedly; as a pretext.

1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. i. 36 A stand against them, who pleade fiue things, against the sentence of abolition, for this grosse Idoll pretenciuely chaunged. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 262 There passed an Act of Parliament pretensively against the depopulation of Villages, and decay of tillage, but purposedly to inable his subjects for the wars. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 601 He would not vouchsafe to inquire what might be pretensively said, either from the Antients, or at present for the Austrians against them of Cleves.

Prete·nsiveness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

† **a.** Pretension (*obs.*). **b.** Pretentiousness.

1710 C. SHADWELL *Fair Quaker of Deal* III. 35 What Pretensiveness have you to it, Sirrah? 1876 W. M. TAYLOR *Ministry of Word* 56 Guilty of the same pretensiveness.

† **Prete·nsory,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as PRETENSIVE + -ORY 2.] ? = PRETENSIVE 1.

1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* (1672) 119 With the pretensory advice of his Council of Officers unanimously and readily urged.

† **Prete·ntat,** *v. Obs.* [? ad. L. *prætentāre, -temptāre* to search out beforehand, hold before oneself, make a pretext of, freq. of *prætendĕre* to PRETEND.] = PRETEND *v.* (in various senses).

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 401 Willyam Waleys, whiche..pretentyd the rule & gouernaunce of Scotlande. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. ix. 24 As though they were such men inwardlye indeede, as in appearaunce outwardlye they then pretented. 1587 GREENE *Penelope's Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 182 No intent of treacherie shall so much as in thought bee pretented to the person of our Souerayne. 1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 12 Breach of lawes and treason is pretented, but religion condemned.

† **Prete·ntative,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prætent-āre* to search or try before + -ATIVE; or f. PRE- A. 3 + TENTATIVE.] Tentative beforehand.

1620 WOTTON in *Reliq.* (1672) 507 This is but an exploratory, and pretentative purpose between us .. about the form whereof, and the matter, we shall consult to morrow.

Pretention, obs. form of PRETENSION.

Pretentious (prĭte·nʃəs), *a.* [ad. F. *prétentieux* (17th c. in Littré), ad. L. type **prætentiōs-us*, f. *prætentiōn-em* PRETENSION: see -IOUS.]

1. Characterized by, or full of, pretension; professing or making claim to great merit or importance, esp. when unwarranted; making an exaggerated outward show; showy, ostentatious.

1845 LEVER *O'Donoghue* XXXI, An hotel of more pretensious exterior. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 360 Round your pretentious sentences, and discharge your concentrated malignity on the defenceless. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xix, As severe as he dared on all Pharisees and pretentious persons whatsoever. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 515 Pretentious poverty At its wits' end to keep appearance up. 1907 *Athenæum* 25 May 641/3 His two larger pictures..are as clever, but a little more pretentious.

2. Of the nature of a pretension. *rare*⁻¹.

1886 W. CHAPPELL in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. II. 4/1 After which [Thomson's death] Mallet put in a pretentious claim [to be the author of 'Rule Britannia'], against all evidence.

Prete·ntiously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pretentious manner.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1880 Mrs. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* xiv, While she, really, not pretentiously, threaded in her mind the possible moves. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* iii. 64 Even in his newspaper letters..his impressions are never given pretentiously.

Prete·ntiousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being pretentious.

1863 HOLLAND *Lett. Joneses* xii. 172 A pretentious man is, by token of his pretentiousness, a charlatan always. 1880 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 50 Whatever may have been the faults or the pretentiousness of his classifications.

Pretenture (prĭte·ntiŭr). *Rom. Antiq.* Also præ-. [ad. late L. *prætentūra* (Ammian. Marcell.) a guard on the frontier of a province, also a barricade, f. *prætendĕre*: see PRETEND.]

1. A Roman frontier wall or rampart, esp. one of the two defending Roman Britain from the unsubdued tribes in the north.

1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 102 There remain yet two doubts: First, whether this Prætenture, or Wall, was made of Stone, or of Turfs. 1771 MACPHERSON *Introd. Hist. Gt. Brit.* 160 *note*, A stone dug out of the ruins of the Roman pretenture, between the Scottish firths, inscribed to Apollo Grannius. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 112 The most amazing monument of the Roman power in England, is the praetenture, or wall of Severus.

2. A Roman garrison guarding a frontier.

1807 BRITTON *Beauties Eng., Lincolnshire* 596 Carrying corn, and other commodities, from the Iceni, etc., for the use of the northern prætentures.

† **Preter** (prĭ·tər), *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Also 7 præter. [The contraction *præter* for *præteritum* preterite, in *preterperfect*, etc., prefixed in the same way to *tense*, and at length treated as a separate word.]

a. *Gram.* = PRETERITE, past.

1530 PALSGR. 86 Circumlocutyng of al the pretertenses. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1347/2 Which wordes wer ..prophesyed by the verbe of the pretertemps or time passed. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 9 He englissheth the verbe of the preter tence for the future. 1546 GARDINER *Declar. Art. Joye* 29 b, The pretertens rather declareth a perfection in thacte, then the passing ouer the time in the acte. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 14, I..paralogized on their condition in the present and in the preter tense. 1676 DIXON *Two Test.* 30 So the Saying of God runs in the Præter-Tense, 'Unto thy Seed I have given the Land'. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 114 In Latin..the Preter Time of the Perfect Action, is commonly called the Preter-pluperfect, that is, the Preter more than Perfect. 1747 JOHNSON *Plan Eng. Dict.* Wks. IX. 178 Our verbs are conjugated by auxiliary words, and are only changed in the preter tense.

b. = PAST.

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery, Vew Vayn Glory*, Diuers mo, whose preter pathes may learne Our future steps, our vayn unsteady stay.

B. *sb.* **a.** *ellipt.* for *preter tense*: see above. **b.** Past time, the past.

1615 Bp. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1841) I. 162 But the other hath neither future nor præter, neither mood nor tense; nay, no verb at all. 1618 M. BARET *Horsemanship* I. 60 Let him observe the three (chiefe) parts of time which is, the preter, the present, the future. 1675 G. R. tr. *Le Grand's Man without Reason* 200 The present..is but an individual point, an instant that separates the praeter from the future.

Preter-, præter- (prī·tər), *prefix.* The L. adv. and prep. *præter* past, by, beyond, above, more than; in addition to, besides; comparative of *præ* before, = further forward, more in front.

1. In Latin *præter* adv. was prefixed only to verbs and their derivative sbs. and adjs., as *prætercurrĕre* to run by or past, *prætergredī* to step or march past, to surpass, *præterīre* to go or pass by, omit, pass over, pass away (in time), *præteriens* passing, *præteritus* past, *præteritio* a passing by or over, *præterlābī* to glide or slip by, *prætermittĕre* to let go by, omit, overlook, *prætermissio* omission, etc. Hence the Eng. *pretergress, -gression, preterient, preterite, -ition, pretermit, -mission*, etc., and the analogous *pretergeneration, preteroffice*.

2. In Scholastic Latin, adjectives began to be formed from L. phrases with *præter* prep. + sb., e. g. *præternātūrālis*, from *præter nātūram* (Cic.) beyond or outside nature; Du Cange has of 1451 *præternecessārius*, from *quod præter necessārium est* what is beyond the necessary. Hence French *préternaturel* 15.., Eng. *preternatural* a 1600, followed in the 17th c. by *preternotorious, -native, -regular, -royal, -legal, -intentional, -scriptural, -seasonable*, etc.; *preterhuman, -nuptial, -sensual*, etc. are 19th c. formations. From these adjs., adverbs and nouns of quality, as *preternaturally, preternaturalism*, are always possible; *preterplurality* follows this analogy.

All the derivatives from words already in Latin, with the more important adjs., appear in their places as Main words; those of less importance (many only nonce-words) follow here.

Preterca·nine *a.*, more than canine. **Preter-Chri·stian** *a.*, beyond what is Christian; lying outside Christianity. **Preterdete·rmined** *a.*, more than determined; hence **Preterdeterminedly** *adv.* **Preterdiploma·tic** *a.*, lying outside of or not within the bounds of diplomacy; hence **Preterdiploma·tically** *adv.* **Pretere·quine** *a.*, more than equine. **Prætereroga·tion,** *nonce-wd.* [after SUPEREROGATION], performance beyond or outside of what is demanded or required. **Preteresse·ntial** *a.*, beyond what is essential. **Pretergenera·tion,** preternatural generation, monstrous birth. **Preterinte·ntional** *a.*, beyond or additional to what is intended. **Preterle·thal** *a.*, taking place after death. **Preterna·tive** *a.*, beyond or additional to what is native. **Preternoto·rious** *a.*, surpassingly notorious. **Preternu·ptial** *a.*, lying outside of the nuptial relation. **Pretero·ffice,** an action contrary to duty: cf. OFFICE *sb.* 2 a. **Preterplura·lity,** excessive numerousness or multitude. **Preterpoli·tical** *a.*, lying outside of what is political or civil. **Preter-re·gular** *a.*, outside the limits of what is regular. **Preter-roya·l** *a.*, more than royal privilege warrants. **Preterscri·ptural** *a.*, beyond what is written. **Pretersea·sonable** *a.*, beyond what is seasonable. **Preterse·nsual** *a.*, beyond the domain of the senses.

1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* xii, A great dog..passed me,.. not staying to look up, with strange *prætercanine eyes, in my face, as I half expected it would. 1873 MORLEY *Rousseau* II. 258 A *prætер-christian deism, or the principle of natural religion, was inevitably contained in the legal conception of a natural law. 1892 G. MEREDITH *Empty Purse* Poems 1898 II. 200 Not as Cybele's beast will thy head lash tail So *præter-determinedly thermonous. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* May 615 *Praeter-diplomatic machinery may be set to work to remove them. *Ibid.* June 806 In praeter-diplomatic ways..Mr. Chamberlain received excellent grounds for believing that Germany was ripe for an alliance with Great Britain. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 5/1 The drivers are skilled, and their horses endowed with a *preterequine intelligence. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 346 It is certaine that Supererogation there can be none, though *praetererogation we should graunt you, howbeit subtererogation were the fitter word. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Synopsis Proph.* 542 Puzzled in some opinions and scrupulosities that are *preteressential. 1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* III. iv. 145 Concret Physique hath the same division which Naturall History hath; so that it is a knowledge either concerning the Heavens;.. or concerning the lesser Collegiates, or natures specifique; so likewise concerning *Pretergenerations [L. *prætergenerationes*], and concerning Mechaniques. 1690 BOYLE *Chr. Virtuoso* I. Wks. 1772 V. 528 Sir Francis Bacon..assigns the second of them to what he calls præter-generations, such as monsters, prodigies, and other things. 1663 Sir G. MACKENZIE *Religious Stoic* xi. (1865) 103 Define them to be the *preter-intentional works of nature. 1887 W. M. ROSSETTI *Shelley's Prometh. Unb.* 19 The indefinable possibilities of existence prænatal and *præterlethal—the world of spirit before birth and after death. 1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. x. 146 Thus much briefly of the Native Fundamentals and Essentials of Politick Government; the next point to be spoken of is the *Preternative. *a* 1625 FLETCHER, etc. *Fair Maid Inn* IV. ii, I confess myself a more *preternotorious rogue than himself. 1833 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Diderot* (1872) V. 21 To whom we owe this present *preternuptial *Correspondance.* 1837 *Ibid., Mirabeau* 243 Nay, poor woman, she by and by, we find, takes up with preternuptial persons. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VIII. (1701) 328/2 *Præter-office is an action, which reason requireth [*pr.* acquireth] that we do not, as, to neglect our Parents, to contemn our Brethren, to disagree with our Friends, to despise our Country. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 28 It is not easily credible, what may be said of the *preter-pluralities of Taylors in London. I have heard there were numbred between Temple-barre and Charingcrosse, eight thousand of that Trade. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* IV. xlvii. 385 The analysis, or resolution,..beginneth with the knot that was last tied; as we may see in the dissolution of the *præterpolitical Church Government in England. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 37, I had rather suppose them to powder, than expose them to preregular, much lesse to *preter regular Judgements. *Ibid.* 49 The tongues of Times tell us of ten *Preter-royall Usurpations, to one contra-civill Rebellion. 1672 H. MORE *Brief Reply* viii. 240 The former part..is so without analogy, and the latter so turgid and *preterscriptural. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 56 When 'tis an Ordinary and Durable, though *Preter-seasonable Constitution, Cold will be sure to be remembred. 1885 tr. *Schultze's Fetichism* vii. § 2 He must needs go beyond the domain of sense, and assign causes not apprehensible to the senses, *praetersensual or supersensual.

‖ **Preterea** (prĭte·rĭă). [L. *prætereā* adv., beyond those, besides, f. *præter* beyond + *ea* pl., 'those'. Taken in quot. as a sb. (perh. orig. a heading of items in an account) with pl. *-s*; cf. *et ceteras, extras.*] In *pl.* Additional items, extras.

1512 *Northumbld. Househ. Bk.* (1770) 181 Item that the saide Clarks of Brevements entre in the Counting-hous Mounethlie alle the Pretereas in the title of Costs Necessary.

Pretergre·ss, *v. rare.* Also præter-. [f. L. *prætergress-*, ppl. stem of *prætergredī* to walk past, go by, surpass, f. *præter*, PRETER- + *gredī* to step.]

1. *trans.* To go beyond (bounds); to surpass.

1596 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* V. XXV. 346 It keepeth within the precincts of his libertie, which if it shall once pretergresse..it is no longer to be called melancholie, but some other humour. 1851 NEALE *Med. Hymns* 98 Tree.. Every other prætergressing Both in bloom and bud and flower.

† **2.** To go outside of. *Obs.*

1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. II. viii. § 5 If some sins there be, as Roman Catholics teach, only besides the law, in doing them we do not transgress the law, but rather prætergress or go besides it.

Pretergre·ssion. *rare.* [n. of action from prec.: see -ION.] **a.** The action of passing by (without notice or performance); failure to follow a path, conform to a law, etc. **b.** The action of going beyond or overstepping bounds.

1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. II. viii. § 5 Seeing the Lawgiver's will was that we should do the law, not only hear it, much less go besides it, there is no prætergression of it but is directly against the Lawgiver's will. 1802-12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 251 A motion for a writ of prohibition to be directed to the ecclesiastical court, on the ground of prætergression of jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 617 There would be, at least,..no pretergression of the bounds of official authority.

Preterhuman (prĭtəɹhiū·măn), *a.* [f. PRETER- + HUMAN.] Beyond or outside of what is human: often = *superhuman*, but generally used to avoid the specific connotation of that word.

1811 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* ii, He..started..as from the emanation of superior and preter-human being. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* II. iv. (1864) I. 276 The introduction of praeter-human forms. 1866 LIDDON *Bampt. Lect.* vi. (1875) 298 What is it that gives Christ's human acts and sufferings such preterhuman value? 1871 MORLEY *J. De Maistre* Crit. Misc. Ser. I. (1878) 134 Laboriously building up with preterhuman patience and preterhuman sagacity. 1878 GLADSTONE *Homer* xi. 130 Achilles seems everywhere to tread on the bounds of the preterhuman.

Preterient (prĭte·rĭĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. L. *præteriens*, pres. pple. of *præterīre* to go by, pass (of which, however, the stem of the oblique cases is *prætereunt-*).] Passing or going by; transient. So **Prete·rience,** the fact or condition of being passing or transient.

1786 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 11 I. 97 Migrating after the death of one body into that of another, with the faculty of remembering all the actions of its præterient states. *c* 1827 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* (1882) CXXXI. 120 There seems to me a confusion of *scheins* with the præterience or impermanence.

Preterimpe·rfect, *a.* (*sb.*) *Gram.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *præteritum imperfectum* 'uncompleted

past', with contraction: see PRETER, PRETERITE, and IMPERFECT.] Expressing a past action which is not stated as completed but as going on: applied to one of the tenses of the verb in the Indo-European languages, as L. *currēbat*, Eng. *he was running*; = IMPERFECT 5. Also *absol.* as *sb.*

1530 PALSGR. 84 The preter imperfit tens as *je parloye* I dyd speke. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.* C j, The tences are fiue, the present tence, signifying the time that now is:.. the preterimperfectence, the time not perfectly past. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 215 There is no preterimperfect tense, nor preterpluperfect tense; but the preterperfect tense standeth for them. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXVIII. 411 The Verb must be..in the Preterimperfect Tense, when in English we use the Preterpluperfect.

Preterist (pre·tĕrist), *sb.* (*a.*) Also **præ-**. [f. PRETER-, short for *preterite* + -IST.]

1. One whose chief interest is in the past; one who regards the past with most pleasure or favour.

1864 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

2. *Theol.* One who holds that the prophecies of the Apocalypse have been already (wholly or in great part) fulfilled.

1843 G. S. FABER *Sacr. Calend. Prophecy* (1844) I. p. xviii, To consider certain vituperative prophecies.. as already accomplished in the course of the first and second centuries: whence, to commentators of this School, we may fitly apply the name of *Preterists*. 1854 Præterists [see FUTURIST]. 1860 JOWETT in *Ess. & Rev.* 371 The Preterists and Futurists..may alike claim the authority of the Book of Daniel, or the Revelation.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.* Of or pertaining to preterists.

1878 H. G. GUINNESS *End of Age* (1880) 93 Preterist, Futurist and Presentist schemes of interpretation. 1904 G. SMITH *Short Hist. Chr. Missions* I. iv. 43 A Praeterist, or a Futurist interpretation of its visions.

Preterite, -it (pre·tərit), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: 4-7, 9 **preterit**, 5 **-yte**, 8-9 **præterit(e**, 5- **preterite**. [= F. *prétérit* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *præterit-us* gone by, past, pa. pple. of *præterīre*, f. *præter*, PRETER- + *īre* to go.]

1. Of or pertaining to bygone time; occurring or existing previously; past, bygone, former; = PAST *a.* 2.

1340 *Ayenb.* 59 On is preterit, þet is to zigge, of þinge ypased..be oþer is of present, þet is to zigge, of nou. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 56 In..heven..There is nothing preterit ne passed, there is nothing future ne comming; but al thinges togider in that place ben present everlasting, without any meving. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 26 The swete mayntene and semblaunce of the sayd Sychee, her preteryte husbonde. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Poems* (Schipper) ii. 10 Þroch ignorance and foly youþ My preterit tyme I wald nevir spair. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 25 Compare the store and cheapnesse of our present Commodities, with the Scarcenesse and dearnesse of the preterit times. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 102 What is preterit, and gone. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* (1812) I. 266 To return to the preterite gala-days of Lady Luxmore. 1854 LOWELL *Cambridge Thirty Y. Ago* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 52 You shall go back with me thirty years, which will bring you among things and persons as thoroughly preterite as Romulus or Numa.

2. *Gram.* Expressing past action or state; past; as *preterite tense* [L. *præteritum tempus* (Quint.)], *preterite participle*; = PAST *a.* 4.

1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* 57 A participle of a present tens either preterit, of actif vois eithir passif, mai be resoluid into a verbe..and a coniunccioun copulatif. 1530 PALSGR. 86 The participle preterit after the tenses of *je ay* remayneth for the most part unchanged. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* 42 Al the prophets use to speake by the preterit temps. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 337 *note*, Wks. 1736 IV. 225 In the style of other prophets, [he] hath used the future tense for the preterit. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. iii. (1872) VIII. 131 Friedrich finds that Loudon *was* there last night—preterite tense, alas.

b. So **Preterite perfect** = PRETERPERFECT.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 42 The preterit parfyte tens of the infynityve mode.

B. *sb.* [ellipt. use of the adj.]

†**1.** Past time, the past (= PAST *sb.* 1); also *pl.* past times or events. *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. vi. 133 (Camb. MS.) It.. procedith fro preteritz in to futuris, þat is to seyn fro tyme passed in to tyme comynge. *Ibid.* 134 Thilke thing.. to whom ther nis nawht of þe preterite escapyd nor I-passed. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5011 She wepeth the tyme that she hath wasted, Compleyning of the preterit.

2. *Gram.* = Preterite tense: see A. 2.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 37 The preterites and supines of suche verbes. 1661 MILTON *Accedence* Wks. 1738 I. 613 The Preterit speaketh of the time past, and is distinguish'd by three degrees: the Preterimperfect, the Preterperfect, and the Preterpluperfect. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ii. 13 It is an era in his education when he first begins to employ preterits and plurals and their like.

3. *Theol.* One who is passed over or not elected by God; cf. PRETERITION 4. *rare*—[1].

1864 *Fraser's Mag.* May 533 The reprobates who are damned because they were always meant to be damned, and the preterites who are damned because they were never meant to be saved.

Pre·teriteness. Also **præ-**, **preteritness**. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being preterite or past; pastness.

1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 205 The preteritness of the Thing has so fixt its Existence to its proper time, that 'tis not now obnoxious to variation. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 23 We cannot conceive a Praeteritness (if I may say so) still backwards *in infinitum*, that never was present.

1854 LOWELL *Jrnl. Italy* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 140 The feeling of preteriteness and extinction. 1866 — *Lessing* ibid. II. 219 Klopstock..is rather remembered for what he was than what he is—an immortality of preteriteness.

Pre·terite-pre·sent, *a.* (*sb.*) *Gram.* [ad. mod.L. *præterito-præsens*, neut. pl. *-præsentia*, f. *præteritus* PRETERITE + *præsens* PRESENT.] Applied to verbs of which the tense now used as the present was originally a preterite (or to this tense); esp. to the small group of verbs in the Germanic languages (mostly auxiliaries of predication) represented in English by *can, dare, dow, may, must, shall,* †*thar, will, wit*, of which the current present tense is in form and origin a preterite, from which the current past tense is a new weak formation; also applicable to the Latin verbs *cœpi, memini, novi, odi*, the Greek οἶδα, etc. Also PRETERITO-PRESENTIAL.

[1870 HELFENSTEIN *Compar. Gram. Teut. Lang.* 521 The preterite indicative is always in imitation of the præterito-præsentia *wolta*, rarely *wëlta*, subj. *wolti*.] 1874 MASON *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 19) 78 *note*, These preterite-presents may be compared with οἶδα, *novi*, &c., in Greek and Latin. [1880 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 291 These help-verbs are a very ancient group of so-called praeterito-praesentia.] 1888 *New Eng. Dict.* s. v. *Can.* 1892 SWEET *New Eng. Gram.* § 1477 Most of the MnE [= mod. Eng.] verbs that we class as anomalous are old preterite-present verbs. 1892 WRIGHT *Primer Gothic Lang.* § 272 *Preterite-Presents.* These verbs have strong preterites with a present meaning ..to which new weak preterites have been formed.

Preterition (prĕtəri·ʃən). Also **præ-**. [= F. *prétérition*, ad. late L. *præteritiōn-em* a passing over, n. of action f. *præterīre*: see PRETERIENT.]

†**1.** Passing by, passage (of time). *Obs. rare.*

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 136/1 The præterition of life is the præterition of time. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Luke* xix. 42 The time of grace is fitly called a day in regard of ..speedy preterition.

2. The action of passing over, or fact of being passed by or over, without notice; omission, disregard, neglect; with *a* and *pl.* an instance of this.

1609 BP. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 236 His voluntarie but subtile preter-ition, in leauing out all the other disasters in the Oath. *a* 1631 DONNE *Serm.* xxxvi. (1640) 354 As long as they are but preteritions, not contradictions.. they are not worthy of a reproofe. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I.* 208 A preterition.. studiously and deliberatively resolved upon. 1709 LAMPHIRE in Hearne *Collect.* 6 Nov. (O.H.S.) II. 300 'Twould be best to pass by without going in. For.. Dr. Barlow loves præterition. 1877 SPARROW *Serm.* iii. 40 It is negative in its nature, and consists in the mere preterition and overlooking of the agency of the invisible God.

3. *Rhet.* A figure by which summary mention is made of a thing, in professing to omit it.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 9 The Apostle thankfully remembreth their diligent love; and yet..by a wise rhetoricall preterition, exhorteth them vnto it. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 386 Such Ironicall preteritions are something frequent in Scripture. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 165. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The most artful praises are those given by way of preterition.

4. *Theol.* The passing over of the non-elect; non-election to salvation.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. II. iii, Our indiscreet pastors..speak so much of election, prædestination, reprobation *ab æterno*, subtraction of grace, præterition, voluntary permission, &c. 1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* ii. 66 The Decree of Reprobation (both in the privativ act of preterition, and positiv of punishment) depends on Gods simple Prescience. 1740 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 375 Call it..by whatever name you please, Election, preterition, predestination, or reprobation, it comes in the end to the same thing. 1862 *Evangelical Christendom* Oct. 475 The præterition and consequent perdition of the majority of mankind does no violence to our sense, either of the Divine justice or sovereignty.

5. *Rom. Law.* The omission by a testator to mention in his will one of his children or natural heirs: see quot. 1880.

1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. xviii. (1738) 104 If it had been foreseen, that L would not so much as ask, and had therefore been left out of the will; this preterition would have been caused by his carriage. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Preterition*, the entire omission of a child's name in the father's will, which rendered it null: exheredation being allowed, but not preterition. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Ulpian* xxviii. § 2 *note*, Praeterition of a *suus* invalidated a will. *Ibid., Digest* 573 Praeterition in testaments, omission to mention a person that the law required should be instituted or disinherited. 1887 *Tennant's Notary's Man.* (ed. 5) 29 If a soldier upon a military expedition, in making his will, passed over his children in silence, such preterition was held of equal force with a nominal disinherison, and the will could not be set aside as inofficious.

Preteritive (prĭte·ritiv), *a.* [f. L. *præterit-*, ppl. stem of *præterīre*: cf. PRETERITE and -IVE.]

1. *Theol.* Of or pertaining to preterition or non-election. *rare*—[1].

1836 G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Election* I. ix. 139 Augustine's logically correlative doctrine of Absolute Preteritive Reprobation to eternal death.

2. *Gram.* Used only in the preterite tenses: said of a verb. (Webster 1847.)

Mod. The Latin *memini* is called a preteritive verb.

b. *Preteritive present* (adj. and sb.) = PRETERITE-PRESENT (verb or tense).

1885 A. S. COOK tr. *Sievers' O. Eng. Gram.* § 417 The Germanic preteritive presents [die verba praeteritopresentia des germanischen] have sprung from strong verbs whose preterits have assumed a present meaning (like Lat. *memini, novi, coepi*, Gr. οἶδα), while the original presents have disappeared. 1899 W. J. SEDGEFIELD *K. Ælfred's Boeth.* 207 Verbs with preteritive presents..e. g. *mæg, deah.*

Prete·rito-prese·ntial, *a.* (*sb.*) *Gram.* [f. mod.L. *præterito-præsentia* (sc. *verba*) + -AL.] = PRETERITE-PRESENT *a.*, as in *preterito-presential verbs*, called in mod.L. *præterito-præsentia* (pl.).

[1870, 1880: see PRETERITE-PRESENT.] 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* v. 93 Important little class of Germanic verbs called 'preterito-presential', because they have won their present meaning through a 'perfect' one.

Preterlabent (prĕtəlē¹·bĕnt), *a. rare.* Also **præter-**. [ad. L. *præterlābent-em*, pres. pple. of *præterlābī* to glide or flow by, f. *præter*, PRETER- + *lābī* to glide.] Gliding or flowing past.

1670 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Ess.* 5 Those differ..according to..the different impregnation of the preterlabent water. 1757 WALKER in *Phil. Trans.* L. 143 The præterlabent streams of water. 1905 H. A. EVANS *Oxf. & Cotswolds* xiii. 314 There is the old garden behind the house, with the stone steps descending thereunto, and the praeterlabent Coln.

Preterla·psed, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. L. *præterlaps-us*, pa. pple. of *præterlābī* (see prec.) + -ED [1].] That has glided by; gone by, past, bygone.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 226/1 When as now the 12 dayes are præterlapsede, he may as then accompanye..with his wife. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylor's Trav.* Ded., Wks. III. 76 In the preterlapsed occurrences there hath beene an Antagonisticall repugnancy betwixt vs. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 137 We look with a superstitious reverence upon the accounts of præterlapsed ages.

Preterle·gal, *a. rare.* Also **præter-**. [f. PRETER- + LEGAL.] Beyond or outside of what is legal; not according to law.

1648 *Eikon Bas.* xi. 91, I expected..some evill customes preterlegall, and abuses personall had been to be removed. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Cheshire* (1662) I. 178 Sir Randal ..openly manifested his dislike of such Preter-legal Courses. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 189 This illegal or praeter-legal and desultory toleration by connivance at particular cases.

†**Prete·rminable,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PRE- A. 3 + TERMINABLE, app. in an active sense.

The word may represent a Schol. L. **præterminābilis*, f. **præterminārе*, rendering Gr. προορίζειν to determine beforehand, f. ὁρίζειν to bound, ὅροι bounds, *fines, termini*. Cf. PREDETERMINE. Mr. C. G. Osgood in his ed. of *Pearl* illustrates the passage, which refers to Ps. lxii. 12 [lxi. 13], by Albertus Magnus's comment on the same passage, 'Primo, divinæ voluntatis ordinatio æterna et perfecta', etc.]

Predetermining, foreordaining.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 595 In sauter is sayd a poynt determynable, Thou quytez uchon as hys desserte, Thou hy3e kyng ay pretermynable [*MS.* pertermynable (Gollancz)].

†**Pretermi·ssed,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *præterniss-us*, pa. pple. of *prætermittĕre* to pass over, omit (see next) + -ED [1].] Pretermitted, omitted.

1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* VI. ii. 271 The cause that many things which referre unto it, and are usefull to be knowne, are pretermiss'd [*præterniissa sunt*].

Pretermission (prĭtəɹmi·ʃən). Also **præter-**. [ad. L. *præternissiōn-em*, n. of action f. *præternittĕre*: see next. So F. *prétermission* (16th c. in Godef. *Compl.*).] The action of pretermitting.

1. The passing over, overlooking, or disregarding of anything; omission of anything from a narrative; omission of, or neglect to do, something.

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* i. (1637) 11 The pretermission of thankes for any goodnesse..bestowed by the Lord, ..is horrible. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2 *Peter* iii. 18 Any pretermission of the physician may exalt the disease. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iii. (1709) 52, I proceed to refute the objections of those who argue from thesilence and pretermission of authors. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 211 God's righteousness, which might otherwise have been called in question because of the præternission of past sins.

2. Ceasing to do something (for a time); leaving off the practice of anything; disuse.

1677 CARY *Chronol.* I. I. I. xii. 45 There was no absolute pretermission of that Reckoning. 1831 TYTLER *Lives Scott. Worthies* I. 113 The detestation and pretermission of vice.

3. *Rhet.* = PRETERITION 3.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Preterition*, or *Pretermission*, in rhetoric, a figure whereby, in pretending to pass over a thing untouched, we make a summary mention thereof. 1828 in WEBSTER. Hence in mod. Dicts.

4. *Rom. Law.* = PRETERITION 5.

1795 WYTHE *Decis. Virginia* 104 Inserting in her will apology for the pretermission of her daughter.

Pretermit (prĭtəɹmi·t), *v.* Also **præter-**. [ad. L. *præternittĕre* to let pass, omit, overlook, f. *præter*, PRETER- + *mittĕre* to let go, send.]

1. *trans.* To leave out of a narrative; not to notice, mention, insert, or include; to omit.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 166 Bycause I see here ys not the place now to dyspute..I wyl thys pretermytt and set apart. 1598 STOW *Surv.* xv. (1603) 123 The recitall whereof I pretermit for breuitie. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* (1839) 194 In all kinds of actions by the laws præternitted, men have the liberty, of doing what their own reasons shall suggest, for the most profitable to themselves. 1745-6 FIELDING *True Patriot* No. 13 The lad..had uttered many wicked things, which I pretermitted in my narrative. 1870 GLADSTONE *Glean.* IV. xliii. 228 Some points of conduct relating to the present war..we advisedly pretermit.

†**b.** *Theol.* To pass over in electing to salvation. Cf. PRETERITION 4. *Obs.*

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 812 God doth..of his owne will, as he electeth some so pretermit others.

c. *Rom. Law.* To omit mention of (a descendant or natural heir) in a will. Cf. Preterition 5.

1875 Poste *Gaius* II. Comm. (ed. 2) 229 If a descendant of the testator was..pretermitted (*praeteritus*), i.e. not expressly either instituted successor or disinherited, possession was not granted to the devisees but to the pretermitted descendant. 1887 *Tennant's Notary's Man.* (ed. 5) 28 A father was bound to institute his children as his heirs, and could not disinherit them unless for very weighty reasons; for if a father pretermitted or passed them over in silence, the testament was void.

2. To allow to pass without notice or regard; to overlook intentionally.

1542 Hen. VIII *Declar. Scots* A ij b, [Such] as we ought not with sufferaunce to pretermitte and passe ouer. 1571–2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 111 Quhilk..oppressioun gif it be pretermittit unpuneist. 1630 Donne *Serm.* xxv. (1640) 253 God pretermits many times errours in circumstances. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. 1. *New Year's Eve*, The birth of a New Year is of an interest too wide to be pretermitted by king or cobbler.

3. To fail or forbear to do, use, or perform; to leave undone, neglect, omit.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VI. viii. 66 Na thyng, my deir freynd, did thow pretermyt; All that thow aucht to Deiphobus. 1528 Fox in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. 142 We..pretermitted nothing which might in any way conduce to the furtherance thereof. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Wisd.* x. 8 For pretermitting wisdom they..did slippe. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 197 Prince Maurice..pretermitted none of those things which had been used by Antiquity in the Art Military. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. II* (1822) I. 394 Was the necessary defence of her colonies to be pretermitted? 1836 Emerson *Nature* 47 A care..pretermitted in no single case.

† b. Const. with *infin. Obs.*

1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 160 So yet wil I not pretermit to declare out of other men such notes as I finde. 1665 Hooke *Microgr.* xiii. 85, I must not pretermit to hint.

4. To neglect to avail oneself or make use of; to allow (time or opportunity) to pass unused or unimproved; to miss, lose. Now *rare.*

1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 25, I schal neuer pretermyt occasyon nor tyme of helpyng my cuntrey. 1609 Sir E. Hoby *Let. to Mr. T. H.* Pref. 3 Throughly to possesse themselues of your fauour, they will pretermit neither time, nor meanes. 1651 Wittie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* IV. ii. 205. 1840 J. P. Kennedy *Quodlibet* i. (1860) 27, I cannot pretermit the opportunity now afforded me to glance..at some striking events.

5. To leave off for the time or for a time; to interrupt; *erroneously*, to leave off, cease.

1828 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. III. (1863) 484 For her doth Farmer Brookes's mastiff..pretermit his incessant bark. 1878 Stevenson *Edinburgh* (1889) 36 Some customs..have been fortunately pretermitted. 1882 B. Harte *Flip* ii, The monotonous strokes of an axe were suddenly pretermitted.

[ℙ The alleged sense 'To render ineffectual', 'to frustrate', in *Cent. Dict.* and *Standard Dict.*, is an error due to misreading the passage cited.]

Hence **Pretermi·tting** *vbl. sb.* Also **Pretermi·tter,** one who pretermits; **Pretermi·ttently** *adv.*, erron. for Intermittently.

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. Prol. F v b, A sluggarde, and pretermitter of duetifull occasions. 1579–80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 259 But pretermitting of ony tyme. 1857 Miss Mulock *Woman's Th. abt. Wom.* 191 One half the parish resolutely declines 'knowing' the other half—sometimes pretermittently, sometimes permanently.

Pretermi·tted, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.] That is passed by or overlooked; omitted.

1651 Weldon *Crt. Chas. I* 196 He hath Promises out of the pretermitted Customs. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 184 Cheshire is one of the 12, pretermitted Counties, the Names of whose Gentry were not returned into the Tower, in the 12. year of K. Henry the Sixth. 1727 in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 118 The Office of Comptroller of the Petty and of the Pretermitted Customs..in the Port of London. 1875 Poste *Gaius* II. Comm. (ed. 2) 224 The existence of a pretermitted *suus heres*..was alone important.

Preternatural (prītəmæ·tiŭrăl, -tʃŭrăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also **præter-.** [ad. med.L. *præternātūrālis* (1255 in Albertus Magnus *Metaph.* II. xi) f. L. phr. *præter nātūram*: see Preter-. So obs. F. *préternaturel* (15.. in Godef.), It. *preternaturale.*] That is out of the ordinary course of nature; beyond, surpassing, or differing from what is natural; non-natural; formerly = abnormal, exceptional, unusual; sometimes = Unnatural; see also b.

1580 G. Harvey *Three Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 59 A preternaturall, or supernaturall ominous worke of God. 1593 R. Harvey *Philadelphus* 49 Some make themselues barren with preternatural dyet. 1651 Wittie tr. *Primrose's Pop. Err.* 232 We use them [remedies] that we may reduce the body from a preternaturall to its naturall state againe. 1663 J. Spencer *Prodigies* (1665) 5 Prodigies Præternatural, such I account all strange Events, which hold of no steady causes, but are to us soly casual and uncertain. 1685 Boyle *Eng. Notion Nat.* iv. 82 That which thwarts this Order [of Nature] may be said to be Preternatural, or contrary to Nature. 1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict., Whitloe*, a preternatural and very troublesome Swelling towards the Fingers ends. 1802 Paley *Nat. Theol.* iii. (1819) 40 Either in the natural or preternatural state of the organ, the use of the chain of bones is to propagate the impulse. 1866 Geo. Eliot *F. Holt* ii, Mrs. Transome..seemed to hear and see what they said and did with preternatural acuteness.

b. Used as = Supernatural.

1774 J. Bryant *Mythol.* I. 190 People were determined in the choice of their holy places by those præternatural phænomena. 1829 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 11 Preternatural impressions are sometimes communicated to us for wise purposes. 1875 E. White *Life in Christ* V. xxxi. (1878) 533 His coming was heralded by a series of preternatural dispensations.

†B. *sb.*(*pl.*) Preternatural attributes or qualities. *Obs. rare.*

1708 H. Dodwell *Nat. Mort. Hum. Souls* 138 If Humane Souls, since their loss of Præternaturals, are in course, subjected to these inferior Dæmons.

Hence **Pre·ternatura·lity,** *nonce-wd.*, **Preterna·turalness,** preternatural quality; **Preterna·ture,** *nonce-wd.*, that which is out of the course of nature.

1666 J. Smith *Old Age* (1676) 133 There is such an intricate mixture of naturality and preternaturality in Age. 1727 Bailey vol. II, *Preter-naturalness*, quality out of the natural Course. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 588 The preternaturalness of the deliverance is pictured by the driving the locust..into two opposite seas. 1842 Poe *Marie Roget* Wks. 1864 I. 260 In my own heart there dwells no faith in præter-nature.

Preterna·turalism. [f. prec. + -ism.]

1. The character or condition of being preternatural; that which is preternatural; with *a* and *pl.* an instance of this; a preternatural occurrence.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 702/2 Byron's drama partakes both of Hamlet and Macbeth. It is the incest of the one with the preternaturalism of the other. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. iii. viii, Saturated through every fibre with Preternaturalism of Suspicion. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* VI. II. 10 Among the simple People, arose rumours of omens, preternaturalisms, for and against.

2. A recognition of the preternatural; a system or doctrine of the preternatural.

1864 *Realm* 8 June 7 'Frankenstein' and 'Zanoni' are powerful books, but their præternaturalism seems forced and unreal. 1872 A. B. Alcott *Concord Days, Sleep & Dreams* 204 A faith, were such possible, destitute of an element of preternaturalism, or of mysticism. 1882 M. Arnold in *19th Cent.* May 695 A religion of preternaturalism is doomed.

So **Preterna·turalist,** a believer in the preternatural.

1868 M. Collins *Sweet Anne Page* I. 93 The ladies were rather puzzled how to deal with this young præter-naturalist.

Preterna·turally, *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] In a preternatural manner; more than naturally; abnormally, extraordinarily, unusually.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 30 Simple air, being preternaturally attenuated by heat, will make itself room, and break, and blow up that which resisteth it. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* Introd., Warts and Swellings, with other things which grow upon the living Body præternaturally. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* I. iii. 402 The Vibrations in the internal Parts of the Brain are preternaturally increased. 1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, With a countenance preternaturally thoughtful for his years. 1881 W. Collins *Black Robe* vii, The night was almost preternaturally quiet.

Preterperfect (prītəpō·ɹfĕkt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *præteritum perfectum* 'complete past', with contraction: see Preter, Preterite, and Perfect.]

1. *Gram.* Past perfect; applied to a tense which indicates a past or completed state or action. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1534 Tindale *N. T., Matt.* Prol., The Hebrue phrase, or maner of speach..Whose preterperfectence and presentence is bothe one, and the futuretence is the optatiue mode also. 1530 Palsgr. 84 The preterperfit tens as *je ay parlé* I have spoken. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.* C j, The preterperfectence, the time perfectly past. *a* 1658 Cleveland *To T. C.* 26 How canst thou then delight the Sense In Beauty's Preterperfect-tence? 1711 J. Greenwood *Eng. Gram.* 114 In Latin the Present Time of the Perfect action is commonly called the *Preterperfect* Time. 1775 Adair *Amer. Ind.* 38 They..sometimes use the preterperfect, instead of the present tense of the indicative mood.

2. *nonce-use.* More than perfect, surpassing the point of perfection.

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIV. 559 Dumas is one of those persons who love..to furnish the most preterperfect of apartments with the most fabulous of furniture.

† **Pre·terpluparenthe·tical,** *a. Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. after next + Parenthetical.] Excessively addicted to parenthesis; cf. Parenthetical *a.* 2.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 16 Let him understand that Ignorance is the Grand-mother of mistaken Necessity; mistaken Necessity, the Father-in-law of intended iniquity; and that a preterpluparentheticall head hath seldome a clear and orderly judgement.

Pre·terplupe·rfect, *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *præteritum plusquamperfectum* (Priscian *c* 525), with contraction: see Preter, Preterite, and Pluperfect.]

1. *Gram.* = Pluperfect *a.* 1. Also *ellipt.* as *sb.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 84 The preterplusperfit tens, as *javöye parlé* I had spoken. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict.* C j, The preterpluperfectence, the time more then perfectly past. 1612 Brinsley *Pos. Parts* (1669) 33 What time speaks the Præterpluperfect Tense of? *A.* Of that which is more than perfectly past, or past a long while since. 1685 H. More *Paralip. Prophet.* ix. 53, ἐγεγόνει being the Preterpluperfect tense. 1799 [see Preterimperfect]. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* XIII. xiv. (1872) V. 137 Friedrich..gave him to know,, that coöperation was henceforth a thing of the preterpluperfect tense.

2. *gen.* or *allusively.* More than 'pluperfect'; superlatively perfect. (Chiefly in humorous use.)

1599 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* IV. i, Darest thou call my wife strumpet, thou preterpluperfect tense of a woman! 1652 J. Taylor (Water P.) (*title*) Newes from Tenebris: or preterpluperfect nocturnall or night Worke. *c* 1817 Hogg *Tales & Sk.* II. 334 Most sanctimonious and preterpluperfect maiden! I abhor myself for once suspecting your impenetrability. 1892 Lounsbury *Stud. Chaucer* I. 348 There are men who, neither in language nor in literature, can be satisfied with perfect propriety. They insist upon what may be termed preterpluperfect propriety.

Pre-terrestrial: see Pre- B. 1 d.

† **Preterve·ction.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *præterventiōn-em*, n. of action from *præterverhĕre* to carry or convey past, f. *præter*, Preter- + *vehĕre* to carry.] The action of carrying past a place or station.

1697 Potter *Antiq. Greece* IV. iv. (1715) 189 The Place he produces out of Eunapius to that Purpose [παρακομίζειν] seems rather to denote the Prætervection of the Body by some Place, than its Elation from the House wherein it was prepar'd for Burial.

† **Prete·x,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prætexĕre* to weave before or in front, to border; to place before as a covering, to cloak, disguise, pretend; f. *præ*, Pre- A. 4 + *texĕre* to weave.]

1. *trans.* To put forward as a pretext; to allege as a reason or excuse; to pretend; = Pretext *v.*

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* xii. 210 Leste their rasshnes (as thei pretex it) shuld confirme the enimies of the gospell. 1562 in *Ressoning betuix Crosraguell & Knox* B iij b, Thairfore keip your promes, and pretex na ioukrie be my Lorde of Cassillis writing.

2. To cover or shield with a pretext; to cloak.

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* L j b, Pretexyng this his great vngodlines..with coolour of religion. *?a* 1566 Edwards *Sonn.* i. (R.), O neuer let ambition's pride, (Too oft pretexed with our Country's good)..Or thirst of wealth thee from her banks divide.

Pretext (prī·tekst), *sb.*1 [ad. L. *prætextus* (*u*-stem) outward display, show, a pretext, f. ppl. stem of *prætexĕre*: see prec. (or ad. L. *prætext-um* a pretext, orig. pa. pple. neut. of the same). So F. *prétexte* (16th c. in Littré). Formerly (until *c* 1840–50) stressed *prete·xt.*]

That which is put forward to cover the real purpose or object; the ostensible reason or motive of action; an excuse, pretence, specious plea.

1513 More *Rich. III*, Wks. 58/1 The deuise of some conuenient pretext, for which the peple should be content, to depose the prince. 1591 Spenser *M. Hubberd* 988 We may coulor it with some pretext. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xl. 255 A pretext..to discharge themselves of their obedience. 1736 Berkeley *Querist* App. § 80 Such cash should not be liable to seizure on any pretext. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 159 Publick benefit would soon become the pretext, and perfidy and murder the end. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxviii, The same pretext of sylvan game. 1842 Tennyson *Gardener's Daughter* 188 Henceforward squall nor storm Could keep me from that Eden where she dwelt. Light pretexts drew me. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxiv. 241, I..sent them to their village under pretext of obtaining birds. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (1884) 89 To sit down on the outermost edge of the Holy Ground on the pretext of taking off their shoes.

† b. A claim or pretension asserted. *rare*—1.

1633 Stafford *Pac. Hib.* II. iii. 139 Praying that his life might bee spared, in policie of State; for whilest hee lived, his brother Iohn could not make any pretext to the Earledome.

† **Pretext,** *a.* (*sb.*2) *Obs. rare.* Also præ-. [ad. L. (*toga*) *prætexta* a toga bordered or edged with purple, pa. pple. fem. of *prætexĕre* to edge, border: see Pretex. So F. *prétexte.*]

1. Woven in front; bordered, edged, fringed (in quots., with purple); *pretext gown* = Prætexta.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. iii. (S.T.S.) I. 25 Be exempill of þir Ethruschis þe sadill currill and þe pretext govne, with mony vthir ornamentis..war brocht vp in rome. *Ibid.* II. xxiii. 224 þe ornamentis consulare, þat is to say, þe axis, the sadill curall, the pretext govne.

2. Of a person: Wearing the Prætexta.

a 1659 Lovelace *Poems* (1864) 251 A senator prætext, that knewst to sway The fasces.

B. *sb.* = Prætexta.

1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* I. i. (1622) 2 His earnest desire was, they should be called Princes of youth, and chosen Consuls elect, before they had cast of their prætext or infants garments. *Ibid.* XII. ix. 167 Britannicus in his pretext, and Nero in triumphing attire.

Hence † **Prete·xted** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—1, bordered.

1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 154 Æmilius Lepidus..by decree of senate had a statue in his pretexted purple and golden bulla's (or bubbles) set up in the capitol.

Pretext (prĭte·kst), *v.* [a. F. *prétexter* (17th c. in Littré) to take as a pretext, f. *prétexte* Pretext *sb.*1] *trans.* To use or assign as a pretext; to allege as an excuse; to pretend. Also *absol.*

1606 [see Pretexted *ppl. a.*1]. *a* 1797 H. Walpole *Mem. Geo. II* (1822) I. 378 A decency was observed, and conscience always pretexted. 1849 Miss Pardoe *Francis I*, II. xiv. 377 He retraced his steps to the Rue de Fer; where, pretexting business he entered the shop of the armourer. 1885 C. Black in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* III. 241 Pretexting a sprained wrist as excuse for a strange hand.

† **Pretexta·tian,** *a. Obs.* In 8 præ-. [f. L. *prætextāt-us* clothed with the *toga prætexta* (see Pretext *a.*), in *ætās prætextāta* (Gellius) + -ian.] Of or pertaining to those who wore the *prætexta* (i. e. to children under seventeen years of age).

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 355 Children, under the

said Septennian Age; for, from those Years upwards to the Prætextatian term of fifteen or upwards, the Doctor prescribes [etc.].

Prete·xtatized, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *prætextāt-us* veiled, disguised, hence (of words) equivocal, unchaste.] Rendered equivocal or obscene.

1853 BADHAM *Halieut.* (1854) 507 Debased and pretextatized as the Imperial city had become in Juvenal's time, no Roman was a match for them.

Prete·xted, *ppl. a.*[1] [f. PRETEXT *v.* + -ED [1].] Put forward or used as a pretext; pretended.

1606 FORD *Honor Tri.* (1843) 25 Such these are, who.. import the pretexted glosse of beauties name. 1864 *Realm* 23 Mar. 2 What the real truth is with regard to the pretexted Holy Alliances and retrograde policy of the Austrian Government. 1880 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 54 He called most of them by their Christian names on some pretexted fiction of cousinship.

Pretexted, *ppl. a.*[2]: see after PRETEXT *a.*

† Prete·xtuous, *a. Obs. rare.* Also **præ-** [f. L. *prætextu-s* (*u*-stem: see PRETEXT *sb.*[1]) + -OUS.] Of the nature of a pretext; specious, plausible.

1647 *Quæres presented to his Majesty's Remembr.* 3 To advance the designe with a pretextuous letter, Au Roy. 1649 in *Proc. Comm. Gen. Assembly* (1896) 249 Envyous vnderminers in a singular and praetextuous way aiming at our ruine.

† Prete·xture. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *prætext-*, ppl. stem of *prætexĕre* (see PRETEX) + -URE.] A disguising or cloaking; a pretext.

1618 T. ADAMS *Love's Copy* Wks. 1862 II. 416 Now we have studied both textures of words and pretextures of manners, to shroud dishonesty.

Prethe, pre-thee, prethy, obs. ff. PRITHEE.

Prethoracic, -tibial: see PRE- B. 3. **Pre-thoughtful:** see PRE- A. 3.

† Pretifollie. *Obs. nonce-wd.* Alteration of *trettifollie*, TRE-TRIFOLIE, after PRETTY and FOLLY.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* XXIX. Notes 239 An herbe.. (suppose it to be trettiefolie or pretiefollie) mingled with elder berryes and rew, (which may signifie sage counsell and repentance).

† Preti·nct, *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *prætinct-*, ppl. stem of *prætingĕre*: see PRE- A. and TINCT *v.*] *trans.* To tinge or imbue beforehand.

1641 LD. J. DIGBY *Sp. in Ho. Comm.* 21 Apr. 11 The eye if it be pretincted with any colour, is vitiated in its discerning.

Pretiosity, -tious, obs. ff. PRECIOSITY, -CIOUS.

Pretland, obs. Sc. form of PRATTLING *ppl. a.*

† Pretoi·r, -oyr(e, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [a. OF. *pretoire* sb. and adj., ad. L. *prætōrium, prætōrius* adj.: see PRÆTORIUM, PRÆTORIAN.] **a.** *sb.* = PRÆTORIUM. **b.** *adj.* = PRÆTORIAL, PRÆTORIAN.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 181 A Romein, Which Consul was of the Pretoire, Whos name was Carmidotoire. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* VIII. i. (MS. Bodl. 263) 367/1 Whilom a prefect in Rome the Cite Of the pretoire. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* II. II. iv. 94 In one of the quarters was a gardyn pretoyre meruayllously fayr wherin floures ne fruytes faylled neuer [Fr. *avoit nug pretoire*, i.e. an enclosed yard or space].

Pretoir, obs. Sc. form of PRÆTOR.

Pretone (prī·tōun). *Phonology.* [f. PRE- B. + TONE.] The syllable or vowel preceding the stressed or accented syllable. So **Pretonic** (prītǫ·nik) *a.*, coming immediately before the stressed or tonic syllable.

1864 WEBSTER, *Pretonic*, before a tone; as, a pretonic sound or note. 1874 DAVIDSON *Hebr. Gram.* (1892) 46, *a* in the pretone, or *a* in the tone, or *a* in both places. 1884 C. H. TOY in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* Dec. 499 The pretonic vowel is either heavy or lightest, that is, shewā.. The number of occurrences of shewā in pretone is considerable. 1895 W. M. LINDSAY *Short Lat. Gram.* 29 The new law of accentuation.. brought with it the possibility of a new variety, namely, suppression of the syllable preceding the accent, Pretonic syncope.

Pretor, -orian, -ory, etc.: see PRÆTOR, etc.

Pre-torture, -tracheal, etc.: see PRE- A. 1, B. 3, etc.

† Pretru·de, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. PRE- A. 4 + L. *trūdĕre* to thrust.] *trans.* To thrust or drive in front or before one.

1693 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 662 Those..which are not small enough to pass those Straits.., being just admitted, stick there till other appelling Substances give them a farther Comminution, and so pretrude them along.

Prette, obs. rare pa. t. of PRIDE *v.*

Prettify (pri·tifəi), *v. colloq.* [f. PRETTY *a.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make pretty; to represent prettily in a painting or writing. Hence **Pre·ttifying** *vbl. sb.*

1850 F. TROLLOPE in F. E. Trollope *Life* (1895) II. xi. 203 Keep your money to prettify your house, dear son. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1870) I. 237, I rather wonder that people of real taste should help nature out, and beautify her, or perhaps rather *prettify* her so much as they do. 1890 *Univ. Rev.* 15 June 181 He has prettified his market town, and thereby lost much of its reality. 1902 *Academy* 12 Apr. 379/2 Keats said it [Leigh Hunt's angelic optimism] did him positive injury by its eternal prettyfying of fine things, and he might have added its eternal prettyfying of common things.

Prettily (pri·tili), *adv.* Forms: see PRETTY. [f. PRETTY *a.* + -LY [2].] In a pretty manner.

† 1. In a cunning or clever manner; cleverly, ingeniously, skilfully, neatly. *Obs.*

14.. *A.B.C.* 6 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 244 A bok hym is browt..Pratylych I-wrout. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xi. 282 They shoved theym so prately agenste a pyller of marbell stone that their eyen lepte oute of theyr hedes. *c* 1530 *Crt. Love* 420 Though thow seest a faut right at thyne y, Excuse it blyve, and glose it pretily. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 881 They were driven to give ground; and so prettily retired, defending the Consull the best they could. 1589 *Hay any Work* B j, You can shift of an haynous accusation very pretily. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 53 Lysander riddles very prettily. 1594 — *Rich. III*, III. i. 134 To mittigate the scorne he giues his Vncle, He prettily and aptly taunts himselfe. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Sept., I find how prettily this cunning Lord can be partial and dissemble it in this case.

† b. To the point; expressively, aptly, neatly.

1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ii. (1636) 20 When hee [Socrates] was laughed to scorne of Alcibiades, for so doing, he answered him very prettily. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epigr.* 16 Which a Poet..expressed thus very briefly, and for that age pretily. 1625 BACON *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 501 Mountaigny saith prettily [etc.]. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* i. (1846) I. 12 It is prettily remarked by an ancient historian who had fought against them, that the effusion of blood was the only circumstance which distinguished a field of battle from a field of exercise.

2. In a way that pleases the eye, ear, or æsthetic sense; beautifully but not grandly; 'nicely'.

In nursery language children are told to *eat, ask, behave prettily.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cliii, Lytill fischis..In a rout can swym So prattily, and dressit tham to sprede Thaire curall fynnis. 1463 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 8 Your daughter & myn..speaketh prattely & french, & hath near hand learned her sawter. *a* 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 89 Therin a goldfinch leping pretily Fro bough to bough. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 661 Pretilie or pleasantly spoken, *lepide aut facete dictum.* 1653 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xx. 263 It looks prettily, but rewards the eye, as burning basons do, with intolerable circles of reflected fire. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 246 The Ax stroaks..on the Brick,..if they be streight and parallel one to another, look very prettily. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xv. 92 So prettily loth to speak till spoken to. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 237, I mean to be so prettily behaved, as to become the darling of all the old, sober, stupid folks in the kingdom. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Eva said, 'Topsy, you arrange flowers very prettily'. 1857 WOOD *Com. Obj. Sea Shore* 27 The body is prettily banded with multitudes of narrow dark markings. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xvi, Her prettily-insolent eyebrows. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* XXX, If you had only asked me prettily. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 70 A prettily-worked holland blouse.

b. Gently, softly, quietly. Now *dial.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 9 The kinge hyed hym, & helped to sette her on horsbak moche prately [*orig.* doulcement]. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 93 b, Wyth that worde putte the tone pretely backe with his hande, and all to buffet the tother about the face. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 37 *Prattily*, softly. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prattily*, softly, delicately. 'Gang prattily, er thou't wacken 't barn'. 1883 *Almondb. & Huddersf. Gloss.* s. v., A tap runs pratly when it lets out only a small stream in proportion to its size.

† 3. Considerably, fairly, passably, moderately; = PRETTY *adv.* 1 (but also qualifying vbs.). *Obs.*

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1037/2 Tyndal the captain of our Englyshe heretikes..was taken for full pretyly learned to. 1540 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) i iv, Ye can prately well graunt to a thing in one place, and denie the same in another. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 201 Hauing now recouerd his strength pretily well. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. (1689) 67 By their Education prettily well principled. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. lxxv, I..had an ear that served me prettily. 1826 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 7 The English money used to be spent prettily in that country.

Prettiness (pri·tinės). [f. PRETTY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being pretty.

1. 'Beauty without dignity; neat elegance without elevation' (J.); beauty of a slight, diminutive, dainty, or childish kind, without stateliness.

1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Prattynesse, *mignonnerie.* 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. ix. (1712) 65 There being..that Majesty and Stateliness, as in the Lion, the Horse, the Eagle, and Cock; or that grave Awfulness, as in..Mastiffs; or Elegancy and Prettiness, as in your lesser Dogs, and most sorts of Birds; all which are several Modes of Beauty. 1663 COWLEY *Ess. in Verse & Prose, Greatness*, If I were ever to fall in love again..it would be, I think, with Prettiness, rather than with Majestical Beauty. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 190 Tis vast Impertinence in an Old Woman, to think to set up for Prettiness. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 13 A neatness, a grace, and an all-pervading prettiness, that were perfectly fascinating. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 2 These houses.. nothing can exceed in prettiness their aspect as they shine in the sun. 1874 J. FERGUSSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 755 The vigour of the crude colouring..of the staircase at Cardiff stands in strange contrast with the feeble prettiness of Worcester Chapel.

† 2. Pleasantness, agreeableness. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 189 Thought, and Affliction, Passion, Hell it selfe, She turns to Fauour, and to prettinesse. 1658 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan., He [a child] was all life, all prettinesse, far from morose, sullen, or childish in any thing he said or did.

† b. Cleverness; amusingness. *Obs.*

1674 R. GODFREY *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 90 But the prettiness of the Knack was that Master Docter who denyed strong-beer to his two Patients..was almost angry with his servant for not quickly bringing up a Cup of the Best-beer to quench his thirst.

3. with *a* and *pl.* That which is pretty; a pretty act, thing, feature, etc.; a pretty ornament.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. i. § 10 Receiving and ministring respectively, perpetual prettinesses of love, and fondnesse. 1686 W. DE BRITAINE *Hum. Prud.* xiv. 64, I ever had a Noble Affection for that excellent Sex, as great Instruments of good, and the prettinesses of Society. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. *Copse* 47 All this and a thousand amusing prettinesses..does my beautiful greyhound perform. 1832 *Ibid.* Ser. v. *C. Cleveland* 202 The nuptial prettinesses of cake, and gloves, and silver favours. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* i, The prettinesses of Somersetshire are among those which are the least known. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. i, The room was full of flowers and prettinesses of every kind. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawm.* I. 62 It was always Elsie who did the prettinesses..whether it was in our ball dresses or our parlour.

4. Affected, trivial, or conceited beauty of expression, style, or execution in literature or art. Also, an instance of this, a prettyism.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* v. xiv. 172 The learned Hugo Grotius..the ingenuities and prettinesses of whose expositions had almost imposed upon my self to a belief that there might be some such sense also of the Revelation as he drives at. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1692) 118 There is more prettiness in the Expression, than truth in the Notion. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 474 ¶ 4 Their distinguishing Mark is certain Prettinesses of Foreign Languages, the Meaning of which they could have better express'd in their own. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxvii. 233 He.. uttered a thousand prettinesses in the way of compliment. 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 56 Before they attempt by prettinesses, glittering words, points, conceits, and forced thoughts, to sacrifice propriety and just imagery to the rage of mere novelty. 1887 *Leeds Mercury* 8 Jan. 10/1 A scholar who delights in the delicacies and prettinesses of scholarship.

Pretty (pri·ti), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: *a.* 1 **prættiʒ; pætiʒ, petiʒ**; 5 **prati**, 5-6 **praty, pratie**, 5-7 (9 *dial.*) **pratty**, 6 **prayty, pratye, prattie**, 8-9 *Sc.* **proty, protty.** *β.* 5-7 **prety**, 6-7 **pret(t)ie**, 6- **pretty.** *γ.* 6 **preatie, -ty, prittie**, 7 **preety, prity**, 7-8 (9 *dial.*) **pritty** (8 **pritey**). *δ.* 9 *dial.* **perty, pirty, purty, pooty, putty.** [OE. *prættig*, f. *prætt*, PRAT *sb.*[1], trick, wile, craft, akin to Icel. *prettugr* tricky, deceitful, f. *prettr* trick; also to EFris. and obs. Du. *prettig* sportive, funny, humorous, f. *pret* joke, sport, fun, pleasure (Doornkaat-Koolman, Franck):—WGer. **pratti-* or **pratta*; also, with metathesis, Flem. *pertig*, MDu. (*ghe*)*pertich* brisk, clever, roguish ('*pertigh* Fland. argutulus, fallax', Kilian), f. MDu. *parte*, early mod.Du. *perte, parte, pratte* trick, deceit, cunning (Kilian), Du. *part* trick, prank.

The history has several points of obscurity. The OE. *prættig* appears to be rare and late; it also varies in an unusual way (but cf. *sprǽc, spǽc* speech) with *pætiʒ, petiʒ* or rather *pǽtiʒ, pétiʒ*. After the OE. period the word is unknown till the 15th c., when it becomes all at once frequent in various senses, none identical with the OE., though derivable from it. The earlier forms *prati, pratty*, etc., also correspond to the OE. *prættig*; but *prety, pretty* have *e*, like the ON. and continental words; while *preaty, preety, pritty* may represent OE. **prǽtig*, **prétig* (whence *pǽtiʒ, pétiʒ*). The current spoken word is *pritty*, but spelt *pretty*. The metathesized *pirty, purty*, etc., agree with the usual treatment of *re, ri*, in s.w. dial. (cf. *urd, burches, Urchet, urn*, for *red, breeches, Richard, run*), and with the Flem. and Du. forms above. (Celtic and Latin derivations sometimes conjectured are unfounded.) The sense-development, 'deceitful, tricky, cunning, clever, skilful, admirable, pleasing, nice, pretty', has parallels, more or less extensive, in *canny, clever, cunning* (cf. mod. U.S. use), *fine, nice*, and other adjectives.]

I. In OE.

† 1. Cunning, crafty, wily, artful, astute. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Colloq.* in Wright *Voc.* 12 Vultis esse versipelles, aut milleformes, in mendaciis vafri, in loquelis astuti? *Gloss,* Wille ge beon prættige oþþe þusenthiwe on leasungum lytige on sprǽcum gleawlice? *c* 1000 — *Voc.* ibid. 47/2 *Sagax, vel gnarus, vel astutus, vel callidus,* petiʒ, *vel* abered.

II. From 15th century.

2. a. Of persons: Clever, skilful; apt. *Obs.* or *arch.*

The sense in some of the quots. is uncertain.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2622 A praty man of pure wit, protheus he hight. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XX. 276 He schall (and he haue liff) Proue till a praty swayne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 112/8 Prétie, *scitus, facetus.* 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 44/1 Andrew White a good humanician, a pretie philosopher. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii, 'There goes the prettiest fellow in the world..for managing a jury'.

b. Of things: Ingeniously or cleverly made or done; ingenious, artful, clever. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 46 (Harl. MS.) My son..woll with his praty wordis & pleys make me foryete my anger. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VII. 133 The prety wand, I trow be myn entent, Assignes rewlle and cruell jugement. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* f iv, A gallant naminge hym selfe an aulmoiner..played a prety gewgaw. 1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* II. (1609) 151 When the right Key of Knowledge was lost and gone, it was time to deuise some other prety picklocks to worke the feat. 1589 *Hay any Work* B j, A very prety way to escape. 1671 tr. *Palafox's Cong. China* vi. 119 The King..at last thought of a very pretty way to suppress him, and this was by a stratagem. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 84 They have in Kent a pretty way of saving of Labour in the digging of Chalk.

3. A general epithet of admiration or appreciation corresponding nearly to 'fine' in its vaguest sense, or the modern 'nice': excellent, admirable, commendable; pleasing, satisfactory, agreeable.

a. Of persons: Having the proper appearance, manners, or qualities of a man, etc.; conventionally applied to soldiers: Brave, gallant, stout, war-

like (chiefly *Sc.*). *Pretty fellow*, a fine fellow, a 'swell', a fop: common in 18th century. Now *arch.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10815 A prouynse of prise, & praty men in. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 290/1 Praty, *prestans.* 1519 *Interl. Four Elements* (Percy Soc.) 17 Than hold downe thy hede lyke a prety man, and take my blyssyng. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 217 The Bishop of Rochester stept into the Pulpit, like a pretie man, and gave the Auditorie a clerkly collation, and Preachement. 1649 BP. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1748) 28 If it had not been that the said Francis, with the help of two pretty men that attended him, rescued him out of their barbarous hands. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 11 May, Dr. Clerke, who I found to be a very pretty man and very knowing. 1709 *Tatler* No. 21 P4 In Imitation of this agreeable Being, is made that Animal we call a Pretty Fellow; who being just able to find out, that what makes Sophronius acceptable, is a Natural Behaviour; in order to the same Reputation, makes his own an Artificial one. 1728 FIELDING *Love in Sev. Masques* I. v, I am afraid, if this Humour continue, it will be as necessary in the Education of a pretty Gentleman to learn to read, as to learn to dance. *a* 1732 GAY *Distress'd Wife* II, A pretty fellow—that is a fine dress'd man with little sense and a great deal of assurance. 1750 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 563 They are pretty people to be with, no ceremony. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) I. v. 20 By his outward appearance he may pass for one of your pretty fellows, for he dresses very gaily. 1768 Ross *Helenore* III. 118 Tooming faulds or ca'ing of a glen, Was ever deem'd the deed of pretty men. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvii, He..observed they were pretty men, meaning, not handsome, but stout warlike fellows. 1824 — *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, He gaed out with other pretty men in the Forty-five. 1844 THACKERAY *B. Lyndon* xvii, I was a pretty fellow of the first class. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* I, A pretty lad like you should get to Cramond..in two days of walk.

b. Of things: Fine, pleasing, nice; proper.

1566 J. ALDAY tr. *Boaystuau's Theat. World* K v, There is recited a pretie historie of a noble Romane. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 90 Women haue a prettie dish made of Peares. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. i, To read them asleep in afternoones vpon some pretty pamphlet. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* Pref. 1 Man's thoughts of life and living are odd things; pritty antitheses. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Sept., It is pretty to see how strange everybody looks. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* I. i, He has a pretty wit. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* v, Such a pretty height and size. *c* 1850 *Colloq.* (said of one who had said or done something kind or graceful) It was very pretty of him. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* i. (1880) 25 Roach-fishing is very pretty sport. 1894 J. T. FOWLER *Adamnan* Introd. 34 There is a very pretty legend, possibly founded on facts, about his 'call'.

c. Used ironically: cf. FINE *a.* 12 c.

1538 *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* (Camden) 198 Sum beynge plucked from under drabbes beddes;..wythe suche other praty besynes, off the whyche I have to moche. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 74 Forsoth it is a praty Ambrose. *a* 1650 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 115 Ther was no mete cam her before, Butt she ete itt vp, lesse and' more, That praty fowlle dameselle. 1742 A pretty kettle of fish [see KETTLE 2 b]. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. iv. 31 Expecting us to bear with their pretty perversenesses. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. iv. P4 We drank hard, and returned to our employers in a pretty pickle. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1865) I. 404/2 A dray-man in a passion calls out, 'You are a pretty fellow', without suspecting that he is uttering irony. 1842 THACKERAY *Miss Tickletoby's Lect.* vi, A pretty pass things are come to, when hussies like this are to be..bepitied. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* VI. iii, 'And the new police', said Nick. 'A pretty go when a fellow in a blue coat fetches you the Devil's own con on your head'. 1873 BLACK *Pr. of Thule* xxi, 'Well, young lady..and a pretty mess you have got us into!'

4. Having beauty without majesty or stateliness; beautiful in a slight, dainty, or diminutive way, as opposed to *handsome*. a. Of persons (usually women or children): Of attractive and pleasing countenance or appearance; comely, bonny.

Pretty is somewhat of a condescending term; we grant it: *beauty* is imperious, and commands our acknowledgement.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 440 A fayr yong man..and he was so pratie & so defte at yong wommen wex evyn fond on hym. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Praty, *elegans, formosus, elegantulus, formulosus.* 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* G ij, He made her to understonde she was fayr and praty. 1530 PALSGR. 776/2 You shall se me waxe pratye [*amignonner*] one of this dayes. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 61 Her Iuorie front, her pretie chin, Were stales that drew me on to sin. 1616 HIERON *Wks.* I. 588 As the saying is, every thing is pretie when it is young. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xviii. 62 Brought upon the deck, together with a woman and two pretty children. *a* 1717 PARNELL *Elegy to Old Beauty* 34 And all that's madly wild, or oddly gay, We call it only pretty Fanny's way. 1722 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 373 She was a very pretty Woman, and is so still, only too fat. 18., (*Ballad*) Where are you going, my pretty maid? 1870 MRS. H. WOOD *G. Canterbury's Will* II. i. 9 He is not a fine child, for he is remarkably small; but he is a very pretty one. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 11 Sept. 4/7 We never call a man 'beautiful'. With 'pretty' and 'lovely', that adjective has become the property of women and children alone.

b. Frequently applied in a coaxing or soothing way, esp. to children.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 477 Hayll, so as I can hayll, praty mytyng! *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* Poems 1843 I. 127 Bas me, buttyng, praty Cys. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 73 Pitteous playnings of the prettie babes. 1607 — *Timon* III. i. 15 And what hast thou there vnder thy Cloake, pretty Flaminius? 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 595 My prettiest Perdita. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 66 Then said Mr. Great-heart to the little ones, Come my preety Boys, how do you do? 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* III, While my little one, while my pretty one, sleeps.

c. Of things: Pleasing to the eye, the ear, or the æsthetic sense. (Cf. FAIR *a.* 1 f, g, 2.)

1472 JOHN PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 55 Forget not..to get some goodly ryng, pryse of XXS., or som praty flowyr of the same pryse,..to geve to Jane Rodon. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 150 The place is praty and fayr and I wyll that it be called Montalban. 1538 J. LONDON in *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, XIII. No. 1342 (P. R. O.), They haue oon fayer orchard and sondry praty gardens and lodginges. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXLVIII. ii, You pretie starrs in robe of night, As spangles twinckling. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 35 They sing several pretty Songs in the Turkish and Persian Languages. 1732 EARL OF OXFORD in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 164 We stopped at ..Narford, the seat of Sir Andrew Fountaine. It is a pretty box. 1802–21 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* iv. (ed. 3) 87 Ah Lord! its fearful pratty, indeed. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. ii, She can have a prettier room at the Hook.

d. Often conjoined with *little*; sometimes app. merely expletive: see LITTLE *a.* 3.

?*a* 1400 LYDG. *Chorle & Byrde* (Roxb.) 4 He purposed to make Within his hows a praty litill cage. 1529 Lytle prety pecadulians [see PECCADILIAN]. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 381/1 A lytle prety sorowe and verye shortely done. 1552 HULOET, Pratye lyttle one, *paruulus.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 503 In his left hand he bare somtime..a little pretty coach. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 195 This pretty, puny, weakly little one. 1883 RUSKIN *Art Eng.* 25 The mother sent me a pretty little note.

5. Considerable in number, quantity, or extent, as in *a pretty deal, while, way*, etc.; also *a pretty many* = a good many; = FAIR *a.* 3 b; *Sc.* GEY, GAY *a.* 7. Cf. PRETTY *adv.* 1. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

c 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 88 Caste in your colours that schalbe rede afore a prety whyle, and..let hem boyle togedyris. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D ij b, Holde vp yowre hande a praty way of from the Malarde. *a* 1535 MORE *Mery Jest*, etc. 73 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 122 First faire and wele a pretie deale He hyd it in a potte. 1538 LONDON in *Lett. Suppress. Monast.* 234 Catell, whenof I founde praty store. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 224 b, Antigonus.. stood hangyng downe his hedde a preatie space. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 14 A place of some pretty heighth. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. ii. 30 Their bowes be short, and of a pretie strength. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 8 Swine also they have in prety number. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 199 With a pretty strength press the middle of one end of your Work. 1738 tr. *Guazzo's Art Conversation* 152 A Person, who lived a pretty way off. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. i, The transfer of his commission, which brought a pretty sum into his pocket. 1860 DARWIN *Let. to Lyell* Sept., Which is a pretty deal more than I can say of some. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Purit.* iv. 415 In the light.. of this word he went a pretty while.

b. *A pretty penny*, a considerable sum, a good deal of money: see PENNY 9 e.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 444 P4 Charles Ingoltson..has made a pretty Penny by that Asseveration. 1768, 1885, 1889 [see PENNY 9 e]. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *M. Barton* v, This mourning..will cost a pretty penny.

† c. *Pretty and* (with another adj.), was formerly used as = PRETTY *adv.* 1. Cf. GEY *a.* b. *Obs.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 153 It was but pretie and so, for a Latine Poet after others. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. ix. (1668) 184 You shall blink it more by much than was the strong Ale, for it must be pretty and sharp. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 75 The weather..was pretty and warme. *Ibid.* 78 It was pretty and cleere.

† 6. Mean, petty, insignificant. (? Error for *petty*.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. Prol. 90 For, mycht thou comprehend be thine engyne The maist excellent maieste devyne, He mycht be reput a pretty God and mene.

B. *sb.* (The adj. used absol.) a. A pretty man, woman, or child; a pretty one; in phr. *my pretty! my pretties!* used in addressing people, etc. b. A pretty thing, an ornament. c. The fluted or ornamented part of a glass or tumbler.

1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* II. Wks. (Globe) 657/2 Back to back, my pretties. *a* 1814 *Father & Son* v. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 399 If you would but comprehend me, my pretty. 1886 FENN *Master of Cerem.* xvii, Wo-ho, my pretties. b. 1882 *Society* 28 Oct. 23/2 A profusion of.. shells..completed this list of 'pretties'. c. 1890 BUCKMAN *Darké's Sojourn* ix. 101 He proceeds to pour into the glass whisky nearly up to the 'pretty'.

C. Used interjectionally.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Oct., But pretty! how I took another pretty woman for her, taking her a clap on the breech, thinking verily it had been her.

D. *Comb.* (of the adj.) a. Parasynthetic derivatives, as *pretty-footed, -humoured, -toned, -witted* adjs.; *pretty-girlhood* (the estate or domain of pretty girls). b. **Pretty-and-Little, Pretty-Betty, Pretty-Betsy, Pretty Nancy**, names of flowers (see quots.); **pretty-dancers**, the northern lights: see DANCER 5; **pretty-face**, one who has a pretty face.

1882 FRIEND *Devon. Plant Names*, **Pretty-and-Little*, the common Virginia Stock. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, **Pretty Betty*, flowering Valeriana rubra. 1899 *Church Times* 24 Nov. 622/1 He probably means valerian or Pretty Betsy, common on the chalk of North Kent. 1808 JAMIESON, **Pretty-Dancers*, a name given by the vulgar to the Aurora Borealis. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xviii. 29 She hugged me to her, and said,..*Prettyface, where gottest thou all thy knowledge? 1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ii. 34 *margin*, Wel haired, and *pretty-footed; two speciall commendations, dispersed in Greeke Poets. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 319 The Earl expectant had somehow linked together the ideas of pleasure and *pretty-girl-hood. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Aug., Mrs. Harman is a very *pretty-humoured wretch. 1886 BRITTEN & H. *Plant-n.*, Pretty Nancy, *Saxifraga umbrosa* [London Pride]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 36 The man is *prettie witted enough.

Pretty (pri·ti), *adv.* Forms: see prec. [The adj. in adverbial use.]

1. To a considerable extent, considerably; in a fair or moderate degree, fairly, moderately, tolerably; rather. Sometimes expressing close approximation to *quite*, or by meiosis equivalent to *very*; at other times denoting a much slighter degree. (Qualifying an adj. or adv.)

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Audaculus*, a pretie hardie fellow: vsed in derision. 1598 FLORIO *Dict.* Ep. Ded. 3 Boccace is prettie hard, yet understood: Petrarche harder but explained. 1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* v. i, The Dutch what-you-call I swallowed pretty well. 1638 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* (1702) 166 They are of a pretty ancient date. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 44 By the end of November the coast was pritty clear of them. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. liv. 288 It is pretty like a young Willow. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. iii, I have discovered a pretty considerable treasure. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* II. ii, I'll take pretty good care of you. 1779 — *Critic* I. i, My power with the managers is pretty notorious. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 249 On the S. is a small chapel, pretty entire, dedicated to St. Oran. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, The other men..lived pretty much as they did. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. xlvi. 195 Parties..are generally pretty equally balanced. 1896 *Law Q. Rev.* July 201 If such be the law, we are pretty sure it is not the law Parliament intended to make.

2. = PRETTILY. Now *rare* and *illiterate*.

1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Sept., The several states of man's age, to 100 years old, is shewn very pretty and solemne. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* xvi, I like Aaron to..behave pretty to you. 1876 in Mordaunt & Verney *Warwick. Hunt* (1896) II. 7 Were halloaed on to a fox from Frog Hall Osiers, and ran him very pretty by Kineton Village.

b. Combined with ppl. adjs., as **pretty-behaved** = prettily-behaved; **pretty-spoken**, spoken or speaking prettily. *colloq.*

1787 *Generous Attachment* IV. 167 He thought her..a very decent pretty-behaved sort of a young woman. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. viii. P5 The lady is a very pretty behaved young lady. On my part, I am a very pretty behaved young gentleman.

Prettyish (pri·ti,iʃ), *a. colloq.* [See -ISH 1.] Somewhat pretty, rather pretty.

1741 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) I. 19 There was Churchill's daughter, who is prettyish and dances well. 1758 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 486 She is prettyish, young, and ignorant. 1852 CLOUGH *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 183 Walk with Emerson to a wood with prettyish pool. 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Oct. 438/2 His work contains some prettyish, and even pretty, passages.

Prettyism (pri·ti,iz'm). [See -ISM.] Studied prettiness of style or manner; an instance of this.

1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 739 We cannot prefer the vague prettyisms of the mere gentleman to the substantial tuition of the mere pedant. 1812 — in *Monthly Rev.* LXVII. 388 As full of antithesis and prettyism of style, as any other part of the book. 1862 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 324 Surely the following puerilities and prettyisms are unbearable. 1907 M. G. PEARSE in *Life & Work* Apr. 81/2 The ugliest ism in the world is Pretty-ism, when it does not matter so much what you say as how you say it.

Pre·tty-pre·tty, *a.* and *sb.* [Reduplicated from PRETTY *a.* (Imitating childish talk.)]

A. *adj.* That overdoes the pretty; in which the aim at prettiness is overdone. Cf. GOODY-GOODY.

1897 *Bookman* Jan. 119/1 Save in the over-rated, pretty-pretty 'Harbour of Refuge', he is always interesting. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 1 Apr. 4/4 We can't expect men who have to do unpleasant work to be a select gang of pretty-pretty sentimentalists.

B. *sb.* (*pl.*) Pretty things; ornaments, knick-knacks. (Properly nursery prattle.)

1875 TROLLOPE *Autobiog.* (1883) I. ii. 35 My mother..had contrived to keep a certain number of pretty-pretties which were dear to her heart. 1888 *Bow Bells Weekly* 15 June 376/3 This room contains a small fortune in pretty-pretties.

Pretympanic: see PRE- B. 3.

† **Prety·pe**, *v. Obs.* [PRE- A. 1.] = next.

c 1624 LUSHINGTON *Recant. Serm.* (1659) 85 St. Jerome might have pretyped it by the age of Man in general.

Pretypify (prīti·pifəi), *v.* [f. PRE- A. 1 + TYPIFY *v.*] *trans.* To typify beforehand, prefigure, foreshadow.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxxii. 17 So shall Christ, pretypified by Solomon. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* iv. 412 Our Jesus..did really undergoe those sufferings, which were pretypified and foretold. 1880 W. S. KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 103 Paramecium and its allies would appear to pre-typify the Turbellaria.

‖ **Pretzel** (pre·tsĕl), **bretzel** (bre·tsĕl). *U. S.* [G. *pretzel, bretzel*, in OHG. *brizzilla* = It. *bracciello* (Florio) a cracknel; usually taken as ad. med.L. *bracellus* a bracelet; also a kind of cake or biscuit (Du Cange).] A crisp biscuit baked in the form of a knot and flavoured with salt; used esp. by Germans as a relish with beer.

1879 in WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1889 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692/1 The German beer-houses, with their baskets of 'pretzel', are more frequent as we approach the commercial quarters. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 134/1 She brought me some pretzels and a stein that she said her mother brought from the fatherland.

† **Preu, prew**, *a. Obs.* Also 4 **preus**, 5 **pru**, 5–6 **prue**, 6 **prewe**. [a. OF. *preu, prou, pru*, nom. *preu-z* (*proz, prous, pruz*, 11th c. in Godef.), in mod.F. *preux* valiant, brave, good:—late L. *prōd-is, prōd-em* (*prōde* neut. in *Itala*): see PROW.] Brave,

valiant, doughty, gallant; full of prowess: cf. PREUX.

1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Ine prouesse byeþ þri þinges to-deld, hardyesse, strengþe, an stedeuestnesse. Non ne is aryȝt preus, þet þise þri þinges ne heþ. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 177 (Harl. MS.) This king of kinges preu was and elate. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4888 Ector rode forth In gode vertuus Strong knyȝt, hardy and prus. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 8 b, The worthy hercules and the noble preu Jason. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 79 We ben so pru & so good men of armes. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 15 The prue king Oriant. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. i. 1 Wherby the preweand hardy may haue ensample to incourage them in theyr well doyng.

Preua-, Preue-, Preui-: see PREV-. **Pre-understand, -union, -unite**: see PRE- A. 1, 2.

‖ **Preux** (prʊ̈), *a.* [mod.F. *preux* valiant: see the earlier form PREU.] Brave, valiant, gallant; chiefly in *preux chevalier*, gallant knight.

1771 H. WALPOLE *Lett., to G. Selwyn* 9 Sept., If he is a *preux chevalier*, he will vindicate her character *d'une manière éclatante.* 1803 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 116 When the adventures of a *preux chevalier* were no longer listened to by starts. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Cynotaph*, All *Preux Chevaliers*, in friendly rivalry Who should best bring back the glory of Chi-valry.

Preva, Prevable, obs. ff. PRIVY, PROVABLE.

Preva·ccinated, *ppl. a.* [PRE- A. 1.] Previously vaccinated.

1903 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 21 Mar. 663 Prevaccinated Small-Pox [i.e. occurring in a person previously vaccinated].

† **Preva·de,** *v. rare*—[1]. [app. ad. L. *prævādĕre* to pass before, to be discharged from, to get rid of (perh. here identified with *ēvādĕre* to escape from).] ? To rid oneself of, to omit; 'to neglect' (Jam.).

1641 R. BAILLIE *Lett., to Ld. Montgom.* 2 June, My man, ..give my letters with him to the Generall-Major Baillie, to Meldrum and Durie; prevade not to obtaine him his pay.

† **Pre·vagely,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. Of obscure etymology and meaning; there is no answering word in the L. Possibly some error.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 14 His smotterit habit, our his schulderis lidder, Hang prevagely [*Camb. MS.* and *ed.* 1553 pevagely] knyt with a knot togiddir.

† **Prevail,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. next.]

1. The fact of prevailing: = PREVALENCE 1.

1420 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 9 Your gracious preuaile ayenst thentent & malice of your evilwillers. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 143/2 His preuaile was to their reproch.

2. Advantage, benefit: = AVAIL *sb.* 1.

c 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 285 Yt ys necessary to every clothyer, And the most prevayle to theym that may be fownde, Yf they wylle take hede therto and yt undyrstonde.

Prevail (prĭvēi·l), *v.* Forms: 4–7 **prevayle,** 5 **-vayl**(l **-vaylle,** (*Sc.* **-vele**), 5–7 **-vaile,** 6 **-vaill,** 6–8 **-vale,** 5– **prevail.** [ME. *prevaylle, -vaile,* ad. L. *prævalēre* to be very able, have greater power or worth, prevail (see PRE- and VAIL *v.*). Cf. F. *prévaloir* (subj. † *prévaille,* now *prévale*), 15–16th c.]

† **1.** *intr.* To become very strong; to gain vigour or force, to increase in strength. *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. ix. (Tollem. MS.), By the benefyte of bloudde all the lymmes of the body prevayle and be fedde [*orig.* vigent et nutriuntur]. *a* 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 654 (Bann. MS.) Into the first orising of it to tell, Or it prevelit planeist and popelus, Quhair now Pareiss citie is situat thus. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 332/2 We see that nowe hee is preuayled in mischief. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 681 Teach me..Why flowing Tides prevail upon the Main, And in what dark Recess they shrink again. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* i. Wks. 1757 IV. 105 Prevails not Infidelity as much as Pleasure? And for-ever they must prevail, or decrease, together.

2. *intr.* To be superior in strength or influence; to have or gain the superiority or advantage; to get the better, gain the mastery or ascendancy; to be victorious. Const. *against, over,* † *of,* † *upon.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxiv. (Shaks. Soc.) 237 Whan aȝens the ..he may not prevaylle. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxii. (Percy Soc.) 161 In tyme of fight..If you prevayle you shall attayne the fame Of hye honour. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E.E.T.S.) 43 Hell gates shall not prevayle ageinste them. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* III. 36 Hys men prevayled of their enemies. 1594 *and Rep. Dr. Faustus* xxviii. K ij, So much the Christian preuailed vpon the Turke in three houres and a halfes fight. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 46 Great is truth, and it shall prevaile. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 167 So did not Machabeus: he..o're a mighty King so oft prevail'd, That by strong hand his Family obtain'd, Though Priests, the Crown. 1692 W. MARSHALL *Gosp. Myst. Sanctif.* (1764) 328 In Christ God's mercy prevails high above our sins. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 ¶ 5 As Pedantry and Ignorance shall prevail upon Wit and Sense. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 341 Some were for returning and others for staying longer, till the majority prevailed to come back. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 16 Cool self-love is prevailed over by passion and appetite. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 377 The intention of the devisor must prevail. 1895 *Law Times* C. 5/2 The title of the assignee was..held to prevail over that of the trustee.

† **b.** *trans.* To prevail over, have superiority over, outstrip. *Sc. Obs. rare.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 198 Displesit wes the nobillis of the Britis, That sic ane man of law birth and valour, Sould thame prevaill into so grit honour.

3. *intr.* To be effectual or efficacious; to be successful, to succeed.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 241 Whiche preuaylenge not, [she] was commaunded to kepenge. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlvii. (1482) 314 So he retorned home ageyne with his meyny and preuayled nothynge. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 19 Ye se that we prevayle no thynge: loo all the worlde goth after hym. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O viij b, [He] proued many remedies, but all preuayled not. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IX. 16 Songs..Prevail as much..As would a plump of trembling Fowl, that rise Against an Eagle. 1830 TENNYSON *Supposed Confess.* 99 But why Prevailed not thy pure prayers?

† **b.** *To prevail to* (a thing) or *to do* (something): to succeed in doing, attaining, etc. *Obs. rare.*

1473–5 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 37 Seeng that the said Richard..coude not prevaile to his said feyned title. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* IV. ii, Oh, cruell wight, shulde any cause prevaile To make the staine thy hands with brothers blod? 1644 BP. HALL *Serm.* 9 *June* Rem. Wks. (1660) 109 Let no Popish Doctor prevail to the abatement of this holy sorrow. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 81 Neither he, nor his ministers, could prevail to alter the resolutions of his society.

c. *To prevail on, upon* (formerly *with*): to succeed in persuading, inducing, or influencing.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 696 With whom when she could nothing preuaile. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 25, I so preuailed with him, as he let me haue it. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IV. (1701) 133/1 Enquiring what disputes they were wherewith Socrates prevailed so much upon the young Men. 1708 SWIFT *Death Partridge* Wks. 1755 II. I. 158, I prevailed with myself to go and see him. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 67 ¶ 6, I was prevailed upon by her and her Mother to go last Night to one of his Balls. 1805 EMILY CLARK *Banks of Douro* II. 118 They could not prevail with her to stay. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 220 The Peshwa..endeavoured to prevail upon the Resident to grant a longer interval. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 396 As hard as ever I could prevail on my nag to go.

† **d.** *trans.* = *prevail upon*; to persuade, induce.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 3 The anguisshes, troubles, and divisions..may not prevaile them to the repairing and wynnyng of any soche manere outrageous losses to this Reaume. 1586 LD. BURGHLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 6 Morgan prevaled hir to renew hir intelligence with Babyngton. 1752 FIELDING *Amelia* I. vii, His partner, who was..afterwards prevailed to dance with him. 1834 *Tracts for Times* No. 40. 2 Those who were most likely to be prevailed to act upon the principles of it.

† **4.** *intr.* To be of advantage or use; to profit: = AVAIL *v.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Melusine* 209 Syth..þat my presence & long abydyng here with you may nought preuaylle to you. 1534 TINDALE *N. T., Prol. Romans* (1551) 66 b/1 What preuayleth it nowe that yᵘ teachest another man not to steale, when yᵘ thine own selfe art a thefe in thine hert? 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 16 Aristotle..saith that it prevaileth greatly both to the health of the body, and to the study of Philosophy.

† **b.** *trans.* To be of advantage or use to, to benefit: = AVAIL *v.* 3. *Obs.*

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 56/1 Menes how to prevaile the straungers. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 241 He seyd ..yf it myght prevayle yow, he woulde with ryght good wylle that it choulde be doo. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI*, To Rdr. (Arb.) 50 There thy money so gleaned and gathered of the and thyne..can not preuayle the. 1593 *Tell-Troth's N. Y. Gift* (1876) 32 Vulcans Ielosy preuailed him nothing.

† **c.** To give (any one) the benefit or advantage *of* (something): = AVAIL *v.* 7. Usually *refl.* to avail oneself of: = AVAIL *v.* 5. [F. *se prévaloir, a* 1600.] *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 234, I am againe going..to waste the Countrie of Tyrone, and to preuaile the Garrisons there of some Corne to keepe their horses in the Winter. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Life* (1888) 47 No man hath more dexterously prevailed himself thereof. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 461 Prevail yourself of what occasion gives.

5. *intr.* To be or become the stronger, more wide-spread, or more frequent usage or feature; to predominate. (A later weakening of sense 2.)

1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 3 These cities..began..to be called Hellenes: and yet could not that name of a long time after prevail upon them all. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 39 If any one will..to such..complex Ideas, give Names that shall prevail, they will then be new Species to them. 1712 ADDISON *Hymn* '*The spacious firmament*' ii, Soon as the Evening Shades prevail, The Moon takes up the wondrous Tale. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 35 ¶ 6 The Gilded Signs prevailed over those of any other Colour. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* ii. 16 Light eyes prevail among northern nations and dark eyes among the races who live in the glare of a tropical sun.

b. Hence, To be in general use or practice; to be commonly accepted or adopted; to exist, obtain, occur, or be present constantly or widely; to be prevalent or current.

1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* vii. (1869) I. 145 A silent consternation prevailed on the assembly. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 2 Reports and traditions which prevailed in that age. 1840 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 155 Now a snowstorm is prevailing. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 228 Their way of thinking is far better than any other which now prevails in the world.

† **Prevai·lable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + **-ABLE.** Cf. OF. *prevalable* (*a* 1500 in Godef.).] **a.** Able to prevail; efficacious. **b.** Capable of being beneficially used, available. **c.** That may be prevailed *upon* or influenced.

1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* 68 The Diuell hath no greater cunning, nor preuaileable art. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 3 So prevailable with Almighty God is the power of Consent in Prayer. 1658 M. CASAUBON *Credulity* (1670) 111 Who maintained, that Christ his miracles, without further consideration, were not prevailable to that end, to make faith or evidence of his Deity. 1679 MARG. MASON *Tickler Tickl.* 3 Upon the account of their Religion, or of their Sex, very prevailable upon to speak what often is not true.

Prevailance, obs. form of PREVALENCE.

Prevai·ler. Now *rare.* [f. PREVAIL *v.* + **-ER** [1].] One who prevails; one who is successful or gains the mastery.

1618 *Hist. P. Warbeck* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 71 That so..they might..be..the better welcomed and entertained with the prevailer. 1670 in Somers *Tracts* I. 14 For want of Discipline, the Prevailers applied themselves to plunder the Baggage. 1721–2 WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scotl.* (1828) I. I. ii. 200 He was mighty in prayer and a singular prevailer. 1800 A. SWANSTON *Serm. & Lect.* I. 437 It signifies a princely prevailer with God.

Prevai·ling, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + **-ING** [1].] The action of the verb PREVAIL; the having or gaining of the mastery or predominance; prevalence.

1607–12 BACON *Ess., Nat. in Men* (Arb.) 358 A small proceeder thoughe by often prevaylinges. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 ¶ 2 To hinder the creeping in and prevailing of Quacks and Pretenders. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 4 The prevailing of the gates of hell.

Prevai·ling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + **-ING** [2].] That prevails, in various senses.

1. That is or proves to be superior in any contest; victorious; ruling; effective, influential.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLIII. ii, Why walk I in woes, While prevayling foes Haue of joyes bereft me? 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 973 Farr heavier load thy self expect to feel From my prevailing arme. 1706 ESTCOURT *Fair Examp.* II. i. 20 Effects of Age, not to be remov'd by Physick, tho' never so prevailing. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* IX. (1852) 206 Pleading the merits of His death as the prevailing Intercessor for His brethren.

2. Predominant in extent or amount; most widely occurring or accepted; generally current: = PREVALENT *a.* 3.

1685 in *Academy* 21 Oct. (1876) 408/2 The prevailing report is that the Lord Gray is pardoned. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) II. II. i. 123 Led by false Religion or prevailing Custom. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 171 The prevailing wind,..in the region south-west of Hemalleh, is from the south-east. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 230 The prevailing discontent was compounded of many feelings. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vii. (1870) 148 The colours..of leaves are wonderfully diversified, though green is the prevailing hue.

Prevai·lingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + **-LY** [2].] In a prevailing manner or degree.

1. With prevailing effect; effectively, successfully. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 366 We by him do that here on earth in a meaner way, which he..doth for us in heaven powerfully and prevailingly. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* 15 Sure were the means, we chose, And wrought prevailingly.

2. In a preponderating degree; predominantly; chiefly, mainly.

1797 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXII. 248 The literature..and the manners..were prevailingly those of protestant Germany. 1845 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1860) I. 97 The one is the prevailingly philosophical temperament..the other, the prevailingly poetical. 1878 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* 201 Of the seven United Provinces, two..were prevailingly Arminian.

So **Prevai·lingness,** *rare,* the quality or faculty of prevailing.

1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, His pride in his prevailingness thrilled her.

† **Prevai·lment.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PREVAIL *v.* + **-MENT.**] The action or fact of prevailing, influencing, or gaining ascendancy.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 35 Messengers Of strong prevailment in vnhardned youth. 1599 R. LINCHE *Anc. Fict.* I ij, That..famoused preuailement which Iupiter so victoriously carried ouer his father. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 10 If we be sensible of the flesh,..repent of her prevailments;..we shall then sing to his glory.

Prevalence (prĕ·vălĕns). Also 6–7 **prevailance.** [a. F. *prévalence* (15–16th c. in Godef.), ad. med.L. *prævalentia* (Digests) superior force, f. *prævalēre* to PREVAIL: see **-ENCE.**]

1. The fact or action of prevailing; the having or obtaining of predominance or mastery. Now *rare.*

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xv, Awake, Reuenge, if loue.. Haue yet the power or preuailance in hell. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 22 Those sins which we commit..upon ..suddaine and forceable prevalence of a temptation. 1711 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 140 There was a strong probability for their prevalence, considering their advantage in the ground, their numbers.., and their resolution. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 178 The Prevalence of their own Endeavours..over this Opposition. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) I. iv. 192 The final prevalence of the good over the evil. 1866 SWINBURNE *Two Dreams* 74 Words and sense Fail through the tune's imperious prevalence.

† **b.** Presence or existence of greater power or strength. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 188 Many are right handed whose Livers are weakely constituted, and many use the left [hand], in whom that part is strongest; and we observe in Apes and other animals, whose Liver is in the right, no regular prevalence therein.

2. Effective force or power; influence, weight; efficacy; prevailingness. Now *rare.*

1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 149 In Colledges, the letters of great persons..have beene of great prevailance

[in getting preferments]; But it is not so now in these dayes. **1642** Bp. Reynolds *Israel's Petit.* 6 There is a kinde of omnipotencie in prayer, as having an Interest and prevalence with Gods omnipotencie. **1718** *Entertainer* No. 15. 101 Great is the Prevalence of a fashionable Practice. **1802** Mrs. E. Parsons *Myst. Visit* IV. 262 Example has great prevalence, whether good or bad. **1879** G. Meredith *Egoist* xvii, A sensitive gentleman, anxious even to prognostic apprehension on behalf of his pride, his comfort and his prevalence.

3. The condition of being prevalent, or of general occurrence or existence; extensive or common practice or acceptance. (The ordinary current sense.)

1713 Steele *Guardian* No. 1 ¶ 1 The notion I have of the prevalence of ambition this way. **1750** Johnson *Rambler* No. 43 ¶ 3 This position..perhaps, will never gain much prevalence by a close examination. **1792** Burke *Corr.* (1844) IV. 2 We were a little uneasy from the steady prevalence of winds in the westerly quarter. **1844** Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* v. (1862) 77 The prevalence of bribery is the most difficult subject with which we have to deal.

Prevalency (pre·vălĕnsi). Now *rare.* [ad. med.L. *prævalentia*: see prec. and -ENCY.] The quality or fact of being prevalent.

†**1.** Superiority, predominance: = Prevalence 1.

1623 Cockeram, *Prevalencie*, excellencie. **1642** Chas. I *Declar.* 12 Aug., Wks. 1662 II. 152 Concurrence was desperate by reason of the Prevalency of the Bishops and of the Recusant Lords. **1691** *Andros Tracts* II. 241 Where the vice of Covetousness has..got the prevalency over the rest. **1710** Prideaux *Orig. Tithes* v. 235 The corruptions of the Church of Rome through the prevalency of the Papal Power brought some such [prescriptions] afterwards in.

† **b.** The quality of being of greater power or strength; superiority of power: = Prevalence 1 b.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. v. 187 That there is also in men a naturall prepotency in the right [hand], we cannot with constancy affirme, if we make observation in children;..this prevalency is either uncertainly placed in the laterallity, or custome determines its indifferency. *Ibid.* 189 According to the indifferency or original and native prepotency, there ariseth an equality in both, or prevalency in either side.

2. Prevailing or effective power or influence; prevailingness: = Prevalence 2.

1656 Jeanes *Fuln. Christ* 333 So the value of his sufferings was an argument of prevalency with his father. **1661** Feltham *Resolves* II. vii. (ed. 8) 191 Those that are daily attendant upon great Persons,..have a greater prevalency with them, than those..that live as strangers to them. **1794** Paley *Evid.* II. ix. (1817) 222 For the express purpose of showing to the emperor the effect and prevalency of the new institution. **1842** J. Sherman in H. Allon *Mem.* (1863) 296 Prayer has a wonderful prevalency with God.

3. The quality or condition of being prevalent, or of frequent or general occurrence or acceptance: = Prevalence 3.

1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 110 Sometimes through ..prevalencie of error, the Church may be so obscured as to be scarcely visible. **1766** Cole in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 485 Convinced of the great prevalency of Deism in that Kingdom. **1794** S. Williams *Vermont* 63 The prevalency and extent of the westerly winds. **1882–3** *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 885/2 From Cicero down, stress has been justly laid on the prevalency among all nations of a belief in a superior being.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A prevalent feature.

1806 R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1807) II. 262 To..purify my native language from certain false pedantic prevalencies which were much in fashion when I first became a writer.

Prevalent (pre·vălĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) (Also 7 prævailent.) [ad. L. *prævalēns, -ēnt-em* very strong or powerful, pr. pple. of *prævalēre*: see Prevail *v.* (Not in Fr.)] That prevails; prevailing.

1. Having great power or force; effective, powerful; influential, cogent; efficacious, potent. *absol.* or const. *with* (a person). Now *rare* (and chiefly in connexions in which *prevail* is in use).

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 67 Neither these, nor those consolations..ought not to seeme so preualent and effectuall, as the verie state it selfe of our citie. **1624** T. Taylor *2 Serm.* II. 23 Lifting up hands, and praiers, which are powerfull and prevalent against Amalek. **1642** *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 3 Aug. 15 Ill-affected persons, who are so prevalent with His Majestie. **1711** W. King tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 106 Love is more prevalent in obtaining what you desire than fear. **1796** Burke *Let. to C. J. Fox* Wks. 1842 II. 389 He, and those who are much prevalent with him. **1805** Holcroft *Bryan Perdue* I. 265 Of all other instruction, that of example is the most prevalent. **1828** A. Jolly *Sunday Serv.* (1840) 76 Praying in faith.. we may humbly hope that our prayers shall be prevalent.

† **b.** Of medicines, etc.: Efficacious. *Obs.*

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 126 A kind of Rue..much in request..esteeming it preualent against hurtfull spirits. **1632** tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 7 Pils are more preualent then electuaries in this disease. **1676** Worlidge *Cyder* (1691) 194 Cider..is also prevalent against the stone. **1712** tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 163 A most prevalent Thing against the Green-Sickness.

2. Having the superiority or ascendancy; predominant, victorious. Now *rare.*

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* v. iii. § 15 II. 511 But the yong Nephew .. regarded only the things present; the weakenesse of Rome; the prevalent fortunes of Carthage. **1640** Ld. Say in *Laud's Wks.* (1857) VI. 120 A theological scarecrow, wherewith the potent and prevalent party uses to fright and enforce those who are not of their opinions. **1761** Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. xlv. 12 *note*, The Puritans, though then prevalent, did not think proper to dispute this great constitutional point. **1849** Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 79 The gross injustice, insolence, and cruelty of the party which was prevalent at Dort.

3. Most extensively used or practised; generally or widely accepted; of frequent occurrence; extensively existing; in general use.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Hydriot.* Introd. (1736) 3 Which..from that Time spread, and became the prevalent Practice. **1756** C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* I. 15 The false notion..so universally, so absurdly prevalent. **1816** Singer *Hist. Cards* 144 The watermark most prevalent..is found on the paper of books printed by Lucas Brandis de Schass. **1827** Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 32, I shall write the proper names..according to the most prevalent pronunciation. **1834** Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xv. (1849) 139 The most prevalent winds in Europe are the N.E. and S.W. **1870** Anderson *Missions Amer. Bd.* IV. xxxv. 271 The cholera was prevalent in that year.

B. *sb.* (absol. use of adj.) That which is prevalent: see quots. Cf. Prevalency 3 b. *rare.*

1867 Latham *Black & White* 119 The complaint [ague] is familiarly spoken of as the 'Prevalent'..When the 'Prevalent' is very prevalent, families have to arrange not to have it all at the same time. **1872** Lytton *Parisians* III. vi, A lively pattern, in which the prevalents were rose-colour and white.

Prevalently (pre·vălĕntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prevalent manner or degree.

1. Prevailingly, overpoweringly, victoriously; powerfully, effectively. Now *rare.*

1636 Jackson *Creed* VIII. xiv. § 1 They..prevalently tempt them to cruelty and hatred towards this Holy One. **1737** Boyse *The Olive* xiii, By long succeeding Trials doom'd to get Strength from her Falls, and rise more prevalently Great! **1858** Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* II. vi. (1872) I. 82 They fought much and prevalently.

2. To a prevailing extent; in a great proportion of cases; very frequently, generally, usually.

1709 Chandler *Effort agst. Bigotry* 30 Censorious Persons (those that are habitually and prevalently so) do really want that Charity which is essential to Christianity. **1869** F. W. Newman *Misc.* 202 Long steppes,..which..like our sheep-downs, were prevalently round and smooth. **1879** Chr. G. Rossetti *Seek & F.* 281 Silence and peace are and ought to be more prevalently characteristic of ordinary Christians.

So **Pre·valentness**, the quality of being prevalent, prevalency. (Bailey, vol. II, 1727.)

† **Prevale·scent**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prævalēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *prævalēscĕre* to become very strong, inceptive of *prævalēre* to Prevail: see -escE.] Becoming prevalent; growing to prevail. So † **Prevale·scence**, growing ascendancy.

1653 J. Hall *Paradoxes* 56 In the primitive times..our reason was not deprav'd with long traditionall customes, nor tinctured by any prevalescent humour. *Ibid.* 118 Livia ..had that great prevalescence with him, that he by her means disposed the succession of the Empire upon a son of her womb by a former husband.

† **Preva·lid**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prævalid-us* very strong, too strong: see Pre- A. 6 and Valid.] Excessively strong.

1657 Hawke *Killing is M.* 23 Prevalid bodies are secure from external hurts, yet are they burdned and laden with their own strength.

Prevaly, obs. form of Privily.

† **Preva·ricable**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prævāric-ārī* to Prevaricate + -able.] Capable of being 'prevaricated' or deviated from.

1644 Digby *Nat. Soul* II. Pref. 353 It will follow euidently out of them, (if they be of necessity and not preuaricable) that some other Principle beyond bodies, is required to be the roote and first ground of motion in them.

† **Preva·ricant**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prævāricānt-em*, pres. pple. of *prævāricārī* to Prevaricate.] Deviating from the proper course or method; irregular, improper.

1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 103 To throw downe the Hand from the Head, with the Fingers formed into a gripe or scratching posture;..or to throw it upwards with the Palme turned up, are actions prevaricant in Rhetorick, and condemned by Quintilian.

† **Preva·ricate**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also præ-. [ad. L. *prævāricāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prævāricārī*: see next.] Perverted; perverse.

1635 Brathwait *Arcad. Pr.* II. 58 In this case (see my prevaricate misery!) would I not either be led or driven by any. **1650** Charleton *Paradoxes* Prol. 7 The Divine.. met with a cure for the nicety of his Conscience, from a prævaricate Adversary.

Prevaricate (prĭvæ·rikeit), *v.* Also 7 præ-. [f. L. *prævāric-ārī* to walk crookedly, hence, to deviate from a straight course, hence from the path of duty; spec. of an advocate, to practise collusion; in eccl. L. to transgress, f. *præ*, Pre- A. + *vāricāre* to spread the legs apart, straddle (f. *vāricus* straddling, f. *vārus* bent, knock-kneed + *-icus*, -IC): see -ATE 3.]

I. Intransitive senses.

†**1.** To go aside from the right course, method, or mode of action; to swerve from the proper course; to deviate, go astray, transgress. *Obs.*

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* i. 25 Shew..whom thou hast chosen, to take the place of this ministerie and Apostleship, from the which Iudas hath prevaricated. **1610** B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, If you..should now preuaricate, And, to your owne particular lusts, employ So great, and catholique a blisse. **1657–83** Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 305 How widely they differ and prevaricate from the wholesome precepts and doctrine delivered. **1681** Wharton *Soul World* Wks. (1683) 651 Motion .. might easily prevaricate, and wander, unless it were Ruled by the Intellect.

2. To deviate from straightforwardness; to act or speak evasively; to quibble, shuffle, equivocate.

a **1631** Donne in *Select.* (1840) 257 Follow not these men in their severity,..nor in their facility to disguise and prevaricate in things that are. **1645** Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1662) 309 Let therefore all men no longer prævaricate with their Conscience (in matters of some inconsiderable scruples). **1749** Fielding *Tom Jones* XVIII. viii, Do not hesitate nor prevaricate; but answer faithfully and truly to every question I ask. **1841** James *Brigand* xxxii, Perhaps we may put it in such a way as to prevent his prevaricating. **1865** J. H. Ingraham *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 392 It is impossible ..for me either to conceal or to prevaricate.

†**3.** *Law.* **a.** To betray the cause of a client by collusion with an opponent. **b.** To undertake a matter falsely and deceitfully in order to defeat the object professed to be promoted. *Obs.*

1646 in Somers *Tracts* I. 33 Nor is it an unusual thing for a Lawyer to be of Councill with one Party, and to prevaricate, and be of Confederacy under-hand with the adverse Party. **1656** Blount *Glossogr.* s.v. *Calumniate*, He that undertakes ones sute, and either will not urge reasons in the behalf of his Clyent, or answer the Objections of his adversary, when he is able, is said to *Prevaricate*, i. to play the false Proctor. **1672** *Cowell's Interpr., Prevaricate*, is when a man falsly and deceitfully seems to undertake a thing, *ea intentione* that he may destroy it. *a* **1716** South *Serm.* (1744) XI. 182 For should a brother prevaricate and prove false, nature itself would seem to..upbraid his unhuman perfidiousness.

†**4.** In etymological sense: To walk or go crookedly; in quot., to plough crookedly. *Obs.*

1801 Ranken *Hist. France* I. 424 They were careful not to prevaricate, or make crooked serpentine ridges; but to make straight furrows and ridges.

II. Transitive senses.

†**5.** To deviate from, transgress (a 'law', etc.).

1596 Spenser *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 610/1 The lawes.. are sithence either disanulled, or quite prevaricated through chaunge and alterations of times. **1604** T. Wright *Passions* VI. 297 When the Soule did not prevaricate the Lawe of God, or passe the limittes of Reason.

†**6.** To turn (anything) from the straight course, application, or meaning; to pervert. *Obs.*

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 2 He will therefore bestirre him to prevaricate Evangelicall Truths, and Ordinances. **1660** Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* I. ii. rule viii, He may not prevaricate this duty of a judge. **1682** Dryden *Relig. Laici* Pref., Wks. (Globe) 189. **1705** *Sequel* xiv, O! Holy Times—when purity our Youth, And P[riests] prevaricate the Sacred Truth, Desert the Ch[urc]h for meaner ends unknown.

Preva·ricating, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ING 2.]

1. That prevaricates; swerving from the proper course or from straightforward statement; quibbling.

1641 Brathwait *Merc. Brit.* B j b, Pious bashfulnesse is unusuall to prevaricating transgressors. **1713** Addison *Ct. Tariff* 12 The Court found him such a False, Shuffling, Prevaricating Rascal. **1833** J. H. Newman *Arians* IV. iii. (1876) 308 Creeds, which were..intolerable only because the badges of a prevaricating party.

2. Deflecting light so as to show objects crookedly. *rare.*

1870 Lowell *Study Wind.* 237 Flowers..made of French cambric spangled with dewdrops of prevaricating glass.

Prevarication (prĭværikē·ʃən). Also 7 præ-. [= F. *prévarication* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prævāricātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prævāricārī* to Prevaricate.]

1601 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. xix. I. 579 The ploughman, unlesse he bend and stoupe forward..must..leave much undone as it ought to be; a fault which in Latine we call Prevarication: and this tearme appropriate unto Husbandrie, is borrowed from thence by Lawyers.]

†**1.** Divergence from the right course, method, or mode of action. **a.** Deviation from rectitude; violation of moral law; transgression, trespass. *Obs.*

1382 Wyclif 1 *Tim.* ii. 14 Forsoth the womman was disceyued in feith, in preuaricacioun [*gloss* or brekyng of the lawe]. **1483** Caxton *Gold. Leg.* (1892) 45 He was right couenable by cause of the curyng, the whiche by manere was semblable to the preuaricacion, by lyk and contrarye. **1528** Roy *Rede me* (Arb.) 119 Of all oure detestacions And sinfull prevaricacions Thou alone arte the defender. **1665** Wither *Lord's Prayer* 122 It was thereby subject to many infirmities, and inclinable to all manner of Prevarications. **1701** tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 337 That all Men do not die through the Death and Prevarication of Adam.

† **b.** Departure *from* a rule, principle, or normal state; perversion or violation *of* a law, etc.; deviation from truth or correctness, error; breach of rule, irregularity. *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 258 So is her body a necessary being, a first and not a second intention of Nature, her proper and absolute worke not her error or preuarication. **1633** Prynne *Histrio-Mastix* I. vi. xii. 533 b, On Holi-dayes ..men every where runne to the Ale-house, to Playes, to Enterludes, and dances, to the very derision of Gods Name, and the prevarication of the day. **1671** Howe *Vanity Man* Wks. 1862 I. 430 It is equally a prevarication from true manhood to be moved with everything and with nothing. **1674** Owen *Holy Spirit* Wks. 1852 III. 146 It is no small prevarication in some Christians to give countenance to so putid a fiction.

† **c.** *lit.* Divergence from a straight line or course. [**1601**: see etymology above.] **1672** Newton in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 343 How much those errors..are increased or diminished, is to be estimated by the prevarication of the rays.

† **2.** Deviation from duty; violation of trust; corrupt action, esp. in a court of law. *Obs.*

1541 Paynel *Catiline* vii. 11 b, Catiline (the whiche a fewe

dayes before was by preuarication and falsehod quite of petye theft). 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 180 Sen our Hely, in his office, Is lyke in Preuaricatioun, He sall ressaif sic lyke Justice, Mak he nocht reformatioun. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 115 The Inhabitants of Pleskou.. charg'd Puskin with prevarication in his Employment, and perfidiousness towards his Prince. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Prevarication* is also used for a secret abuse committed in the exercise of a public office, or of a commission given by a private person. [Hence in Webster 1828, etc.]

†b. *Law.* See PREVARICATE *v.* 3. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, *Preuarication*..is a collusion done in lawe, ..wherby the one partye suffereth the other to obtayne in suite, to the entent to hurte or endomage some other. 1628 LE GRYS tr. *Barclay's Argenis* 256 If it shall appeare, that they haue forfeited their Faith, or wronged their Client by preuarication. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Prevarication*, in the Civil Law, is where an Informer colludes with the Defendant, and so makes only a feigned Prosecution.

3. Avoidance of plain dealing or straightforward statement of the truth; evasion, quibbling, shuffling, equivocation, double-dealing, deception.

a 1655 VINES *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 413, I .. shall clearly without any fraud or prevarication declare my opinion. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 388 When Doctor Heylin's Divinity shall go for orthodox, or his Prævarications pass for History, you may then .. be reputed a Classical Author. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 304 Fraud and prevarication are servile vices. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1871) III. v. 337 Hume .. was a man .. utterly incapable of falsehood, or of prevarication of any kind. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 132 Mr. Justice Best said he had a great mind to commit the witness for prevarication.

Preva·ricative, *a. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *prævāricārī* to PREVARICATE: see -IVE.] Characterized by or tending to prevarication.

1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 38 The Impostors penalty.. for his prevaricative and invective pamphlet.

Prevaricator (prĭvæ·rikēitəɹ). Also 6–7 -tour, 7–9 præ-. [a. L. *prævāricātor*, agent-n. f. *prævāricārī* to PREVARICATE: see -OR.] One who prevaricates.

†**1.** One who goes astray, diverges, or deviates from the right course; a transgressor. *Obs.*

1542 BECON *Christmas Banquet* i. C iv b, The fyrst sinner, y^{e} fyrst preuaricatour begat synners bonde to death. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Gal.* ii. 18 For if I build the same things againe which I have destroied, I make myself a prevaricatour [WYCLIF, TINDALE trespassour, 1611 transgressour]. 1597 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 74 Which neither Fox, nor any of his Followers have done; and therefore are accus'd by them as Prevaricators from their own Principles. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* II. ii. xi, Thou prevaricator of all the squirely ordinances of chivalry!

†**b.** One who betrays a cause or violates a trust; a renegade; a traitor. *Obs.*

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 177 The King .. licensed Queen Katherine to choose counsellors where she would..whereof some played very honest parts and stood stiffly and fast to her cause, some played the prevaricators, and fled from her to the King's side. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Epist. to Master Colby*, Where.. loud Boasters, and perjur'd, with the infinite more Prevaricators swarm.

†**2.** One who diverts something from its proper use; a perverter. *Obs.*

1694 D'URFEY *Quix.* I. IV. i. 40 A plague on thee, thou confounded Prevaricator of Language. 1907 G. G. COULTON in *Contemp. Rev.* June 797 Knowing that such prevaricators of tithes were destined to find their part in hell with Cain.

3. One who acts or speaks so as to evade the strict truth; a quibbler, shuffler, equivocator.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 21 Who have forced Art (the usual imitator of Nature) to turn prævaricator in humanity. 1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 334 There was never seen worse reasoning than in that philosophical essay; which..proceeded from a prevaricator. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. II. App. 46 What is to be done with this Prevaricator? 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) II. 29 The judge cried out, Clerk, hand me up the examination of this prevaricator. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 6 Sept., The prevaricators, who ever they were, said dogs could not be obtained.

4. At Cambridge University: An orator who made a jocose or satirical speech at Commencement; called also *varier*. (In quot. 1885 applied to the corresponding *terræ filius* at Oxford.) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

(Cf. Cicero *De Partit. Orat.* c. 36, § 126 Prævaricator significat eum qui in contrariis causis quasi varie esse positus videatur.)

1614 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 304 The Bishop of Ely sent the moderator, the answerer, the varier or prevaricator, and one of the repliers, that were all of his house, twenty angels a-piece. 1636 LAUD in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. A. p. xxv, St. Mary's Church [Cambridge] at every Great Commencement is made a theatre and the prævaricator's stage, wherein he acts and sets forth his profane and scurrilous jests. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prevaricator*.., also a Master of Arts in the University of Cambridge, chosen..to make an ingenious Satyrical Speech reflecting on the Misdemeanours of the principal Members. 1851 *Coll. Life t. Jas. I* 84 The Praevaricator's gibes were launched forth at all present. 1885 HAZLITT in *Antiquary* Oct. 154/1 Randolph the poet appears to have been the prevaricator for 1632.

†**5.** *Law.* (See PREVARICATE *v.* 3.) *Obs.*

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. Pref. § 21 Do we know the Jesuits no better than so? What, are they turned Prevaricators against their own Faction? Are they likely Men to betray and expose their own Agents and Instruments? 1696 B. KENNETT *Romæ Antiq.* II. III. xviii. 136 The Civilians define a Prevaricator to be one that betrays his Cause to the Adversary, and turns on the Criminal's side whom he ought to prosecute. 1793 MURPHY *Tacitus* (1805) III. 355 All persons concerned either in procuring or conducting for hire a collusive action, were to be treated as public prevaricators.

Preva·ricatory, *a. rare.* [f. as PREVARICATE *v.* + -ORY^{2}.] Characterized by prevarication; prevaricating; evasive.

c 1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* iii. 138 His fellows being examined .. either refused to answer, or gave such ambiguous and prevaricatory answers, that some ingenuous Catholicks began to suspect that they fostered some treachery. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 415 Exhibiting the disgrace of prevaricatory witnesses.

†**Preva·ricatrice.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *prævāricātrīc-em* (Augustine) a female transgressor, fem. agent-n.: see PREVARICATOR; perhaps through F. *prévaricatrice* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] A female 'prevaricator' or transgressor.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1198 Oure ladie .. wold be purified to be of the lawe Executrice Y^{t} sho ne shuld noght be demed of the lawe preuaricatrice.

†**Preva·ry,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [prob. a. OF. *prévarier* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prævāricārī*: see PREVARICATE *v.*] *trans.* To pervert: = PREVARICATE *v.* 6.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* B j b, He ought to knowe the accydentes that chaunce to come in dyseases for often tymes it preuaryeth the same selfe cure of the dyseases as Gaylen declareth [*orig.* totam curam præuaricant et peruertunt].

Prevaseil, obs. Sc. f. PRIVY SEAL. **Prevate,** obs. f. PRIVITY. **Prevay,** obs. f. PRIVY. **Preve,** var. PRIVE *v. Obs.*; obs. f. PRIVY, PROOF, PROVE.

†**Pre·veance.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. obs. F. *preveance* providence, provision (1617 in Godef.):—late L. type **prævidentia*, in sense of *providentia*: see PREVIDE.] Provision: in quot., the *Provisions of Oxford*, drawn up 1258.

c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* (Ritson) 1003 Bituene the barouns ant the kyng, Wes gret stryvyng For the preveance of Oxneford, That sire Simound de Mountfort Meintenede.

Prevel, obs. f. PRIVY. **Prevelage, -lege,** obs. ff. PRIVILEGE. **Prevely,** obs. f. PRIVILY.

Prevenance (pre·vĭnăns). [a. F. *prévenance* (prevənā·ns) (also in Eng. use), f. *prévenir* to anticipate, prepossess: see PREVENE and -ANCE.] Courteous anticipation of the desires or needs of others; an obliging manner; complaisance.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., A very conversable pleasing man, with an air of *prévenance* and ready civility of communication. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, The same good-humour, *prévenances*, merriment [etc.]. 1876 MRS. HOPKINS *Rose Turq.* II. xxvii. 112 She did everything he asked carefully and well, but the sweet prevenance was gone.

†**Pre·venancy.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec.: see -ANCY.] = prec.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 52 La Fleur's prevenancy (for there was a passport in his very looks) soon set every servant in the kitchen at ease with him.

Prevenant (pre·vĭnănt), *a.* and *sb. rare.* Also as French **prévenant.** [F., orig. pres. pple. of *prévenir* to predispose, prepossess: see PREVENE.]

A. *adj.*

1. In F. form *prévenant* (prevənañ). Courteously anticipating the needs of others; obliging.

1770 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 86 There is something in his manner *prévenant*.

†**2.** = PREVENIENT 2. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1790 *Bystander* 386 He made me comprehend..a wide difference between..grace prevenant and grace co-operant.

B. *sb.* Something that precedes; an antecedent.

1876 W. G. WARD *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 318 On reflection, we think it will be satisfactory if we use the word 'prevenant' to denote what he calls 'cause'.

Prevene (prĭvī·n), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6 preuine, -veynne, prævene, praueine(e, 7 preveen(e, -w(e)ine. [ad. L. *prævenīre* to come before, precede, anticipate, hinder, excel, f. *præ*, PRE- A. + *venīre* to come. So F. *prévenir* (1539 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†**1.** *trans.* To take action before or in anticipation of (a person or thing). **a.** To anticipate, take precautions against (a danger, evil, etc.); hence, to prevent, frustrate, evade. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 270 Na man..suld byde his dede, seand it cum till him; bot he suld prevene it, and he mycht. And sen a man seis his fa cum to geve him mortall woundis .. he wald .. prevene the strakis. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xvi. (S. T. S.) II. 13 Be my calamyte ze may eschew or ellis prevene siclike displeseris in tymes cummyng. 1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 12 Gif thair treasonabill interprysis be not .. spedilie prevenit. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 329 His justice doth never through punishments prevene our sins. *a* 1657 BALFOUR *Ann. Scotl.* (1824-5) II. 54 Mischieffe..wiche the Lordes of priuey counsaill wyssly preweined. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxix. § 2 (1699) 276 That the Crime committed, may be punished, to preveen the Errour of others.

†**b.** To act before or more quickly than (a person or thing); hence, to forestall, supplant; also *absol.* to intervene. *Obs.*

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlvii. 70, I salbe als weill luvit agane, Thair may no jangler me prevene. 1600 JAS. VI in *Lett. Jas. & Eliz.* (Camden) 132 In this office of kyndnes touardis me, ye haue farre praueined all other kings my confederatis. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 73 When the Pagans were surprized with any danger, and that instinct did in them prevene reasoning, they implor'd the succour of the true God. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 43 If thy indulgent Care Had not preven'd, among unbody'd Shades I now had wander'd.

†**c.** *Theol.* = PREVENT *v.* 4, 4 b. Used esp. in reference to *prevenient grace*: see PREVENIENT 2.

1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 220 The beginning of iustification in men of perfect aige mon be tain of the grace of God prævening tham through Iesus Christ. 1600 HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 223 Saue our king, o lord, preuine him in the blissings of your sueitnes. [Cf. Ps. xxi. 3.] 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happines* 47 All these works of the Soul neither breed in us, neither begin at us, but he preveeneth us in them all. 1662 A. PETRIE *Ch. Hist.* I. iii. § 2. 28 Our good things are both God's and ours, because he preveeneth us by inspiring that we do will.

†**d.** *Sc. Law.* Of a court or judge: To take from (another) the preferable right of jurisdiction, by exercising the first judicial act. *Obs.*

1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. ii. § 5 (1699) 182 Where many Judges are competent, they may preveen one another, and prevention is defyned to be *anticipatio sive præoccupatio usus jurisdictionis*.

†**2.** To take in advance. **a.** To preoccupy, prepossess. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. xi. 55 Bot he [Cupid]..Can [= gan] her dolf spreit for to prevene and steir, Had bene disvsit fra luif that mony 3eir.

†**b.** Of death, etc.: To overtake prematurely.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 165 Thocht pest, or sword wald vs preuene, Befoir our hour, to slay vs clene. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 158 Bot this capitane is preueined in Camelodune w^{t} deith in few dayes.

†**c.** To anticipate (a time) by earlier action; to provide beforehand for (a coming event). *Obs.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 150 Best wer, I think, mycht we preuene 3one day. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 397 The Scottis prevenit the tyme and past fourtht at midnight to the fieldis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 261 He oft vset to preueine materis of waicht with a sad counsell and graue,..preueining the tyme to cum, with Judgement incredible.

3. In lit. sense of the Latin: To come or go before; to precede. *rare.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* X. 455 Preueineng al the rest, [he] landis in Scotland the first of Maii. 1869 HOLLAND *Kathrina* II. 107 Till our poor race has passed the tortuous years That lie prevening the millennium.

Hence **Preve·ning** *vbl. sb.*, anticipation; *ppl. a.*, prevenient.

1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happines* 28 In Spiritual things we must ascend from gifts to grace, and in grace..from a preveening to an exciting grace. 1662 A. PETRIE *Ch. Hist.* I. iii. § 2. 28 By preveening grace and good will following, that which is the gift of God, becomes our work. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxi. § 2 (1699) 111 If it could have been proved that the wrong was done immediatly without any preveening provocation.

Preve·nience. *rare.* [f. as next: see -ENCE.] **a.** = PREVENANCE. **b.** The fact or condition of being prevenient.

1859 MRS. STOWE *Minister's Wooing* XXV, Striving by a thousand gentle preveniences, to spare her from fatigue and care. 1864 WEBSTER, *Prevenience*, the act of anticipating, or going before; anticipation. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* 417 They [Semi-Pelagians] held freewill and predestination from foreknowledge, denying the prevenience of grace.

Prevenient (prĭvī·niĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *prævenient-em*, pres. pple. of *prævenīre*: see PREVENE.]

1. Coming before, preceding, previous, antecedent.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prevenient*, coming or going before, preventing. 1800 LAMB *Let. to Manning* 3 Nov., Wks. (1865) 54 Which..stupidly stood alone, nothing prevenient or antevenient. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* v. *Lay Elena* x, The darker, soberer, sadder green Prevenient to decay. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* iii. 64 The various predisposing or prevenient agencies existing in Europe. 1895 SALMON *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* v. ii. 518 It could not take effect until two prevenient events had occurred.

b. Hence, Anticipatory, expectant. Const. *of.*

1814 CARY *Dante* (Chandos) 286 She, of the time prevenient, on the spray, That overhangs the couch, with wakeful gaze, Expects the sun. 1881 J. SIMON in *Nature* XXIV. 374/1 Unless they be regulated and inspected under a special law in much the same prevenient spirit as if they were prostitutes under the Contagious Diseases Act. 1889 *Macm. Mag.* Aug. 300/2 Prevenient of all disgraceful sickness or waste in the unsullied limbs.

2. Antecedent to human action. *Prevenient grace*, in *Theol.*, the grace of God which precedes repentance and conversion, predisposing the heart to seek God, previously to any desire or motion on the part of the recipient. See PREVENE *v.* 1 c, PREVENT *v.* 4.

a 1607 J. RAYNOLDS *Proph. Haggai* IX. (1649) 100 Gods grace must be both prevenient to go before, and subsequent to follow after us in all things. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 3 From the Mercie-seat above Prevenient Grace descending had remov'd The stonie from thir hearts, and made new flesh. 1747 MALLET *Anyntor & Theodora* III. 127 Love celestial whose prevenient aid Forbids approaching ill. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 85 The articles of prevenient and auxiliary grace. 1849 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Bapt.* (1850) 59 Since this action of prevenient grace does not supersede human responsibility, it can only persuade, it cannot coerce. 1904 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Chr. Charac.* IX. 167 This desire..must come from God, by what is technically called His prevenient or antecedent grace. *Ibid.* 168 There is nothing in this term 'prevenient grace'

to favour the Calvinistic doctrine of irresistible and indefectible grace.

Hence **Preve'niently** *adv.*, antecedently, previously. *rare.*

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 3 This is a course that shall make men either preveniently thankful, or inexcusably desperate. 1880 Mrs. Whitney *Odd or Even?* xxv, Neatly, and perhaps, preveniently, discharged her conscience.

† **Preveni're,** erron. for Præmunire.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 859 in *Macro Plays* 63 A 'preuenire facias' than haue as tyght, And þou xall hurle hym, so þat he xall haue I-now.

† **Preve'nt,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prævent-us*, pa. pple. of *prævenīre* to Prevene.] Prevented, in various senses: chiefly as pple.; see the verb.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 248 And tilyng, whenne hit tyme is hit to do, Is not to rathe yf dayis thryis fyue Hit be preuent. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 The lecches seide the deformite of the childe to be causede in that the dewe tyme of childenge was prevente [L. *debita tempora prævenisset*]. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. viii. 49 But if þou be preuent and norisshid wiþ his grace. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 46 Ye remembre how a certen..cytson of this place was hastly preuent of dethe and sodenly dyed. 1521 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge, 2nd Balade to Auctour* 23 With deth preuent he myght nothyng replique.

Prevent (prīve'nt), *v.* [f. L. *prævent-*, ppl. stem of *prævenīre*: see Prevene, and cf. prec.]

I. † 1. *trans.* To act before, in anticipation of, or in preparation for (a future event, or a point of time, esp. the time fixed for the act); to act as if the event or time had already come. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 37 The peple prevente that feste by the abstinence of a monethe [L. *jejunio prævenitur*]. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 623/1 Better it were to prevente the tyme, and occupie the seid Adversary at home, than to suffre hym to entre this Londe. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxix. 148 Myne eyes preuente yᵒ night watches, yᵗ I might be occupied in thy wordes. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* v. i. 105 But I do finde it Cowardly, and vile, For feare of what might fall, so to preuent The time of life. *a* 1626 Bacon *New Atl.* (1650) 4 He had prevented the Houre, because we might have the whole day before us, for our Businesse. 1633 G. Herbert *Temple, Self-condemnation*, Thus we prevent the last great day, And judge our selves. 1694 Congreve *Double-Dealer* iv. xv, Who does not prevent the hour of Love outstays the time. 1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 150 Cælia,..preventing the appointed hour,..chides my tardy steps. 1813 Scott *Rokeby* II. iv, Bertram..from the towers, preventing day, With Wilfrid took his early way.

b. To meet beforehand or anticipate (an objection, question, command, desire, want, etc.). *arch.*

a 1533 Frith *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* Wks. (1829) 217 To these two points I answer, preventing their objection, that they should not despise it, because of my youth. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 100 Anticipacion is when we preuent those wordes that another would saie, and disproue theim as vntrue, or at least wise answere vnto them. 1588 Kyd *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 240 So that I preuented his desire, and in some sort to satisfie him, said I was neuer till nowe in this Countrey. 1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1892) I. 124 My hopes are that your religious care hath prevented these admonitions. 1667 Dryden *Maiden Queen* II. i, Your goodness still prevents my wishes. 1700 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 597, I am glad wee have prevented their Commands in doing it before they came. 1788 *Disinterested Love* I. 5 Thus he prevented all my wants. 1830 Wordsw. *Russian Fugitive* I. v, She led the Lady to a seat..Prevented each desire. 1850 Smedley *F. Fairlegh* xliv, It will be the study of my life to prevent your every wish——.. 'Prevent' means to forestall in that sense.

† **c.** *intr.* or *absol.* To come, appear, or act before the time or in anticipation. *Obs.*

1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 190 ThEmperour..fearing the comming of the Turques power this next yere, entendeth to prevente, and also to goo Hym self befor into Italie. 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Macc.* x. 4 Let us prevent to make peace with him, before he make with Alexander against us. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 403 Strawberries watered now and then.. with water wherein hath been steeped Sheeps-dung..will prevent and come early.

2. *trans.* To act before or more quickly than (another person or agent); to anticipate in action. Now *rare* and *arch.*

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 428 So I am preuentid of my brethern tweyne In rendrynge to you thankkis meritory. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 106 Our lorde knowynge all thoughtes & wordes, preuented his discyples, & made answere hym selfe. 1556 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* Epist. P. Giles (Arb.) 25, I shoulde preuent him, and take frome him the flower and grace of the noueltie. 1627 Hakewill *Apol.* (1630) 6th Advert., I finde my selfe for the maine matter prevented by Stephanus Pannonius in that booke of his. 1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* xv. 146 Whil what to answer he was taking care, Helen prevented him. 1715–16 Pope *Let. to E. Blount* 20 Mar., I know you have prevented me in this thought, as you always will in any thing that's good. 1758 Blackstone *Comm.* I. Introd. 32 Perhaps..I could now .. suggest a few hints in favour of university learning:—but in these all who hear me, I know, have already prevented me. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* vi. I. 154 The fortunate soil assisted, and even prevented, the hand of cultivation. 1808 Helen St. Victor *Ruins of Rigonda* I. 6 Foventi wished..to ask the father's consent to address his daughter, when he was prevented by the baron's asking his advice in point of providing a husband.

b. *Canon Law.* 'To transact or undertake any affair before an inferior, by right of position' (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*); = Prevene *v.* 1 d. Cf. Prevention 2 a.

3. To come, arrive, or appear before, to precede; to outrun, outstrip. Now *rare* and *arch.*

1523 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 193 The Frence men..dis-

cendyd with incredible diligence, preventing thestimation off all the Italians. 1538 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 138, I have .. sent it vnto hym after the departure of the said Muriell, to thentent he myght prevente thambassadours poste and you have leasure to consulte and advise vpon the same. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) 1 *Thess.* iv. 15 We which lyue..shal not preuent them [Wyclif schulen not come before hem; Tindale shall not come yerre they] which slepe. *a* 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* I. (1622) 33 The sunne..could never prevent him with earlinesse. *a* 1648 Ld. Herbert *Life* (1886) 175, I went from Lyons to Geneva, where I found also my fame had prevented my coming. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* I. i. § 15 To prove our Old Style before the New (which prevents our Computation by ten dayes..). *a* 1766 Mrs. F. Sheridan *Sidney Bidulph* V. 6, I am an early riser, yet my lord V—— prevented me the next morning, for I found him in the parlour when I came down stairs.

† **b.** *fig.* To outdo, surpass, excel. *Obs.*

1540 Morysine *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* I iv b, Be not onely euen with them that honour the, but .. preuente them whan thou mayste. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* ii. 26 Preuenting the Iewes, which were thought to be next vnto God. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 52 Had Vulcan and his Cyclopes beene working there, there noise had beene prevented. 1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* II. viii. 270 To prevent and go beyond all the world in respect.

4. *Theol.*, etc. To go before with spiritual guidance and help: said of God, or of his grace anticipating human action or need. *arch.*

1531 Tindale *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 34 In all that we do or thynke well, he preuenteth vs with his grace. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 17th Sund. Trinity*, That thy grace maye alwayes preuente and folowe us. *Ibid., Communion* ad fin., Preuent us, O lorde, in all our doinges, with thy most gracious fauour. 1597 J. T. *Serm. Paules Cr.* 65 The benignitie of God did alwaies prevent me, from many dangers freed me. 1676 Hale *Contempl.* I. 45 The Spirit of Truth and Wisdom, that doth really and truly but secretly prevent and direct them. *a* 1711 Ken *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 303 O let thy grace..ever prevent, accompany, and follow me. 1841 Trench *Parables, Lost Sheep* (1860) 371 It is in fact only the same truth..that grace must prevent as well as follow us. 1869 Goulburn *Purs. Holiness* ii. 12 God in it prevents us (in the old sense of the word 'prevents'), anticipates us with His Grace.

b. Said of the action of God's grace, held to be given in order to predispose to repentance, faith, and good works. See Prevenient 2. *arch.*

1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect Easter Day*, As by thy speciall grace, preuentyng us, thou doest putte in our myndes good desyres. 1562 *Articles of Relig.* x, We haue no power to do good workes..without the grace of God by Christe preuentyng vs, that we may haue a good wyll, & workyng with vs, when we haue that good wyll. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* III. (1859) 485 If any will we have to rise, it is he that preventeth our will, and disposeth us thereto. 1577 *St. Aug. Manual* (Longman) 79 Who is so hard harted that he will not be softened by the love of God preventyng man with so harty good will, that he vouchsafed to become man for mans sake? 1670 *Devout Commun.* (1688) 135 If thy grace prevented us before repentance, that we might return, shall it not much more prevent repenting sinners, that we may not perish? 1842 Manning *Serm.* (1848) II. ii. 19 Baptismal regeneration is the very highest and most perfect form of the doctrine of God's free and sovereign grace, preventing all motions, and excluding all merit on our part.

† **c.** To come in front of, to meet in front: to meet with welcome or succour; to meet with hostility or opposition, to confront. *Obs.*

1535 Coverdale *Ps.* xvii[i]. 18 They preuented me [*R. V.* came upon me] in the tyme of my trouble, but yᵒ Lorde was my defence. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Job* iii. 12 Why did the knees preuent me? and why did I sucke the breastes? 1611 — *Amos* ix. 10 All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say: The euill shall not ouertake nor preuent vs.

II. † 5. To forestall, balk, or baffle by previous or precautionary measures. *Obs.* or merged in 7.

1560 Bible (Genev.) *Wisd.* iv. 7 Thogh the righteous be preuented with death, yet shal he be in rest. 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* v. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 250 Thy brother Jacob came to me by subtlety, And brought me venison, and so prevented thee. 1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 128 The King was preuented by vntimely and sudden death before he could bring his purpose to effect. 1697 Potter *Antig. Greece* II. xiv. (1715) 315 Unlucky Omens were..Especially if the Beast prevented the Knife, and dy'd suddenly. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* II. x. § 2 Moses prevented the enemies, and..led his army before those enemies were apprized.

6. To cut off beforehand, debar, preclude (a person or other agent) *from*, deprive *of* a purpose, expectation, etc. Now *rare* or merged in 7.

1549 Latimer *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 34 How dyd wycked Iesabell preuente kynge Hachabs herte from god and al godlines, and finally vnto destruction. 1586 Marlowe *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii. 335 As the gods, to end the Trojans' toil Prevented Turnus of Lavinia. 1624 Heywood *Gunaik.* vi. 273 The Consull was prevented of his purpose. 1673 Dryden *Assignation* Ep. Ded., I have declar'd thus much before-hand, to prevent You from Suspicion, that I intend to Interest either your Judgment or your Kindness. 1755 B. Martin *Mag. Arts & Sc.* xv. i. 101, I should scarce regret Death so much on any worldly Account as preventing me of so desirable a Sight. 1813 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 15 Feb. 97/2 A wall prevents me from this sight. 1882 W. E. Forster *Let.* 23 Apr. in *19th Cent.* Oct. (1888) 615 To prevent men from the fulfilment of their contracts, or in any way, by boycotting or otherwise, to intimidate them from the full enjoyment of their rights.

7. To stop, keep, or hinder (a person or other agent) *from* doing something. Often with const. omitted. (The usual word for this sense.)

1663 Wood *Life* 7 July (O.H.S.) I. 480 If not prevented by raine [they] would have rode..before the corps [=corpse] up the street. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 604 The Fortifications..were very weak, and the enemy prevented them in perfecting their design. 1674 Ashmole *Diary* (1774) 343 This night Mr. T—— was in danger of being robbed, but most strangely prevented. 1711 Swift *Conduct of Allies* Wks. 1765 IX. 104 So great a number of troops..as should be able to..prevent the enemy from erecting their magazines. 1758 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 24 The intention is evidently this; by preventing private teachers within the walls of the city, to collect all the common lawyers into the one public university, which was newly instituted in the suburbs. 1814 Cary *Dante, Paradise* xxxi. 22 Through the universe..celestial light Glides freely, and no obstacle prevents. 1839 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* II. 33 Henry took due precautions to prevent the bull from getting into his dominions. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 352 There is nothing to prevent us from considering..the subject of law.

b. Const. obj. and gerund.

Prevent me going appears to be short for *prevent me from going*, perh. influenced by *prevent my going* (8 b).

1689 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 253 Any Expedient..for preventing ffurther heats arriseing vpon such occasions. 1718 J. Fox *Wanderer* 147 A free Confession..easily prevents a little Error growing to a great Evil. 1765 Geo. III *Let. to Gen. Conway* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 379 The only method..by which the French can be prevented settling on the coast of Newfoundland. 1768 Sterne *Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 134 (*Amiens*) She had been prevented telling me her story. 1807 Southey *Let. to N. Lightfoot* 24 Apr., Circumstances have prevented me going to Portugal. 1835 Whewell in Todhunter *Acc. Writ.* (1876) II. 216 Sedgwick is prevented joining you by a misfortune in his family. 1867 Morley *Burke* 92 To prevent this becoming a serious affair. 1874 Dasent *Half a Life* II. 275, I know of no accident that ought to prevent you being in the first class.

8. To provide beforehand against the occurrence of (something); to render (an act or event) impracticable or impossible by anticipatory action; to preclude, stop, hinder. (A chief current sense.)

In the earlier quots. the notion of anticipating or acting previously is generally prominent; in modern use that of frustrating.

1548 Elyot, *Præcidere causam belli*, to preuent and take awaie cleane the occasion of warre. 1624 Laud *Diary* 13 Dec., He prevented his punishment by death. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* n ij b, If all concerned had..knowledge of what they should know, they might prevent this loss and damage. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. v. Wks. 1874 I. 209 Persons may do a great deal themselves towards preventing the bad consequences of their follies. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 489 To place the legal estate in trustees, on purpose to prevent dower. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* III. 213 Should any thing occur..to prevent his return. 1863 Geo. Eliot *Romola* xxviii, He..had produced the very impression he had sought to prevent. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* § 61 We cannot prevent the religious education of our children more utterly than by beginning it in lies.

b. Const. gerund (or vbl. sb.); rarely clause.

1704 N. N. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. 174 All the Monarchies in the World..consult in a General Diet how to prevent being Oppress'd by 'em. 1769 Goldsm. *Hist. Rome* (1786) I. Pref. 6 It was found no easy matter to prevent crowding the facts. 1841 Lane *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 112 Thou hast prevented my sleeping from the commencement of darkness until morning. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xxi, I shall not prevent your going. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 135 What, forsooth, prevents That..I fulfil of her intents One she had the most at heart?

† **9.** To keep (something) from befalling oneself; to escape, evade, or avoid by timely action. *Obs.*

1591 Sylvester *Du Bartas* I. vi. 245 Th'hast not onely lent Prudence to Man, the Perils to prevent, Wherewith these foes threaten his feeble life. 1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* 168/1 The cloud came with a most horrible storme, and fell vppon them before they coulde preuent it. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 439 To conclude this Epitome of France, three things I wish the way-faring man to preuent there. 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* II. Wks. 1716 III. 87 Fox..had the Wit to keep his own Fingers out of the Fire, and prevent the Honour of dying a Martyr. 1710 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. III. i. 290 The surest method to prevent good sense, is to set up something in the room of it.

† **10.** To frustrate, defeat, bring to nought, render void or nugatory (an expectation, plan, etc.). *Obs.*

1555 *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* Address to Rdr., To preuent the malice of suche, as shal happlye accompte my trauayle herein rather rashe presumpcyon. 1616 Sir C. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 248 The putting off of the arraignments spent much money and prevented most men's expectations. 1622 Bacon *Hen. VII* 4 Which if it had beene true, had preuented the Title of the Lady Elizabeth. *a* 1652 Brome *Queenes Exchange* iv. i. Wks. 1873 III. 523 All our art, And the Kings policy will be prevented.

† **11.** *intr.* or *absol.* To use preventive measures. Usually with extension, *that . . . not, but that. Obs.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 303 Doth it not stand her in hand to preuent that the number of catholiks do not increase? 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* II. i. 28 So Cæsar may; Then least he may, preuent. 1656 Earl Monm. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xiv. (1674) 17 It was impossible to prevent, but that a pair of shooes..should in process of time become torn. 1723 *Present St. Russia* II. 122 The Design .. was, to prevent that no body might be sent to meet me.

III. † **12.** *causative.* To hasten, bring about or put before the time or prematurely; to anticipate.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xxvi. 116 As preuentyng the honour of his burial. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* VIII. 54 Whyche counte it the most gloryous thyng to preuente their awne deathe. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 230 Such as are of this nature, prevent the Worlds Doome, and

their own, not staying for the general Conflagration, but beginning it. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Sunday Th. in Sickness* Wks. (1686) 59 Fear is like to prevent and do the work of my Distemper.

†13. To take possession of or occupy beforehand; *fig.* to employ before another person. *Obs.*

1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 73/1 Preuenting euerie conuenient place where the barbarous people might lie in wait to doo mischiefe. *Ibid.* 148/1 Thus like a worthie prince and politike gouernor, he preuented each way to resist the force of his enimies, and to safegard his subiects.

†b. To preoccupy, prejudice (a person's mind).

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* (1895) 97 Whose myndes be all reddye preuented with cleane contrarye persuasyons. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 56 Rather..[not to] accuse the least default in his Sovereign's judgement, though prevented, by very unjust impressions. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 143 Without labouring to prevent the Minds of People by a studious Excuse. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) Ded., Endeavouring to prevent your Lordship in Favour of my Author.

Hence **Preve·nted** *ppl. a.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. § 4 In this same anticipated and prevented knowledge, no man knoweth how he came to the knowledge which he hath obtained.

Preventable (prĭve·ntăb'l), *a.* [f. PREVENT *v.* + -ABLE; cf. *acceptable, attributable, creditable.* See also PREVENTIBLE.] That may be prevented, capable of prevention.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xl, The Ignorance of the End is far more preventable..than of the Meanes. 1828 in WEBSTER. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1860) II. 315 Lord Shaftesbury told you *just* now that there were 100,000 preventable deaths in England every year. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* 34 All preventable diseases. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* viii. 147 This immense loss..due to preventable causes.

Hence **Preventabi·lity.**

1860 in WORCESTER citing *Ec. Rev.* 1883 *Nature* 19 Apr. 574/2 Knowledge of the Causation or Preventability of some important Disease. 1894 W. WALKER *Hist. Congregat. Ch. U. S.* 357 His theories regarding the nature and preventability of sin.

Preventative (prĭve·ntătiv), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 erron. -itive. [f. PREVENT *v.* + -ATIVE. See also PREVENTIVE, the preferable formation.]

A. *adj.* = PREVENTIVE *a.* 2, 2 b, 2 c.

1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 581 All preventative thoughts of hostility were silenced. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* 137 To send a preventative Medicine to the Father of the Child. 1822 A. RANKEN *Hist. France* IX. v. 104 This was merely a preventative measure. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 207 No preventative man but knew the name of Coaly! 1884 *Chr. World* 10 July 513/3 Its action has been rather preventative than corrective.

B. *sb.* = PREVENTIVE *sb.*

1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* CXV. (1783) IV. 75 Without meeting any new preventative in my way, I at length took by the hand my friend Mr. Green. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* IV. v. (1869) II. 116 The most effectual preventative of a famine. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* I. 413 The most effectual preventative against the perils of idle opulence. 1812 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) IX. 462, I shall..not trouble Government..with suggestions of remedies or preventatives. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* III. iv, The only preventative to rebellion is restraint. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1853) 233 A preventative against ill fortune.

b. *Med.* = PREVENTIVE *sb.* b.

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 175 The practice of bleeding—as a preventitive against the pleurisy. 1793 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1892) XII. 395 Wearing flannel next the skin is the best cure for, and preventative of the Rheumatism I ever tried. 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* II. 265 A preventative for canine madness. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* 163 Dr. Baillie's preventative of the flatulency which tea produces. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 24 Essence of Jamaica ginger, which is a very good preventative of sea-sickness.

Preventer (prĭve·ntəɹ). [f. PREVENT *v.* + -ER[1]. See also PREVENTOR.] One who prevents.

†1. One who goes or acts before another, an anticipator. *Obs.*

1624 BACON *War w. Spain* Wks. 1879 I. 540/2 The archduke was the assailant, and the preventer, and had the fruit of his diligence and celerity.

†b. The rhetorical figure of procatalepsis, by which an opponent's arguments are anticipated.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 239, I will also call him the figure of presupposall or the preuenter, for by reason we suppose before what may be said, or perchaunce would be said, by our aduersary, or any other, we do preuent them of their aduantage.

2. A person or thing that hinders, restrains, or keeps something from occurring or being done.

1587 GREENE *Penelopes Web* Wks. (Grosart) V. 150 Consideration, the preuenter of had I wist, tied him..to the performing of these forenamed premisses. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Comm.* 1 *Pet.* Wks. (1868) 274 Prayer..that preventer of judgments. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wind*, The fierce bitter Blasts in the Spring destroying whole Fields; of which nothing is a preventer but Inclosures. *a* 1846 CAR. FRY *Script. Reader's Guide* viii. (1863) 118 The preventers, till their cup of wrath be full, of the Saviour's reign. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 46/1 The latest improvements of Water-waste Preventers.

3. *Naut.* Orig. *preventer-rope*, as in quot. 1625; later, applied to any rope used as an additional security to aid other ropes in supporting spars, etc., during a strong gale, or to prevent the mischief caused by their breaking; and at length extended to supplementary parts generally: see quot. 1867.

a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* s. v. *Roape* (Harl. MS. 2301) A preuenter-roape (which is a little roape seased crosse ouer the Ties close at the Ramhead that if one parte of the Ties should breake the other should not run through the Ramhead to endanger the Yard). So 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* vi. 28; 1678-1706 in PHILLIPS.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 162 *Preventers*, Ropes that have Wale Knots at each End, chiefly used in Sea-fights. For when Rigging is in part shot, such Ropes are apply'd to prevent the damaged Ropes being quite broke off. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, We..ran out the boom and lashed it fast, and sent down the lower halyards as a preventer. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 115 Two luff tackles, one preventer rope. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc., *Preventer*, on Shipboard [is] a term applied to any rope, chain, bolt, &c., which is placed..as a deputy or duplicate for another similar instrument. 1868 *Morn. Star* 6 Jan., The main yard was supported from the lowermost head by stay tackles; from the topmost head there was a strengthening tackle, and from the lowermost head to the yard there were preventers.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (*a*) with specification of the rope, as *preventer-backstay, -brace, -gasket, -guy, -shroud, -stay, -stopper*; (*b*) denoting various other secondary or additional parts serving to strengthen or take the place of the main ones, as *preventer-bolt, -plate, -post, -stern-post*: see quots.

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxvi, The boatswain proposed a *preventer backstay. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 7 Sept., The wind is playing a tune on the preventer backstay as if it were a fiddlestring. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine*, **Preventer-Bolts*, are bolts driven in the lower end of the preventer-plates, to assist the strain of the chain-bolts. 1776 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, s. v. **Preventer-brace*, .. *Preventer-shrouds*, and *Preventer-stays*. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, Preventer braces were reeved and hauled taut. 1888 CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 138 We then closely furled the sails, putting *preventer gaskets round them all. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* I. 41 *Preventer guys were clapped on the swinging-booms. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine*, **Preventer-plate*, a broad plate of iron, fixed below the toe-link of the chains to support them against the efforts of the masts and shrouds, having a chain-bolt driven through its upper end, and a preventer-bolt through the lower. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 60 The lower bar, which is fitted to give support to the bolt in the lower end of the upper bar, is known as a preventer plate. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 77 Lash the upper part of the *preventer post to the upper part of the ship's stern-post. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 56 The other ships..set up a sufficient number of *preventer shrouds to each mast, to secure them in the most effectual manner. 1796 *Preventer-stay [see *Preventer-brace*]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 108 This sail..is extended on the main-topmast preventer-stay. 1830 N. S. WHEATON *Jrnl.* 515 To construct one..with a *preventer stern-post, would have required the labour of a fortnight. 1730 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 24 Mar., Wee..put a *preventer Stoper on the Stranded Shroud and set it up again.

†**Preve·ntial,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [irreg. f. PREVENT.] = PREVENTIONAL b, PREVENTIVE *a.* 2.

1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 56 A prevential provision is as fit in such cases as in physic.

Preventible (prĭve·ntĭb'l), *a.* [f. L. *prævent-*, ppl. stem of *prævenīre* (see PREVENE) + -IBLE, on analogy of *contemptible, permissible, susceptible*, etc. The earlier Eng. formation is PREVENTABLE.] That may be prevented, capable of prevention.

1850 DICKENS *Begging Letter Writer* Wks. 1858 VIII. 179 Sacred from preventible diseases, distortions, and pains. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) II. xii. 290 This preventible destruction is going on to-day. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 8 May 4/7 A large loss of life..which was in a great degree preventible and ought to be prevented.

Hence **Preventibi·lity.**

1852 *Q. Rev.* (Flügel), The preventibility of disease.

Preve·nting, *vbl. sb.* [See -ING[1].] The action of the verb PREVENT. †a. Anticipation. *Obs.* b. Hindrance, stopping, keeping from action.

1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Preventyng, *prevention.* 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 705 Anticipation, preventing, *anticipatio.* 1586 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 440 For avoydinge and preventinge of any other..unlawfull custome. 1636 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 56 For the avoiding and preventing both of sin and danger. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 222 As to the preventing of those colonies from becoming free.

Preve·nting, *ppl. a.* [See -ING[2].] That prevents, in various senses of the vb.

†1. Going before, preceding, anticipating. *Obs.*

1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 3 This preventing Petition found this satisfying Answer. 1688 DRYDEN *Brit. Rediviva* 3 Preventing angels met it [the prayer] half the way, And sent us back to praise, who came to pray. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (L.), A preventing judgement and goodness,..able not only to answer but also to anticipate his requests.

b. Of divine grace: That goes before and leads or guides; *spec.* that predisposes to repentance and salvation; = PREVENIENT 2.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 1431 If thou but turn thy face, And take but from us thy preventing grace. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* x. (1700) 120 There is a preventing Grace, by which the Will is first moved and disposed to turn to God. *a* 1711 KEN *Div. Love* Wks. (1838) 243 Out of what motive didst thou suffer, O boundless Benignity, but out of thy own preventing love? 1850 E. H. BROWNE *Expos.* 39 *Articles* x. ii. (1856) 265 The grace of God acts in two ways. First it is preventing grace, giving a good will. Afterwards it is co-operating grace, working in and with us, when we have that good will. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* ii. 36 There is what is called preventing grace: that is, God going before us by His operations in every good thing we do.

†c. = PREVENANT *a.* 1. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1751 *Female Foundling* II. 78 The polite Manners, the preventing Care, and the infinite Complaisance, the Court shewed me.

2. That provides against anything anticipated; that keeps from occurring; precautional, precluding, hindering.

1677 HALE *Contempl.* II. 194 It may be it is Preventing Physick against a greater mischief. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* x. 361 He charg'd the Souldiers with preventing Care, Their flags to follow, and their arms prepare. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 16 Minds..seasoned with a strict and virtuous, an early and preventing Education.

b. = PREVENTIVE *a.* 2 c.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* 177 Superior Officers [of the Customs]. 4 Inspectors, 16 Tide Surveyors, 3 Preventing Officers, 1 Tobacco Inspector [etc.].

Preve·ntingly, *adv. rare.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a preventing manner; so as to prevent, anticipate, keep from occurring, etc.

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* cxix. 361 The dawning day preuentingly I cried most earnest than Trust fast I did thy words for why my hope therby I wan. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1630) 206 How necessary comfort and confirmation was for this people, Paul here preuentingly sheweth. 1678 ANTH. WALKER *Lady Warwick* 99 Before I could suggest the reasons, she preventingly replied, she would never give less than the third part.

Prevention (prĭve·nʃən). [ad. late L. *præventiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prævenīre*: see PREVENE. So F. *prévention* (14th c. in Godef.).] The action of the verbs PREVENE and PREVENT in various senses.

†1. The coming, occurrence, or action of one person or thing before another, or before the due time; previous occurrence, anticipation; in *Theol.* the action of prevenient grace. *Obs.*

1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, X. 179 The prevention of the tyme of the French Quenes retourne. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 18 His gracious preuention that giueth to each work a happy period. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 210 The greater the distance, the greater is the prevention: as we see in thunder which is far off, where the lightning precedeth the crack a good space. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 213 Workes, which none can attaine unto without the prevention of Gods mercy. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* III. 577 That those Preventions might furnish an opportunity for rendering both his Humility and his Faith exemplary and publick.

2. a. *Canon Law.* The privilege possessed or claimed by an ecclesiastical superior of taking precedence of or forestalling an inferior in the execution of an official act regularly pertaining to the latter.

1528 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 311 Hys..desier is, Your sayd Grace, by verteu off your Legantine prerogative and prevention, conferr to hys chapleyn, Mr. Wilson, the vicarege off Thackstedd. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 184 b, [Wolsey was] called on for an answere..to the premunire, for geuyng benefices by preuension in disturbance of mennes inheritaunce. 1562 JEWEL *Apol. Ch. Eng.* VI. xxd. Wks. (1579) 726 Peradventure they will saie That Peter..solde Iubilees, Graces, Liberties, Aduousons, Preuentions. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. IV. xx. 346 *note*, Preventions are Privileges that a Superior claims over an Inferior; that when he comes first, the Inferior loses his Right for that Time.

b. *Sc. Law.* A similar privilege exercised by a superior judge or civil magistrate: see quot.

1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. ii. § 5 (1699) 182 Prevention is, when one Judge interposes his authority, or when a tryal is entered upon by one Judge, before another Judge do exerce any action of Jurisdiction about that subject.

†3. Action or occurrence before or in anticipation of the expected, appointed, or normal time; anticipation; in *Rhet.* prolepsis. *Obs.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lx. 12 In the way of preuention he proceedeth further, and sayth that he looked for the residew at Gods hand. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 284 He answereth that objection by a prevention (so to term it) calling him Lord of all. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 619 The effect of the law wes fulfullit be preventioun of the terme. 1658 BP. REYNOLDS *Rich Man's Charge* 4 This Duty is pressed by a very elegant reason,..as a prolepsis or prevention of what might be objected. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. VI. v. 376 How particularly our philosophical Historian affects to speak, by way of prevention, of the solitary place where Hercules was retir'd.

4. †a. The action of forestalling, of securing an advantage over another person by previous action, or of baffling or stopping another person in the execution of his designs. *Obs.*

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 18 b, Appointing also there shoulde be great watch, for preuention of the Moores, least that they should by anye deuice set on fire the ships. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 19 Caska be sodaine, for we feare preuention. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 129 Half way he met His daring foe, at this prevention more Incens't, and thus securely him defi'd.

†b. Action intended to obviate or provide against an anticipated danger or mischief; precaution; a precaution, a defensive measure. *Obs.*

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 93 This preuention was done like a valiant and wise Prince. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 210 The same prevention Herod long after practised. *a* 1639 T. CAREW *Poems* Wks. (1824) 105 Where our prevention ends, danger begins. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* III. Wks. 1799 II. 196, I took the liberty, by way of prevention, to get him secured for the money.

c. The action of keeping from happening or rendering impossible an anticipated event or an intended act. (The chief current use.)

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xii. 110 For the prevention of such inconveniences in meditation, we choose recess and solitude. *c* 1710 PRIOR *Own Monument* 1 Doctors give physic by way of prevention. 1731 N. COTTON *Vis. Verse, Health* 31 Prevention is the better Cure, So says the Proverb,

and 'tis sure. 1813 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXIII. i. 53/2 Lord Erskine's Bill for the Prevention of Cruelty towards Animals. 1861 Mrs. Oliphant *Last Mortimers* vi, 'Ah! but prevention is better than cure', said the wicked little creature.

†**d.** A means of preventing; a preventive, a safeguard; an obstacle, obstruction. *Obs.*

1589 Greene *Menaphon* (Arb.) 28 No preuention [prevails] to diuert the decree of the Fates. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxv. § 8 A kinde of barre or preuention to keepe them euen from apostasie. 1641 Milton *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 203 A better prevention then these Councells have left us against heresie. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) X. 349 Those, who, not being hampered with such early preventions, break forth into the most open, and flagitious practices. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing* viii. 440 They furnish preventions for that lassitude which so often arises..from want of employment.

†**5.** A mental anticipation; a presentiment. *Obs.*

a 1601 ? Marston *Pasquil & Kath.* i. 32, I could burst At the coniectures, feares, preuentions, And restles tumbling of our tossed braines. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* i. Ad Sect. iv. 53 These [delights] are the antepasts and preventions of the full feasts..of Eternity. 1801 Charlotte Smith *Lett. Solit. Wand.* I. 247 Which I had a strange prevention would be fatal to one of us.

†**6.** Prepossession, bias, prejudice. *Obs.*

1688 Burnet *Lett. conc. Pres. St. Italy* 16 A man that sees the exteriour of another,..and is much taken with his face,..and mien, and thus has a blind prevention in his favour. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. ii. iii. 108 'Tis a known Prevention against the Gentlemen of this Character, 'That they are generally ill-humour'd'. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) II. 179 Much assisted by his natural prevention in favour of himself. 1829 Landor *Imag. Conv., Chaucer, Boccaccio,* etc. Wks. 1853 I. 403/2 My prevention, in regard to the country about Rome, was almost as great, and almost as unjust to Nature.

Preve·ntional, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -al.]

†**a.** Precedent, antecedent. *Obs.* **b.** Preventive. Hence **Preve·ntionalist.**

1658 Rowland *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1097 What concerns preventional means, Hemp-seed, or winter Cherries laid near the bed, or hanged up drive away Wall-lice. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Preventional Full Moon,* that..which comes before any grand moveable Feast or Planetary Aspect. 1820 Bentham *Headings Bk. Fallacies* Wks. 1843 X. 520 Anti-preventionalist's; or, Suffer-first argument. 1831 Gen. P. Thompson *Exerc.* (1842) I. 376 The various degrees of preventional infliction, from the fivefold retribution of Moses, to the gallows or the guillotine.

Preventive (prĭve·ntiv), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. type **præventīv-us,* f. *prævent-,* ppl. stem of *prævenīre*: see Prevene and -ive; cf. *inventive.* So mod.F. *préventif.*]

A. *adj.* †**1.** That comes or goes before something else; antecedent, anticipatory. *Obs.*

1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 142 A preventive fear least the omitting of this duty should be against me when I would store up to my selfe the good provision of peacefull hours. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 73 Atoms.. were not then directed by any previous Counsel or preventive Understanding. 1698 Norris *Pract. Disc.* IV. 147 The First is previous to our Repentance, and indeed wholely preventive of any thing we can do.

2. That anticipates in order to ward against; precautionary; that keeps from coming or taking place; that acts as a hindrance or obstacle.

1639 Fuller *Holy War* i. ix. (1840) 15 A preventive war, grounded on a just fear of an invasion, is lawful. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xviii. 251 This preventive justice consists in obliging those persons, whom there is probable ground to suspect of future misbehaviour, to..give full assurance to the public, that such offence as is apprehended shall not happen. *a* 1822 C. Ellis *Clergyman's Assist.* 325 [Chapter heading] Statutes preventive of blasphemy and profaneness. 1828 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XXXVII. 227 Politics, if it content itself with devising remedies for immediate danger, instead of acting with preventive foresight, ceases to be a science. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 116 The preventive nature of punishment.

b. *Med.* Having the quality of preventing or keeping off disease; prophylactic.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* iv. xiii. 230 Physicke is either curative or preventive. 1722 De Foe *Plague* 36 Posts of Houses..were plaster'd over with Doctor's Bills..set off with such Flourishes as these, (viz.) Infallible preventive Pills against the Plague. 1881 J. Simon in *Nature* 18 Aug. 372/2 Those parts of pathology which make the foundation of preventive medicine. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 20 May 7/2 The celebrated scientist hopes..that the dogs inoculated by him with preventive virus will prove the correctness of his investigations.

c. Belonging to that department of the Customs which is concerned with the prevention of smuggling; *spec.* of or belonging to the Coast Guard.

1827 Lytton *Pelham* vii, After having met..one officer on the preventive service. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Loom & Lugger* i. i, The Preventive Service..To *prevent* prohibited goods being brought on shore; to *prevent* smugglers' boats from landing. 1873 Mrs. H. Wood *Mast. Greylands* I. 31 The heights were tolerably flat, and..the preventive men were enabled to pace. 1884 Pae *Eustace* 222 Preventive stations were planted at every harbour or likely landing-place.

3. = Preventer 3 b.

1831 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* I. 110 When the blocks were made secure to the chain, two capstans and also two preventive capstans commenced working. *c* 1860 H. Stuart *Seaman's Catech.* 19 What is the use of yard tackles? For hoisting in and out boats and spars,..and for preventive braces.

B. *sb.* A preventive agent or measure; a means of prevention; a hindrance, obstacle, obstruction.

a 1639 Wotton *Let. to Dr. C.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 487 Though it be a natural preventive to some evils. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. i. 10 Where the evil to be prevented is not adequate to the violence of the preventive, a sovereign that thinks seriously can never justify such a law to the dictates of conscience and humanity. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 126/1 Such a federation is more likely to be a cause than a preventive of internal wars. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 747 These [beverages]..are in most people powerful preventives of sleep.

b. *Med.* A drug or other medical agent for preventing disease; a prophylactic.

1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 203 Yet would I not have you think there are no Preventives, or means to preserve Health for the future. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* (1790) 481 When used as a preventive, it will be sufficient to rub daily a drachm of the ointment into the parts about the wound. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 21 If properly conducted, it is a preventive of small-pox, and he has practised it himself with success. 1871 Napheys *Prev. & Cure Dis.* i. viii. 237 A more potent preventive has been found.

Hence **Preve·ntiveness.** 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Preve·ntively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a preventive manner; in such a way as to prevent.

†**1.** Previously, by anticipation. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* vii. xiv. 368 To engrosse the messe, he would preventively deliver his nostrils in the dish. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* i. iii. § 36. 146 We shall shew how the Ancient Atomick Atheists did preventively overthrow the foundation of Hylozoism.

2. By way of prevention, precaution, or hindrance; so as to preclude or hinder.

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 680/1 It is chiefly to be done (if used preventively) three days before and after the Full and New Moons. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 187 It is preventively, the assertor of its own rights, or remedially, their avenger. 1862 T. A. Trollope *Sent. Journ.* xiv. 216 Many persons of known bad character ..were preventively imprisoned.

†**Preve·ntor.** *Obs.* [a. L. *præventor,* agent-n. from *prævenīre*: see Prevene.] One who goes before or precedes; a predecessor; an anticipator.

1598 Florio, *Preuentore,* a preuentor, an ouertaker, an anticipator. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* ii. 8 With Simon Magus your Preuentor,..you are not contented to be accompted ..a great Diuine.

Preversion (prĭvə·ɹʃən). [f. Pre- A. 2 + L. *vertĕre* to turn, after Reversion.] (See quot.)

1903 Myers *Human Personality* I. p. xx, *Preversion,* a tendency to characteristics assumed to lie at a further point of the evolutionary progress of a species than has yet been reached; opposed to *reversion.*

†**Preve·rt,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *prævertĕre* to outstrip, f. *præ,* Pre- A. 4 c + *vertĕre* to turn.] *trans.* To go beyond, outstrip.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* vii. xiv. 64 And throu the speid of fut in hir rynning The suift windis [to] prevert and bakwart ding [*orig.* cursuque pedum prævertere ventos].

Prevertebral, -vesical: see Pre- B. 3.

Prevetie, Prevey, obs. ff. Privity, Privy.

†**Pre·vial,** *a.* Also præ-. [f. L. *prævi-us* (see Previous) + -al.] Going before, previous.

1613 Jackson *Creed* ii. § 2 The original causes of their error..serue as præuiall dispositions, for their Agents to work vpon. 1636 *Ibid.* viii. v. § 3 The previal sinne of omitting this duty. 1662 Hibbert *Body Div.* ii. 45 There are many prævial and antecedent dispositions.

†**Pre·viant,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. late L. *præviānt-em,* pres. pple. of *præviāre* to go before, f. *præ,* Pre- A. + *viāre* to travel.] = prec.

1601 Gill *Treat. Trinitie* Wks. (1635) 215 It is suddenly framed without any previant knowledge, to faith and obedience.

†**Previ·de,** *v. Obs.* Also 8 præ-. [ad. L. *prævidēre* to foresee, anticipate, f. *præ,* Pre- A. 1 + *vidēre* to see; in late L. used for *providēre* to provide.] **a.** *intr.* To provide. **b.** *trans.* To foresee.

c 1420 Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 946 Whyle Vertu thus preuydyd For hym and hys pepyll the feld for to wynne. 1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* III. 443, I..perceyve howe your excellent wysdomé prevideth your princely affaires to no small comforte of me. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III. 116 Some of the comaunders (..preuidinge what after hapned). 1784 tr. *Swedenborg's New Jerusalem* § 275 It is to be noted that there is providence, and praevidence; good is what is provided by the Lord, but evil is what is praevided.

So †**Pre·vidence** *Obs.* [mod.L. *prævidentia*], foresight.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Previdence* (*prævidentia*), foreseeing, or fore-casting. 1784 [see above].

Preview (prī·viū), *sb. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 2 + View *sb.*; in sense 2 after Review *sb.*]

1. Previous viewing; foresight, prevision.

1855 Bailey *Mystic* 6 The preview clear of prophet-bard.

2. A previous view, inspection, or survey.

1882 F. Russell in *Chicago Advance* 13 Apr. 227 At the beginning of each quarter a pre-view of the lessons should be given to the Sabbath-schools. 1899 *Lutheran* (Philad.) 6 Apr. 321 The consecutive lessons..may furnish both review and preview as essential features.

Preview (prĭviū'), *v. rare.* [f. Pre- A. 1 + View *v.*] *trans.* To view beforehand; to foresee; to behold or get a sight of previously; to look at or examine antecedently.

1607 Marston *What you will* v. i. H iij b, Preuiew but not preuent No mortall can the miseries of life. 1632 Vicars *Æneid* i. 24 That none preview, and so prevent our skill. 1839–52 Bailey *Festus* xiv. 164, I cast my spirit sight Into the orient future, to preview The features of thy lifelot. 1902 'R. Connor' *Sky Pilot* xiv, Every act of importance had to be previewed from all possible points.

Previlege, obs. Sc. form of Privilege.

Previous (prī·viəs), *a.* (*adv.*) Also 7 prævious. [f. L. *prævi-us* going before, leading the way (f. *præ,* Pre- A. + *via* way) + -ous.]

†**1.** Going before or in front; leading the way. (*fig.* in quots.) *Obs.*

1658 Phillips, *Prævious,* leading the way, or going before. 1660 Cowley *Ode on His Majesties Restauration* vii, For in the glorious General's previous Ray We saw a new created Day. 1678 H. Vaughan *Thalia Rediv., Recovery,* Fair vessell of our daily light, whose proud And previous glories gild that blushing cloud.

2. Coming or going before (in time or order); foregoing, preceding, prior, antecedent.

1625 W. Pemble *Justification* (1629) 44 Disputes touching præuious, or fore-going dispositions. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* iii. 218 A previous blast foretels the rising storm. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* i. v. 34 The mind seems to have acquired a previous obstinacy. 1845 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 23 His oath of the previous evening. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. xii. 88 A previous inspection of the glacier..induced us to fix on a place.

b. With *to*: Coming before, preceding, antecedent to. Now *rare*: cf. B.

1702 Steele *Funeral* iv, I hope my Felicity is previous to yours. 1731 Pope *Ep. Burlington* 42 Something there is more needful than Expense, And something previous ev'n to Taste—'tis Sense. 1808 Pike *Sources Mississ.* ii. (1810) 120 We wish to improve every moment of time previous to its [the river's] entire fall.

c. *Previous question* (in parliamentary procedure): the question whether a vote shall be taken on the main question or issue, moved before the main question is put.

In the British Parliament, the previous question is moved for the purpose of avoiding the putting of the main question; its original form being 'that this question be now put', and its mover and seconder, with those in favour of shelving the main question, voting in the negative; but since 1888, to avoid frequent misunderstanding, and confusion with the closure motion then introduced, its form has been 'that *that* question be *not* now put', so that those who wish to shelve vote 'Aye'. In the House of Representatives and many State legislatures in the United States, the previous question retains the original form, but is used in order to close debate and obtain an immediate vote on the main question (its supporters voting in the affirmative): see quot. 1888.

Hatsell *Proc. Ho. Com.* (1746) II. 104 says 'On the 25th of May, 1604, is the first instance I have found of putting the previous question': but the entry in the Journal of Ho. Com. on that occasion is 'The Bill [such disputed put to Question, and upon Question, dashed without one Yea'. In 1673, according to Grey's *Debates* (1769) II. 113, Sir T. Littleton said 'Sir Henry Vane was the first that ever proposed putting a Question, "Whether the Question should be now put"'; and Sir R. Howard, who followed, said 'This Question is like the image of the inventor, a perpetual disturbance'. The latter is erroneously quoted by Hatsell as 'This previous question'; but no example of the phrase before 1700 has yet been pointed out.

1700–15 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) I. 544 The previous question being then put whether the main question should be then put or not. [1710 S. Sewall *Diary* 3 Nov., After reading papers and debates, at last they who were against the precinct, mov'd that a previous Vote might be put; whether they would vote it now, or no; and the Council was divided, so nothing was done.] 1775 G. Mason in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 62 We had..no other way of preventing improper measures, but by procrastination, urging the previous question, and giving men time to reflect. 1790 *Debate Ho. Com. on Repeal of Corp. & Test Acts* 49 He [Mr. Burke] declared..he had formed an idea of moving the previous Question. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 332 The House then divided on the previous question moved by Lord Castlereagh:—Ayes..208 | Noes..152—Majority 56. 1844 May *Treat. Proc. Parlt.* viii. 173 The previous question is an ingenious method of avoiding a vote upon any question that has been proposed...The words of this motion are, 'That this question be *now* put'. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* I. i. xiii. 177 The great remedy against..obstructive debate is the so-called previous question, which is moved in the form, 'Shall the main question be now put?' and when ordered closes forthwith all debate, and brings the House to a direct vote on that main question. *Ibid.* 181 The 'previous question' is often applied to expedite appropriation bills. 1893 *May's Parl. Proc.* ix. (ed. 10) 269 In the Commons, the words of this motion are, 'That that question be *not now* put'. [*Note*] The Speaker, with the concurrence of the house, first put the previous question in these words, 20th March, 1888..because the motion 'That the question be now put', is akin to the closure motion.

transf. 1724 T. Chubb (*title*) The Previous question with regard to Religion. 1725 — A Supplement to the Previous Question.

d. *Previous Examination* (Cambridge University): the first examination for the B. A. degree; colloquially called *Little-go.* (Also ellipt. as *sb.*)

1828 Gunning *Cerem. Univ. Camb.* 97 Previous Examination of all Persons, who take the Degree of Bachelor of Arts [etc.].

3. *slang* or *colloq.* (orig. *U. S.*) Done, occurring, acting, etc., before the proper time; coming too soon, hasty, premature. (Usually with *too.*)

1885 *Daily Tel.* 14 Dec. (Farmer *Slang*), He is a little before his time, a trifle previous, as the Americans say. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 June 2/3 The grumbling in this matter has been too previous. 1895 *Boston* (Mass.) *Herald* 11 May 6/6 Summer is too previous. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 9/1 The Stock Exchange has been, in the slang of the Street, a little 'too previous'.

B. as *adv.* = Previously; usually *previous to* = before, prior to.

1719 S. Sewall *Diary* 25 Feb., I..would have them previous to it, freely confer about it. 1747 W. Horsley *Fool*

(1748) II. 190 His being brought to Judgment here, previous to his appearing before a most solemn Judicature. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T., Prussian Vase* (1816) 217 The company, previous to his majesty's arrival, were all assembled. 1843 Mill *Logic* III. v. § 3 The event not only exists, but begins to exist immediately previous. 1849 F. W. Newman *Soul* 205 Previous to Ordination, they may be subjected to some literary ordeal.

Previously (prī·viəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] At a previous or preceding time; before, beforehand, antecedently.

1718 Prior *Solomon* I. 166 Darting their stings, they previously declare Design'd revenge, and fierce intent of war. 1797-1803 Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 216 Principles previously known. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. vi. 45 They were different from any I had previously seen. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 176/2 About two years previously.

b. With *to*: = before (some action or event).

1806 Surr *Winter in Lond.* I. 250 The few weeks which were to be passed previously to their entering the metropolis. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. viii. 708 Previously to describing the changes then made.

c. Qualifying (and usually hyphened to) a ppl. or other adj. in attrib. relation, forming a kind of compound adj.: cf. *aforesaid*, etc.

1849 D. Campbell *Inorg. Chem.* 37 Introduced into a previously weighed thin small bulb with a long neck. 1849 J. Gray *Earth's Antiq.* III. 116 A..previously-existing Earth. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 285 In accordance with our previously-declared rule.

Previousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or fact of being previous.

1. Existence or occurrence before something else; antecedence, priority. *rare.*

1677 Owen *Justification* i. Wks. 1851 V. 77 As to the previousness of the conviction of sin unto faith, they are found in all who sincerely believe. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Previousness*, foregoing or introductory quality.

2. *slang* or *colloq.* (See Previous 3.)

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 4 Mar. 2/1 A Case of Previousness. 1885 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 2/1 The victim of his own overconfidence and indiscreet previousness. 1892 *N. Y. Law Jrnl.* in *Law Times* XCIII. 413/1 He gets there sooner than the rest. His previousness, however, is not always effective.

Previse (prĭvəi·z), *v.* [f. L. *prævīs-*, ppl. stem of *prævidēre*: see Previde.]

†**1.** *trans.* To provide, supply, furnish. Const. *of* a thing. *Obs. rare.*

c 1470 Harding *Chron.* ccxx. vii, She was so wel, within her selfe auysed Of great sadnesse, and womanhede preuised.

2. To foresee; to forecast. Also *absol.*

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 287 God had a purpose preuised herein, to worke the glorie of his name. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 290 Neither do they previse, and provide for after-claps. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* V. xxii, Faculties, that do not previse the facility of the operation adequately. 1863 Lytton *Caxtoniana* I. 51 [They] only through reason discover what through imagination they previse. 1890 J. Skinner *Diss. Metaph.* 98 He had intelligence to previse the possible future.

3. To advise or inform beforehand. *rare.*

1834 Lytton *Pompeii* II. i, Who sent to previse thee of it? 1849 — *Pelham* xv. *note*, Mr. Pelham .. has prevised the reader, that Lord Vincent was somewhat addicted to paradox.

Hence **Previ·sed** *ppl. a.*, foreseen.

1644 Quarles *Barnabas & B.* 257 He takes benefit by prevised misery that strives to eschew it. 1890 J. Skinner *Diss. Metaph.* 98 He had power to accomplish an almost infinite amount of good in that prevised future.

Prevision (prĭvi·ʒən), *sb.* Also 7–9 præ-. [= F. *prévision* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. type **prævīsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prævidēre* Previde.] The action or faculty of foreseeing; knowledge of or insight into the future; foresight, foreknowledge.

1612 T. Taylor *Comm. Titus* iii. 7 The Apostle by mentioning of grace againe, secludeth all that prevision of workes formerly mentioned, which might be motiues vnto God for the bestowing of his Grace. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Matt.* xxiv. 25 Prevision is the best means of prevention. 1741 Warburton *Div. Legat.* VI. v. II. 623 Such a Relation ..could not possibly come about but by divine Prevision. 1833 Mrs. Browning *Prometh. Bound* 313, I have known All in prevision!

b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of this; a prophetic or anticipatory vision or perception.

a 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* VI. iii. (1821) 200 'The mind of the universe', which mingling its influence with our minds, begets these προγνώσεις or previsions. 1682 Flavel *Fear* 80 We see the benefit of such previsions and provisions for sufferings. 1851 Thackeray *Eng. Hum.* i. (1858) 51 Stella was quite right in her previsions. She saw from the very first hint what was going to happen. 1866 Mrs. Gaskell *Wives & Dau.* I, She had a prevision of what was coming.

Hence **Previ·sion** *v. trans.*, (*a*) to endow with prevision; (*b*) to have prevision of, to foresee; **Previ·sional** *a.*, relating to, depending on, characterized by, or exhibiting prevision (whence **Previ·sionally** *adv.*); **Previ·sionary** *a.* = *previsional.*

1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xxxvi, Like all who have been *previsioned by suffering, she could..hear a penal sentence in the fiat, 'You shall be born', particularly if addressed to potential issue of hers. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Mar. 2/1 He must have previsioned clearly .. that whatever .. may be about to befall Empires..cooks, at any rate, will always be in request. 1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. viii. (1842) 376. *Ibid.* II. ix. (1842) 387 Election, whether absolute and unconditional, or *previsional and conditional, is equally, both on the Calvinistic Scheme and on the Arminian Scheme, An Election of certain individuals, directly and immediately, to eternal life. 1887 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1394 In a spirit of previsional self-defence. 1836 G. S. Faber *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. ix. (1842) 405 Certain individuals..predestinated either absolutely or *previsionally to eternal life. 1818 — *Horæ Mosaicæ* II. 261 A special *previsionary regard ..to a very remarkable part of our Saviour's history. 1851 — *Many Mansions* 373 As respects the previsionary mercy of God.

Previsive (prĭvəi·siv), *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as Previse + -ive.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of prevision; foreseeing.

1907 C. Fraser in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Jan. 244 Past customary uniformity is apt..to produce blindly in us a previsive habit.

Previte, obs. form of Privity.

†**Previva·tion.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. Pre- A. I. + L. *vīv-ĕre* to live + -ation.] The fact of living before another; seniority.

a 1650 May *Satir. Puppy* (1657) 60 The first (who claims precedencie by previvation) strove to excuse his absurd writing by publishing a worse fault.

Prevocalized (prĭvō·kăləizd), *ppl. a. Philol.* [f. Pre- A. I + *vocalized*, f. Vocalize.] Preceded (as a consonant) by a vowel.

1876 Douse *Grimm's Law* App. E. 205 The close resemblance of certain simple *præ*vocalized roots (e. g. *ak-, ag-*..) to the simple *post*vocalized roots, exhibiting the same consonant (e. g. *ka, ga*..).

Pre-volitional: see Pre- B. 1 d.

†**Prevost,** ‖ **prévôt.** [a. OF. *prevost*, mod. F. *prévôt* (prevo):—L. *præpositus* one appointed over others, Provost.] The French equivalent of Provost, retained by Caxton in translating from Fr., and used in modern times in reference to France and the Channel Islands.

†**1.** The provost or president of a chapter or collegiate church; = Provost 1. *Obs.*

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 35 b/1 Whome wilt thou gyue me of thise preuostes that entende not more to empte the purse of his subgettis than [etc.]? 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 90/1 Gassendi was promoted to a canonry in the cathedral of Digne, where he was..appointed prevôt of the church.

‖ **2. a.** In France: Formerly, an officer of the king or a feudal seigneur charged in his name to collect imposts and administer justice; also, a provost-marshal; now, the judge of a prevotal court.

†*Prevost de l'hostel*, an officer of the French King's household, who had cognizance of criminal cases affecting members of the court.

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 20 Apr., The Prevost Martial, with his assistants, going in persuite. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* III. xi. 538 An Archer belonging to the Prevost de l'Hostel, that the Partners had substituted, for the gathering in of this Impost. *Ibid.* XII. 617 He sent a Prevost to take him, wherein he was also so successful, as to have him forc'd away from his own Country. 1841 James *Brigand* XXV, What he has done requires the chastisement of my prévôt.

b. In Guernsey: The name of the officer corresponding to the High Sheriff of an English county; also, both in Jersey and Guernsey, an estates bailiff or sergeant of a fief.

[1331 *Precepte d'Assize* (Billet d'Etat, Guernsey 9 May 1906) Ung sergeant appellé le Prevost du Roy. 1580-83 *Approbation des Lois* (1897) 9 Les Seigneurs qui ont prévôts ou meûniers les peuvent faire arrêter par le Prévôt du Roi.]

1682 Warburton *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 55 The King's Prévôt is elected after the same manner as the Jurats are. His office is..to bring all criminals before them [the court] ..to see the sentence executed. He executes all arrests. *Ibid.* 68 The private men's fiefs, most commonly the rents are received by prévôts. *Ibid.* [see Prévôté]. 1857 *Order in Council* 21 Feb., That the Prevost is the Executive Officer of Justice in the Island of Guernsey, both in civil and in criminal matters. 1862 Ansted *Channel Isl.* IV. xxiii. (ed. 2) 525 In Jersey there is an officer called Vicomte, or Viscount, who represents the High Sheriff of an English County. The corresponding officer in Guernsey is called the Prevôt. 1908 A. Hilgrove Turner in *Let. to Editor*, In ten of the twelve parishes of Jersey there are subordinate officers of the Royal Court called 'The King's Prévôts'. These are furnished in turn by the various proprietors on the Crown fiefs...There are also what de Geyt calls 'les petits Prevosts', i. e. *Prévôts* of 'Fiefs subalternes' or private fiefs.

Hence †**Pre·vostship,** the office, jurisdiction, or district of a prevost; **Pre·votal** [F. *prévôtal*] *a.*, of or pertaining to a French prévôt; *prevotal court*, a French temporary criminal tribunal, from which there is no appeal; ‖ **Prévôté** [F., = Provosty], in Jersey and Guernsey, a fief held by a prévôt.

1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* A vj, The seconde [daughter] ..was giuen to Iames Marquise of Baden, with the dowrye of three preuoostshipps..besides a good summe of money. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 303 Military police was established; the ordinary laws suspended; a prevotal tribunal erected at Mayence. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 435 Nine years of agitations, civil war, regicide, insurrections, prevotal courts, states of siege, and then amnesty, order, prosperity, and peace. 1682 Warburton *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 68 There are yet other fiefs where the lord's rent is received by prévotés, which are tenements or lands, parcel of the fief, obliged by their tenure to collect the lord's rents. ..Such as hold by this sort of tenure are, in the old Coutumier, called *prévôts-receveurs.*

Prevoyance (prĭvoi·ăns). *rare.* [a. F. *prévoyance*, f. *prévoir*:—L. *prævidēre* to Previde: see -ance.] Foresight. So **Prevoy·ant** *a.* [ad. F. *prévoyant*, pres. pple. of *prévoir*], foreseeing.

1820 C. R. Maturin *Melmoth* (1892) III. xxvii. 93 To whom misfortune had taught an anxious and jealous prevoyance. *Ibid.* xxx. 229 Affectionate and delicate prevoyance. 1862 Mrs. Oliphant *E. Irving* I. vi. 149 But Nature, prevoyant, tingled into his heart an inarticulate thrill of prophecy. 1883 Mrs. Lynn Linton *Ione* viii, The girl is all obedience and prevoyance, all self-sacrifice and devotion.

Prevy, Prevyledge, obs. ff. Privy, Privilege.

†**Prew.** *Obs.* [var. of *preu, pru*: cf. Preu *a.*] A parallel ME. form of Prow, advantage, profit, good; *to his prew*, advantageously.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12754 Þenne had Marcel a neuew Þat was horsed vntil his prew.

Prewa (for *preva*), obs. Sc. form of Privy.

Prewarn (prĭwō·ɹn), *v. rare.* [Pre- A. 1.] *trans.* **a.** To give warning of (an event) beforehand. **b.** To warn (a person) beforehand; to forewarn. Hence **Prewa·rning** *vbl. sb.*

1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 31 Deserving either prewarning in the beginning, or reproofe in the ende. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i, [Whose approach] Comets prewarne; whose havocke in vaste feild Unearthed skulls proclaime. 1881 Duffield *Don Quix.* II. xxxvii. 184, I am prewarned ..of this my squire that your greatness is overthrown.

Prewe (*w* = *v*), obs. Sc. f. Privy, Proof, Prove. **Prewely, Prewete** (*w* = *v*), obs. Sc. ff. Privily, Privity. **Prews, -e,** obs. ff. Pruce. **Prewy, -ledge,** obs. Sc. ff. Privy, Privilege.

Prex. *U. S. college slang* for President (of a college).

1858 *N. Y. Tribune* 16 Oct. 3/2 But the face of the 'Prex' [of Amherst College] appearing, all parties ceased contention. 1862 *Mem. Hamilton Coll.* 154 Prex Backus was a jovial Prex, The roughest, kindest of his sex.

Prey (prē¹), *sb.* Forms: 3 preiʒe, 3–6 praie, 3–7 preie, preye, 4 preʒe, 4–5 prai, prei, 4–7 pray(e, 6 *Sc.* pra, praii; 4– prey. *β.* 5–6 proye, proie. [ME. *preye*, a. OF. *preie* (*a* 1140 in Godef.) booty, prey, also a flock, later OF. and mod.F. *proie*, earlier OF. **preide*, Pr., It. *preda*:—L. *præda* booty, spoil, prey; in med.L., also, a flock. Cf. Prede *sb.* The *β*-form was immed. from 15th c. F.

Now collective: formerly also with *a*, and *pl.*]

I. 1. That which is taken in war, or by pillage or violence; booty, spoil, plunder. Formerly, often with *pl.* † *In prey*, † *to prey*, as a prey. *arch. rare.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4028 Þis leun sal oðer folc freten, Lond canaan al preiʒe bi-geten. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 6163 Þe deneis..wende estward in to kent & robbede þere vaste & hor preye at medeweie in to ssipes caste. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Macc.* i. 33 He toke prayes of the citee [1388 preies; Vulg. *spolia*] and brente it with fijr. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 31 The men of Gaule had wonne gret praies and good, as horse harneis, vesselle of golde and of silver gret plente. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 89 To be maid als with oure mortall fa, At thair plesour baith presoner and pra. 1563 Golding *Cæsar* VII. (1565) 237 Al the rest of the prysoners he dystrybuted among hys souldiers euery man one in name of a pray. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 308 Exponand..the saidis compliners guidis.., in prey to the enemy. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 77 Returned to their ships with their praie. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1621) 127 Great Monarchies destitute of their lawfull heires, had..become rich preyes unto such as could first lay strong hand upon them. 1641 *Declar. to Chas. I* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 529 The Prey, or Booty which they take from the English, they mark with the Queen's mark. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 621 Thy faithful Dogs..hold at Bay The Mountain Robbers, rushing to the Prey.

β. 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* ccxii. 310 There gadred he many grete proyes, that is to wete, horses, beufes, Kyen and sheep, And ryche prysonners. 1489 — *Faytes of A.* III. xi. 191 Where as byfore he was a powere knyght he was becom ryche by the proyes that he had goten and taken. 1552 Huloet, Proye, praye, and spoyle.

b. *fig.* (In Scriptural use.) That which one brings away or saves from any contest, etc.

1388 Wyclif *Jer.* xxi. 9 He that goith out,..schal lyue, and his lijf schal be as a prey to hym. 1535 Coverdale *Ibid.*, He shal saue his life, and shall wynne his soule for a pray. 1611 Bible *Ibid.*, His life shall be unto him for a prey. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 2 He shall have his life for a prey, and shall live. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 25 Craving [that] our owne lives may be given us as a prey, if we can speed for no more. 1827 Keble *Christian Year*, *11th S. aft. Trin.* vii, Too happy if, that dreadful day, Thy life be given thee for a prey.

2. An animal hunted or killed, esp. (now only) by carnivorous animals for food; quarry. Also *fig.*

a 1240 *Wohunge* in *Cott. Hom.* 273 Þu band ta helle dogges, and reftes ham hare praie. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 833 Þe strang þe weker for to sla, Ilkan to mak of oþer prai. *Ibid.* 4216 Of him has beistes made þair prai. *Ibid.* 22901 An hungre leon mete he son, Vp and dun his prai [*Trin.* prey] sekand. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 258 As the Tigre his time awaiteth In hope forto cacche his preie. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* II. xvi. 102 The goshawke and sperhawk taken their prayes by the ryuers. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 169 So fall they many times out, and become a pray to Vermine. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 686 The Crocodiles..run up and down to seek preys to satisfie their hunger. 1622 R. Hawkins *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 70 There doth accompany this fish [shark] divers little fishes, which are callet pilats fishes,..and feede of the scraps and superfluities of his prayes. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 153 ¶ 12 The hungry family flew like vultures on their prey. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 75 Down they came one after another, like wolves after their prey.

β. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* I. xiv, The Egle beganne to flyhe and lete fall his proye.

†**b.** That which is procured or serves for food.

1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xxxi. 15 Fro the nyȝt she ros, and ȝaf prei [1388 prey; *marg.* liyflode] to hir homli men. [1555-8 Phaer *Æneid* I. A iij b, Than all bestyrd them to the praye

[*orig.* Illi se praedae accingunt] the bankettes gan beginne.] 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 41 [They] satisfied their Hunger with any sort of Prey, as Venison, Natural Fruits, and Milk, and many times with Roots and Barks of Trees.

3. One who or that which falls or is given into the power of (*a*) a hostile or injurious person, or (*b*) an injurious influence; a victim: esp. in const. *to be* or *become a prey to.*

(*a*) *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 55 Satanas was ful redie, And tok that sawel gredilye, And mad ful gret joi of his prai. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 269 Opon þe þrid day, at a toun hamelet, Thomas was his pray, as he to mete was set. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5143 But unto Love I was so thral, Which callith over-al his pray. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 14 Lete me not be þe feendis pray. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 331 The Emperour setteth forth against them new proclamations, & maketh them a praye vnto all men. 1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* p. lxxviii, Like to make us a prey to the common enemy. 1757 Burke *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* vii. Wks. 1842 II. 579 Jerusalem fell an easy prey to his arms. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 194 A man who had hitherto been the prey of gamesters. 1878 Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* I. 140 The Cardinal succeeded to the crown, and after a brief reign left it a prey to pretenders.

β. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxx. 78 The chyuetayns..yeuen weye to their enemyes and made the peple proye to them.

(*b*) 1593 Shaks. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 198, I banish her my bed and company And giue her as a prey to law and shame. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 844 The slow creeping Evil eats his way, Consumes the parching Limbs, and makes the Life his Prey. 1741 Watts *Improv. Mind* I. i. § 15 Given up a Prey to a thousand prejudices. 1750 Gray *Elegy* xxii, To dumb Forgetfulness a prey. 1770 Goldsm. *Des. Vill.* 51 Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey, Where wealth accumulates, and men decay. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, An unresisting prey to that inscrutable toothache.

4. The action of preying; seizing or taking by force or violence, or (of an animal) in order to devour; depredation, pillage, capture, seizure. Now *rare.*

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxciii. 675 *heading*, Of the great pillage and proyes [*table of coutents* proies] done by the Chanone Robirsarde and his company agaynst the kynge of Castyll. 1585 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 112/1 Ormond..by the dailie inuasions and preies of Piers Grace was almost wasted and vnhabited. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 65 To expose himselfe to Prey..rather than to dispose himselfe to Peace. 1675 Temple *Let. to Sir J. Williamson* Wks. 1731 II. 350 Both Parties will be out upon Prey. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 116 The Otter..whose Prey is chiefly upon Fish. 1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 100 The general prey of the rich on the poor. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* IV. iv, The whole little wood where I sit is a world of plunder and prey.

b. *Beast, bird* (†*fowl*), *fish*, etc., *of prey*: one that kills and devours other animals; a predatory or rapacious beast, etc.

1340 *Ayenb.* 142 Uor þe uoȝeles of praye þet byeþ þe dyeulen. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 107 Fawcons and other byrdes of proye. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 910 *heading*, Haukes of pray syxtene kyndes. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 8 Even beasts of prey are not such to those of their own kind. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 51 Subject to the voracious Appetites of the Fish of Prey. 1854 Birds of prey [see Raptor 4].

transf. a 1732 Gay *Fables* II. xii. 24 Yet this you do, whene'er you play Among the gentlemen of prey.

II. †**5.** *transf.* A company of men, a troop, an army. *Obs.* [So OF. *proie*, troupeau (*a* 1300 in Godef.), med.L. *præda* (Du Cange).]

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1235 Horn tok his preie And dude him in þe weie. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1991 (Bodl. MS.) Alisaundre þi foo ..Liggeþ now wiþ swiche preye þat he wriȝeþ al þe contreye. *Ibid.* 2595 Of his poeple þe grete praye Lasted twenty milen waye.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly objective, as *prey-catcher*, *-devourer*, *-getter*, *-seeker*, *-taker*; **prey bird, fish**, a bird, fish of prey.

1812 Byron *Ch. Har.* I. lxxxviii, Unworthy of the *prey-bird's maw. 1821 Shelley *Hellas* 255 The prey-birds and the wolves are gorged and sleep. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* x. 72 To discerne the true shepeherd from ys thefe or *prayecatcher. 1638 Falkland in *Jonsonus Virbius*, The *prey-devourer had our prey been made. 1899 O. Pettersson in *19th Cent.* Feb. 295 The numbers of useful fishes devoured by *prey fishes, &c. 1552 Huloet, *Praye getter or seker, *prædator*. 1553 Grimalde *Cicero's Offices* (1556) 85 Who with their riches do raunsome men taken by *preyeseekers. 1619 Middleton *Love & Antiq.* Wks. VII. 320 The sturdiest *prey-taker that here assembles.

Prey (prē^{1}), *v.* Forms: 3–4 **prei-e(n, 4 prai, 4–7 pray, 5–6 praie, 5– prey.** *β.* 6 **proie.** *Pa. t.* **preyed**; 3 **preide**, 5–6 *Sc.* **prayit**, 6 **preid, prayde.** [ME. a. OF. *preer, preier* (in earlier form, *preder*, *c* 1040 in Godef.):—late L. *prædāre* (Vulgate), collateral form of *prædārī* to plunder, spoil, rob, f. *præda* Prey *sb.* Cf. Prede *v.*]

†**1.** *trans.* To plunder, pillage, spoil; to rob, ravage (a place, person, etc.). *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 2503 (Cott.) Siþen þai spred to prai [*Fairf.* sploy; *Gött.* winne] þe land, Al þai tok þai forwit fand. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xv. 330 The nethir end of tevydaill He prayit doune till him all haill. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 183 The extorcioner rubbyth and Preyeth good men and trew. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 925 To prey and spoil the Countrey. 1594 Spenser *Amoretti* lviii, Devouring tyme and changeful chance have prayd, Her glories pride that none may it repayre. 1654 R. Codrington tr. *Iustine* xxiv. 336 Having plundered the Towns, and preyed the Fields.

β. 1562 J. Shute *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 39 The Turckes ..went and spoyled and proied all the contre.

†**b.** To make prey or spoil of; to take possession of as booty. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* V. iv. 14 Yet my good lucke he shall not likewise pray. *Ibid.* VI. x. 35 His loves deare spoile, in which his heart was prayde. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon* 7 The Cilicians, abundance of whose persons and goods, we haue preid and carrie with vs.

2. *intr.* To take booty; to pillage, plunder; *to prey on, upon*, †*over* = sense 1.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 471 Hii wende aboute & preide, hom ne miȝte noȝt atstonde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* xvii. 226 The king gert men of gret nobillay Ryde in-till ynglande, for till pray. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2643 If Parys with a pepull past into Grese, In purpas to pray or profet to gete. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 115 Either to aske that which was another mans right, or else to pray vpon that which was none of their owne. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 71 He gaue..treasure there, to the Ianizaries and Spaheis to prey ouer. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1887) 530 Ferocious invaders had descended through the western passes to prey on the defenceless wealth of Hindostan. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 264 The buccaneers preying upon Spanish commerce were masters of the smaller W. India Islands.

3. *intr.* To seek for or take prey, as an animal; esp. with *on*, *upon*: To seize and kill as prey; to kill and devour, to feed on. Also *fig.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xvi. 13 The princes ware like til the leoun, that is the deuel, redy til pray of mannys saule. 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 185 They pray also vppon all Pullen. *Ibid.*, After three dayes they [Badgers] haue come out for pure hunger, and gone to praye for meate. 1575 — *Falconrie* 156 As they feede when they pray of themselues at large. 1580 Sidney *Ps.* xviii. ii, On me the paines of death..gan to prey. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxi. (1592) 323 He prepareth foode for the Rauens to pray vpon. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 119 'Tis The royall disposition of that beast To prey on nothing, that doth seeme as dead. 1610 Rowlands *Martin Markall* 14 Brokers I meane and Vsurers, that like vultures prey vpon the simple. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xxxiv. (1739) 51 Nature taught Beasts to prey for themselves. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* (1879) I. 142/2 Another fox finds the same fields to prey in. 1841 Emerson *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 240 Every species of property is preyed on by its own enemies, as iron by rust, timber by rot. 1859 Mill *Liberty* i, To prevent the weaker members of the community from being preyed upon.

4. *intr.* To exert a baneful, wasting, or destructive influence *on*, *upon*; to destroy gradually.

1713 Addison *Cato* III. ii, Language is too faint to show His rage of love; it preys upon his life. 1798 Ferriar *Illustr. Sterne* v. 159 The secret which preyed upon his mind. 1833 Wordsw. *Composed by Sea-Shore* 3 How baffled projects on the spirit prey. 1885 *Law Times* 7 Feb. 270/2 His health was bad, and this had no doubt preyed very much upon his mind.

Hence **Preyed-upon** *ppl. a.*

1888 H. Waller in *Times* 12 Nov. 13/3 To help the poor, wretched, preyed-upon Africans. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 2/1 The preyers and the preyed-upon.

Prey, preye, obs. forms of Pray.

Preyche, Preychour, obs. ff. Preach, -er.

Preyer (prē^{1}·ər). [f. Prey *v.* + -er 1.] One who or that which preys.

1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* i. in *Holinshed* II. 1/1 She became and would needs be a preie vnto the preier. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 535 The heartless preyer will in turn be prey. 1848 *Ibid.* XXXVIII. 398 Useless preyers upon the public revenues.

Preyer, -ere, -or, obs. forms of Prayer.

†**Prey·ful,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. Prey *sb.* + -ful.] Killing much prey or quarry; prone to prey.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 58 The prayfull Princesse pearst and prickt a prettie pleasing Pricket. 1624 Chapman *Homer's Hymn to Venus* 115 The Preyfull broode of sauage Beasts.

Prey·ing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Prey *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Prey; pillaging, plundering.

1588 Kyd *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 276 In the olde time prayeng or robberye was not to be blamed. 1651 Hobbes *Govt. & Soc.* xiii. § 14. 203 Preying is nothing else but a warre waged with small forces. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* App. I. 664, I hate the preying upon emotional sympathy by misrepresentation.

Prey·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That preys; predatory, predacious; *fig.* wearing, baneful.

1611 Florio, *Alita*, a kind of praing bird. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 74 Preying anxiety or lurking discontent.

Preyne, obs. f. Preen. **Preynkte, preynte,** obs. pa. t. of Prink *v.*[1] **Preynte, Preyntyce,** obs. ff. Print, Prentice. **Preys,** obs. Sc. f. Price. **Preyse(n, preysse, preyze,** obs. ff. Praise. **Preyst,** obs. Sc. f. Priest *sb.*

Prezygapophysis (prī,zigăpǫ·fisis). *Anat.* Pl. **-ses** (-sīz). [Pre- B. 3.] An anterior zygapophysis; each of the two anterior or superior articular processes of a vertebra.

1866 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* II. 37 The neural arch [in birds] has prezygapophyses, very small postzygapophyses. 1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 752/1 The tubercular process is represented by a mere facet placed below the prezygapophysis.

Hence **Prezygapophysial** (prī,zigæpǫfi·ziăl) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a prezygapophysis.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Priacanthine (prəi,ăkæ·nþəin), *a.* and *sb. Ichth.* [f. *Priacanthus*, generic name (Cuvier 1817, f. Gr. *πρίων* a saw + *ἄκανθα* thorn) + -ine 1.] **a.** *adj.* Related to the genus *Priacanthus*. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this genus or of the family *Priacanthidæ*.

Prial, dial. f. Pair-royal. **Prian,** var. Pryan.

†**Pri·ape,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *Priape*, ad. L. *Priāp-us.*] = Priapus. Hence †**Priape** *v. intr.* (*nonce-wd.*), to act lasciviously.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. 25 (Hor. *Sat.* I. viii), I was sometime a fig tree log,..The workeman douted what of me were fittest to be wrought: A fourm to sit vpon, or els a Priap God to be. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi, That cowled, celled, he, or she, whoso, or wheresoeuer, Or Uotarie, or Secular, scarce one pryaped neuer. 1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. iii, What peece of lustfull flesh Hath Luscus left, his Priape to redresse?

Priapean (prəi,ăpī·ăn), *a.* Also **-æan.** [ad. F. *priapéen*, f. L. *Priāpēi-us* (a. Gr. Πριάπει-ος adj., f. Πρίᾱπος Priapus) + *-en*, -an.] **1.** Priapic.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxvii. 224 The Priapæan Prowess of..Hercules. 1849 Layard *Nineveh & Rem.* I. v. I. 128 A broken..vase, on which were represented two Priapean human figures.

2. *Anc. Pros.* Name of a logaœdic metre consisting of a catalectic Glyconic and a Pherecratean, associated with poems to Priapus.

It was used by Anacreon, also by Catullus (xvii), and by the writer of the poem to Priapus in the Appendix Vergiliana, 'Hunc ego o iuuenes locum villulamque palustrem'. See R. Ellis *Comment. on Catullus*, pp. xliii, 62, 503; Ramsay *Prosody* 214; Gildersleeve *Lat. Gram.* 805.

Priapian, Priapiform: see s. v. Priapus.

Priapic (prəi,æ·pik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Priap-us + -ic. So F. *priapique.*] Of or relating to Priapus or his cult; phallic.

1786 R. P. Knight *Worship of Priapus* (1865) 145 The use of priapic figures as amulets..so common among the Romans, was certainly continued through the middle ages. 1818 — *Symbolic Lang.* (1876) 30 The key which is still worn, with the Priapic hand, as an amulet, by the women of Italy. 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 241 (ed. 2) 247 *note*, Baal-Peor in Moab was probably priapic. 1882 *Q. Rev.* July 50 Priapic and pornographic literature.

B. *sb. pl.* Verses of obscene nature addressed to Priapus. [med.L. *priāpia.*]

1865 Symonds in *Life* (1895) I. 324 Unpardonable panderism no less odious than Latin Priapics.

Priapism (prəi·ăpiz'm). [= F. *priapisme*, ad. late L. *Priāpism-us*, a. Gr. Πριαπισμ-ός (Galen), n. of action f. Πριαπίζειν to act Priapus, to be lewd: see Priapus and -ism.]

1. *Path.* Persistent erection of the penis.

[1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* 179 Priapismus.] *a* 1625 Fletcher & Mass. *Elder Bro.* IV. iv, Potatoes and Eringoes, and, as I take it, Cantharides—Excellent, a Priapism follows. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 722 Lust causeth a Flagrancy in the Eyes; and Priapisme. 1875 H. C. Wood *Therap.* (1879) 563 Neither amatory desire nor true priapism is, however, a constant symptom in cantharidal poisoning. 1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1031 There was complete retention of urine, but no priapism.

2. = Priapus 3; also, an obscene mental image.

1662 J. Bargrave *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 117 Two Priapisms, in brass, being votes or offerings to that absurd heathen deity. 1896 C. K. Paul tr. *Huysman's En Route* II. v. 248 Fluids passed before his face and peopled the space with priapisms.

3. Licentiousness; intentional indecency.

1758 J. Clubbe *Misc. Tracts, Hist. Wheatfield* (1770) I. 42 The nakedness of the boys and girls..I do not consider as a tincture of Priapism, or want of modesty, but real want of cloathing. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 7 Apr. 262/3 Those proclamations of utter nudity which Emerson called 'priapism', in connection with 'Leaves of Grass'.

4. *fig.* Prostitution to what is low or base.

1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits* xiv. 254 In the absence of the highest aims..there is the suppression of the imagination, the priapism of the senses and the understanding.

So †**Pri·apist,** a votary of Priapus; †**Pri·apize** *v.* [ad. Gr. Πριαπίζειν], to act Priapus; to be lewd.

1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 366/1 Priapistes, ydolaters, whoremaisters, and sodomites. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* II. xxvii. 220 If there pass long intervals between the Priapising Feats. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. xl. 189 Priapus full of Priapism had a mind to priapise.

Priapus (prəi,ē·pŭs). [a. L. *Priāpus*, a. Gr. Πρίᾱπος.]

1. The Greek and Roman god of procreation; hence, also, of gardens, vineyards, etc. (in which his statues were placed).

1508 Dunbar *Gold. Targe* 118 Thare was the god of gardingis, Priapus. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* IV. vi. 4 Shee's able to freze the god Priapus, and vndoe a whole generation. 1651 Stanley *Poems* 46 Satyrs Priapusses in mourning weeds. 1870 Rossetti *Jenny*, Let offerings nicely plac'd But hide Priapus to the waist, And whoso looks on him shall see An eligible deity.

2. A statue or image of the god Priapus; often placed in gardens to protect them from depredators or as a scarecrow.

1632 Shirley *Ball* IV. i, Thou wot stop a breach in a mudde wall, Or serve for a Priapus in the garden to Fright away crowes. 1633 Marmion *Fine Companion* v. i, *Lack.* How doe I looke..? *Cro.* Very dreadfully: like a Citizen in a fray, as fearefull as Priapus in a garden. 1743 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* I. ii. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. viii. 4 The joiner doubting, or to shape us, Into a stool, or a Priapus, At length resolved, for reasons wise, Into a god to bid us rise. 1756 C. Smart tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. viii. (1826) II. 69.

3. A representation of the male generative organ; a phallus. **b.** A drinking-vessel of phallic shape.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 79 Two Phalli, or Priapi (huge Images of the priuie part of a man). 1693 Tate in *Dryden's Juvenal* II. 143 Another in a Glass-Priapus swills,

While twisted Gold his platted Tresses fills. 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Rome* 324 Urns, Lamps, Lachrymary Vessels, Priapus's.

4. *transf.* **a.** The generative capacity or function. **b.** *Med.* and *Path.* The male genitals; *esp.* the virile organ in a state of erection.

1637 T. MORTON *N. Eng. Canaan* (1883) 205 This beast [Beaver] is of a masculine vertue for the advancement of Priapus. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Priapus*, a term sometimes applied to the genital parts of men. 1811 in HOOPER *Med. Dict.* 1857 in DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.*

† **5.** A kind of holothurian. [F. *priape de mer.*]

1765 *Univ. Mag.* XXXVII. 129/1 They have two holes as the priapuses.

Hence † **Pria·pian** (also as *sb.*), † **Pria·pish** *adjs.*, of, relating or belonging to Priapus, lewd; obscene; **Pria·piform** *a.*, of phallic shape.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal., Sat., Prayse of precedent Poem*, The Salaminian titillations, Which tickle vp our leud Priapians. 1872 T. G. THOMAS *Dis. Women* (ed. 3) 37 Called priapiform pessaries. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* IV. ii. Wks. (1573) 320/1 That filthy priapishe confession which ye spew in the eare.

Pri·bble. Weakened echo of PRABBLE, used along with it in the phr. *pribble and prabble*, and the reduplicated *pribble-prabble* = Petty disputation, paltry discussion, vain chatter.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 56 It were a goot motion, if we leaue our pribbles and prabbles, and desire a marriage betweene Master Abraham, and Mistris Anne Page. 1615 *Val. Welshm.* (1663) B iij, Cousin Caradoc, well, in all these pribble-prabbles, how doth our Uncle Cadallan? 1769 *Stratford Jubilee* II. i. 29 Without any balderdash pribble-prabble. 1824 Miss FERRIER *Inher.* xiv, Miss P.'s pribble prabble was, therefore, music to her ear. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* ii, All these squabbles and jokes, and pribbles and prabbles,..may be omitted.

† **Pricasour.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Derivative of PRICK *v.*, of unusual form; prob. of Anglo-Fr. origin.] ? A quick rider, (or perh.) a huntsman: cf. PRICKER 2, 3.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 189 A Monk ther was..he was a prikasour [*v. rr.* pryk-, pric-, prek-] aright Grehoundes he hadde as swift as fowel in flight Of prikyng and of huntyng for the hare Was al his lust.

Priccatte, obs. Sc. form of PRICKET.

Pricche, obs. form of PRITCH *sb.* and *v.*

Price (prəis), *sb.* Main forms: 2–5 **pris**, 4–7 **prise**, 5– **price**: others see below. [ME. a. OF. *pris* (mod.F. *prix*):—earlier **prieis* (= Pr. *pretz*, Sp. *prez*, It. *prezzo*):—late L. *precium*, orig. *pretium* 'price, value, wages, reward'; in OF. also 'honour, praise, prize'. The long *ī* of ME. *prīs* was variously represented by *ii, ij, iy, yi, y, ie*, and indicated later by final *e, prise*; but to avoid the *z* sound of *s* between two vowels (cf. *rise, wise*), *prise* was changed to *price* (as in *dice, mice, twice*). The pl. had, sometimes at least, the *z* sound (cf. *house, houses*) and was commonly written *prises, prizes* in 16–17th c.; but though (prəi·zĭz) is still common dialectally and with individuals, the standard pronunciation is now (prəi·sĭz) after the sing., *prices* being thus distinguished from *prizes*. ME. *pris* had all the OF. senses 'price, value, honour, prize, praise'; it first threw off the last of these, for which in 15th c. the sb. *preise*, PRAISE, was formed from the cognate vb. *preisen*, PRAISE. During the last 300 years it has also thrown off the fourth sense, for which the by-form PRIZE has been established. The sense 'honour' is obsolete, that of worth or value ('a pearl of great price') obs. or arch., so that *price* now retains only the primitive sense of OF. *pris* and L. *pretium*. See also PRAISE *sb.* and *v.*, PRIZE *sb.* and *v.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 2–5 **pris** (4 **priis, prys**, 4–5 **prijs, prys, preis**, 5 **pryys, priss, -e, pries**, 5–6 **pryis, pryss**).

a 1225, *c* 1250 pris [see B. 6, 11]. *c* 1250 *Hymn Virgin* 6 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 255 Of alle wimmen þu hauest þet pris. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6635 A ryche man was sum tyme of prys. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 712 Þe mantels weren of michel priis. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4613 (Göttt.) Þu art sua mekil of prijs. *Ibid.* 16529 'Lo! here þe preis', he said, 'þat i gun for mi lauerd sell'. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 754 Quat-kyn of prys Berez þe perle so maskellez. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 21 Thai suld weill hawe pryss. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 328 Sette more priss bi a wrongful curs. 1382 — *Ezek.* xxii. 25 Thei deuoureden soule, of the nedi man, and thei token priys. 1388 *Ibid.*, Thei token richesses and prijs [*opes et pretium acceperunt*]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 31 Paide þe prys [*v. r.* pryys]. *c* 1400 *Vwaine & Gaw.* 2924 Oft-sithes winnes ful litel pries. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud) 92 She was..Louelich, & of gret prijs. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4242 Mare passand of prisse þan all þi proude rewmes. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 2 In prys of armys. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 26/20 At pris of viij. pens. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) vi. 32 Thocht gold gif grittar pryss.

β. 4–7 **prise** (5–6 **pryse**, 6–8 (9 *dial.*) **prize**).

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 18 Another an honderet or the prise [*rime* penis]. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6146 (Cott.) Clathes þat was o prise dere. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1143 Worldes riches of grete pryse. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 A Pryse of wodde, *lucar*. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 91 And all gude men he baldis in to pryse. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 75 Your new found stuffe, chaffred at highest prize. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 333 Purchased..at the prise of much blood. 1707 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 213 Who..would, at any Prize, have Intimacies with the Great. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., 'I baint gwain to gee no jis prize' [such price]. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Prize, sb.* the price, as of goods.

γ. (4–7 **pryce**) 5– **price.**

13.. (MS. *a* 1400) *Coer de L.* 395 To be bolde to wynne the pryce. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 10415 (Laud) This lady was of muche price [*earlier MSS.* pris, prise]. 1617 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xxi. 44 Of highest pryce.

δ. *plural.* 4– **prices** (4 **-is**, 6–7 **pryces**; 6 **prises**, 6–8 **prizes**).

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* iv. 34 Thei sellynge brouȝten to the prices [*v. r.* pris; 1388 pricis, *v. r.* priys] of tho thingis that thei solden. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 17 b, In Athenes the prices of all thynges was veray high. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 217 To buy or sell at the prises currant. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 145 The high prizes of victuals. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xi. 292 Thus the prices of Martyrs ashes rise and fall in Smithfield market. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* III. 93 But Bessas..grew rich, hunger and necessity setting the prises for him. 1697 T. BROWN *Dispensary* II. Wks. 1709 III. III. 81 To settle what ought to be the Prizes of our Medicines. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 3 That the same goods should not be sold at two prices on the same day.

B. Signification.

I. Money, or the like, paid for something.

1. The money (or other equivalent) for which anything is bought or sold (or a thing or person ransomed or redeemed); the rate at which this is done or proposed; also, less usually, money paid as the equivalent of labour, wages; rate of wages.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15967 (Cott.) Moder, i haf mi maister sald..And in mi purs þe pris i bere. 1382 [see A. δ]. 1388 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlv. 13 He schal delyuere my prisoneris not in prijs. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 477/2 Uch of hem have.. yerely XXVIs. VIIId. and a Robe pris of xs. 1461 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 308 To syll the whet iiii.*d.* undyr the comyn prys in every peke. 1482 CAXTON *Godeffroy* CLXV. 244 To haue vytaylles at resonable prys. *c* 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* XXVIII. 577, I wyll not reteyn you for that pryse that I do knaves, for I shall paye you in conscyence after the werke that ye shall doo. 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* xi. 13 A goodly pryce for me to be valued at of them. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 26 This making of Christians will raise the price of Hogs. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 217 When as the Marchant thinketh that he cannot sell his goods at the prise currant. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 32 The common price of the Bagnio, is two Aspres to the Master. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 151 Is the reward of Virtue bread? That, Vice may merit, 'tis the price of toil. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* (1841) I. 202 She comes up to his price within half-a-crown a yard. 1828 LD. GRENVILLE *Sink. Fund* 45 The farmer who has sold his wheat at its market price, has obtained for it neither more nor less than a just equivalent. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Sept. 5/3 He is supplied..at a reduction of 40 per cent. on the trade price.

b. *Pol. Econ.* (See quots.)

1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* Wks. 1727 II. 49 The Value or Price of any thing, being only the respective Estimate it bears to some other, which it comes in Competition with. 1757 JOS. HARRIS *Coins* 94 What measures and pays the price of labour will be ultimately the real standard of the nation. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. v. (1869) I. 31 The real price of everything, what everything really costs to the man who wants to acquire it, is the toil and trouble of acquiring it...Labour was the first price, the original purchase-money that was paid for all things. *Ibid.* 34 Labour..is their real price; money is their nominal price only. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. i. § 2 Exchange value requires to be distinguished from Price...The most accurate modern writers..have employed Price to express the value of a thing in relation to money; the quantity of money for which it will exchange. 1862 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* IV. 136 The price of anything is the quantity of labour given by the person desiring it, in order to obtain possession of it. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. i. 307 If the value of a commodity is estimated by comparing it with those precious metals which civilised countries employ as money, then it is said that the price, and not the value of a commodity is ascertained. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* iii. (1876) 21 The price of an article.. is its estimate in some one uniform measure. 1900 LD. ALDENHAM *Colloquy on Currency* ii. 31 Price..is the ratio.. between the money-measure and the purchaseable commodity measured. Price is a Ratio, but it does not follow that a Ratio is always Price.

† **c.** Phr. *In price with*: in treaty to buy. *Obs.*

1621 J. REYNOLDS *God's Rev. agst. Murder* I. i. 12 Buying a Iewell from her which she was in price with, of a Gold-Smyth at Dijon.

d. Payment of money in purchase of something. *Obs.* exc. in phr. *without price* = without payment, gratis, for nothing (*arch.*).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 393 For welle niȝ alle her blessyngis ben sett to sale and to prise. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* lv. 1 Come, buy wine and milke without money, and without price. 16.. DRYDEN (J.) Wisely make that kind of food thy choice, To which necessity confines thy price. 1745 *Scott. Paraphr.* XXVI. i, Free to the Poor, Life's Waters flow, and bought without a Price. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 496 Here see the encouragement Grace gives to vice, The dire effect of Mercy without price!

e. Reckoning or statement of the value; estimation of value: in such phrases as *above, beyond, without price* = so valuable that no definite price can be reckoned or stated; = PRICELESS 1.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxxii. 79 b, His girdell,..made of Golde and Stone that the same was aboue all price. *a* 1674 TRAHERNE *Innocence* v. Poet. Wks. (1903) 13, I..had a Sight of Innocence, Which was beyond all bound and price. 1781 COWPER *Friendship* 56 But will Sincerity suffice? It is indeed above all price, And must be made the basis. 1859 TENNYSON *Merl. & Vivien* 220 A robe Of samite without price..clung about her lissome limbs.

2. A sum of money offered for the capture, apprehension, or death of a person. Usually in phr. *to set* (or *put*) *a price on* (*the head of*, etc.).

1766 tr. *Beccaria's Ess. Crimes* XXV. (1793) 87 The law.. sets a price on the head of the subject. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 159/2 On the 6th of August [1745] a reward of 30,000*l.* was offered..to any person who should secure the eldest son of the Pretender...The prince, having heard of the price put upon his person, issued a counter proclamation, offering 30,000*l.* for apprehending the elector of Hanover.

3. *Betting.* = ODDS 5.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 30 Jan., Cyrus..made such light work of the Aintree Hunt Steeplechase in November that several people wanted to know his price. 1882 *Standard* 6 Sept. 2/6 The starting price of Mr. Perkins's horse was 5 to 1. 1895 *Times* 10 Jan. 3/3 The defendants and others made prices on the horses and shouted out the odds as upon a racecourse.

4. The amount of money, or other consideration, by which a man's support or interest may be purchased.

[13.. *K. Alis.* 1489 (Bodl. MS.) Forto ben of his frenderade. Þe Romeynes hym sendeþ þis prise, And gretyng, and redy to his seruise. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 254 To procure his fauour for an election, either by petition, or price.] 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xiv. § 8 *note*, It is a well-known adage, though it is to be hoped not a true one, that every man has his price. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 327 Amongst the lower orders most have their price. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 27 Mar. 6/6 By the time Sir Robert Walpole arrived on the political scene it was possible for him to be credited with the now familiar saying, 'Every man has his price'.

5. *fig.* What it costs to obtain some advantage; that which is given, surrendered, or undergone, for the sake of something else. *At any price*: whatever it may cost, whatever loss or disadvantage is or may be entailed.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 169 The sleyghti fox ..Takithe to his larder at what price he wold, Of gretter lambren, j., ij., or thre. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 223 *Rosa.* We can afford no more at such a price. *Kin.* Prise your selues: What buyes your companie? 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 775 They vse smokie fires in their rooms, almost with the price of their eyes sauing their skins. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxv. 308 He determined to bring his design to pass at any price whatsoever. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* vi. Wks. 1757 IV. 253 The lowest price of virtue is vigilance, and industry; and if it costs us no more, it comes very cheap. 1866 R. W. DALE *Disc. Spec. Occas.* v. 164 We know at how great a price our inheritance of truth has been purchased.

II. Value, worth. *Obs.* or *arch.*

6. Preciousness, value, worth; the quality or condition of being (much or little) prized, valued, or esteemed. Usually with qualifying adj., as *great, much, dear, high*; *little*; *some, no*, etc. (See also 7 a, and cf. 8.) *arch.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 290 Dem þerefter pris, & beo on hire þe deorre. 13.. *Cursor M.* 29040 (Cott. Galba) Fasting es of ful grete prise. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xii. 7 3e ben of more priys than many sparowis. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (1483) IV. ix. 62 The prys of myn Appel is of suche valewe. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 159 The place was at the first of little price. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xiii. 46 One pearle of great price [WYCLIF oo preciouse margarite; TINDALE, *Great, Rheims*, one precious pearle]. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* Ded., Trial and examination must give it [truth] price. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 58 To them Method and Confusion are both of a Price. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 92 Like some old creed Erect, to show what price it had before When men believed it had a power indeed.

† **b.** Personal or social worth; excellency, honourableness. *Obs.* (See also 7 b.)

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2690 Riche maiden of michel pris. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 281 An doȝter..of gret pris noble & god al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 436 Þai all war fair and wis And sum of less and sum mare pris. ? *c* 1475 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 417 To watche that lady, muche of pryce, And her to kepe fro her enemyes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccIxxiii. 616 Two barownes of great prise and hardynesse. 1608 BP. HALL *Char. Virtues & V.* I. 47 Those orphans which neuer knew the price of their father; they become the heires of his affection.

† **7.** *Of price* (adj. phr.): of great value, worth, or excellence. (Often passing into sense 8 or 9: Highly esteemed or regarded; famous, renowned.) *Obs.* **a.** Of things: Precious, valuable.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2700 He carf in two gummes of pris, Two likenesses so grauen & meten. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 716 A fair pocok of pris. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 186 Men speken of Romances of prys Of Hornchild and of Ypotys. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13712 In aparell of prise, on a proud wyse..In his palais of prise prudly he leuyt. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. iii. 100 Happie Newes of price. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 11 Faire pillars of marble..and other stones of price. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Wks. III. 124 Freedom is..the commodity of price of which you have the monopoly.

† **b.** Of persons: Worthy, excellent. *Obs.*

1303 [see A. α]. 1307 *Elegy Edw. I*, iv, With fourscore knyhtes al of pris. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 168 Knistes to hauen & holden of pris. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1693 Mykell pepull of prise & proude men of Armys. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 53 Horible deuelis of helle, þat sumtyme were aungils of prijs. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 26 Men of price and renomme. *c* 1554 *Interlude of Youth* B j b, I can spede the of a seruaunte of pryce That wildo the good seruice.

† **8.** Sense or estimate of worth; esteem, estimation, regard. Chiefly in phrases: *to have* or *hold in* (*great*, etc.) *price*, to *set at* (*light, little*) *price*,

to have or *hold* (*great, little*) *price of, to set* or *tell* (*much, little, no*) *price of* or *by*, later *to put* or *set* (*high, little, no*) *price upon*; also (without defining word) *to have* or *hold in price, to hold* or *tell price of, to set price by*: to value or esteem highly. *In* (*much, some*, etc.) *price*: esteemed, valued (much, somewhat, etc.); also (without defining word) *in price*: highly esteemed, thought much of. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 292 He sa3 Adam and eue in mike[l] pris. *c* 1300 *Beket* 150 Ech man tolde of him pris that him mi3te iseo. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 206 Wel biloued and holden in greet prys. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 345/2 Setting no price by your saide Prive Seal. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 35 Shuld sette hyr wurchippe atte so litill prise. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xiii. 4 Let wedlocke be had in pryce in all poyntes. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 25 They fall to those sciences that they see in some pryce. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1635) 120 Her vertue shall be had in prise. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 444 Perceiuing the monkes onely were now in price, and other cleargy men little esteemed. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 11 Where men have an over-proportion'd Zeal for or against such things in Religion as God puts little or no price upon.

†b. Valuation, appraisement. *Obs. rare.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 183 Cæsars *no* Merchant, to make prize with you Of things that Merchants sold. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. vi. 77 Would .. they Had bin my Fathers Sonnes, then had my prize Bin lesse, and so more equall ballasting To thee Posthumus.

III. Leading up to PRAISE. *Obs.* in this form.

†**9.** General recognition of excellence; honour, glory, renown. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Heo hunteð efter pris, & kecchеð lastunge. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1161 Gret loos hath Largesse, and gret prys. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 467 Þoȝ y slowe þe her in fi3t, what prys were þat for me? Men wolde sayn y were to blame. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxviii, That wil be to the grete worschip and prise. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cciv. 240 Certayne yonge knyghtes and squyers to get prise in armes..iusted one with another. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* I. xxxvii. 27 In this conflict the horsemen won greatest price and praise [L. *gloria*].

†**10.** The verbal expression of one's recognition of worth or excellence; = PRAISE *sb.* I. *Obs.* (Survived longer in the north.)

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 205 Prude & wilnunge of pris. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1340 Of ysoude þan spekeþ he, Her prise, Hou sche was gent and fre. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1536 (1585) To preisin a man & vp with pris hem reise A þousent fold 3it heyȝere þan þe sunne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 225 The king..hem axeth this, What king men tellen that he is ..touchende his name, Or be it pris, or be it blame. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxxviii, Of quhom [the gods], In laud and prise, With thankfull hert I say richt In this wise. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14922 Whan he herde the prys was more Off Davyd than off hym-sylff, allas! 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* v. 3 Gif to that leuing Lord all pryse.

†b. *A price, aprys*: so as to gain praise or approval; laudably. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

c 1400 *Langl.'s P. Pl.* C. xv. 194+1 (MS. S) Iob was a paynym & plesede god a prys.

IV. Leading up to PRIZE *sb.*^{1} *Obs.* in this form.

†**11.** The position of excelling others; place of honour; first or highest place; pre-eminence. Usually in phr. *to bear* or *have the price*, to have the pre-eminence, to surpass all others. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 326 A tre..ðat ouer alle oðre bereð pris. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 298 Receive he scholde a certein mede And in the cite bere a pris. *c* 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1692 A lorde..That beryth the pryce in prees. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliii. 222 Of konnenge hadde he not þe pris. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* IX. xix. 366 Of goodely harpynge he bereth the pryce in the world. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) B vj, All..by one assent gaue her the price of goodnesse and chastity. 1573 *New Custom* II. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 28 All these bear the price.

†**12.** The position of excelling in a match or struggle; superiority, victory. *Obs.*

1307 *Elegy Edw. I*, xi, In much bataille thou hadest pris. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 67 Alle þe day þei fauht, at euen he had þe pris. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* V. x. 178, I had leuer to haue ben torn with wylde horses, than ony..page or pryker shold haue had prys on me. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxix. 162 Fynally the Danys wan the pryce, and slewe bothe the foresayde kynges. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxv. 726 If ye flemynges had achyued the prise ouer them. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 160 Tethrippo had gotten the price & chief maisterie at Olympia.

†**13.** The symbol, trophy, or reward of victory or superiority (Fr. *le prix*); = PRIZE *sb.*^{1}, which see for examples. *Obs.*

V. 14. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *price-history, -issue, -maintenance, -making* (MAKE *v.*^{1} 13 e), *-reduction price-deciding, -enhancing, -ruling* adjs.; **price-cutting**, the action of 'cutting down' or lowering prices, esp. in or by way of competition; so *price-cutter*; **price-list**, (*a*) a list of the prices of commodities offered for sale; (*b*) a list of the 'prices' or odds in betting; **price-mark**, a mark upon goods indicating the price; **price-tag**, a tag or ticket attached to something and bearing an indication of its price. Also PRICE-CURRENT.

1901 *N. Y. Publ. Wkly.* in *Publ. Circ.* 14 Sept. 243/1 This firm..have great difficulty in maintaining their reputation as *price-cutters on net books. 1899 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Oct. 5/3 *Price Cutting in the Cycle Trade. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 291 Oft as the *price-deciding hammer falls. *c* 1760 HOGARTH in Hilda Gamlin *Romney* (1894) 24 Let the picture rust, Perhaps Time's *price-enhancing dust .. may mark its worth. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/3 The *Price History of the Stock. 1902 *Ibid.* 18 Feb. 11/1 An introduction, a price-history of the market. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 13 May 5/2 Some of the borrowers will..find it necessary to be generous in their *price issue when so many are in the field. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 439 [Let him beware] the eating of Victuals, and drinking of Wine without *price making; least (when he hath done)..his charges be redoubled. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 491/1 The children left Port Darwin with new boots, and when they returned the *price-marks were not even rubbed off the soles. 1890 *Spectator* 23 Aug., Wheat..is still pre-eminently the *price-ruling grain. 1888 *Chantauquan* VIII. 422 Accordingly they attached 'etiquettes', or *price-tags, to their articles.

†**Price, prise,** *a. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **pris,** (4 **priis, prijs,** 4–5 **prys,** 5 **pryss**); 4–5 **price, pryce; pryse**; 4–7 **prise.** [attrib. use of prec. sb., from the phrase *of price*, OF. *de pris*; thus *roi de pris* 'kyng *of pris*' or '*pris* king'.] A general term of appreciation: Worthy, excellent, valiant, eminent, prime, choice.

13.. *Coer de L.* 4300 A mangenel..To the prys tour a ston gan sende. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 161 As prest as þe pris king sai his pres stinte. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 261 Iohan..þe prys nete of Piers plow. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 79 þis citee [Chester] haþ plente of..pris salmoun [orig. *salmonis optimi*]. ?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 355 Send prekers to þe price toune, and plaunte there my segge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6010 And Paris the prise with pepull ynogh. *Ibid.* 9111 There were plenty of pepull, prise men & noble. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 220 So dide well thoo prise knyghtes in her companye, and also the knyghtes of the rounde table. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXIV, Tho had euery English bataylI 11 winges of pris archiers. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado*, etc. (1878) 292 More prise and richer than those sisters three, Which kept the apples of faire Hespery.

b. *absol.* The most excellent; the chief.

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 137 Ouer al the lond than were thai priis. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1614 A prophete of þat prouince & pryce of þe worlde. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 256 þe prijs of popes at Rome, And of gretest degre. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), Smaragdus is pris of alle grene preciouse stones. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8954 Palomydon for prise þe pert kynges toke.

Price (prəis), *v.* Also 6 **pryce.** [A later variant of the earlier *prise*, of which PRIZE *v.*^{1} is the direct modern representative. The regular forms of sb. and vb. after 1400 were *prīs* (*prȳs, pryce*), *price* sb., and *prise, prize* vb. (cf. *device, devise*; *advice, advise*). In the verb, *price* is a new form, assimilated to the sb., and used in the literal sense, while *prize* has become more or less fig. For the full history see PRIZE *v.*; the following instances illustrate this special form, which hardly appears before the 16th c., and was cited by Johnson in 1773 only in the Spenserian instance in sense 2. In many parts of England *to prize* is still said instead. Cf. also APPRISE *v.*2]

1. *trans.* To set the selling price to, to fix the price of (a thing for sale); to state the price of. (Originally *preyse*, PRAISE *v.* I; then *prise*, PRIZE; finally *price*.)

1382– (see PRAISE *v.* 1). *c* 1440–1713 (see PRIZE *v.*^{1} 1). *c* 1490 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 (MS. K.) Pricynge, *P.* prisinge, *licitacio.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 114/41 To Price, *appreciare, æstimare.* 1620 in *Essex Rev.* (1907) XVI. 206 Item, for peutter, priced vs. 1652 *Boston Rec.* (1877) II. 108 Goodwife Howen hath chosen Elder Coleborne to price and accept of a Cow from the Towne. 1831 *Examiner* 338/2 The next jeweller..will price at 10,000*l.*..the baubles that may sell for 3,500*l.* 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cab. Pict. Eng. Life, Chaucer* 251 In 1504, London ale was priced 5*s.* a barrel more than that of Kent. 1865 SALA *Amer. in War* I. 136 The decimal monetary system has been legalised in our possessions—though the shopkeepers are given to pricing their wares in shillings and pence.

b. To quote a price for: cf. PRICE *sb.* 3.

1865 *Morn. Star* 1 June, The layers of the odds complaining that nothing but the favourites were backed, notwithstanding their tempting 'pricing' of the outsiders.

c. *fig.* To value relatively, to estimate.

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxix, The girls' doings are always priced low.

†**2.** To pay the price for, pay for. *Obs.*

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 42 And rype thi mynde how every thing befell, The tyme, the place, and how, and in quhat wyis, So that thi confessioun ma thi synnes pryce. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. v. 26 The man that made Sansfoy to fall, Shall with his owne blood price that he hath spilt. *Ibid.* ix. 37 What justice can but judge against thee right, With thine owne blood to price his blood, here shed in sight?

3. To inquire the price of, bargain for; = CHEAP *v.* 3, CHEAPEN *v.* 1.

a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Ld. Thoulouse* xxi, If you priced such a one in a drawing-room here, And was ask'd fifty pounds, you'd not say it was dear. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 94 That glorious avenue of Covent Garden Market, where they price cucumbers at Mrs. Solomon's and bouquets at Mrs. Buck's. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 179 The evening they spent in..pricing many things.

†**4.** To raise the price of, to make dear. *Obs. rare.*

1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play Weather* (1903) 636 And well it is knowen, to the most foole here, How rayne hath pryced corne within this vii. yeare.

†**5.** To value highly; to value; = PRIZE *v.*^{1} 3. (Quot. *c* 1375 is a casual instance of the spelling *price* for *prise*.)

[*c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 145 For-þi suld men hym gretly price, And lowe hym in mony wyse.] 1561 tr. *Calvin's Foure Godlye Serm.* iii. G iij b, It is..suche a special prerogatyue as can not for ye great dignitie therof sufficiently be pryced to remaine and lyue in the churche. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 315 (Qo. 1, 1609) Men price [*Fol.* 1 prize] the thing ungained more then it is. 1643 BURROUGHES *Exp. Hosea* (1652) 420 We have had a peace a long time and..have not priced that mercy.

Price, obs. form of PRISE, PRIZE *sb.*$^{1, 2, 3}$.

Price-current. [= F. *prix courant* in same sense (1769 in Littré): so also Du. *prijs courant*, Ger. *preiskurant*.] A list of current prices of commodities; a price-list.

1696 J. HOUGHTON *Collect. Impr. Husb. & Trade* No. 180 4/1 Mr. Procter's Price Current is published every Friday. .. These are the Prices of most Foreign Merchandizes, with the Customs payable for each. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Price Current*, a weekly Account publish'd in London, of the current Value of most Commodities. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* I. 181 Looking in our senseless Pamphlet for the Price Courant. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. iv. § 3 (1876) 150 There is at each time and place a market price, which can be quoted in a price-current. 1866 LOWELL *Seward-Johnson Reaction* Wks. 1890 V. 293 His own countrymen were also unprovided with a price-current of the latest quotation in phrases. 1908 *Economist* 8 Feb. 308–9 (*Heading*) London Stock Markets, Price Current.

Priced (prəist), *ppl. a.* [f. PRICE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Having the price fixed or stated; containing a statement of prices.

1552 HULOET, Pryced, *licitatus, taxatus.* 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* I. iii. § 147 The priced catalogues of Colinæus and Robert Stephens are extant. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 2/1 Seven priced works have been sold in this gallery.

2. Having a (specified or indicated) price: in parasynthetic combinations, as *high-priced, low-priced*: see HIGH *a.* 22 b, LOW *a.* 21.

†**Pri·ceful,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 4 **prisful,** 5 **pryce-full.** [f. PRICE *sb.* II. + -FUL.] Full of 'price' or value; precious, worthy, excellent.

13.. *Cursor M.* 18173 (Cott.) Sua prisful [*Laud MS.* prycefull] quar es þou o pight [*Gött.* Sua prisful quat ert þu of pith]?

Priceite (prəi·səit). *Min.* [See quot. and -ITE.] 'Hydrous borate of calcium, near colemanite' (Chester).

1873 SILLIMAN in *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. VI. 130 As it [this borate of lime] appears therefore to be a new species I would propose for it the name priceite, in honour of Mr. Thomas Price, the well known metallurgist of San Francisco.

Priceless (prəi·slés), *a.* Also 6 **prise-,** 7 **prize-lesse,** 8 **-less.** [f. PRICE *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. 'Without price'; having a value beyond all price or equivalent; invaluable, inestimable.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 17 What priselesse wealth the heauens had him lent In the possession of his beauteous mate. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 13 Crasie barkes,..ballist with prizelesse marchandise. *c* 1626 FLETCHER & MASS. *Thierry & Theod.* II. i, His ignorance of the priceless jewel. 1735–6 THOMSON *Liberty* II. 227 Tutor of Athens! he in ev'ry street Dealt priceless treasure. 1863 BRIGHT *Sp., Amer.* 3 Feb. (1876) 116 That priceless possession which we have perhaps more clearly established..that of personal freedom.

b. With mixture of literal sense 'having no market price; that cannot be obtained for money'.

1884 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 34 Those gifts that cannot be purchased with money, that are priceless. 1888 *Lady* 25 Oct. 374/2 These [stencil-plates]..are priceless, not to be bought in common shops.

2. Having no value; valueless, worthless. *rare.*

1771 *Muse in Min.* 60 Beauty that prizeless pageant of a day. 1847 WEBSTER, *Priceless*...2. Without value; worthless or unsalable. *J. Barlow.*

Hence **Pri·celessness,** inestimable value.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 804 The pricelessness of water in a land where no rain falls during six months.

†**Pri·cely,** *adv. Obs. rare.* In 4 **prisely.** [f. PRICE *a.* + -LY 2.] Excellently, choicely.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 733 Hee was ishape as a sheepe shinand bright, I-painted full prisely and precious stones Wer sticked on þat stock, stoute too beholde.

Pricement, var. PRIZEMENT *Obs.*

Pricer (prəi·səɹ). [f. PRICE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who prices. (Cf. PRIZER 1 1.)

1878 MACKINTOSH *Hist. Civilis. Scotl.* I. xi. 454 There were public pricers of flesh in all the burghs.

Prich: see PRITCH. **Pricipe,** obs. f. PRÆCIPE.

Prick (prik), *sb.* Forms: 1 pric(o)a, **price,** (pryce), 2, 5–6 **prike** (5 **pryke**); 3–7 **pricke,** 4– **prick** (4–6 **prikke, prik,** 5 **prykke, prikk,** 5–7 **pryck,** -e, **pryk**). [OE. *prica, pricca* m., *price* f. = mod. Du. *prik* m. (+ *prick* Kilian) a sharp point or stick, prickle, etc.; LG. *prik* a dot, spot, point, *prik, prikke* a pricking instrument; WFris. *prik*; also Icel. *prik* a dot, a little stick (? from Eng.), Da. *prik*, Norw. *prikk*, Sw. *prick* (fr. LG.) a dot, mark. From same root as PRICK *v.*, q. v. See also PRITCH *sb.* (The W. *pric* stick, broach, and Ir. *prioca* sting, are from Eng.)]

I. An impression or mark made by pricking.

1. An impression in a surface or body made by pricking or piercing; a puncture: = POINT *sb.*^{1} 1. (This seems to be etymologically the earliest sense, and is app. the meaning in Ælfric.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxviii. (Z.) 180 *Pungo*, ic pricige..(of ðam is nama *punctus* prica [*v.r.* pricca]). 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* lii. 58 In fot and hond bereþ blodi

prikke. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 b, They haue firste p[r]icked them, out of which prickes do..breed certaine..wormes. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 113 The less credulous tooke the pricke of a pinne for a Saintes marke. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* cxli, No pin's prick The tooth leaves. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1078 The prick may continue to drip for hours.

b. *spec.* in *Farriery.* A puncture or wound in the quick or sole of the foot of a horse.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 322 Of a Prick in the sole of the Foot, by treading on a nail, or any other sharp thing. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 303 Prick or wound in the sole or crust...The sole is very liable to be wounded by nails, pieces of glass, or even sharp flints, but much more frequently the fleshy little plates are wounded by the nail in shoeing. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 788 Loosening and detachment of the nail following a 'prick' or crush.

c. The footprint or track of a hare.

1598 FLORIO, *Pedata*, a track,..the print of a foote,..the prick of a hare. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 301 If it be smooth and plain within,..so that you may discern the Pricks,..then endeavour to recover the Hare upon the Trail. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. I. i. § 5. 8 [The hare] leaves her mark or prick in the soil.

2. A minute mark made by slightly pricking or indenting a surface with a pointed tool; formerly also the impression or mark made with the point of a pen or pencil or the like, or a mark having this appearance; a dot, tick, point. Cf. POINT *sb.*[1] 2. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 188 Heo hæfð on æxhwylcum leafe twa endebyrdnyssa fægerra pricena & þa scinað swa gold. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. § 5 Set ther a prikke of ynke. *Ibid.* § 42, Y sette þer a prikke at my foote; þan goo [y] ner to þe tour,..& þere y sette a-noþer prikke. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Pricke a marke, *marque.* 1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 129 Upon this line I make a pricke, which is the very station where the instrument is supposed to stand. 1676 T. MILLER *Compl. Modellist* 1 Set 1 foot of your Compasses at B, and with the other mark a prick at G. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Surveying*, A point is..ordinarily expressed with a small prick, like a period at the end of a sentence.

† **b.** Each of the marks by which the circumference of a dial is divided, or the divisions of any scale indicated. *Obs. rare.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 119 The bawdy hand of the Dyall is now vpon the pricke of Noone. 1593 — 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 34 Now Phaeton hath tumbled from his Carre, And made an Euening at the Noone-tide Prick.

† **3.** A dot or other small mark used in writing or printing; as, a punctuation or metrical mark, a diacritical point, the points in Hebrew or other languages, etc.; = POINT *sb.*[1] 3. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* I. (Z.) 291 Se forma prica on þam ferse is ȝehaten *media distinctio*, þæt is on middan todal. 1530 PALSGR. 11 If they..be nat part of a diphthong, they shall have ii prickes ouer theyr heed, thus *ÿ, v̈.* 1567 SALESBURY *Playne Introd.* E j, The sound of *u*, in French, or *ü*, wyth two prickes ouer the heade in Duch. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 26 This word Iehouah..borroweth all the prickes from Adonai. 1646 *Topicks in Laws of Eng.* Errata, Some mistakes are in the pricks and commaes. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 53 One tittle..is meant of those little horns, pricks and dots belonging to the Hebrew letters.

† **b.** A mark or dot used in musical notation; = POINT *sb.*[1] 4. (*a*) In mediæval music, a note. (*b*) In later musical notation, a dot placed after a note or rest for various purposes. Cf. PRICK *v.* 13.

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot., A pricke is a kinde of Ligature, so that if you would tie a semibrief and a minime together you may set a pricke after the semibrief, and so you shall bind them. *Ibid.* 12 *Phi.* I pray you say what Prickes or poynts signifie in singing. *Ma.*..As your rests signified the whole lengthe of the notes in silence, so dothe the pricke the halfe of the note going before to be holden out in voyce..and this pricke is called a pricke of augmentation. 1659 C. HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* xcix. (1672) 203/1 Musique setteth Tunes with Pricks. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. viii. 27 This Prick of Perfection or Addition is ever placed on the right side of all Notes, for the prolonging the sound of that Note it follows. 1749 *Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 31 By a proper Use of the Pricks and Pauses it may be so contrived..as to make no alteration in the Time of the Tune, or manner of beating it.

II. A minute particle.

† **4.** A point of space (or particle of matter) viewed in reference to its minuteness, a mere point.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. vii. 44 (Camb. MS.) Al the enuyronynge of the erthe abowte ne halt but the resoun of a prikke at regard of the gretnesse of heuene. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 33 This little pricke of the world (for surely the earth is nothing else in comparison of the whole). 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 343 In such Indexes, although small prickes To their subsequent Volumes, there is seene The baby figure of the Gyant-masse Of things to come at large. 1616 BOYS *Expos. Proper Ps.* lvii. 102 The earth..compared vnto the greatnes of the starrie skies circumference, is but a center or little pricke.

† **5.** A minute part or quantity of anything; a jot, whit, particle; = POINT *sb.*[1] 6.

To the prick, to the smallest jot, with minute exactness or precision.

In the first quot. and in quots. 1579, 1645, orig. fig. from 3.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 18 An i oððe an prica [*Royal MS.* pryce; *c* 1160 *Hatton G.* an prike] ne gewit fram þære æ. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 228, & te deouel ne mei nout gon furðer a pricke. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4270 Alle thire thinges..wille he weghe streytly thare And to the prikke thaire value tofore alle men declare. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. lii, Of all that rout was neuer a prik disioynt. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 291 Syne all the lawe remanand wes behind, Rycht equalie,.. Be the leist *prick*.. Distribute hes amang his men of weir. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 84 Not a iote, or a pricke of the law shall passe, vntill all be fulfilled. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 13 Not one iot or prick of the Law shall perish.

† **6.** The smallest portion of time; an instant, moment; = POINT *sb.*[1] 7. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Þa3 he leuede a þousond year þet ne ssolde by bote onlepy prikke to þe zyȝþe of þe oþre lyue þet eure wyþoute ende ssel yleste. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 128 That dureth but a pricke, in respecte of the other. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 75 They that shall bee then liuing..shall in a very prick of time be changed. 1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xcii. 114 The tyme present is lesse then a pricke, and euermore vnstable.

† **b.** In mediæval measure of time: The fourth or (according to some) the fifth part of an hour; = POINT *sb.*[1] 10. Cf. ATOM *sb.* 7. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 102 And swa swa se mona dæghwonlice feower pricon lator arist, swa eac seo sæ symle feower pricum lator fleowð. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 317 Feower *puncti* þæt synt pricon, wyrcað ane tid on þære sunnan ryne... Syx and hundnigontig pricon beoð on þam dæge.

† **c.** *Astron.* = DIGIT *sb.* 4, POINT *sb.*[1] 11. *Obs.*

1561 EDEN *Arte Navig.* II. viii. 35 The quantitie of these Eclipses, the Astronomers deuide into .xii. equall partes, as well the Diameter of the Sunne as of the Moone. And these partes they call fyngers, punctes or prickes.

III. A point in reference to position.

† **7.** A point in space; a geometrical point: = POINT *sb.*[1] 18. *Obs.*

[1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. viii. (Skeat) I. 95 A pricke is wonder litte, in respecte of all the cercle.] 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., A Poynt or a Prycke, is named of Geometricians that small and vnsensible shape, whiche hath in it no partes, that is to say: nother length, breadth, nor depth. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 247 Zenith (that is the pricke ouer the head). 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VIII. 103 That which you see in the centre, or middle pricke of the eye is named Pupilla. 1589 IVE *Fortif.* 10 Draw a right line ..which must cut the line C.D. in the pricke E. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ix. § 3 (1622) 296 Hee calleth a Pricke the parent of all magnitude.

† **8.** A point marking a stage in progression; degree, pitch. *The prick*, the height, highest point, apex, acme. Cf. POINT *sb.*[1] 22. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 21 Alle dayes of poure men been wikke Be war therfore er thou come to that prikke. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 45 Þer preued neuer nane his prik for passing of witt, Plato nor Piktagaras ne Prektane him seluen. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 7/1 He was come to that prycke of parfit humilitie. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 30 Endeuour with all your herte to the hygh prycke of vertue. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 30 Vntill you haue attayned vnto the verie pricke of proportion. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 141 Setting the prices..and enhaunsing the same to such a prick, that some men enforced to buye certaine things at an extreame and exceeding rate..cut their owne veines and so bled to death.

† **9.** The precise instant of time at which anything happens; the critical moment: = POINT *sb.*[1] 23. *Prick of the day* (after Fr. *le point du jour*), daybreak. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6639 He was dryuen so ney the prikke, That he myght not his lippis likke. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 847 Remembre or þat he come to the prikke. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XXX. 370, I trowd it drew nere the prik. *c* 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 927 At the prick of the day, *au point du jour.*

IV. In archery.

† **10.** The mark aimed at in shooting; the spot in the centre of the target; the bull's-eye; hence, a target, esp. one at a fixed distance, having such a mark in its centre. (Opposed in the latter sense to BUTT *sb.*[4] 2 and ROVER.) *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* XX. 20 And Y shal sende thre arowis biside it, and shal throwe as hauntynge me to a prik [1388 exercisynge me at a signe [*v. r.* marke]]. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2260 Thou kanste welle hit the prikke. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 269 Item, payd.. for my masterys lossys att the prykkys, viij.*d.* Item, at the buttys, viij.*d.* 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 89 An archier to faile of the butte is no wonder, but to hytte the pryke is a greet maistrie. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 4 No man, vnder the age of .xxiiii. yeres, shall shote at anie standing pricke, excepte it be at a rouer. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 113 A bowe of Ewe must be hadde for perfecte shootinge at the prickes. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1208/1 Diuerse of the court ..shot dailie at pricks set vpon the Thames. 1611 MARKHAM *Country Content.* I. i. (1668) 46 The Prick is a Mark of some compasse, yet most certain in the distance. 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cabinet Pict. Eng. Life, Chaucer* 89 In every village were three kinds of marks set up:..the prick, a 'mark of compass', requiring strong light arrows, with feathers of moderate size.

† **b.** *Twelve (twenty-four) score prick*: a 'prick' or target placed 240 (or 480) paces distant, the regular distance at which shooting at the prick was practised. *Obs.*

1569 in *Camden's Eliz.* (1717) Pref. 29 The shotinge with the Standerd, the shotinge with the brode arrowe, the shotinge at the twelve skore prick, the shotinge at the Turke. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* (1811) 194 Their shaft was a cloth yard, their pricks twenty-four score. 1608 *Pennyless Parl.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 76 A Turk can be hit at twelve score pricks in Finsbury Fields. 1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *World Tost at Tennis* Induct. 67 The bowman's twelve score prick.

† **11.** *fig.* (or in fig. context): That at which one aims; an object, end: = POINT *sb.*[1] 28. *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 528 Than myghte siluer walke more thikke Among þe peple þan þat it doþ now; Ther wolde I fayne that were sette the prikke. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R j b, They shote at the pricke of the woman's beautie. 1558 MORWYNG *Ben Gorion* (1567) 1 Seyng all the prophetes haue bent and directed their prophesies..to this pricke, that the kingdome of the house of Dauid should be restored. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* C ij, What madnes is it then in those men, who because they cannot be in the prick, wil not be *in* y^e^ but neither.

V. Anything that pricks or pierces; an instrument or organ having a sharp point.

12. A small sharp projecting organ or part; a thorn or prickle; a spine on the skin of an animal, or the like. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24084 A crun o thorn his hefd on stod, þat ilk prick broght vte þe blod. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 283 And thus myn hand ayein the pricke I hurte and have do many day And go so forth as I go may. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Pryke, or pynne, *spintrum*, vel *spinter.* 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 14 In comparison..they be so small, No more than the pricks that be on a gall. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (1881) 17 It [Asparagus] maye be called in englishe pricky Sperage, because it is all full of pryckes. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 998 As pricks be hidden under Roses. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (1851) 136 [The hedgehog] knows how to roll up itself round within those thorns,..so as the dog, instead of a beast, finds now nothing but a ball of pricks to wound his jaws. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Thorns or pricks, are sharp points growing from the branches of some trees.

† **b.** The sting of a bee, scorpion, or the like.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* ix. 10 Thei hadden tayles lijk of scorpiouns, and prickes weren in the tayles of hem. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 394 Bees, whan they maken hir kyng, they chesen oon that hath no prikke wherwith he may stynge. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3378 Othir bees, prikkes han euerichon.

† **c.** *fig.* Something that causes mental irritation, vexation, or torment; a 'thorn', sting. *Obs.*

Prick of conscience: see 19.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 264 God ȝaf him [Paul] a prikke of his fleish, an angel of þe fend to tempte him. 1382 — 1 *Cor.* xv. 55 Deeth, wher is thi pricke? Forsoth the pricke of deeth is synne. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. xl. 615 It was never well taken by Hanno, nor joyously accepted, in regard of the person, who was a pricke alwaies in his eie. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* Ded., That cursed race of the Cananites, who were ever pricks in the sides, and thornes in the eyes of Gods people. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 374 Who will seem to forgive, and yet keep a prick and quarrell in their hearts.

13. A goad for oxen. *To kick* († *work, spurn*) *against the pricks*: said of oxen; now *arch.* and usually *fig.* (after Acts ix. 5): cf. KICK *v.*[1] 1 c.

c 1350 *Nominale Gall.-Angl.* (E. E. T. S.) 862 *Fuet et agiloun*, gode and prikke. 1382 [see KICK *v.*[1] 1 c]. 14.. *Cursor M.* 19626 (Fairf.) Hit is to þe ful harde & wik For to wirk a-gaine þe prik. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Pryk, or prykyl (*S*, prykkar), *stimulus, stiga.* 1520 NISBET *N. Test. in Scots, Acts* xxii. 7 It is hard to thee to spurn aganis the prick. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Pricke to drive oxen with, *aguillon.* 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 17 Pryk signifies a Goad or Spur. 1775 ROMANS *Florida* App. 56 In that case an attempt to beat up under Cuba will be nothing better than kicking against the pricks. 1904 MARIE CORELLI *God's Good Man* i, For the past ten years he has known what it is to 'kick against the pricks' of legitimate Church authority.

† **b.** *fig.* That which incites or stimulates; a spur, an incentive. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 397 He feng þe prikkes of þe love of God. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2421 His prikke specially is a womman gloosyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 240 b, The moost speciall medicyne & prycke agaynst slouth. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 29 Which rather effeminate the minde, as pricks vnto vice, then procure amendement of manners, as spurres to vertue. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 114 The greatest wits are ever by the prickes of emulation driven forward to greater matters.

† **14.** A slender piece of wood or metal tapering to a sharp point, used to fasten things or parts of a thing together; a skewer; a pin (or in quot. 1721 a thorn) for fastening one's clothes; a thatcher's broach. *Obs.* See also PUDDING-PRICK.

1377 in Cowell *Interpr.* s. v. *Pryk*, Per servitium inveniendi unum equum, unum saccum & unum *Pryk* in Guerra Walliæ. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Prykke, for pakkys, *broccus.* *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 82 Take a prik, and prik him togidur, And lete him roste. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Pricke to pricke meate, *brochette.* 1551 [see PRICK-TREE]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. li. 726 The wilde Cornell tree..Butchers vse it to make prickes of it. *Ibid.* [see PRICK-TIMBER]. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. iii. (1651) 477 Set out with bables, as a Butchers meat is with pricks. *c* 1630 *MS. Egerton* 923 lf. 3 Like to a packe without a pricke, Or o-per-se in arithmeticke. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 19/2 Thatchers Termes...Thatch pricks, and binding pricks. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 184 It's a bare Moor that you'll go o'er, and no get Prick to your Blanket. *Ibid.* 198 If ever you make a good Pudding, I'll eat the Prick. That is, I am much mistaken if ever you do good.

15. A pointed weapon or implement. Applied to † a dagger or pointed sword; † a fish-spear (*obs.*); a pronged eel-spear (*local*: cf. PICK *sb.*[1] 4 d); a small chisel or punch used by stone-workers; etc.

1552 HULOET, *Prycke*, a fyshers instrumente. Loke in Trowte speare. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xi. 62 I'll set a prick against my breast. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 33/2 The backs are to be scappled with a prick. 1859 *Kansas Hist. Coll.* (1896) V. 581 Ordnance stores this day turned over to Samuel Medary,..100 cap pouches and pricks, worn. 1882 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 246 The prick is constructed of four broad serrated blades or tines spread out like a fan, and the eel becomes wedged between them.

†**16.** An upright tapering spike, spire, or similar object: applied among other things to

The upright pole of a tent; the spike on which a candle was fixed (see PRICKET 2); the spike of a prick-measure (see 21); an iron spike set on a building; a spire; a pinnacle; a pointed top of a rock or mountain, an 'aiguille' or 'needle'; the first 'head' of a deer. *Obs.*

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 99 Pavilion of xvj and a prik. *c* 1530 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 339 Twoo Aulter Candilstickes parcell gilte with prickes. 1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 66 Than the deuil tuke him..and set him aboue the prik of the temple. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 522/1 þ' pair be a prik of Irne..Ryssing vpricht out of þe centrie or middis of þe bottom of þe firlot and passing throw þe middis of þe said ovir corss bar. *c* 1600 in A. Maxwell *Hist. Old Dundee* (1884) 150 [To erect] ane sufficient prick of fine ashler wark weill hewn, rising with aucht square panes like the old foundation of the wark, in hicht.. eleven foots. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxv. 400 High and stiep rockes, which have prickes or poynts on them, above two hundred fadome high. 1650 [? SANDERSON] *Aulicus Coquin.* 34 His head to be set upon a prick of Iron upon the highest part of the Talboth. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prick*, the first Head of a Fallow Deer.

17. The penis. (Now *low.*)

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 42 b, The pissing Boye lift up his pricke. 1598 FLORIO s. v. *Pisciaruola.* 1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.* s. v. *Pica de niño.* 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 267 The Frenchmen call this Fish the Ass's Prick, and Dr. Wotton termeth it grosly the Pintle-fish. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 114 It [*glandula pinealis*] is also called the Yard or Prick of the Brain.

†**b.** As a vulgar term of endearment. *Obs.*

1540 [see PRINCOCK]. 1671 H. M. *Erasm. Colloq.* 547 One word alone hath troubled some, because the immodest maid soothing the young man, calls him her Prick...He who cannot away with this, instead of 'my Prick', let him write 'my Sweetheart'.

18. A small roll (of tobacco). ? *Obs.*

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 190 The place design'd for making of it [tobacco] up into rolls or pricks. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/6 Lots..Cont. 4000 Pricks of Tobacco. 1888 CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* II. 88, I had the remains of what sailors term a prick of tobacco in my pocket.

VI. 19. The act of pricking, or the fact of being pricked; a puncture. (The chief extant sense.) Also *fig.*, esp. in phrase *prick of conscience*, stinging or tormenting reflection or compunction, remorse; in earlier use, that which pricks the conscience or causes compunction: see 12 c.

13.. *Hampole's Pr. Consc.* (Yates MS.), Here bigynneþ þe boke whiche is iclepid þe Prick of Conscience. *c* 1425 *Castell Persev.* 1858 in *Macro Plays* 129 It puttyth a man to pouerte, & pullyth hym to peynys prycke. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III*, 53 b, This was no dreame, but a punccion and pricke of hys synfull conscience. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 36 Gentlewomen that liue honestly by the pricke of their Needles. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. i. 171 Captain Minchin ..was like to lose his hand by a prick with a Catfishes Fin. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* ix. (1880) 513 Every prick of conscience was succeeded by new resolutions to extirpate heresy. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 504 A stimulus, strictly limited in its local extent—say the prick of a needle.

†**b.** The act of 'pricking the card' or marking a ship's position on the chart: see PRICK *v.* 16.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 21 Wee shall.., if God prosper our proceedings, see land such a daie by the prick of this my carde.

†**20.** Alliterative phrase, *prick and praise* (also *prise, price, prize*): the praise of excellence or success; success and its acknowledgement: perh. connected with PRICK *v.* 15, or ? with the use in archery: see sense 10. *Obs.*

a 1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) II. 324 Now forsoth I gyue the pryk and pryse, Thou art worth the weyght of gold. 1565–73 COOPER *Thesaurus, Primas deferre alicui*, to giue to one the chiefe praise; to attribute most vnto one; to giue him the pricke and price. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 6/2 In these seruices, as in all other, Robert of Barrie, and Meilerius had the pricke and praise. *c* 1589 *Whip for Ape* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 419 For knaue and foole thou maist beare pricke and price. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* IX. xvi. 324 For in running..he had not his peere, but went away with pricke and prise before all other in those daies. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 49 The women gave him prick and praise for beauty. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, The Prick and Praise of our Town*, that bears the Bell..in all Exercises, as Wrestling, Running,..&c.

VII. 21. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prick-point, -spot, -thorn*; *prick-protected* adj.; †**prick-arrow** = PRICK-SHAFT; †**prick-candlestick** = PRICKET 2; †**prick-cast**, ? = *prickshot*; †**prick-grass**, a prickly weed, petty-whin; †**prickhead**: see quot.; **prick-hedge**, a thorn hedge; **prick-line**, a dotted line; **prick-lugged** *a.*, prick-eared; †**prick measure, prick-met** *Sc.*, a measure for grain, having an iron rod of stated length rising erect from the centre of the bottom: see sense 16; †**prick-pear** = PRICKLE-PEAR, PRICKLY PEAR; †**prick-penny**, some kind of trick at dice; **prick punch**: see quots.; **prickshot**, a shot at the 'prick' or target; hence, the distance at which this was usually practised: cf. BOWSHOT; **prick-spur**, a spur having a single point; also used as a heraldic charge; †**prick-tackle**, ? tackle for catching fish with a 'prick': see sense 15; **prick-tobacco**, tobacco made up into a small roll: see sense 18; †**prick-wand**: see quot. 1765; **prick-wheel**, a toothed wheel mounted on a handle, used by saddlers for marking places for stitches at regular intervals; also = PATTERN-*wheel*. See also PRICK-EARED *a.*, PRICK-SONG, etc.

1547 in Meyrick *Anc. Armour* (1824) III. 10 Quyver for *pricke arrows for crosse-bowes. 1610 BOYS *Expos. Domin. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1622) 170 Her prick-arrowes, as the shafts of Jonathan forwarne David of the great kings displeasure. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 50 Item ij *pricke candlestickes—broken and sold to george nyxe. 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 300 Pricke Candlestickes vi. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn coup d'estoc*, a *pricke cast. 1611 COTGR., *Coup d'estoc*, a thrust, foine, stockado, stab; also, a prick-cast. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* IV. iv. 498 If the ground haue beene much subiect to small whynnes or *prick-grasse, which is a most venimous weed in anie ground. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 76/1 **Prickhead*, is the first head of a Fallow Deer. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 510 This was at first practised with foot sets for a *prick-hedge, namely by pitching down into the earth Elder, Quince-cuttings and brambles. 1611 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 302 He to sett a prick hedge betwixt the chappell and the dwelling howse. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss., Prick-hedge*.., a dry hedge of thorns, set to protect a newly planted fence. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 262 The *prick lines poynt to the back part of the body. 1700 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 261 The black Lines shew a stretching course, and the Prick-Lines an Heading course. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, **Prick-lugged*, having erect ears. 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 425/1 Thay ar chairgit to ressave þe *prick measure, conforme to þe act of Parliament. 1647 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 182 For the lend of the *prick mett of Elgin. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 87 One other fruit we found..compassed about with prickles; our people called them *pricke-pears. 1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* IV. i. (1664) 46 Did not I (..) teach you, your Top, your Palm, and your Slur?..And generally, instructed you from *Prick-penny, to Long Lawrence? 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 22/1 Place one point on the prick spot on the staff, and prick the board for the plank with the other point... Remove the staff, bend a batten to the *prick-points on the plank. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* July 272 The birds resort to its *prick-protected shade. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* No. *a.* 28 A *Prick-punch, is a piece of temper'd Steel with a round point at one end, to prick a round mark in Cold iron. 1683 *Ibid., Printing* xi. P 1 Make a small mark with a fine Prick-Punch. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* E iij b, The tentes..were deuided in to iiii. seuerall orders and rewes liynge east & west and a *prikshot a sunder. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 325/1 **Prick Spur*, with a Nail or sharp point. 1824 MEYRICK *Anc. Armour* I. 12 The..spike of the pryck-spur. 1839 KNIGHT *Pict. Shaks., John* 10 The spur worn [*temp.* K. John] was the goad or pryck spur, without a rowel. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1882) 122 Spur..may either be..with a revolving rowel, or with a single point. The latter is the most ancient, and is known as the Pryck-spur. 1464 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 250 To Robart Clerke for a *pryke-takyle for my mastyr, and for botehyre, iij.*d.* 956 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* III. 123 Andlang fura on *pric þorn. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/1 *Prick tobacco, thick roll all made vp together without any wreathing, *a* 1650 *Guye of Gisborne* 126 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* II. 293 Robin hoode shott it better then hee, for he cloue the good *pricke wande. 1765 *Percy Reliques* I. Gloss., **Prickewand*, a wand set up for a mark. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Prick-wheel* (Saddlery), a tool used to prick off the work for the harness-stitcher.

Prick (prik), *v.* Forms: see A. below. [Late OE. *prician*, pa. t. **pricode*, ME. *prikie(n, prike*, pa. t. *prikede*: cognate with OE. *prica*, PRICK *sb.* Cf. Icel. *prika* (1394) to stab slightly, Norw. *prika* (*preeka*); also MLG., LG., EFris., Du. *prikken*, MDu. *prikken, pricken*, WFris. *prykje*, Wang. *prikje*, NFris. *pricken*; also Da. *prikke*, Sw. *pricka*, Norw. *prikka* (from LG.), all pointing to WGer. doublet forms **prikôjan* and **prikkôjan*. Cf. also PRITCH *v.*, representing an OE. **pricc(e)an* (found in *apriccan*) :—WGer. **prikjan*.

Like the sb., the verb appears to belong peculiarly to the Low German domain, being evidenced first in OE., and next in MLG.; it was prob. in OLG., OFris., and ODu. From LG. it seems to have passed into Scandinavian. Perh. from an onomatopœic root *prik*, expressing the action and sound of piercing abruptly stopped. In the later *prikke, pricke*, the *kk, ck* was perh. merely graphic, to show the short vowel. The form *prêke* appears to be a northern development of *prician*; but the 14–15th c. *prike, pryke* point to an OE. *prician*; cf. WFris. *prykje* = *prikje*. But cf. also *pike, pyke* as parallel form of *pik, pikk*, PICK *v.* and *sb.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1 **prician**; 2–4 **prikie(n, (4 prykie, -kye)**; 2–5 **prike, 4–5 pryke**; (5 *pr. pple.* **pricande**).

c 1000 Prician [see B. 1]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* XXVIII. (Z.) 174 *Pungo*, ic pricige.—Priciað [see B. 4]. *a* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* lxi. (1889) 188 Pricigende eage utgelæt tearas & se þe pricaþ heortan. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 Þornene helm..him swiþe prikede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9415 Þat hor fon toward hom ne come prikie vaste. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 899 Þe douke come prikiand on his stede. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 296 So priketh [*v.rr.* prykyth, prickeþ] it in my side. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 211 He was i-priked & i-dryve in idel. *Ibid.* VII. 35 Þanne he gan to pryke his hors. *Ibid.* VIII. 251 He hadde leve..to prike a coursere. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 24 Thenne conscience on hus capel comsed to prykie [*v.r.* prike]. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 42 Whan kynde corage begynneth to pryke [*rime* like]. *Ibid.* 1383 He priked forth. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6631 Theseus..come thedur pricande sone. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 154 Whanne on pryketh an-oþer. *c* 1440 Prike [see B. 19]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/2 To Pryke.

β. 4–5 **prik, pryk**; 4 **prikke**, 5 **prykkyn**; 4–7 **pricke** (5–6 **prycke(-n)**); 6– **prick.**

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Kn.* 2049 Hym lyst prik for poynt. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* (Percy Soc.) 7 He pricket out on hys contre. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. 299 He gert fele knychtis..pryk efter þame. 1402 HOCCLEVE *Lett. Cupid* 106 Now prikke on fast. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IV. (*Fox's Conf.*) xxii, The fox he prikkit fast vnto the eird. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 539 To..prik in your presence, to purchese his pray. *c* 1490 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 (MS. H.) Prykkyn, or poynten, *puncto*. 1530 PALSGR. 432/2 This fellowe can bothe flatter and pricke. 1552 HULOET, Prycken, *agito,..stimulo,..* Prycke wrytynges wyth a penne,..*dispungo*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 164 His prouender prickth him. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse, To Gentlew.* (Arb.) 58 Wanton wil begins to prick. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 28 As they are commonly prickt now. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 103 He did pricke on the other.

γ. 4–6 **prek(e; 5–6 preik, 6 preak**; 8–9 (*dial.*) **preek.**

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 430 [He] come prekand in sic degre. 1375 (MS. 1487) BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 615 Prek we apon thame hardely. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 287 Slow hym so wiþ prekynge and wiþ hunger. *c* 1400 *Melayne* 999 Prekande one a stede. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3483 A powere of þe Persens..On kyng Porrus to preke. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 410 Out of Paris proudly he preikit. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 362 Thair preikand on the plane. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 86 To provok greadie and imprudent men to preak at thame. 1825 JAMIESON, Preek. 1894 [see B. 20].

B. Signification.

I. To pierce, or indent with a sharp point.

1. *trans.* To pierce slightly, make a minute hole in (a surface or body) with a fine or sharp point; to puncture; hence, to wound (or hurt) with or as with a pointed instrument or weapon. Said also of the instrument. Also *fig.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 312 He..het..ðæs papan lima ȝelome prician, oðþæt he swulte ðurh swylcum pinungum. *c* 1200 [see A. α]. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* i. 7 Thei that pungeden [*gloss* or prickeden] him. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14165 Lyke a bladdere..Pryke yt with a poynt, a-noon, And ffarwel, al the wynd ys gon. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 446 Þai myght not be wakynd with no maner of criyng, nor þai myght fele þothyng sore and þai had bene nevur so prykkid. 1530 PALSGR. 666/1, I pricke with a sharpe nedell, or pynne, or thorne. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* Div. Poems (1717) 45 A bubble full of care, Which (prickt by death) straight enters into Air. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 326 Take an Apple, &c. and pricke it with a Pinne full of Holes, not deepe. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Aug., I could perceive her to take pins out of her pocket to prick me. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 86/1 *Prick the Loafe*, is to make little holes on the top of the Loafe with a Bodkin. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newcastle* II. 679 By the wetness of the rods they [the borers] know when any feeder of water is pricked. 1888 LADY D. HARDY *Dang. Exper.* II. v. 66 A tall thin church spire pricked the skies.

b. To make (a hole or mark) by pricking.

[*a* 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* XXX. 146 Þonne man ænne prican apricce on anum bradum brede.] 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* No. 12. 214 Prick there an Hole for a mark. *Mod.* Prick a hole in it with a pin.

c. *Farriery.* To pierce the foot of (a horse) to the quick in shoeing, causing lameness.

1591 FLORIO *2nd Fruites* 35, I will goe hyre a horse, for mine was so prickt yesterdaie, that he can not goe. 1592 GREENE *Blacke Booke's Messenger* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 19 His horse..halted right downe:..I wondred at it, and thought he was prickt. 1622 FLETCHER & MASS. *Span. Curate* III. ii, You shall have the tenth horse I prick, to pray for. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Prickt*, By the negligence or unskilfulness of the farrier they are prick'd in driving the nails. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 304 No one who considers the thinness of the crust..will blame him [the smith] for sometimes pricking the horse.

d. To detect (a witch) by pricking her skin until a spot was discovered which did not bleed. *Hist.*

[Cf. 1627 R. BERNARD *Guide Grand Jurymen* xviii. 219 This [witches' mark] is insensible, and being pricked will not bleede.] 1661 in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 602 The Magistrat and Minister caused Johne Kinkaid, the comon pricker, to prik hir, and found tuo marks upon hir, which he called the Devill his markis. [Cf. quot. 1895 in 4 b.]

e. To affect with a sensation as of pricking.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xxxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Yif it [evil meat or drink] piccheþ and prickeþ þe stommake, it is yp[i]chched and ipricked and compelleþ it to passe oute. *Mod. colloq.* I don't like soda-water; it pricks my mouth.

f. To convert by puncturing *into* something.

1830 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 69, I swear (and else may insects prick Each leaf into a gall).

2. *fig.* To cause sharp mental pain to; to sting with sorrow or remorse; to grieve, pain, torment, vex. Also *absol.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xvi. (1889) 79 He nys ȝepricud [*stimulatus*] on unrotnysse gyltes. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 5 If þai pryk vs in forthynkynge of oure synne. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2628 Þe pite of þe Persens him prickis in his saule. 1530 PALSGR. 666/1 As any displeasure pricketh one at the herte. 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* XIII. 445 Let those who find themselves pricked by what is now said take care that their religion be more pure. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. i. 15 His conscience pricks him so much that he cannot rest.

†**3.** To sting or bite, as a serpent, an insect, or the like. Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 Neddre..attreð hwat heo priked. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. iii, The scorpion ..prycketh sore with his tayll. e. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 260 There are always swarms of them [insects] buzzing about People, and continually pricking of them.

4. *intr.* To perform the action of pricking or piercing; to cause a pricking sensation; also, to have the quality of pricking, to be prickly or sharp.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 88 Ðornas priciað. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Þe þornes swiðe prikeden. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 391 Thanne is..no thyng may me dis-

plese Saue o thyng priketh in my conscience. 1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 77 It pricketh betymes that will be a good thorne. 1625 Bacon *Ess., Revenge* (Arb.) 502 It is but like the Thorn, or Bryar, which prick, and scratch, because they can doe no other. 1872 Tennyson *Gareth & Lyn.* 191 At times the spires and turrets half-way down Prick'd thro' the mist. *Mod.* Give me something to prick with. The leaves are acute, but they do not prick.

b. In various pregnant uses and phrases.

To prick for, to try, choose, or decide for something by pricking (cf. sense 15); also *fig.* *To prick for a soft plank* (*Naut.*): see quot. 1867. † *To prick for witches*, to prick suspected persons with a pin, to find out, by their sensibility or insensibility to the pain, whether they were witches; cf. 1 d. *To prick* (*in*) *the belt, garter, loop*, to play at Fast-and-loose; cf. Garter *sb.* 7, Loop *sb.*[1] 1. † *To prick in* (*on, upon*) *a clout*, to do needlework, to sew. See also phraseological derivatives below.

1584 Lyly *Campaspe* v. iv, The one pricking in cloutes haue nothing els to thinke on. 1594 — *Moth. Bomb.* I. iii, My daughter..shall prick on a clout till her fingers ake. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 274 Women..liue an idle and sedentarie life, pricking for the most part vppon a clout. 1758 Goldsm. *Mem. Protestant* (1895) II. 229 Players at Slight of Hand; others who invite the ignorant to prick in the Belt. 1828 *Times* 23 Aug., [A grave-digger] so well acquainted with the ground, crowded as it was, that he could prick for room in little or no time. 1836 Disraeli *Runnymede Lett.* (1885) 176 To arrange a whitebait dinner at Blackwall, or prick for an excursion to Richmond or Beulah Spa. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Pricking for a soft plank*, selecting a place on the deck for sleeping upon. 1895 J. Chamberlain *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 14 May, There were witch-finders in the Middle Ages who pricked for witches.

5. *intr.* To thrust *at* something as if to pierce it, to make a thrust or stab *at*. Also *fig.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 473 Sum brak a pott, sum pyrlit [*v.r.* prikkit] at his E. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 257 Who can doubt any longer, but that you pricke at relygion? 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* III. II. i, Thus Marat ..is, as the Debate goes on, prickt at again by some dextrous Girondin. 1863 Mrs. Oliphant *Chron. Carl., Salem Ch.* xv. 255 All his own duties pricked at his heart with bitter reminders in that moment.

† **b.** *Archery.* To shoot at a 'prick' or target; hence *fig.* to aim *at*. *Obs.*

1545 Ascham *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 106 This prayse belongeth to stronge shootinge and drawinge of mightye bowes, not to prickinge, and nere shootinge. *c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 94 His authors..roved far from the mark they should prick at. 1622 Drayton *Poly-olb.* xxvi. 331 With Broad-arrow, or But, or Prick, or Rouing Shaft, At Markes full fortie score, they vs'd to Prick, and Roue.

6. *intr.* or *absol.* Of a hare: To make a track in running.

c 1410, etc. [see Pricking *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. v. 937 By that I knewe that they had the hare, ..and by and by I might see him sore and resore, prick and reprick. 1632 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xiv (ed. 2) 176 For when she [a hare]..Beateth the plaine high-waie where you may yet perceiue her footing, it is said she..Pricketh. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pricketh*, the Footing of a Hare on the hard Highway, when it can be perceived.

b. *trans.* To look for or find the 'pricks' of (a hare); to trace or track (a hare) by its footprints. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

c 1386, etc. [see Pricking *vbl. sb.* 2]. *a* 1673 J. Caryl in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xvii. 11 Hunters, who go poring upon the ground to prick the hare, or to find the print of the hare's claw. 1678 Dryden *Limberham* IV. i, You have been pricking up and down here upon a cold scent. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 105 P 7 We were often delayed by trying if we could prick a hare. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prick*, to trace a hare by its footsteps. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v., To examine the mud in a gateway or road to see if a hare has passed, is to 'prick the hare'.

7. *intr.* To have a sensation of being pricked; to tingle.

1850 Tennyson *In Mem.* I, When the blood creeps, and the nerves prick And tingle. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* III. 55 Her palsied limb 'gan prick and promise life At touch o' the bedclothes merely.

8 *intr.* Of wine, beer, etc.: To become or begin to be sour; to be touched or tainted with acetous fermentation; to be just 'turned': = F. *se piquer*. Cf. Pricked *ppl. a.* 2.

1594 Plat *Jewell-ho.* III. 66 If they [wines] pricke a little they haue a decoction of honie. 1651 Howell *Venice* 30 By reason of the over delicatnes therof it cannot brook the Sea any long time, but it will prick. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 67 Draw half your Wine into another Butt; then take your Lags of all sorts that do not prick, and so much Syrup as will not prick.

II. To urge with a sharp point or spur.

9. *trans.* To urge forward (a beast) with a goad (*obs.*); to spur (a horse) (*arch.*).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 61/249 An Asse..is..I-priked and i-scourget. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 229 Þo prikede is stede sire Gii. *a* 1485 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 (MS.S.) Prikkyn, or punchyn, as men doþ beestis, *pungo*. 1530 Palsgr. 666/1, I pricke an oxe, or any other beest with a gade. 1600 Holland *Livy* IX. xxvii. 334 The Romane horsemen pricked and gallopped their horses to flanke them. 1737 [S. Berington] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 76 Short Goads to prick on their Dromedaries. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp., Prick*, or *Pinch*, in the manege, is to give a horse a gentle touch of the spur, without clapping them hard to him. 1893 Baring-Gould *Cheap Jack Z.* I. vii. 102 He pricked his horse on, but she held to the bridle and arrested it.

10. *fig.* To drive or urge as with a spur; to impel, instigate, incite, stimulate, provoke. *arch.*

a 1225-1340 [see Pricking *vbl. sb.* 4]. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 1192 (*Dido*) So prikyth hire this newe iolye wo. *c* 1386 — *Prol.* 11 So priketh hem nature in hir corages. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 59 b, Now prycked or stered by the consyderacion of his feruent loue. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* v. iv. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 251 Well, nature pricketh me some remorse on thee to have. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. i, 2 The Queene ever at his elbow to pricke and proke him forward. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. (1688) 622 His perverse Obstinacy..did so prick her forward to use Severity. 1868 Lowell *Willows* Poet. Wks. (1879) 375 Pricked on by knightly spur of female eyes. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* lxiii. 76 Let a fury, a frenzy prick him to return to the wood again.

† **b.** Phr. *Provender pricks* (a horse, etc.): abundance of food stimulates and makes high-spirited. (Cf. Ger. *der hafer sticht ihn* in similar use.)

1546 J. Heywood *Prov.* (1867) 27 When prouander prickt them a little tyne. 1550 Crowley *Way to Wealth* B ij b, The paisant knaues be to welthy, prouender pricketh them. 1658 T. Wall *God's Revenge agst. Enemies Ch.* 58 Profit pricks forward zeal, as provender does the Ass. *a* 1688 Bunyan *Exp. Gen.* Wks. 1861 II. 494/1 When provender pricks us, we are apt to be as the horse or mule, that is without understanding.

11. *intr.* To spur or urge a horse on; to ride fast; hence, to ride, advance on horseback. *arch.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 415/423 Wel i-Armed þe maister cam prikie and ride fast. 1340-70 *Alisaunder* 382 þei putt þem in perril & prikeden aboute. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 164 Sopnesse..prikede on his palfrey and passede hem alle. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxiii. 249 Als wel on hors bak, prikynge, as on fote rennynge. 1470-85 Malory *Arthur* XIV. v. 647 Anone the yoman came pryckynge after as fast as euer he myghte. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. i. 1 A gentle Knight was pricking on the plaine. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 536 Before each Van Pric forth the Aerie Knights, and couch thir spears. 1808 Scott *Marm.* I. xix, For here be some have pricked as far On Scottish ground as to Dunbar. 1884 J. Payne *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 283 Presently I espied a horseman pricking after me.

† **b.** *intr.* Also said of a horse; and in allit. phr. *to prick and prance*, of either rider or horse. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 41 Wherof this man was wonder glad, And goth to prike and prance aboute. *c* 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 878 So thewed that..Anoon they [foals] may be stered forto prike. *c* 1440 Lydg. *Hors, Shepe, & G.* 344 The Goos may gagle, the hors may prike & praunce. *c* 1441 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 208 Now I lyste nother to pryke nor praunce; My pryde yȝ put to poverté. 1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* I. E j b, I trust they shall see me pricke it, and prannce it, like a Caualiero.

† **12.** *To prick fast upon*, to approach closely (a time or age); *to prick near*, to approach closely in attainment or quality. Cf. Prick *sb.* 2 b, 9.

1565 T. Stapleton *Fortr. Faith* 15 b, Euer sence the faith hath ben knowen and preached.., which pricketh nowe fast vpon a thousand yeares. *a* 1566 R. Edwardes *Damon & Pithias* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 92 It pricketh fast upon noon. 1580 Golding in Baret *Alv.* To Rdr. xii, It would pricke neere the learned tungs in strength. 1586 J. Hooker *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 88/1 You may growe to..that hoary winter, on which you see me your father fast pricking.

III. To mark by or with pricks or dots.

13. *trans.* To write or set down (music) by means of 'pricks' or notes (*arch.*); also, to write music in (a book) (*obs.*). Also *absol.* or *intr.*

c 1325 *Song Deo Gratias* 6 in *E. E. Poems* (1862) 124, I seiȝ a clerk a boke forthe brynge, Þat prikked was in Mony a plas, Fast he souht what he schulde synge. 1463, *a* 1509, *c* 1520, etc. [see Pricked *ppl. a.* 3, Pricking *vbl. sb.* 6]. 1549 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 39 For paper to pryk songes in for the churche..ij *d.* 1598 Dallington *Meth. Trav.* V ij b, The Italian hath a prouerbe:..The French neither pronounce as they write, nor sing as they pricke, nor thinke as they speake. 1623 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 58 For pricking of a sett of bookes..iij li. iij s... for pricking in the bookes iij li. xij s. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 24 Mar., To my chamber, to prick out my song 'It is Decreed'. 1765 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 330 They [tunes] are pricked true, exactly as I desire all our congregations may sing them. 1826 Scott *Woodst.* iii, A book having some airs pricked down in it.

b. To write out bell-changes in figures, thus: 123, 132, 312, 321, 231, 213, etc.

1843 Le Fevre *Life Trav. Phys.* I. I. viii. 178 Who can prick the peal of bells—the bobs and treble bobs?

† **14.** To write down; to note or jot down; to record in writing. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 418 Als put is in poisé and prikkit be Ouyd.

15. To mark or indicate by a 'prick'; *esp.* to mark (a name, or an item) in a list by making a 'prick' through or against it; hence, to mark off or tick off in this way; *spec.* (of the sovereign) to select (persons) for the office of sheriff from a list by this means; whence of other appointments; also, to appoint, choose, pick *out*. Also *prick down, off*, etc.

1557 Recorde *Whetst.* K ij, First I set theim downe and pricke theim, as here doeth appeare 18766224. 1577 Harrison *England* II. iv. (1877) I. 99 The prince .. foorthwith pricketh some such one of them .. who herevpon is shiriffe of that shire for one whole year. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, Why did the ladies pricke out mee? I am sure there were other gallants. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 538 Known he is sure, that is pricked down for one of the Judges of the twelve Tribes of Israel. 1788 J. Beverley *Cerem. Univ. Cambr.* 14 Election of the Caput...The Proctors nominate only, unless they prick as Representatives of their Masters. *Ibid.* 15 Each Person is to prick only one of the three nominated for each Faculty. 1853 Jerdan *Autobiog.* III. vi. 68 My friend was pricked as High Sheriff of the county. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vii, What do you think of that fellow..offering..the junior servitor..a bribe of ten pounds to prick him in at chapel when he isn't there? 1907 W. Tuckwell *Remin. Oxford* viii. 107 J. G. Wood..was a Bible clerk of Merton, ..who pricked Chapel attendance and said grace.

16. To mark or trace something on (a surface) by pricks or dots; esp. *to prick the chart* († *card, plot*): see quots.; also, to mark or trace (a position, direction, design, etc.) on a surface by pricks or dots (in quot. 1665-76, with pegs). Also *prick off, out.*

1598 Florio *Dict.* To Rdr. b j, I was but one..to sit at sterne, to pricke my carde, to watch vpon the vpper decke. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* xv. 73 To learne to..know the tides, your Roomes, pricke your Card, say your Compasse. 1665-76 Rea *Flora* (ed. 2) 5 Prick down a line eight or ten foot long. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xv. 196 To find the Latitude, Rhomb, and Longitude, and..to prick the same down in a Blank Chart. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., To prick the Chart or Plot at Sea, signifies to make a Point in their Chart whereabout the Ship is now. 1867 Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk., Pricking her off*, marking a ship's position upon a chart by the help of a scale and compasses. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 95/2 The lights of the eyes..must all be pricked out with a fine needle. 1875 Sir T. Seaton *Fret Cutting* 144 With a very fine steel point prick out lightly the whole pattern.

† **17.** To insert the points or stops in (a writing, etc.); to punctuate, point. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1637 Heylin *Answ. to Burton* 161 This is the place at large, so pricked and commade..in the said old booke.

IV. To put into some position or condition by piercing or transfixing.

† **18.** To stick, fix, or impale (anything) *on* the point of an instrument. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* ix. (Irel. MS.), Opon the chefe of hur cholle, A padok prykette [*v.rr.* pikes, pykit] on a polle. *c* 1559 R. Hall *Life Fisher* xii. (1655) 211 The head..was pricked upon a pole and set on high upon London Bridge. 16.. *Childe Maurice* xxviii. in Child *Ballads* IV. (1886) 266/1 Child Maurice head he did cleeue And he pricked itt on his swords peynt. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 27 The cookes, who..slicing it into little gobbets, prick it on a prog of iron, and hang it in a fornace. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 23 They..prick the Oynion fast upon the end of a small long Stick.

† **19.** To secure or fasten with a pin or skewer, or the like; to pin, skewer. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xiii. 303 Gadir..now all oure gere; Slike poure wede as we were, And prike þam in a pak. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 82 Take a prik, and prik him [stuffed pig] togidur, And lete him roste. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 70 An old hat, and the humor of forty fancies prickt in't for a feather. 1647 J. Lawnind *Putney Projects* 46 To Sit.. like so many Plovers pricked down for stales. 1780 Forbes *Dominie* III. 14 The clout about me shou'd be pricked At the kirk-door. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* IV. (1827) 133 The warden's trunk-hose to his fecket Wi' gowden corken-priens was pricket.

20. To attire (a person) with clothes and ornaments fastened by pins, bodkins, etc.; to attire elaborately, dress *up*. Now *dial.*

c 1340 [see Pricking *vbl. sb.* 7]. 1522 *World & Child* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 244, I am nat worthily wrapped nor went, But poorly pricked in poverty. *c* 1540 Heywood *Four P. P.* ibid. 351 But prick them [women] and pin them as nice as ye will, And yet will they look for pinning still. 1599 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* II. i, Pricked up in clothes, Why should we fear our rising? 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* I. (1818) 27 On earth she only wished To be painted, pricked, kissed. 1790 D. Morison *Poems* 81 Ne'er price a weardless, wanton elf, That nought but pricks an' prins herself. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss., Preek*, to adorn. 'She's a' preeked up wi' ribbons an' laces.'

† **21.** To remove, or bring into some position, by pricking. *Obs.*

1573-80 Baret *Alv.* P 706 *Oculis punctu erutis*, eies pricked out. *Ibid.* 709 To pricke out crowes eies, *configere cornicum oculos*. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 66 A small..Gnat, Not halfe so bigge as a round little Worme, Prickt from the Lazie-finger of a man. 1645 Harwood *Loyal Subj. Retiring-room* 3 Please you to observe the comfortable lessons I shall prick out of it. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvii. P 3 If the Matrice be too thin on the right or left side, or both; They prick up that side,..and so raise a Bur upon that side.

22. To plant (seedlings, etc.) in small holes made by piercing the ground at suitable intervals. Const. † *forth, in, out, off.* Also, *to prick in* (manure): see quot. 1847.

1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 13 A young Slip or Cions..if it be pricked into the Ground. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., Mar.* (1729) 194 Prick them forth at distances. *Ibid., Aug.* 215 Prick out your Seedlings. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 179 Make a Hole..at every Foot distance, and throw a Nut or Acorn into it; after which, you fill up the Hole again..; which is called pricking Fruit into the Ground. 1847 Mrs. Loudon *Amateur Gardener* 85/2 Rotten hotbed dung is..merely 'pricked in', as gardeners term it, that is, incorporated only with the top stratum of the soil. 1851 Glenny *Handbk. Fl. Gard.* 22 The seedlings, when grown enough, may be pricked out into small pots. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 408 Cabbage plants are pricked in in March. 1882 *Garden* 21 Jan. 48/3 The most critical time with seedling ferns is when they require pricking off for the first time.

23. *To prick up* (in plastering on laths): to scratch or score the surface of the first coat so as to afford a hold for the next; hence, to lay on the first coat which is afterwards so scored.

1778 [see Pricking *vbl. sb.* 9]. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 373 Pricking-up is similar to laying, but is used as a preliminary to a more perfect kind of work. *Ibid.* 392 *Pricking-up*, in plastering, the first coating of three-coat work upon laths. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Rec. Ser.* I. 122/1 The wall is first pricked up with a coat of lime and hair.

24. To propel (a punt) by pushing with a pole on the ground under the water; to punt.

1891 *Daily News* 26 May 4/8 A man or woman who cannot run or prick a punt, scull, or handle a Canadian canoe, is regarded as an outsider by his or her friends.

V. To insert or stick as a point.

25. To thrust or stick (a pointed object) *into* something; to set, fix, or insert by the point; to stick *in, on*. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

*c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 36 Ley .iij. lechys on a dysshe, & on euery leche prycke .iij. Almaundys. *c*1450 *Mankind* 30 in *Macro Plays* 2 Pryke not yowur felycytes in thyngis transytorye! *c*1460 *Play Sacram.* 468 *Stage direct.*, Here shalle ye iiij Jewys pryk yer daggeris in iiij qua[r]ters þus sayng. 1594 Sir G. Carey in I. H. Jeayes *Catal. Charters Berkeley Castle* (1892) 335 The findinge of his picteur framed in wax, with one of his owne heares prict directely in the hart therof. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Passage*, So tender that a pinne pricked into it cannot fetch it vp any height. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 245 Observe also, that you prick small Sticks, in manner of a Hedge, cross-wise, athwart all the other by-passages.

26. To stick (something) *full of*, or set (it) *with* pointed objects or points; hence, to stud, mark, or dot *with* something. ? *Obs.*

1530 Palsgr. 666/1, I pricke full of bowes, as we do a place or a horse whan we go a mayeng, *je rame*. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* (1636) 141 If it be pricked with cloves it is the better. 1856 Mrs. Browning *Aur. Leigh* I. 275 Brown hair pricked with gray. 1861 L. L. Noble *Icebergs* 139 Belle Isle, a rocky, blue mass, with a wavy outline, rising from the purple main pricked with icebergs.

VI. To stick up as or in a point.

27. To raise or erect, as the ear of an animal when on the alert or listening; hence, of a person, *to prick up one's ears*, to become attentive or alert to listen.

1587 Turberv. *Trag. T.* (1837) 200 And prickt his plumes to please his Ladies eyes. *a*1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1866–7) I. 207 To put a pedlar's shop upon their backs, and colour their faces, and prick their ruffs, and frizzle their hair. *a*1626 Bacon *Ess., Fame* (Arb.) 579 She pricks up so many Ears. 1682 Bunyan *Holy War* i, At this the town of Mansoul began to prick up its ears. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 132 The fiery Courser, when he hears..the Shouts of War, Pricks up his Ears. 1826 J. W. Croker *Diary* 26 Oct., I pricked up the ears of curiosity at this exordium. 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* li, The roused hounds prick their ears.

28. *intr. Prick up*, to rise or stand erect with the point directed upward; to point or stick up.

[1610, 1614: see Pricking *ppl. a.* 4.]

1657 W. Morice *Coena quasi* Κοινή v. 55 The full ear [of corn] hangs the head, when the empty pricks up. 1763 J. Clubbe *Misc. Tracts, Physiognomy* (1770) I. 22 Their heads were both under water, but that the tips of their ears just pricked up above it. 1887 Besant *The World went* xv, His ears..prick up at the sound of a fiddle. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 321/2 The spires of churches are to be seen pricking up through the greenery.

VII. 29. Phraseological derivatives. *Prick-(in-)the-garter, -the-loop*, sb. phr., one who plays the game of fast-and-loose; see 4 b; also, the game itself; *prick-the-clout* adj. phr., tailoring. Also Prickloure.

1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 548 *Prick in the Garter,..a knave well known By silly rusticks,—when their money's gone; For near his side, to make the cheat go down, Stands his accomplice, like a simple clown, Who pricks, and ev'ry time is sure to win; But if another pricks—he's taken in. *a*1861 R. Rae in W. Hunter *Biggar & Ho. Fleming* iii. (1867) 37 To prick-the-garter gaed the law. 1886 Willock *Rosetty Ends* xxi. (1887) 154 The money-sellin' dodge, or the three-card trick, or prick-the-garter, or the pea-an'-thummils. 1891 R. Ford *Thistledown* xvi. 313 *Prick-the-loops, wha are sae familiar wi' the hangman's loop that they've turned the idea into business, and set up wi' their garter. 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* Let. xii, Ye *prick-the-clout loon.

Prick (prik), *a. rare.* Also 5–6 **prik.** [Only in reference to ears; app. by resolution of the compound Prick-eared.] Pricked up, erect and pointed.

*a*1449 W. Bower in *Fordun's Scotichronicon* (1759) II. xiv. xxxi. 376 Wyth prik 3oukand eeris, as the awsk gleg. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* iv. v. 20 Als mony has scho prik wpstandand eris. 1889 Gordon Stables *Dog Owners' Kennel Comp.* v. § 11. 59 The hard-haired Scotch terrier...Ears very small, prick or half prick, but never drop.

†**Pricka·do.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Prick *v.* + -ado.] A piercing or stab (of the sword).

1592 Kyd *Sol. & Pers.* II. ii. 21 With that they drew, and there Ferdinando had the prickado.

†**Prickal.** *Obs.* [app. for *prick-aul*; cf. Pritch-aule.] See quot.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 273/2 (Upholsterer's tools) A Prickal..is a kind of Aul with a great Box or other hard Wooden head.

†**Pri·ckant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [Humorous f. Prick *v.* + -ant [1], after heraldic terms in *-ant.*]

1. Pricking or riding; errant.

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burn. Pest.* II. ii, What knight is that,..ask him if he keep The passage bound by love of Lady fair, Or else but prickant.

2. Pricking up or out.

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burn. Pest.* III. ii, Without his door doth hang A copper bason, on a prickant spear. 1633 Marmion *Fine Companion* II. v, They are three asses rampant, with their ears prickant.

Prick-bill. [f. Prick *v.* + Bill *sb.*[3]] At Christ Church, Oxford, One of the junior students to whom was given the task of pricking off on a printed list the names of undergraduates attending chapel.

1825 C. M. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 174 Another visit from the prick bill. 1853 'L. Carroll' *Diary* 15 Oct. in *Life & Lett.* (1898) 53 Found I had got the prickbills two hundred lines apiece for not pricking in in the morning. 1879 Simmons *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 371 *note.*

Pri·ck-ea·r, prick ear. [app. a back-formation from Prick-eared, q.v.]

1. *pl.* The erect pointed ears of some beasts, *spec.* of dogs; ears that are pricked up or stand erect; hence *fig.* those of a person on the alert to hear: cf. Prick *v.* 27.

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* 1004 Having two hornes, pricke eares, and armes. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 184 *Prick-eares* [presage or note] a medler. 1839 C. Knight *Pict. Shaks., Hen. V.* 340/2 A portrait of the Esquimaux dog, which strikingly exhibits the prick ear. 1853 Kingsley *Hypatia* xxi, The faithful Bran, whose lop-ears and heavy jaws, unique in that land of prick-ears and fox-noses, formed the absorbing subject of conversation.

b. The ears of a person when conspicuous by naturally standing out, or by having the hair cut short, as those of a 'Roundhead': cf. sense 2 and Prick-eared 2.

1641 Brathwait *Merc. Brit.* IV, How these..round heads with their prick eares doe listen. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* (1653) 158 Wee of this Nation..affect a small Eare, standing close to the Head...Our Eares are naturally extant and looke forward..all which commodities our mickle-wise Mothers defraud us of by their nice dislike of Lugs, and as they call them in reproach, Prick-eares. 1685 Crowne *Sir C. Nice* II. 16 *Hot.* Sirrah, if you be a Presbyterian, I'le kick you down Stairs.., woe be to your prickears, Sirrah.

2. A person having prick-ears; one whose ears are conspicuous; † a nickname for a Puritan (see Prick-eared 2, and cf. Roundhead).

1642 *Grand Plutoes Remonstr.* Title-p., How far he differs from Round-head, Rattle-head or Prick-eare.

b. (*prick-ears.*) One of a breed of pigs characterized by erect ears. *dial.*

1830 *Cumbld. Farm Rep.* 57 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, What are provincially called the 'prick ears', a well made, short-legged animal of its kind.

Prick-eared (pri·kɪəːɹd), *a.* [app. f. Prick *sb.* (branch V) + Eared: see Note below.]

1. Having erect ears: *spec.* of dogs.

*c*1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 328 And at hys feete lay a prykeryd curre. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 77 The .ix. propertyes of a foxe. The fyrste is: to be prycke eared, the seconde to be lytell eared. 1599 Shaks. *Hen. V*, II. i. 44 Pish for thee, Island dogge: thou prickeard cur of Island. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 285 By this..you may make any lave-ear'd Horse, to be as prick-ear'd and comely, as any other Horse whatsoever. 1637 G. Daniel *Genius Isle* 23 Here the ffawnes And prick-ear'd Satires shall your Groves frequent. *a*1873 S. Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) I. 45 Any prick-eared tree-inhabiting monkey. 1877 Gordon Stables *Pract. Kennel Guide* (ed. 3) vii. § 3. 81 Dogs both prick-eared and drooping are often found in the same litter.

† b. Applied opprobriously (with pun) to prick-song. *Obs.*

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 50 For me thynkyth it servyth for no thyng, All suche pevysh prykyeryd song! Pes, man, pryksong may not be dispysyd.

c. *fig.* Having the ears pricked or erected in attention; hence, attentive, alert.

1550 Bale *Apol.* 141 b, These prycke eared prynces myghte truste those vowers, as hawkes made to theyr handes. 1608 Middleton *Mad World* III. ii. 181 Jealousy is prick-eared, and will hear the wagging of a hair. 1682 H. More *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 184 The prick-eared Acuteness of that trim and smug saying. 1897 S. S. Sprigge *T. Wakley* I. 500 A prick-eared public official.

2. Of a man: Having the hair cut short and close, so that the ears are prominent; a nickname applied in the 17th century to the Puritans or 'Roundheads'; whence opprobriously, priggish.

1641 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 482 The said Captain Hide said,..that they were a company of prick eared and cropt eared Rascals, and that he would believe a Papist before a Puritan. *a*1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prickear'd Fellow*, a Crop, whose Ears are longer than his Hair. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 21 Nov. (O. H. S.) II. 74 These Prickear'd, starch, sanctify'd Fellows. 1752 Foote *Taste* II. Wks. 1799 I. 21, I adore the simplicity of the antients! How unlike the present, priggish, prick ear'd puppets! 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xvi, Fred Vincy had called Lydgate a prig, and now Mr. Chicheley was inclined to call him prick-eared.

[*Note.* Of *prick-eared, prick* adj., *prick-ear(s, pricked* or *prickt ear(s, to prick the ears*, the first is much the earliest, and is app. to be compared with such formations as *block-headed, bow-legged, club-footed, club-shaped*, and the like, in which the first element is a sb., the sense being 'eared (i. e. having ears) like pricks', in some early sense of Prick sb., e. g. 12, 13, or 14. Of the other expressions, *prick ear(s* is prob. a back formation from *prick-eared*, on the analogy of *club foot, club-footed*, and the like, and *pricked ears, to prick the ears* derived from it.]

Pricked (prikt, pri·kĕd), *ppl. a.*

I. [f. Prick *v.* + -ed [1].] **1.** Pierced with pricks or with a prick; punctured; wounded by pricking; *spec.* of a horse: see Prick *v.* 1 c.

1467 in *Charter of Selby Abbey* (Brit. Mus. Addit. Ch. 45, 861), 1 panem album vocatum Prikkedlof [in ch. of 1324 brochee, 1433 brochet]. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 30/2 The wounde of the pricked synnue. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 503 The money bags shrink like pricked bladders. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* iii. 71 Malarial blood..does not flow freely from the pricked finger.

b. *spec.* In plastering, *pricked up*: see Prick *v.* 23.

1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 619 Over the pricked-up coat of lime and hair. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) V. 679/2 When the pricked up coat is..dry.., preparations may be made for the floating.

2. Of liquor: Turned or tending to turn sour. (Cf. Prick *v.* 8.) Also *fig.* [= F. *piqué* (*vin piqué*, 'vin qui tend à se transformer en vinaigre', Littré).]

1678 Butler *Hud.* III. i. 696 And turn as eager as prick'd Wine. *a*1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prickt*, decayed Wine, tending to Sower. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* II. (ed. 2) 108 Which will occasion the Whole [ale] to become sometimes only pricked, or just tainted. 1834 Hood *Tylney Hall* (1840) 3 Technically speaking her temper was a little pricked. 1845 Disraeli *Sybil* III. ii, Making the Vicar.. praise a bottle of Burgundy that he knew was pricked. 1886 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pricked*, or *Prilled*, turned sour; said of any liquid turning acid.

3. Formed of, traced or written in pricks or dots; dotted; written; *spec.* in *Pottery*, ornamented with designs traced in dots. *Pricked song*: see Prick-song. ? *Obs.*

1463–1606 [see Prick-song 1 a]. *c*1520 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* 33 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 84 We do nought togyder, But prycked balades synge. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 405/2 The clergie of the realme haue burned vp their false prycked bookes. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xi. 180 Draw the prickt Line NS. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 192 In the plan..the road..is marked out by a prickt line.

4. Produced or obtained by pricking.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 644/1 A pricked drop of blood from a wild animal injected into a healthy tame animal would cause it to fall sick of *nagana*.

5. Erect; pointed upright; set *up*, cocked *up*.

1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 72 So smirke, so smoothe, his pricked eares. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 304 A Kind of Dog..with prickt Ears. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* I. 39 A smallish, reddish-brown, sharp-nosed animal, with pricked-up ears. 1898 *Bk. of Dogs* 62 [The Pomeranian] has sharp features and pricked ears.

II. [f. Prick *sb.* + -ed [2].] † **6.** Having a prick or point; pointed, tapering; prickly, sharp; bearing prickets; furnished with a sting. *Obs.*

*c*1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) ii. 6 Whyte and prikked..as thornes. 1552 Huloet, Prycked or stynged, *aculeatus*. 1584 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 368, iii prickt candlestickes.

† **7.** Furnished with a prick or pricks; dotted.

1665 Pepys *Diary* 23 Apr., Every barr to end in a pricked crochet and quaver. 1667 C. Simpson *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 24 Here you have a Prickt-Crochet (or Crochet with a Prick after it). 1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 204 Prickt Letters never signify Moments, unless when they are multiplied by the Moment *o* either exprest or understood to make them infinitely little.

Pricker (pri·kəɹ). Also 4–5 **prikiere, -yere, prikere,** 5–6 **preker,** *Sc.* **-ar.** [f. Prick *v.* (ME. *prikie*) + -er [1].] One who or that which pricks.

1. One who pricks or goads; † *spec.* one who professed to discover if a woman were a witch by sticking pins into her: see Prick *v.* 1 d. Also *fig.* One who incites, provokes, or stimulates.

1382 Wyclif *Jer.* xlvi. 20 The prickere fro the north [Vulg. *stimulator ab aquilone*] shal come to hir. 1552 Huloet, Prycker or stynger, *stigator*. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Stimulator*..a pricker or stirrer forwarde. 1661 [see Prick *v.* 1 d]. 1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 330 For a few holders of the plough, there are many prickers of the oxen. 1865 Geo. Eliot *Ess., Infl. Rationalism* (1884) 211 It was the regular profession of men called 'prickers' to thrust long pins into the body of a suspected witch in order to detect the insensible spot which was the infallible sign of her guilt.

b. A northern name for the Basking-shark (Basking *ppl. a.* 2), from its habit of lying at the surface with its back-fin projecting. Also (*dial.*) applied to some species of dog-fish.

1701 Brand *Descr. Orkney* i. 4 When before Peterhead we saw the fins of a great Fish, about a yard above the Water, which they call a Pricker. 1890 P. H. Emerson *Wild Life on Tidal Water* xxiii. 99 All we got out of a mass of weed and mud..[were] two prickers, and an old mussel.

2. One who spurs or rides a horse; a rider, a horseman; hence, a mounted warrior or soldier; *esp.* a light horseman employed as a skirmisher or scout; also, a mounted moss-trooper, a 'rider'. *arch.* and *Hist.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. x. 8 A proud prikere [C. xi. 134 prikyere] of Fraunce, *princeps huius mundi*. 1377 *Ibid.* B. x. 308 Ac now is religioun a ryder..A priker on a palfray. ? *a*1400 *Morte Arth.* 355 Send prekers to þe price toune, and plaunte there my segge. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 258 The pryckers be gone to spye, what oure ennemyes go aboute. *a*1572 Knox *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 210 The Erle of Warwik and the Lord Gray..perceaving the host to be molested with the Scotishe preakaris. *a*1600 *King & Barker* 30 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 5 A preker abowt..yn maney a contre. *a*1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1655) 401 Iohnston..after the Border fashion, sent forth some prickers to ride, and make provocation. 1785 Grose in *Archæologia* (1787) VIII. 113 This sort of spur [having only one very long and very thick point] was worn by a body of light horsemen in the reign of Henry VIII. thence called prickers. 1808 Scott *Marm.* v. xvii, Northumbrian prickers wild and rude. 1894 Tweedie *Arabian Horse* III. i. 165 What the cleverest collie is to the Cheviot shepherd gives but a faint idea of what his mare is to the desert pricker.

3. *spec.* A mounted attendant at a hunt, a huntsman. Now chiefly in Yeoman *pricker.*

1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 103 If the hart be accompanyed with any other deare, then the pricker on horsebacke must ryde full in the face of him, to trie if he can part them or not. 1586 T. Randolph in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 123 To lend him .. a cowple of her Majesties Yeomen prickers and a cowple of the Groomes of the Leese. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Expos.*, *Pricker*, a Huntsman on horsebacke. 1760 R. Heber *Horse Matches* ix. 23, 50 l. was run for, free only for the Huntsmen, Yeomen Prickers, and Keepers of Windsor Forest. 1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, Who is it that the King..now guides? His own huntsmen and prickers. 1891 *Daily News* 12 June 3/1 At Ascot ..the Royal procession..was headed by Lord Coventry, the Master of the Buckhounds, and the whips and yeomen prickers in their picturesque uniform of green and scarlet.

4. An instrument or tool for pricking or piercing.

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 682/37 *Hoc punctorium*, a prykker. 1806 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 80 With the point of a fine pin or pricker, prick through all the corners of the plan to be copied. 1875 Sir T. Seaton *Fret Cutting* 145 One of the best instruments to use as a pricker is a bit of a knitting needle put into a stout handle, and ground to a fine point.

b. in many specific applications; as

(*a*) An awl; a brad-awl (cf. Prickal); in *Sail-making*, a tool for making holes in sails. (*b*) A goad; a spur. (*c*) A priming-iron. (*d*) In *Blasting*, A metal rod which is placed in the drill-hole during the packing of the charge, leaving when it is withdrawn a touch-hole for firing. (*e*) A fork or prong used in handling sugar; also, a two-pronged fork used in handling blubber. (*f*) A surgical instrument. (*g*) A toothed tool or wheel used for marking equidistant holes for stitching leather, etc. (*h*) A climbing-iron. (*i*) A slender iron rod used in sounding bogs, probing for sunken timber, or the like. (*j*) In some organs, A small upright rod beneath the front end of each of the manual keys, which, when the key is pressed down, transmits the motion to other parts of the mechanism so as to open the valve and admit air to the pipe.

1611 Florio, *Agúcchia*,..amongst gunners a pricker or [priming] iron. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV*, cclxxxviii, The Sharpest prickers for his vse, To drive the Restive Lords. 1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* No. 6. 111 *Pricker* is vulgarly called an Awl. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 280/1 Sugar Boylers Instruments. . . A Lofe Pricker or a small Pricker. It much resembles the Shoomakers or Sadlers Aule.., being a long slender Iron sharp pointed, set in a wooden round head or haft hooped at the bottom. 1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* s. v., It is best..to put a little Clay on the top of the hole, upon the Raming fast about the Pricker. 1788 W. Marshall *Yorksh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Pricker*, a brad-awl. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 *Pricker*, a small instrument, like a marlinespike.., to make the holes with. 1824 Mander *Derbyshire Miner's Gloss.* 54 The Pricker is then withdrawn, and a straw filled with gun-powder, is placed in the hole in its stead, which communicates with the powder in the Chamber. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 42 The pricker..is used in packing the blubber in casks. 1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* iii, Dick poking the touch-hole of the pistol with a pricker. 1852 Seidel *Organ* 64 These prickers are small pieces of wood a few inches long and one third of an inch thick. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Pricker*,..a toothed instrument used by workmen for stabbing or marking leather, paper, &c. 1869 G. Lawson *Dis. Eye* (1874) 150 If an iridectomy has to be performed, instead of tearing through the lens capsule with the ordinary pricker, a pair of fine iris forceps is introduced through the corneal wound. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pricker*, 5. (*Saddlery*)...*b.* A tool used to mark stitch-holes so as to render them uniform in distance. *Ibid.*, *Pricker*, 4. a long slender iron rod used for probing or sounding the depth of a bog or quicksand. 18.. *Ann. Philad. & Pennsylv.* II. 20 (Cent.) He had iron prickers to the hands and feet to aid in climbing lofty trees.

†**5.** A pricket candlestick: see Pricket 2. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1552 *Inv. Ch. Surrey* (1869) 89 Item v candilstyckes ij pryckers and ij standardes and one with ij sockes and a pryckett in the myddes.

Pricket (pri·kėt). Forms: 4-6 **prik(k)-**, **pryk-**, **prek-**, **prick-**; **-et**, **-ett**, **-ette**, 5– **pricket**; also (chiefly *Sc.*) 5 **pre-**, **prycate**, 6 **prekat**(**te**, **pric-catte**, (7 ? **proket**). [app. ad. med. (Anglo-)L. *prikettus* (13th c.), f. Eng. *prike*, Prick *sb.* + Rom. suffix *-ettus*, *-etto*, -et.]

1. A buck in its second year, having straight unbranched horns. *Pricket's sister*, a female fallow deer in its second year. Cf. Brocket.

[1285 *Close Roll* 14 *Edw. I*, m. 8 (P.R.O.), Capiendo vnam damam et vnum Prikettum de Ceruo...De quibus quidem dama et Priketto iidem Robertus et Johannes indictati sunt.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Pryket, beest, *capriolus*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E iv, The secunde yere a preket. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 27, I..ioyed oft to chace the trembling Pricket. 1657 *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 409 Non but dows and faunes and prickets and prickets sisters ..tuenty shillins a peece for all thees. 1772 R. Graves *Spir. Quix.* (1820) II. 209. 1859 *Todd's Cycl.* V. 518/1 At the second year the..'pricket' puts forth a simple 'dag'.

†**b.** *transf.* A boy. *Obs.*

1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 97 You with your pricket [orig. *tuque puerque tuus*] purchast loa the victorye famouse. 1782 Elphinston tr. *Martial* IV. I. xxvii. 180 Their industry industrious to deride, The pricket points the bed; but not the side.

c. The straight unbranched horn of a buck or young stag; a dag. *rare.*

1855 Swainson *Quadrupeds* 296 The bucks..never bear other than prickets, or single dags on the head.

2. A spike on which to stick a candle; hence, *pricket candlestick*, a candlestick having one or more of these.

c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 451 (Thornton MS.) Preketes [*Douce MS.* torches, *Irel. MS.* troches] and broketes, and standertis by-twene. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Pryket, of candylstykke, or other lyke, *stiga*. 1534 *Inv. Wardr. Kath. Arragon* 41 in *Camden Misc.* (1855), Syxe candilstyckes .. wherof ij. with prickettes and iiij. withe sockettis. 1552 *Inv. Ch. Surrey* (1869) 24 Item ij small prykett candelstickes. 1859 Jephson *Brittany* xii. 195 The thicker end [of the taper] was hollowed out for the convenience of sticking on the pricket. 1884 A. J. Butler *Coptic Ch. Egypt* I. 82 The picture is mounted in a frame: before it is fixed a little beam set with a row of prickets for candles. 1886 Morse *Jap. Homes* IV. 220 In England the pricket candlestick went out of use a few centuries ago; in Japan it is still retained.

†**3.** A candle or taper (orig. such as was stuck on a pricket candlestick). *Obs.*

a 1331 *MS. Cott. Galba E. iv.* lf. 45 Item parui torticii minores de tribus filis qui vocantur prikettes coram priore in cena...viij. priketti ponderant vnam libram cere. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxiv. (Tollem. MS.) Candelis and oþer priketis beþ set on candelstikkis, and chaundelers. 1432 [see Percher^{2}]. 1527 in *Visit. Southwell* (Camden) 129, iij or iiij poundes of prikketts to burne also abowte my herse. 1557–75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 103 All the barronis and gentilmen bure priccattis of waix. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* IV. (1655) 197 Walking betwixt two ranks of Barons and Gentlemen .. holding every one a proket [? preket] of wax in their hands.

†**4.** A small prick or spike; a thorn, a prickle.

1682 Wheler *Greece* I. 7 Each leaf ended with a Pricket.

†**5.** A pinnacle or spire; a pointed finial. *Obs.*

c 1600 in A. Maxwell *Hist. Old Dundee* (1884) 150 Ane steeple and pricket of ashler wark upon the east neuk and cunyie. 1652 Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 196 Outjetting of kernels, erecting of prickets, barbicans, and such like various structures. 1717 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 397 The Contract with the masons for the four vaults of the tolbooth and the pricket was £1000 Sc.

†**6.** A chrysalis. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 327 To prevent their numerous increase on Trees gather them off in Winter, taking away the Prickets which cleave to the Branches, and burn them.

7. An old name of the Stonecrops, *Sedum acre*, *S. album*, and *S. reflexum*; = **Prick-madam**.

[? From the awl-shaped leaves, or the biting taste of *S. acre*.] 1611 Cotgr. s. v. *Ioubarbe*, *Petite Ioubarbe*, the male Prickmadame, or Sengreene the lesser; also, Mousetaile, Pricket, Stonehore, little Stonecrop, Wall-pepper, Countreypepper, Iacke of the Butterie. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Pricket, or Prick-madam, *Sedum acre*, *album*, and *reflexum*.

Pricking (pri·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Prick *v.* + -ing^{1}.] The action of the verb Prick.

1. Piercing, puncturing, wounding: see the verb. With *a* and *pl.*, an instance of this.

1382 Wyclif *Lev.* xix. 28 Upon the deed ȝe shulen not kitte ȝoure flesh, ne eny..pryckyngis ȝe shulen make to ȝow. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. B.* (1658) 475 By thorns and prickings of bushes. 1762 Goldsm. *Nash* Wks. (Globe) 545/2 Country men are deceived by gamblers, at a game called Pricking in the Belt, or the old Nob. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 768 The exudation of sebum after pricking is of importance.

b. The sensation of, or as of, being pricked or wounded; smarting, tingling.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Þer scal beon..[dunge] wiþ-uten prikunge. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxxxv. (W. de W.) 726 A dronklew mann feleth and is greuyd with sore pryckynge [*Bodl. MS.* picchinge] and aking in his heed. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* IV. i. 44 By the pricking of my Thumbes, Something wicked this way comes. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 687 Producing terrible pricking and itching.

c. *fig.* The infliction of mental pain; grief, distress, sorrow; remorse, compunction, regret.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* (Th.) II. 88 Hi ða sawla toterað mid pricungum mislicra geðohta. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2183 My payne with prickyng in hert. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 127 Without drede or feare, scruple or pryckynge of conscyence. 1617 Hieron *Wks.* II. 328 To the pricking and astonishing of thy heart. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 205 Those elected to this function Ne'er feel the prickings of compunction.

2. The footprint or track of a hare (rarely of other beasts). Hence, the tracking of a hare by its pricks or footprints; also †*pricking forth*.

c 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 191 Of prikyng and of huntyng for the hare. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiv, Till she [a hare] be retreued, or þat..he fynde her poyntynge, or pryckynge. 1575 Turberv. *Venerie* 163 If he can finde the footing of the hare (which we call pricking). 1616 Surfl. & Markh. *Country Farme* 696 By these traces or footsteps, he shall by little and little picke out which way she is gone, and this amongst hunts-men is called the pricking forth of the hare. 1630 Brathwait *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 156 The prints and prickings of sundry sorts of beasts might easily be discerned. 1834 Medwin *Angler in Wales* I. 262 These tracks were sometimes lost..; but by careful pricking, they were hit upon again.

3. The souring of wine or liquor.

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 371 The length of the voyage makes them [wines] subject to pricking. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 432 To prevent wine from pricking.

4. The action of spurring or goading onward; instigation, incitement, provocation. Now *rare*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 234 Seinte Powel hefde..flesches prikiunge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Wiþ hare pricunges of flesechliche fulðen. ? 12.. tr. *Charter of Æðelstan* in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 452 ȝelad by þe pricingge of ðe Haly Goste. 1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Þe poudres efterward and prekiinde of harde wyþnimínge. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 205 Ofte Prayer quynchyth the Pryckynges of vices. 1666 Bunyan *Grace Ab.* 41, I did..find in my mind a secret pricking forward thereto. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 12 Sept. 2/1 In former times there was a custom called pricking—a sailor got behind a boy and forced him up by digging into him with a sharp marlingspike.

†**5.** Spurring; galloping; riding. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 1741 The heraudes lefte hir prikyng [*v. r.* prykynge, prikking] vp and doun. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 Prykynge, of hors, *cursitacio*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 114 In prikkyng contrar ther enemes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 b, When a benefice or prebende is fallen..what busie suite, what gadding and prickynge vp and downe.

6. Marking or writing by means of pricks, dots, etc.; †chiefly of music: see Prick *v.* 13 (*obs.*); appointing a sheriff: see Prick *v.* 15; †in quot. 1532–3, figured ornamentation, embroidery (*obs.*).

a 1509 *Proverbs* in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 405 A songe myssoundithe yf the prickynge be not right. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 No manne vnder the degree of a barons soune .. shall weare any maner embrodery, prickyng or printing with golde, siluer, or other sylke. 1621 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 10 For pricking of songes and for a new sett of bookes for the Chappell. 1699 Wanley in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 273 The reducing of any Tune in that book to our way of pricking on five lines. 1755 Carte *Hist. Eng.* IV. 464 It was now the usual time of the year for the Kings pricking of sheriffs. 1811 *Self Instructor* 116 By pricking over the book, is meant an examining every article of the Journal against the Ledger.

7. Fastening with a pin, etc.; dressing up, adornment; = Prinking.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 21 With in thi herte thynkynge, boostynge, and prikkynge and preysynge of thi sílfe. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 583/31 *Fixura*, prykkynge or festenynge. 1550 Latimer *Serm., Luke xii.* 15 (1562) 116 b, Women..haue muche pryckynge vp of theym selues as they dooe now a dayes.

8. *Hort.* The planting *out* or *off* of seedlings.

1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xiv. (1813) 189 The pricking out the young plants..when they are three or four days old.

9. *Pricking up* (Plastering): see Prick *v.* 23. Also *attrib.*

1778 Ld. Mahon in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 887 Common coarse lime and hair (such as generally serves for the pricking-up-coat in plastering). 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) V. 678/2 In three-coat plastering on laths..the first [coat] is called the pricking up. *Ibid.* 679/2 The first, or pricking up, is roughly laid on the laths, the principal object being to make the keying complete.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**pricking-hat**, a riding hat; †**pricking-knife**, a carpenter's tool; **pricking-note**, a note of goods for shipment, on which the customs officer pricked each item as it was delivered on board, and on which the captain gave a receipt for the goods; †**pricking-pallet** (Pallet *sb.*^{3}), a riding head-piece; **pricking-pole**, a pole with an iron point for propelling a boat; **pricking-wheel** = *prick-wheel* (see Prick *sb.* 21).

1438 *Durham Chapter Munim., Misc. Charters* 5603, j *prekynghatt coopertum cum Welwete. 1441 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. liv, Either a prickinghate or a sallett upon their heads. *c* 1500 *Debate Carpenter's Tools* in Halliwell *Nugæ Poet.* 15 Than bespake the *prykyng-knyfe, 'He duellys to nyȝe the ale-wyfe'. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, **Pricking-note*, a form of custom-house order.. delivered by a shipper of goods to the searcher. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. xxii. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 102 b/2 His vauntbrace may be cured ner A *prikinge palet of plate þe kever. 1892 P. H. Emerson *Son of Fens* XV. 153 Carry my *pricking-pole up.

Pricking (pri·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Prick *v.* + -ing^{2}.] That pricks, in various senses of the verb.

1. Causing a prick or puncture; piercing, prickly.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 134 Nest is herd, of prikinde þornes wiðuten, & wiðinnen nesche & softe. 1535 Coverdale *Ezek.* xxviii. 24 She shal no more be a prickinge thorne, & an hurtinge brere vnto the house of Israel. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxvi. 282 In a huske somewhat bigger, and more pricking than a chesnut. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 639 With their pricking stings they [bees] grievously wound and torment.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Producing the sensation of being pricked; having a wounding or paining effect on the feelings or mind; causing a sharp sudden pain; piercing; smarting.

1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 430/2 Kepyng hymself ryght curyously from the pryckyng sawtes and watche of the world the flesshe and the deuyll. 1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* E j, Mylke..is good agaynst prickynge humours in the entrayles. 1629 T. Browne in *Darcie's Ann. Q. Eliz.* II. 371 Marshall Byrone, who with pricking words wounded the Maiesty of the King, was now beheaded. 1656 Ridgley *Pract. Physick* 140 There is no pricking cold. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 473 Attended with pricking pains in the right side.

†**2.** That presses forward; keen, eager. *Obs.*

1575 *Appius & Virginia* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 112 The pert and pricking prime of youth ought chastisement to have.

†**3.** Goading, stimulating. *Obs.*

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 46 The Hortatorie and Dehortatorie are a little more vehement, stirring and pricking then the others.

4. Pointed or arrect, as an ear.

1610 B. Jonson *Masque of Oberon* 73 Stick our pricking ears With the pearl that Tethys wears. 1614 Markham *Cheap Husb.* I. i. (1668) 2 A small thin ear short and pricking.

Prickle (pri·k'l), *sb.*^{1} Forms: 1 **pricels**, **pricel**, *inflected* **-ele**, **-le**, 4–5 **prykel**, **-yl**, 5 **-elle**, 5–6 **prikle**, 6 *Sc.* **prickil**, 6–7 **prickel**, **-ell**, 6– **prickle**. [OE. *pricel*, later form of *pricels*, f. stem *þric-* of *þrician* to Prick + instrumental suffix *-els* from earlier *-isl* = OHG. *-isli*:—WGer. **-islja*. Cf. MDu., MLG. *prickel*, *prēkel*, Du.

prikkel, LG. *prickel* a prickle, sting, spur, etc. In later times the suffix was app. sometimes associated with the dim. *-el*, *-le* from Fr., and a *prickle* viewed as a small prick. See also PRITCHEL.]

†**1.** A thing to prick with; a goad. *Obs.*

a 1000 in *Aldhelm Gloss.* (Napier) 4228 and 4656 *Stimulis*, pricelsum. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.*, *Luke* Pref., Wiþ priclom eft-drægend [L. *contra stimulos recalcitrantem*]. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16218 Penda poyned hym als a prykel. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6578 Wel ney his flanke his strok he tecles, And strikes him with spere and pricles. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Prykyl.., *stimulus*, *aculeus*; idem quod pryk. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 121/41 A Prickle, *stimulus*. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. 26 That holdeth the plough, and glorieth in the goade, driveth oxen with the prickle, and converseth in their workes.

†**2.** A pricking or goading sensation. *Obs.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xviii. (1889) 87 Þænne mid oferfylle wamb byð apened pricelas [L. *aculei*] galnysse beoð awehte. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 307 Ac seo ræding þingð þæne scoliere mid scearpum pricele. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8485 Y fele a ful hard prykyl þat my flesshe temteþ me mykyl.

†**3.** A small mark or character in writing; a jot, iota; a minute fraction, part, or particle; = PRICK *sb.* 3, 5. *Obs.* (Only OE.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 18 *Iota unum* [*gloss*] foruorð *vel* pricle an *vél* enne, *aut unus apex* enne pricle *vel* stæfes heafod *non præteribit* ne forgæs. — Luke xii. 59 Done hlætmesto pricclu [*Rushw.* lætemestu pricla].

†**4.** The sting of an insect. *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3376 (Royal MS.) Senek seithe how the kyng and the leder Of bees prikles hathe he right none,..Othir bees prikles han euerychone.

5. A rigid sharp-pointed process developed from the bark or any part of the epidermis of a plant, consisting of a compound hair.

Botanically, a *prickle* differs from a *thorn* or *spine* in that it may be peeled off with the epidermis and does not grow from the wood of the plant; but popularly a prickle is a smaller or finer kind of prick or thorn, and the prickles of the rose are commonly called *thorns*.

c 1440 [see 1]. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 388 Nettles.. haue no prickells, yet they sting. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 63 No roses without prickles. *a* 1672 STERRY *Freed. Will* (1675) 157 It hath prickels to guard those Roses from rash and rude hands. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 188 The prickles at the edge of the leaves..readily distinguish this from the *G[alium] montanum*. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 123 *Rosa canina*..distinguished from *spinosissima* by its hooked prickles.

6. A hard-pointed spine or outgrowth of the epidermis of an animal, as in the hedgehog; formerly applied also to the quills of the porcupine.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 89 Almost on euerie prickle or brestle he getteth an Apple or Grape. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 84 Histrix is a little beast with speckled prickles on his back. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 74 [The Urchin] of the Sea, drunk with the prickles, expelleth the stone. *Ibid.* 102 Porcupine. They have..on the back and sides diverse coloured prickles. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Dream* xiv, He lies like a hedgehog roll'd up the wrong way, Tormenting himself with his prickles.

b. One of the minute spines on a prickle-cell.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 881 The prickle cells in the neighbourhood of the lacunæ, which are found here and there over the papillæ, have lost their prickles.

7. *fig.* Something that pricks the mind or feelings. (Chiefly in *pl.*)

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 128 The wisedome of the Cardinall will strip off all the thorny prickles of passion. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 148 The man who laughed but once..Might laugh again to see a jury chaw The prickles of unpalatable law. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 364 The Rose has prickles, so has Love, Though these a little sharper prove.

†**8.** = FILE-FISH b. *Obs.*

1681 GREW *Musæum* I. v. iii. 113 The Prickle or longest File-Fish..on the sides hinderly grows a little short Prickle upon the centre of every Scale.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prickle-edge*; *prickle-armed*, *-edged*, *-nosed*, *-shaped* adjs.; †**prickle-apple**, = PRICKLED *apple*; **prickle-cell**, *Biol.* a descriptive term applied to the round cells found in the deeper layers of stratified epithelium, bearing fibrils or minute spines; †**prickle-fish**, the stickleback; **prickle-layer**, the lowest layer of epidermis, made up of prickle-cells (Billings *Dict. Med.* 1890); †**prickle-palm** = *prickly palm* (PRICKLY *a.* 3); **prickle-tree**, the Spindle-tree: see EUONYMUS; **prickle-yellow**, prickly yellow-wood: see PRICKLY 3.

1681 GREW *Musæum* II. I. ii. 186 Part of a *Prickle-Apple. ..The Fruit is remarkable for the several Tussucks or Bunches of Thorns wherewith it is armed all round about. *c* 1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* I. 310 No thistle heere was seen, no *pricle-armed thorne. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Prickle-cells. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 542 The prickle layer is thinned or absent, and the prickle cells flattened horizontally. 1885–8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 119 Not infrequently some of the cells [of keratoid carcinoma] have *prickle-edges, exactly as in certain layers of the epidermis. 1857 GOSSE *Creation* 136 Its great *prickle-edged stiff leaves grow in long diagonal rows. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 144 *Atherina*.. the *Prickle-fish. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. VII. ii. 162 The *Prickle-Nos'd Beetle..hath only a small short Prickle. 1684 tr. *Bucaniers Amer.* 33 Another sort of these Palm-trees is called *Prickle-Palm .. by reason it is infinitely full of prickles. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 105 Leaves..edged with *prickle-shaped substances the same as those on the surface.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 190 The *prickle or spindle tree (called also Euonymus).

Hence **Pri·cklet**, *nonce-wd.*, a minute prickle; †**Pri·cklish** *a.*, somewhat prickly.

1878 OGLE tr. *Kerner's Flowers & Unbidden Guests* iv. 76 The under side..being studded .. with numerous sharp pricklets. 1698 J. PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 328 The.. Leaves stand on a pricklish or rough Footstalk.

Prickle (pri·k'l), *sb.*[2] [Derivation obscure.] A wicker basket, esp. for fruit or flowers. ? *Obs.*

1609 N. F. *Fruiterers Secrets* 17 When your baskets or prickels be ful. 1625 B. JONSON *Pan's Anniversary* 21 Rain roses still,..and fill Your fragrant prickles for a second shower. 1883 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* ix. (1900) 278 Nymphs, carrying prickles, or open wicker baskets.

attrib. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 181 The prickle Baskets, and Hand-barrows should at this time be plyed with the greatest vigour and diligence.

b. Also used in specific senses: see quots.

1674 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xxi. 415/1 For each Prickle or Basket, holding not above one Bushel, one Half-penny *per* Day. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Prickle*, a basket or measure of wicker work among fruiterers. Formerly made of briers. Hence, perhaps, the name. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 27/2 The prickle is a brown willow basket, in which walnuts are imported..from the Continent; they are about thirty inches deep, and in bulk rather larger than a gallon measure; they are used only by the vendors of walnuts. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Prickle*, a sieve of filberts, containing about ½ a cwt.

Prickle (pri·k'l), *v.* [Partly f. PRICKLE *sb.*[1]; = MDu., MLG. *prēkelen*, MDu. *prickelen*, Du. *prikkelen*, LG. *prikkeln*, *prickeln*, whence G. *prickeln* to prickle, sting, prick. Partly dim. of PRICK *v.*]

1. *trans.* (or *absol.*) To prick, as with a goad or other sharp instrument; hence, to goad, instigate.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 299 So pryklyng hyr grene curage for to crowd In amorus voce and wowar soundis lowd. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 122/3 To Prickle, *stimulare*. 1585 LUPTON *Thous. Notable Th.* (1675) 16 The outward part of the Nettle, doth sting, prickle, or burn. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. x, You have such a beard, and would so prickle one. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prickle*, to prick. 1876 T. S. EGAN *Heine's Atta Troll*, etc. 222 If that point I shall once unpack, 'Twill prickle and hackle your faces.

b. *transf.* To affect with a prickling sensation.

1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xiv. 36, I..Felt a horror over me creep, Prickle my skin and catch my breath.

†**2.** *fig.* To affect with a feeling of pain or compunction. *Obs.* Cf. PRICK *v.* 2.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 15 My panefull purss so prikillis me. *Ibid.* 20 So pricliss me. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 62 Thay war priklit in thair hartis and said to hime..quhat sal we dw?

3. *intr.* To tingle as if pricked.

1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 42 His finger burned and prickled. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 1361 Sir Gareth's head prickled beneath his helm.

4. *trans.* To sprinkle or cover with minute points; to dot. *rare.*

1888 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 753 Evening shadowed; the violet deepened and prickled itself with stars.

5. *intr.* To rise or stand up like prickles. Cf. PRICK *v.* 28.

1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 305/2 The roofs of gray shingles or red tiles prickling up through the mass of greenery.

Hence **Pri·ckling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 29 The fragrant Eglantine did spred His prickling armes, entrayld with roses red. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 258 With very little pricklings, Itching. 1726 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (1741) 63 The Numness and Prickling we..feel point out the Course of this Nerve. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiii. (1856) 289 The wind was like prickling needles.

Pri·ckle-back. Also 8 **-bag.** [f. PRICKLE *sb.*[1] + BACK *sb.*[1]] Name of the three-spined stickleback.

1746 ARDERON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 424 Observations made on the Banstickle, or Pricklebag, alias Prickle-back. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 4 The Common Prickle Back, Sharpling, or Banstickle. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* I, A little rivulet, full of pricklebacks.

†**Pri·ckled** (pri·k'ld), *a. Obs.* [f. PRICKLE *sb.*[1] + -ED [2].] Furnished or set with prickles; prickly. *Prickled apple*: app. the fruit of *Anona muricata*, the sour-sop. *Prickled pear* = next.

1598 FLORIO, *Sanco*, an herbe..whereof be two kindes, the one prickled, the other not prickled. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 546 Within which the beast draweth up his body, as a Hedge-hog doth within his prickled skin. 1610 JOURDAN *Discov. Bermudas* 15 The Country yeeldeth diuers fruits, as prickled peares. 1613–16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 63 The little Redbrest to the prickled thorne Return'd. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 70 The Prickled apple .. is shap't like the heart of an Oxe,..a faint green on the outside, with many prickles on it, the tast very like a musty Limon. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Spinach*, Having its Corners very sharp-pointed and prickled.

†**Pri·ckle-pear.** *Obs.* [f. PRICKLE *sb.*[1] + PEAR *sb.*; cf. *prick-pear.*] = PRICKLY PEAR.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 170 The Prickell-peare ..growes like a shrub by the ground, with broad thick leaues, all ouer-armed with long and sharpe dangerous thornes. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 222 Here are several sorts of Fruits, as Guavo's, Pine-apples, Melons and Prickle-Pears. *Ibid.*, The Prickle-Pear Bush, or Shrub, ..3 or 4 foot high. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 86 A tribe of the cactus, or prickle-pear species.

Prickless (pri·klés), *a.* [f. PRICK *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no pricks; without a sting; thornless.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3376 (Harl. MS.) Senek seith how þe kyng and þe ledere Of bees is prikkeles. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 118 Smooth and prickleese plants. *Mod.* A prickless species of thistle.

Pri·ckliness. [f. PRICKLY + -NESS.] The quality of being prickly.

1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 105 The sharp prickliness of its finnes. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s. v. *Presage*, A Thistle..assuming a new Form, and without any prickliness. 1878 A. FORBES in *Daily News* 15 Aug. 6/2 Closer inspection disclosed the furious and impossible prickliness of their surface.

†**Pri·ckling,** *sb. Obs.* [f. PRICK *sb.* + -LING [1].] A name of the stickleback.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 161 *Pisciculus Aculeatus*.. the Banstickle, or Prickling. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 348 A small Fish, called..*Stickle-back*, elsewhere *Prickling*.

Pricklouse (pri·klaus). Now *dial.* Also 8– **prick-the(-a)-louse.** A derisive name for a tailor.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxvii. 5 Betuix a telȝour and ane sowtar, A pricklouss and ane hobbell clowttar. 1587 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 322 Pricklouse that thou arte. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 151 The poor Prick-Lice were damn'dly startled at that, for fear they should not get in. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 117 What an ignorant Presumption..for an impudent Prick-lowse to set up for a Lawyer, or a Statesman. *a* 1796 BURNS *Answ. to Tailor* ii, Gae mind your seam, ye prick-the-louse, An' jag-the-flae. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prick-a-louse*, a contemptuous name for a tailor.

Prickly (pri·kli), *a.* [f. PRICKLE *sb.*[1] + -Y.]

1. Having, armed with, or full of prickles; aculeate.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. xxxiv. 700 The leaues of Holly are ..full of sharpe poyntes or prickley corners. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Middlesex* (1662) II. 182 Mr. John Denley..began to sing a Psalm at the Stake, and Dr. Story..caused a prickley fagot to be hurled in his face, which so hurt him, that he bled therewith. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 315, I examine its fins, whether they be prickly or soft. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 527 The common, overgrown with fern, and rough With prickly gorse. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 120 Rose. Erect sarmentose or climbing shrubs, usually prickly.

b. *fig.* Full of contentious or irritating points; difficult to deal with.

1871 E. F. BURR *Ad Fidem* xi. 217 Prickly Christianity. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 943/2 The discussion over this extremely complicated and prickly question is not yet closed. 1894 *Idler* Sept. 207 Anxious to try, in his own person, the effect of wedding what one may call the Prickly Young Person.

2. Having a sensation as of many pricking points; smarting, as if full of prickles; tingling.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* 4 The patient complained of a prickly feeling of the limbs. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 81 The skin grows hot and prickly.

3. Special collocations: **prickly ash**, an aromatic N. American shrub, *Xanthoxylum americanum*; **prickly back**, (*a*) = PRICKLE-BACK; (*b*) see quot. 1890; **prickly box**: see BOX *sb.*[1] 3 c; **prickly broom**, the whin or furze, *Ulex europæus*; **prickly bullhead**, a freshwater fish of the genus *Cottus* (Webster 1864); **prickly cedar**: see CEDAR; also applied to an evergreen shrub of Tasmania and Victoria, *Cyathodes Oxycedrus*; **prickly fern**, rigid species of the genus *Polystichum*; **prickly grass**, any species of *Echinochloa*; **prickly lettuce**, Wild Lettuce, *Lactuca Scariola*; **prickly palm**, **pole**, a slender West Indian palm, *Bactris Plumieriana*; **prickly rat**, any one of the species of *Ctenomys* and allied genera of S. American burrowing rodents, the hair of which is usually intermingled with sharp spines (Webster 1890); **prickly samphire**, the sea-parsnip, *Echinophora spinosa*; **prickly withe**, a cactaceous plant of Jamaica and Mexico, *Cereus triangularis*; **prickly yellowwood** (also *prickle-yellow*), a West Indian tree, *Xanthoxylum caribæum*. See also PRICKLY PEAR. *Prickly* COMFREY, GLASSWORT, POPPY, TANG, etc.: see the sbs.

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 31 The whole bottom covered with the *prickly ash. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 30 The underwood consisted chiefly of the prickly ash. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 174 Tom Cods,.. *Prickly Backs...Dog Fish. Bill Fish. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pricklyback*, the edible crab, *Callinectes hastatus*, when the new shell is only partially hardened; a shedder (Long Island). 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. viii. (ed. 2) 182 The *prickly fern (*Polystichum aculeatum*) .. exceedingly abundant in England and Jersey. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 36 If the *Prickly-Palm before described, afford Wine. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 121 **Prickly Pole.* The Stem is very small,..and thick beset with large and long prickles round it. *Ibid.* 155 *Prickly Withe. This plant has several small roots sticking to the bark of trees.

4. *Comb.*, as *prickly-cupped*, *-headed*, *-stemmed.*

1858 HOMANS *Cycl. Comm.* s. v. *Leather*, the acorn cups of *Quercus Ægilops*, or prickly-cupped oak, growing in the Morea. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* x, The prickly-stemmed scarlet-flowered Euphorbia. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 419/1 The prickly-headed Poppy.

Prickly heat. A common name for *Lichen tropicus*, an inflammatory disorder of the sweat glands, prevalent in hot countries, characterized by eruption of small papules or vesicles, accompanied by a sense of pricking or burning.

1736 WESLEY *Wks.* (1830) I. 36, I found she had only the prickly heat, a sort of rash. 1822 J. FLINT *Lett. Amer.* 10 Called the prickly heat, from the pungent feeling that attends it. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXXVII. 559. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 586 'Prickly heat', in which

the papules are formed by the blocking of the mouths of the sweat-pores.

Prickly pear. The name given to various species of the cactaceous genus *Opuntia*, prickly plants with pear-shaped fleshy edible fruit; also the fruit itself. Formerly also *Prick-pear*, *Prickle-pear*, *Prickled pear*.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 322 Prickly Pear, *Cactus*. 1764 Grainger *Sugar-Cane* I. 536 On this lay cuttings of the prickly pear; They soon a formidable fence will shoot. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 318 The Jack-fruit, sweet sops, sour sops, mannees, prickly pears. 1870 Disraeli *Lothair* lxxvi, Gardens enclosed with hedges of prickly pear. 1877 C. Geikie *Christ* (1879) 19 He will recognize such fruits as the lime, the banana, the almond, and the prickly pear.

attrib. 1832 J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipm.* ix. (1837) 174 An arid plain, with straggling hedges of prickley pear bushes. 1839 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 272 Prickly-pear hedges, enclosing black-looking Palmyra-trees.

Pri·ck-madam. *Herb.* ? *Obs.* Also 7 **prick-my-dame.** [Altered from F. *trique-madame* (1545 in Hatz.-Darm.): see Littré.] An old name of the Stone-crops, esp. *Sedum acre*; also *S. album* and *S. reflexum*.

1545 Elyot *Dict.*, *Aizoon*, .. called .. singrene or houseleeke .. The lesse .. is called in english pricke madame. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. lxxvii. 114 Prickmadame hath small narrow thicke and sharpe poynted leaues. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 73/2 Leaves long and slender, and thick, like Prick-my-dame. *Ibid.* 99/1 Prick Madam, or stone Crop. ..It is termed also Trick Madam. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Oct. 672/2 Sweet country flowers..pansy, rose, lady-smock, prick-madam, &c.

Pri·ck-mark. [f. Prick *sb.* 10 + Mark *sb.*1]

†1. *Archery.* The mark aimed at; the bull's-eye; hence *fig.*, an end, aim, object. *Obs. rare.*

1556 Withals *Dict.* (1566) 64 a/2 The pricke markes, *dicuntur destinata*. 1563 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1875) III. 168 Within the said space..salbe maid dry buttis and prik merkis. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 29 Baith ye beginning and prikmark of our wil, and of al our doings.

2. A mark made by pricking, a prick on a surface.

1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 206 With the points of your Compasses..describe a Circle.., by placing one Foot in the prick-mark, and turning about the other Foot. 1875 Sir T. Seaton *Fret Cutting* 144 Pick out lightly the whole pattern. A single line of prickmarks will suffice for the stems.

Pri·ck-me-dai·nty, *sb.* and *a.* Now *Sc.* or *arch.* Also 6 **pryckmedenty, prickmydante**; 9 **prig-, prick-my-dainty, prick ma dainty, -denty.** [f. Prick *v.* (sense 20) + Me + Dainty *a.*]

A. *sb.* 'One who dresses in a finical manner, or is ridiculously exact in dress or carriage' (Jam.); one who is affectedly finical; a dandy.

a 1529 Skelton *El. Rummyng* 582 There was a pryckemedenty, Sat lyke a seynty, And began to paynty, As thoughe she would faynty. 1548 B. Ochyne *Serm.* A ij, If any prety pryckemydantes shal happen to spy a note in thys godly labour. *a* 1553 Udall *Royster D.* II. iii. (Arb.) 36 Mary then prickmedaintie come toste me a fig. 1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 63 As some nice Dames and Prickmedainties..curiously combe and bring their haires into a curled fashion and crisped lockes. 1898 Ld. E. Hamilton *Mawkin* vi. 75 She..took it to be one of her young prick-me-dainties coming a-jinking after her.

B. *adj.* Excessively or affectedly precise in personal adornment; over-nice, finical.

1820 Hogg in *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 392 One can't think the blacksmith had been jealous Of any of these prig-my-dainty fellows. 1824 Scott *St. Ronan's* xii, It's an ill world since sic prick-my-dainty doings came in fashion. 1897 L. Keith *Bonnie Lady* vii. 67 What a high-bendit, prickmadenty lady he had in his mind's eye.

Pricknickety, -nikity, *a. Sc.* arbitrary var. of Pernickety *a.*

1845–67 *Autobiog. Elia. Grant* (1898) 311, I was by nature tidy, had all the Raper methodical pricknikity ways.

Pri·ck-post. [f. Prick *sb.* + Post *sb.*1] (See quot. 1842–76.)

1587 Harrison *England* II. xii. (1877) I. 233 In the open.. countries they are inforced for want of stuffe to vse no studs at all, but onlie franke posts, raisins, beames, prickeposts, groundsels,..and such principals. 1663 Gerbier *Counsel* 67 Prick post seven inches one way. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 163 *Prick-Posts*, Posts that are framed into Bressummers, between Principal-Posts, for the strengthning of the Carcass. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 115 The Prick-posts.. are designed to shorten the bearing. 1842–76 Gwilt *Archit.* Gloss., *Prick Post*, the same as a Queen Post of a roof. Also the posts in a wooden building placed between the principal posts at the corners. Also the posts framed into the breast-summer, between the principal posts, for strengthening the carcass of a house.

Pri·ck-seam. [f. Prick *sb.* or *v.* + Seam.] A particular stitch used in glove-sewing. Also *attrib.* and *comb.*, as *prick-seam sewer*, *sewing*.

1632 B. Jonson *Magn. Lady* IV. i, With your Prick-seam, and through-stitch. 1635 *Roxb. Ballads* VII. 142 If that a Glover marrys me, part of his Trade I know, Whether it plain or prick-seam be, that makes the braver show. 1839 Ure *Dict Arts* 599 Adapted for what are called 'drawn sewing, and prick-seam sewing'. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 May 4/2 Around Torrington, in Devon, for instance, are the best prick-seam sewers in the country.

Hence **Pri·ck-seamed** *a.*, sewn with prick-seam.

1624 in *Archæologia* XV. 161 Item for a pare prick seamed gloves o. 1. 4. 1635 T. Cranley *Amanda* xlv. 31 White prick-seam'd Gloves of Kid, full many a paire.

†**Pri·ck-shaft.** *Obs.* An arrow or 'shaft' for shooting at the 'prick' (Prick *sb.* 10).

1538 in *Priory of Hexham* (Surtees) I. App. p. clxiv, My bowe and my qwyver with prike shaftes. 1541 *Act* 33 *Hen. VIII*, c. 9 § 2 Noe person above the saide age of xxiiij yeres shall shoote at any marke of xj score yardes or under, withe anye prickshafte or fleight. 1551 Turner *Herbal* I. F v b, Flechers make prykke shaftes of byrche because it is henier than espe is. 1633 Rowley *Match at Midnight* II. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* XIII. 39 Why, to shoot at butts, when you should use prick-shafts.

Prick-song (pri·kˌsɒŋ). *Mus. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [Shortened from the early form *pricked song*, *prickt song*: cf. Prick *v.* 13 and *sb.* 3 b.]

1. orig. *pricked song*: Music sung from notes written or 'pricked', as distinguished from that sung from memory or by ear; written vocal music.

a. 1463 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 17, I wille yt on the day of myn intirment be songge a messe of prikked song at Seynt Marie auter. 1556 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 70 The said Sir Johne sall study continualie quhill he be cunnand in prikat sang. 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Title-p., The first teacheth to sing with all things necessary for the knowledge of pricktsong. 1606 Holland *Sueton.* 187 Beeing much delighted with the Alexandrines praises in prict song.

β. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 50 Pes, man, pryksong may not be dispysyd. 1522 *Churchw. Acc. St. Giles, Reading* 16 Paid for a boke of priksong iij^{s}. 1607 Chapman *Bussy D'Ambois* I. i. Wks. 1873 II. 16, I can sing prickesong, Ladie, at first sight. 1872 Ellacombe *Ch. Bells Devon, Bells of Ch.* ix. 457 The staff is of five lines, and the notes are of the lozenge form, usually seen in prick-song of the period.

2. *esp.* A written descant or accompanying melody to a 'plain-song' or simple theme; hence, *gen.* descant or 'counterpoint' accompanying a simple melody (also *fig.*).

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* 500 In modulatioun hard I play and sing Faburdoun, pricksang, discant, countering. 1503 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) IV. 276 Nullus diaconus..admittatur nisi scit distincte cantare cantum planum, et eciam fractum, viz. prykesange. 1513 Prikat sang; 1545 Priksong [see Plain-song 1]. 1593 R. Barnes *Parthenophil & P.* Elegy xiv. in Arb. *Garner* V. 425 I'll sing my Plain Song with the turtle dove; And Prick Song, with the nightingale rehearse! *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 91 The unsatisfied that sung so far out of tune, had another ditty to their prick-song. 1776 Sir J. Hawkins *Gen. Hist. Mus.* II. II. x. 243 From the preference which the old writers give to written descant, which they termed Prick-song, in regard that the harmony was written or pricked down.

3. *attrib.*, as *prick-song book*, *lesson*, *music*, etc.

1518 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. x. 232 Item to Doctor Fairfax, for a pricksonge boke xx li. 1529–30 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 351 Paid to Iohn Northfolke for prykkyd song bokes. *c* 1547 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. A. 15 Which mass (being) solemnely sung in prick song descant, and organ playing. 1598 E. Gilpin *Skial.* (1878) 20 Yee that haue beauty and withall no pitty, Are like a prick-song-lesson without ditty. *a* 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* (1670) I. 34 They sing .. without pricksong musick, organs, or other instruments, using only the ancient plain-song. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 572 The .. Archb. [Warham] left all .. the prick-song books belonging to his Chappel, to New coll.

†b. **Pricksongwort,** an old name for the herb 'honesty' (*Lunaria*), bearing flat round pods. *Obs.*

1597 Gerarde *Herbal* II. cxvii. 378 We cal this herb in English Pennie flower, or money flower, siluer plate, Prick-songwoort,..& among our women it is called Honestie.

†**Pri·ck-timber.** *Obs.* [See Prick *sb.* 14.] a. The Spindle-tree: = Prickwood a. b. The Dogwood: = Prickwood b; also *prick-timber tree*.

a. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. lxxix. 760 This plant..some call ..in Englishe, Spindeltree, and Pricke Timber: bycause the timber of this tree serueth very well to the making both of Prickes and Spindelles. *a* 1697 Aubrey *Nat. Hist. Wilts.* (1847) 56 The butchers doe make skewers of it, because it doth not taint the meate as other wood will doe: from whence it hath the name of prick-timber. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* App., *Prick-timber*, a name sometimes given to the *Euonymus*, or spindle-tree.

b. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* VI. li. 726 The wilde Cornell tree, is called..in Englishe .. Dogge berie tree, and the Pricke timber tree, bycause Butchers vse to make prickes of it. 1611 Cotgr., *Cornillier femelle*, Hounds-tree, Dog-berrie tree, Prick-tymber tree.

†**Pri·ck-tree.** *Obs.* [See Prick *sb.* 14.] a. The Wild Cornel; = next, b. b. The Spindle-tree; = next, a. c. The Alder Buckthorn, *Rhamnus Frangula*.

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. M j b, Sume because bucheres vse to make prykkes of it call it [cornel] pryke tree. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* III. ci. 1286 *Alnus nigra, siue frangula*.. is called in English Aller tree, and of diuers Butchers Pricke tree. 1671 Skinner *Etymol. Ling. Angl., Bot.*, Butchers Prick tree, *Euonymus*.

Pri·ckwood. [See Prick *sb.* 14.] a. The Spindle-tree, *Euonymus europæus*. ? *Obs.* b. The Wild Cornel or Dogwood, *Cornus sanguinea*. *dial.*

a. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 115 They [Sheep] are hurt by aconite, nereon, prickwood, savin,..and scortching fennel. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 Prick Wood, *Euonymus*. 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* II. 64 *Euonymus Europæus* (Common Spindle-tree)..known to the old English herbalists chiefly by the name of Prickwood.

b. 1869 *Hardwicke's Sc. Gossip* 1 Feb. 30/1 The Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) means dagge-wood, dagge being the old English equivalent for a dagger, and the wood having been used for skewers...In Buckinghamshire it is still called Prickwood and Skewerwood. 1886 Britten & Holl. cite it from *N. Bucks.*

Pricky (pri·ki), *a.* Now *dial.* [f. Prick *sb.* + -y.] Furnished with pricks or spines; prickly.

1548 Pricky Sperage [see Prick *sb.* 12]. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* IV. xxvii. 485 The whiche beareth rough and prickie buttons. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XIX. iii. II. 9 A prickie stalke it [Madder] hath of the owne. *Ibid.* 10 Prickie moreover it [Soap-wort] is like a thorne. [1684 *Banks' Alb. Queen* Epil., But Nolens-Volens, Pricky must appear.] 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* cites it from Scotland to Kent.

b. Comb. **Pricky-back or pricky-back urchin, pricky urchin,** *dial.* the hedgehog.

1796 W. Marshall *Yorks.* (ed. 2) II. 337 Pricky Urchin; ..the hedge hog. 1855 Robinson *Whitby Gloss.*, *Prick-a-back urchin*, the prickly hedge-hog. 1863 Atkinson *Stauton Grange* (1864) 219 Next I kenned 'twere a prickyback.

Priddy, var. Predy (*Naut.*) *Obs.*, ready.

Pride (prəid), *sb.*1 Forms: see A. below. [Late OE. *prýto*, *prýtu* str. fem., *prýte* weak fem.; also (*prýdo*), *prýde*; abstract sb. from *prút*, *prúd*, Proud; cf. ON. *prýði* gallantry, bravery, ornamentation, f. *prúðr* gallant, brave, stately; both generally held to have been adopted *c* 1000 from OF. *prût*, *prūd*, mod.F. *preux*. The period of umlaut formations had passed long before 1000; and these quasi-umlaut derivatives in OE. and ON. must app. be explained as analogical, after the numerous original umlaut derivatives existing in the langs., as in OE. *full*, *fyllo*, ON. *fullr*, *fylli*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

a. (*OE. and Southern ME.*) 1 **prýto, -u, -e,** 3–5 **prute** (= *ü*), **pruyte**; 1 **prýde,** 2 **priede, prudu,** 2–4 **prude** (= *ü*), 3–5 **pruyde, pruyd,** 4–5 **pruide.**

a 1000 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O. E. Gloss.* 18 b. *Fastus*, ..pryte. 1014 Wulfstan *Sermo ad Anglos* in *Hom.* (Napier) 165 gelice þam dwæsan, þe for heora prytan lewe nellað beorgan. *a* 1023 *Ibid.* 178 Se ðe for his prydan gode nele hyran. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Ne we ne beoð iboren for to habbene nane prudu ne forðe nane oðre rencas. *Ibid.* 61 þe angles of heouene uolle for heore prude in to helle. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 89 Of modinesse and priede. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 47/16 And pruyte he louede lest. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1252 Such pruyd hym hath ynome [*v. rr. a* 1400 pruyd, prude]. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1928 Forto..alegge his prute [*v. r.* pruyte]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 23 Summe putten hem to pruide. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 113 For his pride [*MS.* γ pruyde]. *Ibid.* 213 Grete boost of pryde [*MS.* γ pruyte]. *Ibid.* VII. 263 Pride of herte [*MS.* γ prute]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3723 Devoyde of pruyde she was.

β. (*Kentish*) 2–4 **prede.**

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 þe ham scarcod was fer hare prede. *c* 1250 *O. Kent. Serm.* in *O. E. Misc.* 33 þurch senne, þurch prede oþer þurch an-vie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 21 þe þridde bo3 of prede is arrogance.

γ. (*midl.* and *north.*) 3– **pride** (3–6 **prid,** 4–5 **priyd,** 4–6 **pryde,** 4–7 **pryd,** 5 **pryte,** 6 **pried**).

c 1300 *Cursor M.* 23751 (Edin.) þe warlaw, swernes, wrebe, and prid [*other MSS.* pride]. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 280 Priue pride in pes es nettille in herbere. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 179 For bobaunce & bost & bolnande priyde. *Ibid.* 1450 Wyth bost & wyth pryde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1048 Thru priyd & awaris gredy. *Ibid.* xxx. (*Theodera*) 215 Na ogart na pryd is þe with-in. 1375 (MS. 1487) Barbour *Bruce* I. 408 The King Eduuard, with mekill prid. *c* 1425 Pryd [see B. 5]. 15.. *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 68 She is dearelye deighte, and of mickell pried. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* V. 284 Thair pryd sa now was dantount.

B. Signification. The quality of being proud.

I. 1. A high or overweening opinion of one's own qualities, attainments, or estate, which gives rise to a feeling and attitude of superiority over and contempt for others; inordinate self-esteem.

Reckoned the first of the 'seven deadly sins': see Deadly 5.

c 1000 Ælfric *Hom.* II. 220 Of ydelum gylpe bið acenned pryte and æbilignys. *a* 1050 *Instit. Polity* c. 10 *note* in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* II. 318 Ne gerisað heom prita ne idele rænca. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Lucifer..leop into prude, & bicom of engel atelich deouel. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 3363 Pir er þa bede syns þat er dedely: Pride, hatreden, and envy [etc.]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 101 By stynkynge pryde holdyng ous self worþyer to God þan oþer trewe men. 1382 — *Mark* vii. 22 Fro withynne, of the herte of men comen forth yuele þou3tis..pride, folye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Pryde, *superbia, fastus, elacio, ambicio*: *c* 1530 Ld. Berners *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 96 Blessed be God! pryde alwayes ouerthroweth his maister. 1650 Jer. Taylor *Holy Living* II. iv. iii. ¶ 8 Spiritual pride is very dangerous,.. because it so frequently creeps upon the spirit of holy persons. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IV. 809 Vain hopes, vain aimes, inordinate desires Blown up with high conceits ingendring pride. 1783 Blair *Lect.* I. x. 197 Pride makes us esteem ourselves; Vanity makes us desire the esteem of others. It is just to say, as Dean Swift has done, that a man is too proud to be vain. 1837 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xlvi. (1870) II. 519 Pride, or the overweening sentiment of our own worth. 1872 Darwin *Emotions* xi. 264 A peacock or a turkey-cock strutting about with puffed-up feathers, is sometimes said to be an emblem of pride.

b. in plural. *rare.*

c 1000 in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 428 Mid ofermettum afylled ne mid woruld-prydum, ne mid nyðum. 1609 Bible (Douay) 2 *Esdras* xv. 18 Because of their prides the citie shal be trubled. 1878 Ruskin *Lett. to Fauntborpe* (1895) I. 13 My selfishnesses, prides, insolences, failures.

c. with specification of the cause or subject of pride. (Often passing into 3 or 4.)

[1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 189 Pride..may be called a habit of dwelling upon the thought of any supposed excellences or advantages men believe themselves possessed of; as well power, birth, wealth, strength of body, or beauty of person as endowments of the mind.] 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* i, His pride of birth was equal to either. 1827 Pollok *Course T.* IX. 723 Pride of rank And office, thawed into paternal love. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 133 The pride of system, the pride of nature, the rank pride of the self-styled theologian, the exclusive

national Pharisaic pride *in* which he had been trained—forbade him to examine seriously whether he might not after all be in the wrong.

d. Personified, esp. as the first of the seven deadly sins.

c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 621 Pryde was the furst þat next hym roode, God woote, On a roryng lyon. 1606 DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* II. (Arb.) 22 Because Pride is the Queene of Sinnes, thou hast chosen her to be thy Concubine. 1870 LONGF. *Tales Wayside Inn* II. *Bell of Atri*, Pride goeth forth on horseback grand and gay, But cometh back on foot, and begs its way.

e. In various proverbs.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xvi. 18 Pride goth befor contricioun; an befor falling the spirit shal ben enhauncid. *c* 1425 *MS. Digby* 230 lf. 223 b, Pees makith Plente Plente makith Pride Pride makith Plee Plee makith Pouert Pouert makith Pees. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 70 Pride goth beforn, & schame folwyth after. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) II. 159 For it hath be sene is sene, and euer shall That first or last foule pryde wyll haue a fall. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 26 That pride will have a fall, is from common experience grown proverbiall. 1784 JOHNSON *Let.* 2 Aug. in *Boswell*, I am now reduced to think..of the weather. Pride must have a fall.

2. The exhibition of this quality in attitude, bearing, conduct, or treatment of others; arrogance; haughtiness.

c 1205 LAY. 19409 Bruttes hafden muchel mode & vnimete prute. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6224 He [pharaon] went wit mikel prid and bost. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6222 Þey preied hym [Constantine] he wolde make defens, & abate þe pruyde of Maxens. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 A Pryde, *arrogancia*. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 33 Since first he...chasticed with Armes Our Enemies pride. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. i. 163, I loue thee so, that maugre all thy pride, Nor wit, nor reason, can my passion hide. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 327 Pride in their port, defiance in their eye, I see the lords of human kind pass by. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 195 Doubling all his master's vice of pride.

3. A consciousness or feeling of what is befitting or due to oneself or one's position, which prevents a person from doing what he considers to be beneath him or unworthy of him; esp. as a good quality, legitimate, 'honest', or 'proper pride', self-respect; also as a mistaken or misapplied feeling, 'false pride'.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3393 Vor þe brutons nolde uor prute after þe erl do, Vor he nas noȝt king & þeruore þe worse hom com to. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 251 He, which before writing unto the King, refused in his letters for pride to call him his Lord. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 527 But he his wonted pride Soon recollecting, with high words..dispel'd their fears. 1736 GRAY *Statius* I. 25 These conscious shame withheld, and pride of noble line. 1769 *Junius Lett.* ii. (1820) 13 He was trained..to the truest and noblest sort of pride, that of never doing or suffering a mean action. 1802 WORDSW. *Resolution & Indep.* vii, I thought of Chatterton, the marvellous Boy, The sleepless Soul that perished in his pride. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 304 This ludicrous affair excited the mirth of the bolder spirits, ..and roused the pride of the wavering. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 296 A man of considerable scientific attainments, who, I believe, has no false pride about him, and who will rejoice to find that his example may be influential to others. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* III. viii. 74 His pride of virtue was as lofty as his pride of birth.

4. A feeling of elation, pleasure, or high satisfaction derived from some action or possession; esp. in *to take a pride* (*in*, † *to do* something, etc.).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 7 Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at mee. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 10 My Grauitie Wherein..I take pride. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* cxvi, To rescue one such friend he took more pride, Than to destroy whole thousands of such foes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 156 Her parental pride seems to overpower every other appetite. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. 13 You will see the good housewife taking pride in her pretty table cloth, and her glittering shelves. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* viii. 225 Achill Aga .. produced, with natural pride and pleasure, the watch and pistols given him by the Prince of Wales.

5. That of which any person or body of persons is proud; that which causes a feeling of pride in those to whom it belongs; hence, the flower, the best, of a class, country, etc.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxiv. 21 Y shal defoule my seyntuarie, the pryde of ȝour empyre, and desyrable thing of ȝour eyen. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 32 Her þe pryd of waterford felle; her all hys myght went to noght. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 112 O Noble English, that could entertaine With halfe their Forces, the full pride of France. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xli. 15 His [leviathan's] scales are his pride. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Garland* i, The pride of every grove I chose,..To deck my charming Cloe's hair. 1742 GRAY *Propertius* II. i. 77 Love and the Fair were of his life the Pride. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 55 A bold peasantry, their country's pride. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xv, See yon pale stripling! when a boy, A mother's pride, a father's joy!

b. In names of plants: **Pride of Barbadoes** (see BARBADOES *pride*); **pride of China, pride of India**, a tree, the AZEDARAC; **pride of Columbia**, an American species of Phlox, *P. speciosa*; **pride of London** = LONDON PRIDE; **pride of Ohio**, the American cowslip, *Dodecatheon Meadia*.

1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 321 Spotted sweet Williams or pride of London. 1683, 1688 [see LONDON PRIDE]. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 225 Barbadoes Pride...It grows wild in many parts of Liguanea, and makes a beautiful show when in bloom. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, Pride of China,..p. of India, *Melia azedarach*. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* (1850) II. 60 Before the house stood a row of Pride-of-India trees. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 416 A broad avenue, planted with Pride-of-China trees.

II. 6. Magnificence, splendour; pomp, ostentation, display. *poet.* and *rhet.*

c 1205 LAY. 14292 He heo lette scruden mid vnimete prude. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9898 þe sixte day of Iul he deide and mid gret onour & prute At founte ebraud he was ibured. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4078 For Theman dyed in that stede And beryed he was with mochel pride. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 572 They reseyved hym with grete pride, A Riche soper there was dight. *c* 1460 *How Gd. Wif thaught hir Doughter* 95 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 186 Ouere done pride makythe nakid syde. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 354 Oh farewell .. all Qualitie, Pride, Pompe, and Circumstance of glorious Warre. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 44 Trace Science then, with Modesty thy guide; First strip off all her equipage of Pride. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* IV. 369 Folk looked on his rich adornment, on King Atli's pride they gazed.

† **b.** Love of display or ostentation. *Obs.*

c 1460 *How Gd. Wif thaught hir Doughter* 97 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 186 Mekille schame ben wymmen worthi,..That bryngyn her lordis in mischef for here mekille pride. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 864 He..leaues it [gold] to be maistred by his yong: Who in their pride do presently abuse it. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. ii. 157 Wealth beyond what Woman's Pride could waste.

c. *Pride of life, pride of the world*, worldly pride or ostentation, vainglory. *arch.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1129 Al þat in world men tel can, Es outher yhernyng of þe flesshe of man, Or yhernyng of eghe, þat may luke, Or pride of lyfe, als says þe buke. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *John* ii. 16 Coueytise of flesch, and coueytise of iȝen, and pride of lijf [Vulg. *superbia vitæ*, Gr. ἡ ἀλαζονεία τοῦ βίου. So 1611; *R.V.* vainglory of life]. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* iv. (1732) 49 It is not left to the rich to gratify their passions in the indulgencies and pride of life. *Ibid.* vi. 82 In conforming to those passions and pride of the world.

d. *Her. In his pride*: applied to a peacock when represented with the tail expanded and the wings drooping. See also PEACOCK *sb.* 1 c.

1530 in *Ancestor* XI. (1904) 181 Banester beryth to his crest a pecoke in his pryde. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. II. xii. 339 His standard [was] of yellow and blue, with a peacock in pride gold, and pensils with a peacock. 1766 PORNY *Heraldry* Dict. s. v., Peacocks are said to be in their pride when they extend their tails into a circle, and drop their wings. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. § 2 (ed. 3) 272.

7. Magnificent, splendid, or ostentatious adornment or ornamentation. *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21050 He wroght O grauel bi þe se side Stanes precius o pride. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6382 He ȝaf him armes and riche stede, And dist him þer alle wiþ prede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 45 The Sadles were of such a Pride, ..So riche syh sche nevere non. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 7 Loftie trees, yclad with sommers pride. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxvi, Why is my verse so barren of new pride? So far from variation or quicke change? 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 15 Their armes are loaden with pride, such make the Iron shackles, beades, triangles of trees and brasse Rings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 663 A Snake..renew'd in all the speckl'd Pride Of pompous Youth. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 439 Whose ivory sheath, inwrought with curious pride, Adds graceful terror to the wearer's side. 1767 SIR W. JONES *Sev. Fountains* Poems (1777) 33 Deck'd with fresh garlands, like a rural bride, And with the crimson streamer's waving pride.

† **8. a.** Exalted or proud position or estate. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 46 For ther were, In that on side, Sixti kynges and dukes of pride. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 118 Beholdynge Mars how wonderly he stode, On a whele top with a lady of pryde Haunced aboute. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xi. (1732) 167 The man of pride has a thousand wants.

† **b.** Honour, glory. *Obs.*

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 970 Per-fore, on euerich a side, On him was leyd al þe pride. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vi. 57 If thou wilt fight, fight by thy Fathers side, And commendable prou'd, let's dye in pride.

9. The best, highest, most excellent or flourishing state or condition; the prime; the flower.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* lv, Hertis conne thay home bring, And buckes of pride. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* xiii. 31 Since we have seen the pride of Nature's works..Let us depart. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 16 There di'de My Icarus, my Blossome, in his pride. 1621 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* i. 54 Lyk to a blooming meadou Quhose pryd doth schort remaine. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 19 If you remoue them in the pride of sap. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. 65 When as May was in her pride. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 188/1 Pride of Grease is full Fat and in good liking. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 58/2 Sometimes, in the pride of the season, a bird-catcher engages a costermonger's poney or donkey cart. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 24 May 3/1 But deer are already almost in 'pride of grease'.

† **b.** Exuberance. *Obs.*

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* viii. (1892) 62 One Cropp of oates pulleth downe the pride of good grounde verye lowe. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husbandm.* I. v. 24 The ground hauing his pride abated in the first croppe.

10. Mettle or spirit in a horse.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 420 The colt that's backt and burthend being yong, Loseth his pride, and neuer waxeth strong. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 22 Your Vncle Worcesters Horse came but to day, And now their pride and mettal is asleepe. 1864 *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. VI. 495/1 A little pride is good even in a wild horse.

† **11.** Sexual desire, 'heat'; esp. in female animals.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E v, The noyes of theyes beestys thus ye shall call For pride of theyre make thay vsen hit all. 1590 COKAINE *Treat. Hunting* B iij b, Your man must be very carefull in the time of the Braches pride. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 404 As salt as Wolues in pride.

† **12.** A fanciful name for a 'company' of lions.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vi, A Pride of Lionys.

13. *Falconry. Pride of place*: see PLACE *sb.* 8 c.

14. *Pride of the morning*, a widely used rural phrase for a morning shower which promises or is expected to usher in a fine day.

1854 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. X. 360 (fr. Cornwall). 1867 *Ibid.* 3rd Ser. XI. 529 (fr. Kent). 1877 *Ibid.* 5th Ser. VIII. 129 (fr. Yorksh.). *Ibid.* 275 (fr. Lancash., Shropsh., Berks.).

15. *Comb.*: objective, as *pride-inspiring* adj.; instrumental as *pride-blind, -blinded, -bloated, -inflamed, -ridden, -sick, -swollen* adjs.; **pride-money**: see quot. 1632.

1599 *Broughton's Let.* xii. 43 A..brainsicke, pride-swolne companion. 1632 BROME *Court Beggar* I. i. Wks. 1873 I. 193, I *P.* For every wearer of his first o' th' fashion To pay a groat to th' King...*Gab.* And what may this pride money amount unto Per annum, can you guesse? 1712 M. HENRY *Popery a Spir. Tyranny* Wks. 1853 II. 350/1 Your glory may well be turned into shame if you be pride-ridden, and passion-ridden, and lust-ridden. 1818 MILMAN *Samor* 12 Like the pride-drunken Babylonian king. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* xxxi. (1852) 502 Then she elate, and with pride-blinded soul The towering seat..assumed. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 332 A pride-inspiring style of Christianity, leading to a dangerous consciousness of power.

Pride (prəid), *sb.*[2] *local.* [Etymology obscure. Perh. abbreviated from obs. *lampríd* (17th c.: see LAMPRET; orig. stressed *lampríd*) = med.L. *lampr̄eda, lampr̄ida*, LAMPREY.] The fresh-water or river lamprey; also called *sand-pride*.

a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 291 Homines possunt piscare ..de prides ad similitudinem lampreys. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Additions, *Lumbrici*, lytell fyshes taken in small riuers whyche are lyke to lampurnes,..callyd in Wylteshire prides. 1661 WALTON *Angler* xiii. (ed. 3) 192 A very little Lamprey, which some call a Pride.., may..be found many of them in the River Thames. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 183 We have a sort in the River Isis, that we call here a Pride, of the long cartilagineous smooth Kind. *a* 1705 RAY *Syn. Method. Piscium* (1713) 35 A Lampern, Pride of the Isis. 1886 SEELEY *Fresh-water Fishes Europe* xii. 427 *Petromyzon branchialis* (Linnæus),..is locally known as the Pride.

b. *Comb.*; *pride-net.* (See also PRIDE-GAVEL.)

a 1300 *Liber Custum.* (Rolls) I. 117 Ilia un autre manere de reies, qe len apele 'pridnet'. 1584 in R. Griffiths *Ess. Conserv. Thames* (1746) 63 A pride Net, not to be occupied but by Special Licence of the Water-Bailiff, and not above a Yard in Length.

† **Pride**, *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Origin and sense uncertain.] ? The spleen of a deer. (So taken by editor of S.T.S. ed.)

13.. *Sir Tristr.* 475 Tristrem schare þe brest, þe tong sat next þe pride.

Pride (prəid), *v.* Forms: 3 *south.* **prude** (*ii*); 4 *Kentish* **prede** (*pa.t.* **prette**); 4– **pride** (5 *north.* **prid**, 5–7 **pryde**, 6 *Sc.* **pryd**). [Early ME. *prüden, prïden*, f. *prüde* PRIDE *sb.*[1]; cf. ON. *prýða* to adorn, f. *prýði* an ornament. The pa. t. *prette* in Ayenbite perh. points to a form *prēte* beside *prēde*: cf. PRIDE *sb.*[1]]

† **1.** *trans.* To ornament or adorn magnificently or proudly. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1460 Se prudeliche ischrud & iprud (*v. r.* iprudd) ba wiþ þel & wiþ purpre. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 22 One, with his crisping pinne, his eye-brows dies With black; paint too prides-up his lustful eyes.

† **2.** *intr.* To be or become proud. Also *to pride it.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 *note*, An is, þet we ne pruden. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 23 Whils þe wickid prides, kyndeld is þe pore. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* x. 9 What pridist thou, erthe and asken? [1388 What art thou proude?] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/1 Prydyn, or wax prowde, *superbio*. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 103 If then thou..seest more, or beyond me, pride it not, nor contemn me. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 203 Neither were the vain-glorious content to pride it upon Success. 1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* IV. 50, I pride to feel [etc.].

3. *trans.* To make proud, fill with pride; † to display proudly (quot. 1667). Chiefly in *pass.*, to be made or become proud.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 11 If ȝe doe wele as ȝe aghe at doe, seruys til god in dred that ȝe be noght pridid. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xx. (1869) 186 þat þe seruantes of Adonai ben so pryded ayens us. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. vii. § 4 (1622) 265 Those, that are prided with prosperous Fortune. 1639 EARL OF BARRYMORE in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 39 Titles and commissions..with which they are soe pryded vpp. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 159 King Sesostris..forgot himself much, when he caused four captive kings to draw his chariot..when he prided his inconstant Fortune, in the desport of their Vassalage. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* xi, Nae wonder that it pride him! 1884 J. SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* 42 A people who, perhaps unjustly, have been prided for the choiceness of their swearing.

4. *refl.* To make or show oneself proud; to take pride, take credit to oneself, congratulate oneself; to plume oneself. Const. *on, upon, in* († *for, of, about, with*), *that.*

a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 686 in *O. E. Misc.* 138 þe luttele mon..Bute he mote himseluen pruden, he wole maken fule luden. 1340 *Ayenb.* 258 Onder þe uayre robes is þe zaule dyad be zenne, and nameliche ine þan þet ham gledyeþ and predeþ [F. *orgoillissent*]. Yef þe pokoc him prette [F. *orgueillist*, v. r. *orgueillissoit*] uor his uayre tayle, and þe coc uor his kombe, hit ne is no wonder...Ac man oþer wyfman..he ne ssel him naȝt prede [F. *orgueillir*]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 385 For to pride hym in his strengthe of body it is an heigh folye. *Ibid.* P 387 Eek for to pride hym of his gentrie is a ful greet folie. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1063 Prydë þe noght for no prosperitee. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* x. 9 What prydest thou the, o thou earth and aszshes? 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. iii. 138 The variety of inventions..make us pride ourselves about things, that [etc.]. 1692 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 361, I know

..no Reason, why the Priests should pride themselves with this. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) III. 108 At Mantua, where they pride themselves not a little on account of their city being the birthplace of that great poet. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 437, I prided myself that my hands had never been guilty of communicating that disease. 1807–8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 35 We pride ourselves upon giving satisfaction in every department of our paper. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 146 The impotence of that which some women pride themselves in. 1882 A. W. WARD *Dickens* iv. 91 He prided himself on his punctuality.

b. *intr.* in same sense. Now *rare.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1271 Quha pridys tharin, that laubour is in waist. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 17 [They] prydit everie ane of thame quho sould be maist gallzeart in thair clething. 1648 tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 326 Hee walkes publikely with lost men, and priding in his sinne. 1659 HOOLE *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 43 The gay Peacock prideth in his feathers ..*pennis superbit.* 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1749) I. xxx. 193 Distinction or quality may be prided in by those to whom distinction or quality are a new thing. 1897 ANNA M. WILSON *Days Mahommad* 39 My brother, I pride in your courage.

Hence **Pri·ded** *ppl. a.*, filled with pride.

[See *a* 1340 in 3 above.] *c* 1400 GOWER *Addr. Hen. IV*, in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 11 Whan humble pacience is prided. 1883 A. S. HARDY *But yet Woman* 12 Many a stouter heart, whose prided stoicism is often only a strait-jacket.

Prideful (prəi·dfûl), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* [f. PRIDE *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Full of pride; proud, arrogant.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4017 Some man wille he inpugne be pridefulle bolnyng. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 12 Thay quhilk ar pridful of thair wisdome or science. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 155 The pridefull and scornefull people that stood by, mocked him. 1740 WHITEHEAD *Gymnasiad* II. 36 High disdain sat prideful on his brow. 1817 COLERIDGE *Alice Du Clos* iii, As if in prideful scorn Of flight and fear he stay'd behind. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk. Jas. I & Chas. I* (1898) 340 Why should not such a man be prideful?

b. Full of pride in some fact or achievement; pleased, elated.

1841 *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 110/1 The father prideful as the scene reveals, And the fond mother smiling as she feels. 1848 TALFOURD *Final Mem. Lamb* 300, I well remember the flush of prideful pleasure which came over his face. 1897 H. W. STRONG in *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 2/1 He may, in a prideful moment, declaim Cowper: I am monarch of all I survey; My right there is none to dispute.

Hence **Pri·defully** *adv.*, in a prideful manner; with pride; **Pri·defulness**, proudness, pride.

16.. *Lindesay* (Pitscottie)'*s Chron. Scot.* (MS. F. 16 b), The king, hearing of this prydfullness [S. T. S. I. 82 prudeness]. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1851) II. 256 The toun thocht evill of Haddochis behaveour, to ryde so prydfullie about thair cross. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* viii, A white kirtle the wench wears..and a blue hood, that might weel be spared, for pridefulness. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. iii, The man ..had walked..humbly and valiantly with God..instead of walking sumptuously and pridefully with Mammon. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* 159 Strange that they will complacently and pridefully bind up whatever vice or folly there is in them.

†**Pride-gavel.** *Obs. local.* Also **prid-.** [app. from PRIDE *sb.*[2] + GAVEL[1] tax; but cf. quot. 1779.] (See quots.)

1663 S. TAYLOR *Hist. Gavelkind* ix. 112 A *Pride-gavel*; which in the Lordship of Rodely in the County of Gloucester is used and paid..as a Rent to the Lord of the Mannour, by certain Tenants..for their Liberty and Privilege of Fishing in the River Severn for Lamprayes. 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 18. 1779 RUDDER *Gloucestersh.* 551 Acknowledgments are paid..for fishing in the river Severn, some of which were antiently called *Prid-gavel*, from the word *Gavel* a rent, and *Pride*, the name of a kind of wicker'd putt, or pouchin, which is laid in the water to catch the fish. [No authority is given for this alleged sense of *Pride*: it is unknown to all the archaic and dialect glossaries and dictionaries.]

Pri·deless, *a.* [f. PRIDE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Devoid of pride (either in bad or good sense); having, feeling, or manifesting no pride.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 874 Ful of pacient benyngnytee Discreet and prideless. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 115 Thow lay full prydles in the peise this somer. 1703 TATE *Her Majesty's Pict.* xiii, Behold 'em now, Pacifick and Serene, With Prideless Pomp, possess'd by Britain's Queen! 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxii. (1882) 216 This lofty, yet prideless impartiality in poetry. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Aug. 3/1 The prideless, drunken parent feels no humiliation in going before the managers pleading poverty.

Prideling (prəi·dliŋ). *nonce-wd.* [f. PRIDE *sb.*[1] + -LING.] A 'child' of pride.

1824 R. C. DALLAS *Corr. Ld. Byron* (1825) I. 22, I think he [Byron] was inoculated by the young pridelings of intellect, with whom he associated at the University.

Pridian (pri·diăn), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *prīdiān-us*, f. *prīdiē* adv., on the day before, f. stem *prī-* before + *diēs* a day: see -AN.] Of or pertaining to the previous day.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pridian*, of the day before. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby Genteel Story* ii, Thrice a week..does Gann breakfast in bed—sure sign of pridian intoxication.

Pridie, var. PREDY *Obs.* (*Naut.*) ready.

Priding (prəi·diŋ), *vbl. sb. rare.* [f. PRIDE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of showing or taking pride.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 24 The king of streames on priding set..Beyond his banckes abroad all wrackfull goes. 1645 TOMBES *Anthropol.* II From the Pastours or peoples priding in guifts.

Pri·ding, *ppl. a. rare.* [f. PRIDE *v.* + -ING[2].] Affecting or displaying pride. Hence **Pri·dingly** *adv.*, with display of pride.

1592 GREENE *Art Conny Catch.* III. 7 This fellowe in a kinde of priding scorne would vsuallie saye [etc.]. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1687) 123 He pridingly doth set himself before all others. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 153 Lett them keep their prideing cavalry to stop bottles with.

Pri·dy, *a. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 *Sc.* **prydy,** 9 *dial.* **preedy.** [f. PRIDE *sb.*[1] + -Y.] Characterized by pride; proud.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 113 He suld nocht be callit a gude knycht, bot ane orguillous, hychty, and prydy rebelloure unworthy. 1865, etc. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, Pridy, preedy (cited fr. Cornwall).

Prie, obs. form of PRY *sb.* and *v.*

‖ **Prie-dieu** (prīdyö). [F., lit. 'pray God'.] **a.** A desk made to support a book or books, and having a foot-piece on which to kneel; a praying-desk, kneeling-desk. **b.** A chair with tall sloping back, for the same purpose; also, a chair of this form for ordinary use. Also *prie-dieu chair.*

[1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 163 þe Clerk of þe churche, Sire Piers of pridye, and pernel of Flaundres.] 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 28 Jan., Before the altar, was an armchair for him, with a blue damask cushion, a *prie-Dieu*, and a footstool of black cloth. 1826 [H. BEST] *Four Y. in France* 8 The litanies are..chanted in the middle of the choir, from what I have since learned to call a *prie-Dieu.* 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Iseult* III. 91 She will fall musing..then rise And at her prie-dieu kneel. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. vi. 123 Miss Bridgeman placed a *prie-dieu* chair in a commanding position for the reciter to lean upon gracefully.

Prief(e, obs. Sc. form of PROOF, PROVE.

Prier (prəi·əɹ). Also 6 **priar,** 6– **pryer.** [f. PRY *v.* + -ER[1].] One who pries.

1552 HULOET, Pryer or loker after some myschiefe, *limax.* 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 59 A lystenar, or a priar in at the chinks or at the lokhole. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* II. i. 127 Curious priers into nature. 1790 J. BRUCE *Source Nile* II. 577 The monks, the constant pryers into futurity.

Pries, obs. form of PRICE *sb.*[1]

Priest (prīst), *sb.* Forms: 1–4 **préost,** (1 **príost, preast,** 2 **proest,** 3 **prøst**), 1–6 **prēst,** (3–5 **prust, pruest,** 4–5 **prist,** 4–6 **pryst, preste, priste**), 4–7 **preest,** -e, (2) 4– **priest,** (4–6 **preist,** -e, 5 **preyst,** 6 **preast, pryste**). [OE. *préost* = OHG. *prēst, priast*, ON. *prest-r* (Norw. *prest*, Sw. *präst*, Da. *præst*); app. shortened from the form seen in OS. *prêstar*, OHG. *prêstar, priestar* (MDu., Du., MHG., Ger. *priester*), OFris. *prêstere*; ultimately from L. *presbyter* (*-biter*), a. Gr. *πρεσβύτερος* elder: see PRESBYTER; perh. immediately through a Com. Romanic **prester* (whence OF. *prestre*, F. *prêtre*, Sp. *preste*, It. *prete*). The origin of *éo* in OE. *préost*, and the anterior phonetic history of this and the other monosyllabic forms, are obscure; see Pogatscher *Lehnworte im Altengl.* § 142. The ON. may have been from OLG. or OE.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

[805 *Charter Cuðred of Kent* in *O. E. Texts* 442 Beforan wulfre[de] arcebiscope & æðelhune his mæsseprioste.] *a* 900 (MS. *c* 1120) *Eng. Laws Ælfred* c. 21 gif preost oþerne man ofslea..hine biscop onhadige. [*c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 4 *Principes sacerdotum* [gl.] ða aldormenn biscopa *vel* mesa-preasta. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Colloquy* in Wr.-Wülcker 100/13 *Sacerdos*, mæsseprest.] *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Al swa þe proest þe techet. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 29 Priest oðer munec. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 733 An prostes upe londe singeþ. *a* 1325 *Poem on Consistory Crts.* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 159 A pruest proud ase a po, Seþþe wedded us bo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2145 (Cott.) He was king and prest [*Gött.* priest] o salem. *Ibid.* 19136 (Edin.) Þai gaderit oute baþe prince and priste [*v.rr.* prist, prest, preist, preest]. *Ibid.* 28137 (Cott.) Til vncouth pryst. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 195 Preostes, þat shulden ben lyȝt of heuenly lif. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. xxix. (MS. Cott. Tib.), 'Nay', quaþ Harold, 'hy beþ no prustes, bote a beþ wel stalword knyȝtes'. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 3 Pristis that bene lewyd in here levyng. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Preeste, *sacerdos, presbiter, capellanus.* *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6942 A preste sange at ane altere. 1504 LADY MARGARET tr. *De Imitatione* IV. vi. 268 Whan the preyst sayth masse. 1521 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 4 To a preiste to syng for my saull. 1529 Preest, *c* 1540 Pryst [see B. 2 a]. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* (passim) Priest. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* I. (1895) 74 If I were a priest. 1587 Preist [see B. 2 c].

B. Signification.

[Etymologically *priest* represents Gr. *πρεσβύτερος*, L. *presbyter*, ELDER; but by A.D. 375 or earlier, and thus long before the L. or Romanic word was taken into Eng., the L. word *sacerdos*, originally, like Gr. *ἱερεύς*, applied to the sacrificing priests of the heathen deities, and also, in the translations of the Scriptures, to the Jewish priests, had come to be applied to the Christian ministers also, and thus to be a synonym of *presbyter*. In OE., L. *presbyter* was usually represented by *préost*; L. *sacerdos*, applied to a heathen or Jewish priest, was usually rendered by *sacerd* (regularly so in Hexateuch, Psalms, and Gospels); sometimes, when applied to a Jewish or Christian priest, by *préost* or more particularly *mæsse-préost* (MASS-PRIEST). But, with the close of the OE. period, *sacerd* became disused, and *préost, prēst*, like OF. *prestre*, became the current word alike for *presbyter* and *sacerdos*, and thus an ambiguous term.

1583 FULKE *Defence* i. 15 Which distinction [of *ἱερεύς* and *πρεσβύτερος*] seeing the vulgar Latine texte doth alwaies rightly obserue, it is in fauour of your hereticall Sacrificing Priesthoode, that you corruptly translate *Sacerdos* and *Presbyter* alwayes, as though they were all one, a Priest. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* 257 The term 'Ιερεὺς does seem to have implied the office of offering sacrifice,..the term Priest is ambiguous, as corresponding to the terms 'Ιερεὺς and *πρεσβύτερος* respectively, notwithstanding that there are points in which these two agree. These therefore should be reckoned, not two different kinds of Priests, but Priests in two different senses. 1869 LIGHTFOOT *Philippians* (ed. 2) 184 The word 'priest' has two different senses. In the one it is a synonyme for presbyter or elder, and designates the minister who presides over and instructs a Christian congregation: in the other it is equivalent to the Latin *sacerdos*, the Greek *ἱερεύς*, or the Hebrew כֹּהֵן, the offerer of sacrifices, who also performs other mediatorial offices between God and man. 1897 R. C. MOBERLY *Ministerial Priesthood* vii. § 4. 291 The Church of England in her refusal to abandon the title 'priests' (by this time identified verbally with *sacerdotes* and *ἱερεῖς*).]

I. One whose office is to perform public religious functions; an official minister of religious worship. (See also HIGH PRIEST, PARISH PRIEST.)

†**1.** Used for a PRESBYTER or elder of the early church. *Obs. rare.* (Chiefly in early translations of Gr. *πρεσβύτερος*, L. *presbyter*, in N. Test.)

1382 WYCLIF *Tit.* i. 5, I lefte thee at Crete, that thou.. ordeyne by cytees prestis [*Vulg.* presbyteros; 1582 (*Rhem.*) shouldest ordaine priestes by cities]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 30 Bi forn þat presthed was hied,..ilk prest of Crist was callid indifferently prest and bischop. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 274 Their do alleage the place of James [v. 14]: 'Whan any bodie is sicke amongest you, let him brynge in the Priestes [*inducat presbyteros*] of the Churche and let them praie ouer him'.

2. In hierarchical Christian churches: A clergyman in the second of the holy orders (above a deacon and below a bishop), having authority to administer the sacraments and pronounce absolution. Historically repr. L. *presbyter*, but often including the sense of L. *sacerdos* (see above), and thus that of 4 b.

a. before the Reformation.

†601–4 (MS. *c* 1120) *Laws of Æthelberht* c. 1 Biscopes feoh xi gylde. Preostes feoh ix gylde. Diacones feoh vi gylde. Cleroces feoh iii gylde. 695–6 (MS. *c* 1120) *Laws Wihtræd* c. 6 gif priost læfe unriht hæmed oþþe fulwihðe untrumes forsitte,..sio he stille his þegnungæ oþ biscopes dom. *a* 900, *c* 1175, etc. [see A.]. *c* 1205 LAY. 1 An preost wes on leoden Laȝamon wes ihoten. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 367 Þei sey þat iche bischop and prest may lawfully leeve hor first dignyte, and after be a frere. 1483 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 239, I woll that my executours fynde an honest seculer prest to syng for my soule. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme, Hist. Rom.* (1811) 29 Preestis Grekes myght haue wyfis which to preestis Latens was forboden. *c* 1540 *Pilgr. T.* 54 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1865) App. 78 Benet..was a brother & no pryst. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 68 And from hence was the original of Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and Cardinals; there being several Titles and Cardinal Churches in Rome, the Priests that were Rectors over them, were call'd Cardinal Priests. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. iv. 111 Every man was at liberty to contribute his tithes to whatever priest or church he pleased, provided only that he did it to some. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv. 133 These ministers were at first confined to the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons. *Ibid.* II. i. 15 The seventh order (that of the priesthood) was subdivided into two classes,—of bishops, who possessed it in all its plenitude, and of priests. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. viii. § 85. 227 As the kingdom and shire were the natural sphere of the bishop, so was the township of the single priest.

b. in the Church of England since the Reformation. (The specific name of the order; but in common speech usually comprehended under the more general term *clergyman*, except in rural parts of the northern counties, where the parish clergyman is commonly called 'the priest'.)

1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Comm. Prayer*, The Fourme of Ordering Priestes. *Rubric.* The Bisshoppe with the priestes present, shal lay theyr handes seuerally upon the head of euery one that receiueth orders. 1652 (*title*) A Priest to the Temple; or the Character of a Country Parson. By G. Herbert. 1652 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Mar., It being now a rare thing to find a priest of the Church of England in a parish pulpit. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iv. 78 Our not admitting Priests until Four and Twenty Years old, is an Argument. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 5. 11 The Priests and Deacons (whom we usually class together under the common name of Clergymen).

1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* VII. 316 You, Sir, know that in a neighbouring vale A priest abides before whose life such doubts Fall to the ground. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Priest*, a Church-of-England clergyman: not infrequently called a Church-priest. 1887 'MABEL WETHERAL' *Two N.-C. Maids* xxiv, Mr. Northcote they called the priest, and a real good gentleman he was.

c. in *R. C. Ch.* since the Reformation, and in the Eastern Church. (The usual name in common as well as official use.)

1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 233 Jesuitis or seminarie preistis. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 164 This place belongeth to the Georgians: whose Priests are poore, and accept of almes. No other nation say Masse on that altar. 1631 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 197 A petition to the Court in behalf of a Popish priest, a prisoner. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) 193/1 If a coadjutor is wanted for a parish priest, it is for the bishop of the diocese to nominate one. *Ibid.* 564/2 Missionary priests, such as those in England and Scotland, are mere delegates of the bishop without cure of souls in the strict sense. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* 414/2 In every Catholic parish the priest is at the very heart of things.

3. In more general sense: A clergyman, a member of the clerical profession, a minister of religion (in OE. often transl. *clericus*).

'[In Anglo-Saxon use] *priest* is a generic term including all clergymen, from the lowest rank; *mass-priest* specifies one who has received the order of priesthood. The simple clerk is the mass-priest's priest—mæsse-preostes preost.—Thorpe II. 412, No. 15' (Lingard *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* I. iv. (1858) 134).

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xvii. [xix.] (1890) 454-6 He [Wilfrid] wæs to preoste besceoren fram him [*orig.* attonsus est ab eo]...þa fylgde hine Wilfrið his preost & his hondþeng [*orig.* secutus est Vilfrid clericus illius]...On þa tid.. was Willfrid to mæssepreoste gehalgad [*orig.* presbyter ordinatus est]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 155/30 *Sacerdos,* sacerd... *Clericus,* preost. *c* 1450 *Prov.* in *Deutsch. Neuphil.* (1906) 53 Thow shall do as þe preste says, but not as þe preste does. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 A Preste, *capellanus, flamen,.. sacerdos, presbiter.* 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* D j b, They said it was neuer good worlde synce euery shoomaker could tel the priests duty. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Gothic Wars* I. ii. 6 For let Priests or private men speake as they are perswaded, I can say no other thing concerning God, but that he is absolutely good. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 777 Each village inn has heard the ruffian boast That never priest believed his doctrines true. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 168 War is the statesman's game, the priest's delight. 1847 JAMES *Convict* iv, We are priests of different churches.

b. *fig.* One whose office is likened to that of a priest, as *a priest of nature, of science,* etc.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 675 Ye sacred Muses..Whose Priest I am, whose holy Fillets wear. 1803-6 WORDSW. *Intim. Immort.* v, The Youth, who daily farther from the east Must travel, still is Nature's Priest. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1859) 32 Eschylus and Aristotle, Shakspeare and Bacon, are priests who preach and expound the mysteries of man and the universe. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvii, This faith has many a purer priest, And many an abler voice than thou.

4. A sacrificing priest, a minister of the altar.

a. In the Jewish church, and other pre-Christian systems (as used in the Bible, rendering Heb. כֹּהֵן *kōhēn*, Gr. ἱερεύς, L. *sacerdos*).

[*c* 950: see A. *c* 1000 *Gosp. Nicodemus* x. (Thwaites) Ða cwædon þa ealdras & þa mæssepreostas to Pilate..he byþ deaþes scyldig.] *c* 1200 ORMIN 293 Aaron wass þe firrste preost Off Issraæle þeode. *Ibid.* 466 He [Zacaryas] wass, alls icc hafe seȝȝd, God prest, & Godd full cweme. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5584 (Cott.) Of [judas] com kinges..And of his broþer leui bredd, þe pristes þat þair lagh ledd. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xiv. 18 Melchisadech, the kyng of Salem..forsothe he was the prest of the heiȝest God. — *Heb.* vii. 1. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxxi. 10 The mynistrynge vestimentes of Aaron y^e^ prest. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 2 Because the most eminent part both of Heathenish and Jewish service did consist in sacrifice, when learned men declare what the word Priest doth properly signify according to the mind of the first imposer of that name, their ordinary scholies do well expound it to imply sacrifice. 1611 BIBLE *John* xix. 21 Then said the chiefe Priests [Vulg. *pontifices,* WYCLIF bischops, TINDALE to *Geneva* hye prestis, *Rhem.* cheefe priests] of the Iewes to Pilate, Write not, The king of the Iewes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XII. 353 Factious they [Israelites] grow; But first among the Priests dissension springs, Men who attend the Altar. 1860 GARDNER *Faiths World* II. 713 The high-priest and the ordinary priests were chosen exclusively from the family of Aaron. It was the duty of the priests to serve at the altar, preparing the victims for sacrifice, and offering them up on the altar. 1901 *Encycl. Biblica* II. 2052 Before the Exile there were..differences of rank among the priests; but the chief priest was only *primus inter pares*; even Ezekiel knows no high priest in the sense of the Priestly Code.

b. In specific Christian use, The officiant at the Eucharist and other sacerdotal offices. (Denoting the same ecclesiastical order as in **2**, but with a specific connotation.)

695-6 *Laws Wihtræd* c. 18 Preost hine clænsie sylfæs soþe, in his halgum hrægle ætforan wiofode..Swylce diacon hine clænsie. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 44 Hwen þe preost inwið þe messe noteð godes licome. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 37 A hole sute of vestments..for prest dekyn and sudekyn. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion, Rubric,* At the tyme appointed for the ministracion of the holy Communion, the Priest that shal execute the holy ministery shall put upon hym the vesture appointed for that ministracion. *Ibid.,* Here the priest shall turne hym toward those that come to the holy Communion, and shall saye. You that do truly [etc.]. *Ibid.,* Then shall thys generall Confession bee made..by one of the ministers, or by the prieste himselfe. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1684) 217 [Of Eucharistic rite in Eastern Ch.] When this Hymn of praise is finished, the Deacons with the Priest, set the holy Bread and Cup of Blessing upon the Altar. *Ibid.* 340 In respect of this Sacrifice of the Eucharist, the Ancients have usually call'd those that offer it up, Priests. 1858 J. H. BLUNT (*title*) The Position of the Priest at the Altar. 1870 — *Dict. Doctr. & Hist. Theol.* 591 The chief sacerdotal function of the Christian priest is to offer up on behalf of the people the Eucharistic Sacrifice. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) 691 It is the office of a priest, according to the Pontifical, 'to offer, bless, rule, preach, and baptise'. First, he is empowered to offer that sacrifice of the Mass which is the centre of all the Church's worship..He succeeds the Jewish 'elder' as well as the Jewish priest. Hence he is called ἱερεὺς and *sacerdos* —i. e. 'sacrificing priest', but also *presbyter*—i. e. 'elder'.

c. In a spiritual sense, applied (*a*) to Christ in his sacrificial or mediatorial character. (After Heb. v. 6, vii. 15-21.) (Cf. HIGH PRIEST 1 b.)

c 1200 ORMIN 361, & ec forþi þatt he [Crist] wass Preost, Hæfedd off alle preostess. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xix. 1 Þe prophet spekis of crist as of a prest, þat sall offire. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* vii. 17 Thou art a prest into withouten ende, vp the ordre of Melchisedech. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 25 See Father,..these Sighs And Prayers..I thy Priest before thee bring. 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 586 That individual Humanity, which as our Priest he offered up for us on the Cross. 1719 WATTS *Ps.* CX. 17 Jesus our Priest for ever lives To plead for us above. 1901 BP. GORE *Body of Christ* iii. § 3 (1907) 192 This means that all our prayers and offerings have been united to the abiding sacrifice and offered by the Heavenly Priest.

(*b*) to all believers (after Rev. i. 6), and to the Christian Church.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* i. 6 The which..made us a kingdom, and prestes to God and to his fadir. [1539 BIBLE (Great) *Exod.* xix. 6 Ye shall be vnto me also a kyngdome of prestes & an holy people.] 1626 DONNE *Serm.* iv. (1640) 33 Every man should come to that Altar, as holy as the Priest, for there he is a Priest. 1810 J. BENSON *Bible* I. Exod. xix. 6 Thus all believers are, through Christ, made to our God kings and priests. 1897 R. C. MOBERLY *Ministerial Priesthood* vii. § 2. 256 Then the Church is God's priest in the world and for the world. *Ibid.* § 3. 279 If the Christian Church is a 'priest', offering 'sacrifice' in the perpetual Eucharist.

5. An official minister of a pagan or non-Christian religion; originally implying sacrificial functions, but in later use often applied to the functionaries of any religious system, whether sacrificial or not.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3922 Balaac king was for-dred forðan,..And sente after balaam ðe prest. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5412 (Cott.) Þe landes o þat lede, þat tzght was for þe preiste to fede. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xi. 18 Mathan..the prest [1388 preest] of Baal, thei slewen before the auter. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10784 In Iono ioly temple..Therein Paris was put with prestis of þe laghe. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 5 Go bid the Priests do present Sacrifice. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 55 The Priest doth sometimes reade vnto them some part of the Alcoran. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 27 As Eastern priests in giddy circles run, And turn their heads to imitate the Sun. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 315 He had me educated by the priests of the Temple of Osiris. *a* 1822 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* (1839) 70/1 A party of the elder Calmucks, headed by their priest. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 201 The term *priest* always related not only to some particular deity, but to some particular seat of his worship. 1866 TENNYSON *Victim* i, The Priest in horror about his altar To Thor and Odin lifted a hand. 1885 W. R. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 730/1 Orthodox Islam has never had real priests, doing religious acts on behalf of others.

†**b.** Applied to a PRIESTESS. *Obs. rare.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 262 She was a pretty pinckany and Venus priest. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* v. i. 243 *Diana.* My Temple stands in Ephesus..There when my maiden priests are met together [etc.]. 1614 CHAPMAN *Masque Mid. Temple* ii. A iij b, A little more eleuate, sate Eunomia, the Virgine Priest of the Goddesse Honor.

†**6.** Allusively, *To be* (a person's) *priest*: to kill him. ? *Obs.* (In allusion to the function of a priest in performing the last offices to the dying.)

(The sense of quot. *c* 1430 is doubtful.)

[*c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3858 The Iren with the hawberk met Right ageyn the self brest; Wel nigh it had ben his prest.] 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. iii. 37 Who first laies hand on me, ile be his Priest. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 272 And to preserue my Soueraigne from his Foe, Say but the word, and I will be his Priest. ?*a* 1800 in *Cock's Simple Strains* (1810) 135 (Jam.) Syne claught the fellow by the breast, An' wi' an awfu' shak, Swore he wad shortly be his priest.

II. Transferred senses.

7. A mallet or other weapon used to kill a fish when spent. (Chiefly in Ireland.) Cf. 6.

1851 NEWLAND *Erne, Leg. & Fly-Fishing* 284 *note, Priest,* a short wooden mallet, whose offices are required when the salmon is *in extremis.* 1900 W. SENIOR *Pike & Perch* xi. 175 The baton, or short cudgel, used to perform the last offices for captured fish is still called the 'priest', the name lingering, perhaps, more in Ireland than in England or Scotland. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 28 Lydon..lifted an iron thole-pin for a 'priest', gave a couple of decisive taps, and then laid it on the boards of the boat.

8. *Angling.* Name for a kind of artificial fly.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* x. (1880) 369 The Priest..is a good general fly.

9. A fancy breed of pigeons, of various colours.

1904 *Times* 6 Jan. 8/5 Priests, birds rarely seen nowadays at exhibitions.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

10. a. Appositive (= that is a priest), as *priest-astronomer, -chaplain, -doctor, -hermit, -king, -knight, -monk* (= HIEROMONACH), *-noble, -philosopher, -poet, -prince, -statesman, -victim.* **b.** Of or pertaining to a priest or priests; priestly, sacerdotal, as *priest-death,* †*-flock, -kingdom,* †*-linen, -massacre, -trap.* Also PRIESTCRAFT. **c.** Objective, instrumental, etc., as *priest-baiting, -catcher, -harbouring, -hunter, -taker*; *priest-catching* adj. (all in reference to the treatment of R. C. priests under the penal laws); *priest-striver* (one who strives or contends with a priest); *priest-educated, -guarded, -hating, -led, -prompted* adjs. Also PRIEST-RIDDEN. **d.** Special combs. (often with *priest's*): †**priest's bonnet,** name of some plant (? = *priest's hood*); **priest-cap, priest's cap,** (*a*) *lit.* a cap worn by a priest; (*b*) *Fortif.* an outwork with three salient and two re-entrant angles; †**priest('s) crown,** an old name for the dandelion, from the bald appearance of the receptacle (like a priest's shaven crown) when the pappus is blown off; **priest-fish,** the black rock-fish (*Sebastichthys mystinus*), common along the Pacific coast of N. America; **priest's hole,** a secret chamber or hiding-place for a (Roman Catholic) priest (in times of the penal laws); **priest's hood,** a name for the wild Arum (*A. maculatum*), from the form of the spathe (cf. MONKSHOOD); **priest-ill,** the ague (*dial.*) (Halliw. 1847-78); **priest-in-the-pulpit** = *priest's hood* (the spathe representing the pulpit, and the spadix the priest); **priest('s) pintle,** (*a*) = prec. (from the form of the spadix: cf. CUCKOO-PINT); (*b*) a name for *Orchis mascula* or other species of *Orchis*; **priest-vicar,** in some cathedrals, the name of a vicar choral who is a priest; a minor canon.

1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 456 The crowd..cheerfully joined the sport of *priest-baiting. 1685 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Coffee, Tea & Choc.* 7 The Berries grow on a tree much like our *Priests Bonnet. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Bonnet à Prestre,* or the **Priest's Cap,* in Fortification, is an Out-work having at the Head three Saliant Angles, and two Inwards. 1887 R. B. IRWIN in *Battles & Leaders Civ. War* III. 595 Paine attacked..at..the strongest point of the whole work, the priest-cap near the Jackson road. 1899 *Daily News* 14 Sept. 6/4 Rabbi—, attired in white robes, bound by a girdle, and surmounted by the scarf and priest-cap of white silk. 1688 SIR J. KNATCHBULL *Diary* in *N. & Q.* 3rd Ser. (1864) VI. 2/1 We should pay that respect to our *Priest-catchers they expected att our hands. 1886 J. GILLOW *Lit. & Biog. Hist. Eng. Cath.* II. 531 One of those objectionable officials called pursuivants or priest-catchers. 1644 *Mercurius Civicus* 17-25 July 587 He would have nothing to doe with such *priest-catching Knaves. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 133 Wee found him besett close with Walter Montague, his *priest chaplaine. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/1 *Preste crowne, *quedam herba vel flos.* 1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Prestes crowne that flyeth about in somer, *barbedieu.* 1598 FLORIO, *Ambrosine,..* Also Dandelion, Priests crown, Swines snout, Monkshead or Dogs teeth. 1897 HAZLITT *Ourselves* 67 The *Priest-Doctor has, like the Barber-Surgeon, relinquished his double function. *c* 1200 ORMIN 489, & talde laȝhess *presteflocc Comm all off þa twa prestess. 1848 ELIZA COOK *He that is without Sin* i, A simple creed, Whose saving might has no *priest-guarded bound. 1894 FISHWICK *Hist. Lancs.* 222 *Priest-harbouring was soon amongst the most prolific causes of arrest and imprisonment. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 128 Þe maister of his felowship went & shrafe hym vnto a *preste hermett. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 23 May, At a Catholique house, he was fain to lie in the *priest's hole a good while. 1850 E. WARBURTON *R. Hastings* II. 185 This was one of the old places of concealment called Priests Holes. *c* 1516 *Grete Herball* CCXV. N j b/1 Some call it *prestes hode, for it hath as it were a cape & a tongue in it lyke serpentyne of dragons. 1875 FOLEY *Rec. Eng. Prov. Soc. Jesus* I. I. 493 Mr. Wiseman..got the *priest-hunters to come there at midnight with their band. 1907 *Daily News* 28 May 11/2 It is known also as Wake-Robin, Cuckoo Pint, and Lords-and-Ladies, but neither of these names describes the plant so well as the quaint *Priest-in-the-Pulpit. 1866-7 BARING-GOULD *Cur. Myths Mid. Ages, Prester John* (1894) 46 The reports..of the piety and the magnificence of the *Priest-King [Prester John]. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 55 Lower Egypt throws off the yoke of the priest-Kings of Thebes. 1895 SAYCE *Patriarchal Palestine* iii. 74 [Abram] had restored peace to the country of the priest-king [Melchizedek]. 1905 *Expositor* Mar. 185 The character assumed by the Maccabaean *priest-kingdom. 1826 W. E. ANDREWS *Exam. Fox's Cal. Prot. Saints* 47 The cause for which the *priest-knight and the duchess-gentlewoman suffered. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xv. Wks. 1851 III. 451 Those *Priest-led Herodians with thir blind guides are in the Ditch already. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Sonn. conc. Jesus* xviii, Despised! rejected by the priest-led roar Of multitudes! 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 175 Thre fardellis *prest lynnyng, allegit schippit be Anthonie Triciane. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 86 Much less wou'd you..have carry'd on this magophony, or *priest-massacre, with such a barbarous zeal. 1881 T. E. BRIDGETT *Hist. Eucharist in Gt. Brit.* II. 167 Regulations regarding the private masses of the *priest-monks. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 38 The policy of the old *priest-nobles of Egypt and India. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 76 'Twas satisfaction enough to the *priest-philosopher. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lvi. 222 The first kinde is called in Greeke ὄρχις, Orchis..in English ..*Priest pintell. *Ibid.* III. vii. 323 This plant is called..in Latine Arum:..in English also it is commonly called Aron, Priestes pyntill, Cockowpintell. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 56/1 A Dog-stone flower..is generally known by the name of Priest-Pintle, or Goat-Stones. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 440 The *priest-poet, appointed eulogizer of the deity he serves, is the first poet. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 56 The conflict of the Ethiopian *priest-princes..was in part national. 1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* xix. 271 As guiltless..As is the oracle of an extinct god Of its *priest-prompted answer. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 27 He says not, they *were* *priest-strivers, but were *like* priest-strivers, persons whose habit it was to strive with those who spoke in God's Name. 1679 BRADLEY in R. Mansel *Narr. Popish Plot* (1680) 49 She heard the said Lawton was a *Priest-taker. 1681 DRYDEN *Spanish Friar* III. iii. 36 A *Priest-trap at their door to lay, For holy Vermin that in houses prey. 1688 *Exped. Prince of Orange* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 471 The prince commanded Dr. Burnet to order the *priest-vicars of the cathedral, not to pray for the prince of Wales. 1837-8 *Act* 1 & 2 *Vict.* c. 106 § 39 Any spiritual person, being Prebendary, Canon, Priest Vicar, Vicar Choral, or Minor Canon in any Cathedral or Collegiate Church. 1901 *Crockford's Cler. Direct.* p. lvii, Exeter... Priest-Vicars, a Corporation. 1895 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* Dec. 1074 The recovery of this race..is by a *Priest-Victim foreshadowed in ancient predictions.

Priest (prēst), *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To exercise the ministry or functions of a priest. Also *to priest it.* ? *Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 34 Prestis þat prestun wel be þei hade worþi dowble honor. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 158 Courters become prestes nought knowynge but the dyce; They preste not for god, but for a benefyce. 1642 T. GOODWIN *Christ set forth* 120 Christ had not been an High-Priest, if he had not gone to heaven, and Priested it there too (as I may so speak).

2. *trans.* To make (any one) a priest; to ordain to the priesthood, admit to priest's orders.

1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 97 Tyll he be of lawfull age to

be prystyd. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 309 Thow wes prestyt, and ordanit be Sathan For to be borne to do thy kin defame. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 285 One Stephen was made Pope, who..doth first unpriest, and afterwardes newpriest agayne all such as Const. before him had priested. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Phil.* i. 1 And yet how eager were our late factours for Rome to have priested us all. 1823 Bp. J. JEBB in Forster *Life* App. 721 Deacons seeking to be priested, must exhibit their letters of orders. 1896 J. H. WYLIE *Hist. Eng. Hen. IV*, III. 394 John was only in deacon's orders, but he was priested by Cardinal Brogny.

†**3.** To bless as a priest: see PRIESTED below.

Hence **Prie·sted** *ppl. a.*, (*a*) ordained to the priesthood; † (*b*) blessed by a priest (quot. 1603); **Prie·sting** *vbl. sb.*, (*a*) the function of a priest, priestly ministration; (*b*) ordination to the priesthood.

1550 CROWLEY *Inform. & Petit.* 2 For lyk causes do our ministers..applye themselues to priestyng, because they lyke wel the ydelnes of the lyfe. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 80 To have a precious payre of priested gloves..[such] as they may use against any Sparrow-blasting or Sprite-blasting of the Devil. 1609 Bp. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 123 Had She not relied too much vpon the Priested sort, her End had not beene so sudden nor vnkinde. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* 24 Bearing the image of God according to his ruling, and of Christ according to his priesting. 1891 S. MOSTYN *Curatica* ix, It was the anniversary..of my ordination, and the day of my priesting.

Priestal (prī·stăl), *a. rare.* [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -AL.] Pertaining to or having the character of a priest or priests; sacerdotal.

1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* xvii. § 2. 340 Apparent priests may be not really priestal. 1848 CHEEVER *Wand. Pilgr.* xxviii. 184 The matter has ended in the establishment of a priestal republican despotism.

Priestcraft (prī·stkraft).

1. The 'craft' or business of a priest; the exercise of priestly functions. (Now only as an etymological nonce-use.)

1483 *Seill of Caus* Edin. 2 May, MS. (Jam.), To the wpholde of devyne service at the said alter ouklie and daylie, and to the priestcraft at the alter as effeirs. 1900 in *Ch. Times* 9 Mar. 267/2 'Craft' means art, dexterity, skill... Priestcraft in a good sense simply means the diligent and able exercise of priestly functions.

2. Priestly craft, or policy; the arts used by ambitious and worldly priests to impose upon the multitude or further their own interests.

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 1 In pious times ere priestcraft did begin. 1700 TOLAND *Clito* x, Religion's safe, with Priestcraft is the War. 1796 Bp. WATSON *Apol. Bible* (ed. 2) 197 The extreme folly, to which credulity and priestcraft can go. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* I. viii, I would preserve the delusions of priestcraft, for they are serviceable to the multitude. 1869 L. SCHMITZ in *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antig.* 838/2 Freethinkers and unbelievers looked upon the [Delphic] oracle as a skilful contrivance of priestcraft which had then outgrown itself.

Hence **Prie·stcrafty** *a.*, characterized by priestcraft. 1846 WORCESTER cites *Ch. Ob.*

Priestdom (prī·stdŏm). [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -DOM.]

†**a.** The office of priest, priesthood. *Obs.* †**b.** With possessive, as a mock title (cf. PRIESTSHIP). *Obs.* **c.** The rule or dominion of priests. *rare.*

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 135 b, He was cursed and loost the kyngdome and also the prestdome. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 26, I woulde praye your priestdomes to tell me which is the better scholler. 1615 Sir E. HOBY *Curry-combe* iii. 130 Your answer puts the nose of your Priestdome clean out of ioynt. 1871 H. B. FORMAN *Living Poets* 372 The people crucified by king-craft and priest-dom. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog Myrtle* I. i. 20 It is a mistaken belief that priestdom died when they spelled it Presbytery.

†**Prie·sterly,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [app. ad. G. *priesterlich*, f. *priester* PRIEST *sb.* + *-lich*, -LY 1.] = PRIESTLY.

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xix. 6 Ye shall be vnto me a presterly kingdome, and an holy people.

†**Prie·stery.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -ERY.] Priests collectively; a body or company of priests. (*contemptuous.*)

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* i, The King among all his priestery, and all those numberless volumes of their theological distillations, not meeting with one man or book of that coat that could befriend him with a prayer in captivity.

Priestess (prī·stĕs). [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -ESS 1, taking the place of the earlier PRIESTRESS.]

1. A female priest; a woman who holds the position and performs the functions of a priest, or (loosely) of a minister of religion.

1693 CREECH in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 336 He goes to Delphos, humbly begs Advice; And thus the Priestess by Command replies. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 99 Priestesses or women-presidents are not to be constituted in the church. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) II. 416 In the next room are the heads of Livia Augusta veiled, and a priestess of Cybele. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 451 The gifted priestess among the quakers is known by her green apron. 1884 Sir S. ST. JOHN *Hayti* v. 184 He [Salnave]..made considerable presents to the [Vaudoux] priests and priestesses.

b. *fig.* and *transf.*

1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 234 Her priestess Muse forbids the Good to die, And opes the temple of Eternity. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* I. 101 If mistresses of families will make their own passions their idols, they can seldom hope for virtuous priestesses to serve the altar. 1817 Lady MORGAN *France* I. (1818) I. 48 Pretty *bouquets* are tossed into the carriage windows..while the little priestesses of Flora offer their gratuitous prayer of '*bon voyage*'. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iii, O Sorrow, cruel fellowship, O Priestess in the vaults of Death.

2. A priest's wife. (*colloq.*)

1709 Mrs. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* I. 158 The Priestess flounced out of the House, call'd for her Coachman, and bid him put in his Horses, for away would she go. 1778 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 207/2 The Jew priest of the Hamburgh Synagogue, in Fenchurch-Street, was divorced from his priestess.

Hence **Prie·stesshood,** the office of a priestess; the system of priestesses.

1841 C. E. LESTER *Glory Eng.* II. 139 When one of the six..happens to die, the remaining five fill up the void; and thus the priesthood, or, rather, priestesshood, lives on in a sort of corporate immortality. 1887 H. R. HAWEIS *Light of Ages* v. 145 The priesthood and priestesshood were as perfectly organised.

†**Prie·sthead.** Forms: see PRIEST: also 4–6 **prestede, -hed.** [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -HEAD.] = next.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21695 Quen strijf was bute þe preisthede In þaa dais mang þe Iuus lede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 62 Of þar prestede he had hade, Bot seruice til ydolis he made. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 30 Biforn þat presthed was hied. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 36 S. Paul writis ..of his [Christ's] halie preistheid and sacrifis. 1535 COVERDALE *Mal.* iii. *heading*, Off the abrogacion of the olde leuiticall prestheade. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 96 Thomas Creme some tyme archebyshoppe of Cantorbery..was degradyd..of hys archebyshoppechеppe, & presthed. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 110 The onlie Prince of ye priestheed of God.

Priesthood (prī·stˌhud). Forms: see PRIEST and -HOOD; also 4 **prestod, -hold,** 6 **-woode.** [OE. *préosthád*, f. *préost*, PRIEST *sb.* + *-hád*, -HOOD.]

1. The office or function of a priest; the condition of being a priest; the order of priest.

a 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii. (1890) 34 Ða gelamp þæt he sumne Godes mann preosthades [*orig.* clericum quendam].. on gestliðnysse onfeng. *c* 1000 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 3692 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* 98 *Clericatus*, preosthades. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 58 Who euere comeþ to prestod. *Ibid.* 78 Nowe, whanne presthold stondeþ in peny clerkis. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 105 Symon..preost of þe temple and bisshop,..bouȝte þe preosthood of Appolinus duke of Phenicia. *Ibid.* 125 He hadde renewed þe principalte and þe preosthode. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Preesthood, *presbiteratus*. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, Reuerende Father in God, I presente unto you, these persones presente, to bee admitted to the ordre of Priesthode. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vii. § 12 When an order of Priesthood different from the Aaronicall should be set up. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* x. (1732) 142 He therefore..is like him that abuses the Priesthood. 1865 R. W. DALE *Jew. Temp.* xiii. (1877) 139 It was these circumstances that made the priesthood of Melchizedek unique.

b. The priestly office of Christ, of his Church, or of believers.

1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* vii. 24 [Christ], for that he dwelle into withouten ende, hath euerelastyng presthod. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 130 To explain the Priesthood, and Priestly Acts of our Saviour. 1851 PUSEY *Let. to Bp. London* 25 In His abiding Priesthood after the order of Melchisedech, He pleads, in Heaven, what He has commanded us to plead on earth. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* cx. ii, And the pale Victim, in the strife, Eternal priesthood earns. 1897 R. C. MOBERLY *Ministerial Priesthood* iii. 87 The true rationale and the true distinction (within the inclusive priesthood of the Christian Church Body) at once of the priesthood of the Christian layman, and of the priesthood of the Christian minister. *Ibid.* iii. § 2. 251 The Church's priesthood being in its inner truth the priesthood of Christ, is a substantial reality.

c. The priestly office personified.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xxii. 334 Grace deuysede A cart, hihte cristendome, to carien home peers sheues;..And made preesthood haiwarde. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 839 Preesthood theym folowyd with the Sacramentes, And Sadnesse also with the Commaundementes. *Ibid.* 1426, 1452, etc.

†**d.** With possessive, as a mock title for a priest.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 23 What, Cardinall? Is your Priest-hood growne peremptorie?

2. The office or order as embodied in or represented by the persons holding it; hence, The system of priests; the or a body of priests.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 93 Riȝt so out of holicherche alle yueles spredeth, There inparfyt presthod is prechoures and techeres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11778 The glemyng of gold, þat glottes þere hertis..puttes the pouer of pristhode abake. 1539 BIBLE (Great) 1 *Tim.* iv. 14 The layinge on of handes by the auctoryte of presthode. 1678 DRYDEN & LEE *Œdipus* III. i, Oh, why has priesthood privilege to lie, And yet to be believed! 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 415 This severity is easily accounted for from the dignity assumed by the priesthood. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii, But the priests—I doubt the priesthood Will not be with us. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxi. 361 Sacred books used by the priesthood and laity of Mongolia.

transf. and *fig.* 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* ii. 9 Ȝe ben a kynd chosun, kyngly presthod, holy folk [1526 TINDALE, a chosen generacion, a royall presthod]. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 257 Schemes of public instruction..may hire the literary priesthood of philosophy, to all the servility which it imputes to the Christian clergy. 1901 Bp. GORE in *Daily Chron.* 18 Oct. 6/7 There must be a priesthood of medicine.

Priestia·nity. *nonce-wd.* [Humorously f. PRIEST *sb.* after *Christianity.*] A hostile appellation for a priestly system or doctrine.

1720 T. GORDON (*title*) Priestianity, or a View of the Disparity between the Apostles and the Modern Inferior Clergy. 1823 PARR *Let. to R. Odell* Wks. 1828 VIII. 224 He has a larger share of priestianity than of christianity.

†**Prie·stish,** *a. Obs.* [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Of, belonging to, or characteristic of a priest; priestly, sacerdotal. (Chiefly *contemptuous.*)

1529 *Supplic. to King* (E. E. T. S.) 45 No neade of longe, prystishe prayers. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 26 b, Pope Siricius ordayned yᵗ priestishe orders should not be geuen altogether at one time, but at sundrye tymes. 1569 E. HAKE *Newes Powles Churchyarde* F vij, Much lesse that I depraued haue all Preachers so attyrde In Priestish weedes, as Popelings were.

Priestism (prī·stiz'm). [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -ISM.] The system, spirit, methods, or practices of priests; sacerdotalism. (In hostile use.)

1842 MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 145 Priestism, the first-born child of worldliness and hypocrisy. 1887 J. PARKER in *Chr. World* 4 Aug. 589 All priestism is bad, whether in the Establishment or in Nonconformist churches.

Priestless (prī·stlĕs), *a.* [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a priest; not having, or not attended by, a priest.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11301 Euere lokede þis burgeis wan hii were vorþ idriue, Prestles hom was wel wo þat hii nere issriue. 1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 145 In these priestless parish churches, at the hour of mass the congregation assembles. 1885 FAIRBAIRN *Catholicism Rom. & Angl.* iv. (1899) 169 It stood among the ancient faiths as a strange and extraordinary thing—a priestless religion.

Priestlet (prī·stlĕt). [f. as prec. + -LET.] = PRIESTLING 1. (Contemptuous.)

1880 VERN. LEE *Stud. Italy* 157 Dapper literary priestlets redolent of bergamot and sonnets. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* 568 The priestlets in the train of a bishop.

Priestlike (prī·stlaik), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. as prec. + -LIKE.] Like, or like that of, a priest; resembling, pertaining or proper to, characteristic of, or befitting a priest; priestly, sacerdotal.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IV. 702 Than Wallace..Arayit him weill in till a preistlik goun. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe O* iv b, Let your portion be priestlike and not princelike. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 345 A very learned, religious, and priestlike apology. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. i. 56 We haue suppler Soules Then in our Priest-like Fasts. *a* 1821 KEATS *Last Sonn.*, The moving waters at their priestlike task Of pure ablution round earth's human shores. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 189 There is something priest-like in that Life of his.

B. *adv.* Like a priest; in the character or manner of a priest.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 152 Hazard their liuinges rather then go priestlike. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 237, I haue trusted thee..With all the neerest things to my heart, as well My Chamber-Councels, wherein (Priest-like) thou Hast cleans'd my Bosome.

Priestliness (prī·stlinĕs). [f. PRIESTLY *a.* + -NESS.] Priestly quality or character.

1681 *Whole Duty Nations* 22 Cloath'd with that Denomination of Priestliness, use hath appropriated to it. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xliv, The Bishop..had now..to restrain his exuberant priestliness. 1897 R. C. MOBERLY *Ministerial Priesthood* vii. § 3. 263 The true priestliness necessarily carries with it the pastoral character: the real pastoral character is but an expression, in outward life, of priestliness.

Priestling (prī·stlin). [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -LING 1.]

1. A little, young, petty, or insignificant priest. (Usually contemptuous.)

1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 286 This brave young priestling as he sacrificed, and caperd about the Altars,.. was curiously eyed of all. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 570 The Rebellion which was even then design'd in the close purpose of these unhallow'd Priestlings. 1816 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XIV. 352 For the purpose of conciliating the good will of the prelates and priestlings. 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* iv. 29 Such fudge, As priestlings prate, Is his guerdon.

2. A person weakly or servilely devoted to a priesthood or priestly system. *rare.* (Cf. *worldling.*)

1720 GORDON & TRENCHARD *Independ. Whig* (1728) 179 It is no Wonder that weak People now a-days should believe in Priests, and not in Christ; should be Priestlings, and not Christians. 1907 *19th Cent.* Mar. 464 The priestlings of the Centre exclaimed that the finger of God had done it.

Priestly (prī·stli), *a.* [f. PRIEST *sb.* + -LY 1: in OE. *préostlic.*]

1. Of or pertaining to a priest or priests; sacerdotal; † in OE., canonical (*obs.*).

c 1000 *Corp. Chr. Coll. Camb. MS.* 191, 150 Eac ic minzie þæt hi ȝemunon þæs preostlican regoles. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* viii. 55, I weied them the golde & the syluer & all the prestly ornamentes of the house of oure God. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. vii. (1634) 156 They are all endued both with Priestly and Kingly honour. 1641 *Impeachm. Wren* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 354 Some of which he did against his Priestly Word given to the said Patrons, or their Friends, *in verbo Sacerdotis*, not to do the same. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. II. 224 Lactantius said little ..of Christ's priestly office. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* xi. II. 6 The tribe which has been taken for a priestly caste. 1891 MARQ. SALISBURY in *Daily News* 22 Jan. 6/1 Priestly rule is the great vice of the religious organization..; it is the attempt to use the influence gained by teachers of religion, by virtue of their holy mission, in the furtherance of secular ends. 1901 Bp. GORE *Body of Christ* iv. § 4 (1907) 255 The fathers..clearly see that the priestly action of Christ is now in heaven.

b. *Priestly code*, in O. T. criticism: A name given to one of the constituent elements which recent criticism finds in the Hexateuch, and holds to constitute the framework of the whole in its existing form. Also called *Priests' code*, *Priestly writing*; so *Priestly writer*, the writer of this.

[1891 DRIVER *Introd. Lit. O. Test.* 9 By Ewald it was termed the 'Book of Origins'; by Tuch and Nöldeke, from the fact that it seemed to form the groundwork of our Hexateuch, the 'Grundschrift'; more recently, by Well-

hausen, Kuenen, and Delitzsch, it has been styled the 'Priests' Code'. This last designation is in strictness applicable only to the ceremonial sections in Ex.—Nu...It may be represented conveniently, for the sake of brevity, by the letter P.] 1899 F. H. Woods in *Hastings' Dict. Bible* II. 365/2 Thus we find three distinct codes—the Covenant code (C), the Deuteronomic (D), the Levitical or Priestly (P). *Ibid.* 368/2, P. The Priestly Book. The most striking general characteristics of P. 1900 Carpenter & Harford-Battersby *Hexateuch* I. xiii. 121 The Priestly Code. The large extent and the complicated character of this great collection raise many problems. 1901 *Encycl. Biblica* II. 2050 The characteristic feature in the hypothesis of Graf is that the Priestly Code is placed later than Deuteronomy, so that the order is no longer Priestly Code, Yahwist (JE), Deuteronomy, but Jehovist (JE), Deuteronomy, Priestly Code. 1905 *Expositor* Jan. 68 The district ..is termed by the Priestly Writer the 'Steppes of Moab'.

2. Befitting or characteristic of a priest; like that of a priest.

1504-5 in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) I. 641 Such .. honest conversation..as..shalbe thought convenient and prestly. 1608 Shaks. *Per.* III. i. 70 Hie thee whiles I say A priestly farewell to her. 1905 A. C. Benson *Upton Lett.* (1906) 25 He [Newman] had little of the priestly hunger to save souls.

3. Having the character or aspect of a priest; such as a priest is or should be; like a priest.

1465 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 242 A prystly man and vertusly dysposyd. 1832 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) I. 51 John Johnston, the priestliest man I ever under any ecclesiastical guise was privileged to look upon.

4. Holding the office of a priest; that is a priest. *Priestly writer*, in O. T. criticism: see 1 b.

1817 Shelley *Rev. Islam* XII. ix, Scared by the faith they feigned, each priestly slave Knelt for his mercy whom they served with blood.

Prie·stly, *adv. rare.* [f. Priest *sb.* + -ly 2.] In the character of, or in a way befitting, a priest.

c 1400 *Apol. Lollt.* 59 þat þey be þolid to minister prestly oþer sacraments. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 170 b, How blessyd ben preestes sayth he [S. Bernard] yf they preestly lyue. 1511 Colet *Serm. Conf. & Ref.* B iv b, Pristes, nat lyuynge pristly but secularly, to the vtter and miserable distruction of the churche. 1755 J. Shebbeare *Lydia* (1769) II. 78 His peruke was priestly smart.

†**Prie·stress.** *Obs. rare.* [Late ME. *prestresse*, a. OF. *prestresse* (mod. *prêtresse*), f. OF. *prestre* Priest + *-esse*, -ess 1.] = Priestess.

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XI. ii, There serued grete plente of prestis and priesteresses. 1490 — *Eneydos* xvii. 66 Thyas ye grete prestresse. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 866 The priestresse of Minerva in Athens. *Ibid.* 1301.

Priest-ridden (prī·st,ri·d'n), *ppl. a.* Also -rid (*obs.* or *arch.*). [f. Priest *sb.* + Ridden *ppl. a.*] 'Ridden', i. e. managed or controlled by a priest or priests; held in subjection by priestly authority.

a. 1653 Waterhouse *Apol. Learn.* 82 That pusillanimity ..which by many in our Age scornfully is called Priest-riddenness as I may so say, their term being Priest-ridden when they express a man addicted to the Clergie. 1681 Dryden *Spanish Friar* II. iii, Was ever man thus priest-ridden? 1705 Hickeringill *Priest-cr.* II. viii. 80 Nothing but the Redemption of the Priest-ridden Laiety from Priest-craft Slavery and Tyranny could have perswaded me to this ungrateful..Toil. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xi, I have been abroad, and know better than to be priest-ridden. 1849 [see *press-ridden*: Press *sb.*1 15]. 1864 Burton *Scot Abr.* I. v. 290 *note*, The Scots are called a priest-ridden people, yet their most esteemed jests are against the clergy.

β. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 411 Which..they endeavoured to keep as ignorant as they could, that the People might be the more patiently Priest-rid. 1714 Mandeville *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 260 Men [may] be..religious tho' they refus'd to be priest-rid. 1860 Reade *Cloister & H.* (1861) II. 28 Not the first fool that has been priest-rid, and monk-bit.

Hence **Prie·st-ri·ddenness,** the condition of being priest-ridden. So (*nonce-wds.*) **Prie·st-ri·ding,** the domination or tyranny of priests; **Prie·st-ride** *v. trans.* (*rare*), to control as a priest.

1653 Priest-riddenness [see above]. 1705 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 156 Common aversion against Priest-riding. 1733 *Revolution Politicks* III. 59 'Tis well if they don't priest-ride you.

Priestship (prī·st,ʃip). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ship.] The office of priest; also as a mock title: = Priesthood 1, 1 d.

1642 Sir E. Dering *Sp. on Relig.* 96 The Kingship and Priestship of every particular man. 1648 Milton *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 572 We know your classic Priest-ship is too gripple, for ye are always begging. 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1442 My salutation to your priestship! 1896 Goddard in *Mission. Herald* Jan. 27/1 The priestship for this temple descends from father to son.

Priest-shire. *Hist. rare.* [repr. OE. *préostscír*, f. *préost*, Priest *sb.* + *scír*, Shire.] A district to which a priest ministered: a term equivalent to 'parish'.

c 1000 *Eccles. Inst.* c. 14 in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* II. 410 Ne spane nan mæsse-preost nanne mon of oðre cyrcean hyrnysse to his cyrcan, ne of oðre preost-scyre lære, þæt mon hys cyrcan gesece. 1844 Lingard *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. iv, 144 *note*, These districts allotted to priests were called priestshires.

†**Priesty·bulous,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. A pun on Prostibulous, meretricious (also in Bale).

1550 Bale *Image Both Ch.* xiii. H iij, Their more then Iewish ceremonies, their priestybulous priesthoode, theyr vowing to haue no wiues.

Prieue, prieve, obs. f. Proof and Prove.

Prife, var. Prive *v. Obs.* **Priffe,** obs. f. Privy *a.*

†**Prig,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* Also 5-6 prigg, pryg(ge (7 prydg). [App. another form of Sprig *sb.* (nail). Cf. Prag *sb.*1] (?) = Sprig, brad (usually collective).

1410 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 447 (Wye) Tile-prig 6200 @ *m*/10. 1411 *Ibid.*, Wogh prig nails...Tyle prig. 1415 *Ibid.*, (Charles & Rowhill) Prignail. 1420 *Ibid.* 448 (Lullington) Prigg. 1460 *Ibid.* 453 Prigs. 1490 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.* (1885) 12 Item payde for prygge and lathe iiij*d*. 1548 *Hawkhurst Ch. Acc.* in *Archæol. Cant.* V. 61 Payde..for prygge and nayls iiij*s* iiij*d*. 1611 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For a thousand of prydgs xviij d. *Comb.* 1540 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd for a pryg hammer ij d.

Prig (prig), *sb.*2 Now *dial.* Also 6 pryg, *pl.* prygges. [Origin unascertained. Cf. Pig *sb.*2] A small pan of brass or tin; see also quot. 1674.

1511 *Pleadings Duchy Lancaster* (1896) XXXII. 53, v brasse pottes, ij pannes, iij prigges. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 60 Ffyve pannes and twoo prygges or lyttel pannes. 1636 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc.) 15 Apperteyninge to the Kitchen. 2 Priggs. 1674-91 Ray *S. & E. C. Words* 110 A *Prigge*, a small Pitcher: this is I suppose, a general word in the South Country. 1703 Thoresby *Let. to Ray* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Prigge*, a little brass skellet. 1896 *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 16 May (E. D. D.), Put t' prig on t' fire.

Prig (prig), *sb.*3 (*a.*) Also 6 prygg, 7-8 prigg. [In branch I originally Rogues' Cant, of obscure origin: cf. the cognate vb. Prig *v.*1 It is not clear whether the other senses (which appear more than a century later) arose out of 1, or represent, as is possible, a different word; in either case, the history of their sense-development is uncertain; they are here arranged chronologically. (If there should prove to be two separate words, the derivatives Priggish, Priggism, Prigster, will also consist each of two distinct words.)

In the following passage Baxter plays on this word as agreeing with the initial letters of PRoud IGnorance, in which, and the want of Christian Love, he sees the cause of excommunication, persecution, and schism.

1684 Baxter *Twelve Argts.* § 16. 29 The worldly PR. IGs. and the unruly PR. IGs. by Persecution, and by causeless Separation and Alienation, have done the hurt.]

I. †**1.** *Rogues' Cant.* A tinker. *Obs.*

1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 59 These dronken Tynckers, called also Prygges, be beastly people.

2. *slang.* A thief. Now usually a petty thief.

1610 Rowlands *Martin Markall* (Hunter. Cl.) 42 That did the prigg good that bingd in the kisome. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 108 Hee..married a Tinkers wife..and (hauing flowne ouer many knauish professions) he setled onely in Rogue: some call him *Autolicus*. *Clowne.* Out vpon him: Prig, for my life Prig: he haunts Wakes, Faires, and Bearebaitings. 1651 J. Shirley (*title*) An Excellent Comedy, Called, The Prince of Priggs Revels, or, The Practices of that grand Thief Captain James Hind. 1743 Fielding *J. Wild* I. v, The same endowments have often composed the statesman and the Prig: for so we call what the vulgar name a Thief. 1831 *Lincoln Her.* 28 Jan., Serenely thieved the nightly prigs. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xliii, Why didn't he rob some rich old gentleman.., and go out as a gentleman, and not like a common prig, without no honour nor glory! 1842 Miall in *Nonconf.* II. 66, I am a prig, Sir: I lives by prigging whatever I can get. 1874 W. S. Gilbert *Charity* II, D'you sit at quarter-sessions..and sentence poor prigs?

II. *slang* and *colloq.*

†**3.** A spruce fellow, a dandy, a fop; a coxcomb.

1676 Etheredge *Man of Mode* III. iii, What spruce prig is that? 1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* I. i, Thou shalt shine and be as gay as any Spruce Prigg that ever walk'd the Street. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 77 P 1 A Cane is Part of the Dress of a Prig, and always worn upon a Button. 1788 V. Knox *Winter Even.* I. III. iv. 264 The dealers in silks and sattins might adopt some good hints from prigs in pulpits. 1835 [see Priggish *a.* 2].

†**4.** A vague term of dislike or disrespect. *Obs.* (But perh. closely allied to 6, as a censorious and didactic person who made himself disliked.)

1679 Shadwell *True Widow* Ded. A ij b, A sensless, noisie Prig. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* v. vi, What does the old Prig mean? I'll banter him, and laugh at him, and leave him. 1700 T. Brown *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 135 There's that Old Prig my Father,..as sound as a Roach still. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 403 P 5 Well, Jack, the old Prig [Louis XIV of France] is dead at last. ?1730 *Royal Remarks* 21 They said..Doctor Puzzlepate [was] an Old Put, and my self an Old Prigg. 1749 Chesterf. *Lett.* (1792) II. 218 What does the old prig threaten then?

†**5.** In late 17th and early 18th c.: Applied to a puritanical person, a precisian in religion, *esp.* a nonconformist minister. *Obs.*

In quot. 1693, 'Young Mr. Prig' may have been so called in sense 3, from his self-adornment. But Jeremy Collier treats him as a Dissenting minister: see his *Short View Immor. Stage* iii. (1698) 102 and *Defence* (1699) 65.

[1693 Congreve *Old Bach.* IV. ii, Young Mr. Prig..he is a wanton young Levite, and pampereth himself up with Dainties, that he may look lovely in the Eyes of Women;.. while her good Husband is deluded by his godly Appearance.] *a* 1704 T. Brown *Sat. French King* Wks. 1730 I. 59 In thy old age to dwindle to a Whig, By heaven, I see, thou'rt in thy heart a prig. 1720-1 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) II. 212 He may be as subtile as a young Prig, who held forth for two long Hours..against Episcopacy. 1744 Z. Grey *Notes Butler's Hudibras* I. i. 10, I have heard of..a Precisian.., who after the Restoration, rebuking an orthodox clergyman for the length of his hair;..he [the clergyman] replied, 'Old Prig, I promise you to cut my hair up to my ears, provided you will cut your ears up to your hair'. 1752 *Adventurer* No. 12 P 11 A formal prig, of whom he knew nothing but that he went every morning and evening to prayers. 1752 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 8 The Sectaries, who are in Possession of this Place, are entitled Prigs.

6. A precisian in speech or manners; one who cultivates or affects a propriety of culture, learning, or morals, which offends or bores others; a conceited or self-important and didactic person. (Only in later use including women.)

1753 Smollett *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 57/1 The templar is, generally speaking, a prig; so is the abbé: both are distinguished by an air of petulance and self-conceit, which holds a middle rank betwixt the insolence of a first-rate buck, and the learned pride of a supercilious pedant. *a* 1771 Gray *Lett. Alphabet* Wks. 1843 V. 220 Now a pert Prig, he perks upon your face, Now peers, pores, ponders, with profound grimace. 1778 Johnson 7 Apr. in *Boswell*, Harris, however, is a prig, and a bad prig...(Boswell) He says things in a formal and abstract way to be sure. *a* 1805 A. Carlyle *Autobiog.* 441 The clergy..are in general..divided into bucks and prigs... The prigs are truly not to be *endured*, for they are but half learned, are ignorant of the world, narrow-minded, pedantic, and overbearing. 1824 W. Irving *T. Trav.* I. 256 The school was kept by a conscientious prig of the ancient system. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 372 The peculiar impudence ingrained into the natural disposition of the prig. 1872 Geo. Eliot *Middlem.* xi, A prig is a fellow who is always making you a present of his opinions. 1877 Mrs. Forrester *Mignon* I. 39 The ideal woman is a prig. 1879 Trollope *Thackeray* v. 129 The virtues are all there with Henry Esmond, and the flesh and blood also...But still there is left a flavour of the character which Thackeray himself tasted when he called his hero a prig. 1897 *Academy* Suppl. 20 Nov. 111/1 A prig may repent of his or her ways and yet not be able to turn from them, and so at last we find her confirmed in her priggishness.

b. *fig.* Applied to a thing considered priggish.

1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 49 Only, I could endure a transfer..just Of Joyeux church, exchanged for yonder prig, Our brand-new stone cream-coloured masterpiece.

7. *attrib.* or *Comb.* in sense 6. **a.** = 'of a prig or prigs', as *prig-manufactory*; **b.** appositive = 'that is a prig', as *prig-parson, -preacher, -puppy, -scoundrel*; **c.** **prig-napper** (*Rogues' Cant*): see quot. *a* 1700.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prig-napper*, a Horse-Stealer; also a Thief-taker. [So 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*] 1728 Swift *Let. Publ. Dublin Whly. Jrnl.* 14 Sept., To laugh at all the prig puppies that could not speak Spanish. 1785 Trusler *Mod. Times* I. 139 A smart prig preacher of twenty-five. 1824-9 Landor *Imag. Conv.* xiii. Wks. 1846 I. 80/2 Cowper..possessed a rich vein of ridicule,..opening it on prig parsons, and graver and worse impostors. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Feb. 184/2 The subtle and fatal influences of the prig-manufactory. 1904 A. Lang *Tennyson* viii. 187 He is that venomous thing, the prig-scoundrel.

B. *adj.* (from attrib. use in 7) = priggish, precise, proper, exact. *rare.*

1775 S. J. Pratt *Liberal Opin.* LXXXV. (1783) III. 129 Stockings..and buckles..of so modest..a pattern, that they utterly discarded all the vagaries of the mode; yet were they..prig, prim, prue, and parsonly. 1872 H. W. Beecher in *Chr. World Pulpit* II. 341 That..which is contained in our system of trig and prig theology.

Hence (from 6) **Pri·gdom, Pri·ghood,** the state or condition of a prig or prigs; **Pri·ggess** *rare*, a female prig.

1878 Besant & Rice *Monks Thelema* iv, So you really think..that my son..will drop the livery of prigdom, and talk..like other people. 1884 J. Hawthorne *N. Hawthorne & Wife* I. 120 He steered equally clear of the Scylla of prigdom, and the Charybdis of recklessness. 1890 *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 532 Unwholesome little pragmatical prigesses. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 31 Aug. 3/2 George Washington's heroism has always hovered uncomfortably near the region of prighood.

Prig (prig), *v.*1 [In sense 1, goes with Prig *sb.*3 2, both being orig. Rogues' Cant. Branch II may be a different and even earlier word (in which case the derivatives Prigging, etc. will also consist of two words); but nothing has been ascertained as to the origin in either sense.

(Some compare sense 4 with It. *preg-are* to pray, beg.)]

I. 1. *trans.* To steal. (*Thieves' Cant.*) Now, usually said of petty theft.

(In early instances often in reference to horse-stealing.)

1561 [implied in Prigger 1 and Prigman]. 1567 Harman *Caveat* (1869) 42 A Prigger of Prauncers be horse stealers; for to prigge signifieth in their language to steale. 1591 Greene *Conny Catching* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 78 He bestrides the horse which he priggeth, and saddles and bridles him as orderly as if he were his own. 1616 Bullokar *Eng. Exp.*, *Prigge*, to filch, to steale. 16.. *Tom O' Bedlam's Song* (L.), The palsie plague these pounces When I prig your pigs or pullen. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 210 It was Billy's boast, that he had not for many years worn a single article of dress that had not been prigged. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Jackd. Rheims*, And the Abbot declared that, 'when nobody twigg'd it, Some rascal or other had popp'd in, and prigg'd it!' 1891 E. Roper *By Track & Trail* xxvi. 387 Anecdotes..'prigged' from comic papers. *Mod. Schoolboy slang*, Who has prigged my pencil?

2. ? To plunder, to cheat.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* III. 213 The President..shook hands with me, and trusted I should soon prig the London cocknies.

II. 3. *intr.* To chaffer, to higgle or haggle about the price of anything. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1513 [implied in Prig-penny]. *c* 1620 Z. Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 54, I will not prigge, I will not you deceive. 1632 Rutherford *Lett.* (1671) 447 As the frank buyer who cometh near to what the seller seeketh, useth at last to refer the difference to his will, and so cutteth off the course of mutual prigging. Madam, do not prigge with your frank-hearted..Lord. 1681 Colvil *Whigs Supplic.* (1710) 78 The love of Pelf..makes them prigg for Milk and Eggs, Put in their Broth, Cocks-halfs, and Legs. 1755 Ramsay *Ep. Y. Clerk* 16 In comes a customer, looks big, Looks generous,

and scorns to prig. 1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 186 Men wha grew wise priggin owre hops an' raisins. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 387 Some merchants alter not the price of their goods, let the buyer prigg as he may. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Prig*, to plead hard in a bargain, to higgle in price.

b. *fig.* To haggle about terms, to try to drive a hard bargain.

1632 [see prec.]. *a* 1688 J. RENWICK *Serm.*, etc. (1887) 431 O come and lay all down at his feet and prigg not with Him. 1692 *Scot. Presbyt. Eloquence* (1738) 106, I see Christ will not prigg with me. 1703 D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. Gen. Assemb. Edin.* 59, I pray that none of Nobility or Gentry prigg with God in this matter.

c. *trans. To prig down*, to try to beat down (the *price* demanded, or the *person* who demands it).

1853 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., [He'll] ettle sair to prig you doun. 1903 *Ibid.*, He's be sure to prig doon yor price.

4. *intr.* To make entreaty, beg, importune.

1714 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) I. 553 Many think it was very great imprudence .. to prigg so with the Assembly from the throne upon this head. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax* 25 (*Poems Buchan*) Fat gars you then, mischievous tyke! For this propine to prig? 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiv, To tell us that the poor lassie behoved to die, when Mr John Kirk, as civil a gentleman as is within the ports of the town, took the pains to prigg for her himsell. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 297 He prigged and prayed for a dose o' the whiskey.

†**5.** *intr.* (Sense uncertain : quot. not Sc.). *Obs.*

1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law-Case* I. ii, Let none of these come at her..Nor Deuce-ace, the wafer woman, that prigs abroad With musk-melons, and malakatoones.

Hence **Pri'ggable** *a.*, that may be pilfered.

1900 'MAUD MARYON' *How Garden grew* 103 Lay aside, from hedgerows, corners of field or other prigable parts, some rolls of turf.

† **Prig,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* or *dial.* [Origin obscure; perh. variant of PRICK *v.* Cf. Sc. *prig-me-dainty* = PRICK-ME-DAINTY, *prigga trout* a stickleback.]

1. *intr. slang.* To ride; = PRICK *v.* 11.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 84 *To prygge*, to ride. 1609 DEKKER *Lanthorne & Candle-light* C ij. 1611 L. BARRY *Ram-Alley* I. B iv, Some of our clients will go prig to hell Before our selues. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Prigging*, Riding.

2. *U. S.* To dress *up*, adorn: cf. PRICK *v.* 20, PRINK *v.*[2] 2.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. iv, He's no more use than yer prigged-up creepers [vines].

Pri'gger[1], *slang.* Also 6 **-ar.** [f. PRIG *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] One who prigs; a thief.

1561 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 4 A Stealer of Horses, which they terme a Priggar of Paulfreys. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 43 A Gentleman ..espying a Pryggar,.. charging this prity prigginge person to walke his horse well. ..This peltynge Priggar..walkethe his horse vp and downe tyll he sawe the Gentleman out of sighte, and leapes him into the saddell, and awaye he goeth a mayne. 1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 3 The Priggar is he that steales the horse. 1673 [see CACKLER]. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Priggers*, Thieves. 1712 J. SHIRLEY *Tri. Wit, Black Profess.*, A Prigger of Cacklers..steals..the Poultry.

† **Prigger**[2]. *Obs. rare.* [? f. PRIG *v.*[2]] A rider; *spec.* A mounted highwayman.

c 1600 DAY *Begg. Bednall Gr.* I. iii. (1881) 21 He wo'd be your prigger, your prancer, your high-lawyer.

Priggery (pri'gəri). [f. PRIG *sb.*[3] + -ERY.] The action or conduct of a prig (PRIG *sb.*[3] 6).

1823 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 501 This particular piece of priggery. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Apr. 518/2 The Bayard of India did enough good work to make all right-minded men ready to forget his self-righteousness and (to use plain language) his priggery. 1886 D. HANNAY *Adm. Blake* i. (1888) 9 There was hypocrisy and spite and acrid priggery on the side of the Parliament.

Pri'gging, *vbl. sb. slang.* [f. PRIG *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PRIG *v.*[1]; **a.** (*Thieves' Cant.*) Stealing; in *mod. slang*, petty thieving, pilfering. *Prigging law* or *lay*, thieves' trade or way.

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. (1592) 3 This base villany of Prigging, or horse-stealing. 1627 E. F. *Hist. Edw. II.* (1680) 82 The Scots, that love not rest, delight in prigging. 1799 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* III. 353 Three boys brought in for prigging of wipes [pocket handkerchiefs]. 1859 *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* 99 He had tried the prigging, and had been nabbed four times, and had been twice on the mill.

1591 GREENE *Conny Catch.* II. Wks. (Grosart) X. 75 The discovery of the Prigging Law or nature of horse stealing. *Ibid.* 87 In Prigging Law. The towling place, *All-hallowes*. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 131 As from ken to ken I was going, Doing a bit on the prigging lay.

b. Higgling or haggling about price or terms; hard bargaining.

1632 [see PRIG *v.*[1] 3]. 1654 A. GRAY *Gt. Salvation* (1755) 129 Take it and have it, and there shall be no more prigging. 1821 *Joseph the Book-Man* 81 The prigging o'er,— the penny down Admitted, beef is bought anon. 1889 BARRIE *Window in Thrums* xviii. 169, I wondered at her want o' pride in priggin' wi' him.

Pri'gging, *ppl. a.* [f. PRIG *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That prigs. **a.** Thieving; **b.** haggling.

1567 [see PRIGGER[1]]. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 119 Sundry of their prigging and loose Friers..have robbed their Convents of their Church-plate and Repositories. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 55 Wee merchands are, wee are not prigging men. 1668 ROLLE *Abridgm.* I. 73 Thou art a prigging, pilfering Merchant, and hast pilfered away my Corn and my Goods. 1886 J. R. REES *Divers. Bk.-worm* iv. 136 The works of the prigging author of *Tristram*.

† **c.** ? Connected with PRIGGISH 2. *Obs.*

a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, Was ever such a prigging coxcombe seen! One might have beat him dumb now in this humour, And he'd ha' grinn'd it out still.

Priggish (pri'giʃ), *a.* [f. PRIG *sb.*[3] + -ISH.] Having the character of a prig (in various senses).

† **1.** Dishonest, thievish. *Obs. Cant.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Priggish*, Thievish.

† **2.** ? Dandyish, dandified; coxcombical. *Obs.*

1702 STEELE *Funeral* IV. (1723) 62 Major General Trim, no, Pox Trim sounds so very short and Priggish—that my Name should be a Monosyllable! 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 116 The priggish affection of yon thin old coxcomb, the earl, is so insipid and irksome, that it is intolerable. 1835 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict. Eng. Lang.* 59 In common language a Prig is a young Coxcomb, and has the adjective and adverb Priggish and Priggishly.

3. Precise, particular, conceited, pragmatical.

1752 FOOTE *Taste* II. Wks. 1799 I. 21, I adore the simplicity of the antients! How unlike the present, priggish, prick ear'd puppets! 1816 SCOTT *Fam. Let.* 22 Nov., The forehead..has not a narrow, peaked, and priggish look.. which strongly marks all the ordinary portraits [of Shakspere]. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, He was always exceedingly clean, precise, and tidy; perhaps somewhat priggish. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Jan. 12 There is..no moralizing of that offensively priggish kind which the instinct of boys teaches them to despise and mistrust. 1898 SIR E. MONSON in *Times* 7 Dec. 5/2 At the risk of being branded by that terrible epithet 'priggish', which is, I suppose, held in some quarters to be the antithesis of 'frank'.

Hence **Pri'ggishly** *adv.*, **Pri'ggishness.**

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 56/1 For the 'compliment extern' of Cockney priggishness and petty intellectual pretension, look at..Lord S——. 1835 [see PRIGGISH *a.* 2]. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* v, 'It is with great regret', said I, as priggishly and consequentially as became an Esquire. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* viii. 262 The priggishness of upstart science had to Aristophanes the air of insolent irreligion. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. lvii. 171 A good secondary officer, priggishly exact in the mechanism of a regiment, but unfit to plan a campaign or lead an army. 1898 *Spectator* 19 Feb. 268 Priggishness is narrow mindedness, with a turned up nose.

Priggism (pri'giz'm). [f. PRIG *sb.*[3] + -ISM.]

† **1.** Professional thievery or roguery. *Obs.*

1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* I. iii, An undeniable testimony of the great antiquity of Priggism. *Ibid.* IV. iii, While one hath a roguery (a Priggism they here call it) to commit, and another a roguery to defend.

† **2.** (Sense obscure.) *Obs.*

1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 86 At a Board of Priggism held here, it was pretty warmly debated..whether a Gentleman acquires more Honour by whoring than by gaming?

3. Priggishness.

a 1805 A. CARLYLE *Autobiog.* 481 The minister,..an old bachelor,..who had such a mixture of odd qualities in his composition, such as priggism and pedantry, with the affectation of being a finished gentleman. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, That your great Mechanics' Institutes end in intellectual priggism. 1891 *Times* 14 Oct. 13/6 The priggism of intellectual pretension is the one unpardonable sin.

Prighte, prizte, obs. pa. t. of PRITCH *v.*

† **Pri'gman.** *Obs.* In 6 **pryg-, pridgeman.** [f. PRIG *v.*[1] 1 + MAN *sb.*[1]] A thief; = PRIG *sb.*[3] 2.

1562 AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 3 A Prygman goeth with a stycke in hys hand like an idle person. His propertye is to steale cloathes of the hedge..or els filtch Poultry. 1567 DRANT *Horace Epist.* II. ii. H ij, A pridgeman from him pryuilie his money did purloyne.

† **Pri'gnet.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. an irreg. dim. of PRIG *sb.*[2], perh. after POSNET.] A small prig or brass vessel.

1570 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 228, 17 April..One spittell. ij prignetts xij[s].

† **Pri'g-penny.** *Sc. Obs.* [f. PRIG *v.*[1] 3 + PENNY.] One who prigs or haggles for pence; a hard bargainer.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. Prol. 98 Sum prig penny, sum pyk thank wyth privy promyt.

† **Pri'gster.** *Obs.* [f. PRIG *v.*[1] + -STER.]

1. = PRIG *sb.*[3] 4 or 6.

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* III. 38 If you meet either your Father, or Brother, or any from those Prigsters, stick up thy Countenance. 1714 C. JOHNSON *Country Lasses* V. i, Hah! Thou art a very pretty metaphorical prigster.

2. A thief, a pilferer; = PRIGGER[1].

a 1807 G. S. CAREY *Song* 'Every man his Mode' V, The Player's a Prigster of every kind.

Priis, prijs, obs. ff. PRICE, PRYS. **Priket(e, prikkett, Prikle,** obs. ff. PRICKET, PRICKLE.

† **Prill,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [app. related to It. *pirla, pirlo* 'a childes top, a gig, or twirle' (Florio) (cf. PIROUETTE), and prob. to PIRL *v.*] A whirligig, or top that one spins.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 Prylle, or whyrlegygge, as chylderys pley (or spylkok,..*K.* prille of chyldrys pleyynge, *S.* whyrgyg), *giraculum*. [*a* 1500 *Medulla Gram.* in *Promp. Parv.* 413 *note*, *Giraculum*, a pirlle.]

Prill (pril), *sb.*[2] Now *local.* [A phonetic variant of *pirle*, PURL, a small rill. Cf. PRILL *v.*] A small stream of running water; a rill.

1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 12/2 Each siluer Prill gliding on golden Sand. 1614 — *Eclogue* 150 By some prill, that 'mong the Pibbles plods. 1610 R. VAUGHAN (*title*) Most Approved And Long experienced Water-Workes. Containing The manner of Winter and Summer-drowning of Medow and Pasture, by the aduantage of the least Riuer, Brooke, Fount or Water-prill adiacent. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 464 Tints of orange-brown..coloured the prill of water running on the wayside. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Prill*, a streamlet of clear water, a rill; a runnel from a spring. [1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Worc., Shrop., Heref., Radnor, Glouc.]

† **Prill,** *sb.*[3] *Obs. rare.* [Origin doubtful; perh. a generalized use of the proper name *Prill*, short for *Priscilla*, which according to Elworthy is very common in West Somerset. Cf. GILL *sb.*[4]] A girl, a lass.

1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 78 The change of dames within the court: For Countrey prilles. *Ibid.* 83 Though that she be a countrey prill, no weight thereof doth stand: Thinke you that some those Courtly dames are not of countrey land?

Prill, *sb.*[4] *Mining.* [A local term in Cornwall.]

1. In Cornish copper-mining: The rich copper ore which remains after cobbing and separating the inferior pieces.

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 263 The reduced Copper, or as it is more usually called by the Cornish assayers, the Prill, will be found beneath the slagg. *Ibid.*, The refining the prill is a very nice operation. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 594 At present the copper-ores.. are broken or spalled as before, and divided into pieces of good ore, commonly termed prills. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 80 Detaching from each piece the inferior portions, and thus forming prill or best dradge ore.

2. Hence, A button or globule of metal obtained by assaying a specimen of ore in the cupel. *U. S.* and *Colonies.*

1864 in WEBSTER. 1880 J. PERCY *Metallurgy, Silver & Gold* I. 249 Examination of the Silver 'Prills' for Gold... One or more of the 'prills' are flattened out by hammering, and heated with dilute nitric acid [etc.].

† **Prill,** *sb.*[5], obs. variant of BRILL *sb.*[1]

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 145 *Rhombus squammosus* ..Turbut, Bret-cock, Bret, or Prill.

† **Prill,** *v. Obs. rare.* [app. a variant of *pirl*, PURL *v.*: see PRILL *sb.*[2]] *intr.* To flow, spirt, purl.

1603 STOW *Surv.* XXX. (ed. 2) 269 An Image..of Diana, and water conuayd from the Thames prilling from her naked breast for a time.

[Prill, prile, in *Rom. Rose* 1058, app. a scribal error; ? for *prill* or *prick*.]

Pri'llion. *Mining. dial.* [? Related to PRILL *sb.*[4], or to *prill* vb. dial. (Cornwall), to mix.] An inferior tin extracted from the slag.

[1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 263 The pillion (for so all Tin recovered out of the slags is called). See PILLION[3].] 1825 HAMILTON *Dict. Terms of Art, Prillion*, in Metallurgy, tin extracted from the slag of the furnace is thus named in Cornwall. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1249 The scoriæ..are stamped in the mill, and washed, to concentrate the tin grains; and from this rich mixture, called *prillion*, smelted by itself, a tin is procured of very inferior quality. 1892 *Black's Guide Cornwall* 53 The slag is pounded, stamped, and washed, and the tin, or *prillion*, extracted from it is again smelted.

† **Prim,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 **prym(me.** [Origin obscure; the sense and date are against connexion with PRIM *a.*] A pretty girl or young woman; a paramour.

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 250 Than must he have another prymme or twayne. 1514 — *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 2 Aboute all London there was no propre prym But long tyme had ben famylyer with hym. *c* 1520 *Bk. Mayd Emlyn* 42 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 84 With suche wordes douse Thys lytell prety mouse The yonge lusty prymme She coude byte and whyne. *c* 1530 *Hicks-corner* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 181, I would that hell were full of such prims, As Jane, Kate, Bess, and Sybil. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 102 So pretty a prim of every limme. [1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Prim*, (2) a neat pretty girl. *Yorksh.* (*Obs., Eng. Dial. Dict.*)]

Prim, *sb.*[2] Now *local.* [app., like PRIMP, short for PRIM-PRINT.] A name of the privet.

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 33 Set priuie or prim, set boxe like him. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. xliv, How her watchman, arm'd with boughie crest, A wall of prim hid in his bushes bears. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 445 *Ligustrum*—Primme or Priuet. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prim*, privet, spindle tree, *Ligustrum vulgare*. 1845–50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 137 The prim or privet..is found growing wild in some parts of New England.

Prim, *sb.*[3] *Obs.* or *dial.* [orig. app. a slang or cant word. Related to PRIM *a.* and PRIM *v.*, q. v.] A formal, precise, or 'stuck-up' person.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prim*, a silly empty starcht Fellow. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* III. xii. 192 A prude, or a prim, she would never wish to be.

Prim, *sb.*[4] *rare.* [f. PRIM *v.*] The act of primming or screwing up the mouth.

a 1825 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Houlston Tracts* II. No. 31. 11 When..a peculiar prim of the mouth was observed in the good housekeeper, the subject which had excited these symptoms was never pursued any further.

Prim, *sb.*[5] *dial.* (See quot.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Prim*, very small smelts. So called at Lynn, where the smelts are remarkably fine.

Prim, *a.* [Goes with PRIM *sb.*[3] and *v.*: see the latter.] Of persons, their manner, speech, etc.: Consciously or affectedly strict or precise; formal, stiff, demure.

1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 66 ¶ 4 A spruce Mercer is farther off the Air of a Fine Gentleman, than a downright Clown... I indeed proposed to flux him; but Greenhat answer'd, That if he recovered, he'd be as prim and feat as ever he was. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* II. iv, As prim and demure as ever! 1778. SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand., Portrait*, Tell me, ye prim adepts in Scandal's school. 1806–7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVIII. viii. 148 The next figure is that of a prim Miss of 12 or 13. 1833 HT.

MARTINEAU *T. Tyne* I. 10 Setting his lips in a prim form. 1838 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 91 Pretty fairish for a prim Quakeress. 1885 BLACK *White Heather* i, His costume was somewhat prim and precise.

b. Of things: Formal, regular, stiff.

1771 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* IV. vii. 137 The garden in its turn was to be set free from its prim regularity, that it might assort with the wilder country without. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 399 In many places, their forest trees have more the appearance of a prim hedge, than of timber. 1855 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* vii, A square prim garden, arranged in parallelograms.

c. *Comb.*, as *prim-mouthed*, *-seeming*, *-set* adjs.

1735 *Prompter* 21 Jan. 2/2 Will she give Room to the prim-seeming Wife, or the less-cautious Widow? 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 June 1/3 Then Force scarce hid, with a prim-set lip, the length of its eager tooth.

Prim, *v.* [*Prim* vb., *prim* sb.[3], and *prim* adj., appear to have come into use in the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th c., the vb. being evidenced in 1684, the sb. *a* 1700, and the adj. in 1709. The sb. appears first as a cant word, and in this capacity it may have been used before the vb. But the latter is the first of the group to appear in Dictionaries: see quots. 1706 and 1721. Johnson knew the vb. (in sense 2 b), and the adjective. (He thought the vb. derived from the adj., and the adj. a contraction of *primitive*.)]

1. *intr.* (also *to prim it*). To assume a formal, precise, or demure look or air; 'to set the mouth conceitedly'; *prim up*, to bridle up, set the face or mouth firmly, as if to repel familiarities.

1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III, A vain, pert, empty rogue, That can prim, dance, lisp, or lie very much. 1703 *Rules Civility* 206 A Lady will Prim it, or bridle it up, or pull off her Glove to shew a fine Hand. 1706 PHILLIPS, *To Prim*, to be full of affected Ways, to be much conceited. 1721 BAILEY, *Prim*, to set the Mouth conceitedly, to be full of affected ways. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 99, I therefore wink'd at her. She primm'd; nodded, to shew she took me. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 22 Sept., Tell dear Kitty not to prim up as if we had never met before. 1893 G. MEREDITH *Ld. Ormont* i, They mince and prim and pout, and are sigh-away and dying-ducky.

2. *trans.* To form (the face or mouth) into an expression of affected preciseness or demureness; to close (the lips) primly.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 44 The Choicest Looking-Glass in Christendom for a Country Corridon to prim his Phiz by. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. 350 She prims up her horse-mouth. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. P 22 Primming up her mouth into a smile, [she] promulgated this comfortable doctrine. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* vii, Her arms were folded, her mouth primmed into an expression of respect mingled with obstinacy. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, Mark also the Abbé Maury: his broad bold face; mouth accurately primmed; full eyes. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* III. viii. 138 Rosamund primmed her lips at the success of her probing touch.

b. 'To deck up precisely, to form into an affected nicety' (J.); chiefly with *up, out*. In later use, to make prim.

1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 344 May she..Be ridicul'd while primm'd up in her scarf. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. iv. 36 When she was primmed out, down she came to him. 1850 HOLME LEE *Leg. fr. Fairy Land* 5 So Idle primmed herself up..and went out in the finest intentions. 1863 — *Annie Warleigh's Fort.* III. 229 My Gypsy .. trimmed and pruned and primmed in the likeness of a wee quakeress, the picture of precision and demure obedience. 1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lii. 95 This [church] has been duly patched..and primmed up.

Hence **Pri·mming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1690 D'URFEY *Collin's Walk thro. Lond.* I. 36 Where primming Sister, Aunt, or Coz, Tune their warm zeal with Hum and Buz. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1845) 368 Mrs. Hannah,..with much primming of the mouth, and many maidenly hesitations, requested leave to stay behind.

‖ **Prima**[1] (prəi·mă). *Typogr.* [a. L. *prima* (? *pagīna*) first (page).] The page of printer's copy on which a new sheet begins and on which the first word of the sheet is marked.

1880 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 104 In reading [the proofs of] a work sheet by sheet, the first word of the ensuing signature is marked by the reader as 'the prima'.

‖ **Prima**[2] (prī·mă). It. fem. of *primo* first, used in some phrases, chiefly musical (or relating to cards) as PRIMA DONNA; also **prima buffa**, chief comic singer or actress; **prima viola**, first viola; **prima volta**, first time or turn, denoting that the passage so marked is to be played the first time the section is played, but omitted when it is repeated, its place being taken by that marked *seconda volta*. See also PRIMA VISTA.

‖ **Prima,** in L. phrases: see PRIMA FACIE.

Primacy (prəi·măsi). Also 6 -tie. [a. OF. *primacie* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), in mod.F. *primatie* (pron. *-sie*), ad. med.L. *prīmātia* (1174 in Hoveden) for earlier *prīmātus* (*u*-stem): see PRIMATE *sb.*[2]]

1. The state or position of being 'prime' or first in order, rank, importance, or authority; the first or chief place; pre-eminence, precedence, superiority.

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* i. 18 The firste bigetun of deede men, that he be holdinge primacie [*gloss or the firste dignyte*] in alle thingis. — 3 *John* 9 This Diotropis, that loueth for to bere primacye [Vulg. *primatum*] in hem, receyueth not us. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 249/2 The blessid laurence is he that after Saynt Stephen ought to holde the prymacye. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 71, I grant the prince to haue the soueraigntie and primacie ouer the church of God, within his dominions. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 282 In after times Tyre contended with Zidon for Primacie. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1687) 30 There are several kinds of Primacy, .. 1. A Primacy of Worth or Personal Excellency. 2. A Primacy of Reputation and Esteem. 3. A Primacy of Order, or bare Dignity and Precedence. 4. A Primacy of Power or Jurisdiction. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 341 All this theatrical primacy ..is your work. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 160 The earlier appearance and established primacy of the Tuscan poets. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 7 Apr. 4/4 The position of primacy which England sustains among the commercial communities of the world.

2. *Eccl.* The first place or leadership in spiritual matters (sometimes identified with, but properly distinguished from, *supremacy*); the office, dignity, or authority of a primate; *spec.* the chief dignity in an ecclesiastical province: cf. PRIMATE *sb.*[1] 2.

[1174 in *Roger of Hoveden's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 59 Consecrato pallium..dedit, et..primatiam addidit.] *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CII. v, To depriue Lambert of Caunterbury, Of primacy. 1529 *Supplic. to King* (E. E. T. S.) 36 Bokes which write agaynste the Popes prymacie. 1534 MORE *Let. to Cromwell* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xlviii. 134 As touching..the primatie of the Pope, I nothing meddle in the matter. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 3 The office of ane Archbischop and general primacie of this kirk of Scotland. 1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* I. iii. (1636) 174 They yeild a Primacie to the Pope, if he be Orthodox, but no Supremacie. 1641 'SMECTYMNUUS' *Answ.* (1653) Post. 87 The Archbishop .. spends the rest of his dayes in a long contention .. with York about Primacie. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 229 They declared themselves for abolishing the Papal authority and for reducing the Pope to the old Primacy again. 1746 BERKELEY *Let. to T. Prior* 12 Sept., Wks. 1871 IV. 311 The Primacy or Archbishopric of Dublin, if offered, might have tempted me. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 15. 5 Rome has ever had what is called the primacy of the Christian Churches. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 304 The primacy fell to the lot of Sigeric, Bishop of Ramsbury. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 366 Perhaps about the time [*c* 250 B. C.] began the hereditary primacy of Taoism in the Chang family.

b. The ecclesiastical province or see of a primate.

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 3 Within the boundis of al our hail primacie of Scotland. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. viii. 428 The church of Dunkeld appears to have formed the primacy of Dunkeld.

‖ **Prima donna** (prī·mă, prəi·mă dɒ·nă). Pl. **prime donne, (prima donnas).** [It. (prī·ma do·nna) 'first lady'.] The first or principal female singer in an opera.

[1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. viii. 53 So great is the infatuation of playing, and the secret satisfaction of being the prima of a Company so prevalent, that [etc.].] 1812 SOUTHEY *Lett., to Miss Barker* 3 May, An author, like a *prima donna*, has a sort of dignity from appearing sometimes *incog.*, when, in reality, everybody knows him. 1842 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 433 The prima donna of the Düsseldorf theatre. 1880 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 509/1 [In an Opera] the First Woman (*Prima donna*) was always a high Soprano. 1887 J. A. F. MAITLAND in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XII. 274/1 In managing recalcitrant *prime donne* and other mutinous persons.

Primætiall, obs. erron. form of PRIMITIAL.

Primæval, etc.: see PRIMEVAL, etc.

‖ **Prima facie** (prəi·mă fē·ʃi,ē), *adv.* and *adj. phr.* [L. *prīmā faciē* at first sight (M. Seneca), *faciē*, ablative of *faciēs* face. Formerly anglicized, after F. *de prime face*, 'at' or 'of prime face': see PRIME *a.* 9 c.]

A. *adv.* At first sight; on the face of it; as appears at first without investigation.

c 1420 (?) LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 157 Here, prima facie, to vs he doth apere That he hath offendyd—no man can sey nay. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 55 A Phisiognomer by chance..was demanded what (*Prima facie*) he thought of Socrates. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* vii. 115 And indeed, *prima facie* they haue reason. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xiii. 196 Such actual possession is, *prima facie*, evidence of a legal title in the possessor. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 597 The plaintiff has been defamed, and has prima facie a cause of action.

B. *adj.* Arising at first sight; based or founded on the first impression.

Prima facie case (*Law*), a case resting on *prima facie* evidence.

1800 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 50 This Gazette is said by lawyers and judges to be *prima facie* evidence in courts of justice, of matters of State and of public acts of the government. 1864 *Spectator* 16 Apr. 440/2 Doubtless .. there is a *prima facie* reason for his suggestion. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. vi. 174 A *prima facie* assent is an assent to an antecedent probability of a fact, not to the fact itself. 1895 L. J. KAY in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 624/1 It lies upon the plaintiff to make out a *prima facie* case.

So ‖ **Prima fronte** (prəi·mă frɒ·ntē) *adv. phr.* [L. (Quintil.); *fronte*, ablative of *frons*, *frontem*, forehead, front], at first appearance, on the face of it.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 299 To make a revolution is a measure which, *prima fronte*, requires an apology.

Primage[1] (prəi·mēdʒ). [Known first in med. (Anglo-)L. form *primāgium* (see -AGE); of obscure origin: cf. PRIMEGILT. Hence mod.F. *primage* (1771 in *Dict. Trévoux*).]

1. A customary allowance formerly made by the shipper to the master and crew of a vessel for the loading and care of the cargo; also called *hatmoney*; now merely a percentage addition to the freight, paid to the owners or freighters of the vessel.

[1297 *Boston Customs Acc.* Customs, K. R. Bd. 5 No. 5 *dorso* (P. R. O.), In frectagio pro .lij. saccis et .xx. petris lane..et in touwagio dictarum lanarum et in loadesmanagio .lxxj. s...Item in primagio .ij. s.] 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 A piece of flemmishe mony called an Englyshe for lodemanage and for primage of euery fardell of wollen clothe. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* I. iii. 4/2 And receaue before hand, each man twenty foure millreyes,.. as also primage, & certaine tunnes fraught. 1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 68, I haue spoke with Mr. Porter, who assures me he hath giuen order to stop the Primage, loadage [etc.]. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 73 In Lieu of all ..petty Port charges, it is usual at some Places to pay 5 per Cent calculated on the Freight, and 5 per Cent more for Primage to the Captain. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 134 *Primage*, an allowance to masters of vessels for the use of cables and ropes, and to mariners for their assistance in loading and unloading cargoes. 1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893), *Primage*, a small contribution, usually about one-tenth the amount of the freight, formerly paid to the captain of a vessel for taking care of the cargo: but which is now regularly charged as an addition to the freight, and applied to the shipowner's benefit.

2. A small duty formerly paid to a local society of pilots, as at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Also *attrib.*

1606 *Mariners' Charter* in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) II. 700 An ancient duetie heretofore..paid to the Companie, Misterie, Brotherhood, and Society [the Maister, Pilotts, and Seamen of the Trinitie House of Newcastle upon Tyne], called Primage, that is to say, *2d.* of everie tunn of wine, oile, and other goods..rated..by the tunn [etc.]. 1789 BRAND *ibid.* 714 Primage is still paid to this society [of Pilots] at two-pence per ton. *Ibid.* 31 *note*, The primage book of the Trinity-House of Newcastle. [Abolished on the Tyne in 1865, on formation of the 'Pilotage Board'.]

Pri·mage[2]. *Engineering.* [f. PRIME *v.*[1] 6.] The amount of water carried off suspended in the steam from a boiler.

1881 J. HILL in *Metal World* 8 Oct. 342 Experience shows that steam always carries a certain percentage of water in suspension as it rises from the body of water of which it is formed...The water so suspended in the steam is known as water entrained or as primage. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., It is estimated..usually as a percentage..as, a primage of three per cent.

Primal (prəi·măl), *a.* [ad. med.L. *prīmāl-is* (1485 in Du Cange), f. L. *prīmus* first: see -AL.]

1. Belonging to the first age or earliest stage; original, pristine; primitive, primeval.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 37 Oh my offence is ranke, it smels to heauen, It hath the primall eldest curse vpon 't, A Brothers murther. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 41. 1615 *Marr. & Wiving* iii. in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 258 The primal blessing, Increase and multiply. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 364 See him sweating o'er his bread Before he eats it.—'Tis the primal curse, But soften'd into mercy. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* (1824) 15 And bring its primal glories back again. 1879 HUXLEY *Hume* ii. 63 He..falls into the primal and perennial error of philosophical speculators.

2. Of first rank, standing, or importance; chief, principal; fundamental, essential.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xlvii, He..left the primal city of the land. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* IX. 244 The primal duties shine aloft—like stars. 1878 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) I. 201 The great questions of policy which appeal to the primal truths and laws of our nature.

†**3.** = PRIMATIAL 1. Cf. PRIMALTY. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1543 *Harding's Chron.* CII. v, Whiche the byshop Adrian, anone hastely Graunted him then, by bulles written papal, Lambert depriuyng of his sea primal.

4. *Geol.* The name given by H. D. Rogers to the earliest or lowest member of the palæozoic strata of the Appalachian chain, and to the period at which this was deposited.

1858 H. D. ROGERS *Geol. Pennsylv.* II. II. 749 These periods..are the Primal, Auroral, Matinal, Levant, Surgent [etc.]. 1859 in PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms.*

5. *Biol.* Pertaining to the *Primalia*, a third kingdom of organized beings, comprising those least specialized, not recognized as being distinctly either animal or vegetable (proposed by T. B. Wilson and J. Cassin, 1863); cf. PROTISTA.

[1863 T. B. WILSON & J. CASSIN in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Philad.* 116, I. The Reproductive Organs are first specialized in the kingdom *Primalia*.] 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Primal.

6. *Comb.*, as *primal-born* adj., firstborn.

1874 T. HARPER *Peace through Truth* Ser. II. I. 60 The physical light of heaven, primal-born of all the things of creation.

Primality (prəimæ·lĭti). *rare.* [f. PRIMAL + -ITY: cf. PRIMALTY.] The quality or condition of being primal; with *pl.* that which is primal.

1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch. Div.* 234 As Campenella saith, The abuse of the Potestative Primality is Tyranny, the abuse of the Intellective Primality is Heresie, and the abuse of the Volitive Primality is Hypocrisie. 1846 T. W. JENKYN *Baxter's Wks.* Pref. Ess. 51 The perspicacity necessary for detecting the trinal 'primalities' as they develope themselves in the phenomena of the Universe.

Pri·mally, *adv.* [f. PRIMAL + -LY 2.] Originally, primitively; first in order.

1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lviii. 296 The carrying out of the primally accepted laws of Obedience and Economy. 1887 E. P. POWELL *Heredity fr. God* 146 Primally, Adam was perfect, morally and physically.

†**Pri·malty.** *Obs. rare.* In 4 primalte, -aute. [a. OF. *primalte, primaute*, ad. L. type **prīmālitāt-em*: see PRIMAL and -TY.] = PRIMACY 2.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 138 þe kirke of Scotland to Canterbirie ore se Obliged þam & band, as to þer primalte [Fr. *cum al primalté*]. *Ibid.* 283 Forto gyue ansuere Roberd of Wynchelse Studied how he mot were alle his primaute [Fr. *primacye*].

† Pri·mar, *sb. Sc. Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*). Also 7 -er. [ad. L. *primārius*, f. *prīmus* first.] The principal of a college or university.

(In the Scottish colleges, as in Germany, *primarius* occurs in early Latin documents in the sense of *Principal*. In a document of 7 Feb. 1539, the first head of St. Mary's College, St. Andrews, is designated by Archbp. Beaton *Primarius*, but in one three days later is styled *Principalis*. After the re-foundation of the college in 1554, the titles used were *Principalis*, *Præpositus*, and *Præfectus*, esp. the last. The Principal of this college is now 'Primarius Professor of Divinity'. In St. Leonard's College, *Primarius* is frequent in the 17th c.; and at Edinburgh in the 17th c. this appears to have been the regular Latin form: see the extracts from the Register of 1664 and later, in Append. II and III to Alex. Bower's *Hist. of the University*, 1817.)

1620 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1848) II. 370 Be the erection and foundation of the said college, the primar is appoyntit to teache divinitie. 1649 Bp. Guthrie *Mem.* (1702) 54 As for the College of Edinburgh,.. Mr. John Adamson, primer thereof, was furious enough in their Cause. 1646-62 T. Craufurd *Hist. Univ. Edin.* (1808) 91 The Primar's charge, who before had been Rector and Professor of Divinity, was divided; the Council and Ministers chuseing Mr Andrew Ramsay, Minister, to be Rector of the University and Professor of Theology, and Mr Patrick Sands, Primar of the Philosophy College. 1693 Slezer *Theatrum Scotiæ* 28 In it [Aberdeen Univ.] there is a Primar or Principal, a Professor of Theology, a Professor of the Civil Law. [1830 *Rep. of Commission St. Andrews*, The Principal of St. Mary's College is Primarius Professor of Divinity.] 1907 C. G. McCrie *Confess. Ch. Scot.* iii. 83 In one of his lectures when Primar of the University of Edinburgh.

So **† Prima·riat** *Obs.*, the office of principal.

1646-62 T. Craufurd *Hist. Univ. Edin.* (1808) 97 The Citie-Council..unanimouslie set their eyes upon Mr. John Adamson..to succeed to Mr. Robert Boyd in the Primariat.

† Pri·mar, *a. Sc. Obs.* [f. L. *primāri-us*, f. *prīm-us* first: see -ar 2.] First; = Primary *a.* 1, Primer *a.* 1, Primitive *a.* 1.

1721 Ramsay *To Music Club* 7 The primar speech with notes harmonious clear.

Primare, obs. esp. Sc. form of Primer *sb.*1

Primarian (prəimē·riăn). *U. S. rare.* [f. as Primary *a.* + -an.] A pupil in a primary school; a member of the primary class.

1883 *Education* (U. S.) III. 637 As important for a primarian to develop a keen perception.

Primarily (prəi·mărĭli), *adv.* [f. Primary *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In the first order in time or temporal sequence; at first, in the first instance, firstly; originally.

1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 2. 182 Amalek, the man.. from whom the name was primarily taken. 1852 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. xiv. 170 Which originated primarily in the oriental schools of philosophy. 1897 Mary Kingsley *W. Africa* 657 These men, although primarily Africans, had by their deportation from Africa in the course, in some cases, of only one generation, lost the power of resistance to the deadly malarial climate their forefathers possessed.

† b. In its primary or original sense or first meaning; as first used, in its first intention. *rare.*

1617 Donne *Serm., Ps.* lv. 19 (1661) III. 99 Elohim ..a name primarily rooted in power and strength. 1640 J. Stoughton *Def. & Distrib. Divinity* i. 8 Signifying primarily habits of the understanding. 1724 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 42 Literally, obviously, and primarily understood. *Ibid.* 265 In interpreting the celebrated prophecy of Isaiah [he] refers it primarily to the Prophet's own Son.

2. With reference to other than temporal order: In the first place, first of all, pre-eminently, chiefly, principally; essentially.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 66 Because it issueth immediately, and primarily from the forme, or essence. *a* 1638 Mede *Wks.* (1672) 880 The Apocalyps is properly and primarily the Gentiles Prophecy,..and of the Jews but by accident and coincidence only. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 162 The World was not made Primarily, nor Solely for the use of Man. 1719 Waterland *Vind. Christ's Div.* 183 The Father is primarily, and the Son secondarily, or immediately, Author of the World. 1825 Macaulay *Ess., Milton* (1887) 17 Their hostility was primarily not to popery but to tyranny. 1859 Mill *Liberty* iii. (1865) 33/1 It is desirable, in short, that in things which do not primarily concern others, individuality should assert itself.

Primariness (prəi·mărinės). [f. Primary *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being primary.

1687 Norris *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 353 That..which is peculiar and discriminative must be taken from the Primariness and Secondariness of the Perception. 1854 Ruskin *Lect. Archit.* Add. 121 From a confusion of the idea of essentialness or primariness with the idea of nobleness.

Primarize (prəi·mărəiz), *v. rare*−1. [f. Primary *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To make primary; in quot. to convert into primary (crystalline) rocks.

1834-5 J. Phillips in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 555/1 Have many repetitions of igneous action primarized, to use Mr. Conybeare's remarkable expression, strata of all ages, secondary and tertiary, which happened to be the lowest at the points of action?

Primary (prəi·mări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prīmāri-us* of the first rank, chief, principal, f. *prīmus* first: see Prime *a.* and -ary 1.]

A. *adj.* I. General senses.

1. Of the first order in time or temporal sequence; earliest, primitive, original.

1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* IX. v. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 174 Fyrst thou them Putrefye Her prymary qualytes destroying utterly. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 357 Besides this originall, and primary foundation, divers others have made impressions according unto different ages and persons. 1651 C. Cartwright *Cert. Relig.* I. 107 So we grant that primary antiquity is a sure note of truth. 1840 Carlyle *Heroes* i. (1872) 3 Let us look .. at the Hero as Divinity, the oldest primary form of Heroism. 1855 H. Spencer *Princ. Psychol.* II. xvi. 273 In the order of constructive thought, the sensation of muscular tension is primary, and that of pressure secondary.

2. Of the first or highest rank or importance; that claims the first consideration; principal, chief.

1565 Bullinger *Let. to Bps.* 3 May in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xlii. 428 We would do nothing..without the privity of you, the primary ministers. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xxvii. (1640) 270, I meane of a primary necessity, of a necessity to be beleeved *De fide*. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, VI. Wks. 1813 VI. 106 The primary object of almost all the monastic orders is to separate men from the world. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. ii. (1872) Introd. 16 Every apostle, in his way, assigns to faith a primary importance. 1883 H. Spencer in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 11 The primary use of work is that of supplying the materials and aids to living completely.

3. Of the first order in any series, sequence, or process, esp. of derivation or causation: with various shades of meaning. a. Not subordinate to or derived from something else; original; independent; often with the connotation Having something else derived from, or dependent on, it; fundamental, radical. (Cf. Primitive *a.* 3.)

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* xi. (1640) 102 Their faith..was not the principle and primary cause of his mercy. 1656 tr. *Hobbes's Elem. Philos.* (1839) 81 That order of speech which begins from primary or most universal propositions, which are manifest of themselves, and proceeds by a..composition of propositions into syllogisms. 1762 Kames *Elem. Crit.* ii. § 5 (1833) 43 The emotions produced..may..be termed secondary, being occasioned either by antecedent emotions or antecedent passions, which in that respect may be termed primary. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xx. 309 Original, or primary conveyances..are those by means whereof the benefit or estate is created or first arises. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.* xxv. (1790) 249 Sometimes it is a primary disease, and at other times only a symptom of some other malady. 1826 Syd. Smith *Wks.* (1859) II. 95/1 Words, in their origin, have a natural or primary sense. The accidental associations..afterwards give to that word a great number of secondary meanings. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* v. xxxiii. (1879) 190 The Sun..gives us the primary division of time into day and night. 1874 Davidson *Hebr. Gram.* (1892) 3 The first line exhibits the three primary vowel sounds *a i u*.

b. Not involving intermediate agency; direct, immediate, first-hand.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 193 We call them immortall..: first by reason of their essence, which is spirituall and originarie, or primarie from God the giuer of it. *a* 1655 Vines *Lord's Supp.* (1677) 279 The schoolmen distinguish between the primary and *per se* effects..and these that are *per accidens*. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* IX. (1833) 222 The direct or primary echoes from each reflecting surface reach the ear in succession. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 211 When a substance yields uncombined and unaltered at the electrodes, those bodies which have been separated by the electric current, then the results may be considered as primary. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 9 Dec. 3/3 Poverty, due to absolute deficiency of money income, is called 'primary', and comprises nearly ten per cent. of the population.

c. Belonging to the first in a series of successive divisions or branchings; constituting the main undivided body, or its first divisions or branches.

1804 Abernethy *Surg. Obs.* 207 The large primary branches of the carotid artery. 1835 Henslow *Princ. Bot.* I. I. iii. 63 The primary nerves branch off from it on either side, throughout its whole length. 1868 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 119 The primary cerebral convolutions in the hoofed Mammals have a general disposition. 1877 F. Heath *Fern W.* 21 In compound fronds..the mid-rib of the frond, is called the primary rachis.

d. Belonging to the first stage in a process of compounding or combination; constituting the ultimate or simpler constituents of which a more complex whole is made up; elementary.

1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 2 Compound bodies are of two kinds. Some of them are formed by the combination of two or more simple substances with each other. ..Others are formed by the combination of two or more compound bodies with each other...The first of these kinds of compounds I call Primary Compounds; to the second I give the name of Secondary Compounds. 1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 123 To ascertain the primary elements of the different vegetable principles, and the proportions in which they are combined. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 2 When two atoms of different kinds unite to form a third or compound atom,..they may be called elementary or primary atoms. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 100 He descends into the primary elements of human knowledge.

II. Special and technical senses.

4. Connected with sense I.

a. *Geol.* Of the first or earliest formation; formerly applied to crystalline rocks, as having been formed before the appearance of life on the earth (= Primitive *a.* 7); now, Of or pertaining to the lowest series of strata, including all the sedimentary formations up to the Permian (= Palæozoic).

1813 Sir H. Davy *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 192 Rocks are generally divided by geologists into two grand divisions, distinguished by the names of primary and secondary... The primary rocks are composed of pure crystalline matter, and contain no fragments of other rocks. 1829 Bakewell in *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 44 [Lehman] inferred that the lower rocks were formed prior to the creation of animals, and he gave them the name of *primitive* or *primary*, and distinguished the upper by the name of *secondary*. 1845 J. Phillips in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 560/2 In England.. gneiss and mica schist, and primary limestone, and quartz rocks, are almost unknown. 1854 Brewster *More Worlds* iii. 44 The Primary formations consist of granite rocks, trap, syenite, and porphyry. 1871 Lyell *Student's Elem. Geol.* viii. (1884) 105 Tabular view of the Fossiliferous Strata..Post-Tertiary..Tertiary or Cainozoic..Secondary or Mesozoic.. Primary or Palæozoic [containing the formations] 19 Permian [to] 30 Lower Laurentian. *Ibid.* xxiii. 344 It has at length been made clear that the..Permian rocks are more connected with the Primary or Palæozoic than with the Secondary or Mesozoic strata.

b. *Biol.* Belonging to or directly derived from the first stage of development or growth, and (often) forming the foundation of the subsequent structure (cf. 3 a). Cf. Primitive *a.* 8 a.

1848 Carpenter *Anim. Phys.* 34 This membrane is termed the basement or primary membrane. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 165 In no system of the skeleton are bones a primary formation of the animal: they are the result of transmutations of pre-existing tissues. 1873 Dawson *Dawn of Life* iv. (1875) 63 The original skeleton or primary cell-wall. 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 78 Originally the whole mass consists of..a uniform tissue, out of which by diverse development of its layers these tissue-systems have their origin; this tissue.. which is not yet differentiated may be termed..Primary Tissue. *Ibid.* 117 This tissue is termed Primary Meristem ..because it presents the primary condition of the tissue, out of which the different forms of the permanent tissue are successively formed. 1885 Goodale *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 119 The primary cortex consists essentially of parenchyma in which isolated cells of a peculiar character may often be found.

c. *Primary amputation* (*Surg.*), amputation performed before inflammation supervenes.

1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 289 Primary amputation 2 inches below elbow. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Primary amputation*, amputation performed within the first twenty-four hours after an accident, before inflammation has had time to supervene.

d. *Primary education* or *instruction*, that which begins with the rudiments or elements of knowledge: used as an inclusive designation of that provided for the children liable to compulsory attendance. *Primary school*, one at which such instruction is given; so *primary scholar*.

1802 *Times* 27 Apr., The Paris journals..are full of a plan, brought forward by Fourcroy, for the establishment of primary schools, which is not interesting to an English reader. 1828 Webster, *Primary*...3. Elemental; intended to teach youth the first rudiments; as, *primary* schools. 1861 M. Arnold *Pop. Educ. France* 2 M. Magin, now Inspector-General of primary instruction, and formerly Rector of the Academy of Nancy. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* xx. (1876) 264 The German emigrants..., most of whom are fairly possessed of primary education, are much more handy than those who come from states where equal care is not taken. 1877 Huxley *Physiogr.* Pref. 6 The boys and girls who pass through an ordinary primary school.

e. *Primary assembly* or *meeting*, a gathering at which a preliminary selection of candidates for election, or of delegates, is effected; *spec.* in *U. S.*, a general meeting of the voters belonging to a party in an election district, for these purposes; so *primary election*, an election at a primary meeting. See B. 6.

1833 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1847) V. xviii. 117 The privilege of electing members for the legislature was taken away from the great body of the people, and confined to the colleges of delegates. Their meetings were called the Primary Assemblies. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Nov. 1/3 All the party voters in a district assemble at a 'primary' meeting to vote for delegates to attend a 'nominating convention'. The business of this nominating convention is to decide on the party candidates.

5. Connected with sense 2. *Primary feather*, one of the large flight-feathers of a bird's wing, growing from the manus. † *Primary humours* (*obs.*), the 'cardinal humours': see Humour *sb.* 2 b. *Primary wings* (of an insect): see quot. 1826.

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* 1. i. II. ii. 21 To maintaine those foure first primary Humors. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 556 We cannot admit..that the hypothesis of four primary humours ..was already established in the writings of Hippocrates. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. 374 External anatomy of insects...*Alæ superiores vel primariæ* (the upper or primary wings). 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* I. vii. (1852) 137 When these birds [Scissor-beaks] are fishing, the advantage of the long primary feathers..in keeping them dry, is very evident.

6. Connected with sense 3. a. *Primary colours*: see Colour *sb.* 2.

1612 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xxiii. 79 Blacke, white, and yealow according to Aristotle are the foure primary or principall colours. 1672 Newton in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5095 That Colour is Primary or Original, which cannot by any Art be changed, and whose Rays are alike refrangible. 1822 Imison *Sc. & Art* (ed. Webster) I. 248 The separation of the primary colours of light. 1848 Wornum in *Lect. Paint.* 211 *note*, Although there are but three primitive colours, painters have nine. These are—yellow, red, blue, which are primary; orange, purple, green, which are secondary, being compounds of the primaries [etc.]. 1876 Bernstein *Five Senses* 109 These three colours, red, green, and violet, are now received as primary colours, because they are the only three pure colours in the spectrum which, when combined, produce a nearly perfect white. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 178 The primary or simple, and the secondary or mixed colours.

b. *Primary qualities* (in *Philos.*): see quots.

1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 181/1 In Sensibles, some are Primary, as qualities, colour, whiteness, others by accident, as white coloured, and that which is concrete, as fire. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. viii. § 9 These I call

original or primary Qualities of Body, which I think we may observe to produce simple Ideas in us, viz. Solidity, Extension, Figure, Motion, or Rest, and Number. 1810 D. STEWART *Philos. Ess.* I. II. ii. 95 The line which I would draw between primary and secondary qualities is this; that the former necessarily involve the notion of extension, and consequently of externality or outness; whereas the latter are only conceived as the unknown causes of known sensations. 1856 FERRIER *Inst. Metaph.* v. v. (ed. 2) 148 It is through our perceptions, and not through our sensations, that we are made acquainted with the primary qualities of matter — that is with the extension, the figure, and the solidity of external objects.

c. *Primary planets*, those planets which revolve directly around the sun as centre, as distinguished from the secondary planets or satellites, which revolve around primary ones. † See also quot. 1704.

1664 [see PLANET *sb.*1 2]. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Primary Planets* (according to some) are the Three Superior Planets, *viz.* Saturn, Jupiter, and Mars; but more properly a *Primary Planet* is one that moves round the Sun, as its Centre; whereas a *Secondary Planet* moves round some other Planet. 1816 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 339 The elliptical motions of the planets, both primary and secondary.

d. *Primary rainbow*, the rainbow produced by the simplest series of refractions and reflexions; the inner and usually brighter when two are seen.

1793 STURGES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 1 In this shower two primary rainbows appeared. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 444 In the true or primary bow, the rays of light arrive at the spectator's eye after two refractions and one reflection. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxxii. 265 The primary or inner rainbow, which is commonly seen alone, is part of a circle whose radius is 41°.

e. *Cryst.* = PRIMITIVE *a.* 5 b.

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 75 These secondary molecules would consist of certain numbers of primary ones arranged in the same order as they would be in the production of the entire secondary crystals. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* v, (1855) 85 We can invariably, by a careful dissection of the crystal, extract from it a nucleus which has constantly the same form in the same mineral species...Such a nucleus is called a primary form.

f. *Chem. Primary* ALCOHOL, AMIDE, AMINE, etc.: see the sbs.

g. *Electr. Primary battery*, a battery in which a current is produced. *Primary coil, wire*, that which conveys the current from the battery, and induces a current in the secondary coil or wire.

c 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 253/2 When we employ the term *primary* to a wire, we mean that which *conveys* the current of electricity from the battery; and the *secondary* wire, is that in which a current is *induced* by its proximity to the primary one. 1902 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Battery, primary*... The term distinguishes it from a secondary or storage battery. *Ibid.* s. v. *Coil*, An induction coil comprises three principal parts, the core, the primary coil and the secondary coil.

B. *sb.* [elliptical use of adj. Mostly in *pl.*]

1. That which (or one who) is first in order, rank, or importance; anything from which something else arises or is derived. Usually *pl.* = Primary things or ones; first principles.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 52 Where any secondary agents attempt to defeat the power of their primaries. 1846 G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 248 Though there may be occasional disagreement in subordinates, there is a very singular and a very striking agreement in primaries. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* Introd. § 5. 13 Every science..begins with primaries or with ultimates.

2. Short for *primary planet*: see PLANET *sb.*1 2.

a 1721 KEILL *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 33 We see that the Sun attracting the Planets, is the Cause why they move round him, as the attraction of the Primaries confines their Secondaries. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* III. x. (1879) 58 The only satellite which takes a longer time to revolve round its primary than our Moon, is Iapetus, the eighth satellite of Saturn.

3. A primary feather: see A. 5. Usually in *pl.*

1776 PENNANT *Zool.* II. 441 Primaries and tail black. 1834 R. MUDIE *Feathered Tribes Brit. Isles* (1841) I. 9 The primaries or principal quills. 1883 MARTIN & MOALE *Vertebr. Dissect.* II. 99 The primaries are ten in number and are inserted upon the manus.

4. Short for *primary colour*: see A. 6.

1848 [see A. 6]. 1884 A. F. OAKEY in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 586/2 The eye supplies the absent primary, blue.

5. *Electr.* Short for *primary coil* or *wire*: see A. 6 g.

1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 490 The coil of thick wire is called the primary. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 17 Dec. 335/2 The core and primary are enclosed in an ebonite cylinder.

6. Short for *primary meeting* or *assembly*, a caucus: see A. 4 e. *U. S.*

1880 E. KIRKE *Garfield* 31 The clergy .. and many of the leading business men..never attend the township caucus, the city primaries, or the county convention. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lx. 421 If the district is not subdivided, i. e. does not contain any lesser districts, its meeting is called a *primary*. A primary has two duties. One is to select the candidates for its own local district offices...The other duty is to elect delegates to the nominating meetings of larger areas. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 147/2 He knew the primaries and the value of pulls and colonizations.

7. Short for *primary scholar*: see A. 4 d.

1908 ROBINS *Come & Find Me* 36 'Serves her right' said Primarys, Academics and Collegiates all with one voice.

Prima·tal, *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool. rare.* [f. L. PRIMATES + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the order *Primates*. Also as *sb.*, An animal of this order.

1870 COBBOLD in *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 468/2 It was..held that either of these groups, as we now know them, might have been separately evolved from more generalized primatal types...The assumedly missing tertiary primatals constituted a great and natural bar to the popular acceptance of the theory of descent by natural selection.

Primate (prəi·mĕt), *sb.*1 (*a.*) Forms: 3–7 **primat**, 4–5 **prymat**(e, 5 **premate**, 4– **primate**. [= F. *primat* (12th c. in Littré), ad. late L. *primās*, *-ātem* adj. (Apul.), of the first rank, chief, excellent, in med.L. sb. a primate; f. *primus* first.]

1. One who is first in rank or importance; a chief, head, superior, leader. Now *rare*.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1570 He schal be prymate & prynce of pure clergye. 1382 WYCLIF *Micah* v. 5 We shuln reyse on hym seuen sheperdis, and eiȝt primatis [*gloss* or first men in dignyte]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 325 þis preost was primat [L. *sacerdos iste primas fuit*] in þat lond of Madyan. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 21 Byrdes besely syngynge .. Praysynge theyr prymate all that they may. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 32 Although he were a ruler of the Synagoge, that is, a primate among stately felowes. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 197 The prince which is the primate and pearle of nobilitie. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 30 They [Druids] were subject to two Primates; one of which..had his Residence in the Isle of Man; the other..in Anglesey. 1866 *Reader* 28 July 676 Man is a primate in his particular locality—that of intelligence and thought; but fish and birds are equally primates in their peculiar stations.

2. *Eccl.* An archbishop, or formerly sometimes a bishop, holding the first place among the bishops of a province; also applied to a patriarch or exarch of the Eastern Church.

In England both the archbishops are primates, the archbishop of Canterbury being entitled 'primate of all England', and the archbishop of York 'primate of England'; so, the archbishop of Armagh is 'primate of all Ireland', the archbishop of Dublin 'primate of Ireland'; before the Reformation, the archbishop of St. Andrews was (from 1487) primate of Scotland; but on the continent, there are primates having archbishops under them; in France there were formerly three primates, the archbishops of Lyons, Bourges, and Rouen.

c 1205 LAY. 29736 He [Austin] was icleopped legat, of þissen londe he wæs primat. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 73 þe archbisshop Stigand, of Inglond primate, þat tyme was suspended, þe pape reft him þe state. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 115 But now beeþ but tweie primates in al Engelond, of Caunterbury, and of 3ork. 1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 322/2 The Archebisshopp of Canterbury and Primat of al this land. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 43 This bischop of Cartage was premate þorw all Affrik, þan was þere anoþir bischop premate of al Numidie. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 98 Walter, By þe grace of god Archiebisshop of 3orke, a primat of Ingelonde. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 2 Legatnait and primat of the kirk of Scotland. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 23 It hath one primate, and two Archbishopricks, Armach and Cassels. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 160 (African Code, A. D. 418) Let not any number of Bishops presume to ordain another without the leave of the Primate. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 90 Tho' an Archbishop be superiour to all the Bishops of his Province; yet, according to the Canon Law he is inferiour to a Primate. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, France* IV. 158 The archbishop [of Lyons] is primate of Gaul, and has 48,000 livres a year. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 62 He [Archbp. of Venice] is primate of Dalmatia, metropolitan of the archbishops of Candia and Corfu, as also of the bishops of Chiozza and Tercello. 1833 *Tracts for Times* No. 15. 6 These Patriarchs..were the Primates or Head Bishops of their respective Patriarchates. 1889 *Whitaker's Alm.* 239 Colonial Bishops. .. Sydney. Alf. Barry, D.D. Primate of Australia and Metropolitan New South Wales. 1896 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LVI. 281/2 On 22 Feb. 1354..the pope..directed that York should be styled primate of England, and Canterbury primate of All England.

3. Name of a variety of pear. ? *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort., July* 70 Pears. The Primat, Russet-pears, Summer-pears [etc.]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 375.

4. *Zool.* Anglicized singular of PRIMATES, q. v.

† **B.** *adj.* First, earliest. *Obs. rare.*

1564–9 *Songs & Ball.* (1860) 5 The gates infernall, Wheryn ower primat parent had closyd us. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Premier*, first or primate.

† **Primate,** *sb.*2 *Obs.* [= OF. *primat* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *primātus* (*u*-stem) the first place, preference, pre-eminence, primacy.]

1. Chief place, primacy.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiii. 6 Þat god gif þaim þe primate in blisse. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 273 After that..Cesares, emperoures, and men callede Augusti holdede the primate and chiefe place [L. *primatum tenuerunt*].

2. A first or chief point or article. *rare*—1.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. liii. (1612) 235 Gods Cou'nant with the Patriarchs..is a Primate of our Creede.

‖ **Primates** (prəimē·tīz), *sb. pl. Zool.* Sing. **primas** (prəi·mæs), also anglicized **primate**. [L. *primātēs*, pl. of *primās* PRIMATE *sb.*1, in mod.L. (Linn.) name of an order.] The highest order of the *Mammalia*, including man, monkeys, and lemurs, and, in the Linnæan order, bats.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. v. 138 This was a sufficient motive for Linnæus to give it the title of a Primas, to rank it in the same order with mankind. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* (1834) II. 47 The 1st order, Primates or Chieftains, is distinguished by the possession of four cutting teeth in each jaw. 1863 LYELL *Antig. Man* xxiv. 474 All modern naturalists, who retain the order Primates, agree to exclude from it the bats or cheiroptera. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* I. i. 24 Man differs conspicuously from all the other Primates in being almost naked. 1899 J. FISKE *Through Nat. to God* II. v. 83 Forthwith .. she [natural selection] invested all her capital in the psychical variations of this favoured primate.

attrib. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Aug. 8/2 It was a fixed fact that man is a member of the primate order.

Pri·mateship. [f. PRIMATE *sb.*1 + -SHIP.] The office or position of primate.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 253 Thence remoued to this Primatship of Canterbury. 1799 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 67/1 The primateship will remain vacant for two years.

Primatial (prəimē·ʃăl), *a.* [a. F. *primatial* (16th c. in Littré), f. L. *primātia* PRIMACY: see -AL.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or having ecclesiastical primacy; pertaining to a primate.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 249 Toledo, which he made Primatiall of all Spaine. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. v. 119 People were commonly perswaded, that the Church of Lyons was Primatial. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 613 The consequences of his being advanced to the primatial see of Canterbury. 1876 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiii. 317 Henry of Winchester pleaded hard.. that the ancient capital should be raised to primatial rank, as the metropolitan see of Wessex. 1904 POLLARD *Cranmer* iv. 95 Another attempt..against his primatial dignity.

b. *gen.* Of pre-eminence or superiority.

1892 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 5 Dec. 3/5 The claims of Bristol to what I may call the primatial position in British commerce.

2. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the mammalian order *Primates*: more properly PRIMATAL.

1864 *Spectator* 4 June 650/2 The lemurine—and consequently quadrumane (Professor Huxley would call them *primatial*)—affinities of the *Chiromys*.

Primatic (prəimæ·tik), *a.* [f. PRIMATE *sb.*1 + -IC: cf. OF. *prematic* (1491 in Godef.).]

1. Of or pertaining to ecclesiastical primacy; = PRIMATIAL *a.* 1. ? *Obs.*

1687 S. HILL *Cath. Balance* 76 The Bishopric of Jerusalem, the Metropolis of all the Jews of the World, and therefore the primatic See of all the Jewish Christians. *Ibid.*, The three great primatic Bishoprics of the Gentiles, Antioch, Rome, and Alexandria. 1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 218 They submitted, not to Peter's primatic mandate, but to the very ample reason which he gave for his conduct.

2. Of or pertaining to the *Primates*; = PRIMATAL.

a 1890 HUXLEY cited in *Cent. Dict.*

So, in sense 1, **Prima·tical** *a.*

a 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* (1687) 171 The original and growth of Metropolitical, Primatical, and Patriarchal Jurisdiction. 1747 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 356 Stigand, the canonicalness of whose primatical dignity was not as yet called in question. 1892 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s. v. *Exarch*, A bishop of primatical rank, having under him metropolitans.

Primatife, -ive, etc., obs. forms of PRIMITIVE.

‖ **Primavera** (prīmăvē·ră). [Sp. *primavera*, lit. spring; so called from its early flowering, the flowers appearing at the top like a bright yellow cloud, usually before the leaves.] A tall tree, *Tabebuia Donnell-Smithii*, a native of Mexico and Central America, the wood of which, also known as *White Mahogany*, has been since *c* 1885 much used in cabinet-making in U. S. A.

1892 in *Coulter's Botanical Gaz.* XVII. 418.

Primaveral (prəimăvī·ərăl), *a. rare.* [f. Prov. or It. (= Sp., Pg.) *primavera* springtime (:—L. *prīma vēra*, pl. of *prīmum vēr* 'first or earliest spring', used as a fem. sing.) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the earliest springtime. Also *fig.*

1824 T. FORSTER *Perennial Cal.* 106 The Primaveral Flora ..comprehends the Snowdrop, the Crocus [etc.]. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 30 Apr. 3/2 An aspect of morning brightness and primaveral gaiety.

‖ **Prima vista** (prī·ma vi·sta). [It., lit. 'first sight': see PRIMA 2.]

† 1. (Also *corruptly* 6 **primo visto**, 7 **primuiste, primivist**(**e, -ta, -efisto, -ofistula**). An old game at cards (by some identified with PRIMERO). *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 25 What will you play at, at Primero, Primo visto, Sant, one and thirtie, new cut, or what shall be the game? 1598 FLORIO, *Prima*, .. a game at cardes called Prime, Primero, or Primauista. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor, Primero*, and *Primavista*, two games at cardes..*primum, & primum visum*, that is first and first seene, because hee that can shew such an order of cardes, first winnes the game. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* Wks. (1630) E e iv b/2 At Primefisto, Post and payre, Primero, Maw, Whip-her-ginny, he's a lib'rall Hero. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Reserved Man* (Arb.) 35 His words are like the cards at Primuiste, where 6. is 18. and 7. 21, for they neuer signifie what they sound. 1632 HAUSTED *Rival Friends* Pref. A iij b, A set at Maw or Primivista. *a* 1652 BROME *New Acad.* III. i, Gleek and Primero, Gresco, Sant, primofistula, I know all by hear-say.

2. *Music.* At first sight; as, to play or sing *prima vista*.

Primcock, obs. form of PRINCOCK.

Prime (prəim), *sb.*1 [OE. *prīm*, ad. L. *prīma*, from *prīma hōra* the first hour (in Roman reckoning): see PRIME *a.* Reinforced after the 11th c. by F. *prime* (:—L. *prīma*), from which the non-ecclesiastical senses were prob. mainly taken.]

I. In the ecclesiastical and connected senses.

1. One of the Day Hours of the Western Church: a Canonical Hour of the Divine Office, appointed for the first hour of the day (beginning originally at 6 A. M., but sometimes at sunrise); = *prime-song* (see 11); also, the hour or time of this office.

Prime is one of the *horæ parvæ* or 'Little Hours' (*prime, tierce, sext, none*, and *compline*) as distinguished from the 'Greater Hours' (*lauds* and *vespers*), and is said to be of later origin than the others, having been, according to Cassian (born *c* 350), added in his boyhood at the monastery of Bethlehem.

Etymologically and historically in Latin, the sense 'first hour of the day' is earlier than the ecclesiastical use; but, in English, as in French, *prime* was app. introduced as the name of the office, and came only secondarily to be applied to its time.

c **961** ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* xvi. (Schröer) 40 On þisum tidum we herian urne scyppend..on dægred, on prim, on undern, on middæg, on non, on æfen, on nihtsange [þat is compli]. *c* **1000** ÆLFRIC *Colloq.* in Wr.-Wülcker 101 We sungon..æfter þysum prim and seofon seolmas mid letanian and capitol mæssan. *c* **1200** *Vices & Virt.* 19 Þar hwile ðe h(i)e singeð godes lofsang at prime. *c* **1290** *St. Brendan* 224 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 225, & of þe sauter seide þe uers, & siþþe also prime, & vnderne siþþe, & middai, & afterwardes non. *c* **1386** CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 334 Thise Riotours thre..Longe erst er prime rong of any belle Were set hem in a Tauerne to drynke. **1450–1530** *Myrr. our Ladye* 138 As mattyns longe to the nyghte, & Laudes to the morow tyde, so Pryme longeth to the fyrste houre of the day after sonne rysynge. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 164 b, In .. the .. houres canonicall,.. that is to saye, in matyns, pryme, tierce, sext, none, euensonge, & complyn. **1547** in Cardwell *Doc. Ann.* (1839) I. 20 Item when any sermon or homily shall be had, the prime and hours shall be omitted. **1647** CRASHAW *Poems, Hour of Prime* 7 The early prime blushes to say She could not rise so soon as they Call'd Pilate up. **1660** F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 254 So omit they not to sing the Prime, the third, the sixt, and other Canonical houres. **1706** tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 43 Cassander is much perplexed about the Office of Prime, how to reconcile it with the ancient Lauds, which he would not have been had he known that the Office had not been so ancient. **1843** [see LAUD *sb.*[1] 2]. **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vi. (1864) II. 89 From prime to noon..was devoted to labour. **1877** J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 129 Prime succeeded Lauds at an interval.

2. Hence, in general use, The first hour of the day, beginning either at six o'clock throughout the year, or at the varying time of sunrise; also sometimes used for the period between the first hour and tierce, the end of which period (about nine o'clock) is believed to have been *high prime*, or *prime large*.

(See Skeat's notes to P. Pl. p. 162, also Astrolabe p. lxi. Cf. the expressions *ad tertiam plenam*, etc. in Benedictine Rule xlviii.)

c **1290** *St. Michael* 461 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 313 And for þe sonne is feor a-boue riȝt at-fore þe prime, bi-neoþen hire þe Mone is euene. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 105 At heiȝ prime perkyn lette þe plouȝ stonde. *c* **1374** CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 943 (992) Al so syker as þow lyst here by me, And god toforn I wole be þere at pryme. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) XXX. 301 From pryme of the day in to noon. *c* **1400** *Song Roland* 776 Be that it was prym, the prese wex ille. **1412–20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* (E. E. T. S.) 2968 My lady it is tyme þat we arise, for sone it wil be pryme: 3e may se wel þe day begynneth springe. *c* **1430** — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 105 Then to Westmynster-Gate I presently went, When the sonn was at hyghe pryme. **1493** *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 7 An husbonde man wente in to his gardyn or vyneyerde at pryme. **1513** BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1054 Vnto huntynge..was his resorte Euery day in the morowe longe afore pryme. **1656** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prime* ..the first hour of the day, in Summer at four aclock, in Winter at eight. **1746–7** HERVEY *Refl. Fl.-Gard.* Wks. 1767 I. 114 How charming to rove abroad, at this sweet Hour of Prime! **1814** SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. i, Early and late, at evening and at prime. **1814** CARY *Dante's Inf.* I. 35 The hour was morning's prime, and on his way Aloft the sun ascended. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* I. 1. 30 At early prime She sat before thee and embraced thy knees.

†**3.** The general meeting of a guild; also, the hour of its assembling. *Obs.*

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 79 (*St. John Bapt., Bps. Lynn*) Also, qwat broþere or sistere þat cometȝ aftere prime be smeten, he shal pay j.*d.* to þe lytȝ; and prime shal be smet[en] ij. howres aftere noon. *Ibid.* 94 (*St. Edmund*) And if he come after prime be thriis smeten, he schal paie j.*d.* **1431** *Ibid.* 275 (*St. Clement, Camb.*) Who-so comyth aftir prime be smette, he schal payen ij. denar. And y^e oure prime is clepyd the secounde oure aftyr noone. **1812** tr. *Rules & Ordin. Gild of Holy Trin. Kings Lynn* in Richards *Hist. Lynn* I. 456–7, 11. If any one is called and cited at a prime (or general meeting) and does not come before the issue of the first consult, he is to pay 1*d.* by order of the dean...14. If any servant of the brethren comes at the drinking, or the prime, he is to lay down the cap and cloak [etc.].

II. The beginning of a period or cycle.

4. The Golden Number: see GOLDEN *6. arch*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 341 þe day is for to witen, Idus þat is of May left I to write þis ryme, D. letter & Friday bi ix þat ȝere ȝede prime. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 135 Whanne prime goop by oon, þanne falleþ the prime þe þre and twenty day of Ianyuer, and þe next ȝere after it schal falle..enleuene dayes raþer. *c* **1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 24 The aureat noumbre in kalenders set for prime. **1546** LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. iv. 42 The Prime, whereby we fynde the coniunction of the mone and al moueable feastes as Lent, Easter, .was inuented by the greate Clarcke S. Barnarde. **1574** BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* ii. (1577) 9 b, The cause..it is called the Prime, was for that it was the first order that the Moones course was known by. **1604** *Bk. Com. Prayer, To find Easter for ever*, When ye haue found the Sunday letter..guide your eye downeward from the same, till ye come right ouer against the Prime. **1752** *Ibid., Table to find Easter-Day*, To find the Golden Number, or Prime, add one to the Year of our Lord, and then divide by 19; the remainder, if any, is the Golden Number.

¶ **b.** Confusedly explained as the lunar cycle of 19 years. *Obs.*

1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* ii. (1577) 10 The Prime or Golden Number, is the tyme of 19 yeares, in the which tyme the Moone maketh all her chaunges or coniunctions with the Sunne. **1594** J. DAVIS *Seaman's Secr.* (1607) 6 The Prime is the space of 19 yeres, in which time the Moone performeth al the varieties of her motion with the Sunne. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 9.

†**c.** *transf.* in reference to a cycle of weather. *Obs. rare.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Vicissitude of Things* (Arb.) 571 They say, it is observed, in the Low Countries..that Euery Fiue and Thirtie years, The same Kinde and Sute of Years and Weathers, comes about againe: As Great Frosts, Great Wet, Great Droughts, Warme Winters, Summers with little Heat, and the like: And they call it the Prime.

†**5.** The beginning or first appearance of the new moon. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 133 þe ȝere of þe mone is from prime in a monþe of þe ȝere to þe firste prime in þe same monþe anoþer ȝere. *Ibid.* 135 (see 4). *c* **1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6569 þat day was of þe mone pryme. **1562** LEIGH *Armorie* 102 Y^e moone in her prime, which is y^e thyrd day after the coniunction, or, as we commonly cal it, the newe moone. **1587** MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1627) 49 Take no calfe that is calued within the prime, which is counted the fiue dayes after the change. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 162 When the Moon is changed untill her prime and appearance, these beasts..take boughs,..and then look upon the Moon. **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* III. i. (1718) 129 Falls have their risings, wainings have their primes. **1704** J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Prime of the Moon*, signifies the New Moon, at her first Appearing, or about Three Days after the Change, at which time she is said to be primed.

6. *fig.* The beginning or first age of anything.

1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. i. (MS. Bodl. 263) lf. 11/1 It was off chaunge to hem a newe pryme For to beholde a thing disnaturalle. *c* **1440** CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* IV. 1698 The maister princypal..Of hir doctryne was ful Ioyeful and gladde; For god had poynted in hym a newe pryme. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. iv. § 6 Let them cast backe their eies..and marke what was done in the prime of the World. **1631** CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* IV. Plays 1873 III. 176 Betwixt the ends of those things and their primes. **1657** THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 124 The Daffodil, the Primrose, with the other primes and dawnings of the Spring. **1865** MOZLEY *Mirac.* viii. 303 *note*, In the first conversion of the Franks, or in the prime of that church.

b. The beginning or first age of the world.

1616 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Seiges Jerus.* i, Who in the Prime, when all things first began, Made all for Man, and for himselfe made Man. **1814** WORDSW. *Wh. Doe* VII. 360 Thou, thou art not a Child of Time, But Daughter of the Eternal Prime. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* lvi, Dragons of the prime, That tare each other in their slime.

7. The first season of the year (when this began at the vernal equinox); spring. (So OF. *prime.*)

1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 641 This prime the French King entendith to work great maisteries against th Empereur in sundry places. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 615 A thousand Winters, and a thousand Primes. *c* **1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* XCVII, The teeming Autumne big with ritch increase, Bearing the wanton burthen of the prime. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* IV. 770 The fields are florid with unfading prime. **1885** BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (1887) III. 82 Winter had gone..and Prime had come to it with his roses and orange blossoms.

8. The 'springtime' of human life; the time of early manhood or womanhood, from about 21 to 28 years of age. (Sometimes distinguished from sense 9 as the *prime of youth.*) Now *rare.*

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. i. 8 My discent..inferiour far To gratious fortunes of my tender youth: For there in prime and pride of all my yeeres..In secret I possest a worthy dame. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 248 And will she yet abase her eyes on me, That cropt the Golden prime of this sweet Prince? **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 158 But when he was out of his childhood, and grown to be a lusty youth,..and in the prime of his youth. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 106 Whereof in the prime of my adolescency..I had the full proofe. **1645** MILTON *Sonn.* IX, Lady that in the prime of earliest youth, Wisely hath shun'd the broad way and the green. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 ₱3 They had by this time passed their Prime, and got on the wrong side of Thirty. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* I. ii, He was then past his prime, being twenty-eight years and three quarters old. **1770** *Junius Lett.* XXXVI. (1820) 171 The vices operate like age..and in the prime of youth leave the character broken and exhausted. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) III. xvi. 160 She followed to the grave..her only son, the heir and hope of the Monarchy, just entering on his prime. **1877** BLACK *Green Past.* XXII, There was he, in the prime of youthful manhood.

III. That which is first in quality or character.

9. Of human life: The period or state of greatest perfection or vigour, before strength begins to decay. (Sometimes distinguished from sense 8 as *prime of age*, or *of middle age.*)

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 385 In yonger men it is faster, in the prime of our age more rare and hollow. **1697** COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 180 When he is past his prime, his vigour is perpetually wearing off. *c* **1718** PRIOR *Ladle* 80 The honest farmer and his wife, To years declin'd from prime of life. **1728** YOUNG *Love Fame* V. 498 Nought treads so silent as the foot of time; Hence we mistake our autumn for our prime. **1802** WORDSW. *Sailor's Mother*, A Woman on the road I met, Not old, though something past her prime. **1838** LYTTON *Calderon* I, The king was yet in the prime of middle age. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXXIX, He was still in the prime of life, not more than four-and-forty. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 342 Those years are the prime of physical as well as of intellectual vigour. **1887** JESSOPP *Arcady* II. 30 When a man has arrived at the prime of life..he is apt to become sensitive on the subject of his age.

b. Of things, material or immaterial: The best or most flourishing stage or state; the state of full perfection.

Prime of grease: cf. *pride of grease*, PRIDE *sb.*[1] 9, quot. 1688.

c **1536** in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* (1872) I. 410 Plesantly I am plyghte in the prime of my fortune! *c* **1590** GREENE *Fr. Bacon* VI. 34 As Greece affoorded in her chiefest prime. **1601** R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 105 They are onely for the owners pastime in the prime of sommer. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 11 It may be said, that the world was then in his prime and best dayes. **1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 202 *April*...Flowers in Prime or yet lasting, Anemonies,..Cyclamen, Bell-flower, Dens Caninus. **1688** R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 188/1 Prime of his Grease [is] a term used to a Boar when he is full Fat. **1794** BLAKE *Songs Exper., Little Girl Lost* iii, Where the summer's prime Never fades away. **1800** MAR. EDGEWORTH *Will* I. (1832) 91 The second week in November is the time when the rabbits are usually killed, as the skins are then in full prime. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 259 Those trees which have been cut before they had reached their prime. **1830** TENNYSON *Recoll. Arab. Nts.* ii, A goodly time, For it was in the golden prime Of good Haroun Alraschid. **1849** RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* VI. § 16. 178 A building cannot be considered as in its prime until four or five centuries have passed over it.

10. The choicest, principal, or chief member or members of a company or number of persons or things. (The later examples may be absolute uses of PRIME *a.*)

1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* II. iv. 166 The father of Phisitions, and the primes of Keruers and painters, namely, Hippocrates, and Phidias and Apelles. **1599** B. R. in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1818) II. 57 The red rose..of all hearbes and flowers the prime and soveraigne. **1608** MIDDLETON *Mad World my Masters* I. i. 96 A fellow whose only glory is to be prime of the company. **1671** MILTON *P. R.* I. 413 Among the Prime in Splendour. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* IV. 432 Prime of the flock, and choicest of the stall. **1804** WORDSW. *Afflict. Margaret* iii, He was among the prime in worth. **1844** KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 19 Hard it is, 'mid gifts so sweet Choosing out the prime.

b. The best, choicest, most attractive or desirable part of anything.

1635 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Conse.* (ed. 2) 343 He now gives up the flower and prime of all his abilities to the highest Majesty. **1782** MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. i, [He] always chused to have the prime of everything. **1873** E. SMITH *Foods* 63 The 'prime' of three shoulders and other joints.

IV. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: †**prime day**: see quots.; **prime-song** *Hist.* [repr. OE. *primsang*], the office or service of prime (= sense 1).

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* iii. (1577) 12 b, The Sea men do imagin a *prime day, which is the halfe quarter of the Moone. **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* VII. I. (1636) 739 When the Moone is three daies and 18 houres, which is the halfe quarter of the Moone, the Sea-men doe call that time the Prime day, because the Moone is then 4 points to the Eastward of the Sunne. *c* **961** ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* xvi. (Schröer) 40 Dæt seofonfealde ȝetæl..dægredsang, *primsang, undernsang, middægsang [etc.]. **1844** LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 272. **1853** ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. II. 126 At the end of prime-song, all the clergy went in procession from the choir to the chapter-house.

Prime (prəim), *sb.*[2] [Absolute use of PRIME *a.*, or of its Lat., Fr., or other equivalent. (Senses 7 and 8 may be different words.)]

I. 1. *Arith.* A prime number: see PRIME *a.* 7.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. vii. (1636) 25 But such [numbers] as cannot bee divided but that there will remaine some odde unite, those are called Primes. **1709–29** V. MANDEY *Syst. Math., Arith.* 22 Numbers are Primes between themselves, all which Unity only measures, as 5, 7, 9: also 3, 11, 13. **1806** HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 54 If a number cannot be divided by some quantity less than the square root of the same, that number is a prime, or cannot be divided by any number whatever. **1875** TODHUNTER *Algebra* (ed. 7) lii. § 705 Thus p^i is divisible by p, and is therefore not a prime.

2. A subdivision of any standard measure or dimension, which is itself subdivided in the same ratio into seconds, and so on; e. g. $\frac{1}{60}$ of a degree, a minute ($\frac{1}{60}$ of which is in its turn a *second*); the twelfth part of a foot, an inch; or, with some, $\frac{1}{12}$ of an inch; in Scottish Troy weight for gold and silver, $\frac{1}{24}$ of a grain, itself consisting of 24 seconds, etc. [So obs. F. *prime.*]

Primes, seconds, etc., were formerly used instead of decimals.

1604 in Moryson *Itinerary* I. (1617) 282 (Table of Scottish Weights of Coins) [1 denier] 24 Graines; [1 grain] 24 Primes; [1 prime] 24 Seconds [etc.]. *Ibid.*, xx. s. [sterling] = 06 pennyweights, 10 graines, 16 mites, 18 droits, 10 periots, English Weight; 07 deniers, 21 graines, 07 primes, 01 seconds, 09 thirds, 19 fourths, Scottish Weight. **1641** in R. W. Cochran-Patrick *Rec. Coinage Scotl.* (1876) I. Introd. 32 The pund Troy English consisting of 12 oz..is equall to 12 oz 5 drs 9 gr 18 pr Scots or 169,002 primes Scots. **1695** W. LOWNDES *Amendm. Silv. Coin* 66 And one other Piece which may be called the Prime, which shall be equal to.. a present standard peny. **1703** T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 123 Inches by Inches, produce Primes, or (12th) Parts (of an Inch); Inches by (12th) Parts, produce Seconds, or 12th Parts of the 12th Part of an Inch. **1727–41** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Degree*, Thus, a Degree, as being the integer or unite, is denoted by °, a first minute or prime by ′, a second by 2 or ″, a third by 3 or ‴, etc. Accordingly 3 Degrees, 25 minutes, 16 thirds, are written 3°. 25′. 0″. 16‴. **18..** B. GREENLEAF (Webster 1890), 12 seconds (″) make 1 inch or prime. 12 inches or primes (′) make one foot.

b. In decimal fractions: see quots. Now *Obs.* or *rare.*

1608 R. NORTON tr. *Stevin's Disme* C ij, Each tenth part of the vnity of the Comencement, wee call the Prime, whose signe is thus (①)..3(①) 7(②) 5(③) 9(④) [= 0·3759], that is to say 3 Primes, 7 Seconds, 5 Thirds, 9 Fourths..of valeu. **1610** W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. iv. 52 Deuide each foote

of the Rule..into decimals or Tenths, and each Tenth or Prime of the Rule into Seconds. 1695 E. Hatton *Merch. Mag.* 83 That place in a Decimal Fraction next the prick is called Primes, being so many Tenth parts. 1806 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 66 The 1st place of decimals, counted from the left-hand towards the right, is called the place of primes, or 10ths; the 2d is the place of seconds, or 100ths.

c. *Surveying.* A linear measure of $\frac{1}{10}$ or ·1 of a pole or perch.

1658 Phillips, *Prime*, is in Surveying, an exact part containing 19 inches and four fift parts of an inch.

d. *Printing.* The symbol ′ or ¹, written above and to the right of a letter or figure, to denote primes, or merely to distinguish it from another not so marked. [So F. *prime* in Algebra.]

1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Prime*, (*Printing*) a mark over a reference letter (a', b', etc.) to distinguish it from letters (a, b, etc.) not so marked. [Usually read '*a* dash', etc.]

3. *Chem.* A single atom as a unit in combination; a combining equivalent.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 627 The nitre contains five primes of oxygen, of which three, combining with the three of charcoal, will furnish three of carbonic oxide gas, while the remaining two will convert the one prime of sulphur into sulphurous acid gas. The single prime of nitrogen is, therefore, in this view, disengaged alone.

4. *Music.* **a.** Short for *prime tone* (Prime *a.* 9): The fundamental note or generator, as distinguished from the harmonics or partial tones. **b.** The 'interval' of a unison; *superfluous prime*, a chromatic semitone. **c.** 'The lowest note of any two notes forming an interval' (Stainer & Barrett).

1788 Cavallo in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVIII. 239 If a string stretched between two fixed points..be struck, it will produce a sound called the prime, first or key-note. 1866 Engel *Nat. Mus.* ii. 25 It must..be remembered that a semitone is called small when it consists of a superfluous prime, as C—C♯, A♭—A♮; and that it is called large when it consists of a minor second, as C—D♭, F♯—G. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 135 The fundamental or prime partial tone, or simply the *prime*. 1884 Sir G. A. Macfarren in *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 93/2 Thus, $\frac{E}{C}$, the fourth and fifth harmonic, produce C, the prime or generator, at the interval of two octaves under the lower of those two notes.

5. *Fencing.* †**a.** The lower half of a sword. *Obs.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 159/2 The sword is diuided into two parts, namely into the Prime and the Secunde. The Prime is measured from the hilt to the Midle of the Rapier. 1692 Sir W. Hope *Fencing-Master* (ed. 2) 3 The Strong, Fort, or Prime of the Blade is from the Shell to the middle of the Blade.

b. (Also *preem.*) A position in fencing: the first of the eight parries or guards in sword-play, used to protect the head; also, a thrust in such a position. [F. *prime.*]

1710 Palmer *Proverbs* 203 Which they wou'd find of more satisfaction and use in the conduct of life, than tierce and cart, prime and second, dancing and dress. 1730 *Gentl. Tutor for Small Sword* 8 Some teach upon a Preem with the Edge upwards. *Ibid.* 13 The Third [Parry] is, turning your Hand in Preem, You may parry and thrust him at the same time. 1889 *Badminton Libr., Fencing* ii. 44 *Prime*, the hand in pronation opposite the left shoulder; the arm bent, the elbow lowered somewhat, the point low and a little outside the lower line.

II. Related to Prima vista, Primero.

†**6.** *Cards.* A hand in primero consisting of a card from each of the four suits. Also, an old game of cards, by some identified with primero. *Obs.*

1598 Florio, *Prima*,..also a game at cardes called Prime, Primero, or Primauista. 1599 Minsheu *Span. Dial.* 26 *M.* I was a small prime. *L.* I am flush...*O.* I made fiue and fiftie, with which I win his prime [*mato su primera*]. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 45 He that wil not pluck a card, is not worthy of a prime, but..he that can be flush, may better carrie the rest. *a* 1612 Harington *Epigr.* II. xcix. *Marcus at Primero*, For either Faustus prime is with three knaves, Or Marcus never can encounter right. 1616 B. Jonson *Epigr.* cxii. 22 There's no vexation, that can make thee prime. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 142 The prime is four cards of different suits. 1816 Singer *Hist. Cards* 245 He who holds the prime (primero), that is, a sequence of the best cards, and a good trump, is sure to be successful over his adversary, and hence the game has its denomination. *Ibid.* 246 The varieties which daily occur at Primero, as the greater and lesser flush, the great and little Prime.

III. Of uncertain origin and position.

7. *Basket-making.* A kind of stout conical bodkin.

1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.* 46 The four implements, viz. prime, iron, cutting-knife, and out-sticker, used in basket-making are represented on the insignia of the Basket-makers' Company.

8. The footstep of a deer; cf. Prick *sb.* 1 c.

1847-78 in Halliwell.

Prime, *sb.*³ [f. Prime *v.*¹]

†**1.** The priming of a gun. In quot. 1655, perhaps the pan for the priming. *Obs.*

1655 Mrq. Worcester *Cent. Inv.* § 44 A perfect Pistol.. with Prime, Powder and Fire-lock. 1706 Phillips, *Prime of a Gun*, the Powder that is put in the Pan, or Touch-hole. 1738 Wesley *Wks.* (1830) I. 164 He went and got fresh prime, beat the flint with his key and..shot himself through the head. 1769 Falconer *Dict. Marine* (1789), The.. priming-iron..serves to clear the inside of the touch hole, and render it fit to receive the prime. 1823 W. Faux *Mem. Days in Amer.* 48 The colonel..then attempted to shoot himself, but had no prime.

attrib. 1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Priming*, That so they may put in the prime-powder, or touch-powder, to fire off the piece.

†**2.** A first coat of paint; priming. *Obs.*

1658 W. Sanderson *Graphice* 58 Lay your ground or Prime therein of Flesh-Colour. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 The Prime is made thus. 1735 *Dict. Polygraph.* s. v. *Face*, You ought to cover rather too much than too little of your ground with this prime.

Prime (prəim), *a.* (*adv.*) [= F. *prime* adj. (now only in certain phrases), ad. L. *prīm-us* first.]

1. First in order of time or occurrence; early, young, youthful; primitive, primary.

1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* III. 34 And myȝte nat passe þe poynte of her prime age. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4587 In the houre of pryme dayes thyne hoege luf shewed thow me. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 191 Yonge men of pryme berde. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* R vj, He was in the prime floure of his youth. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* xxvi. (1617) 441 It befell in the prime time of the world. 1639 Laud *Wks.* (1849) II. 93 If the speech be of the prime Christian Church. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) I. 273 If the prime Swarm be broken, the second will both cast and swarm the sooner. 1850 S. Dobell *Roman* vii, The men of whom I speak Lived by the prime tradition.

2. Of persons: First in rank, dignity, influence, authority, or importance; highest in degree; principal, chief, foremost.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 72 Prospero, the prime Duke, being so reputed In dignity. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 162 Haue I not made you The prime man of the State? 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 206 These are chosen.. out of the Nobilitie and primest Magistrates, both of the Provinces and Citizens. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 301 Rich. Smith..had been prime Mourner at his Brother's Funeral. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. xi. (ed. 22) 357 [The Lord Mayor] upon the Death of the King, is said to be prime Person of England. 1761 Hume *Hist. Eng.* III. liii. 155 The nobility and prime gentry of the nation. 1862 Goulburn *Pers. Relig.* III. ix. (1873) 232 He was God's prime agent in the spread of the Gospel.

3. First in importance, excellence, or value; principal, chief, main; of primary importance.

1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 425 My prime request (Which I do last pronounce) is..If you be Mayd, or no? 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. iv. 229 To come, with her, (Katherine our Queene) before the primest Creature That's Parragon'd o' th' World. 1620 Venner *Via Recta* iv. 80 It might..be numbred among the fishes of primest note. 1717 Prior *Alma* II. 364 That prime ill, a talking wife. 1776 G. Semple *Building in Water* 110 Waterford and Wexford.. have constantly enjoyed a prime Place in my Mind. 1814 Wordsw. *Sonn.*, '*From the dark chambers of dejection freed*', A soaring spirit is their prime delight. 1874 H. R. Reynolds *John Bapt.* VI. i. 359 The prime intention of each Evangelist is to establish the same sublime position.

4. 'First-class', 'first-rate'; of the best quality; now used esp. of cattle and provisions.

Prime fish, the more valuable kinds of fish caught for food: opposed to Offal sense 3, q.v.

1628 Digby *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 37 Shee was a shippe of a 100 tonnes, a prime sayler. 1634 *Relat. Ld. Baltimore's Plantation* (1865) 12 As good, (if not much better) than the primest parcell of English ground. 1663 Cowley *Disc. Govt. Cromwell* Verses & Ess. (1669) 75 This Son of fortune, Cromwell (who was himself one of the primest of her Jests). 1743 Bulkeley & Cummins *Voy. S. Seas* 1 The Ships were all in prime Order, all lately rebuilt. 1805 R. W. Dickson *Pract Agric.* II. 1032 Removing the lambs from the ewes.. in order to complete them on young clover or other sorts of 'prime keep'. 1833 Ht. Martineau *T. Tyne* ii. 28 Coal enough—and no little of a prime quality,—was destroyed at the pit-mouth. 1884 *Brit. Alm. & Comp.* 29 Soles, turbots, and brills, which are technically termed 'prime' fish. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 285 The butcher won't cut prime joints off a bullock.

5. Sexually excited, ruttish.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 403 Were they as prime as Goates, as hot as Monkeyes, As salt as Wolues in pride.

6. First in order of existence or development; primary, original, fundamental; from which others are derived, or on which they depend.

Prime feathers, primary feathers: see Primary *a.* 5.

1639 Laud *Wks.* (1849) II. 152 Excommunication on their part was not the prime cause of this division. 1657 W. Coles *Adam in Eden* lix, The prime root shooteth downwards like a Cinquefoile. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 17 The prime Cause of our British Malady the Scurvy. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 156 The prime middle feathers on the tail are red. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* i. 51 According to the prime postulate not of the philosophy of Socrates only, but of Plato and Aristotle also. 1878 Abney *Photogr.* (1881) 8 What the prime form of these undulations may be we cannot tell.

7. *Arith.* Of a number: Having no integral factors except itself and unity. So *prime divisor, factor, quotient*, etc. **b.** Of two or more numbers in relation to each other: Having no common measure except unity.

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* VII. def. xii. 186 A prime (or first) number is that, which onely vnitie doth measure. 1660 Barrow *Euclid* VII. xxiii. (1714) 156 Numbers prime the one to the other,..are the least of all numbers that have the same proportion with them. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 5 Six..though it may be made by Addition of Five and One, yet shall it not be Prime. 1722 Horsley in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 327 Two or more numbers, which have no common integral devisor, besides unity, are said to be Prime with respect to one another. 1795 Hutton *Math. Dict.* II. 276 Prime Numbers are..otherwise called Simple, or Incomposite numbers. *Ibid.* 279 The whole number, whether it be Prime or composite. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Mechanics* II. vii. 30 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) Making the number of teeth and the number of leaves prime to each other, that is, such that no integer divides both exactly. 1875 Todhunter *Algebra* (ed. 7) lii. § 703 If a and b be each of them prime to c, then ab is prime to c. *Ibid.* § 708 A number can be resolved into prime factors in only one way. *Ibid.* § 713 If n be a prime number, and N prime to n, then $N^{n-1}-1$ is a multiple of n. (Fermat's Theorem.) *Ibid.* § 717 If n be a prime number, $1+\lfloor n-1$ is divisible by n. (Wilson's Theorem.)

8. First in numerical order, as in *prime meridian*, the first meridian (of any system of reckoning).

1878 Huxley *Physiogr.* xix. 330 The meridian from which the reckoning begins is called the prime meridian.

9. Special collocations and phrases: **a. prime dun**, an artificial fly in angling: cf. Dun *sb.*¹ 3; **prime entry**, an entry of two-thirds of a ship's cargo liable to duty, made before discharge (on which an estimate of the duty is paid): cf. Post entry 2 a (Bithell *Counting-ho. Dict.* 1882); **prime figure**: see quot.; **prime function** (*Eccl.*): see quot.; †**prime number**, the Golden Number = Prime *sb.*¹ 4; see also 7; **prime tint**: see quot.; **prime tone** (*Music*), the fundamental note of a compound tone. Also *prime* Conductor, Cost, Mover, Serjeant, Vizier, Warden: see the sbs.

1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* II. 309 *Prime-dun. Wings, of the feather got from the quill of a starling's wing. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), **Prime Figure.* 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Prime Figure*, is that which cannot be divided into any other Figures more simple than it self; as a Triangle in Planes, the Pyramid in Solids: For all Planes are made of the First, all Bodies or Solids compounded of the Second. 1866 *Direct. Angl.* (ed. 3) 258 **Prime Function.* From the Credo inclusive to the end of the Office. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 9 In what year you would know what is the *Prime Number, add 1 to the date thereof, and then divide it by 19, and that which remaineth upon the Division.. is the Number required. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* xii. 96 The first we shall call *prime tints, by which is meant any colour or colours on the surfaces of objects. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* vii. 130 The *prime tone is always the sound which is called by the name which the note bears, as C, B, A, or any other note. This tone is called the prime tone because..it is always much louder than any of the constituent parts of the sound.

b. Prime vertical: (*a*) in full *prime vertical circle*, a great circle of the heavens passing through the east and west points of the horizon, and through the zenith, where it cuts the meridian at right angles; (*b*) short for *prime vertical dial*, a dial the plane of which lies in that of the prime vertical circle, a north and south dial.

Prime vertical transit instrument, a transit instrument the telescope of which revolves in the plane of the prime vertical, for observing the transit of stars over this circle.

1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xiv. 21 If a Plane shall decline from the Prime Vertical, and incline to the Horizon. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Prime Verticals*, or *Direct Erect North or South Dyals*, are those whose Planes lie parallel to the Prime Vertical Circle. 1761 Dunn in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 185 In taking altitudes, I always observe, when the sun, or other celestial body, is as near the prime vertical, or east and west azimuth, as possible. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* IV. xxvi. (1879) 147.

†**c.** *At, of prime face* [F. *de prime face*], at first sight, Prima facie. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Troylus* III. 870 (919) This accident so petous was to here And ek so lyk a soth at pryme face. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 57 At the prime face, me semed them noble and glorious to all the people. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10173 But thow make resistence Be tymes & at prime face. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xv. 56 It appiered of prymeface, that the heuens were broken and parted a sondre.

d. *Prime ratio*: the initial limiting ratio between two variable quantities which simultaneously recede from definite fixed values or limits. (Correl. to *ultimate ratio.*)

The *method of prime and ultimate ratios* is essentially the same as the *method of limits* in the differential and integral calculus (see Limit *sb.* 2 b).

B. as *adv.* In prime order, excellently. *colloq.*

1648 Gage *West Ind.* 148 If the Indians bring that which is not prime good, they shall surely be lashed. 1785 Burns *To James Smith* iv, My barmie noddle's working prime. 1886 C. Scott *Sheep-farming* 96 The hoggets will be prime fat by Christmas.

Prime (prəim), *v.*¹ [Origin uncertain.

If sense 1 was the source of Primage, Primeght, it must be older than the quotations show. The fact that, in most of the senses, 'priming' is a *first* operation preliminary to something else, suggests connexion with L. *primus.*]

1. *trans.* To fill, charge, load. Now chiefly *dial.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* III. vi. 213 Our kervalis howis ladis and prymys he With huge charge of siluir in quantite. 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Iustine* Pref., To read as birds skip from bow to bough, more to prime their bils, then benefit their bodies. 1791 Learmont *Poems* 109 Her bottle prim'd came last night frae the town. 1805 M^cIndoe *Poems* 149 John calmly prim'd his nose. 1883 G. M^cMichael *Way thr. Ayrshire* 126 The injector for priming the steam boiler.

2. To supply (a fire-arm of old-fashioned type, or more strictly its pan) with gunpowder for communicating fire to a charge; also, to lay a train of powder to (any charge, a mine, etc.); cf. Priming *vbl. sb.*¹ 1, 2. Also *intr.* or *absol.*

1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* II. i. 17 He ought to haue his peece readie charged and primed. *Ibid.* III. i. 35 Then to prime his pan with touch powder. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xiv. 88 We took a Pistol.., and..prim'd it with well dry'd Gun-powder. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* ix, Before he had time to prime again. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 251 The commanding officer orders the battalion to prime and load. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop*

Receipts Ser. I. 127/2 Rockets are primed with mealed powder and spirits of wine. 1895 G. MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* I. viii, Midway on the lake he perceived his boatman about to prime a pistol.

† b. To put (powder) in the touch-pan. *Obs.*

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. v, An old Hargubuzier..Could prime his poulder, and giue fire, and hit, All in a twinckling.

3. *fig.* and *transf.* a. To charge, fill, or fully furnish (a person) beforehand *with* information which he may subsequently give forth or otherwise use.

1791 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 130. V. 44, I primed my lips with such a ready charge of flattery, that [etc.]. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 254 All that I can say is that I am ready primed, and that if all matters suit, I shall go off with a dreadful explosion. 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 234 Primed with their morning's knowledge as they appeared to be. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 20 Sept. 5/3 Every man present..is primed with a speech which he is not satisfied till he has delivered.

b. To fill with liquor.

1823 *Hints for Oxford* 73 A determination when they sit down to table to have a row as soon as they are primed, and often before they rise they commence the work of destruction on glasses and plates and decanters. 1854 WHYTE MELVILLE *Gen. Bounce* viii, A fat little man, primed with port.

4. *To prime a pump*: see quots., and cf. FANG *v.*[2] 2, FETCH *v.* 2 c. (= F. *charger la pompe.*) *local.*

a 1840– [In common use in south of Scotland]. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *To prime a pump*, to pour water down the tube with the view of saturating the sucker, so causing it to swell, and act effectually in bringing up water. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Prime*, to pour water into a pump bucket to make it lift. When a pump bucket becomes dry and leaky and fails to induce suction, it is said to have lost its *primin.* [Known in South Yorksh.]

5. To cover (a surface of wood, canvas, etc.) with a ground or first colour or coat of paint, or with size, oil, etc. to prevent the paint from being absorbed: cf. PRIMING *vbl. sb.*[1] 3, 4.

1609 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec. for primyng wood ijs. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 To Paint them, you must first Prime them. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 182 His ..works are chiefly..on a fine linen cloth, smoothly primed with a proper tone to help the harmony of his shadows. 1801 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* i. (1848) 350 A plane or tablet primed with white. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Paint.* 220 The intention of priming the ground with size or oil is to prevent the very rapid absorption of the colours.

† b. *transf.* To 'make up' (the face, etc.) with cosmetics. *Obs.*

1609 [see *priming colour*, PRIMING *vbl. sb.*[1] 8]. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Sat. Poetry* Poet. Wks. (1686) 172 Commend her Beauty, and bely her Glass, By which she every morning primes her face. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* II. 18 July Let. i, Her face was primed and patched from the chin up to the eyes. 1782 J. TRUMBULL *McFingal* 56 Your gay sparks..With wampom'd blankets hid their laces, And like their sweethearts, primed their faces.

6. *intr. Engineering.* Of an engine boiler: To let water pass to the cylinder in the form of spray along with the steam.

1832 *Edin. Rev.* LVI. 139 The steam..is charged with water suspended in it in minute subdivision—an effect called by engineers *priming*. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 456/2 The carrying over of water with the steam. ..There are moments when this effect is so violent, that it manifests itself externally in the form of an abundant fall of rain from the top of the funnel. The engine is then said to prime; and this takes place especially when the boiler is too full. 1849 *Proc. Inst. Civ. Eng.* VIII. 182 When a steam-vessel came from sea and entered the Thames, she began to prime at the moment of passing from salt to fresh water. 1881 THWAITE *Factories & Workshops*, etc. (1882) 138 If a boiler foams or primes, it is because it has insufficient steam room or because the feed water is dirty.

Hence **Pri·med** *ppl. a.*, prepared to receive paint.

1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Painting*, The Primed Cloth, which is usually good Canvas made smooth, sized over with a little Honey, and when dry'd, whited over with Size and Whiting..upon which you paint. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 64 Having first made a rough sketch upon your primed cloth with white chalk.

Prime (prəim), *v.*[2] [f. PRIME *a.* or *sb.*[1] With sense 2 cf. F. *primer* to take the first place, lead, anticipate, outstrip, f. *prime* PRIME *a.*]

† 1. *intr.* Of the moon: To enter on the first phase; to become new, appear first after the change.

1549–62 STERNHOLD & H. *Ps.* LXXII. vii, Vntill the Moone shall leaue to prime, waste, chaunge, and to encrease. 1647 J. HEYDON *Discov. Fairfax* 6 So long as the Sun shall shine, or the Moon prime.

2. To be first; to domineer; to lord it. So *to prime it.* ? *Obs.*

1756 F. GREVILLE *Maxims, Charac. & Refl.* 78 Whether men like best to prime over others, or to have others prime over them. 1805 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* (1830) I. 332 Lessing loved to prime, and was adapted for it. 1821 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 340 Harvard will still prime it over us with her twenty Professors.

3. Of a tide: To come at a shorter interval: usually in PRIMING *vbl. sb.*[2] (So F. *primer.*)

1890 C. A. YOUNG *Elem. Astron.* viii. § 267 At the time of the spring tides, the interval between the corresponding tides of successive days is less than the average, being only about 24 hours 38 minutes (instead of 24 hours 51 minutes), and then the tides are said to prime. At the neap tides, the interval is greater than the mean—about 25 hours 6 minutes, and the tide lags.

Prime (prəim), *v.*[3] Now only *dial.* [Origin obscure. ? Related to *proyne*, PRUNE.] *trans.* To prune or trim (trees). Also *fig.*

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 86 b, The vine being.. primed multiplieth the more. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 114 They..prime and draw such woods as grow too thick and obscure. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* IV. ii, Two-edged winds that prime The maiden blossoms. 1631 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, To Newton for priming our trees iiijs. 1790 CULLUM *Hist. Hawsted* iii. Gloss. 172 *Priming* a tree, is pruning it. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Priming*, pruning the lower, or washboughs of a tree. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Prime*, to trim up the stems of trees; to give them the first dressing or training. 1884 *American* VII. 350 All he needs is to prime down extravagances and modify excesses in voice and expression.

Prime (prəim), *v.*[4] [Origin unascertained.] *intr.* Of a fish: To leap or 'rise'.

1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 41 In fine sunshiny days, carps will often *prime* about noon and swim about the edges of a pond to catch such flies as fall upon the surface of the water. *Ibid.* 168 *Prime*, fish are said to prime when they leap out of the water. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. (1880) 76 When the angler notes a bubble or two..left after the priming of large fish. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* xii. (1884) 93 The bream are 'priming' in shoals on the top of the water.

Primecocks, obs. form of PRINCOX.

† **Pri·meful**, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PRIME *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Characterized by being in the prime.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxix. (1612) 361 A paire of Loues, fresh in their primefull dayes.

† **Pri·megilt.** *Sc. Obs.* In 6–7 pryme-, prym-. [? from PRIME *v.*[1] 1 + *gilt* = *gelt*, GELD, payment.] = PRIMAGE 1.

1518–19 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 187 To be furit to the port of Deip in France for the fraucht of xxvj s. and xvj s. the most chairge frie of all vther chairges except pryme gilt. 1576 *Ibid.* (1882) IV. 54 The pryme-giltt, quhilk was gevin be the liberaltie of merchantis, hes bene in all tymes past vplifted and spent be the marinaris in vane and wicked vses. 1621 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI.* (1816) IV. 668/2 Pe prymgilt To be vplifted for sustentatioun Of the pure and decayit Marineris w[t]in The said toun of leith. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I.* (1817) V. 93/2 Grantit..the indraucht thairof and prymegilt of all shipes coming to the said port.

Primely (prəi·mli), *adv.* [f. PRIME *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. In the first place, in the highest degree; firstly, primarily, originally. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1613 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* II. (1614) D j, The Nightingale records againe What thou dost primely sing. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. § 13 Some parts of it [natural law] are primely necessary, others by supposition and accident. 1698 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. Pref., The application..made to men's Reason and Understanding (as the part primely affected).

2. Exceedingly well; excellently. *colloq.*

c 1746 COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 40 Theaw looks primely. 1755–73 JOHNSON, *Primely*..2. Excellently, supremely well. A low sense. 1873 A. G. MURDOCH *Doric Lyre* 26 He who this night dares the road, Should have his good steed primely shod. 1900 A. LANG in *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 367/1 It was primely witty to half-poison somebody with a surreptitious dose of medicine.

Pri·me Mi·nister. [PRIME *a.* 2, MINISTER *sb.* 2, 3.]

† 1. *generally.* Used in the ordinary sense of the two words: A principal or chief minister, servant, or agent. Often in *pl. Obs.*

1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issach.* 11 To effectuate his private Designes, he made much of some few prime leading Ministers. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VII. § 337 He [Charles I] received advice and information from some of his prime ministers of that kingdom [Ireland]. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 355 The emperor of China and several of his prime ministers are turnd Christians. 1713 M. HENRY *Meekness & Quietn. Spirit* (1822) 143 The apostles, those prime ministers of state in Christ's kingdom. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 2/3 Those who were jealous of too much personal power being placed in the hands of a single statesman were accustomed to describe all the leading members of the Administration as 'the Prime Ministers of State' in order to prevent the title being arrogated by one among them.

2. The first or principal minister or servant of any sovereign, ruler, or state, or more vaguely of any person of rank or position; = *premier minister*, PREMIER *a.* 1 b, *sb.* a.

Applied descriptively to the chief minister of some foreign rulers, before it became usual in sense 3; but in the 19th c. largely extended from the English use.

1655 LD. NORWICH in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 144 He bein in close treaty with the Pr. of Condés prime minister. *a* 1678 MARVELL in *Casquet of Lit.* (1873) I. 310/1 Time, the prime minister of death, There's nought can bribe his honest will. 1678 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Feb., I had a long discourse with the Conte de Castel Mellor, lately Prime Minister in Portugal. 1730 T. BOSTON *View Covt. Grace* (1771) 212 The prime Minister of the Kingdom of Egypt. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 168 Cardinal Tencin, who, on the death of Cardinal Fleury, assumed the lead in the French councils, was now regarded as Prime Minister. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 248 The Moollah ..had charge of the prime minister's son (a boy of sixteen when I saw him). 1882 *Whitaker's Alm.* 333 Japan..Prime Minister, Sanjô Saneyoshi. 1889 *Ibid.* 516 Sweden..Prime Minister, Baron Bildt. 1884 JESSOPP in *19th Cent.* Jan. 110 The prior was the abbot's prime minister.

3. In Great Britain (in early use, *prime minister of state*): A descriptive designation, which has gradually grown to be the official title of the First Minister of State or leader of the administration.

Originally merely descriptive and unofficial; in the early 18th c. (perh. from its prior application in sense 2 to the sole minister of a despotic ruler) odious (see quot. 1733); applied opprobriously to Walpole, and disowned by him, as later by Lord North. Little used in later part of 18th c., *premier* being often substituted, also *first minister*; became usual by the middle of the 19th c., and began to creep into official use from 1878. In 1905 fully recognized, and the precedence of the Prime Minister defined by King Edward VII. For fuller history, see A. F. Robbins in *N. & Q.* 8th s. XI. 69, and onward to 10th s. IX. 425; also Morley *Walpole* vii.

1694 GIBSON in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 231 My Lord Keeper, who is..(what my Lord Burleigh .. was) Prime-Minister of State. 1698 EVELYN in *Thoresby's Corr.* (ed. Hunter) I. 345 The Earl of Leicester, prime minister of State to Queen Elizabeth. 1704 ST. WEST *Let. to Harley* 29 Aug. in *Portland Papers* IV. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 119, I have heard of people's talk, that ..if the Court had appointed my Lord Rochester, or any other person to be the Prime Minister, it would have been the same thing to you, and that your aim is in time to be the Prime Minister yourself. 1733 *Fog's Jrnl.* 28 Apr., In Countries where Royal Prerogative is limited by Laws, the Name of prime Minister has been always odious. 1734–5 C. D'ANVERS *Craftsman* No. 446 P 3 The late Earl of Oxford stands charged, in the Impeachment against Him, with being the Prime, if not the sole Minister, and engrossing to Himself the absolute Management and Direction of all Affairs. 1741 LD. HARDWICK in *Gentl. Mag.* XI. 405 It has not been yet pretended that he [Walpole] assumes the Title of Prime Minister, or indeed, that it is aplied to him by any but his Enemies. 1741 WALPOLE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* in Doran *Lond. in Jacob. T.* (1877) II. 89 Having invested me with a kind of mock dignity, and styled me a *Prime Minister*, they impute to me an unpardonable abuse of that chimerical authority, which only they created and conferred. 1747 *Biog. Brit.* I. 379 Yet he [Bacon] behaved..towards the Earl of Salisbury, who was now become Lord Treasurer and Prime-Minister, with submission and respect. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 254 When there was a lord treasurer, that great officer was generally prime minister: but..it was not till the time of Walpole that the first lord of the Treasury was considered as the head of the executive government. 1878 (July 13) *Treaty of Berlin*, The Earl of Beaconsfield, First Lord of the Treasury and Prime Minister of Her Britannic Majesty. 1894 *Times* 5 Mar. 10/4 The Queen has summoned the Earl of Rosebery, K.G...and offered him the post of Prime Minister vacated by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. 1899 LD. ROSEBERY in *Anglo-Saxon Rev.* June 105 The Prime Minister, as he is now called, is technically and practically the Chairman of an Executive Committee of the Privy Council, or rather, perhaps, of Privy Councillors, the influential foreman of an executive jury. 1905 *King's Warrant* 2 Dec., Whereas We taking it into Our Royal consideration that the precedence of Our Prime Minister has not been declared or defined by due authority .. We do hereby declare Our Royal Will and Pleasure that..the Prime Minister of Us, Our Heirs and Successors shall have place and precedence next after the Archbishop of York.

b. Also the official designation of the leader of the administration in some of the self-governing British colonies and 'dominions beyond the sea'.

The usual title of the chief of the ministry in the colonies is PREMIER; in Canada and in Australia this is retained in most cases for the chief minister of each constituent colony, while *prime minister* is used for the first minister of the whole Dominion and of the Commonwealth; it is also the title in the Dominion of New Zealand, and in the colonies of Transvaal and Natal.

1901 *Whitaker's Alm.* 520 New Zealand..Prime Minister, Colonial Treasurer, etc. Rt. Hon. Richd. J. Seddon. 1902 *Ibid.* 529 The Commonwealth of Australia..Prime Minister and Minister of State for External Affairs, Rt. Hon. Edmund Barton. 1906 *Ibid.* 513 Dominion of Canada.. Prime Minister and President of Privy Council, Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Hence **Prime-minister** *v.*, *nonce-wd.*, *intr.* to act as a prime minister; **Pri·me-ministe·rial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a prime minister; **Pri·me-mi·nistership**, † **Pri·me mi·nistry**, the office or position of a prime minister.

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. i, There are certain Mysteries or Secrets in all Trades.., from that of *Prime Ministring to this of Authoring. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 10/1 What may be regarded as Mr. Gladstone's *Prime Ministerial youth was very vigorous. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Apr. 439 Sir Alexander—chief reporter on the Priministerial staff. 1867 *Athenæum* 23 Nov. 679/2 He won.. the *Prime Ministership. 1887 *Spectator* 6 Aug., If..Lord Salisbury should find the combined burden of the Foreign Office and the Prime Minister-ship too much for his health. 1730 T. BOSTON *View Covt. Grace* (1771) 141 God..exalted him to the *prime ministry of heaven.

Primeness (prəi·mnés). [f. PRIME *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being prime; † primitiveness, earliness (*obs.*); first quality, excellence.

1611 COTGR., *Primeur*,..primenesse, perfection, excellencie. 1624 R. B. in F. White *Repl. Fisher* App. 12 Euerie thing Fundamentall is not of a like neerenesse to the Foundation, nor of equall Primenesse in the Faith. 1628 GAULE *Pract. The. Panegyr.* 25 As they of their Emperour, for primenesse and eminence. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xl, 'All fun, ain't it?' 'Prime!' said the young gentleman...The young gentleman, notwithstanding his primeness and his spirit,.. reclined his head upon the table, and howled dismally. 1842 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle Prof.* ii. Wks. 1898 IV. 360 He ..is able at a glance to recognise the age of mutton, the primeness of beef. 1892 *Daily News* 13 Dec. 6/5 Sheep that for neatness of form and primeness of quality have never been surpassed.

Primer (pri·məɹ, prəi·məɹ), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 4– primer; also 4–6 prymer, 5 prymar, -mere, premere, 6 primare, 7 primere, -mier. *β.* 5–6 prymmer, 6–8 primmer. [In 15th c. = med.L. *prīmārius, -ārium*, f. L. *prīm-us* first, or (?) *prīma* PRIME *sb.*[1]; see -ARIUM and cf. PRIMER *a.*

(The actual reason for the name does not appear; the sense 'first or primary book', which suits sense 2, is less suitable

to sense 1, which some would connect, as a book of *Hours*, with PRIME *sb.*[1])]

1. A name for prayer-books or devotional manuals for the use of the laity, used in England before, and for some time after, the Reformation.

The mediæval *Primarium* or *Primer* was mainly a copy, or (in English) a translation, of different parts of the Breviary and Manual. For its origin and structure, see the Introduction to 'the Prymer or Lay Folks' Prayer Book', edited by H. Littlehales, E.E.T.S. 1895–7. In the 14th and 15th centuries, in its simplest form, it contained the Hours of the Blessed Virgin, the 7 Penitential and 15 Gradual Psalms, the Litany, the Office for the Dead (Placebo and Dirige), and the Commendations; to which however various additions were often made. In the early 16th c., the printed editions of this in English (examples known from 1527) are often called on the title-page *Prymer*, and in the colophon, *Horæ Beatæ Mariæ*, or the like. The name was also given in 16th c. to books similar in character and purpose, partly based upon the *Sarum Horæ*, whether put out by private persons (e. g. Marshall's Primer, 1534), or with some sort of authority (e. g. Bp. Hilsey's Primer, 1539), or by royal authority, as the King's Primer of 1545 and the successive recensions issued in the reigns of Hen. VIII, Edw. VI, and Elizabeth; also to 'the Uniform and Catholyke Prymer in Latin and English', appointed for general use by Queen Mary's Letters Patent in 1555. The title was also used for several English or Latin and English editions of *Horæ* according to the Roman use, published in 1599 and later.

After the Reformation, *Primer* was also applied to books in which the offices for daily prayers were based upon the orders contained in the Book of Common Prayer. These are described in the Privilege to William Seres, the printer of the first of them in 1553 (see quot.) as 'books of private prayers, called and usually taken and reported for Primers..set forth agreeable and according to the Book of common prayers'. Later forms of this, under the title 'The Primer or Catechism set forth agreeable to the Book of Common Prayer', were issued under Chas. II, Jas. II, Geo. II, and Geo. III, the latest app. in 1783.

[1323 *Will Eliz. Bacon* (cf. transl. in A. Gibbons *Early Lincoln Wills* 4) Domino Johanni la Ware fratri meo unum primarium quod fuit Margr' sororis mee..Item Margarete sorori mee..unum tressour cum primario meo.]

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. VI. 46 The lomes þat ich laboure with and lyflode deserue Ys pater-noster and my prymer placebo and dirige. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 102 Also a prymmer for to serve god with. ?1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 539 My Maister Fastolf..by his othe made on his primer ther, grauntted and promitted to me to have the maner of Gunton. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 755/13 *Hoc primarium*, a premere. 1511 FABYAN *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 7 Wt my great masse booke, and also the great prymar, whiche before daies I gave to my wif. 1530 PALSGR. 183 *Vnes heures*, a primer or a mattyns boke. 1534 (*title*) A Prymer in Englyshe, with certeyn prayers and godly meditations, very necessary for all people that vnderstonde not the Latyne Tongue. (Marshall's.) 1539 J. HILSEY *The Manuall of Prayers, or the Prymer in Englyshe* Prol., Called the prymer, because (I suppose) that it is the fyrste boke that the tender youth was instructed in. 1545 (*title*) The Primer, set foorth by the Kynges maiestie and his Clergie, to be taught, lerned, and read: and none other to be vsed throughout all his dominions. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 159 b, Reade we not these wordes in their Popish primare. 1553 (*title*) A Prymmer or boke of priuate prayer nedeful to be vsed of al faythfull Christianes. (Seres.) 1605 *Gunpowder Plot* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 23 Having, upon a primer, given each other the oath of secrecy. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. XXX. (1739) 139 This was the Clergy's Primmer, wherein they imployed their study. 1669 (*title*) The Primer, or Three Offices of the B. Virgin Mary, in Latin and English [by Thomas Fitz Simon]. (Rouen.) 1686 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Mar., One Hall, who styl'd himselfe his Majesty's printer..for the printing Missalls, Offices, Lives of Saints, Portals, Primers, &c., books expressly forbidden to be printed or sold, by divers Acts of Parliament. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 116 All Prayers to Saints were to be struck out of the Primmers, publish'd by the late King. 1846 MASKELL *Mon. Rit.* II. p. xxxii, xliii.

2. An elementary school-book for teaching children to read; formerly, 'a little book, which children are first taught to read and to pray by' (Phillips 1706); 'a small prayer-book in which children are taught to read' (Johnson 1755–73).

This sense gradually disengaged itself from the preceding, from which in early use it cannot be separated. The books included under sense 1 appear to have been also used in teaching to read and as first reading-books; and there may have been from early times forms of them specially intended for this purpose; such was perhaps the primer of quot. *c* 1386. In the 16th c., printed books of this kind became common; that mentioned in quot. *c* 1537 has a section containing the A. B. C., followed by the Pater Noster, Ave Maria, Creed, Decalogue, forms of Grace before and after meat, and certain prayers. Recensions of Marshall's and Hilsey's Primers (quot. 1539), also began with the A. B. C. Smaller works containing the part for children only, began to be officially published in 1545, under the title of 'The A B C'. Primers for children, issued under Edward VI and Elizabeth, contained also the Church Catechism; and after 1600 the main purpose of the Primer appears to have been educational; as known to Dr. Johnson, it contained, besides the alphabetic matter, 'godly prayers and graces, very meet and necessary for the instruction of youth'. In Scotland, 'the A B C with the Shorter Catechism', containing also the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, Graces before and after meat, etc., was used as the first reading-book down to *c* 1800, and is still published as the official form of the Shorter Catechism. The use of the Primer, thus variously transformed, as a book in which children learned to read, at length so overshadowed its original purpose that, when all the devotional parts were eliminated, popular usage still continued to apply the ancient name to the Abecedarium pure and simple.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 65 This litel child his litel book lernynge As he sat in the scole at his prymer He Alma redemptoris herde synge As children lerned hire Antiphoner. *c* 1500 *Regr. Moone* lf. 20 b (Somerset Ho.), The prymmer that she lernyth vppon. *c* 1537 (*title*) The Primer in English for children, after the vse of Sarum. 1539 (*title*) The Primer in English most necessary for the education of children. *a* 1617 BAYNE *On Coloss.* (1634) 82 It is a good primmer for us to spell in. 1639 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 176 For the buyeing and prouideing of horne bookes and primers to be giuen to poore children of the said parish of St Maries. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* 89 But for which..the substance of many a fair volume, might be reduced to the size of a primmer. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xxiv, Where humming students gilded primers read. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 105 The treasured primer's lettered rows.

b. By extension, a small introductory book on any subject.

1807 T. BURGESS (*title*) A Hebrew Primer. 1846 (*title*) Primer of the Irish Language. 1875 (*title of Series*) Science Primers, edited by Professors Huxley, Roscoe, and Balfour Stewart. 1889 (*title*) Primer of the History of the Catholic Church in Ireland. 1895 E. CLODD (*title*) Primer of Evolution.

c. *fig.* That which serves as a first means of instruction.

1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* IV. xcix, Keepe him from vaine.. and amorous Pamphlets as the Primmers of all Vice. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* i. 4 Thus did Adam, Noah,..teach their Families, by the primmer of divine Traditions. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. III. 201 Spell in lovers' primers sweetly. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 672/1 In China,.. learning is the first primer of power.

3. *Typogr.* **a.** *Great Primer*, a size of type between Paragon and English, of 51 ems to a foot.

Great Primer type.

b. *Long Primer*, a size between Small Pica and Bourgeois, of 89 ems to a foot. *Two-line long primer* = PARAGON (type).

Long Primer type.

1598 *Ord. Stationers' Co.* in T. B. Reed *Hist. Lett. Foundries* (1887) 129 Those in brevier and long primer letters at a penny for one sheet and a half. 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* xiii. 89 The Long-primer, the Pica, the Italica. 1629 C. BUTLER *Oratoria* A iv b, Genera literarum..corporum proceritate distinguuntur: Primier, Pique, English: & supra hæc, Great Primier, Double Pique, Double English. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 2 Most Printing-Houses have.. Pearl, Nomparel, Brevier, Long-Primmer, Pica, English, Great-Primmer, Double-Pica, Two-Lin'd-English. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 135 Two Lines Great Primer. 1771 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1887 I. 144 It was a folio, pro patria size in pica, with long primer notes. 1882 *Clar. Press List New Bks.* 44 The Book of Common Prayer. Long Primer, 24mo.

†**4.** The first one. *Obs.*

1597 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. Ded. 210 Such as that Henrie (Primer of you Hunsdon Barons) bee Your Lordshippe, to your Countrie. 1625 F. MARKHAM *Bk. Hon.* I. X. § 1 When I looke..into the great Antiquitie of your Noble House (being in descent the Primere of our Nation).

†**5.** A student of the first grade at the university of St. Andrews. *Obs.*

1684 A. SKEINE *Let.* in *Scottish Antiq.* XI. 19 If his sone be a primer his expence will be as folloeth.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **primer-school**, an elementary school; **primer-state**, elementary state.

1545 *Primer Hen. VIII* Injunction, For the auoydyng of the dyuersytie of primer bookes that are nowe abroade.. whiche minister occasion of contentions. *a* 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 257 The law..could no more spiritualize the heart, than the teachings in a primer-school can enable the mind, and make it fit for affairs of state. 1903 *Critic* XLIII. 368/1, I have passed this primer-state of religious emotion.

Primer (prəi·mər), *sb.*[2] [f. PRIME *v.*[1] + -ER [1].]

1. A priming-wire: see PRIMING *vbl. sb.*[1] 8.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 100 Wire for prymers. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiv. 68 His Primer is a small long peece of iron, sharpe at the small end to pierce the Cartrage thorow the toutch hole. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* viii, Poise your musket—Rest your musket—Cock your musket—Handle your primers—and many other forgotten words of discipline.

2. A cap, wafer, cylinder, etc., containing fulminating powder or other compound, in communication with the powder of a cartridge, blasting charge, etc., which it ignites when exploded by percussion or otherwise.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 185 The flash of fire from the end of the primer communicates fire, by the touch-hole, to the gunpowder contained in the barrel. 1838 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 138 Had not my primer missed fire, [I] should have had about 30 geese at another shot. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Oct. 3 Unless purposely arranged to explode, or purposely ignited with a detonating primer, it [gun-cotton] is not an explosive at all. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 21 In the large turret-guns the primer is fired by electricity, entirely under command of the officer on duty.

†**3.** = PRIMING *vbl. sb.*[1] 4 a. *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 369/2 By this Instrument [the Priming Knife] are all sorts of Cloths laid over with their first colour, which is called Primer. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 215 Spanish-brown, Spanish-white, and Red-lead,.. ground with Linseed-oyl, will make excellent Primer.

4. A person who primes. **a.** One who loads or charges detonators.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Sept. 7/2 When compounded, it has still to be packed into the detonator cases by the primer. The primer's work is done upon a copper-plate, perforated like a cullender.

b. One who prepares canvas, etc. for a painter.

1896 *Daily News* 15 Feb. 10/4 Canvas Primer Wanted. Must be thoroughly experienced in preparing all kinds of Artist's Canvas.

Primer (prəi·mər), *sb.*[3] *rare.* [f. PRIME *v.*[3] + -ER [1].] One who prunes trees, etc.

1611 COTGR., *Arboratcur*, a planter, primer, dresser, breeder of trees.

Primer (pri·mər, prəi·mər), *a.* (Now only in phrases in sense 3.) [a. AF. *primer* = OF. *primer* (*a* 1000 in Godef. *Compl.*), also *premer*, mod.F. *premier*, Pr. *primer*, Sp. *primero*, Pg. *primeiro*, It. *primiero*:—L. *prīmāri-us* PRIMARY: see PREMIER.]

†**1.** First in time; early; primitive. *Obs.*

[1343 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 144/1 Aussi bien des Beneficz come des primers Fruitz.] 1448 HEN. VI in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 353 The prymer notable werk purposed by me. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. XX. 40 They to enioye them as in their primer state. *c* 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* lxxviii. 225 He stroyd theyr fruites..Their prymer fruts. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 255 All thynges may be referred to this, as to the primer cause efficient. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXIV. 123 St Lucius (call'd of us) the primer christen'd King.

†**2.** First in position, rank, or importance; chief, leading, foremost, premier. *Obs.*

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXIX. (1612) 143 These primer Yorkests. 1602 *Ibid.* XIII. lxxvi. 316 The Primer Mouers violence. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. vii. (1660) 293 The.. Mercers being the primer Company of the City of London. 1637 W. CROWNE *True Relation*, etc. (title-p.), Lord Howard, Earle of Arundell and Surrey, Primer Earle, and Earle Marshall of England. 1747 *Mem. Nutrebian Crt.* II. 212 The contemptible pity of the primer sort.

3. a. Primer fine, in *Feudal Law* [lit. 'first fine': see FINE *sb.*[1] 7 a], the sum, usually about one-tenth of the annual value of the land sued for, paid to the crown by a plaintiff who sued for the recovery of lands by a writ of covenant; = PREFINE. Now only *Hist.*

a 1634 COKE *2nd Pt. Inst.* (1642) 511 A Writ of covenant is brought to levy a fine of land, of the yearly value of v. marks, there is vi.s. viij. d. due presently [i.e. at once] for the primer fine, or fine in the Hamper. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxi. 350 On this writ there is due to the king, by antient prerogative, a primer fine, or a noble for every five marks of land sued for; that is, one tenth of the annual value.

b. Primer seisin, in *Feudal Law* [lit. 'first seisin'], a feudal right of the English Crown to receive from the heir of a tenant *in capite* who died seised of a knight's fee, such heir being of age, the profits of his estate for the first year; abolished in 1660. Now only *Hist.*

1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 415/2 Savyng to the King and his Heires, the avantage of his primer cession of thos Landes. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 39 § 5 Thissues and profites for the Premer season of the same Honours Manoris londes. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 1 Saving alway and reserving to the King..all his right title and interest of prymer season and reliefis, and..all other rightes and dueties. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 148 Tenure by Socage in chiefe giueth the King primer seisin, or the value of that land by a yeere, if the heire be of the age of 14, at his ancestors death. 1648 *Articles Peace* vii. in *Milton's Wks.* (1851) II, Profit by Wardship, Liveries, Primer-seisins, Measne Rates, Ousterlemains or Fines of Alienations without Licence. 1660 *Act* 12 *Chas. II*, c. 24 § 1 It is hereby Enacted That..all Wardships Liveries Primer-Seizins and Ouster-le-mains..be taken away. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.* s. v., All the charges arising by Primer seisins are taken away by the Stat. made 12 *Car.* 2. ca. 24.

‖ **Primeras** (prime·ras). [Sp., pl. of *primera*: see next.] A term in Ombre: see quot.

1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 35 *Primeras.* If the Ombre win the first five tricks before either of the adversaries has won one.

‖ **Primero** (prime·ro). Also 6 -row, priemeero, 7 primera. [Altered from Sp. *primera* (= It. *primiera*), fem. of *primero* first:—L. *prīmāri-us*: see PRIMER *a.*] A gambling card-game, very fashionable from about 1530 to about 1640, in which four cards were dealt to each player, each card having thrice its ordinary value.

(See a long description in Sir J. Harington's Epigram, '*The Story of Marcus's Life at Primero*'.)

[1526 (*Italian title*) Capitolo del Gioco della Primiera col commento di Messer Pietropaulo da San Chirico.]

1533 ELYOT *Knowledge* Pref. Avj b, It is soone lerned, in good faythe sooner thanne Primero or Gleeke. 1545 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) I. 289 A fraye..whiche grewe apon certaine wourdes..for a questyon of playeng at Primero at Domyngo's howse. *c* 1550 *Dice-Play* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some kept the goodman company at the hazard, some matched themselves at a new game called primero. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 27 If you had the foddring of the sheep, you would make the Church like Primero, foure religions in it, and neere one like another. 1589 *Hay any Work* A iij b, Our brother Westchester had as fiue playe twentie nobles in a night, at Priemeero on thé cards. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 26 They challenged us..to a Primera. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Primero*, and *Primavista*, two games at Cards formerly much in use. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. xvi, How the holy man managed the affair, unless he spent the greatest part of his time in combing his whiskers, or playing at primero. 1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* 27, 248. 1887 *All Year Round* 5 Feb. 66 Primero..was probably introduced to the English Court in the suite of Catherine of Arragon.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Postscr. 73 At that primero of piety, the pope and cardinals are the better gamesters, and will cog a die into heaven before you.

†**Pri·merole.** *Herb. Obs.* Forms: 4–5 **primerole**, 5 **-erolle, prymrol**, 5–6 **-erol(le.** [ME.

a. OF. *primerole* (13–15th c. in Godef.), dim. of OF. *prime* first (cf. *féverole, pommerole*, etc.), and thus rendering or corresponding to med.L. *prīmula*, dim. of *prīma* first.] A name given to one or more early spring flowers, esp. to the cowslip (? including the primrose) and the field daisy. b. *fig.* A pretty young woman.

The early literary uses in OF. and ME. are not sufficient to identify the plant meant. The Great Herbal, Fr. ed. of *c* 1475, Eng. of *c* 1516, identifies it with the Cowslip, St. Peter's wort, or Palsywort, *Primula veris*; in mod. Norman dialect *primerole* (*plumerole, pomerole*) is a popular name of the Primrose, and this may have been the case in England also: see PRIMROSE, PRIMULA. But *Alphita*, *c* 1450, distinctly identifies it with the field daisy, *Bellis perennis*.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 The primerole he [= she] passeth, the parvenke of pris. *a* 1350 *Song* in *Anglia* (1907) XXX. 175 Wat was hire mete The primerole ant the violet. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 82 Hir shoes were laced on hir legges hye She was a prymerole, a piggesnye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 125 The frosti colde Janever,..of his dole He yifth the ferste Primerole. *Ibid.* 130 Canis minor..His Ston and herbe, as seith the Scole, Ben Achates and Primerole. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 42 Þo prymrol, violet, þou take þerto Town cresses, and cresses þat growene in flode,..Alle þese erbs þou noȝt forsake, But lest of prymrol þou shalle take. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 242 The honysoucle, the freisshe prymerollys, Ther levys splaye at Phebus up-rysyng. 14.. *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 57 Strawe ther on flour of prymerolle. *c* 1450 *ME. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 224 Drynke ofte þe jus of calamynte, or drynke pouder of primerole. *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 146 *Primula ueris, prima rosa*, gallice et anglice primerole. Respice in consolida minor. [*Consolida minor, primula ueris* idem, ossa fracta consolidat, gallice, le petite consoude, angl. dayseghe [*MS.* waysegle] uel bonwort, uel brosewort. Respice in uenti minor. *Venti minor*, consolida minor idem, an. Bonwrt, a. dayesegh.] *c* 1516 *Grete Herball* cccl. T v, Primula veris is called prymerolles. Some call it saynt peterworte. Other paralisie. It is called prymerolle or primula of pryme tyme, because it beareth the fyrst floure in pryme tyme. [*Fr.* Est appellee primerole ou primule de ver ou de printemps pour ce qu'elle pourte la premiere fleur en printemps.]

Pri·me-sign, pri·msign, *v.* Now only *Hist.* Also 3 (Orm.) **primmse33nenn**, 4 **prim-sene**, *pa.pple.* **yprimisined**, 5 **primsein(e.** [ME. *primse3nen*, ad. ON. *prim-signa*, f. eccl. L. **prīmum signāre*, implied in *prīma signātio* 'the first signing', the signing of a person with the cross as a preliminary to baptism: see PRIME *a.* and SIGN *v.* The ME. form *primse(i)n(e* was perh. ad. OF. *prim-, prinseign(i)er* (*c* 1170 in Godef.), which was perh. from ON. OF. *preseign(i)er* (:—L. *præsignāre* to mark before or in front) was also used in the same sense.] *trans.* To mark (a person) with the sign of the cross before baptism; to make a catechumen.

c 1200 ORMIN 16560 Þatt tu ne mahht nohht husledd ben.. Þohh þatt tu be primmse33nedd rihht, 3iff þatt tu narrt nohht fullhtnedd. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 331 Þe children atte cherche dore So beþ yprimisined. 1340 *Ayenb.* 188 Martin yet nou y-primsened me heþ yssred mid þise cloþe. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 64 That the chyldren, at þe chyrche dorre shullen ben I-primseined [*catechizentur*] of the prestes hond, & yn þe holy fantstones yn har moder chyrches to be I-fulled. [1874 VIGFUSSON *Icelandic-Eng. Dict.* 479/1 *Primsigndra messa*, the mass for the 'prime-signed'... These 'prime-signed' men, returning to their native land, brought with them the first notions of Christianity into the heathen Northern countries. 1893 S. O. ADDY *Hall of Waltheof* 218 They were also admitted to a special part of the mass, known as the mass of the prime-signed.]

[Primet, erroneously stated by Prior to occur in the *Grete Herball* as a name of the primrose, and used by him and others to suggest an etymology for *privet*. No such word is there found.]

† Pri·me-temps. *Obs.* Also 5 **prime-tens, pryme temps, prymtemps** (**prymsauns,** ? for **-tauns**). [ad. OF. *prin(s) tans*, mod.F. *printemps* spring, lit. 'first time'; with PRIME *a.* for OF. *prin, prim*: see TENSE *sb.*] Springtime, spring.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3373 How he is feers of his chere, At prime temps, Love to manace. *Ibid.* 4747 Pryme temps, ful of frostes whyte. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 965 In the prymsauns of grene vere, Whan floures spryngyn and bygynne. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xli. (1869) 24 The earthe is of my robes and in prime temps alwey j clothe it. *c* 1445 LYDG. *Nightingale* 11 Fresschly encoragyt, as galantes in prime-tens [*rime* presence]. 1484 CAXTON *Æsop* IV. vii, The byrdes..Ioyeful and gladde as the prymtemps came.

† Pri·metide, pri·me-tide. *Obs.* [f. PRIME *a.* or *sb.* + TIDE; in sense 2 prob. after prec.]

1. The time of prime; early morning.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 849 Ri3t at prime tide Hi gunnen vt ride.

2. Springtime, spring; also *fig.* the 'springtime' of life, or of any movement.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* A j, Whan, after a sharpe stormie wynter, the new primetyde flourisheth. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 8 b, Beyng in their primetide and spryng of their age. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* 306 At the Prime tide of the Gospell.

† Prime-time. *Obs.* [f. PRIME *a.* + TIME, prob. after F. *printemps*: cf. prec.]

1. Springtime, spring.

1503 *Kalender of Sheph.* a iij, iiii. sayssons the qwych ar:..Prymtym, sommer, autom, & wynter. *Ibid.* a iij b, The saysons..of the qwych ewyrych oon has iii. moneth. Prymtym as fewryer, mars, awryl. *c* 1516 [see PRIMEROLE]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xiv. (1534) G vij b, If a tree beareth not in Primetime his flowers, we hope not to haue the fruite in haruest ripe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 4 b, In y^e^ pryme tyme of the yere he toke his iorney towardes Yorke. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Jer.* xxiv. 2 Good figges: as the figges of the prime time are wont to be.

2. The early age (of the world, etc.).

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxvi. (1592) 402 It befel in the primetime of the worlde.

‖ **Primeur** (*primör*). [Fr., the quality or condition of being quite new; anything that is quite new; f. *prime* PRIME *a.* + *-eur*, -OUR.] Anything new or early; *esp.* fruit before its ordinary season; an early piece of news; first-fruits, firstlings. (A word affected by newspaper writers.)

1885 W. L. MACGREGOR in *Pall Mall G.* 15 June 2 If I desire to send some flowers or primeurs in the shape of early asparagus or fruits to friends in Germany. 1897 *Daily News* 26 May 3/2 She had the *primeur* both of the Rand and of the 'women and children' letter—and both plums she allowed Mr. Chamberlain to share with 'The Times'. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 4/7 Joy..over anything that is out of season, provided that it be before its time, a true primeur.

Primeval, primæval (prəimī·văl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *prīmæv-us* (see PRIMEVE) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the first age of the world or of anything ancient; primitive.

a. [1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. vi. 33 The primeval origin of my aves and ataves, was indigenarie of the Lemonick regions, where requiesceth the corpor of the hagiotat St. Martial.] 1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Const.* I. i. (1784) 25 The principle of primeval equality. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. I. viii. 140 A primeval state of the globe. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* Prel. 1, This is the forest primeval.

β. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. 24 It is very plain that the primæval Ages of the Church had no ill conceit of the opinion of the Soul's Præexistence. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 338 With Night primæval, and with Chaos old. *Ibid.* IV. 630. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. vii. 145 *note*, These two remarkable monuments of primæval times.

b. as *sb.* in *pl.* Primeval men.

a 1845 HOOD *Recipe for Civilis.* 115 But, the naked truth is, stark primevals, That said their prayers to timber devils.

Hence **Prime·valism, Prime·valness,** the quality of being primeval; primitiveness; **Prime·vally** *adv.*, in the first age of the world; also, in a primeval manner or degree.

a 1711 KEN *Urania* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 475 Sweet Poetry ..From God primevally it streams. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, Primevalness. 1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* iii, How gloriously, how primevally beautiful, is just this one favoured spot! 1899 F. R. STOCKTON *Associate Hermits* 22, I had visions of forests and wilds..and a general air of primevalism.

† Prime·ve, primæ·ve, *a.* *Obs.* [ad. L. *primæv-us* in the first period of life, f. *prīm-us* first (see PRIME *a.*) + *æv-um* age.] = PRIMEVAL *a.*

1626 W. FENNER *Hidden Manna* (1652) 77 A power of beleefe was included in their primæve innocency, as *minus in majori*. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 104 Footsteps of the old and primeve state of man.

† Prime·vity, primæ·vity. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ITY; cf. L. *prīmævitās* youth.] The quality of being primeval; primitiveness.

1756 AMORY *Buncle* (1770) I. 38 My father..says we must ascribe primævity and sacred prerogatives to this language [Hebrew]. 1772 L. D. NELME *Ess. Lang.* Pref. 9 Without considering that simplicity as a proof of its primævity. 1786 GLASS in *Archæologia* (1787) VIII. 84 Argument in favour of the primævity of the Hebrew language.

† Prime·vous, primæ·vous, *a.* *Obs.* [f. as PRIMEVE + -OUS.] Primeval, primitive.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Primevous*, the elder, or of the first age. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Primævous*, of a former age, elder. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. i. 11 Those primevous Phœnicians, or Canaanites. 1875 H. MILLER *Test. Rocks* ix. 358 Sufferings to which they had been subjected in a primevous state.

Hence **† Prime·vousness.** 1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

Pri·m-gap. *Derbysh. Lead-mining.* [app. comb. of GAP *sb.*; first element uncertain.] See quot. 1851.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead Mines* 60 (E.D.S.) Perchance the Farmers may a Prim-gapp get. *Ibid.* 264 Starting of oar, Smilting, and driving drifts, Primgaps, Roof-works, Flatworks, Pipe-works, Shifts. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* I ij b, All odd Yards of Ground under half a Mear intervening between them is the Lords, and we call it a Primgap. 1851 TAPPING *Gloss. to Manlove, Primgap..*, a portion of metalliferous rock less than half a meer, lying between different titles or different jurisdictions. By custom such portion belonged to the lord or farmer.

† Primicere. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ME. *prymycere*, a. obs. F. *premicere*, mod.F. *primicier, princier*), ad. late L. *prīmicēri-us* the first among those holding a similar office (lit. the first of those whose names are inscribed on the wax-coated tablets, f. *prīmus* first + *cēra* wax), in med.L. a precentor; also explained as 'the first candle-bearer before a bishop' (Du Cange).] Applied *fig.* to Lucifer, the morning star.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 898 They that serue in chyrches of wexe candyls ben callyd *Ceroferarii*: as he that seruyth in halles of kynges and of bysshops ben callyd *Primeceri*.] ? *a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merch.* 685 Eek Lucifer, at morowhil prymycere, By nyht hym hidith vndir our empeere.

† Pri·mices, *sb. pl.* *Obs.* Also 4 **prymysies, primyssis, primycies,** 6 **premities,** 7 **premices.** [a. OF. *pri-, premices* (12th c. in Littré, mod.F. *prémices*): —L. *prīmitiæ, -iciæ* first-fruits, f. *prīmus* first.] First-fruits.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 921 Abel primices first bi-gan. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* XX. 40 There I shal seche 3our prymysies [*gloss* or first fruytis]. 1382 — *Rev.* XIV. 4 Primycies [*gl.* or firste fruytis] to God, and to the lomb. 1595 GOODWINE *Blanchardine* II. Ded., And as these (my Premities, patronized by you) shall seeme pleasing; so wil I alwaies be most readie..to offer it vp in all dutie at your shrine. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 683 The primices and first gatherings of those herbs and roots. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Orig. & Prog. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 54 Fruits offered to the gods at their festivals, as the *premices*, or first gatherings.

Primier, obs. form of PREMIER.

† Pri·mifeste. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [ad. mod.L. *prīmifest-us* adj. (More), f. L. *prīm-us* first + *fest-um* a feast.] (See quot.)

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 289 The whyche woordes maye be interpreted primifeste and finifest; or els, in our speache, first feast and last feast.

† Primi·fluous, *a.* *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. type **prīmiflu-us* (f. *prīm-us* first + *flu-ĕre* to flow) + -OUS.] That flows first (after incision).

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 377* Primifluous Rosine by negligent collection, contracts, and retains sand [etc.].

† Primigenal (prəimi·dʒĭnăl), *a.* *Nat. Hist. Obs.* [f. L. *prīmigen-us* (= *prīmigenius*: see PRIMIGENIAL) + -AL.] Belonging to or constituting the *regnum primigenum*, a kingdom of nature proposed to include the lowest or most primitive forms of animals and plants (corresponding to Wilson's *Primalia* or Haeckel's *Protista*).

1860 J. HOGG in *Edinb. New Phil. Jrnl.* XII. 223, I here suggest a fourth or an additional kingdom, under the title of the Primigenal kingdom. *Ibid.*, The Primigenal kingdom might be placed either the fourth and last, or between the vegetable and the animal kingdoms.

Primigene (prəi·mi,dʒĭn), *a.* *rare.* [ad. L. *prīmigen-us, prīmigenius*: see next.] = next.

1623 COCKERAM, *Primigene*, that commeth naturally of itself, with-out father or mother. 1661 EVELYN *Fumifugium* Misc. Writ. (1809) 215 The benefit which we derive from it [the air]..for the use of the spirits and primigene humours. 1884 *Athenæum* 13 Sept. 343/2 Bones of the primigene ox, arrow-heads, and other flint implements.

Primigenial (prəimi,dʒī·niăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *primigeni-us*, also *primigen-us* first of its kind, original (f. *prīmi-*, comb. form of *prīm-us* first + *genus* kind, or *gen-*, stem of *gignĕre* to beget, produce) + -AL. Often erroneously spelt **primogenial (-geneal),** by confusion with derivatives of L. *primo-genitus*.]

† 1. First generated or produced; earliest formed; belonging to the earliest stage of existence of anything; original, primitive, primary. *Obs.*

1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 1, I am verie desirous ..to know the first and primigeniall existence of Tythes. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 48, I call these two Elements Primigeniall, or first-born, in respect of the Earth. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 343 The two Causes of the Pulse, the Spirits from the primigenial Heat, or the Spirits of the radical Moisture.

β. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* I. i. 5 The radicall moisture, and primogeniall heat naturally ingrafted in us wastes alwayes by degrees. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* II. 162 It will follow that Salt and Sulphur are not Primogeneal Bodies. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 95 ¶ 13 It has been discovered by Sir Isaac Newton, that the distinct and primogenial colours are only seven. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 264 The primogenial Phrygians call me [Cybele] Pessiuntica.

2. *Zool.* Applied to species belonging to a primitive type (rendering the specific name *primigenius*, as in *Bos primigenius, Elephas primigenius*).

1868 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. XXXV. 618 This is seen in the Musk-bubale, and was the case with the primigenial Elephant and Rhinoceros.

β. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) II. III. vi. 153 The Primogenial or slender-legged horses. 1867 W. T. THORNTON in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 593 Neither could Cain do the like with respect to a primogenial zebra which his father fancied as much as himself.

Hence **† Primige·nialness.**

1731 BAILEY vol. II, Primigenialness, Primigeniousness.

Primige·nian, *a.* *rare.* Also 7 *erron.* **primo-.** [f. as prec. + -AN.] = prec.

1650 ASHMOLE *Chym. Collect.* 55 Even as the heat of Animals [is hidden] in the Primogenian moisture. 1847 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (ed. 2) III. 694 The primigenian elephant or mammoth.

† Primigenie, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prīmigeni-us* (see above); or error for *primigene.*] = prec.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 199 The exhaustion or expence of the Primigenie moysture by the Elementary heat.

† Primigenious (prəimi,dʒī·niəs), *a.* *Obs.* [f. L. *prīmigeni-us* (see PRIMIGENIAL) + -OUS. Often erroneously **primogenious (-eous)**: see above.] = PRIMIGENIAL.

1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clergy* I. XXV. 134 The Primigenious [*Wks.* 1628 primogenious] Antiquitie (which proceeded from the ancient of Dayes). *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Assyrian Mon.* Posthuma (1650) 211 The greatest Alchimist in Historie can scarce extract one dram of the pure and primigenious metal. 1693 J. BEAUMONT *On Burnet's Th. Earth* I. 68 In the primigenious Mass the Earth must have held the lower place.

β. 1628 [see 1620 above]. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* (1678) IX. ix. 221 The inbred and primogenious humidity of the Nerves is wasted. 1712 *H. More's Antid. Ath.* II. IX. § 19 *Schol.* 157 This he determines primogenious

moisture. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. ii. 7 In poor lands it opposes the most active primogeneous agents. 1799 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVII. 268 Allow me to call the first tree primogeneous or stock.

Hence **Primige·niousness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Primigeniousness*, originalness, the being the first of the kind.

†Primi·genous, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prīmigen-us*, PRIMIGENAL + -OUS: cf. *indigenous.*] = prec.

1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 166 This Discourse reteining the vestigia of the primigenous Truth.

‖Primigravida (prəimigræ·vidă). Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L., prop. fem. adj., f. *prīm-us* first + *gravidus* GRAVID; after PRIMIPARA.] (See quot. 1890.)

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Primigravida*, one pregnant for the first time. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 818 The disease affects chiefly primigravidæ.

Primінary, obs. and dial. form of PRÆMUNIRE.

Primine (prəi·min). *Bot.* [= F. *primine* (Mirbel 1828), f. L. *prīm-us* first + -INE[1].] The first of the two coats or integuments of an ovule; **i. e. a.** (originally), the outer one; but subsequently **b.** applied to the inner, as being formed first. Opp. to *secundine.*

a. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) V. 52 *note*, The extensible side of the secundine, and even of the tercine or nucleus, soon ceases to increase with the corresponding side of the primine. 1835 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (1848) I. 395 The outermost of the sacs is called the primine. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Primina, Bot.*, name given by Mirbel to the more exterior of the two membranes which envelope the nucleus of the ovule when the latter has assumed a certain degree of increase: the primine.

b. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 501 When there are two or three integuments, the innermost (the *Primine*..) is always formed first, then the outer one (the *Secundine*), and finally..the Aril. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 83 Its two coats, an inner (*primine*) and outer (*secundine*). 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 178 The integuments of the seed answer morphologically to the primine and secundine of the ovule.

Priming (prəi·miŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PRIME *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PRIME *v.*[1]

[In the following quot., the sense is, from the date, uncertain (?3):

1427-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 67 Also for primyng of pe haly water stop, viij[d].]

1. The putting of gunpowder in the pan of an old-fashioned fire-arm.

1598, etc. [see *priming-iron*, etc. in 8]. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 58 To make a Pistol discharge a dozen times with one loading, and without so much as once new Priming requisite. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 174 Any of the compounds or matters to be used in priming. 1852 LAYARD *Pop. Acc. Discov. Nineveh* ix. 238 This..led to the drawing of sabres and priming of matchlocks.

2. *concr.* The gunpowder which was placed in the pan of a fire-arm and to which the match or spark was applied; also, the train of powder connecting a fuse with a charge in blasting, etc.

1625, etc. [see *priming-horn*, etc. in 8]. 1781 THOMPSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 260 The sailors bruise the priming after they have put it to their guns, as they find it very difficult, without this precaution, to fire them off with a match. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 19 Make a little receptacle for the priming. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 143 The man who pronounced the Nibelungen Lied not worth a pinch of priming.

b. *fig.* (in quot. applied to liquor).

1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* XXXV, 'Well, Mr. Simple, so I will; but I require a little priming, or I shall never go off.' 'Will you have your glass of grog before or after?' 'Before, by all means.'

3. The preparing of (a surface) for painting, by coating it with a body colour, etc. Also *transf.*

1609 [see *priming colour* in 8]. 1676 C. HATTON in *H. Corr.* (Camden) 139 Y[o] priming of y[e] cloath is very good. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 410 Ruddle, or a red earth.. used as a ground colour for priming, instead of Spanish brown. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 641 There can be no better mode adopted for priming, or laying on the first coat on stucco. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 97 Priming has also the advantage of preventing the knots from being seen through the paint.

4. *concr.* **a.** The substance or mixture used by painters for the preparatory coat. **b.** A coat or layer of the substance. Also *fig.*

1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* s. v. *Pryming* (Harl. MS. 2301) The first grounde or cullor w[ch] is laid on for others to rome over it in Painting the Shippe is called Priming. 1662 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lix. (ed. 8) 310 Prayer..t'is the priming of the Soul, that laying us in the Oyl of Grace preserves us from the Worm and Wether. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* III. 524 Grind your Red-Lead with Linseed Oil, and use it very thin for the first Colouring or Priming. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 722 When the priming is quite dry, a thin coat of gold-size must be laid on. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 76/1 The priming or undercoat makes a saving in the quantity of varnish used.

5. (See quot. 1896.)

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Mar. 3/2 The use of 'priming'—which is a preparation of sugar, added after brewing, to give the beer 'body' and make it more palatable. *Ibid.*, In addition to permitting 'priming' we have specially allowed the use of adjuncts for the preparation of water for brewing purposes, and for fining and colouring the beer.

6. *fig.* The hasty and imperfect imparting of knowledge; cramming.

1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* XXVII, Tom also received his priming. 1894 E. C. SELWYN in *Westm. Gaz.* 23 July 2/3 He was primed for the occasion, and such priming deserves the name of pot-hunting.

7. *Engineering.* (See PRIME *v.*[1] 6.)

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 15/2 The total loss both by the safety-valve and by priming. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 24 Salt water is sometimes mixed with it [distilled water] from the priming of the boilers. 1901 *Feilden's Mag.* IV. 413/1 The first point to aim at is to have the steam and any water of priming or condensation flowing in the same direction.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *priming colour, position*; **priming-box,** a box carried at the waist containing priming for cannon, etc.; **priming-hole,** the touch-hole of a gun or the vent in blasting; **priming-horn,** (*a*) a horn containing priming-powder formerly carried by gunners, (*b*) the powder-horn carried by miners and quarry-men; **priming-iron** = *priming-wire*; **priming-machine,** a machine for putting the priming in cartridge-shells or percussion-caps; **priming-pan,** a small plate in a match-lock or flint-lock gun, for holding the priming; = PAN *sb.*[1] 4 b; **priming-powder,** = sense 2; detonating or fulminating powder; **priming-tube,** a tube containing fulminating powder or some inflammable composition for firing the charge of a cannon; **priming-valve,** a valve connected with a steam cylinder, to allow water carried over by priming to escape; **priming-wire,** a sharp pointed wire used in gunnery and blasting to ascertain whether the touch-hole or vent is free and to pierce the cartridge.

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* iii, The captains of guns, with their *priming-boxes buckled round their waists. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* II. vi, One o' their faces has not the *priming color laid on yet, nor the other her smocke sleek'd. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 84 The round side, where the *Priming-hole is, being uppermost. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 292/1 If the firing did not succeed, a fresh priming-hole was bored in the tamping. 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* s. v. *Pryming* (Harl. MS. 2301) The Gunner hath it [powder] in a greate horne at his girdle in fighte w[ch] horne he calls his *priming horne. 1759 [W. WINDHAM] *Plan Discipl. Norfolk Militia* Introd. 9 They had..a priming horn hanging by their side. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* III. i. 34 To be prouided of a *priming iron or wyer. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. ix. 34 His priming-yron, being a small artificiall wiar, with which he shall clense and keepe open the touch-hole of his peece. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Dégorgeoir*, the bit or priming-iron of a cannon. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* IX. 56 With the flash firing the *priming pans of the muskets that lay on heaps. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 103 Place the carbine in the *priming position. 1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* IV. iii, Now could I grind him into *priming powder. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* (1874) 246 By this contrivance fire is conveyed to the priming-powder by a gun-cock, which holds in its grasp the flint. 1598 *Priming wyer [see *priming iron*]. 1709 *Conn. Col. Rec.* (1890) XV. 565 With a good fire lock, a cartouch box, priming-wire and horn, worm, 3 flints. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 4 What is the use of a priming wire? To ascertain if the vent is clear, and the cartridge home.

Priming (prəi·miŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PRIME *v.*[2] 3 + -ING[1].] *Priming of the tides*: the acceleration of the tides, or shortening of the interval between corresponding states of the tide, taking place from the neap to the spring tides; opposed to *lagging.*

1833 HERSCHEL *Astron.* xi. 337 Another effect of the combination of the solar and lunar tides is what is called the priming and lagging of the tides. 1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 122 The tide of any place is not regularly 49 minutes later every day, as if it obeyed the moon solely, but sometimes..an hour later and sometimes only 38 minutes. This is called the priming and lagging of the tides.

‖Primipara (prəimi·pără). [L., f. *prīm-us* first + *-parus*, from *parĕre* to bring forth.] A female that brings forth for the first time.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Primipara*..a name given to females who bring forth for the first time. 1880 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* July 152, I was called..by a midwife to Mrs. T. aged 28, primipara.

Hence **Primiparous** (prəimi·părəs) *a.*, bearing a child (or young) for the first time; **Primiparity** (prəimipæ·rĭti), the condition of being primiparous.

1857 BULLOCK *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 128 This line may generally be regarded, especially in a primiparous female, as a certain sign of pregnancy. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* ix. 320 Multipara..are probably more liable to attacks of insanity during pregnancy, than primiparous young females. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Primiparity. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Primipilar (prəimipəi·lăi), *a. Rom. Antiq.* [ad. L. *primipīlār-is* adj. and sb., f. *prīmipīl-us*: see PRIMIPILE.] Belonging to, or that is, a *primipilus* or primipile.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VII. xiii. 257 This Tullius now had been seuen times alreadie a primipilar or principall Centurion. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* I. III. V. Wks. 1831 VII. 150 A primacy of order; such a one..as the primipilar centurion had in the legion. 1782 ELPHINSTON tr. *Martial* I. XXXI. 39 Soon as the brave centurion shall attain The primipilar honours. 1891 FARRAR *Darkness & Dawn* xl. (1893) 339 He had risen to the rank of a primipilar centurion.

So **†Primipi·lary** *a. Obs. rare*[−1], 'first-class'.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. XXXVIII. 316 Primipilary [Fr. *primipile*] fool.

Primipile (prəi·mipəil). Also in L. form **-pilus.** [= F. *primipile*, ad. L. *primipīlus* the chief centurion of the *triarii* or third rank in a legion, for *prīmī pīlī centurio* centurion of the *prīmus pīlus* (*prīmus* first, *pīlus* a body of pikemen, f. *pīlum* a pike, javelin).] In *Rom. Antiq.*, The first centurion of the first maniple of the *triarii* in a legion. Also *fig.*

[1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. viii. 287 Two *Primipili* or chiefe Centurions there were amongst the Triarij in the one armie & the other.] 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) V. xlii. 161 All its officers, from the imperator to the centurion and primipile. 1898 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/5 Mr. William O'Brien, a primipilus in the Parnell movement.

Primi·potent, *a. rare.* [ad. L. *primipotens, -potentem*, f. *prīmus* first + *potens* powerful.] 'Of chief power' (Blount *Glossogr.* 1656).

Primite (prəi·məit). *Zool.* [f. L. *prīm-us* first (see PRIME *a.*) + -ITE[1] 3.] The first member of a catenated series of gregarines.

1898 SEDGWICK *Text Bk. Zool.* I. 57 The anterior individual of an association is called the *primite*, the rest the *satellites*. 1902 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* v. 156 Catenoid colonies, where the protomerite of one [individual] (*satellite*) becomes attached to the deutomerite of another (*primite*).

‖Primitiæ (prəimi·ʃiī), *sb. pl.* [L. *prīmitiæ, -ciæ* the first things of their kind, firstlings, first-fruits, f. *prīm-us* first: cf. PRIMICES.]

1. First fruits or produce; *spec.* = ANNATES 1.

1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 518 The Courtier needes must recompenced bee With a Benevolence, or have in gage The Primitias of your Parsonage. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 92 They offerd too the *Primitiæ*, or the first carvings of the flesh. 1672 *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Primitiæ*, First-Fruits..in our Law, are the profits after avoidance of every spiritual Living for one year.

2. *Obstetrics.* (See quot.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Primitiæ*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Primitiæ*... term applied to the *amniotic fluid*, whose discharge precedes the expulsion of the fœtus.

Primitial (prəimi·ʃăl), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 7 erron. **-ætiall.** [= obs. F. *primicial* (Cotgr.), ad. med. L. *prīmitiāl-is* (Du Cange): see prec. and -AL.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of, first-fruits.

1645 HARWOOD *Loyal Subj. Retiring-room* Ep. Ded., So doe they now most gratefully present their Primætiall offering. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* Pref. 1 He that hath not had a primitiall tast and prelibation of them here below.

2. *loosely.* First, primitive, original.

1736 AINSWORTH, Primitial, *primitius*. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* XVIII. 346 Thou Covadonga with the tainted stream Of Deva, and this now rejoicing vale, Soon its primitial triumphs wilt behold! 1839 BAILEY *Festus* XIX. (1852) 290 But ah! from that primitial world to this, From Eden to Chaldæa, what a change.

†Primitist. *nonce-wd. Obs.* [contr. for **primitivist*, f. next + -IST.] An advocate or adherent of primitive practices or beliefs.

1818 R. P. KNIGHT *Symbol. Lang.* § 92. 69 The Persians ..were the primitists, or puritans of Heathenism.

Primitive (pri·mĭtiv), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *α.* 5 **primitif, prymytiff,** 6 **primityve,** (**premetive**), 6– **primitive.** *β.* (5 **premative,** 6 **-yve**), 6 **primatife, -yve, prymatyfe, -ive,** 5–7 **primative.** [ME. *primitif*, a. F. *primitif* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *primitīv-us* first or earliest of its kind, f. *prīmus* first, PRIME *a.*: cf. PRIMITIÆ. The *β*-forms were app. influenced by PRIMATE *sb.*]

A. *adj.* **I.** General senses.

1. Of or belonging to the first age, period, or stage; pertaining to early times; earliest, original; early, ancient. *Primitive Church*, the Christian Church in its earliest and (by implication) purest times.

a. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 27 No religyon is founded hytherto, y[t] so nere representeth y[e] primityue chirche of Chryst. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. IV. 178 Which good primitive successe purchased him muche quietnes. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commination*, In the prymitiue churche there was a godlye disciplyne, that at the begynnyng of lente suche persones as were notorious synners were put to open penaunce. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traictise* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 76 According to the ancient estait of the premetiue kirk. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 671 The primitive generation came first and immediatly from the earth, but afterwards.. they breed their yoong. 1669 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 77 That illustrious body [the Royal Society], of which you have stood a primitive member. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 285, I wish very much to see..an image of a primitive Christian Church. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* IX. 89 Like a picture it seemed of the primitive, pastoral ages, Fresh with the youth of the world, and recalling Rebecca and Isaac. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 5 The great valleys of Egypt and Mesopotamia..were the cradles of primitive art.

β. 1486 *Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 54 This rigalitie, Whos primative patrone I peyre to your presence, Ebraunk of Britane. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1346/2 It was knowen..unto the primatiue churche or congregacion of chrysten people. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 217 The practise of the primatiue Church. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 119 Adam in his primatiue estate.

2. Having the quality or style of that which is early or ancient. In first quot. = Conformed to the pattern of the early church (see 1). Also, Simple, rude, or rough like that of early times; old-fashioned. (With implication of either commendation or the reverse.)

1685 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Oct., The Church of England..is certainely, of all the Christian professions on the earth, the most primitive, apostolical and excellent. *Ibid.* 26 Oct., A maiden of primitive life,..who..has for many years refus'd marriage, or to receive any assistance from the parish. 1752

H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 459 A poor good primitive creature. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* iii, Her manners are simple and primitive. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, At her very primitive wardrobe. 1889 G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 9 The engines employed [in 1830] were of an extremely primitive character.

Comb. 1847 HOOK *Eccl. Biog.* III. 546 (*Chad*) Struck by the worth of this primitive-mannered christian. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* July 40 To..hear such primitive-sounding words as.. 'overtune' for the burden of a song.

3. Original as opposed to derivative; primary as opposed to secondary; *esp.* said of that from which something else is derived; radical. (Cf. PRIMARY *a.* 3 a.)

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 65 (Add. MS.) Þere beþ obere causes þat beþ clepyd causes prymytiff. 1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* 26/2 It commeth of the cause primitiue thoroughe brusynge or breakyng. 1581 MULCASTER (*title*) Positions wherin those Primitive Circumstances be Examined, which are Necessarie for the Training vp of Children. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 27 God is the primitive, he is the originall, he is the first, the universal cause. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 854 Life and Understanding, Soul and Mind are to them, no Simple and Primitive Natures, but Secondary and Derivative. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 38 This valley is confined by what may be termed, as distinguished from the alluvions, primitive ground. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xv. (1862) I. 238 The primitive ancestor of the Trojan line of kings is Dardanus.

II. Special and technical senses.

4. *Gram.* and *Philol.* Of a word or language: Original, radical: opposed, or correlative to *derivative*.

1530 PALSGR. Introd. 29 Of pronownes there be thre chefe sortes, primityves, derivatyves, and demonstratyves. *Ibid.*, Pronownes primityves be fyve, *je, tu, se, nous, vous.* 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* viii. (1627) 123 The primitiue word whereof they come, or some words neere vnto them. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 36 The Turkish Language is a primitive and original Language, that's to say, not derived from any of the Oriental or Occidental Tongues that we have any knowledge of. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., Primitive Word (in Grammar) an original Word, from which others of the kind are derived. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. iii. 55 A primitive word is that which cannot be reduced to any simpler word in the language: as, man, good, content. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 18 To have a distinction in the primitive and not in the derivative word is always confusing.

5. *Math.*, etc. Applied to a line or figure from which some construction or reckoning begins; or to a curve, surface, magnitude, equation, operation, etc., from which another is in some way derived, or which is not itself derived from another.

Primitive circle or *plane*, the circle or plane upon which projection is made. *Primitive radii*, in geared wheels, = PROPORTIONAL *radii*.

1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 668 b, The Meridian passing through L is the Primitive Circle. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Number, Primitive* or *prime Number*, is that which is only divisible by unity. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxi. 185 The plane *R r s*, or the plane in which the light is polarised, is called the plane of primitive polarisation. 1864 WEBSTER s. v., *Primitive axes of co-ordinates*, that system of axes to which the points of a magnitude are first referred with reference to a second set or system, to which they are afterward referred. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 34 The great circle is called the primitive. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* ii. 25 The plane of projection thus bounded by a great circle of the sphere is represented by the plane of the paper on which the circle is drawn, which latter will be termed the circle of projection or primitive circle.

b. *Cryst.* Applied to a fundamental crystalline form from which all the other forms may be derived by geometrical processes; the form obtained by cleaving the crystal, inferred to be that of the nucleus from which the crystal grew.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 136 This new regular form is by Hauy named the Primitive nucleus; and the crystal whose form is the same the Primitive form. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 536 The primitive form of muriate of barytes is, according to Hauy, a four-sided prism, whose bases are squares. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxv. 214 This mineral,..called cubizite, has been regarded by mineralogists as having the cube for its primitive form.

6. Of colours: = PRIMARY *a.* 6 a.

1759 SYMMER in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 368 He ranged a number of ribbands, of all the primitive colours. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 247 As a ray of the sun may be separated into these seven primitive colours. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* I. ii. 27 The primitive rays—red, yellow, and blue—of which a colourless ray of light is composed.

7. *Geol.* Belonging (or supposed to belong) to the earliest geological period; applied to those rocks or formations held to be older than any fossiliferous strata, or of which the contained fossils have been obliterated by metamorphism; = PRIMARY *a.* 4 a (in its obs. sense).

1777 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 106 Most of the mountains which are called primitive..are of this texture. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 446 Those rocks which are called primitive, in reality the original coat of the nucleus of our planet. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.*, etc. s. v. *Geology*, The crystalline, massive, and unstratified rocks, which seem to form the bases or foundations upon which the others have been deposited..have therefore been called primary or primitive rocks. 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* iv. (1878) 45 The term *Primitive*, as applied to gneiss, is no longer tenable.

8. *Biol., Anat.*, etc. a. Applied to a part or structure in the first or a very early stage of formation or growth (whether temporary and subsequently disappearing, or developing into the fully formed structure); rudimentary, primordial. *Primitive streak* or *trace*, the faint streak which constitutes the earliest trace of the embryo in the fertilized ovum; *primitive groove*, (*a*) = *p. streak*; (*b*) a groove or furrow which appears (in vertebrates) in the upper surface of the primitive streak, and marks the beginning of the vertebral column. b. Applied to the minute or ultimate elements of a structure, or to some part connected with these: as the *primitive fibrillæ* of a nerve; the *primitive sheath* investing each of these (also called *neurilemma*). c. Rarely applied to a structure from which secondary structures arise by branching, as the *primitive carotid artery*: see quot. 1895.

1857 DUNGLISON *Dict. Med.* 435/2 *Primitive Groove, Primitive streak* or *trace*.., a bright streak in the long axis of the pellucid part of the area germinativa, after it presents a central pellucid and a peripheral opake part. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 299 In the centre of the primitive streak an even, dark line, the so-called primitive groove, becomes defined. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 345 These are called by Dippel bast-fibres, and by Russow protophloem, because they appear as the primitive elements of the phloem. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 29 The cells [of the mesoblast] arise..from the primitive streak behind the blastopore in *Peripatus*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Primitive carotid artery*..the common carotid artery...*P. iliac artery*,..the common iliac artery. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 547 It [i. e. pityriasis rosea] usually begins as a solitary patch situated in the neck, trunk, abdomen, or arms,—the 'primitive patch' of Brocq.

9. *Mus.* Applied to a chord in its original or direct form, not inverted.

1811 BUSBY *Dict. Mus.* s. v., *Primitive Chord*, that chord the lowest note of which is of the same literal denomination as the fundamental bass of the harmony. The chord taken in any other way, as when its lowest note is the third, or the fifth of the fundamental bass, is called a *derivative*.

10. *Primitive Methodist Connexion*: a society of Methodists founded by Hugh Bourne in 1810 by secession from the main body; so called as adhering to the original methods of preaching, etc., practised by the Wesleys and Whitefield. *Primitive Methodist*: a member or adherent of this society. *Primitive Methodism*: the principles of this society, or adherence to it.

1812 H. BOURNE *Jrnl.* in J. Gardner *Faiths World* II. 426 Thursday, February 13, 1812, we called a meeting, made plans for the next quarter, and made some other regulations; in particular, we took the name of the Primitive Methodist Connexion. 1860 J. GARDNER *Ibid.* 428/1 Open-air worship is frequently practised by the Primitive Methodists.

B. *sb.* **I.** Senses related to A. 1.

1. An original or early member of a society or body. †a. A primitive Christian; a member of the early Church. *Obs.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) Pref. A iij b, Did not then the primitiues of the East Church amongst the Christians carry away the auriflambe of all religious Zeale? 1651–3 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xiii. 173 The fervors of the Apostles, and other holy primitives. 1686 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Mar., The severall afflictions of the Church of Christ from the primitives to this day.

b. An original inhabitant, an aboriginal; a man of primitive (esp. prehistoric) times.

1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 273 The Haraforas, who seem to be the primitives of the island. 1895 *Daily News* 13 May 6/3 The effects sought here relate to the 'primitives' of the Irish heroic age.

†**2.** *pl.* The primitive or earliest stage; the 'beginnings'. *Obs. rare.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 52 Probably..in the primitiues of their institutions they had better, lowlier, and more religious spirits then now they haue. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Exod.* xxix. 28 They are the primitives and beginninges of their pacifique victimes which they offer to the Lord.

3. Short for *Primitive Methodist*: see A. 10.

1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 303 Those worthy though singular people, the Primitives of Redruth. 1906 *Essex Rev.* XV. 135 The 'Primitives' in their little thatched and clay-lump chapel.

4. In art criticism: a. A painter of the early period, i. e. before the Renascence; also *transf.* a modern painter who imitates the style of these. b. A picture painted by any of these.

1892 *Spectator* 30 Jan. 168/1 O impressionist, do I find you among the primitives? 1892 *Athenæum* 13 Feb. 220/3 In Italy artists we call 'primitives', such as Crivelli..still adhered to the early manner while Titian was in his glory. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 3/3 On the left as you enter the room are some notable examples of what may be considered 'primitives'. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* July 237 Among the work of the Italian 'primitives' towns are pretty common in the background.

II. Senses related to A. 3.

5. An original ancestor or progenitor (of men or animals). ? *Obs.*

1486 *Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 54, I [Ebrauk] am premative of your progenie. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 771 3e bene, all, Degenerit frome 3our holy prematyuis. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 201 The various kinds of Dogs..might in their Primitives be of one Species.

6. *Gram.* A word from which another or others are derived; a root-word. Opp. to *derivative*.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* *iv, Whether the worde be a Primitiue, or Deriuatiue deduced of some other. 1657–8 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan., He..got by heart almost the entire vocabularie of Latine and French primitives. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict.* Pref. B j b, Of thieflike or coachdriver no notice was needed, because the primitives contain the meaning of the compounds. 1759 ADAM SMITH *Orig. Lang.* (1790) 451 All the words in the Greek Language are derived from about 300 primitives. 1820 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 314 The absence of all distinction between primitives and derivatives.

7. Anything from which something else is derived; in quot. 1784, a primitive or primary colour.

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 139 These arguments haue the same force to argue, that the primitiues haue, from which they are derived. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* vi. (1848) 211 Yellow, red, and blue..These three uncompounded primitives.

8. *Math.* Any algebraical or geometrical form in relation to another derived from it; as, the original expression or function of which another is the derivative; the original equation from which a differential equation, etc. is obtained; the original curve of which another is the polar, inverse, evolute, etc. (Short for *primitive expression, equation, curve*, etc.: see A. 5.)

Complete primitive: a primitive equation containing the requisite number of constants to furnish the solution of the derived equation.

Primitively (pri·mĭtivli), *adv.* [f. prec. adj. + -LY 2.] In the primitive way, manner, or order.

1. In the earliest age or time; at the beginning; anciently; originally in time, at first.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 580 That rare concord and agreement which was primitively ordained by God to be betwixt man and beast. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 201 So possibly might the Sheep of Peru,..be primitively Sheep, but differenced by their long abode..in Peru. 1704 in Collier *Dissuasive fr. Play Ho.* 30 Whether this Primitive Church of his was primitively pure, or originally Profane. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 126 A beam of light which was primitively white..becomes sensibly red.

2. Originally, as opposed to *derivatively*, or as giving origin to something else; radically, fundamentally; primarily.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 59 This direction proceeds not primitively from themselves, but is derivative and contracted from the magneticall effluxions of the earth. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 61 This is the Absolute the Primitively True.

b. Originally; in origin or derivation.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 121 One other pretie conceit..also borrowed primitiuely of the Poet, or courtly maker. 1659 T. PHILIPOTT *Vill. Cant.* 227 The Medway, from whence it [Maidstone] primitively borrowed its Name. 1869 HUXLEY *Phys.* xii. (ed. 3) 314 That inverted portion of the integument, from which the whole anterior character of the eye and the lens are primitively formed.

3. In a primitive style; with the purity, simplicity, or rudeness of early times.

1672–5 COMBER *Comp. Temple* (1702) 106 Ordinances, which are purely and primitively administred there. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) VI. 129 The purest, and most primitively ordered Church in the world. 1902 *Words Eye-witness* 72 The most primitively manly race on earth. *Mod.* The concern was very primitively put together.

Primitiveness (pri·mĭtivnĕs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality, character, or condition of being primitive (in any sense of the adj.).

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. i. § 4. 35 Transcendental Relations of Quality at large...1. Primitiveness, Root, original, simple, underived. 1684 *Def. Resol. Case of Consc. conc. Symbolizing w. Ch. Rome* 30 Replying to those few lines that follow against the Primitiveness of our Episcopacy. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xxvii, The folk in our valley, out of their very primitiveness, had more faith in the master. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* II. 281 These gradations of primitiveness in corruption.

Primitivism (pri·mĭtiviz'm). [See -ISM.]

1. Adherence to or practice of that which is primitive.

1861 NEALE *Notes on Dalmatia, Croatia*, etc. 137 Had he not provocation enough,..to confirm him in his primitivism. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 3/1 This country, in which primitivism—if I may be permitted the expression—and progressivism are sometimes so oddly mixed.

2. Short for *Primitive Methodism*: see PRIMITIVE A. 10, and cf. B. 3.

1907 *Daily News* 28 May 8 Closing Day of Primitive Methodist Centenary...The Rev. Jabez Bell described 'Primitivism' as neither painfully poor nor rascally rich.

Primitivity (primĭti·vĭti). [f. PRIMITIVE *a.* + -ITY. Cf. F. *primitivité*.] = PRIMITIVENESS.

1759 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 8 Aug., The age of George the Second is likely to be celebrated for more primitivity than the disinterestedness of Mr. Deard. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., In mathematics we speak of the primitivity of a form. 1891 L. RIVINGTON in *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 372 They have added to the notes of the Church that of 'Primitivity'.

†**Primity.** *Obs.* [f. L. *prīm-us* (PRIME *a.*) + -ITY; = obs. F. *primité* (16th c. in Godef.) and med.L. *prīmitās* firstness in time (*a* 1308 Duns Scotus, *De primo principio* 2: 2).]

1. The fact or position of being first in rank or order; first or chief place, priority, supremacy.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* i. 40 This primity God requires to be attributed to himself. 1660 R. SHERINGHAM *King's Suprem. Asserted* viii. (1682) 70 He grants him a primity of share in the supreme power. *Ibid.* 94 Where a transcendent interest, or primity of state, is in one man, it is sufficient to constitute a Monarchy.

2. The first part, the beginning. *rare*—[1].

1684 H. More *Answer* xiv. 103 Which being not a final or total Ruine of Babylon, but, as it were, the Primity thereof.

Pri·mly, *adv.* [f. Prim *a.* + -ly 2.] In a prim or precise manner, with primness.

1837 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) I. 66 She primly promulgates her opinion that influenza is masculine. 1853–8 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 207 The grounds.. had not the appearance of being very primly kept. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 122/2 She was not quite so primly decorous as the young persons of her epoch.

Primmer, obs. spelling of Primer *sb.*[1]

Pri·mness. [f. Prim *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being prim; formal or affected preciseness.

1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 29 ₱ 11 Her lips are composed with a primness peculiar to her character. 1758 Gray *Let.* Poems (1775) 265 Primness and affectation of style .. has turned to hoydening and rude familiarity. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 98 A primness of eternal virginity about the mouth. 1894 Doyle *Mem. S. Holmes* 99 He affected a certain quiet primness of dress.

Primogenial, -genian, -genious (-geneous), erroneous forms of Primigenial, -genian, -genious; app. in imitation of *primogenit, -geniture*, etc., in which the first element is L. *primō*.

† Primoge·nit, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *prīmōgenit-us*, properly two words, *prīmō genitus*, first born, f. *prīmō* adv., first + *genit-us*, pa. pple. of *gignĕre* to bring forth, bear. (Hence, not a compound of *prīmus*, like *primigene*, etc.) So OF. *primogenit* (13th c. in Godef.).] First-born.

[1160–80 *Laws Henry I*, c. 70 § 21 Primo patris feodum primogenitus filius habeat; emptiones vers, vel deinceps acquisitiones suas, det cui magis velit. *a* 1190 Glanvil *Tract. de Leg.* vii. iii, Tunc secundum ius regni Anglie primogenitus filius patri succedit in totum. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (1641) 11 Our Common Law .. did ever of old provide aydes for the *primo-genitus*, and the eldest Daughter.] *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3435 Crist the Primogenit of the dede rose tofore. 1609 A. Craig *Poet. Recreat.* To Rdr., They are my children, you haue them as they were borne: And so the Primo-genit must haue the prioritie at the Presse. 1619 Sir J. Sempil *Sacrilege Handled* App. 39 Sem could beget (and did) diuers Primogenit Priests.

Primogenital (prəimo,dʒe·nităl), *a.* [ad. late L. *prīmōgenitāl-is* (Tertull.), f. *prīmōgenit-us* (taken as sb.): see prec. and -al.] Of or pertaining to the first-born or to primogeniture.

1657–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 21 Those garments Rebecca put on Jacob, his sacerdotal vestment; but it was still the primogenital right, till a family separated. 1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* iv, The primogenital cellars were not niggard of their stores. 1888 *Science* 14 Sept. 124/1 Genesis..considered under some of its subordinate phases, as heredity, physiological selection, sexual selection, primogenital selection, sexual differentiation,..hybridity, &c.

Primogenitary (prəimo,dʒe·nitări), *a.* [f. L. *prīmōgenit-us* (see above) + -ary 1.] = prec.

1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. vi. 294 The consciousness of this defect in his parliamentary title put James on magnifying..the inherent rights of primogenitary succession. 1838–9 — *Hist. Lit.* III. iii. iv. § 47. 160 Derived by some one..through primogenitary descent. 1867 W. L. Newman in *Quest. Reformed Parl.* 83 It is sufficient to say of this law, that it adheres more strictly to Primogeniture than the practise of the Primogenitary class.

Primogenitive (prəimo,dʒe·nĭtiv), *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ive.] **a.** *adj.* = prec. † **b.** *sb.* = Primogeniture 2. *Obs.*

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 106 How could Communities, Degrees in Schooles, and Brother-hoods in Cities,..The primogenitiue, and due of Byrth, Prerogatiue of Age,.. (But by Degree) stand in Authentique place? 1842 Mrs. F. Trollope *Vis. to Italy* II. iv. 87 She had a sort of primogenitive right to..a red cap and tricoloured banner.

Primogenitor (prəimo,dʒe·nitŏr). [a. med.L. *prīmōgenitor* (1361 in Du Cange), f. L. *prīmō* adv., at first, first + *genitor* begetter, Genitor, after L. *prīmōgenitus*; so OF. *primogeniteur* (1340 in Godef.).] First parent, earliest ancestor; *loosely*, ancestor, forefather, progenitor.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* iv. 181 If your primogenitors be not belied, the generall smutch you have, was once of a deeper black, when they came from Mauritania into Spain. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 211 The supposition of our being punished for the offence of our primogenitor. 1824 *Mirror* III. 402/2 The male descendants of our great primogenitor. 1888 Hasluck *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 2 A model of this, the primogenitor of the modern steam-engine, can be bought..for one penny.

Hence **Primoge·nitrix,** a first female ancestor.

1875 M. Collins *Fr. Midnight to Midn.* III. xii. 202 Fluent as that 'affable archangel' who delighted our primogenitrix.

Primogeniture (prəimo,dʒe·nitiŭr). [ad. med.L. *prīmogenitūra*, f. L. *prīmō* adv., first + *genitūra* Geniture; after *prīmōgenitus*. So F. *primogéniture* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The fact or condition of being the first-born of the children of the same parents.

[*c* 1225 William Britto *Philipis* iv. 2 Lege patrum veteri Richardum, patre sepulto, Efficit Anglorum primogenitura monarcham. 1594 Parsons *Confer. Success.* I. vi. 128 That *primogenitura* or eldership of birth..was greatly respected by God.] 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* I. v. § 7 These were the Arts which had a kinde of *Primo geniture* with them seuerally. 1626 T. H. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 121 Al those, say with Esau :..To what vse, will this goodly prerogatiue of primogeniture serue me? *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* (1766) II. 238 If primogeniture from Noah was the ground settled by God for monarchy, then all the Princes now in the world were Usurpers. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 291 Though primogeniture gave no positive right.

b. *esp.* in *right of primogeniture* (also † *primogeniture-right*), the right (of succession, etc.) of the first-born: see 2.

1602 Fulbecke *Pandectes* 16 The right of Primogeniture, or elder-brothership is fenced, supported, and defended against this last decree of the Millanasses, and that first of the Persians. 1612 Selden *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xvii. 269 Claiming his Primogeniture-right, & therby the kingdom. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 162 That his present Majesty of Great Britain is by Right of Primogeniture the next and undoubted Heir to Cadwalladar, will manifestly appear. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. i. 13 In the division of personal estates, the females of equal degree are admitted together with the males, and no right of primogeniture is allowed. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* ix, The rights of primogeniture.. were not respected.

2. The right of succession or inheritance belonging to the first-born; the principle, custom, or law by which the property or title descends to the eldest son (or eldest child); *spec.* the feudal rule of inheritance by which the whole of the real estate of an intestate passes to the eldest son. (Introduced into England at the Norman Conquest, and still prevailing in most places in a modified form: but cf. Borough-English, Gavelkind.) Also *fig.*

a 1631 Donne *Serm.* xxxiv. (1640) 340 Heires of heaven, which is not a Gavel-kinde, every Son, every man alike: but it is an universall primogeniture, every man full, so full, as that every man hath all. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* I. ix. (1840) 108 Abel had broken the laws of primogeniture. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* (1869) II. xliv. 654 The insolent prerogative of primogeniture was unknown. 1875 Maine *Hist. Inst.* vii. 199 When the Teutonic races spread over Western Europe they did not bring with them Primogeniture as their ordinary rule of succession. 1876 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* V. xxiv. 491 Under the working of the new feudal doctrines, the custom of primogeniture gradually supplanted the Old-English custom of equal partition of lands.

Primoge·nitureship. Now *rare.* [f. prec. + -ship.] = prec. 2.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 59 It is likely to proue..an immortall kinde of businesse, like vnto that of your Mayorasgos or Primo-genitureship, which your fathers settle vpon their eldest sonnes. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 156 The Emperor Frederick I..introduced into the house of Austria the right of primogenitureship. 1822 J. Flint *Lett. Amer.* 177 Local attachments are much weakened by the open prospects of an extensive country, by the abolition of primogenitureship, and by the introduction of laws that promote family justice. 1830 *Examiner* 259/1 A younger brother, corrupted at heart with envy by the injustice of primogenitureship.

† Primo-prime, *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prīmō* adv., first + Prime *a.*] First of all; the very first; absolutely primary. So † **Primo-pri·mitive** *a.*, earliest of the primitive.

1673 O. Walker *Educ.* v. 46 As if not taken at the first moment, as it were, the primo-prime acts. 1679 Alsop *Melius Inquirend.* I. i. 48 It would be a severe charge upon all the Primo-primitive Fathers that they were Arians. 1693 Beverley *True St. Gosp. Truth* 9 This is the Primo-prime, as may be said, Foundation of Holiness, and Happiness; To Know and Enjoy the only True God. 1715 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 87 The Secular Ignorance and Candid Simplicity of the Primo-Primitive Christians.

Primo-ra·tional. *Math. rare*—[1]. [f. as prec. + Rational, as derivative of *prime ratio*: see -o *stuff.* I and cf. *politico-economic.*] A quantity expressing a prime ratio: see Prime *a.* 9 d.

1862 De Morgan in Graves *Life Sir W. Hamilton* (1889) III. 576, I would rather use primo-rationals than differentials.

Primordial (prəimɔ̄·rdiăl), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 5, 8 *erron.* pre-. [ad. late L. *prīmordiāl-is* that is first of all, original, f. Primordium: see -al. So F. *primordial* (1480 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of, pertaining to, or existing at (or from) the very beginning; first in time, earliest, original, primitive, primeval.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* viii. i. (Tollem. MS.), The virtu of God made primordial mater, in þe whiche as it were in massy þinge þe foure elementis were vertually, and nouȝt distinguid. 1486 *Reception Hen. VII at York* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 55 Theiz premordiall princes of this principalitie. *a* 1626 Bp. Andrewes *Serm.* (1856) I. 385 Abstinence is a virtue..Sure I am the 'primordiale peccatum', the primordial sin was not abstaining. 1687 T. K. *Veritas Evang.* 98 There would have remained illustrious Memory thereof, at least in some of the primordial Churches. 1844 Disraeli *Coningsby* II. i, To recur to the primordial tenets of the Tory party. 1875 Poste *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 6 The portion of primary rights that..we shall call Primordial rights (right to life, health, liberty, reputation, etc.) are never so much as mentioned by Gaius.

2. Constituting the beginning or starting-point; from which something else is derived or developed, or on which something else depends; original (as opposed or correlated to derivative); fundamental, radical; elementary.

a 1529 Skelton *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 104 It plesyth that noble prince roialle Me as hys master for to calle In hys lernyng primordialle. 1666 Boyle *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 388 Primordial Textures (if I may so call them). 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 837 Being no Simple Primitive and Primordial thing, but Secondary, Compounded and Derivative. 1799 Kirwan *Geol. Ess.* 327 The primordial chaotic fluid, in whose bosom most stones were formed. 1856 Dove *Logic Chr. Faith* v. ii. 323 Space and time are the primordial necessaries of thought. 1893 Traill *Soc. Eng.* I. Introd. 53 A primordial instinct of human nature insures this concurrence and maintains it.

3. *Anat.* and *Zool.* Applied to parts or structures in their earliest or rudimentary stage, or to those formed at first, and afterwards replaced by others: = Primitive *a.* 8 a.

1786 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 448 New ones are formed above, under, or at the sides of the primordial or temporary teeth, but in different sockets. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* p. xxxv, In all Vertebrata above the Amphibia, a primordial as well as a secondary kidney is developed. *Ibid.* 38 Two fused primordial vertebrae. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 July 18 Final or dictyate condition of the primordial ovum.

4. *Bot.* **a.** First or earliest formed in the course of growth: said of leaves, fruit, or other parts.

1785 Martyn *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 443 The Scotch Pine..has two leaves in a sheath; and the primordial ones, solitary and smooth. 1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 247 When fascicled, the primordial leaf to which they are then axillary is membranous, and enwraps them like a sheath. 1870 Hooker *Stud. Flora* 220 Leaves broadly obovate obtuse toothed, primordial orbicular.

b. Applied to tissues, etc., in their simplest or rudimentary stage or condition: as *primordial cortex, epidermis.*

Primordial cell, a cell in its simplest form, consisting merely of a mass of protoplasm, without cell-wall, cell-sap, etc. *Primordial utricle*, name for the layer of denser protoplasm lining the wall of a vacuolate cell, and forming a sac inclosing the thinner protoplasm and cell-sap.

1849 E. Lankester *Schleiden's Princ. Bot.* 569 Mohl asserts that the primordial utricle is the forerunner of the formation of the cellulose cell-wall. 1875 Bennett & Dyer tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 5 It has hence become usual even to consider a protoplasmic body of this kind as a cell, and to designate it as a naked membraneless cell or Primordial Cell. *Ibid.* 126 The outermost layer of the primary meristem which covers the *punctum vegetationis* together with its apex is the immediate continuation of the epidermis of the older part which lies further backwards; it may therefore be termed the Primordial Epidermis.

fig. 1893 Barrows *Parl. Relig.* II. 1481 The primordial cell of organic Methodism is the class-meeting.

5. *Geol.* and *Palæont.* † **a.** = Primitive *a.* 7. *Obs.* **b.** Applied by Barrande (1846) to a series or 'zone' of strata in Bohemia, containing the earliest fossil remains there found; hence extended to the corresponding strata in other parts of the world, forming part of the Cambrian system; also applied to fossils found in these strata.

1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 285 In the primordial stones of Vesuvius. 1802 Playfair *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 161 De Luc .. applies the term primordial to the rocks in question and considers them as neither stratified nor formed by water. 1885 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* xxviii. (ed. 4) 454 M. Barrande found in Étage C, in Bohemia, Trilobites of the genera *Paradoxides, Conocoryphe* [etc.]..These primordial Trilobites have a peculiar facies of their own. 1894 *Geol. Mag.* Oct. 445 M. Barrande .. then recognised the 'Lingula Flag' of Sedgwick as the exact equivalent of his primordial stratum (Etage C).

¶ 6. App. misused (as if f. L. *ordo, ordin-* order) for: Of the first order or rank.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXIX. 383 From the time of Bossuet ..no primordial champion of Catholicism arose in France.

B. *sb.* **1.** Something primordial, original, or fundamental; beginning, origin; a first principle, an element. *rare.*

1522 Skelton *Why not to Court* 486 The primordyall Of his wretched originall. 1610 Marcellini *Triumphs Jas. I* 85 It consisteth of 3. Letters..as the primordials and Radicall Letters of the Hæbrewes. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial.* I. 37 The Primordialls of the World are not Mechanicall, but Spermaticall or Vital. 1813 T. Busby *Lucretius* I. *Dissert.* p. iv, Like his own primordials, they are not only indestructible, but unassailable.

† **2.** Name for an early variety of plum. *Obs.*

1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort., July* 70 Plums, etc. Primordial, Myrobalan, the red, blew, and amber Violet. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 376.

Hence **Primo·rdialism,** primordial nature or condition; **Primordia·lity,** the quality of being primordial; something characterized by this quality.

1879 H. Spencer *Princ. Sociol.* iv. § 343 Yet another indication of primordialism may be named...Even between intimates greetings signifying continuance of respect, begin each renewal of intercourse. 1889 H. F. Wood *Englishm. of Rue Cain* xiv. 206 There be those that have construed simple grandeurs, grand simplicities, from idyllic gold-fields, to mean primordialities which, elsewhere, receive much precious time and space from the assize court and the gaol.

Primo·rdially, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a primordial way. **a.** At or from the very beginning; in the earliest stage; at first, originally, primitively. **b.** In relation to the beginning or starting-point; radically, fundamentally.

1856 Ferrier *Inst. Metaph.* III. xviii. 120 Everything which I, or any intelligence, can apprehend, is steeped primordially in me. 1871 Darwin *Desc. Man* viii. (1874) 228 We have no grounds for supposing that male bees primordially collected pollen. 1875 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 12) II. III. xxxvii. 324 His dogma of the immutability of primordially created species.

† **Primo·rdian,** *Obs.* [f. L. *primordi-us* (see Primordium) + -an.] = Primordial *sb.* 2.

1731–3 Miller *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Prunus*, The Jean-Native, or White Primordian. This is a small white Plum, of a clear yellow Colour, .. and for its coming very early, deserves a Place in every good Garden of Fruit. 1755 in Johnson, whence in many mod. Dicts.

† Primo·rdiate, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prīmordi-us* (see next) + -ATE².] = PRIMORDIAL *a.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 15 Farewel the Baylies of the Cynque ports whose primordiat Gethneliaca was also dropping out of my inckhorne. 1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* VI. 356 'Tis not every Thing Chymists will call Salt, Sulphur, or Spirit, that needs alwaies be a Primordiate and Ingenerable body.

‖ Primordium (prəimɔ̄·ɹdiŭm). Pl. **-ia.** [L. *prīmordium* sb., orig. neut. of *prīmordius* adj., original, f. *prīmus* first + *ordīrī* to begin.] The very beginning, the earliest stage; opening part, introduction; primitive source, origin.

1671 HOWE *Wks.* (1834) 199/1 (Stanf.) The mere preludes of this glory, the *primordia*, the beginnings of it. 1677 — *Work Holy Spirit* vi. Wks. 1832 I. 66 They..want the radical, fundamental preparation; the *primordia*, or first principles by which they are to be adopted to that kingdom. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* viii. § 3 Those Beings must be of chief Excellence wherein that Primordium appears most prominently to abound. 1846 R. GARNETT in *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 212 It would seem more probable that those roots are in many cases the real primordia of the ostensible *d'hatoos* or verbal roots. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. i, This is the primordium,—now comes the confession.

b. *Biol.* The first rudiment or germ of an organ or structure.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 WILLEY in *Nature* 25 Aug. 390/1.

† Primo·re. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. It. *primore* (*primō·re*), L. *prīmōr-is* first, foremost, chief, L. pl. *prīmōrēs*, as *sb.* the front rank in battle, deriv. of *prīm-us* first.] A chief man.

1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 18 The Patriarke of Constantinople and his Primore termed Protosyncellus, and amongst the Romans, the Centurion and his Optio. [1856 J. BROWN in Cairns *Mem.* x. (1860) 325 My earlier friends among the *primores* of the Synod..have most of them long ago departed.]

Hence **† Primo·rity,** foremost place or importance.

1727 *Philip Quarll* 142 Sally,..seeing the Primority of Marriage so much pleaded for, thought it may be worth her while to claim it.

† Primo·rtive, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prīm-us* first + ORTIVE.] Arising from that which is prime, primary, or primitive; derivative.

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 12 Artificiall Argument is either prime, or primortiue [margin, *Primum, vel a primo ortum*].

† Primosity (primɔ·sĭti). *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. PRIM *a.* + -OSITY.] Primness.

a 1839 LADY H. STANHOPE *Mem.* xi. (1845) II. 27, I should really like to know what excuse Lord A. could offer for his primosity to us, when he was riding with such a Jezebel as Lady —.

† Primo·vable. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PRIME *a.* + MOVABLE, after *primum mobile.*] = PRIMUM MOBILE. Also **† Primo·vant** [cf. F. *prime, mouvant* moving].

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* b iij, As the Heauen, is, by the Primouant, caried about in 24. æquall Houres. *Ibid.* d ij b, A..way..of hauing the motion of the Primouant (or first æquinoctiall motion) by Nature and Arte, Imitated. 1625 LISLE *Du Bartas, Noe* 162 This power hath the Moone by motion of the Primouable; which maketh her rise and set, as the Sunne and other Starres doe, in the space of a day.

Primp (primp), *sb.* Now only *dial.* Also 7 **prympe.** [app. like PRIM *sb.*², short for PRIMPRINT.] The privet; = PRIM *sb.*²

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 156 The Garden of Pleasure is to be set about with Arbors, couered with Iesamin,..Bay trees, Woodbind, Vines,..Prympe, sweet Bryer, and other rare things. 1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 140 A beautiful arbour adorned with primp hedges. 1877 *N. W. Linc. Gloss., Primp*, privet. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss., Primp*, the shrub Privet.

Primp (primp), *v. dial.* [Related to PRIM *v.*] **1.** *trans.* To make prim; to dress (*up*) or deck neatly or showily; to dispose or arrange primly.

1801 W. BEATTIE *Parings* (1873) 14 (E.D.D.) Just i' the newest fashion primped. *a* 1860 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s. v., Arter marm and Aunt Jane had primped up an' fixed my har an' creevat, I was reddy. 1880 J. E. WATT *Poet. Sk.* 73 (E.D.D.) Ye lassies,..A' primpit up an' dressed like leddies.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To make oneself smart; to prink.

1903 *Review of Rev.* Apr. p. xix. (*Cartoons*) The world is beginning to primp for the big show at St. Louis in 1904.

2. *intr.* To behave primly; to put on affected airs.

1804 [see below]. 1875 W. WELSH *Poet. & Prose Wks.* 39 Pridefu' like she primpit Wi puckered neck and glancin' cheek And ruffles neatly crimpit.

Hence **Primped,** *Sc.* **pri·mpit,** *ppl. a. dial.,* affected, prudish; of the mouth, closed primly, pursed up (*Sc.*); **Pri·mping** *vbl. sb.,* preparing, dressing up; *ppl. a.,* demure, prudish (*Sc.*).

c 1739 J. SKINNER *Christmas Ba'ing* iv, The tanner was a primpit [*Gloss.* 'delicate, nice'] bit, As flimsy as a feather. 1804 TARRAS *Poems* 72 Young primpin Jean, wi' cuttie speen, Sings dum' to bake the bannocks. 1853 CADENHEAD *Bon-Accord* 199 (E. D. D.) Lady Ladles—primpit dame. *Ibid.* 169 Some wi' primpit mou', And upturn'd e'en. 1888 *Amer. Ann. Deaf* Apr. 100 Helen has a great notion of 'primping'. Nothing pleases her better than to be dressed in her best clothes. 1894 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Campaigns Curiosity* 40 Annie insisted that I wasted too much time in 'primping'. 1899 WINSTON CHURCHILL *R. Carvel* x, You are content to see Richard without primping.

† Pri·m-print. *Obs.* Also 6 **prymprynt, 6-8 prime(-)print.** [Derivation unknown. Appears too early to be connected with PRIM *a.* The first element has been conjectured to be F. *prime*, L. *prīm-us* first, and the second short for F. *printemps* spring; but for this there is no confirmatory evidence, nor is the sense probable. (The statement in Prior's *Pop. Names of Plants* that *prim-print* was orig. the primrose, and that the name was transferred from the herb to the shrub, is erroneous, and arises from the fact that *ligustrum*, in Pliny the privet, has been supposed by some to be in Virgil and Ovid the name of some white-flowered herb.)]

An early name of the Privet.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* E j b, Ligustrum is called in greke Cypros, in englishe Prim print or priuet, though Eliote more boldely then lernedly, defended the contrary [cf. quot. 1542 s. v. PRIVET¹ 1]. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 36 b, The herbe which is called..prymprynt or pryuet. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. XXV. 690 This plant is called in..English, Priuet, or Primprint, in Frenche, *Troesne*. 1598 FLORIO, *Ligustro*, the priuet or prime print tree vsed in gardens for hedges. Also a kind of white floure. 1674-5 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 642 Two thousand two hundred of Quicksetts and Prim-print. 1749 J. MARTYN tr. *Virg. Bucol.* II. 18 *note*, If the *Ligustrum* of Pliny was that..by us called privet or primprint.

Primrose (pri·mrōuz), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: 5 **prymrose, prima rose,** 5–6 **prymerose, prime rose,** 5–7 **primerose,** 6 **pryme rose,** (**prymer rose, primorose,**) *Sc.* **prymross,** 7 **prim rose, prim-rose, prime-rose,** 6– **primrose.** [Late ME. *primerose* (1413: see (*c*) below; not used by Chaucer or Gower; occurring in several glossaries and vocabularies *a* 1450, but not in *Sinon. Barthol.* or *Alphita*); corresp. in form to early OF. *primerose* (12–13th c.), and to med.L. *prima rosa*, lit. 'first' or 'earliest rose', in Eng.-Lat. vocabularies of 15th c.: the latter in *Alphita* a synonym of *primula veris* (see PRIMULA), and F. and Eng. *primerole*; by Palsgr. *primerolle* is given as Fr. for *primorose*, and is still so used dialectally in parts of Normandy. In It., Florio 1598 has '*Prima rosa* the flowre called the primrose or cowslip'. *Primrose* is not in the *Great Herbal* 1516–29, but is in Turner's *Libellus* 1538, and *Names of Herbs* 1548, also in Lyte and later Herbals. See Note below.]

1. A well-known plant (*Primula veris* var. *acaulis* Linn., *P. vulgaris* Huds., *P. acaulis* Jacq., *P. grandiflora* Lam.), bearing pale yellowish flowers in early spring, growing wild in woods and hedges and on banks, esp. on clayey soil, and cultivated in many varieties as a garden plant. Also, the flower of this plant. Sometimes extended to include other species of the genus PRIMULA.

(*a*) in glossaries and vocabularies.

14.. *Voc.* in WR.-Wülcker 592/41 *Ligustrum*, a primerose. 14...*Nominale* ibid. 712/18 *Hoc ligustrum*, a primerose. [*Ibid.* 713/11 *Hoc ligustrum*, a cowslowpe.] *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 Prymerose, *primula, calendula, ligustrum.* *a* 1450 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 196 Prymrose, *ligustrum.* *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in WR.-Wülcker 786/24 *Hoc ligustrum*, a prymrose. *Hoc ligustrum*, a cowyslepe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/2 A Prymerose, *primarosa, primula veris.* 1530 PALSGR. 56 b/2 Primorose a flour, *primerolle.* 1538 ELYOT, *Verbascum*, an herbe wherof be ii. kindes: of which one is supposed to be Molin or long wort, the other is supposed to be that whiche is callyd primerose. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 715 A Primerose, or cowslip, *verbascum, vel verbasculum minus. Primula veris.* Dodon.

(*b*) in herbals, botanical works, etc.

1538 TURNER *Libellus* A ij b, *Arthritica* officinis est primula veris quæ ab anglis dicitur a prymerose. 1548 — *Names of Herbes* G vij, There are .iij. Verbascula...The fyrste is called in barbarus latin Arthritica, and in englishe a Primerose. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* V. LXXXIII. 122 Of Petie Mulleyn or the kindes of Primeroses...The smaller sorte..we call Primerose, is of diuers kindes, as yellow and greene, single and dubble. *Ibid.* 123 [Figure of] Verbasculum minus, Prymerose. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. CCLX. 637 The common white fielde Primrose needeth no description. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 512 There is a Greenish Prime-Rose, but it is Pale, and scarce a Greene. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 242, I know, that the name of *Primula veris* or Primrose, is indifferently conferred vpon those that I distinguish for *Paralyses* or Cowslips. I doe therefore..call those onely Primroses that carry but one flower vpon a stalke...And those Cowslips, that beare many flowers vpon a stalke together constantly. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 70/1 Primroses are also double of variable colours. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 101 Double Primroses delight in the same soil and situation as Polyanthuses, but are somewhat less robust.

(*c*) in literature.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. ii. (1859) 75 One [world] is corowned with faire rede rosys,..and the thyrd with lusty prymerosys and lylyes entermellyd, and graciously arrayed. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B vij, Take alisawndre and the Roote of prima rose. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 192 Powderit with prymross, sawrand all with clowiss. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1437 Eke eche at other threw the floures bright, The prymerose, the violet, the gold. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 352 What man..euer sawe the Spring tide without Marche Violettes, Primeroses, and other pleasant floures? 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XV. 150 The Primrose placing first, because that in the Spring It is the first appeares, then onely florishing. 1621 QUARLES *Esther* (1638) 117 Now plucks a Vi'let from her purple bed And then a Prim rose (the yeares Maidenhead). 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 142 The rathe Primrose that forsaken dies. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 303 The poor fellow's face is as pale as a primrose. 1798 WORDSW. *P. Bell* I. xii, A primrose by a river's brim A yellow primrose was to him, And it was nothing more. 1899 *Daily News* 19 Apr. 6/4 Blue primroses, that came into vogue a few years ago, were of course not wanting.

b. Formerly applied to the Daisy, *Bellis perennis*; and now in *U. S.* to a kind of wild rose (? *Rosa setigera*).

1585 LUPTON *Thous. Notable Th.* v. § 94 (1675) 133 The Primroses (which some take to be Dasies). 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 108 A kind of wild rose (called by the country folk the primrose).

2. With qualifying words, applied to **a.** Other species of the genus *Primula*: as **Bird's-eye Primrose,** *P. farinosa*, a mountain plant, bearing compact umbels of light purple flowers with yellow centres; **Chinese Primrose,** *P. sinensis*, a Chinese species bearing white or lilac flowers in umbels, familiar as a greenhouse and room plant in winter and early spring; **Fairy Primrose,** *P. minima*, a small plant of Southern Europe, bearing large white or rose flowers (Nicholson 1887); **Himalayan Primrose,** *P. sikkimensis*; **Scotch Primrose,** *P. scotica*, a native of the north of Scotland, bearing umbels of purple yellow-eyed flowers; sometimes applied to *P. farinosa.*

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 235 *Primula farinosa*..*Birds-eye Primrose. Marshes and bogs on mountains in the north. 1867 BABINGTON *Man. Brit. Bot.* (ed. 6) 277 *P[rimula] farinosa*...North of England and South of Scotland...Bird's-eye Primrose. 1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 595 The *Chinese Primrose. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s. v. *Primula*, Perhaps the best-known Primula is that which is very generally cultivated for greenhouse and room decoration..., namely, the Chinese Primrose (*P. sinensis*).

b. Some other plants having flowers resembling those of the common primrose; as **Cape Primrose,** a plant of the genus *Streptocarpus*, of S. Africa, etc., bearing showy pale purple, blue, or red flowers; **Evening (Night, † Nightly) Primrose,** the genus *Œnothera*: see EVENING *sb.*¹ 5 b; **Peerless Primrose** = PRIMROSE PEERLESS 2; **Tree Primrose** = *Evening primrose.*

1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 253/2 *Streptocarpus*, *Cape Primrose. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 6/3 On entering the first tent, the visitor is face to face with..a wonderful bed of Cape primroses, creamy-white, mauve, and in many shades. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 927 *Evening or Night Primrose, *Œnothera.* 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 323 *Night Primrose. 1849 [see NIGHT *sb.* 13 e]. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n., Narcissus biflorus*, *Peerless Primrose or Primrose Peerless, Two-flowered Daffodil. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 264 The *tree Primrose of Virginia. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xix. (1794) 256 Tree Primrose, a Virginian plant...The corolla is a fine yellow, shut during the day, but expanding in the evening; whence some call it Nightly Primrose.

† 3. *fig.* **a.** The first or best; the finest, or a fine, example; the 'flower', 'pearl' (cf. *pink of perfection*); also, a person in the flower of youth. *Obs.*

c 1425 in *Leg. Rood* 212 My swete sone..þou art þe flour, My primerose, my paramour. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2024 in *Macro Plays* 134 A! Meknesse, Charyte & Pacyens,.. prymrose pleyeth parlasent. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xvi. (Shaks. Soc.) 158 Heyle, perle peerles, prime rose of prise! 1523 SKELTON *Garland of Laurel* 912 Ye be, as I deuyne, The praty primrose, The goodly Columbyne. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 66 Two noble Primeroses of Nobilitie, the yong Duke of Suffolke, and Lord H. Maxeuers. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 166 Was not I planted of thine owne hand, To be the primrose of all thy land? 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. 86 O Dido Primrose of Perfection, Who only grantest kind Protection To wandring Trojans.

† b. Prime; first bloom; first-fruits. *Obs.*

1611 BRATHWAIT *Golden Fleece* II. *Sonn.* IV. iii, For she [Rosamond] poore wench did flourish for a while Cropt in the primrose of her wantonnesse. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* xvi. 5 Gods soul hath desired such first ripe fruits, *Mic.* 7. 1, such primroses. 1650 — *Comm. Lev.* ii. 14 God should bee served with the first-fruits of our age, the primrose of our childe-hood.

† 4. In ancient cookery, A 'pottage' in which the flowers of this plant were a principal ingredient.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 25 Prymerose. Take oþer half-pound of Flowre of Rys, .iij. pound of Almaundys, half an vnce of hony & Safroune, & take þe flowre of þe Prymerose, & grynd hem, and temper hem vppe with Mylke of þe Almaundys [etc.].

5. *Her.* A conventionalized figure of this flower as a charge; in quot. 1562 said to have four petals.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 64 Quater foyles, otherwise called, prime Roses. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.* 477 *Primrose*, this flower occurs in some few instances. Though the colour varies, the shape of the natural flower should be retained.

6. Elliptical for *primrose colour*: A pale greenish yellow or lemon colour.

1882 *Garden* 21 Oct. 355/3 Take, for instance..Narcisse, primrose, tipped with white.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as, in sense 'of primroses', 'of the primrose', *primrose bank, bed, breath, bud, chaplet, colour, drop* (DROP *sb.* 10 g), *-peep, -picker, season, star, -tide, yellow*; instrumental and parasynthetic, as *primrose-coloured, -decked, -haunted, -scented, -spangled, -starred, -sweet, -tinted* adjs.; **† primrose cowslip,** Parkinson's name for the hybrid OXLIP; **primrose path, way,** a path abounding in primroses; *fig.* the path of pleasure; **primrose-time,** *fig.* the time of early youth; **primrose tree** = *tree primrose*: see 2 b.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 151 This *Primrose banke whereon I lie. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Sonn., Happy Hour* 8 The wandering *primrose-breath of May. 1777 WARTON *Ode Friend leaving Hampsh.* 56 His *primrose-chaplet rudely

torn. 1629 Parkinson *Paradisus* 244 Of the very same *Primrose colour that the former is of. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 238 Gills primrose-colour. 1830 *Withering's Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) IV. 216 *Agaricus Primula* (*Primrose-coloured Agaric). 1888 *Times* 2 Jan. 7/4 The young..Lady Mansfield in her primrose-coloured dress. 1629 Parkinson *Paradisus* 244 *Paralysis altera odorata flore pallido polyanthos.* The *Primrose Cowslip. 1625 B. Jonson *Pan's Anniv.*, The *primrose drop, the Spring's own spouse! 1835 Mrs. Hemans *Remembr. Nat.* 3 Feeding my thoughts in *primrose-haunted nooks. 1567 Golding *Ovid* XIII. 929 More whyght thou art then *primrose leaf [*folio nivei ligustri*]. 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* I. iii. 50 Doe not as some vngracious Pastors doe, Shew me the steepe and thorny way to Heauen; Whilst like a puft and recklesse Libertine, Himselfe the *Primrose path of dalliance treads. 1820 Hazlitt *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 80 To tread the primrose path of pleasure. 1882 Froude *Carlyle* I. xix. 355 Never to sell his soul by travelling the primrose path to wealth and distinction. 1831 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 8 So winter passeth Like a long sleep From falling autumn To *primrose-peep. 1796 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 398 *Hypopithys*..*Primrose scented Birds-nest. 1634 Milton *Comus* 671 Brisk as the April buds in *Primrose-season. 1648 Herrick *Hesper.*, *Epitaph upon a Child*, Virgins promis'd when I dy'd, That they wo'd each *primrose-tide, Duely morne and ev'ning, come, And with flowers dresse my tomb. 1606 *Wily Beguiled* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 231 I'll prank myself with flowers of the prime; And thus I'll spend away my *primrose-time. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 357 Towards the End of this Month, sow Pinks,..Sweet Williams, *Primrose-trees. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 Primrose-tree, *Oenothera.* 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* II. iii. 21 Some of all Professions, that goe the *Primrose way to th' euerlasting Bonfire. 1817 Scott *Harold* v. xiv, Chief they lay Their snares beside the primrose way. 1882 *Garden* 2 Dec. 481/1 A large..flower of a soft *primrose-yellow.

8. From the association of the flower with the memory of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, who died 19th April, 1881: **Primrose Day**, the anniversary of that event; **Primrose League**, a political association formed in 1883, in memory of Lord Beaconsfield and in support of the principles of Conservatism as represented by him. Hence, in sense 'of the Primrose League', **Primrose dame, habitation, knight**: see the sbs.; so *Primrose associate, banner, circle, lady, literature*, etc.

1883 (*title*) Primrose League. 1886 Sir A. Borthwick in *19th Cent.* July 39 The badges are..an absolute introduction into all Primrose Circles. 1890 (*title*) A Little Primrose Knight, a story of the autumn of 1885, by a Primrose Dame. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Dec. 6/2 In the accompanying cartoon a Primrose dame is depicted fastening a primrose posy into Mr. Chamberlain's button-hole. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 8/1 Although Sir George Birdwood has never publicly claimed any credit in that direction, we are, we believe, not very wide of the mark in suggesting that he was the originator of 'Primrose Day'.

B. as *adj.* Of primrose colour.

1844 Willis *Lady Jane* II. 366 Serene in faultless boots and primrose glove. 1851 G. Meredith *Love in Valley* XXV, Soft new beech-leaves, up to beamy April Spreading bough on bough a primrose mountain.

[*Note.* The history of this word and its original application are obscure. The designation 'first' or 'earliest rose' is not very applicable to the flower, which in no respect resembles a rose in colour, form, or habit of growth. And if 'rose' be taken as vaguely synonymous with 'flower', the primrose is not manifestly the 'first flower' of spring. The same holds good of the F. *primevère* or cowslip, which flowers still later than the primrose. The L. *prima rosa* is not known before *c* 1450 (in *Alphita*: see Primula), which is later than the Eng. word. The It. *prima rosa*, in Florio, is of uncertain age. In OF., *primerose* is cited only from some MSS. of the *Geste des Lohérains*, and from *Perceval*, both of 12th c. The meaning is uncertain; though, as other MSS. of the *Lohérains* have the variant *primevoire* (mod.F. *primevère* cowslip), the flower meant may possibly have been the cowslip or the primrose. According to Bouillet *Dict. des Sciences* 1862–3, and Littré 1863–72, *primerose* is a synonym of *passe-rose*, popularly or locally applied to the Hollyhock, and to the Rose Campion (*Lychnis Coronaria*); but *primerose* is not recognized as an existing name of any flower in *La Flore des Jardins et du Champ* of Le Maoulet & Decaisse, 1855. Historical connexion between the OF. and the 15th c. Eng. word is thus uncertain. The original application in Eng. is obscure; the 15th c. vocabularies and glossaries use it to gloss *ligustrum*, a plant noted in Roman poets for its *white* flowers (now identified as the Privet, but by early glossists taken to be a herb); but as *ligustrum* is also glossed by *cowslepe, cowslope*, and one explanation of *prymrose* in Promp. Parv. is *primula* (and in Cath. Angl. *primula veris*), it is fairly certain that by the middle of the 15th c. *primrose* was applied to one or both species of *Primula*. By Palsgrave it is, like *prima rosa* in *Alphita*, identified with Primerole, which in parts of Normandy is now a name of the primrose. In Turner's *Libellus* and *Names of Herbes*, *primrose* is certainly a *Primula* and prob. the primrose; in Lyte, 1578, it is figured and is there clearly the primrose (though the 'cowslippe, oxelippe, and prymerose' are all included as 'kindes of Primeroses'). See also *Note* to Primula.]

Primro·se, *v.* [f. prec.: cf. Blackberrying *vbl. sb.* and Nut *v.* 1.] *intr.* To look for, or gather, primroses; esp. in phr. *to go* (*a*) *primrosing.* **b.** *humorously* (see prec. 8), To speak at or take part in Primrose League gatherings.

1830 Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. 301, I.. had gone to a copse primrosing. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 9 Sept. 4/2 Co-operative farming is a good deal better than 'primrosing'. 1888 *Manchester Courier* 19 Apr. 5/7 One section of the Unionist party went primrosing with Mr. Smith.

Primrosed (pri·mrōuzd), *a.* [f. Primrose *sb.* + -ed 2.] Abounding in primroses; covered or adorned with primroses.

1655 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint.* I. *Regeneration*, It was high-spring, and all the way Primrosed, and hung with shade. 1777 Warton *Hamlet* 35 Or through the primros'd coppice stray. 1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 714 On primrosed bank and brae.

Pri·mrose pee·rless. [See the two words.] †**1.** Originally used in the senses of the two words: A peerless or unrivalled primrose; usually *fig.*: see Primrose *sb.* 3. *Obs. rare.*

1523 Skelton *Garl. Laurel* 1447 This feloffer ientyll, this rose, this lylly flowre, This primerose pereles. 1542 Bale *Myst. Iniq.* (1545) D iv, Holye Thomas Becket wold sumtyme for his pleasure make a iournaye of pylgrymage to the prymerose peerlesse of Stafforde. [*c* 1580 Jefferie *Bugbears* I. ii. 31 in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897) XCVIII. 307 Old Brancatio hath a passing pereles primrose to his daughter.]

2. A name formerly given to the species of Narcissus, including the wild daffodil; now spec. to *Narcissus biflorus*, the two-flowered narcissus.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. l. 211 These pleasant flowers are called..in Latine, *Narcissus*..in Englishe, Narcissus, white Daffodill, and Primerose pierelesse. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* I. lxxv. § 15. 114 Generally all the kindes are comprehended vnder this name *Narcissus*, called..in English Daffodilly, Daffodowndilly, and Primerose peerelesse. 1599 — *Catal. Arb., Narcissus Pisanus*, Italian Daffodill, or Primerose peerelesse. 1629 Parkinson *Paradisus* 74 Bearing .. flowers..of a pale whitish Creame colour,..(which hath caused our Country Gentlewomen, I thinke, to entitle it Primrose Peerlesse). 1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* V. 237 This beautiful species, the Primrose-peerless of old writers. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Primrose peerless, *Narcissus biflorus.*

Primroser (pri·mrōuzəɹ). [f. Primrose *sb.* + -er 1.] **a.** One who seeks or gathers primroses. **b.** *Political slang.* An adherent of the Primrose League. So **Pri·mrosery, Pri·mrosism,** the principles and practice of the Primrose League.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 6 May 3/2 What in Dawson's day was figurative only has by the Primrosers been made literally true. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 683/2 The 'Liberal League for the Association of Men and Women' in fighting Primrosism. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Apr. 2/2 Primrosery is not so much a reasoned faith as a social cult.

Primrosy (pri·mrōuzi), *a.* [f. Primrose *sb.* + -y.] Abounding in or characterized by primroses; resembling a primrose, primrose-coloured.

1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. 47 (*Copse*) Primrosy is the epithet which this year will retain in my recollection. 1880 J. Hatton *Three Recruits* III. vi, April surely used to be a gayer, brighter, and more primrosy month..than it is now. 1882 Marg. Veley *Damocles* III. 39 A trifle pale... Almost primrosy, isn't it?

b. *humorous.* Of, pertaining to, or having the character of the Primrose League.

1890 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/5 Salvation will no more come to him by class legislation than it has reached him by doles ecclesiastical or Primrosy. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 16 July 66 The meeting was distinctly Primrosey in its enthusiasm and adornments.

Primsie (pri·mzi), *a. Sc. rare.* [f. Prim *a.*] Demure, formal, precise.

1785 Burns *Halloween* IX, Poor Willie, wi his bow-kail runt, Was brunt wi' primsie Mallie.

†**Primstaff.** *Obs.* Also 9 **primestaff**; *pl.* 7- **primstaves.** [Sw. *primstaf*, Norw. and Da. *primstav*, Icel. *prímstafr* (in text of *c* 1200), f. *prím* Prime *sb.*1 + *staf-r* stave, letter.] The Icelandic and Scandinavian name of a clog almanack. (Partly in Eng. form in Evelyn and Plot, and in mod. Dicts., but never in Eng. use.)

1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* (1769) 38 Runic writings, or engraven letters, as in their *rimstoc* or *primstaff.* 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 419 By the Norwegians ..[wooden Almanacks] are call'd Primstaves,..the principall..thing inscribed on them, being the Prime or golden number. *Ibid.* 420 The Primstaf of the Norwegians.

Primula (pri·miŭlă). *Bot.* [a. med.L. *prīmula*, fem. of *prīmul-us*, dim. of *prīm-us* first; originally in the name *prīmula vēris* 'little firstling of spring', applied by 1101 app. to the Cowslip, but at an early date also to the Field Daisy, perh. as an earlier spring flower, or because both plants were from their supposed virtues known as *herba paralysis*. Matthioli in 1565 confined *Primula veris* to the Cowslip; Linnæus adopted *Primula* as a generic name, and made *Primula veris* a species, including three subspecies, *P. veris officinalis* the Cowslip, *P. v. elatior* the (true) Oxlip, *P. v. acaulis* the Primrose; but these are now generally considered as three species. See Note below.]

A genus of herbaceous, mostly hardy, perennial plants, of low-growing habit, having radical leaves, and yellow, white, pink, or purple flowers mostly borne in umbels; chiefly natives of Europe and Asia, and cultivated in many varieties.

1753 Chambers *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The species of primula enumerated by Mr. Tournefort, are these [etc.]. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxvii. (1849) 303 On the lofty range of the Himalaya the primula, the convallaria, and the veronica blossom. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 3/1 The Primula, Anagallis, [etc.],..are the gayest of the genera, some of whose species are found in almost all gardens. 1882 *Garden* 18 Feb. 121/3 One of the finest varieties of the Chinese Primula yet produced..was shown.

[Note. *Primula veris* occurs *c* 1101 in *Regimen Sanitatis Salerni*, app. in a list of plants supposed to cure paralysis: 'Salvia, Castoriumque, Lavendula, Primula veris, Nasturtium, Armoracia, hæc sanant paralytica membra', in which *Primula veris* appears to mean the Cowslip, often called *Herba Paralysis.* But both names appear also to have been applied to other plants. Thus the *Sinonoma Bartholomei a* 1387 (*Anecd. Oxon.* 1882) has, p. 23, '*Herba paralisis*, i. couslop, alia est a primula veris'; also, '*Herba Sancti Petri*, primula veris idem'; and, p. 35, '*Primula veris*, herba Sti. Petri idem, solsequium idem, alia est ab herba paralisi'. *Alphita a* 1450 (*Anecd. Oxon.* 1887) identifies *Primula veris* with the common Field Daisy: thus (p. 146) '*Primula ueris*, prim. rosa idem, gall. et angl. primerole. Respice in *consolida minor.* (p. 45) *Consolida minor*, primula ueris idem, ossa fracta consolidat, gallice, le petite consoude, angl. dayseghe [*MS.* waysegle] uel bonwort uel brosewort. Respice in *uenti minor.* (p. 190) *Venti minor*, consolida minor idem, an. Bonwrt, a. dayesegh.' The difference of opinion is also hinted by Simon Januensis, *Clavis Sanationis* (*a* 1400, ed. Venice 1486) '*Passerella*, primula veris, herba paralisis idem, ut volunt quidam'. *Primula veris* was identified with the daisy in the *Ortus Sanitatis* (Augsb. 1486), and by the 16th c. botanists Brunsfels, Lonicerus, Tragus, and Fuchs, several of whom figure the plant. Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* 531 gives the name to both the daisy and the primrose. Hieronymus of Brunschwygk, 1531, says that there were three plants called *Herba paralysis*, of which *H. paralysis minor* was the Daisy, and *H. paralysis major* was *Primula veris.* Matthioli 1565 has 'Eas vulgaris notitiæ plantas, quæ quibusdam *Bractea cuculi* [cf. F. *coucou* cowslip], officinis *Primula veris*, Germanis *Claves Sancti Petri*, nonnullis *herba paralysis* appellantur', and figures the Cowslip as *Primula veris.* The names *Claves Sti. Petri, Herba Sti. Petri, St. Peter's wort*, and Ger. *Schlüsselblume*, are due to the resemblance of a cowslip head to a bunch of keys.]

Hence **Primula·ceous** *a.*, belonging to the natural order *Primulaceæ*, of which *Primula* is the typical genus; **Pri·mulin** *Chem.* [-in 1] (see quots.).

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 3/1 The *Primulaceous order consists of herbaceous plants inhabiting the temperate parts of the world, in moist situations. 1851 Glenny *Handbk. Fl. Gard.* 46 Pretty little plants of the primulaceous order. 1837 R. D. Thomson in *Brit. Ann.* 352 **Primulin.*—When the roots of the *primula veris* or cowslip are digested in water or spirit a bitter tincture is obtained—the spirituous solution deposits after a considerable time by spontaneous evaporation many small prismatic crystals—these are primulin mixed with some vegetable matter. 1897 *Naturalist* 45 An acrid principle called primulin.

‖ **Primum frigidum** (prəi·mŏm fri·dʒidŏm). *Obs.* [L., first cold.] Absolute or pure cold, which Parmenides (*c* 450 B. C.) accounted an elementary substance; the origin or source of cold.

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 69 The Earth being (as hath beene noted by some) *Primum Frigidum.* 1665 Boyle *Exp. Hist. Cold* xvii. § 2, I think, that, before men had so hotly disputed, which is the *Primum Frigidum*, they would have done well to inquire, whether there be any such thing or no.

‖ **Primum mobile** (prəi·mŏm mōu·bilē). [med. L., lit. 'first moving thing', L. *prīm-us* first, *mōbilis* movable: see Prime *a.* and Mobile *sb.*1 and *a.*

Primum mobile (also *primus motus, primus motor*) was an 11–12th c. rendering of the Arabic المحرك الأول *al-muharrik al-awwal*, the first mover or moving (thing), cited from Avicenna (*a* 1037) by Shahrastānī (*a* 1153). The L. occurs in Thomas Aquinas *Comment. in Aristot. De Cælo* II. ix. § 1, xv. § 7; also in John of Holywood (de Sacrobosco) 1256.]

1. The supposed outermost sphere (at first reckoned the ninth, later the tenth), added in the Middle Ages to the Ptolemaic system of astronomy, and supposed to revolve round the earth from east to west in twenty-four hours, carrying with it the (eight or nine) contained spheres. Cf. Mobile *sb.*1 1, and Movable *sb.* 1.

[1256 Joh. de Sacrobosco *Sphæra Mundi* (Paris *c* 1500) A ij, Sphera diuiditur..secundum substantiam in spheras novem, sc. Spheram nonam que primus motus siue primum mobile dicitur, et in spheram stellarum fixarum que firmamentum nuncupatur, et in septem spheras septem planetarum. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrolabe* I. § 17 This equinoxial is cleped the gyrdelle of the firste Moeuyng, or elles of the *angulus primi motus vel primi mobilis.*] 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* (1889) 26 Philosofirs puttyn qsperis vndirewritten; but Diuinis putten þe tenþe spere, where is heuyn empire,..in þe whiche is crist..and also owre lady, & seyntis þat arosen with criste. þe first sperе of þe 9 is clepid 'primum mobile', þe first mevabil thyng. 1559 W. Cunningham *Cosmogr. Glasse* 10 The .x. heauen or Primum mobile, comprehendeth the .ix. heauen callid also Cristalline. *Ibid.* 12 And that, which you call the eight heauen, they name primum mobile. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 13 The Motion of the Moon is..caused by the diurnal swiftness of the Primum Mobile. 1686 J. Dunton *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 18 He is always looking upwards; yet dares believe nothing above Primum Mobile, for 'tis out of the reach of his Jacob's Staff. 1690 Leybourn *Curs. Math.* 451 Others are of Opinion that they [comets] are fiery Meteors, generated of copious exhalations from the Earth and Sea,..elevated to the Supreme Region of the Air, and hurried about by the swift Motion of the *Primum Mobile.* 1733 P. Shaw tr. *Bacon's Nov. Org.* I. lx, Of the former kind [i. e. Names of Things that have no Existence] are such as Fortune, *the Primum Mobile*, the Orbs of the Planets, the Element of Fire, and the like Figments; which arise from imaginary false Theories. 1847 Ld. Lindsay *Sk. Chr. Art* I. p. xxxii, Beyond the region of fire.. succeeded the spheres of the seven planets;..the firmament, or eighth heaven;..the crystalline, or ninth heaven;..and the *primum mobile*, a void;—the whole continually revolving round the earth, and encompassed in their turn by the empyrean.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A prime source of motion or action; an original cause or spring of activity; a prime mover, mainspring. Cf. Mover 1 2 b, 3.

1612 G. CALVERT in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 191 You know the *primum mobile* of our court, by whose motion all the other spheres must move, or else stand still. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 98 An Engine so contrived that working the *Primum mobile* forward or backward, upward or downward, circularly or corner-wise, to and fro, streight, upright or downright, yet the pretended Operation continueth, and advanceth. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 207 My Son, keep thou ready Money in thy Pocket: this is the *primum Mobile* of all their Science of thriving. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. IX. ii. 216 Their religion, which the Mahommedans consider as the basis and primum mobile of political government. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 670 Each man's own satisfaction, interest, or happiness, is the primum mobile or the first spring of all his schemes and all his actions. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 285 Modified by the other known primum mobiles, or causes of motion and rest. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* XV. (1889) 255 There must, in every system of forces, be a 'primum mobile'.

‖ **Primus** (prəi·mŏs), *a.* and *sb.* [L. *prīmus* first: see PRIME *a.*]

A. *adj.* First (in time, age, order, or importance); original, earliest; chief, principal.

1. In Latin phrases, as *primus inter pares*, first among equals; *primus motor*, prime mover, the original source of motion or action; †*primus secundus* (lit. 'first second'), some game.

1813 J. ADAMS *Let. to Jefferson* 12 Nov., Mr. Dickinson was *'primus inter pares*, the beHwether, the leader of the aristocratical flock. 1887 *Athenæum* 16 Apr. 507/1 The sovereign, relatively, was but *primus inter pares*, closely connected by origin and intermarriage with a turbulent feudal nobility. *c* 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I. ii. Wks. (Rtldg.) 150/1 The plagues of Egypt, and the curse of heaven..Inflict upon them, thou great *Primus Motor! 1617 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 9 Now the *primus motor* of this feasting, Mr. Comptroller, is taking his leave of this town. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 11 You have said somewhat..concerning the last Parliament, somewhat of the *Primus motor*, and Divine Intelligence which enliv'd the same. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XI. x. (1886) 159 It [lottery] is a childish and ridiculous toie, and like unto childrens plaie at *'Primus secundus*, or the game called The philosophers table.

2. In some boys' schools, appended to the surname to distinguish the eldest (or the one who has been longest in the school) of those having the same surname. Cf. MAJOR *a.* 7 c.

1796 T. ROBBINS *Diary* (1886) I. 6 My classmate Romeyn *primus*, was, I hear, quite unwell. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iii, 'Mammy-sick', growled Barlow *primus*.

B. *sb.* In the Scottish Episcopal Church: The presiding bishop, who is chosen by the other bishops, and has certain ceremonial privileges, but no metropolitan authority. Hence **Pri·mus-ship**, the position or dignity of the primus.

1860 J. GARDNER *Faiths World* II. 830/2 Scottish Episcopal Church...One of the bishops is elected primus or chief bishop during pleasure, there having been no archbishops in Scotland since the Revolution. 1899 J. WORDSWORTH *Episcopate C. Wordsw.* v. 178, I wrote to the Primus, Bishop Gleig. *Ibid.* 156 The second [year] was the beginning of the reign of King George III, and of the Primus-ship of Bishop William Falconar.

Pri·mwort. *Bot.* [f. *prim-rose* or *prīm-ula* + WORT.] In *pl.* Lindley's name for the Natural Order, *Primulaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 644 The Order of Primworts. *Ibid.* 645 Primworts are uncommon within the tropics. 1866 in *Treas. Bot.* 927/2.

† Incorrectly stated by some to be an old name of the Privet or Primprint.

Primy (prəi·mi), *a. rare.* [f. PRIME *sb.* + -Y.] That is in its prime.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 7 A Violet in the youth of Primy Nature; Forward, not permanent; sweet not lasting. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 536 Sent forth..by those of powerful and primy manhood. [1842 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 142 The youth of primy nature is gone by.]

†**Prin.** *Sc. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Origin unknown.] Some appliance for catching fish.

1469 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 96/2 Fisch..ar distroyit be cowpis narow massis nettis prinnis set in to Reueris that has course to þe sey or set within þe flude merk of þe Seye. [1892 COCHRAN-PATRICK *Mediæval Scot.* vi. 70 The act of 1469 prohibiting the use of 'coups', narrow mesh nets, and prins in rivers running into the sea.]

Prin, obs. or dial. var. PREEN *sb.*, *v.*¹ and ².

†**Prina·do.** *Obs. slang.* [Origin obscure.

In form it might be a corruption of Sp. *preñada* 'pregnant woman'; but the sense does not favour this.]

? Some kind of female sharper or impostor.

1620 DEKKER *Dreame* (1860) 38 Base heapes tumbled together, who all yell'd Like bandogs tyed in kennels: high-way-standers, Foists, nips, and tylts, prinadoes, bawdes, pimpes, panders. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies* 12 You shall see him guarded with a Ianizarie of Costermongers, and Countrey Gooselings: while his Nipps, Ints, Bungs and Prinado's, of whom he holds in fee, ofttimes prevent the Lawyer by diving too deepe into his Clients pocket. 1658 — *Honest Ghost, Chym. Ape* 231 Flankt were my troups with bolts, bands, punks, and panders, Pimps, nips and ints, Prinado's.

Prince (prins), *sb.* Also 3–6 **prynce**, 4 **prince, pryns, prines, preins**, 4–6 **prins**(e, 6 **prynse**, *Sc.* **prence.** [a. F. *prince* (12th c. in Littré) = Pr. *prince*, ad. L. *princeps, -cip-em* adj., first; as *sb.* the first or principal person, a chief, leader, sovereign, prince; f. *prīm-us* first, PRIME *a.* + *-cip-*, from *capĕre, -cipĕre* to take.

As applied in sense 1, it prob. came down from Roman usage under the principate and empire: see PRINCEPS, and cf. Hor. C. I. 2. 50, Ovid P. I. 2. 23, Tac. A. I. 1.]

I. In primary general sense.

1. A sovereign ruler; a monarch, king. Now *arch.* or *rhetorical.*

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 2 Of þat heðene folc patriarke ant prince. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 578 Ða onswerede þe an swiðe prudeliche, þus, to þe prude prince. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 20/32 He dude him sone bringue To þe prince of Engelond Apelston þe kyngue. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 811 God by-seche þ to saue þe souerayne prinse. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 375 Seculer lordis, pryncis of þe worlde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7371 Then partid the prinsis, and the prise dukes. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* XV. 7 Preued þat a prins without-outen pere. 1536 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 498 We most umbly desyre youre grase to be oure solester to oure prynse. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion, Prayer Ch. Mil.*, We beseche thee also to saue and defende all Christian Kynges, Princes, and Gouernoures. *a* 1555 LYNDESAY *Tragedy* 344 Imprudent Prencis but discretioun, Hauyng in erth power Imperiall. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Empire* (Arb.) 308 Princes are like the heavenly bodyes which cause good, or evill tymes, and which have much veneration, but noe rest. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 398 These animals are often sent as presents to the princes of the east. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* I. (1904) 29 In the good old times..noblemen passed from Court to Court, seeking service with one prince or another. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 738/1 The emperor of Russia, the queen of England, and the king of the Belgians are equally princes or monarchs, and the consorts of emperors or kings are princesses.

†**b.** Applied to a female sovereign. *Obs.*

1560 GESTE *Serm.* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 191 Let us low our prince [Q. Eliz.],..nothing thinking sayeng or doyng that may turne to hyr dyshonor, prayeng all way for hyr long and prosperus reigne. 1562 *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 13 *Preamble*, The Reigns of the late Princes King Philip and Queen Mary. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 29 Yea, the Prince,..as she hath most of yearely Reuenewes,.. so should shee haue most losse by this dearth. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 29 Cleopatra, prince of Nile. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 511 Another most mighty Prince Mary Queene of Scots. 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* II. 37 They had now been governed by female Princes for forty years together.

c. In phrases and proverbs: see quots.

1589 GREENE *Spanish Masquerado* Wks. (Grosart) V. 266 The iolly fellowes that once in England liued like Princes in their Abbeies and Frieries. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 1 Nov., We came to Sir W. Batten's, where he lives like a prince. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* Jan. 33/2 If I..would send..a pound of good tobacco, I should make her husband as happy as a Prince. 1868 YATES *Rock Ahead* III. iii, 'Princes and women must not be contradicted', says the proverb.

†**2.** One who has the chief authority; a ruler, commander, governor, president; also, the head man, chief, or leader of a tribe: cf. DUKE 1 c. *Obs.*

Prince of prtests, chief priest, high priest.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Hire ueader & hire breðren, se noble princes alse heo weren, vtlawes imakede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16903 Þe prince o preistes o þair lagh went to þat monument. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 218 And pryde shal be pope, prynce of holycherche. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* ii. 6 Thou, Bethlem,..thou art nat the leste in the princis of Juda. 1382 — *Acts* iv. 23 The princes [1388 the princis of preestis] and eldere men seiden to hem. *Ibid.* xviii. 8 Crispe..prince of the synagoge, bileuyde to the Lord. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 106 Whiche Iacob hadde .xij. sones that were the princes of .xij. lynages. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxvi. 40 Thus are the princes of Esau called in their kynreds, places & names. 16.. in *Longfellow's M. Standish* App., It is incredible how many wounds these two prinses, Peckssuot and Wattawamat, received before they died.

†**b.** A literal rendering of *princeps* in the Vulgate (Gr. ἀρχή) where the English Authorized and Revised Versions have 'principality'. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ephes.* vi. 12 For stryuynge is not to vs aȝens fleisch and blood, but aȝens the princes [L. *principes*, Gr. ἀρχαί] and potestatis, aȝens gouernours of the world of thes derknessis. [TINDALE, CRANMER, etc. rule; *Geneva* rulers; *Rheims* Princes, 1611 principalities.]

3. One who or that which is first or pre-eminent in a specified class or sphere; the chief, the greatest. Cf. KING *sb.* 6.

c 1275 *Serving Christ* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* 91 Seynte peter wes prynce and pyned is on rode. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* iv. 306 Þat oþer feend of onde [envy] Hys pryns and cheuetayn. 13.. *Cursor M.* 28071 (Cott.), I will first at pride be-gin, þat prince es of all oþer sin. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* v, One named Hugh prynce of the medycyns sawe a catte whiche had two hedes. 1583 FULKE *Defence* x. Wks. (Parker Soc.) 381 As though you were prince of the *Critici* or *Areopagitae*. *a* 1638 CLEVELAND *Elegy B. Jonson* 1 Poet of Princes, Prince of Poets (we, If to Apollo, well may pray to thee). 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 373 Des Cartes, the Prince of Philosophy in this Age. 1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* viii. 47 Sir Christopher Wren,..the prince of architects. 1799 C. WINTER *Let.* in W. Jay *Mem.* (1843) 28 Mr. Toplady called him [Whitefield] the prince of preachers. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 527/2 Gray is a prince of letter-writers. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 2/1 The prince of Australian reptiles is the black snake.

4. a. Applied to Christ, esp. in the phrase *prince of peace.* **b.** Applied to an angel or celestial being of high rank; sometimes (in *pl.*) = PRINCIPALITY 5. (Cf. 2 b, above.) **c.** Applied to Satan in the phrases *prince of the air, darkness, evil, fiends, the world*, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9317 'Princs o pees' sal man him call. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 1084 Parfor God him [the devil] prince of þe world calles. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* ix. 6 Fadir of the world to come, Prince of Pes. — *Dan.* x. 13 Mychael, oon of the first princis, came in to myn help. *Ibid.* 21 No man is myn helper in alle these thingis, no bot Mihel, your prince. — *John* xii. 31 Now is dom of the world, now the prince of this world schal be cast out. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 295 So his sawle was broght vnto þe prince of Hell syttand opon þe pytt bra. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 3 That..Princes should be so misguided by the Prince of the ayr. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. iii. 16 Impious Warre, Arrayed in flames like to the Prince of Fiends. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. v. 44 The blacke prince sir, alias the prince of darkenesse, alias the diuell. *c* 1800 COLERIDGE *Christmas Carol*, Peace, Peace on Earth! the Prince of Peace is born. 1854 FABER *Oratory Hymns, St. Michael*, Hail, bright Archangel! Prince of Heaven! 1861 R. M. BENSON *Hymn, 'Praise to God Who reigns above'*, Thrones, Dominions, Princes, Powers, Marshall'd Might that never cowers.

II. Specific uses.

5. *spec.* The ruler of a principality or small state actually, nominally, or originally, a feudatory of a king or emperor.

In origin, app. a use of sense 2, describing a ruler who had no recognized title such as duke count, etc. First used of Italian and Welsh, subseq. of German and other rulers of petty states. The rulers of Wales, or its divisions, down to the 11th c., bore the title of 'king' (*brenhin, rex*); then the title sank to 'prince' (*tywysog, princeps*).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11484 Lewelin prince of walis robbede mid is route. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 287 Kyng John mariede his baast dou3ter to Lewelyn prince of Wales. 1432–50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 438 A soore batelle was hade..betwene Edward prince of Aquitanny and Henricus Bastarde occupyenge the crowne of Speyne. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref., How he [Luther]..pleaded his own cause, before themperour and counsell of princes. *Ibid.* 54 b, The Princes that were of the confederacie and league of Sweland..were these, Cesar as Prince of Austriche [etc.]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 193 Not onely the Emperour, but also many Princes of Germany..haue Kingly power in their owne Dominions, and these absolute Princes are so many in number, as a passenger in each dayes iourney, shall observe one or two changes of Prince, Money and Religion. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Prince* is also used for a person who is sovereign in his own territory; yet holds from some other, as his superior or lord, and pays homage or tribute to him. Thus all the princes of Germany are feudatories of the Emperor. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 371 The hostility of the most able and prudent of all the princes of the empire was provoked. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 738/2 Princes regarded as the political chiefs of states are inferior to emperors and kings, and not necessarily superior to reigning grand-dukes or dukes. 1885 *Whitaker's Alm.* 314/2 Bulgaria. Prince, Alexander (of the House of Hesse)...The Principality of Bulgaria is under the suzerainty of Turkey. 1890 *Ibid.* 511/1 Waldeck. Prince, George Victor, Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont. 1900 *Ibid.* 456/1 Native States of India...The States are governed by their native Princes, Ministers, or Councils, with the help and under the advice of a political officer of the Supreme Government. 1905 *Ibid.* 595/1 Lippe, Principality of. Reigning Prince, Charles Alexander.

6. A male member of a royal family; *esp.* in Great Britain, a son or grandson of a king or queen. Also called *prince of the blood* (*royal*) (BLOOD *sb.* 9). *Prince Consort*, the husband of a reigning female sovereign being himself a prince.

In this sense originating in the title *Prince of Wales*, which, in the first instance, was simply a continuation of sense 5, as title of the deposed native Welsh princes; but being, from the reign of Edward III, customarily conferred upon the eldest surviving son of the King or Queen of England, came to be associated with this relationship. The Prince of Wales was at first the only 'prince' in England (see quot. 1577); but in the reign of James I 'prince' was extended to all the sons of the sovereign, and under Victoria (with 'princess') to all the grandchildren, being children of sons (quot. 1885). After the example of England, the equivalent of 'prince' has been given, with some addition, to the heir-apparent to the throne in various countries, as *crown-prince* in Germany, Sweden, Denmark, and Japan, *prince imperial* in the French Empire of 1852–70, *Prince of Asturias* in Spain, *Prince of Piedmont* in Italy, etc. In most of these countries the title of prince is also given to male members of the reigning family. (This sense may have been partly influenced by Roman usage under the empire, in which the title *princeps juventutis* 'chief' or 'prince of the youth', which was bestowed by the Equites upon the two grandsons of Augustus, was afterwards customarily conferred upon the probable successor to the throne on his first entry into public life.)

c 1305 *Flem. Insurr.* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 194 3e[f] the Prince of Walis his lyf habbe mote. 1455 E. CLERE in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 5 The Queen..brought my Lord Prynce [of Wales] with her. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 433 Edwarde sonne of kynge Edwarde, prince of Wales, saylede to Caleys. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 32 b, The prince his sonne..entered into the chamber and toke away the crowne. *Ibid.*, Leuyng behind him by the lady Marie .. Henry prince of Wales, Thomas duke of Clarence [etc.]. *Ibid., Hen. VIII* 9 On Newyeres daye, the first day of Ianuary, the Quene was deliuered of a Prince. 1563, etc. [see BLACK PRINCE]. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) I. 106 The title of prince dooth peculiarlie belong to the kings eldest sonne. .. The kings yoonger sonnes be but gentlemen by birth (till they haue receiued creation of higher estate, to be either viscounts, earles, or dukes) and called after their names, as lord Henrie, or lord Edward. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 83 Health to my Soueraigne,..Prince Iohn, your Sonne, dothe kisse your Graces Hand. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 60, I am, in my condition A Prince (Miranda), I do thinke a King. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 13, I haue seru'd Prince Florizell,.. but now I am out of seruice. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 178 After the Conquest, no speciall title more then *Primogenitus filius Regis* was for the Prince, vntill the name of Prince of Wales came to him. 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* I. iv, Next unto the princes of the blood, The eyes of all are fixed on you. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. vii. 102 Prince George, Hereditary Prince of Denmark and Norway. *Ibid.* 103 By the Articles of Marriage, he is declared to be

received as one of the Princes of the Blood-Royal of England. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 4 When we speak of the Prince, we intend his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales. 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIX. 513/2 The husband of a queen regnant, as Prince George of Denmark was to Queen Anne, is her subject. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 738/2 In England..it was considered necessary only about a quarter of a century ago to make express provision by royal authority that the titles of 'prince' and 'princess' should be enjoyed by the children of the sons as well as by the sons and daughters of any sovereign of the United Kingdom. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 9 Nov. 3/1 Dukes of Cornwall, like poets, are born; but the King alone can make a Prince of Wales.

7. The English rendering of a title of nobility in some foreign countries, which, in Germany (when representing *Fürst*), France, Italy, Belgium, Holland, now ranks next below *duke*: see quot. 1885.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The moment a pope is elected, all his relations become princes. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 2 Welcome, ye Princes and Cardinals, pillars of the church. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 275 Prince Gabriel de Gagarin. This Prince held a high office at Moscow,—that of 'Procureur de Senat'. 1885 *Whitaker's Alm.* 322/1 The German Empire...Chancellor, Otto, Prince Bismarck. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 739/1–2 In Germany and Austria the title of 'prince' is represented by 'Prinz' when it appertains to the members of imperial and royal families..and by 'Fürst' when it appertains to the members of..noble families...According to its identification with 'Prinz' or 'Fürst' it is a higher or lower dignity than 'Herzog' (duke). *Ibid.*, In Spain and Portugal we are not aware that the title of 'prince' has ever been conferred on a subject outside of the royal family except in the well-known case of Godoy, Prince of the Peace.

b. Applied as a title of courtesy in certain connexions to a duke, marquis, or earl.

1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. iii. 273 *Duke*...His Title is Grace; and being written unto may be Stiled, Most High, Potent and Noble Prince...*Marquis*...His Title is Most Noble, Most Honourable, and Potent Prince. 1851 *Burke's Peerage* Introd. 12 He [an earl or marquis] bears also, upon some occasions, the title of 'Most Noble and Puissant Prince'. 1898 *Whitaker's Titled Persons* Introd. 10 A Duke is styled 'Most Noble', or more commonly 'Your Grace'; but in very formal language he can be spoken of as 'The Most High, Potent, and Noble Prince'. *Ibid.* 11 The style of a Marquess is 'Most Honourable', not 'Most Noble', though it is stated that in some formal descriptions both he and an Earl may be termed 'Most Noble and Puissant Prince'.

c. *Prince of the (Holy Roman) Church*, a title applied to a Cardinal.

[1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. x. 251 Cardinals..have the rank of princes in the Church.] 1901 WALKER & BURROW *Cal. Newman* x. 145 His body was laid in state with the insignia of a Prince of the Holy Roman Church.

III. Transferred applications.

† 8. Applied to a queen-bee. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* v. (1623) N ij, I obserued once, that the Prince being scarce ready, fell downe from the stoole vnable to recouer hir wings, whereupon the swarme returned. She being put into the Hiue, the next day the swarme rose againe and setled.

† 9. *Chess.* = BISHOP *sb.* 5. *Obs. rare.*

1562 ROWBOTHUM *Play Cheasts* A iv, The Bishoppes some name Alphins, some fooles, and some name them Princes. *Ibid.* A vj, Of the Bishop or Archer...The Spaniardes named him prince..for he is nerer vnto the King and the Quene then any other of the Cheastmen.

IV. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

10. a. appositive, 'that is a prince': as *prince-abbot, -angel, -duke, -god, -infanta, -poet, -pope, -priest, -primate, -teacher.* See also PRINCE-BISHOP, -ELECTOR, REGENT.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* x. 19 Whether the King would allow him place, as a Prince-Infanta within the Cloth of State. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lix. (1674) 76 Apollo..created him Prince-Poet, and..gave him the Royal Ensigns used to be given to Poets-Laureat. 1679 C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 92 That Prince-fowl of the air, the Devil. 1865 T. F. KNOX tr. *Life H. Suso* 28 As if he were a prince-angel. 1866–7 BARING-GOULD *Cur. Myths Mid. Ages, Prester John* (1894) 47 The papal epistle..assures the Eastern Prince-Pope that his Christian professions are worthless, unless he submits to the successor of Peter. 1897 Prince-abbot [see PRINCE-BISHOP]. 1908 H. A. L. FISHER *Bonapartism* iii. 54 'Monsieur L'Abbé', said Napoleon to Dalberg, the subservient prince-primate.

b. simple attributive, 'of a prince, princely', as *prince-dish, -humour*; objective and obj. genitive, etc., as *prince-killer, -pleaser, -queller, †-treacher, -worship*; *prince-killing* adj.; instrumental, etc., as *prince-fit, -graced, -loyal, -protected, -proud, -ridden, -trodden* adjs.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Wood-man's Bear* xxxvii, In the Crofte so faire and pleasant, Harbour of the *Prince-dish Pheasant. 1614 — *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 197 From Powdred Tresses, from forc't Apish Graces, From *Prince-fit Pompe. 1591 — *Du Bartas* I. vi. 655 Through Newbery, and *Prince-grac't Aldermaston. 1602 FITZHERB. *Apol.* 39 For manquellars and *princekillers, traytours, and homicides. 1595 *Polimanteia* (1881) 57 A Queene..more valiant then *prince-killing Judith. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Miracle of Peace* xxxiv, Th'yerst most *Prince-loyal people..Are now *Prince-treachers. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. viii. (Arb.) 32 Poesie was a delicate arte, and the Poets them selues cunning *Princepleasers. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 135 b, The people..found out the *princequellers, and theim brought to straight prisone. *Ibid.* [see REGICIDE[1] 1]. 1652 *Persuasive to Compliance* 16 His poor *prince-trodden people.

11. Combinations with *prince's*; **prince's cord,** ? a fabric resembling corduroy; **prince's mixture,** a kind of snuff: see quot. 1858; **prince's pine,** (*a*) the Grey Pine, *Pinus Banksiana*; (*b*) = PIPSISSEWA; **prince's stuff,** a corded textile material, ? = *prince's cord.* Also PRINCE'S FEATHER, METAL.

1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 240 White *Prince's-cord breeches. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 124 A little rappee or *prince's mixture added by way of Sauce. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Prince's-mixture*, a dark kind of snuff so called, which is scented with otto of roses. 1891 *Lancet* 3 Oct. 772/1 Liquor kava kava..composition, kava kava.., *prince's pine.., golden seal.., tag alder.., and uva ursi. 1814 *Hist. Univ. Oxford* II. 261 The gown of Bachelor of Arts is made of *prince's stuff, with a full sleeve. 1825 in *Hone's Every-day Bk.* I. 1334 The lord mayor of London..the household now all wear black gowns,..made of prince's stuff faced with velvet.

12. Phraseological combinations: *Prince Rupert's drop*: see DROP *sb.* 10 b; also *fig.*; *Prince Rupert's* (erron. *Robert's*) *metal* = PRINCE'S METAL.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3121/4 The Drops known by the name of *Prince Rupert's Drops. 1849 DANA *Geol.* iii. (1850) 180 Nearly as brittle as a Prince Rupert's drop. 1878 EMERSON *Misc. Papers, Fort. Rep.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 395 In Mr. Webster's imagination the American Union was a huge Prince Rupert's drop..which will snap into atoms if so much as the smallest end be shivered off. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 170 The Buttons we wear..said to be made of *Prince Robert's Mettal. 1789 *Chambers' Cycl.* s. v. *Zinc*, Compositions or alloys called tombac, similor, pinchbeck, and Prince's metal...The English..called their invention Prince's metal, or Prince Rupert's metal. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Prince Rupert's Metal*, an alloy for cheap jewelry,..composed of copper, 75; zinc 25.

Prince (prins), *v.* ? *Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* with *it*: To play the prince, carry oneself as a prince. Also *refl.*

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* i. 103 I'll to the court, and I'll prince it out. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iii. 85 Nature prompts them In simple and lowe things, to Prince it, much Beyond the tricke of others. 1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 100 Whose Principles are to Prince themselves, and precipitate al sorts. 1658 J. HARRINGTON *Pop. Govt.* II. v, A Metropolitan..with whom nothing will agree but Princeing of it in the Senat.

Princeage (pri·nsédʒ). *rare.* [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -AGE.] Princes collectively.

1846 WORCESTER cites *Month. Rev.*

Pri·nce-bi·shop. A bishop who is also a prince (sense 5); also one who (as in certain cases in Germany) enjoyed the temporal possessions and authority of a bishopric, with princely rank (= Ger. *Fürst-bischof*: see PRINCE *sb.* 7).

1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. § 3. 321 Durham..with its highest point crowned not only by the minster, but by the vast castle of the Prince-Bishop. 1879 *Whitaker's Alm.* 63 Family of Geo. III...2. Frederick, born 16th Aug., 1763, was at the age of six months declared Prince-bishop of Osnaburgh. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 469/2 Breslau (where the archbishop has the title of prince-bishop). 1883 H. A. WEBSTER *ibid.* XVI. 781/2 (*Montenegro*) The people chose their bishop as their chief. Prince-bishops or vladykas, elected by the people, continued to lead them..till 1697. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* v. (ed. 3) 69 The Prince-Bishops and other small German potentates. 1897 FLÜGEL, etc. *Eng. & Germ. Dict., Fürst-abt, -bischof..* prince-abbot, prince-bishop, sovereign bishop (of princely rank, and bearing the title of prince).

Pri·nce-craft. *rare.* [f. PRINCE *sb.* + CRAFT, after *priestcraft.*] The skill or art of a prince or ruler. Chiefly *dyslogistic.*

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 3 Princecraft or Priestcraft. 1862 MCDUFF *Sunsets Heb. Mount.* 105 By consummate art, or rather by unprincipled princecraft, he had undermined his father's throne.

Princedom (pri·nsdəm). [f. as prec. + -DOM.]

1. The state or country ruled over by a prince; a principality.

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* 39 He that shall consider the partes of Europe, shall finde it to haue been full of common weales, and of princedomes,..constrained to kepe liuely the warlike orders. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 49 [They] are likely also to draw in the Princedome of Transilvania. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 573 Those frontier parts of their Princedomes. 1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* III. i, To me he portions forth the princedoms, Glatz And Sagan. 1876 L. TOLLEMACHE in *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 119 About as populous as the princedom of Monaco.

2. The position, rank, or dignity of a prince; princehood; princely power or sovereignty.

1560 WHITEHORNE *Arte Warre* 108 b, He then that despiseth these studies, if he be a Prince, despiseth his Princedome. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. x. 44 Next Archigald, who for his proud disdayne Deposed was from princedome soverayne. 1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 11 The princedome and double portion are generally acknowledged to belong to the birthright. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* VII. vi. (1864) IV. 197 Some of all ranks up to princedoms. 1871 *Echo* 13 Dec., The abeyance of the Princedom of Wales.

b. The personality of a prince. *rare.*

1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xvi, So please your princedom, I have yet far to go. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 542 A gigantic carter..challenged his princedom to box.

3. = PRINCIPALITY 5.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* III. 320 Under thee as Head Supream Thrones, Princedoms, Powers, Dominions I reduce. 1814 CARY *Dante* (Chandos) 239 In one orb we roll, One motion, one impulse, with those who rule Princedoms in heaven. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* Poems 1850 I. 18 The angelic hosts, the archangelic pomps, Thrones, dominations, princedoms, rank on rank. 1899 C. E. CLEMENT *Angels in Art* 26 The Princedoms and Powers of Heaven are represented by rows and groups of angels.

Pri·nce-ele·ctor. (= Ger. *Kurfürst.*) One of the princes who elected the Holy Roman (German) Emperor; = ELECTOR 3. Hence **Pri·nce-ele·ctorship,** the office or dignity of a prince-elector.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref., To the most excellent Prince Augustus, Prince Electour, Duke of Saxon [etc.]. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Ivstine* L l v, Ferdinandus brother of Charles, was consecrate Emper. in the towne of Francfort, by the Princes electors. 1624 *Aphorisms of State* in *Harl. Misc.* (1810) V. 511 Maximilian, the Duke of Bavaria, for the establishing the state of his prince-electorship, hath sought unto the authority of the apostolical seat. 1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. (1847) 352/2 The emperour of Germany never was summoned to appear before one of the prince electors. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 57 When the prince-electors proceeded to the vote, they swore that 'according to the best of their understanding, they would choose the temporal head of all Christian people, *i.e.* a Roman king and future emperor'.

† Pri·ncehead. *Obs.* [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -HEAD.]

a. = PRINCEHOOD 1. **b.** = PRINCEDOM 2 b.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxix. 2 Whan vnpitous men han taken princehed [1388 prinshod] the puple shal weilen. 1382 — 1 *Cor.* xv. 24 He schal auoyde al princehede, and power, and vertu. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 4 The prophecyes..maist worthy be verifyit in 3our maist noble and worthy princehede. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/2 A Prynsehede, *archia, principatus.* 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 1 Ane nobill buke his princeheid for to pleis.

Princehood (pri·nshud). [f. as prec. + -HOOD.]

1. The condition, dignity, or dominion of a prince or ruler. Now *rare.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* xi. 27 The kyng..ordeynide to hym princehod [1388 prinsehod] of presthod. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 132 But Sum Pryncis ther bene, that.. by coloure of har Pryncehode and coloured defense of the commyn Pepill, takyn atte har talent trew men goodis. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 98 b, Promisyng and behightyng, by the faith of his body and worde of his princehode. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* I. iii. 142 Their chiefdom or princehood ought to stand in the loue of such as are vnder them. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 23 Sept. 3/6 The feeling used to prevail that the Princehood should be limited to the great historical families.

† b. = PRINCEDOM 1. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* IV. (1567) 405 Pipinus..gaue the Pope the Exarchate, or Princehoode of Rauenna.

† 2. a. An order of angels or other spiritual beings: = PRINCIPALITY 5. **b.** Each of the three celestial hierarchies: = HIERARCHY 1. *Obs. rare.*

1388 WYCLIF *Col.* i. 16 Ether trones, ether dominaciouns, ether princehodes, ethir poweris. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 119 So are the nyne orders of aungels departed in thre pryncehoodes, as in thre hoostes.

Princeite (pri·nsəit). Name of a small religious sect: see quots.

1874 in J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects.* 1902 *Daily Chron.* 9 Sept. 5/2 The Princeites, in whose Ark of the Covenant at Clapton on Sunday evening the Second Coming of Christ was claimed to be realised, are the disciples of the late Rev. Henry James Prince. *Ibid.*, The..tenets of the Princeites and the rumoured life of the Agapemone were severely criticised by Hepworth Dixon in his 'Spiritual Wives', in 1868.

Princekin (pri·nskin). [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -KIN.] A little, young, or diminutive prince. (Usually jocose or belittling.)

1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* liii, Every one of us..can point to the Princekins of private life who are flattered and worshipped. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. ii. I. 25 There have already been two little Princekins, who are both dead. 1894 DU MAURIER *Trilby* II. 141 This genial, dainty, benevolent little princekin.

Pri·nceless, *a. rare.* [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a prince; having no prince.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Rutland* (1662) II. 347 This County is Princeless, I mean affords no Royal Nativities.

Princelet (pri·nslĕt). [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -LET.] A little or petty prince; the ruler of a small principality.

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 73 (1713) II. 196 The Princelet..employ'd his Emissaries to enjoyn all his Dependents to make their whole strength against the Lovers of the King and Government. 1850 KINGSLEY *Alt. Locke* xxxii, German princelets might sell their country piecemeal to French or Russian! 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 325 Lessing..was librarian of one of those petty princelets who sold their subjects to be shot at in America. 1882 *Athenæum* 9 Dec. 767/2 Negotiations..with single Italian princelets like Sigismondo Malatesta.

† Pri·ncelihood. *Obs. rare.* [f. PRINCELY *a.* + -HOOD.] Princely condition or state.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 479 Whatsoeuer he had, making for honour and princelihood, that hee forsooke.

Princelike (pri·nslaik), *a.* (*adv.*) [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -LIKE.] Like or resembling a prince; characteristic of or suitable to a prince; princely, royal.

1532 HERVET *Xenophon's Househ.* (1768) 56 He that can make them maisters, can make them princelyke, and able to be kinges. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 33 They interteined their gestes after a barbaros and beastly maner, which..semed to them princelike. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 434 b, Crafts and policies, neither commendable nor princelike. 1625 BACON *Char. Jas. I* in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1659) I. 158 Your Majestie's manner of Speech is indeed Prince-like. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 498 Thou dost not seem the worst Of all the Greeks, but Prince-like and the first. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* ii, I have outlived the kindest and most princelike of masters.

† B. *adv.* In a princely manner; like a prince.

1567 DRANT *Horace Epist.* xix. F vij, I euer set my fotestepps fre princelike where none had gone. 1660–1 PEPYS

Diary 12 Jan., I went home with Mr. Davis, storekeeper.. and was there most prince-like lodged. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 545 Thro' these Princelike his bearing shone.

Princeliness (pri·nslinés). [f. PRINCELY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being princely.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlv. 17 The princeleynesse.. consisteth not in the persons of men, but is referred to the head. 1637 BASTWICK *Litany* 1. 5 By his princlynesse and royall munificence they haue such power. 1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 1 Feb. 65/2 You have a certain indescribable air of Princeliness. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 66 The ridiculous princeliness of their state-room.

Princeling (pri·nslin). [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -LING[1].]

1. A little or young prince.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Panaretus* 4 To see our Princeling with a name indewed. 1745 YOUNG *Rest. Public Situation Kingd.* 161 Shall a pope-bred princeling crawl ashore, Replete with venom? 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 367 No new born princeling ever came into the world at so ill-omened a period for royalty.

2. A petty prince; the ruler of an insignificant principality.

1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 179 Leagued with these Each petty German princeling, nursed in gore! 1874 FARRAR *Christ* lx. II. 372 Herod Antipas .. this petty princeling drowned in debauchery and blood. 1876 GREEN *Stray Stud.* 64 His army reminds one of the famous war establishment of the older German princelings.

Princely (pri·nsli), *a.* [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -LY[1].]

1. Of, pertaining, or belonging to a prince or princes (in various senses); held or exercised by a prince; royal, regal, kingly.

1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 118 He did thame ressaif with princely laitis. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 59/1 She said also yᵗ it was not princely to mary hys owne subiect. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. ii. 37 The Prince..is lesse frequent to his Princely exercises then formerly he hath appeared. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 439 The Bull's head was esteemed a princely hieroglyphic. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. III. iv. 119 To destroy the Council of Regency, which Hutten looked upon as the representative of the princely power. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 177 Among the princely houses of Western Europe.

2. That is a prince; of princely descent or royal rank; royal, kingly.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 19 Too this princelye regent [Æolus] her suit ladie Iuno thus opned. 1594 *1st Pt. Contention* (1843) 5 We thank you all for this great favour done In entertainment to my Princely Queen. 1769 GRAY *Installation Ode* 42 Princely Clare, And Anjou's heroine. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxiii, The Constable's lodgings received the owner and his princely guest. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. § 3. 321 The sovereign powers enjoyed by the princely churchmen of the Empire.

3. Like a prince, princelike; having the appearance, manner, or qualities of a prince; dignified, stately, noble.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxviii. 49 Thy famous Maire, by pryncely governaunce,.. the rulith prudently. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. iii. (1634) 128 God .. furnisheth those with a Princely nature whom he appointeth to beare governement. 1588 *Copy of Letter*, etc. in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 75 Praising her for her stately person and princely behaviour. 1793 BURKE *Rem. Policy Allies* Wks. VII. 149 His conversation is open,..his manners graciousand princely. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxii, I see him yet, the princely boy! 1871 M. COLLINS *Mrg. & Merch.* II. i. 3 A merchant might be princelier than he.

transf. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 188 He was a princely old stag, carrying splendid horns and a beautiful coat of new hair.

4. Like that of a prince; befitting or fit for a prince; sumptuous, magnificent, munificent.

1539 *Act* 31 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 A goodly sumptuous beautifull and princely manour, decent & convenient for a king. 1555 EDEN *Decades* To Rdr. (Arb.) 49 Yet gaue he a greate parte of his glory to that princely buyldynge. 1614 LATHAM (*title*) Falconry or The Faulcons Lure and Cure: in two bookes,..published for the delight of noble mindes, and instruction of young Faulconers in things pertaining to this Princely Art. 1677 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Sept., My Lord..is given to no expensive vice but building, and to have all things rich, polite, and princely. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 372/1 The Jacobs Staff..is a Princely Instrument being set forth in its Perfection. 1838 JAMES *Robber* ii, The estates are princely. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 183 Princeliest galleys bedropped the main, bound outward or inward. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Nov. 6/1, I am told in the newspapers that Sir E— G—'s gift of £250,000 is 'princely'.

5. *Comb.*, as *princely-loyal, -proud.*

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captains* 1268 O Peers, Princely-loyall Paladines. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 158 Her own true Gareth was too princely-proud To pass thereby.

Pri·ncely, *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY[2].] In the manner of or befitting a prince; royally.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 234 The kyng..answered to hys wordes so soberly, so graueliye, and so princely, that the Frenchmen their at not a littell mused. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 25 Thou shalt live princely, thou shalt injoy pleasures. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xxi. (1713) 154 Some Vertuous and Beautiful Virgin, Royally descended and Princely attired. 1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* I. 104 Georgy did go it till he got (according to the vulgar idiom) princely drunk. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* I. 169 She would have gone to Rome..and lived princely there for less than it took to live respectably in Boston.

‖ Princeps (pri·nseps), *a.* and *sb.* Pl. **pri·ncipes** (-sipīz). [L. *princeps* adj., first, chief; as sb. first man, first person, head man, chief, prince; f. *prīm-us* first + *-cep-s*, *-cip-* f. *capĕre* to take.]

A. *adj.* First, original; *spec.* of a book, from L. phrase *editio princeps* original edition.

1809 FERRIAR *Bibliomania* 6 The Princeps-copy, clad in blue and gold. 1815 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 86/2 No editio princeps of any classic. 1889 JACOBS *Aesop* 20 Eight complete editions appeared within a year of the *princeps*.

b. Also frequent in L. phr. *facile princeps* (Cicero), indisputably the first or chief.

B. *sb.*

1. The title under which Augustus Cæsar and his successors exercised supreme authority in the Roman Empire: now generally used by historians instead of *Emperor* (which, in its L. form *imperator*, originally denoted military command) to describe the constitutional position of the head of the state.

Formerly supposed to be for *princeps senatus* first man of the senate; now generally held to be for *princeps civitatis* first person of the city or state.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 382/2 The term Princeps was adopted by Augustus as the least invidious title of dignity, and was applied to his successors. 1893 BURY *Hist. Roman Emp.* ii. 15 A word was wanted, which without emphasizing any special side of the Emperor's power, should indicate his supreme authority in the republic. Augustus chose the name *princeps* to do this informal duty. *Ibid.* 17 The position of the new Princeps was fully established when he was acknowledged by both the senate and the army. *Ibid.* 26.

2. The name applied by Tacitus and by some mediæval Latin chroniclers and writers, and, after these, by some modern historians, to the head man or chief of a *pagus*, tribe, or small community in early Teutonic times. He corresponded generally to the Old English *ealdor* or *ealdorman* (by which words the L. *princeps* was often rendered).

See Tacitus *Germ.* xiii, xiv; Hucbald *Vita S. Lebuini* in Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. iii. § 22, 44 note, etc.

[*c* 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxvii. 28 (O.E.T.) *Principes* (*gl.* aldermen) *Iuda..principes* (aldermen) *Zabulon. Ibid.* lxxxii. 12 *Omnes principes eorum* (*gl.* alle aldermen heora). *a* 1000 *Psalms* lxvii. 25 (Thorpe) *Principes Iuda..principes Zabulon* (*tr.* ealdormenn eac of Iudan..and ealdras eac of Zabulone). *c* 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 155/18 *Princeps, uel comes*, ealdorman. *a* 1200 *Ibid.* 538/19 *Princeps*, aldermon.]

1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* (1875) I. ii. § 14. 24 Outside of his official authority, the chief or only privilege of the *princeps* was the right of entertaining a *comitatus*...The *princeps* provided for them horses, arms, and such rough equipment as they wanted. *Ibid.* § 16. 29. *Ibid.* iii. § 22. 44 Over each of their [the heathen Saxons'] local divisions or *pagi*.. a single *princeps* or chieftain presides.

3. *elliptic.* for *editio princeps*: see A.

Pri·nce Re·gent. [PRINCE 10a, and REGENT.] A prince who is regent of a country, during a minority, or in the absence or disability of the sovereign. Particularly, in Eng. Hist., the title commonly given to George Prince of Wales (afterwards Geo. IV) during the mental incapacity of George III, 1811–20.

His official title in the Act of 1811 (51 Geo. III, c. 1) was 'Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland', but as he was 'the Prince' (of Wales), the word 'Prince' was, in non-official language, commonly prefixed to 'Regent', even by speakers in Parliament; he was also empowered by the Act to sign documents George P. R. or G. P. R., instead of his initials G. P. as Prince of Wales. 'Prince Regent' had also been casually applied to him in January 1789, in course of the Regency resolutions on the occasion of the King's first illness, which came to nothing because of his recovery.

1789 LD. THURLOW *Sp. in Ho. Lords* 22 Jan. (Cobbett *Parl. Hist.* XXVII. 1072), That the patronage of the royal household was not likely to be exercised by the exalted personage, in whose hands the resolutions went to place it, to the disadvantage of the Prince Regent, her son. 1811 WHITBREAD *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 1 Jan. (Hansard XVIII. 594), Is it fit that the Prince Regent should have only an ephemeral evanescent establishment? 1811 SHERIDAN 18 Jan. (Ibid. 906), The recommendation which that .ight hon. gent. gave himself, in order to fill the Prince Regent with the idea that he was the best minister he could have. 1812 SCOTT *Let. Ld. Byron* 3 July, I dare say our worthy bibliopolist overcoloured his report of your Lordship's conversation with the Prince Regent.

Prince royal. Also prince-royal. [a. F. *prince royal* 'royal prince'; see PRINCE *sb.* and ROYAL.] The eldest son of a reigning monarch; *spec.* of the king of Prussia.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3879/2 The Prince Royal of Prussia intends to accompany the Queen his Mother to Hanover. 1710 *Ibid.* No. 4731/1 The Prince-Royal sent his Majesty the first News of it.

fig. 1845 G. MURRAY *Islaford* 143 That scape-grace, Prince-royal of a comet.

b. A variety of cherry. ? *Obs.*

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 233/2 Cherries..Carnation, Hartlib..Morocco, Prince Royal [etc.].

Prince's feather. A popular name of several plants. a. London Pride (*Saxifraga umbrosa*). Now *dial.*

1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 234 Some of our English Gentlewomen have called it, The Princes Feather. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 91/2 Princes Feather hath the leaves invecked, the Flowers grow in branches. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Oct. 8/3 The..London girl is looked upon with suspicion and dislike by the rustics. She is nick-named 'Princess [*sic*] Feather', the local name for the flower known as 'London Pride'.

b. A tall handsome garden plant, *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*, bearing feathery spikes of small red flowers; also *A. speciosus*, a larger species.

1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 208 Amaranth Flowers gentle, or Princes Feathers, are of great Variety; but the principal are, 1. The great purple Flower with a thick tall Stalk, and many Branches, large green Leaves [etc.]. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 533 The species of *Amaranthus*, such as *A. caudatus*, Love-lies-bleeding, and *A. hypochondriacus*, Prince's-feathers.

c. Locally applied to other plants: see quots.

1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 164 *Prunella vulgaris*. .. In the Merse called Heart-o-the-Yearth and Prince's-Feathers. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Prince's feather,.. also an American name for *Polygonum orientale*. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Eng. Plant-n.*, Prince's Feather..(4) *Syringa vulgaris* .. Dev[on], Rutl[and] .., pronounced Princy Feather.

Princeship (pri·nsʃip). [f. PRINCE *sb.* + -SHIP.] The position, dignity, or rank of a prince; the period of his being prince.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 140/39 A Princeship, *principatus*. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 275 In the Princeship or nonage of Cerdicke Sandes. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 16 Within the circle of ordinary continental princeship. 1896 A. DOBSON in *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 453 Some, especially in the princeship of the second George ..were also accomplished and sensible.

b. With poss., as humorous title for a prince.

1664 KILLIGREW *Pandora* I. 5, I wish your Prince-ship had all the Ladies you desire.

Prince's metal. [From Prince Rupert of the Rhine, who invented it.] An alloy of about three parts of copper and one of zinc, in colour resembling gold; now chiefly used for cheap jewellery. Also (*Prince*) *Rupert's metal* (PRINCE *sb.* 12).

1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1779/4 A Tall Man,..having a Cane with a Crooked Head, of the Princes Mettal. 1691 *Ibid.* No. 2650/3 A dark coloured Cloth Coat with Princes-Metal Buttons. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 94 The composition will prove but a Tombac or Prince's Metal having very little malleability. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts* s. v. *Alloy*, The chief alloys are brass, tombac, pinchbeck, prince's metal, bell metal, type metal, gun metal..etc.

Princess (pri·nses), *sb.* Also 5 prinses, *Sc.* prynsace, 5–7 princes. [ME. *princesse*, a. F. *princesse* (15th c. in Littré), fem. of *prince*: see -ESS[1]. So med.L. *principissa* (1338 in Du Cange), It. *principessa.*

The *e* in the second syllable is usually pronounced clear, and by some with secondary or even primary stress, to avoid confusion with *prince's, princes.*]

1. A female sovereign or ruler; a queen. *arch.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70 He wedded þe princesse, whilk was called Cadrige. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1381 Ingland sen syn has boucht it der enewch, Thocht scho had beyn a queyn or a prynsace. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/2 A Pryncesse, *principissa*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 262 b, I wolde..moue them to folowe the example of yᵉ noble princesse saynt Edithe. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems, To Q. Mary* 7 Welcum ! oure plesand princes, maist of pryce. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, V. v. 58 She shall be to the happinesse of England, An aged Princesse. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* P 14 So excellent a princess, as the present queen. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1865) II. 271/1 The Empress Queen took a very different course. Though the haughtiest of princesses, .. she forgot in her thirst for revenge..the dignity of her race.

2. The wife of a prince. *Princess dowager*: see DOWAGER.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8473 Therat Ector was angry,..Repreuet the prinses with a pale face: With his worshipful wife wrathit hym þen. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 8 Whan Olibrius hyr profryd his wyf to be And that she shuld be clepyd a pryncesse. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 319 The Prince and princes his wife, with their yong sonne Richard ..entered into their Shippes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. ii. 70 Katherine no more Shall be call'd Queene, but Princesse Dowager, And Widdow to Prince Arthur. 1834 JAMES *Y. M. Hall* xxi, The princess dowager..is every day presenting some new petition. 1885 [see PRINCE 1].

3. The daughter or grand-daughter of a sovereign; a female member of a royal or princely family: see PRINCE 6. *Princess of the blood*: see BLOOD *sb.* 9. *Princess royal*, the eldest daughter of the sovereign in Great Britain; also formerly in Prussia.

1508 FISHER *Seven Penit. Ps.* title-p., Compyled..at the exhortacion .. of the moost excellent Princesse Margarete Countesse of Rychemount and Derby. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 32 The second of Lent [1525], the kynge, qwene, and princes [Mary], with all other stattes both spirituall and temporall, came to Powlles. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, IV. iv. 211 Wrong not her Byrth, she is a Royall Princesse. 1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* III. i, She..esteems herself Neglected when the princesses of the blood On every coarse employment are not ready To stoop to her commands. 1646–7 *Cal. St. Papers, Dom.* 525 The Princess Royal has been very well received, the King [of France] says he never saw a more handsome princess. 1650 CHAS. II in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 211 If you finde our deere brother att the Hague, you shall entreat our sister the Princesse Royall to use her best endeavours to perswade his returne into Fraunce. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4494/2 (At Berlin) Their Majesties, the Prince and Princess-Royal..performed the usual Ceremony. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 267 Soon after the birth of the prince of Piedmont, the princess of Carignan being at court, a celebrated female singer..began *Son finite le Speranze*. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. iii. 216 The princess Sophia dying before queen Anne, the inheritance thus limited descended on her son and heir king George the first. 1819 *Times* 25 May, Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent was safely delivered yesterday morning, at Kensington-palace, of a Princess, at a quarter past four o'clock. 1879 *Whitaker's Almn.* 67 Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne). 1905 *Lond. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 7495 The King has been graciously pleased to declare that His Majesty's eldest Daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar

(Duchess of Fife) shall henceforth bear the style and title of Princess Royal.

4. Princess Regent. a. A princess who is regent during the minority or the absence of the nominal sovereign (in quot. 1714 applied to the Princess Ulrike Eleonore, sister of Charles XII of Sweden, who was Regent during his absence). **b.** The wife of the Prince Regent.

1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5210/1 It has been proposed in the Assembly of the States to enter into a Treaty with the Allies of the North during the King's Absence... But the Princess-Regent has declared that she cannot consent to any Negotiations of Peace without Instructions from his Majesty. 1812 *Chron.* in *Examiner* 4 May 282/2 The Princess Regent.. should go before the Prince Regent.

II. 5. Applied to a female, or anything personified as feminine, that is likened to a princess in pre-eminence or authority; formerly often to the Virgin Mary, also to female deities, etc.

a 1380 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxviii. 45 Heil puyred princesse of paramour, Heil Blosme of Brere, Brihtest of ble. *c* 1407 Lydg. *Reson & Sens.* 2234 With the cheff princesse of kynde, Which that called ys nature. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* xcix, Pitouse princes, and planet merciable! 1609 Bible (Douay) 1 *Kings* xv. 13 He [Asa] removed also Maaca his mother, that she should not be princess in the sacrifices of Priapus. 1645–52 Boate *Irel. Nat. Hist.* 64 The Liffie is the princess of the Irish-Rivers. 1678 *Yng. Man's Call.* 73 This is the day of his Saviours resurrection, the flower of time, a princess amongst all other daies. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 4/3 The princess of milliners and dress-maker to the Princess of Wales.

6. A size of roofing slate, 24 inches by 14.

1878 D. C. Davies *Slate & Slate Quarry.* 136 Princesses.. Duchesses.. Marchionesses.. Countesses.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly appositive), as *princess-nun, -president, -priest, -queen, -worship.*

1594 Marlowe & Nashe *Dido* I, Till that a Princesse priest conceau'd by Mars, Shall yeeld to dignitie a dubble birth. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* IV. iv. P 4 Your subjects.. may ask of you a princess-queen, descended from a long line of kings. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* ii. § 61 (1907) 69 [The] simple princess-life of happy Nausicaa. 1880 *Archæologia Cant.* XIII. 89 Mary, daughter of Edward I, and princess-nun of Amesbury.

8. Princess (or *princesse*) **dress,** a lady's robe of which the lengths of the bodice and skirt are cut in one piece; also applied to modifications of this shape; so *princess-shape, frock, polonaise, robe, skirt,* etc.; also *princess-shaped* adj., and *princess* adj. or ellipt. = princess-shaped.

1879 Webster Suppl., *Princesse, a.*,..a term applied to a ladies' costume, made with a train flowing from the shoulders. 1879 Mrs. A. E. James *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 14 Half a dozen white morning wrappers made Princesse shape. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Dec. 6/1 A princesse dress of severe simplicity. 1887 *Daily News* 14 Oct. 6/1 The dress is princess-shaped at the back. 1898 *Ibid.* 15 Oct. 6/4 Some gowns are plain, others princess, others double-skirted. 1899 *Ibid.* 15 July 7/4 The princess dress is rarely seen, but the long princess tunic, or polonaise, has come to stay. 1900 *Bladud* 17 Oct. 6/2 A Princess skirt sounds an anomaly, but it..is nothing more or less than an abbreviated robe; it comes up more or less deeply towards the bust and is met by the ubiquitous bolero.

Hence † **Pri·ncess** *v. Cookery, trans.* to dress (meat) in a certain way: see quot. *Obs.*

1769 J. Skeat *Art Cookery* 8 Sweetbreads Princess'd.. Inlay them with the lean of ham, and carrot cut thin, three rows in each sweetbread. These must be done in an oven, and a good ragout sauce in the dish, with parsley chopt fine. A Leg of Lamb Princes'd. Take a fine white leg, and inlay it with ham, carrot, and chopt parsley [etc.].

Pri·ncessdom. [f. prec. sb. + -dom.] The position, dignity, or territory of a princess.

1883 M. Betham-Edwards *Exchange no Robbery* I. 33 It had seemed probable at one time that she would lose her princessdom altogether. 1900 Crockett *Black Douglas* 469, I have many castles there, and, they tell me, a princessdom of mine own.

Princessly (pri·nsesli), *a.* [f. Princess + -ly1.] That is a princess or like a princess; befitting or appropriate to a princess.

1747 Richardson *Clarissa* (1810) I. xxxi. 216 To engage her (for example-sake to her princessly daughter) to join in their cause. 1813 Ld. Byron in *Ld. R. Gower's Rec. & Remin.* (1903) 33 She is handsome..and her manners are princessly [*sic*]. 1899 Judge Parry *Gold. Jujube* ii. in *Scarlet Herring,* etc. 88 Imprinting a kingly kiss upon her princessly cheek, [the king] rushed from the room.

Princess-ship (pri·nsesˌʃip). [f. Princess + -ship.] The condition or fact of being a princess; with possessive as title for a princess.

1733 Fielding *Quixote* I. vi, If your princess-ship could but prevail on my master. 1884 Lucy B. Walford *Nan,* etc. (1885) I. 13 Her days of princess-ship are over.

† **Prince·tta, -ette.** Trade name of a fabric.

1844 G. Dodd *Textile Manuf.* iv. 114 The trade-list of a large worsted-factory..contains the following enumeration, ..Merino, Say Plainback, .. Says, .. Princettes. *c* 1850 in Rachel J. Lowe *Farm & Inhab.* (1883) 84 [On ordinary days she wore a thick camlet, which was called] 'Princetta stuff'. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Princettas,* a worsted fabric, which is sometimes made with a cotton warp.

Prince-wood. Also prince's wood. A dark-coloured and light-veined timber produced by two W. Indian trees, *Cordia gerascanthoides* and *Hamelia ventricosa*; also called *Spanish elm.*

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2183/4 Stolen.., a strong Box of Princes Wood Varnished. 1707 Sloane *Jamaica* I. p. lv, The goods..exported from the island are Sugars, Indico, Cotton-wool,..Prince-wood. 1756 P. Browne *Jamaica* 170 Spanish Elm or Prince-wood..is generally esteemed as one of the best timber woods in the island. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Prince's-wood,* a light-veined brown wood, the produce of *Cordia Gerascanthus,* obtained in Jamaica, and principally used for turning. 1866 *Treas. Bot.,* Princewood.

† **Pri·nce-worthy,** *a. Obs.* [f. Prince *sb.* + Worthy *a.*] Worthy of or befitting a prince.

1574 *Life Abp. Parker* To Rdr. C iv b, His commendable and Princeworthy thyrste off knowledge had excused his ignorance. 1593–5 *Norden's Spec. Brit., M'sex* II. Pref., Prince-worthy touch. 1632 J. Hayward tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 58 To this her sound judgement shee hath conjoyned a Prince-worthy erudition.

† **Prinche,** *v. Obs.* App. a by-form of Pinch *v.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 290 Ther was with him non other fare, But forto prinche and forto spare, Of worldes muk to gete encress.

Princify (pri·nsifəi), *v. rare.* [f. Prince *sb.* + -[i]fy.] *trans.* To make into a prince; to make princely. Hence **Pri·ncified** *ppl. a.,* princelike, stately, majestic. So **Princifica·tion.** (*nonce-wds.*)

1847 Thackeray *Lords & Liv.* i, Napoleon princified him. 1859 — *Virgin.* v, The English girls..laughed at the princified airs which she gave herself. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 8 Nov. 5/2 The Emperor..has been persuaded to do injudicious things—witness the princification of the Iturbides.

Principal (pri·nsipăl), *a.* and *sb.* (*adv.*) Also 3–6 princy-, prynci-, pryncy-; 3–6 -pale, 4–7 -pall(e, 5 *Sc.* -paill; 5 prinsipall, -sepall, prynsipall, prencipall, -ale. [= F. *principal* (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *principāl-is* first, chief, original, primitive; princely, imperial; as sb. in late L. an overseer, a chief; f. *princeps, princip-em*: see Prince *sb.* and -al. In early use the adj. was often in plural *principal(e)s* (after F.) esp. when following the sb.]

A. *adj.* **I.** General senses.

1. First or highest in rank or importance; that is at the head of all the rest; of the greatest account or value; foremost: = Chief *a.* 3. **a.** of persons.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 9154, & þe bissop roger of salesbury after him suor anon..& þo was þe principal þe sacringe vor to do & vor ensample of hom oþere encentede þer to. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 144 As a king in special Above all othre is principal Of his pouer. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxiii. 248 Of his iij wyfes, the firste and the princypalle þat was Prestre Iohnes doughter. 1535 Coverdale *Esther* (Apocr.) xvi. 11 He was..had in hye honoure of euery man, as the next and pryncipall vnto the kynge. 1578 in I. H. Jeayes *Catal. Charters Berkeley Castle* (1892) 324 Robert Commendatar of Dunfermelenge owre principall Secretar and Ambassador. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 3 The principal Minister, who among the Lutherans is look'd upon as a Bishop. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* July 544/2 He was the principal projector of the fund for decayed musicians. 1900 *London Lett.* 26 Jan. 133/1 In the part of principal girl [in a pantomime] Miss L. L... dances and sings delightfully, ..Miss F. L. as principal boy has no equal.

b. of things.

c 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* P 441 The remedie agayns the foule synne of Enuye First is the louynge of god principal and louyng of his neighebor as hym self. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) v. 14 þe principale citee of Cypre es Famagost. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 71 This hows is chyef and pryncipalle of alle other howses. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 The principyall purpose of our entent. 1611 Bible *Prov.* iv. 7 Wisedome is the principall thing, therefore get wisedome. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. xvii. 62 Cause Efficient is divided into Principal and less Principal. 1799 G. Smith *Laboratory* I. 121 Your first or principal matter for enamel colours. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xv. 100 The glacier which had filled the principal valley. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 27 Their principal food is flour and meal.

2. Less definitely: Belonging to the first or highest group in rank or importance; of the first order; main, prominent, leading: = Chief *a.* 4. In this sense formerly sometimes with comparative *principaller* (or *more principal*), often with superlative *principallest* (or *most principal*); otherwise referring usually to a number of individuals.

a. of things.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 345/15 Bote þreo wateres principales of alle ne beoth, i-wis: þat on is homber, þat oþur seuerne, and temes þe þridde is. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 7299 Yhit es over þase a payne generalle, þat of alle other es mast principalle. *c* 1391 Chaucer *Astrol.* I. § 5 The 4 quarters of thin astrelabie, deuyded after the 4 principals plages or quarters of the firmament. 1483 Caxton *Cato* B j b, The scoler which wyl lerne ought to haue thre pryncipalle condycions. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 36 The fyve pryncypall woundes of our Lord. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 10 Water is one of the principalest things to be cared for. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* v. 1, A further and more principal Consideration. 1690 in Locke *Govt.* I. vi. § 62 He..has the Sovereignty over the Woman, as being the nobler and principaller Agent in Generation. 1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 305 Among the Drugs which Russia produces, Rhubarb is one of the most principal. 1874 J. Sully *Sensation & Intuition* xi. 298 Character is but one, though a principal, source of interest among several that are employed by the drama.

b. of persons.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxii. 242 It hath xii princypalle kynges in xii prouynces. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 4 Alle clad in white, and the most principalle Afforne in reed, with thaire mayre ryding. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. clxi. 196 The frenche kynge wolde nat agree without he myght haue foure of the principyallest of the englysshmen at his pleasure. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* I. vii. (1622) 11 Certaine of the Principallest Gentlemen of the citie. 1648 Gage *West Ind.* 133 A principall family of Indians, who are said to descend from the ancient Kings. 1771 Franklin *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 73, I made acquaintance with many principal people of the province. 1808 Eleanor Sleath *Bristol Heiress* III. 263 Attended by some of the principal of the nobility.

3. Specially great (in comparison with things of the kind generally); of high degree or importance; special, eminent. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1417 *Let. to Hen. V* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 55 The same beinge soe gracious and joyous newes as any can imagine or thinke to the principall comforte and especiall consolation of us and all your faythfull subjectes. 1424 in *Calr. Pat. Rolls,* 8 *Hen. VI* 30 The xxiiij aldermen.. xal..supporten the mair..walkyng with hym on principal dayes and in procession. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 353 Some beastes..as they are vnto man principall benefites, so to themselues and to their kind, they are most louing and tender. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 3 The Pen-men [of the Scripture being such as were] endewed with a principall portion of Gods spirit. 1748 Hartley *Observ. Man* II. iii. 213 That which is prior in the Order of Nature is always less perfect and principal, than that which is posterior. 1868 Bushnell *Serm. Living Subj.* 252 Which is understood to be the manner to a principal degree of a certain immense trading house.

† **4.** Of special quality; excellent, goodly, choice; first-class, first-rate. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 1 In þi palijs so principal I pleyde priuyli wiþoute mys. 1535 Coverdale *Song Sol.* v. 13 His lippes droppe as the floures of the most principall Myrre. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* IV. 44 From Kiddey Mouth..to the Mouthe of Thawän a 3 Miles by very principal good Corn Ground. 1589 Nashe *Pasquil & Marforius* B iij b, A great Nosegay in his hande, of the principalest flowers I could gather. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Ezek.* xxvii. 17 Juda and the land of Israel they were thy merchants in the principal corne [Vulg. *in frumento primo*].

† **5.** Of, belonging to, or befitting a prince; princely, royal. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1581 Fyrst knew hit þe kyng & alle þe cort after In þe palays pryncipale. 1382 Wyclif *Esther* ii. 18 He 3af reste to alle prouyncis, and grauntide large 3iftis aftir principal gret doing [1388 the worschipful doyng of a prynce; *Vulg.* magnificentiam principalem]. — *Ps.* l. 14 [li. 12] With the spirit principal conferme thou me [*Vulg.* spiritu principali confirma me, LXX πνεύματι ἡγεμονικῷ στήριξόν με; Coverdale, etc. with thy free spirit]. 1578 *Chr. Prayers* in *Priv. Prayers* (Parker Soc.) 499 Give me the comfort of thy saving help again, and strengthen me with a principal Spirit. 1582 Bentley *Mon. Matrones* Ep. Ded., Hauing the principal and heroicall spirit of your holie father good King Dauid. 1591 Spenser *Muiopotmos* 380 But walkt at will, and wandred to and fro, In the pride of his freedome principall.

II. Special and technical senses.

6. Of money: Constituting the primary or original sum; that is the main or capital sum invested or lent, and yielding interest or income; capital, capitalized. (Cf. B. 9.)

† *Principal cost, money,* original or prime cost.

1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Hi..makeþ ofte of þe gauel principale dette. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 496 It was ordeyned yᵗ the sayd..dettours to the sayd vsurers shuld paye the pryncipall dette vnto the kynge at theyr dayes of payment. 1540–1 Elyot *Image Gov.* 121 He desired theym .. to take for that time their principall summe that was borowed, and clerely to remette the residue. *c* 1677 in Marvell *Growth Popery* 62 The parties..swore the Principal Costs of their Goods was to the Value of 3092*l. a* 1687 Petty *Pol. Arith.* Pref. (1690) a iij, Actions [shares] in the East-India Company are near double the principal Money. 1731 Gay *Let. to Swift* 20 Mar., At the same time tell me what I shall do with the principal sum. 1852 Bright *Let. to Dr. Gray* 25 Oct. in *Speeches* (1876) 549/2, 500,000*l.* per annum..or a principal sum, at twenty years' purchase, of 10,000,000*l.* 1864 *Will* in *Law Rep.* (1871) 11 Eq. 232, I declare that the income arising from my principal money shall be paid [etc.]. [Malins *Ibid.* 234 In using the words 'principal money' I think he intended to signify all his capital.]

7. *Law.* **a.** That is the chief person concerned in some action or proceeding; *esp.* that is the actual perpetrator of, or directly responsible for, a crime: cf. B. 2 b. ? *Obs.* **b.** *Principal challenge*: a challenge against a jury, or against a particular juror, alleging a fact such as, if proved, would disqualify such jury or juror as a matter of law.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 74 Before the coroner of Coventre, up on the sygth of the bodyes, ther ben endited, as prynsipall for the deth of Richard Stafford, Syr Robert Harcourt and the ij. men that ben dede. And for the ij. men of Harcourts that ben dede, ther ben endited ij. men of Syr Umfrey as prynsipall. 1486 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII,* c. 2 Such Mis-doers, Takers,..and Receitors..[shall] be..judged as principal Felons. 1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* VI. 112 b, The residue of the counsail were of opinion that Philotas woulde neuer haue conseiled this conspiracie, excepte he had bene either principall or priuye therunto. 1607–72 Challenge principal [see Challenge *sb.* 3]. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. xxiii. 363 A principal challenge is such, where the cause assigned carries with it *prima facie* evident marks of suspicion, either of malice or favour. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* II. iii. 354 Where there are manifest reasons of suspecting partiality..in which case the challenge is called a principal challenge.

† **8.** Of a document: Original (as opposed to a copy): cf. B. 5. *Obs.*

1567 in *6th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 642/1 This is the autentik and iust copy of the principall lettir aboue mentionat..And the same originall and principall extant to schaw will testifie.

9. *Gram.* Said of a sentence or clause, or of a word (esp. a verb), in relation to another which is auxiliary to or dependent upon it: opp. to

subordinate or *dependent*. *Principal parts* of a verb: see PART *sb.* 19 b.

1590 STOCKWOOD *Rules Construct.* 2 After the nominatiue case commeth the principall verbe...First of all, the principall verbe must be sought out. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 272 This rule refers to principal, not to auxiliary verbs..the principal and its auxiliary form but one verb. 1871 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* IV. iii. § 1024 A compound sentence contains two or more single sentences...If they are not independent of each other, one will be principal and the others subordinate. *Ibid.* § 1032 A subordinate sentence may itself be principal to a third sentence. 1876 MASON *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 21) § 400 A Complex Sentence is one which, besides a principal subject and predicate, contains one or more subordinate clauses, which have subjects and predicates of their own. *Ibid.* § 403 A Substantive Clause..may be either the subject or the object of the verb in the principal clause.

10. *Building.* Applied to the main rafters, posts, or braces in the wooden framework of a building, which support the chief strain. Cf. B. 7.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 10 The principall postes, the Rafters, and the beames of any house. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 45 Beams of the Roof for the principal Rafters to stand on. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 163 Principal-Posts, the corner Posts of a Carcass. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Principal Posts*, in any wooden Building, are the Corner Posts. 1860 WEALE *Dict. Terms Archit.*, *Principal brace*, a brace immediately under the principal rafters or parallel to them, in a state of compression, assisting with the principals to support the timbers of a roof.

11. *Math.*, etc.

Principal axis: (*a*) of a conic, that axis which passes through the foci, the transverse axis (opp. to *conjugate axis*); (*b*) each of three lines in a body or system used as the chief lines of reference in relation to forces operating upon it; as *principal axes of inertia, of stress* (see quots.). *Principal focus* of a lens or concave mirror, the focus of rays that impinge upon it parallel to its axis. *Principal plane*: (*a*) of a symmetrical body, an imaginary plane of symmetry, as, in an oblate or prolate spheroid, the plane passing through the centre at right angles to the axis of revolution; in an ellipsoid there are three principal planes at right angles to each other, two of which pass through the longest axis, and the third through the centre of both the others; (*b*) *of stress*: see quot. 1883. *Principal point*, in *Perspective*, the point where the *principal ray* meets the plane of delineation. *Principal points* of a lens or combination of lenses (tr. Ger. *Hauptpunkte*, Gauss), two points on the optical axis such that the straight line between the first of these and any point of the object is parallel to that between the second and the corresponding point of the image. *Principal ray*, in *Perspective*, the straight line from the point of sight perpendicular to the plane of delineation. *Principal section* of a crystal, any section passing through the optical axis. *Principal value*, the one real value of a function which has also several imaginary values.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Principal Ray*, in Perspective. *Ibid.*, *Principal Point*, which some Writers call the *Centre of the Picture*, and the *Point of Concurrence*. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* i. 9 When the rays which the mirror collects are parallel, as in the present case, the point F is called its *principal focus*, or its focus for parallel rays. *Ibid.* xvii. 151 Every plane passing through the axis is called a *principal section* of the crystal. 1862 SALMON *Analytic Geom. Three Dimens.* iv. 45 A diametral plane is said to be principal if it be perpendicular to the chords to which it is conjugate...Hence a quadric has in general three principal diametral planes, the three diameters perpendicular to which are called the axes of the surface. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Philos.* I. i. 262 Any axis is called a principal axis of a body's inertia, or simply a principal axis of the body, if when the body rotates round it the centrifugal forces either balance or are reducible to a single force. 1882 ROUTH *Dynamics Rigid Bodies* (ed. 4) 99 The existence of principal axes was first established by Segner in the work *Specimen Theoriæ Turbinum*. 1883 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Philos.* I. II. 207 For any stress..there are three determinate planes at right angles to one another such that the force acting in the solid across each of them is precisely perpendicular to it. These planes are called the principal or normal planes of the stress; the forces upon them, per unit area,—its principal or normal tractions; and the lines perpendicular to them,—its principal or normal axes.

B. *sb.*

I. 1. A chief or head man or woman; a chief, head, ruler, commander, superior; a governor, a presiding officer, as the head of a religious or educational institution, the manager of a house of business, an employer, etc.; †the master or mistress of a household (*obs.*).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 345 Criseide,..Which was..Of thilke temple principal, Wher Phebus hadde his sacrifice. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 221 þe Priores als principall Es 'lady' & leder of þam all. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 219 Sho..went vnto ane abbay..And when þer principall was dead, sho was made principall. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. ii. 170 The Emperoure of Rome..is the pryncypall of the worlde. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. vi. 89 Why, hath your principall made knowne vnto you who I am? 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) III. vii. 48 The servants throughout the house adore you: And I am sure their principals do. 1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) I. 43 [He] attended the banking-house in the capacity of a pupil, who was hereafter to become a principal in the concern. 1836 SIR H. TAYLOR *Statesman* xxiii. 167 A minister's private secretary has the care and management, under his principal's direction, of all affairs relating to the disposal of offices and employments.

b. *fig.* or *transf.* Of a thing.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 322 Thi will is thi principal, And hath the lordschipe of thi witt. *Ibid.* III. 101 So is the herte principal, To whom reson in special Is yove as for the governance. *c* 1420 26 *Pol. Poems* xv. 14 þe brayn is pryncypal Chef of counseil ymagenyng.

c. In Great Britain, outside Oxford and Cambridge, the most usual designation of the head of a COLLEGE in senses 4 c, d, e; sometimes also in senses 4 a, b, and often in 4 f; also of the head of a HALL (sense 4 b). (Cf. PRESIDENT 2 c.)

Not used in the colleges of the university of Cambridge, and only in three of those of Oxford (but, in both, the halls, and the denominational and women's colleges have Principals).

1563 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 1 The Deanes, Wardeynes, Provostes, Maisters, Presidentes, Rectours, Principalles,.. Scolers and Studentes..within the said Universities. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 675 Maister Alexander Andirsoun principall, Maister Andro Galloway sub-principall,.. of the College of Auld Abirdene. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 490 Maister Thomas Smetoun, principall of the College of Glasgow. 1691 [see PRINCIPALITY 6]. 1706 PHILLIPS s.v., The chief person in some of the Inns of Chancery is also called Principal of the House. 1899 *Oxford Univ. Cal.* 511 The King's Hall and College of Brasenose...The foundation was for a Principal and twelve fellows. 1900 *Oxford Directory* 104 Mansfield College, founded here in October 1886 by the Congregationalists as a Faculty of Theology. Principal, Rev. A. M. Fairbairn, M.A., D.D. *Ibid.* 106 Lady Margaret Hall, founded in 1879 for the higher education of women. Lady Principal, Miss Elizabeth Wordsworth. 1908 *Camb. Univ. Calendar* 785 A student of..Newnham College may present..a certificate signed by the Principal of her College.

†**d.** *pl.* Principal or chief men; leading or prominent persons; nobles, notables. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxv. 34 3elle, ȝe scheepherdis, and crye, and ȝe principals of the floc. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 160 Ther the kyng tok the principalis of London, and sette hem in prison at Wyndsore. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* A ij, The principalls of ech Prouince, stayed themselues vpon his determination. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 20 The garments which the nobles and principals do vse, bee of silke. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 11 To attaint by Parliament the Heads and Principals of his Enemies.

2. A chief actor or doer; the chief person engaged in some transaction or function, esp. in relation to one employed by or acting for him (*deputy, agent*, etc.); the person for whom and by whose authority another acts.

1625 BACON *Ess., Faction* (Arb.) 81 Those that are Seconds in Factions, doe many times .. proue Principals. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 58 Their factors live in better equipage, and in a more splendid manner than in all Italy besides, than their masters and principals in London. 1654 PELL *Let. to Secr. Thurloe* 29 July in Vaughan *Protectorate O. Cromwell* (1838) I. 35 He will say, 'I shall report this your answer to my principals', that is to those that sent me. ..It is a form of speaking not yet in fashion in England. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4368/2 The Deputy was dismissed with no other Reply than, That they would send an Answer to his Principals in due Time. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 57 So man, who here seems principal alone Perhaps acts second to some sphere unknown. 17.. SWIFT (J.), We were not principals, but auxiliaries in the war. 1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 496 The functions of the vice-consul would become dormant during the presence of his principal. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* s.v., He who being competent and *sui juris* to do any act for his own benefit or on his own account, employs another person to do it, is called the principal, constituent, or employer, and he who is thus employed is called the agent, attorney, proxy, or delegate.

b. A person directly responsible for a crime, either as the actual perpetrator (*principal in the first degree*), or as present, aiding and abetting, at the commission of it (*principal in the second degree*). Opp. to ACCESSARY. (Cf. A. 7 a.)

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 40 To prison was I sent as principal, and my master as accessarie. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 620/1 By the Common Lawe, the accessoryes cannot be proceeded agaynst, till the principall receave his tryall. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iii. 34 A man may be principal in an offence in two degrees. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1820) 257 In murder you are both principals. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. (1871) I. 312 In cases of felony, a distinction..is made between the principal and the accessory after the fact.

c. A person for whom another is surety; one who is primarily liable for a debt.

1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 545 We Alexander Arbuthnot merchand, and Thomas Bassinden imprentair.. bindis and oblissis us, conjunctlie and severalie as principallis; David Guthrie [etc.] as souirteis conjunctlie and severalie. 1652 Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 24/2 The foirsaids persones principallis and catiounaris. 1789 W. BROWN *Cases Chancery* II. 581 The defendant..insisted upon the benefit of the said plaintiff's bond, and that he was to be deemed a principal and not a surety. 1802 LD. ELDON in *Vesey's Rep.* VI. 734 But the surety is a guarantee; and it is his business to see, whether the principal pays, and not that of the creditor. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* s.v. *Guaranty*, A surety or guarantor who has paid the debt of his principal, is entitled to a reimbursement therefor...*Story on Contracts*, chap. v.

d. Each of the actual or intending combatants in a duel, as distinguished from their *seconds*.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxix, Your principal, I presume, is Sir Bingo Binks?..I have not forgotten that there is an unfortunate affair between us. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'We may place our men, then, I think', observed the officer, with as much indifference as if the principals were chess-men, and the seconds players. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 232 The principals were placed at forty paces from each other, and were to fire as they advanced.

e. Each of the solo or leading performers at a concert, as distinguished from the members of the band or chorus.

1881 W. H. STONE in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 32/1 Principals, in modern musical language, are the solo singers or players in a concert.

II. 3. The chief, main, or most important thing, part, point, or element. ? *Obs.*

In early quots. perh. the adj.

1396-7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 298 Fals beleue, þe whiche is þe principal of þe deuelis craft. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 85 Þys ys þe prydde medicyne, his properte ys to efforce þe pryue, and namly þe pryncypales. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccxxvi. 748 They shulde take downe the leaues of the gates of the foure principals of the cytie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. x. 2 That Vertue..Which..to preserve inviolated right Oft spilles the principall to saue the part. 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 35, I meane not to prosecute every particular at large, but to cull out the principals. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 21 A Quality is said to be an Accessory unto a Fact or Crime, which is the Principal. 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 16/1 The words which are necessary for communicating the thought..may well be called principals, and those which only help to make out the thought more fully and distinctly may be called accessories.

†**b.** *In principal*: principally, chiefly. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 85 As of thre pointz in principal. Wherof the ferste in special Is Theorique. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VI. xi. 198 That wylle I refuse in pryncypal for drede of god. 1815 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 410 Thanks to my friends, and to you in principal.

†**c.** A primary or fundamental point of a subject, upon which the rest depend; a PRINCIPLE (in most or all cases app. identified with that word, or perhaps an erroneous spelling of it). *Obs.*

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* Argt. 5 b, Let euery diligent reder knowe hymselfe miche to haue profited, if he but the cheif principalls vnderstand, although it be but meanly. 1578 *Cat. in Maitl. Cl. Misc.* (1840) I. 11 The principallis of astronomie. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (ed. 2) 4 His Father..sent him to School to learn the Elements of Language and principals of Religion. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* iv. (1848) 158 A centre and a great uniting principal which associates all parts of the composition. 1816 ACCUM *Chem. Tests* (1818) 51 The test combines with some principal of the body.

†**4.** The head, top. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xlviii. (1535) 93 In the principall of the sayd table was pictured a Bulle.

†**5.** The original document, drawing, painting, etc., from which a copy is made; an original. *Obs.* (Cf. A. 8.)

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 78 He shewed him the copie of the confederacie, promysing hym also the principall. 1646 CRASHAW *Delights Muses, Upon Dk. York's Birth* 48 Thou art of all This well-wrought copy the fair principal. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 19 May, Another pretty piece of painting I saw, on which there was a great wager laid by young Pinkney and me whether it was a principal or a copy.

†**b.** Origin, source. Cf. PRINCIPLE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. i. 27 To Jupiter also thei Sacrificed, and did honour as to yᵉ principall of life. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* I. 18 For heresie, Scisme, Puritanisme, Brownisme, papistrie,.. Proceed from thee, thou art the principall.

†**6.** The best beast or other chattel of any kind bequeathed, or passing by custom. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1367 (Trinity term) *Coram Rege Roll* 41 Edw. III. ro. 21 Consuetudo hundredi de Stretford in com. Oxon., talis est quod heredes terrarum et tenementorum .. post mortem antecessorum suorum habebunt .. principalia, videlicet de quocumque genere catallorum, utensilium et necessariorum domorum et culturarum melius catallum illius generis, videlicet optimum plaustrum optima caruca et optimum ciphum, et sic de aliis instrumentis [etc.]. 1420 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 47, I bequeth my body to be beryed yn the chapele..and my beste best in the name off principale. 1424 *Ibid.* 57 After my principal is taken, I wul my wyf haf my best ambeler. 1511 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 325 Forasmuch as taking of such principales is not by commene lawe, butt only by custume and usage. 1512 in *Southwell Visit.* (Camden) 115 Item I bequeth my best horse for my principall. 1534 *Ibid.* 138, I gyffe and bequethe unto the vicar for my principall accordynge to the acte of parliament. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Principal*,..an Heir-lome. 1895 POLLOCK & MAITLAND *Eng. Law* II. II. vi. § 4. 361 There are many traces of local customs which under the name of 'principals' or 'heirlooms', will give him [the heir-at-law] various chattels, not merely his ancestor's sword and hauberk, but the best chattel of every different kind, the best horse (if the church does not take it) and the best ox, the best chair and the best table, the best pan and the best pot.

7. *Building.* A principal rafter (see A. 10); any one of the rafters upon which rest the purlins which support the common rafters. Also applied to a main iron girder.

1448-9 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 10 The principalles shalbe..x inch thik with a purlyn in the Middes from one principall to a nother. 1579 *Ibid.* I. 310 Braces to the principals eche of them xij foote longe. 1624 A. WOTTON *Runne fr. Rome* 4 To trie how every tenant and mortuis is fitted each to other, what principals are too weake, which peeces are too long. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 146 The remainder they lay parallel to the principals. 1860 [see A. 10]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Mar. 7/2 Four massive iron principals (or girders) of a building in course of erection.. fell yesterday afternoon.

†**8.** An upright pillar or stem having branches to bear tapers; formerly used on a 'hearse'. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 1 b, A curious herse made of .ix. principalles, full of lightes. 1594 in *Coll. Top. & Gen.* (1837) IV. 286 This .. Bishope of Norwiche was buried with a hearse of foure pryncypales or vprightes. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* vii. II. 496 These uprights [of a hearse of lights], technically called 'principals'.

9. The original sum of money dealt with in any transaction, as distinguished from any later accretions; the sum lent or invested upon which interest is paid; the capital sum as distinguished from the interest; also, capital as distinguished from income. (Cf. A. 6).

c 1390 Earl of March *Let.* in *Rec. Priory Coldingham* (Surtees) 65 We wylle garre rayse till us alle the fermes and the profittes of Coldynghame, quylle we be assethit als wele for owr scathes and of our costages as of our principale. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506). IV. xxi. T viij b, And the other it receyue ouer the pryncypall for to kepe hym, & to recompense hym the domage. 1571 *Act* 13 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 4 So muche as shal be reserved by way of Usurie above the Principall for any Money so to be lent. 1572 T. Wilson *Disc. Vsurye* 85. 1693 Dryden *Persius* vi. 159 Put out thy Principal..: Live of the Use. 1728 T. Sheridan *Persius* vi. (1739) 93 But you have broke in upon the Principal. That I did for my own Use. 1827 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 129 The sum of the principal and its interest added together, is called the Amount. 1856 *Settlement* in *Law Rep.* (1908) 1 Ch. 523 To hold as well the capital or principal of the said trust funds as the dividends, interest and annual income thereof upon the usual trusts for the children of the marriage. 1868 M. E. G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 14 It will facilitate the reduction of the principal of the National Debt.

fig. 1818 Byron *Juan* I. ccxiii, I Have spent my life, both interest and principal. 1874 T. Hardy *Far fr. Madding Cr.* xli, 'You'll never see Fanny Robin no more—use nor principal—ma'am . 'Why?' 'Because she's dead in the Union'.

10. *Falconry.* Each of the two principal feathers in each wing (the two outermost primaries).

1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 120 Then cutte off some part of hir two principalles in each *wing*. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Ep. Ded., So finally flyeth this our new Poete, as a bird, whose principals be scarce growen out. 1677 N. Cox *Gentl. Recreat.* (ed. 2) 186.

11. *Mus.* †**a.** The subject of a fugue or other contrapuntal piece, as distinguished from the answer or 'reply'. *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* 105 The first [sort of double descant] is, when the principall (that is the thing as it is firste made) and the replie..are sung changing the partes. 1898 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms, Principal* (Old Eng.), the subject of a fugue, the answer being termed the Reply.

b. An organ-stop of the same quality as the Open Diapason, but an octave higher in pitch. † *Small principal* (obs.), a similar stop two octaves higher than the open diapason; now called *fifteenth*. Also, with qualification, applied to other stops an octave higher than the ordinary pitch, as *Dulciana Principal* (also called Dulcet).

In German, *Prinzipal* is applied to the Open Diapason, and (with qualifications) to all stops of the same quality, of any pitch higher or lower.

1613 *Organ Specif. Worcester Cathedral*, The particulars of the great organ, 2 principals of mettal, 1 twelfth of mettal. *Ibid.*, In the chaire organ, 1 principal of mettal, 1 flute of wood, 1 smal principal or fifteenth of mettal. 1776 Hawkins *Hist. Mus.* IV. i. § 10. 46 The simple stops are the.. Principal..and some others. 1789 *Organ Specif. Greenwich Hosp.* in Grove *Dict. Mus.* II. 508/1 Swell Organ. Open Diapason. Stopped Diapason. Dulciana. Principal. Dulciana Principal. 1881 Broadhouse *Mus. Acoustics* 219 The principal is a stop of four feet in length.

†**c.** A kind of trumpet used in the orchestra in the time of Handel: see quots. *Obs.*

1881 W. H. Stone in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 32/1 *Principal* or *Prinzipale*, a term employed in many of Handel's scores for the third trumpet part...It is obvious that whereas the tromba..represented the old small-bored instrument now obsolete,..the Principal..more nearly resembled the modern large-bored military trumpet. 1898 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms, Principal*, the name given by Handel to the third trumpet in the Dettingen 'Te Deum'.

†**C.** *adv.* Principally, chiefly; in the chief place.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2895 And prinsipall of Parys the pepull dessiret, Of þat comly to Ken. 1456 in *Coventry Leet Bk.* (E. E. T. S.) 288 Prince Edwarde, my gostly chylde, whom I love principall. 1480 *Newcastle Merch. Vent.* (Surtees) I. 5 Maires, shereffs, and aldermen..shall go princypall in the sayd solemp procession.

Principality (prinsipæ·lĭti). Forms: *α.* 4–5 **principalte**, (4 **pry-**, 5 **-tee**). *β.* 4–6 **principalite**, etc. (with *y* for *i*; also 5 **-ete**), 5–7 **-allitie**, 6–7 **-alitie**, (6 **-ye**), 6– **principality**. [ME. *principalite, principalte*, a. OF. *principalite* (*c* 1170 in Godef.) dominion, power (in mod.F. *principalité* headship of a college); also *principaltee* (1362 in Godef. *Compl.* and in AF.), in mod.F. *principauté* territory of a prince; both ad. late L. *principālitāt-em* the first place, superiority, in med.L. also the authority or territory of a prince, f. *principāl-is* Principal *a.*: see -ity.]

1. The quality, condition, or fact of being principal; chief place or rank; pre-eminence. Now *rare.*

α. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) I. 12 For right as man halte the principalte of al thing vnder his beinge, in the masculyne gender. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 85 þo lymes þat han principalte in mannes body.

β. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 327 As wille haþ principalite to-fore witt of mannes soule. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 202/2 He was sayd chief by reson of the pryncipalyte in prelacyon. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 160 b, For the recovering of memory, defnesse, and the crampe, this obtaineth principalitie. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* III. § 5. 191 The word..signifieth to obtaine principality, or to prevaile. *a* 1677 Manton *Christ's Eternal Exist.* vi. Wks. 1870 I. 468 Christ hath the primacy of order and the principality of influence. 1884 Ruskin *St. Mark's Rest* x. § 196 The heavenly look on the face of St. Stephen is not set off with raised light, or opposed shade, or principality of place.

†**b.** That which is principal; the chief point or part. *Obs.*

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 29 b, But now let vs heare in eche Plant his principalitie. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. xi. § 5 (1622) 121 The Atheist, giuing the principalitie of his loue and seruice, onely to himselfe.

2. The position, dignity, or dominion of a prince or chief ruler; sovereignty; supreme authority.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1672 Now is alle þy pryncipalte past at ones. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 225 He brouȝte al þe worlde into oon principalte and lordschippe.

β. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2311 In a wrath þe wale kyng swyth Him of his principalete priued. ?*a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xii. 2 Now by my soverayntie I sweare and principalitie that I beare. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Tit.* iii. 1 Pvt them in remembrance that they be subiect to the Principalities [1881 *R. V.* rulers] & powers. 1589 Cooper *Admon.* 157 At the beginning.., all men were alike, there was no principalitie. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* I. (ed. 2) 92 If a Royall Principality be thus instituted, as it is in the proper pleasure and power of the people to ordaine. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* ii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VIII. 65 Josephus.. calls the Commonwealth of the Hebrews a Theocracy, because the principality was in God only. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* XIII. viii. § 2 The first year of the principality of Hyrcanus. 1878–83 Villari *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1892) II. II. iv. 180 He then goes on to treat of the civil principality.

b. With possessive, as a title. *nonce-use.*

1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* xvi, May it please your honour—I mean your principality.

c. Princely action or behaviour. *nonce-use.*

1819 Byron *Let. to Murray* Wks. (1846) 572/1 It was a very noble piece of principality.

3. The sovereignty, rule, or government of the prince of a small or dependent state.

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 363/1 Offices, perteynyng to the said Principaltee and Duchie [of Cornwall]. 1485 *Ibid.* VI. 350/1 Auditour of the Principalite of Northwales. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* C j, The beginning of the Principalitie..of Wales. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* i. (1728) 119 Caranus and Perdiccas..erected small principalities in Macedonia. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 176 China was for many centuries the seat of a number of petty principalities. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Mar. 5/4 The proposed Principality of Crete under Prince George.

4. A region or state ruled by a prince. *The Principality*, a familiar designation of Wales.

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1737 þe prouynce & principalte [*v.r.* principalite] of Persye la graunt. 1592 Wyrley *Armorie, Chandos* 60 He safely went his way The principalitie through I him conuay. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 275 Vpon the confines of Italy, and the seuerall principalities thereof. 1705 Addison *Italy* 8 On the Promontory..was formerly the Temple of Hercules Monœcus, which still gives the Name to this small Principality [Monaco]. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 331 Paderborn..formerly capital of an ecclesiastical principality, and seat of a University. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkb.* 189 Of your fashionable sea-bathing resorts, the Principality boasts a pair—Tenby and Aberystwith. 1905 *Whitaker's Alm.* 617 Samos...A principality of the Ottoman Empire, more or less independent.

5. A spiritual being (good or evil) of a high order; *spec.* in *pl.*, in mediæval angelology, one of the nine orders of angels (see Order *sb.* 5), which has been variously reckoned as the seventh, fifth, or fourth. (Representing L. *principātūs*, Gr. ἀρχαί. In the Dionysian hierarchy, ἀρχαί were the seventh order.)

This use is founded mainly on passages in the Pauline epistles, in which ἀρχή 'rule, ruler', has been taken to refer to a spiritual power. (In the Bible of 1611, *principality* renders ἀρχή seven times; in five of these the Vulgate has *principātus*, in two (Eph. vi. 12, Tit. iii. 1) *principes* 'princes'. The Revised version has in Eph. i. 21, *rule*; in Tit. iii. 1, *rulers*: cf. 1560 in sense 2.)

[1560 Bible (Genev.) *Eph.* vi. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities [1557 Rulers], against powers, and against the worldlie gouernours. — *Col.* i. 16 By him were all things created, which are in heauen, and which are in earth..whether they be Thrones, or Dominions, or Principalities, or Powers [1534 Tindale to 1557 *Geneva*, maieste or lordshippe, ether rule or power].]

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. (1651) 45 Plato..made nine kindes of [spirits], first God, secondly Ideæ, 3 Intelligences, 4 Arch-Angels, 5 Angels, 6 Devils, 7 Heroes, 8 Principalities, 9 Princes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VI. 447 In th' assembly next upstood Nisroc, of Principalities the prime. 1756 A. Butler *Lives Saints* 8 May II. 317 The fathers from the sacred oracles distinguish nine Orders of these holy spirits, namely the Seraphims, Cherubims and Thrones; Dominations, Principalities and Powers; Virtues, Archangels, and Angels. 1839 Charlotte Elliott *Hymn, 'Christian, seek not yet repose'* ii, Principalities and Powers, Mustering their unseen array, Wait for thine unguarded hours

6. The office of principal of a college, university, etc.; principalship. Now *rare.* (In quot. 1641 applied to the lordship or presidency of a colony.)

[1423 *Act* 2 *Hen. VI*, c. 8 § 1 Qils ne preignent sur eux la principalte dascun Sale ou Hostell.] 1641 in E. Hazard *Hist. Coll.* (1792) I. 474 Sir Ferdinando Gorges Knight Lord of the Province of Maine..in the second yeare of my Principallity in Newe England. 1660 Wood *Life* Dec. (O. H. S.) I. 363 First, the principality of Jesus; then, the presidentship of Trinity College. 1691 — *Ath. Oxon.* I. 148 In 1546 he was made Principal of St. Maries Hall,..in 1550 he resign'd his Principality. 1712 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 460 No body to have two Principalities at the same time. 1855 G. Hill (*title*) The Right of Appointment to the Principality of St. Edmund's Hall. *a* 1882 Sir R. Christison *Life* (1885) I. 428 The principality of a small University like that of St. Andrews.

Principally (pri·nsipăli), *adv.* [f. Principal *a.* + -ly 2.]

1. In the chief place; as the chief thing concerned; chiefly, mainly, above all.

1340 *Ayenb.* 26 þo byeþ fole ypocrites, þet..doþ manie penonces,..principalliche, uor þe los [= fame] of þe wordle. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* III. xxi. (1495) d vij/2 His wytte [*sc.* of gropyng]..is pryncypally in þe palme of þe hondes and in soles of þe fete. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* li. 229 (Add. MS.) Pryncipally and before all thyng he oweth to take a way toward his owne countre. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Principalement*, chiefly, especially, principally. 1624 Dr. Buckhm. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 180 For manie waightie considerations, but principally this. 1677 Dryden *Apol. Heroic Poetry & Ess.* (Ker) I. 179 They wholly mistake the nature of criticism, who think its business is principally to find fault. *a* 1745 Swift (J.), What I principally insist on, is due execution. 1872 Ruskin *Eagle's N.* iii. § 41 My steady habit of always looking for the subject principally, and for the art only as the means of expressing it.

†**b.** In the way of main division; primarily. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 50 þeruore him to-delþ þe ilke zenne in tuo deles principalliche. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 433 Alle mans lyfe casten may be, Principaly, in þis partes thre.. Bygynnyng, midward, and endyng.

†**c.** In the first place; in the first instance; originally, primarily, fundamentally; at first. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 91 His lore is not his, for it is not principali his, but it is Goddis þat sent him. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 880 (Trin.) Of þis gult here Is she to wite þat is my fere..For principaly she bed hit me. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* I. 8 Ruines of a very large Hermitage and principally well buildid but a late discoverid and suppressid.

†**2.** In a special or marked degree; above or beyond the rest, above all; especially. *Obs.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 194 Of pompe and of pruyde þe parchemyn decorreth, And principaliche of alle peple but þei be pore of herte. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 184 If þou wolt worche more stronglich.., and principaly if he be a riche man. *c* 1489 Caxton *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 121 Whan she sawe theym so blacke and soo hidous, and pryncypally Reynawde. 1560 tr. *Fisher's Godlye Treat. Prayer* D vj b, There be three sortes of fruites principallye growyng vnto man by prayer. 1647 Saltmarsh *Sparkles Glory* (1847) 89 To administer Peace and Judgment to the world..and more principally to his people in the flesh.

3. For the most part; in most cases; in the main; mostly.

1832 De la Beche *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 331 Camerated shells..have been principally discovered in these rocks of central Italy. 1845 McCulloch *Taxation* II. xii. (1852) 388 Those who subsist wholly or principally on incomes derived from the state or from taxes. 1868 Lockyer *Elem. Astron.* vii. (1870) 268 The astronomer, to make observations on his sphere of observation merely, makes use principally either of a sextant or an altazimuth.

Pri·ncipalness. *rare.* [f. Principal *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being principal.

1530 Palsgr. 258/2 Principalnesse, *principalité*. 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 35 Degrees of Being or Causality, whether superior and before all others, or inferior, and after some others. Principalness. 1856 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xiv. § 15 Principalness of delight in human beauty.

Principalship (pri·nsipălʃip). [f. Principal *sb.* + -ship.] The office of principal, the headship (of a college, etc.).

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 161 A great office is not so gainful, as the principalship of a Colledge of Curtizans. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 12 July (O.H.S.) II. 25 Dr. Hudson's chances of the Principalship are small. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* No. 208. 6/1 The principalship of the Theological College.

Principate (pri·nsipĕt), *sb.* Also 4–6 with *y* for *i*; *β.* 4–7 **-at.** [ad. L. *principāt-us* the first place, pre-eminence, esp. in the army or state, the post of commander-in-chief, rule, sovereignty; in eccl. L. the hosts of angels, good or bad, f. *princeps, princip-*: see Prince *sb.* and -ate 1. With the obs. form *principat*, cf. F. *principat* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*).]

1. The office or dignity of, or as of, a prince or ruler; supreme position or power; supremacy, primacy, headship, pre-eminence: = Principality 1, 2. Now *rare.*

α 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlvi. 3 He made folke suget til vs..þis principate has nane bot haly men. 1382 Wyclif *Eph.* i. 21 Aboue ech principat [*gloss* or power of princes], and potestate, and vertu and lordschiping. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 317 Oon schulde be i-bore of þe Hebrewes þat schulde bere adoun þe principat of Egypt, and arere þe kynde of Israel. *Ibid.* VIII. 291 Kyng Edward 3af his sone Edward þe principate of Wales and þe erldom of Chestre. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* v. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Amonge all þe uttir membris of þe body..þe heed haþ þe beste principate [orig. *obtinens principatum*]. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 233/2 The cyte the whiche helde the pyncipate of the other citees in Italye. 1555 Eden *Decades* 286 They proudely denye that the Romane churche obteyneth the principate and preeminent autoritie of all other. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XVI. ci. (1612) 399 And Rees thus slaine the Principate of South-Wales so was done. *a* 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* iv. (1642) 255 Thus ended ..the Dukedome, or Principate of the Maccabees. *a* 1677 Barrow *Pope's Suprem.* i. (1687) 59 That under two metaphors the principate of the whole Church was promised. 1904 W. M. Ramsay in *Expositor* Apr. 246 As yet Ephesus had no principate in the Church except what it derived from its own character and conduct.

b. *Rom. Hist.* The rule of the Princeps; the imperial power of Augustus and his successors, while some of the republican forms were still retained; the period of rule of a princeps.

(The L. *Principatus* is applied by Pliny to the reign of Tiberius and of Nero; and is also used by Tacitus and Suetonius.) Quot. 1862 shows the earlier opinion that the title stood for *princeps senatus*; see Note to Princeps.

1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. liv. 466 In the emperor's principate or first place in the senate they fully acquiesced. 1875 — *Gen. Hist. Rome* lviii. (1877) 464 The

principate of Claudius had been, on the whole, a period of general prosperity. 1893 Bury *Hist. Rom. Emp.* ii. 15 The Empire as constituted by Augustus is often called the Principate, as opposed to the absolute monarchy into which it developed at a later stage...§ 3 According to constitutional theory, the state was still governed under the Principate by the senate and people. 1900 T. Hodgkin in *Pilot* 7 July 9/1 The 'Principate' as it is now usual to style the supreme power held by Augustus and Tiberius.

†**2.** = Principality 5. *Obs.*

[1382 Wyclif *Rom.* viii. 38 Nether angels, nether pryncipatis, nether virtutes, nether potestatis,..may departe vs fro the charite of God.] 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 255 b/2 The Angels were glad, tharchangels enioyed, The Thrones songen, The domynacyons maden melodye, The pryncypates armonysed, The potestates harped, Cherubyn and Seraphyn songen louynges and preysynges. 1566 *Pasquine in a Traunce* 73 Euen as a man woulde saye Angels, Archangels, Thrones, Dominations, Principates. 1635 Heywood *Hierarch.* iv. 194 In the third order Principates are plac't; Next them, Arch-Angels.

†**3.** A person having the chief position or pre-eminence; a chief, a prince. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. iii. 93 Seynt Powle claymed by the deth that he suffred the Aureole of martirs, ..he must also as one chyef and pryncipate were also the aureole of prechours. 1596 Fitz-Geffray *Sir F. Drake* (1887) 28 Fettring with golden chaines their principates, And leading captive Spaines chief potentates. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 31 His ambition to be Principate in Physick.

4. A state, territory, or community ruled by a prince or petty king: = Principality 4.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. xci. 67 This Hengiste and all the other Saxons whiche ruled the .vii. pryncipates of Brytayne ..are called of moste wryters Reguli. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Hist. Brit.* (1811) 112 [They] rulyd ioyntly the princypat of West Saxons. *c* 1570 Sir H. Gilbert *Q. Eliz. Achad.* (E. E. T. S.) 3 All monarchies and best knowen Common weales or principates that both haue bene and are. 1652-62 Heylin *Cosmogr.* ii. (1682) 9 There is reckoned one Principate, 10 Earldoms, 12 Peerdoms or Pairries. 1884 J. J. Rein *Japan* i. 7 The Riukiu..constituted until lately a separate principate or Han.

†**Pri·ncipate,** *v. Obs. rare.* Erroneous variant of Principiate *v.*

c 1650 *Don Bellianis* 47 Is it possible..that Don Bellianis should with such glory principate his haughty deeds of Chivalry? *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* iv. vi. 344 The Things or Effects principated or effected by this intelligent active Principle.

†**Principatie.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *principāt-us* Principate *sb.* + -y; perh. error for *principacy*: see -acy 3.] = Principality, Principate.

1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 187 Arche, a Prince, Principatie or Governement...Rom. 8. 38. ἀρχαὶ is taken for Principaties.

†**Principe.** *Obs.* [a. F. *principe* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *principi-um* a beginning.] = Principle *sb.* 7, 3.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Apol. Liturgy* § 99 Such as must be one in the *principe*, and diffused in the execution. 1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* i. i. i. 2 God..being the first principe, and last end of al things. *Ibid.* 4 The effective, productive principe of al that wisdome, and truth.

‖ **Principia,** L. pl. of Principium.

†**Princi·pial,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *principi-um* a beginning + -al: cf. L. *principiāl-is* existing from the beginning, original.] Standing at the beginning; initial.

1625 Bacon *Ess., Prophecies* (Arb.) 537 The Princes..which had the Principiall Letters, of that Word Hempe (which were Henry, Edward, Mary, Philip, Elizabeth). 1626 — *Sylva* § 251 There are Letters, that an Eccho will hardly expresse; as S, for one; Especially being Principiall in a Word.

Principiant (prinsi·piănt), *a.* and *sb.* [a. obs. F. *principiant*, pr. pple. (also used as sb.) of *principier* (1464 in Godef.), ad. late L. *principiāre*: see Principiate *v.* and -ant.]

†**A.** *adj.* Constituting the beginning or source of something; originating; primary. *Obs.*

a 1615 Donne *Ess.* (1651) 109 It consists not of the chief and principiant parts. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* (L.), There are some principiant and mother sins pregnant with mischief of a progressive nature. 1675 R. Burthogge *Causa Dei* 244 A Paternal is a Generative or Principiant Monad, and so is this, for he begetteth or Principleth the Number next in Nature, and that is Two.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A beginner, a novice. *Obs.* [Cf. It. *principiante.*]

1629 Shirley *Grateful S.* iii. iv, Do you think that I have not wit to distinguish a principiant in vice from a graduate?

2. *Math.* (See quot.)

1887 Sylvester in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* IX. 20 Instead of the cumbrous terms Projective Reciprocants or Differential Invariants, it is better to use the single word Principiants to denominate that crowning class or order of Reciprocants which remain to a factor *près*, unaltered for any homographic substitutions impressed on the variables.

†**Princi·piate,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *principiātus*, pa. pple. of *principiāre*: see next.] **a.** *adj.* Properly, Originated, initiated; but in quot. 1661 used as = Constituting the beginning, origin, or source; original. **b.** *sb.* See quot. 1694.

1661 Glanvill *Van. Dogm.* iv. 27 Our eyes, that see other things, see not themselves: And those principiate foundations of knowledge are themselvs unknown. 1694 R. Burthogge *Reason* 101 Of Substances some are Principles, some Principiates...By Principiates (give me leave to make an English word of one not very good Latin) I mean substances that are caused or composed of Principles. Principles make, Principiates are made to be.

†**Princi·piate,** *v. Obs.* [f. late L. *principiāre* to begin (f. *principi-um* a beginning) + -ate 3.] *trans.* To cause to begin; to originate, initiate.

1613 Shirley *Trav. Persia* 4 Some parts might have bene found fit for the Indian Nauigation, then principiated in Holland, and muttered of in England. 1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 218 The Soul, by reason of her Potential State here, cannot principiate any Bodily Action.

Principiation (prinsipi,ēi·ʃən). *rare.* [ad. med.L. *principiātio* (*a* 1250 Albertus Magnus *De Prædic.* 4. 1), n. of action f. *principiāre*: see prec.]

†**1.** Reduction to 'principles' or elements; decomposition or analysis of a substance. *Obs.*

a 1626 Bacon *Phys. Rem.* Wks. 1879 I. 244/1 The third is, the separating of any metal into its original or materia prima, or element,..which work we will call principiation.

2. *Logic.* The process of deriving a general principle, as by induction.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

†**Princi·piative,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *principiāt-*, ppl. stem of *principiāre* (see Principiate *v.*) + -ive.] Having the quality of 'principiating'; originative, initiative.

1651 Bigges *New Disp.* § 160 Its grand principiative fundamina. 1662 Stanley *Hist. Philos., Chaldaic* (1701) 18/2 They ..assert a Principiative Son from the Solar Fountain, and Archangelical, and the Fountain of Sense. 1662 J. Chandler *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 40 To know by a Syllogisme, cannot be an intellectual essentiall, as neither a principiative thing, or from a former cause.

‖ **Principium** (prinsi·piŭm). Pl. **princi·pia.** [L. *principium* beginning, origin, source, first place; in pl. front (of an army), staff, general's quarters, also foundations, elements; f. *princeps, princip-em* first in time or order: see Prince.]

1. Beginning, commencement; origin, source; first principle, element; fundamental truth, etc.: = Principle *sb.* in various senses.

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 138 The doctrine of the Catholike Church, consists of three speciall *principia* or causes. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 43 The matter is the *principium* of individuation, saith Thomas. [See Individuation 1.] *Ibid.* 281 The principium of a demonstration is an immediate proposition, *viz.* that hath none before it. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 34, I have noted the causes or *principia* of the Warres following. *a* 1679 T. Goodwin *Christ Mediator* ii. vi, God is the *principium* of subsistence to all. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Elementa*, or *Principia*, are the Simplest Bodies that can be...There are Five Elements, Spirit, Salt, Sulphur, Water and Earth. 1796 Z. Macaulay in *Life & Lett.* vi. (1900) 173 Useful productions, containing the principia of religious knowledge. *a* 1871 Grote *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 130 Not able to imbibe even the *principia* of ethical reasoning.

b. *pl. Principia*: The common abbreviation of the title of a famous work of Sir Isaac Newton, setting forth the principles of natural philosophy or physics.

[1687 Newton (*title*) Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica.] 1727 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Projectile*, Sir Isaac Newton, shews, in his *principia*, that [etc.]. 1878 Hare *Walks in Lond.* II. ii. 76 The 'Principia', which occupies the same position to philosophy as the Bible does to religion.

2. In the mediæval University, **a.** A public lecture or disputation by which a Bachelor in any faculty, who had received the Chancellor's licence, entered upon his functions, and became an actual Master or Doctor, with certain ceremonies. **b.** Also applied at Paris and elsewhere, in the Theological Faculty, to the disputation by which a student became a Bachelor of Divinity, and to the discourse upon some theological problem which the B.D. at a later stage, as a Sententiarius, was required to deliver before beginning his course of lectures on each of the four books of the *Sententiæ* of Peter the Lombard.

In sense a, also called *Inception*; the day on which this took place is still called at Cambridge and in some American universities 'the Commencement' (at Oxford 'the Act').

1895 Rashdall *Univers. Europe Middle Ages* I. 150, 229, 465, 466.

3. *Rom. Antiq.* (*pl.*) The general's quarters in a camp.

1581 Savile *Tacitus, Hist.* iii. xiii. (1591) 121 They ohly of the conspiracie might assemble themselues in the Principia. 1600 Holland *Livy* vii. 257 In the verie *Principia*, yea and within the quarter of the L. Generall his pavilion, were heard confused speeches.

Principle (prinsip'l), *sb.* Also 4-6 with *y* for *i*; 6 prynecypull. [ad. F. *principe* (Oresme *c* 1380), or f. L. *principium* (see above); formed on the analogy of *manciple, participle*, L. *mancipium, participium*, there being app. in this case no OF. form in *-ple*.] In various senses often emphasized by prefixing *first*.

I. Origin, source; source of action.

†**1.** Beginning, rise, commencement; fountain-head; original or initial state. (Also in *pl.*)

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 209 Knyghthood in Grece and Troye the Cité Took hys principlys, and next in Rome toun. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 105 The begynnenges of that water callede Tiberiades, and of the water off Iordan, whiche haue their originalle principle at the foote of the mownte callede Libanus. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 9 Reason vsing sense, taketh his principles and fyrst sedes of thinges sensyble. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* v. xi. 2 Doubting sad end of principle unsound. 1674 Evelyn *Navig. & Commerce* § 20. 46 From how small a principle she had spread. *Ibid.* § 21. 47 Richlieu..by..Improving their Ports and Magazines, has..given Principle to no inconsiderable Navy.

†**2.** That from which something takes its rise, originates, or is derived; a source; the root (of a word). *Obs.* (exc. as in 3).

1382 Wyclif *Job* xxviii. 1 Siluer hath the principlis [1388 bigynnyngis; Vulg. *principia*] of his veynes. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 294 b, *En Attaint. Attincta*, is a Writ that lyeth where a false Verdict in Court of Record vpon an Issue ioyned by the parties is giuen...And is deriued of the principle *Tinctus*, or *Attinctus*, for that if the petty Iury be attainted of a false Oath, they are stained with periury. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* ii. Disc. vi. 14 Jesus..is the principle, and he is the promoter, he begins our faith in revelations, and perfects it in commandments. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* ii. 17 With Osiers thus the Banks of Brooks abound, Sprung from the watry Genius of the Ground: From the same Principles grey Willows come.

3. In generalized sense: A fundamental source from which something proceeds; a primary element, force, or law which produces or determines particular results; the ultimate basis upon which the existence of something depends; cause, in the widest sense.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxviii. 74 Nothyng cometh of nouȝt, that is to seye, withoute a begynner, but a cause and pryncyple ther must nedes be. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 Certeynly grace is in man yᵉ chefe principle of meryte. *a* 1620 J. Dyke *Worthy Commun.* To Rdr., Man in his first estate had in himselfe a principle of life. 1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* ii. i. 35 For the performance of this Work, a Vital or Directive Principle seemeth..to be assistant to the Corporeal. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spirit* ii. ¶ 1 Those Idolaters adore two Principles; the Principle of Good, and that of Evil. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* i. § 2 *note*, The word principle..is applied to any thing which is conceived to serve as a foundation or beginning to any series of operations. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 134 Electricity..for a time, reigned as the vital principle, by which 'the decrees of the understanding, and the dictates of the will were conveyed from the organs of the brain to the obedient member of the body'. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* i. 20 Thales said that the first principle of all things was water.

4. An *original* or native tendency or faculty; a natural or innate disposition; a fundamental quality which constitutes the source of action.

c 1386 Chaucer *Sqr.'s T.* 479 Of verray wommanly benignytee That nature in youre principles hath yset. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 136 A man..who hath no inward principle of skill to enable him, in comparison of a skilfull workeman. 1669 Sturmy *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* n ij, Out of a Principle of good will I have to you. 1711 Budgell *Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 1 Every Man has such an active Principle in him, that he will find out something to employ himself upon. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* ii. 53 Two Principles in human nature reign; Self-love, to urge, and Reason, to restrain. 1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 201 They, from a principle of instinct, affix themselves to her teats. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 75 Several of them followed the ship, and seemed to be attracted by a principle of curiosity. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 229 The comparison of sensations with one another implies a principle which is above sensation.

II. Fundamental truth, law, or motive force.

5. A fundamental truth or proposition, on which many others depend; a primary truth comprehending, or forming the basis of, various subordinate truths; a general statement or tenet forming the (or a) ground of, or held to be essential to, a system of thought or belief; a fundamental assumption forming the basis of a chain of reasoning.

†*Craving of the principle* (quot. 1587): begging of the question, *petitio principii*.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 290 The þridde manere of errour þat fallip in mannes iugement is falceheed of here pryncipe þat þei grounden hem on. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 251 Plato afterward made þat art [of logic] more, and fonde þerynne meny principles and rules. 1538 Starkey *England* i. i. 16 Thys law ys the ground and end of the other, to the wych hyt must euer be referryd, non other wyse then the conclusyonys of artys mathematical are euer referryd to theyr pryncypullys. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* ix. (1617) 132 Is not this a setting downe of that thing for a ground, which..resteth to be procued, and (to speake after his owne maner) a crauing of the principle? 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* Pref. c j, Hence wil unavoidable follow some other Principles of the ever-to-be-admired Des-Cartes. 1732 Berkeley *Alciphr.* iii. § 1 Principles at other times are supposed to be certain fundamental Theorems in Arts and Sciences, in Religion and Politics. 1825 McCulloch *Pol. Econ.* 61 (*heading*) Principles of political economy. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 488 First principles, even if they appear certain, should be carefully considered.

b. *Physics*, etc. A highly general or inclusive theorem or 'law', admitting of very numerous special applications, or exemplified in a multitude of cases. Often named after the discoverer, as the *Archimedean principle* and *D'Alembert's p.* (in mechanics), *Carnot's p.* (in heat), *Döppler's p.* and *Helmholtz's p.* (in acoustics and optics), *Huyghens's p.* (in wave-motion), *Pascal's p.* (in hydrostatics). Cf. Law *sb.*¹ 17 c.

1710 J. Clarke *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* (1729) I. 85 From this Principle [that of the parallelogram of forces], the Method of explaining the Forces of the Mechanick Powers ..may excellently well be deduced. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 49 Principle II. The probability of any number of independent events all happening together, is the product of their several probabilities.

6. A fundamental quality or attribute which

determines the nature of something; essential characteristic or character; essence.

1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 1 The three chief Principles of Magnificent Building, viz. Solidity, Conveniency, and Ornament. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., The Epicurean Principles, are Magnitude, Figure, and Weight. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. iii. 388 This was the principle and essence of his plan. 1862 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. v. § 35. 163 [This] indeed must involve the very principle and meaning of the subject with which he is occupied.

7. A general law or rule adopted or professed as a guide to action; a settled ground or basis of conduct or practice; a fundamental motive or reason of action, esp. one consciously recognized and followed. (Often partly coinciding with sense 5.)

*c*1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 895 To teche and instruct by the principles and reules made by divers well expertz auctours. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 61 You keepe the prouerbe for a principle, to bed with the Bee and vp with the Lark. 1656 EVELYN *Diary* 8 July, Some Quakers..; a new phanatic sect, of dangerous principles, who shew no respect to any man, magistrate or other. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 68 He painted the great staircase, and as ill, as if he had spoiled it out of principle. 1763 JOHNSON 1 July in *Boswell*, This shews that he has good principles. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* VI. vi, There are also first principles in morals. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VIII. iii, Before I support Conservative principles, ..I merely wish to be informed what those principles aim to conserve. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 183 The barbarian lives without principle and without aim.

b. Used *absol.* for *good, right*, or *moral principle*: An inward or personal law of right action; personal devotion to right; rectitude, uprightness, honourable character. (Also in *pl.*)

1653 CROMWELL *Speech* 4 July in *Carlyle*, If I were to choose any servant..I would choose a godly man that hath principles...Because I know where to *have* a man that hath principles. 1697 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* (1698) 287 The management of the Stage..strikes at the Root of Principle, draws off the Inclinations from Virtue, and spoils good Education. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v., We say, a Person is *a Man of Principles*, when he always acts according to the Eternal Rules of Morality, Virtue and Religion. 1721 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* (Bohn) 45 Thus my pride, not my principle..kept me honest. 1874 BANCROFT *Footpr. Time* I. 87 He had brilliant powers, but little principle. 1894 F. WATSON *Genesis a true Hist.* v. 103 The religion of the prophets..the religion of principle rather than of law, and of morality rather than of ritual. *Mod.* A man of high principle.

c. Phr. *On principle* (usually in sense b): as a matter of (moral) principle; on the ground of fixed rule or obligation; from a settled (conscientious) motive.

[Cf. quot. 1762–71 in 7.] 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* XXXII. II. 267 Principles do not much influence the unprincipled, nor mainly the principled. We talk on principle, but we act on interest. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) I. i. 10 Outward acts, done on principle create inward habits. 1871 LOWELL *Pope* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 26 There was a time when I could not read Pope, but disliked him on principle. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 5/3 He was acting as counsel for an insurance company, and they told him that they were defending on principle.

8. A general fact or law of nature by virtue of which a machine or instrument operates; a natural law which furnishes the basis of the construction, or is exemplified in the working, of an artificial contrivance; hence, the general mode of construction or operation of a machine, etc. (Cf. 5 b.)

1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* iii. § 2 (1819) 24 Constructed upon strict optical principles; the self-same principles upon which we ourselves construct optical instruments. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 8 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) The principle of the Archimedian Screw is occasionally adopted in the wheel-form. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Patents*, The subject of a patent must be something vendible. A mere principle or method would not be sufficient; but if the patent were actually for a process or thing produced, it would not be a valid objection that the specification described it as a method. *a*1842 in Meeson & Welsby *Reports* VIII. 806 *note*, In this specification the plaintiff did not claim a patent for a mere principle, but for a mode of applying a well-known principle, viz. the heating of air, by means of a mechanical apparatus, to fires and furnaces. 1858 LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 255 This thermometer is sometimes varied in its form and arrangement, but the principle remains the same.

b. A general fact which forms the basis of any artificial device (e. g. of a system of measurement).

1821 J. Q. ADAMS in C. Davies *Metr. Syst.* III. (1871) 121 The real original connection between the cubic foot and the English bushel was not formed by avoirdupois weights and water, but by the easterling pound of twelve and fifteen ounces and Gascoign wine. It was the principle of the quadrantal and congius of the Romans, applied to the foot and the nummulary pound of the Greeks. *Ibid.* 179 Thus the gallon of wheat and the gallon of wine, though of different dimensions, balance each other as weights...This observation applies, however only to the original principle of the English system.

† **9.** A motive force or appliance, as in a machine.

1631 MILTON *Univ. Carrier* II. 10 And like an Engin mov'd with wheel and waight, His principles being ceast, he ended strait. 1830 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 84/1 Much attention was excited in the neighbourhood of Portland-place, by the appearance of a steam-carriage, which made its way through a crowded passage, without any perceptible impulse..; one gentleman directed the moving principle, and another appeared to sit unconcerned behind.

III. Rudiment, element.

† **10. a.** *pl.* The earliest or elementary parts of a subject of study; elements, rudiments. *Obs.* or merged in 5.

1534 ELYOT *Doctr. Princes* 7 These be the principles and chiefe introduction to the right..gouernance of a publike weale. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 10 The first principles ..of these Arts of imitation. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., Principles are the first Grounds and Rules.., otherwise call'd Elements and Rudiments; as the Principles of Geometry, Algebra, Astronomy, &c.

† **b.** *concr.* A rudiment of a natural structure; a germ, embryo, bud. *Obs.*

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 109 All the Trunk of a Tree..is fill'd with Principles or little Embrio's of Branches. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* III. § 1 Sometimes by Principle we mean a small particular seed, the growth or gradual unfolding of which doth produce an Organized Body, animal or vegetable.

† **11.** A component part, ingredient, constituent, element. *Obs.* (exc. as in c).

PROXIMATE *principle*, ULTIMATE *principle*: see these words.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 33 There are two materiall principles, the Crassament or substance of the seede..and Bloud. 1644 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 187 My body I committ to the earth whereof it was framed, knowing it must returne to its first principles. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 101 Within few years hither came a confluence of buyers, sellers, and lookers-on, which are the three principles of a fair. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 1 Sometimes by Principles we mean the parts of which a whole is composed, and into which it may be resolved. Thus the Elements are said to be principles of compound bodies. And thus words, syllables, and letters are the principles of Speech.

† **b.** *Old Chem.* Chiefly in *pl.*: The five supposed simple substances or elements of which all bodies were believed to be composed; classed into three *active* (or HYPOSTATICAL) *principles*, by which the sensible properties of the body were supposed to be determined, called respectively *spirit* (or *mercury*), *oil* (or *sulphur*), and *salt*; and two *passive principles*, called *water* (or *phlegm*), and *earth* (or *caput mortuum*). *Obs.*

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 22, I speak not of Kitchin-stuffe, those three Pot-Principles Water, Oyle and Earth, or as some Colliers call them Mercury Sulphur and Salt. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iii. 44 When the heavy Principle of Salt is fired out, and the Earth almost only remaineth [in burnt bones]. 1661–1706 Hypostatical Principles [see HYPOSTATICAL 2]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 334 In this manner are extracted from roses the three principles, spirit, oil, and salt.

c. In later chemical use: One of the constituents of a substance as obtained by chemical analysis; usually restricted to a constituent which gives rise to some characteristic quality, or to which some special action or effect is due, as in *active, bitter, colouring, neutral principle.*

Of these, *bitter principle*, is almost the only one commonly used; for the rest *constituent* or *matter* is preferred.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. (1736) 265 By which Principles they [spices] are heating, and act strongly. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 299 It is but seldom that either Animal or Vegetable Poisons derive their deleterious properties from either of these principles. 1799 [see NARCOTIC *a.* 1]. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 94 The narcotic principle is found abundantly in opium. *Ibid.*, The bitter principle is very extensively diffused in the vegetable kingdom. *Ibid.* 123 When any vegetable principle is acted on by a strong red heat, its elements become newly arranged. 1831 T. P. JONES *Convers. Chem.* XXVIII. 282 Those distinct compounds which exist ready formed in a plant, are called its *proximate*, or *immediate principles*..sugar, starch, and gum are proximate principles, and these we obtain by proximate analysis. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 284 To coagulate various animal principles which may be present. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 98 The increase of the colouring matter and other principles of the bile in the evacuations from the bowels. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 26 The active principle of the vegetable astringents is tannic acid,..it is almost their sole therapeutic principle. 1879 *Chemical Society, Instr. to Abstractors* 16 Basic substances should invariably be indicated by names ending in *-ine*, as aniline..the termination *-in* being restricted to certain neutral compounds, viz. glycerides, glucosides, bitter principles, and proteids, such as palmitin, amygdalin, albumin.

† **Principle,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To ground (any one) in the principles or elements of a subject; to impress with principles of action; to instruct, teach, train, indoctrinate; to influence by instruction. (See also PRINCIPLED 1 a.)

1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 124 b, Simplicitie hath principled her selfe with stronger Axiomes then heeretofore. 1651 *Fuller's Abel Rediv., Regius* (1867) I. 152 Urbanus Regius was born..of honest parents, who principled him in the rudiments of learning. *a*1661 FULLER *Worthies, Durham* (1662) I. 300 Pious and orthodox Professors to have Principled and Elemented the Members therein with Learning and Religion. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. iii. § 22 Such, who are careful (as they call it) to principle Children well. 1760 STERNE *Serm.* vi. (1773) 73 He had been so principled and instructed as to observe a scrupulous nicety..in the lesser matters of his religion.

b. To act upon or influence (one) as a principle; to dispose to some course of action.

1712 M. HENRY *Serm. Death R. Stretton* Wks. 1853 II. 392/2 O that grace might..principle you with a concern for their spiritual lives. *a*1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. 305 It is not the mere interest of his own salvation, but of God's honour, that principles and moves him in the whole course of his actions.

2. To be the principle, source, or basis of; to give rise to, originate.

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anima Magica* 2 They would ground Nature on Reasons fram'd and principl'd by their own Conceptions. 1668 OWEN *Nat. & Power Indwell. Sin* XV. 259 All neglect of private duties is principled by a weariness of God. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 242 Not conceiving how any lower Being should be able to inspire and principle it [world].

Hence **Pri·ncipling** *vbl. sb.*

1649 in *Perfect Diurnall* 26 Mar., Public Schools for the better education and principling of youth in virtue and justice. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 70 If the foundation of it be not laid in the Education and Principling of the Youth, all other Endeavours will be in vain.

Principled (pri·nsip'ld), *ppl. a.* Now *rare* (exc. in comb.). [f. prec. + -ED [1], but in later use as if f. PRINCIPLE *sb.* + -ED [2].]

1. Imbued with or established in principles; trained or instructed in certain principles of action; holding or habitually actuated by particular principles; that is so or such on principle. Often in parasynthetic combs., as *high-, honest-, right-principled.* **a.** In predicate, or following its noun.

1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 277 He shall be to me so as I finde him principl'd. 1657 TITUS *Killing no Murder* 12 What are the people in Generall but Knaues, Fooles, and Cowards; principled for Ease, vice, and Slavery? 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 126 Poets are better Principled than to hoard up Trash. 1712 BERKELEY *Passive Obedience* To Rdr., Take care they go into the world well principled. 1799 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 196, I am principled against this kind of traffic in the human species. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. 423 She was firm, and fiery, and high principled.

b. In attributive relation, preceding its noun.

1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 279, I think him..a very honest, right principled man in the mayne. *a*1744 POPE (J.), He seems a settled and principled philosopher, thanking fortune for the tranquillity he has by her aversion. 1774 tr. *Helvetius' Child of Nature* II. 224 A Knave, Fanny, is a principled impostor, who, guided by self-interest,..acts in defiance to the Law. 1846 URWICK *Y. Howe* 29 Though a principled Nonconformist, he was on intimate terms with Tillotson.

2. Having good or right principles; actuated by moral considerations; devoted to rectitude; upright, honourable. (The opposite of *unprincipled.*)

1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 224 Now let any honest-Hearted People judge, whether these be found Principled Men, that can Turn, Conform, and Transform to every Change according to the Times. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology*, etc. IV. 63 He was the most principled man I ever was acquainted with. 1856 BAGEHOT *Biog. Stud.* 36 To expect..a principled statesman from such a position, would be expecting German from a Parisian or plainness from a diplomatist.

3. Founded on or involving a principle; instilled into or settled in the mind as a principle.

1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* (1848) I. 73 A loose mechanical abridgment..of the other more entire, principled, and more perfect art. 1824 SOUTHEY *Bk. of Ch.* (1841) 526 A steady and principled resistance. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. iii. 127 That the love is a principled love, grounded in immovable convictions of right.

Princke, obs. form of PRINK.

† **Pri·ncock, -cox.** *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 6 pryn-, 6–7 (9) **princox**; also 6 **-coxe, -cockes, -cocks, -kox, -kockes** (7 **primecocks**). *β.* 6–7 **princock,** (**prime-cocke, primcock**), 9 (*dial.*) **princy-cock.** [Etymol. and original form obscure; the form *-cocks, -cox* appears earlier than *-cock.* See Note below.]

A pert, forward, saucy boy or youth; a conceited young fellow; a coxcomb. *humorous* or *contemptuous.*

α. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* R ij b, *Aco.* Wylt thou gold .i. any pieces of golde? *Lais.* This chayne my lyttell prycke .i. I wolde fayne haue this chayne (of golde) my pretye pryncockes, or my ballocke stones. *a*1553 ?INGELEND *Nice Wanton* (1560) A iv b, What ye pryncockes, begin ye to raue? 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* v. x. in Hazl. *Dodsley* II. 260 It is your dainty darling, your prinkox, your golpol. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 23 A Caualier of the first feather, a princockes that was but a Page the other day in the Court. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 88. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* III. ii. 1197 Your proud uniuersity princox thinkes he is a man of such merit the world cannot sufficiently endow him with preferment. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cv. (1612) 410 And dares the Primecocks interrupt me in my loue, quoth she? 1636 HEYWOOD *Loves Mistr.* II. i. Wks. 1874 V. 113 Who doe you thinke maintaines this princox in his *Pontificalibus*? 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, Well-a-day—God save us from all such misproud princoxes! 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Princox*, a pert or forward fellow.

β. 1562 PHAER *Æneid* IX. D d ij, Euryalus,..Fyne princock fresh of face furst vttring youth by buds vnshorne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/1 A Princocke, *precox, lasciuus.* 1589 *Mar Martine* A iij, Siker, thous bot a pruid princock thus reking of thy swinke. 1598 FLORIO, *Pinchino*, a pillicock, a primcock, a prick, a prettie lad, a gull, a noddie. 1611 *Ibid.*, *Pinchino*, a prime-cocke, a pillicocke, a darlin, a beloued lad. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A princock, a ripe headed yong boy. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 37 A *Princock*, a pert, forward Fellow. 1719 *Gloss. Angl. Nova, Princock*, a forward Youth, a brisk Spark. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Princy-cock*, a term used here in addressing a young person. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss., Princy-cock*, a dandified, conceited young fellow.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*; esp. in *princock-boy.*

1595 *Locrine* II. iv, Naught reck I of thy threats, thou princox boy. 1598 FLORIO, *Herba da buoi*..vsed for a princock boy [1611 a prime-cock-boy], a fresh man, a milke

sop, a nouice, or fresh water souldier. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 414 Proud princocke scholars that are puffed vp with the opinion of their learning. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 367 Such vpstart princox Youths as you. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 25 They shall be called asses, geese, fools, dolts, princock boys, beardless boys,..new come out of the shell, &c. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play-house to let* v. i, Proud Princock-Cæsar hardly seems to mind him.

[*Note.* One suggestion is that the first element is *prime*, but though *primecock* is used by Florio, this looks rather like an etymological manipulation; other early writers held it for an alteration of L. *præcox* 'early, precocious'. Apparently the word was originally of slang or low use, perh. somewhat obscene or equivocal; cf. quot. 1540, and the synonyms in Florio.]

Princod, a pincushion: see PREEN *sb.* 4.

† **Pri·ncum.** *Obs. colloq.* [? Mock-latin f. PRINK *v.*²] Nicety of dress, behaviour, etc.

1690 D'URFEY *Collin's Walk thro. Lond.* I. 41 An awkward fear..That my behaviour may not yoke With the nice Princums of that Folk.

Princum-prancum: see PRINKUM-PRANKUM.

† **Prine.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *prīn-us* (Vulg.), a. Gr. *πρῖν-os* holm oak, ilex. Cf. OF. *prin* (Godef.).] Also *prine tree*: The holm or evergreen oak; ilex.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 342 (Vern. MS.) Þat roþly cherl.. seide bifore þe prophet: þei pleied bi a prine [*MS. Phil.* pryne; *MSS. Ing., Cott.* pyne; Vulg. (Dan. xiii. 58) *sub prino*]. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Susanna* i. 58 Tel me, under what tree thou tookest them speaking one to an other. Who said: Under a prine tree [1611 a holme tree].

Prine, obs. form of PREEN, pin, brooch.

† **Pri·ngle,** *sb. Obs. dial.* Also **prindle.** [Origin unascertained: perh. from the surname *Pringle.*] A silver coin: see quots.

1683 G. MERITON *Yorks. Dial.* 183 Here's good Tobacco, Wife, it cost a Pringle [*v.r.* prindle]. [1697 (ed. 3) *Gloss.*, *Pringle*, a little silver Scotch Coin about the bigness of a penny, with two xx. on it.]

Pringle, *v.* [Alteration of PRINKLE *v.* (app. influenced by *tingle*).] *intr.* To have a prickly and tingling sensation.

1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxi, You must be still pringling from the first [hand-grip]. *Ibid.* xxxii, My eyes ached and my lips pringled with the smack of the powder. 1894 — *Round Red Lamp* xii. 230 There was something in this sudden, uncontrollable shriek of horror which chilled his blood and pringled in his skin.

† **Prink,** *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Pa. t. in 4 (? 5) **preynte, preynkte, prengte, prent, prentede, prynkid**; 9 *dial.* **prenk'd, prinked.** [app. connected with OE. *princ* (or *prince*) a blink, a wink, a twinkle of the eye (Defensor *Lib. Scint.* ix. (1889) 43).]

1. *intr.* To wink, to give a wink.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 112 Þann conscience curteisliche a contenaunce he made, And preynte [*v.rr.* prentede, prynkid; 1393 C. XVI. 121 preynte, prengte] vpon Pacience to preie me to be stille. *Ibid.* XVIII. 21 'Is Piers in þis place?' quod I, and he preynte [*v.rr.* twynclid, prent; 1393 C. XXI. 19 preynkte] on me. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1238, & þan sche preynte with hure eȝe oppon hur chamberere þar sche stod. ?*a* 1800 in W. Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 634 The dear, the lovely blinkin'o't [an eye]..plagues me wi' the prinkin' o't. 1873 *St. Paul's Mag.* Mar. 259 Professedly prudish..they..nod, osculate, prink, quiz.

2. *trans. To prink the eye*: to wink.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4507 With þat Richard preynte ys eȝe, Oppon ys feleschip þat was him neȝe. *a* 1900 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., He never prinked his eyes for the night. 'Evvent prenk'd an eye far tha neight.

☞ The following are perh. incorrect uses, which may have arisen from confusing this with PRINK *v.*² 2 b.

1776 ANSTEY *Election Ball* I. 241 How she simpers and prinks while the glass is before her. 1841 C. H. HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiq.* Gloss. 536 *Prink*, to look at, gaze upon, as a girl does at herself in a glass.

Prink (prinȷk), *v.*² Also 6 **princke.** [Known from *c* 1570; evidently related to PRANK *v.*⁴, in similar senses (occurring 1546): see Note below.]

† **1.** *trans.* with *up*: (?) To set up, exalt; to display ostentatiously, show off. *Obs.*

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* XI. Hh iv b, Fortune whom she did disgrace Oft times agayne doth rayse and prinkes him up in prouder place. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 407 He so chaufeth and moyleth in sturryng the coales in princkyng upp the glory of this whotthouse.

† **b.** *intr.* (?) To make ostentatious display; also *to prink it. Obs.*

1573 *New Custom* I. i. in Hazl. *Dodsley* III. 6 See how these new-fangled prattling elves Prink up so pertly of late in every place. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* XXI, To get more grace by crummes of cost And princke it out hir parte. 1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 254 Some princk and pranck it.

2. *trans.* To make spruce or smart; to deck or dress *up* with many petty adornments; esp. *refl.* to deck oneself out, dress oneself *up. colloq.*

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* Ep. Ded., Now I stand prinking me in the glasse. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1010 When he [Demetrius] was to make any preparation for warre, he had not then..his helmet perfumed, nor came not out of the Ladies closets, picked and princt to go to battell. 1600 BRETON *Pasquill's Mad-Cappe* (1626) B j, Who hath not seene a logger headed Asse..Prinking himselfe before a Looking-glasse? 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 142 The Women prink up themselves in a particular manner. 1775 in F. Moore *Songs & Ball. Amer. Rev.* (1856) 100 All prinked up in full bag-wig. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 303 To gather king-cups in the yellow mead, And prink their hair with daisies. 1808 SOUTHEY *Chron. Cid* 246 Since midnight they had done nothing but prink and prank themselves.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prenk, Prink, Pronk*, to decorate, to dress in a showy, affected manner. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. ii. 8 Adorned and prinked with wondrous art, Yet so grotesque that all men start.

transf. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 95 Nor, where flowers prink the mead with diverse hue. 1877 — *Wise Men* 63 My Ctesibias, who not with gold And silver only prinks his princely hall. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* i, The flowers which have slept,..prink themselves again, and give forth a good smell.

b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To dress or deck oneself up, make oneself look smart. *colloq.*

1709 D'URFEY *Pills* (1719) I. 177, I hate a Fop that at his Glass Stands prinking half the Day. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. ii. 59 She was every day longer prinking in the glass than you was. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1865) 15 Ironing out crumpled paragraphs, starching limp ones, and crimping and plaiting a little; it is as natural as prinking at the looking-glass. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 5/4 The young man, after an appropriate time spent in his room, prinking, appears in all the glory of starch and perfumery.

3. *trans.* Of a bird: To trim (the feathers); to preen. Also **b.** *intr.*

1575 GASCOIGNE *Weeds, Farew. Mischief* vi, But marke his plumes, The whiche to princke he dayes and nights consumes. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxiv, Meantime he went on with his dalliance with his feathered favourite,..'Ay, prune thy feathers, and prink thyself gay—much thou wilt make of it now'. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* I. i. 21 Yonder bird Prinks with deliberate bill his ruffled plumes.

b. 1877 LANIER *Mocking Bird* 11 This bird .. perched, prinked, and to his art again.

4. *intr.* To be pert or forward. *dial.*

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prenk, Prink, Pronk*, to be forward or pert. *Ibid.*, *Prenkin*, pert, forward. 1863 MRS. TOOGOOD *Yorks. Dial.*, She's a prenkin, forward, lass.

Hence **Prinked** (prinȷkt) *ppl. a.*, **Pri·nking** *vbl. sb.*; also **Prink** *sb.*, the act of prinking or making spruce; **Pri·nker,** one who dresses up with minute care. (All *colloq.*)

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 579 To apparel himself so sumptuously, and to be more fine and prinked then became a private man. 1699 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* v. ii, I knew, sir, what your powdering, your prinking, Your dancing, and your frisking, would come to. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Prinkt up*, set up on the Cupboards-head in their Best Cloaths, or in State. Stiff-starched. 1783 tr. *Rollin's Belles Lettres* (ed. 10) I. II. 49 He compares this florid prinked eloquence to young people curled out and powdered. 1864 WEBSTER, *Prinker*, one who prinks; one who dresses with much care. 1883 HOWELLS *Register* ii, That just gives me time to do the necessary prinking. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 3/1 Most..of the present Bench..have had a full-dress 'prink' in front of the large looking-glass ..before venturing to make their first appearance in court.

[*Note.* The late appearance of PRANK *v.*⁴ and PRINK *v.*² makes it difficult to refer them to an ablaut stem *prink, prank, prunk*, or to suppose *prink* to represent an earlier *prenk*, an umlaut deriv. of *prank*. It seems more likely that *prink* was formed from *prank*, with the thinner vowel sound, to express a more slight or petty action, or perhaps in the reduplicated formation *prink-prank, prink* and *prank*, as in *clink-clank, crinkle-crankle, jingle-jangle*, etc. It may have also been associated with or influenced by PRICK *v.* 20: cf. PRINKLE. There is no decisive evidence.]

Prink, *v.*³ *dial.* [app. related to PRANK *v.*³] ?To walk jauntily or affectedly. Hence **Pri·nking** *vbl. sb.*

1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 41 Thou, and thy Godfather Fox can know a Saint from a Devil, without speaking, but not without a little Mincing and Prinking. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* II. 28 'Oh', says she, mincing and prinking, 'I find, Mrs. Maunder, that you have been so unlucky as to affront Boden'. 1880 *W. Cornwall Gloss.*, *Prink*, to walk jauntily.

Prinkle (pri·ŋk'l), *v. Sc.* [Origin obscure; in sense 1, perh. a modification of PRICKLE *v.*; in sense 2, perh. dim. or frequent. of PRINK *v.*¹ See PRINGLE *v.*]

1. *intr.* To have a thrilling sensation, such as the feeling of 'pins and needles'; to tingle, prickle. Hence **Pri·nkling** *vbl. sb.*

1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 396 I'll gar your Daup [*note* Backside] dirle [prinkle, smart]. 1807 HOGG *Song*, '*Sing on, sing on*' i, My blude ran prinklin' through my veins, My hair begoud to steer, O. 1818 — *Brownie of B.* I. xii. 270 Are ye an angel o' light..that ye gar my heart prinkle sae wi' a joy that it never thought again to taste? 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* 175 The dulefu' dart, That sent a prinklin' to his heart Mair fierce than burr or nettle.

2. *intr.* To twinkle, scintillate, sparkle.

1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvii, Starrie gleims..prinkled, and twinkled. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* xi, His rays, prinkling over the waves, caused them to dance and sparkle with a metallic brightness. *Ibid.* xii, The humming-birds.. prinkled over the parterre like straying sunbeams.

† **Pri·nkum-pra·nkum.** *Obs.* Also **princum-prancum.** [In sense 1, reduplication of *prankum*, PRANCOME, related to PRANK *sb.*¹; in sense 3 related to PRANK *a.* and *v.*⁴: cf. also Du. *pronckeprincken, pronckepinken* to glitter in a fine dress (Oudemans).]

1. A prank, freak, frolic, trick.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 191, I wil not present into the Arches, or Commissaries Court, what prinkum prankums Gentlemen (his nere neighbors) haue whispred to me of his Sister.

2. = CUSHION-DANCE.

a 1635 RANDOLPH *Muses' Looking-Gl.* v. i, No wanton jig, I hope: no dance is lawful But prinkum-prankum! *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Playhouse to Let* v. i, Call in the Fidlers..Yet let 'em play us but princum and prancum, And we'll pay at last, or els we'll thank 'um. 1698 *Dancing Master* 7 Then he lays down the Cushion before a Woman, on which she kneels and he kisses her, singing, 'Welcom, Joan Sanderson, welcom, welcom'. Then she rises, takes up the Cushion, and both dance, singing, 'Prinkum-prank'um is a fine Dance, and shall we go dance it once again.., and shall we go dance it once again?'

3. Fine attire, fine clothes and adornments: cf. PRINCUM. See also quot. 1725.

1715 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Wks.* 408 Yonder she hides her self, because she was not dress'd up in her Princum Prancums. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Mistress Princum-Prancum*, such a stiff, over-nice, precise Madam.

Pri·nky, *a.* [f. PRINK *v.*²; cf. PRANKY.] Prinked up, decked out; spruce-looking; precise.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 442 Nothing can be more at variance than the aristocratic-looking houses half buried in gloom..in May Fair, and those prinky green and white dwellings, where city folks enjoy themselves. 1895 *Chicago Advance* 18 Apr. 1025/3 The idea may suggest itself that prinky, medieval, despised China has been making a resistance which amounts to something.

Print (print), *sb.* Forms: 4 **priont(e, pryente, preynte,** 4–5 **preent(e,** 4–6 **prente, printe, prynte,** 4–7 **preinte,** 5 **preynt,** (**prend**), 4–6 (7– *Sc.*) **prent,** 5– **print.** [ME. (= obs. Du. *printe* (Kilian), Du., Da. *prent*, MLG., LG. *prente* print, impression), a. OF. *priente* (1317 in Godef.), *preinte* impression of a seal, etc., f. *prient, preint*, pa. pple. of *preind-re, priemb-re* to press, stamp:— L. *prem-ĕre* PRESS *v.*¹]

A. Illustration of Forms.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 557 (Cott.) Als prient [*Göt.* preinte, *F.* prent] of seel in wax es thrist. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1244 To schewe þe prente of me sele! *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 7 Þe prynt we bere of þi light. 1340 *Ayenb.* 81 His ryȝte pryente, þet is þe ymage of his sseppere. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 92 Sum..fordiden soone Cristis preinte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 60 My lady therupon Hath such a priente of love grave. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 73 A badde peny with a good preynte [*v.rr.* preente, prente]. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 3162 To Porrus vnder my print. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 101 Þe same preent is made, bope in gold and in copyr. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Preente (*K.* prend, *S.* preynt), *effigies, impressio.* 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 § 14 Pennys..havynge the prente of the Coigne of this realme. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 219 The printe of his feete. 1583 *Reg. Privy Councit Scot.* III. 583 Libellis bayth in write and prent. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 203 They issued a declaration in preinte. 1785 BURNS *To J. Smith* vii, To try my fate in guid black prent.

B. Signification.

I. General non-typographical senses.

**An impression or impress.*

1. The impress made in a plastic material by a stamp, seal, die, or the like; a distinctive stamped or printed mark or design, as on a coin.

a 1300 [see A.]. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1205 Caracter, þet is prente ycliped, Nys non of eliinge. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* xv. 6 Y suffre the for to make smytyng [*gloss* or printe; 1388 prynte] of thin own money in thi regyoun. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 295 He strengthed hit with the prynte of his seale. 1463–4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 501/2 Sealed with a double prynt of Leede at the ende therof. 1523 *Act* 14 & 15 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 All suche farthinges..shall haue vppon the one side thereof the printe of the port collice. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* Rubric, That the breade ..for the Communion bee made..without all maner of printe, and somethyng more larger and thicker than it was. 1599 DAVIES *Immort. Soul* x. ii, As the Wax retains the Print in it. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 69 That famous Idol made of the tooth of a Monkey...The King of Pegu ..sent yearely Ambassadours thither, to take the print of it upon Amber.

† **b.** A symbolic mark, a character; a badge.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Sam.* Prol., Samarytans also the fyue bokis of Moyses wryten in as feele lettris, oonli in figuris and printis dyuersynge. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 11 [Solomon] fond vp figures and prentis to be grave in precious stones. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 108 Þat comounes of contre..Sholde knowe be hir quentise þat þe kyng loued hem Ffor her priuy prynte passinge anoþer. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. vi. 13 b, Afore that time [of Esdras] the Hebrues and Samarites vsed all one carecters and print of their letters.

c. See quot. (A doubtful sense.)

1840 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 3) 169 *Print, Prynt*, a plaister cast of an ornament, or an ornament formed of plaister from a mould. The term is used in the record of St. Stephen's chapel. [Founded upon instances of *prynts, preynts*, in accounts cited in J. T. Smith *Antiq. of Westminster* (1807) pp. 203, 217, 219–21, of uncertain meaning but prob. belonging to sense 1. Hence, with modifications, in recent Dicts.]

2. *fig.* **a.** An image or character stamped upon the mind or soul, *esp.* the Divine likeness (in allusion to Gen. i. 27); a mental impression. Now *rare.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 450 For wanne me takeþ þis sacrement, His soule prente takeþ. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xiii. (1859) 10 Deformynge in hym self the prent and the figure, that god hath set in hym. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* vii. (1622) 58 Which needeth no proofe besides ..that print which in his conscience euerie one carrieth about. 1642 R. CARPENTER *Experience* II. viii. 196 To lay him low, and make him supple to take the print of Humility. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. i. 8 Sooner or later I too may passively take the print Of the golden age.

b. An image or likeness of anything.

1388 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxviii. 12 Thou a preente of licnesse, ful of wisdom, perfit in fairnesse, were in delicis of paradijs of God. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* VII. (*Lion & Mouse*) XIX, It bair the prent of my persoun. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*

Wks. 61/1 This is quod he, yᵉ fathers owne figure, this is his own countenance, yᵉ very prent of his visage.

† c. Form, appearance. *Sc. Obs. rare.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 854 The pure Howlatis appele completly was planyt,..He besocht..That thai wald pray Natur his prent to renewe. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot. (Rolls)* III. 415 Hir plesand prent, hir perfit portrature, Exceidit far all vther creatuir.

3. *gen.* Any indentation in a surface, preserving the form left by the pressure of some body, as the print of a foot in the ground; also, by extension, a mark, spot, or stain produced on any surface by another substance.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 47 Ȝet may men see in þe roche þe prynte of oure Lorde hend. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* 116 The prynte of the hors shoo and nayles abode euer in his vysage. 1546 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) Q viij, The swellyng or puffyng vp..pressed wyth the finger, there remaineth a print. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 141 A faire medicine to cure..the black prints remaining after strokes. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. i, He would pinch the children..so hard that he left the print of his forefingers and thumb in black and blue. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 239 Returning..we saw the recent prints of a bear and two cubs. 1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* ii. (ed. 4) 29 Smaller ripples .. together with apparent rain-prints [in stratified rocks]. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Sept. 5/1 Informed that the Finger-print Office had stated that the finger-prints ..were identical with those of a convicted person.

† b. A vestige, trace, indication. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 223 b, That no print or shadowe should remain of the adverse faccion, in his realme. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 228 The inhabitants..yet retaine some print of the Punicke language. *a* 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1670) II. 160 Hard by it appeare some prints of the Temple of Venus and Cupid. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 247 Scarce any prints of what he had been remained.

***An instrument for impressing.*

4. An instrument or apparatus which produces a mark or figure by pressing; a stamp or die; a mould. Also *fig.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 606 The prent off luff him punȝeit at the last So asprely. 1586 in *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) II. 139, v printes for gingbreade 12ᵈ. 1594 *Ibid.* 245, vj printes for printinge jens-breade, 3/4ᵈ. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1701) 419/2 Matter is the print, mother, nurse, and productrix of the third essence. 1789 O'BRIEN *Calico Printing* E viij, Some treacle and lamp-black may be mixed and diffused with a pad..over the face of the print [i. e. the 'block' used in block-printing of calicoes]. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Print*, a mould for coin, &c.

b. *Cutlery.* (See quot.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 379 In order to make the bolster of a given size, and to give it..shape and neatness, it is introduced into a die, and a swage placed upon it; the swage has a few smart blows given it by the striker. This die and swage are, by the workman, called prints.

c. *Founding.* A support for the core of a casting.

1864 WEBSTER s. v., *Core print*, a projection on a pattern, forming a mortise in the mold made from it, to receive a portion of the core that does not appear in the casting, for the purpose of holding the core in place. 1884 *Spon's Mechanic's Own Bk.* (1893) 37 Prints are extensions of the cores, which project through the casting and into the sides of the mould, to be held by the sand or flask.

****A thing impressed.*

5. A pat of butter, moulded to a shape.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1778) II. 128 He had brought the little print of butter upon a currant leaf. 1777 in J. Hancock *His Bk.* (1898) 216 Mrs. Smith sent up..a print of Butter. 1877 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 175 Saucers of cream and prints of butter were to be found upon the dresser.

6. A printed cotton fabric; a piece of printed cotton cloth. Often *attrib.*

1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* xl, Shrouding herself..in her cotton print cloak. 1852 HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* iii. I. 31 She was dressed as simply as possible, in an American print. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do* I. xiv, In a coloured print, of a pattern familiar to his observant eye in the windows of many a shop. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 133 He chose the print stuff for his wife's dresses. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xvii, Mrs. Crick..wore a hot stuff gown in warm weather because the dairymaids wore prints. 1893 J. ASHBY STERRY *Naughty Girl* vi, Their print frocks..were gone. 1899 *Prospect. Calico Printers' Assoc.*, Certain markets are closed to English prints owing to hostile tariffs.

II. Typographical uses.

7. The state of being printed, printed form: in phrases. **a.** *In print.* (*a*) In a printed state, in printed form. Cf. also sense 14. So *Into* († *unto*) *print.*

1482 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 300 A Boke in preente off the Pleye off the Chess. *c* 1493 in *Christ Church Canterbury Lett.* (Camden) 59, I can nat thynke yt lykely that ther shall come ony moo of them yn prentys, as be that I her off them that selle such bokys. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 245/2 The worke..by theyr authorities so put vnto prent, as all the copies should come whole vnto the bysshoppes hande. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 38 A antiphonar in prynt. 1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. 1888 I. 60 To put furth our mynd in prent at hame. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 45 My Mistris was saluted by a spruse companion that lookt like a letter in print. [Cf. sense 14.] 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 71 A certaine dangerous seditious Pamphlet was of late put forth into print. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 509 ₱ 1 My present Correspondent, I believe, was never in Print before. 1816 BYRON *Eng. Bards & Sc. Rev.* 51 'Tis pleasant, sure, to see one's name in print; A book's a book, although there's nothing in't. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 6 Rush like a hero into print.

(*b*) Of a book or edition: On sale at the publisher's, not yet sold out.

1880 (*title*) The American Catalogue...Author and Title Entries of Books in Print and for Sale...July 1, 1876.

b. *Out of print* (of a book or edition): no longer to be bought at the publisher's, sold out.

1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* I. v. 194 Divers excellent little Tracts, which..are already out of print. 1895 *Prospectus of E. E. T. S.* 6 Half the Publications for 1866..are out of print, but will be gradually reprinted.

8. *concr.* Language embodied in a printed form; printed lettering; typography; esp. with reference to size, form, or style, as *small print, clear print.*

1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* I. i, And if you meet An officer preaching of sobriety, Unless he read it in Geneva print Lay him by the heels. 1657 T. ATKIN in Fuller *Worthies* (1662) II. 309 Forty years since he could not read the biggest Print without Spectacles, and now there is no Print so small,..but he can read it without them. 1773 JOHNSON *Let. to Boswell* 5 July in *Life*, I can now write without trouble, and can read large prints. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Voy. Eng.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 12 The sea-fire shines in her wake... Near the equator, you can read small print by it.

b. *fig.* (Cf. also 1623 in a.)

1623 WITHER in *C. Butler's Fem. Mon.* Ad Author. 28 An Abstract of that Wisdome, Power, and Loue, Which is imprinted on the Heav'ns aboue In larger volumes, for their eies to see That in such little prints behold not thee. 1637 SUCKLING *Aglaura* I. i, Well, Ile away first, for the print's too big If we be seene together. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxvi, All the wickedness of the world is Print to him.

† **9.** A printing-press (with its accessories). Hence, the work of the press, the process of printing. *Obs.* Cf. PRESS *sb.*¹ 13.

1507 JAS. IV in *Dict Nat. Biog.* (1887) X. 187/1 To furnis and bring home ane prent, with all stuff belangand tharto, and expert men to use the samyne for imprenting..of the bukis of our lawis. 1538 COVERDALE *Prol. N. T.* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 36 The turning of a letter is a fault soon committed in the print. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* Prol., Neither translated ready to the Prynte nor yet appointed certaynly to be translated. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 134 Mr. Doctor Stevens .. espyed certain false allegations in his Masters book, whilst it was under the print in London.

10. An impression of a work printed at one time; an edition.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 20 When these two pryntes (there were of them bothe aboute v thousand bokis printed) were al soulde..the dewch men prynted it agen..in a small volume lyke their firste prynt. 1623 T. JAMES in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 304 To compare old Prints with the new. 1634 *Raynold's Byrth Mankynde* Pref. 1 In the other prints, there lacked matter necessary to the opening and declaration of the Figures. 1887 *Daily News* 11 July 3/2 Notwithstanding an immense 'print', the papers rapidly reached a premium of, in some cases, 300 per cent.

11. A printed publication; *esp.* a printed sheet, news sheet, newspaper; *the prints* = the press. Now chiefly *U. S.*

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* A ij, Will they prouoke him, by worde and Print. 1651 CLEVELAND *King's Disguise* 44 A Psalm of mercy in a miscreant print. 1654 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 108 The English letters came not till last evning and soe late as I could not see the prints, but heare they conteyne little. 1696 H. SAMPSON in *Thoresby's Corr.* (ed. Hunter) I. 246 Manuscripts, if lost, can never be made good, as prints may. 1727 SWIFT *Imit. Horace* II. vi. 115 Inform us, will the emp'ror treat? Or, do the prints and papers lye? 1777 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 234 The particulars you will have..in the public prints. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. ii, I believe, Mr. Puff, I have often admired your talents in the daily prints. 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Condorcet* (1878) 52 The freedom of the press, the multitude of the public prints, were all so many insurmountable barriers against a French Cromwell. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 22 Dec. 470/3 Of course, the Government prints take in each case the opposite view.

b. A printed copy (of a bill in parliament).

1828 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 329 That the intended Bill..be read.., and Prints of the Bill circulated. 1831 *Ibid.* 331 Laid before the Council a Print of the Bill.

12. A picture or design printed from a block or plate; an impression from an engraved or otherwise prepared plate. Hence *in print*, quot. 1662.

In a general sense, including impressions from a raised surface as in wood-engravings, and from sunken lines as in copperplate and steel engravings; also from a flat surface as in lithographs; but sometimes excluding lithographs and etchings, and otherwise variously restricted.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* iii. 38 With eight more Prints [i. e. woodcuts by Dürer] of this subject. *Ibid.* iv. 45 After Raphaels death, did Julio Romano publish some of his own designes in print. *Ibid.* 48 Diogenes..a very rare print [i. e. a chiaroscuro]. *Ibid.* v. 129 Copies are in Prints much more easily detected, then in paintings. *Ibid.* 141 An Universal, and choice Collection of prints and cuts. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 7 Were fastned to the Wall two or three old Prints. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. s. v., Prints or Cutts, as we sometimes call them. *a* 1745 JON. RICHARDSON *Ess. Prints* Wks. (1792) 262 He hath etched several valuable prints. 1755-73 JOHNSON s. v., It is usual to say wooden prints and copper plates. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 206 There is a print of him, painted by John Lyvyus, and engraved by Vosterman. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 307 In such a case..there is no other substitute but a good print of the animal to give an idea of its figure. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 752 This combination of the two modes of colouring prints has a good effect. 1821 CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* vii. 384 The earliest specimen that we have of it is in a print, by Albert Durer. 1898 PENNELL *Lithography* 54 From 1817 onwards the great lithographic houses issued their prints by 'hundreds and thousands'. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 663/1 Garish coloured prints and execrable oleographs.

13. *Photogr.* A picture produced from a negative: see PRINT *v.* 14.

1853 R. HUNT *Man. Photogr.* 22 Attempts are being made, at this time, to fix the images produced by the Daguerreotype—perfect prints, it is true, but which are as light as the vapour from which they are produced. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 293 Some advise that on removal from the colouring Bath the print should be soaked in new Hypo for ten minutes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 207 A good print may be obtained by a person who is unskilled in making a negative. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 50 Rough paper for prints in silver is now on the market, and certainly gives most pleasing results.

III. Transferred uses, of uncertain origin.

By Nares and others derived from the typographical sense, 'from the exact regularity and truth of the art of printing, which was at first deemed almost miraculous'. But printing was not new in 1576 and in various respects this explanation seems doubtful, though Shakspere plays on the two senses of 'in print' in *Two Gent.* II. i. 175, *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 94, and the phrase may sometimes have been so taken: cf. quot. 1881, and 1606 in sense 7. The use in reference to the ruff, 14 b, may yet prove to be the earlier, though not evidenced in the quots.

14. In phrase *in print*: In a precise and perfect way or manner; in exact order, with exactness or preciseness; to a nicety. Now *dial.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 357 Considering that what soeuer is vttered in such mennes hearing, must bee done in printe, as wee say in oure common Prouerbe. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 Concerning the body, as there is no Gentlewoman so curious to haue him in print, so is there no one so careles to haue him a wretch, onlye his right shape to shew him a man. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. Wks. (Rtldg.) 316/1 Dames now-a-days..Pac'd in print, brave lofty looks, not us'd with the vestals. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* III. i. 173, I will doe it sir in print. 1591 — *Two Gent. Verona* II. i. 175 All this I speak in print, for in print I found it. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. IV. i. (1676) 328/1 A young lover .. must .. speak in Print, walk in Print, eat and drink in Print, and that which is all in all, he must be mad in Print. 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. xi. § 1 (1669) 97/2 If his heart be on his Garden, O how neatly it is kept! it shall lie, as we say, in print. 1692 LOCKE *Educ.* § 22 Not design'de to lie always in my young Master's Bed at home, and to have his Maid lay all Things in print, and tuck him in warm. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew* s. v., *To set in Print*, with Mouth skrew'd up and Neck Stretcht out. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northants. Gloss.* s. v., She's always in print, and so is her house. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* s. v., 'The house is as neat as print'...'Shay kips all 'er plazes in print', is high praise for a servant who keeps her own part of the house neat and clean.

† b. With a sb.: *A man, fool* (etc.), *in print*, a perfect or thorough man, fool, etc. *Obs.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Whore* I. Wks. 1873 II. 10, I am sure my husband is a man in print, for all things else, save only in this. 1611 COTGR. s. v. *Bosse, Sot en bosse et platte peinture*, a foole in print, asse in graine, compleat coxcombe, absolute hoydon. 1633 MASSINGER *Guardian* II. i, Is he not, madam A monsieur in print? What a garb was there!

† c. Applied, *a* 1600 to *c* 1630, to the exact crimping, goffering, or set of the plaits or pleats of the ruffs then worn. Nearly always in the phrases *to set the ruff in print*, or *the ruff stands in print.* See also PRINT *a.* 1, PRINTED 1 b. Said also of *clothes. Obs.*

Quot. 1628 appears to mean a ruff of the size or pattern worn by Puritans: cf. 1614 in PRINTED 1 b. There may also be a reference to the small print of Geneva Bibles: cf. 1623 in sense 8.

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 58 Neat as a Merchants ruffe, that's set in print. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master Constable* III. iii. 105 Your ruff must stand in print; and for that purpose, get poking-sticks. 1615 *Band, Ruffe, & C.* (Halliw.) 5 The presse Ruffe Cuffe and Band (what reason's in't) And yet desire they still should stand in print. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 363 Yet these mote sett their ruffes and clothes in print, Yea, keepe them so: elles dames will looke a squint. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. i, Put on my girdle, rascal: fits my ruff well? *Lin.* In print. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Skee Precise Hypocr.* (Arb.) 63 Shee is a Nonconformist in a close Stomacher and Ruffle of Geneua Print, and her puritie consists much in her Linen. *a* 1641 SUCKLING *To Ld. Lepington* Poems (1648) 18 It is so rare..to see Ought that belongs to young Nobility In print (but their own clothes) that we must praise.

d. Said of the beard or hair. So also *out of print*, out of proper order, in disorder. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1605 CHAPMAN *All Fools* v. i. H iv b, Tis such a picked fellow, not a haire About his whole Bulke, but it stands in print. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 91 His [a proper squire's] Beuer cocks, Feather waggs, Locks houer, and Beard stands in print. 1851 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. IV. 12/1 An old Somersetshire servant..used to say..'Take care, Sir, you'll put your hair out of print'.

IV. 15. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in sense 1, as *print-mark*; in sense 6, as *print-broker*; in sense 7, as *print-blurred* adj.; in sense 12, as *print-collector, -pedlar*; **print-cutter**, (*a*) a person occupied in cutting prints; (*b*) a knife for cutting photographic prints; **print hand**, handwriting imitating or resembling print: so **print letters**; **print-holder**, (*a*) a small frame for holding a photograph or engraving; (*b*) a device for holding a photographic print flat or in a desired position (*Cent. Dict.*); **print-room**, a room in a museum or the like, containing a collection of prints; **print-state**, state or condition of an engraving, resulting from the number of impressions that have been previously printed; **print-trimmer** = *print-cutter* (*b*); **print-washer**, an apparatus for washing photographic prints after fixing. See also PRINT-SELLER, -SHOP.

1905 *Academy* 30 Dec. 1362/1 They have done duty so often, that they are now like battered wood-blocks, and only

*print-blurred. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 374/1 The '*print-brokers', who sell 'gown-pieces' to the hawkers or street-traders. 1880 WARREN *Book-plates* xii. 126 A *print-collector, an ex-librist, and a herald. 1851 in *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 Aug. (1854) 119/3 (Occupations of People) *Print colourer, *print cutter, print mounter. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV. Wks. (Globe) 668/2, I can read your *print hand very well. 1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. II. 250 (*My Godfather*) The letter in print-hand, proper to the damsel of six years old. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lii, It ain't my father's writin', 'cept this here signatur in *print letters. 1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3694/4 A bright-bay Gelding near 16 hands,..a *Print-Mark pretty high on the near Buttock. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 360/1 An open saloon, where are petty book-stalls and *print-pedlars. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 616/2 Had '*print-states' been numbered consecutively by the old publishers, we should now have graduated prices. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 57 If a circular *print-trimmer is used, the print, if albumen, can be cut while damp. 1889 E. J. WALL *Dict. Photogr.* 261 [Advt.] 'Optimus' rocking *print-washer. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* 480 Combined Tank and Print Washer..will accommodate any plate rack up to half-plate size.

Print, *a.* Now only *dial.* Also *Sc.* **prent.** [In sense 1 perh. pa. pple. of PRINT *v.*; cf. quot. 1513 in sense 2 b, also MDu. *geprent*; but possibly sometimes attrib. or adj. use of PRINT *sb.*]

1. Printed.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 84 Late us..bring forthe..the golde and silver of coyne and print money that every of us senatours and statis haven. 1542 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 46 Item a prynte masse boke. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvi, She can speak like a prent buke. 1864 MRS. LLOYD *Ladies Polc.* 103, I can't spake like print books—never could. 1865 J. YOUNG *Pictures* 64 (E. D. D.) Thou com'st wi' some prent scrap in han'.

b. Of a ruff: cf. PRINT *sb.* 14 c, PRINTED 1 b. *New print,* ? newly printed, pressed, or goffered.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* (Hunter. Cl.) 52 [They] are foorth comming sir, and safe enough Sayes goodman Broker, in his new print ruffe.

2. *dial.* Clear, bright (of moonlight, etc.).

1736 PEGGE *Kenticisms* s. v. (E. D. S.), The moon shines print. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* s. v., Print star, or moon-light. 1875 *Sussex Gloss., Print-moonlight,* .. very clear moonlight. 1887 *Kent Gloss.* s. v., The night is print;..The moonlight is very print.

Print (print), *v.* Forms: 4 **prente,** 4–5 (6– *Sc.*) **prent,** 4–6 **prynt**(**e,** 5 **preent**(**e,** 5–6 **printe,** 6– **print.** *Pa. pple.* **printed:** *Sc.* 6 **prent,** 6– **prentit.** [ME. *prente-n, printe,* known from *c* 1350, app. f. the earlier *prente, printe,* PRINT *sb.,* like OF. *emprienter, empreinter,* f. *empriente, empreinte,* IMPRINT *sb.* The vb. corresponds to MDu., Du. *prenten,* WFris. *printjen*; MLG., LG. *prenten* (whence Da. *prente,* Sw. *prenta*), also app. f. the corresp. sb., MDu. *prente, printe,* Du. *prent,* MLG. *prente,* a. OF. *priente, preinte.* Cf. also obs. F. *printer* to coin or stamp money (1544, Liège, in Godef.).]

I. General senses.

1. *trans.* To impress or stamp (a surface) with a seal, die, or the like; to mark with any figure or pattern, impressed or coloured; to brand. Said also of footsteps upon soft or yielding ground.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 256 Whan we sihen þi sonde wiþ þi sel prented, We kenden þi couaitise. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 117 þis monee es prynted on bathe þe sydes. *c* 1466 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 294 The other ij. pottys be prentyd with that merchauntys marke. 1637 G. DANIEL *Genius this Isle* 26 The Naiades..the willing Sand shall print. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 308 He..treads so light, he scarcely prints the Plains. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4421/8 Stoln.., a black Mare.., printed in the near Hip. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 116+4 Little footsteps lightly print the ground. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 194 A spot that has been printed by the footsteps of departed beauty. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 246/2 The butter is then salted..and then moulded and printed.

† b. *fig.* To stamp, brand, stain. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 473 Crist..forfendide hem to prynte þer soulis to myche wiþ erþly godis. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxxvi. 111 Sette þat he saide.., As he þat was prente full of pride, 'Jewes kyng am I', comely to knawe, Full playne. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 21 It is Cornelius that braue gallant youth, Who is new printed to this fangled age.

† c. To coin (money). *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 80 God coueiteþ nat þe covgne þat crist hym-self prentede. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 265 He caused halpenys and ferthynges to be printed and made rownde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xxiii. (S.T.S.) II. 135 Becaus na siluer was as 3it prentit in rome, thay cunzeit grete sovmes of brasin money. 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 29/1 That our Souerane Lord..may cause prent, and cunze gold and siluer of sic fynes as vtheris cuntreis dois.

2. To impress or stamp (a form, figure, mark, etc.) in or on a yielding substance; also, by extension, to set or trace (a mark, figure, etc.) on any surface, by carving, writing, or otherwise.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 62 And in that roche is prented the forme of his body. 1494 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 318 A basyn and lavor of siluer, myne armes printed thereon. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* 3 Lyke the Prentyse that hewyth the rowgth stone, And bryngeth it to square,..That the mayster after may..prynte therin his fygures and his story. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 195 On the ta side of this money was prentit ane croce, and his face on the tothir. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xix. 28 Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any markes vpon you. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* II. xxv. 158 The plaisters..growing hard there, would print a hole into the flesh. 1789 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* II. 90 Thrice round the grave Circaea prints her tread. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 834 The child prints many a playful kiss Upon their hands. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 156 If you'd only had those patterns printed out slowly and indelibly.., you'd have known it was no joke [to be tattooed].

b. *fig.* To impress (an image, thought, saying, etc.) upon the heart, mind, or memory; to fix in the mind.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 851 (900) Euery word þat sche of hire herde Sche gan to prentin in h[i]re herte faste. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1784 Remembre hit well and prynte hit in thy mynde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. i. 8 Deip in hir breist so wes his figur prent. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* (1859) 505 This sentence is very meet for women to print in their remembrance. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 681 Contrived by a Perfect Understanding Being or Mind..which hath every where Printed the Signatures of its own Wisdom upon the Matter. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Imit. 1st Sat. Persius* Wks. 1730 I. 53 Then will grey hairs on all thou say'st print awe. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxix, And hill and wood and field did print The same sweet forms in either mind.

3. To press (anything hard) into or upon a yielding substance, so as to leave an indentation or imprint. Also with *in.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxii. 44 Prented in shal be the sel. 1530 PALSGR. 666/2 Let me printe your seale in a pece of waxe, me thynketh it is antique. *a* 1541 H. S. in *Wyatt's Penit. Ps.* Prelim. Sonn. 15 In princes' hearts God's scourge y-printed deep, Ought them awake out of their sinful sleep. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V,* Prol. 27 Horses..Printing their prowd Hoofes i' th' receiuing Earth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 101 If the Soil be barren, only scar The Surface, and but lightly print the Share. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* II. ii, Only the golden Leopard printed in it Such hold-fast claws.

† b. *fig.* To fix in or on (something). *Obs. rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xiv. (Tollem. MS.), þe sonne entrynge in to þat parti of þe signe prenteþ in his bemis more scharpely [orig. *acriter radios imprimit*] þan he dooþ in þe ende. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. v. 132 His sycht vnmovyt to the erd dyd he prent.

c. *Founding.* To make an impression of in a mould with a core-print or with a pattern.

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.*

† **4.** To commit (anything) to writing; to express in written words; to inscribe. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11772 This poynt is not prynted in proces þat are now. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 114 The hiest lessoun þat man may lere..Yf þou haue grace to holde & heere, Is playnli printid in poulis booke. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 76 Loo! sir, þis is a periurye To prente vndir penne. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* IV. i. 75 Heauen guide thy pen to print thy sorrowes plaine.

† **5.** To form in a mould; to cast, shape. *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 157 A moulde, to moulde or print a thyng in. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 110 b, Thinges that remain in the fire without melting, wherein men print very well all maner of metall. *Ibid.* 114 b, Untill that turninge downwarde the mouldes, they come out. And if in case they be not wel printed,..you may put them in agayne.

II. Senses relating to typography.

6. To make or produce (a book, picture, etc.) by the application to paper, vellum, or any similar substance, in a press or machine, of inked types, blocks, or plates, bearing characters or designs. (In printing for the blind, embossed characters, without ink, are produced.)

In this sense *enprynte, emprynte,* is found earlier, and was app. at first more in use: see IMPRINT *v.*

[1474 CAXTON *Chesse* Pref., By cause thys sayd book is ful of holsom wysedom..I haue purposed to enprynte it.] 1511 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 62 Item for a new processionary printed..xvj[d]. 1533 *Gau's Richt Way* 109 (Colophon) Prentit in Malmw Be me Ihone Hochstraten the xvi day of October Anno MD XXXIII. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 160 Englishe Bibles were printed at Paris. 1603 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. III. 78, I sende you herewith my booke latelie prentid; studdie and profite in it. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* To Rdr., They are now new-printed in farre better paper than most Octavo or Quarto Bibles. 1639 GENTILIS *Servita's Inquis.* (1676) 882 Things of importance ought equally to be handled, as well in those that are Printed, as in those that are to Print. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 22 He procured me the Mappe of Babylon, or Bagdet, printed upon a Cotton. 1711 ABP. KING in *Swift's Lett.* (1767) III. 239 The *Spectators* are likewise printing in a larger and a smaller volume. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 426 'Tis about half printed off. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5850/3 His Majesty's Picture, printed in natural Colours. 1775 JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* 10 Oct., Maps were printing in one of the rooms. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 217 The copper-plate printing of calico is almost exactly the same as that used for printing engravings on paper from flat plates. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 19 May 306/1 She..prints it herself with the cyclostyle. 1906 L. GILES *Musings Chinese Mystic* 31 The philosopher's works, in Kuo Hsiang's standard edition, were printed for the first time in the year 1005 A. D.

7. Said of an author or editor, not of the actual printer: **a.** To cause (a manuscript, book, etc.) to be printed; to give to the press.

1530 PALSGR. 666/1 Whan wyll you printe your booke, *quant voulez vous faire imprimer vostre liure?* 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. Aaaa ij b, Being desired by some Friends..to Print it,..I have so done. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. Author's Apol., Some said, John, print it; others said, Not so;..At last I thought, Since you are thus divided, I print it will; and so the case decided. 1789 BURNS *Capt. Grose's Peregrin.* i, A chield 's amang you taking notes, And, faith, he'll prent it. 1897 J. W. CLARK *Barnwell* Introd. 9 My first idea was to print the Latin text alone.

b. To express or publish in print (ideas, etc.).

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 23 They thinke it not enough to do me wrongs unlesse they print them too. 1672 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. (Arb.) 133 I'l be reveng'd on them too: I will both Lampoon and print 'em too, I gad. 1751 LABELYE *Westm. Br.* 107 My Intention, in Printing and distributing this Plan..is..to ease the Minds of many Persons. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 17 Young men of course may..have opinions on many subjects, but there is no reason why they should print them.

† c. To designate in a printed statement, describe in print as. *Obs. rare.*

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & no King* III. ii, My safest way were to print myself a coward. *c* 1646 MILTON *New Forcers Consc.* 11 Men whose Life, Learning, Faith and pure intent Would have been held in high esteem with Paul, Must now be nam'd and printed Hereticks.

8. *intr.* or *absol.* **a.** Of a person (in senses 6, 7): To exercise the vocation of a printer; to employ the press in printing. † *Print upon,* to print an edition of a book immediately after that published by (the author or editor), in order to appropriate some of the profits (*obs.*).

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 5 Before they ventur'd to Print, which is a Sword in the Hand of a Child. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 324 There may be danger they may print upon you, unless you print more Copies. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 100 In durance, exile, Bedlam or the Mint,—Like Lee or Budgel, I will rhyme and print. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 25 [Caxton] printed likewise for..Henry VIIth. 1802 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 13/2 Every man who prints, imagines he gives to the world something which they had not before, either in matter or style.

b. Of type, a block, a plate: To yield an impression on paper, etc. c. Of a manuscript or of literary matter: To run *up* or amount in type (to so much). *rare.*

1886 TUPPER *My Life as Author* 282, I wish there was space here to say more about all this; but the great book before me would print up into several volumes. 1904 *19th Cent.* Apr. 672 Here scarcely a line has been added: but the plate 'prints', and the plate began by *not* printing.

9. *trans.* To mark (paper, etc.) with printed characters or designs.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Printing,* The wetting of the paper ought to be done two or three days before printing it.

10. To take an impression from (a forme of type, a plate, block, etc.); to use in printing.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Printing,* Engraving several plates of Sandro Boticello's design, and printing them off this new way. 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 572/1 These machines, however, are better adapted to printing stereotype plates, to which a curved form could be given. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1335/2 The stone is then etched, washed out, and printed.

11. To write in imitation of typography; to form (letters) in the style of printed letters; also *absol.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvii, 'Mr. Weller..here's a letter for you'..' It can't be from the gov'ner', said Sam, looking at the direction..' He always prints, I know, 'cos he learnt writin' from the large bills in the bookin' offices'. *Mod.* A little boy, who cannot write yet, has *printed* me a letter.

III. Technical senses analogous to II.

12. *trans.* To stamp or mark (a textile fabric, as cotton or oilcloth), by hand or machinery, with a pattern or decorative design in one or more colours. Also *absol.*

1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 7 b, Goods and marchandize that come out of the kingdom of Cambaia, as cloth of Bumbast white, painted, printed, great quantitie of Indico [etc.]. 1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 505 One coveringe for a Frenche gowne of lawne, embrodered all over with fountaines, snaikes,..and other devises, upon silver chamblet prented. 1700 *Act* 11 & 12 *Will. III,* c. 10 All Calicoes, painted, dyed, printed or stamped there [in E. Indies] shall not be worn or otherwise used within the Kingdom of England. 1712 *Act* 10 *Anne* c. 19 There shall be..Paid for and upon..all Callicoes to be so Printed, Stained, Painted or Dyed..the Sum of Three Pence for every yard in length. 1758 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 III. 7 There are also fifty-six yards of cotton, printed curiously from copper plates. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 214 The manufacturer..can print at whatever hour he may receive an order...Under the patronage of parliament, it was easy..to buy printed calicoes.

b. *Print on* (in *Calico-printing*): to apply (the colouring matter of the design) upon the surface by printing.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 215 Four different methods are in use for imprinting figures upon calicoes..the fourth is by a system of copper cylinders..by which two, three, four, or even five colours may be printed on in rapid succession. *Ibid.* 222 Some mordants..liquefy in the course of a few days; and being apt to run in the printing-on make blotted work. *Ibid.* 241 Print-on the resist to preserve the white.

13. *Pottery.* To transfer to the unglazed surface a decorative design in colour from paper, or in oil from a gelatine sheet or bat, the colour in the latter case being dusted on afterwards. With the pottery, or the design, as obj.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1017 The old plan of passing the biscuit into the muffle after it had been printed...The [glue] cake..is..transferred to the surface of the glazed ware which it is intended to print. *Ibid.* 1029 M. Saint Amans ..says the English surpass all other nations in manufacturing a peculiar stoneware..as also in printing blue figures upon it.

14. *Photogr.* To produce (a positive picture) by the transmission of light through a negative placed immediately upon the sensitized surface, or, in an enlarging camera, before it. Also with *off, out.*

1851 HUNT *Photogr.* 80 The Printing Process...It is..a negative picture,..a matrix which is capable of yielding a vast number of beautiful impressions. I have had as

many as fifty printed from one, and I have no doubt that as many more might be obtained from it. 1851 TALBOT in *Athenæum* 6 Dec. 1286/2. 1852 *Chemist* III. 222/1 The positive pictures are..printed off, and fixed. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 173 It is always necessary to print the picture some shades darker than it is intended to remain. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 49 These papers are somewhat quicker *in* printing, but the surface will not bear the rough treatment which coagulated albumen would stand.

b. *intr.* Of a negative (with a qualifying adv.): To produce a photograph (*well, badly*, etc.).

1852 *Chemist* III. 221/2 [A negative] which will, as the phrase goes, print well. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 290 As a general rule, the best Negatives print slowly.

15. See NATURE-PRINTING.

16. *Combs.*, in which **print-** is used attrib. in the sense of PRINTING *vbl. sb.*, as **print-cloth**, cotton cloth of the kind suitable for printing; **print-ground** = PRINT-FIELD. Also **print-out paper** *Photogr.* = *printing-out paper*: see PRINTING *vbl. sb.* d. See also PRINT-FIELD, -HOUSE, etc.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 213 Calico-printing..was unknown as an English art till 1696, when a small print-ground was formed upon the banks of the Thames, near Richmond. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 480 A yard of cotton cloth of the kind called print-cloth. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 444 A new toning agent..said to be superior to any yet introduced for the toning of albumen or gelatine print-out papers.

Printable (prĭ·ntăb'l), *a.* [f. PRINT *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being printed; fit to be printed.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. iv, Such ground-scheme,.. still legible and printable, we shall now..present to the reader. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* V. 293 Lemaire..called him names not printable in these prim days. 1891 J. D. CAMPBELL in *Athenæum* 31 Oct. 583/3 Talfourd had printed ..all in the letters that was printable in 1837 and 1848.

b. Capable of being printed from. *rare.*

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 June 5/7 Of all the modern methods of producing printable plates, heliogravure stands undoubtedly pre-eminent.

Printed (prĭ·ntĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. PRINT *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Impressed, stamped, marked, † moulded.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 12 Of mylke soden with the flour Men make printed cakes. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 683 Their dung is printed, grosse, long, and knottie. 1742 COLLINS *Oriental Ecl.* II. 52 Oft in the dust I view his printed feet.

b. Said of a ruff: In print (PRINT *sb.* 14 c); ? with the pleats properly pressed or goffered; cf. PRINT *a.* 1 b.

1611 B. JONSON in *Coryat's Crudities* a iij b, He [Coryat] will shortly be reputed a Knowing proper, and well trauelled scholer, as by his starchd beard, and printed ruffe may be as properly insinuated. 1614 — *Barth. Fair* III. ii, *Mooncalf.* [Of a party of Puritans.] A body may read that i' their small printed ruffes [i. e. ruffs in small or Geneva print].

2. Produced or prepared by typography; bearing printed characters; expressed or published in print.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xiv. (Percy Soc.) 53 Whose godly name In printed bokes doth remayne in fame. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 5 A shieto of printed paper. 1665 *Orders of Ld. Mayor Lond.* in De Foe *Plague* (Rtldg.) 62 With these usual printed Words,..'Lord have Mercy upon us'. 1709 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Miss A. Wortley* 21 Aug., I don't see any violent necessity of printed rules. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 215 The first printed book in the English language was not printed in England.

3. Coloured or figured by a process of printing, as cotton goods, carpets, pottery, etc.

1588 [see PRINT *v.* 12]. 1633 WOTTON *Let. to Sir E. Bacon* 3 June in *Relig.* (1672) 464, I send you herewith two printed Caps... The Caps is a pretty fresh invention of a very easie rate;..which may come to some pretty perfection in the ornament of Curtains and Valances of Beds, or in some fine historified Table-cloth for a Banquet. 1758 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 III. 7 Seven yards of printed cloth. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. Introd. 2 A mode..we use for colouring printed linens. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1028 The blue printed ware of England has been hitherto a hopeless object of emulation in France. 1888 BLACK *In Far Lochaber* viii, I've bought each o' them a printed cotton gown. 1900 *Daily News* 24 Feb. 6/5 Printed in the medley of colours and the designs so long associated with cashmere shawls.

4. Reproduced by nature-printing, photographic printing, etc.

1856 T. MOORE (*title*) Nature-Printed British Ferns. 1859 [see NATURE-PRINTED]. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 18/2 The development of a partially printed-out image.

Printeis, obs. Sc. form of PRENTICE.

Printer (prĭ·ntəɹ). Also 6 **prent-**; 6 **-or, -our**, *Sc.* **-ar**. [f. PRINT *v.* + -ER[1]. So MDu. and early mod.Du. *prenter, printer*.]

1. A person who prints, in any sense of the word; one engaged in impressing or stamping marks or designs upon a surface, as a calico-printer, and (formerly) a coiner.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 556 All Meltaris, Forgearis and Prentaris within the said cunyehous. 1570–1 *Ibid.* XIV. 89 The generall maister cunzeour, warrandis,..sinkar, meltaris, ..and prentaris of the cunze hous. 1704 *Collect. Voy.* (Churchill) III. 803/2, 100 Printers of Callicoes. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 214 The great disadvantage under which the French printers labour is the higher price they pay for cotton fabrics, above that paid by the English printers. 1853 DICKENS *Let.* in *Daily News* 12 Jan. (1899) 5/2, I hope we shall never terminate our business engagements until that printer in stone, who will have to be employed at last, shall set 'Finis' over our last binding in boards!

b. *spec.* One whose business is the printing of books, etc.; the owner of a printing business (formerly usually identical with a publisher); a workman employed in a printing-office.

1504 *Statuta in Parliamento* (Colophon), Emprented at London..by me Rycharde Pynson, Squyer and Prenter unto the Kynges noble grace. 1509 *Hawes' Conv. Swearers* 90 (Colophon) Enprynted at London..by Wynkyn de Worde, prynter vnto the moost excellent pryncesse my lady the kynges graundame. *a* 1520 DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 220 Pryntouris, payntouris, and potingaris. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 499/1 Of that writing that remayneth, some corrupted bi writers, some by prenters. 1570 LEVINS *Manip. Vocabul.* 77/17 A Printer, *chalcographus*. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S. T. S.) 468 Thay consult to hinder his labour, to tak Mr. Ninian, to punise the prenter. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 14 Wee can no more ascribe these things to chance, than a Printers Case of letters could by chance fall into the right composition of the Bible which he printeth, or of Homers Iliads. 1770 *Junius Lett.* i. 1 To the Printer of the Public Advertiser. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sc.*, etc. III. 69/2 Caxton's types, as well as those of most of the early printers, were the Gothic, or black letter characters.

2. An instrument or appliance used for printing.

a. A telegraphic printing instrument; **b.** a photographic negative in its printing capacity; **c.** *mechanical printer*, a name for a typewriter. (U. S.)

1890 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 432/1 Edison's various devices in his old stock printer have formed the basis of all later variations on that sort of instrument. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Motor, Motor printer*, a printing telegraph in which the mechanism is moved by electric, steam, or other motive power. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 14/2 It is not always the negative which looks best which is the best printer.

3. *Trade.* A cotton cloth made to be printed on; printing-cloth.

1864 J. S. BUCKLE *Manuf. Compend.* p. ix, 36 inches wide Cambric Printer, 50 yards long. 1883 *Daily News* 25 June 2/7 Cotton Goods...Mexicans, T-cloths, and printers are generally dull, with occasional sales at a slight decline.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* chiefly appositive, 'that is a printer' (sense 1 b), as *printer-author, -journalist*.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 105 Printer setters will commit faults, as appears by the Errataes at the end of books. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 5/2 Caxton and Wynkyn de Worde command large sums,..and so..of many other printer-authors who combined both professions in those primitive times when labour was undivided. 1906 *Athenæum* 25 Aug. 209/3 In 1618 the Community of Printer-Booksellers was sanctioned by the king [of France].

b. With *printer's*: **as printer's devil** = DEVIL 5 a; **printer's flower** = FLOWER *sb.* 5 c; **printer's imprint** = IMPRINT *sb.* 3; **printer's mark**, a monogram or other device used by a printer as a trade-mark. **c.** With *printers'*, as *printers' fat* (= FAT *sb.*[2] 5 b), *ink* (see INK *sb.*[1] 1), *pie* (see PIE *sb.*[4]), *ream* (see REAM *sb.*[3]), *roller, varnish*; **printers' bible** (see quot.); **printers' gauge** = GAUGE *sb.* 12.

1898 *Home Mag.* 31 Dec. 378/2 The so-called "Printers" Bible, which contains..the..misreading..'Printers have persecuted me without a cause' (Psalm cxix. 161), 'printers' being substituted for 'princes'. 1763 H. ROSE in *Fam. Rose Kilravock* (Spald. Club) 438 Harassed every morning by the *printer's devil. 1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Apr., I think I could submit to be printer's devil, to get a sight of the next volume. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* (1882) 127 The hand implements used by 'printer's-devils' fifty years ago. 1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. II. 33/1 Type..occupying exactly three-sevenths of the open page, the remaining four-sevenths being '*printer's-fat'. 1820 URE *Dict. Chem.* (1823) 506/2 Good *printers' ink is a black paint, smooth and uniform in its composition. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 478/1 Printers' ink may be considered as a black paint, writing ink..as a black dye.

Hence **Pri·nterdom**, the 'world' of printers.

1903 *Brit. & Col. Printer* 19 Nov. 4/1 The list of present entrants is being spread abroad through printerdom. 1904 *Ibid.* 10 Mar. 15/3 There are enough titled men in printerdom to give a little point to a story [etc.].

Printery (prĭ·ntəri). Chiefly *U. S.* [f. prec.: see -ERY. Cf. *imprimery*.]

1. A printing-office.

1638 H. PETERS in 4 *Mass. Hist. Coll.* VI. 99 Wee have a printery here. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 28 He would cause the Vatican Printery to be set on work again. 1864 WEBSTER, *Printery*,..also, sometimes, a printing-office. 1894 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 7 Sept. 2 The American Government,..and some of our colonies, had established Government printeries.

2. A cotton-printing factory; = PRINT-WORK 1.

1846 in WORCESTER citing PITKIN. 1903 *Fabian News* XIII. 34/2 [He] was head of a big calico printery.

† **Pri·nt-field.** *Obs.* [f. PRINT *v.* + FIELD *sb.*] An establishment for printing and bleaching calicoes; = PRINT-WORK 1.

1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 380 Printfields for staining cotton cloth have been established at Cromwel-haugh, Huntingtower, Stormont-field and Tulloch. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 138/1 The banks of the Leven..are covered with numerous bleachfields, printfields, and cotton-works. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 214 One of his foremen..worked for a year in a print-field in Lancashire.

† **Print-house.** *Obs.* [f. PRINT *v.* + HOUSE *sb.*]

1. = PRINTING-HOUSE.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 13 Father Wilson, ouerseer of the Print-house. 1668–9 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) IV. 81 Mr. Delgardno, who lived in the house now the little print-house. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 221 They are about pulling down our Print-House.

2. *Print house.* † **a.** A cotton-printing factory **b.** A house of business selling prints (PRINT *sb.* 6).

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 242 Filters for the colour shop of a print house are best made of wool.

Printing (prĭ·ntiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PRINT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PRINT, in various senses; an instance of this.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. iii. (Tollem. MS.), In comparison to þe formest party [of the brain] he be menely harde, þat þe prentynge of shappis [orig. *formæ impressio*] and of liknesse be þerinne þe longer holde. *Ibid.* XIV. ii. (Bodl. MS.), þe printinge of þe sonne bemes is strenger in lowe places þanne in hiȝe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 542 She strengthed hit with the pryntyng of her seale. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 No manne vnder the degree of a barons sonne..shall weare any maner embrodery, prickyng or printing with golde, siluer, or sylke. 1728 DE FOE *Plan Eng. Commerce* 296 It is but a few Years ago since no such thing as painting or printing of Linen or Callicoe was known in England. 1835 E. BAINES *Hist. Cotton Manuf.* 257 In some parts [of the East] block printing is wholly unknown. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1029 Unsized paper fit for printing upon stoneware. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Oct. 4/4 Finger-printing, first suggested and practically applied by Sir William Herschel, of the Indian Civil Service.

b. In *Typography.* (See PRINT *v.* 6.)

1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Printyng of bokes, *impression*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 170 b, In which season [*c* 1457] the craft of Printyng was first inuented in the citie of Mens in Germanie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 438 Their printing is not by composing the letters as with vs; but.. they make for euery leafe a Table or boord, with characters on both sides. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 30 Caxton distinguished the books of his printing by the following particular device. 1837 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* (1843) I. iii. § 19. 148 The invention of printing..from moveable letters, has been referred by most to Gutenberg, a native of Mentz.

c. In *Photography.* (See PRINT *v.* 14.)

1853 *Family Herald* 3 Dec. 510/2 The printing of positives will take from three or four minutes to one hour and a half, according to the sun. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 289 Photographic Printing...A. The exposure to light, or printing, properly so called.—B. The fixing and colouring [etc.]. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 49 These papers are somewhat quicker in printing.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *printing-hammer, -material, -pad, -process, -roller, -works*; in Typogr., as *printing-letter, -plate, -room, -tool, -type*; in cotton-printing, as *printing-shop*; in pottery-printing, as *printing-colour*; in Photogr., as *printing light, negative*; **printing-body**: see quot.; **printing-cloth**, cotton cloth made specially for printing; **printing-cylinder**, in some printing-machines, the cylinder by which the paper is pressed on the flat forme of type, the impression cylinder; **printing-drum**, a revolving drum in a printing-machine serving to guide the paper; **printing-frame** (*Photogr.*): see quot. 1875; † **printing-irons**, implements for coining; **printing-machine**, a printing-press of the kind used for printing rapidly and on a large scale, generally one in which mechanical power is employed; † **printing-mould**, ? a set of matrices for type: see MOULD *sb.*[3] 2, MATRIX 4; **printing-paper**, (*a*) paper used for printing on; (*b*) in *Photogr.* sensitized paper on which pictures are printed (also *printing-out paper*, abbrev. P. O. P.); **printing-wheel**: see quot.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1015 Three kinds of glazes are used in Staffordshire; one..for the finer pipe-clay ware to receive impressions, called *printing body. 1883 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 7/1 Cotton goods..*Printing cloth quiet, and rather unsteady. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1015 As to the stoneware.. it is covered with a glaze composed of 13 parts of the *printing-colour frit. 1790 *Patent Specif.* No. 1748, A is the *printing cylinder covered with woollen cloth. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1036 The paper is thus conducted from the first printing cylinder F, to the second cylinder G. *Ibid.* 1037 Then encompassing the left-hand side and under portion of the *printing drum..it passes in contact with the..rollers. 1855 HARDWICH *Man. Photogr. Chem.* 159 With sensitive paper..the picture will look well on its first removal from the *printing-frame. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Printing-frame*,..a quadrangular shallow box in which sensitized paper is placed beneath a negative and exposed to the direct rays of the sky or of the sun. *Ibid.* 1801/1 The type-wheel is continuously rotated by an independent motor, the circuit of the *printing-hammer being closed when the letter is opposed to the printing-pad. 1531 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 49 For bering of the kist with the *prenting irnis to the abbay. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Tudicula*, a ladell, a pryntynge yron, wherwith vessell is marked. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 227 The Sizes of *Printing Letter would not perhaps have been carried lower than Brevier. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 267 Good *printing light. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 302/2 Hand-presses are now for the most part superseded in large establishments by steam-presses, generally called *printing-machines. 1664 ATKYNS *Orig. Printing* 4 Thomas Bourchier, Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, moved the then king (Hen. the 6th) to use all possible means for procuring a *Printing-Mold..to be brought into this Kingdom. 1856 *Pract. Chem.* in *Orr's Circ. Sci.* 206 For the production of a *printing negative. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 8/4 The sensitive paper—ordinary gelatino-chloride *printing-out paper answers well. 1875 *Printing-pad [see *printing-hammer*]. 1888 WEBSTER, **Printing-paper*, paper to be used in the printing of books, pamphlets, &c. 1892 *Bothamley's Ilford Man. Photogr.* App. 164 The printing paper of the future. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 14/2 Close contact between negative and printing-paper. 1772 *Patent Specif.* No. 1007 The top *printing roller and iron levers must then be raised. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 168 Printing a Cotton Gown... The inner roller revolves in the colour, and distributes it

over the printing roller, which in its turn presses against the gliding cloth. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 215 The *printing shop is an oblong apartment. 1683 *Printing Tools [see PRINTING-HOUSE]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Printing-wheel*, one used in paging or numbering machines or in ticket-printing machines.

Pri·nting, *ppl. a.* [f. PRINT *v.* + -ING 2.] That prints, in various senses of the vb.

1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* v. 805 'Ah', Said I, 'my dear Lord Howe, you shall not speak To a printing woman who has lost her place..compliments, As if she were a woman'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Printing-telegraph*, an electro-magnetic telegraph which automatically records transmitted messages. The term is, however, generally applied only to those which record in the common alphabet.

Pri·nting-house. Now only *Hist.* A building in which printing is carried on, a printing-office.

Printing House Square, a small square in London, the site of the office of the *Times* newspaper; hence *transf.*

1576-7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 583 The prenting hous and necessaris appertening thairto. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 337 Euery one abideth in his owne office..as ..is to bee seene in the printing house. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. ¶ 1 They say, Such a One has set up a Printing-House,..thereby they mean he has furnish'd a House with Printing Tools. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 11 (1754) 51 Of all the sumptuous edifices which of late years have shot up in Oxford, and adorn'd the habitation of the muses, the new printing-house..strikes me with particular pleasure and veneration. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Times* Wks. (Bohn) II. 117 The perfect organization in its printing-house.

Pri·nting-ink. The ink used in printing, printers' ink; *fig.* printed matter, print.

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 9 Such [books] as are writ to take out the Blots of Printing-Inke. 1765 *Dict. Arts & Sc.* s. v. *Ink*, Black printing Ink for engraving on Copper. 1875 URE *Dict. Arts* II. 916 Printing Ink..is essentially a combination of lamp-black..with oil. 1904 *Athenæum* 21 May 657/3 Amid all this flood of printing-ink English students have had to wait till now for any connected and detailed account of this new branch of physics.

Comb. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Am.* 27 Printing-ink-makers.

Pri·nting-office. An establishment in which the printing of books, newspapers, etc. is carried on.

1827 *Oxford Guide* 79 The Clarendon Printing Office. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 159 His printing-office, in which the poems of Burns were first put into type.

Pri·nting-press. An instrument or machine for printing on paper, etc., from types, blocks, or plates: = PRESS *sb.*[1] 13; sometimes restricted to a hand-press, as distinguished from a *printing-machine*, worked by machinery, with cylinders.

1588 [see PRESS *sb.*[1] 13]. 1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius* Advt., At his Shop at the sign of the Printing-Press in Cornhil, neer the Exchange. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 258 Would you..break down the Printing-Presses, melt the Founds, and burn all the Books in the Island? 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 127 It is only because chroniclers were scarce, and printing-presses *unknown*, *in* those times.

attrib. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶ 1 The Worms for Printing-Press Spindles.

Printiz, obs. form of PRENTICE.

Printless (prĭ·ntlĕs), *a.* (*adv.*) [See -LESS.]

1. Making or leaving no print or trace.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 34 Ye, that on the sands with printlesse foote Doe chase the ebbing-Neptune, and doe flie him When he comes backe. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 897 Whilst from off the waters fleet Thus I set my printless feet O're the Cowslips Velvet head. 1855 O. W. HOLMES *Poems* 79, I heard the spirits' printless tread, And voices not of earthly sound.

2. That has received, or that retains, no print.

a 1797 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Posth. Wks.* (1798) IV. 160 Pacing over the printless grass. 1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* II. 333 We leave his infant body to the winds, and engrave upon his printless heart, in the first morning of life the feeling of pain. 1874 B. TAYLOR *Prophet* II. iv, Wandering birds..Strike their way across the printless air.

B. as *adv.* Without leaving, or without receiving, a print.

1792 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes to Kien Long* III. vii, Let the widow's and the orphan's tear Fall printless on thy heart as on a stone. 1818 MILMAN *Samor* 198 The moss springs printless up beneath her feet.

Pri·nt-se·ller. A person who sells prints (PRINT *sb.* 12) or engravings.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4685/4 Sold by C. Browne, Print and Map-Seller. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 688 He connived at a print-seller's carrying away a great many valuable prints. 1857 RUSKIN *Elem. Drawing* ii. 139 Any printsellers who have folios..of old drawings, or facsimiles of them.

Pri·nt-shop. A print-seller's shop.

a 1697 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) I. 407 To take viewes, landskapes, buildings, etc...which wee see now at the print shopps. 1780 T. DAVIES *Garrick* II. xlii. 186 An engraving of her..is still to be seen in the print-shops. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xix. 310 Circular frames, which revolved after the manner of those in the print-shops.

Pri·nt-work. [f. PRINT *sb.* + WORK *sb.*]

1. (Now usually *printworks*, often const. as *sing.*) A factory in which cotton fabrics are printed.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 400 Employed in the drying-room of a calico print-work. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 54 A large print-work..consists of several distinct departments, such as the mechanical department, the chemical department, the artistic or designing department, the printing department, &c. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 10 Sept. 5/1 Manager of the calico printworks.

2. Lettering imitating printed characters. *rare.*

1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 68 (*Lucy*) But never was MS. so illegible..as the print-work of that sampler.

Printyce, obs. form of PRENTICE.

Priodont (prəi·ŏdɒnt), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Priodōn, -ont-em* (Cuvier), generic name, f. Gr. πρί-ειν to saw + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- a tooth, later altered to *Prionodon*, f. πρίων, πριον- a saw, whence PRIONODONT.] Saw-toothed. **a.** Belonging to the genus *Priodon* (*Priodontes, Prionodon*), or the subfamily *Prionodontinæ*, of armadillos (the kabalassous), characterized by very numerous teeth set closely like the teeth of a saw. **b.** Applied to a form of the mandibles in stag-beetles, having the projections or teeth small and closely set.

1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 278 The priodont armadillo..has ninety-eight teeth. 1883 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 870/3 Four very distinct phases of development in their mandibles, which the author proposed to term 'priodont', 'amphiodont', 'mesodont', and 'telodont'. 1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 193 In each species [of *Lucanidæ* (stag-beetles)] these variations [of the mandibles] fall..into distinct states, so that entomologists describe them as 'forms', the largest developments being called teleodont, the smallest priodont.

† Priol, obs. form of PAIR- royal.

1776 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 341 If the highest has a priol of aces all the company give five guineas each.

‖ Prion (prəi·ŏn). *Ornith.* [mod.L., a. Gr. πρίων a saw.] 'A genus of Petrels established by Lacépède, on account of the denticulated or serrated edges of their mandibles, and used as an English word by many writers' (Newton *Dict. Birds*); a saw-billed petrel.

Prionodont (prəi‖ŏ·nodɒnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Prionodon*, or f. Gr. πρίων, πριον- a saw + ὀδούς a tooth: see PRIODONT.] Having teeth serrated or resembling the teeth of a saw.

a. Of an armadillo: = PRIODONT a; as *sb.* a prionodont armadillo, a kabalassou. **b.** Of a civet-cat: Belonging to the genus *Prionodon* or subfamily *Prionodontinæ* (the linsangs), having only one tubercular molar on each side in each jaw; as *sb.* a prionodont civet-cat, a linsang. **c.** Transversely plicated, as the hinge of the bivalve shells of the group *Prionodesmacea*. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prior (prəi·ər), *sb.* Forms: 1–3 **prior,** 4–6 **priour, -e, pryour,** (5 **priowr, pryo(u)r, pryowre, prier**), 6– **prior.** [Late OE. *prior*, a. L. *prior, -ōr-em* former, superior (see next), in med.L. as sb. the superior or chief officer of a society, spec. a priory; in ME. reinforced by OF. *priur* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *priour* (mod.F. *prieur*), whence the ME. form *priour*, etc. In sense 2 b ad. It. *priore*.]

1. A superior officer of a religious house or order.

a. In an abbey, the officer next under the abbot, appointed by him to exercise certain authority, maintain discipline, and preside over the monastery in his absence (*prior claustral*); in a smaller or daughter monastery the resident superior (*prior conventual*). In monastic cathedrals, in which the Bishop took the place of Abbot, the Prior was the actual working head of the abbey. In some large foreign abbeys, e. g. Cluny and Fécamp, there were several priors, the chief of whom was called *Grand Prior*. **b.** The superior or head of a house of Canons Regular (Augustinians, Arroasians, and originally Premonstratensians). **c.** Also the superior of a house of Friars.

Grand Prior, the commander of a priory of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, or of Malta.

1093 *Charter of Wulfstan* in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Aev. Sax.* (1865) 445 Hine God ȝeuferade þæt he wearð prior & fæder þæs bufan cweðenan mynstres. *a* 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1107 Ernulf þe ær wæs prior on Cantwarbyrig. *a* 1131 *Ibid.* an. 1129 Þa priores, muneces and canonias þa wæron on ealle þa cellas on Engla land. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 219/642 And þe prior with procession to þe ȝate comez. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 7065 He asked leue atte priour To speke wyþ Constant. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 350 Þer [friars] ordre lettiþ þes, but ȝif þei han þer priours leeve. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 287 The Priowrys of the fowre Orderys of Freyerys. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 780/20 *Hic prior, -ris*, a prier. 1533 MORE *Confut. Tindale* II. 532 In the same house whereof I was master and pryour. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 270 Laurence his successor, brought Monks into the house, the head whereof was called a Prior, which woorde..was in deede but the name of a seconde officer, bicause the Bishop himselfe was accompted the very Abbat. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3918/1 The Grand Prior is at present with the Duke of Vendosme, his Brother. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Priors Aliens*, were certain Priors born in France, that had the Government of Monasteries founded for outlandish Men in England. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. xxi. 379 The general Chapters, or the Visitors of the same Orders, shall appoint Priors-claustral, or Sub-Priors, in the Priories in which there is a Convent, to exercise Corrections and Spiritual Government. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In the monastery of St. Denys, there were anciently five priors; the first whereof was called the grand prior...There are also grand priors in the military orders. 1901 J. T. FOWLER in *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) III. Introd. 3 In Durham, as in Winchester, Ely, and other monastic Cathedrals, the Bishop was the honorary and titular head, while the true head of the house was the Prior.

2. a. In foreign countries, the title of the elected head of a guild of merchants or craftsmen. **b.** The title of a chief magistrate in some of the former Italian republics, e. g. Florence: cf. PRIORATE 1 b. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1604 *Merch. New-Royall Exchange* B ij b, The Merchants [at Rouen]..shall chuse out of the said number three officers, viz. A Prior and two Consulls, to remaine in their authoritie for one yeare. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. vi. (1903) 93 Still the cittizens had theire wonted Magistrate called Gonfaloniere, and theire Priour of Justice. 1748 *Earthquake of Peru* I. 60 The Court of Commerce is the Consulship, where a Prior and two Consuls preside. [1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* x. 224 His son Cosmo, born in 1389, was priore in 1416.] 1878-83 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1898) II. xiv. 398 The working-classes placed the Priors of the Guilds at the head of the Government.

† 3. A superior. (After L. *prior* in *Vulg.* John i. 15.)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 75 He is to come after Joon, al if he be Joonis pryour. Ffor he was not made bifore Ioon in tyme..for Ioon spekiþ of forþerhede of manhede of Crist bifore Ioon in grace, and also in worþynes. *Ibid.* 77 After me is to comen a man, þe whiche is made bifore me, for he was anoon my priour [cf. *Vulg.* John i. 15 quia prior me erat].

† 4. The first or greatest; the chief. *Obs.*

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 127 Plato, the Prior of all ancient Philosophers.

5. *Commerce.* The head of a firm. Now *rare.*

1853 MILLHOUSE *Dizion. Ingl.-Ital., Prior* (com.), socio principale, direttore. 1865 (Jan. 2) *Circular of Messrs. A. Gibbs & Sons*, We beg leave to inform you that we have this day admitted as partner in our House Mr. George Louis Monck Gibbs, nephew of our prior. 1908 *Morning Post* 1 Jan., Messrs. Antony Gibbs and Sons announce that they have admitted into partnership the Hon. Gerald Gibbs, son of their prior, Lord Aldenham.

Hence **Pri·oracy,** the office of prior: = PRIORATE 1; **Pri·oral** *a.*, of or pertaining to a prior.

1895 E. MARG. THOMPSON *Hist. Somerset Carthusians* 71 St. Hugh's immediate successor in the prioracy was Bovo. 1882 *Athenæum* 30 Sept. 427/3 The Abbot of Bath, who thereto had at once erected a prioral cell.

Prior (prəi·ər), *a.* (*adv.*) [a. L. *prior* former, earlier, elder, anterior, superior, more important, f. OL. prep. *pri* before.] Preceding (in time or order); earlier, former, anterior, antecedent.

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* ii. 38 Whether we become partakers of it by a prior or an after-consent. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. ii. (1762) 39 That is what is meant by a Thing's being prior in the Order of Nature, that it is some Way the Cause or Reason of the Thing, with Respect to which it is said to be prior. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. xv. 436 The first of these legal disabilities is a prior marriage. 1791 WASHINGTON *Let.* Writ. 1892 XII. 17 The necessity of a prior attention to those duties. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* xi, I was fully acquainted with all the prior history of her inmates. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 12 The meeting in the prior year was under different circumstances.

b. Const. *to.*

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* ii. 37 The sin is prior to and ..independent of the action. 1739 HUME *Hum. Nat.* I. ii. (1874) I. 316 Our simple impressions are prior to their correspondent ideas. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 263 These rites are said to have been..far prior to the foundation of Rome. 1907 H. JONES in *Hibbert Jrnl.* July 747 They come in obedience to a necessity prior to their own will.

B. as *adv.* with *to*: Previously to, before.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 6 There is no presumption against this prior to the proof of it. 1766 MRS. S. PENNINGTON *Lett.* I. 127 It existed prior to the formation of these bodies. 1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 116 Prior to the year 1215, a man..might be perfectly orthodox, who denied Transubstantiation, if he held Consubstantiation. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 6 [It] seems, prior to experience, very improbable.

Priorate (prəi·ŏrĕt). [ad. late L. *priōrāt-us* (Tertull.) priority, preference, in med.L. the office of prior, a priory, f. *prior* PRIOR *a.*: see -ATE 1.]

1. The office and dignity of a prior; also, the term of office of a prior: **a.** of an ecclesiastical prior.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 51 Wat euer clerk takiþ priorate, religioun, bischophed, or dignite of þe kirk. 1737 M. JOHNSON in *Bibl. Topogr. Brit.* (1790) III. 68 Sir John Weston, in whose priorate this exchange was made or confirmed. 1775 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* xxiv. II. 112 Benoit's successour in the priorate of saint Genevieve was not equally attentive to the discipline and piety of his monks. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. 363 That ascending ladder of ecclesiastical honours, the priorate, the abbacy, the bishopric, the metropolitanate.

b. The dignity of prior in the Florentine republic: see PRIOR *sb.* 2 b.

1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 86 Members of this family [the Pulci] were five times elected to the Priorate, one of the highest honours of the republic. 1872 LOWELL *Dante* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 130 Just before his assumption of the priorate, however, a new complication had arisen. 1874 M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* i. (1902) 16 This priorate Dante calls the source of all his woes.

2. A priory; also, the inmates as a community.

1749 *Hist. Windsor* viii. 107 The Manour, or Priorate of Munclane, in the County of Hereford..with all and singular its appurtenances. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 264 Bethleem, a priorate, or college of regular canons of the order of St. Augustine. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLI. 211 An address from the priorate of the order of Malta to the prince of Brazil, spoken by one of their *Commendadores*. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* 323 On his return he found that his uncle was dead, and that the see of Frisingen, as well as his own priorate, was filled by a successor.

Priore, obs. variant of PRIORY.

Prioress (prəi·ŏrĕs). [ME. a. OF. *prioresse, prieuresse* (13th c. in Godef.) = med.L. *priōrissa* (*c* 1135 in Abelard): see PRIOR *sb.* and -ESS 1.] A nun holding a position under an abbess similar to a claustral prior; also, one governing her own house like a conventual prior: see PRIOR *sb.* 1.

c 1290 *St. Edmund* 161 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 436 Boþe his sustren..Nounnes he made þere..þe eldore was seiþe priores-se of þe lauedies ech-on. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7808 Þyr com to hym, for hys godenesse, A nunne, y wene

a pryores. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 118 Ther was .. a Nonne a Prioresse That of hir smylyng was ful symple and coy. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 Pryowresse, *priorissa*. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 91 The two prioresses wolde not confesse this,..nor none of the nunnes. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 11 When you haue vowd, you must not speake with men, But in the presence of the Prioresse. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xlix, [She] wished only to fill it with pious maidens, and to be made prioress of the order. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* II. xix, Tynemouth's haughty Prioress. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 301 With how genuine a courtesy..he first addresses himself to the modest Clerk, and the gentle Lady Prioress, and the Knight.

†Pri·oressy. *Sc. Obs.* [f. prec. + -Y.] A nunnery or convent presided over by a prioress.

1575 in M'Crie *Life A. Melville* (1819) I. 150 *note*, His hienes chalmerlan and factor to the said priorissie of the Senis. 1633 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 164/1 It is fund.. That the richt of superioritie Off all lands..perteining to quhatsumever abbacies pryories pryoressis [etc.] pertenis to his Majestie.

†Pri·orhede. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PRIOR *sb.* + *-hede*, -HEAD.] Priorship; priorate.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 14 Rayer optenynge cure and office of the priorhede.

Priori, *a.*: see *high priori* (HIGH *a.* 17 g).

1762 *Gentl. Mag.* 546 Most of you take the priori high-road. 1823 J. GILLIES *Aristotle's Rhet.* II. 79 The schoolmen audaciously followed the priori road.

Prioric (prəi,ɒ·rik), *a. rare.* [f. A PRIORI + -IC.] Of *a priori* character.

1895 *Athenæum* 7 Dec. 796/1 If we consider that the *posterius* of one inference becomes the *prius* of the next, so that a conclusion may be prioric though drawn from premises obtained posteriorically, the prioric and posteriorie seem to have no connexion with Kant's *à priori, à posteriori*. *Ibid.* [see POSTERIORIC].

Priorily, erron. var. of PRIORLY *adv.*

Priori·stic, *a.* [f. PRIOR *a.* + -ISTIC.] Of or belonging to Aristotle's *Prior Analytics*: opposed to POSTERIORISTIC. Hence **Priori·stically** *adv.*

c 1600 *Timon* IV. iii. (Shaks. Soc.) 67 Thou art moved formally, prioristically in the thing considered, not posterioristically in the manner of considering. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prioristic. 1902 *Baldwin's Dict. Philos. & Psych.* II. 740/1 *Prioristic dictum de omni* and *Prioristic universal*: universal predication as defined by Aristotle at the end of the first chapter of the first book of the *Prior Analytics*:..We say that anything, P, is predicated universally (*dictum de omni*) when nothing can be subsumed under the subject of which P is not intended to be predicated.

Priority (prəi,ɒ·rĭti). Also 5 **priorte.** [ME. a. F. *priorité* (14th c., Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *priōritās*, f. L. *prior*, *-ōrem*: see PRIOR *a.* and -ITY.]

1. The condition or quality of being earlier or previous in time, or of preceding something else.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 166 In diuers times, and in diuers places temporel, without posteriorite or priorite. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 273 The seetes of Cawnterbery and of York; not to be subiecte in eny wise to other after the constitucion of Gregory, excepte that the oon is moore then that other for the priorite of tyme. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. § 16 The preeminence of prioritie in birth. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. ii. § 7 Though there might bee some priority in order of causes between them, yet there was none in order of time or duration. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VII. i. (1881) 309 No priority of appropriation can give a right which will bar these equal rights of others.

2. Precedence in order, rank, or dignity.

c 1400 *Cursor M.* 27562 (Cott. Galba) Pride..riueliest.. For werldes hap,.. Erthly honowre, or priorte, Welth, or lordschip, or pouste. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 248 Þer it is semand þat þe fathur suffer þe son to hafe a prioritie. 1534–1704 [see POSTERIORITY 2]. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 86 The Heauens themselues, the Planets, and this Center, Obserue degree, priority, and place. 1803 STUART in Gurw. *Wellington's Desp.* (1837) II. 190 *note*, The priority of his rank to that of Major General Wellesley would render his presence to the northward of the Kistna incompatible with a due exercise of the powers..delegated to the latter officer. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Dec. 608 The courtesy of the American dockyard officers would probably grant to a British man-of-war priority over several merchantmen which were in need of similar accommodation.

3. *Law.* **†a.** See quot. 1607. *Obs.* **b.** A precedence among claims, or a preference in order of payment.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 23 b, The lorde that the tenaunt holdeth of by priorite shall haue the warde of the body, be it heyre male or heyre female. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Posteriority*, A man holding lands or tenements of two lords, holdeth of his auncienter Lord by prioritie, and of his later Lord by posteriorite. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 511 In payment of debts he must observe the rules of priority; otherwise, on deficiency of assets, if he pays those of a lower degree first, he must answer those of a higher out of his own estate. 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 46 § 1 In the administration of the estate of every person who shall die..after [1 Jan. 1870] no debt or liability..shall be entitled to any priority or preference by reason merely that the same is secured by or arises under a bond, deed, or other instrument under seal, or is otherwise made or constituted a specialty debt. 1884 SIR J. PEARSON in *Law Rep.* 28 Ch. Div. 178 At that time the law of Ireland gave judgment creditors priority over simple contract creditors.

4. = 'Apriority' (*Cent. Dict.*).

5. *attrib.*: **priority-bond** = preference bond (PREFERENCE 8).

1849 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) I. 368 If I, a priority man called a species C. D. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Apr. 5/1 New issues of Turkish Tobacco and Priority bonds, of Spanish, and even of Russian bonds. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Nov. 2/2 [He] insisted on the importance and significance of the 'priority pledge', which he asserts is always given by Liberal candidates.

Pri·orly, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PRIOR *sb.* + -LY 1.] Proper to or befitting a prior.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 62 Blandly he patteth his priorly paunch.

Pri·orly, *adv. rare.* [f. PRIOR *a.* + -LY 2.] As a prior step; previously, antecedently.

1792 GEDDES *Transl. Bible* I. Pref. 2 Whether, priorly to that æra, it had ever been inhabited .. is a question which it would be rash to decide. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* XVI. iii. 332 Thus people may neither marry nor unmarry without priorly obtaining permission from the priesthood.

Pri·orship. [f. PRIOR *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or dignity of a prior.

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 22 b, Those byshops which sell..priorships, or any other ecclesiasticall dignityes ..should be adiudged Simoniakes. 1626 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Rec. for my whole wages dureing my Pryorshipp the some of vj s viij d. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xviii. 120 Father Antonio quitted his Priorship with great willingness. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 66 The order of St. John has likewise a priorship or grand priorship in Bohemia. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1872) 82 In Dante's Priorship, the Guelf-Ghibelline, Bianchi-Neri, or some other confused disturbances rose to such a height, that Dante..was with his friends cast unexpectedly forth into banishment. 1900 GASQUET *Eve of Reformation* ii. 24 Election to the Priorship at Canterbury.

Priorte, obs. form of PRIORITY.

†Prio·rums, *sb. pl. Obs.* [L. *priōrum*, as in the usual Latin title in 15th c., *Analyticorum priorum libri duo*, the two books of the Prior Analytics (of Aristotle): with Eng. pl. suffix *-s*.] Aristotle's Prior Analytics, or questions taken from them.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 4 That he had before in his priorums. 1665 J. BUCK in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. B. p. lxviii, All the Quæstionists between the time of their Admission and Ash Wednesday are to enter their Priorums.

Priory (prəi·ŏri). Also 3–6 **priorie**; *β.* 5–6 **pryoure, priore.** [ME. *priorie*, a. Anglo-F. *priorie* (*a* 1240), med.L. *priōria*: see PRIOR *sb.* and -Y. The form might also arise from OF. *prioré*, mod.F. *prieuré*:—L. *priōrātus*; but in Eng. *priouré*, *prioré* is of late occurrence.]

1. A monastery or nunnery governed by a prior or prioress; generally an offshoot of an abbey on which it was more or less dependent; also, a house of Canons Regular. *Alien priory*: see ALIEN *a.* 2.

Sometimes the name of a dwelling-house on the site of a priory.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 71/10 In þe priorie of wiricestre. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5599, & þoru [h]is conseil chirchen wide he let rere & abbeys & prioryes aboute her & þere. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 475 The priory of Norton in the province of Chestre was founded this tyme by William sonne of Nigellus. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* III. 50 Here was a Priorie of Nunnes lately suppressed. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 6 The Churches which are given to them [priors] *in Titulum*, or by way of Title, are called Priories. 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 96/1 Coldstream..was anciently the seat of a priory or abbacy of the Cistertian order. 1845 ELIZ. M. SEWELL *Gertrude* i, The modern Priory..had no connection with the old religious house except that of bearing the same designation. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* iii. 136 A priory was a monastery which in theory or in fact was subject to an abbey.

β. c 1500 *Melusine* 210 Ye muste doo founde a Pryoure of twelue monkes, & the pryour, in suche place there as my lady shal ordeyne. 1530 PALSGR. 258 Priore, *prioré*.

attrib. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* XIV. i. 642, I wel ought to knowe you.., al though I be in a pryory place.

b. *Grand priory*, a province, next below a 'language', of the order of the Knights of St. John or of Malta, under the rule of a Grand Prior.

Cf. PRIORATE 2, quot. 1829, and PRIORSHIP, quot. 1762.

1885 *Cath. Dict.* 413/2 The Hospitallers..After the order had attained its full development, it was divided into eight languages...Each language was divided into grand priories and bailiwicks, which again were subdivided into commanderies.

2. = PRIORATE 1, PRIORSHIP.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 443 After þe fifteenþe 3ere of his priourie Herlewyn abbot of Becco deide, and Anselme was i-made abbot in his stede. 1879 tr. *Montalembert's Monks of West* VII. 161 *note*, During the fifteen years of his priory.

¶ 3. = PRIORITY. *Obs. rare.*

1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 246/2 Anent þe priorie in places and voting ffor removeing of all sic occasionis of controverseis.

Pris, obs. form of PRICE *sb.*1, PRIZE *v.*1

Prisable (prəi·zăb'l), *a.* Also **prizable.** [a. AF. *prisable*, f. *prise* PRISE *sb.*1; see -ABLE; cf. *dutiable*.] Liable to the custom of prisage.

[1392–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 307/1 Paiant pur chescun tonell de Vyns prisables Vynt deners.] 1882 HUB. HALL in *Antiquary* VI. 231/1 The primary meaning of the term prizage—viz. that the Crown took prizable wines at its own price. 1885 — *Hist. Customs* II. 106 An equivalent of the Custom of 2s. paid by aliens, namely, 20d. for every prisable pipe, and 10d. for every other pipe.

Prisage 1 (prəi·zĕdʒ). Now *Hist.* Also 7 **pry-, prisadge,** 7–9 **prizage.** [f. as prec. + -AGE.

Spelman mentions a med. (Anglo-) L. *prisāgium* 'jus prisas capiendi vel ipse actus', which may have been the immediate source.]

1. An ancient custom levied upon imported wine; in later times correlated to and often identified with BUTLERAGE 1. (Abolished 1809 by 49 Geo. III. c. 98 § 35.)

For the nature of the impost, its changes, and its relation to BUTLERAGE, see Hubert Hall *Hist. Customs* (1885) II. 90 et seq. 'The "Butlerage" was..the commutation of the prizage into a petty custom, and was paid by aliens alone, who consequently paid no prizage. Prizage was the ancient toll in kind retained for choice by natives, who therefore paid no butlerage, as it was afterwards called' (H. Hall in *Antiquary* (1882) VI. 230/2).

1505 in *Facsimiles Nat. MSS.* I. (1865) 71 Rec. of William Spencer for buttlerage & prisage of the porte of Ippyswiche Cxij s. vj d. 1588–9 *Act* 31 *Eliz.* c. 5 § 4 Any Offence..committed..for the concealinge or defraudinge the Quenes Majestie .. of any Custome Tonnage Pondage Subsidie Ymposte or Prisage. 1655 *Cal. State Papers, Domestic* (1882) 46 Your late Declaration reviving the Act for Prizage of Wines will ruin us unless suspended. 1682 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 230 They have a right by prescription to appoint and alter markets in the said citty [London], and to ascertain tolls and prisages therein. 1736 CARTE *Ormonde* II. 219 The Marquis [of Ormond] did not esteem any part of his revenue so much as he did that which arose from the prisage of wines. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. ii. Wks. X. 400 The last general head of his [the king's] revenue were the customs, prisages, and other impositions upon trade. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 278 Wine entered for prisage; of the Cape of Good Hope; in a British-built Ship, the tun 12 19 0; in a Foreign Ship, the tun 14 0 0. 1832 *Act* 2 & 3 *Will. IV*, c. 84 § 40 For..Surrender of the Estate, Right, Title, and Interest..in the..Duties of Prisage and Butlerage within the said County Palatine [Lancashire]. 1882 [see prec.].

†b. Short for *prisage wine*: see c. *Obs.*

?*c* 1525 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 292 The commene wyne callid prisage.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prisage fund, lease, wine.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 139/1 Also that they haue the prisage wines and the iurisdiction of the admeraltie, within the limits of the said riuer. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II.* § 66 (1876) 47 Let him presently cause the prisage wines & the wines he hath bought, presentli to be caried & lodged. 1619 in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XLVII. 128, I give unto my daughter..one sixteenth part of the 'prysadge' lease and unto my son..the other sixteenth part of the same prysadge lease I now hold, which prysadge lease I did put my husband..to buy for me. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 25 Oct. 7/5 The Prisage Fund is, I believe, now represented by real estate —about 3,020 acres, producing a present gross rental of £2,597 per annum, the net rental being £2,126.

¶ 2. (See quots.)

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Prisage*, seemeth to be that custome or share, that belongeth to the King out of such merchandize, as are taken at sea, by way of lawfull prize, anno 31 Eliz. cap. 5. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Prisage*, is that Custom or Share, that belongs to the King, or Lord Admiral, out of such Merchandises as are taken at Sea, by way of lawfull Prize, which *is* usually a Tenth part. 1848–83 in WHARTON *Law Lex.*

(But this seems to be merely a conjecture of Cowell, accepted as fact by his successors and handed down in the law dictionaries. Act 31 Eliz. c. 5, referred to by Cowell, contains nothing about prizes taken at sea, but mentions prisage, app. in sense 1; see quot. 1588–9 there.)

†Prisage 2. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [a. obs. F. *prisage*, f. *priser* to prise, reckon, value: see PRIZE *v.* and -AGE.] Valuation, appraisement. (Perh. only a misuse of the word by Cotgr.)

1611 COTGR., *Prisage*, a prisage, prising, praising, rating, valuing.

†Pri·sal, pri·zal. *Obs.* Also 7 **prisel.** [a. AF. *prisel*, f. F. *prise* seizure, taking, PRISE *sb.*1, PRIZE *sb.*3; see -AL, and cf. REPRISAL.]

1. The taking or seizure of a thing as by legal right or custom.

[*a* 1481 LITTLETON *Tenures* § 693 (1557) 158 Si tiel prisel de estate ne soit par fait endent.] 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 311 Hee shall auow the prisel to bee good and rightfull, as in lands or Tenements so charged with his distresse, &c. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxiv. (1739) 135 But the Statute in his [Edw. I's] 28th year had a sting in the tail that was as ill as his saving of ancient aids and prisals.

2. The taking of anything (a ship, etc.) as a prize of war. With *a* and *pl.* an act of such capture; also *concr.* an article so acquired.

1590 SIR R. SIDNEY in Motley *Netherl.* (1867) III. 174 *note*, They complain of two ships taken on the coast of Portugal..They of Zeland did send unto Holl[d] to let them know of these prisals. 1594 DANIEL *Cleopatra* III. ii, The greatest Trophy that my Travels gain, Is to bring Home a Prizal of such Worth. *a* 1643 SIR J. SPELMAN *Alfred Gt.* (1709) 62 Of what Credit soever the Omination of the [Raven] Standard was in itself, the Prisal of it [from the Danes] by the Christians was of no little Consequence. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 67 But the Venetians freed the Town from the siege..with great slaughter of the enemy, and prizall of many rich booties.

Prisar, obs. form of PRIZER 1.

Pri·scal, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. as next + -AL.] = next.

1831 *Examiner* 181/1 Priscal manners, undebased by corruption.

Priscan (pri·skăn), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prisc-us* old + -AN.] Ancient, primitive, of early times.

1877 ROLLESTON *Brit. Barrows* 742 A pack of wild dogs co-operating with priscan men in driving a herd of wild cattle..along a track in which a pitfall had been dug. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* vi. 173 The wide area occupied by this priscan population. 1881 *Smithsonian Rep.* 506 We seem to hear..the echoes of our own priscan history.

Priscian (pri·shăn). [ad. L. *Prisciān-us*.] Name of a celebrated Roman grammarian, *c* 500–

530: used esp. in the phrase *to break* (*knock*) *Priscian's head* (*pate*), to violate the rules of grammar (L. *diminuere Prisciani caput*).

c 1525 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 176 Prisians hed broken now handy dandy, And *Inter didascolos* is rekened for a fole. *c* 1533 R. LIST in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 252 Many a tyme when he [Father Forest] hath preched..I have harde hym soo often breke Master Precyens hede. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. i. 31. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* I. iv. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 26 Will speake false Latine, and breake Prisicians head. 1633 GERARD *Descr. Somerset* (1900) 224 Knocking poore Prisian's pate soe familiarly as in most ancient evidence they doe. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 224 [They] hold no sin so deeply red, As that of breaking Prisian's Head. 1738 POPE *Dunc.* III. 162 Some free from rhyme or reason, rule or check, Break Prisian's head, and Pegasus's neck. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 124 If he has not broken Prisian's head, he has at least boxed his ears.

† b. *transf.* A grammarian. So **Pri'scianist.**

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* IV. 64 But thus it is when pitty Prisians Will needs step vp to be Censorians. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 64 He had a little beggarly and course latin, so much as a Priscianist may have.

Priscillianist (prisi·liănist), *sb.* and *a.* [=F. *Priscillianiste*, ad. med.L. *Priscillianista*, f. *Priscillian-us* Priscillian: see -IST.]

A. *sb.* **1.** A disciple of Priscillian, bishop of Avila, in Spain, in the 4th c., who taught doctrines alleged to be Gnostic or Manichæan.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 506 Manie.. amongst the Christians haue imagined that the soules of men are the substance of God. I omit to speake of the heretikes, as the Priscilianists, & some others that haue been of this opinion. 1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* lxxiv. 95 Our Quakers are much like the Priscillianists. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 528/2 The doctrine of astrology was among the errors imputed to the Priscillianists.

2. A name sometimes given to the MONTANISTS, from Priscilla, the name of one of the two women associated with Montanus.

1874 in J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects.*

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Priscillianists or their doctrines.

1887 *Dict. Chr. Biog.* IV. 476/2 A specimen of the Priscillianist allegorical treatment of the Christian Scriptures. 1900 *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 354 The smaller Priscillianist movement in Spain. 1902 *Ibid.* Apr. 504 He has succeeded in tracing the interpolation to a Priscillianist and therefore heretical source.

So **Prisci'llian, Prisci'llianite** = A. 1; **Prisci'llianism,** the doctrines or principles of Priscillian.

1680 BAXTER *Answ. Stillingfl.* lxxiv. 95 Those Bishops ..suspecting men that Fasted and Prayed much, to be *Priscillians. 1620 BP. HALL *Hon. Mar. Clergy* I. ix, He, being suspected of *Priscillianisme, wrote affectly against that heresie. 1882 *Dict. Chr. Biog.* III. 841/2 Priscillianism is usually..considered as a phase of Gnosticism. 1585–7 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* xxxix. (Parker Soc.) 357 The..*Priscillianites,..who for ease, and to avoid troubles and persecution, dread not to swear and forswear themselves. 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 40 The success of capital punishment inflicted on the Priscillianites.

Prise (prəiz, ‖ prīz), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* or *Hist.* Also 5 **pryse,** 6 **prese,** 6–7 **prize.** [a. F. *prise* a taking, seizure, capture, sb. fem. from pa. pple. *pris*, *prise* of *prendre* to take; in med.L. *prīsa* (Du Cange). The original form of the word now spelt *prize* (PRIZE *sb.*[3]), which has been retained in some early uses (senses 1, 2) now historical or archaic, and is the only spelling found in other senses now obsolete. For the specific sense in hunting, see PRYSE.]

1. The taking or seizing of anything by a lord for his own use from his feudal tenants or dependants; a requisition; a thing seized or requisitioned for the king's use by his officers or purveyors, or for the use of the garrisons in his castles; the right of such seizure. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1170 GERVASE (in Du Cange), Et de omnibus prisis inquirant causam et testimonium. 1274–5 *Act* 3 *Edw. I*, c. 7 (Stat. Westm.) Purveu est que nul Conestable ne Chasteleyne desoremes nule manere de prise [*transl.* 1543 pryse] ne face dautre houme..qui de la Vile ou son Chastel est assis. *Ibid.*, Si ceo ne seit aunciene prise due au Rey ou al Chastel ou al Seygnur del Chastel.] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10742 Sir hubert de boru..Acused was þe King of mani luþer prise. *c* 1400 *Brut* CCXVIII. 257 þe Quene Isabel and þe Mortymer had a grete manie of her retenue, þat folwede euermore þe Kyngus courte, and went and tok þe Kyngus prises for her penyworthes at gode chepe. 1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* 31 Yᵗ the Constable of the tour of London make no preses by londe ne by water of vytayle or any other thinges what so euer thei ben of men of yᵉ forsaid cite. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* I (Act 3 Edw. II) Forasmuch as merchants and the common people of this land are much impoverished and oppressed by the prises of great Lords. *Ibid.*, That no such prises be henceforth made without ready payment. 1750 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 319 That the king might live of his own without taking unusual prises. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 53 The former used to make captures upon the latter of hay, corn, beer, and other things under divers denominations, to wit, Pryse, Tyne of Castle, forrage, &c. Thus the Constable of Dover Castle and the Soldiers, were accustomed to take from the Kentish-men, straw, hay, vetches, peas, beans, corn, and other things. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. ix. 155 All tallages, fifteenths, and prises levied..in the county.

2. *pl.* (rarely *sing.*) The king's customs; that is, portions taken by him from goods brought into the realm, or duties levied in lieu thereof. Cf. PRISAGE[1]. *Obs.* (or only *Hist.*)

[1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 27/1 Cum Dominus Rex capiat .. per Vicecomitem .. Prisas suas et Custumas debitas ad Portum..videlicet, de qualibet nave vini duo dolia ante et retro electa, quodlibet dolium pro viginti solidis.] 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 293/2 Delyvered to the said Prynce ..the said Duchie of Cornewayll, and all..Wayfes, Strayes, Forfaitures, wrekkes of the See, prises of Wyne, Custumes Havenary, Tolles, Cunage of Tynne, Stannaries [etc.]. 1467–8 *Ibid.* 585/1 A Tonne of Wyne, to be takyn of oure Pryse within our Port of Bristowe. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1240/2 Peter de Oriall, .. gardian of all the forrest of England, of all the escheats, of all the ports of the sea, and of all the prises of England and Ireland. 1607 COWELL, *Prise*,..signifieth also a custome due to the King.

† **3.** *Her.* Anything assumed; a bearing. *Obs.*

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 116 b, Thus those prises in coates armoures, which are of many called Fusils, that is to saye Spyndles, may aptly be taken for pillers.

† **4.** A small piece of gold or silver coin taken for the assay at the Mint. (= F. *prise d'essai*, 'morceau de monnaie pour essayer' Littré.) *Obs.*

1469 in *Archæologia* XV. 170 Whenn the seid prises of gold and syluer be made and putte in a box to make the assaies.

† **5.** The quantity of medicine to be taken at once; a dose, a pinch. (Cf. F. *une prise de tabac.*) *Obs.*

1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* Pref., They are to be found, together with their certain prizes by the Ounce.

6. *attrib.*: (sense 1) **prise ale** (see quot. *a* 1600); (sense 2) **prise wine,** wine taken as prisage.

[1300 *Wardrobe Acc. Edw. I* (1787) 14 Vinis de prisa.] 1530 MORE *Let. to Wolsey* 10 July in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) 234 Disturbing the citie of Waterford in the use of a certayn graunt of prize wynys, made and confermed unto theym, as they allegge, by the Kyngs progenitors. 1550 *Fiat* 18 Nov. in 8*th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Irel.* 91 The prise wines of Waterford, Rosse, Lymerick, Dublin, Drogheda and Dundalk. ? *a* 1600 G. OWEN *Baronia* (1861) 45 *Prise ale* is certen monye payed by custome used within the said baronye [of Kemeys], of all those that sell ale within the said baronye, burghe or manors aforesaid, vz., vd. for every brewinge, which is due to the lorde there by custome used time out of mynde.

† **Prise,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Origin obscure.

Known only in the work cited (in which the number of alliterations in *p-* and *pr-* is extraordinary). The only conjecture offered is that *prise* was a shortening of F. *reprise*, ppl. sb. of *reprendre* 'to reprehend, blame, check, reprove, rebuke, find fault with, carp at'; but examples of the sb. in the appropriate sense are app. unknown even in OF.]

? Reprehension, reproof, rebuke, angry check; utterance of angry disapproval or rejection.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2032–4 The proude wordis & þe prise of Pelleus the kyng; The tene and the torfor of Telamon after; The Reprofe and prise of Pollux & Castor; The noy and þe new grem of Nestor the Duke. *Ibid.* 2042 That his message was manast o þo men all, And reproued with prise in þere proude yre. *Ibid.* 5114 With presumpcoun & prise of his proude hert.

Prise, *sb.*[3] and *v.*: see PRIZE *sb.*[4] and *v.*[3]

Prise, obs. f. PRICE, PRIZE, PRYSE.

[**Prise,** a frequent misreading of *prese*, *preese*, PRESS *sb.*[1], senses 2–5, PRESS *v.*[1] 16, 17, in E.E.T.S. ed. (1869–74) of *Destruction of Troy* (*c* 1400).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1201 Mony persshet in þe plase er þe prise [*MS.* prese] endit. *Ibid.* 1331 Ercules..Pricket furthe into prise [*MS.* prese] and full playne made...Bere the batell a-bake, mony buerne qwellid [*cf.* 8317 Past furth into prese, paynet hym ther-for]. *Ibid.* 12048 Eneas egerly..Put hym in prise & profferit to say.]

Prisel, variant of PRISAL. *Obs.*

† **Pri'shede.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PRICE, PRISE *a.* +*-hede*, -HEAD.] Worthiness, excellence, valour.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2907 The prishede of parys was praisit so mekyll.

† **Prisk,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prisc-us* old, primitive, old-fashioned.] Ancient, primitive.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xiii. (S.T.S.) I. 75 þe fader patrat of prisk latynis. *Ibid.* 76 Or ellis þe prisk latyne men, has faleȝit or done Iniuris aganis þe quirites & romane pepil.

Prism (priz'm). Also 8 *erron.* **prysm.** [ad. late L. *prisma* (Martianus Capella), a. Gr. *πρίσμα* a thing sawn, a prism (Euclid), f. *πρίζειν* to saw. So F. *prisme* (1680 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *Geom.* A solid figure of which the two ends are similar, equal, and parallel rectilineal figures, and the sides parallelograms.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XI. xl. 355 Euery parallelipipedon may be resolued into two like, and equal Prismes. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., *Triangular Prism*, a kind of Prism whose two opposite Bases are Triangles alike, parallel and equal. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 331 A Prism takes particular names according to the figure of its base or ends, whether triangular, square, rectangular, pentagonal, hexagonal, &c. A Right or Upright Prism..has the planes of the sides perpendicular to the planes of the ends or base. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 177 To find the Solidity of a Prism.

2. Any body or object of this form.

1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 81 In little Columnes, or Prismes an inch long or more. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 191 An iron grate, the bars of which are quadrangular prysms of half an inch square. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 105 The salt deposits itself in compressed prisms of great length. 1836 MACGILLIVRAY tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* xvii. 232 A granitic prism, terminated by a flat surface covered with a tuft of trees, rises to the height of 213 feet. 1862 RAWLINSON *Anc. Mon.* I. v. 329 Hexagonal or octagonal prisms made in extremely fine and thin Terra Cotta.

3. *Optics.* A transparent body of this form, usually a triangular geometrical prism, of which the refracting surfaces are at an acute angle with each other. *Nicol('s) prism* = NICOL[2].

1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 150 A most pleasant and delightfull experiment..in a three square cristal prisme, wherin you shal perceiue the blew to be outmost next to that the red. 1656 W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* § 480. 139 Prismes (called fools paradises) which transform the colours of things into a thousand shapes. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 208 Here, awful Newton, the dissolving clouds Form, fronting on the sun, thy showery prism. *a* 1743 LD. HERVEY *Monimia to Philocles* Poet. Wks. (1808) 48 So in a prism to the deluded eye Each pictur'd trifle takes a rainbow dye. 1847 DE MORGAN *Formal Logic* ii. 35 Wollaston and Fraunhofer have discovered black lines which always exist in the spectrum of solar colours given by a glass prism, in the same relative places. 1873 J. P. COOKE *New Chem.* 57, I have a prism..made of Iceland-spar, and called a Nicol prism.

b. *fig.*

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 207, I had surveyed the landscape through the prism of poetry, which tinged every object with the hues of the rainbow. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. viii. 140 A bit of health is a fine prism to see fancies by. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* i. 35 Thought and its expression are but the two sides of the same prism.

c. Loosely used for a spectrum produced by refraction through a prism; *pl.* prismatic colours.

a 1840 MRS. OPIE in Miss Brightwell *Mem.* xxii. (1854) 334 Oh! the exquisite beauty of the prisms on my ceiling just now. 1842 TENNYSON *Day-Dream, Sleeping Pal.* v, The beams, that thro' the Oriel shine, Make prisms in every carven glass, And beaker brimm'd with noble wine. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 358 A glass drop chandelier, quaint and old-fashioned, reflected it [the light] in bright prisms.

4. *Cryst.* A 'form' consisting of three or more planes parallel to the vertical axis of the crystal. (Cf. DOME *sb.* 5 b.)

1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 51 A group of tautozonal faces is in some cases called a prism. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* v. § 108 The prismatic forms..are constituted each of four planes, the first form being technically termed a prism.

5. *Engineering.* A length of cutting or embankment, treated roughly as a prismoid or a parallelepiped, of which the content is calculated by the *prismoidal formula.*

1906 *Rep. Board Consulting Engineers Panama Canal* 25 Very accurate cross sections of the Canal Prism included between Obispo and Paraiso, seven miles and a half, were obtained. *Ibid.* 49 There is much rock to be removed from the Canal prism at Obispo.

† **6.** Sawdust. *Obs. rare*—[o].

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prism*,..the powder or dust of those things that are cut with a Saw. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Prisme*,..Saw-dust.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prism-form, -glass, -maker*; *prism-hued, -like, -shaped* adjs.; **prism-battery,** an electric battery in which the materials forming the positive pole are compressed into a prism or block (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884); **prism-train,** a combined series of prisms used with the spectroscope to give increased dispersion.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* Wks. 1772 III. 56 These crystals..would shoot into prism-like figures, as roched petre. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 375/1 Prismes Glasses.. represent things of diverse colours, as red, green, yellow, like a Rain-Bow. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xxii. (1765) 229 The Pericarpium is..prismatic, Prism-shaped. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* vi. (1852) 68 Joyous feelings, prism-hued. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 134 The prism-shaped ceiling is composed of thin poles extending from the long walls to the centre. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* vii. § 328 One of these varieties [of prismatids] includes the vertical or ortho-prism..usually distinguished as the prism-form, the faces of which lie in the zone.

Prismal (pri·zmăl), *a.* [f. PRISM + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or produced by a prism; prismatic.

1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems, Bubble* vii, Prismal life outgoing, Welling without sound. 1855 B. TAYLOR *Poems of Orient, L'Envoi* 23 Gathering from every land the prismal beams. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* lxxxvii, Coruscations of all prismal hues.

Prismated (pri·zmeˈtĕd), *a. rare.* [f. L. ppl. type **prismāt-us* + -ED[1]; after F. *prismé* (Haüy).] Formed as a prism; see quot. So **Pri'smate** *a.* in same sense.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 197 A crystal is named..Prismated.., when the primitive form is composed of two pyramids, joined base to base, and the pyramids separated by a prism. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Prismatus*...presenting a prism between two pyramids..as prismate felspar.

Prismatic (prizmæˈtik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πρισματ-*, stem of *πρίσμα* PRISM + -IC. So F. *prismatique* (1690 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to a prism; having the form of a prism or prisms; prism-like.

Prismatic powder: a gunpowder the grains of which are hexagonal prisms.

1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 311 False Eloquence, like the prismatic glass, Its gaudy colours spreads on ev'ry place. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 73 Certain saline solutions likewise that shoot into prismatic crystals. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 146 The truly prismatic basalt is confined to narrow limits. 1880 *Times* 27 Dec. 9/2 Prismatic powder was exclusively used during the gunnery trials on board.

b. *absol.* Short for *prismatic powder.*

1894 SIR A. NOBLE in *Nature* 26 July 310/2 The erosive

effect of cordite..is very slightly greater than that of brown prismatic, but very much higher effects can, if it be so desired, be obtained with cordite.

2. Of or pertaining to the optical prism; formed, effected, separated, or distributed by or as by a transparent prism; hence, of varied colours, bright-coloured, brilliant. Also *fig.*

Prismatic colours, the seven colours into which a ray of white light is separated by a prism. *Prismatic compass*, a surveying compass so arranged that by means of a prism the angle of position of the object sighted can be read at the same time as the object itself is seen.

1728 PEMBERTON *Newton's Philos.* 332 The result .. of mixing together all the prismatic colours. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* I. iii. 27 All the hues of the prismatic spectrum. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 308 [Jeremy Taylor's] style is prismatic. It unfolds the colours of the rainbow. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 371 The traversing may be performed .. with the Prismatic compass. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 429 The light of this Nebula, unlike any other ex-terrestrial light which had yet been subjected to prismatic analysis, was not composed of light of different refrangibilities.

3. *Cryst.* = ORTHORHOMBIC *a.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Prismatic System.* .. that derived from the great number and variety of the prisms it contains. 1868 DANA *Min.* Introd. (ed. 5) 25 Orthorhombic system. (Also called Rectangular, Prismatic, Trimetric.) 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 37 There may be three planes of symmetry at right angles. Such crystals..belong to the Prismatic..System.

4. *Comb.* **prismatic-cellular**, of prismatic cells.

1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 292 The shell-structure is prismatic-cellular, as first pointed out by Sowerby... In Cardium the outer layer is only corrugated or obscurely prismatic-cellular.

Prisma·tical, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = PRISMATIC *a.* 1.

1654 T. WHITE *Daille's Arts Discov.* in *Apol.* etc. 181 Prismatical glasses, in which we are pleased to know our selvs delightfully cosen'd. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 4096 The exquisite uniformity of shape, so admired in Gems (especially the Prismatical one in Crystal). 1794 SIR W. HAMILTON *ibid.* LXXXV. 88 The prismatical form of basalt columns. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 13 *Prismatical*, when, being tubular, it [the calyx] is also regularly angular. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Prismenchyma*, prismatical cellular tissue.

Prisma·tically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prismatic manner; like a prism; with, or as if with, prismatic colours.

1680 BOYLE *Scept. Chem.* v. Wks. 1772 I. 556, I might.. demand, what addition or decrement..befalls the body of the glass by being prismatically figured. 1824 MEDWIN *Convers. Byron* I. 212 His colour changed almost prismatically. 1897 HOWELLS *Landl. Lion's Head* 11 The colossal forms of the Lion's Head were prismatically outlined against the speckless sky.

Prisma·tico-, combining form of PRISMATIC, as in **Prisma·tico-cla·vate** *a., Nat. Hist.*, club-shaped with polygonal section like a prism.

1856-8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 404 Crepuscularia.—Antennæ prismatico-clavate or fusiform.

Prismatid (pri·zmătid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Cryst. rare.* [f. Gr. πρισματ-, stem of πρίσμα PRISM + -ID 2.] Applied to a crystalline form consisting of faces parallel to an axis and thus constituting the sides of a geometrical prism. b. *sb.* A prismatid form.

1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* vii. § 302 The designations of..the horizontal prismatid forms as domes, the vertical one as a prism, have already been given in article 109. *Ibid.* § 328 Among the varieties of prismatids, of which the poles always lie in a zone perpendicular to the zone-circle of symmetry, two are especially noticeable.

Prismatize (pri·zmătəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To make or render prismatic; to cause to consist of prismatic crystals. Hence **Prismatiza·tion,** the process of rendering prismatic.

1834-5 PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* (1855) 189 Dikes of greenstone.. producing upon the coal the effect of charring and partial prismatization. *Ibid.* 260 The prismatizing of shale by the action of basalt. 1869 — *Vesuv.* iii. 63 The lava is rather earthy in texture, except at the end, where it is compact and prismatized.

Pri·smato-, repr. Gr. πρισματο-, combining form of πρίσμα PRISM, as in **Pri·smato-rhomboi·dal** *a.*, having the form of a rhomboidal prism.

1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 190 Emerald...Cleavage prismato-rhomboidal, or prismatoidal.

Prismatoid (pri·zmătoid), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. πρισματοειδής prism-shaped, f. πρισματο-: see prec. and -OID. So mod.F. *prismatoïde.*]

A. *adj. Cryst.* Applied to any plane, in a crystallographic system, parallel to one of the three axes of co-ordinates and intersecting the other two; so called because a group of eight such planes would form a prism. Opposed to *octahedrid* and *pinakoid.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Prismatoides.., Mineral.*, resembling a prism; applied to a single cleavage face that is parallel to the axis: prismatoid; also erroneously translated prismatoidal. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* ii. § 18.

B. *sb. Geom.* A solid figure having parallel polygonal ends connected by triangular sides.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prismatoi·dal, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] **a.** Resembling a prism. **b.** 'In the form of or connected with a prismatoid' (*Cent. Dict.*). **c.** = PRISMOIDAL.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem.* s.v. *Zeolite*, Prismatoidal zeolite, or stilbite. 1821 [see PRISMATO-]. 1858 [see prec.]. 1876 *Catal. Sci. App. S. Kens. Mus.* § 10 *Estimator.* A sliding rule, by which the volume of prismatoidal bodies (embankments, ditches, cuttings, &c., occurring in the construction of railroads, canals, fortifications, &c.) is calculated mechanically.

Prismatory, erron. form of PRESBYTERY.

Prismed (priz'md), *a.* [f. PRISM *sb.* + -ED 2.] Produced by refraction in a prism; having prismatic colours, bright-coloured.

1820 C. PHILLIPS *Queen's Case Stated* 13 Too soon life's wintry whirlwind must come to sweep the prismed vapour into nothing. 1876 MRS. HOPKINS *Rose Turq.* I. iv. 72 The sunbeams came and made prismed glories in her hair.

Prismenchyma (prizme·ŋkimă). *Bot.* [f. as PRISM + Gr. ἔγχυμα infusion, after PARENCHYMA.] Vegetable tissue consisting of prismatic cells.

1866 [see PRISMATICAL]. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pri·smic, *a. rare*—1. [f. PRISM + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a prism; PRISMATIC *a.* 2.

1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* I. i. 41 Broken prismic lights.

Prismo·dic, *a. rare*—1. [f. PRISM, after *spasmodic.*] Like that of a (transparent) prism.

1854 W. WATERWORTH *Eng. & Rome* 126 Prejudice, which distorts and multiplies with prismodic power every object subjected to its action.

Prismoid (pri·zmoid), *sb.* (*a.*) [= F. *prismoïde*, f. *prisme* PRISM: see -OID.]

1. A body approaching in form to a prism, with similar but unequal parallel polygonal bases.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Prismoid*, is a solid Figure, contained under several Planes whose Bases are rectangular Parallelograms, parallel and alike situate. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 208 Let *BF* be a Prismoid, whose Bases are right angled Parallelograms, though not similar. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* (1849) 317 In this neighborhood, he saw ..several prismoids of basaltes, rising to the height of fifty or sixty feet. 1870 TRACY in *Eng. Mech.* 28 Jan. 489/1 The greater end of a prismoid measures 12 in. by 8.

2. (See quot.)

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Liquid prismoid*, J. Thompson's name for the refracting watery fluid found in the corneal reflexion of the conjunctiva of the eye. [Also called] *watery prismoid.*

B. *adj. rare.* = next.

1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 1 The shaft is cylindrical or prismoid in form. *Ibid.* 64 The shaft of the bone is prismoid at its upper part, and flattened from before backwards below.

Prismoidal (prizmoi·dăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of the form of, or pertaining to, a prismoid.

Prismoidal formula, a formula for the measurement of railway cuttings or the like, based on the consideration of a solid body as being composed of prismoids. *Prismoidal railway*, a railway in which the wheels run on a single central prism-shaped rail mounted on posts; a mono-railway.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 266 *Prismoidal..*, having more than four sides and whose horizontal section is a polygon. 1872 E. MORRIS (*title*) Easy Rules for the Measurement of Earthworks by means of Prismoidal Formulæ. 1874 P. SMYTH *Our Inher.* ii. 16 After chipping off the prismoidal angles and edges. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl., Prismoidal Railway*, a wooden or iron beam is supported on posts, the cars are mounted saddle-fashion; the engine grips the rail. Used in South Africa.

Prismy (pri·zmi), *a.* [f. PRISM + -Y.] Like those of a prism; prismatic; refracted; refracting.

1799 H. GURNEY tr. *Apuleius' Cupid & Psyche* viii. 14 Round lustres wreaths of diamonds fix'd, Their prismy rays profusely pour. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 149 As still those sunbeams brightest shine Which light the diamond's prismy fires! 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 230 Light wings of prismy gossamer.

Prison (pri·z'n), *sb.* Forms: 2-5 **prisun** (dat. 2-4 **-une**), 4-5 **-une**; 3- **prison** (dat. 3-4 **-one**), 4-6 **prisone**; 3-6 **-oun** (5 **-oune**), 4-5 **-own**; 4-6 **pryson, -one, -oun, -own** (5 **-yn**); 6 **prissoun.** β. 4-5 **presun** (4 **pressone**), 4-7 **preson**(e, **-oun**(e, 5 **-own**, 6 **preassoun.** [Early ME. *prisun, -on*, a. OF. *prisun* (11th c. in Littré), *prison*, the action of taking, imprisonment, captivity, a prison; a prisoner; altered (prob. by assimilation to the pa. pple. *pris* taken) from earlier OF. *preson*:—L. *prensiōn-em*, contr. from *prehensiōn-em* a seizing, apprehending, n. of action f. *prehendĕre, prendĕre* to seize. So Pr. *preiso-s*, It. *prigione*, Sp. *prision*, Pg. *prisão.* Sense 2, which existed also in OF., It., Sp., and med.L., appears to have arisen from a person taken (in war) and held as a captive, being considered as a capture, prise, or PRIZE.]

1. *orig.* The condition of being kept in captivity or confinement; forcible deprivation of personal liberty; imprisonment; hence, a place in which such confinement is ensured; *spec.* such a place properly arranged and equipped for the reception of persons who by legal process are committed to it for safe custody while awaiting trial or for punishment; a jail.

a. without article. Here the primary sense is that of the condition, though the notion of a definite place of confinement is now more or less present. Often with certain verbs, as *to break prison* (BREAK *v.* 19); *to cast* (CAST *v.* 32), † *do, put, set in prison*; *to keep, lay, lie in prison.*

a 1123 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1112 Rotbert de Bælesme he let niman and on prisune don. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 Þa namen hi þa men..& diden heom in prisun. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ȝe beoð iseald eower feonde to prisune. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2070 Ðre daies ben þet for to cumen, Ðu salt ben ut of prisun numen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 875 Þe quene hor aunte in bataile hii nome & in stronge prison broȝte [*v. rr.* dude, putte]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 9556 Til his aun fa felun Was he be-taght for to prisun [*v. rr.* presoun, preson, prisoun]. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 40 A place whare oure Lord was done in prisoun. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 183 Songe and prison have noon accordaunce, Trowest thou I wolle syng in prisoun? 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 74 Sum be in pryson in the jayll at Coventre. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 264 Yf ony thing in this lettre be vntrue, I am contente that your Grace giue vnto me therfore perpetuell prison. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlv[i]. 7 The Lorde lowseth men out of preson. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. of Suffolk* xx, And caused me in prison to be thralled. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 665 The King caused him to be clapt in prison, but he brake prison. 1621 *Execution at Prague* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 411 Remain in perpetual prison. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 461 While I Must languish in despair, in prison die. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 5/1 Prison for lads should be the last, and not the first, resort.

b. with *a, the*, or a possessive, or in plural, referring more distinctly to a material structure.

State prison: (*a*) a prison for the confinement of political offenders; (*b*) *U. S.* a prison under the control of the authorities of a State.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Þe mon þe leie xii. moneð in ane prisune. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 131 Seint iohan baptiste was bihaueded in herodes prisone. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 13068 Iohn..þou sal in mi presun lii. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* C. 79, I com wyth þose tyþynges, þay tame bylyue, Pynez me in a prysoun, put me in stokkes. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 23 We founden the prisoun schit with al diligence, and the keperis stondinge at the ȝatis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3518 The kyng þen comaund to..fetur hir fast in a fre prisoune,—A stithe house of stone. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxxii. 120 Thus eschaped dedalus oute of the pryson of Mynos kynge of Crete. 1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Prison a dongyon, *chartre.* *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 383 The uthir [was] in vyle preassoun cassin. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* 33 There are no prisons in al his empire: for..iustice is executed out of hand. 1637 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 91 The order to send Doctor Bastwicke, Mr. Burton, and Mr. Prin to their severall remote prisons. 1649 LOVELACE *To Althea from Prison* iv, Stone Walls doe not a Prison make, Nor Iron bars a Cage. 1777 HOWARD (*title*) The State of the Prisons in England and Wales, with Preliminary Observations, and an account of some foreign Prisons. 1795 *Jemima* II. 77 Gave the air of a state prison to the apartment. 1823 *Act* 4 *Geo. IV*, c. 64 § 76 Nothing in this Act contained shall extend to the..Prison of Bridewell, nor to the Fleet Prison, or to the Prison of the Marshalsea. 1885 MAJOR GRIFFITHS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 747/2 The atrocities perpetrated [*c* 1730] by the keepers of the chief debtors' prisons in London. *Ibid.* 755/2 Where the sentence passes beyond two years..the prisoner becomes a convict, and undergoes his penalty in one or more of the convict prisons. 189. SIR G. KEKEWICH in *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Mar. (1900), 10/1 Every time I hear of a new school being opened, I say to myself 'There goes another prison'.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* (from a and b.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Eue..leop..vrom þes eorðe to helle, þer heo lei ine prisune uour þusend ȝer & moare. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 128 Resoun shal .. casten hym in arrerage, And putten hym after in a prisone in purgatorie to brenne. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* iii. 19 To hem that weren closid to gydere in prisoun he comynge in spirit prechide [1611 He went and preached vnto the spirits in prison]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 377 Aluredus .. ladde uncerteyn and unesy lyf in þe wode contrayes of Somersete .. Aluredus com out of prison. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxii. (Percy Soc.) 157 This False Reporte hath broken pryson, With his subtyl crafte and evyl treason. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 75 b, The Cite is to me a pryson, and the wyldernes a paradyse. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 246-9. 1606 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* II. § 5. 132, I may not breake prison, till I bee loosed by death. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 113 The Island was certainly a Prison to me. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* XXXIII. 473 Our winter prison was before us. 1880 E. H. PLUMPTRE in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* II. 196/1 So Cyril of Jerusalem .. speaks of Christ as descending to Hades...The souls that had been long in prison were set free.

† **2.** A person held in prison; a PRISONER. *Obs.*

[1195 *Charter Rich. I* in Rymer *Fœdera* I. 92/2 Hiis omnibus per actis Comes Leicestriæ, et omnes Prisones, et hostagii Prisonum ..liberabuntur.] *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Þe pine þet prisuns þolieð; þet heo liggeð mid iren heuie iveotered. [1292 BRITTON I. xii. § 2 Et si le prisoun qi si avera eschapé.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4436 (Cott.) All þe prisuns [*v. rr.* presunes, prisouns] þat þar was, þat oþer in prisun war or band. 13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 521 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 401 A pryson þai had hight Barabas. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 58 Pitousliche and pale as a prisoun þat deyeth. 1438 *Bk. Alexander Grt.* (Bann.) 4 Thay tuik na tent to tak presounis. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 530 They.. toke with them all seyntwary men, & the prysons of Newgate, Ludgate, & of bothe Counters.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** attributive: (*a*) of or pertaining to a prison or prisons, as *prison-accommodation, -boat, -buildings, -cell, Commission* (COMMISSION 6), *-discipline, -dream, -dress, -garment, -ground, -hour, -industry, -labour, -library, -official, -piety, -rime, -roof, -sister, -thrall, -torture, -wall*; (*b*) confined in a prison, as *prison-author, -slave, woman*; (*c*) serving as a prison or place of confinement, as *prison camp, chamber, fort, fortress, hold, island, isle, pit, place, room, ship, tower.* **b.** objective and object. gen., as *prison-cleaner, -keeper, -making*; *prison-bursting, -escaping, fancy-*

ing adjs. **c.** instrumental, locative, etc., as *prison-born, -bound, -caused, -flavoured, -made, -taught*; also *prison-free, -like* adjs. **d.** Special comb.: **prison-bird**, one who has been often or long in prison for felonies: cf. JAIL-BIRD; **prison-breach, -breaking**, a breaking out of a lawfully confined person from prison: cf. *to break prison*: see 1 a and BREAK *v.* 19; so *prison-breaker*; **prison-crop**, hair cut very short, 'county-crop': cf. CROP *sb.* 13; so *prison-cropped* adj.; **prison editor**, an editor (of a newspaper) who takes the legal responsibility for what appears in the paper, and serves the terms of imprisonment that conviction may entail; **prison-fever** = JAIL-FEVER; **prison-van**, a close carriage for the conveyance of prisoners. Also PRISON-BAR, -DOOR, etc.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 16/2 Mrs. Price..had many distinguished predecessors as *prison-authors. It was in Newgate that Defoe wrote his 'Jure Divino' [etc.]. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. i, I sent the *prison-bird this morning for them. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* Prol., 'I venture to ask who you are.' 'A prison bird, madam. Nothing more.' *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, St. Mark's Place* 114 Most nights arrived The *prison-boat. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 173, I lack .. many things which thou, being *prison-born, neither art nor can be sensible of. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 240 Us, poor *prison-bound vagrants. 1903 LD. W. N[EVILLE] *Penal Servitude* vi. 63 A most irregular proceeding, ..calculated to lead to conspiracy, *prison-breach. 1725 (*title*) The *Prison-Breaker; or, the Adventures of John Sheppard. *a* 1849 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 455 *Prison-bursting Death! Welcome be thy blow! 1902 MAJOR GRIFFITHS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 7/1 The *prison cell, which in effect typifies the modern system. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xii, The passage .. probably led to the *prison-chamber which Olivia had described. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 9/2 Down till after 1801 'a *prison crop' was unknown in the services—officers and men wore their hair in queue. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 13 You'll find he's *prison cropped. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. § 2. 56 Without..pushing our calculations quite to this *prison-discipline extreme. 1885 MAJOR GRIFFITHS in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 749/1 Stimulated ..by the success achieved by Mrs. Fry, the Prison Discipline Society continued its useful labours. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1875) 26 The *prison-dress that you have on. 1896 *Daily News* 14 Nov. 6/7 A writer in the 'Pretoria Press' says, in connection with the Coercion Act recently passed: 'Should the Press Law come into force, it will be necessary for some of our papers to become possessed of a '*Prison Editor'. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 28 Sept. 4/6 In France...most of the important political articles are signed, and the name of an editor is generally printed on the main page. But it is sometimes merely that of the 'prison editor'. 1853 CDL. WISEMAN *Ess.* III. 20 An African ..*prison-fort, where galley-slaves are detained. 18.. *Lang Johnny Moir* xlix. in Child *Ballads* VIII. (1892) 400/1 They've taen the lady by the hand And set her *prison-free. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Jer.* lii. 33 Euil-merodach .. broght him out of prison, .. And changed his *prison garments [COVERD. clothes of his prison]. 14.. *Sir Beues* 1311 (MS. M) Whan he was down in *preson ground Beues handis they on-bound. 1837 CHALMERS *Lect. Rom.* I. iv. 68 They chain it, as it were, in the *prison-hold of their own corruptions. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1507 Raleigh..with his *prison-hours enrich'd the world. 1881 W. W. NEWTON *Serm. Boys & Girls* 2 Order the *prison-keepers to let me go. 1847 SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 198 Far superior to the bald and *prison-like structures which haunt the metropolis. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 3/3 Legislation .. effectual in keeping out of this country *prison-made goods. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 20 May 3/1 The prison-made workman is liable to be spotted in an outside factory. 1891 *Daily News* 22 Jan. 7/2 [An] officer of the Mendicity Society produced a *prison photograph of prisoner. 1677 (*title*) *Prison-Pietie: or, Meditations Divine and Moral. Digested into Poetical Heads..By Samuel Speed, Prisoner in Ludgate. 1646 P. BULKELEY *Gospel Covt.* I. 21 To see the children of our father in the dungeon, and *prison-pit. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xii, 'Twas a *prison-room Of stern security and gloom. 1795 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) II. 47, I am not Captain of the Ça Ira. At present she is a *Prison-ship. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* v. 83 Shall our chyldren, shall our brethren acknowledge vs, beyng *prison slaues? 1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* i. 12 Rescue ..the two Apostles from their *prison-thrall. 1835 L. E. LANDON *Misc. Poems* 23 When she left her *prison-tower.. It was to seek the sea-beat strand. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Prison-van*, a police carriage for conveying prisoners to and from a court of justice. 1880 G. R. SIMS *Three Brass Balls* xvii, The time when 'Black Maria', the prison van, stands waiting at the door. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, v. v. 21 The Flinty ribbes Of this hard world, my ragged *prison walles. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* I. *Happy Frailty* xii, Devotion breaks the prison-walls, And speeds my last remove. 1655 (*title*) The Oppressed Close Prisoner In Windsor-Castle, his Defiance to The Father of Lyes. By Chr. Feake, in his *Prison-Watch-tower. 1898 *Daily News* 19 Nov. 6/3 It took half a dozen of these poor nerveless *prison women to do what one ordinary energetic laundry woman would accomplish.

Prison (pri·z'n), *v.* Forms: see the sb. [f. PRISON *sb.*] *trans.* To put in prison, make a prisoner of; to incarcerate; to keep in a prison or other place of confinement; to detain in custody. Now *poet.* or *rhet.*, and *north. dial.* (the usual word for the literal sense being IMPRISON).

[1292 BRITTON I. xii. § 6 Mes les prisounez pur felounie en nule manere voloms suffrer de nul homme enpleder.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4484 (Gött.) First men stal me [Joseph] fra mi thede And presuned [*v.rr.* prisund, prisoned] me, sacles of dede. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 101 Sir William Crispyn with þe duke was led, Togider prisoned. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 79 So trewe prestis schullen be cursed & prisoned. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 181 His felawes were .. i-prisoned to her lyves ende. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 39 Cordeilla the doȝter of kynge Leir,.. whom Morganus and Cunedagius prisonede at the laste. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxii. 19, I presoned and bett in euery sinagoge them that beleued on the. 1542 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xii. 29 Many tymes thei preson men for their fryndes pleasure. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 1104 Even as a Lion pris'ned in his grate,..Roars hideously. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* II. xi, A chief on land—an outlaw on the deep —Destroying—saving—prison'd—and asleep! [1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* instanced from Shetland Is. to Mid Yorksh.]

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To restrain from liberty of movement; to confine; = IMPRISON 1 b and 2.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) IV. xxxviii. (1859) 67 Here myght thou see the meschyef of vntrewe counceylle, that made this gentil Lyberalite prisond. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11 Whyle our soulles ar prysoned in these dedly bodyes. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 642 His true respect will prison false desire. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N. T.* 358 Whose spirits are now fast prisoned in Hell. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 524 From winds, and waves, and central night, Tho' prison'd there, my dust too I reclaim. 1847 C. BRONTË *J. Eyre* xxxvii, I arrested his wandering hand, and prisoned it in both mine. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* XXV, Why prison his career while Christendom Lay open to reward acknowledged worth?

Hence **Pri·soned** *ppl. a.*, confined in or as in a prison; imprisoned.

a 1327 in *Pol. Poems* (Camden) 202 The lafful man ssal be i-bund,..And i-holdin fast prisund. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 378, I pray þe, lord..To hom þat are.. seke or prisonde, or o-pon þo see..til alle hom, þou sende socoure. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 462 With prisoned winds the wringling Colick pains them. 1790 COWPER *Stanzas* 2 Where the prison'd lark is hung. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* xxxii, The groans of prisoned victims mar the lays. *a* 1881 ROSSETTI *House of Life* iii, Thine eyes Draw up my prisoned spirit to thy Soul.

Pri·son-ba·r. **a.** *pl.* The iron bars by which a prison, its door, windows, etc., are made fast; bars which imprison. **b.** *Prison-bars*, a game: see PRISONERS' BARS.

1844 WELBY *Poems* (1867) 86 Yet from my prison-bars A narrow strip of sky is all I see. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 393 He to captivity was sold, But him no prison-bars would hold.

Pri·son-doo·r. The door of a prison. *lit.* or *fig.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19305 þe angel..þe prisun dors lefte als he fand. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 81 He openyd þe prysondyrre, and bade hym go. 1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* II. 67 The particles of fire, that are shut up in several bodies, will easily flie abroad, when by a further degree of relaxation you shake off their chains, and open the prison-doors. 1869 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* (1875) 26 The man that was condemned walks out free through the opened prison-doors.

Pri·soner[1]. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. PRISON *sb.* or *v.* + -ER[1]: cf. *jail-er*; also med.L. *præsonerius* (1285 in Const. K. James of Sicily, Du Cange), and Anglo-L. *prisonātor* (*c* 1290 in *Fleta* I. xx. § 9).] The keeper of a prison; a jailer.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2042 So gan him [iosep] luuen ðe prisuner, And him ðe chartre hauеð bi-tazt, Wið ðo prisunes to liuen in hazt. [Still sometimes so used dialectally. It was familiar to me in childhood. J. A. H. M.]

Prisoner[2] (pri·z'nəɹ). Forms: see PRISON *sb.*; also 6 **priesoner.** [ME. a. F. *prisonnier* (*prisonier*, 12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = med.L. *pris(i)ōnāri-us* (14th c. in Du Cange): see PRISON *sb.* and -ER[2] 2.]

1. One who is kept in prison or in custody; *spec.* one who is in custody as the result of a legal process, either as having been condemned to imprisonment as a punishment, or as awaiting trial for some offence.

Prisoner at the bar: a person in custody upon a criminal charge, and on trial in a court of justice. *Prisoner of state, state prisoner*, one confined for political or state reasons.

13.. *Coer de L.* 754 To the jayler thanne sayd he: 'Thy presoners let me see!' 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 136 She leteth passe prisoneres and payeth for hem ofte. *c* 1425 *Cursor M.* 9598 (Laud) She was algate abowte For to haue this presonar [*earlier MSS.* prisun, etc.] owt. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 4107 The rest in Egypt thay did sende, Presonaris to thare Iyuis ende. 1637 *Documents agst. Prynne* (Camden) 68 A letter..for the removing of William Prinne from the Goale or Castle of Carnarvon,..to one of the two Castles of the Isle of Jersey,..to be there kept close prisoner. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 60 A prisner to the Inquisition. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 32 The Court being Assembled, the Keeper was commanded to set the Prisoners to the Bar. 1670 *Act* 22 & 23 *Chas. II*, c. 20 § 13 That it shall not be lawful hereafter.., to put, keep or lodge Prisoners for Debt and Felons together in one Room. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxii. 296 The justice, before whom such prisoner is brought, is bound immediately to examine the circumstances of the crime alleged. 1807 (*title*) Case of St. John Mason, who was confined as a state-prisoner, in Kilmainham. 1824 *Act* 5 *Geo. IV*, c. 85 § 26 If there be indorsed upon such Pass..the Words 'Pass of a discharged Prisoner'. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 416/2 When a convict or prisoner (for that is the colonial phrase) becomes free, either by serving out the period of his sentence of transportation or by obtaining a pardon. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 75 Standing in a firm and graceful attitude, at the end of the prisoner's bench, he gazed deliberately upon the audience. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Nov. 10/1 Lieutenant ——..was assigned as advocate for the prisoner, or 'prisoner's friend', as the term stands in the military system of jurisprudence. *c* 1900 *What of the Night?* (Ch. Army Press) 20 The Church Army has been officially appointed by the Home Office a 'Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society'.

2. One who has been captured in war; one who has fallen into the hands of or surrendered to an opponent; a captive. Now often more fully *prisoner of war*. *To take* (a person) *prisoner*, to seize and hold as a prisoner, esp. in war.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1267 þan william..Profered him þat prisoner prestely at his wille To do þan wiþ þe duk what him dere þouȝt. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1297 Presented him þe prisoneres in pray þat þay token. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, He toke him there to presunnere. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 412 Whan thei hadde chaced hem to the nyght, thei returned with grete plente of prisoners. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 412 For prisoner i mot me yeld, As overcome yn feld. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* ix. (1885) 130 The Erlis of Lecestir and Glocestre..rose ayenest thair kynge Herre the iij^de, and toke hym and his sonne prisoners in the ffelde. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 13 The gouernour..so by crafte circumuented him, that he toke him priesoner, and commaunded him to be hanged on the sayle yarde of the shyp. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 10 This Sword hath ended him, so shall it thee, Vnlesse thou yeeld thee as a Prisoner. 1601 — *Jul. C.* v. iii. 37 In Parthia did I take thee Prisoner, And then I swore thee, sauing of thy life, That whatsoeuer I did bid thee do, Thou should'st attempt it. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 305 To make Exchange of Prisoners. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 113 Ralph himself, your trusty Squire Wh[o]..though a Prisoner of War, Have brought you safe, where now you are. *Ibid.* 1204 The Infernal Conjurer Pursu'd and took me Prisoner. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. i. 20 Baliol, being then a prisoner of war. 1902 BARCLAY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 753/2 Prisoners of war are in the power of the hostile government, but not in that of the individuals or corps who captured them.

b. A captive at the game of prisoners' bars.

1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. § 12 If the person sent to relieve his confederate be touched by an antagonist before he reaches him, he also becomes a prisoner, and stands in equal need of deliverance.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* One who or that which is confined to a place or position.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 323 Siche bildyngis makyn pride, and not comfort of goddis prisounneris. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 100 This worlde is the pryson, & we be the prysoners. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. iii, Death his prisoner never will forgoe. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 5 An vntimely Ague Staid me a Prisoner in my Chamber. 1717 POPE *Elegy Unfort. Lady* 18 Most souls, 'tis true, but peep out once an age Dull sullen pris'ners in the body's cage. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 115 Here we remain, still prisoners at Fortress Monro..the steamboat never came to take passengers to Norfolk. 1878 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 53, I came to see Prince Leopold, who has been a prisoner to his sofa lately. *Mod.* He made her hand a prisoner.

4. *attrib.* Of or pertaining to a prisoner; that is a prisoner.

1846 C. G. PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 8 Thou com'st to find A prisoner-God. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XIII. 153 With his prisoner-string he bound him. 1878 W. PATER *Wks.* (1901) VIII. 196 On one of those two prisoner days when Lewis was sick. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 8/2 His medical attendant..remained with the prisoner-patient throughout a considerable part of the night. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS *Fifty Years Public Service* xix. 277 He cut off remorselessly the prisoner gardeners and the prisoner stable-man.

Hence **Pri·sonership**, the condition of a prisoner.

1906 tr. *Fogazzaro's Saint* Introd. 14 That other fiction, the Pope's prisonership in the Vatican.

Prisoners' ba·rs, ba·se. Forms: α. 7- **prison-bars** (8 bar); β. **prison-base** (7 **prison bace**, 8 bass); γ. 9 **prisoner's, -ers' bars**; δ. 9 **prisoner's, -ers' base.** [See PRISONER[2] and BAR *sb.*[1] 17, BASE *sb.*[2] The earlier forms were *prison-bars* and *prison-base*, the former app. the original: cf. the Fr. name of the game *les barres*; also the Fr. and earlier Eng. pronunciation of *base* (bās, bāz).

1331-2 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 65/1 Qe nul enfaunt ne autres jue en ul lieu du Paleys de Westmonstre, durant le Parlement.. a bares ne a autres jues. 1530 PALSGR. 196/1 Bace playe, *jeu aux barres.*]

A game played in a variety of ways, chiefly by boys; the players are divided into two parties, who occupy distinct demarcations, 'bases', 'homes', or 'dens', the aim of each side being to make prisoner by touching any player of the opposite side who runs out from his enclosure.

α. 1611 COTGR., *Barres*, the play at Bace; or, Prison Bars. 1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* II. i, Our Army did nothing but play at Prison Bars, and hide and seek with the Enemy. 1755-73 JOHNSON, *Prisonbase*, a kind of rural play, commonly called *prisonbars*. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 624 Whether cricket or prison-bar, shuttle-cock or trap-ball be the better amusement? *a* 1795 [see BAR *sb.*[1] 17]. 1883 BURNE *Shropsh. Folk-lore* 524 Men-servants, in the last century, were wont to ask a day's holiday to join or witness a game of prison-bars, arranged beforehand as a cricket-match might be.

β. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xxi. 200 Where light-foot Fayries sport at Prison-Base. 1630 — *Muses Elizium* I. 27 Whilst the Nimphes .. Disposed were to play At Barly-breake and Prison-base. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. v. (ed. 22) 51 They will go in the Evening to Foot-ball,..Cricket, Prison-base, Wrestling. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 342 Jumping, hopping, foot races, and prison bass.

γ. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. ii. § 12 There is a rustic game called Base or Bars..and in some places Prisoners' Bars. 1864 CAPERN *Devon Provinc., Prisoner's-Bars* or *bonds*, a very ancient game. 1872 *Punch* 6 Apr. 141/2 Prisoner's-bars. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 38 He was never too busy to..be umpire at 'tig' or prisoners' bars.

δ. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* ii, Playing at cricket, hockey, prisoner's base, and football, according to the season. 1861 *Fun* 12 Oct. 42 An unextinguishable affection for 'prisoners' base'. 1876 GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. v. 180

A game less known, though a most admirable one, is.. 'prisoner's base'. 1880 Prisoners' base [see BASE *sb.*²].

† **Pri·son-fe·llow.** *Obs.* A companion in prison; a fellow-prisoner.

1526 TINDALE *Col. iv.* 10 Aristarchus my preson felowe [1582 (Rhem.) fellow-prisoner] saluteth you. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1110/2 The lord Thomas Greie being my prison-felow. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. xxxiii. 259 Bishop Barlow, who was prison-fellow with him.

Pri·son-ga·te. The gate or entrance of a prison. Also *attrib.*, esp. in reference to the rescue and reclamation work for discharged prisoners on leaving the prison.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 36 Shiuering shocks shall break the locks of prison gates. 1794 HEL. M. WILLIAMS *Lett. on France* (1795) I. 44 He used through the lonely day to count the hours till the prison-gates were closed. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Jan. 5/3 As a leading member of the Army's 'Prison Gate' branch, Archie was in his element, and many an old gaol-bird was brought to a better frame of mind..by Archie's judicious ministrations. 1901 *Ibid.* 28 Aug. 8/2 The Salvation Army never turns a deaf ear to any appeal of the kind, and the applicant is now in the prison-gate home.

Pri·son-house. A house of imprisonment; a building that is or serves as a prison. Often *fig.*

c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 804/6 *Hic carcer*, a presunhowse. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 850 So [he] put them both into the prison-house, and made the dores be shut after them. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 15, I am forbid To tell the secrets of my Prison-House. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 661 So fare we in this prison-house, the world. 1803–6 WORDSW. *Intim. Immort.* 68 Heaven lies about us in our infancy! Shades of the prison-house begin to close Upon the growing boy. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* 39 In the old prison-house of the town. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 25 Apr. 6/5 To escape from the prison-house of London streets and factories into the 'great spaces of nature'.

Prisoning (pri·z'niŋ), *vbl. sb.* Now *rare.* [f. PRISON *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PRISON; imprisonment, confinement.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21259 Siþen efter prisuning, His saul he yeld to heuen king. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 376 Bope þes two prisounyngis..in Moises tyme and Jeremyes. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xvii. 65 b, I speake not of prysonninges, treasons, robberies, open violence. 1907 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 30 Feet..Too wayward for the straight path's prisoning.

Pri·soning, *ppl. a.* [f. PRISON *v.* + -ING 2.] That prisons or imprisons; imprisoning, confining. Usually *fig.*

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* I. i, Souls..Enfranchis'd from their pris'ning clay. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Browning* 243 Spring, which has freed the mountain from its prisoning breastplate of snow. *a* 1892 J. HYSLOP in *Pall Mall G.* 26 Apr. (1892) 6/1 My soul..When that has passed beyond life's prisoning bars.

Pri·sonment. Now *rare.* [f. PRISON *v.* + -MENT; cf. IMPRISONMENT and obs. F. *prisonnement* (? 16th c. in Godef.).] The action of imprisoning, or fact or condition of being imprisoned; detention in a prison or place of confinement; = IMPRISONMENT. Also *fig.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) I. 54 For prisonment or any other disese, [if] he take it paciently, discomfiteth he not, the tiraunte ouer his soule no power maie haue. 1468 *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* lf. 12 b, Nat..wythout licence of the Baillies, vpon xl. dayes prisonement and a grete fyn. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* vi. 5 In anguyssh̃e, in strypes, in presonment, in stryfe, in labour. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 188 Mockings, scourgings, bands, prisonments, stonings. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* vii. 286 The taking away of..thy good Ministers by exile, prisonment, and death. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 17 Aug., The transformation from prisonment to thrilling liberty is so inexpressibly complete.

b. An imprisoning or confining condition.

1900 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* 6 If he may not sometimes ..lay aside his heavy prisonment of armour and don such a suit as this.

Pri·sonous, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PRISON *sb.* + -OUS, after *poisonous*, etc.] Characteristic of a prison.

1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. vi, His son began..to be of the prison prisonous and of the street streety. 1888 J. ASHBY STERRY in *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* 109 Horsemonger Lane Gaol ..has an impressive façade..distinctly prisonous in every line and ornamentation.

Pri·sonry. *nonce-wd.* [f. PRISON *sb.* + -RY.] State or place of imprisonment.

1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 389 For worse than death awaited me In this sepulchral prisonry.

Prisoptometer (prəizɒptɒ·mĭtəɹ). [Arbitrarily f. Gr. πρίσ-ις sawing (allied to *prism*) + ὀπτ-ός seen + -(o)METER.] An optical instrument: see quots.

1894 A. L. ADAMS in *27th Bienn. Rep. Illinois Instit. Deaf & Dumb* 62, I found Culbertson's Prisoptometer invaluable as a means of diagnosing the amount and various kinds of astigmatism. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prisoptometer*.., an instrument designed for the estimation of varying degrees of ametropia of the eye, by means of two prisms fixed together at their bases.

Prisor, obs. f. PRIZER 1. **Priss(e,** obs. f. PRICE *sb.*1, PRIZE *v.*1 **Prist, -e,** obs. pa. pple. of PRIZE *v.*

‖ **Pri·staf.** Also 7 -affe, 9 -av (-aw); 7 **prestave.** [Russ. приставъ *pri·stav*ъ an inspector, commissioner, bedell, lit. one appointed or commissioned, a prefect; f. *pri-* before + *stavi*ti to set up, place, post.] A commissioner, police officer, overseer.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 178 To his knowledge, the Pristaf was a person of honour. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* I. Dram. Wks. 1873 I. 27 A Russian, sir! a pristaffe's son of Archangelo. *a* 1674 MILTON *Hist. Mosc.* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 516 The Prestaves or Gentlemen assign'd to have the care of his entertainment. 1837 DE QUINCEY *Revolt of Tartars* Wks. 1890 VII. 386 He was styled the Grand Pristaw, or Great Commissioner, and was universally known amongst the Tartar tribes by this title. 1889 G. KENNAN in *Century Mag.* Apr. 893/1 The original report of a Russian police pristav, written upon a printed form.

† **Pri·stinary,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. L. *pristin-us* PRISTINE + -ARY 1.] = PRISTINE.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 199 If there hath been no new thing under the sun, according to the..sense of those pristinary lobcocks.

† **Pri·stinate,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. L. *pristin-us* PRISTINE + -ATE 2.] = PRISTINE.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. ii, The pristinate authorite and maiestie of a kyng. *Ibid.*, Kynge Edgar..reduced the monarch to his pristinate astate and figure. 1602 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 5 The pristinate wildenes and sauagenesse of nature. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 356 To this day they could never recover their pristinat fortunes.

B. *sb.* The first or original state. *rare*−1.

1598–9 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* I. ii, Slid, I am no changeling, I am Juniper still, I keep the pristinate.

Pristine (pri·stin), *a.* Also 6–7 **pristin.** [ad. L. *pristin-us* former, previous, early, original, primitive (f. stem *pris-*, as in *prisc-us*, *prī(s)m-us*: for suffix cf. *cras-tinus*, *diu-tin-us*). So OF. *pristin.*] Of or pertaining to the earliest period or state; original, former; primitive, ancient. (Now usually commendatory.)

1534 Q. ANNE BOLEYN in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 46 Restored to his pristine fredome. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 10 To reduce the saidis partiis to thair pristine amytie. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1213 An expedition.. for recoverie of their pristine possession. 1696 PRIOR *To King, Disc. Conspir.* 75 Hence then, close Ambush and perfidious War, Down to your pristin Seats of Night repair. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 31 You speak and prophesy like a sage of some pristine æra. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. I. 151 To restore it to its pristine purity. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 126 The translators..have happily preserved for us the pristine simplicity of our Saxon-English. 1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* XX. 500 The extent of pristine shores. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* ii. 53 Empedocles believed in a pristine state of happiness.

Pristly, variant of PRESTLY *adv. Obs.*

Pritch (pritʃ), *sb. Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3 **pricche,** 5 **prytch,** 7–9 **prich.** [app. a by-form of PRICK *sb.*, with palatalized *c*; perh. a southern repr. of OE. *price* from *prick* (cf. *miche, much*, from *mice(l, quitch* from *cwice*), or possibly assimilated to PRITCH *v.*]

I. † **1.** A prick, goad, or spur; an incentive. *Obs.* Cf. PRICK *sb.* 13.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Eien beoð þe earewen & te ereste armes of lecheries pricches.

2. In local dialects, the name of various sharp-pointed tools or implements. Cf. PRICK *sb.* 15.

1800–25 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pritch*,.. 1. A fold-pritch is that with which holes are made in the ground to receive fold-stakes... 2. An eel-pritch is a spear for taking eels. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words.* 1863 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *Pritch*.., a heavy pointed iron for making holes for stakes. In Worc. a stick, iron shod, hanging at the tail of a cart, and acting as a prop when resting on a steep road. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Pritch*, a long pole furnished with an iron fork at one end, used by Severn boatmen for propelling their boats,—a river term. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Perch*,..the iron-pointed stave often fixed by a joint to the axletree of carts and wagons, to prevent their running back when the horse stops on an ascent. The word no doubt is *pritch* or point.

II. † **3.** A grudge, spite, offence taken (*against* any one). *Obs.*

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps. xii.* 1 All of them with one consent taking pritch against a good cace. *Ibid.* xxxix. 5 Hee taketh prytch, that hee is not delte with more meeldly. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 371 If a Noblemans Secretarie be cast out of fauour with his Lord, so that he taketh a pritch against him, it is a matter of great sorrow. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 270 Oh!..the least conceit taken, or pritch,..is enough to make sutes. *Ibid.* 274 The finer Selfe is spunne, the more she *will* take pritch if she be defeated.

III. **4.** Small or poor beer; perh. originally soured beer: cf. PRICK *v.* 8, PRICKED *ppl. a.* 2. *dial.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 104/2 Wort of the last drawing ..is..of some called put up drink, shower-trough, or penny prich. *Ibid.* 105/1 Pritch Drink,..drinks sweet and sower, through a taint that it hath taken through the foulness of the Vessels. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* (E. D. S.), *Prich*, thin drink. 1828 *Craven Gloss., Prich*, small beer, thin drink.

Pritch, *v. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5 **pricche.** [A by-form of PRICK *v.* with palatalized *c*, partly at least representing OE. **priccan*, **priccean* (in *apriccan*), from WGer. **prikjan*: see PRICK *v.* Pa. t. in 3–4 *prizte, prighte*:—OE. **prihte*.]

1. *trans.* To prick; to affect with a pricking sensation. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1250 *Hymn Virg.* 53 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 257 Þe ne stizte, ne þe ne prizte, in side, in lende, ne elles where. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 410 And with hir beek hir seluen so she prighte. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 31 If seeknes come therin thus shalle thou knowe, þi tunge shalle be pricchid, þi mouth shalle be bittir. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 103 His nostrils so pritcht. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* s.v. *Bullock*, I ha got sitch a lamentaable push,..an at night ta itch an ta pritch, an ta gaa-alva. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., (Worcester) I've got sharp pritching pains.

† **2.** (See quot.) *Obs.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 259/1 (Goldsmith's Work) *Pritching*, is to find the center of the Plate to be worked.

3. To prick or punch holes in. *dial.*

1746 [see 5]. 1778 *Exmoor Scolding* Gloss. (E. D. S.), *To Pritch*, to prick Holes in; to make Holes for the Wires in the Leathers of Wool-Cards. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Perch v.t.*, to punch or prick holes in anything, chiefly in horses' shoes, with a pritchil or purchil.

4. To catch (eels) with an eel-pritch or PRICK (*sb.* 15); also *intr.* to use a pritch. *dial.*

1894 E. CLODD *Fitzgerald's Grave* 8 Ditches whence delicious eels are pritched.

5. *Pritch thee!* an imprecation. *dial.*

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* 193 Whan tha young Zaunder Vursdon and thee stey'd up oll tha Neert a roasting o' Taties, pritch tha vor me! *Ibid.* 244 Tha art a Beagle, Chun, pritch tha! vor anether Trick. [1746 *Gloss.* in *Gentl. Mag.* XVI. 407/2 *To Pritch*, to check, or withstand. *Note.* A term for making holes in the leathers of cards to admit the wire.]

† **Pri·tch-aule.** *Obs. rare*−1. ?Comb. of PRITCH *v.* and AWL, or false spelling of PRITCHEL.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 87, I..solde pritch-aule, spunge, blacking tub, and punching yron.

Pritchel (pri·tʃəl), *sb. dial.* Also **prichell, pritchil, purchil.** [A southern parallel form of PRICKLE *sb.*1, repr. the uncontracted forms of OE. *pricel.*] A sharp-pointed instrument or tool of various kinds for prodding, cutting, making holes, etc.; **b.** esp. for punching the nail-holes in horse-shoes.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 605/20 *Promotorium*, a prychel. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 337 The orifice [in wire-drawing plate] is..brought to the proper size by the introduction of what the workman calls a *pritchel*, or long taper needle. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pritchel*, an iron share fixed on a thick staff for making holes in the ground. *Kent.* 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss., Pritchel*, a kind of hard chisel for millstones. *c* 1900 *Price List of Millstone Tools*, Pritchels and Chisels for cutting Burrs, letting in driving irons, etc.

b. 1820 BRACY CLARK *Descr. New Horse Shoe* 14 Nor was there so much trouble in reducing them [the pritchel bumps on the outside of the shoe]..with the pritchel remaining in the hole to prevent its closing. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pritchel (Forging)*, the punch employed by horse-shoers for punching out or enlarging the nail-holes in a horse-shoe. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Purchil*, or *Pritchil*, the square point used..to punch the nail-holes in a horse-shoe. [So in *Hartland Gloss.*] 1896 *Farriers' Price List*, A Smith can easily, with his stamp and pritchel, make a hole.

Hence **Pri·tchel** *v. dial.*, to goad (a beast).

1875– Gloucestersh. etc. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Prithee (pri·ðĭ), *int. phr. arch.* Forms: 6 **preythe, pree-the(e, prethe,** 6–7 **pre-thee,** 6–9 **prythee,** 7 **pree thee, prethee, prethy,** 8 **pr'ythee, prithy, pri'thee,** 8– **prithee.** Archaic colloquialism for '(I) pray thee'. (Cf. PRAY *v.* 8 b.)

[? *c* 1522 *Inscription* in *Almondbury & Huddersf. Gloss.* p. xxv, Quarfor pray the thy Sweryng lay by.] 1577 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 57 But preythe see where Withipolls cum. *a* 1592 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 481 Oh deigne, I prythee, then, with speed, To help thy servant now at need. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 30 Pree the observe the custome of the world. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 171 Pre-thee no more: thou dost talke nothing to me. 1689 *Trial Pritchard v. Papillon* 6 Nov. 4 *L. Ch. Just.* Ay, prethy tell us. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 131 ¶ 9 Pr'ythee don't send us up any more Stories of a Cock and a Bull. 1728 T. SHERIDAN *Persius* i. (1739) 15 Prithy tell me the Truth. 1807 CRABBE *Parish Reg.* III. 780, I hunger, fellow; prithee give me food! 1831 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. xiv. 319 Come, I prythee! come again! 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 214 Prithee, friend, be obliging and exhibit your wisdom.

Prittle, *v.*: see PRITTLE-PRATTLE *v.*

Prittle-prattle (pri·t'l,præ·t'l), *sb.* Now *rare.* [Reduplicated extension of PRATTLE *sb.*] Trivial, worthless, or idle talk; also, light, easy, familiar conversation, small talk; chatter, tittle-tattle; childish prattle. Also *attrib.*

1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 9 b, I could easily contemne their prittle prattle talking. *Ibid.* 30 To make much prittle prattle of Salomons temple. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 546 Every man's mouth was full of prittle prattle and seditious words. 1698 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* III. i, Our prittle-prattle will cure your spleen. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 287 We took delight in the..Prittle-Prattle of the innocent Babe. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 419 Nor bear a part in prittle-prattle Of rumour-loving tittle-tattle. 1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 453 He is sure to be a prittle-prattle fellow. 1838 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. vi. 85 French, being the very language of chit-chat and prittle-prattle, is one reason why I like so much the 'mémoires' and letters of that gossiping nation.

b. A silly chatterer, a gossip.

[1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 12 Being in high Credit..with my Gossip Prittle Prattle.] 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* 35 Don't be a prittle prattle, nor prate apace.

† **Pri·ttle-pra·ttle,** *v. Obs.* [Reduplicated from PRATTLE *v.*] *intr.* To chatter, prate, talk idly. Hence † **Pri·ttle-pra·ttling** *ppl. a.*

1552 LATIMER *Serm., John ii.* 1 (1584) 306 b, As our Papistes doe, which prittle prattle a whole day vppon theyr Beades, saying our Ladies Psalter. [1583 Prittle and prattle [see PRATTLE *v.* 2].] 1602 F. HERING *Anat.* 4 Iuglers, Pedlers, prittle-pratling Barbers. 1611 J. DAVIS in Coryat *Crudities* Panegyr. Verses, For, he as t'were his mother's twittle-twattle (That's Mother-tongue) the Greeke can prittle-prattle. [1634 HEYWOOD *Roy. King* I. Wks. 1874 VI. 9 *Welchman.* Awe man, you prittle and prattle nothing but leasings and untruths. *a* 1800 *Outlandish Knight* xv. in Child *Ballads* I. (1882) 59/2 Don't prittle nor prattle, my pretty parrot, Nor tell no tales of me.]

Prioeable, bad form of *prevable*, PROVABLE.

‖ **Prius** (prəi·ŏs). [L., neut. of *prior* former, earlier, also adv. before. See also NISI PRIUS.] **a.** That which takes precedence; the superior, first, chief. **b.** That which is prior, *esp.* that which is a necessary prior condition.

1891 H. JONES *Browning* 220 That final perfection which ..is first in order of potency,—the *prius* of all things. 1892 E. CAIRD *Ess. Lit. & Philos.* II. 404 Thought is not set up as an absolute prius, but as the prius of experience.

Privacy (prəi·văsi). [f. PRIVATE *a.*: see -CY.] The state or quality of being private.

1. The state or condition of being withdrawn from the society of others, or from public interest; seclusion.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 611 To kepe þaim in priuace. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 190 *Achil.* Of this my priuacie, I haue strong reasons. *Vlis.* But 'gainst your priuacie The reasons are more potent and heroycall. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* To Rdr. A iij, Some time to spare; some privacies and retreats from business; some breathing fits from the affairs of our Vocations. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 168 Vespasian during his Privacie, Led such a Life, as was Exemplary. 1759 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 51 ¶ 1 Those that surround them in their domestic privacies. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* II. iv, Your privacy will never be disturbed. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Manners* Wks. (Bohn) II. 48 The motive and end..is to guard the independence and privacy of their homes.

2. *pl.* Private or retired places; private apartments; places of retreat. Now *rare.*

1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 343 It soars aloft, and enters into the privacies of Nature. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVI. vii, Do you think yourself at Liberty to invade the Privacies of Women of Condition, without the least Decency or Notice? 1878 LANIER *Poems* (1884) 14 Beautiful glooms..Wildwood privacies, closets of lone desire.

† **b.** A secret place, a place of concealment. *Obs.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 307 Having rested at Boscobel two days, one in the Oak; the Night in a privacy behind the Chimney in one of the Chambers.

3. Absence or avoidance of publicity or display; a condition approaching to secrecy or concealment.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. v. 24 Let her descend: my Chambers are honourable: Fie, priuacy? Fie. 1641 WILKINS (*title*) Mercury: or the Secret and Swift Messenger. Shewing how a Man may with Privacy and Speed communicate his Thoughts to a Friend at any Distance. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 81 The Duke..took a resolution once more to make a Visit to that great Lady, which he believed he might do with great privacy. 1700 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 129, I caused this Town to be searched but with some Privacy. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) V. 167, I have also to observe that privacy is inconsistent with every just notion of punishment. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 403 The emaciated corpse was laid, with all privacy, next to the corpse of Monmouth in the chapel of the Tower. 1876 J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* i, A marriage..was solemnised with strict privacy in the chapel of Leigh Court, Yorkshire. 1879 R. K. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iii. 77 No darkness conceals from its view, and no privacy hides from its knowledge.

† **b.** Keeping of a secret, reticence. *Obs.*

1736 AINSWORTH *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, Privacy, or keeping of counsel, *taciturnitas*, 3. *silentium*, 2.

4. A private matter, a secret; *pl.* private or personal matters or relations. Now *rare.*

1591 HORSEY *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 236 Som other privacies comitted to my charge had ben so whispered owt. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* vii. Wks. (1847) 293/1 What concerns it us to hear a husband divulge his household privacies, extolling to others the virtues of his wife? 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 46 A blab, and one that shall make a privacy as public as a proclamation. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xi, If he descend to the privacies of life, their habitations are more commodious, and their possessions are more secure.

† **b.** *pl.* The private parts. *Obs.*

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. P.* I. XXXV, Plucking up her cloaths, and shewing them her privacies.

† **5.** Intimacy, confidential relations. *Obs.*

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 20 At that time.. you gave me leave to boast of your friendship, I dare not now use the privacie of such tearmes. 1653 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 17 He..observed that there was great intimacy and privacy between that Col. and Sr John Henderson. 1683 A. D. *Art Converse* 42 Those that are our equals or have made us such by their privacy or intimate friendship.

6. The state of being privy to some act; = PRIVITY. *rare.*

1719 YOUNG *Revenge* II. i, And now I come a mutual friend to both, Without his privacy, to let you know it. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 July 1/2 The amendment leaves the whole question as to the privacy to crime alleged against Mr. Parnell and his fellow members before the Commission.

‖ **Privado** (privā·dō). *Obs.* [Sp., private, particular, familiar, a favourite.] An intimate private friend, a confidant; the favourite of a ruler.

1584 *Leicester's Commw.* (1641) 49 The good Earle answered his Servant and deare Privado curteously. 1637 HEYLIN *Antid. Lincoln.* i. 20 The papers were not sent unto the Vicar, but to some one or other of your Privados about those parts. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 3 The Friers, who were their Confidents, and Privadoes in the Plott. 1704 STEELE *Lying Lover* II, *Lat.* May I desire one Favour? *Y. Book.* What can I deny thee, my Privado? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) VII. lxxxiii. 347 He beareth a very profligate character.. and is Mr. Lovelace's more especial *privado.* 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xii, A courtly knight..and privado, as they say, to the young prince.

¶ An alleged sense 'a private soldier or inferior (non-commissioned) officer' in some recent Dicts. is founded on a misreading of 'lantz prisadoes' [in Harl. MS. 4031 lf. 244]. see LANCE-PRISADO.

† **Privancy.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. obs. F. *privance* familiarity: see -ANCY.] Intimacy: = PRIVACY 5.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 80 A kinde of friendship was begun betweene them (if any such thing may bee found betweene master and man:)..it is commonly called by the name of Privancie or Inwardnesse.

Privant (prəi·vănt), *sb.* and *a. rare.* [ad. L. *prīvāntem*, pres. pple. of *prīvāre* to deprive.] † **a.** *sb.* A privative (quality). *Obs.* **b.** *adj.* Indicating a privative opposite.

1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* xii. 57 An absence of one quality is not..an inferring of the other: but only in privants wherof the one is a meere absence. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Privant*, noting privative opposites.

‖ **Privat-docent, -dozent** (prīvā·t,dotse·nt). [Ger., a private teacher or lecturer: see PRIVATE *a.* and DOCENT B.] In German and some other universities: A private teacher or lecturer recognized by the university but not on the salaried staff.

1881 J. RAE in *Contemp. Rev.* June 925 He meant to habilitate as a *privat docent* when he returned. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 June 6/1 The Queen found the then privatdozent ..busy at a chemical experiment. 1899 J. STALKER *Christol. Jesus* ii. 72 One of those tours de force by which the German Privatdocent seeks to attract public attention.

Private (prəi·vĕt), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 4–6 **pryvat**, **-e**, 4–7 **privat**, 6 **privit**, **-att**, **pryvatte**, *Sc.* **prevat**, 6–7 **privet**. [ad. L. *prīvāt-us* withdrawn from public life, deprived of office, peculiar to oneself, private; as sb. a man in private life; prop. pa. pple. of *prīv-āre* to bereave, deprive: see PRIVE *v.*] In general, the opposite of *public.*

† **1.** ? Withdrawn or separated from the public body: by Wyclif applied to the orders of the friars. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 67 þis asse and hir fole ben comen to þes pryvat ordris, but not to alle Cristene men. *c* 1380 — *De Ecclesia* v. ibid. III. 350 Comunly þes pryvat priours letten þer felowes here to go out.

2. Of a person: Not holding public office or official position.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 63 A crye was made..that priuate persones [orig. *priuatæ personæ*] scholde brynge theire goodes to the place of treasure. *Ibid.* I. 91 [see PRIVY *a.* 4]. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vii. (1885) 125 He lyved..in more subgeccion than doth a priuate person. 1548–9 (MAR.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ceremonies*, The appoyntmente..pertayneth not to pryuate menne. 1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* B vij, Whereas mariage is the moste important matter euen to the privatest person that hee can doe all his life long. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 No Poet should so much as read to any privat man, what he had writt'n. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 429 ¶ 8 A Woman of Quality; married to a private Gentleman. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 72 It was a most uncommon thing for a private man, and a commoner, to be honoured with so long an audience. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Mar. 2/3 As for the usurer who advertises himself as a private gentleman, Mr. Justice Hawkins grimly said that he would make him a 'private gentleman' for some time.

b. *Private soldier*: an ordinary soldier without rank or distinction of any kind; also † *private man.* Cf. *common soldier* (COMMON *a.* 12 b).

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* 152 They can doe no more than Privat Souldiors. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, III. ii. 177, I cannot put him to a priuate souldier, that is the Leader of so many thousands. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2629/2 We lost 6 private Men, and had 15 wounded. 1698 LUDLOW *Mem.* I. 192 Pretending..to keep the private soldiers, for they would no longer be called common soldiers, from running into greater extravagancies and disorders. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 164 Application..on behalf of a private man that had deserted from an independent company just as they were embarking for North America. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 176 All the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, Drummers, and Private Men, who may be at Home, are to be accounted for. 1898 E. J. HARDY in *United Service Mag.* Mar. 646 Another expression, which is far more objectionable [than the name 'Tommy Atkins'], is to speak of a 'common soldier' instead of a private soldier.

c. *Private member*, a member of the House of Commons who is not a member of the Ministry.

1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. ix. 138 The portion of each session allotted to measures promoted by private members is.. limited. 1883 *Stubbs' Merc. Circular* 26 Sept. 862/1 It is almost hopeless for a private member to get an opportunity of bringing on a Bill before half-past twelve.

d. *Private trader*, one who trades on his own account, as distinguished from an agent of a public company.

1616 in W. Foster *Lett. E. Ind. Co.* (1901) V. 119 With the intelligence concerning the private traders of Captain Downton's merchants.

† **e.** Of a city or town: That is not a seat of government. *Obs. rare.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 334 This Citty..was once the Capitall seat of the Kingdom, though now..it is onely become a priuate place.

3. Kept or removed from public view or knowledge; not within the cognizance of people generally; concealed, secret.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 29/2 After that dyvers of the Lordes and Knyghtes of the Shires were departed, by mervelous pryvat labour, a Bille signed by the Kyng was brought to the seid Commens..conteignyng an Ordynaunce to be made. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 60 In this priuate Plot be we the first, That shall salute our rightfull Soueraigne. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 120 Which he suspecting, lay in private wait, To catch the knaue. 1669 R. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 441 She desired..to send it over in my name, because that way it would be privater. ?1677 LADY ELIZ. BERKELEY in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 143 They have not acquainted you wth Lady Alethea's privet wedding. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 842 He lay private, till his Peace was made with the King. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 52/1 If the sound comes to you dead, and flat, it is a sign of some private [It. *interna*] infirmity. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Jan. 13, It should be kept private for a time.

b. *Private parts*, the external organs of sex, the pudenda.

[1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 41 A cloth which should couer those parts, made to be priuate.] 1885–8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 188 She mentioned..that she had severe pain in micturition, and that her private parts were swollen.

4. Of a thing: Not open to the public; restricted or intended only for the use or enjoyment of particular and privileged persons.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxxix. (Add. MSS.) þe priuate wey longiþ to nyȝe towne and is schort and nyȝ and ofte y growe wiþ gras. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 185/2 In pryvat and pryvileged places. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 63 Quhair he wes bureit in ane prevat place. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 28 May it please you Noble Madam, to withdraw Into your priuate Chamber. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 187 This place it is private. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1242 A person having a private way over the land of another, cannot, when the way is become impassable by the overflowing of a river, justify going on the adjoining land. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, A private staircase conducted into the gardens. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 142 News which reached him through private channels.

† **b.** *Private* (*play*) *house*: see quot. 1891. *Obs.*

a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i, I hope To save my hundred gentlemen a-month by it; Which will be very good for the private house. 1637 SHIRLEY (*title*) The Gamester. As it was presented by her Majesties Servants At the private House in Drury-Lane. 1891 R. W. LOWE *T. Betterton* iii. 60 The Cockpit in Drury Lane..a small theatre, one of those which, before the Civil War, were called 'Private Houses'. In these the performances took place by candlelight, whereas the larger, or public playhouses, being partly open to the weather, were used only in daylight.

c. In many connexions *private* is used to distinguish something that is *not* open to the public, or not publicly done or performed, from a thing of the same kind that is 'public', esp. when the normal or usual condition is that of publicity, or when both conditions are common. In this distinctive use, the sense may also be 5, 6, or 7, or may include some notion of 3. Such are *private assembly, function, meeting*, etc.; *private baptism, communion, education, funeral, marriage, mass*; *private boarding-house, brougham, carriage, chapel, hotel, theatre, theatricals*, etc.; see the sbs. **Private view** (e. g. of an exhibition of pictures or the like), whence *private viewer, viewing.*

1560 Private mass [see MASS *sb.*[1] 3]. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (*heading*) Of priuate and publike education, with their generall goods and illes. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Ministration of Private Baptism of Children in houses. 1699 LOCKE *Educ.* (ed. 4) § 70 The Faults of a Privater Education. 1794 MALONE *Wks. Sir J. Reynolds in Life* (1797) p. lv, When not engaged..in some publick or private assembly, or at the theatre. 1816 GALT *Benj. West* 51 A private meeting of the Friends [i. e. Quakers] was appointed to be holden at his father's house. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Sir T. Lawrence* I. 50 Nor did he ever take part in any private theatricals. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xiii, Private Theatres. 1852 *Times* 1 May 8/2 (*heading*) Exhibition of the Royal Academy (Private View). 1862 W. SANDBY *Hist. Roy. Academy* II. 239 It had..been the custom to regard the anniversary dinner as one of a private nature—a gathering of the members of the Royal Academy and of the friends and patrons of art. *Ibid.* 240 The art-critics for the newspapers, etc., were admitted to the private view of the exhibition. 1884 *World* 3 Dec. 13/1 There were no fewer than five 'private views' on Saturday last. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* 565/2 In all private Masses the priest must have at least a server to represent the body of the faithful. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. i. 27 The private view day of the Old Water Colour came. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 6/6 The galleries..soon to be refilled by the critics, the private viewers, and the outside crowd. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 5/3 On the whole the private viewing ladies have had the excellent taste of coming in the morning in morning dress.

5. That belongs to, or is the property of a particular individual; belonging to oneself, one's own.

1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. 221 The xxxi. chapiter, the loue of pryuate thynges & of mannys selfe letteth the perfyte goodnes of mannys soule. 1530 PALSGR. 321/1 Private, belongyng to a persons owne selfe, *privat.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 127 They teache howe it is not lawful for the christians..to haue any thynge priuate, yᵗ al things ought to be common. 1602 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 253 He hath left you all his Walkes, His priuate Arbors, ..On this side Tyber. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 147 As for private Libraries, Martial teacheth us, That in them the Images of such Writers as were as yet surviving, might bee admitted. 1845 R. JEBB in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) II. 703/1 The divine purpose of the institution of private property is, in general, very inadequately represented. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 4/1 He hoped it would not go forth from the Conference that they wanted to stamp out all private venture schools. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durham Univ.* 5 His private goods were all seized by his creditors.

b. *Private house*, the dwelling-house of a private person, or of a person in his private capacity; with implied or expressed distinction from a public-house or inn, a shop or office, which are open to

the public on business, and, in modern use, from a public building or official residence. *Private family*, the family occupying a private house. *Private man of war*: see PRIVATEER *sb.* *Private school*, a school owned and carried on by a person or persons for their own profit, as opposed to a *public school*, founded and carried on primarily in the public interest; often with mixture of other senses. So *private schoolmaster*.

1542 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 410 If [they] ..carry anny such wares to pryvat housses shoppis or sellers and not to the costome housse. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, When the holy Communion is celebrate..in priuate howses. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xiii. 48 Buildings..aswel publike as priuat. 1657 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Aug., Dr. Wild preach'd in a private house in Fleete Streete. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 131 The private houses of Antioch, and the places of public resort. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, There was another private house besides Miss Tox's in Princess's Place. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. (1871) I. 144 By the Petition of Right, it had been declared unlawful to quarter soldiers on private families. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. iii, A private school, where he went when he was nine years old. *Ibid.*, Were I a private schoolmaster.

c. *Private judgement*: see JUDGEMENT 7 c.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 6 He interpreteth it after his owne liking and priuat iudgement.

6. Of or pertaining to a person in a non-official capacity.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 286 In a priuate habit he visited the Markets, and hanged vp the hoorders of coine. 1713 BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 69 P 2 The private letters of great men are the best pictures of their souls. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* I. vii. 59 A private pupil is too much of a man. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 7 Those to whom I have communicated the infection out of the Hospital, or among my private patients. 1830 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 259/1 The eldest of three sons of the grand-duke Charles-Frederick, by his *morganique*, or private-marriage, with Louisa-Caroline, countess of Hochberg. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* ix. 99 In private practice the physician is called at an early period of the disease. 1859 KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) II. 83 Private correspondence, private conversation, private example may do what no legislation can do. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 108 While the brass bandsmen at once subside into private life. 1864 (*on a Presentation*), A tribute to private worth and public usefulness.

7. Of, pertaining or relating to, or affecting a person, or a small intimate body or group of persons apart from the general community; individual, personal.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 33 Onely for theyr pryuate profyte. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 34 b, Certen priuate dyspleasures did growe betwixte hym & the Frenche kynge. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. ii. 73 For your priuate satisfaction..I will let you know. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxii. 122 He, whose private interest is to be debated. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. xv. 260 In reality they had only consulted their own private ambition. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* iv. 22 If you employ an agent to sell an estate by public auction, a sale by private contract is not within his authority. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 597 That the censure had been made injuriously and from motives of private malice.

b. *Private bill, act*: a parliamentary bill or act affecting the interests of a particular individual or corporation only: see BILL *sb.*[3] 3. Hence *Private Bill Office*.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 901 Who..Can..Lay Publick Bills aside, for Private, And make 'em one another drive out. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 527 An estate tail, granted by Richard III. to the Derby family..which by a private act of 4 Jac. I. was limited to the heirs male of the family in a different manner from that in which it had been limited by the letters patent. 1844 MAY *Treat. Law*, etc. *Parl.* 302 The functions of Parliament in passing private bills, have always retained the mixed judicial and legislative character of ancient times. 1850 in Jos. Irving *Ann. Our Time* 30 Nov. (1872) 315/1 Plans for about 104 new schemes were deposited to-day in the Private Bill Office. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 173 In order to the first reading of a private bill in the House of Commons, a petition for leave to bring it in is first presented, by being deposited at the Private Bill Office. A certain interval of time is required to elapse between the first and second readings, during which the bill remains in the custody of the Private Bill Office.

†**8.** Peculiar to a particular person or body of persons, a people, etc.; particular, special. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE 2 *Pet.* i. 20 So that ye fyrst knowe this, that no prophesy in the scripture hath eny private interpretacion [WYCLIF ech prophecie..is not maad bi propre interpretacioun; COVERD. no prophecie..is done of eny priuate interpretacion; *Geneva* is of any priuate motion; *Rhem.* is made by priuate interpretation; 1611 is of any priuate interpretation.] 1555 EDEN *Decades* 296 [They] haue a priuate language differyng from the Moscouites. 1559 in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. viii. 20 The realm of Englande hath been alwaies governyd by private lawes and customes. 1593 BILSON *Govt. Christ's Ch.* vii. 86 Neither was this priuate to Timothie, but..it was vsuall in the Apostles times. 1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 120 How can any man assume to himselfe a freedome from Erring by the assistance of a private Spirit?

9. By one's self, alone; without the presence of any one else.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 144 Away from light steales home my heauy Sonne, And priuate in his Chamber pennes himselfe. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, II. ii. 15, I left him priuate, Full of sad thoughts and troubles. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* I. Wks. 1799 I. 8 Let us be private.

†**10.** Intimate, confidential (*with* a person). *Obs.*

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Epist.* (1584) 173 The Court is not but for men that be private and in favor, that can gather the fruit thereof. 1641 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 286 The King is often very private with Digby and Bristow. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 205 A great Politician, and very familiar, private, and secret with the Archbishop of Canterbury.

b. Of a conversation, communication, etc.: Intended only for or confined to the person or persons directly concerned; confidential.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 113 b, The byshoppes hauynge priuate talke with the Quene. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 334 Private Confession is retained in the reformed churches. 1734 BP. STERNE *Let. to Swift* 25 June, I shall put off my defence till I have the pleasure of half an hour's private conversation with you. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xlvii, He received a letter, in an official cover, marked 'private'. *Mod.* May I have some private conversation with you?

†**11.** = PRIVY *a.* 4; having secret, unacknowledged, or confidential cognizance. Const. *to, with. Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. ii, Had Eccho beene but private with thy faults. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 69 Not making any private to her flight, She quits the house, and steals away by night. 1742 *Cervantes' Novels, Lady C. Bentivoglio* 92 That Maid-servant of mine, who was private [*ed.* 1640 privie] to my Actions.

12. Of a place: Retired, unfrequented, secluded.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clix. 149 Ye sayd bysshoppes were depryued of theyr dignyties, and put into pryuate houses of relygyon. 1662 RAY *Three Itin.* II. 162 We went to Shap, ..where we saw the ruins of the abbey, very pleasantly situate in a private valley. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 192, I scarce go out of my own house, and then only to two or three very private places, where I see nobody that really knows anything.

13. Of persons, etc.: Retiring; retired; secluded.

1585 PARSONS *Chr. Exerc.* II. i. 191 S. Antony..a little before had professed a priuate and a solitarie life in Egypt. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* 142 O God from You, that I could private be. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 58 Their women are very private, fearefull to offend. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 530 Gentlemen, it is true, but so very private, that in the herd of gentry they are hardly to be found. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* xvii. 267 The privatest of all public men found himself complimented.

†**14.** Of a person: Secretive, reticent. *Obs.*

a 1627 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* I. i, You know I am private as your secret wishes, Ready to fling my soul upon your service. 1660 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 34 We hope you will be private in these things, communicated to you out of faithfulness to your interest.

†**15.** *Private seal* = PRIVY SEAL. *Obs.*

1531 in *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (1898) 33 To graunte vnto your seid Orator your most dredd wrytte of pryuatte seale to be dyrected vnto the seid abbot.

†**16.** quasi-*adv.* Privately, secretly. *Obs.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* Wks. (Grosart) XIII. 195 Ne're had my Lord falne into these extreames, Which we will parley priuate to ourselves. 1659–60 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Mar., Every body now drink the King's health..whereas before, it was very private that a man dare do it. 1704 J. TRAPP *Abra-Mulé* I. i. 117, I came private, and unattended.

17. *Comb.*, as *private-humoured, -spirited*.

1602 FULBECKE *Pandectes* 58 Secreat meetinges of malecontents, phantasticall, and priuate humored persons. 1655 J. SERGEANT *Schism Disarm'd* 19 The Doctors private-spirited opinion. 1895 *Spectator* 21 Sept. 368 Unpatriotic and..private-spirited reason.

B. *sb.* I. Of a person.

†**1.** A private person; one who does not hold any public office or position. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 291/2 A Priuate, *priuatus*. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, IV. i. 255 And what haue Kings, that Priuates haue not too, Saue Ceremonie, saue generall Ceremonie? 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1211, I was no private but a person rais'd With..command from Heav'n To free my Countrey.

†b. *The private*: private people, opposed to *the public*. *Obs.*

1716 POPE *Let. to Jervas* 29 Nov., You have already done enough for the private; do something for the public. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 274 Who hath neither inclination nor temptation to court the public, or flatter the private.

†**2.** An intimate, a favourite. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 238 In the middle of her fauour ..her priuates, we. [With play on sense 7.]

3. A private soldier: see 2 b above.

1781 JUSTAMOND *Priv. Life Lewis XV*, III. 375 This party ..consisted of a Colonel, four Captains,..and 360 private. 1820 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 45 One officer, four serjeants and fifty privates of the 23rd light dragoons. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 294 Even the privates were designated as gentlemen of the guard. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* § 845 The Wives and Children of Non-Commissioned Officers and privates are entitled to medical attendance.

II. Of things or affairs.

†**4.** A private or personal matter, business, or interest; *pl.* private affairs. *Obs.*

1549 RIDLEY *Let. to Somerset* in *Liber Cantab.* (1855) 245 [Letters] to signifye..the privits of my hart and consciance. 1592 UNTON *Corr.* (Roxb.) 289, I will no longer hold your Lordship with this my privatt. 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xv. xcvi. 383 Phocas for his Priuats Rome the Supreme Sea promoted. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. ii, Nor must I be unmindful of my private. 1642 J. M[ARSH] *Argt. conc. Militia* 7 When it concerns any mans private.

†b. Private opinion, one's own mind or thought.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 145 Yet may you vouchsafe in your owne priuate to reckon mee with the greatest in willingnesse.

†**5.** A private or confidential communication.

1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 16 The Count Meloone,..Whose priuate with me of the Dolphines loue, Is much more generall, then these lines import.

†**6.** Retirement, privacy. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. iv. 100 Go off, I discard you: let me enioy my priuate. *a* 1639 WEBSTER *App. & Virg.* II. i, I see there's nothing in such private done, But you must inquire after. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* I. 58 Perhaps I have To my owne Private, had reflects, as grave On my Condition.

b. *In* (†*on*) *private*: privately, not publicly; in private company; in private life.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 187 Doth not that deserue to be liked on in priuate, which is thoroughly tryed being showed forth in common? 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 28 Hee walcks on priuat with noane but faythful Achates. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 171 Confesse they do, but not greatly in priuate. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 108 Laugh and spare not So't be in priuate, burst thy sides with laughter. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* vi, Let each family eat in private. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* I, Her opinion, founded on observation of him in public and private, was, that..his ordinary course of life would be resumed.

7. *pl.* The privy or private parts. (See 2.)

†**8.** = PRIVY *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1600 HAMILTON *Fac. Traictise* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 235 Young wemen..casting thair new borne babes in filthie priuets, vthers in colpots, and in vther secret places.

†**Pri·vate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prīvāt-us* deprived, pa. pple. of *prīvāre*: see next.] Deprived, bereft, dispossessed. Commonly used as pa. pple. of PRIVE *v. Obs.* = PRIVATED.

1492 RYMAN *Poems* xx. 2 in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 188 Of her crowne priuat she is. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 1 Thou shewest by euydence Thy selfe of Rethoryke pryuate and barayne. *a* 1541 WYATT *Absent Lover* v, All worldly felicity now am I private, And left in desart most solitarily. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 16 Quha ar private the communioun of sanctis. 1573 J. TYRIE *Refut.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 22 It is easier the sone to be priuat and destitute of licht, nor the kirk to be ony wais obscurit.

Private, *v.* [Originally and chiefly in pa. pple. *privated* (prob. *privated*), f. L. *prīvāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prīvāre* to deprive (PRIVE *v.*) + -ED[1]: cf. prec. The finite parts of the vb. are later and rare. In II (*? private*) app. f. PRIVATE *a.*; in III (prəi·vĕt) f. PRIVATE *sb.* 3.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To deprive or dispossess (a person) *of*, to cut off *from* something. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 45 Both the shippe of her marchauntyse And they of ther lyif are priuatid. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. xlvii. 89 We shall be pryuated fro her gracyous syghte corporall. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Ii ij b, They wolde be pryuated fro the company of so noble barons. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 41 b, Promisynge faythefully..that they would..be priuated of their lyues and worldely felicitee, rather then to suffre Kynge Richarde ..to rule and reigne ouer them.

II. †**2.** To keep private; to seclude. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiii. 85 The soules pryuated & lowe, that be descended in-to helle. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 187 Content to be pent vp within private dores, though it mislike the cloistering, in priuating the person. 1612 W. PARKES *Curtaine-Dr.* (1876) 20 Their vnlawfull and lustfull recreations must be priuated and couered with the Curtaine of Secresie.

III. **3.** To furnish (an army) with privates; cf. *to officer, to man. nonce-use.*

1884 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Nov. 626/1 Between a league of this sort and an army privated by persons like the Three Witnesses, chaplained by Mr. Rogers, and officered by Mr. Wren, there ought to be a very pretty battle, which also may in its time figure in the Chamberlainiad.

Hence †**Privated** *ppl. a.*, deprived, robbed.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 58 They hang not,..but reserve their Delinquents for useful service, private or publike, yet to give the privated satisfaction, which done, they return to themselves, and are their own men again.

Privateer (prəivătiə·ı), *sb.* [f. PRIVATE *a.* + -EER, prob. after *volunteer*; in sense 1, app. orig. colloq. for *private man of war*, the name in earlier use. (*Privateer*, used in the Calendars of State Papers from 1651, does not occur in the original papers before *c* 1664.)

1646 (Oct. 29) *MS. Orders & Instruct.* (Adm. Libr.) 22 Instruccions and a fiat in the usuall form were this day signed for Capt. Wm. Davies employing of the ship the 3 kings of dover being of 250 tons and 17 guns as a private man of warre in her way of merchandize. 1651–2 *State Papers Dom.* I. 32 p. 29 That Warrant be issued to the Judges of the Admiraltie to grant letters for a Private Man of Warr to John Mole. *Ibid.* I. 131 p. 64 Commissions for Private Men of Warre or letters of reprezall. 1665 *Cal. St. P. Dom.* (1863) 182 Obligation..entered into by private men-of-war furnished with letters of reprisal against the Dutch.]

1. An armed vessel owned and officered by private persons, and holding a commission from the government, called 'letters of marque', authorizing the owners to use it against a hostile nation, and especially in the capture of merchant shipping. (See MARQUE 2.)

(The first quotation may belong to sense 2.)

1664 COL. T. LYNCH in *Cal. State Pap., Colon.* (1880) 211 The calling in of the privateers will be but a remote and hazardous expedient... What compliance can be expected from men..that have no other element but the sea, or trade but privateering. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 17 Apr., How three Dutch *privateers* are taken, in one whereof Everson's son is captaine. 1667 *Ibid.* 20 Feb. 1687 B. RANDOLPH *Archipelago* 46 There are several other ports and creeks, which are often haunted by the privateers. 1702 *Royal Declar.* June in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/3 Her Majesty having Impowered the Lord High Admiral of England to grant Letters of Marque, or Commissions for Privateers. 1748 *Anson's Voy.*

II. xiv. 279 Men of war are much better provided with all conveniences than privateers. 1813 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1839) XI. 143 The capture of a Mediterranean packet by an American privateer.

2. The commander, or *pl.* the crew, of such a vessel.

a 1674 CLARENDON *Life* (1842) 1127/2 It was resolved [1665] that all possible encouragement should be given to privateers. 1687 *Royal Proclam.* 18 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2279/3 His Majesty will..grant unto such Pirat or Pirats, Privateer or Privateers, a full Pardon for all Piracies or Robberies. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. i. 120 The usual haunt of the buccaneers and privateers. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxv. VIII. 297 Lysander sent off the Milesian privateer Theopompus to proclaim it [the victory] at Sparta. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 86 Privateers were little scrupulous as to what kind of victim they pounced upon.

fig. 1692 *Wicked Contriv. S. Blackhead* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 530 To give notice of him, that there was such a privateer abroad, and to obviate .. the evil practices of so vile a man. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. Wks. 1892 I. 13 We masks are the purest privateers!

† **3.** A volunteer soldier, a free-lance, a guerilla.

1676 I. MATHER *K. Philip's War* (1862) 58 Hearing many profane oaths among some of our Souldiers (namely those Privateers, who were also Volunteers). 1677 W. HUBBARD *Narrative* 18 Our Horsemen with the whole body of the Privateers under Captain Moseley .. ran violently down upon them.

4. *attrib.*, as *privateer brig, captain, schooner, etc.*

1675 *Cal. State Pap., Colon.* (1893) 263 What is due to the Lord Admiral from the privateer captains and their companies that sail under his commission. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 552 Their King, the nobility and gentry [of France], have subscribed to a new bank (which they call the privateer bank), designing to fitt out yearly a certain number of privateers to disturb the trade of the allies. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 3 The Commodore sent out a Privateer Sloop. 1798 *Times* 28 June 2/2 A French privateer brig of 14 guns.

Privateer (prəiv*ă*tī·ə(r)), *v. rare.* [f. prec. Chiefly used in the vbl. sb. and ppl. adj. *privateering* (see next): cf. *mountaineer, parliamenteer*, etc.] *intr.* To play the privateer, to practise privateering.

1691 *Commission of Jas. II*, 29 June (Admiralty Prize Pap., bundle 90, P.R.O.), We..give leave permit and suffer you ..to privateer and seaze the ships of all persons whatsoever onely excepted [etc.]. 1696 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 58 To perswade the [French] King..to fitt out all the frigats he has, and to privateer this summer.

Privateering, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. sb. or vb. + -ING 1.] The occupation or practice of a privateer. Often *attrib.*, as *privateering trade, practices.*

1664 [see PRIVATEER *sb.* 1]. 1698 C. DAVENANT *Disc.* II. 115 The Profits and Advantages they have gain'd..by Privateering. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5317/1 Commissions for Privateering are much demanded. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lvi. VII. 140 To grant what we may call letters of marque, to any one, for privateering against Athenian commerce. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. ii. 598 At the conference at Paris, in 1856,..it was declared that, as to those Powers..'privateering is and remains abolished'.

b. esp. in phr. *a-privateering*: see A *prep.*

1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 82 Several vessells are fitting out..to goe a privateering with his imperial majesties commission. 1760 *N. Jersey Archives* XX. 505 They have both been a Privateering. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. x. (1872) 61 That they should..sail a-privateering 'to the Eastern Archipelago'.

c. *fig.*

1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* IV. iii, When our loves are veering, We'll make no words, but fall to privateering. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 30 It is a prædatory course of life, and indeed but a privateering upon reputation. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* x. I. 250 In all privateering on gold-fields..the initiated are aware that the alliance of capital with labour is indispensable. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xxii, Mr. Clare..stepped out of line, and began privateering about for the weed.

Privateering, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] Following the occupation of a privateer.

1703 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Pindar. Poem Hurricane* 262 The Wealth..of diff'rent Shores..destroy'd by generous Fight, Or Privateering Foes. 1868 *Digby's Voy. Medit.* Pref. (Camden) 31 The design was that of a general privateering voyage.

Privateerism. [f. PRIVATEER *sb.* + -ISM.] 'Disorderly conduct, or anything out of man-of-war rules' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1867).

Privateersman. *U.S.* [f. genitive of PRIVATEER *sb.* + MAN *sb.*1 Cf. *landsman*, etc.] An officer or seaman of a privateer.

1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. 241 There is but a slight step from the privateersman to the pirate; both fight for the love of plunder. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* V. xviii. 546 An act which described American privateersmen as pirates. 1883 *American* VI. 361 He tells..of the life of a merchant captain and privateersman between 1775 and 1783.

Privately (prəi·v*ĕ*tli), *adv.* [f. PRIVATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a private manner, way, or capacity.

1. In a private capacity; unofficially.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1141 (*heading*) Priests that vse theyr Tithes priuatly. 1590 J. SMYTHE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 64, I, beeinge pryvatly many yeares beeyond the seas. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 424 Hee went priuatly to Constantinople, and had sight of the Citie, with all kindnesse from the Emperour. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. iii. 34 Several..prelates wrote privately to the pope to entreat him to interfere.

2. Without publicity; without the participation, presence, or cognizance of the public, in private; in a retired or quiet manner, quietly; secretly.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 35 He had priuatelye had testimonie geuen him of Aungels, of Elizabeth, of Simeon, of Anna, of yᵉ Magians. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., All Priestes and Deacons shalbe bounde to say dayly the Mornynge and Euenyng prayer, either priuatly or openly. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 281 Gif he depairtit privatlie from this..place. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 114 Shee hath priuately, twice or thrice a day, euer since the death of Hermione, visited that remoued House. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xxiv. 3. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 210 All falling on our knees, ..praying euery man priuately and silently to himselfe. 1648 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 201 To be buried in the night privately. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 277 If thy Brother offend thee, tell it him privately. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 475 ¶ 1 She had been privately married to him above a Fortnight. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 463 Having been requested, both publicly and privately, to give my opinion of the preparation of the *Lichen Islandicus*. 1853 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 231 Leaving [Scotland] that morning, privately minded never to return. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* I. 52 Lysis..whispered privately in my ear, so that Menexenus should not hear.

3. In a manner affecting an individual; individually, personally.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 18 If the head do ake, it greueth the rest of the membres, taking the same to apperteine priuatly to euery of them. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 50 He..so louyngly spake vnto them both generally and priuately, that euery man conceyued thereby great hope of his good gouernment to come. 1828 WEBSTER s. v., He is not privately benefited.

4. *Comb.*, as *privately-minded, -owned.*

1899 *Daily News* 26 Oct. 7/1 The mischiefs of the privately-owned railways. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 8 Aug. 2/7 The one person who is a drag upon progress towards a ..happier social life, is the privately-minded person.

Privateness. Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being private, in various senses; privacy, the opposite of publicity; withdrawal from society, seclusion; † secrecy; † the pursuit of private ends; † the quality of being a private person or of living privately; † confidential intercourse, intimacy.

1585–7 [see OWEDNESS]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 389 All churlish words, shrewd answers, crabbed lookes, All priuatenesse, selfe-seeking, inward spite. 1604 BACON *Apol.* Wks. 1879 I. 435 This difference in two points so main and material, bred in process of time a discontinuance of privateness. 1607–12 — *Ess., Great Place* (Arb.) 280 Nay, retire men cannott when they would, .. but are impatient of privatenes, even in age and sicknes. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 245 To attempt the defacing of them in an open manner, where our privatenesse cannot extend. 1667 ANNE WYNDHAM *King's Concealm.* (1681) 76 Into the highest chambers, where Privateness recompensed the meanness of the Accommodation. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 441 Differenc'd..by the publickness or privateness of the things.

Privation (prəivē·ʃən). [= F. *privation* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *privātiōn-em* a taking away, deprivation, n. of action from *prīv-āre* to bereave, deprive: see PRIVE.]

1. The action of depriving or taking away; the fact or condition of being deprived *of* or † cut off *from* something; deprivation. Now *rare.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1806 Þis may be calde..a privacion of þe life, When it partes fra þe body in strife. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* I iv, A man ought to suffer for a vertuous friend priuacion of all worldly goodes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 39 King Richard had bene in greate ieopardie either of priuacion of his realme or losse of his life or both. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 15 Necessity..constrained them to prefer..the younger, and to fix him in the Throne, tho to the Privation of his elder Brother. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* II. vi, All general privations are great because they are all terrible; Vacuity, Darkness, Solitude, and Silence. 1803 *Man in Moon* (1804) 47 His mind is in a state of privation from the greatest solace of religious hope. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do?* VII. x, Condemned to the painful choice between his society and that of nobody else, or that of anybody else with the rigid privation of his. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 130 Rickets may be produced artificially in animals by absolute privation of lime.

b. *Law.* The action of depriving of office or position; = DEPRIVATION 2; in *R. C. Ch.* = SUSPENSION. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 1791 Þis Kynge Edwarde gaf sentens And dome of his prywacioun For his hie rebellioun. *a* 1539 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 59, I chardge and commaunde you undre payne of priuacion that ye [etc.]. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 116 b, This warrantise is expired by his [the Abbot's] privasion or by his death. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 329. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Privation*, ..most commonly applied to a Bishop, or Rector of a Church; when by Death, or other act, they are deprived of their Bishoprick or Benefice. 1885 *Cath. Dict.*, Privation. See *Suspension.*

2. *Logic.* The condition of being deprived of or being without some attribute formerly or properly possessed; the loss, or (loosely) the mere absence of a quality, a negative quality.

Often called the negative or negation of the eighth Aristotelian category, ἕξις, *habitus*, the fact of having.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. i. (Tollem. MS.), Privacion of matter and forme is nouȝt ellis but destruccion of all þinge. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 87 To gyue substance to priuation, (that is) beinge to noo beinge. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. xi. 49 b, The affirmatiue is called the habite, [i. e. *habitus*, ἕξις] the negatiue the priuation thereof. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 107 Habite signifieth disposition, power, and act, to which priuation is opposite. 1654 *Z. Coke Logick* 95 Privative Opposition, is the fighting betwixt habit and privation. 1685 BOYLE *Enq. Notion Nat.* 22 This Death, which is said to do so many and such wonderful things, is neither a Substance, nor a Positive Entity, but a meer Privation. 1838 EMERSON *Address, Camb., Mass.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 192 Evil is merely privative, not absolute: it is like cold, which is the privation of heat.

3. Want of the usual comforts, or especially of some of the necessaries of life.

1790 CATH. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 67 When you reflect on the many privations which people who cannot help themselves suffer when any of their attendants are out of the way. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* III. vii, 'It can be a privation only to me',..said Maltravers. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* IV. i. II. 351 A needy band of mercenaries, urged by hunger and privation. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 219 Prepared by penury and hard fare for the privations of a military life.

Privative (priv*ă*tiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *prīvātīv-us* denoting privation, in *Gram.* privative, negative, f. ppl. stem of *prīvāre* (see PRIVE *v.* and -IVE). So F. *privatif, -ive* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Having the quality of depriving; tending to take away; † having power to prevent (*obs. rare*).

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. App. i. § 26 We may add that negative or privative will also, whereby he withholdeth his graces from some, and so is said to cast them asleep whom he maketh not vigilant. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Elect. Dk. Venice* in *Relig.* (1651) 186 No one of them had voices enough to exclude the other three from making a Duke: for to this Privative Power are required seventeen Bals at least. 1646 S. BOLTON *Arraignm. Err.* 283 The power of a Synod as I told you, is not privative, but cumulative. 1650 R. HOLLINGWORTH *Exerc. Usurped Powers* 45 If the thing sworn should become privative of, or opposite to, the publick good. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 3 Title.. is any fact Collative or Privative of a Right and Impositive or Exonerative of an Obligation.

2. Consisting in or characterized by the taking away or removal of something, or by the loss or want of some quality or attribute normally or presumably present; also, in looser sense, by the simple absence of some quality, negative.

(In quot. 1398, *privative* is the Latin adv., after the preceding L. *positive* in the L. and Eng. texts, though both words were mistaken for English in the printed ed. of 1495.) [1398 TREVISA *Earth. De P. R.* XIX. xxxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Fumosite..þat declareþ not þe complection of stone positiue [1495 -yf] & bi presens of odoure, but priuatine [-yf] & bi absens of odoure (*non positiue, sed per priuationem et absentiam*).]

1598 BACON *Sacr. Medit.* xi. Ess. (Arb.) 127 They .. bring in against God a principle negatiue and priuatiue, that is a cause of not being and subsisting. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 185 Remarkable mercies both by Sea and Land, both privative and positive. 1651 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. for Year* I. xii. 151 The very privative blessings, the blessings of immunity, safeguard, and integrity, which we all enjoy. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 48 Their unbelief which was but negative, was now privative. *a* 1659 Z. BOGAN in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xxiii. 1 Only privative defects discommend a thing, and not those that are negative. 1805 *Monthly Mag.* XX. 137 As we deprive a body of part or all of its natural share of fluid to produce what is called *negative* electricity, whether the words *privative* electricity would not be more proper? 1838 [see PRIVATION 2]. 1866 T. HARPER *Peace thro' Truth* 309 *note*, We mean by it [aversion]..something which is not positive, but privative,—not an act, but a state.

3. Of terms: Denoting or predicating privation, or (loosely) absence of a quality or attribute.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 152 Although they had neither eyes nor sight, yet could they not be termed blinde; for blindenesse being a privative terme unto sight, this appellation is not admittible in propriety of speech. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 18 The first distinction of names is, that some are positive, or affirmative, others negative, which are also called privative and indefinite. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. i. § 4 All which negative or privative Words cannot be said..to..signify no Ideas..but..relate to positive Ideas, and signify their Absence. 1829 JAS. MILL *Hum. Mind* (1869) II. xiv. 105 Privative terms are marks for objects, as not present or not existent. [*Note* by J. S. Mill: 'It is usual to reserve the term Privative for names which signify not simple absence, but the absence of something usually present, or of which the presence might have been expected'.] 1871 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. *Carlyle* (1878) 162 The addition of a crowd of privative or negative epithets at discretion.

4. *Gram.* Expressing privation or negation; esp. applied to a particle or affix.

1590 HUTCHINSON in Greenwood *Collect. Sclaund. Art.* D iv b, Know you what *a* is here, it is *a* priuatiue. 1706 PHILLIPS s. v., A Privative Particle in Grammar. 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 116 The particle..placed before adjectives assigns a privative signification to them. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 184 Bopp's theory of the Greek past tenses..being formed by the addition of the particle called *a* privative.

B. *sb.* A privative attribute, quality, proposition, word, or particle.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. xi. 49 b, Priuatiues they call those whereof one denieth onely in that subiect whereunto the affirmatiue agreeth by nature. 1627 DONNE *Serm.* v. (1640) 46 Man hath more privatives, then positives in him. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Poet. Wks.* (1686) 109 In them sin is but a meer privative of good, The frailty, and defect of flesh and blood. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* II. xviii. 83 Of Privatives, The one must of Necessity be in the Capacious Subject, the other not. As, He is blind; and therefore does not see. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vi. 152 One is merely the Contradictory or the privative of the other.

Privatively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a privative manner; by the taking away or absence of something; negatively.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* I. xi. § 7. 81 This Indifferency of the Matter to Motion or Rest may be understood two wayes: Either privatively, that is to say, That *it* has not any reall or active propension to Rest, more then to Motion, or

vice versâ. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VIII. 312 In this Disease..the Stomach is affected privatively, not positively. 1687 NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* (1699) 301 To be in pain, is not Privatively, but contrarily opposed to being happy. 1707 — *Treat. Humility* iii. 87 The man who is a sinner is not only negatively, but privatively imperfect. 1710 WHITBY *Disc.* IV. i. § 5 (1735) 312 The Devils..being determined to do Evil in the General, and that only privatively for want of Motive or Inducement to do otherwise.

†**2.** To the deprivation or exclusion of others; exclusively. *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xxix. (1614) 57/2 The power of coynage then..not being so privatively in the King, but borowes, bishops and earles enjoyed it. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 267 Assuring yourself there is no one man in the world worthy to enjoy you privatively.

So **Pri·vativeness** *rare*, the quality or condition of being privative.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. i. § 3. 28 Privativeness. 1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 211 Indiscerpibility.. of an Atom..from imperfection and privativeness. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Privativeness*, depriving Quality, or Faculty of taking away.

†**Priva·tor.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. L. type **prīvātor*, agent-n. f. *prīvāre*: see PRIVE *v.*] One who or that which deprives or takes away.

1630 J. LANE *Cont. Sgr.'s T.* (Chaucer Soc.) 33 *note*, All thinges demolish, as hates dire privator, In spite off (yet suffred by) their creator.

†**Prive,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 **preve**, *Sc.* **priwe**, 4–6 **pryve**. [a. F. *priv-er* (1307 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prīv-āre* to bereave, deprive, rob, deliver, perh. orig. to isolate, make solitary, f. *prīv-us* single, individual, private, peculiar, deprived.]

1. *trans.* To deprive, strip, bereave. Const. *of*, also with double obj.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 1440 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 418 Þou has vs schamely schent And pryued vs of our pray. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 110 When he had done mys, And thurgh syn was prived of blys. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 67 þat he priue himsilf power of bynding and lowsing. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxi. 100 þat may..pryue þe þin inward liberte. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 195 By this mariage were kyng Edwardes .ii. sonnes declared bastardes, & in conclusion priued of their lifes. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 182 He prives me of my hope.

b. *spec.* To strip or divest of office or dignity; to depose.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 73 Abbot & prioure, men of Religion,..Wer priued of þar office. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 202 Leoncius Was to thempire of Rome arrived, Fro which he hath with strengthe prived The pietous Justinian. 1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 424/1 Adjugged 3owe for to be deposed and pryved, and in dede deposed 3owe and pryved 3owe of the astate of Kyng. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. i. 50 Vpon that condicion that I myght priuen hym his power. 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25 By this acceptacion of this bysshopriche, he hath pryved hym self of the title that he claymed in Bromholm. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Northumbld.* xi, To pryue the king, and part the realme in thre. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 272 To prive thy sonne,..Spaines heire Apparant.

2. To take away, withdraw, cut off *from*.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* l. (*Katerine*) 932, I dout þat sum cristine has now fra oure goddis priwit þe. 1382 WYCLIF *Prol.* i. 3 Pride and couetise of clerkis..priueth hem fro verrey vndirstondyng of holy writ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 335 þe pope..restored his felowes bisshoppes.. crosses and rynges þat were to forehonde i-preved [*v. r.* ypriued, L. *privatos*]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 14 Nor þe kirk may not iustli priue þe comyning of cristun men, nor taking of þe sacraments. 1629 N. CARPENTER *Achitophel* II. (1640) 95 Some inchanted Relicke to prive him safe from danger.

Hence † **Pri·ving** *vbl. sb.*, depriving, privation.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 267 Assentynge to hem..summe for drede of curs, priuynge of beneficis & sclaundre & prisonynge & brennynge. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 35 What may profyte the lore of dyynge, Syn deeth noon hauynge is but a pryuynge? *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Privynge, *privacio*. *c* 1460 G. ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 586 Ner in a man errynge, peine deseruing, Ner in hym that hathe be of goode pryuyng.

Prive, obs. dial. form of *preve*, PROVE.

Privet[1] (pri·vėt). Also 6–7 **-ett(e**, 7 **-ate**; *β.* 6 **privy**, **-ie**. [Instanced from 16th c.: origin unknown; cf. the synonyms *prim-print*, *primp*, and *prim*. See Note below.]

1. A bushy evergreen shrub, *Ligustrum vulgare* (N. O. *Oleaceæ*), a native of Europe, having elliptic-lanceolate smooth dark-green leaves, and clusters of small white flowers, succeeded by small shining black berries; much used for garden hedges.

1542 ELYOT, *Ligustrum*..this tree dothe growe in watry places, as wyllowes and salowes do, and bearith a blacke fruite lyke to an elder tree; they whiche doo take it for the bushe callyd Priuet, be moche deceyued. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* Ej b, Ligustrum is called in..englishe Prim print or priuet, though Eliote more boldely than lernedly, defended the contrary. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. XXV. 689 Priuet is a base plante, very seldome growing vpright. 1634–5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 45 Cornowlee makes an hedge like privett. 1779 MASON *Eng. Gard.* III. 114 The hardy Thorn, Holly, or Box, Privet, or Pyracanth. 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 48 A skin As clean and white as privet when it flowers. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 132 The clustered white flowers of the Privet appear about midsummer, and are very ornamental.

β. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 33 Set priuie or prim, Set boxe like him. 1591 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) I. 433 The 3. and last was a Snayl mount [spiral ascent], rising to foure circles of greene priuie hedges. 1593 BRETON *Daffodils & Primroses* 3/2 The borders round about, are set with priuie sweete.

2. In southern U. S. = *Swamp privet*: see **3**.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

3. With distinctive prefix, applied to other species of *Ligustrum*; also, to other shrubs, chiefly evergreens, in some respect resembling the true Privet; as **Barren privet**, *Rhamnus Alaternus*, an evergreen shrub of S. Europe; **California, Japan,** or **Japanese privet**, *Ligustrum japonicum*; **Egyptian privet,** the HENNA of the East, bearing panicles of small white sweet-scented flowers; **Evergreen privet,** any evergreen species of the genus *Rhamnus*; **Mock privet,** the evergreen genus PHILLYREA, N. O. *Oleaceæ*; Jasmine Box; **Swamp privet**, *Adelia* (*Forestiera*) *acuminata*, N.O. *Oleaceæ*, a small evergreen tree of the southern United States, of the same order as the Common Privet, and closely resembling it in general appearance.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. liv. 1209 Of mocke Priuet. 1 *Phillyrea angustifolia*. 1611 COTGR., *Alaterne*, fruitlesse, or barren Priuet. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 603 *Alaternus*. The euer greene Priuet. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) s. v., There is also a sort called *Mock-privet*, in Latin *Philyrea*. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 Evergreen Privet, *Rhamnus*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 928/2 Privet, Barren, *Rhamnus Alaternus*. —, Egyptian, *Lawsonia alba*. *Ibid.* 665/2 Henna is the Persian name..in England it is often called Egyptian Privet. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 197 For..easy propagation, and ample foliage of shining deep-green color, there is no plant superior to the Japan privet (*Ligustrum Japonicum*). 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard., Phillyrea*,..Jasmine Box; Mock Privet. 1901 MOHR *Plant Life Alabama* (*Contrib. fr. U.S. National Herbarium* VI.) 667 Swamp Privet.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *privet berry, blossom, bush, flower, hedge, leaf*; *privet-like, -scented* adjs.; † **privet-fly,** an old name of a Plume-moth, *Pterophorus*; **privet hawk** (**-moth**), a large species of hawk-moth which deposits its eggs on the privet; so *privet-hawk caterpillar*.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 81/2 *Privet Berries grow in bunches, and are all black. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. I. 356 And there she stood apart,..pale as *privet blossom is in June. 1650 T. BAYLY *Herba Parietis* 125 If all yonder regiments were but so many *private bushes. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 165 Pinkes and *privett flowers. 1749 J. MARTYN tr. *Virg., Buc.* II. 18 The white privet flowers drop on the ground [orig. *alba ligustra cadunt*]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, **Privet-fly*, in natural history, the name of a species of fly very common on the shrub from whence it has its name. It is called the *erinopterus*. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 266 *Privet-hawkmoth (*Sphinx Ligustri*). 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 133 The Privet..being the chief food of the caterpillar of that very beautiful insect the Privet Hawk Moth. 1591 *Priuie hedges [see 1 *β*]. 1886 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 568 As green as any privet-hedge a bird Might choose to build in. 1831 LANDOR *Misc.* Wks. 1846 II. 633 Thro' the pale-glimmering *privet-scented lane.

[*Note. Privet* has been suggested to be a corruption of **primet*, a word erroneously said in Prior's *Names of Plants* to occur in the *Grete Herbal* as a name of the primrose; no such word occurs there. Another suggestion is that *privett(e, privie*, are the same as *private, privy*, and applied to this shrub from its use in making hedges to cut off a private part of a garden, to conceal dung-heaps, etc.; but of this there is no evidence. *Privet* or *Privett* occurs more than once as a place-name in Hampshire, and the name *Pryfetes floda*, app. in that county, is found in the O.E. Chron.; but no connexion of this with the shrub is known. *Prevet* also occurs in a 13th c. deed, where it is doubtful whether it is a proper name: 1256 June 8 *Ancient Deed* P.R.O. A. 8635, In omnibus mariscis qui pertinent ad villam de Farlingetone [Farlington, Havant, Hants] excepto..parco et exceptocooperto de preuet et Crofta que fuit Rogeri le Lung, que est contra portam curie. If we had other evidence of the name of the shrub in ME., it would be tempting to render this 'covert of privet' (as is done in *Catal. Anc. Deeds* 1902, IV. 338).]

† **Privet**[2]. *Obs.* Also 6 **provet**. [Corruption of *provet*, from F. *éprouvette*, in 16th c. *esprouvette*, f. *é-*, *esprouver* to try, search out.] A surgical instrument for searching a wound; a probe.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* b ij b/2 The Provet, or soundinge irone..we sounde the depthe of the fistle with this sounding irone. *Ibid.* b iv b/2 The Privet, or Needle to religate the fistles. *Ibid.* 6/2 The bullet may be felt with the privet or searchinge iron.

Privet, obs. form of PRIVATE.

† **Privign.** [ad. L. *prīvign-us*.] A stepson.

[1605–6 B. JONSON *Masque Hymen* Wks. (1616) 917 *note*, A Step-mother insulting on the spoyles of her two *Priuigni*, Bacchus and Hercules.] 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* XXXVI. 426 To be constituted by the people to be the guardian of Antiochus, the privign of Demetrius.

Privilege (pri·vilėdʒ), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2–4 **privi-**, 4 **privy-**, **pryve-**, **prevylegie**. *β.* 3– **privilege**; also 4–5 **pryve-**, 4–6 **preve-**, **previ-**, **prevy-**, **privy-**, **pryvi-**, **pryvy-**, 4–8 **prive-**, 5 **preva-**, **priva-**, **pryva-**; 4 **-liche**, **-lag**, **-leg**, **-legge**, 4–5 **-lage**, 5–8 **-ledge**, 6 **-lidge**, 7 **-ledg**. [In form *privilegie* (only ME.), ad. L. *prīvilēgi-um* a bill or law in favour of or against an individual; later, a privilege, prerogative, f. *prīv-us* private, peculiar + *lex*, *lēgem* law; in form *privilege*, a. F. *privilège*, *-lége* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prīvilēgium*.]

A. Forms: *α.* **privilegie**, etc.

α. [701 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* I. 156 Ic Ealdhelm brohte to Ine Wessexena kyncge and to Æþelræde Myrcena kyncge þas *privilegia*.] *a* 1154 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) Martin abbot..for to Rome..and begæt thare priuilegies. *a* 1327 *Sat. Consist. Courts* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 157 Ant suggen he hath privilegie proud of the pope. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 132 Crist apperide to þes holy wommen, fer to graunt a privylegie to wommans kynde. *Ibid.* II. 281 Dignities and pryvelegies þat ben now grauntid bi þe pope.

β. **privilege**, etc.: see B.

B. Signification.

1. *Rom. Antiq.* A special ordinance having reference to an individual.

(Late in English; in Roman Law or Hist., or etymological.)

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 A Pryvalege, *priuilegium, quasi priuatus legem*. 1548 ELYOT *Dict., Priuilegium*,..a lawe concernyng priuate persons, also a priuate or speciall lawe, a priuilege. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. v. 339 It was not properly a law, but what they called a privilege; or an act, to inflict penalties on a particular Citizen by name, without any previous trial. 1799 MACKINTOSH *Stud. Law Nat.* 50 *note*, *Privilege*, in Roman jurisprudence, means the exemption of one individual from the operation of a law.

2. A right, advantage, or immunity granted to or enjoyed by a person, or a body or class of persons, beyond the common advantages of others; an exemption in a particular case from certain burdens or liabilities.

a 1154, etc. [see A.]. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 60 And aske þe prevalege of þe Burgage. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 207 Hed I that plesand prevelege to part quhen me likit. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (1531) 42 To suche other as he hath graunted suche specyall preuylege. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 56 The priviledge and dignity of Learning. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiv. I. 407 The privileges which had exalted Italy above the rank of the provinces, were no longer regarded. 1844 WHITTIER *Bridal of Pennac.* Prol. 167 Pastures, wood-lots, mill-sites, with the privileges .. and appurtenances. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iii. 26 A monopoly of privileges is always invidious.

b. In extended sense: A special advantage or benefit; with reference to divine dispensations, natural advantages, gifts of fortune, etc.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 23 Þus feole priuileges scheaweð ful suteliche hwucche beon þe meidnes & sundreð ham fram þe oðre. 1340 *Ayenb.* 15 In erþe ne ys zuo holi man þet moze parfitliche be-uly alle þe maneres of zenne..wyþ-oute special priuilege of grace. *c* 1380 [see A.]. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* I. viii. 227 To be the Children of God is the greatest privilege under the Gospel. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxvii. III. 31 The privileges of Christianity, temporal as well as spiritual, were confined to the true believers. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 69 To sit near him at the theatre, and to hear his criticisms on a new play, was regarded as a privilege. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xix. 370 All the greater Prophets claimed, and most of them enjoyed, the privilege of married life.

†**c.** A special distinction; a speciality. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 790 Ymang al otheris als had he specialis prewylege thre. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. xxxi. (Bodl. MS.), The preuyleges of þis daie [Good Friday] were offringe of criste, spoillinge of helle, and eke ouercomynge of deþe. *Ibid.* XIII. ix, Þis ryuer [Jordan] haþ manye priuyleges for it departeþ þe contrey of riȝt beleued men fro þe contrey of mysbileued men, for he departeþ Jewry and Arabia.

†**d.** An advantage yielded, superiority, pre-eminence. *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 121, I would see his heart out, ere the Priest Should euer get that priuiledge of me.

e. See WATER PRIVILEGE.

3. A privileged position; the possession of an advantage over others or another.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 152 Largesse it is, whos privilegge Ther mai non Avarice abregge. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 140 Lest he put hym from priuelage & his place toke. *c* 1450 *Pistill of Susan* 33 (Ingilby MS.) Prestes hye of priuylage were praysed saune pere. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. 28 b, Abbaties and priories are geuen to very boyes, by privilege, that is to say, by common and vsuall custome. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIX. XV, From this necessity [death]..No priviledge exemptes. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr., Bathing in River* v, As in the Ocean Thou No priviledge dost know Above th' impurest streams that thither flow. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. xx. 150 A.. man, who wants to assume airs of privilege, and thinks he has a right to be impertinent. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* iii. 48 Inequalities of legal privilege between individuals or classes.

4. The special right or immunity attaching to some office, rank, or station; prerogative.

The privilege, the royal prerogative. *Privilege of clergy* = *benefit of clergy*: see CLERGY 6. *Privilege of Parliament*, the immunities enjoyed by either house of parliament, or by individual members, as such; as freedom of speech, freedom from arrest in civil matters, the power of committing persons to prison; similarly of other legislative assemblies; so *privilege of peerage, of peers*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 In onliche stude he bizet þeos þreo bizeaten, priuilege of prechur, merit of martirdom, & meidenes mede. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xix. 6 þat is þe pryuelege of criste godis sune. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The privilege of regalie Was sauf. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 29 All these yftys kynge Stephyn by the priuilege of hys regal power haþe strenghyd & confermid. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 49/1 Muche of this mischiefe..myghte bee amended, with greate thank of god and no breache of the priueledge. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* IV. xiv. 561 In all other cases..the prisoner may enjoy the priuiledge of Clergie. 1641 *Protestation of Parlt.* 3 & 4 May (Long Parliament), I A. B. do..promise, vow, and protest, to maintain and defend.. the power and privileges of Parliament. 1642 in Whitelocke *Mem.* (1732) 53/1 The House [of Commons] was in a great disorder, crying aloud many of them together, *Privilege, Privilege*. 1642 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 157 In his [the King's] passage through the city, the rude people.. crying out, 'Privilege of parliament, privilege of parliament'. 1642 LAUD *Diary* 4 Jan., His Majesty went into the

House of Commons, and demanded the persons of [five members]..great stir was made about this breach of the privileges of Parliament. 1663 *Flagellum or O. Cromwell* (1672) 29 Secured from an Imprisonment by his priviledge as a Member. 1689 *Tryal Bps.* 14 It is the Priviledge of the Peers of England. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 163 An observation, that the principal privilege of parliament, consisted in this, that it's privileges were not certainly known to any but the parliament itself. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xiii. 23 The commons voted Skinner into custody for a breach of privilege. 1840 RICHARDSON *Dict.* Suppl. s. v., Privilege is in common speech applied in contradistinction to Prerogative. As the Privileges of the Commons, the Prerogative of the Crown. 1863 H. Cox *Institt.* I. ix. 204 A peer is, by the privilege of peerage, always exempt from such arrest. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* s. v. *Peer*, The House of Lords, on the report of a Committee of Privileges, held that he [Baron Wensleydale] was not entitled to sit and vote *in* parliament. *fig.* 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* I. i, *Lara*... I think the girl extremely beautiful. *Don C.* Almost beyond the privilege of woman!

b. *Bill of privilege*, a petition of a peer demanding to be tried by his peers. *Writ of privilege*, a writ to deliver a privileged person from custody when arrested in a civil suit.

1453 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 277 Gyff any men within the seid cittie will sywe eny wryttis of privelage. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v. *Writ*, A writ of priuiledge is that which a priuiledged person bringeth to the court, for his exemption, by reason of some priuiledge. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., A person belonging to the court of chancery cannot be sued in any other court, certain cases excepted; and if he be, he may remove it by writ of privilege. 1763 CHURCHILL *Author* 149 Who would a bill of privilege prefer, And treat a Poet, like a Creditor.

5. *R. C. Ch.* A special ordinance issued by the pope, granting exemption in the case of all such acts as are necessary for the purpose for which it is obtained; cf. DISPENSATION 8.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 467 [The friars] purchasep hem pryuylege of popes at Rome. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 12 þei þat persuen for indulgencs, exempcouns, & priuеylegs, sey how þei geyt nowt wiþ out bying. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 90 The forme of thay preuyleges, as thay wer endyted yn the Court of Rome a latyne, ne myght I nat comly setten yn Englyshe. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* s. v., A private enactment, granting some special benefit or favour, against or outside the law...A privilege may be granted by word of mouth as well as by deed.

b. *transf.* A licence, permission.

1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 385 Has foul reproach a privilege from Heaven?

6. A grant to an individual, corporation, community, or place, of special rights or immunities, sometimes to the prejudice of the general right; a franchise, monopoly, patent; †*spec.* the sole right of printing or publishing a book or the like (formerly often signified by the Latin phr. *Cum privilegio imprimendi solum*).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 45 (MS. *a*) Belinus þe kyng .. made foure hiȝe kyng weies i-priueleged wiþ al privilege. 1530 *Royal Priv.* in Palsgr. 10 The Kynges Graces Pryvilege. Here foloweth the copy of the Kynges Graces pryvilege, graunted unto the authour for the space of sevyn yeres...Our favorable letters of privilege. 1540 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* To Rdr.(1547) a ij b, The shame is it of all Englande, that vnder his [the king's] priuilege anye erroneous, contentious, or slaunderous boke or papyre sholde be prynted. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 161/1 *Priuiledges* are lyberties and fraunchises graunted to an Office, place, towne, or mannour, by the Queenes great charter, letters patentes, or acte of Parliament. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* 19 b, The Printer..wer best to get a priuiledge betimes, *Ad imprimendum solum*. 1598 in D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 331/1 Of the antiquitie, etimologie, and priviledges of parishes in Englande. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., A personall priuiledge is that, which is graunted to any person, either against, or beside the course of the common law:..A priuiledge reall is that, which is graunted to a place, as to the Vniuersities, that none of either may be called to Westm. hall, vpon any contract made within their owne precincts. 1685 PETTY *Last Will* in *Tracts* (1769) p. vii, The copper-plates for the maps of Ireland with the king's privilege, which I rate at 100 l. per ann. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 116 The French Book was also published by Privilege of the King of France. 1890 FISKE *Civ. Govt. U. S.* vi. 150 The charter of Maryland conferred upon Lord Baltimore the most extensive privileges ever bestowed by the British crown upon any subject.

b. A document or deed by which this is granted.

1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* I. v. 467 In the famous privilege of Austria granted by Frederic I in 1156.

†**7.** The right of affording security from arrest, attached to certain places; the right of asylum or sanctuary. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 247 Þis is he þat ȝaf priueliche and fredom [orig. *immunitate insignivit*] to temples. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 291/2 He was faine..to take tuition and privilledge of the Seinctuarie of Glouc'. 1513 MORE *Rich. III*, Wks. 46/1 It would bee..to the..hyghe dyspleasure of Godde, yf the priuiledge of that holye place should nowe bee broken. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 41 God forbid We should infringe the holy Priuiledge Of blessed Sanctuarie. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* Table, The priviledge of a great river, called Lempa, dividing the Countrey of St. Salvador, and Nicaragua. (Cf. PRIVILEGED *ppl. a.* c.) 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 24 That the Wayes leading to the Temples, and the Roads of Great Cities, should have like Priviledges.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *privilege debate* (sense 4 above), *leave* (LEAVE *sb.* 1 e), *paper* (PAPER *sb.* 7 d), *-pass* (PASS *sb.*[2] 8 d), *system*, *ticket*; †**privilege book**, a book issued with the royal privilege; **privilege cab**, a cab admitted to stand for hire in some private place (esp. a railway station) from which other cabs are excluded.

1607 in Plomer *Abstr. Wills Eng. Printers* (1903) 42 The *priuiledge books quiers and bindings at the price I paid for them. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Aug. 4/3 All are agreed.. that the *privilege-cab system ought to be abolished. 1896 *Daily News* 22 Dec. 7/3 Many of the *privilege cabdrivers ..had preferred to throw up their privilege and cast in their lot with the Union of their trade. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Sept. 4/3 It was decided in a *privilege debate in the House of Commons in 1830 that a solicitor in Parliamentary practice cannot occupy a seat in the House. 1902 *Ibid.* 12 July 2/1 She was marrying an officer, home on *privilege leave, and they had to be back in India by a given date. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 6 A free person of colour is *now* entitled to give evidence against a white, in any Court of Justice, upon producing his *privilege papers. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Feb. 5/3 The *privilege ticket system, by which the employés of every railway company were enabled to travel over all parts of the Kingdom, or at any rate over all the leading lines, at..one-half of a single third-class fare for the double journey.

Privilege (pri·vilĕdʒ), *v.* [ad. F. *privilégier* (13th c. in Littré), ad. med.L. *privilēgi-āre* (1190–3 in Hoveden), f. *privilēgium*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To invest with a privilege or privileges; to grant a particular right or immunity to; to benefit or favour specially; to invest (a thing) with special honourable distinctions.

[*a* 1193 in *Roger of Hoveden's Chron.* (Rolls) III. 74 Summus pontifex privilegiavit Hugonem Dunelmensem episcopum.] 13.. [see PRIVILEGING below]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 965 Certes it [the pater noster] is priuyleged of thre thynges in his dignytee, for which it is moore digne than any oother preyere. 1387 [see PRIVILEGE *sb.* 6]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 To Privalege (*A.* Pryuelege), *priuilegiare*. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 78 Oure Soverane Lady privelegis and grantis to thaim that thai may enter within thre termes. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 374 How infamous a thing it is..to priuiledge and allow publike places for adulteries. 1688 BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 18 He [Christ] had a mind..to privilege the worst of sinners with the first offer of mercy. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. ii. 22 The law of England does in some cases privilege an infant, under the age of twenty-one, as to common misdemesnors. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VI. 240 Let this woman who believes her name May privilege her herald, see the fire Consume him. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 16 May 2/1 They are certainly privileged institutions, and if the country wants universities at all it must 'privilege' them. 1896 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 7/5 (*heading*) Privileged cabs. *Ibid.*, We do not privilege any vehicle unless it is a good one and the driver a steady and respectable man.

†**b.** *refl.* To avail oneself of a privilege (in quot., to take sanctuary). *Obs. rare.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 396 He allured out of Sanctuarie his fiue Neeces..who with the Queene-Mother..had of long time priuiledged themselues there.

2. To authorize, license (what is otherwise forbidden or wrong); to justify, excuse.

1592 DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* ci, Kings cannot privilege what God forbade. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* I. i, His youth may priuiledge his wantonnesse. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *News fr. Plimouth* IV. i, This Priviledges cowardize, to wrong true valour. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. ii. 26 The law of England.. will not suffer any man thus to privilege one crime by another [i. e. by pleading drunkenness].

3. To give (a person, etc.) special freedom or immunity *from* some liability or burden to which others are subject; to exempt.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 255 b, He was exempted..or priuileged from bearyng almaner offices of charge. 1597–8 BACON *Ess., Discourse* (Arb.) 16 Some thinges are priuiledged from iest. *a* 1614 P. LILIE *Two Serm.* (1619) 34 Though women be priviledged from bearing of armes. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar* 10 Mar., She represented to him..that she was privileged from this misfortune. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 431 Representatives are privileged from arrests or meshe process. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex.* s. v., Barristers are privileged from arrest *eundo, morando et redeundo*, going to, coming from, and abiding in court..: so clergymen as to divine service.

Hence **Pri·vileging** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pri·vileger**, one who grants a privilege or privileges.

13.. *Cursor M.* 25044 (Cott.) Cros it beres o mani thing, O cristen men þe prieleging. 1587 HARRISON *England* I. xii. 65/2 in *Holinshed*, King Athelstane is taken here for the chiefe priuileger of the towne.

Privileged (pri·vilĕdʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. *vb.* or *sb.* + -ED.] Invested with or enjoying certain privileges or immunities. **a.** Of things.

Privileged altar, in *R. C. Ch.*: see quot. 1885. **Privileged communication**, in *Law*, (*a*) a communication which a witness cannot be legally compelled to divulge; (*b*) a communication made between such persons and in such circumstances that it is not actionable, unless made with malice. **Privileged cab**: see PRIVILEGE *sb.* 8. **Privileged debt**, a debt having a prior claim to satisfaction. **Privileged deed**, in *Sc. Law*, a deed which is valid without witnesses' signatures, as a holograph deed. **Privileged share, stock**, preference stock: cf. quot. 1842 s. v. PREFERENCE 8. **Privileged summons**: see quot. 1838. **Privileged villeinage**, a form of villeinage in which the service was defined, as distinguished from *pure villeinage*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De Propr. Rerum* XVII. lxxxvii. (Tollem. MS.), These herbes were preuelegid, þat þe liknesse of hem were worþi to be set in tokenynge and figure in þe crowne and mytoure of þe chef preste. 1477 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 185/2 In pryvat and pryvileged places. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 41 In other priuiledged English translations it is, And they [etc.]. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 24 b, Priuileged testamentes are those, which are enriched with some speciall freedome or benefit, contrarie to the common course of law. *Ibid.* 25 Of priuiledged testamentes there are three sortes,..a testament made by a Souldier, a testament made by a father amongest his children, and a testament made for good and godly vses. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Debt, Privileged Debt*, is that which must be satisfied before all others; as, the king's tax, &c. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.*, *Privileged Debts* are those which humanity has rendered preferable on the funds of a deceased person, and which an executor may pay without decree; as, 1. Sickbed and funeral expenses... 2. Mournings for the widow [etc.]. 3. A year's rent of the house, and servants' wages since the last term. *Ibid.*, *Privileged Deeds.* A legal deed requires certain statutory solemnities; but, from this rule, exceptions have been made in favour of certain deeds and writings on grounds of necessity or expediency. *Ibid.*, *Privileged Summonses*, .. a class of summonses in which, from the nature of the cause of action, the ordinary *induciæ*..are shortened. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 2 *note*, The Meath Hospital became for several years a privileged hospital. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 22 Aug. 7/2 Guaranteed, privileged, and debenture stocks were less strong than of late. 1885 *Cath. Dict.*, *Privileged altar*, (1) An altar..by visiting which certain indulgences may be gained. (2) An altar at which Votive Masses may be said even on certain feasts which are doubles. ..(3) Altars with a plenary indulgence for one soul in purgatory attached to all Masses said at them for the dead. 1896 Privileged cab [see PRIVILEGE *v.* 1].

b. Of persons.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* I. xxiii. 50, I of men priuelegid speek, for Ioy of godis lufe in to gostly songis or heuenly sound behaldandly for to be takyn. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 10 He nether is nor can bee a sanctuarye or priuileged man. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 33 Where a scholar or privileged person is one of the parties. 1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849) I. i. § 16. 62 The descendants of the freemen in one age become the privileged order in the next. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. i. 78 He was scarcely ever seen except by a privileged few.

c. Having the privilege of sanctuary attached to it. ? *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 108 A priueledged place for all fugitiues. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* xxi. 184 This River is privileged in this manner, that if a man commit any hainous crime or murther on [either] side..if hee can flie to get over this River, he is free as long as hee liveth on the other side.

†**Pri·vilegement.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRIVILEGE *v.* + -MENT.] The granting of (ecclesiastical) privilege.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXLII. x, Thus stode this lande.. Hole enterdite from all holy sacramentes, That none was done, without priuelegementes.

†**Privilegiate,** *ppl. a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 7 -at. [ad. med.L. *privilēgiāt-us*, pa. pple. of *privilēgiāre*: see PRIVILEGE *v.*] **a.** *ppl. a.* Privileged. **b.** *sb.* A privileged person. So †**Privilegiate** *v.*, to privilege.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 229 The see apostolic of Rome .. is ever in such matters excepted and privilegiated. 1640 BASTWICK *Lord Bps.* vii. F iv b, As if they had the Spirit of Infallibility, and were..the onely Privilegiats not to erre. 1658 MANTON *Exp. Jude* 3 Wks. 1871 V. 95 None have a special and privilegiate call from heaven.

†**Privilegious,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *privilēgi-um* PRIVILEGE + -OUS.] Having privilege (in quot., of sanctuary); privileged.

1599 R. LINCHE *Anc. Fict.* B iv, Whatsoeuer..had fled to these priuelegious places, had ben freed from any pursuing danger.

Privily (pri·vili), *adv.* Now *arch.* or *literary*. Forms as in PRIVY (also 4–6 **priva-, preva-**, 5 **pryva-**, 6 *Sc.* **preeve-**, *Sc.* **prefa-**); with 3–4 **-liche**, 4–5 **-lik**; 4–5 *north.* **-lik, -like**; 4– **-ly** (4 **-li, -le**, 4–6 **-lie**). [f. PRIVY *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. In a privy manner; not openly or publicly; secretly, privately; stealthily; craftily.

c 1290 *Beket* 25 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 107 Prieuliche heo dude for Gilebert Auantages manie and fele. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11152 (Cott.) He..tok his redd al for to fle Priuelik [*v. rr.* preuili, previly] and latt hir be. 13.. *Rule St. Benet* 20 Priuelike man sal amoneste þam, þat tay amende þaim. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 388 His brother weepe and wayled pryuely [*v. rr.* pryuyly, priuyly, prively, priuely]. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* XX. 737 Wold ye thus preualy morder a man? 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ii. 5 Preuelich he went hym from the kynges court. 1526 TINDALE *John* vii. 10 Then went he also vppe vnto the feast, nott openly: but as it were preuely [WYCLIF in pryuei, 1611 in secret]. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 179 3it prefalie on 3ow tha wan the feild. 1539 BIBLE (Gr.) *Matt.* i. 19 He was mynded preuely to departe from her [TINDALE to put her awaye secretly, 1611 priuily]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 45 That nothing of Luthers..be taught priuely or openly. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 This Polydor..Preuelye by Priamus .., Too king Treicius was sent. 1688 EVELYN *Mem.* 2 Dec., The Prince of Wales and greate treasure sent privily to Portsmouth. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 257 He took him aside, and told him the news privily and briefly. 1884 TENNYSON *Falcon* I. i. 41, I left it privily At Florence, in her palace.

†**b.** Closely, so as to conceal. *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 150 He .. putt þaim in small boystis, & selid þaim privalie & gaff þaim; and þai tuke þaim.

†**2.** In a private station or rank. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 139 Þan þe kyng..ȝaf his douȝter to a symple knyȝt þat was prieleche i-bore.

†**Pri·viment,** *adv. Obs.* Also 3 privee-, 4 prive-, privie-, 6 pryvy-. [ME. *priveement*, a. OF. *priveëment* (Rom. type **privatamente*), mod.F. *privément*, adv. f. *privé* PRIVY *a.*] = PRIVILY *adv.* 1. *Priviment enseint*: see ENCEINTE *a.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 146 Þi gode werc þet tu hefdest idon priueement. *Ibid.* 154 Þeo þet beoð priuiment ham one. *c* 1380 *St. Augustine* 590 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 72 He..him isent To a place, to bi hud priuement. 1546 *Test.*

Ebor. (Surtees) VI. 247 Also yf dame Marie, my wif, be previment incent. 1559 *Will of G. Taylard* (Somerset Ho.) Yf my wife be pryvyment insentid wt a man childe. *a* 1625 Sir H. Finch *Law* (1636) 34 A man hath issue a daughter, and leaueth his wife priuiment inseint.

† **Privisant,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. Also 5 **pryuisant.** (Form and meaning obscure: perh. erron.) *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Irel.* 80 þe crye arose, & Reymond (as man that euer was formost redy) went aftyr, with one priuisant [*Rawl. MS.* pryuisánt] man an hors wyth hym [Giraldus *satellite quodam comitatus equestri*].

Privit, obs. form of Private.

† **Privitate.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [app. ad. L. type **privitātem*: see next.] = next, 1 b. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiii. 111 Cause that the counsel of ingland gettis sa haisty aduertessing of the priuitate that is amang the lordis of scotland.

Privity (pri·vĭti). Now chiefly *techn.* (in Law, etc.). Forms: 3-5 **privete,** -vite (also 4-6 **pre-**; 3-5 **-vy-,** 4-5 **-ve-, -va-**; **-tee**); 5-7 **privitie,** 6- **privity.** [ME. *privete, -ite,* a. OF. *priveté, privité* (*a* 1200 in Godef.) privacy, a secret, etc., ad. L. type **prīvitās, -ātem,* abstr. n. f. *prīv-us* private, peculiar: see -ity.]

† **1.** A thing that is kept hidden or secret. **a.** A divine or heavenly mystery; a secret of nature. *The book of privity* (*privities*), the Apocalypse. *Obs.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 154, I boðe me ivint þet God his derne runes, & his heouenliche priuitez scheawede his leoue freond. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23193 Als sais þe bok in priuete [*v. r.* of priuate], þat to sant Iohn was scaud to se. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 309 Jon euaungelist spak .. in his book of priuetees. 1382 — *Matt.* xiii. 11 To 3ou it is 3ouen for to knowe the mysterie, or priuyte, of the kyngdam of heuenes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 In spirit he was rauischt intill heuen, whare he sawe heuenly priuetez. 1470 *Bk. Quintess.* 5 Þis is a passyng souereyn priuytee.

† **b.** A secret matter, design, purpose, or plan; a secret. *Obs.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7228 (Cott.) þe wijf .. For noiþer for luue, dredes, ne au, Dos man his priuetes to scau. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* x. 161 [He] schew till sum his preuate. 1382 Wyclif *Prov.* xx. 19 To hym that openeth priuetes, and goth gilendeli, and spredeth abrod his lippis. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 8 *marg.*, A Privitie to be amongest the officers. 1567 Golding *Ovid's Met.* vii. 157 O trustie time of night Most faithfull unto privities. 1625 K. Longtr. *Barclay's Argenis* 268, I .. did willingly scorn the danger which that hope and privity might afford.

† **c.** One's private thought or counsel; private business; personal affairs. *Obs.* *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 22/116 Whon he him schewede þere so muche of his priuyte. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2738 (Cott.) Fra þe wil i noght helle mi priuete. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 572 The king .. richt towart thair cowert gais .. For till do thar his preuate. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 166 He is a foole, whiche to every wight Tellithe his counsail and his privité. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* iv. ix. 19 Yet neither shewed to other their hearts privity.

† **2.** The condition of being private; privacy, seclusion, retirement; concealment, secrecy; chiefly in phr. *in privity,* in privacy, in private. *Obs.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 146 Riht hond is god werc & bosum is priuite. *Ibid.* 152 Niht, ich cleopie priuite. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 65/409 Ase Moyses opon synay was bi olde dawe Fourti daiȝes in priuete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16271 (Cott.) Noght als in priueti [*v. rr.* priuite, priuete, previte] i sai, Bot in yur aller sight. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xv. 69 He wald speke with me in priuetee betwene vs twa. 1528 Roy *Rede me* ii. (Arb.) 101 Happely they do it in prevete. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Oxford.* (1662) ii. 338 Being ambitious of Privity and Concealment.

† **3.** Private or secret fellowship; intimacy, familiarity. *Obs.* *a* 1240 *Ureisun* in *Cott. Hom.* 185 Ich nabbe no mong, ne felawscipe, ne priuete, wiþ þe world. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 289 The question .. toucheth al the privete Betwen thin oghne child and thee. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 119 And bare hem more fauour and priuete thanne vnto her owne frendes. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* 37 The pryuete and promesse that he had wyth yvenne.

4. The private parts. Chiefly in *pl.* Now *rare.* *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paul*) 712 Ay as men war hyr scherand þai prewetes. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Monk's T.* 724 His Mantel ouer hise hypes caste he For no man sholde seen his priuetee. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 27 Oure pore prevytés ffor to hede, Summe ffygge-levys fayn wolde I fynde. 1555 W. Watreman *Fardle Facions* i. iv. 41 The moste part of them .. go naked; couering their priuities with shiepes tayles. 1713 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) IV. 217 One Hand she holds up, namely ye right one, the left upon her Privities. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 405 The inflammations that are stated to have fallen upon the privities. *transf.* 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* in *Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 24 The bare privities of the stone-walls were hid with two pieces of painted cloth.

5. The fact of being privy to something; participation in the knowledge of something private or secret, usually implying concurrence or consent; private knowledge or cognizance. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 103 And by the Emperours priuitie, moue a reconciliation & to treate with hym of fyue thynges. 1587 Fleming *Contin. Holinshed* III. 1374/1 He vnderstood matters were determined in France without his priuitie. *a* 1693 Ld. Delamer *Wks.* (1694) 75 That which makes a Man guilty of Treason or any other Crime is his Privity or Consent to it. 1790 Paley *Horæ Paul.* i. 2 Without any direct privity or communication with each other. 1850 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) I. iii. 113 Antonius was suspected of privity to their designs. 1877 T. D. Woolsey *Pol. Science* § 114. I. 358 Mere privity .. without active concurrence in some offences is a crime.

6. *Law.* Any relation between two parties recognized by law, e. g. that of blood, covenant, tenure, lease, service, etc.; mutual interest in any transaction or thing. 1523 Fitzherb. *Surv.* 25 Bytwene the lorde and hym that dyed there was no maner of priuyte of bargayn or couynaunt. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* ii. xlix. (1638) 154 Though the Law for the privity of blood that is between them suffer him to have a disadvantage. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 106 The release shalbe voide, for this that there no priuity was betwene me & the tenant for terme of yeres. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.* s. v., If there be a Lord and Tenant, and the Tenant holds of the Lord by certain services, there is a privity between them in respect of the tenure. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xx. 325 In both these cases there must be a privity of estate between the relessor and relessee. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 185 The privity must be both in blood and estate, for privity in blood only will not be sufficient (to make a fine bar an estate tail). 1844 Williams *Real Prop.* (1877) 407 Between him [the lessor] and the underlessee, no privity is said to exist.

7. *Comb.*, as † **privity-walk,** a private walk. 1600 *Look About You* xxviii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 471 My lady gentlewoman is even here in her privity-walk.

Privy (pri·vi), *a., sb.* (*adv.*) *arch.* or *techn.* (in Law, etc.). Forms: 3- **pri-,** 4-6 **pry-, pre-**; 3-6 (7) **-ve** (4 *Sc.* **-we**); 4 **-vei, -veie,** 4-5 **-vee, -vay** (5 *Sc.* **-way**), 4-6 **-vey, -veye** (5 **-veyȝe,** *Sc.* **-wey**), 5-7 **-vie**; 4- **privy** (4 **previ,** 4-6 **pry-, prevy**; 5 *Sc.* **prewy,** 5-6 **preva**; 6 **pri-, pre-, pryvye**; 7 **privi**). [ME. *prive, privy,* etc., a. F. *privé* (12th c. in Littré) private, tame; as sb. in OF. a familiar friend, a private place:—L. *privātus*: see Private, a later doublet of the same word, directly from L.; but in sense-development the two words do not run parallel.]

A. *adj.*

I. † **1.** That is of one's own private circle or companionship; intimate, familiar; = Private *a.* 10. In later quots. with admixture of sense 4. *Obs.* *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Hwui ȝe habbeð þene world ivlowen .. þet is, uorte beon priue mid ure Louerde. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 97/180 Sire porfirie, þat was hire priue knyȝt. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 467 Þey þat beyn with god pryue. 13 .. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1748 As to þe prynce pryuyest preued þe þrydde. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* ix. 227 Sum of his preue men. 1450 *Impeachm. Dk. Suffolk* vi. (Rolls of Parlt. V. 179/1), The seid Duke .. seid .. that he .. coude remeve fro the seid Frenssh Kyng thę pryvyest man of his Counseill, yf he wold. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* 4 Hyr damoysel and prevy felowe. 1535 Cranmer in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. II. 66 Servant unto the Cardinall .. & more privy with him of all Secrets than any other about him. 1644 Milton *Jdgm. Bucer* xxxvii. Wks. 1851 IV. 327 If she be privie with those that plot against the State. *a* 1645 Featly in Fuller *Abel Rediv., Jewel* (1867) I. 358 Zuinglius, Peter Martyr, .. Lavater, Gesner, and other privy pastors of the Reformed churches beyond the seas.

† **b.** Of an animal: Familiar with man; domesticated, tame. *Obs. rare.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 230 þe priue cat bezengþ ofte his scin. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, Nor neuer shall he be so pryue .. but he shall loke hider and þeder forto looke if he may doo any harme. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 212 Pryue and tame as a culuere.

† **c.** Sexually intimate. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5964 So dyvers and so many ther be That with my modir [Venus] have be privee.

† **2.** Of or pertaining exclusively to a particular person or persons; one's own; = Private *a.* 5; of an attendant, etc., personal. *Obs.* exc. in Privy Chamber, Council, Counsellor, Seal. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10432 Sco had a maiden hight vtaine, þat was hir priue [*v.r.* preue] chambur-laine. *c* 1305 *St. Dunstan* 60 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 36 Seint Dunstan .. nolde bi his wille no tyme idel beo A priuei smyþþe bi his celle he gan him biseo. 13 .. *K. Alis.* 4497 (Bodl. MS.) Weleaway & allas For Archelaus, and Salome, And for his oþer pryue meignee. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxvii. 274 Whan he [Prester John] hath no werre, but rideth with a pryuy meynee. 1558–9 *Act 1 Eliz.* c. 2 (Act of Uniformity) Either in Common Churches or pryvye Chappelles or Oratories. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iii. x. 90 Ordained for the priuy kitchin of the great Lord, & the other for the common sort. 1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* cxv. 561 Neither very much augmenting his prive fortune, or .. diminishing his Patrimony. 1670 L. Stucley *Gospel-Glass* x. 86 We would count it a favour, if a Prince would give us a privy Key, to come to him when we please. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* iv. lxiii. (1737) 260 The King .. took him into his Privy-garden.

† **b.** Peculiar to or characteristic of an individual or a race. Of language: idiomatic. *Obs. rare.* 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* Prol. (Skeat) I. 32 The vnderstandyng of Englishmen woll not stretche to the priuye termes in Frenche, what so euer wee bosten of straunge langage. *Ibid.* ii. ix. I. 33, I canne it not otherwise nempne, for wanting of priuie wordes. 1650 Fuller *Pisgah* iv. vii. 128 What art their Priests did use, to keep up the breed, and preserve succession of Cattell with such *γνωρίσματα* or privy marks, I list not to enquire.

† **3.** Of or pertaining to a person in his private or personal capacity; not public or official; = Private *a.* 6. *Obs.* 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 91 Þey gooþ to priue [1432–50 private] offis [*orig.* officia privata adeunt] and to comyn feestes, but þey techiþ besiliche here children to ride and to schete. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 328 Before the preface, the preste sayeth preuy prayers by hymselfe. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1044 Her Grace beynge with a priuy family in the parke of Theukesbery. 1567 in *Churchyard's Chippes* (1817) 174 Her previe letters written halelie with her awn hand, and sent by her to James, earl Bothwell.

4. Participating in the knowledge of something secret or private; in the secret; privately cognizant or aware; intimately acquainted with or accessory to some secret transaction; = Private *a.* ii. Const. *to,* † *of,* or † with clause. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 282 Which art prive to tho doinges. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1862 And also þat preueyȝe of his conselle þo was. 1484 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 42 Ne noon of theim wer nevere prevey to ye sealing of ye forsaid forged and untrue testimonyall. 1537 Starkey in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxxi. 194 Few among al your lovers and friends, which are privy of your judgment. 1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par.* Pref. 18 Being ferther priuie to myne owne vnwurthynes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 115 The Maior makynge his frendes priuie what he would doe. 1573 Stow *Ann.* (1605) 776 It is necessarie to consider what persons we shall first make priuy of this politike conclusion. 1596 J. Smyth in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 94, I did .. make her Majestie privy to the whole state of Spayne. 1787 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 154 Those who may have supposed me privy to this proposition. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civilis.* (1869) III. iv. 211 The clergy believed that they alone were privy to the counsels of the Almighty.

† **b.** Possessing esoteric knowledge *of*; versed or skilled (in some subject). *Obs. rare.* 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 88 To this science [theology] ben prive The clerkes of divinite. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 449/2 Brocours aliens, yat been nowe so prive and expert of merchandises.

II. 5. Withdrawn from public sight, knowledge, or use; kept secret or concealed; hidden; secluded. *arch.* **a.** Of material things. *c* 1290 *St. Brendan* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 220 To wende in-to a priue stude and stille, þare he miȝte beo al one to a-serui godes wille. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16920 Þai .. grofe þaim thre [crosses] for cristen men, wit-in a priue sted. 1382 Wyclif *Isa.* xlv. 3, I shal ȝyuen to thee .. the priue thingus of priuytees, that thou wite. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1855 In at a preuy posterne gate, By night she stale. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xiv. 53, I wold that kynge Ban and kynge Bors .. were put in a wood here besyde in an embusshement and kepe them preuy. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxxxiii. 373 Go thou the moost preuyest wayes thou canste (thou knowest all the preuy wayes of the countrey). 1526 Tindale *Luke* xi. 33 Noo man lighteth a candell and putteth it in a preve place. 1598 Barret *Theor. Warres* v. i. 128 Round about the ditch there should be another like vault or priuie way. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 194 He goeth to stoole in some priuie place. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 140 The Place did begin to grow privy. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* xxxix, A poet must retire to privy places and meditate his rhymes in secret.

Comb. a 1593 Marlowe *Ovid's Eleg.* ii. xiv, And their own privy-weapon'd hands destroy them.

b. Of immaterial things. (Often opposed to *apert, pert*: see Apert *a.* 1, Pert *a.* 1.) *c* 1300 *Beket* 290 And to al his privei consail Seint Thomas he nom. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2410 Ne swa prive es nathyng þat touches man, þat sal noght be knawen þan. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* ii. 209 What so euer .. Is spoken either prevy or aperte. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 33 Hauing þe priuey witt of þe feiþ in a pure consciens. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 47, I knowe alle the prevy wordes that haue ben be-twene hem two. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, John Tayler .. having pryve knowlege of the commyng of your seid Beseecher. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 269 b, Nor ever obliged themselves by any promise privy or aperte, that they would accomplishe the same. 1660 in J. Simon *Ess. Irish Coins* (1749) 125 Tokens .. with a privy marke .. in order to discover the counterfeiting of any such like tokens.

6. Acting or done in secret or by stealth; secret, clandestine, furtive, surreptitious, sly. (Often opposed to *apert, pert*: *arch.* *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7234 Als traitur dern and priue theif. *Ibid.* 11852 To þe barnage tit he sent, To mak a priue parlement. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* iv. pr. iii. 94 (Camb. MS.) Yif he be a preuey awaytor I-hidd and reioyseth hym to Rauysse by whiles þou shalt seyn hym. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447/1 By murdererys, and prive roberyes. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* v. 14 He that is a preuy accuser of other men, shalbe hated envyed and confounded. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Litany,* From all sedicion and priuye conspiracie .. Good lorde deliuer us. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 169 The Turke .. by priuie espiall, knewe the determination of the Senate longe before. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1684) II. 4/1 A certain Image of the Virgin so artificially wrought, that the Friars by privy gins made it to stir, and to make gestures. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* iii. xviii. (Arb.) 201 When ye giue a mocke vnder smooth and lowly wordes .. the Greeks call it (*charientismus*) we may call it the priuy nippe, or a myld and appeasing mockery. 1637 Milton *Lycidas* 128 Besides what the grim Woolf with privy paw Daily devours apace. 1864 Swinburne *Atalanta* 1636 Fallen by war Or by the nets and knives of privy death.

† **7.** Of which the presence or existence is not known or not recognized; that is not outwardly evident; of which no indication is visible; hidden. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 192 b, Whether it wer for a priuie sickenes, or an open impediment, .. this mocion vanished. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs,* etc. (Arb.) 83 To shun The priuy lurkyng hookes. 1579 Gosson *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 38 The Marriner is more indaungered by priuie shelues, then knowen Rockes. 1654 Trapp *Comm. Ps.* xi. 2 The privie armour of proof, that the Saints have about their breasts.

III. In specific collocations with sbs.

8. Privy evil (*Falconry*), a disease of the hawk: see quot. **Privy tithe,** the 'small' or vicarial tithe. **Privy verdict,** a verdict given to the judge out of court. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* ii. 238/1 (Diseases in Hawks)

The *Privy, or hidden Evil, is a glottonous Stomack, a greediness in eating, and devouring. 1530 *Proper Dyaloge* in Roy *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 138 Payenge of tythes open and *preuy. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xi. 388 A particular share of the tithes..called *privy, small, or vicarial, tithes. 1628 Coke *On Litt.* 227 b, After they be agreed they may,..if the Court be risen, giue a *priuie verdict before any of the Judges.

† **b. Privy coat**, a coat of mail worn under the ordinary dress. *Obs.*

1532 *Will of J. Baynham* (Somerset Ho.), A pryvye coat. 1538 J. Beaumont in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 252, I have secret warnyng by one off hys counsell to weyre a prevy cote. 1599 Bacon *Let.* in Spalding *Life & Lett.* (1862) II. 161, I have the privy coat of a good conscience. *a* 1649 Webster *Cure for Cuckold* III. i, I wear a privy coat.

† **c. Privy house** (also 5 **privehouse**) = B. 3. So † *privy stool*, a close-stool. *Obs.*

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 931 Se þe privehouse for esement be fayre, soote, & clene. 1528 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 254 In his owne chambre..A prevey stole, iiij*d*. 1660 Wood *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 358 A common privy house belonging to Peckwater Quadrangle. 1679 *Ibid.* 30 Jan. II. 435 He throw'd it in the privy house.

d. *Privy members, privy parts*, the external organs of sex; the private parts. *Obs.* or *arch.*

So formerly *privy chose* (of a female), *limbs*, etc.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 11731 Hii ne bileuede nou3t þis, þat [h]is priue membres hii ne corue of iwis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 475 Here body..al i-roted..out-take þe thombe and here wombe wiþ þe prive chose bynęþe. 1398 — *Barth. De P. R.* III. xxiii. (1495) e j/1 To assaye the puls ..it were vnsemely & shamly to vnhele þe preuy lymmes. *Ibid.* v. xlviii. (Bodl. MS.), The preuey stones of foules bene smale after þe tyme þat is yordeyned to ham to gendre. *Ibid.* xviii. xcvi, Þe female ape is like to a womman in þe priuy chose. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 221/2 That no maner of persone..were..any Gowne or Cloke, but if it be of such lengh, as hit..shall cover his prevey membres and buttokks 1556 W. Towrson in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 They goe all naked except some thing before their priuie partes, which is like a clout. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 80/2 Then in his privie yard had a sharpe reed thrust in with horrible paine. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 500 Of a Dog.. the gut of the privy place sodden in Oyl, is a very good and soveraign remedy. 1681 *Trial S. Colledge* 140 *L. C. J.* ..Your Privy-members shall be cut off, and your Bowels taken out and burnt before your face.

9. Privy purse. a. The allowance from the public revenue for the private expenses of the monarch. **b.** Short for *Keeper of the Privy Purse*, an officer of the royal household charged with the payment of the private expenses of the sovereign.

1664 Pepys *Diary* 15 Dec., When the King would have him to be Privy Purse. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. viii. 332 The king's private expences, or privy purse; and other very numerous outgoings, as secret service money, pensions, and other bounties. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 224/1 The civil list..amounted, during the reign of William III., ..to the annual sum of about 680,000*l*. Out of this sum were paid the expenses of the royal household, of the privy purse [etc.]. 1848 W. H. Kelly tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Te: V.* I. 292 He [Louis Philippe] placed at Lafayette's disposal a hundred thousand francs out of the privy purse to aid the enterprises of the Spanish revolutionists. 1852 Dickens *Bleak Ho.* i, Maces, or petty-bags, or privy-purses..all yawning. 1908 *Whitaker's Almanack* 85 His Majesty's Household...Keeper of His Majesty's Privy Purse.

10. Privy signet: see Signet.

See also Privy chamber, Privy council, Privy counsellor, Privy seal.

B. *sb.* [Absolute or elliptical uses of the adj. Cf. OF. *privé, privée*, in various subst. uses.]

I. Of persons.

† **1.** An intimate, confidential, or trusted friend or counsellor; a confidant, an intimate. Cf. A. 1.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 8647 He nom on of is priues þat het water tirel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8342 For-þi hir enterd bersabe þe quen, his spuse, and his priue. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. II. 177 Paulynes pryues for pleyntes in þe consistorie, Shul serue my-self. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2480 þe kyng of Comble, Sir Sortybraunt & othre of his pryueez. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 377 That he wolde..be oon of his privees.

2. *Law.* One who is a partaker or has any part or interest in any action, matter, or thing: including the parties entering into a contract, and also any one that is bound or has an interest under a contract or conveyance to which he himself is not a party. Cf. A. 6. Opposed to Stranger.

[1292 Britton III. vi. § 15 Pur ceo qe ceste assise ne tient poynt lu par entre privez del saunc. (*tr.* Whereas this assize does not lie between privies of blood.) 1321–2 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 411/2 Lesquexs demorunt & sount aloynes par les prives a la talye.] 1483 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 7 § 3 The seid fyne to be fynall ende, and conclude aswell prives as estraunges to the same. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 159 b/2 *Priuie*..wher a lease is made to holde at will, for yeres, for life, or a feffement in fee..because of thys that hath passed betweene these parties, they are called priuies, in respect of straungers betwene whom no such dealings, or conueiances hath ben. *Ibid.* 160/1 Priuies are in diuers sorts, as namely priuies in estate, priuies in deede, priuies in law, priuies in right, and priuies in bloode. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Priuie* ..signifieth .. him that is partaker, or hath an interest in any action, or thing: as, *priuies of bloud*..be those that be linked in consanguinitie. Euery heire in tayle is priuy to recouer the land intayled. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxi. 355 Privies to a fine are such as are any way related to the parties who levy the fine, and claim under them by any right of blood or other right of representation. 1818 Colebrooke *Obligations* 229 His representatives and universal successors, or privies in blood, as heirs, and privies in representation, as executors and administrators, may at the death of a person of non-sane memory avoid his deeds. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 308 Privies in blood, as the heir; privies in estate, as the feoffee, lessee, &c.; privies in law, as lord by escheat, tenant by the curtesy, tenants in dower, and others that come in by act of law, or in the *post*; shall be bound, and take advantage of estoppels. 1882 Sweet *Law Dict.* s. v., In the law of fines, the heirs and successors of the parties to a fine were said to be privies to it, and were bound by it as if they had been parties, as opposed to strangers, that is, persons who were neither parties nor privies.

† **b.** One who participates in the knowledge of something private or secret; a confidant; one privy to a plot or crime: see A. 4. *Obs.*

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 164 b, The citezens glad of his commynge, made not the French capitayns, which had the gouernaunce of the towne, either parties or priuies of their entent. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. liii. (1739) 94 Mainperners are not to be punished as Principals, unless they be parties or privies to the failing of the Principal.

† **c.** One who belongs to a country or place; a native or denizen, as opposed to a stranger or foreigner. *Obs.*

1565 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 312 Right ye shall doe to every person as well to ye stranger as to ye pryvye. 1641 W. Hakewil *Libertie of Subject* 101 (tr. Act 2 Edw. III, c. 9) All Merchants, Strangers and Privies [*touz marchantz aliens & priveez*], may goe and come with their merchandizes into England after the tenure of the Great Charter.

II. Of things.

3. A private place of ease, a latrine, a necessary: see A. 8 c.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* v. 556 The king had in custum ay For to riss airly euirilk day, And pas weill fer fra his menze, Quhen he vald pas to the preue. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 273 Whanne he sittiþ at priuy he schal not streyne him-silf to harde. 1423 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 59 Also þai orden þat.. all þe pryves & swynesties þeron be done away. 1530 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 364 A prevye comyng out of the Kynges Jayle in to the hie-wey, vnto the grett noysance of alle the inhabytantes. 1650 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. (1664) 104 They pried into the very privies and jakes. 1704 Swift *Mech. Operat. Spirit* § 2 Misc. (1711) 303 As if a Traveller should go about to describe a Palace, when he had seen nothing but the Privy. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 107 The clearing out of a privy produced in twenty-three children violent vomiting.

attrib. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Ne berest tu two þurles, ase þauh hit weren two priue þurles? 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 A Pryvay scowrare..*cloacarius*. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 413 The bad privy accommodation. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xi. 194 A peculiar mawkish, privy odour.

† **4.** Short for *privy member* (see A. 8 d). *rare.*

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 85 Þys ys þe prydde medicyne, his properte ys to efforce þe pryue, and namly þe pryncypales.

† **5.** That which is secret, secrecy; in phr. *in privy*, in secret, in private, covertly. *In privy or apert, in privy or in plain*, covertly or openly.

1388 Wyclif *Matt.* vi. 18 Þi fadir þat seeþ in privye shal ȝelde to þee. 1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 182 Alle tho that hadden be Or in apert or in prive Of conseil to the mariage, Sche slowh hem. 1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 378/2 Directely or indirectely, in prive or appert. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 173 To grant him self in Britane to remane, Quhair plesis ȝow in previe or in plane. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 3 Twa leirnit men in priuie I hard talk. 1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 652 Nor yit sall we tryist or haif intelligence with thame in previe or apart.

† **C.** *adv.* = Privily *adv.*; privately, secretly, in secret. *Obs.*

Frequent in *privy or* (*a*)*pert* (contracted from *in privy or apert*: see B. 5), secretly or openly, privately or publicly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 27180 Preist sal..knau..þe pligth..Queþer it be priue don, or hid. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3393 Brenne bad þem ber ham [al] pryue, Wiþ-oute noyse. 1485 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 321 That..will goo among them prevy or peart for his propre besynes. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 273, I hatit him like a hund, thought I it hid preue.

Privy (priuie), obs. var. Privet[1].

Privy chamber. Now *Hist.* [Privy *a.* 2.]

1. In a general sense: A room reserved for the private or exclusive use of a particular person or persons; a private room, in which one is not liable to interruption or disturbance. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2972 Thou dissyret full depely, dame Elan, þi seluon, To pas fro þi palis & þi priuey chamber. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/1 Pryvy chawmyr (*S.* chambyr), *conclave*. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 19 Brynge thy moder in to a prevy chamber. 1581 Pettie tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 13 Those which couet to get learning, seeke it not in publike places..but in their studies and priuie chambers.

fig. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 432 All these indiuiduall formes receiued by the senses, are..resigned vp in token of fœalty to the Common sense or priuy-chamber of the soule. 1645 G. Daniel *Odes* xlvi. Wks. (Grosart) II. 96 Nor can Man in this Motley, meerlie man, Stand in the privie Chamber of his heart.

2. *spec.* A private apartment in a royal residence. *Gentlemen of the Privy Chamber*: see quots. 1681, 1727–41.

1540 Cromwell in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 270 Your Magestye avauncyd toward the galerye owt of your pryvey Chambre. 1681 Burnet *Hist. Ref.* II. 10 Those who attended on him [Edw. VI] in his bedchamber during his sickness, though they were called gentlemen of the privy-chamber; for the service of the gentlemen of the bed-chamber was not then set up. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Chamber*, Gentlemen of the Privy-Chamber are servants of the king, who are to wait and attend on him and the queen at court, in their diversions, progresses, &c... Their number is forty-eight. Their institution is owing to king Henry VII. 1828 Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 39 The King of England summoned Baliol..into his privy chamber at Newcastle. 1849 James *Woodman* ii, You seem to be of his privy-chamber, goodman Boyd.

Hence **Privy-chamberer**, a frequenter of the Privy Chamber.

1640 Habington *Queen of Arragon* I, Who hath art To judge of my confession; must have had At least a Privie Chamberer to his Father.

Privy council. [ME. *privé counseil* (Privy *a.* 2 and Counsel *sb.*) = OF. *privé conseil* (1276 in Du Cange), mod.F. *conseil privé*, med.L. *consilium privatum*. For the change (17th c.) of Counsel to Council, see these words.]

† **1.** In general sense: A private consultation or assembly for consultation. *Obs.*

In later use usually transferred from sense 2.

c 1300 [see Privy *a.* 5 b]. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 251 Dodynell..tolde to his prevy counseile that he wolde go to court. *c* 1530 *Hick-scorner* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 157 Into lords' favours I can get me soon, And be of their privy council. [1634 Ford *Perkin Warbeck* II. iii, How the counsel-privy Of this young Phaeton do screw their faces Into a gravity.] 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* xv. ix, Jones, by the advice of his privy-council [i. e. Nightingale], replied. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* II. i, Then I beg they'll admit me as one of their privy council. 1825 Fosbroke *Encycl. Antiq.* (1843) II. 591/2 Our nobles had also their privy councils, composed of gentlemen of family and fortune.

2. The private counsellors of the sovereign; *spec.* in Great Britain a body of advisers selected by the sovereign, together with certain persons who are members by usage, as the princes of the blood, the archbishops, and the chief officers of the present and past ministries of state.

Its original function of advising the crown in matters of state and administration is now discharged by the Cabinet (Cabinet *sb.* 7 b), a select body of ministers drawn from the Privy Council; and much of its business is carried on by committees, as the Board of Trade (originally the Committee of Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations), the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, etc. Hence, to be 'sworn of His Majesty's Privy Council' is now mainly a personal dignity, conferred chiefly in recognition of eminent public services.

[1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 603 And forouth hys consaile priue, The lord the bruce thar callyt he [Edward I.] 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 178/1 Beyng oon of your grete and pryve Counseill, and with you best trusted. 1547–8 *Ordre of Communion* 3 And other of our priuey Counsaill. 1555 Bradford in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 130, I was chambarlayn to one of the privie counsayll. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. i. 112 The King ha's made him [Thomas Cromwell] Master o'th'Iewell House, And one already of the Priuy Councell. 1667 Duchess of Newcastle *Life Dk. N.* (1886) 9 King Charles the First..made him withal a member of the Lords of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. v. 229 The principal council belonging to the king is his privy council. 1827 Hallam *Const. Hist.* (1876) III. xv. 185 During the reign of William [III] this distinction of the cabinet from the privy council..became more fully established. 1844 H. H. Wilson *Brit. India* III. 287 The petition of Sir John Grant to the Privy Council. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* III. v. 647 The highest administrative department under the Crown is the Privy Council.

b. Applied (by English writers) to a council of state in a foreign country, or to the council of an ancient king or ruler.

c 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 4713 Thanne answerid his [K. Uter's] prevy cownseyl ageyn: 'what wil ȝe þat we do, telle vs now pleyn'. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 372 Than spake the kynge Arthur, and seide..I will that..ye be..of my prive counseile and lordes of my court. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 196, I haue maters to mell with my preuey counsell. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxviii. 278 Thus duke Raoull retournyd to the cyte of Vyen..and sent for his preuey counsell. 1650 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 184 These foure are noble men and all of his [Russian] Ma^ties Privy Councell. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V* (1783) I. 265 Ferdinand empowered a committee of his privy-Council..to hear the deputies sent from Hispaniola. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XII. 389 By these, and by other means, the College of Savi, or Privy Council, as it may be termed, had acquired so much power. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 243 The affair had often been discussed in his [the emperor's] privy-council.

c. A similar body formed to assist the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the governors of some British colonies or dominions. *Scottish Privy Council*: see Council *sb.* 7.

1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. 102 In that shape they [bills] are offered to the consideration of the lord lieutenant and privy council [of Ireland]. 1889 *Whitaker's Almanack* 436/2 Dominion of Canada..The Executive Government and authority is vested in the Queen, and exercised in her name by the Governor-General, aided by a Privy Council.

d. *fig.*

a 1657 Lovelace *Poems* (1864) 226 Thou art of privy council to the gods! *a* 1708 Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 329 Who are His [Christ's] Privy-Council? God the Father, the godly His children.

Privy counsellor, councillor. [ME. *prive counseiller*: see Privy *a.* 2 and Counsellor; from 17th c. occasionally, and in 19th c. often spelt *councillor* after prec.; but *counsellor* is the official as well as historical form.]

1. A private or confidential adviser.

(Often with allusion to sense 2.)

[13.. *Cursor M.* 3005 (Fairf.) Þe kinge [Abimelech] made him [Abraham] his counsalour priue [*earlier texts* made him his prive]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2052 Charlis consailer am y pryue y-sent on his message.] 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 292 He hadde a feloun bacheler, Which was his prive consailer.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 167 The kynge Of the Cite..sende for the Philosofre, and makyd hym his prywey consaillours. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. xx. (1840) 363 My principal guide and privy counsellor, was my good ancient widow. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. xxxii. 256 The old chief and his privy counsellor, the guide, had another mysterious colloquy.

2. *spec.* in Great Britain: One of the private counsellors of the sovereign; a member of the Privy Council.

Indicated by the addition to his name of P.C., and styled *Right Honourable.* See note to prec., sense 2.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 42 Having..married a near ally of the Dukes, with wonderfull expedition was made a Privy-Councellour. 1659 RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* I. 165 The Privy-Counsellors to the late King, with all the Lords Spiritual and Temporal then about London, were in the Council Chamber at Whitehall by Eight of the Clock in the morning. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. v. 232 The privileges of privy counsellors, as such, consist principally in the security which the law has given them against attempts and conspiracies to destroy their lives. 1814 [J. HUNTER] *Who wrote Cavendish's Wolsey?* 22 He left it, at about the age of fifty, a knight, a privy counsellor, and the owner of estates. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 277 A deed executed in the presence of four privy councillors. 1891 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Times* 28 Nov. 12/3 There are those who sit upon the front bench who, by reason of not being Privy Councillors, have no right to sit there. 1907 *Whitaker's Peerage* 49 In the official list the members are termed Privy Counsellors, which is correct, in view of the counsel they are supposed to give; but they are equally Councillors as being members of a Council.

fig. 1657 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* (1676) 10 Some..rashly do fancy to themselves, that they are the Almightie Privy-Counsellours. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 55 ¶ 4 Avarice ..had likewise a Privy-Counsellor who was always at his Elbow, and whispering something or other in his Ear: The Name of this Privy-Counsellor was Poverty.

Hence **Privy-Counsellorship, -Councillorship** [see -SHIP].

1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* iii, He retired with the solace of a sinecure, a pension, and a privy-councillorship.

Privy seal. Forms: see PRIVY and SEAL. [PRIVY *a.* 2: lit. private seal.]

1. The seal affixed to documents that are afterwards to pass the Great Seal; also to documents of less importance which do not require the Great Seal. In Scotland, A seal which authenticates a royal grant of personal or assignable rights.

† *Clerk of the privy seal* (*obs.*), the keeper of the privy seal; also, one of the four clerks formerly employed in the office of the privy seal. *Keeper of the privy seal*: see KEEPER 1c. [1230 in E. Déprez *Etudes de Diplom. anglaise* (1908) 10 Teste me ipso apud Hamsted II die decembris Has litteras privato sigillo nostro fecimus sigillari. 1295 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 133/1 Done desuz nostre prive seal, a Rughemor. 1347–8 *Ibid.* II. 206/2 Notre Seignour le Roi ad mande ces Lettres desouth son Privie Seal a son Chanceller.]

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 297/1 Keper of ye Kyngs Prive Seal. *a* 1434 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* IV. 572 *note*, Gevin under oure prive sele at Edynburch. 1497 in *Lett. & Papers Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 104 The Bisshop of Duresme, keper of our pryveseall. 1543 tr. *Act* 12 *Rich. II*, c. 11 To saye or tell any false newes..of the chauncelar, tresorer, clerke of the pryuye seale [*orig.* Clerc du Prive Seal]. 1607 COWELL *Interpr., Privie seale*..is a seale that the King vseth some time for a warrant, whereby things passed the priuy signet and brought to it, are sent farder to be confirmed by the great seale of England. *a* 1660 HAMMOND *Serm.* ii. Wks. 1684 IV. 569 That Privy Seal of his annexed to the Patent. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. vii. 381 He [Chas. I] had issued letters of privy seal ..to those in every county whose names had been returned by the lord lieutenant as most capable, mentioning the sum they were required to lend.

2. A document to which the privy seal is affixed; *spec.* a warrant, under the privy seal, demanding a loan; hence *transf.* a forced loan, a benevolence. Now only *Hist.*

1419 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 247 We have .. comynd togidder..for þe exploit of the pryve seals þat were ysent to us by..þe lordys of þe Conseil. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 167/1 That your seid besecher may have..als mony Writts and Prive Seals, as shall be behovefull. 1530 PALSGR. 258/1 Prevy seale, *mandement du roy.* 1585 *Act* 27 *Eliz.* c. 3 § 6 A Priuy Seale, commanding the same heire to make personall appearance in the Court. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 78 May they send out their privie Seals, or Troops, to fetch in money or cattle. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. v. 244 She [Q. Eliz.] did not abstain from the ancient practice of sending privy-seals to borrow money of the wealthy. *fig.* 1660 T. WATSON in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. lxxxiv. 10 In the sacrament God..gives them a smile of his face, and a privy-seal of his love.

3. a. The keeper of the privy seal; now called *Lord Privy Seal.*

c 1420 *Brut* (E.E.T.S.) 539 Maistre Symond Islepe, Privey Seal, with xvij men of Armes, and xij Archers on horsebakke. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 297/2 Decreed..by ye said Archebysshop, Ducs, Bisshops, Erle, Prive Seel, and Lord Cromwell. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 61 The lorde Rosselle that was then lorde privisele. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1768/3 His Majesty has been pleased to confer the Office of Lord Privy-Seal upon the Right Honourable the Marquiss of Hallifax. 1794 G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) I. 193 Lord Spencer is to be the Privy Seal. 1874 *Chambers's Encycl.* VII. 775/1 The Lord Privy-Seal is now the fifth great officer of state, and has generally a seat in the cabinet. His office is conferred under the Great Seal during pleasure.

† **b.** The office in which documents were prepared and the privy seal affixed to them. *Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1464 So longe as þou, sone, in be priuë sel Dwelt hast.

c. *ellipt.* The office of keeper of the privy seal.

1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1820) 257 The privy-seal was intended for him.

Priys, obs. form of PRICE *sb.*, PRIZE *sb.*[1]

Prizable, prizeable (prəi·zăb'l), *a.*[1] Now chiefly *dial.* Also 7 priseable. [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -ABLE.] Capable of being, or worthy to be, prized; valuable.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. xiii. (1632) 628, I..finde it [life] to be both priseable and commodious. 1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 203 The very ravings of my fever are sometimes more prizeable than Philosophical Meditations. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* To Rdr. 2, I hope this our Principle is so much the more prizable, that it [etc.]. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 108 Clothed with that delicate.. short grass so prizable for the flock and the dairy. 1862 SIR H. TAYLOR *St. Clement's Eve* I. i, A prizeable possession.

† **b.** Comparable in value (*with*). *Obs. rare*—[1].

1644 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* 99 Is a poor clod of earth (we call inheritance) prizeable with his greatness?

Pri·zable, *a.*[2] *Chess.* [f. PRIZE *sb.*[3] = F. *prise* capture + -ABLE.] That can be taken or made a prize; exposed to capture.

1808 *Stud. Chess* II. 202 In case you touch a piece not prizable, you..must play your king if you can.

† **Pri·zal**[1]. *Obs.* [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -AL.] Estimate of worth; appraisement; valuation.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. x. 29 With us Pidgens dung..carries chief preheminence for due prizall of worth. *Ibid.* IV. i. 79 The Valuation of Possessions consists in the due Estimate and Prizall of all Parts and Particulars Essentially and Accidentally thereunto belonging.

Prizal[2], late form of PRISAL *sb.*, taking.

Prize (prəiz), *sb.*[1] For earlier forms (**prīs, prys, prise, price,** etc.) see PRICE *sb.* [A differentiated variant of ME. *prīs, prise,* now PRICE *sb.* The latter was formerly, and in some dialects is still, *prise, prize* (prəiz), and its plural in 16–18th c. was very commonly *prises, prizes.* The corresp. verb is also *prise,* PRIZE *v.*[1] Cf. also the forms of PRIZE *sb.*[3], *v.*[2]]

1. A reward, trophy, or symbol of victory or superiority in any contest or competition.

Consolation prize, a prize won in a consolation match: see CONSOLATION 3 b.

α. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25364 (Cott.) For oft þe men þat er rightwis Thoru faanding win þai to þair pris [so *Gött.*; *F.* prise]. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* ix. 24 Thei that rennen in a furlong, alle forsoth rennen, but oon takith the prys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 15 So that the heiere hond he [Bacchus] hadde And victoire of his enemys, And torneth homward with his pris. *c* 1460 *Launfal* 487 So the prys of that turnay Was delyvered to Lanfaul that day. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 196 Shooting for wagers..and for like rewards and prises.

β. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxviii. 205 All..ar playnly acorded..to gyue you the price and chapelette. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 239 The onely man to whom the price was of right to be adjudged. 1675 *Phil. Trans.* X. 549 Certain *brabiums* or prices for such as shall do best.

γ. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 60 (Qo. 1600) Did I deserue no more then a fooles head, Is that my prize, are my deserts no better? 1600 — *A. Y. L.* I. i. 168 If euer hee goe alone againe, Ile neuer wrastle for prize more. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 37 They had judges ordained to decide their merit, and prizes to reward it. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 193 We overvalue the prize for which we contend. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. 250 A week before the prize was decided by the king. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 7/1, I should have missed the Santiago campaign, and might not even have had the consolation prize of going to Porto Rico.

b. In colleges, schools, etc.: A reward in the form of money, books, or the like, given to the pupil who excels in attainments, usually as tested by a competitive examination. Formerly PREMIUM.

1752 *Cambr. Univ. Notice* 11 Dec., Mr. Finch and..Mr. Townsend having proposed..to give Two Prizes of Fifteen Guineas each to two Senior Batchelors of Arts..who shall compose the best Exercises in Latin Prose. 1768 M. HOWARD *Coupt. Quebec,* Honoured with the Prize given by the.. Chancellor of the University of Oxford, for the best English Verses on this Subject. 1769 SIR J. REYNOLDS (*title*) A Discourse, delivered to the Students of the Royal Academy, on the distribution of the prizes. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 473 The prize of beauty in a woman's eyes Not brighter than in theirs the scholar's prize. 1791 (*Circular*) Clarke's..School, Liverpool. *Præmia.* .Names of the Young Ladies and Gentlemen to whom the Annual Prizes were publicly adjudged. 1800 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 9 University Prizes. Two gold medals, value 15 guineas each, are given annually by the Chancellor of this University. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* III. 283 You love The metaphysics! read and earn our prize, A golden broach.

c. A premium offered to the person who exhibits the best specimens of natural productions, works of art, or manufactures, at a competition designed to promote the study, cultivation, or production of such objects, or at an exhibition or 'show' arranged for the instruction or amusement of visitors.

1775 *Orig. Ipswich Jrnl.* 6 May (in *N. & Q.* 29 Feb. 1908), There will be a shew of Tulips..Every person's flower shall be his own actual property and of his own blowing, or they will not be entitled to either of the prizes. 1793 (June 4) *Musical Entertainmt. at Sadler's Wells Th.,* The Prize of Industry. Taken from a Fete given in Oxfordshire for the encouragement of industry amongst the Villagers; and introducing the Spinning for the Prize Medal. 1824 [see 4 a]. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 209 The first prize for 12 Ranunculuses (amateurs' class) was awarded [etc.]. *Mod.* The infant to whom the first prize was awarded at the baby show.

2. A sum of money or a thing of value, offered for competition by chance or hazard, as by trying who shall throw the highest or other specified number at dice, or draw a particular ticket from among a large number to which no advantage attaches, called *blanks.* Often *fig.*

1567 *Lottery Chart* Aug., A very rich Lotterie generall, without any Blanckes, contayning a great number of good Prices. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 242 ¶ 2 A Ticket in the Lottery, and..'tis come up this Morning a Five hundred Pound Prize. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* III. 264 A beauteous sister, or convenient wife, Are prizes in the lottery of life. 1842 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. ix. 153 A twenty thousand prize in the lottery. 1883 W. C. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 11/1 The word lottery..may be applied to any process of determining prizes by lot.

3. *fig.* Anything striven for or worth striving for; a thing of value won by or inspiring effort.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. iii. 83 (Qo. 1609) Place, ritches, and fauour, Prizes of accident as oft as merit. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 452 But this swift busines I must vneasie make, least too light winning Make the prize light. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 111 The Lock..In ev'ry place is sought, but sought in vain: With such a prize no mortal must be blest. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* x, What a prize to any younger sons in the Merton family. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 326 There were still indeed prizes in the Church: but they were few. 1856 GRINDON *Life* xxii. (1875) 273 Life has a prize for every one who will open his heart to receive it.

b. An advantage, privilege; something prized or highly valued.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 59 (Qo. 1595) Tis warres prise to take all aduantages. *Ibid.* II. i. 20 (Fol. 1623) Me thinkes 'tis prize [1595 pride] enough to be his Sonne. 1638 WALTON in L. Roberts *Merch. Mapp* Commend. Verses 11 If thou would'st be a Merchant, buy this Booke: For 'tis a prize worth gold.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *attrib.* (*a*) That gains a prize; for which a prize is awarded in a competition or exhibition; also *fig.* such as would or might gain a prize; supremely excellent of its kind, first-class. (*b*) That is offered or gained as a prize. (Often hyphened.)

1803 D. WILSON (*title*) Common Sense: A Prize Essay, recited in the Theatre, Oxford, June 15, 1803. 1807 (*title*) Oxford Prize Poems: being a Collection of such English Poems as have at various times obtained Prizes in the University of Oxford. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 270 Jemmy Hill claimed his prize-pig, but his competitors disputed his right. 1824 BYRON *Juan* XVI. lx, There was a prize ox, a prize pig, and ploughman, For Henry was a sort of Sabine showman. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 15 My history is an everlasting possession, not a prize composition which is heard and forgotten. 1897 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 3/1 Look at the prize gussets, the prize hemmings, the prize buttonholes, the prize darnings, the prize stitchings..suspended by innumerable tin tacks to the wall.

b. *Comb.,* as *prize-giver, -giving, -holder, -loser, -seeker, -taker, -winner; prize-taking, -winning, -worthy* adjs.; **prize-book,** a book gained as a prize; **prize-fellowship,** a fellowship in a college given as a reward for eminence in an examination, as distinct from an official fellowship; hence **prize-fellow,** one who holds such a fellowship; **prize-list,** a list of the winners of prizes in any competition; **prize-medal,** a medal offered or gained as a prize; **prize-question,** a question or subject for the answer to or discussion of which a prize is offered.

1858 LYTTON *What will he do* VII. ix, The poor relics of her innocent happy girlhood,...—the *prize-books, the lute, the costly work-box. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 2/1 A *prize-fellow in his seventh year is one of the most dolorous sights in the world. These *prize-fellowships ought to be abolished, and the money devoted..to relieving the intolerable strain on the University chest. 1900 G. C. BRODRICK *Mem. & Impress.* 170 'Prize fellows' as they are ungracefully called, elected for seven years only. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 5 Dec. 7/1 Zealous and more determined *prize-givers and prize-seekers overruled Mr. Wright and his supporters. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. i. 54 They were naturally the *prizeholders. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Prize-list.* 1. A detailed list of the winners in any competition for prizes, as a school examination or a flower-show. 1793 *Prize Medal [see 1 c]. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 3524 Patent and prize-medal artificial eyes,..&c. 1808 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 268 The subject of the tides was proposed as the *prize-question by the Academy of Sciences in the year 1740. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 146/1 The cockpit in the *prize winners is only large enough to contain the feet of the skipper. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 5 Endowments but handmaides to others farre more *prize-worthy.

† **Prize,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: α. 6 pryse, 6–7 prise, price; β. 6–8 prize. [Of uncertain origin: possibly the same word as the prec. in a transferred use: cf. Gr. ἆθλον, 'the prize of contest, a prize', also 'a contest, hence conflict, struggle'. The forms are the same as the contemporary ones of PRIZE *sb.*[1]; but, not being found before the last third of the 16th century, this has not the earlier *pris, prys.*

In Amyot's Fr. transl., 1559, of *Plutarch's Lives,* Pericles c. x., the Gr. μουσικῆς ἀγῶνα, τοὺς μουσικοὺς ἀγῶνας, lit. 'contest of music', 'the musical contests', are rendered *jeux de prix de (la) musique,* lit. 'prize-plays of music'; for this North, 1579, has not 'prizes' but 'games for musicke'.]

A contest, a match; a public athletic contest; *pl.* the public games of the Greeks and Romans; in late use, a prize-fight. Also *fig.*

a. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 106, I meane not to condemne such publicke games or prices, as are appointed by the magistrate. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. viii. 25 His leg, through his late luckelesse prize, Was crackt in twaine.

β. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 142 (Qo. 1600) Like one of two contending in a prize That thinks he hath done well in peoples eyes. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 349 The people being gathered together to behold the Fencers prizes were fiftie thousand of them hurt and maimed ..by the Amphitheatre that fell vpon them. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. vi. (1739) 34 The Prize was now well begun concerning the Pope's power in England. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 1 June, Here I saw the first prize I ever saw in my life: and it was between one Mathews, who did beat at all weapons, and one Westwicke. 1669 *Ibid.* 12 Apr., Here we saw a prize fought between a soldier and a country fellow.

b. esp. in phrase *to play a prize*, to engage in a contest or match, esp. a fencing-match; also *fig. to play one's prize*, to play one's 'game', play one's part.

a. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* B iij b, Ieatting vp and downe like the Usher of a Fense-schoole about to playe his Pryse. 1597 TOFTE *Laura* I. iii, Like to the blacksome night I may compare My Mistres gowne, when darknes playes his prise. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* V. ii, Thou 'hast playd thy prise, my precious Mosca.

β. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* I. i. 399 (Qo. 1600) So Bascianus, you haue plaid your prize, God giue you ioy sir of your gallant Bride. 1620 *Swetnam Arraign'd* (1880) 55 Cupid, the little Fencer playd his Prize At seuerall weapons in Atlanta's eyes. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* IV. iii, A Woman Fencer, that has plaid a Prize, It seemes, with Losse of blood. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 147 Attributed to the Chairman's dexterity, who could play his prize in all weapons.

c. in *pl. To play prizes* (= b); *to fight prizes*, to fight as gladiators; to engage in a prize-fight, or practise prize-fighting; *to run prizes*, to run races. Also *fig.*

a. 1565 CALFHILL *Answ. Treat. Crosse* F ij b, When ye masters of defence came to play their prises, he [Nero] would beholde them in his ring. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xx. 295 That yeare were erected in the great race called Circus, the Barriers, from whence the horses and their chariots are let forth, when they run their prices. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 197 This base carnality plaies her prises one way or other, and dares act her part upon Gods stage.

β. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., Wks. (Grosart) III. 6 Dick of the Cow..who plaied his prizes with the lord Iockey so brauely. 1599 — *Lenten Stuff* ibid. V. 235 Another playes his prizes in print. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 206 When the Prizes of Germanicus Cæsar were played; there were many Elephantes which acted strange feates or partes. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 1 June, The New Theatre, which..is this day begun to be employed by the fencers to play prizes at. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* ix. (1743) I. 222 He does not, like some of the cruel Roman emperors, take pleasure..to see them play bloody prizes before him. 1702 W. J. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* vii. 8 A Circus or Amphitheatre, wherein Prizes were anciently Fought. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. iv, He..went about through all the country fairs, challenging people to fight prizes, wrestling, and cudgel-play. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 77 The whole People came there together, to see the Athletes (or Fencers and Wrestlers) play their prizes.

d. *Comb.* **prize-playing**, the playing of a prize or prizes; acting as an athlete or gladiator; in quot. *attrib.* = won in athletic contests. See also PRIZE-FIGHT, -FIGHTER.

1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 36 Our nointed clowne prize-playing ornaments Or a poore basket-scrambling gown contents [*L.* Rusticus ille tuus sumit trechedipna, Quirine, Et aromatico fert niceteria collo.]

Prize (prəiz), *sb.*[3] Forms: α. 4–7 **prise**, 5–7 **price**, 6–7 **pryse**. β. 6–7 **pryze**, 6– **prize**. [a. F. *prise* the action of taking, capture, esp. the capture of a ship, the booty taken, a captured ship or cargo = Pr., Sp., It. *presa*:—early Rom. *prēsa*:—*prensa*, L. *prǽhensa*, fem. sb. from pa. pple. of L. *prǽhendĕre* to seize: see PREHEND. (In origin, a special sense of PRISE *sb.*[1], which late in 16th c. began to be phonetically spelt *prize*, and thus to be identified with PRIZE *sb.*[2])]

†1. The action of taking; capture, seizure. *Obs.*

[1414 *Act 2 Hen. V*, Stat. I. c. 6 Quils .. facent plein enformacion..a le conservatour de le port..de la dite prise et de la quantite dicelle.]

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 576 The cyte of Constantynople..was taken by the Turke..by whiche pryse Cristen feyth perysshed in Grece. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* lxxxii. 130 By the prise of this cyte. *Ibid.* clxxxv. 271 *heading*, Of the pryse and takynge of Iherusalem. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. 332 Age, that all men overcomes, hath made his prise on thee. 1648 J. RAYMOND *Voy. Italy* 77 Opposite to this is the Arch of Titus Vespasian, erected to him for his prise of Jerusalem. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1853) II. 74 He said he got them by trade, but it was suspected he got them by prize. 1721 DE FOE *Moll Flanders* (1854) 167 This [stealing of a bundle of plate, jewellery, &c.] was the greatest and the worst prize that ever I was concerned in.

†2. Anything seized or captured by force, especially in war; booty, plunder, prey; a captive of war. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

a. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 281, I wol departe my prise or my praye by deliberacion. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 246 Gret pris upon the werre he hadde. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 53, I haue brouȝt hidir manye a greet price Hidir into helle of al kinde of man. *c* 1450 *Merlin* II. 240 Thei hadden gete the richest prise thut euer was sein in her comynge. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) II. 72 Returnit hame againe witht great pryce of men and goodis. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* I. 135 Woulst thou maintaine in sure abode Thine owne prise, and sleight me of mine? 1693 *Mem. Cut. Teckely* I. 40 To shelter the Prises which the Croats had taken from the Turks. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. iii. § 154 (1740) 222 His Neighbour's Pigs and Hens used to be his Prise, when he could catch them.

β. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. iv. 8 His owne prize, Whom formerly he had in battell wonne. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 69 Many have had the victory snatcht..and themselves become the dishonourable pryze of whome they had earst most honourably surpryz'd. *a* 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Most Wonderful Wonder* Misc. Wks. 1751 I, 195 He took Shipping afterwards with his Prize, and safely landed at Tower-Wharf. 1865 EARL OF DERBY *Iliad* I. 220 Ev'n from thy tent, myself, to bear thy prize, The fair Briseis.

b. *esp.* A ship or property captured at sea in virtue of the rights of war; a legal capture at sea.

a. 1512 in Rymer *Foedera* XIII. 328/2 One Shippe Royall ..with the Ordinance and Apparell of every such Prise that shall fortune to be taken by theym. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* 9 Carrying away, both vessell and marriners as a pryse. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 188 Calicut, a great Citie ten leagues whence we tooke our price [(1638) 302 prize]. 1672 C. MANNERS in 12*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 24 Wee take every day some considerable pryses, which may pay for the warr. *fig.* 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 279 Desire my Pilot is, Beautie my prise.

β. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 93 *Pira.* 2. A prize, a prize. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 549 They took a prize of nine hundred tunnes. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 51 The gallies..towing at their sternes three or foure little vessels no bigger then fisher boats. A ridiculous glory, and a prize to be ashamed of. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 174 We were now 6 Sail, 2 Men of War, 2 Tenders, a Fire-ship and the Prize. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 164 The Commodore ordered .. his first Lieutenant, to take possession of the prize. 1879 LUBBOCK *Addr. Pol. & Educ.* vii. 137 Steamers..would be the real prizes—if prizes are to be made at all.

c. without *a* or *pl.* Property seized as in war; esp. in the phr. *to make prize*. Also *fig.*

[In this and the following, *prize* seems to hover between sense 1 'capture, seizure', and the concrete sense 2.]

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. vii. 187 (Qo. 1597) A beauty-waining and distressed widow..Made prise and purchase of his lustfull eye. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 68 Diuerse ships..had beene taken at sea, and the goods therein made prize, and confiscate. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 9 We resolved to make prize of it, as in a time of war. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 496 Prize or not Prize, must be determined by Courts of Admiralty, belonging to the Power whose Subjects make the Capture. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* vi. 182 He made prize of all the good thoughts that came in his way. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 18 It is..necessary that the vessel should have been condemned as prize, by legal sentence. 1885 RIGBY in *Law Rep.* 29 Ch. Div. 286 On matters of prize the judgment could be looked to.

d. In *good, fair, free, just, lawful prize*, with reference to the legality of the seizure. Also *fig.*

1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 102 The samin schip and gudis..in caise scho wer nocht fund just prise. 1561 *Ibid.* 162 Decernyng the schippis and gudis..to be lauchfull pryse. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iii, How now? Good prise? 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 185 [The junk] was a good prize and worth the keeping. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 168 Plagiary Privateers, That all Mens Sense and Fancy seize, And make free Prize of what they please? 1747 GRAY *Cat* 41 Not all that tempts..your heedless hearts is lawful prize. 1836 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xlii. § 52 (1847) IX. 362 The English Admiralty courts..declared good prize neutral vessels carrying colonial produce from the enemy's colonies to the mother state. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxii. 353 If the command was unheeded, a broadside followed, and the peaceful merchantman became lawful prize.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prize brandy, cause, goods, property, ship*; **prize agent**, an agent appointed for the sale of prizes taken in maritime war; so *prize agency*; **prize court**, a department of the admiralty court, which adjudicates concerning prizes; **prize crew**, a crew of seamen placed on board a prize ship to bring her into port; **prize-list**, a list of persons entitled to receive prize-money on the capture of a ship; **prize-master**, an officer appointed to command a prize ship; **prize-office** (see quot. 1706). See also PRIZE-MONEY.

1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson* 215 The abuses of *prize agency. 1802 NELSON *Parl. Sp.* 21 Dec. *ibid.* 213 Transactions..with any of the boards or *prize agents. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Agent, Prize agent*, one appointed for the sale of prizes, and nominated in equal numbers by the commander, the officers, and the ship's company. 1905 *Whitaker's Almanack* 211 Navy and Prize Agents. 1667 DRYDEN & DAVENANT *Tempest* II. i, This is *prize brandy. 1747 (*title*) Observations on the Course of Proceeding in Admiralty Courts in *Prize Causes. 1810 J. F. POTT (*title*) Observations on Matters of Prize, and the Practice of the Admiralty *Prize Courts. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxiv, The *prize crew of the Aspasia. 1625 *Impeachm. Dk. Buckhm.* (Camden) 32 To hasten the raising of monies by sales of *prise goods here. 1711 *Act 10 Anne* c. 22 Preamble, Several considerable Quantities of Prize-Cocoa, Sugars, Indigo, and other Prize-Goods. 1826 KENT *Comm.* (1873) I. xvii. 357, I know of no other definition of prize goods..than that they are goods taken on high seas *jure belli*, out of the hands of the enemy. 1794 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 417 You want a *Prize-List for one vessel taken by Tartar and myself. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Prize-list*, a return of all the persons on board..at the time a capture is made; those who may be absent on duty are included. 1800 *Suppl. to Chron.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 144/1 The *prize-master informed the unfortunate people who were sent on board the Arab, that there was abundance of provisions and water. 1893 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXXIV. 152/1 Louis was appointed prize-master of the Phœnix. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. i. 299 It was..with..difficulty that the *prize money, which the *Gloucester* had taken.., was secured, and..the prize goods ..were entirely lost. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Nov., To speak with my lord about our *Prise Office business. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prize-Office*, an Office appointed for the Sale of Ships taken from an Enemy as lawful Prize. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decisions* (1759) I. 333 The oft debated cause of the Capers of the two *prize Danish ships. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 87 The officer in command of the 'Erie' when sent as a prize-ship to New York. 1799 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 92, I send you a cask of sugar, such as I think you mean by saying *prize-sugar.

Prize, prise (prəiz), *sb.*[4] Also 6 **pryse**. [ME. *prise*, a. F. *prise* a taking hold, grasp: see prec.]

1. An instrument used for prizing (see PRIZE *v.*[3]); a lever. Now *dial.*

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 267 Wyȝt werkemen..Putten prises þer to, pinchid one vnder, Kaghtene by þe corners wt crowes of yrne. 1541 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 176 Item, ane pryse, with ane turning staf. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Prise*, a lever used for the purpose of forcing. This instrument is sometimes called a pry. 1825 JAMIESON, *Prise, Prize*, a lever. 1895 T. PINNOCK *Black Co. Anv.* (E.D.D.), Run, fetch a prise, quick to lift on.

2. The act of prizing; leverage, purchase.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 150 Those plumes which so ornament the wings of birds, and give them as it were more prise upon the air. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 166 This spade is..rounded considerably in the back, to afford the better prize. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 88 Is it fanciful to ascribe this curious upward movement of a river-course to the prise given by it, in its enormous stretch in a straight line from north to south, to the diurnal whirl of the earth from west to east?

3. *Comb.*, as **prize-bolt**: see quot.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Prise-bolts*, the projecting bolts at the rear of a mortar-bed or garrison gun-carriage under which the handspikes are inserted for training and maneuvering the piece.

Prize (prəiz), *v.*[1] Forms: *a.* 4–7 **prise**, 4–6 (*Sc.* –8) **pryse** (also *Sc.* 4 **priss, pryss**, 4–5 **pris, prys**, 6 **pryis(e), prysse**. β. 6– **prize**. γ. See PRICE *v.* [ME. a. OF. *prisier*, F. *priser*, levelled form of OF. *preisier*, PRAISE *v.* (under which see the origin and form-history). In Sc., from the 14th century, *prise* was preferred to *praise* in all its senses (see sense 4 below); but English at length differentiated *praise* and *prise*, retaining *praise* in the sense of F. *louer*, L. *laudare*, and appropriating *prise* to senses connected with the sbs. *pris, prise, price*, and *prize*. In these senses it has received further differentiation, becoming PRICE in the commercial sense of 'set a price to', and remaining as *prize* only in sense 3 below. (But this last differentiation has hardly yet been completed, for in dialect, local, and individual use, *to prise* or *prize* is often said instead of *to price*, even when the latter is written: cf. the distinction of sb. and vb. in *advice, to advise, house, to house, use, to use.*)]

I. †1. *trans.* To value, to estimate the (relative) value of; to estimate, esteem, account as worth (so much); to account, reckon. *Obs.* (or *arch.*)

a. 1375 (MS. 1487) BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 505 He wald nocht priss his liff a stra, With-thi he vengeans on hym mycht ta. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xix. 44 A prodigall man I am so prysit. *a* 1574 EARL GLENCAIRN *Ep. fr. Hermit of Alareit* 11 Our stait hypocrisie they prysse.. Sayand, That we are heretikes. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 146, I prise your worthinesse at farre greater value. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 90 Hauing so swift and excellent a wit As she is priside to haue. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 38, I am thy brother, and thy life, with mine is euenly priside. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* vii, Devysing, and prysing, Freidom at ony rate.

β. 1596 *Edw. III*, II. i, If on my beauty, take it if thou canst; Though little, I do prize it ten times less. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IX. xiv, He in himself priz'd things as mean and base, Which yet in others great and glorious seem'd. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxv. 230 Oh that their profession were but as highly prized, as their estate is valued.

†2. To estimate or fix the money value of; to value, appraise; to fix the price of (a thing for sale). *Obs.* in literary use: see APPRAISE *v.*, PRICE *v.*

a. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/1 Prysyn, or settyn a pryce, *taxo,..licitor.* 1445 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 14 They sal sell na flesche quhill it be prisit be the swerne prisaris. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 254 Thair may thow sell..als deir as thow will prys. 1530 PALSGR. 666/2, I prise ware, I sette a price of a thyng what it is worthe, *je aprise.* 1535 COVERDALE *Zech.* xi. 12 So they wayed downe xxx. syluer pens, yᵉ value that I was prysed at. 1611 BIBLE *ibid.* 13 A goodly price, that I was prised at. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. x. iv. 1709 *margin*, There Pearles are prised according to the Caracts which they weigh. 1713 S. SEWALL *Diary* 2 June, Owen took a Cow of Veisy pris'd at £4. 0. 0.

β. 1599 H. BUTTES *Dyets drie Dinner* M iv, The Romanes prized this fish at a wonderfull high rate. 1623 WHITBOURNE *Newfoundland* 59 [They] were there prized to be worth two shillings sixepence apiece. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 442, I will procure you one of the Catalogues of Manuscripts, which is prized by the Delegates of our Press, at One Pound Two Shillings. 1709 HUGHES *Tatler* No. 113 P 26 The Whole [goods] are to be set up and prized by Charles Bubbleboy, who is to open the Auction with a Speech. 1755 JOHNSON, *Prize*, to rate; to value at a certain price.

†b. To be the price of; to equal in value. *Obs. rare.*

1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Love* 175 How can we thee requite for all this good? Or what can prize that thy most precious blood?

†c. To offer as the price, to stake. **d.** To offer a price for, bid for. *Obs. rare.*

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xiii. 41 Thou'rt worthy of the title of a squire, That durst, for proof, of thy affection And for thy mistress' favour, prize thy blood. 1590 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Antonie* 264 But terror here and horror, naught is seene: And present death prizing our life each hower [*orig.* Et la presente mort nous marchande à tous coups].

3. To value or esteem highly, to think much of. (The current sense.)

a. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 239 And suld think fredome mar to pryss Than all the gold in warld that Is. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1207, I aught as prynce him to prise for his prouese. *c* 1615 SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* ix, In bewty, (loue's sueit object), rauisch sight Doth some peculiar perfectioun pryse [*rime* lyes]. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* VI. iii, That we..prise many [customs] of our own onely because we never consider'd them.

β. c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXXIX. x, My God, how *I* these studies prize, That doe thy hidden workings show! 1618 E. ELTON *Exp. Rom. vii.* (1622) 136 A blessing that cannot be sufficiently prized. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* XXXV. 583 When we would express the value of a thing, we say, we prize it as our eyes. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 237, I..prize at equal rate Thy short-liv'd friendship, and thy groundless hate. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 53 Prize your time now, while you have it. 1891 *Speaker* 11 July 36/2 The Swiss seem more and more to prize..the Referendum and the Initiative.

γ. 1375–1643 [see PRICE *v.* 5].

† **b.** With negative: Not to value at all, to think nothing of, care nothing for. *Obs.*

c 1600 SHAKS. *Soun.* CXLIII, Not prizing her poore infants discontent. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 386 Had [I] force and knowledge More then was euer mans, I would not prize them Without her Loue.

II. † **4.** To commend or extol the worth, excellence, or merit of; = PRAISE *v.* 3. *Obs. northern.*

a. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* X. 776 Of this deid,..The Erll wes prisit gretumly. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 11 Ilke man did sum thing, that was mekle to lowe and to pris. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xliii. 45 Sic ladyis wyiss, Thay ar to pryis. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* V. 16 Gif him all thankis..And pryse his name with all 3our micht.

Prize, prise, *v.*[2] Forms: *α.* 6 pryse, 6–7 prise; *β.* 7– prize. [f. PRIZE *sb.*[3]] *trans.* To seize, take, capture; to seize as forfeited, to confiscate. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

α. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* iii. 29 All people..which speake eny blasphemy agaynst the God of Sydrac, Misac and Abdenago, shal dye, and their houses shalbe prysed. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. iv. (1588) 177 If any bee afterward found offending,..their armour and weapon shall be prised, ..to the use of the Queenes Maiestie. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 385 To kill the five Hippasides And prise their arms. *β.* 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* X. lv. (1612) 245 The Queene of Scots from Ours almost her Crowne and life had prizde.

b. *spec.* To make a prize or seizure of; to seize (a ship or her cargo) as a prize of war.

a. 1568 C. WATSON *Polyb.* 60 b, The Romans being both more in number and valianter men, prised her [the Rhodians' ship] without labour and toke the Rhodian. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 236 The one [ship]..being prised near Silley by a ship of which I am part owner. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 145 If it happen a Ship to be prised for debt or otherwise to bee forfeited, yet the Mariners hire is to be payed. *β.* 1886 *American* XII. 67 It was explained that the *David J. Adams* was prized for concealing her name and her sailing-port.

Prize, prise (prəiz), *v.*[3] [f. PRIZE *sb.*[4]]

1. *trans.* To raise or move by force of leverage; to force up; *esp.* to force open in this way.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 344 They easily prize up bushes, furses, or broom by the very roots. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (ROXB.) 246/1 The Forked end is strucken deep in the ground each side the root and so drawn or prised vp. 1808 JAMIESON, *To prize up*, to force open, to press up a lock or door. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vi, The door was..assailed with sledge-hammers, iron crows [etc.]..with which they prized, heaved and battered for some time with little effect. 1822 — *Pirate* vii, There stands yonder a chest, from which the lid has been just prized off. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxiv, Many men..were seen..striving to prize it [the jail door] down with crowbars. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* June 254 The lock was broken, and the lid bore signs of having been prised. *fig.* 1824 PRIOR *Burke* (1854) 232 Thus this famous measure..became the lever by which to prize its authors out of office.

2. To compress (cured tobacco) in a hogshead or box. *Southern U. S.*

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Prizing*,..also, the act of pressing or squeezing an article into its package, so that its size may be reduced in stowage. 1889 BRUCE *Plant. Negro* 183 To the moment that the leaf is prized in the hogshead.

Hence **Prizing, prising** *vbl. sb.*; also *attrib.*

1867 [see 2]. 1890 *Daily News* 14 July 2/8 This pad prevented the splintering of wood, although the prising power would be the same. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 166 More hammering and more prising with the gavelocks and crowbars.

Prizeable: see PRIZABLE.

Prized (prəizd), *ppl. a.* [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -ED [1].]

1. Greatly valued; highly esteemed.

1538 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 209 The prysed memoryes and perpetuall renowned factes of the famouse princes of Israel. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xvii. 180 Two of our most prized comrades. 1873 EMERSON *Lett.* 3 May in *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Aug. (1906) 3/3, I am glad you have seen my prized friend, your Uncle George.

† **2.** = PRICED. In quot. 1642, High-priced, expensive. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1642 HARCOURT in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 289/2 Some prittee small laces, but not prized ones; for I will spare your pursse as much as may be. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 44 'Tis a low priz'd commodity in my eyes. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* 19 Mar. (O.H.S.) II. 362 The priz'd Catalogue w[ch] I have seen. (*Priced* is still so pronounced by some.)

Prize-fight (prəi·zfəit). [app. a late back-formation from next.] A public contest between prize-fighters; a boxing-match for money.

1824 W. N. BLANE *Excursion* 508 There had just been a 'prize fight' well attended by noblemen and gentlemen. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. v, The stories he had heard of men being killed in prize-fights rose up horribly before him. 1898 *Daily News* 18 Nov. 4/5 Sir John Bridge said this contest was not, in his opinion, a sparring match, but a prize-fight. He held that fighting for money was a prize-fight, and that was illegal.

Prize-fighter (prəi·zfəi·təɹ). [orig. f. PRIZE *sb.*[2] + FIGHTER, from the phr. 'to fight a prize' or 'prizes'; in later use associated with PRIZE *sb.*[1]]

† **a.** *orig.* One who 'fought a prize' (see PRIZE *sb.*[2]); one who engaged in a public fighting-match or contest. *Obs.* **b.** In mod. use, A professional pugilist or boxer, who fights publicly for a prize or stake; 'one that fights publicly for a reward' (J.).

1703 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) V. 316 Yesterday, one Cook, a prize fighter, was condemned at the Old Baily for killing a constable last May fair was twelve month. 1725 *St. Mary le Bow, Durham, Par. Reg.*, Jane, daughter of Thomas Barrett, Prize fighter, bap. 28 April. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* 122 It is proposed..that Mr. Figg with his prize-fighters, and Violante with the rope-dancers, be admitted in partnership. 1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* (1784) 117/2 The sword..he brandished over the chevalier's head, with the dexterity of an old prize-fighter. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 104 The encouragement given to prize-fighters and boxers. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xiv. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 587 He..had the wit and luck to bring over that bulky prizefighter [Heenan] to make a sensation in England.

fig. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 17 Not that we would say Voltaire was a mere prize-fighter.

So **Pri·ze-fi·ghting** *sb.* and *a.*

1720 SWIFT *T. Tub, Hist. Martin* § 2 Hence the origine of that genteel custom of Prize-fighting. *a* 1763 BYROM *Verses Figg & Sutton* i, Long was the great Figg, by the prize Fighting Swains, Sole Monarch acknowledg'd of Marybone Plains. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 108 The barbarous diversions of boxing and prize-fighting. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 289 Countries that have not been civilized by prize-fighting. 1890 *Review of Rev.* II. 510/2 Prize-fighting in the ordinary sense of the term—i.e., a fight for money with fists, fought out to the bitter end—is absolutely illegal.

Prizeless (prəi·zlės), *a.* [f. PRIZE *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without a prize; not having gained a prize.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 3/2 The kind old lady who went about consoling the prizeless dogs at Cruft's. 1899 *Ibid.* 3 Aug. 2/3 On the return of Harry and Robert home from school; Robert laden with prizes, Harry prizeless.

Prizeless, obs. form of PRICELESS.

Prize-list: see PRIZE *sb.*[1] 4 b, *sb.*[3] 3.

Prizeman (prəi·zmæn). [f. PRIZE *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] A man who wins a prize (esp. for excelling in learning or art).

1800 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* Title-p., A list of the..Medallists and Prize-men. *Ibid.* 15 Members' Prizemen. *Ibid.* 22 Seatonian Prizemen. 1834 *Edin. Rev.* LIX. 133 The mere prize-man is often dismissed in a few lines. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xiv, He's more than that..he is the great prize man of the year in Trinity. 1896 *Current Hist.* (Buffalo) VI. 463 In his third year he [Lord Kelvin] came out as second wrangler and Smith's prizeman.

† **Pri·zement.** *Obs.* Also 6 **prisement,** 7 **pricement.** [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -MENT.] The act of 'prizing' or valuing; valuation, appraisement.

1566 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 189 All theis to remayne at the house thare withoute prisement so longe as any of the Phillipson name shall dwell at the said house. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 274 According to the pricement at the suppression. *a* 1700 in Keble *Life Bp. Wilson* VI. (1863) 203 When sufficient men are sworn to prize children's goods..the executors..must take all things according to the prizement.

Pri·ze-mo·ney. [f. PRIZE *sb.*[3]] Money realized by the sale of a prize (esp. one taken in maritime war), and distributed among the captors.

1757 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* i. 23 All ships are equally entitled to their share of prize-money. 1800 J. WEBBE in Gurw. *Wellington's Desp.* (1837) I. 128 Likely to obtain neither fame nor prize money. 1887 BESANT *The World went* xxiv, The prize-money..amounted to a very pretty sum.

Prizer[1] (prəi·zəɹ). Now *rare.* Forms: 5 **pryzer,** 5–6 **prysar(e, 6 prisar, pryser, -or,** 6–7 **priser,** 7 **prisor, prizor,** 7– **prizer.** [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -ER [1].] One who prizes.

† **1.** One who estimates the value, or determines the price, of something; an appraiser. *Obs.*

1427 in *Trans. Stirling Nat. Hist. & Archæol. Soc.* (1902) 57 The pain of the Pryzer, if he be negligent & punish not. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 413/2 Prysare, or settar at price, yn a merket, or oþer placys. 1505 *Berwick Reg.* in *Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Collect.* I. 7 No bowcher..shall breke nor cut out any flysh to sell exsept the said prysers be ther present. 1549 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 97 Alexander Wynchester [and five others] electit prisers of flesche. 1552 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 59 Assessors and Prysors. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 472 The prisors to take them of the price if they prise too high. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 194 Charges of driving to be set by a priser of the forrage.

2. † **a.** One who values or esteems something at a specified (high, low, etc.) rate. *Obs.* **b.** One who values or esteems something highly.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVI. 762 Too much prizer of thyself. 1657 *Mrs. Hobson's Brass in Chancel of Clewer Ch.*, A despiser of y[e] world and a high Prizer of y[e] Lord Christ.

1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 33 But now, are the Children of Light such Prizers of Time?

Pri·zer[2], *arch.* Also 6 **priser.** [f. PRIZE *sb.*[2] + -ER [1].] One who engages in a 'prize' or contest; a prize-fighter.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* IV. v, I haue a plot vpon these prizers. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. iii. 8 Why would you be so fond to ouercome The bonnie priser of the humorous Duke? 1679 MRS. BEHN *Feign'd Curtizan* V, And fought like prizers, not as angry rivals. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* XXXV, You shall be fought for in real *mêlée.* Only..the successful prizer shall be a gentleman. 1845 BROWNING *Luria* I. 52 The brace of prizers fairly matched Poleaxe with poleaxe.

Prize-ring (prəi·zˌriŋ). [f. after PRIZE-FIGHT: see RING *sb.*[1] 13.] A ring or enclosed space (now a square area enclosed by poles and ropes) for prize-fighting; hence *transf.* the practice of prize-fighting (cf. *the turf* = horse-racing); also *attrib.* belonging to prize-fighting, characteristic of prize-fighters.

1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 4020 Two of the members of 'the ancient prize-ring' in actual combat. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, Captain Rook with his horse-jockey jokes and prize-ring slang. 1861 J. CRAWFURD in *Trans. Ethnol. Soc.* I. 367 One of this race had nearly carried off the championship of England in the prize-ring. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Oct. 2/2 Better..not to introduce into political controversy the language of the prize-ring.

Prizing (prəi·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Forms: see PRIZE *v.*[1] [f. PRIZE *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of PRIZE *v.*[1]; † determination of price or value, appraising; valuing, estimation (*obs.*); high estimation.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/1 Prysynge, *lici(i)tatio.* 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 436 The prising of the said landis. 1552 HULOET, Prisynge or settynge pryce, *licitatio.* 1678–9 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 6 The latter end of this month came out his majesties proclamation for prizeing of wines. [The proclamation has 'to set the Prices of all kinds of Wines'.] 1907 *Daily Chron.* 9 Oct. 6/4 It was a fit prize for a feat that stood above all prizing.

Prizing, *vbl. sb.*[2, 3]: see PRIZE *v.*[2, 3].

‖ **Pro** (prōu). The L. preposition *prō* before (of place), in front of, for, on behalf of, instead of, in return for, on account of, etc. [Cognate with Gr. πρό forward, before, in front of, earlier than, Skr. *prá* before; more remotely related to OTeut. *for, fora,* Eng. *for, fore.*]

A. as *prep.* in various Latin phrases, more or less used in Eng. (See also PRO AND CON.)

1. pro a·ris et fo·cis, for altars and hearths; for the sake of, or on behalf of, religion and home.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. 1. iii. (1676) 398/1 When I see two superstitious Orders contend *pro aris & focis,* with such have and hold, *de lana caprina.* 1741 HUME *Ess.* iv. 48, I wou'd only perswade Men not to contend, as if they were fighting *pro aris & focis.* 1859 LOWELL *Biglow P.* 12 They serve cheerfully in the great army which fights even unto death *pro aris et focis.*

2. pro bo·no pu·blico, for the public good.

a 1726 GILBERT *Cases in Law & Equity* (1760) 113 It is *pro bono publico,* in which they are included.

3. pro confe·sso, for or as confessed or admitted: chiefly in *Law.*

1631 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 141 As if they had taken it *pro confesso* that he is living. 1776 *Claim of Roy Rada Churn* 17/1 in *Trial J. Fowke,* etc., The Court.. had informed them, if they did not [support their case by affidavit], the negative of the question put would be taken *pro confesso.*

4. pro fo·rma (-ā), for form's sake; as a matter of form; in the way of formality. Also *attrib.*

1573–80 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 77 To give the choyce of a thousand thankes for every gewegawe; and sumtymes tooe for very meere Nifilles as it were only *pro forma tantum.* 1623 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 425 Which is thought to be done rather *pro formâ* than *ex animo.* 1788 *Gentl. Mag.* LVIII. 73/1 The cession of the Crimea by the Porte was contrary to the Alcoran, and was therefore admitted merely *pro forma.* 1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893) s. v., When a document is drawn up or a process gone through after a prescribed model, and with the special object of complying with some legal requirement it is said to be done *pro formâ.*

5. pro hac vice, for this turn or occasion (only).

1653 in Rashdall & Rait *New. College* (1901) 178 Wee therefore shall *pro hac vice* nominate the 13 Seniors and Officers for the carryinge on the government of the said Colledge. 1715 S. SEWALL *Diary* 29 Mar., Made Mr. Little Clark *pro hac vice,* Mr. Cooke being sick of the Gout. 1873 *Oxford Univ. Gazette* 18 Nov. 312 The following gentlemen have been nominated by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors to examine *pro hac vice* this Term.

6. pro indivi·so (*Law*), 'as undivided': applied to a right shared by two or more persons without division: see quot.

1607 COWELL *Interpr., Pro Indiuiso,* is a possession, and occupation of lands, or tenements belonging vnto two or more persons, whereof none knoweth his seuerall portion, as Coparceners before partition.

7. pro ra·ta (-ā) [= 'for the rate': RATE *sb.*[1] 2], in proportion to the value or extent (of his interest), proportionally. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*, proportional.

[1354 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 260/1 Les Eschetours sont chargez ..a respoundre des parcelles des ditz rentes et fermes Pro rata temporis.] 1575 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 468 To mak payment of thair part of the said taxatioun pro rata. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* V. § 310 (1657) 118 His wife shall not have dower of that which the other copercener had *pro rata.* 1877 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* XV. (1879)

134 I'll take my *pro ratâ* allotment. 1901 *Daily Tel.* 9 Mar. 9/7 The Preference issue will be offered *pro rata* to shareholders at 115.

8. pro re na'ta (-ā), 'for the affair born, i.e. arisen'; for some contingency arising unexpectedly or without being provided for; for an occasion as it arises. Also *attrib.*

1578 in Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 295 It is in the power of the Eldership to send out qualified persons to visit *pro re nata.* 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 174 It was formerly left to the crown to summon, *pro re nata*, the most flourishing towns to send representatives to parliament. 1885 A. P. PETER in *Law Times* 10 Jan. 185/1 Such orders are only granted *pro re natâ*, and must be renewed on each fresh occasion arising. *Mod.* At a *pro re nata* meeting of the Town Council, it was resolved, etc.

†**b. So pro-re-nascent** *a.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*), arising unexpectedly.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 50 In pro-re-nascent occurrences, which cannot be foreseen.

9. pro ta'nto, 'for so much', so far, to such an extent. Also *attrib.*

1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* ii. § 4 Any one who reprobates any the least particle of pleasure as such..is *pro tanto* a partizan of the principle of asceticism. 1882 *Macm. Mag.* XLVI. 437 Anything which reduces the amount of payments to be made out of the country *pro tanto* reduces the loss. 1885 *Law Times* LXXVIII. 387/1 The land tax was redeemed and *pro tanto* personal estate converted into real estate.

10. pro te'mpore, for the time, temporarily; *attrib.* or as *adj.* temporary. (Abbrev. *pro tem.*)

1468 *Paston Lett.* II. 325 The tythandes did goode *pro tempore.* 1625-6 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 73 The Lord Chamberlain is like to be Lord Steward this parliament, *pro tempore.* 1748 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* ii. (1757) 70 Another might be appointed *pro tempore* to command his ship. 1759 E. W. MONTAGU, jr. *Anc. Republics* 353 The *pro tempore* Dictator soon came to be perpetual. 1828 *Reg. Deb. Congr.* IV. 787 President Pro Tempore...The Senate proceeded to the election of a President pro tem. 1846 H. GREVILLE *Diary* (1883) 159 Called to-day upon Craven..who is *pro tem.* private secretary to Normanby.

B. Pro- *sb.* **1.** An argument for or in favour of something, as opposed to one against it. (Now usually in PRO AND CON, q. v.) **b.** A person who sides or votes in favour of some proposal.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2577 That I may the bet perseyve al inconvenience, Dout, pro, contra, and anbiguite, Thurh yeur declaracioune. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* vi. (Percy Soc.) 26 Provyng the pro well from the contrary. 1784 GEO. III in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 61 Mr. Pultney..should have stood amongst the Pros. 1790 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 462 The pros are afraid to bring it forward until the return of several members on their side of the question.

2. *Tally of pro*: see TALLY *sb.*

Pro, pro., a familiar abbreviation of various wds., as *proproctor* and other combs. of PRO- *pref.*[1] 4, also *professional.*

1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* iii. 17 When he came to Oxford..he reverenced even the velvet of the Pro. 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xiv, He had past the Pro's at Magdalen turnpike, and they never thought of stopping him...Both the Proctors were down at Coldharbour turnpike. *a* 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* (1885) 229, I had acted as proproctor to Green, the other pro being Kay. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 86 The poor players helped each other as well as they could, but provincial Pros. are—or, at least, were—not a wealthy class. 1887 *Scott. Leader* 19 Dec. 4/1 A match..between six professional golfers and six amateurs resulted in favour of the 'pros.' by three holes. 1890 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 5/3 'Master or Pro.'..the burning question of whether school cricket should be under the dominion of the schoolmaster or the professional cricketer. 1903 *19th Cent.* Sept. 464 Taverns frequented by 'pros', as music-hall artistes are popularly called.

Pro-, *prefix.*[1] The Latin adv. and prep. (see above), used in combination with verbs and their derivatives, and sometimes with other words not of verbal derivation.

(Unlike the Gr. προ-, the L. was originally and usually *prō-*; but in some compounds it was occasionally and in others usually or always shortened to *prŏ-*.)

A large number of Latin words so formed were retained in popular use in French (as in the other Romanic langs.); many others were taken into French in earlier or later times as learned words, and were thence taken into English. In later times words of this kind have been adopted or adapted in English directly from Latin, or have been formed immediately from Latin elements.

In OF. the prefix had often the popular form *por-, pur-, pour-* (see PUR-); but this, in many words, was subseq. changed back to the Latin form in *pro-*.

I. As an etymological element. The following are the principal uses in Latin and English. (All words of this class appear as Main words.)

1. a. Forward, to or towards the front, from a position in the rear, forth, out, into a public position; as *prōclāmāre* to call out, PROCLAIM, *prōdūcĕre* to lead forth, PRODUCE, *prōfundĕre* to pour forth (PROFUSE), *prōjicĕre* to throw forth, PROJECT, *prōmĭnēre* to jut out (PROMINENT), *prōnuntiāre* to speak out, PRONOUNCE, *prōpōnĕre* to put forth, PROPONE, PROPOSE, *prōtrūdĕre* to thrust forth, PROTRUDE.

b. To the front of, down before (the face of), forward and down; as *prōcidĕre* to fall forward or down (PROCIDENCE), *prōclīvis* sloping downward, PROCLIVE, *prōculcāre* to trample down, PROCULCATE, *prōcumbĕre* to fall down forwards (PROCUMBENT), *prōfligāre* to dash down (PROFLIGATE), *prōlābī, prōlaps-* to slip down forwards (PROLAPSE), *prōsternĕre, prōstrāt-* to strew or lay flat before one, to PROSTRATE.

c. Forth from its place, away; as *prōdĕre* to give away, betray (PRODITION), *prōdigāre* to drive away, dissipate (PRODIGAL), *profugĕre* to flee away (PROFUGATE).

d. Forward, onward, in a course or in time; as *prōcēdĕre* to PROCEED, *prŏcessus* PROCESS, *prōcrastināre* to defer till the morrow, PROCRASTINATE, *prōgredī* to step forward, PROGRESS, *prŏmināre* to drive onward (PROMENADE), *prŏmovēre, prōmōt-* to move onward, PROMOVE, PROMOTE, *prōpellĕre* to drive forward, PROPEL.

e. Out, with outward extension; as *prōductĭlis* able to be drawn out, PRODUCTILE, *prōlixus* PROLIX, *prōpāgāre* to plant out, PROPAGATE, *prōtrahĕre, prōtract-* to drag out, PROTRACT.

f. Before in place, in front of; as *prohibĕre* to hold in front, hold back, PROHIBIT, *prōscrībĕre* to write in front, PROSCRIBE, *prōtegĕre* to cover in front, PROTECT.

g. Before in time, in anticipation of, in provision for; as *prōdigium* PRODIGY, *prōloquī* to speak before (PROLOCUTION), *prŏvidēre* to foresee, PROVIDE.

h. For, in preparation for, on behalf of; as *prōcinctus* girt for, PROCINCT, *prōcūrāre* to take care for, PROCURE, *prosperus* wished for, PROSPEROUS, *prōficĕre* to do service to, PROFIT.

i. With worn-down or obscure force; as *prōcērus* tall, PROCEROUS, *profānus* PROFANE, *profundus* deep, PROFOUND, *prōlēs* offspring (PROLETAIRE), *prōmerēre* to deserve, PROMERIT, *prōmiscuus* mixed, PROMISCUOUS, *prōverbium* PROVERB, *prōvincia* PROVINCE.

2. Frequently prefixed in Latin to names of relationship, answering to Eng. 'great' or 'grand', F. *grand* and *petit*; as *avus* grandfather, *pro-avus* great-grandfather, *amita* aunt, father's sister, *pro-amita* great-aunt, grandfather's sister, *gener* son-in-law, *prōgener* grandson-in-law, granddaughter's husband. So *pronepos* great-grandson, great-nephew, PRONEPHEW, PRONEPOT, *proneptis* great-grand-daughter, great-niece, PRONIECE, PRONEPT.

3. Pro- for PRÆ-, PRE-. In late and mediæval Lat. *pro-* was sometimes substituted for *præ-, prē-*, partly through confusion of sense, partly perhaps under the influence of words from Greek, such as *prologus, prophēta, proscænium.* Examples of this are frequent in ME., where, however, as in med.L. MSS., it is often difficult to say whether *pro-* was intended, or was merely a scribal or copyist's error, due to confusion of the written *e* and *o*. Examples will be found among the cross-references.

II. As a living prefix.

4. In Latin *prō-* in the sense 'for', 'instead of', 'in place of', was prefixed to a sb., app. originally in prepositional construction, as *prō consule* (one acting) for a consul, afterwards combined with the sb., as *prōconsul* = deputy-consul; so *prōdictātor, prōflāmen, prōgubernātor, prōlēgātus, prōmagister, prōpræfectus, prōprætor*; also in a few names of things, as *prōnōmen* PRONOUN, *prōtūtēla* deputy-guardianship.

English has examples of *pro-* prefixed **a.** to names of persons (officials or functionaries), 'acting as deputy', as *pro'-Grand Ma'ster, pro'-gua'rdian, pro-legate, pro-provincial, pro-provost, pro-regent, pro-seneschal, pro-tetrarch, pro-treasurer, pro-tribune, pro-warden,* etc.; also PRO-CONSUL, PROPROCTOR, PRORECTOR, etc. **b.** to names of things, as *pro-rea'lity* (something serving the purpose of a reality), *pro'-ski-n, pro'-ve-rb* [after *pronoun*], etc.; also PRO-CATHEDRAL, PRO-LEG, etc. **c.** to an adj., as **pro'-e'thical,** serving as a substitute for what is ethical; **pro'-su'bstantive** (see quot.): hence *pro-substantively* adv.

1892 H. SPENCER *Princ. Ethics* I. II. ii. § 123. 337 We must class them as forming a body of thought and feeling which may be called *pro-ethical; and which, with the mass of mankind, stands in place of the ethical properly so called. 1902 R. R. MARETT in *Personal Idealism* 250 Religion..as often as it happens to take the side of salutary practice.. is probably [a] more effectual 'pro-ethical sanction' [than law]. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 5/1 Having served with pre-eminent distinction the office of Deputy Grand Master, he was in 1891 elected *Pro-Grand Master, a distinction which can only be understood when it is recalled that the Prince of Wales himself is Grand Master. 1868 *Digby's Voy. Medit,* Pref. 17 Digby's *pro-guardian was a man of considerable celebrity. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.,* A *Prolegate,..a Deputy Legat, or one that stands for a Legat. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Jan. 4/2 In the name of the Trinity, Thomas, *Pro-Provincial of Canterbury, Joseph, Provincial of York, Laurence, Provincial of Caerled, deplore the evil state of the Established Church. 1858 in *Stat. Univ. Oxford* (1863) 158 *Pro-Provost. 1877 E. R. CONDER *Bas. Faith* iv. 185 This kind of idealised symbol or concept serves as a *pro-reality, which we can reason about as though it were real. 1798 HELEN M. WILLIAMS *Tour Switzerland* I. 238 (Jod.) Don Amatori Solani *proregent, professor extraordinary, and enjoying numerous other titles. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 84 Cadafalcius *Pro-senescal of Digne. 1886 H. SPENCER in *19th Cent.* May 763 There is produced a new skin, or rather a *pro-skin. 1794 E. BANCROFT *Res. Perm. Colours* I. 176 Such compositions ..assume the form of substantive colours, without being such in reality;..I beg leave..to call them **pro-substantive topical colours. *Ibid.* 390 Of the Uses of Quercitron Bark, in producing Topical Yellow and other Colours, *pro-substantively, upon Cotton and Linen. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Luke* viii. 3 His vicar-general, or *protetrarch. 1645 WOOD *Life* Jan. (O.H.S.) I. 115 For the space of three yeares he was a *protribune [*misprr.* protobune] of horse under Charles Lewis elector Palatine. In 1641 he was sent into Ireland.. where he served in the quality of a tribune for two yeares. 1907 J. M. GRAINGER *Studies K. Jas. Bible* 19 *Do* is sometimes used as a *pro-verb, to avoid repetition of an antecedent verb. 1861 NEALE *Notes Dalmatia,* etc. 169 *Pro-Vicar of the Bishop in the southern part of his diocese. 1857 in *Stat. Univ. Oxford* (1863) 83 *Pro-Warden.

5. In sense 'for, in favour of, on the side of'.

This use is entirely modern, and has no precedent or analogy in Latin. It appears to have arisen from the use of *pro* in PRO B. 1 b, or in PRO AND CON. To a certain extent, combinations with *pro-* take the place of those with PHILO-, as *philo-Turk, philo-publican.* They appear to have begun *c* 1825, but to have been comparatively rare up to 1896, since which date they have swarmed in the journalistic press, usually in antithesis to formations in *anti-* expressed or understood. *Pro-Boer* and *anti-British* were terms of opprobrium during the South African War, 1899-1902.

a. Prefixed to a sb., sb. phr., or adj., forming adjs. with sense 'favouring or siding with (what is indicated by the second element)'; as *pro-alien, -American, -annexation, -Asiatic, -Boer, -British, -Catholic, -Chinese, -clerical, -educational, -English, -foreign, -French, -Irish, -Japanese, -moral, -negro, -opium, -papist, -patronage, -popery, -rebel, -Russian, -slavery, -tariff reform, -transubstantiation, -Turk, -Turkish, -war,* etc. Where the form of the second element permits, as in *pro-Boer, pro-Catholic, pro-negro, pro-papist, pro-Turk,* these are also used as sbs. = 'one who is on the side of, or favours . . ., a partisan or adherent of . . .'. **b.** In comb. with a sb. (or verb-stem) + -ER or -ITE, forming a nonce-sb. = 'one who favours or sides with . . .'; as *pro-Boarder* (one in favour of a School Board), *-breecher* (a partisan of breeches), *-flogger* (one who favours flogging), *-slaver* (a pro-slavery man); *pro-liquorite* (one in favour of the unrestricted sale of alcoholic drinks). **c.** In comb. with a sb. or adj. (or directly from those in a.) + -ISM, forming abstract sbs. = 'the principle or character of being in favour of . . .', as *pro-alcoholism, -Boerism, -capitalism, -clericalism, -Russianism, -Semitism, -slaveryism.* Many of these are of opprobrious or hostile use.

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Apr. 6/3 Owing to the *pro-American tone of the English Press. 1899 FITZPATRICK *Transvaal* 21 In demolition of Sir T. Shepstone's *pro-annexation arguments. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 7 May 4/7 The *pro-Boarders were out-voted. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 May 1/3 Liberals need not trouble to be more *pro-Boer than the Boers themselves. 1901 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 18 Feb., We have had six pro-Boers speaking in this debate..and not one Liberal Imperialist. 1900 *Dundee Advertiser* 23 Aug. 4 Lord Rosslyn brings the novel charge of *pro-Boerism against us. 1901 *Daily News* 28 June 3/4 This trumpet blare of Triumphant Democracy..almost unnerves us into *pro-capitalism. 1831 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLIV. 284 The Roman Catholics and the *pro-Catholics, and their infidel allies, had incessantly employed the periodical press in aid of their cause. 1839 *Morn. Herald* 22 Oct., The opinions of the *pro-educational and anti-slavery parties throughout the country. 1898 M. DAVITT in *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 2/1 The *pro-English minority in the United States..are attempting a very hazardous enterprise for the future peace of the Republic. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 June 3/7 The *pro-floggers in the United States are constantly appealing to the condition of Delaware in proof of the efficacy of flogging. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 2/2 If Russia can arrange a *pro-Greek settlement, do not let us denounce her. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 2 Dec. 4/3 Some of the pro-Greeks [those in favour of retaining Greek in the Previous Examination] at Cambridge would be ready to vote for an anti-Greek motion on the Oxford lines. 1897 *Daily News* 22 Feb. 9/3 The *pro-Hellenic manifestations in the streets .. have .. produced an unfavourable impression among business men. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 4/3 Mr. Chamberlain..described Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman as the leader of the pro-Boer and Little Englander and *pro-Irish party. 1896 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 5/7 Kim-Hong-Tsu, the Premier [of Corea], and seven other *pro-Japanese Ministers were beheaded and their corpses dragged through the streets. 1896 M. DAVITT in *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 4/2 If the Irish Land Commission were not a practically packed *pro-landlord tribunal. 1895 *Voice* (N. Y.) 19 Sept. 3/4 It has even been admitted by *pro-liquorites that the voters of New Jersey would under the Initiative and Referendum adopt county, municipal, and township local option. 1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Sept. 649 It may be well to call the..tendencies favorable to virtue, *pro-moral. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Apr. 6/1 Mr. Malins headed the *pro-negro party when the secession .. took place. 1839 *Conservative Jrnl.* 26 Jan., The interests of.. a *pro-papist popularity-hunting viceroy. 1841 J. ROBERTSON in Charteris *Life* v. (1863) 125 The anti-patronage men and the *pro-patronage Non-intrusionists split among themselves. 1828 SYD. SMITH in Lady Holland *Mem.* (1855) I. 217 A deputation of *pro-Popery papers waited on me today to print, but I declined. 1829 WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 127 He is supported by the pro-popery Ministry. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Jan. 5/7 The *pro-Rhodes feeling in Capetown..is strong to unreason. 1890 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 29 Aug., The so-called United Brethren known as liberals or *pro-secretists. 1856 in L. W. SPRING *Kansas* (1885) 48, I tell you I'm *pro-slave. 1858 *N. York Tribune* 29 Dec. 6/4 The *Pro-Slavers all went home without any action. 1843 WHITTIER *What is Slavery?* Prose Wks. 1889 III. 106 In the midst of grossest *pro-slavery action, they are full of anti-slavery sentiment. 1856 G. D. BREWERTON *War in Kansas* 124 'The hour and the man' of Free-State-ism, or *Pro-Slavery-ism, for we can scarce say which, is yet to come. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* VI. ii. 222 One sense tells that a *pro-transubstantiation passage is in the Bible. 1896 *Daily News* 3 Apr. 4/7 The curious anomaly

that some of our strongest anti-Turk politicians on the Armenian question should at the same time be in favour of a *pro-Turk policy in Egypt. 1899 *Ibid.* 6 Mar. 8/5 The *pro-vaccinist statisticians.

Pro- (prō), *pref.*[2], repr. the Gr. preposition πρό, meaning 'before' (of time, position, preference, priority, etc.), forming in Greek many compounds —verbs, substantives, and adjectives. Of the sbs. and their derivatives more than 60 were adopted in late Latin as technical terms of rhetoric, philosophy, natural history, art, and Jewish or Christian religion (e.g. *problēma, proboscis, prodromus, prolēpsis, prologus, prophēta* (*prophētīa, prophēticus, prophētizāre*), *propolis, proscænium, prostylus, protasis*). With the revival of learning many more Greek terms were latinized. Many of these latinized forms of both periods have been adopted or adapted in the modern languages generally, and have subsequently served as models for the formation of new combinations from Greek (less commonly from Latin) elements, in the nomenclature of modern science and philosophy. The older and more important of the English words so derived appear in their alphabetical order as Main words. Those in which *pro-* is more obviously a prefix to a word itself used in English, or which are merely technical terms, follow here.

1. In sense 'Before in time': forming (*a*) sbs., chiefly scientific terms denominating the earlier, or (supposed) primitive type of an animal, plant, organ, or structure (with derived adjs.); (*b*) adjs. meaning 'previous to or preceding that which is expressed by the second element'.

Pro-agonic (-ăgɒ·nik) *a.*, *Path.*, preceding a paroxysm. **Pro-a·mnion,** the primitive amnion in the embryonic stage of some animals; hence **Pro-amnio·tic** *a.*, pertaining to the pro-amnion. ‖ **Pro-amphibia** (-æmfi·biă) *sb.pl.*, *Zool.*, the (hypothetical) primitive or ancestral amphibious animals. **Pro-angiosperm** (-æ·ndʒiospɔ̄m), *Bot.*, a primitive or ancestral angiosperm, from which the existing angiosperms are supposed to have been developed; hence **Pro-angiospe·rmic** *a.* **Probapti·smal** *a.*, preceding or preparatory to baptism. **Prochorion** (-kō·riɒn), *Embryol.*, the vitelline membrane or integument of the ovum, which develops into the chorion. **Pro-di·alogue** (*nonce-wd.*), an introductory dialogue. **Prodissoconch** (-di·sokɒŋk), *Zool.* [Gr. διασό-s double + CONCH], a name suggested for the early shell of the oyster. **Pro-ethnic** (-e·þnik) *a.*, *Philol.* [see EPHNIC], anterior to the division of the primitive Aryans into separate nations or peoples, or of any people or race into separate tribes. **Progametange** (-gæ·mĭtændʒ), **-gameta·ngium,** *Biol.*, 'an immature or resting gametangium' (*Cent. Dict.*). **Proganoid** (-gæ·noid), *Ichthyol.*, *a.* of or belonging to the primitive (fossil) ganoid fishes; *sb.* a primitive ganoid. **Proganosaur** (-gæ·nosɔ̄ɪ), *Palæont.* [Gr. γάνος brightness + σαῦρος lizard], *sb.* a member of the order *Proganosauria* of extinct reptiles; *adj.* belonging to this order. **Progy·mnosperm,** *Bot.*, a primitive or ancestral gymnosperm, from which the existing gymnosperms are supposed to have been developed; hence **Progymnospe·rmic** *a.* **Proko·smial** *a.*, *nonce-wd.* [Gr. κόσμος world: see COSMOS], existing before the cosmos or universe. **Proma·mmal,** *Zool.*, one of the (hypothetical) *Promammalia* or primitive mammals; so **Promamma·lian** *a.* **Prome·ristem,** *Bot.*, primary meristem, protomeristem. **Pronymph** (prō·nimf), *Entom.* [see NYMPH 3], a stage in the development of some dipterous insects, intervening between the larval and pupal stages (cf. *propupa* below); hence **Prony·mphal** *a.* ‖ **Pro-œstrum** (-ī·strŭm, -e·s-), *Zool.*, the period immediately preceding that of the œstrum or sexual excitement in animals; so **Pro-œ·strous** *a.*, preceding the œstrum; belonging to the proœstrum. **Prope·ptone** (see quot. 1895). ‖ **Properistoma** (-pĕri·stŏmă), **Properistome** (-pe·ristoum), *Embryol.* [cf. PERISTOME], the lip of the primitive mouth of a gastrula; hence **Properisto·mal** *a.* ‖ **Prophy·llon,** *Bot.* (pl. -phylla), [Gr. φύλλον leaf]: see quot. ‖ **Propupa** (-piū·pă), *Entom.*, a stage in the development of some insects, as the cochineal-insect, intervening between the larval and pupal stages (cf. *pronymph* above). **Prorenal** (-rī·năl) *a.*, *Embryol.* [see RENAL], belonging to the primitive kidney or segmental body. ‖ **Proscolex** (-skō·leks), *Zool.*, pl. **proscolices** (-skō·lisīz) [Gr. σκώληξ worm], the first embryonic stage of a cestode or tape-worm, from which the scolex is developed by budding; hence **Proscolecine** (-skō·lĭsəin) *a.*, pertaining to a proscolex. ‖ **Prospora·ngium,** *Bot.* (pl. -ia) = *prozoosporange.* **Protrypsin** (-tri·psin), *Phys. Chem.*, a substance formed in the pancreas, and afterwards converted into trypsin; also called *trypsinogen.* **Prozoosporange** (-zō·ŭ·ospɔræ·ndʒ), *Bot.*, a stage in the development of certain fungi, which produces a thin-walled process into which the protoplasm passes and divides into zoospores.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 621 The termination is doubtful, and transition into the *pro-agonic stage not rare. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Pro-amnion*, term applied by van Beneden and Julin to an area around the head of the very young embryo in which there is no mesoderm, the ectoderm and endoderm being in direct contact, and which is soon obliterated by the ingrowth of mesoderm. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Dec. 290 Long after the true amnion has been quite completed the head gradually emerges from this *pro-amniotic pit. 1901 *Nature* 14 Mar. 462/2 Connected through a series of hypothetical *Proamphibia or Protetrapoda with equally hypothetical Selachian-like animals. 1886 *Ibid.* 25 Feb. 389/1 The ancestral '*pro-angiosperms' are supposed to have borne leaves such as are found diminished or masked in so many of their existing descendants. *Ibid* 389/2 Such was the nature of plants in their '*pro-angiospermic' stage. 1840 G. S. FABER *Christ's Disc. Capernaum* viii. 230 *note*, Cyril has devoted to his painful *probaptismal instruction no fewer than eighteen Lectures. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* II. xix. 157 This *prochorion very soon disappears, and is replaced by the permanent outer egg-membrane, the chorion. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 July 41/1 In the *pro-dialogue to the 'Isle of Gulls' one of the characters says, 'I cannot see it out.' 1888 JACKSON in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXIII. 543 In the oyster..this shell is not single but double-valved, and ..as it precedes the dissoconch or true shell, I suggest the name *prodissoconch, or early double shell. 1864 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* Ser. II. viii. (1868) 383 Deriving both from a common Aryan or *pro-ethnic source. 1887 R. S. CONWAY *Verner's Law in Italy* § 5 Medial s between vowels.. became voiced (z) in pro-ethnic Italic. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. xlix. 959 *Proganoid Series. *Ibid.* 965 The last group of the Proganoids. 1900 OSBORN in *Amer. Naturalist* Oct. 797 More probable than that the avian phylum should have originated quite independently from a quadrupedal *proganosaur. 1886 *Nature* 25 Feb. 389/2 In the remote past..the cambium layer may have existed in an irregular or fugitive manner in the 'pro-angiospermic', as it did in the '*pro-gymnospermic' stem. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* (ed. 2) 36 Where the *pro-kosmial forms of thought abide. 1889 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 262 If not the '*Promammal' of Haeckel, it may perhaps have been a near relative of some such transitional form. 1876 tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* xxi. II. 235 The unknown, extinct Primary Mammals, or *Promammalia..probably possessed a very highly developed jaw. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 1. 90 The tissues..are distinguished as primary and secondary, according as they are derived from the *promeristem or secondary meristem. 1895 D. SHARP in *Camb. Nat. Hist.* V. 164 The process of forming the various organs goes on in the *pronymph, till the 'nymph' has completed its development. *Ibid.*, The *pronymphal state may be looked upon as being to a great extent a return of the animal to the condition of an egg. 1900 W. HEAPE in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Nov. 6 **Pro-œstrum* or the **Proœstrous* Period..I have adopted to describe the first phases of generative activity in the female mammal at the beginning of a sexual season. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2097. 593 There is the 'pro-œstrum' ('the coming in season')..characterised by..a pro-œstrous discharge..most usually of mucus. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Propeptone*, also termed *Hemialbumose*, one of the intermediate products formed during the conversion of albumins into peptones in gastric digestion. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 292 The action of the gastric juice upon the albuminous constituents of the food is indicated by the presence of syntonin, propeptone and peptone. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. viii. 220 At the thickened edges of the gastrula, the primitive mouth-edge (**properistoma*), the endoderm, and the exoderm pass into each other. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 462 The leaves borne on the stalks of the flowers are designated Bracteoles or *Prophylla. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Propupa*, that stage in insect development immediately preceding the *pupa*. 1898 PACKARD *Textbk. Entomol.* III. 627 It passes into what Riley terms the pro-pupa, in which the wing-pads are present. 1888 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 169 The *pro-renal (segmental) duct; a conspicuous thick-walled tube seen, on either side, lying within the somatic mesoblast. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Proscolecine*, belonging to a *Proscolex*. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 250 Embryo or *proscolex of an ordinary Taenia, armed..with six spines. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 233 That the proscolex may develope in an alimentary canal is proved by P. J. Van Beneden's discovery of proscolices with scolices in all stages of growth in the intestine of the Lump-fish. 1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 163 When it [*Polyphagus Euglenæ*] has reached a certain size,..it shows itself in many specimens to be a sporangium, or, if the term is preferred, a *prosporangium. *Ibid.* Explan. Terms 498 *Prosporangium*, in Chytridieæ: vesicular cell the protoplasm of which passes into an outgrowth of itself, the sporangium, and becomes divided into swarm-spores. 1900 *Lancet* 27 Oct. 1187/1 The pancreatic zymogen, trypsinogen or *protrypsin.

2. Of local *position*: forming sbs. and adjs., chiefly anatomical and zoological terms (often correlated with words in META- and MESO-); (*a*) in adjectival relation to the second element, denoting either 'an anterior or front (thing of the kind)', or 'an anterior or front part (of the thing)'; (*b*) in prepositional relation to the second element = 'lying before or in front of (the thing)'.

Pro-a·tlas, *Zool.* [ATLAS *sb.*[1] 2] (see quots.). ‖ **Procerebrum** (-se·rĭbrŭm), *Anat.*, the front part of the cerebrum or brain; the fore-brain, prosencephalon; hence **Proce·rebral** *a.* **Procnemial** (-knī·miăl) *a.*, *Anat.* [Gr. κνήμη leg, tibia], situated in front of the tibia. ‖ **Pro-epimeron** (-epimī·rɒn), *Entom.*, the epimeron of the prothorax of an insect, the second sclerite of either propleuron; hence **Pro-epime·ral** *a.* ‖ **Pro-episte·rnum,** *Entom.*, the episternum of the prothorax, the anterior sclerite of either propleuron; hence **Pro-episte·rnal** *a.* ‖ **Pro-o·steon,** *Ornith.* [Gr. ὀστέον bone], an ossification in each anterior lateral process of the sternum in certain birds. ‖ **Propara·pteron,** *Entom.*, the parapteron of the prothorax; hence **Propara·pteral** *a.* ‖ **Prople·xus** (also anglicized **Pro·plex**), *Anat.*, (*a*) Wilder's term for the choroid plexus of either of the lateral ventricles of the brain; (*b*) 'the analogue in the Vertebrata generally of the brachial plexus in man' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Pro-postscute·llum,** ‖ **Pro-præscu·tum,** *Entom.*, the postscutellum and præscutum (respectively) of the prothorax of an insect; hence **Pro-postscute·llar, Pro-præscu·tal** *adjs.* ‖ **Propygidium** (-pəidʒi·diŏm), *Entom.*, the segment immediately in front of the pygidium in certain beetles. ‖ **Proscapula** (-skæ·piŭlă), *Ichth.*, the outer bone of the scapular arch, usually passing forwards and articulating with its fellow of the opposite side, and supporting the cartilage or bone which bears the pectoral fin; hence **Prosca·pular** *a.* ‖ **Proscutellum** (-skiute·lŏm), ‖ **Proscutum** (-skiū·tŏm), *Entom.*, the scutellum and scutum (respectively) of the prothorax; hence **Proscute·llar, Proscu·tal** *adjs.* ‖ **Prozygapo·physis** = PREZYGAPOPHYSIS.

1886 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 447/2 The first two vertebræ are differentiated as axis and atlas, and in front of the latter there may be [in Reptiles] a rudiment of another vertebra, which has been distinguished as the *proatlas. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. xlv. 897 It has been suggested that certain bony splints overlying the arch of the atlas in Crocodiles represent a vertebra intercalated between the latter and the cranium, for which the name *proatlas* has been proposed. It is, however, by no means proved that these splints do not belong to the atlas vertebra. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Procerebral*, belonging to the *Procerebrum*. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Procerebrum*, Prosencephalon. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* (1855) 64 The proximal end of the tibia..: two ridges are extended from its upper and anterior surface: the strongest of these is the '*procnemial' ridge. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Proëpimeral, *Proëpimeron, *Proëpisternal, *Proëpisternum. 1868 W. K. PARKER *Shoulder-Girdle Vertebr.* (Ray Soc.) 144 In the genus *Rhea* ..there is, on each side, an osseous centre in front of the first rib: it ossifies the costal process, and, projecting forwards as a wing in front of the sternal ribs, may be called the '*pro-osteon'. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 910 Thus in *Rhea, Gallinæ, Turnix, Lestris* and the *Passeres*, each anterior lateral process has its *pro-osteon*.., but in many other forms..these processes possess no special centre of ossification. 1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 485 *Proplexus. 1899 D. SHARP in *Camb. Nat. Hist.* VI. 187 A similar plate anterior to the pygidium is called *propygidium. 1833 F. WALKER in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 21 The semihyaline spots on the *prosscutellum are much larger in this species. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 46 But in some Chameleons, a prominence is developed from each *prozygapophysis, which may be a metapophysis.

Proa (prō·ă), ‖ **prahu** (prā·ŭ). Forms: 6–7 **parao, paroe,** 7 **paro,** 7–8 **paroo**; 7–9 **prau, praw,** (7 **prawe**); 7–9 **prow,** (7 **provoe, proe**); 9 **praoe,** 8– **proa,** (9 **proah**); 9 **prahu.** [ad. Malay ꦥꦫꦲꦸ *p(ă)rā(h)ŭ* a boat, a rowing or sailing vessel; in Pg. *parao*, Du. *prauw*, F. *prao*, *pro*. The forms *prow* and *proa* are assimilated to the Eng. PROW (*sb.*[2]) and its Pg. equivalent *proa.*]

A Malay boat propelled by sails or by oars; *spec.* a sailing boat of a particular type used in the Malay Archipelago.

It is about thirty feet long, has both stem and stern sharp, adapting it to sail equally well in either direction; one side is curved as in other vessels, the other is flat and straight and acts as a lee-board; to steady the boat a small canoe or the like is rigged parallel to it in the manner of an outrigger (see OUTRIGGER 2).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xxv. 62 b, The next day..there came in two little Paraos, to the number of twelue men. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 258 We left our boats or Paroes. 1606 MIDDLETON *Voy.* C iij b, An howre after..came a prawe or a canow from Bantam. 1623 *St. Papers, Col.* 188 Others violently kept their men from entering Limco's prau. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* I. III. x. § 1. 239 The King sent a small Prow. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* ii. 35 She imbarqued herself in sixteen.. fishermens Paroos. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 20 They are Owners of several small Provoes..and Canooses. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 50 They were carried off in little Praw's, or small Boats, on Board the Men of War. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 437 We saw several flying prows, but none came near us. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 150 The Pinnace..brought with her an Indian Paroo, which you may see very well described by Capt. Cooke. 1785 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1840 VI. 477 We have no sailing boats equal to the flying proas of the South Seas. 1831 TRELAWNEY *Adv. Younger Son* I. 220 They are called by Europeans, owing to the wonderful rapidity with which they sail, flying prows. 1850 W. STANTON in *Merc. Marine Mag.* (1860) VII. 107 Prahus frequently anchor here. 1883 R. A. PROCTOR in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 571 At Bima every proa and boat was forced from its anchorage and flung on the coast.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. I. 111 The Dutch ..do often buy Proe-bottoms for a small matter of the Malagans..and convert them into Sloops. 1904 *World Mag.* Apr. 21/1 Six lusty proa-men paddled her along.

†Proach, proche, *v. Obs.* [= AF. *proscher* (Britton).] Aphetic form of APPROACH *v.*

[1292 BRITTON III. xxiv. § 2 Sauvement gardez qe nul ne les prosche jekes autaunt qe il eynt respoundu.] 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18761 3eue thow be hardy and bolde For to proche to hir presence. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 987 The day was downe, and prochand wes the nycht. 1563 SACKVILLE *Mirr. Mag., Induct.* i, The wrathful winter prochinge on a pace. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* VI. xxxix, To make their forces greater, proaching nire.

†Proadju·tor. *Obs. rare*—°. [f. PRO-[1] + L. *adjūtor* helper, aider.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM II, A chiefe Author, *proadiutor.*

‖Proæ·resis, -ai·resis. [a. Gr. *προαίρεσις* a choosing one thing before another, f. *προαιρεῖσθαι* to choose before.] A deliberate choice, a resolution.

1644 MILTON *Educ.* Wks. 1851 IV. 387 That act of reason which in Ethics is called Proairesis.

Pro-agonic: see PRO-[2] 1.

Proague, Proak, obs. ff. PROG *sb.*[2], PROKE.

Proal (prōu·ăl), *a. Physiol.* [f. Gr. *πρό* before + -AL.] Having a forward direction or motion: said of the lower jaw in mastication.

1888 COPE in *Amer. Nat.* Jan. 7 *note*, The propalinal mastication is to be distinguished into the proal, from behind forwards,..and the palinal, from before backwards.

†Pro·talizer. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. **proalize* (ad. Gr. *προαλίζ-ειν* to collect before) + -ER[1].] An empiric, a herb doctor.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 191 *Cardus Benedictus*, or blessed Thistle, which the Empirickes, or common Proalisers, doe commend for sundrie..Vertues.

Pro-amnion to **-amphibia:** see PRO-[2] 1.

Pro-anaphoral (prōu,ănæ·fŏrăl), *a.* [f. PRO-[2] + Gr. *ἀναφορά* offering + -AL.] Applied to that part of the Eucharistic service (esp. in the Greek rite) which precedes the *anaphora* or more solemn part (the consecration, great oblation, communion).

1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* I. III. i. § 8. 319 In every Liturgical family there is one Liturgy, (or at most two,) which supplies the former or proanaphoral portion to all the others. 1866 BLUNT *Annot. Bk. C. P.* 148. 1878 C. E. HAMMOND *Ant. Liturgies* p. xxxi, Another division of the service is into the Anaphora and the Pro-anaphoral part.

Pro and con. Forms: 5–7 **pro et contra, pro and contra,** 7 **pro et con,** 6– **pro and con.** [Abbreviation of L. *pro et contra* for and against. The *and* instead of *et* probably originated as an English reading of the character &.]

A. *adv. phr.* For and against; in favour and in opposition; on both sides. So *pro or con.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5663, I tauhtë folkys to argue Pro & contra, yong & olde. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccliii, Wherof aroose a grete Altercacion..pro and contra. 1572 R. H. tr. *Lavaterus' Ghostes* To Rdr. (1596) A ij, The matter throughly handled *Pro* and *Con.* 1577 DEE *Gen. & Rare Mem.* 10 Much..may be here sayd, *Pro, et Contra.* 1636 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. iii. § 6, I will not determine *pro* or *con*, that [etc.]. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 224 ₱ 3 The whole Argument pro and con in the Case of the Morning-Gowns. 1819 BYRON *Let. to Murray* 25 Jan., The rest.. has never yet affected any human production 'pro or con'. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* XXXVII, I have no objection to collect the evidence pro and con.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 25 Several Pro and Con-Pamphlets.

B. *sb. phr.* (now always, in pl., *pros and cons.*) Reasons for and against; reasonings, arguments, statements, or votes on both sides of a question. (In quot. 1809, favourable and adverse fortunes.)

[*c* 1400, 1509: see PRO B. 1.] 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 20 Such a quoile about *pro* and *con*, such vrging of *Ergoes.* 1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* I. 405 Why stand I to expostulate the crime With *pro & contra*? 1640 BROME *Antip.* III. iv, The pro's and contras in the windings, workings And carriage of the cause. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* I. § 24 A Quill worn to the Pith in the Service of the State, in *Pro's and Con's* upon Popish Plots. 1713 *Humble Plead. for Gd. Old Way* 259 Seeing the *pros and cons* did run equal so that the determination depended on the moderator's casting vote. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. vi. ₱ 14 A..true narrative of all my pros and cons, my ins and outs, since that.. separation of ours. 1880 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. ii. 21, I felt justified in stating all the pros and cons of the case.

C. as *vb.* To weigh the arguments for and against; to debate both sides of a question.

1694 CONGREVE *Double-Dealer* Ded., When a man in soliloquy reasons with himself, and *pro's* and *con's*, and weighs all his designs, we ought not to imagine that this man either talks to us or to himself. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. xvi, My father's resolution of putting me into breeches..had..been *pro'd* and *con'd*, and judicially talked over betwixt him and my mother about a month before. 1818 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 158 The topic was the Duke of Wellington—very amusingly pro-and-con'd. 1835 SOUTHEY *Doctor* CV. III. 324 He was no shillishallier, nor ever wasted a precious minute in pro-and-conning.

Proane, Proaness, obs. ff. PRONE *a.*, PRONENESS. **Pro-angiosperm, -atlas:** see PRO-[2] 1, 2.

Pro aris et focis: see PRO 1.

Proase, obs. form of PROSE.

Proat (prōut), *v. dial.* Also **prote.** [Origin obscure: cf. POTE *v.* and PROD *v.*] To poke. Hence **Proter** *dial.*, a poker.

1654 FULLER *Comm. Ruth* (1868) 141 Like sullen chickens ..proating under an old wood-pile. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Proter*, a poker. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss., Prote*, to poke.

†Proau·ctor. *Obs. rare*—°. [a. L. *proauctor* remote ancestor, founder: see PRO-[1] 2.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Proauctor*, the chiefe author.

‖Proaulion (proi,ō·liŏn). *Archæol.* [a. Gr. *προαύλιον* a vestibule, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *αὐλή* a court, with dim. ending *-ιον.*] A portico or colonnade outside a church or temple, opening into the narthex.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Proaulion*, in Architecture, the same as vestibule. 1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* I. II. ii. § 48. 215 The *Proaulion*, or porch, is..sometimes a lean-to against the west end of the narthex. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 78 The *proaulion*, or porch, a corridor supported on the outside by light pillars. *Ibid.*, Passing onwards from the *Proaulion*, we enter the narthex.

Prob, dial. variant of PROBE *v.*

Probabiliorism (prɒbăbi·liŏriz'm). [f. as next + -ISM.] The doctrine of the probabiliorists; according to which, in opposition to probabilism, it is claimed that that side on which the evidence preponderates is more probably right and therefore ought to be followed.

1845 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) VII. 192 Probabilism is by no means the universal or compulsory doctrine of the Roman theologians...It is confronted by a system called Probabiliorism: which teaches that, when in doubt among several alternatives of conduct, we are bound to choose that which has the greatest likelihood of being right. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1931 Probabiliorism.. demands that the more probable opinion shall always be chosen. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* s.v. *Moral Theology.*

Probabiliorist (prɒbăbi·liŏrist). [= F. *probabilioriste*, mod.L. *probabiliōrista*, f. L. *probābilior* more probable, compar. of *probābilis*: see -IST.] One who holds the doctrine of probabiliorism.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Probabilists*, Those who oppose this doctrine [of the Probabilists], and assert, that we are obliged, on pain of sinning, always to take the more probable side, are called probabiliorists. The Jansenists, and particularly the Port-royalists, are probabiliorists. 1768 J. BARETTI *Acc. Mann. & Cust. Italy* II. 49 The vain disputes between the..Probabilists and the Probabiliorists, have long divided our friars into nearly equal parties. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* 602/2 The Probabiliorists put no restraint on liberty, where a man was convinced on solid grounds that the balance of evidence was decidedly in favour of his liberty.

Probabilism (prɒ·băbiliz'm). [= F. *probabilisme*, f. as next: see -ISM.]

1. *R. C. Casuistry.* The doctrine, orig. propounded by Molina, a Spanish Dominican, in the 16th century, that in matters of conscience on which there is some disagreement among authorities, it is lawful to follow any course in support of which the authority of a recognized doctor of the Church can be cited.

1842 in BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc. 1844 W. G. WARD *Ideal Chr. Ch.* (ed. 2) 326 The very interesting controversies of the last and previous centuries on probabilism. 1845 [see PROBABILIORISM]. 1872 JERVIS *Gallican Ch.* II. v. 164 The doctrine of Probabilism..popularly identified with the Jesuits, did not strictly speaking, originate with this body. 1886 SIDGWICK *Hist. Ethics* iii. 151.

2. *Philos.* The theory that there is no absolutely certain knowledge, but that there may be grounds of belief sufficient for practical life.

1902 BALDWIN *Dict. Philos.* II. 344 The term probabilism is also used to describe the theory which mediates between a sceptical view regarding knowledge, and the needs of practical life.

Probabilist (prɒ·băbilist). Also **7 probablist.** [= F. *probabiliste* (17th c.), ad. mod.L. *probābilist-a*, f. L. *probābil-is* PROBABLE: see -IST.]

1. One who holds the casuistic doctrine of probabilism.

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispach't* 93 Then indeed I shall not refuse to..rank them [men who call us Papists] in Dr. H's Predicament of Probablists. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Probabilists*, a sect, or division, among the Romanists, ..holding, that a man is not always obliged to take the more probable side, but may take the less probable, if it be but barely probable. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1931 In 1665 Alexander VII felt compelled to disavow a number of the propositions of the Probabilists.

2. *Philos.* One who holds the philosophical theory of probabilism.

1847 WEBSTER, *Probabilist.* 1. A term applied to those who maintain that certainty is impossible, and that probability alone is to govern our faith and actions.

Hence **Probabili·stic** *a.* [see -ISTIC], pertaining to probabilists or probabilism.

1864 *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 131/1 In that [R. C.] church his [Liguori's] moral theology,..a modification of the so-called 'probabilistic system' of the age immediately before his own, is largely used in the direction of consciences.

Probability (prɒbăbi·liti). [ad. F. *probabilité* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *probābilitātem*, f. *probābil-is* PROBABLE: see -ITY.]

1. The quality or fact of being probable; the appearance of truth, or likelihood of being realized, which any statement or event bears in the light of present evidence; likelihood.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 30 b, In..gatheryng of conjectures that are doubtfull, when probabilitie onely and no assured knowledge, boulteth out the truthe of a matter. 1623 J. MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 150 Other reports there are, but without any probability of truth, and therefore I will not mention them. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd. 3 Probability is the very Guide of Life. 1823 J. GILLIES tr. *Aristotle's Rhet.* II. xxiii. 348 Truth and probability are the causes of assent. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iii. 197 The soundest arguments..went no farther than to establish a probability.

b. *In,* **†** *by probability*: probably; considering what is probable. (Now always with *all.*)

a 1602 W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1619) 140 In probabilitie they could not bee either many or great. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 23 The compasse and roomth that each tree by probabilitie will take and fill. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 62 The Lord Deputies going into the field,..in all probability could not be for some two moneths after. 1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 202 Otherwise in probability they had fallen into the hands of the French. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* ii. 50 These cliffs corresponding in all probability to ancient lines of faults.

2. An instance of the fact or condition described in 1; a probable event, circumstance, belief, etc.; something which, judged by present evidence, is likely to be true, to exist, or to happen.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 375 Hee beginneth..with the infancie of Alexander which ministred manifest and manifold probabilities of things which came afterwards to passe. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 80 Many probabilities concurring preuaile much. 1769 *Junius Lett.* xvi. (1820) 71 Arguments..have been drawn from inferences and probabilities. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 152 Wolsey's return to power was discussed openly as a probability. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xl, You must not strain probabilities in that way.

b. *pl.* Probabilities of the weather; weather forecasts. *U. S.*

Old Probabilities, a humorous name for the chief signal-officer of the U. S. Signal Service Bureau.

1875 O. W. HOLMES *Old Vol. Life, Crime & Automatism* (1891) 327 No priest or soothsayer that ever lived could hold his own against Old Probabilities. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Aug. 546 The official publications embrace the 'probabilities' and the so-called 'weather-maps'.

3. *Math.* As a measurable quantity: The amount of antecedent likelihood of a particular event as measured by the relative frequency of occurrence of events of the same kind in the whole course of experience; estimated by the ratio of the number of successful cases to the whole number of possible cases.

1718 DE MOIVRE (*title*) The Doctrine of Chances: or, a Method of Calculating the Probability of Events in Play. 1788 REES *Chambers' Cycl., Probability* of an event, in the Doctrine of Chances, is greater or less according to the number of chances by which it may happen, compared with the whole number of chances by which it may either happen or fail. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* Pref., At the end of the seventeenth century, the theory of probabilities was contained in a few isolated problems, which had been solved by Pascal, Huyghens, James Bernoulli, and others. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* II. ix. 369 For each draw the probability of a white ball being drawn would = 7/30, so that the probability of two whites being drawn in succession would = 7/30 · 7/30 = 49/900. 1892 H. GOODWIN in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 60 To speak of a certain possible event as having a probability of three to one..is to use language in a strictly defined sense.

Probabilize (prɒ·băbiləiz), *v.* [f. L. *probābil-is* PROBABLE + -IZE.] *trans.* To render probable or likely.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) III. 13 By means of it the fact is probabilized: rendered, in a greater or less degree, probable. *a* 1832 — *Deontol.* iv. (1834) II. 210 The considerations which tend to probabilize success. 1846 S. R. MAITLAND *Ess. Reform. Eng.* (1849) 314 That he may take his turn at probableizing [the story], and pass it on.

Probable (prɒ·băb'l), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *probable* (14th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *probābil-is* that may be proved, probable, credible, f. *prob-āre* to try, test, approve, make good: f. *prob-us* good: see -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being proved; demonstrable, provable. Now *rare.*

1485 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 43 Which..duly examined by hym..and no thing probable object ayenst the same, the.. Maire..decreed and finally determyned [etc.]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 33 It is probable by an inuincible reason and an argument infallible. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* Wks. 1851 V. 312 No man in religion is properly a heretic,..but he who maintains traditions or opinions not probable by scripture. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xiii. § 2 (1699) 209 Executions by a Barrons Officer are valid, though not given in Writ, and that the same are probable by Witnesses. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. xix. 536 Neither proved nor probable.

† 2. Such as to approve or commend itself to the mind; worthy of acceptance or belief; rarely in bad sense, plausible, specious, colourable. (Now merged in the modern sense 3.)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 339 It is more probable and more skilful [= reasonable], þat þis lond was from þe bygynnyng alwey wiþ oute suche wormes. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 622/2 As it appereth by probabill persuacions of Philosofers. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 139, I can not wel tel what I schal say, your resonys are so probabyl. 1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, III. ii. 178 It cannot be but he was murdred heere, The least of all these signes were probable. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 129 One of his most probable excuses was to frame some journeyes out of towne. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1823) I. II. 401 His schemes were probable. 1780 JEFFERSON *Corr.* Wks. 1859 I. 280 He assigns the most probable reasons for that opinion. 1872 JERVIS

Gallican Ch. II. v. 165 It was proclaimed that an opinion was probable, and might therefore be safely followed in practice, which had the sanction of any single theologian of established reputation.

† b. Of a person: Worthy of approval, reliable.

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 213 There is not one example here mentioned, but it hath a credible or probable Author for the auoucher of it. 1682 G. TOPHAM *Rome's Trad.* 223 If this be but the single opinion of a probable Doctor, we may have the same asserted by an Infallible one.

3. Having an appearance of truth; that may in view of present evidence be reasonably expected to happen, or to prove true; likely.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 356 Most probable That so she dyed. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 142 The birds neither sow, reape, &c. as you doe, *Ergo* tis lesse probable that they should be fed. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxv. 134 The necessary or probable consequences of the action. 1736 WELSTED *Wks.* (1787) 469 This were a probable opinion, though not warranted by holy writ. 1809 ROLAND *Fencing* 67 Is it probable that a man will thrust if he expects that he will be parried? 1814 D. STEWART *Philos. Hum. Mind* II. II. iv. § 4. 240 In our anticipations of astronomical phenomena..philosophers are accustomed to speak of the event as only *probable*; although our confidence in its happening is not less complete, than if it rested on the basis of mathematical demonstration. 1879 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. I. § 392 The Probable Error of an observation is a numerical quantity such that the error of the observation is as likely to exceed as to fall short of it in magnitude. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 317 This was the more probable solution.

† b. with infinitive as complement: Likely *to be* or *to do* something. *Obs.*

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 114 These rustick and rash undertakers..are only probable to shipwrack themselves. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iv. § 10 None is conceived so probable to have first peopled Greece, as he whose name was preserved..with very little alteration. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 223 'Tis probable to be the truest test.

c. Relating to or indicating probability.

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* Introd. 1 Probable Evidence is essentially distinguished from demonstrative by this, that it admits of Degrees.

d. Likely to be (something specified).

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 215 He essayed to make choice of a probable companion.

† B. as *sb.* Something probable; a probable event or circumstance; a probability. *Obs.*

1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* vi. § 8. 117 These probables are buskins to serve every foot. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 27 What talk ye of some immediate and imminent probables, such as even sense may ghesse at? 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 114 If a thing in it self be doubtfull, let it make for interest and it shall be raised at least into a Probable; and if a truth be certain, and thwart interest, it will quickly fetch it down to but a Probability.

† **Pro·bableness.** *Obs.* [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or fact of being probable; probability, likelihood; plausibility.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. i. 133 If a treuthe be knowun oonli bi probabilnes and likelihode, and not sureli. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 122 b, He seemeth to reason probably..but this probablenes is of vncleane fleshe, not of God. 1650 *Vind. Dr. Hammond's Addr.* § 12. 4 Nor shall I..fear the probablenesse of his unprov'd groundlesse supposition.

Probably (prɒ·băbli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a probable manner or degree; with probability.

1. In a way that approves itself to one's reason for acceptance or belief; plausibly; in a way that seems likely to prove true; with likelihood (though not with certainty). Now *rare.*

1535 STARKEY *Let.* in *England* (1871) p. xxx, You wrote so probably that hyt put me in a feare of daungerys to come. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) I j b, Logike is an Art to reason probablie on both partes, of all matters that be putte forthe, so ferre as the nature of euery thing can beare. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* Ep. Ded. 3 The first of these bookes probablie proueth the discent of Bladud. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* viii. 100 This your Hypothesis .. by which you have so probably salved the Problem of Gravity. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* I. 342 With a party of thirty men only, as Nepos says; but, as Xenophon more probably says, of near seventy. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 28 More than he could probably hope to make by any transaction in the Alley.

2. As a qualification of the whole statement: As is likely; so far as evidence goes; in all probability; most likely. Now the ordinary use.

1613 SHERLEY *Trav. Persia* 101 Now that we haue iudged of all, we must resolue..of that which is probabliest best. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 6 A source, from whence those waters of bitterness..have..probably flowed. 1692 O. WALKER *Grk. & Rom. Hist.* 86 *Secespita*, an Hatchet, probabilier a Knife, to kill the Beast. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 251 The present stones were probably substituted in place of these [=It is probable that the present stones were substituted]. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xii. § 551 The River Tigris is probably evaporated from the upper half of this sea by these winds. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* I. 101 Probably both causes operate to account for the failure to perceive the difference.

† **Pro·bacy.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *probātio*, with suffix-substitution: see -ACY.] ? Probation, evidence; 'affirmative proof' (editor's margin in loc. cit.).

c 1400 *Beryn* 2595 The lawes of þe Cete [Falsetown] stont in probacy; They vsen noon enquestis, þe wrongis for to try.

† **Pro·bal,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [? Alteration of PROBABLE.] Such as approves itself to reason or acceptance; 'calculated to bias the judgment, satisfactory' (Schmidt).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 344 When this aduise is free I giue, and honest, Proball to thinking, and indeed the course To win the Moore againe.

Probality, error for PROBABILITY.

Probang (prōu·bæŋ). Also 7 **provang(e,** (provango). [The name given by the inventor was *provang*, of unknown origin (but cf. *provet* = PRIVET 2), subsequently altered, prob. after PROBE *sb.*] A surgical instrument, consisting of a long slender strip of whalebone with a sponge, ball, button, or other attachment at the end, for introducing into the throat to apply a remedy or remove a foreign body. Also, a larger form of this employed in the case of choking cattle.

1657 HOWELL in W. Rumsey *Organon Salutis* a viij, To ..Judge Rumsey, upon his Provang, or rare pectorall Instrument. *Ibid.* b iv, Touching your Provang, or Whale-bone Instrument..it hath purchased much repute abroad among Forreiners. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Provango*, an instrument made of Whalebone, to cleanse the stomack. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 166 Walter Rumsey..was the first that invented the Provangg, or Whalebone instrument to cleanse the throat and stomach. 1809 B. PARR *Lond. Med. Dict., Probang*, a flexible piece of whalebone, with spunge fixed to the end. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXV. 311 An inflamed state of the œsophagus, caused by a clumsy probang roughly passed. 1849 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 296/2 The probang is 5 feet 1 inch in length, three quarters of an inch in diameter, with pewter cup and ball ends 1¼ diameter. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* iii. (1885) 63 There were..Probes and Probangs.

Probant (prōu·bănt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *probānt-em*, pr. pple. of *probāre* to prove: see -ANT.] Proving, demonstrating.

1908 *Month* Jan. 103 The true probant force of interior experience regarding the existence of God.

Probaptismal: see PRO- 2 1.

Probate (prōu·bēt), *sb.* Also 5–8 **-bat.** [ad. L. *probāt-um* a thing proved, subst. use of pa. pple. neut. of *probāre* to PROVE: see next.]

† 1. The act of proving or fact of being proved; that which proves; proof, demonstration; evidence, testimony. *Obs.*

1534 *Cov. Corp. Chr. Plays* ii. 109 Whatt maner a wey They haue made probate of this profece. 1610 BOYS *Exp. Dom. Epist. & Gosp.* Wks. (1629) 80 Abraham assuredly beleeued God before, but his offering vp of Isaac was a greater probate of his faith. 1711 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 187 There are innumerable proofs of this position..among them our late monarch stands a monumental probat. 1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) I. 150 Here, then,..we have another probate of the object of the Tract-School.

† b. A putting to the test, experiment. *Obs. rare.*

a 1643 J. SHUTE *Judgem. & Mercy* (1645) 9 As I would not incourage you upon the long-suffering of God, to make a probate, and triall of his patience.

2. *Law.* The official proving of a will; also, the officially verified copy of the will together with the certificate of its having been proved, which are delivered to the executors.

1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 43, I wil it be wretyn..in the rolle that my testement and last wil is in, aftir the probat be maad. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* K ij b, The hypocrites..made a reformacyon of mortuaries and probates of testamentes. 1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 224 The iudge doth therupon..annex his probate and seale to the testament, whereby the same is confirmed. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 118 The Probate of Wills, and letters of Administration are determinable by the Civil Law. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. vii. 96 We find it..asserted..that it is but of late years that the church hath had the probate of wills. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 303 The Lordship of Newry; the proprietor of which holds his spiritual court, and grants marriage licenses and probates of wills, under the seal of the religious house to which the lordship belonged before the Reformation. 1872 *Beeton's Everybody's Lawyer* 472 An executor, upon obtaining probate, is not required to enter into a bond.

b. *attrib.* **Probate Act,** an English statute passed in 1857 (20 & 21 Vict. c. 77), by which the jurisdiction of matters of probate and administration was removed from ecclesiastical and other courts and transferred to a new Court of Probate. **Probate bond,** a bond in which an administrator other than an executor gives a guarantee that he will administer the estate in accordance with the will or with the law of intestate succession. **Probate court,** a court having jurisdiction of probate and administration. **Probate duty,** 'a tax upon the gross value of the personal property of a deceased testator' (Wharton *Law Lex.*): since 1894 merged in the *estate duty*. **Probate judge,** a judge having jurisdiction in probate and testamentary causes; hence *probate judgeship*. † **Probate law,** the law of the ecclesiastical probate court (*obs.*).

c 1400 *Beryn* 2069 They were grete Sevilioun, & vsid probate law; Wher, evir-more affirmatyff shuld preve his owne sawe. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* II. vi. § 3 (1852) 305 The holders of personal property are .. entitled to require, either that the probate and legacy duties should be abolished, or that they should be extended to real property also. 1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* vii. 154 Probate judges are the guardians of widows and orphans. 1872 *Beeton's Everybody's Lawyer* 473 A non-executor is required to enter into a probate bond. 1898 *Whitaker's Alm.* 430/2 Estate Duty: In the case of every person dying after 1st August, 1894 (prior to which date Probate, Affidavit, or Inventory Duty is payable). 1901 *Ann. Rep. Incorp. Law Soc.* 24 Probate engrossments as well as the probate piece were to be on paper.

† **Probate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *probāt-us* tried, proved, pa. pple. of *probāre* to PROVE.] Proved, demonstrated. Also (quot. 1513) of a person: Having received proof; confirmed or established in a belief; convinced.

c 1500 *Joseph Armathy* (W. de W.) 2 The veray true and probate assercyons of hystoryal men touchynge and concernynge thantyquytes of..Glastenburye. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1114 Vulfade, conforted and in the fayth probate, Fell downe to his fete. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 84 If daily experience did not make it manifest and probat vnto vs.

Probate (prōu·bēt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *probāre* to prove: see prec.]

† 1. *trans.* (*probate*) To prove. *Obs. rare*—0.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 39/38 To Probate, *probare.*

2. To obtain probate of, to prove (a will). Chiefly *U. S.* Hence **Pro·bating** *vbl. sb.*

1792 CHIPMAN *Amer. Law Rep.* (1871) 52 C's will has never been probated. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lv, 'Vy not!' exclaimed Sam,—'cos it must be proved, and probated, and swore to, and all manner o' formalities.' 1889 *Proc. N. Eng. Hist. Geneal. Soc.* 2 Jan. 20 Wills..probated as early as 1373. 1892 *Blackw. Mag.* CLI. 622 The contests over the probating of wills reveal too often the unscrupulous, blackhearted ingratitude of children.

† **Proba·tic,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *probatic-us* (in Vulgate), a. Gr. προβατικός belonging to sheep, f. πρόβατον a sheep. So F. *probatique.*] Of or pertaining to sheep: in *probatic piscine, probatic pond*, rendering L. *probatica piscina* of the Vulgate in John v. 2. Also † **Proba·tical** *a. Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Commend. Our Lady* 134 Thow misty arke, probatik piscyne. [1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *John* v. 2 There is at Hierusalem vpon Probatica a pond.] 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Probatick Pond*.., a Pond at Jerusalem, where those sheep were washed, that were by the Law to be sacrificed. 1818 J. MILNER *End Relig. Controv.* II. (1819) 72 *note*, The probatical pond was endowed by an Angel with a miraculous power of healing.

Probation (probē·ɪ·ʃən), *sb.* [ME. *probacion*, a. OF. *probacion* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *-ation*, ad. L. *probātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prob-āre* to prove, test.]

I. † 1. The action or process of testing or putting to the proof; trial, experiment; investigation, examination. *Obs.* (exc. as in 2).

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 376, I þanke it god, non inclinacioun Haue I to labour in probacioun Of his hy knowleche & his myghty werkys. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xix. 66 (Harl. MS.) What is þe depnesse of the See?..If I were a ston, I shuld discende to þe grounde of þe see, & telle you *the soth* by probacion. 1559 FECKNAM in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. ix. 24 Towchinge the second rule..of.. probation, whether of bothe these religions is the better. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* xii, Thy lying flatteries we have had and made sufficient probation of. 1736 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* III. 495 It was published by way of probation, that they might learn the sense of the nation. 1865 MOZLEY *Mirac.* viii. 181 We see a broad distinction, arising..from .. the character of the witnesses, the probation of the testimony.

† b. *Surg.* Examination by or as by means of a probe; the use of a probe. *Obs.*

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 17 The Probe.. there is much abuse of this instrument oftentimes by making probation (as the phrase is). 1685 COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* I. i. 3 Probation, made either by hand, Instrument, or both.

† c. Trial by ordeal. *Obs. rare.*

1693 I. MATHER *Cases of Consc.* (1862) 273 The *Vulgar Probation* by casting into the Water practised upon Persons accused with other Crimes as well as that of Witchcraft. *Ibid.* 274 When they were brought to their *vulgar Probation*, [they] sunk down under the Water like other Persons.

d. The examining of students as a test of proficiency; a school or college examination. Now only in U. S.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Probation*,..the Tryal of a Student, who is about to take his Degrees in an University. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 157 There is an order appointed for the probation of the school. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict., Probation.* ..Specifically: (1) In universities, examination of a student for degrees.

2. The testing or trial of a person's conduct, character, or moral qualifications; a proceeding designed to ascertain these: esp. in reference to the period or state of trial. a. Of a candidate for membership in a religious body, order, or society, for holy orders, for fellowship in a college, etc. (Cf. PROBATIONER.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 327 This peple [Essenes].. not takenge eny man to theire secte withowte probacion by the space of a yere. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. § 8 They first set no time howe long this supposed probation must continue. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 72. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. ii, She that hath snow enough about her heart,..May be a nun without probation. 1872 O. SHIPLEY *Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s.v. *Monks*, They were subjected to a probation, but did not take solemn vows.

b. In theological and religious use: Moral trial or discipline; the divinely appointed or managed

testing and determination of character and principle, esp. as taking place in this life in view of a future state of rewards and punishments.

Future probation, a similar moral trial after death, which some believe will be granted to those who have not accepted, or have not had the offer of, the Gospel in this life, or to those who depart this life insufficiently purified.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, To saue them in theyr probacyon in deserte. 1529 More *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 315/1 [*margin*] The probacion of purgatorye. 1547 Boorde *Brev. Health* xcix. 38 b, If aduersitie do come, it is either sent to punysse man for synne, or els probacion. 1563 Winȝet *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 36 The prouidence of God sufferis that thing to be for our probatioun. 1703 Nelson *Fest. & Fasts* ii. (1705) 29 At the end of the World. When the state of our Trial and Probation shall be finish'd, 'twill be a proper Season for the distribution of publick Justice. *a* 1805 Paley *Serm.* xxxiii. (1810) 491 Of the various views under which human life has been considered, no one seems so reasonable as that which regards it as a state of probation. 1907 H. Buckle (*title*) The After Life: A Help to a Reasonable Belief in the Probation Life to Come.

c. In general use.

1616 *Cheque Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 8 For a yeare of probacion of his manners and good behavior. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* V. xlii. 262 The creature..who would have lived with you on terms of probation. 1833 Chalmers in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. xviii. 356 After the probation of eighteen years, we have the Second Book of Discipline 1578. 1860 Whyte Melville *Holmby House* (new ed.) 287 Are they places of probation, of reward, of punishment? 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* xxviii. 5 Enough of empty masters, Frost and famine, a lingering probation.

3. *In criminal jurisdiction*: A system of dealing (chiefly) with young persons found guilty of crimes of lesser gravity, and esp. with first offenders, wherein these, instead of being sent to prison or otherwise punished, are released on suspended sentence during good behaviour, and placed under the supervision of a *probation officer*, who acts as a friend and adviser, but who, in case of the failure of the probationer to fulfil the terms of his probation, can report him back to the court for the execution of the sentence originally imposed.

The term has been in use in parts of U.S., as Massachusetts, since 1878, and has more recently been used also in Great Britain.

1897 *Resol. Comm. Howard Assoc.* June, Either an industrial discipline in special institutions, or, better still, a system of conditional liberty under the supervision of probation officers. 1906 J. G. Legge *Rep. Reform. & Industr. Schools*, There is much discussion at present of the advantages of a probation system and of probation officers. Infinite good will undoubtedly be achieved by an effective probation system. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 2/3 In America the probation-officer, who makes every possible inquiry into the circumstances of the offence and advises the judge, has long been an institution. 1907 *Let. of Secr. N. Y. State Probation Commission* 7 Oct., Since the year 1878 in Massachusetts, and now in most of the commonwealths of the United States, persons found guilty of crimes (usually of the rank of misdemeanors..) have instead of being sent to a penal institution, been placed on probation. ..The term of probation varies from a few weeks to over a year. Probation officers are either salaried by public authorities or serve as volunteers so far as their official status is concerned...The term ordinarily employed in this country is 'to place on' or 'under probation', 'to put on' or 'under probation'. *Ibid.*, The expression 'probation-law' is coming into usage. The State of New York has recently established a 'Probation Commission'.

II. 4. The action of proving, or showing to be true; proof, demonstration; an instance of this, a proof, a demonstration. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. *Sc.*

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 468 The seide man ..faylenge in the probacion of his accusacion was..hongede. 1500-20 Dunbar *Poems* lxv. 9 The curious probatioun logicall. *a* 1533 Frith *Answ. More* (1548) A v b, The seconde parte..nedeth no probacion. 1558 Knox *First Blast* (Arb.) 35 In probation whereof, because the mater is more than euident, I will vse fewe wordes. 1598 Drayton *Heroic. Ep., Edw. IV to Mrs. Shore* 126 Poore plodding Schoolemen they are farre too lowe, Which by probations, rules, and axiomes goe. 1676 Towerson *Decalogue* 35, I will not.. attempt the probation of it. 1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 308 The cogency of strict probation. 1889 Stevenson *Master of B.* x, It was clear, even to probation, the pamphlets had some share in this revolution.

† **b.** Something that proves or demonstrates; that which constitutes the ground of proof; proof, demonstrative evidence. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 367 An argumente and a probacion of this thynge dothe appere in that the fischer..may see in the bryȝhte daies of somer vnder the waters hye towres and rownde of chirches. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 199 That is a great probacyon of the trewth therof. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 392 The quhilk wedding wes lauchfull probatioun Of his barnis legitimatioun. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xxiv. § 1 (1699) 256 Probation is defined to be, that whereby the Judge is convinced of what is asserted. 1752 W. Miller in *Scots Mag.* (1753) May 235/2 His..confession would be no probation of his having committed the crime.

† **c.** The proving of a will: = Probate *sb.* 2.

1529 *Act 21 Hen. VIII*, c. 5 Dyvers ordynaries take for the probacion of testamentes .. sometyme .xl.s. *Passim.* 1571 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 353, I require..James Cole to trauell with my said doughter about the probacion of this my will. 1590 Swinburne *Testaments* 224 Formes of prouing testaments..which are referred to that kinde of probation which is called *publicatio testamenti.*

III. 5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *probation-dish*; (sense 2 a) *probation sermon, -weed* (= garment); (sense 2 b) *probation-space, -state*; (sense 3) *probation commission, law, officer, system*; also *probation class, station*, for convicts in convict settlements.

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 8/3 All prisoners..remain there three months, but if they show docile spirit at the end of that time they are transferred into the *probation class. 1625 B. Jonson *Staple of N.* IV. Interm., Let Master Doctor dissect him, haue him open'd, and his tripes translated to Lickfinger, to make a *probation dish of. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 4 May, The church being full..to hear a Doctor who is to preach a *probacion sermon. 1813 A. Bruce *Life A. Morus* ii. 37 He heard the probation sermons of the students of divinity. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* 270 Assuming earth to be a pupil's place, And life, time,—with all their chances, changes,—just *probation-space. 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. v. 79 The Consideration of our being in a *Probation-state. 1852 Mundy *Our Antipodes* (1857) 211 Darlington had been a *Probation Station containing some four hundred prisoners. *Ibid.*, It was resumed when the *Probation System was introduced, and has since again been vacated as a Government station. *a* 1619 Fletcher, etc. *Knt. Malta* v. i, I must or deliver in..my *probation-weed, Or take the cloke.

Hence **Proba·tion** *v. trans.*, to place (an offender) under or on probation (sense 3); whence **Proba·tioned** *ppl. a.*

1889 *Charity Organis. Rev.* Nov. 439 The probationed element is admitted in dealing with both. 1907 *Let. of Secr. N. Y. Probation Comm.* 7 Oct., In Indianapolis..the word 'probation' is used as a verb, as for instance 'I probation you'.

Probational (prob*ē*·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.]

1. = next, 1.

1650 Trapp *Comm. Exod.* ix. 9 Job's boils were rather probational then penal. 1720 Wheatley *Comm. Prayer* vi. § 11 (ed. 3) 279* A State of Purgation; which they imagin'd to consist of a probational Fire. 1887 H. S. Holland *Christ or Eccles.* (1888) 121 It is impossible to speak on the probational significance of human life.

† **2.** Performed for the sake of testing or trial; experimental. *Obs.*

1670 Maynwaring *Physician's Repos.* 14 Medicines..the result of practice and frequent probational experiments in the Laboratory.

Probationary (prob*ē*·ʃənări), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -ary 1.]

1. Of, pertaining or relating to, or serving for probation; made, performed, or observed in the way of probation; belonging to the testing or trial of character or qualifications.

1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 482 All the Philosophy that I give but so much as a Probationary countenance to. 1693 W. Freke *Sel. Ess.* xxxiv. 216 The present State of our Nature and Sences is Probationary. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 178 P 1 Pythagoras is reported to have required from those whom he instructed in philosophy a probationary silence of five years. 1856 W. Collins *Rogue's Life* V, After a short probationary experience..I was advanced. 1867 *Edin. Med. Jrnl.* Dec. 552 Admitted into the probationary ward of the poorhouse.

2. Undergoing probation; that is a probationer; consisting of probationers.

1818 Scott *Lett.* 10 May, A probationary piper is exercising a new..pair of bagpipes. 1884 W. J. Courthope *Addison* ii. 30 The College elected him probationary Fellow in 1697, and actual Fellow the year after. 1886 Mrs. Oliphant in *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 417 He entered the probationary order of the Scottish ministry.

B. *sb.* = Probationer. *rare.*

1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. lxxiii. 353, I think I ought to pass some time as a probationary.

Proba·tionatory, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. as prec. + *-atory*, as in *accus-atory*, etc.] Connected with trial or investigation.

1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 17 The λόγος πειραστικὸς, the probationatory, or problematic disputes in the old Academie begun by Socrates and Plato.

Probationer (prob*ē*·ʃənəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] A person on probation or trial; one who is qualifying, or giving proof of qualification, for some position or office; a candidate; a novice.

(A term recognized, or in common use, in connexion with many offices or positions: see also b and d.)

1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. ii. (1632) 451 He is still a Prentise and a probationer. 1691 Shadwell *Scowrers* v, You must be at least a year's probationer. 1729 Swift *Modest Proposal* § 6 They learn the rudiments much earlier; during which time they can however be properly looked upon only as probationers. 1836 Sir H. Taylor *Statesman* xxiii. 174 A twelvemonths' probation, at the end of which the probationer is pronounced to be either fit or unfit for admission on the establishment. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 423 While probationers are being thus educated they are also instructed in the special branches of the work.

b. *spec.* (*a*) A candidate for a scholarship or fellowship in a college, admitted on probation. (*b*) A novice in a religious house or order, or in a nursing sisterhood. (*c*) A candidate for the ministry of a church, etc.; one licensed to preach but not yet ordained (esp. in Presbyterian and Methodist churches). (*d*) In criminal jurisdiction an offender under probation (see Probation 3).

a. 1609 B. Jonson *Sil. Wom.* I. i, And euery day, gaine to their Colledge some new probationer. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 335 It is customary in some colleges for individuals elected to fellowships to pass a year as probationers, during which they receive no income, and are considered as holding their appointment merely at will. b. 1629 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* viii. 81 Before they enter their..Religious Houses, to be Probationers. 1892 'H. S. Merriman' *Slave of Lamp* xxi, He was in the dress of a Probationer of the Society of Jesus. c. 1645 Milton *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 347 A stripling Divine or two of those newly fledge Probationers, that usually come scouting from the University. 1694 *Act Gen. Assembly* c. 10. 12 The General Assembly hereby Appoints, That when such persons are first Licensed to be Probationers, They shall oblidge themselvs to Preach only within the bounds, or by the Direction of that Presbytry, which did License them. 1730 Boston *Mem.* iv. (1908) 36, I past two years and three months in the character of a probationer. 1904 R. Small *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* II. 428 The presentee was Mr. David Duncan, probationer. d. 1907 *Let. of Secr. N. Y. Probation Comm.* 7 Oct., In case of failure of the probationer to live up to the terms of his probation, [the probation officer] can report the probationer back to the court for commitment to an institution or for the execution of whatever other sentence may have been originally imposed and then suspended.

c. *transf.* and *fig.*

1642 Milton *Apol. Smect.* § 1 Wks. 1851 III. 306 To make my selfe a canting Probationer of orisons. 1689 Sherlock *Death* i. § 1 (1731) 20 Adam..was but a Probationer for Immortality. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) V. xxxiii. 211 The brevity and vanity of this life, in which we are but probationers. 1844 Emerson *Ess.* Ser. II. vi. (1876) 148 The animal is the novice and probationer of a more advanced order.

d. *attrib.*: chiefly *appositive* = that is a probationer; one on probation or trial (for the position indicated by the second element).

1649 Fuller *Just Man's Funeral* 17 What the Probationer-Disciple said to our Saviour. 1674 Hickman *Hist. Quinquart.* (ed. 2) 20 It is but a probationer attribute. 1679 Wood *Life* 24 Aug. (O. H. S.) II. 461 Tom Wood chose probationer fellow of New Coll. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* an. 1666 (1766) I. II. 332 One Maccail, that was only a probationer preacher. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Mar. 5/1 A special class of the Naval Reserve, to be called the 'probationer class'. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 14 Oct. 9/1 A probationer nurse at Poplar Hospital.

Hence **Proba·tionerhood, Proba·tionership**, the position or condition of a probationer.

1845 J. Cairns *Let.* in *Life* x. (1895) 234 This knight errant of *probationerhood. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* VII. vi. (1821) 366 Saving faith..is not patient of being an expectant in a *probationership for it [salvation] until this earthly body resigns up all its worldly interest. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* IV. xiv. § 2 That State of Mediocrity and Probationership, He has been pleased to place us in here. 1880 A. Somerville *Autobiog.* 97 Ten months of what is significantly called 'Probationership'.

Proba·tionism. *Theol. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ism.] The, or a, doctrine of future probation (see Probation 2 b).

1886 *Relig. Herald* 15 July (Cent. Dict.).

Proba·tionist. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ist.]

1. = Probationer.

1885 *Congregationalist* 14 May (Cent.), What portion of the probationists uniting with the M[ethodist] E[piscopal] church become full members?

2. One who holds the doctrine of probationism.

1893 E. S. Carr in *N. Western Congregationalist* 14 Apr., I am satisfied the probationists among us are an extremely small minority.

Proba·tionship. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ship; cf. *relationship.*] A state or condition of probation; a term or period of probation; novitiate.

1626 tr. *Boccalini's New-Found Politick* III. xi. 202 Before the end of these Ladies probationship and their matriculation, his Maiestie charged the Cathedrall Doctors to dismisse them out of the Vniuersitie. 1691 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* I. 181 After he had served his probationship, he went into Ireland. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* IV. 323 Her face covered with the white veil of probationship. 1884 *Weekly Register* 18 Oct. 504/2 At the end of a two year's probationship.

Probative (prō·ubătiv), *a.* [ad. L. *probātīv-us* belonging to proof: see Probate *ppl. a.* and -ive.]

1. Having the quality or function of testing; serving or designed for trial or probation; probationary. Now *rare.*

1453 in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O. H. S.) I. 320 We assignyd to them a terme probatiffe. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 559 The second are exemplarie, purgatiue, probatiue, or for the edifying of the Church. 1730 Waterland *Script. Vind.* I. 79 A much better Argument against human Sacrifices, than a probative Command, not executed, could be for it. 1816 Bentham *Chrestom.* II. 18 On the constancy of the application made of the correspondent probative exercise, by which a lesson is said, depends all the use derivable from any mathetic exercise.

2. Having the quality or function of proving or demonstrating; affording proof or evidence; demonstrative, evidential.

1681 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VIII. 242/2 Act concerning probative witnesses in writs & Executions. *Ibid.* 243/1 None but subscryving witnesses shall be probative in Executions of Messingers [etc.]. 1802-12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 18 The principal fact may, in a more expressive way, be termed the fact proved: the evidentiary, the probative fact. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 10 § 142 Which [certificates] shall..be probative of such registration. 1875 Poste *Gaius* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 412 *Cautio*..signified a probative or evidentiary document, as opposed to a literal contract.

Hence **Pro·batively** *adv.*, in a probative manner; in the way of probation, or of proof.

1869 Browning *Ring & Bk.* X. 1415 'Tis even as man grew probatively Initiated in Godship.

‖ **Proba·tor.** *Obs. rare.* [L. *probātor* an examiner, approver, agent-n. f. *probāre* to Prove.]

1. = Approver 1 1, Appellant *sb.* 1.

[*c* 1290 Fleta II. lii. § 44 Illi autem qui a probatoribus ipsis

mortuis fuerint appellati [etc.].] 1701 *Cowell's Interpr., Probator*, an Accuser, or Approver, or one who undertakes to prove a crime charg'd upon another.

2. An examiner.

1691 MAYDMAN *Naval Spec.* 182 Some nominated, and appointed for Probators.

† Pro·batory, *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *probātōri-um*, neut. sb. from *probātōrius*: see next.]

1. A house for probationers or novices.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 151 In the same yeere Christian, Bishop of Lismore .. and Pope Eugenius a venerable man, with whom hee was in the Probatory at Clarevall,..departed to Christ.

2. (See quot.) *rare*—°.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Probatory*, (from *probo*) the place where proof or trial is made of any thing, or the Instrument that tries it.

Probatory (prō·bătŏri), *a.* [ad. med.L. *probātōri-us* belonging to trial or proof, f. ppl. stem of L. *probāre* to prove: see -ORY 2. Cf. F. *probatoire* (1762 in Dict. Acad.).]

1. = PROBATIVE 1; testing. Now *rare.*

1625 USSHER *Answ. Jesuit* 172 Although it be a probatory, and not a purgatory fire that the Apostle there treateth of. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 130 Those tribulations.. were onely probatory, to trie his strength. 1799 *Usef. Proj.* in *Ann. Reg.* 411/1 Preparation of the new probatory Liquor [= testing liquid]. 1874 BUSHNELL *Forgiveness & Law* II. 139 In a scheme of probatory discipline.

† 2. = PROBATIVE 2; proving. *Obs. rare.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 325, I am content to referre Incredulity, to the visible, and palpable euidence of the Terme Probatory. 1638 FEATLY *Transubst.* 179 That [these words] are not argumentative or probatorie. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 126 His other heap of arguments are only assertory, not probatory.

‖ Probatum (probē·tŏm). ? *Obs.* [L. *probātum* a thing proved: see PROBATE *sb.*]

1. A thing proved; a demonstrated conclusion or fact; *esp.* a means or remedy that has been tried and found efficacious; an approved remedy.

1594 NASHE *Terrors of Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 251 He is a mettle-bruing Paracelsian, hauing not past one or two Probatums for al diseases. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 44 To giue vsuall probatums to trie conclusions. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. viii. 219 The very Probatum for a Lethargy. [1800 COLERIDGE *Wallenst.* IV. ii. 130 That's probatum, Nothing can stand 'gainst that.]

† b. A proof or demonstration.

1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. xxxi. § 7 His people might have a *probatum* of it either in themselves or others. 1627 SANDERSON *Serm.* I. 275 A good *probatum* of that observation of Solomon, 'When a mans ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.'

† c. Short for *probatum est*: see 2. *Obs.*

1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. i, Feed him with fogs; *probatum.* 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 203 It has every one's Probatum to't. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvii. § 4 He..recommended it to all his friends, since he could set his probatum to it for seventeen years.

† 2. *Phr.* **probatum est** [L.] 'it has been proved or tested', a phrase used in recipes or prescriptions; also in general sense. Hence as *sb. Obs.*

1573–80 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 138 By y° masse all, all is nawght, Probatum est; I teach as I am tawght. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Invis. World* N ij b, [The devil] has had the Encouragement of a *Probatum est*, upon these horrid Methods. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Epigram to Dk. de Noailles* iii, Lend him but fifty louis-d'or; And you shall never see him more; Take my advice, probatum est. 1757 *Hist.* 2 *Mod. Advent.* I. A v, To the above Nostrum, I can subscribe my *Probatum est*, from its powerful effect upon myself.

Probe (prōub), *sb.* [ad. late L. *proba* a proof, in med.L. also an examination, f. *prob-āre* to try, test, PROVE. Cf. Cat. *proba*, Pr. *prova* a probe, a sounding line; also med.L. *tenta*, Sp. *tienta*, f. *tentāre* to try (see TENT).]

1. A surgical instrument, commonly of silver, with a blunt end, for exploring the direction and depth of wounds and sinuses.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne petite Esprouvette*, a small instrument wherewith Surgeons do search wounds, a probe. 1611, 1656 [see PROOF *sb.* 15a]. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 8 Some use the longer sort of Probes, with eyes like needles. 1706–7 FARQUHAR *Beaux Strat.* V. iii, Do, do, Daughter—while I get the Lint and the Probe and the Plaister ready. 1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 413 The course of many narrow stabs cannot be easily followed by a probe. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 405 When I passed my probe into it, I did not feel the bone bare, but only its resistance.

fig. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 66 Those whom he submitted to the operation of his ethical probe. 1876 LOWELL *Ode 4th July* IV. iii, We, who believe Life's bases rest Beyond the probe of chemic test.

2. *transf.* **a.** The proboscis of an insect. **b.** *Angling.* A baiting-needle.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 2 At his [the flea's] snout is fixed a Proboscis, or hollow trunk or probe. *Ibid.* 8 The Butter-Fly...The Probe (which you see lyes in her mouth in spiral contorsions). 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* XXXVII. § 9 (1689) 237 Others use the Probe to draw the Arming Wire under the Skin only. [Cf. 1653 WALTON *Angler* VII. 150 The better to avoid hurting the fish, some have a kind of probe to open the way, for the more easie entrance and passage of your wyer or arming.]

† 3. A printer's proof. *Obs. rare*—¹.

Perhaps an error for *prove*, PROOF *sb.*

1563 GRINDAL *Let. to Sir W. Cecil* 21 Jan., The thanksgiving for the queen's majesty's preservation..ye shall see in the probe of the print, and after judge.

4. [f. PROBE *v.*] An act of probing; a piercing or boring, a prod.

1890 *Athenæum* 10 May 613/3 As the Agora was gradually working itself out we tried probes to the west in the adjoining fields. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 108/2 The fish felt a probe in the ribs. 1907 *Daily News* 11 Nov. 6/1 A probe with a pin is needed to unfold it.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *probe-end, -point*; **probe-needle**, a needle used in the manner of a probe (cf. *probe-scissors*); **probe-pointed** *a.*, having a blunt point, like that of a probe; **probe-scissors**, scissors used for opening wounds, having a button on the point of the blade.

1863–76 CURLING *Dis. Rectum* (ed. 4) 105 Using the *probe end of the director as a guide, the surgeon may make an external artificial opening. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* III. v. 231, I prepared a Ligature, and with a *Probe-needle passed it up into the Gut. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 787 The puncture is visible,..*probe-point inserted into it. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 155 The extremity of the *probe-pointed knife. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 59 Into this opening I insert a pair of small probe-pointed scissors. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg. Treat.* VI. iv. 418 The sinus..may be..snipt open by a pair of *Probe-scissors. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 155 The probe-scissors..is in this case particularly hazardous and improper.

Probe (prōub), *v.* Also 7 **proab.** [f. PROBE *sb.*: in some uses perh. influenced by L. *probāre* to try, test: see PROVE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To examine or explore (a wound or other cavity of the body) with a probe. Also with the person as *obj.*

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 80 Yet durst she not too deeply probe the wound, As hoping still the nobler parts were sound. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 266, I probed him carefully, and found no Stone. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xxii, The leech,..when the body was found, was commanded by the magistrates to probe the wound with his instruments.

2. *fig.* To search into, so as thoroughly to explore, or to discover or ascertain something; to try, prove, sound; to interrogate closely.

1649 LOVELACE *Poems* 28 She proabed it [*sc.* my heart] with her constancie, And found no Rancor nigh it. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* I. § 5 Stand firm, while I probe your prejudices. 1804 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 667, I was anxious to find out to what countries they had claims, and probed them particularly upon that point. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* viii, A rascally calumny, which I was determined to probe to the bottom. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 53 If they were probed as to their motives.

b. To ask or inquire probingly. *rare.*

1839 LADY LYTTON *Cheveley* (ed. 2) II. x. 334 'Anything about Denham in it?' probed Herbert.

c. To find *out* by probing or similar action. *rare.*

1699 WANLEY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 284 But I made shift to probe out a few of them myself.

3. *transf.* To pierce or penetrate with something sharp, esp. in order to test or explore.

1789 G. WHITE *Selborne* vi. (1853) 25 Which the owners assured me they procured..by probing the soil with spits. 1841 EMERSON *Addr., Meth. Nat.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 222 As soon as he probes the crust, behold gimlet, plumb-line, and philosopher take a lateral direction. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* ii. 31 The bog or peat was ascertained, on probing it with an instrument, to be at least fifteen feet thick. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 660, I counted thirty-eight [tsetse flies] probing the body of a large monitor I had shot.

b. To thrust (a piercing instrument) for the purpose of examination or exploration. *rare.*

1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 109 One of the soldiers probed his bayonet between the logs under which he was lying, and just pricked him.

4. *intr.* To perform the action of piercing with or as with a probe; to penetrate, as a probe.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 311/2 Which [birds] have occasion to probe for their food in muddy or sandy soils. 1878 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf. P.* 201 Your question.. has probed right through To the pith of our belief.

Hence **Pro·bing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pro·ber**, one who or that which probes.

1680 OTWAY *Orphan* IV. vi. 1540 Every probing pains me to the heart. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 27 Nov. 3/1 That greatest prober of the secrets of science, the microscope. 1894 *Athenæum* 12 May 624/2 Probers of feminine hearts.

[**Probend**, in Wright *Vocab.* 201, Wr.-Wülcker 664/10, error for PROVEND.]

Probing (prōu·biŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PROBE *v.* + -ING 2.] That probes; piercing so as to try. Hence **Pro·bingly** *adv.*, **Pro·bingness.**

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* IV. 265 Conscious of guilt The Monarch sate, nor could endure to face His bosom-probing frown. 1800 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* X. 320 There is often a tenderness yet a probingness in the pathos. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VI. 1288 She feels The probing spear o' the huntsman. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xl, He could have no conception what that demand was to the hearer—how probingly it touched the hidden sensibility.

Probity (prŏ·bĭti). [ad. L. *probitās, -ātem* goodness, honesty, modesty, f. *prob-us* good, honest: see -ITY. So F. *probité* (1570 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Moral excellence, integrity, rectitude, uprightness; conscientiousness, honesty, sincerity.

1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 23 What is..more repugnynge to faythe & probyte? 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 110/20 Probitie, *probitas, atis.* 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 129 Of much reputation for probity and integrity of life. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 548 Probity and superstition, or even probity and fanaticism are not..incompatible. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Wealth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 75 'Tis not, I suppose, want of probity, so much as the tyranny of trade, which necessitates a perpetual competition of underselling. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xxi. 603 The Governor, .. a man of strict probity.

Problem (prŏ·blĕm). Forms: 4–7 **probleme**, 5– **problem.** [ME. *probleme*, a. F. *problème* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *problēma*, a. Gr. *πρόβλημα, -ματ-*, lit. a thing thrown or put forward; hence, a question propounded for solution, a set task, a problem, f. *προβάλλειν* to throw out, to put forth, f. *πρό*, PRO-² + *βάλλειν* to throw.]

† 1. A difficult or puzzling question proposed for solution; a riddle; an enigmatic statement. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xiv. 15 Faage to thi man [1388 glose thin hosebondel, and meue hym, that he shewe to thee what bitokeneth the probleme. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 511 How hadde the cherl this ymaginacioun To shewe swich a probleme to the frere. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 179 Problemys of olde likenese and figures, Whiche proved been fructuous of sentence. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Probleme, or rydel, *problema, enigma.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 199 b, The erle of Warwicke..thought firste to proue hym a farr of, as it wer in a probleme, and after to open to him..the secret imaginations of his stomake. *a* 1562 P. MARTYR *Comm. Judges* xiv. (1564) 218 b, Graue men wer wont to put forth ridles or problemes, omitting dangerous talke. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxvii. (1612) 319 Howsoere those Oracles of men were vnderstood, Double construction euer makes their Prothean Problemes good.

2. A question proposed for academic discussion or scholastic disputation. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 167 *In Academia* Parrot dare no probleme kepe; For *Græce fari* so occupyeth the chayre, That *Latinum fari* may fall to rest and slepe. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 11 Semli for masters problems to dispute uppon. *c* 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* i. 113, I, that have with concise syllogisms Gravell'd the pastors of the German church, And made the flowering pride of Wittenberg Swarm to my problems. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Problemes*, Questions propounded for to be discussed. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 206 It is.. not of force to conclude a Diuinity probleme. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 21 Hereof there want not many examples in Aristotle, through all his booke of animals; we shall instance onely in three of his Problemes. 1851 *College Life t. Jas. I* 65 He attended the common-place, and the problem, which were Latin dissertations read in the chapel by the graduates.

b. *Logic.* The question (expressed, or, more usually, only implied) involved in a syllogism, and of which the conclusion is the solution or answer. (In quot. 1656 restricted to one form of this.)

1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. vi. (1701) 247/1 All Disputation is of things controverted, either by Problem or Proposition. A Problem questions both parts, as *a living Creature, is it the Genus of Man or not?* A Proposition questions but one part, as, *is not living Creature the genus of Man?* 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., A logical or dialectical problem, say the schoolmen, consists of two parts; a subject, or subject matter, about which the doubt is raised; and a predicate or attribute, which is the thing doubted whether it be true of the subject or not. 1837–8 HAMILTON *Logic* xv. (1860) I. 280 (transl. Esser) There are to every syllogism three..requisites..1°, A doubt,—which of two contradictory predicates must be affirmed of a certain subject,—the problem or question, (*problema, quæsitum*); 2°, The application of a decisive general rule to the doubt; and, 3°, The general rule itself. *Ibid.* 282 The Conclusion is the Problem, (*problema*), Question, (*quæstio, quæsitum*), which was originally asked, stated now as a decision. The Problem is usually omitted in the expression of a syllogism; but is one of its essential parts.

3. A doubtful or difficult question; a matter of inquiry, discussion, or thought; a question that exercises the mind.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 126 It is a probleme often demaunded,..For what cause a Diuine being a great man in the Schooles,..and in writing and lecturing of rare learning; yet getting vp into the Pulpit, cannot skill of preaching. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. III. (1651) 207 Why melancholy men are witty..is a problem much controverted. 1795 BURKE *Th. Scarcity* Wks. VII. 416 It is one of the finest problems in legislation,..'What the state ought to take upon itself to direct..and what it ought to leave, with as little interference as possible, to individual discretion.' 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Friendship* Wks. (Bohn) I. 85 Not one step has man taken toward the solution of the problem of his destiny. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* (1864) II. 173 Mohammed remains..an historic problem: his character, his motives, his designs, are all equally obscure. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 5. 384 Elizabeth..had hardly mounted the throne..when she faced the problem of social discontent.

† b. Problematic quality; difficulty of solution. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 142 Is it not enigmaticall and full of Probleme, to wash white in bloud?

4. *Geom.* A proposition in which something is required to be done: opposed to *theorem.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. Introd. 8 A Probleme, is a proposition which requireth some action or doing. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 Which..is become a point of art, and makes two Problemes in Euclide. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Problem*, is a Proposition which relates to Practice; or which proposes something to be done; As to make a Circle passe through three given Points not lying in a Right Line. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 135 The solution of the problem, To construct by means of its tangents the parabola which is determined by four given tangents.

5. *Physics* and *Math.* A question or inquiry which starting from some given conditions investigates some fact, result, or law.

Many problems in Physics and Mathematics are named after the persons who propounded or solved them: e. g. *Apollonius's, Kepler's, Pappus's, Viviani's problem*; others by a specification, as *the problem of duplication of the cube, of quadrature of the circle, of inscription of the heptagon* (in a circle), *of three bodies* (quot. 1812–16), etc.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XI. xxxvi. 353 Consider how near this creepeth to the famous Probleme of doubling the Cube. *a* 1721 KEILL tr. *Maupertuis' Diss.* (1734) 41 It is seen that the solution of these Problems must give the true Figures the cœlestial Bodies may be of, by fixing the Law according to which Gravity increases and decreases proportionably to the distance from the Center. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1810) I. 2 *A Problem* is a proposition or a question requiring something to be done; either to investigate some truth or property, or to perform some operation. As, to find out the quantity or sum of all the three angles of any triangle... *A Limited Problem* is that which has but one answer or solution. *An Unlimited Problem* is that which has innumerable answers. And a *Determinate Problem* is that which has a certain number of answers. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 279 The great problem in gunnery, viz. having given the weight, the magnitude, the direction, and the velocity of a projectile, to determine its path through the air..is very difficult. *Ibid.* II. 244 If there are three bodies, the action of any one on the other two, changes the nature of their orbits, so that the determination of their motions becomes a problem of great difficulty, distinguished by the name of the Problem of the three bodies. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr. & Magn.* I. 91 The actual solution of this problem consists in the determination of a function V, the potential of the system, to satisfy the [following] conditions (1) V is constant over C; [etc.].

6. *Chess.* An arrangement of pieces upon the chessboard for play in accordance with the rules of the game or other prescribed conditions, in which the player is challenged to discover the method of accomplishing a specified result. Formerly called 'jeopardy', 'situation', 'position'. See quots. 1890, 1894.

1817 MONTIGNY *Stratagems of Chess* iv, These situations are in reality so many problems, the solution of which is required to be found. 1827 W. LEWIS (*title*) Chess Problems. Being a selection of original positions. 1890 RAYNER *Chess Problems* 5 A chess problem is an idea, or combination of ideas, expressed upon the board in accordance with a number of generally accepted principles of construction. 1894 R. F. GREEN *Chess* 21 Problems have come to be a study almost entirely distinct from that of the game proper...Their composition is regulated by elaborate rules.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *problem-monger, spot*; *problem-wise* adv.; (*b*) 'in which a problem is treated or discussed', as *problem drama, novel, play, poem, story*; (*c*) in sense 6, as *problem-composer, composition, editor, tourney.*

a 1859 DE QUINCEY *Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 37 An idea sketched problem-wise. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 6/1 The healthy, virile English intellect..is naturally suspicious of morbid problem-mongers. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 3/2 The problem spot in Africa now is the Congo.

(*b*) 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 1/2 Who invented the term 'problem play'?..The phrase is new,..the thing itself dates from twenty years, to go no further back. 1895 A. W. PINERO in *Daily News* 27 Nov. 3/4 The problem drama is, after all, earnest drama. 1897 *Ibid.* 9 Dec. 8/2 He has.., given a fuller expression of himself in powerful 'problem' poems. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 2/1 A problem play,.. a piece supposed to prove some particular proposition.

(*c*) 1890 RAYNER *Chess Problems* 6 The history of problem composition. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 June 9/3 In 1887 he became problem editor of the *British Chess Magazine*, and that occupied, with his work as judge in problem tourneys, most of his time of late. 1901 S. S. BLACKBURNE (*title*) Problem Terms and Characteristics.

Hence **† Pro·bleming,** academical or scholastic discussion: see 2; **Pro·blemize** *v. intr.* to discuss problems, theorize, speculate.

1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 96, I fell to Common placing and probleming (as it is called in the Colledge). 1884 CLARK RUSSELL *Jack's Courtship* xxxii, To drop all this problemizing for the plain truth. 1890 — *Ocean Trag.* II. xvii. 88 It was a thing to set me problemising.

† Proble·matary. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *πρόβλημα, -ατ-*, L. *problēma*, PROBLEM + -ARY¹.] = PROBLEMATIST.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* XXXV. (1887) 129 All naturall problemataries, dipnosophistes, symposiakes,..and such as deale with any particular occurence of exercise.

Problematic (prɒblēmæ·tik), *a.* Also 7 -ique. [a. F. *problématique* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. late L. *problēmatic-us*, a. Gr. *προβληματικ-ός*, f. *πρόβλημα*: see PROBLEM and -ATIC.]

1. Of the nature of a problem; constituting or presenting a problem; difficult of solution or decision; doubtful, uncertain, questionable.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, All which to me are problematique mines, Obscurde inigmaes. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 73 Were that imputation true, which is very problematic. 1807 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 263 The very existence of any such individual [Homer].., is more than problematic. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 522 The value of true expectorants in pneumonia..is exceedingly problematic.

2. *Logic.* Enunciating or supporting what is possible but not necessarily true.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 260 A problematique form of argument. 1677 [see PROBATIONATORY]. 1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* XIV. (1866) I. 260 A proposition is called..Problematic, when it enounces what is known as possible. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 242 The judgment 'If this house has stone floors it will be fire proof' is as much a problematic judgment as 'the house considered from this point of view is good'. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* I. ii. 51 The ambiguity of the ordinary theory of modality is still more striking in the case of problematic judgments. *Ibid.*, What it [a proposition] states is not a real occurrence, but the possibility of an unreal or only conceived one, and this is enough according to traditional usage to give it the name of problematic.

3. *Chess.* Of or relating to problems.

1890 RAYNER *Chess Problems* 5 Aspirants to problematic fame. 1905 A. F. MACKENZIE *Chess Lyrics* lii, Three or four-move themes..well worthy of illustration and preservation in problematic form.

Problematical (prɒblēmæ·tikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.]

† 1. Of the nature of a problem (PROBLEM 4). *Obs.*

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* XI. xxxiii. 347 Methods, and engines..whereby to execute thys Problematicall Lemma. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Problematical*, belonging to a Problem, which is opposed to a Theoreme.

2. Of which the solution, realization, or truth is uncertain; disputable; doubtful; = PROBLEMATIC 1.

1611 COTGR., *Problematique*, Problematicall, belonging to a Probleme. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 293 Those men who propound..their priuate, probable and problematical opinions,..of the Number of the Beast. 1624 DONNE *Devot.* 297 His happinesse is but disputable and problematicall. 1628 — *Serm.* vi. (1640) 61 Problematical points, of which, either side may be true,..should not extinguish particular charity towards one another. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 253 It appeared to me very problematical whether we might be able..to get another course finished this Season. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 69 *note*, Which is..to my mind a very problematical assertion. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 2/1 No one can help sympathising with the effort.., though its success may be problematical.

b. Involving or giving rise to problems or questions; of which the nature is unsettled.

1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* I. III. viii. 206 His lordship's conduct had been a little problematical. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 572 We recommend them to the candid attention of future writers on this curious and very problematical branch of natural philosophy. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 346 Aware of the many problematical appearances which igneous rocks of the most modern origin assume, especially after decomposition. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* X. 186 A dialect of peculiar and problematical character.

3. = PROBLEMATIC 2. *Problematical question*, a question put forth merely for discussion, but not of any practical bearing; an academic question.

1588 [implied in PROBLEMATICALLY]. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 140 To follow coniecturall probabilities, or to proue by arguments problematicall, did not stand with the nature or notion of a professed History. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 60 Subtile problematicall disputing upon every proposition. 1660 BLOUNT *Boscobel* 36 His Majesty..was pleased merrily to propose it, as a Problematical Question, Whether Himself or the Col. were the Master-cook at Boscobel and the supremacy was of right adjudg'd to His Majesty. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 124 Lutherane Doctours in Sueden and Livonia, who have made it a problematical question, whether the Muscovites were Christians or not? 1842 ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* § 118 (1860) 242 The problematical judgment is neither subjectively nor objectively true: that is, it is neither held with entire certainty by the thinking subject, nor can we show that it truly represents the object about which we judge.

4. *Chess.* = PROBLEMATIC 3.

1895 B. G. LAWS in *Brit. Chess Mag.* 61 On a superficial grasp of the problematical positions.

Problema·tically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a problematical manner; in the form of, or as, a problem; as an open question; doubtfully.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 7 Neither dare I peremptorily, or affirmatiuely auow euery part of the premisses, but onely assay problematically, and as our schoolemen tearme it, disputatiuely, what may therin appeare most probable. 1609 BP. HALL *No Peace w. Rome* iii. Wks. (1624) 650 If they had onely doubtfully and problematically commended their Purgatory to the Church, we might easily haue fauoured them with a conniuence. 1751 *Affecting Narr. of Wager* 5, I have expressed myself problematically, leaving the Determination of the Point to others. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* vii. 90 'If a woman can be a Queen, why can't she be a President?' she said, problematically.

Problematist (prɒ·blēmătist). [f. Gr. *πρόβλημα, -ατ-* PROBLEM + -IST.] One who occupies himself with problems; a PROBLEMIST.

1668 EVELYN *Let. to Dr. Beale*, This learned Problematist was brother to him who, preaching at St. Maries, Oxford, tooke [as] his text..'Am I not thine Asse?' 1866 *Chess Player's Mag.* 133 Mr. Healey, long known to the chess world as one of the most skilful living problematists. 1890 RAYNER *Chess Problems* 9 The multi-theme or multi-form problem..is the one now composed by the German and British schools of problematists.

† Pro·blematize, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To propound problems.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, Hear him problematize. ..Or syllogize, elenchize.

Problemist (prɒ·blēmist). [f. PROBLEM + -IST.] One who devotes himself to, studies, or composes problems; *esp.* a composer of chess problems. Hence **Problemi·stic,** of, belonging to, or that is a problemist.

a 1615 DONNE *Ess.* (1651) 173 The same Problemist observes this wonder, that every man took a like proportion, and all were alike satisfied, though all could not be of a like appetite and digestion. 1875 J. H. BLACKBURNE in *City Lond. Chess Mag.* II. Aug. 200 Some young and aspiring problemist persisting in showing you a position which he is pleased to call a problem. 1892 in *Brit. Chess Mag.* 457 Our distinguished problemistic confrere Mr. A. F. Mackenzie. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 13 July 9/5 A problemist who has done some good things in both stroke settings and analytical end-games.

‖ Probole (prɒ·bŏli). [a. Gr. *προβολή* a projection, a bump (of the skull) (Hippocrates), etc., f. *πρό*, PRO-² + *βολή* throwing; cf. *προβάλλειν*: see PROBLEM.] A bony projection or process.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Apophysis, Probole*,..is a part of a Bone that is..Continuous with the Bone, and stretching it self beyond a plain Surface. 1874 DAWKINS *Cave Hunt.* vi. 193 The occipital tuberosity, or probole, is the most prominent feature. 1880 — *Early Man* ix. 316 The skulls are broad or round, the supra-occipital tuberosity or probole prominent.

Proboli·stic, *a. nonce-wd.* [Arbitrary f. Gr. *προβολή* (see prec.) or *προβάλλειν* to throw forward, send forth.] ? Of the nature of a forward throw.

1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xlix, He brought his fettered heels, like a double-headed hammer, as hard as his probolistic swing could whirl, against the very thickest-crowded cells of bygone domicile.

Pro bono publico: see PRO A. 2.

Proboscic (prɒbɒ·sik), *a. rare.* [irreg. f. PROBOSC-IS + -IC.] = PROBOSCIDEAN *a.* 2.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 36/2 *Pulmograda*...4. Proboscic.

Proboscidal (prɒbɒ·sidăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *proboscid-em* PROBOSCIS + -AL.] Of the nature or appearance of a proboscis.

18.. SHUCKARD (Cent. Dict.), A proboscidal prolongation of the oral organs. 1884 *Edin. Rev.* July 170 Their exuberant hair..depends in proboscidal excrescences.

Proboscidate (prɒbɒ·sidĕt), *a. Entom.* [f. as prec. + -ATE²: cf. F. *proboscidé*.] Furnished with a proboscis; formed as a proboscis.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 382 Diptera...Mouth proboscidate.

† Pro·boscide. *Her. Obs.* [a. F. *proboscide* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *proboscid-em* PROBOSCIS.] An elephant's trunk used as a bearing.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiii. (1611) 125 Idomenes.. the son of Deucalion did beare Gules a Proboscide of an Elephant after this manner argent. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 132/2 An Elephant his Nose or Snout, is called, a Proboside, or Trunk. 1722 NISBET *Her.* I. 339 The Elephant's Probicide, as an armorial Figure, flexed and reflexed in Form of an S. *is to be* seen in the English Herauld-Books.

‖ Proboscidea (prɒbɒsi·dĭă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L. neut. pl., f. *proboscid-em* PROBOSCIS: cf. *lact-eus, lign-eus.*] An order of mammalia containing the elephant and its extinct allies; characterized by having a long flexible proboscis and the incisors developed into long tusks.

1836 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIV. 146/2 Mammalia..Order VI. Pachydermata..Family 1st. Proboscidea. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 43 The order Proboscidea commenced at the beginning of the Miocene period.

Proboscidean, -ian (prɒbɒsi·dĭăn, -iăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec. + -AN, or f. L. *proboscid-em* + -IAN: cf. F. *proboscidien.*]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or belonging to the *Proboscidea.*

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 875/2 The nasal prolongation of the Proboscidian Pachyderms is able to move in every needful direction. 1893 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 354 Then was the culminating epoch of the proboscidean family.

2. Of animals of any kind: Having a proboscis.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 385/2 In most of the proboscidian species the tongue is short. 1868 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 337 In the great proboscidian and hooded Seals. 1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2101. 842 Marsh fevers are produced by the bites of proboscidian insects.

3. Of, pertaining to, or resembling a proboscis.

1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 58 The snout of the Hedgehog is elongated, and the nose proboscidean. 1898 F. LEES tr. *Marguerite's Disaster* 72 Du Breuil noticed the proboscidian gravity with which a Captain of Gendarmerie,.. with an enormous nose, carried a *petit-verre* to his mouth.

B. *sb.* A mammal of the order *Proboscidea.*

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 199 In the Proboscidians of Cuvier, including the elephant and Mastodon, or fossil elephant, there are five toes. 1842 C. H. SMITH *Mammalia* 269 In the next group we have the true Proboscideans. 1863 LYELL *Antiq. Man* xii. 226 Before the growth of the ancient forest, the *Mastodon arvernensis*, a large proboscidian,..appears to have died out.

Proboscideous (prɒbɒsi·dĭəs), *a.* [f. L. *proboscid-em* PROBOSCIS + -EOUS.] Having a proboscis or something likened to one.

1866 *Treas. Bot., Proboscideous*, having a hard terminal horn, as the fruit of *Martynia.*

Proboscidial, *a.* [irreg. for PROBOSCIDAL.] = PROBOSCIDEAN *a.* 1864 in WEBSTER.

Proboscidiferous (prɒbɒsidi·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *proboscid-em* PROBOSCIS + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing or having a proboscis; *spec.* in *Conch.*, belonging to a division of pectinibranchiate gastropods (*Proboscidifera*) characterized by a long retractile snout.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 10 The Proboscidiferous Mollusca are carnivorous, making use of the organ for perforating the shells of other animals. 1878 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 652/1 The modification in the form of the snout upon which the mouth is placed, leading to the distinction of 'proboscidiferous' and 'rostriferous' Gastropods.

Proboscidiform (prɒbɒsi·difĕrm), *a.* [f. as prec. + -(I)FORM.] Having the form or shape of a proboscis; proboscis-like.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 452/1 Melanopsis. Animal furnished with a proboscidiform muzzle. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* iv. 178 With a second hollow muscular proboscidiform organ, which may be termed the frontal proboscis.

Probosciformed (prǫbǫ·sĭfǭmd), *a.* [f. PROBOSCIS + *formed.*] Proboscis-shaped.

1851 DARWIN *Cirripedia* I. 176 The surface of the probosciformed mouth. 1859 — *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (1860) 440 The larvæ in the first stage have..a very simple single eye, and a probosciformed mouth.

Proboscigerous (prǫbŏsi·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + L. *-ger* bearing + -OUS.] Bearing a proboscis. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Proboscis (prǫbǫ·sis). *Pl.* **probo·scides** (-idīz), **probo·scises** (-isĕz); *erron.* **probosces.** [a. L. *proboscis, -cidem* (Plin.), a. Gr. *προβοσκίς, -ιδ-* an elephant's trunk, lit. 'a means of providing food' (Liddell & Scott), f. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *βόσκειν* to feed.]

1. An elephant's trunk; also applied to the long flexible snout of some other mammals, as the tapir and proboscis-monkey.

[1576 EDEN tr. *Vertomannus' Voy.* iv. ix, The trunke or snoute of the elephant (which of the Latines is called Promuscis or Proboscis). 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 195.] 1609 Bp. W. BARLOW *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 312 As the Elephant vseth her proboscis or trunke. *a* 1631 DONNE *Progr. Soul* 390 Like an unbent bowe carelessly His sinewy Proboscis did remisly lie. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* iv. 347 Th'unwieldy Elephant To make them mirth us'd all his might, and wreathd His Lithe Proboscis. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxx. (1737) 138 With their Snouts or *Proboscis's*..they draw up Water. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 328 At last he lifted up his Proboscs, and made a horrid noise. 1803 NICOLLS in Gurw. *Wellington's Desp.* (1837) II. 586 *note*, To each pair of iron 12 pounders, an elephant is attached, which assists them in their draught..they apply their proboscis..to the muzzle. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* xi. (1873) 435 The upper lip may unite with the nose to form an elongated proboscis, as in the Elephant.

2. *humorous.* The human nose.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* II. ii, No flattery for't, No lick-foot, pain of losing your proboscis. 1705 *Dyet of Poland* 1 The World's Proboscis near the Globe's Extreme. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* i, A fair enough proboscis as noses go.

3. *Entom.* Applied to various elongated, often tubular and flexible, parts of the mouth of insects.

a. The beak or rostrum of the *Rhynchophora* or snout-beetles. b. The long coiled *haustellum, antlia*, or sucker of the *Lepidoptera*. c. The buccal apparatus of the *Hymenoptera*. d. The sucking mouth of a fly.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Jan., Three jettos of water gushing out of the mouthes or proboscis of bees (the armes of the late Pope). 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Some have a proboscis like flies. 1664 [see PROBE *sb.* 2]. 1792 J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 173 The male of the humble bee, which collects its own food, has as long a proboscis, or tongue, as the female. 1828 [see PROMUSCIS 2]. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 615 Amongst .. the Bugs .. the mouth is armed with a tubular and cylindrical proboscis, directed downwards and backwards. *Ibid.* § 616 Amongst the Flies .. the proboscis .. represents the under lip, and often bears palpi at its base...Sometimes this proboscis acquires an enormous length; sometimes on the contrary it is hardly visible. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* vii. (1864) 173 Their habit is to attach themselves to the skin by plunging their proboscides into it.

4. An extensible tubular structure of varying function in other invertebrates, *esp.* a sucking organ in various worms, and the tongue of some mollusks.

1796 BELL in Southey *Life* (1844) II. 27 These spawns.. dart about in all directions...Some of the largest have proboscises. 1830 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 381 *Entozoa*.. the head furnished with fossulæ, suckers, and one or more naked or armed proboscides. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 119 The aperture of the anus..is usually placed excentrically in one of the spaces between the arms, and..generally..carried at the end of a longer or shorter tubular eminence or process ..called the 'proboscis'.

5. Short for *proboscis-monkey.*

1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 105 Excitement as to whether the 'moniet' was but a common proboscis or wa-wa.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *proboscis-like* adj.; **proboscis-monkey**, a large semnopithecine ape, *Nasalis larvatus*: = KAHAU; **proboscis-rat** = ELEPHANT *shrew* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 58 The Indian tapir ..has no mane, and the snout is longer and more *proboscis-like. 1793 PENNANT *Quadrupeds* (ed. 3) II. 322 *Proboscis Monkey..the nose projecting very far beyond the mouth.. in the profile it exactly resembles a long proboscis. 1885 HORNADAY 2 *Yrs. in Jungle* xxxiii. 395 The proboscis monkey ..is found only in Borneo.

Hence **Proboscised** (prǫbǫ·sist) *a.*, furnished with a proboscis.

1883 THOMPSON tr. *Müller's Fert. Flowers* 579 Long-proboscised varieties of insects.

Proboscoid (prǫbǫ·skoid), *a.* [irreg. f. PROBOSC-IS + -OID.] = PROBOSCIDIFORM *a.*

1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 407/1 By means of their proboscoid mouth..they grasp..the object on which they are placed.

†**Probo·ss.** *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [=**probosce*, shortened from PROBOSCIS.]

1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 129 Dreaming thus, an Elephant to toss; He was strook Dead, by the flinty Proboss.

Probouleu·tic, *a. Gr. Hist.* [f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *βουλευτικός* belonging to the *βουλή* or council, deliberative: cf. *προβουλεύειν* to pass a preliminary decree.] That deliberates preliminarily; *spec.* applied to the Athenian senate, which discussed measures before they were submitted to the Assembly.

1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xi. III. 161 He [Solon] created the pro-bouleutic or preconsidering senate. 1879 W. F. ALLEN in *Penn. Monthly* Feb. 124 (Cent.) A probouleutic body, like that of Athens, which prepared business for the Assembly. 1904 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* III. iii. 69 Nobles, barons, and burghs should all elect their own representatives on the 'probouleutic' board.

†**Pro·bre.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *probrum* reproach, disgrace.] A reproach, an insult.

c 1460 *Oseney Regr.* 205 Vppon summe despites or probris, harmys, violences, and oþer moony wronges.

†**Proc, prock.** *Obs. U.S.* Abbreviation of *proclamation money*: see PROCLAMATION *sb.* 5.

1755 J. MURRAY *Lett.* (1902) 78 The Money I get since the Presidents Currency came out is all proc. 1768 *N. Carolina Col. Rec.* VII. 775 To the amount of Five Pounds Prock. 1776 *N. Jersey Arch.* Ser. II. I. 80 At 30s. proc. the season. *Ibid.* 94 Joseph Archer..has this day obtained of me..a Note of Hand for Twelve Pounds proc. money.

‖ **Procaccio** (prǫka·ttʃǫ). *Obs.* Also 8 **-cia,** procace. [It. *procaccio*, prop. purveying, provision, procuring, diligence: hence obs. F. *procace* 'the Post, or Carrier that goeth weekely betweene Rome and Naples' (Cotgr.).] A regular provision for the conveyance of passengers or goods in Italy; a transit agency.

1645 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Jan., The hast of our Procaccio did not suffer us to dwell so long on these objects,..as we desired. *a* 1743 OZELL tr. *Brantome's Spanish Rhodomont.* (1744) 167, I was going, one Day, to Naples with the Procace. 1787 BECKFORD *Lett. Italy* (1805) I. xlii. 411 A procaccia sets out every day at twelve o'clock. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* III. i. (1848) 200 The procaccio and its convoy; a kind of caravan..for the transportation of merchandize, with an escort of soldiery to protect it from the robbers.

Procacious (prǫkē·ĭʃəs), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *procāx*, stem *-cāci-* (see next) + -OUS.] Forward, insolent, saucy, pert. Hence **Proca·ciously** *adv.*

1660 BAXTER *Self-Denial* xliv. 237 The temptations of women, and procacious youth. 1685 — *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Pet. iii. 3 A vain, proud, procacious, tempting mind. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 535 Denying procaciously what he wishes to confer. 1869 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 197, I stuck in M. Arnold's brilliant and procacious lecture.

Procacity (prǫkæ·sĭti). Now *rare.* [ad. F. *procacité* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *procācitās, -ātem* impudence, f. *procāx, -ācem* forward, bold, petulent, insolent, f. *proc-āre, -āri* to ask, demand.] Forwardness, petulance; sauciness, pertness.

1621 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 453 Let Scaliger pay for his malapert procacity against Paulus, concerning ignorance. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. vi. i. (1676) 333/1 In vain are all your flatteries,..Delights, deceipts, procacities, Sighs, kisses, and conspiracies. *a* 1677 BARROW *Pope's Suprem.* I. xv. (1680) 76 Porphyrius with good colour of reason might have objected procacity to S. Paul in taxing his betters. 1859 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. *Myst.* (1861) 360 That mouth,..arch and kind, with a beautiful procacity or petulance about it. 1865 J. H. STIRLING *Secret Hegel* I. 122 Precipitate procacity and pretentious levity.

†**Pro·cacy, -ie.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *procācia* insolence.] = prec.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. xvi. § 4 (1622) 169 Not libertie or audacitie, but petulancie and procacie.

‖ **Procambium** (prǫkæ·mbĭəm). *Bot.* [mod. L.: see PRO- 2 I and CAMBIUM.] The young tissue of a fibrovascular bundle, before its differentiation into permanent cells of wood, bast, etc. Also *attrib.* Hence **Proca·mbial** *a.*, of or pertaining to procambium.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 93 This form of tissue of the young bundle, which has not yet undergone differentiation, may be termed *Procambium*. *Ibid.*, As soon as a procambium bundle has become transformed into a closed fibro-vascular bundle, all further growth ceases. 1876 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 105/2 A procambial bundle being first formed, which differentiates..into xylem and phloëm layers.

Procarp (prōu·kāɹp). *Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *procarpium*, f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 I + *καρπός* fruit, dim. *κάρπιον*.] The female organ of some algæ and fungi, which when fertilized develops into a sporocarp.

1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* 121 In the Florideae it is the procarpium (procarp), which consists of a single cell or a small cell-group. 1892 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 289/1 The female organ is a procarp, whose structure varies in complexity in the different orders of Rhodophyceæ.

Procatalectic (prōukætăle·ktik), *a. Pros. rare.* [f. PRO- 2 + CATALECTIC.] Of a verse: Incomplete at the beginning; wanting the unaccented part of the first foot.

‖ **Procatalepsis** (prōukætăle·psis). *Rhet.* [med.L., a. Gr. *προκατάληψις* anticipation, n. of action f. *προκαταλαμβάνειν* to take up beforehand, anticipate.] A rhetorical figure by which an opponent's objections are anticipated and answered.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 96 *Procatalepsis* or *Præoccupatio*, when wee doe anticipate vnto our selues that we know will be obiected, as thus, what doe you obiect vnto me the times passed, those seasons and ours are vtterly vnlike? 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 239 *margin*, Procatalepsis, or the presumptuous, otherwise the figure of Presupposall.

†**Procata·rctic,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [= F. *procatarctique* (16th c. in Littré), ad. mod.L. *procatarctic-us*, a. Gr. *προκαταρκτικ-ός* antecedent, f. *προκατάρχειν* to begin first.] *Med.* Applied to an external cause which is the immediate occasion of a disease. Also applied *gen.* to the immediate or exciting cause of any effect, as distinguished from its predisposing cause or ground. (Opposed to PROEGUMENAL.)

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Procatarcticke causes of sicknesse*, be such as are evident and comming from without, which yeeld occasion of disease, but do not mainteine the same: as the heat of the Sunne, causing headach or the ague. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 185, I can but wonder at Arminius and others, seeking in the vessels of Mercy, the Procatarcticke Cause of Election. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* xii. 132 The procatarctick or external causes of Pulmonique Consumptions. 1717 J. KEILL *Anim. Oecon.* (1738) 234 No procatarctic Cause appears of so great a Perspiration in the Night. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 559 In early times the causes of diseases chiefly contemplated were proegumenal or predisponent and procatarctic or occasional. Thus an hereditary taint..may be regarded as a proegumenal cause of gout, and catching cold..may form its procatarctic cause.

¶ **b.** By some applied to the primary cause.

1658 PHILLIPS s. v., *Procatarctick cause*, that cause which foregoeth or beginneth another cause [1696 (ed. 5) adds—and cooperates with others which are subsequent]. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Procatarctic*, remote, not next cause of a disease. 1689 AUBREY *Lives, Lucius Cary* (1898) I. 152 It so broke and weakned the king's army, that 'twas the procatarctique cause of his ruine. 1695 TRYON *Dreams & Vis.* App. 256 Pride may justly be said to be the chief Procatarctick, or remote original cause of Madness. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1725) I. 311 Whoever would accuse Ignorance, Stupidity, and Dastardness, as the first, and what Physicians call the Procatarctic Cause, let him examine into the Lives..and Actions of ordinary Rogues and our common Felons, and he will find the reverse to be true.

B. as *sb.* (ellipt. for *procatarctic cause*).

1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 212 It is a procatarctic of the scurvy.

†**Procata·rctical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec.

1601 Bp. W. BARLOW *Defence* 92 The procatarcticall, or first mooving cause. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Childe of Light* 168 God often useth even the guilt of that very sinne to terrifie thee;..it is both the procatarcticall cause and the executioner of it. 1654 WARREN *Unbelievers* 46 His death was ..looked upon..as the procatarctical, or outward moving cause of the transient act of God in justification. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. xvii. 63 Procatarctical, is that which Extrinsically excites the principal Cause to Action. The Proëgumenal, which inwardly disposes, or also excites the principal Cause to Action.

‖ **Procata·rxis.** *Obs.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *προκάταρξις* a first beginning: see PROCATARCTIC.] A 'procatarctic' or exciting cause, or its operation.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Procatarctica*, the pre-existent Cause of a Disease, which co-operates with others that are subsequent; whether it be external or internal, as Anger, or Heat in the Air, which beget ill Juice in the Blood, and cause a Fever. *Procatarxis*, the same. 1699 'MISAURUS' *Honour of Gout* 24 And remove the Procatarxis of the Gout. 1719–26 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.*, *Procatarxis*..is the pre-existent Cause of a Disease.

Pro-cathedral (prōu|kăþī·drăl), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PRO- 1 4 + CATHEDRAL *sb.*] **a.** *adj.* Used as the substitute for a cathedral. **b.** *sb.* A church used instead of, or as a substitute for a cathedral church.

1868 A. K. H. BOYD *Less. Mid. Age* 134 The ancient parish church of the Holy Trinity was ranked as pro-cathedral when episcopacy was restored for a while under the Stuarts. 1874 *Catholic Calendar* [R.C.] 36 Pro-Cathedral of Westminster.—Our Lady of Victories,..opened 2nd July, 1869. *Ibid.* 52 Diocese of Beverley,..York...Pro-Cathedral of S. Wilfred. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 22 Oct. 5/1 The Bishop of Liverpool held his triennial visitation in the pro-Cathedral. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 7/2 At a few minutes before twelve the Bishop of Birmingham knocked three times at the south-west door of the Pro-Cathedral, and on its being opened he was received by the Archdeacon of Birmingham and the rector.

†**Proca·tion.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *procātiōn-em* suing, wooing, n. of action f. *procāre* to demand.] An asking in marriage, wooing, suit.

1650 Bp. HALL *Cases Consc., Add.* iii. (ed. 2) 416 She ought to have made him sensible of so odious a procation.

Procatour, obs. form of PROCURATOR, PROCTOR.

Proccy, obs. form of PROXY.

‖ **Procedendo** (prǫusĭde·ndo). *Law.* [L. *prōcēdendo* (*ad judicium*), 'of proceeding (to judgement)': see PROCEED *v.*] (In full (*de*) *procedendo ad judicium.*) A writ which formerly issued out of the common law jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery, commanding a subordinate court to proceed to judgement, either when judgement had been wrongfully delayed, or when the action had been removed to a superior court by *certiorari* or other writ on insufficient grounds.

1593 PEELE *Chron. Edw. I*, Wks. (Rtldg.) 382/1 Here's a *certiorari* for your *procedendo*. [Attacks them with his staff.] 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Trav.* Wks. III. 84/1 Quirks, Quiddits, Demurs, Habeas Corposes, Sursararaes, Procedendoes. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 225 Then the plaintife shall have this writ of Procedendo, for to send again the matter unto the first base court, & there to be determined. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. vii. 109 A writ of *procedendo ad judicium* issues out of the court of chancery, where judges of any subordinate court do delay the parties; for that they will not give judgment, either on the one side or the other, when they ought so to do.

Procedure (prosī·diŭ). Also 7 procedour, -or, 8–9 proceedure. [a. F. *procédure* (1197 in Godef. *Compl.*), f. *procéder* to PROCEED: see -URE.]

1. The fact or manner of proceeding with any action, or in any circumstance or situation; a system of proceeding; proceeding, in reference to its mode or method; conduct, behaviour.

1611 COTGR., *Procedure*, a procedure; a course, or proceeding. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 21 The best husbandry ..has been in Staffordshire, where this procedure is general. 1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 406 Their summare manner of procedor. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* II. 65 Of the Procedure and Operations in surveying Seacoasts, according to their various Circumstances. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 293/1 This is precisely the procedure which, in Elocution, we deprecate. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxii. VIII. 3 Tasting the difference between Spartan and Athenian procedure.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A particular action or course of action, a proceeding; a particular mode of action.

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 28 Many times the distinction of these several procedures of the Soul do not always appear distinct. 1686 COTTON tr. *Montaigne* (1877) I. 25 This was, indeed, a procedure truly Roman. *a* 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) V. ii. 30 *note*, Cicero justifies such procedures. 1812 WOODHOUSE *Astron.* xxix. 290 We may adopt a contrary procedure. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lxxi, He won his fortune by dishonest procedures.

c. *spec.* Legal action or proceeding; the steps taken in a legal action, collectively; the mode or form of conducting judicial proceedings (as distinguished from those branches of the law which define rights or prescribe penalties).

1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 486 The manner of the Jews procedure in their several courts of judicature. 1687 *Royal Let. to Privy Counc. Scot.* 12 Feb. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2221/2 If any shall be so bold as to shew any dislike of this Our Procedour. 1728 LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) I. 67 The treatment of Paul in Judea, so far as there is any appearance of a legal procedure. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. III. v. 641 The system of procedure; or the round of operations through which the judicial services—inquiry, sentence, and enforcement—are rendered. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* IX. 189/1 The blending of native consuetudinary law and English civil and criminal procedure in the administration of justice.

d. The mode of conducting business in Parliament.

1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* i. (1858) 5 To a remote observer of Parliamentary procedure it seems surprising..to see what space this question occupies in the Debates of the Nation. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 136 The Standing Orders are rules and forms of procedure which have been adopted as they were found necessary from time to time. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 375 The rules and forms of parliamentary procedure.

† **2.** The going on or continuance of an action or process; progress, course. *Obs.*

1644 [HOWELL] *Merc. Hibernicus* 1 Whether one cast his eyes upon the beginning and procedure of the warre..or upon the late Cessation. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 253 The hindrance of the Procedure of the Work. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) VI. 427 The Confidence reposed by Men in their own Hearts will in the Procedure of this Discourse appear to be inexcusably foolish.

† **b.** The action of proceeding or going on *to* something. *Obs. rare.*

1663 OWEN *Vind. Animadv.* Wks. 1851 XIV. 426 Your next procedure is to your discourse of figures or images and my animadversions upon it.

3. The fact of proceeding or issuing *from* a source; origination. *rare.*

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 37 You will say, your Religion is as ancient as ours; having its procedure from Christ. 1865 GINSBURG in *L'pool Lit. & Philos. Soc. Proc.* XIX. 185 The procedure of multifariousness from an absolute unity.

† **b.** *concr.* Something that proceeds, issues, or is derived from something else; proceeds, produce. *Obs.*

1614 T. GENTLEMAN *Way to Wealth* 6 They..returne for the procedure of fish and herrings, the fore-named commodities. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 550 There is not any known Substance, but Earth, and the Procedure of Earth (as Tile, Stone, &c.) that yeeldeth any Moss or Herby Substance.

Proceed (prōu·sēd), *sb.* Also 7 procede. [f. next.]

† **1.** The action, or manner, of proceeding or going on; proceeding, procedure; course. *Obs.*

1628 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) I. 344 He now looks for a present proceed in his affairs, laying by all unnecessary delays. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 1 For one more orderly proceed into the body of this Work. 1674 OWEN *Vind. Doctr. Communion* Wks. 1851 II. 297 His proceed in the same page is to except against that revelation of the wisdom of God which I affirm to have been made.

2. That which proceeds, is derived, or results from something; that which is obtained or gained by any transaction; produce, outcome, profit. Now almost always in *pl.* proceeds.

sing. 1643 *Declar. Commons, Reb. Irel.* 48 Saint Mallo in France, where the Hides were sold, and the proceed returned unto him in the said Ship. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. I. xxix. 47 The only procede (that I may use the mercantile term) you can expect is thanks. *Ibid.* II. 105 The procede of this exchange wil come far short of any Gentlemans expectations. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 256 The neat proceed of the same sum, expended in the same given time..will amount only to [etc.]. 1891 STEVENSON *Valima Lett.* viii. (1895) 74 Dust and not flour is the proceed.

pl. 1665 PEPYS *Diary* 11 Dec., About £350,000 sterling was coined out of the French money, the proceeds of Dunkirke. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Proceed*, that which arises from a thing; as The Neat Proceeds among Merchants. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 287 The net proceeds of the customs amounted in the same year to five hundred and thirty thousand pounds. 1885 SIR W. B. BRETT in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 877 Handing over the proceeds of sale to the execution creditor.

Proceed (prosī·d), *v.* Forms: 4–8 procede, 5–7 -ceede, 6-ceade, *Sc.* -ceid (e, (-sede, prossed), 6– proceed. [ME. *procede-n*, a. F. *procéder* (13–14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), a. L. *prōcēd-ĕre* to go forward, advance, go on: see PRO-[1] and CEDE.]

1. *intr.* To go, move, or travel forward; to make one's way onward; *esp.* to move onward after interruption or stoppage, or after reaching a certain point; to continue one's movement or travel.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 12 The kyng procedyng forthe upon his way, Kome to the Condyte made in cercle wise. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 Before we procede on our iourney. *a* 1550 *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 72 But up in haist he did prossed. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. vi. 224 Then proceeding on their way, they finde an Arch. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 183 Elisha..did not procede on his intended journey. 1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 87 This intention of her's, to proceed for Lancashire. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 18 Accompanied by our guide, we proceeded to the glacier.

2. *intr.* To 'go on' with or carry on an action or series of actions, a discourse, an investigation, etc.; esp. with reference to the manner or order observed. Also with indirect passive.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 13 To þe worschip of our Lord Jhesu Crist, & due ordre procedand up þe gospel. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5159 To holde A counsell in the case,..And procede on hor purpos, as prise men of wer. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* Introd. (Roxb.) 1 Two thyngys..To advertysyn begynnyng a werk If he procedyn wyl ordeneely. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 364 The cause, why the Emperor proceded on thys wise against them. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xv, Who thus proceeds, for aye in sacred mount shall raign. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xx. 59 Matters also of private regard were there proceeded upon. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 27 P 1 The true Philosopher must always proceed with a sober Pace. 1884 F. TEMPLE *Relat. Relig. & Sc.* vii. (1885) 210 Science proceeds in far the majority of cases by trial of some theory as a working hypothesis.

† **b.** To carry on an argument, to argue, debate. *It is proceeded* = it is argued. *Obs. rare.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 208 As for answere and assoiling to the firste argument, y procede thus. *Ibid.* 565 Agens al this blamyng..it is procedid in othere placis of my writingis. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 120 Who proceeds with them on the supposition of a lost New Testament.

c. To deal *with*; to treat, act (in some way, esp. judicially) with regard to. (With indirect passive.)

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 141 Ye to be juge, and lyk as ye proceede. We shal obeye to your ordynaunce. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 157 These men..ought not to be proceeded with, with such rigour. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 69, I will not hide My judgments, how with Mankind I proceed. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 157 But how severely with themselves proceed The men, who write such Verse as we can read? 1831 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 330 The party offending should not only be disfranchised, but otherwise proceeded with to the utmost rigour of the law.

d. *spec.* To institute and carry on a legal action or process; to take legal proceedings, go to law (*against*, † *upon* a person). With indirect (formerly impersonal) passive.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 10 (Harl. MS.) Perfore we aske of you, þat it be procedid agenst him, as owith to be don agen a breker of þe lawe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxii. 255 Yf ye wyll procede vpon Huon by iustyce. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 179 In such rule, that the Venetian Law Cannot impugne you as you do proceed. 1607 — *Cor.* III. i. 314 Proceed by Processe, Least parties..breake out. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 148 Direction in what manner he should proceed against such as refused.

3. *intr.* With stress on the progress or continuance of the action: To go on, advance, to continue acting, speaking, etc.: in various shades of meaning.

a. To go on with or continue what one has begun; to advance from the point already reached, go further, pursue one's course; to go on after interruption, renew or resume action or speech.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. Prol. 38 Ther wist non what other mente. So that thei myhten noght procede. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. xi. 103 Procedeth now forth in youre mater. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 8 Thou schalt have strenghte, and myghte, Forth to procede in long felicite. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xix. 2 And Ionathas proceaded further, and sware vnto Dauid (he loued him so well). 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 16 b, Exhorting him to procede as he hath begonne. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* x. 74, I proceeded on with my trial. 1769 GOLDSM. *Hist. Rome* (1786) II. 378 In this manner Perennius proceeded sacrificing numbers of the Senate. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. v. 350 Henry..was determined to proceed with the divorce. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 3. 484 The Commons ..refused to proceed with public business till their members were restored.

b. To go on *to do* something; to advance *to* another action, subject, etc.; to pass on from one point to another in a series or sequence of any kind (said also of the series, or of its terms or items).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 105, I wol procede To speke upon Mathematique. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* I. (1520) 6/2 Of thes men is lytel wryten in scrypture and therfore I procede to other. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering Deacons*, Then shal the Bisshop procede to the Communion. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 2, I will begin with one of their toyes, and so proceed to greater matters. 1674 T. CAMPION *Art of Descant* 41 The one part proceding by degree, the other by leap. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. i. § 8 Before I proceed on to what I have thought this Subject. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* 35 The Terms in the horizontal Row must be placed to proceed from the greater Indices to the lesser. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Sect. iii. (1840) I. 116, I therefore proceed to observe, that [etc.]. 1825 THIRLWALL *Crit. Ess.* 168 The narrative proceeds from one incident to another, by the slightest connecting phrases. 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* xv. 221 From the globular clusters of stars our author proceeds to the binary systems.

c. *absol.* To continue or pursue one's discourse (in speech or writing); to go on to say.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xiii. (Percy Soc.) 52, I must procede, and shew of Arismetrik With divers nombres which I must reporte. 1570 *Henry's Wallace* VI. 72 + 6 Heirof as now I will na mair proceid. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* V. ii. 570 The Conqueror is dismaid: Proceede good Alexander. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 280 To proceed, the land of Egypt is highly renowned. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VI. 19 Proceed, my Muse: Two Satyrs, on the Ground Stretch'd at his Ease, their Sire Silenus found. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxxiii, He paused, and then proceeded; 'I do not intrude myself on your confidence [etc.]'. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* 37 The Holy Sacraments, he proceeds, were frightfully profaned.

d. To carry on an action or discourse to a particular point or stage; to advance (so far), make some progress. Now *rare* or merged in a.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 b, When he had a litle proceded, he demaundeth of him in Latin, whether he wil kepe the Catholicke faith. 1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 492 The..rampier.., begun and considerablie proceeded in in ould time.., was this yeare recontinued. 1660 *Trial Regic.* 105 The treaty was so far proceeded in that it was near a perfection. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 132 We again proceeded towards mooring the sloop.

† **e.** In emphatic sense: To make progress, advance, get on; to prosper. *Obs.*

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* IV. iii, This is the hour wherein I shall proceed: Oh, happy hour, wherein I shall convert An infidel. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* III. i, These things, when they proceed not, they go backward. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4191/1 The French proceed but very slowly in the Siege of the Castle. 1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 18 Sept., Invite Mr. Levet to dinner, and make enquiry what family he has, and how they proceed.

4. *intr.* To advance, in one's university course, from graduation as B. A. to some higher degree, as master or doctor. In the Inns of Court, to advance or be admitted to the status of a barrister.

One is said to graduate B. A., to proceed M. A., B. D., etc. (in U. S. also to proceed B. A.).

1479 W. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 246, I supposed..that the Qwenys broder schold have procedyd at Mydsomer. 1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 § 5 Any person..which shal resorte to any of the sayde vniuersities to procede doctours in diuinitie. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 37 b, Althoughe I.. haue not proceded to degre in the Vniuersitie. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1297/1 He proceaded Bachelour of Diuinitye in the sayde Vniuersitye of Cambridge. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 41, I am a scholler, and I haue proceeded maister in the seauen Liberall Sciences. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 131 After hee became student in the Temple, where he proceeded Barrester. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* II. ix. (1852) 154 His eldest son he maintained at the Colledge until he proceeded master of arts. 1828 H. GUNNING *Ceremonies Univ. Camb.* (new ed.) 168 Between the two Congregations he [a B.A. of 3 yrs. standing] visits the Vice-Chancellor..(*Note.* The practice of visiting is now discontinued. The Candidates for degrees ask the Vice-Chancellor leave to proceed as he is quitting the Senate-House.) 1833 B. PEIRCE *Hist. Harvard Univ.* 52 In 1656 he proceeded Bachelor of Arts. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* i. 8 In 1632, when he proceeded to his M.A. degree, Milton was twenty-four. 1893 *Daily News* 24 Mar. 5/3 The new Archdeacon was educated at St. John's College, Oxford, graduated B.A...in 1847, and proceeded M.A. in 1851, B.D. in 1856, and D.D. in 1860. 1899 *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* 74 A Bachelor of Arts can proceed to the degree of Master in the twenty-seventh Term from his Matriculation, provided [etc.].

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To advance to some status or function; to grow or develop into; to become.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 159 That as you haue proued learned Philosophers, you will also proceede excellent diuines. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* Prol., To make a child now swadled, to proceed Man. 1647 FULLER *Good Th. in Worse T.* (1841) 152 Shall a plant take a new degree and proceed sensible? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 440 Shooting out with Legs, and imp'd with Wings, The Grubs proceed to Bees with pointed Stings. 1704 HEARNE *Duct. Hist.* (1714) I. 224 After they were become Masters in the Law, they proceeded Rabbi or Doctor.

5. *intr.* Of an action, process, etc. **a.** To go on, be carried on, take place; to take effect. (Cf. 2.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 28 If þe law procede for me, be þe sentance of þe law I sall aw þe no thyng, for I ouercom þe. 1521 *Maldon, Essex, Town clerk's oath of office* Liber B. lf. 57 b, Ye shall truly write all siche procese as shall procede this yere betwix party and party. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 181 He will..tell you What hath proceeded worthy note to day. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 244 With Diligence the fragrant Work proceeds. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 352 This Rule..proceeds and takes place when the Ambiguity thereof consists in some Points of Law alone. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 85 Forth I fared:..Saw proceed the transmutation—Jura's black to one gold glow.

b. To go on or advance to a certain point; to be carried on further, to continue. (Cf. 3.)

1670 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 319 The two Bills are both yet proceeded no further then to a commitment. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 122 To what a pitch.. the depravity of the poet had proceeded. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 466/2 The jury was discharged by consent, and the case proceeded before the judge alone. 1892 'F. ANSTEY' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 156 The Pantomime proceeds without further disturbance.

†**6.** *trans.* To proceed with, or cause to proceed; to carry on; in *passive*, of legal proceedings. *Obs.*

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 441/2 John Duc of Norffolk.. besekes..yat in yis matier nothing be proceded, nor putte in execution, to his disheritance..; duryng his noun age. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxiv. [cx.] 327 Then I began to wake, to procede this historye more than I dyd before. 1585 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 9 That nathing suld be procedit aganis hir be vertew thairof. 1792 Mary Wollstonecr. *Rights Wom.* ii. 36 So that the man may only have to proceed, not to begin, the important task of learning to think and reason.

7. *intr.* To go or come forth; to issue. **a.** lit. *from* (†*of*), *out of* a material thing or place; and in directly derived uses. In quot. 1703, of position or direction, to arise or spring *from*.

1382 Wyclif *John* xv. 26 A spirit of treuthe, the whiche procedith [*gloss* or cometh forth] of the fadir, he schal bere witnessing of me. 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 1609 Oute of whos byll procedyd a gret leme..lyke a son beme. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xxi. 41 Fra everilk mowth fair wirdis proceidis. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* iv. 4 Every worde that proceadeth out off the mouth off God. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion, Nicene Creed*, I beleue in the holy ghost, the Lorde and geuer of life, who procedeth from the father and the sonne. 1582 N. Lichefield tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. xiii. 33 (*margin*) Laker is a kinde of gum that procedeth of the Ant. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 170 There are many other Lakes in the high mountains, whence proceede brooks and rivers. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 30 It is fixed..by two small Shanks proceeding from that Edge of the Spring. 1813 *Sk. Charac.* (ed. 2) I. 125 Soft sobs were heard proceeding from Catherine's bed. 1889 Jessopp *Coming of Friars* vi. 264 The most sumptuous work that has ever proceeded from the Cambridge Press.

b. *spec.* To be the issue or descendant *of*; to be descended, spring *from* (a parent, ancestor, or stock). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* III. (1520) 27/2 Maria Cleophe the whiche was wedded to Alphe of whome proceded James the lesse. 1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 1 They were both of good birth, and proceeded of foure principal houses. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 381 Virgin Mother, Haile, High in the love of Heav'n, yet from my Loynes Thou shalt proceed, and from thy Womb the Son Of God most High. 1768–74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 195 We all proceed from the loins of Adam.

c. *fig.* and *gen.* To issue, spring, arise, originate, emanate, result, be derived (*from*, †*of* a source or cause). Formerly also with other constructions: To arise, come into being, come to pass, happen.

c 1393 Chaucer *Scogan* 6 Allas from whens may þis þyng procede. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Poge* iv, Wherof procedeth to me grete solas and playsyre. 1514 Barclay *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* (Percy Soc.) 24 Yf by your labour procedeth more rychesse. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) C j b, Whereby somtime it proceedeth that..customes..which at sometyme haue beene in price, become not regarded. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 680 Teach me the various Labours of the Moon, And whence proceed th' Eclipses of the Sun. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 22/2 Where deafness proceeds from an obstruction of the auditory duct, by wax. 1850 M'Cosh *Div. Govt.* III. iii. (1874) 425 One-half of man's exertions, and more than one-half of his happiness proceeds from hope.

Proceeder (prōsī·dəɹ). Also 6 **procedar.** [f. prec. vb. + -er 1.] One who proceeds.

1. One who carries on some action, or acts in some particular way; an agent, doer.

1555 H. Pendilton in Bonner *Homilies* 38 b, The impudente procedars haue taughte the zely people that euery man shoulde and may be a iudge of controuersyes. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* (1657) 344 Which the Devil seeing, thought it seasonable to trip up the proceeders heels.

b. One who carries on a legal process.

a 1618 Raleigh *Rem.* (1664) 257 Be thou [Christ] my speaker, taintless Pleader, Unblotted Lawyer, true Proceeder.

2. One who is proceeding to a university degree. ? *Obs.* (Cf. Inceptor 1.)

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xli. (1887) 241 Are not the proceeders to reade in any of those sciences? 1625 Bp. Mountagu *App. Caesar* II. v. 144 To tender unto Proceeders this Proposition, 'The Pope Is Antichrist'. 1744 Tanner *Notitia Monast.* Pref. 41 A little before the Reformation the greatest part of the proceeders in divinity at Oxford were monks and Regular canons.

3. One who advances or makes progress. (In 1596 transf. from 2.)

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* IV. ii. 11 *Bian.* And may you proue sir Master of your Art. *Luc.* While you sweet deere proue Mistresse of my heart. *Hor.* Quiecke proceeders, marry. 1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Nat. in Men* (Arb.) 159 The second will make him a smale proceeder thoughe by often prevaylinges.

Proceeding (prōsī·diŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Proceed.

1. The action of going onward; advance, onward movement or course.

1517 Torkington *Pilgr.* (1884) 41 At the procedyng owt of the..Chapell.., They Shewyd on to vs..&c. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 198 b, There is no suche mouynge or outwarde procedynge, as this example sheweth. 1612 Brerewood *Lang. & Relig.* xiii. (1614) 114 Plinie, in the deriuation of water, requireth one cubit of declining, in 240 foot of proceeding. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* x. 50 In the proceeding of 200. foot forward, there should bee allowed one foot of descending. 1832 Longf. *Brook* 7 To me thy clear proceeding brighter seems, Than golden sands.

†**b.** A company of people marching along in regular order on a festive occasion; a procession.

1660 *England's Joy* in Somers *Tracts* 4th Collect. (1751) II. 142 From this Tent the Proceeding was thus ordered, *viz.* First, The City Marshal..Next the Sheriffs Trumpets; then the Sheriffs Men in Scarlet Cloaks [etc.]. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5270/6 Those who formed the first part of the Proceeding,..came down in Solemn Procession. 1727 *Acc. Ceremonies Coronations* 13 About 12 of the Clock the Proceeding begins to move.

2. The carrying on of an action or series of actions; action, course of action; conduct, behaviour: = Procedure 1.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* iv. 39 The Tyrians were as diligent to inuent all such thinges as might giue impediment to their proceding. 1603 Drayton *Bar. Wars* I. lvii, For who observes strict Policies true Lawes, Shifts his Proceeding to the varying Cause. 1702 Pepys *Let. to Kneller* in *Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 238 My surprise, at the manner of my friend's proceeding with me. 1756 Burke *Subl. & B.* Pref., We must make use of a cautious, I had almost said, a timorous, method of proceeding. 1816 A. C. Hutchison *Pract. Obs. Surg.* (1826) 192 This line of proceeding..will soon clear the list of such persons, of the description we are adverting to, as have any soul or feeling.

b. A particular action or course of action; a piece of conduct or behaviour; a transaction: = Procedure 1 b. Most usually in *pl.*: Doings, actions, transactions.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* VII. 140 b, The continuall felicitie he was wont to haue, in all his procedinges. 1641 (*title*) The Diurnall Occurrences, or Dayly Proceedings of Both Houses, in this Great and Happy Parliament, From the third of November 1640, to the third of November 1641. 17.. Swift (J.), From the earliest ages of christianity, there never was a precedent of such a proceeding. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. ix. 70, I..shall inform myself ..of all your proceedings. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 27 The law..stepped in to prevent a proceeding which it regarded as petty treason to the commonwealth.

c. *pl.* A record or account of the doings of a society; sometimes *spec.* a record of the business done, with abstracts or reports of the less important papers not included in the *Transactions*.

1830 (*title*) Proceedings of the Royal Society. 1843 (*title*) Proceedings of the Philological Society for 1842–43. 1904 (*title*) Proceedings of the British Academy (vol. I.) 1903–04.

3. *spec.* The instituting or carrying on of an action at law; a legal action or process; any act done by authority of a court of law; any step taken in a cause by either party.

1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 66 Dischargis the.. officiaris, of all arresting, atteching, unlawing, calling or proceding aganis the said George. 1591 Greene *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) 11 Think you some lawyers could be such purchasers, if al their pleas were short, and their proceedinges iustice and conscience? 1643 *Declar. Commons, Reb. Irel.* 5 Proceedings were begun against the Papists, upon the Statute of 2 Eliz. 1830 J. H. Monk *Life R. Bentley* (1833) II. 279 Having already as much law proceedings on his hands as he could manage. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 268 With these criminal proceedings were joined civil proceedings scarcely less formidable.

4. The action of going on with something already begun; continuance of action; advance, progress; advancement. Now *rare*.

1551 Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 267 To hym allone they attrybute the begynnynges, the encreasynges, the procedynges, the chaunges, and the endes of all thynges. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* III. (1859) 213 The beginning, proceeding, and successe of idolatry. 1660 Milton *Pres. Means* Wks. 1851 V. 457 When they shall see the beginnings and proceedings of these Constitutions propos'd.

b. The taking of a university degree; graduation.

1479 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* III. 246, I understod that my moder and yow wold know what the costes of my procedyng schold be.

5. The action of coming forth or issuing from a place or source; egress; emanation.

1587 Golding *De Mornay* v. (1592) 61 Then let them be inquisitiue..for the proceeding of the holy Ghost. 1877 W. Bruce *Comm. Rev.* 97 Divine Truth in its going forth or proceeding bears witness to Divine Truth in its origin and Essence.

Proceeding, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That proceeds; in quot., progressing, advancing.

1847 Emerson in *Atlantic Monthly* (1892) June 742 The proceeding effects of electric telegraph will give a new importance to such arrangements.

Proceleusmatic (prɒsĕliūsmæ·tik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *proceleusmatic-us*, a. Gr. *προκελευσματικός*, f. *προκέλευσμα* incitement, f. *προκελεύειν* to rouse to action beforehand.]

1. Serving for incitement; animating, inspiriting.

1773 Johnson *West. Isl., Raasay*, The ancient proceleusmatick song by which the rowers of galleys were animated. 1818 C. Mills *Crusades* (1822) I. 55 *note*, In an army..there were as many proceleusmatick words as there were banners. 1866 Engel *Nat. Mus.* iii. 115 The oar-song of the Hebridians, which resembles the proceleusmatic verse by which the rowers of Grecian galleys were animated.

2. *Pros.* **a.** *adj.* Epithet of a metrical foot of four short syllables; pertaining to or consisting of such feet. **b.** *sb.* A proceleusmatic foot.

[1706 Phillips, *Proceleusmaticus Pes*, (in Grammar) a Foot consisting of four short Syllables; as *Pelagius*.] 1751 Wesley *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 74 A Proceleusmatic, which is four short. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* ix. (1868) 589 The proceleusmatic foot, or four short syllables, instead of the dactyl. 1837 C. P. Brown *Sanscrit Prosody* 13 One long being equal to two shorts, the admissible feet are the spondee, dactyl, amphibrach, anapæst and proceleusmatic. 1900 H. W. Smyth *Gk. Melic Poets* 344 Mar[ius] Vic[torinus] says that proceleusmatics were used in Satyric plays, whereas they are alien to sober compositions in anapaests.

Procellarian (prɒselē·riăn), *a.* and *sb. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Procellāria* (f. *procella* storm) + -an.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to or resembling the genus *Procellaria* or family *Procellariidæ* of sea-birds. **b.** *sb.* A bird of this genus or family, a petrel. So **Procella·rid,** a bird of the family *Procellariidæ*; **Procella·riine** (-i,əin) (erron. procellarine), *a.* belonging to the subfamily *Procellariinæ*; *sb.* a bird of this subfamily.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 548 The great families of ducks, Auks, and procellarine birds..throng the seas and passages of the far north. 1864 Webster, *Procellarian*, one of a family of oceanic birds.. the petrel. 1879 H. N. Moseley *Notes Nat. Challenger* 207 Beside the Prion, there is the 'mutton-bird' of the whalers (*Æstrelata Lessoni*), a large Procellarid, as big as a pigeon.

†**Proce·lle.** *Obs. rare*−1. [a. OF. *procelle* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *procella*.] A storm.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16995 Lych vnto a procelle which dryveth all sodeynly a Shyppe vn-to goode aryvaylle.

Procello (prose·lo). *Glass-making.* ? *Obs.* Also 9 **procellos** (? *pl.*), **procellas** (*erron.* **pucellas, priscillas**). [a. It. *procello*: cf. Procer.] A tool used for modifying the form of a glass vessel or object while being rotated on the end of the punty (e. g. for pinching in the neck of a bottle).

[1699 *Blancourt's Making Glass*, The instruments marked E serve to finish the work, which the Italians call Ponteglo, Passago, Procello, Spiei, and also Borsello.] 1788 Rees *Chambers' Cycl.* s.v. *Glass*, The aperture, opened thereby, they further augment, and widen with the procello. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 172 Taking in his right hand an iron instrument, called a procello, the blades of which are connected together by an elastic bow in the manner of a pair of sugar tongs. 1849 Pellatt *Glass Making* 81 The 'pucellas' is somewhat like a pair of sugar-tongs, the prongs resembling the cutting part of sheears, but blunt. 1869 J. Leicester in *Eng. Mech.* 3 Dec. 282/1, 3rd, the procellos, exactly like a pair of sheepshears. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech., Procellas*, (*Glass-making*). *Ibid., Pucellas*,.. a pair of tongs whose flat jaws rub upon the exterior surface of an object to reduce its diameter while it is being rotated. *Ibid., Priscillas*.

†**Proce·llous,** *a. Obs.* [= obs. F. *procelleux* (15th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *procellōs-us* stormy: see Procelle and -ous.] Stormy.

1650 B. *Discolliminium* 22 It is ill building of Steeples in an earth-quake, or setting up weather-cocks in procellous windes. 1772 Nugent tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 265 An happy voyage over the procellous ocean of your funeral parentation.

Procephalic (prōusĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πρό*, Pro-2 + *κεφαλή* head + -ic. In sense 2, f. Gr. *προκέφαλος* 'long-headed', also in Prosody.]

1. *Zool.* Belonging to the fore part of the head; applied to certain lobes or processes in Crustacea and other Arthropoda: see quots.

1874 Lubbock *Orig. & Met. Ins.* iii. 45 This portion is divided by a median fissure into two lobes, which..will be termed the 'procephalic lobes'. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 251 The neural face of the embryo is fashioned first, and its anterior end terminates in two rounded expansions—the procephalic lobes. 1880 — *Crayfish* iv. 160 Two flat calcified plates, which appear to lie in the anterior of the head (though they are really situated in its upper and front wall)..called the *procephalic processes*.

2. *Anc. Pros.* Having a syllable too many at the beginning; applied to a dactylic hexameter having a syllable in excess in the first foot. [So *προκέφαλος* in Hephæstion, A.D. 150.] 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

[**Proception,** error in J., whence repeated in later Dicts., for *prœreption* (in *Eikon Basilike*): see Prereption.]

†**Pro·cer.** *Glass-making. Obs.* [app. of It. origin: cf. Procello.] (See quot.)

1662 Merrett tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 363 *Procers* are Irons hooked at the extremity to settle the Pots in their places. 1670 Blount *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Procers*, [adds. to prec.] used by makers of Green-glass.

†**Proce·re,** *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōcĕr-us* high, tall. Cf. *sincere*.] Tall, lofty, high; long.

a 1560 Becon *Pleas. New Nosegay* Wks. I. 105 It shall cause you to delyght but lytyll in your body, be it neur so strong,..pleasaunt in aspect, procere and taull. *a* 1652 Brome *Love-sick Court* iv. ii, A perpetual spring of more procere And bigger-bladed grass. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* (1776) 3 By Trees here, I consider..such lignous and woody plants, as are hard of Substance, procere of Stature. 1697 — *Numism.* ix. 314 What is large, procere, goodly, and beautiful to look on.

Procerebrum: see Pro-2 2.

‖ **Proceres** (prō·sĕrēz), *sb. pl.* [L. *procerēs* (rare sing. *procer*), leading men, chiefs, nobles.] Chief men, nobles, magnates.

1848 Lytton *Harold* III. ii, In that chamber met the thegns and proceres of his realm. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* xvii. § 294. II. 602 In 1328 it was with the counsel and consent of the prelates and 'proceres', earls, barons, and commons, that Edward resigned his claims on Scotland.

Procerite (prō·sĕrəit). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πρό*, Pro-2 + *κέρας* horn + -ite 1 3.] The many-jointed terminal segment (forming nearly the whole length) of the antenna in certain Crustacea, as lobsters. Hence **Proceritic** (prɒsĕri·tik) *a.*, pertaining to the procerite.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 314 The last segment, or procerite, consists of a long multi-articulate filament.

Procerity (prɒse·rĭti). Now *rare*. [ad. obs. F. *procerité* (15th c. in Godef.) or ad. L. *prōcērĭtātem* height, tallness: f. *prōcēr-us*: see PROCERE and -ITY.] Tallness, loftiness, height; length.

1550 LATIMER *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 112 b, They were Gyantes for theyr cruelty..and not in stature or procerity of body. 1604 TOOKER *Fabrique of Ch.* 13 All trees are not of one growth or proceritie. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* I. 36 [Thou] Com'st as near a Wit, as doth a Rat Match in procerity Mount Ararat. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vi. 173 At 5 Years of age in an ordinary growth the procerity is half of that which will be attained at full age. 1756 JOHNSON *Life King of Prussia* Wks. IV. 532 When he met a tall woman, he immediately commanded one of his Titanian retinue to marry her, that they might propagate procerity. 1864 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* IV. 448 A cubit taller than any of his companions, and rendered even more remarkable by his beauty than his procerity.

† **Procerous** (prɒsĭ·rəs), *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prōcēr-us* (see PROCERE) + -OUS.] 1. = PROCERE.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 14 The procerous stature of it ..twentie foot and sixe inches. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 243 Three sorts, the sharp, the smooth, and the procerous.

2. *Ornith.* Belonging to the order *Procerēs* or *Prōcērī*, the name given by Illiger 1811 to the *Ratitæ*, comprising the ostriches and allied birds.

Process (prɒ·ses, prōu·ses), *sb.* Forms: 4–7 **proces** (also *pl.*), **-cesse**, (5 **procese**, **-ceis**, **-ses**, **-seys**, **-sis**(se, **-ssesse**, 5–6 **prosses**), 5– **process**. [ME. *proces*, a. F. *procès* (13th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prōcess-us* (*u*-stem) advance, progress, process, lapse of time, f. ppl. stem of *prōcēd-ĕre* to PROCEED. Orig. stressed *proce·ss*, still used by Milton and others in 17–18th c.; but *pro·cess* already in Chaucer: see ACCESS, and cf. *rece·ss*, *succe·ss*. In F. the pl. is also *procès*; so sometimes *proces*, *proses*, *prosses* in ME.: see sense 4.]

1. The fact of going on or being carried on, as an action, or a series of actions or events; progress, course. Now chiefly in phr. *in process* = going on, being done; *in process of* (*construction*, etc.) = in course of; being (constructed, etc.).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 216 Þei teld him þe processe of alle þer comon sawe. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 617 It is agayns the proces [*v.rr.* prosses, processe, process] of nature. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 96 Loke afterward þe prosis of þi worchinge seiþ þis boke. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 86 So multeply 3e say Ay furth in fayre processe. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 2 Pet.* 16 Confirmed nowe by longe processe of godlynes in the acquainted knowledge of the trueth. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. iii. § 3 (1622) 217 What then, in Causes can there be an infinite processe; And can no End bee found? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VII. 790 Saturnian Juno, now, with double care, Attends the fatal process of the war. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Addison* Wks. III. 89 The whole drama is..engaging in its process and pleasing in its conclusion. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 270 New edifices..are in process of erection. 1906 E. F. SCOTT *4th Gosp.* i. 18 A judgment is in process and we follow it stage by stage to the great climax.

† **b.** *By process*, *in process*: in the course of events; in course of time; in the sequel, at length, in due course. *Obs.* (Cf. 2.)

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1553 (*Hypsipyle & Medea*) As wolde god I leyser hadde & tyme By proces al his wowyng for to ryme. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1213 Whyche shall to Vertu bryng yow by processe. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xc. 112 So he went forthe, and in processe retourned agayne. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 127 The sappe wyll nat renne into the toppe kyndely, but by proces the toppe wyll dye. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* i. § 12 (1642) 8 All Man-kind succeeding..afterward in processe to be derived from him. 1736 WELSTED *Wks.* (1787) 450 That the same thing would, in process, have happened of itself.

2. Course, lapse (of time). Chiefly in *in* († *by*) *process of time*, in course of time, as time goes on.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 20 Therfor we muste abide and wirke be processe of tyme. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 49 Of þaire kynredyn by processe of tyme come oure Lady saynt Mary. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxiii. 70 That is by long proces of tyme chaunged. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* civ, Three beautious springs to yellow Autumne turn'd In processe of the seasons haue I seene. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* xviii. 267 After the process of many yeers..they took shipping again. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 297 To found this nether Empire, which might rise By pollicy, and long process of time. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 154 ¶ 2 In due Process of Time I was a pretty Rake among the Men. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* I. 31 The city of the Palatine Hill grew in process of time, so as to become a city of seven hills. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 138 The thoughts of men are widen'd with the process of the suns.

† **3.** Course (of a narrative, treatise, argument, etc.); drift, tenor, gist. *Obs.*

[*c* 1330: see sense 1.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 518 As it is knowun by alle þe processe of þe gospel. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 1 The rubryis..be the quhilkis men may better knaw the process of the said buke and of every chapter. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 35 This is the processe of the Decalogus [orig. *Hic est contextus Decalogi*]. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 236 We shall haue occasion to treate of [these] in the processe of our Iournall. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 22 No man will be able to prove it, when, from the process of the Text, I can manifest it may be otherwise.

† **4.** A narration, narrative; relation, story, tale; a discourse or treatise; an argument or discussion.

1340–70 *Alisaunder* 171 To profre þis process prestly too here, I karp of a kid king Arisba was hote. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 284 Wherof a tale in remembrance, Which is a long process to hiere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 247 When Pelleus his proses hade puplishit on highe,..Iason was Ioly of his Iuste wordes. — 11772 This poynt is not prynted in proces þat are now. — 13774 Here the prosses of Pyrrus I put to an end. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* d iij, Here endyth the proceis of hawkyng. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. i. 1 Who so this proces redeth, or hereth, may take..ensample. 1533 MORE *Apol.* 12 b, They preache some tyme a longe processe to very lytle purpose. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. v. 37 So the whole eare of Denmarke, Is by a forged processe of my death Rankly abus'd. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xviii. 251 The way of doing which may be found in many authors,..in Manuscripts, and written Processes. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 522/2 A verbal process of this day's transactions. [Repr. F. *procès verbal.*] 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 296 Kitty, having heard these dialogues and processes repeated by Molly's mother, who had an excellent knack at this kind of rehearsals.

† **b.** A passage of a discourse. *Obs.*

1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* iii. 4 This proces of Genesis shulde stire cristen men to be feithful. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xi. 55 Eny proces or parti writen in Holi Writt. 1535 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 308 Ye take for your purpose some processes of scripture. 1555 J. HARPESFELD in Bonner *Homilies* 44 b, This processe of Scripture hath in it many circumstaunces to be noted.

5. Something that goes on or is carried on; a continuous action, or series of actions or events; a course or method of action, proceeding, procedure.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 235 Þe bygynnyng of alle þis proces Ryght knawyng of a man self es. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 294, I schal be proces apert disproue þis a-pele. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 50/1 Troweth the protector.. that I parceiue not whereunto his painted processe draweth. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 29 Behinde the Arras I'le conuey my selfe To heare the Processe. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 54 Ignorance of the true Process of Nature. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 65, I wished, after the process of my divine Master, to be despised and rejected of men. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 26 The shutting of a door is a process of extremely rare occurrence. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 610, I gladly accepted this generous offer and proceeded to wait for the Nachtigal, and a very pleasant process this was.

6. A continuous and regular action or succession of actions, taking place or carried on in a definite manner, and leading to the accomplishment of some result; a continuous operation or series of operations. (The chief current sense.)

a. A natural or involuntary operation; a series of changes or movements taking place.

1627 tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1651) 57 There are four Processes of the Spirit; To Arefaction; To Colliquation; To Putrefaction; To Generation of bodies. 1733 P. SHAW tr. *Bacon's Phys. Fables* viii. Expl., Philos. Wks. 1733 I. 568 He who knows the Properties, the Changes, and the Processes of Matter. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* (ed. 2) § 91 Ice is not instantly converted into water but the process is gradual. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 174 In order to obtain..a deeper insight into the processes of growth ..it is necessary to follow up the history of development.

b. An artificial or voluntary operation; a course or method of operation; a systematic series of actions, physical or mental, directed to some end.

1665 GLANVILL *Def. Vanity Dogm.* 39 Little can be collected from the Chymical Processes he speaks of. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1681 (1766) II. III. 142, I diverted my self with many processes in Chymistry. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 296 These explanations induce us to prefer the process of Fourcroy and Vauquelin. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 126 Such are the different processes for procuring carbonic oxide. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 25 Explained to me the process of making cheese. 1875 J. P. HOPPS *Princ. Relig.* xiv. (1878) 45 Salvation, like education, is a process, not an immediate act.

c. A particular method of operation in any manufacture, or in printing, photography, sanitation, etc.: often named from the inventor, as *Bessemer p.*, *Fox-Talbot p.*, *Pattinson p.*, etc., or from the substance or means used, as *collodion p.*, *gelatine p.*; *dry p.*, *heliotype p.*, *wet p.*, etc.: q. v. (*b*) In *Patent Law*, applied to any method of obtaining a useful result by other than mechanical (e. g. by chemical) action. (*c*) In recent use *spec.* applied to methods other than simple engraving by hand (e. g. chemical or photographic) of producing blocks for printing from; *ellipt.* a print from such a block.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1133 The patent process [for separating silver from lead] lately introduced by Mr. Pattinson. 1839 SIR J. HERSCHELL in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* IV. 131 M. Daguerre's concealed photographic process. 1842 *Blackwood Mag.* LI. 388 Having their portraits taken by the photogenic process. 1856 [see BESSEMER]. 1856 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 511/1 Photo-Glyphography..a process invented by Mr. Fox Talbot. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Jan. 98/1 Various processes of photoglyphy and phototypy. 1881 [see PATTINSONIZE]. 1886 *Daily News* 9 Dec. 5/2 There were no photogravures then, nor hideous scratchy and seamy 'processes'. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* 24 July 49/3 They produce by a new process colored prints, so-called photo-chromotypes. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 8 Oct. 3/4 In the Dibdin process..the sewage is pumped on to a coarse ballast filter. 1907 *New Eng. Dict.* (See the articles *Photogravure*, *Photolithography*, *Photomechanical*, *Phototype*, *Phototypography*, *Photozincography*, etc.)

7. *Law.* **a.** The whole of the proceedings in any action at law; the course or method of carrying on an action; an action, suit. **b.** *spec.* The formal commencement of any action at law; the mandate, summons, or writ by which a person or thing is brought into court for litigation.

a. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* (Percy Soc.) xlvi, That have drive truth out of londe Without process of law. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/1 The processe of myn outelawery was unlawefully made. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 108 All suytes & proces in the law, commenced for Religion, shal in the meane tyme be let falle & suspended. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* VII. 122 It was a little before the feast of Christmas after which time Calista's processe was to be judged. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 124 He..without processe, was executed at Bridgewater. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 17 The power of judging certain processes by appeal. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) I. xv. 180 They may..search his papers, make his process and in conclusion, put him to death. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) VI. iii. 294 He was allowed to..turn the charge against himself into a process against his accuser.

b. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 447 The said John was endited..and proces made out upon the same enditement. 1467 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 391 Yf the seid pleintif require eny seriaunt to serue the seid processe accordynge to the lawe. 1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 208/1 Power..to awarde processe by Capias, and to make other such processes into every Countie of Englond. 1577 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 390 They of the Towne had servid proces upon him. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xix. 279 The next step for carrying on the suit, after suing out the original, is called the process; being the means of compelling the defendant to appear in court. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) I. vi. 344 The chancellor..had a court of his own,..out of which process to compel appearance of parties might..emanate. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 Q. B. Div. 545 An attachment granted to enforce compliance with the order of court is process of a punitive and disciplinary character.

† **8.** Onward movement in space; procession; progress, progression. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8793 Fro thethen the lycour..past so by proces to his prise armys. *Ibid.* 11910 Þan the grekes ..With proses and pres puld vp þere ancres. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 3669 Eche Bysschope made hys processe To the dore of hys chambre be sermoun. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. ii. II. vi, A point the line doth manfully retrude From infinite processe. 1875 H. JAMES, jr. *Pass. Pilgrim* 41 The whole..surrounding prospect lay answering in a myriad fleeting shades the cloudy process of the tremendous sky.

9. *fig.* Of action, time, etc.: Progress, progression, advance; development. Now *rare*.

1638 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* ix. (1702) 136 Daily to make a Process in his Learning. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 131 But presently our Glass-tube..began to leak, and let in Ayr; so we could make no further process in the Experiment. 1747 GOULD *Eng. Ants* 40 The process of Ant Vermicles is remarkable and worth Observation. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. I. Comm. p. xxvi, Virgil..most admirably describes the gradual process of the fire. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxii, Eternal process moving on, From state to state the spirit walks.

† **b.** Degree of progress or advance. *Obs. rare.*

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 137 Nor was this a Schisme of an ordinary assise, but grew to that processe, to that degree, as..Altar was erected against Altar. 1774 tr. *Helvetius' Child of Nature* II. 171 That great man..calculated the process and degree, at which our effeminacy would be followed by a contempt of liberty, and a surrender of the invaluable rights we have inherited from our ancestors.

c. *Logic.* The act of proceeding from a term in one of the premisses to the corresponding term in the conclusion; only in ILLICIT *process* (q. v.).

[1692 ALDRICH *Artis Logicæ Rudimenta* (ed. Mansel 1852) 69 Processus ab extremo non distributo in præmissis, ad idem distributum in conclusione, vitiosus est. *Ibid.* 77 Quælibet Figura excludit adhuc sex modos. Nempe 1. Propter Medium non distributum...2. Propter processum majoris illicitum...3. Propter processum minoris illicitum.] 1827 [see ILLICIT c]. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vii. 198 The violation of this last Rule, in respect to the Major Term, is called illicit process of the Major.

10. The act of proceeding or coming forth from a source: = PROCESSION *sb.* 4. *rare.*

1537 ABP. LEE in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lxxxviii. 229 The proces of grace in this sacrament cometh from him by whose authority it is institute. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 552 Beginning with the processe of our Saviour's Fore-runner, John the Baptist. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* ii. 18 The process of the infinite out of itself into the finite.

† **11.** A formal command, mandate, or edict, proceeding from a person in authority. Cf. 7 b.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iii. 65 And England, if my loue thou holdst at ought,..thou maist not coldly set Our Soueraigne Processe, which imports at full.. The present death of Hamlet. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 28 Where's Fuluias Processe? (Cæsars I would say) both?

12. A projection from the main body of something; esp. a natural appendage, extension, or outgrowth; a projection, prominence, protuberance. **a.** *Anat.*, *Zool.*, and *Bot.*: originally and chiefly, of a bone (= APOPHYSIS 1). **b.** *Bot.* In mosses, one of the main divisions or segments of the inner peristome.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 26 These bones are endewed with two notable productions or Processes. 1598 FLORIO, *Corona*,..a thicke and pointing processe of bones much like to the snagge of a Hartshorne. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 79 In woemen two processes or productions passe from the wombe to the vpper part of the neck of the same. 1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) 20 It has two remarkable Processes in men placed before, by the os pubis, on each side one. 1719–22 QUINCY *Lex. Physico-Med.*, *Acromium*..is the upper Process of the Shoulder-Blade. 1862 DARWIN *Fertil. Orchids* ii. 81 [The stigmas] form two protuberant, almost horn-shaped processes on each side of the mouth of the nectary.

c. *gen.* and *fig.*

1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 23 Mere extensions or processes of empire. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 217 Mighty fells, immediate dependencies and pro-

cesses of the still more mighty Helvellyn. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* V. iiii. 35 The assailants turned the cannon upon the lower processes of the fortress.

13. *attrib.* and *Comb.* chiefly in sense 6 c, as *process block* (a block to print from, produced by some process other than simple engraving by hand), *cut, -engraver, -owner, picture, plate, work*; **b. process-server**, a sheriff's officer who serves processes or summonses (sense 7 b): = BAILIFF 2; so **process-serving**.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 3 Both parties.. are..interested in a favorable result: the ore-owner, because it may lend new value to some hitherto refractory and unprofitable material; the process-owner, because it may enlarge the field of his operations. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* xi. 215 Half tints have been the difficulty of all process inventors. *Ibid.* 216 The lines in the process-block can be thickened in three ways—either by the final planing or by the dusting on of the rosin or by the coarse grain of the zinc. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 4/2 Printers of fine etchings.., and workers in what is known in the trade as 'process work'. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 558/1 A portable process kettle has made canning possible on the farm.

b. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 102, I know this man well, he hath bene since an Ape-bearer, then a Processe-seruer (a Bayliffe), then [etc.]. 1842 S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 96 The pioneers of the law, called 'Process-servers'. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xxxix, Is it rack-renting, process-serving, exterminating, would make them popular?

Pro·cess (see prec.), *v.*[1] [In sense 1, a. OF. *processer* to prosecute (1240 in Godef.), f. *procès*; in senses 2, 3, f. PROCESS *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To institute a process or action against, to proceed against by law, to sue, prosecute; to obtain a process or summons against (a person); to serve a process on. Originally *Sc.*

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 111 That sche wald be processit for non payment of hir taxt. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 284 Being processit and put to the horne thairfore. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 95 John Durie made a large narration how and for what he had bene processed before the King and his Councill. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* x. § 65 The Chancellor of Scotland told him..that all England would join against him as one man to process and depose him. 1804 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Ennui* viii, He was at the quarter sessions processing his brother. 1883 V. STUART *Egypt* 137 The debt for which they were processed was made up entirely of interest at most usurious rates.

2. *intr.* To go on, take place: = PROCEED *v.* 5 a. *rare*[−1].

1835 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 883 The hollow murmur of the earth in the spring season, which some take to be the sound of vegetation, in its multitudinous forms, processing on her surface.

3. *trans.* To subject to or treat by a special process (see prec. 6 c); e. g. to reproduce (a drawing, etc.) by a mechanical or photographic process; to prepare by an artificial or special process; to preserve fruit, fish, flesh, etc., by some process.

1884 *New York Even. Post* 28 Jan. (Cent.), Every cut in Mr. Pyle's admirable book was processed—to use a new verb invented to fit a new thing. 1889 *Athenæum* 14 Dec. 826/3 The illustrations..appear to have been 'processed' very unskilfully. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 3/3 It is often not made on the premises, but is brewer's yeast imported from England, then processed, and sent back to England. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 558/1 As a general rule fruits and vegetables are only processed once, meats and fish twice.

Hence **Pro·cessed** *ppl. a.* (in sense 3); **Pro·cessing** *vbl. sb.* (in senses 1 and 3).

1606 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) I. 354 They have there [Rome] newly proposed..the processing of the Duke by way of Inquisition. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* xii. (1848) 478 Their processing and deposing of Mr. John Forrest. 1888 *Daily News* 10 Dec. 5/2 This business of processing is killing woodcutting, which will soon probably be a lost art. 1899 *Ibid.* 13 Feb. 5/5 The charges .. that 'embalmed' and 'processed' beef had been furnished to the troops in the field in the recent war. 1901 *Nation* (N.Y.) 3 Jan. 2/2 The renovating and processing of butter is carried on all over our country.

Process (*prose's*), *v.*[2] [A colloquial or humorous back-formation from PROCESSION *sb.*, after *progress, transgress*, etc.] *intr.* To go, walk, or march in procession.

1814 J. TRAIN *Mountain Muse* 83 As venerably as when they Process on Dedication day. 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* 1 Jan. (1894) I. 243 On Christmas Day we processed into the chapel. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xxxviii, The cassocked monk-like clergy might preach and 'process' in the open air as much as they pleased. 1897 'IAN MACLAREN' in *British Weekly* 1 Apr. 422/3 So sure of themselves that they do not need to protest nor process, but carry their flag in their heart.

Proce·ssal, *a. rare.* [f. PROCESS *sb.* + -AL. Cf. PROCESSUAL.] Pertaining to a legal process.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 124 All *sorts* of damages, and processal charges, come to about 250,000 crowns. 1892 J. JACOBS *Howell's Lett.* I. p. xxxiv, Counting principal and interest and processal charges.

†**Pro·cessar.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PROCESS *v.*[2] + -AR 3.] ? A process-server.

1534 in *Hist. Fortescues* (1869) II. 204 Item, gevyn to the processar, to stay all the accions *v.li.*

Procession (*prose·ʃən*), *sb.* Also 2–4 **-iun**, (4 **-iune**), 3–5 **-ioun**, (4–5 **-ioune**), 3–6 **-yon**, 4–6 **-ione**, 5 **-yone, -youn, -iowne**; 4 **procesioun, -sesioun, -scession, -sessyoun**, (5 **-yon**, 6 **-ion**), 5 **-cescion**, 6 **-ssession**. [Early ME. a. F. *procession* (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōcessiōn-em* a marching onwards, advance, in late and med.L. a religious procession, n. of action f. *prōcēdĕre* to PROCEED.] The action of proceeding.

1. The action of a body of persons going or marching along in orderly succession, in a formal or ceremonial way; esp. as a religious ceremony, or on a festive occasion.

1103–23 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1103, Æfter sancte Michaeles mæssan on .xii. Kal. Nov' he wæs mid processiun under fangan to abbote. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1154, Was under fangen mid micel wurtscipe at Burch mid micel processiun. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Nime we þenne 3eme 3if ure procession bi maked after ure helendes procession. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 15/471 A-doun of þe hulle wende þe Aumperour with fair processioun. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8368 Massen & processions hii made monion. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) *a*732 And brou3te Beues in to þe toun Wiþ a faire prosesioun. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 387 The King [Rich. II] .. forbad streyghtly all Bishoppes and Prelates that such Processions shoulde be no more vsed. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 62 When they would haue raine, ten Virgins clothed in hallowed garments of red colour, danced a procession. 1704 NELSON *Fest. & Fasts* vi. (1739) 515 At the Reformation, when all Processions were abolished. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xvii. 6 Passive under a Salian god's most lusty procession. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xiii. 160 After the analogy of a religious procession on the occasion of a festival.

b. Phr. *to go, walk* (etc.) *in procession*; † formerly also *on, to, with p.*; *to go* (*a*) *procession.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Al þat folc eode þar forð to processiun to munte oliueti. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 Dominica Palmarum. It is custume þat ech chirchsocne goð þis dai a procession. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 19 For to gone with processioun wt̄ her candel. 14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 162 The kyng and the quene.. wentt on processyon through London. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 49 Also he [the sexton] shall bere the crosse on procession. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 415 The French men..go a procession about all the Churches in Metz. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 1. ii. 5 All the religious men..went in Procession bare footed, and in their cowles with waxe Candles in their hands. 1662 *Virginia Stat.* (1823) II. 102 Within twelve months after this act, all the inhabitants of every neck and tract of land adjoining shall goe in procession and see the marked trees of every mans land..to be renewed. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* xvi. Notes (1697) 391 As we go once a Year in Procession, about the Bounds of Parishes, and renew them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 29 The Commons went in procession to Whitehall with their address on the subject of the test.

c. *transf.* Of boats, barges, etc.

(At Oxford, 'a Procession of Boats' over the rowing course on the Thames formerly took place annually in Commemoration Week. Described, but not under this name, in *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* of 15 June 1839.)

1843 *Jackson's Oxford Jrnl.* 1 July 3/1 In the evening [of Tuesday 27 June] thousands of persons were congregated on the banks of the river to witness the procession of the racing boats. *Ibid.*, After the procession had ceased a splendid display of fireworks took place. 1893 *President's Bk. Oxf. Univ. Boat-Cl.*, The Procession of Boats took place on Monday June 19. 1893 *Secretary's Bk.* ibid. Oct., The Procession of Boats was abolished unanimously. 1900 W. E. SHERWOOD *Oxford Rowing* xi. 98. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 5/2 At the half-mile London were leading by fully three lengths, and from Fawley it was simply a procession, the London pair winning anyhow.

2. *concr.* A body of persons marching in this way.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1095 Sodanly on a wonder wyse, I watz war of a prosessyoun. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E.E.T.S.) 105 In þis mene-while þe procession went fro þe hous. 1696 TATE & BRADY *Ps.* lxviii. 27 Zebulon.. And Nephthali..(The grand Procession to compleat) Sent up their Tribes, a Princely Host. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 195 (*Naples*) My First Days at Naples were taken up with the Sight of Processions. 1866 NEALE *Seq. & Hymns* 131 Again shall long processions sweep through Lincoln's Minster pile.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A regular series, sequence, row, or succession of things, such as suggests an orderly march.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. viii. (Contents), In the second plate of this chapter is.. a further Procession of Tradesmens Tools. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 13 The majestic procession of stately aqueducts which no barbarism has been able to destroy.

3. *transf.* A litany, form of prayer, or office, said or sung in a religious procession. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1543 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. 1. 384 Being resolved to have continually..general processions..said and sung with such devotion & reverence as appertaineth. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 433 By the kyng her fathers commaundement procession was sayde in the vulgare tongue. 1594 *1st Pt. Contention* (Shaks. Soc.) 62 Come let vs hast to London now with speed, That solemne prosessions may be sung. 1616 *Marlowe's Faust.* III. i. Wks. (Rtldg.) 119/1 (*Stage Direct.*) Monks and Friars, singing their procession. 1904 A. F. POLLARD *Cranmer* vi. 172 *note*, The use of litanies had early grown up in the Western Church and from the fact that they were sung in procession they were often themselves called processions.

†**b.** A book of such offices; a processional.

1540 *Knaresborough Wills* I. 34 To by a processione and other ornamentes to ye said church necessaries iijs. iiijd.

4. The action of proceeding, issuing, or coming forth from a source; emanation. Chiefly *Theol.* in reference to the Holy Spirit (cf. FILIOQUE).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIX. cxviii. (Add. MS.), By procession þe holy gost comeþ of þe fader and of þe sone. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 2299 After thei had spoken..of the hooly goost and his procession. 1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. Pop. Articles* 56 It absolutely taketh away the nature of a sonne, and consequently the admirable procession of the second person. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. v. (1840) 183 The Greeks..maintain the procession of the Holy Spirit from the Father alone. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* viii. (1700) 106 The Article of the Procession of the Holy Ghost, and all that follows it, is not in the Nicene Creed. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. VI. v. 253 The Procession and Mission of the Holy Spirit are nothing, according to him [Servetus], but the Action of God, by which he acts on his Creatures. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 263 As the Council of Florence states, the Greek and Latin Fathers, though using different language, meant the same as to the Procession of God the Holy Ghost. 1907 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trinity* i. 16 The doctrine of the Trinity .. confessedly underwent development,.. by the adoption..of such terms as substance,..circuminsession, double procession.

5. The action of proceeding, going on, or advancing; onward movement, progress, progression, advance. **a.** *lit.* ? *Obs.* or merged in 1.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 102 There is a double procession or way of choler. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 245 The women in large Carosses, being drawne with the slowest procession. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xxiv. 72 And hail the bright procession of the sun.

b. *fig.* Now *rare.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. x. 12 b, Of the further procession of our Nauigation. 1663 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Isa. xxxiv.* Notes, The motion of the Spirit of God, for it is a Procession of his will to an outward Effect. 1795–1814 WORDSW. *Excursion* IV. 13 An assured belief That the procession of our fate..is ordered by a Being Of infinite benevolence and power. 1875 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. ii. 393 The flash is antecedent to the sound of the explosion, but the flash is not the cause of the sound; it has no procession in the sound.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *procession-aisle, -gadding, -man, -pace, -road, -way*; *procession-wise* adv.; **procession caterpillar, moth** (PROCESSIONARY *a.* 2); **procession-day**, a day on which a procession is made; *spec.* (*pl.*) the Rogation days (= GANG-DAYS); **procession-flower**, a name for the common milkwort (*Polygala vulgaris*), from its blossoming about Rogation week and being worn by persons taking part in the processions (cf. GANG-FLOWER); **procession-week**, a name for Rogation week, from the processions then made (= GANG-WEEK).

1856 *Ecclesiologist* XVII. 89 The choir-screens facing the *procession-aisle are beautifully treated. 1850 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 25 May 327/1 Interesting communications..concerning the *procession-caterpillar (*Bombyx processionea*, Linn.). 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 157 If a man accuse another of any crime, let him make him recompence, unless he did it upon *Procession-days. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Apr., To the Dolphin tavern, there to meet our neighbours,..this being Procession-day. 1633 *Gerarde's Herbal* II. clxix. 564 Milkewort is called by Dodonæus, *Flos Ambarualis*; so called because it doth especially flourish in the Crosse or Gang weeke, or Rogation weeke; of which floures the maidens which vse in the countries to walke the Procession doe make themselues garlands and nosegaies: in English we may call it Crosse-floure, *Procession-floure, Gang-floure, Rogation-floure, and Milkewort. *a* 1555 G. MARSH in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1565/1 Holy water casting, *procession gadding, Mattins mumbling. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iii, What a host of shabby, poverty-stricken men hang about the stage of a large establishment—not regularly engaged actors, but ballet people, *procession men, tumblers, and so forth. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 131 The *procession moth (*B. processionea*, L.) of which Reaumur has given so interesting an account. *Ibid.* xvi. II. 8 The larvæ..live in society and emigrate in files, like the caterpillar of the procession-moth. 1652 EVELYN *Diary* 23 June, Within three miles of Bromley, at a place call'd the *Procession Oake. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 4 The twelve duennas and their lady advanced at a *procession-pace, their faces covered with white veils. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 51 Thei shal..suffer no grave nor pitte to be made in the *procession way. 1546–7 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 274 Payed in the *procession weke to the baner bearers and bell ryngers. 1570 B. GOOGE *Popish Kingd.* IV. (1880) 53 (*margin*) Procession weeke. Bounds are beaten. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 56 A great company of virgins go *procession-wise two and two in a rank singing before him.

Proce·ssion, *v.* [f. prec. sb. So med.L. *processiōnāre* (Du Cange).]

1. *trans.* To honour or celebrate by a procession; to carry in procession.

1546 BALE *Eng. Votaries* I. (1550) 72 b, Whan theyr feastfull dayes come, they [saints] are yet in the papystyck churches of Englande, with no small solempnite mattensed, massed, candeled, lyghted, processyoned..and worshypped. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. vii, Jean Jacques too..must be dug up from Ermenonville, and processioned, with pomp, ..to the Pantheon of the Fatherland.

2. *intr.* To make a procession, religious or other; to go in procession. (See also PROCESSIONING.)

1691 tr. *Emiliannè's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 362 To go a Processioning with great Crosses of Wood upon their Shoulders. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondeville* Posth. Wks. 1826 I. 89 As he turned out of the gate, he met the Prior..and a long train processioning, all in full ceremony, bearing precious reliques, to welcome his Highness. 1859 TROLLOPE *West Indies* xviii. (1860) 268 The whole town was processioning from morning..till evening.

b. *spec.* To perambulate the bounds.

1671 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) II. 223 June 1. Holy thursday, St. Peter's [in the East] parishioners came a processioning and took in half Alban hall. 1723–4 *Bristol* (*Virginia*) *Parish Vestry Bk.* (1898) 15 It is ordered that Godfry Fowler Junr and Mark Moon procession from Nooning Creek to the Extent of the Parish.

3. *trans.* To go round (something) in procession;

spec. in some of the N. American colonies (and still in the states of N. Carolina and Tennessee), to make a procession around a piece of land in order formally to determine its bounds (with the land, or bounds, as obj.): = PERAMBULATE *v.* 2 b. Also to walk along (a street, etc.) in procession.

1710 *Acts Assembly Virginia* (1759) 292 The bounds of every persons land shall be processioned or gone round, and the landmarks renewed..such processioning shall be made in every precinct. 1727 *Bristol* (*Virginia*) *Parish Vestry Bk.* (1898) 34 To procession lands on the South Side Bristoll parrish. 1883 E. INGLE in *Johns Hopkins Hist. Studies* Ser. III. II. (1885) 64 Once in every four years the vestry, by order of the county court, divided the parish into precincts, and appointed two persons in each precinct to 'procession' the lands. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct. 4/1 Meetings of the unemployed were held yesterday in Trafalgar-square, and certain streets of the West-end were processioned by the crowd, with a red flag at their head.

†Processiona·de. *Obs. rare.* [f. PROCESSION *sb.* + -ADE.] **a.** An epic of a procession. *nonce-use.*

b. A ceremonial procession.

1745 (*title*) The Processionade, in Panegyri-Satiri-Serio-Comi-Baladical Versicles, by Porcupinus Pelagius. 1762 CHURCHILL *Ghost* III. 1170 Proclaim a Grand Processionade—Be all the City Pomp display'd. 1809 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XIII. 183 If you could transpose Hamlet into a comic opera, with an oriental processionade.

Processional (prose·ʃənăl), *sb.* [= F. *processional* (1563 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *prōcessiōnāle*, neut. of *prōcessiōnālis* adj.: see next.]

1. *Eccl.* An office-book containing litanies, hymns, etc., for use in religious processions.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 605/8 *Processionale*, a processional. 1537 in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's Bp. Stortford* (1882) 127 Item v processionals in paper and ij parchement masbooks. 1549 *Act* 3 & 4 *Edw. VI*, c. 10 § 1 All Books called .. Grailes, Processionals, .. Pies .. shall be .. abolished. 1571 GRINDAL *Injunctions* B iv, That the Churchwardens and Minister shall see, that..Processionals ..be vtterly defaced, rent, and abolished. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1650) 96 A Circumstance of the Chapter directed mee to their Processional. 1846 MASKELL *Mon. Rit.* I. p. cxiii, The printed Processionals of Sarum or York Use would, in one important respect, vary from the earlier MSS.

b. A processional hymn: see the adj.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 24 June, The 48th Psalm was sung as a processional. 1896 H. HOUSMAN *John Ellerton* iv. 71 It was for this book that Mr. Ellerton wrote his spirited processional: 'Onward, brothers, onward!' 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Mar. 6/2 The processional was 'Blessed City, Heavenly Salem'.

¶ **2.** (*erron.*) A procession.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1324 Pelagius I. in 555, after the litany was said in a certain church in Rome, had a processional from there to St. Peter's. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXVI. 621 By some strange chance I stood where streams The long processional of dreams.

Proce·ssional, *a.* [= OF. *processional* (1472 in Godef. *Compl.*, mod.F. *-ionnel*), ad. med.L. *prōcessiōnāl-is* (*p. crux*, Ademar *a* 1030): see PROCESSION *sb.* and -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a procession; characterized by processions. Of a hymn, psalm, litany, etc.: sung or recited in procession, e. g. by the clergy and choir in proceeding from the vestry to the chancel at the opening of a service: cf. RECESSIONAL.

1611 COTGR., *Processional*, processionall; belonging to, seruing for, a procession. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Processional*, pertaining to process or proceeding. 1686 J. S[ERGEANT] *Hist. Monast. Convent.* 184 This done, he was carried in the usual processional manner, to the Benediction Hall. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 14 His immediate successor, Cardinal Henry, had the same processional taste. 1830 CHALMERS in Hanna *Mem.* (1851) III. xiv. 280 We entered in processional order. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* vii. 186 The ceremonial of Egyptian worship was essentially processional.

b. Used or carried in processions.

1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.*, *Alfieri & Salomon* Wks. I. 191/1 The Cristo Bianco and Cristo Nero of the Neapolitan rabble..two processional idols,..which are regularly carried home with broken heads. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 271 After Vespers the choir, preceded by a processional cross, walked down the nave. 1895 MRS. B. M. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 80 The great processional elephant.. had a superb cloth-of-gold canopy.

c. Walking or going in procession; forming a procession (*lit.* and *fig.*); *humorously*, forming a long series or 'string' (e. g. of words). *Processional caterpillar*: see PROCESSIONARY *a.* 2.

1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo* 118 Which gentleman processional and fine, Holding a candle to the Sacrament, Will wink and let him lift a plate and catch The droppings of the wax to sell again. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 175 Long processional lines of broken ice. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Dec. 6/1 Processional caterpillars, ants of various sizes and sorts, mantises, mason bees, carpenter bees, and such small fry. 1905 J. ORR *Problem O. T.* vii. 206 These processional Js and Es, however, should not be scoffed at as arbitrary.

Proce·ssionalist. *nonce-wd.* [f. prec. + -IST.] = PROCESSIONIST.

1780 T. DAVIES *Mem. Garrick* (1781) I. xxix. 337 The stage..amidst the parading of dukes, dutchesses, archbishops, peeresses, heralds, &c., was covered with a thick fog from the smoke of the fire, which served to hide the tawdry dresses of the processionalists.

Processionally (prose.ʃənăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2: in ME. directly after med.L. adv.] In a processional manner; in procession.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 203 That person, whom he mette in a certeyne place of the cite commynge processionally [*orig.* processionaliter] in the nyȝhte. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 293 The bisshope & she wyth a grett cumpany Them ageynys wentyn processyonelly. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 100 Processionally the Father Prior accompanied with all the rest (with Torches in their hands) brought him the holy Sacrament. 1728 NORTH *Mem. Music* (1846) 54 In times of calamity the Letanys were sung processionally about the streets of great citty's in divers choruses. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. III. ix, Necker's Portrait..is borne processionally, aloft on a perch, with huzzas.

Processionary (prose·ʃənări), *sb.* [ad. med.L. *prōcessiōnāri-um*, orig. neut. of **prōcessiōnāri-us* adj.: see next. So OF. *proucessionnaire* (1328).]

†1. = PROCESSIONAL *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 37 Item j processionary wryttyn in þe ijde lefe, Exorsiso te. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 A Processionary, *processeonarium*, *processionale*. *c* 1544 in *Shropsh. Parish Documents* (1903) 53 Item, bookes in the Church: j mass books, j portehowse, j manuell, j processionaries.

2. *U. S.* = PROCESSIONER 4. (*Cent. Dict.*)

Proce·ssionary, *a.* [f. med.L. type **prōcessiōnāri-us*: see PROCESSION *sb.* and -ARY 1. So F. *processionnaire* (16–17th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. = PROCESSIONAL *a.* ? *Obs.* exc. as in 2.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xli. § 2 Decreed, that the whole Church should bestow yeerely at the feast of Pentecost three dayes in that kind of processionarie seruice. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 333 The Pagans in their superstitious and idolatrous Processionary pomps carried the Images of their Gods. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 71 With Tapers and Crucifixes, and other processionary solemnities.

2. *Entom.* Applied to caterpillars which go in procession; esp. those of the moth *Cnethocampa processionea*; hence, *p. moth* applied to this species.

1765 *Projects* in *Ann. Reg.* 140/2 M. de Reaumur ranks this species of caterpillars amongst those which are called processionary, from their marching from one place to another, in large bodies..and in great order. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvi. (1818) II. 23 A still more singular and pleasing spectacle, when their regiments march out to forage, is exhibited by the Processionary Bombyx. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. IV. i. 234 Studying the habits of the Processionary Moth.

Processioner (prose·ʃənəɹ). Also 5 **-yonar**(e. [f. PROCESSION + -ER; so OF. *processionnier* (book, *c* 1469 in Godef.).]

1. A person going in procession. ? *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17914 Wherfore, befull [it] is to frerys, sythe they be no processionerys, to get theyr lyvelode wher they may. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* IV. XXV. (1896) II. 279 The Processioners returning into their former order, did prosecute their way. *a* 1739 JARVIS *Quix.* IV. XXV, The processioners seeing them running towards them.

†2. *Eccl.* An office-book used in processions: = PROCESSIONAL *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 720/1 *Hoc processionale*, a processyonar. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Processyonal, or pr[oc]essyonare. 1542 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 46 Item v. processioners written and iij prynted. 1558 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* XLI. 41, ij masse bokes, one pressessyner. 1566 in Peacock *Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 32 The mass bookes, the processioners, the manuell, and all such peltrei of the popes sinfull service.

†b. A processional (candlestick). *Obs.*

1466 *Will of Mortymer* (Somerset Ho.), Par candelabrorum de laton vocat. le precessionars.

3. A processionary caterpillar.

1743 ZOLLMAN in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 458 They may be ranked among the Processioners, or those that follow one another.

4. *U. S.* (See quots., and cf. PROCESSION *v.* 3.)

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Processioner*, an officer in Kentucky, and possibly in other States, whose duty it is to determine and mark out the bounds of lands. 1864 WEBSTER, *Processioner*..2. An officer appointed to procession lands. (*Local in North Carolina and Tennessee.*) *Burrill.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Processioning (prose·ʃəniŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROCESSION *sb.* or *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of going in procession.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 57 You Pilgrims..weare the plants of your feete,..by bare-legd processioning..to the Sepulchre. 1769 COLMAN *Man & Wife* I. Dram. Wks. 1787 II. 240 There is eating and drinking, and processioning, and masquerading, and horse-racing, and fire-works—So gay—and as merry as the day is long. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. IV. iv, Next are processionings along the Boulevards. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 18 June 4/6 No harm in allowing cyclists to pass through Victoria Park,..on condition that they did not there engage in racing or processioning.

b. *spec.* = PERAMBULATION 3; esp. in N. America: see PROCESSION *v.* 3.

1710 [see PROCESSION *v.* 3]. 1893 BLOMFIELD *Hist. Fritwell* 21 The ceremony of perambulating the boundaries of a parish ('processioning', as it was commonly called in later times) is an extremely old one. 1896 P. A. BRUCE *Econ. Hist. Virginia* I. 544 In case an altercation arose between two neighbors in the course of the processioning, as to the boundaries of their estates, the two surveyors..were required ..to draw again the lines in dispute.

attrib. 1663 WOOD *Life* (O. H. S.) I. 510 The parishioners ..made their processioning cross [upon a wall].

Processionist (prose·ʃənist). [f. PROCESSION *sb.* + -IST.] One who goes in a procession.

1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XV. 682 The most blushless of the processionists, the most fawning of the addressers. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxiv. (1857) 535 The processionists had a noble dinner in the head inn. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 305/2 Mr. Booth's processionists and preachers.

Proce·ssionize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To go in procession.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 489 Triumphant carrs shall roll, and minstrels play; We can processionize as well as they. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 277 Eighteen of the incorporated companies processionized in all their bravery. 1884 *Ibid.* 30 Aug. 270/1 The liberty of processionizing is not..as sacred as the liberty of prophesying.

Processive (prose·siv), *a. rare.* [In sense 1, ad. F. *processif*, *-ive* litigious. In sense 2, f. L. *prōcess-*, ppl. stem of *prōcēdĕre* to PROCEED: cf. med.L. *processīv-us* (*a* 1250 in Albertus Magnus).]

†1. Of the nature of a process or summons (see PROCESS *sb.* 7 b); serving to initiate legal proceedings. *Obs.*

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf* II. 242 They fell to Law about it, whose bills, and answers, together with other writings, processiue, justificatiue..and infinite other the like..came to [etc.].

2. Having the quality of proceeding or going forward; progressive.

1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 378 There can be no galaxy in poetry, because it is language, ergo processive —ergo every the smallest star must be seen singly. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Seraphim* II. 499 His own Processive harmony..Is sweeping in a choral triumph by. 1866 *Reader* 20 Oct. 480 Recognise in its processive and changing phases the varied animal forms, rising higher and still higher in the complexity of their structure up to the advent of Man himself.

Processual (prose·siuăl), *a. Roman Law.* [ad. L. type **prōcessuāl-is*, f. *prōcessu-s* (*u*-stem) PROCESS *sb.*: see -AL.] Pertaining to a legal process.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* III. Comm. (ed. 2) 401 The principal function of the Adstipulator..seems to have been processual agency. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* III. § 180 *note*, These two pars. deal with what has been called necessary or processual novation, in contradistinction to the voluntary or conventional novation described in those immediately preceding.

‖ **Processus** (prose·sŏs). [L. *prōcessus* a going forward, advance, also a projection, process.]

1. *Anat.* = PROCESS *sb.* 12. *Obs.* exc. as mod.L.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. § 3 (1712) 80 The *Tunica Arachnoides*..by virtue of its *Processus Ciliares* can thrust forward or draw back that part of the Eye. 1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* 126 Like the *processus* of a bone in a mans leg.

2. = PROCESS *sb.* 5 or 6. *rare.*

1891 tr. *Sabatier's Paul* IV. iii. 256 A logical and inevitable processus.

‖ **Procès verbal** (prose verbal). Pl. **procès verbaux** (-bo). Sometimes anglicized as **process verbal**. [F.: see PROCESS and VERBAL.] A detailed written report of proceedings; minutes; in *Fr. Law*, an authenticated written statement of facts in support of a criminal or other charge.

1635 (*title*) A Relation of the Devill Balams Departure out of the Body of the Mother Prioresse of the Ursuline Nuns of Loudun,..with the Extract of the proces verball, touching the Exorcismes wrought at Loudun. [1753 Verbal process: see PROCESS *sb.* 4.] 1804 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 390 All this was attested in a *procès-verbal*, signed by the magistrates of the municipality. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 283 The process-verbal of the conference has been printed. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* x, [To] make up the written report, *procès verbal*, or precognition, as it is technically called. 1906 *Athenæum* 23 June 772/1 Mr. Somers Clarke wishes that the honorary members..could receive the *procès-verbaux* in time to communicate their views as to important decisions before these are irrevocably carried into effect.

Prochain, *a.* (*sb.*) Also 5–**-ein**, 6 **-ane**, **-yn**. [a. F. *prochain* (proʃɛ̃), *prucein* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *proche* near:—L. *propius* adv., compar. of *prope* near.]

†1. Neighbouring, nearest, next. *Obs.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 4 Godefroid of billon..deffendit his..subiectis of loran, fra his prochane enemeis that lyis contigue about his cuntre. 1555 *Inst. Gentleman* I ij, As wel against our prochane and nere enemis, as also in foren wars. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 116 All the prochaine ground We rifled, and toth' siege brought what we found.

‖ **2.** *Prochain ami.* [F. = 'near friend': see AMI.] In *Law*: The next friend (NEXT *a.* 3 b), one who is entitled to sue on behalf of an infant or a person of unsound mind.

[1285 *Early Stat. Irel.* (1907) 82 Si ele seit recoueree al prochein ami a ki le heritage ne purra decendre pur apruer.] 1473–5 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 59 The replicacion of Johan Saunder, by William Cooke, per prochein amy, to the answer and title of John Saunder. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Prochein Amy*..is vsed in our common lawe, for him that is next of kin to a childe in his nonage, and is in that respect allowed by lawe, to deale for him in the managing of his affaires. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 320 For ought I know Fox's Heirs, per Descent, or even his *Prochain-amis*, might bring their Assize for that Disseisin, and so re-enter. 1809 *Q. Rev.* Feb. 103 Had such a *tirade* been delivered in Westminster Hall..the learned Counsel would have been recommended to the care of his *prochein ami*.

3. *Prochain avoidance* [lit. next voidance], a power to appoint a minister to a church when next it becomes vacant. 1744 in JACOB *Law Dict.*

B. *sb.* One near of kin.

c 1520 *Wyse Chylde & Emp. Adrian* (1860) 15 That they heden then leue to loue theyr prochyns and nereste of blode.

†Proche, *v. Obs.* [app. either a palatalized form akin to PROKE *v.*, or due to assimilation of

proke and *broche*, BROACH *v.* in a similar sense.] *trans.* and *intr.* To prick, pierce, spur.

(The first quot. is obscure, and the word may be different.)

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 1926 For now he proches [*Dublin MS.* prokes] for pride & propurly he wedis, For-þi him bose to be bett as a barne fallis. 1515 *Scot. Field* 325 in *Percy Folio* I. 228 They proched vs with speares & put many over that they blood out brast at there broken harnish. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccIxiii. 591 The englysshemen and gascoyns proched their horses with their spurres.

Prochein, var. form of PROCHAIN.

Prochlorite (prōˌklōˈrəit). *Min.* [f. PRO-[2] + CHLORITE[1], on account of 'its being the earliest crystallized kind recognized' (Dana 1868, 502).] A species of chlorite, occurring in foliated or granular masses of a green colour, translucent or opaque; a hydrous silicate of alumina, iron, and magnesia, crystallizing in the monoclinic system. Allied to Ripidolite, and so called in Brit. Mus. Cat.

1867 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. II. XLIV. 258 It is accordingly designated..Prochlorite. 1900 *Rosenbusche's Mic. Phys.* 285 Prochlorite is crystallographically and optically like clinochlore.

‖ **Prochoos** (prōˈkoˌɒs). *Gr. Antiq.* [a. Gr. πρόχοος, Attic πρόχους a jug, pitcher, f. προχεῖν to pour forth.] A jug of elegant shape, used for pouring water over the hands before meals.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 365 (ed. 2) 457 The Delian Artemis..with phial and prochus, stands beside Apollo. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 94 Another jug was the *prochoos*, with an oval body, tall neck and round mouth, but without a handle.

Prochordal (prokɔ̄ˈɹdăl), *a. Embryol.* [f. PRO-[2] + CHORD *sb.*[1] + -AL.] Anterior to the notochord.

1881 *Academy* 23 Apr. 303 The prochordal part of the trabeculae is segmented off from the parachordal part.

Prochorion: see PRO-[2] 1.

Prochronic (prokrɒˈnik), *a. rare.* [f. PRO-[2] + Gr. χρόνος time + -IC, after *chronic.*] Pertaining to a period before time began. Hence **Prochroˈnically** *adv.*, before the beginning of time.

1857 GOSSE *Creation* 87 The two creations—..the prochronic and the diachronic—here unite. *Ibid.* 173 It has been educed..prochronically, by the omnipotent fiat of the Creator.

Prochronism (prōˈkrŏniz'm). [f. PRO-[2] 1 + Gr. χρόνος time + -ISM: cf. ANACHRONISM. So F. *prochronisme* (1762 in Acad.).] The referring of an event, etc., to an earlier date than the true one. A particular case of ANACHRONISM, q.v.

a 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma* (1649) 174 An error..herein is called Anachronism:..either saith too much, and that is a Prochronism; or too little, and that is a Metachronism. 1677 CARY *Chronology* II. I. v. 105 Which seems to be a Prochronism of 25 Years. 1838 *Archæologia* XXVII. 252 The prochronisms in these [Towneley] Mysteries are very remarkable...Caiaphas sings mass. 1899 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* (ed. 2) 156 It is a prochronism to talk of the May-fly; for, as a matter of fact, the first ten days of June usually constitute the may-fly season.

Procidence (prōˈsɪ-, prɒˈsidĕns). *Path.* [a. F. *procidence* 'a falling downe of a thing out of its place', or ad. L. *prōcidentia* (Cels.) in Path. prolapse, f. *prōcidĕre* to fall forward. Often used in L. form.] The slipping of an organ or structure from its normal position; prolapsus.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xix, Violets have a peculiar vertue..to help the procidence or falling downe both of tuill and matrice, and to reduce them again into their places. 1640 E. CHILMEAD tr. *Ferrand's Erotique Melanch.* ii. 15 These women were troubled with the Procidence of the Matrix. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 112 This [prolapse of the vagina]..may..be a relaxation, procidence, prolapse or complete inversion of the organ.

So **Proˈcident** *a.*, falling forward; prolapsed.

1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Lect. Dis. Women* ii. (ed. 4) 7 On her side, a woman can easily press out a replaced procident uterus. *Ibid.* l. 417 When the patient came to us, the womb was not procident.

† **Proci·duous,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prōcidu-us* fallen or falling forward or down, f. *prōcidĕre*: see prec. and -OUS, and cf. *deciduous.*] Falling down or forward from the proper place.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prociduous*, that falls down out of his right place. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 395 It [gum-arabick] represses prociduous eyes.

† **Proˈcinct,** *sb.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *procinct-us, -a* (Du Cange), for L. *præcinctus* PRECINCT: see PRO-[1] 3. So OF. *procincte, proceinte* (13th c.), variants of *pourceinte*: see PURCINCT.] = PRECINCT *sb.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 401 In whiche procincte [L. *In hoc precinctu Walliæ*] were wonte to be thre courtes. 1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 355 Aboute the gardynes and alle the procincte of the place. 1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII*, c. 11 § 1 Within the seid Towne of Grete Yernemuth and procincte therof. 1583 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 688 The scite, circuit, ambulance, and procinct of the late Priory. 1616 *Manif. Abp. of Spalato's Motives* 34 A Prelacie thou hast here..of large procinct, and faire reuenue. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* XI. 265 For the priest..shall bear a rosy crown in his right hand, adhering to the rattle, in the very procinct of the pomp.

† **Proci·nct,** *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōcinctus*, vbl. sb. f. *prōcingĕre* to gird up, equip, in phr. *in prōcinctu* in readiness for action.] The condition of being prepared or equipped; readiness for action; only in *In procinct*, ready, prepared.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 89 And gaue vp each chariot and steed To their directors to be kept, in all procinct of warre, There, and on that side of the dike. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Let.* in *Reliq.* (1651) 453 Being then in procinct of his travels. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 19 Warr he perceav'd, warr in procinct, and found Already known what he for news had thought To have reported. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. 128 War! War in procinct! The comforts of Greatness. 1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLVI. 815 In short, all Rome, and at all times was 'in procinct'.

† **Proci·nct,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 **procint.** [ad. L. *prōcinctus*, pa. pple. of *prōcingĕre* to gird up, equip (PRO-[1] 1 h): cf. *succinct.*] Ready, prepared.

1618 M. BARET *Horsemanship* I. xxxiii. 98 Many things are now become nocent and hurtfull to man, which at the first was procint and seruiceable to him. 1623 COCKERAM, *Procint*, readie. 1773 J. ROSS *Fratricide* III. 21 (MS.) And from a bubbling fount, procinct and pure, Takes proper portion and dilutes the draught.

Procinctive (prosiˈŋktiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *procinct-*, ppl. stem of *prōcingĕre*: see PROCINCT *a.*] ? That girds itself for action.

1841 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIX. 152 To neither of these does the procinctive future belong.

† **Proci·sion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōcīsiōn-em*, n. of action from *prōcīdĕre* to cut short in front, f. PRO-[1] 1 f + *cædĕre* to cut.] A cutting short in front.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 213 The shortnesse of the Prepuce,..whether it be original, or adscititious by an artificial procision of it.

Prock: see PROC. **Prockesy,** obs. f. PROXY.

† **Proclaiˈm,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. PROCLAIM *v.* So F. *proclame*, med.L. *prōclāma* a proclamation.] The action of proclaiming; proclamation.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 12 Quhen the herald had maid his proclame, He tuke his leif, & syne he sped him hame. 1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. Dissert. 62 Axioms derive all their authority from intrinsic approbation, and not from public proclaim. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 130 Voices of soft proclaim, and silver stir Of strings in hollow shells.

Proclaim (proˌklēˈm), *v.* [ME. *proclame*, ad. L. *prōclām-āre* to cry out (esp. before a judge, in one's defence): see PRO-[1] and CLAIM *v.* (whence altered to the present spelling). Cf. F. *proclamer* (1549 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. *trans.* To make official announcement of (something), by word of mouth in some public place; also, to cause this to be done by officers or agents. The object may be a sb. or clause.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) Prol. 2 He wil make it to ben cryed & pronounced in the myddel place of a town; so þat the thing þat is proclamed..may euenly strecche to alle parties. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 577 The pardon that the legat hadde graunted and proclaymed thourgh all cristindom. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* XXXVI. 22 He caused it be proclamed thorow out all his empyre. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. 290 In haist the Nobilitie proclames a conuentioune in Skune, to sett another in his place. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 754 The winged Haralds..with..Trumpets sound..proclaim A solemn Councel forthwith to be held At Pandæmonium. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* vi. 143 A lie is as much a lie, when it is whispered, as when it is proclaimed at the market-cross. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 92 His titles were proclaimed by the voice of heralds and the applause of the Moslem. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 552 Then Yniol's nephew, after trumpet blown,.. proclaim'd, 'Advance and take, as fairest of the fair..The prize of beauty'.

b. *To proclaim war*: to make public declaration of war *against* another power (formerly also with *between, to*); to declare war. So *to proclaim peace.*

1496–7 *Act 12 Hen. VII*, c. 12 § 6 Yf Warre be reared levyed and proclaymed betwene the seid realmes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 269 Sebastian .. proclameth warre to the Duke of Saxons people. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* II. 11 Sodainly they proclaimed open Warres against the Megarenses. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 185 A French Gentleman..the same day had there proclaimed Peace. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lxiv. (1820) 326 The executive power proclaims war and peace. 1862 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* App. ii. 411 The King in England can proclaim war, but without the sanction of Parliament his proclamation must immediately be retracted.

c. To publish (the banns of marriage); also (Sc.) *to proclaim the parties*: cf. 2 c.

1588 in R. M. Fergusson *Alex. Hume* (1899) 182 Johnne ..and Margaret..desyrit me,..to proclame the said persones in this paroche kirk according to the order. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 16 Hee'll wooe a thousand, point the day of marriage .. and proclaime the banes. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. vi. § 10. 88 The council of Trent.. ordained bans to be proclaimed on three successive holidays, in the parish church or churches of the persons contracting; and this canon was adopted by our first Reformers, and hath been ever since observed by our church. 1893 *New Eng. Dict.* s.v. *Cry* vb. 5 d, To proclaim the marriage banns of. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 1 Oct. 1/1 The minister, after proclaiming the banns of matrimony between a young couple [etc.].

† **d.** *Law. To proclaim a fine*: to read a fine in open court in order to make it more public and less liable to be levied by fraud or covin: see FINE *sb.*[1] 6.

1483–4 *Act 1 Rich. III*, c. 7 § 1 Þe Iustices of Assisez..do rede & proclayme the seid fyne openly and solemply in euery their Cession of Assises to be holde the same yere. 1489 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 24. 1588–9 *Act 31 Eliz.* c. 2. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxi. 352.

2. To make official announcement of or concerning (a person or thing). **a.** With complement.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxxii. 50 For this victory his knyghtes proclaymed hym Emperour. *Ibid.* VI. clxxv. 172 They..conueyed the sayd .ii. children vnto the cytie of Ferrer, and there crowned and proclaymed theym for kynges. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 20 *Preamble*, One Archbold Armestrong wich was proclaymed a Rebell to the Kyng and Realme of Englonde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 245 At this Parliament the kyng was Proclaymed kyng of Irelande, whiche name his predecessors neuer had. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. II. 145 [They] loudly and universally proclamed Cicero the first Consul. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiv. 204 When he found himself proclaimed a traitor.

b. Without complement: Short for 'to proclaim (a person) as a rebel or outlaw'. Also non-officially: To denounce (a person or thing).

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 67 And gar 30ur merchandis be discreit, That na extortiounes be, proclaime All fraud and schame. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 151, I will proclaime thee Angelo,..Ile tell the world aloud What man thou art. 1605 — *Lear* II. iii. 1, I heard my selfe proclaim'd, And by the happy hollow of a Tree, Escap'd the hunt. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* ix, I know and will proclaim you to the world.

† **c.** To give public notice of (something) as lost or found; to give public notice of a marriage between (parties): see 1 c. *Obs.*

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. li. (1638) 157 Where beasts stray away.., and they be taken up and proclaimed.

d. To proclaim the accession of (a sovereign).

1714 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to W. Montagu* 9 Aug., I went..to-day to see the King proclaimed. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 588 On the morning of the twentieth of June he was proclaimed in the market place of Taunton. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 2. 354 The new sovereign was proclaimed on Edward's death.

e. To place (a district, country, etc.) under legal restrictions by proclamation: *spec.* under the provisions of the various Peace Preservation (Ireland) Acts of 1881 and following years.

1881 [see PROCLAIMED 2]. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 29 Oct. 5/2 In the interest of trade we stamp out other diseases of animals, not scrupling to 'proclaim' whole counties, and put the community to serious inconvenience for the general good. 1887 *Times* 28 July 8 Every part of Ireland is proclaimed.

f. To denounce or prohibit by proclamation; to forbid publicly or openly.

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Apr. 444/2 O, meet me by moonlight alone, Since our meetings by day are proclaimed.

3. *transf.* To declare publicly; to make known aloud or openly; to publish. Const. as in 1, 2 a.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 179 Whanne he made a governour.. He wolde ferst enquere his name, And let it openly proclame What man he were, or evel or good. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 337 b, They haue openly proclaimed that nothing be said a misse against him. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 203 It shall be expedient that these our writings be euerie where proclaimed. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl., Disc.* (1848) 61 If..the Man is happy whose sins God is pleas'd to cover; what may that Man be accounted whose Graces he vouchsafes to proclaim? 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 66 The shudd'ring tenant of the frigid zone Boldly proclaims that happiest spot his own. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 857 In vain thy creatures testify of thee, Till Thou proclaim thyself. 1867 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 3 Sir John Herschel..proclaims the need of a better logic. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 5. 250 He proclaims a righteous life to be better than a host of indulgences. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 164 You proclaim in the face of Hellas that you are a Sophist.

4. *fig.* Of things: To make known or manifest; to intimate, prove.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. liii. § 2 The true beliefe which maketh a man happie proclaymeth iointly God and man. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 72 The Apparell oft proclaimes the man. 1611 — *Wint. T.* v. ii. 42 Many other Euidences, proclayme her,..to be the Kings Daughter. *a* 1678 MARVELL *Bermudas* 28 He..makes the hollow seas, that roar, Proclaim the ambergris on shoar. *c* 1704 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 242 His steps proclaim no lover's haste. 1757 GRAY *Bard* III. ii, Her eye proclaims her of the Briton-Line. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. vii, Then did his silence long proclaim A struggle between fear and shame.

5. *intr.* To make proclamation or public announcement. *lit.* and *fig.*

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 334 He proclamed in al Cornewaile of alle the aduentures of these two knyghtes; so was hit openly knowen. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iv. 27 But that her tender shame Will not proclaime against her maiden losse, How might she tongue me?

Hence **Proclaiˈming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* Whence **Proclaiˈmingly** *adv.*, in a way that proclaims or announces.

1588–9 *Act 31 Eliz.* c. 2 Scarclye one daye in euerie Terme can be spared for the proclaymynge of Fynes. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) VI. xi. 372 Is not the Piety and Obedience of our Lives a proclaiming of God to be our King? 1880 G. MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* iv. (1892) 49 Not the less were they proclaimingly alight and in full blaze.

Proclaiˈmant. *rare*[−1]. [f. PROCLAIM *v.* + -ANT: cf. *claimant.*] A proclaimer.

1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* xii, I was spared the pain of being the first proclaimant of her flight.

Proclaimed (proˌklēˈmd), *ppl. a.* [-ED[1].]

1. Publicly and officially announced; publicly declared; designated in a proclamation.

1603 DEKKER *Wonderfull Yeare* C j, The holesome receipt of a proclaymed King. 1681 E. MURPHY *State Ireland* § 7 Bryan Micardle, a proclaymed Tory. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 526 Trained up in such a principle of proclaimed intolerance.

2. Of a district: Placed by proclamation under special legal restrictions; of a meeting, etc.: Prohibited by proclamation. See PROCLAIM *v.* 2 e, f.

1881 *Act* 44 & 45 *Vict.* c. 5 § 1 In a proclaimed district a person shall not carry or have any arms or ammunition save as authorised by the conditions set forth in the proclamation herein-after mentioned. 1882 *Ann. Reg.* 65 The bill proposed that in proclaimed districts the police should have power to search for implements of crime.

Proclaimer (prǫ|klē·mər). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who proclaims or publicly announces.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 29 The kyngdome of heauen..wherof Jhon the soonne of Zacharie was chosen and specially appuincted to bee an open preacher, and proclamer. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 27 Hee chargeth the proclamer with slaundering their Churche. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 522 Spreaders abroad and proclaimers of Gods truth. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 18 Now had the great Proclaimer with a voice More awful then the sound of Trumpet, cri'd Repentance. 1879 MACLEAR *St. Mark* xiv. 158 The Celebrant or Proclaimer of the Feast.

b. *spec.* The official who proclaims the number drawn in a lottery.

1775 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 1464 The proclaimer is not to suffer [the boy who draws the tickets]..to leave the wheel without being first examined by the manager.

Proclamation (prǫklămē¹·ʃən). [a. F. *proclamation*, OF. *-acion* (1370 in Godefroy *Compl.*), ad. L. *prōclāmātiōn-em*, n. of action from *prōclāmāre* to PROCLAIM.]

1. The action of proclaiming; the official giving of public notice.

[1383 *Act* 7 *Rich. II*, c. 6 Que chescun Viscont Dengleterre soite tenuz decy en avant en propre persone de faire proclamacion de mesme lestatut quatre foitz lan.] *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 43 Then was there made a proclamasion, In Plutoys name commaundyd silence..That Diana and Neptunus myght haue audience. 1532 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 349 It hathe not ben seen nor herd that any Subiecte..sholde presume to make proclamacion within this your realme but onelie in your graces Name. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 436 The dearest ring in Venice will I giue you, And finde it out by proclamation. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 348 An edict was published by open proclamatioun, that no man sett furth, or read anie of these libells. 1769 BURKE *Pres. St. Nat.* Wks. II. 139 The writs are issued...A proper space must be given for proclamation and for the election. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 655/1 To prevent bigamy and incestuous marriages, the church has introduced proclamation of banns. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* ix. (1875) 151 Intestine feuds were repressed by the proclamation of a public peace.

b. *spec.* The public and formal announcement of the accession of a king or ruler; the fact of being proclaimed king.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 70 Sound Trumpet, Edward shal be here proclaim'd: Come, fellow Souldior, make thou proclamation. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. lix. 329 Plutarch says that his troops received his rival's proclamation with shouts of applause.

c. The action of denouncing by a public notice, or of declaring a person to be outlawed, a thing to be illegal, a district to be under legal restriction, etc.; the fact of being so proclaimed; proscription.

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 18 The miraculous working, that God preserued the tables of his couenant from the bloody proclamations of Antiochus. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 183 The bloody proclamation to escape That follow'd me so neere..taught me to shift Into a mad-mans rags. 1881 *Act* 44 & 45 *Vict.* c. 5 § 2 Any such proclamation [of a county or district] may set forth the conditions and regulations under which the carrying or having of arms or ammunition is authorised. 1887 *Spectator* 27 Aug. 1138 The proclamation of the League by the Government under the Crimes Act.

2. That which is proclaimed, either as to its substance or its form; a formal order or intimation issued by the sovereign or other legal authority, and made public either by being announced by a herald, or by being posted up in public places.

In *Eng. Hist.* applied esp. to decrees issued by the sovereign, in the 16th and 17th centuries, by which it was sought to legislate without the assent of Parliament.

1415 EARL OF CAMBR. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 45 As for ye forme of a proclamacyon wych schulde hadde bene cryde in ye Erle name, as [t]he heyre to the Corowne of Ynglond ageyns 3ow, my lege lord. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccxvii. 235 The duke..made his proclamacyons & cryes, that no man shulde..do any force to the people. 1545 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 12 Ordourit and furnest eftir the forme and tenour of the proclamationis direct herupon. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. iii. 17, I heare of none but the new Proclamation, That's clapt vpon the Court Gate. 1671 LADY M. BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 23 They say the King hath put out a Proclamation to forbid maskerades. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. i, A proclamation was soon issued to forbid it, upon pain of death. 1832 MACAULAY *Ess., Burghley* (1887) 241 She [Elizabeth] assumed the power of legislating by means of proclamations. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. v. 27 Proclamations..are usually issued in pursuance of Orders in Council. 1875 TASWELL LANGMEAD *Eng. Const. Hist.* (1890) 398 The King [Henry VIII] then appealed to Parliament to give to his Proclamations the force of statutes. *Ibid.* 580 [Under Chas. I] In lieu of Acts of Parliament, Royal Proclamations .. were issued from time to time and declared to have the force of laws. 1881 [see PROCLAIMED 2].

†**3.** *Law.* **a.** *Proclamation of a fine*: see quot. 1607 and PROCLAIM *v.* 1 d. *Obs.*

1483–4 *Act* 1 *Rich. III*, c. 7 § 2 The Iustices of Peas..do make open and solempe proclamacion of the seid fyne in iiij generall Cessions of Peas to be holden the same yere. 1489 *Act* 4 *Hen. VII*, c. 24. 1588–9 *Act* 31 *Eliz.* c. 2. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Proclamation of a Fine*, is a notice openly, and solemnly giuen at all the Assises that shall be holden in the Countie within one yeare after the ingrossing of the fine, ..and these proclamations be made vpon transcripts of the fine, sent by the Iustices of the Common plees, to the Iustices of Assise, and the Iustices of peace. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. App. 16.

†**b.** *Proclamation of rebellion*: see quots. *Obs.*

1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Proclamation of rebellion*, is a publike notice given by the officer, that a man not appearing vpon a *Sub pœna*, nor an attachment in the Starre Chamber or Chauncerie, shalbe reputed a rebell, except he render himselfe by a day assigned. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* s. v., *Proclamation of Rebellion* is a Writ so called, whereby publick notice is given, where a Man, not appearing [etc., as above].

†**4.** *transf.* Open declaration; manifestation; favourable or unfavourable notice. *Obs.*

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 153 Vpon that day, that the gentleman doth begin to hourde vp money, from thence foorth, he putteth his fame in proclamation. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 180 Inuention is asham'd Against the proclamation of thy passion To say thou doost not [love]. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. ii, Here a Dame, Cunning, nayles lether-hindges to a dore To auoide proclamation.

5. *Comb.*: †**proclamation-horn**, a horn blown to call public attention before making proclamation; **proclamation hour**, an hour fixed by proclamation for some specified purpose; e.g. for retiring within doors; **proclamation money** (in N. Amer. Colonies), coin valued according to a table prescribed in a proclamation of Q. Anne on 18 June, 1704, in which the Spanish dollar of 17½ dwt. was to be rated at six shillings in all the colonies; **proclamation-print**, the type used in a printed proclamation; **proclamation writ**, a writ directing a proclamation to be made.

1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 321 Neither of these Cornucopiæ, or..Drinking or *Proclamation-Horns, or Horns of Ceremony now exist. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Aug. 5/3 Duplessis acknowledged that he had been in the company of Gano and Cordua at night after *proclamation hours. 1735 *N. Jersey Archives* XI. 432, I do hereby promise to Pay to the said Discoverer the Sum of Thirty Pounds, *Proclamation Money. 1748 *N. Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1871) V. 905 His Majesty has recommended that my safary should be fixed and Paid in Sterling or Proclamation money. 1772 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 86/1 The general assembly..hath passed a bill for emitting 60,000*l.* proclamation money, in paper bills of credit. 1775 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 72, 40 shillings each per day, Proclamation money. 1896 HOR. WHITE *Money & Banking* 15–16 Six shillings was considered by the home government a fair average of the various colonial valuations of the Spanish dollar. This valuation came to be known by the term proclamation money, or proc. money. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 25 The Kitchin..was no bigger than the Cooks roome in a ship, with a little court chimney, about the compasse of a Parenthesis in *proclamation-print. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* I. iv. 17 The tenor of them [the Acts] was affixed to *proclamation writs, and directed by the sheriffs to be proclaimed as law in their counties.

Hence **Proclama·tion** *v. trans. nonce-wd.*, to force or coerce by proclamations.

1864 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 459/2 If religious disputants had been 'proclamationed' into silence.

†**Pro·clama·tor.** *Obs.* [a. L. *prōclāmātor* one who cries out or proclaims, agent-n. f. *prōclāmāre* to PROCLAIM.] One who proclaims or makes a public announcement; *spec.* an officer of the Court of Common Pleas.

1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 64 Ministers..were..proclamators of new engagements. 1658 *Practick Part of Law* 3 The Proclamator of the Court; the Keeper of the Court. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed. 15) 101 He is also by inheritance Proclamator of the Court of Common Pleas. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xi, Fees to Judges, *puisne* Judges, Clerks,..Under Clerks, Proclamators [etc.].

Proclamatory (prǫ|klæ·mătəri), *a.* [f. L. *prōclāmātor*: see prec. and -ORY².]

1. That proclaims or makes public announcement.

1636 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xii. § 11 Hee uttered it, *voce magnâ*, with a proclamatory voice. 1830 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 452 The honourable..gentleman would of course make a speech declaratory and proclamatory of his disinterestedness. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 1 May 8/1 The thunder of the proclamatory cannon.

2. Of, pertaining to, like, or of the nature of a proclamation.

1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 90, I wrote..a short notice in the fly-leaf of my pocket-book, setting forth, in proclamatory style, 'who I was, and what was to be done with my body, in case it should be found'. 1882 T. HARDY *Two on Tower* III. iv. 55 To make due preparation for a wedding of ordinary publicity..with..a bonfire, and other of those proclamatory accessories.

Procli·ne, *v. rare.* [ad. L. *prōclīnā-re* to lean forward, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ + *-clīnāre*, = Gr. κλίν-ειν to bend.] *intr.* To lean forward; in *Dialling* = INCLINE *v.* 10 b.

1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 155/1 Inclining dials..were further distinguished as reclining when leaning backwards from an observer, proclining when leaning forwards.

Proclitic (prǫ|klī·tik), *a.* and *sb. Gram.* [ad. mod.L. *procliticus* (Hermann, 1801), f. Gr. *προκλιτικός*, f. *προκλίνειν*, f. *πρό*, PRO-² + *κλίνειν* (see prec.), after Gr. *ἐγκλιτικός* ENCLITIC. So F. *proclitique*.]

A. *adj.* In *Greek Gram.*, used of a monosyllabic word that is so closely attached in pronunciation to the following word as to have no accent of its own; hence, generally, used of a word in any language, which in pronunciation is attached to the following stressed word, as in *an ou'nce, as soo'n, at ho'me, for no'body, to co'mprehe'nd.*

1846 KEY *Lat. Gram.* p. ix, The term *proclitic* is adopted from Hermann's treatise: 'De emendanda ratione Graecae Grammaticae'.

B. *sb.* A proclitic word.

The proclitics in Greek are certain forms of the article, viz. ὁ, ἡ, οἱ, αἱ; and certain adverbs, prepositions, and conjunctions, viz. ἐκ, ἐν, εἰς, εἰ, οὐ (οὐκ), ὡς.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1874 KEY *Language* v. 72, ἐκ and οὐκ are not in themselves words but always attached as proclitics to that which follows. 1893 SONNENSCHEIN in *Class. Rev.* Mar. 135/2 Why? '·' the preposition is a *proclitic*... Hence he finds himself compelled to say that mŏdo ĕ Dăuo is equivalent to a single word like rĕcūbare.

Procli·ve, *a. Obs.* or *arch.* [a. obs. F. *proclive* (16th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *prōclīv-is* (also *-us*) sloping, descending, inclined, prone, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ 1 b + *clīvus* a slope.]

†**1.** Sloping steeply forwards and downwards. *Obs.*

1524 PACE *Let. to Hen. VIII* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xi. 20 The Montens [were] so proclive in descence. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXIV. 90 The temple.. is scituat vpon the Mount Parnassus, on the top of a cliffe from euery side and procliue steep down.

2. a. Of persons: Inclined, prone, disposed; having a proclivity or inclination *to* or *towards* any course or action.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 120 The ingine of man is mair proclive and reddy to evil werkis than to gud. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 34 A woman is frayll and procliue vnto all euels. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1) II. ii, As that land or nation best doth thriue, Which to smooth-fronted peace is most procliue. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. § 44 They incensed the Pope (too procliue of himselfe to set forth his owne greatnesse). 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. (1709) 234 People were generally Faint, and proclive to Sweat.

b. Of things: Leading or tending towards some course or action (usually one considered bad).

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 55/1 Howe muche more prone and procliue I sawe the waye to hurt. 1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 96 Astrologie..doth pave a plain and proclive path to Idolatry.

3. Headlong, hasty, forward.

1609 B. JONSON *Case is Altered* I. iv, A foolish fellow, somewhat proclive and hasty. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 756 In measure to the proclive weight and rush Of His inner nature.

Hence † **Procli·veness**, proclivity.

1623 T. SCOT *Highw. God* 73, I speake not of them, which may pretend their excuse from the frayltv of our natures, and our procliuenes to sin. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* (1657) 298 The procliveness of mans nature to plunge into former sins.

Procli·vitous, *a. rare.* [f. next + -OUS: cf. *calamitous*.] Steep.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 104 Many of the ascents and descents are so proclivitous that donkeys must be relieved of their loads.

Proclivity (prǫ|klī·vĭti). [ad. L. *prōclīvitās* a tendency, propensity, f. *prōclīvis*: see PROCLIVE and -ITY, and cf. F. *proclivité* (1603 in Godef.).]

1. A condition of being inclined to something; an instance of such condition; inclination, predisposition, tendency, leaning, propensity. **a.** Const. *to* or *towards* some action, habit, or thing; also *to do* something; esp. said of what is evil.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 421 He hath no proclivity or willingness of himself to come. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 77 b, Iniquitie of nature, and procliuitie vnto vice. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Life Dk. Buckhm.* in *Relig.* (1651) 76 To which lessons he had such a dextrous proclivity, as his teachers were fain to restrain his forwardness. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* i. § 12. 13 This naturall proclivity of men, to hurt each other. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis' Solil. Soul* xiii. 202 Known unto thee it is, how great a Proclivity there is in my Nature to fall. 1813 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 218 Persons..found with such a proclivity to servitude. 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* II. iv. § 65. 181 The vitalized molecules composing the tissues, show their proclivity towards a particular arrangement. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 142 A proclivity to catch cold.

b. *absol.*

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Disc. iii. § 15 The mastering of their first Appetites..lessening the proclivity of habits. 1656 HOBBES *Lib. Necess. & Chance* (1841) 308 That which he calls a necessity, is no more but a proclivity. 1708 in Fowler *Hist. C. C. C.* (O. H. S.) 263 Persons with Jacobite proclivities. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* i. 6 The tutor to whom the young Milton was consigned was specially noted for Arminian proclivities. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 770 The family proclivity is only..a local tissue proclivity.

†**2.** A steep slope; an acclivity. *Obs.*

1645 EVELYN *Mem.* 7 Feb., We alighted, crawling up the rest of the proclivity with great difficulty.

Proclivous (prǫ|kləi·vəs), *a.* [f. L. *prōclīv-us* (see PROCLIVE) + -OUS.]

1. Inclining downwards. *rare.*

1727 in BAILEY vol. II.

2. Inclined or sloping forward: applied to teeth inclined nearly in the line of the axis of the jaw, as the inferior canine teeth of the hippopotamus.

[1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Proclivus* [Lat.]; so in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*] 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Proclivous.*

Hence **Procli·vousness**, proclivity. *rare.*

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Proclivousness*, inclination downwards, propensity.

Procnemial: see PRO-² 2.

‖ **Procœlia** (prōsī·liă). *Anat.* Pl. **-iæ.** [mod. L. (Wilder), f. Gr. πρό, PRO-[2] + κοιλία a hollow: cf. CŒLIAC.] A prosencephalic ventricle; either of the lateral ventricles of the brain.

1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 485 *Procœlia* .. the lateral cavity of the prosencephalon, communicating through the porta with the aula and thus with the platetrope, and with the mesal series of cœliæ. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Procœlian (prōsī·liăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [In sense 1, f. mod.L. *Procœlia* (f. Gr. πρό, PRO-[2] + κοῖλ-ος hollow) + -AN; in sense 2, f. prec. + -AN.]

1. *Anat.* and *Zool.* **a.** = PROCŒLOUS. **b.** Having procœlous vertebræ; pertaining to the *Procœlia*, a suborder of *Crocodilia* including all the extant and recent crocodiles; also as *sb.* a crocodile of this suborder.

1854 R. OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 196 The vertebræ are 'procœlian'. *Ibid.* 199 The vertebræ of the trunk have the same procœlian character, *i.e.* with the cup anterior and the ball behind.

2. *Anat.* Of or pertaining to the procœliæ or prosencephalic ventricles.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Procœlous (prōsī·ləs), *a. Comp. Anat.* [f. PRO-[2] + Gr. κοῖλ-os hollow + -OUS: see prec.] Concave or cupped in front: applied to vertebræ; distinguished from *opisthocœlous* and *amphicœlous*.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 50 The anterior surfaces of these centra have the procoelous appearance. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 347 The dorsal vertebræ are 'procœlous' or concave in front. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 39 The ball may be post-axial in each vertebral body, a structure termed procœlous, and found in existing crocodiles.

‖ **Pro confesso:** see PRO.

Proconsul (prōu·kɒ̄nsŭl). [a. L. *prōconsul*, from the earlier phrase *prō consule* '(one acting) for the consul': see PRO-[1] 4 and CONSUL.]

1. *Rom. Hist.* An officer who acting as governor or military commander in a Roman province discharged the duties and had most of the authority of a consul; in the later republic the office was almost always held by an ex-consul; under the emperors, the governor of a senatorial province.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xiii. 7 A fals prophete, Jew,..that was with the proconsul Sergius Poul, prudent man. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 173 They were deuicte after that in Apulea by Marchus the proconsul of Rome. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. ix, He [Marcus Antoninus] aduanced hym [Proculus] to be proconsul. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vii. 8 He creates Lucius Pro-Consull. 1652 NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* 83 The spatious province of the Proconsul of Asia. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 36 The proconsuls of Asia, Achaia, and Africa, claimed a pre-eminence, which was yielded to the remembrance of their ancient dignity. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxiv. 275 The proconsul, P. Sempronius.. endeavoured to rouse the adjacent Illyrian tribes against Macedonia. 1904 RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* ix. 97 The provincial administration exercised the full authority of the Roman Empire, delegated to the Proconsul for his year of office. *fig.* 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 61 Our Proconsul, and chief Prouost, Christ Iesus.

b. *transf.* Applied rhetorically to a governor of a modern dependency, colony, or conquered province.

In the earlier period of the French Revolution the title was borne by certain commissioners who accompanied the revolutionary armies in insurgent departments, etc.

1827 SCOTT *Napoleon* Introd., Wks. 1870 IX. 277 Another Jacobin proconsul. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess., W. Hastings* (1887) 684 Such was the aspect with which the great Proconsul presented himself to his judges. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 125 It is a fine thing to see a homely old pro-consul retiring from the government of a region as large as France and Austria together, with a clear conscience and a sound digestion. 1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* I. 2 The poets and proconsuls who made the Hanoverian rule illustrious.

2. (*pro-consul.*) A deputy consul (CONSUL 8).

1804 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1846) VI. 87 Had the Dey yielded this point..I should have had no difficulty in placing a Pro-Consul at Algiers...I should have appointed Mr. M[c]Donough Consul *pro tempore*.

Proconsular (prɒkɒ̄nsi·ĭlăr), *a.* [ad. L. *prōconsulār-is*: see prec. and -AR[1].]

1. Of or pertaining to a Roman proconsul.

1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xii. 89 He was invested with Proconsular Authority for the more contentfully peracting this Tax. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Tilbury*, The 4 proconsular ways made in Britain by the Romans crossed each other in this town. 1852 CONYBEARE & H. *St. Paul* (1862) I. xii. 391 Gallio is seated on that proconsular chair from which judicial sentences were pronounced by the Roman magistrates. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xxii. 297 The Christians were tried in the proconsular courts.

b. *transf.* Of or pertaining to a mediæval or modern provincial governor.

1798 HEL. M. WILLIAMS *Switzerland* I. xiv. 200 Stung into disobedience by some act of proconsular tyranny, they took up arms against their sovereign.

2. Of a province: Under the administration of a Roman proconsul.

Proconsular Asia, the Roman province of Asia, including the districts of Mysia, Lydia, Caria, and Phrygia, the western part of Asia Minor; the 'Asia' of the New Testament.

1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Acts xix. 10 The Gospel was spread through all Asia proconsular. 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 228 *note*, Throughout the senatorian or proconsular provinces, all taxes were immediately paid into the *ærarium*, or treasury of the state. 1840 A. JOLLY *Sunday Serv.* 310 Abitina, a city in the proconsular province of Africa. 1885 T. M. LINDSAY *Acts* II. 44 Later [Cyprus] became imperial and still later again proconsular. Luke is strictly accurate.

Hence **Proco·nsularship,** the position of a proconsular province.

1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 301/1 Augustus raised it [Bithynia] into a proconsularship B.C. 27.

† **Proco·nsulary,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.: see -ARY 2.] = prec.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* I. v. (1622) 8 He [Tiberius] entreated .. that proconsularie authority might be giuen Germanicus Cæsar. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VII. (1658) 809 Hadrian..was made Colleague with his father in the Proconsulary power. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. ii. 17 To inform ourselves of the State the Roman Proconsulary Province was in.

Proconsulate (prɒkɒ̄nsi·ĭlĕt). [= F. *proconsulat* (1552 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōconsulātus*: see PROCONSUL and -ATE[1].] The office of an ancient Roman proconsul; the district under the government of a proconsul.

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 609 He governed the proconsulate of Asia little to his credit. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* IV. xxxiv. 140 The proconsulate of Syria became the object of every inordinate ambition. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Col.* 413 The Proconsulate of Paullus.

b. *transf.* Cf. PROCONSUL I b.

1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 113 Citizen Barthelemi had been established .. at Basle; where, with his proconsulate of Switzerland and the adjacent parts of Germany, he was appointed as a sort of factor to deal in the degradation of the crowned heads of Europe.

Proco·nsulship. [f. PROCONSUL + -SHIP.] The office or position of a proconsul.

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 200 Now the yeere was at hand, when as the Proconsulship of Asia or Africke should be alotted vnto him. 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* IV. i, And, shoulde shee begge your procunsulship, yf you heard her, 'Twere her's, upon my life. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (L.), This..is shewn by the letters [of Cicero] during his proconsulship. 1807 *Europ. Mag.* LII. 443/2 One of the..coadjutors of the sanguinary Collot d'Herbois, during the dreadful period of his proconsulship at Lyons.

Procrastinate (prɒi·kræ·stinēit), *v.* [f. L. *prōcrastin-āre* to put off till the morrow, to defer, f. L. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 d + *crastin-us* belonging to to-morrow (f. *crās* to-morrow): see -ATE[3].]

1. *trans.* To postpone till another day; to put off from day to day; to defer, delay. Now *rare*.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 114 The significations of this Coniunction happening in the watrie Trigon, are procrastinated or prolonged untill after sixe Coniunctions immediately insuing. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1216 The shortnes of time, which allowed us no leasure..to procrastinate the matter. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 158 Many such deuices they fained to procrastinate the time. 1775 *Sterne's Sent. Journ. Contin.* IV. 246, I blush to take a view of myself, and would procrastinate a scrutiny which harrows me at reflection. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 2385 It was the crowning grace of that great heart, To keep back joy; procrastinate the truth.

2. *intr.* To defer action, delay; to be dilatory.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 93 Bacherchan having commission to persecute Curroon, procrastinates not. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 37 To procrastinate in matters clear .. may be dangerous. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 225 While we procrastinate, a fatal stroke may intervene. 1850 M[c]COSH *Div. Govt.* I. ii. (1874) 45 He hesitates and procrastinates till the time for action is over.

Hence **Procra·stinated** *ppl. a.*, **Procra·stinating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **Procra·stinatingly** *adv.*

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* III. 73 The President seeing the procrastinating of time was no course to liue. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 124 There is no safetie in procrastinating. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 686 Great Winds and Rain..caused a procrastinating Delay in the Transacting of many Affairs. 1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* Wks. II. 402 A timid, unsystematick, procrastinating ministry. 1789 M. MADAN tr. *Persius* (1795) 130 *note*, Procrastinated time will always fly on. 1893 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. xxi. 364, I was too procrastinatingly lazy to expend even that amount of energy.

Procrastination (prɒi·kræstinēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *prōcrastinātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōcrastinārе*: see prec., and cf. F. *procrastination* (16th c. in Godef., now rare).] The action or habit of procrastinating, or putting off; delay, dilatoriness.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 165 Without longer procrastinacion, he assembled togither .viii. C. horsemen. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1293 Most weightie businesse .., and such as could suffer no procrastination or delay. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* I. 393 Procrastination is the thief of time; Year after year it steals, till all are fled. 1877 FARRAR *Days of Youth* xiv. 133 They branded prudent caution as mean procrastination.

b. The putting off or deferring *of* something.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 304 That benefite of the procrastination of my Life. 1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 68/2 Whether he would consent to the procrastination of his motion or not.

Procrastinative (prɒi·kræ·stinĕ·tiv), *a.* [f. L. *prōcrastināt-*, ppl. stem of *prōcrastin-āre* to PROCRASTINATE + -IVE.] That tends to procrastinate or put off action. Hence **Procra·stinativeness.**

1824 *Examiner* 289/2 The number of merely procrastinative suits..swells the number of cases decided. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ix. (1872) II. 224 Whatever the answer ..Negative, procrastinative, affirmative, to me it shall be zero. 1896 A. TRUMBLE *In Jail w. C. Dickens* iii. 105 An Act of Parliament..contested with the usual ponderous procrastinativeness.

Procrastinator (prɒi·kræ·stinēitəɹ). [agent-n. in L. form from PROCRASTINATE *v.*: see -OR 2 c.] One who procrastinates or defers action to another day or some future time; one who habitually delays or puts off attending to matters.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 154 So is he no procrastinatour. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Nov., Lord Treasurer .. is the greatest procrastinator in the world. 1865 T. WRIGHT *Hist. Caricature* xiii. 219 The procrastinator is pictured by another fool, with a parrot perched on his head, and a magpie on each hand, all repeating *cras, cras, cras.*

Procrastinatory (prɒi·kræ·stinĕ·təri), *a.* [f. as prec.: see -ORY 2.] Given to or implying procrastination; dilatory.

1846 WORCESTER, *Procrastinatory*, implying procrastination. *Ec. Rev.* 1892 *Black & White* 6 Feb. 175/2 A procrastinatory belief in the protection of Providence.

† **Procra·stine,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *prōcrastin-āre* to PROCRASTINATE, or a. obs. F. *procrastine-r* (15–18th c. in Godefroy).] = PROCRASTINATE.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 7 Thinkyng that if that pardon were any lenger space procrastened or prolonged, that..Sir Thomas Broughton..should sodeynly moue a newe insurreccion against him.

Procreant (prōu·krĭănt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *prōcreānt-em*, pr. pple. of *prōcreā-āre*: see next. So F. *procréant*, pres. pple. of *procréer*.]

1. That procreates or begets; producing young; generating; producing, as in *procreant cause*.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. iii. 18 b, The procreant and conseruant cause. 1654 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* cvii. 11 Sin is at the bottome of all mens miseries, as the procreant cause thereof. 1679 [see CONSERVANT]. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xviii. 344 But the loss of liberty is not the whole of what the procreant bird suffers. 1849 CLOUGH *Dipsychus* II. iii. 23 The procreant heat and fervour of our youth Escapes, in puff, in smoke.

2. Of, pertaining or subservient to procreation.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vi. 8 No Iutty frieze, Buttrice, nor Coigne of Vantage, but this Bird Hath made his pendant Bed, and procreant Cradle. 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne* xii, This wonderful 'procreant cradle' [a harvest-mouse's nest]. 1817 WORDSW. *Vernal Ode* iii, Her procreant vigils Nature keeps Amid the unfathomable deeps. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 200 The swarms of children nestled and cradled in every procreant chamber of this hive.

† **B.** as *sb.* One who or that which procreates; a generator. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 28 Leaue Procreants alone, and shut the doore. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 16 God the Father, Sonne, and holy Ghost, are Procreants and Conseruants of the world. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* xiii. Wks. 1851 III. 235 Putrid creatures that receive a crawling life from those two most unlike procreants, the Sun and mudde.

† **Pro·create,** *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Also **-at.** [ad. L. *prōcreāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōcre-āre* to bring forth or beget, produce, cause, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 a + *creāre* to create.] Procreated, begotten. (Usually construed as *pa. pple.*)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 381 Diuerse kyndes of bestes whiche be procreate of commixtion. *c* 1475 *Songs & Carols* (Percy Soc.) 64 Syns that Eve was procreat owt of Adams syde. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 § 4 All the issue hade and procreate, or hereafter to be had and procreate bytwene your Highnes and..Quene Anne. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 121 b, Gif ane Burges..hes procreat bairnes with ilke ane of his wifes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 170 Some of these Kings, dying without procreate Heires.

B. *sb.* The produce of money; interest.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 578 If the Paiment be half Yearly or Quarterly,..let the Log. of the Yearly Procreat be multiplied accordingly by ½ or ¼.

Procreate (prōu·krĭēit), *v.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *prōcreāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōcreāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To beget, engender, generate (offspring).

1536 *Act* 28 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 5 That the issue borne and procreated under the same vnlawfull mariage .. betwene your Highnes, and the said Lady Katheryne, shall be taken demed and accepted illegittimate to all ententes and purposes. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XVI. (1599) 747 Their..hope to procreate children. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* 74 Animals..do not Procreate their Like, but when they are in their Vigor. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* i. 5 Four brothers and three sisters, procreated betwixt John Boston and Alison Trotter, a woman prudent and virtuous. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1872) 71 A pair of animals, producing .. two hundred offspring, of which .. only two on an average survive to procreate their kind.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To produce offspring.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 94 If that be..female which procreates in it selfe;..all plants are female. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 408 Couples marry and procreate on the idea, not the reality, of a maintenance; they increase beyond the demand of towns and manufactures.

c. *trans.* (*transf.* and *fig.*) To bring into existence, produce; to give rise to, occasion.

1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* I. iii. 5 The Riuer Nilus, whiche for the lustye fatnesse of the slime, doeth procreat diuerse kyndes of beastes. 1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. iii. 11 b, The cause efficient..doth either procreate or bring forth that which was not before, as God the worlde. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 46 Ormus..procreates nothing note-worthy, Salt excepted. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 305 The sides of Homogeneal Surdes multiplyed procreateth sides of Homogeneal Surdes. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1778) II. v. 41 The offspring of the sun, procreated..in the regions of the east.

Hence **Pro·created, Pro·creating** *ppl. adjs.*

1552 HULOET, Procreated, *procreatus*. 1653 MANTON *Exp. James* I. 14 Wks. 1871 IV. 93 The true procreating cause

of sin is in every man's soul. 1857–69 Heavysege *Saul* (ed. 3) 135 That procreated race, Which holds 'twixt us and brutes the place. 1864 R. A. Arnold *Cotton Fam.* 10 An urgent demand for labour will increase the procreated supply.

Procreation (prōʊˌkrɪˌēˈ·ʃən). [ME. a. OF. *procreacion* (14th c. in Littré), mod.F. *procréation*, ad. L. *prōcreātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prō-cre-āre*: see above.]

1. The action of procreating or begetting; generation, propagation of species; the fact of being begotten.

c 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 204 Take hym a wyf.. By cause of leueful procreacion Of children. *c* 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1576 Procreacioun Of children is, vn-to goddes honour. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* vi. ccvii. 220 Of this Wyllyams procreacion, it is wytnessed of Vyncent Hystoryall & other. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, The causes for the whiche matrimonie was ordeined. One cause was the procreacion of children. 1607 Shaks. *Timon* iv. iii. 4 Twin'd Brothers..Whose procreation, residence, and birth, Scarse is diuidant. 1682 T. Gibson *Anat.* 22 The parts..minister either to nutrition, for the conservation of the Individual; or to Procreation, for the conservation of the Species. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. vii. 114 As the word *heirs* is necessary to create a fee, so..the word *body*, or some other words of procreation, are necessary to make it a fee-tail. *a* 1874 Suckley in Coues *Birds N. W.* 11 The indispensable union of a pair for the purpose of procreation.

†**2.** That which is procreated; offspring, progeny.

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 To the intente that his maiestie..might haue issue and procreation for the..suretie of this his realme. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* iii. xxvi. (1611) 183 No lesse monstrous then those deformed procreations and naturally deformed animals. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* ii. xxiv. 131 The Procreation, or Children of a Commonwealth, are those we call Plantations, or Colonies.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* Origination, production, natural formation.

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* i. 7 For the procreation of Sutures. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Title-p., The Description and first Procreation and Increase of the Towne of Great Yarmouth in Norffolke. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* ii. xix. 127 The procreation of peace..is the end of warre. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iv. 74 In the procreation of Metals some Sulphureous matter doth intervene. 1871 B. Taylor *Faust* (1875) II. ii. ii. 95 This procreation is most rare; Of the old senseless way we're now well ridden.

Procreative (prōʊˈkrɪˌeˈtɪv), *a.* [f. L. type **prōcreātīv-us*: see Procreate *ppl. a.* and -ive. So OF. *procreative* (14th c. in Godef.).] Pertaining to procreation; having the power or function of producing offspring. Also *fig.*

1634 T. Johnson *Parey's Chirurg.* xxiv. xxxix. (1678) 568 The..procreative faculty ceaseth in some sooner, in some later. 1642 Fuller *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xii. 406 Having made one lye he is fain to make more to maintain it...Not one amongst them shall be barren, but miraculously procreative to beget others. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 252 *note*, The procreative soil will expand the ripening germs, and in the end produce a plenteous harvest. 1850 Blackie *Æschylus* II. 153 The irregular gratification of the procreative instinct.

Hence **Pro·creativeness.**

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* ii. iii. § 32 The Procreativeness of those Nations presently stinted and abated. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* ix. P 14 To have reconcil'd the procreativeness of corporeal, with the duration of incorporeal substances.

Pro·creator. *rare.* [a. L. *prōcreātor*, agent-n. f. *prōcre-āre* to Procreate. So F. *procréateur* adj. (1547 in Hatz.-Darm.).] One who or that which procreates or begets; a parent.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 203 b, He is vnkynd and vnnaturall, that will not cherishe hys natural parentes and procreators. 1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* (1613) 185 They.. neuer mention our sinnes, which are his chiefe procreatours.

†**Pro·creatory,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec.: see -ory².] Of or tending to procreation; procreative.

1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 32 Thus the wonderfull Creator of Nature.. put into all things that were created a power procreatory, and the order of their encreasing, and propagation.

Pro·creatress. *rare.* [f. Procreator + -ess¹.] A female procreator or parent.

1597 Middleton *Wisd. Solomon* xiv. 26 O idol-worshipping, thou mother art, she-procreatress of a he-offence. 1623 Wodroephe *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 528/2 The most liberall Mother and Procreatresse of all Things, the Earth.

†**Procrea·trix.** *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *prōcreātrix*, fem. of *prōcreātor* Procreator.] = prec.

1592 Stubbes *Motive Gd. Workes* (1593) 18 b, The earth, the mother and procreatrix of all things. 1611 Cotgr., *Procreatrice*, a procreatrix; a mother, or damme.

Procrustean (prokrʊˈstɪăn), *a.* [f. Procrustes + -an: cf. *Herculean.*] Of or pertaining to Procrustes: aiming or tending to produce uniformity by violent and arbitrary methods.

a 1846 *Christian Observer* (cited in Worcester). 1848 Mrs. Gaskell *M. Barton* xv, To..tie them down to their own Procrustean bed. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 118 For which they have cut and dried procrustean remedies ready to hand. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 271 Neither must we attempt to confine the Platonic dialogue on the Procrustean bed of a single idea. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 156 Not to be submitted to any Procrustean process, even of disciplinary moulding.

Hence **Procru·steanism,** a Procrustean method or principle; **Procru·steanize** *v.*, to render Procrustean; to treat by Procrustean methods.

1864 *Edin. Rev.* July 168 The repulsive *Procrusteanism of the course of instruction. *a* 1846 *Christian Obs.* (cited in Worcester), *Procrusteanize. 1899 *Speaker* 30 Dec. 338/2 The girls sat daily in a horrible machine constructed to Procrusteanize a long and graceful neck by drawing up the head and chin.

Procrustes (prokrʊˈstēz). [a. Gr. Προκρούστης, personal name, lit. 'one that stretches', f. προκρούειν to beat or hammer out, to stretch out.] The name of a fabulous robber of Attica who is said to have stretched or mutilated his victims to conform them to the length of his bed. Hence allusively. Also *attrib.*

1583 Fulke *Defence* i. (Parker Soc.) 97 You play manifestly with us the lewd part of Procrustes, the thievish host, which would make his guests' stature equal with his bed's, either by stretching them out if they were too short, or by cutting off their legs if they were too long. 1637 T. Morton *New Eng. Canaan* (1883) 335 This passage is like to the Procrustes of Roome, mee thinks. 1790 Han. More *Relig. Fash. World* (1791) 35 We may rejoice that the tyranny of the spiritual Procrustes is so far annihilated. 1837 Syd. Smith *1st Let. Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 259/2 It is quite absurd to see how all the Cathedrals are to be trimmed to an exact Procrustes pattern. 1870 W. Graham *Lect. Ephesians* v. 129 It became the procrustes bed on which the faith and hope of the nation were offered up.

Procry, obs. Sc. form of Procuracy.

Procryptic (prokrɪˈptɪk), *a. Zool.* [f. Pro- 1 or ² + Gr. κρυπτικός fit for concealing, f. κρύπτειν to hide, conceal: cf. Cryptic. (App. formed after *protective.*)] Having the function of protectively concealing: applied to the protective mimicry of colour and form, observed in insects (esp. butterflies and moths and their caterpillars), and some other animals. Hence **Procry·ptically** *adv.*

1891 E. B. Poulton in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 463 A palatable insect..which defended itself, like the great majority of its allies, by Protective Resemblance (Procryptic Colouring). 1900 *Nature* 13 Dec. 157/2 These animals are known to be procryptically coloured.

Procto- (prɒˈktɒ), before a vowel **proct-**, combining form of Gr. πρωκτός anus; used to form modern scientific terms, chiefly medical and surgical, rarely zoological. ‖ **Procta·gra** [Gr. ἄγρα seizure], = next (Dunglison 1853). ‖ **Procta·lgia** [Gr. ἄλγος pain], pain in the anus; so **Procta·lgy.** ‖ **Proctatre·sia** [Gr. ἀτρησία imperforation], imperforation of the anus (Dunglison 1842); so **Pro·ctatresy.** **Procte·ctomy** [Gr. ἐκτομή excision], excision of the rectum (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Procti·tis** [-itis], inflammation of the rectum and anus. **Pro·ctocele** (-sēl) [Gr. κήλη tumour], prolapse of the mucous membrane of the rectum through the anus (Dunglison 1842). **Pro·ctocysto·tomy,** cystotomy performed through the anterior wall of the rectum; so **Proctocy·stotome,** an instrument designed for this operation (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Proctodæ·um** *Embryol.* [Gr. ὁδαῖος that is on or by the road], the posterior portion of the digestive tract, beginning as an invagination of the epiblast; hence **Proctodæ·al** *a.* ‖ **Proctody·nia** [Gr. ὀδύνη pain] = *proctalgia* (Dunglison 1857). ‖ **Procto·ncus** [Gr. ὄγκος swelling], a swelling of or near the anus (Dunglison 1853). **Pro·ctopara·lysis,** paralysis of the muscles of the rectum (Dunglison 1853). **Pro·ctoplasty** [-plasty], plastic surgery of the anal region; so **Proctopla·stic** *a.* (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Pro·ctopo·lypus** [Polypus 2], anal polypus (Mayne 1858). ‖ **Proctopto·ma** [Gr. πτῶμα fall], = *proctocele* (Dunglison 1857). ‖ **Proctopto·sis** [Gr. πτῶσις a falling] = prec. ‖ **Proctorrha·gia** [see Hæmorrhagy], hæmorrhage from the anus (Dunglison 1853). **Procto·rrhaphy** [Gr. ῥαφή suture], suture of the rectum close to the anus (Billings 1890). ‖ **Proctorrhœ·a** [Gr. ῥοία flux], a morbid discharge from the anus (Hooper *Med. Dict.* 1811). **Pro·ctoscope** [-scope], a rectal speculum; hence **Proctosco·pic** *a.* **Procto·tomy** [Gr. τομή cutting], incision of the rectum (Mayne 1858); so **Pro·ctotome,** an instrument for this operation (Billings 1890). **Pro·ctotrete** [Gr. τρητός perforated], a S. American iguanoid lizard of the genus *Proctotrētus* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Proctotru·pid** [Gr. τρυπᾶν to bore], *a.* belonging to the *Proctotrupidæ*, a family of minute ichneumons; *sb.* a fly of this family. **Proctu·chous** *a.* [Gr. ἔχειν to have], having an anus; applied to one division of turbellarians, the *Proctūcha*, as distinguished from the *Aprocta* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1811 Hooper *Med. Dict.*, **Proctalgia*,..a violent pain at the anus. It is mostly symptomatic of some disease, as piles, ..&c. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Proctalgia*.., *proctalgy. *Ibid.*, *Proctatresia*.., *proctatresy. 1811 Hooper *Med. Dict.*, **Proctitis*,..inflammation of..the lower part of the rectum. 1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 431 Proctitis occurs from the action of local causes, and may simulate dysentery. 1888 F. E. Beddard in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 680/1 The terminal section of the intestine is formed by the *proctodæal invagination. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* p. xiv, The corresponding passage leading from the anus I..propose to call the '*proctodæum'. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1632/2 Both cavities—the postanal gut and the proctodeum—are actively growing. 1902 *Ibid.* 19 July 170/2 A few days later I examined with the *proctoscope. 1904 *Ibid.* 3 Dec. 1505/2 The electric proctoscope enables the lower bowel to be examined by the eye without difficulty to a height of 30 centimetres. 1902 *Ibid.* 19 July 170/2 *Proctoscopic examination. 1869 Packard *Guide Stud. Insects* (1872) 131 *note*, An exceedingly minute *Proctotrupid fly, supposed to be parasitic on *Anthophorabia megachilis.*

Proctor (prɒˈktəɪ), *sb.* [A syncopated form of *procuratour*, Pro·curator, through *procutour, procketour, proctour*, etc. Cf. Proxy = Procuracy, also the ME. weakening of Procure *v.* to *proker.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 3–7 **procuratour** (5–6 **-oure,** 6 *Sc.* **-ure**), 5 **prokeratour,** 3– **procurator.** See Procurator.

β. 5–6 **procutour,** 5–8 **-or** (5 **-oure, -ur, procatour(e, proketowre, procketur**), 6–7 **procutar,** 9 **prokitor.** After *c* 1500 only *Sc.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Friar's T.* 298 May I nat..answere there by my procutour? [*v.rr.* procatour(e; *Harl.* 7334 procuratour]. 14.. *Cursor M.* 16023 (Gött.) Pilate þair procketur [*v.r.* procuratur]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Proketowre (*K.* prokeratour), *procurator*. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 649 The procutur of the mynchons. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 454 The wardeyn and the procutoris..of the parishe chirche. 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 413/2 The humble supplication of Mr. Archibald Johnstoun procutor for the Kirk. ?*a* 1700 *Truth's Trav.* in *Pennecuik's Poems* (1715) 106 The Procutars bad him be stout, Care not for Conscience a Leek. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, Great preferment for poor Madge..to speak wi' provosts, and bailies, and town-clerks, and prokitors.

γ. 4–7 **proctour,** (5–6 **proktur(e,** 6 **proctoure, 6–7 procter**), 5– **proctor.**

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 412 Many ben traitours to God, and proctours to þe fend. 1432–50 Proctor [see B. 1, 4]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/2 A Prokture, *accurator, procurator*. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 44 b, Affiances made and taken by procters and deputies. 1613 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Proctour*, a factour or solicitor. *c* 1618 Procter [see B. 2 c].

B. Signification.

†**1.** *Rom. Hist.* = Procurator 1. *Obs.*

14.. [see A. *β*]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 391 Felix was..made the proctor of the Iewes. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* iv. (1520) 28/2 Pontius Pilatus was Judge and proctour in the Jury under the Emperoure.

2. A person employed to manage the affairs of another; an agent, deputy, proxy, attorney: = Procurator 2. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in technical use.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iii. xvii. 396 Thei schulden be punyschid..in her procutour or attorney occupiyng..in her names. *a* 1450 Myrc 22 All þat consenten thereto in hermyng of the person or of þe vicary or her proketours. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* vii. ccxxxvii. 274 Y^e^ kyng sent ouer bysshoppis & proctours to complayn vpon hym to y^e^ pope. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 365 Others.. whan they had obtained license, sente theyr Proctours. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 206 But he neither vouchsafed to appeare, nor yet to send any one to us in the name of a Proctor.

†**b.** A steward: = Procurator 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 279 Alle þes goodis ben pore mennus goodis, & clerkis ben not lordis of hem but proctours. 1382 — *Gen.* xv. 2 The sone of the proctour [1388 procuratour] of myn hows, this Damask of Elyzar. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* iii. xvii. 389 The Lorde of the Vyner..seide to his procutour thus 'Clepe thou the werkmen and 3eelde to hem her meede'. 1538 London in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 215 We founde the prior of the Charterhowse in hys shortt gowne and velvytt cappe..and the proctor of that howse in lyke apparell. 1565–78 Cooper *Thesaurus, Castaldius*, a proctor: a steward: a baily.

c. An agent for the collection of tithes and other church dues; a tithe-farmer. In full *tithe-proctor.*

1607 Cowell *Interpr.*, *Procurator*, is vsed for him that gathereth the fruites of a benefice for another man...They are at this day in the West parts called Proctors. *c* 1618 Morvson *Itin.* iv. iii. vi. (1903) 288 Both Ministers and Bishops non resident sent to theire remote liuings only Procters to gather theire tythes and profitts. 1780 A. Young *Tour Irel.* I. 217 Tythes..were a real grievance; the proctors let the first, and perhaps the second year with them run by bond. 1807 Vancouver *Agric. Devon* (1813) 102 Tyranny and extortion..exercised by the tithe-proctors, or other persons renting the great tithes from the church of Exeter. 1898 MacDonagh *Irish Life* xiii. 229 The tithe-proctors—the men who collected the impost, or, in default of payment, seized the stock of the Catholic peasants—were objects of intense popular hatred.

3. In a University, one of two or more officers periodically elected by the members of the University or one of its constituent sections, whose duties have varied at different times and in different places. The primary function of the office seems to have been representative, esp. in law-suits, and in the administration of corporate funds.

a. In reference to mediæval (and Scottish) universities, an occasional anglicized form of the L. term *procurator* actually used: see Procurator 3.

1895 Rashdall *Univ. Europe in Middle Ages* I. 315 (Paris) The first document in which the Rector and Proctors are clearly distinguished from one another is a Statute of the Faculty of Arts in 1245. *Ibid.* II. 121 [At Montpellier] as at Oxford, the Masters are more directly represented by two Proctors, the office circulating among them. The functions of these Proctors were primarily financial, as originally were those of the Proctors of Paris and Oxford. *Ibid.* 298 [At St. Andrews] The Masters and students—divided into the Four Nations of Fife, Lothian, Angus, and Britain, each with its Proctor—elected the Rector. *Ibid.* 306 [At Glasgow] Only on occasions of the Rectorial elections

was the organization of Nations and student Proctors called into actual existence—for which purpose it has lasted down to the present day.

b. In modern use, as at Oxford and Cambridge, each of two officers appointed annually to discharge various functions in connexion with the meetings of the University and its various Boards, the examinations and conferment of degrees, and the like; they are also charged with the discipline of all persons *in statu pupillari*, and the summary punishment of minor offences.

In the old English Universities, they were formerly called *Northern* and *Southern Proctor* respectively (see PROCURATOR 3); they are now distinguished as *Senior* and *Junior Proctor*, in accordance with their university seniority. They are appointed or elected by the various colleges in rotation. At Oxford they are the representatives of the body of Masters of Arts, and, as such, are assessors to the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, and ex-officio members of the Hebdomadal Council and of almost all University Boards and Delegacies; they exercise a joint veto upon the proceedings and decrees of Congregation and Convocation, ask graces for degrees in the Ancient House of Convocation, nominate delegates not otherwise specially appointed, supervise the examiners and examinations conjointly with the Vice-Chancellor, and concur with him in the conferring of all degrees. At Cambridge their powers and functions are similar, but less extensive. Proctors also exist with certain functions at Dublin and at Durham.

Proctors' dogs or *bulldogs* (*Univ. slang*), the sworn constables who accompany the proctors in their nightly perambulation of the streets for the purpose of preventing disorder.

[(For the sake of historical continuity earlier examples in the Latin form *procurator* are also given here.) **1248** *Rot. Claus.* 33 *Hen. III*, m. 15 *dorso* (in Rashdall II. 369 *note*), Presentibus apud Woodstocke tam procuratoribus scolarium universitatis quam Burgensibus Oxon. *c* **1250** in *Mun. Acad. Oxon.* (Rolls) 12 De assensu Cancellarii et Procuratorum Universitatis. **1257** *Ibid.* 30 Faciant Procuratores congregationem fieri, quæ ultra triduum non differatur. **1314–15** *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 327/1 Quotiens..per Cancellarium & Procuratores Universitatis fuerint premuniti. **1407** in *Mun. Acad. Oxon.* (Rolls) 237 Magister Ricardus Flemmyng, Canonicus ecclesiæ cathedralis Eboracensis, et Procurator borealis Universitatis Oxoniæ. **1411–12** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 651/2 Visitatio Cancellarii ac Procuratorum dicte Universitatis..necnon omnium Doctorum, Magistrorum, regentium et non regentium, ac Scolarium ejusdem Universitatis.]

1536 *Rem. Sedition* 16 In Oxford..the name of the northern, and southerne proctour, hath been the cause, that many men haue ben slayne. **1536** in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 136 Yᵉ Proctor did thrust his pole-axe at him. **1573** G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* 7 M. Alin, then and now senior proctor. **1574** M. STOKYS in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* (1841) App. A. p. ix, Then shall the Proctours apoynt them [Determiners] their Senioritie. *a* **1613** OVERBURY *Charact., Meere Scholer* Wks. (1856) 88 University iests are his universall discourse, and his newes the demeanor of the proctors. **1663** WOOD *Life* 24 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 495, 16 Masters in proctors' gownes. **1797** *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 140 Proctors are two officers chosen annually from the regent masters of arts on the 10th of October: they are called proctors, from their managing (*procurandis*) the affairs and business of the university, and also rectors from their superintending or governing (*regendis*) the schools. **1828** GUNNING *Ceremonies Cambr.* 3 Cycle for the nomination of proctors. **1841** PEACOCK *Stat. Cambr.* 24 The two proctors,..after the chancellor or vice-chancellor were the most important administrative officers in the university. They were chosen annually by the regents. **1847** TENNYSON *Princ.* Prol. 113 We, unworthier told Of college: he had climbed across the spikes..And he had breath'd the Proctor's dogs. *Ibid.* 141 Pretty were the sight If our old halls could change their sex, and flaunt With prudes for proctors, dowagers for deans, And sweet girl-graduates in their golden hair. **1863** 'OUIDA' *Held in Bondage* (1870) 39, I had been shown up before the proctor on no less than six separate occasions. **1899** *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* p. xxiii, Cycle for the nomination of proctors...1899. Trinity, Jesus. 1900. Merton, Lincoln [etc.].

fig. *a* **1667** COWLEY *Elegy J. Littleton* 37 He..might find A little Academy in his mind; Where..Reason, and Holy Fear the Proctors were, To apprehend those words, those Thoughts that err.

4. *Law.* One whose profession is to manage the causes of others in a court administering civil or canon law; corresponding to an attorney or solicitor in courts of equity and common law. (Now in England retained only in courts of ecclesiastical and Oxford university jurisdiction.)

King's (*Queen's*) *Proctor*, an official of the Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Division of the High Court of Justice, who has the right to intervene in probate, divorce, and nullity cases, when collusion between the parties or suppression of material facts is alleged. (The title is a survival from the time when these cases belonged to the ecclesiastical courts.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 201 Promisenge to hym a grete summe of moneye in that day he scholde be a proctor a fore a iuge and haue þe victory in his causes. **1538** STARKEY *England* I. iii. 83 Prokturys and brokarys of both lawys.. are to many. **1546** LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* VIII. ii. 145 Pius the II..instituted the new College of Solicitors & Proctors by whose Counsaill and aduise all bulles and grauntes wer made. **1603** *Const. & Canons Eccl.* § 133 The loud and confused cries and clamours of proctors in the courts of the archbishop are..troublesome and offensive to the judges and advocates. **1605–6** *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 5 § 6 No Recusant convict shall..practise the Common Lawe..as a Councellor, Clerke, Attourney, or Sollicitor..nor shall practise the Civill Lawe as Advocate or Proctor. **1693** CONGREVE *Double Dealer* IV. x, I've a cousin who is a proctor in the Commons. **1849** DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxiii, 'What is a proctor, Steerforth?' said I. 'Why, he is a sort of monkish attorney... He is, to some faded courts held in Doctors' Commons..what solicitors are to the courts of law and equity'. **1860** *Act* 23 & 24 *Vict.* c. 144 § 5 In every case of a petition for a dissolution of marriage it shall be lawful for the Court..to direct all necessary papers in the matter to be sent to Her Majesty's Proctor, who shall..instruct counsel to argue before the Court any question in relation to such matter. **1899** *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* 21 Proctors in the Vice-Chancellor's Court. William Henry Walsh [etc.], Solicitors. **1908** *Whitaker's Alm.* 181/2 Treasury..Department of Solicitor to the Treasury, Director of Public Prosecutions and King's Proctor.

†**5.** An advocate, patron, defender, guardian: = PROCURATOR 5. *Obs.*

a **1413** in Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. IV* (1548) 21 Henry Percy our eldest sonne..and Thomas Percy erle of Worcester beyng proctours and protectours of the comon wealth. *c* **1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 591–2 Swythelyne, þat was bysshop þo, Was made cheffe procutour of þat place; And so he was procutour and gret helper þerto, For a fulle holy mone forsothe he was. *c* **1450** tr. *De Imitatione* II. i. 40 He shal be þi prouisour, þy true procutour in all þinges. **1548** GEST *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 74 Whether he bee an hartie hearer or proctour of the sayd masse. **1553** BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 85 The firste promoters & chiefe proctors to haue Images in churches. **1594** SOUTHWELL *M. Magd. Fun. Teares* (1823) 171 Thy teares were the procters for thy brother's life. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 252 Imputing that to the Patron and Proctor some-times of Musick, which ought rather to be attributed to Musicke it selfe. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxvii. (1663) 106 This hard proceeding much astonished these two Proctors for the poor.

6. A deputy elected to represent the chapter of a cathedral or collegiate church, or the clergy of a diocese or archdeaconry (*proctor of the clergy*), in the Lower House of Convocation of either province.

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 122/1 The bishop ought..to summon and warne all deanes and archdeacons within his diocesse to appeere in proper person at the parlement, vnlesse they haue some sufficient and reasonable cause of absence, in which case he may appeere by his proctor, hauing a warrant or proxie for the same. **1607** COWELL *Interpr.*, *Procters of the clergie*..., are those which are chosen and appointed to appeare for cathedrall, or other Collegiat churches, as also for the common clergie of euery Dioces, at the Parlament, whose choice is in this sort [etc.]. **1823** LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* VI. 421 To elude the opposition of the clergy, their proctors, who had hitherto voted in the Irish parliaments, were by a declaratory act pronounced to be nothing more than assistants, whose advice might be received, but whose assent was not required. **1875** STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 129 The archbishops and bishops are to bring [to Parliament] one proctor for the clergy of each cathedral, and two for the clergy of each diocese. **1878** *Ibid.* III. xx. 447 On the occasions on which the clerical proctors are known to have attended, their action is insignificant, and those occasions are very few. **1888** LD. COLERIDGE in *Law Rep.* 20 Q. B. D. 744 In the Northern Convocation the parochial clergy are and have been for centuries represented by two proctors from each archdeaconry within the province of York.

†**7.** One who collected alms on behalf of lepers or others who were debarred from begging for themselves; *esp*, one having a patent or licence to collect alms for the occupants of a 'spital-house'. (Held in evil repute from the abuse of the system.)

1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 292/1 And they be also our proctoures & begge in our name, and in our name receiue your money. **1538** FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 102 b, Al proctours and pardoners goinge about without sufficient auctorite.. shalbe punyshed by whyppynge. **1561** AWDELAY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 14 Proctour is he, that will tary long, and bring a lye, when his Maister sendeth him on his errand. **1567** HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 46 Proctors and Factores all of Spyttell houses. **1577** HARRISON *England* II. x. (1877) I. 220 Among roges and idle persons..we find to be comprised all proctors that go vp and downe with counterfeit licences. **1608** DEKKER *2nd Pt. Hon. Whore* Wks. 1873 II. 149 Y'are best get a clap-dish, and say y'are Proctor to some Spittle-house.

Hence **Pro·ctorage,** management by a proctor; **Pro·ctoral, Pro·ctorly** *adjs.* = PROCTORIAL; **Pro·ctorling,** a petty or subordinate proctor.

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 65 As for the fogging *proctorage of money, with such an eye as strooke.. Simon Magus with a curse, so does she looke. **1573** G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 47 Saiing in his Proctors vois that I should read no lecture there; as he bi his *Proctoral autoriti had suspendid me before. **1738** GRAY *Let. to R. West* in W. Mason *Mem.* (1807) I. 171 The University has ..created half a dozen new little *procterlings to see its orders executed. **1601** DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 64 Howsoeuer your selfe may haply stand in some neede of a *proctorly bribe: my cause, it standes in no neede of bribe-pursing.

Pro·ctor, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To officiate as a university proctor.

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 37 If a man went out by night on Tranelling, or Bat-fowling, or Proctoring, he might catch these Exposers by Dozens.

2. *intr.* (See quots., and cf. prec. 7.)

c **1730** *Dorsets. Voc.* (MS. in *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VIII. 45/1), *To proctor*, to scold or lord it. *a* **1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Proctor*, to hector, swagger, bully...The Proctors connected with this verb were..sturdy beggars.

P Warburton in his ed. of Shakspere, 1747, substituted 'procter' for 'project' in *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 121, remarking '*Project* signifies to *invent* a cause, not to *plead* it; which is the sense here required. It is plain then we should read, "I cannot procter [etc.]." The technical term, to plead by an advocate'. But no example of *proctor* in this sense has been found, while *project* is abundantly supported: see PROJECT *v.* 3.

Proctorial (prɒktōˑrĭăl), *a.* [f. PROCTOR *sb.* + -IAL; cf. *procuratorial.*] Of or pertaining to a proctor (**a.** at the universities, **b.** in the ecclesiastical courts).

Proctorial cycle, the order in which the various colleges elect proctors; *proctorial veto*, the power of the two proctors conjointly to veto any decree of Convocation at Oxford; *proctorial year*, the annual period for which the university proctors are elected.

a. **1864** TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 58 The copdition of Oxford or Cambridge on the night of a grand Proctorial raid! **1881** *Nature* XXIII. 377/2 He..shall have proctorial authority over members of the University. **1882** *Standard* 13 Apr. 3/8 The outgoing Senior Proctor..summarised the events of the past proctorial year. *a* **1893** W. L. COURTNEY in *Jowett's Life* (1897) II. viii. 232 The traditional policeman..was represented by the Senior Proctorial bull-dog.

b. **1883** *Law Times* 13 Oct. 398/2 The two items are inserted in the proctorial charges as 'Probate under seal and court fee'.

So †**Proctorical** (-ɒˑrĭkăl) *a.*, in same sense.

1715 PRIDEAUX in *Life* (1748) 231 Every Tutor, for the better discharging of his duty, shall have Proctorical authority over his Pupils.

Proctorize (prɒˑktərəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* Of a university proctor: To exercise the proctorial authority on (an undergraduate, etc.); to arrest, summon, and reprimand, fine, or punish (an offender). Hence *transf.*

1833 CHURCH *Let.* 2 June, I have only been proctorised once, for not having my gown on. **1861** HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, One don't like to go in while there's any chance of a real row..and so gets proctorized in one's old age for one's patriotism. *a* **1884** M. PATTISON in *Mem.* (1885) 18 He took him to task for the colour of his great-coat—proctorised him, my father said.

b. *intr.* To officiate as proctor. *rare.*

1882 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versa* V, Somehow he never would proctorise any more—it spoilt his nerve.

Hence **Proctoriza·tion,** the act of proctorizing or fact of being proctorized.

1883 in Whibley *In Cap & Gown* (1890) 136 Did you break the lamps, and hope to escape..Proctorization? **1905** *Athenæum* 17 June 741/2 The proctorization of Jacobson the well-beloved.

Proctorrhagia to **Proctuchous:** see PROCTO-.

Proctorship (prɒˑktəʃip). [f. PROCTOR *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office, position, or function of a proctor, in various senses of the word.

1535 (13 Oct.) in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 178 To Thos [my son] I leve my parte in the bargyn for the proctorsheype of the Auterlaege [i. e. altarage] of Upton. **1590** SWINBURNE *Testaments* 246 If the names be artificiall, not naturall, as to vse proctorship, for curatorship. *a* **1656** USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 620 He..was forced..to undertake there the Proctorship and Stewardship for the King. **1706** HEARNE *Collect.* 21 Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 230 [He] was a little after his Proctership preferr'd. **1762** [see PROCURACY 1]. **1886** *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXVIII. 615 The proctorship for science, justly assumed for matters within his province as a student, is rather hastily extended to matters which he himself declares to be beyond it.

Pro·ctress, *rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -ESS 1.] A female proctor.

1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* I. 1025 [Justice speaking to Mercy] Thou hast Proctresse bin For Ieroboam..That hand recuring which he did extend, The Messenger of God, to apprehend.

†**Procu·lcate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōculcāre* (f. *prō*, PRO- 1 1 b + *calcāre* to tread) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To tread or trample down; *fig.* to despise, spurn. Hence †**Procula·tion,** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōculcatiōn-em*], a treading or trampling.

1623 COCKERAM, *Proculcate*, to tread vnder foot. **1641** J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 195 Wee should haue proculcated and trampled under foote most faire hopes of immortality unto glory. **1656** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Proculcation*, a treading or trampling under foot. **1668** H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. xxv. 121 The Proculcation of the outward Court by the Gentiles for 42 months.

†**Pro·culstant.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *procul* afar + *stānt-em*, pr. pple. of *stāre* to stand, as a pun on *Protestant.*]

1589 *Protestatyon Martin Marprelat* 27 Both [Dr. Andrew Perne and Dean Bridges] old standards, both proculstants, both catercaps, both priests [etc.].

Procu·mb, *v. nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *prōcumb-ĕre*: see next.] *intr.* To prostrate oneself.

a **1784** *Mock Ode* in Boswell *Johnson* (1816) IV. 428 Opin'st thou this gigantic frame, Procumbing at thy shrine; Shall ..be thine?

Procumbent (prɒkʌˑmbĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *prōcumbent-em*, pr. pple. of *prōcumb-ĕre* to fall forwards, bend down, f. *prō*, PRO- 1 1 b + **cumb-ĕre* to lay oneself: see CUMBENT.]

1. Lying on the face, prone; prostrate.

1721 BAILEY, *Procumbent*, lying along. **1755** JOHNSON, *Procumbent*, lying down, prone. **1791** COWPER *Odyss.* IX. 580 Procumbent, each obey'd. **1822–34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 449 It [bleeding] will cease upon bending the head forward, or lying procumbent. **1884** BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 486 Medullary rays with procumbent cells are..easy to distinguish from parenchyma of the bundles.

2. *Bot.* Of a plant or stem: Lying flat on the ground without throwing out roots; growing along the ground; having a prostrate or trailing stem.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 4. 82 Week procumbent stalks, full of joynts. **1756** *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 835 The common Tormentil is..very frequently found in a procumbent state. **1851** T. MOORE *Brit. Ferns* 195 *Lycopodium selaginoides*.. has a slender, procumbent, often branched stem.

Procurable (prokiūˑrăb'l), *a.* [f. PROCURE *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be procured or obtained.

1611 COTGR., *Recouvrable*..also gettable, procurable. *a* **1664** BARROW in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 33 His treatise..

..I..would gladly see and have it to myself, if procurable. 1754 Lewis in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 645 It is not to be brought into fusion by the greatest degree of fire procurable in the ordinary furnaces. 1877 Lady Brassey *Voy. Sunbeam* xv. (1878) 265 No wine or spirits being procurable on the premises.

† **Pro·curacy.** *Obs.* Also 3–6 -acie, 3–4 -asie, 5 -acye, -ase, -esy, (3 procracie, 6 *Sc.* procry): see also Proxy. [ad. med.L. *prōcūrātia* (1245 in Du Cange), for cl. L. *prōcūrātiō* Procuration. So obs. It. *procurazia, procuratia* 'a proctorship, also a procuration' (Florio).]

1. The office or action of a procurator; management or action for another. *Letters of p.* := **2.**

[1315 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 357/2 En les Letres de Procuracie q'il porterent ovesqe eux souz le Seal le dit Count.] *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* II. 155 Such procuracie is synful and yvele takun. 1482 in Rymer *Foedera* (1711) XII. 173/1 Lettres of Commission and Procuracye under the Grete Seale. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 134, I sawe..howe the faythfull was enforst with procry to procede. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 670 Letters of procuracie signed, and sealed by the King his master to redemand diuers great summes of money. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 530 The procuracy or proctorship of Lorsch.

b. A deputy, proxy, legate. *rare*—1.

1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 301 Whan this procuracie was come to the Kyng, these articules were offered of the lordis.

2. A document empowering a person to act as the representative of another; a proxy, a letter of attorney.

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 20, I have, by advys of counseill, in makyng a procuracie *ad agendum, defendendum, provocandum, et appellandum* to yow..; the whiche procuracie ..I shal sende to yowr persone. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 211 b, He sayd he would sende thither a sufficient procuracie and conuenient proctors, & desired to see the Orators commission. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s. v. *Procurator*, Procuracy is vsed for the specialitie, whereby he is authorized. [1845 Ld. Campbell *Chancellors* (1857) I. xii. 180, I, William Trussel, procurator of the prelates, earls, and barons, and other people in my procuracy named, having, &c.]

3. *Eccl.* The provision of entertainment for the bishop or visitor by the parson or religious house visited; hence, a sum paid in commutation of this; = Procuration 3, Proxy 5. (= Anglo-L. *procuratia*, Matt. Paris, med.L. *procuratio*.)

c 1290 *St. Edmund Conf.* 333 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 440 Procracies [*Harl. MS.* 2277 procracies] huy 3euen him also.. Of persones to nime largeliche. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 249 Whanne bischopis & here officeris comen & feynen to visite,..wrecchid curatis ben nedid to festen hem richely & 3eue procuracie & synage. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 129 Prelatys of holy cherch,..puttyn here sugettys to outrageous cost,..in vysityng, & in raisynge of procuracyes vnleffully. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 87 They shold paye..to the Archidekon of Bokyngham, procuracy.

4. The office or official residence of a Venetian procurator (= It. *procuratia*).

1691 tr. *Emilianne's Frauds Rom. Monks* (ed. 3) 253 He ..went up to the Procuracies of S. Mark. [1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. Pref. 6 In Venice..the new Palace of Procuracy.]

Procural (prǫkiū·răl). [f. Procure *v.* + -al.] The action or process of procuring; obtaining.

1861 Owen in *Athenæum* 27 July 118/1 Alexander the Great devoted large sums of money to the procural of objects of Natural History. 1883 *Gd. Words* 186 Their chief object is the procural of food.

Procurance (prǫkiū·răns). [f. Procure *v.* + -ance.] The action of procuring; the action by which something is attained or brought about; agency. So also † **Procu·rancy** *Obs. rare*—1, agency, advocacy.

1553 Edw. VI *Let. Bp. Ridley* 9 June in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. xxii. 421 We will and command you, that neither you nor any for you, or by your procurancie..shall admit him. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) G vij, He thought it best by polytyke procurance, To prive the kyng and so restore hys frend. 1844 G. S. Faber *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 101 A knowledge of the Hebrew Law was brought into China during the Seventy Years Captivity, either by the procurance of Laou-sze himself, or in consequence of the emigration of this very Colony. 1887 J. C. Robinson *Let. Sir J. Donnelly* 7 Apr. (*Daily News* (1897) 26 Oct. 3/2), Acquisitions.. which by procurance have..enriched the South Kensington Museum.

† **Pro·curate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōcūrāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōcūrāre*: see Procure *v.* and -ate 3.] *trans.* To do (something) as agent *for* another; to do, perform, etc., by or through an agent. Hence † **Pro·curated** *ppl. a.*, † **Pro·curating** *vbl. sb.*

1659 H. L'Estrange *Alliance Div. Off.* 262 The principles of Christianity..require from them, no procurated, but a personal, and actual faith, repentance, obedience. 1701 Beverley *Apoc. Quest.* 26 There is Another Beast, spoken of, that was Zealously Concern'd in Procurating all for the Papal Beast.

Procuration (prǫkiŭrē·ʃən). [ME. *procuracio(u)n*, a. F. *procuration* (13th c. in Littré, also OF. *-cion*), ad. L. *prōcūrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōcūrāre* to Procure: see -ation.]

† **1.** The action of taking care of, looking after, or managing; management, superintendence, administration, agency; attention, care. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* xii. 193 Ek plauntis han this procura n Vnto their gret multiplicacioun. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 199 Be procuracion of the qween, Roger Mortimere was mad erl of Kent. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 287/2 Theophyle was receyued into the grace of the Bisshop by the procuracion of the deuyll. *a* 1552 Leland *Itin.* III. 114 The 2 Towers in the Haven Mouth were begon in King Edwarde the 4 Tyme...Kyng Henry the vij endyd them at the Procuration of Fox Bisshop of Winchester. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Dav. II* 39 All they quha are destitute,.. salbe vnder the Kings procuration, and protection within his Realme. *a* 1677 Hale *Pomponius Atticus* 24 He avoided the procuration of the Commonwealth, not for sloth, but in judgment.

† **b.** Management for another; stewardship; procuratorship. *Obs.*

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* 3 b, To thende that my lord depose me not of my procuracion. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. (S. T. S.) 207 Maximian..eftirward committing the procuratione of Britannie til Dionethie, passid in ffrance. 1689 tr. *Buchanan's De Jure Regni apud Scotos* 35 [They] think that a Kingdom is not a procuration concredited to them by God, but rather a prey put into their hands.

2. The appointment of a procurator or attorney; the authority or power thus delegated; also, the authorized action of one's agent; the function of an attorney or representative. *Letters of procuration* = **b.** *By procuration*, by attorney or proxy.

(The person so appointed signs *p. p.*, or *per proc.*, = *per procurationem*: see Per I. 7.)

1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* IV. ii. 232 Yf a man gyueth a procuracyon to another for to doo and execute certeyn thinges of his owne it is not therfore to be vndrestande that he gyueth him a generall procuracyon. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 221 The mariage was foorthwith made, and solempnized by procuration from the king of England. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 404 Be thair letters of procuratioun under the seill of the same toun. 1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 155 When any one doth by the Order, full Power and Authority of another, which is called among Merchants Procuration. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 323 Without a letter of attorney, or any other act of procuration. 1844 Ld. Brougham *Brit. Const.* iii. (1862) 43 [He] could, if absent himself from just cause, appear by his procuration or proxy. 1870 *Daily News* 14 Dec., They clamour for sorties, vow to die for their country, and then wish to do it by procuration.

b. A formal document whereby a person gives legal authority to another to act for him; a letter or power of attorney. Now *rare.*

1426 W. Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 25, I make this day a newe apelle and a newe procuracion. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xlvi. (1869) 198 But þat hire procuracioun be seled with deuocioun. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. xix. 27 There this princesse was maryed, by a sufficient procuration, brought fro the kyng of Inglande. 1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 96 For that purpose he hath a Letter of Atturny, called a Procuration. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) I. xix. 342, I caused a procuration to be drawn, empowering him to be my receiver. 1889 W. Lockhart *Ch. Scot. in 13th C.* 40 They.. sent on their procurations by some ecclesiastic to Rome.

3. *Eccl.* The provision of necessary entertainment for the bishop, archdeacon, or other visitor, by the incumbent, parish, or religious house visited; subsequently commuted to a payment in money (but see quot. 1895).

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 220 The Ravyne..Was dene rurale..At vicaris and personnis, For the procuraciounis, Cryand full crowss. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlvi. 140 Letted by the said Bisshope from gathering of procurations. 1654 Gataker *Disc. Apol.* 48 The Annual payments of Tenths and Subsidies to the King, the Procurations to the Bishop and Arch-deacon, the Assessments for the poor. 1661 J. Stephens (*title*) Historical Discourse on Procurations. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 429 Procurations ..are certain Sums of Money which Parish-Priests pay yearly to the Bishop or Archdeacon *ratione Visitationis.* 1862 *C. B. Rep.* (N.S.) XII. 416 At the..visitation..the churchwardens..attend the registrar..[and] pay the 'procurations and synodals' claimed as due from the clergy to the archdeacon. 1895 Phillimore *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) IV. xi. § 2. 1051 It seems..that where the estates of bishops have vested in the ecclesiastical commissioners under 23 and 24 Vict. c. 124, these procurations have become payable to the commissioners, who have, however, abandoned their collection.

4. The action of procuring, obtaining, or getting; procurement.

1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII*, c. 20 § 2 Somes of money.. payd at the seid See of Rome for procuracion or expedicion of any suche bulles breves or palles. *c* 1555 Harpsfield *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 153 He wickedly did let the procuration of children. 1651 Walton *Life Wotton* in *Reliq.* (c iv, His procuration of Priviledges and courtesies with the German Princes, and the Republick of Venice for the English Merchants. 1695 Woodward *Nat. Hist. Earth* (1723) 25 Procuration of..Shells from several Parts of this Island. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 594 Such irrational.. beings..regard the difficulty of procuration as one of the most estimable qualities. 1882 *Standard* 26 Dec. 3/2 Those [coals] used in the procuration of steam power.

b. *spec.* The obtaining or negotiating of a loan for a client; also, the fee for this.

1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* (1702) 183 As to Judgments and Statutes, Procuration, and Continuance-Mony, these are only..the Dreams of Avarice. 1679 Prance *True Narr. Pop. Plot* 32 He would not let 40 or 50*l.* out for six Months, but he would have 40*s.* for Procuration,..and yet the full Legal Interest to run on. 1881 *Times* 18 May 6/5 The action..was one brought by the plaintiffs to recover £120 their commission of 1 per cent for the procuration of a loan of £12,000.

c. The action of a procurer or procuress; pimping.

1696 Phillips (ed. 5) s.v., Procuration is also taken in an *Ill* sence, for the Act of a Baud or Pander. 1891 [see 5].

5. *attrib.* **Procuration fee, money:** see quots.

1706 Phillips, *Procuration*, or *Procuration-Money*, a Duty which Parish-Priests pay yearly to the Bishop or Arch-Deacon, upon account of Visitation. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. xii. 157 If any scrivener or broker takes more than five shillings *per cent.* procuration-money, or more than twelve-pence for making a bond, he shall forfeit 20*l.* with costs. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex., Procuration fee*, a sum of money taken by scriveners on effecting loans of money. 1884 *Law Rep.* 25 Ch. Div. 280 He agreed to find the money for a lump sum as a procuration fee. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Oct. 6/3 The Chertsey procuration case...A servant..was charged with procuring her daughter.., aged fifteen years.

Hence **Procura·tional** *a.*, of or pertaining to procuration: see sense 2 above.

c 1702 *Case of Præmunientes Considered* 13 Now, when there is no such Return made, and..seldom distinct Procurational Letters upon the Choice to Parliament.

Procurative (prǫkiū·rătiv), *a.* [f. Procure *v.* + -ative.] Having the quality of procuring; tending to procure or obtain.

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 10 There is a procurative uncleanness; that..helps forward the damnation of men. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 554 Cassia..is thought procurative of flatulency. 1816–30 Bentham *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Extract Const. Code* (1830) 52 Those..by whom.. are exercised the several functions, procurative, custoditive, applicative, reparative, and eliminative.

Procurator (prǫ·kiŭreitəɹ). Also 3–7 -our (5–6 -oure, 6 *Sc.* -ure, 5 prokeratour): see also Proctor *sb.* A. [a. OF. *procuratour* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm., mod.F. *-eur*), or ad. L. *prōcūrātōr-em* manager, agent, deputy, collector in a province, attorney, agent·n. f. *prōcūrāre* to Procure.]

1. *Rom. Hist.* An officer who collected the taxes, paid the troops, and attended to the interests of the imperial treasury, in an imperial province; sometimes he had the administration of part of a province, as in the case of the Procurator of Judæa, which was part of the province of Syria.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16023 All þai gadird o þe tun,..And sent to pilate þair procuratur [*Gött.* procketur], And did him þider bring. *c* 1425 Wyntoun *Orig. Cron.* v. xiii. 4319 Hade he callyt Lucyus procuratoure, Qwhar þat he callit hym emperoure. 1581 Savile *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 190 Whereas in former times they had onely one king, now were there two thrust vpon them, the Lieutenant to sucke their bloud, the Procuratour their substance. 1593 G. Harvey *Pierce's Super.* 81 As Paul demeaned himselfe.. before the twoo Romane Procuratours of that Prouince, Felix, and Festus. 1737 Whiston *Josephus, Antiq.* xiv. viii. 441 [Caesar] made him [Antipater] procurator of Judea. 1877 C. Geikie *Christ* lx. (1879) 735 Herod's palace had been taken..as the residence of the procurators.

2. One who manages the affairs of another; one who is duly authorized to act in behalf of another in any business; an agent, an attorney. † **a.** (In earliest use) The official agent of a church or religious house. *Obs.* † **b.** The steward or manager of a household, estate, or the like; an overseer, a bailiff. *Obs.* **c.** The agent, deputy, proxy, or representative of a non-ecclesiastical person or body; one who has a power of attorney for another, to sign for him *per procurationem* (see Procuration 2). *Procurator general*, an agent-general. † *Procurator of parliament*, an early name of the Speaker of the House of Commons.

a. *c* 1290 *St. Brandan* 356 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 229 þis procuratour heom cam a3ein and welcomede heom a-non, And custe seint brendanes fet and þe Monekes echon. [1306 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 220/1 Mestre William Testa, & les autres clercs & procuratours l'apostoill. 1326–7 *Ibid.* II. 9/2 Qe nul Provisour alien, ne Procuratour de par eux ..n'entre la Terre.] *c* 1400 *Plowman's T.* 733 [Secular canons] have a gedering procuratour That can the pore people enplede, And robben hem as a ravinour. *c* 1450 *Godstow Regr.* 492 Hit shold be wele lawfull to the forsaid abbesse and Couent and to ther successours or to ther procuratour to distreyne. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* 26 Mar., The Procurator of the Carmelites preaching on our Savior's feeding the multitude.

b. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 241 He made hyme [Judas] his procuratore, þo he wyste he suld be traytore. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 253, I make pieres þe plowman my procuratour & my reve. 1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xx. 8 Whenne euenynge was maad, the lord of the vyne 3erd seith to his procuratour, Clepe the workmen, and 3elde to hem her hijre. 1451 Capgrave *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 91 Nowt as a gouernour of his owne, but as a procuratour and a seruaunt of oþer mennes ricchesse. 1555 Eden *Decades* 72 Alphonsus Nunnez..who also was lyke to haue byn chosen procuratoure of this vyage.

c. 1399 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 424/1 The States..made thes same Persones that ben comen here to 3owe nowe her Procuratours, and gafen hem full auctorite. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 431, I Wyllyam Trussel, in the name of all men of this lande of Englande, & procuratour of this parlyament, resygne to yᵉ Edwarde yᵉ homage that was made to yᵉ some tyme. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 148 The Marques of Suffolke, as procurator to Kyng Henry, espoused the said Ladie, in the churche of sainct Martyns. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 179 At the instance of Johne Baptista de Sambitore, procuratour generall for the Spanische natioun. 1602 Fulbecke *1st Pt. Parall.* 30 Actions doe not passe, but the grauntor if he will haue the grauntees to take any benefit by the graunt, must make the grauntees or one of them his procurators to sue in his name, and to recouer to their owne vse. 1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 156 A prudent Merchant..will advise all his Correspondents (on whom his Procurator shall have occasion to draw, &c.)..that he hath granted to such and such a one such a full Power to draw

in his Name Bills of Exchange. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* II. VI. 236 They elected him procurator general of the Spanish nation in Peru. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 634 The early representative members .. were frequently ..invested with the character of procurators or proxies.

3. In the mediæval universities, one of two or more representative officers, of whom one was elected by each of the 'nations' into which the students and Regent Masters were divided, having financial, electoral, and disciplinary functions. Hence, at the present day, in some of the Scottish universities, the name of the student representatives, elected, one by each 'nation' of the whole body of students, to preside over the election of a Rector. See also PROCTOR, the modern form of this word in the English universities, under which (sense 3) its later history is given.

At Paris and Cambridge, and prob. also originally at Oxford, they were called indifferently *procurators* (proctors) and *regents*. At Paris there were four 'nations' and four procurators, at the English Universities two, called *Procurator australis* and *Procurator borealis*, the Southern and the Northern Procurator or Proctor.

[1219 in Bulaeus *Hist. Univ. Paris* (1666) III. 94 Quod super hoc a suis Procuratoribus contingeret ordinari. 1237 *Bull* in Rashdall *Univ. Europe* (1895) I. 314 *note* (Paris), Ut nullus contra universitatem magistrorum vel scholarium seu rectorem vel procuratorem eorum ad quemquam alium pro Universitatis vel facto vel occasione [etc.]. 1244 *Statute of Faculty of Arts, Paris* in Bulaeus III. 195 Quo vsque pro qualitate et quantitate delicti vel transgressionis Mandati Vniuersitatis Rectori et Procuratori pro Vniuersitate fuerit ad plenum et pro ipsorum voluntate satisfactum. 1453 in *Munim. Univ. Glasg.* (Maitland) I. 6 Rectores.., decanos, procuratores nacionum, regentes, magistros et scolares.] 1574 M. STOKYS in Peacock *Stat. Cambr.* (1841) App. A. p. x, Then shall folowe..nexte the Father the two Procuratours. 1664 in *Fasti Acad. Aberdean* (1898) II. 11 The colledge being fullie conveened and divided in four nationes..did..nominat..procurators for electing of ane Rector. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 412 In Paris, each of the Four Nations elected its own Procurator. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 12 May 2/1 In the universities of the Middle Ages the Chancellor had little power; the Rector, elected by Procurators of the Nations, exercised authority in his own right, or more commonly along with the Procurators, and, subsequently, with the Deans of Faculties...In Scotland all these elements of mediæval organization are still existent and active. 1896 *Daily News* 16 Nov. 7/3 The students at Aberdeen do not give a direct vote for the Rectorial candidates. They vote for a student who represents them, called the Procurator. After the recording of the votes..the 'Procurators' meet in another room, and the successful candidate is he who has a majority of Nations. If the Nations are equally divided the winner is he who has the numerical majority of votes.

4. *Law.* An agent in a court of law: = PROCTOR 4; used in countries retaining the Roman Civil Law (cf. also PROCUREUR), and in England in the ecclesiastical courts; *spec.* in Scotland, a law-agent practising before the inferior courts, an attorney. (Now *rare*.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 298 (Harl. 7334) May I nat aske a lybel sir Sompnour, And answer þer by my procuratour To suche þing as men wol oppose me? 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 109 My procuratour, that I mak on myn awin cost to defend me. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 647 There is one procurator for the king, and two advocats, to looke to the kings prerogatives. 1587 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 460/2 All and quhatsumeuir lieges of þis realme accuisit of tressoun .. salhaif þair aduocattis and procuratoris to vse all þe lauchfull defenses. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3818/4 Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint..Thomas Smith Esq.; Her Majesties Procurator in all Causes, Maritime, Foreign, Ecclesiastical and Civil. 1752 LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 95 His Majesty's Advocate, or other Advocates, or Procurators for the Pannel, were ordained to debate the Relevancy *viva voce*. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 33 The *proctors*, otherwise *procurators*, exhibit their proxies for their clients. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 4 June an. 1781, The Society of Procurators, or Attornies, entitled to practise in the inferior courts at Edinburgh..had taken care to have their ancient designation of Procurators changed into that of Solicitors, from a notion, as they supposed, that it was more genteel. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 275 That the evil did not arise from his good lords and friends the bishops, but from the judges, officials, and procurators, who sought..only their own profit.

b. Short for PROCURATOR-FISCAL.

1899 *Daily News* 6 May 2/1 Four pleaded guilty of rioting only. The plea was accepted by the Procurator, and the men were sentenced to thirty days' each with the alternative of a £5 fine.

†**5.** An advocate, defender, or supporter of the cause of any person, system, tenet, proposal, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 139 þei wolen not paie for pore men, not wiþstondinge þat þei ben procuratouris of pore men. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* iii, He went to a philosophre which was the procuratour of the poure peple and prayd hym for charyte that he wold gyue to hym good counceylle of his grete nede. 1528 LYNDESAY *Dream* 1049 Tyll dame Fortune thow nedis no procurature; For scho hes fairglie kyithit on the hir cure. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. xxvii, To confirm and seal Their vndertaking, with their dearest bloud, As Procurators for the Common-weale.

†**6.** One who or that which brings or helps to bring something about; = PROCURER 2; in quot. 1647, a producer, generator.

1486 *Act* 3 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 Such Mys-doers, takers, and procuratours to the same, and receytours,..[shall] be..juged as principall felons. 1642 W. BIRD *Mag. Honor* 44 Charge him with..fellony, or to be a procurator thereof, or accessory thereunto. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xliv. 270 [The planet Mars] being a very sharpe heater and procurator of blood.

†**b.** The procurer of a loan: cf. PROCURATION 4 b. *Obs. rare.*

1677 YARRANTON *Eng. Improv.* 8 The Gentleman gets .. Friends..to be bound for his Covenants, whom if they [the lenders] accept, then the Procurator and Continuator have their Game to play.

7. (repr. It. *procuratore*, †*-adore*.) In some Italian cities, A public administrator or magistrate; also repr. F. *procureur* (see PROCUREUR). *Procurator of St. Mark*, a senator, afterwards each of two senators, of the Venetian Republic, charged with high administrative functions.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. vii. (1903) 115 These Procurators, namely the old Dukes chosen for life, and the old Gouernors chosen for two yeares, haue care of the Treasure, and other publique affayrs, and are of great reputation. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* June, The Doge's vest is of crimson velvet, the Procurator's, &c. of damasc. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., In the Republique of Venice the Procurator is the second man in dignity. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Procurator* is also a kind of magistrate in several cities of Italy, who takes care of the public interests. 1794 BURKE *Pref. to Brissot's Addr.* Wks. VII. 304 The treacherous Manuel was procurator of the Common-hall. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* ix. 204 Two senators, distinguished by the title of procurators of St. Mark, were charged to attend in the camp. 1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 159 The elaborate requisition presented by the royal procurator .. contains some passages which are worth preserving.

b. *attrib.*, as *procurator treasurer*.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4545/1 He was there [at Venice] crowned by the Procurator-Treasurer.

Pro-curator (prōˌkiūᵊrātəɹ). *Sc. Law.* [f. PRO-[1] 4 + CURATOR 1.] One who performs the duties of a curator though not legally appointed as such: see CURATOR 1.

1681 STAIR *Instit. Law Scot.* I. vi. § 12 Whosoever..medled with Pupils Means or Minors, as Pro-tutors, or Pro-curators, should be lyable .. as Tutors or Curators, for intromission and omission. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. vii. § 28 Pro-tutors and pro-curators. By these are understood persons who act as tutors or curators without having a legal title to the office. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 798 The same principle regulates the claims of a pro-tutor or pro-curator against the minor for reimbursement of money expended for the minor.

Pro·curator-fi·scal. In Scotland, the public prosecutor of a shire or other local district, appointed by the sheriff or magistrates. He initiates the prosecution of crimes, and takes the precognitions, also performing some of the functions of a coroner.

The term appears to have originally designated the official who had to collect and administer the fines, fees, and other payments accruing to the criminal, civil, and ecclesiastical courts: he was the *procurator* (in sense 2) who had to do with the *fiscal* or revenue matters of the court. (Cf. PROCURER *fiscal* 1 c.) For history of the office see the *Journal of Jurisprudence* Vol. XXI. (1877) pp. 24–, 67–, 140–, etc., Vol. XXII. (1878) pp. 24–, 69–.

1583-4 *Decree-arbitral of Jas. VI* in *Jrnl. Jurispr.* XXI. 141 Mr. Johnne Skene, procurator fiscall. 1584 in Littlejohn *Aberd. Sheriff Court* (1904) Introd. 44 Actioun..at the instance off our Souerane Lord and Mr. George Barclay his M. Procuratour Phiscall. 1606 *Act Secret Council* 4 Feb. (*Jrnl. Jur.* XXI. 69), Pryces set down to the Procurators-Fiscal, to be taken hereafter for forming of Testaments. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xii. § 4 (1699) 207 The way of Procedure before the Sheriff, is by an Assize, and the Procurator-Fiskal is Pursuer in place of his Majesties Advocat. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 254 Application shall be made to the Sheriff by Petition, signed by the private Party complaining, or by the Procurator-fiscal, setting forth the Nature of the Crime. 1818 *Report of Commissioners* in *Jrnl. Jurispr.* XXI. 26 The Procurator-Fiscal likewise receives a certain proportion or share of the fines levied in the Sheriff's Court according to ancient usuage. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Mid.* xvi, The city's procurator-fiscal, upon whom the duties of superintendent of police devolved. 1875 W. MCILWRAITH *Guide Wigtownshire* 95 On the ground floor is the office of the Procurator-Fiscal.

Procuratorial (prǫˌkiŭrătōᵊrĭăl), *a.* [f. late L. *prōcūrātōri-us* PROCURATORY (f. *prōcūrātōr-em* PROCURATOR) + -AL. Cf. F. *procuratorial*.]

1. Of or pertaining to a procurator or proctor, in various senses; proctorial.

1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 254 A Procuratorial Exception is Twofold, viz. First, that A. is not a lawful Proctor: and, Secondly, That he cannot be a Proctor. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 339 Who..sent proxies with procuratorial letters. 1874 *Queen's Printers' Bible Aids* 81 A procuratorial coinage circulated in Judea from A.D. 6-59. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 635 The ecclesiastical practice of which such procuratorial representation was a familiar part. 1899 W. M. RAMSAY in *Expositor* Jan. 46 Pamphylia was a distinct procuratorial province.

2. Of or pertaining to university proctors.

1663 WOOD *Life* 22 Sept. (O. H. S.) I. 492 To be pro-proctors and exercise procuratorial power. 1845 MOZLEY *Laud* Ess. (1878) I. 198 The procuratorial cycle was his remedy for the disorders then attending the public election of the proctors. 1894 LIDDON, etc. *Pusey* I. xvi. 378 Keble..dryly observed on hearing the procuratorial veto, that 'others too might play at that game'.

Procuratorship (prǫˈkiŭrᵉtəɹʃip). [f. PROCURATOR + -SHIP.] The office, function, or period of office of a procurator.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 13 The fourth [year] of the Procuratorship of Pontius Pilate. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 244 The abbey..holds also the procuratorship of Altorf as a mortgage from the Empire. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 235/2 In Nero's time, and during the procuratorship of Catus Decianus.

Procuratory (prǫˈkiŭrᵉtəri), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *prōcūrātōri-us* belonging to an agent or manager: see PROCURATOR and -ORY[2]; hence med.L. *prōcūrātōrium* sb., whence B.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to a procurator or proctors, curators, or to procuration. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 365/2 The Procuratorie Hous or Priorie of Ware. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 770/1 Apte to receaue of God thys power procuratorye. 1571 WALSINGHAM in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 183 He was no longer a Proctor then he kept himself within the limits procuratory of the letter procuratory.

B. *sb.* †**1.** = PROCURATION 2 (= med.L. *procuratorium*). *Obs. rare*[−1].

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Worldliche excusacioun shal not þenne assoyne, ne onswer by procuratorye, ne suttilte of werkis.

2. *Civil* and *Sc. Law.* Authorization of one person to act for another; an instrument or clause in an instrument giving such power; esp. in *letters of procuratory*. *Procuratory of resignation*, a deed granted by a vassal authorizing his procurator to return his fee to the superior, either to be retained by him, or to be given out to a new vassal, etc.

1540 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Sc.* VII. 281 For making of ane procuratorie to resing the ballierie of Totternes in the Kingis hand. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 373 As procuratour..be thair lettres of procuratorie..lauchfullie constitute. 1569 *Ibid.* II. 8 [He] producit ane procuratorie subscrivit be the Quene. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 444 A number of persons..presented a Procuratory under the Seal of the Town, and the Subscription of the Clerks thereof. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Procuratory*, is the Instrument by which any Person or Community did constitute or delegate their Proctor or Proctors to represent them in any Judicial Court or Cause. 1746-7 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 50 § 12 A..conveyance, containing a procuratory of resignation in favour of such purchaser or disponee. 1874 *Act* 37 & 38 *Vict.* c. 94 § 26 It shall not be necessary to insert in any such conveyances a procuratory or clause of resignation. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* Digest 578 Under the system of the *legis actiones* procuratory was incompetent except *pro populo*, *pro libertate*, or *pro tutela*.

3. = PROCURACY 4.

1840 STANLEY in *Life & Corr.* (1893) I. viii. 265 The long array of the ancient library, procuratory, and Ducal Palace [at Venice].

Procuratrix (prǫkiŭrēˈtriks). [a. L. *prōcūrātrix*, fem. agent-n. corresponding to *prōcūrātor* PROCURATOR.] The inmate who attends to the temporal concerns of a nunnery: cf. PROCURATOR 2 a.

1851 ULLATHORNE *Plea Rights & Lib. Relig. Wom.* 11 The second superioress, the procuratrix, who manages the temporalities. 1889 J. G. ALGER *Eng. in Fr. Rev.* 325 The procuratrix produced the little paper money she had.

†**Procuraty.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. It. *procuratia*: see PROCURACY 4.] The official residence of a procurator in Venice: see PROCURATOR 7.

1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxvii. 365 The Front of each Procuraty is supported by a large Portico.

†**Procure,** *sb. Obs. rare.* Also 6 *Sc.* **procuire.** [a. OF. *procure* (13th c. in Godef.) procuration, agency, f. *procurer* to PROCURE. So med.L. *prōcūra* (1389 in Du Cange).] = PROCUREMENT 1.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 37 This Comodus..was sleyne ..thro the procure and cause of his wife. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* IV. 147 Off Ancus Martius we reid the greit mischance,..Slaine be Lucinio at Tanaquillis procuire.

Procure (prǫkiŭᵊ·), *v.* Forms: *a.* 3–5 **procure-n** (3 **-curi**), 4– **procure** (4 **-cury**, 5 **-kure**, 6 *Sc.* **-cuir**). *β.* 4 **procre**, **-core**, 4–5 **procour**, 5 **procour**, **proker**. [a. F. *procurer* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōcūrāre* to care for, take care of, attend to, manage, to act as procurator: see PRO-[1] and CURE *v.* In ME. usually stressed on the first syllable, *pro·cure* (from F. inf. *procure·r*); hence the weakened *β*-forms *pro·cur*, etc., here illustrated:

13.. *Cursor M.* 28201 (Cott.), I wald he ware vn-fere or ded, And bath i procurd þam wit red. *c* 1330 Procore [see 5]. 1340-70 Procre [see 6]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV 531 And mankynd biddis vs that we To procur vengeans besy be. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 235 (MS. Cott. Tib.) On Aluredus [he] hadde yprocred his deþ. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9226 He shuld procour the prinse, & the prise grekes, To pas fro þat prouyns, payre hom nomore. *Ibid.* 11555 Sho prayet hym pourly..to..proker hir pes with his prise wordes. *a* 1450 MYRC 689 Al them that..prokeren wher thorgh holy chirch is peyred. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 863 To procur pes be ony maner off cace.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To care for, take care of, attend to, look after. [So in L., and OF.] *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. iv. 357 (Cott. MS.) Bot þe possessoure to procure [*Wemyss MS.* trete]..wiþe honoure, And habundance of reches. *Ibid.* VIII. xxiv. 3648 Our Kynge Dauid was sende in Frawns, Qwhar he..was..procuryt [*v. r.* tretit] in al esse ilk deil.

†**2.** *intr.* To put forth or employ care or effort; to do one's best; to endeavour, labour; to use means, take measures. Const. *inf.* with *to* (*for to*); *for*, *to*, *unto* a thing. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7462 þus þey þrete wyþ manace, & ful yuel þey procure & purchace. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 127 Crist fleed from seculer lordschip & office; þei procuren fast to have it. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5825 Thar-for ert þow mys-byþo3te, To procury hym to slee. *c* 1400 *Brut* 249 Þai were his enemys..and procurede forto make debate and

contak bituene him and his sone. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9220 Vnto his deliueraunce he procured. 1509 *Parl. Devylles* ad fin., Who that wyll for heuen procure, Kepe hym fro the deuylles combrement. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. 3 To procure for the commodities and welth of Englande. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1577) D iv b, Such a countenaunce as this is,..and not so softe and womanish as many procure to haue. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. i. 3 Hee gaue them charge..that they shoulde procure to atteine to the sight of Presbiter Ioan. 1608 R. JOHNSON *Seven Champions* II. I iv b, Rosana ..did procure to defend her selfe and offend hir enemie.

†3. *trans.* To contrive or devise with care (an action or proceeding); to endeavour to cause or bring about (mostly something evil) *to* or *for* a person. *Obs.*

c 1390 *Beket* 1258 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 142 A-morewe comen þis bischopes and þe eorles also, To procuri seint thomas al þat vuel þat heo miȝten do. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1201 He the procureth, night and dai, Al the sschame that he mai. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1730, I pray thee, Sir Tanker king, Procure me none evil thing. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* v, Ofte ..the euyll whiche is procured to other cometh to hym whiche procureth it. 1530 PALSGR. 667/1, I procure, I cause a thyng to be done, or I devyse meanes to bringe a thynge to passe, *je procure.* 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 740 To procure hatred, or euill will to men, *struere odium in aliquos.* 1620 J. WILKINSON *Courts Leet* 136 Yee shall reasonably and honestly procure the profit of the corporation of this Towne.

†b. ? To care for; ? to endeavour to get or do.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 308 For women be of such quality, that they procure nothing [*que ninguna cosa tanto procuran*] so much as that which is most forbidden them.

II. 4. To bring about by care or pains; also (more vaguely) to bring about, cause, effect, produce. a. with simple object. Now *rare.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 11 All maner of wilfull pollusyone procurede one any maner agaynes kyndly oys. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 215 þe emperesse Eudoxia had i-procured þe out puttynge [*procuravit ejectionem*] of Iohn. *Ibid.* VI. 243 He sente Alcuinus..for to procure pees. 1554 BRADFORD in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxx. 84 It is we..that have sinned and procured thy grievous wrath upon us. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 66 A drinke called Coffa ..which helpeth..digestion, and procureth alacrity. 1677 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Chym.* (1686) 536 It is good to procure sweat. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xii, This second sneer procured another laugh against him. 1861 O'CURRY *Lect. MS. Materials* 252 His uncle Cobhthach soon procured his death by means of a poisoned drink.

b. with subordinate clause. *arch.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxviii. 12 Sum procurd þat .i. sould dye. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* Ep. P. Giles (1895) 8 He is mynded to procure that he maye be sent thether. 1654 tr. *Martini's Conq. China* 226, I will procure all Europe shall understand the Issue of these prodigious revolutions. 1711 *Medley* No. 40 They procur'd that Mony shou'd be lent at 5 per Cent. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Feast of B.* I. 301 Could you procure that I should speak with her?

†c. with *inf.* To manage (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) H v b, Eyther I must procure to see them dead, Or for contempt as a traytour lose my head. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1378/2 Sir Roger Manwood..procured to pas another act of parlement,.. wherein is further prouision made for the said bridge. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* II. iii. 25 Men..have procured to be esteemed as Masters of Christianity, by certain Artificial Tricks.

d. with *obj.* and *inf. passive.* To cause or get (a person or thing) *to be* treated in some way; to get something done to (a person). Now *rare.*

a 1450 MYRC 696 All that vnrightfully defameth eny person or prokereth to be famed. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 7 b, Procuring him to be sent in embassage. *a* 1626 BACON *Civ. Char. Jul. Cæsar* Ess. (1696) 161 He procured to be enacted no wholsome Laws. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 34 They procur'd him to be crucify'd. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* II. IX. (1817) 216 [Nero] procured the Christians to be accused. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* v. 68 An ingenious lover procured his..rival to be arrested for lunacy.

5. To obtain by care or effort; to gain, win, get possession of, acquire. (Now the leading sense.) In early use, to gain the help of, to win over (a person) to one's side.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11483 Sir Ion..turnde aȝe sir simond & procurede oþer mo. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 119 Mald in Bristow lettres fast sendes, Bi messengers trow, forto procore frendes.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 355 He was þe firste þat ordeyned comyn scole at Oxenforde.., and procrede fredom and priveleges in many articles to þat citee. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 50 The first þat he schuld neuyr procur no wyf to no man. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 7 Hyt ys bettur..for a man being in gret pouerty, rather to procure some ryches then hye phylosophy. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. 256 To him selfe he procuiret the fame of all æquitie. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 2 This .. procured to him great obloquie. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 19 May, Things that 'tis very easy to procure lists of. 1776 *Carlisle Mag.* 7 Sept. 143 She endeavoured to procure employment as a needle-woman. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 4. 134 Books were difficult and sometimes even impossible to procure. *Mod.* Could you procure me specimens?

b. To obtain (women) for the gratification of lust. Usually *absol.* or *intr.* To act as a procurer (sense 4) or procuress.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 68 How doth my deere Morsell, thy Mistris? Procures she still? 1706 PHILLIPS, *Procure,*..is also taken in an ill Sense, for to act as a Pimp or Bawd. 1745 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. 282 Juno..offers to procure for Aeolus, by way of bribe. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Jan. 7/2 Charged..at the Lambeth Police-court, on Saturday, with that he did by false pretences procure E. A. H.

6. To prevail upon, induce, persuade, get (a person) *to do* something. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 347 Ne we agayn hem to do [*ed.* go] nol no gome procre. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 342 Hou þat Clement left his office and procuride oþir to helpe him. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 25 Why procurest thou men to yeve the their almes? 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 184 Pope Boniface being informed and procured by the Scottes, sent his letters vnto the king of England. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* II. (1599) 75 The newes of the reuolt of Notaro, procured the King..to make way. 1667 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Sept., I procur'd him to bestow them [the Arundelian Marbles] on the University of Oxford. 1736 *Hale's Placit. Coron.* I. 615 An accessory before is he, that being absent at the time of the felony committed doth yet procure, counsel, command, or abet another to commit a felony. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 144 The writer is influenced or procured to write for the one, against the other. 1828 S. TURNER *Anglo-Sax.* (ed. 5) I. III. x. 245 Charlemagne communicates to him [Offa]..his success in procuring the continental Saxons to adopt Christianity.

†b. *spec. Law.* To induce privately, to suborn, to bribe (a witness, juryman, etc.). *Obs.*

[1292 BRITTON I. ii. § 11 Et si defendoms a touz Corouners ..qe nul face ses enquestes..par amis procurez.] 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 476/1 Whether they..be procured to chese eny persone..to eny maner Office..and yf eny persone ..be founde procured, that then he or thei be remeved. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 741 A witnes procured with monie, or bribes, *conflatus pecunia testis.* 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sherifes* 44 Ye shall..make your pannels your selfe of such persons, as bee..not suspect, nor procured.

†c. With adv. of place: To induce or prevail upon (a person) to come; to bring, lead. *Obs.*

1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 130/2 [They] agreed to cause Tirlough Lennough to procure in the Scots. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 68 What vnaccustom'd cause procures her hither? *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 128 Neither were we procured hither to be idle, or live deliciously. 1625 SHIRLEY *Love Tricks* IV. ii, Yonder is a pleasant arbour, procure him thither.

†7. To try to induce; to urge, press. *Obs.*

1551 EDW. VI *Let. Sir B. Fitz-Patrick* 20 Dec. in *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) I. 69 If yow be vehemently procured yow may goe as waiting on the king. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 419 b, Where did he euer shake of the obedience of due allegeaunce? or procured any Subjectes to rebellion agaynst their Gouernours? 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 1 The famous Briton Prince and Faery Knight,..Of the faire Alma greatly were procur'd To make there lenger soiourne and abode.

III. †8. *intr.* To act as a procurator or legal agent; to solicit. (In quot. 1401, To act by a proctor or attorney.) *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 383 Many trewe men, bobe aprentis and avocatis, wolen not procure in a cause bifore þat þei heeren it. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 34 You wend or send or procure to the court of Rome, to be made cardinals or bishops of the popes chaplens. 1528 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII,* I. 291 What promysse I demaunded of the said Emperours Ambassadour, who said he wolde procure for restitution. 1536 in Strype *Cranmer* II. (1694) 36 There should be as many..admitted to procure there as shuld be seen convenient to my said Lord of Canterbury. 1539 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814) II. 353/2 Ane writing subscriuit be þe kingis grace..chargeing him & certane vþeris his collegis to procure for þe said James.

†b. *fig.* To plead, make supplication. *Obs.*

1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* To Rdr., Wks. I. 57 For in defence of that thing only procuir I, quhilk..the haill Kirk of God..maist clerlie appreuis. *a* 1568 R. NORVALL *O most eternall King* 91 in *Bannatyne MS.* 51 Thairfoir to God for grace procure: He that wold leif most lerne to dy. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* II. xxiii. (S. T. S.) I. 351 The king..procurit for his lyfe at the bischopis handis. *a* 1615 *Brieue Cron. Erlis of Ross* (1850) 13 He procurit to him, by nature inclynit to follow such counsel, to mak war in his favour.

IV: †9. *intr.* ? To proceed, advance. *Obs. rare.*

(Sense and sematology obscure.)

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 47 In her thoughte the wounde of ambycyouse desyre..is so procured that she can not hyde it noo lenger. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 146 His hatred procureth from naughtie to wurse, His friendship like Iudas that carried the purse.

Procurement (prokiū·rmẽnt). Forms: see PROCURE; also 5 **prokyr-**. [a. OF. *procurement* (13th c. in Godef.), f. *procurer* to PROCURE: see -MENT. (In ME. orig. *procur-*.)]

1. The action of causing, compassing, accomplishing, or bringing about, esp. through the instrumentality of an agent; management, arrangement; authorization, instigation; prompting, contrivance.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5953 3yf þou hyre one out of seruyse þurgh 3yft or þurgh procurment, þou synnest gretly yn swych atent. *c* 1400 *Chaucer's Pars. T.* ¶ 710 (Harl. 7334) He þat bieth þinges espiritueles..be it by procurement [*six texts* procurynge] or by fleisshly prayere of his frendes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Prokyrment, *procuracio.* 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1281/1 By the procurement of the dyuel. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* Title-p., Translated into Englyshe..at the procurement, and earnest request of George Tadlowe. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 46 He was poisoned..at the procurement of..his sonne. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. 181 Laud himself, by whose procurement his Majesties Declaration had been published. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 80 The old Testament was translated into Irish at yᵉ Procurement of Bp. Bedel. 1767 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) III. 298 The bells began to ring, by the procurement of a neighbouring gentleman. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 62 An act to be performed on his part or by his procurement. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxvii. 279 It was by his means and the procurement of my uncle, that I was kidnapped.

†b. An agent or instrument; a means. *Obs.*

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E ij, Sir Roger Acton, in the priests displeasure, Of my escape was thought the chiefe procurement.

2. The action or process of obtaining by care or effort; acquisition, attainment, getting, gaining.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 9 By all good meanes they labour the procurement and presence of it. 1629 SYMMER *Spir. Posie* Ep. A ij b, The witty industry of man about the procurement of artificial smels. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* I. 23 Frequently..Pain and Labour prove a necessary Means towards the procurement of Exquisite Pleasures. 1847–8 H. MILLER *First Impr.* viii. (1857) 122 Luxuries of difficult procurement. 1882 H. W. BEECHER in *Chr. World* 20 Apr. 251/3 Within proper bounds, the procurement of riches is training in morality.

†b. A thing procured or obtained; an acquisition.

1753 N. TORRIANO *Midwifry* 4 Nor is there now for Man any Pleasure or Procurement whatsoever without Labour to be had.

Procurer (prokiū·rəɹ). Forms: *a.* 4–7 **procurour**, 5–7 **-or**, (4 *Sc.* **-ur**, 5 **-oure**, 6 *Sc.* **prokerrour**). *β.* 5– **procurer**. [ME. and AF. *procurour*, = OF. *procureur*, *-eeur* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm., mod.F. *procureur*):—L. *prōcūrātōrem* PROCURATOR. In later ME. *procurour*; in 15th and 16th c. changed to *procurer*, esp. in senses arising from or naturally associated with the vb. PROCURE: see -ER 1.]

I. †1. = PROCURATOR, in various uses. a. *Rom. Hist.* An imperial procurator. b. A steward, a manager. c. An attorney; an advocate, a defender. d. A deputy, commissioner, representative.

a. *a.* 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. i. 160 The Emperour Lucyus whiche was called at that tyme Dictatour or procurour of the publyke wele of Rome. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 412 b/1 Accusyng hym that he had synned wyth the doughter of the procurour. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. 187 Ffel in this field Quintine Bassian legat, Hircie the Emperouris Prokerrour in Britannie [etc.].

b. *a. c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 157 He mad hyr his familiare, & procurur in-to þe way he wald hyr hafe. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 100 Make him thy procurour and receyvour of thy money. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* III. ii. 171 It were a grete oultrage that the procuroure sholde be agaynst the mayster.

c. *a.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 224 Thei make here prive procurours, To telle hou [etc.]. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 109 The Emperour suld be procuroure to defend haly kirk. 1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* F iv, Two other Lawyers, the one an Aduocate, the other a Procuror.

β. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 413 The Places and Houses of Advocates, and Procurers.

d. *a. a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) I iij, He wente to the colledge, where as al the procurours and ambassadours of all prouinces were.

β. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 32 He by his procurers sheweth causes why he coulde not come. *Ibid.* 425 The Emperour, and kyng Ferdinando,..appointed their procurers with large and ample commission, whiche should treate and followe the cause, in their names, at Rome.

†e. = F. *procureur* or its equivalents in cognate langs.: see PROCUREUR. *Procurer fiscal* = F. *procureur fiscal*: cf. PROCURATOR-FISCAL. *Obs.*

a. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Pr. Pleas. Kenilw.* (1821) 74, I haue beene by the Procuror generall, twise seuerally summoned to appeare before the great Gods in their Councel chamber. 1647–8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 37 Procuror Fiscal to the King.

β. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 366 Both the kinges procurer, and also the university of Paris,..resisted with a stout courage. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xi. 240 He was in surte against the Procurer fiscal. 1721 STRYPE tr. *Jernegan's Let. to Wolsey* (1515) in *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. i. 13 Eloy de la Rice, high procurer of this City [Tournay]. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) III. i. 63 He married..Mary Van Gamaren, daughter of a procurer at Utrecht.

II. 2. One who or that which brings about, effects, or induces something; *esp.* one who causes something to be done by the agency of another or others; a promoter, prime mover, instigator, contriver, ultimate author. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

β. 1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 225/1 Which shall not be partie to eny such offence, ne Procurer, Councellour, nor Abbettour to the doyng therof. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 157 Affirmyng him to be..the chief procurer of the death of the good duke of Gloucester. 1580–1 *Act* 23 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 1 The said Melter Myngler or Corrupter Causer or Procurer thereof, shall forfeyte for everye pounde, Two Shillinges. *a* 1639 WOTTON in Walton *Angler* I. (1653) 33 Angling..was ..a procurer of contentedness. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 346 He was neere of kin to the king, and the cheefe procurer of the matche. 1769 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 68/2 Mr. Recorder..hoped that the fate of these two unhappy persons would be a warning to all rioters..and that the procurers..as well as the procured, were not exempt, by our laws, from this catastrophe. 1776 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 137 How shall the miserable wretches who have been the procurers of this dreadful scene..lie down with the load of guilt upon their souls? 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Confess. Drunkard,* To be set on to provoke mirth which procures the procurer hatred.

3. One who procures or obtains.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 81 Al such yl-occupyd personys as be procurarys only of the vayn plesure of man. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 741 A reconciler, or procurer of fauour, *conciliator, ris.* 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 610 Having been one of the procurers of the patent for Massachusetts Colony (1628)..he finally set sail thither.

4. One who procures women for the gratification of lust; a pander. Often feminine = PROCURESS 2.

1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. ii, Thy procurer Shall

be sheathed in velvet, and a reverend veil Pass her for a grave matron. 1698 CROWNE *Caligula* III. 23 Shall I.. Provoke the proud adulterer to my couch, And be Procurer to my own reproach? *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) II. 182 Strumpets in their Youth turn Procurers in their Age. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Ulpian* xiii. § 2 Other persons of free-birth are forbidden to marry..a freedwoman manumitted by a procurer or procuress,..or one that has been an actress.

Procuress (prǫkiū·rès). [ME. *procure·sse*, syncopated from OF. *procurere·sse* (14th c.), fem. of *procureur* PROCURER: cf. *governess*.]

†**1.** A female advocate or defender. *Obs. rare.*

1413 *Compl. Soul* 169 in *Hoccleve's Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) III. p. lvi, As aduocate for man, & procuresse..Now be myne helpe o blisful qwene. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* IV. xlvi, She hath wynges..for to soone doo hire message bifore god for mankynde, and is procuress whan time is to see him.

2. A woman who makes it her trade to procure women for the gratification of lust; a bawd.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 4 Who should I see there but the most artful Procuress in the Town. 1758 J. GRAINGER tr. *Tibullus' Elegies* I. vi. 85 From you my Ruin, curst Procuress, rose. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* liii, For fear divine Philosophy Should push beyond her mark, and be Procuress to the Lords of Hell. 1880 [see PROCURER 4].

‖ **Procureur** (prokūrö·r). [F., agent-n. from *procurer* to PROCURE:—OF. *procureeur, -ëur, -ëor*:—L. *prōcūrātōr-em* PROCURATOR.] A procurator (esp. in sense 4); an attorney, agent, or legal representative. *Procureur du roi* or *de la république*, in France, a public prosecutor; *procureur général*, the legal agent of the state, in a court of appeal or court of cassation.

1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* 23 There bee of this Court, of Presidents, Councillors, Procureurs, Aduocates. 1682 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 11 The then bishop of Coûtance.., sent his procureur, or agent. *Ibid.* 56 The King's Procureur...He is properly the King's Attorney. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 18 Mar., Not the hand of a *procureur*, or a writing-master. 1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* ii. (1766) I. 20 To have my books examined on the spot, by the .. *procureur du roy*, or the subdelegate of the intendance. 1804 *Edinb. Rev.* Apr. 112 Bougon, procureur-general of the department of Calvados. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Aug. 3/2 Sir E. Baring..goes on to say that he would.. have preferred making the Mudir a magistrate to having the procureur system. 1905 GUNTER *Conscience King* i. 8 A *procureur* attached to the local courts of Rouen.

b. = PROCURATOR 2 a.

1907 *Daily Chron.* 9 July 3/5 The monks..of La Grande Chartreuse..were governed by priors and procureurs. .. the latter [looked] after the temporalities, or revenues and supplies.

Procuring (prǫkiū·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also 5 **pro·kering**. [f. PROCURE *v.* + -ING 1: in ME. *procuring*.] The action of the verb PROCURE.

†**1.** Doing one's best, labouring, striving. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. 5 Spendyng his lyfe in procuring for owr wealth.

2. The action of causing or contriving to bring about; the fact of being the prime agent; = PROCUREMENT 1. Now *rare*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Greate prelas, þet..robbeþ hire onderlinges be to moche procuringe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 35 Þat was at erle Harolde his procuryngе. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13766 Thurgh his prokuryng prestly all the pure Troiens,..Were deliuert yche lede, & lause at hor willne. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xl. 82 Thurgh prokering of princes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 99 He was there by myne excitacion and procuryng to haue slain the foresaied Prince there in his bedde. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xi. (1840) 133 Henry..was chosen King of Jerusalem, by the especial procuring of King Richard his uncle.

3. The getting or obtaining (of anything) by effort; = PROCUREMENT 2.

1608 HIERON *Wks.* I. 753 We may euen deuote our selues to the procuring of the present and eternall good one of another. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 108 The procuring of precious Wood. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 135 The procuring of refreshments. 1885 *Weekly Notes* 72/1 The maliciously procuring a bankruptcy is not actionable unless the adjudication is set aside.

4. The action of a procurer or procuress.

a 1758 RAMSAY *Address of Thanks* xvii, Your procuring Is now sae far frae being a crime.

Procuring (prǫkiū·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That procures, in various senses; causing, producing; obtaining, winning; pandering, pimping.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* (1903) 427 If any man, by himselfe or by any frend, makes meanes to be chosen Rectour, he must pay 50 Lyers, and his procuring frend 30. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. iii. (1673) 52 The procuring cause of all those mischiefs and calamities. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* i. 86 With what Impatience must the Muse behold The Wife by her procuring Husband sold? 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 94/1 To prevent their clergy from..declaiming on the procuring cause of earthquakes. 1837 RUSSELL in Liddon, etc. *Life Pusey* (1893) I. xvii. 407 Newman strongly insisted,..that the Atonement alone was the grand procuring and meritorious cause of our pardon.

†**Procu·rish,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PROCUR-ESS + -ISH 1.] Like a procuress.

1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* III. i, She..begins to look something procurish.

Procuror, -our: see PROCURER.

Procursive (prǫkə̄·rsiv), *a.* [f. L. *prōcurs-*, ppl. stem of *prōcurrĕre* to run forward + -IVE.] Characterized by running forward; *spec.* applied to a kind of epilepsy in which the fits are marked by an aimless running forward.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 283 Running or 'procursive epilepsy'.

Procurva·tion. [n. of action from L. *prōcurvāre* to bend or curve forward.] A curving or bending forward; forward curvature (as of the spine).

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 262 This species offers us the four following varieties:—*a.* Anticus, Tetanic procurvation [etc.]. *Ibid.* IV. 249 Lordosis..; imported procurvation of the head and shoulders, or anterior crookedness.

Procu·rved, *a.* [f. PRO-1 + CURVED: cf. prec.] Curved in a forward direction.

1898 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 894 Anterior row strongly procurved, laterals slightly larger than centrals.

Procusie, obs. form of PROXY.

Procyon (prō·usiǫn). [a. L. *Procyōn*, a. Gr. Προκύων (in sense 1), f. *πρό* before + *κύων* dog: so called as rising a little before the dog-star Sirius.]

1. The principal star in the constellation of *Canis Minor*; also formerly the constellation itself.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Procyon*, the lesser Dog-Star. 1842 [see DOG-STAR 1]. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 324 Betelgeuse, Sirius, and Procyon form a triangle.

2. *Zool.* A genus of plantigrade carnivorous mammals, inhabiting N. and S. America, including the racoons, typical of the family *Procyonidæ*.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 57/1 Procyon. 1849 CRAIG, *Procyon*, the Racoon, a genus of quadrupeds, placed by naturalists immediately after the Bears.

Hence **Pro·cyonid,** an animal of the *Procyonidæ* or racoon family; **Procyo·niform** *a.*, resembling the racoons in form, racoon-like (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Pro·cyonine** *a.*, of or pertaining to the subfamily *Procyonīnæ*, containing only the racoons; **Pro·cyonoid** *a.* = *procyoniform*; also as *sb.*

1883 W. H. FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 441/1 This name [Bassaricyon] has recently (1876) been given to a distinct modification of the Procyonine type.

Prod (prǫd), *sb.*1 [f. PROD *v.*]

1. An act of prodding; a thrust with some pointed instrument; a poke, a stab.

1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumberld. Ball.* 42 Come, Jobby, gi'e the fire a prod, Then steek the entry duir. 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* I. x. 247 Ane may ward a blow at the breast, but a prod at the back's no fair. 1849 *Sidonia Sorc.* II. 47 Giving many of them a sharp prod on the shoulder. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 6 Aug., The prisoner..made what he called a 'prod' (thrust) at him with his bayonet. 1886 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* I. vii, Prompted by sundry prods from the elbow of a little damsel by his side.

b. *On the prod*: looking out for something to prod; on the attack, on the offensive.

a 1904 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* ix, When he [a man] came near enough to us, we could see that he was angry and on the prod. *Ibid.* xi, Several steers showed fight, and when released went on the prod for the first thing in sight.

2. A name given to various pointed instruments, as a goad, a skewer, a brad, a thatcher's pin, etc.

1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss., Prod*, an awl. 1808 JAMIESON, *Prod*, a pin of wood. *Ibid., Prod, Craw-prod*, a pin fixed in the top of a gable, to which the ropes, fastening the roof of a cottage, were tied. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Prod*, a prick, a skewer. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prod*, a goad. *Ibid., Prod*, an iron pin fixed in pattens. *Ibid., Prod*, a short stake driven in the ground. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Prod*, an iron point at the end of a stick. 'An ox prod', an ox goad. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. II. iv. 92 To drive more soldiers to his camp, he wanted sharper spurs and stronger prods.

Prod, *sb.*2 *slang.* [app. a variant of PRAD.] An (old) horse.

1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 119 The contemptuous terms..have led Mr. Newcome to suppose that his mount is most likely the quietest old 'prod' on the place. 1900 G. ELSON in *Academy* 4 Aug. 91/1 The horse was a prod, the cart a drag.

Prod (prǫd), *v.* [Known from 1535; there is no related word in the cognate langs. Perh. of onomatopœic origin, related on one side to *prog, proke, prick*, and on the other to *brod* (all of which express piercing or stabbing action of some kind).

The word has been thought to enter into the OE. comb. *prod-bore, þrot-bore* (dative), in Rushworth Gospels, Matt. xi. 16, xx. 3, as the gloss on *foro* 'in the market-place', but which has been conjectured to mean 'auger' or 'boring-tool' (cf. OE. *bor* borer, gimlet), the L. having been erroneously connected by the glossator with L. *foro* I bore.]

1. *trans.* To thrust or stab; to poke with a pointed instrument, or with the end of a stick.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* XXXVIII. 25 He that holdeth ye plough, & hath pleasure in proddynge & dryuynge yᵉ oxen. *c* 1712 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) I. 70 Ane proddit her in the lisk, Anither aneath the tail. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prod, Proddle*, to goad. 1854 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* xvii, With his fairy sword..his Majesty kept poking and prodding Padella in the back. 1855 — *Newcomes* xlvii, A physiologist..prods down this butterfly with a pin. 1861 RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. II. 59 Please tak a brog and prod him weel and let the wind out o' him. 1887 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. xi. 184, I..have vitality enough to kick .. when prodded.

b. *fig.* To goad mentally; to stir up, instigate, incite; to irritate.

1891 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* III. (1901) 295 The excitement of trying..to prod them into action. 1890 *Spectator* 4 Oct. 429/2 You complain of Italy,—well, leave off prodding her. 1899 *Daily News* 6 June 2/2 Poor little things!..I felt it was cruelty to even prod them with my few questions.

2. *intr.* To thrust, to poke. Const. *in, into, at.*

1696 *Money masters all Things* (1698) 94 The stinking Goldfinder with his white Rod, In common or in private Jakes will prod. 1859 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Dec. 705/2 To prod into the fat sides of the Hereford ox or Devon heifer. 1866 FITZPATRICK *Sham Sqr.* 112 Assailed by them all, and in stepping back, fell; they prodding at him.

3. *trans.* To make by prodding.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. x, The lady has prodded little spirting holes in the damp sand..with her parasol.

Hence **Pro·dded** *ppl. a.*, **Pro·dding** *vbl. sb.*

1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xlvii, Neat as a prodded eel on a pair of prongs. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 206/1 Under resounding thwacks and proddings of an iron-tipped goad, the..cattle snake the log endwise down the hill. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. iv. 157 You were subject to a vigorous course of prodding and rousing.

Prodatary (prǫdā·tări). [ad. mod.L. *prōdatārius*: see PRO-1 4 and DATARY 1.] The title given to the presiding official of the datary office at Rome, when a cardinal.

1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) VIII. 808 Pope Leo [XIII] appointed..Cardinal Sacconi prodatary.

Prodder (prǫ·dəɹ). [f. PROD *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which prods.

1894 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Dec. 2/1 For coarse work Macdonald uses electric needles, which he calls 'prodders'...The largest number of needles which his prodders contain is eighteen. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 14 May 3/2 He prods him in the eyes.. The sailor is blinded..the prodder gets his money, and runs off. 1907 *Ibid.* 24 Dec. 4/4 The punchers and prodders are small boys..from eight to twelve.

Prodder, Proddest, obs. comp. and sup. of PROUD. **Prode,** obs. f. PROUD. **Prodegate, Prodege:** see PRODIGATE *ppl. a.*, PRODIGE *v.*

Prodelision (prōudĭli·ʒǫn). *Prosody.* [f. L. *prōd*, older form of *prō*, PRO-1, used before vowels + ELISION.] Elision of an initial vowel.

1906 *Academy* 17 Mar. 257/1 Creaking Ionic scazons disfigured..by prodelision and synizesis and crasis.

Pro-dialogue: see PRO-2 1.

†**Pro·dig, pro·digue,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Also 5 prodyge. [a. F. *prodigue* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōdig-us* wasteful, lavish, f. *prōdig-ĕre*: see PRODIGE *v.* Perh. in part direct from L.] Prodigal.

[*c* 1450 LYDG. *Secrees* 942 Whoo is nat mesurable In his Rychesse, but disordinat, Is Callyd prodigus.] 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. clxiv. 173 A woman ryche & noble..she was prodyge & lecherous. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. I. *Eden* 543 Where prodig' Nature sets abroad her booth Of richest beauties.

B. *sb.* A prodigal.

a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* iv. 4, I am not worthy to be cald thy chylde,..Not lyk thy sone, bot lyk the prodigue wyld.

Prodigal (prǫ·dĭgăl), *a.* and *sb.* (*adv.*) [a. obs. F. *prodigal* (16th c. in Godef.), ad. late L. **prōdigāl-is* (*prōdigāliter*, Ambrose, *prōdigālitās*, Boeth.), f. *prōdig-us*: see prec. and -AL.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Given to extravagant expenditure; recklessly wasteful of one's property or means.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xix. 44 Gif I be nobill, gentill and fre, A prodigall man I am so prysit. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 107 Yf the sone be prodygal and gyuen to al vyce and foly. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 136 The nobility is very gallant, prodigall in expenses, spending more than their reuenues in diet and apparell. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 95 The elder and thrifty brother [represents] the Jew; the younger and prodigall, the Gentile. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) IV. x. 428 It is hard, if not impossible, for a prodigal person to be guilty of no other Vice, but Prodigality. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* vii, Lothair was profuse, but he was not prodigal.

b. with *of*. (Often passing into 3 b.)

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 149 Too late they pleased to be prodigal, both of Wealth and Life. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 134 Perhaps no nation on earth is so prodigal of life as the English. 1864 KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* i. 15 Nature is prodigal of human life.

c. *Prodigal son, child*: in reference or allusion to the parable, in Luke XV. 11–32: cf. B. 2.

c 1450 [see PRODIGATE (perh. error for *prodigale*)]. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* cxlii. Wks. (1876) 265 The comynge agayne of this prodygall chylde whiche hath spent his substance. [1523 *Vulgate*, Luke XV. *marginal note*, parabola de filio prodigo.] 1551 BIBLE (Matthew) *Luke* xv. *heading*, The parables of the loste shepe, of the groat that was loste, and of the prodigall sonne. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 103 Then hee compast a Motion of the Prodigall sonne, and married a Tinkers wife. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 16 A Clock, on which was represented, in painting, the Parable of the Prodigal Child.

2. Of things or actions; Wastefully lavish.

(In Shakspere sometimes by a kind of hypallage attributed to another noun in the sentence.)

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 124 Prodigall spending, but rewth of peure folkis neiding. 1530 PALSGR. 361 Some by fyre, some by prodigall expences. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 64 How I would make him..spend his prodigall wits in booteles rimes. 1607 — *Timon* II. ii. 174 How many prodigall bits haue Slaues and Pezants This night englutted. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* II. iv. (1673) 78 Our little suppers they traduce as prodigal. 1683 EVELYN *Diary* 4 Oct., This woman's apartment, now twice or thrice pull'd down and rebuilt to satisfie her prodigal and expensive pleasures. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 327 Under the energetic and prodigal administration of the first William Pitt, the debt rapidly swelled to a hundred and forty millions.

3. Lavish in the bestowal or disposal of things.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. xxv, Too prodigall was nature thus to doe, To spend in one age, what should serue for two. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, V. v. 13 My Noble Gossips, y'haue beene too Prodigall; I thanke ye heartily. 1652–62

HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1682) 18 Inriched with prodigal veins of Gold and Silver. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. i. § 3. 4 A more prodigal accumulation of quotations. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc., Tennyson* I. 228 The prodigal fulness of thought and imagery.

b. with *of*: lavish *of*; also with *in* (*rare*).

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* II. i. 9 Be now as prodigall of all deare grace, As Nature was in making Graces deare. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 25 Of these things I shall be very prodigal in my discourse. 1745 *N. Jersey Archives* XII. 275 Run away..a Servant Man,..appears a weildy young Man, prodigal in his Walk, and much so in his Speech. 1778 HAN. MORE *Florio* I. 183 When..May is prodigal of flowers. 1832 TENNYSON *Palace of Art* XX, Realms of upland, prodigal in oil, And hoary to the wind. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 157 Nature had been prodigal to him of her rarest gifts.

¶ 4. 'Proud' (Halliw. *Dict. Arch.* 1847). (?error.)

B. *sb.*

1. One who spends his money extravagantly and wastefully; a spendthrift, waster.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. i. 47 A bankrout, a prodigall, who dare scarce shew his head on the Ryalto. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 171 To play the dingthrift, or prodigall. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iv. (1869) I. 360 The greater part of the money..would be lent to prodigals and projectors. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 143 Formerly, I was rich and a prodigal.

b. with *of*.

1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 127 No wonder for those ..who were prodigals of their own persons. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. XV, The prodigal of an immortal day For ever spending, and yet never spent.

2. In pregnant sense, with reference or allusion to the career of 'the Prodigal son': see A. 1 c.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vi. 14, 16. 1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1) v. i. 360 Where is he?..the picture of the prodigal, go to, ile haue the calfe drest for you at my charges. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 9, I would, like a true repenting Prodigal, go home to my Father. 1751 *Transl. & Paraphr. Ch. Scot.* XL. v, The grieving prodigal bewail'd the follies he had done. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* x, Should not I be permitted, like him, to reclaim my poor prodigal by affection as well as severity? 1885 S. COX *Expositions* III. 30 Though a prodigal, he was still a son.

3. *To play the prodigal*: to act prodigally, be wasteful or lavish; to act like 'the prodigal son'.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 12 Let vollies of the great artillery From of our gallies banks play prodigall. *c* 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Fountain* 7 The water..o'erflowed; Then dashed away, playing the prodigal, And soon was lost.

C. as *adv.* Prodigally, lavishly.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iii. 116, I doe know When the Bloud burnes, how Prodigall the Soule Giues the tongue vowes.

Hence †**Pro·digal** *v. trans.*, to expend wastefully, extravagantly, or lavishly; **Pro·digalish** *a.*, that is somewhat of a prodigal; **Pro·digalism**, the condition and action of a prodigal; a course of life like that of 'the Prodigal son'.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [L] XX. 67 Hee prodigals a Mine of Excellencie, that lauishes a terse Oration to an approued Auditory. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 4 'Nemo se sibi vindicat, sed Alius in Alium consumitur' (saith..Seneca) No man Husbandeth himselfe, but vainly..Prodigalls Himselfe out on others. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. ii, He should like to cross a stick wi' the prodigalish young chap. 1896 *Chicago Advance* 1 Oct. 429 Infatuation is the bad element in prodigalism.

†**Prodiga·leous**, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [Erroneous form for **prodigalious*, f. med.L. **prōdigāli-s*: cf. *audaci-ous, bili-ous.*] Of the nature of a prodigal.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 He is a wastour of his goodys,..& he ys callyd a prodegaleous man þat is ffole large.

Prodigality (prǫdigæ·lĭti). [ME. *prodigalite*, a. F. *prodigalité* (13th c. in Littré), ad. med.L. *prōdigālitās* (Boeth.), f. **prōdigālis*: see PRODIGAL.] The quality of being prodigal.

1. Reckless extravagance in expenditure, wastefulness: a. of material things, especially of money.

1340 *Ayenb.* 21 Fol niminge of greate spendinge, þet me clepeþ prodigalité. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4592 By whiche he cured is of þe seekenesse Of prodigalitee, or fool largesse. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccix. 222 This kyng ..was of suche prodegalytie, that his bourdes & tabylles of his courte were spred .iiii. tymes in the day. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* xiv. 84 The losse of this oyntment greued them so muche, that they made a great murmuryng agaynst the godly prodigalitie of the woman. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law Merch.* 481 Cæsar notwithstanding all his prodigalities, brought to the treasurie fortie millions of Crownes. *a* 1716 [see PRODIGAL *a.* 1]. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind. II.* x. iii. 433 Shâh Jehân..The most striking instance of his pomp and prodigality was his construction of the famous peacock throne.

b. of immaterial things.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 89 P 4 This invisible riot of the mind, this secret prodigality of being. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. iv. (1862) 48 There is..an entire absence of prodigality in the use of miracles. 1860–2 MILMAN in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XI. p. xx, In other departments of poetry he [Macaulay] might have been endangered by his affluence and prodigality.

2. Lavishness, profuseness; lavish display, profuse supply.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. ii. 244 A sweeter, and a louelier Gentleman, Fram'd in the prodigallity of Nature.. The spacious World cannot againe affoord. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iii. 45 To drink of the ashes of dead relations [seems] a passionate prodigality. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. xi, Merry fellows..; you must take care of the prodigality of their wine. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 144 That wondrous wealth and prodigality of perfect weather.

Prodigalize (prǫ·digălәiz), *v.* [f. PRODIGAL *sb.* + -IZE: cf. obs. F. *prodigaliser* (1605 in Godef.), perh. the immediate source.]

†1. *intr. To prodigalize it*, to be lavish. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Despendre trop*, to prodigalize it, lauish, or lash out.

2. *trans.* To spend profusely or lavishly.

1611 COTGR., *Prodigalisé*, prodigalized, lauished,..squandered away. 1650 [? W. SAUNDERSON] *Aul. Coquin.* 68 This Lord..did most vainely prodigallize, what he often begg'd. 1836 LYTTON *Athens* II. iii, [Croesus] prodigalized fresh presents on the Delphians. 1849 — *Caxtons* XVII. i, Major MacBlarney prodigalizes his offers of service in every conceivable department of life.

Prodigally (prǫ·digăli), *adv.* [f. PRODIGAL + -LY 2.] In a prodigal manner.

1. With reckless extravagance; extravagantly, wastefully.

1530 PALSGR. 841/1 Prodygally, *prodiguement.* *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xlv. (1535) 87 b, Some prodigally spende and wast all their goodes. 1682 NORRIS *Hierocles* Pref. 19 That neither spends his goods prodigally & like a fool. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 587 The next, in place and punishment, are they Who prodigally throw their souls away.

2. With lavish abundance; lavishly; profusely.

1590 GREENE *Mourn. Garm.* (1616) 1 Fortune..prodigally had wrapt him in the vestment of her riches. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 795 The King will not suffer them to haue Oyle or Wine there growing, although the earth would prodigally repay them, that they may still haue neede of Spaine. 1821 BYRON *Juan* V. lxv, The moveables were prodigally rich. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* (1858) 285 We know how prodigally the tongue vows.

†**Pro·digate**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 5 **prodegate**. [If not an error for *prodigale*, may represent a med.L. **prōdigātus*, pa. pple. of **prōdigāre* = It. *prodigare* to play the prodigal or spendthrift, F. *prodiguer* to spend lavishly.] Prodigal.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 1647 This prodegate [*gloss* folelarge] son may wele a synnere signifie.

†**Pro·dige**, *sb. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *prodige* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōdigi-um* PRODIGY; cf. *vestige.*] A prodigy.

c 1470 *Brut* 530 Which was take for A prodige or token þat þe reign of King Henry was ended. 1618 T. ADAMS *Fire Contention* Wks. (1629) 797 Signs and prodiges of a fearefull conflict to come.

†**Pro·dige**, *v. Obs. rare.* In 6 **prodege**. [prob. ad. L. *prōdig-ĕre* to drive forth, squander, f. *prōd*, form of *prō*, PRO- 1 before a vowel + *ag-ĕre* (*-igĕre*) to drive. Cf. F. *prodiguer*, It. *prodigare*, on L. type **prōdigāre.*] *trans.* To squander.

1538 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 10 All religious incombentes here do not onelie leve theire demaynes,..in maner as waste.., but also dothe contynuallie prodege theire moveables unto them belonging.

†**Pro·digence.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōdigentia*, f. *prōdigent-em*, pr. pple. of *prōdig-ĕre*: see prec. and -ENCE.] Extravagance; waste; prodigality.

1634 BP. HALL *Contempl., N. T.* IV. iv, There is no proportion in this remuneration; this is not bountie, it is prodigence. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prodigence*, prodigality, wastefulness, riot, unthriftiness.

†**Prodi·gial**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōdigiāl-is*, f. *prōdigium* PRODIGY: see -AL.] Relating to prodigies or portents.

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 280 Events whereof, such as were skilfull in prodigial learning foretold and prophesied.

Prodigious (prodi·dʒəs), *a.* (*adv.*) [ad. L. *prōdigiōs-us* marvellous, prodigious: see PRODIGY and -OUS. Cf. F. *prodigieux* (R. Estienne 1549).]

†1. Of the nature of a prodigy; ominous, portentous. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Prodigious, *prodigiosus.* 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* V. i. 419 Neuer mole, harelip, nor scarre, Nor marke prodigious,..Shall vpon their children be. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 224 It was alwaies taken for a monstrous and prodigious signe. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* (1665) 204 They carry a fair aspect toward the Prodigious Appearance in Heaven. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 64 Many dreadful Signs of his Approach, prodigious Darkness and frightful Sights in the Heavens.

2. Having the appearance of a prodigy; unnatural, abnormal.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 119 As ther hath ben a prodigious Pasiphae, so there hath bene a godly Theocrita. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 625 Nature breeds, Perverse, all monstrous, all prodigious things..Gorgons and Hydra's, and Chimera's dire. 1687 DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees) 10 It rained wheat..several granes of which were sent as miraculous and prodigious presents to several gentlemen about us. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. vi. 190 The Arch-Angel Gabriel assuming a prodigious Form, descended. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* III. i. 52 Prodigious mixtures, and confusions strange Of good and ill.

3. Causing wonder or amazement; marvellous, amazing; (in a bad sense) monstrous.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 390 He by his euill counsaile and prodigious suggestions, craftilye circumuented the king. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 25 The gentlemen after a new prodigious manner attired themselues like vnto the Castillians. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* Ep. Ded., And with a drawn Sword declare prodigious Principles of Enmitie against the Rights and Liberties of England. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 82 It was thought prodigious..to run 1140 Stadia..in the space of two days. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* II. 374 The spirit of composition, the manner of grouping and colouring, the general effect of the whole, [is] prodigious! 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. viii. 249 Why..are the gods and giants and monsters no longer seen to lead their prodigious lives on earth?

4. Of extraordinarily large size, extent, power, or amount; vast, enormous. (Often hyperbolical.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 368 A fruit..answerable to the mightie, huge, and prodigious tree that beareth it. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) II. 71 He left five thousand Marks, a prodigious sum in that age, to charitable uses. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VI. 247 Satan, who that day Prodigious power had shewn. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* III. i. (1723) 172 The Andes, that prodigious Chain of Mountains in South America. 1722 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) VII. 381 The other Bones are of a prodigious Size. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) III. VII. 414 The prodigious regard which was shown to the Greek physicians. 1846 DICKENS *Lett.* (1880) I. 167 They were in prodigious spirits and delight. 1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (ed. 10) II. II. XXXIII. 214 The prodigious volume of atmospheric water which must be absorbed into the interior. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 200 At great depths, the pressure must be prodigious.

b. As an exclamation: 'Monstrous', 'astounding'.

1730 FIELDING *Coffee Ho. Polit.* III. v, *Constant.*—'Prodigious!'..'What in the Devil's Name hath brought thee to the Constable's?' 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* IV. 255 Let but the Ladies smile, and they are blest: Prodigious! how the things protest, protest. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* VIII, The good Dominie bore all his disasters with gravity and serenity equally imperturbable. 'Pro-di-gi-ous!' was the only ejaculation they ever extorted from the much-enduring man.

B. quasi-*adv.* = PRODIGIOUSLY; amazingly; wonderfully; exceedingly; 'mightily'. Now *vulgar.*

1676 WOOD *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 190 The Sea running prodigious high. 1727 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bold Stroke for Wife* II. i, This snuff is extremely good,—and the box prodigious fine. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 596 Contradictions become elegance and propriety of language; for a thing may be..vastly little, monstrous pretty, ..prodigious natural, or devilish godly. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* I. 51 A prodigious high hill fronting the western tower.

Prodigiously (prodi·dʒəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prodigious manner.

†1. Portentously, ominously. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 91 Pray that their burthens may not fall this day, Lest that their hopes prodigiously be crost. 1605 DRAYTON *Man in Moon* 278 Twice every month, th'eclipses of our light Poor mortals should prodigiously affright. 1663 COWLEY *Verses Sev. Occas., Ode on His Maj. Restaurat.* ii, Auspicious Star again arise,..Again all Heaven prodigiously adorn.

2. Wonderfully, astonishingly; in colloquial use (hyperbolically), Exceedingly, immensely.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 17 Such prodigiously little spindle-shank'd leggs. *a* 1679 GURNALL in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. ci. 6 Among those who were as prodigiously wicked as any there. 1710–11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 22 Feb., It snowed all this morning prodigiously. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. XXXVII. 244 You are prodigiously kind! 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. ii. 85 The wealth and comforts of all classes are, in consequence, prodigiously augmented. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvi, A prodigiously well-informed man.

Prodigiousness (prodi·dʒəsnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being prodigious; the quality of exciting amazement; enormousness; hugeness; monstrousness.

1631 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 289 The corporal receiving of Christ hath in it a further prodigiousness and horrour. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Sect. XV. P 13 The Disciples..wondering at the prodigiousnesse of the woman's Religion. 1723 MATHER *Vind. Bible* 309 The prodigiousness and irregularity of the punctuation of some words. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 126 The..neatness of their operations, contrasted with the prodigiousness of their fists.

†**Prodi·gity.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōdigitās* extravagance, prodigality, f. *prōdig-us*: see PRODIG *a.* and -ITY.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Prodigitie*, wilfulnesse. [Ridiculed in *Vindex Anglicus* (1644) 6.]

†**Pro·digous,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. OF. *prodigueux* (15th c. in Godef.), f. L. type **prōdigōs-us*, f. *prōdig-us*: see -OUS.] Prodigal, lavish.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 5 Be not ydelle ne prodigous of thy tonge, take hede, beholde and see and saye litel.

Prodigue: see PRODIG.

Prodigy (prǫ·didgi). [ad. L. *prōdigi-um*, f. *prōd-*, early form of *prō*, PRO- 1, retained before a vowel + (?) prim.L. **agium* a thing said: cf. L. *āio* I affirm, also *adagium* ADAGE.]

1. Something extraordinary from which omens are drawn; an omen, a portent. Now *rare.*

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXV. 252 Many wonderfull prodygyes & tokyns were shewed in Englonde, as yᵉ swellyng or rysyng of the water of Thamys. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 285 A prodigie [*printed* perdigie] of the Sunne. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 448 This slaughter was foretold by many Prodigies. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Ramp.* Wks. (1687) 478 The Insolency of injust Men is a Prodigy of their Ruin. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. xii. 553 The province of interpreting prodigies, and inspecting the entrails, belonged to the Haruspices. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 11 P 8 Omens and prodigies have lost their terrors. *a* 1816 JOYCE *Sci. Dial., Astron.* xxiv, Were not comets formerly dreaded, as awful prodigies intended to alarm the world? 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 73 The air was full of prodigies. There were terrible storms; the plague wrought fearful ravages.

2. An amazing or marvellous thing; *esp.* something out of the ordinary course of nature; something abnormal or monstrous.

1626 MIDDLETON *Women Beware Wom.* IV. ii. 61 He's a villain As monstrous as a prodigy and as dreadful. 1653

GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 52 What is a prodigie, but some thing that comes to passe besides, beyond, above, or against the cours of nature? 1677 W. HARRIS *Lemery's Chym.* (1686) 154 Quicksilver is a prodigy among Metals. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vi. 189 A climate, where rain is considered as a prodigy, and is not seen in many years. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) I. xxviii. 236 Did not our innate generosity restrain us, I would confound him, and make him a prodigy to all the world!

† b. Of a person: in bad sense, A monster. *Obs.*

1594 *2nd Pt. Contention* (1843) 130 Or where is that valiant Crookbackt prodegie? 1656 *Petition to Chas. II* in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* XV. § 113 That prodigy of nature, that opprobrium of mankind,..who now calls himself our Protector.

3. Anything that causes wonder, astonishment, or surprise; a wonder, a marvel.

[*a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 757, I cannot but think it a *prodigium* that any man should think otherwise.] 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* Ep. Ded., A multitude of monstrous untruths, and prodigies of lies. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 341 It is a most incredible prodigy..that he should so rashly reject what he had so devotionally received. 1722 MACKY *Journ. Eng.* II. 30 It's a Prodigy, how so wise a People as the English can be gulled by such Pick-Pockets. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* v. i. 303 The hand and breath of one Ecclesiastic is made to convey to another the power to perform invisible and undemonstrable prodigies.

b. A wonderful example *of* (some quality).

1646 EVELYN *Diary* Apr.-June, Julius Cæsar Scaliger, that prodigie of learning. 1689–90 TEMPLE *Ess. Heroic Virt.* Wks. 1731 I. 194 Alexander was a Prodigy of Valour. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 277 This bird, he asserts, ..is a prodigy of understanding. 1844 W. SMITH *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Biog.* (1867) III. 193/2 Pericles..performed prodigies of valour. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* iii. 104 The knights..by prodigies of valour, maintained their position. 1874 DEUTSCH *Rem.* 208 If Christianity is a prodigy of sanctity, Hellenism is a prodigy of beauty.

c. A person endowed with some quality which excites wonder; *esp.* a child of precocious genius.

1658 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan., Died my deare son Richard, ..5 yeares and 3 days old onely, but at that tender age a prodigy for witt and understanding. 1794 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. i, Aye, but her beauty will affect you—she is, tho' I say it, who am her father, a very prodigy. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 204 The juvenile prodigy, the poetical youth, the great genius. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Life Sir T. Lawrence* I. 51 This infant prodigy had excited so much attention that his likeness was taken, and engraved by Sherwin. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1869) III. v. 453 Whose almost incredible achievments entitle them to be termed the prodigies of the human race.

4. *attrib.* (chiefly appositive).

1889 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 6/6 The 'prodigy' season.. began yesterday, when Master O— H— made his rentrée in London. 1891 *Ibid.* 8 Jan. 5/4 The deceased..made his début at the age of thirteen as a prodigy pianist. 1900 *Ibid.* 19 June 4/7 He was a 'prodigy' violinist at the age of eight.

Prodissoconch: see PRO-[2] 1.

† **Pro·dited**, *pa. pple. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. L. *prodit-us* betrayed + -ED [1].]

1623 COCKERAM, *Prodited*, betrayed.

Prodition (prodi·ʃən). Now *rare*. [ME. *prodycyon*, a. OF. *prodicion* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prōditiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōd-ĕre* to betray, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *dăre* to give.] Betrayal, treason, treachery.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. xxxiv. (1555), Of doubilnesse and of false treason Undermyninge with prodycyon. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlix. 4 Thocht he remissioun Haif for prodissioun. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 72 The proditione of ane realme succedis to the hurt of the public veil. 1597 BP. HALL *Guistard & Sismond* II. xv, A traytor guiltie of false prodicion. 1610 ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* 22 They are likely to decrease..through the proditions and betrayings of the people which are contrary to them. 1669 *Addr. Hopeful Yng. Gentry Eng.* 55 The Lanthorn of Judas.. lighted the Traitor to the prodition of our Blessed Saviour. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias* II. 194 All those who were charged with prodition. 1887 W. DE G. BIRCH *Domesday Bk.* ix. 123 Waltheof does not appear to have entered upon this perilous path of prodition with any intention of acting upon it.

† **Prodi·tious**, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. L. type **prodītiōs-us*, f. L. *prodītiōn-em*: see prec. and -OUS.] Treasonable, traitorous.

1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* IV. Comm. 260 By the proditious insinuations of the Deuill.

Pro·dito-ma·nia. *rare*. [Arbitrary f. L. *prodit-*, ppl. stem of *prodĕre* to betray + -MANIA.]

1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 399 The concomitant proditomania. [*Footnote*. A morbid belief in the ubiquity and omnipotence of traitors.]

† **Pro·ditor**. *Obs.* [ME. and AF. *proditour*, = OF. *proditeur*, ad. L. *prōditōrem*, agent-n. f. *prōd-ĕre* to betray.] A betrayer; a traitor.

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 500/2 In resistence of youre Proditours Rebelles and Adversaries. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, XI. 95 As manifest ennemy and proditour to the Cristen state. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 31, I doe, thou most vsurping Proditor, And not Protector of the King or Realme. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* 54 [He] was betrayed by his Servant,..whom..they..as a Proditor preeipitated from the Tarpeian stone. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xi. § 16 (1699) 67 The Betrayer or Proditor.

Prodito·rious, *a. Obs.* or *arch.* [f. prec. + -IOUS, as if from L. type **prōditōri-us*.] Traitorous, perfidious.

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 501 By usurpacion of that proditorious commission. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* (1807) II. 487 This reward reaped he for his proditorious attempts. 1641 PRYNNE *Antip.* Ep. 1 The Capitalnesse of such a Concealement in these proditorious times.

b. *fig.* Apt to betray or reveal what is hidden or in the mind.

a 1639 WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* in *Relig.* (1651) 329, I will now hasten to those more solid and conclusive Characters, which..are emergent from the Minde; and which oftentimes do start out of Children when themselves least think of it: For let me tell you, Nature is Proditorious. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 74. 3/1 Blind to Events, however they might prove, Or Proditorious or Exitious. 1824 SOUTHEY *Colloquies on Soc.* (1887) 140 The eye, then, Sir Thomas, is proditorious, and I will not gainsay its honest testimony. 1828 — in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 144 A strong brow, A proditorious eye, for no dislike Can lurk dissembled there.

† **Pro·ditoriously**, *adv. Obs.* [f. prec. + -LY [2].] In a perfidious or treacherous manner.

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 501 That thei did slee proditoriously Iames Brueis and Symon Burle. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 57 Thus nefariously and proditoriously prophaning & penetrating our holy fathers nostrils. 1619 *Time's Storehouse* x. vii. 935/1 They..fell to killing one an other,..proditoriously massacring their very best friends.

† **Pro·ditory**, *a. Obs.* [f. PRODITOR (see -ORY [2]): as if repr. a L. **prōditōrius*.] Traitorous, treacherous.

1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* v. 238 The suspition..of all proditory or trecherous entendments. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 353 That proditory Aid sent to Rochel and Religion abroad.

‖ **Prodroma** (prǫ·drǫmă), *sb. Path.* usually in *pl.* **prodromata** (prǫdrǫ·mătă). [mod.L., an erroneous formation, app. in imitation of such etymological forms as *carcino·ma, -o·mata, sarco·ma, -o·mata*, etc.; possibly originating in a L. *prodroma*, sing. for Gr. *προδρομή* a running forward, or in mistaking the neuter pl. *πρόδρομα* (see next) for a sing.] = PRODROME 3, PRODROMUS 3.

1859 SEMPLE *Diphtheria* 317 In young children, I have always met with the following prodromata. 1870 MAUDSLEY *Body & Mind* 89 The uniformity of the prodromata and of the symptoms of the attack. 1882 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* No. 52. 170 The inebriety..coming from physical causes was marked by a long prodroma before the trance state appeared.

‖ **Pro·droma**, *sb. pl.* [mod.L., = Gr. *πρόδρομα*, neut. pl. of *πρόδρομος, -ον* adj.: see PRODROMUS.] Premonitory symptoms.

1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 546 Yellow fever usually begins very suddenly, with slight prodroma. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 466 He insisted on its prodroma [i. e. those of tuberculous meningitis].

Prodromal (prǫ·d-), *a.* [f. PRODROM-US + -AL.]

1. Of or pertaining to a prodromus; forerunning; introductory, preliminary.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 366 Their Works and Writings were the Prodromal Copies and Consonant Originals to the Nicen Creed. *c* 1720 *Ibid.* VI. *Diss. Physick* 7 That Learned prodromal Protestant of the 12th Christian Century, Rupertus Tultiensis.

2. *Path.* Precursory or premonitory (of disease).

1861 BUMSTEAD *Ven. Dis.* (1879) 652 Vertigo is a prominent prodromal symptom. 1885–8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 170 If..the patient has been unwell for a few days previously, the disease is said to have had a prodromal stage. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 463 The more extensive prodromal erythema seen in small-pox.

Prodroma·tic, *a.* [f. the erroneous PRODROMA, pl. *-omata*: see -IC.] = PRODROMAL. So **Prodroma·tically** *adv.*, as a preliminary or introductory step.

1871 HAMMOND *Dis. Nerv. Syst.* 34 Impossible to predict with accuracy, from the symptoms of this *prodromatic stage. 1726 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 319 Both together [High and Low Church] should *Prodromatically [*misprinted* -dram-] advance with Carismatical-Emulation. *Ibid.* 429 So happily lucky as to lead Prognostically and Prodromatically to the Metropolitan Crosier.

Prodrome (prǫ·drǫm), *sb.* (*a.*) Better **prodrom**, cf. *anadrom, atom.* [a. F. *prodrome* (*a* 1584 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. mod.L. PRODROMUS.]

† 1. Something that is a forerunner; a precursor.

1643 *Sober Sadness* 45 These..may..prove the Prodromes ..to the ruine of our Monarchy. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* xi. in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 280 Sober Morality..is like morning light reflected from the higher Clouds, and a certain Prodrome of the Sunne of Righteousnesse it self.

2. An introductory or preliminary treatise or book; a prodromus.

1866 COUES (*title*) Prodrome of a Work on the Ornithology of Arizona Territory. 18.. *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 243 (Cassell *Suppl.*) Mr. Scudder discussed and reviewed Brongniart's recent prodrome of palæozoic insects. 1903 *Academy* 17 Jan. 71/1 What is 'Donovan' to 'We Two'? Prelude, prodrome, proem or introduction might be used.

3. *Path.* A prodromal or premonitory symptom.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 648 The symptoms of invasion or accession, the prodromes of M. Deveze. 1864 THOMAS *Med. Dict.*, Vertigo is sometimes said to be a prodrome or precursor of apoplexy.

B. *adj.* = PRODROMOUS.

1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* xiii. 119 The first Predelineations and prodrome Irradiations into the matter [*transl.* προδρόμους ελλάμψεις εἰς ὕλην].

Prodromic (prǫdrǫ·mik), *a.* [f. as next + -IC: so F. *prodromique*.] = PRODROMAL.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Aug. 10 The medical treatment of cholera is successful chiefly as it is directed to the prodromic symptoms. 1891 H. F. STEWART *Boethius* p. vii, An essay of this kind can never be more than prodromic and tentative. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 492.

† **Pro·dromist**. *Obs.* [f. as next + -IST.] A precursor, forerunner.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 228 There were several other Prodromists or Precursors of Arianism in that third Century. *Ibid.* 374 The Popish Clergy made those honest Prodromists of the Reformation to pass for Hereticks.

Pro·dromous, *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *πρόδρομ-os* (see next) + -OUS.] Introductory, prodromal.

1652 *Lex Exlex* Title-p., A Prodromous Discourse to a subsequent Tract. 1846 in WORCESTER.

‖ **Prodromus** (prǫ·drǫmŭs). Pl. **pro·dromi**. [mod.L., a. Gr. *πρόδρομος* adj., running before, as sb. a precursor, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *δραμεῖν* to run, *δρόμος* running, race, course.]

1. A forerunner, a precursor, a premonitory event.

1645 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* IV. I. 135 Beeston Castle..a while before the taking of Chester..as a *Prodromus* of its neighbouring Cities fate was yielded to the Parliament. 1660 T. M. *Cl. Walker's Hist. Independ.* IV. 95 The *Prodromi* of whose miserable end might be these and the like. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 76 The *Prodromi* of the ensuing Rains. 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 58 As *Prodromus* to its Intrusion.

2. A book or treatise which is introductory or preliminary to some larger work.

1672 JACOMB *Serm. Rom. viii.* Pref. § 7 This Volume.. I publish as a *prodromus* to what is yet to come. 1756 *Gentl. Mag.* XXVI. 415 The next year Linnæus published his *Fundamenta Botanica*, which may be considered as the *prodromus* to many of his succeeding works. 1864 HALDEMAN *Bibliogr. Chess Knt.'s Tour* Pref., This Prodromus is offered with the hope that it will be expanded and completed by some one who has more bibliographic facilities.

3. *Path.* A premonitory symptom of disease; = PRODROME 3.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prodromus*, a Disease that comes before a greater, as the straitness of the Breast predicts a Consumption. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 289 The fit [of gout] is often preceded by certain prodromi.

† **Pro·dromy**. *Obs.* [? ad. Gr. *προδρομία* a sudden attack, f. *πρόδρομ-os* adj.: see prec.] = prec. 1.

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 30 They are..the certain prodromies of assured judgement.

Produce (prǫ·dius), *sb.* [f. PRODUCE *v.* (Formerly stressed *produ·ce*, like the vb.)]

1. The fact of producing; production. *rare.*

1769 E. HARGROVE *Hist. Knaresb.* VI. (1798) 246 This place is remarkable for the produce of a delicious apple. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 64 They say they cannot compete with the foreigners in the produce of grain.

2. The amount produced, yielded, or derived; the proceeds; the return, yield. Now chiefly in the assay of ore.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 78 They sow it with Barly, allowing 3 Bushels of Seed to an Acre: Its common produce is 30 Bushel. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 20 ₱ 4 This Tax has already been so often tried, that we know the exact Produce of it. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 263 Not only the interest but the produce of the real and personal estate was to be applied by such trustees. 1831 *Examiner* 141/1 They had sold their shoes,..and were getting lushy with the produce. 1871 J. S. PHILLIPS *Explorer's Comp.* 299 A weight of 400 grains [in assaying ores]..is divided into hundredths and again into eighths of one unit of such percentages to represent the market 'produce'. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Produce*,.. the amount of fine copper in one hundred parts of ore.

3. The thing (or things collectively) produced, either as a natural growth or as a result of action or effort; product, fruit. Also *fig.*

1699 DRYDEN *Epist. to Y. Driden* 118 You hoard not health for your own private use, But on the publick spend the rich produce. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 33 Two Pieces of dry Flesh and some Corn, such as is the Produce of their Country. 1771 *Junius Lett.* liv. (1820) 287 They are the produce of his invention.

b. More generally: Result, effect, consequence.

1730 CHUBB *Collection of Tracts* 377 If the actions of men are not the produce of a free choice or election. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. x. (1762) 95 If it were..possible.. that every free Act of Choice were the Produce or Effect of a free Act of Choice; yet even then..no one Act of Choice would be free, but every one necessary. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 498 It was the produce of an honest heart, a clear conscience, and a manly mind. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* IV. 198 Such the days of faith, And such their produce to encourage mine!

c. Offspring, progeny. *rare.*

1845 YOUATT *Dog* iv. (1858) 104 The Artois dog..is a produce of the shock-dog and the pug. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredh. Gt.* XIII. vii. (1872) V. 76 Comte de Saxe..was..the produce of the fair Aurora von Königsmark.

4. Agricultural and natural products collectively, as distinguished from manufactured goods. Also *raw produce.*

1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* Introd. (1841) I. 3 The..British product,..whether we mean its produce as the growth of the country, or its manufactures as the labour of her people. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* ii. 15 The cry for higher bounties on West India produce. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 The export trade..consisted chiefly in raw produce, wool and hides, corn, beer, and cheese. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 84 The payments ..tempted the farmers to sell to them their produce.

5. *techn.* Materials produced from breaking up ordnance or other military or naval stores: chiefly in phrase *brought to produce*, i. e. broken up, and the material assorted into various kinds or classes, which may be separately disposed of.

1904 COL. C. F. HADDEN *Let. to Editor*, A gun carriage brought to produce is broken up, and steel, brass, etc., separated, and disposed of as so much metal.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (all from sense 4), as *produce broker, business, market, merchant, trade.*

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Produce Market,* Fenchurch-street, Mincing-lane, Tower-street, and their immediate localities, where the offices of the principal produce-brokers are situate. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Oct. 6/2 Instead of the £500 being paid money down, it should be £500 of tithe money, or rather £500 of produce money, so that it should represent very much the same quantity of stuff. 1892 *Ibid.* 8 Aug. 7/1 The total produce trade for 1891 is estimated at 102 millions sterling..the principal feature being the large increase in the receipts and shipments of wheat. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 55/2 A Missourian, in the produce business.

Produce (prodiū·s), *v.* [ad. L. *prōdūc-ĕre* to lead or bring forth, extend, promote, produce, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *dūc-ĕre* to lead.]

1. *trans.* To bring forward, bring forth or out; to bring into view, to present to view or notice; to offer for inspection or consideration, exhibit. Often used of bringing forward witnesses, as well as evidence, or vouchers, in a court of law.

1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 435 To comper..to produce his takkis and rychtes of the kingis landis of Murray gif he ony has. 1530 PALSGR. 667/1, I produce wytnesses, *je produys tesmoyngs.* 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. vi. 16 They also produced to sight and viewe of him certaine harnesses or armours, whereat he also merualled much. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 228, I..am moreouer sutor, that I may Produce his body to the Market-place. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. v. 363 In a most curious Mantle, wrought by th' hand Of his Queene Mother, which for more probation I can with ease produce. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xli. 21 Produce [*marg.* cause to come neere] your cause, saith the Lord, bring foorth your strong reasons. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 130 To make this good, Saint Augustine is produced. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* I. v. § 5 Joseph Scaliger who first..produced them into the light out of Georgius Syncellus. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 69 Produce the Plough, and yoke the sturdy Steer. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 16/1 The books must be produced, as we cannot receive parole evidence of their contents. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* viii, So saying, he produced, from the hawking pouch already mentioned, the stiffened hand. 1877 *Act* 40 & 41 *Vict.* c. 60 § 5 Any person..may, on producing..a copy of his authorisation..enter by day such canal boat.

b. To introduce; now, *spec.*, to bring (a performer or performance) before the public; *refl.* to come forward, come 'out'.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxv. 158 Orpheus was he which produced and celebrated the first sacrifices vnto Liber Pater. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 214 They had an extraordinary desire to produce me. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 84 P 4 My Design of producing obscure Merit into publick View. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* P 6 The pert..demeanour of several young stagers in divinity upon their first producing themselves into the world. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* V. 99 Plato..sought every occasion of producing him to the public. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 27 P 8 Hilarius received me with an appearance of great satisfaction, produced me to all his friends. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* vi, I wish they had antigallican spirit enough to produce themselves in their own genuine English dress. 1808 HAN. MORE *Cælebs* I. 71 They [girls] were always ready to sing and play, but did not take the pains to produce themselves in conversation. 1864 *Standard* 31 Dec. 6/3 There is a stringent competition going forward amidst musical managers as to who shall produce her [a singer].

† **c.** To bring (to a specified condition); to advance, promote. *Obs.*

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Panaretus* 1351 Till with advantage gracious Heav'ns produce Their Wished Counsails into act and use. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* III. ii, The Art..Is by the Brotherhood of the Rosie Crosse, Produc'd vnto perfection. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* II. viii. 233 Trebonius..was wholly a new man and the creature of Caesar's power, who produced him through all the honors of the State, to his late consulship of three months.

2. *Geom.* To extend (a line) in length; to continue; hence *gen.* to lengthen (anything) out; to extend, enlarge, or develop longitudinally.

1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* I. 5 b, To produce a right line finite, straight forth continually. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 27 Parallel Lines..produced infinitely on both sides, do never..concur. 1676 GREW *Anat. Flowers* App. § 11 The Bottom, is either Reduced towards the Top, as in Ground-Ivy; or Produced upon the Stalk, as in Poplar, Bay, &c. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 290 When one side of a triangle is produced, the outward angle is greater than either of the two inward opposite angles. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Lect. Light* 16 The reflected rays are here divergent; but on being produced backwards, they intersect at the principal focus behind the mirror. 1877 DARWIN *Fertil. Orchids* vi. (ed. 2) 169 An insect with the extremity of its abdomen produced into a sharp point alights on the flower. 1881 MIVART in *Nature* XXIV. 337/1 Each eyebrow is produced into a flexible horn-like prominence.

† **b.** To extend, stretch out. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, *Hed.* O, his leg was too much produced. *Ana.* And his hat was carried scurvily.

† **c.** To extend in duration; to prolong, lengthen, spin out. *Obs.*

1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* III. iii, Perhaps our stay will be Beyond our will produced. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* Printer to Rdr., The E silent.., serveth onely to produce the vowel precedent. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 43 There goes a great deal of providence to produce a mans life unto threescore.

3. To bring forth, bring into being or existence.

a. *generally.* To bring (a thing) into existence from its raw materials or elements, or as the result of a process; to give rise to, bring about, effect, cause, make (an action, condition, etc.).

1513 [implied in PRODUCER 1]. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 81 The One is the Producer or yeelder foorth, the Vnderstanding is the thing produced or yeelded foorth. 1621 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Elisha's Lament.* (1622) 14 Double affection ..produceth doubled lamentation. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 155 There are few Crimes that may not be produced by Anger. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 57 Nor Birdlime, or Idean Pitch, produce A more tenacious Mass of clammy Juice. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 94 That Eternal Invisible Mind which produces and sustains all things. 1748 HUME *Ess.* xviii. (ed. 3) 193 Art may make a Suit of Clothes. But Nature must produce a Man. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* iv. 129 To use an apt French turn of expression, she is going to produce a sensation. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* II. ix. (1879) 52 Steam is produced by heating water by coal. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* iii. 87 Certain..insects produce a noise by rubbing one of their abdominal rings against another. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 136/2 The coal was cut in large blocks ..the small coal was produced by the friction of the blocks.

b. Of an animal or plant: To generate, bring forth, give birth to, bear, yield (offspring, seed, fruit, etc.).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 215 b, He may not be sayd to be the holy goost, whiche is produced of y^e^ father & the sone. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 125 Eunuchs..are smooth, and produce not a Beard. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 687 Who..by imprudence mixt, Produce prodigious Births of bodie or mind. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 6 Every creature is produced by its own kind. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 54 The goat produces but two at a time. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* § 22 Flowers..capable of producing seeds. *Ibid.* § 28 The anthers..produce pollen, and the carpels..produce ovules. *Ibid.* § 452 The Vine..where the temperature is..too high..runs away to leaf and does not produce fruit. 1902 D. MCDONALD *Garden Comp.* (Ser. I) 38 It is these early blooms that..produce the finest pods.

c. Of a country, region, river, mine, process, etc.: To give forth, yield, furnish, supply; in quot. 1664 to grow, raise (plants); in quot. 1827, to yield or bring in as profit. Also *absol.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 44 b, A great countrey of vines producing great aboundance of good wines. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* (1776) 11 To Produce them immediately of the seed is the better way. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 128 Considering y^e^ severall Countrys w^ch^ produce wooll. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* II. § 1 England hath of late produced great philosophers. 1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 244 The other goods produced me about one hundred dollars. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* (1859) I. 379 Near London, the Thames..produces Barbel in great quantities. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xlvi. 348 The earth produces in an abundance unknown to other regions.

d. To compose or bring out by mental or physical labour (a work of literature or art); to work up from raw material, fabricate, make, manufacture (material objects); in *Pol. Econ.* often blending with sense c.

1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* A ij, I had produced..my observations of the manner of painting in use among the ancients. *a* 1719 ADDISON *To Sir G. Kneller* 78 This wonder of the sculptor's hand Produced, his art was at a stand. *a* 1771 GRAY *Hoel* 17 Nectar that the bees produce. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 122 When the solid is produced from the drawing by the artist's own hand. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) II. vi. 32 Such volumes..were here multiplied as fast as the press could produce them. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 297 Not a single book of any real value,..was produced north of the Alps during the fifteenth century. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* ii. § 10. 18 However much we manage to produce, there are still many other things which we want to acquire. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Sept. 9/1 The true principle is to produce for one's self what one can best produce, and with the product buy elsewhere that which others can best produce.

Hence **Produ·ced** *ppl. a.*; whence **Produ·cedness,** the condition of being produced.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 71 The same gesture, but a little more produced and certaine. 1827 [see PRODUCING *ppl. a.*]. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* xxii. 311 Producing the line *OB* above the directrix till the produced part is equal to the parameter. 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 65 Not from the mere fact of its being uttered by a person, can one say there is producedness of a thing by that person.

Produceable: see PRODUCIBLE.

† **Produ·cement.** *Obs.* [f. PRODUCE *v.* + -MENT.] The fact of producing, or the condition of being produced; production.

1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 12 The producement of so excellent a creature. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 301 The producement of such glorious effects and consequences in the Church. 1645 — *Tetrach.* ibid. IV. 157, I am taxt of novelties and strange producements.

Producent (prodiū·sĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōdūcens, -entem,* pr.pple. of *prōdūcĕre* to PRODUCE.]

A. *adj.* That produces; in *Eccl. Law,* that brings forward a witness or document. Now *rare.*

1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests* Answ. to § 12 Witnesses..that either speake nothing..or els contrary to the party producents intention. 1651 J. GOODWIN *Redempt. Redeemed* IV. § 9 God him-self the..producent cause of all men. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1862) 138, *b, c* being the two products, and *A, X,* the producent causes.

B. *sb.* One who or that which produces; a producer; the party producing a witness or document under the old system of the Ecclesiastical Courts. Now *rare.*

1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 470 That they bee sworne, and the producent payeth his charges. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. v. 116 Such a production cannot by any possibility be as ancient as the producents. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 307 If an Instrument be produc'd with a Protestation in respect of these Parts of it which make in Favour of the Producent. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 52 A product divisible from the producent as a snake from its skin. 1835 in Curteis *Rep. Eccl. Cas.* (1840) I. 403 The producent and the deceased did not stand in any other relation to each other, than solicitor and client.

Producer (prodiū·sə1). [f. PRODUCE *v.* + -ER[1].]

1. One who or that which produces; in various senses: see the verb.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiii. 92 Jupiter the..producer of men and euery thing [*orig.* hominum rerumque repertor]. 1587 [see PRODUCE *v.* 3]. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 359 Hatred is not murther..yet it is..at least the producer of it. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* vi. 113 The first parent, bringer forth, or producer of every creature. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 60 Pearl [wheat].—Very white, compact ear, and great producer. 1881 M. ARNOLD in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 368/2 The producer of such poems could not but publish them. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 15 Apr. 5/2 Mexico, the greatest silver producer in the world.

2. *Pol. Econ.* One who produces (grows, digs, or manufactures) an article of consumption. Opposed to *consumer.*

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 290 In every prosperous community something more is produced than goes to the immediate support of the producer. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iii. 40 How many classes of producers do you reckon? 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* III. v. I. 373 He ceases to be a producer, and becomes simply a channel through which the produce of others is conveyed to the public. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 227 The pigeon is a consumer, not a producer. 1879 ROGERS in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 67/2 The means for bringing producer and consumer together.

3. Short for *gas producer,* a furnace in which carbon monoxide gas is produced for use as fuel in another furnace, or in an internal combustion engine; hence *producer-gas,* gas so produced as fuel.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Producer,* see *Gas-producer.* 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 13 Here are the half-dozen producers, to give the gas for the two Siemens's furnaces. 1895 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 9/1 The motive power ..supplied by a large Crossley gas engine worked by producer gas and three 20 horse power dynamos.

Producibility (prodiūsĭbi·lĭti). [f. late L. *prōdūcibil-is* PRODUCIBLE + -ITY; cf. med.L. *prōducibilitās* (*c* 1300 in Duns Scotus).] The capability of being produced.

1656 HOBBES *Lib., Necess., & Chance* (1841) 387 They imply not the actual production, but the producibility of the effect. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 730 The scale passes over, of necessity, from the relative producibilities of things to their relative useabilities.

Producible (prodiū·sĭb'l), *a.* Also **-eable.** [In form *producible,* ad. late L. *prōdūcibil-is* (Jerome), f. *prōdūcĕre* to PRODUCE: see -IBLE; in form *produceable* from PRODUCE *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being produced, brought forward, or presented to the eye or mind; adducible; procurable, obtainable, available.

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* iii. (1642) 214 There were copies produceable, which were elder, and written before the Incarnation. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. viii. 381 They are not in themselves of a producible nature. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 91 They are considered as public records, and are only producible in the courts of justice. 1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 289 The greatest amount of produceable knowledge. 1888 BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* I. IV. 407 No producible recollections remain of that early period.

2. Fit to be produced or introduced; presentable.

1802 SYD. SMITH *Dr. Parr* Wks. 1867 I. 5 The courtly phrase was, that Dr. Parr was not a producible man. 1817 EARL OF DUDLEY *Lett.* 24 Dec., He will never be able to turn him out a producible Emperor. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 5/1 'The Vote Catchers' was written by the plaintiff, and if this had been producible nothing would have been heard about the non-production of the burlesque.

3. That can be produced or extended in length.

a 1696 SCARBURGH *Euclid* (1705) 31 They are producible infinitely both ways.

4. That may be caused or brought about; capable of being brought into being, generated, or made.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. ii, To suppose it producible or possible to be effected. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 31 Such as are in themselves produceable by nature, but not in such an order. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. xi. 431 Mr. Boyle..became solicitous to know whether a fluid of so great importance [air] was not producible by art. 1828 *Examiner* 44/2 Tears..produceable by the pathetics of Mrs. West. 1890 *Spectator* 10 May, There will be no labour millennium, wealth being no more producible without painful toil than any other crop is.

Produ·cibleness. [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality or fact of being producible.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* II. v, The producible-nesse of an Alkaly out of Bodies of another nature. 1680 — *Produc. Chem. Princ.* III. 116 That part of these Notes, that treats of the producibleness of Vinous Spirits.

Produ·cing, *vbl. sb.* [f. PRODUCE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PRODUCE; production.

1627 RAWLEY in *Bacon's Sylva* To Rdr., The producing of many noble works and effects. 1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* (1692) 16 Trade then is necessary to the producing of Riches, and Money necessary to the carrying on of Trade. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 35 Generation is out the Producing and Manifestation of an Animal..form'd a few days after the Creation of the Sun.

Produ·cing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That produces; productive.

1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 50 Multiply the producing terms of one line, and the produced terms of the other line, continually, and take the result for a dividend. *a* 1871

GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* i. (1876) 26 The producing cause of pleasures or of pains. 1907 *Q. Rev.* July 208 Hordes of mendicants live upon the producing classes.

Product (prǫ·dŭkt), *sb.*[1] [ad. L. *prŏduct-um* a thing produced or brought forth, sb. use of pa. pple. neut. of *prŏdūcĕre* to PRODUCE; in sense 1 in Albertus Magnus *Metaph.* v. III. vi.]

1. *Math.* The quantity obtained by multiplying two or more quantities together.

c 1430 *Art of Nombryng* 8 In multiplicacioun .2. nombres pryncipally ben necessary,..the nombre multiplying and the nombre to be multipliede. .. Also .. the .3. nombre, the whiche is clepide product or pervenient. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. viii. D j b, Multiplye the length..by 12. and the producte diuide by the partes in whiche you founde the threade. 1614 T. BEDWELL *Nat. Geom. Numbers* ii. 25 The products of 12 by 2, and of 6 by 4, are equall. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 4 A Compound Number is one which is the product of two or more numbers.

b. *Product of inertia* of a body or system of bodies, with respect to two given planes at right angles to each other, or to the two axes perpendicular to such planes: the sum of the elements of mass each multiplied by the product of its distances from the two given planes.

1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) II. 194 We may call the coefficients of the form 2.11 Moments of Mobility, and those of the form 2.12 Products of Mobility. 1877 B. WILLIAMSON *Integral Calculus* (ed. 2) x. § 195 $\Sigma xydm$, $\Sigma xzdm$, $\Sigma yzdm$ are called the *products of inertia* relative to the same system of co-ordinate axes.

2. A thing produced by nature or a natural process; also in collective sense, = produce, fruit.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. II. iii. (1712) 48 He [man] is the flower and chief of all the products of Nature upon this Globe of the Earth. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 683 These are the product Of those ill-mated Marriages thou saw'st; Where good with bad were matcht, who of themselves Abhor to joyn. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. § 48 Land..where he had no Hopes of Commerce..to draw Money to him by the Sale of the Product. 1719 W. WOOD *Surv. Trade* 7 The Exportation of our own Product is, indeed, the Foundation of all our Trade. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 64 The purest product of the chrystal springs. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 153 P 5 Enquiries after the products of distant countries. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 337 Among the products of volcanoes there are only three combustible at a moderate temperature. 1894 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 10 The product of any particular seed is fixed within the limits of a type.

b. *fig.*

1682 DRYDEN *Religio Laici* 66 These truths are not the product of thy mind. 1693 *Humours Town* A v, The unpremeditated Products of my Fancy. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* I. iv. § 22 By analyzing either the product of thought, or the process of thought. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 171 Intellectual products common to both Animal and Man.

†c. A quantity produced or obtained; a supply, provision, stock. *Obs. rare.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvi. (1739) 32 A yearly product of Victuals or other service was reserved and allowed to the Saxon Kings by the people. 1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 438 Having down all along the Mayn also a good product of wine.

3. That which is produced by any action, operation, or work; a production; the result.

1575 *Recorde's Ground Artes* H vj, If you had subtracted the uppermost from the product or totall summe, then the residue thereof woulde bee equall to that middlemoste number. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. i. 277 If unto that summe [5509] be added 1645. the product will be 7154. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxviii. (1674) 105 Whether he brought news of any gallant Italian Product, or of any taking Piece lately Printed? 1657 CROMWELL *Speech* 8 May in *Carlyle*, The things are very honourable and honest, and the product worthy of a Parliament. 1700 DRYDEN *Pythagorean Philos.* 197 The fruit and product of his labours past. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 107 He..sold the products of his handiwork in his shop. 1897 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 133 The product of the flaking operations was a leaf-shaped blade. 1903 G. MATHESON *Repr. Men Bible* Ser. II. xiii. 269 Shall a literary product reveal the spirit of its age and be silent as to the spirit of its author!

4. That which results from the operation of a cause; a consequence, effect.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 218 Dueness of Reward or Punishment is the immediate Product of Promise or Threatening. 1843 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1846) 39 Heat is an immediate product of chemical affinity. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* v. § 1. 214 The long French romances were the product of an age of wealth and ease.

5. *Chem.* A compound not previously existing in a body, but formed during its decomposition. See also BY-PRODUCT. Opposed to EDUCT *sb.*

1805 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 299 In the first experiment it was obtained as a product, and not as an educt. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 434 The products of the combustion, besides the soot, are water and carbonic acid. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 160 Products of the metamorphosis of a substance of an invariably uniform composition.

†**Product,** *sb.*[2], app. a corrupt form of PRATIQUE.

1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5888/2, I..have..appointed a Product-Boat to lie .. off Europa-Point, to stop all Vessels. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 246 Four Ships..being denied Product, as they call it, went on to Turkey, and were freely admitted. 1725 — *Voy. round World* (1840) 109 The governor presently gave us product, as we call it, and leave to buy what provisions we wanted.

†**Produ·ct,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prŏduct-us*, pa. pple. of *prŏdūcĕre* to PRODUCE.] Produced: construed as pa. pple.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xxviii. (1495) 340 In an instant oo poynt that is product fillyth all the world of lyghte and shinyng. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* III. (1540) 144 Lawe ciuyle producte out of the law of nature..dothe chalynge malyce and fraud.

Product (prodv·kt), *v. Obs.* or *rare.* [f. L. *prŏduct-*, ppl. stem of *prŏdūcĕre* to PRODUCE: cf. *conduct, deduct, induct*, etc., and the prec. ppl. adj.]

†**1.** *trans.* To bring forward: = PRODUCE *v.* 1.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 212 Many reasons are producted in the said dialogue. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1093/1 More then the articles whereupon they were producted doth contain. *Ibid.* 1466/2 Beyng producted to his last examinatyon before the sayde byshop.

†**2.** To bring forth, beget: = PRODUCE *v.* 3. *Obs.*

1577 HARRISON *England* I. viii. in *Holinshed* I. 18/2 In these Isles also is great plenty of fine Amber to be had, which is producted by the working of the sea, vpon those coastes. 1610 MARCELLINE *Triumphs Jas. I* 66 Our Great King, who hath producted the most Noble Prince Henry..for the greater height of his good fortune. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 105 All other Essences, Globes, Worlds, producted, educted, or brought forth out of the Womb of pure Nature.

3. To extend, lengthen out, prolong: = PRODUCE *v.* 2, 2 c. In later use chiefly *Zool. Obs.* or *rare.*

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* (1693) 89 He that doth much in a short life products his mortality. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 405 The shells are producted to a sharp point at both ends. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 538 In many of the species..the prothorax is producted posteriorly into a long scutelliform horizontal horn.

Hence **Produ·cted** *ppl. a.*; whence †**Produ·ctedness** *Obs.*; †**Produ·cting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a. Obs.*

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* I. i. 3 For the producting of Elementarie bodies. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xxx. 95 For conception, and fostering the producted birth. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* III. 142 Time is the sole producting instrument. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 302 The present Tense may intimate a productedness of the Action as being *in fieri*. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 328 Prothorax..Producted...When behind it terminates in a long scutelliform process.

Produ·ctible, *a. rare.* [f. L. *prŏduct-*, ppl. stem of *prŏdūcĕre* to PRODUCE + -IBLE.] = PRODUCIBLE. 1830 in MAUNDER *Dict.*

Hence **Produ·ctibi·lity,** the quality or fact of being producible.

1832 S. TURNER *Sacr. Hist.* (1836) I. iv. 127 There are demonstrations of the latent and indefinite productibility of vegetable nature. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* III. 80 The test of excellence is productibility, a readiness to become fat, small bone, and the quality of the whole animal when converted into bacon. 1862 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* ii. 53 *note*, No produce ever maintains a consistent rate of productibility.

Produ·ctile, *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *prŏductil-is*, f. as prec.: see -ILE.] Capable of being drawn out or produced.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Productile*, drawn out at length. 1755 JOHNSON, *Producitile*, which may be produced. 1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* II. 411 Prior to the existence of a line, there was a law which, supposing a line, rendered it productile. 1900 LEWIS & SHORT *Lat. Dict., Prŏductilis* adj., that may be drawn out, ductile, productile.

Production (prodv·kʃən). Also 5–6 -ccion. [Late ME. a. F. *production* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prŏductiōn-em* a lengthening, n. of action f. *prŏdūcĕre* to PRODUCE.]

I. 1. The action of producing, bringing forth, making, or causing; the fact or condition of being produced; with *a* and *pl.*, an act of producing.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* A ij b, God is the unyuersel commaundour of all our production. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* 1. Wks. 129/2 By generacion & produccion did the doers work both willingly & naturally. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. i. 203 Mettals are (as plants,) hidden and buried in the bowels of the earth, which have some conformitie in themselves, in the forme and maner of their production. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 100 What alteration was in the Deed at the production of the effect? 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech., Digress.* 346 The Production and Modulation of the Voice by the Elision of the Air, the Larynx, &c. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. viii. (1869) I. 84 The demand for men..necessarily regulates the production of men. 1823 H. J. BROOKE *Introd. Crystallogr.* 95 The manner in which those molecules are aggregated in the production of crystals. 1900 *Jrnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 6 The production of delicate and bright shades of pink.

b. *Pol. Econ.* (See quots.)

1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. i. 61 By production, in the science of Political Economy, we are not to understand the production of matter,..but the production of utility, and consequently of exchangeable value, by appropriating and modifying matter already in existence. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* I. iv. (1876) 26 Capital is wealth which has been appropriated to assist future production. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* I. iii. (1881) 50 Production is always the mother of wages.

2. That which is produced; a thing that results from any action, process, or effort; a product. In quots. 1695 and 1885 *collective*, = produce.

c 1430 *Art of Nombryng* 9 Whan the digit multipliethe a nombre componede,..afterwarde Ioyne the producciouns, and bere wol be the some totalle. 1624 MASSINGER *Renegado* III. v, Nature, the great queen and mother Of all productions. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. § 67. 170 A mountain may travail, and the production may be a mouse. 1695 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 117 Any of the Production or Manufacture of Europe not Legally Imported in the said Province. 1748 HUME *Ess.* xviii. (ed. 3) 193 His utmost Art and Industry can never equal the meanest of Nature's Productions, either for Beauty or Value. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* iii. 22 We constantly talk of the productions of a country meaning the products. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 June 5/3 The market is reported to be glutted, and the production has of late been largely going into stock.

b. A product of human activity or effort; *spec.* a literary or artistic work. Chiefly in *pl.*

1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* Ep. Ded., We lay a partiall estimate upon our own productions. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Pref., It is the great School of Musick and Painting, and contains in it all the noblest Productions of Statuary and Architecture. *a* 1828 H. NEELE *Lit. Rem.* (1829) 48 Chapman's Homer is a production of great value and interest. 1839 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* ix. (1847) 91 Two short writings..deemed by the ablest critics to be the genuine productions of the apostle. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* ix. 100 The finest productions of Praxiteles or Zeuxis.

†c. An effect; = PRODUCT *sb.* 4. *Obs. rare.*

a 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 58 To follow..the causes and productions of all that seemeth usefull. 1677 SEDLEY *Ant. & Cl.* Wks. 1722 I. 155 They're Cleopatra's Subjects: let that be A full Production in our Victory.

d. The total yield, produce, or proceeds *of* (something); = PRODUCE *sb.* 2. *rare.*

1878 SEELEY *Stein* I. 142 The one financial procedure was to increase the production of the royal domains.

II. 3. The action of bringing forward or exhibiting; in *Law*, the exhibiting of a document in court. *To satisfy production* (*Sc. Law*), to produce and submit a document called for by a court of law (and thereby to admit the title of the pursuer and competence of the court).

1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 224 Eftir the productioun quhairof the personis undirwrittin..absentit thame selffiis. 1566 *Ibid.* 443 Summondis of errour for productioun and reductioun of the said declaratioun of the assyisis. 1818 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 364 That the Surveyor do furnish the Mayor for production at the next Council with a plan. 1828 *Act of Sederunt* 11 July § 36 If the defender is to object to the title of the pursuer..or to state any other action *against* satisfying the production, he shall return defences confined to these points. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 790 Production of articles at criminal trials. *Ibid.* 830 If he [the defender] mean to defend the action on its merits..he merely returns the summons, which implies that he means to satisfy the production, as it is expressed; *i.e.*, to produce the document called for, and to contest the reasons of the reduction. 1878 E. ROBERTSON in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 742/1 Public documents in general must be proved either by the production of the original or by the official copies. 1883 SIR N. LINDLEY *Law Rep.* 23 Chanc. Div. 49 There is a broad distinction between a general application for discovery of documents..and an application for production of documents referred to in the pleadings. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Dec. 2/1 The great event of the past week has been the production of the Greek play. *Mod.* shall call for the production of that document.

b. *Sc. Law.* A document produced in an action.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law. Scot.* s. v., In judicial proceedings, written documents produced in process, *in modum probationis*..are technically called productions. So also in an action of reduction, the writ, or deed, or decree, called for..., is called the production.

III. †**4.** Leading or carrying forth. *rare*[−1].

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 11 Men of meaner ranke..were not allowed this princely kinde of production to their graues.

IV. 5. Drawing out, extending, or lengthening in †time (*obs.*) or space; prolongation, extension.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 189 To that fine, that King Gregorius army, be production of lang time, suld laik vittalis. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* b ij, Animals long-liv'd, being fed upon, conduce much to the production of life. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Production*,..also a lengthening, or making longer. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 280 Hence a tangent may be drawn to a parabola from any point T, in the production of its axis.

†**6.** *Anat.* An extension of or projection from a bone or other part; = PROCESS *sb.* 12. *Obs.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 26 These bones are endewed with three notable productions, or Processes. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 485 Through these passages & productions aire and vapors attracted or drawn in respiration through the nosthrils..are carried vn to the braine. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 284 There being no such production on the upper chap. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Productio*,..a prolongation; a production.

V. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1895 W. SMART *Stud. Economics* 8 Production goods..may be shortly described as..all the forms of land, capital, and labour that go, proximately or remotely, to provide and produce the consumption goods and services. 1897 LD. MASHAM in *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Jan. 3/2 When capital ceases to be invested in our production industries. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 40 This is used either for production order or for sales order.

Hence **Produ·ctionist,** as in *co-operative productionist*, one who believes in or advocates co-operative production.

1888 *Co-operative News* 22 Sept. 958 The ideal co-operative productionist begins by ignoring or defying the existence of competition.

Productive (prodv·ktiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. F. *productif, -ive* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or (its source) med.L. *prŏductīv-us*: see PRODUCT *ppl. a.* and -IVE.]

1. Having the quality of producing or bringing forth; tending to produce; creative, generative.

1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 35 What new existencies are made of one Christ, by your productiue, creatiue, and factiue consecrations in your massing fiue words? 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* II. iii. 41 There are

many Things which have no such positive productive Influence. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 163 These alterations of the hairs..have all their origin and cause in the productive parts. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 168 A writer so busy as Shakespeare must have been during his productive period.

b. Const. *of* the thing produced.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 17. 302 That essence, that is generative or productive of all things. 1767 COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 16 June, This part of the world is not productive of much news. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 81 Oak trees..productive of gall nuts.

2. That causes or brings about, that results in; causative. Always with *of*.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 70 His single Misfortune.. (which..was productive of many greater). 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 136 Salted cod..was..as productive of the scurvy, as any other kind of salt provisions. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 457 It may be productive..of incalculable good. 1886 *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 50 *Preamble*, Such want of uniformity is productive of great inconvenience.

3. *Pol. Econ.* That produces or increases wealth or value; engaged in the production of commodities of exchangeable value; esp. in *productive labour, labourer, classes*.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* II. iii. (1869) I. 332 There is one sort of labour that adds to the value of the subject upon which it is bestowed: there is another which has no such effect. The former, as it produces a value, may be called productive. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 438 A government..that struck a palsy into all the lower and productive classes to favour those whose only merit is consumption. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* iv. 51, I have been accustomed..to think productive labourers more valuable than unproductive. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. ii. § 3 Precious stones..are to some small extent employed in the productive arts. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* iii. 28 The great object must be to make labour as productive as possible, that is, to get as much wealth as we can with a reasonable amount of labour.

4. That produces readily or abundantly; fertile; prolific.

[1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Productive*, apt to produce, or bring forth. 1722 POPE *Chorus Brutus, Youths & Virgins* 24 Chaste as cold Cynthia's virgin light, Productive as the Sun.] 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 615 The mine of Ecton..was one of the most productive in the kingdom. 1874 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. v. (ed. 4) 175 An abundance of productive land.

†**B.** *sb.* That which produces or tends to produce. *Obs.*

1642 R. WATSON *Serm. Schisme* 29 That last productive of Schisme, Inordinate zeal. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. ii, Warmth is the instrumental Productive of Cloud and Rain.

Produ·ctively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a productive way or manner.

†**1.** By production, as a production. *Obs. rare.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. (1612) 322 Not that yll, productiuely, from Nature firstly springs. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 36. 582 All things animally; that is, self-moveably, actively, and productively.

2. In a way that produces or increases wealth; profitably.

a 1832 BENTHAM *Man. Pol. Econ.* Wks. 1843 III. 54 The capital..will be applied as productively to other undertakings. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* vi. (1876) 55 Capital is invested productively in the enclosure, drainage, and other improvements of land.

Productiveness (prŏdʌ·ktivnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being productive; capacity of producing; prolificacy; fertility, fruitfulness; abundance or richness in output.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Productiveness*, aptness to produce. 1795 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XVIII. 543 Circirello would be preferred to every other on account of its productiveness. 1819 W. LAWRENCE *Nat. Hist. Man* II. i. 265 Indeed, we know no difference in productiveness between such unions and those of the same race. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* III. iv. 254 A gold mine..of equal productiveness with the silver mines. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xviii. III. 365 The extreme productiveness of the southern region of Spain. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* II. (1874) 263 Francesco da Barberino shows by far the most sustained productiveness among the poets who preceded Dante. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* vii. 54 To increase the productiveness of labour is really the important thing for everybody.

Productivity (prōdʌktivi·ti). [f. L. *prōductīv-us* PRODUCTIVE + -ITY. So F. *productivité*.] The quality or fact of being productive; capacity to produce; = PRODUCTIVENESS.

1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 202 Its own productivity would have remained for ever hidden from itself. 1840 J. H. GREEN *Vital Dynamics* 30 This is the first character of all life, Productivity. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* (1878) II. 347 A sign of the limited productivity of the soil. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biog.* II. i. 29 A publisher..doing all in his power to stimulate the productivity of an author.

Productor (prodʌ·ktəɹ). [Agent-n. in L. form (used in late L.) of *prōducĕre* to PRODUCE: see -OR. Cf. F. *producteur* (*a* 1504 in Hatz.-Darm.).] One who or that which produces; a producer.

1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* I. 2 A divine thought was the producter of all things whatsoever. 1631 — *Eng. Eliz.* (1641) A j, Diligence is the breeder and productour of arts. 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* I. I. *Comm.* p. xxxiii, Every theory of creation that excludes the operation of Mind as the productive cause of being,..makes inanimate matter the productor of mind. 1887 L. PARKS *Star in East* ii. 51 The universal agent is the productor, the generator of beings.

Produ·ctress. [f. prec.: see -ESS.] A female productor or producer. Chiefly *fig.*

1751 HARRIS *Hermes* Wks. (1841) 131 The ocean,..the container and productress of so many vegetables and animals. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 419 Magna Græcia, the enviable productress of men of such vigourous and universal genius.

So †**Produ·ctrice,** †**Produ·ctrix** [from the F. and L. forms].

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxix. 150 The natiue countrie of Hercules..was the productrice of.. Epimanondas. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 125 You make this vniuersall grace the productrix of sauing grace. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1701) 419/2 Matter is the print, mother, nurse, and productrix of the third essence.

Proe, obs. f. PROW *sb.*2; var. PROA (Malay boat).

†**Proegumenal** (prōu,ĭgiū·mĕnăl), *a. Obs.* [f. Gr. *προηγούμεν-ος*, pr. pple. of *προηγεῖσθαι* to lead, precede (see PRO- 2 and HEGUMEN) + -AL.] Preceding, predisposing; applied to an inward predisposing cause, as distinguished from the immediate or exciting cause. So †**Pro,egu·mene,** †**Pro,egume·nic,** †**Pro,egume·nical,** †**Pro,egu·menous** *adjs.*, in same sense.

1638 MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 389 Do you not understand that some of these things are proeg[u]menicall, others not proeg[u]menicall? 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 51 The cause Proëgumene is Gods good will and love. 1656 JEANES *Fuln. Christ* 361 The inward, or proegumenall moving causes of the glory of believers come next to be considered, 1. Gods love of Christ, 2. Gods righteousnesse. 1697 Proegumenal [see PROCATARCTICAL]. 1711 tr. *Werenfels' Logomachys* 90 Aristotle, says he, divides .. the Efficient Cause into the Procatarctick, Proegumenick, and Instrumental. 1822–34 Proegumenal [see PROCATARCTIC]. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1020/1 Proegumenal: proegumenous.

Proem (prōu·ĕm), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 proheme, 5 -heim, 6 proëme, 6–7 proceme, 6–9 proeme, 7–8 proëm, 7–9 procem, 6– proem. See also PROEMY, PROŒMIUM. [ME. *proheme*, a. OF. *pro-(h)eme* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *proême*, ad. L. *procœmi-um* (Cic.), ad. Gr. *προοίμιον* an opening, prelude, f. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *οἶμος* way, road, or ? *οἰμη* song, lay.]

An introductory discourse at the beginning of a book or other writing; a preface, preamble.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's Prol.* 43 (Harl. MS.) He first with heigh stile enditith..A proheme [*v. rr.* prohemye, -ie, prochem, procheyn] in the which descriuith he The mounde [*v. r.* Pemonde] and of Saluces þe contre. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 29 In the proheim off hys notabile boke. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 64 As testifieth Cicero in the proheme of the offices. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* IX. (1596) 123 That doctrine of S. Hierome, which is found in his proem vpon Esay and Hierimie. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 120/2 Seven Books; each of which..hath a Procem, the whole none. 1731 SWIFT *On his Death* 71 Thus much may serve by way of proem; Proceed we therefore to our poem. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. ii. 60 The proeme, or preamble, is often called in to help the construction of an act of parliament. *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Summing up in Italy* ix, I began too far off in my proem. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 404 The procem of the Gospel declared that 'the Word became flesh'.

b. The prefatory part of a speech or discourse; the preliminary remarks; an exordium.

1541 PAYNELL *Catiline* xii. 16 b, M. Cicero..called a great counsayle. He began with a proeme farre fetched, to declare the vengeable dryftes & mischeuous imaginations of Catiline. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* x. 70 With this proheme Jesus discouraged the yong man. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 549 So gloz'd the Tempter, and his Proem tun'd. 1748 GEDDES *Comp. Antients* 84 The proem is the first part of an oration. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. iii. 130 *note*, He sometimes..opened the debate by a procem or prefatory address in his own person.

c. *fig.* A commencement, beginning, prelude.

1641 M. FRANK *Serm., St. Paul's Day* (1672) 216 These yet are but the Proems of his mercy. 1788 H. WALPOLE *Remin.* Lett. 1857 I. p. xcii, The reign of George I was little more than the proem to the history of England under the House of Brunswick. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 67 It then becomes part of a record which..does not shrink from the supernatural, the proem of a unique life.

†**Proem, -eme,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. sb.; cf. L. *procœmi-ārī* to make an introduction.] *trans.* To preface, introduce.

1658 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) VIII. xiii. 367 Moses might.. very well procœme the repetition of the covenant with this upbraiding reprehension.

Proembryo (prōu,e·mbri,o). *Bot.* [f. PRO- 2 1 + EMBRYO; so F. *proembryon*.] A term which has been applied to various structures of plants: e.g. to the *prothallus* of the Pteridophyta (Ferns, etc.); but more especially to embryonic structures, such as the *suspensor* of Phanerogams, the *protonema* of Bryophyta (Mosses, etc.), and the embryos of certain Algae (e.g. *Chara, Batrachospermum*). Now little used.

1849 LANKESTER tr. *Schleiden's Princ. Sci. Bot.* 174 (Mosses) The spore-cell expands, emerges from its torn outer coat, and, new cells being developed at the free end, forms for itself a filamentous tissue, composed of linear cylindrical cells ranged end to end (the *proembryo*). *Ibid.* 198. 1863 M. J. BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* Gloss. 312 *Proembryo*, the same with cotyledonoids. (*Cotyleniod* = a term applied to the germinating threads of mosses.) 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs's Bot.* 311 Mosses. The spore produces a conferva-like thallus, the Pro-embryo or Protonema. *Ibid.* 312. 1882 VINES *Sachs's Bot.* 292 *Characeæ*. As a consequence of fertilisation the large cell of the carpogonium becomes a resting spore, producing, by its germination, a pro-embryo from which the sexual plant springs as a lateral shoot.

Hence **Pro,embryo·nic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or having the character of a proembryo.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs's Bot.* 282 (Characeæ) The Pro-embryonic Branches..have a similar structure to the pro-embryos which proceed from the spores..They have only been observed in *Chara fragilis*. 1888 HENSLOW *Orig. Floral Str.* 281 Even after fertilization the embryo cannot grow to maturity, but remains in the arrested proembryonic condition.

Proemial (prō,i·miăl), *a.* Also **procemial.** [f. L. *prœmi-um* PROEM + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a proem; prefatory, introductory.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 136 Thine erys inclyne To prohemyal preyer wych I the made to. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 457 In this procemiall sentence. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 240 Baptism was never afforded to persons adult without Repentance, proemial and preparatory to it. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 1 P 3 The epick writers have found the proemial part of the poem such an addition to their undertaking. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. iii. § 15. 69 The Logic is introduced by two procemial books. 1841 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 629 Introduced by the chanter with a proemial address to some deity.

Hence **Proe·mially** *adv.*, by way of introduction.

1898 F. DAVIS *Rom.-Brit. City Silchester* 29 A building not less interesting, and proemially far more potent.

†**Proe·miate,** *v. Obs. rare*—1. In 6 -hemiate. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prœmiāri* to make a *prœmium* or PROEM.] *intr.* To write or compose a proem.

1568 H. CHARTERIS *Lyndesay's Wks.* Pref., It is the.. maner .. of all thame quhilk dois prohemiate vpon ony vther mannis wark, cheiflie to trauel about twa pointis.

‖ **Proemptosis** (prō,emptō·sis). *Chronol.* [mod. L., f. PRO- 2 + *ἔμπτωσις* a falling in or on: cf. *προεμπίπτειν* to fall on before: cf. METEMPTOSIS.] An anticipation or occurrence of a natural event earlier than the time given by a rule; esp. the occurrence of the new moon earlier than the Metonic cycle or 19 years' period would make it; also, loosely applied to the lunar equation or correction necessary to bring the calendar into agreement with the actual new moon.

The name *proemptosis* had reference to the Julian Calendar, according to which the actual new moon occurred ·06 day earlier than the 19-year cycle provided; in 19 tropical years and their approximation in the Gregorian Calendar the new moon occurs ·09 day later than provided for by the cycle.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Proemptosis*, in astronomy, that which makes the new moons appear a day later, by means of the lunar equation, than they would do without that equation.

†**Proemy.** *Obs.* In 4–5 prohemy(e, -ie. [ad. L. *prœmi-um* PROEM.] = PROEM *sb.*

1382 WYCLIF *Esther* (Apocr.) xii. 6 gloss., Hider to the prohemy [1388 prohemye]; thoo thingus, that folewen, in that place weren put, wher is write in the volume [etc.]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's Prol.* 43 (Ellesmere) First..he enditeth..A prohemye [*Hengwrt* prohemie]. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* ii, The prohemye of the second book of fables.

Pro-epimeral to **Pro-ethnic:** see PRO- 2.

Proer, obs. f. PRORE *sb.*, prow. **Proes, -esse,** obs. ff. PROWESS. **Proese,** obs. f. PROSE. **Proestasy,** erron. f. PROSTASY. **Proeve,** obs. f. PROVE *v.* **Prof,** obs. f. PROOF, PROVE.

†**Profa·ce,** *int.* and *sb. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *prou fasse!* in full *bon prou vous fasse!* (also as sb. *prouface*, 1588 in Godef.) 'may it do you good'; f. *prou* PROW 1 + *fasse* (3rd pers. sing. pres. subj. of *faire* to do) :—L. *faciat*; cf. PROFICIAT.]

A. *int.* or *phrase.* A formula of welcome or good wishes at a dinner or other meal, equivalent to 'may it do you good', 'may it be to your advantage'.

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) C iij/1 A naturall foole of reason dull and rude, Proface Coridon, thus do I here conclude. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 5 Thus proface ye with the Preface. 1580 STOW *Chron.* 955 Before the second course, the Cardinall came in booted and spurred, all sodainely amongest them, and bade them *Proface*. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, v. iii. 30 Master Page, good M. Page, sit: Proface. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Hempseed* Wks. III. 61 Proface my Masters, if your stomackes serue. 1638 HEYWOOD *Wise Woman* IV. i. Wks. 1874 V. 335 The dinner's halfe done, and before I say Grace, and bid the old Knight and his guest proface.

B. *sb.* A salutation or good wish in drinking, a toast drunk to a person's health. *rare.*

1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 195 This speech makes me think..yᵗ we haue ended our taske, and are now come to the last Proface.

Profa·nable, *a. rare.* [f. PROFANE *v.* + -ABLE.] Liable to be profaned.

1891 *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 623 Something..that was profanable by publicity.

†**Pro·fanate,** *v. Obs.* Also **proph-.** [f. ppl. stem of L. *profānāre* to PROFANE: see -ATE 3. For *proph-* see PROFANE *a.*] *trans.* To profane.

1526 TONSTALL *Proclam.* 23 Oct., in Foxe *A. & M.* (1576) 990/2 By their wicked and peruerse interpretations, to prophanate the maiestye of the Scripture. *a* 1560 BECON *Humble Supplic.* Wks. II. 19 The wycked Papistes prophanate and vnhallowe these two aforesayde holy Sacramentes. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 555 There..[he] hath in contempt yᵉ keyes, presumed of his own rashnes to celebrate, nay rather to prophanate.

†**Profana·tic**, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [app. f. PROFANE, with word-play on FANATIC.] Infatuated with profanity.

1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Commander* 53 What a strange Prophanatick Age is this, When Truth is scorn'd, and falshood courted is?

Profanation (prǫfănē·ʃən). Also 6–8 **proph-**. [Early mod.E. a. OF. *profanation* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm., mod.F. *prof-*), or ad. late L. *profānātiōn-em* (Tert.), n. of action f. *profān-āre* to PROFANE.]

The action of profaning; desecration or violation of that which is sacred; defilement, pollution.

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, That the Communicants knelyng shoulde receyue the holye Communion..to auoyde the prophanacion and dysordre which .. myght els ensue. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Cor. xi. 34 Lest your prophanation of so holy a thing bring down God's Judgments on you. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 136 To preserve the structure from prophanation and ruin. 1803 R. HALL *Wks.* (1833) I. 176 In no nation..has the profanation of sacred terms been so prevalent. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. xi. 131 A wall was built round the tomb to protect it from profanation.

b. By extension: The degradation or vulgarization of anything worthy of being held in reverence or respect; cheapening by familiarity.

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 49 You haue ioyned the prophanation of the magistracie, to the corruption of the ministerie. *a* 1631 DONNE *Poems* (1650) 41 'Twere prophanation of our joyes To tell the layitie our love. 1780 COWPER *Table-t.* 758 [Poetry] Distorted from its use and just design, To make the pitiful possessor shine,..Is profanation of the basest kind. 1825 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* 54 About this time too the profanation of the word, Love, rose to its height. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 225 This morbid terror of the profanation of the treasures committed to their charge.

Profanatory (prǫfæ·nătəri), *a.* [f. as PROFANATE + -ORY.] That tends to profane; profaning.

1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xxv, Every one now had tasted the wassail-cup, except Paulina, whose *pas de fée ou de fantasie* nobody thought of interrupting to offer so profanatory a draught.

Profane (prǫfē·n), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6 **prophan**, 6–7 **-phain(e**, 6–8 **-phane**. [a. obs. F. *prophane* (1228 in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *profane*, ad. L. *profān-us*, in med.L. also *prophān-us*, lit. 'before (i. e. outside) the temple', hence 'not sacred, common'; also, 'impious': see PRO-[1] and FANE[2].

The spelling *proph-* (in med.L., Fr., and Eng.), evidently due to erroneous imitation of such words from Gr. as *prophēta, phantasia* (see note under PH), occurs as early as 1025 in *prophānāre* (Du Cange). *Prophane* was the ordinary spelling in Eng. down to 1750, and occurs as late as 1795. So the derivatives, *prophaneness, prophanity*, etc.]

1. Not pertaining or devoted to what is sacred or biblical, esp. in *profane history, literature*; unconsecrated, secular, lay, common; civil, as distinguished from ecclesiastical.

1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 241/1 The said..Mariage was made privaly and secretely,..in a private Chamber, a prophane place. *a* 1549 *Latimer's 2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* To Rdr. (Arb.) 49 We myghte as well spende that tyme in reading of prophane hystories, of cantorburye tales, or a fit of Roben Hode. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 555 In a certeyne chappell not hallowed, or rather in a prophane cotage. 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 26 Scholers that came to learne his prophane sciences. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme of Proces* 109 b, All civill actions, that hes not *fidei, vel juramenti interpositionem*, are civill, and profane: and therefore perteines not to the Ecclesiasticall jurisdiction. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. (1634) 268 If there be any truth in prophaine antiquitie. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 6 ₱ 3 The most celebrated Examples of an Heroical Death in Prophane Story, are, Socrates amongst the Greeks [etc.]. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilg. Prog.* I. 104 What you will; I will talk of ..things Sacred, or things Prophane. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* 83/1 Things sacred..appertain to the public worship: ..things profane..regard the welfare and good of the Society. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* II. xii. 100 The best guide to the knowledge of prophane history. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 4 Not of the Bible only, but of those precious remains of profane literature.

b. Of persons: *orig.* Not initiated into the religious rites or sacred mysteries; *transf.* not participating in or admitted to some esoteric knowledge; uninitiated, 'lay', Philistine.

1616 B. JONSON *Hymenæi* Wks. (Rtldg.) 553/1 Bid all profane away; None here may stay To view our mysteries. *a* 1667 COWLEY tr. *Horace's Odes* III. i, Hence, ye Prophane; I hate ye all; Both the Great Vulgar, and the Small. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 368 Far hence be souls profane (The Sibyl cried). 1764 FOOTE *Patron* II. Wks. 1799 I. 350 The ignorant, the profane (by much the majority), will be apt to think it an occupation ill suited to my time of life. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* 147 No one profane to the profession of artist ever acquired a just notion of any picture by reading. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 69 Let the attendants and other profane persons close the doors of their ears.

2. Applied to persons or things regarded as unholy or as desecrating what is holy or sacred: unhallowed; ritually unclean or polluted; esp. said of the rites of an alien religion: heathen, pagan.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 35 The ayr infectit and prophane [*v.r.* profane]. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Heb.* xii. 16 Let there be no fornicator, or prophane persone as Esau, which for a portion of meat solde his byrth right. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 135 *margin*, Tempilis..to prophane Godis. *Ibid.* III. 188 Prophane rites of the Ethnikis. 1606 CHAPMAN *Monsieur D'Olive* II. Plays 1873 I. 215 Said [of tobacco] 'twas a pagan plant, a prophane weede And a most sinful smoke. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Isa.* lxv. 4 A people.. that eate swines flesh, and profane pottage in their vessels. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 16 Hypocrites, and vnsanctified and prophane, and such as are in the state of damnation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 670 Nor are the Gods ador'd with Rights prophane. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* XLV. ix, Nothing profane can dwell with Thee. 1878 MACLEAR *Celts* ix. 147 [He] was rewarded by seeing many won from their profane rites.

3. Characterized by disregard or contempt of sacred things, esp., in later use, by the taking of God's name in vain; irreverent, blasphemous, ribald; impious, irreligious, wicked.

c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) xxxiv. 47 3or prettikes ar profane, Puir ladeis to supplant. 1666 JER. TAYLOR *Serm., Whole Duty Clergy* ii. 202 He is a prophane person who neglects the exterior part of Religion: and this is so vile a crime, that hypocrisie while it is undiscovered is not so much mischievous as open prophaneness, or a neglect and contempt of external Religion. 1666–7 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 210 The Bill against Atheism and prophane Swearing we have sent up to the Lords. 1722 DE FOE *Relig. Courtsh.* I. i. (1840) 28 We need no profane husbands to keep us back: a loose, irreligious husband, is a dreadful snare. 1755 JOHNSON, *Profane*, irreverent to sacred names or things. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 271 The Testament of this personage, which may usually be purchased at any stall,..is a very profane production.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.* One who is profane.

(The first example may be the pl. of the adj. as in Fr.; the last is a Gallicism.)

a 1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 208 Howe some of you do eate In Lenton season fleshe mete,..Men call you therfor prophanes. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 6 Who can stand against such an army of emperors, kings, magistrates, prophets, all-hallows, all-prophanes,..as are by him brought for enobling his arguments? 1891 M. O'RELL *Frenchm. in Amer.* 294 They will declare you a profane, unworthy to live.

Profane (prǫfē·n), *v.* Also 4–8 **prophane**. [ME. *prophane* = OF. *prophaner* (1486 in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *profaner*, ad. L. *profān-āre*, in med.L. *prophānāre* to render unholy, desecrate, violate, disclose, f. *profān-us* PROFANE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To treat (what is sacred) with irreverence, contempt, or disregard; to desecrate, violate.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxiii. 38 Thei prophaneden [*gloss* or maden vnhooli] my sabotis. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 35 He commandeth .. to prophane their places and tabernacles euen to make them lothely and abominable. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xix. 12 Ye shall not sweare by my Name falsly, neither shalt thou prophane the Name of thy God: I am the Lord. 1623 COCKERAM, *Profane*, to put holy things to a common vse. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. v. (1841) I. 97 You have been guilty of profaning the Lord's day. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* July 542/1 [In France] where licentiousness, prophaning the sacred name of liberty, has gloried in the destruction of order. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. viii. (1864) II. 379 Feasts and revels profaned the most hallowed sanctuaries. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 487 It is an excellent rule not lightly to profane the names of the Gods.

b. To misuse, abuse (what ought to be held in reverence or respect); to violate, defile, pollute.

1563 WINJET *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 21 Mariit women defilit, wedowis spulȝeit, virginis prophanit. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iv. 391, I feele me much to blame, So idly to prophane the precious time. 1685 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 94 Least men prophain Government by an unhallowed use of it. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 75 Imprudent Men Heav'ns choicest Gifts prophane. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VII. v, There was no malicious gossip, no callous chatter to profane his ear. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxii. 55 (46) Once her body profan'd, her flow'r of chastity blighted.

†c. To make (anything of value) the property of the vulgar crowd; to vulgarize. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. § 4 Well understanding that wisdome is not prophan'd unto the World, and 'tis the priviledge of a few to be Vertuous.

2. *absol.* or *intr.* To act or speak profanely; to blaspheme. *rare.*

1690 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* i. (1694) 27 They grew very troublesome to the better sort of People, and furnished the looser with an occasion to Profane.

Hence **Profa·ned** *ppl. a.*, **Profa·ning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 847 Myn auctour eek,..Seith this prophaned thyng may nought auaile. 1548 RECORDE *Urin. Physick* Pref. (1651) 7 It is a profaining of learning, and a meanes to bring it into contempt. 1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* 205 Scenes..Of senseless and profaning mirth. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xv. 14 But should impious heat or humour headstrong Drive thee wilfully, wretch, to such profaning. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shaks.* iii, The profaning of sacred places will bring a punishment.

†**Profa·neling, proph-.** *Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. PROFANE *a.* + -LING.] One given to profanity.

a 1640 W. FENNER *Spir. Man's Direct.* (1649) 55 As if drunkards, and whore-masters, and Atheists, and prophanelings, were holyer than they.

Profanely (prǫfē·nli), *adv.* Also 6–8 **proph-**. [f. PROFANE *a.* + -LY[2].] In a profane manner; by profanation; irreverently, impiously.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 367 Sacrifices to be made..with holy fire, and not with strange fire, or fire profanely kindled. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIX. i, Thy temple..is now prophanely stained. 1653 LAMONT *Diary* (Bann.) 56 He was cast of for profainlie taking the name of the diuill in his mouthe twyse, especiallie vpon the last Sabath the communion was given in Largo. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 298 ₱ 3 What they profanely term Conjugal Liberty of Conscience. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* I. 179 The bailiffs come (rude men, prophanely bold!) 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. II. xii. 276 The holy oil was profanely used to anoint their shoes and sandals.

Profa·nement. *rare.* [f. PROFANE *v.* + -MENT.] = PROFANATION.

1815 MOORE *Let. to Lady Donegal* 3 July in *Mem.* (1856) VIII. 197, I rather think you would burn it to the ground after such profanement.

Profaneness (prǫfē·nnės). Also 6–8 **proph-**; 6–7 **prophanness(e**; *β.* 6–8 **proph-, profaness.** [f. PROFANE *a.* + -NESS. For the *β* form see note under -NESS.] The quality or fact of being profane or unholy, or of openly violating what is sacred; profanity; profane conduct or speech. With *a* and *pl.*, an instance of this. (Now somewhat *rare.*)

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. To Rdr., Seeing the generall prophannesse of mens liues almost euery where. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. ii. 155 Apollo pardon My great prophanenesse 'gainst thine Oracle. 1650 TRAPP *Comm. Lev.* xix. 19 All the prodigious errors, lies,..and prophanenesses in the world. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vi. 224 Profaneness and avowed Disregard to all Religion. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* 19 Apr. 239/1 It seemed almost a profaneness to administer the oath of canonical obedience in the sense in which he was prepared to take it.

β. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 205 To be thus vsed for his vile prophanesse and abusing his holie things. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* 520 Stage-playes are the Lectures, the Marts, the common treasuries of all ribaldry, scurrility, prophanesse. 1649 FULLER *Just Man's Funeral* 26 Wicked men, persisting in their profaness. *c* 1710 EDWARDS in *Camb. Antig. Soc. Commun.* III. 133 Which at an other time is reckoned to be Prophaness.

Profaner (prǫfē·nəɹ). [f. PROFANE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who profanes; a desecrator, violator, defiler.

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* III. (1586) 462 Prophaners of thy holy name. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. I. 239 These were such as declar'd him a Heretick,..a Profaner, and so forth. *a* 1861 W. CUNNINGHAM *Hist. Theol.* I. viii. 238 Intruders into the sacred office and profaners of sacred things.

Profa·nish, *a. rare.* [f. PROFANE *a.* + -ISH[1].] Somewhat profane. Hence **Profa·nishness.**

1675 T. DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* v. i, He is sweetly in his Scourge-stick of Prophanishness.

†**Pro·fanism, proph-.** *Obs. rare*[—1]. [f. L. *profān-us* PROFANE + -ISM, or f. OF. *prophaniser* to PROFANIZE.] Profaneness, profanity.

1607 MARSTON *What you will* IV. i, Bee it spoken without prophanisme, hee hath more in this traine.

Profanity (prǫfæ·nĭti). [ad. late L. *profānitās* (Tertull.): see PROFANE *a.* and -ITY; so OF. *prophanite* (a single instance of 1492 in Godef.).

App. in no Eng. dictionary before the 19th c.; not in Todd's Johnson 1818; added by Jodrell 1820, citing quot. 1813. In Webster 1828. Smart 1836–49 says 'Little authorized'; referring to which, Worcester 1846 says 'It is in common use in America and in Scotland, and it is also used by respectable English authors'. But examples occur both in Eng. and Sc. writers from 1607, though *profaneness* was the usual word with the former down to 1800.]

The quality or condition of being profane; profaneness; profane conduct or speech; in *pl.* profane words or acts.

1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* iii. 24 Iniustice, the generall voyce of all malice,..profanity, impiety, naughtinesse and vice. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 13 Comparison..betwixt these ridiculous prophanities, and your so much admired History. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 174 The people perish in ignorance, atheisme, and profanitie. 1699 *Proper Project for Scot.* 28 The avowed and open Profanity..overspreading the whole land. 1763 MRS. HARRIS in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 101 Lord Temple..could not justify his [Wilkes's] profanity, but thought the seizing of his papers a wrong thing. 1805 *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IX. 267 This very seasonable exertion of the law against profanity. 1813 *Edin. Rev.* July 283 There is a tone of blackguardism—(we really can find no other word)—both in his indecency and his profanity. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 63 The sacrilegious profanity of his adulation. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xxxix, He felt it a sort of profanity to disturb her. 1875 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) VI. xliv. 132 Indecency in public worship is acted profanity and is grossly irreligious in its effects.

Profanize (prǫ·fănəiz), *v. rare*[—1]. [f. PROFANE *a.* + -IZE: cf. OF. *prophaniser* (Godef.).] *trans.* = PROFANE *v.*

c 1873 J. ADDIS *Elizabethan Echoes* (1879) 92 How he put poison in the Sacred Chalice, And profanized the Holy Mysteries.

So †**Profa·nize** *v.*, in same sense. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1578 FLORIO *1st Fruites* 73 The ende of warre is this.. churches are profanizated and sacrileged.

Profe, obs. f. PROOF, PROVE. **Profecie,** obs. f. PROPHESY *v.* **Profect,** obs. by-form of PROFIT *sb.*

Profection (prǫfe·kʃən). Now *rare.* [Partly a. F. *profection* a progression, in Astrol. (1510 in Godef.), f. L. *prōfect-*, ppl. stem of *prōfic-ĕre* to put forward, go forward, advance, progress; partly ad. L. *profectiōn-em* a setting out, n. of action f. *proficiscī* to set out, start.]

†1. The action or fact of going forward; progression, advance. *Obs.* exc. *Astrol.*

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 225 The great vessell of election..confesseth his profection and going forward; I endeauour my selfe to that which is before. 1609 W. SCLATER *Threefold Preserv.* (1610) B iv b, In the state of this mortal life, there is no meane betwixt profection and defection. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. (1650) 187 Which together with other Planets, and profection of the Horoscope, unto the seventh house, or opposite signes every seventh year, oppresseth living natures. 1652 WHARTON *Rothman's Chirom.* Wks. (1683) 638 The Profection, or

Revolution of the Sun, comes to the Opposition of Mars, in the year 1600. about the 20 of November. 1819 J. WILSON *Compl. Dict. Astrol.* 326 *Profection*, the progression.

†b. The degree of advancement attained; proficiency. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. Ded. to King § 2 There seemeth to be no lesse contention betweene the excellencie of your Maiesties gifts of Nature and the universalitie and profection of your learning. 1615 T. ADAMS *White Devill* Ep. Ded., Your affection to divine knowledge, good profection in it, and much time spent towards the perfection of it. 1631 HEYWOOD *London's Jus Hon.* Wks. 1874 IV. 278 If Kings arrive to my profection Tis by Succession, or Election.

†2. A setting forward in process or rank; furtherance, advancement. *Obs.*

a 1540 CROMWELL in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1681) II. 191 Their said Promotions or Profections into the same [Bishoprics]. 1657 J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 83 The better propagation and profection of the Divine truth.

II. †3. A setting out, setting forth, starting. *Obs.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 288 The time of the yeere hasting the profection and departure of the Ambassador. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 303 In his profection into Africa, as he went out of the ship, he chanced to fall flat upon the ground.

Hence †**Profe·ctional** *a.*, *Astrol.*, of or relating to 'profection' or progression.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clvii. 655 To consider with which of them, the Profectionall Figure, or of the Revolution, doth agree. 1647 WHARTON *Merlini Angl. Errata* Wks. (1683) 297, I have considered the Profectional Figure of the last Conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter.

Profecti·tious, *a. Rom. Law.* Also -icious. [f. late L. *profectīci-us*, *-ītius* that proceeds from some one (f. *profect-*, ppl. stem of *proficiscī*: see prec.) + -OUS.] That proceeds or is derived from a parent or ancestor. Opposed to *adventitious*.

1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. IV. 372 The threefold distinction of profectitious, adventitious, and professional, was ascertained. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Ulpian* vi. § 3 A dowry is either profecticious, given by the woman's father, or adventicious, given by some other person.

Profe·ctive, *a. Rom. Law.* [a. F. *profectif*, *-ive* (legal), f. L. *profect-*: see prec. and -IVE.] = prec.

1795 tr. *Mercier's Fragm. Pol. & Hist.* I. 163 We have our distinctions of goods moveable, immoveable, profective.

Profe·r, *v.*[1] *Obs.* or *rare arch.* Also 4 **profre,** 4–7 **pro·fer,** 6 **proferre.** [app. a. F. *proférer* (13th c. in Brunet Lat.), recorded in sense 'utter, pronounce, *dire tout haut*' (see sense 3 here), = Pr. *proferre*, Cat. *proferer*, It. *profferire* (†*proferire*, Florio) to utter, pronounce, speak, ad. L. *profer-re* to bring forth, produce, utter, bring forward, adduce, also (rarely) to offer, proffer. From the interchange of *f* and *ff*, often confused in form, and sometimes app. in sense, with *proffer*, to which sense I may even belong.

It is only in later examples that *profer* distinctly appears.]

†1. *trans.* To put forth, extend; in first quot. *intr.* for *refl.* to project. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1463 Pinnacles pyȝt þer apert þat profert bitwene. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 141 þe paume is purely þe hande and profreth forth þe fyngres To mynystre and to make. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 97 This inferiour trunke..out of his hynder part profereth Arteries to the spaces of the ribbes.

†2. To bring forth, produce, yield. *Obs.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 42 Neyr the tyme that the fruyt shulde be proferid forthe. 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 232 The fruyteful moder hathe profered a byrthe. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1810) III. 249 The said Islands..seem to proffer..plenty of all kinde of our graine.

3. To bring out (words), utter, pronounce. Now *rare.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1096 When the peopull were pesit, he proffert þes wordes. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 432/1 He comyng to the last houre,..and profferyng the laste wordes I commend my sowle in to thyn handes deyed. *c* 1489 — *Blanchardyn* xxxiv. 125 After many wordes proferred & sayde. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 273 Whether priestis can proferre [*printed* proforre] the wordis off the canon and baptym. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Prolation*, pronouncing or profering of wordes. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 129 Not a word Had either of us yet proferr'd.

†4. To bring or put near or into contact with something; to present. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 138 Than proferre thy graffe in-to the stocke. 1698 BALLARD in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 418, I took my Knife,..and profering it to the Needle, it drew the North Pole.

†**Profe·r, -fe·rre,** *v.*[2] *Obs.* [? a. OF. *proferer* = *préferer* (Godef. *Compl.*).] A by-form of (or ? error for) PREFER *v.* (see PRO-[1] 3); to promote, advance. Hence †**Profe·rring** *vbl. sb.*

1462 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 114 For good will that the seid Sir John Fastolff had to the proferryng of your seid besecher. *a* 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* T iv, Euery trew counceler .. ought .. to .. promote encrece proferre and auaunce the wele and prosperyte of his lorde.

Profer, -ere, -erre, obs. forms of PROFFER.

Profert (prōʊ·fəɪt). *Law. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [L. *prōfert* (*in cūriā*) 'he produces (in court)', 3rd sing. pres. of *prōfer-re* to bring forward.] The production or exhibition of a deed in court.

1719 LILLY *Pract. Regr.* II. 382 Where the Plaintiff declares upon a Deed, or the Defendant pleads a Deed, he must do it with a *Profert in Curia* to the end that the other Party may at his own Charges have a Copy of it. 1769 GIBBON *Law Evid.* 189 (Jod.) Upon every contract with solemnity there is a profert made of it to the courts, so that it appears to be the same on the declaration and in the evidence. 1852 *Act* 15 & 16 *Vict.* c. 76 § 55 It shall not be necessary to make Profert of any Deed or other Document mentioned or relied on in any Pleading. 1884 SIR H. C. LOPES in *Law Times Rep.* L. 366/2 A plaintiff suing as executor could not maintain his action without making profert of the probate. 1885 L. O. PIKE *Yearbks.* 12 & 13 *Edw. III*, Introd. 61 Profert of a deed had been made by the defendant, and..the deed had been denied by the plaintiff.

†**Profe·ss,** *sb. Obs.* In 5 **professe (prouese).** [Late ME. *professe*, either from PROFESS *v.* or from L. *professus* sb., profession of faith, or a Romanic **professa* fem.: cf. obs. F. *professe* in same sense (1610 in Godef.).] The declaration made by one entering a religious order; = PROFESSION I; the document containing this. Also *attrib.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lviii. 38 When sho sall make hir professe, In þe Kirke bi-fore þame alle sal sho haite stabilnes and buxumnes, by-fore god and alle his haliȝes. *Ibid.* 39 þe bref of hir professe sal sho noht haue, bot in þe kirke sal be gete. 14.. *Vespasian Ritual* ibid. 145 Att þe bygynnyng of þe mese þe madyn þat salbe mayde nun sal sit in þe quere a-pon a stole be-for þe priores stayle with hir prouese in hir hand. *Ibid.*, Scho with hir professe.boke in hir hand. *Ibid.* 147 When scho hase red hir professe.

†**Profe·ss,** *a. Obs.* Also 3–4 **profes,** 4 **-esse.** [ME. a. F. *profès*, *professe* = Pr. *profes*, Sp. *profeso*, Pg., It. *professo*, 'that has taken the vows of a religious order', ad. L. *professus* 'having professed or declared publicly', pa. pple. of *profitērī* to profess.] Professed, that has made a profession, that has taken vows of religion. In early use const. also as pa. pple. Also *absol.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8944, & uor to be siker of ire stat þe abit of nonne heo tok, Ac me nolde hire profes noȝt make a none wise. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1782 Monek, muneche, ne no frere, Ne no man of religion, Profes ȝef þat he were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 238 Þet neuremor hi ne moȝe by spoused, zeþþe hi byeþ profes. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 276 Þis ilke Monk wiþ oute les Was Monk of Cleruaus profes. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 130 Vnder whiche lawe (and vnworthy) bothe professe & reguler arn obediencer an bounden to this Margarit perle, & by knotte of loues statutes. [1896 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 169 Young Fathers are, but do not seem [holy]; Profess Fathers both seem and are.]

Profess (profe·s), *v.* [f. L. *profess-*, ppl. stem of *profit-ērī* to profess, f. PRO-[1] + *fatērī*, *fass-* to confess, own, acknowledge: cf. CONFESS, also It. *professare* (Florio 1598), Sp. *profesar*, Pr. *professar*, mod.F. *professer* (1680 in Hatz.-Darm.). Before 1500 only in religious sense (see below), the earliest part occurring being the pa. pple. *professed* (answering to earlier *profes(s)*, L. *professus*, F. *profès*, *-fesse*: see prec.).]

I. 1. *trans.* a. Orig. in passive form, *to be professed* (cf. PROFESS *a.*, PROFESSED *ppl. a.*), to have made one's profession of religion; to make one's profession, to take the vows of some religious order, *esp.* to become a monk or nun (= c); afterwards app. viewed as passive in sense, whence, in 15th c., b. the active voice *to profess*, to receive the profession of (a person), to receive or admit into a religious order.

[The form *to be professed* app. either arose directly out of *to be profess* (see PROFESS *a.*), F. *être profès*, or was due to rendering the L. deponent *professus est* as a passive.]

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1792 Relessed Schel hym nauȝt be religioun, Þaȝ he be nauȝt professed. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 337 His wif,..Which was professed in the place, As sche that was Abbesse there. *c* 1400 *Lansdowne Ritual* in *Rule St. Benet*, etc. 143 Efter þe gospell on þe day þat sho sall be profeste, hir maistres sall cum til hir & lede hir til þe gree. And þare sho sall rede hir professiun. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxiv. 88 Than he sent his sone vnto Paris..and there causyd hym to be professed in an howse of relygyon. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 32 They be all onely p[ro]fessed to god to be his men and women and to none other. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXIX. xii. 1030 When she was a very young wench.. shee, togither with her mistresse, was there professed and consecrated. 1672 DRYDEN *Assignation* II. i, A House of Benedictines, call'd the Torre di Specchi, where only Ladies of the best Quality are profess'd. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, Vivaldi was told that a nun was going to be professed.

fig. c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3683 Folkys that ben amerous, Professed in Venus covent. 1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* (Percy Soc.) 25, I am profest for losse or gayne, To be thyne owne assuredlye.

b. *c* 1430 W. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 30 To graunte..to the priour of Thetford..autorite and power as your..depute to professe in dwe forme the seyd monkes of Bromholm unprofessed. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 36 In the .ix. yere of his reigne, the Archbishop Anselme professed Gerard Archebishop of Yorke to the yoke of obedience. 1886 MONAHAN *Rec. Dioceses Ardagh & Clonmacnoise* 6 The Bollandists hold that St. Mel professed St. Bridget in his own church at Ardagh.

c. *refl.* and *intr.* To make one's profession; to take the vows of a religious order.

c 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 8/2 He chaunged that purpose, and appointed to professe him self in the order of freres prechours. 1533 CRANMER *Let. to Archd. Hawkyns* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 273 She had a commandment from God .. as she said, to profess herself a nun. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. II. i. 4 They [Calamarians] cannot profess before they are twenty-five years old. 1829 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIX. 394 The young man went back to France, and professed there in some religious order.

II. 2. *trans.* To declare openly, announce, affirm; to avow, acknowledge, confess: a. *oneself to be* (or *do*) *something* (often with omission of either refl. pron. or inf., or sometimes of both). In later use often coloured by 3.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9 And professeth them selfe to be pilgrymes in this worlde. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 5 Many professe themselues better Philosophers then good Christians. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. vi. 10 Yet did her face and former parts professe A faire young Mayden, full of comely glee. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 74, I professe My selfe an enemy to all other ioyes. 1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 114 Saint Paul is too nice, and professeth Puritane, when hee reckons Fornicators, Adulterers ..among the damned crue. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Pr. for all Conditions of Men*, That all who professe and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth. 1678 WALTON *Life Sanderson* 23 They shut up their shops, professing not to open them till justice was executed. 1774 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 337 Your plan of a newspaper to profess itself a general channel of American intelligence. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 320 He probably was what he professes himself to be. 1838–9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 63 She professed herself much relieved. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 220 He..professed himself to be snugly lodged.

b. with object clause.

1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* vii. 23 And then will I professe to them, I neuer knewe you. 1619 VISCT. DONCASTER in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 101, I must professe the cheare was royall. 1670 H. STUBBE *Plus Ultra* 38 Galileo professeth that in the moon there is no rain. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 50 ₱ 1 He profess'd it was his Design to save Men by the Sword. 1826 SCOTT *Woodstock* XXV, 'I profess I thought I was doing you pleasure...' 'O ay!.. profess—profess. Ay, that is the new phrase of asseveration, instead of the profane adjuration of courtiers and Cavaliers. Oh, sir, *profess* less and *practise* more.' 1869 F. W. NEWMAN *Misc.* 43 It is professed that Mathematical science is demonstrative. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) II. 77 Who professes that he will not leave him.

c. with simple object.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 103 Lord Angelo hath to the publike eare Profest the contrarie. 1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* Ded., I were most unworthy of such noble friends, if I should not..profess and own them. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 5 ₱ 8 [He] took all Opportunities..to strike his Rival, and profess the Spite..which moved him to it. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 146 They one by one professed their faith in Christ, and were beheaded in the Sultan's presence.

3. To make profession of, to lay claim to (some quality, feeling, etc.); often implying insincerity, as 'to profess and not practise'; to make protestation of; to pretend to. With *simple obj.* or *inf.*

1530 PALSGR. 667/1 Wolde to God every man that professeth chastyte coude kepe it well. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 5 If a man woulde professe to wryte of Englande. 1604 BACON *Apol.* Wks. 1879 I. 436, I profess not to be a poet. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 34 That love of truth which ye eminently professe. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 40 The right which their ancestors professed. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 194 Whose only care..Is not to find what they profess to seek. 1826 [see 2 b]. 1842 MACAULAY *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1877) 658 It professes, indeed, to be no more than a compilation. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. 269 William professed, and in many respects honestly practised, a devotion to religion beyond that of other men. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 3 May 6/1 Mr. Raikes..professed extreme regret at being compelled as an act of public duty to make these painful disclosures.

b. *refl.* and *intr.* To make a profession or professions; *esp.* to profess friendship or attachment.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 77 If you know, That I professe my selfe in Banquetting To all the Rout, then hold me dangerous. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 456 He is dishonor'd by a man, which euer Profess'd to him. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* III. iii, In religion, as in friendship, they who profess most are ever the least sincere.

4. *trans.* To affirm or declare one's faith in or allegiance to; to acknowledge or formally recognize as an object of faith or belief (a religion, principle, rule of action; God, Christ, a saint, etc.).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 20 b, John Phefercorne a Jewe that professed Christianitie. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 372 The securitie of thame professing the said religioun. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 192 By the Saint whom I professe, I will plead against it with my life. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 395 Who professed the rule of S. Augustine. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Prof.* 2 The first..that openly professed the faith himselfe. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. § 2. 185 The Amalekites had forsaken the God..whom Israel still professed. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* I. Wks. 1757 IV. 122 They, that profess deism for the credit of superior understanding. 1867 R. PALMER *Life P. Howard* 137 In this year F. Vincent Torre professed two Religions.

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1640 LAUD in Neal *Hist. Purit.* (1733) II. 383 As if he should profess with the Church of England, and have his heart at Rome.

5. *trans.* To make profession of, or claim to have knowledge of or skill in (some art or science); to declare oneself expert or proficient in; to make (a thing) one's profession or business. In quot. 1613 *absol.* or *intr.*

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 6 Ozias as we reade professed husbandry. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, V. ii. 92, I thanke him, that he cuts me from my tale: For I professe not talking. 1611 BIBLE *Titus* iii. 14 Let ours also learne to maintaine good workes [*marg.* professe honest trades]. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 827 They..beginne to professe in practise of Physick and Diuination. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 142 The advice of one that professeth the study of the Law. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.*

xiii. (1869) I. 268 War was the only art which he professed. 1818 in Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 147 Playing on the harp and piano, which instruments she professes. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 936/1 When passing his examination, he [Sir W. Hamilton] professed the whole works of Aristotle.

6. To teach (some subject) as a professor.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 1 The same time was Martin Luther an Augustine Frere, & professed diuinitie in the Vniuersitie of Wittemberge. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 62 The seuerall Schooles wherein the seuen liberall sciences are professed. 1638 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* Advt. (1702) 2 That common learning which is profess'd and taught in our Universities. 1871 C. J. MUNRO in *Life Clerk Maxwell* xii. (1882) 379, I hope it is true that you are to profess experimental physics at Cambridge. 1906 SIR O. LODGE in *St. George* IX. 6 Several friends .. professing different subjects at the University College in Liverpool.

b. *intr.* To perform the duties of a professor.

1610 *Camden's Brit.* 533 No student in Oxford should publickly professe or reade at Stanford. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. xi. 457 The University .. demanded, Who they were? and by what Right they undertook to Profess? 1850 BROWNING *Christmas Eve* xvi, Down to you, the man of men, Professing here in Göttingen. 1867 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. iv. 427 If I live this life much longer I shall do nothing but profess and review.

Profe·ssable, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being professed (in quot., of being publicly taught or lectured on by a professor).

1897 tr. *Balzac's Cousin Pons* 129 We are founding chairs of Mantchu and Slav, and literatures so little professable (to coin a word) as the literatures of the North.

† Profe·ssant, *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ANT, or immed. a. F. *professant* pres. pple.]

A. *adj.* Professing (to believe in or worship).

1621 AINSWORTH *Annot. Pentat., Gen.* vi. 3 These also .. are my peculiar professant people. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 2 His peculiar professant people, called sons of Jehovah.

B. *sb.* One who professes (in various senses).

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 24 But of professants, which compose their song To a strange descant! this Ile say they wrong Flowrie Parnassus. 1635 — *Arcad. Pr.* 157 Presents .. are moving objects to mercenary professants. 1665 — *Comment Two Tales* 27 One trick .. wherein none of all his fellow-consorts or Astronomical Professants can ever come near him.

Professed (profe·st, profe·séd), *ppl. a.* Also 5–8 profest. [f. PROFESS *v.* + -ED[1]: see also PROFESS *a.*, in earlier use.]

1. That has taken the vows of a religious order. Also *absol.* as *sb.* (= med.L. *professus*, PROFESS *a.*)

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 348 A prechour y-professed hab pliȝt me his trewþe. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 289 A profeste of þe ordur of Permonstracence; .. þis profeste stoppid his hors & hayłsid hur honestelie. *c* 1450 *Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7963 þe bischop bad þaim be profest Monkys, or ga and do þair best. 1554 T. MARTIN (*title*) A Traictise .. plainly prouyng, that the pretensed marriage of Priestes and professed persones, is no mariage, but altogether vnlawful. 1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 14 She hathe suppressed all the religious houses .. dispersed the professed of the same. 1626 L. OWEN *Spec. Jesuit.* (1629) 58 These professed Iesuites are imployed in hearing Confessions, saying of Masses, Preaching, and Writing. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xv. 257 One who entered into religion and became a monk professed was incapable of inheriting lands. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 263 A natural daughter of Eadgar and already a professed nun.

b. *transf.* Of or pertaining to professed persons.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21 b, All though she were not in the professed habyte of religyon. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 99 We dined at the Profess'd House of the Jesuits. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. iv. xi. 455 They [the Jesuits] have Profess'd Houses for their Profess'd Members, and their Coadjutors.

2. Self-acknowledged; openly declared or avowed by oneself; sometimes with an implication of 'not real', and so = Alleged, ostensible, pretended. (Of persons or things.)

a 1569 KINGESMYLL *Confl. Satan* (1578) 15 A professed Satan to all the children of God. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 50 My Friend profest. 1605 — *Lear* I. i. 275 Loue well our Father: To your professed bosomes I commit him. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 42 What I haue giuen thee, I would haue bestowed on my professedst enemy. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* I. i. 278 He bears the noble Altamont Profest and deadly hatred. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 33 ¶ 1 The Profess'd Beauties, who are a People almost as unsufferable as the Profess'd Wits. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. xlvii. 103 A professed, and I think, sincere Christian.

3. Followed as a profession or vocation.

1598 STOW *Surv. Lond.* (1603) 240 In those dayes euery man liued by his professed trade, no .. one interrupting an other.

4. That professes to be duly qualified; professional (as opposed to *amateur*).

1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 111 Though he were not a Profest Divine. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 473 ¶ 2 You profess'd Authors are a little severe upon us, who write like Gentlemen. 1796 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* iii. 16, I do not pretend to teach professed cooks, but my design is to instruct the ignorant and unlearned. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. i. § 20 (1879) 20 The professed Anatomist would be unable .. to determine what is the precise state of each of the muscles concerned.

Professedly (profe·sédli), *adv.* Also 7 profestly. [f. prec. + -LY[2].]

1. By or according to profession or declaration; avowedly.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 831/2 He whiche wrote professedly against the superstitions of the people. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* Pref., Wks. 1851 III. 97 The reasons thereof are not formally and profestly set downe. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1842) 17, I should .. suspect .. that faith that can professedly live with two or three sordid sins. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Jan., The Commons do it professedly to prevent the King's dispensing with it. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* (1697) p. xiii, Only Virgil, whom he profestly imitated, has surpass'd him, among the Romans; and only M[r] Waller among the English. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 175 ¶ 13 Many there are, who openly and almost professedly regulate all their conduct by their love of money. 1884 *Law Times* LXXVII. 382/2 Professedly written, .. not for the lawyer, but for the commercial world.

2. Ostensibly, under mere profession or pretence: opposed, implicitly or explicitly, to 'actually' or 'really'.

1831 MACKINTOSH *Hist. Eng.* II. ii. 51 Buckingham .. hastened with a body of adherents, professedly to join the king. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 181 Her portraits, though all professedly by Holbein, .. are singularly unlike each other. 1892 *Law Times* XCIII. 551/1 The process of the court had been used by the solicitor professedly for one purpose, to levy a debt, but really for another purpose.

Professing (profe·sin), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROFESS *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PROFESS. **a.** = PROFESSION 1. **b.** Avowing, acknowledging.

a. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 47 The professing of a nonne of Elstowe. 1669 WOODHEAD *Monast. Discalced Nuns* 8 For the professing them, a very great diligence is requisite.

b. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 449 For the true professing of the Gospell they be expulsed. *a* 1683 OWEN *Posth. Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 178 This is a professing that brings conviction.

Profe·ssing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That professes; that professes to be such.

1675 OWEN *Serm.* Wks. 1851 IX. 311 Believers shall be saved and a professing church shall be preserved. 1822 J. MACDONALD *Mem. J. Benson* 136 He censures himself for things which too many in the professing world would look upon as so many innocent infirmities. 1842 MANNING *Serm., Myst. Sin* (1848) I. 16 What a prodigy in God's world is a professing atheist! 1906 D. S. CAIRNS *Chr. Mod. World* iv. 212 The Church is the visible community of professing Christians founded by our Lord for the propaganda of the Kingdom.

Profession (profe·ʃən). [ME. a. F. *profession* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *professiōn-em* a public declaration; a business or profession that one publicly avows, n. of action f. *profitērī* to PROFESS.] The action or fact of professing; that which is professed.

I. 1. The declaration, promise, or vow made by one entering a religious order; hence, the action of entering such an order; the fact of being professed in a religious order.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Non ancre .. ne schal makien professiun, þet is, bihoten ase hest, buté þreo þinges, þet is, obedience, chastete, & studestaþeluestnesse. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1407 Ac mi professioun ich habbe to Jesu Crist ido. 1340 *Ayenb.* 225 Huanne þe beheste is solempne ase be hand of prelat oþer be profession of religion. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 155 Nay quod this Monk by god and by seint Martyn .. This swere I yow on my profession. *c* 1400 *Lansdowne Ritual* in *Rule St. Benet*, etc. 143 Sho sall rede hir professiun .. & þe nouyce sal make a crosse on þe buke of hir profession. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 72 Of þis same mannes handes took Gilbert þe habite of profession. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1288 The searching after such science, is as it were a profession and entrance into religion. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. iv. 13 When I consider the manner of my Profession, and the great resolution and gust wherewith I made it. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 181 He was called to Rome to take upon him the profession of the four vows. 1771 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 151/1 Madame Louisa of France took the veil of professions at the convent of the Carmelites. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, The novice kneeling before him made her profession. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 89 He had received the second profession of Maurilius, the Primate who still for a short time longer filled the metropolitan throne of Rouen. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* s.v., A religious or regular profession is 'a promise freely made and lawfully accepted, whereby a person of the full age required, after the completion of a year of probation, binds him- (or her-) self to a particular religious institute approved by the Church'.

b. Any solemn declaration, promise, or vow.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 98 Dauid .. Dubbede knihtes, Dude hem swere on heor swerd to serue treuþe euere. Þat is þe perte profession þat a-pendeþ to knihtes. [1393 C. II. 97 Trewely to take and treweliche to fyȝte, Ys þe profession and þe pure ordre þat apendeþ to knyȝtes.] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 115 þe bisshop of Meneuia was i-sacred of þe bisshoppes of Wales .., and made non professioun noþe subiection to non oþer chirche. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXXVIII. 257 Thurston was choshen archebysshop of Yorke; the which withsayd his professyon of obedyence y[t] he shuld owe to the See of Caunterbury.

† 2. A particular order of monks, nuns, or other professed persons. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Somp. T.* 217 So forth al the gospel may ye seen Wher it be likker oure professioun Or hirs that swymmen in possessioun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 239 If thou er this Hast ben of such professioun, Discovere thi confessioun. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (E. E. T. S.) 1 A gentill woman desired of me .. to translate hir treuly oute of latyn, þe lif of Seynt Augustin, grete doctour of þe cherch. Sche desired þis þing of me rather þan of a-noþer man be-cause þat I am of his profession.

† b. *transf. Christ's profession*, the order instituted by Christ; Christianity. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* XXXIII. (*George*) 696 George wes þe trewest knycht To crist ymang al þat lyf mycht, þat vndir knychtly habit kyd Cristis professione had vnhyde. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 117 Iche man þat liueþ not after þe reule of Cristis professioun.

† 3. Special character, nature, or kind. *rare*[−1].

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 64 (E.E.T.S.) And shorte to sai, —se the profession Of every vyne, and wherin thai myscheve As counter it by goode discrecion.

II. 4. The action of declaring, acknowledging, or avowing an opinion, belief, intention, practice, etc.; declaration, avowal. In later use often with implied contrast to practice or fact: cf. PROFESS *v.* 3, PROFESSED 2.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9 Eyther by his owne fayth & professyon, or els in the fayth of theyr spirituall parentes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 370 Thai mak plane professioun that the establissing of religioun will nocht content thame. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 142 Having made profession of my great respect to him. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 26 That I may not seem injurious to my self, nor give scandal unto others by this so free profession. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Evremont's Ess.* 353 There are Friends of Profession, that take a pride in following our Party at random, and upon all Occasions. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 1 ¶ 10 That .. some should endeavour to gain favour .. by a daring profession of their own deserts. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* I. Wks. VIII. 118 In this unity and indivisibility of profession are sunk ten immense and wealthy provinces. 1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. VI. i. 50 Here, too, profession was at variance with fact. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. viii. 218 Such a man was already a saint in practice, if not in profession. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 1442 Nor she, who makes profession of my birth And styles herself my mother, neither she Bore me.

b. with *a* and *pl.* An act of professing; a declaration (true or false).

1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 236 Of all persons, I need make you the least professions. 1740–1 BUTLER *Serm. Ho. Lords* 30 Jan., Wks. 1874 II. 256 These false professions of virtue .. must have been originally taken up in order to deceive. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* iii. Wks. 1757 IV. 173 Greater professions of friendship can no man make, than this arch-promiser: greater proofs of the contrary can no man give. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. v, Cecilia .. found little difficulty in returning her friendly professions. *Mod.* I believe his professions of regard to be perfectly sincere.

5. *spec.* The profession of religion; the declaration of belief in and obedience to religion, or of acceptance of and conformity to the faith and principles of any religious community; hence, the faith or religion which one professes.

1526 TINDALE *Heb.* iii. 1 Consyder the embasseatour and hye prest of oure profession Christ Jesus. 1531 — *Exp. 1 John* (1537) 2 To haue thys profession wrytten in thyne harte, is to consente vnto y[e] law that it is ryghteous. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 3rd Sunday after Easter*, Graunt unto all .. that they maye exchew those thinges that be contrary to their profession, and folow all such things as be agreable to the same. 1601 W. PARRY *Trav. Sir A. Sherley* 5 Certaine Persians .. Pagans by profession. 16.. HALES *Gold. Rem.* I. (1673) 36 True profession without honest conversation, not onely saves not, but increases our weight of punishment. 1689 POPPLE tr. *Locke's 1st Let. Toleration* L.'s Wks. 1714 II. 243 It is in vain for an Unbeliever to take up the outward shew of another Man's Profession. 1728 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Mme. de Gomez's Belle A.* (1732) II. 15 Several who made profession of the Protestant Religion. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. 40 As the standard of goodness rises the standard of profession must rise too.

b. A religious system, communion, or body.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 293 They embrace no religion at all, being neither Christians, Mahumetans, nor Iewes, nor of any other profession. *a* 1646 J. GREGORY *Notes & Obs.* (1650) 20 Whatsoever the moderne practice is, the ancient must be to bury towards Ierusalem .. for all professions buryed towards the place they worshipped. 1839 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* (1858) 131 How think himself safe in a profession, which was without temple, without priest, without altar, without victim? 1904 R. SMALL *Hist. U. P. Congregat.* I. 72 At the close of his Arts course, he 'left his profession' and joined the Relief.

III. 6. The occupation which one professes to be skilled in and to follow. **a.** A vocation in which a professed knowledge of some department of learning or science is used in its application to the affairs of others or in the practice of an art founded upon it. Applied *spec.* to the three learned professions of divinity, law, and medicine; also to the military profession.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 A j b, The parties of the art of Medycyne .. can not be seperated one from the other without the dommage and great detryment of all the medicynall professyon. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A v b, Such as I am, (whose profession should chiefelie bee armes). 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. Ded. § 8 Amongst so many great foundations of colleges in Europe, I find strange that they are all dedicated to professions, and none left free to Arts and Sciences at large. 1682 DRYDEN *Relig. Laici* Pref., Wks. (Globe) 185 Speculations which belong to the profession of Divinity. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 107 They know not what Physicians, Chirurgeons, Apothecaries, and men of that profession are. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 ¶ 1 The three great Professions of Divinity, Law, and Physick. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. viii, The Captain looks upon himself in the military capacity as a gentleman by profession. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xliv. (1846) IV. 186 Arms, eloquence, and the study of the civil law, promoted a citizen to the honours of the Roman state; and the three professions were sometimes more conspicuous by their union in the same character. 1839 MAURICE *Lect. Educ. Mid. Classes* 186 Profession in our country .. is expressly that kind of business which deals primarily with men as men, and is thus distinguished from a Trade, which provides for the external wants or occasions of men. 1850 *Rep. Oxf. Univ. Commission* 94 A professorship would then .. become a recognised profession. 1870 L. OLIPHANT *Piccadilly* II. 46 The Church .. compared with other professions .. holds out no inducements for young men of family. 1888 BESANT *50 Years Ago* xix. 262 New professions have come into existence, and the old professions are more esteemed. It was

formerly a poor and beggarly thing to belong to any other than the three learned professions.

b. In wider sense: Any calling or occupation by which a person habitually earns his living.

Now usually applied to an occupation considered to be socially superior to a trade or handicraft; but formerly, and still in vulgar (or humorous) use, including these.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 386 Why do not you apply your selfe, to some one kinde of profession, or other, wherin there is certaintie and stay of liuing? 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 5 b, Princes..delighted with ye profession of husbandry. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* App. 364 Their profession is to robbe and steale from their neighbours, and to make them slaues. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. i. 5 (Being Mechanicall) you ought not walke Vpon a labouring day, without the signe Of your Profession. Speake, what Trade art thou? 1616 *Shirburn Ballads* (1907) 71 The Professions of these persons, so vnfortunately drowned, were:—1, a Haberdasher; 2, a Taylor; 3, a Sadler; 4, a Barber; 5, a Waterman. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* v. vii, This Gard'ner..inherits..of Adam..that primitive profession that imploy'd and recompenc'd his Innocence. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 326/1 A Graver..is also used for many uses about the Plummers Profession. 1733 GENT *Rippon* 49 Joseph her Spouse, by Profession a Carpenter. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 175 The different conduct of these rival actors may be of use to others of the same profession. 1762 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) I. iv. 62 Another serjeant-painter in this reign was John Brown, who, if he threw no great lustre on his profession, was at least a benefactor to it's professors. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* ii, The forehead of Henry Gow, or Smith, (for ..both words equally indicated his profession,) was high and noble. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N. S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 221 The veteran thief assumes the same sort of lofty port and high-toned consequence over the juniors of the profession, that the veteran warrior..does. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Nov. 7/3 He is doing a very nice trade in the muffin 'profession'.

c. By extension: *by profession* = professed, professional.

1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* VII. x, The raillery of some wag by profession.

d. The body of persons engaged in a calling.

The profession, in theatrical use, actors as a body; public performers generally.

1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 52 To take reuenge of the whole profession, and so to punish one for an others offence. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 488 Lawyers are too wise a Nation, T'expose their Trade to Disputation:..In which whoever wins the day, The whole Profession's sure to pay. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 67 A Company of the Common Profession in Dishabille. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 30/2 [Specifications] ought at all times..to accompany the drawings, as they at once convey to the profession the minutiæ of the construction. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Nov. 2/1 A heavy tragedian and his leading lady.. confronting a provincial landlady. 'Do you let apartments to—ah—the profession?'

IV. † **7.** The function or office of a professor in a university or college; = PROFESSORSHIP, PROFESSORATE; public teaching by a professor. *Obs.*

1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 436 There are..in this Islande two famous Vniversities, the one Oxforde, the other Cambridge, both for the profession of al sciences. 1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 345 There will need but one house, and the endowment of a few professions. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. x. (1737) 443 There is a new Profession erected in the University of Edinburgh, for the Law of Nature and Nations. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 391 His Entrance upon the Profession of the Greek tongue.

8. *Rom. Ant.* The public registration of persons and property [literal rendering of L. *professio*].

1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxix. 405 The provincial *Profession*, as it was designated, extended wherever the land tax was exacted.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *profession-book, -ring*; *profession-making*; *profession-like* adj.

14.. *Vespasian Ritual* in *Rule St. Benet*, etc. 147 Scho sal..lay hir *profession-boke a-pon þe auter, & þe ryng with-al. 1857 G. OLIVER *Coll. Cath. Relig. Cornwall* 313 From the profession-book of Lambspring Abbey, I learn that he was born at Ramsbury. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 97 That under a smoother and *profession-like behaviour, when they are stirred up to persecute, the rigour might seem just. 1654 OWEN *Doctr. Saints' Persev.* Wks. 1853 XI. 600 Such an one may forsake the external profession of Christianity, or cease *profession-making. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3217 þe ladyes..tokon seynt Wultrude *profession-rynge, And abouȝt his nekke þey hongedone hit þo. 1489 *Will of Marg. Darcy* (Som. Ho.), My profession Ryng.

Professional (profe·ʃənăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. prec. + -AL. Cf. mod.F. *professionnel.*]

I. † **1.** Pertaining to or marking entrance into a religious order. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1420 *St. Etheldred* 797 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 300 Hit was hurre professhennalle rynge. [Cf. *profession-ring* in PROFESSION 9.]

II. 2. Pertaining to, proper to, or connected with a or one's profession or calling.

1747-8 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (J.), Professional, as well as national, reflections are to be avoided. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. iii. P 2 He had got into reputation with the public by a certain professional slang. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xiv, I dislike doing anything professional in private parties. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 332 It was in these rustic priests,..who had not the smallest chance of ever attaining high professional honours, that the professional spirit was strongest. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 408 As perfectly professional as the mourning of an undertaker. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Education*, Special or professional [education]..aims to fit one for the particular vocation or profession in which he is to engage. 1907 *Scott. Ch. & Univ. Almanac* 266 (Aberdeen Univ.) Every candidate for the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and..of Surgery must undergo four professional examinations.

3. Engaged in one of the learned or skilled professions, or in a calling considered socially superior to a trade or handicraft.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 73 Called upon, not only as a professional man, but as a man of veracity. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 381 The College invites all professional men, who had an opportunity of treating the yellow fever, to communicate their observations. 1871 MISS BRADDON *Zoophyte's Rev.* iii, Sometimes there was a party, consisting of professional people..with a sprinkling of the smaller county gentry. 1888 BESANT 50 *Years Ago* xix, 262 There has been a great upward movement of the professional class.

4. That follows an occupation as his (or her) profession, life-work, or means of livelihood, as a *professional soldier, musician*, or *lecturer*; *spec.* applied to one who follows, by way of profession or business, an occupation generally engaged in as a pastime; hence used in contrast with *amateur*, as *professional cricketer.* Disparagingly applied to one who 'makes a trade' of anything that is properly pursued from higher motives, as a *professional politician.*

Professional beauty, humorously applied to a lady with the implication that she makes it her business to be a beauty, or to be known as such.

1805 SURR *Winter in Lond.* (1806) II. 223 Professional and amateur singers. 1844 *Mem. Babylonian P'cess* II. 30 Professional dancers and singers are usually engaged upon these festive occasions. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 49 The way to ensure good practice is by engaging a professional bowler. 1882 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* v. xii. § 520 The growth of a revenue which serves to pay professional soldiers. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* I. 2 More to fear from young bloods..than from professional thieves and blacklegs. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Feb. 4/2 Ladies raised..to the now extinct position of 'professional beauty'. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. vii. 90 Professional politicians..conduct what is called a 'campaign'. *Mod.* He is a professional agitator.

b. Of play, sports, etc.: Undertaken or engaged in for money, or as a means of subsistence; engaged in by professionals (as distinct from amateurs).

1884 *Cyclist* 13 Feb. 247/2 A rule prohibiting the holding of professional events at amateur athletic meetings.

5. That is trained and skilled in the theoretic or scientific parts of a trade or occupation, as distinct from its merely mechanical parts; that raises his trade to the dignity of a learned profession.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. ix. 271 Having constructed, by a professional engineer, a map of the entire glacier. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 10/2 A witness described himself as a professional gardener...'There is a vast difference between professional and ordinary gardeners. I am competent to give a lecture on botany and horticulture.'

† **6.** = PROFESSORIAL. *Obs. rare.*

1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 418 Etmuller filled a professional chair at Leipsig. 1865 DICKENS *Lett.* 16 Aug., The Scotch professional chair left vacant by Aytoun's death.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who belongs to one of the learned or skilled professions; a professional man.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* i, The family practitioner opening the room door for that distinguished professional. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 2/2 Some of the speeches of the returned Generals make us glad to think that the 'professionals' (as Lord Salisbury says) are not the politicians.

2. One who makes a profession or business of any occupation, art, or sport, otherwise usually or often engaged in by amateurs, esp. as a pastime: see the adj., sense 4.

1811 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 86 There is to be some very good music—five professionals,.. besides amateurs. 1850 'BAT' *Cricket. Man.* 63 Averages of Batters—Professionals. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 318 In nearly all these cases, the witnesses are professionals; that is to say, men who are accustomed to sell their oaths, and who thoroughly understand their business. 1882 *Boy's Own Paper* IV. 807 Our amateurs are improving, and the interval between them and the professionals is growing beautifully less.

3. *Univ. slang.* Short for *professional examination.*

In the Scottish Universities, the four necessary examinations for the degree of M.B.C.M. are commonly known as First, Second, and Third Professional, and Final.

1908 in *Scott. Med. & Surg. Jrnl.* XXII. 528 Those who have failed in one or more of the subjects of the Second Professional.

Profe·ssionalism. [f. prec. + -ISM.]

1. Professional quality, character, method, or conduct; the stamp of a particular profession.

1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 88 The question of professionalism, or specialism, in education is closely connected with..that..of the suitable ages for different parts of education. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 440 Professionalism stamps its mark more deeply upon the ecclesiastical mind than upon the followers of the non-clerical, but liberal, occupations. 1893 *Athenæum* 14 Oct. 519/1 The bloodthirsty professionalism ..[is] decidedly characteristic of the Napoleonic warrior. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Sept. 169 The..student should not lose sight of general cultivation and fall into stark professionalism.

2. The position or practice of a professional as distinguished from an amateur; the class of professionals: cf. PROFESSIONAL *a.* 4, *sb.* 2.

1884 *Elocutionist* Aug. 2/1 Local talent..may be very good, but in the majority of cases it fades before proper professionalism. 1886 *Referee* 14 Feb. 1 But Amateurism has a fringe just the same as professionalism. 1894 *Aspects Mod. Oxford* 31 The modern tendency to professionalism in athletics. 1894 [see PROFESSOR 5].

Profe·ssionalist. [-IST.] One who follows an occupation as a profession; a professional man; a representative of professionalism.

1825 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antiq.* I. 90* Crockets, as called by Mr. Hawkins ('History of Gothic Architecture'), by professionalists termed 'scroll creepers'. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 363 There certainly are two sets of prejudices—those of professionalists, and those of anti-professionalists. 1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 90 Against those, then, whom we may call professionalists.

Professiona·lity. [f. as prec. + -ITY.] Professional quality or character; professionalism.

1886 *Century Mag.* Jan. 399/2 There is one characteristic in which it is well for every country to imitate France: that is, the honesty and 'professionality', if I may invent such a word, of its work. 1904 COL. L. HALE *People's War* 56 How the 'professionality' of these men is in subjection to their exceeding 'human-ness'.

Profe·ssionalize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To render or make professional.

1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 89 The mere professionalizing the education will not better the matter. 1886 *Bicycling News* 22 Jan. 290/1 We do not think that any number of the present offenders will professionalise themselves at once. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 June 728/2 Perhaps it is the fate of every form of recreation that it should become more or less 'professionalised'—if I may coin a word—and degraded from its original pure health-giving aim.

2. *intr.* To become professional; to proceed in a professional manner. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence **Profe·ssionalizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Profe·ssionaliza·tion,** the action of making or fact of becoming professionalized.

1899 *Speaker* 2 Sept. 224/2 It will be interesting to see if its popularity will survive the professionalising of warfare. 1901 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Aug. 233/1 Batting has..greatly risen.. due in part to..the process which we may perhaps be allowed to call by the clumsy name of professionalisation. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 411 The professionalising of religion.

Professionally (profe·ʃənăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY [2].] In a professional manner; with regard to or by way of one's profession.

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 658 Art thou a man professionally tied? 1794 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (1798) 169 Yet do I not speak professionally. 1879 MISS BRADDON *Clov. Foot* II. xiv. 262 Do you wish to consult me professionally? 1901 *Daily Chron.* 21 Dec. 3/2 For German officers, the best professionally trained officers in the world, no preliminary specialisation is required.

† **Profe·ssionary,** *a. Obs.* [f. PROFESSION + -ARY [1].] Of or pertaining to a profession; that is such by profession; = PROFESSIONAL *a.* 2, 4.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) III. 277 He resigned himself entirely to the order of his parents, and particularly in their professionary disposition of him. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Genius, Envy & Time* 1 In all professionary skill, There never was, nor ever will Be excellence, or exhibition, But fools are up in opposition. *a* 1813 A. F. TYTLER *Univ. Hist.* (1850) I. III. vi. 347 The great advantage which Rome had gained by her system of professionary soldiers.

† **Profe·ssionate,** *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. as prec. + -ATE [2].] = PROFESSIONAL. Hence † **Profe·ssionately** *adv.*, professionally, in the exercise of a profession.

1660 *Trial Regicides* 182, *Cook.* I say it was professionately. *L. Ch. B.*..The profession of a Lawyer will not excuse them..from Treason.

† **Profe·ssionist.** *Obs.* [f. PROFESSION + -IST, after G. *professionist* an artizan, tradesman.] A person of a particular profession or trade.

1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* II. 278 There is seldom more than a stated number of respective professionists in such a district. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 244 The accumulation of successful professionists is intercepted by them. 1834 in *Rep. Poor Law Comm.* App. F. 482 In Dresden, professionists [N. W. Senior's comment p. xxxix: by which word artizans are probably meant] may not marry until they become masters in their trade.

Profe·ssionize, *v. rare*—[1]. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To follow or exercise a profession.

1858 W. JOHNSON *Ionica* 63 Professionizing moral men Thenceforth admire what pleased them then.

Profe·ssionless, *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] Without a profession; having learned no profession.

1798 *Hull Advertiser* 15 Sept. 2/3 An unfortunate and professionless gentleman. 1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 65 The harassed parent of half-a-dozen portionless girls and as many professionless boys. 1881 H. JAMES *Portr. Lady* xx, A fresh-looking, professionless gentleman, whose leisured state..was a decided advantage.

† **Profe·ssively,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[0].

1611 COTGR., *Professoirement*, professiuely, or by profession.

† **Profe·ssly,** *adv. Obs.* [f. PROFESS *a.* + -LY [2].] Avowedly, expressly; = PROFESSEDLY 1.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 56 [To] make a voluminous collection of testimonies and authorities profesly against their arts. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 185 A disease, which I will at sometime profesly touch at in a Book.

Professor (profe·sǝr). Also 5 **-oure,** 5–8 **-our**; 6 **-er.** [a. L. *professor*, agent-n. f. *profitērī* to declare publicly, to PROFESS.]

I. † **1.** *Eccl.* One who has made profession; a professed member of a religious order. *Obs.*

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 914 Chanons, & nonnes, feythfull professoures. 1761 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 172/2 In France in the year 1710, there were..612 jesuits colleges ..and 24 professors houses of that society.

† **2.** One who proclaims or publicly declares. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Storie is wytnesse of tyme,..story weldeþ passyng doynges, storie putteþ forþ

hire professoures [orig. *suosque prærogat professores*]. Dedes þat wolde be lost storie rulep.

3. One who makes open declaration of his sentiments or beliefs, or of his allegiance to some principle; one who professes (sometimes opposed, implicitly or explicitly, to one who practises).

1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 135 Professorys of Chrystys name and doctryne. 1554 KNOX (*title*) A Faythfull admonition..vnto the professours of Gods truthe in England. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 277 Mantineris and professouris of papistrie. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1610 Those Turkes which are professors of Humilitie and Devotion. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. § 98. 468/1 In the treaty of Passaw was granted Liberty of Conscience to the Professors of the Augustane Confession. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. xix. § 17 There is no Error to be named, which has not had its Professors. 1710 ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 5 ¶ 8 If the Professors of Non-resistance and Passive Obedience would stand to their Principle. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. v. 294 The professors of one creed would stigmatize the professors of other creeds as idolatrous.

b. *spec.* One who makes open profession of religion; a professing Christian. Now chiefly *Sc.* and *U. S.*

[Cf. 391 AUGUST. *Utilit. Cred.* 15 Cuiuspiam religionis.. professores.]

1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 93 Both two hauing bin professors in time past. 1634 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 470 Ye know many honourable friends and worthy professors will see your Ladyship, and that the Son of God is with you. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 151 Then the Name of a Professor was odious; now specially in some parts of our Town..Religion is counted Honourable. 1714 S. SEWALL *Letter-Bk.* 17 Aug., Give warning to professors, that they beware of worldlymindedness. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xxx, An excellent blacksmith: 'but as he was a professor, he would drive a nail for no man on the Sabbath'. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, Not a professor, as your town folks have it; and what is worse, I'm afraid, not a practiser, either. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 137 He had never rebuked me as a strict professor would have done.

II. 4. A public teacher or instructor of the highest rank in a specific faculty or branch of learning; *spec.* one who holds an endowed or established 'chair' in a university or one of its colleges. Also frequently applied to the tutors or lecturers on the staff of theological and other professional or technical colleges, academies, and seminaries.

In the mediæval European Universities, at first simply a synonym of *Magister* or *Doctor* (degrees being originally qualifications to teach); but in this use not common as an English word. The right originally possessed by any Master or Doctor to teach publicly in the schools of his Faculty was gradually restricted to an inner circle of teachers, and the term *Professor* came eventually to be confined to the holders of salaried or endowed teaching offices, or to the highest class of these, such appellations as *Reader*, *Lecturer*, *Instructor*, being given to teachers of lower rank. In the old English Universities the ancient usage survives in the letters S.T.P. (*Sacræ Theologiæ Professor*) for D.D.; the modern use is largely due to the creation of five *Regius* or *King's Professors* by Henry VIII (a number in recent times increased to seven). The endowed teachers of some other subjects were at first called *prælectors*, but this has gradually been superseded by *professor*. See Rashdall *Univ. Europe Mid. Ages* I. 21, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 123 But men þat schulden be professoures of science of God synnen many weies aboute þis science. [1517 *Statutes Corpus Chr. Coll. Oxford*, Quorum trium unus sit Latinae linguae seminator et plantator, qui Lector seu Professor artium humanitatis appellatur.] 1540–1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 2 b, By his commandement, the professours of those sciences purposed openly questions. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* vii. 21 [They] amounted him to bee the Chiefe professor in Diuinitie. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 89 Geneua..the professor in diuinity..the professor in law..the professor of philosophy..the professor in Ebrew. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. (1676) 9/2 Our Regius Professour of physick. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 65 Dr. Richard Smith kings professour of Divinity in Oxford. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Commencement* iv, How bravely the Marg'ret-Professor Disputed. 1812 SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 18 The magistrates of Basle established a professor's chair for their Countryman [Paracelsus]. 1831 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1853) 407 It was to the salaried graduates that the title of *Professors*, in academical language, was at last peculiarly attributed. *a* 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. Pref., Only half of the following Lectures were delivered by me, as the Professor of Architecture, at the Royal Academy. 1895 RASHDALL *Univ. Europe Mid. Ages* I. 21 The three titles, Master, Doctor, Professor, were in the Middle Ages absolutely synonymous.

b. Prefixed as title to the name (sometimes abbrev. *Prof.*), and used in addressing the person.

1706 BENTLEY *Corr.* I. 231 Pray tell Professor Cotes that the book..is presented by Sir Isaac Newton. *Ibid.* 232 (address) To Mr. Professor Sike, at Trinity College, in Cambridge. 1726 S. SEWALL *Letter-Bk.* 3 Feb., You may..comunicate this to Mr. Professour. 1735 *St. Andrews University Minutes* 10 June, Sederunt: The Rector, Provost Young, Principal Drew, Professor Tullideph, Masters John Craigie, Henry Ramsay [etc.]. 1787 BURNS *Let. to Clarinda* 21 Dec., If you know anything of Professor Gregory, you will neither doubt of his abilities nor his sincerity. 1790 COWPER *Let. to Mrs. King* 5 Oct., I ..do not find among them the name of Mr. Professor Martyn. 1825 *Minutes King's Coll. Aberdeen* 3 May, Professors Paul, Tulloch, and Scott. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* vii, Stand in the light of the window, Professor, said I.—The Professor took up the desired position. 1888 *Athenæum* 30 June 830/3 Prof. Bell exhibited..a specimen of a tube-forming actonian..in its tube.

c. Loosely applied to a professor-like person.

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Truth* Wks. (Bohn) II. 54 They hate the French, as frivolous;..they hate the Germans, as professors. 1865 MAURICE in *Reader* 8 Apr. 392/3 The sophists, whom Mr. Grote perhaps more rightly calls the professors of Greece, who might bear the name of Critics more properly than either.

5. One who makes a profession of any art or science; a professional man. Also, in modern use, a 'professional' as opposed to an 'amateur' in any form of sport.

1563 T. GALE *Inst. Chirurg.* 10 b, It woulde come to estimation, and be a worshipfull lyuynge to the professer. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 16 b, A greater shame is it for a professor of husbandry, to be vnskilful in the ground whereon his whole trade lyeth. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 41 b, This fault is peculiar to certaine schoolemaisters, and other professours of learning. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 327 Asbolius, a professor of wrestling. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 156 The Lawyers..should more carefully have preserved their Profession and its Professours from being profaned by those Services. 1819 MOORE *Tom Crib* 13 *note*, Mr. Jackson..forms that useful link between the amateurs and the professors of pugilism. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Nov. 7/2, I think that professionalism in Rugby football in the North of England is inevitable, and that it will bring with it a rupture between the North and South is no less certain...In this case..there will be no international cups for the professors and no North v. South match.

b. Assumed as a grandiose title by professional teachers and exponents of various popular arts and sciences, as dancing, juggling, phrenology, etc.

1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* IV. v. 255 The word Professor—now so desecrated in its use that we are most familiar with it in connection with dancing-schools, jugglers' booths, and veterinary surgeries. 1893 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 4/3 Professor T. B. (the World's Champion High Diver).

6. *Comb.*, as *professor-like* adj.

1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 253 The letter..displays more understanding..than all the professor-like verbiage of Sir James Steuart.

Hence **Profe·ssordom**, the domain or sphere of professors; professors collectively; **Profe·ssorling** [see -LING 2], a petty or embryo professor.

1870 *Contemp. Rev.* XVI. 21 Its long combat with German Professordom. 1892 *Cath. News* 23 Jan. 3/3 The tyranny of professordom and tyranny of the state. 1903 H. G. WELLS in *T. P.'s Weekly* 13 Nov. 761/2 A provincial professorling in the very act of budding.

Professorate (profe·sərĕt). [f. prec. + -ATE 1; so F. *professorat* (Dict. Acad. 1835).]

1. The office of professor; professorship.

1860 KINGSLEY *Limits Exact Science* 1 The whole of such small powers as I possess will be devoted to this Professorate. 1875 M. PATTISON *Casaubon* 60 He will do better things in time—that is the cry of these years of the Genevan professorate. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1448 Calls to other charges and to theological professorates.

2. A body of professors; = PROFESSORIATE 1.

1872 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 282 Enter Oriel or Corpus, and learn lessons of your great Professorate. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 64/1 A complex organization for the higher education, with a regular professorate.

Professoress (profe·sərĕs). [f. PROFESSOR + -ESS 1.] A female professor.

(Also used for Ger. *Professorin*, wife of a professor.)

1740–87 *Lett. Miss Talbot*, etc. (1808) 34 Nor can [I] be so happy as to have any assistance from the professoress in fine speeches. 1845 *Athenæum* Feb. 204 A Symphony by a Parisian professoress, Madame Farrenc, was performed. 1848 SARA COLERIDGE in *Q. Rev.* Mar. 440 Descriptions are given of the College, and some lecturing of one of the professoresses is reported. 1850 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. *Tennyson* 228 The female college, with its professoresses, and hostleresses, and other Utopian monsters. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 352 The worshipful Mr. Professor Zachariah, and ..his wife, the worshipful Mrs. Professoress Zachariah.

Professorial (prōfesō·riăl), *a.* [f. L. *professōri-us* belonging to a public teacher (see PROFESSOR) + -AL. So obs. F. *professorial* (18th c. in Littré).] Of or pertaining to a professor; characteristic of a professor or body of professors; pedagogic, dogmatic.

1713 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Freethink.* § 43 Those persons, for their Professorial interest, and to keep the Pagan System in some countenance against the objections of Christians, had quite alter'd the old Schemes of Philosophy. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 384 Too much of the Professorial or Sophistical Spirit. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. lvii. *note*, They endowed a professorial chair for the expounding of his verses. 1886 F. POLLARD in *Antiquary* Feb. 53/2 Causing..professorial and tutorial duties to be entirely suspended.

Hence **Professo·rialism**, the professorial system, constitution, or practice; **Professo·rially** *adv.*, in a professorial manner; in the manner of a professor.

a 1846 *Ec. Rev.* (cited in Worcester), Professorialism. 1864 WEBSTER, *Professorialism*, the character, manners, or habits of a professor. 1901 *Athenæum* 17 Aug. 214/1 An..invasion of the solemn precincts of professorialism by a petulant Junker. 1884 *Daily News* 27 June (in Cassell's *Encycl. Dict.*), Merely lecturing professorially.

Professoriate (prōfesō·riĕt). [f. as prec. + -ATE 1.]

1. A body of professors; the professorial staff of a university.

1858 W. M. CAMPION in *Cambr. Ess.* 167 The revivification of a teaching professoriate. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VIII. lxiv. 281 Even the extensive professoriate of the Flavian and later emperors comprised no chairs for the teaching of mathematics. 1895 RASHDALL *Univ. Europe Mid. Ages* II. 276 The Universities [in Germany] were thus provided with a permanent Professoriate, and this Professoriate succeeded in time in ousting the unendowed Regent Masters from all real academic power.

2. The office of professor; a professorship.

[1860 READE *8th Commandm.* 24 So he dismissed himself from the professariat, and became what we call at our Universities 'a private tutor'.] 1885 *Times* 3 Feb. 9/3 Young men who were studying for the priesthood or for the professoriate.

Professorship (profe·səɹʃip). [f. PROFESSOR + -SHIP.]

1. The office or function of a professor.

1641 HEYLIN *Hist. Episc.* II. (1657) 385 After his returne, he tooke upon him the Professour-ship in the Schoole afore said. 1678 WALTON *Sanderson* b 5, Dr. Pridiaux succeeded him in the Professorship, in which he continued till the year 1642,..and then our now Proctor Mr. Sanderson succeeded him in the Regius Professorship. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 23 Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 233 The Regis Professorship of Divinity. 1854 R. WILLIS in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 167 The private room and laboratory of the Professorship are placed on the ground floor.

b. with possessive, as a humorous title.

1656 HOBBES *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 297 Your professorships could not forbear to take occasion thereby, to commend your zeal against *Leviathan* to your doctorships of divinity. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 5 (1754) 25 'Indeed', quoth his professorship upon this, 'yes, really, I have heard of strange doings there'.

2. The position of a professor of religion. *rare.*

1869 W. ARNOT *Life J. Hamilton* iv. (1870) 180 The cozy self-coddling ways of modern professorship.

† Profe·ssory, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. *professōrius*: see PROFESSORIAL and -ORY 2.] Of or pertaining to professors; professorial.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. Ded. to King § 8 This dedicating of Foundations and Dotations to professory Learning hath..had a Maligne..influence vpon the growth of Scyences.

Profet, -ett, -ette, obs. ff. PROFIT, PROPHET.

Proff(e, obs. forms of PROOF.

Proffer (prǫfəɹ), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **profre**, 4–8 **profer**, 5 **profire**, **-ure**, **-yre**, etc.: see the vb. [ME. *profre*, a. AF. *profre* (*a* 1240 in Godef.), OF. *poroffe*, **poroffre*, vbl. sb. f. *poroffrir*: see next.] An act of proffering; an offer.

1. The act of offering or presenting something for acceptance, or of proposing to do something; an offer; a proposal. Now chiefly *literary.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4413 Of þe quenes profer þe puple hadde reuþe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 346 Thei profren hem to his servise: And he hem thonketh of here profre And seith himself he wol gon offre. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 Þai behete þaim þat er enseged so faire proffers. *c* 1440 LYDG. *Chron.* in *Harvard Studies* (1897) V. 210 The kynge..Gret profres made..of golde & tresoure. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 70 b, Hee refused the money when lawful profer was made of it. 1652 T. WHITFIELD *Doctr. Armin.* 58 Though the proferre of Salvation be conditionall. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 93 Hoping that the enemy..would make a proffer of peace. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xxxii, Accepting the proffer with a delicate white hand.

† 2. An act or movement as in beginning or attempting to do something, or as if one were about to do something; a show of intention to do something; an essay, attempt, endeavour, trial.

(The alleged sense 'a rabbit-burrow' (in Halliwell, and thence in recent Dicts.) appears to be founded on a misunderstanding of the use in quot. 1577.)

?*a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2857 We salle blenke theire boste for alle theire bolde profire. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 8819 (Trin.) For no profur þat þei dude [þe tre] wolde not þere stonde in stude. 1456 in *Cov. Corp. Chr. Plays* App. iii. 116 That no fals treitour, ne cruell tirrant, Shall in eny wyse make profer to your lande. 1532 in More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 389/2 The priest..playeth out the reste vnder silence with signes and profers, with nodding, becking, and mowing. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. xxiv. (1877) I. 338 Conies in making profers and holes to breed in, haue scraped them [coins] out of the ground. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1094/2 After some resistance..and profer of onset made by their horssemen, they were put to flight. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 236 It is done..by little and little and with many Essays and Proffers. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 32 You may observe..how many proffers they make to dip. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 206 With your Compasses find the Center on the backside of the Round Board (with several proffers if need require).

† b. In extended or loose use: An indication of something about to happen; a very slight manifestation of some quality; a sign, a trace. *Obs.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxi. 167 Ye foresaied signes & profres towardes ye chaunge of ye worlde. 1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 163 The characters I have nam'd..cannot have the least cast or profer of the amiable in them.

3. *Law.* A provisional payment of estimated dues into the Exchequer by a sheriff or other officer at certain appointed times.

(Inaccurately explained in Cowell and later dicts. as the time of such payments, etc.)

[1290 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 58/1 Quod non venerunt ad profrum..etiam quia non venerunt super compotum Vicecomitis tempestive.] 1450 *Ibid.* V. 175/2 Shirreffs, Eschetours, or eny other persones that shall make their profres betwene the Feste of Ester, and the first day of Juyll. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 21 § 2 The said terme..shall..begynne the Monday next aftre Trinitie Sonday..for the keping of thessoygnes profers retornes and other ceremonies. [1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Profer* (*profrum vel proferum*), is the time appointed for the acompts of Shyreeues, and other officers in the Exchequer, which is twice in the yeare, *anno* 51 *H.* 3. *stat. quint.*] 1620 J. WILKINSON *Coroners & Sheriffes* 45 He hath entred Recognisance for his proffers. 1701 *Cowell's Interpr.* s. v. *Profre Vice-comitis*, Altho' these Proffers are paid, yet if upon conclusion of the Sheriffs Accompts,..it appears that..he is charged

with more than indeed he could receive, he hath his Proffers paid or allowed to him again. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. xi. 379 Each of these magistrates..paid in to the Exchequer such an instalment or *proffer* as he could afford.

Proffer (prɒ·fəɹ), *v.* Forms: 3–5 profre, (4 profry, proofre), 4–5 proffre, 4–7 profere, proferre, 4–8 profer, (5 profir, -yr, prouffer, prouffre, peroffer, propher, 5–6 profor(re, profur), 5- proffer. [ME. *profr-en, proffre*, a. AF. *proffrir, -er*, late OF. *proffrir* = OF. *purofrir* (*c* 1080 in Godef.), *poroffrir*, f. OF. *pur, por* (F. *pour*):—L. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *offrir*:—Romanic type **offerĕre* or **offerīre*:—L. *offerre* to OFFER. From the interchange of *f* and *ff*, the early forms are often identical with those of PROFER *v.*; and in certain senses (L. *prōferre* having sometimes the sense 'proffer', and It. *profferire* combining 'proffer' and 'profer') the two verbs are difficult to distinguish: see also PROFER.]

1. *trans.* To bring or put before a person for acceptance; to offer, present, tender. Now *literary* and usually in PROFFERED *ppl. a.* 1.

Const. with direct and indirect (dative) obj., the latter with or without *to*. With direct or indirect passive.

13.. *Cursor M.* 4358 (Gött.) Scho..proferd him hir muth to kiss. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 254 Oure offrandes þat we offer, And oure praieres þat we profer. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 74 To hire he profreth his servise. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 105 Cookes..proferred me bread, with ale and wyne. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 174 And he peroffer resonable ransoun. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* vii. 9 Ys there eny man among you which wolde proffer his sonne a stone if he axed him bread? 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 18 He shall be proffered in marriage the best..virgin of their Iland. 1671 CROWNE *Juliana* I. Dram. Wks. 1873 I. 26 Five thousand crowns are profer'd To any one that will discover him. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, Mr. Winkle seized the wicker bottle which his friend proffered. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxi, Before proffering him this promised help.

b. *refl.* To offer or present oneself (or itself).

Const. *to* with simple obj. or inf., or *that* with clause.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 84/26 Seinte Fey..profrede hire to þe tormentores. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 1265 Þere-fore he profreþ him to fi3t. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 96 Ane of þe grettest meruailes..þat fischez..schall..come þider and profre þam self to þe deed. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* xi, Yet shalle I profere me to hym. 1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 30 Others, as executors profered themselues. 1721 ATTERBURY *Serm.*, 1 *Cor.* x. 13 (1734) I. 99 The Followers of his Fortune proffered themselves to be the ready Ministers of his Revenge. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 411 The Priest .. proffers himself that he will prove ..that it is not as they have given in their verdict.

c. *absol.* or with indirect obj. only: To make an offer. ? *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 67 On men of lawe Wrong lokede and largelich hem profrede. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 258/1 If any man will come and profre as it is supposed. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 417 The kyng of Gales proferd hym feyer: 'Wed my dowghttyr and myn Eyer'. 1575 R. B. *Appius & Virg.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 152, I proffer you fair: You shall be my full executor and heir.

2. with *inf.* To make a proposal or offer, propose (to do something): = OFFER *v.* 4. Rarely with clause (quot. *c* 1350), or simple obj. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3908 That God almy3ty, ..Profrede hym to kesse so louely. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2489 þe prouost dede pertli profer..What man..mi3t he beres take, He schuld gete of gold garissoun. 1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 2 John Bower proferd to selle hym a laste of osmundes. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 50 Sende to hem..that thei yelde yow the castell..and profer hem to go saf with their lyves. 1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* Ep. Ded. (1660) 2 A necessitous person .. proffer'd to sell the Copy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 425 None .. So hardie as to proffer or accept Alone the dreadful voyage. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome, Commodus* I. 191 They proffer'd to submit upon his own terms. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Poor Relations*, He proffereth to go for a coach and lets the servant go.

†**3.** with *inf.* To make an attempt, to essay: = OFFER *v.* 5 b. Also *refl.* with *inf.* (quot. *c* 1475). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 326 An engyn had þei þer in, & profred for to kast. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12048 Eneas ..Put hym in prise & profferit to say. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilzear* 149 The King profferit him to gang, and maid ane strange fair. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 122 When the Frenchemen profered to enter, the Englishmen bet them of with bylles. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. ii. § 9 This priviledge was profered afterwards by some Saxon Kings to be restored; which Turketill would never consent unto.

†**b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To make a movement as if about to do something; to begin to act or move, and then stop or turn back: *spec.* of a stag; see quots., and cf. PROFFER *sb.* 2 and REPROFFER. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Brut* (E.E.T.S.) 424 There they lay two dayes and two nyghtis, and no pepull proferid oute to hem. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* E vij, The hert..He proferith..and so ye shall say For he wot not hym selfe yit how he will a way. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 100 When he [an hart] leapeth into the water and commeth out againe the same way, then he profereth. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* II. v. 907 The Hart..being in the water, proferd, and reproferd, and proferd againe. *a* 1650 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* Wks. (1904) 213 To play the amorous spies, And peep and proffer at thy sparkling Throne. [1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Proffer*, to dodge any one. *Devon.* (Not now known, E.D.D.)]

†**4.** *trans.* To offer (battle, injury, etc.); to attempt to inflict: = OFFER *v.* 3 f, 5. *Obs.*

1471 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 273 Dayly he prophered batayle his enmys durst not fyghte. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 507 Ye prouffer me owterage. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 36 b, The citezens..manfully profered to skyrmish, but thei w[t] archers were sone driuen backe. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 89 Which of them hath profferred me the greatest villany.

Hence **Pro·fferable** *a.*, that can be proffered.

1822 G. DARLEY *Errors of Ecstasie* 38 Didst thou not quit ..No proferable cause asserted why, The track?

Proffered (prɒ·fəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. Offered for acceptance.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 513 Swich profred seruyse Stynketh, as witnessen thise olde wyse. 1539 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* (1552) 27 Profered ware stynketh. Seruyce y[t] is wyllyngly offered is for moost parte to be suspected. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) II. 75 The very best worthy do refuse proffered promotion. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 4/2 Most commonly, proferede witnesse is reprehendable. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 766 Methinks such terms of proffer'd peace you bring, As once Æneas to th' Italian king. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) II. XIII. II. 155 The conditions annexed to the proffered indemnity. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxi. 464 The Dean refused the proffered mitre.

†**2.** Attempted; offered, as an injury. *Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 322 Through the proferred iniuries of naughtie people.

Proffer·er (prɒ·fərəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER[1].] One who proffers; one who makes an offer.

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* II. (1570) B ij, So many woers, baudes and brokers, Flatterers, liers, and hastie proferers. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 56 Maides, in modesty, say no, to that, Which they would haue the profferer construe, I. 1697 COLLIER *Ess.* II. (1703) 58 He who always refuses taxes the proferer with indiscretion. 1723 *Postmaster* 31 May 4 The best Profferer [at a Sale] shall have a Reasonable Price.

Pro·ffering, *vbl. sb.* Now *rare* exc. as gerund. [See -ING[1].] The action of the verb PROFFER.

1. The action of offering for acceptance or sale; an offer; a proposal: = PROFFER *sb.* 1.

1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxiv. 18 The profryng [1382 profre] of hem pleside Emor and Sichem. 1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 59/1 Such [wools] as shal be opened at Caleys at the sale or proferyng of sale by theym. 1647 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 103 That no person free of this Society ..beare about the Streets..any Ware made of Brasse or Copper, by the way of Hawking or Proffering.

†**2.** = PROFFER *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 80 In such signes and proffring Many prety tales..had they.

†**Profica·cious**, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [? f. L. *prōfic-ĕre* to make progress, profit + -ACIOUS. Cf. *efficacious.*] Advantageous, profitable.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 204 It would proue somewhat proficacious, if the Councell did send Gerrolt Fennell .. to advise phisically that potator Generall to forgoe distempers and surfeites.

†**Profi·ciary.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. f. med.L. *prōficium*, var. of *prōficuum* profit, subst. use of neuter of late L. *prōficu-us* beneficial, advantageous (for **prōficivus*), f. *prōficĕre* to be advantageous, to profit.] One who profits.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 122 Being ignorant what your practice is, and how you thriue thereby, commonly the best argument of a good Proficiary in that trade.

‖ **Proficiat** (profi·siæt). *Obs.* [obs. F. *proficiat* (16th c. in Littré), a. L. *prōficiat* 'may it profit', 3rd pers. pres. subj. of *prōfic-ĕre* to be advantageous, to profit.] A friendly greeting when meeting; payment to ensure a friendly welcome: cf. PROFACE, FOOTING *vbl. sb.* 9, HANDSEL *sb.* 2.

[1611 COTGR., *Proficiat*, a fee, or beneuolence bestowed on Bishops, in manner of a welcome, immediately after their installments.] 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xvii, These buzzards wil have me to pay them here my welcom hither, and my *Proficiat*. *Ibid.* xxxiv, For my *Proficiat* I drink to all good fellowes. *Ibid.* II. xxx.

†**Profi·cience.** *Obs.* [f. PROFICIENT: see -ENCE.] Movement onward, progress, advance, improvement; hence, the degree of advancement attained; skill, proficiency.

1605 (*title*) The Twoo Bookes of Francis Bacon. Of the proficience and aduauncement of Learning, diuine and humane. *a* 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus* (1636) 91 The tokens of proficience in goodnesse. 1673 MILTON *True Relig.* 14 Implicit faith, ever learning and never taught, much hearing and small proficience. 1713 STEELE *Guard.* No. 43 P 8 Bat Pigeon..has attained to great proficience in his art. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Miss Thrale* 24 July, Your proficience in arithmetick is not only to be commended but admired.

Proficiency (profi·ʃənsi). [f. as prec. + -ENCY.]

†**1.** Progress or advance towards completeness or perfection; improvement in skill or knowledge, as distinguished from perfection.

1544 COVERDALE *Let. to C. Hubert* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 517 John Dodman,..I trust, has by this time made such proficiency in the German language, that I doubt not of his being able to discharge the duties of his office to the benefit of the church. 1624 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 7 Heaven is not a place of a proficiency, but of present perfection. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 317 The Hebrew and Chaldaick Tongues..became to be so generally embraced, and so chearfully studied, that it received a wonderful proficiency. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 118 We are now in a State of Proficiency, not of Perfection. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 164 Meanwhile he made little proficiency in fashionable or literary accomplishments. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. I. ii. 13 In sculpture and painting he also made some proficiency.

2. The state or degree of improvement attained; an advanced condition; the quality or fact of being proficient; adeptness, expertness, skill.

a 1639 WOTTON *Aphorisms Educ.* in *Relig.* (1672) 91 Pleasing themselves more in opinion of some proficiency, in terms of hunting or horsemanship. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 64 He has shown his Proficiency in the noble Science of Detraction. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii, A tolerable proficiency in their language. 1758 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. i. 17 The clergy in particular..were peculiarly remarkable for their proficiency in the study of the law. 1859 C. BARKER *Assoc. Princ.* II. 56 A proficiency in the use of these weapons being acquired..by..athletic games. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 23 Feb. 4/3 Men of over two years' service will be eligible for this proficiency pay (threepence or sixpence extra a day) by the attainment of a defined standard of skill in musketry, signalling, or some other branch.

b. (With *a* and *pl.*) Progress made or adeptness attained in a particular subject. *rare.*

a 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* I. (1668) 49 Partly by his own proficiencies, and partly by the good esteem which was had of his Father, he was nominated..unto a Scholars place in that House. *a* 1729 J. ROGERS *Serm.*, 1 *Cor. x.* 12 (1735) 104 Reflecting with too much Satisfaction on their own Proficiencies.

Proficient (profi·ʃənt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōficiens, -ent-em*, pres. pple. of *prōficĕre* to advance, make progress, profit, be useful, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *facĕre, -ficĕre* to do, make. So OF. *proficient* (15th c. in Godef.) productive.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** Going forward or advancing towards perfection; making progress, improving: opposed to *perfect. Obs. rare.*

1615 W. HULL *Mirr. Maiestie* 126 He is all-sufficient; neither deficient, nor proficient, because he is perfect and all sufficient. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Proficient*, helping forward, or profiting.

2. Advanced in the acquirement of some kind of skill; skilled; adept, expert.

c 1590 MARLOWE *Faust.* iii. 28 Who would not be proficient in this art? 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 145 No powder'd pert, proficient in the art Of sounding an alarm. 1801 SOUTHEY *Let. to C. W. W. Wynn* 21 Feb. in *Life* (1805) II. 132 The art..in which they were so proficient, may now be turned successfully against them. 1878 HOLBROOK *Hyg. Brain* 41 There are some subjects none can become proficient in. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 189 To become proficient in the use of the gun.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A learner who makes progress in something: opposed to one who is perfect. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 19, I am so good a proficient in one quarter of an houre, that I can drinke with any Tinker in his owne Language. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 334 These..are but proficients, and not yet arrived at the state of wisdom. 1721 R. KEITH tr. *T. à Kempis' Solil. Soul* xii. 194 He is the Way to Beginners, the Truth to Proficients, and Life to the more Perfect. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 165 The world's a school Of wrong, and what proficients swarm around We must or imitate, or disapprove.

2. One who has made good progress in some art or branch of learning; an advanced pupil or scholar; an expert, an adept.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. City of God* x. xxvii. 396 The great proficients of righteousnesse. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Proficient*, one that hath well profited. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 6 Who..became in short time so great a proficient, that he was capable of the more solid Arts. 1661 E. BARKER *Fun. Serm. Lady E. Capell* 4 Every pious man is an humble modest man, and never reckons himself a perfect proficient. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. Misc. v. i. 238 A Man of reading, and advanc'd in Letters, like a Proficient in the kind. 1816 W. HOLLAR *Dance of Death* 67 He..became so distinguished a proficient in polite learning, that he opened a school in his monastery for teaching the sons of the nobility the .. elegancies of composition. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. x. 438 The architect, painter, and general proficient in the arts.

†**3.** A thing that helps or conduces to progress.

1602 HEYWOOD *Wom. Kilde* Wks. 1874 II. 102, I am studied in all Arts; The riches of my thoughts, and of my time, Haue beene a good proficient.

Hence **Profi·ciently** *adv.*, with proficiency; with some skill; skilfully.

1835 BECKFORD *Recoll.* 104 Twanging away most proficiently. 1843 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 11. 65 *note*, They could not proficiently tint their woollen cloth.

†**Profi·cuous**, *a. Obs.* [f. late L. *prōficu-us* (Cassiodorus) beneficial (f. *prōfic-ĕre*: see prec.) + -OUS.] Profitable, advantageous, beneficial, useful.

1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 107 The Law intends the immediate possession of such Tenements which be proficuous. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 28 You may now believe nothing more profitcuous against the Plague.. than Phlebotomy. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 38 He for ever blest With like Examples, and to future Times Proficuous.

Profight, occasional scribal error for *perfight*, obs. f. PERFECT.

Profile (prōu·fil, -fil), *sb.* Also 8 **profil.** See also PURFLE. [ad. obs. It. *profilo*, now *profilo*, a border, a limning or drawing of any figure, sb. f. *profilare*, now *profilare* to PROFILE; from It. also mod.F. *profil*, formerly *porfil, pourfil* (1539–*c* 1700), profile, section, contour, from which some of the Eng. senses may have been directly taken.]

1. A drawing or other representation of the outline of anything; esp. of the human face, outlined by the median line.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Profile* (Ital. *profilo*), that design that shews the side with the rising or falling of any work; As a place drawn sideways, that is so as onely one side or moyety of it may be seen, is called the *Profile*; and is a term in painting. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Profil*..a

Face or Head set sideways, as usually on Medals, and such a Face is said to be in Profil, or in a Side View. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 139 Invented the profile to represent the side face of a prince who had lost one eye. 1833 R. Arnott *Physics* (ed. 5) II. I. 182 The shadow of a face on the wall is a correct profile.

2. *In profile*, as seen from one side, as opposed to a front view.

a 1668 Lassels *Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 172 The head in Profile of Alexander the great cut into marble. 1702 Addison *Dial. Medals* iii. (1726) 164 Till about the end of the third Century, when there was a general decay in all the arts of designing, I do not remember to have seen the head of a Roman Emperor drawn with a full face. They always appear in *profil*, to use a French term of art. 1746–7 Hervey *Medit.* (1818) 268 Sometimes, she appears in profile, and shews us only half her enlightened face. Anon, a radiant crescent but just adorns her brow. 1865 Lubbock *Preh. Times* xiv. (1869) 518 He excited great commotion among the Sioux by drawing one of their great chiefs in profile. 'Why was half his face left out,' they asked.

3. The actual outline or contour of anything, esp. of the human face; in quot. 1791 the horizontal contour-line of a hill.

1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* I. 13, I continually begin to measure the projectures of every Profile from the Central line of the Colomn. 1776 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* Ser. II. II. 225, I..discovered him at my elbow, modelling my antiquated profil. 1791 Newte *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 434 Leading canals around the profiles of hills. 1883 Stevenson *Silverado Sq.* 23 Mount Saint Helena.. excelled them by the boldness of her profile. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* i, Throw up your chin a moment, that I may catch the profile of your face better.

b. *transf.* A barometric curve.

1860 Maury *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) xxi. § 859 There is barely a resemblance between this profile of the atmosphere over the land and the profile of it over the sea.

4. *Arch., Surveying,* and *Engineering.* A sectional drawing, generally vertical; *esp.* in *Fortif.*, a transverse vertical section of a fort.

1669 Staynred *Fortification* 7 The Profile or Section of a Fort with a Fausse-Bray and Counterscarp. 1715 Desaguliers *Fires Impr.* 141 The Profil of a Chimney, cut by a Plane perpendicular to the Hearth and to the Back. 1803 Woodington in Gurw. *Wellington's Desp.* (1837) II. 291 The profile and elevation of the western front of the fort. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 148/2 A profile of the river was constructed, exhibiting the depth of water and mud to the rock. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* I. 21 The profile is a vertical section at right angles to the trace, and shows the true heights and breadths of the object.

b. *transf.* The comparative thickness of an earthwork or the like (as it would appear in transverse section); hence *ellipt.* an earthwork of strong or weak thickness.

1810 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) VI. 39 This line ought to be taken up generally by a chain of works, closed in the rear by a weak profile connected by a line. 1865 *Reader* 4 Mar. 247/3, 172 guns of position spread over a distance of five miles, which space was fortified by field-works of the weakest profile. 1891 *Daily News* 11 Nov. 5/5 A strong profile will be required on account of the great power of penetration which is given to the present bullet by the smokeless powder employed.

c. A light wooden frame set up to serve as a guide in forming an earthwork.

1834–47 J. S. Macaulay *Field Fortif.* iii. (1851) 50 When a work is traced on the ground..two profiles should be set up on each line, to show the workmen the form of the parapet, and to guide them in the execution of their task... These profiles, when made with straight slips of deal, or other wood, shew with great accuracy the form of the parapet, &c.

† 5. A ground-plan. *Obs.*

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 170 *Profile*, the same with *Ground-Plot.* 1701 J. Collier *Hist. Geog. Dict.* (ed. 2) s. v. *Cambalu*, It is true, that the Profil, or Draught of Cambalu, which the Portuguese have at Lisbon..differs from that of Peking, which the Hollanders brought.

6. In *Pottery* (and *Bell-founding*). A plate in which is cut the exterior or interior outline of one side of the object to be made.

1756 *Dict. Arts* s. v. *Foundery of Bells*, The core is judged to be in perfection, when the profile carries the fresh cement entirely off, without leaving any upon the last dry lay. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 462 With his fingers, ..he gives the first form to the vessel; then with different profiles, or ribs, he forms the inside of the vessel into whatever shape may be required, and smoothes it by removing the .. inequalities. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 46 The instruments employed for this purpose [giving the first form to a vessel in 'throwing'] are called profiles or ribs.

7. *Theatr.* A flat piece of scenery or property on the stage of a theatre, cut out in outline.

1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Jan. 10/1 A piece of 'profile' was left standing in contact with the gas-jets for twenty minutes without effect. 1906 Volpé in *P. T. O.* I. 14/2 Another 'villain' and myself had to cross the stage in a boat designed on lines usually known as 'profile'.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *profile head, line, painter, view*; **profile board**, a flat board or plate cut to a pattern, used to test the outside measurements of an object; a gauge; **profile cutter**, a cutting tool in wood- or metal-working machines, which corresponds in shape to the profile to be produced; **profile instrument, machine**, an apparatus formerly in use for taking silhouettes; **profile machine**, a machine for shaping the profile of small parts of machinery, in which the cutting tool is guided by a pattern; **profile paper**, paper ruled with equidistant vertical and horizontal lines, for convenience in drawing to scale; **profile piece**, *Theatr.*, = sense 7; **profile-wing**: see quot. 1873.

1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1828) V. 203 John Clarke .. did two profile heads in medal of William and Mary, Prince and Princess of Orange, yet dated 1690. 1767 Monro in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 503 A profile view of a small piece. 1788 Burns *Let. to R. Ainslie* 23 June, Mr. Miers, profile painter in your town, has executed a profile of Dr. Blacklock for me. 1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiii, Your likeness was took on my hart in much quicker time..than ever a likeness was took by the profeel macheen. 1842 Francis *Dict. Arts*, etc., *Silouette*, or *Profile Instrument*, a contrivance for taking the exact outline of an object, particularly the outline of a person's side face. 1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 278/2 Side scenes cut out thus are termed *profile wings.* 1892 Hasluck *Milling machines* 154 Fig. 134. Single-spindle profile milling machine .. used in small-arms factories for milling articles of irregular shape. 1892 *Appleton's Cycl. Techn. Drawing* 157 Profile paper can be obtained from stationers, on which are printed horizontal and vertical lines. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 125/2 The skull rounded with a slight peak—profile line nearly straight.

Profile (prō·ufīl, -fil), *v.* [ad. obs. It. *profilare* (mod. *profilare*) to draw in outline, f. *pro* :—L. *prō*, Pro- 1 1 a + *filare* to spin, † to draw a line :—late L. *filāre* to spin, f. L. *fīl-um* a thread. So mod.F. *profiler*, formerly *porfiler*, *pourfiler* (Cotgr. 1611). See also Purfle.]

1. *trans.* To represent in profile; to delineate the side view or outline of; to draw in section; to outline. Also *fig.*

1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 21, I have profil'd the Imposts of the Arches. *Ibid.* 30 The method of profiling each Member. 1882 E. P. Hood in *Leisure Ho.* Apr. 225 Instances in which he thus profiles his contemporaries. 1902 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 838 The delicate tracery of the leaves [was] profiled against the sunset sky.

2. To furnish with a profile (of a specified nature), give an outline to; also, to cause to form a profile. (In first quot. *profiled* may be an adj. = having a profile (of a certain kind), outlined.)

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 496 The Grecian Ionic specimens of capitals,..are, generally speaking, better profiled than those of the Romans. 1865 J. Fergusson *Hist. Archit.* I. II. II. i. 401 Had they [Gothic architects] carefully profiled and ornamented the exterior of the stone roofs.

Hence **Pro·filed** *ppl. a.*, **Pro·filing** *vbl. sb.*; **profiling-machine** = *profile machine*: see prec. 8.

1715 Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 15 The profil'd Architrave, mark'd F. 1888 W. P. P. Longfellow in *Scribner's Mag.* III. 426 One of the secrets of good profiling. 1892 Hasluck *Milling machines* 152 Fig. 133 is a two-spindle profiling machine, and the cutter will profile or surface to the extreme limit of the table area. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. p. xix, The profiled figures in low relief.

Profilist (prō·ufilist). [f. Profile *sb.* + -ist.] One who produces profile portraits or silhouettes.

a 1800 *Inscription Profile Portrait* in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 357/1 Charles fecit, the first Profilist in England. 1808 Lamb *Let. to T. Manning* 26 Feb., Mrs. Beetham the Profilist or Pattern Mangle woman opposite St. Dunstan's. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXIX. 60 Likenesses..of our host and his lady, taken in fifteen seconds by an itinerant profilist. 1905 Holman-Hunt *Pre-Raphaelitism* II. 208 The profilist who did the silhouette.

Profilograph (prōfī·lograf). [a. F. *profilographe* (so named by its inventor Dumoulin), f. Profile *sb.* + Gr. -γραφ-os writer, delineator: see -graph.] A machine which traces mechanically the contour line of the ground over which it travels.

Exhibited at Paris Universal Exhibition 1855; the subject of Eng. Patent No. 1464, but not there named. See *La Nature* (1880) II. 31.

1890 in *Century Dict.*, and later Dicts.

Profilo·meter. [ad. F. *profilomètre* (Brocas); in Ger. *profilzeichner* (Hasting); f. Profile *sb.* + -ometer.] An instrument for measuring and delineating the profile of the face, by means of adjustable rods sliding in a frame, so as to give with their ends a continuous outline.

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.*

‖ **Profilure.** *Obs. rare*—1. [obs. F. *profilure*, f. *profiler* to Profile: see -ure.] A border.

1664 Evelyn tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. i. 89 Together with Tuscan Profilures [*les profileures Toscanes*] both at the Base and Capital.

Profir, -ire, obs. forms of Proffer.

Profit (prɒ·fit), *sb.* [a. OF. and mod.F. *profit* (= earlier OF. *prufit* (*a* 1140 in Godef. *Compl.*), *pur-, po(u)rfit*, in 15th c. *prouf(f)it*):—L. *prōfect-us* advance, progress, profit, f. L. *prōfic-ĕre* (ppl. stem *prōfect-*) to advance: see Proficient.

The OF. forms in *prū-, prou-*, immediately represent L. *prō-*; those in *pur-, por-, pour-*, agree with the usual OF. representation of the L. prep. and prefix *prō*, in mod.F. *pour.* Of the various ME. types, *profit* coincides with later OF. and mod.F.; *prouf(f)it* reproduces the 15th c. Fr.; *profect* was a Renascence assimilation to L. *profect-us*; and *prophit, phet*, an erroneous spelling after *prophet*, L. *propheta* (see PH). With *profist, profight*, cf. the similar *perfist, perfight*, under Perfect *a.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

a. 4– **profit**; 4–6 **-ite, -yt**, 4–7 **-et**, 5 **-et(t)e**, 5–6 **-ett, -itte, -yte**, 6 **-eit**; 5–6 **proffet, -ette, -it**, 6 **-uyt, -uyte, -ute, -yte, -eit**, 7 **-itt.**

c 1325, *c* 1330, etc. Profyt, Profit [see B. 1, etc.]. *a* 1340 Profet [see B. 2]. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1 For profite þat he feld. 14.. *Customs of Malton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 58 All y^e proffettes of y^e sayd walles. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 835 To tho Lybeaus profyte. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 527/2 Wode, or profitte of Wode. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. 1. 50 A syngler profette hyrtyth and harmyth a comyn wele. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 A Proffet. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xiv. 53 They think no sin, quhair proffeit cumis betwene. 1521 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 11 Of the next profettes. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxvi. 228 Nor haue had but small profyte. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 20 And seikkis his awne wil and profeit. 1536 *Act* 27 *Hen. VIII*, c. 42 § 7 The profutes yerely goyng to and for the exhibicion. 1546 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 196 Revenuez & proffuytes. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 102 The proffet..wold conteruaile wyth the toile. 1588 Profite [B. 6]. 1604 Profitt [B. 5].

β. 4 **profi3t, -y3t**, 5 **-yht, -ith**, 6 **-ight, -yght, -ygth, -ygtt.**

c 1315 Shoreham *Poems* vii. 434 3ef hy hade be mad parfy3t, We nedde y-haued ry3t no profy3t. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 3 Medlynge to gidre profi3tes and swetnes [orig. *utile dulci*]. 1447 Bokenham *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 30 To profyht of the cherche. 1538 Audley in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 242 More..then eny profight in the world. 1545 Brinklow *Compl.* 10 b, That it make for the profyght of Antichristes Knyghtes.

γ. 4 **prophit, -ite, -et**, 4–5 **-ete**, 5 **-yt.**

[1362 Prophitable [see Profitable 1].] *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 609 Þat I gyf þe for þi prophit And als of wynnyng for delyt. 1387 Prophete [see B. 1]. 1473 Warkw. *Chron.* (Camden) 25 The Kynge .. toke the prophete of the Archebysshopperyche.

δ. 5 **prouffit, -ite, -yt**, 5–6 **-yte.**

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 42 The commoun prouffit of the toune. 1488 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 2 For prouffyte of euery man. 1509 Fisher *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 307 We sholde more regarde our owne prouffytes.

ε. 5–6 **profect, 6 proffect, profecte, -fict.**

1465 Marg. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 188 That she may not have the profects of Clyre ys place. 1528 Lyndesay *Dreme* 910 To thare singulare proffect. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref., More to their profecte & benefite. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 6 For commune profict.

B. Signification.

1. The advantage or benefit (of a person, community, or thing); use, interest; the gain, good, well-being. Formerly sometimes *pl.* when referring to several persons.

c 1315 [see A. *β*]. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 60 Þat were my ioye and my delit, And to my soule a gret profyt. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 159 It is my profit, to myn I wille þam holde. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 153, I have 3itte out all my patrimony into 3oure prophetes [L. *in commoda vestra*]. 1439 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 156 He..schal be amercied in xij*d.* to the commune profite. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. iii. 10 He doth it more for his owen prouffyt than he doth it for other. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Macc.* x. 20 Y^t thou mayest considre what is for oure profit. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 30 Where I spake of profite..vnder the same is comprehended the getting of gaine, and the eschuyng of harme. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* xiv. 138 Profit is the Compasse, by which Factious men steere their course in all seditious Commotions. 1709 Addison *Tatler* No. 100 ¶ 6 Posts of Honour, Dignity, and Profit. 1712 J. James tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 142 Its Wood is..fit for no Use,..so that it is a Tree of no Kind of Profit. 1810 Bentham *Packing* (1821) 183 The learned gentleman..of whose learning we have already made our profit. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iv. 240 This power you hold for profit of myself And all the world at need.

b. *transf.* That which is to the advantage or benefit of some one or something.

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. iv. 62 A man..who..Doth rebate, and blunt his naturall edge With profits of the minde. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 379, I thanke you for this profit.

† 2. The advantage or benefit of or resulting from something. *Obs.*

a 1349 Hampole *Psalter* ix. 36 What profet has he to doe swa many illes? 1382 Wyclif *Rom.* iii. 1 What profyt of circumcisioun? Moche by alle maner. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (MS. Egerton 2622, lf. 140), Nexte þou most know.. qwat is þe profet of þis craft. 1535 Coverdale *Prov.* iii. 13 The gettinge of it is better then eny marchaundise of syluer, & the profit of it is better then golde. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 1 He had not seene any profit to come by any Synode. 1628 Hobbes *Thucyd.* (1822) 154 Both justice and profit of revenge..can never possibly be found together in the same thing.

† b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of this; a good result or effect of something. *Obs.*

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) v. vii. 416 Twelue other prouffytes the whiche cometh of good werkes done in mortall synne. 1543 Traheron *Vigo's Chirurg.* I. i. 1 In the whych Anatomie the vtilities and profectes of the same are declared.

† 3. Progress, advance, improvement; = Proficience, Proficiency 1. *Obs. rare.*

1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 7 My brother Iaques he keepes at schoole, and report speakes goldenly of his profit.

4. That which is derived from or produced by some source of revenue, e. g. ownership of land, feudal or ecclesiastical rights or perquisites, taxes, etc.; revenue, proceeds, returns. Chiefly *pl.*

[1292 Britton III. iii. § 4 Tut le profit qe il prist pur le mariage soit restoré as amis et as parentz la femme.] 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 7 Þe firste benefice þat voydede, wiþ þe fruyt and prophetes. 1447–8 Shillingford *Lett.* (Camden) 91 The amerciamentis issuys and proffits therof comyng. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 120 What profites arryse of the christenyng of children, of mariages, pilgrimages [etc.]. *Ibid.* 286 The Duke of Saxon..shall kepe the town and Caste} of Gothe, with al the profite. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 366 The fines, perquisites, amercements, and other profites growing out of the trials of such causes. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 374

The limitation to F. M. to enjoy and take the profits during his life, and after his decease to the heirs male of his body.

5. The pecuniary gain in any transaction; the amount by which value acquired exceeds value expended; the excess of returns over the outlay of capital: in commercial use chiefly in pl. In *Pol. Econ.*, The surplus product of industry after deducting wages, cost of raw materials, rent, and charges. † In early use also including interest.

1604 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1848) II. 256 The soume of ane hundreth merkis..borrowit..be the toune..and to pay..the soume of four pundis, for the proffitt of the said soume for the half-yeir past. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 137 Nor is the Profit small, the Peasant makes, Who smooths with Harrows, or who pounds with Rakes The crumbling Clods. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 194 The profits of any work that may be done in said hospitals to be also added to the revenue of the said hospitals. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. vi. (1869) I. 54 The revenue derived from labour is called wages. That derived from stock, by the person who manages or employs it, is called profit. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* III. v. 291 The profits of capital are only another name for the wages of accumulated labour. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 24 Nobody would be an innkeeper if it were not for the profit. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 5/2 His profits diminished at the rate of 60 per cent.

6. *Phrases.* **a.** *Profit and loss* (†*profit or loss*), an inclusive expression for the gain and loss made in a series of commercial transactions, and the gain or loss made in one transaction; esp. in *profit and loss account*, an account in book-keeping to which all gains are credited and losses are debited, so as to strike a balance between them, and ascertain the net gain or loss at any time. In *Arithmetic*, the name of a rule by which the gains or losses on commercial transactions are calculated.

1588 J. MELLIS *Briefe Instr.* E viij, Of the famous accompt called profite or losse, or otherwise Lucrum or Damnum, and how to order it in the Leager. *Ibid.* ch. xviii, Item touching the accomptes (of profite and losse) of necessitie it must haue one accompt proper in some one place of your Leager. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 372 Wheras you made ouer..the sum of 2300ll sterling you now receiue backe 2363ll 11s8, whereby your profit is 63ll 11s8, of this you make your Factor Debitor, and the account of Profit and Losse Creditor. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. xlvii. 170, 500 Chests of Japan Copper..were brought into Account of Profit and Loss, for so much eaten up by the white Ants. 1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893) 244 If the Profit and Loss Account shews a nett gain the balance is placed on the Cr. side of Capital Account; if a loss, on the Dr. side. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* lvi, She was too deeply materialized..by her long and enforced bondage to that arithmetical demon Profit-and-Loss, to retain much curiosity for its own sake.

b. ‖ *Profit à prendre* [F., = profit to take], see quot. 1876. † *To fall profit*: see FALL *v.* 46 c. *In profit*, said of milch cattle: giving milk, in milk. † *To profit*, to a remunerative employment. † *Upon profit* (*Sc.*), at interest.

1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 391 The remanent of hir barnis nocht put to proffeit as yit, to the nowmer of four dochteris and ane sone. 1588 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 520 Money [to be] gotten vpoun proffeitt for making thair charges. 1602 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1848) II. 234 The sowme of ane hundreth merkis to be..vpliftit vpon proffitt be the thesaurer. 1658 tr. *Coke's Rep.* VI. 60 b (1826), They claim not a charge, or profit apprender in the soil of another, but a discharge in their own land. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* iii. 154 If the right is to take a portion of the soil or the produce of the soil of another, the right is called a *profit à prendre*. 1884 *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., 19 excellent dairy cows and heifers..in calf or profit.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *profit income, -monger, -mongering, statement*; *profit-proof* adj.; objective and obj. genitive, as *profit-grinder, -producer, -snatcher*; *profit-earning, -hunting, -making, -pooling, -seeking*, sbs. and adjs.

1552 HULOET, Profite taker. 1599 DANIEL *Musophilus* i, Other delights than these, other desires This wiser profit-seeking Age requires. 1681 D'URFEY *Progr. Honesty* xiii, No man that's profit-proof, nor woman true. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 15 A forced increase to the multitude of profit-yielding suits. 1888 *Charity Organis. Rev.* Jan. 19 The grinding exaction of the profit-monger and middleman. 1891 MISS POTTER in *Daily News* 18 July 5/1 The upper and middle-class..demand the servility of the profit-making traders. 1893 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 297 The struggle against the terrible power of the profit-grinder. 1898 CHR. MURRAY in *Daily News* 27 Jan. 6/4 In the early days, a Colony was regarded as a profit-yielding settlement. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Nov. 2/1 Germany also has a large profit-income, though on a much smaller scale than ours.

b. Special Combs.: **profit-rent**, a rent of which the amount is due to a tenant's improvements; **profit-sharing**, the sharing of profits, *spec.* between employer and employed, or between capital and labour; so *profit-sharer*; **profit-taking** (*Stock-exchange*), the act of realizing the profit obtainable by the sale of stock, etc., in which a rise in price has taken place.

1859 TROLLOPE *West Indies* xiv, The small, grasping, *profit-rent landlords. 1881 S. TAYLOR in *19th Cent.* May 802 (*title*) *Profit-sharing. 1884 — (*title*) Profit-Sharing between Capital and Labour. 1891 *Chambers' Encycl.* VIII. 437/1 Those who have tested any system of profit-sharing declare that it requires much time and pains to produce substantial results; and a difficulty..is that *profit-sharers are not unfrequently unwilling to share the losses of the concern. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Nov. 7/4 A jump of 1 to 7 in prices,.. brought out enormous *profit-taking sales largely by houses which bought early in London. 1897 *Ibid.* 17 July 3/1 Stocks reacted under heavy profit-taking. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 21 Sept. 1/7 At Paris the Bourse opened firm, but fell away on profit-taking.

Profit (prɒ·fit), *v.* Forms: see the sb.; also 4 **profiti, profetye**. [ME. a. F. *profiter*, earlier OF. *prufiter* (*a* 1140 in Hatz.-Darm.), *po(u)rfiter*, f. *prufit, profit* PROFIT *sb.*]

I. †**1.** *intr.* To make progress; to advance, go forward; to improve, prosper, grow, increase (in some respect). *Obs.*

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 6 Ay þe mare I profette in þe luf of Jhesu þe swetter I fand it. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ii. 52 And Jhesu profitide in wysdom, age, and grace anemptis God and men. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 431/1 Prouffytyng from vertue in to vertue. 1540 R. WISDOME in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. cxv. 325 Loe!..yee se that we profect nothing at al. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 15 My husband saies my sonne profits nothing in the world at his Booke. 1607–12 BACON *Ess., Empire* (Arb.) 296 The minde of Man is more cheared, and refreshed by profitinge in smale things, then by standing at a stay in great.

II. 2. *trans.* Of a thing: To be of advantage, use, or benefit to; to do good to; to benefit, further, advance, promote. (Orig. *intr.*, with indirect obj. (dative), which was at length treated as direct.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 146 þey 3eue vs grace ryȝt so to deme Vs to profyt, and god to queme. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 45 It shall hym prouffyt yf he wyll apply To doo therafter ful conveniently. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xvi. 26 Whatt shall hit proffet a man [1382 WYCLIF, what profitith it to a man], yf he shulde wyn all the whoole worlde: so he loose hys owne soule? 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* I. xiii. 62 [They] doe consist and are profited by these three beginnings. 1741–2 GRAY *Agrippina* 12 'Twill profit you, And please the stripling. 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* II. iii. § 3. 129 The most careful estimate of a girl's pleasures.. would not much profit a young woman.

b. *intr.* To be of advantage, use, or benefit; avail. Const. *to* (= *dative*). In later use, without const., regarded as absolute use of 2.

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 509 Hit profiteþ nouht to preche of oure dedus. *a* 1450 *Cursor M.* 13919 (Fairf.) Gode is to wirke euerilk day þinge þat prophetis to þe lay. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 125 The sayd Galyen sayd wysdom can not prousyt to a foole. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Her.* f viij b, Yet shall thai [rules] profecte for thys sciens gretly. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 523 They profit alike to al men. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 571 Oft times nothing profits more Then self-esteem, grounded on just and right Well manag'd. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 1 It little profits that an idle king ..I mete and dole Unequal laws unto a savage race. 1904 H. BLACK *Practice Self Culture* ii. 58 Bodily exercise does profit for some things.

†**3.** Of a person: **a.** *intr.* To be profitable, bring profit or benefit, do good (*to* some one); **b.** *trans.* To be profitable to, benefit, do good to; **c.** *refl.* To benefit oneself, make one's profit; = 4.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 5417 (Trin.) His lord be profited erly and late. 1533 ELYOT *Knowledge* Pref., I mought profyte to them whiche..wolde..reade it. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 66 b, Hee bent himselfe rather to profite those which should reade him, than to delight them. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 632 His Courtiers (especially those who had profited themselves of Abbies).

4. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To benefit oneself; to derive profit or benefit; to be benefited.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 59 To w[h]as profit presthed is 3euen, not only þat men prest, or be boun, but þat þey prophet. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 291 Thynges..of weyght & substaunce wherin she myghte prouffyte she wolde not let for ony payne or laboure to take vppon hande.

b. *esp.* with prepositions †*with, by, of, from*: To derive benefit from, be a gainer by; to avail oneself of; to make use of, take advantage of.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5169 If we shall proffet with proues, or any þose wyn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I beseche all them specyally yᵗ shall profyte by this worke to praye for me. 1578 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.* 132 He profited nothing with his outrage. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* II. 28 You might have found a mercenary Son, To profit of the Battels he had won. 1796 BURKE in *Epist. Corr. Burke & Dr. Laurance* (1827) 57 Mrs. Burke..has not profitted of the bathing. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 389 If it is not too late for him to profit from the information. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 491 All of these..profited by the opportunity to effect their escape. 1871 G. MEREDITH *H. Richmond* III. 130 He was prompt in an emergency, and quick to profit of a crisis. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 141 To profit fully by the New Testament, the first thing to be done is [etc.].

†**5.** *trans.* To render profitable. *Obs. rare.*

1578–9 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 109 To lawbour and proffeit the ground.

III. †**6.** (?) To bring forward, present. *Obs. rare.*

1611 *N. Riding Rec.* (1884) I. 217 The executors of the late Rob. Simpson, Threasurer for the Hospitalls, shall profitt his accompt at Pickering on April 12th.

Hence **Pro·fited**, **Pro·fiting** *ppl. adjs.*

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 203 Officious thankefullnes in the profited hearer. *c* 1605 in T. Hutton *Reasons for Refusal* (1605) 28 Sundry places of this Scripture..left out as lesse profiting, or edifying. 1848 in W. Arnot *Life J. Hamilton* I. (1869) 33 For years I have been a profited reader of your writings.

Profit(e, obs. forms of PROPHET.

Profitability (prɒ·fitǎbi·liti). *rare.* [f. next + -ITY.] The quality of being profitable; profitableness.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxix. 11 [xxx. 9] What profetabilte is in my blode? 1893 A. A. MARTIN in *Idler* Mar. 195 If the heavenly profitability was cut off..the habit of pleasurable moving remained.

Profitable (prɒ·fitǎb'l), *a.* (*adv., sb.*) Also 4–6 **prophit-, profet-, prouf(f)it-, proffet-, profect-**, etc.: see PROFIT *sb.*; also 5 **providabille**. [a. F. *profitable* (*prophitable*, 12th c., Littré): see PROFIT and -ABLE.]

1. Yielding profit or advantage; beneficial, useful, serviceable, fruitful, valuable. (Rarely of persons.) Formerly, also, useful as a remedy.

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 4 Þat i wole speke..is swiþe profitable. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cvi. 38 Sympil men and profetabile. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 262 'Bi seint Poul!' quod pers: 'þeos beoþ prophitable wordes!' 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Tim.* iii. 16 Al scripture of God ynspyrid is profitable to teche, to arguwe, to reproue, for to lerne in rigtwysnesse. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 191 More Providabille ys to a man to govern hymself than othir mene. 1450 in *Wars Eng. in France* (1861) I. 514 Marchaundisses..as shal be thoughte most behoveful and prouffuitable. 1528 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 5 To name and appoynt..suche one as your grace shall thinke moste mete and profightable for the place. 1562 MOUNTGOMERY in *Archæologia* XLVII. 240 Pleasaunt howses, faire gardens, and goodlie meades, whithe theire proffectable groundes. 1627 *Lisander & Cal.* I. 9 Silence or flight were much profitabler for you. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* ix. § 1 Sleep was intended to make us more profitable, not more idle. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 586, B. della Regna.. is profitable to the bladder, eases tenesmus and ague. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 290 If we are good, then we are profitable; for all good things are profitable.

2. Yielding pecuniary profit; gainful, lucrative, remunerative.

1758 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 79 Geese are profitable in many ways. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. xi. (1869) I. 231 It becomes as profitable to employ the most fertile.. lands in raising food for them [cattle] as in raising corn. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. ii. 117 This mighty channel for the profitable employment of millions upon millions of capital. 1845 — *Taxation* I. (1852) 111 One shipowner has a ship at sea, making a profitable voyage, while that of another is in port unemployed.

†**B.** quasi-*adv.* Profitably. *Obs. rare.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* Pref. a iij b, That thou mayest be thine own Auditor, and write profitable for thine own perusall.

C. *absol.* as *sb.* A thing that is profitable.

1681 R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 6 Of Two Profitables whether is the more Profitable?

Profitableness (prɒ·fitǎb'lnės). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being profitable.

1. Advantageousness, usefulness, value, beneficial quality.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* V. v. (1495) g iv b/1 The curtel [of the eye] that hyghte Tela arenea, and hyght soo for prouffytablynes therof to be clere & brizte to the spirite. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. v. 7 We owin in scriptures raþer to seke profitabilnes þan highnes of langage. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xvi. 93 To the ende that the profitableness of this doctrine may be the better knowen. 1651 CROMWELL *Lett.* 24 Mar. in *Carlyle*, To approve my heart and life to Him in more faithfulness and thankfulness, and to those I serve in more profitableness and diligence. 1824 MRS. SHERWOOD *Waste Not* II. 12 The profitableness of holiness, not only in the world to come, but also in this life.

2. Remunerativeness, lucrativeness, gainfulness.

1886 H. DUNCKLEY in *Manch. Exam.* 15 Feb. 6/1, I am speaking only of the profitableness of labour. 1892 J. J. JANNEY in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) II. 314 Equal in..profitableness of operation to that of any city of equal population in the Union.

Profitably (prɒ·fitǎbli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY 2.] In a profitable manner.

1. With advantage or benefit; advantageously, beneficially.

1382 WYCLIF *Tobit* vi. 5 These thingus forsothe ben profitabli necessarie to medicynes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. b j b/2 Angels haue this vertue of werkynge myghtly swyftly and prouffitably wythout cessyng. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Vtiliter*, profytably. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* Rev. & Concl. 395, I think it may be profitably printed, and more profitably taught in the Universities. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 317 ₱ 48 Our Hours may very often be more profitably laid out. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 670 The flannel garments may profitably be lined with thin washing silk.

2. With pecuniary profit; lucratively.

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornw.*, etc. x. 287 Localities where the tin or copper can be profitably raised. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxi. 363 A customer with whom a Chinaman can trade profitably.

Profiter (prɒ·fitəɹ). [f. PROFIT *v.* + -ER 1.] One who profits. †**a.** One who advances or makes progress, an improver. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 73 b, The feare of profyters, that is, of them that profyteth in vertue and perfeccyon. *Ibid.* 157 The pilgrymes..as yet..but begyn the iourney of grace, or els be as yet but profyters in religyon.

b. One who makes profit or gain by anything.

1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* iv. 178 Seven Hundred may have been Profiters by the excessive Plunder. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 248 They were profiters, not inventors; eagerly adopting every improvement suggested by strangers. 1855 CHAMIER *My Travels* III. i. 15 The affluent profiters by exchange, light or foreign coin, occupy the ground floor.

†**Profitero·le.** *Obs.* In 6 **prophitrole**, 8 **profitrolle**. [a. F. *profiterole* (Littré), f. *profit* PROFIT *sb.* + *-erole*, dim. suffix. In Cotgrave *pourfiterolle* 'a cake baked vnder hot imbers', and *profiterolle*, the latter also explained (in *pl.*) as 'the small vayles, as drinking money, points, pinnes, &c.,

gotten by a valet or groome in his maisters seruice'. The etymological sense is thus 'small gains'.] Some kind of cooked food: see etym. and quots.

1515 Barclay *Egloges* iv. (1570) C iv b/2 To toste white sheuers and to make prophitroles And after talking oft time to fill the bowles. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Carp*, They likewise make a pottage of profitrolles with Carp flesh minced.

Pro·fitful, *a. nonce-wd.* [See -FUL.] Profitable.

1593 Bilson *Govt. Christ's Ch.* xii. 208 Order and discipline are not onely profitefull but also needfull.

Profiting (prǫ·fitiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Profit *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Profit: †improving, advance; benefiting, etc.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Tim.* iv. 15 Thenk thou thes thingis, in these be thou, that thi profytyng be schewid [*gloss* or knowun], to alle men. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xi. 12 If we put þe profitinge of religion allone in outwarde obseruaunces. 1594 Carew *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 1 Where..he should..haue many examples and profitings of strangers. 1608 Hieron *Wks.* Ded. 689 An argument of a mans effectuall profiting by other exercises of godlinesse. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xi. 139 The Bishops once a year to oversee the profiting of the parishes.

Profitless (prǫ·fitlés), *a.* [f. Profit *sb.* + -less.] Void of profit; unprofitable, useless.

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* v. i. 4, I pray thee cease thy counsaile, Which falls into mine eares as profitlesse, As water in a siue. 1643 Hammond *Serm. John xviii.* 40 Wks. 1683 IV. 513 An empty, profitless, temptationless sin. 1809 Malkin *Gil Blas* XII. vi. P 3 He was of an intractable and profitless age. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 12 Mar. 5/6 After four hours of utterly profitless talk a division was taken.

Hence **Pro·fitlessly** *adv.*, **Pro·fitlessness.**

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 281 Our presumption .. must return in profitlessness and fatigue. 1857 H. Miller *Test. Rocks* i. 16 Human thought is not profitlessly revolving in an idle circle, but progressing Godwards. 1879 G. Meredith *Egoist* III. viii. 155 Dissection and inspection will be alike profitlessly practised.

†Pro·fitly, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. Profit *sb.* + -ly 1.] Profitable.

1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XVIII. vi. 733, I calle hym now one of the beste knyghtes..and the most profytelyest man.

†Pro·fity. *Obs.* In 5 **profitee, 6 profittye.** [f. Profit *sb.* + -y (if the examples are not erroneous ff. *profites*, pl. of Profit).] = Profit *sb.*

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 418/2 In suynge for the gode and profitees of oure seide Soveraign Lord. 1493 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 378 Fees and wages and other profitees to the said offices perteynyng. 1584 in Poulson *Beverlac* (1829) 330 All the rents, revenewes, yssues, profittyes, belonginge to the collegiate churche.

Profla·ted, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *prōflāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōflāre* to blow forth, puff out (f. *prō*, Pro- 1 + *flāre* to blow) + -ed 1.] Puffed out by blowing.

1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1882) 287 Preparing the audience for the most surprising series of wry faces, profiated mouths, and lunatic gestures that were ever 'launched' on an audience to 'sear the sense'.

Profligacy (prǫ·fligăsi). [f. next: see -acy 3.] The quality, state, or condition of being profligate.

1. Self-abandonment to dissipation; reckless licentiousness or debauchery; shameless vice.

1738 Bolingbroke *Patriot King* (1749) 181 Hitherto it has been thought the highest pitch of profligacy to own, instead of concealing crimes, and to take pride in them, instead of being ashamed of them. 1767 Cowper *Let. to Y. Hill* 16 June, [The election] occasions the most detestable scene of profligacy and riot that can be imagined. 1815 J. Scott *Vis. Paris* xii. (ed. 2) 203 The decorum of behaviour which profligacy preserves in the public places of Paris. 1873 Symonds *Grk. Poets* viii. 253 In .. the Daitaleis, Aristophanes attacked the profligacy and immodesty of the rising generation.

2. Reckless prodigality or extravagance; wastefulness; hence, immoderate profusion or abundance.

1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Wealth* (1861) 69 Profligacy consists not in spending years of time or chests of money, but in spending them off the line of your career. 1886 P. S. Robinson *Valley Teetotum Trees* 121 The prodigious luxuriance and profligacy of the botany of the tropics. 1900 *Edin. Rev.* July 182 This profusion or profligacy of pictures.

Profligate (prǫ·fligĕt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōflīgāt-us* overthrown, ruined; wretched, vile, dissolute, abandoned, pa. pple. of *prōflīg-āre* to dash to the ground, cast down, overthrow, overwhelm, ruin, dispatch, f. *prō*, Pro- 1 1 b + *-flīg-āre* for *flīgĕre* to strike down, dash.] **A.** *adj.*

I. †1. (Const. as *pa. pple.*) Overthrown, overwhelmed, routed. (Cf. next, 1.) *Obs.*

1535 Legh & Rice *Let. to Cromwell* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. lvii. 145 The Canon laws..with their Author, are profligate out of this realm. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI.* 168 By whiche onely pollicie, the kynges armie was profligate and dispersed. 1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 214 The conspiratouris..wer profligat and disapointit. 1643 Prynne *Sov. Power Parlt.* III. 45. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. iii. 728 The foe is profligate and run.

II. 2. Abandoned to vice or vicious indulgence; recklessly licentious or debauched; dissolute; extremely or shamelessly vicious.

1647 Ward *Simp. Cobler* 39 When States are so reformed that they conforme such as are profligate into good civility: civill men, into religious morality. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 77 P 10 Profligate in their lives, and licentious in their compositions. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* I. I. 75 Paul, bishop of Samosata..said to have been of a profligate life. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. ix. 700 To corrupt the House of Commons into a profligate subservience to the views of the minister. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 68 Sir Charles Sedley, one of the most brilliant and profligate wits of the Restoration.

b. Recklessly prodigal, extravagant, or profuse.

1779 *Sylph* II. 129 Should I barter my soul to save one so profligate of his? 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 315 The utterly bad is in general profligate, and therefore poor.

B. *sb.* A profligate or dissipated person.

1709 Swift *Adv. Relig.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 99 Like a sort of compounding between virtue and vice, as if a woman were allowed to be vicious, provided she be not a profligate. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 394 Every profligate in the Country..they take care to wheedle over to strengthen their party. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 7. 420 The wretched profligate found himself again plunged into excesses.

Profligate (prǫ·fligĕt), *v.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* Also 6 *pa. pple.* **profligat(e.** [f. L. *prōflīgāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōflīgāre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To overcome in battle or conflict, to overthrow, rout; to put to flight, chase away, dispel, disperse: **a.** persons (*lit.* and *fig.*).

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 165 b, I..which hath subuerted so many townes, and profligate and discomfited so many of them in open battayle. *Ibid., Hen. VII* 14 b, Hys armye should..profligate and expell all the intrudors and inuadours. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* 117 If you..stay not till the victory be gotten, till your enemy be profligated and abased. 1692 tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* viii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VII. 193 You have not yet profligated the Pope quite.

b. things (usually abstract, as evil, disease, error, etc.).

1542 Becon *Christmas Banquet* B vj, With how feruent herte should we profligate and chase awaye synne. 1624 Donne *Serm.* (ed. Alford) V. 274 When Christ is disseised and dispossessed, his Truth profligated and thrown out of a nation that professed it before. 1637 Brian *Pisse-Proph.* (1679) 134 To profligate your disease, and to reduce you to your former health. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* I. (1713) 462/2 It so profligates the Humours which cause them, that it soon takes away those Diseases by the Roots. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. (1737) 233 Profligating all Barbarity. 1845 *Life St. Augustine* xix. 195 A dignity..which (to use a forcible Latin word) 'profligates' calumny,—not merely wards it off, but routs, and explodes, and shames it.

c. To overthrow, ruin, destroy; in quot. *a* 1661, to waste by reckless expenditure.

1643 *Characters Richelieu* 13 Peace by Sea and Land profligated. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Warwick.* (1662) III. 122 From his Profligating of the lands of his Bishoprick.

d. To finish up, dispatch. *rare.*

1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXI. 333 Dedicated to the glory of the *exercitus maximus* that profligated the German war in three months.

†2. *refl.* To abandon oneself to dissolute courses; to become profligate. *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$.

1706 Phillips, To *Profligate one's self*, to give himself up to all manner of Vice, Lewdness and Debauchery.

†Pro·fligated, *ppl. a. Obs.* [In sense 1, f. prec. + -ed 1; in sense 2, f. L. *prōflīgāt-us* pa. pple. + -ed 1: cf. Profligate *a.* 2.]

1. Overthrown, vanquished; wasted, squandered; dispersed, dissipated.

1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 221 Of that profligated labour, yet my breast pants and labours. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* I. x. § 2 (1622) 67 To haue beene, in all mens eyes, so abiect and profligated, as to be able to get no moe defenders. 1660 Stillingfl. *Power Excommun.* § 21 (1662) 25 The other infirm and profligated argument. 1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 38/1 It draws forth the innate and profligated Heat, and restores the Warmth of the Part.

2. Abandoned, vicious; = Profligate *a.* 2.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 358 Dardanus, a most profligated magician, was so sordidly addicted to covetousness, that [etc.]. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. § 74 The most wretchless profligated state of sin. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 271 Those profligated Arians, sorry Macedonians, miserable Nestorians and wretched Eutychians.

Pro·fligately, *adv.* [f. Profligate *a.* + -ly 2.] In a profligate manner or degree; with reckless indulgence or open wickedness; dissolutely; with reckless prodigality, profusely, wastefully.

1694 F. Bragge *Disc. Parables* xi. 374 An utter want of that Divine grace, which they so profligately wasted while they had it. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. iii. 173 He was lazy, luxurious, and profligately wicked. 1791 Boswell *Johnson* 27 Mar. an. 1775 *note*, It is related, that he who devised the oath of abjuration, profligately boasted, that he had framed a test which should 'damn one half of the nation, and starve the other'. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xvi, Mr. Gregsbury ..looked like a man who had been most profligately liberal, but is determined not to repent of it. 1868 F. W. Newman in *Morn. Star* 5 June, The hard-earned wealth of our middle classes, and the honour of our nation, would be profligately squandered.

Pro·fligateness. Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or character of being profligate; profligacy.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 195 Searedness, Profligateness. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. Conclus. 291 Others, who are not chargeable with all this Profligateness. 1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* I. v. iv. 65 The singular profligateness of our time. 1817 J. Gilchrist *Intell. Patrimony* 4 Extravagance of mind, and profligateness of the means of improvement.

Profligation (prǫfligē··ʃən). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [ad. late L. *prōflīgātiōn-em* ruin, destruction, n. of action f. *prōflīgāre*: see Profligate *a.*] The action of 'profligating', overthrowing, routing; discomfiture, overthrow, rout; ruin, destruction.

1526 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 185 In the distressing of th Emperours army by see, and profligacion of the Lance-knightes. 1608 Bp. J. King *Serm.* 5 *Nov.* 21 To the utter ..extermination of Christ and his Gospell out of the kingdome, profligation of iustice and religion. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 150 Convenient for the profligation of diseases. 1815 *Q. Rev.* XIII. 351 A stern profligation of the opinions of many eminent..writers.

Pro·fligator. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [Agent-n. in L. form from Profligate *v.*: see -or.] One who or that which 'profligates'; an overthrower.

1694 Salmon *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 305/1 That stiptick Medicaments are the chief Profligators of those Diseases.

†Profli·ge, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *prōflīg-āre* to overthrow.] *trans.* = Profligate *v.* 1 a.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 207 The brute wente in eche coste that Aluredus was profliged of the Danes.

†Profluate, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [irreg. f. L. *prōflu-ĕre* (see Profluent).] *intr.* To flow forth.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 215 That the blood may easily profluate.

Profluence (prō·u·flŭens). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *prōfluentia* a flowing forth, f. *prōflu-ĕre* to flow forth: see Profluent and -ence.]

†1. A flowing forth or onward; current, stream, flow. *Obs.*

1633 P. Fletcher *Purple Isl.* IV. xvi, A wheyish moat; In whose soft waves, and circling profluence, This Citie, like an Isle, might safely float. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 49 This well will grow dry, after a constant profluence perhaps of eight or ten years. 1693 Sir T. P. Blount *Nat. Hist.* 253 As long as there is a profluence of Water through them, there is no Danger of their Entertaining such Damps.

b. *fig.* The onward flow or course (of events, etc.). *rare.*

a 1639 Wotton *Paral.* in *Relig.* (1651) 6 In the profluence or proceedings of their fortunes. 1903 Myers *Hum. Personality* II. 289 We see it degrade the cosmic march and profluence into a manner of children's play.

†2. *fig.* **a.** Ready flow of words, fluency. **b.** Abundance, profusion. *Obs. rare.*

1568 Skeyne *The Pest* (1860) 16 Nature..disagysit be sophisticall profluence of wordis. *a* 1619 Fotherby *Atheom.* II. i. § 8 (1622) 193 Africanus, had his grauitie;..Galba, his austeritie; Carbo, his profluence. 1623 Cockeram, *Profluence*, abundance. 1658 Phillips, *Profluence*, a flowing plentifully, abundance.

†Pro·fluency. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec.: see -ency.] Fluency (of speech); = prec. 2 a.

1674 Owen *Holy Spirit* (1693) 172 A Profluency of Speech, venting itself on all occasions.

Profluent (prō·u·flŭent), *a.* [ad. L. *prōfluent-em*, pr. pple. of *prōflu-ĕre* to flow forth, f. *prō*, Pro- 1 1 a + *flu-ĕre* to flow; cf. *effluent.*] Flowing forth or onward; flowing in a full stream; in first two quots., proceeding or running out of the main body.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 56 Best is holde The croppe to kytte, and save on every side The bowes profluent for fruyte to abyde. 1578 Banister *Hist. Man* I. 32 For the subduction of..braunches of Sinewes, profluent from the spinall marey, through the holes in Os sacrum. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XII. 442 Them who shall beleeve Baptizing in the profluent streame. 1686 Plot *Staffordsh.* 42 The great and profluent river of Trent. 1717 J. Keill *Anim. Oecon.* (1738) 77 The Power of the Bladder cannot be estimated by the Motion of the Profluent Urine. 1881 J. Thomson in *Fortn. Rev.* July (1882) 37 My profluent waters perish not from life.

b. *fig.*

1848 J. Sterling in *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 308 In mild sequence forms of profluent grace Move, tuned to pipes attuning every face. 1866 Symonds in *Life* (1895) I. vii. 359 Elizabethanism..is profluent, profuse of emotion. 1905 G. Jackson in *Expositor* July 63 A babbling profluent way of talking.

†Pro·fluous, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *prōflu-us* flowing forth + -ous.] = prec.

1585 Stubbes *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 105 *note*, As some be ouer largeous and profluous herein, so other some are spare enough.

†Profluvious, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. next, or L. *prōfluvi-us* adj., flowing forth + -ous.] Of the nature of, or causing, a profluvium or flux; in quot. 1616 *fig.*

1574 Newton *Health Mag.* 43 Minte..hath a speciall.. efficacie against the profluvious issue of the seede, called Gonorrhea. 1616 J. Deacon *Tobacco Tortured* Title-p., The inward taking of Tobacco fumes, is .. too too profluuious for many of their purses.

‖ Profluvium (prōflū·viŭm). Pl. **-ia.** [L. *prōfluvium* a flowing forth, flux, f. *prōflu-ĕre*: see Profluent. With variant *profluvion* cf. L. comb. form *-luvio*, *-ōnem* (*colluvio*, *diluvio*) beside *-luvium.*] A flowing forth; a copious flow or discharge, a flux. (Chiefly *Path.*)

1603 Florio *Montaigne* III. xiii. (1632) 615 An easie profluvion or aboundant running of gravell. 1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 2075 The bloud..swels and opens the vessels, and breaks out into a Profluvium. 1835 Syd. Smith in *Mem.*, etc. (1855) II. 361, I melt away in nasal and lachrymal profluvia. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiv. 299 The second or inflammatory stage with its well-known profluvium. *fig.* 1864 E. Sargent *Peculiar* II. 108 Decorated around the bust with a profluvium of black lace.

Profor, -forre, obs. forms of Proffer.

Proforce, profos, illiterate Sc. ff. Provost.

‖ Pro forma: see Pro A. 4.

Profound (prǫfau·nd), *a.* (*sb.*) Also *β.* 5–7 **profund-e.** [a. OF. *profund*, *profond* (*c* 1175 in

Godef. *Compl.*, *parfund* 11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *profund-us* deep, high, vast, obscure, profound (also *profundum* sb.), f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *fundus* bottom. The *ou* of Eng. is as in *abound*, *found* vb., *round*. The *β*-form *profund* was chiefly a conformation to L., but partly a Sc. phonetic variant.

In Latin *profundus*, the physical sense was the original, the intellectual and moral sense being transf., but in Eng. the literal sense was already expressed by *deep*, so that *profound* with its family was first used in a transferred sense, and only later in the literal sense, either in transl. French or Latin, or as a more sonorous and impressive word than *deep*. But it is convenient here to follow the original sense-development.]

1. Deep (as a physical or material quality). **a.** Having great or considerable downward (or inward) measurement; of great depth.

c 1407 [implied in PROFOUNDLY 1]. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* xliii. (1814) 135 An hydeous ryuer, depe & perfound. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 155 (1877) 102 A kyng that wolde be lorde of the sea, must have.. great and perfounde waters and havyns to kepe his shyps in. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 501 Not..for all the Sun sees, or The close earth wombes, or the profound sea hides In vnknowne fadomes. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 23 Gainst Ioue once making head, he..flung me from the profound skie. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativity* xxiv, Naught but profoundest Hell can be his shroud. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* VII. 409 Ample gates..For passing chariots; and a trench profound. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxv, Surrounded by strong bulwarks and profound moats. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 55 A series of profound crevasses.

β. c 1475 *Partenay* 1180 The diches profunde large brede gan purchas.

b. Situated or extending far beneath the surface; deep-seated, deep-reaching.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 253 Of my mynde the myd poynt moost profounde. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xix. (Percy Soc.) 88 O profounde cause of all my sekenesse. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 59 Which of your hips has the most profound Ciatica? 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 90 Wounds made..by..a thrust profound or superficial. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v. *Profundus*, Certain muscles are distinguished by the names *profound* or *deep-seated*, and *superficial*. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 5/1 The agency of heated water at profound depths. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 591 Senile gangrene is generally more profound [than symmetrical gangrene].

β. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 388 The profund Pulse of the Lungs indicates Hæmorrhagies, and Heat and Death.

c. Originating in, or coming from, a depth; deeply drawn, deep-fetched (as a sigh); carried far down or very low (as a bow or inclination of the body).

?*a* 1550 *Knt. of Curtesy* 184 No comforte..coude he take, Nor absteine him fro perfounde syghinge. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 94 He rais'd a sigh, so pittious and profound. 1603 DRAYTON *Odes* v. 31 Let not a Man drinke, but in Draughts profound. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. IX. 340 The three ambassadors .. made a profound reverence. 1799 HARRIET LEE *Canterbury T.* I. 199 'Why?' said Dorsain.. with a profound sigh. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 306 A profound inclination of the body.

2. a. Of a person: Characterized by intellectual depth; that penetrates or has penetrated deeply into a subject of knowledge, study, or thought; having great insight into or knowledge of something; very learned. In quot. 1611 (app.) Deep or subtle in contrivance, crafty, cunning (cf. DEEP *a.* 17).

(The earliest sense in English.)

c 1305 *Edmund Conf.* 221 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 77 Of art he radde six 3er..& sipþe for beo more profound, to arsmetrike he drou3. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 89 A connyng man and a profounde clerk in many sciencis. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 2 The constant profound Philosopher. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 67 A Magitian, most profound in his Art. 1611 BIBLE *Hosea* v. 2 The reuolters are profound to make slaughter. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) I. 121 Their Abbot..was pious, painfull, and a profound Schollar. 1734 BERKELEY *Analyst* § 3 Those who in this age pass for profound geometers. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i, The greatest captain and the profoundest statesman of the age. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 110 The profoundest of metaphysicians and divines.

b. Of personal attributes, actions, or works: Showing depth of insight or knowledge; entering deeply into a subject; marked by great learning.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 363 Þe suffissant clergye, Endowyd of profound intelligence. 1497-8 *Petit. Parlt. Drogheda* (*Patent Roll* 13 *Hen. VII*, m. 27) They nedar canne ne dare cast dart or spear be cause they haue not the profounde wey and feate of it. 1532 FRITH *Mirror* Wks. (1829) 263 If a man praise a very fool, and think his wit good and profound, then is that person, indeed, more fool than the other. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 92 To be drest in an opinion Of wisedome, grauity, profound conceit. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* Pref. c iij b, Their profoundest Speculations. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 222 Learned Nonsense has a deeper Sound, Than easy Sense, and goes for more profound. 1783 BLAIR *Rhet.* xxxiv. (1812) II. 444 Some of the profoundest things which have been written. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* xxi. (1849) 205 A most profound mathematical inquiry. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* II. xvii. 155 His profound and beautiful letters on the existence of the Deity.

β. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 88 He comitted al þis disposicion to þe profund councell of our Lord. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 579 He was admired by great Scholars..for his profund divinity.

3. Of non-material things figured as having depth.

a. Of a subject of thought: Deep in meaning; demanding deep study or research; abstruse, recondite; sometimes connoting Difficult to 'fathom' or understand; having a meaning that does not lie on the surface.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 4856 Neuer yet was rad noo songe..so worthy of renoun, To spekyn of philosophie, Nor of profounde poetrie. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 159/1 No man is there so connyng, but he may finde in them thinges..farre to profounde to perce vnto. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* XIX. 114 A higher and profounder doctrine. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 365 It contains profound meanings. 1849 H. B. SMITH *Faith & Philos.* (1850) 23 Christianity..is simple as is light to the eye of the child, it is profound as is light to the eye of the sage.

β. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 88 That wt the gretter facilitie we may prepare the way sum things to reherse mair profunde.

b. Of a condition, state, or quality: Having depth or intensity; intense, thorough, extreme, very great; in which one may be intensely immersed or engaged; unbroken or undisturbed (as *profound silence, sleep, rest, peace*); deeply-rooted, deep-seated; deeply-buried, hence, concealed or involving concealment (as a *profound secret*, etc.).

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* V. i. 198 *Prin.* He is in earnest. *Clau.* In most profound earnest. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 577 Being of a lewd disposition and profound perfidiousnesse. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* Wks. (1673) 273 The fear of lapsing into grosser Idolatry, or profounder Atheism. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 113 ¶ 2 Here followed a profound Silence. 1757 BURKE *Abridgm. Eng. Hist.* III. ix, In the profoundest peace. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 331 The sublime impression which they produce becomes still more profound, when they recal to us some sentiment of virtue. 1805 NELSON *Let.* 11 May (in *Sotheby's Catal.* 6–9 Dec. (1905) 131), My departure for the West Indies..you will keep a profound secret. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Waud. by Loire* 35 Wearied travellers buried in profound sleep. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 264 The chief, and all present, listened with profound attention. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 7. 22 Language is most imperfect when feeling is most profound. *a* 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect. & Addr.* ii. (1858) 59 In profoundest ignorance of the opinions. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) iv. 242 Profound melancholy seemed to haunt the hollows of the mountain ridges. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 458 Profound unconsciousness. *Mod.* It is a subject in which I take a profound interest.

c. Said of reverence, respect, submission, or the like: often having some reference to the notion of bowing low, lowly reverence (cf. 1 c).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 167 b, The holy fathers & sayntes..had this profounde mekenes. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. iii. 113, I do loue My Countries good, with a respect more tender, More holy, and profound, then mine owne life. 1688 *Answ. Talon's Plea* 5 Their extraordinary respect, and profoundest submission. 1721 in *Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 305 With the profoundest regard and esteem, Sir, your most humble and most obedient servant. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 154 They treat themselves with most profound respect. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 92 A knowledge to which the reflecting mind pays the profoundest homage. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXVI, The air of profound deference. 1878 STEWART & TAIT *Unseen Univ.* Introd. 12 The most profound reverence.

B. *sb.*

1. That which is profound or eminently deep, or the deepest part of something; a vast depth; an abyss. *lit.* and *fig.* chiefly *poetical.*

1640 G. SANDYS *Christ's Passion* III. 242 To raise it from that dark Profound. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 287 The unwieldly Beast..drops into the dark Profound. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 593 Eternity, too short to speak thy praise! Or fathom thy profound of love to man! 1813 T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. v. Comm. p. xxiv, [Galileo] who.. taught future philosophers..to penetrate farther into the blue profound. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* iii. (1852) 30 Probe the profound of thine own nature, man!

b. *spec.* The depth of the sea or other deep water; the deep sea, 'the deep'. *poetical.*

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* XI. (1626) 234 On that profound Poore I was wrackt; yet thou with-out me drownd. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 34 Expert to try The vast profound, and bid the vessel fly. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 202 Nor billowy surge disturbs the vast profound.

2. Intellectual depth or profundity. *rare*—[1].

1778 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ep. to Reviewers* ix, I never question'd your profound of head.

†Profound, *v. Obs.* [a. obs. F. *profonder* (14th c., Oresme) 'to sound, search, pierce, or goe deepe into; to diue, or sinke vnto the bottom of; to presse downe, or put into the deepe' (Cotgr.) (in med.L. *profundāre*), f. *profond* PROFOUND *a.*]

1. *trans.* To immerse or plunge deeply; *pa. pple.* deep-seated.

?*a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merchants* 312 Whan..Deeply profoundid is heete natural In thilke humydite i-callyd radical. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 55 Vice and the Devil put a Fallacy upon our Reasons, and, provoking us too hastily to run from it, entangle and profound us deeper in it.

2. To go deeply into; to 'sound', 'fathom'.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 13 There is no danger to profound these mysteries, no *sanctum sanctorum* in Philosophy. 1646 — *Pseud. Ep.* I. ix. (1686) 27 To profound the Ocean of that Doctrine.

3. *intr.* To penetrate deeply, 'dive' (*into*, etc.).

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 14 To profound farther, and to contemplate a reason why His Providence hath so disposed and ordered their motions. 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 227 Let the most confirm'd Dogmatist profound far into his indeared opinions, and..'twill be an effectual cure of confidence.

Profou·ndly, *adv.* [f. PROFOUND *a.* + -LY [2].] In a profound manner or degree; deeply.

1. To or at a great depth or distance from the surface. Also *fig.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5693 Whan I had the lettres rad, Which in the stonys..Wer profoundely and depe y-grave. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlvii. 118 Þe more profoundly þat a man goþ down into himself and waxiþ vile to himself, þe hyer he stieþ up to god. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* VI. 360 My soul o'ertops Each height,—than every depth profoundlier drops. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Profundus*,..a name given to..parts, which are seated profoundly as regards others. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xvii. 11 Where..descends most profoundly the bottom.

b. So as to come from or sink to a great depth; with a deep breath (as in sighing) or inclination (as in bowing). Sometimes with mixture of sense 3.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XI. xix, She wayled & sighed perfoundly. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. ii. 83 Why sigh you so profoundly?..tell me sweet Vnckle, what's the matter? 1700 DRYDEN *Cinyras & Myrrha* 184 The virgin started at her father's name, And sigh'd profoundly. *a* 1811 BLAKE *Poet. Wks.* (1905) 231 Then,..bowing profoundly, he said: 'A great wig'.

2. With intellectual depth; with great insight or penetration into a subject; very learnedly.

With *learned, wise*, etc., this nearly coincides with sense 3.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 73 He preched mare profoundely of Haly Writte þan oþer didd. 1561 *Godly Q. Hester* (1873) 15 In learninge and litterature, profoundely seene. 1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 39 This is profoundly wise. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 157 ¶ 7 A Person..profoundly learned in Horse-flesh. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 63/2 Those who have not studied very profoundly.

3. Intensely, extremely, thoroughly, very greatly; to a depth of quality, state, or degree.

1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xv. 210 Howe profoundely ought I to submytte me to thy hydde & depe iugementis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 167 b, Yf the herte be profoundly meke. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 105 He..wanted money the sinews of war, his Exchequer being profoundly dry. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. ix. 209 They found all..as profoundly secure as sleep..could make them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 175 Profoundly ignorant of the English constitution. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xi. 241 A poet and a profoundly religious man. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 32 The..limits were kept profoundly secret.

Profou·ndness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being profound; profundity.

As to chronological order of senses, see PROFOUND *a.*

1. Depth, deepness (in physical sense): = PROFUNDITY 1, 1 b. (In quot. 1642 with play on sense 2.)

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiv. 411 The Butler makes him free..of his own fathers cellar, and guesseth the profoundnesse of his young masters capacity by the depth of the whole-ones he fetcheth off. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlix. 396 The Herb..never fixeth it self into the ground above the profoundness almost of a Cubit. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xi, To take a deep, deep plunge into the ocean of human life, and to sink down and be covered by its profoundness.

2. Depth of learning, thought, meaning, etc.: = PROFUNDITY 2.

1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxxviii. [ccxxiv.] 714 They that wyll seke out the profoundnesse of the mater, maye well knowe fro whence ye came. 1595 *Recorde's Gr. Artes* Pref. A iij, The ignorant sorte..do litle esteeme the profoundnesse of mannes spirit, and of reason. 1629 BURTON *Babel no Bethel* 39 Shew vs your profoundnesse..in your reading of Bellarmine. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* 10 Sept. (O. H. S.) II. 254 A shew of Learning passes with them for profoundness. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 299 In originality and profoundness of thought he [Erasmus] was .. inferior to More.

b. Craft, deep or subtle contrivance.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 3 This is what the author of the Revelation calleth the depth or profoundness of Satan [Rev. ii. 24]. 1830 HAZLITT *Party Spirit* Wks. 1904 XII. 402 Party spirit is one of the profoundnesses of Satan.

3. Intensity, extreme degree: = PROFUNDITY 3.

1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 30 What a depth of humilitie, what a profoundness of meekenesse. *Mod.* The profoundness of his ignorance was astonishing.

Profre, obs. form of PROFFER.

Profugate (prɒ·fiŭgēit), *v. rare*—[1]. [f. L. *prō* forth (PRO-[1]) + *fugāre* to put to flight: see -ATE [3].] *trans.* To drive or chase away. So **Pro·fugate** (-ēt) *ppl. a. rare* [cf. L. *profugus* fugitive: see -ATE [2]], driven or chased away, fugitive.

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 107 When they presented him with Frankincense, as little deeming of fuming any deuil in theyr way, or profugating a deuil from the body of our blessed Sauiour. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 28 And drive her profugate the world around. *Ibid.* 67. *Ibid.* 386 He profugate, launched forth upon the main.

Profulgent (prɒfʌ·lʤĕnt), *a. rare.* [f. PRO-[1] + L. *fulgēnt-em* FULGENT.] Shining forth, effulgent, radiant.

?*a* 1500 *Nine Ladies Worthie* in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1561) 342 b, Profulgent in preciousnes, O Sinope the queen. 1830 TENNYSON *Conf. Sensitive Mind* 145 An image with profulgent brows.

†Profu·nd, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pro-*, *prō-fund-ĕre* to pour forth.] *trans.* To pour forth; *fig.* to spend profusely, to lavish.

1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 251 For the exchewing of grete expences, whiche shuld be profunded and consumed in the intervieu. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 264 The juice is profunded upon wallnut tree leaves.

Profund, -e, obs. forms of PROFOUND.

‖ **Profunda** (prŏfʌ́·ndă). *Anat.* [L. fem. of *profundus* deep, PROFOUND (sc. *vēna* or *artēria*).] A distinguishing name of various deep-seated arteries and veins, in the neck, arm, leg, and other parts.

1840 E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* (1842) 346 The Profunda Vein is formed by the convergence of the numerous small Veins. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 260 The profunda following exactly the same course as the crural [artery]. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 328 The profunda was blocked by a short plug.

†**Profu·ndeur.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *profondeur*, f. *profond* PROFOUND: cf. *grandeur*.] Depth, profundity.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 162 They strictly make good their profundeur or depth. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Profundeur*,..profundity, depth, deepness.

Profu·ndify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *profund-us* PROFOUND *a.*: see -FY.] *trans.* To make profound.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 198 They are provoked by droppings of inspiration from a stone, in which the measure and the meaning are most happily profundified.

Profundipalmar (prŏfʌ·ndipæ·lmăr), *a. Anat.* [f. L. *profundus* deep, PROFOUND + *palma* palm of the hand + -AR¹.] Deep-seated in the palm of the hand, as a tendon or other structure; belonging to such structure. So **Profu·ndipla·ntar** *a.* [L. *planta* sole of the foot], deep-seated in the sole of the foot, or belonging to a structure so situated.

1888 *Auk* V. 105 The paper concludes with remarks .. on the profundiplantar tendons.

†**Profu·nditude.** *Obs.* [f. L. *profund-us* deep + -TUDE: cf. *altitude*, etc.] = next.

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 149 The body three dimensions doth include, .. length, bredth, profunditude. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Feb., A lake..reported of that profunditude in the middle that it is botomelesse. 1650 ASHMOLE *Chym. Collect.* 49 A due measure of Longitude, Latitude, and Profunditude.

Profundity (prŏfʌ·ndĭti). Also 6 **profoundyte**, **-itie**, 7 **-ity**. [ME. *profundite*, a. OF. *profundité*, mod.F. *profondité*, ad. late L. *profunditās* depth, immensity, f. *profundus* PROFOUND: see -ITY.] The quality of being profound; that which is profound.

1. Depth, in a physical sense. †**a.** *gen.* as one of the three dimensions of bodies: Measurement or extension downwards: = DEPTH 1.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* II. xi. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 137 Altytude, Latytude, and Profundyte. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom., Math. Disc.* ii. Y iij b, A right angled Quadrangular direct Prisma, hauing for his longitude, latitude and profunditie these three lines. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* II. vii. (1635) 104 The depth or profundity is the distance betwixt the Bottome and the Superficies of the Water. 1696 J. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. & Prov. God* II. 122 Its longitude was..tenfold to its profundity.

b. The quality of being (very) deep; deepness; great or vast depth; extreme lowness (of a bow).

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Profunditie*,..deepness. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* IV. 233 The ditch..of an incredible profunditie. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 33 How striking the profundity of the abysses! 1832 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* II. 181 That there is life at much greater profundities in warmer regions may be confidently inferred. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xvii, With another bow of greater profundity than would have become an Englishman.

c. *concr.* or quasi-*concr.* A very deep place; the very deep or deepest part *of* something; a (vast) depth, an abyss. Also *fig.*

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 59 The wyndes respirenge and restenge in the profundite of hit. 1552 HULOET, Profundity, *abissus*. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 192 A great square profunditie, greene, and uneuen at the bottome, into which a barren spring doth drill. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 229 Through the vast profunditie obscure. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 17 A capability of sounding profundities.

2. Depth of intellect, insight, knowledge, learning, or thought; depth of meaning or content; abstruseness.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 149 Thou..art þe ende of all godes, þe hyenes of lif, þe profundite of scriptures. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 138 He is the profoundyte of thyn inenarrable wysdome. 1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 14 Which lies couched most closely vnder darke fables profoundities. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 134 It causeth me to admire the profoundity of the scripture. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* x. 278 To encourage you in the profundity of your craft. 1788 R. CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 110. IV. 155 In one [Ben Jonson] we may respect the profundity of learning, in the other [Shakespeare] we must admire the sublimity of genius. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* vii. 198 The admiration which every student of Sophocles must feel for the profundity of his design.

b. *pl.* Depths of thought or meaning; 'deep things'.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *1 Cor.* ii. 10 The Spirit searcheth al things, yea the profoundities of God. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. (1676) 163/2, I am..not able to dive into these profundities..not able to understand, much less to discuss.

3. Intensity, thoroughness, extremeness of degree.

1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 92 In some persons it is not to be measured, so much by the number of houres, as by the soundnesse and profundity of sleeping. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 75 The profundity of our own ignorance. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 82 The profundity of his admiration.

‖ **Profundus** (prŏfʌ·ndŭs). *Anat.* [L. (sc. *musculus* muscle): see PROFOUND *a.*] Used as distinguishing name for a deep-seated muscle, esp. the *flexor profundus perforans* of the fingers.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Profundus*, a Muscle, which bends the Fingers. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Muscles*, Names and offices of the several muscles..*Sublimis*, *Profundus*, bend the fingers. 1854-67 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.*, *Profundus*, deep-seated; also, the flexor profundus perforans muscle.

Profur, obs. form of PROFFER.

Profuse (prŏfiū·s), *a.* [ad. L. *profūs-us* poured forth, spread out, lavish, immoderate, profuse, prop. pa. pple. of *pro-*, *prōfundĕre* to pour forth, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ + *fund-ĕre* to pour. So F. *profus* (16th c. in Littré).]

1. Of persons or agents: Expending, bestowing, or producing abundantly; lavish, liberal to excess; extravagant, wasteful, prodigal. Const. *in*, *of*.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 119 He was myȝhty in batelle, liberalle in ȝiffenge, and profuse in makynge festes. 1575-85 [implied in PROFUSENESS]. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Profuse*, wastefull, lauish in spending. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. IV. ii, Many againe are in that other extreame too profuse, suspitious and jelous of their health, too apt to take Physick vpon euery small occasion. 1729 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 259 Working-men..are thereby induced to be more profuse and extravagant in fine apparel. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. (1869) II. 477 Justinian was so profuse that he could not be liberal. 1845 BROWNING *Lett.* (1899) I. 245 Mr. Forster came yesterday and was very profuse of graciosities. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. i. 11 He was..somewhat too open-handed and profuse in his ordinary expenditure. *fig.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 286 On a green shadie Bank profuse of Flours.

2. Of actions, conditions, or things: Very abundant; exuberant, bountiful; copious; excessive.

a 1610 HEALEY *Epictetus' Man.* (1636) 66 Let not thy laughter bee profuse, nor be led by every light occasion [cf. quot. 1608 in PROFUSED]. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* VI, This lady glories in profuse expence. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 207 Profuse sweating, great debility and loss of appetite, had begun to take place. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 473 When pulmonary hemorrhage..is profuse..the symptoms and prospects are in the highest degree grave. 1885 BIBLE (R. V.) *Prov.* XXVII. 6 The kisses of an enemy are profuse.

†**Profuse** (prŏfiū·z), *v. Obs.* [f. L. *profūs-*, ppl. stem of *profund-ĕre*: see prec. (At first perh. in pa. pple. *profused* from L. *profūsus*: see next.)] *trans.* To pour forth; to expend, bestow, or produce freely or lavishly; to lavish, squander, waste.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 295 Mercury, thy help hath been profus'd Ever with most grace in consorts of travellers distress'd. 1615 — *Odyss.* XXI. 156 Tender no excuse For least delay, nor too much time profuse In stay to draw this bow. *a* 1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 58 Man snatch'd.. a new way of profusing his life to Martyrdome. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 260 ¶ 1 If I had laid out that which I profused in Luxury and Wantonness, in Acts of Generosity or Charity. 1771 J. FOOT *Penseroso* II. 84 With these [waters] profused is drown'd the suff'ring earth.

†**Profu·sed,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *profūs-us* (see PROFUSE *a.*) + -ED¹; or pa. pple. of PROFUSE *v.*] = PROFUSE *a.* Hence †**Profu·sedly** *adv.*, profusely.

1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 96 b, Affects profused laughter [cf. L. *profusa hilaritas* (Cicero)] at a feast. 1690 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 234 To what purpose does Dr. Wh..lay himself out so profusedly to prove that the Creatures are good?

Profusely (prŏfiū·sli), *adv.* [f. PROFUSE *a.* + -LY².] In a profuse manner; in profusion or abundance; without stint; wastefully, lavishly.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* To Rdr. (1676) 14/1 At this speech Democritus profusely laughed, (his friends..weeping in the mean time, and lamenting his madness). 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* Pref. (1721) I. 93 A Meadow, where the Beauties of the Spring are profusely blended together. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, After drinking profusely of some mild liquids. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 9 July 4/7 The shipping in the harbour was profusely decked with flags.

Profuseness (prŏfiū·snés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being profuse; lavishness; wastefulness; profusion.

1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 400 There be two grand enemies of hospitality. The one is covetousness, the other profuseness. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* III. ii, I, That knew profuseness of expense the parent Of wretched Poverty, her fatal daughter. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 27 ¶ 7, I was convinced that their liberality was only profuseness, that..they were equally generous to vice and virtue. 1850 *Florist* Mar. 81 Its distinctness and profuseness of bloom combine to make it a very desirable thing. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xi. 631 In no age have literary men been rewarded with such profuseness as in the reign of Louis XIV.; and in no age have they been so mean spirited.

b. With *a* and *pl.* An act of profuse expenditure.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xix. (1674) 20 One of those inconsiderate profusenesses used by shallow-patted Princes.

†**Profu·ser.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PROFUSE *v.* + -ER¹. So obs. F. *profuseur* (Cotgr.), late L. *profūsor*.] One who or that which lavishes; a spendthrift.

1616 *Rich Cabinet* 151 Vanitie in words..is a lavish profuser of pretious time. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Fortune*, Fortune's a blind profuser of her own, Too much she gives to some, enough to none.

Profusion (prŏfiū·ʒən). [a. F. *profusion* (16th c., Montaigne), ad. L. *profūsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *profundĕre* to pour forth.]

1. The action of pouring forth; outpouring, effusion (of a liquid); spilling, shedding. Now *rare.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Profusion*, powring out wastfully. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 146 Some men in this extremity suffer most fearful dreams, profusion of seed, hoarsness of voyce. 1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* 26 The effects..are generally Profusions of Blood. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 443 [Cullen] has hence been obliged to transfer the whole of these [hæmorrhages] to another part of his system..and to distinguish them by the feeble name of profusions instead of by their own proper denomination.

2. Lavish or wasteful expenditure or bestowal *of* money, substance, etc.; squandering, waste.

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* xi. 195 b, Because of his prodigalite & profusions of giftis, he might not spare other menis goodis. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 42 Which proved in the end a most fatall work, both in the profusion of bloud and treasure. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) III. 280 Be upon your guard against this idle profusion of time. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, II. i. 2 Charles the First has never been accused of a wanton profusion of the public wealth.

3. The fact, condition, or quality of being profuse; lavishness, wastefulness, extravagance.

1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 204 Those, that take away with violence, to disperse with profusion, are much more excusable. 1709 SWIFT *Adv. Relig.* Ded., The lustre of that most noble family..which the unmeasurable profusion of ancestors for many generations had too much eclipsed. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 96 They were entertained with the utmost profusion and magnificence after the Spanish manner. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xliii. 278 The profusion..with which he lavished his gold. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* I. xiv. 224 You are amazed by the profusion which is characteristic of Nature; not merely a star here and there, but millions beyond all conceivable number.

4. Abundance; lavish or copious supply.

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 184 To have furnish'd out so many glorious Palaces with such a Profusion of Pictures, Statues, and the like Ornaments. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 46 Ye fields, where summer spreads profusion round. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* vi, Her auburn tresses fell in profusion over her bosom. 1864 D. G. MITCHELL *Wet Days at Edgewood* 80 Wheat was growing in profusion.

Profu·sive (-siv), *a.* [f. L. *profūs-*, ppl. stem of *profundĕre* (see PROFUSE *a.*) + -IVE.] Characterized by or tending to profusion or lavishness.

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 86 Your Magnificence..in a severer Common-wealth than ours, would be called a profusive Wast. 1685 EVELYN *Mrs. Godolphin* 222 Chearfull and even profusive Charityes. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 218 Her gifts in vain profusive Plenty flings. 1861 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1866) 34 Profusive smiling gleams.

Hence **Profu·sively** *adv.*; **Profu·siveness.**

1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man become Guilty* 230 Rivers flow profusively, their spring heads are not dried up. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. v. § 64 His profusiveness..not only spending the great Treasure left Him by His Father; but also vast wealth beside.

Profycy(e, obs. form of PROPHECY.

Profyr(e, obs. form of PROFFER.

Prog (prǫg), *sb.*¹ Also 7 **progg**(e, 8-9 **progue.** [Origin obscure; perh. a variant of PRAG *sb.*¹; cf. also BROG, and PROD *sb.* and *v.*]

1. A piercing instrument or weapon; a spike; a skewer; a stiletto; a prick or prickle.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 27 Slicing it into little gobbets, prick it on a prog of iron, and hang it in a fornace. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. vii, The water having dank't his pistoles, and lost his Spanish progge in the bottome, the Indians swomme him out by the chinne to the shore. 1785 R. FORBES *Poems Buchan Dial., Ulysses* 31 Sin the Fates hae orders gi'en To bring the progues [= arrows] to Troy. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Prog*, a curved spike or prong, to drag what is seized by it..A prog would be of no use if it could not hold and draw as well as pierce. Both these words are otherwise pronounced *progue*. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Prog*, a prick.—*Progly*, *a.* prickly.

2. An act of progging; a stab, thrust, sharp poke; a prod. *Sc.* and *dial.* Also *fig.*

1822 GALT *Steam-Boat* viii. 155, I..could thole her progs and jokes with the greatest pleasance and composure. 1856 *Deil's Hallowe'en* 39 (E.D.D.) He..gied a progue, that wasna licht. 1891 BURGESS *Rasmie's Buddie* 31 He'll mebbe need anidder proge, Frae my aald staff.

Prog (prǫg), *sb.*² Also 7 **progge**, 7-8 **progg**, **progue.** [perh. f. PROG *v.*¹, = that which is progged or got by progging.] 'A cant word for provision, goods, or money laid up in store' (Dyche, 1740).

1. Food, victuals, provender; esp. *colloq.* provisions for a journey or excursion; *slang*, food generally, 'grub'.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. ii. 290 The Abbot..every Saturday was to visit their beds, to see if they had not shuffled in some softer matter, or purloyned some progge for themselves. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. French King* Wks. 1730 I. 60 When first I came to town with houshold clog, Rings, watch, and so forth, fairly went for prog. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Direct. Servants, Cook*, You can junket together at night on your own progue, when the rest of the house are abed. 1772 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* Ser. II. (1862) I. 402, I had a letter last night from your father, who has sent me some good Xtmas prog according to custom. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Lett.* (1893) 13 We are obliged to carry with us all the 'prog' we want on the road. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 80 Unless the Türk..do freely give thee prog and lodging. 1870 SIMMONS *Oakdale Grange* 49 What a capital idea for prog (the refined expression by which scholars convey to each other the refined delicacies which tickle their palates).

b. *fig.* Food for the mind.

1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Lett.* 12 Apr., If my letters will give you any amusement, I will write oftener..and supply you with all the prog I get myself. 1815 IRELAND *Scribble-*

omania 166 George Brewer our crew now with confidence hails, And for prog straight produces his *Siamese Tales*.

2. *dial.* A hoard (of money). Cf. PROG *v.*[1] 4.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s. v., He's got a fine prog of money somewhere.

3. = PROGGER[1].

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Prog*, one that seeks his victuals by wandering and begging.

4. *Comb.* **Prog-basket**, a provision-basket, on a journey or 'outing'.

1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. 245 Taking out a pair of pistols and lots of ammunition from the bottom of his prog-basket. 1865 *N. Brit. Rev.* Sept. 229 During the repast a lean hungry tribe of dogs were working outside at his 'prog-basket'. They opened it; stole a goose.

Prog, *sb.*[3] *Undergraduates' slang.* Also **progs**. [Perversion of PROCTOR, on the pattern of *Juggins* and the like.] A proctor at Oxford or Cambridge. Hence **Prog** *v.*[3] = PROCTORIZE *v.*

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 39 (Cambridge) His conversation is..about..the Dean or the 'Proggins'. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 137 When you lifted your arm to take your cap off to the proctor, you pulled the reins and lugged the horse's head round into the prog's mouth. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 24 Aug. 7/2 The chief offences for which the fines are imposed—or, to adopt 'Varsity parlance, for which undergraduates are 'progged' [at Cambridge]—seem to be those of smoking when wearing cap and gown, and appearing in public on Sunday evenings improperly dressed.

Prog (prɒg), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **progg**, 7 **proague**, **progue**. [Origin and sense-history obscure; it is not certain whether all the senses belong to one word.]

†1. *trans.* (?) *Obs. rare.*

1566 DRANT *Horace* I. i. A j, Who gapes, who gawes, who pores, who pries, who proggs his mate but he?

2. *intr.* To poke about *for* anything that may be picked up or laid hold of; to search about or hunt about, *esp.* for food; to forage, (?) to purvey; also, to solicit, to beg, to go about begging.

[1618: cf. PROGMAN; 1622: see PROGGING *ppl.a.*] 1624 QUARLES *Job* xiv. 60 Man digs,..He neuer rests,..He mines, and progs, though in the fangs of death. 1635 — *Embl.* II. ii, We travel sea and soil, we pry, we prowl, We progress, and we prog from pole to pole. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 64 Excommunication servs for nothing with them, but to prog, and pandar for fees. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I* 55 This Lake had linked himselfe in with the Scottish Nation, progging for Suits, and helping them to fill their Purses. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 56, I never saw any of our Ministry more abstracted from their studies, continually progging at the Parliament door. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* 52 She went out progging for provisions again as before. 1703 A. B. *Law Succession to Benefices Just.* 37 With an impious Craft like his [Judas's] you may prog for your own Bag. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Prog*, to pry or poke into holes and corners... Those who go progging about..are likely enough to steal whatever they can lay their hands upon. 1838 MARY HOWITT *Birds & Fl., House-sparrow* iii, Coarse is his nature, made to prog about. 1876 *Whitby Gloss., Prooaging*, ..foraging, as an animal searches for food.

†3. *trans.* To search or hunt out; to poke out.

1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 131 The subtile engineer ..at length from old records progs and bolts out an ancient Precedent of raising a Tax upon the hole Kingdome, for setting forth a Navy in case of danger. 1656 HEYLIN *Extraneus Vapulans* 309 An old Skulking Statute, which ..was printed and exposed to open view, and therefore needed no such progging and bolting out, as is elsewhere spoken of.

†4. (?) *trans.* See quot. (Cf. PROG *sb.*[2] 2.) *Obs.*

1719 SEWEL *Dutch Dict., Potten, geld potten*, to Hord up money, to prog.

Prog, *v.*[2] *dial.* Also 9 **progue**. [f. PROG *sb.*[1] Cf. PROD *v.*, and BROG *v.*, in similar sense.]

1. *trans.* To prick, stab, pierce; to prod.

1811 A. SCOTT *Poems* 114 (Jam.), I ga'e my Pegasus the spur ..An' sair his flank I've proggit. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 82 While children..prog the hous'd bee from the cotter's wall. 1823 ELIZA LOGAN *St. Johnstoun* II. 168 (Jam.), I was progging up the old witch a little, to..make her confess. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss., Prog, Proggle*, to prick, to prickle. 1832-53 R. INGLIS in *Whistle-binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. III. 115 Again, at the battle o' red Waterloo, How they pricket and proget the French thro' and thro'. 1890 J. SERVICE *Thir Notandums* xv. 103 He progued them wi' his fork.

2. *intr.* To poke, to pierce; to prod.

1896 *Dial. Notes* (U. S.) I. 333 (E. D. D.) *Prog*, to search for anything imbedded in the mud, as clams, terrapins, or cedar logs, by means of a sounding rod. [But this may belong to PROG *v.*[1]]

Prog, *v.*[3], to proctorize: see PROG *sb.*[3]

Progametange to **Proganosaur**: see PRO-[2] 1.

Progamic (progæ·mik), *a. Biol.* [f. Gr. πρό, PRO-[2] + γάμος marriage + -IC.] That precedes the specialization of the gametes (sexual or pairing cells). So **Progamous** (prǫ·gămǝs) *a.*, applied to an ovum which has not been impregnated by a spermatozoon.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484/2 Progamic paragamy: the fusing nuclei are the normal gametonuclei of the progamous cell (ovum which has formed 1 polar body).

Progenerate (proɪdʒe·nĕrĕt), *ppl. a.* [In sense 1, ad. L. *prōgenerāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōgenerāre* to beget, engender: see PRO-[1] and GENERATE *ppl.a.* In sense 2, nonce-formation after *degenerate*.]

†1. Propagated, begotten. (Const. as *pa. pple.* = PROGENERATED.) *Obs. rare*[−1].

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 300 Meanes for one thing to bee progenerate of another.

2. More advanced in development or type; opposed to *degenerate*.

1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 56 Our 'degenerates' may sometimes be in truth *progenerate*, and their perturbation may mark an evolution.

Proge·nerate, *v.* ? *Obs. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōgenerāre*: see prec.] *trans.* To beget, propagate, procreate. Hence **Proge·nerated** *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Progenier*, to progenerate..young ones. 1770 in *Archæologia* (1773) II. 250 They were all progenerated colonies from a Scythian or Tartar race. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Pericles & Soph.* Wks. 1846 I. 145/2 He who is yet to progenerate a more numerous and far better race.

†Progenera·tion. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōgenerātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōgenerāre*: see above.] Procreation, propagation, begetting.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xx. 161 b, Mankynde cannot by any other possible meanes bee continued in progeneracion of issue. 1731 BAILEY vol. II, *Progeneration*, a breeding or bringing forth.

†Proge·nerative, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *prōgenerāt-* (see PROGENERATE) + -IVE.] Having the quality of progenerating; tending to produce.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 285/1 It carries off the progenerative Cause of the Scurvy, Dropsy, Stone and Gout.

†Proge·nial, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *prōgeni-ēs* PROGENY + -AL.] Of or pertaining to progeny.

1657-83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 159 Whether immediately produced, without any progenial traduction or radiation,..is..the dispute.

‖ Progenies (proɪdʒe·niɪz). *Obs. rare.* [L. *prōgeniēs* PROGENY.] = PROGENY; race, generation.

1672-3 GREW *Anat. Roots* I. i. § 16 A new Progenies of Roots, from the old Head or Body, in the room of those that die yearly.

Proge·nital, *a. rare.* [f. as next + -AL. Cf. med.L. *prōgenitālis* (1493 in Du Cange).] = next.

1836 LYTTON *Athens* I. viii, Homer is cited in proof of the progenital humidity.

Progenitive (proɪdʒe·nĭtiv), *a.* [f. L. *prōgenit-*, ppl. stem of *prōgignĕre*: see next and -IVE. So late L. *prōgenitīv-us* (Boeth.).] Having the quality of producing offspring or progeny; possessed of reproductive power or properties.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 679 I'm vastly popular with almost all the infant duplicates of my progenitive friends. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. (1852) 66 The Gauchos call the former [crystals of Gypsum] the 'Padre del sel', and the latter [crystals of sulphate of soda] the 'Madre'; they state that these progenitive salts always occur on the borders of the salinas when the water begins to evaporate. 1882 T. MOZLEY *Remin.* II. 433 The mighty, pregnant, progenitive atom. 1895 F. C. CONYBEARE in *Academy* 29 June 547/1 That a barren woman should bring forth a child was no ordinary progenitive act, but a result of the divine power.

Hence **Proge·nitiveness,** reproductive quality.

1868 E. D. COPE *Orig. Fittest* (1887) 111 Metaphysical peculiarity or progenitiveness as isolating species.

Progenitor (proɪdʒe·nitɔɪ). Also 4-6 **-our**. [ME. *progenitour*, a. obs. F. *progeniteur* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prōgenitōr-em* ancestor, agent-n. f. *prōgign-ĕre* to beget, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 a + *gign-ĕre* to beget.]

1. A person from whom another person, a family, or a race, is descended; an ancestor, a forefather.

[1347 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 180/1 En salvation de lui & des almes de ses progenitours.] 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Tim.* i. 3, I do thankyngis to my God, to whom I serue fro my progenitours. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* Prol. 4 The most renommed of alle his noble progenytours. 1542-5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 107 Let them consider howe tyrannously the bisshoppes kyngedome hath vsed their progenitours, Kynges of Englonde. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* To Rdr., The English-Saxon tongue which our Progenitors the English spake. 1742-3 LD. LONSDALE in *Johnson's Debates* 23 Feb. (1787) II. 508 Another principle of government which the wisdom of our progenitors established, was to suppress vice with the utmost diligence. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vii. 251 Their fabulous progenitor, Thessalus, was called by some a son of Hercules. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 70 He supposes that in the course of ages every man has had numberless progenitors.

b. *Biol.* An ancestor or ancestral species of animals or plants.

1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* v. (1873) 108 We may believe that the progenitor of the ostrich genus had habits like those of the bustard. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 240 The progenitors of Birds and the progenitors of Man at a very remote period were probably one.

2. *fig.* **a.** A spiritual, political, or intellectual 'ancestor' or predecessor.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 103 We take them for our progenitors, who going before, have taught us the way to follow after. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 310 All these worthy men are our progenitors, if we will but..become their disciples.

b. The original of which anything is a copy.

1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 5 Two several manuscripts which sprang from the same progenitor. 1883 *Glasgow Weekly Herald* 5 May 3/2 What are precedents, and how do they originate without progenitors?

Progenitorial (proɪdʒenitōᵊrĭal), *a.* [f. L. type **prōgenitōri-us* (f. *prōgenitōr-em*: see prec.) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to progenitors; of the nature of a progenitor; ancestral.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVIII. 289 It presents us neither with progenitorial guilt, to be visited upon the heroes, nor with predicted calamities to be inflicted. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xviii, Families against whom neither..lawyer nor.. physician could recollect a progenitorial blot, either on the male or female side, were not numerous. 1880 WARREN *Book-plates* xviii. 196 In the Werdenstein plate there are no less than sixteen of these 'progenitorial' shields.

Proge·nitorship. [f. PROGENITOR + -SHIP.] The position or fact of being a progenitor.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 171 Their dead would disown them as scornfully as Cicero would the intellectual progenitorship of a Cicerone. 1839 PYE SMITH *Script. & Geol.* 92 All land animals were created in pairs or other suitable modes of progenitorship, on one spot upon the earth's surface. 1870 TYNDALL in *Life & Lett. Huxley* (1900) I. xxiv. 330 Anything that touches progenitorship interests them.

Progenitress (proɪdʒe·nitrĕs). [f. PROGENITOR + -ESS[1].] A female progenitor, an ancestress. Also *fig.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. § 34 Her selfe a Queene, and a Progenitresse of those glorious Kings and Queenes which followed. 1635 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* VI. 343 Eue our first progenitresse. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 291 She was a worthy progenitress of a long line of most charming women novelists. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 463/1 These old cookery-books seem to bring us much nearer to our dead and gone progenitresses.

‖ Progenitrix (proɪdʒe·nitriks). [a. late L. *prōgenitrix* an ancestress.] = prec. †Also with French ending, **‖ Progenitri·ce.** *Obs.*

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* III *His grandmother*] set for any progenitrix, as is often used. 1650 BP. HALL *Cases Consc., Add.* i. (1654) 387 The gracious progenitrice of the Saviour of the world. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 13 Oct. 4/4 There is now living at Allonby..a widow..who is the progenitrix of fifty eight persons. 1864 *Realm* 9 Mar. 5 In this young woman, lean, yellow, shrewd and hard, we have the type and progenitrix of the strong-minded Yankee female face, with its keen angularity.

Progeniture (proɪdʒe·nitiūr). [f. L. *prōgenit-*, ppl. stem of *prōgign-ĕre* to beget + -URE: cf. *geniture*. So F. *progéniture* (1835 in *Dict. Acad.*).]

1. Begetting of offspring; generation.

1801 HEL. M. WILLIAMS *Sk. Fr. Rep.* I. v. 38 His immense domain which descended in long succession of progeniture from his remote ancestry. 1831 T. HOPE *Ess. Origin Man* II. 21 All organic and living individuals after a time acquire the power of propagating their species by a new progeniture. 1855 W. H. MILL *Applic. Panth. Princ.* (1861) 217 All ancient testimonies respecting the Cerinthians ascribe to them also this notion of the purely celestial progeniture of the Christ.

2. Offspring, progeny.

1893 *Pall Mall Mag.* I. 38 A state of highly-strung nerves in our progeniture that may some day land them in continuous invalidism. 1894 MARQ. SALISBURY *Addr. Brit. Assoc. Oxford* 8 Aug., It is effected by their action in crossing, by their skill in bringing the right mates together to produce the progeniture they want.

Proge·nity. *nonce-wd.*

†1. Humorous blunder for PROGENY (sense 4).

1600 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Edw. IV*, III. Wks. I. 45 Harrys of the old house of Lancaster; and that progenity do I loue.

2. [after *humanity*: cf. CANINITY 2]. Consideration for offspring or descendants.

1902 L. STEPHEN in *19th Cent.* May 797 Progenity, or as Mr. Kidd calls it, 'projected efficiency', makes us suffer for the good of our descendants.

Progeny (prɒ·dʒĭni). Also 4 **-i**, 4-5 **-ye**, 4-7 **-ie**, 6 **proginie**. [ME. a. obs. F. *progenie* (13th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prōgeniē-s* descent, family, offspring, f. *prōgign-ĕre* to beget.]

1. The offspring (of a father or mother, or of both); issue, children collectively; more widely, descendants. (Rarely with indef. art.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1361 Til him and til his progeni Wit pite sal he sceu his merci. *a* 1325 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 145 Þo Eue wist sche schuld dye, Sche cleped forþ hir progenie. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 250 He moste nedes dye..and al his progenye in this world. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* (1570) C vj b/1 In it remayneth the worthy gouernour, A stocke and fountayne of noble progeny. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cv. ii, His servantes you, O Abrahams progeny. 1604 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Pr. for R. Family*, All the King and Queenes Royall progenie. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 26 The Mores are the progeny of such Arabians as after their Conquests seated themself in that part of Affrica. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 13 Some think..that Noah's sons..were saved in the ark..merely for being the posterity or progeny of a righteous father. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marb. Faun* XXVI, From this union sprang a vigorous progeny.

b. Of lower animals, and plants.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 250 When she has calv'd, then set the Dam aside; And for the tender Progeny provide. 1843 J. A. SMITH *Product. Farming* (ed. 2) 33 A tree puts forth annually a new progeny of buds, and becomes clothed with a beautiful foliage of lungs..for the respiration of the rising brood. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 169 In gathering seeds, choice should be made from the finest trees, as they are more likely to produce a healthy and vigorous progeny than those which are stinted in their growth.

c. *fig.* Spiritual or intellectual descendants, successors, followers, disciples.

1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E.E.T.S.) 78 All þe prioures and souereynes of þe ordre wer sent aftir to be at þe byryng of her maystir. Whan þei wer gadered to-gidir and anoumbered þe summe of his progenie cam on-to too þousand and too hundred. *Ibid.* 88 His desire was þat his progenie schuld lyue in honest pouerte. 1616 CHAMPNEY *Voc. Bps.* 221 So are likewise the Lutherans, and all their progeny. 1768 JOHNSON *Shaks.* Pref., Wks. IX. 242 His characters..are the genuine progeny of common humanity. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. xiii. 347 The intellectual progeny whom he [Newton] educated and reared.

d. More vaguely, expressing relation or character: cf. CHILD *sb.* 13.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, Certaynly they be ye housholde of Sathan & progeny of pryde. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* v. 600 Hear all ye Angels, Progenie of Light, Thrones, Dominations, Princedoms, Vertues, Powers.

2. *fig.* That which originates from or is produced by something (material or immaterial); issue, product, outcome, result.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 290 Of Avarices progenie What vice sueth after this. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 96 ¶ 8 Falsehood was the progeny of Folly. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 253 Art is the parent, not the progeny of Science. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlviii. (1856) 446 In front of it we found a progeny of bergs, crowded together so close that we could not count them. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 90 Like earth's myriad hues, spring's progeny, rais'd to the breezes. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. ii. 55 Are not these more rapid vibrations the progeny of the slower?

†**3.** = GENERATION 5. *Obs. rare.* (Chiefly a literalism of translation, repr. L. *prōgeniēs*.)

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlviii[i]. 20 Þe wicked shal entren unto þe progenie [*uel*, oþer, kynde; Vulg. *in progenies*], of his faders, and he shal se no liȝt wyþ-outen ende. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxiv. 7 Into the thridde and the ferthe progenye. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* vi. 90 His name alwaie halowed be..from progeny to progenye.

†**4.** A race, stock, or line descended from a common ancestor; a family, clan, tribe, or kindred.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* viii. 5 Lest he speke euele of thi progenye [Vulg. *de progenie tua*, 1388 of thi kynrede]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 22 Which al the hole progenie Of lusti folk hath undertake To feede. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 127 The progenye of theyme descendede from Agar, seruaunte and moder of Ismael. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 23 The Marshes and all the progeny of the Northumbers, that is, of that people which inhabiteth the north side of the flud Humber. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 70 Except remission be given with consent of the progenie and friends of him quha is vnjustlie slane. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* II. 58 Lluelline, the last Prince of the British Progeny, being slaine. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* VI. 1074 Now fix your sight, and stand intent, to see Your Roman race, and Julian progeny.

†**5.** Lineage, parentage; descent, genealogy. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xliii. 7 The man askide vs bi ordre oure progenye, if the fader lyued, if we hadden a brother. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* v. cxii. 85 Andouera, a woman of great birth, how be it myn auctor..declarith not hir progeny. 1548 CRANMER *Catech.* 97 Let euery man be content with his proginie, office, callyng, state and degree. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 61 All French and France exclaimes on thee, Doubting thy Birth and lawfull Progenie. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 595 This Tzephaniah, For his Progeny, is described to be the son of Chushi, the son of Gedaliah. 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 209 The care of about forty families, of the same progeny as the Turks.

Progermina·tion. *rare*$^{-1}$. [Noun of action f. L. *prōgermin-āre* to shoot forth + -ATION: see PRO-^{1} 1 a and GERMINATION.] Springing forth; birth, propagation.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *to Sir J. Berkley*, Sold (As other townes and cities were) for gold, By those ignoble births, which shame the stem That gave progermination unto them.

Pro·gger^{1}. Now *dial.* [f. PROG *v.*^{1} + -ER^{1}.] One who progs, begs, or solicits; a beggar.

1685 R. LUCAS *Happiness* (1692) I. 280 How far shou'd I prefer the..unconcernment of a poet..before the former sort of servile philosophick proggers! 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Prooagers*, beggars.

Pro·gger^{2}. *dial.* [f. PROG *v.*^{2} + -ER^{1}.] One who or that which progs or prods: a. One who prods for clams, etc. (*U. S.*); b. A butcher's stabbing instrument.

1818 MIDFORD *Coll. Songs* 46 (E. D. D.) The progger an' steel. 1887 *Fisheries of U. S.* Sect. v. II. 604 A miserable set who help the oystermen in winter and 'go clamming' in summer. They are locally known as 'proggers'.

Progging (prǫ·giŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROG *v.*^{1} + -ING^{1}.] Soliciting, begging; foraging.

1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* 242 Being called to assemble about reforming the Church, they fell to progging and soliciting the parliament..for a new settling of their tithes and oblations. 1650 NEEDHAM *Case Commw.* 54 A People ..poor in Body, Pay, and other Accommodations, save what they have purchased by proguing here in England. 1715 J. CHAPPELOW *Rt. Way Rich* (1717) 87 All their plodding and progging is for themselves. 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* 412 Careful for nought but progging for belly-timber. *attrib.* 1663 J. STILLINGFL. *Shecinah* Ded., The progging attempts of an ambitious phylargyrist. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 389 [He] practiced for divers years progging tricks in employing necessitous persons..to get contributions.

Progging (prǫ·giŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING^{2}.] That progs, solicits, begs, or forages. (The sense of quot. 1642 is not clear.)

1622 FLETCHER & MASS. *Span. Curate* III. iii, That man in the Gowne in my opinion Looks like a proaguing knave. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. II. xvi, But when to plantall life quick sense is ti'd, And progging phansie, then upon her guard She gins to stand. 1650 WELDON *Crt. Jas. I*, II. 185 Suppressing Promoters, and progging fellows.

Proggins: see PROG *sb.*^{3}

Proglottic (prǫglǫ·tik), *a.* [irreg. f. PROGLOTTIS + -IC.] Of or pertaining to a proglottis.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Proglottid (prǫglǫ·tid). *Zool.* [f. Gr. **προγλωττιδ-*, stem of **προγλωττίς*: see next.] = PROGLOTTIS. So **Proglotti·dean** *a.* = PROGLOTTIC (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 129 In this way the Tænia-chain is formed, the last metameres of which (the so-called proglottids) break off at a certain stage of development, and form more or less independent individuals. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Proglottid*, the same as *Proglottis*.

‖ **Proglottis** (prǫglǫ·tis). Pl. **-ides** (-idīz). [mod.L. (Felix Dujardin, 1843 *Ann. Sci. Nat.*, ser. 2. XX. *Zoologie* 342), a. Gr. *προγλωσσίς*, **προγλωττίς*, *-ιδ-* point of the tongue, f. *πρό*, PRO-^{2} + *γλῶσσα*, *γλῶττα* tongue, *γλωττίς* glottis, mouthpiece of a pipe. So named from its shape.] A sexually mature segment or joint of a tapeworm.

Applied by Dujardin to a detached living joint; by P. J. Van Beneden, 1850, and by subsequent writers, to the joint whether attached or detached.

1855 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 2) 136 When the gemma has grown into an adult worm (*Proglottis* of Van Beneden), the indentation, separating each from the one preceding it, increases in depth until.. the segments are successively thrown off as so many distinct animals. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 143 After their discharge from the body, the proglottides decompose, and the ova are liberated. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1007 A tapeworm may therefore be regarded as a colony, and each individual proglottis as an animal complete in itself.

†**Pro·gman.** *Obs.* [f. PROG *v.*^{1} (or ? PROG *sb.*^{2}) + MAN *sb.*^{1}] A man appointed to forage for victuals, etc.; a forager, purveyor.

1618 in *Wotton's Lett.* (Roxb.) 79 The same daye five prog men, common soldiers who were sent wth money in their purses to buye victualls, were cruelly murdered.

†**Pro·gnate,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōgnāt-us* born or sprung from, as sb. a child, descendant, f. *prō*, PRO-^{1}, forth + (*g*)*nātus*, pa. pple. of (*g*)*nascī* to be born: cf. *cognate*.]

A. *adj.* Innate, congenital. (*pedantic.*)

c 1600 J. LEACH in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 75 Not myne owne nature.., but your nature, generositie prognate, and come from your atavite progenitours.

B. *sb.* Child, offspring; in quot. *fig.*

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 62 If he speaks no *fiat*, folly is the best prognate of our contrivances.

Prognathic (prǫgnæ·þik), *a.* [f. as PROGNATHOUS + -IC.] = PROGNATHOUS *a.*

1850 R. G. LATHAM *Var. Man* Introd. 6 When the insertion of the teeth is perpendicular, or nearly perpendicular to the base of the nose, the skull is orthognathic; when projecting forwards, prognathic. 1861 BUSK in *Trans. Ethnol. Soc.* I. 343 It is to him [Professor Retzius] that we owe the terms brachycephalic and dolichocephalic, with their respective modifications of orthognathic and prognathic. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Aug. 455 The head small and distinctly dolichocephalic, the jaws prognathic.

Prognathism (prǫ·gnăpiz'm). [f. as next + -ISM (cf. *synchronous*, *-chronism*). So F. *prognathisme*.] The condition of being prognathous; prognathic state or condition.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1866 LAING *Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 63 The degree of prognathism, as shown by the projection of the upper jaw and teeth..is equal to that of the lowest specimens of the Negro and Australian races. 1889 MISS BIRD *Japan* II. 75 [In the Ainos] there is no tendency towards prognathism. 1896 [see ORTHOGNATHISM].

Prognathous (prǫ·gnăþəs), *a.* [f. PRO-^{2} + Gr. *γνάθ-ος* jaw + -OUS. In mod.F. *prognathe*.] Having projecting jaws; having a low facial angle: said of a skull or person; also of the jaws: prominent, protruding. Opposed to *opisthognathous* and *orthognathous*.

1836 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 3) I. II. v. § 1. 282, I shall give the following terms to these two varieties in the figure of the cranium, viz. to the narrow elongated form, that of Prognathous from the prominence of the jaw. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. ix. 232 Pyramidal and prognathous skulls. 1863 [see ORTHOGNATHOUS]. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* iv. (1872) 56 They are exceedingly black, resembling ..the negro, but without the flat nose or prognathous jaw.

Prognathy (prǫ·gnăpi). [f. as PROGNATH-OUS + -Y: cf. *anomal-ous*, *anomal-y*, *infam-ous*, *infam-y*.] = PROGNATHISM.

1890 H. M. STANLEY *Darkest Africa* I. xiv. 352 With slight prognathy of jaws. 1894 *Cosmopolitan* XVII. 43 Their features are mostly regular without that..marked prognathy of the true negro.

‖ **Progne** (prǫ·gnē). Also 5 **proigne.** [L. *Prognē*, variant of *Procnē*, Gr. Πρόκνη, name of the sister of Philomela, according to Greek mythology transformed into a swallow. So F. *progné*.]

1. A poetic name for the swallow. (Cf. note on PHILOMEL.)

But the poets appear to have thought it some song-bird.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 15 (64) The swalwe proigne with a sorwful lay, Whan morwe com gan make here weymentynge. [1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 328 And of hir Soster Progne I finde, Hou sche was torned..Into a Swalwe swift of winge.] 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 178 And Progne, on whose brest as yet is seene The blooddy marke of hands that Itys slewe. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 5 About ane bank..The merle and maueis micht be sene, The Progne and the Philomene. *a* 1784 JOHNSON *Ode to Autumn* v, Soft pleasing woes my heart invade, As Progne pours the melting lay. 1803 H. K. WHITE *Clifton Grove* 230 Lorn Progne's note from distant copse behind.

2. *Ornith.* An American genus of *Hirundinidæ* or Swallows, including the common Purple Martin of the United States (*P. purpurea* or *subis*).

Prognose (prǫgnō·uz), *v.* [f. next, or its F. form *prognose*: cf. DIAGNOSE.] *trans.* To make a prognosis of.

1900 *Lancet* 27 Jan. 225/2, I venture to think that appendicitis cannot be correctly prognosed until it is possible to infer from the clinical symptoms the pathological changes proceeding within the appendix.

‖ **Prognosis** (prǫgnō·usis). Pl. **-oses** (-ō·usīz). [L. *prognōsis*, a. Gr. *πρόγνωσις* a recognizing beforehand, foreknowledge, in medicine a prognosis, f. *προγιγνώσκειν* to know beforehand: see PRO-^{2} and GNOSIS. In F. *prognose*.]

1. *Med.* A forecast of the probable course and termination of a case of disease; also, the action or art of making such a forecast.

1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius* I. i. 3 As to the Prognosis, or Prognostical part concerning this Distemper: It is hard to cure. 1741 MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 174 There will be little Difficulty in forming a just Prognosis of our Patient's Disease. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 397, I had arrived to that certainty of prognosis, that I could have insured the life of an individual by the treatment I recommended, and his death by any other. 1881 HUXLEY in *Nature* 11 Aug. 343/1 Pathology..was merely natural history; it registered the phenomena of disease, classified them, and ventured upon a prognosis, wherever the observation of constant co-existences and sequences, suggested a rational expectation of the like recurrence under similar circumstances.

¶ b. A symptom: = PROGNOSTIC *sb.*^{1} 3. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (Kersey), *Prognosis*..in the Art of Physick, it is the same as Prognostick Sign.

2. *gen.* Prognostication, anticipation.

1706 PHILLIPS (Kersey), *Prognosis*, a knowing before, Foreboding, Fore-knowledge. 1872 B. HARTE *Heiress of Red Dog* (1879) 54 It is one of the evidences of original characters that it is apt to baffle all prognosis from a mere observer's standpoint. 1894 *Edin. Rev.* July 33 It is..too soon to attempt a prognosis of English culture.

†**Prognosta·tic,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 5 **pronostatike.** Extended form of PROGNOSTIC *a.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 118 As pronostatike clerks beren witnesse.

‖ **Progno·stes.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. Gr. *προγνώστης* one who knows beforehand.] A prognosticator; a foreteller.

1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 1, I soon perceived, that I had proved a true Prognostes, and much truer than Lilie.

Prognostic (prǫgnǫ·stik), *sb.*^{1} Also 5–6 pron-. [ME. *pronostike*, *-ique*, a. OF. *pronostique* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *pronostic*, ad. L. *prognōsticon* (*-cum*), a. Gr. *προγνωστικόν* a prognostic, sb. use of neut. sing. of *προγνωστικός*: see next.]

1. That which foreshows or gives warning of something to come, or from which the future may be foreknown; a pre-indication, token, omen.

Originally applied to things supposed to be occult or supernatural, including many now known to be natural antecedents, as the meteorological signs of the weather.

1422–30 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. XXXV. (MS. Digby 232) lf. 144/2 Þe Egle..Þat no thyng was but tokne of Tresoun, Pronostyke and declaracioun. 1471 *Arriv. Edw. IV* (Camden) 13 A goode pronostique of good aventure. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. CCXLVI, A great comete or blasyng starre, the which..with also the foresayde eclypce, they adiudged for pronostiquykys & tokens of the kynges deth. 1598 BARCKLEY *Felic. Man* (1631) 177 Alexander received these gifts as a prognostick of his good fortune. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινὴ xix. 341 Winds ..often..rise suddenly without any Prognosticks. 1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 122 From sure Prognosticks learn to know the Skies. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. xlix. 66 A great comet appeared about the time of her death, and the vulgar esteemed it the prognostic of that event. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. xiv. 321 Laud felt it as..the prognostic of his own doom. 1882 R. ABERCROMBY in *Nature* 12 Oct. 572/2 In common parlance any particular 'look' of the sky is called a prognostic, and it is a natural extension of the idea to call the 'look' of the sky absorption spectrum a prognostic.

2. A prediction or judgement of the future drawn from such an indication; a forecast, prophecy, anticipation.

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I.) 225 When this young Lord came to Rome..from the battaile of Prague, I can well witnesse..of the great Prognosticks all such gave of him. 1701 EARL OF CLARENDON in *Pepys' Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 208, I could not but think it odd..that a man..should give such a prognostick. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* V. xliii. 274 Reflexion and Prognostic are ever inspiriting parts of the pretension of people who have lived long. 1815 *Zeluca* II. 285, I thank you for your inauspicious prognostics. 1884 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 29/1 Every unpleasing phenomenon of our Parliamentary life supplies fresh material for these despairing prognostics.

3. *Med.* A symptom or indication on which prognosis is based; † formerly also = PROGNOSIS.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) N vj, Herein haue many wise phisicions..bene deceiued, and haue euil iudged of the pacientes pronostik. 1621 BURTON (*title*) The Anatomy of Melancholy, What it is, With all the kindes, cavses, symptomes, prognostickes, and severall cvres of it. 1753 N. TORRIANO *Gangr. Sore Throat* 71 Hippocrates..made a favourable Prognostic in the Squinancy, when the Humour of the Disease tended outwards. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 467 In forming our prognostic, a special regard must be had to the peculiar character of the disease. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 108 Prognostics are those circumstances on which a prognosis is based.

Prognostic (prǫgnǫ·stik), *a.* and *sb.*^{2} [ad. med.L. *prognōstic-us*, a. Gr. *προγνωστικός* foreknowing, f. *προγιγνώσκειν* to know beforehand: see -IC. So mod.F. *prognostique* (Acad. 1835).]

A. *adj.* Characterized by prognosticating; foreshowing, foretelling, predictive.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch* Explan. Words, *Prognosticke*, foreknowing and foreshewing: as the signes in a disease

which foresignifie death or recovery. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. ii. 24 There are..diuerse prognosticke signes foreshewing life or death. 1759 B. STILLINGFL. *Cal. Flora* Pref. in *Misc. Tracts* (1791) 236 A digression about birds in relation to their prognostic nature. *Ibid.* 254, I have .. marked the plants which appear to be most prognostic with an asterisk. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 161 Movements of the leaves during a silent night, prognostic of the breeze that has yet scarce come.

b. *Med.* Of or pertaining to prognosis.

a 1648 LD. HERBERT *Life* (1886) 52 To have some knowledge in medicine, especially the diagnostic part..as also the prognostic part. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 120 The great prognostic importance of optic atrophy.

† **B.** *sb.* One who prognosticates; a foreteller of events. *Obs. rare.*

1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 33, I might a litle question the skil of Mr. L. himself, and some of his felow Prognosticks, in that part of the Sideral Science. *Ibid.* 175 Those antiq Wizards as well..as our modern Prognostiks.

† **Progno·stic,** *v. Obs.* Also 5–6 **pron-.** [ME. *pronostike*, a. obs. F. *pronostiquer* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*) (ad. med.L. *prognostic-āre* (Duns Scotus, *a* 1308)), f. L. *prognostic-um*, or F. *pronostique*, PROGNOSTIC *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* = PROGNOSTICATE *v.* 1, 1 b.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 29 Many oþer thinges þai pronostic and diuines by þe colours of þa flawmes. 1477 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 190 The worshypfull and vertuous dysposicion off hyr ffadr and moodr, whyche pronostikyth that..the mayde sholde be vertuous and goode. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xx. (S.T.S.) II. 30 He wald nocht pronostok [*v. r.* pronostik] nor devyne na sic harmes to cum on þame. 1559 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 61 The adversaries have good sport..to prognostick the likelihood. 1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. v. 379 When the Sun shines waterishly and prognosticks rain.

2. *intr.* = PROGNOSTICATE *v.* 2; in quot. 1541, to make a (medical) prognosis.

1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) C iv b, They [old men] also remembre..how the augurys..sholde determyne and pronostike vpon the dyuinacions and thynges that be for to come. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* B ij, A Cyrurgyen..ought to be gentyll to his pacientes.. wyly in prognostykynge. *c* 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* v. viii. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), Your daughter is well, even as I did pronostick. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 280 The present tempestuous, rainie, vnseasonable weather threaten and prognosticke to vs for our apostasie.

Prognostic (prɒgnɒ·stikăb'l), *a.* [f. L. *prognostic-āre* to PROGNOSTICATE + -ABLE.]

1. Capable of being prognosticated.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VI. viii. 317 Causes..which cannot indeed be regular, and therefore their effects not prognosticable like Ecclipses. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 194 It is for any prognosticator to know any thing that is prognosticable. 1881 A. S. HERSCHEL in *Nature* 24 Feb. 384/1 One of its most marked, although not at all one of its most prognosticable, properties.

† **2.** Capable of prognosticating. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Dial. Soarnes & Chir.* 19 b, As in the one, be manifest tokens of death: so in the other be prognosticable signes.

† **Progno·stical,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. as PROGNOSTIC *a.*, or f. PROGNOSTIC *sb.* + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or characterized by prognostication; prognostic.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 79 Strange and almost incredible conclusions, as well in the Diuinatorie, as Prognostical kinde. 1652 WADSWORTH tr. *Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 144 They trusted in Southsaier's Prognostical judgements. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 164, I have .. given a Prognostical Arrangement of popular Maxims relative to this subject.

B. *sb.* = PROGNOSTIC *sb.*[1] 1. *rare*[−1].

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Mayden's Blush* 1180 Wondring much, the King awoke withall Conceiving it some high Prognosticall.

Progno·stically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a prognostic manner; by or with prognostication.

1610 MARCELLINE *Triumphs Jas. I* 60 It produceth prognostically the most dangerous Climacteriall age of .. the Papacy. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 51 By Rules set down to finde out the disease Diagnostically, to discover the danger of it Prognostically, and to advise the cure of it. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 429 To lead Prognostically and Prodromatically to the Metropolitan Crosier.

† **Progno·sticant,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *prognōsticānt-em*, pr. pple. of *prognōsticāre* to PROGNOSTICATE: see -ANT[1].] Prognosticating, foreshowing.

1619 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 11 Apr. 52 As significant, and prognosticant of the wrath of God as any of these wonders.

† **Progno·sticate,** *sb. Obs.* [f. med.L. *prognōsticāt-um* that which is prognosticated: see next.] A sign or token of some future event; also, a prediction, forecast: = PROGNOSTICATION 4.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) I j b, Yet were they..a token of libertie, where these haue been a prognosticate of bondage. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 173/1 They neuer appeare but as prognosticats of afterclaps. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 330 Behold what truth is in the vain prognosticates of fond astrologers!

† **Progno·sticate,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *prognōsticāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prognōsticāre*: see next.] = PROGNOSTICANT.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 32 Thee wise diuined, by this prognosticat horshead, That Moors wyde conquest should gayne with vittayl abundant.

Prognosticate (prɒgnɒ·stikeit), *v.* Also 6–7 **pron-**; 6 *pa. t.* and *pple.* **-at(e.** [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *pro(g)nōsticāre* to prognosticate, foreshow, foretell: see PROGNOSTIC *v.*]

1. *trans.* To know or tell of (an event, etc.) beforehand; to have previous knowledge of, to presage; to foretell, predict, prophesy, forecast.

a 1529 SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 138 To pronostycate truly the chaunce of fortunys dyse. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 61 A philosophier in Plato his tyme had prognosticate yᵉ eclipse of ye soonne. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 82 By flight and chirping byrds too prognosticat aptlye. 1612 WOODALL *Surgeon's Mate* Wks. (1653) 91 To know the manner of the hurt, that he may wisely prognosticate the danger. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. i. 44 Wizards and conjurers prognosticating that she should not live out a year. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) II. 24 Prudent men prognosticated evil. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 Jan. 1/2 Other cogent reasons for prognosticating such a revolution.

b. Of things: To betoken; to give previous notice of; to indicate beforehand.

a 1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastel* Prol., Wks. (1829) 208 Doth not this pretty pageant..signify & prognosticate that tragedy they will play hereafter? 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The suannis murnit, be cause the gray goul mau pronosticat ane storme. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVI. i. 919 Euen the very first beasts that were slain, prognosticated fortunat successe. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. x. (1699) 108 The Death of a Monarch .. Prognosticated by an Eclipse or Comet. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 106 Yet these portents were far from prognosticating a tyrant. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 283 Everything seems to prognosticate a hard winter.

† **2.** *intr.* To make or utter a prognostication; to prophesy *of. Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 299 b, For Christ him selfe..did prognosticate of great stormes. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (Chaucer Soc.) 9 Albeit he could judiciously prognosticate of seasons.

b. Of a thing: To give promise or indication.

1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 296 If the aggregation of stars in the Milky Way goes on—as it prognosticates—for ages.

Hence **Progno·sticated** *ppl. a.*, **Progno·sticating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 58 If any mans father be sick, the son straight goes vnto the..prognosticating priest. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 64 Peucer..confuteth their fiue kindes of prognosticating. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 411 In order, by a proper foresight, to prevent the prognosticated evil. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) II. 237 All the prognosticating sights and sounds.

Prognostication (prɒgnɒstikēi·ʃən). Also 5–6 **pron-.** [ME. a. OF. *pronosticacion* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), later *prognostication* (Cotgr.), n. of action from med.L. *prognōsticāre*, PROGNOSTIC *v.*]

1. The action or fact of prognosticating; foreshowing, foretelling; prediction, prophecy.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* vi. 29 In pronostycacyon ryghte happy of their fleeynge and voyage. 1548 PATTEN *Exp. Scot.* A vj b, To note the Pronosticacion and former aduertence of his future successe in this hys enterprise. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes Nat. Things* iv. 169 The prognostication of weathers that may be made in the morning by their keeping within their hives, or flying early abroad to furnish themselves with wax or honey. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ₱ 5 Others are of Opinion that it foretels Battle and Bloodshed, and believe it of the same Prognostication as the Tail of a Blazing Star. 1904 J. OMAN *Vision & Authority* IV. vii. 289 Prognostication beyond the limits of our duty we should discover to be only a profitless diversion.

b. with *a* and *pl.* An act or instance of prognosticating; a foreknowledge or foretelling of something; a forecast, prediction, prophecy.

1440 J. SHIRLEY *Dethe K. James* (1818) 13 The which now may well be demyd by varay demonstracions, and also pronosticacions to the Kyng, of his deth and murdur. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 2/2 Which pronostication one Paulinus making much of, expowned it to signifie [etc.]. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 142 The Athenians for his divine prognostications erected him a statue with a golden tongue. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 187 ₱ 8 This prognostication she was ordered to keep secret. 1905 *Expositor* Feb. 134 His gloomy prognostications of coming doom.

c. A conjecture of some future event formed upon some supposed sign; a presentiment, foreboding.

1760 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 92 ₱ 5 Will Puzzle..foresees every thing before it will happen, though he never relates his prognostications till the event is past. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* x. ii, At his sight, her prognostication of ill became stronger. 1812 J. J. HENRY *Camp. agst. Quebec* 49 A prognostication resulted in my mind, that we should all die of mere debility in these wilds. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 307 The prognostications of evil thus formed very often bring about their own fulfilment.

† **2.** An astrological or astrometeorological forecast for the year, published in (or as) an almanac; hence, an almanac containing this. *Obs.*

See list of such Prognostications in Forewords to *Laneham's Letter*, p. cxxxiii. et seq.

1516 (*title*) The prognosticacion of maister Iasper late.. translated into ynglissh, to the honorre of te moost noble & victorious kynge Henry the viij by..Nicholas longwater. 1545 (*title*) A Pronostycacion or an Almanacke for the yere of our lorde MCCCCCXLV made by Andrewe Boorde of Physycke doctor. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 66 The makers of prognostications, or almanacks for the yeere. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 142 The vsuall order annexed to the prognostications in placeing the faires of everye moneth together. 1643 *C'tess Mar's Househ. Bk.* in Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1880) 63 For ane prognostication 8*d.*

† **3.** *Med.* = PROGNOSIS 1. *Obs.*

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 55 The Rules of Hipocrates in his seconde boke of pronostications. 1610 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* VII. iv. (1639) 388 There needeth no clyster, but that prognostication is sufficient. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 96 To regulate our judgment in prognostication, we must consider, what wounds are mortal, and what not.

4. Something that foretells or foreshadows an event; an indication of something about to happen; a sign, token, portent, prognostic. Now *rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 The pix..did falle, whiche was a pronosticacion contrary to the victory of the Kynge. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 81 Which hideous tempest some said it was a very pronosticacion of trouble and hatred to come betwene princes. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 54 Nay, if an oyly Palme bee not a fruitfull Prognostication, I cannot scratch mine eare. 1850 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) V. cxxxviii. 254 Labouring to fix the position of the Church for our own time according to the conditions and the prognostications which the time itself not offers only but rather thrusts and forces on our view.

Prognostic·ative (prɒgnɒ·stikĕtiv), *a.* [ad. obs. F. *prognostiçatif, -ive* (1564 in Godef.): see PROGNOSTICATE *v.* and -IVE.] Characterized by prognosticating; tending to prognostication.

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xii. (1596) 180 A phisition..studied..all the rules and considerations of the art prognosticatiue. 1813 HOBHOUSE *Journey* (ed. 2) 977 The comet..was thought prognosticative of the fall of Islamism. 1824 *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 163 The opening a new volume of poems..accompanied by a yawn, prognosticative of the soporific nature of its contents.

Prognosticator (prɒgnɒ·stikeitəɹ). Also 6 **pron-, -our(e.** [Agent-n. in L. form from *prognōsticāre* to PROGNOSTICATE: see -OR. So OF. *pronosticateur* (15–16th c. in Godef.).] One who or that which prognosticates; one who pretends to a knowledge of the future; a soothsayer, predictor, foreteller.

1552 HULOET, Pronosticatoure, *præsagus.* 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* IV. 46 He obeied the pronosticator & caused all his men to returne. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Isa.* xlvii. 13 Let now the astrologers, the starre gasers, & pronosticatours stand vp, and saue thee from these things. 1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* Wks. (Bullen) VIII. 60 Averring no prognosticator lies, That says, some great ones fall, their rivals rise. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* IV. Wks. IX. 29 Mr. Brothers..was a melancholy prognosticator, and has had the fate of melancholy men. 1852 S. R. MAITLAND *Ess. Var. Subj.* 207 To speak of Merlin and a train of less important prognosticators. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 22 Sept. 3/3 A sensitive, living prognosticator, like the 'Abrus precatorius', is preferable to the inanimate barometric weather gauges, on account of the vital force which dwells in it.

† **b.** A maker or publisher of almanacs containing predictions of the weather and events of the ensuing year; also, an almanac containing these.

1601 J. CHAMBER *Agst. Judic. Astrol.* 2 Astrologers, prognosticators, almanack-makers. 1696 TRYON *Misc.* IV. 99 Our Annual Prognosticators are generally Men of little Learning. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 130 Almost every supposed Prognosticator has contradicted itself.

Prognosticatory (prɒgnɒ·stikĕtəri), *a.* [f. as prec.: see -ORY[2].] Of the nature of a prognostication; serving to prognosticate.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xx. 168 The intended purpose of his Prognosticatory Response. 1832 *Fraser's Mag.* V. 584 The curl of his nose is prognosticatory of perfumes. 1893 E. A. BUTLER *Househ. Insects* 147 Its shrill chirping, prognosticatory, according to popular belief, of cheerfulness and plenty.

‖ **Progno·sticon,** *sb. Obs.* Also 7 **pron-.** [L., a. Gr. προγνωστικόν.] = PROGNOSTIC *sb.*[1]

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 97 Is not this perpetuall Prognosticon think you,.. too durable, and ouer generall to be vniuersally true? 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. § 92 This luckie prognosticon, and ominous Meteor. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iv. I. (1676) 131/1 'Tis Rabbi Moses Aphorism, the prognosticon of Avicenna, Rhasis, Aëtius.

Hence † **Progno·sticon** *v.* = PROGNOSTICATE *v.* 1.

1602 in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) II. 238, I do hear that ffa. Walpole doth pronosticon that the priests..shalbe banished. I praye god it be not a pronosticon, but a practise.

† **Progno·sticous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as PROGNOSTIC *a.* + -OUS.] = PROGNOSTIC *a.* 1.

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* (1664) 142 All dreames be.. either prognosticous of some event to fall out, or false illusions. *Ibid.* 143 These.. dreames bee prognosticous of either good or badde successe.

† **Progno·stify,** *v. Obs. rare.* In 5–6 **pronostify, -yfy, -efy.** [ad. med.L. type **pro(g)nōstific-āre*, or OF. **pronostifier*: see PROGNOSTIC *sb.*[1] and -FY.] = PROGNOSTICATE *v.* Hence † **Progno·stifying** *vbl. sb.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxvii. (W. de W.) o ij, Dremes..ben somtyme open & playne, and somtyme wrappyd in fyguratyf mystyk and dymme & derke pronostifyenge & tokenynge as it faryd in Pharaoes dremes. *Ibid.* VII. lx. r vij b, They [ulcers] .. ben messengers and pronostyfyen the peryll of leprehede. ? *c* 1500 *Coventry Corp. Chr. Plays* App. iv. 119 Let us haue sum commenecasion Of this seyd star be old pronostefying How hyt apperud & vnder what fassion.

Program, programme (prōu·græm), *sb.* Forms: α. 7– **program,** (7 **-grame**). β. 9– **programme.** See also PROGRAMMA. [In 17–18th c. Sc. use, in spelling *program*, ad. Gr.-L. *programma*, which was itself (*c* 1656–1820) also commonly used unchanged (see PROGRAMMA); about the beginning of the 19th c., reintroduced from F. *programme*, and now more usually so spelt (though not pronounced as F.); the earlier *program* was retained by Scott, Carlyle, Hamilton, and others,

and is preferable, as conforming to the usual English repr. of Gr. *-γραμμα*, in *anagram, cryptogram, diagram, telegram*, etc.]

†**1.** A public notice; = PROGRAMMA 1. *Sc. Obs.*

a. **1633** W. STRUTHER *True Happines* 38 The beginning of his discourse..is like a program affixed on the entrie of a citie. **1682** *Decreit* in *Scott. Antiq.* (1901) July 4 [They] determined .. without affixing any previous programe or using any examinatione to appoint the said Mr. J. Y. **1707** (July 22) in Fountainhall *Decisions* (1759) II. 385 The Professor of Greek his place being vacant in the college of St Andrews.., there is a program emitted, inviting all qualified to dispute, and undergo a comparative trial. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* i, Will three shillings transport me to Queensferry, agreeably to thy treacherous program? **1824** — *St. Ronan's* xiii, The transactions of the morning were.. announced..by the following program.

2. A descriptive notice, issued beforehand, of any formal series of proceedings, as a festive celebration, a course of study, etc.; a prospectus, syllabus; in current use *esp.* a written or printed list of the 'pieces', items, or 'numbers' of a concert or other public entertainment, in the order of performance; hence *transf.* the pieces or items themselves collectively, the performance as a whole.

a. **1808** *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 43 The program of the Pantomime differs materially in the exhibition. **1823** *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 2 Anticipating the amusement of the month, by a regular program (that is a nice new word I have just imported from France, to supply the hacknied common-place of a 'bill of the play')—a regular program, I say, on the second page of your coloured cover. **1831** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iii. (1858) 10 'In times like ours', as the half-official Program expressed it, 'when all things are, rapidly or slowly, resolving themselves into Chaos'. **1855** SIR E. PERRY *Bird's-Eye View India* xxviii. 169 A program of the whole was sent me the night before. **1898** G. B. SHAW *Perf. Wagnerite* 3 In classical music there are, as the analytical programs tell us, first subjects and second subjects [etc.].

β. **1805** W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 68 The..catalogue sold at the door better deserved..incorporation in this work than those programmes of festivals. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xiv, MRS. Kenwigs and Miss Petowker had arranged a small programme of the entertainments. **1876** GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. xiii. 349 According to the programme of study drawn up for the grammar school of Glasgow. **1881** in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 33/2 Programmes are now commonly restricted in length to 2 hours or 2½...Formerly concerts were of greater length.

b. *gen.* and *fig.* A definite plan or scheme of any intended proceedings; an outline or abstract of something to be done (whether in writing or not).

a. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. II. i. 60 From the best scientific program..to the actual fulfilment, what a difference! **1839** J. STERLING *Ess.*, etc. (1848) I. 332 All suggestions of the true and beautiful, which he cannot predefine and lay down in program. **1860** MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. iv. 114 In accordance with this program Philip proceeded stealthily. **1869** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* VIII. 1765 I'm in the secret of the comedy—Part of the program leaked out long ago! **1892** SWEET *New Eng. Gram.* Pref. 9 A less ambitious program would further allow of greater thoroughness within its narrower limits.

β. **1839** *Eclectic Rev.* I Jan. 24 The general satisfaction which had been produced by the ministerial *programme.* **1841** MILL in *Life & Labours Fonblanque* (1874) 32 They (the Ministry) have conformed to my programme. **1860** W. COLLINS *Wom. White* II. 277 Observe the programme I now propose. **1891** J. MORLEY *Sp. Newcastle* 2 Oct., We have had a programme unfolded which is calculated to stir the deepest energy and to rouse the sincerest convictions of every man with a spark of Liberalism in him.

3. = PROGRAMMA 2; *spec.* (repr. Ger. *Programm*) in German schools, an essay or disquisition on some subject, prefixed to the annual report.

1831 CARLYLE *Early Germ. Lit.* in *Misc. Ess.* (1872) III. 182 A series of Selections, Editions, Translations, Critical Disquisitions, some of them in the shape of Academic Program. **1831** — *Sart. Res.* II. iii. Scraps of regular Memoir, College-Exercises, Programs, Professional Testimoniums. **1833** SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 556 (Prussian Primary Education) The director, or one of the masters, in an official program, is to render an account of the condition and progress of the school. **1880** J. MORRISON in *Expositor* XI. 462 Such is the derivation..given by Niemeyer in his Programm on the expression. **1884** *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* V. 504 He admires greatly Hermann's program on 'Interpolations in Homer'.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *program-card, -seller*; in sense 2 b, with reference to political 'programs', as *program-maker, -making, -mongering, -spinner, -spinning*; **program, -gramme-music**, music intended to convey the impression of a definite series of objects, scenes, or events; descriptive music.

1881 in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 38/1 The Abbé Vogler.. was..a great writer of programme-music. **1886** KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. *My Rival*, My prettiest frocks and sashes Don't help to fill my programme-card [at a ball]. **1895** *Daily News* 23 Jan. 7/3 Mr. Chamberlain is above all things a programme maker...In the year 1885 he constructed what was called an 'unauthorised programme' for the Liberal party.

Pro·gram, pro·gramme, *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To arrange by or according to a program; to draw up a program of; to scheme or plan definitely.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Sept. 4/2 This match was programmed to start yesterday, but owing to the state of the weather had to be postponed. **1900** *Ibid.* 17 July 6/3 Meetings, he declares, were wrongly programmed. **1905** *Pall Mall G.* 19 Dec. 2 The devolutionist scheme was programmed and published on September 26, 1904.

Hence **Pro·grammer**, one who draws up a program.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The official programmer of the Jockey Club.

‖ **Programma** (progræ·mă). *Obs.* Pl. **progra·mmata.** [late L. (Cassiodorus, Justinian), a proclamation, manifesto, a. Gr. *πρόγραμμα* a public written notice, f. *προγράφειν* to write publicly, f. *πρό* (see PRO-²) + *γράφειν* to write.]

1. A written notice, proclamation, or edict, posted up in a public place; a public notice. (In *Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.*, and formerly in universities.)

a **1661** HOLYDAY *Juvenal* 302 Marcilius here understands by *edictum*, not the prætor's edict, but a *programma*, or bill put up by Nero, to signifie, that after dinner he would sing Callirhoe. **1678** WOOD *Life* 6 Dec. (O.H.S.) II. 426 Programma stuck up in every College hall under the vice-chancellor's hand that no scholar abuse the soldiers..in the night watches that they keep at the Gild hall, Peniless Bench, and at most inns doores. **1693** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2893/1 Publick Programma's of his Expulsion [from Oxf. Univ.] are already Affixed in the three usual places. **1754** *Def. Rector Exeter Coll.* 13 We will recite the Vice-Chancellor's Programma at large. **1820** SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 47 The vice-chancellor had, in a *programma*, exhorted the tutors to discharge their duty by double diligence.

b. Such a public notice relating to a function or celebration about to take place, with a list of the proceedings in order; hence, a play-bill, prospectus, syllabus, PROGRAM (sense 2).

1789 M. MADAN tr. *Persius* (1795) 45 *note*, A programma, a kind of play-bill, which was stuck up as ours are, in a morning. **1815** HOBHOUSE *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 400 A programma of the fête [in France], together with the order from the minister of police was fixed to the walls. **1820** T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* I. 227 The Prytanes..before the meeting set up a *programma* in some place of general concourse, in which were contained the matters that were to form the subject of consideration at the ensuing Assembly.

c. An announcement of the subjects to be treated in a course of lectures or studies in a foreign university. (So F. *programme*, Ger. *programm.*)

1787 MATY tr. *Riesbeck's Trav. Germ.* lix. III. 143 When a young man comes here they commonly lay a *Programma* before him, in which all the arts are disposed according to their natural order.

2. A written preface or introduction; in *plural*, = prolegomena.

1711 tr. *Werenfels' Logomachys* 210 Prefaces, Inscriptions, and Programmata abound with Phrases..worthy Cedar and Gold. **1715** HEARNE in *Rem.* (1857) I. 334 Dr. Gardiner..in a silly programma he hath published. **1761** WARTON *Bathurst* 218 [Dr. Bathurst's] programma, on preaching..is an agreeable and lively piece of writing. **1883** J. RENDEL HARRIS *Stichometry* (1893) 36 The peculiar features of the arrangement of his [Euthalius's] text are prefaces, programmata, lists of quotations with reference to the authors..from whom they come.

Programmatic (prōugrămæ·tik), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *πρόγραμμα, -γραμματ-*, PROGRAM + -IC.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a program; in quots., of the nature of program music (see PROGRAM *sb.* 4).

1896 *Godey's Mag.* Apr. 422/2 The symphony is not at all programmatic. **1898** *Century Mag.* LV. 777 A 'Bauerntanz' which is rather programmatic.

So **Progra·mmatist**, one who composes or draws up a program (in quots., in senses 2 b and 3).

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 7/1 The organised system of gambling, which, so far as the 'programme' of the anti-gamblers is known..it is the main purpose of the programmatists to suppress. **1899** J. P. POSTGATE in *Classical Rev.* Oct. 359/1 Each program-atist in his turn feels it his duty to set out with a prolix examination of his prolix predecessors.

Programme: see PROGRAM.

Progrede (progrī·d), *v. nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *prōgredī*: see next.] *intr.* To go forward, advance: opp. to RETROGRADE *v.*

1866 PROCTOR *Handbk. Stars* 7 If the globe were fixed and the other circles named were made slowly to retrograde about the polar axis, the true nature of the variation due to precession would be illustrated; but as regards the variation itself, we should .. obtain as effectual an illustration by making the globe progrede about the polar axis.

Progredient (progrī·diĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* ? *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōgrediens, -entem*, pr. pple. of *prōgred-ī* to go forward, proceed, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ 1d + *grad-ī* to step, walk, go.] Going forward, advancing. b. as *sb.* One who advances. So †**Progre·diency**, the quality or action of going forward, progress.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 132 An Index..of the Masculine generative faculty; and of that either erumpent, and progredient, or consumed. **1650** HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 54 He that is no Progredient, must needs be a Retrogredient. **1701** BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 10 The Continuation, and Progrediency of the Fourth, or Roman Monarchy.

Progress (prō·ugrĕs, prŏ·grĕs), *sb.* Forms: 5–7 **progresse**, 6 **progres**, (**prograsse**, 7 **prograce**), 7– **progress.** [In 15th c. *progresse*, app. a. obs. F. *progresse* (Lett. of Louis XII, 1513 in Godef.), repr. a Romanic **progressa*, fem. sb. from *progressus, -a, -um*, pa. pple. of *prōgredī* (see PROGREDIENT). In Fr. and Eng. the word subsequently became *progrès, progress*, by conformation to L. *progressus* a going forward, advance, progress. Cf. *egress, ingress, regress.*

a **1892** TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) II. 35 Someone spoke of Diplŏmăcy and Prŏgress. 'Oh!', said my father, 'why do you pronounce the word like that? pray give the ō long.']

1. The action of stepping or marching forward or onward; onward march; journeying, travelling, travel; a journey, an expedition. Now *rare.*

c **1475** *Partenay* 3199 Off me the werre the Giaunt doth desire, Anon shall I go hym Assail quikly. To thys forth-progresse Geffray made redy. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* III. xi. 20 So forth they both yfere make their progresse. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* VI. 2599 It was my fortune with..others.. One summers day a progresse for to goe Into the countrie. **1621** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 269 The most pleasant of all outward pastimes, is..to make a petty progress, a merry journey. **1678** BUNYAN (*title*) The Pilgrim's Progress from this world, to that which is to come. **1745** P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 160 The Officers and People made a Progress round the Island. **1838** THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xl. 123 Their progress through the Persian provinces was a kind of triumph.

†**b.** *transf.* A region or distance traversed.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 219 His dominion..stretcheth from the promontorie Bayador to Tanger, and from the Atlantike Ocean to the riuer Muluia. In which progresse is conteined the best portion of all Afrike.

2. *spec.* A state journey made by a royal or noble personage, or by a church dignitary; a visit of state; also, the official tour made by judges and others, a circuit; an official visitation of its estates by a college. Now somewhat *archaic.*

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 475/2 The Kyng..beyng in his progresse in the seid Counte. **1503–4** *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 7 § 1 The justices of assises in ther cyrcuyte or progresse in that shyre. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 597 In the time of King Henry the sixt..as he roade in Progresse. *a* **1648** LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 132 Synodal Judges, going Progress yearly under pretext of Visitation. **1795** *Order of Audit Magd. Coll. Oxf.* 18 Feb., That Bills on Country Banks be accepted on the Progresses, but that the Bursars be desired to negotiate them as soon as possible. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 99 Comprehended in six circuits, or annual progress of the judges. **1811** *Order Magd. Coll.* 4 June, That the Norfolk Progress do take place this year and at the expiration of three years from this time. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 593 He was President of Wales and lord lieutenant of four English counties. His official tours ..were scarcely inferior in pomp to royal progresses. **1901** RASHDALL & RAIT *New College* 251 New College is one of the few Colleges in which an annual 'Progress' still takes place. The Warden (or Sub-warden) accompanied by a Fellow known as 'Out-rider'..and the Steward, visit the farms on some part of the College estates.

†**b.** A state procession. *Obs.*

1533 CRANMER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 37 Whyche said Progresse .. extendid half a myle in leyngthe by estimacion. **1613** HAYWARD *Norm. Kings* Pref., At his returne from the Progresse to his house at S. James, these pieces were delivered unto him. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* iii. 35 Where the Emperor was about to expose himself in a public hall and progress.

3. a. Onward movement in space; course, way.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 340 Vnlesse thou let his siluer Water keepe A peacefull progresse to the Ocean. **1601** — *Jul. C.* II. i. 2, I cannot, by the progresse of the Starres, Giue guesse how neere to day. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* XI. 175 For see the Morn..begins Her rosie progress smiling. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 1 If the Cheeks of the Press stand wide assunder, the sweep or progress of the.. Bar will be greater than if they stand nearer together. **1712–14** POPE *Rape Lock* v. 132 The Sylphs..pursue its progress thro' the skies. **1754** GRAY *Poesy* 4 A thousand rills their mazy progress take. **1878** BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 42 Up and up we went...Call progress toilsome?

b. *fig.* Going on, progression; course or process (of action, events, narrative, time, etc.). *In progress*: proceeding, taking place, happening.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 395 The auctor of this presente Cronicle towchethe in his progresse other processe rather Wales then Englonde. *Ibid.* VI. 353 Of the begynnynge, progresse, and ende [of] whom [orig. *de cujus initio, progressu, et fine*] hit is to be advertisede [etc.]. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 Of the iewes & theyr progresse we may lerne. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, v. iii. 33 In all the Progresse Both of my Life and Office, I haue labour'd.. that [etc.]. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 155 This virtue decayes in progress of Time (as all Odours do). **1785** REID *Intell. Powers* II. xxi, So rapid is the progress of the thought. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 179 While these changes were in progress. **1891** *Speaker* 2 May 534/1 To trace the progress of chemical knowledge and research from the earliest times.

4. a. Forward movement in space (as opposed to rest or regress); going forward, advance.

1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 52 Through streittis nane may mak progres [*rimes* incres, les], For cry of cruikit, blind, and lame. *a* **1656** USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 773 Whose progresse and regresse in this journey we here set down out of Strabo. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvi. 200 After some progress made in your Voyage. **1784** COWPER *Task* I. 330 The folded gates would bar my progress now. **1877** BRYCE *Transcaucasia* (1896) 35 The same sense of motion without progress, which those who have crossed the ocean know so well.

b. *fig.* Going on to a further or higher stage, or to further or higher stages successively; advance, advancement; growth, development, continuous increase; usually in good sense, advance to better and better conditions, continuous improvement.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) To Rdr., If you consider the beginning, progresse and perpetuall felicitie of this the Othoman Empire. **1686** tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 24 Having made no farther progress in his Business. **1713** ADDISON *Guardian* No. 104 P 7, I am ashamed that I am not able to make a quicker progress through the French tongue. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1957 Nature delights in

progress; in advance From worse to better: but, when minds ascend, Progress, in part, depends upon themselves. 1846 Trench *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 38 The very idea of God's kingdom is that of progress, of a gradually fuller communication..of Himself to men. *a* 1862 Buckle *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 349 As civilization advances, the progress of manufactures greatly outstrips the progress of agriculture. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* vii. § 5. 393 The moral and religious change which was passing over the country through the progress of Puritanism.

† **5.** A coming forth or proceeding *from* a source. (Cf. Progression 5.) *Obs. rare.*

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1067 Love is a vertue clere, And from the soule his progress holdeth he.

6. *Sc. Law.* In full, *progress of* (*title*) *deeds* or *progress of titles*: 'such a series of the title-deeds of a landed estate, or other heritable subject, as is sufficient in law to constitute a valid and effectual feudal title thereto' (W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.*).

1593 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 11/2 James lindsay of barcloy pronevoy and air be progres to vmqle Johnne lindsay of wauchoip his grandschir. 1693 Stair *Inst. Law Scot.* (ed. 2) IV. xxxviii. § 19. 660 Titles by Progress, are either Retours on services of Heirs, or Confirmations of Executors, or Assignations [etc.] .. from whence the conclusion of the Summons is justly and legally inferred. *a* 1722 Fountainhall *Decis.* (1759) I. 4 In buying of land, men crave a forty years clear progress, and with that think themselves secure, by the grand act of prescription 1617. 1832 Scott *St. Ronan's* Introd., Removed .. from his legal folios and progresses of title deeds, from his counters and shelves. 1838 *W. Bell Dict. Law Scot.* s. v., Where the seller is able to show an unencumbered title .. extending backwards for forty years, .. the purchaser is bound to accept of this as a sufficient progress. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 101 § 9 Any conveyance .. forming part of the progress of title deeds of the said lands. 1874 *Act* 37 & 38 *Vict.* c. 94 § 4 (1) When lands have been feued .. It shall not .. be necessary .. that he shall obtain from the superior any charter, precept, or other writ by progress.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *progress-killing*, *-paralysing* adjs.; † **progress-bed**, (?) a portable bed used on a progress; † **progress block** (Block *sb.* 4 b), ? the block or pattern of hat introduced for a royal progress; † **progress house**, a temporary place of shelter erected on a journey; † **progress laundress**, a laundress employed during a progress; † **progress-time**, the time of a royal progress.

1586 *Will of G. Scott* (Somerset Ho.), A *prograsse bedd. *c* 1614 Fletcher, etc. *Wit at sev. Weapons* iv. i, This broad-brimm'd hat Of the last *progress block, with the young hat-band. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* (1839) IV. 177 The Tabernacle itself was that *mobilis domus*, and *ecclesia portabilis*, .. a running, a *progress house. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Oct. 46 A narrow *progress-killing formalism. 1624 Massinger *Parl. Love* II. i, I myself shall have .. Of *progress laundresses, and market-women, .. a thousand bills Preferr'd against me. 1893 B. O. Flower in *Arena* Mar. 509 The *progress-paralyzing miasma of creeds. 1607 Beaumont *Woman Hater* III. ii, To..make some fine jests upon country people in *progress-time.

Progress (progre·s; see below), *v.* [f. prec. sb. So mod.F. *progresser* (neologism in Littré).

Common *in* England *c* 1590–1670, usually stressed like the sb., *pro·gress*. In 18th c. obs. in England, but app. retained (or formed anew) in America, where it became very common *c* 1790, with stress *progre·ss* (cf. *digre·ss*, *transgre·ss*). Thence readopted in England after 1800 (Southey 1809); but often characterized as an Americanism, and much more used in America than in Great Britain, in sense 3, in which ordinary English usage says 'go on', 'proceed'.]

1. *intr.* To make a 'progress' or journey; to journey, travel; *spec.* to make a state journey, travel ceremoniously, as a royal, noble, or official personage. Now *rare* or *Obs.*, or merged in 2.

c 1590 Greene *Fr. Bacon* iv. 56 We'll progress straight to Oxford with our trains. 1607 Rowlands *Diog. Lanth.* 22 The Owle being weary of the night Would progresse in the Sunne. *c* 1620 *Z. Boyd Zion's Flowers* (1855) 61 He's like a mighty King, About his countreye stately progressing. 1648 Earl of Westmoreland *Otia Sacra* (1879) 62 Pave me a Golden Tract to Progress in. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* 139 His Majesty progresseth towards the West.

† **b.** *trans.* To travel through; to traverse. *Obs.*

1596 Drayton *Leg.* i. 601 Who should have progres'd all a Kingdomes space. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* iv. xii, When my soule had progrest ev'ry place, That love and deare affection could contrive. 1641 Milton *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 71 Progressing the datelesse and irrevoluble Circle of Eternity.

2. *intr.* To go or move forward or onward; to proceed, make one's way, advance.

1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 46 Let me wipe off this honourable dewe, That siluerly doth progresse on thy cheekes. 1624 Ford *Sun's Darling* v. i, Progress o'er the year Again, my Raybright; therein like the Sun. 1808 Schultz *Trav.* (1810) II. 170 In this manner..the head [of an island] is continually progressing up the [Mississippi] river, while the lower part is proportionably wasting away. 1832 R. H. Froude in *Rem.* (1838) I. 359 The poor Italian, canoe, niggers, and all..were seen again about thirty yards off progressing with the crest of the wave towards the beach. 1857 Thoreau *Maine W.* (1894) 383 We had been busily progressing all day.

3. *fig.* Of action or an agent: To go on, proceed, advance; to be carried on as an action; to carry on an action.

1607 Day *Trav. Eng. Bro.* (1881) 17 As sure as day doth progress towards night. *a* 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* (1648) 213 As farre as I allowed my Discourse to progresse in this way. 1791 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XII. 52 The business of laying out the city..is progressing. 1837 Lowell *Lett.* (1894) I. 17 'Tis a pretty good subject, but I find it enlarging as I progress. 1864 Dasent *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 41 If the work had progressed as it began, there ought to have been nine. 1906 J. A. Hatton *Pilgr. in Region Faith* iii. 137 The controversy is progressing.

b. *Mus.* Of melody or harmony: To proceed from one note or chord to another; cf. Progression 8 a. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

4. *fig.* To make progress; to proceed to a further or higher stage, or to further or higher stages continuously; to advance, get on; to develop, increase; usually, to advance to better conditions, to go on or get on well, to improve continuously.

1610 B. Jonson *Alch.* II. iii, Nor can this remote matter, sodainly Progresse so from extreme, vnto extreme, As to grow gold, and leape ore all the meanes. 1632 Marmion *Holland's Leaguer* II. iv, I began Betimes, and so progrest from less to bigger. 1791 Washington *Lett.* Writ. 1891 XII. 24 Our country..is fast progressing in its political importance and social happiness. 1796 *Ibid.* 1892 XIII. 354 The pleasure of hearing you were well..and progressing..in your studies. 1809 Southey *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 30 Apr., Another state of being, in which there shall be no other change than that of progressing in knowledge. 1828 Hawthorne *Fanshawe* x, Her convalescence had so far progressed. 1832 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. v. 76 (*Widow Gentlewoman*) In country towns .. society has been progressing (if I may borrow that expressive Americanism) at a very rapid rate. 1840 Gladstone *Ch. Princ.* 11 It may ..be the case that..we are actually progressing in some particulars while we retrograde in others. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 P. D. 97 The melancholia had markedly progressed.

b. To proceed, as the terms or items of a series, from less to greater; to form an advancing series.

1868 Herschel in *People's Mag.* Jan. 62 Squares of clear window-glass..regularly progressing in size by quarter or half inches in the side.

5. To come forth or issue *from* a source: = Proceed *v.* 7 b. *rare.* (Cf. Progress *sb.* 5.)

1850 Neale *Med. Hymns* (1867) 179 Holy Ghost from Both progressing.

6. *trans.* To cause to move onward or advance; to push forward. *lit.* and *fig.*

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 131 (Dressing of Ores) The heavier portion is progressed across the table, and passed into an ore bin. 1887 *N. Y. Tribune* 7 Mar. (Cent. Dict.), Urging that the bills..be progressed as rapidly as possible.

Hence **Progre·ssed** *ppl. a.*, advanced; **Progre·ssing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1850 T. Edwards *Eng. Welsh Dict.* Addr., To meet the progressed state of the Arts and Sciences. 1850 Browning *Easter Day* xiv, Your progressing is slower. 1870 Dickens *E. Drood* iii, The most agreeable evidences of progressing life in Cloisterham. 1874 Thirlwall *Lett.* (1881) II. 304 The steadily progressing failure of my eyesight.

Progression (progre·ʃən). [a. F. *progression* (1425 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōgressiōn-em* a going forward, advancement, progression, n. of action f. *prōgred-ī*: see Progredient.]

1. The action of stepping or moving forward or onward. † **a.** Travel; a journey: = Progress *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

c 1440 Capgrave *Life St. Kath.* III. 280 Vndyr your wenge and youre proteccyon May be this viage and this progression. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 53 There happened in this progression to the Earle of Richmond a straunge chaunce. *Ibid., Hen. VII* 42 b, When they were with their long and tedyous iourney weried and tyred, and..fell to repentaunce of their mad commocion and frantike progression, then he woulde..circumuent & enuyron theim.

b. Onward or forward movement (in space), locomotion; advance: = Progress *sb.* 3 a, 4 a.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* IV. ii. 144 A Letter..which accidentally, or by the way of progression, hath miscarried. 1651-3 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* (1678) 54 Still the Flood [tide] crept by little steppings, and invaded more by his progressions than he lost by his retreat. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 366, I observ'd it making a creeping Progression in the Valleys. 1849 *Sh. Nat. Hist., Manmalia* III. 202 The tusks of this animal [walrus]..are instruments both of defence and of progression. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 925 This mode of progression requires some muscular exertion.

c. The moving or pushing *of* something onward.

1678 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* v. 95 The longer to continue his several Progressions of the Saw.

2. *fig.* Continuous action figured or conceived as onward movement; going on, course (of action, time, life, etc.), proceeding, process. Now *rare* or merged in 4.

1474 Caxton *Chesse* 133 The progressyon and draughtes of the..playe of the chesse. 1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 41 In all the progression of the wished life of this mighty Prince. *Ibid.* 43 Progression, continuation and determination of his most wicked and shamelesse life. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 226 All Starres that have their distance from the Ecliptick Northward not more then 23 degrees and an half..may in progression of time have declination Southward. *c* 1698 Locke *Cond. Underst.* § 20 The long Progression of the Thoughts to remote and first Principles. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 5 Having..obtained by the slow progression of manual industry the accommodations of life. 1882 Stevenson *Fam. Stud. Men & Bks., Thoreau* iii, There is a progression—I cannot call it a progress—in his work toward a more and more strictly prosaic level.

3. *fig.* The action of passing successively from each item or term of a series to the next; succession; a series; *in* († *by*) *progression*, in succession, one after another; gradually. (See also 6.)

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 47, & sa be progressione and ordur, euyrie spere inclosis the spere that is nerest tyl it. 1660 F. Brooke tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 397 The Brasilians are said originally to have come..from Peru, advancing thither by progression from time to time. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxix. § 16 Of the Bulk of the Body, to be thus infinitely divided after certain Progressions,..we have no clear..Idea. 1774 Beattie *Minstr.* II. xlvii, The laws..Whose long progression leads to Deity. 1844 Southey *Life A. Bell* I. 175 The experiment which..had been tried..with one class, was ..extended to all the others in progression.

4. *fig.* The action of going forward to more advanced or higher stages or conditions; advance; development; = Progress *sb.* 4 b. Also *attrib.*

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 37 His..knowledge in the Latine tongue, was so perfect, his progression in the Greeke so excellent. 1631 Massinger *Believe as you List* II. ii, I must..take..the boldness To reprehend your slow progression in Doing her greatness right. *a* 1713 Ellwood *Autobiog.* (1714) 133 Having inquired divers things of me, with respect to my former Progression in Learning. 1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* viii. 184 The progression of decay and perversion has been gradually and distinctly contemplated. 1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. ii. 34 The progression-theory recognizes degradation, and the degradation-theory recognizes progression. 1877 A. B. Edwards *Up Nile* v. 105 To trace the progression and retrogression of the arts from the Pyramid-builders to the Cæsars.

† **5.** ? The action of proceeding forth or issuing; the fact of being produced. (Cf. Procession *sb.* 4, Progress *sb.* 5.) *Obs. rare.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 106 (Camb. MS.) Thilke same ordre newjth ayein alle thinges growynge and fallynge a-down by semblable progression [*gloss*, issu] of sedes and of sexes. *c* 1386 — *Kn.'s T.* 2155 His ordinaunce That speces of thynges and progressions Shullen enduren by successions And nat eterne.

6. *Math.* The succession of a series of quantities, between every two successive terms of which there is some particular constant relation; such a series itself. See Arithmetical *a.*, Geometrical 1 b, Harmonic *a.* 5 a.

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 13 Of progressioun one is naturelle or contynuelle, þat oþer broken and discontynuelle. 1542 Recorde *Gr. Artes* (1575) 210 Arithmeticall progression is a rehearsing..of many numbers..in suche sorte, that betweene euery two next numbers..the difference be equall. *Ibid.* 229 Progression Geometricall is when the numbers increase by a like proportion. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* vii. M.'s Wks. 1851 VII. 179 Do you not understand Progression in Arithmetick? 1763 Emerson *Meth. Increments* 74 A series of quantities, whose construction and progression is known. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 153 Families..will continually increase in a kind of geometrical progression. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 455 Where the intensity of a sensation increases by equal differences, that is, in arithmetical progression, it implies in the strength of the stimulus an increase in geometrical progression.

7. *Astr.* **a.** Movement of a planet in the order of the zodiacal signs, i.e. from west to east; direct movement; opp. to *retrogradation*. † **b.** *Month of progression* (obs.): see quot. 1615.

1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 279 The progression, retrogradation, and station of the Planetes. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 336 The moneth of Progression he calleth that space which commeth betweene one coniunction of the Moone with the Sunne and another, and it conteyneth nine and twenty dayes and a halfe. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 212. 1812 Woodhouse *Astron.* xix. 207 *note*, Progression is here..used technically: a motion *in consequentia*, or, according to the order of the signs.

8. *Mus.* **a.** The action of passing (in melody) from one note to another, or (in harmony) from one chord to another; a succession of notes or chords. **b.** Sometimes = Sequence.

1609 Douland *Ornith. Microl.* 29 An authenticall progression, is the ascending beyond the Finall Key to an eight, and a tenth. 1694 W. Holder *Harmony* vi. (1731) 95 Degrees are uncompounded Intervals, .. by which an immediate Ascent or Descent is made from the Unison to the Octave..; and by the same Progression to as many Octaves as there may be Occasion. 1877 Stainer *Harmony* v. § 69 In harmonising such a progression as the following [etc.]. 1889 Prout *Harmony* iv. § 102 Such progressions are called 'hidden' octaves or fifths.

9. *Philol.* Advance in sound-development.

1877 March *Comp. Gram. Ags. Lang.* 27 The first lengthening of *i* and *u* by progression is called *guna*.

Progressional (progre·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or involving progression (in various senses: see prec.).

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* C j b, The Venetians consideration of waight..by eight descentes progressionall, halfing, from a grayne. 1665 J. Gadbury *Lond. Deliv. Predicted* iv. 21 Venus hath a progressional motion. 1674 Jeake *Arith.* (1696) 543 To find Numbers whose Remains shall be Arithmetically Progressional. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 20 Sept. 2/2 Progressional Building Society. 1867 Macfarren *Harmony* iii. (1876) 87 Its progressional treatment. 1883 F. A. Walker *Pol. Econ.* 451 There is, M. Garnier holds, a species of increasing taxation which is rational and discreet, to which he applies the term progressional, which is held within moderate limits.

Hence **Progre·ssionally** *adv.*

1658 Sir T. Browne *Gard. Cyrus* v. 69 So progressionally ..that from five in the foreclaw she [Nature] descendeth unto two in the hindemost.

Progre·ssionary, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ary.] Of or pertaining to progression.

1859 G. Meredith *R. Feverel* I. iv. 62 The youth's progressionary phases were mapped out in sections, from Simple Boyhood to the Blossoming Season. *Ibid.* xv. 220 These further progressionary developments.

Progressionist (progre·ʃənist). [See -ist.]

1. An advocate of or believer in progression or progress; a progressist, a progressive.

1849 *Fraser's Mag.* XL. 391 Opposed to the influence of her unconscious Toryism, a Progressionist of susceptible temperament might be in danger of abandoning his opinions. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 349 None but liberals or progressionists need apply. 1883 *Standard* 28 Mar. 3/4 Old-fashioned opera is not the lifeless thing which progressionists would seek to make out. 1886 S. L. Lee *Life Ld. Herbert* Introd. 40 A sure sign that Herbert was a sincere progressionist.

2. One who holds that life on the earth has been marked by gradual progression from lower to higher forms.

1859 H. Spencer in *Universal Review* July 81 Sir R. Murchison, who is a Progressionist, calls the lowest fossiliferous strata, 'Protozoic'. 1867 — *Princ. Biol.* III. § 140 Were the geological record complete, or did it, as both Uniformitarians and Progressionists have habitually assumed, give us traces of the earliest organic forms.

3. (See quots.) *rare*—°.

1864 Webster, *Progressionist*, one who holds to the progression of society toward perfection. 1882 Ogilvie (Annandale), *Progressionist.* 1. One who maintains the doctrine that society is in a state of progress towards perfection, and that it will ultimately attain to it.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1871 Tylor *Prim. Cult.* I. ii. 29 The unprejudiced modern student of the progressionist school. 1883 *Athenæum* 8 Sept. 305/2 The progressionist tendency of the age.

So **Progre·ssionism,** the theory or principles of a progressionist, or sympathy with progress.

1861 Beresf. Hope *Eng. Cathedr. 19th C.* 143 That wise spirit of moderate and retrospective progressionism.

Progressist (prō·ugresist, prǫ·g-). [ad. F. *progressiste* = Sp. *progresista*, It. *progressista*: see Progress *sb.* and -ist.] One who favours or advocates progress, esp. in political or social matters; a reformer, a progressive. (In later use chiefly in reference to foreign countries.)

For a short period *c* 1890, the term was used in London Municipal politics, but soon superseded by *progressive*: see Progressive *a.* 4.

1848 O. A. Brownson *Wks.* (1884) V. 247 Socialists and progressists attempt..to defend it on humanistic principles. 1856 T. A. Trollope *Girlhood Cath. de Medici* 105 The two natural and inevitable parties..conservatives and progressists. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* May 831/2 These Arabs.. were the progressists of Europe. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* Christmas No. 3/2 A most determined Progressist in the City Council. 1891 *Tablet* 29 Aug. 324 The citizens of Sion and those of Granada—the former city being the stronghold of the Catholics, and the latter of the Progressists. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Feb. 3/2 In your leader to-day you speak (and in my opinion correctly) of the Progressive party. On Page 6 the word 'Progressist' is used. 1894 *Current Hist.* (U. S.) IV. 432 The new [Servian] cabinet consisted of progressists and liberals.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = Progressive *a.* 4.

1889 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Jan. 2/2 (London County Council) The progressist party..is in favour of carrying out a programme so advanced [etc.]. 1907 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 496 An exponent of the progressist spirit in Catholic thought.

Progressive (progre·siv), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *progressif, -ive* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. L. *prōgress-*: see Progress *v.* and -ive.]

1. a. Characterized by stepping, walking, or otherwise moving onward, as in the locomotion of men and animals generally; executed, as a movement, in this way. *Obs.* or merged in b.

1644 Bulwer *Chirol.* 83 In matters of progressive motion. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 193 In progressive motion, the armes and legs doe move successively, but in natation both together. 1791 W. Bartram *Carolina* 173 Their ascent so easy, as to be almost imperceptible to the progressive traveller. 1816 Sir E. Home in *Phil. Trans.* 149 Some account of the feet of those animals whose progressive motion can be carried on in opposition to gravity.

b. *generally.* Moving forward or advancing (in space); of the nature of onward motion.

1667 Milton *P. L.* VIII. 127 Thir [the planets'] wandring course..Progressive, retrograde, or standing still. 1728 Pemberton *Newton's Philos.* 195 The moon..would..have partook of all the progressive motion of the earth. 1821 Craig *Lect. Drawing* v. 305 Water, when smooth, and having none but its progressive motion, reflects the surrounding objects.

2. Passing on from one member or item of a series to the next; proceeding step by step; occurring one after another, successive.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 178 Concerning progressiue suppartition of members [*marg.* Diuiding of parts into parts]. 1703 *Virgil's 4th Eclogue* 2 Behold the Mighty Months Progressive Shine. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 41 ¶ 5 That the idea of the one was impressed at once, and continued through all the progressive descents of the species, without variation or improvement. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus., Progressive Notes*, those notes which succeed each other, either in ascent or descent. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 34 Pictures, arranged..in a progressive series, with reference to the date of the painters.

b. Applied to certain games at cards, as euchre or whist, when played by several sets of players simultaneously at different tables, certain players passing after each round from one table to the next, according to specified rules.

1890 *Daily News* 29 Sept. 5/4 The City Marshal of Leavenworth, Kansas, has announced that he will henceforth arrest..all persons found playing progressive euchre. *Mod.* Progressive whist was one of the evening diversions on board the mail steamer.

3. Characterized by progress or advance (in state or condition). **a.** Of persons or communities: Making progress, advancing (in action, thought, character, fortunes, social conditions, etc.).

1607–12 Bacon *Ess., Ambition* (Arb.) 222 It is good for Princes, if they vse ambitious Men, to handle it soe, as they be still progressive, and not retrograde...For if they rise not with theire service, they will take order to make theire service fall with them. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* II. [I.] lxxxix. 258 He is not truely penitent, that is not progressiue, in the Motion of aspiring goodnesse. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iv. 187 Whatever be the natural excellences of the Turks, progressive they are not. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. viii. 555 For a progressive nation, there is required a progressive policy. 1859 Mill *Liberty* iii. 127 A people..may be progressive for a certain length of time, and then stop.

b. Of things, conditions, etc.: Characterized by progress or passing on to more advanced or higher stages; growing, increasing, developing; usually in good sense: advancing towards better conditions; marked by continuous improvement.

a 1653 Binning *Serm.* (1845) 235 The life as well as the light of the righteous is progressive. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* I. 235 Above, how high progressive life may go! 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 81 Reason progressive, Instinct is complete. 1811 Busby *Dict. Mus., Progressive*, an epithet ..applied to lessons expressly composed for the purpose of practical improvement, and..so constructed in point of increasing execution, as to lead..by insensible degrees to those difficulties [etc.]. 1859 C. Barker *Assoc. Princ.* ii. 45 During the fifteenth century commerce continued to be regularly and rapidly progressive. 1884 F. Temple *Relat. Relig. & Sc.* vi. 182 He had to teach that the creation was not merely orderly, but progressive.

c. *Path.* Of a disease: Continuously increasing in severity or extent.

1736 Butler *Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 29 Thinking that a progressive disease..will destroy those powers. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVI. 647 In progressive pernicious anæmia unusual corpulence has been observed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 695 Progressive dementia with general paralysis.

d. *transf.* Characterizing or indicating progress. 1888 *Amer. Anthropologist* I. 71 Ecker..considers that unusual length [of the index-finger] is a progressive character.

4. Favouring, advocating, or directing one's efforts towards progress or reform, esp. in political, municipal, or social matters.

Used from *c* 1889 as a party term in municipal politics, esp. in London, to include those who are liberal or reforming in municipal and social questions, though they may not support the Liberal party in national or imperial questions. In Cape Colony the self-adopted appellation of those who opposed the Bond or Africander party, corresponding generally to the British party as opposed to the Dutch.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Jan. 8/1 The Progressive Brahmans, or, as they call their church, the 'Brahma Somaj of India'. 1889 *Ibid.* 30 Jan. 2/2 From the point of view of the Progressive majority, this is the only way to make the seat secure. 1897 *Daily News* 24 July 5/2 Progressive Conservatism is to adopt Liberal principles, and say they were always your own. 1898 Ld. Rosebery *ibid.* 2 Mar. 4/6 One very simple demonstration of how carefully the Progressive party have cut themselves aloof from Imperial politics.

B. *sb.* One who favours, advocates, or aims at progress or reform, or claims to be in favour of it. (See note to A. 4.)

1865 Bushnell *Vicar. Sacr.* III. v. 277 The disappointment I may inflict on certain progressives, or disciples of the New Gospel. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 8 Jan. 8/1 Henceforth the two parties of the Brahmans were known as the Conservatives and the Progressives. 1892 Ld. Rosebery in *Daily News* 2 Mar. 2/6, I meant that there were Progressives who are not Liberals, but that I think there are no Liberals who are not Progressives. 1894 *Athenæum* 7 July 23/1 An attractive sketch of a Progressive of the epoch of the reforms of Alexander II. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 2/2 The Cape will shortly be polled again, and it seems..that the result will be to give the Progressives a very small majority.

Progressively (progre·sivli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a progressive manner; in the way of progression or progress; **a.** by continuous advance; step by step, gradually; successively; †**b.** straight forward or onward; directly (*obs.*).

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* 204 But the conforming, adapting, and disposing of them being inuented progressiuely, recedeth from vniuersals..to the most specials, or indiuiduals. 1694 Holder *Time* vi. 87 The reason why they fall in that order.., from the greatest Epacts progressively to the least. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. i. 5 Nothing that adequately fills a place, can move in that place, unless it moves circularly; but progressively or in a direct line it is impossible. 1788 J. May *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 96 Mountains.. rising progressively to view. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* I. iii. 96 The action of the sun on the moon was progressively changing.

Progressiveness (progre·sivnės). [-ness.] The quality or character of being progressive.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Progressiveness*, the Quality of proceeding or going forward. 1795 Southey *Vis. Maid Orleans* III. 189 Those ties Which through the infinite progressiveness Complete our perfect bliss. 1845–6 Trench *Huls. Lect.* Ser. I. iv. 57 This progressiveness of Scripture is an important element in its fitness for the education of man. 1883 H. Bonar in *Edin. Daily Rev.* 6 June 3/8 Our progressiveness consists in the fuller discernment of all parts of revelation.

Progre·ssivism. [f. Progressive + -ism.] The principles of a progressive or progressist; advocacy of, or devotion to, progress or reform.

1892 *St. James's Gaz.* 7 Mar., If London had been converted to Progressivism—that is Radicalism. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 3/1 The state of this country [Russia], in which primitivism—if I may be permitted the expression—and progressivism are sometimes so oddly mixed.

So **Progre·ssivist** = Progressive *sb.*

1884 A. V. H. Carpenter in *Chicago Advance* 1 Jan. (1885) 867 There are..no more impracticable progressivists than those who clamor for a repeal of all laws. 1904 *19th Cent.* Aug. 292 An ardent young Progressivist.

Progressivity (prō̆gresi·vĭti). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ity.] = Progressiveness.

1882 tr. *Godet's Jesus Christ* 66 This [man's] progressivity, if I may use the word, has no limit but that of the absolute good to which he aspires. 1883 F. A. Walker *Pol. Econ.* 451 In 1848..the idea of progressivity [of taxation] was revived.

Progressor (progre·sər). *rare.* [a. late L. *prōgressor*, agent-n. f. *prōgredī*: see Progredient.] One who progresses or makes progress; in quot. *a* 1626, one who makes a state progress or tour.

a 1626 Bacon *Digest Laws* Wks. 1879 I. 671/1 Adrian.. being a great progressor through all the Roman empire, whenever he found any decays of bridges, or highways.. gave substantial order for their repair. 1874 Neale & Littledale *Comm. Ps.* CXX. IV. 164 The beginners, the progressors, and the perfect.

Pro-guardian: see Pro-1. **Progue,** var. Prog.

‖ **Progymnasium** (prōu·dʒimnē·ziv̆m, Ger. prō̆gimnā·zium). Pl. **-ia.** [Ger. (from mod.L.): see Pro-1 and Gymnasium 2.] (See quot. 1886.)

1833 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 545 Establishments ..called Progymnasia and superior Burgher Schools. 1886 J. F. Muirhead in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 17/2 The classical schools proper [in Prussia] consist of *Gymnasia* and *Progymnasia*, the latter being simply gymnasia wanting the higher classes.

‖ **Progymna·sma.** *Obs. rare.* Pl. **-mata.** [ad. Gr. προγύμνασμα a preparatory exercise, f. προγυμνάζειν to train beforehand.] A preparatory or preliminary exercise or study.

1674 *Phil. Trans.* IX. 220, I consider'd that..some of those Observations..might shew me the true Quantity of the Equations of the Suns Orb...I turned over his *Progymnasmata*, and pitched on two. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* Contents (t. v. 724) A *Progymnasma* or Prælusory attempt, towards the proving of a God from his Idea as including necessary existence.

Progymnosperm: see Pro-2 1.

Pro hac vice: see Pro 5.

Proheim, -heme, -hemy, etc.: see Proem, etc.

Prohessian (prohe·siăn). *Math.* [f. Pro-1 4 + Hessian *sb.*2] (See quots.)

1862 Salmon *Geom. Three Dimensions* xii. 338 The Hessian of any surface being of the degree $4n-8$, that of a developable consists of the surface itself, and a surface of $3n-8$ degree which we shall call the Pro-Hessian. *Ibid.* xv. 426. 1864 Cayley *Coll. Math. Papers* V. 267 The function PU, which for the developable replaces as it were the Hessian HU, is termed the *Prohessian*; and (since if r be the order of U the order of HU is $4r-8$) we have $3r-8$ for the order of the Prohessian.

† **Prohi·bit,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prohibit-us*, pa. pple. of *prohib-ēre* to hold back, prevent, forbid, f. *prō* in front + *habēre* to hold.] Prohibited, forbidden. (Also const. as pa. pple.: see next.)

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 215 Whiche..hade not knowlege of hym selfe, whiche is comparable to brute bestes in drawenge to thynges prohibitte. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxxi. § 2 (1699) 158 By the Civil Law likewise, the prohibit Arms were confiscat. 1683 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 277 Discharging merchants.. to sell or exchange any prohibite commodities with themselves or amongst others in the Kingdome of Scotland. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 400 Arrest of the King's Council, for levying of 30 Sols per 100 upon all Cheese from Foreign Parts, except from England and Holland, which remains prohibit.

Prohibit (prohi·bit), *v.* Also 5 **-hibet.** [f. L. *prohibit-*, ppl. stem of *prohibēre*: see prec. For pa. pple., *prohibit* was used down to the 18th c.; but *prohibited* also appeared as early as 1532.]

1. *trans.* To forbid (an action or thing) by or as by a command or statute; to interdict.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 237 A table of brasse prohibetenge synne [orig. *peccatum prohibens*], where the myghty preceptes of the lawe bene wryten. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 148 The damnable lust of cardes and of dice, And other games prohibite by the lawe. 1532 More *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 510/2 Such folk I suppose wer better prohibited betymes. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 b, Not to prohibite this newe fanglednes. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 176 They altogether prohibite the use of wine in fevers. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 346 They considered..what the thing was which the legislature meant to prohibit. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 14 In England an act of parliament was passed in 5th year of reign of Henry IV prohibiting the attempts at transmutation and making them felonious. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iv. § 2. 166 The Statute of Mortmain..prohibited the alienation of lands to the Church under pain of forfeiture.

2. To prevent, preclude, hinder, or debar (an action or thing) by physical means.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 59 The Frenchemen.. gathered together a greate numbre of men of warre redy to defend and prohibite the passage. 1634 R. H. *Salernes Regim.* 66 They comforte the Stomacke, and prohibite vapours and fumes. 1667 Milton *P. L.* II. 437 Gates of burning Adamant Barr'd over us prohibit all egress. 1834 Ht. Martineau *Demerara* iii, Having seen them..drop asleep, or shut their eyes so as to prohibit conversation, as much as if they were.

3. To forbid, stop, or prevent (a person): **a.** *from* doing something; also, *to do* a thing (*arch.*).

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. Pref. 1 [The reading of history] prohibyteth reprouable persons to do mischeuous dedes. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 55 b, For the rage

of the water, and contraritie of the wyndes, her ship was prohibited diuerse tymes to approche the shore and take lande. 1615 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 166 No cause why..his Majesty's subjects should be..prohibited from any place. 1756 C. Lucas *Ess. Waters* III. 261 The patients..are peremptorily prohibited to bathe on Sundays. 1840 Macaulay *Ess., Clive* (1887) 550 There is no Act..prohibiting the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs from being in the pay of continental powers.

†b. With various obsolete constructions. (Cf. Forbid.)

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 279 That he scholde prohibite hym of thynges whiche scholde not be doen. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* lii. 140 Whether it stande with conscyence to prohybyt a Jury of mete & drynk tyll they be agreed. 1680 H. Dodwell *Two Lett.* (1691) 78 St. Ambrose..prohibited none for coming to him at any time.

†c. With direct and indirect object (dative). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1530 Palsgr. 667/2 He hath prohybyt me his house. 1619 Drayton *Past., Ecl.* vi. xv, To recall that, labour not in vain, Which is by fate prohibited returning. 1657 J. Sergeant *Schism Dispach't* 456 Those Authors, whose books are prohibited printing in England under great penalties. 1671 R. MacWard *True Nonconf.* 160 A Synod in England did prohibite the Scots any function in their Church. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* II. ix. 331 He prohibited Antony the entrance of his Province.

†4. Formerly with following negative expressed or implied: To command *not* to do something; to cause a thing *not* to happen or take place. *Obs.*

1555 Eden *Decades* 259 The princes of the lande are prohibite in peine of death to absteine from such stronge drinkes. 1557 North *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 295 They did prohibit that no man shoulde..sell openly..wine of Candie or Spaine. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 145 b, Helyas through the power of God, did prohibit that it should not rayne. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 41 It cannot effectually prohibit the Heart not to move, or the Blood not to circulate. 1692 Bentley *Boyle Lect.* vii. 249 The gravity prohibiting that they cannot recede from the centers of their Motions. 1707 Earl of Bindon in *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4339/3 To Prohibit..all Coach-makers,..that they do not use Varnish'd Bullion-Nails.

Hence **Prohi·biting** *vbl. sb.*, prohibition.

1614 W. Colwall in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 151 The prohibiting of white cloths to come into these countries. 1677 *Act 29 Chas. II*, c. 7 § 3 Nothing in this Act contained shall extend to the prohibiting of dressing of Meate in Families or dressing or selling of Meat in Inns Cookeshops or Victualling Houses for such as otherwise cannot be provided.

Prohi·bited, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Forbidden, interdicted, debarred. *Prohibited degrees*; see Degree *sb.* 3.

1552 Huloet, Prohibited, *vetitus.* 1597 Morley *Introd. Mus* 183 Prohibited consequence of perfect cordes. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 172 They say, that they marry within prohibited degrees. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* iv, Conveying prohibited goods over the Pyrenees. 1845 McCulloch *Taxation* II. ix. (1852) 338 The smuggling of prohibited and over-taxed articles.

Prohibiter (prohi·bitəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER[1].] One who prohibits or forbids; = Prohibitor.

1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 337 God..is..a prohibiter of sinnes. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. xxii. Wks. 1851 IV. 130 The prohibiters of divorce. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* ix. viii, Cecilia..cast her eyes round the church, with no other view than that of seeing from what corner the prohibiter would start. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* III. § 193 The discovery..would subject the prohibiter to a heavier penalty.

Prohibition (prōuhibi·ʃən). [a. F. *prohibition* (1237 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prohibitiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prohib-ēre* to Prohibit.]

1. The action of forbidding by or as by authority; an edict, decree, or order forbidding or debarring; a negative command.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* III. iii. (Skeat) I. 54 This..semeth to some men into coaccion, that is to saine, constrainyng, or els prohibicion that is defendyng. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 287 Prestes despisynge this prohibicion. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 160 Ther must be a prohybytyon set out by commyn authoryte. 1667 Milton *P. L.* IX. 645 So glister'd the dire Snake, and into fraud Led Eve..to the Tree Of prohibition. 1717 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Abbé Conti* 1 Apr., The prohibition of wine was a very wise maxim. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 404 The prohibition of excessive wealth is a very considerable gain in the direction of temperance.

2. *Law.* a. A writ issuing from a superior court, formerly from the Court of King's Bench, and sometimes from the Court of Chancery or of Common Pleas, now out of the High Court of Justice, forbidding some court, and the parties engaged in it, from proceeding in a suit, on the ground that this is beyond the cognizance of the court in question.

[1312 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 282/2 Ceux qi par malice purchacent prohibitions.] 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI*, c. 13 § 14 If any Party..for any Matter..sued..before the Ecclesiastical Judge, do sue for any Prohibition in any of the King's Courts. 1595 *Expos. Termes Law, Prohibition*..lieth where a man is impleded in y^e^ spiritual court of y^e^ thing y^t^ toucheth not matrimonie nor testament,..but that toucheth the kinges crowne. 1682 Burnet *Rights Princes* viii. 305 A Prohibition was served upon those Vicars. 1726 Ayliffe *Parergon* 435 Every Statute Prohibitory is a Prohibition of Law. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* II. ii. 310 The courts of law frequently issued 'Prohibitions' against proceeding in the Ecclesiastical Courts with suits not lawfully cognizable there. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 793/1 A writ of prohibition is a prerogative writ—that is to say, it does not issue as of course, but is granted only on proper grounds being shown.

b. *Sc. Law.* Each of the three technical clauses in a deed of entail prohibiting the heir from selling an estate, contracting debt that would affect it, or altering the order of succession to it.

1848 *Act 11 & 12 Vict.* c. 36 § 32 Disencumbering the entailed estate..and the heir of entail..of all the prohibitions, conditions, restrictions, limitations, and clauses irritant and resolutive, of the tailzie. 1861 W. Bell *Dict. Law Scot.* 802/2 Before the passing of the act 11 and 12 Vict. c. 36, 1848, it was doubted whether an entail could be effectual which did not contain the whole of the three prohibitions;—against alienations; against the contraction of debt, so as to affect the estate; and against the succession; but it was decided, that a deed of entail containing any one of these prohibitions, properly fenced, was effectual so far as it went.

3. The interdiction by law of the importation of some foreign article of commerce.

1670 Temple *Let. to Ld. Arlington* Wks. 1731 II. 214 Another Point..is the Prohibition of French Commodities. 1825 McCulloch *Pol. Econ.* I. 33 Heavy duties and absolute prohibitions were interposed to prevent the importation of manufactured articles from abroad. 1872 Yeats *Growth Comm.* 302 Manufacturers in want of customers cried out for trade prohibitions.

b. A thing prohibited. *rare.*

1905 *Post Office Guide* 1 Jan. 493 Eau de cologne is a prohibition into Basutoland.

4. *spec.* The forbidding by law of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks for common consumption.

1851 (May) *Annual Rept. Exec. Committee Amer. Temp. Union* 27 The State of Vermont has struggled arduously to arrive at the summit level of entire prohibition. 1869 *Daily News* 6 Sept., The majority of the people of the State [Massachusetts] are..opposed to prohibition, though they would favour a good license law. 1891 (*title*) The Cyclopædia of Temperance and Prohibition (U. S.). 1899 Rowntree & Sherwell *Temperance Problems* iii. (1901) 42/1 The agitation in favour of prohibition in Maine began early in the thirties...The efforts of [Generals Appleton and Dow].. resulted in 1846 in the passage of the first Prohibitory Act.

5. *Astrology.* (See quots.)

1658 Phillips, *Prohibition*,..in Astronomy it is, when two Planets are applying to Conjunction, or Aspect, and before they come to joyn themselves, another comes to Conjunction, or Aspect of the Planet applied to. 1819 J. Wilson *Dict. Astrol., Prohibition*, the same as frustration.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in senses 3 and (especially) 4). Also **Prohibition party**, a political party in U. S., formed in Sept. 1869 to nominate or support only persons pledged to vote for the prohibition of the liquor traffic; **prohibi·tionward** *adv.*, towards prohibition.

1885 G. W. Bain in *Voice* (N. Y.) 29 Nov., It is delightful to see the tendency of public sentiment prohibitionward in the South. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Dec. 2/2 He carefully studied the Prohibition Question while there...In one Prohibition town he was taken to various hotels by the Dominion M.P...who..was elected on the Prohibition card—for the purpose of having a whisky-and-soda. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 7/1 Manitoba, by a law, known as the 'Liquor Law', which was passed last year, endeavoured to make itself into a 'prohibition' province. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 8/1 The outcome of this foolish (almost wicked) retention of the Prohibition Order is that now an American Meat Trust is able to name the price that must be paid for meat by poor British consumers.

Prohibi·tionary, *a.* [f. prec. + -ARY[1].] Relating to prohibition.

1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 226 The author has overlooked the fact that prohibitionary laws were enacted in Judea, Egypt, Greece and Rome.

Prohibitionist (prōuhibi·ʃənist). [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who advocates or favours prohibition, *spec.* of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. Also *attrib.*

1846 Worcester, *Prohibitionist*, an advocate for prohibitory measures. *For. Q. Rev.* 1854 (*title*) The *Prohibitionist* [a monthly journal in State of New York]. 1866 *Even. Standard* 13 July 6 You would probably pronounce the existing struggle as one between the Protectionists and Prohibitionists. 1883 *Manch. Guard.* 17 Oct. 5/3 If the community is really determined to have no public-houses it can carry out its wishes by filling the Town Councils with a majority of prohibitionists. 1888 Bryce *Amer. Commw.* II. III. lvi. 372 *note*, The Prohibitionist platform of 1884.

So **Prohibi·tionism,** the principles or practice of prohibition.

1889 Goldw. Smith (*title*) Prohibitionism in Canada and the United States.

Prohibitive (prohi·bitiv), *a.* [a. F. *prohibitif, -ive* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.): see Prohibit *ppl. a.* and -ive.]

1. Having the quality of prohibiting; that forbids or restrains from some course of action; prohibitory.

1602 Fulbecke *Pandectes* 86 When it is apparant that such meetings are not made of euill intent, the prohibitiue Law ceaseth. 1765 *Act 5 Geo. III*, c. 26 *Preamble*, [They] should convey, settle, and intail the lands..with all the proper, prohibitive, irritant, and resolutive clauses. 1845 McCulloch *Taxation* II. v. (1852) 213 Prohibitive and protective regulations..force capital and industry into less productive channels than those into which they would otherwise flow. 1887 [see Permissive 1]. 1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 30 May, The decrease [of saloons] being almost wholly due to the special prohibitive power of the judges of the license courts.

2. Of conditions, as taxes or prices: Such as serve to prevent the use or abuse of something.

1886 *American* XII. 100 A tax whose effect will be prohibitive. 1888 M. Arnold *Civilia. U. S. iv.* 163 The cabrates are prohibitive—more than half of the people who in England would use cabs must in America use the horse-cars. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 8 Jan. 279/1 The book was published at a well-nigh prohibitive price.

3. *Gram.* That expresses prohibition; negative in an imperative use.

1875 Renouf *Egypt. Gram.* 56 The prohibitive *em* is frequently placed before {etc.}. *Mod.* The Greek μή and Lat. *ne* with the imperative have a prohibitive force.

Hence **Prohi·bitively** *adv.*, **Prohi·bitiveness.**

1867 Carlyle *Remin.* (1881) II. 296, I waved my hand prohibitively at the door. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 829 A spirit of doctrinaire prohibitiveness.

Prohibitor (prohi·bitəɹ). [a. L. *prohibitor*, agent-n. from *prohibēre*; see Prohibit *ppl. a.*] One who prohibits.

1611 Cotgr., *Prohibeur*, a prohibitor. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. (1701) 85/2 Socrates..never needed any exhorter, but sometimes a prohibitor. 1857 Keble *Eucharist. Ador.* 27 Make it still more imperative upon the prohibitors to produce some irresistible authority.

Prohibitory (prohi·bitəri), *a.* [ad. L. *prōhibitōri-us* restraining, f. *prohibitor*; see -ory.]

1. = Prohibitive 1; esp. with reference to the common sale of intoxicating liquors, as in *prohibitory law, movement, party*, etc.

a 1591 H. Smith *Wks.* (1867) II. 428 Which words be most prohibitory. *a* 1602 W. Perkins *Cases Consc.* (1619) 318 Lust may be restrained..without prohibitory lawes. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxxii. 496 This law is entirely prohibitory. 1797 Burke *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 390 We have been obliged to guard it from foreign competition by very strict prohibitory laws. 1884 Dowell *Taxation* V. ii. I. 135 An enactment prohibitory of the imposition of a subsidy on wool. 1899 [see Prohibition 4].

2. = Prohibitive 2.

1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 377 The cost of conveyance amounted to a prohibitory tax on many useful articles. 1881 Sir W. Thomson in *Nature* 8 Sept. 434/1 This..is obviously prohibitory of every scheme for economising tidal energy by means of artificial dock-basins.

Hence **Prohi·bitorily** *adv.*, in a prohibitory way, with prohibitory effect.

1876 R. Hart *Land of Sinim* (1901) 202 That foreign goods..are either differentially or prohibitorily taxed.

Proif, obs. Sc. spelling of Proof.

Proin(e, Proiner, obs. forms of Prune, Pruner.

Pro indiviso: see Pro 6.

†**Proine,** *v. Obs.* Sometimes used in sense of Prime *v.*[1] 2.

[In the 16th c. *proine* was a very common variant of *pruine, prune*, both as used of a bird pruning itself and of pruning a vine, tree, etc.; for the latter Prime *v.*[3] was also a 16–17th c. synonym. But there is no evidence of a form *prune* answering to Prime *v.*[1] As applied in quot. 1591 *proine* is slightly earlier than Prime in this sense.]

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 12 His peece readie charged, loaden with her Bullet and proind with tutch pouder. 1622 *Recov. Ship of Bristol 'Exchange'* D iv b (Arb. Garner IV. 603), And Rawlins hauing proined the Tuch-holes.

Project (prɒ·dʒekt, prōu·dʒekt), *sb.* [ad. L. *prōject-um* something thrown forth or out, neut. sing. of *prōject-us* pa. pple: see next. So F. *projet* (*pourget* 1518 in Hatz.-Darm., *project* in Cotgr.).]

†1. A plan, draft, scheme, or table of something; a tabulated statement; a design or pattern according to which something is made. *Obs.*

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 3331 A corone, ane þe costious þat euire kyng weryd, On þe propurest of proiecte þat euire prince bere. 1581 Lambarde *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 225, I will now adventure to run thorow all the sortes of Manslaughters and Felonies..which (for the more light) I have bestowed in this project (or Table) following. 1600 (*title*) A Projecte, conteyninge the State, Order, and Manner of Governmente of the University of Cambridge. As now it is to be seene. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 535 Many other plots and projects there doe remaine of his [Parasius'] drawing. 1627 Wren *Serm. bef. King* 6 My sonne, love God; or, My sonne, praise God; or, My sonne, obey God;..My sonne, feare God, is a Project and Promise of them all.

†2. A mental conception, idea, or notion; speculation. *Obs.*

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, I. iii. 29 Flatt'ring himselfe with Project of a power, Much smaller, then the smallest of his Thoughts. 1599 — *Much Ado* III. i. 55 She cannot loue, Nor take no shape nor proiect of affection, Shee is so selfe indeared. 1727 De Foe *Acc. Scot.* 152 A great deal of project and fancy may be employed to find out the ancient shape of the Church.

3. Something projected or thrown out; a projection, an emanation (of some being). *rare.*

1601 B. Jonson *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo. 1) III. i. 22 Oh beauty is a Project of some power, Chiefely when oportunitie attends her. 1849 G. Dawson *Shaks. & other Lect.* (1888) 416 The house should be a project of the creature who inhabits it.

†4. The (fact of) being thrown out or put forth. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 535 The said branches immediatly from their project must rise somewhat vpright in maner of fingers, standing forth from the palm of ones hand.

5. Something projected or proposed for execution; a plan, scheme, purpose; a proposal.

1601 R. Johnson *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 81 Till they retyred, having performed the project of their journey. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. § 3. 172 Orators, whose proiect is persuasion. 1623 T. Scot *Highw. God* 80 All our Proiects of draining surrounded grounds. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 50 New Projects were every day set on foot for Money, which serv'd only to offend, and incense the People. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 5 P 3 There was actually

a Project of bringing the New River into the House, to be employed in Jetteaus and Water-works. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* Proem, We Florentines were too full of great building projects to carry them all out in stone and marble. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 6. 326 The moral support which the project was expected to receive from the Parliament.

†6. A projectile, a missile. *Obs.*

1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 9 (*title*) Propositions concerning ..the Motion of Projects. 1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* b j, The Doctrine of the Motion of Projects, particularly applied to Gunnery and Throwing of Bombs. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Projectile or Project.

†7. = PROJECTION 6. *Obs.*

1807 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 159 [A] set of theorems, relating to projects made on any given inclined planes.

8. *Comb.* (from 5).

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* 4 Some get their liuings..by their braines, as politicians, monopolists, project-mongers, suit-ioggers, and star-gazers. 1905 *Longm. Mag.* July 262 The old project-monger beamed with her full moon face.

†**Proje·ct,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōject-us*, pa. pple. of *prōicĕre, prōjic-ĕre* to throw forth, stretch out, expel, reject, give up, etc., f. *prō*, PRO-1 + *jacĕre* to throw.] I. Construed as *pa. pple.*

1. Stretched out, extended.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 295 This prouince, proiecte by the longitude of the occean, hathe on the este to hit Turonea, whom the floode callede Ligeris flowethe abowte.

2. Given up, abandoned.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 87 Proiecte in the lustes of lechery, [þei] haue grete delectacion in women.

3. Projected, thrown.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref. ii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 127 When thereon itt ys project,..That Mercury teynyth permanently. 1647 H. MORE *Cupid's Conflict* xxi, Whose pestilent eye into my heart project Would burn like poysonous Comet in my spright.

II. as *adj.* [= L. *prōjectus* immoderate, abject.]

4. Abandoned; abject, base.

1607 CHAPMAN *Bussy D'Ambois* II. i. Plays 1873 II. 29, I would haue put that proiect face of his To a more test, than did her Dutchesship. *c* 1611 — *Iliad* III. Comm. (1857) 78 For which yet his Criticus hath the project impudence to tax Homer. 1616 — *Hymn Apollo* 43 With minds project, exempt from list or lawe.

Project (pro,dʒe·kt), *v.* [f. L. *prōject-*, ppl. stem of *prōicĕre, prōjicĕre*: see PROJECT *ppl. a.* (which occurs earlier than the finite vb.). OF. had in same sense *purjeter* (12th c.), *pourjeter* (14th c.), *projetter* (1452 in Godef. *Compl.*); in 16th c, Rabelais used *projecter*, Amyot *projetter*, mod.F. has *projeter*. L. had also a freq. *prōjectāre*, in the senses 'drive out' and 'reproach'.]

I. Of mental operations.

1. *trans.* To plan, contrive, devise, or design (something to be done, or some action or proceeding to be carried out); to form a project of. a. With simple obj. or clause. (Now a leading use.)

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 10 For to ymagine and proiecte the deth of his neuewe Jason. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus' Hist.* II. lx. (1591) 88 The rest of the Legions..proiected warre in their minds [orig. *bellum meditabantur*]. 1664 EVELYN *Diary* 15 Oct., My Lord Chancellor..carried me,..to see their palace,..and to project the garden. 1671 BARROW *Serm., Ps. cxii.* 9 Wks. 1687 I. 444 Thus hath God wisely projected, that all his children should both effectually and quietly be provided for. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* III. iv. (1713) 318 Having projected the adjoining a neighbour kingdom to his own dominions. 1788 FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 176, I projected and drew up a plan for the union. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 114 He was a critical writer, projecting a system to which he strictly adhered. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. iv. 137 Sketches projected but abandoned.

b. With *infin.* To plan, devise, or design *to do* something. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 164 For that Emanuel of Portugal who had projected to make the Prior King. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) III. 199 King Richard.. presently projecting to repair himself by a new Marriage. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* I. III. 228 He even projected to clothe the people whom he took along with him in some peculiar garments. 1810 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1844) II. 293, I project already to complain of the completeness of the detail.

†2. *intr.* To form a plan, design, scheme, or project; to scheme. *Obs.*

1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxix. (1840) 170 Wise he was in projecting. 1642 — *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xiv. 308 About this time John Dudley Duke of Northumberland projected for the English Crown. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 64 The devil..projects and contrives against the church.

†3. *trans.* To put forth, set forth, exhibit; to present to expectation. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 121, I cannot proiect mine owne cause so well To make it cleare. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. § 7. 96 The care that this good Emperour had for the weale of his subiects is proiected by his prouidence in making wayes passageable from place to place. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 622 When the South projects a stormy Day, And when the clearing North will puff the Clouds away.

†4. To put before oneself in thought; to conceive, imagine. *Obs.*

1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 4 By their ambitious thoughts, they proiected to themselues a Messias like some Soueraigne Lord. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 45 Which (whatsoever some have projected) is unpossible.

II. Of physical operations.

†5. *trans.* To throw or cast away (*lit.* and *fig.*); to reject. *Obs.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* xxvii. 63 Project not me: displeasantly, O Lord, my health, do not depart. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 77 Abstinence and fasting, are as Corsiues to ate out the dead-flesh of gluttony, drunkennes, and concupiscence..which so proiected and eaten out, Christ..will come and bind vp our wounds. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1303 There is no reason and probability, that any one should project this assertion also.

6. To cast, throw, hurl, shoot, impel, or cause to move forward, or onward in any direction.

1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. i. 45 Before his feet her selfe she did project. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 148 It proiecteth ..those excrements which sticke to the bowels. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 209 In War, holy things are projected to dogges. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s. v. *Projectile*, The Line of Motion which a Body projected describes in the Air..is..the Curve of a Parabola. 1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1807) II. 151 If a body be projected upward, with the velocity it acquired in any time by descending freely, it will lose all its velocity in an equal time. 1834 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sc.* i. (1849) 6 A body projected in space will move in a conic section. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 53 The heat which would otherwise be projected into space.

b. To throw or cast (a substance) *in, into, on, upon* something. (Chiefly in *Alchemy* and *Chem.*)

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 125/1 Take five wallenuttes with their shelles, glowe them in the fyere, then proiecte them in a gobblet with oulde wine. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, The great medcine! Of which one part proiected on a hundred Of Mercurie, or Venus, or the Moone, Shall turne it, to as many of the Sunne. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 367 When projected on red-hot nitre, it [plumbago] should detonate. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 128/1 The pollen .. is projected or falls upon the pistillum. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 183 Five parts of flowers of sulphur and eight parts of iron borings are mixed together, and projected gradually into a red-hot crucible.

c. *intr.* In *Alchemy*: To make projection, i.e. to throw powder of projection (see PROJECTION 2) into a crucible of melted metal, for the purpose of transmuting the latter into gold or silver.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, You must be chiefe? as if you, onely, had The poulder to project with? *Ibid.* II. ii, My onely care is, Where to get stuffe, inough now, to proiect on, This towne will not halfe serue me. 1680 [see PROJECTION 10].

7. *trans.* To place (a thing) so that it protrudes or juts out; to cause to jut out, stand out, or protrude. Now *rare.*

1624 [see PROJECTED 1]. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* viii. 148 The better way is..to project it an Inch and a half beyond the side of the Building. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, To Duchess of Ormund* 52 The land..had met your way, Projected out a neck, and jutted to the sea. 1765 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 264 Going to project out Bow windows from their houses. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 7 A noble conservatory or green-house may be projected from the south front. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. v. 181 Strong structures, supported upon piers, had been projected, reaching..five hundred feet into the stream.

8. *intr.* To jut out; to stick out or protrude beyond the adjacent parts. (Now a leading use.)

1718 PRIOR *Solomon* I. 559 The craggy rock projects above the sky. 1795 BURNS *Address Miss Fontenelle* 34 As the boughs all temptingly project. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 350 The booths..projected far into the streets. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* vi. (1858) 267 The promontories of Tyre, Sidon, and Beirût project further..than those of Ascalon, Jaffa, Dor or Acre.

9. *trans.* To throw or cause to fall (light or shadow) upon a surface or into space.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 43 The smallest Atom..was presented as big as a Rounseval-Pea, and projecting a shade. *Ibid.* 73 If with a Prisme you strike the Rainbow-colours upon a wall, and observing where a red is projected. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Reft.* IV. vi, The Shade my Body projected, near Noon. 1868 LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 160 In all the other positions..the lunar cone of shade is projected into space away from the Earth. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xix. 332 The shadow is said to be projected on to the flat surface.

b. To cause (a figure or image) to appear or 'stand out' *on* or *against* a background.

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ii. (1833) 25 If a living figure had been projected against the strong light which imprinted these durable spectra of the sun. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 73 He..saw Huxley's form projected against the sky as he stood upon a pinnacle of rock. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 71/2 The mode of projecting views of objects at whatever angle they may be placed in relation to both planes.

10. *fig.* (From senses 6 and 9.)

1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. x. 127 Then we project everything stamped with the impress of our own feelings. 1856 DOVE *Logic Chr. Faith* IV. ii. § 1. 180 Thus we project into the realm of space a moral cause. 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* x. 94 The very image of Christ..as it was projected upon the mind of the Jew. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* I. 47 The realistic teaching of Holy Scripture projected itself sharply upon their uncultured minds. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece, Siena* 58 Ideas were projected from her vivid fancy upon the empty air around her. 1878 S. COX *Salv. Mundi* iv. (ed. 3) 94 Can we not project ourselves so far into the future as to anticipate the time when [etc.]? 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* iii. 37 An excited or disordered brain may project some phantasm of its own conjuring..and see it as distinctly as if it were a tangible object. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 25 The occasional power of some agent to project himself phantasmally; to make himself manifest, as though in actual presence, to some percipient at a distance.

11. *Geom.* To draw straight lines or 'rays' from a centre through every point of a given figure, so that they fall upon or intersect a surface and produce upon it a new figure of which each point corresponds to a point of the original. (With either the rays, the original figure, or the resulting figure as obj.) Hence, to represent or delineate (a figure) according to any system of correspondence between its points and the points of the surface on which it is delineated.

1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 151 The manner of projecting them, is copiously taught in many Books of Architecture. *Ibid.* 152 Winding Stairs are projected on a round Profile. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* i. 9 The truth of this rule may be found by projecting fig. 7 upon a large scale. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jrnls.* I. Pref. 17, I did not use instruments in projecting the outlines. 1866 PROCTOR *Handbk. Stars* 19 The whole hemisphere is projected into a circle whose radius is twice that of a great circle of the sphere. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 798/1 Any conic can be projected into any other conic. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 116 Draw and complete the two views, as shown.., and add an end elevation, properly projected. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* ix. 488 It may happen that we wish to project the two crystals on a plane perpendicular to the twin-face.

b. *Chartography.* To make a geometrical or other projection or representation on a plane surface of (the earth, sky, or any portion thereof).

1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. i. 11 We were not able to determine whether they [dials at Woolsthorpe] were executed by a tentative process..or were more accurately projected, from a knowledge of the doctrine of the sphere. 1858 HERSCHEL *Outl. Astron.* iv. § 279 (ed. 5) 183 A spherical surface can by no contrivance be extended or projected into a plane without undue enlargement or contraction of some parts. 1866 PROCTOR *Handbk. Stars* 12 A simple method of projecting the meridians and parallels for any small portion of the celestial sphere. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 170 As if Shakespeare's world were one which Mercator could have projected.

Projected (pro,dʒe·ktĕd), *ppl. a.* [-ED 1.]

1. Thrown or thrust forward; placed so as to protrude; cast upon a surface: see the verb.

1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 236 That all the projected or jutting Parts (as they are termed) be very moderate. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 246 A projected transverse impulse, in tangents to their several orbs. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* IV. 480 They..with projected Fires our Men assail. 1778 LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* Notes (ed. 12) 290 Then to the rocks' projected shade retire. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* iv. (1833) 95 The projected image of this figure..may then be accurately copied.

fig. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 16 Feb. 3/1 The command is still to 'know thyself', for only by means of an analysed and projected self can we know the minds of others.

2. Put forth as a project; planned, devised.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Projected*, designed, contrived. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. vi. 162 The difficulties of a projected invasion. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. v. 655 Projected treaties of commerce. 1894 S. FISKE *Holiday Stories* (1900) 73 The projected railroad..was a fact to be thought over.

Hence **Proje·ctedly** *adv.*: in quots. in sense of PROJECT *ppl. a.* 4, completely, abjectly.

1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* I. i. 2 There is no Nation so projectedly Savage, as to be aliens to the belief of existence of some Deity. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 24 For they..believe no man to be so projectedly Atheistical, as to intitle God to the Visions of his own brain.

Projectile (pro,dʒe·ktil, -əil), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7-8 -il. [ad. mod.L. *projectil-is*, f. ppl. stem of *prōjicĕre* to PROJECT. So in F. (Dict. Acad. 1762).]

A. *adj.* 1. Of motion or velocity: Caused by impulse or projection. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1696 WHISTON *The. Earth* I. *Lemmata* 8 From the Uniform Projectile Motion of Bodies in straight lines. 1715 CHEYNE *Philos. Princ. Relig.* I. (1716) 156 To have destroy'd the projectil Motion. 1717 J. KEILL *Anim. Oecon.* (1738) 157 The projectile Velocity of the Planets. 1828 HUTTON *Course Math.* II. 208 In case of great projectile velocities.

2. Of force, etc.: Impelling or driving forward or onward; projecting.

1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 99 The augmentation of the projectile Force. 1801 FUSELI in *Lect. Paint.* iii. (1848) 408 The laws of attraction, the projectile and centrifuge qualities of the system. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 20 Its use then was more for fireworks, than as an artillerist projectile force. 1861 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxxi. In this trance there is an extraordinary cerebral activity—a projectile force given to the mind—distinct from the soul.

3. Capable of being projected by force, esp. of being thrown or used as a missile.

Projectile anchor, in life-saving apparatus, an anchor adapted to be shot out of a tube towards the place where it is intended to grapple.

1865 *Morn. Star* 11 June, Everything that was projectile was brought into requisition. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 42 Model Carts, Mortars, Projectile Anchors,..Signal Gun and Rocket Signals.

4. *Zool.* Capable of being thrust forward or protruded, as the jaws of a fish; protrusile.

1864 COPE in *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 226 Tongue papillose; terminal portion projectile on glosso-hyoideum.

B. *sb.* A projectile object; a body impelled through the air or through space; *spec.* a missile adapted to be discharged from a cannon by the force of some explosive.

[1665 A. KIRCHER *Mundus Subterraneus* I. v. I. 30 De motu projectilium parabolico, et miris ejus effectibus.] 1665 *Phil Trans.* I. 109 Of the Motion of heavy Bodies, of Pendulems, of Projectils. 1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* v.

312 Under the head of Missiles, by which is meant Projectiles, we will range Fire-Darts, Arrows and Javelins, Fire-Pots and Flasks. 1775 J. BANKS *Epit. Lect.* 87 Every projectile is acted upon by two forces, the impetus or projectile force, and the power of gravity. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) II. 44 The parabolic motion of Projectiles. 1890 *Century Dict.* s. v., Projectiles used in smooth-bore guns are..sometimes oblong..as in the Manby, Parrott, and Lyle life-saving projectiles.

fig. 1826 *Sheridaniana* 253 The projectiles of wit.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *projectile-maker*, *-trade*, etc.; *projectile-throwing* adj.; **projectile theory**, (*a*) that branch of mechanics which treats of the motion of projectiles, as affected by gravity and the resistance of the air; (*b*) = the emission theory of light: see EMISSION 4 b.

1854 *Pereira's Polar. Light* 6 The Newtonian hypothesis, or the projectile or emission theory, was started when our knowledge of the facts was but in its infancy. 1899 *Daily News* 15 May 5/4 A welcome stimulus to the projectile trade. 1907 PAYNE-GALLWEY (*title*) A Summary of the History, Construction and Effects in Warfare of the Projectile-Throwing Engines of the Ancients.

Hence **Proje·ctilist**, one who studies or experiments with projectiles.

1852 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 338 With gunmakers, projectilists, general officers, Ordnance authorities.

Projecting (proˌdʒe·ktiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROJECT *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PROJECT, in various senses; = PROJECTION.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* xvi. (1684) 129 It despises all projectings for gain or advantage. 1668 MOXON *Mech. Dyalling* 4 All the Authors I have met with seem to presuppose their Reader to understand Geometry, and the projecting of the sphere already. 1688 BONNELL in W. Hamilton *Life* I. (1703) 40 Vain projectings for your escape and safety. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 48/2 The Wall may be defended by the projecting of the Cornice. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 25 My Plan of the Bridge, in projecting of which, I found myself..stored with Precedents.

Projecting (proˌdʒe·ktiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That projects.

1. That puts forth projects; scheming or contriving; inventive.

1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxi. § 4 Although man be a reasonable and projecting creature. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 113 Daphnis was of a more projecting wit than she. 1706 DE FOE *Jure Div.* IV. 89 Delusions and Chimeras of Projecting Statesmen. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 6 Sept., Being of a projecting spirit, some of his schemes miscarried.

2. That throws or impels forward or onward.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Projectile*, Both the projecting and the gravitating force are found in the same line of direction.

3. Jutting or sticking out beyond the general surface or adjacent parts; protruding.

1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 225 Myosotis.. mouth closed with projecting scales. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 622 Houses..with high gables and projecting upper stories. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 86 A projecting twig offered a convenient prop.

Hence **Proje·ctingly** *adv.*, in a projecting manner.

1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in 1772*, 260 A cape, placed in our maps far too projectingly. 18.. *Annals Philad. & Penn.* I. 381 (Cent.) A..hat..projectingly and out of all proportion cocked before.

Projection (proˌdʒe·kʃən), *sb.* [ad. L. *prōjectiōn-em* a throwing forward, extension, projection, n. of action f. *prōjicĕre*, or a. F. *projection* (13-14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.): see PROJECT *ppl. a.*]

I. 1. The action of projecting; the fact of being projected; throwing or casting forth or forward; impulsion, ejection.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 109/1 It is commodious for the proiection of phlegme. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* (1647) 19 His [the Sun's] rays have undenied Projection. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 23 To persuade him that this was done..by the rude scattering of Ink upon the Paper, or by the lucky Projection of so many Letters at all adventures. 1775 WESLEY *Serm.* lix. 10 Wks. 1811 IX. 128 Connect the force of projection and attraction how you can, they will never produce a circular motion. 1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* 117 The fall of the Viceroy's good chestnut ..and the projection of his rider full ten feet over his head. 1862 G. P. SCROPE *Volcanos* 24 The immense trituration they sustain in the process of repeated projection and fall.

fig. a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* iv. 103 Shewing how all that which we call body, rather issued forth by an infinite projection from some mind.

2. The casting of some ingredient into a crucible; esp. in *Alchemy*, the casting of the powder of philosophers' stone (*powder of projection*) upon a metal in fusion to effect its transmutation into gold or silver; the transmutation of metals.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 87 You shall make a perfect proiection your selues vpon Mercurie. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 Projection is an exaltation chiefly in Metals, by a medicine cast upon them, which will suddenly penetrate and transfigurate them. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 20 Alchymists that labour to make gold by projection. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 17 To do the like touching the Philosophers stone, the powder of Projection, and potable gold. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, I will do projection in thy presence, my son,..and thine eyes shall witness the truth. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 11 At other times the performers..purchased what was termed a powder of projection, prepared by the adepts, containing a portion of gold.

b. *fig.* Change from one thing to another; transmutation.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* III. ii, I feel that transmutation of my blood, As I were quite become another creature, And all he speaks it is projection. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 111 P 2 We laugh at the timorous delays of plodding industry, and fancy that, by increasing the fire, we can at pleasure accelerate the projection. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 16 Public opinion was in a state of projection. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXVIII. 549 The golden opportunity is arrived, they have reached..the moment of projection. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 154 The lucky moment of projection was clearly come.

II. 3. The forming of mental projects or plans; scheming, planning.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. iv. 46 Which of a weake and niggardly proiection, Doth like a Miser spoyle his Coat, with scanting A little Cloth. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 142 After the projection of divers experiments. 1776 S. J. PRATT *Pupil of Pleas.* II. 230 The dead of the night ..is generally my hour for projection. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* IV. 23 He was endeavouring to abet the good plans that were in projection. 1838-9 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 87 The projection of a canal. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xxi. II. 235 The whole plot appears of one projection, from the beginning down to the death of the suitors.

†**4.** That which is projected or planned; a project, plan, design, scheme; a proposal. *Obs.*

1633 NABBES *Tottenham Court* III. ii, The planting of hoppes was a rare projection in the Dutch. 1652 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* II. 238 Having withall good courages and high projections. 1674 [Z. CAWDREY] *Catholicon* 9 My projection is..that this Stipulation should once be solemnly made. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 108 P 13 Men are so frequently cut off in the midst of their projections. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* III. 218 Many other airy projections, which vanished as soon as they were formed.

III. 5. The action of placing a thing or part so that it sticks or stands out, or projects beyond the general line or surface; the fact or condition of being so placed as to project.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 30 The gentle and wel ordered Hand throwne forth by a moderate projection. 1772 HUTTON *Bridges* 97 The perpendicular projection will be equal to half the breadth..of the pier. 1806 J. DALLAWAY *Obs. Eng. Archit.* 207 The central front is rendered mean..by the.. projection of the wings. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 42 Let him..sit erect, with his back to the light, and a full free projection of the breast. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxv. 525 The conquests..beyond the Danube constituted a deep projection of Roman civilisation into the wilds of barbarism.

b. The representation of an object in a picture in such a way as to make it appear to stand out in relief.

1603 E. HEYWARD in Drayton *Bar. Wars* Pref. Verses, Since affection In iudgement may, as shaddow and proiection In Lantskip, make that which is low seeme high. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 597 The idea of projection is not so strongly excited; nor are we able to distinguish with the same certainty between a well-painted picture..and the objects themselves in relief. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 194 The incredible projection of the stars themselves.

c. *concr.* Anything which projects or extends beyond the adjacent surface; a projecting part.

1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* III. xiv, Any ruggedness, any sudden projection, any sharp angle, is..contrary to that idea. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 131 The projections at the corners..are called buttresses. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q. B. Div. 316 A catch or small projection at the end of an iron pin.

IV. 6. *Geom.* The drawing of straight lines or 'rays' according to some particular method through every point of a given figure, usually so as to fall upon or intersect a surface and produce upon it a new figure each point of which corresponds to a point of the original figure. Hence, each of such rays, or of such points of the resulting figure, is said to be the *projection* of a point of the original one; or the whole resulting figure is said to be the *projection* of the original.

In *central projection* (often called simply *projection*), the rays are all drawn from one point or 'centre'; in *axial projection*, a number of planes are similarly drawn from one line or 'axis'.

1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* 32 Whence, draw a Line to the Point of Distance: then is MU the Projection. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 539 The most useful kinds of architectural drawing depend upon the Theory of Projection. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxiii. 208 Supposing AOB, CPPD to be projections of great circles of the sphere. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* xv. 185 The position and form of lines in space are expressed, in the higher geometry, by determining the projection of these lines on planes placed at right angles to each other. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 793/2 Any figure, plane or in space of three dimensions, may be projected to any surface from any point which is called the centre of projection.

fig. 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* x. 301 Metaphysical projections of the moral system, how neat soever and entire, and plausible they may seem.

7. The drawing according to scale, and on mathematical principles, of a plan, chart, or map of a surface, or a diagram on the flat of a machine or the like; *spec.* the representation of any spherical surface on the flat, e.g. of the whole or any part of the surface of the earth, more fully called *map-projection* (see b).

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* M ij, It serueth so many waies, in building: in proiection of plattes, for measuring of ground, timber, or stone. 1812-16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* II. 67 In the construction of maps..by the projection of the spherical surface on a plane, such as it would be seen to the eye situated in a particular point; or by the developement, that is, the spreading out of a spherical on a plane surface. 1857 W. BINNS *Elem. Treat. Orth. Project.* ii. (1862) 12 The difference betwixt perspective drawing, or scenographic projection and orthographic projection. 1869 TYNDALL *Notes Lect. Light* 30 Take two drawings—projections, as they are called—of the frustum of a cone; the one as it is seen by the right eye, the other as it is seen by the left. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* (1892) 123 Whilst the notion of projection had been imparted, projection lines being drawn, yet the student had utterly failed to realise from the sketches the form of the object he was drawing.

b. *Chartography.* A representation on a plane surface, on any system, geometrical or other, of the whole or any part of the surface of the earth, or of the celestial sphere; any one of the many modes in which this is done.

The earlier modes were actually the result of geometrical projection; but the name has been extended to representations which lie quite outside the etymological sense.

The projections (in this extended sense) that have been used to represent the whole, the half, or parts of the earth's surface, are more than thirty; they have been classified by Major C. F. Close (*Sketch of Map Projections*, 1901, *Textbk. of Topogr. & Geogr. Surveying*, 1905, xi.) under the following heads: I. ORTHOMORPHIC (conform, or conformable), preserving the *forms* of areas (but not their relative sizes); II. *Equal area* (equivalent, or surface-true), in which equal areas of the surface are represented by equal areas on the map, but the forms of these, when large, are distorted; III. *Perspective*, representing the surface as seen from some point of view at the centre, on the surface, or at various distances from it; IV. ZENITHAL (q. v.); V. CONICAL (q. v.); VI. CYLINDRICAL (q. v.); VII. *Conventional*, produced by arbitrary rules for convenience of drawing and the approximate representation of a number of properties; such is the *globular*, commonly used in school maps of the two hemispheres. Of the varieties in actual use, many belong to two, and some to three of these classes; thus *Mercator's projection* is orthomorphic and cylindrical. For *gnomonic*, *homolographic*, *orthographic*, *polyconic*, *sinusoidal*, *stereographic*, etc. *projections*, see these adjs. Many projections are also named after their inventors, as *Mercator's*, *Bonne's* (modified conical equal-area), *Sanson-Flamsteed's* (sinusoidal equal-area), *Airy's* (balance of errors), *Cassini's* (rectangular co-ordinate) used in the 1-inch Ordnance Maps of England, and 6-inch of Great Britain, the six different projections of *Lambert*, etc. For these see the works cited above, and other special treatises.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a iv b, Of making due proiection of a Sphere in plaine. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* I. vii. (1635) 182 (Polar projection) This kinde of proiection, though more vnusuall,..wants not his special vse in describing the parts of the Earth neere the Pole. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. viii. 73 Charts, according to Mercator's or Wright's Projection. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Projection of the Sphere in Plano*, is a true Geometrical Delineation of the Circles of the Sphere, or any assigned Parts of them, upon the Plane of some one Circle; as on the Horizon, Meridian, Equator, Tropick, etc. *Ibid.*, *Polar Projection*, is a Representation of the Earth, or of the Heavens, projected on the Plane of one of the Polar Circles. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v., Astrolabes, Quadrants, Sun-dials, Maps, &c., are Projections of the Sphere; which are of three sorts, viz. Gnomonick, Orthographick and Stereographick. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 56 General maps..are projected upon the plane of some great circle..and from this circle the projection is said to be meridional, equatorial, or horizontal. 1866 PROCTOR *Handbk. Stars* 12 *Note*, The term projection has come to be applied in mapping to any mode of construction founded on some definite geometrical principle. 1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 13 In Mercator's projection, which is a favourite one for maps, the globe is supposed to be stretched out on the inside of a cylinder which touches it all round the equator, and the cylinder is then cut and opened out flat or 'developed'. 1905 C. F. CLOSE *Topogr. & Geogr. Surveying* xi. 92 The term *projection*, though sanctioned by long usage, is an unfortunate one. The great majority of useful map projections are not obtained in any geometrical way. A map projection is to be treated as the representation on a plane, by any law, of the terrestrial meridians and parallels.

c. *Cryst.* The projection of a point in each face of a crystal upon an imaginary containing sphere, called the *sphere of projection*.

From the centre of the sphere a line is drawn perpendicular to each face of the crystal, so that to each of these there corresponds a point on the sphere: a plane map of the sphere showing all these points is called a *projection of the crystal*.

1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 32 The diameter of the sphere of projection which is at right angles to the zone plane is called the zone axis. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* ii. 27 On the sphere of projection, and the principles of its stereographic representation. *Ibid.* 28 Fig. 9 represents in orthographic projection the faces and the poles of the cubo-octahedron. *Ibid.* 29 The *plane of projection* thus bounded by a great circle of the sphere is represented by the plane of the paper on which the circle is drawn, which latter will be termed the *circle of projection* or primitive circle.

8. The action of projecting, or fact of being optically projected, as a figure or image, against a background: see PROJECT *v.* 9 b.

1881 T. WEBB in *Nature* 3 Nov. 10/1 Why, when a satellite passes behind the limb, is it sometimes..visible behind or through it, either from optical projection, as stars have been seen in front of the moon, or [etc.]? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 770 Erroneous projection and diplopia.

fig. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 319 The projection of his reputation against a background of foreign appreciation, more or less luminous.

9. A mental figure or image visualized and regarded as an objective reality.

1836 EMERSON *Nat., Spirit* Wks. (Bohn) II. 167 The world proceeds from the same spirit as the body of man. It is a.. projection of God in the unconscious. 1838 — *Lit. Ethics* Nature, etc. (1883) 157 The youth, intoxicated with his

admiration of a hero, fails to see that it is only a projection of his own soul which he admires. 1891 WATTS in *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 259/1 If there is in any literary work a true projection of life, it must..be classed as poetry. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 694, I had..been studying..various cases of astral projection in Phantasms of the Living.. making up my mind..to try..to accomplish a projection of myself by force of will-concentration.

V. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *projection maker, work*; **projection-fibre**, a nerve-fibre of the projection system; **projection measurement**: see quot. 1890; **projection system**, the nervous system by which impulses received through the senses are projected upon the consciousness.

1680 J. J. BECHER (*title*) Magnalia Naturæ: or, the Philosophers-stone Lately expos'd to publick Sight and Sale,..how Wenceslaus Seilerus, The late Famous Projection-maker..made away with a very great Quantity of Pouder of Projection, by projecting with it before the Emperor. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Projection measurement*, distance between lines tangent to opposite sides of the body, measured vertically to a given plane. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 98 Degeneration of the first afferent (sensory) projection systems of neurons. *Ibid.* 328 The centrum ovale..contains not only projection fibres..but also fibres which connect the cortex with the optic thalamus. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 27 May 1154 A room..fitted-up for electrometer, photomicrographic and other 'projection' work.

†Proje·ction, *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To make a projection or geometrical delineation of.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 346, I have taught you in the projectioning the Horizontal Dyal the original way of doing this.

†Projecti·tious, *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *prōjectīci-us* cast out, exposed (f. ppl. stem of *prōjicĕre* to PROJECT) + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Projectitious*, cast out, and nourished of a stranger; flung away, as of no account.

Projective (prɒ,dʒe·ktiv), *a.* [f. L. ppl. stem *prōject-* (see PROJECT *v.*) + -IVE. So F. *projectif.*]

†1. Having the faculty of projecting; scheming.

1632 BROME *Court Beggar* II. Wks. 1873 I. 214 They have all projective braines I tell you. *Men.* Pray of what nature are your Projects Gentlemen?

2. *Geom.*, etc. Of, pertaining to, or produced by the projection of lines or figures on a surface.

1682 LEYBOURN (*title*) Dialling: Plain, Concave, Convex, Projective, Reflective, Refractive. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Projective Dialling*, is the way of Drawing, by a method of Projection, the true Hour-lines, Furniture of Dials, &c. on any kind of Surface whatsoever. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 June 7/1 A lady exhibitor demonstrating an ingenious projective goniometer. By means of this instrument..the projection of a crystal on a sphere is accomplished, realising in practice the fundamental assumption of the theory of crystallography. 1900 *Nature* 12 July 260/1 A purely geometric representation of all points in the projective plane.

b. Capable, as two plane figures, of being derived one from the other by projection.

1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 107 If *P* is the point of intersection of *QS* and *RT*, then *ATPR* is a projection of *ACA'B'* from *Q* as centre, and *ATPR* is also a projection of *ABA'C'* from *S* as centre; therefore the group *ACA'B'* is projective with *ABA'C*, and therefore..with *A'C'AB*. *Ibid.* 163 If the point *S* is such that tangents can be drawn from it to the conic, each of them will be a self-corresponding line of the two projective series of tangents *abc*..and *a'b'c'*.

c. *Projective property*, a property (of a figure) which remains unchanged after projection. *Projective Geometry*, that branch of Geometry which deals with projective properties.

1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 50 Projective Geometry..dealing with projective properties (*i. e.* such as are not altered by projection), is chiefly concerned with descriptive properties of figures...Since the magnitude of a geometric figure is altered by projection, metrical properties are as a rule not projective. But there is one important class of metrical properties (anharmonic properties) which are projective, and the discussion of which therefore finds a place in the Projective Geometry. 1908 *Athenæum* 21 Mar. 359/2 'On the Projective Geometry of some Covariants of a Binary Quintic', by Prof. E. B. Elliott.

3. Jutting or sticking out, projecting. *rare.*

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 20 This Jutty, or projective Building. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) II. lxi. 167 Thin colourless lips, fit for incisive meanings—a nose and chin projective without breadth.

4. Of or pertaining to projection or casting forth. *rare.*

1839-48 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (ed. 4) 217 From the projective moment of all light The moon was in the sun, and in the sun The form of earth was.

5. Having the quality of being mentally projected, or the power of projecting; see PROJECT *v.* 10, PROJECTION 9.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* App. C. (1858) I. 409 There is an equal intensity both of the immanent and the projective reproduction. 1908 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 200 Kingsley's practical qualities (including a quite genuine projective imagination) were out of all proportion to the reflective.

6. Having the power of projecting or throwing itself forward with energy.

1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1862) 155 His [Samuel Brown's] fiery, projective subtle spirit could not linger in the outer fields of mere observation.

Hence **Proje·ctively** *adv.*, in a projective manner.

1872 T. L. CUYLER *Heart Life* 27 He follows Jesus so heartily, so projectively, that he carries others along with him by his sheer momentum. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* III. x. 207 A condition in the young when their imaginative energies hold revel uncontrolled and are projectively desperate. 1885 LEUDESDORF *Cremona's Proj. Geom.* 62 The necessary and sufficient condition that two ranges, each consisting of four elements, should be projectively related.

Projectivity (prɒ,dʒekti·vĭti). *rare.* [f. prec. + -ITY.] Projective quality; power or capacity for geometrical projection.

1900 *Nature* 12 July 260/1 He then takes up the subject of chains of points, showing their application to the general theory of projectivity.

†Proje·ctment. *Obs.* [f. PROJECT *v.* + -MENT. Cf. F. *projettement* (16th c.).] The formation of a project; a project formed, a scheme, plan, design.

a 1639 WOTTON *Disparity Buckingh. & Essex* in *Reliq.* (1651) 45 Men that were..never so dishonest in their projectments for each other's confusion. *a* 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 405 Whether Posterity will believe..That so many great and notable Projectments could be comprehended in one Soul. 1675 PLUME *Bp. Hacket* (1865) 120 Zealous in the carrying on his great projectments for piety and charity.

Projector (prɒ,dʒe·ktəɹ). [a. L. type **prōjector*, agent-n. f. *prōjicĕre* to PROJECT: see -OR. In F. *projeteur* (18th c. in Littré).]

1. One who forms a project, who plans or designs some enterprise or undertaking; a founder.

1596 EARL OF ESSEX in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 131, I think the action such as it were disadvantage to be thought the projector of it. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 428 How happy, then, above all worldly projectors and designers, are they whose hearts are persuaded to hearken to the counsel of God. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 49 To desire a Patent granted..to all useful Projectors. 1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 1 The great design of the projectors of this paper. 1884 *Law Times* 22 Mar. 379/2 The contractors were not paid either by the projector or the company.

b. In invidious use: A schemer; one who lives by his wits; a promoter of bubble companies; a speculator, a cheat.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vii, *Tit.* What is a Projector? I would conceiue. *Ing.* Why, one Sir, that proiects Wayes to enrich men, or to make 'hem great. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* xxxiv. 477 Let not the Projector pretend the publike good, when he intends but to robbe the riche and to cheat the poore. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 138 The women..think us still either projectors or conjurers. 1724 R. WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 470 The Judas, the worldly projector. 1787 BENTHAM *Def. Usury* iv. 37 Those, who .. are distinguished by the unfavourable appellation of Projectors. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. 222/1 The Sophist proceeds on the hypothesis that he who forms a project must be a projector; whereas the bad sense that commonly attaches to the latter word, is not at all implied in the former.

2. One who or that which projects or throws something forward.

1674 WALLIS in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 588 Which supposeth projection to be compounded of an uniform motion (impressed from the projector). 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 17 Nov. 7/2 Automatic railway fog-signal apparatus..a box which contains the explosive cartridges or signals, and a projector which automatically places them on the rail.

3. One who forecasts.

1832 LD. COCKBURN *Jrnl.* (1874) I. 32 We confident projectors of the people's avidity to vote are a little mortified at their registering more slowly than we boasted they would.

4. a. An apparatus for projecting rays of light; a parabolic reflector or a combination of lenses.

1887 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 6/1 The electric light will be employed on both sides of the harbour, each of the four projectors displaying a light of over two thousand candle power. 1891 *Times* 28 Sept. 13/5 Projectors used as search lights are destined to play an important part in modern warfare. 1893 *Voice* (N.Y.) 14 Sept., The reflecting lens mirror used in this projector is..60 inches in diameter.

b. 'A camera with electric, magnesium, or oxy-hydrogen light, for throwing an image upon a screen' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 1884).

Hence **Proje·ctress, Proje·ctrix**, a female projector; also *Geom.*: see quot. 1890.

1709 SWIFT *Tatler* No. 32 ¶ 4 A Lady who..was the Projectrix of the Foundation. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* xvii. 209 'It is extremely pretty' said Vere to the projectress and protectress of it all. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Projectrix*, a curve derived from another curve by composition of projections.

Projecture (prɒ,dʒe·ktiŭɹ). Now *rare.* [= F. *projecture* (1629 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōjectūra* a jutty, a projecture in buildings, f. *prōject-*: see PROJECT *v.* and -URE.]

1. The fact or state of projecting or jutting out beyond the general line or surface; *concr.* a projection or prominence; in *Arch.*, a projecting architectural member or moulding. Now *rare.*

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B iv b, Then shall your vttermost compas be for the proiecture, or sayling out or hanging ouer of the foote of the pillor, which Proiecture the Grekes do name or cal it Ecphoron. *Ibid.* C j b, It hath vpon Echinus a littel edge, which seteth forth Plinthus w^t a more beautiful Proiecture. 1666 EVELYN *Mem.* 7 Sept., All the ornaments, columnes, freezes, capitals, and projectures of massie Portland stone. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 28 Aug. an. 1776, The ends of the roof should have a gentle projecture. 1803 C. B. BROWN *E. Huntly* II. 49 There was no projecture which might be firmly held by the hand. 1842-76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Ecphora*,..the projecture of a member or moulding of a column.

†2. A projection on the flat; a plotting out, delineation. *Obs.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. xii. 44 Ground-plots are proiectures, eleuations, and all fundamentall contriuances, destinated and accomodated to some speciall and proposed ende. *Ibid.* II. i. 48.

†3. = PROJECTION 6. *Obs.*

1616 HALES in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 3 Amongst all the solutions..none there was which gave me not full and sufficient satisfaction, one only excepted,..that is concerning the projecture of an oblique circle.

†4. = PROJECT *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1696 EVELYN *Let. to Ld. Godolphin* 16 June, New inventions..encouraged, or rejected without reproach as projectures, or turning the unsuccessful proposer to ridicule.

‖ Projet (proʒe). [F., ad. L. *prōject-um* PROJECT.] A proposition, proposal; the draft of a proposed treaty, etc.

1808 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 108 It [the form of treaty] should be considered but as a *projet*. 1812 *Edin. Rev.* Nov. 274 After various *projets* had been offered and rejected, she made these three conditions. 1813 SCOTT *Let. to J. Ballantyne* 18 May in *Lockhart*, After many *offs* and *ons*, and as many *projets* and *contre-projets* as the treaty of Amiens, I have at length concluded a treaty with Constable.

†Proji·cient. *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōjiciens, -ent-em*, pres. pple. of *prōjic-ĕre* to PROJECT.] One who or that which throws a thing forward or forth.

1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 10 Though the projicient do so throw it, that it strikes at right angles with the wall.

Proke (prōuk), *v.*[1] Now only *dial.* Also 7 **proak**. [Early ME. *prokien*, app. cognate with LG. *proken*, to prod, poke, scratch, scrawl; cf. the dim. or frequent. LG., EFris. *prökeln*, Saterland *prökelje*; also, LG. *prökel* prickle, pointed instrument (Doorn.-Koolman). Not known in OE., but frequent in southern Early ME., also in late 16th c. writers, and still dial. Etymology obscure; the form and sense suggest relations with PROG *v.*[2], also PRICK *v.*, and POKE *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To make a thrust at; to poke; *fig.* to stir, goad, instigate, incite: = POKE *v.*[1] 1, 2.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 Hwonne þe schil and te heorte ne wiðsigged nout auh liked wel, & 3irned al þet tet fleschs to-proked, & helpen oðer þideward. *Ibid.* 238, & wiðsigged þe graunt þerof mid unwille heorte, ne prokie hit ou neuer so swuðe. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47 Al for nawt þu prokest me to forgulten. *Ibid.*, 3if he..halt on to eili þi flesch & prokie þin herte. *c* 1325 *Poem Times Edw. II* 430 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 343 So the fend hem prokede uch man to mourdren other. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxviii. 30 Nature prokth me..To take peace with the flies,.. Reason prouokth me: politiklie to flee. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. i. 2 The Queene ever at his elbow to pricke and proke [L. *stimulare*] him forward. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Proke*, to poke. 'Proke th' fire a bit.'

2. *intr.* To make a thrust (*at*): = POKE *v.*[1] 4. Also *spec.* to fish for eels by thrusting bait into their lurking-places, to SNIGGLE.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 263 The said dyuers .. carry downe with them certaine sharp pricks or goads fastened to long poles: for vnlesse they [the sea dogs] be proked at and pricked with them, they will not turn their backe. *Ibid.*, Well may some from shipboord proke at the dogs aforesaid with forks; others thrust at them with Trout speares & such like weapons. 1688 [see PROKING].

3. *intr.* To stick *out*, project: = POKE *v.*[1] 7 b.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXXVIII. vii. 987 From the lid or cover ..there stood proking out long sharp pikes..for to keepe off the enemies. 1601 — *Pliny* I. 327 There bee Insects with little hornes proaking out before their eyes.

†Proke, *v.*[2] *Obs. rare*—[1]. [perh. ad. L. *procāre* (rare) to ask, demand, with which it is identified by Levins. Cf. PROKKE *v.*]

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 159/45 To proke, *procare*.

Prokeeye, obs. form of PROXY.

Pro·ker. *dial.* [f. PROKE *v.*[1] + -ER[1]; or alteration of *poker* after *proke*.] = POKER *sb.*[1] 1.

1797-1802 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Lady of Wreck* I. ii, Before the antique Hall's turf fire Was stretch'd the Porter ..his proker in his hand. [*note*] *Hibernicè* proker, *Anglicè* poker. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Old Woman in Grey*, The 'prokers' are not half so hot, or so long, By an inch or two, either in handle or prong.

Proker, obs. f. PROCURE. **Prokeratour, Proketowre,** obs. ff. PROCURATOR, PROCTOR. **Proket:** see PRICKET.

Pro·king, *vbl. sb.* Now only *dial.* [f. PROKE *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PROKE; poking, thrusting; sniggling for eels; *fig.* instigation. Also *attrib.* as *proking spit* (in quot. humorously applied to a rapier), *proking stick*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 Heo dude one swuche sunne iðet ilke niht, þuruh his prokiunge. *Ibid.* 294 þet beoð þe erest prokunges þet sturieð þe wingeardes. 1597-8 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. iv. 57 With a broad Scot, or proking spit of Spayne. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 104/1 *Proking*, is a kind of Fishing for Eels in their holes. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 246 A sniggling or proking stick [for eels].

†Prokke, *v. Obs. rare.* [Apparently a form of PROG *v.*[1], but perh. an adaptation of rare L. *procāre* to ask, demand. Cf. PROKE *v.*[2]]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Prokkyn, or styfly askyn, *procor, procito*.

Prokosmial: see PRO-[2] 1.

Prokyrment, obs. form of PROCUREMENT.

Prola·bial, *a.* [f. next: cf. LABIAL.] Of or pertaining to the prolabium.

1890 *Lancet* 25 Jan. 182/2 The left side of the lip was deemed the more suitable for supplying the prolabial flap.

‖ Prolabium (prōlē·biŏm). Pl. **prolabia.** *Anat.* [med.L. *prōlabium*, f. L. *prō*, PRO-[1] + LABIUM.] The prominent or outer part of a lip.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prolabia*, the outmost prominent parts of the Lips. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Lips*, The lips..the fore and protuberant parts of which are red, and called *prolabia*. 1786 J. HUNTER *Venereal Dis.* IV. i. (1810) 316, I have seen a chancre on the prolabium as broad as a sixpence, caught the person did not know how. 1843 J. G. WILKINSON *Swedenborg's Anim. Kingd.* I. i. 39 Licking the fauces, gums, and prolabia.

Prolapse (prolæ·ps), *sb.*[1] [ad. late L. *prōlapsus*: see PROLAPSUS.]

†**1.** Gliding forward or onward; lapse, passage (of time). *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 36 b, By long prolapse of time..the Empyre..was brought vnder the dominion of the Geneuoises.

2. *Path.* = PROLAPSUS.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 112 A prolapse of the anus. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 40 They [the ulcers] frequently perforate the cornea, and cause extensive prolapse of the iris. *Ibid.* 154 If the wound in the lens is complicated with injury to, or prolapse of the iris.

Prolapse, *sb.*[2] *Obs. nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *prōlaps-us*, pa. pple. of *prōlābī*: see PROLAPSUS; after RELAPSE *sb.*[2]] One who has lapsed or slipped into error (in religious faith or practice).

1563 FOXE *A. & M.* [282/2 Eugenius was pronounced both an heretick & relaps. *Ibid.* 283/1 Panormitane..disputed ..he can not be perswaded that Eugenius can be called a relaps, for so muche as he neyther in the firste, neyther yet in the seconde dissolution did violate hys faythe]. *Ibid.* 283/2 This oration..this effecte it wrought, that afterwarde this worde relapse was taken out of the conclusiones and in stede therof this word *prolapse* put in.

Prolapse (prolæ·ps), *v. Path.* [f. L. *prōlaps-*, ppl. stem of *prōlābī*: see PROLAPSUS.] *intr.* To slip forward or down out of place.

1736 AMYAND in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 333 The Increase of the Tumour had been checked, and the Reduction of the Parts prolapsed thereby, rendered impracticable. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 4 In one or two..cases the iris was disposed to prolapse. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 752 Often the bowel prolapses.

Hence **Prola·psed** *ppl. a.*, that has slipped down.

1738 AMYAND in *Phil. Trans.* XL. 364 It wraps up and incloses the Gut prolapsed. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 463 To give tone when applied to prolapsed parts.

†**Prola·psion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōlapsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōlābī*: see next.]

1. A slipping or falling away into sin or error.

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 224 Neither by his prolapsion into any sinne, his doctrine shuld be scandalized. 1627 SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 229 Particular fals we are not exempted from..yet from prolapsion, whole falling away. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vii. 27 From intercision, prolapsion, from utter and irrecoverable falling away, they are freed.

2. *Path.* = PROLAPSUS. *rare.*

1775 in ASH. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 583/1 *Prolapsus*, in surgery, a prolapsion or falling out of any part of the body from its natural situation. 1828 in WEBSTER; and in later Dicts.

‖ **Prolapsus** (prolæ·psŭs). *Path.* [late L. *prōlaps-us* sb., f. ppl. stem of L. *prōlābi*, *prōlaps-*, to slip forward or down: see PRO-[1] and LAPSE *sb.*] A slipping forward or down of a part or organ, esp. of a part of the viscera, from its normal position into a cavity or through an opening; *spec.* that of the uterus or of the rectum.

Prolapsus of the iris, the protrusion of the iris through an ulcer or wound of the cornea.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prolapsus Uteri.* 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Prolapsus oculi..Prolapsus uvulæ.*] 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 409 One of the most common diseases of the vagina is its inversion, or prolapsus. 1857 BULLOCK *Cazeaux' Midwif.* 317 Either a simple descent, or an incomplete or complete prolapsus may occur. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 574 Where the iris is on the stretch from prolapsus. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 513 Sometimes..associated with piles and prolapsus.

†**Prolata·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action from L. *prōlāt-āre* to lengthen, extend, enlarge; to defer, delay; freq. of *prōferre* (see next), or ?f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *lātus* broad: cf. *prōlongāre, prolongation.*]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prolatation* (*prolatatio*), a delaying, an enlarging, a deferring or prolonging. 1658-78 in PHILLIPS.

Prolate (prō·u·le·it), *a.* [ad. L. *prōlāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōferre* to bring forward, produce, prolong, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *ferre* to carry.]

1. *Geom.* Lengthened in the direction of the polar diameter: said of a spheroid formed by the revolution of an ellipse about its longer axis. Cf. OBLATE *a.* *Prolate cycloid*: see CYCLOID I.

1694 HALLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 121 His Compression of a Shell of Earth into a prolate Spheroide. 1753 SHORT *ibid.* XLVIII. 12 It will degenerate into the prolate spheroid, whose poles are *A* and *B*. 1830 KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* ix. 111 The elliptical solid, which is called a prolate spheroid. 1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 7 Drawn out at the poles, like an egg with two small ends, which is called a prolate spheroid.

2. Extended or extending in width; *fig.* widely spread.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* iv. (1848) 75 By the prolate mode of growth, the polyps gradually extend outward, and new buds open, from time to time, a short distance from the edge. 1882 R. G. WILBERFORCE *Bp. Wilberforce* III. i. 3 That we had no means of repressing prolate heresy.

Hence **Pro·lately** *adv.*, **Pro·lateness.**

1767 WITCHELL in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 38 The prolateness of his figure. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 373 Some [eggs] are ellipsoidal, or prolately spheroidal, having both ends of the same size and shape.

†**Prola·te,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōlāt-āre*: see PROLATATION.] *trans.* To 'bring out', utter, pronounce; *esp.* to lengthen out in utterance.

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. to Darel* 63 [A] bare commanding word, prolated and vttered abroad in the ayre with a vanishing sound. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* III. i, *Peck*...I wish he may be foundred. *Fly.* Foun-der-ed. Prolate it right. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 12 The other delights in long breathed accents, which he prolates with such pauses, that before he be at a period of his sentence, one may reach a second thought. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* 261 For the sake of what was deemed solemnity, every note was prolated in one uniform mode of Intonation. 1808 J. MOSER *Don Quix. in Barcelona* I. iv, Many people..prolate words which create no admiration at all.

Prolation (prolē·ʃən). [ad. L. *prōlātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōlāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōferre*: see PROLATE *a.*]

†**1.** The bringing forth of words; utterance. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 256 Thurghout the Trompe into his Ere Fro hevene as thogh a vois it were, To soune of such prolacioun. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* (1892) 65 At the prolacion and repeticion of this cantycle, that tribulacion ceassed. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 317 One [accent] seruing for the accenting and prolation of the word. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. iv. Wks. (1692) 676, S..softly hisseth against the teeth in the prolation. 1660 J. LLOYD *Prim. Episc.* 66 The prolation of the words of benediction. *a* 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1890) III. 74 The greatest elegance of the finest voices is the prolation of a clear plain sound.

2. In mediæval music, A term used to indicate the relative duration or time-value of the minim to the semibreve in the rhythm of a piece; see quot. 1597, and cf. MOOD *sb.*[2] 3 a, TIME.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 90 Which [gamut] techeth the prolacion Of note and the condicion. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Treat. betw. Trouth & Inform.* (R.), His alterations and prolacions must be pricked treuly. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 12 What is Prolation?..It is the measuring of Semibriefes by Minoms, and is either more or lesse. The more prolation is, when the Semibrief contayneth three Minoms, his Signes be these ⊙ ☾. The lesse prolation is when the Semibriefe contayneth but two Minoms: The Signe..is the absence of the pricke thus ○ ☾. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. v. 540 The time of the musical characters from the want of bars and the use of ligatures and prolation is sometimes difficult to ascertain. 1882 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 459 The Thesis and Arsis of the Lesser Prolation, they say, represent the beats of the human pulse. *Ibid.*, The Greater Prolation—or, as we should now call it, Triple Time...The Lesser Prolation—the Common Time of the modern system.

†**b.** Used vaguely: Measure, strain, melody.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. i. 30 Musice a damoisel of oure house þat syngeþ now lyȝter moedes or prolaciouns now heuyer. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 37 Singand melodius reportis of natural music in accordis of mesure of diapason prolations, tripla ande dyatesseron.

†**3.** Bringing forth, production. *Obs. rare.*

1548-77 VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 43 That it might helpe the prolation of vomites. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 6 Prolation and seedage of roots and herbs.

†**4.** *Theol.* The 'emission', origination, or procession of the Logos or divine 'Word'. *Obs.*

1692 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Writers* I. 200/2 They [first ages] take the word *Generation* in another sence than we do, giving this Name to a certain Prolation, or Emission of the Word, which they imagine was done, when God resolved to create the World. 1701 tr. *Le Clerc's Prim. Fathers* (1702) 97 One might have demanded of Tertullian, whether by this Prolation he speaks of, the Reason has existed as Light from a Torch, lighted by another Torch, exists as soon as it is lighted? 1721 EARL OF NOTTINGHAM *Answ. to Whiston* 42 We have learned, that he [Christ] proceeded out of God, and by that Prolation was begotten, and therefore was said to be the Son of God.

†**5.** Advancement, progress, growth. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XIX. v. (1620) 19 How should our Celestiall City haue euer come to originall, to prolation or to perfection, but that the Saints liue all in sociable vnion?

†**6.** A deferring, putting off, delay. (Latinism.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prolation* (*prolatio*),..a delaying. 1736 AINSWORTH, Prolation, or prolonging, *Prolatio*. 1755 in JOHNSON.

Prolative (prolē·tiv), *a.* [ad. late L. *prōlātīv-us*, f. *prōlāt-us*: see PROLATE *a.* and -IVE.]

†**1.** Characterized by being uttered or spoken. *Obs. rare*[—1].

1691 W. NICHOLLS *Answ. Naked Gospel* 93 The learned Fathers in the Church have been always careful, to distinguish between..the prolative, or enunciative word, and the essential and substantial one.

2. *Gram.* Having the function of extending or completing the predication.

1867 W. JOHNSON in Farrar *Ess. Lib. Educ.* 338 The authority which is already making 'prolative verbs' familiar in the households of many country gentlemen. 1876 KENNEDY *Publ. Sch. Lat. Gram.* (ed. 4), Index I, *Prolative Relation*,..that in which Predication is extended by an Infinitive added to Verbs, Participles, or Adjectives. 1896 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 84 The student [of Finnish] must remember the nominative, partitive..prolative, translative, essive.. and instructive. 1902 F. RITCHIE *Pract. Engl. Gram.* 117 In analyzing such sentences as..(We must *hasten*, You can *go*) the Verb with the Infinitive may be taken together as forming a sort of Complex Verb. An Infinitive so used may be called *Prolative.*

Prole, obs. form of PROWL *v.*

†**Prolecta·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. type **prōlectātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōlect-āre* to entice forth, freq. of *prolicĕre*, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 a + *lacĕre* to entice.]

1. Extraction of the juices, etc., of something.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 *Prolectation* is extraction by attenuation of subtil parts, so that by the inclination of their rarified nature, they may be altred from the more grosse parts. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 678 Prolectation of oleous liquors.

2. (See quot.) *rare*[—0].

1625 MINSHEU *Ductor* (ed. 2), *Prolectation*, pleasant inticement, delightsome prouocation.

Pro-leg (prō·u·leg). *Entom.* [f. PRO-[1] 4 b + LEG.] One of the fleshy abdominal limbs or tubercles of the larvæ of some insects, e.g. of caterpillars; distinct from the true or thoracic legs.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 237 They repose, holding strongly with their prolegs the branch on which they are standing. *Ibid.* 288 Since..they are temporary,..merely used as props to hinder its long body..from trailing on the ground..I shall therefore call them prolegs (*propedes*). 1839 SELBY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 7. 202 It also possesses two fleshy tubercles or pro-legs. 1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* i. 7 Larvæ..very much like caterpillars, having 3 pairs of legs, and..abdominal pro-legs as well.

Pro-legate: see PRO-[1] 1.

‖ **Prolegomenon** (prōulĕgo·mĕnŏn). Pl. **-mena** (-ă). [a. Gr. *προλεγόμενον*, nent. of pres. pple. pass. of *προλέγειν* to say beforehand, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *λέγειν* to say.] A preliminary discourse prefixed to a literary work; esp. a learned preface or preamble; chiefly in *pl.* introductory or preliminary observations on the subject of a book.

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* I. i. (1821) 11 As a prolegomenon or preface to what we shall afterward discourse. 1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 40 Not at all impeached by any thing maintained in the Prolegomena. 1697 EVELYN *Numism.* ii. 19 His Prolegomenon to the Polyglotte Bible. 1729 POPE (*title*) The Dunciad; with Notes Variorum and the Prolegomena of Scriblerus. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* To Rdr., Therefore have I chosen, in this prolegomenon, to unload my burden of thanks at thy feet. 1869 KINGSLEY *Let. to F. D. Maurice* 16 Jan., They are meant..as prolegomena to natural theology.

b. (*pl.*) Spoken preliminaries; prefatory remarks.

1892 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Wrecker* xix, He, after some ambiguous prolegomena, roundly proposed I should go shares with him.

Hence **Prolego·menal, Prolego·menary** *adjs.*, prefatory, introductory; **Prolego·menist,** one who writes prolegomena; **Prolego·menous** *a.*, (*a*) = *prolegomenary*; (*b*) given to making tedious preliminary statements; long-winded.

1897 RHYS DAVIDS in *Mind* Apr. 249 To have collected and expanded these in one *prolegomenal essay. 1846 WORCESTER, **Prolegomenary* (citing *Eclectic Rev.*). 1907 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 2/6 Mr. Parsons staggers us..by a prefatory sentence of five hundred words and a mass of prolegomenary notes. 1731 *Hist. Litteraria* II. 583 There is also an Epistle from Joan. Gratian to the *Prolegomenist. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. i, It may not be amiss in the *prolegomenous or introductory chapter, to say something of that species of writing which is called the marvellous. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 162 On the title-page ominous, And in prose prolegomenous. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* iv. 80 A wordy, prolegomenous babbler will often add three new offences in the process of excusing one.

Prolepsa·rian. *nonce-wd.* [f. next + *-arian*, as in *unitarian*, etc.] One who explains something on the theory of a prolepsis.

1694 J. SMITH *Doctr. Lord's Day* 93 The prolepsarians have a help for this: for in the room of this precept they plant Ecclesiastical Constitutions. Is not this..to pilfer from God one of his to make room for the Churches Laws?

‖ **Prolepsis** (prōle·psis, -lī·psis). Pl. **-ses** (-sīz). Also 7 **prolepsie,** 8-9 **-sy.** [L., a. Gr. *πρόληψις* a preconception; in rhet. anticipation, f. *προλαμβάνειν* to anticipate.]

1. The representation or taking of something future as already done or existing; anticipation; also, the assignment of an event, a name, etc. to a too early date; an anachronism, prochronism.

1578 TIMME *Caluine on Gen.* 264 The answer is easy to be made, if we grant that the figure *Prolepsis* is in the speech of Moses [see *Gen.* xi. 31, xii. 1]. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., Such dearth of sense, so bold prolepse's, so rackt metaphor's. *a* 1633 W. AMES *Marrow of Div.* (1642) 323 This was spoken by a prolepsis or anticipation. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* vi. 180 A cross figure in the art of Rhetoric, called Prolepsis or Anticipation; viz. when Poets and Historians call any place by a name, which was not yet known in the times they write of. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxx. (1862) 431 St. Matthew will then relate by prolepsis.. the whole of the event where he first introduces it. 1907 W. SANDAY in *Expositor* May 393 That prolepsis, or previsionand apprehension of holiness which we call faith.

b. *Path.* 'Return of a paroxysm before the usual time' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

2. *Rhet.* and *Gram.* †**a.** A figure in which a matter is stated in a brief summary manner, before being set forth in detail. *Obs.*

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 82 *Prolepsis*, where something generally first spoken, is afterwards drawne into parts, as thus, Let vs take vpon vs one selfe charge, I to direct abroad, you to order at home. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 130 Prolepsis is also a figure of Construction,..when the Congregation, or the whole doth aptly agree with the Verb, or Adjective, and then the parts of the whole are reduced

to the same Verb or Adjective, wherewith notwithstanding they agree not.

b. A figure in which objections or arguments are anticipated in order to preclude their use, answer them in advance, or prepare for them an unfavourable reception; = PROCATALEPSIS.

1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 57 This Verse is added to the former by way of prolepsis, for hauing professed his desire to see them, he saw it might be demanded why he came not. 1637 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 62 He thought it needful.., by way of *prolepsis*, to prevent whatsoever might be surmised in that kind. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxxiii, I know it will be said, continued my father (availing himself of the *Prolepsis*), that [etc.].

c. The anticipatory use of an attribute.

1850 DONALDSON *New Cratylus* III. v. § 305 (ed. 2) 484 In all three cases there is a prolepsis or tertiary predication. 1875 SCHMIDT *Shaks. Lex.* II. 1420 Prolepsis or anticipation, that is, an effect to be produced represented as already produced, by the insertion of an epithet:..'Hang his poison in the sick air'. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Prolepsis* (in rhet.), a figure by which a thing is represented as already done, though in reality it is to follow as a consequence of the action which is described.

† **3.** A pre-assumed notion, a presupposition. *Obs.*

1637 JACKSON *Serm. Matt. ii.* 17, 18, Wks. VI. 279 For the more perspicuous and facile solution of these.. doubts, I must crave leave to intersert certain prolepses or prenotions. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 2 The existence of God, and immortality of the soul; both which seem to be supposed as general Prolepses in the writings of Moses. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. iv. (1693) 133 That Nature should form real shells, without any design of covering an Animal, is.. contrary to that innate Prolepsis we have of the Prudence of Nature.

Proleptic (prole·ptik, -lī·ptik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. Gr. *προληπτικός* anticipative, f. *προλαμβάνειν*: see prec. and -IC. So F. *proleptique* (17–18th c.).]

1. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by prolepsis or anticipation; anticipative, anticipatory; *spec.* in *Med.* predictive, prognostic.

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* To Rdr. (1658) 4 Having placed therefore the heads of this Period in the Kalends of January, in that proleptick year, the first of our Christian vulgar account must be reckoned the 4714 of the Julian Period. *a* 1684 LEIGHTON *Serm.* Wks. (1868) 673 Seasonable digressions, proleptic and exegetic. 1841 TRENCH *Parables, Interpr.* (1860) 39 The proleptic mind of genius may be needful to discover the law. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 878/2 The earliest proleptic signs of Gnosticism are to be looked for in Simon Magus. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict., Proleptic*, .. pertaining to prolepsis; anticipating; prognostic. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Feb. 5 He suggests.. that this behaviour is, as grammarians say, rather proleptic (anglice, 'previous').

2. *Path.* Applied to a periodical disease, of which the paroxysm recurs each time at an earlier hour.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prolepticus*, a Disease always anticipating; so as if the Ague come to day at four of the Clock, then to morrow one hour sooner, and so on.] 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Proleptick disease.* 1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1867 in C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.*

† **3.** Of the nature of a pre-assumption; preconceived; a priori, axiomatic. *Obs.*

1666 BP. S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 36 Propositions depending upon and orderly deduced from your first Proleptick Principles. 1679 J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. iv. (1713) 103 That God had thus furnished the mind with such a stock of proleptick principles of knowledge.

4. *Gram.* Of, pertaining to, or exemplifying prolepsis: see prec. 2 c.

1866 JELF *Gr. Gram.* 113 *Proleptic Use of Attributive Adjectives.* An adjective is sometimes applied to a substantive, though the property expressed by it does not exist in the substantive till after the action of the accompanying verb is completed. In this construction the verb and adjective together generally form a pleonastic predicative notion. 1870 R. C. JEBB *Sophocles' Electra* (ed. 2) 15/1, *ἀντίρροπον* is not proleptic.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*) *Med.* Prediction or prognosis, as a department of medical science.

1843 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 82 Only widely-extended and accurate observations..can form the foundation of a science of vital proleptics. 1853 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Proleptics*, term proposed by Lacock for the science and art of prediction or prognosis.

Proleptical (prole·ptikăl, -lī·pt-), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. in various senses.

1627 W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 277 A prolepticall Apostrophe to the people orderly demeaning themselues after the Canon for labour. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 732 Our Knowledge here is..in order of nature, before them, and proleptical to them. 1857 BADEN POWELL *Chr. without Judaism* 89 Some of the best commentators have regarded the passage as proleptical, or anticipatory. 1881 *Echo* 6 May 2/3 A sufficient answer must always be proleptical,..it must anticipate every possible objection.

b. Antecedent to historical time or to record; said of a past event, etc. fixed by astronomical or other calculation, not by actual observation.

a 1646 J. GREGORY *De Æris et Epochis* Posth. (1650) 170 Historical Time is that which is deduced from the *Æra Orbis Conditi.* Proleptical is that which is fixed in the Chaos. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* i. (1839) 85 He..who should in the Egyptian temples see the description of so many eclipses of the sun and moon, could not be assured that they were all taken from real observation, when they might be as well described out of proleptical supposition. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 204 The old Egyptian chronicle, which disposes of the proleptical time of the great zodiacal period of 36,525 years,..at once establishes that series.

Prole·ptically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a proleptic manner; by prolepsis.

† **a.** See PROLEPSIS 2 a. *Obs.*

1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 88 They knew it, verse 19. which is proued proleptically, verse 20. by the particulars of this knowledge.

b. By way of anticipation; antecedently.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 292 Displaying their interrogatory part .. proleptically, with the refutative schemes of anticipation and subjection. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 733 Knowledge and Understanding, apprehend things Proleptically to their Existence. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 495 [Job] speaking proleptically, as knowing what God in a future age would do. 1867 FURNIVALL & HALES in *Percy Folio* I. 205 Sir Edward Stanley (proleptically styled Lord Mounteagle in the ballad).

Proler, obs. form of PROWLER.

‖ **Proles** (prō·u·lēz). [Lat. *prōlēs* offspring.] Progeny, offspring; in phrase *sine prole* (abbrev. *s. p.*), without offspring or issue.

1672 *Cowell's Interpr., Proles*, in English *Progeny*, is properly such as proceed from a lawful Marriage. 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Proles*, the issue of a person's body; an offspring, stock, or race. 1848–83 in WHARTON *Law Lex.* 1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Proletaire (prō·ulĭtē·ᵊr, prǫl-). Also as Fr. **prolétaire.** [a. F. *prolétaire* (proletɛ·r), 1748 in Hatz.-Darm. (Montesquieu, of ancient Romans, Rousseau in mod. sense), ad. L. *prōlētāri-us* a Roman citizen of the lowest class under the Servian constitution, one who served the state not with his property but only with his offspring; also adj. low, common; f. *prōl-ēs, -em* offspring. The derivatives imply an orig. stem *prōlēt-*.] = PROLETARIAN *sb.*; one of the PROLETARIATE: **a.** in sense 2 a; **b.** *Pol. Econ.*, in sense 2 b.

a. 1820 *Edin. Rev.* Aug. 28 A Despot is thus the natural representative of the *proletaires.* 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 222/1 The movement at Lyons was a Republican movement... It was not made by boys, or apprentices, or *proletaires.* 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc., Mad World* I. 127 It [House of Commons] is not chosen by educated men, any more than it is by proletaires.

b. 1853 F. BASTIAT *Ess. Pol. Econ.* 46 It creates and makes to clash two opposite interests—that of the capitalists and that of the *prolétaires.* 1890 G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess. in Socialism* 64 Ferdinand Lassalle said: 'Society consists of ninety-six *proletaires* and four capitalists. That is your State.' But in Lancashire there was neither capitalist nor *proletaire.* *fig.* 1876 HUXLEY *Sci. Memoirs* (1902) iv. 152 The plant is the ideal *prolétaire* of the living world, the worker who produces.

Proletairism (prō·ulĭtē·ᵊriz'm). Also **proletarism.** [f. prec. + -ISM.] The condition of proletaires; proletaires as a body; = PROLETARIANISM.

1890 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 658/1 The change from proletairism to proprietorship. 1870 W. R. GREG *Polit. Problems* 291 Which threatens..to separate the *prolétairism* of the nation from the holders of property. 1880 *19th Cent.* VII. 24 The people are sinking into a very abyss of proletarism.

† **Proleta·neous,** *a. Obs. rare*—°. [f. late L. *prōlētāne-us* (f. *prōlēs, *prōlēt-*, with ending *-āneus*: cf. *extrāneus*) + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Proletaneous*, of a poor and base condition, that has many children, and little maintenance, or that gives nothing to the Commonwealth, but onely a supply of children. 1658 in PHILLIPS. 1775 in ASH. 1847 in WEBSTER. Hence in mod. Dicts.

Proletarian (prō·ulĭtē·riăn, prǫl-), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *prōlētāri-us* a PROLETAIRE + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the lowest class of the people. † **a.** In hostile use: Vile, low, vulgar. *Obs.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 720 We that are wisely mounted higher..Like Speculators should foresee.., Portended Mischiefs farther then Low Proletarian Tithing men. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 96 Much wiser (not only than the Proletarian rabble, but than they too, who profess themselves to be the great Philosophers). *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 155 (1740) 117 To have let in the rest of the Proletarian Rout of Villains, that waited without to be employed as Witnesses.

b. Of ancient Romans: cf. PROLETARIATE 1.

1839 DE QUINCEY *Casuistry Rom. Meals* Misc. I. 250 Every citizen, if he were not a mere proletarian animal kept at the public cost, with a view to his *proles* or offspring, held himself a soldier-elect.

c. Of or pertaining to the proletariate in the modern sense.

1851 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* I. 49 The proletarian populace of the great cities. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. iii. 72 A she-costermonger, or other female of the proletarian classes. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 17 Jan. 5/3 Typically the proletarian and suffering part of the metropolis.

B. *sb.* A member of the poorest class of a community; *esp.* one who is without capital or regular employment; one of the proletariate.

1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* Ded. 1 The happinesse I enjoy by my Interest in our Nationall Rights (though a poor Proletarian). 1838–42 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. xxxvii. 486 Even the proletarians, or the poorest class of citizens.. were now called out and embodied. 1879 *Contemp. Rev.* XXXVI. 290 It is almost impossible for any but a born proletarian to understand the needs, the wants, and daily lives of the proletarian. 1898 BODLEY *France* I. II. ii. 298 Counting as proletarians politicians who utilise the blouse as a lucrative symbol.

Proleta·rianism. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The condition of a proletarian; a state of things characterized by the existence of a proletarian class; the political principles and practice of the proletarians; also *transf.* proletarians as a class, the proletariate.

1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* ii. 91 We speak of the perils of modern proletarianism, and we have cause. 1870 W. R. GREG *Polit. Problems* 326 Take the very first question..on which property and proletarianism, statesmen and democrats, are sure to take opposite sides. 1884 *American* VIII. 411 The descent of the masses into a hopeless proletarianism.

So **Proleta·rianize** *v.*, to render proletarian.

1887 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 293 The largesses pauperized and proletarianized the populace of the great city.

Proletariate, -at (prō·ulĭtē·riĕt, -ăt). [ad. mod.F. *prolétariat* (proletàrià), f. L. *prōlētāri-us* PROLETAIRE + F. *-at*, -ATE 1. Used at first with the Fr. ending, afterwards with the Eng. *-ate.*]

1. *Anc. Hist.* The lowest class of the community in ancient Rome, regarded as contributing nothing to the state but offspring. Also with reference to other ancient states.

a. 1861 J. G. SHEPPARD *Fall Rome* i. 49 In the days of Marius, its old aristocratical distinctions were abandoned in the ranks, and the proletariat admitted upon terms of equality. 1871 FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* v. 189 Athens had her slaves, Sparta her helots, Rome her proletariat.

β. 1868 'OUIDA' *Tricotrin* I. 138 Rome—with her vast proletariate and her vast armies lulled the hungry cry. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. 558 It was from this city [Corinth] and amid its abandoned proletariate that the Apostle dictated his frightful sketch of Paganism.

2. In reference to modern society.

a. Applied to the lowest class of the community. Often with *hostile* connotation.

a. 1853 *Times* 19 Nov. 8/5 We are encouraged to fling the boroughs into the hands of a poor, ignorant, and venal proletariat. 1878 *N. American Review* CXXVII. 4 A discontented proletariat beneath. 1879 H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* VII. iv. (1881) 336 To swell the ranks of the proletariat who had nothing to sell but their votes.

β. 1865 MAFFEI *Brigand Life* II. 185 [It] would produce.. the wholesome effect..of destroying that savage proletariate. 1873 L. STEPHEN *Ess. Freethinking* 113 When a Church loses its hold on the intellectual classes, it can no longer maintain its sway over the 'proletariate'. 1881 MISS LAFFAN in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 393 He had all the cant of the advanced school; never spoke of poor people save by the term 'proletariate'.

fig. 1861 L. STEPHEN tr. *Berlepsch's Alps* vi. 47 The proletariat of vegetation, the common people of the creeping grasses, the aggregate of which forms the rich pasturage.

b. *Pol. Econ.* That class of the community which is dependent on daily labour for subsistence, and has no reserve or capital; the indigent wage-earners; sometimes extended to include all wage-earners; working men, the labouring classes.

α. 1869 *Daily News* 31 Aug., [The system] of Partnerships of Industry..may need for its development a more cultivated proletariat and a capitalist class less anxious to be rich. 1880 WOOLSEY *Communism & Soc.* iv. § 1. 127 The *proletariat*, as the agitators delighted to call the standing class of operatives: meaning by this Roman term..those who had only hands to work with and no laid-up capital. 1883 HYNDMAN *Socialism* v, The growth of the powerful capitalist class on the one hand, and of the proletariat or hand-to-mouth wage-earners on the other.

β. 1858 *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVI. 442 Who will make up his 'proletariate', or, in unambitious English, 'labouring classes'. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 16 Feb. 150/2 That it is directed against the liberty of the proletariate.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1867 G. LUSHINGTON in *Quest. Reformed Parl.* 42 Imagine an employer of labour..placed in the dock before a Proletariat Magistrate. 1868 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 298 The French Revolution, by destroying the aristocratic character of the clergy, gave birth to a caste of proletariat priests. 1889 *Academy* 29 June 441/1 Efforts of philanthropy at the improvement of the proletariate classes.

Hence **Proleta·riatism,** the principles and aims of a proletariate; cf. PROLETARIANISM.

1879 BARING-GOULD *Germany* II. 289 The future battle between property and proletariatism.

† **Proleta·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. L. *prōlētāri-us* a PROLETAIRE + -OUS.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the proletariate; vulgar: see quot.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s. v., A Proletarious Speech (*proletarius sermo*) the common and vulgar speech, complement or words of course; As when one says to his friend; *Pardon my boldness*, and the other answers, *You are not so bold as welcome*, or the like.

Proletary (prō·u·l-, prǫ·lĭ·tări), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōlētāri-us* a PROLETAIRE.]

A. *adj.* = PROLETARIAN *a.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 138 He should gaine a number of proletairie subjects to multiplie and beget issue. 1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* Wks. (1700) 184 The sixth [class] being Proletary, that is..such as thro their poverty contributed nothing to the Commonwealth but Children. 1854 J. MARTINEAU *Prospective Rev.* Ess. 1891 II. 313 The increase of a proletary class. 1884 LOWELL *Democr.* (1887) 7 The change from an agricultural to a proletary population.

B. *sb.* = PROLETABIAN *sb.*

Used in 16th and early 17th c. Reintroduced in 19th as substitute for *proletaire.*

1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xix. 37 The Assyrians and Babilonians boughte their wiues.., but after vsed mariages, regarding therewith their Prolataries, as the Spartanes didde them that begatte their men children. 1610 HEALEY tr. *Vives' St. Aug. Citie of God* 125 A Proletary or Brood-man..reserued onely to beget children. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. (1676) 19/2 Of 15000 proletaries slain in a battel, scarce fifteen are recorded in history.

1865 Sala *Amer. in War* II. 102 The proletaries—this word, in a military sense, is not mine, but Burton's, of the 'Anatomy'—whom Columbia has summoned or forced beneath her star-spangled standard. 1879 Geo. Eliot *Theo. Such* ix. 171 The bitterness which capitalists and employers often feel to be a reasonable mood towards obstructive proletaries. 1894 *Athenæum* 22 Sept. 381/3 [Her Socialist husband] introduces fierce proletaries into her drawing-room.

†**Prole·tical**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. **prōlēt-* (see Proletaire) + -ical.] Of or pertaining to the lower orders of the community; hence, vulgar, common, popular.

1659 Howell *Lexicon, Proverbs* Pref. a v, Let the squeamish Reder take this Rule along with him, that Proverbs being Proleticall, and free familiar Countrey sayings do assume the Libertie to be sometimes in plain, down-right, and homely termes.

Prolicide (prōu·lisəid). [f. L. *prōl-ēs* offspring + -cide.] The killing of offspring; *spec.* the crime of destroying offspring either before or soon after birth. Hence **Prolici·dal** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or characterized by prolicide.

1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Prolicide*, a term which includes fœticide as well as infanticide. 1887 J. F. Keane *Three Years Wand. Life* I. i. 8 The prolicidal mania which has possessed England during the last two decades.

†**Proli·cient**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prōlicient-em*, pres. pple. of *prōlicĕre* to entice forth.] Drawing or calling forth.

a 1661 Holyday *Juvenal* (1673) 196 There are also prolicient causes of tears, as violent strokes, diseases of the head, the use of mustard, onions.

†**Proli·cit**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prōlicit-*, ppl. stem of *prōlicĕre*: see prec.] *trans.* To entice, induce, provoke.

1661 Rust *Origen* in *Phenix* (1721) I. 51 That Disposition of Body which will not prolicite the Soul to join with it.

Proliferate (prōli·fĕrēit), *v.* [Back-formation from next.]

1. *intr.* To reproduce itself by proliferation; to grow by multiplication of elementary parts.

1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 277 The enlarged and granular epithelial cells may then proliferate, and thus new elements are produced. 1884 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Fish.* 988 The materials..being supplied by the mesoblast which proliferates into the median fin-fold. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 639 The old nerve-fibres..proliferate.

b. *Zool.* To produce new individuals, esp. sexual as distinguished from nutritive zooids.

1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* § 74. 95 The proliferating persons of a colony [of polyps] present various degrees of degeneration.

2. *trans.* To produce or form by proliferation.

1885 A. E. Shipley in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XXXIX. 246 The mesoblastic plates..proliferate cells at their edge.

Hence **Proli·ferated**, **Proli·ferating** *ppl. adjs.*

1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 97 Some of the proliferating elements..having been left behind. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* 691 It was..beset with numerous nuclei, as if of proliferated elements. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 597 The great number of cells which are found wandering far and wide..are not proliferated endothelial cells.

Proliferation (prolifĕrēi·ʃən). [a. F. *prolifération*, f. *prolifère* Proliferous: see -ation.]

1. *Pathol.*, etc. The formation or development of cells by budding or division.

1867 Maudsley *Physiol. Mind* 402 This proliferation of connective tissue with destruction of the nerve elements has .. been already observed. 1869 E. A. Parkes *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 266 There is proliferation and rapid cell-growth. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 2 Dec. 6/3 The theory of the Imperial Cancer Research Committee that cancer is entirely due to the proliferation of cancer cells, and that to stop this proliferation would be to cure cancer.

b. *Zool.* The production of zooids, esp. of sexual zooids, by some hydrozoans.

1894 Prudden in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 633 Bacteria..are very sensitive in the matter of growth and proliferation to the conditions under which they are placed.

2. *Bot.* The condition or fact of being Proliferous (3 a); = Prolification 2 a.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Proliferatio*,..applied by Link to the appearance of a bud or flower upon a part of the plant which has not been accustomed to bear such: proliferation. 1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*; and in later Dicts.

Proliferative (proli·fĕrĕtiv), *a.* [f. as Proliferate + -ive.] Characterized by or tending to proliferation. (Chiefly *Path.*)

1888 *Med. News* LIII. 507 Ulceration may be attended with proliferative vegetations which may occlude the air-passages. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 609 A proliferative inflammation of the vessel-sheaths. 1905 H. D. Rolleston *Dis. Liver* 165 A well-marked example of chronic proliferative peritonitis and perihepatitis.

Proliferous (proli·fĕrəs), *a.* Also 8 **-ferose**. [f. med.L. *prōlifer* (f. L. *prōl-ēs* offspring + *-fer* bearing) + -ous.]

†1. Producing offspring; procreative; prolific.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. x. 238 That her Greatnesse was augmented by the proliferous Contagion of Don Ferdinand. 1692 O. Walker *Grk. & Rom. Hist.* 185 A Feast of such Fishes as are here expressed, Lobsters, Pulpes; such viz. as are very Proliferous and Inciters to Lust.

2. Producing many flowers; prolific. *rare.*

1682 Wheler *Journ. Greece* VI. 479 The Narcissus Flowers ..so proliferous. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* xix. (1813) 373 Lily proliferous, or many flowered. 1893 E. H. Barker *Wayfaring in Fr.* 347 Most conspicuous is the proliferous pink, with blooms unusually large and beautiful.

3. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by proliferation. a. *Bot.* Producing leaf- or flower-buds from a leaf or flower, or other part which is normally terminal; also, Producing new individuals from buds, as distinguished from reproduction by means of seeds.

1702 J. Petiver in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1262 The main difference .. is its panicle, which is here ramose or proliferose. 1759 J. Hill (*title*) The Origin and Production of Proliferous Flowers, with the Culture at large for Raising Double from Single, and Proliferous from the Double. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 60 Flowers are said to be *Proliferous*, when one Flower grows out of another. 1832 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* II. 78 These hydrophytes are in general proliferous, so that the smallest fragment of a branch can be developed into a perfect plant.

b. *Zool.* Reproducing itself or multiplying by budding; *spec.* producing sexual or generative (as opposed to nutritive) zooids.

1856 Woodward *Mollusca* III. 345 The embryos are attached in pairs to a double tube (or 'proliferous stolon') connected with the sinus to the right of the heart. 1878 Bell *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 392 We find, just as in the Ascidiæ, proliferous outgrowths, namely, the stolons. 1884 tr. *Claus' Zool.* vii. 237 The proliferous Polyps develop generative buds on their walls.

c. *Path.* Spreading by proliferation; = prec.

1874 Roosa *Dis. Ear* 268 The tinnitus is apt to be more troublesome in the proliferous than in the catarrhal form. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 757 A 'proliferous' cyst by ulceration and protrusion of its contents may give rise to a wart-like excrescence that may readily be mistaken for a large wart. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Proliferous cyst*, a cyst whose lining membrane proliferates, giving rise to intracystic growths. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 317 Proliferous intima infiltrated with cells and containing tubercle-bacilli.

Hence **Proli·ferously** *adv.*, by proliferation.

1846 Dana *Zooph.* (1848) 324 Folia thin,..sometimes lacerate and proliferously extended. 1864 H. Spencer *Princ. Biol.* § 192 Fronds originating proliferously from other fronds.

Prolific (proli·fik), *a.* Also 7 **-fique**. [ad. med.L. *prōlific-us*, f. *prōl-ēs* offspring: see -fic; or ad. F. *prolifique* (16th c. in Littré).]

1. Generating or producing offspring; generative, reproductive; fertile, not barren.

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 233 The better portion of the Prolifique Seed flowes down from the Brain and spinal Marrow. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 280 Main Ocean flow'd, not idle, but with warme Prolific humour soft'ning all her Globe. 1691 Ray *Creation* I. (1692) 6 The breed of such Mixtures [of dogs] being prolifick. 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* ix. 54 By Misfortune, the prolific Virtue was quite extinct in him. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 8 The domestic cat begins..to reproduce by the end of the first year of her life, and she is prolific to her ninth.

b. *Bot.* Producing fertile seed.

1828 Sir J. E. Smith *Eng. Flora* II. 100 Pastinaca. Parsnep. ..*Fl.* all regular, uniform, perfect, and generally prolific.

2. a. Producing much offspring or fruit; abundantly productive; fruitful. Also *fig.* of things.

1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. xxiii. 302 Covetousnesse being..so originall a crime, such a prolifick sin. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 7 To attack a nation thus prolific. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 84 The wolf is a very prolific animal. 1832 Hr. Martineau *Brooke Farm* viii, We should have no idea how prolific the soil might be made. *a* 1850 Calhoun *Wks.* (1874) III. 393 The public lands—that prolific source of corruption in the hands of the profligate. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. xxviii. 283 One of the most prolific bird-colonies of the coast. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 134 Some he made to have few young ones, while those who were their prey were very prolific.

b. Abundantly productive *of*; abounding *in*.

1693 Pepys in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 213 This age being not very prolifique of customers for such a commodity. 1795 G. Wakefield *Reply 2nd Pt. Paine* 25 Whether ancient times were prolific in such stupid beings as these. 1842 J. Wilson *Chr. North* (1857) I. 141 The heather and the clover were prolific of the honey-dew. 1869 Dunkin *Midn. Sky* 32 This constellation is very prolific in stars of the fourth and fifth magnitudes.

3. Causing abundant production; fertilizing.

1669 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. viii. 103 The Sun having such a prolific and powerful influence on al sublunaries. 1727 Swift *Modest Proposal* Wks. 1755 II. II. 62 Fish being a prolific dyet, there are more children born in roman catholick countries about nine months after Lent. 1738 Glover *Leonidas* II. 253 By Nile's prolific torrents delug'd o'er. 1858 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Pers. Poetry* Wks. (Bohn) III. 238 The prolific sun, and the sudden and rank plenty which his heat engenders.

b. Characterized by abundant production; fruitful.

1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* Pref. 5 Born in an healthful and prolifick Climate. 1850 W. Irving *Mahomet, Successors* xiii. (1853) 58 The country..was..adapted for the vigorous support and prolific increase of animal life. *Mod.* This has been a prolific year for apples.

Prolificacy (proli·fikăsi). [irreg. f. med.L. *prōlific-us* (see prec.) + -acy. The regular derivative is Prolificity.] The quality or state of being prolific; fertility, productiveness, fruitfulness.

1796 Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 754 From the natural prolificacy of the negro race. 1802 *Eng. Encycl.* VIII. 451/2 Potatoes do not degenerate in point of prolificacy. 1834 H. O'Brien *Round Towers Irel.* 399 Consider..the prolificacy of its soil. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Nov. 576/1 Defoe, with all his versatility and all his prolificacy, wrote but one *Robinson Crusoe*.

Proli·fical, *a.* ? *Obs.* [f. as Prolific + -al.]

1. = Prolific *a.* 1.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 200 Other parts..affoord vnto it prolificall vertue. 1647 Trapp *Comm. John* x. 42 Place is no prejudice to the powerful operation of the word, when by the Spirit it is made prolifical and generative. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* Pref. (1660) b ij, That you would weep so long over her ashes, till that moisture had rendred them prolifical, and you see her spring out of her Urn.

b. *Astrol.* Favourable to the production of offspring; cf. Prolific *a.* 3.

1647 Lilly *Chr. Astrol.* xvi. 89 If the ☽ and principall Significators be in Prolificall signes, and strong, there's no question but he shall [have children]. 1658 Phillips s. v., *Prolifical* signes are *Cancer*, *Scorpio*, and *Pisces*.

2. = Prolific *a.* 2.

1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 685 They are exceeding fruitful and prolifical, and therefore also in Hieroglyphicks they are made to signifie fruitfulnesse. 1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Prolifical*, fruitful, that breeds or brings forth issue apace. 1676 Towerson *Decalogue* 22 Each wound he gave it becoming strangely prolifical, and two heads starting up where there was one lopt off. 1678 E. Young *Serm. at Guildhall* 17 Feb. 18 An Evil more prolifical in us then that of Adam.

Hence **Proli·fically** *adv.*, in a prolific manner; = Prolificly. **Proli·ficalness** = Prolificness.

1755 Johnson, **Prolifically*, fruitfully, pregnantly. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Mar. 1/3 Never has the blood of the martyrs proved so prolifically the seed of the Church. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 490 They felt..the sterility in contrast with the exceeding *prolificalness of Babylonia. 1869 — *Paroch. & Cathedr. Serm.* xxvi. (1883) 365 Yet sin has a terrible, infective prolificalness, a hideous progeny.

Prolificate (proli·fikeit), *v. rare.* [f. med.L. *prōlific-āre*, or f. *prōlific-us* Prolific + -ate 3.] *trans.* To render prolific or fruitful; to fertilize.

1658 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxviii. (ed. 3) 151 The sperm of the Cock prolificates and makes the oval conception fruitful. 1855 Lynch *Lett. to Scattered* vi. 82 His gift of mercy is infinite, and through eternity renews and prolificates blessings.

Prolification (prōulifikēi·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *prōlificātiōn-em* (1451 in Du Cange), n. of action from *prōlific-āre* to Prolificate. Cf. F. *prolification* (1550 in Godef. *Compl.*).]

1. The generation or production of offspring; also, reproductive power; fecundity, fertility.

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 110 Thou makst prolificacion, And dost that children ben begete. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 594 The Wizards..making a sacrifice, gave answer that it betokened prolification, or birth of children. 1702 R. Gibson in *First Dutch War* (Navy Rec. Soc.) 46 It is confessed we want people. To help this evil..prohibit all French wines (its tartar, &c., hindering prolification). 1824 J. Gilchrist *Etym. Interpreter* 250 Specimens of the metaphoric prolification of the present literature.

†b. Offspring, progeny. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xii. 134 The off-springs of sensible creatures and prolifications descending from double originalls.

2. a. *Bot.* = Proliferation 2.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. xx. (1765) 61 In umbellate Flowers, the Prolification is by the Encrease of the Umbellulæ. 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard.* s. v., If Prolification affects the inflorescence, it consists in the formation of leaf-buds, or of an unusual number of flower-buds.

b. *Zool.* Reproduction by budding; = Proliferation 1.

1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 368 O. F. Müller, in his 'Zoologia Danica' (1788) figured a small Annelid (*Nereis prolifera*) in the act of reproducing itself by division... Quatrefages and Milne Edwards..observed prolification in Syllis and Myrianida.

Prolificity (prolifi·siti). [f. med.L. *prōlific-us* Prolific + -ity: cf. *elasticity*, *rusticity*, etc.] The quality of being prolific or fruitful.

1725 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Laurus Tinus*, Excess of Vigour is a Hinderance of Prolificity. 1808 Coleridge in *Edin. Rev.* XII. 369 The known prolificity of the Blacks under very unfavourable circumstances. 1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* Introd. 14 The foreign cells comport themselves much in the mode that cancer cells..do, exhibiting a life, a power of prolificity so active as to rapidly invade the whole economy.

Prolificly (proli·fikli), *adv.* [f. Prolific + -ly 2.] In a prolific manner.

1895 H. Callan *From Clyde to Jordan* xxii. 238 The potato would grow prolificly on the sandy soil.

Prolificness (proli·fiknĕs). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being prolific; prolificity, prolificacy. a. Capacity of bearing offspring or fruit. b. Great or abundant fruitfulness or productiveness.

1698 R. Burthogge *Soul of World* (1699) 39 As to the Prolificness of Matter, I should think but few will allow thereof. 1798 Malthus *Popul.* II. ix. (1806) II. 6 It is probable that the natural prolificness of women is nearly the same in most parts of the world. 1853 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 286 The black Tartarian [oat]..stands high for prolificness. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 6 May 5/5 The salmon rivers of England and Wales..showed remarkable prolificness last year. 1887 A. J. Balfour in *Pall Mall G.* 17 June 11/1 The newspaper reporters have shown even more than their usual prolificness of resource and fertility of imagination.

Prolified (prōu·lifəid), *a.* [In form pa. pple. of next.] In quot. = Proliferous *a.* 3 a.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 530/1 The Water-avens, *G[eum] rivale*,..is frequently found in a prolified state, that is, with a branch or a second flower in the centre of the original one.

†**Pro·lify**, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. med.L. *prōlificāre* to Prolificate.] *intr.* To produce offspring.

1605 Timme *Quersit.* II. xiv. 67 The white [of eggs].. having in [it] the prolifying power, whereof chiefly the bird is begotten. 1659 Sanderson *Wks.* (1854) V. 338 There remained in the heart of such some piece of ill-temper

unreformed, which in time prolified, and sent out great and wasting sins.

Proligerous (prŏlĭ·dʒĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. type (or mod.L.) **prōliger* (f. *prōl-ēs* offspring + *-ger* bearing) + -OUS ; cf. F. *proligère.*]

1. Bearing offspring; generative; germinative.

Proligerous disk or *layer* (Embryol.), name given by von Baer to the aggregation of cells on the outside of an ovum, formerly supposed to be germinative. *Proligerous pellicle,* the film or membrane formed on an infusion, in which the organisms found in the infusion were supposed to originate.

1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 448/2 The centre of a granular layer .. to which he [Baer] gives the name of proligerous disc or layer. *Ibid.* 449/1 A whitish opaque spot..indicating the layer of granules or proligerous disc. 1849-52 *Ibid.* IV. 1221/2 The internal vesicle is the vesicle of Purkinje, or the proligerous vesicle. 1870 *Nature* 30 June 172/2 What Burdach named the proligerous pellicle of organic solution is made up of an aggregation of monads and bacteria in a transparent jelly-like stratum.

2. *Bot.* = PROLIFEROUS *a.* 3 a.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prolix (prōu·liks, prŏli·ks), *a.* [a. F. *prolixe* (14th c. in Littré) or ad. L. *prōlix-us* extended, long, prolix, etc., app. etymologically, 'that has flowed forth', f. *prō-*, PRO-[1] + **lix-us*, pa. pple. of *liquēre* to flow, to be liquid.]

1. Of long duration, lengthy, protracted. †**a.** In general. *Obs.*

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3568 Þe obseruaunce of swiche religious, Prolix in werkyng & not compendious. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XIII. xvii, He shuns prolixer law-suits, nor does wait At thoughtful Grandies prouder gate. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xv. 367 This actual preparation is either more prolix, or more compendious. The prolix, or longer actual preparation is necessary. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 81 If the Appellant appoints a Term too prolix or none at all, the Judge may then assign a competent Term. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. xvi. § 3 If the chain of consequences be a little prolix. 1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* III. 460 While the buried bacchanal Exhales his surfeit in prolixer dreams.

b. *spec.* Of a speech or writing: Extended to great length; long; lengthy. Usually with implication of excessive length: wordy, tedious.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 325 Iustinianus..coartede the lawes of the Romanes, occupyenge allemoste..iij. c. m[l] versus, as is prolixe [L. *prolixa*] dissonaunce, within oon volume of xij. bookes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 214 What shuld I bring forth prolixe or long talkyng? 1598 DALLINGTON *Meth. Trav.* X iv, To speake thus particularly of all his seuerall humours and customes, would bee very prolixe. *a* 1651 CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 331 Prolixe prayers, hindering the preaching of the Word. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* III. 511 Should I, my friend, at large repeat..The bead-roll of her vicious tricks; My poem will be too prolix. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. vi. 237 They are intolerant of all that is prolix, circuitous, not essential to the proof of the thesis in hand.

2. Of a person: Given to or characterized by tedious lengthiness in discourse or writing; long-winded.

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 257, I should be to prolixe. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 184 If any man shall think me prolix and tedious in this place, I must for that point craue pardon. 1685 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Coffee, Tea & Choc.* 108 That I may not seem too prolix, and to trespass on the Readers patience. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 P 11 Conscious dulness has little right to be prolix. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* vii, But not to be too prolix, it will suffice to say, that we made many trips during several months. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xcviii. 1 Asks some booby rebuke, some prolix prattler a judgment?

3. Long in measurement or extent. Now *rare.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* viii. (1653) 142 Men that were lately found.., whose Ears are so prolix, that they hang down even unto the ground. 1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 187 [A] fatherly, prolixe, and reverentiall beard. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* xviii. 68 Such large and prolix Shadows might Christianity cast. 1728 SWIFT *My Lady's Lament.* 77 My fingers, prolix, Are ten crooked sticks. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 361 With wig prolix, down flowing to his waist. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 414 Long prolix beards appear..on some figures, to mark the virile or senile age.

† **Proli·x,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. prec. adj.] *intr.* (with *it*). To be prolix or tedious.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 88, I am afraid that I have transgrest both in quantity and quality,..so by encroaching on your Highness patience in prolixing it.

Prolixed: see PROLIXT.

† **Proli·xious,** *a. Obs.* Also 6 **prolixous.** [The regular form was *prolixous*, f. L. *prōlix-us* + -OUS: *prolixious* was due to some false analogy.]

1. = PROLIX *a.* 1 b, 2.

1527 R. THORNE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1582) Ciij, Your Lordship commaunded me to be large, and I take licence to be prolixouse. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyfull Newes* I. (1596) 17 To repeate it, it shall be too long and to prolixious, because it is sufficiently declared before. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise cleane Linnen* Ded., To finish my prolixious..and tedious dedication. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 389 Many singular obseruations.., the which to recite, would proue prolixious.

2. Long in extent or duration: = PROLIX 1 a, 3.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 274 Well knowne vnto them by his prolixious seawandering. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 162 Lay by all nicetie, and prolixious blushes. 1604 DRAYTON *Moses* I. 476 Who for the way the army was to pass,..Most part by water, more prolixious was Than present peril any whit commended.

Prolixity (prŏlĭ·ksĭti). Also 5-6 **-ite, -yte, -itye,** etc. [a. F. *prolixité* (13th c. in Littré), ad. late L. *prōlixitās*, f. *prōlix-us* PROLIX : see -ITY.] The state or quality of being prolix.

1. Lengthiness of spoken or written matter; length of discourse; copiousness and minuteness of detail; *esp.* tedious or tiresome lengthiness.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 1515 (1564) But flee we now prolixite beste is. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* I ix, For to eschewe prolyxyte and longe wordes. *c* 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 84 Which for avoiding of prolixity I do pretermit. 1678 R. R[USSELL] tr. *Geber* II. i. II. xv. 64 Without prolixity or tediousness of Words. 1755 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 201, I hope your Honor will..excuse the prolixity of this. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 135 The confusion, ambiguity, and verbose prolixity of the narrative.

b. Tedious slowness of action. *rare.*

1827 LYTTON *Pelham* lviii, An appetite once thrown away can never, till the cruel prolixity of the gastric agents is over, be regained.

†**2.** Of time: Long or wearisome duration. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 91 Twenty other, whiche for prolixitie of tyme I thinke necessary to be omitted. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 187 When he hath exactly sifted every one of you by experience and prolixitie of time.

3. Material length. Now *humorous.*

1543 in Sharpe *Cal. Let. Bk. D. Lond.* (1902) p. xi, [Wearing a beard] of more notable prolyxyte or length. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 56 Haire long or short,..the prolixity or brevity whereof we cannot positively determine. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 265 These chesnuts rang'd in corresponding lines;..The obsolete prolixity of shade. 1851 HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xi, The monkey..with a thick tail curling out into preposterous prolixity from beneath his tartans, took his station at the Italian's feet.

† **Proli·xively,** *adv. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. **prolixive* adj. (f. L. *prōlix-us* PROLIX : see -IVE) + -LY [2].] In a manner tending to prolixity; diffusely.

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 91 It seemes the Law intreateth more prolixively than properly.

Prolixly (see PROLIX *a.*), *adv.* [f. PROLIX *a.* + -LY [2].] In a prolix manner.

1. At great length; with many words or details; copiously; verbosely, tediously.

a 1591 H. SMITH *Wks.* (1866-7) I. 3, I go upon a theme which many have traversed before me prolixly, or cursorily, or barrenly. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 45 On these prolixly thankfull, she enlarg'd. 1739 POPE *Let.* in *Swift's Wks.* (1841) II. 817/1 You ask me the same question again which I have prolixly answered before. 1855 BROWNING *Epist. of Karshish* 285 Thy pardon for this long and tedious case,..Unduly dwelt on, prolixly set forth!

†**2.** For too long a time; to a tedious length. *Obs.*

1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* III. 210 Pursued prolixly, even the gentlest toil Is waste of health.

Prolixness (see PROLIX *a.*). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = PROLIXITY.

1664 H. MORE *Apol.* Pref., The Reason of the Prolixness thereof stands upon this threefold ground. 1730 T. BOSTON *Mem.* App. (1776) 27, I hope you will pardon the prolixness of this. 1816 J. GILCHRIST *Philos. Etym.* 65 The philologer of more rapid and intuitive perceptions, will bear with my prolixness in this part of my work.

† **Proli·xt, -xed,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [Sc. var. of *prolix* (cf. Sc. *taxt* = *tax*, *vext* = *vex*, etc.), afterwards mistaken for a pa. pple.] = PROLIX *a.* 1.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 34 All thar names to nevyn..It war prolixt and lang. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 7 It war our lang and prolixit thing to count all. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 112 His oresoun, the quhilk wes so prolixt, Wald mar my mynd and I had with it fixt. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 62 The scheiphird..endit his prolixt orison. 1585 Jas. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 20 The easiest and shortest of all his difficile and prolixed Poems.

Hence † **Proli·xitness** = PROLIXITY 1.

1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 83, I lefe, for grete prolixitnes, To tell quhat feildis thou wan in Pikkardy.

Proll, -e, Proller, obs. ff. PROWL *v.*, PROWLER.

† **Pro·locute,** *v. Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōloquī*: see next.] *intr.* To speak out.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 196/21 To Prolocute, *proloqui.*

Prolocution (prŏ·l-, prōu·lokiū·ʃən). [Partly ad. late L. *prōlocūtio* a preamble (Claudianus Mamertus, fl. 470), n. of action from *prōloquī* to speak forth, declare, here identified with *præloquī* to speak before, premise: cf. F. *prolocution* a discourse (14th c.); partly f. PRO-[1] + LOCUTION.]

1. A preliminary or introductory speech or remark. *rare.*

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 559 The causes of this commodiousnesse and conuenience are contained in the prolocution, in those friuolous and vaine speeches that are first laide downe. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxvii, 'But', said he, 'these are rather alarming prolocutions'.

†**2.** The use of ambiguous language so as to mislead. *Obs.*

1679 GAVAN in *Speeches Jesuits* 6, I do not..make use of any Equivocation, or mental Reservation, or material Prolocution, or any such like way to palliate Truth. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 174 Their shift of Prolocution, that is, to use Words of such a sound, when they do not intend such a thing by them, as one would think, they did. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 142 If he is the Author himself, which he seems flatly to deny (yet not without some mental Reservation and material Prolocutions; for his Speech bewrayeth him, and agreeth to the Galilean turn of denyal, as well as to the Speech or Stile of the Book).

3. A speaking for or on behalf of others; acting as prolocutor or spokesman. *rare.*

1826 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Romanism* II. iii. 325 Had Peter been the divinely-appointed vicar of Christ upon earth; he, no doubt, acting as the Lord's special representative, would have appointed..the new suffragan apostle,..But we do not find that this was the case...From these recorded circumstances I infer, that the prolocution of the zealous and warm-hearted Peter was rather incidental than official.

Prolocutor (prŏ·l-, prōu·lokiūtŏr, prŏlŏ·kiŭtəɹ). Also 6-7 **-our**; 6 **-qut-**, 6-7 **-quut-**. [a. L. *prōlocūtor* pleader, advocate, agent-n. f. *prōloquī* to speak out; so F. *prolocuteur* (*c* 1500). In med.L. the word appears to interchange with *prælocutor* (see Du Cange), and the sense seems to hover between 'one that speaks *for*', and 'one that speaks *before* or *in precedence of* others'. Cf. the function of the 'Speaker' in the House of Commons.]

One who speaks for another or others; a spokesman. **a.** In general. Now *rare.*

[*a* 1259 MATT. PARIS *Chron.* an. 1254 (Rolls) V. 423 Congregatis universis, prolocutor domini regis et nuntius exorsus loqui, ait, etc.] *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 475 The prolocutor as for that mater was syr Thomas Percy. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 165/1 Bishop Cedda was appointed Prolocutor for both parties in that Parliament. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. (1839) 412 The name of prophet signifieth in Scripture, sometimes prolocutor; that is, he that speaketh from God to man, or from man to God. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* xi, Olivia undertook to be our prolocutor. 1807 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* I. III. viii. 440 Margaret, who was the principal prolocutor, could only speak Saxon. 1899 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 6/3 Sir William Harcourt had called Mr. Russell the Prolocutor of the Catholic Revival.

†**b.** *Sc.* A legal spokesman in a court of law: = ADVOCATE 1. *Obs.*

1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 167 Maister David Makgill, prolocutour for the saidis merchandis procuratouris, protestit for coistis..expenssis, and interes. 1564 *Act Sederunt* 15 June (1790) 7 The said Lords hes declarit the sam to all the prolocutors at the bar. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xx. § 2 (1699) 230 Advocats with us in Criminals are called Proloquutors. 1785 ARNOT *Trials* (1812) 12 The indictment being read, the prisoner..declared that trusting to his innocence he desired no prolocutor.

c. The chairman of the Lower House of Convocation of either province of the Church of England; he is spokesman of that body in the Upper House.

[1553 ARCHD. WIMSLEY in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. I. iv. 43 The Reverend Fathers..had..enjoined them to..conclude upon the Choise of a Referendary, which they commonly called a Prolocutor.] 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 428 b, Doctor Weston, that was proloqutour, demeaned himselfe disorderly. 1670 WALTON *Lives* I. 47 The next Parliament..he was chosen Prolocutor to the Convocation. 1761 *Chron. in Ann. Reg.* 175/2 The convocation of the province of Canterbury met at St. Paul's cathedral, and..afterwards chose a prolocutor. 1852 S. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. iv. 140 There can..be no question as to the right of the Lower House to elect, or of the Upper to refuse to confirm the election of a Prolocutor. 1894 in *Times* 5 Feb. 14/3 That the Prolocutor be requested to convey the foregoing report and resolutions to the Upper House.

d. The presiding officer of an assembly; a chairman, 'speaker'.

1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 47 He [the holder of the Great Seal] is a great Personage, a Counsellor of the Estate, and Prolocutor or Mouth of the higher House of Parliament. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 1099 Synods are mystical Bear-gardens,..For Prolocutor, Scribe, and Bearward, Do differ only in a mere word. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. i. 68 Two of the elders were the moderators, or prolocutors of the assembly. 1836 H. ROGERS *J. Howe* ii. (1863) 27 Mr. Charles Herle was chosen..Prolocutor of the Westminster Assembly. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xx. 453 That an organised assembly like that of the commons could ever have dispensed with a recognised prolocutor or foreman.

Hence **Prolocutorship,** the office of prolocutor.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Prolocutorship*, the office, etc., of a Speaker, or Chairman of a Synod or Convocation. 1861 JOWETT in *Life & Lett.* (1897) I. xi. 355, I hear that you are thinking of giving up the Prolocutorship. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Apr. 10/2 The talk as to the possibility of the Dean of York resigning the Prolocutorship [of the Convocation of the Province of York] was renewed.

† **Prolo·cutory.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. med.L. *prōlocūtōri-us* adj., f. L. *prōlocūtor*: see prec. and -ORY [1].] A prologue, preface; an introduction.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 144 The prolocutorye in to Marye Mawdelen lyf.

Prolocutress (see PROLOCUTOR). *rare*[−1]. [f. PROLOCUTOR : see -ESS.] = next.

1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 100/2 They voted..that—Miss Patty Pos shou'd take the Chair, and be the Prolocutress of this House.

† **Prolocutrix** (see PROLOCUTOR). *Obs.* [a. L. *prōlocūtrix*, fem. of *prōlocūtor.*] A female prolocutor; a spokeswoman.

1613-18 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 141 Lady Countesse, hath the Lords made you a charter, and sent you (for that you are an eloquent speaker) to be their aduocate and prolocutrix? 1660 HOWELL *Parly Beasts* 33 A furious clash fell betwixt them who should be the Prolocutrix.

Prologist (prŏ·lŏdʒist, prōu·l-). *rare.* [f. next: see -IST.] The writer or speaker of a prologue.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Drama* 5 The following Play..The Prologist and Epilogist represent the whole Course of Literature. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas, I,* I. xii. 326 Such a prologist as Sir Dudley seemed scarcely to threaten.

Prologize (prǫ'lŏdʒəiz, prōu'l-), *v.* See also PROLOGUIZE. [ad. Gr. *προλογίζειν* to speak the prologue: see PROLOGUE *sb.* and -IZE.]

intr. To compose or speak a prologue.

1608 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in One* Induct., Prologues are Huishers bare before the wise; Why may not then an Huisher Prologize? *a* 1674 MILTON *Wks.* (1738) I. p. xliii, There may prologize the Spirit of Philip, Herod's Brother. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 782 His Lordship might as dramatically..have brought forward a god or devil to prologize as of old. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 166 Any who could speak A chorus to the end, or prologize, Roll out a rhesis,..had prompt reward.

b. *trans.* To preface with a prologue; to epitomize in a prologue.

1779 *Coll. Eng. Prologues & Epil.* I. p. iii, Making every actor prologize the part he is to perform, 'I am to do, so and so'.

Hence **Pro'logizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pro'logizer.**

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 783 In the old dramatists of Greece, prologizing..formed..an integral portion of the structure of the piece. 1832 *Examiner* 149/1 The Westminster prologizer has been led into his error by the spirit and pure idiom of the English translation.

Prologue (prǫ'lǫg, prōu'lǫg), *sb.* Forms: 4–6 **prolog, -loug, -louge, 6 -logge, 5- prologue.** β. 4-6 **prologe.** [ME. *prolog*, a. F. *prologue* (*c* 1215 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prolog-us*, a. Gr. *πρόλογος* the prologue of a play, also its speaker, f. *πρό*, PRO- [2] + *λόγος* speech. The β-form (*prolo'ge* in Chaucer and Gower) represents the OF. by-form *prolo'ge* (12th c. in Littré).]

1. The preface or introduction to a discourse or performance; a preliminary discourse, proem, preface, preamble; *esp.* a discourse or poem spoken as the introduction to a dramatic performance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 265 Now o þis proloug [*v.rr.* prologue, prolog, prologe] wil we blin In crist nam our bok be-gin. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 865 (893) This shorte and pleyne þeffect of my message..For 3e..May to no longe prologe as now entende. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* Prol., Jerom in his twei prologis on Matheu seith pleynli thus. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 5 Whan the prologe is so despended This bok schal afterward ben ended. 1426 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 133 Here endith the prolog, and begynneth the translacioun. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* i, Here begyneth the preface or prologue of the fyrste book. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 47 As he bosteth himself..in his prologe. 1573 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 200 Bayes for the prologges & properties. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 913/2 The hauing and reading of the new testament in English translated by Tindall,..forbidden..that therein were prologs and prefaces sounding to heresie. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 305 Their shallow showes, and Prologue vildely pen'd. *a* 1679 HOBBES *Rhet.* III. xiii. (1681) 120 In other kinds it [the Proem] resembles the Prologue of a Play. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 277 How Prologues into Prefaces decay, And these to Notes are fritter'd quite away. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, I'll undertake to read you the whole from beginning to end, with the Prologue and Epilogue. 1861 CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 293 The general Prologue [of the Canterbury Tales] is a gallery of pictures almost unmatched for their air of life and truthfulness.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* An introductory or preliminary act, proceeding, or event.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, III. i. 151 My death..is made the Prologue to their Play: For thousands more..Will not conclude their plotted Tragedie. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xviii. 70 God hath provided for us certain prologues of judgement and keeps us waking with alarms. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xli. (1820) 207 Accept of this address..as a prologue to more important scenes. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. ix. 307 The second childhood of the aged may be the prologue to a second youth.

2. One who speaks or recites the prologue to a play on the stage.

1579 J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* F j, She is dressing her Prologue to send him in, trust him not. 1599 [see 3]. 1606 *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 45 A spruse companion..who ..as if he had bin a prologue to a play, with a wink and simper thus begins. 1761 [see PROLOGUIZE]. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* xxxix. 169 The Prologue [of China] resembles that uncouth one of Greece, that is, he tells you who he is, and what is his Errand.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prologue-speaker, -writer*; *prologue-like* adv.

1560 INGELEND *Disob. Child* A ij b, Here the Prologue speaker goeth out. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, Enter Prologue, ..Admit me Chorus to this Historie; Who Prologue-like, your humble patience pray, Gently to beare, kindly to iudge our Play. 1713 POPE *Let. to Sir W. Trumbull* 30 Apr., This was the Case too of the Prologue-writer. 1762 GARRICK *Prol. Colman's Musical Lady*, We'll tie our prologuemonger's hands. 1898 S. EVANS *Holy Graal* 183 The Prologue-writer called himself Crestien.

Pro'logue, *v.* [f. prec. sb.: cf. obs. F. *prologu(i)er* (*c* 1400 in Godef.). Formerly (prolǫ'g).]

1. *trans.* To introduce or furnish with a prologue.

1701 DE FOE *True-born Eng.* II. 155 His first discourses generally appear, Prologu'd with his own wondrous Character. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* Prol., Our authors have, in most their late essays, Prologued their own, by damning other plays. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Dec. 705/1 Mr. Austin Dobson..prologues and epilogues the selection with charming verses of his own.

2. *fig.* To introduce, preface.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 95 Thus he his speciall nothing euer prologues. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meroz* 9 How were our Miseries..Prologu'd with a Noise of Arbitrary Government in the Case of Ship-Money? 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. Wks. 1799 I. 202 A smart house, prefaced with white rails, and prologued by a red door, with a brass knocker.

†3. To spend (time) in introductory remarks.

1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 119, I esteem the time to be almost lost or mispent which is prologued out in preambles.

Prologuer (prǫ'lōgəi, prōu'l-). Also 6 **prologer.** [f. prec. sb. or vb. + -ER [1].] The speaker of a prologue at a dramatic performance.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 80/15 A Prologer, *prologus.* 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 5/2 In 1900 he filled the rôle of Prologuer in the Passion Play [Ober-Ammergau].

Pro'loguist. *rare.* [f. PROLOGUE *sb.* + -IST.] = PROLOGUIZER.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 455 He resolved..to eschew the manufacture of what his prologuist calls 'cast-iron lines'.

Prologuize (prǫ'lŏgəiz, prōu'l-), *v.* See also PROLOGIZE. [f. PROLOGUE *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To write or deliver a prologue. Hence **Pro'loguizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pro'loguizer.**

1761 LLOYD *To G. Colman* Poet. Wks. 1774 I. 119 'Till, decent sables on his back (Your prologuizers all wear black) The prologue comes. 1808 JEFFREY in Lockhart *Scott* xvi. (On Marmion), The place of the prologuizing minstrel is but ill supplied..by the epistolary dissertations which are prefixed to each book of the present poem. 1812 BYRON *Let. to Ld. Holland* 10 Sept., Prologuising is not my forte. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict. in Florence* xxxiv, How we shall prologuise, how we shall perorate. 1872 SWINBURNE *Under Microscope* 61 In vain would I try to play the part of a prologuizer before this latest rival of the Hellenic dramatists. ..He alone is fit, in Euripidean fashion, to prologuize for himself.

†**Prolo'ng,** *sb. Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. [= obs. F. *prolong* a delay (1542 in Godef.), f. *prolonger* to PROLONG.] Delay, procrastination.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 179 Bot mar prolong throuch Lammermur thai raid.

Prolong (prolǫ'ŋ), *v.* [Late ME. *prolonge*, a. OF. *prolonguer* (13th c. in Littré), variant of F. *prolonger* (*prolongier*, 1219 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. late L. *prōlongāre* (in Vulgate, etc.) to lengthen, extend (f. *prō*, PRO- [1] + *long-us* long), which gradually displaced the earlier OF. forms *porloignier* and *proloignier* to put away, defer (see PROLOYNE, PURLOIN).]

1. *trans.* To lengthen out in time; to extend in duration; to cause to continue or last longer; to continue, carry on.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 193 Iulius Cesar .. prolongede his office [L. *protelavit dignitatem suam*] by his awne autorite by v. yere foloenge. 1525 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 111 To set and prolong all and syndrie their fischings and takis, baitht to burgh and to land, now waikand and beand in thair handis. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 35 b, Pollio prolonged his lyfe certayne dayes with the evaporation of honye. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 65 To sing thy Praise, wou'd Heav'n my Breath prolong. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CIV. IV. ix, In praising God, while He prolongs My Breath, I will that Breath employ. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. CLXXVI, Now she prolong'd her visits and her talk. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 253 To prolong the interregnum till the autumn.

†2. To extend (time or a period) so as to cause delay; to protract, 'waste'. *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24070, I..abyde, and synge alway 'cras, cras', makyng many fals delayes, and prolonge forth my dayes, forto Resorten hom ageyn. *c* 1460 J. METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 64 Qwerto prolonge I the tyme? sythyn yt must nedys be That I schal dye. 1530 PALSGR. 667/2 He dothe naught els but prolonge the tyme, *il ne fait aultre chose que alonger*, or *prolonguer le temps.* 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 16 Set to the vttermost of your might, that we prolong no time.

†3. To delay, postpone, put off. *Obs.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1442 Lawly besechyng þat ȝe nat prolonge My purpos now, and maketh no delay. *a* 1547 SURREY *Æneid* IV. 420 But wherto now shold I prolong my death? 1558 BP. WATSON *Sev. Sacram.* xvi. 104 Wee saye with the wicked seruaunt, my Lord prolongeth his commynge. 1681 RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* 218 Much displeased to hear of his departure,..she..advised him to prolong it, until a time of better conveniency. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Navig.* 44 The difference of expence..cannot now be an object considerable enough to prolong so noble and useful an undertaking.

†b. To put off, defer, detain, keep waiting (a person). *Obs.*

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3126 Þe kyng requeryng no lenger hym prolonge But goodly graunt þe fyn of his emprise. 1552 T. GRESHAM in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. II. App. C. 146 That they [the Council] would have them [the king's creditors] prolonged for another year.

†c. To prorogue (parliament): see PROROGUE 2.

1485 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 48 On the satterday after our Lady day, the Parlament was prolonged unto the xxvii day of January, & then it begineth againe. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* 4 He never promoted the true end of Parlaments, but put them off, and prolonged *them.*

†d. To postpone payment of (a debt). *Obs.*

1552 T. GRESHAM in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. II. App. C. 148 He is content to prolong the 10000. *l.* due to the 20th of November for six month.

†4. *intr.* To delay, to put off. Also with *infin.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 167 He..that dothe prolong and tarye Withe fayre behestis, and from his promyse varie. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 2 He..appeased theyr furie, and prolonged day after day. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* VI. X. (1622) 137 Perceiuing that they prolonged from one day to another. 1623 LISLE *Test. Antiq., Sax. Serm. Easter day* 14 Prolong not to turne unto God, lest the time passe away through thy slow tarrying.

5. *trans.* To lengthen the pronunciation of (a word or syllable); to draw out (a sound).

c 1560 in *Anglia* XIII. 464 In yᵉ latter ende of yᵉ syllable to prolong the sounde. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xii. (Arb.) 132 Rules of shortning and prolonging a sillable. 1761 GRAY *Fatal Sisters* 60 Far and wide the notes prolong. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. XX, 'Father!' she cried; the rocks around Loved to prolong the gentle sound.

6. To extend in spatial length; to make longer, lengthen out. *rare* before 19th c.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 756 To Prolong, to drawe in length, to stretch out. 1755 JOHNSON, *Prolong*, I. To lengthen out; to continue; to draw out. 1796 [see PROLONGED]. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Prolong*,..4. To extend in space or length. 1849 LYELL *2nd Visit U. S.* (1850) II. 258 We know not how much farther north or south the motion [the rise of the land] may be prolonged under water. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 77 Up to which the fault..had prolonged itself as a crevasse.

b. To extend in scope or range. *rare.*

1880 *Geol. Surv. U. S.* in *Nature* XXI. 197/2 To authorise the work of the Survey to be prolonged into States adjoining the Territories.

c. *intr.* To lengthen out; to extend.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. cix, This page which from my reveries I feed, Until it seems prolonging without end.

†7. *trans.* To put away, remove. *refl.* To make off with oneself; to stay away, absent oneself; = PURLOIN *v.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purlongyn, or prolongyn, or put fer a-wey, *prolongo, alieno.* 1591 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 452 From his servyce nether by day nor by nyght shall absent or prolong himself.

Prolongable (prolǫ'ŋăb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being prolonged or lengthened.

a 1864 RUSH (Webster), Each syllable is a prolongable quantity. 1889 *Philos. Mag.* Ser. v. XXVII. 14 Had the rod been really indefinitely prolongable.

Prolongate (prōu'lǫŋgēit), *v. rare.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *prōlong-āre* to PROLONG: see -ATE [3]: cf. *elongate.*] *trans.* To prolong, lengthen. Hence **Pro'longated** *ppl. a.*; **Pro'longating** *ppl. a.* (in quot., † extending in length).

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* b iv b/1 An Ovale figure, rounde, and somwhat prolongatinge like an Egge. 1821 COMBE *Dr. Syntax, Wife* II. (1869) 282/2 His prolongated nose Should guard his grinning mouth from blows. 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Prolongate*, I. To extend or lengthen in space; as, to prolongate a line. 2. To extend in time. (Little used.) 1852 LD. COCKBURN *Jeffrey* I. 5 Everything is hushed as death, and every dimply smile prolongated into an expression of the most serious respect. 1868 *Ch. News* 3 June 353/2 We can but be deeply sorry for the Bishop of Capetown's prolongated trials.

Prolongation (prōu'lǫŋgē'ʃən). [a. F. *prolongation* (14th c. in Littré), ad. late L. type **prōlongātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōlong-āre* to PROLONG.] The action of prolonging.

1. Lengthening or extension in time; extension of the duration of anything.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 32 Oure cupidite constrenzeis vs to desire prolongatione of oure dais. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 175 Prolongation [of life] is no pleasure, but so long as it goes well with us. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 256 This prolongation of our cruise was a very prudent measure. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* II. 367 The escape of Apa Saheb occasioned the prolongation of military operations. 1862 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. iv. 109 The advancement of knowledge..tends to the prolongation of the average duration of human life.

†2. Extension of time that defers action; delay, putting off, postponement. *Obs.*

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiii. 85 Attones wythoute prolongacion ne taryeng. 1552 T. GRESHAM in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. II. App. C. 146, I offered them a bargain..for the prolongation of £25000 and to have taken £5000 in fustians. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 470 That they shall not require (without iust cause) any time of prolongation.

3. The lengthening or prolonging of a syllable, note, or other sound.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiii. (Arb.) 127 The licence of the Greeks and Latines, who made not their sharpe accent any necessary prolongation of their times, but vsed such sillable sometimes long sometimes short at their pleasure. 1866–79 SIBSON *Wks.* (1881) IV. 259 Prolongation of the first sound is the absence of silence and the presence of the wavering,..feeble sound during the interval between the first and second sounds. 1900 H. W. SMYTH *Grk. Melic Poets* 389 A feature of great importance, [which] points.. to an extensive use of the principle of prolongation (τονή).

4. Linear extension in space; increase of length; with *a* and *pl.* an instance of this; an addition by which the length of anything is increased.

1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* I. iii. § 4 The Lignous Body.. being nothing else but the prolongation of the Seminal Root. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 439 The old town of Damietta, anciently situated near the sea, is now by the prolongation of the land, 2 leagues from it. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* viii. (ed. 2) 123 Two remarkable processes or prolongations of the bones of the leg. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s.v., The medullary prolongation of the nerves.

b. *pl. humorous.* Trousers; 'continuations'.

1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 230 Blue, dungaree trowsers were substituted for white prolongations.

5. Extension of scope or range; continuation.

1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* v. (1852) 126 The ascending line of Christian truth was only the prolongation of that first principle of the Gospel, that Christ was perfect God and perfect man. 1907 *Athenæum* 19 Jan. 70/3 After the prolongation of similar stuff to the point of satiety, the book abruptly ends.

‖ **Prolonge** (prolōnʒ). *Milit.* [F. *prolonge*, f. *prolonger* to PROLONG.] A rope composed of three pieces joined by two open rings, and having

a hook at one end, and a toggle at the other, forming part of the equipment of a gun-carriage, and used for various purposes, esp. for moving a gun when unlimbered.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Prolonge*, a gunner's instrument. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man* (1862) 104 One prolonge between the boxes, above the washer box. 1873 L. WALLACE *Fair God* VII. xviii. 565 All recognised a signal of attack, and halted, the slave by his prolong [sic], the knight on his horse.

Prolonged (-lǫ·ŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. PROLONG *v.* + -ED[1].] Lengthened, extended (in space or time).

1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 133 The adjutant.. marks the prolonged point towards the other flank. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 471 Each century is a prolonged victory over the destroyer of all human things. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. 245 Tired of Lewis' prolonged sojourn at Rouen. 1883 H. TUTTLE in *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 814/1 The hills are neither too prolonged nor too abrupt. *Mod.* Loud and prolonged cheers followed the close of the speaker's eloquent appeal.

Prolonger (prolǫ·ŋəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER[1].] One who or that which prolongs: see the verb.

1548 ELYOT *Dict., Cunctator..*, a taryar, a deferrer, a lyngerer, a prolonger of tyme. 1574 J. JONES *Nat. Beginning Grow. Things* 41 Prolongers of life. 1655 FULLER *Waltham Abb.* (1840) 265 Those common prolongers of all suits,..the heat of men's anger, and the bellows of instruments gaining by law. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Apr. 7/1 He..would not be called the founder of a Mecklenburg dynasty in the Netherlands, but only the prolonger of the House of Orange-Nassau in the female line.

† **b.** A kind of save-all for a candle. Also *fig.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. ix. 428 Temperance is the best prolonger of the candle of life. 1656 in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* I. 70, 2 prolongers and an extinguisher. *a* 1679 R. WILD *Benefice* IV. (1689) 44 If Patents and Monopolies had had Prolongers, they had not gone out yet. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 5/2 Prolongers or saue-alls..are things made after the form of a candle sockett and are set in the stick as the sockett is.

Prolonging (prolǫ·ŋiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PROLONG: *spec.* † **a.** Putting off, delay. *Obs.* **b.** Lengthening of duration.

a. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10534 That Rud Entendement Be somownyd to appere..ageyn a certeyn day, Wythoute prolongyng or dellay. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 105 b, The lorde Regent..without any delaye or prolongyng, prouided vitaile, artillery and munitions. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Hist. Jas. I* Wks. (1711) 1 All unanimously.. determine, without longer prolongings, to work the delivery of their native prince.

b. 1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* D iij b, Prolongynge of tyme in eatynge moderately (as an howre space) to chawe and swolowe our meate well, is allowable. 1611 BIBLE *Dan.* vii. 12 Their lives were prolonged for a season [*marg.* a prolonging in life was given unto them]. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* 183 After several prolongings of their confinement.

Prolo·ngment. *rare.* [f. PROLONG *v.* + -MENT: cf. F. *prolongement* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] The fact of prolonging or condition of being prolonged; prolongation.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 178 The prolongment of a few earthly dayes. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* II. ii. § 2 To decline death, and endeavour the prolongment of his own un-eligible state. *a* 1814 *Love, Honor & Interest* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 269 The languishing prolongment of adieu. 1889 *Tablet* 7 Dec. 910 The prolongment of the actual hostilities cannot continue.

† **Proloy·ne,** *v. Obs.* Also 5 -oigne. [a. OF. *proloigner*, by-form of OF. *pour-, por-, purloigner*: see PURLOIN. In form, *proloigner* is intermediate between the popular OF. *porloigner*, and the learned or latinized *prolonger*; so in Eng. *proloyne* is between *purloin* and *prolong*; it has also senses coinciding with both, and is therefore placed separately.]

1. *trans.* To entice away, kidnap (a person); to make away with, to steal; = PURLOIN *v.* 2.

1388 WYCLIF *Bible* Prol. 7 He that proloyneth his brothir which is a fre man and sillith hym, shal be slayn. 1439 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 154 That no maister..take nor proloyne, ne schal not do take nor proloigne eny seruaunt of the seid Crafte, beyng in Couenaunt and seruice of eny other, owte of his seruice. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 169 b, Not content with filching from their maisters in disbursing of their moneie, and with proloyning from them otherwise, they will not be faithfull in matters touching their honour and credite.

2. To put far away; to put away, remove; = PURLOIN *v.* 1, PROLONG *v.* 7.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxiv. 135 (Harl. MS.) Alas! for my dwellynge place is proloyned or y-made fer.

3. To put off, postpone; = PROLONG *v.* 3.

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7941 Þe bischope na langer it proloyne. *Ibid.* 8042 Forto make mens saules sure, And noght for na pecuyne Mendyng of þair lyues proloyne.

Prolusion (prolǐū·ʒən). [ad. L. *prōlūsiōn-em* a prelude, preliminary exercise, n. of action f. *prōlūd-ĕre* to play or practise beforehand.]

1. A display introductory to a game, performance, or entertainment; a prelude, preliminary essay or attempt.

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 8 And this for our prolusion, now we meete. 1636 FEATLY *Clavis Myst.* lvii. 779 The Prophet here..useth..no prolusion after the manner of fencers. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq., Apol.* 489 That these Apparitions were ordinarily the appearing of the Son of God, and certain Prolusions to his Incarnation. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* i. 47 Its extemporaneous prolusion should flow on with that equable and easy Modulation, which, while it gratifies the Ear, should not too strongly affect the intellect. 1841 WADDINGTON *Hist. Ref.* II. xxx. 338 That, which in Germany was fierce and noisy conflict, was a mere skirmish and prolusion among the Swiss.

2. A literary production intended as a preliminary dissertation on a subject which the author intends to treat more fully; a preliminary essay or article; a slight literary production.

1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* III. vi. § 1. 212 Which Famianus Strada, in the first booke of his Academicall Prolusions, relates of Francis Suarez. 1682 EVELYN in *Pepys' Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 141 My Treatise..was intended but for a prolusion. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 115 ¶ 4 His prolusion on the stile of the most famous among the ancient Latin poets ..is one of the most entertaining, as well as the most just pieces of criticism. *Ibid.* No. 119 ad fin., The sequel of this prolusion shall be the work of another day. 1881 SALA in *Illustr. Lond. News* 15 Jan. 51 Penning a prolusion on Chinese metaphysics.

Hence **Prolu·sionize** *v. intr. nonce-wd.*, to deliver a prolusion.

1864 *Sat. Rev.* 21 May, There were too many old stagers present, who had themselves prolusionized in rectorial addresses and lectures at country institutes.

Prolusory (prolī·ū·sŏri), *a.* [ad. med.L. *prōlūsōri-us* (in Pandects, as var. reading of *per lusorius*) belonging to a prelude: see prec. and -ORY.] Of or belonging to prolusion; preliminary, introductory.

1868 *Contemp. Rev.* IX. 170 To prepare us, by its prolusory and mostly nugatory debates, for the time when we shall be engaged in council to decide immense realities. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 115 The time comes when a man should cease prolusory gymnastics.

‖ **Promachos** (prǫ·măkǫs). *Gr. Antiq.* [a. Gr. *πρόμαχος*, f. *πρό* before + *μάχ-εσθαι* to fight.] One who fights before or on behalf of another; a champion. Also *fig.*

1905 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 446 It was partly chance that made Whistler such a 'promachos' in this question.

Promammal, etc.: see PRO-[2] 1.

† **Promana·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. ? late L. *prōmān-āre* to flow or drop forth (Zeno Veron. in Quicherat) + -ATION.] A flowing forth; effluence, emanation.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 174 Concerning the promanation and intermixture of the Rays of Light.

† **Promane.** *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *prome, prosme, proisme* near, also as sb. a neighbour:—L. *proxim-us* nearest.] A neighbour.

[1292 BRITTON IV. ix. § 1 Et meynt homme par serment fet ..graunt ayde a soen prosme.] *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 8 Luue..ti prome als ti-self. *Ibid.* to þat es godis wille, þat ye foliȝ yure ordir, and luue til yure prome.

Promeis, obs. form of PROMISE.

Promena·dable, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PROMENADE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being used for promenading or walking about.

1844 E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* I. ii. 23 There are, probably, not less than five hundred acres of promenadable roof in, or, rather, on, the city.

Promenade (prǫmēnā·d, -ā·d), *sb.* Forms: 6 **purmenade, (purmenado),** 7 **pourmenade,** 7– **promenade.** [a. F. *promenade* (1557 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *promener* to lead forth, take for a walk, refl., *se promener* to take a walk, altered from OF. and 16th c. F. (still in Cotgr., 1611) *pourmenade* a walk, *pourmener* 'to walke (trans.), to stirre vp and downe':—late L. *prōmināre* (Appul.) to drive onward (a beast), f. *prō* forward, forth + *mināre* to threaten, in rustic and late L. *mināre* to drive (beasts), i.e. with cries, It. *menare*, F. *mener* to conduct, lead. See also -ADE, -ADO.

1818 TODD, *Promenade*..is a common phrase of recent times.]

1. A walk taken (usually at a leisurely pace) for exercise or amusement, or (esp.) to and fro for display, or in a formal manner as part of a social ceremony. Also applied to exercise taken in this way in a carriage, on horseback, or in a boat.

1567 FENTON *Trag. Disc.* 19 The often palewalkes & purmenades he made by the gate of hys Pallais. *Ibid.* 127 He forgat not euery day.. to make his purmenado on horsebacke in the street. 1675 H. WOOLLEY *Gentlewoman's Comp.* 34 Your Promenades or walks. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. § 31 (1740) 606 He passed, with the Sword before him, through the Crowd... This Promenade was done more than once. 1785 G. A. BELLAMY *Apology* V. 43 She only knew how to make trimmings, to sing 'Haut de Villes', and take the promenade. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 7 Mar., To see the exhibition lit up for a promenade. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. vi. 197 He had little taste for the Sunday promenades in a town.

2. A place for walking or promenading; a walk; *esp.* a paved public walk for social promenades.

1648 W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* I. xix. § 6. 364 This little intermixture of a Garden-plat or patern..may be no unpleasant walk or promenade for the unconfined portion of some solitary Prisoner. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Promenade*, see *Pourmenade. Ibid., Pourmenade* (Fr.), a Walk. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 20 The promenade is finely situated; built on the highest part of the rampart. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 377 A street..running far along the shore of the Mediterranean, from which it is separated by a promenade, finely planted, and adorned with statues, fountains, &c. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXVIII, The streets were not altogether a pleasant promenade for well-born women. 1882 ASHTON *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* XXXIV. II. 149 A very large barge with a saloon, and promenade on the top.

3. *colloq.* Short for *promenade concert*: see 4.

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 2/1 The Promenades are with us again. 1902 *Ibid.* 11 Sept. 4/1 The Promenades go on from triumph to triumph.., if the audiences might sometimes be larger, they could not possibly be more appreciative.

4. *attrib.*, as *promenade bonnet, deck, platform, terrace*; **b. promenade band,** a band that performs at a promenade concert; **promenade concert,** a concert at which the audience walk about instead of being seated.

1823 *Repos. Arts*, etc. Ser. III. I. 184 Fashionable for promenade bonnets. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* 250/1 The timber piles which carry the passengers promenade platforms. *a* 1860 ALB. SMITH *Lond. Med. Stud.* (1861) 88 Mr. Jones taking refreshment with a lamplighter and two cabmen at a promenade coffee-stand near Charing Cross. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 194 The ladies drew their chairs together on the promenade deck.

b. 1839 *Inventors Advocate* 5 Oct. 127/1 The Musard Promenade Band..will resume its performances at the Lyceum. 1839 *Mus. World* Apr. 253 The 'gentleman pensioner' of Drury with his lions and his promenade concerts. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 11/1 When promenade concerts were first introduced into England they really deserved their name. They were then given at a place called the 'Adelaide Gallery'...The promenade concert..was an importation from France; and Musard, Laurent, and Jullien were its importers.

Promena·de (see prec.), *v.* Also 6 *Sc.* **prominede** (in vbl. sb. **promineding**). [f. prec. sb.]

1. *intr.* To make a promenade; to walk about (or take exercise on horseback, or in a carriage, etc.), esp. for amusement or display; to parade.

1588 [see PROMENADING below]. 1801 SURR *Splendid Misery* I. 128 As they were thus promenading. 1801 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Lett. Solit. Wand.* II. 280 The newspapers suffer nobody to walk—they must *promenade* (which, so used, is no word in any language). 1842 TENNYSON *Amphion* v, The poplars, in long order due, With cypress promenaded, The shock-head willows two and two By rivers gallopaded. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) I. 374 Promenading gently on horseback. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iii. 57 Restlessly promenading up and down within sight of the windows. 1887 WASHBURNE *Recoll. Minister* I. i. 3 The *grandes dames*..promenaded in their gilded phaetons on the magnificent Avenue of the Champs Elysées.

b. With *it*, or with cognate (or advb.) acc.

1819 *Metropolis* II. 93 After promenading a few turns,.. I..sat down. *Ibid.* 94 A very high person was..promenading it in soft whispers with his aged Venus.

2. *trans.* To make a promenade through, to walk about (a place) in a leisurely or stately way.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, The dancers promenaded the room. 1877 MAR. M. GRANT *Sun-Maid* i, I beheld two compatriots in waterproof promenading the place.

3. In causal sense (= F. *promener*): To lead (a person, etc.) about a place, esp. in the way of display. Also *fig.* (Cf. PARADE *v.* 4.)

1850 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* II. xxii. 512 Mystic rites, ostensibly connected with..familiar deities, were promenaded from land to land. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* XXX. 10 The Easter ox that they had promenaded at Berne. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nights* I. 286 The Prefect..gave him an hundred lashes with a whip and, mounting him on a camel, promenaded him round about the city. 1890 in *Pall Mall G.* 9 Aug. 1/3, I do not wish to be interviewed...I do not want to be promenaded in the papers.

Hence **Promena·ding** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1588 in Beveridge *Culross & Tulliallan* (1885) I. iv. 126 That all myddingis..be tane off the haill gaitts and passagis ..and all other promineding places of the samyne...That ..the places of promineding be clenyit of all muck. 1815 J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* ix. (ed. 2) 100 Our countrymen..saw the promenading ladies. 1839 CHAMBERS *Tour Holland*, etc. 69/1 To afford space for promenading, there is a bridge of boats across the Lahn, leading to some beautiful woody banks opposite. 1865 *Reader* 26 Aug. 244/2 A promenading audience is not *blasé* to Rossini or Mozart.

Promena·der. [f. prec. + -ER[1].] One who promenades.

1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xlvii, 'Look there!' observed one of the promenaders. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lv. 7, I hail'd each lady promenader. 1883 LD. R. GOWER *My Remin.* I. xviii. 379 The boulevards are always densely full of promenaders.

Hence **Promena·deress,** a female promenader.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. vi. iv, White-muslin promenaderess, in green parasol.

Promeristem: see PRO-[2] 1.

† **Prome·rit,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *prōmerit-*, ppl. stem of *prōmer-ēre* (also dep. *-ērī*) to deserve, merit, also, to earn, gain, win, gain over, hence in Vulgate to earn the favour of, render favourable, propitiate. See PRO-[1] and MERIT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To win the favour of; to please, gratify, propitiate.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Heb.* xiii. 16 Beneficence and communication do not forget, for with such hostes God is promerited. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vii. (1642) 399 As if..God were promerited with such washing service. [1643 OWEN *Death of Death* Wks. 1852 X. 287 The Vulgar Latin once reads *promeretur*..and the Rheimists, to preserve the sound, have rendered it *promerit.*]

2. To merit, deserve; to win or procure by merit.

1619 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 201 The Princes of auncient

times..when they came to make petition for the Imperiall crowne, were wont by some worthy office to promerit the fauour of the Church of Rome. 1624 Bp. Hall *No Peace w. Rome* § 10 That which the satisfactions of Christ haue promerited for vs. 1659 Pearson *Creed* ii. (1839) 111 From him alone, must we expect salvation, acknowledging..there is..nothing in any other creature which can promerit or procure it to us.

3. ? To deserve well of. *rare.*

[This seems to have arisen from an erroneous analysis, connecting it with *pro merito* for or on account of merit.]

1641 Bp. Hall *Serm. Jas. iv.* 8 Rem. Wks. (1660) 87 He loves not God, no not while he [God] promerits him with his favours. 1644 — *Serm. Eph. iv.* 30 ibid. 112 A people that God had no whit promerited by his favours.

So †**Prome·rit** *sb.* [ad. L. *prōmerit-um*, prop. neut. pa. pple. of *prōmerēre*: see above], merit, desert; †**Prome·ritor** [agent-n. in L. form f. *prōmerēre*], one who merits or deserves.

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Trav.* Ded., Wks. iii. 76 If it fall out (not according to any Promerits of mine) but out of mine owne expectation of your..vnparallel'd disposition. 1675 J. Smith *Chr. Relig. Appeal* i. 34 Whatsoever mischiefs befel..their posterity, though many Ages after the decease of the Promeritors.

‖ **Promerops** (prǫ·mĕrǫps). *Ornith.* Pl. **prome·ropes** (-me·ropīz). [mod.L. (Réaumur) f. Gr. πρό before + μέροψ bee-eater.] A South African genus of birds, of uncertain affinity, including the Cape Promerops, *P. cafer*, a small bird with a long curved slender bill and a very long tail, and the Natal species, *P. gurneyi*. The name has been also applied to various other slender-billed birds of different families.

1827 *Perils & Captivity* (Constable's Misc.) 94 The humming birds, the red-birds, the paroquets, the promerops. 1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 209 The Promeropses ..are not crested, but possess a very long tail. 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 790 The *P[tilorrhis] magnifica* (Vieillot) of New Guinea—the '*Promerops*' of many writers. 1896 *Ibid.* 923 According to Mr. Layard, the habits of the Cape Promerops..are very unlike those of the ordinary *Nectariniidæ*.

Promes, -ess(e, -ette: see Promise, Promit.

Promethean (prǫmī·ṭʰĭăn), *a.* (*sb.*) Also (erron.) 6–7 **-ian**, 7 **-æan**. [f. Prometheus + **-an.**]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of, pertaining to, or resembling Prometheus, in his skill, art, or punishment.

1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. iii. 304 Womens eyes..are the Ground, the Bookes, the Achadems, From whence doth spring the true Promethean fire. 1597 Drayton *Mortimer.* F ij b, Like Promethian life-begetting flame. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* iv. xiv, These vultures in my Brest Gripe my Promethian heart both night and day. 1641 Milton *Ch. Govt.* ii. iii. Wks. 1851 III. 161 With a kind of Promethean skill to shape and fashion this outward man into the similitude of a body. 1744 Akenside *Pleas. Imag.* iii. 410 With Promethean art, Into its proper vehicle he breathes The fair conception. 1893 *Chicago Advance* 28 Sept., Forceful utterances, promethean in snatching a flame from the very heavens.

†**2.** Applied to a kind of match: see B. 2. *Obs.*

1831 [see Lucifer 3]. 1845 Darwin *Voy. Nat.* iii. (1879) 41, I carried with me some promethean matches, which I ignited by biting. 1867 Bloxam *Chem.* 160 The Promethean light was an ornamented scented paper spill, one end of which contained a small glass bulb of sulphuric acid [etc.].

3. Noting a kind of silkworm: see Prometheus 2.

B. *sb.* **1.** A person likened to Prometheus.

1857 Birch *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 43 By the Athenians, potters were called prometheans [Προμηθέες], from the Titan Prometheus, who made man out of clay.

†**2.** A contrivance used, before the introduction of phosphorus or lucifer matches, for obtaining a light readily: see quots. *Obs.*

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Prometheans*, a term applied to small glass tubes containing concentrated sulphuric acid, and surrounded with an inflammable mixture, which they ignite on being pressed, and thereby give instantaneous light. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Promethean*, a lucifer match. 1889 Tidy *Story of Tinder Box* 28 In the year 1828 'Prometheans' were invented. They consisted of a small quantity of Chlorate of Potash, and Sugar, rolled up tightly in a piece of paper. Inside the paper-roll is placed a small sealed glass-bubble containing Sulphuric Acid. On breaking the bulb the mixture fired igniting the paper-roll.

Promethe·ically, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. next + **-ic** + **-al** + **-ly** 2.] In the manner of Prometheus.

1816 T. Taylor in *Pamphleteer* VIII. 57 She is bound in body Prometheically and Titanically.

Prometheus (prǫmī·ṭʰĭŭs). [L. *Prōmētheus*, Gr. Προμηθεύς.]

1. *Gr. Myth.* Name of a demigod (son of the Titan Iapetus), who was fabled to have made man out of clay, and to have stolen fire from Olympus, and taught men the use of it and various arts, for which he was punished by Zeus by being chained to a rock in the Caucasus where his liver was preyed upon every day by a vulture. Hence used allusively.

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* ii. i. 17 Faster bound to Aarons charming eyes, Then is Prometheus ti'de to Caucasus. 1595 Peele *Anglorum Feriæ* 180 Like Prometheus' life-infusing fire. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. 205 This.. made me think of the manner of our modern Prometheus's, the mountebanks. 1819 Shelley *Prometh. Unb.* i. 445 Prometheus, the chained Titan.

2. *Entom.* **a.** Specific name of a large silkworm moth (*Attacus prometheus*, or *Telea* or *Callosamia promethea*), or its larva. **b.** Hübner's name, 1826, for a genus of Hesperian butterflies, otherwise called *Castnia*.

3. *Ornith.* An American species of warbler.

1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 302 *D[endræca] blackburniæ*...Blackburn's Warbler. Prometheus...Chin, throat, and fore breast, intense orange or flame-color.

Prominence (prǫ·minĕns), *sb.* [a. obs. F. *prominence* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōminentia* a jutting out, projection: see Prominent and **-ence.**]

1. The fact or condition of being prominent.

1611 Cotgr., *Prominence*, a prominence; a standing, iutting, or strouting, out. 1656 in Blount *Glossogr.* 1781 Cowper *Conversation* 125 His evidence, .. For want of prominence and just relief, Would hang an honest man, and save a thief. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* i. ix. 61 Hiding by its prominence everything that might exist behind it.

2. That which is prominent; a projection, protuberance.

1598 Florio, *Prominentia*, the extending or iutting of a thing out or ouer. Also a penthouse, a prominence, by which word the Anatomists vnderstand what portion soeuer doth notably surmount the parts circumiacent in thicknes. 1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Prominences*, bunchings forth, those parts that notably shew themselves above the rest, as a hill in a plain. 1865 Geikie *Scen. & Geol. Scot.* vii. 154 Descending into the hollows and mounting over the prominences of the rock.

b. *Solar prominence*, a projecting cloud of incandescent hydrogen, etc., above the chromosphere of the sun, best seen during an eclipse. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prominence-jet, -spectrum*.

1871 tr. *Schellen's Spectr. Anal.* iiii. 250 No bright lines were seen by Young at this prominence-spectrum. 1893 *Photogr. Ann.* 167 Reversals do not extend above the chromosphere, except in prominences; and he has not as yet obtained any prominence with the calcium lines unaccompanied by hydrogen, and corresponding to the white prominences observed at eclipses...Mr. Evershed obtained satisfactory prominence pictures, using the red hydrogen line. 1903 Agnes M. Clerke *Astrophysics* 118 Professor Hale's daylight photographs of prominence-spectra. *Ibid.* 125 Nebular tufts, no less than prominence-jets, are resolvable into fibres.

3. The quality or state of being conspicuous; distinction, notoriety, conspicuousness.

1828–32 Webster, *Prominence, prominency* .. conspicuousness, distinction. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 492 The prophet thereby gives prominence to the seeming contradiction. 1872 Morley *Voltaire* i. (1886) 3 Luther and Calvin..brought into splendid prominence their new ideas of moral order. 1874 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* I. xiii. 594 Its importance comes into historical prominence.

4. Any conspicuous or salient point or matter. **b.** A prominent personage (*newspaper slang*).

1827 Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 467 These are prominences seized by his whole audiences. 1855 Brewster *Newton* II. xxvii. 399 He bore down with instinctive sagacity on the prominences of his subject. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Sept. 5/2 All the prominences—aristocrats, musicians, men of letters, ..&c.—sat down to a sumptuous collation.

Hence **Pro·minence** *v.*, to bring into prominence.

1897 T. Rhondda Williams *Serm. on 'Just as I am'* 4 Jesus emphasized and prominenced in one life and death what God is ever doing.

Prominency (prǫ·minĕnsi). [ad. L. *prōminentia*: see prec. and **-ency.**]

1. = Prominence 2. Now *rare.*

1645 Evelyn *Diary* 7 Feb., A perpendicular hollow cliffe.. with now and then a craggy prominency jetting out. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 183 Cut off the prominencies that are not concentrick to the Axis. 1823 *Examiner* 29 Mar. 205/1 All obtrusive prominencies are levelled down.

2. The quality of being prominent (*lit.* or *fig.*); conspicuousness; = Prominence 1, 3.

1828–32 [see Prominence 3]. 1836 *Rand. Recoll. Ho. Lords* xi. 241 Brought before the public..with some degree of prominency. 1842 F. E. Paget *Milf. Malo*, 203 Nobody could say that he did not give sufficient prominency to every doctrine in the circle of Christian truth. 1871 Blackie *Four Phases* i. 12 The prominency of..his organs of vision.

Prominent (prǫ·minĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*). [ad. L. *prōminēns, -ēnt-em*, pres. pple. of *prōmin-ēre* to jut out; f. *prō*, Pro- 1 + **minēre*, f. root of *minæ* projecting points or pinnacles, hence threats. Cf. F. *prominent* (16th c.) and Eminent, Imminent.]

1. Jutting or standing out above or beyond the adjacent surface; projecting, protuberant.

1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* viii. 129 b, That prominent great horne of the Gote in his most strength broken of. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* 261 In the picture of Jonah..Whales are described with two prominent spouts on their heads. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 55 The Eyes of the Crab are more prominent from the Body than those of Lobsters. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. 305 *Prominent*, when the head is in the horizontal line, and forms no angle with the trunk. 1834 Mrs. Somerville *Connex. Phys. Sc.* i. (1849) 8 The prominent mass at the terrestrial equator. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* 119 An orifice with prominent tumid lips.

2. Standing out so as to strike the eye; conspicuous.

1759 Johnson *Rasselas* x, To exhibit in his portraits of Nature such prominent and striking features, as recall the original to every mind. 1883 W. Gardner in *Science Gossip* May 99 The most prominent object was a mountain on the other side of the valley, composed of three peaks.

b. *fig.* Standing out so as to strike the attention or notice; conspicuous; distinguished above others.

1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 200 Attachment to France had been prominent among the crimes imputed by the Commons to Clarendon. 1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. iii. viii. 111 God is there, accordingly self is less prominent. 1885 Clodd *Myths & Dr.* i. vi. 113 Ancestor-worship .. was the prominent feature of the old Aryan religion.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A protruding or projecting part; a prominence, an eminence. *Obs. rare.*

c 1611 Chapman *Iliad* xi. 624 A certain city shines Upon a lofty prominent. *Ibid.* xii. 291 Till highest prominents, Hill tops, low meddows, and the fields..are hid.

†**b.** A prominent person. *Obs. rare.*

1608 Chapman *Byron's Trag.* v. i. Plays 1873 II. 313 *Byr.* Where shall this weight fall? on what region Must this declining prominent pour his lode?

2. *Entom.* Collectors' name for Cuspidate moths of the genus *Notodonta*, containing many species, European and American.

1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 418 Notodonta tritopha. The great Prominent. 1832 Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & M.* 35 The Pale Prominent. 1869 E. Newman *Brit. Moths* 225–231 The Coxcomb Prominent, .. Maple Prominent, .. Scarce Prominent, .. White Prominent, .. Swallow Prominent [etc.]. *Mod.* The Marbled Browns belong to the same genus as the Prominents.

C. *Comb.*, as *prominent-eyed, -nosed*, etc.

1895 S. S. Buckman in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Jan. 372 The small-jawed, long and prominent-nosed individual. 1903 *Daily Mail* 10 Sept. 2/7 The narrow-chested, the fat, the flabby, the prominent-eyed.

Prominently (prǫ·minĕntli), *adv.* [f. prec. + **-ly** 2.] In a prominent manner or degree. **a.** Projectingly, protrudingly. *rare.* **b.** Conspicuously, eminently.

1645 Evelyn *Diary* 23 Feb., We came to Justinian's gardens,..so prominently built as threatning every moment to fall. 1794 Sullivan *View Nat.* II. 177 In Africa, how prominently they appear. 1843 Bethune *Sc. Fireside Stor.* 16 To bring the simple elegance of her form more prominently into view. 1883 E. B. Tylor in *Nature* 3 May 8/2 A consideration I wish to bring prominently forward. 1885 J. K. Jerome *On the Stage* 37 All the parts were torn and greasy, except one, which was prominently clean.

So **Pro·minentness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

Promi·nulous, *a.* [f. L. *prōminul-us* rather prominent + **-ous.**] Slightly prominent.

1819 Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 201 Prominulous eyes. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Prominulus*..applied by Haüy to a crystal having ridges upon its surface, which form a very slight prominence: prominulous.

Promisable (prǫ·misăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Promise *v.* + **-able.**] That can be promised.

1796 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 314 Should some prosperous and scarce promisable turn in the wheel of fortune transform..the shoulder into a leg.

Promi·scous, *a. rare*; now only *dial.* or *vulgar.* [f. L. *prōmisc-us* (collateral form of *prōmiscu-us* Promiscuous) + **-ous.**] = Promiscuous.

1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos., Biog.* 12 The Eastern Learning was not taught in Schools to a promiscous Audience. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., He came in quite promiscous like. (E. Kent.)

Hence †**Promi·scously** *adv.* = Promiscuously.

1635 R. Carew in *Lismore Papers* Ser. ii. (1888) III. 218 In the hall..they sitt permiscously, not obseruеing of place or qualitie. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* i. xvii. § 4 (1699) 88 That absurd custom amongst Tinkers, of living promiscously.

†**Promi·scual**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōmiscu-us* Promiscuous + **-al.**] = Promiscuous.

1604 Parsons *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng.* 98 They seeme .. to haue permitted promiscuall copulation. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* iii. xxv. (1620) 135 Yet worshipping those promiscuall gods they cannot .. cleare themselues of this question of Concord and Discord.

Hence †**Promi·scually** *adv.*, promiscuously. *Obs.*

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 135 They proceeded ..to draw great persons, Nobles, Honours and Graces promiscually vnto them. 1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 233 This he giveth promiscually to good and bad.

Promiscuity (prǫmiskiū·iti). [ad. F. *promiscuité* (1752 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. L. *prōmiscu-us* (see next) + **-ité**, **-ity.**]

1. The condition of being promiscuous; indiscriminate mixture, confusion; promiscuousness.

a 1849 Poe *Marginalia* lxxv, The God-abstractions of the modern polytheism are nearly in as sad a state of perplexity and promiscuity as were the more substantial deities of the Greeks. 1868 W. R. Greg *Lit. & Soc. Judgm.* 84 Men, women, and children huddled together in dirt, disorder, and promiscuity like that of the lower animals. 1894 *Queen* 8 Dec. 1036/2 The average Continental traveller likes a crowd, chatter, promiscuity of acquaintanceship.

2. Promiscuous sexual union, as among some races of low civilization.

1865 McLennan *Prim. Marriage* viii. 160 Promiscuity in the connexion of the sexes. 1876 H. Spencer *Princ. Sociol.* (1877) I. 672 Promiscuity may be called indefinite polyandry, joined with polygyny. 1900 A. Lang *Hist. Scot.* I. i. 5 The natives..were in stages of culture which are not usually found associated with promiscuity or polyandry.

fig. 1895 Saintsbury *Ess. Eng. Lit.* Ser. ii. 101 The adjective wedded to its proper substantive, not indulging in unseemly promiscuity.

Promiscuous (prǫmi·skiuəs), *a.* [f. L. *prōmiscu-us* mixed, indiscriminate, in Gram. epicene (f. *prō*, Pro- 1 + *miscēre* to mix) + **-ous.** Cf. late L. *prōmiscēre* to mix up.]

1. Consisting of members or elements of different kinds grouped or massed together without order;

of mixed and disorderly composition or character; also, with *pl. sb.*, of various kinds mixed together.

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* 283 About them..the promiscuous common people, doubling and redoubling the praises of the King, and Huniades. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* Democr. to Rdr. 20 Hee told him that hee saw a vast multitude and a promiscuous. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 380 While the promiscuous croud stood yet aloof. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 41 The Apostle who was to speak to such a promiscuous Assembly. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 222 The characters of nations are very promiscuous in the temperate climates. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* (1875) I. I. iii. 46 He conceived the strata to have settled down from this promiscuous mass. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press*, xx. 291 What Milverton contemptuously would call our miscellaneous and promiscuous essays.

b. Rarely of a single thing.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 99 It had an odd promiscuous Tone, As if h' had talk'd three Parts in one. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 22 Sudden I heard a wild promiscuous sound.

2. That is without discrimination or method; done or applied without respect for kind, order, number, etc.; confusedly mingled, indiscriminate.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. § 3 Axioms which are promiscuous and indifferent to several sciences. 1650 HOBBES *De Corp. Pol.* 179 To forbid the promiscuous Use of Women. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 334 The common and promiscuous lot both of good men and bad. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 144 ¶ 9 Secrets are not to be made cheap by promiscuous publication. 1772 — 31 Mar. in *Boswell*, Promiscuous hospitality is not the way to gain real influence. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* ii, The profane custom of promiscuous dancing—that is, of men and women dancing together in the same party. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. i. 28 At Metz he [Attila] involved in one promiscuous massacre priests and children.

b. Of an agent or agency: Making no distinctions; undiscriminating.

1633 E. PORTER in *Donne's Poems* 405 Why should death, with a promiscuous hand, At one rude stroke impoverish a land? 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 310/1 Promiscuous Birds..feed on Flesh, Insects, Fruit, or Grain, as the Raven. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* vi. (1765) 21 A well-discriminated landscape was..to be preferred to a distant and promiscuous azure. 1900 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* I. i. 5 People..still polyandrous or promiscuous in the relation of the sexes.

3. Of common gender; epicene. *rare.*

a 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. x, The promiscuous, or epicene, which understands both kinds. 1878 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1898) I. III. vii. 130 There were three sexes, male, female and promiscuous.

†**4.** That forms part of a promiscuous or mingled company; hence (*slang*), a term of depreciation or contempt. *Obs.*

1753 SMOLLETT *Cut. Fathom* (1813) I. 162 One may see with half an eye that he is no better than a promiscuous fellow. 1785 CRABBE *Newspaper* 233 This, like the public inn, provides a treat, Where each promiscuous guest sits down to eat. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 58 'Go back to bed, you promiscuous old bird!' 'Promiscuous' was just then a term in slang use.

5. Casual, carelessly irregular. *vulgar* or *colloq.*

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, I walked in..just to say good mornin', and went, in a permiscuous manner, up-stairs, and into the back room. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* I. 5 On the beach, where he will, in the most promiscuous and accidental manner, certainly go for a stroll.

6. quasi-*adv.* = PROMISCUOUSLY.

1671 MILTON *P. R.* III. 118 Glory he receives Promiscuous from all Nations, Jew, or Greek. 1695 ADDISON *King* 110 And Planks, and Arms, and Men promiscuous flow'd. 1747 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. ii. 99 Roast, and boil'd, when you promiscuous eat, When fowl and shell-fish in confusion meet. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 153 Old age and infancy Promiscuous perished.

b. = PROMISCUOUSLY 2. *vulgar.*

1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* xiv, Colin only kissed her now and again quite promiscuous like. 1901 A. FORBES *Odd Fish* 92 You get a barrel o' the reds, and send it aboard just permiscuous like.

Promiscuously (promi·skiu|əsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. In a promiscuous manner; without distinction, discrimination, or order; indiscriminately; at random, in confusion.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 100 These [coins] passed promiscuously as mony from one to another. 1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xvii. (1648) 124 Both which names are sometimes used promiscuously. 1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2888/2 The body of their Fleet lay promiscuously to Leeward of one another. 1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* (1778) II. v. 119 Horsemen and infantry plunged in promiscuously. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1887) 542 The dead bodies, a hundred and twenty-three in number, were flung into it promiscuously and covered up.

†b. *colloq.* Without 'standing upon the order of one's going'; unceremoniously; promptly. *Obs.*

1609 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Clubbes* 37, I bad him vanish most Promiscuously, And not Contaminate my company.

2. *colloq.* Casually, incidentally.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 153 Witness promiscuously found the bottle..amongst some rubbishing things, quite empty. 1843 MRS. ROMER *Rhone, Darro*, etc. II. 300 'Let us go to Africa!' exclaimed a friend of mine quite promiscuously (as the Cockneys have it). 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* 16 The stone was dropped promiscuously by a flying dragon, and picked up by a passing peasant.

Promi'scuousness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being promiscuous; promiscuity.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Promiscuousness*, mixedness. 1775 in ASH. 1818 in TODD; and in mod. Dicts.

Promise (prɒ·mis), *sb.* Forms: 5–6 **promis**, **-ys**, **-isse**, **-ysse**, 6 **-yse**, 7 **-iss**, 5– **promise**. *β.* 5 **promess**, 5–6 **-es**, **-esse**, 6–7 *Sc.* **-eis**. [ad. L. *prōmiss-um* a promise, sb. use of neut. pa. pple. of *prōmitt-ĕre*: see PROMIT *v.* The *β* forms represent F. *promesse* (13th c.):—med.L. *prōmissa* a promise.]

1. A declaration or assurance made to another person with respect to the future, stating that one will do, or refrain from, some specified act, or that one will give or bestow some specified thing. (Usually in good sense, implying something to the advantage or pleasure of the person concerned.)

Breach of promise: see BREACH *sb.* 3 b.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 40 No straungere cometh before him, but that he maketh him sum promys and graunt, of that the sowdan asketh. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 39 This man for trust of femynyne promysse, Wolde telle out alle. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 225 Geuyng them faire wordes, and makyng large promises. ? *a* 1550 *Knt. of Curtesy* 280 His promysse he wil not breke. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. viii. 21 These Iugling Fiends..That keepe the word of promise to our eare, And breake it to our hope. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 631 Which Boferes after with like perfidiousnes, and breach of promise, requited on three thousand Marochians. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. ix. 158 A promise is in the nature of a verbal covenant. 1785 PALEY *Mor. Philos.* III. I. v, Promises are not binding, where the performance is unlawful. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot., Promise and Offer*...An offerer is not bound until his offer is accepted. A promiser is bound as soon as the promise reaches the party to whom it is made. 1845 STEPHEN *Comm. Laws Eng.* (1874) II. 55 There is in strictness a distinction between a promise and a contract; for the latter involves the idea of mutuality which the former does not. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. I. v. 52 Becket had broken his promise to submit to the Constitutions.

β. c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1772 Whanne I þe mette, & sy þin heuynesse, Of comfort, sone, made I þe promesse. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VI. 866 A promes maid to meit Wallace but let. *Ibid.* XI. 947 The tym was past by Off the promess the quhilk at he was bund. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. iv. 238 Hys promesse and affyaunce made. 1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Promesse, *promesse*.

2. In religious use: One of the Divine assurances of future good or blessing, recorded in the Scriptures as made to particular persons on various occasions, or conceived as given to mankind through Christ; *spec.* that made to Abraham with respect to his posterity (Gen. xii. 2, etc.).

1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xviii. 211 The promes of god. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* vi. 12 Them, which thorow fayth and pacience inheret the promyses. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 3 The threitning of God maid to them that brekis his commandementis, and his promeis made to them that keipis them. 1659 T. ALLEN (*title*) A Chain of Scripture Chronology..in VII periods, viz., From the Creation to the Flood, the Flood to the Promise, the Promise to the Law, the Law to the Temple, the Temple to the Captivity.., the Captivity to the Return, the Return to the Death of Christ. 1707 WATTS *Hymn*, 'Begin, my tongue' ii, Sing the sweet promise of his grace, And the performing God. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, 'So help me the promise', ..said Isaac,..'as no such sounds ever crossed my lips!'

b. *Land of promise* (tr. τὴν γῆν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας, Heb. xi. 9): = PROMISED *land*. Also *fig.*

1535 COVERDALE *Heb.* xi. 9 By faith was he a straunger in the londe of promes [WYCL. the loond of biheest]. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. v. § 8 Not..meerly a Covenant for the Land of Promise. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xv. (1872) 131 To all these exiled sects America was the land of promise. 1865 J. H. INGRAHAM *Pillar of Fire* (1872) 570 Their land of heaven is our land of promise also.

c. *Bow of promise*, the rainbow (in allusion to Gen. ix. 12–17).

1827 SARAH E. MILES *Hymn*, '*Thou who didst stoop below*' iii, To see a Father's love Beam, like a bow of promise, through the cloud. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* viii, Thoughts that shining through To-morrow's tears shall set in our worst cloud The bow of promise.

3. *transf.* The thing promised; *contextually* (with *claim*) = the fulfilment of a promise.

1526 TINDALE 1 *John* ii. 25 This is the promes that he hath promysed vs, even eternall lyfe. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 197 He clayme that promise at your Graces hand. 1646 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 168 They hope to attaine the promise of God, that is, the thing promised. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 455 He stood once more before her face, Claiming her promise.

4. *fig.* That which affords a strong or reasonable ground of expectation of something to come, esp. of future good; a pledge, earnest, forerunner, pre-indication (*of* something); something that leads one confidently to expect (good) results.

To give (*afford*, etc.) *promise*: to afford expectation *of* something, esp. good. *Of great* (*high*, etc.) *promise*: such as leads one to expect future excellence; very promising.

c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 922 A gyrle..full of swete promyse. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 14 A yong Florentine,..He hath borne himselfe beyond the promise of his age. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* IV. 23 Fragrant Herbs (the promises of Spring). ?1700 — *Cymon & Iph.* 329 Like a fiery meteor sunk the sun, The promise of a storm. 1748 GRAY *Alliance Educ. & Govt.* 21 The vernal Promise of the Year. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1887) 55 A historical novel of high merit, and of still higher promise. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Vall.* i. 16 Remarking on the fine promise of fruit. *Mod.* This scholarship is given for promise, rather than for attainment.

†b. A mental feeling of assurance. *Obs.*

a 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* IV. iv, I have a constant promise she's my own.

5. *Comb.*, as *promise-breach*, *-breaker*, *-maker*, *-monger*; *promise-bound*(*en*, *-crammed* adjs.; *promise-breaking*, *-fulfilling*, *-keeping*, *-making*, *-performing* sbs. and adjs.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 133 b, He, whiche is a promise breaker, escapeth not alwaie free. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 10, I am quite vndone through promise-breach. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 99, I eate the Ayre promise-cramm'd, you cannot feed Capons so. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 77 He was euer precise in promise keeping. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* II. xxvi. (1640) 48 A thankfull receiving of Gods promises..proveth faith to the promise-maker. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 85 It is hard to speak of..these promise-mongers, as they deserve. 1772 FLETCHER *Logica Genev.* 160 A merciful, gracious promise-keeping God. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* II. xx, As promise-bound, I bid the trump for tourney sound. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 11 If..he had also turned dissembler and promise-breaker. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 835 Awed and promise-bounden she forbore.

Promise (prɒ·mis), *v.* Forms: see prec. [Appears early in 15th c.; f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To make promise of; to give verbal assurance of; to undertake or engage, by word or writing addressed to another person, to do or refrain from (some specified act), or to give or bestow (some specified thing): usually to the benefit or advantage of the person concerned. Often with dative (with or without *to*) of the person to whom the promise is made. **a.** with simple direct object, expressing the thing or act promised.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 227 Oon thyng suerly I will yow promyse. ? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* xiii. 6 Vnto whom I was promised, before the world began, to pay ther ransome and to become man. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* xxxii. Wks. (1876) 23 He promyseth dampnacion to them that refuseth penaunce; to them that dooth it, forgyvnes. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism*, They did promise and vowe three thinges in my name. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 237, I was promis'd them against the Feast. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. iii. Wks. 1874 I. 69 The wonderful power and prosperity promised to the Jewish nation in the Scripture. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xii. 97 She would not promise what..she could not perform. 1872 FREEMAN *Gen. Sketch* xvi. § 5. 335 All the princes promised free constitutions to their people.

b. with obj. clause, expressing the act.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 482 Ye me promysyd That my myght of noon shuld haue be dyspysyd. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lix. 515, I promyse yow that I shalle be with yow by that day, yf I be vnslayne or vnmaymed. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism*, Your Godfathers and Godmothers dyd promyse for you that ye should kepe Goddes commaundementes. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* Pref., I dare boldly promise for this Play, that in the Roughness of the Numbers..you will see somewhat more masterly..than in..any of my former Tragedies. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, I made him promise he would come to see me at my house. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 417 Him..she promised that no force, Persuasion, no, nor death could alter her.

c. with inf., expressing the act.

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 558 [The parker] hathe promessed me to make it as wel as he kane fore me. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 228 The Constable had promised to the kyng and the duke, to render vp to them the towne of sainct Quintynes. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 75 He promis'd to meete me two howres since. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 178 When..we..promise our best Friends to rhyme no more. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The Baronet promised to take charge of the lad at school.

2. *absol.* or *intr.* To make a promise; to engage to do or give something. In quot. 1869, to undertake responsibility, stand sponsor *for* another.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 26 Now haf I acomplysyd Brefly, lych as I you promysyd In the prologe. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiv. 266 Desyre hym to render to you your londes as he promysyd. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xx. 102 He that promiseth, hath no right in the thing promised. 1716 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 145, I cannot promise upon this so very soon, we having much public business. 1777 BURNS *'I dream'd I lay'* ii, Fickle fortune .. promis'd fair, and perform'd but ill. 1842 TENNYSON *Dora* 44 Dora promised, being meek. 1869 — *Pelleas & Ettarre* 15 There were those who knew him near the King And promised for him: and Arthur made him knight.

3. *spec.* (*trans.*) To engage to give (e.g. a daughter) in marriage to another; to betroth. *To be promised*, to be engaged or betrothed. *arch.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 60 The lady Mary..was promysed to kyng Charles. *a* 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 42 Haue you he will (he sayth) and haue you he must. *C. Custance.* I am promised duryng my lyfe, that is iust. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 262 Her father..will not promise her to any man, Vntill the elder sister first be wed. 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* i. 35 If she ben't marry'd, at least she's lustily promis'd.

†b. *pass.* To be engaged; to have an engagement. *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 293 *Cassi.* Will you suppe with me to Night, Caska? *Cask.* No, I am promis'd forth.

4. *To promise oneself* (something): to entertain the (pleasing) expectation of. Const. as in 1 a, b, c.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 42 Nothing were more pleasant..then Sea-voyages, if a man might promise himselfe a good wind, and a reasonable gale. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 21 There are some who promise to themselves, never to discover their secrets. 1746 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 45, I promise myself that you will proceed to some less exceptionable Method. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Each & All* iv. 53 She ran out, promising herself that she would be back in ten minutes. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xii, We ..promised ourselves that we would call around some time .., and finish the game.

5. *colloq.* With *obj. cl.* or *parenthetically*, and

with *dat.* of person: To convey assurance of some fact, to assert confidently or emphatically, to declare; almost always in phrase *I promise you* = I assure you, I tell you plainly.

a. with reference to the future, as a strong assertion of one's intention. (Nearly coinciding with 1 b, but often implying a threat of something disadvantageous or unpleasant.)

c 1440 *Generydes* 1603 Thu shalt dye to morow.., And what that euer be..That wolle for the entrete.., He shall not spede I yow promysse. 1538 Starkey *England* I. i. 25, I promys you I schal neuer pretermyt occasyon..of helpyng my cuntrey. 1777 Dibdin *Quaker* I. i, You wont get a lamb out of our fold, I promise you. 1825 Thirlwall tr. *Tieck's Pictures* 80 Well, I promise you, you shall find I do not come again.

b. in assurance of a statement as to the present. (Cf. Expect *v.* 6.) Now *arch.* or *dial.*

1469 J. Paston in *P. Lett.* II. 349 He losythe sore hys tyme her, I promyse yow. 1535 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 74 The comyssioners, I promyse you, have been very necligent. 1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 47, I do not like thy looke I promise thee. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 37 The Nights, I promise you, are very cold. 1705 Addison *Italy* (1733) 211 For, I promise, I long for it. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* XVIII. i, I promise thee it is what I have desired. 1841 F. E. Paget *Tales of Village* (1852) 466, I promise you I'm preciously tired already. 1862 Thackeray *Round. Papers, Peal of Bells*, Magnificent dandies, I promise you, some of us were.

6. *fig.* To afford ground of expectation of; to cause or lead one to expect (something good or bad); to give pre-indication of. Const. as in 1 a or c.

1594 ? Greene *Selimus* 1102 My life forepassed in Pleasure's court Promises weak resistance in the fight. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 3 The houses promise more beauty outwardly then they haue inwardly. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 125 Berry is a Village which promises much at a distance, but when there, deludes the expectation. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 4 He..promised to be stout when grown up. 1832 Ht. Martineau *Life in Wilds* V. 56 A plan..which promised fair to supply the butcher with employment. 1855 Tennyson *Maud* I. i. xvii, I play'd with the girl when a child; she promised then to be fair. 1878 H. H. Gibbs *Ombre* 25 If his own hand be such as not to promise him at least two or even three tricks. 1891 *Law Times* XC. 459/2 An atmosphere of public discussion which promises future storms.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To encourage expectation, to give tokens: usually with adv., as *fair, well.*

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 146 Oft expectation fails, and most oft there Where most it promises. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 88 The Harvest..promis'd no better then the last year. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 14 The weather promising fair. 1768 J. Byron *Narr. Patagonia* (1778) 153 He promised the fairest for holding out, being a very strong young man. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* iv, Humphrey, the second, promised well. 1887 Gissing *Thyrza* I. ii. 29 It promises for another fine day to-morrow.

Promised (prǫ·mist), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED [1].] Undertaken to be done or given; of which promise is made. *Promised land*: the land of Canaan, as promised to Abraham and his posterity (Gen. xii. 7, xiii. 15, etc.); hence allusively applied to heaven, or to any place of expected felicity.

1538 Elyot, *Sponsus*..promysed. 1545 *Ibid., Desponsus*, et *desponsa*, affianced or promised in mariage. 1667 Milton *P. L.* III. 531 Over the Promis'd Land to God so dear. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 133 The fiery Courser..Shifts Place, and paws, and hopes the promis'd Fight. 1862 Bp. C. Wordsworth *Hymn*, '*O day of rest and gladness*' iii, From thee, like Pisgah's mountain, We view our Promised Land. 1881 Lady Herbert *Edith* 140 Edith was Lord St. Aubyn's promised bride.

Promisee (prǫmisī·). Also promissee. [f. as prec. + -EE.] The person to whom a promise is made: esp. in legal use, correlative to Promisor.

1733 Swift *Advice to Freemen Dublin* Wks. 1745 VIII. 239 The persons..possessed of the sole executive power.., and hundreds of expectants, hopers, and promissees. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* III. I. v. 107 The promise is to be performed in that sense in which the promiser apprehended at the time that the promisee received it. 1846 Grote *Greece* I. xx. II. 110 The tie which binds a man to..any special promisee towards whom he has taken the engagement of an oath. 1875 Poste *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 11 The intention of the promissor must accord with that of the promissee. *Ibid.* II. Comm. 203 The payee, promisee, or creditor, is.. defined by the class term 'bearer' or 'holder'.

Promiseful (prǫ·misfŭl), *a. rare.* [f. Promise *sb.* + -ful.] a. Full of or accompanied by promises. b. Full of promise or pre-indication of good; promising.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 96 Som he wins with promisefull intreats,.. and som with rougher threats. 1883 *Chicago Advance* 25 Jan., From the Rocky Mountain Districts, never more promiseful, comes the unchanged cry. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 9 June 3/2 Our rivers are promiseful enough of sport.

Promiseless (prǫ·mislĕs), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -less.] Devoid of promise.

1882 J. A. Hewitt *Summer Songs* 3 The promiseless calm of the present Was dull with the dusk of night.

Promiser (prǫ·misəɹ). [f. Promise *v.* + -er [1]. (See also Promisor, Promissor.)] One who or that which promises; the maker or giver of a promise.

1530 Tindale *Answ. More* IV. xi. Wks. (1573) 336/2 Faith .. shall receaue according to the truth of the promiser. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* III. ii, I must be A doer, not a promiser. 1771 Mrs. Griffith *Hist. Lady Barton* II. 122 That sweet promiser Hope. 1775 Johnson *Tax. no Tyr.* 22 An idle promiser of kingdoms in the clouds. 1864 *Realm* 6 Apr. 2 We may always distrust the universal promiser.

Promising (prǫ·misiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Promise; the making of a promise or promises.

1513 Douglas *Æneis* VIII. x. 38 Lo, my reward heyr, and my promissing Fulfillit justly. 1530 Palsgr. 258/2 Promysing, trouthe plyghtynge, *fianceilles.* 1607 Shaks. *Timon* V. i. 23 Promising, is the verie Ayre o' th' Time;..Performance, is euer the duller for his acte.

Pro·mising, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That promises.

1. *lit.* That makes a promise or promises; that engages to do or give something. *rare.*

1720 Swift *Fates Clergymen* Wks. 1755 II. II. 30 He was hardly drawn to attend upon some promising lord. 1838 E. Brown *Serm.* xi. 252 Will the promising God ever permit the name of Christ to be forgotten?

2. *fig.* Affording expectation of good; showing signs of future excellence or success; likely to turn out well; full of promise; hopeful. (The prevailing sense.)

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* III. iii. 3 We..lay our best loue and credence Vpon thy promising fortune. 1654–66 Earl Orrery *Parthen.* (1676) 544 My Prince's condition was so promising. 1709 Stanhope *Paraphr.* IV. 512 That so promising and plentiful a crop might not be lost. 1770 Harris in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 194 He is a very promising man; and will I think do honour to his name and his country. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. v. 37 The weather was not quite clear, but it was promising. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 90 This was not a promising beginning.

Pro·misingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a promising manner; so as to cause expectation of good.

a 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 49, I speak the less promisingly of what I am to say in the remaining part of this paper. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* (1811) V. xxvii. 272 Clarissa must be the name, if promisingly lovely. 1861 W. Brinton in *Peaks, Passes & Glac.* Ser. II. I. 428 The weather cleared, and left the summits of the surrounding mountains promisingly covered with snow.

So **Pro·misingness,** promising quality.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* IV. *Transition* (1848) 289 Notwithstanding the Serenity and Promisingness of the Morning. 1727 in Bailey vol. II.

Promisor (prǫmisǭɹ). *Law.* [f. Promise *v.* + -or: cf. Promiser, Promissor.] The person who makes a promise: correlative to Promisee.

1846 in Worcester citing Chitty. 1875 Poste *Gaius* II. Comm. (ed. 2) 171 The obligation of the promisor. *Ibid.* III. § 100 A stipulation to convey on the day before the death of the promisee or promisor is invalid.

† **Promi·ss,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 7 -isse. [ad. L. *prōmiss-us* hanging down, prop. pa. pple. of *prōmitt-ĕre*: see Promit *v.*] Hanging down; long and pendent.

1637 Heywood *Dial.* iv. Wks. 1874 VI. 190, I know him by his promisse beard. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 375 Promisse and not broad leafs.

† **Pro·missary.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōmiss-*, ppl. stem of *prōmittĕre* (see Promit *v.*) + -ary [1].]

1. (?) = Procurator.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 237, I am pylat pr[o]mmyssary and presedent.

2. = Promisee.

1655 T. White *Grounds Obed. & Govt.* 36 He who maketh a promise to another, so it be a perfect one,..puts himselfe and his promissary into a rank of agency and patiency.

Promisse, obs. form of Promise, Promiss.

Promissee, variant of Promisee.

† **Promi·ssion,** *Obs.* [a. F. *promission* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōmissiōn-em* a promising, n. of action from *prōmitt-ĕre*: see Promit *v.*] = Promise *sb.* (esp. in sense 2): orig. and chiefly, as in 2 b, in phrase *land of promission.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4131 [Moses] Sa3 ðe lond of promission. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6924 þis Iuus, fild wit vn-resun, In-to þe land o promission Thoru moyses ne come þai noght. *c* 1400 Maundev. Prol. (1839) 1 Holy Lond..men callen..the lond of Promyssioun. 1480 Caxton *Chron. Eng.* I. (1520) 6 b/2 Eleazar and Iosue deuyded the lande of promyssyon to ye chyldren of Israell. 1588 Parke tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 316 So great store of prouision yᵗ it seemeth to be yᵉ land of promission.

c 1440 Capgrave *St. Kath.* III. 1429 At this eyte dayes ende, as was promyssion, Cometh oure lady wyth lyght doun from euene. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* XXXIV. 134 (Harl. MS.) This is a grete promissioun that thowe makest to me. 1529 Frith *Pistle to Chr. Rdr.* Wks. (1829) 469 We..are the children of promission as Isaac was. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 217 b, Children..which are also partakers of the godly promission.

Promissive (prǫmi·siv), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. late L. *prōmissīv-us* promising, applied to the future tense: see Promise and -ive.] Conveying, implying, or having the character of a promise; promissory.

a 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 24 She amazed them with a kind of promissive disputation. 1650 Hobbes *De Corp. Pol.* 186 All Declarations..concerning Future Actions and Omissions, are either Promissive, as 'I will do, or not do'; or Provisive, As for example, 'If this be done or not done, this will follow'; or Imperative, as 'Do this, or do it not'. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 356 God's Wil reveled in his Word is either promissive or preceptive. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. xi. 12 Which words are both restrictive and promissive. 1824 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. vi. 119 Instead..of making a separate mood for every auxiliary verb, and introducing moods Interrogative, Optative, Promissive, Hortative, Precative, &c. we have exhibited such only as are obviously distinct. 1850 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* IV. 186 Shall (2, 3) and will (1) [are called] promissive.

Promissor (prǫmi·sǫɹ). [a. L. *prōmissor* a promiser, agent-n. f. *prōmitt-ĕre*: see Promit *v.*]

† 1. *Astrol.* = Promittor. *Obs.*

1621 Burton *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. iv, If ♄ by his revolution, or transitus, shall offend any of those radicall promissors in the geniture. *Ibid.* III. iii. I. ii. (1651) 596 By direction of the significators to their several promissors. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Promitters* or *Promissors*, a Term in the Genethliack part of Astrology, so called because they promise in the Radix something to be accomplished, when the Time of direction is fulfilled.

2. *Rom. Law*, etc. One who makes a promise: = Promisor.

1644 [H. Parker] *Jus Pop.* 12 This wide gaping promissor. 1859 Sandars *Justit. Justinian* III. xv. (ed. 2) 423 If the promissor attempted to defeat the condition by preventing its being fulfilled, he was treated as if he had promised *pure*, and the thing could be demanded from him at once. 1875 Poste tr. *Gaius* I. Introd. (ed. 2) 11 The intention of the promissor must accord with that of the promissee. *Ibid.* III. Comm. 362 A unilateral convention is one where there is a single promissor and a single acceptor.

Pro·missorily, *adv. rare.* [f. next + -ly 2.] In a promissory manner; in the way of a promise.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* V. xiv. (1650) 217 Nor was he [Jephthah] obliged by oath unto a strict observation of that which promissorily was unlawfull.

Promissory (prǫ·misəri), *a.* [ad. med.L. *prōmissōri-us* (Bonaventura *a* 1274), f. L. *prōmissor*: see above and -ory 2.]

1. Conveying, containing, or implying a promise; of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a promise.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 115 [It] require[s] the sanction of promissory oaths. 1696 Lorimer *Goodwin's Disc.* vii. 71 A form of words which..was..promissory of Eternal Life upon a possible condition. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* VIII. viii, Her imagination,—that source of promissory enjoyment. 1851 Ht. Martineau *Hist. Eng.* 1800–15 II. i. (1878) 259 Popham's Circular to the British merchants, promissory of a rich trade. 1890 Bridgett *Blunders & Forgeries* iv. 107 The binding power of a promissory oath.

b. *Promissory note*: a signed document containing a written promise to pay a stated sum to a particular person (or to the bearer), either at a specified date, or on demand.

1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4699/4 A Bill to make Promissory Notes more effectual. 1711 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 May, To lend Stella twenty pounds, and to take her note promissory to pay it in half a year. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xxx. 446 If a man..gives a promissory note, he shall not be allowed to aver the want of a consideration in order to evade the payment. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Berkeley the Banker* I. iv. 81 A bank note is a promissory note for a definite sum; and it must be stamped.

2. *fig.* Conveying a 'promise' or indication of something to come, esp. of good; full of promise, promising; prognosticatory.

1839–48 Bailey *Festus* xxiii. (ed. 4) 294 A promissory Being unfulfilled. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 205/1 The tender glow of evening,..so promissory of the splendid days to come. *Ibid.* Apr. 728/1 She nodded her head with a look promissory of horrors.

† **Pro·mit,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* [f. next.] = Promise *sb.* 1, 2.

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* III. lxxvi, In thair promittis thay stude euer firme and plane. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 113 My beleue is in thy word, And all thy promittis maist and leist.

† **Promi·t,** *v. Obs.* Forms: 5–6 promit, -itt(e, -yt(te (5 *pa. t.* promit, -ytt). β. 5 promette. [ad. L. *prōmitt-ĕre* to let go or send forth, to put forth; to promise, give hope of; to foretell; f. *prō*, Pro- [1] + *mitt-ĕre* to let go, send. The β form a. F. *promett-re* (10th c. in Godef.) to promise.]

1. = Promise *v.* 1, 2.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 297/2 Promyttyng and behotyng ..to do, kepe, observe and fulfille..al yat shall be decreed. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 93 Promittynge if he myȝhte escape þat pestilence, þat he wolde dye in goynge pilgremages. 1456 Sir G. Have *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 141 He has payit thame all that he promyttit thame. 1527 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 141 Promytting..that from henceforth I shall never retorn agen to the said heresies. *a* 1584 Montgomerie *Cherrie & Slae* 1131 Promitting, unwitting, ȝour hechts ȝou neuir huiked.

β. *c* 1422 Hoccleve *Yereslaus's Wife* 802 If your pardon Yee me promette. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 435 Y promette feithefully to be rulede by hym. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxiii. 78 'Syre', sayd the pucell, 'I promette you that youre hoste shalbe al to gydre contented of you'.

b. = Promise *v.* 5 a.

1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* V. xvi, I promytte and warne the that yf thow come nyghe me I shalle slee the with this grete clubbe.

¶ 2. Erroneous for Permit: perh. scribal error.

c 1500 *Joseph Arim.* (E.E.T.S.) 32 He..commaunded hym he sholde promytte and suffre the seruauntes of almyghty god to passe out of pryson. 1523 [Coverdale] *Old God & New* (1534) E j, They were promitted and suffred to retreate. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 330 The Quenis Majestie promittis thame to tak of her awin woddis as may serve to the bigging of neidfull houssis for the labouraris.

¶ The alleged sense 'To disclose, to publish, to confess' is a figment founded on a misquotation: see below.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 33 b, Pardone of all offences and crymes committed, and promocions and rewardes for obeynge to the kynges request. [Misquoted in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 'of all offences and crimes promitted': whence in *Cent. Dict.*, and (def.) in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*].

Promittor (prɒmi·tə(r)). *Astrol.* Also 7 **-er.** [f. prec. + **-OR.** Cf. PROMISSOR.] A planet which 'promises' or prognosticates that some event will take place on its arriving at some particular aspect with another planet, star, or point of the heaven (the *significator*); also applied to such an aspect.

1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* clxvii. 719 Consider the Profections of Significators and Promittors. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* I. xxxiv. 71 The Quality of the Disease shall be discerned from the Promittor or afflicting Planet. 1696 Promitters [see PROMISSOR 1]. 1819 J. WILSON *Dict. Astrol.* s. v., ♄ and ♂ are anaretic promittors, and promise to destroy the life of the native when the hyleg is directed to them. ♃ and ♀ are promittors of good when directions to them are fulfilled.

‖ **Promnesia** (prɒmnī·sĭă). *Psychic Science.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *-μνησία* memory.] (See quot.)

1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. p. xx, *Promnesia*, the paradoxical sensation of recollecting a scene which is only now occurring for the first time; the sense of the *déjà vu*. *Ibid.* II. 264 That sensation of already remembering what is happening or is just about to happen, to which some authors have applied the too wide term paramnesia, but for which *promnesia* seems a more exact and distinctive name.

† **Pro·mont.** *Obs. rare.* [Shortened from PROMONTORY, as if f. PRO- 1 + L. *mont-em* MOUNT *sb.*1] = PROMONTORY.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* i. 151 A Promont jutting out into the dropping south. *a* 1627 MIDDLETON *Changeling* I. i, Our citadels Are plac'd conspicuous to outward view On promonts' tops. 1631 CHETTLE *Trag. Hoffmann* B j b, Ile to yon promonts top, and their suruey, What shipwrackt passengers the belgique sea Casts from her fomy entrailes.

† **Pro·monto·re.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōmontōrium* PROMONTORY: cf. F. *promontoire* (15–16 c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] = prec.

1623 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 22 Capo Bianco in Calabria.. being the furthest promontore of Italy. *Ibid.* x. 448 Without it is quadrangled, and within round; hauing two degrees of incircling promontores, supported by Marble pillars, and Allabaster arches. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 82 Coming to a Promontore which ran into the Sea.

Promontorial (prɒmɒntōə·rĭăl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prōmontōri-um* PROMONTORY + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling a promontory.

1875 ALEX. SMITH *New Hist. Aberdeen.* I. i. 1 From its semicircular shape it may be called promontorial.

Promontoried (prɒ·mɒntərid), *a.* [f. PROMONTORY + -ED 2.] Formed into or furnished with a promontory or projection.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* ccxxxviii, The floating Bodies, promontoried, Reaks An Exhalation. 1844 FABER *Sir Lancelot* (1857) 51 The green hill-tops and promontoried steeps. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* June 649 They see the promontoried backs and small heads and long necks of some of those ungainly beasts [camels].

b. as *pa. pple.* Pierced as by a promontory.

1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* II. xxxi. 141 In bays and waves of rolling grass, promontoried, here and there, by jutting copse or massive tree.

† **Promonto·rious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Of the nature of a promontory; lofty and prominent. (In quots. *fig.*)

1615 T. ADAMS *Eng. Sickness* Serm. ii. Wks. 1861 I. 422 The Papists brag of their numerous multitude, and promontorious celsitude. 1618 — *Happiness Ch.* ibid. II. 497 The ambitious man's mountain is his honour, and who dares find fault with so promontorious a celsitude?

‖ **Promontorium** (prɒmɒntōə·rĭŏm). [med.L.: see next.] a. = next, 1. b. = next, 2.

1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 19/1 Promontorium, is a high Mountain which shooteth it self into the Sea, the utmost end of which is called a Foreland, or Cape. 1831 [see next, 2]. 1871 *Daily News* 23 Jan., This long bluff.. its promontorium throws forward, as it were, two sheltering wings for batteries stationed in the narrow waist behind.

Promontory (prɒ·mɒntəri). Also 7 **-ary, promontary.** [ad. med.L. *prōmontōri-um*, alteration (after *mont-em* MOUNT *sb.*1) of L. *prōmunturi-um* a mountain ridge, a headland, promontory; referred by some to *prōmināre* to jut forward.]

1. A point of high land which juts out into the sea or other expanse of water beyond the line of coast; a headland.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* xiii. 46 Barnabas and Saul went to Seleucia, whiche is a great promontorye, or peake on the weste parte of Antioche. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 8 Euen vnto the promontorie or landes ende of the people, called *Cimbri*. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 80 The parallele.., goth by the promontory of good hope. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. I. viii. 44 Corsica ..called by the Grecians..the Horny Iland; because of its many Promontories, and angles. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 221 From yonder Promontory's brow, I view'd the coast. 1876 GREEN *Stray Stud.* 60 Monaco stands on a promontory of rock which falls in bold cliffs into the sea.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 196 The begynning of his Raigne is the Period or farthest Promontorye of the certaine antiquities of this Realme. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. xxi. 309 They doubled the promontory of the mountains, and arrived in sight of the famous Puente del Pinos. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* (1857) II. xv. 205 Standing on the promontory of the present, to feel the air rising from the shadowy waters of the past. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ix. 63 The avalanche.. was hidden from us by a rocky promontory.

2. *Anat.* Applied to certain prominences or protuberances of the body.

Promontory of the sacrum, an angular prominence formed by the junction of the last lumbar vertebra with the sacrum. *Promontory of the tympanum*, a protuberance of the inner ear caused by the projection of the cochlea.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 111 The sacrum is articulated to the fifth lumbar vertebra.. Its junction with the spinal column forms a projecting angle named the Promontory (*promontorium*). *Ibid.* 567 The Promontory (*Promontorium*).. is another pretty broad tubercular eminence, of a variable form, which limits the fenestra ovalis below. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 298 Another opening, called the fenestra rotunda, lies below and behind the promontory.

3. *attrib.* (or *adj.*) Resembling a promontory, projecting, outstanding.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* VII. (1599) 284 On the top of the mountaine called the Promontorie hill. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* iv. 6 Welcome..To Englands shore, whose promontory cleeues, Shewes Albion is another little world. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 153 A Promontory Wen, with grisely Grace, Stood high, upon the Handle of his Face. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 281 His bending head O'er which a promontory shoulder spread. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gertr. Wyom.* III. XXV, Each bold and promontory mound.

Promorph (prō·ʉmɒrf). *Biol.* [a. Ger. *promorph* (Haeckel), f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *μορφή* form.] A primitive or fundamental form.

1889 *Nature* 28 Feb. 409/2 An addition of three pages on 'the fundamental form (promorph)'.

Promorphology (prō·ʉmɒfɒ·lŏdʒi). *Biol.* [ad. Ger. *promorphologie* (Haeckel): see PRO- 2 and MORPHOLOGY.] The morphology of fundamental forms; the branch of morphology that treats of organic forms from a mathematical standpoint; stereometric morphology. So **Promorpholo·gical** *a.*, of or pertaining to promorphology; whence **Promorpholo·gically** *adv.*; **Promorpho·logist,** one who is versed in promorphology.

1898 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 2 General Anatomy has to do with the fundamental forms of animal organisms (Promorphology). 1883 P. GEDDES in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 843/2 *note*, As promorphology develops the crystallography of organic form, so mineralogy..becomes parallel to morphology. *Ibid.* 844/2 The classification into bilateral and radiate forms which usually does duty for more precise promorphological conceptions. *Ibid.* 845/1 These homoplastic or homomorphic forms, as Haeckel has shown, come as fairly within the province of the promorphologist. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Promorphologically. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Promorphology*, morphology, as relating to a few fundamental types.

Promotable (prɒmō·ʉtăb'l), *a.* [f. next + -ABLE.] That may be or is to be promoted; deserving of promotion.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 31 Scarce sufferable, much less promotable or remunerable *Alibi*. 1887 MORLEY *Sp.* in *Scott. Leader* 31 Mar., Resident Magistrates are removable, and, if I may coin a word, 'promotable' by the Executive Government.

Promote (prɒmō·ʉt), *v.* [f. L. *prōmōt-*, ppl. stem of *prōmov-ēre* to move forward, advance: see PRO- 1 and MOVE *v.* So obs. F. *promoter* to instigate (14th c. in Godef.).]

I. 1. *trans.* To advance (a person) *to* a position of honour, dignity, or emolument; *esp.* to raise to a higher grade or office; to prefer.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 145 þe emperour i-smyten aȝen promoted hym sone into a bisshop (L. *promovit in episcopum*). 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 94 Preestes, wich to fatte benefices wolde be promotid. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xxxvi[i]. 34 He shal so promote the, that thou shalt haue the londe by enheritaunce. 1685 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* iv. 167 Leontius his way was, to promote onely those in the Church, he was beforehand sure of. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 140 Boniface.., was promoted to..the Archbishopric of Canterbury.

b. *Chess.* To raise (a pawn) to the rank of a piece. (Cf. to QUEEN.)

1803 [see PROMOTION 1 b]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 3/3 Compelled to promote a Pawn to a piece. 1904 H. J. R. MURRAY in *Brit. Chess Mag.* Dec. 466 [In Malay chess] a pawn may be promoted to the rank of any superior piece, but promotion takes place, not when the Pawn reaches the eighth line, but only after a further diagonal move.

2. To further the growth, development, progress, or establishment of (anything); to help forward (a process or result); to further, advance, encourage. (Formerly also with *on.*)

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* IV. (1570) C vj/1 Such rascolde drames promoted by Thais,..Or by suche other newe forged Muses nine. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, This gyfte expelleth all vyce, and promoteth all vertue. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 236 The Emperour..went about to promote christian religion. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Soul* iv. § 5. 390 All the causes and helpes that promote on its impotent desires. 1698–9 (Mar. 8) *Minute Bk. S. P. C. K.*, The Journal of the Hon^ble Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. 1703 J. TIPPER in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 305 You will promote the Sale of it as much as possibly you can. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 79 Vegetation is promoted..by communicating to the earth the food of plants, and enlarging their pasture. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 191 It could in no way promote the national interest. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. § 1. 60 Commerce and trade were promoted by the justice and policy of the Kings.

b. To support actively the passing of (a law or measure); now *spec.* to take the necessary steps for obtaining the passing of (a local or private act of parliament).

1721 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 138 The parties concerned in promoting this Bill. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* 170 Many bills promoted as private bills, largely affect public as well as private interests.

II. † **3.** To put forth or forward into notice or attention; to publish, promulgate; to assert, advance (a claim). *Obs.*

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXV. 230 The kynges nedes were put forth and promoted as touchyng the kyngdom of Fraunce. 1555 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlvi. 139 The false surmised articles promoted by Hugh Raulins, priest. 1563 BONNER in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxiv. 342 That the oath shall be promoted in open place, where there shall be a convenient assembly of people to witness the same. 1662 STANLEY *Hist. Chaldaick Philos.* (1701) 18/1 An Intellectual incorruptible pattern, the Print of whose Form He promoted through the World. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* i, Gutenberg..promoted His claim to the first Invention of this Art.

† **4.** To incite, prompt, move (*to* something). *Obs. rare.*

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 27 The aungels of god..to helpe vs in time of prayer, & to promote our prayers towarde god. 1546 H. LAWRENCE *Comm. Angells* 80 The Angell keepers ..promote to all good, oppose all evill.

5. To cause to move forward in space or extent; to extend. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 274 None of them ever attempted to promote their Empire beyond the bounds thereof. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* i. (1682) 16 Other eminent Astronomers would promote the Confines of the Atmosphere to exceed six or seven times that number of Miles. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* i, William Caxton (..who first brought it to Oxford) promoted it to London also. *a* 1705 RAY *Creation* I. (1714) 201 Francis Pirara promotes the life of the Brazilians beyond the term we have set it. 1872 *Spectator* 7 Sept. 1137 'Sure it's I will promote her for your honour', where the word 'promote' was used..in its strict meaning of 'cause to move forward'.

III. † **6.** To inform against (a person); to lay an information of (a delinquency, etc.); also *intr.* or *absol.* to act as informer. Cf. PROMOTER 3. *Obs.*

14.. *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) II. 82 Taverners, tapsters of this cittie, Shalbe promoted heare by me, For breakinge statutes of this cuntrey. 1550 LATIMER *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* Serm. (1562) 130 [129] There lacke men to promote the kinges officers when they do amisse, and to promote al offenders. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* iv. C j b, I am not one that doth promote, why art thou frayde of me? 1596–1623 (see PROMOTING *ppl. a.* 1].

7. *Eccl. Law.* To set in motion (the office of the ordinary or judge) in a criminal suit in an ecclesiastical court; to institute (a suit *ex officio promoto*) by permission of the ordinary.

1681 CONSET *Pract. Spir. Courts* I. ii. § 1 (1700) 5 Its Official [*sc.* of the Court of Arches] is the proper and competent Judge to take cognizance of all Ecclesiastical Causes whatsoever not only at the Instance of Parties, but also of his meer Office, or when 'tis promoted. *Ibid.* I. ii. § 3 (1700) 7 It is left to the election of the Plaintiff to elect in which Court he will institute or promote his Cause. 1789 SIR W. SCOTT in Haggard *Rep. Consist. Court* (1822) I. 14 This is a case of Office promoted [= *ex officio promoto*] against Thomas Calcott, for..erecting tombs in the church-yard.. without leave of the Ordinary. 1837 LUSHINGTON in Curteis *Rep. Eccl. Cas.* (1840) 601 Mr. Williams [Vicar of Hendon], who promotes the office of the judge, has brought a charge against a parishioner of chiding and brawling. 1849 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxix, The office of the judge promoted by Tipkins against Bullock for his soul's correction. 1889 (May 11) ABP. BENSON in *Read v. Bp. of Lincoln* (Roscoe) 36 The archbishop's office was promoted against him [Bp. Wood of Lichfield, 1681]. *Ibid.* 37 The suit [*Lucy v. Bp. St. Davids*] was promoted ex officio before the archbishop. 1895 SIR R. PHILLIMORE *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) 837 In every ecclesiastical court there are two modes of procedure—the civil and the criminal. In criminal proceedings the office of the judge is promoted, [i. e.] inasmuch as all spiritual jurisdiction is in the hands of the bishop or ordinary, his office or function is set in motion. *Ibid.* 956 The Criminal Suit is open to every one whom the ordinary allows to promote his office, and the Civil Suit to every one showing an interest.

† **Promo·te,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōmōt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōmovēre* (see prec.); or abbreviated from *promoted.*] Promoted.

c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1261 For where a lover thinketh him promote, Envy will grucch, repyning at his wele.

† **Promo·tement.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. PROMOTE *v.* + -MENT.] = PROMOTION 2.

1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxii. (ed. 2) 105 Some commend the strewing a few Oats at the bottom of the fosses or pits..for a great promotement of their taking.

Promoter (prɒmō·ʉtə(r)). Forms: α. 5–6 **promotour, -oure,** 6 *Sc.* **-ar,** 6–9 **-or,** 5– **-er.** β. 6–8 **promooter,** 7 **-mouter.** [AF. and early mod.E. *promotour* = F. *promoteur* (1336 in Hatz.-Darm.) one who promotes, an official procurator in an ecclesiastical court, † a business agent, ad. med.L. *prōmōtor*, agent-n. f. *prōmov-ēre* to PROMOVE. But from 16th c. commonly spelt with *-er*, as if f. PROMOTE *v.* + -ER 1. The β forms occur only in sense 3.]

I. 1. One who or that which promotes, advances, or furthers any movement or project; a furtherer, an encourager.

1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 237 A comforter to them that are desolate, a promoter to the righteful, an helper to the synful. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 445 Of whiche oppynyon

..a great furtherer or promoter. 1553 Becon *Relig. Rome* (1563) 85 The firste promoters..to haue Images in churches. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* (Arb.) 82 In tyme they be Promoters of both openlie. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xx, That great and learned promoter of experimental philosophy, Dr. Wilkins. 1737 Bracken *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 78 A powerful Diuretic, or Promoter of Urine. 1781 D. Williams tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 135 Money is the best promoter of matrimony. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 277/1 In 1837 the bills for making four distinct lines of railway to Brighton had been referred to one committee. An unprecedented contest arose between the promoters of the competing lines. 1847 Helps *Friends in C.* I. 106 There are two great classes of promoters of social happiness. 1878 Lecky *Eng. in 18th C.* II. v. 35 [The] leading promoter [of the University] was the Chancellor, Bishop Elphinstone.

b. *Legisl.* One who takes steps for, or actively supports, the passing of a law; now *spec.* one of those who take the necessary steps for obtaining the passing of a local or private act of parliament.

1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. vi. 441 Cicero himself was the promoter of it, and procured a decree to his satisfaction. *Ibid.* 551 Cælius was the promotor of this law. [Cf. 1840 in 1.] 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. iv. 20 With respect to these [local acts] various preliminaries..are..required to be observed by the promoters of the several bills. *Ibid.* I. ix. 172 The promoters of each bill are required to prove compliance with the standing orders of both Houses.

c. *Finance.* One who promotes, or takes the requisite steps for, the formation of a joint-stock company; one who is a party to the preparation or issue of the prospectus; a company-promoter. In consequence of the amount of swindling too often resorted to, the term has in popular use acquired an opprobrious sense: cf. Promoterism.

1876 *World* V. No. 106. 5 A promoter, *quoad* promoter, is not necessarily a bad man. 1884 W. C. Smith *Kildrostan* 80 He..cursed Himself, his friend, and all the ravenous crew Of jobbers and promoters. 1889 *Times* 18 Mar. 9/3 The promoter of a company is accountable for what he omits to do, as well as for what he does. 1890 *Act* 53 & 54 *Vict.* c. 64 § 3 A promoter in this section means a promoter who was a party to the preparation of the prospectus. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Nov. 8/1 *Official Receiver.* Is he a company promoter? *Witness.* Oh, no; he is far too respectable for that.

2. One who promotes or advances another in dignity or position.

14.. [see Promover]. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. 301 They are disinterested, and no passionate promotors of their Kindred. 1868 Freeman *N. Conq.* II. vii. 80 Harold ..appears as a special promoter of German churchmen.

II. †**3.** One whose business was to prosecute or denounce offenders against the law; originally an officer appointed by the crown; later, one who prosecuted in his own name and that of the sovereign, and received a part of the fines as his fee; a professional accuser, an informer. *Obs.*

a. 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 347/1 The Office of oure Promotoure, by us graunted unto hym by oure Lettres Patents. 1509 Barclay *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 140 b, Sergeaunt, Atturney, Promoter, Judge or Scribe, Will not feele thy matter without a priuie bribe. 1566 *Roy. Proclam.* 10 Nov., Such as be infourmers vpon penall lawes and Statutes, commonly called promoters. 1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 421 Aristogiton the sycophant or false promotor, being condemned to death for troubling men with wrongfull imputations. 1603 [see Relator 2]. 1607 Cowell *Interpr., Promoters*..be those, which in popular and penall actions doe deferre the names, or complaine of offenders, hauing part of the profit for their reward...They belong especially to the Exchequer and kings bench. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Northampton* (1662) 287 [Henry VII] made Empson Promoter General, to press the Penal-Statutes all over the land.

β. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 147 His eies be promooters, some trespas to spie. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus' Ann.* IV. vii. (1622) 99 The promooters [L. *delatores*], a race of men found out for a common ouerthrow and destruction. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 158 Prowling promouters. 1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 358 Tyndarus and Rebuffus, two canonical Promooters. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.*, Promooters.

†**b.** An officer appointed to prosecute students before the Rector for debts or offences, in some of the Scottish universities. Now only *Hist.* repr. med.L. *promotor.*

[1482 *Munim. Univ. Glasguensis* (Maitl. Club) II. 9 De electione Promotoris Universitatis et eius officio.] 1854 *Ibid.* II. Table p. iv, A Promotor or General Sindic to be elected annually for the recovery of University debts, and the detection of contraventions of the Statutes. The Promotor to bring offenders before the Lord Rector... The Promotor's oath.

c. *Eccl. Law.* The prosecutor of a suit in an ecclesiastical court.

1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* I. viii. 172 Laics should not be accused in spiritual courts, except by legal and reputable promoters and witnesses. 1821 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Oxford in Vacation,* Amid an incongruous assembly of attorneys, attorneys' clerks, apparitors, promoters, vermin of the law, among whom he sits 'in calm and sinless peace'. 1876 Ld. Penzance in *Willis v. Bp. of Oxf.* in *Law Rep., Prob. Div.* II. 198 The promoter in this proceeding of 'duplex querela' complains in his libel that having been duly presented..the bishop has refused to institute him. *Ibid.,* That the result of the examination satisfied him (the defendant) that the promoter was *'non idoneus et minus sufficiens in literaturâ.* 1889 E. S. Roscoe *Bp. of Lincoln's Case* 1 The promoters in the suit were E. Read, W. Brown, T. F. Wilson, and J. Marshall. The respondent was the Lord Bishop of Lincoln. 1895 Sir R. Phillimore *Eccl. Law* (ed. 2) 992 The promoter of the office of the judge is bound not only to give in articles, but also a correct copy to the defendant.

III. 4. A descriptive appellation in the Scottish universities (or some of them) of the official who presented students for degrees. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Properly in Latin form *promotor,* but sometimes represented historically by the Eng. form.

1894 W. L. Low *D. Thomson* iv. 93 It was his turn to act as Promotor or 'Father' of the new graduates. 1898 A. C. Fraser *T. Reid* iv. 46 In the last year of each course, as 'promoter', he presented his undergraduates to receive the Master's degree [at King's Coll., Aberdeen].

Hence **Promo·terism,** the reprobated practice or conduct of promoters of joint-stock companies.

1882 (*title*) Last Words of Thomas Carlyle on Trades-Unions: Promoterism and the Signs of the Times. 1882 *Edin. Courant* 27 Oct. 6/7 Word-painting of the diabolical promoterism of the day.

Promoting (prǫmōʊ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Promote *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Promote.

1. Advancement, furtherance, helping forward; the 'getting up' of joint-stock financial companies.

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 276/1 The..preferring of..Justice and promoteinge and rewardeinge Vertue. 1529 Rastell *Pastyme, Hist. Pap.* (1811) 54 [He was accursed] for promotynge of benefices by symony. 1648 Milton *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 560 To give the first promoting.. to his own tyrannical designs in England. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 41 For the promoting of their pious designs. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 3 July 2/2 Company-promoting has become a business.

†**2.** The action of a Promoter (sense 3); accusing, denouncing. *Obs.*

1581 Savile *Tacitus' Hist.* II. x. (1591) 58 Annius Faustus ..condemned of promoting.

Promo·ting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That promotes, in various senses.

†**1.** That lays an information; that is a promoter or informer. *Obs.*

1596 Harington *Apol. Ajax* Aa vj b, Least some hungrie promoting fellowes should beg it as a concealement. 1604 Drayton *Owl* 547 Steps in this false spy, this promoting wretch, Closely betrays him that he gives to each. 1623 Sanderson *Serm.* (1657) 121 Informing, and promoting, and pettifogging make-bates.

2. That furthers, assists, or fosters. Chiefly in comb., as *company-promoting, health-promoting.*

1871 'M. Legrand' *Cambr. Freshm.* 250 Hunting the Drag..is so innocent, so health-promoting, and in every way so praiseworthy an amusement. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Feb. 2/2 Colossal company-promoting swindlers.

Promotion (prǫmōʊ·ʃən). Also 5–6 -cio(u)n, -cyon. [a. F. *promotion* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōmōtiōn-em,* n. of action f. *prōmov-ēre*: see Promove.]

1. Advancement in position; preferment.

On promotion, on the way to promotion, on trial; *to be on one's promotion,* to conduct oneself with a view to promotion (also *colloq.* to marriage).

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 344/2 Ne for promotion or fortheryng of any persone to Office. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxxvii. 511 With his promocyon of popalyte the romayns were apeased. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 119, I give to Dorithe and Anne my doughters xl *li,* to be equallye devyded betwixte them towarde ther mariadge or other promocion. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII,* v. ii. 23 The high promotion of his Grace of Canterbury, Who holds his State at dore 'mongst Purseuants, Pages, and Foot-boyes. 1693 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 81 Disgusted that he was not in the late promotion made a marshall of France. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 29 In point of power and revenue, such a deanery might be esteemed no inconsiderable promotion. 1785 Crabbe *Newspaper* 312 Promotion's ladder, who goes up or down. 1857 Buckle *Civilis.* I. x. 602 In that period promotion depended solely on merit.

1836 *Lett. fr. Madras* i. (1843) 4 Several Irish girls apparently on their promotion. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* xxxix, The little kitchen-maid on her promotion. *Ibid.* xliv, 'I remember when you liked 'em, though'..'That was when I was on my promotion, Goosey, she said. 1888 W. E. Henley *Bk. Verses* 4 A square, squat room (a cellar on promotion). 1902 Miss E. P. Thompson in *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 583 When the canonised saints have been worked out, he has recourse to those, as it were, 'on their promotion'.

b. *Chess.* The elevation of a pawn to the rank of a higher piece.

1803 P. Pratt *Studies of Chess* (1804) I. 30 Of promoting a pawn to be a queen, rook, &c. When a pawn has penetrated to the farthest rank on the adverse side of the board, he is rewarded with promotion to the *highest vacant* dignity. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 3/3 If a player..is forced..to the promotion which involves the loss of the game. *Ibid.* 22 Dec. 3/3 A trio of promotion problems..representing three different types of promotion side by side.

2. The action of helping forward; the fact or state of being helped forward; furtherance, advancement, encouragement.

1483 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* v. N viij b, To the quyete state of the chyrche and to the promocion of the fayth. 1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 702 To the promotioun and furtherance of the gospell. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 188 An Authentick discouragement to the promotion of the Arts and Sciences. 1725 T. Thomas in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 100 There is a navigable river.. which is a great promotion of the trade of the town. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 60 Institutions for the promotion of learning. 1862 Sir B. Brodie *Psychol. Inq.* II. vii. 233 The great agent in the promotion of civilization is the advancement of knowledge.

b. The getting up of a joint-stock company.

1886 *Law Times* LXXX. 310/1 The plaintiff..was interested in the promotion of the Georgia Gold Mines Company Limited. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 7/1 He had not personally reaped the benefit of some of his promotions.

†**3.** The laying of an information against any one. *Obs.*

a 1536 Tindale *Exp. Matt. v–vii.* 71 Couetousnes & promocion and such like,..are that ryghte hand and right eye that must be cut of & plucked out that the whole man peryshe not. [But this quot. perh. belongs to sense 1.]

†**4.** ? Motion or stirring of the mind. *Obs.*

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 136 Passyons of ire, enuy, sclaunderous wordes or other promocyons. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IV. (1701) 134/1 They held..That nothing judgeth but by interior promotion, and the judgment of true and false consists of inward touch.

†**5.** Advance, getting on, progress made. Cf. Promove *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Sect. 7. 108 Whether it were truly or in appearance, in habit or in exercise of act.., it is certain the promotions of the holy Childe [Luke ii. 52] were great, admirable, and as full of wonder as of sanctity.

6. *attrib.* (in sense 2 b) *promotion allowance, expense, money*; (in 1) *promotion examination.*

1882 *Pall Mall G.* 13 July 6/1 The General Hydraulic Power Company... No promotion money is to be paid. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 32 *note,* The Edinburgh arbitrator took the actual cost of promotion as the test of the promotion allowance. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Dec. 10/1 To look into the promotion expenses. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 17 Oct. 3/7 The..promotion examinations are at hand.

Promotive (prǫmōʊ·tiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as Promote *v.* + -ive, after Motive *a.* Cf. Anglo-L. *prōmōtīvus* (1337 in Du Cange).] Having the quality of promoting; tending to the promotion (*of* a thing).

1644 J. Goodwin *Innoc. Triumph.* (1645) 76 They will use [it] rather in a destructive, then promotive way thereunto. 1680 *Relig. Dutch* v. 46 Promotive to the advancement of Christian Religion. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* III. Misc. II. iii. 98 Corroborative of Religion, and promotive of true Faith. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. 277 The air is so promotive of growth. 1882 Fairbairn in *Contemp. Rev.* XLII. 860 Agencies powerfully promotive of human progress.

B. *sb. nonce-use.* That which promotes or furthers something.

1793 W. Taylor in *Monthly Rev.* XII. 286 To evolve its real promotives.

Hence **Promo·tiveness,** the quality of being promotive; tendency to promote or further.

a 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* (1870) 251 He has defined utilitarianism as the philosophy which values one thing simply in regard of actions, viz. their promotiveness of happiness. 1874 P. Smyth *Our Inher.* xi. 224 To set forth..their promotiveness to the fulness of thought as well as the material comforts of..man.

†**Promo·tor.** *Obs. rare*—1. [a. med.L.: see Promoter.] A procurator, prolocutor, or proctor.

1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. III. I. 2 Hercules Sevecollus, Promotor of the Council.

†**Promotorial** (prōʊmǫtōʊ·riăl), *a. Obs.* [f. med.L. *prōmōtor* (see prec.) + -ial; cf. obs. F. *promotoriel* (1589 in Godef.), = med.L. **prōmōtōrius.*] Of or pertaining to a procurator; *promotorial letters,* letters of attorney.

1631–3 J. Durie in *Presbyt. Rev.* (1887) 301 [The King] had promised to give mee Promotoriall letters to further this end. *Ibid.* 303 How..to goe to the King of Sweden for his Promotoriall Letters towards ye Lutheran princes.

Promotress (prǫmōʊ·trĕs). [f. Promoter + -ess 1.] A female promoter. So [in L. form] **Promo·trix,** in same sense.

1622 H. Sydenham *Serm. Sol. Occ.* II. (1637) 107 A promotresse and bawd to error. 1678 Anth. Walker *Funeral C'tess Warwick* 48 The greatest Mistress, and Promotress ..of a new Science—The Art of obliging. 1892 *Cornh. Mag.* July 14 The promotress of mothers' meetings. 1660 J. Lloyd *Prim. Episc.* 17 A zealous promotrix of the Schism of the Donatists.

†**Promo·val.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. Promove *v.* + -al.] Promotion, furtherance, advancement.

1683 Renwick *Serm.*, etc. (1776) 570 For promoval and defence of Reformation. 1687 in Shields *Faithful Contendings* (1780) 300 For the promoval and defence of these testimonies. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxix. 246 Steadable for the promoval of the good of that Youth.

†**Promo·ve,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōmovēre* to move forward, promote: see Pro- 1 and Move *v.* Cf. OF. *por-, promovoir,* mod. *promouvoir,* perh. the immediate source.]

1. *trans.* = Promote *v.* 1.

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 34 The sone of Stevyne..the whiche promouyd Theobalde..in-to the Archebisshope of Cawntirbery. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* VII. Pref., Lat euery nobyll Prynce..luf vertew and iustice, heat vyce, punys euyll men, and promowe gud men. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 62 [He] laborit daylie to promove his freindis to honour and dignatie. 1671 J. Brydall *Law Eng. Nobility & Gentry* (1675) 2 Nobility being then a Quality or Dignity, whereby a Man is..promoved out of, and above the Estate of the vulgar.

2. = Promote *v.* 2.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 51 Prelats promouing, or secular lordis procuring þat þat clerk lord in þat maner, þei synnun deadly. 1566 *Let. Gen. Assembly Ch. Scot. to Eng. Ch.* 19 To promove the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. *a* 1641 Suckling *Loving & Beloved* Poems (1646) 5 It is impossible, nor can Integrity our ends promove. 1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 19 Making use of the Christian Religion only as a blind or politic medium to promove their gain. 1702 C. Mather *Magn. Chr.* IV. iv. (1852) 77 The 'sons of the prophets', whose establishment 'in the present truth', I am..under an obligation to promove.

3. To move mentally, provoke, instigate, incite.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 10 To this promouid him enuye and disloyal detraccion. 1637 Gillespie *Eng. Pop. Cerem.*

Ep. B iij b, A Law ought to draw back men from evill,..it ought also to promove them unto good.

4. To move onward, remove to another place. *rare.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 329 Tha war promouit till ane vther place At will..of the kingis grace.

5. *intr.* To move on, advance, make progress.

1570 BUCHANAN *Chamæleon* Wks. (1892) 43 This monsture promovit to sic maturitie of aige as it could easelie flatter and imitat euery manis countenance. 1627 S. WARD *Happiness of Practice* 38 We can doe iust nothing, but lye becalmed and vnable to moue or promoue as a Ship on the Sea. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. 77 How few are there who endeavour to promove in their spiritual state.

Promovent (prōū·mōvĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *prōmovēnt-em*, pr. pple. of *prōmovēre*: see prec.]

†**1.** That 'promoves' or promotes; causing advancement or progress. *Obs. rare.*

1625 *Debates Ho. Comm.* (Camden) 86 To shew .. the remedyes both removent and promovent. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 169 Religion is both the conversant and promovent cause of States. 1809 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 540 In fact, I never wish to be promovent in any thing.

†**2.** Prosecuting, suing. *Obs. rare.*

1693 WOOD *Allegation* in *Life & Times* (O.H.S.) IV. 17 *Item.* That the book entituled Athenæ Oxonienses,..exhibited by the party promovent in this cause,..was first enter'd in the book of the register of the company of Stationers of London.

B. *sb.* The promoter of a suit in an ecclesiastical court; = PROMOTER 3 c.

1877 *Willis v. Bp. of Oxf.* in *Law Rep., Prob. Div.* II. 192 This was a suit of duplex querela arising out of the refusal of..the Bishop..to institute the promovent..to the rectory. *Ibid.* 193 Dr. Tristram on behalf of the promovent, moved the Dean of Arches..Lord Penzance..to give leave to the promovent to bring in his libel. *Ibid.* 203 Dr. Swabey ..moved the Court to dismiss the defendant from the suit; the promovent being dead. [So all though the case; but in the judgement Lord P. used 'promoter': see PROMOTER 3 c.]

†**Promo·ver.** *Obs.* [f. PROMOVE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which 'promoves' or promotes: = PROMOTER 1 (in quot. 14.. = PROMOTER 2).

14.. WYNTOUN *Cron.* VI. 1009 (Wemyss MS.) His promovare [*Cotton MS.* promotour] him oft assayit How of his part he held him payit. 1545 JOVE *Exp. Dan.* vii. 102 Bokis & heresies as they call goddis worde, to be prohibited, pressed downe, & burned with all the promouers therof. 1614 BP. FORBES *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 109 The dragon..substituteth this viceroy .. the most effectuall promooner of darkenesse that euer was. 1638 M. GRIFFITH in Hearne *Collect.* 7 Jan. an. 1706 (O.H.S.) I. 160 A..zealous promover of good Works. 1650 *Rec. Dingwall Presbytery* (O.H.S.) 173 Plotters and prime promovers y'off.

†**Promo·ving,** *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -ING[1].] The action of promoting, promotion; moving.

14.. tr. *Secreta Secret.* App. 249 Of promovyng of Study. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-martyr* 204 For the promouing of Christs glorie. *a* 1631 — *Serm.* viii. (1640) 81 Those works of ours..that..conduce most to the promoving of others to glorifie God. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 32 To have his advice for the promoving of some worthy person unto the place. 1721 WODROW *Hist. Suffer. Ch. Scot.* (1829) II. 170 The promoving of real religion in themselves and others.

Prompt (prɒmpt), *sb.* [In branch I. ad. L. *promptus* readiness, f. ppl. stem of *prōm-ĕre* (see next); in II. f. PROMPT *v.*; in III. f. PROMPT *a.*]

I. †**1.** Readiness; preparedness. *In prompt* (= L. *in promptu*), in readiness. *Obs. rare.*

c 1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E. E. T. S.) 34 He hadde yt in prompte what sumeuer he wolde vttir to speke yt metyrly.

II. 2. An act of prompting; instigation; something said or suggested to incite to action, or to help the memory. Cf. PROMPT *v.* 2.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 27 Common dronckards and carnall lyvers..esteme themeselves as honest and as truly religiouse as the best, and bothe by a subtill prompt of the divill. 1721 CIBBER *Com. Lovers* v, You won't forget..to give me a Prompt upon occasion. 1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* III. 12 She..was glad to accept a prompt from her neighbour.

b. *spec.* in *Theat.* The act of the prompter on the stage. Chiefly in **prompt-bell**, the bell used by a prompter in a theatre to summon an actor; **prompt-box**, the prompter's box on a stage; **prompt-centre**, the position on a stage half-way between the centre and the prompt-side; **prompt-copy** = PROMPT-BOOK; **prompt-side**, that side of the stage to the actor's right, where the prompter usually takes up his position when there is no prompt-box.

1784 *New Spectator* No. 6. 7 Then recommences the music of the irritated Gods..after that comes the tinkling of the *prompt bell. 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 263, I happened to be almost born in a *prompt-box and weaned in a scene-painter's size-kettle. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Sept. 3/1 The prompt-box was placed in the centre of the stage; but, owing to there being no floor below the stage, our prompter..had to raise a trap-door in the stage, and to crawl along, on hands and knees. 1884 HALLIWELL-PHILLIPPS in *Athenæum* 25 Oct. 529/2 An old *prompt copy may have wandered out of England. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiii, Nicholas found himself close to the first entrance on the *prompt side. 1898 *Daily Chron.* 11 Oct. 3/4 On the prompt side some picturesque little bazaars are being fitted up.

III. 3. *Commerce* (ellipt. for *prompt date, day, time*). A trade term for a limit of time given for payment of the account for produce purchased; the limit (varying with different goods) being stated on a note of reminder called a *prompt-note*; hence = due-date.

1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 348 This 1 per Cent., which was left out on account of the different Prompts for Payment, must either be deducted on none or both the Accounts. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* II. 64 The speculation went on at advancing prices..till nearly the expiration of the prompt. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Prompt-note*, a note of reminder of the day of payment and sum due, etc., given to a purchaser at a sale of produce. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 24 Nov. 7/3 In goods like tea, where the prompt, or time allowed before the goods are taken up, is long, a deposit of something like one-third of the value has to be made at the time of purchase...In most..leading goods the prompt is short. *Mod.* If you offered me corn at so much, I might reply 'At what prompt?' or 'What is the prompt?'

b. See quot.

1882 BITHELL *Counting-ho. Dict.* (1893) 245 *Prompt.*..In commerce, the setting forth in a written document the record of a bargain or sale, in such a form as to render it negotiable. ..A prompt is an agreement between a shipper or importer on the one hand, and a merchant on the other; in which the former engages to sell certain specified goods at a given price, and the latter to take them up and pay for them at a specified date...It implies .. that the goods shall be 'promptly' paid for on delivery, if delivered before the specified date, and at the specified date, whether they are delivered or not.

c. ellipt. for *prompt goods* (see PROMPT *a.* 3): Goods sold under an agreement as to a prompt or time-limit.

Prompt (prɒmpt), *a.* (*adv.*) [a. F. *prompt* (1219 in Godef. *Compl.*), or ad. L. *prompt-us* brought forth, brought to light, manifest; at hand, ready, quick, prepared, disposed, inclined; pa. pple. of *prōm-ĕre* to bring forth or out, produce, bring to light, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 a + *em-ĕre* to take, to buy.]

1. Ready in action; quick to act when occasion arises; acting with alacrity; ready and willing.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 61 A man of lawe bloode of Briteyne, Carausius by name, but prompte in cownsel (L. *consilio et manu promptus*). 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. CXVI. 91 She that was prompte & redy to all euyll, cast in her mynde that this chylde was slayne by poyson. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 12 Thai ar mair prompt to repreif ane smal ignorant falt, nor to commende ane grit verteous act. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 58 A man of prompt wytte. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 75 Tell him, I am prompt To lay my Crowne at's feete, and there to kneele. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 381 Three pert Templars came..Each prompt to query, answer, and debate. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xvi, A matchless horse, though something old, Prompt to his paces, cool and bold. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. i. (1872) 5 The promptest and least hesitating of men. 1870 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* (1873) VI. lxxii. 290 The friend who had ever been prompt in the time of peril. *fig.* 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. CXXXIII. [CXXIX.] 373 Thus they went saylyng by the see fresshly.. the see was so prompe and so agreable to them.

†b. Ready in mind; inclined, disposed. *rare.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. iv. 90, I cannot sing..Nor play at subtill games; faire vertues all; To which the Grecians are most prompt and pregnant.

†c. Hasty, forward, abrupt, blunt. *Obs. rare.*

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* (1775) I. 35 A prompt French marquis, at our ambassador's table, demanded of Mr. H——, if he was H—— the poet? No, said H—— mildly—— *Tant pis*, replied the Marquis.

2. Of action, speech, etc.: Characterized by readiness or quickness; done, performed, etc. at once, at the moment, or on the spot.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 Contemplacyon is a free & a prompte or redy syght of the eye of the mynde. 1542 (*title*) Apophthegmes, that is to saie, prompte, quicke, wittie and sentencious saiynges, of certain Emperours, Kynges,..Philosophiers and Oratours,..compiled in Latine by..Maister Erasmus..And now translated into Englyshe by Nicolas Udall. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* in *Relig.* (1651) 260 The reception of Light into the Body of the building, was very prompt. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 149 Such prompt eloquence Flowed from their lips, in prose or numerous verse. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prompt Payment*, a present paying of Money, a Term in Merchandize. 1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 371 His creditor..demands prompt payment in cash..in ready money. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* Advt., The stretch of mind and prompt assiduity. 1834 MACAULAY *Ess., Pitt* (1887) 322 Those qualities which enable men to form prompt and judicious decisions. 1877 W. S. GILBERT *Sorcerer* 1, We deduct 10 per cent for prompt cash.

†b. *transf.* Suddenly emergent; demanding instant action. *Obs. rare.*

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 157 Very apt in prompt occasions, to demonstrate valour and resolution.

3. *Commerce.* For immediate delivery (and payment); also, due at once, or at the date fixed. Cf. PROMPT *sb.* 3.

1879 *Expression in London Tea-trade*, When are the overland teas prompt? [The regular word for *due* in reference to the proceeds of sales of tea and other merchandise.] 1883 *Daily News* 25 Sept. 2/7 Beetroot—Old crop, 89½ per cent., sold prompt at 20*s.* 7½*d.* 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Apr. 7/2 Rates for prompt boats are not well maintained. 1888 *Daily News* 24 Dec. 2/6 The prompt figure for No. 3 [pig iron] has been 33*s.* 6*d.*; 34*s.* to 34*s.* 3*d.* is quoted January to March. 1894 *Ibid.* 31 Dec. 2/6 There have been a few odd prompt lots sold at 35*s.* No 3. 1898 *Ibid.* 16 May 8/6 Sometimes 40*s.* 7½*d.* will be taken for prompt iron by merchants.

B. as *adv.* Promptly, to the minute or the fixed time; sharp.

Mod. She must be called prompt at seven o'clock.

C. *Comb.* of adj., as *prompt-witted*; of adv. as *prompt-paying* (that pays promptly).

1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* viii. (1596) 112 None, who is prompt-witted, can learne to read without stumbling. 1899 *Daily News* 6 June 8/6 Good, prompt-paying, established tenants.

Prompt (prɒmpt), *v.* Also 4–5 **promtt**, 5–6 **promp**, 6 **prompte**, 6–7 **promt**. *Pa. pple.* **prompted**, rarely in 7 **prompt**. [f. prec. adj. or its F. or L. original, in sense 'to make prompt or ready to do something'.

The genesis of the verb is not clear; the first example (if certain) is earlier than any known instance of the use of the adj. in Eng., and suggests the prior use of a med.L. **promptāre* or F. **prompter* = It. *prontare*, to make ready, to prompt; of this in Fr. or med.L. no example has been found, but its agent-n. *promptātor* occurs in *Promp. Parv.*: see PROMPTER 1.]

1. *trans.* To incite to action; to move or instigate (a person, etc.) *to do*, or *to* something.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXXIV. 7 Þe deuel foluand & promttand. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Promptyn, *promo, incenso, insumo.* *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 444 Anoder was with the at þou saw nott, þat stude evur and prompyd the to wurk besylie. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 80 By whose direction found'st thou out this place?..By Loue that first did promp me to enquire. 1607 — *Timon* II. ii. 150 When I haue Prompted you in the ebbe of your estate, And your great flow of debts. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 12 A hot Sun-shine or warmer aire (even in Winter) will quickly prompt them out of their Hives. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 90 Defer what your passion promts you to do. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* VI. (1841) I. 36 Their pride prompting them to put it to the utmost trial. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. i, A mysterious instinct prompted her.

b. *absol.*

1830 S. ROGERS *Italy, Meillerie* 62 Records of the past That prompt to hero-worship. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. ii. § 3 (1864) 124 When two feelings prompt in opposite ways, the one that determines the conduct is said to be volitionally the stronger. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xiii. 133 They migrate in numbers as their necessities prompt.

2. *trans.* To assist (a speaker when at a loss) by suggesting something to be said, or (a reciter) by supplying the words that come next. Used esp. of thus helping a pupil in his recitation, or an actor in speaking his part. (Cf. PROMPT *sb.* 2 b.)

1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 5 John Lyllyng come unto hym and promped hym, and bad hym say [etc.]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 241 Y' euery such suter..should knowe to salute & cal euery citezen by his name without the helpe of any byddelle to prompe hym. *a* 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 89 Let him translate it into Latin againe, abiding in soch place, where no other scholer may prompe him. 1679 *Establ. Test* 8 To stand behind the Scene, and prompt both Parties, to Act the bloody Tragedy. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* XXX. 21 Thine ears shall hear the word prompting thee behind. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* viii. 69 It was like being prompted in an examination, and being unable to catch the word.

†b. To remind, put (one) in mind. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 306 All prompting mee how faire yong Hero is.

3. To urge, suggest, or dictate (a thing); to inspire, give rise to (thought, action).

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. (1612) 323 That be not Two or diuers Gods is also prompt by this. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 420 It goes on I see As my soule prompts it. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* xvii. Div. Poems (1717) 382 She prompteth how to break New languages. 1673 *Vain Insolency of Rome* 15, I shall not repent that I prompt these intimations unto you. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 216 Whisp'ring Angels prompt her golden dreams. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 222 To prompt due Impressions of the Awe of God on the Minds of Men. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. i, 'Tis morning prompts the linnet's blithest lay. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* XXVI, Lavender knew well what prompted these scornful comments on Borva. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 290 The reasons that prompt this policy new.

†b. With direct and indirect (dative) obj. *Obs.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 54 Not..by th' matter Which your heart prompts you. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 101 Nature so unworthily outraged, prompted him these imprecations.

Hence **Pro·mpted**, **Pro·mpting** *ppl. adjs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 322 The prompting eyes, Of beauties tutors. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 12 Inspire As thou art wont my prompted Song. 1826 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 80 A prompting impulse to go and look for him.

Pro·mpt-book. [f. PROMPT *sb.* 2 b + BOOK.] A copy of a play prepared for the prompter's use, containing the text as it is to be spoken, and directions for the performance.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. vii. P 23 As invariable a rule as any in the prompt book. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 136 The characters of their heroes have not been cut down to fit into the prompt-book. 1867 DICKENS *Let.* 16 Sept., Going over the prompt-book carefully, I see one change in your part to which..I positively object.

Prompter (prɒ·mptəɹ). Also 5 **-ar(e, -owre**, 7 **-or**. [f. PROMPT *v.* + -ER[1].] One who prompts.

1. One who moves or incites to action; an instigator, mover.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Promptare, or he þat promptythe (*v. r.* promptowre), *promptator*. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 176 The Mayre aunswered that he..neded neither of prompter, nor yet of Coadiutor, either to defend or gouerne the citie. 1637 NABBES *Microcosmus* III. i, Come my best prompter, with indeavours wings Let's cut the ayre. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 244 The devil is..a..prompter to wickedness, if he is not the first mover of it. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 130 No greater prompter of good fellowship.

2. One who helps a speaker or reciter by supplying him, when at a loss, with a name, word, or something to say.

1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 13 He stoode like a trewant that lackt a Prompter. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινή* xv. 188 The very season was a kinde of prompter to remember them of that. 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer Bk.* 77 We pray without a Monitor or promptor because we do it from the heart, or from our own breast. 1870 ANDERSON *Missions Amer. Bd.* II. xi. 90, After two or three years, she was able to spell out her words without a prompter.

b. *spec. Theat.* A person stationed out of sight of the audience, to prompt or assist any actor at a loss in remembering his part.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. ii. 84 Were it my Cue to fight, I should haue knowne it Without a Prompter. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 193 P 2 A Letter from poor old Downes the Prompter, wherein that Retainer of the Theatre desires my Advice. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xvii. 144 Everybody being more or less inaudible, with the solitary exception of the Prompter.

Prompting (prɒ·mptiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PROMPT; an incitement to action, an instigation.

1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 96 3it, Dawe, thou drawist in many fals promptynges. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 294 Be prompyng of þe Holie Gaste. 1580 SIR R. MANWOOD in Boys *Sandwich* (1792) 231 In such [school] exercises, promptinge and helping one of another to be more punished then lack of well doinge. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* xxviii, In spite of the promptings of our appetites.

Promptitude (prɒ·mptitiūd). [a. F. *promptitude* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. late L. *promptitūdo*: see PROMPT *a.* and -TUDE.] Quickness or readiness of action; promptness.

c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 31 Labour of penaunce, promptitude of obedience. 1587 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 175 His Hienes doubtis not of the lyke reddines, promptitude, and gude will. 1658 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 75 They unite with more promptitude. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 113 P 6 Assurance of address, and promptitude of reply. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. Bp. Blomfield* II. ix. 183 His promptitude was remarkable: with him a matter would be completed, while another would be only thinking of it.

† **b.** Readiness of mind, inclination; prompting.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* IV. i. rule iii. § 1 If our inclinations .. become facilities and promptitudes to sin, they are not innocent. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 497 P 1 Those who were contented to live without Reproach, and had no Promptitude in their Minds towards Glory.

Pro·mptive, *a. rare.* [f. PROMPT *v.* + -IVE.] Tending or calculated to prompt; apt to move or give rise to something.

1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 2 It is promptive of serious reflection that some of the greatest thinkers of past ages accounted in this way for the manifestation of Mind in providence.

Promptly (prɒ·mptli), *adv.* [f. PROMPT *a.* + -LY 2.] In a prompt manner; readily, quickly; directly, at once, without a moment's delay.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii. 103 Telle her that she brynge wyth her promptely the shepe & other bestes. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 30 b, He..coulde tell all that was taught him promptly without any difficultie. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 244 A stranger that vnderstandeth not promptly the Italian tongue. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* II. (1818) I. 247 To give stimulus to the promptly-exhausted attention of fashionable inanity. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/4 A House was made to-day promptly at a quarter-past 12 o'clock.

Promptness (prɒ·mptnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being prompt or quick in action, performance, etc.; readiness, promptitude.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 44 b, Promptness in perceyuynge, Quicknes of inuencyon. 1586 WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 64 The ready skill of framing anie thing in verse, besides the naturall promptnesse which many haue therevnto, is much helped by Arte. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 278 With wonderful Promptness and Diligence, the Land-Forces, Artillery, &c., were put on Shore. 1831 J. DAVIES *Manual Mat. Med.* 304 It possesses the same virtues as morphia, but acts with more promptness and energy. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 159 The hopes of an insurrection always lie in promptness and energy.

Pro·mptress. *rare.* [f. PROMPTER + -ESS.] A female prompter.

1793 COLERIDGE *To Fortune* 1 Promptress of unnumber'd sighs,..O look, and smile!

Promptuary (prɒ·mptiu,ări), *sb.* (*a.*) Now *rare.* [As sb. ad. late L. *promptuāri-um* a storeroom, repository; cf. F. *promptuaire* a manual; as adj. ad. L. *promptuāri-us* ready for distribution, f. *promptus* sb. (see PROMPT *sb.*).]

1. A place where supplies, etc., are kept in readiness for use; a storehouse, a repository; the source whence anything is derived. ? *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 399 3iffenge that londe as a promptuary of alle hollesomme thynges. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 7, I doubt not to call hir sacred breast the promptuarie, the receptacle, or storehouse of all true virtue and godlines. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 52 The Matter it self restored to its original Fund and Promptuary, the Earth. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. xvii. 96 The earth, the common promptuary that supplies subsistence to men, animals, and vegetables.

2. Applied to a handbook or note-book containing a summary or digest of information, etc.

1577 FULKE *Answ. True Christian* 108 There be also.. Promptuaries of lyes, Festiuals of lyes, and other infinite bookes of lyes. 1672 BAXTER *Life Alleine* i. (1838) 19 Such a promptuary for any one that hath not leisure to peruse.. the philosophers themselves. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 157 A Moral Promptuary upon the Gospels. 1855 (*title*) Promptuary of matter for preaching..suitable for retreats, for sermons on Sundays, and other occasions.

† **B.** *adj.* in *promptuary art*, the art of collecting information for future use. *Obs.*

1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* v. iii. 238 To procure this ready Provision for discourse,..Arguments may be before hand framed, and stored up, about such things as are frequently incident, and come into disceptation; and this we call promptuarie Art, or Preparation.

Prompture (prɒ·mptiŭi). *rare.* [f. L. ppl. stem *prompt-* (taken in sense of PROMPT *v.*) + -URE.] Prompting, suggestion, instigation.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 178 Though he hath falne by prompture of the blood. *a* 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 180 His Confession meerely the prompture of the Spirit. 1798 COLERIDGE *Recoll. Love* vi, Love's promptures deep. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 191 Not from the prompture of mine own conceit, Or spur of private vantage.

† **Promu·lgate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *promulgāt-us*, pa. pple. of *promulgāre*: see PROMULGE.] Promulgated, set forth. (Usu. as pa. pple.)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 As soone as his holy lawe of the gospell was promulgate and publysshed. 1530 PALSGR. 668/1 Nowe that it is promulgate, we maye boldely speake of it. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 19 Whose luxurious liues are vulgarly promulgat in this Hispanicall prouerbe. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 79 If they had not been commanded by a promulgate Law.

Promulgate (prɒ·mŏlgeit, prōu·-, promv·lgeit), *v.* [f. L. *prōmulgāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōmulgāre* to expose to public view, publish: see PROMULGE. The first pronunciation is that now usual: cf. COMPENSATE, CONTEMPLATE.] *trans.* To make known by public declaration; to publish; *esp.* to disseminate (some creed or belief), or to proclaim (some law, decree, or tidings).

1530 PALSGR. 668/1, I promulgate, I publysshe, or declare openly, *je prouulgue.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 353 b, Those letters..the Byshop promulgat at Rome at the latter ende of December. 1630 PRYNNE *God no Impostor* 17 The Gospell must be thus promulgated. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. i. iv. 22 To..promulgate the knowlege and worship of the great God. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1870) 163 The arrogant pedant does not communicate, but promulgates his knowledge. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 349 Trisyllables ending in *ce, ent,* and *ate,* accent the first syllable: as,..'própagate';..unless the middle syllable has a vowel before two consonants: as, 'Promúlgate'. 1903 A. ROBERTSON *Rom. Cath. Ch. in Italy* i. (1905) 36 The Doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was promulgated in December 1854.

Hence **Pro·mulgated** *ppl. a.*; **Pro·mulgating** *vbl. sb.* = next.

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 33 Before the promulgating of the law of Moses. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. xi. (Rtldg.) 136 Promulgated standing laws. 1838 CHALMERS *Wks.* XII. 176 The promulgated will of Him who is the King of Kings.

Promulgation (prɒmŏlgēi·ʃən, prōu-). [a. F. *promulgation* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōmulgātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōmulgāre*: see PROMULGE.] The action of promulgating or fact of being promulgated; publication.

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Promulgation,* publishing openly, or proclaiming. 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. To Rdr. d iij, Extant in the age immediately following the Gospels promulgation. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* V. 394 Before the promulgation of Christianity, the world was infinitely divided on this important head. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 173 The promulgation of these designs went far to effect their fulfilment. 1858 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. v. 233 They felt themselves bound to prevent its promulgation.

b. *spec.* The official publication of a new law, decree, ordinance, etc., putting it into effect.

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 22 The day of promulgation of the Law was come. 1699 BURNET 39 *Art.* XXVII. (1700) 304 The preaching of the Apostles was of the nature of a Promulgation made by Heraulds. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* viii. (1880) 131 One of Henry's..greatest acts was the promulgation .. of the celebrated Edict of Nantes. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xv. 205 *note,* The Writ of 1217 for the promulgation of the Charter orders the sheriff to publish it, 'in pleno comitatu [etc.]'.

attrib. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 672 The use of promulgation paper, provided with a printed border, presenting, in tenor or in the way of reference, such dispositions of law as are applicable to the subject.

Promulgator (prɒ·mŏlgeitəɹ, prōu·-). [agent-n. in L. form from PROMULGATE: see -OR: cf. late L. *prōmulgātor* (Ennodius, *a* 520).] One who promulgates or publishes.

a 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 410 Christ.. is the dispenser, or promulgator, or minister of God unto the world of a new spiritual economy. 1766 WARBURTON *Serm. John x.* 11 Wks. 1788 V. 335 An odd Legacy to the promulgators of the Law of Liberty! 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 146 Dr. Jenner's claim of being the promulgator or inventor of vaccine inoculation. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Feb. 5/2 Mr. C..has instructed his solicitor to deal with the promulgator of the slander.

Hence **Pro·mulga·tress,** a female promulgator.

1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* v. ix. 157 The First was the Promulgatress of the Jewish, the Second of the Christian law.

Promulge (prɒmv·ldʒ), *v. arch.* [ad. L. *prōmulgāre* to expose to public view, publish; perh. altered from *prōvulgāre* in same sense (see PROVULGATE) by the influence of some other word. Cf. F. *promulguer* (Oresme, *a* 1400).] = PROMULGATE *v.*

1. *trans.* To publish or proclaim formally (a law or decree). Now chiefly an *official archaism.*

1488 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 414/1 All utlagaries into any of the said Defendauntes in the said appele named promulged. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII,* c. 59 *Preamble,* An utlarie upon him [is] therupon promulged. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* LVIII, Epit. 1242 Tiberius Sempronius Gracchus..when hee promulged an Agrarian law, that [etc.]. 1702 KENNETT *Pres. St. Convocation* 2 Their final Acts were duly promulg'd. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxvii. 410 The king.. has the right of promulging to the people all acts of state and government. 1879 *Q. Rev.* CXLVIII. 545 They would have claimed to promulge their canons and constitutions..without license from the Crown first obtained.

2. To set forth, declare, or teach publicly (a creed, doctrine, opinion, statement); to bring before the public, to publish (a book, etc.).

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. viii. § 12 If vncleane spirits may not be permitted to promulge this, or like diuine mysteries. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii. Wks. 1874 I. 280 A book of this nature, and thus promulged and recommended to our consideration. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* I. xi. 81 From these [traditions and historical facts] when they are promulged, I think there may be a pretty fair deduction drawn. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1515 Fanatics announced visions, and promulged prophecies.

Hence **Promu·lged** *ppl. a.*, **Promu·lging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1627 MAY *Lucan* VI. 906 The popular law-promulging Draft. 1656 R. ROBINSON *Christ all* (1868) 534 His promulging of it to the world. 1659 T. PECKE *Parnassi Puerp.* 162 Tiberius by a promulg'd Edict, Prohibited Salutes. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. ii. 40 At the promulging of the law from Mount Sinai. 1874 MRS. JAY *Holden with Cords* 452 The recently promulged theory of Gall.

Promulger (prɒmv·ldʒəɹ). [f. prec. + -ER 1.] One who promulges; a promulgator.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* ii. (1839) 131 The first revealer and promulger bred in the house of a carpenter..despised by.. all the learned in the religion of his nation. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIV. x. § 21 He had himself been the promulger of your decree. 1824 G. S. FABER *Diffic. Infidelity* (1833) 156 A tale known to be a falsehood by the very promulgers themselves.

Promu·scidate, *a.* [f. L. *promusc-is, -idem* (see next) + -ATE 2.] Formed as or furnished with a promuscis or proboscis: chiefly of insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 378 Mouth promuscidate. 1840 WESTWOOD *Classification Insects* II. 414 Mouth arising from the under and hinder surface of the head, promuscidate.

‖ **Promuscis** (prɒmv·sis). [L., altered form of *proboscis.* Cf. obs. F. *promuscide* (1536 in Godef.).]

† **1.** The proboscis or trunk of an elephant. *Obs.*

[1576: see PROBOSCIS 1.] 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 40 The elephant..will stande vp to the mid-body therein, bathing the ridge of his backe, and other parts with his long promuscis or trunke. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 153 His trunck called *Proboscis* and *Promuscis,* is a large hollow thing hanging from his nose. 1709 BLAIR in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 56 The *Proboscis* (or *Promuscis,* as some call it, in English the Trunk).

2. *Entom.* The proboscis in certain orders of insects: cf. PROBOSCIS 3; *spec.* that of the Hymenoptera: see quots. 1826–8.

1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 962 It hath very long cornicles, and the promuscis or snout doubled in or rolled up together. *Ibid.* 990 A long kinde of compact fast substance, which like a promuscis supplieth the place of a mouth and tongue. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 360 *Promuscis,* the oral instrument of Hemiptera, in which the ordinary Trophi are replaced by a jointed sheath, covered above at the base by the *Labrum,*..and containing four long capillary lancets, and a short tongue. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 219 [In the Hymenoptera] All these parts, as well as the labium, are often much elongated, and compose together a species of trunk or proboscis, which Illiger names *promuscis,* and which Latreille calls a spurious proboscis. 1856–8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 372 *Chrysis* L.—Labium not in form of a promuscis.

† **Promuta·tion.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PRO- 1 + MUTATION so OF. *promutation* (1359 in Godef.).] Exchange, barter.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 178 In case he become.. Metropolitan of another churche, throughe promutation, or any other meane. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 131 If in Promutation a man sets such a value upon such a thing, and does not respect the person or quality of any buyer. *Ibid.,* To observe this Arithmetical Rule which Aristotle propounds in Promutation.

‖ **Promycelium** (prōu,məisī·liŭm). *Bot.* Rarely in Eng. form **Pro·mycele.** [mod. L., f. *prō,* PRO- 1 + MYCELIUM.] The filamentous product of the germination of a spore.

1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. i. 291 We see the Uromyces-spores passing through the generations of promycelium, sporidia, and mycelium. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 126 To distinguish them from such spores as are reproductive *without* the intervention of a promycelium. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 335 The teleutospores..produce promycelia on germination.

Hence **Promyce·lial** *a.*, of the promycelium.

1887 tr. *De Bary's Fungi* v. 177 The promycelial tube is divided by transverse walls into a series of..short cells.

Promys, -yse, -ysse, obs. ff. PROMISE.

‖ **Pronaos** (prōnēi·ɒs). *Gr.* and *Lat. Antiq.* Also 7 **-on,** 8 **-us.** [L. *pronāos* (*-us*), a. Gr. *πρόναος* (*-ον*) the hall of a temple, prop. adj. 'situated in front of the temple': see PRO- 2 and NAOS.] The space in front of the *naos,* cell, or body of a temple, enclosed by the portico and the projecting side walls; the vestibule. Also, a similar vestibule in some early Christian churches: = NARTHEX.

1613 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antig.* xx. (1614) 17 They had their *pronáon*, or Church-porch. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pronaos* or *Pronaus*,..a Church-Porch, or a Portico to a Palace, great Hall, or spacious Building. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. II. III. x. 169 The architrave..continued from the front of the portico or pronaos to the side pillars. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 140/2 Inner porticoes formed by the longitudinal extension of the flank walls,..forming what are distinguished as the pronaos and opisthodomus.

fig. 1894 HUXLEY *Evol. & Ethics* Pref. 8 If I had attempted to reply in full to the criticisms..I know not what extent of ground would have been covered by my *pronaos*. 1897 *Bookman* Nov. 235 A roomy niche in the pronaos of Fame.

Pro·nate, *ppl. a. rare.* [ad. late L. *prōnāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōnāre*: see next.] Bent into a prone position; bent forward and downward.

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* vi. (1856) 47 Such turf, where the tree growths of more favored regions have become pronate and vine-like.

Pronate (prōu·neit), *v. Physiol.* [f. late L. *prōnāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōnāre* to bend forward, f. *prōn-us* PRONE *a.*] *trans.* To render prone; to put (the hand, or the fore limb) into the prone position; to turn the palm downwards: see next. Opp. to SUPINATE.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 786/1 The forearm and hand were rigidly pronated. 1849–52 *Ibid.* IV. 1517/1 The patient is unwilling to attempt to pronate or supinate his hand. 1875 SIR W. TURNER in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 832/1 The range of movement at the radio-ulnar joints enables us..to pronate the hand and fore-arm by throwing the radius across the ulna, so as to make the thumb the innermost digit.

Pronation (prōunēi·ʃən). *Physiol.* [= F. *pronation*, ad. med.L. *prōnātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōnāre*: see prec.] The action of pronating; the putting of the hand or fore limb into the prone position, i.e. with the palmar surface downwards (if the limb be stretched forward horizontally) or backwards (if it be hanging vertically); the position or condition of being pronated. (Sometimes applied to a similar movement of the tibia in the hind limb.) Opp. to SUPINATION.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1676) 62 They [the muscles] can perform adduction, abduction; flexion, extension; pronation, supination. 1745 AMYAND in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 296 A gummatous Swelling upon the upper Head of the Radius on the right Arm; checking the Motion of this Bone in Pronation and Supination. 1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 42 In the hind limb..the muscular force is..less expended on the pronation of the tibia.

† b. The action of placing (a body, etc.) in a prone position. *Obs.*

1698 TYSON in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 118 The First Pair of Muscles..which..came to be dissected, upon the Pronation of the Animal.

Pronato-flexor (prone:to,fle·ksəɹ), *a. Anat.* [f. *prōnātō-* (prop. advb. combining form of L. *prōnāt-us* pa. pple., pronated, but taken as repr. PRONATOR) + FLEXOR.] Applied to the mass of pronator and flexor muscles of the fore or hind limb.

1872 HUMPHRY *Myology* 24 Below the knee the plantar aspect..is occupied by a broad thick pronato-flexor mass.

Pronator (prōunēi·təɹ). *Anat.* [a. med.L. *prōnātor*, agent-n. f. *prōnāre*: see PRONATE *v.* Cf. F. *pronateur* (16th c. in Littré).] A muscle that effects or assists in pronation; *spec.* one of two muscles of the fore limb, *pronator (radii) teres* and *pronator (radii) quadratus*. Also *attrib.* (Opposed to SUPINATOR.)

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pronatores Musculi*, one is round, the other foursquare, both move the Radius.] 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pronation*, There are peculiar muscles whereby the pronation is effected, called pronators. 1770 PENNANT in *Phil. Trans.* LX. 323 The tendinous muscles..have much the same effect on the tail as the supinator and pronators have in turning the hand. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xliii. 172 At first it may seem that insects..cannot have the Supinator and Pronator muscles; but some muscle of this kind must be..in those that have a versatile head. 1872 MIVART *Anat.* 294 The muscles of the fore-arm consist of pronators and supinators, flexors and extensors.

Prone (prōun), *sb.* Now *rare.* Also 7 prosne. [a. F. *prône* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), also *prosne*, orig. a grill, grating, railing, hence a place enclosed by such, spec. the grating or railing separating the chancel from the nave of a church, the place where notices were given and addresses delivered. Ulterior origin uncertain: see Körting s. v. *præcōno*, and articles there cited.]

†1. A part of a church from which notices were read out; hence the notices there given out. *Obs.*

1670 COTTON *Espernon* x. 514 Upon All-Saints day he thundred out his Excommunication against the Lieutenant of the Guards..at the Prosnes of all the Parish Churches of the City. [*Margin.*] The *Prosnes* are the Publications of the Feasts, and Fasts of the Church, Banes of Matrimony, Excommunications, etc. 1686 — tr. *Montaigne* II. 18 Causing it to be Proclaimed at the Prosne of her Parish-Church.

2. An exhortation or homily to be read or delivered in church.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 56 A saying..out of a prosne or homily, made on purpose to be read before the clergy and laity in all Visitations. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 275 One Eusebius..is said to have writ many short Prones or Exhortations upon the Gospels. 1897 GASQUET *O. Eng. Bible* 65 Parochial sermons were, for the most part..prones upon the Scripture lessons proper for the special Sundays.

Prone (prōun), *a.* Also 4 proone, 6–7 proane. [ad. L. *prōn-us* bent or leaning forward; inclined downward, sinking; disposed, prone (to anything), favourable, easy, cf. obs. F. *prone* (1488 in Godef.).]

1. Having the front or ventral part downwards; bending forward and downward; situated or lying face downwards, or on the belly: said chiefly of persons or animals, or of the posture or attitude itself. Of the hand: with the palm downwards (or backwards); also, of the fore-arm, or the radius, in the corresponding position: see PRONATION. Often predicative or quasi-advb., esp. after *lie*, etc. (cf. FLAT *a.* 2). Opp. to SUPINE *a.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* IV. 62 The office of these two [muscles]..is in prone order to turne Radius. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. xvii, He lowted lowe With prone obeysance. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 268 The position or manner of lying of the sickeman, eyther prone that is downeward, or supine that is vpward. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 506 A Creature who not prone And Brute as other Creatures, but endu'd With Sanctitie of Reason, might erect His Stature. 1784 COWPER *Task* V. 785 Brutes graze the mountain-top, with faces prone. 1859 TENNENT *Ceylon* II. VII. vii. 256 The dogs lie prone upon the ground, their legs extended far in front and behind. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 775 Falling prone he dug His fingers into the wet earth.

b. Of a part of the body: So situated as to be directed downwards; under, nether, ventral.

1646 [see PRONELY 1]. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Their finns are foure, two in the prone part, two in the supine. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 268 Prone Surface...The under surface. *Ibid.* 308 Mouth..Prone... When the mouth is wholly under the head.

2. In inexact or extended sense (as if opp. to *erect*): Lying (or so as to lie) flat; in (or into) a horizontal posture; prostrate. Often predicative or quasi-advb., with *lie, fall*, etc. = flat down.

Permissible of things that have not an upper and under side; but improper of men and animals, unless the position is as in 1. *To lie prone* is one position of *lying prostrate.*

1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* II. iv. (1715) 229 The Beast.. did not fall prone upon the Ground. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 125 Ancient tow'rs..Fall prone. 1835 WILLIS *Melanie* 280 The broken column, vast and prone. 1842 BROWNING *Count Gismond* xvi, Prone lay the false knight, Prone as his lie, upon the ground. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 302 One man..lay on his side with face half upturned... The strong man had fallen prone, as if struck by lightning.

b. *transf.* Constructed for lying prone upon.

1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 102/1 Prone Couches. Recumbent Chairs.

3. Having a downward aspect or direction; having a downward or descending inclination or slope. Also *loosely*, steeply or vertically descending, headlong. Often predicative or quasi-advb.

1627 MAY *Lucan* IV. 125 Let no Streames finde prone passage to the Maine. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 126 Edenburgh..seated on the prone and descending part of an hill. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* III. 803 The Way's so wondrous smooth, so prone and broad. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* I. 132 From high Olympus prone her flight she bends. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xli, Down the prone vale. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xxxiv, The storm seemed to have burst at the zenith; it rushed down prone. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 67 Just where the prone edge of the wood began To feather toward the hollow.

b. *fig.* = DECLINING *ppl. a.* 4 b.

1872 TENNYSON *Gar. & Lyn.* 94 Some comfortable bride and fair, to grace Thy climbing life, and cherish my prone year.

4. *fig.* Directed or inclined 'downwards', or towards what is base; 'grovelling', abject, base.

1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 354 Nothing..but a prone and savage necessity, not worth the name of marriage, unaccompanied with love. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 345 Prone to the centre; crawling in the dust. *Ibid.* VII. 1197 Erect in stature, prone in appetite! 1842 [see 2].

† 5. *fig.* Said of action compared to following a downward sloping path: Easy to adopt or pursue; involving no difficulty or effort. (Sometimes with mixture of sense 6: = to which one is prone.) *Obs.*

1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 151/1 The moost easy, redy and prone payment. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. v. § 87. 290 It is most prone and easy to doe so. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 74 Doth it not pave a plain and prone path unto Atheism? 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 71 There is not a proner way to Hell. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* VII. viii. 312 There is nothing more prone then to lye and sleep on the shadie banks of a River.

6. Having a natural inclination or tendency to something; inclined, disposed, apt, liable. Const. *to* with sb., or inf. (The earliest sense in Eng., and still the prevailing one.)

a. Of persons or animals, in reference to mental disposition or the like; (*a*) to something evil.

(*a*) 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* viii. 21 The witt..and the thoust of mannus herte ben redi [*v. rr.* redi *ether* proone; prome *ether* redi] in to yuel fro his tyme of waxyng. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 32/2 Consyderynge..how prone the people haue ben to worshipe fals gods. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 305 Yet are they exceadyng prone to lechery. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 108, I am not prone to weeping (as our Sex Commonly are). 1659 PEARSON *Creed* i. (1839) 31 We shall always find all nations..more prone to idolatry than to atheism, and readier to multiply than to deny the Deity. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 130 Men are exceedingly prone to deceive themselves. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 197 All are by nature prone to err.

(*b*) to something neutral or good.

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xli. 78 Much more prone to adhere to the league. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 106 Be..Prone, inclyned to mercy. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 690 These seeme prone to receiue the Faith; for they beleeue in One God, ..and haue no Idols. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 321 More prone to concord. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 93 Every state, to one loved blessing prone, Conforms and models life to that alone. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* III. ii. 25 How prone to love Is the pure sinless soul of infancy! 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. v, A mind predisposed to inquiry and prone to meditation.

b. Of things or persons, in reference to merely physical tendencies (e g. to disease).

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 222 The ground..is good enough, and not so prone to mosse as you take it. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 35 Not being prone to inflammation. 1871 BROWNING *Balaust.* 2030 He was..prone Already to grey hairs. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 241 The unstable Tetrathionate of Soda, prone to liberate Sulphur. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 579 Gouty patients or those prone to migraine or neuralgia.

7. Ready in mind (for some action expressed or implied); eager. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 4 Though..our will [be] prone, yet our fleshe is so heauie. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xiii. (1660) 161 The Horse..of all beests there is none..more prone in battell or desirous of revenge. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iv. 208 Vnlesse a man would marry a Gallowes, and beget yong Gibbets, I neuer saw one so prone. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. v. 313 A Body of prone Warriors, never sparing of their Flesh. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 109 What deep wrongs must have blotted out First love, then reverence in a child's prone mind.

8. *Comb.*, as (sense 3) *prone-descending, -rushing* adjs.; (sense 7) *prone-minded* adj.; † **pronewise** *adv.*, with 'prone' movement, downward, easily, readily (cf. 3, 5).

1585 BANISTER *Wecker's Chyrurg.* 336 So as the matter maye freely and pronewise flowe out of the wounde. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 655 Floods Prone-rushing from the clouds. *Ibid.* 1145 A deluge of sonorous hail, Or prone-descending rain. 1869 BUSHNELL *Wom. Suffrage* vii. 143 They will take in the political corruptions with a prone-minded human facility.

† **Prone,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. F. *prôner* (*c* 1600 in Hatz.-Darm.) to address (a congregation), also to eulogize, f. *prône* PRONE *sb.*] *trans.* To read out, make proclamation of.

1683 TEMPLE *Mem.* Wks. 1731 I. 446 The Contents of this Letter were proned by the French Ambassadors at Nimeguen among the several Ministers there.

Pronece: see PRONIECE.

Pronely (prōu·nli), *adv.* [f. PRONE *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a prone position; face downwards; *loosely* (quot. 1578), right down, flat down (cf. PRONE *a.* 2).

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 9 A man, in fallyng..backwardes, goeth pronely, without all hope of recouerable stay. 1616 SHELDON *Miracles Antichr.* ix. 224 The same did.. pronely adore and worship at the time of eleuation. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 151 Some couple..pronely, that is by contaction of prone parts in both. *a* 1851 MOIR *Fowler* vi, We laid us down and watch'd,..Pronely, the sea-fowl and the coming dawn.

2. With a natural inclination; † readily, willingly (*obs.*); eagerly.

1556 J. CLEMENT in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lx. 208 They knewe the trewthe, and pronely wolde confess it. *a* 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1686) II. Serm. x. 148 Closely affixed to material things, or pronely addicted to brutish pleasures.

Proneness (prōu·nɪnès). Also 6–7 pronenes, -nesse; 7 prones, pronesse, proaness (see note s.v. -NESS). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being prone.

1. Natural inclination, disposition, tendency, or propensity (*to* something, or *to do* something).

1548 ELYOT, *Pronitas*, pronenesse, inclinacion to good or euell. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. *v b, Pronenes and redines vnto the dede in the ground of the herte. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 89 The pronenesse of that sexe to teares. 1626 SIR S. D'EWES *Jrnl.* (1783) 36 My fathers prones to..change his former purposes. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. x. 101 A proneness to swoon on the least exertion of strength. 1859 SMILES *Self-Help* xiii. (1860) 338 What is done once and again soon gives facility and proneness.

† b. Readiness of mind, willingness, eagerness.

1631 MASSINGER *Believe as You List* v. ii, I..with a gentle reprehension taxde Your forwarde pronenesse. *c* 1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 9 Of great prudence and proneness in arms.

2. Prone position of the body. *rare.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. i. 180 Though in Serpents and Lizards we may truly allow a pronenesse,..perfect Quadrupedes, as Horses, Oxen, and Camels, are but partly prone, and have some part of erectnesse. *Ibid.*, Birds or flying animals, are so farre from this kinde of pronenesse, that they are almost erect.

† 3. Downward direction or slope; declivity. *Obs.*

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. ii. 168 The River ebbs by the Proneness of its Streams.

Pronepce: see PRONIECE.

† **Pro·nephew.** *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 pronevow, -newowe, 6 -nevoy, 6–7 -nepuoy. [f. PRO-^{1} 2 + NEPHEW, after F. *pronepveu* (1486 in Godef.), L. *pronepōt-em* PRONEPOT.] A great-grandson.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. iii. 372 (Cott. MS.) Fra þe stok ..Discendande persownys lynyally In þe tothir, or þe thride, degre, Newow, or pronewowe [*v.r.* pronevow], sulde be.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 316 Ane greit nobill, that callit wes Dardane, The pronevoy of gude King Metallane. 1593 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 11/2 James lindsay of barcloy pronevoy and air be progres to vmqle Johnne lindsay of wauchoip his grandschir. 1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.* s. v. *Eneya*, The son in the first degree, excludis the nepuoy in the second, and the Nepuoy excludis the pronepuoy in the thrid degree. 1623 *Kings of Scot.* 43 Lord Darnley, Sonne to Matthew, Earle of Lennox: a comelie prince, and Pronepuoy unto Henrie the seauenth, King of England. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pronephew*, a Nephew, or Grandchilds son.

Pronephron, -nephros (prəʊnˈɛfrɒn, -nɛˈfrɒs). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. πρό, PRO- 2 + νεφρός kidney.] The anterior division of the primitive kidney or segmental organ in the embryos of lower vertebrates. Hence **Pronephric** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pronephron; also **Pronephridian** *a.*

1877 E. R. LANKESTER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* XVII. 429 The pronephron (*Kopfnieren*) aborts, the pronephric duct becomes the oviduct; it is frequently called Müller's duct. 1881 BALFOUR *Compar. Embryol.* II. II. xxiii. 601 That this body is..related functionally to the pronephros appears to be indicated..(3) by its enclosure together with the pronephridian stoma in a special compartment of the body cavity. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 588 Van Wijhe's view..that the primitive Craniota had no pronephric duct, the pronephros opening outwards by a pore from the gland.

† **Pronepot.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pro-, pronepos, -ōtem* great-grandson, f. *prō*, PRO- 1 2 + *nepos* grandson: see NEPOTE.] = PRONEPHEW.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cosmogr.* ii. in *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xx, This Brutus wes nepot, or ellis pronepot, to..Eneas. [1729 MACFARLANE *Genealog. Collect.* (S. H. S.) II. 142 Sir Thomas Maule his Pronepos..was killed at Flowdoun.]

† **Pronept(e.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *pronept-is* great-granddaughter, f. *prō*, PRO- 1 2 + *nept-is* NIECE.] A grand-niece; = PRONIECE.

1543 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 337 Leaving behinde Him oone only doughter the Kinges Hieghnes pronepte. 1543 in *Sadler's St. Papers & Lett.* (1809) I. 152 He did well perceive..how much your highness tendred the surety and preservation of your pronepte. 1544 in Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1649) 509 He shall fore-see that the Kings Prónept be not conveyed out of Scotland, but strive to get her person into his custody. 1545 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 420 The Quene of Scotland,..His Highnes pronept.

Pronepuoy, -nepvoy, obs. ff. PRONEPHEW.

Prones, pronesse, obs. ff. PRONENESS.

‖ **Proneur** (prɒnŏr). [F. *prôneur*, agent-n. f. *prôner*: see PRONE *v.*] One who praises another; an extoller, eulogist, flatterer.

1812 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Vivian* vii, This depreciator..of Vivian..had been his political *proneur* and unblushing flatterer. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. xi. (1869) 232 These *proneurs*, or satellites, repeat all their good things [etc.]. 1853 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* iii. Wks. 1862 XIV. 124 Her dislike..to the doctor, as their receiver, and the *proneur* of their authors.

Pronevow, -nevoy, obs. ff. PRONEPHEW.

† **Prong, prang,** *sb.*1 *Obs.* In 5 **prange**, 5–6 **pronge**, 6 **prang.** [Known only from *c* 1440: app. = MLG. *prange* a pinching (Franck), Du. *prang* a pinching, confinement, † *prange* 'shackle, neck-iron, horse-muzzle' (Hexham), † *pranghe* 'coarctatio, compressio' (Kilian); f. OTeut. vbl. stem **prang-* to pinch, squeeze: cf. PRANGLE, also next and PANG *sb.*]

1. Urgent distress, anguish; a pang.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 493/1 Throwe, womannys pronge (*K.* sekenes), *erumpna*. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 151 As thow the prongys of deth dede streyn Here hert root. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 287 These prongys myn herte asondyr thei do rende. *c* 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1150 The prange of loue so straineth them to crie.

2. ? A trick, a prank. *rare*—1.

Perhaps a different word.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 501 My frende, where haue ye bene so longe?..I haue bene about a praty pronge.

Prong (prɒŋ), *sb.*2 Forms: α. 5–6 **prange**, 6 **prannge, prang.** β. 5–7 **pronge**, 6 **prongue**, 7 **prung**, 6– **prong.** See also SPRONG. [Known only from *c* 1500; origin and etymology obscure; perh. related to prec.; cf. MLG. *prange* a pinching, also a pinching instrument, a horse's barnacle (Franck). But in sense more akin to PRAG *sb.*1, PROG *sb.*1, as if a nasalized variant of these.]

1. An instrument or implement with two, three, or more piercing points or tines; a forked instrument, a fork. In many specific uses, now chiefly *dial.*; e. g. a fork to eat with, a table-fork; a long-handled fork for kitchen use; a kind of fire-iron; a rural implement, a pitchfork, hay-fork, dung-fork, digging-fork.

1492 RYMAN *Poems* lv. 4 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 221 Dethe hathe felde me with his pronge. [Cf. lxxxv. 5 When dredefull deth to the shal come And smyte the with his spronge.] 1501 *Will of Treffry* (Somerset Ho.), A Prange of siluer for grene gynger. 1504 *Ibid.*, My best prannge for grene gynger. 1528 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII*, IV. II. 2227 In casting prangs for to cast fyre and faggott. 1549 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 349 Pronges of yron. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1568) 19 a/2 A pronge, *bidens*. 1559–60 *Will of J. Kighley* (Somerset Ho.), A pronge of silver which they eate Sucket withall. 1567 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 279 An Iron Chimnay, a pair of tongs, a prong v^s. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 166/47 A Prongue, *hasta furcata*. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* VIII. (1626) 167 Her husband.. Tooke downe a flitch of bacon with a prung, That long had in the smokie chimney hung. 1637 HEYWOOD *Dial.* iv. Wks. 1874 VI. 164 Expell me With forks and prongs, as one insenc'd with ire. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 60 Culinary utensils and Irons that often feele the force of fire, as tongs, fireshovels, prongs and Andirons. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 487 Be mindful..With Iron Teeth of Rakes and Prongs, to move The crusted Earth. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Prong*, a Fork for the stable, or for hay-making. 1877 *Auctioneer's Catalogue* (Shropsh.) (E. D. D.), Six superior quality electro-plated dinner prongs. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* I. iii. 48 He wanted a prong, and a stout stick with a fork was cut and pointed for him. 1881 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 332 He shouldered a prong and assisted his haymakers. 1891 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Noughts & Crosses* 79 He.. always dined wi' a pistol laid by his plate, alongside the knives an' prongs.

b. Any forked object, appendage, or part.

1846 GREENER *Sc. Gunnery* 145 Two iron bars, the one fixed, the other loose. In the latter there is a prong or notch to receive one end. 1905 E. CHANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* vi. 105 The muzzles and prongs of the Tibetan matchlocks.

2. Each pointed tine or division of a fork.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3287/4, 4 Forks with 3 Prongs. 1729 SWIFT *Let. to Gay* 19 Mar., I dine with forks that have but two prongs. 1763 SMOLLETT *Trav.* (1766) I. v. 62 The poorest tradesman in Boulogne has..silver forks with four prongs. 1879 G. MEREDITH *Egoist* xxx, You were lean as a fork with the wind whistling through the prongs.

b. Any slender stabbing or piercing instrument, or projecting part of a machine or apparatus.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* ccii, The Stronger Squadron of the french fell in Vpon the goreing stakes;.. 'mongst these officious prongs Surpriz'd; their horse entangled, plunge their way Through many wounds, to Death. 1875 [see *prong-chuck* in 4].

c. A projecting spur of any natural object (esp. of one with several such), as a tooth, a deer's horn, a rock, etc. In Southern U.S., 'a branch or arm of a creek or inlet' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* 1860).

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 120 If Mr. Reece's descriptive state of the prongs or stumps [of teeth] was correct. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 71/1 The prong or antler [of the prongbuck] ..is short and compressed, points forwards and a little outwards. 1843 A. WHITE in *Zoologist* I. 29 The antennae are monstrously developed..emitting from each 'prong' a part of a distinct antennule. 1855 *Ecclesiologist* XVI. 82 The castle stands upon a narrow prong of the hill. 1858 *N. York Tribune* 9 Mar. 6/3 A..man who lives on a prong of Middle Creek [Kansas]. 1886 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Songs for Strangers* Poems (1904) 134/2 Fair its floating moon with her prongs. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. of West* I. xii. 214 Strike for some prongs of rock that appear south-east.

3. ? A prawn.

a 1820 J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* (1836) 19 Some are rapidly borne along On the mailed shrimp or the prickly prong.

4. *Comb.*, as *prong-like* adj., *prong-maker*; **prong-chuck** (see quot.); **prong-fork**, a large fork for agricultural purposes; **prong-hoe** *sb.*, an agricultural implement with two curving prongs, used like a hoe; = HACK *sb.*1 1; hence **prong-hoe** *v. trans.*, to break up or dig with a prong-hoe; **prong-pin**, a hairpin with two prongs; **prong-staff** (pl. *-staves*), the handle of a *prong-fork*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Prong-chuck*, a burnishing chuck with a steel prong. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lviii. 245 The use of the *prong-fork that I have done my land with. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* x. 47 'Tis very profitable to Hoe that little with a Bidens, called here a *Prong-Hoe. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, The prong-hoe consists of two hooked points of six or seven inches long, and when struck into the ground will..answer both the ends of cutting up the weeds and opening the land. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lviii. 245 A prong-hoe, which is used in hop-grounds. 1892 *Board of Agric. Circular conc. Raspberry Moth*, Soot, lime ashes..might be forked or *prong-hoed into the ground. 1848 J. BISHOP tr. *Otto's Violin* App. v. (1875) 85 The three *prong-like portions of the mute. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxiii. 376 Made perfectly round, and of equal Diameter from one End to the other, by the *Prong-Maker. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 19 July 8/3 Tortoise-shell..is..in great request for the *prong pins that girls stick in the thick coil of hair behind their ears. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* II. 256 Another part of the ash may serve for *prong-staves, rake-staves, and rath-pins for waggons.

Prong, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To pierce or stab with a prong; to turn up the soil with a 'prong' or fork; to fork.

1840 *Cottager's Man.* 45 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Improved by deep pronging or mattocking between the rows. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* li, Silver forks with which they prong all those who have not the right of the *entrée*. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 174 'No, sir, no', he continued, pronging another onion.

2. To furnish with prongs, or prong-like points.

1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Madding Crowd* xi, The indistinct summit of the façade was notched and pronged by chimneys.

Prongbuck (prɒŋbʊk). [f. PRONG *sb.*2 + BUCK *sb.*1] = PRONGHORN (strictly, the male).

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 71/2 The prongbuck inhabits all the western parts of North America from the 53° of north latitude to the plains of Mexico and California. 1902 T. ROOSEVELT in *Deer Family* (Sportsm. Libr.) 98 The prongbuck or pronghorn antelope, known throughout its range simply as antelope, is..the only hollow-horn ruminant which annually sheds its horns as deer do their antlers. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 44 The prong-buck..and the opossums of America being unknown in the Old World.

So **Pro·ngdoe,** the female of the pronghorn.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Pronghorn*, The prongdoe regularly drops twins.

Pronged (prɒŋd), *a.* [f. PRONG *sb.*2 + -ED 2.] Furnished with or having prongs.

1767 COLLINSON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 466 The pronged teeth are like to agate. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. xiii, Wicket of oak..And prong'd portcullis. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* v, I observed a pronged head disappearing behind a swell in the prairie. 1863–76 CURLING *Dis. Rectum* (ed. 4) 54, I..generally use the pronged forceps.

b. Often in comb. with a numeral, as *two-, three-, four-pronged.*

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 6 July 3/3 Eating..with a three-pronged fork. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxix, Very mountebanks of two-pronged forks. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) Feb. 440/1 A four pronged buck and a big doe running together.

Pronge, obs. Sc. form of PRUNE *v.*1

Pronghorn (prɒˈŋhɔ̄ɹn), *sb.* [short for *prong-horn(ed antelope*]: see next.

***Prong-horned** (prɒŋhɔ̄ɹnd), *a.* [f. PRONG *sb.*2 + HORNED *a.*] In *prong-horned antelope*; also *prong-horn antelope*, and *prong-horn*: A North American ruminant (*Antilocapra americana*), resembling a deer, the male of which has hollow deciduous horns with a short 'prong' or snag in front; popularly reckoned as an antelope, but scientifically regarded as the sole surviving representative of a distinct family *Antilocapridæ*. Also called CABRIE or *cabrit.*

a. 1815 G. ORD *N. Amer. Zool.* (1894) 308 The Prong-Horned Antelope is found in great numbers on the plains and the high-lands of the Missouri. 1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 71/1 The prong-horned antelope seems..to have been associated [by the ancient Mexicans] with the deer, on account of its branched horns. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. viii. 234 In the prong-horned antelope, only a few of the females..have horns.

β. 1826 J. D. GODMAN *Amer. Nat. Hist.* II. 321 The prong-horn antelope is an animal of wonderful fleetness. 1902 [see PRONGBUCK]. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 183 Prong-horn antelope were shot; but wapiti were scarce and shy.

γ. 1826 J. D. GODMAN *Amer. Nat. Hist.* II. 324 The prong-horn .. is usually called a goat by the Canadians. 1864 WEBSTER, Prong-horn. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 581 The tact and caution required in the successful pursuit of the watchful pronghorn.

† **Pro·niece.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **pronece, -nepce.** [f. PRO- 1 2 + NIECE: see PRONEPT.] A grand-niece.

1542 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, V. 231 Oure Soverane and Maister, 3our tendir nepho, is departit fra yis present life.. and hes left ane Princes, 3oure pronece, to be heretar and Quene of yis Realme. 1543 *Ibid.* 270 Oure Soverane Lady, Quene of Scotland, 3oure best lovit pronece. *Ibid.* 281 For the performance of the mariage betwene my Lorde Princes Grace and the doughter of Scotlande, the Kinges Majesties pronepce.

† **Pro·nity.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōnitās, -ātem* inclination, propensity, f. *prōn-us* PRONE *a.*]

1. Steepness of descent: cf. PRONE *a.* 3. *rare.*

1524 PACE *Let. to Hen. VIII* in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xi. 20, I durst not..look on my left hand, for the pronite and deepnes to the valei.

2. Propensity, proneness (chiefly to evil).

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 246 b, A pronite or redynesse to all vyce. *a* 1535 FISHER *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) II. 440 Consideryng y^e pronytie of mans harte to be infected with heresies. *a* 1670 HACKET *Cent. Serm.* (1675) 231 An eagerness and pronity to resist. 1672 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5165 Gravity or Heaviness is..reputed to be such a *Conatus* or Pronity to move downwards. 17.. KILLINGBECK *Serm.* xi. (1717) 227 What Restraints shall we lay upon the vicious Pronities and Inclinations of Human Nature?

Pronominal (prɒnǫ·minăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *prōnōminālis* belonging to a pronoun (Priscian), f. L. *prōnōmen, -in-* PRONOUN: see -AL. So in F.]

† 1. Serving to indicate things, instead of naming them. *Obs. rare.*

1644 BULWER *Chirol.* 164 The naturall validity of this indigitation of persons, and pronominall vertue of this Finger.

2. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a pronoun.

1680 DALGARNO *Deaf & Dumb Tutor* 134 Our own English pronominal words are none of the most graceful pronunciation. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* II. i. (1786) 233 There are the Pronominal Articles, such as, *This, That, Any, Other, Some, All, No* or *None*, &c. 1824 J. WINTERBOTTOM *Two French Words* 19 The French Pronominal Adverb *en.* 1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 42 What are called pronominal affixes, which are added to the end of nouns. 1902 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* 170 To the second class we give the name of *pronominal roots*, because a great number of them occur in pronouns, and because they seem to express ideas of a relative nature, such as are found in pronouns and indefinite adverbs.

B. *sb.* (The adj. used absol.) A pronominal word.

1871 KENNEDY *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* § 127. 279 When the Accusative of the Matter is a Neuter Pronoun or Pronominal. 1876 *Ibid.* § 31 (ed. 4) 143 The Interrogative Pronominals *qualis, quantus, quot.*

Hence **Prono·minalize** *v. trans.*, to render pronominal; **Prono·minally** *adv.*, with the force of or as a pronoun; by means of a pronoun.

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 477 We have also some substantives which have been *pronominalised to this effect, as *person, people, body, folk.* *a* 1665 J. GODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 118 The..particle is to be taken adjectively ..and not merely nominally or *pronominally. 1836 in SMART. 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* XXX, 'What was that notion of his'—they usually spoke of the minister pronominally.

Pronomination (prɒnɒmineɪ·ʃən). [In sense 1 f. PRO-[1] + NOMINATION, imitating Gr. *ἀντονομασία*, ANTONOMASIA; in sense 2 f. L. *prōnōmen* PRONOUN + -ATION.]

†**1.** = ANTONOMASIA. *Obs. rare.*

1611 COTGR., *Antonomasie*, a pronomination. 1629 MABBE tr. *Fonseca's Devout Contempl.* 134 Called..by an *Antonomasia*, or pronomination, 'The Ships of Tharshish'.

2. Indication or reference by means of a pronoun.

1899 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. III. 448/2 Has any rule been laid down by grammarians..for the pronomination or pronounization of this word [church]?

‖ **Prononcé** (prɒnōnsé), *a.* [Fr. pa. pple. of *prononcer* to PRONOUNCE.] Pronounced, emphasized; strongly marked or defined; conspicuous, noteworthy.

1838 MILL *A. de Vigny* Diss. & Disc. (1859) I. 291 A certain monotony of goodness,..and a degree of distaste for *prononcé* characters, as being nearly allied to ill-regulated ones. 1880 MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* II. 151 When the flirtation between her and D'Arcy became more prononcé.

Pronostic, etc.: see PROGNOSTIC, etc.

†**Prono·tary.** *Obs.* Also 7 -notory, 8 -nothary. = PROTONOTARY. Cf. also PRENOTARY.

1563 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 198 The precontract ..alleged for one Leonard's son, a pronotary. 1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* III. i, I knew you a pronotories boy, That wrote Indentures at the towne-house-doore. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 231 The oath..shall be taken of..Utter barristers, Benchers, Readers, Ancients, Pronotaries [citing *Act* 5 *Eliz.* c. 1, which has Prothonotaries']. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5192/1 The Pronothary read the Oath.

‖ **Pronotum** (prɒnō·tɒm). *Entom.* [mod.L. *pronōtum*, f. Gr. πρό, PRO-[2] + νῶτον, NOTUM, back.] The dorsal part of the prothorax of an insect; the anterior division of the notum, as distinct from the *mesonotum* and *metanotum*.

Its segments or scleres are the *pro-præscutum*, *proscutum*, *prosctutellum*, *pro-postscutellum*.

1836 SHUCKARD tr. *Burmeister's Man. Entom.* 78 They [Kirby & Spence] think they have observed that some insects (*Vespa*, *Cimbex*) possess both a collar and a pronotum. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 399 The tergal portion of the prothorax (pronotum) is a wide shield, which overlaps the head.

Hence **Prono·tal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pronotum (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Pronoun (prō·nɑun). [f. PRO-[1] 4 + NOUN, after F. *pronom*, L. *prōnōmen*.] One of the Parts of Speech: a word used instead of a noun substantive, to designate an object without naming it, when that which is referred to is known from context or usage, has been already mentioned or indicated, or, being unknown, is the subject or object of inquiry.

PERSONAL pronouns of the first and second persons (*I, thou*, pl. *we, you*, with their cases) stand instead of the names of the speaker and the person spoken to. Those of the third person (*he, she, it, they*, with their cases, originally demonstratives) avoid the repetition of a name already mentioned or indicated. INTERROGATIVE pronouns (*who? what? which?*) ask the name, etc. of a person or thing unknown. RELATIVE pronouns (*who, which, that*) combine the function of a personal or demonstrative pronoun with that of a conjunction, and subordinate one sentence or clause to another, as 'I met a friend *who* told me' for 'I met a friend, *and he* told me'. POSSESSIVE pronouns are adjectives arising out of the original genitive case of personal pronouns. In Eng., as in many other modern langs., they have developed two forms, one absolute or strictly pronominal (*mine, thine, ours, yours*, etc.), the other adjectival (*my, thy, our, your*, etc.).

In addition to these, several definitive adjectives are very commonly used absolutely or pronominally, and classed as *adjective pronouns* or *pronominal adjectives*. These include the DEMONSTRATIVES, *this* (pl. *these*), *that* (pl. *those*), *yon* (or *yonder*); DISTRIBUTIVES, *each, every, either, neither* (of which *every* as a pronoun is now archaic); INDEFINITE numerals, etc., *any, some, one, other* (*another*), *none*, to which some add *all, both, many, few, enough, such*, when used absolutely. *One* is often used as an indefinite personal pronoun (ONE 20); and the words *self* and *own*, used to strengthen the personal and possessive pronouns, are sometimes classed with them.

1530 PALSGR. 74 Pronownes be suche as, standynge in the stede of substantives, may governe verbes to be of lyke nombre and parson with them. 1581 W. FULKE in *Confer.* III. (1584) T ij, Whereto els hath the pronowne (*this*) relation? 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* vi. (1627) 55 They are either Nownes, or Pronowns. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. ii. § 3 As Nouns are notes or signs of things, so Pronouns are of Nouns; and are therefore called *Pronomina, quasi vice Nominum*, as being placed commonly instead of Nouns. 1751 HARRIS *Hermes* I. v. (1786) 73 The Genuine Pronoun always stands by itself, affirming the Power of a Noun and supplying its place. 1827 HARE *Guesses* (1847) 187 They are strange and mighty words, these two little pronouns, *I* and *Thou*. 1904 ONIONS *Adv. Eng. Syntax* § 62 Adjective Clauses are introduced by Relative Pronouns .., Relative Adjectives.., or Relative Adverbs.., referring to a noun or noun-equivalent called the Antecedent, expressed or implied in the Principal Clause. *Ibid.* § 223 *We* is often employed colloquially, like 'you', as an Indefinite Pronoun = 'one'.

Pronou·nal, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. prec. + -AL: cf. NOUNAL for *nominal*.] = PRONOMINAL.

1883 J. W. F. ROGERS *Gram. & Logic* I. iii. 67 Pronounal Phrase, I myself. 1884 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Apr. 499 His [Rogers'] style has serious defects. Such expressions as 'nounal' and 'pronounal' grate harshly upon the ear.

†**Pronou·nce**, *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. next; cf. obs. F. *prononce*, f. *prononcer* (see next): cf. It. *pronunzia*, med.L. *prōnuncia* (Du Cange).]

1. = PRONUNCIATION **2.**

1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 35 Orators, all of them having their particular excellencies in barbarisme, harshnes, and rusticall both pronounce and action.

2. = PRONOUNCEMENT **1.**

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* vi. Wks. 1851 III. 124 That all controversie may end in the finall pronounce or canon of one Arch-primat, or Protestant Pope.

Pronounce (prɒnɑu·ns), *v.* Also 4-5 (*Sc.* 6-7) **pronunce**, 4-6 **-nounse**, 5 **-nunse**, **-nowns**, 5-6 **-nownce**, 6 **-nownse**. [ME. *pronunce, pronounce*, a. OF. *pronuncier* (1277 in Godef. *Compl.*), for earlier *purnuncier* (mod.F. *prononcer*):—late L. *prōnunciāre* for orig. *prōnuntiāre* to proclaim, announce, rehearse, narrate, pronounce, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *nunti-āre* to announce: cf. ANNOUNCE, ENOUNCE.]

I. 1. *trans.* To utter, declare, or deliver (a sentence or statement) formally or solemnly; to proclaim or announce authoritatively or officially.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 315 To areson þe pape, þe right forto declare .. & þorgh his decre þe pes pronunce a day. *c* 1400 *Brut* 155 þe Pope .. grantede ful power to iiij bisshopis to pronounce þe enterdityng, if it were nede. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 7 The messagers..had pronounced the joustes. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, I pronounce that they bee man and wyfe together. 1552 *Ibid., Morn. Prayer* Rubric, The absolucion to be pronounced by the Minister alone. 1586-7 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 142 He pronunceit a Wo aganis the inhabitantis of Edinburgh. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 135 Then the first Prince, whose office it is, pronounces with a loud voice, that it is but necessary they should have a Prince to Govern and Rule them. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. xi. § 129 The pronouncing of Sentence of Death is not a certain mark of Sovereignty. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 183 When he had pronounced the curse. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 199 The day and hour on which he pronounced his vows as an Augustine Friar. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii, And hath King Edward not pronounced his heir? 1884 A. R. PENNINGTON *Wiclif* ix. 297 Excommunications, unjustly pronounced, must be disregarded.

2. To declare aloud, proclaim, announce, make known; to tell, narrate, report. *Obs.* or merged in 1.

c 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 147 To pronounce wele here nedis to begge of þe puple. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. Prol.* 7 First I pronounce whennes þat I come, And thanne my bulles shewe I alle and some. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1003, I sal pronunce..All my mysdedes my-self ogayne. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Philomene* lxxiii, Amidde the thickest throngs..I will pronounce this bloudie deede. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 94 A Courier..appeared before the Prytanes, and pronounced the dreadful tidings, that the King of Macedon had taken possession of Elatea. *a* 1845 HOOD *Lamia* i. 2 Here I'll sit down and watch; till his dear foot Pronounce him to my ear. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* ix. 98 Impassioned words, in which she pronounced her ideas of what should be the religious duties of a woman.

†**b.** *fig.* To 'declare', display. *Obs.*

1615 J. STEPHENS *Ess. & Char., Worthy Poet* (1857) 144 His workes doe..pronounce both nourishment, delight and admiration to the readers soule. 1777 W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* cxliii, Costly decorations to the capital, that pronounce false pride and vain glory.

3. To affirm, assert, state authoritatively or definitely; to declare as one's opinion or judgement, or as a known fact. **a.** with simple compl. or inf.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 35 Whi schulde curatis pronounsen here breþeren a cursed. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. xi. 55 Lete him..pronounce himself an vnprofitable seruant. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 64 The Oracle of Apollo, pronounced the Chaldæans and Hebrewes to be only wise. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* II. 193 God view'd his Creatures, and pronounc'd them good. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 57 ₱ 3 Pronouncing you a Genteel, Fine, Beautiful Woman. 1826 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* (1829) I. *Godefridus* 69 The twelfth century, which even Sismondi pronounces to have been a great age. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvi. 314 Professor Forbes..pronounces this portion of the Mer de Glace impassable. *Mod.* The apples were pronounced excellent. The child was pronounced out of danger.

b. with simple obj. or objective clause.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 491 Wee can not pronounce anie thing certaine of so high a nature as is that of the soule. 1629 DONNE *Serm.* xxiv. (1640) 241 Do not pronounce..that every man is in an errour, that thinkes not just as thou thinkest. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* II. 298 Remember, how deceitful Marks all these are to pronounce one's State by. 1860 WARTER *Sea-board* II. 24 He could pronounce nothing .. as to the extent of the injury. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 2 A stranger would at once pronounce that the three young men were brothers.

4. *intr.* To make a statement or assertion, esp., now always, an authoritative or definite one; to pass judgement, give one's opinion or decision. Now usually const. *on* or *upon*; also *for* (*in favour of*) or *against*.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 4282 Huchon of þe Aule Reale .. Has tretyt þat mater cunnandly Mar sufficiande þan to pronowns can I. *c* 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIII. ii, They wanton grow, and in malicious vaine Talking of wrong, pronounce as from the skies! 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 98 This .. signifies properly two sentences wch pronounce against each other. *Ibid.* 158 Some propositions that pronounce of the creature be necessary, and some contingent in their truth. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 146 Twelve men of the common People .. pronounce simply for the Complaynant, or for the Defendant. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. iii. § 1 Some weaker People..pronounce against the Use of the Bark or Opium upon all Occasions whatsoever. 1830 PUSEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 405 He will not presume to pronounce upon the fate of those who lived either under the darkness or the light. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IX. II. 457 The majority..pronounced in favour of William's undertaking. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xviii. 295 When all France pronounced for atheism and anarchy. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 29 May 5/3 Nor are we in a position to pronounce on the fairness of the scale fixed.

b. *refl.* To utter or avow one's opinions or intentions; to declare oneself.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. vi, The mutineers pronounce themselves with a decisiveness, which to Bouillé seems insolence. 1842-3 GROVE *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1846) 27 Without pronouncing myself positively upon the question.. I think it will be safer to regard the action on Photographic compounds as resulting from a function of light.

II. 5. *trans.* To give utterance to; to utter, speak, articulate (a word or words); † to make, or produce (a vocal sound) (*obs.*). Also *absol.*

1388 WYCLIF *Job* xxxiv. 1 And Helyu pronounside and spak also these thingis [*Vulg.* Pronuntians itaque Eliu, etiam hæc locutus est]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 90 Thurgh notes of acordement, The whiche men pronounce alofte. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 255 Instructe in the langage of Grece, in whiche..he hade better use to understonde hit then to pronownce hit. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 222 Demosthenes beyng not able to pronounce the firste letter of that arte..but would saie, for *Rhetorike, Letolike*, vsed to putte little stones vnder his tongue, and so pronounced, whereby he spake at length so plainly, as any manne in the worlde could doe. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 110 Thay can pronunce na voce furth of thair throtis. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 553 Language of Man pronounc't By Tongue of Brute. 1711 J. GREENWOOD *Eng. Gram.* 300 They say that the Americans bordering on New England .. cannot pronounce either an *l* or *r*, but use *n* instead of it. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 107 When she .. pronounced some words that I understood not.

b. With reference to the mode of pronunciation of a letter, syllable, word, or language. Also *absol.*

c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 9 *U* the south pronunces, quhen the syllab beginnes or endes at it, as eu, teu for tu, and eunum meunus for unum munus, quhilk..I hoep I sal not need argumentes to prove it wrang. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 381 The word is sometimes pronounc'd with a *b*. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 314 ₱ 9 My Friends flatter me, that I pronounced those Words with a tolerable good Accent. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. iii, In speaking, they pronounce through the nose and throat. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) II. 131 He pronounces English quite different from other foreigners. 1861 CRAIK *Eng. Lit.* I. 253 Wallis .. suggested that the origin of this silent *e* probably was, that it had originally been pronounced, though somewhat obscurely, as a distinct syllable.

6. To deliver, declaim, recite: with reference to the manner. Also *absol. Obs.* (or passing into 1).

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 342 To se the priest.. standing at the aultare, pronouncing al thinges in a strange language. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 2 Speake the Speech I pray you, as I pronounc'd it to you trippingly on the Tongue. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 211 That famous Greek Orator, when he was asked, what was the chief grace or excellency in Rhetorick, what was the second and third; he stil answered, To pronounce wel. [1761 GRAY *Descent of Odin* 23 Thrice he .. pronounc'd, in accents dread, The thrilling verse that wakes the Dead.]

†**b.** *intr.* To deliver a sermon or address; to preach. *Obs. rare.*

1663 COWLEY *Cutter of Coleman St.* IV. v, Brother Abednego, will you not pronounce this Evening-tide before the Congregation of the Spotless in Coleman Street?

Pronounceable (prɒnɑu·nsăb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE. So F. *prononçable* (1611 Cotgr.), late L. *prōnuntiābil-is*.] That can be pronounced.

1611 COTGR., *Prononçable*, pronounceable. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 15 There is no Name pronounceable by Men or Angels, which can define God as he is. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* iv. 68 A mere succession of consonants, though prohounceable by sufficient effort, would be an indistinct and disagreeable sputter.

Pronounced (prɒnɑu·nst), *ppl. a.* [See -ED [1].]

1. Spoken, uttered, articulated.

1577 *Fruites of Prayer* H ij b, He that by the vse of pronounced prayer is caried into the inward consolation of the minde. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Sept. 2/1 Hymns..chaunted by the childish choir in ill-pronounced Latin.

2. *fig.* Clearly expressed, strongly marked; such as to be clearly, easily, or readily perceived or recognized; decided.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pronouncing*, Thus the painters, in speaking of a piece, say these or these parts are well pronounced. 1781 J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* (1790) II. xlvi. 14 The contour of the body being as distinctly pronounced through it [the light drapery] as if the figure were naked. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 75 Emigration from Europe has not yet taken a pronounced direction towards Southern Africa. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54 When regarded obliquely their colour is not so pronounced. 1861 BERESF. HOPE *Eng. Cathedr.* 19th *C.* vi. 217 Even in the little round church of St. Sepulchre's, Cambridge, of pure Norman or Romanesque, there is a pronounced triforium. 1879 T. P. O'CONNOR *Ld. Beaconsfield* 67 Mr. Disraeli sought election at Marylebone as a Radical of the most pronounced type.

Pronouncedly (prɒnɑu·nsĕdli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pronounced manner or degree; markedly, decidedly, distinctly.

1867 F. H. LUDLOW *Fleeing to Tarshish* 143 The earl was an elegant, though most pronouncedly British man of about forty. 1881 *Times* 11 Oct., Spanish was pronouncedly dull, and all markets closed with a gloomy appearance. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 530/2 Both..theologies were in their doctrines of sin and grace pronouncedly Augustinian.

Pronouncement (prǫnɑu·nsmĕnt). [f. PRONOUNCE *v.* + -MENT: cf. OF. *prononcement* (13th c.).]

1. The action or an act of pronouncing; a formal statement, esp. one authoritatively made; an opinion or decision given; a declaration, assertion.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 46 Repent yet, and I will repent me of the pronouncement against thee. 1680 J. C. *Vind. Oaths* (ed. 2) 1 The first and lowest step or degree is a bare and simple affirmation and negation, or pronouncement of the matter without more, as to say,..'My name is John'. 1860 W. G. WARD *Nat. & Grace* I. p. xxvii, The Catholic philosopher is bound to take care, that his conclusions are fully in accordance with the pronouncements of sound Theology. 1880 F. HALL in *19th Cent.* Sept. 424 Peremptory and unseasoned pronouncements as to what is bad English are not the least of the minor pests which vex our enlightened age.

2. The fact or condition of being pronounced or strongly marked. *rare.*

1908 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 272 It was not till the approach of the Renaissance that the feeling attained any definite pronouncement in Europe.

Pronouncer (prǫnɑu·nsəɹ). [f. PRONOUNCE *v.* + -ER [1].] One who pronounces.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. 25 (Camb. MS.) Thow Rethoryen or pronouncere of kynges preysynges desseruedyst glorye of wit and of Eloquence. 1561-2 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 197 Quha is the gevar and pronuncear of the said decreit. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* B iij b, Heere now I appeale from the Readers to the pronouncers of iudgement. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. *Fasti* 696, A Pronouncer of the men of this World to be vain, in whom the knowledge of God reigneth not. 1813 LEIGH HUNT in *Examiner* 15 Feb. 98/1 The pronouncers of my sentence. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Nov. 607/2 Every intelligent pronouncer and adopter of the formularies of the Church.

Pronouncing (prǫnɑu·nsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING [1].] The action of the verb PRONOUNCE.

1. Utterance, articulation, pronunciation.

1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (E.E.T.S.) 21 His forhed, chekis, his eyne and all his membres in maner laboured in pronounsyng of þese wordes. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* v. (1887) 31 Our spelling is harder, our pronouncing harsher. 1597 HOLLYBAND (*title*) The Italian Schoole-maister; Contayning Rules for the perfect pronouncing of th' italian tongue. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* III. xii. 366 Those Letters are stiled Consonants, in the pronouncing of which the Breath is intercepted, by some Collision or Closure.

2. Authoritative or official utterance, delivery (of a sentence, or the like).

1563-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 258 For the inordinat pronunceing of ane decreit aganis him. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xlii. 275 Besides the Judgment, there is necessary also the pronouncing of Sentence. 1884 *Law Times* 1 Nov. 2/2 The decree *nisi*..is not to be made absolute until six months from the pronouncing thereof.

b. The giving of an authoritative opinion; a decision, judgement, pronouncement.

1786 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) I. 561 There is no pronouncing on future events. 1869 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* X. 146 Here is the last pronouncing of the Church, Her sentence that subsists unto this day.

3. *attrib.*; **pronouncing dictionary**, a dictionary in which the received pronunciation of the words is indicated.

1764 W. JOHNSTON (*title*) A Pronouncing and Spelling Dictionary. 1791 J. WALKER (*title*) A Critical Pronouncing Dictionary. 1857 PRYCE (*title*) English-Welsh Pronouncing Dictionary.

Pronou·ncing, *ppl. a. rare.* [-ING [2].] That pronounces; expressing a pronouncement.

1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 153 Axiome signifieth no more, but a declaratiue or pronouncing sentence.

† **Pro·nounist.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PRONOUN + -IST.] One who favours the use of pronouns. So **Pronouniza·tion** = PRONOMINATION 2.

1625 J. PHILLIPS *Way to Heaven* 63 These Pronounists do so glory in the phrase [*Our Lord*], that it is become a distinguishing note of a Romish Catholike. 1899 [see PRONOMINATION 2].

‖ **Pronuba** (prōu·niubă). *Rom. Antiq.* [L. *prōnuba* a woman who attended a bride, f. **prōnubāre* (found in *prōnubāns*) to arrange a marriage, f. PRO- [1] + stem of *nūb-ĕre* to marry.] A woman presiding over or assisting in the ceremonies and arrangements of marriage.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. iv. 78 Erth, the first modir, maid a takin of wo, And eik of wedlok the pronuba Juno. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 429 (ed. 2) 618 The bride..is pushed forward by the pronuba to the husband who is armed with a lance. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* (ed. 7) 252/2 At the end of the repast the bride was conducted by matrons who had not had more than one husband (*pronubae*), to the lectus genialis in the atrium.

Hence **Pro·nubal** *a. rare*: see quot.; also **Pronu·bial** *a. rare* [after *connubial*], presiding over or promoting marriage.

1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 303 Pronubal or pledge rings passed between the contracting parties among the Romans. 1698 CONGREVE *Semele* I. i, Thy aid, pronubial Juno, Athamas implores.

‖ **Pronucleus** (prōniū·kliŭs). *Biol.* [mod.L. (E. van Beneden), f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- [2] + NUCLEUS.] A primitive or prior nucleus; in *Zool.* the nucleus of a spermatozoön or of an ovule, before these unite to form the definitive nucleus of the fertilized ovum; in *Bot.* the nucleus of a gamete, which, by coalescing with another of the opposite sex, forms the germ nucleus.

1880 *Athenæum* 25 Dec. 868/3 In this egg,..shortly before impregnation, a clear nucleus is formed, round which the protoplasm of the egg becomes radiately striated. This is known as the female pronucleus. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 524 One of these is the nucleus of the oosphere, and may be termed the 'female pronucleus'; the other appears to have passed into the oosphere from the pollen-tube, and is the 'male pronucleus' (*spermakern*). These two nuclei coalesce to form the definitive nucleus of the oospore. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* Introd. 25 The two pronuclei approach each other, and the granules of the surrounding protoplasm are arranged round each of them, so as to form a star or aster with a pronucleus as a centre.

Pronunce, -nunse, obs. forms of PRONOUNCE.

Pronunciability (prǫnvnsiăbi·liti, -nvnʃiă-). [f. next + -ITY.] Capability of being pronounced.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 191/2 The several properties..desirable in language, may be thus enumerated:—1. Clearness. 2. Correctness. 3. Copiousness. 4. Completeness. 5. Non-redundance. 6. Conciseness. 7. Pronunciability. 8. Melodiousness [*sic*]. 1881 MASSON *De Quincey* xi. 156 Mere pronunciability was not enough for him, and musical beauty had to be superadded.

Pronunciable (prǫnvnsiăb'l, -ʃiăb'l), *a.* [ad. late L. *prōnuntiābil-is*, f. *prōnuntiāre*: see PRONOUNCE *v.* and -ABLE.] = PRONOUNCEABLE.

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. v. 61 Like vowels pronunciable by the intertexture of a Consonant. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 290 Words rendered pronunciable by affixing some simple or short Sound.

Pronuncial (prǫnvnʃiăl), *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. stem of L. *prōnunti-āre* to PRONOUNCE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to pronunciation.

1847 in WEBSTER; also in later Dicts.

Pronunciamento (prǫnvnsiămie·ntǫ). [ad. Sp. *pronunciamiento* (prǫnvnʃiămie·ntǫ), lit. a pronouncement, repr. a L. type **prōnuntiāmentum*, f. *prōnuntiāre* to PRONOUNCE: see -MENT.] A pronouncement, a proclamation, a manifesto; often applied to one issued by insurrectionists, esp. in Spanish-speaking countries.

1843 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 287 The besiegers calculated..upon a pronunciamento in favor of the insurrectional government. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 352/2 Malaga shared with Lugo..in taking the lead in the Espartero Pronunciamento. 1886 *Cycl. Tour. Club Gaz.* June 215 The pronunciamentos of well-posted critics notwithstanding. 1889 *Spectator* 14 Dec. 835 Marshal da Fonseca..made a pronunciamiento, in Spanish fashion, against the Ministry.

† **Pronu·nciate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōnuntiāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōnuntiāre* to PRONOUNCE.] Pronounced.

In quot. 1432-50 = 'announced, predicted' (const. as *pa. pple.*); in quot. 1508 = 'publicly known, declared to be'.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 293 And iiij. names be pronunciate [L. *quatuor nomina leguntur prænuntiata*] in the olde testamente, that is to say, Ismael, Ysaac, Sampson, and Iosias, and ij. oonly in the newe testamente, Iohn Baptiste and Criste. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 525 Sarazene, symonyte, provit Pagane pronunciate.

† **Pronu·nciate,** *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōnuntiāre* to PRONOUNCE.] *trans.* To pronounce, declare.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 201 To pronuntiate to the wicked and reprobates their destinated judgements and deserts.

Pronunciation (prǫnvnsi,ēi·ʃən). Also 6-8 -noun-, 7 -non-; 6 -cy-, -sy-, 6-7 -ti-; 5 -cion. [ad. L. *prōnuntiātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōnuntiāre* to PRONOUNCE. Cf. F. *prononciation* (*pronunciation*, 1281 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The action of pronouncing.

1. The pronouncing or uttering of a word or words; the mode in which a word is pronounced.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 161 Hit is to be hade in meruayle that the propur langage of Englische men scholde be made so diuersé in oon lytelle yle in pronunciacion. *Ibid.* III. 249 The seide Esdras founde newe letters, whiche were more lighte to the writenge and pronunciacion. 1530 PALSGR. Introd. 20 They have utterly neglected the frenche mennes maner of pronounciation, and so rede frenche as theyr fantasy or opinion dyde lede them. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 124 For the ryghter pronunsyation of the names. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 4 Drusius thinkes that Galatinus was first Authour of this pronountiation *Iehoua*. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4695/3 This William Charlton..speaks according to the Northern Pronunciation. 1889 J. D. ROBERTSON in *Gloucester Gloss.* p. v, I have admitted a fair proportion of mere 'pronunciations' which a more competent and scientific worker would have relegated to a Glossic Appendix.

† **2.** Oratorical utterance; elocution; delivery; *spec.* elegant or eloquent delivery. *Obs.*

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* VI. xv. (MS. Bodl. 263) 335/1 Bi crafft he hadde a special auauntage Fauour synguleer in pronunciacioun. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 116 b, Pronunciation is an apte ordering both of the voyce, countenaunce, and all the whole bodye, accordynge to the worthines of suche woordes and mater as by speache are declared. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 211 Pronuntiation, beeing that which either makes or mars the most excellent speech. 1748 J. MASON *Elocut.* 8 By Pronunciation, the Antients understood both Elocution and Action; and comprehended in it the right Management of the Voice, Looks, and Gesture.

† **3.** The action of pronouncing authoritatively, or proclaiming; declaration, promulgation; a pronouncement. *Obs.*

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 500 The chauncellor of Ynglonde made a pronunciacion in the maner of a sermon. 1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 112 For advoidinge..of the pronunciation of Novelties withoute wise and discrite qualification. 1564-5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 315 Quhill the pronunciatioun of the decreit arbitrall. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. (1623) 758 The forme of pronunciation was *In the Name of God, Amen.* *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 322 If he be not terrified with that dismal Pronunciation, *If we sin willfully* [etc.].

b. = PRONUNCIAMENTO. *rare.*

1848 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIII. 105 The declamations and 'pronunciations' of the rabble.

† **4.** The action of speaking; articulation. *Obs.*

1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 387 He wrought that Miracle, onely by the pronuntiation of one word. 1706 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 16th C.* II. v. 150 That Jesus Christ continued the Pronunciation [of the Words] all the while he bless'd, and brake and distributed the Eucharist.

† **5.** *fig.* (See quot. and cf. PRONOUNCED 2.) *Obs.*

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Pronouncing, Pronunciation*, in painting, the marking and expressing the parts of all kinds of bodies with that degree of force necessary to make them more or less distinct and conspicuous.

Pronunciative (prǫnvnsiătiv, -nvnʃiătiv), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *prōnuntiātīv-us*, f. ppl. stem of L. *prōnuntiāre* to PRONOUNCE + -IVE: see -ATIVE.] Characterized by pronouncement; declarative; hence, † dogmatic (*obs.*).

1619 SIR A. GORGES tr. *Bacon's Wisd. Anc.* xxvi. (1886) 104 The confident and pronunciative school of Aristotle.

Pronunciator (prǫnvnsi,ēi·təɹ, -nvnʃi,ēi·təɹ). *rare.* [a. L. *prōnuntiātor*, agent-n. from *prōnuntiāre* to pronounce.] One who pronounces.

1846 in WORCESTER, citing *Ch. Obs.* 1876 *Life W. S. Johnson* 166 Mr. Sheridan,..and..other..speakers at that time, began to be considered in a great degree the standard of pronunciators.

So **Pronu·nciatory** *a.*, of or pertaining to pronunciation; of the nature of a pronouncement.

1806 M. SMART in *Monthly Mag.* XXI. 132 Our pronunciatory reformers in the pulpit and the theatre. 1846 in WORCESTER, citing EARNSHAW.

† **Pro·ɲeand,** *a. Sc. Obs.* [erron. or altered form of *ponɲeand*, POIGNANT, perh. after *preen*, *prick*, etc.] Poignant, pricking. So † **Prunɲeandlie** *adv.*, poignantly, piercingly.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xiv. (S.T.S.) I. 302 Ane other sentence, semand mare pronɲeand and scharp, was pronuncit in þe said courte, howbeit It was nocht of sa grete effect. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) 152 Pricked sa prunɲeandlie with this law.

Pronymph, -al: see PRO- [2] 1.

Proo (prū), *int. Sc.* and *north. dial.* A call to a cow or horse, inviting it to stand still or come near.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, [To cow] Pruh, my leddy—pruh, my woman. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Proo*, cry, at horses when they are wanted to stand still, or, at least, not to gallop. 1853 A. SMART in *Whistle-Binkie* II. 308 Moo, moo, proochy lady! Proo, Hawkie, proo, Hawkie!

Proo, obs. form of PROW *sb.*[1]

Pro-ode (prō·ōud). [ad. Gr. *προῳδός*: see PRO- [2] and ODE.] An introductory ode in a Greek chorus; an overture or prelude; also, a short verse preceding a longer one: opposed to EPODE.

1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 58 The epode, when prefixed to the [strophe and antistrophe], assumes the name of Proöde. 1900 H. W. SMYTH *Grk. Melic Poets* 284 A glyconic proode followed by a simmiacum.

Procœmiac (prǫi·miæk), *a. rare.* [ad. med.L. *procœmiac-us* (Du Cange), a. Gr. *προοιμιακ-ός*, f. *προοίμιον* PROŒMIUM, PROEM.] = PROEMIAL *a.*

1850 NEALE *East. Ch.* I. 856 The 104th [Psalm] is the Procœmiac, because it commences Vespers.

Procœmial, variant of PROEMIAL.

‖ **Procœmium** (prǫi·miŏm). Also 5 prohemium, 8 proemium, 9 procœmion. [L. *procœmium*, a. Gr. *προοίμιον*; see PROEM.] = PROEM *sb.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 2 Doctour Bonnet Priour of Sallon maid his first intitulacioun and prohemium. 1650 R. GELL *Serm.* 8 Aug. 2 The *Procœmium*, wherein he calls heaven and earth to witness. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 311 As it appears in the very Prœmium of that Decretal it self. 1857 LD. CAMPBELL *Chief Justices* III. xlvii. 125 The procœmium and the peroration of his speech. 1868 TENNYSON *Lucretius* 70 Forgetful how my rich procœmion makes Thy glory fly along the Italian field.

Pro-cœstrous, -cœstrum: see PRO- [2] 1.

Proof (prūf), *sb.* Forms: *α.* **preve, prefe,** etc.; *β.* **prove, proof,** etc.: see below. [ME. *preove, proeve, preve*, etc., a. OF. *prueve* (*c* 1224 in Godef. *Compl.*), *proeve, preve, proeuve* (from 13th c. and in mod.F. *preuve*) = Pr. and Pg. *prova*, Sp. *prueba*, Cat. *proba*, It. *prova*, † *pruova*:—late L. *proba* (Ammianus *a* 400) a proof, f. *probāre* to PROVE. The *α* forms were the original, corresp. to OF. and to Sp. *prueba*; they continued longer in Sc. The *β* forms (also in late OF. *prouve, prove*, 14th c. in Littré) are assimilated in the vowel to F. *prouver*, Eng. PROVE *v.* The devocalization of *v* to *f* ensued upon the loss of final *e*; cf. the relation of *v* and *f* in *believe, belief, relieve, relief, behove, behoof*, etc.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. **3 preoue, 4 proeue, prieve,** 4-5 **pref, preef,** 4-6 **prefe, preve,** *Sc.* **preiff,** 5 **proef, preff**(e, **preeff, preyf, prewe,** 5-6 **prief**(e, **preif,** 6 **preife, pryef, preeue, pryve,** *Sc.* **prieff**; 8-9 *arch.* **prief,** *dial.* **preef, prief, preif.**

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 154 Ich chulle, of bo two, scheawen uorbisne & preoue. *c* 1325, 13.. Pref [see B. 2, 7]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 134 Wyþ-oute oþre proeue. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 187 As men may preiff furth bringe. *c* 1380 Prefe [see B. 4]. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 731 This Markys yet his wyf to tempte moore To the outtreste preeue [*v. rr.* preue, priue, proef, preef] of hir corage. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 71 Þe fourþe witnesse and preef. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 227 Sothliche I lieve And durste setten it in prieve. *c* 1400 *Ragman Roll* 122 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 74 For your dedys preyf. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Thebes* 2326 That she thought forto mak a prief. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 216 Wythout longe Prewe. *c* 1430 Preef; 1436 Preffe [see B. 7, 8]. *c* 1440 *Generydes* 1453 Other wise thanne be cowde make the preff. 1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 436 The preve that Sir Patrik Hume offeris to produce. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 36 Of truth and vertue for to maken pryef. 1572 Preuis; *a* 1584 Preif [see B. 1 c]. 1590 Priefe, Prief [see B. 5, 10]. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 408 But readie are of anie to make preife. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 18 He showes in hoarie lockes of strength the preeue. *a* 1796 BURNS *Troker* in Ainslie *Land of Burns* (1892) 188 Let's see How ye'll pit this in prief to me.

β. 4–5 prooff, 4–5 prof, proff, *Sc.* **pruf(f, 4–6 proue, profe,** *Sc.* **prowe, 5–6 proufe, -ffe, prove, prooue, 5–7 proofe, proffe,** *Sc.* **prufe, 6 prooffe, 7** *Sc.* **pruife, 5– proof.** (Sc. *pruife*, etc. (ü, ö).) *Pl.* **proofs**; also **4–7 proues, 5 prouves, 5–7 proves, 6–7 prooves.**

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 341 Bi profe & gode assaies. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6865 Thoru proue [*Gött.* prof] o seluen dede. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*VII Sleperis*) 10 Be verray prowe. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machor*) 941 Swa with prooff of mychtfull dede he strinthit alway godis sede. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 70 Þe dede doynge is proff of loue. *Ibid.* 290 Examyne here proues. 1425 Prouves; *c* 1430 Prouffe [see B. 1 c, 4 b]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 *Proof*, idem quod *preef*. 1456 Pruf [see B. 2]. *c* 1500 *Nott. Mayd* 470 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 291, I see the proue. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* viii. 24 The proffe off youre love. *a* 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Poems*, etc. (1825) II. 115 The proue in me ye may playnly se the vse. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *j b, His bookes..are good profe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* iii. (1887) 11 No proufe at all. *a* 1595 SOUTHWELL *Wks.* (1828) II. 38 So many proofs would persuade thee. 1609 Pruſe [see B. 1 b]. 1637 Proofe [see B. 2]. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 341 Proffes of the greatnesse of my freindship. 1683 Proves, Prooves [see B. 12, 16].

B. Signification. **I.** From PROVE *v.* in the sense of making good, or showing to be true.

1. That which makes good or proves a statement; evidence sufficient (or contributing) to establish a fact or produce belief in the certainty of something. † *To make proof*: to have weight as evidence (*obs.*).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 Þet hit beo soð, lo her þe preoue. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8708 (Cott.) Proue yee see þat þar es nan, *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 28 We han noon other preue. 1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 510/2 Till the said examination and previs be fully determined. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 70 b, Very pledges and sure proues of the kynges fauoure. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 249 Hereof they bryng manye proues. 1659 OWEN *Div. Orig. Script.* Wks. 1853 XVI. 319 Light requires neither proof nor testimony for its evidence. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* IV. Wks. 1813 I. 318 These suspicions are confirmed by the most direct proof. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. vi. 232 As a proof of his esteem and confidence. 1883 W. E. NORRIS *Thirlby Hall* xxxi, Which was proof positive that he had thought better of his intention.

b. *Law.* (*generally*) Evidence such as determines the judgement of a tribunal. Also *spec.* (*a*) A written document or documents so attested as to form legal evidence. (*b*) A written statement of what a witness is prepared to swear to. (*c*) The evidence which has been given in a particular case, and entered on the court records. (See also 3.)

1481 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 473 No feynied matiers but such as shall be proved be credible proves in writyng. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 284 b/1 Yf the preues of the lignages were fayled. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 67 b, It is in the election of him quha is accused, to vnderly the prufe of the woman, or to purge him be judgement, or ane gude assise of the crime quherefor he is accused. *Ibid.* 106 b, Gif the partie defendand that day of prufe, be absent; and the party followand being present with his prufe in his hand and swa the partie defendand be not ready or present, to receiue the prufe against him. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1678 (1823) II. 445 The proof did not carry it beyond manslaughter. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxiii. 368 Written proofs, or evidence, are, 1. Records, and 2. Antient deeds of thirty years standing, which prove themselves. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 231 It being in proof that the draft was not completed till six months after instructions had been given for preparing it. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* I. ix. 172 A statement showing all matters required to be proved, and opposite each proof the name of the witness to prove it. 1883 *Act* 46 & 47 *Vict.* c. 52. Sched. ii. 7 Every creditor who has lodged a proof shall be entitled to see and examine the proofs of other creditors.

†**c.** A person who gives evidence; a witness: = EVIDENCE *sb.* 7. *Obs.* (After 1500 only *Sc.*)

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 289/2 That the same Marchant.. do brynge..two prouves of Marchantz. 1449 *Ibid.* V. 145/2 Other resonable witnesse and proves sworne. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 73 Gif men suld be prufis thame selff. 1572 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 72/1 That the disobedient obstinat and relaps persounis.. sall not be admittit as preuis witnessis or Assysouris aganis ony professing þe trew Religioun. *a* 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 761 For I myself can be ane preif And witness thairintill.

2. The action, process, or fact of proving, or establishing the truth of, a statement; the action of evidence in convincing the mind; demonstration.

c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 171 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 137 And i say nay and make a pref. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 74 Gif I faile of my pruf.., the juge may assoilȝe my party. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 461 In prove þerof the procession weye on þe South syde of the seid Churche .. was where the south baye of the seid Churche ys nowe. 1637 *Star Chamb. Decree* § 21 in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 19 Vpon complaint and proofe made thereof. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* II. lvi. 175 They put the King upon the Proof that they had presented such a Petition. 1848 KEBLE *Serm.* 386 The burthen of proof was of course thrown on the heresiarch. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. v. 252 This is all capable of experimental proof. *Mod.* In proof of this assertion, I may state [etc.].

3. *Sc. Law.* Evidence given before a judge, or a commissioner representing him, upon a record or an issue framed in pleading; the taking of such evidence by a judge in order to a trial; hence, trial before a judge instead of by a jury.

This distinctive development of sense has gradually taken place since the introduction of trial by jury into Scotland in 1815.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 373 The duties of commissioners in taking proofs, under authority of the Court of Session, are pointed out by the acts of Sederunt 11th March 1800, and 22d June 1809. 1845 POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 853/1 The proof is taken in the presence of a commissioner appointed by the Lord Ordinary, who examines the witnesses, commits their depositions to writing, and reports the whole, either to the Lord Ordinary or to the court, according to his directions. 1879 MACKAY *Pract. Crt. of Session* II. 10 Under the existing practice a certain discretion is exercised by the Court in determining what causes are..fitted for proof before a judge and not by jury trial. 1890 WATSON *Bell's Dict. Law Scot.* 615/1 By § 4 of the Evidence Act, 1866, proof may be taken before the Lord Ordinary, without jury, in any cause, 'if both parties consent thereto, or if special cause be shown'. 1903 J. RANKINE *Princ. Law Scot.* 551 When the Lord Ordinary takes a proof, each party adduces witnesses to prove his statements, and the proof is followed by a hearing on evidence [i. e. a hearing of counsel on the evidence]. *Ibid.*, Where the parties are agreed as to the necessity for inquiry regarding the facts, the Lord Ordinary appoints a diet of proof, or in certain cases orders issues with a view to the trial of the cause by a jury. 1908 *Scots Law Times* 14 Mar. XV. 958/1 The Lord Ordinary held that the case was one for proof not jury trial. *Ibid.* 959/1 Lord Guthrie. 'I think it ought to be sent to proof and not to jury trial.'

II. From PROVE *v.* in the sense of trying or testing.

4. The action or an act of testing or making trial of anything, or the condition of being tried; test, trial, experiment; examination, probation; assay. Often in phrases *to bring, put, set*, etc. (something) *in, on, to* (*the*, † *a*) *proof*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 384 We mot take hede to þe rewle of prefe..by her werkis ȝe schul knowe hem. *c* 1386 [see A. a]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/1 Preef, or a-say(y)nge, *examinacio*. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 13 b, That there may be made due proues without fauoure, bribery, or extorcyon. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvi, Without several Proofs and Tryings, [the mould] cannot be expected to be perfectly true. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. p. xxix, I leave them to my Reader, with the old Proverb to accompany them, that the Proof of the Pudding is in eating it. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc in W.* vi. ad fin., If thy heart Be harden'd to the proof, come when thou wilt. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 77 Drug thy memories, lest thou learn it, lest thy heart be put to proof. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron. Manuf.* 150 Some large pump-rods..were required to stand a proof of 120,000 lbs. per square inch.

b. *Arith.* An operation serving to test or check the correctness of an arithmetical calculation.

(Sometimes understood as in sense 2.)

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 6 The subtraccioun is none other but a prouffe of the addicioun, and the contrarye in like wise. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. iii. (1636) 9 In making which proofe or tryall you cannot likely erre. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* s. v. *Multiplication*, The Proof of Multiplication can only certainly be effected by Division. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 40 The method of Proof, and the reason of the Rule, are the same as in Simple Multiplication.

†**5.** The action or fact of passing through or having experience of something; also, knowledge derived from this; experience. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20005 (Cott.) Þe apostels..þai did þamseluen al to proue, O ded for þair lauerd be-houe. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 17 It passid my parceit, and my preifis also, How so wondirffull werkis wolde haue an ende. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5525 Epistaphus, to preue, was his pure nome. 1544 *Suppl. to Henry VIII* in *Four Supplic.* (1871) 40 Of whom they haue proue & sure knowledge. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 43 Good growes of evils priefe. *Ibid.* II. i. 48 Tell what fatall priefe Hath with so huge misfortune you opprest. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 392 A fountaine ..of Tarre, whereof wee had good vse and proofe in our ship.

†**6.** A trial, attempt, essay, endeavour. *Obs.*

1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 156 Yet diuers proues were made the breach to view, And some were slayne, that dyd assayle the same. 1628 HOBBES *Thucyd.* (1822) 119 They thought this accident (especially being their first proof by sea) very much against reason.

†**7.** That which anything proves or turns out to be; the issue, result, effect, fulfilment; esp. in phrase *to come to proof*. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 4030 Þe king Yuor hadde a þef: God him ȝeue euel pref, For þat he koupe so wel stele! *c* 1430 *How Wise Man tauȝt his Son* 62 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 50 And flee al letcherie in wil and dede Lest þou come to yuel preef. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 161 Some of you speketh now hye, that whan the dede shall come to preeff, he shall be full lowe. 1575-85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* xv. (Parker Soc.) 301 The timeliest fruit often cometh to least proof. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 85 The most part of the sayd mines came to no proofe though they put fire in them. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Parents & Childr.* (Arb.) 274 The proofe is best, when Men keepe theire authoritye towardes theire Children, but not theire purse.

8. *esp.* The fact, condition, or quality of proving good, turning out well, or producing good results; thriving; good condition, good quality; goodness, substance. Now only *dial.*

[1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 161 The wolle of Spayne hit cometh not to preffe, But if [= unless] it be tosed and menged welle Amonges Englysshe wolle the gretter delle.] 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* I. xxiv. 105 When you haue fed your Swine to his full proofe. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Sainfoin*, This sort of Grass has obtain'd the Preference above Clover-Grass in England, as continuing longer in Proof than it. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 404 This is not found to deteriorate their bulk, or the 'proof' or quality of keeping. 1862 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 287 Sainfoin..the aftermath is invaluable for securing the high and rapid proof of lambs. 1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Proof*, of manure, hay, &c., the strength or goodness...A thriving tree is said to be in 'good proof'.

9. The testing of cannon or small fire-arms by firing a heavy charge, or by hydraulic pressure. *Proof of (gun)powder*, the testing of the propulsive force of gunpowder.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 64 What Powder is allowed for Proof, and what for Action of each Piece. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 589/1 *Proof of Powder*, is in order to try its goodness and strength. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 57 All Ordnance .. are subject to the Water proof. This is done by means of a forcing pump.

b. A place for testing fire-arms or explosives.

1760 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 146/1 At a proof at Woolwich warren, a smoke-ball burst. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Apr. 7/1 The box..proved, on investigation, to contain about 200 lb. of nitroglycerine... A sample was kept, while the bulk was taken to one of the 'proofs' on the marshes.

10. The condition of having successfully stood a test, or the capability of doing so; proved or tested power; *orig.* of armour and arms, whence *transf.* and *fig.*: impenetrability, invulnerability. *arch.*

Often in phrase *armour* (etc.) *of proof*: cf. PROOF *a.* 1; *at the proof*, so as to be proof; *to the proof*, to the utmost, in the highest degree. *Proof of lead* or *shot* (cf. PROOF *a.* 1), the quality of being proof against leaden bullets.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 85 The traist that he has in his gude armouris makis him hardy.., for thai ar of prove. 15.. *Sir A. Barton* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 72 Then he put on the armere of prooffe. *c* 1585 *Faire Em* III. iv, Should they haue profered it, her chaste minde hath proofe enough to preuent it. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 14 Manie Captaines and Officers of footmen were armed at the proofe of the Harquebuze. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. x. 24 Salves and med'cines, which had passing prief. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild Goose Chase* III. i, We must be patient; I am vex'd to th' proof too. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 173, I was cloathed with Armour of proof. ? *a* 1700 *Judgments upon Persecutors* 50 (Jam.) Knowing he had proof of lead, [he] shot him with a silver button. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 102 Nor whether his shield be of proof.

†**b.** Proof armour. *Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 419 Corsletis of profe. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* I. x, Ye clap on proof upon me.

c. The process of stiffening hats and rendering them waterproof. Cf. PROOF *v.* 2.

1901 *Daily News* 15 Jan. 6/3 The bursting of a stove in what is called the proof shop of the works, where hats are dried after proof.

11. The standard of strength of distilled alcoholic liquors (or of vinegar); now, the strength of a mixture of alcohol and water having a specific gravity of 0·91984, and containing 0·495 of its weight, or 0·5727 of its volume, of absolute alcohol. Also *transf.* Spirit of this strength.

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 403 For Proof [of the brandy] there was a little Spanish Soap clapt into it, and the Scum of the Soap passed on them for the Proof. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4790/4, 5 Pipes of French Brandy, full Proof. 1725 *Ibid.* No. 6437/1 Brandy or Spirits above Proof. 1748 H. ELLIS *Hudson's Bay* 175 All the Liquors under the Proof of common Spirits, freeze to a State perfectly solid. 1826 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 862 The bar was crowded with applicants for 'full proof', and 'the best cordials'. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xiii. 146 A bottle of Monongahela whiskey of good stiff proof froze under Mr. Bonsall's head.

b. In sugar-boiling: The degree of concentration at which the syrup will successfully crystallize.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp., Proof*, in the sugar trade, a term used by the refiners of sugar for the proper state of the dissolved sugar when it should be set to harden.

III. That which is produced as a test; a means or instrument for testing.

12. *Typog.* A trial or preliminary impression taken from composed type, in which typographical errors may be corrected, and alterations and additions made.

Applied esp. to the *first proof*; a second or later one being called a *revise*: see REVISE *sb.* 3; see also quot. 1842.

[1563: see PROBE *sb.* 3.] 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 345, I was not present ..: nor had I the sight of one proofe vntill the whole booke was out in print. 1612 [see REVISE *sb.* 3]. 1613 CHAPMAN *Masque Inns of Court* Pref., Plays 1873 III. 96 The Printer..neuer sending me a proofe till he had past those speeches. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* x. 24 We did all go to the Printers house, where we did find him correcting Proofs. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* i, The Corrector [would] not read Proves. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 440 Deliver them to the Pressmen to pull a Proof of them. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* etc. s. v., First proof..is the impression with all the errors of workmanship. After, it is

read and corrected..another impression is printed with more care, to send to the author; this is termed a clean proof. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* Pref. 9, I have carefully revised the proofs of every chapter.

13. *Engraving.* Originally, An impression taken by the engraver from an engraved plate, stone, or block, to examine its state during the progress of his work; now applied to each of a limited or arbitrary number of careful impressions made from the finished plate before the printing of the ordinary issue, and usually before the inscription is added (in full, *proof before letter(s)*.

Artist's or *engraver's proof*, a proof taken for examination or alteration by the artist or engraver; *signed proof*, an early proof signed by the artist. *Letter* or *lettered proof*, a proof with the signatures of the artist and engraver, and the inscription. *Marked, remarque, touched, trial, wax proof*: see these words.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 590/1 Proofs of Prints were anciently a few impressions taken off in the course of an engraver's process,..and when they were complete. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* vii, The panels were covered with the choicest engravings (all proofs-before-letters). 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Apr. 3/1 An artist's proof..originally meant that proof of an engraving which was sent to the artist for approval and remarks. But the term..is now applied to a certain number of early impressions carefully made, and signed by the artist.

† **b.** *Photogr.* A first or trial print taken from a plate; also used as equivalent to PRINT (*sb.* 13). *Obs.*

1855 HARDWICH *Photogr. Chem.* v. 50 It is necessary to remove the unaltered Chloride or Iodide of Silver which surrounds the image, in order to render the proof permanent. *Ibid.* x. 180 On the use of the hyposulphite of gold in colouring photographic proofs.

14. † A coin or medal struck as a test of the die (*obs.*); also, one of a limited number of early impressions of coins struck as specimens.

These often have their edges left plain and not milled; they may also be executed in a metal different from that used for the actual coin.

1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 176 On the proofs were the king's and queen's heads on different sides, with a rose, a ship, &c. but in 1694 it was resolved, that the heads should be coupled, and Britannia be on the reverse. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 Nov. 5/1 A limited number were issued to certain collectors with unmilled edges—these coins being called 'proofs'—a course which was followed in the Jubilee issue.

15. An instrument, vessel, or the like for testing.

† **a.** A surgeon's probe. *Obs. rare*—°.

(Perhaps only an etymologizing invention of Cotgrave.)

1611 COTGR., *Curette*, a Chirurgions Proofe, or Probe; an instrument wherewith he sounds the bladder [etc.]. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Probe* or *Proof* (the Fr. call it *curette*) a Chyrurgeons Instrument, wherewith he tries the depth of wounds [etc.].

b. (*a*) A test-tube. (*b*) An apparatus for testing the strength of gunpowder.

1790 CRAWFORD in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 397 A portion of the cancerous virus, diffused through distilled water, was introduced into a small proof. *Ibid.* 406 The liquor..was put into a proof, to the bottom of which heat was applied. 1800 *Ibid.* XC. 207 A common gunpowder proof, capable of containing eleven grains of fine gunpowder, was filled with it, and fired in the usual way. 1828 BRANDE in *Lancet* 7 June 292/1 Here are some little phials, called in the glass-houses *proofs*. *c* 1860 FARADAY *Forces Nat.* ii. 107 *note*, Thick Glass Vessels..called Proofs or Bologna phials.

†**16.** *Typog.* A definite number of ems placed in the composing-stick as a pattern of the length of the line. *Obs.*

[The width of pages is expressed according to the number of 'ems'. *Encycl. Brit.* 1888.]

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvi, He sets up his Prooves in the Composing-stick.

17. *Bookbinding.* The rough uncut edges of the shorter or narrower leaves of a book, left in trimming it to show that it has not been cut down.

1890 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding* 57 A few leaves should always be left not cut with the plough, to show that the book has not been cut down. These few leaves are called *proof*, and are always a mark of careful work. 1908 A. W. POLLARD *Let. to Editor*, Our binder's head man tells me that when I write 'not to be cropped' he translates it to the men under him as 'leave proof'.

IV. 18. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** General Combs. in senses 1–4, as *proof needle, object, paper, passage, patch, piece, test, text*; *proof-producing, proof-proof* adjs.; in sense 9, as *proof-butts, -charge, -ground, -house, -master, -mortar* (MORTAR *sb.*[1]), *-sleigh*; in senses 12–14, as *proof-correct* vb., to correct in proof, *proof-correcting, -correction, -galley, impression, -plate* (PLATE *sb.* 6 b), *print, -printer, -puller, -pulling, set, state.*

1907 *Daily Chron.* 3 Jan. 7/1 A serious accident..at the *proof butts on Plumstead Marshes. 1727 SWIFT *Art Pol. Lying* Wks. 1755 III. 1. 122 A proof-lye is like a *proof-charge for a piece of ordnance, to try a standard credulity. 1894 *Field* 9 June 815/1 The proof-charge of powder with the 4-bore is 50 per cent. greater than the proof-charge of the 8-bore. 1803 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 20 Mar., I feel myself..accessory to the selection, which I am to *proof-correct. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 29 Aug. 2/1 To have it written by other people in time for himself to proof-correct it. 1855 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* II. 40, I highly enjoyed the *proof-correcting. 1905 A. E. BURN *Niceta of Remesiana* Pref. 3 Little leisure for *proof-correction. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 407 The long *proof-galley of brass. 1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5026/7 The Place now used for a *Proof-house. 1846 GREENER *Sc. Gunnery* 203 The Company of Gunmakers of the City of London instituted a proof-house, at which the barrels of respectable makers were all sent to be proved. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 5/6 There are in Europe five 'proving houses' or testing places for firearms. Of the Birmingham and London proof houses all people have heard. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) IX. xxii, *Proof impressions of the grain of the footman's thumb printed off ..upon the rim of your plate. 1707 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. xi. 379 To see that all Provisions received, be good and serviceable, and duly proved, with the Assistance of.. the *Proof-Masters, and marked with the Queen's Mark. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 95 Government authorised the gun-makers of Birmingham to erect a proof-house of their own, with wardens and a proof-master. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 626 The result of more than two hundred discharges with the *proof-mortar. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 285 Suspending a small *proof needle, with a silk fibre, and causing it to oscillate horizontally opposite different points of a magnetic bar placed vertically. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 93 Directions..for the management of *proof-objects in the Amician catadioptric engiscope. 1759 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 17 Nov., You shall see the documents, as it is the fashion to call *proof papers. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* IV. iii. 456 Taken as one of the primary *proof-passages for the dogma of the Descent to Hell. 1816 KEATINGE *Trav.* I. 11 *note*, This place is a residue of a wreck of nature; it is a *proof-patch of former level. 1594 J. DICKENSON *Arisbas* (1878) 41 It seemed nature and vertue..had conspired to make her a peere-lesse *proofe-peece of their vnited perfections. 1783 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 10 Jan., Mr. Seward has sent me a *proof plate..of an extremely fine impression of this dear Doctor [Johnson]. 1818-60 WHATELY *Commpl. Bk.* (1864) 231 [This] you can prove (to any one who is not *proof-proof). 1899 *Daily News* 20 Nov. 11/6 *Proofpuller seeks situation, Press, assist Machine, or other offer. 1900 *Ibid.* 12 Oct. 10/3 Man (young) wanted, in printing office, for *proof-pulling. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Notes Coins* 14 A number of fine *proof sets, and coins, of the United States mint. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 15 You must..have a Frame, in which you may heat the *Proof-Tests and Crucibles. 1847 WEBSTER, *Proof-text. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* IV. vi. 262 Modern criticism has submitted the 'proof-texts'.. to stringent examination. 1904 H. A. A. KENNEDY *St. Paul's Concept. Last Things* VI. 310 Solitary proof-texts have wrought more havoc in theology than all the heresies.

b. Special Combs.: **proof-arm** *v. nonce-wd.* [? back-formation from *proof armour*], *trans.* to arm in or as in armour of proof; † **proof-favour**, favour or goodwill strong as armour of proof; **proof-gallon**, a gallon of proof-spirit; **proof-glass**, a deep cylindrical glass for holding liquids while under test; **proof-leaf**, = PROOF-SHEET; also, the sheet of paper by means of which coloured designs are transferred from the engraved plate to the biscuit in pottery-making; **proof-letter**, a letter cast to test the accuracy of the type-mould; **proof-man** (*Sc.*), one whose profession is to estimate the content of corn-stacks; **proof-mark**, † (*a*) in testing powder, a mark made on the ribbon by which the recoil is measured, showing the strength of powder of the standard quality (*obs.*); (*b*) a mark impressed on a fire-arm to show that it has passed the test; **proof-plane**, a small flat or disk-shaped conductor fixed on an insulating handle, used in measuring the electrification of any body; **proof-plug**: see quot.; **proof-press**, a press or machine used for taking proofs of type; **proof-reader**, one whose business is to read through printer's proofs and mark errors for correction; = READER 2 b; so **proof-reading**; **proof-sphere**: see quot.; **proof-staff**, a metal straight-edge for testing or adjusting the ordinary wooden instrument (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **proof-stick**, a rod by means of which a sample of the contents of a vacuum sugar-boiler may be taken without admitting air; **proof strength**, = sense 11; **proof timber**: see quot.; **proof vinegar**, vinegar of standard strength.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* II. iii, She..is a delicate and knows it; And out of that *proof-arms herself. 1621 — *Pilgrim* II. ii, All your glories in the full Meridian, The King's *proof-favour buckled on your body. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Feb. 11/1 The total consumption of spirits in the United Kingdom during the past year amounted to 39,302,480 *proof gallons. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1017 s.v. *Pottery*, The copper-plate is now passed through the engraver's cylinder press, the *proof leaf is lifted off and..[applied] to the surface of the biscuit. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xvii. P 2 Then he Casts a *Proof-Letter or two. 1813 W. LESLIE *Agric. Surv. Nairn & Moray* 180 The quantity of grain is ascertained by the *proof-man, a professional character in the country. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 1. 300 If the ribbon is drawn out as far or farther than the *proof mark, the powder is as good or better than the standard. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 251 On arms of the first and third classes the definitive proof mark and view mark shall be impressed at the breech end of the barrel. 1855 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* I. 284 Bring the *proof plane .. into contact with any part of the outer surface of the metallic can, and an abundant charge will be obtained. 1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* (1881) I. 315 This disk, when employed in this way, is called Coulomb's Proof Plane. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Proof-plug*, a plug screwed temporarily into the breech of a gun-barrel to be proved. 1899 MACKAIL *Life Morris* II. 253 A *proof-press and a printing-press were set up there. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 460/2 A new *proof-reader seemed to be needed. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 4 Apr. 6/6 Thomas Bailey Aldrich..entered literature as a 'proof-reader'. That is the American equivalent of our 'corrector to the Press' or 'printer's reader'. 1902 SLOANE *Stand. Electr. Dict.*, **Proof-sphere*, a small sphere, coated with gold-leaf or other conductor, and mounted on an insulated handle. It is used instead of a proof-plane, for testing bodies whose curvature is small. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1206 The *proof-stick, an ingenious brass rod for taking out a sample of syrup without admitting air. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 4/5 Spirits, however, are always sold below, and generally considerably below, '*proof' strength. *c* 1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 139 **Proof timber*, an imaginary timber, expressed by vertical lines in the sheer draught, similar to the joints of the square timbers, and used nearly forward and aft, to prove the fairness of the body. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 13 An excise duty of *ad.* is levied on every gallon of..*proof vinegar.

Proof (prūf), *a.* (*adv.*) Forms: see prec. [The sb. used as adj., app. by ellipsis of *of*: cf. prec. 10.]

1. Of tried strength or quality; *esp.* of armour: of tested power of resistance; hence *transf.* and *fig.* strong, impenetrable, impervious, invulnerable. Const. *against, to.* † *Proof o' shot*, proof against shot; in quot. *fig.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 73 Looke thou but sweete, And I am proofe against their enmity. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iv. 25 Now..fight With hearts more proofe then Shields. 1631 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. Chorus, With two proofe targets arm'd. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxix. (1674) 53 Venice..is fortified, and armed with the proof-Armor of Marishes and Washes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 298 Not incorruptible of Faith, not prooff Against temptation. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* III. 317 The fated Skin is proof to Wounds. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 41 P 5 Proof against the Charms of her Wit and Conversation. 1728 RAMSAY *There's my Thumb* i, A heart.. proof a-shot to birth or money. 1785 BURNS *To J. Smith* i, Ne'er a bosom yet was prief Against your arts. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* II. xix, Proof to the tempest's shock. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* X. iv, Dearer..than he had ever yet found the proofest steel of Milan. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June 344 Their thick scales..are proof against every missile.

b. Often used as the second element in compounds, as BOMB-PROOF, BULLET-*proof*, FIRE-PROOF, PLOT-*proof*, RAIN-*proof*, SHOT-*proof*, SOUND-*proof*, THIEF-*proof*, WATERPROOF, WEATHER-*proof*, etc., and many occasional or nonce formations.

1602 MANNINGHAM *Diary* (Camden) 61 Such a one is clarret proofe, *i. e.* a good wine-bibber. 1662 HICKERINGILL *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 297 The old Powder-Plotters..are shot-free and Justice-proof by a pious charm. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 19. 3/1 You're Impudence-Proof. 1824 MACKINTOSH *Sp. Ho. Com.* 15 June, Wks. 1846 III. 468 Is he bullet-proof or bayonet-proof? or does he wear a coat of mail? 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Jan. 5/1 If the heavy mackintosh overalls were expletive-proof as well as snow-proof it would not be a bad thing. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Mar. 5/1 Fire-proof, and burglar-proof, and every other proof, except visitor proof!

2. Of distilled alcoholic liquors: Of standard strength; cf. PROOF *sb.* 11. See PROOF-SPIRIT.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 7. 2/2 Rectify'd Spirits are *Proof.*

† **B.** *adv.* To the fullest extent; to the utmost; utterly, entirely: cf. *to the proof* (PROOF *sb.* 10).

1613 FLETCHER, etc. *Captain* I. ii, Such distemper'd spirits Once out of motion, though they be proof-valiant. 1621 — *Isl. Princess* III. i, Looks melancholy Wondrous proof melancholy. [1875 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lv. 197 She had busy blood .. but, with that, well-conducted and proof-faithful [*transl. F.* fidèle à toute épreuve].]

Proof (prūf), *v.* [f. PROOF *sb.*, or *a.*]

1. *trans.* To test, prove. **a.** *Sc.* To estimate the content of (a corn-stack); cf. *proof-man*, s.v. PROOF *sb.* 18 b. **b.** To take a proof impression of (an engraved plate, or the like): = PROVE *v.* 1 e.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* x. (1869) 146 He was engaged in what is called proofing the stacks of a cornyard. 1884 *World* 3 Dec. 15/2 The outcome is a masterpiece of etching, which is being 'proofed'.

2. To render proof against or impervious to something; *esp.* to render (a fabric or article of dress) impervious to water, to waterproof. [Hence **Proofed** *ppl. a.*; **Proo·fing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 3/1 Fabrics which are to be 'proofed' by spreading. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 378/1 *Proofing* or *stiffening* is of two kinds: (*a*) *Water Proofing* is done with shellac and resin dissolved in water with borax. *Ibid.* 378/2 The process of spirit-proofing and the subsequent drying of the 'proofed' hats. 1904 *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 635/2 The .. draining of a single pool, .. the 'proofing' of a single room.

† **Proo·fful**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PROOF *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of proof; convincing.

1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* II. i. Plays 1873 III. 151 As their alacrities did long to merit With proofefull action.

Proofless (prū·flĕs), *a.* [f. PROOF *sb.* + -LESS.] Unsupported by proof or evidence; unfounded.

1610 BP. CARLETON *Jurisd.* 242, I will set downe some of his proofelesse positions. 1795 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 126/1 The injurious epithets,..being proofless, fell to the ground. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 552 Accusation vast and vague, Spleen-born.., and proofless.

Hence **Proo·flessly** *adv.*, without proof.

1675 BOYLE *Reconcileableness Reason & Relig.* V. Wks. 1772 IV. 171 The erroneous conceits..which the schoolmen and others have proofflessly fathered upon philosophy. 1685 — *Enq. Notion Nat.* vi. 189 It has been proofflesly asserted, and..I do not think my self bound to admit it.

Proofre, obs. form of PROFFER.

Proo·f-sheet. *Typog.* A sheet printed from a forme of type for the purpose of examination and

correction, before it is finally printed off for use: see PROOF *sb.* 12.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* IV. i. Stage direct., Enter Galoshio, with a Proof-Sheet and a Table. 1693 CLARENDON in *Wood's Life* (O.H.S.) IV. 12 That the said Mr. à Wood did..correct all or att least some of the first printed sheets or proof sheets of the said *Athenæ Oxonienses*. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 440 A Proof-sheet ought to be pulled as clean and neat as any sheet..that is worked off. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xxii, Some proof-sheets, as they are technically called, seemingly fresh from the press. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. x. 269 The proof-sheets, elaborately corrected throughout, I often saw in his hands.

Proof-spirit. Spirit of wine, or any distilled alcoholic liquor, of proof strength: see PROOF *sb.* 11.

1790 BLAGDEN in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 338 It may appear odd, that no mention has been made till now of proof spirit, the standard to which most of the regulations of the excise have hitherto been referred. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 380 Proof Spirit..is merely rectified spirit diluted with a certain proportion of water. According to the London and Dublin Colleges, its specific gravity should be to that of distilled water as 930 to 1000; while the Edinburgh College orders it of the gravity of 935. The former ..contains 44 parts of pure alcohol and 56 of water in 100 parts; the latter..42 of pure alcohol and 58 of water in 100 parts. 1818 *Act* 58 *Geo. III*, c. 28 To denote as Proof Spirit that which, at the Temperature of Fifty-one Degrees by Fahrenheit's Thermometer, weighs exactly Twelve Thirteenth Parts of an equal Measure of Distilled Water. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 326 Proof Spirit is alcohol containing 49 per cent. by weight, or 42 per cent. by volume of water.

b. Formerly often in plural form, in accordance with the popular use of *spirits* for alcoholic drink.

1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* I. iv. 244 Take Mint 2 Handfuls, Proof-spirits 2 Gallons and a half. 1800 VINCE *Hydrostat.* ii. (1806) 25 Proof spirits consists, half of pure spirits, called alcohol, and half of water.

Proofy (prūˑfi), *a. dial.* [f. PROOF *sb.* 8 + -Y.] Having the quality of turning out well or producing good results.

1848 W. BARNES *Poems in Dorset Dial.* Gloss., *Proofy*, having much proof; likely to fatten. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 428 A cut of grass like a water-meadow of the most 'proofy' kind. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk., Proofy*. .. 1. Of cattle or sheep—of a kind like to improve in size or condition...2. Of land or soil—rich in fattening qualities. Very proofy ground for young stock.

Proole, Proone, obs. ff. PROWL *v.*, PRONE *a.*

Pro-opic (proˌōuˑpik, -ρˑpik), *a. Anthrop.* [f. Gr. πρό, PRO- 2 + ὤψ, ὠπ- face + -IC.] Having the nose and central line of the face prominent or projecting, as compared with the lateral parts: the opposite of *platyopic* or flat-faced.

1885 O. THOMAS in *Jrnl. Anthrop. Inst.* May 334 Individual skulls or races having [naso-malar] indices below 107·5, might be called *platyopic* or flat faced; from 107·5 to 110·0, *mesopic*; and above 110·0, *pro-opic*.

Pro-osteon: see PRO- 2 2.

‖ **Pro-ostracum** (proˌρˑstrăkŭm). *Palæont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. πρό, PRO- 2 + ὄστρακον potsherd, shell.] The anterior prolongation, usually lamellar, of the guard or rostrum of a fossil cephalopod, as a belemnite.

1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* xxvi. 297 The form of the 'pro-ostracum' varies greatly in different cases, and it affords important characters in the discrimination of specific and generic forms in the *Belemnitidæ*. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 542 The pro-ostracum and the rostrum together represent the pen in the Teuthidae. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* I. 876 A horny or more or less calcified plate, known as the pro-ostracum .. corresponds with the 'pen' of the ordinary cuttlefishes, and from its extreme tenuity is never perfectly preserved.

Hence **Pro-o'stracal** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a pro-ostracum.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pro-otic (proˌōuˑtik, -ρˑtik), *a.* and *sb. Comp. Anat.* [f. Gr. πρό, PRO- 2 + οὖς, ὠτ- ear + -IC.]

A. *adj.* That is in front of the ear; applied distinctively to one of the three bones which together form the periotic capsule.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 43 A glenoid cavity which is formed..by the squamosal, opisthotic, and prootic bones. 1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 751/1 The hyoidean arch ..almost always becomes connected with the pro-otic region of the skull.

B. *sb.* The pro-otic bone.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 25 One for the prootic and the other for the squamosal. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 106 The Pro-otic is the largest and most important element of the three in Vertebrates below Mammals.

Prop (prɒp), *sb.*1 Also 5–6 **proppe.** [Not known before 1440; = MDu. and early mod.Du. *proppe* a vine-prop, a support ('*pedamen, fulcimentum, fulcrum, sustentaculum*' Kilian); ulterior history uncertain. Wedgwood compares 'Piedmontese *broba, bropa*, a vine-prop, Wallachian *proptea* a prop, *propte* to prop, lean on'. Irish *propa*, Gael. *prop* are from English.

MDu. *proppe* is in form identical with, and by Kilian treated as the same word as, *proppe* 'une broche de fer' (Plantin), 'obturamentum oblongum, veruculum' (Kilian), mod.Du. *prop*, MLG. *proppe*, LG. *propp*, Da. *prop*, Sw. *propp*, Ger. *pfropf, -en* a plug, stopper, stopple, bung; but the connexion of sense is not clear. The same is true of MDu. and early mod.Du. *proppen* to prop, stay, bear up, compared with Du. *proppen* to cram, stuff full, fill up, MLG. and LG. *proppen*, Ger. *pfropfen*, Da. *proppe*, Sw. *proppa*. With this latter group cf. also OHG. *pfroffo, pfropfo* a sucker, slip, shoot, and Ger. *propfen* to graft, which are referred to L. *propāgo* a set, layer, slip, or shoot. It is thus certain that *prop* sb. and vb. have cognates in Dutch; but the connexion of the two Du. words for 'prop' and 'plug', and of the latter of these with the Ger. word for 'graft' is uncertain. See Franck and Kluge. Cf. PROP *sb.*2]

1. A stick, rod, pole, stake, beam, or other rigid support, used to sustain an incumbent weight; esp. when such an appliance is auxiliary, or does not form a structural part of the thing supported. Often in comb. as *clothes-prop*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Proppe, longe (*S.* staffe), *contus*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/2 A Prope (*A.* Proppe), *cerruus, destina..., fulcimen, fulcimentum*. 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Proppe to underset any thyng, *estaye*. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* vii. 34 The foure proppes vpon the foure corners of euery seate were harde on the seate. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 226 Theyr houses are..buylded aboue the grownde vppon proppes & pyles. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 784 The vine must be set vp with props. *c* 1623 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 177 To make A proppe to supporte the Roofe. 1645 in 10*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. iv. 636 The propps and standerdes upon which the Town Hall did stand. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxi. (1794) 484 What he [Linnæus] calls *Fulcra*, props or supports of the plant. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* II. xiii. 8 Mighty rains Have worn away the props that held it fast.

b. *spec.* in *Coal-mining*: A piece of timber set upright to support the roof or keep up the strata. (Also *pit-prop.*) c. In a vehicle: see quot. 1875. d. *pl. Entom.* See quot. 1826. e. *dial.* or *slang.* The leg; also, the arm extended in boxing; hence, a straight hit. (Usu. in *pl.*)

b. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 236 A fragment of a prop of fir, which had been used in a shaft in the forest of Hartz. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 40 *Prop*, a piece of wood, cut 2½ or 3 inches shorter than the thickness of the seam of coal, and set upright beneath the end of a crowntree, or under a headtree, for the support of the roof. 1857 J. STEWART *Sk. Sc. Charac.* 91 Cut up in lengths for coal-pit praps. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 176/1 Timber props for regulating the ventilation. c. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Prop*.., a stem fastened to the carriage bow for the attachment of the stretcher-piece, known as the *prop-joint*, and upon which the bows rest when down. d. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. 353 *Prop* (*Ereisma*), a bipartite retractile glutinous organ exerted from between the legs of the genus *Sminthurus* Latr., and employed by the animal to support itself when its legs fail it. e. 1793 *Carlop Green* II. xxvii, Wi' his stiff shank .. As thick again 's his soople prop. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Props*, legs. 1869 *Temple Bar Mag.* XXVI. 74 You take off your coat and put up your 'props' to him. 1887 *Lic. Vict. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 358/3 Ned met each rush of his enemy with straight props. 1891 *Sportsman* 20 Apr. 3/2 There are those..who assert that with such 'props' he will never successfully negociate the Epsom gradients.

f. *fig.* Any person or thing that serves as a support or stay; *esp.* one who upholds some institution.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxvii. 17 To leane unto the prop of God's blessing. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 70 The boy was the verie staffe of my age, my verie prop. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 41 The wicked prophane Priest was a prop to the Bishops Kingdom. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) I. i. 15 You shall live to be the prop..of her age. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. xii. (1866) 211 He needs no props..to support his faith.

†2. A pole or stake, e.g. a boundary stake: cf. PROP *v.*1 3. Also b. A butt for shooting at.

1456 *Reg. Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Cl.) II. 89 The sowthe syde of the myre sal ly in commoun pasture..as the proppis ar sett fra the est to the west apon the northe syde throuout the myre linialy...And frae the west cors sowthe as it is proppit. b. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 273 Giffin to the King himself to schute at the prop with James Mersar,..x s. 1503 *Ibid.* II. 401 Item, in Strethbogy, to the King to play at the prop, ij s. iiij. d. 1505–6 *Ibid.* III. 179 Item, to the King quhilk he tynt at the prop with George Campbell, vj Franch crownis.

3. [f. PROP *v.*1 4.] A sudden stop made by a horse when going at speed. *Australian.*

1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life Queensland* I. xiv. 201 A sudden fierce prop, and Roaney has shot behind Sam's horse. 1884 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Melbourne Mem.* xvi. 115 The 'touchy' mare gave so sudden a 'prop', accompanied by a desperate plunge, that he was thrown.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prop-iron, prop-wood*; **prop-crib, prop-joint, prop-maul, prop-stay**: see quots.; **prop-foot, prop-leg** (of a caterpillar) = PRO-LEG; **prop-man**, a man who places and attends to the props in a coal-mine.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, **Prop-crib timbering*, shaft timbering with cribs kept at the proper distance apart by means of props. 1890 JULIA P. BALLARD *Among Moths & Butterfl.* 88 The hinder *prop-feet were a dark brown. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Mar. 2/1 Step and *prop-iron, bolt and screw. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Prop-joint*.., the jointed bar which spreads the bows of a calash-top. 1869 PACKARD *Guide Stud. Insects* (1872) 21 These 'false' or '*prop-legs' are soft and fleshy, and without articulations. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U.S.) III. 388 The [canker-worm] has six legs forward, and four stout prop-legs behind. 1888 *Times* 27 Sept. 3/3, 30 men, chiefly *propmen, continued to descend into the pit to keep the workings open and in repair. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 40 **Prop-maul*, an iron maul, with a handle 3 feet long, used by the deputies in drawing props. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Prop-stay*, a transverse water-tube crossing a boiler-flue..increasing the flue-surface by the exposure of its exterior surface to the heated current. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 978 Columns of *prop-wood are erected betwixt the pavement and the roof.

Prop (prɒp), *sb.*2 [= MDu. *proppe*, Du. *prop*. broach, skewer, plug, stopple. As to etym., see prec.]

†1. A plug; a wedge. *Sc. Obs. rare.* Cf. PROP *v.*2

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. iii. 86 The mekill syllis of the warryn tre Wyth wedgis and with proppis bene devyd.

2. A scarf-pin. *Thieves' Cant, Slang.*

(App. a slang application of 'broach', 'skewer'.)

1850 DICKENS *Artful Touch* in *Repr. Pieces* (1866) 210 In his shirt-front there's a beautiful diamond prop,..a very handsome pin indeed. 1891 *Sporting Times* 11 Apr. 1/2 He is proudest..of the pin,.. presented to him by the Heir to the Throne...John was wearing this prop in the Paddock at Epsom.

Prop (prɒp), *sb.*3 *colloq.* or *School slang.* Short for PROPOSITION.

[1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 343/2 This Author shews by way of Corollary from the preceding Prop. that [etc.].] 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 212 To demonstrate the props of Euclid by cutting them out in note paper, and carefully piecing them together.

Prop, *sb.*4 *U. S.* [Derivation unknown.] Usually in pl. **Props**: A name given to cowrie shells, used in a gambling game, and hence to the game itself, in vogue in New England chiefly from *c* 1830 to the beginning of the Civil War.

The convex backs of the shells were ground down, and the hollows thus made filled up flat with red sealing-wax. Four of the shells were shaken in the hand or in a box, and thrown after the manner of dice on a table, the stake being won or lost according to the number of white or red sides coming up. When two or four shells turned up alike, it was called a 'nick' and won; any other combination was an 'out' and lost. *Dead props* were loaded shells used in cheating. Hence in Comb. *prop-box, prop-house, prop-table.*

1833 W. J. SNELLING *Expose Gaming Massach.* 11 We advanced to the prop table and held forth our hand for the props between two infamous blackguards. *Ibid.* 25 About fifty persons were shaking props...The Box eventually won the greater part of the money, by means of loaded props. 1868 *How Gamblers Win* (N. Y.) 97 It is said that there is not a prop-house in the city of New York. *Ibid.* 99 The professional provides himself with what are called dead props, with which he can throw 'nicks' or 'outs' at pleasure. *Ibid.*, A pastime so stupid and monotonous as Props. 1905 *Boston Even. Transcript* 14 Jan., When I was a boy, knowing people said prop-au. But we boys scorned this.

Prop (prɒp), *v.*1 Also 6 **proppe.** [Known from 15th c.; app. directly f. PROP *sb.*1; cf. obs. Du. *proppen* 'fulcire, suffulcire' (Kilian), 'to prop, stay or bear up' (Hexham).]

1. *trans.* To support or keep from falling by or as by means of a prop; to hold up: said both of the prop or support itself and of the person who places it. Also with *up*.

1492–3 [see PROPPING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1538 ELYOT, *Statumino, nare*, to proppe vp, to vnderset, to make sure...*Suffulcio* .. to proppe vp. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 51 Thee wheels wee prop with a number Of beams and sliders. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 263 To prop the Ruins, lest the Fabrick fall. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 228 Propt on a staff, a beggar old and bare. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* Ep. 1 Your shoulder propped my head. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. i, Valentine made Lotty lie down ..and propped her up with pillows.

2. *fig.* To support, sustain: esp. used in relation to some weak or failing cause or institution.

1549 [implied in PROPPER]. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xx. ii, With heavnly strength, thy early strength to prop. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. i. 59 Being not propt by Auncestry, whose grace Chalkes Successors their way. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 191 Propped by these Persuasions, the Women freely Sacrifice themselves. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* v. 52 An ingenious Writer toiling .. to prop a mistaken Principle. 1843 E. MIALL in *Nonconf.* III. 209 Justice should not be propped up by injustice, disinterestedness by rapacity.

†3. To mark out with posts, cairns, or other erections: cf. PROP *sb.*1 2. *Sc. Obs.*

1456 [see PROP *sb.*1 2]. 1540 in 5*th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 609/1 Meithis and merchis .. begynnand .. in the myddis of the resk..as is proppit be us. *Ibid.*, Ascendand up the hill carne be carne as we haif proppit to the heid of the said hill.

4. *intr.* Of a horse: To stop suddenly when going at speed. *Australian.*

1870 E. B. KENNEDY *Four Yrs. Queensland* xi. 194 When almost against it, the animal would stop in his stride (or prop), when the rider vaulted lightly over his head on to the verandah. 1882 *Daily News* 3 June 6/4 Another horse propped suddenly at the water-jump hurdle, and sent his rider over into the very middle of the pool. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* i. (1891) 8, I didn't think he'd ha' propped like that.

5. *trans.* To hit straight; to knock down. *slang.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 387/1 If we met an 'old bloke' (man) we 'propped him' (knocked him down) and robbed him. 1892 *Nat. Observer* 27 Feb. 378/1 Give me a snug little set-to down in Whitechapel: Nobody there that can prop you in the eye!

†**Prop,** *v.*2 *Sc. Obs. rare*–1. [app. a. MDu., MLG. *proppen* to cram, stuff full: cf. PROP *sb.*2, and note in etymology of PROP *sb.*1] *trans.* To cram, stuff, load.

a 1568 *King Berdok* 38 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 406 Thay stellit gunis to the killogy laich, And proppit gunis with bulettis of raw daich [= dough].

†**Prop,** *v.*3 *Obs.* [app. a variant of dial. *brob* vb.: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v. *Brob.*] *intr.* To probe (for minerals).

1747 Hooson *Miner's Dict.* E ij, When a Miner discovers any Signs of a Vein by Proping, he falls to cutting a Square Hole, about a Yard every way. *Ibid.* H ij, The Person who owns the Land where the Miner Props and makes search for Ore. *Ibid.* P iv b, If one Miner went by himself, he took nothing but his Proping Spade, if two went together they would take a Hack and Spade to Cast with. [1748 *Articles for High Peak Hundred* in Hardy *Miner's Guide* 22 If any Miner within the King's Field, do brob or make any Holes for the finding of any Vein or Rake.]

Propædeutic (prōpĭdiū·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. type * *προπαιδευτικός* adj., f. *προπαιδεύειν* to teach beforehand, f. *πρό*, Pro-[2] + *παιδεύειν* to teach, educate: see Pædeutics.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to or of the nature of preliminary instruction; supplying the knowledge or discipline introductory or preliminary to some art or science; preliminarily educational.

1849 Morell *Philos. Relig.* 139 Judaism was Propædeutic to Christianity. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 262 The university course is almost wholly special; the liberal and propædeutic studies are relegated to the grammar-school. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1704 The study of philosophy has a propaedeutic value.

B. *sb.* **1.** A subject or study which forms an introduction to an art or science, or to more advanced study generally.

1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 285 If Mathematics ..do constitute the true logical catharticon, the one practical propaedeutic of all reasoning. 1855 Meiklejohn tr. *Kant's Critique* Pref. 25 Logic is properly only a propædeutic—forms, as it were, the vestibule of the sciences. 1905 *Athenæum* Feb. 170 Psychology pushes its claim to be the propaedeutic of metaphysics, with dire results to intellectualism.

2. *pl.* **Propædeutics.** The body of principles or rules introductory to any art, science, or subject of special study; preliminary learning.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Propædeutics*..a term used by German writers to signify the preliminary learning connected with any art or science: that in which it is necessary to be instructed, in order to study with advantage the art or science itself. 1877 A. B. Alcott *Table-T.* 114 Rather is it [our secular life] the propædeutics of human combination and communication, wherein spiritual life becomes a reality.

Hence **Propæde·utical** *a.* = Propædeutic *a.*

1867 J. H. Stirling *Schwegler's Hist. Philos.* (1871) 205 Logic precedes both as propædeutical of the study of philosophy in general. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Apr. 257/3 The propaedeutical narration of various well-chosen anecdotes.

Propagable (prŏ·păgăb'l), *a.* [f. L. *pro-*, *prō-pāg-āre* to Propagate + -able. Cf. med.L. *propāgābil-is* (Albertus Magnus *Metaph.* v. vi. v.).] Capable of being propagated.

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* P 60 And carry about with them propagable mines. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* 48 The Olive not being successfully propagable by seed. *a* 1707 J. Fraser *Disc. Second Sight* 36 Whether this Second Sight be Hereditary, or propagable from father to Son. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 73 A specific source of infection as in other cases of propagable contagion.

Hence **Pro·pagabi·lity, Pro·pagableness,** the capability of being propagated.

1685 Boyle *Effects of Mot.* v. 46 We must grant in our Instances a wonderful propagableness of motion. 1881 W. B. Carpenter in *19th Cent.* Oct. 554 The propagability of the micrococcus of tubercle by the milk of cows affected with tuberculosis.

Propagand (prŏpăgæ·nd). Also **-ande.** [ad. F. *propagande*: see next.] = Propaganda.

1801 Hel. M. Williams *Sk. Fr. Rep.* I. xi. 115 To..form a propagande of the rights of man. 1830 *Examiner* 629/1 Europe recollected the past, and asked whether no revolutionary propagand would arise amongst them. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* iv. 47 A grand scheme for the union of Protestant Christendom, and his propagand of Comenius's school-reform.

Propaganda (prŏpăgæ·ndă). [a. It. (Sp., Pg.) *propaganda* (F. *propagande*), from the mod.L. title *Congregatio de propaganda fide* 'congregation for propagating the faith': see sense 1.]

1. (More fully, *Congregation* or *College of the Propaganda.*) A committee of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church having the care and oversight of foreign missions, founded in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV.

1718 Ozell tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* II. 237 The Congregation of the Propaganda gives them at present but twenty five Roman Crowns a Man. 1819 T. Hope *Anastasius* (1820) I. ix. 168 An Italian missionary of the Propaganda. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* II. iii. 70 The Propaganda was busy in Paraguay, or Otaheite.

2. Any association, systematic scheme, or concerted movement for the propagation of a particular doctrine or practice.

Sometimes erroneously treated as a plural (= efforts or schemes of propagation) with singular *propagandum*, app. after *memorandum*, *-da*.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.* etc., s. v., Derived from this celebrated society, the name *propaganda* is applied in modern political language as a term of reproach to secret associations for the spread of opinions and principles which are viewed by most governments with horror and aversion. 1868 M. E. G. Duff *Pol. Surv.* 36 Their *propaganda* represents nothing more than a mere idiosyncrasy. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 208 It seems unlikely that Saul should at once have been able to substitute a propaganda for an inquisition. 1896 *Brit. Weekly* XXII. 340/2 The opportunity and occasion for a vigorous and effective propaganda.

b. *attrib.*

1854 J. S. C. Abbott *Napoleon* (1855) II. xii. 197 Aware that a propaganda war was impossible as long as Russia should continue allied to France. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Jan. 5/3 We would rather see our money spent in propaganda work than paying election expenses. 1899 *Two Worlds* 6 Jan. 7/1 Propaganda meetings will be conducted in the Cowgate-street Club and the Labour Institute. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 3/1 A propaganda play.

Propaga·ndic, *a. rare*[−0]. [irreg. f. prec. + -ic.] Pertaining to a propaganda or to propagandism. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Propagandism (prŏpăgæ·ndiz'm). [f. as prec. + -ism: so F. *propagandisme.*] The practice of a propaganda; systematic work at propagating any opinion, creed, or practice.

1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 247 If the liberty of the press is curbed, the liberty of the tongue is taken to a wonderful degree, and I am not certain that its propagandism is not the stronger of the two. 1851 Gallenga *Italy* ii. 93 The results of French propagandism in Central Italy in 1830. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 292 The best Jews despised all attempts at active propagandism.

Propagandist (prŏpăgæ·ndist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. as prec. + -ist: so F. *propagandiste.*]

1. A member or agent of a propaganda; one who devotes himself to the propagation of some creed or doctrine; a proselytizer.

1829 Southey *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 352 The propagandist of Atheism and the Jesuit both find facile converts. 1861 Crawfurd in *Trans. Ethnol. Soc.* I. 88 The early Portuguese conquerors in India..very active and zealous propagandists. 1876 Lowell *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 114 Evil is a far more cunning and persevering propagandist than Good. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 30 May 713/2 To counteract the teachings of Radical propagandists.

2. *spec.* A missionary or convert of the Roman Catholic Congregation of the Propaganda.

1833 A. Crichton *Hist. Arabia* I. i. 29 *note*, He exposed the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome, so as to alarm the Propagandists, who employed a Franciscan friar to refute it. 1890 *Tablet* 6 Sept. 365 Two Catholic factions, called respectively Padroadists and Propagandists. 1893 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 31 The Goanese, to whatever part of India they wandered, kept themselves distinct from the Catholics, whom they termed Propagandists.

B. *adj.* Given or inclined to propagandism; devoted to the propagation of doctrines or principles.

1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Race* Wks. (Bohn) II. 20 They are still aggressive and propagandist. 1885 C. Lowe *Bismarck* xii. II. 320 The authorities had been ordered to deal with the Catholic Press, and with propagandist societies under the influence of the Jesuits.

Hence **Propagandi·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to propagandists or propagandism; **Propagandi·stically** *adv.*, in a propagandist manner.

1880 *Daily Tel.* 17 Feb., Nicholas was opposed to France, because she was propagandistically dangerous to his form of government, pure absolutism. 1890 in *Voice* (N. Y.) 30 Jan., The objects of the society are mainly propagandistic.

Propagandize (prŏpăgæ·ndəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -ize.] **a.** *trans.* To disseminate (principles) by organized effort; to subject to a propaganda.

1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIX. 333 We did not fight to propagandise monarchical principles. 1878 *Ibid.* XVIII. 51 They..came..to propagandise their political and literary notions. 1892 *Echo* 4 Feb. 2/3 All the..places..where voters can be reached, will be visited and propagandised.

b. *intr.* To carry on a propaganda.

1889 *Voice* (N. Y.) 1 Aug., Unselfish, disinterested citizens, propagandizing for the sake of principle.

Pro·pagant, *a. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *propāgāns*, *-ānt-em*, pres. pple. of *propāgāre* to Propagate.] Propagating, prolific, productive.

1895 F. Hall 2 *Trifles* 30, I predict that it [the term 'scientist'] will live. Nay, who knows that..it may not get to be ambitiously propagant, engendering..*scientism*, *scientistic*, *scientistically*,..*scientize* [etc.]?

†**Pro·pagate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *propāgāt-us*, pa. pple. of *propāgāre*: see next.] Propagated. (Const. as pa. pple.)

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VII* 30 Because he was propagate and descended of the house of Lancastre. 1671 R. MacWard *True Nonconf.* 160 A sprig of Rome's hierarchy, propagate by her ambition and deceit.

Propagate (prŏ·păgēit), *v.* Also 6–7 *erron.* propo-. [f. ppl. stem of L. *prō-*, *propāgāre* to multiply (plants) by means of layers or slips, to breed, to enlarge, extend, or prolong the stock or race of, cognate with *prō-*, *propāgo*, *-āginem* a layer (esp. of a vine), a shoot or slip from which a new plant is produced, f. Pro-[1] I e, forth, out, + (perh.) *pag-*, root of *pangĕre* to fix, fasten, set, plant; hence, 'to plant or set out layers'.]

1. *trans.* To multiply specimens of (a plant, animal, disease, etc.) by any process of natural reproduction from the parent stock; to produce as offspring, procreate, reproduce, breed; to cause to breed; *refl.* to reproduce itself (i.e. its kind).

1570 Levins *Manip.* 41/6 To Propagate, *propagare.* 1606 G. W[oodcocke] *Hist. Ivstine* IX. 42 Hee had many other sons propagated from seuerall women. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 121 The French Dogs are derived or propagated of the Dogs of Great Britain. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iii. 40 [They] have no seminary principle to propagate themselves by. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 117 To plant, and propagate a Vine. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 271 Men..are often content to propagate a race of slaves. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* iv. (1813) 59 Plants are propagated by seeds, suckers, slips, offsets, divisions, cuttings, layers, and graffs. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 349 It is then not syphilis, but the original morbid diathesis modified by syphilis which becomes propagated. 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* i. 42 Pigeons..can be propagated in great numbers and at a very quick rate. 1859 W. S. Coleman *Woodlands* (1866) 114 The Mistletoe may be artificially propagated by slitting the bark of a tree and inserting one of the seeds. *Mod.*, Thistles seed and propagate themselves rapidly.

b. *absol.*, or *intr.* for *refl.* To breed, to produce offspring; to reproduce itself, i.e. its kind; to multiply or spread by generation or other form of reproduction.

1601 Holland *Pliny* II. Explan. Words, *Propagat*, to grow and increase, after the manner of Vine branches, which being drawne along in the ground from the mother-stock do take root. 1640 Nabbes *Bride* I. i, T' increase And propagate was the best end of marriage. 1732 Pope *Ess. Man* II. 64 Fix'd like a plant on his peculiar spot, To draw nutrition, propagate, and rot. 1772 Priestley *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 32 Carnivorous [animals] propagate very slowly. 1858 Chr. Rossetti *From House to Home* ix, Fat toads were there to hop or plod And propagate in peace.

†**c.** *trans.* To produce, yield as produce. *Obs.*

1699 Dampier *Voy.* II. I. 116 The greatest part of the Island of Sumatra propagates this Plant [pepper].

d. *transf.* To hand down from one generation to another; to pass on to one's descendants; to reproduce in the offspring.

1601 Shaks. *All's Well* II. i. 200 My low and humble name to propagate With any branch or image of thy state. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* (1759) I. iv. 142 These Follies were propagated from Father to Son. 1866 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* ii. (ed. 4) 47 It may be doubted whether..great deviations of structure..are ever permanently propagated in a state of nature.

†**e.** To people (*with* a race or progeny). *Obs. rare.* (Cf. Propagation 1 b.)

1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* II. 155 It has always appeared to me ridiculous for people who propagate the world with nothing but miserable dependents, to make any rejoicing at their birth.

2. a. *fig.* To cause to grow in numbers or amount; to cause to increase or multiply. (Often passing into 3.)

1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 193 Griefes of mine owne lie heauie in my breast, Which thou wilt propagate to haue it preast With more of thine. 1633 Prynne *1st Pt. Histrio-M.* III. iii. 103 This practise therefore of acting Vices, doth onely propagate them, not restraine them. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 105 It is the very nature of this vice to propagate itself..in a peculiar way of its own. 1875 Scrivener *Lect. Text N. Test.* 5 The pernicious effects of this natural fault will propagate themselves rapidly.

b. To extend (anything material or immaterial).

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 146 Not to enlarge it, by continuing and propagating the War. 1704 *Providence Rec.* (1896) X. 77 A person..Purchased severall lands, and propagated other Estate as Goods, Cattell, and Chattells. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* II. xvii. 317 A narrow rent opened beneath his feet, and propagated itself through the ice.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To increase, multiply itself, grow more numerous.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 53 As Heresie did propagate and increase. 1868 H. Law *Beacons Bible* (1869) 34 [Sin] quickly propagates and fearfully extends.

3. *trans.* To spread from person to person, or from place to place; to disseminate, diffuse (a statement, belief, doctrine, practice, etc.).

1600 [see *propagating*. below]. 1605 Camden *Rem.* 4 Before the yere of Christ 200, it was propagated, as Tertullian writes, to places of Britaine..whither the Romans never reached. 1657 W. Rand tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 261 The Family of the *Fabricii*, had its Original from Pisa, from whence..it was propagated into France. 1658 *State Papers, Domestic* 295 The Act for propagating the Gospel in the 4 northern counties. 1674 Owen *Holy Spirit* (1693) 107 The Kingdom of Christ is preserved, carried on and propagated in the World. 1725 Berkeley *Proposal* Wks. 1871 III. 215 To propagate the Gospel in foreign parts. *a* 1727 Newton *Chronol. Amended* I. (1728) 80 This year being at length propagated into Chaldæa, gave occasion to the year of Nabonassar. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 195, I have had the pleasure to propagate Vaccination so far as Bagdad. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* VII. lxiii. 241 Some critics have imagined that the Roman occupation was propagated as far as the Don. 1868 Helps *Realmah* xii. (1876) 327 Men who made and propagated false rumours.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To become more widely spread; to spread. *rare.*

c 1645 Howell *Lett.* (1650) I. 330 A religion that..did expand herself, and propagate by simplicity, humbleness, and by a meer passive way of fortitude.

4. *trans.* To extend the action or operation of; to transmit, spread, convey (motion, light, sound, etc.) in some direction, or through some medium.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 216 All endeavour, whether strong or weak, is propagated to infinite distance; for it is motion. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxvii. 207 The structure of the cover..through which the sound was propagated from the Watch to the Ear. 1799 Wood *Optics* i. (1811) 1 The vibrations of an elastic fluid are propagated in every direction. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxx. 406 It might be thought improbable that irritation, commencing in the kidney or in the bladder, should be propagated through sentient nerves to the spinal cord. 1853 Herschel *Pop. Lect. Sc.* i. § 22 (1873) 15 The manner in which an earthquake is propagated from place to place. 1854 [see Propagation 5].

Hence **Pro·pagated** *ppl. a.*, **Pro·pagating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1600 J. Pory tr. *Leo's Africa* 390 The propagating of the christian faith. 1638 Quarles *Hieroglyph.* II. xix, Or is't a propagated Spark, rak'd out From Natures embers? *a* 1653 G. Daniel *Idyll.* ii. 59 Such propagating Iellyes nere distill Without their Mandrakes; whose first hissings kill. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 320 The efforts of the pisciculturists .. at their propagating establishment at Stormontfield. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 161 The starting-point of a continued or propagated thrombus.

Propagation (prɒpăgēi·ʃən). [a. F. *propagation* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *prō-, propāgātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prŏpāgāre* to Propagate.] The action of propagating.

1. The action of producing as offspring, or multiplying by such production; procreation, generation, reproduction.

a 1450 *Mankind* 181 in *Macro Plays* 7 Of þe erth & of þe cley we haue owur propagacyon. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 170 b, He that by naturall propagacyon hath generate or begoten vs. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xvii. xiii. 515 The worke of nature, in sending out these sprigs, taught us the feat to couch and lay sets in the ground by way of propagation. 1781 Burke *Sp. Marriage Act* Wks. X. 136 Matrimony is instituted not only for the propagation of men, but for their nutrition, their education, their establishment. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 875 In the lower Algæ... the plants are continually undergoing propagation by division of the constituent cells. 1883 Goode *Fish. Indust. U. S. A.* 74 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The machinery for propagation [of fish] on a gigantic scale by the aid of steam.

† **b.** The action of peopling with offspring. *Obs.*

1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 2 The propagation of the world after [the flood] by the Sons of Noah.

† **2.** That which is propagated; offspring, generation, breed, race. *Obs.*

1536 *Exhort. to the North* 86 in Furniv. *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 307 And with that noit content, hys mallys put in vre agaynes the trew lewes of hys propagation. 1596 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxvii. (1612) 285 With Marrage, that legitimates our propagation. 1611 Rich *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 49 The Laconian women brought foorth a propagation of men of haughty courage.

† **3.** *fig.* Increase in amount or extent; enlargement; extension in space or time. *Obs.*

1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 154 This we came not to, Onely for propogation of a Dowre Remaining in the Coffer of her friends. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) XI. ii. 39 The spoil and waste they had made .. for the propagation of their empire, which they were still enlarging as their desires. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* I. iii. 217 Not for the propagation of his own life.

4. Dissemination, diffusion, esp. of some principle, belief, or practice.

1588 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 266 The propagatioun of the trew .. religioun. 1615 Latham *Falconry* Epist., For the propagation of the noble sport. 1701 *Charter Will. III* 16 June, [To] be one Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed, and in Name, by the Name of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 144 P 6 Calumny is diffused by all arts and methods of propagation. 1859 Mill *Liberty* ii. 36 Forbidding the propagation of error. 1877 Sparrow *Serm.* ix. 112 The main use of agencies .. in connection with religion, is the propagation of the truth.

5. Transmission of some action or form of energy, as motion, light, sound, etc.

1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 334 When .. one body, having opposite endeavour to another body, moveth the same, and that moveth a third, and so on, I call that action propagation of motion. 1710 J. Clarke *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 191 The Propagation of Sound may very well be compared with Circles made in the Water, by throwing a Stone into it. 1804 Sir J. Leslie (*title*) An Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Propagation of Heat. 1849 Noad *Electricity* (ed. 3) 138 We must consider the transference of the hydrogen to take place by the propagation of a decomposition through a chain of particles extending from the zinc to the platinum. 1854 *Pereira's Pol. Light* 8 The Propagation of Light.—Light emanates, radiates, or is propagated in straight lines.

† **6.** The action of branching out as a shoot (L. *propago*); *concr.* a branch, ramification. *Obs. rare.*

1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 10 The nerves of the Taste descend from the third and fourth Propagations, and so diffuse themselves into the tongue.

Propaga·tional, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -al.] Of or pertaining to propagation.

1898 Ld. Kelvin in *Nature* 17 Nov. 56/2 How and about what range do we pass from the propagational velocities of 3 kilometres per second?

Propagative (prɒ·păgĕtiv), *a.* [f. L. ppl. stem *prō-, propāgāt-* (see Propagate *v.*) + -ive.] Having the quality of propagating; belonging to, characterized by, or tending to propagation.

1660 Waterhouse *Arms & Arm.* 118 If the design of Loyola .. were .. propogative of the faith of Jesus. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* IV. vii. 354 Every Man owes more of his Being to Almighty God than to his natural Parents, whose very Propagative Faculty was at first given .. by the only virtue, efficacy, and energy of the Divine Commission and Institution. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 876 In the Hepaticæ and Mosses the propagative structures do not yet arrive at the condition of buds. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* (ed. 2) 356 A church without propagative power in the world cannot be other than a calamity.

Propagator (prɒ·păgĕitəɹ). [a. L. *prō-, propāgātor*, agent-n. from *prŏpāgāre* to Propagate: so F. *propagateur* (1516 in Hatz.-Darm.).] One who or that which propagates.

1. One who begets or produces offspring.

1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* I. ix. 32 [They] must needs depend on some prime Propagator, as all Families do. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 203 P 7 Were I to propose a Punishment for this infamous Race of Propagators, it should be to send them .. into our American Colonies .. to people those Parts .. where there is a want of Inhabitants.

b. A planter; a rearer of plants.

1669 Worlidge *Agric.* (1681) 330 *Propagator*, a Planter.

c. A forcing-frame for plants; a propagating-house.

1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1254/2 A well made propagator, zinc, can be heated with gas or oil lamp, very useful for raising flower seeds or striking cuttings.

2. *fig.* One who spreads abroad, disseminates, or diffuses (a statement, opinion, practice, etc.).

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 52 The propagator of true Religion. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* 283 The Propagators of the worship of the Baalim. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 167 These writers, like the propagators of all novelties, pretended to a great zeal for the poor and the lower orders. 1812 Ld. Ellenborough in *Examiner* 28 Dec. 832/2 The defendant was not proved to be the institutor, but only the propagator, of the libel. 1867 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 455 A zealous propagator of Christianity.

Hence **Pro·pagatress, Propaga·trix,** a female propagator.

1653 R. Baillie *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 24 That heresie for its great and prime propogatrix had Mistresse Hutcheson. 1660 Howell *Parly of Beasts* 89 The prime Propagatresse of Religion and Learning. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 498 This industrious propagatrix of the species.

† **Pro·pagatory,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as Propagate *v.* + -ory 2.] **a.** = Propagative. **b.** Subject to propagation; = Propagable.

1647 M. Hudson *Div. Right Govt.* II. x. 144 Which power God delegated unto man .. by that propagatorie benediction, *Crescite & multiplicamini.* 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 196 Prophecy, as it is not hereditary by nature, so neither is it propagatory by art.

† **Propa·ge,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *propāgāre*, or F. *propage-r.*] = Propagate *v.*

1695 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Gen.* 17 [The plants] at the beginning were brought out of the Earth, with their Seed in them, to propage them ever after. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II, Body o' me, what a many-headed Monster have I propaged!

Propagule (propæ·giūl). *Bot. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *propāgul-um*, dim. of L. *propāgo* a shoot laid down in layering, a runner.] See quot.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Propagulum*, Bot. Applied by Willdenow to the round corpuscles which are solitary or agglomerated upon the surface of the *thallus* of the *Lichenes*: a propagule.

‖ **Propaidei·a.** *rare*$^{-1}$. [a. Gr. *προπαιδεία* preliminary teaching, f. *πρό*, Pro-^{2} + *παιδεία* teaching.] Preliminary teaching or education.

1888 Gladstone in *Contemp. Rev.* May 781 The marvellous propaideia of the Jewish history.

† **Pro·palate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *prōpalāre*: see Propale and -ate 3.] = Propale.

1598 in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) I. 209 We .. almost make dowbte to propalate what answeares they have returned to some very grave, learned and worthy persons. 1633 Prynne *Histriomastix* 126, Christian love, which delights to cover, not propalate and divulge mens sinnes. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* III. 62 Mr. Howarden .. dare's propalate his Ignorance so far as to say, The Swissers have no University.

So † **Propala·tion,** publication, divulgement.

a 1677 Hale *Pomponius Atticus* 137 They would immediately before the propalation of such businesses, send for persons of greatest reputation and credit.

Propa·le, *v.* Chiefly *Sc. arch.* [ad. late L. *prōpal-āre* to make public, divulge, f. L. *prōpalam* openly, manifestly, f. *prō*, Pro-^{1} 1 a + *palam* openly.] *trans.* To publish, divulge, disclose.

c 1529 in Fiddes *Wolsey* II. (1726) 170 Never to propale the same to any man lyving. 1721 Wodrow *Hist. Suffer. Ch. Scot.* (1828) I. i. ii. 130 The springs of such surprising treatment .. are either secret, or not very fit to be propaled. 1730 T. Boston *Mem.* App. 29, I do not desire it to be propaled. 1820 Scott *Abbot* iv, Anxious to propale their misdemeanour.

Propalinal (prɒpæ·linăl), *a. Physiol.* [f. Gr. *πρό*, Pro-^{2} + *πάλιν* backward + -al: cf. Proal, Palinal.] Having a forward and backward motion: said of the lower jaw in mastication.

1888 Cope in *Amer. Nat.* Jan. 7 [*Note*] The propalinal mastication is to be distinguished into the proal, from behind forwards, .. and the palinal, from before backwards. *Ibid.* 9 A fifth effect of the development of the incisors, and of the propalinal mastication, is seen in the position of the molar teeth.

Propane (prō·u·pē·in). *Chem.* [f. Prop(ionic + -ane 2 b; introduced by Hofmann, 1866.] The paraffin or saturated hydrocarbon C_3H_8, the third member of the series C_nH_{2n+2}; a colourless gas occurring in petroleum, which liquefies at −20°C. Also called *Propyl hydride.*

1866 Hofmann in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* XV. 58 *note*, The following names are formed: Methane, $(CH_4)^o$, Ethane, $(C_2H_6)^o$, Propane, $(C_3H_8)^o$, Quartane, $(C_4H_{10})^o$ [etc.]. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 539. 1872 Watts *Dict. Chem.* VI. 957 Propane. C_3H_8. Propyl Hydride. This hydrocarbon, the third member of the marsh-gas or paraffin series .. occurs among the gases evolved from the petroleum springs of North America. 1880 Cleminshaw *Wurtz' Atom. The.* 215 The three carbon atoms of the new hydrocarbon, propane, will thus form a chain firmly riveted by the very affinities which would have separated them from each other. *Ibid.* 288 Propyl hydride or propane may be formed in different ways.

Proparapteral, -on: see Pro-^{2} 2.

Proparasceve (prɒpæ·răsĭv, -părăsē·vi). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *προπαρασκευή* a previous preparation: see Pro-^{2} and Parasceve.] A fore-preparation; something that precedes preparation.

1646 Trapp *Comm. John* xi. 55 They had their parasceve, and proparasceve, their preparation and fore-preparation. 1826 H. N. Coleridge *West Indies* 175 Turtle .. is the proparasceve of our manducatory energies.

† **Pro·-pa·rent.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Pro-^{1} 4 + Parent.] One who takes the place of a parent.

1653 G. Firmin *Sober Reply* 14 For your Pro-parent, and Adoption, .. I must now answer. 1661 *Papers on Alter. Prayer Bk.* 98 Who made those Sureties Guardians of the Infants that are neither Parents, nor Pro-parents, nor Owners of them? 1661 *Grand Debate* 19 We desire that the two first Interrogatories may be put to the Parents .; and the last propounded by the Parents, or Pro-parents.

Propargyl (prɒpā·ɹdʒil). *Chem.* [f. *prop-* in Propionic + *arg-* (in allusion to the fact that one of its proportions of hydrogen is characteristically replaceable by silver, *argentum*) + -yl.]

A hydrocarbon radical, C_3H_3, = $CH \equiv C{\cdot}CH_2$, also called *propinyl*, which is found isolated in the form of Dipropargyl, and occurs in *propargyl alcohol*, a colourless, very fragrant liquid, $CH \equiv C{\cdot}CH_2{\cdot}OH$, formed by the action of KOH on monobromallyl alcohol; *propargyl bromide*, $CH \equiv C{\cdot}CH_2Br$, etc. Hence **Propa·rgylamine** $C_3H_3NH_2$; **Propa·r-gylate,** a compound of propargyl with another radical, as *ethyl propargylate*, $CH \equiv C{\cdot}CH_2(OC_2H_5)$; **Propargy·lic** *a.*, of or containing propargyl, as *propargylic ether* = ethyl propargylate.

1866-8 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 728 Propargylic ether. 1872 *Ibid.* VI. 958 Propargylic ether .. is a liquid having an offensive odour, boiling at 72°. 1875 *Ibid.* VII. 1007 Propargyl compounds. *Ibid.*, Ethyl propargylate or propargylic ether .. was discovered in 1865 by Liebermann. *Ibid.*, Propargyl Alcohol .. is a colourless liquid of peculiar odour, boiling at 114°–115°. *Ibid.* 1008 Methyl propargylate .. Amyl propargylate. Propargyl Bromides, .. Iodide, .. Acetate, .. Sulphocyanate.

Proparoxytone (prōu·păɹɒ·ksitoun), *a.* and *sb. Gram.* [ad. Gr. *προπαροξύτον-ος*: see Pro-^{2} and Oxytone; so F. *proparoxyton.*] **a.** *adj.* In *Gr. Gram.* Having an acute accent on the antepenult. Also applied to words in Latin, and sometimes in other languages, having the tonic accent or stress on that syllable. **b.** *sb.* A word so accented.

1764 W. Primatt *Accentus Rediv.* 106 When they [the Ionians] turned proparoxytone nouns of the .. declension in εια into ειη, at the same time they made them paroxytones. 1885 J. Lecky tr. *Paul Pierson* in *Academy* 24 Jan. 65/2 We may even predict that at some period .. there will be nothing but paroxytones and proparoxytones (in French), since these accentuations are now invading even exclamatory and interrogative phrases, while conclusive phrases are barytone already. 1887 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Dead Man's Rock* 187 It is a great thing for struggling youth to have a three-syllabled name with a proparoxyton accent.

Hence **Pro·paroxyto·nic,** † **Pro·paroxy·tonous** (*rare*) *adjs.*, having or characterized by proparoxytone accent or stress; **Proparo·xytone** *v.*, *trans.* to accent on the antepenultimate syllable.

1754 H. Gally *Dissert. agst. pronouncing Grk. Lang. according to Accents* 143 All the Compounds of ουος are proparoxytonous. 1887 A. Morel-Fatio in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 349/2 Castilian may be said to be essentially a paroxytonic language, though it does not altogether refuse proparoxytonic accentuation. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Proparoxytone* vb.

Proparte, -tie, obs. forms of Property.

† **Propa·ssion.** *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *prōpassiōn-em*: see Pro-^{1} 1 g and Passion *sb.* Cf. F. *propassion.*] A feeling that precedes or anticipates passion; the first stir or beginning of a passion.

1597 J. King *On Jonas* (1618) 639 They were rather propassions and entrances into passion than passions, rather infirmities than iniquities. 1627 Bp. Hall *Farew. Serm. Fam. Pr. Henry* Wks. 464 As death, so passions are the companions of infirmity: whereupon some that haue beene too nice haue called those which were incident into Christ propassions. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 122 Not the first motions are forbidden, the pro-passions, and sudden and irresistible alterations. *a* 1700 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 234 For a wise man should not be without his passions, but above them .. Keep a steady hand, regulated and free from excess; for so did our Lord and Master; and therefore have divines called them propassions.

‖ **Propatagium** (prōupătē·ɹdʒiŭm). *Ornith.* [mod.L. f. Pro-^{2} + Patagium.] The so-called patagium of a bird's wing; = Patagium b. Hence **Propata·gial, Propata·gian** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the propatagium.

1887 *Science* Aug. 71/2 The question as to the function of the propatagial slip. *Ibid.*, A new drawing of the propatagian muscles of the swallows. 1901 *Ibis* Apr. 205 A muscular pectoral slip ends in tendons which reinforce the long and short propatagial tendons.

† **Pro·pathy.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. *προπάθεια*: cf. *προπαθεῖν* to suffer beforehand. Cf. F. *propathie* a preliminary symptom.] = Propassion.

1657 Reeve *God's Plea* 63 Whether .. a mere nescience, pawsing delight or propathy, doe not of it selfe cause sinne. [1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Propathia*, term for the presentment or first symptoms of a disease: propathy.]

Proped (prōu·ped). *Entom. rare.* [ad. mod.L.

prōpēs, pl. *prōpedēs*, f. PRO- [1] 4 + *pēs*, *ped-em* foot.] = PRO-LEG. Hence **Pro·pedal** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pro-legs.

[1816 *Propedes*: see PRO-LEG.] 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Propeds*, *Propedes*, the name given by Kirby to the soft, fleshy, inarticulate, pediform appendages of certain larvæ, placed behind the true feet, and disappearing in the mature insects.

Propel (prope·l), *v.* [ad. L. *prōpell-ĕre* to drive before one, push or urge forward, f. *prō*, PRO- [1] 1 + *pell-ĕre* to drive.]

†**1.** *trans.* To drive forth or away; to expel. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1034 Fer awey propelle Horrende odour of kichen, bath, gutteris. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Propelled*,.. thrust out, or driven forward. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* XXX. (1672) 89 Avicen doth witness, the blood to be frothy, thats propell'd out of a Vein of the Breast.

2. To drive forward or onward; to impart an onward motion to; to cause to move onwards.

1658 [see 1]. 1692 BENTLEY *Confut. Atheism* II. (1693) 24 Too feeble and languid to propell so vast and ponderous a Body with that prodigious velocity. 1762–9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 24 Propell'd by flattering gales, the vessel glides. 1790 RUMSEY *Patent Specif.* No. 1738. 2 To cause..the vibrating water..to propell the vessel. 1816 R. BUCHANAN (*title*) Treatise on propelling Vessels by Steam. 1822 IMISON *Sc. & Art* I. 225 Among the..applications of steam is that of propelling vessels by it, without the aid of sails or oars. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 649 Each galley was propelled by fifty or sixty huge oars.

b. *fig.* To give a forward impulse to; to impel or urge onward; in quot. 1762, to accelerate.

1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* I. 389 The rate of succession may be retarded by insisting upon one object, and propelled by dismissing another before its time. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I* III. xiii. 279 The terror of Romanism propelled Protestantism. 1902 E. R. BEVAN *Ho. Seleucus* II. 158 He was propelled not only by the desire of glory, but by the urgent necessity of money.

Propellable (prope·lăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being propelled.

1853–8 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* II. 133 Some [barges] are calculated to be drawn by horses; others are propellable by oars.

Propellent (prope·lĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* Also 9 erron. -ant. [ad. L. *prōpellent-em*, pr. pple. of *prōpellĕre*: see PROPEL and -ENT.]

A. *adj.* Propelling, driving forward; *spec.* (of an explosive) Adapted for propelling a bullet, etc. from a fire-arm.

1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 43 The Hand propellent to the leftward. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 21 Gunpowder is an explosive propellant compound...The terms, *explosive* and *propellant*,..are not convertible; for a chemical mixture may possess the explosive power in a much higher degree than the propellant.

B. *sb.* Something that propels; a propelling agent; *fig.* an incentive, a stimulus; *spec.* an explosive for use in fire-arms.

1814 JEBB in *Knox & J.'s Corr.* II. 189 Providence has placed me in a narrow sphere..without any of the propellents which variety affords. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 368 In all saloon rifles and pistols the propellant is fulminating powder contained in a small copper case. 1890 *Engineer* 7 Feb. 117 Though not as a military propellant [guncotton] has been used with great success in sporting cartridges.

Propeller (prope·lə1). [f. PROPEL + -ER [1].]

1. *gen.* One who or that which propels.

c 1815 in W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 6 *note*, To ye, all Authors' known propellers, I tune my lays, renown'd Booksellers! 1863 LYTTON *Misc. Prose Wks.* (1868) III. xx. 235 Every man has in his own temperament peculiar propellers to the movement of his thoughts. 1875 BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 52 The Kangaroos did not use their tails as propellers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 6/2 Mr. Brunel was the first man..in his profession who perceived the capabilities of the screw as a propeller.

2. A mechanical contrivance for propelling something, e.g. for driving machinery, or giving motion to a vehicle. In quot. 1780, a turbine water wheel.

1780 *Patent Specif.* No. 1252 A Grant unto William Bache of Birmingham, for his new invented instrument or machine which he calls by the name of a Propeller. *Ibid.*, Propeller for the use of communicating power to mills, forges, and sundry other important purposes. 1827 *Gentl. Mag.* XCVII. II. 546/1 A triple perch,..beneath which two propellers, in going up a hill, may be set in motion, somewhat similar to the action of a horse's legs.

3. *spec.* An appliance or mechanism for propelling a ship or other vessel, fixed upon the vessel itself and actuated by machinery (usually by a steam-engine); most commonly applied to a revolving shaft with blades, usually three or four set at an angle and twisted like the thread of a screw (also called *screw propeller* or simply *screw*).

1809 FULTON *U. S. Patent Specif.*, The successful construction of steam boats depends on their parts being well proportioned, whether wheels or any other propellers be used. 1838 *Civil. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 385/1 The engine will be placed amidships,..and the propeller or paddle, which is under the stern, will be worked by a communicating shaft. 1839 *Mech. Mag.* XXXI. 226 The idea of a screw propeller seems to have been formed very early in the history of steam navigation. 1843 *P. Parley's Ann.* IV. 258 A splendid boat..of a new construction, having what is called a propeller. 1858 *Pat. Off. Abridgm., Marine Propulsion* 32 In A. D. 1780 Jouffroy used an engine for his boat with the duck foot propeller. 1870 *Daily News* 22 Apr., The City of Brussels left New York on the 28th March, and lost her propeller three days afterwards. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v., In 1729, Dr. John Allen patented the hydraulic propeller, forcing water through the stern of the ship at a convenient distance under water...In 1782, Rumsey propelled a freight-boat on the Potomac by means of the hydraulic propeller..; the water was drawn in at the bow and expelled through a trunk astern. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Sh.* 7 The throb of the propeller ceased.

b. *transf.* A steamer with a screw propeller.

1860 CAPT. MAURY in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 233 Two propellers..might be sent out. 1871 *Echo* 15 Dec., On the Welland Canal the ice is three inches thick, and eight propellers and other vessels are locked in.

4. *Angling.* An artificial bait having blades which cause it to rotate when drawn through the water.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Supp.* s. v., 2. (*Fishing.*) Chapman's Reversible Propeller.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *propeller-blade*, *-screw*, *-shaft*, *-shafting*, *steam-ship*; **propeller-engine**: see quot.; **propeller-mower**, a mowing-machine driven or pushed forward by the team: see quot. 1875; **propeller-pump**, a rotary pump in which the wheel resembles a screw propeller; **propeller-well**, a vertical cavity at the stern of a ship into which the propeller can be hoisted when not in use; **propeller-wheel** (cf. *paddle-wheel*), a screw propeller: see 3.

1898 *Daily News* 8 Aug. 9/5 Sheffield supplies cranks, crank shafts, propeller shafts, *propeller blades, and anchors. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Propeller-engine*, the introduction of the screw-propeller has brought into use a new class of engines of short stroke, a number being ranged in a line coincident with the line of the propeller-shaft. [*Ibid.* s. v. *Mower*, One other mode of draft is to be noticed, and that is the propeller, in which the cutting apparatus is ahead of the horses, which push the implement before them.] *Ibid.*, **Propeller-pump*, a form of rotary pump in which the wheel resembles the propeller-wheel of the marine service. *Ibid.* s. v. *Propeller*, The pitch of a *propeller-screw is the length, measured along the axis, of a complete turn. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 442/2 The propeller consists now of two half-turns of a thread..placed diametrically opposite to each other on the *propeller-shaft. 1841 A. S. BYRNE *Best Means Propelling Ships* 17 The propeller shafts may be detached. 1898 *Daily N.* 9 Mar. 4/5 The Sturgeon..was disabled last week by an accident to her *propeller shafting. 1851 R. B. FORBES *New Rig* 39, I believe that *propeller steam-ships..can successfully compete with paddle-wheel steamers. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Propeller-wheel*, the blades are sections of spiral flanges winding around the shaft like screw-threads...Generally called a screw-propeller.

Prope·lling, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* [f. PROPEL *v.* + -ING [1, 2.] **a.** *vbl. sb.* The action of PROPEL *v.*; propulsion; also *attrib.* **b.** *ppl. a.* That propels.

1809 FULTON *U. S. Patent Specif.*, I give the preference to a water wheel or wheel with propelling boards. *Ibid.*, The superior advantage of a propelling wheel or wheels. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 436 These propelling vessels were said to be Arteries, and the returning vessels were considered as Veins. Such is the theory of the circulation of the Sap, held forth by the earlier phytologists. 1837 *Mech. Mag.* 3 June 130 Whether it be great speed or great propelling power. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* I. i. 58 The propelling engines are..high-pressure direct-acting vertical engines of six horse-power.

Propelment (prope·lmĕnt). [f. PROPEL *v.* + -MENT.] **a.** The act of propelling; propulsion. **b.** *concr.* The propelling mechanism of a clock or other recording instrument; *spec.* an escapement in which the pallets drive the escape-wheel (instead of the reverse, as in an ordinary clock).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Prope·nd,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōpend-ĕre* to hang forward or down, preponderate, be inclined or favourable, f. *prō*, PRO- [1] 1 b + *pend-ĕre* to hang.]

1. *intr.* To hang or lean forward or downward; to incline or tend in a particular direction; of a scale, to weigh down, preponderate.

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 12 This seme or lyne..propendyng, helding, hangyng or lokyng downward in to y^e^ vault or amplytude of y^e^ womb. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 48 To make that part the heavier, to which they shall propend. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II. i, His eyes are like a balance, apt to propend each way, and to be weighed down with every wench's looks. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. i. 315 The heart..is not so unpartially in the midst of the body, but that..it propends to the left side. *a* 1691 BOYLE *Hist. Air* (1692) 95 [To] shew the quantity of the angle, by which when the scales propend either way, the tongue declines from the perpendicular.

2. *fig.* To have a 'leaning' or propensity; to incline, be disposed, tend (*to* or *towards* something, or *to do* something).

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 190, I propend to you In resolution to keepe Helen still. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. ix. § 1 (1622) 60 The most part of the learned did propende to that opinion. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiii. 185 Some sports..more propend to be ill than well used. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 124 Corrupted Nature might to Lust propend. 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Louis xiv & Father la Chaise* Wks. 1846 I. 150/1 If..anyone..is convinced of the contrary, or propends to believe so. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xii. (1845) 174 As I went down..from Tiberias to Jerusalem..my thinking all propended to the ancient world of herdsmen and warriors.

Hence †**Prope·nded** *ppl. a.* (*fig.*), inclined, disposed (= PROPENSE *a.* 1); †**Prope·nding** *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*: see senses above).

1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* vi. Notes 216 He is more propending to the opinion that Chittim signifies the Romans. 1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) 25 Its propending part must.. imitate the bottom of a pouch. 1693 BEVERLEY *True St. Gosp. Truth* 36 Others..desirous, and most propended to be Teachers of the Law. *a* 1711 KEN *Edmund* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 248 Their Souls on mutually propending Wings, Made tow'rds each other sympathetick Springs.

†**Prope·ndence.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -ENCE.] The fact of hanging forward or out.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 204 Another vse of their propendence or hanging out.

†**Prope·ndency.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ENCY.] **a.** Inclination, tendency. **b.** Weighing, deliberation.

1660 tr. *Amyraldus' Treat. conc. Relig.* III. i. 305 When a thing is equally counterpoised on both sides..to determine the dubious propendency he observes in it. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. ii. 57 An act far above the animal actings, which are sudden and transient, and admit not of that attention, *mora*, and propendency of actions.

Propendent (prope·ndĕnt), *a.* Also 6 erron. -ant. [ad. L. *prōpendĕnt-em*, pres. pple. of *prōpendēre*: see PROPEND and -ENT.]

1. Hanging forward, outward, or downward.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 32 So did theyr propendant breast-bones imminent-ouer-canopy theyr bellies. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 122 The Lips..besieged with such long and propendent Mustachos. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* VII. xii, [A dog] with dejected and propendent ears. 1840 PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Propendent*, hanging forwards and downwards. 1846 WORCESTER cites LOUDON.

†**2.** *fig.* Inclining or inclined to something: = PROPENSE *a.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

17.. SOUTH (cited by Webster 1864).

Propene (prōu·pēn). *Chem.* [f. as PROP-ANE + -ENE.] The olefine C_3H_6, more commonly called PROPYLENE. Also *attrib.*

1866 HOFMANN in *Proc. Royal Soc.* XV. 58 *note.* 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 596 The iodide may also be produced by the action of hydriodic acid on isopropyl alcohol, allyl iodide, propene, or propene alcohol.

†**Propensa·tion.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Bad formation.] = PROPENSION 1.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* IX. 43 He, ..in riding the great horse, and practising his weapon, more delighted to exercise his body, then his mind. (*margin*) Propensation [*misprr.* Prospensation] to Armes.

Propense (prope·ns), *a.* Now *rare.* Also 6–7 propence. [ad. L. *prōpens-us* hanging toward, inclining, inclined; disposed, prone, favourable, pa. pple. of *prōpend-ĕre*: see PROPEND.]

1. Having an inclination, bias, or propensity to something; inclined, disposed, prone; ready, willing. Const. *to*, with *sb.* or *inf.*; rarely *towards.*

1528 Fox in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. liii. 143 His holiness was ..much propence to satisfy his majesty therein. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 86 A manne of nature somwhat to propense to the desier of glorie. *c* 1624 LUSHINGTON *Recant. Serm.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 496 A propense and earnest Concurrence jointly to prosecute the same Good. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 455 Feeble hearts, propense anough before To waver, or fall off and joyn with Idols. 1756 JOHNSON *K. of Prussia* Wks. IV. 549 He appears always propense towards the side of mercy. 1830 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 191, I am..little..capable of forming..new friendships;..I have never been propense to contract them. 1869 GOULBURN *Purs. Holiness* xii. 111 Certain forms of sin to which all persons of strong passions..are naturally propense.

† **b.** Inclined or biased in favour of some person, cause, etc.; propitious, favourable, partial. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 278 With propense and frendly persuasions. 1670 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 97, I fear he was partial to Tycho, because a Calvinist, and propense to Claromontius. *a* 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) III. iv. 96 However Rigby had charged Conway with being subservient to the Favorite, no man living was less propense to him.

† **c.** Liable, subject (*to* physical influence). *Obs.*

1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* A iij, Thingis, quhilkis makis ane man propense to becum Pestilential. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.*, etc. (1885) 230 Things subject to exterior sense Are to mutation most propense.

† **2.** [By association with the verbs PURPENSE, PREPENSE (q.v.), or their pa. pples.] Premeditated, deliberate, intentional: = PREPENSE *a. Obs.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Ded., You will soon discern the propense malice of Satan in it. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 33 Out of a murdering Design, and from a propense and premeditate Malice.

†**Prope·nsed,** *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 6 **propenced.** [f. as prec. + -ED [1] 2.]

1. Favourably inclined or disposed; = prec. 1.

1530 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 33 Your most excellent nature wych hath ever be moved and propensyd to clemency and mercy.

2. [Associated with PURPENSED, PREPENSED.] Premeditated, purposed; deliberate; = prec. 2.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 72 The treason and falsnesse that.. was propenced against me. 1567 THROCKMORTON in *Cal. Scott. Pap.* (1900) II. 369 Yff her majestie be pleasyd to dyffeste me my doyngs here, off propensyd intent (wyche God forbyd) I am les able to answer [etc.].

Propensely (prope·nsli), *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. PROPENSE *a.* + -LY [2].]

1. With inclination or propensity; pronely.

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1729) 35 They but too propensely sink of themselves. 1754 BLACKLOCK *Hymn Supreme Being* Poems 15 Thou behold'st the whole propensely tend To perfect happiness, its glorious end. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Epicurus, Leontion & T.* Wks. 1846 I. 504/1 You ..will have leaned the more propensely toward this opinion,

†**2.** Premeditatedly, intentionally: = PREPENSELY. (See PROPENSE *a.* 2.) *Obs.*

1694 tr. *Milton's Lett. State* M.'s Wks. 1851 VII. 263 Nor can we apprehend..that the Blood of the Innocent, shed by a propensely malicious Murder, is not to be aveng'd. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* cxvii. (1783) IV. 99 One fellow-creature set his heart propensely against another! 1824 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Eliz. & Cecil* Wks. 1846 I. 28/2 Those are the worst of suicides, who voluntarily and propensely stab or suffocate their fame.

Propenseness (prope·nsnés). Now *rare*. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being propense.

1. Proneness, inclination, propensity; favourable disposition; liability.

1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1860) 13 Greit appetit, and propensnes to sleip. 1624 DONNE *Devotions*, etc. (ed. 2) 538 There is a propensnesse to diseases in the body. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xvii. 314 A prayer..conceived in the heart, and not yet uttered.., is often anticipated by the propenseness of free grace. 1858 BUSHNELL *Serm. New Life* 81 Consider the vice of envy, and the general propenseness of men to be in it.

†**2.** Premeditatedness, deliberateness. (See PROPENSE *a.* 2.) *Obs.*

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 102. 1/1 The Sin of Cursing is..aggravated by the Propenseness of the Malice.

Propension (prope·nʃən). Now *rare*. [= F. *propension* (1595 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prōpensiōn-em* inclination, propensity, n. of action f. *prōpendēre*: see PROPEND.]

1. The action, fact, or quality of 'propending' or inclining to something; inclination, 'leaning', propensity. **a.** = PROPENSITY 1 a.

c 1530 WOLSEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 11 Knowyng hys Graces excellent propensyon to pyte and mercy. 1580 BABINGTON *Exp. Lord's Prayer* (1596) 144 In respect of our great propension to abuse his plenty. 1640 GLAPTHORNE *Wallenstein* IV. iii. I feele A strong propension in my braine, to court Sleepe. *a* 1677 HALE *Contempl.* II. 57 There are certain .. Propensions in our Natures after certain Objects. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* (1709) IV. 268 A strong Propension to Sensuality. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* II. 48 The impetus, energy, momentum, or propension to motion.

b. Favourable inclination; = PROPENSITY 1 b.

1606 J. KING *Serm. Sept.* 43 Wheresoeuer they haue met with any word..that beareth any..propension and fauour towards the vpholding of the eldership. 1652-62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* III. (1673) 56/1 The natural propension of the People to one of their own Nation. 1759 B. STILLINGFL. *Misc. Tracts* (1775) 358 The propension of cattle to this or that plant. 1867 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* (1886) 18 The political slang which each side uses to express their aversions and their propensions.

c. Liability, tendency; = PROPENSITY 1 c.

1626 BACON *Sylva* IX. Introd., The aptness or propension of air or water to corrupt or putrefy. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxviii. (ed. 8) 239 Bodies planted aboue the vapourous Orb of Air..rest there..without propension of descent, or falling. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIV. 506 When you see the propension of Nature, you may come safely to Diureticks.

†**2.** Tendency to move in some direction or to take some position; inclination, as of the scale of a balance. (Cf. PROPENSITY 2.) *Obs.*

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* x. (1658) 103 Bodies that of themselves have no propension unto any determinate place. 1678 HOBBES *Decam.* viii. 89 He defines Gravity to be a Natural propension towards the Centre of the Earth. 1705 C. PURSHALL *Mech. Macrocosm* 269 If the Needle were under the Equator, it would have no Propension more one way than another. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 324 A certain propension which some things have to one another, whereby they attract, retain, and alter each other.

Hence †**Prope·nsioner** *Obs.*, one who or that which has or causes a propension to something.

1657 *Divine Lover* 21 To the greate..comfort of such an Interior Propensioner, and God-thirstinge soule.

†**Prope·nsitude.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōpensus*, PROPENSE + -TUDE.] = PROPENSENESS, PROPENSITY. **a.** Mental inclination, liking. **b.** Physical inclination, leaning.

1607 MARSTON *What you will* II. ii, An you have a propensitude to him, he shall be for you. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 2 If it have a propensitude to one side more than another, the declivety is on that side.

Propensity (prope·nsĭti). [f. as prec. + -ITY; so It. *propensità* (Florio).]

1. The quality or character of being 'propense' or inclined to something; inclination, disposition, tendency, bent. Const. *to*, *towards* (rarely *for*, *of*) with *sb.*, or *to* with *inf.* **a.** Disposition or inclination to some action, course of action, habit, etc.; bent of mind or nature.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 1 A propensitie, and disposition to euery good worke. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 21 A natural propensity in us to do evil. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* III. xxi. 42 An early propensity to polite letters and poetry. 1813 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1867) I. 225 That dreadful propensity which young men have for writing verses. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xiv. (1862) 199 He could gratify his propensity to accumulate. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 391 From my knowledge of the hugging propensity of the plantigrades.

b. Disposition to favour, benefit, or associate oneself with some person, party, etc.; favourable inclination, good will.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1219/2 Of good will and mere propensitye of hart..he is..ready to forewarne your grace. 1678 *Trans. Crt. Spain* 169 Your zeal and propensity in the service of the King and State. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. x. 132 Knowing the forwardness of the Duke's nature, and his great propensity towards him. 1757 GRAY *Wks.* (1825) II. 199 If I had any little propensity it was to Julie. 1827 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) V. 236 Lord Liverpool, with all his kingly propensities, could do this [manage the King] upon occasion.

c. Tendency or liability to some physical condition or action.

1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 141 Why have those plants.. a propensity of sending forth roots? 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* vi. (1735) 170 A great Propensity to the putrescent alkaline Condition of the Fluids.

†**2.** Tendency to move in some particular direction: cf. PROPENSION 2. *Obs. rare.*

1647 H. MORE *Poems* 163 Nature..Binding all close with down-propensities.

†**3.** An overhanging part. *Obs. rare.*

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 241 The *P* is kerned, that its propensity may cover the back of the protruding angle of *A*.

†**Prope·nsive,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -IVE.]

1. Having an inclination; = PROPENSE 1.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 12 Edward the thirde, of his propensiue minde towardes them, vnited to Yarmouth Kirtley roade. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 44 He that doth know.. to what his Inclinations are most naturally propensive,..may thereby..shun many Inconveniences.

2. Hanging or leaning forward. *rare*—1.

1819 H. BUSK *Banquet* III. 31 The shaft, propensive from the lightning's stroke, In vain outlives its taller rival oak.

Propenyl (prōu·pĭnil). *Chem.* [f. PROPENE + -YL.] The hypothetical hydrocarbon radical $C_3H_5(CH_3 \cdot CH{=}CH)$, the trivalent hydrocarbon radical of the propyl or trityl series. Chiefly *attrib.* or in *Comb.*

1866 HOFMANN in *Proc. Royal Soc.* XV. 58 *note*. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 12) II. 23 Names..of the trivalent radicles [formed] by changing the final *e* in the names of the bivalent radicles, methene, etc., into *-yl*..CH‴ Methenyl, C_2H_3‴ Ethenyl, C_3H_5‴ Propenyl [etc.]. *Ibid.* 24 Among these [nitrils] special mention must be made of a group consisting of nitrogen combined with a trivalent hydrocarbon-radicle, such as (CH)N Methenyl nitril, $(C_2H_3)N$ Ethenyl nitril, $(C_3H_5)N$ Propenyl nitril... = $CN.C_2H_5$ Ethyl cyanide. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 309 Propenyl Phenol = Anethol. *Ibid.*, Propenyl Bromide = Bromopropylene C_3H_5Br. *Ibid.*, Propenyl Carbinol = Butenyl Alcohol.

Hence **Pro·penylami·ne,** the amine or compound ammonia of propenyl, $CH_3 \cdot CH{=}CH \cdot NH_2$.

Propeptone: see PRO- 2 1.

Proper (prǫ·pəɹ), *a.* (*adv.*, *sb.*) Forms: 3–6 propre (4–6 propir(e, -yr(e, -ur(e, 6 propper), 4– proper. [ME. *propre*, a. F. *propre* (11–12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.):—L. *propri-us* one's own, special, particular, peculiar, whence It., Sp., Pg. *proprio*.

The sense had already undergone great development in Latin, Romanic, and French, before the word was taken into Eng., where the chronological appearance of the senses does not correspond with the logical development. As it happens, our earliest evidence for the word appears in the adv. PROPERLY sense 3, corresp. to 9 of the adj.]

I. 1. Belonging to oneself or itself; (one's or its) own; owned as property; that is the, or a, property or quality of the thing itself, intrinsic, inherent. Usually preceded by a possessive (cf. OWN *a.* 1); sometimes also by *own*. *arch.* exc. in special connexions (chiefly scientific).

Proper motion (Astron.), that part of the apparent motion of a heavenly body (now usually of a 'fixed' star) supposed to be due to its actual movement in space; any observed motion of a star other than those due to the rotation of the earth, to parallax, and to aberration. *In proper person* (L. *in propriā persōnā*), in his (or one's) own person. †*Proper thing* = one's own thing, a property.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 562 (Cott.) An saul has propre thinges [= properties] thre. *Ibid.* 18765 Wit his aun propur might, He stei up in þair aller sight. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 325 To haf in heritage,..als a propire þing, þat were conquest tille him. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4958 For to sytte in dome in proper parsoun. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. v. (1839) 37 With his own propre Swerd he was slayn. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* ii. 21 (1538) 46 b, Some call themselues poore, wythout hauynge ony thynge proper. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. vii. 141 This proper and equal motion of the heaven. *Ibid.* IV. xxxiii. 300 Neither have they any master to whom they are proper. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 60 Euen with such like valour, men hang, and drowne Their proper selues. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 700 The said leiger-book which was then my proper book, is now in Bodlies Library. 1718 G. SEWELL *Proclam. Cupid* 9 Ill is the Bird that soils his proper Nest. 1783 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 267 Astronomers have..observed what they call a proper motion in several of the fixed stars. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxvi, To shroud me from my proper scorn. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* iii. 79 (transl. Dante) To judge..with my proper eyes. 1881 PIAZZI SMYTH in *Nature* XXIV. 430/1 He concludes that the cause of the 'proper' light of the comet is the illumination of its constituent molecules by electric discharge. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* 335 One of those stars which has a considerable proper motion.

2. Belonging or relating to the person or thing in question distinctively (more than to any other), or exclusively (not to any other); special, particular, distinctive, characteristic; peculiar, restricted; private, individual; of its own. Opp. to *common*. Const. *to*.

In liturgies, applied to a service, psalm, lesson, etc., specially appointed for a particular day or season. (See also C. 2, and PREFACE *sb.* 1.) In quot. 1377, = several, separate, distinct: cf. PROPERLY 1 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24921 (Cott.) Sai me..qua[t]kinwise Of hir we sal mak þis seruis, Sin þar es propre nan i knau. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 237 Three propre persones, ac nouȝt in plurel noumbre, For al is but on god, and eche is god hymselue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 100 The dreie Colre..his propre sete Hath in the galle. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvii. 77 Þe folk of Caldee has a propre langage and propre lettres and figures. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Morn. Prayer*, Then shal folow certaine Psalmes in ordre as they been appointed..except there be propre Psalmes appointed for that day. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 3 Their feet are proper, and not like mans,..for they are like great hands. 1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* § 14 Endemial and local Infirmities proper unto certain Regions. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* I. viii. (1765) 16 A Proper Receptacle, is that which belongs only to the Parts of a single Fructification. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 171 Flowers..having an involucrum which is either common or proper. 1870 TYNDALL *Electricity* § 66. 13 The notion of two kinds of electricity, one proper to vitreous bodies,..the other proper to resinous bodies. *Mod.* Hymns, with proper Tunes. The Psalms and Canticles, with proper Chants.

b. *Gram.* Applied to a name or noun which is used to designate a particular individual object (e.g. a person, a tame animal, a star, planet, country, town, river, house, ship, etc.). Opposed to COMMON *a.* 17 a.

A proper name is written with an initial capital letter. The same proper name may be borne by many persons in different families or generations, or by several places in different countries or localities; but it does not connote any qualities common to and distinctive of the persons or things which it denotes. A proper name may however receive a connotation from the qualities of an individual so named, and be used as a common noun, as a Hercules, a Cæsar (Kaiser, Czar), a Calvary, an atlas.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 462/18 Heo was icleoped in propre name 'þe Maudeleyne'. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 70/1 Charlys, propyr name, *Carolus*. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 4 b, In this Proposition *Cato* is the Nowne proper, whiche belongeth to one manne onely. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. iii. § 5 If we had Reason to mention particular Horses, as often as..particular Men, we should have proper Names for the one, as familiar as for the other; and Bucephalus would be a Word as much in use, as Alexander. 1720 WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 117 Supposing Jehovah to be meerly a proper name. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. v. § 2 Proper names have strictly no meaning: they are mere marks for individual objects.

3. *Her.* Represented in the natural colouring, not in any of the conventional tinctures.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 95 b, Twoo Cypres trees raguled Solis, enwrapped with Ivy proper. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xii. (1611) 123 By proper is euermore vnderstood his naturall colour. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 409/1 The City of Oxford beareth Azure, a Book open, proper; with seven Seals between three Crowns Or. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 193 A turkey Cock on each Cut in stone and painted proper. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. § 2. 272 A peacock in its pride, proper.

II. 4. Strictly belonging or applicable; that is in conformity with rule; strict, accurate, exact, correct; †literal, not metaphorical (*obs.*).

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. v. 166 In properist maner of speking. 1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 4 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 72 Qvhy diminiss ȝe or takis away..the trew and propir sentence fra ws, of this part of our Catholik beleif? 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 236 The sense of that place is proper, and not figuratiue. 1581 [see IMPROPER *a.* 1]. 1768 PENNANT in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 96 The proper name of these birds is Pinguin...It has been corrupted to Penguin. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. III. 43 As I was walking along the common—blown along would be the properer phrase. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 272/2 Arachnids are not, in a proper sense, subject to metamorphosis.

†**b.** Very, identical. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxv. 426 The same proper night Sir Thomas Grantson was departed. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* I. (Arb.) 29 But loa, the proper image of corps vntumbed apeered In dreame to Dido. 1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. x. (1866) 178 Act..like his proper self.

5. To which the name accurately belongs; strictly so called, in the strict use of the word; genuine, true, real; regular, normal. In mod. use often following its noun. †*Proper chant* (obs.): see PROPERCHANT.

a 1400-50 *Alexander* 367 May þou hald me þis hest.. And profe þus in my presens as a propire sothe. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 189 It is leeful in proprist maner of lefulnes that Pilgrimagis be doon. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* xciii. Comm., The Holie Ghost is the proper auctor, and a man is the writer. 1734 SALE *Koran* Prelim. Disc. § 1 (Chandos) 1 Proper Arabia is by the oriental writers divided into five provinces. 1752 P. PETIT *Hebrew Guide* Nj, Vowels are X Proper..and IV Improper, i. e. which are scarcely sounded. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 89 The earths proper do not unite with oxygen...Characters of the alkaline and proper earths. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* i. § 1. 7 Extending principles which belong..to building, into the sphere of architecture proper. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. vii. 101 Rome asserts that in the mass a true and proper sacrifice is offered. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 458 The concussion..may be limited either to the cerebrum proper, or to the medulla and pons.

b. *Arith. Proper fraction*, a fraction whose value is less than unity, the numerator being less than the denominator.

Proper prime: applied by W. H. H. Hudson to a prime number such that, when it is the denominator of a vulgar fraction, the recurring period of the equivalent decimal fraction consists of the highest possible number of figures, i. e. one less than such prime.

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1701) 44 Proper Fractions always have the Numerator less than the Denominator, for then the parts signified are less than an Unit or Integer. *Ibid.* 169

Nevertheless this is to be understood of Proper Fractions. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 52. 1864 W. H. H. HUDSON in *Messenger of Math.* II. 1 If the period of *d* consist of *d*—1 places, *d* is called *a proper prime*.

6. Answering fully to the description; thorough, complete, perfect, out-and-out; cf. 7. Now *slang* or *colloq.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 377 Quhen the king his folk has sene Begyn to faile, for propyr tene, Hys assenȝhe gan he cry. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* Prol. 259 (MS. Gg. 4. 27) He nys but a verray propre fole. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 166 Throw matelent, and werray propyr ire. *a* 1683 OWEN *Exp. Heb.* (1790) III. 194 Not to be thankful for gifts is the most proper, that is, the most base ingratitude. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s. v., 'The mischievous boy got a proper licking'. 'Tom is a proper rogue'. 1853 Miss YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xliii, Old Markham seems in a proper taking. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Jan. 45 There will be a proper blow-up about this.

7. Such as a thing of the kind should be; excellent, admirable, commendable, capital, fine, goodly, of high quality. (Also ironically: cf. *fine.*) Now *arch.* or *vulgar.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 243 John þe propereste profit was Of al þat aperit in manis flesch. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 51 'Here is propre seruice', quod pacience, 'þer fareth no prynce bettere'. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 218, I wille Tellen the a propre skille. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cvii. 129 Ther wes many a proper feat of armes done. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 16 b, She had a proper wytte & coulde both reade and wryte. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 40/2 A good humanician, and a proper philosopher. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 132 A proper iest, and neuer heard before. 1599 — *Much Ado* IV. i. 312 Talke with a man out at a window, a proper saying. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* I. ii, Ay, she is a proper piece! that such creatures can broke for. 1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett* (1873) 60 Major Doughty sent me a proper herring..which I salted. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, Thou hast tasted thy liquor like a proper man.

Comb. 1607 MIDDLETON *Your Five Gallants* III. ii, 'Tis a pity such a proper-parted gentleman should want [see PART *sb.* 12].

b. Of good character or standing; honest, respectable, worthy. *Obs.* or merged in 10 b.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. ii. 169 A proper Gentlewoman. 1601 — *All's Well* IV. iii. 240 An aduertisement to a proper maide in Florence..to take heede of the allurement of one Count Rossillion. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 19 The other, Sr Philip Stapleton, was a proper man, of a fair extraction. 1765 GRAY *Shakespeare* 3 'Tis Willy begs, once a right proper man. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* li, 'What about you?' 'I am not a—proper woman'.

8. Of goodly appearance or make; fine-looking, 'fine', good-looking, handsome, well-made, elegant, comely, 'fair'. Now *arch.* and *dial.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 685 Aproche he schal þat proper pyle. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5366 'Sirs', quaþ Neymes, 'comeþ ner, And seeþ a propre siȝte'. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 125 That was the proper Pape Iaye, provde in his apparale. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 26 Little Nell, A proper wench, she danceth well. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 23 The same tyme was Moses borne, and was a propper childe [WYCLIF fair or semely; *Rheims* a proper infant]. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 77 These Indians..were very proper, tall and lusty men. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) III. 397 One of the properest buildings north of Trent. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 129 One of white marble..the sinewes and veines..so finely done as to appear very proper. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ii, By St. Anne! but he is a proper youth. 1847–78 HALLIWELL s. v., *To make proper*, to adorn. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv, If he had but been a head taller they had never seen a properer man.

III. 9. Adapted to some purpose or requirement expressed or implied; fit, apt, suitable; fitting, befitting; *esp.* appropriate to the circumstances or conditions; what it should be, or what is required; such as one ought to do, have, use, etc.; right.

a 1225– [implied in PROPERLY *adv.* 3]. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 70 To disordre goode thinges, and put them oute of their propre placis. 1530 PALSGR. 321/2 Proper or apte or that serveth to a purpose, *duict, duicte.* 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 196 'Tis proper I obey him; but not now. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 132 The fruit of Cocos, ..of great vertue to purge all humours, and proper for all diseases. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 258 To enquire of the properest methods to carry on our trade. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 120 They sometimes use the Adz..when the Ax, or some other properer Tool, lies not at hand. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 337 He might introduce whatever novelties he thought proper. 1795 COWPER *Pairing Time* 64-5 Choose not alone a proper mate, But proper time to marry. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 91 Boiling the chips..until the inspissated juice has acquired a proper consistency. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vi. 70 The proper time to commence using glasses.

10. In conformity with social ethics, or with the demands or usages of polite society; becoming, decent, decorous, respectable, genteel, 'correct'.

[1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Auth. Apol., How the author came to be without his papers is a story not proper to be told. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 271 ¶ 4 If it had been proper for them [ladies] to hear,..the Author would not have wrapp'd it up in Greek.] 1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 79 That won't be proper; you know, To-morrow's Sunday. 1812–13 SHELLEY in Dowden *Life* (1886) I. 327 So you do not know whether it is proper to write to me? 1831 PRAED *Stanzas Boccaccio* iv, Then Guilt will read the properest books, And Folly wear the soberest looks. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom* xvi, When will you learn what's proper?

b. *transf.* of persons: Conforming to social ethics or polite usage; strictly decorous in manners and behaviour. (Somewhat *colloq.*)

1818 MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* x. 72 We dined at a tavern —La, what do I say?..a *Restaurateur's*, dear; Where your properest ladies go dine every day. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* i. 30 Very proper and respectable gentlemen. 1880 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXVI. 466 You hear very proper people ..cry out against some of us.

B. *adv.* = PROPERLY.

1. Excellently, finely, handsomely; genuinely, thoroughly. Now *dial., vulgar*, or *slang.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 901 He lukit to his lykame..So propir plesand of prent. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 242 Propir schene schane the son. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. v. 53 As proper brave a man as e'er was laid Under the turf. 1835–40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 201, I am proper glad you agree with me, squire, said he. 1898 DOYLE *Trag. Korosko* ix, 'Had 'em that time—had 'em proper!' said he.

†**2.** Suitably, appropriately. *Obs.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* a vj, Ordering each part thereof proper to its particular use. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 136 The Joysts lie not proper for the second Story. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 36 Which is properest done at those seasons when our thoughts are fresh.

C. *sb.* or quasi-*sb.*

[The adj. used *absol*, sometimes with pl. as a sb. Cf. L. *proprium* neuter, used subst., and *own* used predicatively (*this is my own*) or *absol.* (*take of your own*).]

†**1.** That which is one's own; private possession, private property; something belonging to oneself.

[*c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2380 Þey nolde soffre hym nought to take, Hys owen propre for to make.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 40 Lyuynge in obedience, wiþouten propre. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 130 How moche thou mayste despende of thyn owyn propyr. 1456 *Regist. de Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Cl.) II. 89 The proppis that passis estwart betwix the propir and the commoun. 1524 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xiii. 26 Redounding to their honours & suerties, as his awne propers. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 22, I frire N. make my profession and promyse obedience to God, to S. Frances..to live without propre and in chastite accordynge to the rule of the sayd ordre.

†**b.** *In proper*: in individual possession; as private property; as one's own. (Opposed to *in common.*) *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. ii. 22 (Camb. MS.) Yif thow mayst shewyn me þat euere any mortal man hath reseyuyd any of tho thinges to ben hise in propre. 1401 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 101 We seyen we han riȝt nouȝt in propre ne in comoun. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 215 Christ and his Apostles had no possessions neyther in proper nor in commune. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. vi. (1614) 768 They haue their lands and gardens in proper. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* iii. § 3 (1727) 171 They could not have that in proper, which God made to be common.

2. *Eccl.* An office, or some part of an office, as a psalm, etc., appointed for a particular occasion or season. Opp. to COMMON *sb.* 10.

[*c* 1400 *Table of Lessons*, etc. in *Wyclif's Bible* IV. 683 First ben sett sondaies and ferials togider, and after that the sanctorum, bothe comyn and propre togider, of al the ȝeer. *Ibid.* 696 Here endith the Propre Sanctorum, and now bigynneth the Commoun Sanctorum.] 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Order*, etc., The Collect, Epistle, and Gospell, appoynted for the Sundaie, shall serue all the weeke after, except there fall some feast that hath his propre. 1851 [ROBISON] *Hymns & Anthems* Introd. 23 The Proper of the Season and the Proper of Saints, for which [the Prayer Book] provides Epistles and Gospels. 1874 [see COMMON *sb.* 10]. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2064 The regular [R. C.] orders have also in most cases a Proper, containing offices of saints belonging to their rule.

†**3.** An attribute specially or intrinsically belonging to something; an essential quality, property, characteristic. *Obs.*

1619 BP. ANDREWES *Serm., Acts* x. 34. 35 (1629) 725 The receiving of the Holy Ghost in a more ample measure [is] *opus diei*, the proper of this Day. *Ibid.* (1661) 418 That is Christ's proper. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 67 Every proper floweth from the Essential beginnings of his subject. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* 41 Propers either flow immediately from the Essence of the Subject;..Or, by the Mediation of some other Property.

†**Pro·per,** *v. Obs.* [f. PROPER *a.*: cf. L. *propriāre* to make one's own, obs. F. *proprier* corresponding in form and use. In some cases perh. aphetic for *apropre*, APPROPRE *v.*]

1. *trans.* To appropriate (to oneself), to make one's own, take possession of.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 421 Men..þat assenten to siche propring of chirchis bisyde cristis leeue. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VII. v. 281/2 They propren to themselfe by couetyse that is comon by kynde.

2. To appropriate, to make proper, to apply or ascribe specially or exclusively (*to* a person or thing).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 353 Crist seiþ..þat by hijs manhed he had no power to ȝyue hem leue to sit on hijs riȝt side, but to þe godhed in hijs faduré is propred þis power. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. xxvii. (Tollem. MS.), Þe liknesse þat we seeþ in sweuenis we..propreþ to him þe names of þo þinges, for liknesse of þe þingis [L. *propter similitudinem eis appropriamur*]. *Ibid.* XVII. cxl. (Bodl. MS.), Rubitum oþer Rubus is a name ipropred þer to a schrubbe þat bereþ wilde beries. *c* 1400 *Prymer* 50 God! to whom it is proprid to be merciful euere.

b. ? To make master (*of* something).

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. xvii. 130 The person contemplatyf yt by the grace of god is truely propred of all his desyres & pleasures vayne & wordly.

¶ The alleged sense 'to make proper, to adorn', cited in *Cent. Dict.*, is due to a misreading of Halliwell: see quot. 1847–78 s. v. PROPER *a.* 8.

†**Pro·perant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *properānt-em*, pres. pple. of *properāre*: see next.] Hasty.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 138 Julius..was the mair fers and properant aganis the Scottis. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 12 The former [action] is patient, looking for; the other is properant, hasting to.

†**Pro·perate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *properāre* to hasten, f. *proper-us* quick.]

1. *intr.* To hasten, to go quickly.

1623 COCKERAM, *Properate*, to hasten. 1632 VICARS *Virgil* II. 43 A while to keep off death, which properates. [1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 64 Misocapelus, Captator, Eubulus, and Quisquilius properated before, with a rapid oscitancy. (Here a burlesque of pedantic language.)]

2. *trans.* To hasten; to quicken the growth of.

1675 EVELYN *Terra* (1676) 109 Some [salts]..are..deadly to plants..others properate [them] too fast; and some are sluggish, and scarce advance them at all.

†**Propera·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *properātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *proper-āre*: see prec.] The action of hastening (*trans.* and *intr.*).

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] XXXI. 99 Often handling of the withering Flowre..is a properation of more swift decay. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* i. 14 Death's properation prevents their preparation.

†**Pro·percha·nt.** *Mus. Obs.* [f. PROPER *a.* + CHANT *sb.*] Applied to those hexachords which began on the note C (nearly corresponding to the modern 'natural scale').

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 4 What is Properchant?..It is a propertie of singing, wherein you may sing either *fa* or *mi* in *b fa* ♯ *mi* according as it shall be marked *b* or thus ♯ and is when the *vt* is in *C fa vt.* 1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 112 From these six Notes, *Vt, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La*, did arise three properties of Singing; which they [Latins] named *B Quarre, B Molle*, and *Properchant* or *Naturall. Ibid.* 113 Properchant was when their *Vt* was applyed to *C*...But in our Modern Musick, we acknowledge no such thing as Properchant.

†**Pro·perhede.** *Obs.* [f. PROPER *a.* + -HEAD.] The quality of being 'proper', i. e. of pertaining or relating to oneself.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 171 Þe v. spanne lengthe of þe handle of þi skeet in contricyoun muste be propyrhede; þat is to sayn, thynke of þin owen propre synnes & noȝt on obere mennys. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) VII. v. 281/1 Ther is thre maner of propertees and properhede.

Properispome (*prope·rispōm*), *a.* and *sb. Gr. Gram.* [abbrev. of **properispo·menon** (also in use) = Gr. *προπερισπώμενον*, neuter pr. pple. passive of *προπερισπᾶν* to circumflex on the penultimate, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *περισπᾶν*: see PERISPOME.]

a. *adj.* Having a circumflex accent on the penultimate syllable. **b.** *sb.* A word so accented.

1818 BLOMFIELD tr. *Matthiæ Gr. Gram.* 958 *Properispomena*, which have the circumflex on the penultima. 1867 tr. *Curtius' Grk. Gram.* (ed. 2) § 93 Proparoxytones and properispomes..receive also from the following enclitic another accent as acute on the last syllable. 1881 CHANDLER *Grk. Accentuation* § 11 No word with a final syllable long by nature can be proparoxytone or properispomenon. *Ibid.* § 97 A properispomenon followed by an enclitic receives the acute on its last syllable..., but dissyllabic enclitics after properispomena ending in ῆ or ῶ are oxytone. 1905 *Athenæum* 19 Aug. 250/3 He knows that an enclitic in ancient Greek throws back the accent upon a properispomenon, and consequently he writes *τὸν μαῦρόν του* which is not to be pronounced in modern Greek. What he actually heard was *τὸ μαῦρο του.*

Properistoma, etc.: see PRO-[2] I.

Properly (*prɒ·pəli*), *adv.* [f. PROPER *a.* + -LY [2].] In a proper manner (in senses of the adj.).

1. In its own nature, in itself, intrinsically, essentially; in one's own person, for oneself; as one's own, as private property, privately. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Whs.* (1880) 49 Þei han grete housis proprid to hem self..and myche hid tresour..; and þis tresour is kept proprely to idel men or fendis. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 5 b, To goe vpright and to speake, are properly to all menne generally. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* V. ii. 90 My Affaires Are Seruanted to others: Though I owe My Reuenge properly, my remission lies In Volcean brests. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 170 The whole world or heaven..is moved properly by soul.

b. Particularly, distinctively, specially.

1340 *Ayenb.* 34 And speciallyche and propreliche of the rote of auarice guoþ out manye smale roten, þet byeþ wel greate dyadliche zennes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* D ij, That terme draw is propurli assigned to that hawke that will slee a Roke or a Crow or a Reuyn. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 19 A certane schort..grase, quhairin scheip properlie delytes. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* viii. § 5. 130 A subject hath nothing properly his owne against the will of the Supreme Authority. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* XXV, One would think mischief was so properly thy element that to thee it was indifferent whether friend or foe was the sufferer.

†**c.** By itself or themselves; severally. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 127 Thus ben the Signes propreli Divided. ?*a* 1500 *Wycket* (1828) p. xiii, A man maye take a glasse, and breake the glasse into many peces, and in euery pece properly thou mayste se thy face.

2. In the proper or strict sense; strictly speaking; †literally, not figuratively (*obs.*); in accordance with fact; strictly, accurately, correctly, exactly.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiv. 1 Tabernakile propirly is þe mansyon of feghtand men. *c* 1340 — *Prose Tr.* 33 Þis desire es noghte propirly lufe, bot it es a begynnynge, for lufe propirly es a full cuppillynge of þe lufande and þe lufed to-gedyre. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 Off Paradys can I noȝt speke properly, for I hafe noȝt bene þare. 1566 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 If we wil properly and exactly

speake, accordyng to the difinition of the word. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 8 He keepes me rustically at home, or (to speak more properly) staies me heere at home vnkept. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 128 Carefully avoiding to take words properly, which are spoken metaphorically. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* Rom. ii. 17 Greece properly so called, that is, as distinguished from Macedonia. 1850 MCCOSH *Div. Govt.* I. iii. (1874) 67 Virtue is not virtue, properly speaking, when it is constrained.

3. Fittingly, suitably, appropriately; as it ought to be, or as one ought to do; rightly, correctly, duly, well; in accordance with social ethics or good manners, becomingly, with propriety.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Lokeð nu, hu propreliche þe lefdi in Canticis,..lereð ou, bi hire sawe, hu ȝe schulen siggen, 'En dilectus meus'. 1340 *Ayenb.* 25 Huanne he..deþ his guodes naȝt uor god properliche, ac uor þe wordle. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Judas*) 69 He send til hyme þane a paynteore..To paynt his fygur propirly. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 134 In þat land er many papeiais..and þai speke of þaire awen kynde als properly as a man. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* Wks. (1829) 99 Mark..how properly that substantial reason, wherewith they go about to establish purgatory, concludeth. 1666 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 372 Those famous sheep called *Pacos* which serve as properly for carriage as horses. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* I. viii. (1869) I. 82 Law can never regulate them [wages] properly. 1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* III. 73 He took leave affectionately and yet properly. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxi, Take the horse back, and clean him properly. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* VI. XXXVII. (1879) 219 If the object-glass does not perform its part properly. *Mod.* Why don't you behave properly?

4. In a goodly fashion, excellently, admirably; with goodly appearance, finely, handsomely; well. Now *arch.* or *vulgar.*

a 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. IV. 621 þe Orisoun..of seynt Ambrose þat he properly in prose Made. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiii. 107 Made of precious stanes so properly and so curiously þat it semez as it ware a vyne growand. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 62 'Apparaile þe propirli' quod Pride. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 47, I can prank it properly. 1552 HULOET, Properly or trymme, *concinne, dextre.* 1732 EARL OF OXFORD in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 159, I never saw hills so properly and so finely clothed. 1740–87 *Lett. Miss Talbot, &c.* (1808) 19 A mean dressed man got up into a tree, and from thence harangued them very properly.

5. Of degree: Thoroughly, completely, perfectly; utterly, entirely, quite; exceedingly, very. (Now *slang* or *colloq.*)

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 3283 (Dubl. MS.) Þus prosperite and pride propyrly me blyndyd. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 57 For certayne I thoughte properly it had ben you. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 24 June, Such variety of pictures, and other things of value and rarity, that I was properly confounded. *Ibid.* 14 July, All which, I did assure my Lord, was most properly false, and nothing like it true. 1816 SCOTT *Let. to T. Scott* 29 May in *Lockhart*, Economy is the order of the day, and I can assure you they are shaving properly close. 1895 MORRIS in Mackail *Life* (1899) II. 309 They beat us properly..we polled about half what they did. 1896 *Daily News* 18 Mar. 3/6 The accused said he got 'properly drunk'.

Properness (prɒ·pəɹnés). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being proper.

1. The fact of belonging specially to something; special quality or character, peculiarity.

1530 LORD *Banians* ii. 9 The Woman to whom God had giuen that vnderstanding, to be capable of the propernesse of his speech. 1535 HEYWOOD *Hierarch.* III. Comm. 175 The Latines in regard of the propernesse of the forme, name it [Deltoton] *Triangulum.* 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Properness*, Peculiarness.

2. Excellence, goodness; esp. of appearance: goodliness, handsomeness, elegance, comeliness.

1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Propernesse, *faictisse, factise.* 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* vii. 29 The propernes of the childe. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* IV. i, Yonder is a lady veil'd; For properness beyond comparison. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* (1840) 196 The queen, upon parity of deserts, always preferred properness of person in conferring her favours. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Properness*, Talness of Stature.

3. Fitness, suitableness; becomingness, propriety; conformity with what is 'proper'.

a 1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N.T.* Pref. (1618) 18 Both for propernesse of wordes, and truth of sense he hath wisely and faithfully translated. 1710 ABP. KING *Let. to Swift* 16 Sept., I am not courtier enough to know the properness of the thing. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vi, Standing off in separate properness, as people do who 'go into society'.

† **Pro·pertary,** *a.* and *sb. Obs. rare.* In 5 **propirtarij, proprytarye.** [f. PROPERTY *sb.* + -ARY[1]: cf. PROPRIETARY (to which *proprytarye* leads); also the forms of PROPERTY.] = PROPRIETARY B. 2, A. 2.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 142 þe behouis liue in wilfull powerte,..þat þu be noght propirtarij and falle in owre-hegh daunger enence þi religiun. 1497 BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* D j, Whan the relygyous men therof..ben proprytaryes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 275 Some doctours thynketh that all suche propertaryes be excommunicate & accursed.

Propertied (prɒ·pəɹtid), *a.* [f. next + -ED[2].]

† **1.** Having a specified property, quality, nature, or disposition. *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* V. ii. 83 His voyce was propertied As all the tuned Spheres, and that to Friends. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* I. Wks. 1874 IV. 9 This approues you To be most nobly propertied. [1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 94 The expression *dharma-dharmyabhedát*, 'because of the non-difference of a property and that which is propertied.']

2. Possessed of, owning, or holding property.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 30 You are still in the flesh, in a carnal and propertied world. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* IX. 267 They are the propertied class. 1887 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Ser. II. viii. (1888) 296 Whatever the propertied and satisfied classes may think.

3. Furnished with theatrical properties. *nonce-use.*

1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 2/1 The great picture of 'An Audience in Athens during the Representation of Agamemnon'..is too 'staged' and 'propertied' to be very convincing.

Property (prɒ·pəɹti), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 **proprete, -tee, -tie** (6 **-ty**); 4–6 **properte,** (4–5 **-ur-, -yr-,** 4–6 **-ir-,** 5–6 **-ar-**; 4–5 **-tee,** 4–6 **-te,** 5 **-ty,** 5–6 **-tie**), 5–7 **propertie** (5–6 **-tee,** 6–7 **-tye**), 6– **property.** *β.* 4 **proprite,** 5 **propryte, -tee** (6 **-tye**). [ME. *proprete*, app. ME. or AF. modification of OF. *propriété* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *proprietāt-em*, n. of quality from *proprius* own, proper. The *β* form *proprite* corresponds to a F. dial. form *propritei* cited of 1292 in Godef. *Compl.* The F. *propreté*, which corresponds exactly to ME. *proprete*, is not cited before 17th c., and is viewed by Hatz.-Darm. as directly f. *propre* adj. + *-té.* All the forms are ultimately French or Eng. representations of the L. word (whence PROPRIETY) with or without conformation to the adj. *propre*, PROPER.]

1. The condition of being owned by or belonging to some person or persons (cf. PROPER *a.* 1); hence, the fact of owning a thing; the holding of something as one's own; the right (*esp.* the exclusive right) to the possession, use, or disposal of anything (usually of a tangible material thing); ownership, proprietorship; = PROPRIETY 1.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 317 þe cite of Beedleem was Davi þis bi sum propirte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 357 Whan that a riche worthi king,..Wol axe and cleyme proprete In thing to which he hath no riht. 1489 *Paston Lett.* III. 349 Tyll it myth be undyrstond wedyr the propyrte ware in the Kyng or in my lord. 1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 501 Landis..pertening to the said David, Erll of Craufurd,..in propertie and tenandrie. 1641 *Termes de la Ley* 226 *Propertie* is the highest right that a man hath or can have to any thing, which no way dependeth upon another mans curtesie. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. iv. § 42 God..has given no one of his Children such a Property in his peculiar Portion of the Things of this World. 1713 *Treaty of Utrecht* in Magens *Insurances* (1755) II. 501 Sea-letters or Passports, expressing the Name, Property and Bulk of the Ship. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. x. 190 The right of possession (though it carries with it a strong presumption) is not always conclusive evidence of the right of property, which may still subsist in another man. 1838 T. DRUMMOND *Let. to Tipperary Magistrates* 18 Apr., in B. O'Brien *Life* (1889) 284 Property has its duties as well as its rights. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* x. § 1. 374 Rights of property or ownership over land, meaning by property or ownership the enjoyment of those indefinite rights of user over land by virtue of which in ordinary language a person is entitled to speak of land as his property.

fig. 1601 SHAKS. *Phœnix & Turtle* 37 Either was the others mine. Propertie was thus appalled, That the selfe was not the same: Single Natures double name, Neither two nor one was called. [? = Either was claimed by the other as 'Mine'. Ownership was thus dismayed. (But Schmidt takes 'property' here as = 'particularity, individuality'.)]

2. That which one owns; a thing or things belonging to or owned by some person or persons; a possession (usually material), or possessions collectively; (one's) wealth or goods. (In quots. 1456, 1526, private as distinguished from common property.) Also *fig.*

(Comparatively few examples before 17th c.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 28389 (Cott.) And haue i tan bath aght and fe O þam þat had na prõpurte. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlii. 113 þat þou mowe be dispoiled of all maner propirte. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 14 They..had no property, but all was in commune. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 597 A King, Vpon whose property, and most deere life, A damn'd defeate was made. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. ix. § 123 He..is willing to join in Society with others..for the mutual Preservation of their Lives, Liberties and Estates, which I call by the general Name, *Property.* 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 14 ¶ 3 Time therefore ought, above all other kinds of property, to be free from invasion. *c* 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 33 She was the property, I understood, of Mr. Francis, who had bought her some time before. 1804 EUGENIA DE ACTON *Tale without Title* I. 13 The sole disposal of a property to the amount of a hundred thousand pounds. 1838 FONBLANQUE in *Life & Labours* (1874) 290 In 1838..the personal property of 24 English Bishops who had died within the last 20 years amounted to £1,649,000. 1849 COBDEN in Morley *Life* xviii. (1902) 67/2 Real property always falls in value in the vicinity of barracks. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. § 4. 304 The printing press was making letters the common property of all.

b. A piece of land owned; a landed estate.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. xx. 366 They..had their properties set apart for them. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 411 Small properties, much divided, prove the greatest source of misery that can be conceived. 1885 *Truth* 28 May 835/1 Lord Eldon..possessed one considerable property in Durham, and another in Dorset.

† **c.** ? Something belonging to a thing; an appurtenance; an adjunct. *Obs.*

a 1350 *Exalt. Cross* 58 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 128 Also ȝit gert he mak þarin Propirtese by preue gyn. 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* I. 493 þe propertes of nature Redi to þe þei be [L. *Comoda nature nullo tibi tempore deerunt*]. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Herefordsh.* (1662) II. 33 Many aged folk which in other countries are properties of the chimneyes, or confined to their beds, are here found in the feild as able..to work.

3. *Theatr.* Any portable article, as an article of costume or furniture, used in acting a play; a stage requisite, appurtenance, or accessory. Chiefly *pl.*

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 132 in *Macro Plays* 81 Þese parcellis in propyrtes we purpose us to playe þis day seuenenyt. 1578 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 303 Furnished in this office with sondrey garmentes & properties. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. ii. 108, I wil draw a bil of properties, such as our play wants. 1626 MASSINGER *Rom. Actor* IV. ii, This cloak and hat, without Wearing a beard or other property, Will fit the person. 1748 *Whitehall Even. Post* No. 371 To be Sold very cheap, Cloaths, Scenes, Properties, clean, and in very good Order. 1831 DISRAELI *Yng. Duke* III. xix, They were excessively amused with the properties; and Lord Squib proposed they should dress themselves. 1881 LD. LENNOX *Plays, Players*, etc. II. iii. 47, 'I used it as a property'. 'A what?' interrupted the..magistrate.

† **4.** *fig.* A mere means to an end; an instrument, a tool, a cat's-paw. *Obs.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iv. 10 'Tis a thing impossible I should loue thee, but as a property. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 965 That he was but a Puppet, or a property in the late tragical motion. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* xii. ¶ 1 Both religion..and those that fought for it, were only made properties to promote the lusts of those who despised both. 1764 *Low Life* (ed. 3) 54 Hackney Coachmen..praying for rainy Weather, that they may make a Property of the People they carry in the Afternoon.

5. An attribute or quality belonging to a thing or person: in earlier use sometimes, an essential, special, or distinctive quality, a peculiarity; in later use often, a quality or characteristic in general (without reference to its essentialness or distinctiveness). **a.** Of a thing or things.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10081 Y rede þe here how þe propertes are shewed, Þoghe þe langage be but lewed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xxi. (1495) d vij b/1 The wytte of gropyng hath this propryte, that he is [in] al þe partyes of the body, outake heer, nayles of fete and of hondes. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* I. (*Cock & Jasp*) ix, This joly jasp had propirteis sevin: The first, of cullour it was meruellous. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 b, The philosophers had suche..desyre to knowe the natures & propertees of thynges. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. A iv, In pontike wormwode is there no smalle astringent propertie. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 35 Though heat hath that killing property, yet it seems that cold hath not. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. xix. 218 Truth is only a property, and no substance whatever. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* I. (1833) 5 The property of lenses and mirrors to form erect and inverted images of objects. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* VII. xli. (1879) 241 It is one of the properties of a triangle that the three interior angles taken together are equal to two right angles.

† **b.** Of a person. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 138 Crist..tellip þe heieste proprete þat fallip to a good herde. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* II. XXX. 92 Hauynge great experiences in hawkynge & huntynge and other properties apperteynynge to a Gentylman. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 70 b, The persone of Antichrist, his nature, disposicion,..and all his propreties. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiii. 409 He hath this property of an honest man, that his word is as good as his hand. 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 313, I am sorry for your ill properties, but I entertain no enmity against you. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxi, One of whom..he knew no virtuous property.

† **c.** A peculiar or exclusive attribute; a quality belonging only to the being in question. *Obs.*

a 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 38 A man that hath excellent gifts and graces himselfe, he cannot convey them to another, but that is the propertie of God, that is peculiar to him alone. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. v. § 13. 257 This is..to..take upon you the property of God, which is to know the hearts of men.

d. *Logic.* Reckoned as one of the PREDICABLES, q. v.: see quots. 1725, 1870.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 5 b, Propertie is a naturall pronenesse and maner of doing, which agreeth to one kind, and to the same onely, and that euermore. 1628 T. SPENCER *Logick* 62 Properties be not adjuncts: for, adiuncts doe outwardly befall the subiect...Properties..are necessary emanations from the principles of nature. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. ii. § 3 A *secondary essential mode* is any other attribute of a thing, which is not of primary consideration; this is called a *property*: sometimes indeed it goes toward making up the essence, especially of a complex being..; sometimes it depends upon, and follows from the essence of it; so *volubility*, or aptness to roll, is the property of a bowl, and is derived from its roundness. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* xii. (1880) 102 Property..may perhaps be best described as any quality which is common to the whole of a class, but is not necessary to mark out that class from other classes.

† **6.** Usually with *the*: The characteristic quality of a person or thing; hence, character, nature. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3973 Who-so kan knowe þe properte, Enuyus man may lyknyd be To þe lawnes. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 626 As the Roose in his Radness is Richest of floures,..So passis þi propurty perte wemen all. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 332 It is þe properte of A gentil-mann To say the beste þat he cann. 1559 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Prayers Sev. Occas.*, O God, whose nature and propertie is euer to haue mercy, and to forgeue. 1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 77 The Rue of propertie doth driue away al venemous beasts and wormes. 1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 10 It is the property of error to contradict it self. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark vi. 6 It is the property and practice of profane men, to take occasion..to dispise their persons, and to reject their doctrine.

† **7.** The quality of being proper or suitable; aptitude, fitness; the proper use or sense (of words); = PROPRIETY 5 b. *Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 353 Þat is good love of þe fire of charite, and is clepid benignitie by propirte of word. *c* 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 13 So hath the werre as ther no proprité. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* I. xv, All kyndes of writyng must also be sought for; nat for the histories only, but also for the propretie of wordes, whiche communely do receiue theyr autoritie of noble autours. 1627 W. Sclater *Exp. 2 Thess.* (1629) 252 Which, though in large sense it may bee stiled Excommunication..yet, in property of speach, is not so. 1675 Han. Woolley *Gentlewom. Comp.* 54 The neatness and property of your Clothes...Property, I call a certain suitableness and convenience betwixt the Clothes and the Person. 1740 Cheyne *Regimen* 136 With infinite Variety, Justness, and Property.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** In sense 1 or 2, as *property-class, -holder, -interest, -lawyer, -market, -owner, -taxation*; *property-holding, -loving*, etc. adjs.; **property qualification**, a qualification for office (e. g. of a member of parliament), or for the exercise of a right (e. g. of voting), based on the possession of property to a certain amount; **property tax**, a direct tax levied on property.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Feb. 6/2 A great deal had lately been said about the *property classes, and there had been a good deal of wild talk about property. 1856 Olmsted *Slave States* 179 A question so important to the *property-holders of the State. 1906 J. F. Rhodes *Hist. U. S.* VI. Pref. 5 The educated and *property-holding people of several States. 1822 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* II. 227 Isæus, the great *property-lawyer of the Athenians, assures us that this was a trick in very common practice at Athens. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 20 May 3/5 Indications that the *property market is returning to the condition of healthy activity. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 June 2/1 Many..district councils are under the complete domination of cottage *property owners. 1862 Merivale *Rom. Emp.* (1865) IV. xxxii. 10 He raised the *property qualification to twelve hundred thousand sesterces. 1863 H. Cox *Instit.* I. viii. 126 All property qualifications of members of Parliament are now abolished. 1870 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. Q. 590 The strange notion..that a property qualification was needed for a seat in the Witenagemôt. 1809 Han. More *Cælebs* I. x. 118 That abominable *Property-tax makes me quite a beggar. 1844 Cobden *Let.* 7 Dec. (in *Tregaskis' Catal.* 16 Sept. (1901) 25/2), As a leaguer we must not take up the question of direct *property-taxation, but individually I go with you entirely.

b. In sense 3 (*Theatr.*): (*a*) appositive, applied to any article (often an imitation) used as a property or stage accessory, as *property broadsword, cittern, doll, fowl*; also, to a person who appears in a scene but takes no part in the action, as *property boy, child*; so allusively *property clerk*; (*b*) ordinary attrib. and Comb., as *property-maker*; **property-man, property-master**, a man who furnishes and has the charge of stage properties at a theatre; **property-plot**, a list of the properties required for a play; **property-room**, the room in which the properties are kept.

1685 Dryden *Albion & Alb.* III. ii, The Saints advance, To fill the Dance, And the *Property Boys come in. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 2/1 It was like a man armed with a *property broadsword facing a master of fence. 1889 J. Jefferson *Autobiog.* I. (1891) 3, I had seen many rehearsals,..having been taken on 'in arms' as a *property child. 1889 W. S. Gilbert *Foggerty's Fairy*, etc. (1892) 145 We also shared a '*property' clerk, who did nothing at all. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Dec. 1/2 The man who can't eat a *property fowl is no actor. 1559 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 110 Wages of taylours, karvars, *propertie makers, wemen & other. 1582 *Ibid.* 352 Property makers being Paynters the firste at ii^{s} the day. 1633 Shirley *Triumph of Peace* 19 There rush in A Carpenter. A Paynter. ..A Feather-makers Wife. A *Property-Mans Wife. 1749 W. R. Chetwood *Hist. Stage* 251 Property-man is the person that receives a bill from the prompter for what is necessary in every play; as purses, wine, suppers, poison [etc.]. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits, Relig.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 102 The religion of the day is a theatrical Sinai, where the thunders are supplied by the property man. 1888 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 440/2 While the *property-master and his men were fashioning the god Talepulka, the scenic artist had sketched and modelled the scenery of the opera. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 349 Rant and frippery that befit a third-rate actor or a second-hand *property-monger. 1858 Lytton *What will he do* I. vi, She had left in the *property-room of the theatre her robe of spangles and tinsel. 1885 J. K. Jerome *On the Stage* 66 The dressing-rooms (two rows of wooden sheds) were situate over the property room, and were reached by means of a flight of steps.

Pro·perty, *v. Obs.* or *rare.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To make a 'property' or tool of, to use for one's own ends, to exploit. *Obs.*

1595 Shaks. *John* v. ii. 79, I am too high-borne to be propertied To be a..seruing-man, and Instrument To any Soueraigne State throughout the world. 1758 *Herald* I. Ded. 5 There must..be a vast fund of stupidity amongst mankind, to make them..be continually property'd away for the interests of a few crafty leaders.

2. To make one's own property, to appropriate, to take or hold possession of.

1607 Shaks. *Timon* I. i. 57 His large Fortune..Subdues and properties to his loue and tendance All sorts of hearts. 1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. x, A being like Emma—whose sentiments, whose character, are propertied by the one, one engrossing passion.

3. To imbue with a property or quality: see Propertied 1.

Pro·pertyless, *a.* Also **propertiless** (cf. *merciless, pitiless*). [f. as prec. + -less.] Devoid of property; having no property.

1880 *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 536 The population will always be the propertyless, pauperised labourers. 1886 W. Graham *Soc. Probl.* 333 The fear of the uncertain morrow, with all its danger for the propertiless.

Pro·pertyship. *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ship.] The condition of being property; the constitution of property: the correlative of *ownership*.

1884 L. Gronlund *Co-operat. Commw.* vi. 140 It will be decidedly inexpedient in that commonwealth to destroy any of the essential qualities of propertyship.

Prophain(e, -phan(e, obs. forms of Profane.

Prophase (prō·fēiz). *Biol.* [f. Pro-^{2} + Phase.] A preliminary or preparatory phase.

1887 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* xxxii. 363 With this the preparatory phases of cell-division, the *prophases*, are completed. —Now begin the phases of separation and rearrangement of the daughter-segments, the *metaphases* of division. 1898 *ibid.* I. i. 62 The changes occurring in a mother nucleus preparatory to division are termed the prophases of the karyokinesis.

‖ **Prophasis** (prǫ·făsis). *Med.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *πρόφασις* (Hippocr.), f. *πρό*, Pro-^{2} + *φάσις* Phase.] (See quots.)

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Prophasis*, the appearing or shewing of a thing. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prophasis*, a Fore-knowledge in Diseases; also an Occasion of antecedent Cause. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Prophasis*, old term for the remote, or procatarctic cause of disease; but Lindenus seems to have taken it for the antecedent, or proximate cause, and the predisposition of the body to disease. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prophasis*.. the occasion which renders active or efficient a previous disposition to disease.

Propheciˑgrapher. *nonce-wd.* [f. Prophecy + -(o)grapher.] One who writes down or records prophecies.

1817 Southey *Malory's Arthur* I. Pref. 13 One of his clerks, by name Master Anthoine, succeeded to the office of Propheciographer.

Pro·phecize, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. Prophecy + -ize: cf. Prophetize.] *intr.* To utter prophecies.

1815 Lady Granville *Lett.* (1894) I. 87 Lord Kinnaird whispering, gesticulating, and prophecising.

Prophecy (prǫ·fĭsi). Forms: *α.* 3–4 **profecie**, 4 **-fecye**, 4–5 **-fycye**, **-fes(s)ye**, 5 **-fesi**. *β.* 3–7 **prophecie**, 3–8 **-phesie**, 4–5 **-phesye**, 4–6 **-phecye**, **-phesye**, 5 **-phecij**, **-phesi**, **-phicie**, **-phase**, **-phasy**, 5–8 **-phesy**, 4– **-phecy**. *γ.* 5 **propheteye**, 6 **-phe(a)tie**. [a. OF. *profecie* (12th c.), mod.F. *prophétie* (pron. profesi) = Pr., Pg. *profecia*, Sp. *profecía*, It. *profezia*; ad. late L. *prophētīa* (in *Itala*), *-ēcīa*, a. Gr. *προφητεία*, prophecy, f. *προφήτης* Prophet. The variant spelling *prophesy* is found as late as 1709, but is now confined to the verb.]

1. The action, function, or faculty of a prophet; divinely inspired utterance or discourse; *spec.* in Christian theology, utterance flowing from the revelation and impulse of the Holy Spirit.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 He [Saint John the Baptist] ine his iborenesse upspende his feder tunge into prophecie. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 364/30 For prophesie and riȝt-wisnesse huy heolden al þat he seide. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Cor.* xiii. 2 If I schal haue prophesye, and haue knowun all mysteries,..if I schal not haue charite, I am noȝt. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 67 For it was guile and Sorcerie, Al that sche tok for Prophecie. 1563 Winȝet *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 24 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 90 Serapion, quha..wes illuminat be the spirit of prophetie. 1619 W. Sclater *Exp.* 1 *Thess.* (1638) 532 Of Prophecie we find two sorts. First, Extraordinary, that stood partly in foretelling things to come, by immediate reuelation; partly, in interpreting Scriptures with unerring faith. *a* 1704 Locke *Par.* 1 *Cor.* xii. (1709) 78 *note* 10 Prophesie comprehends these three things. Prediction, Singing by the Dictate of the Spirit, and understanding and explaining the mysterious hidden Sense of Scripture by an immediate Illumination and Motion of the Spirit. 1823 Keble *Serm.* iii. (1848) 44 Prophecy, or the authorized declaration of God's will. 1877 E. R. Conder *Basis of Faith* vii. 299 Prophecy, as the term is used in the Bible, signifies not prediction, but divinely-inspired speech. Prediction was merely one function of the prophetic office, subordinate to its moral aim. 1886 C. A. Briggs *Messianic Prophe.* i. 1 Prophecy is religious instruction. It is an essential feature of the religion of cultivated nations.

2. The spoken, or especially, the written utterance of a prophet, or of the prophets.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9196 Þat time was prophet Ieremi Spekand in his propheci. *c* 1315 Shoreham I. 1292 Ine þe alde laȝe þe redere Rede þe prophessye By wokke. 1388 Wyclif 2 *Chron.* ix. 29 Writun..in the wordis of Achie of Silo, and in the visioun [*gloss* ether prophesie] of Addo, the prophete, aȝens Jeroboam. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Prov.* xxxi. 1 The wordes of king Lemuel; The prophecie which his mother taught him. 1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 307 b, All the Scripture is called a prophesie, which is as much to say as diuine. *c* 1575 H. Nicholas (*title*) Revelatio Dei. The Revelation of God, and his great Propheatie, which God now, in the last Daye, hath shewed unto his Elect. 1680 Burnet *Rochester* 140 The 53rd Chapter of the Prophesie of Isaiah. 1727 De Foe *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 33 The wise men of Babylon are distinguished in the prophecy of Daniel into four classes. 1815 Byron *Heb. Mel. Vision Belshazzar* v, The lamps around were bright, The prophecy in view. 1902 Fairbairn *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. v. 422 To be the Christ of prophecy was to be the Crucified of Judaism.

†**3.** A company or body of prophets. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1308 He þe kyng hatz conquest & þe kyth wunnen..& þe pryce of þe profecie prisoners maked.

4. The foretelling of future events; orig. as an inspired action; extended to foretelling by any means; an instance of this. Now the ordinary sense.

Originally, one of the notions included in sense 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14531 He com for to dei wit wil, And sua þe prophecis to fill. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 282 A prophecie sais he salle die. 1485–6 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 50 It is in actt, that all maner of profycyes is mayd felony. 1584 Powel *Lloyd's Cambria* 3 Until the prophesies of Merlin should be fulfilled. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. ii. 80 Ile speake a Prophesie ere I go. *Ibid.* 95 This prophecie Merlin shall make, for I liue before his time. 1706 Phillips, *Prophecy*, a Prediction or Foretelling. 1736 Butler *Anal.* II. vii. Wks. 1874 I. 273 Prophecy is nothing but the history of events before they come to pass. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* I. xxiii, Old Allan-bane foretold your plight,..But light I held his prophecy. 1838 De Morgan *Ess. Probab.* 113 There is prophecy, but not of particular events, and derived, not from inspiration, but from observation. The astronomer predicts—and all the world knows that his predictions daily come true. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent Man* 271 The amelioration of the Struggle for Life is the most certain prophecy of Science. 1897 Sir W. Lawson in *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Dec. 2/1 One of Disraeli's delightful sayings was, 'that of all forms of error prophecy is the most gratuitous.'

b. *fig.* A foreshadowing of something to come.

1742 Young *Nt. Th.* VII. 16 The world's a prophecy of worlds to come. 1822 B. Cornwall *Ludovico Sforza* ii, Methinks she was A beautiful prophecy of thee.

5. The interpretation and expounding of Scripture or of divine mysteries: a function of the prophet in the apostolic churches; applied in the 16th and 17th centuries, and sometimes later, to exposition of the scriptures, esp. in conferences for that purpose, and to preaching. See Prophesying b.

1382 [see 1]. 1382 Wyclif 1 *Cor.* xiii. 8 Charite fallith not down, whether prophecyes schulen be voydid, ether langagis schulen ceesse, ether science schal be distroyed [1611 Whether there be prophecies, they shall faile]. [1576 Grindal *Let.* 20 Dec. in *Mem.* (1710) 15 That Exercise in the Church St. Paul calleth *Prophesia*, and the Speaker *Prophetas*, terms very Odious in our Days to some, because they are not rightly understood; for indeed, *Propheta* in that, and the like Places of the same St. Paul..signifieth thereby the Assent and Consent of the Scriptures.] 1577 Harrison *England* II. i. (1877) I. 17 In manie of our archdeaconries we have an exercise..called a prophesie or conference, and erected onelie for the examination or triall of the diligence of the cleargie in their studie of holie scriptures. 1577 in Stovel *Introd. Canne's Necess.* (1849) 59 Forbidding the exercises called Prophecies, as being practices and rites belonging to religion, not established by parliament and her authority. *a* 1649 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 60 Mr. Wilson, praying and exhorting the congregation to love, etc., commended to them the exercise of prophecy in his absence. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxiv. 343 One Thursday in March, at a prophesy (as it was called) in the Dutch Church in London, where Nicolas one of the ministers preached upon the doctrine of regeneration.

6. *Eccl.* **a.** An Old Testament lection, *esp.* in the eucharistic office (e. g. in the Ambrosian rite). Cf. *prophetic lesson* (Prophetic 1 b), Prophet 3 b.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 324 Saynt Ambros þe bisshoppe was att mes..and as he lenyd on þe altar, betwix þe prophesie & þe epistull, he fell on slepe. 1853 Dale tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 201 When the Acolyte has finished singing the Prophecy, he genuflects to the Altar. 1872 Scudamore *Notitia Euch.* 203 *note*, The reader must not be misled by the title Collectio or Oratio post Prophetiam in the Old Gothic, Frank, and Gallican Sacramentaries; for by 'the Prophecy' is there meant the *Benedictus* or Prophecy of Zacharias. 1880—in *Smith's Dict. Chr. Antiq.* 1738/1 The prophecy was, on some days, in most of the Gallican liturgies, followed by an 'Oratio' or 'Collectio post Prophetiam'.

Pro·phecy-monger. [f. prec. + Monger.] One who deals in, repeats, or occupies himself with prophecies.

1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. ii. § 46 An old prophesie among the English (observed by forrainers to be the greatest Prophecy-mongers). 1858 H. W. Beecher *Life Th.* (1859) 32 Such to me is the Bible when the pragmatic prophecy-monger and the swinish utilitarian have toothed its fruits and craunched its blossoms.

Pro·phesiable, *a. rare.* In 7 **-cyable**. [f. as next + -able.] Capable of being prophesied.

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* 194 It is not for every prophet to know every thing that is prophecyable.

Prophesier (prǫ·fĭsəi,əɹ). Also 5–7 **-cier**, 8 **-syer**. [f. next + -er 1.] One who or that which prophesies; *esp.* one who predicts or foreshows; a prophet; a prognostic; in 17th c. applied to Puritan preachers: cf. Prophesy *v.* 1 c.

1477 Earl Rivers (Caxton) *Dictes* 11 God..hath establissched prophetes & prophecyers. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. IV* 20 The Lorde Percy and Owen Glendor were vnwisely made beleue by a Welsh Prophecier that King Henry was the Moldwarpe. 1598 Tofte *Alba* (1880) 17 Like to the Porpose (Tempests prophesier) I play before the storme of my sad Teares. 1601 Shaks. *All's Well* IV. iii. 113 Bring forth this counterfet module, has deceiu'd mee, like a double-meaning Prophesier. 1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 54 Martinists, Prophesiers, Solifidians. 1754 Sherlock *Disc.* iv. (1764) 217 Temporal Prosperity was not excluded from the Prophesyer's Thoughts. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 478 What meant that old proser and prophesier?

Prophesy (prǫ·fĭsəi), *v.* Forms: 4–5 profecy, 5 -ecie; 4–5 prophecien, -esien, 5–6 -ecie, 5–7 -esie, -ecy, 5– prophesy. [ME. a. OF. *prophecier* (1245 in Godef.), *-phesier*, *-fecier*, *-ficier*, f. *prophecie*, *-fecie* PROPHECY. The modern differentiation of *prophesy* vb. and *prophecy* sb. was not established till after 1700, and has no etymological basis, *prophesy* being at first a mere spelling variant in both sb. and vb. For the pronunciation of the final vowel cf. verbs in *-fy*, also *multiply*.]

1. *intr.* To speak by (or as by) divine inspiration, or in the name of a deity; to speak as a prophet.

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xi. 25 And whanne the spiryte hadde restid in hem, thei profecyden, ne more ouer cesiden. 1382 — *Jer.* xix. 14 Cam forsothe Jeremye fro Tofeth..to profecien. 1382 — *Ezek.* xxx. 2 Sone of man, prophecy thou, and sey, Thes thingis seith the Lord God. 1382 — *Rev.* xi. 3 And I shal ȝiue to my two witnesses, and thei shulen prophecie a thousynd dayes two hundrid and sixty. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xix. 23 And y^e sprete of God came vpon him [Saul] also, and he wente & prophecied likewise before Samuel...Here of came the prouerbe: Is Saul also among the prophetes? 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxii. 197 The Prophet that was sent to prophecy against the Altar. 1681–6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 109 He came down immediately from the Father, to prophesy to us. 1880 R. GRANT WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 304, I would..call upon the Furies to aid me while I prophesy against this new thing.

b. *spec.* To utter predictions, to foretell future events (by inspiration, or generally).

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* i. 10 Prophetes..that prophecieden of the grace to comynge in ȝou. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 419 Therefore there were ij. Merlynes; oon of them..profeciede in Snawdonia in the tyme of Vortigernus. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 90 Brun..was the quene of the whiche Sibille spake and profesied. 1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 79 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 127 Quhare he [St. Paul] propheciis of the hæretikis, that suld forbid mariage. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 259 Ouer thy wounds, now do I Prophesie,..A Curse shall light vpon the limbes of men. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. vi. 9 Half-extinguished words, which prophesied of change. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 11/1 'Never prophesy till you know', is a safe American saying.

c. In the Apostolic churches, To interpret or expound the Scriptures, to utter divine mysteries and edifying communications (as moved by the Holy Spirit); hence, in the 16th and 17th centuries, applied by the Puritans to the interpretation and expounding of Scripture and the preaching of the Gospel. See also PROPHESYING *vbl. sb.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Cor.* xiv. 4 He that spekith in tunge, edifieth him silf; forsoth he that prophecieth, edyfieth the chirch of God. *Ibid.* 39 So, bretheren, loue ȝe for to prophecie [1388 profecie], and nyle ȝe forbede for to speke in tungis. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 72 It were good..that all could prophesie, that is, that all could preach and expound the truth. 1607 HIERON *Wks.* I. 99 To *prophecy*, in Scripture, signifieth..secondly, exactly and soundly to interpret the Scripture; to which sense the word is often applyed in the New Testament. *a* 1645 FEATLY *Dippers Dipt* Epist. B ij, They hold their Conventicles weekly in our chiefe Cities,..and there prophesie by turnes. 1771 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) V. 28 O that, as I prophesy, there might now be 'a noise and a shaking'! 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 128 Those sons and daughters of the sons of Zion, having received the Spirit, prophesied, i.e. in divers tongues they spake of the heavenly mysteries.

2. *trans.* To announce or utter by (or as by) divine inspiration; *esp.* so to announce (a future event); to predict, to foretell. **a.** with obj. clause expressing the matter announced.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 16 Patriarkes & prophetes prophecyed bifore, þat alkyn creatures shulden knelen & bowen. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xi. 51 He prophesiede, that Jhesu was to die for the folc. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. v. 419 Merlyon profecyed that in that same place shold fyghte two..knyghtes. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiv. 265 She prophesyed that my father..sholde wynne the batayle. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Fl.* 87 For ancient Decker prophesy'd long since, That in this pile should reign a mighty prince. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. vi. 33, I prophesy you will not succeed better than I have. 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 217 By the warning of the Holy Ghost, I prophesy that I shall die to-night, A quarter before twelve.

b. with simple obj.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Last Age of Ch.* (1851) p. xxix, And þat þat is prophesied schal come. 1382 — *Jer.* xx. 6 There thou shalt be biried, and alle thi frendus, to whyche thou profeciedist lesing {*quibus prophetasti mendacium*}. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 37 Hit was þe same sterre þat was prophecied by balaam. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. v. 24 Philosophres that..prophecyed the holy tyme of the comyng of ihesu cryste. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. viii. 119 b, The first Sibille..prophesied the myracle of the fiue loaues and two fishes. 1679 DRYDEN *Troilus & Cr.* Ep. Ded., I am almost ready..to point out, and Prophecy the Man, who was born for no less an Undertaking. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 141 Dismal lyrics, prophesying change Beyond all reason.

c. *fig.* To indicate beforehand, foreshow.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* V. iii. 175 Me thought thy very gate did prophesie A Royall Noblenesse.

Hence **Prophesied** (prǫ·fĭsəid) *ppl. a.*, uttered prophetically, foretold, predicted; **Pro·phesying** *ppl. a.*, that prophesies.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Profecyed, *prophetatus*. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 52 The Augur hauing left behind him his Oscines or Prophes[y]ing birds. 1708 SHAFTESB. *Charact.* (1733) I. 44 The new prophesying Sect. 1742 J. WILLISON *Balm of Gilead* xi. (1800) 123 Unlikely this and other prophesied events may appear.

Prophesying (prǫ·fĭsəiiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PROPHESY; speaking by divine inspiration; foretelling the future; expounding divine mysteries or preaching unto edification, as practised in apostolic times.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xiv. 6 Excepte I speake vnto you other by revelacion, or knowledge, or prophesying, or doctrine. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xxvi. [xxv.] 3 The children of Iedithun.., whose prophecienge was to geue thankes and to praise the Lorde. 1617 R. FENTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* 115 To reforme abuses concerning Praier, and Prophes[y]ing in the Church of Corinth. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 174 So also shuddered he—Not at dog's howl,..Or prophesyings of the midnight lamp.

b. Applied in the 16th and 17th centuries, and by some in later times, to the expounding of Scripture by those who spoke 'as the Spirit gave them utterance' in special meetings, or to preaching in public services.

1560–1 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Sc.* xii, That Exercise, which Sanct Paull calleth prophecieing. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 42 The woman..sought to gouerne the prophecying at her pleasure. 1569 GOLDING *Heminges Post.* Ded. 2 Hee opening the Gospels after the maner of our prophecyings. 1574 in Strype *Parker* IV. xxxvii. (1711) 462, I am commanded.., in the Queen her Majesty's name, that the Prophesyings throughout my Dioces should be suppressed. 1604 BACON *Pacif. Ch.* Wks. 1879 I. 357/1 [The exercise] called prophesying; which was this: That the ministers within a precinct did meet upon a week day in some principal town... Then every minister successively, beginning with the youngest, did handle one and the same part of Scripture. 1642 T. LECHFORD *Plain Dealing* (1867) 41 There a Minister.. preacheth and exerciseth prayer every Lords day, which is called prophesying in such a place. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* ii. 43 S. Cyprian had not learn'd to forbid to any one a liberty of prophesying or interpretation. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. iv. § 2 These prophesyings were founded on the Apostles precept, 'For, ye may all prophesie one by one, that all may learn, and all be comforted'. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 579 Setting up certain exercises, which, by the misapplication of a text of scripture, they called prophesyings. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1857) I. iv. 197 The clergy in several dioceses set up, with encouragement from their superiors, a certain religious exercise, called prophesyings. 1849 STOVEL *Introd. Canne's Necess.* 60 The prophesyings here prohibited, formed an administration of divine truth, to which the Puritans adhered as being of Divine authority.

attrib. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 184 When their prophecying-work is done.

Prophet (prǫ·fĕt), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 2–5 profete, 3 -fete, 4 -fi3t, -fet, 4–5 -fett, 5 -ffet, -fyt, 6 -fit(te, 7 -ffit. *β.* 2–6 prophete, 4– prophet (4 -phyte, -phite, 4–5 -phett, 5 -phytt, 6 *Sc.* -pheite). [ME. *prophete*, *-fete*, a. F. *prophète* (11th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prophēta* (*prophētēs*), ad. Gr. *προφήτης* an interpreter, proclaimer, spokesman, esp. of the will of the deity; an inspired person, a prophet; f. *πρό* forth, before, for + *-φητης* speaker, f. *φάναι* to speak.]

I. 1. One who speaks for God or for any deity, as the inspired revealer or interpreter of his will; one who is held or (more loosely) who claims to have this function; an inspired or quasi-inspired teacher.

In popular use, generally connoting the special function of revealing or predicting the future. (Hence sense 5.)

The Greek *προφήτης* was originally the spokesman or interpreter of a divinity, e. g. of Zeus, Dionysus, Apollo, or the deliverer or interpreter of an oracle, corresponding generally to the Latin *vātēs*. By the LXX it was adopted to render the Heb. נָבִיא *nābī'*, in the O.Test. applied indiscriminately to the prophets of Jehovah, of Baal and other heathen deities, and even to 'false prophets', reputed or pretended soothsayers. In the N.T. it is used in the same senses as in the LXX, but mainly applied to the Hebrew prophets of Jehovah, also to John the Baptist, as well as to certain persons in the Early Church, who were recognized as possessing more or less of the character of the old Hebrew prophets, or as inspired to utter special revelations and predictions; also applied historically to Balaam, and by St. Paul, in the old Greek sense, to Epimenides the Cretan, while 'false prophets' are frequently mentioned. The Greek word was adopted in L. as *prophēta* chiefly in post-classical times, and largely under Christian influences; and this is the regular rendering in the *Itala*, Vulgate, and Christian Fathers. From Ecclesiastical Latin it has passed down into the Romanic and Teutonic languages. In English the earliest uses are derived from the Scriptures; but the word is currently used in all the ancient senses and in modern ones derived from them.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Þa hit wes ifullet þet ysaias þe prophete iwitezede. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 31 For oi sade Dauiþ, oe profiete. *c* 1200 ORMIN 5195 Helyas wass an haliȝ mann & an wurrpfull prophete. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7287 (Cott.) Prophet he was, sir samuel. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM III. 60 Al he foluelþ þe lawe of gode, And prophetene gestes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 74 Elisee þe profete. 1382 — *Exod.* vii. 1, Y haue ordeyned thee the god of Pharao; and Aaron, thi brother, shal be thi prophete. 1382 — 1 *Kings* xviii. 19 The prophetis of Baal foure hundrid and fifti, and the prophetis of mawmet wodis foure hundrid, that eten of the bord of Jezebel. 1382 — *Acts* xiii. 1 Ther weren in the chirche that was at Antioche, prophetis and doctours. 1382 — *Tit.* i. 12 The propre prophete of hem [1388 her propre profete], seide, Men of Crete ben euermore lyeris. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4403 Of whom the proffet of prise plainly can say, Þere was no sterne in astate stode hym aboue. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 110 Euer þay were lettyd by drede of þe pepull; for þe pepull heldyn hym a profyt. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/1 A Profett (*A.* Profite), *propheta*, *..vates*; *..vaticinus*, *vaticicus*; *Christus*. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiii. 6 A certayne sorserer, a falce prophet which was a iewe, named Bariesu. 1534 — *Matt.* xiii. 57 A Prophet is not with out honoure, save in hys awne countre, and amonge his awne kynne. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 13 Almyghtie God said by the profitte. 1648 *Assembly's Shorter Catech.* Q. 23 Christ as our Redeemer executeth the Offices of a Prophet, of a Priest, and of a King. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 61 Plato tels..The God..useth these ministers, and messengers to deliver his oracles, and divine Prophets. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 558 In the Carpathian Bottom makes abode The Shepherd of the Seas, a Prophet and a God. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 21 With a Master's hand, and Prophet's fire. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* II. 28 He [Epimenides] was a poet too as well as a prophet, and the descriptions given of his works attest the fecundity of his genius. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 80 Suleymán is the Prophet of God. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* IV. xxv. (1882) 185 A prophet was one commissioned to declare the will of God —a revealer of truth; it might be of facts future, or the far higher truth of the meaning of facts present. 1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* III. iii. 194 The true *Nabi*..is the mouthpiece, the interpreter of God to man. This is unquestionably the true significance of the word 'prophet'.

† **b.** In vaguer sense: rendering L. *vātēs* or *poēta*, an 'inspired' bard. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 13 So saiþ the prophete Satiricus [HIGDEN *poeta satiricus*; *Hart. tr.* the poete Satiricus: i. e. Horace, *Ars Poet.* 304], 'I fare as the whetston þat makeþ yren sharpe and kene.' 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* III. met. xii. 72 The Tracian profit wons His wives funeralz wailing. [1780 COWPER *Table T.* 500 In a Roman mouth, the graceful name Of prophet and of poet was the same. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 244 Poet and Prophet differ greatly in our loose modern notions of them. In some old languages the titles are synonymous; *Vates* means both Prophet and Poet.]

c. Sometimes applied to those who preach or 'hold forth' in a religious meeting, by those who take them to represent the 'prophets' of the Apostolic Church. Also, the official name of a grade of ministers in the 'Catholic Apostolic' or Irvingite Church.

Founded upon the references to prophets and prophesying in 1 Cor. xiv. e. g.: 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* xiv. 29 Lett the prophetes speake two atonce, or thre atonce, and let other iudge...For ye maye all prophesy one by one, thatt all maye learne, and all maye have comforte.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 130 At this same tyme the chiefest Prophet amonges them, for that name they doe vsurpe to themselues, Iohn Mathewe commaunded them. 1832 E. IRVING in Mrs. Oliphant *Life* (1862) II. v 278 After I have preached, I will pause a little, so that then the prophets may have an opportunity of prophesying if the Spirit should come upon them; but I never said that the prophets should not prophesy at any other time. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 27 Of what use, said he, would learning be henceforth? They had now among them the divine prophets of Zwickau, Storch, Thomä, and Stübner, who conversed with God, and were filled with grace and knowledge without any study whatsoever. 1854 W. WILKS *E. Irving* 187 The Albury School of Prophets. 1883 R. H. STORY *E. Irving* in *Scottish Divines* 269 On.. Friday, April 5 [1833] the apostle, laying his hands on Irving's head, ordained him 'Angel of the Church'. At the same time elders and deacons were set apart, and the functions of prophet and evangelist were more exactly defined than hitherto.

d. *fig.* (In non-religious sense.) The 'inspired' or accredited spokesman, proclaimer, or preacher of some principle, cause, or movement.

1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* xiv. (1852) 407 These [Newton and Milton] and such prophets of humanity have opened to us secrets, which..ordinary faculties..would have been unable to discover. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 6 Durandus himself, the prophet of symbolism. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Life Pusey* I. iii. 41 Byron was in a sense the prophet of the disappointed, and, as such, he threw a strange spell over Pusey as a young man.

2. *spec. The Prophet*: **a.** Mohammed, the founder of Islam; a rendering of the Arabic title النبي *al-nabiy*; often used by writers on Islam. (Sometimes put for another Arabic title, الرسول, *al-rasūl*, 'the apostle', or 'messenger', esp. in the formula 'There is no god but God [*Allah*]'; Mohammed is the messenger of God', often rendered 'Mohammed is his prophet'.)

By Christians sometimes designated 'the False Prophet'.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 55 Some shaking their heads incessantly,..perhaps in imitation of the supposed trances ..of their Prophet. *a* 1618 RALEIGH *Mahomet* (1637) 16 The title of Prophet which he had obtained. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 153 Their is one God, the great God and Mahomet is his Prophet. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 97 His conqu'ring tribes th' Arabian prophet draws. 1731 tr. *Boulainvilliers' Life Mahomet* 256 He says that the Prophet exhorting one day his soldiers [etc.]. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. (1790) IX. 289 The flight of the prophet from Mecca to Medina has fixed the memorable æra of the Hegira. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 679 He called the Prophet, but his power Was vain against the vengeful Giaour. 1824 MORIER *Adv. Hajji Baba* (1835) I. v. 33, I swear by the beard of the Prophet, that if you do not behave well, I'll burn your father. 1868 FITZGERALD *Omar Khayyam* (ed. 2) lxv, If but the Vine and Love-abjuring Band Are in the Prophet's Paradise to stand.

b. Applied by (or after) the Mormons to the founder of their system, and his successors.

1844 in *The Mormons* vii. (1851) 171 On hearing of the martyrdom of our beloved Prophet and patriarch, you will doubtless need a word of advice and comfort. 1851 *Ibid.* i. 16 The remarkable career of Joseph Smith, the Prophet of the Mormons. 1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects* 347/1 The Prophet, his brother Hyram, and other leading Mormons, were seized. 1893 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 121 'Don't you know..that the prophet up there', he nods his head in the

direction of Brigham Young's private residence, 'and some of the other leaders of the Church are beginning to be afraid of Tranyon?'

3. *pl.* The prophetical writers or writings of the Old Testament.

By the Jews the Scriptures of the O. T. are divided into the *Law* (התורה *hat-tōrāh*), the *Prophets* (הנביאים *han-n'bīim*), and the *Writings* or Hagiographa (הכתובים *hak-k'thūbim*). The *Prophets* are divided into the *Former Prophets*, including the books of Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and the *Later Prophets*, incl. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the twelve minor prophets, Hosea to Malachi. A compendious name for the O.T. Scriptures, often used in the N.T., was *the Law and the Prophets* or *Moses and the Prophets*. In Christian usage, the Prophets or Prophetical Books are the Later Prophets of the Jews, with Daniel (which by the Jews is placed among the Hagiographa). The terms *Minor Prophets* and (to a certain extent) *Major Prophets* are also in current use.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxii. 40 In these two maundementis hangith al the lawe and prophetis. 1382 — *Luke* xvi. 29 Thei han Moyses and the prophetis; heere thei hem. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xiii. 15 After the lectur of the lawe and the prophetes, the ruelers of the synagoge sent vnto them. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* 3 Saue onely out of the Prophets. *Ibid.*, 2 *Macc.* xv. 9 Comforting them out of the law, and the prophets. 1652 J. MAYER (*title*) A Commentarie upon all the Prophets. 1860 PUSEY (*title*) The Minor Prophets.

b. *Liturgics.* The Old Testament or Prophetic lesson at Mass.

1832 PALMER *Orig. Liturg.* I. 127 The liturgy of Milan is found to consist of the following parts...The anthem called 'Ingressa'—'Kyrie eleison'—'Gloria in excelsis'—the Collect—the Prophet—the Psalm—Epistle—Alleluia—Gospel and Sermon [etc.]. *Ibid.* 128 The Prophet and Psalm were only more frequently used at Milan than Rome.

†4. *pl.* Applied to certain actors (? personifying prophets) in the church plays before the Reformation: see quots. *Obs.*

1519 *Churchw. Acc. S. Stephen, Wallbrook* (MS. Guildh. Lib.) § v. lf. 2 b, Item for hyere of a borde for a proffyt on palme sondaye ij *d*. ..[Item for] dressyng of the proffyttes. 1524–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 327 Paid..for the frame ouer þe North dore of the chirche, þat is for þe profettes on palmesonday..iij *d*. 1536–7 *Ibid.* 373 Item, paid to Wolston ffor makyng of yᵉ stages ffor yᵉ prophettes vj *d*. 1539–40 *Ibid.* 382 Payed for bred & drynke for the prophettes on palme sondaye j *d* ob.

II. 5. One who predicts or foretells what is going to happen; a prognosticator, a predictor. (Without reference to divine inspiration.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 212 Summe iuglurs beoð þet..makien cheres, and wrenchen mis hore muð....Þeos beoð hore owune prophetes forcwiddares. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxxi. (Arb.) 76 The disorders of that age, and specially the pride of the Romane Clergy, of whose fall he [Langland] seemeth to be a very true Prophet. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 71 Iesters do oft proue Prophets. 1683 *Pennsylv. Archives.* I. 72 My Friend Braithwait was a true Proffit. 1769 H. WALPOLE *Let.* 31 Jan., I protest, I know no more than a prophet what is to come. 1898 A. J. BALFOUR in *Daily News* 30 Nov. 6/3 They prophesied, and they were subject to the weakness of all prophets—the event contradicted them.

b. Of things: An omen, a portent.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, III. ii. 32 Now shine it [a torch] like a Commet of Reuenge, A Prophet to the fall of all our Foes. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 257 The mystic fire on a mast-head, Prophet of storm.

c. *slang.* One who predicts the result of a race, etc.; a tipster.

1884 *Pall Mall G.* 3 May 1/2 The skilful arguments of the 'prophet' of a daily or weekly newspaper. 1894 F. LOCKWOOD *Sp. at Cambr.* (Daily News 4 June 3/4), He remembered a prophet in a north of England town. He did not mean a racing prophet. He meant a real prophet, a sort of man who foretold the end of the world once a week.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Appositive (= 'that is a prophet'), as *prophet-bard*, *-king*, *-painter*, *-poet*, *-preacher*, *-romancer*, *-statesman*, etc. **b.** Of or pertaining to a prophet, as *prophet-eye*, *-mantle*, *-mind*, *-soul*, *-speech*, *-story*, *-voice*. Also **c.** *prophet-bearing*, *-like*, *-tongued* adjs.

1824 PIERPONT *Hymn, O thou to whom in ancient time* v, The lyre of *prophet bards was strung. 1855 BAILEY *Mystic* (ed. 2) 6 The preview clear of prophet-bard. 1733 ARBUTHNOT *Harmony in Uproar* Misc. Wks. 1751 II. 19 Further than Mahomet ever flew on his *Prophet-bearing Ass. 1821 BYRON *Juan* IV. xxii, That large black *prophet eye seem'd to dilate. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 556 The prophecy..was framed to prepare the Jews to expect a *prophet-king. 1906 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 411 Aristotle in Mohammed's *prophet-mantle. 1832 TENNYSON '*Of old sat Freedom*' 6 Self-gather'd in her *prophet-mind. 1903 *Humanitarian* Mar. 104 An honoured place among the *prophet-poets of democracy. 1875 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 393 No eminent *prophet-preacher is so self-contradictory as Carlyle. *a* 1861 CLOUGH *Relig. Poems* iii. 71 Is there no *prophet-soul..To dare, sublimely meek..The Deity to seek? 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. ii, When that grey Monk His *prophet-speech had spoke. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 325 Hark ..what *prophet-story the Sesters Open surely to thee.

†Pro·phet, *v. Obs. rare. pa.t.* (in 5) **prophet.** [ad. late L. *prophēt-āre* to prophesy, f. *prophēt-a* a PROPHET: so OF. *propheter*.] *intr.* To prophesy. Hence **†Pro·pheting** *ppl. a.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2966 How cuthbert prophet, þis is taught. *Ibid.* 3023 As cuthbert prophet. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 93 Nor propheting Helenus ..Forspake this burial mourning.

†Propheta·tion. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. late L. *prophētātiōn-em*, n. of action from *prophēt-āre*: see prec.] Prophesying.

1594 R. WILSON *Coblers Proph.* I. i. 178 But now must Raph trudge about his prophetation.

Prophetess (prǫ·fētès). Forms: 4 **prophetes**, 4–5 **profetesse**, 4–6 **prophetissa**, 4–7 **-isse**, **-esse**, 5 **-yssa**, **-ice**, **-as**, **-ese**, 6 **-ise**, 4– **prophetess.** [ME. a. OF. *prophetesse*, *-isse*, ad. late L. *prophētissa* (*a* 200 in Itala, Luke ii. 36): see PROPHET *sb.* and **-ESS**¹. (The L. form was sometimes retained in earlier English use.)] A woman who prophesies, a female prophet; a sibyl.

In Isa. viii. 3, the meaning may be 'a prophet's wife'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11356 (Cott.) O propheci soth þis word es, For þis anna was a prophetes [*Gött.* -ess]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 30 Fyrst, be þat noble wyf anna, þat callit was prophetissa. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* ii. 36 And Anna was a prophetisse. 1388 — *Isa.* viii. 3 Y neiȝede to the profetesse [1382 a prophetesse]; and sche conseyuede, and childide a sone. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4412 Dame Proserpyne, a prophetese of ȝoure praysid laȝes. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1589 The nobyll prophetyssa, Sybyll men hyr call. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 369 He callid Sybilla þe prophetice vnto hym. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 37 Ioane the maide, the prophetisse of God, as the Common sort termed her. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 201 He had..made a iourney to Delphos, when the prophetisse there saied [etc.]. 1579 FULKE *Heskins's Parl.* 29 The prophetesses of the olde lawe. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. iv. 102 The Dolphin, with one Joane de Puzel ioyn'd, A holy Prophetesse, new risen vp. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xx. 64 When she had uttered many things in this Propheticke fury, falling to a lamentable shreiking, she resembled a true possest Prophetesse. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* x. 180 Miriam, a distinguished Prophetess. 1882 G. SALMON in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* III. 936/1 The frenzied utterances of the Montanistic prophetesses.

b. *spec.* A woman who foretells events.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 219 For so my dowhter prophetesse Forth with hir litel houndes deth Betokneth. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 301 O but remember this another day:.. And say (poore Margaret) was a Prophetesse. 1761 GRAY *Descent of Odin* 85 No boding Maid of skill divine Art thou, nor Prophetess of good. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* IX. xx, Cythna shall be the prophetess of love.

Prophet-flower: see PROPHET'S-FLOWER.

Prophethood (prǫ·fēt,hud). [f. PROPHET *sb.* + -HOOD.] The position or office of a prophet.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. (1858) 268 That notion of Mahomet's, of his supreme Prophethood. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Browning* i. 50 For her sake, he would give up all his power and prophethood. 1875 S. TAYLOR tr. *Oehler's O. T. Theol.* II. 314 A review of the historical development of the prophethood. 1896 C. ALLEN in *United Presb. Mag.* Oct. 435 The Universal prophethood of believers.

Prophetic (profe·tik), *a.* [a. F. *prophétique* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. late L. *prophētic-us* (*a* 200 in Itala), a. Gr. προφητικ-ός: see PROPHET *sb.* and -IC.]

1. Of, pertaining or proper to a prophet or prophecy; having the character or function of a prophet.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 72 A Sybill..In her Prophetticke furie sow'd the Worke. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 174 Till old experience do attain To something like Prophetic strain. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 135 Shaw-meer-Ally-Hamzy a prophetique Mahomitan. 1761 GRAY *Descent Odin* 20 The dust of the prophetic Maid. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 195 That their preachers should confine themselves wholly to the Gospel and the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures. 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xxiv. 213 A prophetic woman named Diotima. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 301 Puritanism showed both the strength and weakness of its prophetic nurture.

b. *Liturgics. Prophetic lesson* (L. *lectio prophetica*): see quot. 1878.

1872 SCUDAMORE *Notitia Euch.* 206 [tr. St. Germanus] The Prophetic Lesson keeps its due place, rebuking evil things and announcing future. [1878 HAMMOND *Antient Liturgies* Gloss. 384 *Prophetica lectio* (or *Propheta*), (Gall.), The Lection from the Old Testament, which .. in the Gallican Liturgy preceded the Epistle and Gospel.]

c. *Prophetic present, perfect*: the present or perfect tense used to express a certain future.

1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* xxii. II. 67 *note*, The perfects [in James v. 2, 3] are prophetic perfects; they express absolute certainty as to the ultimate result. 1884 G. H. WEBSTER *Gram. New Eng.* 116 Both the Historic and the Prophetic Present use a past and a future, as though they expressed the present of absolute time. *Ibid.* 117 A Prophetic preterit occurs when the simple preterit is used in the description of future contingent events.

2. Characterized by, containing, or of the nature of prophecy or prediction; predictive, presageful.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 126 Now heare me speake with a propheticke spirit. 1605 — *Macb.* I. iii. 78 Say..why Vpon this blasted Heath you stop our way With such Prophetique greeting? 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 49 He quickly found how Prophetick the last King's Predictions had proved. *a* 1771 GRAY *Dante* 27 Sleep Prophetic of my Woes. 1881 LADY HERBERT *Edith* 24, I feel that woman's words are prophetic.

3. Spoken of in prophecy; predicted.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 187 There may be attributed to God, a two-fold Kingdome, Naturall, and Prophetique. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin* No. 8 (1799) 273 Sober plodding Money-lenders..little in the habit of lending their Funds on prophetic Mortgages.

4. *Comb.* **Prophetic-eyed** *a.*, having a prophetic eye or outlook.

1847 EMERSON *Poems, May-day* 61 The sparrow meek, prophetic-eyed, Her nest beside the snow-drift weaves.

Prophe·tical, *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -AL.]

1. Of, belonging or proper to, or of the nature of a prophet; of or pertaining to prophecy (= PROPHETIC 1).

1456 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 287 Ysay, replete with þe spirite propheticall. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 71 As the Propheticall Psalmist singeth. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 462 One of those youths, in that Prophetical distraction before mentioned, warned them to depart from thence. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* xvii. § 23. 321 The Apostolicall worke indeed was universall; the Propheticall to declare their owne revelations in the Church; the Evangelicall to preach, or to be publishers of the Gospell. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* III. vii. (1715) 69 They had Recourse to the whole Train of prophetical Divinities. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* Pref. 18 The poetical imagery of the prophetical books.

2. Of the nature of or containing prophecy, predictive (= PROPHETIC 2).

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 5 The reprehension of Saint Paul was not only proper for those times, but prophetical for the times following. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Eudor* 269 The Man, whom the Pope in a Prophetical dream saw supporting his Lateran Church from falling. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. ix. 200 A prophetical oration announced that the future line from Charles would not be less numerous.

†B. *sb.* A prophetical utterance, a prophecy. *Obs.*

1615 SYLVESTER *Memory of Margarite* Wks. (Grosart) II. 294 One night, two dreams made two propheticals: Thine, of thy Coffin; mine, of thy Funerals. 1653 H. WHISTLER *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 99 By plain coherence of these Propheticalls it appeareth.

Hence **Prophetica·lity** (*nonce-wd.*), **Prophe·tical·ness** (*rare*), prophetical quality.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Propheticalness*..prophetical Nature or Quality. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 284 (on B. Jonson's *Barth. Fair*) An odd sort of propheticality in this Numps and old Noll!

Prophetically (profe·tikăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a prophetical manner; in the manner of a prophet; by way of prophecy or prediction.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 433 Saint Peter and S. Paul doe..applie this..as a thing spoken Propheticallie vnto Christ Iesus. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* Wks. 1851 IV. 342 Which our enemies too profetically fear'd. 1752 J. GILL *Trinity* iii. 61 This is prophetically expressed in *Isa.* lxiii. 1. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. v. 356 Kirwan was one of those men of whom the preacher spoke prophetically.

Propheticism (-fe·tisiz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.]

1. An expression characteristic of the Prophets.

1684 H. MORE *Answ.*, etc. 252, I suspect it to be a mere Propheticism, if I may so speak, that is, a propheticke scheme or propriety of speech, usefull for concealment.

2. Prophetic system or practice.

1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* 10 Which Propheticisms of the Churches, Mr. Fleming being Averse to, I will not Press them upon him.

†Prophe·ticly, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. PROPHETIC + -LY².] = PROPHETICALLY.

1656 J. HAMMOND *Leah & R.* (1844) 25 Although this was prophetiquely forseen by diverse merchants of London. 1704 *The Storm* vi, Often he has those Cares Prophetickly exprest.

Prophe·tico-, comb. form of L. *prophetic-us* PROPHETIC, prefixed adverbially to an adj., e.g. *prophetico-Messianic*, of or pertaining to the prophetic Messiah.

1865 tr. *Strauss' New Life Jesus* II. II. lxxiii. 174 We have here a prophetico-Messianic myth of the clearest stamp.

Prophetism (prǫ·fētiz'm). [f. PROPHET *sb.* + -ISM.] The action or practice of a prophet or prophets; the system or principles of the Hebrew prophets. *False prophetism*, the practice or principles of a false prophet.

1701 BEVERLEY *Apoc. Quest.* Pref. a iv b, To be waited for with Reverence; and not Reproach'd as False Prophetism. 1845 KITTO *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* s. v. *Theology*, The freer religious enthusiasm which..had prevailed in the nation in the form of Prophetism. 1861 A. MCCAUL *Ess. Prophecy* in *Aids to Faith* 90 To have received a call and message direct from God and to deliver it constituted the essence of prophetism. 1893 HUXLEY *Evol. & Ethics* 109 Prophetism attained its apogee among the Semites of Palestine.

b. *Philos.* In the teaching of Algazzāli, an Arabian philosopher of the eleventh century, the fourth stage in intellectual development (the three preceding being Sensation, Understanding, and Reason), in which a man sees things that lie beyond the perceptions of reason.

1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1853) 310.

†Prophetiza·tion. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. next: see -ATION.] The action or faculty of prophesying.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 221 Take the stone which is called Esmundus or Asmadus, and it will give prophetization.

†Pro·phetize, *v. Obs.* [ME. a. F. *prophétiser* (*-izer* 12th c. in Littré), ad. late L. *prophētiz-āre* (*a* 200 in Itala), a. Gr. προφητίζειν to prophesy: see PROPHET *sb.* and -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To prophesy, predict.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16606 Til þat tyme come..Þat Merlyn til Arthur prophetysed. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 427 b/2 He prophetysed that a recluse sholdbe seen emonge men by the vyce of couetyse. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 22 In the nummyr of them that Sanct paul prophetizit in the sycond epistil to tymothie. *Ibid.* vi. 46 His father Adam hed prophetyszit that the varld sal end be vattir and be the fyir.

2. *intr.* To utter predictions; to prophesy.

1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 113, I send nocht yir Prophets and thay did rime, I spak nocht to yam and thay

prophetized. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. § 2. 162 Elizeus.. desiring to prophetise, called for a musitian. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 263 Had not he prophetiz'd against the Corruptions of the Church of Rome.

Hence †**Pro·phetizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* (1609) III. lxii, Nature.. doth warning send By prophetizing dreames. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-cr.* 785 The prophetizing spirit forsook him so. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 60 Monks and Fryars, who abetted her Prophetizing Impostures.

Pro·phetless, *a.* [f. PROPHET *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a prophet or inspired teacher.

1900 H. D. RAWNSLEY in *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 8/1 In prophetless despair We hear through cloud of doubt and misty air The rival Churches cry uncertain cries. 1906 *Expositor* June 517 The priest..bare rule over a kingless and prophetless people.

†**Pro·phetly,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY 1.] Prophet-like, befitting a prophet.

1547–64 BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 11 A worthy and prophetly saying.

Propheto·cracy. *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -(O)CRACY.] Government by a prophet.

1893 *Pall Mall Budget* 6 Apr. 526/1 There is little to be brought against the Mormons, except the galling propheto-cracy of their government and their marriage laws.

Pro·phetry. *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -RY.] The prophetical office, the body of prophets.

1863 MILMAN *Hist. Jews* VIII. (ed. 3) 347 Elijah..appears in the solemn scene of the Transfiguration as the representative of prophetry.

Prophet's-flower, prophet-flower. [A rendering of Persian گل پیغامبر *gul-i paighām-bar* 'rose or flower of the Apostle' (i. e. Mohammed).] A name, of Oriental origin, given to two species of *Arnebia*, N.O. *Boraginaceæ*, viz. *A. echioides*, a perennial, native of the regions west of the Upper Indus, having primrose-yellow flowers, marked with evanescent purple spots; and *A. Griffithii*, an annual, native of India.

[1834 Sir A. BURNES *Trav. Bokhara* I. iii. 86 The violet has the name of 'gool i pyeghambur', or the rose of the Prophet, par excellence, I suppose, from its fragrance. 1861 *Bot. Mag.* tab. 5266.] 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 929/2 *Prophet's-flower*, the name given by Indian Mussulmans to *Arnebia echioides*. 1869 J. L. STEWART *Punjab Plants* 152 'Prophet's flower'..is liked by the Pathâns on account of its delightful scent, and is also held in veneration by them, as the five dark marks on the corolla are said to be those of Mahomed's fingers. 1882 *Garden* 14 Oct. 344/2 In flower just now..*Arnebia echioides* (the Prophet's flower).

Prophetship (prǫ·fĕtˌʃip). [f. PROPHET *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or function of a prophet.

1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 238 We give to Christ the glory and truth of his Prophetship. 1873 FAIRBAIRN *Stud. Philos. Relig. & Hist.* (1877) 329 It is no matter of much moment where the idea of prophetship originated. Israel alone realized it. 1899 GARVIE *Ritschlian Theol.* IX. ii. 274 Christ has founded his community through his royal prophetship and priesthood.

Prophoric (prǫfǫ·rik), *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *προφορικός*, f. *προφορά* utterance, f. *προφέρειν* to utter, to bring forth.] Characterized by utterance, enunciation, or emission.

1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. iv. (1876) 197 A distinction had already been applied by the Stoics to the Platonic Logos, which they represented under two aspects..The terms were received among Catholics; the 'Endiathetic', standing for the Word as hid from everlasting in the bosom of the Father, while the 'Prophoric' was the Son sent forth into the world, in apparent separation from God, with His Father's name upon Him, and His Father's will to perform.

Prophragm (prǫ·fræm), ‖ **prophragma** (prǫfræ·gmă). *Entom.* [ad. Gr. *πρόφραγμα* a fence in front, f. *πρό*, PRO-^{2} + *φράσσειν*, stem *φραγ-*, to fence in.] (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 371 *Prophragma* (the Prophragm). A partition of an elastic substance, rather horny, connected posteriorly with the Dorsolum. *Ibid.* xxxv. 550 The anterior margin of the dorsolum [is] deflexed so as to form a septum called..the prophragm. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prophragma.

Prophylactic (prǫfilæ·ktik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *προφυλακτικ-ός*, f. *προφυλάσσειν* to keep guard before: see PRO-^{2} and PHYLACTIC. So F. *prophylactique* (16th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *adj. Med.* That defends from or tends to prevent disease; also *transf.* preservative, precautionary.

1574 J. JONES *Nat. Beginning Grow. Things* 45 Prophilacticke that preuenteth diseases. 1605 DANIEL *Queen's Arcadia* III. ii, Yoo haue not very carefull beene, T' obserue the prophilactick regiment Of your owne body. 1661 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Prophylactic.* 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 10 Medicine is justly distributed into prophylactick, or the art of preserving health; and therapeutick, or the art of restoring health. 1742 W. STUKELEY in *Mem.* (Surtees) I. 326 An amuletick, averruncative or prophylactick symbol. 1798 W. BLAIR *Soldier's Friend* 2 Steady enforcement of proper prophylactic regulations. 1866 *Lond. Rev.* 17 Feb. 189/2 [Vaccination] does seem to have exercised a prophylactic or modifying influence. 1889 J. R. ILLINGWORTH in *Lux Mundi* iii. 118 With men, as with animals, suffering is largely prophylactic.

B. *sb.* A medicine or measure used to prevent, or as a precaution against, disease. Also *transf.*

1642 *Preparative for Fast* 13 Weare it as a Prophylactick about thee. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 53 It is one of the best prophylactics against the sea-scurvy. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 302 A serpent's skin is still looked upon in Egypt as a prophylactic against complaints of the head. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 657 Vaccination, which has now stood the test of practice for a century, remains to-day one of the greatest medical prophylactics the world has ever known.

†**Prophyla·ctical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. adj.

1628–9 BP. HALL *Serm. Acts ii.* 37–40 Wks. 1863 V. 409 Dietetical and prophylactical receipts of wholesome caution. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cviii, It is not only Therapeuticall or restorative, but Prophylacticall or preventionall.

Hence **Prophyla·ctically** *adv.*, by way of prevention of disease.

1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 135 *note*, A greybeard who had been treated at Maskat prophylactically against the pain and venom of the scorpion. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 3/1 In the matter of vaccinating prophylactically to secure that a child shall be immune.

‖ **Prophyla·cticon.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [a. Gr. *προφυλακτικόν*, neut. sing. of *προφυλακτικός*: see PROPHYLACTIC.] = PROPHYLACTIC *sb.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 354 The avow'd best Prophylacticons or Preservers of Health, be the moderate use of Medicinal Water-Drinking [etc.].

‖ **Prophylaxis** (prǫfilæ·ksis). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO-^{2} + *φύλαξις* a watching, guarding, after PROPHYLACTIC.] *Med.* The preventive treatment of disease. Also *transf.*

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 342 An elaborate and critical history of the pathology, prophylaxis, and treatment of syphilis. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 109 The prevention of disease ..constitutes a division of medicine called prophylaxis. 1897 A. DRUCKER tr. *Ihering's Evol. Aryan* 376, I should call it the Prophylaxis of a primitive race.

Prophylaxy (prǫ·filæksi). [= mod.F. *prophylaxie*, f. mod.L. *prophylaxis*.] = prec.

1890 *Lancet* 25 Jan. 218/1 The discussion on the prophylaxy of tuberculosis was then resumed. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Jan. 93/1 Certain vistas in the future of prophylaxy.

Prophyllon: see PRO-^{2} I.

†**Propi·ce,** *a. Obs.* Also 5–6 -pyce, 6 -pise, -pysse. [ME. a. F. *propice* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *propiti-us* favourable, gracious, kind.]

1. = PROPITIOUS *a.* 1.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* 189 He shal be propice to þe londe of his folk. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. v. 10 To whom fortune was so propice. 1526 ABP. LEE *Let. to Wolsey* (MS. Cott. Vesp. C. iii. 213), I humblie beseched his Magestie not to geve easie and propice eares unto any such reaports. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 75 The Romanes ..worship the gracious power of God, so propice and mercifull unto them. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Propitious*, not displeased, merciful, favorable, propice, gentle.

2. = PROPITIOUS *a.* 2.

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 6 The knightes..drew hem vnto a place propice for the ioustes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 816 Now was the time propice and conuenient. 1618 *Barnevelt's Apol.* Pref. A iv b, A more propice and fat sacrifice at the Altar of Proserpina. 1620 THOMAS *Lat. Dict.*, *Fortunatus*..luckie, happy, fortunate, propice.

Hence †**Propi·cely** *adv. Obs.*

1541 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, III. 298 The purchace of certeyn landes there, lyeng propicely for them. 1542 *Ibid.* V. 587 The tyme shall more propicely serve Us.

Propiciable, etc., obs. ff. PROPITIABLE, etc.

†**Propi·ciant,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *propitiānt-em*, pres. pple. of *propiti-āre* to PROPITIATE.] = PROPITIOUS *a.* 1.

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 272 We haue þe goddis mare propiciant to ws quhen we ar fechtand. 1548 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 481/2 To aide..and defend at his powar this tender princes .. as propiciant and helplyke brother.

Propination (prǫpinēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *propinātiōn-em* a drinking to one's health, n. of action f. *propīn-āre* to PROPINE.]

†1. The action of offering drink to another in pledging; the drinking to the health of any one.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Propination*, a drinking to one, a bidding one drink. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* IV. xx. (1715) 393 Proteas..drank it off, and presented his Service to Alexander in another of the same Dimensions. This Propination was carry'd about towards the right Hand. *Ibid.* 398 The Propinations, and methods of Drinking, which other Nations observ'd.

†2. Giving, presenting, administering. *Obs. rare.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 662 Cantharides,..if you fail in their due and skilful application or propination,.. drive men into most intolerable grievous symptomes.

3. [= Ger. *propination*.] In reference to Austrian Poland: The seigniorial monopoly of brewing and distilling and selling the produce.

1886 *Daily News* 23 Dec. 5/7 This nobleman has the 'propination' or sole right of selling spirits in this part of the world. 1888 *Times* 27 Sept. 3/3 The Galician landowners by the Spirit Tax Act passed last Session..have been deprived of the right of 'propination'—that is, of distilling and selling spirits on their estates.

Propine (prǫpəi·n), *sb.*^{1} *Sc. Obs.* or *arch.* [a. obs. F. *propine* (16th c. in Godef.) 'drinking money, or somewhat to drinke' (Cotgr.), f. *propiner* to PROPINE; so Sp. *propina* a present, a 'tip', It. *propina* a drinking, a 'health'.]

†1. Drink-money. *Obs.*

[This is etymologically the earlier sense, but early evidence for it in Sc. has not been found.]

1638 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 11 June (1664) 230 To love the bridegroom better then his gifts, his propines, or drink-money.

2. A thing presented as a gift; a present.

In the first quotation a present of wine.

1448 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 17 To mak a propyne to our souerane lord the Kingis welcum..of twa tunnes of Gascoene wyne. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 169 He sal gyue to ws in name of propyne a ra or a buk. 1557–75 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Club) 67 With ane coffer quhairin wes the copburd and propyne quhilk suld be propynit to hir hienes. 1598 J. MELVILL (*title*) A Spirituall Propine of a Pastour to his People. *a* 1619 W. COWPER *Heaven Opened* II. Ded., That I haue conioyned your Maiesties in the participation of this small propine of the first fruits of my labours. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, We maun think of some propine for her, since her kindness hath been great. 1849 MRS. A. S. MENTEATH *Lays Kirk & Covt.* (1892) 39 'Twas my first bansel and propine to heaven.

3. The power to give; gift, disposal. *rare.* (Doubtfully correct.)

a 1803 *Lady Anne* vii. in Child *Ballads* I. (1882) 227/2 If I were thine, and in thy propine, O what wad ye do to me? 1813 PICKEN *Poems* II. 71 The richest gift in Heaven s propine.

Propine (prʊ·pəin), *sb.*^{2} *Chem.* [f. as PROPANE + -INE^5 2.] Hofmann's systematic name for the gaseous hydrocarbon C_3H_4, the tri-carbon member of the acetylene series, C_nH_{2n-2}; usually called ALLYLENE, and formerly also *propinene*.

1866 HOFMANN in *Proc. Royal Soc.* XV. 58 *note*. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 558 Ethine and propine are gaseous at ordinary temperatures. 1877 *Ibid.* (ed. 12) II. 63 Allylene or propine C_3H_4..is produced by the action of sodium-ethylate on bromopropene.

Propine (prǫpəi·n), *v.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* or *arch.* Also 5–7 -pyne, 9 *dial.* -peyne. [ad. L. *propīn-āre* to drink to one's health, pledge; to give to drink, administer, furnish, ad. Gr. *προπίν-ειν* lit. to drink before or above, to drink to another, to give one to drink, also to give freely, to present, f. *πρό*, PRO-^{2} + *πίνειν* to drink.]

1. *trans.* To offer or give to drink; to present with (drink); *fig.* to offer or give (a 'cup' of affliction, etc.). *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Commend. our Lady* viii. 52 Sum drope of graceful dewe to us propyne. 1563 WINȝET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 27 Thai feir nocht to propyne the venum of hæresie til wtheris. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Passion* ii. (1616) 21 The Father hath propined vnto mee a bitter cuppe of affliction. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* III. ii. 31 Whiles she propineth to the world the cup of her fornications. 1675 J. SMITH *Chr. Relig. Appeal* II. 25 That deadly Poyson of their Religion that was propined from the Stage. *a* 1713 PITCAIRN in Maidment *Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 317 A health to the King I do thee propine.

2. To offer for acceptance or as a present; to present; to put before one, propose.

Perhaps first said of a present of wine.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Graïl* xvii. 118 My grete veniaunce & my gret discipline, With my strengthe to ȝow it schal propine. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 61 Ane riche present thay did till hir propyne. 1526 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 115 That thar be propynit to the kingis grace..sax potionis of wyne. *c* 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 34 Of thair prettick to me ane point propyne. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. 92 The king propynet him the cuntries Knapden and Kintyr. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* I. ii. § 2 (1622) 11 Vnlesse we would propine, both our selues, and our cause, vnto open and iust derision. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* I. iv. rule ii. § 19 It propines to us the noblest, the highest, and the bravest pleasures of the world. 1807 J. STAGG *Poems* 67 Our past misfortunes we'd propeyne T' oblivion. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxii, In expectation of the ample donation, or *soul-scat*, which Cedric had propined.

3. To present (a person) *with* something; to endow, reward.

c 1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 6506 For mochel worschepe by hym schalt þou se And ful gret encres to the and thyne, And thow hit worschepe & hit propyne. 1554 *Edin. Counc. Rec.* 29 Dec. II. lf. 39 (MS.) An vther goblet, with which to propine the Quenis Grace. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Passion* ii. (1616) 22 If the Lord propine thee with a cup of affliction. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Spald. Cl.) II. 86 He, with his Quene .. wes bankettit .., and thairefter propynit with 20,000 lib. sterling in ane fair coup of gold. *a* 1758 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* 62 And bought frae..Bawsy, His [bonnet] to propine a giglet lassie. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xlix, Bless God that you have had a husband .. to propine Him with.

4. a. *trans.* To wish (health or the like) to some one in drinking. b. *intr.* To address a pledge or toast *to*; to drink a health *to*.

a 1770 C. SMART *Hop Garden* I. Poems (1810) 38/1 The lovely sorceress mix'd, and to the prince Health, peace and joy propin'd. 1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 402 And thus did he to the king propine: 'Long live the King!'

Hence †**Propi·ner** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$, one who 'propines', offers, or gives.

1589 BRUCE *Serm.* (Wodrow Soc.) 26 There is twa propiners, twa personis that offeris and givis the Sacrament.

Propinquant (prǫpi·ŋkwănt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *propinquāntem*, pres. pple. of *propinqu-āre* to bring near, approach, f. *propinqu-us*: see PROPINQUE.] Near, neighbouring, adjacent.

1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 3 That cannot be called closely propinquant..which is actually present. 1903 *T. P.'s Weekly* 4 Sept. 427/3 Small vans .. stationed at various squares, propinquant to busy sections of the city.

†**Propi·nquate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *propinquāt-us* brought near, pa. pple. of *propinquāre*: see prec.] Immediate, proximate.

1665 J. GADBURY *Lond. Deliv. Predicted* Concl. 40 The shutting up of People in a time of Sickness .. is no small propinquate cause..of the increase of the Contagion. 1683 — in *Wharton's Wks.* Pref., Aptly .. distinguished into Causes Remote, and Propinquate.

†**Propi·nquate,** *v. Obs. rare*−°. [f. ppl. stem of L. *propinquāre* to bring near, to draw near.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Propinquate,* to approach.

Propinque (propi·ŋk), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *propinqu-us* near, neighbouring, derivative of *prope* near: cf. *longinqu-us* distant, from *longe* far.]

1. Near in space, neighbouring, at hand.

1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* v. § 2 (1643) 81 The matter of Meteors ..as it is propinque or near, it consisteth of Exhalations. 1892 J. ASHBY-STERRY in *Graphic* 16 Apr. 494/1 They did not disdain..the foaming pewter from the propinque public. 1907 N. MUNRO in *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 81/1 Ports more propinque to the highways of the world.

†**2.** Immediate, proximate, direct. *Obs.*

1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* I. iv. 18 Some more propinque and conjunct cause of motion. 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac., Gd. old Cause* (1860) 63 The devil's the remote cause, and their hearts the approximate and neere propinque cause.

†**3.** Nearly approaching accuracy; approximate.

1680 AUBREY *Lives* (1898) II. 86 Mr. Launcelot Moorhouse ..wrote against Mr. Francis Potter's booke of 666, and falls upon him, for that 25 is not the true roote, but the propinque root. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 455.

Hence **Propi·nquial** *a.*, done in proximity.

1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 116 In the course of a week's propinquial (excuse my coinage) climbing.

Propi·nquitous, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. next + -OUS: cf. *calamitous.*] That is in propinquity; close at hand.

1899 *Literature* 11 Mar. 260 A propinquitous and sympathetic brother-in-arms is a welcome ally indeed.

Propinquity (propi·ŋkwĭti). [ME. *propinquite,* a. obs. F. *propinquité* (*c* 1240 in Godef.), ad. L. *propinquitās, -tātem* nearness, f. *propinqu-us*: see PROPINQUE.] Nearness, closeness, proximity:

a. in space: Neighbourhood.

c 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E. E. T. S.) 148 He concludyth.. that the mone schuld, for her propynqwyte, sundry indysposycion .. cause. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 110/24 Propinquitie, *propinquitas.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 372 By reason of the propinquity and neighborhood of that region. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Wind,* The propinquity of the Sea, being to be consider'd. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 307/2 It should not be in too close propinquity to the stable.

b. in blood or relationship: Near or close kinship.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. 25 (Camb. MS.) The moost presyous kynde of any propinquite or alyaunce þat may ben. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 101 She .. maketh nigh cosinage, ther neuer propinquite ne alyaunce in lyue was, ne shulde haue be. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 55 It is not birth onely nor propinquitie of blood. 1613–18 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 105 The next day..hee put her away, pretending..propinquity of blood. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xiv. 234 Thus in the second degree, the issue of George and Cecilia Stiles and of Andrew and Esther Baker..are each in the same degree of propinquity. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* III. § 27 He does not call them in the second class immediately after the *sui heredes,*..but in the third class, on the ground of propinquity.

c. in nature, disposition, belief, association, etc.: Similarity, affinity.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 117 An annexed propinquity or opposition of good and bad, vertue and vice. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anima Magica* 8 There is in Nature a Certain Chain, or subordinate propinquity of Complexions between Visibles, and invisibles. 1823 GILLIES *Aristotle's Rhet.* II. x. 297 The objects of envy must always be characterised by nearness in time, place, age, reputation, in short by a sort of propinquity.

d. in time: Near approach, nearness.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII i. 341 Thereby is declared the propinquity of their desolation. 1825 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Superannuated Man,* Each day used to be individually felt by me..in its distance from, or propinquity to, the next Sunday.

Propi·nquous, *a. rare*−1. [f. L. *propinqu-us* PROPINQUE + -OUS.] Near, close at hand, in proximity.

1832 BENTHAM *Deontol.* vii. (1834) I. 107 Susceptible of being brought into the mind with the vividness of that which is propinquous.

Propio-, propion-, *Chem.,* a formative derived from PROPIONIC, entering into the names of compounds related to propionic acid. The chief are: **Propio·lic** *a.* [dim. f. PROPIONIC], in *propiolic acid,* $CH \equiv C.CO_2H$, obs. synonym of PROPARGYLIC *acid*; *phenyl-propiolic acid,* $C_6H_5.C \equiv C.CO_2H$: see quot. **Propio·nami·de,** the amide of propionic acid, $C_3H_5O.N.H_2$: see quots. **Pro·pionate,** a salt of propionic acid. **Pro·pione,** di-ethyl ketone $(C_2H_5)_2.CO$, a colourless mobile liquid lighter than water, in smell resembling acetone; discovered by Frémy in 1835, and called by him *Metacetone.* **Propioni·tril, -ile,** the nitrile or nitrogen compound of the propyl series, C_3H_5N, derived from propionyl by substitution of N for O. **Pro·pionyl,** the monovalent radical C_3H_5O of propionic acid; formerly called *metacetyl.*

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 962 *Phenyl-*propiolic Acid.* $C_9H_6O_2$ .. related to phenyl-propionic acid in the same manner as stearolic to stearic acid. .. It crystallises from water or from carbon bisulphide in long white silky needles melting at 136°–137°. 1881 *Times* 3 June 5 Competition with the natural dye-stuff is not to be thought of until the maker can reduce the price of dry propiolic acid. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 239 **Propionamide* $C_6H_7NO_2$, *Butyramide* $C_8H_9NO_2$, and *Valeramide* $C_{10}H_{11}NO_2$, may all be obtained by the action of ammonia upon their respective ethers. 1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 1009 Propionamide is colourless, readily soluble in cold alcohol and ether, from which it crystallises in radiate crystalline masses..; from chloroform it crystallises in pearly scales. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 350 Most of the *propionates are soluble and crystallizable. The propionates of potash and soda are deliquescent. Propionate of lime is efflorescent, but very soluble. 1851 R. I. MORLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* IV. 1 (*heading*) On *Propione, the Ketone of Propionic Acid. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 729 Propione, $C_5H_{10}O$ ..is sometimes called ethyl-propionyl. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 166 *Cyanide of Ethyl: Hydrocyanic Ether: *Propionitrile* ($C_4H_5Cy = C_6H_5N$) .. is obtained .. by the distillation of sulphethylate of potash with cyanide of potassium. 1864–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 211 Cyanide of ethyl, Propionitrile, Metacetonitrile, .. discovered by Pelouze in 1834 .. is a colourless liquid, of specific gravity 0·78... It has a strong alliaceous odour, and is very poisonous. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 311 Propione.., ethylide of *propionyl. 1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 962 *Propionyl bromide.* C_3H_5OBr. *Ibid.* 963 *Propionyl iodide.* C_3H_5OI.

Propionic (prōpi·ŏnik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *propionique* (Dumas, Malagute, & Leblanc 1847; *Comptes Rendus* XXV. 781), f. Gr. πρό, PRO-2 (or πρῶτος first) + πίων, πιον- fat, in reference to its being the first in order of the actual fatty acids (formic and acetic acids, which precede it in the series, not forming unctuous derivatives).

From *propionic* are derived the names PROPANE, PROPENE, PROPYL, and the terms under PROPIO-.]

1. Propionic acid, the monatomic monobasic acid of the propyl or tri-carbon series, the third acid of the fatty series, $C_3H_6O_2$, discovered by Gottlieb in 1844, and by him designated *Metacetonic acid.* Its salts are PROPIONATES. Also in *comb.* as *bromopropionic acid,* etc.

1851 R. I. MORLEY in *Q. Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* IV. 1 The unfortunate term *metacetonic* or *metacetic acid,* only lately replaced by the appropriate appellation of *propionic acid,* now universally adopted. 1859 *Fownes' Chem.* 411 Under the influence of oxidizing agents, propylic alcohol..is converted into an acid analogous to acetic acid, which is called propionic acid..a colorless, transparent liquid, of a peculiar, somewhat pungent odor, similar to that of acetic acid. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 46 Formic, Acetic, and Propionic acids are present in sweat.

2. Propionic aldehyde, $C_3H_6O = C_3H_5O.H$, (*propyl aldehyde, hydride of propionyl*), a limpid neutral liquid, having an ethereal odour. So *propionic ethers, salts,* etc.

1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 734 Propionic aldehyde.. discovered in 1847 by Guckelberger. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (N. Y.) VIII. 494 Acetone is isomeric with propionic aldehyde C_3H_6O.

Propir(e, -te, -tie, obs. ff. PROPER, -TY.

Propitiable (propi·ʃiăb'l), *a.* [ad. L. *propitiābil-is* easy to be appeased: see PROPITIATE *v.* and -ABLE; cf. obs. F. *propiciable, -tiable* (15th c. in Godef.).]

†**1.** Able to propitiate. *Obs. rare.*

1553 T. WATSON in Crowley *Soph. Dr. Watson* ii. (1569) 130 Graunt good Lord, that this sacrifice..be propitiable or a meane to obteyne mercy. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 979/1 In the Masse..the liuely sacrifice of the Churche, which is propitiable, as well for the synnes of the quicke, as of the dead.

2. Capable of being propitiated or made propitious.

1557 *Sarum Primer, Dirige* L vj, Almightie eternall God, ..bee propiciable to the soule of thy servaunte. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. (1712) 10 It could never enter into my mind, that he [God] was either irritable or propitiable, by the omitting or performing of any mean and insignificant services. 1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Soc. Depart.* 305 [She] is propitiable, and walks the deck daily with her former calumniators.

Propitial (propi·ʃăl), *a. rare*−1. [f. L. *propiti-us* PROPITIOUS + -AL.] Propitiatory.

1850 NEALE *Med. Hymns* (1867) 108 Luke the ox, in form propitial, As a creature sacrificial.

†**Propi·tiate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *propitiāt-us,* pa. pple. of *propiti-āre*: see next.] Propitiated. (In quot. const. as *pa. pple.*)

1551 BP. GARDINER *Explic.* 150 With suche sacrifices God is made fauorable, or God is propitiate, if we shall make new Englishe.

Propitiate (propi·ʃi,ēit), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *propiti-āre* to render favourable, appease (f. *propiti-us* PROPITIOUS): see -ATE 3.]

1. *trans.* To render propitious or favourably inclined; to appease, conciliate (one offended).

1645 WALLER *To Mistris Broughton* Poems 127 You (her priest) declare What offrings may propitiate the Faire. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xi, That the supreme Being may be more easily propitiated in one place than in another is the dream of idle superstition. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* viii, If it was indeed necessary to propitiate the masters by sacrificing him. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 153 That they [the Gods] can be propitiated..is not to be allowed or admitted for an instant.

†**2.** *intr.* To make propitiation. *Obs. rare*−1.

1703 YOUNG *Serm.* II. 267 The sorrows of our Lord were propitiating for the sins of Eden.

†**3.** *trans.* To treat propitiously. *Obs. rare*−1.

1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* I. xiv. 142 The Grecians..used to enrich their victim, by tipping his horns with gold, in order to bribe the mercenary God to propitiate their appeal.

Hence **Propi·tiated, Propi·tiating** *ppl. adjs.*; **Propi·tiatingly** *adv.*

a 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 68 And on the cross breathing his painful last, To his propitiated great Father pass'd. *a* 1812 A. M'LEAN *Comm. Heb.* (1847) II. xii. 196 Christ is represented as the meek and propitiating Lamb. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* ix. 291 The old Oedipus,..is made a blessed Daemon through the mercy of propitiated deities. 1890 E. L. ARNOLD *Phra* vii, 'Now', said the scribe propitiatingly.

Propitiation (propiʃi,ēi·ʃən). [ad. late L. *propitiātiōn-em,* n. of action f. *propiti-āre* to PROPITIATE; cf. F. *propitiation* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The action or an act of propitiating; appeasement, conciliation; atonement, expiation.

1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxv. 9 In the tyme of propiciacioun. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Propitiation,* the Act of propitiating, an appeasing of the Divine Anger by Sacrifice, or Prayer; an Atonement. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 10 ¶ 11 By what propitiation, therefore, may I atone for my former gravity? 1850 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Holy Bapt.* 132 The propitiation which our Lord effected on the Cross for the sins of men. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) II. i. 1 Propitiation of these terrible powers was the consequence.

b. A propitiatory gift, offering, or sacrifice. *arch.*

1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* (1 John ii. 2), He is the propiciation for our synnes. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. viii. 69 Christ is our Advocate, and he is the propiciation.

†**2.** The condition or state of being propitiated or rendered favourable; favour. *Obs. rare*−1.

1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xviii. 54 That in the Day, the Day of visitation, God may looke on thee w^th^ Propitiation.

†**Propitiatoir(e,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare*−1. [a. F. *propitiatoire.*] = PROPITIATORY *a.*

1580 HAY *Demandes* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 69 The sacrifice of the aulter..is propitiatoire and obteins remissione fra God to thame for quhilks it is offred.

Propitiator (propi·ʃi,ēitəɹ). [a. late L. *propitiātor,* agent-n. from *propiti-āre* to PROPITIATE; so F. *propitiateur,* in 1519 *propic-* (Hatz.-Darm.).] One who propitiates.

1571 KNOX *Bk. Com. Order* (1868) 61 Look Thou to Thy dear Son..our Head..Mediator, and only Propitiator. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* vi. 23 Our Eternall Priest and Propitiator. 1742 tr. *Bossuet's Hist. Var. Prot. Ch.* (1829) I. 131 The whole Church, who acknowledged Jesus Christ for propitiator and author of justification.

Propitiatorily (propi·ʃi,ătərĭli), *adv.* [f. next + -LY 2.] In a propitiatory manner; by way of propitiating.

a 1555 BRADFORD *Serm., Lord's Supper* (1574) 1 iv b, Being peruerted and vsed to a contrary ende, as of sacrificyng propitiatorely for the syns of the quicke and of the dead. 1853 W. ANDERSON *Exposure Popery* (1878) 184 There is not a shadow of evidence that Christ made an Offering of that bread and wine to his Father, either eucharistically or propitiatorily.

Propitiatory (propi·ʃi,ătəri), *sb.* and *a.* [As sb. ad. late L. *propitiātōri-um* (*a* 200 in Itala) place of atonement, also propitiation, rendering Gr. ἱλαστήριον (LXX and N. T.); sb. use of neut. sing. of late L. *propitiātōri-us* adj. atoning, reconciling (whence the adj. B), f. *propitiātor* PROPITIATOR: see -ORY. So OF. *propiciatorie, -s* sb. (*a* 1200 in Littré), mod.F. *propitiatoire* adj. and sb. Cf. MERCY-SEAT.]

A. *sb.* **1.** The mercy-seat.

[*c* 1200 ORMIN 1036 Tær oferr þatt arrke wass An oferr-werrc wel timmbredd þat wass Propitiatoriumm O Latin spæche nemmnedd.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8281 (Cott.) And [in þat hali arke] was aarons wand,..þe gilden oyle, þe propiciatori, Tua cherubins. 1382 WYCLIF *Heb.* ix. 5 Vpon whiche thingis weren cherubyns of glorie, schadewinge the propiciatorie. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vi. 174 The ark or chest of witnessing with propiciatorie. 1564 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* xiv. 145 Two Cherubins of beaten golde, .. spreading abroad their whinges,..their faces tourned toward the propitiatorie. 1643 LIGHTFOOT *Glean. Ex.* (1648) 45 This cover..is called the Propitiatory, vulgarly in our English, the Mercy-seat. 1888 CAVE *Inspir. O. Test.* v. 246 Laws..announced from the Propitiatory of the Tabernacle.

b. *transf.* and *fig.,* esp. applied to Christ.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* iii. 7 b, But nowe hath God declared Christ to be vnto all people the very propiciatory, mercie table, and sacrifice. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 118 The auncient renowmed glorious Reliques jewelled up in the Popes Propitiatorie at Rome. *a* 1635 SIBBES *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 2 There were two angels, one at the head, another at the feet, to shew that peace was to be expected in the true propitiatory, Jesus Christ. 1800 A. SWANSTON *Serm. & Lect.* I. 28 Here is the mercy-seat, the true propitiatory, the throne of grace.

2. *Theol.* A propitiation; an offering of atonement; esp. said of Christ. ? *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* II. xvii. (1634) 250 Christ, whom God hath set to be the propitiatorie by faith which is in his blood. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 269 Thou hast a propitiatory for sin above all my provocations. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. i. (1822) 166 If Christ was put to death he would become a propitiatory.

B. *adj.* That propitiates or tends to propitiate; of or pertaining to propitiation; appeasing, atoning, conciliating, expiatory; ingratiating.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 29 b, No hypocriticall workes, no Propiciatorie Massyng, no meritorious praiyng,

..are yet to bee allowed before God. 1554 COVERDALE *Carrying Christ's Cross* v. 64 The propiciatory sacrifyce of Chryste. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. v. Wks. 1874 I. 212 The general prevalence of propitiatory sacrifices over the heathen world. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ii, Mr. Swiveller.. looking about him with a propitiatory smile. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xx. II. 130 A propitiatory payment to the relatives of the deceased.

Propitious (prop*i*·ʃəs), *a.* Forms: 5 propycyous, 5–7 -pici(o)us, 6– propitious. [Late ME. a. OF. *propicius, -eux* (*a* 1140 in Godef.), f. L. *propiti-us* (see PROPICE): see -OUS.]

1. Disposed to be favourable; well-disposed, favourably inclined; gracious.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 10 To them in erthe that the serve and love Be evere propycyous. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 75 Nature, whech is propicius to helth, had withdrawe sum-what hir fauour. 1596 SPENSER *Hymns* I. ii, T'asswage the force of this new flame, And make thee more propitious in my need. 1681 R. WITTIE *Surv. Heavens* 56 Astrology considers some of the Planets in their Influences as propitious to Mankind. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. ii. 112 They all endeavoured to render God propitious by Sacrifice. 1888 ANNA K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* iv, If the fates are propitious we may succeed.

b. Indicative of, or characterized by, favour; of favourable import; boding well.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. *i*, We entreat..That this device may prove propitious. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxviii. 238 God hath testifi'd by all propitious and evident signes .. that such a solemn .. act .. was .. a .. gratefull .. Sacrifice. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 26 Having first sent our Present,..to procure a propitious reception. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) VI. xv. xiii. 202 Being told that the auspices were not propitious. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. II. 52 Almighty Jupiter Flung down his lightnings on the right and gave Propitious omens.

2. Presenting favourable conditions; favourable, advantageous.

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 12 The gentlenesse of the aire, with the fertilitie of the ground,..is so propitious and naturall for the increase of fruite. 1695 ADDISON *King* 210 May Heav'n's propitious gales attend thee home! 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxv. (1869) I. 721 The circumstances were propitious to the designs of an usurper. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. viii. 206 Thurstan looked upon the moment as one propitious for revolt. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. iii. 75 The weather was most propitious.

Hence **Propi·tiously** *adv.*, in a propitious manner; **Propi·tiousness**, the quality or fact of being propitious.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 61 If I had but bestowed the thousand part of the propitiousnes I haue bestowed on the progeny of Abraham. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 363 Yet oh that Fate, propitiously inclined, Had raised my birth, or had debased my mind. 1690 TEMPLE *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* Wks. 1720 I. 159 The Propitiousness of Climate to that sort of Tree. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ix. (1838) 58 The wreck of matter and the crash of worlds was thy element and propitiously wafting tide.

Pro·plasm. *rare.* [ad. L. *proplasma* (Plin.), a. Gr. *πρόπλασμα* a pattern, model, f. *προπλάσσειν* to mould or form before: see PRO- 2 and PLASM.] A mould, a matrix.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* IV. 182 Those Shells, by that means, serving as Proplasmes, or Moulds, to the Matter which so filled them. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Proplasm*, the same with a Mould in which any Metal or soft Matter, which afterwards will harden, is cast. 18.. *Jrnl. of Science* No. 124. 242 (Cent. Dict.) We gather hat the mysterious Spirit is merely the noumenon or proplasm of physical and psychical phenomena.

† Propla·stic, *sb.* and *a. Obs.* [As sb. ad. mod.L. *proplasticē*, a. Gr. type **προπλαστική* (sc. *τέχνη*) the art of moulding, f. *προπλάσσειν*: see prec., also PLASTIC; as adj. ad. Gr. type **προπλαστικός*, f. *προπλάσσειν*: see prec.]

A. *sb.* The art of forming moulds for casting.

[1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* i. 2 *Sculptura* .. was apply'd to several things; as, .. *Proplastice* forming the future work *ex creta*, or some such matter, as the *Protypus* was of Wax for Efformation, and the *Modulus* of wood.] 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 153/2 Lysistratus..found out the Art of Proplastick, or casting of Figures in Moulds. [1706 PHILLIPS, *Proplastice*, the Art of making Moulds, in which any thing is cast or framed.]

B. *adj.* Of or relating to the making of moulds; forming a mould or cast.

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* Table, Proplastic Art. 1821–2 COLERIDGE *Confess.* iii. 34 The first ferments of the great affections—the proplastic waves of the microcosmic chaos.

Propless (pro*ʊ*·plĕs), *a.* [f. PROP *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without prop or support; unsupported.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 94 The dull Earth's prop-less massie Ball Stands steddy still. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* v. xix, Tell how pond'rous Earths huge proplesse Ball Hangs poised in the fluent Hall Of fleeting Air? *a* 1734 DENNIS *To Thomson*, Yet shall my propless ivy, pale and bent, Bless the short sunshine which thy pity lent.

‖ **Propleuron** (pro*ʊ*·plūə·rŏn). *Entom.* Pl. **-a.** [mod. L., f. PRO- 2 + PLEURON.] Each of the two lateral portions of the prothorax, or first thoracic somite of an insect, lying one on each side of the pronotum. Hence **Propleu·ral** *a.*, of or pertaining to the propleuron.

Each propleuron consists of three parts named *proëpimeron, proëpisternum, proparapteron.* (Cf. *mesopleuron* and *metapleuron*, with their divisions *mesepimeron, metepimeron*, etc.)

1841 E. NEWMAN *Insects* 146 The *prothorax* has a *pronotum, prosternum*, and two *propleura.*

Proplex, -exus: see PRO- 2 2.

† Prople·xity. *Obs.* [For *perplexity*, by confusion of prefixes.] Perplexity.

1487 *Barbour's Bruce* XII. 530 (Camb. MS.) Set in-till herd proplexite. *c* 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 1332 He estounit with gret proplexite. 1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Kyfing gyngor*, Proplexitie. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 214 Peax is away, flemit is all proplexite.

‖ **Propodeon** (propo*ʊ*·dĭən). *Entom.* Improperly **propodeum.** [mod.L. (Newman) f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *ποδεών* (*-ῶνος*) the neck or mouth of a wine-skin, or of the bladder; hence, any narrow end.

(The Latinized form in *-podeum* was app. founded on the misconception that the Gr. word is a neuter in *-ον*.)]

That part of the thorax, principally in Hymenoptera, which precedes and partly surrounds the petiole; originally the first abdominal segment.

1833 E. NEWMAN in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 410 The fifth segment is the Propodeon, and is, of the whole thirteen, the most difficult to determine, because in orders of the same class it appears in different modes. 1895 *Camb. Nat. Hist.* V. 491 [The term 'Propodeum'] was proposed by Newman, under the form of propodeon, and appears to be on the whole the most suitable term for this part. 1899 G. H. CARPENTER *Insects* iv. 268 The partial or entire fusion of the first abdominal segment (*propodeum*) with the thorax.

Propodial (propo*ʊ*·dĭăl), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *propodialis*, f. PROPODI-UM + -AL.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to the propodium of a mollusc.

2. Of or pertaining to the proximal or upper segment of a limb, as the humerus or femur.

[1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 41 The bones of the proximal segments are the *Ossa propodialia* [= propodial bones], [etc.].]

B. *sb.* (Also in L. form *propodiāle*, plural *propodiālia*.) A propodial part or element; a propodial bone, as the humerus or femur.

1889 COPE in *Amer. Nat.* Oct. 852 (Synopsis of *Vertebrata*) Limbs consisting of one basal element, two propodials, and metapodials and digits..*Batrachia.*

Propodite (prŏ·pŏdəit). *Zool.* [f. next + -ITE[1] 3.] The penultimate joint of a developed endopodite limb, as of a crustacean.

1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 92 The two terminal joints.., which are known as the 'propodite' and 'dactylopodite'. 1880 HUXLEY *Crayfish* iv. 165 The endopodite is divided into five joints, named,—ischiopodite, meropodite, carpopodite, propodite, and dactylopodite.

Hence **Propodi·tic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a propodite, as *the propoditic joint.*

‖ **Propodium** (propo*ʊ*·dĭŭm). *Zool.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO- 2 + *πούς, ποδ-* foot: cf. Gr. *προπόδιος* adj. before the feet.] The anterior lobe of the foot in some molluscs.

1853 HUXLEY in *Phil. Trans.* CXLIII. I. 36 The fin or propodium is flattened and fan-shaped. *Ibid.*, The posterior edge of the propodium carries a cup-shaped disk...This is commonly called the sucker...It may be called the mesopodium. 1875 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xlvii. (ed. 4) 342 In the *Heteropoda*..and in the Wing-shells..the foot exhibits a division into three portions—an anterior, the 'propodium'; a middle, the 'mesopodium'; and a posterior lobe, or 'metapodium'. 1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 653/1 The foot of the Azygobranchia..often divided into.. a fore, middle, and hind lobe, pro-, meso-, and metapodium.

‖ **Propolis** (prŏ·pŏlis). [L. (Plin.) a. Gr. *πρόπολις* a suburb, also bee-glue, f. *πρό* before + *πόλις* city. So in F. (Paré *c* 1560).] A red, resinous, aromatic substance collected by bees from the viscid buds of trees, as the horse-chestnut; used to stop up crevices, and fix the combs to the hives; bee-glue.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xii. (Bodl. MS.) þe þrid tyme scheo setteþ more grete matier and þik, and þat is þe stablemente and fastenynge of þee honye combes, and many men clepeþ that mater *Propolim.* 1598 FLORIO, *Propoli*, that which Bees make at the entrance of the hiues to keepe out cold, called Beeglue.] 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 313 But Propolis consisteth of a more solid matter,..and serueth as a good defence against cold, and to stop the passage of waspes and such hurtful creatures as would do iniurie to the bees. *Ibid.* II. 338 With the like quantity of .. the cereous matter in the Bee-hive called *Propolis.* 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Bee*, She began by loosening the straw hive from the board on which it rested, and to which the bees had fastened it with propolis. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) I. 502 M. Huber ascertained that this substance was actually propolis, collected from the buds of the poplar. 1882 *Good Words* 745 Propolis, an adhesive vegetable secretion, obtained..from various sources, the bud of the chestnut being the chief favorite.

Hence **Pro·polize** *v. trans.*, to cover or secure with propolis.

1884 PHIN *Dict. Apiculture* 55.

† Propomate. *Obs.* [f. late L. *propoma*, a. Gr. *πρόπομα* or *πρόπωμα* a drink taken before eating + -ATE[1].] (See quotations.)

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Propoma*, a Drink made of Wine and Hony, or Sugar. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Propoma*..a potion of wine and honey taken before meat; ..also applied to other drinks and medicated wines taken before food.] 1657 *Physical Dict., Propomates*, all kind of drinks made with sugar and hony.

Propone (prop*ʊ*·n), *v.* Now only *Sc.* [ad. L. *prōpōn-ĕre* to put or set forth, expose, declare, propose, intend, f. *prō*, PRO-1 1 a + *pōn-ĕre* to put, place. Cf. PROPOUND, PROPOSE.]

1. *trans.* To put forth, set forth, or propose for consideration, acceptance, or adoption; to propound as a question or matter for decision. Since 17th c. only *Sc.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 297 Proponand þam þat distinctiue..þat obire þai to dame dyane prayand, suld [etc.]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. i. *heading*, The poet first proponyng his entent, Declaris Junois wraith and mailtalent. 1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. 137 Among all which requests nothing certain is proponed. 1538 CRANMER *Let. to Cromwell* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 359 To call my doctors unto me, and to propone the same case amongst them. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 23 b, He would gladly agree to the matter proponed. 1640 LAUD *Wks.* (1853) III. 318 These articles were sent unto me, not to be proponed to the church, but to be inserted amongst the canons thereof. 1676 W. ROW *Contn. Blair's Autobiog.* ix. (1848) 143 Mr. Livingstone proponed an overture. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 77 If hee proponed ani Quæstions to ani. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xvi, It did not..become them..to propone their *prosapia.* 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* I. ii, The bits of business that I have to propone to you are rather..confidential.

2. *Civil* and *Sc. Law.* To put, bring, or state before a tribunal.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. x. 1589 þis Makduff til Lundyn past, And þar proponyt his qwerel. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 163 b, Such articles, as against hym should in open parliament be bothe proponed and proved. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* II. Table 62 And quhen he compeirs, he may propon his exceptions dilatories, and others. 1786 BURNS *Addr. to Unco Guid* ii, I, for their thoughtless, careless sakes, Would here propone defences. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 795 Pleas proponed and repelled are those pleas which have been stated in a court and repelled ppevious to decree being given.

† 3. *refl.* To offer oneself, to offer. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Lancelot* 2461 So that thei can them vtraly propone In his seruice thar lyves to dispone.

† 4. *trans.* To set before any one as an example or aim; to propose or offer as a reward. *Obs.*

1555 CDL. POLE *Let.* in *Cranmer's Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) II. 537 The great sophister and father of all lies..proponing ever that which is more agreeable to the sense. 1563–7 BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (1892) 10 Thair salbe twa bonnittis proponet to be given solemnly to the twa that makis best composition. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 143, I think the examples already proponed to be sufficient. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 525 It might endear this Christian virtue [love] unto us, that God propones Himself as the pattern of it.

† 5. To put before oneself as something to be done; to purpose. Also *absol. Obs.*

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IX. 221 He propones to punise thame with al seueritie conforme to Justice. *c* 1598 D. FERGUSON *Sc. Prov.* (1785) 25 Man propones, but God dispones.

Hence **Propo·ned** *ppl. a.*, put forward, proposed, 'given' as a datum; **Propo·ning** *vbl. sb.*, propounding; also **Propo·nement,** proposing, nomination; **Propo·ner,** one who propones, a proposer.

1533 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1044/1 Our sauiour ..vsed in the proponing therof vnto them diuers waies. 1535 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 420 Prayeng you to vse your discression in the proponing of the premisses to the Frensh king and the grete Master. 1553 CDL. POLE in Strype *Cranmer* (1840) II. App. lxxv. 924 Consysteng the whole..in the proponement of the parson, that hath to put furthe the same. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* D iv, When any odde nomber is propounded..multiplie that proponed nomber by it selfe, and it will make a square nomber. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 179 Some sentence of certaintie, touching this proponed controuersie. 1636 W. SCOT *Apol. Narr.* (Wodrow Soc.) 261 The proponers were quickly cut off.

Proponent (propo*ʊ*·nĕnt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōpōnent-em*, pres. pple. of *prōpōn-ĕre*: see prec.]

A. *adj.* That brings forward or proposes; that brings an action; that makes a proposal.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 121 And for mysterious things of faith rely On the proponent Heaven's authority. 1693 WOOD *Allegation* in *Life & Times* (O. H. S.) IV. 17 This party proponent doth alledge that..there was and is att present now in force an act of parliament, entituled [etc.]. 1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 82 The landlord..swore in the 'party proponent'.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who brings forward a proposition or argument; a propounder, a proposer.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* II. ix. 101 b, The Proponent who defendeth proposition or position. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 23 These two Ends considered Absolutely and Simply in themselves, are alike valued by their respective Proponents. 1693 WOOD *Allegation* in *Life & Times* (O. H. S.) IV. 17 This proponent doth farther allege, that the above-said book, entituled *Athenae Oxonienses*, Volume the Second, exhibited in this cause into the [Vice-Chancellor's] court..by the party promovent in this cause, was, and is printed..and published in London. 1702 KENNETT *Pres. St. Convocation* 11 The only proper Rule for interpreting the Speech of this Proponent. 1872 DE MORGAN *Budget of Paradoxes* 296 Attempt to enforce..doctrine, by arguments drawn from mathematics, the proponents being persons unskilled in that science.

2. A kind of government agent in Ceylon under the Dutch.

1860 BATEMAN *Life Bp. D. Wilson* I. xiii. 432, These men were selected by the Government, paid stipends varying from £60 to £100 per annum, and called 'Proponents'.

‖ **Propons** (prō·pŏnz). *Anat.* [mod. L., f. PRO-[1] + PONS 2.] (See quot.)

1890 in BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Propons*, term for the arciform fibres, where they cover the anterior pyramid of the medulla immediately below the pons Varolii.

‖ **Propo·ntis.** Also 7 Propontey. [L., a. Gr. *προποντις* the Sea of Marmora, lit. the 'Fore-sea', f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] 2 (*a*) + *πόντος* a sea, spec. the Euxine.] The ancient name of the Sea of Marmora; also *transf.* a narrow channel (obs.).

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* xi. (Arb.) 57 Over the Propontey to divers places in Asia. 1693 J. O. tr. *Cowley's Plants* (1795) 47 Thence thro' a small propontis carried down, It makes the port, and takes the left-side town. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* (1868) 121 Where the narrowing Symplegades whitened the straits of Propontis with spray.

Hence **Propo·ntic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Propontis; *sb.*, the Propontic Sea, Sea of Marmora.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 456 Like to the Ponticke Sea, Whose Icie Current..keepes due on To the Proponticke, and the Hellespont. 1604 DRAYTON *Ovul* 792 The Fowle from the Propontike Spring, Fild all th' Egean with their stemming Ores.

† **Propo·rt,** *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [Short for *proportion.*] = PROPORTION *sb.* 4.

1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 383 Nature formed my feate[r] beside in such proport as advanseth my pride.

† **Proport,** *sb.*[2], obs. Sc. f. PURPORT *sb.*, bearing.

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign., Proporcitas, proportio assisæ*, the proport, report, declaration, or deliverance of ane assise.

† **Propo·rt,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *proporte-r* (1118 in Godef.), variant of *porporter* to PURPORT.] *trans.* To convey to the mind, to express; to mean, to bear; to set forth; = PURPORT *v.* 1.

1387 *Charters &c. of Edinb.* (1871) 55 This Endenture.. contenis, proportis, and beris witnes. 1434 *Reg. St. Andrews* 506 (Jam.) The endenture maid at Saint Androwis ..proportis and berys witnes [etc.]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. Prol. 28 Virgile..heirintill, as Seruius gan proport, His hie knawledge he schawis. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 219 In siclike number as tha did proport. 1607 LEVER *Crucifix* lxxxv, Take for an instance him whom we proport. 1609 HUME *Admon. in Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 578 The historie proporteth that sum of theis byschopes seates wer aboue ane other. 1678 Sir G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xxi. § 4 (1699) 112 As our saids Laws and Acts of Parliament in themselves proports.

Proportion (prɒpō·ɹʃən), *sb.* [ME. *proporcioun*, a. F. *proportion* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōportiōn-em* proportion, comparative relation, analogy, app. derived from the phrase *prō portiōne* for or in respect of (his or its) share: see PORTION.]

I. In general use.

1. A portion or part in its relation to the whole; a comparative part, a share; sometimes simply, a portion, division, part.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 201 What sholde I tellen eche proporcion Of thynges whiche þat we werche vpon? 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 213 According to the working of euerie part in his proportion. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, I. ii. 304 Therefore let our proportions for these Warres Be soone collected. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 267 What proportion of maintenance shall be allowed her for Alimony? 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* v. 97 To demand their proportion in the spoils. 1700 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 291 Persons may come and petition for proportions to build on. 1721 *Fingall MSS.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 181 The major part of them embarked..about the beginning of December... Another proportion of them departed on the 22nd of December. 1822 CHALMERS *Sp. Gen. Assembly* Wks. XVI. 158 Each parish is divided into districts called proportions, over which an elder is appointed. 1841–4 EMERSON *Ess., Love* Wks. (Bohn) I. 72 The strong bent of nature is seen in the proportion which this topic.. usurps in the conversation of society. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 73 The sea which covers so large a proportion of the earth's surface.

2. The relation existing between things or magnitudes as to size, quantity, number or the like; comparative relation, ratio. Also *fig.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 45 þe proporcioun of þe roundenesse aboute of a cercle is to þe brede as is þe proporcioun of two and twenty to seuene. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* B j, Any .2. nombers maie haue comparison and proportion together, although thei be incommensurable. As .3. and .4. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* e vij, The Proportion of the Sun and Moon. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 33 They put in this Powder, to the proportion of a good spoonful for three Dishes or Cups full of Water. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xv. § 12 Finite of any Magnitude, holds not any proportion to Infinite. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iii. 94 The proportion of Births to Burials is found to be yearly as Fifty to Forty. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* VI. 124 It is part of our delight, to measure Our wages with the merit; and admire The close proportion. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* v. 46 To make this image as large as we please, and in any proportion to the object. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. x. § 3 The population exhibits, in every quinquennial census, a smaller proportion of births to the population.

b. In phrase *In* (†*for*, †*of*, †*with*) *proportion.* Const. *to, unto* (†*of*), *as.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 212 After that sche hath richesse, Her love is of proporcion. 1637 G. SANDYS *Trav.* II. 121 His tongue, of a marvelous length for proportion [*earlier edd.* for the p.] of his body. 1660 WILLSFORD *Scales Comm.* 1 In proportion unto the rate it may be sold for. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 196 There being no Nobleman (with proportion) so well recompenced as they, no not the Doge himself. 1683 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 134 Small wings in proportion to the bulk of its body. 1723 *Present St. Russia* I. 53 Ordering how many Men each Governor is to raise in Proportion of his Jurisdiction. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 28 The rooms large, but some of them not lofty in proportion. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. I. iii. § 9 Every truth is valuable in proportion as it is characteristic of the thing of which it is affirmed. 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. II. xii. 284 Margaret's credulity seems to have been in proportion to her hatred, and her hatred in proportion to her former friendship.

3. *transf.* A relation, other than of quantity, between things; comparison; analogy †an analogue.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.* Addit., *Analogia*, conueniency or proporcion, whose propretie is to conferre that which is doutfull, with that whiche is like to it, whiche is more certayne, to make it more playne. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 4 Neither is [there] in a humane Monarchie what hath not in their [i. e. the Bees'] Commonwelth some remarquable proportion. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 109 Oaths are but words, and words but Wind,..And hold with deeds proportion, so As shadows to a substance do. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 2 He was to be a Law-giver, as well as Moses; and, to carry on the Proportion yet farther, he thought fit to imitate him in the very Manner and Circumstance of delivering his Law. 1824 MACKINTOSH *Sp. in Ho. Com.* 15 June, Wks. 1846 III. 462 What proportion does the contest bear to the country in which it prevails?

4. (= *due* or *proper proportion.*) Due relation of one part to another; such relation of size, etc., between things or parts of a thing as renders the whole harmonious; balance, symmetry, agreement, harmony.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 132 Surely þo Chirche schal nevere be hool, byfore proporciouns of hir partis be broght ageyne by þis hevenly leche. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IV. iii. (1495) e vij/1 Dryenesse is the wǿrste qualyte whan it passyth the proporcyons in bodyes. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxix. 112 Well made of her membres, eche in his qualyte, and ryght egall in proporcyon, without eny dyfformyte. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. § 2 Choise seeketh rather proportion then absolute perfection of goodnesse. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xiii. 183 Let thy recreations..bear proportion with thine age. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 29 By Proportion I don't here mean, a Relation of Ratio's as the Geometricians do; but a Suitableness of parts, founded on the good Taste of the Architect. *a* 1832 MACKINTOSH *Revolution of* 1688 Wks. 1846 II. 11 He never obtained an importance which bore any proportion to his great abilities.

b. Phrase. *Out of proportion*, having no due relation in size, amount, etc. (usu. implying excess).

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 359 If the pomp exceed the character, and be carry'd out of proportion. 1831 KEBLE *Serm.* v. (1848) 116 Civil liberty..is usually allowed to fill a space in our thoughts, out of all proportion to that which it fills in the plan of happiness drawn out in the Bible.

5. Size or extent, relatively to some standard; relative size; also *fig.* extent, degree. *At full proportion*, full size, life size. **b.** Now only in *pl.* Dimensions. (Cf. DIMENSION *sb.* 2.)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 108 Here [the planets'] cercles more or lasse be, Mad after the proporcion Of therthe. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. I v, The proporcion of the lesse is much like vnto a water rose, otherwyse called nunefar. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 230 Cornelius à Lapide,.. whose volumes are swelled to that proportion that they take up halfe a Classis in our publique Libraries. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 26 It may in a certain proportion bee called Servitude, inasmuch as the Republick hath been constrained to assume the total Dominion and Government thereof. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* 125 Hung with pictures att full proportion of ye Royal family.

b. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 10 A few very moderate and easie documents of meet proportions. 1824–9 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 II. 155/1 Few..have beheld their contemporaries in those proportions in which they appeared a century later. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. iv. (1872) 59 Monsters, with some part of our being bearing the development of a giant, and others showing the proportions of a dwarf. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xvi. 96 The ice-crags.. seemed of gigantic proportions.

† **6.** The action of proportioning or making proportionate; proportionate estimate, reckoning, or adjustment. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 558 Whan he hadde founde his firste mansion He knew the remenant by proporcion. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 69 To make proportion for the expenses of this houshold for an hoole yere. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iv. 19 Would thou hadst lesse deseru'd, That the proportion both of thanks, and payment, Might haue beene mine.

7. Configuration, form, shape; a figure or image of anything. *Obs.* exc. *poet.*

a 1400–50 *Alexander* 5142 A purtrayour in preuate scho prays..to pas, And his personele proporcions in perchemen hire bring. 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Proporcyon of a beest, *lineature.* 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd.* xiii. 13 A croked pece of wodd..he geueth it some proporcion, fashioneth it after the similitude of a man, or maketh it like some beest. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. iv. 76 b, The figure following doth liuely represent vnto you the proportion of the Ianissary. 1678 WOOD *Life* II. 411 On the top of the said monument layes the short proportion of a man. 1842 TENNYSON *Two Voices* 20 She gave him mind, the lordliest Proportion, and..Dominion in the head and breast.

† **8.** A relative quantity, amount, or number *of.* (But the relativity is often not thought of.) *Obs.*

1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 22 It bringeth not forth Mules nor Asses, but of horse infinite proportions. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. (1903) 372 The Netherlanders, who make infinite proportions of hangings for houses. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, N.T.* 102 God..hath indued him with an infinite proportion thereof. 1652 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 12 They burnt a huge proportion of bisket.

II. In technical senses.

9. *Math.* An equality of ratios, esp. of geometrical ratios; a relation among quantities such that the quotient of the first divided by the second is equal to that of the third divided by the fourth.

This was formerly distinguished as *geometrical proportion* (see GEOMETRICAL *a.* 16) in contrast to *arithmetical proportion* (now obs.). *Harmonic(al* or †*musical proportion*: see HARMONIC *a.* 5 a.

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. 1 Abilite to lerne sciencez touchinge noumbres & proporciouns. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., Lycurgus..is most praised for that he didde chaunge the state of their common wealthe frome the proportion Arithmeticall to a proportion geometricall. 1571 DIGGES *Pantom., Math. Disc.* T j b, Any lyne or number is sayde to be diuided by extreame and meane proportion, when the diuision..is suche..that the whole line or number retayne the same proportion to the greater parte that the greater doth to the lesser. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 32 Two..Lines being given,..to find a third which shall be in proportion unto them. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s.v., Arithmetical Proportion is when Three or more Numbers proceed with the same difference. Geometrical, when Three or more Numbers have the same reason, or where every Number bears the same proportion to that which preceeds. 1798 HUTTON *Course Math.* (1810) I. 110 If two or more couplets of numbers have equal ratios, or equal differences, the equality is named Proportion, and the terms of the ratios Proportionals. 1859 BARN. SMITH *Arith. & Algebra* (ed. 6) 432 Proportion is the relation of equality subsisting between two ratios.

b. *Arith.* The rule or process by which, three quantities being given, a fourth may be found which is in the same ratio to the third as the second is to the first, or (what is the same thing) in the same ratio to the second that the third is to the first; the rule of three.

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* (1575) 240 The rule of Proportions .. whose vse is, by three numbers knowen, to find another vnknowen. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4) s.v., In Arithmetick, the Rule of proportion..is otherwise called the Golden Rule, or Rule of Three. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 129 In 1624 he transported into France the Rule of Proportion, having a little before been invented by Edm. Gunter of Gresham Coll. 1827 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 50 *Compound Proportion*, is a rule by means of which the student may resolve such questions as require two or more statings in simple proportion.

10. *Mus.* and *Pros.* † **a.** Metrical or musical rhythm or harmony; hence, an air, tune, melody. Cf. MEASURE *sb.* 16, 17. *Obs.*

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 43 Orpheus..of me wolde never take hede Nor of his armonye oo poynt me teche In musical proporcyon rymes to lede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. x. 43 Orpheus of Trace..Playand proportionis and springis dyvyne Apon his harp. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. i. (Arb.) 79 And this our proportion Poeticall resteth in fiue points: Staffe, Measure, Concord, Scituation and figure all which shall be spoken of in their places.

b. Ratio (of duration of notes, rates of vibration, lengths of strings, etc.): = sense 2, in specific applications.

1609 DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 59 The Art of Musicke doth onely consider of the Proportion of inequalitie. 1658 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* vi. 20 Notes in Musick have two Names, one for Tune, the other for Time or Proportion of sounds.. Here (according to the ordinary Proportion of Time) we account two Minums to the Semibrief. 1694 HOLDER *Treat. Harmony* v. (1731) 86 It was said..that Mercurius's Lyre was strung with four Chords, having those Proportions, 6, 8, 9, 12. 1898 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v., This system of proportion was used not only with reference to intervals but also to the comparative length of notes.

11. *Chem.* = PROPORTIONAL B. 3.

1863–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 454 Davy..introduced the word proportion as a substitute for Dalton's word atom. *Ibid.*, Every..symbol is used to express one atomic proportion of its particular element.

Proportion (prɒpō·ɹʃən), *v.* [ME. a. OF. *proporcioner* (14th c. in Littré), mod.F. *proportionner*, ad. med.L. *prōportiōn-āre* (Bede), f. *prōportio*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To adjust in proper proportion *to* something else, as to size, quantity, number, etc.; to make proportionate. Const. *to, with.*

1449 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 All the remnaunt of the tymbr..shall be wele and covenably proporcioned after the scantelons of tymbr above writen. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* vi. (1885) 120 Ffor aftir that [his expenses] nedith his reuenues to be proporcioned. 1530 PALSGR. 668/1, I proporcyon a thynge, I make it of juste measure and quantyte, *je proporcionne.* 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xi. 46 A Gunner ought..to proportion his Charge according to the thinnest side of the Metal. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* i. 5 To proportion the means to the end. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Briery Creek* ii. 39 You can proportion your supply exactly to the demand. 1862 MILL *Utilit.* 85 The punishment should be proportioned to the offence.

2. To adjust or regulate the proportions of; to fashion, form, shape. *Obs.* exc. in PROPORTIONED.

a 1380 [see PROPORTIONED *ppl. a.* 2]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3053 Coruyn by crafte, coloured with honde, Proporcionet pertly with painteres deuyse. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 210 Thow must square & proporcioun þy bred clene & evenly. 1641 J. TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* 157 A Painter .. had illfavouredly proportioned a Hen. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 144 To proportion the heat to such a temperate degree, that there be neither too much nor too little. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 317 For thus proportioning the Divisions in the Semi-circle, you may proportion the Divisions and Sub-divisions of Hours upon the Dyal Plane.

† **3.** To bear a due proportion to, to be in proportion to; to correspond to, to equal. *Obs.*

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, III. vi. 134 Bid him therefore consider of his ransome, which must proportion the losses we haue borne, the subiects we haue lost. 1652 SPARKE *Prim. Devot.* (1663) 417 Yet here her offering proportioneth her ability. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 271 Their Success had proportion'd their Virtues.

†4. To divide into proportionate parts; to measure or mete out; to distribute in due shares.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 27 The sayde chancellour.. shal also proporcion the sayd religious houses and other the premisses in ten partes. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxvii. (1739) 163 The Judges itinerant had their time proportioned out to every County. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 87 ¶ 9 Proportioning the Glory of a Battle among the whole Army. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 41 They agree to proportion their forces.

†5. To allot or assign (a thing) to a person as his portion; to apportion. Also, To assign (a person) to a lot or portion. *Obs.*

1581 Pettie *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 96 They doe all things better then we are able to proportion them out unto them. 1612 Sir R. Dudley in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 7 *note*, Uppon the sale of those landes, I have proportioned a thankefull gratuity for you. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 69 Samuel proportioned Eliab to a Crowne at first sight. *a* 1711 Ken *Submission* Poems (1857) 39 They'll me proportion what for me is best. 1798 Craig in Owen *Wellesley's Desp*, (1877) 599 It will then remain to proportion its several parts into the different branches.

†6. To compare or estimate proportionately; to estimate the relative proportions of. *Obs.*

1591 *Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 62, I doubt not when your Highnesse sees my prize, You may proportion all their former pride. 1616 B. Jonson *Forrest, To Penshurst* 99 Now, Penshurst, they that will proportion thee With other edifices. 1635 Quarles *Embl.* IV. ii, Fond earth! Proportion not my seeming love To my long stay. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. I. ii. 200 To think with more Equality of Nature, and to proportion her Defects a little better.

Proportionabi·lity. *rare.* [f. next: see -ITY.] = Proportionableness.

1697 J. Sergeant *Solid Philos.* 177 Take Divisibility.. Proportionability, Impenetrability, Space, Place, etc. They have, all.., some nice Formality,..which distinguishes them.

Proportionable (prop*ō*·ɹʃənăb'l), *a.* [a. OF. **proporcionable* (assumed from the adv. in *-ment*, 1319 in Godef.), or ad. med.L. **prōportiōnābil-is* (assumed from the adv. *-iter*, Boeth.), f. *prōportiōnāre* (see Proportion *v.*) + *-ābilis*, -able.]

1. That is in due proportion; corresponding, agreeable, commensurate, proportional. **a.** in number, amount, or degree.

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. metr. ix. 87 (Add. MS.), þou byndest þe elementz by noumbres proporcionables [*Camb. MS.* porcionables]. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 83 The partys of thys body be not proporcyonabul one to a nother. 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, II. ii. 125 For vs to leuy power Proportionable to th'enemy, is all impossible. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxii. (1739) 123 No more of the Inheritance can be conveyed to any of the Children, than their proportionable parts will amount unto. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. I. i. 181 Twenty pillars six fathoms round of a proportionable height. 1808 J. Webster *Nat. Philos.* 17 The cohesive force is proportionable to the number of parts that touch each other. *a* 1832 Mackintosh *Life Sir T. More* Wks. 1846 I. 424 When his son with a wife, three daughters with their husbands, and a proportionable number of grandchildren, dwelt under his patriarchal roof.

†b. in nature, quality, or function: Suitable, appropriate; consonant, agreeable; analogous. *Obs.*

1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* F ij, They .. engendre bludde specialye proportionable to the harte. 1577 *Test. 12 Patriarchs* (1706) 107 The Lord maketh a mans body proportionable to the spirit that he will put into it, and fitteth the spirit to the ability of the body. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* iv. 61 They have their species perpetuated by a spiritual substance proportionable to seed. 1754 Edwards *Freed. Will* II. iii. (1762) 44 That it has a Cause proportionable and agreeable to the Effect.

†2. *Music.* Of sounds: Having definite relations of pitch and length. *Obs.*

1597 Morley *Introd. Mus.* Annot., Franchinus Gausurius [defineth music] thus .. A disposition of proportionable soundes deuided by apt distances. 1604 T. Wright *Passions* v. iv. 197 The harmony of proportionable voices and instruments, which feed the eare. 1644 Bulwer *Chiron.* 105 They had an artificiall manner of clapping their hands, to a certain measure or proportionable tune.

3. Well-proportioned; symmetrical. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1625 K. Long tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. viii. 267 Nature having done her part in giving him proportionable lineaments. 1658 *Hist. Christina Alessandra Qu. Swedland* 353 She [Christina]..is in her gestures and motion most comely and gracious, of a proportionable stature, a fresh colour, and royall features. 1750 G. Hughes *Barbadoes* 65 It is about eight inches long and every way proportionable.

†4. Relative, comparative. *Obs.*

1654 Fuller *Two Serm.* 34 Each of them [Jeremiah and Baruch] by proportionable Computation, above sixtie yeares of age. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* II. xvii. § 10 The Consequences that we have deduced touching the proportionable Gravity of Water and Quicksilver. 1787 R. Burrowes in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* Pref. 12 The proportionable density of the air at its various distances from the surface of the earth.

†5. Capable of being proportioned. *Obs. rare*—1.

1653 Milton *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 355 The Laborer; worthy somtimes of single, somtimes of double Honor, not proportionable by Tithes.

†B. as *adv.* = Proportionably. *Obs.*

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 863 That there be nothing found out of order or lacking..which euery shippe proportionable to her burthen ought to haue. 1645 Evelyn *Diary* Feb., A roome of about 10 paces long, proportionable broad and high. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* 16 Add..of all proportionable to the quart of Wine contained in the Vessel.

Propo·rtionableness. [f. prec. + -ness.] The quality of being proportionable.

1633 T. Adams *Exp. 2 Peter* ii. 17 This is the proportionableness of it [i. e. punishment]. 1698 Atterbury *Serm.* (1723) I. 240 The fitness and proportionableness of their exceeding great recompence. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) II. II. I. iii. 96 There is found generally an exact Proportionableness,..and Regularity in all their Passions.

Proportionably (prop*ō*·ɹʃənăbli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] In a proportionable manner or degree; in proportion; proportionately.

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxx. (1859) 34 He shal be punisshed proporcionably after the tyme of his absence. 1551 Recorde *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 61 Euery one of the Paralleles in the heauen hath a lyke circle in the earthe proportionably drawen. 1656 Hobbes *Six Lessons* Wks. 1845 VII. 221 Equal bodies of the same nature weigh proportionably to their magnitudes. 1781 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xx. (1869) I. 554 As he gradually advanced in the knowledge of truth, he proportionably declined in the practice of virtue. 1857 Toulmin Smith *Parish* 107 Every occupier within the Parish is declared proportionably liable to contribute labour to the needful work.

Proportional (prop*ō*·ɹʃənăl), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōportiōnāl-is*: see Proportion *sb.* and -al. So F. *proportionnel*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to proportion; relative; also, Used in obtaining proportions.

Proportional compasses, compasses having two opposite pairs of legs turning on a common pivot, which is adjustable in a slide, so as to vary the distance apart of the points at each end in any desired ratio. *Proportional scales*: see quot. 1710; also called *logarithmical scales*.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. 6 b, To wey..the knitting together, the proportional agreement, the beautie, and vse in the frame of mannes body. *Ibid.* III. ii. (1634) 263 In these formes of speech standeth a proportionall relation. 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* d iv b, The Proportionall, and Paradoxall Compasses (of me Inuented). 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* II. xxviii. § 1 These Relations depending on the Equality and Excess of the same simple Idea, in several Subjects, may be called..Proportional. 1690 [see Logarithmetical]. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Proportional Scales*, sometimes also called *Logarithmetical*; are only the Artificial Numbers or Logarithms placed on Lines, for the ease and advantage of Multiplying, Dividing, Extracting Roots, &c. by means of Compasses or by Sliding-Rules. 1807 T. Young *Lect. Nat. Philos.* I. x. 103 Proportional compasses are..of great use in reducing lines and figures to a different scale.

2. That is in proportion, or in due proportion; having (suitable) comparative relation; corresponding, esp. in degree or amount.

[1396: implied in Proportionally 1.] 1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* b iij, With some proportionall consideration for our time, and being. *a* 1631 Donne *Serm.* xxvii. (1640) 270 We must hold them so as may be analogall, proportional, agreeable to the Articles of our Faith. 1669 Stavnred *Fortif.* 6 To draw the Proportional Dimension of a Regular Fort of 6 Sides. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, III. viii. 74 Animated with a zeal in defence of their religion proportional to the fierceness with which it had been attacked. 1831 Brewster *Optics* vii. 70 Taking as much of each as seem to be proportional to the rays in each coloured space. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Dec. 3/1 Proportional Representation finds little favour with the caucuses.

3. *Math.* That is in proportion (sense 9); having the same or a constant ratio.

1570 Billingsley *Euclid* v. def. 7. 131 Magnitudes which are in one and the selfe same proportion, are called Proportionall. 1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* I. xxiii. (1636) 51 Multiply the two numbers..the one by the other,..the square Root of the Product shall be the meane Proportionall number betwixt them. 1706 W. Jones *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 66 The Powers of Proportionals are also Proportional. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1810) I. 309 Three quantities are said to be Proportional, when the ratio of the first to the second is equal to the ratio of the second to the third. *Ibid.* 319 Triangles which have their Sides Proportional, are Equiangular. 1851 Richardson *Geol.* v. (1855) 87 The planes of a crystal are said to be similar when their corresponding edges are proportional. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 15 The heat is proportional to the square of the velocity.

b. *Proportional circles, radii, spirals*: see quots.

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Proportional Spirals*, are such Spiral Lines as the Rhumb Lines on the Terrestrial Globe, which because they make equal Angles with every Meridian, must also..make equal Angles with the Meridians in the Stereographick Projection on the Plane of the Equator. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 21 When these two circles [representing wheel and pinion] are so placed that their outer rims shall touch each other, a line drawn from the centre of the one to the centre of the other is termed the *line of centres*; and the radii of the two circles the *proportional radii*. These circles are sometimes called *proportional circles*, but by mill-wrights in general *pitch lines*.

B. *sb.* †1. That which is proportional; a proportionate part; a relative quantity. *Obs.*

c 1386 Chaucer *Franklin. T.* 550 And hise proporcioneles conuenientz For hise equacions in euery thyng. 1856 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVII. I. 177 We get blighted leaves and straw, with too small a proportional of corn.

2. *Math.* One of the terms of a proportion.

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* c iij b, Betwene two lines giuen, finde two middle proportionals, in Continuall proportion. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 168 If there be never so many continual proportionals..their differences will be proportional to them. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 131 Let the Number of geometrical Proportionals be increas'd..and let the arithmetic Proportionals be in like Manner increased. 1798 Hutton *Course Math.* (1810) I. 110 The four proportionals, 4, 2, 6, 3 are set thus, 4 : 2 :: 6 : 3, which means, that 4 is to 2 as 6 is to 3; or thus, 4 : 2 = 6 : 3, or thus, $\frac{4}{2} = \frac{6}{3}$, both which mean, that the ratio of 4 to 2, is equal to the ratio of 6 to 3. 1827 *Ibid.* 119 The mean proportional between two numbers is the square root of their product.

†3. *Chem.* The smallest combining proportion of a chemical element or compound; a combining equivalent; the proportional weight of an atom or molecule. *Obs.*

1825 Brande *Man. Pharm.* 204 In its dry state it [Nitric Acid] consists of—5 proportionals of Oxygen..1 [of] Nitrogen. 1832 G. R. Porter *Porcelain & Gl.* 164 Silica, boracic acid, and oxide of lead, brought together in single proportionals. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 435 The decomposition..furnishes a good illustration of the theory of definite proportionals, both in volumes and weights. 1855 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (ed. 3) 181 No compound is known in which twenty-seven grains of iron will combine with two proportionals or sixteen grains of oxygen.

Propo·rtionalism. [f. prec. adj. + -ism.]

1. *Chem.* The system, doctrine, or fact of the combination of elements in definite proportions.

1854 Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 34 The laws of definite chemical proportionalism.

2. The theory or practice of the proportional representation of electors in parliamentary and other elections.

1885 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 252 A sneaking kindness for proportionalism.

So **Propo·rtionalist, a.** one who plans the proportions of anything; a designer; **b.** an advocate of proportional representation. Also *attrib.*

1857 Ruskin *Two Paths* iv. 147 Will your architectural proportions do as much?..You are of use, certainly; but, pardon me, only as builders—not as proportionalists. 1884 *Q. Rev.* July 32 According to the strict proportionalist theory, seventy or eighty [members] would come to its share. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 19 Dec. 5/4 For two or three nights this week the Proportionalists had it all to themselves. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Mar. 7/1 The anomalies, as they seem to proportionalists, in our electoral system.

Proportionality (prop*ō*·ɹʃənæ·lĭti). [ad. F. *proportionnalité* (14th c. in Littré), or ad. med.L. *prōportiōnālitās*, *-tātem* (Scotus Erigena, 875): see Proportional and -ity.] The quality, character, or fact of being proportional.

1569 J. Sanford tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 25 b, In like manner of proportion and proportionallitie, and of their species. 1701 Grew *Cosm. Sacra* II. ii. § 5, 37 All Sense, so far as Grateful, dependeth upon the Equality, or the Proportionality, of the Motion or Impression which is made. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 152 Proportionality of the effect to its cause. 1854 Scoffern in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 31 Definite proportionality [i. e. the fact of combining in definite proportions] may be said to be the..characteristic of chemical combinations.

Proportionally (prop*ō*·ɹʃənăli), *adv.* [f. Proportional + -ly 2.]

1. In a proportional manner or degree; in proportion; in due proportion.

1396 in *Scott. Antiq.* XIV. 217, ii. c. [marks] to be payit in the yhere at four termes proportionaly. 1434 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* IV. 567 *note*, Ten markkis of usuale mone of oure realme at twa termes of the yheir proporcionaly. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* III. iv. (1634) 297 Such a bitternesse of sorrow..as may proportionally answer the greatnesse of the fault. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* I. xx. F iv, Yf a parallele line be drawen to any side of a triangle it shal proportionallye cut the two other sides. 1660 R. Coke *Justice Vind., Arts & Sc.* 23 Harmonical proportion increases neither equally nor proportionally: nor do the extremes added or multiplied produce the like number with the mean. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 343 An elephant's tooth, three ells long and proportionally thick, was found on the banks of the Saal. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* iv. 82 His friendships were keen and his hostilities more than proportionally bitter.

†b. With due or proper proportion of parts; in a well-proportioned manner. *Obs.*

1652 Gataker in Fuller *Abel Rediv., Whitaker* (1867) II. 115 A body well compact, tall of stature, upright, proportionally limbed. 1766 Clarke in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 78 They are..as well and proportionally made as ever I saw people in my life.

†2. Correspondingly, analogously. *Obs.*

a 1614 Donne *Biathanatos* iii. (1644) 29, I presume them to speak proportionally and analogally to their other doctrine.

†Propo·rtionary. *Obs. rare.* [f. Proportion *sb.* + -ary 1.]

1. Proportional arrangement of parts; proportion.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* Prol. (1533) 2 So to worke yt after his proporcynary That yt may appere to all that shall yt se A thynge ryght perfyte, and well in eche degre.

2. One who is skilled in computing proportions.

1627 *Pres. St. Eng.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 555 Professors of a rare and strange art or science, who are called Proportionaries... If you deliver one of these a bone of your grandfather's little finger, he will by that find the proportion of all his bones, and tell you to an inch how tall a man your grandfather was.

Proportionate (prop*ō*·ɹʃənĕt), *a.* [ad. late L. *prōportiōnāt-us* proportioned, f. *prōportiōn-em* Proportion + *-ātus*: see -ate 2.]

1. Proportioned, adjusted in proportion; that is in due proportion. (In early use const. as *pa. pple.*)

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. ii. (Tollem. MS.), The hed schulde be mene betwene greet and lytele, and proporcionate in quantite to oþer membris [L. *ad alia membra in quantitate proportionatum*]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 181 A goode habitude of the mynde is signifiede when the membres be welle proporcionate as vn to figure, coloure [etc.]. 1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 232 No more is your giuing proportionate to my liking. 1605 Timme *Quersit.* I. iv. 18 The which..are so proportionate together..that a manifest signe..is found in this contrarietie. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 16 If they be reciprocally equal, the Head is called Proportionate. 1758 Johnson *Idler* No. 1 ¶ 10 Ponderous bodies forced into velocity move with violence

proportionate to their weight. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xxv. 403 That the justly proportionate character was the one for which we finally reserved our admiration.

†b. Adequately adapted; adequate. *Obs.*

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 115 The speaking to them, in the singular Number, is very proportionat to their proper names. 1680 ALLEN *Peace & Unity* Pref. 4 When circumstances rendred others [institutions] more accomodate and more proportionate to his end.

†2. Corresponding, analogous. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ii. 37 It is wished .. that some iudges, proportionat to those of the Græcian Games, (who alwayes..pulled downe the statues erected, if they exceeded the true symmetry of the victors) had giuen such exorbitant fictions their desert.

†3. *Mus.* = PERFECT *a.* 10a. *Obs.*

1609 DOULAND *Ornithop. Microl.* 46 The Proportionate [tact] is that, whereby three Semibreefes are vttered against one (as in a Triple).

Proportionate (prɒpō·ɹʃənēit), *v.* [f. prec.: see -ATE[3] 3; and cf. med.L. *prōportiōnāre*.]

1. *trans.* To make proportionate or proportional (*to* something); to adjust in proportion; = PROPORTION *v.* 1.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* a j, Proportionating to the Sommes bequeathed, the Contributions of eche part. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. iv. 116 Salt, sulphur, and mercurie,.. being.. equally ballanced and proportionated,..make gold to be incorruptible. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 78 The number of the conuiuals at priuate entertainments exceeded not nine, nor were vnder three, proportionating themselues vnto the Graces and Muses. *c* 1790 IMISON *Sch. Art* I. 284 To proportionate them, so as to measure time regularly, is the design of calculation. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* (1858) 253 A true inward symmetry, what one calls an architectural harmony, reigns in it, proportionates it all.

†2. To be proportionate or in proportion to, to correspond to; = PROPORTION *v.* 3. *Obs.*

1579–80 [see *ppl. a.* below]. 1606 J. KING *Serm. Sept.* 30 Nether doth the former of these proportionate, nor the latter import any such presbytery as is now exacted. 1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 487 Our powers of gratitude proportionated our cause. *Ibid.* 523 Their sufferings have at least proportionated their Constancy.

†3. To mete out in due proportion; to allot, apportion; = PROPORTION *v.* 4, 5. *Obs.*

1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* i § 2 (1727) 30 He proportionates out our trials, and supplies us with a remedy.

†4. To form in its full proportions; to mould, fashion; = PROPORTION *v.* 2. *Obs.*

1643 R. O. *Man's Mort.* i. 1 When God had moulded, formed, and compleatly proportionated Adam out of the Dust of the ground.

Hence **Propo·rtionated** *ppl. a.* = PROPORTIONED; **Propo·rtionating** *vbl. sb.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 41 If they found [the child] fair, and well proportionated of all his Limbs and strong. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* v. ii. (1620) 189 This..might haue much power in the proportionating of both their natures alike. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ii. § 1 (1622) 198 Some fitting and proportionated Obiect. 1713 DERHAM *Phys. Theol.* IV. iii. 127, I am clearly of Dr. Willis's opinion that the Use of the Ear-drum is chiefly for the proportionating Sounds.

Propo·rtionately, *adv.* [f. PROPORTIONATE *a.* + -LY [2].] In a proportionate manner or degree; in or with due proportion; correspondingly.

1659 PEARSON *Creed* xii. (1820) I. 599 To this internal perfection is added a proportionately happy condition. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 13 That Brightness and Splendor.. is presented to us more proportionately to our Capacities and Faculties. 1847 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (1867) I. 11 It would be impossible for all to be arranged duly and proportionately. 1877 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* ix. (1878) 152 It always rains, and the vegetation is proportionately dense and luxuriant.

Propo·rtionateness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being proportionate.

1654–66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 798 The length of the trouble would have been abundantly repaired by the.. proportionateness of the Present. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 2 The fitness and proportionateness of these obiective Impressions, Qualities, or Motions, upon their respective Faculties. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trin.* ix. 153 The sentimentalist..his feeling is not real; or if real has no proportionateness to a right activity.

†**Propo·rtionative,** *a. Obs. rare*—[0]. [f. as PROPORTIONATE *a.* + -IVE.] Analogical. Hence †**Propo·rtionatively** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1].

1751 R. SHIRRA in *Remains* (1850) 59 [Jesus Christ] is the Word analogically, or proportionatively, in so far as he is like unto and bears the resemblance both of a mental and vocal word.

†**Propo·rtionator.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [Agent-n. in L. form from PROPORTIONATE *v.*] One who proportionates.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 567 Why then doe those bad proportionators allow the earth to lye so high, and yet deny the water to mount higher?

Proportioned (prɒpō·ɹʃənd), *ppl. a.* [f. PROPORTION *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Adjusted in due proportion, measure, or relation to something else; proportionate.

1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 111 The neast of the Halcyon..is so proportioned to the bird, as if it were sowed to her body. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 27 In Æqui-angled Triangles all their Sides are proportioned. 1722 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 681 Even when they have little prospect of being able to make any proportioned returns. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 550 Great as were the offences of this bad man, his punishment was fully proportioned to them.

2. Formed with 'proportions'; composed.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 736 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 74 Riht as i schulde [take] a medecyn Proporcionȝ, boþe good and fyn. 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund* I. 987 A bettir compact was ther noon a-lyue Nor proporcyownyd of fetures nor stature. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 158 A cocke framed and proportioned after this sort. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Praise Drunkenness* Wks. 1730 I. 37 How strong and large are his legs, fit and proportion'd to support the noble structure above! 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* ii, Another apartment, proportioned like the first.

b. In combination with an adverb, as *evil-, ill-, well-proportioned.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 184 The hors of bras..so heigh was, and so brood and long So wel proporcioned for to been strong. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 12 Sche that hed ane veil proportionet body, hed euil proportionet feit. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* II. Wks. 1856 I. 25 My fortunes [are] as ill proportioned as your legs. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 62 It shall teach me not to think too highly of well-proportioned clay. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy Challenger* I. ii. 113 Supported by low, gracefully proportioned..arches.

Propo·rtioner. [f. PROPORTION *v.* + -ER [1].] One who or that which proportions.

1590 GREENE *Roy. Exch.* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 260 The Poet calls them inequall proportioners of duetie. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 183 A Measurer, or Proportioner of monethes. 1901 *Academy* 9 Mar. 211/2 Earth is the great corrector of values, the great proportioner.

Propo·rtioning, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING [1].] The action of the verb PROPORTION relation or adjustment of proportions.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* *iv b, In sundry his other accountes, ..Measurynges, and proportionynges. 1641 SIR S. D'EWES in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 304 The House of Commons hath done no more in rating and proportioning of these particular Summs upon your Lordships, than by the ancient Rights and Privileges of Parliament they might. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* V. § 15 (1855) 151 The proportioning of the columns and wall of the lower story is so lovely and so varied. 1883 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* XLIII. 15 A rational proportioning of work and relaxation.

†**Propo·rtionist.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PROPORTION *sb.* + -IST.] = PROPORTIONARY 2.

1645 J. BOND *Occasus Occid.* 14 As that proportionist did draw the whole stature of Hercules by the print of his foot.

Propo·rtionless, *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] That is without or is wanting in proportion; disproportionate, shapeless.

1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* (Chaucer Soc.) 86 What was she, but a sapless seer stock without verdure;.. a proportionless feature without favour? 1775 R. CHANDLER *Trav. Greece* (1825) II. 190 An example of the rough outline and proportionless sketch from which it [Art] rose to correctness, precision, and sublime expression.

†**Propo·rtionly,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. as prec. + -LY [2].] = PROPORTIONATELY.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* k ij b, It is proporcionly made to the yerde.

Proportionment (prɒpō·ɹʃənmənt). [f. PROPORTION *v.* + -MENT.] The act or fact of proportioning; proportional distribution, adjustment, or arrangement; †allotment.

1697 MOLYNEUX *Let. to Locke* 20 July, Locke's Lett. (1708) 230, I doubt not but Sir R. Blackmore..had a regard to the proportionment of the projective motion to the *vis centripeta.* 1827 FONBLANQUE *Eng. under 7 Administr.* (1837) I. 77 The proportionment of the fine..for certain offences is left to the discretion of the Magistrate. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 138/2 The machinery..in every particular of its structure, proportionment, and disposition, manifests the most eminent engineering ability.

‖ **Propos** (propo). [F. *propos*, f. *proposer* to PROPOSE, formed to represent L. *prōpositum.*] A proposition, thesis, statement.

1890 STIRLING *Gifford Lect.* xiv. 282 It is decidedly in contradiction of his [Hume's] own propos that 'anything may be the cause or the effect of anything'.

Propos, variant of PROPOSE *sb. Obs.*

Proposable (prɒpōu·zăb'l), *a.* [f. PROPOSE *v.* + -ABLE. Cf. F. *proposable* (18th c. in Littré).] Capable of being or fit to be proposed.

1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 141 Candidates actual or proposable. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. App. vii. 216 The ends which are proposable to the man, or attainable by him.

Proposal (prɒpōu·zăl). [f. PROPOSE *v.* + -AL.]

†1. The action, or an act, of putting before the mind; setting forth, propounding, statement. *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. x. (1712) 30 That which all men admit true, though upon the proposal of another, is undoubtedly to be termed true. 1667 *Decay Chr. Piety* i. P 10 This clear proposal of the promises is most proper to encourage and inspirit our endeavours. 1678 OWEN *Mind of God* ii. 33 Revelation is the Discovery of anything, whether by the proposal of it unto us, or [etc.].

†2. A putting forward of something for acceptance; an offer. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

1673 *Lady's Call.* I. v. § 4 God's Laws..are inforced upon us by the proposals both of punishments and rewards.

b. *spec.* An offer of marriage.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVII. iii, Some Person hath made Proposals to Miss Western, which the Ladies of the Family approve. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* II. vii, Her unaffected aversion to the proposals she had received. 1900 EL. GLYN *Visits Eliz.* (1906) 53 Dearest Mamma,—I have had a proposal! Isn't it too interesting?

3. The action, or usually (now always) an act, of proposing something to be done; an offer to do something; a scheme or plan of action proposed.

1657 CROMWELL *Sp.* 20 Apr. in *Carlyle*, What comes from the Parliament in the exercise of their Legislative power, as this Proposal does. 1748 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 158 A Committee..to receive proposals for doing the whole work...And that all proposals be given in to them ..sealed up. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 382 A proposal of annulling all the taxes. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. § 4. 493 The proposal was welcomed with..enthusiasm.

b. *Law.* (See quot.)

1848–83 *Wharton's Law Lex., Proposal*, a statement in writing of some special matter submitted to the consideration of a chief clerk in the Court of Chancery, pursuant to an order made upon an application *ex parte*, or a decretal order of the court. It is either for maintenance of an infant, appointment of a guardian, placing a ward of the court at the university, or in the army, or [etc.].

4. *Comb.*, as *proposal-form*; **proposal-paper,** a paper proposing a person for admission to a society, club, or the like.

1859 LANG *Wand. India* 25 A lady .. actually sent round a proposal paper in her own handwriting, and by one of her own servants. She failed of course.

Pro·posant. *rare.* [a. F. *proposant*, prop. pres. pple. of *proposer* to PROPOSE: see -ANT.] One who proposes or offers himself as a candidate.

1813 A. BRUCE *Life Alex. Morus* ii. 21 All examiners of proposants for the Ministry. 1833 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XLIX. 50 [Among the Protestants in French Switzerland] the theological student, after certain examinations, is received as a *Proposant* by those who exercise the pastoral office, and employed as a lay-helper, or catechist, in their parishes.

†**Propo·se,** *sb. Obs.* Also 5 **propos,** 6 *St.* **propoise.** [ME. *propos*, a. F. *propos* (13th c.), f. *proposer* to PROPOSE, under the influence of L. *prōposit-um* a thing proposed. See PURPOSE *sb.*]

1. Something proposed for discussion; a subject; a proposition.

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxvii[i]. 2, Y shal speke proposes fram þe bygynnyng. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 54 þe propos, Whas doctrine any folowiþ, his disciple he is. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 1 All the propose which then was discoursed vpon, was Musicke.

2. Purpose, intention.

1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 51 We remayne in the said propose. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* I. xxix. 87 Thy propos thou ought to say or shewe vnto few folke. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 228 The commynaltee of the tounne ..were in propos & wylle for to yeld the toun & themself ouer to the kyng Zodyus. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Kiv, The kinge of nothinge changedt his propose. 1573–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 329 The said Robert..is on propoise ..to purches ane licence to depart. *a* 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VII. xxiv. § 17 If to withdraw any mite of that which is but in propose only bequeathed,..be a sin.

3. A proposal; something proposed to be done.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. xxiv. 1112 When the same men.. gaue their accord now also to this propose. 1673 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 265 After the Maior hath made his proposes every Alderman..shall have liberty to speake. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Erle Robert's Mice* 10 John the Saint, Who maketh oft propos full queint...cried To Matthew..Come frame us now some..playsant rhime on yonder mice.

Propose (prɒpōu·z), *v.* [a. F. *propose-r* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *pro-*, PRO-[1] + *poser*, POSE *v.*[1]; substituted for L. *prōpōn-ĕre* (cf. COMPOSE): see PROPONE and cf. PURPOSE *v.*]

†1. *trans.* To put forth, hold forth, or present to view or perception; to exhibit. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

1548 GEST *Pr. Masse* in H. G. Dugdale *Life* (1840) App. I. 117 Let us not grossely beholde the breade and cuppe proposed and set before our eyes, but in faythe consydere the lambe of God. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* To Rdr., The worth of a skilfull and worthy translator is to obserue the sentences, figures, and formes of speech proposed in his author. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* 33 The crosse .. the bishop ..at Ester doth take forth, and propose it to the people to be adored. 1644 QUARLES *Barnabas & B.* 33 Propose to mine eyes the evilness of my days. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIV. x. § 2, I will that [the decree] be openly proposed in a table of brass.

2. To put forward or present for consideration, discussion, solution, imitation, or other treatment; to put before the mind, bring to one's notice, call attention to; to set forth, state, propound.

The pa. pple. *proposed* following a sb. has sometimes the force of 'in question': see quot. 1715.

c 1430 [see PROPOSED]. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 6404 Sin more ther-of I can noght propose, Of-fors moste I here take rest and repose. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 795 That they might resort to his presence to propose their entent, of which they would to none other person any part disclose. 1580 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 401 Yeelding the choyce..to the discretion of the Ladie Flauia who thus proposed her minde. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. v. 20 Where I stand, kneele thou, Whil'st I propose the selfe-same words to thee, Which (Traytor) thou would'st haue me answer to. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. v. (1686) 13 God .. hath proposed the World unto our Knowledge. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 76 When the Priest proposes to God the people's necessities. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 428 To define the Periodic time of any Planet about the Sun. Let the Planet proposed be observed in the Node. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 90 P 3 The poets..whom he proposed to himself for his models. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 The Church did but take into her service, and propose a fitting object to, an impulse which will vent itself in some form or other. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* Pref. 22 Nature herself does not give an answer to the riddles which she proposes.

†b. To set before one's mind as something to be expected; to look for, anticipate; in quot. 1588,

'to look forward to, to be ready to meet' (Schmidt), to face, confront. *Obs.*

1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* II. i. 80 A thousand deaths would I propose, To atchieue her. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 146, I propose not meerely to my selfe, The pleasures such a beauty brings with it. 1670 Cotton *Espernon* Apology, What utility may we not propose to our selves, from the great examples both of the one, and the other? 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 47 The men could propose nothing to themselves but hardships. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. iii, The pleasure he proposed in seeing her married.

c. To set before one (usually, before oneself) as an aim, end, or object; to put forward as something to be attained.

1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 110 But ere we could arriue the Point propos'd, Cæsar cride, Helpe me Cassius, or I sinke. 1602 — *Ham.* III. ii. 204 What to our selues in passion we propose, The passion ending, doth the purpose lose. 1638 Rouse *Heav. Univ.* vi. (1702) 79 We must propose an End worthy of God. 1715 Atterbury *Serm., Matt. xxvii.* 25 (1734) I. 119 The great Ends and Designs he proposed to himself in their Sufferings. 1868 J. H. Blunt *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 67 As if the Cardinal had proposed it to himself simply as a costly monument of his ambition.

†**d.** To contemplate as a supposition; to imagine, fancy: = Propound *v.* 5 b. *Obs. rare.*

1597 Shaks. *2 Hen. IV*, v. ii. 92 Make the case yours: Be now the Father, and propose a Sonne.

e. *Mus.* To 'give out' or sound (a subject) for imitation or contrapuntal treatment.

1879 Grove *Dict. Mus.* I. 69/2 An answer in music is, in strict counterpoint, the repetition by one part or instrument of a theme proposed by another.

3. To put forward for acceptance. †**a.** To set before or hand to some one for him to take; to present. *Obs.*

1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 57 Hauing no other or better meane.., then these submissiue lines; I propose them vnto you..confessing that if any waies I haue erred vnto you..it was but as a yong man. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Exod.* xii. Comm., The lambe being consumed, which old tradition proposed, the Master setteth inconsumptible meate to his disciples. *c* 1611 Chapman *Iliad* XI. 554 Withal so weighty was the cup, That being proposed brimful of wine, one scarce could lift it up.

b. To proffer or offer for mental acceptance or assent. In quot. 1602, To state the terms of (an oath) to be 'taken' or sworn.

1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 69 He whose wife is most obedient, .. Shall win the wager which we will propose. 1602 — *Ham.* I. v. 152 *Hor.* Propose the Oath my Lord. *Ham.* Neuer to speake of this that you haue seene, Sweare by my sword. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 102 The boughs thereof [the Palm] haue bin proposed as rewards for such as were either victorious in armes or exercises. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 331 A Man may have seen the Maid, propos'd him for a Wife, especially when she was little. 1780 S. J. Pratt *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 95, I will wait..to hear the event of terms that are proposing between the countries. 1883 Stevenson *Treas. Franchard* iii. in *Merry Men*, etc. (1905) 220, I propose no wages.

c. To nominate for acceptance for some office or position, esp. as a member of a society.

1715 Atterbury *Serm., Matt. xxvii.* 25 (1734) I. 121 Pilate ..then proposes him as the Man he was by Custom to release at the Passover. 1770 Foote *Lame Lover* I. 25 There is to be a ballot at one for the Ladies' Club..and lady Bab Basto has proposed me for a member. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Feb. 107, I propose the head boy..for chief.

d. To make a formal proposal to the company to drink (a health or toast); to offer for acceptance as a toast.

1712 W. Rogers *Voy.* 44 They were very merry, and in their Cups propos'd the Pope's Health..; to keep up the Humour, we also propos'd William Pen's to them. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 7 As often as any of the great princes proposed a health, the kettle drums and trumpets sounded. 1892 *Law Times* XCII. 145/2 The second part of his duty was to propose the health of the honorary Fellows.

e. *absol.* To make an offer of marriage. (*colloq.*)

1764 Gray *Candidate* 20 Divinity heard, between waking and dozing, Her sisters denying, and Jemmy proposing. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 190 If a man now says three words to a girl, she immediately expects he is to propose to her. 1856 Stanley *Sinai & Pal.* Introd. 44 Ptolemy Physcon,..who proposed, but in vain, to Cornelia, mother of the Gracchi.

4. *trans. spec.* with an action as obj. **a.** To put forward as a scheme or plan to be adopted; to lay before another or others as something which one offers to do, or wishes to be done. (With *simple obj., obj. clause*, or *inf.*)

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* I. § 21 Not to communicate the thing proposed, before he had first taken his Own resolution. 1724 De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 202 The king proposed the marching to London. 1788 Clara Reeve *Exiles* II. 237, I proposed to my wife to reside at M——. 1799 Ht. Lee *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 366 Lothaire..at length proposed retiring. 1839 Keightley *Hist. Eng.* II. 66 King James..proposed to his nobles an inroad into England. 1856 Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 101 It had been proposed to marry the Princess Mary to a son of the French king. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 228 He proposes that they shall reassemble on the following day.

b. To put before one's own mind as something that one is going to do; to design, purpose, intend. (With *inf.* or *vbl. sb.*) Now usually with some notion of having formed a decision or intention.

1500–20 *Exhort. bef. Commun.* in Maskell *Mon. Rit.* (1847) III. 348, Y charge yow..that no man nother woman that this day proposyth here to be comenyd that he go note to Godds bord, lase than he byleue stedfastlych, that [etc.].

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lv. 6 Now propoyss thai..Off Wenus feest to fang ane fill. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 31 P 11 To compleat the Observations I at first proposed to make upon these Fanaticks. 1738 C'tess of Hertford *Corr.* (1805) I. 23, I .. propose being there on the birth day. 1853 J. H. Newman *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. vi. 142 He had proposed to conquer Jerusalem, and to have rebuilt it, had God granted him life.

c. *absol.* To put forward a scheme, make a proposal or motion; to form a design or purpose. In quot. 1485–6 *ellipt.* = propose to go.

Prov. *Man proposes, God disposes*: see Dispose *v.* 7.

1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Nou [hy leueþ, nou hi misleueþ, nou hi wylleþ, nou hi ne wylleþ, nou hi proposent, nou hit is betere. Þeruore hi byeþ ase þe wedercoc þet is ope þe steple, þet him went mid eche wynde. 1485–6 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 50 The Kyng proposyth northward hastyly after the Parlament. *c* 1500 [see Dispose *v.* 7]. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) G v b, I..knew the famous oratour Taurin propose diuers tymes in the senate. 1625 Bacon *Apophth.* Wks. 1879 I. 327 At Athens wise men did propose, and fools dispose. 1898 *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/3 But, 'Man proposes, God disposes'—how everlastingly true is that old saying of the good Thomas à Kempis!

†**5.** *absol.* or *intr.* To carry on a discussion; to confer, converse, discourse. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. 2.)

1599 Shaks. *Much Ado* III. i. 3 There shalt thou finde my Cosin Beatrice, Proposing with the Prince and Claudio. 1604 — *Oth.* I. i. 25 The Bookish Theoricke: Wherein the Tongued [*1st Quarto* toged] Consuls can propose As Masterly as he.

Proposed (prop*ō*·zd), *ppl. a.* [f. Propose *v.* + -ed [1].] Put forward for consideration or adoption; 'given' or stated (in the premisses); intended, etc.: see the verb.

c 1430 *Art Nombryng* 8 Multiplicacioun of nombre by hym-self other by a nother, with proposide .2. nombres, [is] the fyndyng of the thirde. 1635 Swan *Spec. M.* ii. (1643) 29 There should be a proposed point or mark. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 8 Her mother..was a warm friend to the proposed marriage. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 715 The proposed law, they said, was a retrospective penal law, and therefore objectionable.

Hence **Propo·sedly** *adv. rare*, intendedly, purposely.

1777 *Sterne's Tr. Shandy* I. xix, They had proposedly [*edd.* 1–4 purposedly, *ed.* 5– purposely] been plann'd and pointed against him.

†**Propo·sely,** *adv. Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Propose *sb.* + -ly [2]; cf. *purposely*.] On purpose, purposely.

1582 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 504 Procurit proposelie, as apperis, to eschew puneisment of certane odious crymes.

Proposer (prop*ō*·zəɹ). [f. Propose *v.* + -er [1].] One who proposes: in various senses of the vb.

†**1.** One who presents to view or exhibits something. *Obs.*

a 1690 J. Collinges in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cvii. 43, I should view it [a picture] as curiously as I could; yet the proposer would .. undertake to show me something in it which I did not observe.

2. One who propounds an argument, a question, or the like.

(In quot. 1602 erroneously explained by Schmidt 'A speaker, orator'; whence in some recent dictionaries.)

1602 Shaks. *Ham.* II. ii. 297 Let mee coniure you by the rights of our fellowship, by the consonancy of our youth,.. and by what more deare, a better proposer could charge you withall. *a* 1714 Abp. Sharp *Answ. Quest. Rom.-Cath.* Wks. 1754 VII. App. 300 *Q.* May a man, wilfully dying a Roman-catholic, be saved? *A.* What the proposer means by wilfully dying a Roman-catholic, I know not.

3. One who makes a proposal; one who brings forward or offers a scheme or suggestion; *spec.* one who formally makes a motion, or who proposes or nominates some one for a position.

1660 Milton *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 448 Queen Elizabeth .. imprison'd and persecuted the very Proposers therof. 1762 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1765) II. i. 43 One of the first proposers of coining money by a press, instead of the former manner of hammering. 1873 Tristram *Moab* vii. 117 Schwartz is the proposer of this identification. 1886 *Daily Tel.* 12 Jan. 5/5 His proposer and seconder will..conduct him to the chair. 1886 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 761/1 In a form of proposal to an insurance office ..the residence of the proposer was stated to be [etc.].

†**b.** One who tenders for a contract.

1750 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 152 Parker, paviour, the lowest proposer. [Cf. Proposal 3: quot. 1748.]

Proposing (prop*ō*·zing), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Propose, in various senses.

1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. § 21 Or doth the proposing them, print them clearer in the Mind. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* I. 118 To venture the proposing of Giles Earle, Esq. to be again chosen chairman of the committee. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* vii. 153 To begin with what they called proposing; that is, taking a text from some celebrated author, either sacred or profane. 1869 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* III. App. E. 623 The proposing and supporting of opposing candidates.

†**Pro·posite.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōpositum* a thing proposed, sb. use of neuter of *prōpositus*, pa. pple. of *prōpōnĕre*: see Propone.] Something propounded, put or set forth; a proposition.

1620 T. Granger *Div. Logike* I. ii. 2 Of Logicke there be two parts. The former is of the purpose, or matter propounded...The Proposite is the explication of the conceits, or meaning of the minde, instituted or framed according to sound reason. *Ibid.* iii. 7 There be two parts of euery Proposite, or matter proposed, viz. the theme, and the argument.

Proposition (prɒpəzi·ʃən). [ME. *proposicioun*, a. F. *proposition* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōpositiōn-em* a setting forth, purpose, theme, statement, n. of action f. *prōpōn-ĕre*: see Propone.]

1. The action of setting forth or presenting to view or perception; presentation, exhibition. In quot. 1584, representation by a figure, delineation (cf. Propound *v.* 5). Now *rare.*

† *Loaves of proposition*, in *Jewish Hist.*, the show-bread; so *table of proposition. Obs.*

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 181 Þe holy looves of proposicioun. 1382 — *Exod.* xxv. 30 Thow shalt putte vpon the bord looues of propicisioun [1388 proposicioun], euermore in my si3t. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ix. 76 He..reft the goldin alter..ande the tabil of propositione. 1584 Lyly *Campaspe* III. iv, *Alex.* Where doe you first begin, when you drawe any picture? *Apel.* The proposition of the face in iust compasse, as I can. *c* 1624 Lushington *Recant. Serm.* in *Phenix* (1708) II. 494 The 12 loaves of proposition. 1866 *Liturgy Ch. Sarum* 67 *note*, A proposition of Christ under the sacramental veils, to receive the adoration of the faithful.

†**2.** The action of putting forward or offering for acceptance; an offer. *Obs.*

1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 3 The ample proposition that hope makes In all designes. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* I. Ad Sect. iv. 50 He..sweetly allures us by the proposition of rewards.

b. The action of proposing a person for election or admission. *rare.* (In quot. *attrib.*)

1901 *Scotsman* 21 Nov. 8/1 The proposition book did shew entries of a considerable number of names.

3. The action of propounding something, or that which is propounded; the setting forth of something as a subject of discourse; something proposed for discussion, or as a basis of argument; *spec.* an introductory part of a speech or literary work, in which the speaker or writer sets forth the subject to be treated. In quots. 1845, the speech with which the Emperor opened the Diet of the Holy Roman Empire. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xlviii. 4, I sall oppyn in psawtry my proposicion. 1382 Wyclif *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 2, I shal speke propositiouns fro the begynnyng. 1552 Huloet s. v., A proposition is an argument or matter proposed to be disputed and reasoned vpon. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* 97 Proposicion is a short rehersall of that wherof we mynde to speake. 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. Note i, The custom of beginning all Poems, with a Proposition of the whole work, and an Invocation of some God for his assistance to go through with it, is..observed by all the ancient Poets. 1751 Johnson *Rambler* No. 158 P 12 The proposition of the Eneid closes with dignity. 1775 Burke *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Wks. III. 33 The plan..derives..one great advantage from the proposition and registry of that noble lord's project. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 517 The Proposition with which he opened the diet sufficiently showed that the young emperor was determined to avail himself of it. *Ibid.* III. 163 The first thing was to appoint a committee to deliberate and report upon the Proposition.

†**b.** A question proposed for solution; a problem; a riddle. *Obs.*

Also in *Logic* in a special sense: see Problem 2 b, quot. 1656.

1382 Wyclif *Judg.* xiv. 18 If ȝe hadden not erid in my she calf, ȝe shulden not haue founden my proposicioun. — *Dan.* viii. 23 There shal ryse a king..vndirstondynge propositiouns [*gloss* or resouns]. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 246 It is as easie to count Atomies as to resolue the propositions of a Louer.

c. *Music.* The proposing or 'giving out' of a subject for contrapuntal treatment; the subject so proposed.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1898 Stainer & Barrett *Dict. Mus. Terms* s. v. *Subject*, In a fugue the subject is called also the exposition, dux, proposition.

4. The making of a statement about something; a sentence or form of words in which this is done; a statement, an assertion. (*b*) In *Logic*, a form of words in which something (the Predicate) is affirmed or denied of something (the Subject), the relation between them being expressed by the Copula; sometimes extended to the form of thought or mental process expressed by this, more strictly called a Judgement (9 b).

1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) I. 71 Your mercy than passeth right. God graunt that proposicion to be verifyed in me. *c* 1530 More *Answ. Frith* Wks. 841/1 But lette thys fyrste proposicion passe, and come nowe to the secounde,..that is, that the body of Chryste cannot be at once in all places. 1654 Bramhall *Just Vind.* ii. (1661) 27 Though it be not in the power of any Councel..to make that proposition heretical,..which was not heretical ever from the dayes of the Apostles. 1802–12 Bentham *Ration. Judic. Evid.* Wks. 1843 VII. 81 That the proposition, two and two make four, is neither more nor less than a proposition concerning the import of words. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* i. 10 A proposition too plain to admit of argument.

(*b*) 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 281 If ye redde logike, reduce to mynde a proposicion: That thynge whiche hathe effecte in the holle, hathe effecte in the parte. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 18 A Proposition is, a perfecte sentence spoken by the Indicatiue mode, signifying either a true thyng, or a false. 1656 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* v. (1701) 182/1 Of that Speech which we call Proposition, there are two kinds; Affirmation and Negation. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. ii. § 1 Propositions may be divided according to their subject into universal and particular; this is usually called a division arising from the quantity. 1827 Whately *Logic* ii. 1. § 2 (ed. 2) 55 An act of apprehension expressed in language, is called a term; an act of judgement, a proposi-

tion; an act of reasoning, an argument. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xxxvii. (1870) II. 336 The whole mental judgement, formed by the subject, predicate, and copula, is called, when enounced in words, proposition.

b. *spec.* Either of the premisses of a syllogism; *esp.* the major premiss (opposed to Assumption 12). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 23 The matter [i. e. the middle term] is twise rehearsed in the firste and seconde Proposition, and entreth not into the conclusion. 1604 James I *Counterbl.* (Arb.) 102 Of this Argument, both the Proposition and Assumption are false, and so the Conclusion cannot but be voyd of it selfe. 1628 T. Spencer *Logick* 266 We learne from Aristotle, cap. 48. that, the proposition and assumption may be vniversall, yet the conclusion not vniversall. 1725 Watts *Logic* III. ii. § 3 There is also a fourth figure, wherein the middle term is predicated in the major proposition, and subjected in the minor. 1837–8 Sir W. Hamilton *Logic* xv. (1866) I. 281 Of the premises, the one which enounces the general rule or the relation of the greatest quantity to the lesser, is called the Major Premise, or Major Proposition or the Proposition simply.

5. *Math.* A formal statement of a truth to be demonstrated or of an operation to be performed (in the former case called distinctively a *theorem*, in the latter a *problem*); in common parlance often including the demonstration.

1570 Billingsley *Euclid.* I. 8 Propositions..are sentences set forth to be proued by reasoning and demonstrations. *Ibid.*, Propositions are of two sortes, the one is called a Probleme, the other a Theoreme. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* II. ii. § 6 The finding out of that demonstration, which is now contained in the 47 proposition of the first of Euclide. 1718 Quincy *Compl. Disp.* 16 These Propositions, which are demonstrated in Hydrostaticks. 1810 Hutton *Course Math.* I. 2 A Corollary..is a consequence drawn immediately from some proposition.

6. The action of proposing something to be done; something put forward as a scheme or plan of action; a proposal; *spec.*: see quot. *a* 1727.

1382 Wyclif 1 *Kings* xviii. 24 Al the puple answerynge seith, Best the proposicioun, that Helias spac. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V* 23 b, When the protector had harde the proposicion, he loked very strangely therat. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 14 This proposition had no willing passage into the eares or harts of the great Lords of France. 1653 Sir E. Hyde in *Evelyn's Mem.* (1819) II. 206 Any such proposicons and expedients which you thinke fitt to offer for the promoting his seruice. *a* 1727 in Colden *Hist. Five Indian Nat.* 41 Without laying down either Bever or any Belt or Wampum, as we always do when we make Propositions. [*Note.*] The word Proposition has always been used by the Commissioners for the Indian Affairs at Albany, to signifie Proposals or Articles. *a* 1806 C. J. Fox *Reign Jas. II* (1808) 101 That a proposition to the Prince of Orange, to connect himself in politicks with Lewis, would..have been rejected. *a* 1873 Wilberforce *Ess.* (1874) II. 321 We hold it essential to our success..that the proposition of Sir George Clerk should be adopted.

†**b.** *In proposition for*, in treaty for. *Obs.*

1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 39 To go over into Ireland to Survey some Iron works, Woods and Lands which they were in proposition for.

Propositional (prɒpozi·ʃənăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -al.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a logical proposition; consisting of or based on propositions.

c 1714 Pope, etc. *Mem. M. Scriblerus* I. xii, When two of these propositional Channels empty themselves into a third, they form a Syllogism. 1725 Watts *Logic* II. ii. § 1 If a proposition..has an indefinite subject, it is generally to be esteemed universal in its propositional sense. 1847 Sir W. Hamilton *Let. to De Morgan* 31 The second scheme is that which logically extends the expression of quantity to both the propositional terms. 1883 H. Drummond *Nat. Law in Spir. W.* xi. (1884) 360 There is no worse enemy to a living Church than a propositional theology.

Hence **Proposi·tionally** *adv.*: **Proposi·tionalness**, the quality of laying down propositions.

1864 Masson in *Macm. Mag.* July 216 A quality..which coining a monstrous word for my purpose, I will venture to call propositionalness. It is in the main identical with that passion for intellectual generalization which we often speak of as particularly visible in the French mind. 1890 *Lancet* 12 Apr. 787/1 *note*, If he only uttered them [propositions] at random, or if they were only signs of emotion, they would not serve propositionally.

Proposi·tionize, *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ize.] *intr.* To make or utter propositions.

1868 Bushnell *Serm. Living Subj.* 74 By much theologizing, propositionizing, schematizing and abstractionizing, we show it builded together for the very ends and uses we have reasoned for it. 1890 *Lancet* 12 Apr. 787/1 *note*, To speak is not merely to utter words, but to propositionize.

Pro-postscutellar, -um: see Pro-[2] 2.

†**Propo·sure.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Propose *v.* + -ure: cf. *composure, exposure.*] The act of proposing or propounding.

1655 Owen *Vind. Evang.* Wks. 1853 XII. 124 The proposure of a question..is the next part of our employment.

Propound (prɒpau·nd), *v.* Also 6 propowne, -poune. [A later form of Propone, through the intermediate *propoune, propowne*: cf. Compound, Expound.]

1. *trans.* To put forth, set forth, propose, or offer for consideration, discussion, acceptance, or adoption; to put forward as a question for solution.

a. 1537 Starkey *Let.* in *England* (1878) p. l, What peryl of damnatyon he declaryth in hys boke, and propownyth to honge certaynly ouer our hedys. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 46 A certain person had propouned an harde reedle. 1586 B. Young tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 182 Without anie question propowned to her at all. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 38 Who..speeke nothing against the doctrine propouned.

β. 1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 26 He propounded the same vnto him, and thought thereby to haue giuen hym a foile. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 14 To treate, what conditions should be propounded to the Emperour. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* I. x. 46 An Image-maker, and propounded his Images..as Gods to be worshipped. *c* 1618 Moryson *Itin.* IV. vii. (1903) 114 No man besides himselfe [the duke] can propounde any thing in the great Counsell. 1634 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 28 They propounded Articles of peace and friendship. *a* 1720 Sewel *Hist. Quakers* (1795) II. VII. 63 To answer such questions as they shall propound to you. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xliii. (1870) II. 458 In the thirteenth book..this theory is formally propounded. 1847 Grote *Greece* II. xi. III. 171 The most extensive scheme of constitutional reform yet propounded. 1876 Gladstone *Homeric Synchr.* 224 No one, to my knowledge, has propounded such an idea.

b. In *Eccl. Law.* To bring forward (an allegation, etc.) in a cause: cf. Propone *v.* 2. (See also sense 6.)

1685 Consett *Pract. Spir. Crts.* I. iii. § 1 (1700) 11 If the Plaintiff..does [not] propound any dilatory matter, to hinder the giving of Sentence. *Ibid.* VI. xii. § 1 This Allegation is to be propounded jointly and severally, and is to be admitted as in other Causes.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* To make a proposal: in quot. 1570–6, to bring forward a charge or complaint; cf. Propone *v.* 2 (*obs.*).

1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 106 If any [person] of the same Townes had cause to complaine of any..he shall be at Shipwey to propound against him. 1598 Grenewey *Tacitus, Ann.* XI. iv. (1622) 145 Then he [Claudius] propounded in Senate touching the colledge of southsayers, least that the most auncient discipline of Italie should come to naught by slothfulnes. 1601 Sir W. Cornwallis *Disc. Seneca* (1631) 63 To propound, not to conclude, is the destiny of man.

2. *trans.* To propose or nominate for an office or position, as a member of a society, etc. Now *U.S.*

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 3 The Pensionars were also forthwith propoundid. 1623 Bingham *Xenophon* 107 They first propounded Cherisophus for an Ambassadour. *a* 1649 Winthrop *New Eng.* (1853) I. 131 He was then (with his wife) propounded to be admitted a member [of the church]. 1673 Ray *Journey Low C., Venice* 163 His name..is by the Secretary set down..with the name of him who propounded him, and the set of Electors he was of. 1809 Kendall *Trav.* I. vii. 63 Nor shall any person be chosen newly into the magistracy, which was not propounded in some general court before, to be nominated the next election. 1828 Webster s. v., In congregational churches..persons intending to make public profession of their faith, and thus unite with the church, are propounded before the church and congregation. 1863 R. B. Kimball *Was He Successful?* (1864) 25 In due course he was propounded and admitted into the church.

†**3.** To hold forth or set before one as an example, reward, aim, etc. *Obs.*

1571 Digges *Pantom.* III. i. Q j, Of either I minde to propound an example, although one rule suffise them bothe. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 146 Of these, for examples sake I will propound one, with the end he made. 1609 Sir R. Sherley in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 95 Kings themselues propound great gifts and rewards. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* I. xiv. 67 If a man propound a Prize to him that comes first to the end of a race, The gift is Free. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1840) I. i. 1 Know then, I propound five ends to myself in this Book. *a* 1703 Burkitt *On N. T.* Matt. v. 14 The great end we propound in all the good works which we perform. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* (1872) I. 24 For Honour and Valour Preferment's propounded.

†**4.** To propose (to do or the doing of something); to suggest (that something should be done).

1597 Bacon *Coulers Gd. & Evill* iv. Ess. (Arb.) 142 The one propounded to goe downe into a deepe Well. 1658 Howe in H. Rogers *Life* iii. (1863) 64, I propounded that this might be put into the agreement. 1668–9 Pepys *Diary* 21 Mar., After dinner propounds to me my lending him 500*l.* 1676–7 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 524 It was also propounded to move the House. 1702 Echard *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 200 He propounded to scourge him, and so dismiss him. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xxx. 305 In this convocation it was propounded, that an act of Parliament should be made for the relief of poor ministers.

†**b.** To set before oneself as something to be done; to purpose. *Obs.*

1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vi. 42 Fit time for him thence to depart..To follow that which he did long propound. 1598 Barckley *Felic. Man* (1631) 491 He that will liue happily must propound to himselfe things possible, and be content with things present. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xix. 178 It is the last of the three Elements, whereof wee have propounded to treate in this Booke. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* V. 4 Propounding to themselves to become glorious by that means. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Josephus, Antiq.* XI. viii. (1733) 298 To give the Macedonians Battle before they should over run the whole of Asia, which they propounded to do.

†**5.** To represent, to exhibit (by figure or description). *Obs.*

1594 Blundevil *Exerc.* II. (1636) 119 Note that whensoever any manner of angle is propounded by three letters: that the middle letter doth alwayes signifie the angle propounded. 1659 Pearson *Creed* ii. (1662) 124 They propound the Jews senselessly offended and foolishly exasperated with those words. 1668 Culpepper & Cole *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvii. 46 This Table [= plate] propounds the Kidneys both whole and cut asunder.

†**b.** To set before one's mind; to conceive or imagine to oneself. *Obs.*

1634 W. Tirwhyt tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 64 Propound to yourself monsters in my will to be mastred. 1647 Trapp *Comm. Rom.* XV. 33 When they pray to propound God to their minde in such notions, and under such titles, as whereby they may see in God the things they desire of God.

6. *Law.* To put forth or produce (a will, or other document making testamentary dispositions) before the proper authority, for the purpose of having its legality established.

1753 Sir G. Lee *Reports Cases* (1833) I. 420 This will..is propounded by Lady Ann. *Ibid.*, These instructions [for preparing a will] wrote by deceased..are propounded by Thomas Jekyll, one of his brothers, as a legatee. 1826 W. Roberts *Treat. Wills* II. VI. i. § 2. 174 If the paper propounded to the ecclesiastical Court may have any effect on the estate..probate will be granted. 1829 Haggard *Eccles. Reports* I. 56 *margin*, A codicil..which..came out of the custody of, and was propounded by, the person solely benefitted under it. *Ibid.* 57 The paper was then propounded.. as a further codicil to the will of the deceased, and asserted to be all in his own hand-writing. 1836 Sir H. Jenner in Curteis *Rep. Eccl. Cas.* (1840) I. 160 The asserted execution of the will propounded on the 19th. 1884 *Law Rep.* 9 Probate Div. 23 The executors named in [the will] propounded it for probate.

Hence **Propou·nded** *ppl. a.*, **Propou·nding** *vbl. sb.*

1551 T. Wilson *Logike* (1580) 61 b, The disputer must alwaies keepe hym in, and..force hym still to aunswere the propounded argument directly. 1575 Gascoigne *Flowers* Wks. 13 After supper they should passe the tyme in propounding of Ryddles. 1608 D. T[uvil] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 64 Neither dooth she alter her propounded courses. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 182 Between the two propounded points, there is one strait line, by the definition of a circle, contained wholly in the propounded plane. 1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* III. 68 Yet oh, may sovereign mercy first ordain Propounded compact to the savage train!

†**Propou·nd,** *sb. Obs.* [f. prec.] A proposition.

1599 Peele *Sir Clyom.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 511/1 The which propound within my mind doth oftentimes revolve.

Propounder (prɒpau·ndəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er[1].]

1. One who propounds or sets forth, esp. for acceptance, consideration, discussion, or solution.

1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* IV. vi. (1634) 544 There is.. no Session of Judges without a Pretor or Propounder. 1660 Jer. Taylor *Duct. Dubit.* I. v, It..can receive no warrant in legitimation by the intention of the propounder. 1829 Marryat *F. Mildmay* iv, I answered every question with such fluency.., as sometimes caused the propounder to regret that he had put me to the trouble of speaking. 1837 Ht. Martineau *Soc. Amer.* II. 31 A country where political economy has never been taught by its only effectual propounder—social adversity. 1895 Dixon in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 640 Prominent among the supporters of this theory—if not its actual propounder.

†**2.** A name for the rhetorical figure Prolepsis. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* III. xii. (Arb.) 179 Ye haue yet another maner of speach purporting at the first blush a defect which afterward is supplied, the Greekes call him *Prolepsis*, we the Propounder, or the Explaner which ye will.

¶ The alleged sense 'A monopolist' given in modern Dicts., and suggested in Blount's *Law Dict.* (1670), is founded upon the heading of ch. 85 of 3rd pt. of Coke's *Institutes* 'Against Monopolists, Propounders, and Projectors', where the text has 'These Inventers and Propounders of evill things' [*inventores malorum*], in which the word is used as in sense 1 above.

Propou·ndment. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ment.] The act or fact of propounding.

1846 G. S. Faber *Lett. Tractar. Secess.* 63 The remedy.. by the very circumstance of its propoundment, affords a tacit acknowledgment, that the Theory..is defective.

Propou·ndress. *rare.* [f. Propounder + -ess[1].] A female propounder.

1866 J. B. Rose *Ovid's Metam.* 207 And she, propoundress of the ridding curse.

Proppage (prɒ·pédʒ). *nonce-wd.* [f. Prop *v.* + -age.] Propping or supporting apparatus.

1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 138 Hat and stick were his proppage and balance-wheel.

Propped, propt (prɒpt), *ppl. a.* [f. Prop *v.* + -ed[1].] Held up or supported by or as by a prop.

1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* II. 154 The sight of propt-up cottages which fright the fancy more than those already fallen. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* iii. § 7. 69, I think the propped machicolations of the Palazzo Vecchio and Duomo of Florence far grander. 1894 Mrs. Dyan *All in a Man's K.* (1899) 339 He sank weakly on to a chair and buried his head in his propped-up arms.

Propper (prɒ·pəɹ). [f. Prop *v.* + -er[1].] One who props or supports.

1549 Bp. Poynet *Def. Mariage Priestes* C j b, The patchers and proppers vp of this Decree.

Propping (prɒ·piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing[1].]

1. The action of the verb Prop; supporting as or with a prop.

1492–3 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 188 For sartayne thynges ..Repayryd in hys howse and for proppyng of the dore. 1565 Cooper *Thesaurus, Pedatio*, the proppinge or settinge vp of vines. 1725 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* III. i, What disturbs the great, In propping of their pride and state. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 50/1 The miner not only gets the coal but makes all proppings and repairs.

b. *pl. concr.* Supports, stays, props.

1660 W. Secker *Nonsuch Prof.* 181 Your weakest building needs the most under propings. 1662 Gerbier *Princ.* 28 A Moorish Ground, whereon no New Building could stand any time without Proppings.

2. Of a horse (*Australia*): Sudden stopping.

1884 'R. Boldrewood' *Melb. Mem.* xxi. 152 Traveller's dam had an ineradicable taste for 'propping'.

3. The propelling of a wagon or carriage on one line of rails, by means of a pole or 'prop' ex-

tended from an engine on a parallel line, so as to push it along; a dangerous operation now illegal.
1900 *Act* 63 & 64 *Vict.* c. 27 Sch., 1. Brake levers on both sides of waggons. 2. Labelling waggons. 3. Movement of waggons by propping or tow roping. 4. Steam or other power brakes on engines. 1901 *Dundee Advertiser* 13 May 4 Tow-roping and 'propping'..practices which have resulted in many accidents, are forbidden.

Pro·pping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That props; supporting.
1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* xvi. E vij, Propping elmes that clad with vinetrees be. 1821 CLARE *Holywell* 139 in *Vill. Minstr.* I. 77, I..loll'd me 'gainst a propping tree. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 69 Down fell her face upon the good friend's propping knee.

Pro·ppy, *a. colloq. nonce-wd.* [f. PROP *sb.* + -Y.] Resembling or suggesting a prop or pole.
1870 *Daily News* 6 June, Asbdale has the weight, but rather proppy forelegs, while Marston excels in quality and has the most hunting character about him.

Pro-præscutal, -um: see PRO- 2 2.

Proprætor (prōʊˌprīˈtɒr). [a. L. *prōprætor*, originally *prō prætōre* (one acting) for the prætor.] A magistrate of the ancient Roman republic who after holding the office of prætor was given the administration of a province not under military control, with the authority of a prætor. Also, one who acted in place of a prætor.
1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1107 Junius Vindex being Proprætor of Gavle. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxx. 769, P. Lentulus the Propretour. 1727–41 in CHAMBERS *Cycl.* 1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 228 *note*, In the imperatorial provinces, where the governor bore the title of Proprætor, there was provision made for a military establishment. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Clive* (1887) 560 The [East India] Company's servants might still be called factors... But they were in truth proconsuls, proprætors, procurators of extensive regions.

Hence **Proprætorship,** the office of a proprætor.
1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 9 The second Year of Julius Agricola his Proprætorship, or Lieutenancy in Britain.

Proprætorial, *a.* [f. prec., after PRÆTORIAL.] Of or pertaining to a proprætor; under the rule of a proprætor.
1885 J. G. FRAZER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 885/1 Thus the distinction between consular (or proconsular) and prætorial (or proprætorial) provinces varied from year to year with the military exigencies of different parts of the empire.

So **Proprætorian** *a.*, in same sense.
1832–4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars* Wks. 1859 X. 228 *note*, The whole revenues of the proprætorian (or imperatorial) provinces, from this time forward, flowed into the *fiscus*, or private treasure of the individual emperor. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 23 The proconsular as distinct from the propraetorian status of Cyprus.

Propre, obs. form of PROPER *a.* and *v.*

Proprefect, -præfect (prōʊˌprīˈfekt). [f. PRO- 1 4 + PREFECT. So L. *prōpræfectus* (inscr.), F. *propréfet.*] A deputy prefect or commander.
1691 WOOD *Athenæ Oxon.* II. 293 He..was entertained by William Marquess of Newcastle, and by him made Proprefect or Lieutenant General of his Ordnance. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The third inscription mentions proprefects of the pretorium under Gratian, in the city of Rome, and the neighbouring parts.

Propre·fecture. [f. as prec. from PREFECTURE.] The office of proprefect; deputy presidentship.
1803 *Monthly Mag.* XVI. 201 Pius the Sixth,..who was pleased..to invest me with the charge of the Pro-prefecture of the Congregation of Propaganda Fide.

† **Pro·premen,** *adv. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *propre-ment* adv., f. *propre* PROPER.] Properly, naturally.
a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 196 Þet flesch þut propremen touward swetnesse & touward eise.

Proprete, -tie, etc. obs. forms of PROPERTY.

† **Pro·priary.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *propri-um*, or short for *proprietary.*] A proprietor, owner.
1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxxvii. 357 To either Propriarie so was either Realme againe Of Romaines left.

† **Pro·priate,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. L. *propriāt-us*, pa. pple. of *propri-āre* to make one's own, f. *propri-us* PROPER.]
1. Appropriated, assigned to a particular person; annexed as an attribute, special, peculiar: = APPROPRIATE *ppl. a.* 3, 4.
1654 *Kirk Sess. Rec.* in Campbell *Balmerino* (1899) 403 The Session, finding that rowme and place not propriat to any other. 1820 COMBE *Consol.* VII. (1869) 226/2 Without whose propriate sympathies We should be neither strong nor wise.
2. *Eccl.* Of a benefice: Appropriated to a religious house or corporation: = APPROPRIATE *ppl. a.* 1. (In quot. 1697 loosely applied to the rector of such a benefice.)
Cf. notes s. vv. IMPROPRIATE *v.* 2 and IMPROPRIATION 1.
1616 SPELMAN *De non Temer. Eccl.* (1646) b j, Thy Tithes, whether propriate or impropriate. 1697 BP. GARDINER *Adv. Clergy* 21 One cannot but wonder..that Rectors as well Impropriate as Propriate, should not take more care to fit their Chancels for this purpose.
B. *sb.* One to whom something is appropriated; a possessor, proprietor. *rare*⁻¹.
1660 BURNEY *Κέρδ. Δῶρον* (1661) 25 The Scepter..should run on in a direct line, till it came to the Essentiator of the being of Kings, the propriate of Rule, Βασιλεὺς Βασιλέων.

† **Pro·priate,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *propriāre* (see prec.) + -ATE 3.] *trans.* = APPROPRIATE *v.* 2.
1624 DONNE *Serm., Deut.* XXV. 5 (1649) II. 424 The covetous desires of the world, that is, the covetous propriating [*misprr.* proprieting] of all things to our selves.

Propriation (prōʊpriˌēˈʃən). *rare.* [ad. L. type **propriātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *propriāre*: see above. Cf. OF. *propriacion* (14th c. in Godef.).]
1. a. The action of making or condition of being made one's own (or some one's own): = APPROPRIATION 1. b. *Eccl.* = APPROPRIATION 2.
1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 185 By reason of more particular respects of propriation or otherwise. 1601 *Act* 43 *Eliz.* c. 2 Euery Occupier of Landes Houses Tithes impropriate or Propriacions of Tythes, Colemynes or saleable Underwoods. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 191 To be one and the same united in comon without division, or propriation. 1840 *Act* 3 & 4 *Vict.* c. 89 *Preamble.*
2. ? The action of taking in a 'proper', i. e. literal or strict, sense: cf. PROPER *a.* 4.
1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 65 This propriation of a metaphor, namely, forgiveness of sin and abolition of guilt through the redemptive power of Christ's love and of his perfect obedience during his voluntary assumption of humanity,..by transferring the sameness from the consequents to the antecedents is the one point of orthodoxy (so called, I mean) in which I still remain at issue.

† **Pro·priatory.** [f. L. *propriāt-us* PROPRIATE *a.* + -ORY.] = PROPRIETARY *sb.* 3.
1569 BP. PARKHURST *Injunc.* in *2nd Rep. Ritual Comm.* (1868) 404/2 That no Parson Vicar, propriatorie or fermer of any benefice, doe admit any Minister or Curate to serue his said benefice, vnlesse [etc.]. 1621 BOLTON *Stat. Irel.* 317 Propriatories of large portions of land.

Proprietage (proˌprəiˈėtėdʒ). *rare.* [irreg. f. *propriet(or* or *proprietˌ(y* + -AGE.] a. The property of individuals collectively; the whole body of personal property. b. The body of proprietors collectively.
1830 COLERIDGE *Ch. & St.* (ed. 2) 141 In the same sense as I at once oppose and conjoin the Nationalty to the Proprietage; in the same antithesis and conjunction I use and understand the phrase, Church and State. *Ibid.*, The Possessions of both orders, taken collectively, form the Proprietage of the Realm. 1845 J. MARTINEAU *Essays* (1891) II. 28 The interests and concerns of the whole Proprietage.

† **Proprietaire.** *Obs.* Also 7 *Sc.* -ar. [a. F. *propriétaire* (1335 in Hatz.-Darm.): see also -AR 2.] = PROPRIETARY *sb.* (in various senses).
c 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 26 This man that thus resteth vpon his owne loue to his proper persone may well be callid a propryetayre. 1619 SIR J. SEMPIL *Sacrilege Handled* App. 27 Why shall the Priestes vnder the Law be debarred from Tithes comming from Secularies? Here then, we haue the Priest, the first proprietar.

Proprietarian (proˌprəiˌėtėəˈriăn). *nonce-wd.* [In sense 1, f. as PROPRIETARY + -AN; in sense 2, f. PROPRIET(Y + *-arian*, as in *necessitarian*, etc.]
† 1. ? An advocate or supporter of propriety government in the N. American colonies. *Obs.*
1776 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1854) IX. 411 The quakers and proprietarians together have little weight.
2. A stickler for propriety.
1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xx, The *Conversazioni* of the rigid proprietarians where people sit down to a kind of hopeless whist..and say nothing.

† **Proprieta·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as next + -OUS.] Pertaining to a 'proprietary' (see next, A. 2); self-seeking, selfish.
1657 *Divine Lover, Summarie Perfect.* 11 Contrarie to the proprietarious or vnresigned will of our corrupt nature.

Proprietary (proprəiˈėtări), *sb.* and *a.* [ad. late L. *proprietāri-us* (Paulus) proprietary, in med.L. also sb. a proprietor, f. *proprietās* PROPERTY: see -ARY 1.]
A. *sb.* † 1. One who has 'propriety' or property in something, or to whom something belongs as property; an owner: = PROPRIETOR 2. *Obs.*
1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 65/2 The first or former proprietaries and owners of the same. 1541 *Declar. War Sc.* in Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1548) 252 b, Our sayd progenitour, ..enioyed it, as very proprietary and owner of the realme. 1622 MALYNES *Anc. Law-Merch.* 113 If a Factor..giueth not aduice to the owner or proprietarie of the sale of the said goods. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vii. 299 We are not receivers, but original proprietaries of what we have. 1790 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 16/2 The enraged proprietaries, with their..servants, defeated the plunderers.
† 2. A member of a religious or monastic order who, in violation of his vow of poverty, reserved goods for himself as private property. Hence *fig.* A self-seeking or selfish person. *Obs.*
c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxvii. 107 All proprietaries & louers of hemself. 1502 ATKYNSON *Ibid.* 226 All proprietaries & louers of them selfe be fetered and nat fre. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de Worde) VII. xxi, One of his monkes was in harde payne of purgatorye, for he had be a proprye-tarye vnto the tyme of his deynge. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1005 We are such mercenaryes, And subtyle proprietaryes.
† 3. The holder of an appropriated benefice: = APPROPRIETARY. *Obs.*
c 1460 *Oseney Regr.* 161 þe foresaide prior and Couent of Merton proprietaries and persons of þe parisch church of Dunstywe. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 7 § 1 The owners proprietaries and possessours of the personnages vicarages [etc.]. 1616 SPELMAN *De non Temer. Eccl.* (1668) 96 Upon these reasons Proprietaries are still said to be Parsons of their Churches. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 30 In such Grants..of Impropriate Rectories those payments..are..left as a charge..upon the Proprietaries.
4. *Amer. Hist.* The grantee or owner, or one of the grantees or owners, of any one of certain North American colonies: see B. 3. Also *Lord Proprietary.*
1637 in *Archives of Maryland* (1883) I. 23 Insolencies, mutinies and contempts against the Lord Proprietary and the government of this place. 1683 (*title*) A Letter from William Penn, Proprietary and Governour of Pennsylvania in America. 1765 T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* I. 329 To govern under..the lords proprietaries. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* I. vii. 182 To the proprietary was given the power of creating manors and courts baron.
5. A proprietary body, a body of proprietors; proprietors collectively.
1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 406 An incroaching but modest plan of reform which will divide the proprietary into hostile factions. 1849 BRIGHT *Sp., Burdens on Land* 15 Mar. (1876) 423 Certain burdens..borne exclusively by the landed proprietary and real property of this country. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 14 The advocates for a peasant proprietary. 1884 *Bazaar, Exchange & Mart* 13 June 633/2 Of the greatest importance to the proprietary of a paper.
6. The holding of something as property; proprietorship.
1624 DONNE *Devotions*, etc. (ed. 2) 550 Euen in pleasures, and in paines, there is a proprietary, a meum and tuum. 1868 *Contemp. Rev.* VIII. 610 There is a spiritual commonalty..in which he can claim no exclusive proprietary. 1886 H. GEORGE in *N. Amer. Rev.* April 395 'Peasant proprietary' or 'occupying ownership',..the names European economists give to that system of ownership.
7. Something held as property, a possession; *esp.* a landed property or estate. ? *Obs.*
1608 NORTON *Stevin's Disme* D ij, That which Land-meater shall need to doe but once, and that at the end of the casting vp of the proprietaries. 1800 *Proc. Parl.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 12/2 Nor could the estate be..divided or parcelled into shares or several proprietaries. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LIX. 406 To one-half of the great proprietaries of the kingdom, a diminution of rent, even by a third, would make their possessors personally bankrupt.
B. *adj.*
1. Belonging to a proprietor or proprietors; owned or held as property; held in private ownership.
In mod. use applied esp. to medicines or other preparations of which the manufacture or sale is, by patent or otherwise, restricted to a particular person or persons.
1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xxiv. (Arb.) 62 Worldly goods they come and go, as things not long proprietary to any body. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* III. ii. § 38. 99 Though Sheep, which are Proprietary, are seldom Marked, yet they are not apt to straggle. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. ii. 1. 147 *note*, Alodial lands are commonly opposed to beneficiary or feudal; the former being strictly proprietary. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* i, I had formerly officiated as curate in a proprietary chapel. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar. 9/1 [They] are now charging a shilling a pound more for certain well-known proprietary tobacco.
2. Holding property; that is a proprietor, or consisting of proprietors.
a 1709 ATKYNS *Parl. & Pol. Tracts* (1734) 409 He would be the great Proprietary Owner and Disposer of all Estates. 1825 MCCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* Introd. 45 The second, or proprietary class, consists of those who live on the rent of the land, or on the net surplus produce raised by the cultivators. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* vi. (1862) 91 The classes who are without any property..would overpower the proprietary classes.
3. *Amer. Hist.* Pertaining or subject to the proprietor or owner of any one of certain N. American colonies, which were granted by the Crown to particular persons; being such a proprietor: see A. 4.
1704 W. PENN in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 79 How much better the Colonies thrive in proprietary hands than under the immediate Government of the Crown. 1825 JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 16 The backwardness of these two colonies might be ascribed partly to the influence of proprietary power and connections. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/2 The provincial governor was either royal or proprietary, and his authority was imposed on the colony by the Crown directly, or by the proprietors through rights granted by the Crown.
4. Of or relating to property or proprietorship.
a 1832 BENTHAM *Anarch. Fallacies* Wks. 1843 II. 503 Property stands second on the list,—proprietary rights are in the number of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 19 The complicated questions of proprietary right to lands that had repeatedly changed masters. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 183 William could defend the proprietary rights of the Crown only by putting his negative on the bill.

Hence **Propri·etarily** *adv.*, in a proprietary capacity; as a proprietor.
1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* vii. 205 Their progeny.. enjoyed it [the promised land] proprietarily for many ages.

Proprietor (proˌprəiˈėtər). [Anomalously formed and substituted in 17th c. for the etymological word PROPRIETARY: cf. also PROPRIETORY. App. first used of the 'proprietors' of the North American colonies.
An OF. *proprieteur* (once in Godef.) and its fem. *proprieteresse* (thrice) occur each time in a legal document (1419–1533). There may have been a Law Latin **proprietor*, but it does not appear to be recorded.]
1. *Amer. Hist.* = PROPRIETARY *sb.* 4. Also *Lord Proprietor.*
1639 in E. Hazard *Hist. Coll.* (1792) I. 458, I Sir Ferdinando Gorges Lord proprietor and owner of the province of Maine in New England [etc.]. 1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 230 The Chieff Proprietor and Govr acquainted them that he had little more to say. 1747 FRANKLIN *Let.* Wks. 1887 II.

93 We have petitioned the Proprietor to send us some from England. **1851** DIXON *W. Penn* xxxi. (1872) 291 The future lord proprietor of Pennsylvania.

2. One who holds something as property; one who has the exclusive right or title to the use or disposal of a thing; an owner.

Peasant proprietor, a man of the peasant class who is the owner of the land he cultivates.

1645 *Col. Rec. Mass.* (1854) III. 27 Mr. Glouer [and 3 others] are appointed a committee to lay out ye way and judge of ye satisfaccion yey shall give to ye proprietors. *a* **1667** COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Prose, Agric.* Wks. (1684) 99 They who are Proprietors of the Land are either too proud, or for want of that kind of Education, too ignorant to improve their Estates. **1681** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 142 The proprietors of the 800 iron guns here..have orders.. not to dispose of them. **1736** BUTLER *Anal.* II. vii. 359 The Maker and Proprietor of the World. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xix, One of [the travellers] was the proprietor of a giant. **1849** GROTE *Greece* II. liii. VI. 559 A large proprietor and worker of gold mines. **1861** CRAIK *Hist. Eng. Lit.* I. 98 A large proportion..of the inferior landed proprietors.

fig. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VI. 283 Hearts are proprietors of all applause.

b. *attrib.* (usually appositive).

1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Apr. 8/3 The proprietor barber.. insisted on a gratis shave. **1901** *Daily News* 18 Feb. 6/6 Even a proprietor-manager could hardly afford such regal garments. **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 5/1 An engineer and landed proprietor-farmer.

Proprietorial (prəˌprəiˌētōˑriăl), *a.* [f. prec. +-AL: cf. *dictatorial, senatorial*, etc.] Of or pertaining to a proprietor.

1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxii. (1872) 195 Control.., financial, civil, proprietorial, and judicial. **1866** *Pall Mall G.* 7 June 2 [To] discharge the social and proprietorial obligation devolving upon them.

b. That is a proprietor; consisting of proprietors: = PROPRIETARY *a.* 2.

1866 *Lond. Rev.* 24 Nov. 568 'Stop, stop', exclaimed the proprietorial censor, 'that won't do'. **1904** *Spectator* 3 Sept. 314/1 Directed, not towards the removal of the old proprietorial class,..but towards facilitating their remaining in the country.

Hence **Proprietoˑrially** *adv.*, as proprietor.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 June, Editorially and proprietorially connected with the *World* newspaper. **1901** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 June 10/2 Alderman H. was proprietorially connected with the *Dispatch*.

Proprietorship (prəˌprəiˑētəɪʃip). [f. as prec. +-SHIP.]

1. The position or condition of a proprietor; ownership. (In earlier quots. in reference to the N. American colonies: see PROPRIETOR 1.)

1669 J. LOCKE *Draft Const. Carolina* § 6 in 33 *Dep. Kpr. Rep.* 258 Those who are then lords proprietors shall not have power to alienate or make over their proprietorships. **1790** *Lunenburg* (Mass.) *Proprietors' Rec.* (1897) 304 An act..for the final Settlement of the Proprietorship of the Town of Lunenburg. **1817** COBBETT *Wks.* XXXII. 17 Mr. Hammond..offered to me the proprietorship of one of those papers as a gift. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* v, With an air of joint proprietorship with Richards in the entertainment. **1866** ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. iii. 62 As a rule..whenever peasant proprietorship is prevalent..hired labour..is scarce and dear. **1886** *Act* 49 & 50 *Vict.* c. 33 § 7 To prove the existence or proprietorship of the copyright of any work first produced in a foreign country.

2. A piece of land owned by a proprietor.

1837 J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 135 Divided as the soil is into small proprietorships, each owner of an arpen of land possesses a horse.

Propriˑetory, *sb.* and *a.* [erron. or var. f. PROPRIETARY, going with the anomalous PROPRIETOR.]

A. *sb.* †**1.** = PROPRIETARY A. 1, 4. *Obs.*

1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 168 If the king be not the proprietorie of the Realme. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 102 The King of Golconda..is proprietory of all the Lands in his Kingdom. **1764** *Answ. to Queries on Proprietary Govt. Maryland* 4 The Lord-proprietory (who is hereditary governor) or his lieutenant-governor.

2. = PROPRIETARY A. 5.

1802 *Hist. Europe* in *Ann. Reg.* 267/2 This correspondence gave great uneasiness to the proprietory. **1869** *Daily News* 30 July, It is in the neighbourhood of a rich proprietory and large towns.

B. *adj.* = PROPRIETARY B.

1633 SIR J. BURROUGHS *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 105 By the common Law of the land the King is proprietory Lord of our seas. **1706** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 16 [A bill] for better regulation of charter and proprietory government in America. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 615 An exclusive diet of one or other of the proprietory preserved foods.

Proprietress (prəˌprəiˑētrĕs). [f. PROPRIETOR +-ESS[1]: cf. obs. F. *proprieteresse*.] A female proprietor.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* II. CCCXXIII. 282 The Proprietress..Demanded Possession again, but the Other begg'd her Excuse. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xvi, With his eyes fixed on a very fat old lady in a mob-cap—evidently the proprietress of the establishment. **1875** MAINE *Hist. Inst.* xi. 334 When the proprietress dies, there is a special order of succession.

Propriˑetrix. [f. as prec. after L. fem.] = prec.

1837 J. D. LANG *New S. Wales* II. 425 The convict Watt.. ingratiated himself into the favour of the proprietrix of 'The Sydney Gazette'. **1884** *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 5 Aug. 4/3 Law agent for the proprietrix of the island.

Propriety (prəˌprəiˑəti). Forms: 5–6 proprie, (-yete(e, 6 -ietee, -ietye, -yetie), 6–7 proprietie, 6– propriety. [ME. *propriete*, a. F. *propriété* (12th c. in Littré), ad. L. *proprietāt-em*: see PROPERTY.] The quality of being proper, or that which is proper (in various senses of the adj.).

†**1.** The fact of being owned by some one, or of being one's own, 'ownness'; the fact of owning something, right of possession or use; ownership, proprietorship: = PROPERTY *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

In quot. 1502 *fig.* in spiritual sense: cf. PROPRIETARY *sb.* 2.

1486 *Petition to Hen. VII* in *Materials Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 297 An othre cope, with a cover gilt,.. the propriete wherof rightfully belongith to oure..moder, the countesse of Richemond & Derby. **1502** ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xlii. 230 Stande thou..without all propryete, & thou shalt alway wyn. **1581–90** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 412 They..can challenge no more proprietie in that grownde, then may euery seuerall Colledge of that Vniuersitie. **1652–62** HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* IV. (1682) 47 The people..live like Beasts, without propriety so much as in their Wives or Children. **1671** FLAVEL *Fount. Life* iv. 9 When men give, they transfer Propriety to another. **1707** E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* III. iv. (ed. 22) 297 Every Freeman hath such a full and absolute Propriety in his Goods, That no Taxes.. legally can be imposed upon them, without their own Consent. **1827** HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. xi. 309 The clergy themselves had never expected that their estates would revert to them in full propriety.

†**b.** The fact of belonging or relating specially to a particular thing or person; peculiarity, particularity, specialty. *Obs.*

1625 BACON *Ess., Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 425 The Doctor of the Gentiles [St. Paul] (the Propriety of whose Vocation, drew him to haue a speciall care of those without) saith [etc.]. *a* **1648** LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 69 The Sweating Sickness (call'd for the propriety by which it seized on the English Nation chiefly *Sudor Anglicus*).

†**c.** *Path.* (Of a pain or disease.) The fact of belonging specially to or originating in, the part affected: see quot. 1657, and cf. IDIOPATHY 2 a. *Obs.*

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 190 The stone of the Kidneyes is knowne or discerned from that of the bladder by The propriety of the paine, by the scituation, and by the dulnesse. **1655** CULPEPPER *Riverius* VII. i. 146 The Breath is hindered by divers Causes, either by sympathy or propriety of parts. The hinderance of breathing by propriety, called *Idiopathica*, comes from the Lungs distempered. **1657** *Physical Dict.* s.v., A pain by propriety is when the cause of the pain is in the part pained, as when the head-ach comes from the humors in the head it's called a pain by propriety; when it proceeds of vapors sent up from the stomach or any other part it's called head-ach by consent or sympathy.

†**2.** Something owned, a possession: = PROPERTY *sb.* 2. *Obs.* (exc. as in b).

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* XXVII. 70 How þai..yitt posseidis that peoples proprietie. **1661** FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xlvi. (ed. 8) 274 How can he have a good conscience..that ..takes away what is anothers just propriety? *a* **1667** JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Eph. v.* 32–33 Wks. 1831 I. 327 So are the proprieties of a wife to be disposed of by her lord. *a* **1721** KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 76 'Tis thy Propriety, and not my own.

b. A piece of land owned by some one, a private possession or estate: = PROPERTY *sb.* 2 b. *Obs.* exc. in *Amer. Hist.*: cf. PROPRIETARY *sb.* 7.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lxxxii. (ed. 8) 365 It is the Hedge ..which hinders from breaking into other mens propriety. **1690** *Andros Tracts* II. 42 The Lands of Widdows and Orphans and other peoples proprieties. **1705** BEVERLEY *Virginia* I. § 92 (1722) 65 The splitting the Colony into Proprieties, contrary to the original Charters. **1889** *Athenæum* 3 Aug. 157/1 The lately established propriety of Nova Scotia was to be ceded to that power [France]. **1894** *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 July 51/1 Early in 1774 he removed to Lenox, Mass., was at once elected clerk of that 'Propriety', and was sent as its delegate to the General Court of the Colony.

3. Proper or particular character; own nature, disposition, idiosyncrasy; essence, individuality; sometimes, proper state or condition. Cf. PROPERTY *sb.* 5. Now *rare*.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 29 As sais the maister of proprieteis of bestis, A scorpioun is as a worm of the erde. **1483** CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F v, I shall telle yow thensample of the lyon and of his propryete. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* v. 32 To paynt ande discriue the origyne ande propriete of the varld. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* II. iii. 176 Silence that dreadfull Bell, it frights the Isle, From her propriety. **1643** MILTON *Divorce* II. ix. Wks. 1851 IV. 85 It holds a strange and lawlesse propriety from all other works of God under heaven. **1659** PEARSON *Creed* v. 511 We are presented with three Particulars: First, the Action itself,.. 'he rose again'. Secondly, The verity, reality, and propriety of that Resurrection, 'he rose from the dead'. **1795** [see PROPRIUM 1 b]. **1876** MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* vii. (1877) 156 This propriety, or characteristic in the individual, which he receives from a Divine source, is a sacred deposit with him.

†**4.** A quality or attribute; esp. an essential or distinctive quality; a characteristic, a peculiarity: = PROPERTY *sb.* 5. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 63 He was bathe honest and honourable,..and full of all gude proprieteis. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XV. XXXIII. (1886) 383 Salomon ..had full and perfect knowledge of all their proprieties. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 718 A secret propriety of this ground. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* i. (1614) 5 All the proprieties of God are infinite as they are immanent in Himself. **1678** HOBBES *Decam.* viii. 101 To tell you the several proprieties of the Magnet. **1700** ASTRY tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* I. 55 Impatience is as it were a Propriety of Power. **1868** BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* 13 Proprieties of the incarnation.

†**5.** The special character, or a special characteristic, of a language; peculiarity of diction, idiom. Often, with mixture of sense 6: Correctness or purity of diction. *Obs.*

a **1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 87 In..Cæs. Commentaries..is seene, the vnspotted proprietie of the Latin tong. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* viii. (1592) 108 The Punicke tongue was but a kinde of seuerall proprietie of the Hebrew. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 5 A word, which according to the Idiom and propriety of the language wherein he spake, may be translated *liues*. **1690** LOCKE *Govt.* I. iv. § 31 'Tis pity the Propriety of the Hebrew Tongue had not used *Fathers of Men*, instead of *Children of Men*. **1739** *Wks. Learned* I. 140 The neglect of acquainting our youth..with the Proprieties and Beauties of their Mother Tongue. **1746–78** (*title*) An Exmoor Scolding, in the Propriety and Decency of Exmoor Language.

†**b.** The proper, strict, or literal sense of a word; strictness of meaning, literalness. *Obs.*

1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* II. i. (1648) 145 In its strictures and propriety, it is onely appliable unto fresh inventions. **1649** JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. vi. 15 The word ἀπειθεια which in propriety of language signifies mispersuasion. **1656** [J. SERGEANT] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 378 God, therefore, cast..a sleep upon Adam: the Propriety is, and He made a sleep fall. **1678** CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 451 If we add that the propriety of this word Jupiter, does not express a Divine, but only a Humane force.

6. Fitness, appropriateness, aptitude, suitability; appropriateness to the circumstances or conditions; conformity with requirement, rule, or principle; rightness, correctness, justness; accuracy. (Cf. PROPER *a.* 4, 9.)

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 69 Displaying resolution in thy eye Courtship in cloths, in speech propriety. **1659** HAMMOND *On Ps.* vii. 40 But that was in the businesse of Absalom,..to which this Psalm hath no propriety. **1729** BUTLER *Serm.* Pref., Wks. 1874 II. 8, I shall not..justify the propriety of preaching..Discourses so abstruse as some of these are. **1824** L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 429 Propriety of language is the selection of such words as the best usage has appropriated to those ideas, which we intend to express by them. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 223 They..appointed a committee to consider the propriety of impeaching Arlington. **1870** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) II. App. T 609 In some manuscripts..the propriety of the title is formally disputed.

7. Conformity with good manners or polite usage; correctness of behaviour or morals; becomingness, decency. *The proprieties*: the things that are considered proper; the details of conventionally correct or proper conduct.

[**1782** MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. xiii, Such propriety of mind as can only result from the union of good sense with virtue.] **178.** BURNS *Addressed to Lady whom Author feared he had offended*, Propriety's cold cautious rules Warm fervour may o'erlook. **1799** HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 76 The decorums, the proprieties, the elegancies, and even the graces, as far as they are simple, pure, and honest, would follow as an almost inevitable consequence. **1836** T. HOOK *G. Gurney* II. v. 290 She talked of some elderly body, in the shape of an aunt, who was to accompany her, and play Propriety. **1856** EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Manners* (Bohn) II. 50 The keeping of the proprieties is as indispensable as clean linen. **1865** TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xi. 118 Her taste for decency of demeanour and propriety of life.

Proprite, obs. form of PROPERTY.

‖ **Proprium** (prōuˑpriŭm). Pl. **-ia.** [L., neut. sing. of *proprius* PROPER; in sense 1 a rendering Gr. ἴδιον (Aristotle).]

1. a. *Logic.* = PROPERTY *sb.* 5 d.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 4 Of the fiue predicables, otherwise called the fiue common wordes, which are spoken of other...*Genus*. The generall worde. *Species*. The kinde, or speciall. *Differentia*. The difference. *Proprium*. The propertie. *Accidens*. The thing chauncing or cleauing to the substance. **1656** STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* VI. (1701) 247/1 *Proprium* is that which declareth, not what a thing is, but is in it only, and Reciprocal with it. **1885** DAVIDSON *Logic Definit.* 46 A logical operation which..grasps the essence of a thing (to the exclusion of its accidents and propria).

b. An attribute essentially belonging to something, a distinctive characteristic; essential nature, selfhood.

1795 tr. *Swedenborg's Chr. Relig.* § 189. iv. (ed. 3) 220 Whosoever worshippeth Nature instead of God, or in Preference to God, and in Consequence of such Worship maketh himself, and his own *Proprium*, the Center and Fountain of his Thoughts. [*Note*] By *Proprium*, as here applied to Man, is meant his own Propriety, or all that he has of himself, when separated from Divine Influence. **1858** BUSHNELL *Nat. & Supernat.* ii. (1864) 57 What we call their character is the majestic proprium of their personality. **1863** H. JAMES *Subst. & Shadow* xv. 256 Religion has had but one legitimate spiritual aim, namely: the softening of the selfhood or *proprium* which man derives from nature.

†**2.** Something given to a person for his own; a perquisite. *Obs.*

a **1734** NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 208 The allowing *propriums* to the attornies, in taxing of costs, was a very great abuse.

Pro-proctor (prōuˌprɒˑktəɹ). [f. PRO-[1] 4 + PROCTOR.] orig. One who acted for the proctor of a university (see PROCTOR 3); an officer under the control of the proctors, who assisted them in executing their duties of keeping order, etc. (sometimes specially appointed for the occasion); now, an assistant or deputy proctor in the universities.

1650 in Wood *Life & Times* (O. H. S.) I. 163 At a meeting of the Delegates..Mr. Hancock proproctor the last yeare did certifie the Delegates that one Keblewhite a citizen had served him with a writ out of the Common Pleas for false imprisonment. **1663** *Ibid.* 22 Sept. 492 The 24 masters of Art,..that were to be as pro-proctors and exercise procuratorial power over schollers. *Ibid.* 23 Sept., The 24 pro-

proctors placed..the Doctors and Bachelors of Divinity next to Xt. Ch. gate, and the Masters on both sides almost up to the Bull Inne. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* Pref. 20 One of the pro-proctors for the last and the present year. *a* 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* (1885) 229 For the proctorial year 1847 I had acted as proproctor to Green.

Pro-provincial, Pro-provost: see PRO-[1] 4.

Propryete, -tie, Propryte, etc., obs. ff. PROPRIETY, PROPERTY.

Props (prɒps), *sb. pl. Theatrical slang.* [Short for *properties.*] Stage requisites: see PROPERTY 3. See also quot. 1889.

1865 *Slang Dict., Props,* stage properties. 1883 *Referee* 6 May 3/2 At the Theatre Royal..the scenery and props were sold by auction. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* 32 It was ..the property room, the things therein being properties, or, more commonly 'props', so called, I believe, because they help to support the drama. *Ibid.* 46 Scenery and props were not being used at this, the first, rehearsal. 1889 *New York Trib.* 14 July (Cent.), The property-man, or, as he is always called, props for short.

Props, gambling game with shells: see PROP *sb.*[4]

Propternuptial (prɒ:ptəɪnʌ·pʃăl), *a. Rom. Law.* [f. L. phr. *propter nupti-ās* on account of marriage + -AL.] That is made or given on account of marriage.

1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. (ed. 2) 116 The party who made a causeless repudium,..was punished by pecuniary losses in respect of dos and propternuptial donations.

‖ **Propterygium** (prɒptĕri·dʒiŏm). *Ichthyol.* [mod.L., f. PRO-[2] + PTERYGIUM.] The anterior cartilaginous portion of the fin in elasmobranch fishes. Hence **Proptery·gial** *a.*, of or pertaining to the propterygium.

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 478 The propterygium and the mesopterygium are evidently derived from rays which still remain attached to the shoulder-girdle. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* II. 920 In the pelvic fin of the Selachians the mesopterygium is absent, and the propterygium more or less rudimentary. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Pterygium,* Bearing..the propterygial, mesopterygial, and metapterygial basalia and radialia.

‖ **Proptosis** (prɒptō·sis). *Path.* [late L. *proptōsis,* a. Gr. *πρόπτωσις* a falling forward, prolapse, f. *προπίπτειν* to fall forwards.] Prolapse or protrusion of some bodily part, esp. of the eye.

1676 J. COOKE *Marrow Chirurg.* 713 *Staphyloma*...In its progress it receives several Names, as when the Uvea sticks out above the Cornea: 'tis called *Proptosis.* 1782 E. FORD in *Med. Commun.* I. 95 [She] was brought to me..with a *Proptosis* of the left eye. 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 17 During the examination one of the eyes got dislocated forwards, and had to be replaced...The proptosis is probably accounted for by shallowness of the orbits.

So **Propto·sed** *ppl. a.*, prolapsed, protruded.

1890 *Lancet* 1 Feb. 246/2 A small portion of the bladder wall was proptosed through the deficient neck. 1900 *Ibid.* 12 May 1362/2 An elderly woman whose Right Eye on Stooping became Proptosed.

† **Propu·dious,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prŏpudiōsus* shameful, infamous, f. *prŏpudi-um* a shameful action, f. *prŏ,* PRO-[1] + *pud-ēre* to make ashamed: see -OUS.] Shameful, infamous, disgraceful.

1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 111 Calling upon Niger ..to vindicate the Roman State, and hasten to free them from that propudious Governour. 1678 PHILLIPS, *Propudious,* (Lat.) shameful, filthy, dishonest.

† **Propugn** (propiū·n), *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prŏpugn-āre* to go forth to fight; to fight for, defend, f. *prŏ,* PRO-[1] + *pugn-āre* to fight.] *trans.* To contend for; to defend, maintain, champion, vindicate (an opinion, doctrine, or the like). Hence † **Propu·gning** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 48 To stand stiffly..against our adversaries and to propugne our side. 1629 BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 218 Scriptures and Fathers were..so strongly propugned and maintained by Luther. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriomastix* 722 To give a satisfactory answer to all their chiefe Play-propugning Objections. *a* 1660 HAMMOND (J.), For propugning of our faith. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 95 Divinations which they..were highly concern'd to propugn as true.

† **Propu·gnacle.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *propugnacle* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *prŏpugnācul-um* a defence, bulwark, f. *prŏpugn-āre*: see prec.] A bulwark, rampart; also *fig.* a defence, protection.

1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heralds* § 219 (1877) 119 A great strength, propugnacle and bulwarke for the noble realme of Englande. 1612 R. SHELDON *Serm. St. Martin's* 61 His propugnacle and defence of Christian religion which no Pontifician durst euer yet attempt to confute. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 48 The Tower of London, it being the prime Fortresse and propugnacle of the City.

Hence **Propu·gnacled** *a. nonce-wd.*, having ramparts, battlemented.

1875 BLACKMORE *Alice L.* III. xxvii. 341 The smallest of them [opals] is larger and finer than that..which is called 'Troy burning', from the propugnacled flash of its movement.

‖ **Propugna·culum.** [L.] = PROPUGNACLE.

1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 235 No elastic propugnaculum had been interposed between the body and the axle, so that we sat, as it were, on paving-stones. 1878 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 158/2 The Roman colonies were..valuable as *propugnacula* of the state.

† **Propu·gnate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prŏpugnāt-,* ppl. stem of *prŏpugn-āre*: see PROPUGN.] *trans.* = PROPUGN. Hence † **Propugnating** *vbl. sb.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 144 If they equally conduce to the propugnating of one affection, and roborating one part.

† **Propugna·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prŏpugnātiōn-em,* n. of action f. *prŏpugn-āre*: see PROPUGN.] Defence, protection, vindication.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 62 Signifiyng..that this Scottish Lyon depended wholly upon the propugnation and defence of french lilies. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 136. 1647 HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* II. vi. 113 Arguments alledged for the propugnation thereof.

Propugnator (prōu·pŭgnē·ɪtəɹ). [ad. L. *prŏpugnātŏr-em,* agent-n. f. *prŏpugn-āre*: see PROPUGN. Cf. obs. F. *propugnateur* (1552 in Godef.).] One who champions; a defender, champion.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluaciour* 1283 Sho offrid a son to be for the Jewes propugnatoure, Marie hire son to be of alle this werld protectoure. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. Ded. 4 Of them that hes been propugnatours for the libertee of ther cuntre. 1648 CHARLES I *Gracious Mess. Peace* 73 The erectors and propugnators of the Presbyterian Discipline in Scotland. 1792 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 42 One of my father's earliest and most able propugnators. 1895 RAMSAY in Mary R. L. Bryce *Mem. Prof. Veitch* (1896) 136 The sturdy, uncompromising propugnator of any question which he took up.

So † **Propu·gnatrice** *Obs.* [prob. a. OF. fem. of *propugnateur*], a female champion or defender.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluaciour* 3254 Oure swete ladye And als our propugnatrice ouercome the feende oure enemy.

Propugner (propiū·nəɹ). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. PROPUGN *v.* + -ER[1].] A defender, a champion; = PROPUGNATOR.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 570 The daily exclamations of the Donatists in Africke against the Orthodoxe..was, that they were traitours against the holy books, and themselues the propugners of them. 1691 W. NICHOLLS *Answ. Naked Gospel* 96 These were the chief Propugners of this Heresie in the Primitive times. 1841 GALLENGA *Italy* II. v. i. 306 Dante found numberless propugners and disciples.

† **Propulsa·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prŏpulsātiōnem,* n. of action f. *prŏpulsāre*: see PROPULSE. So obs. F. *propulsation* (Cotgr.).]

1. A driving forth; = PROPULSION 1. *rare*[−1].

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* IV. 56 As touchyng..propulsation of the byrth in women, nature receiueth by them [transverse muscles] a large benefite.

2. A driving away; repelling.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xiv. (1611) 225 The finalle end for which militarie profession is instituted viz. propulsation or reuenge of wrong. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* III. viii. (1654) 244 The just cause of war is the propulsation of publique injuries. 1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) I. 73 Two Enquiries offer themselves...One is, concerning the Propulsation or Repelling of Injuries; the other is, concerning the Revenging of Injuries already done.

Propu·lsatory, *a. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *prŏpulsātor,* agent-n. f. *prŏpulsāre*: see next and -ORY[2].] = PROPULSIVE *a.* 2.

1842 YOUATT *Dog* ii. (1845) 34 It is by the propulsatory efforts of the muscles of the loins and thighs that the race is won.

† **Propu·lse,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prŏpuls-āre,* frequent. of *prŏpellĕre* to PROPEL.] *trans.* To drive off, chase away, repel. Hence † **Propu·lsing** *vbl. sb.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 19 By which craftie ymagened inuencion they might eyther cloke or propulse from them all suspicion. 1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 10 The same il humours and fumes are propulsed and dispersed and the brayne is made sincere, stronge and healthfull. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* IV. xxxvii. (1713) 396 Those Reformed Churches that can do that right to themselves by propulsing their Enemies.

Propulsion (propv·lʃən). [a. F. *propulsion* (1642 in Hatz.-Darm.) or f. L. type **prŏpulsiōnem,* n. of action f. *prŏpellĕre* to PROPEL.]

† **1.** The action of driving forth or away; expulsion, repulsion. *Obs.*

1611 FLORIO, *Propulsione,* a repelling,..a propulsion. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 715 In joy it worketh it diversely; viz. by propulsion of the moisture, when the spirits dilate, and occupy more room. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 210 Warm bathing..promotes the propulsion of noxious matters.

2. The action of driving or pushing forward or onward; the condition of being impelled onward; also, propulsive force or effort.

1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 434 The materials..are..unceasingly carried forwards by the circulation and propulsion of water into the unfathomable regions of the sea. 1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 59 To conclude this subject of the propulsion of the sap. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 372 He had succeeded in constructing a rude steam engine,.. which he pronounced to be an admirable and most forcible instrument of propulsion.

b. *fig.* Impelling influence; impulse.

1800 LAMB *Lett., to Manning* 1 Mar., I set to, with an unconquerable propulsion to write, with a lamentable want of what to write. 1846 WHITTIER *Reformer* xxiv, God works in all things; all obey His first propulsion from the night. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 202 The constant propulsion of an unbending will.

† **Propu·lsity.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as next + -ITY.] Propulsive quality; propulsion.

1607 J. DAVIES *Summa Totalis* (Grosart) 10/1 Eternity.. was e're Time had roome To stirre it selfe, by Heau'ns propulsity.

Propulsive (propv·lsiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *prŏpuls-,* ppl. stem of *prŏpellĕre* to PROPEL + -IVE.]

† **1.** Having the power, quality, or tendency to drive off or away; expulsive. *Obs. rare.*

1648 *Regall Apol.* 23 London-Treacle is of a temperate nature, and propulsive of Venome from the Heart. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 193 Children..having then no further need for that propulsive cause.

2. Having the quality of propelling, or the tendency to propel; that drives or urges forward or onward.

1758 BATTIE *Madness* v. 30 The propulsive action of the heart. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* I. ii. § 30 (1879) 30 The propulsive movement of the foot in walking. 1893 FAIRBAIRN *Christ in Mod. Theol.* I. II. I. vi. 227 An immanent, yet ever-active, impulsive and propulsive being maintaining his society.

b. *sb.* A propulsive agent or principle.

1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 38 Misery, fun, folly, fame, honour,.. and all the host of propulsives, which to name even would be to fill divers pages.

Propu·lsory, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ORY[2].]

† **a.** = prec. 1 (*obs.*). **b.** = prec. **2**; propelling.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Propulsory,* that serves to put away or drive back. 1805 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 208, I had reasons propulsory for every one of them; and reasons attractive, for three out of the four.

Propupa, Propygidium: see PRO-[2] 1, 2.

Propur(e, -te(e, -ty, obs. ff. PROPER, -TY.

Propyl (prō·pil). *Chem.* [f. PROP(IONIC + -YL: so called as being the radical of propionic acid; cf. *propane, propene,* etc.] The hypothetical alcohol radical of the tricarbon series, C_3H_7; also called *Trityl.* Chiefly *attrib.* = PROPYLIC, as *propyl alcohol, aldehyde, bromide, hydride, nitrate, nitrite; propyl series,* etc.

Of *propyl alcohol,* C_3H_7OH, there are two isomeric forms, *normal propyl alcohol* $CH_3.CH_2.CH_2OH$, and *iso-* (or *pseudo-*) *propyl* or *secondary propyl alcohol* $CH_3.HCOH.CH_3$. So with other propyl derivatives.

1859 *Fownes' Man. Chem.* 411 Propylic alcohol, or hydrated oxide of propyl. 1866 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 241 The propyl compounds..closely resemble the foregoing ethyl series of bodies. Propyl alcohol, when oxidized, yields propionic acid. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 594 Propyl alcohol was discovered by Chancel in 1853, in the fusel-oil of the residues left in the distillation of brandy from wine. 1873 J. COOKE *Chem.* (1875) 313 Propyl hydride [=Propane] is the third in a series of homologous compounds.

Hence **Pro·pyl-ace·tic** *a.* = VALERIC; thence *propyl-acetate*; **pro·pyl-ace·tylene** = *pentinene* (see PENTANE). **Pro·pylami·ne,** an amine of propyl, as C_3H_9N, a bright, colourless, highly refracting, very mobile liquid, having a peculiar, strongly ammoniacal odour. **Pro·pylate,** a salt of propylic acid. **Pro·pyl-be·nzene** = CUMENE.

1860 in *N. Syd. Soc. Year-Bk. Med.* 414 By adding very cautiously hydrate of lime the *propylamine is obtained. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 891 Sulphate of propylamine is crystalline and deliquescent. 1880 *Athenæum* 27 Nov. 713/1 The authors..have thus prepared aluminic methylate, ethylate, *propylate. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 767 *Propyl-benzene is a liquid which boils at 157°.

Propyla, pl. of PROPYLON.

‖ **Propylæum** (prɒpilī·ŏm). Pl. **propylæa.** [L., ad. Gr. *προπύλαιον,* usually in pl. *-αια,* sb. use of neuter of *προπύλαιος* adj. 'before the gate', f. *πρό,* PRO-[2] + *πύλη* a gate: see PROPYLON.] The entrance to a temple or other sacred enclosure, esp. when of architectural importance; *spec.* the entrance to the Acropolis at Athens. Hence, A gateway, porch, or vestibule.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Propylæum,* (in *Architect.*) the Porch of a Temple or great Hall; a Gate-House. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. II. III. x. 161 The propylæum was probably about the third gate, which was built at a great expence. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* iv. 72 These propylaea lead into a large open court. 1890 J. MARTINEAU *Seat Auth. in Relig.* I. iii. 92 This invulnerable Stoic..lingers still at the propylaeum of the temple of Duty.

b. *fig.* An introduction; *pl.* prolegomena.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., Hence Propylæum is also used figuratively in matters of learning, for an introduction, apparatus, or prodromus to some greater work. 1893 *Nation* 16 Feb. 128/1 The magnificent propylaea, metaphysical, psychological, historical, through which, in chapter after chapter, he advances to the sacred precincts of his particular themes.

Propylene (prō·pilēn). *Chem.* [f. PROPYL + -ENE.] The olefine of the tricarbon or propyl series, C_3H_6, a colourless gas; called also *propene* and *tritylene.*

1850 J. W. REYNOLDS in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 114 It is this hydrocarbon..to which I propose to give the name of Propylene. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* (ed. 2) 489 *note,* The discovery by Captain Reynolds of another homologue of olefiant gas, namely propylene. *c* 1865 LETHEBY in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. 116/1 *Propylene..,* or the super-olefiant gas of Dalton and Henry.

Propylic (prɒpi·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of or belonging to propyl, containing propyl, as *propylic* (or propyl) *alcohol,* $C_3H_7.OH$.

1850 J. W. REYNOLDS in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 114 The corresponding alcohol..still unknown, for which the appellation Propylic alcohol has been suggested by Dr. Hofmann. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 126 Tritylic (or propylic) Alcohol. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 843 Other members of the alcoholic series—amylic, butylic, and propylic alcohol ..may exert a decidedly toxic action.

Propylite (prɒ·pilăit). *Lithol.* [f. Gr. *πρόπυλ-ον* (see next) + -ITE[1]. So named by Richthofen 1867 as opening the Tertiary volcanic epoch.] A volcanic rock occurring in and considered to be characteristic of various silver-mining regions; also called *greenstone trachyte.*

Believed to be a product of the metamorphism which

accompanied the formation of the metalliferous deposits. 1867 RICHTHOFEN in *Mem. Calif. Acad. Sci.* I. II. Propylite. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines* 167 Propylite. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xii. 237 Propylites also occur in Transylvania and Hungary. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 201, I hope shortly to be able to describe some of the chief types of these rocks,..their altered forms (the 'propylites'), and their Plutonic representatives (diorites and quartz-diorites).

Hence **Propyli·tic** *a.*, pertaining to propylite.

1889 *Quart. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLV. 179 These rocks.. exhibiting interesting examples of the so-called propylitic modification.

‖ **Propylon** (prǫ·pilǫn). Pl. **-pylons**, or in Gr. form **-pyla** (**-pula**). [L., a. Gr. *πρόπυλον*, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *πύλη* gate.] = PROPYLÆUM. Also *transf.*

1831 M. RUSSELL *Egypt* vi. (1832) 257 Between these obelisks and the propylon are two colossal statues. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 152/2 Many of them [Pyramids of Nubia] have propyla attached to one side, as if forming the entrance to the building. 1865 FERGUSSON *Hist. Archit.* I. I. iv. 113 The cells of the temple have been excavated from the rock, but their courts and propylons are structural buildings added in front. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 4103 O hail, my palace, my hearth's propula! 1880 *Academy* 11 Dec. 418/3 Evisa..looks down between two huge propylons of red rock to the blue expanse of sea.

Propyn(e, variants of PROPINE *Obs.*

Propyr(e, -yrte(e, obs. ff. PROPER, PROPERTY.

‖ **Proquæstor** (prǫkwī·stǫr). *Rom. Antiq.* [Late L. *prōquæstor* (Gloss. Cyril., Gl. Philox.) for earlier *prō quæstōre* (one acting) on behalf of a quæstor.] One acting in place of or on behalf of a quæstor; an officer who was associated with a proconsul in the administration of a province after having fulfilled the quæstorship at Rome.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pro-Quæstor*, a Deputy or Vice-Treasurer. 1727 LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) I. 88 Lucius Antonius son of Mark, proquæstor and proprætor, to the magistrates, senate, and people of Sardis, greeting. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* II. xiii. 21 Of sufficient importance to have had a proquæstor.

‖ **Prora** (prōˑră). Pl. **-æ**. [L. *prōra* PROW.]

1. The prow of a ship; = PRORE. *rare.*

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* (ed. 2) 432 Naked, planting the right leg on a rock, a prora or a dolphin, leaning thereon and looking abroad, a victor in combat and ruling over the vanquished.

2. *Zool.* Either of the two points of a cymba or C-shaped sponge-spicule.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 s. v. *Sponge*, The back of the 'C' [-shaped spicule] is the *keel* or *tropis*; the points are the *prows* or *proræ*.

Proral (prōˑrăl), *a.* [f. L. *prōr-a* prow + -AL.]

† **a.** *Anat.* in *proral bone*, one of the original elements of the occipital. *Obs. rare.* **b.** *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the proræ of a cymba: see prec. 2.

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 51 At birth the occipital bone..appears to be formed by four centres...These four pieces form at that period so many distinct bones, which have been described as such under the names of the proral or squamous, condyloid and basilar bones. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 418/1 s. v. *Sponge*, By growing towards the equator the opposed proral and pleural pteres may conjoin.

‖ **Pro rata**: see PRO 7.

Pro-rate (prōˑuˌrēˑt), *v.* Chiefly *U.S.* [f. *pro rata.*] *trans.* To divide or assess *pro rata*; to distribute proportionally.

1864 WEBSTER, *Prorate*, to divide or distribute proportionally; to assess *pro rata* (*Corrupt. U.S.*). 1881 *Chicago Times* 17 June, As to the basis for pro-rating business between the subsidized and unsubsidized portions of the railroad. 1892 in A. E. Lee *Hist. Columbus* II. 262 The Baltimore and Ohio [Railroad] to operate and maintain the road..and prorate sixty-five per cent of the gross earnings ..that is to pay the Central Ohio thirty-five per cent of the gross earnings.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To make arrangement or agreement on a basis of proportional distribution.

1867 *Chicago Times* 21 Mar., An act amending the charter of the Hannibal and St. Jo Road, by which the latter is bound to 'pro-rate' with any and all roads coming to Hannibal. 1890 *Tribune* (New York) 6 June (Cent.), The Santa Fe [Railroad]..will hereafter refuse to prorate with them on shipments of grain and live stock.

Hence **Pro-ra·table** *a.*, 'capable of being pro-rated or divided proportionately' (Webster *Suppl.* 1879).

Prore (prōəɪ). Now *poet.* and *rare.* Also 5 **prowere**, 6 **proer**. [a. obs. F. *prore* (*a* 1527 in Godef.), ad. L. *prōra* PROW *sb.*[1]] The PROW of a ship or boat.

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. ii. 93 The prowere whiche is the foremest partye of the shippe. 1490 — *Eneydos* vi. 29 The prores or forship whiche lay towarde the countre of Thir, tourned anone towarde the Royame of Cypre. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* E e iij, The prores did stricke against the puppes. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 101 They carryed certeine Ordinaunce in the proer of theyr Boates. 1718 POPE *Iliad* II. 773 Twelve galleys with vermillion prores. 1820 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. xiii, The tall ship, whose lofty prore Shall never stem the billows more. 1866 CONINGTON tr. *Æneid* VI. 5 Toward the sea they turn their prores.

b. *poetically.* A ship.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. 1 ij b (*The Vote*) Now I hope in a successfull prore, The Fates have fix'd me on sweet Englands shore. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. xviii, He.. Must..lag with overloaded prore, While barks unburthened reach the shore.

Pro-rector (prōˑuːrĕˑktəɪ). [f. PRO-[1] 4 + RECTOR; also mod.L.; Ger. *prorektor.*] The deputy or substitute of a RECTOR in a university, college, or other educational institution; a vice-rector.

Formerly in use in the Scottish universities; now chiefly in those of Germany, in some of which the king or prince of the state is nominal Rector (RECTOR 4 c), and the professor who executes the duties of the office is pro-rector. (Cf. the positions of Chancellor and Vice-chancellor at Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin.) Also in some other German institutes of higher education.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. IV. i. (1903) 306 But if it happen that any Baron or Prince be Student in the University, they vse to chuse him Rector for the yeare, and he vseth to chuse for his Prorector or Substitute, him who by order and course should haue otherwise beene Rector that yeare. [1685 (Feb. 25) *Acta Rectorum Univ. St. Andr.* III. 471 Nomina incorporatorum in Collegio D. Leonardi R. D. D. Waltero Comrio pro Rectore, Collegii Dⁿᵉ Mariae primario.] 1858 (Mar. 1) *Minutes Univ. St. Andrews* XVII. 415 (MS.) The Senatus appointed the ex-Rector to act in the meantime as pro-Rector and Promotor. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Aug. 4/2 The pro-rectors .. of the several [German] universities represented [at Heidelberg] wore their gold chains of office. 1896 *Daily News* 12 June 7/1 The Emperor..was received ..by the Rector and Pro-Rector of the Polytechnicum, in their long brown gowns and caps. 1908 J. MAITLAND ANDERSON *Let. to Editor* 5 Mar., [At St. Andrews] Down to the date of the Ordinances following on the Universities Act of 1858 there was always a pro-Rector, or, as he was sometimes called, a vice-Rector, whose duty it was to act for the Rector in his absence.

Hence **Prore·ctorate**, the office of a pro-rector.

1846 in WORCESTER (citing Wm. Howitt). 1863 DOWDING *Life Calixtus* xxii. 203 The duties of the prorectorate have occupied and distracted me.

Pro-regent, Prorenal: see PRO-[1] 2, PRO-[2] 1.

Pro-re-nascent, pro re nata: see PRO 8.

† **Prore·ption.** *Obs. rare.* Also 7 **-sion.** [n. of action f. L. *prōrēp-ĕre, prōrept-* to creep forward.] A creeping on; a slow advance.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prorepsion*, a creeping forward, a stealing forward by little and little, a growing, spreading, or coming forth. 1658 J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* x. 55 The slow proreption of every Sidus, out of his proper Sign.

‖ **Pro·rex.** *Obs.* [f. L. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *rex* a king.] A deputy king, a viceroy.

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, Create him pro-rex of all Africa. 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Epist., As I haue no portion in any mans opinion, so am I the Prorex of my priuate thought. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 198 In the 17. year of Jehoshaphat, Jehoram his son began to reign as Pro-rex, or Vice-Roy to his father. *a* 1679 T. GOODWIN *Knowledge of God* III. xiii, Whilst the world stands he [Christ] governs it, easeth God of that burden, and is his *prorex* for him.

† **Pro·ritate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōrītāre* to provoke, incite, entice. Cf. PRORITE and IRRITATE *v.*[1]] *trans.* To provoke, irritate, incite.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* v. (1650) 109 By reason of their moyst and calorificall nature, they proritate Venus. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 81 By proritating the gout. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* XIX. 705 Fontanels..proritate and milk as it were the outer surface of the Skin.

Hence † **Prorita·tion** *Obs.*, provocation, irritation, incitement.

1641 *Answ. Vind. Smectymnuus* 43 Your Maimonides (after all your proritation) holds no other than faire termes with our Samaritan Chronicle. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 535 It helps such as labour under..the Dysentery, or the frequent proritation of the Belly. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 221 The flux..may be continued by a gentle proritation of the bloud.

† **Prori·te,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōrīt-āre*: see above. Cf. obs. F. *proriter* (Cotgr.).] *trans.* = PRORITATE.

1574 NEWTON *Health Mag.* 72 It doth prorite and tickle them to expell it.

Prorogate (prōuˑrǫgēit), *v.* Pa. pple. in Sc. also **prorogate.** Chiefly *Sc.*; now only *Sc. Law.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōrogāre*: see PROROGUE.]

† **1.** *trans.* = PROROGUE 1. *Obs.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 193 In that he had prorogate his office by the space of v. yere. 1552 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 127 With power to thaim to prorogat thair decreit. 1607 EARL STIRLING *Julius Cæsar* Argt., He sent to the Senate to have his government of the Gaules prorogated for five years. 1685 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VIII. 460/1 The excise of Inland and forraign Commodities Granted to King Charles the Second .. by the fourteenth act of the Parliament 1661..and prorogat by the eight act of þe Parliament 1681 for fyve yeares therafter. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xl. 332, I prorogate,..wyre-draw, and shift off the Time.

2. = PROROGUE 2, 3.

1569 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 31 To prorogat the said day of thair meting. 1646 BP. MAXWELL *Burd. Issach. in Phenix* (1708) II. 298 He gave order to prorogate it [the Assembly] to another and longer day. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. (1699) 290 The Council may prorogat also the Dyets appointed for Execution. 1828–40 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 66 *note*, The day of assembling was afterwards prorogated to the 2nd of August. 1868 *Act* 31 & 32 *Vict.* c. 100 § 26 It shall not be competent of consent of parties to prorogate the time for complying with any statutory enactment.

3. *Sc.* and *Civil Law.* To extend (the jurisdiction of a judge or court) to a cause in which it would otherwise be incompetent: cf. PROROGATION 4 a.

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 25 All Ciuill causes,.. arising betweene or among the brethren..who either may or will prorogate the Iurisdiction of the said Companie, and their court. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. (1699) 287 Custome had in this prorogat the power of inferior Judges. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Prorogation of Jurisdiction*, Where the proper jurisdiction of the judge is confined to causes amounting to a certain value, parties may prorogate the jurisdiction to causes above that value, unless the statute conferring the jurisdiction prohibits it.

¶ **4.** pa. pple. *prorogate*, app. used for 'called, summoned'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* CXVII. i. (MS. Arch Seld. B. 10), Edmonde Irneside..After Ethelrede his fadir was prorogate Vnto the Crowne of alle this roiale land.

Hence **Pro·rogated** *ppl. a.*

1645 RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* xviii. (1845) 205 The standing and prorogated intercession and advocation of Jesus Christ..must have a daily use. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. ii. § 27 Prorogated jurisdiction is that which is, by the consent of parties, conferred on a judge, who, without such consent, would be incompetent. 1850 *Act* 13 & 14 *Vict.* c. 36 § 2 The original or prorogated period, as the case may be, for lodging a revised condescendence.

Prorogation (prōuˑrǫgēiˑʃən, prǫrǫ-). [ME. a. OF. *prorogacion* (1313 in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *-tion*, or ad. L. *prōrogātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōrogāre* to PROROGUE.]

1. The action of lengthening in duration, or causing to last longer; extension of time; prolongation, protraction, further continuance. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in *Sc. Law.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 185 Thro the prorogacion of his lyfe by oon day. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 278 b, The senate would not geue ne graunte vnto Caesar prorogacion, that is to saie, a longer tyme in his dictature. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 136/1 Distance of life makes time, and the prorogation of life continueth time. 1746–7 *Act* 20 *Geo. II*, c. 50 § 21 By virtue of the prorogation of any lease or tack. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.*, *Prorogation*, in judicial proceedings,..a prolongation of the time appointed for reporting a diligence, lodging a paper, or obtempering any other judicial order...*Prorogation of a Lease* is the extension of it. 1876 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 253 He himself can count on patriarchal prorogations of existence.

2. The action of proroguing an assembly, esp. Parliament; discontinuance of meetings until the following session, without dissolution.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 31/2 Your Parlement..by dyvers prorogations and adjornamentes, unto the xxi day of Januarii..contynued. 1586 BURGHLEY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 13 We..did procure this prorogation for the other ij. causes. [Cf. PROROGUE *v.* 2, quot. 1586.] 1638 DK. HAMILTON in *H. Papers* (Camden) 48 A great manie of them came to toune to haue protested against the prorogation [of the General Assembly]. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 187 A prorogation is the continuance of the parliament from one session to another, as an adjournment is a continuation of the session from day to day. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* vii, Baillie Craigdallie..who had advised the prorogation of their civic council to the present place and hour. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 271/1 The effect of a prorogation is at once to suspend all business until parliament may be summoned again. *Ibid.*, A bill must be renewed after a prorogation, as if it had never been introduced, though the prorogation be for no more than a day. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* § 768 III. 480–1 The distinction between adjournment and prorogation .. is a modern distinction. The necessary adjournment from day to day, as well as the countermanding of a parliament called, and the longer intermission of the session, was known as prorogation. *Ibid.* note, The word 'prorogation' is constantly used for countermanding or delaying the day of meeting.

b. *transf.* The time during which Parliament stands prorogued; the interval between successive sessions.

a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 110 b, Duryng whiche prorogacion, the common people saied to the Burgesses, sirs, we heare saie you will graunt .iiii. *s.* of the pound, we aduise you to doo so that you maie go home. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 18 Feb., This day the Parliament met again, after their long prorogation. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* ii. Wks. 1755 V. II. 42 It would seem very extraordinary, if an inferiour court in England should take a matter out of the hands of the high court of parliament during a prorogation.

† **3.** The action of deferring to a later time; postponement. *Obs. rare.*

1658 PHILLIPS, *Prorogation*, a deferring, or putting off to another time. 1703 KELSEY *Serm.* 73 He often obtained Pardon, or a Prorogation of the Punishment.

4. a. *Sc. Law.* The extension of the jurisdiction of a judge or court to causes which do not properly come within it: allowed in certain cases by consent of the parties.

1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Prorogation of Jurisdiction*, In order to render prorogation effectual, the judge must have a jurisdiction susceptible of prorogation.

† **b.** *gen.* Extension. *Obs. rare.*

a 1626 BP. ANDREWES *Serm.* (1856) I. 223 Goodwill is a kind of peace, but..with an extent or prorogation, a kind of peace peculiar to men which the other parts of the earth are not capable of.

Pro·rogator. *rare.* [a. L. *prōrogātor*, agent-n. f. *prōrogāre* to PROROGUE.] One who prorogates. (In quot. app. a meaningless jingle.)

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 376 Against all Merlinicall arrogators, prorogators, derogators.

Prorogue (prǫrōuˑg), *v.* Forms: 5–7 **proroge**, (5 **-rouge**, 6 **-rog**), 6– **prorogue.** [Late ME. *proroge*, a. F. *proroge-r*, obs. F. *prorogue-r* (both 14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prōrogāre* to prolong, extend, esp. a term of office; to defer; lit. to ask publicly, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *rogāre* to ask.

The etymological sense, according to Scheller, was perh. 'to ask the people whether the term of an office or the like

may be prolonged to a person', as if to ask him *on*. But of this no example is extant in Latin.]

†**1.** *trans.* To prolong, lengthen, extend (in time or duration); to cause to last longer; to continue, protract. *Obs.* (exc. as a Latinism).

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 289 The which Graunte was lengthed and proroged att the last Parlement..for other two yeer. *c* 1510 More *Picus* Wks. 9/2 If he might haue had y^e^ space of his life proroged. 1579 Fenton *Guicciard.* (1618) 91 The truce was eftsoones proroged for a few dayes. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 599 And besides [they] did prorogue the time of his Government five years further. 1665 Manley *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 896 The States prorogued the space for deliberation..from that present time, until the first of September. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) XI. 263 As long as the Spirit prorogues his workings after an obstinate resistance of them. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 337 The command of Scipio was prorogued, not, as on previous occasions, for a fixed period, but till such time as the war should be brought to a conclusion.

† **2.** *trans.* To put off for a time, defer, postpone.

1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 233/1 To forbere and proroge, and to putte in suspence, th' execution of leviyng of the fyndyng of the seid..men Archers. 1494 Hen. VII *Let.* in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O. H. S.) II. 618 Prorouge your said election unto the tyme ye shall have furthre knowlege from us. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. i. 48, I heare thou must and nothing may prorogue it, On Thursday next be married to this Countie. 1632 Pory in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 278 The Kinges journey into Scotland must be prorogued untill another yeare. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) VII. vi. 126 To stop a sinner in his return to God, by persuading his corrupt heart, that he may prorogue that return with safety.

† **b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To delay, procrastinate. *Obs.*

1593 Nashe *Christ's T.* 21 b, Why doost thou proroge till thy wretched life be at his wayes end?

3. To discontinue the meetings of (a legislative or other assembly) for a time, definite or indefinite, without dissolving it; to dismiss by authority until the next session. Originally and chiefly in reference to the British Parliament.

Originally a particular application of sense 2; the meaning being to 'put off, postpone' the assembly or sittings of a parliament which had been summoned or was in session: cf. quot. 1878 in Prorogation 2.

1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 286/1 This present Parliament to proroge, adjorne, or dissolve. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. 344 In this .xlii. yere, the kyng helde one parlyament at Westmynster, & another or ellys prorogyd y^e^ same to Wynchestre. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. V* 41 Vpon this poynct .. the parliament was prorogued to Westminster. 1586 Burghley in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 13 We had gret reason to prorog our session which is rone till the 25^th^. *c* 1615 Bacon *Adv. Sir G. Villiers* ii. § 28 By the king's authority alone, and by his writs are they [the two houses of peers and commons] assembled, and by him alone are they prorogued and dissolved; but each house may adjourn itself. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, VII. Wks. 1813 III. 23 The Pope..recalled them and prorogued the Council. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 77 Parliament is called together by the King, who may prorogue or dissolve it at pleasure.

b. *intr.* in *pass.* sense: To be prorogued; to discontinue meeting until the next session.

1642 *View Print. Book int. Observat.* 8 He may command them to prorogue, or adjourn for time or place. 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1883) IV. 646, I mind not the Members, and makers of Laws, Let 'em Sit or Prorogue as his Majesty please. 1896 Ld. Londonderry in *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 2/2 No opportunity was afforded..of discussing the question before Parliament prorogued.

Hence **Proro·gued** *ppl. a.*, **Proro·guing** *vbl. sb.*; † **Proro·guement** [cf. AF. *prorogement* (1376 in Godef.)] = Prorogation; **Proro·guer**, one who prorogues (in quot., one who puts off or defers).

1552 Huloet, *Proroged, *prorogatus*. 1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 1 The King..went privately..as if it had been to a return of a prorogued or adjourn'd Parliament. 1660 R. Coke *Power & Subj.* 257 The day for the convention of the Parliament after their *Prorouguement. 1597 J. Payne *Royal Exch.* 5 These *prorogers of wel doinge having wherwith, are here iustly reproued. 1581 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 417 A proclamacion for the *prorogyne of the Parliament. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* xi. 360 That the cause of the proroging of his induction bee in his owne default. 1680 Sir C. Lyttelton in *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) 239 The prorouginge y^e^ parliment for 10 days.

Prorsad (prɔ·ɹsĕd), *adv. Anat.* [f. L. *prorsum* forwards + *-ad*: see Dextrad.] Towards the front, forward. So **Pro·rsal** *a.*, forward, anterior.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

† **Prorump**, *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *prōrumpĕre*, f. Pro-[1] + *rumpĕre* to burst.] *intr.* To burst forth.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* v. iii, *Cris.* O—ô—prorumped. *Tibu.* Prorumped? what a noise it made! as if his spirit would haue prorumpt with it.

Prorupt (prɔrʌ·pt), *v. rare.* [f. L. *prōrupt-*, ppl. stem of *prōrumpĕre*: see prec.] *trans.* To cause to burst forth: hence **Proru·pted** *ppl. a.* So **Proruption** (prɔrʌ·pʃən) [ad. late L. *prōruptiōn-em*, n. of action], a bursting forth.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvi. 145 The latter brood impatient, by a forcible proruption anticipate their period of exclusion. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Proruptio*, term for a bursting or breaking forth, as of the blood: proruption. 1874 *Contemp. Rev.* XXIV. 430 The Inferno is in the conical pit, the Purgatorio on the prorupted mountain.

Prosaic (prozē·ik), *a.* (*sb.*). [ad. med.L. *prōsaic-us* (6th c.), f. *prōsa* Prose: see -ic. So F. *prosaïque* (15th c. (adv. *-ment*) in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to prose; consisting of or written in prose; (of an author) writing in prose. Now *rare* or *Obs.*: expressed by Prose 5 *attrib.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Prosaick*, that is in Prose and not in Meeter, pertaining to Prose. 1719 H. Elbeck (*title*) A Prosaic Translation of..Persius Flaccus's Six Satyrs. 1780 Harris *Philol. Inq.* II. iii. (1781) 92 In modern Rhythm.., be it Prosaic or Poetic, he [the reader] must expect to find it governed for the greater part by Accent. 1830 W. Taylor *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* III. 13 He [Herder] published many works, chiefly prosaic, which widely extended his literary reputation. 1878 Browning *La Saisiaz* lxxix, Verse which, born, demands Prosaic ministration.

2. Having the character, style, or diction of prose as opposed to poetry; lacking poetic beauty, feeling, or imagination; plain, matter-of-fact. Hence **b.** *transf.* Unpoetic, unromantic; commonplace, dull, tame. (Of persons and things.)

1746 P. Francis tr. *Horace, Sat.* I. iv. 53 'Tis not enough to close the flowing Line, And in ten Syllables your Sense confine. Or write in meer prosaic Rhimes like me, That can deserve the Name of Poetry. 1795 Mason *Ch. Mus.* iii. 166 The verses were easy and..prosaic enough to be intelligible to the meanest capacity. 1841 D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 287 (*Ship of Fools*) The verse being prosaic, preserves its colloquial ease.

b. 1813 H. & J. Smith *Horace in Lond.* 10 When you are flat, prosaic, and insipid (which, under favor, you sometimes are). 1859 Holland *Gold F.* iii. 41 Do you get impatient with the prosaic life around you—the dulness, and the earthliness and the brutishness of men? 1877 Black *Green Past.* vii, Marriage settlements are very prosaic things. 1892 Westcott *Gospel of Life* 128 The Chinese are commonly held to be a prosaic people.

B. *sb.* †**1.** A prose author: = Prosaist 1. *Obs.*

1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. xix. (Arb.) 56 Which occasioned the story writer to chuse an higher stile fit for his subiect, the Prosaicke in prose, the Poet in meetre.

2. *pl.* Prosaic things or subjects.

1890 Clark Russell *Ocean Trag.* I. viii. 163 She [a ship] hardened rapidly into the familiar prosaics of timber, sailcloth and tackling.

Prosa·ical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -al.]

†**1.** = prec. 1. *Obs.*

1652 L. S. *People's Liberty* v. 10 As we may observe both from their Poets, and Prosaicall writers. 1752 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 251 Consider the prosaical works of Milton, you will find them more nervous than elegant. 1808 Dibdin *Sir T. More's Utopia* Introd. 73 The first prosaical work with which Rastell's ponderous folio opens is called 'The Life of John Picus'.

2. = prec. 2. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1699 Bentley *Phal.* 218 As familiar and prosaical, as our Censurer would make it. 1848 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* (1883) II. 33, I found that now too prosaical for my romantic circumstances. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* I. i. 29 It is the practical, prosaical fanatic who does the work.

Prosa·ically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly[2].] In a prosaic manner.

a 1834 Coleridge *Let. to Pickering* (*Kerslake's Catal.* June 1879), Sir Walter Scott, tho' a poet,..manages these matters somewhat more prosaically—*i.e.* with more sense and discretion. 1839 Hallam *Hist. Lit.* II. v. § 6. 255 La Balia [of Tansillo]..contains good advice to mothers ..very prosaically delivered. 1885 *Bookseller* 5 Mar. 241/2 The violin..may be prosaically described as 'a hollow box 13 inches long by 8¼ wide, and weighing about 8½ ounces'.

Prosa·icalness. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ness.] = Prosaicness.

1844 L. Hunt *Imag. & Fancy* 47 As to prosaicalness in general, it is sometimes indulged in by young writers on the plea of its being natural. 1876 Miss Yonge *Womankind* xxi. 162 The intense prosaicalness of common life is shown in the Paston letters, where the girls pray for husbands, with apparently perfect indifference as to who they may be.

Prosaicism (prozē·isiz'm). [f. Prosaic *a.* + -ism.] = Prosaism.

1804 Anna Seward *Mem. Darwin* 266 Those long trains of comparative prosaicism, over which we yawn. *a* 1849 Poe *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 500 It is the prosaicism of these two writers to which is owing their especial quotability. 1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 401 People are never weary of inveighing against the prosaicism of our time.

Prosa·icness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] Prosaic quality or character.

1887 *Jrnl. Educ.* 1 Feb. 79 That Dutch picture..in its unadulterated materiality and prosaicness. 1890 *Athenæum* 8 Mar. 303/3 The vulgarity and prosaicness of these people and their surroundings.

Prosa·i-co-mi-e·pic, *a. nonce-wd.* Combining the prosaic, comic, and epic.

1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* v. i, We have laid it down as a Rule necessary to be observed in all Prosai-comi-epic Writing.

Prosaism (prō·ze,iz'm). [ad. F. *prosaïsme*, f. L. *prōsa* Prose: see -ism.]

1. Prosaic character or style. (In quot. 1855, Dull or commonplace condition or prospect.)

1787 Anna Seward *Lett.* (1811) I. 352 Ever have you found me ready to acknowledge the prosaism of many lines which you have pointed out in my most favourite poets. 1855 *Fraser's Mag.* LI. 700 Not a picturesque bit of building was to be seen;..nothing but the most arid prosaism. 1865 Lewes in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Dec. 181 Nor could a Frenchman..feel the whole prosaism of Wordsworth's lines—'That adequate provision should be made For all the people to be taught to read'.

2. (with *pl.*) A prosaic phrase or expression.

1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* xviii. (1882) 185 The existence of prosaisms..must..be conceded. *a* 1850 Wordsw. *Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 85 Critics, who, when they stumble upon these prosaisms, as they call them, imagine that they have made a notable discovery. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Nov. 10 There are prosaisms and colloquial turns which every now and then remind us of the restraints.

Prosaist (prō·ze,ist). [f. as prec. + -ist.]

1. One who writes in prose; a prose author.

1803 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* I. 322 Known to the public as a poet, and a prosaist of eloquence and erudition. 1827 De Quincey in *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 20 The prosaist is satisfied if he impresses clear and distinct ideas. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* vi. 70 There is no other prosaist who possesses anything like Milton's command over the resources of our language.

2. A prosaic or unpoetic person.

1831 Carlyle *Schiller* in *Misc. Ess.* (1872) III. 71 A man who denied that Schiller was a Poet, would himself be, from every side, declared a Prosaist. 1853 Clough *Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 396 How that first of English prosaists was inspired with them [poetic lines], remains a problem.

† **Pro·sal,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *prōsāl-is* (6th c., Cassiod.), f. L. *prōsa* Prose: see -al. Cf. F. *prosal* (14th c.).] Pertaining to or composed in prose; in quot. 1654, written or printed in the form of prose (not in measured lines like verse).

1654 Vilvain *Theol. Treat.* vi. 137 These Analyses in a prosal method..are plainer..for the vulgar sort, than such as are set in Sections. *a* 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* xi. (1683) 177 The Priest not onely or always composed his prosal raptures into Verse.

† **Pro·sapy.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōsāpi-a* (also *-ēs*) a stock, race, family. Cf. obs. F. *prosapie* (1507 in Godef.).] Stock, race, lineage.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 281 Soe the linealle descense of the prosapy [L. *prosapiæ*] or kynrede of Feramundus faylede by men, but hyt remaynede in Batildis sustyr to Dagoberte. 1542 Udall *Erasm. Apoph.* 62 Beeyng a manne, and begotten to of a mannes prosapie, in manly wise. 1654 Vilvain *Epit. Ess.* II. xxvi. 33 Two Tarquins sprung from Greekish prosapy.

‖ **Prosateur** (prozatör). [F. (*Ménage* 1666), ad. It. *prosatore* (in Florio): cf. med.L. *prōsātor* (Du Cange).] A prose-writer.

1880 E. W. Gosse in *Academy* 4 Sept. 164 Shelley ceased to come before the world as a prosateur just as he began to do so seriously as a poet. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 491 There are few better examples of his charm as *prosateur*.

Also in med.L. form **Prosa·tor.**

1891 Stevenson *Lett.* (1901) II. xi. 221 Not that I set much account by my verses, which are the verses of Prosator.

Proscapula, -ar: see Pro-[2] 2.

† **Prosca·rab.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *prōscarabæ-us*: see Pro-[1] and Scarab; so F. *proscarabée*.] A name of the Oil-beetle, *Meloe Proscarabæus*.

[1658 Rowland *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1016 Called *Prosarabeus* in Latine..in English it may fitly be called the Oyl-beetle, or the Oyl-clock.] 1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* II. v. § 2. 123 Insects..like a Beetle without wings, but seeming to have some little rudiments of wings, noted for being apt upon a touch to send out a yellowish oyly substance from his joynts...Proscarab.

‖ **Proscenium** (prosī·niŭm). Pl. **-a.** [a. L. *proscēnium*, ad. Gr. *προσκήνιον* a proscenium, also in late Gr. a stage-curtain, f. *πρό*, Pro-[2] 2 + *σκηνή* a booth, stage, Scene.]

1. a. In the ancient theatre, The space between the 'scene' or background and the orchestra, on which the action took place; the stage.

1606 Holland *Sueton.* 184 These Games hee beheld from the top of the *Proscenium* [*margin* The fore-stage]. 1696 Phillips (ed. 5), *Proscenium*, the forepart of the Scene: an Edifice as high as the last Portico of the Theater, whose Face or Front was adorned with many ranges of Pillars. 1839 Arnold *Let.* in Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix, 160 The two marble pillars still standing in the *proscenium* of the theatre, reminded me of the Forum at Rome. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 201 Of..the proscenium there are no remains.

b. In the modern theatre, The space between the curtain or drop-scene and the orchestra; often including the curtain itself and the arch or framework which holds it.

1807 *Director* I. 244 This equivocal proscenium, as it were, dove-tails the house with the stage. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 44. 417 The appearance of the audience, as seen from the proscenium..is highly remarkable in its union of vastness with compactness. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 453 The one determining characteristic of the Elizabethan stage..is its lack of anything like a proscenium.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* **a.** The front, the foreground.

1648 Herrick *Hesper., Upon his Julia*, Lips she has, all rubie red,..And a nose that is the grace And proscenium of her face. 1793 Earl Macartney in J. Barrow *Life*, etc. (1807) II. 272 Several persons passed backwards and forwards, in the proscenium or fore ground of the tent. 1851 Carlyle *Sterling* I. xiv, These thoughts..for a good while ..kept possession of the proscenium of his mind.

b. 'The stage'; dramatic art.

1812 G. Colman *Poet. Vag.* (1818) 16 During his time, from the Proscenium ta'en, Thalia and Melpomene both vanished. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 197 The Censor is still enthroned above the proscenium.

3. *attrib.*, as *proscenium arch, box, door.*

1875 Miss Braddon *Strange World* I. ii. 36 That official ..unlocked a door behind the proscenium box, a door sacred to the manager, and let Penwyn through. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 466/2, I was in the box that used to be built inside the proscenium arch so that the actors themselves could watch the stage during their waits.

Proscession, obs. form of Procession.

‖ **Proscholium,** -ion (prɔskō·liŭm, -iɔn). [med.L. *proscholium*, f. Gr. *πρό*, Pro-[2] 2 + L.

schola, ad. Gr. σχολή school.] The name of a covered court forming the eastern entrance to the Divinity School at Oxford.

1676 in *Wood's Life* 1 July (O.H.S.) II. 351 Bound to be in the Proscholium of the Divinity School during the asking of his grace. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 192 He did not stand that day in the Proscholion (commonly called Pig-market) of the Divinity School, as he ought to have done.

† **Prosci·nd,** *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōscind-ĕre* to tear open in front, rend, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 f + *scind-ĕre* to cut, rend.] *trans.* To rend, to tear; also *fig.* to revile.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears of Ch.* IV. xx. 573 They did too much proscind and prostitute (as it were) the Imperial purple. 1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 58 The..Reproaches, wherewith your Clergie during these unhappy wars did not cease continually to proscind the people of God.

† **Proscission** (prɒsi·ʃən). *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *prōscissiōn-em* breaking up (of land), first ploughing, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *scind-ĕre, sciss-um* to break or tear asunder.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Procission* [error for *proscission*], a cutting up, a tilling, a ploughing, a manuring of land.

Proscolecine, -scolex: see PRO-[2] 1.

‖ **Proscolla** (prɒsi·kɒ·lă). *Bot.* Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρός* to + *κόλλα* glue.] (See quot.)

1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Proscolla*, a viscid gland on the upper side of the stigma of orchids, to which the pollen-masses become attached.

Proscribable (prɒ|skrəi·băb'l), *a.* [f. next + -ABLE.] Capable of being proscribed, or placed under legal proscription.

1881 *Echo* 16 Feb. 3/2 The offence had to be committed in a proscribable district; and it was desired that the warrant should be conclusive evidence of the proscription of the district.

Proscribe (prɒ|skrəi·b), *v.* [ad. L. *prōscrīb-ĕre* to write in front of; to write before the world, publish by writing, offer in writing for sale, etc.; to 'post' a person as condemned to confiscation or outlawry, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 f + *scrīb-ĕre* to write.]

† **I. 1.** *trans.* To write in front; to prefix in writing. *Obs. rare.*

Perhaps a scribal error for *prescribe*: see PRO-[1] 3.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 21 When the compilator [Ranulphus] spekethe, the letter shall be proscribede [L. *præscribitur*] in this forme folowenge [R].

II. 2. To write up or publish the name of (a person) as condemned to death and confiscation of property; to put out of the protection of the law, to outlaw; to banish, exile. Also *fig.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 33 b, He..doth condemne, & proscribe him as aucthor of Scismes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 637/1 Ro. Vere, Earle of Oxford, was..banished the realme and proscribed. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 200 He that proscribes me today, shall himself be cast out tomorrow. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. lvii. 226 He was himself outlawed and proscribed in the name of his sovereign. 1842 ALISON *Hist. Europe* X. lxxvii. 840 A declaration was..signed by all the Powers, which..proscribed Napoleon as a public enemy, with whom neither peace nor truce could be concluded.

b. To ostracize, to 'send to Coventry'.

1680 EARL ROSCOM. tr. *Horace's Art Poet.* 31 Then Poet-asters in their raging fits..dreaded and proscrib'd by Men of sense.

3. To reject, condemn, denounce (a thing) as useless or dangerous; to prohibit, interdict; to proclaim (a district or practice); = PROCLAIM *v.* 2 e, f.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 319 This Custome is that vncontrouled Lord, that prescribes, and proscribes Lawes at his pleasure. 1768 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. Notes 507 They [plays] have been zealously proscribed by the godly in later ages. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 219 The Stoics..proscribed..Compassion. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. IV. iii. 424 Persons of taste or elegance seem to proscribe it [civet] even from the toilet. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 342 The ecclesiastics in vain proscribed these licentious revelries. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* (1863) 194 Before their religion was proscribed and their country confiscated.

¶ As a literalism of rendering in Rhemish N. T.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Gal.* iii. 1 O sensles Galatians, who hath bewitched you, not to obey the truth, before whose eies Iesus Christ was proscribed [Gr. *προεγράφη*; *Vulg.* præscriptus est; 1388 WYCLIF exilid; TINDALE, COVERD. described; 1611 euidently set forth; 1881 *R.V.* openly set forth], being crucified among you?

Hence **Proscri·bed** *ppl. a.*

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i, I hid for thee Thy murder of thy brother,.. And writ him in the list of my proscrib'd After thy fact, to save thy little shame. 1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* II, As the proscribed emperor was by his perfumes betrayd. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 66 A well-known favourer of the proscribed opinions. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 447 The property of the proscribed was confiscated.

† **Proscribe,** formerly for PRESCRIBE: see PRO-[1] 3.

1530 PALSGR. 668/1, *I proscrybe* (Lydgate) for *I prescrybe.*

Proscri·ber. [See -ER [1].] One who proscribes.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* Ded., Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 219 The triumvir and proscriber had descended to us in a more hideous form than they now appear. 1869 *Daily News* 17 July, Where frequent revolutions have divided parties into proscribers and proscribed.

Proscript, *a.* and *sb.*[1] [ad. L. *prōscript-us*, pa. pple. of *prōscrīb-ĕre* to PROSCRIBE. So obs. F. *proscript*, F. *proscrit.*]

† **A.** *adj.* (prɒ|skri·pt). Proscribed: see PROSCRIBE *v.* 2. *Obs.*

1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1825) 29 The disobeyers war maid proscript and forefaltit, to the end he mycht be also anoyntit with the fatnes of thair lands and rents. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* LXXXIX. Epit. 1252 Cn. Domitius, one of the proscript outlawes. 1628 tr. *Mathieu's Powerfull Favorite* 29 A Proscript man who to enioy the goods of his wife, told her that he would kill himselfe, she added that she would accompanie him.

B. *sb.* (prō·skript). One who is proscribed.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 148 L. Cæsar, her brother, when hee was a proscript or outlawe. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* I. (1682) 240 So high an estimat did they set upon the casual death of this Proscript. 1835 SHOBERL tr. *Chateaubriand's Trav.* Introd. (ed. 3) I. 37 Proscripts never open a public school of philosophy. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* June 1003/2 No proscript could find a refuge beyond the reach of the Cæsars.

† **Proscript,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōscript-um*, pa. pple. neut. of *prōscrīb-ĕre* to PROSCRIBE.] A prohibition, an interdict.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 374/1 He should be within the daunger of this proscript. *Ibid.*, Princes to auoyd the paine of thys proscript, were ready to do whatsoeuer the pope would haue them..do.

Proscription (prɒ|skri·pʃən). [ad. L. *prōscriptiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōscrīb-ĕre* to PROSCRIBE. Cf. F. *proscription* (1486 in Godef.).]

1. The action of proscribing; the condition or fact of being proscribed; decree of condemnation to death or banishment; outlawry. Also *fig.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 443 In þat tyme [in] Engelond was róbberie under kyng William þe Rede, and proscripciouns and excilinges and takynge into [the] kynges hond. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. XXXIV. (MS. Digby 230) lf. 159/1 Exile, werre, cheynes, and presoun, Proscripcioun and captiuite. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B viij, The tyme of Sylla, whan he made the vniuersall proscription agaynste the Marians. 1600 DYMMOK *Ireland* (1843) 14 This cuntry..was very well quieted by a proscription of the O'Connors made by the erle of Kildare. 1738 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* Ded. 16 To hang up the Tables of Proscription, without the Power of sending Centurions to cut off every Head that wears a Face disliked at Court, would be Madness in a Prince. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 8. 675 William ..was resolved that no bloodshed or proscription should follow the revolution.

2. Denunciation, interdiction, prohibition by authority; exclusion or rejection by public order.

1659 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 284 The saving of their rights is the clear proscription of their rights. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 62 A proscription published by a Colony against the Mother-country. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IV. vii. (1864) II. 342 Iconoclasm..was a mere negative doctrine, a proscription of those sentiments which had full possession of the popular mind. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* liii. (1879) 627 A land afflicted by social proscription.

Proscriptive (prɒ|skri·ptiv), *a.* [f. L. *prōscript-*, ppl. stem of *prōscrīb-ĕre* to PROSCRIBE + -IVE.] Characterized by proscribing; tending to proscribe; of the nature or character of proscription.

1757 FOOTE *Author* I. Wks. 1799 I. 134 A most noble triumvirate; and..as proscriptive and arbitrary, as the famous Roman one. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* XXXV. (1788) VI. 143 The Imperial ministers pursued with proscriptive laws, and ineffectual arms, the rebels whom they had made. 1853 HOLLAND *Mem. J. Badger* i. (1854) 23 The powerful and established party..becomes proscriptive towards the new and weaker organizations.

Hence **Proscri·ptively** *adv.*, by way of proscription; **Proscri·ptiveness,** the quality of being proscriptive.

1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), Proscriptively. 1886 RAVLIN *Progr. Th. Grt. Subj.* v. 70 The proscriptiveness of ecclesiastical intolerance is a characteristic of a dead church.

Prosecutal, Prosecutellar, etc.: see PRO-[2] 2.

Prose (prōuz), *sb.* Also 6 **proese, proase,** *Sc.* **pross, prois.** [a. F. *prose* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōsa* (*ōrātio*), lit. straightforward discourse, sb. use of fem. of *prōs-us*, for earlier *prors-us* adj. straightforward, straight, direct, contr. from *prōvers-us*, pa. pple. of *prōvert-ĕre* to turn forwards. Hence med.L. *prōsa* an accentual hymn, in which the prose pronunciation and order is used.]

1. The ordinary form of written or spoken language, without metrical structure; esp. as a species or division of literature. Opposed to *poetry, verse, rime*, or *metre.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10975 But ffrensche men wryten hit in prose, Right as he dide, hym for to alose. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* Prol. 19 Gladly quod I by goddes sweete pyne I wol yow telle a litel thyng in prose. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* 3 Two partyes—the fyrst is in prose and the second in verse. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 15 The thing which heer I report in vnpolisht proez, waz thear pronounced in good meeter and matter. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. 468 Monie vther thingis baith in prois and verse he wrote. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 16 Things unattempted yet in Prose or Rhime. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, I..will..continue the rest of my account in plain prose. 1800 WORDSW. *Lyr. Ball.* (ed. 2) Pref. *note*, Much confusion has been introduced into criticism by this contradistinction of Poetry and Prose. ..The only strict antithesis to Prose is Metre. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 3 July, The definition of good prose is—proper words in their proper places. 1880 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit., Stud. Poet.* (1888) 39 The needful qualities for a fit prose are regularity, uniformity, precision, balance.

b. with *a* and *pl.* A piece of prose, as opp. to a poem; a composition in prose; a prose exercise. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in school or college use.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xvi. (Arb.) 184 The Greekes vsed a manner of speech or writing in their proses, that went by clauses, finishing the words of like tune. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* I. 5 Gently to amble in a York-shire prose. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. viii. V. 607 New Verses or light Proses. 1901 *Punch* 9 Jan. 20/1 When my tutor fond supposes I am writing Latin proses.

¶ **c.** In ME., A (prose) story or narrative.

(The pl. was app. sometimes confounded with *proses, proces*, PROCESS *sb.* 4; this being, as in F., sing. and pl.)

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6357 He fond her bokes bothe two.. In siker proses and no romaunce. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11523 All the pepull in þat presse, þat the prose herd, Afermyt hit as fyn þat þe freike said.. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2062 And slike a pas, sais þe prose, to Persy he ridis. *Ibid.* 2397 A croune all of clere gold, clustrid with gemmes, Of fyfty ponde with þe payse, as þe prose tellis.

2. *Eccl.* A piece of rhythmical prose or rimed accentual verse, sung or said between the epistle and gospel at certain masses: also called a *sequence.*

Called *prōsa* in Latin in distinction from *versus* applied to the ancient quantitative metres: see P. Wagner *Introd. Gregorian Melodies* (Eng. transl. 234, etc.).

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* (Rolls) 201 Also in the prose clepid a sequence which is sungun in the Feeste of the Cross is Hising, aftir that manye spechis there ben mad to the cros. 1486 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 316 Euery persone..syngyng a Respond of Seynte Stephen with the prose therto. 1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* III. xx. (1634) 427 In all their Letanies, Hymnes, and Proses, where no honour is left ungiven to dead Saints, there is no mention of Christ. 1822 K. DIGBY *Broadst. Hon.* III. (1848) 90 The stanzas of the new worship proposed as more worthy of God than the ancient proses of the Church. 1882 ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* III. 465 In the Middle Ages it [Sequence] was called a Prose; because, though written for the most part in rhymed Latin..the cadence of its syllables was governed, not as in classical Poetry, by quantity, but by accent—a peculiarity which deprived it of all claim to consideration as Verse of any kind. 1885 *Cath. Dict., Sequence*, In the revision of the Roman Missal in the sixteenth century, only four sequences were retained: 'Victimæ Paschali'.., 'Veni, Sancte Spiritus'.., 'Lauda, Sion'.., the 'Dies Iræ'. ..A fifth prose, 'Stabat Mater'..must have been added very recently, since neither Le Brun nor Benedict XIV. recognise it.

† **b.** Hence, *in prose* is used in the following instances app., as = in rimed, as opposed to quantitative verse. *Obs.*

1486 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 54 Which shall salute the king w^t wordes folowing in prose...Most reverend, rightwose regent of this rigalitie, Whos primative patrone I peyre to your presence [*rimes* citie..prehemynence.]. *Ibid.* 55 Saying the wordes folowing unto the king in prose..Most prudent prince of prived prevision [etc.].

3. *fig.* (from 1). Plain, simple, matter-of-fact, (and hence) dull or commonplace expression, quality, spirit, etc. (The opposite of POETRY 5.)

1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* I. 18 For the plaine prose hereof is to cleare to be subject to any cauillations at all. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Pref., Wks. 1851 III. 143 Sitting here below in the cool element of prose. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 645 That Prose of Piety, a lukewarm Praise. 1876 LOWELL *Ode 4th July* III. iii, To see things as they are, or shall be soon, In the frank prose of undissembling noon. 1900 'SARAH GRAND' *Babs* XV, Mrs. Normanton was a broad embodiment of the prose and commonplace of her class.

4. a. A dull, commonplace, or wearisome discourse or piece of writing; a prosy discourse.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 175/2 Mr. Guillims had not needed to have used such a long prose. 1813 BYRON in *Daily News* (1899) 29 June 6/1, I have sent you a long prose. I hope your answer will be equal in length. 1840 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 300 All this is a miserable prose. 1897 *Life & Lett. B. Jowett* I. v. 129 He received many a 'prose' from Jowett on the philosophy of law and on the various questions of the hour.

b. *Old collog.* Familiar talk, chat, gossip; a talk.

1805 MRS. CREEVEY in *C. Papers*, etc. (1904) I. 68, I had a great deal of comfortable prose with her. 1807 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* III. 385 Long prose with the Duke of Portland till one in the morning. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.*, *Prose*, talk, conversation—rather of the gossiping kind. 'Let us have a bit of *prose*.' 1848 R. D. HAMPDEN in *Some Mem.* (1871) 162 She does not forget the long friendly proses that you have had together, and she longs to have another talk-out with you.

5. *attrib.* (often hyphened to the following word).

a. Consisting of, composed or written in prose.

(In this and the following, substituted for PROSAIC 1.)

1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 254 Which after the manner of my familiar prose-satir I presume to criticize. 1718 POPE *Let. to Dk. Buckhm.* 1 Sept., There had been a very elegant Prose-translation before. 1827 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 23 In verse or prose, or in verse-text aided by prose-comment. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xi. 206 Here we have..the prose account. 1875 LOWELL *Spenser* Wks. 1890 IV. 322 Bunyan..is the Ulysses of his own prose-epic.

b. Composing or writing in prose.

1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* III. i, The prose-wits playing, and the verse-wits rooking. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 235 Poets and prose-authors in every kind. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 172 In..First Principles we have a kind of prose Lucretius.

c. *fig.* Having the character of prose; plain, matter-of-fact, commonplace: = PROSAIC 2.

1818 HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* viii. (1870) 194 Poets are not ideal beings; but have their prose-sides. 1864 WEBSTER s. v., The prose duties of life. 1905 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 485 For the poet the æsthetic value of the Gospels is independent of their prose-truth.

6. *Comb.*, as *prose-inditing* sb. and adj., *prose-like* adj.; †**prose-master**, a master of prose, one who excels in prose composition; **prose-poem**, a prose work having the style or character of a poem; so **prose-poet**, **prose-poetry**; †**prose-printer**, a printer of prose (in quot. = prose author); **prose-writer**, one who writes or composes prose, an author who writes in prose; so *prose-writing*.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* Prol., The litle distincciоun that leueth with *prose enditing is wouen. 1742 P. FRANCIS tr. *Horace's Art P.* 138 For Telephus or Peleus..must complain In *prose-like Style. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 270 *Prose-Master Major to his Majestie. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 3/4 The so-called *prose-poem is very rarely attempted. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 162 They have vulgarly pass'd for a sort of *prose-poets. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* III. cxiii. 42/2 The prose-poet Bunyan's 'Holy War'. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ii. 41 Sidney commits himself..to the pestilent heresy of *prose-poetry, saying that verse is 'only an ornament of poetry'. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 68 Peculier to Versifiers, and .. not .. among *Prose-printers. 1611 WHITAKER in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses d v, The most peerelesse Poeticall *Prose-writer. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg., Ess. Georg.* (1721) I. 202 Where the Prose-writer tells us plainly what ought to be done, the Poet often conceals the Precept in a Description. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. xxix. IV. 130 The philosopher Pherekydês of Syros, about 550 B.C., is called by some the earliest prose-writer. 1769 R. WOOD *Ess. Homer* 60 It is allowed on all hands, that *Prose writing was unknown in Greece, till long after the Poet's time. 1787 SIR J. HAWKINS *Johnson* 255 A taste in morals, in poetry, and prose-writing.

Prose (prōuz), *v.* [f. prec. sb.; cf. F. *proser* (*a* 1613 in Littré) to turn into or write in prose.]

1. *trans.* To express, compose, or write in prose; to translate or turn into prose.

c 1393 CHAUCER *Scogan* 41 Al schal passyn þat men prose or ryme. *c* 1450 J. SHIRLEY in *B. M. Addit. MS.* 16,165 lf. 4 Boicius de consolacione prosed in Englische by Chaucier. 1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. to J. Lapraik* vi, An' if ye winna mak it clink, By Jove I'll prose it! 1893 JACOBS *More Eng. Fairy T.* (1894) p. viii, I have had no scruple in prosing a ballad or softening down over-abundant dialect.

b. *intr.* To compose or write prose. Also *to prose it.*

1805 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* II. 77, I am prosing, not altogether against my will. 1812 COMBE *Picturesque* I. (Chandos) 7 I'll prose it here, I'll verse it there, And picturesque it every where. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 378 I've rhymed, I've prosed..In short done everything.

2. *intr.* To discourse in a prosy manner; to talk or write prosily; *old colloq.* and *dial.* to converse familiarly, chat, gossip.

1797 TWEDDELL *Rem.* xxxii. (1815) 171 The time that you and I, my good Mother, used to prose over the parlour-fire, till you drove me away to bed. 1813 MOORE *Post-bag*, etc. (ed. 2) 48 To wait till the Irish affairs were decided—That is, till both houses had prosed and divided. 1819 KEATS *Otho* I. ii. 189 Pray, do not prose, good Ethelbert, but speak What is your purpose. 1879 A. LANG in *Academy* 11 Jan. 25/1 That mythical stage of man's existence when he was eternally prosing about the weather. 1885 FRANCES E. TROLLOPE in *Graphic* 21 Feb. 190/1, I won't keep you here prosing with me.

b. *trans.* with *adv.* or *phr.* To bring into some specified condition by prosing; to talk or lecture *into* or *to* (some state).

1825 R. H. FROUDE in *Rem.* (1838) I. 178, I think I must come to you to be prosed and put into a better way. 1883 F. M. PEARD *Contrad.* II. 192 In spite of my having prosed you to death. 1897 KER *Epic & Rom.* 275 The important things of the story may be made to come with the stroke and flash of present reality, instead of being prosed away by the historian.

Prosect (prose·kt), *v. rare.* [Formed (after next) on L. *prōsect-*, ppl. stem of *prōsecāre* to cut away or off, cut up, f. PRO-[1] 1 + *secāre* to cut.] *trans.* To dissect (a dead body, or part of one) in preparation for anatomical demonstration; *absol.* to perform the office of a prosector. So **Prosection** (prose·kʃən), dissection for purposes of anatomical demonstration; the function of a prosector.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prosect..Prosection.

Prosector (prose·ktɑr). [a. late L. *prōsector* (Tertull.) a cutter up, an anatomist, agent-n. f. L. *prōsec-āre* to cut up. So F. *prosecteur* (1835 in *Dict. Acad.*), after which the English designation was prob. introduced.] One whose business is to dissect dead bodies in preparation for anatomical research or demonstration, as assistant to a lecturer on anatomy, a surgeon, or a zoological society.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict., Prosector*, dissector. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Prosector*, term for an anatomist; applied to one who prepares the subject for the lecturer on anatomy; the same as *Dissector*. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 267 M. Robelin, Prosector to the Faculty of Sciences at Montpellier. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Nov. 5/3 The Council of the Zoological Society have decided to employ a prosector, whose chief duty will be that of dissecting animals that may die in the gardens.

Hence **Prosecto·rial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a prosector; ‖ **Prosecto·rium** [mod.L.: see -ORIUM], a room or building for prosection; the place of operation of a prosector; **Prose·ctorship**, the position or office of prosector.

1881 *Nature* 20 Oct. 579/2 If the Zoological Society had not in 1865 established its prosectorship, we should have seen little of the really solid advances in our knowledge of the anatomy of the two higher classes of vertebrated animals. 1883 *Athenæum* 28 Apr. 544/1 Prof. Garrod, Mr. Forbes's predecessor in the prosectorial office. 1901 *Ibis* Apr. 344 The rich collections of the British Museum, the Zoological Society's Prosectorium, and other leading institutions.

Prosecutable (prɒ·sɨkiūtăb'l), *a.* [f. PROSECUTE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be prosecuted; liable to prosecution.

1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 436 Cases prosecutable in the way of indictment. 1836 CHALMERS *Wks.* V. 377 Its violation shall be made a prosecutable offence. 1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 230 A claim not prosecutable in any court of law.

Prosecute (prɒ·sɨkiut), *v.* Also 6 prose-qwuit, -quut, 6–7 -quute; 7 *pa. pple.* (*Sc.*) **prosecute.** [f. L. *prōsecūt-*, ppl. stem of *prōsequī* to follow, pursue, attend, accompany; to honour or present (a person) with; f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 + *sequī* to follow. So obs. F. *prosecuter* (1519 in Godef.).]

1. *trans.* To follow up, pursue; to persevere or persist in, follow out, go on with (some action, undertaking, or purpose) with a view to completing or attaining it.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 51 Origenes sende an epistole..preyenge and comfortenge his fader to prosecute [L. *prosequi*] that he hade begunne. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. Hen. VII* A ij, As this honorable audyence now is here assembled to prosecute the funeral obseruaunces [etc.]. 1568 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 624 Quhill thai renew thair forceis and prosequute thair formair detestabill interpryise. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. (1634) 102 How the Army came into the Territorie of Synope, and there prosequuted the same purpose. 1643 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 192 That the late articles of the treaty of peace .. may be carefully and truly prosecute. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 126 If still you prosecute the same studies and inquiries. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* xxvii. (1781) II. 251 Determined to prosecute their intended tour. 1836 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* I. 40 The Dutch war, commenced without necessity, and prosecuted..with ill-judged parsimony. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* 1 This inquiry..has not until recently been systematically prosecuted.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To continue, go on.

a 1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* 158 What shullde I prosecute, Or more of this to clatter? 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22 [He] sued..for licence too prosecute on his iourney. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 357 Here hee doth prouesque in things which the saide fathers did see.

2. *trans.* To carry out, perform; to engage in, carry on, practise, exercise, follow.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 342 Those exercises, that are vsually prosequuted in the common schooles. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 141 True repentance..may not be deferred or put off but speedily prosequuted. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 177 It is a piece of great neglect amongst us, that the sowing of them is not more prosecuted. 1824 J. MARSHALL *Const. Opin.* (1839) 307 These privileges..cannot be enjoyed unless the trade may be prosecuted. 1883 GOODE *Fish. Indust. U.S.* 23 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) The salmon and other fisheries of Puget Sound are prosecuted chiefly by the aid of Indian fishermen.

3. To follow out in detail; 'to proceed in consideration or disquisition of' (J.); to go into the particulars of, investigate; to treat of or deal with in greater detail.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. 162 Yf I schold partycularly prosecute euery thyng..perteynyng to thes materys, we schold not fynysch our communycatyon thys xv. days and more. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 10 The which Josephus hath prosecuted at large in his histories. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xiii. (1627) 178 Speciall rules and directions giuen, for writing their Theames,..prosecuting the seuerall parts of the Theame. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. iii. (1673) 304 This Argument Eusebius particularly prosecutes. 1743 EMERSON *Fluxions* Pref. 14 As to the Resolution of Problems by infinite Series, I have been more sparing of that, because it has been well prosecuted by others. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* ii. (ed. 3) 63, I do not further prosecute this subject.

†**4.** To follow up (an advantage); to improve, take advantage of (an opportunity). *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 27 They prosecuted this good happe of theirs further the next yeare. 1654 tr. *Martini's Cong. China* 24 The Tartars..prosecute the victory with all quickness and diligence. 1754 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1761) I. ix. 191 The French Army..left Henry free to prosecute his Advantages against his other Enemies.

†**5.** To follow quickly with hostile intent (a fleeing man or beast); to chase; = PURSUE. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 166 The king..prosecuted Dauid the brother of Lewlyn from towne to towne. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 24 These wild asses..cast backward with their heels stones with such violence, as they pierce the brests of them that prosecute them. 1648 CROMWELL *Let.* 20 Aug. in *Carlyle*, We..prosecuted them home to Warrington Town. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 619 The Mastiffs gen'rous Breed,..who, for the Folds Relief, Will prosecute with Cries the nightly Thief.

absol. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 24 Pharao..what tyme he hard of the passage of Goddes people, ..he did prosecute after, entendyng to destroye them. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 4 The Munkeys..fling stones at them that prosecute to take them.

†**b.** To follow with vengeance; to revenge (injuries, etc.). *Obs.*

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. (1895) 245 But whether it were righte or wrong, it was with so cruell and mortal warre reuenged... So egerly the Vtopians prosequute the iniuries done to ther frindes, yea, in money matters; and not their owne likewise.

6. *Law.* **a.** To institute legal proceedings against (a person) for some offence; to arraign before a court of justice for some crime or wrong.

1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 159 To be apprehendit and prosequutit be justice. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 11 Any Person..who was not either immediately Prosecuted by the Court, or in evident Disfavour there. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 315 If he made his peace with the king, still he might be prosecuted at the suit of the party. 1780 BENTHAM *Princ. Legisl.* xi. § 24 You prosecute him for the cheat. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxi, Are you aware of the law of this country—that if you lodge this charge you will be bound over to prosecute this gang? *Mod.* Notice. Trespassers will be prosecuted as the law directs.

b. with the crime or offence as object.

1680 OTWAY *Orphan* II. iv, If the offence be found Within my reach..I'd prosecute it with severest Vengeance. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V, View St. Europe* I. I. 42 Resentment was almost the sole motive for prosecuting crimes. 1863 H. Cox *Institt.* I. x. 235 The House of Commons had given up the practice of prosecuting state crimes.

c. In phrase *to prosecute an action, a claim.* †Formerly also *to prosecute an accusation, the law.*

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* II. (1636) 12 Hee also then bindeth to appeare those that give testimony and prosecute the accusation. *Ibid.* 64 If hee prosecuted the law against the thiefe and convict him of the same felony, he shall have his goods again. 1654 SIR E. NICHOLAS in *N. Papers* (Camden) II. 51 The strange accusation violently prosecuted against Sr Edw. Hyde at the Council Board at Paris. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxiv. 240 They did not put or continue them in prison, nor prosecute the law upon them. 1817 LD. CASTLEREAGH in *Parl. Deb.* 1853 Nothing but a deep sense of the duty which I owed to the public could..have induced me to prosecute that action. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 242 That the parties included in the exception should have five years clear from every disability there mentioned, to prosecute their claim.

d. *intr.* or *absol.* To institute or carry on a prosecution, to be prosecutor.

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* v. vi, When they are done, the laws may prosequute. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 2 He durst not prosecute against the party he supposed had stollen them. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. vii. 268 He [the king] is therefore the proper person to prosecute for all public offences and breaches of the peace, being the person injured in the eye of the law. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 418 He had at that time prosecuted for high treason, because he disdained to bring the persons..before a jury for any other crime than that of which he was conscientiously satisfied they were guilty.

†**7.** To seek to gain or bring about; to follow after, strive for. *Obs.*

1595 *Blanchardyn* vii. B iij b, Her beautie hath carryed such prayse and commendation throughout the world, that all the neighbouring Princes haue prosecuted her loue. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. iii. 14 Selfe-loue..inticeth..to prosecute pleasures. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 224 Let peace be prosecuted, and followed, by the safest and surest rule of this pursuit. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* IX. (1738) 218 [We] at the same time [shall] prosecute our own proper happiness.

†**8.** To follow (*fig.*) *with* honour, regard, execration, or other feeling or its expression. (A figure from literally following a person with shouts of acclamation, execration, etc.) *Obs.*

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1981 To worshyp one God aboue And hys poore neyber to prosecute with loue. *c* 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 206 The Danes didd.. with honorable sepulture, prosecute the corps of Hubo. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* v. iii, Prosecuted with the fatal curses Of widows, undone orphans, and what else. 1664 JER. TAYLOR *Dissuas. Popery* II. ii. ii. (1667) 21 Prosecuting the Lord Jesus Christ with a singular honour. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. 168 The same Animal was prosecuted, in one place, with divine Honours.

†**9.** To pursue (a person) vindictively or with malice; to persecute. *Obs.*

1588 *Let.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 67 Not maliciously bent to have men prosecuted to death, only for their religion. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 61 The eldest sonne of Aben Babur..who was sadly prosecuted through the power and malice of Mirza Kameron his younger Brother. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 24. 24 He acknowledged Dæmons or Angels; declaring that some of these fell from Heaven, and were since prosecuted by a Divine Nemesis. 1704 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* III. Ded. 8 Prosecuting this Author with unjust and false accusations.

Hence **Pro·secuting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 194 Godly wars..from prosecuting wherof he was..by his violence withdrawn. 1643 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 208 The prosecuting and effectuating of such a blessed and necessary work. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iv, The prosecuting of a ship's discoveries. 1870 *Standard* 7 Dec., The borough prosecuting solicitor.

Prosecution (prɒsɨkiū·ʃən). Also 6 prose-quutioun, -quitioun, 6–7 -quution. [a. OF. *prosecution* (1294 in Godef.), or ad. late L. *prōsecūtiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōsequī* to PROSECUTE.] The action of prosecuting.

1. The following up, continuing, or carrying out *of* any action, scheme, or purpose, with a view to its accomplishment or attainment.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 529 Proceding still in the prosequutioun of that rychtuous querrell. 1589 *Ibid.* IV. 440 The prosequutioun of hir jornay. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 543 The same devises, diligence, labour, prosecution, and observations, are to be used in the hunting of the Boar. 1682 *Eng. Elect. Sheriffs* 13 The Design in prosecution whereof, they are so zealous. 1747 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* V. 142 For the present to lay aside the prosecution of the intended Expedition. 1852 H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith*

(1853) 198 In the prosecution of their object. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 22 May 5/2 Nothing was to be gained by the further prosecution of the war.

† **b.** *concr.* A continuation. *In prosecution*, in the sequel, subsequently, in due course. *Obs.*

a 1641 Br. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* iv. (1642) 255 Antipater his eldest son, of whom we shall heare much in prosecution. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 454/1 This Chapter is a prosecution of the latter end of the foregoing.

2. The carrying on, exercise, performance, or plying *of* a pursuit, occupation, etc.

1631 Weever *Anc. Fun. Mon.* To Rdr. 7 In the prosequution of this businesse. 1707 Addison *Pres. St. War* (1708) 1 Their Prosecutions of Commerce, and Pursuits of Universal Monarchy. 1823 Scoresby *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* p. xv, The original design of the voyage..was the prosecution of the Whale-Fishery. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 76/2 Well calculated for the successful prosecution of ostreoculture.

† **3.** The following out *of* anything minutely or in detail; investigation. *Obs.*

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 300 My purpose was onely to touch the heads of things, reseruing my selfe to heereafter for the particular prosecution. 1659 T. Bushell (*title*) Abridgement of the Lord Chancellor Bacon's Philosophical Theory in Mineral Prosecutions. *a* 1677 Hale *Prim. Orig. Man.* 1 It is not here seasonable to make a large prosecution of the particular instances. 17.. in *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. (1906) 2/3 Promises..which he design'd certainly to have comply'd with, had not a Tide of new Things flow'd in, and prevented the Method of his Prosecutions.

† **4.** The action of pursuing; a literal pursuit, chase, or hunting. *Obs.*

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 530 The prosequutioun of the committaris of the said cruell murthour. 1582 *Ibid.* III. 53 In the prosequutioun of the saidis thevis and brokin men. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* III. xvi. (1611) 147 Dogges of prosequution, as Beagles Terriers and such like. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Exhort. § 16 Let us therefore press after Jesus, as Elisha did after his Master, with an inseparable prosecution, even whithersoever he goes.

fig. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 65 When I should see behinde me Th' ineuitable prosecution of disgrace and horror.

† **b.** Action or effort to obtain or get possession *of* property or a benefice. *Obs.*

1564 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 309 Quhilkis gudis the saidis Bonauenture Bodeker and Conradt Van Boekert causit to be persewit. And in the prosequitioun thairof, the materis cumin to that end, that the saidis gudis ar put, be inventure, in the handis of certane cautionaris. 1628 Prynne *Cens. Cozens* 41 These are so taken vp with..the eager prosecution of some fat Benefice.

5. *Law.* **a.** In strict technical language: A proceeding either by way of indictment or information in the criminal courts, in order to put an offender upon his trial; the exhibition of a criminal charge against a person before a court of justice. **b.** In general language: The institution and carrying on of legal proceedings against a person. **c.** Loosely: The party by whom criminal proceedings are instituted and carried on. Also *attrib.*

1631 Massinger *Beleeve as You List* III. i, [To] commit Unto your abler trust the prosecution Of this impostor. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. vii. 268 In criminal proceedings, or prosecutions for offences, it would still be a higher absurdity, if the king personally sate in judgment; because in regard to these he appears in another capacity, that of prosecutor. 1769 *Ibid.* IV. xxi. 289 The regular and ordinary method of proceeding in the courts of criminal jurisdiction:.. may be distributed under twelve general heads...1. Arrest; 2. Commitment and bail; 3. Prosecution; 4. Process; 5. Arraignment, and it's incidents; 6. Plea and issue; 7. Trial, and conviction; [etc.]. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 993 Of the Action on the Case for a Malicious Prosecution, and in what Cases such Action may be maintained. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xi. 243 His third criminal prosecution began, like the two others, with torture. 1891 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 2/5 [He] contended that..two of the prosecution witnesses had really favoured the case of the defendant. 1901 *Ibid.* 2 Mar. 7/3 The prosecution's theory was that prisoner wanted to get rid of his wife.

d. *Director of public prosecutions*: an English law officer, appointed in 1879 by Act 42 & 43 Vict. c. 22, to institute and conduct criminal proceedings in the public interest. Cf. *Public prosecutor* below.

1879 *Act* 42 & 43 *Vict.* c. 22 § 2 A Secretary of State may from time to time appoint an officer to be called the Director of Public Prosecutions...It shall be the duty of the Director of Public Prosecutions, under the Superintendence of the Attorney General, to institute, undertake, or carry on such criminal proceedings..as may be..prescribed by regulations under this Act. 1884 *Act* 47 & 48 *Vict.* c. 58 § 2 On and after the passing of this Act..the person for the time holding the office of Solicitor for the affairs of Her Majesty's Treasury shall be Director of Public Prosecutions. 1902 L. L. Shadwell in *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 1/2 The director of public prosecutions attends the trial [of election petitions] personally or by representative.

† **6.** = Persecution 1. *Obs.*

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* III. § 122 An Instance of as great Animosity, and Indirect Prosecution,..as can be given. 1759 Hume *Hist. Eng.* II. ii. 491 Requiring him..to desist from the farther prosecution of his Queen's party.

† **Prosecutive,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 7 **-quutive.** [f. as Prosecute *v.* + -ive: cf. obs. F. *prosecutif, -ive* (1569 in Godef.) and *executive.*] Having the quality or function of prosecuting.

1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* I. i. 48 The virtues of the prosequutiue part rule not the intellectual, but are ruled rather. 1759 R. Shirra in *Rem.* (1850) 111 Give place to Him in the elective faculty, the will; in the prosecutive faculty, the affections.

Prosecutor (prɒ·sĭkiutəɹ). [a. med.L. *prōsecūtor*, agent-n. f. *prōsequ-ī* to Prosecute.]

1. One who follows up or carries out any action, project, or business.

1599 Sandys *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 83 These Iesuites.. endeavour..to imbreed that fiercenesse and obstinacie in their schollers, as to make them hote prosecutors of their owne opinions. 1632 Spelman *Hist. Sacrilege* (1698) 193 The Lord Cromwel was conceived to be the principal mover, and prosecutor thereof.

† **2.** A pursuer. *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 75 Shooting forth their darts, one against the front of the enemy, and the other against the prosecutors and followers. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. i. 299 She is observed to take her Measures from her Prosecutors, well knowing that she can out-run the Dogs at Pleasure.

3. One who institutes and carries on proceedings in a court of law, esp. in a criminal court. (In quot. 1670 = Promoter 3.) *Public prosecutor*, a law officer appointed to conduct criminal prosecutions on behalf of the crown or state or in the public interest: *spec.* in Scotland, the Procurator fiscal in each county, etc.; the single officer recently appointed with this function in England is officially styled Director of public prosecutions: see Prosecution 5 d.

1670 Blount *Law Dict.*, *Prosecutor*, is he that followeth a Cause in an others name. See *Promooters.* 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. vii. 268 [see Prosecution 5]. 1769 — *Ibid.* IV. xxvii. 362 On a conviction of larceny in particular, the prosecutor shall have restitution of his goods. 1783 W. Gordon tr. *Livy's Rom. Hist.* (1823) III. lvi. 282 Virginius was pitched on as the first prosecutor. 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XIX. 759/2 (Scotland) There seems little doubt but that in early times the king was public prosecutor... In process of time..this office of public prosecutor naturally devolved upon the crown counsel. The principal of these is the lord advocate. *Ibid.* 760/1 The procurators fiscal of the county and burgh courts, who are the public prosecutors in their respective districts, may also be regarded as deputies of the lord advocate. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex.*, *Public prosecutor*, the Queen, in whose name criminals are prosecuted, because all offences are said to be against the Queen's peace, her Crown, and dignity. 1877 E. Robertson in *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 590/2 The distinguishing feature of Scotch criminal law is the existence of a public prosecutor. 1907 *Expositor* Feb. 187 Among them appears the Satan, a sort of Prosecutor General.

† **4.** One who prosecutes with malice; a Persecutor. *Obs.*

1704 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* III. Ded. 10 His malicious Prosecutors afterwards scandalized him, as being the Author of such Counsels.

Hence **Pro·secutorship,** the office of a (public) prosecutor.

1870 *Echo* 8 Dec., Mr. E. W. C—— has been appointed to the Senior Crown Prosecutorship of County Mayo.

Prosecutrix (prɒsĭ·kiū·triks). Pl. **-trices** (-trisīz). [a. mod.L. *prōsecūtrix*, fem. agent-n. f. as prec. + -trix.] A female prosecutor.

1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xxiii, Not one of them had compassion enough to mollify my prosecutrix. 1812 Collinson *Idiots & Lunaticks* I. 530 (Jod.) The prosecutrix stated that she was married. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 5/1 One of the prosecutrices..described in detail how she gave the prisoner at different times various sums.

Prosefy: see Prosify.

Proseity (prɒ|sĭ·ĭti). *Metaph.* [f. L. *prō sē* for oneself + -ity.] The quality or condition of existing for itself, or of having itself for its own end.

1899 A. E. Garvie *Ritschlian Theol.* ii. 48 The isolated thing will be thought of as its own cause (aseity) and its own purpose (proseity). *Ibid.* iii. 98 He [Frank] puts instead of it [the absolute] the expression being through, in, and for self (aseity, inseity, proseity). 1899 P. T. Forsyth in *Speaker* 23 Dec. 319/1 He..calls attention to..the proseity of Christ's work, to its nature as an ethical calling in which everything that he did was done for himself as a personality and not in an official capacity.

Proselachian (prɒsl|ē·kiăn). *Zool.* [Pro- 2 i.] A hypothetical primitive selachian.

Proselenic (prōusl|ī·nik), *a. rare.* [f. Pro- 2 i + Gr. σελήνη moon + -ic.] Existing before the moon.

1641 H. L'Estrange *God's Sabbath* 97 Though Papists inform their disciples of I know not what pro-selenique antiquitie it hath, yet sure we are that..it was not in being above a thousand years after our Saviour.

Proselyta·tion. *rare.* [f. Proselyte *v.* + -ation.] Proselytizing; conversion.

1826 G. S. Faber *Diffic. Romanism* (1853) 383 For the instruction and proselytation of the English Laity.

Proselyte (prɒ·sĭləit), *sb.* Forms: 4 **proselyt, -ilite,** 4–8 **-elit(e,** 7 **-ylite,** 6– **proselyte.** [ad. late L. *prosēlyt-us* (fem. *-a*), *a* 200 in Itala, Tertullian, a. Gr. προσήλυτ-ος one who has come to a place, also a convert to Judaism, prop. adj. f. προσηλυθ-, 2nd aorist stem of προσέρχ-εσθαι to come to, approach. Cf. F. *prosélyte*, OF. *proselite* (13th c. in Littré).]

1. One who has come over from one opinion, belief, creed, or party to another; a convert.

1382 Wyclif *Matt.* xxiii. 15 Woo to 3ou, scribis and Pharisees, ypocritis, that cumpasen the se and the lond, that 3ee maken o proselite [*gloss* that is, a conuertid to 3oure ordre; 1388 prosilite; 1535 Coverdale proselyte]. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* v. i. 108 Would she begin a Sect, might.. make Proselytes Of who she but bid follow. 1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 27 The Portugall has preacht Christ, but have few Proselites. *a* 1639 T. Carew *Poems* Wks. (1824) 121 Both rendred Hymen's pros'lits by thy muse. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 492 These difficulties procured the theory of Boerhaave a great number of proselytes. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 16 The Danes were the pupils and proselytes of the English.

2. *spec.* A Gentile convert to the Jewish faith.

Proselyte of righteousness or *of the covenant*: see quot. 1831–3. *Proselyte of the gate*, a proselyte who did not submit to all the ordinances of the law, esp. to circumcision, nor participate in all the privileges of an Israelite.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 1060 He [Herod] is proselit; þat is til vndirstand, þu treu, Of a payane cumyne a Iow. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* ii. 10 Iewis, and proselitis, men of Crete and Arabye. 1581 Marbeck *Bk. of Notes* 879 They were Proselites which were Gentiles borne, and embraced the Jewish Profession. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 8 The Translation of Aquila a Proselite, that is, one that had turned Iew. 1831–3 E. Burton *Eccl. Hist.* iv. (1845) 84 The Proselytes of righteousness, i. e. Gentiles who adopted circumcision and every other ordinance of the Mosaic Law. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* I. 139 One who was only a proselyte of the gate, one who held back from the seal of the covenant made to Abraham, would not be regarded as a full Christian any more than he would be regarded as a full Jew.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1646 R. Baillie *Anabaptism* (1647) 135 The right of proselyte infants under the Law to the Covenant and the Sacrament which then did seal it. 1826 J. Gilchrist *Lect.* 33 It is certain that Proselyte Baptism existed among the Jews at and previously to the time of John the Baptist. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* 113 How would the effect of this great revolution be described to the proselyte Gentiles?

Proselyte (prɒ·sĭləit), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To make a proselyte of; to cause to come over or turn from one opinion, belief, creed, or party to another; *esp.* to convert from one religious faith or sect to another; to proselytize.

1624 Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* To Rdr., I then delivered unto my neighbour the partie that should have been proselyted. 1657–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 133 In whose name they were to baptize and proselyte all nations. 1680 *Visor pluckt off R. Thompson* 2 In less than two years he proselyted many Anabaptists and Quakers. 1702 Echard *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 85 Thus Sichem..was the first place proselyted to the Gospel. 1831 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XLV. 409 [He] endeavoured to proselyte them to his own miserable state of unbelief.

† **b.** *refl.* and *intr.* To become a proselyte. *Obs.*

1657–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 244 Though many proselyted, yet remains there a part, who would never be recovered to that Church. 1672 P. Henry *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 254 Wee reason'd long; but neither hee proselyted to mee nor I to him. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 254 The Arian Court-Mongring Bishops persuaded the Emperor Constantius to Proselyte him into their Arian Heterodoxy.

c. *absol.* To make proselytes, to proselytize.

1799 R. Hall *Wks.* (1833) I. 73 They would never disturb the quiet of the world by their attempts to proselyte. 1827 J. J. Gurney in *Memoir* (1854) I. 334 His liberality enables him to proselyte more successfully. 1888 Lea *Hist. Inquisition* I. 242 To carry it out fully, they should have proselyted with the sword.

Hence **Pro·selyted** *ppl. a.*, made or become a proselyte, converted; **Pro·selyting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pro·selyter,** one who proselytizes or makes proselytes.

1652 Evelyn *Diary* 13 Apr., Deane Cosin's proselyted son. 1660 Stillingfl. *Iren.* I. ii. (1662) 67 The use of Baptism in proselyting. 1785 Paley *Mor. Philos.* (1818) II. 319 A polemical and proselyting spirit. *a* 1834 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 366 An eager proselyter and intolerant.

Proselytess (prɒ·sĭləitĕs). [f. Proselyte *sb.* + -ess 1.] A female proselyte; *spec.* a female convert to Judaism.

1621 Ainsworth *Annot. Pentat.* Deut. xxii. 19 A virgin an Israelitesse..an heathen that was become a proselytesse.. was free from the mulct. 1711 J. Gale *Refl. Wall's Hist. Inf. Bapt.* 356 A woman baptiz'd or wash'd, tho for uncleanness only, does nevertheless thereby become a proselytess or Jewess. 1879 Farrar *St. Paul* (1883) 351 Among the women sat a Lydian proselytess.

† **Prosely·tical,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ical. Cf. F. *prosélytique* (Littré).] Of or pertaining to proselytes or to proselytism.

1581 Hanmer *Jesuites Banner* B j b, Who blazed abroad at the beginning of this parliament, to vphold the proselytical Papists, that they stoode in good hope the Romishe religion would bee restored presently in England. 1658–9 Evelyn *Let. to G. Tuke* Jan., We must commit to Providence the successe of tymes & mitigation of Proselytical fervours.

Proselytism (prɒ·sĭləit-, -litiz'm). [In sense 1 f. Proselyte *sb.* + -ism: so F. *prosélytisme* (1721 in Hatz.-Darm.); in sense 2 from Proselytize.]

1. The fact of becoming or being a proselyte; the state or condition of a proselyte.

a 1660 Hammond *Serm. Gen. xxxi.* 13 Wks. 1684 IV. 500 Spiritual Proselytism, to which the Jew was wont to be wash'd, as the Christian is baptized. 1683 Hickes *Case Inf. Baptism* 59 Capable of Proselytism, or entring into the Covenant after the Jewish manner. 1823 Lingard *Hist. Eng.* V. 364 The converts laboured to diffuse the new light with all the fervour of proselytism. 1844 — *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) I. i. 23.

2. The practice of proselytizing.

1763 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1825) VIII. lxxi. 290 Such was his zeal for proselytism, that..he plainly stopped not at toleration and equality. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 226 The spirit of proselytism attends this spirit of fanaticism. 1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXV. 59 The very word proselytism was scarcely known to the English language, until it was added

to it a few years ago by the barbarous jargon of Catholicism. 1870 *Daily News* 16 Apr., If any religionists..persist in making day schools engines of proselytism.

Proselytist (prɒ·sĕlətĭst-, -litist). [f. PROSELYTIZE + -IST.] One who proselytizes; a proselytizer.

1859 *Athenæum* 5 Mar. 315 Other proselytists of milder character were for gentler measures. 1876 *New York Evangelist* 22 June (Cent.), The Mormon proselytists report unusual success in their missionary work.

Hence **Proselyti·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to proselytists or proselytism.

1900 B. CHAMPNEYS *Mem. C. Patmore* II. iii. 39 He had resented the proselytistic raids which had been made on him and his first wife.

Pro:selytiza·tion (see next). [f. next + -ATION.] The action or work of proselytizing.

1871 H. MARSHALL *For Very Life* I. v, The parents, regarding the act in the light of proselytization to some damnable heresy, took the silver coin from the child. 1890 *Spectator* 25 Jan., A worthy old lady..whose heart is.. devoted to the work of Christian proselytisation there [India].

Proselytize (prɒ·sĕlətəiz, -litəiz), *v.* [f. PROSELYTE *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To make proselytes; = PROSELYTE *v.* c.

1679 L. ADDISON *Mahumedism* xiv. 71 As he was zealously proselytizing at Medina, news came that Abusophian Ben-Hareth was going into Syria. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. xii. (1858) 180 Not without some touch of the universal feeling, a wish to proselytise. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Essenes* Wks. 1859 X. 286 A sect that proselytized was at any rate a hazardous sect in Judæa.

2. *trans.* To make a proselyte of; = PROSELYTE *v.* a.

1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* Wks. VIII. 51 One of these whom they endeavour to proselytize. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. v, His lordship..was all for proselytising Ireland again. 1865 MORLEY *Mod. Characteristics* 85 We do not expect a bigot to live in much harmony with people whom he cannot proselytize.

Hence **Pro·selytizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1828 CARLYLE in *For. Rev. & Cont. Misc.* II. 439 The influence of this proselytizing bigotry. 1842 PUSEY *Crisis Eng. Ch.* 98 In our own day, any exhibition of ourselves as a proselytizing Church would unsettle many of our own children. 1881 MONIER WILLIAMS in *19th Cent.* Mar. 504 Proselytising has never been attempted by the Zoroastrians since their arrival on Indian soil. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. iii. 269 A proselytising religion was a new phenomenon.

Proselytizer (prɒ·sĕlətĭ-, -litəizəɹ). [f. prec. vb. + -ER 1.] One who proselytizes; one who makes or endeavours to make proselytes.

1848 GILFILLAN in *Tait's Mag.* XV. 280 He is the least in the world of a proselytizer. 1904 SIR R. RODD *Sir W. Raleigh* i. 7 [He] with the zeal of a proselytiser, began to take her to task for carrying beads.

Proseman (prōu·zmæn). [f. PROSE *sb.* + MAN *sb.*1] A man who writes prose, a prose author.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xviii. (Arb.) 202 The figure which the Greeks call Hiperbole..must be vsed very discreetly,..for although a prayse or other report may be allowed beyond credit, it may not be beyond all measure, specially in the proseman. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 64 Verse-man or Prose-man, term me which you will. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ix. (1890) 343 For the meditative reading of instructed persons he [Browne] is perhaps the most delightful of English prosemen.

Proseminary (prɒse·mĭnări). [f. PRO- 2 1 + SEMINARY *sb.* So G. *proseminar.*] A preparatory seminary or school.

1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* lv. (1840) III. 282 *note*, Merchant-Taylors' school in London..was then just founded as a proseminary for saint John's college, Oxford. 1893 *Home Miss.* (N.Y.) July 192 The German pro-seminary at Crete..prepares students for the Chicago Theological Seminary.

† **Prose·minate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōsēmināre* to sow, propagate: see PRO- 1 1 and SEMINATE.] *trans.* To sow, to propagate; to disseminate.

1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrol.* 36 These errours..procreated and proseminated by Astrologers. 1657–83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 222 To proseminate his curious cockles, dissensions, and factions..in this goodly plantation.

So † **Prosemina·tion** *Obs.*, propagation by seed; spreading abroad as if sown, dissemination.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* v. vii. § 4. 38 That first beginning of the vniuersall pro-semination of Mankind. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. iii. 79 The eternal succession of the Species, whether of Men, Animals, or Vegetables by natural propagation or prosemination.

‖ **Prosencephalon** (prɒsɪense·fălɒn). *Anat.* Pl. **-a.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρός* toward (but here used as if = *πρό*, PRO- 2 2) + *ἐγκέφαλον, -os* brain, ENCEPHALON.] The anterior part of the brain, consisting of the cerebral hemispheres and other structures; sometimes including the olfactory lobes (*rhinencephalon*) and the optic thalami and adjacent parts (*thalamencephalon*); the fore-brain.

1846 OWEN *Anat. Vert.* I. 181 *note*, Influenced by the inapplicability of the term 'hemispheres'..I shall apply the term 'prosencephalon' to the constant division of the brain in question, and prosencephalic lobes or prosencephala to its commonly distinct moieties. 1856 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* II. 600 The prosencephalon soon increases in size, and becomes much larger than all the others. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 99 The prosencephalon, mesencephalon, and metencephalon are contiguous.

Hence **Prosencephalic** (prɒsɪensĭfæ·lik) *a.*, pertaining to or connected with the prosencephalon: applied esp. to parts of the skull in animals.

1846 [see above]. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 251 The rhinencephalic fossa..in the lion.. is defined by a well-marked angle..from the prosencephalic compartment. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 86 Prosencephalic arch, composed of pre-sphenoid, orbito-sphenoid, frontal and postfrontal.

Prosenchyma (prɒsɪe·ŋkimă). *Bot.* Also in form **prosenchym.** [mod. f. Gr. *πρός* to, toward + *ἔγχυμα* infusion, after PARENCHYMA. So F. *prosenchyme*, Ger. *prosenchym.*] Tissue consisting of elongated cells closely placed with their ends interpenetrating, and often with the terminal partitions obliterated so as to form ducts or vessels; found in different systems of tissues, but most typically in the fibro-vascular tissue (wood, bast, etc.); hence sometimes used as synonymous with 'fibro-vascular tissue'. Also *attrib.*, as *prosenchyma cell.* (Distinguished from PARENCHYMA 2.)

1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 9 Professor Link distinguishes Parenchyma and Prosenchyma [*so ed.* 1835; *ed.* 1848 Prosenchym]. 1849 LANKESTER tr. *Schleiden's Sci. Bot.* 56 Thus originates in the place of parenchyma a peculiar tissue which is called prosenchyma. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 78 If the cells are pointed at the ends, [etc.], then the tissue is termed *Prosenchyma. Ibid.* 79 The cells of such a tissue are usually elongated in the direction of its length,.. and we then have Prosenchyma bundles. The most important of these are the Fibro-vascular Bundles.

Prosenchymatous (prɒsɪeŋkimătəs), *a.* [f. prec.: cf. PARENCHYMATOUS.] Belonging to, consisting of, or having the nature of prosenchyma.

1848 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 57 The tubes which stand in contact with prosenchymatous cells. 1861 [see PARENCHYMATOUS 2]. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 281 The ascending and descending lobes dove-tailing in a prosenchymatous manner.

Proseneschal: see PRO- 1 4.

Prosɪe·nneahe·dral, *a. Cryst. rare.* [f. F. *prosenneaèdre* (Haüy) (f. Gr. *πρός* approaching to + *enneaèdre*) + -AL, after ENNEAHEDRAL.] (See quot.) Also **Prosɪenneë·drous** *a. rare*—0.

1805–17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 208 *Prosenneahedral*,..having nine faces on two adjacent parts, as in the prosenneahedral tourmaline..; in which the prism has nine sides, and one of the extremities nine planes, and the other only three. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Prosenneædrus, Min.*, having nine faces upon two adjacent parts. Applied by Haüy to a variety of tourmaline..: prosenneëdrous.

† **Prosɪepi·logism.** *Logic. Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. *πρός* in addition + EPILOGISM. Cf. PROSSYLLOGISM.] (See quot.)

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 281 The proofe of the premises of the Prossyllogisme, is called an Epilogisme; and the proofe of any part hereof also is called a Prosepilogisme.

Prosequut(e, etc., obs. forms of PROSECUTE, etc.

Proser (prōu·zəɹ). [f. PROSE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. A writer of prose; = PROSAIST 1.

1627 DRAYTON *Elegy H. Reynolds* in *Agincourt*, etc. 206 And surely Nashe, though he a Proser were A branch of Lawrell yet deserues to beare. 1815 L. HUNT *Feast Poets*, etc. 14 Such prosers as Johnson, and rhymers as Dryden. 1854 LOWELL *Jrnl. in Italy* Prose Wks. 1890 I. 125 Poets and prosers have alike compared her [Italy] to a beautiful woman.

2. One who proses; one who talks or writes in a prosy, dull, commonplace, or tiresome way.

1769 *St. James's Chron.* 29–31 Aug. 4/2 Bore.... My Father's Word for this intolerable Animal was a Proser. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* v. 39 The proser who..has tales of three hours' length. 1886 DOWDEN *Shelley* II. v. 210 He would find Gisborne a proser, and a sieve through which much learning had passed.

Proses, Prosesioun, -session, etc., obs. forms of PROCESS, PROCESSION.

† **Pro·set.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PROSE *sb.* + -ET.] A little or insignificant piece of prose.

1625 LISLE *Du Bartas' Noe* Pref. 1 Among the sundrie versets or prosets which I have, or shall set out if you find some that savour of my younger time.

‖ **Proseucha** (prɒsiū·kă). Pl. **-æ**; in 7 **-a's.** [late L. (Juv.), ad. Gr. *προσευχή* prayer, a place of prayer, f. *προσεύχ-εσθαι* to offer prayers, f. *πρός* toward + *εὔχ-εσθαι* to pray.] A place of prayer in ancient times, an oratory; among the Jews, usually an unroofed place set apart for prayer, as distinct from a synagogue.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 66 Proseucha was a plot of ground encompassed with a wall or..other..inclosure, and open above...A Synagogue was..a covered edifice...Synagogues were within the Cities, as Proseucha's were without. 1879 J. MARTINEAU *Hours Th.* (1880) II. 345 The unadorned proseucha that sufficed for apostolic disciples. 1891 tr. *Father Didon's Jesus Christ* I. 25 [The Jews] built synagogues and proseuchae at the entrances of towns.

Proseys, obs. form of PROCESS.

Prosify (prōu·zifəi), *v.* Chiefly *humorous.* Also **prosefy.** [f. late L. *prōsa* or PROSE *sb.* + -FY: in sense 2, after *versify.* The spelling *prosefy* is app. after *stupefy*, etc.]

1. *trans.* To turn into prose; to make prosaic.

1774 MISS CARTER *Let. to Mrs. Montagu* 28 June, Either the poetry confounds..the lesson, or the lesson prosifies the poetry. 1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 882 In such a frozen atmosphere would not eloquence be congealed on the lips of an Ulysses, and poetry prosified on those of an Apollo! 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 547/1 [He] maltreats the glorious lines of Burns,..prosefying his poetry and twaddleising his vigour.

2. *intr.* To make or write prose.

1816 SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 4 Feb., I cannot write verses in the presence of any person,..but I can prosify, let who will be present. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 36 Prosifying where there was prose enough before, and poetising what was poetical enough already.

So **Prosification** (prōu·zifikē·ʃən), the action of 'prosifying', conversion into prose, making prosaic; **Prosifier** (prōu·zifəiɹəɹ), one who or that which 'prosifies'.

1788 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) II. 12 The *that*'s, the *which*'s, the *who*'s, and the *whom*'s, are prosefiers,..injurious to the melody of verse. 1847 L. HUNT *Jar Honey* iv. (1848) 43 This prosification of a fine bit of poetry.

Prosilient (prɒsi·lĭënt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *prōsilient-em*, pres. pple. of *prōsilīre* to leap forth.] *lit.* Leaping forth; *fig.* outstanding, prominent. So † **Prosi·liate** *v.* [erron. form] *intr.*, to be prominent, project, 'stand out'; **Prosi·liency** [see -ENCY], † the fact of leaping forth (*obs.*); *fig.* prosilient quality, great prominence; † **Prosili·tion** [n. of action f. L. *prōsilīre*: see -TION], the action of leaping or starting out.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 173 The minde is..apertly conversant in the eyes..: the minde resolute, the eyes *prosiliate, being humble, they subsidate. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Vanity Dogm.* 61 A Repentine *Prosiliency jumping into Being. 1827 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 402 He has given it such prominence, such prosiliency of relief. 1902 GERTR. ATHERTON *Conqueror* v. i, Hamilton,..not excepting Washington,..was to Europeans the most *prosilient of Americans. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 485 That the Powder..may pass..without any loss by *prosilition.

Prosily (prōu·zĭli), *adv.* [f. PROSY + -LY 2.] In a prosy manner; with dull and tedious utterance; in a matter-of-fact way, prosaically.

1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* xxiii, This speech, delivered rather prosily and oracularly. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Madding Crowd* I. ii. 23 Oak knew her..as the heroine of the yellow waggon..: prosily, as the woman who owed him twopence.

† **Prosi,me·trical,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. med. or mod.L. *prōsimetric-us*, f. *prōsa* prose + *metricus* METRICAL.] (See quot.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prosimetrical*, consisting partly of Prose, partly of Meeter or Verse.

Prosimian (prɒsi·miăn), *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Prōsimia*, generic name (Brisson 1756), *Prosimiæ* pl. (Storr 1780), *Prosimii* pl. (Illiger and Goldfuss 1811) (f. *pro-* (? PRO- 1 4, or PRO- 2 1) + *simia* ape) + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Belonging to the group *Prosimiæ* or *Prosimii* of Quadrumana, now reckoned a suborder of *Primates*, comprising the lemurs. **b.** *sb.* An animal belonging to this group, a lemur. So **Prosi·mious** *a.* = **a.**

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Prosimius*...Applied by Illiger and Goldfuss to a Family (*Prosimi*..) of the *Mammifera*, comprehending those which, under different relations, approach the *Simiæ*: prosimious. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Prosimian* [adj. and sb.].

Prosiness (prōu·zinès). [f. PROSY + -NESS.] Prosy or prosaic quality; commonplaceness; dullness and tediousness of writing or speech.

1814 SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) II. 448 Settling down again to the prosiness of their every-day life. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 291 Those well-regulated minds which, during a good part of the last century, found out a way, through rhyme, to snatch a prosiness beyond the reach of prose.

Prosing (prōu·ziŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROSE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PROSE.

1. Prose-writing, prose composition.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. Pref., Wks. 1851 III. 144 Prosing or versing, but chiefly this latter. 1801 MOORE *Morality* 2 Dozing O'er books of rhyme and books of prosing. 1840 HOOD *Up the Rhine* 6 Should I ever get beyond prosing, my verses belong to her.

2. Dull or tedious talking; prosy discourse.

1775 MASON *Mem. Gray* G.'s Poems (1775) 139 *note*, But what shall we say..when a writer whom Mr. Gray so justly esteemed as M. Marivaux is now held in such contempt, that *Marivauder* is a fashionable phrase amongst them [the French], and signifies neither more nor less, than our own fashionable phrase of *prosing*? 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xix, The unceasing prosing of his worthy companion. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. ii. 61 His moral prosings savour of the endless gossip over a dish of chocolate.

Pro·sing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That proses; talking or writing prosily; also said of a writing or discourse (= PROSY).

1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary, Let.* 24 Apr., Remember how prosing, affected, and very fine he is. 1809 G. ELLIS in Smiles *Mem. J. Murray* (1891) I. vii. 159 A dull prosing piece of orthodoxy may have its admirers. 1865 GROTE *Plato* I. 125 Prosing beggars, in mean attire and dirt.

Hence **Pro·singly** *adv.*, in a prosing manner.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 735 You will not need to hear us prosingly speak of it.

Prosiphon (prɒ|səi·fŏn). *Zool.* [f. PRO- 2 1 + SIPHON.] The primitive siphon in an embryonic ammonite, a kind of ligament attached to the protoconch. Hence **Prosi·phonal** *a.*, pertaining to the prosiphon.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prosiphon, Prosiphonal. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* III. 387 The protoconch is present, and contains a prosiphon.

Prosiphonate (prōˌsəiˈfōnēt), *a. Zool.* [f. *prō-*, PRO-[1] I a + SIPHON + -ATE[2] 2.] Of a chambered shell: Having the siphonal funnel directed forward, as in the *Prosiphonata*, a primary group of chambered cephalopods now extinct.

Prosis(se, obs. forms of PROCESS.

Prosish (prōʊˈziʃ), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PROSE *sb.* + -ISH[1].] Partaking of the nature of prose; somewhat prosaic.

1797 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* (1895) 223 The five lines are flat and prosish.

Prosist (prōʊˈzist). *rare.* [f. PROSE *sb.* + -IST.] A prose-writer: = PROSAIST 1.

1809 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* 555 Lessing, the best German prosist. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trin.* ix. 154 Imaginative thinkers, whether they be poets or prosists.

‖ **Prosˌlambanoˈmenos.** [L. (Vitruv.) a. Gr. *προσλαμβανόμενος* (sc. *τόνος*) the note taken in addition, i.e. added below the *ὑπάτη*, HYPATE.] The name of the lowest note, added below the lowest tetrachord, in the later scales or systems of ancient Greek music.

1694 HOLDER *Harmony* (1731) 104 In this Scale of Disdiapason..the Mese is an Octave below the Nete Hyperbolæon, and an Octave above the Proslambanomenos. *Ibid.* 105 The Hypodorian Mood, the Proslambanomenos whereof was fix'd upon the lowest clear and firm Note of the Voice or Instrument..of the deepest settled Pitch. *Ibid.* 106 The Proslambanomenos of the Hypermixolydian Mood was just an Eighth higher than that of the Hypodorian. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) II. ii. 86 The proslambanomenos or most grave sound in all their systems. 1894 R. C. HOPE *Med. Music* iii. 25 The lesser or conjunct system comprised the scale of Sappho, the proslambanomenos or added note below, with the upper tetrachord of Terpander's.

Pro-slavery, etc.: see PRO-[1] 5.

Prosne, obs. form of PRONE *sb.*, a homily.

‖ **Prosneusis** (prɒsnjūˈsis). *Astron.* [a. Gr. *πρόσνευσις* a nodding to, inclination towards; in Ptolemy as in a below; f. *προσνεύειν* to nod to, incline towards.] In the Ptolemaic astronomy: a. *Prosneusis of the epicycle.* A supposed deviation in the axis of the moon's epicycle, assumed as a correction to the lunar anomaly. b. The angle between the ecliptic and the great circle joining the centres of the moon and of the earth's shadow in a lunar eclipse.

1906 DREYER *Hist. Planetary Syst.* ix. 196 The principle of rigorously uniform motion had been violated both by introducing a point outside the centre of the deferent, with regard to which the angular motion was uniform, and by the prosneusis. *Ibid.* xi. 252 He [Bertrand]..showed that Abu'l Wefa did not add his 'mohazat' to the prosneusis, the latter not being included in his 'second anomaly'. 1908 — *Let. to Editor* 20 Aug., [In reference to sense b] This is the prosneusis of the eclipsed part [of the moon].

Prosobranch (prɒˈsobræŋk), *sb.* (*a.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Prosōbranchia*, neut. pl., f. Gr. *πρόσω* forwards + *βράγχια* gills.] A prosobranchiate gastropod: see next. b. *adj.* = next.

1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* I. 50 The sexes are distinct in the most highly organized (or dicecious) mollusca:..the prosobranchs pair. 1861 CARPENTER in *Smithsonian Rep.* 171 In the Prosobranchs, the breathing cavity is at the back of the head. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 511 No Prosobranch is..symmetrical. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 557 A Contribution to the Embryology of the Prosobranch Gasteropods.

Hence **Proˈsobranchism,** the condition of being prosobranchiate.

Prosobranchiate (-bræŋkiĕt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Prosōbranchiāta* = *Prosōbranchia*: see prec. and -ATE[2] 2.] Having the gills in front of the heart, as the aquatic gastropod molluscs of the group or order *Prosōbranchia.* b. *sb.* = prec.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 508 Nearly related forms are sometimes opisthobranchiate, sometimes prosobranchiate. 1880 G. W. TRYON *Man. Conchol.* II. 6 An external shell..is common to all the prosobranchiates.

Prosodal (prɒˈsodăl), *a. Zool.* [f. PROSODUS + -AL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a prosodus; incurrent.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 415/1 (*Sponges*) The extension of the prosodal or adital canals into long tubes.

Prosode (prɒˈsoud). *Gr. Antiq.* [ad. Gr. *προσῳδίον.*] = PROSODION.

1777 R. POTTER *Æschylus* (1779) II. 33 Prosode. Supreme of Kings, Jove; and thou friendly night [etc.]. This ode.. begins with a sublime and manly address to Jupiter.

Prosodia, L. = PROSODY; pl. of PROSODION.

Prosodiac (prɒsɒˈdiăk), *a.*[1] and *sb.* [ad. late L. *prosodiac-us,* ad. Gr. *προσῳδιακός,* f. *προσῴδιον* PROSODION.]

A. *adj.* a. Pertaining to or used as a prosodion; processional. b. Of or pertaining to the verse described in B. 1850 [see PROSODION].

B. *sb. Anc. Pros.* A verse consisting of three anapæsts, for the first of which a spondee or iambus may be substituted.

Prosodiac (prɒsōʊˈdiăk), *a.*[2] [ad. late L. *prosōdiacus* = Gr. *προσῳδιακός* (Victorinus and Martianus Capella, 4th and 5th c.) (*p. metrus, numeri*), with sense 'of or pertaining to prosody'. But Gr. *προσῳδιακός* is, according to Liddell and Scott, an erroneous form of *προσῳδιακός* (f. *προσῴδιον* (*μέλος*) a processional song), an adj. denoting the metrical foot (⏑–⏑) in processional songs, and unconnected with *προσῳδία*, though app. confused with it in Latin (which had only o for Gr. o and ω; hence in the mod. langs. referred to PROSODY.]

= PROSODIC. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prosodiacal (prɒsədəiˈăkăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Of or pertaining to prosody; = PROSODIC.

1774 MITFORD *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 132 A living writer, whose..criticisms I..admire, tho obliged to combat his prosodiacal tenets. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* III. 429 The measure and rhyme force you to prosodiacal propriety. 1873 WAGNER tr. *Teuffel's Hist. Rom. Lit.* I. 110 The prosodiacal licences of the dramatic poets.

Hence **Prosodiˈacally** *adv.* = PROSODICALLY.

1836 in SMART.

Prosodial (prɒsōʊˈdiăl), *a.*[1] [f. L. *prosōdi-a* PROSODY + -AL.] Of or pertaining to prosody; = PROSODIC.

1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art Reading* 214 The measure.. to speak in the prosodial language, becomes purely amphibrachic. 1789 — (*title*) A complete Dictionary of the English Language,..to which is prefixed a Prosodial Grammar [*ed.* 1 Rhetorical Grammar]...The Second Edition, Revised, Corrected and Enlarged. 1885 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 138/2 A poet..not occupied with..prosodial or metrical systems, or traditional models of..style.

Prosoˈdial, *a.*[2] [f. PROSODI-ON + -AL.] = PROSODIAC *a.*[1]

1874 SYMONDS *Italy & Greece* 215 Chapleted youths singing the praise of Pallas in prosodial hymns.

Prosodian (prɒsōʊˈdiăn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *prosōdia,* Gr. *προσῳδία* prosody + -AN.]

A. *sb.* = PROSODIST.

1623 COCKERAM II, The Art of accenting, or the rule of pronouncing wordes truely long or short, *prosodie.* One skild in that Art, *prosodian.* 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. i. 339 That the Forbidden fruit..was an Apple, is commonly beleeved,..and some have been so bad Prosodians, as from thence to derive the Latine word *Malum*; because that fruit was the first occasion of evill. 1852 BLACKIE *Stud. Lang.* 13 The word *female* is, according to the technical style of Prosodians, a Spondee.

B. *adj.* = next.

1817 COLEBROOKE *Algebra* IV. vi. 49 *note,* Commentators appear to interpret this as a name of the rule here taught; *sâd'hárana,* or *sâd'hárána-ch'handó-gañita,* general rule of prosodian permutation: subject to modification in particular instances; as in music.

Prosodic (prɒsɒˈdik), *a.* [f. L. *prosōdia* PROSODY + -IC. Cf. F. *prosodique.* (The reputed Gr. *προσῳδικός,* is, according to Liddell and Scott, an erroneous spelling of *προσοδιακός.*)] Of, pertaining or relating to prosody.

1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) I. Diss. ii. p. cvi, The strict..attention of these Latin poets to prosodic rules. 1886 J. EGGELING in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 270/2 The normal instrumental ending *â,* preserved for prosodic reasons. 1906 SAINTSBURY *Eng. Prosody* I. Pref. 6 To make the book a history of prosodic study as well as of prosodic expression.

Prosodical (prɒsɒˈdikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) II. xxxiii. 505 A burlesque Latin poem,..yet not destitute of prosodical harmony. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 554 He has attempted..the 'absolute prosodical reproduction' of the originals.

Hence **Prosoˈdically** *adv.*, in relation to prosody.

1882 in OGILVIE.

‖ **Prosodiencephalon** (prɒsoˌdəiˌensefˈălɒn). *Anat.* Pl. **-ceˈphala.** Also in anglicized form **-ceˈphal.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρόσω* forward + DIENCEPHALON.] In Wilder's nomenclature, the prosencephalon and diencephalon taken together. Hence **Prosodiencephalic** (-sĕfæˈlik) *a.*, pertaining to the prosodiencephalon.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 130/2 The compacted motor and sensory conductors between the prosodiencephal and the metepencephal. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Prosodiencephalic.*

‖ **Prosodion** (prɒsɒˈdiɒn). *Gr. Antiq.* Also in L. form **-ium.** Pl. **prosodia.** [a. Gr. *προσῴδιον* (*μέλος*) a processional song, neut. sing. of *προσῴδιος* adj. processional, f. *πρόσοδος* an approach, procession: see PROSODUS.] A hymn sung in procession at a religious festival in ancient Greece.

1850 MURE *Lit. Greece* III. 73 The prosodion was the hymn sung by the choristers in their procession to the altar or sanctuary...The prosodion, accordingly, is occasionally classed under the general head of Pæan, by the special title of Prosodiac, or Processional, pæan. *Ibid.*, Such, apparently, was the style of the celebrated Delian prosodium of Eumelus. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* v. 116 Processional hymns, or *Prosodia,* were sung at solemn festivals by troops of men and maidens walking, crowned with olive, myrtle, bay, or oleander, to the shrines.

Prosodist (prɒˈsɒdist). [f. L. *prosōdia* PROSODY + -IST.] One skilled or learned in prosody.

1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Pope* Wks. IV. 121 Here are the swiftness of the rapid race, and the march of slow-paced majesty, exhibited by the same poet in the same sequence of syllables, except that the exact prosodist will find the line of *swiftness* by one time longer than that of *tardiness.* *c* 1800 J. WALKER *Key to Classical Pronunc.* (ed. 2) Advt., If it convinces future prosodists that it is not worthy of their attention. 1885 LECKY in *Philol. Soc. Proc.* p. iii, Prosodists assumed that the quantity of an English syllable depended on the number of sounds it contained; that, for example, *ask* was longer than *ass* (*vide* Guest).

‖ **Prosodus** (prɒˈsɒdŭs). *Zool.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *πρόσοδος* an approach, f. *πρός* to + *ὁδός* a way.] An incurrent opening or channel in a sponge.

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 415/1 (*Sponges*) The prosopyles..may remain unchanged..or at the most be prolonged into very short tubes, each a *prosodus* or *aditus.*

Prosody (prɒˈsŏdi). Also β. 6–8 in L. form **prosoˈdia.** [ad. L. *prosōdia* the accent of a syllable, a. Gr. *προσῳδία* a song sung to music, an accompaniment; the tone or accent of a syllable, a mark to show it; later also, a mark of quantity; f. *πρός* to + *ᾠδή* song, ODE. Cf. F. *prosodie* (1562 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The science of versification; that part of the study of language which deals with the forms of metrical composition; formerly reckoned as a part of grammar (see note s. v. GRAMMAR 1), and including also the study of the pronunciation of words (now called *phonology* or *phonetics*), esp. in relation to versification. Also, a treatise on this.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xx. (Shaks. Soc.) 189 Amonges alle clerkys we bere the prysse, Of gramer, cadens, and of prosodye. 1580 G. HARVEY *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 76, I would gladly be acquainted with M. Drants Prosodye. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* i. (tr. Scaliger), Prosody, and orthography, are not parts of grammar, but diffused like the blood and spirits through the whole. 1749 *Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 10 There is a very wide Difference between the Latin and English Prosody. And it's in vain to think of introducing the Rules of the former into the latter; since the English Language is not so framed as to admit of it. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 345 Prosody consists of two parts: the former teaches the true pronunciation of words, comprising accent, quantity, emphasis, pause, and tone; and the latter, the laws of versification. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* Pref. 17, I have bound myself to avoid certain positions forbidden by the laws of ancient prosody.

β. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* Pref. (Arb.) 19 If English Poetrie were truely reformed, and some perfect platforme or *Prosodia* of versifying were..sette downe. *Ibid.* 62 Though our wordes can not well bee forced to abyde the touch of Position and other rules of *Prosodia.* 1693 DRYDEN *Examen Poeticum* Ded., Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 11 For the benefit of those who understand not the Latin *prosodia.* 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* i. (1726) 28, I should as soon expect to find the *Prosodia* in a Comb as Poetry in a Medal.

2. Correct pronunciation of words; the utterance of the sounds of a language according to rule; observance of the laws of prosody. *rare.*

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Prosodie,* true pronouncing of wordes. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* i, A letter is an indivisible part of a syllabe, whose prosody, or right sounding, is perceived by the power. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* (1872) III. v. ii. 178 She expressed herself with a purity, with a harmony and prosody that made her language like music. 1842 MRS. GORE *Fascin.* 128 He heard a pure and eloquent voice recite with the most elegant and perfect prosody, these verses from the first satire of Persius.

3. *attrib.*

1877 HALES *Spenser* (Globe) p. xxviii, Allying himself with these Latin prosody bigots, Spenser sinned grievously against his better taste.

Prosogaster (prɒsoˌgæˈstəɪ). *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρόσω* forward + *γαστήρ* belly.] The anterior or upper section of the alimentary canal, extending from the pharynx to the pylorus, and including the œsophagus or gullet and the stomach; the foregut.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Prosogaster,* syn. for Foregut.

Prosognathous (prɒsɒgˈnăþəs), *a.* [f. as prec. + Gr. *γνάθος* jaw + -OUS.] = PROGNATHOUS.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Prosoma** (prɒsōʊˈmă), *Zool.* Also in anglicized form **prosome** (prɒˈsōʊm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρό,* PRO-[2] + *σῶμα* body.] The anterior or cephalic segment of the body in certain animals, as cephalopods, lamellibranchs, and cirripeds.

1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 272 The body in the Cephalopoda is symmetrical..there is a tolerably distinct separation ..into an anterior cephalic portion (prosoma) and a posterior portion, enveloped in the mantle..(metasoma). 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 293 The thoracic segments, which succeed the prosoma, gradually taper posteriorly.

Hence **Prosoˈmal, Prosomaˈtic** *adjs.*, belonging to the prosoma or anterior part of the body.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Prosomal, Prosomatic. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1900 W. H. GASKELL in *Jrnl. Anat. & Physiol.* July 465 The Prosomatic Appendages of the Merostomata. *Ibid.* 471 The metastoma represented the fused last pair of prosomatic appendages, and so formed a ventral lip to a prosomatic or oral chamber.

‖ **Prosonomaˈsia.** *Obs.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *προσονομασία* a naming, appellation, f. *προσονομάζειν* to call by a name, f. *πρός* to + *ὀνομάζειν* to name.] Properly, a calling by a name, a nicknaming. (By Day confused with PARONOMASIA.)

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 110 Hee is somewhat a foolosopher, for he carries all his possessions about him [*margin* Prosonomasia]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xviii. (Arb.) 212 If any other man can geue him a fitter English name, I will not be angrie, but I am sure mine is very neere the originall sence of the Prosonomasia, and is rather a by-name geuen in sport, than a surname geuen of any earnest purpose. As, Tiberius the Emperor, because he was a great drinker of wine, they called him.. Caldius Biberius Mero, in steade of Claudius Tiberius Nero: and so a iesting frier that wrate against Erasmus, called him..Errans mus, and are mainteined by this figure Prosonomasia, or the Nicknamer.

‖ **Prosopalgia** (prɒsopæ·ldʒiă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρόσωπ-ον* a face (f. *πρός* to + *ὤψ, ὠπ-* eye, face) + *ἄλγος* pain. Cf. F. *prosopalgie.*] Facial neuralgia; face-ache.

1831 South *Otto's Pathol. Anat.* 454 It is not surprising that..prosopalgia, ischias nervosa, &c. should be considered as arising from inflammation of the medullary part and sheaths of the nerves. *1862 New Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. & Surg.* 150 Case of Prosopalgia from a cranial tumour. *1876* tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XI. 100 Prosopalgia is one of the forms of neuralgia..most frequently met with.

Hence **Prosopalgic** (-æ·ldʒik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with prosopalgia.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* *1895* in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Prosopial (prɒsō·piăl), *a. Ornith.* [f. Prosopi-um + -al.] Belonging to the prosopium.

1895 Mivart in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 369 On either side a large aperture, the two forming the posterior prosopial nares.

‖ **Prosopis** (prɒsō·pis). [In sense 1, late L. *prosōpis*, a. Gr. *προσωπίς* (an unidentified plant), applied as generic name (Linnæus 1767); in sense 2, mod.L. generic name (Fabricius 1804).]

1. *Bot.* A tropical and subtropical genus of leguminous trees and shrubs, of the suborder *Mimoseæ*, often prickly or thorny, bearing spicate green or yellow flowers, and usually fleshy pods. *Prosopis juliflora* is the mesquit or honey-locust.

1851 Mayne Reid *Scalp Hunt.* xxxii, Peering cautiously through the leaves of the prosopis.

2. *Zool.* A genus of solitary bees of the family *Andrenidæ.*

1887 Jefferies *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 205, I think there were four species of wild bee at these early flowers, including the great bombus and the small prosopis with orange-yellow band. *1901* Ld. Avebury in *Daily Chron.* 25 May 3/1 On the evolution of the hive bee from the less highly organised Prosopis—which has a short, simple tongue, no brushes or baskets on the legs, and leads a solitary life.

Prosopite (prɒsō·pəit). *Min.* [ad. G. *prosopit* (Th. Scheerer 1853), f. Gr. *πρόσωπον* face, mask: see -ite 1.] A hydrous fluoride of aluminium and calcium, occurring in colourless, white, or greyish crystals.

1854 Dana *Min.* 502 Prosopite..occurs at the tin mines of Altenberg. *1899 Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. IV. VII. 53 If the assumptions made in the foregoing are justified, the Utah mineral is prosopite.

‖ **Prosopium** (prɒsō·piŏm). *Ornith.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L. (Mivart 1895), ad. Gr. *προσωπεῖον* a mask, f. *πρόσωπον* face.] Term for the whole of the bones and ossifications in front of the cranio-facial articulation in parrots.

1895 Mivart in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 365 The Bony Beak or Prosopium. [*Note*] By this term I intend to denote the whole ossified mass in front of the cranio-facial articulation and the articulations of the zygomata and palatines. It includes the premaxilla, the maxillæ, maxillo-palatine processes, the nasals, and the ethmoidal and turbinal ossifications of the beak. *Ibid.* 369 The greater extension ventrad of the apex of the prosopium.

Proso-poetical (prōsoɪzopoɪe·tikăl), *a. rare.* [f. *proso-*, assumed comb. form of L. *prōsa* Prose (see -o) + Poetical.] Properly 'of the nature of prose poetry'; but in quots. app. taken in the sense 'of the nature of metrical prose or prosaic verse'.

1858 C. A. Cole *Mem. Hen. V*, p. xliii, The present Metrical, or rather Proso-poetical, History. *1895 Month* June 230 Thomas of Elmham—in his .. proso-poetical History of Henry V.

† **Prosopo·graphy.** *Obs.* [f. Gr. *πρόσωπον* face, person: see -graphy. Cf. F. *prosopographie.*] A description of the person or personal appearance.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 613 Prosopographie is a picturing or representing of bodily lineaments. *1577–87* Holinshed *Chron.* (1807) II. 110 Thus farre of the acts and deeds of Stephan: now..touching the prosopographie or description of his person. *1654* Z. Coke *Logick* 212. *1813 Monthly Mag.* XXXVI. 330 An historic character, says a German professor, should consist of two parts, the *prosopography*, or description of the person, and the *ethopea*, or description of the mind and manners.

Prosopolepsy (prɒsō·pɒlepsi, -lĭpsi). ? *Obs.* [ad. Gr. *προσωπολῆψια* (a Hebraism of the N.T.) acceptance of the face or person, f. *προσωπολήπτης* an acceptor of the face or person, f. *πρόσωπον* face + *λαμβάνειν* to take, accept.] Acceptance or 'acception' of the face or person of any one (see Acception 2, Person 13); respect of persons, undue favour shown to a particular person; partiality.

1646 Buck *Rich. III* Ded., The Historiographer, veritable; free from all Prosopolepsyes, or partiall respects. *1678* Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 36. 567 The Assumption of it was neither Fortuitous nor Partial, or with Prosopolepsie (the Acception of Persons) but bestowed upon it justly for the Merit of its Vertues. *1849* E. B. Eastwick *Dry Leaves* 116 The English rule is a model of justice. There is no prosopolepsy in it; no respect of persons. All men are equal, and have equal rights.

Hence † **Prosopole·psian** *Obs.*, one given to 'prosopolepsy'; a 'respecter of persons'.

1647 J. Heydon *Discov. Fairfax* 11 God's no Prosopolepsian, he respects the poore as well as the rich.

Prosopologist (prɒsopɒ·lŏdʒist). *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πρόσωπον* face + -logist.] One who studies or treats of the face. So **Prosopo·logy** (*rare*—°) the scientific study of the face, physiognomy.

1820 Blackw. Mag. VI. 651 As this author limits his observations to the face, we propose to term him, and all such, prosopologists, discoursers on the face. *1858* Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Prosopologia*, term for a dissertation on the countenance: prosopology.

† **Proso·popey.** *Obs.* Also -eie, -eye. [ad. L. *prosōpopœia*: see next, and cf. F. *prosopopée* (16th c. in Littré).] = next.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 613 Prosopopeie is wher those are brought in to speake that do not speake. *1605 Answ. Supposed Discov. Rom. Doctr.*, etc. 2 He warreth..against poetically or childishlie feigned Prosopopeis, and Chimeres of his owne creation. *a1641* Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 89 The Prophet himselfe.. speaks by Prosopopey concerning them. *a1693 Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol., Who with their very countenance.. express their consent to the Prosopopeie.

‖ **Prosopopœia** (prɒsōpopī·ă). Also 6-oiia, 6–9 -eia, (*erron.* 6–8 -œa, 7 -oia). [L. (Quintil.), a. Gr. *προσωποποιία* personification, representation in human form or with human attributes, f. *πρόσωπον* face, person + *ποιεῖν* to make.]

1. A rhetorical figure by which an imaginary or absent person is represented as speaking or acting; the introduction of a pretended speaker.

1561 Daus tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 91 We vnderstand these things to be spoken by a figure called Prosopopeia: that is, by the fayning of a person. *1581* Sidney *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 24 His notable Prosopopeias, when he maketh you as it were, see God comming in his Maiestie. *1609* R. Barnard *Faithf. Sheph.* 67 Prosopopeia; the feigning of a person: when wee bring in dead men speaking, or our selues doe take their person vpon vs, or giue voice vnto senselesse things. *1787* Gregory tr. *Lowth's Lect.* (1816) I. xiii. 280 Prosopopœia, or Personification. Of this figure there are two kinds: one, when action and character are attributed to fictitious, irrational, or even inanimate objects; the other, when a probable but fictitious speech is assigned to a real character. *1877* Morley *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 153 This is his one public literary Equivocation..it was resorted to..to give additional weight by means of a harmless prosopopoeia to an argument for the noblest of principles.

2. A rhetorical figure by which an inanimate or abstract thing is represented as a person, or with personal characteristics: = Personification 1. (Formerly included in prec. sense: see quots. 1609, 1787 there.)

1578 Timme *Calvine on Gen.* 142 Clemency and gentleness .. is attributed thereto, by a figure called Prosopopeiia. *1649* Roberts *Clavis Bibl.* 276 The universall triumph and gladnesse as it were of all creatures (in an elegant Prosopopeia) is intimated. *1732* Berkeley *Alciphr.* V. § 22 Sentiments, and vices, which by a marvellous prosopopœia he converts into so many ladies. *1884* A. Lambert in *19th Cent.* June 947 Prosopopœia has no place even in popular science.

b. *transf.* Applied to a person or thing in which some quality or abstraction is as it were embodied; an impersonation, embodiment (*of* something).

1826 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* I. x, Don't start..and look the very Prosopopeia of Political Economy! *1867* Macfarren *Harmony* iv. (*1876*) 152 Everywhere at once..the prosopopœia of ubiquity.

Hence **Prosopopœ·ial, Prosopopœ·ic, -ical** *adjs.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or involving prosopopœia.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 622 To this place now doo belong the *Prosopopeiall speeches of God. *1652* Urquhart *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 292, I could have used..apostrophal and prosopopœial diversions. *1883* Cotterill *Does Science Aid Faith?* (1886) 57 A poetic and *prosopopœic representation of the attribute of Divine wisdom. *1576* Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 192 He hath a *Prosopopoical speach to his countrie.

Prosopulmonate (prɒsopʊ·lmŏnĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πρόσω* forward + Pulmonate.] Pulmonate in front: applied to those pulmonate or air-breathing gastropod molluscs which have the pulmonary sac in front (opp. to *opisthopulmonate* (see Opistho-); cf. Prosobranchiate).

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 514 The animal is thus more or less prosopulmonate.

Prosopyle (prɒ·sopəil). *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πρόσω* forward + *πύλη* a gate.] A small aperture by which an endodermal chamber in a sponge communicates with the exterior. Hence **Prosopylar** (prɒsɒ·pilăr) *a.*, pertaining to, having, or constituting a prosopyle.

1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 413/2 (*Sponges*) To avoid ambiguity we shall for the future distinguish [this] kind of opening as a prosopyle. *1888* — in *Challenger Rep.* XXV. p. xiv, The recesses, known as flagellated chambers, communicate with the cavity of the sac (*paragaster*) each by a single wide mouth (*apopyle*), and with the exterior by a small pore (*prosopyle*). *1890 Cent. Dict.*, *Prosopylar.*

Prospect (prɒ·spekt), *sb.* [ad. L. *prōspect-us* a look out, view, f. *prōspic-ĕre* to look forward, f. *prō*, Pro- 1 + *specĕre* to look. Cf. F. *prospect* (16th c. in Littré).]

I. 1. The action or fact of looking forth or out, or of seeing to a distance; the condition (of a building, or station of any kind) of facing or being so situated as to have its front in a specified direction; outlook, aspect, exposure. *Obs.* passing into 2.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 147 The water of Cilicia, which hathe prospecte ageyne the yle of Cipresse [L. *sinum qui prospicit contra insulam Cyprum*]. *Ibid.* II. 11 Briteyne is..sette as vn to the prospecte of Speyne [*ad prospectum Hispaniæ sita est*]. *1560* Bible (Genev.) *Ezek.* xl. 44 Without the inner gate were the chambers of the singers in the inwarde courte..and their prospect was towarde the South. *1601* Holland *Pliny* I. 119 (Armenia) confineth vpon the Medians, and hath a prospect to the Caspian sea. *1691* Ray *Creation* II. (1692) 4 This [erect] Figure is most convenient for Prospect, and looking about one. *1845* Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 265 The atmosphere tolerably clear,..and the prospect, for the most part, clear and open: this is the autumn, if autumn there be at Dorjeling.

† **b.** A place which affords an open and extensive view; a look-out. *Obs.*

c1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* cii. xi, From the prospect of thy heav'nly hall Thy eye of earth survey did take. *1611* Coryat *Crudities* 164 People may from that place as from a most delectable prospect contemplate and view the parts of the City round about them. *1667* Milton *P. L.* III. 77 Him God beholding from his prospect high,..Thus..spake. *1885* Bible (R. V.) 1 *Kings* vii. 4 And there were prospects [*1611* windowes] in three rows, and light was over against light in three ranks.

2. An extensive or commanding sight or view; the view of the landscape afforded by any position.

1538 Elyot, *Prospectus* .. a syght farre of, a prospecte. *1594* Norden *Spec. Brit. Pars* (Camden) 23 A..howse of pleasure vpon the topp of a mount..: it is seene farr of, and hath most large and pleasant perspecte [*sic*]. *1613* Purchas *Pilgrimage* (*1614*) 436 The streets are strait, yeelding prospect from one gate to another. *1634* Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* 216 [St. Helena] giues a large prospect into the Ocean. *1657–83* Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 28 Take we next a prospect of the earth's surface, and behold from the lofty mountains how the humble valleys are clothed with verdure. *1778* M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 68, I had a fine prospect of the whole army as it moved off. *1818* Miss Mitford in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) II. ii. 23 There is but one place in all Berkshire which has a really fine commanding prospect. *1853* Phillips *Rivers Yorksh.* iv. 128 A most striking prospect over sea and land. *1860* Tyndall *Glac.* I. vii. 49 The prospect was exceedingly fine.

b. *In* (*within*) or *into prospect*: in or into a position making it possible to see or to be seen; within the range or scope of vision; in or into sight or view; within view. Also *fig. arch.*

1555 Eden *Decades* 13 Within the prospecte of the begynnynge of Cuba, he founde a commodious hauen. *1599* Shaks. *Much Ado* IV. i. 231 Euery louely Organ of her life, Shall come..Into the eye and prospect of his soule. *1605* [see 8]. *1664* Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 486 The Knight..Was now in prospect of the Mansion. *1685* Baxter *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. iv. 8 By all Kingdoms is meant, many that were within prospect. *1738* Gray *Tasso* 5 Nor yet in prospect rose the distant shore. *1800–24* Campbell *Dream* IV, Yon phantom's aspect..would appal thee worse, Held in clearly measured prospect.

3. That which is looked at or seen from any place or point of view; a spectacle, a scene; the visible scene or landscape.

a1633 Austin *Medit.* (1635) 278 What a prospect is a well-furnish'd Table? *1662* J. Dawes tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 58 The windows of all the houses..were beset with Lamps, before which were placed Vessels of Glass fill'd with waters of several colours, which made a very delightful prospect. *1693 Humours Town* 3, I had rather look up to see the welcome prospect of your House. *1711* Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 25 Aug., He is ravished with Kent, which was his first prospect when he landed. *1727–46* Thomson *Summer* 1438 Heavens! what a goodly prospect spreads around, Of hills, and dales, and woods, and lawns, and spires. *1763* Johnson in *Boswell* 6 July, But, Sir, let me tell you, the noblest prospect which a Scotchman ever sees, is the high road that leads him to England. *1798* Wordsw. *Peter Bell* I. xvi, On a fair prospect some have looked. *1859* Dickens *Lett., to Mrs. Watson* 31 May, A snug room looking over a Kentish prospect.

‖ **b.** A vista; a long, wide, straight street; an avenue of houses. (Russian, esp. used of the great avenues of St. Petersburg; e. g. *Nevsky Prospekt.*)

† **4.** The appearance presented by anything; aspect. *Obs. rare.*

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* III. iii. 398 It were a tedious difficulty, I thinke, To bring them to that Prospect. *1709* Mrs. E. Singer *Love & Friendship* 36 in *Prior's Poems*, On the Plain when she no more appears, The Plain a dark and gloomy Prospect wears. *1715* Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 8 By Prospect is understood the first show or appearance that a Temple makes to such as approach it... Those which have their Porticos only in front, may be said to have the Prospect *Prostylos.*

† **5.** A pictorial representation of a scene or the like; a view, a picture, a sketch. *Obs.*

1649 Evelyn *Diary* 20 June, I went to Putney and other places on the Thames to take prospects in crayon to carry with me into France, where I thought to have them engrav'd. *1695* E. Bernard *Voy. fr. Aleppo to Tadmor* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 119 We have since procured a Curious Prospect of these Noble Ruins, taken on the Place. *1708* J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. x. (1737) 435 The Prospects of it [the Bass], as represented in Slezer's Theatrum Scotiæ, will sufficiently shew the Difficulty of Access to it. *1762–71* H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 180 His works are mentioned in the royal catalogue, particularly prospects of his majesty's houses in Scotland.

II. † **6.** A mental view or survey; a look, inspection, examination; also, an account or description. *Obs.*

1625 Bacon *Ess., Truth* (Arb.) 501 'To see the Errours..in the vale below': So alwaies, that this prospect, be with Pitty. *a1648* Ld. Herbert *Hen. VIII* (1683) 10 Our King being thus setled in his Throne, took several prospects upon all his neighbouring Princes. *1677 Govt. Venice* 266 Let us now take a Prospect of their Governours, I mean, consider the Manners and Maxims of their Nobility. *a1718* Penn

Tracts Wks. 1726 I. 248, I take a Serious Prospect of the Spiritual Nature and Tendency of the Second Covenant. 1764 GOLDSM. (*title*) The Traveller; or, a Prospect of Society.

7. A scene presented to the mental vision, esp. of something future or expected; a mental vista.

1641 DENHAM *Sophy* v. i, Man to himselfe Is a large prospect. 1672 GREW *Anat. Plants, Idea Philos. Hist.* § 63 How far soever we go, yet the surmounting of one difficulty is wont still to give us the prospect of another. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. Concl., Wks. 1874 I. 144 All expectation of immortality..opens an unbounded prospect to our hopes and our fears. 1785 T. BALGUY *Disc.* 26 True knowledge will perpetually mortify us with the prospect of our own weakness and ignorance. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 95/1 The torch which illuminated the path of the youth, and opened new prospects to his eager views.

8. A mental looking forward; consideration or knowledge of, or regard to something future.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 74 To be King Stands not within the prospect of beleefe. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 102 Not.. without Prospect had to the benefit of such as will be glad of instruction. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* John xix. 22 The providence of God hath a prospect beyond the understanding of all creatures. 1779–81 JOHNSON *L. P., Dryden* Wks. II. 400 His prospect of the advancement which it [navigation] shall receive from the Royal Society. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. viii. 157 It was a Pisgah, not of prospect, but of retrospect.

b. *esp.* Expectation, or reason to look for something to come; that which one has to look forward to. Often *pl.*

1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Warres* 281 For the future, nothing remained, but a prospect of Tyranny and slavery. 1667 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 223 If anything be particularly in your prospects,..you will do well to give us timely advice. *c* 1775 JOHNSON *Lett., to Mrs. Thrale* (1788) I. 259 Our gay prospects have..ended in melancholy retrospects. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 535 The prospect which lay before Monmouth was not a bright one. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxiii. 165 Seeing no prospect of fine weather, I descended to Saas. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iii. 196 He was careless about his personal prospects.

c. *In prospect*: within the range of expectation; expected, or to be expected: now chiefly of something personally advantageous.

1779 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 286 Every thing in prospect appears to me so very gloomy. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iv. 55 Allen longed to..forget all that had been done, and all that was in prospect. *Mod.* He has nothing in prospect at present.

III. †**9.** Short for *prospect-glass*: see II. *Obs.*

1639 R. BAILLIE *Lett., to W. Spang* 28 Sept., The King himself beholding us through a prospect, conjectured us to be about 16 or 18,000 men. 1685 BURNET *Lett.* iii. (1686) 169, I looked at this Statue..through a little prospect that I carried with me. 1743 HUME *Ess., Rise Arts & Sc.* (1817) I. 106 A man may as reasonably pretend to cure himself of love, by viewing his mistress through the artificial medium of a microscope or prospect.

IV. 10. *Mining.* **a.** A spot giving prospects of the presence of a mineral deposit.

1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 129 Finders, who would search all over the country for what they called a good prospect, that is, every appearance on the surface of a good vein of metal. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 180 There are also a number of prospects being opened up in the vicinity. 1895 in *Daily News* 11 July 5/4 This demand [in California] is more for developed properties than for mere 'prospects' which may or may not become mines.

b. An examination or test of the mineral richness of a locality or of the material from which the ore, etc. is extracted.

1855 *Melbourne Argus* 10 Jan. 4/6 The result of a few prospects that have been made at a spot..has been very satisfactory.

c. A sample of ore or 'dirt' for testing; also, the resulting yield of ore.

1879 ATCHERLEY *Boërland* 115 The thrill of pleasure..with which the digger contemplates his first good 'prospect' in the pan. There they are—some bright and yellow, others inky black, little rounded nuggets of every shape. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 33/1 When the first 'prospect', the first pan of alluvial gold-drift, was sent up to be tested, we stopped work and joined the anxious crowd, who pressed around. 1891 *Melbourne Age* 2 Sept. 5/3 The average prospect will not exceed from 2 to 6 oz. per dish.

V. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (from 1 b) *prospect ground, tower*; (from 10) *prospect hole, operation, pan, shaft, work*; **prospect-glass**, a 'prospective glass', telescope, field-glass.

1617 *Fight at Sea* A iij, Who in a *prospect glasse perceiued them to bee the Turkes Men of Warre. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) I. 257 Susan.. had from her windows, with a prospect-glass, singled me out on the..deck of the steamer. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 406 They rushed by the *prospect-ground and the wind-waving fig-tree. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 303 Most of these are as yet mere *prospect-holes, and can boast of but little rich ore. 1880 SUTHERLAND *Tales of Goldfields* 12 He stood up with the dripping *prospect-pan in his hand. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 56 As determined by the *prospect-shafts, the channel falls toward his end on a steep grade. 1900 *Daily News* 25 Sept. 5/1 The Lord of the Manor determined to restore it to its original purpose of a *prospect-tower. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U. S.* 290 *Prospect work is all that has thus far been done.

†Pro·spect, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. L. *prōspect-us*, pa. pple. of *prōspic-ĕre*: see prec.] Open to view, clearly visible.

a 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Q. Corinth* III. i, I wear a Christall casement 'fore my heart...Let it be prospect unto all the world.

Prospect (see below), *v.* [In branch I, ad. L. *prōspect-āre*, frequent. of *prōspic-ĕre*: see above; in branch II, a new formation from PROSPECT *sb.* IV.]

I. (prɒ¹spe·kt).

†**1.** *intr.* To look forth or out; to front or face; to afford a prospect in some direction. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 79 It prospecteth towarde that parte of Aphrike. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-Crafts* 206 Sixteen fair Trees.. Whose equall front in quadran form prospected As if of purpose Nature them erected. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 437 Their houses are low..and prospect into the streets.

†**2.** *trans.* Of a person: To look out upon or towards; to look at, view, see at a distance. Of a building or the like: To front, face; to lie or be situated towards; to command a view of. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 140 The highest towre of his palaice, from whense they myght prospecte the mayne sea. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 20 Openyng the window of light, on the clearer side, prospecting the Sunne. 1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* (1618) 223 He cast a mine on that side which prospects Pizifalcona. 1677 [see PROSPECTING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 150 The College of the Carmelites is on an high Mount, prospecting the whole City.

†**3.** *trans.* To foresee, look for, expect; to anticipate. *Obs. rare.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 152 How many accidents fall out fatally, that can have no second cause ordinatly assigned to them, much less prospected in them. 1671 FLAVEL *Fount. Life* xviii. Wks. 1731 II. 52/1 The infinite Wisdom, prospecting all this, ordered that Christ should first be deeply humbled.

II. *Mining*, etc. (prɒ·spekt). Originally *U.S.*

4. *intr.* To explore a region *for* gold or other minerals.

1848 [see PROSPECTING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1850 B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* ix. (1862) 88 Dr. Gillette came down..with a companion, to 'prospect' for gold among the ravines in the neighborhood. 1872 BESANT & RICE *Ready Money Mortiboy* iii, 'Went prospecting to Mexico'—'What's prospecting, Dick?' 'Looking for silver'. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* (new ed.) 64 I've sent my mate to prospect for a new claim. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng., Prospect v.*, to search for gold. In the word, and in all its derivatives, the accent is thrown back on to the first syllable.

b. *fig.* To search about, look out *for* something.

1867 E. NASON in *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXI. 5 Mr. Webster..finding himself almost pennyless,..came to Boston, 'prospecting' for employment. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* I. 7, I hope she was prospecting with a view to settlement in our garden. 1872 R. B. MARCY *Border Rem.* 145 A professional mesmerist..'prospecting' for subjects to exercise his powers upon after a lecture. 1884 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXXVIII. 340, I have prospected in the records, from the middle of the sixteenth to the middle of the seventeenth centuries.

5. *trans.* **a.** To explore or examine (a region) for gold or other minerals. **b.** To work (a mine or lode) experimentally so as to test its richness.

1858 *N. York Tribune* 20 Sept. 7/2 [He] left Cherry Creek, near Pike's Peak, on the 27th of July, having satisfactorily 'prospected' a rich gold region. 1865 VISCT. MILTON & CHEADLE *N. W. Passage* xii. (1901) 222 The three miners..discovering that they were close to the Athabasca, had turned back to prospect the sources of the McLeod. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 162 A shaft is being sunk to prospect the ground.

c. *fig.* To survey as to prospects.

1864 D. A. WELLS *Our Burden & Strength* 10 Let us now cautiously prospect the resources of the future. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vii. (1880) 264 Prospect the place, look for an open space. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Apr. 5/5 In prospecting the new year, he saw grounds for caution, but none for alarm.

6. *intr.* Of a mine, reef, or ore: To give (good or bad) indications of future returns; to 'promise' (well or ill). Also, to turn out, prove (rich or poor) on actual trial.

1868 F. WHYMPER *Trav. Alaska* xxv. 282 If a speculation promises well, they may answer, 'It prospects well'. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 60 The dirt on the bed-rock is very rich, having prospected from $5 to $10 to the pan. 1897 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 9/5 This stone is very rich in places, and some of it prospects fully 20 ounces to the ton.

Prospecting, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PROSPECT.

†**1.** (prɒ¹spe·ktiŋ) Viewing, seeing. *Obs.*

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 416 The expression..intimates that the way which Satan took was different from common prospecting or beholding.

II. *Mining* (prɒ·spektiŋ).

2. Surveying as to prospects; exploring or examining for minerals; the experimental working of a mine or reef.

1857 J. D. BORTHWICK 3 *Years California* vi. 124 We abandoned it [our claim], and went 'prospecting'. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 283 Little real mining has been carried on, while much prospecting has taken place. 1887 R. MURRAY *Geol. & Phys. Geog. Victoria* 157 Tracts.. which,..in spite of careful prospecting, failed to yield gold.

b. *attrib.* Used, made, or done in prospecting, as *prospecting drill, mill, shaft, work*; **prospecting claim**, the first claim, marked out by the discoverer of the deposit.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 37 Prospecting-drills will be used..to make a thorough examination of the best-appearing veins on the whole estate. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 3 Dec., Hundreds of men..began to sink what are called 'prospecting shafts', and a vast amount of low grade mineral was brought to bank. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* v, This..would be but half the size of the premier or prospecting claim.

fig. 1891 *Athenæum* 23 May 662/2 Nothing could well look less promising..than the first appearances which.. greeted Dr. Atkinson on his prospecting visit to Danby.

Prospecting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.]

†**1.** That looks forward or foresees; provident.

1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* Ep. to Rdr. 14 Man being a prudent and prospecting creature, hath the advantage of all other creatures in his foreseeing faculty.

2. *Mining* (prɒ·spektiŋ). That prospects or searches for indications of gold, etc.

1848 *N. York Lit. World* 3 June (Bartlett), Two or three men with a bucket, a rope, a pick-axe, and a portable windlass...This..is a prospecting party. 1882 H. LANSDELL *Through Siberia* I. 213 There must be a prospecting party made up.

Prospection (prɒ¹spe·kʃən). Now *rare*. [n. of action f. L. *prōspic-ĕre*: see PROSPECT *sb.*]

1. The action of looking forward; anticipation; consideration of or regard to the future; foresight.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. ix. (1713) 18 A Principle that has a Prospection for the best, that rules all. 1668 HOWE *Bless. Righteous* (1825) 185 This is great wisdom in prospection; in taking care of the future. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xviii, (1819) 282 That the prospection, which must be somewhere, is not in the animal, but in the Creator. 1831 CARLYLE in *Misc. Ess.* (1872) III. 238 Such retrospections and prospections bring to mind an absurd rumour.

b. A seeing or beholding, a view.

1897 in *Chicago Advance* 29 July 135/2 The higher sense gives prospection of a spiritual King and a spiritual Canaan.

2. The action of prospecting for gold or the like: see PROSPECT *v.* II.

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 11/3 The directors authorised ..the prospection of the swampy land..with a view to ascertaining the possibility of working this.

Prospective (prɒ¹spe·ktiv), *a.* and *sb.* [As adj. ad. obs. F. *prospectif, -ive*, or med.L. *prōspectīv-us* belonging to or affording a prospect, f. L. *prōspect-*, ppl. stem of *prōspic-ĕre*: see PROSPECT *sb.* and -IVE. As sb. a. obs. F. *prospective* (1553 in Godef.) a view, prospect; but in senses 1 and 2 short for *prospective glass*. Sometimes corresponding to the earlier PERSPECTIVE, q. v.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Characterized by looking forward into the future; also, †having foresight or care for the future; provident (*obs.*).

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xiii. 12 By prospective skill I find this day shall fall out ominous. 1658 A. FOX *tr. Würtz' Surg.* II. xiv. 100 Be moderate, prospective, and cautious in stitching, and not too hasty. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. (1694) C vj b, The French King and King of Sweden are..circumspect, industrious and prospective too in this Affair. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* II. ix. 7 He was a retrospective rather than a prospective man.

†**2.** Used or suitable for looking forward or viewing at a distance (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Prospective stone*: cf. PROSPECTIVE GLASS 1, *Obs.*

1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 128 That olde Witch Lamea, who as the Poets frame, had broade prospectiue eyes to pull out and in at pleasure. *a* 1635 NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 60 It seemes nature..to pleasure him the more, borrowed of Argus, so to give unto him a prospective sight. 1652 ASHMOLE *Theat. Chem. Brit.* Prol. 8 By the Magicall or Prospective Stone it is possible to discover any Person in what part of the World soever.

†**3.** Fitted to afford a fine prospect or extensive view. Hence *fig.* Elevated, high, lofty. *Obs.*

1588 GREENE *Metamorphosis* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 88 Desirous to heare what the meaning of this monument seated so prospectiue to Neptune, should be. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 139 Being situate on moderate prospectiue heights. *Ibid.* IX. 416 A pleasant and prospectiue Countrey. *a* 1814 *Apostate* III. iii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 328 It ..cannot be, that one so great, So lofty and prospective in his virtue, Should fall to such perdition. *a* 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 106 Above this plain, after ascending a moderate acclivity, lies another: both of them handsome grounds, and the latter finely prospective.

4. That looks or has regard to the future; operative with regard to the future.

1800 *Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 112/1 The usages and customs of this country have authorised a certain species of oaths, which he would denominate prospective oaths, as they generally are so. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xiv. § 2 (ed. 2) 275 It is not very easy to conceive a more evidently prospective contrivance, than that which, in all viviparous animals, is found in the milk of the female parent. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1887) 58 A prospective law, however severe,..would have been mercy itself compared with this odious act. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 188 The fellowship should convey a prospective obligation to the prosecution of the studies intended to be promoted by the endowment. 1884 SIR J. PEARSON in *Law Rep.* 27 Chanc. Div. 354 The language of the 26th section is entirely prospective and not retrospective.

5. That looks forward or is looked forward to; that is in prospect; expected, hoped for; future.

1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 372 No measure which indicates prospective policy was taken. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xii, All the pupils above fourteen knew of some prospective bridegroom. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. iii. 150 Not only a large prospective but even a large immediate profit would be returned. 1884 *Truth* 13 Mar. 376/2 A silly lordling and prospective peer.

B. *sb.* Formerly (prɒ·spektiv).

†**1.** A magic mirror: = PROSPECTIVE GLASS 1. Also *fig.* *Obs.*

[*a* 1430 *Chaucer's Sqr.'s T.* 226: see PERSPECTIVE *sb.* 2.]

1595 DANIEL *Delia* xxii, This heart made now the prospectiue of care. 1596 FITZ-GEFFRAY *Sir F. Drake* (1881) 76 Highe throne, wherein all vertues made their seate, True prospective of immortalitie. 1604 DANIEL *Vis.* 12 *Goddesses* Ded., And withal delivers her a Prospective, wherein she might behold the Figures of their Deities, and thereby describe them. 1625 BACON *Ess., Seeming Wise* (Arb.) 215 It is a Ridiculous Thing..to see what shifts these Formalists haue, and what Prospectiues, to make Superficies to seeme Body, that hath Depth and Bulke. 1626 — *Sylva* § 98 Such Superficiall Speculations they have; Like Prospectives, that shew things inward, when they are but Paintings.

†**2.** A field-glass, spy-glass, or telescope; *pl.* spectacles; = PROSPECTIVE GLASS 2. Also *fig. Obs.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Fennor's Defence* Wks. II. 149/2, I haue look't ouer with my best Prospectiues, And view'd the tenor of thy base Inuectiues. *a* 1635 CORBET *Poems* 91 Lastly of fingers, glasses we contrive, And every fist is made a prospective. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή ii. 35 Turning the wrong end of the Prospective, to make things at hand seem to be far off. 1674 *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 233 To follow his calling..of pollishing glasses for prospectives and specktacles and mycroscopes. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. i. 14 Those on board the Ship, saw, by their Prospectives, what was acted Ashore.

3. The action of looking out (*lit.* or *fig.*); cf. PROSPECT *sb.* I. †*At prospective*: on the look-out (*obs.*). *In prospective*: in view (*lit.* or *fig.*); in prospect or anticipation. Now *rare.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. Wks. (Rtldg.) 79/1 A quarter past eleven, and ne'er a nymph in prospective. 1616 J. LANE *Cont. Sqr.'s T.* XI. 19 But lo, as Canac stoode at prospective, Her glasse discried from farr a troopes arive. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 217 Now the day is gone, how short it appears! When my fond eye beheld it in prospective, it seemed a very considerable space. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* ix, Four thousand a year now, and six in prospective!

†**4.** A scene, a view: = PROSPECT *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* VII. 269 As prospectives, the nearer that they be, Yield better judgment to the judging eye. *a* 1639 WOTTON *Life Dk. Buckhm.* in *Relig.* (1651) 93 The whole Scene of affairs was changed from Spain to France; there now lay the prospective. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 188 When the Canal runs in a strait Line, as they usually do, it makes a Prospective at once stately and agreeable.

†**5.** A pictorial view; *fig.* a description: cf. PROSPECT *sb.* 5, 6. *Obs. rare.*

1658 T. HIGGONS tr. *Busenello* (title), A Prospective of the Naval Triumph of the Venetians over the Turk. 1660 (*title*) A Landskip: or a Brief Prospective of English Episcopacy, Drawn by three skilfull hands in Parliament: Anno 1641.

†**6.** A place for viewing, a look-out: = PROSPECT *sb.* 1 b. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. 145 Be ther placd A prospective vpon the top o' th' mast, Wherin 'tis fitt that carefull diligence Keep evermore his watchfull residence.

† b. A point of view. *Obs.*

1603 DANIEL *Def. Rhyme* H iv, Men, standing according to the prospectiue of their owne humour, seeme to see the selfe same things to appeare otherwise to them, than either they doe to other, or are indeede in themselues.

†**7.** The art of drawing in perspective: = PERSPECTIVE *sb.* 3; also, a perspective view. *Obs.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. i, I studie architecture too.. I'd haue a house iust of that prospectiue. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 42 The whole Work in Prospective, as when entire. *Ibid.*, The Ruin yet remaining drawn in Prospective. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* (1665) 5 An Exact Architect must have the Art of Drawing, and Prospective. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. ii. (1699) 22 Those who work in Prospective, will so paint a Room, that the Light entring only through some little Hole, you shall perceive beautiful and perfect Figures and Shapes.

b. *Her.* (See quot.) Also *Comb.* **prospective-wise**, in perspective.

c 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Herald.* I. Gloss., *Perspective*, or *Prospective*, is used, in blazon, to express divisional lines forming a kind of pavement with diminishing squares in perspective, as *paly barry*, or *barry bendy, in perspective*, or *prospective wise.*

†**Prospe·ctive glass.** *Obs.*

1. A magic glass or crystal, in which it was supposed that distant or future events could be seen. Also called *glass prospective.* Also *fig.*

a 1584 *Tom Thumbe* 298 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 190 This cunning doctor tooke A fine prospective glasse, with which he did in secret looke Into his sickened body downe. *c* 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* v. 110 In a glasse prospectiue I will shew Whats done this day in merry Fresingfield. 1609 ROWLEY *Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 26 If every conjurer had such a prospective glasse of his owne, they would never deale so much with the Divell as they doe. 1628 MILTON *Vacation Exerc.* 71 A Sybil old..That..in Times long and dark Prospective Glass Fore-saw what future dayes should bring to pass.

2. A spy-glass, field-glass, telescope. Also *pl.* spectacles, binocular glasses. Cf. PERSPECTIVE *a.* 2.

1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 33 The Gunners scale is made in brasse at Tower Hill, with prospective glasses. 1672 *Phil. Trans.* VII. 5065 He likewise shew'd his Highness a little Prospective Glass, made according to Mr. Newtons new Invention. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xiii. 168 He frequently observ'd what was done in the City from his Seraglio, by the help of some excellent Prospective-Glasses. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 22 Discovering by prospective glasses that they were coming down to attack him.

fig. 1634 WITHER *Emblemes, Medit. on Pict.*, A glimpes farre off, through Faith's prospective glasse. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 191 These free-spoken, and plaine harted men that are the eyes of their Country, and the prospective glasses of their Prince. 1678 *Donna Olimpia* 150 And with the Prospective Glasses of their Ambition daily surveyed all Italy.

Prospe·ctively, *adv.* [f. PROSPECTIVE + -LY 2.] In a prospective manner.

1. With outlook upon or consideration of the future, with foresight; also, in anticipation or expectation of something to come.

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 418 Prospectively maintaining the same harmony between the existing powers of the tree, and the exigencies of its new situation. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* iv. 103 An annual outlay..is applied—prospectively as scholarship, or retrospectively as fellowship.

2. With bearing upon or application to the future.

1863 H. COX *Instit.* I Rules which..prospectively declare the rights and obligations which the State will enforce. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 168/2 The Judicature Act 1875.. cannot..apply prospectively to the Bankruptcy Act of 1883.

†**3.** = PERSPECTIVELY *adv.* 3 (for which in quot. it may be an error; but cf. PROSPECTIVE *sb.* 7).

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* H j, These nombers can not be expressed aptly in flatte, but prospectiuely, as Dice maie be made in protracture.

Prospe·ctiveness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being prospective.

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xviii. (1882) 172 There is a want of that prospectiveness of mind, that surview, which enables a man to foresee the whole of what he is to convey. 1824 T. E. HOOK *Sayings & Doings* III. 343 The symptomatic prospectiveness of the disease.

Prospectless (prǫ·spektlĕs), *a.* [See -LESS.]

1. Having no prospect or outlook.

1656 S. H. *Gold. Law* 103 Wert thou hous'd in some dark or Prospectless ground room. 1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 11 June, A palace as dismal and prospectless as if it stood 'on Stanmore's wintry wild!'

2. Without prospects for the future.

1878 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Seaforth* III. i, Your boys..were born as penniless and as prospectless as mine. 1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentleman* II. ii. 27 A penniless, prospectless young man.

Prospector (prǫspe·ktəɪ, prǫ·spektəɪ). Also **-er.** [a. late L. *prōspector* one who looks out, foresees, or provides, agent-n. f. *prōspic-ĕre*: see PROSPECT *sb.*] One who prospects; in quots., one who explores a region for gold or the like: see PROSPECT *v.* 4, 5.

1857 J. D. BORTHWICK 3 *Years California* vi. 124 A 'prospecter' goes out with pick and shovel, and a wash-pan; and..digs down till he reaches the dirt in which it may be expected that the gold will be found. 1862 *Times* 8 Apr., Mr. Disraeli may be a good prospecter, and he may make the best of his 'claim', but the result is nil. 1884 *Ibid.* 18 Apr. 8 All the trains..bring in new settlers and prospectors.

Prospectus (prǫspe·ktŭs). Pl. **prospectuses** (rarely in L. form **prospectūs**). [a. L. *prōspectus* (*-ūs*) a view, PROSPECT *sb.* So F. *prospectus* (1723 in Hatz.-Darm.).] A description or account of the chief features of a forthcoming work or proposed enterprise, circulated for the purpose of obtaining support or subscriptions.

1777 *Life Goldsmith* G.'s Wks. 1786 I. Pref. 31 A design for executing an universal dictionary of arts and sciences, the *prospectus* of which he actually printed and distributed among his acquaintance. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1747, His 'Dictionary of the English Language', was announced to the world by the publication of its Plan or Prospectus. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* iv (ed. 2) 62 The extent of injurious influence upon the public mind of certain *prospectūs* of education. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 322 To put forth a lying prospectus announcing a new stock. 1890 SIR R. ROMER in *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 685/2 The plaintiff applied for shares in this company on the faith of the prospectus. *Mod.* He has obtained the prospectuses of several schools.

attrib. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 July 3/1 A rich specimen,.. though not for prospectus purposes. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 9/1 The results..are distinctly disappointing when compared with the prospectus estimates.

†**Prosper,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ME. *prospere*, a. F. *prospère* (14th c. in Littré) or ad. L. *prosper, prosper-us* favourable, fortunate, prosperous; of uncertain origin. The form *prospre* is a. OF. *prospre* (12th c. in Littré).] Prosperous, successful.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 8 (Camb. MS.) Thilke man.. þat maade alwey assawtes ayeins the prospere [*v. r.* prospre] fortunes of poore feeble fookkes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. v. 59 We pray the vissie, that thou may cum heyr Wyth prosper presens and full happy fute. *Ibid.* XI. xiv. 88 The pepill Tuscane..Seand the exempill and prosper chans that tyd Of thar stowt duke.

Prosper (prǫ·spəɪ), *v.* [a. F. *prospére-r* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prosperā-re* to cause (a thing) to succeed, to render fortunate, also absol., in late L. also to propitiate (God), in pass. to prosper, f. *prosper* adj.: see prec.]

1. *intr.* Of a person, community, etc.: To be prosperous, fortunate, or successful; to flourish, thrive, succeed, do well.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvi. (*heading*), How the Romaynes prospered whiles thai hade a grete counsell. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 16 b, They wente hole togyder, and prospered ryght well in theyr iourney. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxiii. 202 Why wicked men have often prospered in this world. 1786 *Scotch Paraphr.* VII. iii Who, that tries th' unequal strife Shall prosper in the end? 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 48 Enoch..so prosper'd that at last A luckier or a bolder fisherman..did not breathe. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* 75 No false knight or lying priest ever prospered, I believe, in any age.

b. *intr.* Of things: To flourish; to turn out well.

c 1529 in *Archæologia* (1882) XLVII. 51 We will the said religion to prospere according unto the foundacion of the house. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* i. 3 What soeuer he doth, it shal prospere. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) II. VII. 11 If such doings as this ever prosper. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1890) 358 Well did all things prosper in his hand.

c. *intr.* Of plants: To thrive, to flourish.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 41 There were also vynes..planted in this Ilande, where they prosper so wel, that [etc.]. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 4 Where such Plants grow and prosper.

2. *trans.* To cause to flourish; to promote the prosperity or success of; to be propitious to.

1530 PALSGR. 668/1, I beseche Jhesu prospere you in all your busynesses. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 61 b, God.. cherrisht and prosperd them with all the blessings hee could. *a* 1642 *Declar. Lords & Com., Ordinance* 13 Apr. 3 For prospering the common cause. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 1024 Whose frown can disappoint the proudest strain, Whose approbation prosper—even mine. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, If Heaven prospered them, they might seize a Spanish ship.

Hence **Pro·spering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1557 ABP. PARKER *Ps.* xx, This prayth for kinges Good prosperinges, Theyr realmes to have defence. 1604 EARL STIRLING *Parænesis to Pr. Henry* lxxvii, Every State by long experience findes, That greatest blessings prosp'ring Peace imparts. 1854 E. G. HOLLAND *Mem. J. Badger* xviii. 349 The pastor of a prospering church.

†**Pro·sperable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] a. Prosperous, likely to prosper. b. Able or inclined to give prosperity; propitious.

c 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 112 Horrible is thy presence and ful greeuable To him þat yong is strong and prosperable. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiii. § 46 Vnlesse God be prosperable to his purpose.

†**Pro·sperance.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. L. *prosperāre* to PROSPER: see -ANCE.] = PROSPERITY.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 162 God the yeuar of all goodnes graunte the prosperaunce and happy encreses.

†**Pro·sperately,** *adv. Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. **prosperate*, ad. late L. *prosperāt-us* prospered + -LY 2.]

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 786 Prosperately, fortunately, with good lucke, *secundis auibus.*

Prosperation (prǫspərē·ʃən). *rare.* Now only *dial.* [ad. late or med.L. *prosperātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prosper-āre* to PROSPER. Cf. obs. F. *prosperation* (1512 in Godef.).] Prosperity.

c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXXVII. xii. (MS. Arch. Seld. B. 10) Þe Churche [might haue be] preserued in greate prosperacioun. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Prosperation*, success, good luck. 1856 HINCHLIFFE *Hist. Barthomley* 145 One old song..was always sung at these meetings [Annual Churchwardens' Dinner],..which I insert below..'Come, brave boys, prosperation Be to the Church and Nation!' 1883 BURNE *Shropsh. Folk-Lore* 471 [At Much Wenlock] each of the new burgesses was required to stand up in turn and empty the cup to the toast of 'Prosperation To the Corporation'.

Pro·spered (-əɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. PROSPER *v.* + -ED 1.] Caused to prosper, blest with prosperity.

1651 CROMWELL *Let. to Speaker* 4 Sept. in *Carlyle*, That the fear of the Lord, even for His mercies, may keep an Authority and a People so prospered, and blessed,..humble and faithful. 1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 230 Wherein her Prospered Sedulousness gave her an Understanding much above her Age and Sex.

Prosperer (prǫ·spərəɪ). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ER 1.] a. One who is prosperous or flourishing. b. One who causes prosperity.

1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* I. 161 A man that is no prosperer in grace. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xlix. 10 Others render *Shiloh*..The Peace-maker, The Prosperer.

Prosperity (prǫspe·rĭti). [ME. a. F. *prospérité* (*prosperitet* a 1140 in Littré), ad. L. *prosperitās, -tātem* good fortune, success, prosperity, f. *prosper, prosper-us*: see PROSPER *a.* and -ITY.] The condition of being prosperous, successful, or thriving; good fortune, success, well-being.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 194 Uor þe uttre uondunge is mislicunge in aduersite, & ine prosperite þet limpeð to sunne. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Macc.* ii. 47 The werk hadde prosperite in her hondis. 1406 HOCCLEVE *La male regle* 34 Prosperitee is blynd, & see ne may. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxx. 11 God giue the guid prosperitie, Fair fortoun and felicitie. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 188 You haue, I know, petition'd all the Gods for my prosperitie. 1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 68 A Moderatour in prosperitie; and a guide in adversitie. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 284 Prosperity is not apt to receive good lessons, nor always to give them. 1862 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. 143 The prosperity of any nation is in exact proportion to the quantity of labour which it spends in obtaining and employing means of life. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 2. 357 The cause which prosperity had ruined revived in the dark hour of persecution.

b. *pl.* Instances of prosperity, prosperous circumstances.

1340 *Ayenb.* 24 Þe guodes of hap byeþ hesnesses, richesses, delices, and prosperites. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* VI. v. (1622) 128 The vitious and bad triumph with so great prosperities. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 231 Shewing all prosperities of the world were but trifles, and counterfet gems, compared with eternall felicitie. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 467 What then, indeed, If mortals are not greater by the head Than any of their prosperities?

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Mark* iv. 17 These are prosperity-proselytes, holy-day servants,..neuter passive Christians. 1889 *Standard* 16 Apr., The Budget which Mr. Goschen introduced..might have been a 'Prosperity' Budget, had

the requirements of the country been normal. 1901 *Lady's Realm* X. 655/2 Households, who shall watch the prosperity-bringing fire with mingled joy and awe.

Prosperous (prɒ'spərəs), *a.* [a. obs. F. *prospereus* (15th c. in Godef.) = It. *prosperoso*: see PROSPER *a.* and -OUS.]

1. Having continued success or good fortune; consistently successful; flourishing, thriving.

1472–3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 30/2 The first yere of your moost prospereux reigne. 1531 TINDALE *Exp.* 1 *John* (1537) 58 Oure brethren were in prosperouser state then we. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. i. 32 The Battailes of the Lord of Hosts he fought: The Churches Prayers made him so prosperous. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 88 In this same plaine and prosperous way of emulation. 1771 *Junius Lett.* I. (1820) 260 In the most prosperous state of his fortune he was always the very man he is at present. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* 7 Political Economy inquires into the causes which make one nation more rich and prosperous than another.

2. Promoting or conducing to success; bringing prosperity; favourable, auspicious, propitious.

1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 273 While goodis be had in habundaunce & prosperous chauncis be falle. *c* 1460 J. METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 153 Yt ys prosp[er]us that day to pase the see with marchaundyse, and to wedde a wyfe. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 247 We sayled euer with prosperous wynde. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 58 To try what kind of flesh-meat was most nutritive and prosperous with a man's body. 1772–84 *Cook's Voy.* (1790) V. 1697 We..had a prosperous gale, and plenty of provisions. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 237 A prosperous hour shall bring to thee happy returning.

3. *Comb.*, as *prosperous-looking* adj.

1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 31 'But, Lilias, you are well dressed, and prosperous-looking', said the man.

Prosperously (prɒ'spərəsli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a prosperous manner.

1. Successfully, with continued good fortune.

1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 38 § 2 Your moste noble & royall Estate longe prosperously to endure. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 251 Vpon Friday the eleuenth of October, we sayled prosperously. *a* 1714 SHARP *Wks.* V. iv. 297 We are willing to trust God with any other concern, so long as that concern goes on prosperously. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 71 For a time the intrigue went on prosperously and secretly.

2. Favourably, propitiously. *rare.*

1596 DRAYTON *Leg.* iv. 39 Be now abundant prosp'rously to aide The Pen prepar'd.

Prosperousness (prɒ'spərəsnés). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being prosperous; prosperity, success.

1648 BOYLE *Seraph. Love* i. (1700) 3, I seldom use endeavours, whose prosperousness is more welcome to me, than those that aspire to serve Lindamor. 1812 G. CHALMERS *Dom. Econ. Gt. Brit.* 459 Yet, was that prosperousness accompanied, by unfavourable exchanges, and several bankruptcies.

Prosphygmic (prɒˌsfi'gmik), *a. Phys.* [f. PRO- 2 + Gr. σφυγμ-ός the pulse + -IC: cf. SPHYGMIC.] Preceding the beat of the pulse.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 469 This is the period of 'getting up pressure', the 'prosphygmic interval' as Allbutt terms it. *Ibid.* 930 This apparent origin of the murmur is suggested by the great protraction of the 'prosphygmic' interval.

‖ **Prosphysis** (prɒ'sfisis). Pl. **-es** (**-īz**). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. πρόσφυσις a growing on or to something, an attachment, adhesion, f. πρός to + φύσις growth, cf. προσφύεσθαι to grow to or upon.] An adhesion; morbid adhesion of parts.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prosphysis*, a Coalition, or growing together, as when two Fingers are connected to each other. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Adhesion*, Anatomists sometimes observe prosphyses, or Adhesions of the lungs to the sides of the thorax, the pleura, and diaphragm. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Prosphysis*, adhesion...In a more limited sense, this word means morbid adhesion of the eyelids, either between themselves, or with the globe of the eye.

† **Proˌspi'cient**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōspiciens*, *-entem*, pr. pple. of *prōspic-ĕre* to look forward.] Having foresight; provident. So † **Prospi'cience** *Obs.*, † **Prospi'ciency** *Obs.*, the action or quality of looking forward; foresight.

1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* xliii. 503 But fortune prospicient to the Original of Rome, did provide a Woolf to give suck to the children. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prospicience*, providence, fore-sight. [So 1775 in ASH; 1828 in WEBSTER; and in recent Dicts.] 1817 T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* vii, Well-grounded prospiciencies of hopelessness and helplessness. *Ibid.* xvi, The second [reason] is most refined, abstract, prospicient, and canonical.

† **Proˌspi'cuous**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōspicu-us* that may be seen afar, conspicuous (f. *prōspic-ĕre*: see prec.) + -OUS.] Conspicuous; also, app., distinguished, 'fair to behold'.

1605 A. WARREN *Poore Mans Passions* E iij, Dutifull Loyalty would humbly greete My Person, passing the prospicuous streete. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 499 The incircling Coast a nest of Corporations; and Meandring Forth from tip-toed Snadoun, the prospicuous mirrour for matchlesse Maiesty. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prospicuous*, goodly or fair to see or behold, or which may be seen afar off. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 393/1 An Eagles head ..is an adornment only added to the handle to make it more prospicuous.

Prosporangium: see PRO- 2 1. **Pross**, obs. Sc. and mod. dial. f. PROSE. **Prosse**, obs. erron. f. PROWESS; var. of PRUCE *Obs.* **Prosses(se**, obs. ff. PROCESS. **Prossession**, obs. f. PROCESSION.

† **Prossyllogism.** *Logic. Obs. rare.* [f. Gr. πρός in addition (added) to + SYLLOGISM. Cf. PROSYLLOGISM.] A syllogism added after either premiss of the principal syllogism, and furnishing the proof of that premiss.

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 281 A Prossyllogisme is a reason, or proofe set after the principall Syllogisme, or some part thereof...Here both the proposition, and assumption are prooued by their Prossyllogismes.

Prostaphæresis, etc., obs. erron. ff. PROSTH-.

† **Prostasy.** *Obs. rare*−1. In 7 **proes-**. [ad. L. *prostasia* office of a president, a. Gr. προστασία a standing before or in front, f. προστάτης one who stands in front.] Precedence, pre-eminence.

1661 H. D. *Disc. Liturgies* 41 [We] shall willingly allow him proestasie in that Art and Practise.

Prostate (prɒ'steit), *sb.* (*a.*) *Anat.* [ad. med.L. *prostat-a* the prostate, ad. Gr. προστάτ-ης one who stands before, agent-n. from προϊστάναι to set before: cf. στατός placed, standing. (So F. *prostate.*)] A large gland, or each of a number of small glands, accessory to the male generative organs, surrounding the neck of the bladder and the commencement of the urethra, in man and other Mammalia.

(In first quot. app. confounded with the seminal vesicles.)

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 189 An Horse or Bull may generate after castration, that is, from the stock .. of seminall matter, already prepared and stored up in the Prostates or glandules of generation. *c* 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* I. ii. (1738) 17 There are several glandular bodies situated..immediately before the seed bladders [in the horse], and are therefore called Prostates. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 234 The chief cases..are those of enlarged prostates. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 146/1 In shape the prostate resembles a Spanish chesnut. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 31 It is in accordance with general usage to speak of both of [the two other] sets of glands [in the male rabbit] as 'prostates', the smaller as the 'anterior' and the larger as the 'posterior prostates'.

b. *attrib.* or *adj.*, esp. in *prostate gland.*

(In first quot. applied to the gland of Bartholin in the female, the homologue of the Cowperian gland.)

1754–64 SMELLIE *Midwif.* I. 94 On each side of the *Meatus urinarius* are two small..openings the tubes of which.. come from the prostate gland. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 582 The prostate gland..is situated at the front of the pelvis, and near the symphysis pubis.

Hence **Prostataˈlgia**, pain in the prostate (Dunglison, 1842); **Prostatectomy** (prɒstăte'ktŏmi) [Gr. ἐκτομή cutting out], excision of the prostate, or of part of it; ‖ **Prostatitis** (-əi'tis) [-ITIS], inflammation of the prostate; hence **Prostatitic** (-i'tik) *a.*; **Prostaˈtolith** [-LITH], a calculus formed in the prostate; **Prostatoˈmeter** [-METER], 'an instrument for measuring the prostate' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); ‖ **Proˌstatorrhœˈa** (-rī'ă) [Gr. ῥοία flux], a discharge, esp. of mucus, from the prostate; **Prostatotomy** (-ɒ'tŏmi) [Gr. τομή cutting], incision of the prostate; **Proˌstato-veˈsical** *a.* [L. *vesica* bladder], belonging to the prostate and bladder.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Prostatectomy.* 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1641 Prostates removed by perineal prostatectomy. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Prostatitic.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prostatitic*, belonging to, or affected with, prostatitis. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Prostatitis.* 1860 SIR H. THOMPSON *Dis. of Prostate* (1868) 53 The morbid anatomy of acute prostatitis. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Prostatolith.* ..**Prostatometer.* 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Prostatorrhœa.* 1899 CAGNEY *Yaksch's Clin. Diagn.* ix. (ed. 4) 425 Their presence in large numbers..indicates prostatorrhœa. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Prostatotomy.* 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 85 The dumb-bell calculus is usually *prostato-vesical or encysted.

Prostatic (prɒstæ'tik), *a.* [f. as PROSTATE + -IC: cf. F. *prostatique* and Gr. προστατικός.] Pertaining to, produced by, or connected with the prostate. *Prostatic body, gland*, the prostate.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 459/1 Very little is known as to the uses of the prostatic body. 1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 359 The prostatic fluid..mixes with the semen..at the moment of emission. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 54 [Birds have no] accessory glands ..appended to the generative canals.., as..the Cowperian, the prostatic glands, and the vesiculae seminales.

Prostemmate (prɒste'mĕt). *Zool.* [f. PRO- 2 2 + Gr. στέμμα, *-ματ-* a wreath: see STEMMA.] An organ of unknown function situated in front of the eyes in some apterous insects of the lowest type of the order *Collembola*. Hence **Prostemmaˈtic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a prostemmate.

1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 193 Some of the Collembola possess a very curious structure called the prostemmatic or ante-ocular organ...The prostemmate is placed slightly in front of the group of ocelli.

† **Prosterˈn**, *v. Obs.* [a. F. *prosterner* (15th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōsternĕre* to strew in front, throw down, prostrate, f. *prō*, PRO- 1 1 b + *sternĕre* to lay flat.] *trans.* To cast down, lay flat, prostrate. (Chiefly *refl.* or *pass.*) Hence † **Prosteˈrning** *vbl. sb.* = PROSTERNATION.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxv. 93 His doughter Beatryse ..prosterned or casted her self doune byfore her faders feet, on her knees humbly. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 79 We maist humblie and laulie prosterne our selfs. 1612 J. GORDON Ειρηνοκοινωνία E iij, In..prayers there is a threefold kinde of gesture..: the first is a falling downe or prosterning of the body: the second is..a bowing downe of the head to the ground. The third is kneeling.

Prosternal (proˌstə'rnăl), *a. Entom.* [f. PROSTERNUM + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the prosternum of an insect.

1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 93 They [*Elateridæ*] extend the prothorax so as to bring the prosternal spine..to the anterior part of the mesosternal cavity.

† **Proˈsternate**, *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of med.L. *prōstern-āre*, collateral form of L. *prōsternĕre*: see PROSTERN.] *trans.* = PROSTERN *v.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 78 Wholy haue I bequeathed my penne and my spirit, to the prosternating and ensorrowing the frontiers of sinne. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 85 Trip up and prosternat our strength. 1653 E. CHISENHALE *Cath. Hist.* 394 Prosternating her lofty Spires,..to the ground.

† **Prosternaˈtion.** *Obs.* [a. F. *prosternation* (1599 in Hatz.-Darm.), n. of action from F. *prosterner* or L. *prōstern-āre*: see prec.] The action of prostrating or condition of being prostrated; prostration. Also *fig.*

1622 DONNE *Serm.* (ed. Alford) V. 93, I shall rise..from the prostration, from the prosternation of Death. 1650 CHARLETON *Paradoxes* 17 Before the Patient hath suffered too great a prosternation of spirits. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* II. i. (1821) 33 Prosternations, uncouth gestures, and strange rites of worship. 1768 [W. DONALDSON] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* I. xii. 127 To the humiliating attitude of prosternation. 1819 H. BUSK *Banquet* II. 30 You call the oaks to witness the deceit, In prosternation at their aged feet.

‖ **Prosternum** (proˌstə'rnŭm). *Entom.* [mod.L., f. PRO- 2 2 + STERNUM.] The sternal, ventral, or under segment of the prothorax of an insect.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 544 The *sternum* or breast-bone of insects consists mostly of three distinct pieces..the first of these pieces, the *sternum* of the *antepectus* or *prosternum*. 1833 E. DOUBLEDAY in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 474 The prosternum..occupies the lower part of the prothorax. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* V. 102.

‖ **Prosthaphæresis** (prɒsþăfi'rĭsis). *Astr.* Pl. **-eses** (*-ĭsīz*). Also 7–8 *erron.* **prosta-**; 8–9 **-eresis.** [mod.L., a. Gr. προσθαφαίρεσις previous subtraction, f. πρόσθε(ν before + ἀφαίρεσις: see APHÆRESIS.] The correction necessary to find the 'true', i. e. actual apparent, place of a planet, etc. from the mean place; the equation of the centre. (In quot. 1677 in more general sense.)

1633 H. GELLIBRAND in T. James *Voy.* Rij, The Prosthaphæresis of the ☉ orbe. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 102 To Rectifie the Tables of the Sun's Declination..by Prostaphæreses. 1677 R. CARY *Chronol.* I. I. I. vii. 19 The Months alternatively of 29, and 30 Days, except where necessity did require a Prosthaphæresis, either a Subduction, or else an Adjection of one or more Days. 1810 VINCE *Astron.* x. 96 The difference of these two angles is called the equation of the planet's center, or prosthapheresis. 1882 MORTON *Astronomers* 51 Tables of the prosthapheresis and nychthemeron are given.

Hence **Prosthaphæreˈtical** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or involving prosthaphæresis. *rare* or *Obs.*

1635 GELLIBRAND *Var. Magn. Needle* 5 Its..necessary for the Seaman who sailes by his Compasse, continually to search the variation, that so by the Prosthaphæreticall application thereof, the true point of the compasse..may be rectified. 1690 LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 813 Called the Prosthaphaeretical Time, because it is wont sometimes to be added to, sometimes..taken from the Time of the middle Syzygy.

‖ **Prostheca** (prɒsˌþī'kă). *Entom.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. προσθήκη an addition, appendage, f. προστιθέναι to put to, add. Cf. F. *prosthèque.*] A process on the mandibles in certain coleopterous insects. Hence **Prostheˈcal** *a.*, pertaining to the prostheca.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 356 *Prostheca*..a subcartilaginous process attached to the inner side, near the base, of the *Mandibulæ* of some *Staphylinidæ*. 1879 J. WOOD-MASON in *Trans. Entomol. Soc. Lond.* 152, I refer to the prostheca of Kirby and Spence, and to the structures homologous with it in beetles other than Staphylinidæ.

Prosthenic (prɒsþe'nik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. Gr. πρό (PRO- 2 2) + σθένος strength + -IC.] Having preponderance of strength in the anterior limbs or part of the body. *sb. pl. Ent.* Insects so characterized.

1863 DANA [see *Metasthenic* in META- 3].

‖ **Prosthesis** (prɒ'sþisis). [L., a. Gr. πρόσθεσις addition, f. προστιθέναι to put to, add. Cf. F. *prosthèse.*]

1. *Gram.* The addition of a letter or syllable at the beginning of a word.

(The qualification 'at the beginning' may have arisen from associating προς- with προ-.)

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 180 *Prosthesis.* Of Addition. As thus: He did all to berattle hym. Wherin appeareth that a sillable is added to this woorde (rattle). 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 170 *Prosthesis*...A figure (contrary to *Aphæresis*) whereby a letter or syllable is added to the beginning of a word. 1876 DOUSE *Grimm's Law* 208 'Prosthesis' belongs to a..class of terms..denoting arbitrary processes, whose intrusion into the realm of language should be viewed with..suspicion.

2. *Surg.* That part of surgery which consists in supplying deficiencies, as by artificial limbs or teeth, or by other means.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s. v., In Surgery *Prosthesis* is taken for that which fills up what is wanting, as is to be seen in fistulous and hollow Ulcers, filled up with Flesh by that Art: Also the making of artificial Legs and Arms, when the natural ones are lost. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 417/2 Dental Prosthesis.

Prosthetic (prɒsθe·tik), *a.* [ad. mod.L. **prosthetic-us*, ad. Gr. *προσθετικός* of the nature of addition, giving additional power, f. *πρόσθετος* added, vbl. adj. of *προστιθέναι* : see prec. and -IC. Cf. F. *prosthétique*.]

1. *Gram.* Pertaining to, or of the nature of prosthesis; prefixed, as a letter or syllable.

1837 G. PHILLIPS *Syriac Gram.* 60 Some verbs are found to have Olaph prosthetic. 1852 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* V. 145 A prosthetic *s* in the Norwegian *skrucke*, to shrink. 1859 MAX MÜLLER *Sc. Lang.* (1873) II. 291 Prosthetic vowels are very common in Greek before certain double consonants. 1875 RENOUF *Egypt. Gram.* 63 The prosthetic use of *a* is not confined to words beginning with two consonants.

2. *Surg.* Pertaining to or of the nature of prosthesis: see prec. 2.

1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 19 July 180/1 The history of operative and prosthetic dentistry.

Hence **Prosthe·tically** *adv.*, in the way of prosthesis; as a prefix.

1875 RENOUF *Egypt. Gram.* 63, *n* is also sometimes used prosthetically.

† **Pro·stibule.** *Obs. rare*—°. [ad. L. *prōstibul-um* a prostitute, also a brothel, f. *prōstāre* to stand forth publicly as for sale, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 + *stāre* to stand.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Prostibule*, an Harlot, or the Stewes.

† **Prosti·bulous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Pertaining to a prostitute, meretricious; addicted to the company of prostitutes.

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. G v b, The great gouernours, and learned lawers of the world, hath she made in maner of beastlye dronkerdes, witlesse, faythlesse, and gracelesse, by their prostibulous doctrine. *Ibid.* III. A a iv, The aduouterouse cardenals,..the prostibulouse prelates and priestes.

† **Pro·stite.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. App. a shortening, for the sake of rhythm, of PROSTITUTE B. 2 c.

1721 D'URFEY *Athen. Jilt* Operas 184 Fortune..thinking now her Prostite had For Youth's Excursions dearly paid.

† **Pro·stitue,** *v. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *prostituer*, ad. L. *prōstituĕre*: see next.] = PROSTITUTE *v.*

1530 PALSGR. 324 b/2 Better..to lyue in wedlocke..than thus to prostytue thy selfe and be at commaundement of all comers. 1631 A WILSON *Swisser* III. iii, I must sue for what You prostitude to him. Am I less worthy?

Prostitute (prɒ·stitiut), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *prōstitūt-us* (fem. *prōstitūta* a prostitute), pa. pple. of *prōstitu-ĕre* to place before, expose publicly, offer for sale, prostitute, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 + *statu-ĕre* to cause to stand, set up, place.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Offered or exposed to lust (as a woman), prostituted; also more generally, abandoned to sensual indulgence, licentious. (Sometimes const. as *pa. pple.*) Now *rare* or *Obs.* (exc. as *attrib.* use of B. 1).

1572 tr. *Buchanan's Detection Mary Q. Scots* G iij, One of hir awne traine, one past all shame and of prostitute vnchastitie. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* IV. ii. (1886) 59 The divell lieth prostitute as *Succubus* to the man. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 118 Shee baits her desires with a million of prostitute countenances and enticements. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. IV. vii. (1651) 165 Noblemens daughters..were prostitute to every common souldier. 1706 *Reflex. upon Ridicule* 155 Women of a prostitute character. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 454 Made bold by want, and prostitute for bread. 1756 C. SMART *Horace's Sat.* I. iv. (1826) II. 39 His dissolute son, mad after a prostitute mistress, refuses a wife with a large portion.

2. *fig.* Debased or debasing; abandoned; basely venal, devoted to infamous gain; corrupt. Now *rare.*

1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 43 These prostitute images openly sette up in Churches doe this harme, that they doe withdrawe mennes mindes..from the consideration of God's maiestie shewed in his liuely Creatures. 1626 MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 229 We might..draw a general contempt and hatred upon the University as men of most prostitute flattery. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Auth. Apol., Illiterate scribblers prostitute in their reputations, vicious in their lives and ruined in their fortunes. 1754-62 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1818) VIII. 236 No courtier, even the most prostitute, could go farther than the parliament itself towards a resignation of their liberties. 1788 A. HAMILTON *Federalist* No. 67 II. 226 So shameless and so prostitute an attempt to impose on the citizens of America.

† **3.** Given over, devoted; exposed, subjected (*to* something usually evil). Const. as *pa. pple. Obs.*

1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* I. xxvi, Honour deiected from that soueraigne state,..Now prostitute to infamy and hate. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 120 The Moone can be eclipsed but at her full, and in her farther positure from the Sunne: then is she prostitute to obnubilation. 1651 HOBBES *Govt. & Soc.* Pref., As a matter of ease, exposed and prostitute to every Mother-wit, and to be attained without any great care or study. 1708 *Erasmus' Life Colet* in *Phenix* II. No. 17. 16 The Dean's table, which..had been too much prostitute to excess, he reduc'd to frugality.

† **b.** Debased by being made common or cheap; hackneyed. *Obs.*

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn, Ode to Himself* v, Leave things so prostitute, And take the Alcaic lute. 1652 H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 19 This is so cheap and prostitute a custome all the World over. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxxviii. 318 Yet was not the gracious reception which she gave prostitute and undistinguishing.

¶ **4.** Laid low before some one: perh. confused with PROSTRATE *a.* (Cf. B. 2 c, and next, 4.)

1621 QUARLES *Esther* K iv b, Once more the Queen prefers an earnest suit, Her humble Body lowly prostitute Before his Royal feet. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 627, I your most humble Subject prostitute at your foot, do most humbly beseech your Highness to be my good and gracious Lord.

B. *sb.*

1. A woman who is devoted, or (usually) who offers her body to indiscriminate sexual intercourse, esp. for hire; a common harlot.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. iv. 627, I haue seene houses as full of such prostitutes, as the schooles in France are full of children. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Feb., [During the Carnival at Rome] The streetes swarm with prostitutes, buffoones, and all man'er of rabble. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* v. i, Your friendship as common as a prostitute's favours. 1840 MACAULAY *Ess., Ranke* (1887) 591 A prostitute, seated on a chair of state in the chancel of Nôtre Dame.

† **b.** A catamite. *Obs. rare.*

1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Justine* XXX. 380 Her Brother Agathocles, a prostitute of an aspiring comeliness. *Ibid.*, Agathocles the Prostitute being joined to the side of the King, did govern the city.

2. A person given over to infamous practices of any kind; an abandoned person. **b.** *esp.* One who debases himself for the sake of gain, a base hireling, a corrupt and venal politician. Now *rare.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxiv. (1739) 134 To serve one man, a stranger, and a prostitute to all manner of licentiousness. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* i. (1697) 407 Base Prostitute, thus dost thou gain thy Bread? Thus dost thou feed their Ears, and thus art fed? 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* I. 50 The faithful and the perfidious, the prostitute and the patriot are confounded together. 1804 CURRIE in *Creevey Papers* (1904) I. i. 30 He [Lord Brougham] is a notorious prostitute, and is setting himself up to sale.

† **c.** A person entirely or abjectly devoted to another; a 'slave'. *Obs.* Cf. PROSTITUTE *v.* 3 a.

1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* Ep. Ded., Your Highnes most Humble and deuoted prostitute Ab. Darcie. 1634 J. CLAVELL *Recaut.* Ded., Your most humbly devoted prostitute, J. C. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 45 (1754) 241 All this did not satisfy the revengeful president, and the abandon'd prostitutes, his creatures.

Prostitute (prɒ·stitiut), *v.* [f. L. *prōstitūt-*, ppl. stem of *prōstitu-ĕre*: see prec.]

1. *trans.* To offer (oneself, or another) to unlawful, esp. indiscriminate, sexual intercourse, usually for hire; to devote or expose to lewdness. (Chiefly *refl.* of a woman.)

1530 PALSGR. 668/1, I prostytute, as a comen woman dothe her self in a bordell house, *je prostitue.* 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* I. i, He prostituted his abused body To that great gourmond, fat Apicius; And was the noted pathic of the time. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xix. 29. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 59 She is an Adulteress, impudent, prostitutes her self publiquely. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xlii. (1869) II. 563 He recovered his liberty by prostituting the honour of his wife. *fig.* 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 30 Israel, being wedded to God, estranged herself from Him ..and prostituted herself to her idols.

† **b.** *intr.* for *refl.* To play the prostitute; to commit whoredom. Also *fig. Obs. rare.*

1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 143 Before it have defiled the bed of its reputation by prostituting to the adulterous imbracings of a Citie Scrivener. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 193 Ambitious Chloe prostitutes for fame.

c. *trans.* To seduce, debauch (a woman). *rare.*

1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. II. ii. 30 It were a hard work for the adulterer to convince her he would prostitute, that the fact is lawful. 1890 M. DAVITT in *Echo* 11 Dec 3/2 [He] will not succeed in prostituting the Irish cause as easily as he prostituted the wife of his friend.

2. *fig.* To surrender or put to an unworthy, vile, or infamous use or purpose; to sell for base gain or hire; to defile, dishonour, profane, corrupt.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 38 Thou hadst a Prophecie that thy Sanctuary should not be prostituted. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. xiii, When Eve to Sinne her soul did prostitute. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* X. § 149 This Argumentation..made a great impression upon all Men who had not prostituted themselves to Cromwell and his Party. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 64 Certain Wits, who prostituted the noble flame of Poetry..to flatter the Lust and Ambition of the Roman Tyrants. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xix. II. 127 *note*, Posides,..in whose favour the emperor prostituted some of the most honourable rewards of military valour. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 1. 340 Justice was prostituted in the ordinary courts to the royal will.

† **3. a.** To offer with complete devotion or self-negation; to devote. *Obs.*

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 255 And here mie selfe am preste and readie ethir to prostitute mie bodie as a sacrifice for mie realme, or to throwe mie selfe into the middeste of mine enemies. 1611 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 12, I doe honour them, and I doe prostitute my selfe for euer to doe them humble seruice. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* (1687) I. ix. 120 If God should in requital exact, that we..adventure our health and prostitute all our earthly contents to his service.

† **b.** To expose, exhibit, subject, submit (to any destructive agency). *Obs.*

1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* II. (1617) Ded., To publish my rude collections, and prostitute to your censuring the depth of my knowledge. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* Pref. 7 [That] would prostitute the Lives of all his fellow Subjects to the Arbitrary Power of any prevailing Faction.

† **c.** To expose to shame; to expose, in a degrading manner to public view, or for public sale.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. i. (1614) 233 The women couer their faces, contented to see with one eie, rather then to prostitute the whole face. 1657 G. STARKEY *Helmont's Vind.* 68 Are not now all vulgar preparations of Minerals, prostituted in every Apothecaries shop? *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 322 To vail their Faces from public View, only to avoid prostituting the Majesty of their Persons to common Eyes.

¶ **4.** Misused for PROSTRATE *v.* (Cf. prec., A. 4.)

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* (1746) IV. ix. 69 He flung himself from his Horse, and with great Humility, went to prostitute himself before the Lady Teresa. 1624 DARCIE *Birth of Heresies* xv. 61 Prostituting themselues before the Images. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 94 Places wherein the Quellem is immediately prostituted beneath the Clay.

Hence **Pro·stituting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Abandonnement*, an abandonning..giuing ouer,.. prostituting vnto others. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 247 She is plainly termed *πορνη*, which signifies not an Hostesse, but a pecuniary and prostituting Harlot. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* XI. 716 All now was turn'd to jollitie and game,..Marrying or prostituting, as befell.

Prostituted (prɒ·stitiutèd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ED [1].]

1. Devoted to lewdness, esp. for hire, as a woman.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 123 Make..of professed nonnes prostituted harlots. 1678 R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* II. xviii. (1696) 279 Forced to Banish his Daughter Julia, for her Common, and Prostituted Impudence. 1781 BURKE *Sp. Marr. Act Repeal Bill* Wks. X. 140, I should feel for a son who married a prostituted woman, or a daughter who married a dishonourable and prostituted man.

2. *fig.* Devoted to base or shameful purposes, esp. to infamous gain; degraded, debased, corrupted. Of persons (now *rare*) or things.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 63, I woulde..that all the illfavorid copyes of my nowe prostituted devises were buried. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Wks.* (1673) 284 A too prostituted Familiarity breeds contempt. 1798 PENNANT *Hindoostan* II. 104 The encouragement which his prostituted Ministry had given to vices. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, That galaxy of prostituted genius of which Charles II was the centre.

† **Pro·stitutely,** *adv. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. PROSTITUTE *a.* + -LY [2].] In a 'prostitute' or abandoned manner; lewdly.

1594 CHAPMAN *Shadow Night* Ded., To think that she should prostitutely show them her secrets, when she will scarcely be looked upon by others.

Prostitution (prɒstitiū·ʃən). [ad. late L. *prōstitūtiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōstitu-ĕre* to PROSTITUTE. Cf. F. *prostitution* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).] The action of prostituting or condition of being prostituted.

1. Of women: The offering of the body to indiscriminate lewdness for hire (esp. as a practice or institution); whoredom, harlotry.

1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 17 By whiche common prostitucion of the quene [in Calicut], he may well iudge that the chyldren borne of her are not to be estemed as his owne. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 339 The most noble of that Nation there (dedicating shall I say? or) prostituting their daughters; where after long prostitution with their Goddesse, they are giuen in marriage, none refusing such matches. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 155 ¶ 4 As if they stood there to sell their Persons to Prostitution. 1878 C. L. WAKE *Evol. Morality* II. 89 Prostitution seems never to have been recognised at Rome as a legal institution.

b. *personified.*

1784 COWPER *Task* III. 60 Till prostitution elbows us aside In all our crowded streets.

† **c.** *transf.* A prostitute, a harlot. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* III. i, I may grace her with the name of a Curtizan, a Backslider, a Prostitution, or such a Toy, but when all comes to al tis but a plaine Pung.

2. *fig.* Devotion to an unworthy or base use; degradation, debasement, corruption.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 47 Peoples prostrations of.. [Civill Liberties and Proprieties] when they may lawfully helpe it, are prophane prostitutions. 1704 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* III. Ded. 14 A prostitution of all Manners in contempt of all Government. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 103 ¶ 1 Many Professions of Kindness and Service..are a Prostitution of Speech, seldom intended to mean Any Part of what they express. 1740 JOHNSON *Sir F. Drake* Wks. IV. 457 The honour of knighthood..; an honour in that illustrious reign not made cheap by prostitution. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. vi. 229 They live..on the prostitution of their talents to gratify..personal animosities.

¶ **3.** app. misused for PROSTRATION, overthrow.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 39 Heauen..shall be made an Artillery-house of Haile-stones, and no Plannet shall reuolue any thing but prostitution and vastity.

Prostitutor (prɒ·stitiūtəɹ). Also 7 **-er.** [a. late L. *prōstitūtor*, agent-n. f. *prōstitu-ĕre* to PROSTITUTE: see -OR. Cf. F. *prostituteur*.] One who prostitutes (usually in *fig.* sense: see the vb.).

1611 COTGR., *Abandonneur*, an abandonner..giuer ouer, prostitutor of. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* v. viii. (1848) 325 Difference betwixt the Contentment of this calm admirer of Beauty, and that of a greedy and unconfin'd Prostituter of his Heart to it. 1761 HURD *Let. to Warburton* 18 Mar., Lett. (1809) 321 A reproof..of the Prostitutors of the Lord's Supper. 1896 *Voice* (N.Y.) 11 June 3/3 They believe they have facts sufficient..to put some of the prostitutors of the ballot behind the bars.

‖ **Prostomium** (prɒstō·miŏm). *Zool.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *προστόμιον*, lit. a fore-mouth, or something before the mouth: see PRO-[2] and STOMA.] The part of the body situated in front of the mouth in certain invertebrates, as molluscs and worms, and in embryos; the pre-oral region. Hence **Prosto·mial** *a.*, pertaining to, constituting, or situated on the prostomium; **Prosto·miate** *a.*, furnished with or characterized by having a prostomium.

1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 149 There is always a considerable portion of the body situated in front of the mouth, constituting the so-called 'præ-oral region', or prostomium. 1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 639/2 The Mollusca are sharply divided into two great lines of descent or branches, according as the prostomial region is atrophied on the one hand or largely developed on the other. 1886 A. G. BOURNE *ibid.* XXI. 6/1 The development of a prostomiate condition. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 484 [Mollusca] Eyes absent on the prostomial region of the adult. *Ibid.* 315 Plate XII. Earthworm (*Lumbricus terrestris*). The fifteen anterior somites, .. the 'prostomial segment' counting as the first.

Prostrate (prɒ·strĕt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *prōstrāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōstern-ĕre*: see PROSTERN.]

1. In strict use, Lying with the face to the ground, in token of submission or humility, as in adoration, worship, or supplication; more loosely, Lying at full length or with the body extended flat (on the ground or other surface), in a horizontal position. Often predicative or quasi-adv. with *lie, fall*, etc.

a 1380 *Sawles Ward* 259 in Hortsm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 97 Prostrat heo fel þen to grounde And preyed to God þus in þat stounde. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xxv. 36 He fel doun prostrate in his praiers before an auter in þe chirche. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefr.* 15 Here we lye prostrate for to offre our prayers to god. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxx. (1541) 48 To them, which haue feeble digestion, it is good to slepe prostrate on their bealies. 1642 H. MORE *Song Soul* I. III. i, Whiles we on grassie bed did lie prostrate. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i, Finding us all prostrate upon our faces (for so I gave order) they pinioned us. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* II. xv, O'er my prostrate kinsman stood The ruthless murderer. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* ii. 27 Some lay prostrate, their foreheads touching the ground.

b. Of things usually erect, as trees, walls, pillars, etc.: Levelled with the ground, overthrown.

a 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* II. vii. 191 Great quantities of subterraneous Woods, lying 10 and 20 Ells below the Superficies of the Ground, prostrate towards the East. 1807 WORDSW. *Wh. Doe Ryl.* VII. 340 The mournful waste Of prostrate altars.

†c. Sometimes const. as pple. = PROSTRATED.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 558 For loftie type of honour.. is downe in dust prostrate.

2. *fig.* Laid low in mind or spirit; submissive; overcome, overthrown, powerless.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 117 Looke gracious on thy prostrate Thrall. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* v. i, Let us avoid the opposite extremes Of negligence supine, and prostrate fear. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn., Calais*, Ye men of prostrate mind, A seemly reverence may be paid to power. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 278 The violent reaction which had laid the Whig party prostrate. 1867 SMILES *Huguenots Eng.* xvii. (1880) 294 William III took active steps to restore the prostrate industry of the country.

b. In a state of physical exhaustion or complete weakness; unable to rise or exert oneself.

1871 MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* vii. 90 Puts nerve and sinew into the most prostrate arm. 1880 J. W. SHERER *Conjuror's Daughter*, etc. 284 'How was she?' 'Very prostrate and at this hour feverish'. 1887 *Sportsman* 25 July 2/1 At the present moment we are so 'prostrate', that we have not strength enough to go to the treasure chamber.

3. *Bot.* In its habit of growth, lying flat upon the ground; procumbent.

1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 430 Stem prostrate, striking root. *Ibid.* III. 62 Stem and root-leaves prostrate, longer than the branches. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 432/1 *C[erasus] prostrata*, the spreading cherry. A small prostrate bush, found on the sea-coast of Candia. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 3 A prostrate stem runs along the ground, and never becomes erect.

b. Closely appressed to the surface; lying flat: as, prostrate hairs or setæ.

B. *sb.* One who is prostrate, or lying flat, as a suppliant, a vanquished foe.

1654 TRAPP *Comm. Job* i. 20 The ancient Prophets and holy men were called *Nephalim procidentes*, or *Prostrantes*, that is prostrates or Fallers downe. 1676 OTWAY *Don Carlos* I. i, To lie a Prostrate at her feet. 1691 HEYRICK *Misc. Poems* 40 'Twill sully all your former glorious Fame To say, You such a Prostrate overcame.

b. = PROSTRATOR 2.

a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. v. § 8 Being taken and admitted to the next degree of prostrates, at the feet yet behind the back of that angel representing God, whom the rest saw face to face. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 77 The Prostrates near the Sacred Desk are plac'd, By Self-humiliations more debas'd.

Prostrate (prɒ·strēt), *v.* Pa.t. and pple. **prostrated**; also 6 **prostrate**. [f. L. ppl. stem *prōstrāt-*: see prec. Sense 1 may have arisen out of the reflexive sense 3; but the latter has not been found so early. (Formerly stressed *prostra·te.*)]

†1. *intr.* To become prostrate; to fall down flat before some person or thing, in token of reverence or submission: = sense 3. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet*, etc. 143 þan þe nouice sall prostrate downe be-fore þe gree, when 'Kirieleison'. 1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph., Prostrate*, to fall downe flat on the ground. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. x, When I am Lord of the Universe, the sun shall prostrate and adore me! 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1769) I. 268 We must even prostrate before the block they call her image.

2. *trans.* To lay flat on the ground, etc.; to throw down, level with the ground, overthrow (something erect, as a house, a tree, a person).

1483 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* e viij b, He prostratit mony a M. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 5 To..prostrate and ouerthrowe all suche mylles .. lockes .. hebbinge weares, and other impedimentes. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* lvi, A storme, that all things doth prostrate [*rime* ruinate]. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. v. (1732) 232 These Trees..were broken down and prostrated by the force of..tempestuous Winds. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 581 Heav'n..Shall prostrate to thy sword the Suitor-crowd. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxi. 213 They tied the dogs down..and prostrated themselves to escape being blown off by the violence of the wind. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xxxiv, Pebble from sling Prostrates a giant.

†b. *fig.* To overthrow (a measure, etc.). *Obs. rare.*

1642 SLINGSBY *Diary* (1836) 82 My Lord of Newcastle.. would not give any new commission unless some just cause was shown to prostrate y^t y^e King had given.

3. *refl.* To cast oneself down prostrate; to bow to the ground in reverence or submission.

1530 PALSGR. 668/2 So soone as ever he came byfore the sacrament, he prostrate hym selfe with moost hyghe reverence. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 24 The Moores ..prostrated and humbled them selues before the sayde great Master. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 49 When they prostrate themselves, that signifies that they adore God. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. x. 455 Sethos, upon entring, prostrated himself at his feet. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 211 Going the rounds of the sacred place, prostrating himself at every shrine.

4. *trans. fig.* To lay low, overcome; to make submissive or humble; to reduce to helplessness.

1562 EDEN *Let.* 1 Aug. (in *Decades*, etc. (Arb.) p. xliii/1), The greefes of aduerse fortune..dyd so muche prostrate my mynde. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. vi. § 46 Her Adversaries conceive; had she not been laid there, the happiness of England had been prostrated in the same place. *a* 1711 KEN *Man. Prayers* Wks. (1838) 370 When you read any great mystery recorded in holy writ, you are to prostrate your reason to divine revelation. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* XXX. IV. 159 It was adverse to any treaty which would not completely prostrate Athens under its rule.

b. To reduce to extreme physical weakness or exhaustion: said of disease, fatigue, and the like.

1829 H. MURRAY *N. Amer.* II. III. iii. 368 On calling for a lady, he was told that she was 'quite prostrated', which on explanation proved to be ill in bed. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiii. 145 He appeared exceedingly low and prostrated. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xx. 412 Fever rapidly prostrates the energies.

†5. To lay down at the feet of a person; to submit, present, or offer submissively or reverently. *Obs.*

1583 H. D. *Godlie Treat.* 4 Being bold in all humilitie to prostrate this little booke before your honour. 1588 CAVENDISH in Beveridge *Hist. India* (1862) I. I. ix. 210 All which services, with myself, I humbly prostrate at her majestie's feet. 1669 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 87 This I desire I may have the liberty..to prostrate to the most illustrious Royal Society. 1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 76 Before them they prostrate Victuals.

†b. To let down, lower *to* the level or cognizance of. *Obs. rare.*

a 1718 PENN *Tracts* Wks. 1726 I. 605 God never prostrates his Secrets to Minds disobedient to what they do already know.

Hence **Pro·strated** *ppl. a.*, **Pro·strating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* vii. 96 b, A lyon is a cruell beast yf he be exaspered, and gentle yf the man fal downe naked before him; and except it be in great honger he hurteth not siche humble prostrated proyes. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Prostration*, a prostrating, or falling at ones feete. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. viii. (1674) 10 By humble prostrating of their service. 1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 354 That gentleman reported the prostrated hopes of the over-sanguine goldhunters. 1890 *Athenæum* 4 Jan. 17/2 To fight so long and bravely against the prostrating effects of a wasting illness.

Pro·stately, *adv. rare.* [f. PROSTRATE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a prostrate manner or position.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxxviii. 189 The hour is cum: wherin the flie must die, For which he weilth, at spiders foote prostratlie. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 183 Those..who prostrately bowed their knees to adore him, now jested at him.

Prostration (prɒstrē·ʃən). [a. F. *prostration* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or ad. late L. *prōstrātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōstern-ĕre*: see PROSTERN.]

1. The action of prostrating oneself or one's body, esp. as a sign of humility, adoration, or servility; the condition of being prostrated, or lying prostrate.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 237 b, And there with genufleccyons or knelynges, inclynacyons, prostracyons, or other reuerence, to aske y^e mercy of god. 1622 [see PROSTERNATION]. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. xxxvi. (1655) 86 The comely prostrations of the body..in time of Divine Service, is very exemplary. 1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. v. (1673) 369 After his usual Prostrations in the Church as if unworthy either to stand or kneel. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 183 No Prostrations could reduce the Herniæ. 1823 GILLIES tr. *Aristotle's Rhet.* I. 178 Among barbarians honour is denoted by humble prostrations of the body. 1879 H. SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* § 384 Though the loss of power to resist which prostration on the face implies, does not reach the utter defencelessness implied by prostration on the back, yet it is great enough to make it a sign of profound homage. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 5 The villagers..came timidly around and made their humble prostrations.

2. *fig.* The mental attitude which is implied in prostrating the body; veneration; abject submission, adulation; humiliation, abasement.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 25 Nor is only a resolved prostration unto Antiquity a powerfull enemy unto knowledge, but also a confident adherence unto any Authority. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* iv. Wks. 1757 IV. 199 For that bountiful grant, what adoration is due? With prostration profound I cannot but adore. 1823 ROSCOE *Sismondi's Lit. Eur* (1846) II. xxxii. 341 The prostration of the intellect. 1849 TWEEDIE *Life J. Macdonald* iii. 255 To read the record of his profound prostration and abasement is at once humbling and joyous.

3. *fig.* Debasement of any exalted principle or faculty.

1647 [see PROSTITUTION 2].

4. Extreme physical weakness or exhaustion; also extreme mental depression or dejection.

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt., Apol.* 14, I can hardly..speak above an hour without the prostration of my strength. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* (1736) 358 There is a sudden Prostration of the Strength or Weakness attending this Colick. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 109 Distinguished..by the unusual prostration of strength. 1828 WEBSTER, *Prostration*..3. Great depression; dejection: as, a prostration of spirits. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. x, Exhibiting great wretchedness in the shivering stage of prostration from drink. 1887 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 1377 An appreciable number of the guilty died of nervous prostration.

5. The reduction of a country, party, or organization to a prostrate or powerless condition.

1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* VIII. lxvi. 472 The prostration of Greece under the Turkish yoke. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 224 The result of the war was the complete prostration of Persia before the power of Russia. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* 295 The exaggerated notions of the utter prostration and dissolution of the empire then prevalent.

Prostrative (prɒ·strătiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. ppl. stem *prōstrāt-* (see PROSTRATE *v.*) + -IVE.] **a.** Having the quality or faculty of prostrating. **b.** Characterized by prostration or abjectness.

1817 BENTHAM *Parl. Reform* Introd. 131 The more palpable the deficiency..the more prostrative, the more irresistible the force. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. xiii. 278 Not much relishing the prostrative nature of the fellow's respectfulness I walked aft.

Prostrator (prɒ·strēɪtəɹ, prɒstrē·ɪtəɹ). *rare.* [a. late L. *prōstrātor*, agent-n. f. *prōstern-ĕre*: see PROSTERN.]

1. One who overthrows or throws down prostrate.

1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* II. xii. 189 Common people..are the great and infallible prostrators of all Religion, vertue, honour, order, peace, civility and humanity, if left to themselves. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.* 165 [The] Bishop of London.. Prostrator-General of understandings and wills.

2. *Eccl. Hist.* Used (chiefly *pl.*) as a rendering of Gr. *γονυκλίνοντες, ὑποπίπτοντες*, or L. *genuflectentes, prostrati*, the third order of penitents in the early Church (see quots.). Cf. KNEELER 2.

1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 51 Next above the Hearers were the *ὑποπίπτοντες, Prostrators*, so call'd because tho' they were dismissed with the Catechumens, yet not before they had prostrated themselves before Bishop, Clergy, and Communicants. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) II. 303 They put down those..into the station of penitents and prostrators. 1843 HAMMOND *Def. Faith Œcum. Councils* 31 The third order of penitents, called..kneelers or prostrators, because they were allowed to remain and join in certain prayers particularly made for them, whilst they were kneeling, or prostrate on the ground.

Prostyle (prō·ustəil), *sb.* and *a. Anc. Arch.* [ad. L. *prostȳlos* adj. having pillars in front, also sb. (Vitruv.) a. Gr. **πρόστυλος*: see PRO- 2 and STYLE *sb.* Cf. F. *prostyle* (1691 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *sb.* A portico in front of a Greek temple, of which the columns, never more than four in number, stood in front of the building.

1697 EVELYN *Architects & Archit.* (1723) 30 The Prostyle, whose Station being at the Front consisted of only four Columns. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Prostyle*,.. whose Station was in the front of a Temple, or other great Building.

B. *adj.* Having a prostyle.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Prostyle*, that which has Pillars before only; which was one sort of the Temples of the Ancients. 1810 *Rudim. Anc. Archit.* (1821) 125 *Prostyle*,.. according to Vitruvius, the second order of temples. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 288 (ed. 2) 317 Temples are divided into..prostyle, with porticoes on the front, and amphiprostyle, at the two ends. 1883 J. T. CLARKE *Reber's Anc. Art* 200 The next step was the removal of these side walls [*antæ*]..and the prostyle temple was thus obtained.

Pro-substantive, -ly: see PRO- 1 4.

† Prosult. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. L. **prōsult-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *prōsilīre* to leap forth; or f. PRO- 1 after RESULT *sb.*] That which issues forth: the resulting issue.

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 35 What is amisse in the mould, will misfashion the prosult.

Prosy (prō·uzi), *a.* [f. PROSE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Resembling, or having the character of, prose. Sometimes = PROSAIC 2, commonplace, matter-of-fact; but usually with emphasis rather on the tiresome effect than on the intrinsic quality: commonplace and tedious; dull and wearisome.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxi, During this prosy statement of the ghost's. *Ibid.* xxxi, This address..was of a very prosy character. 1838 MILL *Diss. & Disc., A. de Vigny* (1859) I. 327 If prolix writing is vulgarly called *prosy* writing, a very true feeling of the distinction between verse and prose shows itself in the vulgarism. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* xxvii, Mrs. Pennythorne..went on talking to his friend in her own quiet, prosy way. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 351/2 To be preferred to the prosy monotony of judicial life.

2. Of persons: Given to talking or writing in a commonplace, dull, or tedious way; prosing.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, A sensible..though uncommonly prosy speaker. 1859 GREEN *Oxf. Stud.* II. xvi. (O. H. S.) 181 The parents are all benevolent, affable and prosy.

Prosylite, obs. form of PROSELYTE.

Prosyllogism (prōsi·lŏdʒiz'm). *Logic.* [ad. med.L. *prosyllogism-us* (Boeth.), ad. Gr. *προσυλλογισμός*: see PRO-[2] and SYLLOGISM.] A syllogism of which the conclusion forms the major or minor premiss of another syllogism.

1584 FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 43 Which reason with the prosilogismes of the antecedent being..reduced vnto a sillogisme,..he answered. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius Logic* II. xiii. 58 A Prosyllogism is then when two Syllogisms are so contained in five Propositions, as, that the Conclusion of the First becomes the Major or Minor of the Following, as, For Example, this; Every living thing is nourished; But every Plant is a living thing; And therefore every Plant is nourished. But no Stones are nourished: And therefore no Stones are Plants. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. ii. § 6. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Logic* § 96 Every conclusion of a syllogism may.. become the major premiss of another syllogism: the first is then called the *prosyllogism* of the second, and each one that follows the *episyllogism* of the one which preceded it.

So **Prosyllogi·stic, Prosyllogi·stical** *adjs.*, of the nature of or pertaining to a prosyllogism.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Log.* I. iii. 19 This nowe is a new and prosyllogisticall argument, fet from the very naturall definition of the argument it selfe. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 292 Mounting the scale of their probation upon the prosyllogistick steps of variously-amplified confirmations.

Prot-, the form of PROTO- used before a vowel.

Prota·ctic, *a. rare.* [ad. Gr. *προτακτικ-ός* placed in front, f. *προτάσσειν* to place before or in front.] Placed in front; giving a previous explanation, introductory.

1847 in WEBSTER.

Protagon (prōu·tăgŏn). *Physiol. Chem.* [a. G. *protagon* (Liebreich), f. Gr. *πρῶτ-os* first + *ἄγον*, neut. pres. pple. of *ἄγειν* to lead.] A highly complex crystalline substance, containing nitrogen and phosphorus, found in brain and nerve tissue.

1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* xli. 407 The Brain and other nerve-centres contain a substance termed Protagon. 1871 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (ed. 2) I. I. v. 63 Fibrous nerve-tissue is chemically distinguished from .. vesicular nerve-tissue by the presence..of a substance called *protagon*. 1904 TITCHENER tr. *Wundt's Physiol. Psychol.* I. 54 Protagon, a highly complex body, to which Liebreich [*Ann. Chem. & Phar.* CXXXIV. (1865) 29] has assigned the empirical formula $C_{116}H_{241}N_4PO_{22}$.

Protagonist (protæ·gŏnist). [ad. Gr. *πρωταγωνιστ-ής* an actor who plays the first part, f. *πρῶτος* first + *ἀγωνιστής* one who contends for a prize, a combatant, an actor, f. *ἀγωνίζεσθαι*: see AGONIZE. So F. *protagoniste* (1835 in *Dict. Acad.*).]

1. The chief personage in a drama; hence, the principal character in the plot of a story, etc.

1671 DRYDEN *Even. Love* Pref., Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 141 Tis charg'd upon me that I make debauch'd Persons..my protagonists, or the chief persons of the drama. 1770 BARETTI *Journ. fr. Lond. to Genoa* III. 27 The Devil in..Spanish plays..is generally the protagonist of those in which he is introduced. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 321 The earth-shaker Poseidon, the sea god, appears as a subordinate in many scenes, and as a protagonist in others.

2. A leading personage in any contest; a prominent supporter or champion of any cause.

1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* xxxv. (ed. 5) 554 Thou the Divine Protagonist of time, The everlasting sacrifice. *a* 1859 DE QUINCEY *Conversat.* Wks. 1860 XIV. 169 The great talker—the protagonist—of the evening. 1877 MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 53 If social equity is not a chimera, Marie Antoinette was the protagonist of the most..execrable of causes.

Protamine (prōu·tămən). *Physiol. Chem.* [f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- I, 3 c + AMINE.] One of the simple proteins, a basic organic substance $C_{16}H_{32}N_9O_2$.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1907 HOWELL *Textbk. Physiol.* 895-6 Miescher..discovered that the heads [of spermatozoa of salmon] are composed..of..nucleic acid united with a basic albuminous body, protamine...The protamines differ from most other protein compounds by their relative simplicity.

Protamnion, etc.: see PROTO- 2 b.

Protandrous (protæ·ndrəs), *a. Bot.* [f. PROT(O)- + -ANDROUS.] = PROTERANDROUS; opposed to *protogynous*.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 812 Dichogamous Flowers are either protandrous or protogynous. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vi. § 4 (ed. 6) 219 Dichogamous flowers are Proterandrous (or Protandrous), when the anthers mature and discharge their pollen before the stigma of that blossom is receptive of pollen.

So **Prota·ndric** *a.* = PROTANDROUS (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **Prota·ndrism** (Webster 1890), **Prota·ndry** = PROTERANDRY: opposed to *protogyny*.

a 1882 *Nature* (Annandale), The terms protandry and protogyny used by Hildebrand to express, in the one case the development of the stamens before the pistils, in the other case the development of the pistils before the stamens. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Pl. & Ferns* I. 87 When the pollen is ripe before the stigma ..termed protandry.

Pro tanto: see PRO 9.

Protarch (prōu·tāɹk). *rare.* [ad. Gr. *πρωτάρχ-ης*, f. *πρῶτος* first + *ἀρχός* ruler.] A chief ruler.

1656 BRAMHALL *Replic.* v. 190 In the age of the Apostles.. the highest Order in the Church, under the Apostles, were nationall Protarchs or Patriarchs.

‖ **Protarsus** (prōtā·ɹsŭs). *Entom.* Pl. **-si** (-sī). [f. PRO-[2] 2 + TARSUS.] The tarsus of the first or fore leg of an insect. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Protasis** (prŏ·tăsis). [Late L., a. Gr. *πρότασις* a stretching forward, a proposition, (major) premiss, a hypothetical clause, a problem, the first part of a play, f. *πρό*, PRO-[2] + *τάσις*, n. of action f. *τείνειν* to stretch.]

1. That which is put forward; a proposition, a maxim. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Protasis*, a Proposition or Declaration. 1755 in JOHNSON. 1806 *Monthly Mag.* XXII. 210 It is a universally received protasis among grammarians that the first terms of every language were nouns, which were turned into verbs by putting them in action.

2. In the ancient drama, The first part of a play, in which the characters are introduced and the subject entered on, as opposed to the *epitasis* and *catastrophe*. Also *fig.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 111 Thou shalt be both the protasis & catastrophe of my epistle. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. i, Do you look, master Damplay, for conclusions in a protasis? I thought the law of comedy had reserved [them] to the catastrophe. 1713 SWIFT *Frenzy J. Dennis* Wks. 1755 III. I. 143, I am sick..of the diction, of the protasis, of the epitasis, and the catastrophe.—Alas, what is become of the drama? 1815 *Mr. Decastro* I. 259 Thus far by way of protasis to the matter..the epitasis whereof..comes next.

3. *Gram.* and *Rhet.* The first or introductory clause in a sentence, *esp.* the clause which expresses the condition in a conditional sentence; opposed to the *apodosis*.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 77 Let us examine and consider a little of the Protasis, whereof the words I have now read are the Apodosis. 1879 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* IV. § 1025 A subordinate (relative, temporal, causal, concessive, or conditional) sentence is often called the protasis, the principal (i. e. demonstrative, conditioned, &c.) sentence is often called the apodosis.

4. *Ancient Prosody.* The first colon of a dicolic line or period. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Protastacine, -astacus: see PROTO- 2 b.

Protatic (protæ·tik), *a.* [ad. late L. *protaticus*, a. Gr. *προτατικ-ός*, f. *πρότασις*: see PROTASIS. Cf. F. *protatique*.] Of or pertaining to the or a protasis; in *protatic character, person*, appearing only in the protasis (sense 2).

1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 61 There are indeed some protatick persons in the Ancients, whom they make use of in their plays, either to hear or give the relation. 1881 *Birm'ham Daily Post* 20 July 7/4 The protatic character of Davies found a competent representative.

Hence **Prota·tically** *adv.*, in the protasis.

1865 F. HALL in *Reader* 1 Apr. 371/3 He will have made out his case completely on showing..that *quha* or *who* was employed, so early as 1556, as equivalent, save protatically, to *he who*, or rather to *whoso, whosoever*.

Protaxonial: see PROTO- 2 b.

‖ **Protea** (prōu·tiă). *Bot.* [mod.L. *Prōtea*, generic name (Linnæus 1737), f. *Prōteus* (see PROTEUS), in allusion to the great variety of form of the different species.] A large genus of shrubs or small trees, the type of the natural order *Proteaceæ*, chiefly natives of S. Africa, bearing large cone-like heads of flowers; also, a plant of this genus.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Protea*, in the Linnæan system of botany, a genus..which takes in the lepidocarpodendron, and the hypophyllocarpodendron of Boerhaave. 1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 131 Banksias, proteas, acacias, melaleucas, and a few other Cape and Botany Bay plants. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 19 The splendid protea, whose sweets never fail to attract swarms of the insect tribes.

Proteaceous (prōu·tiē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. mod.L. *Prōteāce-æ*, f. prec.: see -ACEOUS.] Of or pertaining to the *Proteaceæ*, a natural order of trees, shrubs, or (rarely) perennial herbs, mainly S. African and Australian, typified by the genus *Protea*.

1835 *Penny Cycl.* III. 123/2 Multitudes of proteaceous plants, with their hard and woody leaves [near Port Jackson, S. Australia]. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* ii. 26 There were cypresses..and proteaceous plants allied to the banksia.

Protead (prōu·tiĕd). *Bot. rare.* [f. PROTEA: see -AD 1 d.] Lindley's name for a plant of the order *Proteaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 532 A happier name than that of Proteads could not have been devised, for the diversity of appearance presented by the various genera is such as it would be hard to parallel in the same Natural Order. 1882 *Garden* 10 June 398/1 Hakea cucullata and various other Proteads..cultivated in the temperate house.

Protean (prōu·tiăn), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PROTEUS + -AN: cf. F. *Protéen*.] Of or pertaining to Proteus; like that of Proteus; hence, taking or existing in various shapes, variable in form; characterized by variability or variation; variously manifested or expressed; changing, varying.

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* ii, I shall stand in doubt What sex thou art, since such Hermaphrodites Such Protean shadowes so delude our sights. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 793 Hee escaped by his Protean Arts; now appearing like an Eagle, the second time like a Tygre, the third like a Serpent. 1679 *Establ. Test* 3 Their Protean Faculties of Dissimulation, Perjury, and Putting on so many Shapes. 1834-5 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 559/2 Its geological relations should always be consulted before deciding on the name of this Protean rock. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* ii. (1878) 35 Genera which have been called 'protean' or 'polymorphic', in which the species present an inordinate amount of variation. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 97 The scene had time to go through several of its Protean mutations. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 346 General paralysis is of necessity a protean malady.

b. *spec. Zool.* Varying in shape; of or pertaining to the proteus-animalcule; amœboid, amœbiform, proteiform.

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 492 The Protean Vibrio...A species which has derived its name from its very singular power of assuming different shapes. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 645/1 The Protean animals..do not undergo ..any further metamorphosis.

B. *sb.* †**1.** One who constantly changes; an inconstant or equivocal person. *Obs. rare*[-1].

1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.* ii, These same Proteans, whose hipocrisie, Doth still abuse our fond credulity.

b. An actor who takes several parts in the same piece. ? *U.S.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. *Zool.* = PROTEID[2] (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

Hence **Pro·teanly** *adv. rare*[-1], in a protean manner, with variation of form.

1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. § 29. 36 Matter..only Proteanly transformed into different shapes.

Protease (prōu·tiēis). *Physiol. Chem.* [f. PROTEO(LYSIS + -*ase* in DIASTASE.] A proteolytic enzyme or ferment.

1904 VINES in *Annals of Bot.* XVIII. 289 (Article) The Proteases of Plants...Hitherto the proteases of both plants and animals have been classified as 'peptic' or as 'tryptic', in accordance with their general resemblance to either the pepsin or the trypsin of the animal body...But with the discovery of erepsin by Cohnheim, this simple classification of the proteases has become inadequate, for erepsin is neither 'peptic' nor 'tryptic'. *Ibid.* 316 It appears..that erepsin is present in the onion without any other protease.

†**Protect**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōtect-us*, pa. pple. of *prōteg-ĕre* to cover in front, protect, defend, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] + *teg-ĕre* to cover.] Protected. (Const. as *pa. pple.*)

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 111 Like as a doghter is protecte [*orig.* protegitur] of the moder, and subiecte to her. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 41 b, The things by which a man is protect & holpen.

Protect (prote·kt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *prōteg-ĕre*: see prec. Cf. rare obs. F. *protecter* (15th c. in Godef.).]

1. *trans.* To defend or guard from injury or danger; to shield from attack or assault; to support, assist, or afford immunity to, esp. against any inimical agency; to preserve intact, or from encroachment, invasion, annoyance, or insult; to keep safe, take care of; to extend patronage to.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 12 b, Whome god almyghty..protected, defended, saued, and gouerned. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. iii. 5 The Lord protect him..Iesu blesse him. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xviii. 91 To every man remaineth..the right of protecting himselfe. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* XX, These bones from insult to protect. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 183, I trust that Providence protects you and your illustrious brother for some great purpose. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. xi. 646 Whenever a government undertakes to protect intellectual pursuits, it will almost always protect them in the wrong place and reward the wrong men. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vii. 96 The simplest forms of spectacles are those used merely to protect the eyes from mechanical injury or excessive light.

b. To act as official or legal protector (PROTECTOR 1) or guardian of.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. iii. 29, I see no reason, why a King of yeeres should be to be protected like a Child. 1594 — *Rich. III*, II. iii. 21 Then the King, Had vertuous Vnkles to protect his Grace.

2. *Pol. Econ.* To assist or guard (a domestic industry) against the competition of foreign productions by means of imposts on the latter.

1827-39 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Catechism Corn Laws* (1839) § 160 If no trade can be 'protected' but at the expense of some other trade first, and of the consumers a second time besides, it will be very difficult to make out a case for 'protection'. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xvii. (1876) 233 If every producer of every kind were protected, foreign trade might cease...It would be certainly futile, to protect everybody. 1885 LD. DUNRAVEN in *Daily Tel.* 29 Sept. 2/6 Their industries were protected and ours were not.

3. *Comm.* To provide funds to meet (a commercial draft or bill of exchange); cf. COVER *v.*[1] 17.

1884 *Law Times Rep.* LI. 16/1 Please protect the draft as advised above and oblige drawer.

4. a. To furnish with a protective covering; *spec.* in reference to war-ships.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 615 When the gilder has protected the burnished points, he dries the piece. 1884 [see PROTECTED].

b. To provide (machinery, etc.) with devices or appliances to prevent injury from it.

1900 *Daily News* 14 Apr. 2/5 The different systems of 'safety' or 'protected' rifle ranges in use.

Hence **Prote·cted** *ppl. a.*; **Prote·cting** *vbl. sb.*, the action of the verb; protection.

c 1630 SANDERSON *Serm.* II. 275 The curbing of the one sort, and the protecting of the other. 1836 WHEATON *Elem. Internat. Law* I. ii. 63 The sovereignty of the inferior ally or protected state remains, though limited and qualified by the stipulations of the treaties of alliance and protection. 1872 BAGEHOT *Physics & Pol.* (1876) 82 This principle explains..why the 'protected' regions of the world..are of necessity backward. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 22 He keeps only the trumps and perhaps the Kings or at most a protected Queen. 1884 SIR T. SYMONDS in *Pall Mall G.* 25 Sept. 1/2 Twenty-three battle ships..(of which four are protected cruisers). 1885 *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 433/3 Toul

[was] .. a protected state dependent upon France. 1888 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 Dec. 454/1 Whatever increased profits our manufacturers of 'protected' articles get..must come from other classes..the consumers of their products. 1900 [see 4 b].

†**Prote·ctant,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [irreg. f. prec. + -ANT.] = PROTECTIVE *a.* 1.

1670 *Conclave wherein Clement VIII was elected Pope* 29 He would be his friend, and would always be graciously protectant of his Majesty.

Protectee (protektī'). [f. PROTECT *v.* + -EE.] One who is under protection. *spec.* **a.** A protégé. † **b.** In 16–17th c., An Irishman who had accepted the protection of the English government (*obs.*). **c.** *Pol. Econ.* A manufacturer or merchant whose trade is protected.

1602 in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) II. 238 By prey-beeues gotten from the Rebels, and good numbers had of the protectees,.. we haue vsed a great kind of sparing of the victuals in the store. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. xiii. (1810) 147 If the Protectees had meant in their hearts as they professed with their tongues. 1807 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* II. 198 Your protectee, White, was clerk to my cousin. 1894 J. S. MORTON in *Forum* (U. S.) June, Protection..compels him [the farmer] to be always the chained customer of the protectee.

Protecter: see PROTECTOR.

Prote·ctful, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PROTECT *v.* + -FUL.] Careful to protect.

1883 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 696/1 They are more proud and protectful of them than in most..Dutch towns.

Prote·ctible, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. PROTECT *v.* + -IBLE.] Capable of being protected.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. iii. (1872) III. 89 Not mere fanatic mystics..protectible by no Treaty.

Protecting (prote·ktiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PROTECT *v.* + -ING ².] That protects; preserving or shielding from harm or danger; extending patronage.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXI. iii, To thy wings protecting shade My self I carry will. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 194 Saint Denis (the Protecting Saint of the French). 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 521 Say, whether there be any protecting law for the people. 1821 in Bischoff *Woollen Manuf.* (1842) II. 18 Lord Milton and Mr. Wortley both conceive, that a protecting duty of sixpence per lb. on the wool exported will be conceded to the manufacturers if required. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vii. 96 Protecting glasses are not worn nearly so much as they should be.

Hence **Prote·ctingly** *adv.*; **Prote·ctingness.**

1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 49 One of Blackie's hands is protectingly placed across her neck. 1869 MISS MULOCK *Woman's Kingd.* II. 238 This little..child hovered about her handsome mother with a tender protectingness rather amusing. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* III. 165 Edgar, drawing protectingly near her, as they turned a sharp corner.

Protection (prote·kʃən). Also 4 **prott-**, 4–5 **proteccioun(e, -ione,** 5–6 **-ion, -yon,** (4 **-texcion,** 6 **-texion**), 6 **protectione, -ioun.** [ME. a. F. *protection* (12–13th c.), ad. late L. *prōtectiōn-em,* n. of action f. *prōteg-ĕre* to PROTECT.]

1. The action of protecting; the fact or condition of being protected; shelter, defence, or preservation from harm, danger, or evil; patronage, tutelage.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 943, I can fynd place na-quhare, þat to me sa gaynand ware, as vndir 3our proteccione. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. i. (Skeat) I. 122 And yᵗ innocence..safely might inhabyte by protexcion of safe conducte. 1453 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 267/1 That everyche other persone..stand and be putte oute of youre protection. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvi. 388, I leve this castel in your proteccyon & sauff garde. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 235 Be well aduis'd How you doe leaue me to mine owne protection. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 152 When there is no such Power, there is no protection to be had from the Law. 1795 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 313 Ireland, constitutionally, is independent; politically, she can never be so. It is a struggle against nature. She must be protected, and there is no protection to be found for her, but either from France or England. 1809 *Proclam.* 2 Oct. in Hertslet *St. Pa.* III. 251 *note,* We present ourselves to you, Inhabitants of Cephalonia, not as Invaders, with views of conquest, but as Allies who hold forth to you the advantages of British protection. 1809 ROLAND *Fencing* p. vii, Offering the present Work to your kind protection. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* ii. 45 The prevailing color of caterpillars is green, like that of leaves. The value of this to the young insect, the protection it affords, are obvious.

b. *euphem.* The keeping of a concubine or mistress in a separate establishment.

1677 H. SAVILE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 43 One Mrs. Johnson a lady of pleasure under his Lordship's protection. 1809 WILBERFORCE *Sp. Ho. Com.* 15 Mar. in Cobbett *Parl. Deb.* XIII. 590 That which used to be called 'adultery', was now only 'living under protection'. 1874 J. HATTON *Clytie* (ed. 10) 171 While she was living under his lordship's protection at Gloucester Gate.

2. A thing or person that protects.

1388 WYCLIF *Prol.* 33 It is a comyn proteccioun aȝens persecuscioun of prelatis and of summe lordis. *c* 1410 HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 120 Be yee oure help and our proteccioun. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 38 Our singular defence and protectioun. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 96 His quiver and his laurel 'Gainst four such eyes were no protection. 1823 F. CLISSOLD *Ascent Mt. Blanc* 17 We all put on our veils, as a protection from the heat and light.

3. A writing or document that guarantees protection, exemption, or immunity to the person specified in it; a safe-conduct, passport, pass; †*esp.* (also, *letter of protection*) a writing issued by the king granting immunity from arrest or lawsuit to one engaged in his service, or going abroad with his cognizance (*obs.*). In U. S. a certificate of American citizenship issued by the customs authorities to seamen.

[1312 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 286/1 Par Protections graunteez as gentz qe se feignent d'aler en service le Roi.] *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 665 A proteccion of kyng Richard, worde by worde, after the proteccion of kyng henry afore I-writte. *a* 1500 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 40 That our protecions..to ani persones to be made and graunted wᵗ vs to gon and dwellen in our viage..from hensforth shul not be allowed in plees of dett for vytayles..bought vpon yᵉ viage, wherof in such proteccions mencion befallith to be made. 1502–3 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 174 It hath pleased the Kings highnes to grant unto your father his letter of protexion. 1595 *Expos. Terms Law* 150 b, *Protection* is a writ, and it lyeth where that a man will passe ouer the Sea in the kings seruice, then..by this writ hee shall be quit of all manner of plees between him & any other person, except plees of dower [etc.]. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.* s. v., *Protection* .. in the speciall signification is vsed for an exemption, or an immunitie giuen by the King to a person against suites in lawe, or other vexations, vpon reasonable causes him thereunto mooving. 1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 1 Moved that the speaker sign protections for such persons as are called before the Committee for inspecting Treasury and Revenue. 1775 DE LOLME *Eng. Const.* II. xvi. (1784) 244 Having been detected in selling protections. 1897 KIPLING *Day's Work* (1898) 119 Jan Chinn never broke a protection spoken or written on paper.

4. *Pol. Econ.* The theory or system of fostering or developing home industries by protecting them from the competition of foreign productions, the importation of these being checked or discouraged by the imposition of duties or otherwise.

1828 MCCULLOCH *Adam Smith's W. N.* Notes 364 Without entitling them to a protection from foreign competition. 1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 194 Suppose then that every individual in the community was a producer of some kind, and that every one had a 'protection' upon his particular trade. 1838 C. P. VILLIERS 15 Mar. in *Free Trade Speeches* (1883) I. i. 7 What is the principle of the Corn Laws? I believe that I adopt the phrase which is current in reply when I say that it is Protection—Protection of the landed interest. 1841 MIALL in *Nonconf.* I. 228 Protection means shutting out the best chapman and the best food. 1875 T. HILL *True Ord. Stud.* 127 Earnest debates .. concerning protection and free trade. 1881 *Oracle* 12 Nov. 311 Protection means the taxing of commodities imported from foreign countries, so that home manufacturers or producers may be protected from being undersold..by foreign manufacturers or producers. 1904 A. J. BALFOUR *Sp. at Edin.* in *Times* 4 Oct. 4/3 The object of protection is to encourage home industries. The means by which it attains that object is by the manipulation of a fiscal system to raise home prices.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Of, pertaining to, or for protection, as *protection fee, grant, plate, wall, work*; *protection-burdened* adj.; **protection act,** an act of parliament for the protection of classes of persons, of wild birds, etc.

1881 W. E. FORSTER *Let. to Gladstone* 1 Nov., in Reid *Life* (1888) II. viii. 361 We made up our minds to arrest the leaders under the *Protection Act. 1888 REID *Ibid.* II. vii. 306 The passing of the Protection Act [1881] had been succeeded by a lull in the progress of the outrages in Ireland. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Dec. 2/3 We are afraid that no number of orders under the Wild Birds Protection Act would render them safe. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 11 May 1/7 Contrast between social reform possibilities in Free Trade Britain and *Protection-burdened Germany. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 514 They never once think of paying their *protection-fees. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 July 9/1 A large number of the claims so abandoned..were not worth protection fees. 1901 *Ibid.* 21 Mar. 5/2 The cliff *protection works..have been seriously damaged by the gale.

Hence **Prote·ctional** *a.*, of or pertaining to protection; **Prote·ctionary,** that which provides protection; **Prote·ctionate** *a.*, of or pertaining to the economic theory of protection: = PROTECTIONIST *a.*; *sb.* = PROTECTORATE *sb.*

1888 J. T. GULICK in *Linn. Soc. Jrnl., Zool.* XX. 226 *Protectional Segregation is Segregation from the use of different methods of protection against adverse influences in the environment. 1900 MORLEY *Cromwell* IV. i. 277 The protectional establishment of national commerce. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xi, The bankrupt *Protectionaries of five yeares respit. 1853 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXIII. 764 What has become of all the *Protectionate croaking about low prices? 1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 32 A military occupation of, or British Protectionate over, Egypt.

Protectionism (prote·kʃəniz'm). [f. prec. + -ISM. Cf. F. *protectionnisme* (? from Eng.).] The economic doctrine of protection; the policy or system of protection.

1858 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Nov. 496/1 Up to the moment when Free-trade triumphed there remained a stolid mass of Protectionism against which argument was hopeless. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 179 The leanings of America towards protectionism. 1889 *Times* 27 Nov. 5/4 Italy is the first Continental country which has had the courage to break with protectionism. 1895 *Ibid.* 10 Jan. 9/4 In the struggle against old-world protectionism..Mr. Villiers did admirable work in the House of Commons.

Protectionist (prote·kʃənist), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. as prec. + -IST. Cf. mod.F. *protectionniste.*] One who supports the economic theory or system of protection; one who advocates the protection of domestic industries from foreign competition by the imposition of duties on imports, or by other means.

1844 LD. FITZWILLIAM in G. Pryme *Autobiog.* (1870) 306 *Protectionists,* as they are now called, though I do not think it a good name to have given them, as I fear it will be rather a popular title. 1845 *Ann. Rept. U. S. Treasury* 483 The protectionist says, Tax us on, tax us on, until we have a home market for all our agricultural produce. 1849 COBDEN *Speeches* 34 If there be protectionists who think that the old protection principle can be restored, I am willing that they should vote against me on this occasion. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 5) III. vii. 393 In America and Australia the great body of the working men are ardent protectionists. 1904 A. J. BALFOUR *Sp. at Edin.* in *Times* 4 Oct. 4/3, I now proceed to say that I individually am not a protectionist... The Conservative party, indeed, after the Peelite split, was a protectionist party. It was based upon protection.

B. as *adj.* Favouring or supporting protection.

1846 SIR R. PEEL *Speech* 27 Jan. (Flügel) My plan will meet the approval of neither the freetrade nor the protectionist party. 1861 MAY *Const. Hist.* (1863) II. viii. 72 Sir Robert Peel..ventured in the face of a protectionist Parliament, wholly to abandon the policy of protection. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 28 Nov. 6/4 The repeal of protectionist duties is among the wisest measures embraced in our statute book. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* III. xv. 153 The protectionist ministry were to remain in office, and to repeal the corn laws.

Protectionize (prote·kʃənəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *trans.* To render protectionist; to convert to protectionism.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 1/3 Mr. Chamberlain..is confident of his ability to complete in Opposition the task of Protectionising the Unionist Party.

Protective (prote·ktiv), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PROTECT *v.* + -IVE. Cf. med.L. *prōtectīvus*:

a 1259 MATTH. PARIS *Cron. Maiora* anno 1250, Manus regis..que utique manus defensiva esse tenetur et protectiva.]

1. Having the quality or character of protecting; tending to protect; defensive; preservative.

1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. lix. (ed. 8) 310 [The] accidents of Life deny us any safety, but what we have from the favour of protective Providence. 1728–46 THOMSON *Spring* 781 The stately-sailing swan..Bears forward fierce, and guards his osier-isle, Protective of his young. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 328 To apply the protective coat, before any rust could be formed. 1833 LAMB *Let. to Serjeant Talfourd* Feb., Those canvas-sleeves protective from ink. 1871 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xvi. 224 There are twenty-six species..which manifestly have had their plumage coloured in a protective manner. *Mod.* Examples of protective colouring are numerous among insects.

2. *Pol. Econ.* Of or relating to the economic doctrine or system of protection.

1829 *Edin. Rev.* L. 73 Such was the state of the silk trade under the protective system. 1876 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 5) III. vii. 394 Few can now be found in England, who would favour the re-imposition of protective duties. 1904 A. J. BALFOUR *Sp. at Edin.* in *Times* 4 Oct. 4/3 A Protective policy, as I understand it, is a policy which aims at supporting or creating home industries by raising home prices. The raising of prices is a necessary step towards the encouragement of an industry under a Protective system.

b. in comb., as *protective-prohibitive.*

1906 *Month* Jan. 38 By mitigating the protective-prohibitive system he [Canning] promoted commerce.

B. *sb.* Anything employed to protect; e. g. in *Surgery,* carbolized oiled silk used for the protection of wounds.

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 589 *Protectives*... Those materials used by the physician as external applications to exclude the air and to protect inflamed dermal or other tissues. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* I. ii. 18 The passage.. to the use of charms as protectives against the evil-disposed. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* XXXI. 487 In dressing it is of importance that the raw surfaces be covered by some aseptic non-fibrous protective.

Prote·ctively, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY ².]

1. In a protective or protecting manner; by way of protection; so as to afford protection.

1839 *Blackw. Mag.* XLV. 682 Coachee bows protectively to the man of tickets. 1881 G. ALLEN *Vignettes fr. Nat.* iv. 37 Butterflies close their wings and display only the outer surface, which is imitatively and protectively coloured. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Nov. 5/3 A race of protectively coloured mice that are found on a sandy island in the Bay of Dublin. 1899 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 363 She held up a yellow telegram protectively in front of her.

2. *Pol. Econ.* So as to protect from competition; by protective imposts, etc.

1872–3 W. M. WILLIAMS *Sc. in Short Chapters* (1882) 231 Protectively nursed and sickly imitations of English manufactures. 1881 *Times* 3 June 9/5 To maintain..that the passenger duty operates protectively for the competing omnibus and especially for the tramcar traffic.

Protectiveness (prote·ktivnės). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Protective quality, power, or function.

1847 MISS AGUILAR *Home Influence* III. i. 5 The caressing protectiveness of an elder for a younger. 1857 *Parl. Rep. Hist. Vaccination,* Evidence on the protectiveness of vaccination must now be statistical. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* XXXVII, If he had entered with a pistol in his hand he would scarcely have disturbed her trust in his protectiveness.

Protector (prote·ktə), *sb.* [ME. a. OF. *protectour* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), mod. F. *protecteur,* ad. post-cl. L. *prōtector, -ōrem,* a protector, a body-guard, agent-n. f. *prōteg-ĕre* to PROTECT.]

1. One who protects, defends, or shields from injury or harm; a defender; a guardian, a patron.

Cardinal protector, a cardinal who has charge of the interests of a country, or a religious order or college, at Rome.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 21 To þa fel yndis hald þi way; for þi protectour sal I be. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. xiii, The wulues kyld the dogges whiche were capytayns and protectours of the sheep. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XLIII. i, Judg me, And protector bee Of my cause. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 62 The Cardinals Protectors of the several orders about Rome. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* III. iii,

By my kind Protector kept, Safe I laid me down and slept. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* xlvi. VI. 61 He had indeed been a useful ally: but he was something more; he was a powerful protector. 1901 in *Daily Chron.* 23 Nov. 6/5 It will give him [the King] great satisfaction to assume and bear the honorary title of Protector of the University of Wales.

b. A thing that protects; a guard; *esp.* a device or contrivance serving to prevent injury to or from something, the object being often indicated by a prefixed word; e. g. *chest-protector, cuff-protector, ear-protector, point-protector* (for a pencil), etc.

1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 140 When the metallic protector was from $\frac{1}{10}$ to $\frac{1}{100}$, there was no corrosion or decay of the copper. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. viii. 265 Such a mass is ..a protector of the ice beneath it. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 8/3 The second item was a head protector. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 8 Dec. 5/4 Footprints showing the marks of boot-protectors were found in the garden. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 5/2 The boots had been mended with English protectors. *attrib.* 1901 *Daily News* 3 Jan. 6/4 Venturing outside upon the framework between the protector arms.

c. *Rom. Antiq.* A member of the life-guard or body-guard. *rare*$^{-1}$.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 57 From the seven schools two companies of horse and foot were selected, of the protectors, whose advantageous station was the hope and reward of the most deserving soldiers.

2. *Eng. Hist.* **a.** One in charge of the kingdom during the minority, absence, or incapacity of the sovereign; a regent.

1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 326/1 Yat ye be protectour and defendour of yis Lond, and so named and called. *c* 1450 *Brut* (E. E. T. S.) 431 The Duke of Gloucestre, to ben Protectour and deffendour of the Rewme. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 278 An honorable style [was] geuen him, that he should be called the Protectour of the kyng and his Realme. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 56 My Lord Protector, 'tis his Highnes pleasure, You do prepare to ride vnto S. Albons. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *Definition of Protector* Wks. (1687) 343 What's a Protector? He's a stately Thing, That Apes it in the Non-age of a King. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 15 John Duke of Bedford, Regent of France, and Protector of England. *a* 1771 GRAY *Corr.* (1843) 293 His great patron the protector, Humphry, Duke of Gloucester. 1863 H. COX *Instit.* III. iii. 623 The appointment of a protector, guardian, or regent, when the heir-apparent of the Crown has been very young.

b. The official title of the head of the executive during part of the period of the Commonwealth; in full *Lord Protector of the Commonwealth*: borne by Oliver Cromwell 1653–8, and by his son Richard 1658–9.

1653 in *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* (1658) 275 From and after the six and twentieth day of December 1653 the Name, Style, Title and Teste of the Lord Protector..of the Commonwealth, of England, Scotland, and Ireland..shall be used. 1653–4 *Weekly Intelligencer* 14–21 Mar., The Privy Lodgings for his Highness the Lord Protector in Whitehall are now in readiness, as also the Lodgings for his Lady Protectoress. 1658 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Oct., Saw the superb funerall of the Protector. *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* XIV. § 23 The Declaration of the Council of Officers was read, whereby Cromwell was made Protector. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. II. 244 Cromwell's assumption, therefore, of the title of Protector was a necessary and wholesome usurpation. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 135 The kingly prerogatives were intrusted to a lord high protector..called not His Majesty but His Highness.

3. *Law. Protector of the settlement*: see quot. 1876.

1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 74 § 22 The Person who shall be the Owner of the prior Estate, or the first of such prior Estates if more than One,..shall be the Protector of the Settlement so far as regards the Lands in which such prior Estate shall be subsisting. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Oct. 1 The renewed collision which is certain to take place between the Liberal and Conservative parties, now that 'the protector of the settlement', as the lawyers say, is gone, will pretty certainly produce the desire for Reform, if it does not now exist. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* v. § 2. 219 The Protector of the settlement is usually the tenant for life in possession; but the settlor of the lands may appoint in his place any number of persons not exceeding three to be together Protector during the continuance of the estates preceding the estate tail.

4. A rendering of L. *tutor* in college use.

1886 WILLIS & CLARK *Cambridge* I. Introd. 90 The earliest statutable recognition of stranger-students at Oxford is at Magdalen College (1479)...Waynflete's statute is copied at Corpus Christi College (1517) where the number of such students is limited to four, or six at the outside, and a person is named who is to be responsible for them, termed protector (*tutor*) [cf. Statutes of C. C. C. 1517, c. 34, quamdiu sint sub tutoribus et honeste se gerant].

Hence † **Prote·ctordom** *Obs.*, a state under the rule of a Protector.

1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* (1841) 227 We have been in twelve years a kingdom, commonwealth, protectordom, afterwards under an army, parliament, &c.

Prote·ctor, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. prec.] *trans.* **a.** To treat or deal with as Protector. **b.** To make or proclaim Protector.

1658–9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 180 When the army see they are yours, they will be protectored by you. 1670 PENN *Truth Rescued fr. Impost.* 25 The then English Army was the remainder of those Souldiers, that not only subverted the Kings Forces, but Protector'd Oliver Crumwell.

Protectoral (prote·ktŏrăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -AL: cf. *doctoral, electoral, pastoral.* So F. *protectoral* (16th c. in Littré).] Of or pertaining to a protector, *esp.* in *Hist.* to the Protector of a kingdom or commonwealth.

1657 *Narr. Late Parlt.* 27 Less burthensome and chargable to the people then the instrument of Protectorall Government, or the present Government. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXV. 503 This body, during the civil wars, and during the protectoral republic, fostered an excessive zeal for regal power. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVIII. 244 This was the signal for the advance of troops by the Emperor of Russia in his protectoral character. 1885 *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 232 The notices of the Commonwealth and Protectoral taxation are good and trustworthy.

† **B.** *sb.* = PROTECTORATE *sb.* I. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1661 J. DAVIES *Civil Warres* 366 With the dissolving of this Parliament was an Exit likewise given to the Protectorall.

Protectorate (prote·ktŏrĕt), *sb.* [f. PROTECTOR *sb.* + -ATE[1]; cf. *doctorate*; so F. *protectorat* (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), = L. type **prōtectōrāt-us.*]

1. The office, position, or government of the Protector of a kingdom or state; the period of administration of a Protector; *spec.* in *Eng. Hist.* the period (1653–9) during which Oliver and Richard Cromwell held the title of Lord Protector of the Commonwealth.

1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. *Fasti* 797 He [Richard Cromwell] being designed to be his Fathers successor in the Protectorate, was..sworn a Privy Counsellour. 1770 GUTHRIE *Geog. Hist. & Comm. Gram.* (1771) 314 During the continuance of his protectorate, he was perpetually distrest for money, to keep the wheels of his government going. 1836 H. COLERIDGE *North. Worthies* (1852) I. 18 The Short Parliament of 1658–9, summoned after the death of Oliver, during the brief Protectorate of Richard Cromwell. 1846 M'CULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 379 During the Protectorate the university [of Dublin] was nearly extinct, but was revived again,..according to its previous forms, at the Restoration.

2. The office, position, or function of a protector or guardian; protectorship, guardianship. In *Internat. Law*: **a.** originally, The relation of a strong to a weaker state to which it gives its protection. **b.** The relation of a suzerain to a vassal state; suzerainty. **c.** now *spec.* The relation of a European power to a territory inhabited by native tribes, and not ranking among the nations as a state.

With a, cf. PROTECTION 1, quot. 1809; PROTECTED, quot. 1836. In sense c. the term acquired international recognition in the proceedings of the Berlin Conference of 1885. See also Ilbert *Govt. India* (1898) vii. 427, *Encycl. Laws Eng.* (1908) XII. 42.

1836 WHEATON *Elem. Internat. Law* 64 The city of Cracow in Poland, with its territory, was declared by the congress of Vienna to be a free, independent, and neutral state, under the protection of Russia, Austria, and Prussia. ..Its sovereignty still remains, except so far as it is affected by the protectorate which may be lawfully asserted over it in pursuance of the treaties of Vienna. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 387 The King of England, it was hoped, would accept the protectorate of the alliance. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* I. 51 Not a word more was said about the high protectorate hitherto exercised by Austria on the minor Italian States. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 64 To request England and France to assume a joint protectorate over the Netherlands. 1864 WOOLSEY *Introd. Internat. Law* App. II. (1879) 485 The seven Ionian islands —..Great Britain's abandonment of her protectorate having been accepted—are to form a part of the Greek monarchy. 1884 *Daily News* 18 Oct. 3/1 The setting up of a British protectorate over south-eastern New Guinea, as announced ..a few days ago. 1885 tr. *Acte Générale Confer. Berlin* 26 Feb. in *Parl. Papers Eng.* (1886) XLVII. 110 In all parts of the territory..where no Power shall exercise rights of sovereignty or Protectorate, the International Navigation Commission of the Congo..shall be charged with supervising the application of the principles proclaimed..by this Declaration.

3. A state or territory placed or taken under the protection of a superior power; *esp.* a protected territory inhabited by native tribes.

1884 *Daily News* 18 Oct. 3/1 The coasts even of our new protectorate [in New Guinea] are incompletely known. 1889 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Nov. 5/2 H.M.S. Egeria has..just completed a remarkable cruise of annexation, formally declaring as protectorates of Great Britain no fewer than thirteen islands in the South Pacific. 1891 *Times* 9 Jan. 3/2 The missionaries appealed to the Governor of the Protectorate. 1899 C. W. C. OMAN *Eng. 19th Cent.* x. 256 The programme sketched out by Mr. Rhodes, of drawing a continuous chain of British protectorates from Cape Colony to the Nile valley. 1908 *Whitaker's Almanack* 557 The islands of Zanzibar and Pemba form a British Protectorate, and the East Africa Protectorate extends from the Umba to the river Juba.

4. *attrib.* (all in senses 2, 3), as *protectorate force, form, idea, official, ordinance, regiment, system, troops*, etc.

1897 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 6/2 It was arranged that the Protectorate force..should occupy the next place in the marching order. *Ibid.* 19 Oct. 7/5 An extraordinary change ..in the Benin country owing to the energy of Sir Ralph Moor and the Protectorate officials. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Apr. 5/2 A strong body of Protectorate troops has set out for the interior of Benin to capture Ologbosheri. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 13 Dec. 4/6 Political questions..arising out of the Protectorate Ordinance of 1896.

Hence **Prote·ctorate** *v. trans., nonce-wd.* to assume or annex as a protectorate.

1881 GORDON *Let.* 21 May (in *Pearson's 76th Catal.* (1894) 25), England to Protectorate Egypt, France to do Ditto to Tunis. 1884 W. G. LAWES in *Nonconf. & Indep.* 24 Apr., If we are to be annexed, attached, appropriated, or protectorated, it should be by the Imperial rather than by any Colonial Government.

Protectoress, obs. var. PROTECTRESS.

Protecto·rial, *a.* [f. late L. *prōtectōri-us* PROTECTORY + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a protector, or a protecting state.

1806 NOBLE *Biog. Hist. Eng.* III. 70 He was in some degree, allied to the Protectorial family, by his uncle's.. marriage with Ann, a daughter of Richard Cromwell. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 3 Jan. 5/3 The fact that we either had or had not protectorial rights over New Guinea.

† **Protecto·rian,** *a.* and *sb.* [f. as prec. + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Protector (Cromwell), or to the Protectorate; Cromwellian.

1659 J. HARRINGTON *Ways & Means*, etc. Wks. (1700) 540 Now says the Protectorian Family, O that we had set up the equal Commonwealth! *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Hereford* (1662) II. 47 During the Tyranny of the Protectorian times. 1682 *New News fr. Bedlam* 13 Witness of late their Protectorian Praise, For which some say, Our Laureat won the Baies.

B. *sb.* A supporter of Cromwell's protectorate; a Cromwellian.

1659 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* XVII. 114 Leiut. Coll. Kingwell a greate courtier, and a Protectorian. 1661 J. DAVIES *Civ. Warres* 344 This the Protectorians endeavoured to have made no question.

Prote·ctorless, *a.* [f. PROTECTOR + -LESS.] Having no protector. 1847 in WEBSTER.

Protectorly (prote·ktəli), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -LY[1].] Befitting or appropriate to a protector, esp. to the Lord Protector.

1654 in *Rump Songs* I. (1662) 365 Enthron'd in his Chair ..He took such Protectorly courses. 1672 T. JORDAN *London Triumphant* 14 The Captain of a Troop of Horse,.. The Crown, King and Kingdom did divorce; And put the Land into a Protectorly course, By Excision.

Protectorship (prote·ktəʃip). [See -SHIP.]

1. The office of Protector of the realm: = PROTECTORATE *sb.* 1; also, with possessive pronoun, as title of a protector.

c 1460 *Brut* 523 þe Duke of Yorke was sent fore to Grenewiche, & her was dischargied of þe protectorshipp. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 30 *Glost.* As who, my Lord? *Suff.* Why, as you, my Lord, An't like your Lordly Lords Protectorship. 1659 *England's Conf.* 3 The most probable competitor for succession in the Protectorship. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 150 Cromwell's Protectorship was built only upon the authority of the Council of Officers. 1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 971 Under the 'protectorship' of the Khedive.

2. The position, character, or function of a protector; guardianship, patronage.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 12 The loue of good men, obteined through his behauiour in the protectourship of the people. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. I. 105 Those Kings bestow not those Protectorships upon the Cardinals to receive, but to confer honour upon them. 1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* vii. 282 Not the libidinous mockery of gallantry, nor the insolent condescension of protectorship. 1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* I. xii. 51 Minerva, contending with Neptune for the protectorship of Athens. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* XX. (1889) 346 Napoleon found that the protectorship of the Church strengthened his position in France.

Protectory (prote·ktəri), *a.* and *sb.* [As adj. ad. late L. *prōtectōri-us* of or belonging to the body-guard, f. *prōtector* (see PROTECTOR and -ORY[2]). As sb. f. as PROTECT *v.* + -ORY[1]: cf. *refectory, reformatory*, etc., and med.L. *prōtectōri-um* protectorship, sb. use of neut. of *prōtectōrius.*]

A. *adj.* Having the quality of protecting; protective.

1658 CLEVELAND *Rustic Rampant* Wks. (1687) 471 The King..sends his Letters Protectory to the Abbot in these Words.

B. *sb. R. C. Ch.* An institution for the care and education of destitute or vicious children.

1868 [see quot. 1893]. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 10 Oct. 8/2 The cardinal was very active in..philanthropic work, having established protectories for destitute children [etc.]. 1888 HURLBERT *Ireland under Coercion* (ed. 2) I. i. 42 The Catholic demand for the endowment of Catholic schools and protectories. 1893 *Tablet* 16 Sept. 450/2 The New York Catholic Protectory, founded in 1868.

Protectress (prote·ktrĕs). Also β. 7–8 protectoress. [f. PROTECTOR + -ESS.]

1. A female protector; a patroness.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 660/1 Straightly enioyning you..to worship our Lady Mary the mother of God, and our patronesse and protectresse, euermore in all aduersity. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 505 Pallas, Patronesse of Athens, and Protectresse. 1774 PENNANT *Tour in Scot. in* 1772, 297 The fair protectress of a fugitive adventurer. 1878 GLADSTONE *Prim. Homer* ii. 19 Athenè, the personal protectress of Achilles, of Odusseus, and of Diomed.

β. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Meroz* Ded. 3 In making Choice of such a Protectoresse. 1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 285 Juno of Samos, the Protectoress of that Island. 1704 *Addr. Devon* 3 Oct. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4066/8 A Protectoress of Your own Dominions.

b. Applied to a thing.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* I. 76 Christians: whose pouerty is their onely safety and protectresse. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* v. 225 If the Papacy were inherently the protectress of humanity.

2. A female Protector or regent of a kingdom or commonwealth; also, the wife of a Protector.

1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1081/1 Katharine Par.. was by patent made protectresse of the realme of England, when king Henrie the eight went in person to the wars of Bullongne. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* App. 70

Ferdinand the fourth,..being but a childe when his father Sancho died, was in ward to his mother Queen Mary, his Protectresse. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) III. 125 At Norborough..the Lady Protectress, Widow Elizabeth Cromwell, after the Restoration, found a retreat.

β. 1653–4 [see PROTECTOR 2 b]. 1660 TATHAM *Rump* II. i, She will be a Protectoress whether he be a Protector or not.

† Protectri·ce. *Obs.* Also 5 -yse, 5–6 -yce. [ME. a. F. *protectrice*, ad. med.L. *prōtectrix, -trīcem* : see next.] = prec.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliv. (*Lucy*) 310 As agatha, my cystire fre, is protectryse of þis cyte. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 255 How gods modire is oure protectrice. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1741 ' Patrones of Chestre ', protectrice of the countre. 1654 in Morley *Cromwell* v. vii. (1900) 451 At the table of my Lady Protectrice dined my Lady N. 1740 tr. *De Mouhy's Fort. Country-Maid* (1741) II. 137 She found a Protectrice, the Character she gives of her exactly suited Madame.

‖ Protectrix (prote·ktriks). [med.L., fem. of L. *prōtector.*] = PROTECTRESS.

c 1500 KENNEDY *Poems* (Schipper) iv. 9 Sancta Maria, Virgo virginum ! Protectrix till all pepill penitent. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 39 Preiss ay to be protectrix of þe pure. 1647 A. ROSS *Myst. Poet.* viii. (1675) 152 Hecate was said to be the goddess or protectrix of witches. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 23 England, the mother and the protectrix of heresies. 1883 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* XXXVII. 244 The duchess was an eminent protectrix of literary men and scholars.

† Protecture. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as PROTECT *v.* + -URE.] The action or office of a protector.

a 1485 FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 501 The Churche hath approved him and his reigning by accepting of his Protecture.

‖ Protégé *masc.*, **protégée** *fem.* (prote·ʒe). [F., '(one) protected', pa. pple. of *protéger*, ad. L. *prōtegĕre* to PROTECT.] One who is under the protection or care of another, esp. of a person of superior position or influence.

1778 SHERIDAN *Camp* II. iii, And very *à propos*, here comes your ladyship's *protégée*. 1786 *Lounger* (1787) II. 243 She looked upon me as her particular *protegée*. 1787 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 206 An immense tray of dried fruits.. which one of his hundred and fifty *protégés* had sent him. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* (1831) II. xxv. 178 He may be a protegé of Lady Anne Percival. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiv, Mrs. Saddletree..distressed about the situation of her unfortunate *protegée*. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* IV. xxiv. 172 The little orphan girl, who had been the protegée of my dear husband. 1908 *Athenæum* 1 Feb. 126/1 As a distinguished physician and as the protégé of prominent personages in Church and State.

† Prote·ic, *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. PROTE(IN + -IC.] Of, of the nature of, or consisting of protein.

1857 W. A. MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 647 The proteic principles have been termed the plastic materials of nutrition. 1867 *N. Syd. Soc. Biennial Retrosp. Med. & Surg.* 30 A newly-formed proteic compound.

Proteid [1] (prō·ti,id). *Chem.* Also **proteide.** [f. PROTE(IN : see -ID [4].] A term applied in England from 1871 to the class of organic compounds previously known as 'protein bodies' or 'substances' (Ger. *proteïn-stoffe*), and now by preference called 'proteins' : see PROTEIN, and Note there.

1871 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XVIII. 252 The term *proteides* is here used in the comprehensive sense, which permits the grouping together of the non-crystallisable nitrogenous animal and vegetable substances possessing reactions in common. 1872 — *Genl. Index of Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* 1841–72, Proteids. 1872 NICHOLSON *Biol.* 68 It is a common and often a very convenient practice to speak of the various albuminoid substances of animals or vegetables as 'proteids'. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 955 Albuminous Principles.—Albuminoids or Proteids [*ed.* 10 *Index*, Protein]. 1876 FOSTER *Phys.* I. i. (1879) 14 Proteids..form a large portion of all living bodies and an essential part of all protoplasm. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 5 Feb. 6/3 Some months ago Mr. Hankin discovered a class of organisms to which he gave the name of 'Protective Proteids'. These substances..appear to be a sort of natural antiseptic, possessing..the power of destroying the bacilli of anthrax and other maladies. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 810 The work of this accomplished author [Weir Mitchell] on the venom of the rattlesnake, formed the first step in our knowledge of toxic proteids. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Plants* I. 207 The first downward step in the decomposition of protoplasm into proteids. 1907 *Recommendations of Committee* in *Proc. Physiol. Soc.* 26 Jan. p. xviii. 1 The word Proteid—which is used in different senses in this country and in Germany—should be abolished.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* = PROTEIN *attrib.*

1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* i. 3 That compound known to chemists as proteid matter. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 159 A man confined to a purely proteid diet must eat a prodigious quantity of it. 1883 *American* VI. 173 The crotaline venom contains three distinct proteid bodies. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 130 The more proteid material the body is called upon to metabolize the more likely we are to have an excess of [uric acid, etc.].

Proteid [2] (prō·ti,id). *Zool. rare.* [f. mod.L. generic name *Prōteus* + -ID [3].] An amphibian of the family *Proteidæ*, typified by the genus *Proteus* (PROTEUS 3 b). So **Proteidean** (prōuti,i·dĭăn) *a.*, belonging to this group of amphibians.

Proteiform (prōu·ti,ifōrm), *a.* [f. PROTE-US + -(I)FORM.] Changeable in form, or assuming many various forms, like the fabled Proteus or the 'proteus-animalcule'; protean, multiform, extremely variable or various.

1833 B. G. BABINGTON tr. *Hecker's Black Death* ii. (1888) 20 This violent disease..is proteiform in its varieties. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1224/2 Proteiform expansions of the Amœba and other inferior animals. 1853 H. LUSHINGTON *Ital. War* (1859) 237 [They] must imagine to themselves such a string as never was put together before of..all the possible proteiform transformations of an absolute and impartial egotism. 1862 H. SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xix. § 152 (1875) 414 When we turn from these proteiform specks of living jelly..we find differences of tissue.

Protein (prōu·ti,in). Also 9 -ine. *Chem.* [a. F. *protéine* (Mulder 1838), Ger. *proteïn*, f. Gr. *πρωτεῖ-ος* primary, prime (so named as a primary substance or fundamental material of the bodies of animals and plants) : see -IN [1].]

† a. Name given by Mulder to a complex residual nitrogenous substance, of tolerably constant composition, obtained from casein, fibrin, and egg albumin, to which he assigned the formula $C_{40}H_{62}N_{10}O_{12}$, and which he regarded as the essential constituent of organized bodies, animal or vegetable (*obs.*). **b.** In current use, any one of a class of organic compounds, the *proteins*, consisting of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen, with a little sulphur, in complex and more or less unstable combination; forming an important part of all living organisms, and the essential nitrogenous constituents of the food of animals; obtained as amorphous solids, differing in solubility and other properties, and usually coagulable by heat. Also called *albuminoids*, and very generally *proteids* (see PROTEID [1]).

When the advance of chemical knowledge showed that there was no such definite compound as Mulder's 'protein', the albuminoid substances of which he had considered it to be the basis continued to be known as the *protein bodies* or *substances*, Ger. *proteïn-stoffe* (see c). To render the latter, the term *proteids* (at first *proteides*) was used by H. Watts in 1871 in his translation of Gmelin's *Handbook of Chemistry*, also in the Journal of the Chemical Society, and the 11th ed. of Fownes' Chemistry, 1873, and became common (though not universal) in English use. *Proteïd* had however in German been applied to designate compounds still more complex, e.g. hæmoglobin (see Hoppe-Seyler, *Handbch.*, ed. 5, 1883, 290). Thence arose confusion in nomenclature, to remedy which a Committee on Proteid Nomenclature was appointed, and in 1907 recommended the disuse of the term *proteid* in either sense, and the use of *proteins* as the collective name for the *proteïn-stoffe* or protein bodies. This recommendation was adopted by the International Congress of Physiologists at Heidelberg in the same year.

The simple proteins are the *protamines*, *histones*, *albumins*, and *globulins* (derivatives of which are fibrin and myosin). The combination compounds are the *scleroproteins* (e. g. gelatin and keratin), *phospho-proteins* (e. g. vitellin, caseinogen, and casein), *conjugated proteins* (incl. *nucleo-proteins*), *gluco-proteins* (e. g. mucin), *chromo-proteins* (e. g. hæmoglobin). Derivatives of protein are *meta-proteins* (acid-albumin, alkali-albumin), improperly called 'albuminates'; *proteoses* (e. g. albumose, globulose, gelatose); *peptones*, *polypeptides*. See *Journal of Physiology* XXXV. *Proc.* 26 Jan. 1907, pp. xvii–xx, and *Proc. Chem. Soc.* XXIII. 56.

[1838 MULDER in *Bulletin des Sciences Phys. en Néerlande* III La matière organique, étant un principe général de toutes les parties constituantes du corps animal..pourrait se nommer *Protéine* de *πρωτεῖος* primarius.] 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Protein*, a product of the decomposition of albumen, &c., by potassa. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 9 Proteine and Gelatine are remarkable, not only for containing four elements, but for the very large number of atoms of these components which enter into the single compound atom of each. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 45 According to a view which has excited much attention, these three proximate elements [albumen, fibrine, and caseine] are merely slightly modified forms of the one proximate element, proteine. Mülder [is] the author of this view. 1868 HUXLEY *Phys. Basis of Life* in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. (1869) 135 All forms of protoplasm..yet examined, contain the four elements carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen, in very complex union...To this complex combination, the nature of which has never been determined with exactness, the name of *Protein* has been applied. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 415 In many [foods] the amount of protein is too small. *Ibid.* 520 Of the true chemical character of the enzymes we are ignorant. They are probably proteins. 1907 *Jrnl. Physiol.* XXXV. *Proc.* 26 Jan. *Rept. on Proteid Nomencl.* p. xviii, The word Protein is recommended as the general name of the whole group...It is at present so used both in America and Germany.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1846 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* II. 417 Acetic acid..renders them gelatinous and tough, but takes up no protein-compound. 1847–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 104/1 The main element of this material is of protein-basis. 1857 *G. Bird's Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 45 Sort of transition stage between the protein elements and urea. 1860 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-Bk. Med. & Surg.* 70 The pancreas as well as the stomach secretes a substance capable of transforming protein matters into peptone. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 734 The protein element, crystallin, is at its least quantity. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 250 The ovum is a minute spheroidal mass of protein substance. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* s. v. *Protein*, The term *protein bodies*, or *protein compounds*, is..commonly retained both by physiologists and chemists, as being the most convenient one for representing a class of compounds, which..deserve their name from their constituting the group which form the most essential articles of food. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 890 The fibres become finely granular from the deposition in them of fine protein granules.

Hence **Prote,inaceous** (-ē·ʃəs), **Prote,inic** (-i·nik), **Proteinous** (prōtī·inəs) *adjs.*, of the nature of, or consisting of, protein.

1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Proteinaceous*, proteinous; 1868 HUXLEY in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. (1869) 135 If we use this term with..caution..it may truly be said that all protoplasm is proteinaceous. 1870 NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* 8 The proteinaceous matter or protoplasm which constitutes the physical basis of life. 1876 tr. *Schützenberger's Ferment.* 81 Yeast cannot elaborate *proteinic matter under these conditions. 1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., A *proteinous alimentary principle. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 391/1 Nucleated cells; the membranous walls of which consist of a proteinous substance.

Pro tem., pro tempore : see PRO 10.

Protembryo, Protembryonic, Protencephalon : see PROTO- 2 b.

‖ Protenchyma (prote·ŋkimă). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρῶτ-ος* first + *ἔγχυμα* infusion, after PARENCHYMA.] A term used by Nägeli for the primary meristem and those tissues (the epidermal and fundamental) which arise immediately from it : contrasted with *epenchyma*.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 103 Nägeli says.. that he would call the primary meristem and all parts of the tissue which arise immediately from it..Protenchyma (or Proten); the cambium, on the other hand, and everything which..originates from it Epenchyma (or Epen)... But..there is no reason for bringing into prominence only the contrast between fibro-vascular and non-fibro-vascular masses (Epenchyma and Protenchyma)..; the protenchyma of Nägeli therefore splits up, according to me, into three kinds [primary meristem, epidermal tissue, fundamental tissue] of equal value with his epenchyma. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 6.

Protend (prote·nd), *v.* Now *rare.* [ME. ad. L. *prōtend-ĕre* to stretch forth, extend : f. PRO- [1] 1 a + *tendĕre* to stretch; cf. obs. F. *protend-re* (1404 in Godef.) to extend, a variant of *portendre* : see PORTEND.]

I. 1. *trans.* To stretch forth; to hold out in front of one. Also *fig.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 217 In whiche yere ij. horrible blasynge sterres apperede..protendenge [orig. *protendeutes*] grete flammes from theym into the northe. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Protend*, to set, put, cast, or stretch forth. *a* 1688 CUDWORTH *Immut. Mor.* IV. i. (1731) 127 Not stamps or impressions passively printed upon the soul from without, but ideas vitally protended or actively exerted from within it self. 1715–20 POPE *Iliad* XV. 888 [Ajax] Now shakes his spear, now lifts, and now protends. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxix. IX. 25 The spears were protended, the trumpets sounded.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* To stretch forward; to stick out, protrude.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 66/1 Its two horns or wings protending forwards. 1848 CLOUGH *Bothie* III, Prone, with hands and feet protending.

2. *trans.* To extend in length, or in one dimension of space; to produce (a line); usually *pass.* to extend, stretch, reach (from one point to another). Also *fig.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 49 The thridde parte, which is Affrica, is protendede from the weste in to the meridien in to the coste of Egipte. *Ibid.* II. 35 Kynge Offa causede a longe diche to be made..whiche..protendethe hit vn to the durre of the floode of Dee behynde Chestre. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 126 One entire street..protended in a right line from the Castle to Holy-rood-house. 1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Ircl.* 3 London is more protended in length. 1876 ALEXANDER *Bampton Lect.* (1877) 9 Whether, and how far, the thought and personality of the Psalmists were protended to, and absorbed by, the Divine object of their contemplation.

b. To extend in magnitude or amount.

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 319 Protending and contracting it..according to the rate and assise of the Office. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 244 He begetteth or Principleth the Number next in Nature, and that is Two. ..The Monad is Protended, which begetteth Two.

3. To extend in duration; to protract, prolong.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 189 Hit awe to be protended unto þe eve of the xxjtt day. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 150 All..high Fasts were protended and reached to the evening thereof. 1836 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 301 The starry Heaven..protends it also to the illimitable times of their periodic movement.

II. † 4. To portend, foretoken. (In quot. 1589 *absol.*) *Obs.*

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 22 That Comets did protend at the first blaze. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* 205 This protendeth the birth of a beast and not of a man.

Hence **Prote·nded** *ppl. a.*, **Prote·nding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 267 The protending of the Hand towards the West. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* II. 299 They lie protected there, By her large buckler, and protended spear. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 26 A huge protending rock. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. 224 The terrific and protended jaws of the stag-beetle.

† Prote·nse, *sb. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *protens-*, ppl. stem of *prōtendĕre* to PROTEND.] = PROTENSION 3.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. iii. 4 By dew degrees, and long protense [*and and later edd.* pretense].

† Prote·nsed, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *prōtens-us*, pa. pple. of *prōtendĕre* to PROTEND + -ED [1].] Stretched forward, extended in length.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 30 The head of the ioynt, after a certaine manner long, and forward protensed.

Protension (prote·nʃən). *rare.* [ad. late L. *prōtensiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōtendĕre* to PROTEND.] The action or fact of protending.

1. A stretching or reaching forward. Also *fig.*

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Protension*, a stretching forth at length. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xli. (1870) II. 426 There could be no tendency, no protension of the mind to attain this object as an end. 1858 J. Martineau *Stud. Chr.* (1873) 9 There are minds whose power is shed, if we may say so, in protension, precipitated forwards in narrow channels with impetuous torrent.

2. Extension in length; linear extent; length.

1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. vii. 359 The rays..will be of an unequal protension.

3. Extension in time; duration.

1852 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* App. i. (A.) (1853) 605 Time, Protension or protensive quantity, called likewise Duration, is a necessary condition of thought.

Prote·nsity. *rare*—°. [f. **protense*, ad. L. *prōtens-us* (see next) + -ITY.] 'The character of being protensive or of taking up time' (*Cent. Dict.*).

Protensive (prote·nsiv), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prōtens-*, ppl. stem of *prōtend-ĕre* to Protend + -ive.] Having the quality of protending.

1. Extending in time; continuing, lasting, enduring.

1643 [implied in Protensively]. 1671 Flavel *Fount. Life* xxix. Wks. 1731 II. 88 Our Patience is..according to the Will of God, when it is as extensive as intensive, and as protensive as God requires it to be. 1836–7 Sir W. Hamilton *Metaph.* xxxviii. (1870) II. 372 Time is a protensive quantity, and, consequently, any part of it, however small, cannot, without a contradiction, be imagined as not divisible into parts. 1870 *Outline Hamilton's Philos.* 217 Examples of the sublime..are manifested in the extensive sublime of Space and in the protensive sublime of Eternity.

2. Extending lengthwise; relating to or expressing linear extension, or magnitude of one dimension.

1836 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 310 In the study of Mathematics we are accustomed..to a protensive, rather than to either an extensive, a comprehensive, or an intensive, application of thought. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 763 Distance in a direction from the percipient or what we should call protensive distance.

Hence **Prote·nsively** *adv.*, (in quots.) in respect of duration or extension in time.

1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* vi. 5 All the thoughts extensively are intensively onely evil, and protensively continually. 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 2322 Space cannot be thought of except as extensively, nor time except as protensively, infinite.

Proteolite (prō·ti,ŏləit). *Min.* [f. Prote-us + -lite.] A synonym of Cornubianite, q. v.

‖ **Proteolysis** (prōuti,ŏ·lisis). *Phys. Chem.* [mod.L., f. **prōteo-*, assumed combining form of Protein + Gr. λύσις a loosening, solution.] A term for **a.** The separation of the proteins from a protein-containing mixture; **b.** The splitting up of proteins by ferments. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*)

Although parallel in form to *electrolysis* and *hydrolysis* (decomposition by the agency of electricity and of water), *proteolysis* is not parallel in sense: see quot. 1907.

1880 *Nature* XXIII. 169/1 The second lecture chiefly relates to pepsin and the digestion of proteids; digestive proteolysis; the milk-curdling ferment. 1888 *Lancet* 4 Feb. 234/2 An examination of the contents of the stomach proved that the gastric juice was diminished in quantity, and proteolysis impaired. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Proteolysis*, the separation of proteids from a mixture. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 97 Of these [substances] the more important are ferments, the results of proteolysis. 1907 *Recommendations of Committee* 8 in *Jrnl. Physiol.* XXXV. *Proc.* 26 Jan., Derivatives of Proteins. Of these, the products of protein-hydrolysis (a term preferable to proteolysis) are those which require special attention. (*Note.* Terms such as proteolysis fail to convey a meaning in harmony with that which is conveyed by the terms electrolysis and hydrolysis (on which they are moulded) of decomposition *by.*)

Hence **Proteolyse** (prō·ti,ŏləiz), *v. trans.*, to decompose or split up (proteins).

1902 in *Daily Chron.* 22 Nov. 6/6 These experiments [of Professor Vines] definitely establish the fact..that an enzyme which actively proteolyses the simpler forms of proteid is present in all parts of the plant body. 1904 Vines *Proteases of Plants* in *Ann. Bot.* Apr. 291 The results show that these Fungi can peptolyse Witte-peptone, with formation of leucin and tyrosin, and can proteolyse fibrin.

Proteolytic (prōuti,ŏli·tik), *a.* [f. as prec. + Gr. λυτικ-ός able to loose, dissolving.] Having the quality of decomposing proteins.

1877 Foster *Phys.* II. iv. (1878) 319 An aqueous solution of the precipitate is both amylolytic and proteolytic, i. e. appears to contain some of both the salivary (pancreatic) ferment and pepsin. 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Proteolytic*, having the power to decompose or digest proteids. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 724 The organism at the primary seat of lesion secretes a potent proteolytic enzyme.

Proteose (prō·ti,ōus). *Phys. Chem.* [f. Prote(in + -ose 2.] One of a class of products of protein-hydrolysis: see quots. and Protein.

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Proteoses*, primary cleavage-products formed in the digestion of proteids with gastric or pancreatic juices or their equivalents, or by the hydrolytic action of boiling dilute acids. They are intermediate between the original proteid and peptone. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 811 Venoms contain proteids which possess..characteristics of the albumins or globulins and ..those of proteoses. 1907 *Recommendations of Committee on Proteid Nomencl.* 8 Derivatives of Proteins..b. Proteoses. This term includes albumose, globulose, gelatose, etc.

Proter-, shorter form of Protero-, used before a vowel, as in the words here following.

Proterandrous (prŏtĕræ·ndrəs), *a.* [f. Protero- + -androus: cf. Protandrous. In both senses opp. to Proterogynous.]

1. *Bot.* Having the stamens or male organs mature before the pistil or female organ.

1875 Lubbock *Wild Flowers* v. 130 Cross-fertilisation is ..favoured by the flower being proterandrous. 1879 A. W. Bennett in *Academy* 33 Pentstemon is proterandrous (therefore cross-fertilized).

2. *Zool.* Of a hermaphrodite animal, or a colony of zooids: Having the male organs, or individuals, sexually mature before the female. (Cf. quot. 1887 s. v. Proterandry below.)

Hence **Protera·ndrousness**, the quality or fact of being proterandrous; so **Protera·ndry.**

1875 Lubbock *Wild Flowers* v. 132 Cross-fertilisation is secured..in Echium and Borago by proterandrousness (if I may be permitted to coin the word). 1887 *Nature* 29 Dec. 213/1 If the polypides are unisexual, then the proterandry refers only to the colony as a whole. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Proterandry*, the condition, in a Phanerogam, in which the stamens of the flower mature before the pistil.

Proteranthous (prŏtĕræ·nθəs), *a. Bot.* [f. as prec. + Gr. *ἄνθ-os* flower + -ous.] Having flowers appearing before the leaves.

1832 Lindley *Introd. Bot.* 401.

† **Prote·rical,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *πρωτερικός* early-bearing, precocious (*πρωτερικὴ συκῆ* a kind of early fig) + -al.] Early-bearing.

a 1682 Sir T. Browne *Tracts* (1684) 73 This great variety of Figg Trees, as precocious, proterical, biferous, triferous, and always-bearing Trees.

Protero- (prŏtĕro), before a vowel **proter-** (prŏtĕr), combining form from Gr. *πρότερος* fore, former, anterior, in place, time, order, rank; used in a few scientific terms.

Prote·robase (-bēs) *Min.* [after Diabase], an eruptive rock resembling diabase, but in a more advanced stage of alteration. **Prote·roglo·ssate** *a. Zool.* [Gr. γλῶσσα tongue], belonging to Günther's division *Proteroglossa* of batrachians, having the tongue free in front. **Prote·roglyph** (-glif) *Zool.* [Gr. γλύφειν to carve], a venomous serpent of the group *Proteroglypha*, characterized by having only the anterior maxillary teeth grooved; so **Prote·roglyphic, Protero·glyphous** *adjs.*, belonging to or having the characters of the *Proteroglypha*. **Prote·rosaur** (-sōr) [Gr. σαῦρος lizard], a saurian of the extinct genus *Proterosaurus* or group *Proterosauria*, comprising some of the oldest known reptiles; so **Prote·rosau·rian** *a.*, belonging to the *Proterosauria*; *sb.* a proterosaur. **Prote·rotome** (-tōum) *a. Zool.* [Gr. -τομος cutting], applied to mastication in which the molars of the lower jaw move forwards against those of the upper, as in the Carnivora. **Prote·rozo·ic** *a. Geol.* [cf. Protozoic]: see quots. See also Proterandrous, Proterogynous, etc.

1895 G. S. West in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 813 It is undoubtedly the homologue of that structure present in the Viperine and *Proteroglyphous forms. [1872 Nicholson *Palæont.* 356 In the Permian Rocks the first undoubted Reptilian remains occur, the *Proterosaurus of this period being probably a Lacertilian.] 1896 Cope *Primary Factors Evol.* vi. 318 The inferior molar shears forwards on the superior molar. *Proterotome mastication. 1906 Chamberlin & Salisbury *Geol.* II. iv. 162 To the *Proterozoic era is assigned the time that elapsed between the close of the formation of the igneous complex and the beginning of the lowest system which is now known to contain abundant well-preserved fossils. [*Note*] Proterozoic, as here used, is a synonym of *Algonkian* as used by the U. S. Geol. Surv. 1906 *Athenæum* 18 Aug. 191/2 Between the close of this long archæan period and the beginning of the palæozoic ages..there was another vast stretch of geological time, distinguished as the Proterozoic era.

Proterogynous (prŏtĕrŏ·dginəs), *a.* [f. Protero- + -gynous. Cf. Protogynous. In both senses opposed to Proterandrous.]

1. *Bot.* Having the pistil or female organ mature before the stamens or male organs.

1875 Lubbock *Wild Flowers* iii. 51 *Caltha palustris*... The species..are said by Hildebrand to be proterogynous. 1877 Darwin *Forms of Fl.* Introd. 10 Other individuals, called proterogynous, have their stigma mature before their pollen is ready. 1883 Thompson tr. *Müller's Fert. Flowers* 12 *note*, Sprengel calls this species of dichogamy, *female-male*..; Hildebrand, *protogynous*; Delpino, *proterogynous.*

2. *Zool.* Of a hermaphrodite animal, or a colony of zooids: Having the female organs, or individuals, sexually mature before the male.

So **Protero·gyny**, the quality or state of being proterogynous.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Proterogyny*, the maturation of the pistil of a flower before the stamens.

† **Prote·rve,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *proterv-us* forward, bold, pert, wanton, impudent; cf. obs. F. *proterve* (*c* 1277 in Godef.).

Etymol. of L. *proterv-us* doubtful. Walde suggests after Fröhde **pro-pterguos*, f. Pro-1 + cogn. of Gr. πτέρυξ wing.] Forward, wayward, untoward, stubborn; peevish, petulant. Hence † **Prote·rvely** *adv.*

1382 Wyclif 2 *Tim.* iii. 4 Men schulen be..traitours, proterue [*gloss* or ouerthwert, *Vulg.* protervi]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 117 Who so euer by his owne reason or sentence wyll defende proteruely or styfly that thynge yt he loueth. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 31 Man of his awin nature is so proterue.

Protervious, erron. form of Protervous.

Protervity (protə·rviti). Now *rare.* [ad. obs. F. *protervité*, ad. L. *protervitātem* forwardness, pertness, etc.: see prec.] Waywardness, frowardness, stubbornness; pertness, sauciness, insolence; peevishness, petulance; an instance of this.

?*c* 1500 *Proverbis* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 409 They that of protervite will not tewne well, *Ve, ve, ve*, theyre songe shal be in hell. 1613 Day *Festivals* viii. (1615) 233 If..we adde Protervitie, Stubbornnesse, and rude Behaviour. 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 59 The queen, who formerly showed so much waspish protervity and waywardnesse. 1726 C. D'Anvers *Craftsman* i. (1727) 10 The peevishness and protervity of age. 1838 G. S. Faber *Inquiry* 516 The protervity of heretics in the very efforts of their falsehood. 1882 Stevenson *Fam. Studies* 36 In his [Hugo's] poems and plays there are the same unaccountable protervities.

† **b.** *fig.* Applied obscurely (or erroneously) to a bodily deformity or disfigurement. *Obs.*

1661 Feltham *Resolves* II. iv. (ed. 8) 183 Some deformity in the mind..(as in certain naturall protervities in the body) they are seldome taking, but often begett a dislike.

† **Prote·rvous,** *a. Obs.* Also *erron.* **protervious.** [f. L. *proterv-us* (see Proterve) + -ous.] = Proterve.

1547 Bale *Exam. Anne Askewe* 65 b, Slacke eare gaue Pylate to the prestes:..he detected their proteruous madnesse. 1624 F. White *Repl. Fisher* 8 No such apparant Victorie was gotten of proteruious Heretiques. *Ibid.* 9 The Scriptures are a meanes to conuict proteruious error.

Protest (prō·test, formerly prote·st), *sb.* [ME. = OF. *protest* (1479 in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *protêt* (= med.L. *prōtest-um*, It., Sp., Pg. *protesto*), f. F. *protester* to Protest. Cf. obs. F. *proteste*, It., Sp. *protesta* fem.] An act of protesting.

1. A solemn declaration; an affirmation; an asseveration; an avowal; = Protestation 1.

c 1400 *Beryn* 3905 And in protest opynly, here a-mong yewe all, Halff my good..I graunt it here to Geffrey. 1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, III. i. 260 Sweare me..a good mouth-filling Oath: and leaue in sooth, And such protest of Pepper Ginger-bread, To Veluet-Guards, and Sunday-Citizens. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 17 They would cousen ..their Neighbours with Protests of good Usage. 1876 Mozley *Univ. Serm.* i. 19 A statement or protest is, compared with the reality, a poor thing.

2. The action taken to fix the liability for the payment of a dishonoured bill; *spec.* a formal declaration in writing, usually by a notary-public, that a bill has been duly presented and payment or acceptance refused.

1622 Malynes *Anc. Law-Merch.* 399 The Notarie may..leaue afterwardes the copie of the Protest with some of the house, or throw the same within doores, and keepe a note of it against the next time. 1682 Scarlett *Exchanges* 71 If a Bill be presented for Acceptance, and the Acceptant refuse absolutely to accept it, then the Possessor of the Bill is obliged instantly without delay to make Protest for Non-Acceptance. 1698 *Act* 9 & 10 *Will. III*, c. 17 Which Protest..shall within Fourteen Days after making thereof, be sent, or otherwise due Notice shall be given thereof, to the Party from whom the said Bill or Bills were received. 1726 Shelvocke *Voy. round World* 23, I gave the Protest to Capt. Clipperton in the South-Seas. 1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 61 § 51 (4) When a bill has been duly noted, the protest may be subsequently extended as of the date of the noting. *Ibid.* (7) A protest must contain a copy of the bill, and be signed by the notary making it.

3. A written declaration made by the master of a ship, attested by a justice of the peace or a consul, stating the circumstances under which injury has happened to the ship or cargo, or under which officers or crew have incurred any liability.

1755 Magens *Insurances* I. 87 The Insurers ask for the Protest; which is a Declaration upon Oath, usually made by the Master, and some of his People, before a Justice, Notary or Consul, at any Place where they first arrive. 1848 Wharton *Law Lex., Protest*,..a writing attested by a justice of the peace or consul, drawn by a master of a vessel, stating the severity of the voyage by which the ship has suffered, and showing that the damage was not occasioned by his misconduct or neglect.

4. A formal statement or declaration of disapproval of or dissent from, or of consent under certain conditions only to, some action or proceeding; a remonstrance.

1751 *Parl. Hist.* I. 38 This Answer of the Barons to the King [in 1242]..being in the Nature of a Protest, is the First of that Kind we meet with in History; we shall, therefore, give it at length as follows. 1769 Robertson *Chas. V*, III. x. 221 Protests and counter-protests were taken. 1822 J. Haggard *Rep. Consist. Crt.* I. 5 The husband appeared under protest, and prayed to be dismissed on the ground [etc.]. 1846 M^cCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 291 On the first day (18th May) of the meeting of the general assembly of 1843, the ministers and elders, members of that body, opposed to the right of patronage and in favour of the veto, gave in a Protest, stating..that 'The courts of the church as now established, and members thereof, are liable to be coerced by the civil courts in the exercise of their spiritual functions'. 1885 Sir W. B. Brett in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 876 The meaning of paying under protest necessarily is that the party paying the money does not pay it by way of rightful payment, but claims it still as his money in the hands of the person to whom it is paid. 1893 *Times* 30 Dec. 9/4 Meetings of protest began to be held all over Ireland.

b. A written statement of dissent from any motion carried in the House of Lords, recorded and signed by any Peer of the minority. (The earlier term was Protestation 3 b.)

1712 (*title*) The Protest of the L[ord]s, upon A[ddressing] Her M[ajesty] for Her Sp[eech]: With the Names of the L[or]ds. 1721 *Jrnls. Ho. Lords* XXI. 695/2 Ordered, That on Thursday next, this House will take into Consideration the Nature of Protests, and the Manner of entering them. 1721 (*title*) Another Protest of their Lordships, on Sir George Byng's Attacking the Spanish Fleet. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 168 Each peer has also a right, by leave of the house, when a vote passes contrary to his sentiments, to enter his dissent on the journals of the house, with the reasons of such dissent; which is usually stiled his protest. 1854 MACAULAY *Biog.* (1867) 16 Some of the most remarkable protests which appear in the journals of the peers were drawn up by him [Atterbury]. 1875 ROGERS (*title*) A Complete Collection of the Protests of the Lords.. 1624–1874. *Ibid.* Pref. 13 It was not assumed or acted on before the Long Parliament, though the six Peers who make the first protest, with or without reasons, state that they 'demanded their right of protestation'. *Ibid.* Pref. 15 The first protest with reasons entered in the Journals of the Irish House of Lords was in 1695,..the practice was plainly borrowed from English procedure.

5. *attrib.*, as *protest meeting, resolution.*

1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 209 The protest meetings occurred on the 11th and 18th. 1895 *Daily News* 9 Sept. 5/5 Lord Dunraven did not, as many expected.., hoist the protest flag after the finish. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 June 8/1 A protest meeting was held at ten o'clock.

Protest (prōte·st), *v.* [a. F. *proteste-r* (14th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prōtest-ārī* (also in late L. *-āre*) to declare formally in public, testify, protest, f. PRO-[1] 1 a + *testārī* to be or speak as a witness, to declare, aver, assert.]

1. *trans.* To declare or state formally or solemnly (something about which a doubt is stated or implied); to affirm, asseverate, or assert in formal or solemn terms. Const. with *subord. cl.*, *compl.*, or *simple obj.*

1440 HUMPHREY DK. GLOUC. *Advice* in Rymer *Fœdera* (1710) X. 767/1, I Protest, for myn Excuse and my Discharge, that I never was, am, nor never shal be Consentyng ..to his Deliverance. 1530 PALSGR. 668/2, I protest that I wyll nothyng obstynatly affyrme that [etc.]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. 33 Likewise Thomas in protesting him to be his lord and his God, doth professe that he is that only one God whome he had alway worshipped. 1561 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 119 Forasmuche as no man speeketh against this thing, you, N., sall protest heere, before God, and his holie congregatioun, that you have taken, and are now contented to have, M., heere present, for your lawfull wife. 1621 JAS. I in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 169 Till then I proteste I can have no joye in the going well of my owin bussienesse. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 3 ₱ 7, I protest to you, the Gentleman has not spoken to me. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* VII. Wks. 1813 I. 512 She protested in the most solemn manner, that she was innocent of the crime laid to her charge. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 38 She then..with dignity and calmness solemnly protested her innocence.

b. *intr.* To make protestation or solemn affirmation.

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) 1 *Kings* ii. 42 Did I not make thee sweare..& protested vnto thee, saying [etc.]? — *Jer.* xi. 7, I haue protested vnto your fathers.., rising earely & protesting, saying, Obey my voyce. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 240 *Ham.* Madam, how like you this Play? *Qu.* The Lady protests to much, me thinkes. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xliii. 3 The man did solemnly protest vnto vs, saying, Ye shall not see my face, except your brother be with you. — 1 *Sam.* viii. 9 Protest solemnly vnto them, and shew them the maner of the King that shall reigne over them. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. v. 75 Every mother..who ever, by her hope against hope for some profligate, protested for a love deeper and wider than that of society.

c. As a mere asseveration; cf. DECLARE *v.* 6 b.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 136, I lovde, I doe protest, And did of worldlie men account that worthie knight the best. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 313, I will doe it I protest. 1771 *Junius Lett.* xlix. (1820) 253, I cannot..call you the..basest fellow in the Kingdom. I protest, my lord, I do not think you so.

2. *trans.* To make a formal written declaration of the non-acceptance or non-payment of (a bill of exchange) when duly presented. Also *fig.*

1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 194 Permitting a Bill to be protested by Mr Webster. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Dec., If the bill of 200*l*..be not paid..and..if I do not help him about it, they have no way but to let it be protested. 1765 *Act* 5 *Geo. III*, c. 49 § 5 The person..who shall have protested such note. 1866 CRUMP *Banking* v. 112 The acceptor may procure the funds necessary to meet the bill, and prevent its being protested.

† **b.** To protest the bill of (a person). *Obs. rare.*

1622 FLETCHER *Beggar's Bush* IV. i, I'm sure 'twould vex your hearts, to be protested; Ye're all fair merchants. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* I. iii, I must and will have my money, Or I'll protest you first, and, that done, have The statute made for bankrupts served upon you.

c. *Football.* To lodge a protest against (a player); to object to as disqualified. *U. S.*

1905 *McClure's Mag.* June 118/2 Princeton protested Thomas J. Thorp, one of Columbia's best men. Columbia returned the compliment by protesting Davis, Princeton's captain and end-rush.

† **3.** To assert publicly; to proclaim, publish; to declare, show forth. *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 227 In case yᵗ he did refuse so to do, then he [the herald] dyd protest the harme that should ensue, in the forme and maner, that in suche a case is..accustumed to be done. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 149 Do me right, or I will protest your cowardise. *c* 1620 [see PROTESTED 1]. 1641 (Sept. 9) in Rogers *Protests of Lords* (1875) I. 6 Therefore to acquit ourselves of the dangers and inconveniences that might arise..we do protest our disassents to this vote, and do thus enter it as aforesaid. [Cf. sense 7.] *a* 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xii. 46 Remember thy Creator; O protest His praises to the world.

† **4.** To vow; to promise or undertake solemnly.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 432 That suche [married priests] as by the consent of their wiues, wil proteste to make a diuorsement they do handle more gently. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 89 On Dianaes Altar to protest For aie, austerity, and single life. 1624 *Brief Inform. Affairs Palatinate* 36 As for the Dignitie Imperiall, the Elector Palatine hath alwayes protested to recognize him for Emperor. *c* 1660 in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 455 The Scots seriously protested the performance of all these.

† **5.** To make a request in legal form; to demand as a right; to stipulate. Const. with *subord. cl.*, also *intr.* with *for. Sc. Obs.*

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 331 Syne ger Stobo for thy lyf protest. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 410 The said Maister Johnne protestit that the said Lord Robert sould not be haldin to answer to the saidis letters. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xx. § 3 (1699) 230 When Advocats assist Pannels, especially in Treason, they use to protest that no escape of theirs in pleading, may be misconstructed. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 113 Of old, before inclosing the Jury, the Lord Advocate or Prosecutor used to protest for an Assize of Error against the Inquest, if they assoilzied.

† **6.** To call to witness; to appeal to. *Obs.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* App. 339 Protesting God, that he entended not to tourne aside, or hide..any thing that is another mannes. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* x. 480 Unoriginal Night and Chaos wilde..with clamorous uproare Protesting Fate supreame. 1675 HOBBES *Odyssey* (1677) 9 Protest the gods against their injuries; And let the whole assembly know your case.

7. *intr.* To give formal expression to objection, dissent, or disapproval; to make a formal (often written) declaration *against* some proposal, decision, procedure, or action; to remonstrate.

1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn.* (1842) 48 This lusty jester..in fury draws his dagger, and begins to protest. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* Ded. A ij b, Such imprest money I doe not like, but protest against it. 1641 (Dec. 24) in Rogers *Protests of Lords* (1875) I. 7, I do protest against the deferring the debate thereof until Monday, to the end to discharge myself of any ill consequence that may happen thereby. 1718 (Feb. 20) *Ibid.* I. 240 We, whose names are subscribed, do protest against the resolution for refusing the other instruction, moved to be given to the same Committee on the Mutiny Bill, for the reasons following: 1st, Because [etc.]. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xxxiii, This I protested against, as being no way Chinese. 1873 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* II. Pref. 12 A minister of religion may fairly protest against being made a politician.

† **Protestancy.** *Obs.* [f. next + -CY.] The condition of being a Protestant; the Protestant religion, system, or principles; = PROTESTANTISM 1. In 17th c., *spec.* the system of the reformed Church of England, as distinguished on the one hand from Popery, on the other from Presbyterianism and Puritanism.

1604 *Supplic. Masse Priests* § 41 Puritanisme differing from Protestancie in 32 articles of doctrine (as their owne bookes and writings doe witnesse). 1612 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 162 He renounced all religions, Papistry, Protestancy, Puritanism, and all other, and took himself only to God. 1655 G. HALL (*title*) The Triumphs of Rome over Despised Protestancie. 1687 *Refl. upon Pax Vobis* 32 Presbytery..would crush Protestancy if it could. 1688 PENN *Let.* Wks. 1726 I. *Life* 137 The Common Protestancy of the Kingdom. 1822 J. MILNER *Vind. Ends Relig. Controv.* 59 Recanting the whole system of Protestancy.

b. The Protestant community: = PROTESTANTISM 2.

1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 196 This death miserably contristated the whole Protestancy of the three nations.

Protestant (prɒ·tĕstănt), *sb.* and *a.* [a. Ger. or F. *protestant*, in pl. the designation of those who joined in the protest at Spires in 1529, ad. L. *prōtestāns*, pl. *prōtestānt-ēs*, pres. pple. of *prōtest-ārī* to PROTEST. In French also † one who protests in any sense, e. g. who protests devotion, sb. use of pres. pple. of *protester* (cf. sense 3 a).]

A. *sb.* **I.** *Eccles.*

1. *Hist.* usually *pl.* The name given to those German princes and free cities who made a declaration of dissent from the decision of the Diet of Spires (1529), which re-affirmed the edict of the Diet of Worms against the Reformation; hence, a general designation of the adherents of the Reformed doctrines and worship in Germany.

In the 16th c. the name *Protestant* was generally taken in Germany by the Lutherans; while the Swiss and French called themselves *Reformed.*

1539 WYATT *Let. to Cromwell* in *MS. Cotton Vesp. C. vii.* lf. 26 b, The Launsegrave the Duke of Saxone and the other of the Liegue whiche they cal the Protestantes. *Ibid.* lf. 28b, This must be other against the Turk or the Protestantes, or for Geldres. 1540 WOTTON *Let. to Cromwell* in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VIII. 287 They reken heere that the Protestantes will make no leage nor truecis with thEmperour, but under suche wordes, as shalbe able to ynclude the Duke of Cleves to. 1542 COVERDALE *Actes Disput.* Contents, The namys of all them which are called protestantys. 1551 J. HALES *Let. fr. Augsburg to Cecil* 27 Apr. (S. P. For., Edw. VI, VI. No. 328, P. R. O.), In most places the Papistes and Protestauntes haue ther servyce in one churche, one after thother. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 17 It is declared..that earnest sute was made by the protestantes to have three things graunted and suffered to be practyssed within that realme [of Polonia]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 b, Vnto this protestation of Prynces, certen of the chief cities..did subscribe..this is in dede yᵉ first original of the name of Protestauntes, which not only in Germany, but also emonges foreyn nations, is nowe common and famous. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* ii. 4 *Protestants.* A name first given to the Princes and free Cities of Germany, that sought reformation in the Diet at Spire, Anno 1529. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* Wks. 1738 I. 547 Which Protestation made by the first public Reformers of our Religion against the Imperial Edicts of Charles the fifth, imposing Church-Traditions without Scripture, gave first beginning to the name of Protestant. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. xxx. 174 The Lutheran princes ..had combined in a league for their own defence at Smalcalde; and because they protested against the votes passed in the imperial diet, they thenceforth received the appellation of Protestants. 1899 B. J. KIDD 39 *Art.* I. i. § 2. 7 In church ornaments,..while the Lutherans or Protestants were willing to retain everything that was not expressly forbidden in Scripture, the Swiss or Reformed excluded everything but what was positively enjoined.

2. A member or adherent of any of the Christian churches or bodies which repudiated the papal authority, and separated or were severed from the Roman communion in the Reformation of the sixteenth century, and generally of any of the bodies of Christians descended from them; hence in general language applied to any Western Christian or member of a Christian church outside the Roman communion. Opposed to *Papist, Roman Catholic*, or *Catholic* in the restricted sense.

1553 E. UNDERHILL in *Narr. Reform.* (Camden) 140 Your honors do knowe thatt in this controversy thatt hathe byn, sume be called papistes and sume protestaynes. 1554 COVERDALE *Lett. Mass* (1564) 345 The more parte doe parte stakes wythe the papistes and protestantes, so that they are become maungye Mongrelles. 1556 M. HUGGARD (*title*) The displaying of the Protestantes, & sondry their practises, with a description of diuers their abuses..frequented within their malignaunte church. 1561 (*title*) The Confession of the Faythe and Doctrine beleued and professed by the Protestantes of the Realme of Scotlande. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) i. 145 Protestandis takis þe freiris auld antetewne, Reddie ressauaris, bot to rander nocht. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 60, I must saie to the shame of vs protestants, if good workes may merit heauen they [Romans] doe them, we talke of them. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 327 William Lambard..was the first Protestant that built an Hospitall. 1659 BAXTER *Key Cath.* Pref. 3 A Protestant is a Christian that holdeth to the holy Scriptures as a sufficient Rule of faith and holy living and protesteth against Popery. 1659 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Oct., A private Fast was kept by the Church of England Protestants in towne. 1678 *Act* 30 *Chas. II*, Stat. II. § 2, *Declar.* 3, I do make this Declaration ..in the plain and ordinary Sense of the Words read unto me, as they are commonly understood by English Protestants, without any Evasion, Equivocation or mental Reservation whatsoever. 1685 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Nov., The French persecution of the Protestants raging with the utmost barbarity. 1686 *Ibid.* 5 May, The Duke of Savoy, instigated by the French King to extirpate the Protestants of Piedmont. 1689 SANCROFT in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 447 We are true Englishmen and true Protestants, and heartily love our Religion and our Laws. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 255 He could not, as a protestant, claim sanctuary with the monks. 1895 LD. ACTON *Stud. Hist.* (1896) 24 The centre of gravity, moving..from the Latin to the Teuton, has also passed from the Catholic to the Protestant. 1903 F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 571 The word 'Protestant', which is rapidly spreading [*c* 1559] from Germany, comes as a welcome name. In the view of an officially inspired apologist of the Elizabethan settlement, those who are not Papists are Protestants.

b. *spec.* In reference to the Church of England the use has varied with time and circumstances. In the 17th c., *Protestant* was generally accepted and used by members of the Established Church, and was even so applied to the exclusion of Presbyterians, Quakers, and Separatists, as is still usual in Ireland, and is still or was lately in some districts of England. In more recent times the name has been disfavoured or disowned by many Anglicans.

In the 17th c., 'protestant' was primarily opposed to 'papist', and thus accepted by English Churchmen generally; in more recent times, being generally opposed to 'Roman Catholic', or (after common Continental and R. C. use) to 'Catholic' (see CATHOLIC A. 7, B. 2, 3), it is viewed with disfavour by those who lay stress on the claim of the Anglican Church to be equally Catholic with the Roman.

1608 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastward Hoe* v. i, I have had of all sorts of men..under my Keyes; and almost of all religions i' the land, as Papist, Protestant, Puritane, Brownist, Anabaptist,..etc. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 64 Betweene the Catholick and the Protestant, the Protestant and the Puritan, the Puritan and others. 1642 MRS. EURE in *Verney Mem.* (1892) II. v. 96 Neither papist, nor puritan, aye nor protestant, but will be the loosers by it. 1661 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. at Opening Parl. Irel.* 8 May ₱ 11, I hope the presbyterian will join with the protestant, and say, that the papist, and the Socinian, and the independent, and the anabaptist, and the quaker, are guilty of rebellion and disobedience. 1820 tr. *Cosmo's Trav.* 425 The Puritans..sworn enemies of the Catholics, as also of the Protestants. [Cf. p. 412 Protestants or those of the Established Religion.] 1830-3 W. CARLETON *Traits & Stories Irish Peasantry* (1860) I. 185 The population of the Catholics on the one side, and of Protestants and Dissenters on the other. 1890 HEALY *Insula Sanctorum*, etc. 291 His memory is cherished not only by Catholics but by Protestants and even by Presbyterians also. 1900 REV. C. B. MOUNT *Let. to Editor*, Forty years back in Dorset, I frequently heard the word 'Protestant' used as distinctive name for members of the Established

Church of England, in distinction from 'Dissenters', 'Chapel-goers', and the like.

1813 A. KNOX in *K. & Jebb's Corr.* (1834) II. 122 What perverse influence the nick-name of protestant has had on our church. 1905 A. COOPER-MARSDIN *Church or Sect* i. 7, I refuse to call myself a Protestant except..when I wish to declare..that I am not a Papist.

II. *General.* Often stressed (prŏte·stănt).

3. One who protests. **a.** One who makes protestation or declaration; *esp.* one who protests devotion [Fr. *protestant*]; a suitor. *rare.*

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To Anthea, who may command,* etc. i, Bid me to live, and I will live Thy Protestant to be. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 3/3 That is how we find among her 'protestants' Mr. Denis O'Hara, whose love-chase is the theme of this, as of the earlier story.

b. One who protests against error (partly etymological, partly *fig.* from 1 or 2).

1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1877) I. v. 91 We must be protestants, not infidels in philosophy. 1903 G. F. BROWNE *St. Aldhelm* 297 Abbat Failbe was the first Protestant in these islands, for Adamnan says that he 'protested'..A Protestant is one who asserts his own belief in a definite and positive form.

c. One who makes a protest *against* any decision, proceeding, practice, custom, or the like; a protester. (Often with allusion to senses 1 and 2.)

1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* xix. 328 The protestant against sensual and divided worship. 1862 — *Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. ix. § 108. 629 To hope that he would be the effectual protestant against all North West passages. 1885 *Century Mag.* June 328/1 No great moral value can be attached to a protest against evil-doing at which the protestant has connived. 1896 BP. GORE *Rom. Cath. Claims* (1904) App. i. 206 When John the Baptist appeared, he appeared as a protestant against the actual development which the inspired religion had received. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 4 May 3/4 Lawrence Rivers, protestant against compulsory games, champion of the right to do with schoolboy leisure as schoolboy pleases.

B. *adj.* **1.** Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of Protestants or Protestantism. (In the earliest quots., = *protesting*, and, in reference to the Continent, = *Lutheran.*)

1539 CROMWELL in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, I. 605 The States Protestantes have geven their petition more then 4 dayes passed, but as yet thEmperours Commissioners have geven no answer therto. 1542 COVERDALE *Actes Disput.* 195 These be the Prynces and estates protestantys & all which do stond to the confessyon geuen at Augspurg called the germanys confession. 1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 97 Complaining on all hands of our protestants Bishops and Clergy. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* Ep. Ded., D. Gesner .. was a Protestant Physician. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 6 Mar., To heare & see the manner of the French Protestant Churches service. 1648 *Eikon Bas.* xxvii. 277 That scarce any one [of them]..either was, or is a true Lover,..or Practiser of the Protestant Religion, established in England. 1654 (Dec. 7) *Resolution* in *Jrnls. Ho. Comm.* VII. 397/2 The True Reformed Protestant, Christian Religion, as it is contained in the Holy Scriptures, ..shall be asserted and maintained, as the publick Profession of these Nations. 1679 EVELYN *Diary* 28 Nov., This Duke [Monmouth], whom for distinction they call'd the Protestant Duke.., the people made their idol. *c* 1687 BURNET *Orig. Mem.* I. (1902) 153 She does the protestant interest more service than all her ill-affects can do it a prejudice. 1688 KENNETT in *Magd. Coll. & Jas. II* (O. H. S.) 258 There was a Protestant, or rather Providential, wind. 1688 *Act 1 Will. & Mary* c. 6 (Coronation oath), Will you to the utmost of your Power maintain the Laws of God, the true Profession of the Gospel and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by Law? 1689 SANCROFT in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 447 The Bishops and Clergy of England are unmoveably fixt to the Protestant religion; and absolutely irreconcileable both to Popery and arbitrary power. 1700 PEPYS *Let.* 12 Apr., All the King of France does against his Protestant subjects. 1827 BARRINGTON *Personal Sk.* 243 The term 'Protestant ascendancy' was coined by Mr. John Gifford..and became an epithet very fatal to the peace of Ireland. 1828 *Act 9 Geo. IV*, c. 17. § 2 (*Declaration*) The Protestant Church as it is by Law established in England. 1854 [see CATHOLIC B. 3]. 1899 BP. STUBBS *Visitation Charges* (1904) 343 *The Protestant Religion* is, I think, the historical and reasonable expression for collective application. 1903 F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 594 That Protestant principle which refers us to the primitive Church.

b. Protestant Dissenter: see DISSENTER 2 c. **Protestant Episcopal**, official style of the church in U. S. descended from and in communion with the Church of England.

1672 DR. BUCKHM. *Sp.* in *Proc. Ho. Lords* (1742) I. 165 That you would give me leave to bring in a Bill of Indulgence to all Protestant Dissenters. 1688, 1689, 1826, 1839 [see DISSENTER 2 c]. 1780 in W. S. Perry *Hist. Amer. Episcopal Ch.* (1885) II. 21 On motion of the Secretary it was proposed that the Church known in the province as Protestant be called 'the Protestant-Episcopal Church', and it was so adopted.

2. Also (prŏte·stănt). Protesting; making a protest.

1844 LD. HOUGHTON *Mem. Many Scenes, Tintern Abbey* 182 We of this latter, still protestant age, With priestly ministrations of the sun,..Maintain this consecration. 1890 G. S. HALL in *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* Jan. 61 A private protestant tribunal, where personal moral convictions preside. 1899 *Echo* 1 Nov. 1/4 Artlessly protestant against the vicious vanities of smart society.

Hence **Pro·testantdom**, the Protestant communities collectively; **Pro·testantli·ke** *a.*, like or after the manner of a Protestant; **Pro·testantly** *adv.*, in a Protestant manner; consistently with Protestantism.

1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 739 An argument of authority negatiue, is naught and protestantlike. 1659 MILTON *Civ. Power* Wks. 1851 V. 312 To protestants ..nothing more protestantly can be permitted then a free and lawful debate. 1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 21 If there have not been..even in Protestantdom some too, that..give heed to such doctrines. 1896 D. L. LEONARD in *Papers Ohio Ch. Hist. Soc.* VII. 98 Probably by most of Christendom, if not also by most of 'Protestantdom', we are as yet unheard of.

†Protesta·ntical, *a. Obs.* [f. prec. + -ICAL.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a Protestant; inclined to or of the nature of Protestantism; = PROTESTANT *a.* 1. (Sometimes with hostile or opprobrious implication.)

1592 BACON *Observ. Libel* Wks. 1879 I. 382/2 A third kind of gospellers called Brownists..affirm that the protestantical church of England is not gathered in the name of Christ, but of Antichrist. 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Scripture* iv. 97 They had euery where almost omitted Photius words, being very Protestanticall in this Translation.

Pro·testa·ntish, *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ISH 1.] = prec. Hence **Pro·testa·ntishly** *adv.*

1680 R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Litter of Libels* 8 Something ..which might give the Protestantish Authour occasion of that flourish. 1685 H. MORE *Refl. Baxter* 24 As if he insinuated himself Popishly and Protestantishly affected in one Breath. 18.. in Flügel *Eng.-Germ. Dict.* (1891), Louis Philip has been very Protestantish in his predilections.

Protestantism (prŏ·tèstănti·z'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM. Cf. F. *protestantisme.*]

1. The religion of Protestants, as opposed to Roman Catholicism; the condition of being Protestant; adherence to Protestant principles.

1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xv. 142 In the setling of Protestantism, thir [Papists'] aid was both unseemly and suspicious. 1726 Jos. TRAPP *Popery* III. 205 There were Schisms..long before Popery, and consequently much longer before Protestantism..was in Being. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Conc. Amer.* Wks. III. 53 But the religion most prevalent in our northern colonies is a refinement on the principle of resistance: it is the dissidence of dissent, and the protestantism of the protestant religion. 1790 — *Fr. Rev.* 30 It was still a line of hereditary descent..though an hereditary descent qualified with protestantism. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 54 When the Jesuits came to the rescue of the papacy ..Protestantism..was stopped in its progress, and rapidly beaten back from the foot of the Alps to the shores of the Baltic. 1895 BP. GORE *Creed of Christian* x. (ed. 7) 60 She [Ch. of Eng.], more than any other branch of the Church Catholic, holds together Church authority, Bible authority, and individual conscience. The Church of Rome makes much of one; Protestantism makes much of the other two.

2. Protestants, or the Protestant churches, collectively.

1662–3 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. 60 The only thing that makes Protestantism considerable in Christendom, is the Church of England. *a* 1677 J. HARRINGTON *Grounds Monarchy* II. § 108 The slow assistances sent to his Daughter, in whose safety and protection Protestantism was at that time so much concern'd. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 28 July 7/3 Protestantism, meaning by that all the non-Roman Catholic persuasions, has held its own, but the Roman Catholics are still steadily dwindling.

3. The condition of protesting; an attitude of protest or objection. *rare.*

1854 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 388 There, needs, then, a protestantism in social usages. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 366 How his protestantism against her doctrines should exhibit itself on the turf.

Protestantize (prŏ·tèstănt·əiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] **a.** *trans.* To render Protestant; to convert to or permeate with the principles of Protestantism. **b.** *intr.* To follow Protestant practices. Hence **Pro·testanti·zed** *ppl. a.*, **Pro·testanti·zing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pro·testanti·zer**, one who protestantizes.

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 720 The grants which they still retain for the express purpose of Protestantising Ireland. 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 339 Are Protestantizing priests and monks the only evidence of the kind which they could get? 1891 BP. R. T. DAVIDSON, etc. *Abp. Tait* II. xxiv. 199 He would further 'Protestantise' the Church of England. 1895 *Daily News* 24 May 5/6 He belonged to a Protestantised Jewish family, eminent in the financial world. 1906 W. WALKER *Calvin* vii. 203 Another considerable element valued the Protestantising of Geneva more for its political than for its religious results. 1908 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 308 He was a Protestantizer who formed a party of Calvinists in his Church.

Protestation (prŏtèstē·ı̆·ʃən). [a. F. *protestation* (13th c. in Littré), ad. late L. *prōtestātio* (in Itala, 2 Macc. vii. 6), n. of action f. *prōtest-ārī* to PROTEST.] The action of protesting; that which is protested.

1. A solemn affirmation of a fact, opinion, or resolution; a formal public assertion or asseveration. *To make protestation*, to protest in a solemn or formal manner.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 9593, I make here a protestacion, þat I wil stand til þe correccion Of ilka rightwyse lered man. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's Prol.* 29 First I make a protestacioun, That I am dronke I knowe it by my soun. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 98 With a meke protestacyon deny it, & clere your selfe. 1559 *Declar. Doctrine* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. viii. 116 Although in our last protestation made before the honourable auditory at Westminster, we sufficiently set forth in few words the sum of our faith. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 133, I know they are stuft with protestations, And full of new-found oathes, which he will breake As easily as I doe teare his paper.

1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess., Cromwell* (1669) 64 If there had been any faith in mens vows and protestations. 1733 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* II. 437 They entered into a solemn Protestation to stand by each other with their lives and fortunes. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxviii, Many protestations of friendship, and expressions anticipative of the pleasure which must inevitably flow from so happy an acquaintance. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Oct. 10/1 The great 'Church of the Protestation', which is being erected at Spires as a memorial of the origin of the name 'Protestant' at the famous Reichstag in that city in 1529.

†b. *By, with, under* (*a*) *protestation*, with the assertion of the reservation or stipulation, under the condition (*that*). Cf. PROTEST *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 267/2 Yat he myghte speke under protestation, to yat ende. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 444 With a protestacion that the seid Priour & Couent may be at their liberte at all tymes to refourme & adde more. *Ibid.* 454 The answeres..made..to þe bill of Compleynt made be þe priour of Couentre, be protestacion þat þis answer at all tymes hereafter may be altered, added þerto, amended or otherwyse reformed at eny tyme requisite. 1576 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 577 Under protestatioun that thay na wayis grant the narrative..to be of veritie.

2. *Law.* **†a.** In pleading, an affirmation or denial, introduced in form of a protest, of some allegation the truth of which the pleader cannot directly affirm or deny without duplicating his plea, and which he cannot pass over lest he should be held to have tacitly waived or admitted it (see quot. 1628). *Obs.*

By protestation, by way of or in the form of a protestation.

1471–3 in *Calr. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1830) II. Pref. 55 Thomas seith, by protestacion, that the mater contened in the seid bill is insufficient to put hym to answer therto. 1551 in Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (Selden) 57 And he beyng thereof so seysed dyed of such estate thereof by protestacion seysed. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 162 b/2 *Protestation* is a sauinge to the partie (that so pleadeth by protestation) to bee concluded by any matter alledged or obiected against him, vpon which he cannot ioin issu. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 124 b, Protestation..is an exclusion of a conclusion that a party to an action may by pleading incurre, or it is a safegard to the party which keepeth him from being concluded by the plea he is to make, if the issue be found for him. 1797 TOMLINS *Law Dict.* s.v., The use of a Protestation in pleading seems to be this, *viz.* When one party alleges or pleads several matters, and the other party can only offer, or take issue on one of them, he protests against the others.

b. *Sc. Law.* (See quot. 1838.)

1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 92 Thay will proceid and minster justice alsweill be geving of protestationis and decretis. 1633 *Acts of Sederunt* 12 Dec. (1790) 46 Act anent Expences in Protestations. 1739 *Ibid.* 7 July 325. 1838 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s.v., Where a pursuer, advocator or suspender, after having raised an action, fails to insist in it, his opponent, by means of protestation, may compel him either to proceed or to suffer the action to fall... [This] is done by delivering to one of the Outer-house clerks, a note for insertion in the minute-book of the Court of Session..,This note..is called a protestation.

3. A solemn or formal declaration of dissent or objection; = PROTEST *sb.* 4.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 194 After a thousand Complaints, Dissertations, Protestations against their Errors. 1661 WOOD *Life* 1 Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 391 Mr. Brent desir'd them..to read a paper..containing a protestation in the name of all the fellowes, under a public notarie's hand, against the admission of Sir Thomas Clayton to the wardenship of Merton coll. 1793 *Acc. Proc. Camb. agst. W. Frend* 194, I Robert Tyrwhitt, a non-regent master of arts, do, within ten days, make this open and legal protestation against the said grace. 1803 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 7 Spain had entered into a protestation against our ratification of the treaty. 1849 STOVEL *Introd. Canne's Necess.* p. xxxiii, Its burning fetters have provoked..protestation, resistance, dissent, in various forms, civil and sacred.

b. = PROTEST *sb.* 4 b.

1624 (May 26) in Rogers *Protests of Lords* (1875) I. 2 Therefore the Lords, spiritual and temporal, in the higher House of Parliament, now assembled, do hereby declare and pronounce, and cause this protestation to be entered on record, in the rolls of this Parliament. 1641 (Sept. 9) *Ibid.* 6 [The first formal protest with Reasons in the Journals of the House] We whose names are underwritten did dissent, and having, before the putting of the question, demanded our right of protestation, did accordingly make our protestation: That [etc.]. 1700 (April 4) *Ibid.* 139 We cannot but enter this our protestation against a second reading of this Bill. 1722 *Jrnls. Ho. Lords* XXII. 73/1 The restraining the Assertions, used in Protestations, to the Apprehension or Opinion of the Lords protesting.

4. *attrib.*, as *protestation meeting, money* (2 b).

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 36, I drew neere the sillie soule whom I found quinering in two sheetes of protestation paper [alluding to the Marprelate tract 'The Protestation']. 1661 *Acts of Sederunt* 4 July (1790) 78 The supplication of Richard Wairde, lately clerk of the bills, under the usurpers, mentioning him to have in his hands severall sums of money, consigned as protestation-money. 1908 *Nation* (N. Y.) 6 June 342/2 Protestation meetings have been held.

Protestator (prŏ·tèstē·ı̆tə1). *rare*—°. [a. mod.L. *prōtestātor*, agent-n. from *prōtestārī* to PROTEST.] One who protests; a protester.

1847 in WEBSTER.

Protestatory (prŏte·stătəri), *a. rare.* [f. L. *prōtestāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōtestārī* to PROTEST + -ORY 2. So F. *protestatoire.*] Pertaining to or of the nature of a protest.

a 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 27 The answere is partly indignatory..partly protestatory. 1887 *Standard* 23 Dec. 3/2 These concessions were not favourably received by the

National Party, who went so far as to threaten further protestatory elections.

Prote·sted, *ppl. a.* [f. PROTEST *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Solemnly or † publicly asserted.

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* IV. i, And don all the offices of protested gallantrie for your sake. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* I. i, Thou wouldst not willingly Live a protested coward, or be call'd one?

† 2. That has made or joined in a protest or protestation. *Obs. rare*—1.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* iv. Wks. 1851 III. 219 In this age.. God hath renewed our protestation against all those yet remaining dregs of superstition. Let us all goe, every true protested Brittaine throughout the 3 Kingdoms, and render thanks to God the Father of light.

3. That is protested against, objected to, or done or given under protest. *Protested bill*: see PROTEST *v.* 2.

1849 THACKERAY *Friendship* Wks. 1900 VI. 626, I will disown you, and cut you off with a protested shilling. 1864 O. W. HOLMES *Banker's Secret* Poet. Wks. (1895) 310 The moral market had the usual chills Of Virtue suffering from protested bills.

Protester (prote·stəɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.]

1. One who makes a protestation or solemn affirmation.

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 74 Were I a common Laugher, or did vse To stale with ordinary Oathes my loue To euery new Protester.

2. One who makes a protest or remonstrance.

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* I. 103 To annex their Religion as a codicill to an appeal of a company of Protesters against a decree at Spira. 1794 BURKE *Rep. Lords' Jrnls.* Wks. 1842 II. 601 The reasons against the article, alleged in the protest, were by no means solely bottomed in the practice of the courts below, as if the main reliance of the protesters was upon that usage. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 25 May 322/2 The Grenvilles and other protesters against improper expenses. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 6/1 The motion was carried by 54 to 4, the protesters being [etc.].

b. *Sc. Hist. pl.* Those Presbyterians who in 1650 protested against the union with the Royalists; also applied to those who on various later occasions formally protested against acts or decisions of the church courts.

1660 DOUGLAS in Wodrow *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1721) I. Introd. 12 That it may be they were mistaken for some of their Brethren the Protesters, to whom..the King's Return is Matter of Terror. 1722 *Wodrow Corr.* (1843) II. 630 His pieces he wrote in the debate with the Protesters contain.. many things as to the History of this Church. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v, They had parted..at the time when the kingdom of Scotland was divided into Resolutioners and Protesters. 1855 *Summary Principles U. P. Ch.* 2 In May 1733 the Assembly refused to hear fully the reasons which the protesters had to urge. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 409/2 His father..belonged to the extreme Covenanting party of Protesters.

3. One who protests a bill or other commercial document.

1849 DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. 1862 IV. 295 If it is by bills at ninety days after date that you are made unhappy—if noters and protesters are the sort of wretches whose..shadows darken the house of life.

Prote·sting, *vbl. sb.* [f. PROTEST *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PROTEST. a. Protestation, solemn declaration; remonstrance. b. The formal declaration of the non-payment of a bill when duly presented.

1599 ? SHAKS. *Pass. Pilgr.* vii, Yet in the mids of all her pure protestings, Her faith, her othes, her teares, and all were leastings. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* I. i. 344 'Twas well my Heart was cautious of believing Thy Vows, and thy Protesting. 1722 *Jrnls. Ho. Lords* XXII. 74/1 The Liberty of Protesting, with Reasons, being an unquestionable Right and essential Privilege of the whole Peerage. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 20 The..act..authorises the protesting of inland bills for non-acceptance.

Prote·sting, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That protests: in various senses of the verb.

1681 WOOD *Life* 6 June (O. H. S.) II. 542 The outrage committed on the old lady Lovelace..they pluck'd her out of her coach, and called her 'old protesting bitch'. 1703 ROWE *Ulyss.* v. i. 1967 A protesting, faithless, villain Friend.

Prote·stingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a protesting manner; by way of protest.

1888 R. DOWLING *Miracle Gold* I. vii. 125 She looked at him protestingly. 1894 *Temple Bar Mag.* CII. 328 The maid..stood protestingly in the background.

Protestor (prote·stəɹ). [Early mod.E. *protestour*, ad. obs. F. *protesteur*, f. *protester*: see PROTEST *v.* and -OR.]

† 1. = PROTESTER 1. *Obs.*

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. v. 64 The present protestours of the veritie, here liuing in the world. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 493 He was..a protestor for a Community of wealth, as well as of women.

2. = PROTESTER 2.

1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 5 Feb. (O. H. S.) I. 178 Dr. Cawley was the more taken notice of upon Acct of his Being one of the Protestors. 1780 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 121/2 He contended, that the protestors..possessed property equal, if not superior, to the petitioners. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 Feb. 5/1 It is asserted by the protestors that three names should have been so forwarded.

b. = PROTESTER 2 b. Also *attrib.*

1693 *Apol. Clergy Scot.* 78 They pretend..that the generality of the Godly did adhere to the Protestors, that the Publick Resolutioners had made defection. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 55 A great division followed in the Kirk: Those who adhered to these resolutions were called the Publick Resolutioners: But against these some of those bodies protested, and they, together with those who adhered to them, were called the Protestors. 1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* viii. (1857) 110 Urquhart of Cromarty..had lately 'counterfeited the Protestor'. 1900 *U. P. Mag.* May 209/2 When the foundations of the Protestor Synod were laid [1737-8], he was one of seven.

Protetrarch: see PRO-1 1.

‖ **Proteus** (prōu·tiŭs, prōu·tĭŭs). [L. *Prōteus*, a. Gr. Πρωτεύς proper name.]

1. *Gr.* and *Rom. Mythol.* A sea-god, the son of Oceanus and Tethys, fabled to assume various shapes.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6319 Protheus, that coude him chaunge In every shap, hoomly and straunge. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 137 More mutable then Proteus. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* a j b, Falsehood is ..capable of more different formes, than the..Proteus of Poets. 1806 WORDSW. *Sonn., The world is too much with us* 13 So might I..Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea; Or hear old Triton blow his wreathèd horn.

2. Hence allusively, One who, or that which, assumes various forms, aspects, or characters; a changing, varying, or inconstant person or thing.

1585 J. HART *Æsop's Fables* 111 A Protheus..vnstedfast in word and ded. 1589 COOPER *Admon.* 28 Such a subtile Protheus hee is, that he can turn himself into all maner of shapes. 1685 *Gracian's Courtier's Orac.* 76 He is a wise Proteus that is holy with the holy,..serious with the serious, and jovial with the merry. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* 4 Mar. (1810) 17 Being such Proteus's in religion, that no body was ever able to discover what shape or standard their consciences are really of. 1823 R. HALL *Wks.* (1841) V. 62 Mental phenomena form a Proteus which is constantly changing its aspect.

3. *Zool.* and *Biol.* a. A name for the protozoon now called AMŒBA. (Now disused as a generic name.) Also *proteus animalcule*, † *p. insect.*

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 492 Some.. if viewed in a microscope, will be found to contain, among several other animalcules, the Proteus. 1806 PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD *Dom. Recreat.* vi. 85, I shall find plenty of the Proteus insect in it. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 256 *Amœba Proteus* or *A. princeps*, the Proteus animalcule..is to be found in the upper layers of soft ooze at the bottom of still clear lakes, ponds, and ditches.

b. A genus of tailed amphibians with persistent gills, having four short slender legs and a long eel-like body, found in subterranean caves in Austria.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xxii. 419 The Proteus is about a foot in length..the body is cylindrical. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 188 In the proteus the last segment of the fore-limb divides into three rays. 1860 GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 76 The proteus, a strange sort of salamander found in the lakes of immense caverns in Illyria.

c. The name given to a group of bacteria, some of which are saprophytes and some pathogenic.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 529 The list of putrefactive organisms includes various forms of proteus (vulgaris, mirabilis, Zenkeri), for which formerly the name bacterium termo had to do duty. 1897 *Ibid.* III. 748 Dr. Booker states that a group which he calls the 'proteus' group of bacteria was represented in fifteen out of nineteen cases.

4. a. *attrib.* Changeable like Proteus, protean. *Proteus animalcule, insect* = sense 3 a. b. *Comb.* as *Proteus-like* adj. and adv.

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 818 O Proteus Conscience, never to be tied! 1718 *Entertainer* No. 34. 233 Who it is, that Proteus like has so often shifted his Meaning. 1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. viii. § 4 (1734) 196 In such a Proteus-like Distemper. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 599/1 The fantastic tricks of this Proteus principle, become most amusing. 1839 CARLYLE *Chartism* iv. (1858) 22 English commerce with its..immeasurable Proteus Steam-demon, makes..all life a bewilderment.

Hence [irreg.] † **Proteu·sian** *a. Obs.* = PROTEAN.

1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Commander* 51 Proteusian pranks, unthought of mysteries.

Protevangel (prōu,tĭvæ·ndʒĕl). Also irreg. **pro·to-eva·ngel** (see PROTO-). [ad. next: cf. EVANGEL 1. So F. *protévangile.*] = next, 2.

1875 *Expositor* 413 It is entirely absent even from his interpretation of the Protevangel of Gen. iii. 1878 F. FERGUSON *Pop. Life Christ* x. 105 The meaning of Eden's protevangel. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* I. 503 The grace under which the patriarchal protevangel manifested itself.

‖ **Protevangelium** (prōu,tĭe·vændʒe·liŭm). Also (after Gr.) **-ion.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρῶτ-os* first, primitive (see PROTO- 1) + L. *evangelium*: see EVANGELY.] A primitive or original gospel.

1. Name of an apocryphal gospel, attributed to St. James the Less.

1715 Proto-Evangelion [see PSEUDEPIGRAPHAL]. 1851 LONGF. *Gold. Leg.* III. *Nativity* Introitus 11 The Nativity of our Lord, As written in the old record Of the Protevangelion.

2. Applied to the promise concerning the seed of the woman implied in the curse upon the serpent (Gen. iii. 15), regarded as the earliest utterance of the gospel. (In quot. 1892 in extended sense.)

1874 H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* ii. 113 Going right back to the protevangelium uttered in paradise. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 186 The whole narrative of the Creation and the Fall, and not one isolated verse, contains, when rightly apprehended, the real Protevangelium, the primitive Gospel of the world.

So **Prot,eva·ngelist,** a first or original evangelist or bringer of good tidings.

1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XVI. viii. IV. 371 *note*, The true protevangelist of the thing.

Protext (prōu·tekst). *rare.* [f. PRO-1 3 or PRO-2 + TEXT *sb.*; cf. *context.*] The preceding context of a passage.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 141 The..alliance that the text hath with the protext, or verse immediately foregoing. 1886 *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. II. 279/1 See Baring-Gould's 'Curious Myths of the Middle Ages', p. 600 (ed. London, 1881), and the protext.

‖ **Prothalamion** (prōuþălē·miŏn). Also (in mod. Dicts.) **-ium.** [Invented by Spenser, after *epithalamion*, EPITHALAMIUM: see PRO-2.] 'A preliminary nuptial song' (Stanf.).

1597 SPENSER (*title*) Prothalamion, or a Spousall Verse. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xv. Argt. 8 At Oxford all the Muses meet her And with a Prothalamion greet her. 1627 — *Miseries Q. Margaret* Poems (1748) 141 Poets write prothalamions in their praise Until men's ears were cloy'd with the report. [1896 *Spectator* 31 Oct. 594/1 'Prothalamion'. Spenser must have invented this word, as it does not exist in either Greek or Latin, to express the idea of a song of greeting to happy lovers before the actual wedding-day had arrived.]

Prothallial (prōþæ·liăl), *a. Bot.* [f. next + -AL.] Pertaining to or of the nature of a prothallium. So **Protha·llic, Protha·lline** *adjs.*

1876 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 160/1 In Ferns the alternation consists of two dissimilar generations,—a sexual or prothallial generation, and an asexual generation. 1882 J. M. CROMBIE *ibid.* XIV. 555/2 Their fecundating influence is rather exercised on the prothalline elements of the growing thallus. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Prothallic.*

‖ **Prothallium** (prōþæ·liŭm). *Bot.* Pl. **prothallia.** [mod.L., f. PRO-2 1 + Gr. *θαλλίον*, dim. of *θαλλός*: see PROTHALLUS, THALLUS.] In vascular cryptogams (ferns, horsetails, club-mosses, etc.), A minute cellular structure or thallus, produced by the germination of the spore, and bearing the sexual organs (antheridia and archegonia); forming the first of the two alternate generations, much simpler than, and as it were introductory to, the fully-developed (asexual) plant. (Sometimes including also the similar PROTONEMA of mosses.)

1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 402 This Marchantia-like expansion has received the name of *prothallium*, and it is on this little membranous body, that the archegonia and pistillidia make their appearance. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* II. 286 From the germinating spore [of Ferns] arises a small, green, leafy expansion, called a prothallium, which gives off delicate root-fibres from its under surface. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 335 In the Ferns and Equisetaceæ the prothallium resembles the thallus of the lowest Hepaticæ.

Prothalloid (prōþæ·loid), *a.* [f. next + -OID.] Resembling, or having the form of, a prothallus.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Naturalist* 178 The brown radicles are a prothalloid growth.

‖ **Prothallus** (prōþæ·lŭs). *Bot.* Pl. **prothalli** (-əi). [mod.L., f. PRO-2 + Gr. *θαλλός* shoot: see THALLUS.] = PROTHALLIUM.

1854 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* V. 144/1 *Equisetaceæ.* ..The spore when sprouting, produces a pro-embryo or pro-thallus, which at first appears as a green-lobed leaf supported on a stalk. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 32. 45 The spores germinate and produce a more or less foliaceous mass, which after impregnation bears fruit containing bodies like the original spores, or a plant capable of bearing such spores, in which case it is called a prothallus. 1908 *Athenæum* 16 May 608/1 The fern-plant..is typically a land-plant...But one phase of its life-cycle, the small green prothallus or fore-plant, is essentially an aquatic phase.

Prothelminth, -ic, -thelmis: see PROTO- 2 b.

‖ **Prothesis** (prŏ·þĭsis). [a. Gr. *πρόθεσις* a placing before or in public, as in the phrase *οἱ ἄρτοι τῆς προθέσεως* the showbread (LXX and N.T.), f. PRO-2 2 + *θέσις* placing; cf. *προτιθέναι* to place before, set out (food, etc.).]

1. *Eccl.* The placing of the elements, etc., in readiness for use in the eucharistic office; hence, the table upon which these are placed, a credence-table, or the part of a church where this stands.

In the Greek Church, the preparation and preliminary oblation of the elements, performed by the priest and deacon (more fully *office of prothesis*); hence, the table upon which this is done (*table* or *altar of prothesis*), or the place where this table stands (*chapel of prothesis*).

1672 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. vi. (1673) 140 The Prothesis, or place where things were prepared in order to the Sacrament. 1711 HICKES *Two Treat. Chr. Priesth.* (1847) I. 322 The use of a Prothesis, or another table from whence he may fetch them [bread and wine]. 1883 BERESF. HOPE *Worship & Ord.* 92 We have the Altar with its attendant table of Prothesis.

2. (See quots.)

1812-29 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 93, I would thus class the pentad of operative Christianity:—

Thesis, Christ, the Word. *Antithesis*, the Scriptures. *Mesothesis*, the Holy Spirit. the Church. *Synthesis*, the Preacher.

1830 *Ibid.* IV. 429 *note*, As a synthesis is a unity that results from the union of two things, so a prothesis is a primary unity that gives itself forth into two things.

3. *Gram.* The addition of a letter or syllable at the beginning of a word: commonly, but less etymologically, called PROSTHESIS.

1870 MARCH *Ags. Gram.* § 48. 31 Real prothesis is pretty common in Greek.

¶ 4. *Surg.* Erron. used for PROSTHESIS 2.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Prothesis* [ed. 1857 adds *Prosthesis*], that part of surgery, whose object is to add to

the human body some artificial part, in place of one that may be wanting.

Prothetic (prǫpe·tik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *προθετικ-ός* having a purpose in view, also of or for prefixing, prepositional, f. *προτιθέναι* to place before.]

1. *Gram.* Prefixed at the beginning of a word; also, less etymologically called PROSTHETIC.

1833 S. KENRICK in *Philol. Museum* II. 348 That the ω in the longer form is merely prothetic and no part of the root. 1888 *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 704/2 In II. 156 Prof. Sterrett has again misunderstood this prothetic iota; read *ἰσφαγέντι*. 1900 H. HARRISON in *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VI. 514/2 Wrayton... Its prothetic *w* is due to false analogy.

2. That is posited before; antecedent. *rare*⁻¹.

1839–52 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (ed. 5) 301 In hope to know the great unknowable, The all prothetic universal I.

¶ **3.** *Surg.* Erron. used for PROSTHETIC 2.

1899 *Nature* 23 Nov. 77/1 The introduction of a section upon prothetic appliances.

Prothe·tical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] ? Having the quality of putting forth into view, or exhibiting.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 91 A poet is necessarily a synthetical, if, indeed, he be not rather a higher, a prothetical agent. *Ibid.* 258 The language of Scripture..the style not being so much symbolical or typical as *prothetical*, if we may coin the word; the natural things which we too generally understand as figures of speech..being used not only as direct exponents of the spiritual,..but as one and the same with them.

Prothe·tically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.]

1. (Cf. prec.)

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 167 The genuine poet works synthetically, or even in higher guise, prothetically, and never analytically.

2. *Gram.* By prothesis or prefixion.

1885 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVI. App. 33 Letters added prothetically.

Prothistorian: see PROTO- 1. **Prothocall, -coll, -gall, -goll,** obs. ff. PROTOCOL.

† **Prothodaw.** *Obs. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. *protho-*, PROTO- + DAW *sb.* 2 a.] A prime simpleton, a noodle of the first rank.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 73 That an Arche foole cannot forge a lye for his pleasure, but a prothodawe wyll faine a glose to mainteine his folish fantasie.

Prothonotary, etc., var. PROTONOTARY, etc.

Prothoplasmator, -pla(u)st(e: see PROTO-.

Prothoracic (prōθǫræ·sik), *a. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *prothōrax, -thōrācem* (see next) + -IC: cf. PRO-² 2, and *thoracic.*] Of or pertaining to the front of the thorax; pertaining to or situated on the prothorax.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiv. 412 The lower margin of the prothoracic cavity has a notch. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 883 In the Coleoptera..the pro-thoracic.. segments are largely developed. 1887 *Athenæum* 16 Apr. 518/1 The existence of prothoracic glands in certain species.

‖ **Prothorax** (prǫ|pō·ræks). *Entom.* [mod.L.: see PRO-² 2 and THORAX.] The first of the three thoracic somites, or divisions of the thorax of an insect, which bears the first pair of legs. Its upper surface consists of the *pronotum* or central ridge, and the two *propleura*, one on each side.

[1824 AUDOUIN in *Ann. des Sc. Nat.* I. 119 Nous nommerons *Prothorax* le premier segment... Le prothorax, le mésothorax, et le métathorax réunis, constituent le Thorax.] 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 531, I adopt likewise the terms..*prothorax, mesothorax, metathorax*, to signify the three segments into which the thorax of Linné, or the upper side of the trunk, is resolvable. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 437 The longicorn Beetles produce a sound by the friction of the tergum of the prothorax upon a process of that of the mesothorax.

Prothyalosomal: see PROTO- 2 b.

Prothyl, -yle, variants of PROTYLE.

‖ **Prothyrum** (prǫ|pirŏm). [L. (generally in pl. *prothyra*), ad. Gr. *πρόθυρον* a front-door, a porch, f. *πρό*, PRO- ² + *θύρα* a door.] The porch or vestibule of an ancient Greek or Roman house.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Prothyrum*, a Porch at the outer Door of an House, a Fence of Pales or Rails, to keep off Horses or Carts from the Door. 1834 *Gentl. Mag.* CIV. i. 53 The Roman Villa after Vitruvius...The principal features noticed are the Prothyrum, vestibule, or lobby.

Prothysteron, Protichnite: see PROTO- 2 b.

‖ **Protime·sis.** *Obs.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *προτίμησις*, n. of action f. *προτιμᾶν* to honour before or above.] Estimation of one thing above another; preference.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 285, 'I will have mercy and not sacrifice'; it is no Antithesis, but a Protimesis, that 'I had rather have mercy than sacrifice'.

Protiodide (prǫtəi·ŏdəid). *Chem.* Also **proto-iodide.** [*prot-*, PROTO- 3.] A combination of iodine with another element or radical, containing the smallest proportion of iodine: opposed to PER-IODIDE. Formerly also called † **Protio·duret.** Now usually otherwise expressed, as *protiodide of iron* = ferrous iodide, FeI_2; *protiodide* or *protioduret of mercury* = mercuric iodide, HgI_2.

1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 120 Preparation of the Proto-Ioduret of Mercury. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 677 Iodide of Calcium..may also be obtained by digesting hydrate of lime with protiodide of iron. 1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 499 The protoiodide [of mercury]..is a beautiful red compound.

‖ **Protista** (prǫti·stă), *sb. pl. Biol.* [mod.L. (– Ger. *Protisten*, Haeckel 1868), a. Gr. *πρώτιστα*, neut. pl. of *πρώτιστ-ος* the very first, superl. of *πρῶτος* first.] A third kingdom of organized beings, proposed by Haeckel to include those of the simplest structure, not definitely distinguished as either animals or plants (thus comprising the Protozoa and Protophyta, with those forms indeterminately assigned to either group); corresponding to the *Primalia* of Wilson and Cassin (see PRIMAL 5).

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 75 The plan of uniting all the lower organisms which cannot be regarded as Animals or Plants into the Kingdom of the Protista. 1908 M. HARTOG in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 486 The physiology of the Protista (organisms which have the character of isolated cells).

Hence **Protist** (prōu·tist), an organism of the group *Protista*, a protozoon or protophyte; also *attrib.* = *protistan*; **Proti·stan** *a.*, of or belonging to the *Protista*; *sb.* = *protist*; **Proti·stic** *a.*, of the *Protista.*

1869 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addr.* xii. (1873) 314 Some of the *Monera* acquired tendencies towards the Protistic, others towards the Vegetal, and others towards the Animal modes of life. 1877 F. BATEMAN *Darwinism* 33 The second group of the Protistic Kingdom—the Amœboida or Protoplasta. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* x. 129 In [Volvox], which is best regarded as a multicellular protist. *Ibid.* xi. 152 Loose protist colonies like Volvox or Ampullina. 1897 *Nat. Science* Oct. 234 The modes of reproduction among Protists are many and various. 1908 M. HARTOG in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 489 The Protistic parent that loses its individuality in its offspring when it divides.

Proto- (prōuto), before a vowel or *h* properly **prot-** (prōut), or with *h* (prōuþ), repr. Gr. *πρωτο-*, combining form of *πρῶτος* first, which became *πρωτ-* before a simple, and *πρωθ-* before an aspirated vowel.

In compounds already used in Greek, and many of later formation, the Greek practice (represented by the forms *proto-*, *prot-*, *proth-*) is retained, but in modern formations, esp. in group 2 below, the tendency is to leave *proto-* unchanged: e. g. *proto-apostate, proto-hippus.*

Words in *proto-* requiring for any reason individual treatment will be found as main words; those not so treated follow here, in three groups, showing the use of *proto-*, (1) in general language; (2) in terms of zoology and biology; (3) in chemical terminology.

1. In various words of rare occurrence or nonce-words, often self-explaining: *proto-* (which, when prefixed to a word already in English, is usually hyphened) denoting (*a*) 'First in time, earliest, original, primitive', as in † *prot-, proto-historian, proto-apostate, -bishop, -chemistry, -chronicler, -god, -heresiarch, -ideal, -metaphrast, -parent, -pattern, -protestant, -sinner, -tyrant*; (*b*) 'First in rank or importance, chief, principal', as in † *proto-abbaty* (= abbacy), *-architect, -chemist, -devil, -groomship, -justiciaryship, -magnate, -rebel, -traitor*; also the following: **Proto-dea·con** (**-diacon**) [Gr. *πρωτοδιάκονος*], a chief deacon (in the Greek Church). † **Proto-fo·rester** (**protho-**) [med.L. *protoforestarius*], chief forester. **Proto-go·spel** = PROTEVANGELIUM. **Pro·tograph** [see -GRAPH], a first or original writing. **Proto-histo·ric** *a.*, belonging or relating to primitive history, or the beginnings of historical records. **Proto-Ma·rk,** an assumed original writing which formed the basis of the existing Gospel of Mark; so **Proto-Ma·tthew.** † **Proto-na·tural** *a. Obs.*, primarily natural, belonging to the original nature of a thing. † **Proto-nota·tor,** a first or principal recorder of a court. **Proto-patria·rchal** *a.*, belonging to a chief patriarch. † **Pro·to-plot** *Obs.*, an original plot or scheme. **Proto-pre·sbyter** = PROTOPOPE. † **Proto-pri·mitive** *a.*, earliest among the primitive, most primitive. † **Proto-scri·niary** (*erron.* **scrinerary**), a chief keeper of records, etc. **Proto-typo·grapher,** the earliest or chief printer. **Protove·stiary** [med.L. *prōtovestiārius*], the chief keeper of a (royal) wardrobe. **Protozoe·gma** (see quot.). Also PROTOCANONICAL, PROTOMARTYR, PROTOPOPE, PROTOTYPE, etc.

1647 M. HUDSON *Div. Right Govt.* I. viii. 63 All Histories and Chronicles..since Moses the *Prothistorian of the world. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset.* (1662) III. 21 Glassenbury being the *Proto-Abbaty then and many years after. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xv. II. 475 *note*, Sir James Montgomery, the false and fickle *proto-apostate of whiggism. 1859 HOBHOUSE *Italy* I. 93 Sansovino was *proto-architect to the empire of St. Mark. 1641 HEYLIN *Hist. Episc.* II. (1657) 18 James the *Proto-Bishop, the first that ever had a fixt Episcopall Sea, was ordained Bishop of Hierusalem, by Peter, James and John the sonnes of Zebedee. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 34 Anastasius..sent the *proto-chemist, Johannes Isthmius, to end his fraudulent career in the Fortress of Petra. 1650 T. VAUGHAN (*title*) Anthroposophia Theomagica: Or a Discourse of the Nature of Man and his state after death; Grounded on his Creator's *Proto-Chimistry. *Ibid.* 9 He that knows how to imitate the Proto-Chymistrie of the Spirit by Separation of the Principles wherein the Life is Imprisoned. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng., Relat. Trial* 61 Though he be the Protestants *Protochronicler. 1698 J. CRULL *Muscovy* 314 He hath also a *Proto-Deacon. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 May 6/2 Two archpriests, accompanied by proto-diacons, come forward. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xiii, Oh you Devils,.. *Proto-Devils, Panto-Devils, you would wed a Monk, would you? [1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, **Protoforestarius*, was he whom the auncient Kings of this Realme made cheefe of Winsour Forest.] 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 644 This Hugh was high Iustice, Gardian, or Prothoforester of England. 1900 *Nature* 8 Mar. 437/2 So strangely complex a pantheon was set up that the *protogod was almost whelmed by the sanctifications of himself. 1841 MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. § 46. 176 If it be admitted that an authentic *protograph of the Bible, with incontestably Divine signature..does not exist. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 342 The *protogroomship of the horse. 1844 W. KAY in *Fleury's Eccl. Hist.* III. 188 *note*, The words..may simply refer to the fact of Simon's being the *proto-heresiarch. 1880 *Trans. Royal Hist. Soc.* VIII. 191 The great school of *prōtohistoric mythology. 1901 *Pilot* 26 Jan. 102/2 Our knowledge of prehistoric and protohistoric times..increases daily. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 40 The same *Proto-Ideal Purpose of drawing out the Primogenial Physick of the Grecians to its first aboriginal Offspring. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ix. § 31. 588 The Earle of Kent, whom..the King remooued from the *Proto-Iustitiariship (or high office of his Chiefe Iustice). 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* V. 342 Creating him a *protomagnate of Persia. 1883 SCHAFF *Hist. Ch.* II. XII. lxxix. 600 He used the Hebrew Matthew ..or a lost *proto-Mark. 1865 DE MORGAN in *Athenæum* 13 May 653/3 Billingsley, the English *protometaphrast of Euclid. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 68 This is the *proto-natural obligation. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. v. xxviii. 387/1 The Maior's Clerk, together with the Common Clerk of the City, and the Sheriff's Clerks sat before them, to note..all the Matters objected...And one was *Protonotator, from whose Note all the rest took each his Copy of Writing. 1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 23/1 Since our *Proto-parents' lowest fall, Our wisdome's highest pitch (God wot) is low. *c* 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 218 Aye! here is the *ovum*,..the proto-parent of the whole race of controversies. 1658 BRAMHALL *Schisme Guarded* IV. I. x, His *Protopatriarchal power was acknowledged. 1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 86 We are to..eye Christ beyond them, especially, as the *Proto-Patterne. 1584 *Leycesters Commonw.* (1641) 91 Their Architipe or *Proto-plot which they follow (I meane the conspiracy of Northumberland and Suffolke in King Edwards dayes). 1882–3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* III. 1942 There is a *proto-presbyter or proto-pope at each cathedral ..in the Græco-Russian Church. 1694 J. SMITH *Doctr. Lord's Day* 70 Sunday was accounted by the *Protoprimitive Fathers the Seventh day in the order of Creation. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng.* 355 One of the first *Protoprotestants of England. 1714 LOCKHART *Mem. Affairs Scot.* 9 His son..thence acquired the title of *proto-rebell. 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. iv. 80 Queensberry, now regarded by Cavaliers as 'the proto-rebel', was Privy Seal. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. III. 85 He had under him twelve Scrineraries, and one *Proto-Scrinerary. 1702 *Burlesque L'Estrange's Quevedo* 279 Lucifer, the *Proto-Sinner of Heaven. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 284 Thomas that *Prototraitour and rebell to his Prince. 1686 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Protolypographer*.., the cheif Printer. 1880 BLADES in *Athenæum* 18 Dec. 814/3 He left Bruges to return to his native country and become its proto-typographer. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* Ep. Ded. 4 Nimrod the mighty Hunter, and *Proto-Tyrant of the world. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) I. iii. 132 *Protovestiary or wardrobe keeper of the palace of Antiochus at Constantinople (*c* 1070). 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 180 **Protozeugma*,..when the Verb or Adjective is expressed in the beginning of the clause or sentence; and omitted after.

2. In numerous modern scientific and technical terms (sbs. and adjs.). The second element is properly of Greek origin, less frequently of Latin.

a. Prefixed to adjs. from names of countries or races, forming adjs. denominating primitive or original tribes, languages, writings, works of art or manufacture, styles of architecture, etc.: as *proto-Arabic, -Babylonian, -Caucasic, -Celtic, -Corinthian, -Doric, -Egyptian, -Elamite, -Greek, -Ionic, -Phœnician, -Semitic.* Also with nouns denoting natives or inhabitants, as *proto-Mede.*

1889 SAYCE in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 905 An alphabet and language which have been termed *Protoarabic. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* iii. 182 The higher culture of the Semites, which again was derived from the *proto-Babylonian people. 1899 R. MUNRO *Prehist. Scot.* III. 246 The horned weapons are products of the *proto-Celtic stratum which lies chronologically between the earlier megalithic chambers and the later Gaulish tumuli. 1894 E. ROBINSON in *Nation* (N.Y.) 31 May 405/2 Of the early styles,.. and, most of all, the so-called '*proto-Corinthian'. 1907 *Athenæum* 6 July 20/2 In one of the primitive graves laid bare..in the Forum was found a small vase of the proto-Corinthian class. 1876 BIRCH *Rede Lect. Egypt* 21 The architect invents the *protodoric column. 1901 A. J. EVANS in *Oxf. Univ. Gaz.* 12 Feb. 339/1 A survival of this *Proto-Egyptian class in the Libyan regions. 1901 *Pilot* 26 Jan. 103/1 Hitherto .. called 'Mycenæan' or *proto-Greek art. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., [Figure] *Proto-Ionic Capital, discovered in the Troad. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Orig. Aryans* iii. 184 Non-Aryan tribes, such as the *proto-Medes,..the Etruscans, and the Picts. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 38 An expedition of acquisition, a truly *Proto-Phœnician trait!

b. In terms, chiefly of Zoology or Biology: usually designating an (actual or hypothetical) original or primitive form, type, organism, structure, etc. ‖ **Prota·mnion,** a hypothetical primitive amniotic animal, the supposed common

ancestor of mammals, birds, and reptiles. ‖ **Protamœ·ba,** a genus of Protozoa having lobate pseudopodia like the amœba (cf. PROTOGENES); hence **Protamœ·ban,** *a.* belonging to or having the characters of this genus; *sb.* a member of this genus; **Protamœ·boid** *a.*, resembling a protamœba. **Prota·mphirhine,** the ancestral type of the amphirhine or double-nostrilled vertebrates. ‖ **Prota·stacus** [Gr. *ἀστακός* lobster, crayfish], the ancestral type of the *Astacidæ* or crayfishes; hence **Prota·stacine** (-səin) *a.* **Protaxo·nial** *a.*, in *Morphology*, having the parts arranged about a single primary or main axis; of or pertaining to *Protaxonia*. **Prote·mbryo:** see quot.; hence **Protembryo·nic** *a.* ‖ **Protence·phalon,** the first of the three primary cerebral vesicles of the embryo. **Prothe·lminth** [Gr. *ἕλμινς, ἑλμινθ-* worm], a protozoön of the order *Prothelmintha*, comprising most of the *Infusoria*, regarded as representing an ancestral type of worms; hence **Prothelmi·nthic** *a.*; so ‖ **Prothe·lmis,** a hypothetical ancestral type of worms. **Prothyalosomal** (proθəiˌăləsōʊ·măl) *a.*, pertaining to the *prothyalosoma* [Gr. *ὕαλος* glass + *σῶμα* body], 'Van Beneden's name (1883) for the envelope of the nucleolus of an ovum' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Prothysteron** (proþi·stĕrɒn) *Rhet.* [Gr. *πρωθύστερον*] = HYSTERON PROTERON. **Protichnite** (-i·knəit), *Palæont.* [see ICHNITE], one of the fossil tracks found in the Potsdam sandstone of Canada, supposed to be those of a trilobite or allied animal. **Pro·toblast** [see -BLAST], (*a*) a cell of a primitive or simple form, consisting of a mass of protoplasm with no investing membrane or cell-wall; (*b*) 'the nucleus of the ovum' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Protobla·stic** *a.* = HOLOBLASTIC. **Protobla·stoderm,** the primitive blastoderm or investing layer of the fertilized ovum. **Proto-ca·rinate,** *a.* belonging to those primitive birds having a carinate or keeled breast-bone; *sb.* one of such birds. **Protoce·rcal** *a.*, *Ichth.*, having a tail-fin of the primitive form, continuous with the dorsal and ventral fins. **Pro·tocere** (-sīəɹ) [Gr. *κέρας* horn], the rudiment of the antler of a deer, the process developed in the first year. ‖ **Protoce·rebrum,** the anterior cerebral vesicle of the embryo, which develops into the cerebrum; hence **Protoce·rebral** *a.* **Protocœlo·mate,** an animal belonging to the *Protocœlo·mata*, a proposed division of *Metazoa* characterized by a primitive enteric cavity with simple cœlomic sacs, as most sponges; hence **Protocœloma·tic** *a.* **Pro·toconch** (-kɒŋk) [see CONCH], the embryonic shell in certain cephalopods; hence **Protoco·nchal** *a.* **Protodi·pnoan,** a hypothetical primitive dipnoan. **Pro·todome** *Cryst.*, a primary DOME. **Protodyna·stic** *a.*, *Anc. Hist.*, belonging to the first or earliest (Egyptian) dynasties. **Protofo·rami·nifer** (pl. -foramini·fera), a primitive foraminifer. ‖ **Protoga·ster** [Gr. *γαστήρ* stomach]: see quot. **Protoga·stric** *a.* [as prec.], (*a*) a term designating two lobes, one on each side, towards the front of the gastro-hepatic area of the carapace in brachyurous Crustaceans; (*b*) pertaining to the protogaster. **Protole·mur,** a term including various extinct insectivorous mammals as the supposed ancestral types of the lemurs. ‖ **Protoma·la** [L. *māla* jaw], each member of the first pair of jaws or mandibles in the Myriapoda; hence **Protoma·lal, Protoma·lar** *adjs.* **Protome·ristem** *Bot.*, the meristem or generating tissue of the youngest parts of plants; primary meristem (Russow (in Ger.) 1872). **Proto·merite** [Gr. *μέρος* part], the first or anterior segment of a polycystid gregarine, as distinguished from the larger posterior segment (*deuteromerite* or *deutomerite*); hence **Protomeri·tic** *a.* **Proto·mesal** *a.*, *Entom.* [Gr. *μέσος* middle], applied to a series of cells in the wings of hymenopterous insects; now called the second, third, and fourth submarginal or cubital cells. **Pro·tomorph** [Gr. *μορφή* form], a primitive or original form; so **Protomo·rphic** *a.*, having the primitive or simplest form or structure. **Protomy·xoid** *a.*, resembling *Protomyxa* [Gr. *μύξα* slime], a genus of myxopodous Protozoa. ‖ **Protone·phron** [Gr. *νεφρός* kidney], the primitive kidney in the embryo of vertebrates, consisting of the *pronephron*, *mesonephron*, and *metanephron*; hence **Protone·phric** *a.* **Protonu·cleate** *a.*, having a primitive nucleus; belonging to the *Protonucleata*, a hypothetical group of Protozoa regarded as the ancestors of all other animals. **Proto-o·rganism,** a primitive or unicellular organism, animal or vegetable; a protozoön or protophyte. **Proto-o·rnithoid** *a.* [Gr. *ὄρνις, ὀρνιθ-* bird], of the most ancient or primitive birdlike type. **Protophlo·em** *Bot.*, the tissue from which the phloem is developed; the primitive phloem of a fibro-vascular bundle (Russow (in Ger.) 1872). **Protopo·dial** *a.*, pertaining to a *protopodium*. **Proto·podite** [see PODITE], in Crustacea, the first or basal joint of a limb, which articulates with its somite; hence **Protopodi·tic** *a.* ‖ **Protopo·dium** [see PODIUM 2 b], a primitive or typical foot in Molluscs. **Pro·toprism** *Cryst.*, a primary prism. **Protopy·ramid** *Cryst.*, a primary pyramid. **Protosei·smograph** [see SEISMOGRAPH], an instrument for recording the beginning or first trace of an earthquake shock. **Protosi·phon,** the primitive or rudimentary siphon or siphuncle in the protoconch of certain cephalopods; also ‖ **Protosipho·nula.** **Protoso·mite,** each of the rudimentary somites or segments of the embryo in arthropods and annelids; hence **Protosomi·tic** *a.* **Pro·tospasm** *Path.*, a local spasm preceding a general convulsion. **Protospe·rmatoblast** [see SPERM and -BLAST], term for certain cells from which spermatozoa are formed: see quot. **Protospo·ngian** *a.*, designating a primitive stage in the development of a sponge. **Pro·tospore** *Bot.*, a primary spore or spore-like body in certain fungi, corresponding to the prothallium in higher cryptogams. **Proto·stoma** [Gr. *στόμα* mouth]: see quot. for *protogaster*. **Protosystema·tic** *a.*, *Cryst.*, belonging to a primary system. **Proto·te·rgite** *Entom.* [L. *tergum* back], the first dorsal segment of the abdomen of an insect. **Proto·xin:** see quot.; so **Prototo·xoid** = *protoxoid*: see TOXIN and TOXOID. **Protove·rtebra,** (*a*) *Comp. Anat.* in Carus's nomenclature (1828) applied to the ribs reckoned as the first set of vertebræ; (*b*) *Embryol.* each of the segments, formerly considered as primitive (temporary) vertebræ, in the early embryo of a vertebrate; hence **Protove·rtebral** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a protovertebra. **Protove·rtebrate** *a.*, (*a*) furnished with protovertebræ; (*b*) belonging to the *Protovertebrata*, the hypothetical ancestral forms of vertebrate animals. ‖ **Proto·vum,** an ovum in its first or primitive stage, e. g. before impregnation, or (in the case of a meroblastic ovum) before the formation of the food-yolk (cf. METOVUM). **Protoxylem** (-zəi·lem) *Bot.*, the tissue from which the xylem is developed; the primitive xylem of a fibro-vascular bundle. **Protozo·nite** *Entom.* [Gr. *ζώνη* girdle], each of the primitive or rudimentary segments of the body of an insect in the embryonic stage. **Protu·reter,** the primitive ureter, the excretory duct of the *protonephron*. See also PROTOHIPPUS, PROTOPHYTE, PROTOZOA, etc.

1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* xviii. II. 134 This unknown common parent-form is the Primitive Amnion Animal (**Protamnion*). In external appearance the Protamnion was most probably an intermediate form between the Salamanders and the Lizards. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 79 It is open to doubt..whether either **Protamœba*, *Protogenes*, or *Myxodictyum* is anything but one stage of a cycle of forms. 1883 J. E. ADY in *Knowledge* 15 June 353/2 The thousands of other *protamœboid creatures. 1869 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addr.* xii. (1873) 317 From this '*Protamphirhine' were developed, in divergent lines, the true Sharks, Rays, and Chimæræ; the Ganoids, and the Dipneusta. 1880 — *Crayfish* vi. 344 The common *protastacine form is to be sought in the Trias. 1878 — in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 787 A Crustacean..which we may call provisionally **Protastacus*. 1887 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 397 The stages of holoblastic ova may be..classified as follows..(1) The ovum or Monoplast..; (2) the first stage of segmentation..; (3) the second stage of segmentation... We have proposed to classify these stages under the name of *Protembryo. 1887 T. J. PARKER in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 37 The..unpaired portion of the *protencephalon (embryonic fore-brain). 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* xvii. II. 76 The common parent-form of the whole Worm tribe (the **Prothelmis*). 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* iii. 45 Some of the most ancient sandstones have their surfaces covered with rows of punctured impressions (**Protichnites*, first foot-prints). 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U.S.) VII. 772 The sandstone beds which contain the protichnites. 1872 PACKARD *Embryol. Stud. Hexapodous Insects* (Peabody Acad. Sci. I. Mem. III.) 6 The primitive blastodermic skin..or as it might be termed, *protoblastoderm. 1901 *Ibis* Apr. 343 That in Rhea we have represented the *proto-carinate wing-type of to-day. 1892 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* xx. 403 The end of the notochord in the tail is quite straight (protocercal and diphycercal). 1885 WILDER in *N. York Med. Jrnl.* 28 Mar. 354 *Protocerebrum, a monomial..;significant equivalent for..cerebral rudiment. 1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 113 Anatomically, the Sponges may be called Metazoa protocœlomata... We can readily transform a *protocœlomate into a trochocœlomate by destroying the horizontal parts of the partitions. 1888 *Ibid.* XXIII. 542 The *protoconch of Owen, in Cephalopods, is the early shell which precedes the conch, or true shell. Professors Hyatt and Brooks consider the protoconch in cephalous molluscs as..probably derived from the periconch of Scaphopods. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 52 The former [dome] is distinguished as the *protodome. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 6 Oct. 3/1 The period of the first three dynasties ..requires a designation of its own,..the word '*protodynastic' appears to be suitable. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* viii. 215 Eozoon [etc.], our *proto-foraminifera. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* viii. I. 194, I shall call the central cavity of the Gastrula-body the primitive intestine (**protogaster*), and its opening the primitive mouth (*protostoma*). 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 343 The latter is..subdivided into two epigastric lobes, two *protogastric lobes, a median mesogastric lobe, two metagastric lobes and two urogastric lobes. 1887 HEILPRIN *Distrib. Anim.* III. ii. 348 By Trouessart they [certain mammals of tertiary age] are all ranged with the Insectivora as the group of the *protolemurs. 1883 PACKARD in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* June 198 [In *Myriapoda*] the *protomala consists of two portions, the *cardo* and *stipes*, while the hexapodous mandible is invariably composed of but one piece,..which corresponds to the stipes of the myriapodous protomala. *Ibid.* 203 The *protomalal and deutomalal arthromeres. 1881 *Nature* XXIII. 288/1 Dr. Jakob Eriksson describes in a lengthened paper the *protomeristem of the roots of Dicotyledons. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 550 The young anther consists at first of a small-celled proto-meristem in which a fibro-vascular bundle becomes differentiated lying in the axis of the connective. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 858 [In] the *Polycystidea* [the body] is divided by two septa into three segments... The first segment is the epimerite; it is the part from which the other two segments bud out... The second segment is the *protomerite, the third and by far the largest, the deuteromerite. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxv. 632 The medial areolets of the Intermediate Area..form three distinct series; these may be called the *protomesal, deuteromesal, and tritomesal, reckoning from the postcostal areolets. 1876 J. J. G. WILKINSON *Hum. Sc. & Div. Rev.* 58 The growth of evils from their first wicked thoughts or germs, from their true *protomorphs, tiny and unperceived, to monstrous destructions. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 476/1 The integumentary *protomorphic line. 1867 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* § 290 II. 289 A protomorphic layer, which differentiates in opposite directions. 1883 P. GEDDES in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 846/2 The writer has attempted to explain the forms of free and united cells as specializations of a (*protomyxoid) cycle in which variations of functional activity are accompanied by the assumption of corresponding forms. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* xxv. II. 412 In all low Skulled Animals (*Craniota*), without amnion..the primitive kidneys (**protonephra*), though much modified,..act permanently as urine-secreting glands. 1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 113 Genesis of the *Protoorganisms found in Calcined Air, and in Putrescible Substances that have been heated to 150°. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Protoörganism*, one of the simplest of organised beings, capable of being referred either to the animal or vegetable kingdom. 1883 W. SIKES in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 332/2 Slab ..extending the..area of *proto-ornithoid forms of life from longitude 72° to 4°. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 390 The first primitive elements of the phloem, Russow's *protophloem. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* I. i. 105 In fully-developed vascular bundles the protoxylem and protophloem cease to perform their functions. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 94 (Common Crayfish) The appendages of the..post-abdominal segments consist of a biarticulate '*protopodite' [etc.]. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 273 Two pairs of appendages, composed each of a protopodite, terminated by an endopodite and exopodite. 1880 GILL in *Smithsonian Rep.* 361 The valve of the siphon [in Cephalopods] is a true foot or *protopodium, and the two lateral folds are pteropodia. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 283 The hexagonal deutero-prism..is identical in features with the *proto-prism... The horizontal sections of the proto- and deutero-prisms are regular hexagons. *Ibid.* 291 The trigonal *proto-pyramid may be regarded..as being a limiting case of the ditrigonal proto-pyramid. 1881 *Friends' Intelligencer* XXXVIII. 556 The *protoseismograph and the microseismograph,..with which Professor Palmieri.. may detect the first faintest quiver which hints the coming earthquake. 1893 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 103 An aperture through which the *protosiphonula communicated with the protoconch. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 243 Generally, the development of the *protosomites, as these segments might be called, does not occur until some time after the embryo has been hatched. *Ibid.* vi. 250 As with Annelids, the segmentation of the body results from the subdivision of the mesoblast by transverse constrictions into protosomites. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Jacksonian epilepsy .., epilepsy in which the spasms are local...Such spasms are also called *monospasms*, or, when they are followed by general convulsions, **protospasms*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 289 With this monospasm or protospasm there is often a tendency to generalisation. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Dec. 251 *note*, The spermatozoa of the Decapods studied by him [Sabatier] arise in large cells, the '*protospermatoblasts'. 1884 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 86 We have not been able to separate the *Protospongian stage of Haeckel from the ascula. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 72 These are sometimes called the *protosystematic planes. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* 110. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 567 We have three different toxins with different toxicity and different avidities to the antitoxin, viz. the *prototoxin, the deuterotoxin, and the tritotoxin. *Ibid.* 568 The prototoxin with the greatest avidity for the antitoxin and with the greatest toxicity..but..being comparatively labile it changes after some time into *prototoxoid. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 225 The mesoblast becomes divided into a series of quadrate masses, like the *protovertebrae of a vertebrate embryo. 1881 MIVART *Cat* 325 On each side of the medullary groove and notochord a series of quadrate thickenings appear, termed protovertebræ. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Protovertebra*, primitive segment of the mesoderm; myotome. When the name was given the myotomes were supposed to be the rudiments of the vertebræ. **Protovertebral column* or *plate*, a thick column of cells lying along the medullary groove, from which by segmentation the protovertebræ are formed. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* I. 223 The **protovum* is thus transformed into the *metovum* (after-egg) which is many times larger..but..is only a single..cell. 1887 tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* viii. 86 We have found..in the wood portion (the xylem) of the fibro-vasal bundle, the primary wood, the *Protoxylem, composed of primary wood-parenchyma and of vessels. 1898 *Ibid.* I. i. 105 The protoxylem occupies the innermost, the protophloem the outermost side of a procambium strand. 1871 PACKARD *Embryol. Stud. Diplax* etc. (Peabody Acad. Sci.

1. Mem. II.) 16 The primitive arthromeres, or segments of the body (*protozonites [mispr. *protozoonites] of Claparède). 1872 — *Hexapodous Insects* (Mem. III.) 6 The cephalic lobes and succeeding protozonites are formed. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man* xxv. II. 406 We find a long tube, the primitive kidney duct (**protureter*..), on each side.

3. In Chemistry. **a.** With names of binary compounds in **-IDE** (formerly *-uret*), designating that in which the element or radical combines in the first or smallest proportion with another element; e. g. PROTOXIDE, PROTOCHLORIDE (†*protochloruret*), PROTIODIDE, PROTOSULPHIDE (†*protosulphuret*), q.v. So **protobro·mide** (†*protobromuret*), **protocarbide** (*-carburet*), **protocyanide** (*-cyanuret*), **protophosphide** (*-phosphuret*), etc., a compound of bromine, carbon, cyanogen, phosphorus, etc., with another element or radical, in which the bromine, etc., is present in the smallest proportion, or in a smaller proportion than in another (designated by *per-*). Also in the generalized term **proto-compound.** Hence, in derived verbs, ppl. adjs., etc., as PROTOXIDATE, PROTOXIDIZE, *proto-ca·rbureted, -pho·sphureted, -su·lphureted*, now rarely used.

This use of *proto-* was introduced in 1804 by Dr. T. Thomson, in his *System of Chemistry*, ed. 2, for combinations of oxygen with a metal; *protoxide* being used to denote the first degree or 'minimum of oxidizement': see quot. s. v. PEROXIDE. It was extended by later chemists to similar combinations of other elements, as in 1815 to PROTOCHLORIDE, and so on. In later chemical nomenclature, names in *proto-* have been to a great extent superseded by others with more definite numerical prefixes, or in which the constitution of the substance is differently expressed (e. g. *protoxide of manganese* by *manganese monoxide*, or *manganous oxide*; *protochloride* and *protoxide of iron*, by *ferrous chloride*, *ferrous oxide*; *protocarburet of hydrogen* by *light carburetted hydrogen*, *methyl hydride*, *or methane*. But the *proto-* forms are retained in some cases, especially when they correspond with *mono-* compounds, and in pharmacy and popular use.

b. In ternary compounds *proto-* was formerly used to designate salts produced from protoxides (cf. PROTOSALT), which thus contain the smallest (or smaller) proportion of the acid radical. Thus, *proto-carbonate* or *proto-chlorate of iron*, = the earlier expressions, 'carbonate' or 'chlorate of the protoxide of iron', i. e. the salts formed by the action of carbonic and chloric acid on the protoxide of iron. The latter is now *ferrous oxide*, and the salts are called *ferrous carbonate* and *ferrous chlorate* respectively. So with organic salts, as *protacetate, protoxalate*; as *protoxalate of tin*, the salt produced by the action of oxalic acid upon the protoxide of tin (*stannous oxide*); now called *stannous oxalate*. So †*proto-hydrochlorate* (*proto-muriate*), †*proto-haloid salt*, a salt formed by the action, on a metallic protoxide, of hydrochloric (muriatic) acid or other haloid acid (see HALOID). †*Proto-hydrate*, the hydrate of a protoxide, as proto-hydrate of lime $CO.H_2O$. Hence †*Proto-combination*, combination of the protoxide.

These terms are common in chemical writings of the first half of the nineteenth century, but now belong mostly to the history of chemistry.

c. In Organic and Physiological Chemistry and Pharmacy, *proto-* occurs in senses having little or no connexion with a or b, but rather akin to its use in 1 or 2.

Thus in *proto-catechuic acid* ($C_7H_6O_4$) the name was given because the substance has some resemblance to *catechuic* acid or *catechu* (? $C_{15}H_{18}O_8$), but has a simpler composition. *Proto-albumoses* were the albumoses first produced in the process of digestion from the 'acid-albumins', and are now called *primary proteoses*. *Protalbinic acid* is the first product of the action of alkalies upon albumin or protein.

1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1315 Acetic acid .. forms a well-defined class of salts, *acetates*... Some of the peroxides convert part of this acid into carbonic acid and water, by which they are reduced to a soluble state, and form *protacetates. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 85 The bromine and the iron, in equivalent proportions unite to form a *protobromide of iron. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Protobromuret; protocarburet; protochloruret; protocyanuret; protofluoruret; protohydrioduret; protophosphuret; protoseleniuret; protosulphuret. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 84 Iron may be prescribed in the form of the *protocarbonate, citrate, pyrophosphate [etc.]. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Protocarbonated. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 422 Carbureted Hydrogen Gas. This gas has been distinguished also by the name of..gas of marshes, hydro-carburet, *proto-carburet of hydrogen. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 136 *Protocarburetted hydrogen and bicarburetted hydrogen .. are yet sensibly more compressible than air. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 385 Vanillin is the methylic aldehyd of *protocatechuic acid. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 303 Protocatechuic acid, $C_6H_3.CO_2H.(OH)_2$ is a frequent product of the fusion of organic substances with caustic potash. 1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 436 In almost every case..this metal [manganese] will be found in the state of *proto-combination,—either as an oxygen salt of the protoxide, or as a *protohaloid salt. *Ibid.* 443 With *protocompounds of iron it [red prussiate of potash] yields a white, with per-compounds a blue precipitate. *Ibid.* 499 It..is.. the *protocyanide, or *protocyanuret of mercury. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 577 In this compound, the lime is to the water, according..to Berzelius, as 100 to 32·1...It is, therefore, strictly a *proto-hydrate. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 17 A solution of *proto-hydrochlorate of tin. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 100 Corresponding with the two chlorides of copper, we have also a *protomuriate and permuriate. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 63 When this salt is dropt into a solution of *protonitrate of mercury, a copious white precipitate falls. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Protophosphoratus.., applied to hydrogen gas containing the first of the different proportions of phosphorus with which it combines: *protophosphorated. 1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 457 Add carbonate of potash or soda to a *protosolution of zinc. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1185 The *protoxalate [of iron] crystallizes in green prisms.

Proto-abbaty to **Protoblast-**: see PROTO-.

Protocanonical (prōu:tǒkănɒ·nikăl), *a.* [f. mod.L. *prōtōcanonic-us* (see PROTO- 1 + CANON) + -AL.] See quots.: opp. to DEUTEROCANONICAL.

[1566 A. F. SIXTUS SENENSIS *Bibl. Sancta* I. (1575) 13 Canonici primi ordinis, quos Protocanonicos appellare libet, ..de quorum autoritate nulla vnquam in Ecclesia catholica fuit dubitatio, aut controuersia.]

1629 T. ADAMS *Medit. Creed* Wks. 1862 III. 86 [The Creed] is the word of God,..not protocanonical scripture, yet the key of the holy Scripture. 1684 N. S. *Crit. Eng. Edit. Bible* App. 263 In the first [Classis] he reckons those [Books] which he calls Protocanonical, or Canonical of the first Order. 1727-51 [see DEUTEROCANONICAL]. 1849 W. FITZGERALD tr. *Whitaker's Disput.* 49 The proto-canonical [books] are those which are counted in the legitimate and genuine canon.

Protocarbide, etc.: see PROTO- 3 a.

Protochlo·ride. *Chem.* [PROTO- 3 a.] A compound of chlorine with another element or radical, containing the minimum proportion of chlorine; hence, antithetical to *perchloride*. Formerly also called **Protochlo·ruret.** (Now usually otherwise expressed, as *protochloride of iron* = ferrous chloride, $FeCl_2$).

1815 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) I. xiv. 418 The different compounds of chlorine with one base, might have been designated in the way proposed by Dr. Thomson for the oxides, the first being called proto-chloride, the second deuto-chloride, and so of the rest. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 169 Exposed to a moderate heat, it passes to the state of proto-chloruret. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 89 A solution of protochloride of tin containing a little perchloride of tin.

‖ **Protococcus** (prōutǒkɒ·kŭs). *Bot.* Pl. **protococci** (-kɒ·ksəi). [f. Gr. *πρῶτο-s* first, primary (see PROTO-) + *κόκκος* grain, seed.] A genus of microscopic unicellular algæ, of spheroidal form.

The common species *P. viridis* is abundant everywhere on trunks of trees, old palings, walls, etc., forming green patches or layers; *P. nivalis* is an alpine species constituting the so-called 'red snow'.

1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXII. 168/1 A field of green snow.. accompanied..with the Protococcus, giving a red colour. 1860 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 97. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 16 Get some water that is quite green from containing a large quantity of Protococcus.

Hence **Protoco·ccal** *a.*, of or pertaining to *Protococcus*; **Protoco·ccoid** *a.*, having the form of or resembling *Protococcus*.

1879 *Jrnl. Quekett Microsc. Club* 46 My impression,.. from an examination of many *Amœbæ*, is that they are the results of changes from the Protococcal state.

Protocœlomate, -atic: see PROTO- 2 b.

Protocol (prōu·tǒkɒl), *sb.* Forms: 6 **prothocoll, protocole,** (**prothogoll,** 6-8 **-gall, -call,** 7 **protocal**), 8 **protocoll,** 7- **protocol.** [Early mod.E. *prothocoll*, a. OF. *prothocole* (*a* 1200 in Godef. *Compl.*), *prothecolle*, mod.F. *protocole* (= Prov. *prothcolle*, It. *protocollo*, Sp. *protocolo*), ad. med.L. *prōtocoll-um*, ad. Gr. *πρωτόκολλ-ον* the first leaf of a volume, a fly-leaf glued to the case and containing an account of the MS., f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- first + *κόλλα* glue.

The history of the sense-development of this word belongs to mediæval Latin and the Romanic languages, esp. French; in the latter it has received very considerable extensions of meaning: see Du Cange, Cotgr., Littré, Hatz.-Darm., etc. The word does not appear to have at any time formed part of the English legal or general vocabulary; in Sc. from 16th c. probably under French influence; otherwise used only in reference to foreign countries and their institutions, and as a recognized term of international diplomacy in sense 2.]

1. The original note or minute of a transaction, negotiation, agreement or the like, drawn up by a recognized public official, notary, etc. and duly attested, which forms the legal authority for any subsequent deed, agreement, or the like based on it; †sometimes applied to a book or register in which these were written by the official concerned, as they were drawn up by him; = *protocol book*: see 7 (*obs.*).

In the parts of the United States acquired from Mexico, the name is used for the original record of a grant, transfer, etc. of land; under the Spanish law this was an entry made in his book by the official recorder of such transactions.

1541 [see 7]. 1552 HULOET, *Prothocoll*, loke in wrytynge fyrste drawen. 1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* IV. 309 The prothogoll heirof I wald haif drawin In writ, for cost to be my Vidimus. 1578 in *Maitland Cl. Misc.* (1840) I. 6 The prothogall of the chancellarie of France. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 223 In all Fairs there are but few,..and in some but one Notary Publick allowed of, who is to protest, and must keep a Protocal of every Protest, to which every one must have free access to see and know what Bills for Non acceptance, and what Bills for Non-payment are protested. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 304 An Original is in other Terms stiled the Protocol, or *Scriptura Matrix*; and if the Protocol, which is the Root and Foundation of the Instrument, does not appear, the Instrument is not valid. 1745 in Scott *Wav.* I, A corresponding entry was made in the protocol of the Lord High Chamberlain. 1752 J. LOUTHIAN *Form of Process* (ed. 2) 283 The current Price of the Vellum or Parchment for the Time. For the first Sheet that it fills up of the Clerk's Prothocall as Notary 4 0 0.

b. *fig.* An original authority.

1580 J. HAYE in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 37 Hawing for all learning ane onlie protocole of thair preachings, some Inglishe buikes, quhilks skairslie thay wnderstude thame selwes.

2. *spec.* The original draught, minute, or record of a dispatch, declaration, negotiation, treaty, stipulation or other diplomatic document or instrument; *esp.* a record of the propositions agreed to in a conference, signed by the parties, to be embodied in a formal treaty.

1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) IV. 222 The plenipotentiaries have agreed that point shal be entred in the protocol or register of the mediator. 1700 RYCAUT *Hist. Turks* III. 563 The Minutes or Protocolls of what was propounded. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4802/2 The Ministers..have given in their Reasons to be entred in the Protocoll. 1815 EARL CATHCART in Gurw. *Wellington's Desp.* (1839) X. 119 A copy of the Protocol of the military conference on the 19th Instant which has been signed by all the Field Marshals and general officers who were present. 1829 MACKINTOSH *Sp. Ho. Com.* 1 June, Wks. 1846 III. 515, I consider the protocol as the minutes of conferences, in which the parties verbally agreed on certain important measures, which, being afterwards acted upon by others, became conclusively binding. 1868 *Daily News* 18 Nov., The representatives of all the Powers signed the protocol, whereby the question..is satisfactorily settled. This protocol is to serve as the basis of an international convention. *fig.* *a* 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Garibaldi* vii, Men feared this man At Como, where this sword could seal Death's protocol with every stroke.

b. *transf.* (*familiar*) A preamble, a preliminary.

1897 MRS. RAYNER *Type-writer Girl* xi. 126 When all protocols were settled he went on, 'Can you come in at once?'

3. A formal or official statement of a transaction or proceeding.

1880 *Times* 9 Feb. 11/6 [In] St. Petersburg..all..vehicles which carry lamps..are compelled to light their lamps simultaneously with the lighting of the street lamps. Should the coachman fail to comply with this regulation, the police draw up a 'protocol' of the case, which is handed to a justice of the peace. 1884 [cf. quot. in 7]. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 104 Autopsy... Made and protocol dictated by Dr. Flexner.

4. An official of police in some foreign countries.

1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* xiv, When taken before the Protokoll at Dabkow.

5. In France, The formulary of the etiquette to be observed by the Head of the State in official ceremonies, relations with ambassadors, foreign sovereigns, etc.; the etiquette department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the office of the Master of the Ceremonies.

1896 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 7/7 M. Crozier, who fills the, to the public, mysterious office of Director of the Protocol, came up to the President and informed him that Mr. Gladstone, on a visit to Cannes, desired to pay him his respects. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 2/1 This will be a change indeed, for in M. Faure's time the contrary was the rule, thanks largely to the Protocol, to whose flummery the deceased President so weakly surrendered himself. *Ibid.* 9 Mar. 10/1 People interested in French matters have read something about the Protocol, which is virtually the etiquette department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

6. *Diplomatics.* The official formulas used at the beginning and end of a charter, papal bull, or other similar instrument, as distinct from the *text*, which contains its subject-matter.

The *initial protocol* consists, according to Giry, of the *Invocation* (e. g. In the name of God, Amen); the *Subscription* or *Superscription* (e. g. We, Edward, by the grace of God..King); the *Address* (e. g. To all our faithful subjects), and the *Salutation* (e. g. Greeting). The *final protocol*, sometimes called *eschatocol*, consists of the *Date*, the *Appreciation* (anciently 'feliciter', 'Deo gratias', or 'Amen'), and the *Validation* (signatures and seals of witnesses).

[1867 DE SICKEL *Acta Karolinorum* I. 208 Das Protokoll oder Formular. 1894 A. GIRY *Manuel de Diplomatique* 528 Le texte et le protocole réunis forment la teneur de l'acte.]

1908 HUBERT HALL *Eng. Official Hist. Doc.* 189 The distinction between the Protocols, or official formulas which occur at the beginning and end of the charter, and the Text, or body of the instrument, is not indicated at all. *Ibid.* 192 The description of the boundaries..is..usually inserted between the Text and the Final Protocol.

7. *attrib.*, as *protocol book, register* (one in which protocols were written, a notary's register).

1541 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 64 Ane.. instrument transsumit out of Master Androu Cheves prothogall buik. 1857 J. PATERSON *Hist. Regality Musselburgh* 31 The burgh had a protocol record. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 18 Oct. 6/5 The 'Protocol' King, as German newspapers delighted to call Christian IX, was really and truly the lawful heir and successor of Frederick VII. 1884 *Mind* Jan. 103 A second person sitting at the other side of the table reads off and records in the protocol-book the distance of each excursion. 1899 *Daily News* 6 Oct. 5/3 M. Loubet ..has no taste for those pomps and protocol ceremonies which his predecessor so intensely enjoyed.

Pro·tocol, *v.* [f. prec. sb. Cf. med.L. *prōtocoll-āre*, Ger. *protokollieren*.]

1. *intr.* To draw up protocols.

1832 [see PROTOCOLLING *vbl. sb.*]. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* vii, Lord Palmerston protocol-ed while Marshal Gerard bombard-ed. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. VI. iii, Serene Highnesses, who sit there protocolling, and mani-

festoing. 1871 *Daily News* 17 Jan., The diplomatists..will have an opportunity to prose and protocol over Turkey.

2. *trans.* To bring (into something) as by a protocol, or by diplomatic means. *nonce-use.*

1832 *Examiner* 663/1 [Her] half-coaxing, half-bullying manner of protocolling him into submission was inimitable.

3. To record in a protocol.

1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 286 They succeeded in protocolling their direct descent from the Romans, and even boldly laid claims to hereditary distinctions by the aid of various armorial and heraldic forgeries which they most cunningly devised. 1895 *Daily Chron.* 8 Nov. 4/5 We do not say the whole should be protocolled.

Hence **Pro·tocolling** *vbl. sb.*

1832 *Lincoln Herald* 13 Jan. p. iv, That our wise whig ministers were completely over-reached in the art of protocoling in the affair of Belgium. 1864 DK. MANCHESTER *Court & Soc.* I. xxiii. 391 In spite of all this protocolling.. the young people..patiently bided their time.

Protocolic (prōu·tokɒ·lik), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -IC.] Of or pertaining to protocols. So **Protocolist** (prōu·tokɒlist), one who draws up a protocol; **Protocolize** (prōu·tokɒləiz) *v.* **a.** *intr.* to draw up protocols; to diplomatize; = PROTOCOL *v.* 1; **b.** *trans.* (*a*) = PROTOCOL *v.* 2; (*b*) = PROTOCOL *v.* 3; hence **Pro·tocoli·zer.**

1836 DISRAELI *Runnymede Lett.* (1885) 152 To learn that his favourite portfolio was now in your Lordship's *protocolic custody. 1828–32 WEBSTER **Protocolist*, in Russia, a register or clerk. TOOKE. 1872 *Daily News* 5 Aug., The second meeting of the Sugar Conference was held at the Foreign-office on Saturday...Mr. F. G. Walpole attended as Secretary, and Mr. H. Austin Lee as Protocolist. 1833 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. (unpaged leaf), Will not the Whigs now *protocolize a little in Portugal? 1836 F. MAHONY *Rel. Father Prout, Plea Pilgr.* (1859) 35 *note*, The Irish Pozzo di Borgo ..kept protocolising with soft promises and delusive delays. 1854 SARAH AUSTIN *Germany* 141 To protocolize the business of the Counts. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 507 The hopes and expectations of our great *protocoliser. 1855 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 404 Lord Aberdeen.., the most pacific and *protocolizing of British statesmen.

Proto-combination, Proto-compound, Protocyanide, -uret, *Chem.*: see PROTO- 3.

Protoconch to **Protogastric**: see PROTO-.

Protogenal (prōtɒ·dʒĭnăl), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *πρωτογενής*: see PROTOGENES + -AL. (A more etymological form would be **protogeneal*: cf. next.)] First generated; primitive or primordial as an organism.

1868 OWEN *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 817 Sarcode or the 'protogenal' jelly-speck.

† **Protoge·neous,** *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πρωτογενής* (see next) + -OUS. (Cf. *homogeneous.*)] Of the first or highest kind or nature.

1660 BURNEY *Κέρδ. Δῶρον* (1661) 68 So Kings and Princes have the same sense correspondent to their several Titles,.. and are Homogeneous and Protogeneous in the decreeing of Justice.

‖ **Protogenes** (prōtɒ·dʒĭnīz). *Biol.* [mod.L. (Haeckel), a. Gr. *πρωτογεν-ής* first-born, primeval, f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *γένος, γενε-*, origin, race, nature, kind, f. stem *γεν-* to give birth to.] (See quots.)

1868 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* § 55 In the *Protogenes* of Professor Haeckel, there has been reached a type distinguishable from a fragment of albumen only by its finely-granular character. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* i. (1873) 8 In the lowest grade of the animal kingdom is a creature *Protogenes*, at once structureless and devoid of any form, as its shape varies like that of Proteus himself. 1884 TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 118 All along the line of evolution, from the 'protogenes' to the mammoth, there have been marked deviations to the right and the left.

Protogenetic (prōu·tɒdʒĭne·tik), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + GENETIC.] = next, c.

1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 200 The stomata of the epidermis..are a special case of schizogenetic and protogenetic spaces, which usually contain air. *Ibid.* 525 The occurrence of protogenetic secretory passages in the soft-bast has already been..noticed.

Protogenic (prōu·tɒdʒe·nik), *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *πρωτογεν-ής* first-born, primeval (see PROTOGENES) + -IC.] Primitive, or primitively formed.

a. Of or belonging to an original race or lineage.

1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* (1863) I. ix. 254 The former adheres to the protogenic character of the Celtae.

b. *Geol.* Applied to the primary or originally-formed igneous rocks: opposed to *deuterogenic.*

fig. *c* 1850 H. REEVE in *Academy* 8 Oct. (1898) 22/1 [Weighing Macaulay against Newton and Bacon, as a mind] essentially of the tertiary formation; [theirs] protogenic.

c. *Bot.* Applied to intercellular spaces, etc. formed in early stages of growth: opp. to HYSTEROGENIC.

1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 99 *note*, A distinction ..between those intercellular spaces which are formed when the tissues begin to differentiate,—*protogenic*,—and those formed in older tissues,—*hysterogenic.*

Protogine (prōu·tŏdʒin). *Geol.* [a. F. *protogine* (1806, Jurine, *Journ. des Mines*, Paris, XIX. 372), irreg. f. Gr. *πρῶτο-s* first + *γίν-εσθαι* to be born or produced (intended to express 'first-produced', the rock being assumed to be the most ancient of all).] A variety of granite occurring in the Alps, in which chlorite often takes the place of biotite (secondary white micas being sometimes developed), and in which a foliated structure has frequently been produced by dynamic action.

It was for a long time erroneously supposed to contain talc, and called *talcose granite*; its foliated structure also led to its being classed as a variety of gneiss. It abounds esp. in the chain of Mont Blanc, of which mountain it forms the summit.

1832 DE LA BECHE *Geol. Man.* (ed. 2) 37 Crystalline compounds arranged in strata, such as saccharine marble,.. gneiss, protogine, &c. 1849 DANA *Geol.* xiii. (1850) 564 Some of the veins in this Mellaca Hill consist of protogine, or a grayish-white granular compound of feldspar and compact talc. 1869 BRISTOW tr. *Figuier's World Bef. Deluge* ii. 35 Protogine is a talcose granite, composed of felspar, quartz, and talc or chlorite, or decomposed mica. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xii. 212 Protogine is a gneiss in which, in addition to the ordinary constituents of granite, a greenish, pearly, or silvery, talcose mineral is present.

Proto-god: see PROTO- 1.

Protogonous (prɒtɒ·gŏnəs), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *πρωτόγον-os* first-born, first-created + -OUS.] First-created, primitive.

1847 J. W. DONALDSON *Vind. Protest. Princ.* 140 An obvious attempt to biographize the protogonous and archetypal man.

Proto-gospel, -groomship: see PROTO-.

Protogynous (prɒtɒ·dʒinəs), *a. Bot.* [f. PROTO- + -GYNOUS.] = PROTEROGYNOUS: opp. to PROTANDROUS. Hence **Protogyny** (prɒtɒ·dʒini) = PROTEROGYNY: opp. to PROTANDRY.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 812 Dichogamous Flowers are either protandrous or protogynous. *Ibid.* 813 In protogynous flowers the stigma is receptive before the anthers in the same flower are mature. 1896 *Henslow's Wild Flowers* 56 Sometimes..the stigmas mature first. This is called protogyny.

‖ **Protohippus** (prōtoıhi·pŏs). *Palæont.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *ἵππος* horse. The Gr. word would have been **πρωθίππος*, **prothippus.*] An extinct genus of quadrupeds, ancestrally related to the horse, whose fossil remains are found in the Pliocene of North America.

1876 *Times* 7 Dec. (Stanf.), In the recent strata was found the common horse: in the Pleiocene. the Pleiohippus and the Protohippus or Hipparion. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* III. (1879) 509 Next came..the *Protohippus* of the United States and allied *Hipparion* of Europe.

Proto-historic to **Protolemur**: see PROTO-.

† **Proto·logy.** *Obs. rare*—⁰. [ad. Gr. *πρωτο-λογία* the right of speaking first; see PROTO- and -LOGY.] (See quots.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Protologie*, a preface. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Protologie*, a fore-speech, or Preface.

Protomagnate to **Proto-Mark**: see PROTO-.

Protomartyr (prōtoımā·ɹtəɹ). Forms: 5 **prothomartir**, -er, 5–6 **prothomartyr**, 6– **protomartyr.** [Late ME. *prothomartir*, a. OF. *prothomartir* (1326 in Godef.), mod.F. *protomartyr*, or a. med.L. *prōtomartyr* (in Beda), a. eccl. Gr. *πρωτόμαρτυρ*: see PROTO- and MARTYR *sb.*] The first martyr; the earliest of any series of martyrs (for Christianity, or for any cause); *spec.* applied to St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr.

1433 LYDG. *St. Edmund* III. 43 The prothomartir seyn Steuene with his stonys. *Ibid.* 58 Seynt Albon Prothomartyr off this regioun. *a* 1555 RIDLEY in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 73 Agayne I blesse God in our deare brother and of thys tyme protomartyr Rogers, that he was also.. a prebendarye preacher of London. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* (1616) 187 That [declaration] which S. Stephen the Prothomartyr made in his discourse to the Iewes. *c* 1661 *Mrq. Argyle's Last Will* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 508 Archibald, Marquis of Argyle, the Devil's viceroy in the Highlands, and the most sacred covenant's protomartyr in the Low. *a* 1749 BOYSE *Triumphs Nat.* Poems (1810) 537/1 With Hampden firm assertor of her laws, And protomartyr in the glorious cause. 1877 SHIELDS *Final Philos.* 205 As early as the twelfth century Arnold of Brescia,.. proto-martyr of civil liberty, had perished.

‖ **Protome** (prɒ·tōmi). *rare.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *προτομή* the foremost or upper part of anything, a bust or half-figure, f. *προτέμ-ειν* to cut off in front; cf. *τομή* cutting.] A bust.

1737 W. STUKELEY in *Mem.* (Surtees) III. 57 A very ancient protome of our Saviour's effigies over the south porch. 1868 *Ecclesiologist* XXIX. 72 A finely benignant head, or rather protome of the Saviour.

Protomeristem to **-metaphrast**: see PROTO-.

† **Pro·tomist.** *Obs. rare.* [For **protomyst*, ad. med.L. *prōtomyst-ēs* or *-a* (Sidonius), a. eccl. Gr. *πρωτομύστ-ης* a chief priest, a bishop, f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *μύστης* one initiated.] A chief priest.

1635 PAGITT *Christianogr.* App. 17 They have a Protomist or Bishop whom they highly reverence. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 152 They [Armenians] have two Patriarchs or Protomists. *Ibid.* 261 The Meccan Protomist sends a sanctified Camell by an adopted sonne, who is welcom'd to Spahawn by many thousand Mussulmen.

Protomorph to **Proto-natural**: see PROTO-.

‖ **Proton** (prōu·tɒn). *Biol.* [a. Gr. *πρῶτον*, neut. sing. of *πρῶτος* first.] (See quot. 1895.)

1893 *Nation* 11 May 350/2 Mark translates it [Ger. *anlage*] *fundament.* Minot adopts it as an English word...Neither seems to have thought of reverting to Aristotle, whose phrases..*ἡ πρώτη οὐσία*, *τό πρῶτον*, suggest the short word *proton.* 1895 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* IX. 104 (*note*), This neuter noun [proton] is employed to designate the primitive, undifferentiated mass or rudiment of a part, thus in the sense of *Anlage* of the German embryologists. 1898 *Nature* 15 Dec. 156/2 Dr. Arthur Willey recently suggested in these columns..the word *primordium* as an accurate..rendering of *Anlage.* Prof. B. G. Wilder..thinks the shorter word *proton*, already familiar in numerous compounds, and used by many biologists, is a better equivalent.

‖ **Protonema** (prōtonī·mă). *Bot.* Pl. **-ne·mata.** Also (in mod. Dicts.) in anglicized form **protoneme** (prōu·tonīm). [mod.L., f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *νῆμα* thread.] In mosses (and some liverworts), The confervoid or filamentous thallus which arises from the germination of the spore, and produces the full-grown plant by lateral branching. (Also called *pro-embryo.*)

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 509. 462 This mass..is called the Protonema, and is always distinguished by the cells containing chlorophyl. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 738 When the spores of mosses are sown they do not.. directly produce a young moss, but they put forth conferva-like filaments, which are called the *protonema.* 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 150 A new Moss-plant is.. constituted by the formation of a leaf-bearing shoot out of a branch of the alga-like Protonema, which branches, strikes root (by root-hairs), and is independently nourished.

Hence **Protone·mal, Protone·matal** *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a protonema; **Protone·matoid** *a.*, resembling a protonema.

1900 *Nature* 9 Aug. 340/1 Leaves which,..with greater or less intervention of protonematal filaments give birth to new individuals.

Protonephron, etc.: see PROTO- 2 b.

Protonic (prɒtɒ·nik), *a. rare*—⁰. [f. PRO-[2] + TONIC.] A more etymological form for PRETONIC.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Protonotary, prothonotary (prōu·tɒ|-, prōu·þɒnðu·tări; prɒtɒ·n-, prɒþɒ·nŏtări). Forms: *α.* 5– **prothonotary**; *β.* 6– **protonotary**; also 5 **-notur, -nothayr,** (6–7 **-natory, -natary**). [ad. late L. *prōtonotāri-us* (*c* 400 Ammianus in Du Cange), in med.L. also *protho-* (Hoveden); a. Gr. *πρωτονοτάρι-os* (in Sophronius *c* 634), f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *νοτάριος*, ad. L. *notārius* NOTARY *sb.* In 15th c. also after obs. F. *prothonotaire*, mod. *protonotaire.*

The pronunciation *prɒtɒ·nŏtary* is old in Eng., the absence of stress on *-notary* being shown by the 16th c. spelling *-natary, -natory*; cf. the corresponding spellings of PRENOTARY. It may have originated in the med.L. *prɒtɒ·notārius* and F. *protonotaire*, with the English gradual change of the (accidental) secondary into primary stress. The analytical spelling *prɒtɒ·notary*, and pronunciation *prōu·tɒ·nōtary* are also evidenced from 16th c. Both pronunciations, with the variants *prɒtɒ-* and *protho-* are now in official use in different quarters.]

1. A principal notary, chief clerk, or recorder of a court: originally, the holder of that office in the Byzantine court; also, applied by early English writers to similar officers in other ancient countries.

(But this latter application may have been suggested by the English use, sense 2.)

α. *c* 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 141 Oon Theophyl.. Wych prothonotarye was of þat kyngdam [Cappadocia]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Prothonotary*, *Protonotarius*, *Protonotary*,..was anciently the title of the principal notaries of the emperors of Constantinople.

β. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIII. xvi. 1166 Shut up and locked all the offices of the Chauncerie, and discharged for the time the publicke clarkes and protonotaries attending upon that court. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Protonotary*, in early times this title, which seems to have been first used at Constantinople, meant 'the chief of the notaries', and corresponded to *primicerius notariorum*, the term then in use at Rome. After 800, the title of protonotary was introduced in the West.

2. In England, formerly, The chief clerk or registrar in the Courts of Chancery, of Common Pleas, and of the King's Bench; also, in other courts of law, in some of which the term is still in use: see quots.

α. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1063 A provincialle, a doctoure devine, or bope lawes, þus yow lere, A protho-notur apertli, or þe popis collectoure, if he be there. 1467–8 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 578/1 Oure Prothonotary in oure Chauncery. 1658 *Practick Part of Law* (ed. 5) 2 The Subordinate Officers [of the Court of Common-Pleas] are..Three Prothonotaries (who by themselves and their Clarks, draw all pleadings and enter them, and exemplifie and record all common Recoveries). 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 385 There are the same judges as in the Marshalsea-court, and a prothonotary, a secondary, and deputy protho-notary. 1825 *Act* 6 *Geo. IV*, c. 59 § 4 The..deposit of the price..in the hands of the prothonotary or clerk of such court. 1854 *Act* 17 & 18 *Vict.* c. 125 § 101 All the Provisions..applicable to Masters of the said Courts at Westminster shall apply to the respective Prothonotaries of the Court of Common Pleas at Lancaster and Court of Pleas at Durham. 1868 *Lond. Gaz.* 14 July 3937/2 The Queen has been pleased to appoint Edward Thomas Wylde, Esq., to be Registrar or Prothonotary and Keeper of Records of the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

β. 1599 *Life Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Eccl. Biog.* (1818) II. 147 His Father..had procured for him the Protonotaries office of the King's Bench. 1658 BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* iv. 108 Two of them were the Principall Publick Notaries in England, that is, Anthony Huse protonotary of the See of Canterbury, and Thomas Argall Registerer of the Prerogative Court. 1674 G. HUXLEY (*title*) A second Book of Judgements ,, with *Addition of some Notes*, by George Townesend Esq; Second Prothonotary of the Common Pleas. Very Useful and Necessary for all Prothonotaries, Secondaries, Students [etc.]. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. xv. (ed. 22) 197 There are three Protonotaries [of the Court of Common Pleas]..: they are chief Clerks of this Court, and by their Office are to enter and enroll all Declarations, Pleadings,..Assizes, Judgments

and Actions; to make out Judicial Writs, etc. for all English Counties except Monmouth.

3. *R. C. Ch.* A member of the college of twelve (formerly seven) prelates, called *Protonotaries Apostolic(al*, whose function is to register the papal acts, to make and keep records of beatifications, to direct the canonization of saints, etc. Formerly also a title of certain papal envoys.

a. **1494** FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 435 Master Godfrey de Plessys, prothonothayr of ye courte of Rome. **1550** BALE *Apol.* 92 Of lykelyhode ye are some prothonotary of Rome. **1725** tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist. 17th C.* I. II. viii. 73 Anthony Goosode, Doctor in Divinity, and Apostolick Prothonotary. **1845** S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. iii. I. 477 How proud and elated was Eck on reappearing in Germany with the new title of papal prothonotary and nuncio.

β. **1555** EDEN *Decades* 1 Counsiler to the kyng of Spayne and Protonotarie Apostolicall. **1682** *News fr. France* 36 The most renowned John Baptist Lauri, Protonotary Apostolick, and Auditor of the Apostolick Nunciature in France. **1758** JORTIN *Erasm.* I. 11 The Popes Protonotary of Ireland. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 1/2 Monsignor Weld..was the oldest Protonotary Apostolic attached to the Papal household.

b. *Gr. Ch.* The principal secretary of the Patriarch of Constantinople.

1835 F. SHOBERL tr. *Chateaubriand's Trav. Jerus.*, etc. I. Introd. (ed. 3) 19 The first [letter] is addressed in 1575, by Theodore Zygomalas, who styles himself Prothonotary of the great church of Constantinople, 'to the learned Martin Crusius [etc.]'.

4. A chief secretary in some foreign courts; also *transf.* and *fig.*

a. **1502** *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 4 A servaunt of the prothonotarye of Spayn. *c* **1570** *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 70, I wrote never day with prothonotory. **1756** NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Germany* II. 93 This senate [of Hamburg] consists of four burgomasters,.. twenty-four senators,..four syndics,..and four secretaries, the chief of whom is called Prothonotary.

β. **1633** T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Peter* iii. 2 They [i. e. the pro phets] were the protonotaries of heaven, the registers of the truth, the secretaries of the Holy Ghost. **1852** Miss YONGE *Cameos* (1877) III. xxx. 304 Bayard had come out of his ambush too soon, and only dispersed the suite of secretaries, protonotaries, and all the rest.

Hence **Proto-, prothonotarial** (-ēə·riăl) *a.*, of or pertaining to a protonotary; **Proto-, prothonotariat** (-ēə·riăt), the college of protonotaries; **Proto-, prothono·taryship**, the office of a protonotary.

1547 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 517 Sir John Godsalve ..was required to repaire hether to attend his office of the Signete and Protonotorieshipe. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 452/3 Her Majesty who also gave him [George Carew] a Prothonotaryship in the Chancery. **1893** *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Apr. 2/1 The ancestor..drew a profit from the Prothonotaryship, and shared in the subsequent pension.

Proto-notator, Protonucleate: see PROTO-.

Protonym (prōu·tŏnim). *rare.* [f. PROT(O- + Gr. *ὄνομα, ὄνυμα* name, after *synonym.*] The first person or thing of the name; that from which another is named.

1880 *Scribner's Mag.* Mar. 667/2 The wrecked canal-boat, the *Evening Star*, .. quenched in the twilight, with its heavenly protonym palpitating in the vapor above it. **1882** *Daily News* 26 June 5/2 Faugh-a-Ballagh..a colt of no mean ability..was, like his famous protonym, bred in Ireland.

Proto-organism, -ornithoid: see PROTO- 2 b.

‖ **Protopapas** (prōutopæ·păs). Also 7 **-pappa.** [a. eccl. Gr. *πρωτοπαπᾶς* chief priest, f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *παπᾶς* priest (see POPE *sb.*[2]); cf. med.L. *prōtopāpa*, and see PROTOPOPE.] = PROTOPOPE.

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* I. 32 The Protopappa, or Chief Priest. **1718** OZELL *Tournefort's Voy.* I. 274 The Greeks have full 200 Papas subject to a Protopapas. **1820** T. S. HUGHES *Trav. Sicily* I. iv. 141 They inhabit a certain quarter where they have a church called the Catholicon, and a protopapas or high-priest.

Protoparent: see PROTO- 1.

Protopathic (prōutopæ·pik), *a. Path.* [f. PROTO- + Gr. *πάθ-ος* suffering, disease + -IC: cf. for form, Gr. *παθικ-ός* PATHIC.] Of the nature of a primary disease or affection: opp. to *deuteropathic.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Protopathicus*, term applied the same as *Primary*, to the symptoms of disease;..protopathic. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 738 This primary debility of the heart..constitutes the primary or protopathic malignity of the older writers. **1899** *Ibid.* VII. 176 The atrophy was regarded as secondary to the lateral sclerosis, and hence these cases are called deuteropathic, in opposition to the protopathic cases of progressive muscular atrophy.

Protopathy (prŏtɒ·păpi). *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *prōtopathĭa*, a. Gr. *πρωτοπάθεια* (Galen), a first feeling, f. *πρωτοπαθεῖν* to suffer or feel first: see PROTO- and -PATHY. So F. *protopathie.*] Primary suffering; pain or other sensation immediately produced; in *Path.* a primary disease or affection, i. e. one not produced by or consequent on another. (Opp. to DEUTEROPATHY and SYMPATHY.)

1636 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xii. § 6 The grief and sorrow which in the Garden he [Christ] suffered could not be known by sympathy. The protopathy was in Himself, and no man..could so truly sympathize with Him in this grief, as he had done with them. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 163/2 If any man strike me, I feel immediately; because my soul is united with this body that is struck: and this is protopathy. **1858** MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Protopathia*, term for a first or original suffering, opposed to sympathy: protopathy.

Proto-patriarchal to **-phloem**: see PROTO-.

Protophosphide, -uret: see PROTO- 3.

‖ **Protophyta** (prŏtɒ·fită), *sb. pl. Bot.* [mod.L., pl. of *prōtophytum*, f. Gr. *πρῶτος* first, PROTO- + *φῠτόν* plant.] A primary division of the vegetable kingdom (corresponding to PROTOZOA in the animal kingdom), comprising the most simply organized plants (usually of microscopic size), each individual consisting of a single cell. (Formerly more vaguely used: see quot. 1858.)

1855 [see PROTOZOA]. **1858** MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Protophytum*, applied (*Protophyta*, nom. pl. n.) by Fries to the *Algæ*, which he regarded as the first productions of the vegetable kingdom...Mackay established under this name a division containing the *Mucores* and *Lichenes*: a protophyte. **1860** H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 99 The lowest forms of animal and vegetal life—*Protozoa* and *Protophyta*—are chiefly inhabitants of the water. **1895** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 8/2 The oysters thrive best upon the living protophyta and protozoa.

Protophyte (prōu·tofəit). [ad. mod.L. *prōtophytum*: see prec. So F. *protophyte.*] A plant belonging to the division *Protophyta*; a unicellular plant. (Used as the Eng. singular of *Protophyta.*)

1853 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* **1862** DANA *Man. Geol.* III. i. 270 The plants thus far observed are sea-weeds and Protophytes. **1884** *Trans. Victoria Inst.* 78 The protophyte obtains the materials of its nutrition from the air and moisture that surround it.

Protophytic (prōutofi·tik), *a.* [f. PROTOPHYT-A + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, derived from, or having the characters of the *Protophyta.*

1882 *American* V. 122 The protophytic origin of the mineral.

Pro·topine. *Chem.* [f. PROTO- 3 c + OPIUM + -INE 5.] A white crystalline alkaloid, $C_{20}H_{19}NO_5$, occurring in very small quantities in opium.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Chem. Dict.* IV. 345.

Protoplasm (prōu·toplæz'm). *Biol.* [ad. Ger. *prōtoplasma* (H. von Mohl, 1846), f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *πλάσμα* moulded thing, figure, form. (*Protoplasma* was used in late L. by Venantius Fortunatus *a* 600, in sense of 'first created thing, protoplast', and was prob. used in Chr. Greek.)]

A viscid, semifluid, semitransparent, colourless or whitish substance, consisting of oxygen, hydrogen, carbon, and nitrogen (often with a small amount of some other elements) in extremely complex and unstable combination, and manifesting what are known as vital properties, i. e. irritability, contractility, spontaneous movement, assimilation, and reproduction; constituting 'the physical basis of life' (Huxley) in all plants and animals, and forming the essential substance of the cells (see CELL *sb.*[1] 12) out of which their bodies are built up. Also called BIOPLASM, CYTOPLASM, and (in animals) formerly SARCODE.

[**1846** VON MOHL *Saftbewegungen im Inneren der Zellen* in *Botan. Zeitung* 73 tr. Henfrey (1852) 37 The remainder of the cell is more or less densely filled with an opake, viscid fluid, of a white colour, having granules intermingled in it, which fluid I call protoplasm.] **1848** LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* (ed. 4) I. 10 The first layer of matter is invariably soft and azotised, and now bears the well-contrived name of *protoplasm*, proposed by Professor Mohl. **1854** EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 141 Indicating the way upward from the invisible protoplasm to the highest organisms. **1866** [see CELL *sb.*[1] 12]. **1868** HUXLEY in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Feb. (1869) 129, I have translated the term Protoplasm which is the scientific name of the substance..by the words 'physical basis of life'. **1875** BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 3 Since..no further process of development can take place in the cells which no longer contain protoplasm, it may be concluded that the latter is the proximate cause of growth. **1903** MYERS *Human Personality* I. 117 In the protoplasm or primary basis of all organic life there must have been an inherent adaptability to the manifestation of all faculties which organic life has in fact manifested.

fig. **1894** H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 189 These [primeval times] were the days of the protoplasm of speech. **1906** D. S. CAIRNS *Chr. Mod. World* iii. 150 Here is the true protoplasm of Christianity out of which..all the theologies and all the ritual..have sprung.

c. *Comb.* as *protoplasm-mass, -sac*, etc.

1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 2 The cavity enclosed by the protoplasm-sac is filled with a watery fluid, the Cell-sap. **1882** VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 7 The formation of a new cell always commences with the re-arrangement of a protoplasm-mass round a new centre. **1895** in *Daily News* 3 Oct. 2/2 The protoplasm-containing cells of his brain.

Protopla·smal, *a. rare.* [f. prec. + -AL.] = PROTOPLASMIC. (*Cent. Dict.*)

Protoplasmatic (prōu·to|plæzmæ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. type **πρωτοπλάσματ-* + -IC: the etymological derivative after Greek analogies.] = PROTOPLASMIC.

1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 40 By protoplasmatic off-shoots from pre-existing capillaries. **1893** NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 196 The germinal vesicle, .. like the white yolk, consists of numerous protoplasmatic spherules.

† **Protoplasmator.** *Obs. rare.* In 6 **protho-**. [? med.L.: see PROTO- and PLASMATOR, and cf. PROTOPLASM.] First framer or moulder, creator: = PROTOPLAST 2.

c **1550** R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* A iij, Thou knowest howe god the hygh prothoplasmator Of erth hath formed man after hys owne ymage.

Protoplasmic (prōutoplæ·zmik), *a.* [f. PROTOPLASM + -IC. So F. *protoplasmique.*] Of, pertaining to, or having the nature of protoplasm.

1854 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) V. 67/1 The formation of nuclei or cells in a protoplasmic matrix. **1859** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 217/1 The protoplasmic membrane divides..into particles. **1861** BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 56 All cells originate..either free in the cavities of older cells, or at least in the protoplasmic fluid elaborated by their agency; or by the division of such cells.

fig. **1888** *Athenæum* 7 Jan. 13 The metrical systems of the banished *régime*..have, no doubt, a primitive and even a protoplasmic simplicity. **1891** *Daily News* 20 Oct. 2/6 The barber-surgeon and medicine man of ancient times, who furnished the protoplasmic material out of which the art of medicine and surgery had been evolved.

b. Relating to protoplasm; acting upon or affecting protoplasm.

1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 148 Quinia..is a protoplasmic poison, and arrests the amoebiform movements of the white corpuscles. **1903** MYERS *Human Personality* I. 117 Which..to avoid the ambiguities of the word Darwinian, I will call the protoplasmic solution.

Pro·topla·smist. *rare.* [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who treats of protoplasm.

1884 C. A. BARTOL in *Homilet. Monthly* (N. Y.) July 550 Amid the slime protoplasmists tell of at the bottom of the sea.

Protoplast[1] (prōu·to|plæst). Also 6 **protho-plauste.** [a. F. *protoplaste* (16th c. *prothoplauste*), or ad. late L. *prōtoplast-us* (14th c. *-plaustus*), ad. Gr. *πρωτόπλαστ-ος* (LXX. *Wisd.* vii. 1), f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *πλαστ-ός* moulded, formed, vbl. adj. f. *πλάσσ-ειν* to form, mould.]

1. That which is first formed, fashioned, or created; the first-made thing or being of its kind; the original, archetype. **a.** The first man; the first created of the human race.

c **1532** DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1049 Comyng from God to the firste father or protholauste [Fr. *premiér père ou prothoplauste*] it goeth and retourne to God from father to the sonne. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 202 In Salem citie was Adam our protoplast created. **1794** COLERIDGE *Dest. Nations* 282 Night A heavy unimaginable moan Sent forth, when she the Protoplast beheld. **1888** *Q. Rev.* Apr. 300 The Book [Wisdom of Solomon] has given to modern science the term 'protoplast', which it twice uses of Adam.

† **b.** The first man of some line or series. *Obs.*

1644–7 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 1 The originall sinner in this kind was Dutch; Galliobelgicus the Protoplast; and the moderne Mercuries but Hans-en Kelders. **1737** BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 55 The Pedigree we often lay Claim to would produce a Drummer, as frequently as a Colonel, for his Protoplast.

c. The first example; the original, model.

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* viii. 67 The first windmilne that the inuentioner euer set vp to grinde corne was the Protoplast and example from whence all other wind-milnes sprange and were deriued. **1651** BIGGS *New Disp.* P 238 The protoplast or primitive ordainment of a Cautery, had excretion for its object. **1819** H. BUSK *Vestriad* IV. 172 No more the protoplast of active beauty. **1863** *Macm. Mag.* May 63 If Hebrew was the protoplast of speech.

d. *attrib.* in apposition; or *adj.*

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 406 Ignatius, the Protoplast Iesuite. **1695** J. SAGE *Article*, etc. Wks. 1844 I. 204 Andrew Melville, the Protoplast Presbyterian in Scotland.

2. *Biol.* A unit or mass of protoplasm, such as constitutes a single cell; a bioplast. Sometimes applied to a unicellular organism; *spec.* one of the suborder *Protoplasta* of rhizopods.

[**1858** MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Protoplast, Physiol.*, a primary formation.] **1884** *Standard Nat. Hist.* (1888) I. 14 The filose protoplasts seem to be in nowise different from the Foraminifera, except that the shells of the latter are usually calcareous. **1898** tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* I. i. 52 Within the walled protoplasts, the granular protoplasm often exhibits internal flowing movements.

Pro·toplast[2]. Also 6 **prothoplast.** [ad. med.L. *prōtoplast-ēs*, a. Gr. **πρωτοπλάστ-ης*, f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *πλάστης*, agent-n. f. *πλάσσειν*: see prec.] The first former, fashioner, or creator.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 100 The followers of a prothoplast or first Author of a profession. [**1650** BULWER *Anthropomet.* Ep. Ded., The honour and reputation of the great Architect, man's Protoplastes.] **1676** NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 389 Nature, .. became a complete imitator of the copies set her by the protoplast. **1872** BROWNING *Fifine* cxxiv, Those mammoth-stones, piled by the Protoplast Temple-wise in my dream!

Protoplastic (prōutoplæ·stik), *a.* [f. PROTOPLAST[1] + -IC: cf. PLASTIC.]

1. Of the nature of a protoplast (see PROTOPLAST[1] 1); first formed; original, archetypal.

a **1652** J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* v. viii. (1821) 170 Which issuing forth from God..is the protoplastic virtue of our being. **1660** HOWELL *Lexicon* Poems 1 When our Protoplastick sire Lost Paradis. **1716** M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. To Rdr. 7 A more correct Edition of the Protoplastick Copy. **1840** F. BARHAM *Alist* 5 This divine or protoplastic Adam ..is the divine idea or exemplar of humanity.

2. *Biol.* = PROTOPLASMIC.

1855 BADEN POWELL *Ess.* 436 *note*, What the author terms the 'primary mucus', 'schleim-substanz', or protoplastic matter. **1898** tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* I. i. 52 Rotation is the more frequent form of protoplastic movement in the cells of water-plants, while in land plants circulation is..the rule.

Proto-plot to **Protopodium**: see PROTO- 1, 2 b.

Protopope (prōu·topōup). [ad. Russ. *протопопъ protopop*[u]: see PROTO- and POPE *sb.*[2]; after eccl. Gr. *πρωτοπαπᾶς* PROTOPAPAS. So F. *protopope.*]

A chief priest, or priest of higher rank, in the Greek Church.

1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 136 A Protopope of Casanskey, whose name was Juan Neronou, began to inveigh against the honour done to Images. 1784 COXE *Trav. Poland*, etc. II. 103 The highest dignity to which they can ever attain, as long as they continue married, is that of protopope of a cathedral. 1900 *Pilot* 7 July 6/2 One formerly a playmate, but now the fiercest opponent of Nikon, the protopop Avvakum.

Proto-presbyter to **-protestant**: see PROTO-.

‖ **Protopterus** (prōtǫ·ptĕrŭs). *Ichth.* [mod.L. generic name (Owen, 1837), f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *πτερ-όν* wing (taken in sense 'fin').] A genus of dipnoan fishes, formerly included in *Lepidosiren*, containing only the African mud-fish (*P. annectens*); characterized by having the pectoral and ventral fins reduced to long fringed filaments; also, a fish of this genus.

1837 (June) OWEN in *MS. Catal. Museum of Coll. Surg.* Protopterus. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 59/2. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 186 The protopterus and lepidosiren, which are the most reptile-like of fishes. 1894 *Daily News* 10 Apr. 5/4 The biggest protopterus at the Zoo is not more than two feet long.

Hence **Proto·pteran**, *adj.* of the nature of a *Protopterus*; having a primitive or simple type of fin; *sb.* a fish of the order *Protopteri* (a synonym of *Dipnoi*); ‖ **Protopter** (protǫ·ptər) [= Fr. *protoptère*] = prec. sb.; **Proto·pterous** = prec. adj.

Protopterygian (prōu·tɒiptĕri·dʒiăn), *a. Ichth.* [f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *πτερύγιον* fin + -AN.] Introduced by Ryder to designate the first-fin stage when the embryonic fin rays first appear.

1884 *Rep. U. S. Comm. Fish.* (1886) 987 The protopterygian stage of development of the permanent fin-rays.

Protopyramid: see PROTO- 2 b.

† **Protoqua·mquam.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PROTO- + L. *quamquam* although, albeit, notwithstanding that.] Humorous imitation of PROTONOTARY, referring to the exceptive and concessive conjunctions used in legal documents.

1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 180 Who in case of his Unckles exaltation, would be the *Protoquamquam* in Rome.

Protosalt (prōu·tɒisɒlt). *Chem.* [f. PROTO- 3 + SALT.] A salt formed by combination of an acid with the protoxide of a metal, e. g. a salt of ferrous oxide, Fe O, as ferrous sulphate, Fe SO_4.

1820 FARADAY [see PERSALT]. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 592 The protosalts of iron are in these cases preferable to those of tin, inasmuch as the resulting peroxide of iron is retained in solution, and the precipitated metal is pure. 1866 R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 42 Among paramagnetic substances are proto salts of iron. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 239 The ferrous- or proto-salts are distinguished by their light green colour.

So **Proto-solu·tion**, a solution which contains a protosalt.

1854 SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sc., Chem.* 457 Add carbonate of potash or soda to a protosolution of zinc.

Proto-scrinerary to **-spasm**: see PROTO-.

‖ **Protospatharius** (prōu·tɒispăpē·riŭs). Also in Fr. form **protospat(h)aire.** [med.L. *prōtospathārius*, ad. Byzant. Gr. *πρωτοσπαθάριος*, f. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *σπαθάριος* swordsman.] Title of the captain of the guards in the Byzantine empire.

1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* liii. (1846) V. 267 Whilst he exercised the office of *protospathaire*, or captain of the guards, Photius was sent ambassador to the caliph of Bagdad. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ii, Every one..hath understood this much, that the great Protospathaire..hath me at hatred. 1853 J. STEVENSON *Ch. Historians Eng.* I. 648 The protospataire was sent to summon Sergius. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* II. 140 The protospatharius, the officer of the Emperor, was driven with insult from the city.

Protospermato- to **Protostoma**: see PROTO-.

Pro·tosu·lphide. *Chem.* [PROTO- 3.] A compound of sulphur with another element or radical containing the minimum proportion of sulphur. Formerly also called **Protosu·lphuret.** (Now usually otherwise expressed: as *protosulphide* or *-sulphuret of iron* = ferrous sulphide, Fe S.) So † **Protosu·lphate**, a salt formed by sulphuric acid with the protoxide of a metal, as *protosulphate of iron*, = ferrous sulphate, copperas, or green vitriol.

1856 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* II. 726 Potassium..combines with this element [sulphur] in..five different proportions, KS, KS_2, KS_3, KS_4, and KS_5...The *protosulphide, KS [New Notation K_2S], etc. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 376/2 The proto-sulphide is..produced by passing sulphuretted hydrogen through a solution of a copper salt. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 35 Two compounds of iron and sulphur have been proved to exist, the one with a smaller..proportion of sulphur..which is distinguished by the property of being magnetic, is the *proto-sulphuret. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 430 Sulphuretted hydrogen destroys the colour of the red compound of strychnine, as does..*protosulphate of iron. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 146/1 Protosulphate of iron is well known under the name of green copperas.

Protosystematic to **-tergite**: see PROTO-.

‖ **Prototheria** (prōutǫpĭe·riă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L. (Gill, 1872), f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *θηρία* beasts.] The lowest subclass of Mammals (correlative with *Eutheria* and *Metatheria*), comprising the single order *Monotremata*, with their hypothetical ancestors. Sometimes confined to the latter, as the primitive mammalian type. Hence, **Prototh ere** (prōu·tǫpĭə), a member of the *Prototheria*; **Prototherian** (prōutǫpĭə·riăn), *a.* belonging to the *Prototheria*; *sb.* = *prototh ere.*

1880 HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 653 It will be convenient to have a distinct name, *Prototheria*, for the group which includes these, at present, hypothetical embodiments of that lowest stage of the mammalian type, of which the existing Monotremes are the only known representatives. 1881 — in *Nature* XXIII. 229/1 There is no known Monotreme which is not vastly more different from the Prototherian type. 1885 W. K. PARKER *Mammalian Desc.* ii. 48 *note*, A thoroughly clear idea of what a primary mammal, an original, ancient 'Prototh ere' must have been like. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 65 The astrapothere and prototheres died out without descendants.

Prototoxin to **Prototraitor**: see PROTO-.

Prototypal (prōu·tǫ|təipăl), *a.* [f. next + -AL.] Of the nature of, or constituting, a prototype; of or pertaining to a prototype; archetypal.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxviii. 319 Prototypal and precedenting fool. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Arianism* 4 The prototypal Schemes and original Ideas of that Præ-Arian primitive Anti-Christianity. 1888 DAWSON *Geol. Hist. Plants* ii. 24 Survivors of that prototypal flora. 1893 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 262 The mole..is the prototypal navvy.

Prototype (prōu·tǫtəip. Also 7 **-tipe.** [a. F. *prototype* (Rabelais, 16th c.) f. mod.L. PROTOTYPON, q.v.] The first or primary type of anything; the original (thing or person) of which another is a copy, imitation, representation, or derivative, or to which it conforms or is required to conform; a pattern, model, standard, exemplar, archetype.

1603 DANIEL *Panegyric to King* xxiii, There great Exemplare Prototipe of Kings, We finde the good shal dwel within thy Court. 1649 BP. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 10 The framing of the Petition having been committed to him, he had yet the Prototype by him. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) I. 90 He and .. Charles Brandon were the prototypes of those illustrious heroes, with which Mademoiselle Scuderi has enriched the world of chivalry. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* ix. (1879) 200 The Apteryx..as well as its gigantic extinct prototype the Deinornis, possess only rudimentary representatives of wings. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 284 For the prototype of this tale we must look to the story of 'Brynhildr and Sigurd'.

Pro·totype·mbryo. *Biol. rare.* [f. as prec. + EMBRYO. (Hyatt.).] Term for a later stage of the embryo, at which it exhibits the essential characters of the group to which it belongs. Hence **Pro·totypembryo·nic** *a.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Prototypic (prōutǫti·pik), *a.* [f. PROTOTYPE + -IC, after Gr. *τυπικ-ός*; = mod.F. *prototypique.*] = next.

a 1878 SIR G. G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) II. 66 Deviation from the design of St. Stephen's which was at once rectified by adding them to the prototypic building.

Prototypical (prōutǫti·pikăl), *a.* [f. as prec.: see -ICAL.] Of the nature of or serving as a prototype; prototypal.

1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 45 The Symbollicall exteriour Descent from the Prototypicall planets to the created spheres. 1871 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* iii. 99 The leaf is the basis of the whole—the essential, and prototypical plant. 1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise of Christendom* 58 The prototypical myth of Romulus slaying Remus.

Hence **Pro·toty·pically** *adv.*

1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise of Christendom* 379 A dramatic scene in which Christ prototypically performs the act [washing of feet].

Proto-typographer: see PROTO- 1.

‖ **Proto·typon.** *Obs.* Pl. **proto·typa, -ons.** [mod.L., a. Gr. *πρωτότυπον* prototype, prop. neut. sing. of *πρωτότυπ-ος* adj. (in med.L. *prōtotypus*) in the first form, original, primitive: see PROTO- and TYPE *sb.*] = PROTOTYPE.

1596 *Foxe's A. & M.* (ed. 5) 299/2 The copie of the said letter followeth agreeing with the prototypon or originall. 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 110 Whether their worship had the terme in the images without reference to the prototypa, the things which their images represented. 1625 JACKSON *Creed* v. xxxii. § 1 These for the most part delight in pictures for their prototypons sake. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. 290 Saxon Prototypons of the Lord's Prayer, according to the different gradual Changes of that Idiom.

Prototyrant to **Protovum**: see PROTO-.

Protoxide (prōutǫ·ksəid). *Chem.* [PROT-, PROTO- 3 a.] That compound of oxygen with another element or radical which contains the smallest proportion of oxygen, as *protoxide of hydrogen*, H_2O = water.

Now commonly otherwise named, as *potassium protoxide*, K_2O = potassium oxide (or monoxide); *protoxide of iron*, FeO = ferrous oxide.

1804 T. THOMSON [see PEROXIDE]. 1804 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCIV. 323. 1812 SIR H. DAVY [see PEROXIDE]. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 609 Potassium..forms two definite compounds with oxygen, which we may call the *protoxide* and *peroxide*. 1847 *Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 8) 190 Water (protoxide of hydrogen). 1865–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 808 Manganese forms four oxides of definite composition, viz. (1) Protoxide or Manganous oxide MnO... (4) Dioxide or Peroxide MnO_2. The protoxide is a strong base, forming with acids a class of very stable salts. 1880 CLEMINSHAW *Wurtz' Atom. Th.* 61 The composition of protoxides.

Hence † **Proto·xidate, † Proto·xidize** *vbs. trans.*, to convert into a protoxide. *rare*—°.

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Protoxydize*, to oxydize in the first degree. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Protoxydatus*, that which is converted into the state of a protoxide, as *Ferrum protoxydatum*: protoxidated.

Pro|toxoid [PRO- 2]: see TOXOID.

Protoxylem, -zeugma: see PROTO- 2 b, 1.

‖ **Protozoa** (prōutǫ|zōu·ă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L. (Goldfuss, 1818 in *Isis*, June), f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *ζῷα* animals.] One of the two (or three) great divisions of the animal kingdom, comprising animals of the simplest or most primitive type, each consisting of a single cell, usually of microscopic size: correlated with METAZOA (and MESOZOA). Also in sing. **Protozoon** (-zōu·ŏn), a member of the division *Protozoa*, a unicellular animal.

Under his *Protozoa* (= *Urthiere*) Goldfuss included also such higher forms of life as sponges, hydroids, corals, crinoids, *Rotifera*. Von Siebold, *Anatomie d. wirbillosen Thiere*, 1845, restricted it to the *Infusoria* and *Rhizopoda*, excluding the sponges, etc., which are now recognized as *Metazoa*.

a 1834 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* xv. (1839) 64 The lowest class of animals or *protozoa*..have neither brain nor nerves. 1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Protozoon.* 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* III. v. 377 Those lowest organisms classed as protophyta and protozoa. 1859 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd.* I. *Protozoa* i. 1 The sub-kingdom *Protozoa* includes a number of animal beings of simple organisation, many of which have, until recently, been associated with the lower members of the vegetable kingdom. 1869 *Spectator* 24 July 877 The analogy between the development of the species from the original protozoon and of the individual from the germ is quite Spencer's own. 1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 28 *note*, The name 'Protozoa' given by Goldfuss, meant the same as Oken's 'Urthiere'. It did not acquire its present significance until 1845, when von Siebold gave it a new meaning.

Protozoal (prōutǫ|zōu·ăl), *a.* [f. prec. + -AL.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with protozoa; in *Path.* caused, as a disease, by a parasitic protozoon.

1890 *Lancet* 8 Feb. 308/2 Bütschli's classification of these protozoal forms. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* Introd. 13 In 'fly disease', the protozoal organism which is the direct cause of the disease is carried from one animal to another on the mandibles of the tsetse fly. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 643 Malaria and other protozoal diseases.

Protozoan (prōutǫ|zōu·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as prec. + -AN.] **a.** *adj.* Of or belonging to the *Protozoa* or a protozoon; also = prec. **b.** *sb.* An animal of the division *Protozoa*; a protozoon.

1864 DANA in WEBSTER s. v., The protozoans..include the rhizopods, sponges, and many of the so-called animalcules. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 822 Conjugation.. is generally if not universally connected with reproductive activity in some Protozoan classes. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 6/2 His contention is that the organism of cancer is undoubtedly a protozoan. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 656 As to the nature of this new protozoan disease.

Protozo·ary. *rare*—°. [ad. mod.F. *protozoaire*, f. PROTO- + Gr. *ζῳάριον*, dim. of *ζῷον* animal.] A protozoon. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Protozoic (prōutǫ|zōu·ik), *a.* [In sense 1, f. Gr. *πρωτο-*, PROTO- + *ζωή* life + -IC; in sense 2, f. PROTOZO-A + -IC.]

1. *Geol.* and *Palæont.* Applied to those strata which contain the earliest remains or traces of living beings; also to fossils found in such strata.

1838 SEDGWICK in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* II. 684 Class 1. Primary stratified Groups...Should organic remains appear unequivocally in any parts of this class, they may be described as the *Protozoic System*. 1841 J. PHILLIPS *Palæoz. Foss. Dev. & Cornw.* 160 Mr. Murchison [after Sedgwick] called the part of the series to which his attention was most directed 'Protozoic', for which Professor Sedgwick [subsequently] proposed to substitute Palæozoic. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* i. (1867) 2 To develope the succession of deposits that belong to such protozoic zones. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Protozoic*...Applied to the earlier fossiliferous epoch and strata; equivalent to Primordial.

2. *Zool.* and *Path.* = PROTOZOAN *a.*

1864 WEBSTER, *Protozoic*, of, or pertaining to, the protozoa. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 47 A similar process takes place in sundry Protozoa and gives rise to a protozoic aggregate, which is strictly comparable to the Morula. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 211 Appearances characteristic of a protozoic life history. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 522 The protozoic origin of malaria.

Protozonite: see PROTO- 2 b.

Protozoology (prōu·tǫ|zǫ|ŏlŏdʒi). [f. PROTOZO-A + -[O]LOGY.] That department of zoology, or of pathology, which deals with protozoa, esp. with parasitic disease-producing protozoa.

1904 *19th Cent.* Dec. 901 To establish..two new chairs, one for medical protozoology and one for medical helmintholo gy. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 522 The establishment, by the aid of the Quick bequest, of a chair of protozoology.

Protozo·on, sing. of PROTOZOA.

Protozo·um (*rare*—°), latinized f. PROTOZOON. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*; and in mod. Dicts.

‖ **Protracheata** (prǫ|trəki|ē·tă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod.L., f. PRO- 2 + *Trachēāta*: so called as representing the supposed ancestral form of all the tracheate *Arthropoda* (i.e. insects, myriapods, and most arachnids).] A class of arthropodous animals, represented by the single genus *Peripatus* (PERI-

PATUS 2). Hence **Protra·cheate,** *a.* belonging to the *Protracheata*; *sb.* an animal of this class.

1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 255 In the Protracheata the nervous system remains in a lower condition. 1879 *Athenæum* 19 July 83/1 One of his hypothetical animals, a protracheate, may be said to have been actually discovered ..in the primitive air-breathing Arthropod Peripatus.

Protract (prōtræ·kt), *sb.* [ad. L. *prōtractus* a prolonging, protraction, f. *prōtract-*, ppl. stem of *prōtrah-ĕre*: see next.]

†**1.** Prolongation or extension (of time); hence, delay, procrastination. *Obs.*

1536 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 298 The doing therof will aske a protracte of tyme. *a* 1640 SIR J. OGLE in *Sir F. Vere's Comm.* (1657) 143 By protract of time, and casualties of war, he found his numbers wasted. 1646 *Unhappy Game at Scotch & Eng.* 4 The difference would only be in the protract of time, not in the nature of the thing.

†**2.** A delineation, drawing. Cf. PORTRAIT. *Obs. rare.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xix. 53 b, I made the draughtes and protractes heere represented vnto you [orig. *ie fey les pourtraicts icy representez*].

3. [f. the vb.] A 'protracted meeting': see PROTRACTED 1, quot. 1860. *U.S. colloq.*

1908 *Mission Field* Jan. 343 There is always a great religious awakening at the annual revival or 'protract'... When the 'protract' is over their emotions are calmed and every man returns to his own 'vine and fig tree'.

Protract (prōtræ·kt), *v.* Also 7 -traicte. [f. L. *prōtract-*, ppl. stem of *prōtrah-ĕre* to draw forth, to prolong, extend, defer, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 + *trah-ĕre* to draw. With sense 6 cf. PORTRAY, the direct repr. of *prōtrahĕre* through OF. *portraire*.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To extend or prolong (time) so as to cause delay; to waste (time). *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 240 b, All these faire wordes wer onely delaies to protracte tyme. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 84 His father would protraicte time the best he could. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, II. Wks. 1813 V. 296 This they did merely to protract time.

2. To lengthen out (an action); to cause to continue or last longer; to extend in duration; to prolong. (The chief current sense.)

1563 [see PROTRACTING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1591 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 120 Else ne're could he so long protract his speech. 1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* II. 439 But, with thy Dayes thy Dolours to protrack, Thou shalt from hence unto Bethulia pack. 1700 DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guiscardo* 334 But I..Protracting life have liv'd a day too long. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* V. xxxix. 101 Their stay was protracted for some weeks. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. iii. (1866) 699 The dance upon the sward was protracted to a late hour.

†**3.** To put off, defer, postpone (an action).

(The date of the first quotation is very doubtful.)

[1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* Introd. in Ashm. (1652) 3 Sin protracts the gifts of Heaven.] 1553 *Act 7 Edw. VI*, c. 1 § 16 If any Auditor..willingly protract or delay the taking of the same Accompt. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 369 If the Interview..must needs follow (which yet he wished were protracted). 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* v. (1869) I. 97 He attempted, however, to prevent, or at least to protract, his ruin. 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* IV. 219 Lord L——s' marriage, which had been protracted ..was celebrated in Grosvenor-square.

†**b.** To put off, defer (a person). *Obs. rare.*

1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XI. iv. § 4 Desire..to delay and protract the Jews in their zeal.

†**4.** *intr.* To make delay, to delay. *Obs.*

1611 BIBLE *Neh.* ix. 30 Yet many yeres diddest thou forbeare [*marg.* protract ouer] them. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 293 They had not lost the Battle of Vaila, had they..protracted but ten days.

II. 5. *trans.* To extend in space or position.

a 1658 J. DURHAM *Exp. Rev.* vi. (1680) 31 Concerning Christs Body on earth, or ubiquitie of his humanitie, or bodily presence with his churches, or for protracting of his Body. 1749 SMOLLETT *Regicide* v. vii, To save his country, and protract his blaze Of glory, farther still! *a* 1850 WORDSW. (Ogilvie), Many a ramble, far And wide protracted, through the tamer ground Of these our unimaginative days.

†**b.** To extend or amplify the signification of anything; to 'stretch'. *Obs. rare.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 363 If any thing happen to oppose common Sense, they protract the meaning [of the prophecy] Mysteriously or Anagogically.

III. 6. To draw, represent by a drawing [so med.L. *prōtrahĕre*]; *spec.* to draw to scale; to delineate by means of a scale and protractor (lines, angles, a figure); to plot out.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* B ij b, An Architecte must.. haue experte knowladg in drawing and protracting the thinge, which he hath conceyued. 1607 [see PROTRACTION 5]. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. 6 After you have taken the Angles..You must Protract or lay down the Figure. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Surveying*, How to measure a close, or parcel of land, and to protract it, and give up the content. 1881 E. HULL in *Nature* 22 Dec. 177/2 If we protract to a true scale the outlines of certain tracts of the British Isles.

Protracted (prōtræ·ktĕd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

1. Lengthened, extended, prolonged; **a.** in time.

1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1767) I. 62 (*Tombs*) The divine Redeemer expired in tedious and protracted Torments. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nat.* I. I. 2 It's a gentleman that calculates to hold a protracted meeten here to night. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Protracted Meeting*, a name given in New England to a religious meeting, protracted or continued for several days. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xix. (1875) 354 The miseries of a protracted war.

b. in space.

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 257 Their shaded walks And long protracted bowers.

2. Drawn out; = PROLATE *a.* 1.

1816 tr. *Lacroix's Diff. & Int. Calculus* 662 The protracted or contracted cycloid.

†**3.** Delayed, tardy. *Obs.*

1838 tr. *Strauss' Early Life Lutheran Clergym.* ii. 12 A cart appeared with the protracted produce of the fields.

4. Drawn to scale; plotted out; see prec. 6.

1696 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 498 The Courses and protracted figure thereof. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* II. App. 51 Lieutenant Wilkinson has copied and carries with him a very elegant protracted sketch of the route.

Hence **Protra·ctedly** *adv.*, in a protracted or long-continued way; **Protra·ctedness,** long continuance or extent.

1847 WEBSTER, *Protractedly.* 1862 F. HALL *Hindu Philos. Syst.* 29 Pursuing it with due heed, continuously, and protractedly. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 122 When.. he told me that he himself..had received an order..I whistled protractedly, and decided offhand on going up to Cairo. 1888 TALMAGE *Serm.* in *N. Y. Witness* 29 Feb., In regard to what is the protractedness and immensity of influence of one good woman in the church and world.

Protracter, obs. variant of PROTRACTOR.

(The only form in BAILEY (originally), and in JOHNSON; also a variant in later Dicts.)

Protra·ctible, *a.* [f. as PROTRACT *v.* + -IBLE.] Capable of being protracted or lengthened out.

1830 *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 434 In the infinitely protractible part with which, under his plan,..jury trial is preceded.

Protractile (prōtræ·ktil, -əil), *a. Zool.* [f. as prec. + -ILE: cf. *contractile*.] Capable of being lengthened out or extended.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 135 Echidna...Toothless, but the palate aculeated;..tongue protractile. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. 268 A special organ..sometimes internal and protractile. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 298 A narrow coiled continuation of this leads to the protractile ovipositor.

Hence **Protracti·lity,** the quality or fact of being protractile.

1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1146/2 The Chameleon presents us with the most complete protractility of the organ [the tongue].

Protracting (prōtræ·ktiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PROTRACT *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of PROTRACT *v.*

1. Lengthening out, prolonging, extending (of time, or of action in time); † dilatory action (*obs.*).

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 89 b, The duke of Bedford.. not content with their whisperynges and protractyng of tyme. 1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* I. (1565) 31 b, The Galles were now weary with long protracting of the war. 1601 FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* (1602) 75 The tedious and odious protracting of suits. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 114 If any danger be likely to ensue by the protracting of time.

†**b.** The putting off or postponement of an action; deferring. *Obs.*

1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* III. xx. (1591) 125 More oftentimes profiteth and helpeth hee by protracting, then venturing rashly. 1608 *Mem. in Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 76 The protracting of a plantation until the Ward come to years.

2. Extending in space. *rare.*

a 1658 [see PROTRACT *v.* 5].

3. Drawing or plotting out to scale; delineation.

1669 STAYNRED *Fortification* Title-p., The Scale, for speedy Protracting of any Fort. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, These squares and long squares need no protracting; for you need only to multiply the chains and links of the length, by the chains and links of the breadth.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, denoting instruments used in protracting (sense 3), as *protracting-bevel, -needle, -pin*; **protracting quadrant,** a protractor.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xi. 178 To know the Rhomb between any two Places..by a Protracting Quadrant. 1701 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 16 *Protracting Pin*, a taper piece of brass with a Point of Silver, to draw black Lines on Mathematical Paper, and a small Head..which holds a fine Needle to prick off any Degree and part from the Protractor. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Surveying*, Having drawn lines with the point of the compasses, or a protracting-needle, the intersections represent the angles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Protracting-bevel*, a plotting-instrument having a protracting sector and a prolongation of one radius, which forms a rule.

Protracting (prōtræ·ktiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That protracts, delays, or defers; delaying, time-consuming.

1600 R. CHURCH *Fumée's Hist. Hungary* 29 He might rather molest them by a protracting fight. 1822 'B. CORNWALL' *Dram. Scenes, Jul. the Apostate* i, Never! A dull, protracting, melancholy word That in an alien language, talks despair.

Protraction (prōtræ·kʃən). [a. F. *protraction* (1499 in Godef.), or ad. late L. *prōtractiōn-em*, n. of action from *prōtrah-ĕre*: see PROTRACT *v.*] The action of protracting.

I. 1. The lengthening out or extension of time or of the duration of anything; drawing out, prolongation; † delay, postponement (*obs.*).

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Without longe tarienge and protracion of time. 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 112 By reason of his protractions and delayes. 1610 HEALEY *Vives' Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* (1620) 10 That Fabius that ..by his cunning protraction blunted the fury of Hannibal. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 92 As to the fabulous protractions of the age of the World by the Egyptians or others, they are uncertain idle Traditions. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* IV. VIII. xiii. 83 Such are his usual protraction, delays, distrusts and fearful precaution. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xxi. 473 The long protraction of the suit must have been occasioned by difficulties.

2. Drawing forth or out.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Protraction*, a drawing forth at length. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Protraction*, extraction; as of a foreign body from a wound.

3. A stretching out or extension; the action of a protractor (muscle).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 285 In this area one may distinguish, more or less completely, protraction and retraction of the upper arm.

4. The lengthening of a vowel, syllable, or word; = PROLONGATION 3.

a 1849 POE *Fancy & Imag.* Wks. 1865 III. 381 He also too frequently draws out the word Heaven into two syllables—a protraction which it never will support.

II. 5. The drawing to scale or laying down of the figure of any surface, esp. of a piece of land.

1607 NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* III. 128 The difference is onely in the protraction: for where the one protracteth the worke, by the degrees, found by the fall of the wandring Index: so the other protracteth from the degree, whereupon the needle falleth. 1669 J. FLAMSTEAD in *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1109 The protraction of the Star's way in this appearance will be facile. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Maritime Surv.* 66 Protract carefully, with a large Protractor, the several Angles written in the Field-book; and also calculate trigonometrically the most material Distances: judge of the Accuracy of the Protraction by its Agreement with the Calculation. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 268 The distances by protraction, and the estimated distances of five or six headlands,..generally coincided to within 1½ miles. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. x. 270 By protraction Rua Point was distant 33 miles.

b. That which is protracted; a chart or plan drawn or laid down to scale; a survey.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. viii. 73 Any Chart or Protraction whatsoever. 1810 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* II. 62 Employing five years in drawing their protractions of the country..on a vast scale of 3000 feet to an inch.

†**Protra·ctive,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *prōtract-* (see PROTRACT *v.*) + -IVE.] Characterized by or tending to protraction; lengthening out, delaying.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 20 Our workes,..nought else But the protractiue trials of great Ioue. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 1103 He saw, but suffer'd their Protractive Arts. 1796 *Mod. Gulliver's Trav.* 149 By this protractive work, fresh mischief grows. 1819 H. BUSK *Vestriad* IV. 675 Protractive alleys the trim grove deform.

Protractor (prōtræ·ktəɹ). Also 7–8 -er. [a. med.L. *prōtractor*, agent-n. f. *prōtrah-ĕre* to PROTRACT.] One who or that which protracts.

1. One who lengthens out or prolongs time or any action; † one who puts off, delays, or postpones action (*obs.*).

1611 COTGR., *Delayeur*, a delayer, deferrer, protractor, prolonger, lingerer, wiredrawer...*Prolongeur*, a prolonger, protracter, wyre-drawer, delayer. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Protractor* (Lat.), a prolonger or drawer out. 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 144 The protractors and delayers of due preparation. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II.), *Protracter*, one who protracts. 1737 BOLINGBROKE *Stud. & Use Hist.* viii. (1777) 277, I know not what part the protractors of the war,, intended to take. 1755 JOHNSON, *Protracter*, one who draws out any thing to tedious length.

2. An instrument, generally having the form of a graduated semicircle, used in setting off and measuring angles.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Protractor*, a certain Mathematical instrument made of brasse, consisting of the Scale and Semicircle, used in the surveying of Land. 1669 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Feb., This parallelogram is not, as Mr. Sheres would, the other day, have persuaded me, the same as a Protractor. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 92 Measure the Angle marked upon the Plan with the Protractor. 1727 BAILEY and 1755 JOHNSON, *Protracter*. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 421 The application of an ordinary horn protractor will at once show the angle included in every instance.

3. A surgical instrument: see quots.

1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Protractor*, an instrument used in surgery, to draw out any foreign or disagreeable bodies from a wound or ulcer; in like manner as the forceps. 1731 BAILEY, *Protracter*. 1736 *Ibid.* (folio), *Protracter, Protractor*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Protractor*, an instrument for extracting foreign bodies from wounds.

4. *Anat.* A muscle which serves to protract or extend a limb or member. Also *protractor muscle.*

1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. v. ii. 276 Four muscles, two of which are protractors, and two retractors. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 96 One pair of protractor muscles may be present. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* 49 The *psoas minor*..is a protractor of the pelvis.

5. (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Protractor*,..an adjustable tailor's pattern, expansible to agree in its proportions with the particular measurements and capable of being secured in the obtained adjustment.

†**Protra·cture.** *Obs.* Also *erron.* 6–7 -our, -or. [f. as PROTRACT *v.* + -URE: cf. *portraiture*.]

1. Representation by a figure; drawing.

1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. Defin., Without perspectiue knowledge, it is not easy to iudge truly the formes of them in flatte protracture. 1557 — *Whetst.* G iv, I will..set forth a brief explication of their names, with the protracture of the figures. 1613 M. RIDLEY *Magn. Bodies* 51 Having the formes and protractors of creeping things.. drawne in past-boord. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. xx. (1865) 107 They make curious baskets with intermixed colours and protractures of antique Imagerie.

2. Figure, shape, form, outline.

1551 Recorde *Pathw. Knowl.* II. lv, Circles are regulare formes, that is to say, such formes as haue in their protracture a iuste and certaine proportion. 1581 Derricke *View Irel.* II. E iij b, His skirtes be verie shorte..And Irishe trouzes more to put their straunge protractours out. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 411 It is her fashion and protracture to lie thus when she [the hamster] is angry.

Protraicte, obs. form of Protract *v.*

Protreptic (protre·ptik), *a.* and *sb.* [as adj. ad. Gr. προτρεπτικ-ός fitted to urge on, hortative, instructive, f. πρό, Pro- 2 + τρέπ-ειν to turn, direct the course of; as sb. ad. late L. *protrepticon* (*-um*) = Gr. προτρεπτικόν, neuter of the adj.]

A. *adj.* Directive, instructive, didactic.

1658 Phillips, *Protreptick*, doctrinal, or giving instructions. 1850 Maurice *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (1854) I. 47 The discipline of the habit or character he [Clement] would call protreptic.

B. *sb.* A book, writing, or speech intended to exhort or instruct; an exhortation, instruction.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Protreptick*, a book of instruction, a doctrinal. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* 125 To rank Anaximander amongst the Divine Philosophers, as he [Clement] doth in his Protreptick to the Greeks. *Ibid.* 371 That this Pythagorick Prayer was directed to the Supreme Numen and King of Gods, Jamblichus thus declares in his Protrepticks. 1899 A. B. Cook in *Classical Rev.* Nov. 418/1 In the mind of Ischomachus' wife the bear-dance.. bulked larger than the protreptics of her husband.

So **Protre·ptical** *a.*, of protreptic nature.

1667–8 Bp. Ward *Serm. Infidelity* (1670) 3 The means used ..are partly Didactical, and partly Protreptical. 1895 R. G. Moulton *Proverbs* p. x, Early proverbs are philosophical, not protreptical.

Protriæne (prōu·trəi̯i·n). *Zool.* [f. Pro- 2 + Triæne.] In sponges, a triæne whose three prongs or cladi project forwards from the shaft.

1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/1 (*Sponges*) The arms make different angles with the shaft: when recurved a grapnel or *anatriæne* is produced, when projecting forwards a *protriæne*, and when extended at right angles an *orthotriæne*.

Protribune: see Pro- 1 4.

† Protri·te, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *prōtrīt-us* worn away, in late L. trite, vulgar, pa. pple. of *prōter-ĕre* to tread under foot: see Pro- 1 and Trite *a.*] Worn out, trite, threadbare, hackneyed.

1604 T. Wright *Passions* I. iii. 12 The fourth [Passion] most protrite and manifeste unto the world, is their Inconstancie. *Ibid.* v. 214 What else meane those protrite words of the Psalme. 1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* II. xv. 195 They are but old and rotten errours, protrite and putid opinions of the ancient Gnosticks.

Protrudable (protrū·dăb'l), *a.* [f. next + -able.] Capable of being protruded, protrusible.

1881 Darwin *Veg. Mould* (1882) 17 This part corresponds.. with the protrudable trunk or proboscis of other annelids.

Protrude (protrū·d), *v.* [ad. L. *prōtrūd-ĕre* to thrust or push forward or forth, f. *prō*, Pro- 1 1 a + *trūd-ĕre* to thrust.]

† **1.** *trans.* To thrust forward (some detached body); to push or drive onward. *Obs.*

1620 Venner *Via Recta* vii. 112 They protrude and driue downe the meates from the stomacke, before they be digested. *a* 1704 Locke (J.), When the stomach has performed its office upon the food, it protrudes it into the guts. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 284 The arrow is by a single blast of air from the lungs, protruded through the cavity of the reed. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 121 A series of spasmodic contractions..gradually increase in strength..and protrude the child into the world. *fig.* 1654 H. L'Estrange *Chas. I* (1655) 169 Nothing is more familiar than for several Factions..to protrude and drive on one and the same design.

† **b.** *intr.* To shoot out. *Obs.*

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 328 If the spirits be not merely detained, but protrude a little, and that motion be confused and inordinate, there followeth putrefaction.

2. *trans.* To push or thrust into any position; to thrust forth or stick out (an organ or part) into a projecting position; to cause to project; to extend.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xx. 156 If beholding a candle we protrude either upward or downeward the pupill of one eye, the object will appeare double. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 36 Those black filaments or optick nerves, which are sheathed in her [the snail's] horns which she can retract or protrude. 1730–46 Thomson *Autumn* 1311 When young Spring protrudes the bursting gems. 1828 G. W. Bridges *Ann. Jamaica* II. xv. 236 The linen jacket which he wore was protruded by a broken rib. 1841–71 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 131 From each tube a polyp is protruded, of a brilliant grass-green colour.

† **b.** *transf.* To bring to the surface, as a rash.

a 1776 R. James *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 17 Let the physician but remove the fever, and..no miliary eruptions will be protruded.

c. *fig.* To obtrude, put forth obtrusively.

1840 Thackeray *Pict. Rhapsody* Wks. 1900 XIII. 321 Critics, who..protrude their nonsense upon the town. 1841 Catlin *N. Amer. Ind.* II. lviii. 255, I would protrude my opinion to the world.

3. *intr.* To stick out; to project or jut out beyond the surrounding parts.

a 1626 Bacon (Webster 1828–32), The parts protrude beyond the skin. 1771 [see Protruding below]. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 219 If the other hand should protrude, it may be encountered by a similar expedient. 1860 Tyndall *Glac.* I. xxii. 155 The rocks which protrude from the snow at the base of the last spur of the mountain. 1868 Farrar *Seekers* I. vi. (1875) 75 A common soldier had spied a pair of feet protruding from under the curtains.

Hence **Protru·ded, Protru·ding** *ppl. adjs.*

1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 241 The *P* is kerned, that its propensity may cover the back of the protruding angle of *A*. 1810 Southey *Kehama* II. xi, The protruded brow. 1841–71 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 7 The protruded filaments are able to coalesce. 1904 W. M. Ramsay *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xxvii. 394 A coiled serpent with raised head and protruding tongue.

Protrudent (protrū·dĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *prōtrūdent-em*, pres. pple. of *prōtrūd-ĕre* to Protrude.] Protruding, projecting, protuberant, prominent.

1891 Ld. Houghton *Bookworm* in *Stray Verses* 9 Earnest underlip protrudent. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 180/2 The lofty, protrudent corner made by the dropping of the high-road into the curious transverse valley.

Protrusible (protrū·sĭb'l), *a.* [f. L. *prōtrūs-*, ppl. stem of *prōtrūd-ĕre*: see prec. and -ible.] Capable of being protruded or thrust out.

1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 400/1 A sharp horny dart.. readily protrusible through the aperture. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. 58 The tongue may be..protrusible, as in other Reptiles.

Protrusile (protrū·sil, -əil), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ile, after L. type **prōtrūsilis*.] Adapted to be extended or thrust out, as a limb, tentacle, etc.

1847 in Webster citing Gardner. 1849 Johnston in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 7. 366 Mandibles large and protrusile. 1867 J. Hogg *Microsc.* II. iii. 574 The mouth is furnished with a protrusile proboscis.

Protrusion (protrū·ʒən). [a. F. *protrusion*, ad. L. type **prōtrūsiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōtrūd-ĕre* to Protrude.]

1. The action of protruding (in various senses of the vb.); the fact or condition of being protruded.

† **a.** Thrusting forward or onward. *Obs.*

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xviii. 381 He was.. not to bee removed by the force or protrusion of three men. 1660 Boyle *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* i. 21 You will finde the Sucker forcibly carryed up to the top of the Cylinder, by the protrusion of the external Air. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Cantharides*, Such Motions as are necessary for the Protrusion forwards or Ejectment of the Water.

b. The action of thrusting or pushing out an attached part; the condition of being protruded.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xvii. 148 That the distinctive parts of sexes are onely different in position, that is inversion or protrusion. 1783 Pott *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 13 The falling down or protrusion of some part. 1833 Lyell *Princ. Geol.* III. 340 The notion of deluges accompanying the protrusion of mountain-chains. 1880 C. & F. Darwin *Movem. Pl.* 62 Shortly before the protrusion of the leaves.

c. The fact of projecting or jutting out.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* viii. (1856) 56 The protrusion of these abutting faces into the waters of the sound.

2. *concr.* That which protrudes or juts out; a protruded part, a protuberance, a prominence.

1704 Swift *T. Tub* xi. Wks. 1760 I. 123 [They] looked upon all extraordinary dilatations of that member as protrusions of zeal, or spiritual excrescencies. 1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 19 Between this ridge and the protrusion abovementioned. 1862 S. Lucas *Secularia* 96 The fantastic gables, pinnacles, and protrusions, which intercepted the light. 1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 66 They ..are covered by a protrusion of the epidermis.

Protrusive (protrū·siv), *a.* [f. L. *prōtrūs-*, ppl. stem of *prōtrūd-ĕre* to Protrude + -ive.]

1. Having the power or tendency to thrust forward or onward; propulsive.

1676 H. More *Remarks* 172 Though it add nothing to the elasticity of the Air, seeing it has a pressure and protrusive force in it. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. iv. § 13 The Protrusive Motion of the Bowels. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 144 The protrusive force of the surrounding muscles.

2. Characterized by thrusting oneself forward; obtrusive.

1840 Carlyle *Heroes* iii. (1858) 267 A true English heart breathes, calm and strong, through the whole business; not boisterous, protrusive. 1893 *Chicago Advance* 16 Nov., His protrusive, unrestrained, ill-regulated idiosyncracies.

3. Protruding, projecting, protuberant.

1858 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* III. iv. (1872) I. 156 The 'Austrian lip'—protrusive underjaw, with heavy lip disinclined to shut. 1876 Geo. Eliot *Dan. Der.* vii, The chin protrusive, and the cervical vertebræ a trifle more curved.

Hence **Protru·sively** *adv.*, **Protru·siveness.**

1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* I. x, To him thou, with sniffing charity, wilt protrusively proffer thy hand-lamp. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Protrusiveness.

Protrypsin: see Pro- 2 1.

Prottore,-our, obs. ff. *prouder*, comp. of Proud.

Protuberance (protiū·bĕrăns). [f. Protuberant: see -ance. So F. *protubérance* (1738 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The fact or condition of being protuberant; bulging out or projecting in a rounded form.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Protuberance*, a bunching forth above the rest. 1756–82 J. Warton *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) I. vii. 361 The firmness and protuberance of the Muscles in each limb. 1836 *Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* xiv. 342 His eyes have a sunken appearance, owing to the protuberance of his eye-brows. 1874 *Imperial Gazetteer* s. v. *Australia*, The whole figure..very well proportioned, but frequently marred by the protuberance of the abdomen.

2. That which is protuberant; a rounded prominence, projection, or swelling; a knob, a bump.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xix. 154 A cartilagineous substance without any spondyles, processes, or protuberance whatsoever. 1658 — *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 47 The Rhomboidal protuberances in Pineapples maintaining this Quincuncial order unto each other. 1794 S. Williams *Vermont* 82 Under the throat there is a fleshy protuberance. 1859 W. S. Coleman *Woodlands* (1866) 106 On the leaf of the Poplar..large reddish-coloured protuberances.

b. *Solar protuberance* = solar Prominence (2 b).

1874 tr. *Lommel's Light* 167 The so-called protuberances afforded an instant and crucial test of the truth of Kirchhoff's hypothesis. 1907 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 4 Janssen was in the Malay Peninsula making his observations of the solar 'protuberances', otherwise masses of blazing hydrogen.

Protu·berancy. [f. as prec. + -ancy.]

1. Protuberant condition; bulging out; = prec. 1.

1654 Gayton *Pleas. Notes* IV. xxii. 276 When..a protuberancy of the lip should be the certeine signe of the true heir to the Crowne. 1692 Ray *Disc.* I. iii. (1693) 34 The protuberancy of the dry Land above the common Superficies of the Ocean. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* (1730) II. xx. § 23 The Earth..is not perfectly globular, but has a greater Protuberancy under the Equator. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 185 The other [cause of squinting arises] from an oblique position and greater protuberancy of the cornea.

† **2.** A rounded projection; = prec. 2. *Obs.*

1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. x. (1712) 72 Why has he four Knees,..as also a Protuberancy under his Breast to lean on? 1760 Milles in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 537 Small protuberancies sometimes appear, like the knots of trees.

Protuberant (protiū·bĕrănt), *a.* [ad. late L. *prōtūberānt-em*, pres. pple. of *prōtūber-āre* to swell or bulge out, f. L. *prō*, Pro- 1 + *tūber* a hump, swelling. So F. *protubérant* (16th c. in Littré).]

1. Bulging or swelling out beyond the surrounding surface; prominent.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. iv. 113 These..follicles are found in both sexes, though somewhat more protuberant in the male. 1661 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* xxvi. (1665) 162 One mans eyes are more protuberant, and swelling out. 1747 Hervey *Medit.* II. 122 Mountains vastly uneven and protuberant. 1807 G. Chalmers *Caledonia* I. II. vi. 292 Eocha III..is remembered for his protuberant nose. 1869 Phillips *Vesuv.* iv. 130 The protuberant northern base of the dome of Vesuvius.

b. *fig.* That forces itself upon notice, prominent.

1822 Galt *Provost* xxxiii, The effect of this, however, was less protuberant in our town than in many others. 1895 R. Burton in *Forum* (N.Y.) Apr. 251 A foil to the protuberant ugliness of the theory.

† **2.** Moulded or done in the round; figured in relief, or rising above the surface. *Obs.*

1676 Towerson *Decalogue* 109 God..forbade all images whatsoever, particularly all protuberant ones. 1696 Bp. Patrick *Comm. Exod.* xx. 4 The former was a protuberant Image, or a Statue made of Wood, Stone, &c. *Ibid.* xxviii. (1697) 538 Abarbinel saith the Letters were protuberant as they are upon Coins, or upon Wax.

Hence **Protu·berantly** *adv.*, in a protuberant, bulging, or prominent manner.

1836 Landor *Peric. & Asp.* cliii. Wks. 1846 II. 417/1 They serve as graven images, protuberantly eminent and gorgeously uncouth.

Protuberantial (protiūbĕræ·nʃăl), *a.* [f. L. type **prōtūberānti-a* Protuberance + -al. So F. *protubérantiel.*] Of the nature of, or belonging to (the solar) protuberances.

1880 *Nature* XXI. 436/2 The mixture of protuberantial vapours in the sun. 1882 *Ibid.* XXVII. 111/1 The spectrum is that of protuberantial gases and of matter still unknown.

Protuberate (protiū·bĕrēt), *v. rare.* [f. late L. *prōtūberāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōtūberāre*: see Protuberant.] *intr.* To bulge out; to form a rounded prominence.

1578 Banister *Hist. Man* I. 26 The inner region..hath cauities..which on the outer side agayne do protuberate and giue forth. 1650 Bulwer *Anthropomet.* 11 Hippocrates..writes, That the head sometimes doth more remarkably protuberate at the eares, then either forward or backward. 1721 Bradley *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 126 We see the..Fore-legs half out, and the other just beginning to protuberate through the skin. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 483 Mesenteric enlargement..felt in the form of knots protuberating in the abdomen.

b. *trans.* To cause to bulge out or project: *rare.*

1884 A. A. Watts *Life A. Watts* I. 302 The manly breast protuberated by waistcoats fashioned like a doublet.

Hence **Protu·berated** *ppl. a.*, swollen or bulged out; **Protu·berating** *vbl. sb.*, a swelling; **Protu·berating** *ppl. a.*, bulging out.

1683 A. Snape *Anat. Horse* v. xii. (1686) 221 The fourth Bone..is smooth, not being hollow nor *protuberated as the rest are. 1755 Nedham in *Phil. Trans.* XLIX. 239 The circumference of which was full, and protuberated. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 564 Suffering grievous *Protuberatings of the bones in his Arms. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 977 These Rack-bones haue in the middle *protuberating, round and embowed bodies. 1776 Withering *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 285 In others, the nectary is blunt, scarcely protuberating.

† **Protubera·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action f. late L. *prōtūberāre* to Protuberate.] A swollen or bulged part, a protuberance.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 903 The sixt Nerue..neare the inner protuberation of the arme distributeth many surcles.. into the skinne of the cubit. 1670 H. Stubbe *Plus Ultra* 125 A..Souldier..having grievous protuberations of the bones in his armes. *c* 1720 W. Gibson *Farrier's Guide* I. vi. (1738) 97 The foremost of which receives the Protuberation of the Stifle bone.

† **Protu·bered,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. late L. *prōtūber-āre* (see Protuberant) + -ed 1.] Swollen or bulged out.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 21 The cauities wherin the protubered heads of the ribbes are setled.

† **Protu·berous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. stem *protuber-* of PROTUBERANT, etc. + -OUS, after *tuberous*.] = PROTUBERANT. So **Protubero·sity,** = PROTUBERANCE; a rounded bulge or boss. *rare.*

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1676) 183 The one being protuberous, rough, crusty, and hard; the other, round, smooth, spongy, and soft. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr.* in *Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 314 The forehead converges to a central protuberosity, where phrenologists locate eventuality.

Protu·rb, *v. humorous nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *prōturb-āre* to drive forth in confusion, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ 1 a + *turbāre* to confuse: cf. *perturb*, *disturb*.] *trans.* To drive forth or chase out.

1845 STANLEY in *Life* I. x. 342 Some undergraduates..saw Ward rush out from the Theatre—'proturbed', as they imagined by the Bedell.

Protureter: see PROTO- 2 b.

Pro-tutor (prōʊ|tiū·tər). *Sc. Law.* [f. PRO-¹ + TUTOR *sb.* Cf. med.L. *prōtūtor*, F. *protuteur* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*).] One who acts as 'tutor' or guardian to one in the state of pupillarity, though not legally appointed as such. So **Protu·tory,** the charge of a pro-tutor.

1665 *Acts of Sederunt* 10 June (1790) 93 Whatsoever person or persons shall..intromett with the means and estate of any minor, and shall act in his affairs as pro-tutors, haveing no right of tutory or curatory established in their persons, they shall be lyable. 1681 [see PRO-CURATOR]. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 10 Kilrie had meddled with the charter-chest..which the Lords did not find sufficient to make him protutor. 1773 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* I. vii. § 28 Pro-tutors..may be sued by the minor in an action for accounting, even during the pro-tutory, though proper tutors or curators are not bound to account till their office determine. 1838 in W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.*

‖ **Protyle** (prōʊ·təil). Also **prothyle, -yl.** [irreg. f. Gr. *πρωτ*(ο-, PROT(O- first, primary, primitive + *ὕλη* 'timber, material', in philosophical lang. 'matter'; see HYLE, and cf. *πρώτη ὕλη* first matter or substance (Aristotle *Metaph.*).

If a combination of the two words had been made in Greek, it would have been **πρωθύλη*, in Latin form *prōthylē*. Moreover, in Eng., *ὕλη* as second element usually becomes *-yl*, as in *methyl, ethyl, carbonyl*, etc.; thus the regular form would be *prothyl*.]

A name proposed for the hypothetical original undifferentiated matter, of which the chemical substances provisionally regarded as elements may be composed.

1886 W. CROOKES *Address* in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 568 Let us picture the very beginnings of time...Before even the sun himself had consolidated from the original protyle. [*Note*] We require a word analogous to protoplasm to express the idea of the original primal matter existing before the evolution of the chemical elements. The word I have ventured to use for the purpose is compounded of *πρό* (earlier than) and *ὕλη* (the stuff of which things are made). 1891 [F. C. S. SCHILLER] *Riddles of Sphinx* 189 Prothyle, the undifferentiated basis of chemical evolution. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Apr. 5/1 That hypothetical substance—the 'prothyl'—of which the entire material universe, suns, planets, comets, and nebulæ, is made. 1905 *Academy* 4 Feb. 108/1 At present theory seems to suggest that this ether, originally 'invented' to account for the phenomena of light, and called the 'luminiferous ether', is really the *prima materia* of the ancients, the *Urstoff* of the Germans, the *protyle* of Sir William Crookes.

‖ **Protypon** (prōʊ·tipŏn). *Anc. Arch.* Pl. **-a.** [a. Gr. *πρότυπον*, f. as next.] (See quots.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 552 To set up Gargils or Antiques at the top of a Gavill end, as a finiall to the crest tiles, which in the beginning he called *Protypa*. [*margin*] Moulds or patternes. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 167 These early reliefs, called *protypa*, or bas reliefs, and *ectypa*, or high-reliefs, were also used for decorating houses and halls.

‖ **Protypus** (prōʊ·tipŏs). *Obs.* Also in anglicized form **pro·type.** [f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO-² + *τύπος* TYPE.] (See quot. 1656.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Protype..*, that is made for an example or copy; an image or form whereof moulds are made, in which things of mettal or earth are cast. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* (1769) 16 The *protypus* was of wax for efformation.

Prou, obs. f. PROW *sb.*¹ and ², var. PROW *v. Obs.*

Proud (praud), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Forms: see below. [Late OE. *prūt, prūd* = ON. *prūð-r* brave, gallant, magnificent, stately (whence Icel. *prúðr*, MSw. *prudh*, MDa. *prud*); both prob. a. OF. *prūd, prōd*, nom. *prūz, prōz* (= **prūt-s*, **prōt-s*) valiant, doughty, gallant (11thc. in Godef.), in mod.F. *preux* = Prov. *proz, pro*, Cat. *prou*, It. *prode* valiant, Rhæto-Rom. *pruz* pious :—late L. **prōd-is* profitable, advantageous, useful (*prōde* neut. in Itala *a* 200); app. either the source of, or taken from, the first element of L. *prōd-esse* to be of value, be good. See also PREUX, PROW *a.*, and cf. PRIDE.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1-5 **prūt,** 5 **prute,** 3-5 **prout, -e,** 5-6 **prowte.** *Compar.* 4 **prottore, -our,** 5 **prutter, -yr.**

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xlvi. (1889) 152 Pryte heaze utawyrpð & wiþerwyrdnyss prute [*sublimes*] ʒenyþerude. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 276 Eaðe meiht tu beon prut! *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 225/197 Oure maister was so prout, Lucefer, for his fairhede, þat he ful sone out. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9539 King stefne was þe boldore & þe prottore [*v.r.* prottour] uor þis cas. *c* 1440 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 57 Ne for no good chaunce, he was not the Pruttyr [*v.r.* prutter]. *Ibid.* 145 Spare the meke, and wreke Ham on the Prowte. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxv. 280 (Harl. MS.) And when he was this i-hyed, he wex prout. 1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) v. yii. 17 Zo thieke prowte howrecop.

β. 1-4 **prúd,** 4-6 **prude,** (4-5 **prode**), 4-6 **proude,** 4-7 **prowd(e,** 4- **proud.** *Compar.* 3 **pruder, prudder,** 5 **prodder.** *Superl.* 3 **prudest,** 4 **pruddest, proddest,** 5 **pruddist.**

c 1000 in Napier *O.E. Gloss.* 226/233 *Arrogantes*, modiʒ: *vel* prud. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Prud ne wreiere ne beo þu noht. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 296 He is þinge prudest, and him is scheome loðest. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 289 Þe proude kyng Pharaon, þat chaced Israel. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2942 Þe proddest of hem alle. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1300 Þe pruddest of þe province. *Ibid.* 1772 Þe prowde prynce of Perce. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2415 (Cott.) Fra þaa prude folk had hir sen. *Ibid.* 27571 Oft bitides þat man es Bicummen prode for halines. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 4375 Þe playne purperyn see full of prode fischis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2743 The pruddist of payone, prise men of honde. *a* 1450 MYRC 1129 Hast þou..þe prodder þe mad, For any ofyce þat þow hast had? 1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXV. 12 Because of the wickednesse off proude tyrauntes.

B. Signification.

Senses 6 and 7 come nearest to the OF. and ON. The unfavourable sense, so early in Eng., may be due to the aspect in which a Norman *prud barun* or *prode chevalier* presented himself to the English peasant or townsman. (Cf. the two senses of L. *superbus*.)

I. 1. Having or cherishing a high or lofty opinion of oneself; valuing oneself highly on account of one's position, rank, attainments, possessions, etc.; Usually in a bad sense: Disposed to take an attitude of superiority to and contempt for others; arrogant, haughty, overweening, supercilious.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xvii. (1889) 85 Sawl prutes byð forlaeten. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu þereuore prud ne wilde. *Ibid.* 43 Prud heo wes swiðe and modi. *c* 1290 *Beket* 980 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 134 [He] is prouȝt and conteckor. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 172 Ne to depraue þi persone with a proud herte. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xx, None ought to be prowd ageynst his lord, but ought to humble hym self toward hym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 Some be as proude as Nabugodonosor. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 They are as bragge and as proude as pecockes. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Countersnarle* 54 Hee was a proud insolent Delegate. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 20 Nov., Lord Strafford is as proud as Hell. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. vi, They say he's as proud as Lucifer. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 96 Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much; Wisdom is humble that he knows no more. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i. 210 The vile are only vain; the great are proud. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 16 Claims not less arrogant than those of the proudest popes in the middle ages. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 347 Turn, Fortune, turn thy wheel and lower the proud.

b. Const. *of* (the thing, quality, action, etc. which constitutes the ground of pride). See also 2.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 154 Haue knowynge of thy-Selfe, and be not Prute of so hey vyrchipp. *c* 1510 MORE *Picus* Wks. 17/2 If thou haste receiued it: why arte thou prowde therof, as thoughe thou haddst not receiued it. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. x. 77 Iden farewell, and be proud of thy victory. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* III. 959 Most of our women are extreamly proud Of their faire lookes. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vii. 317 If a man were to be proud of anything, it should be what the angels were proud of,.. their intellectual endowments. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 140, I should be more inclined to be ashamed than proud of myself if they had. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* ii, An ornament of which she was much prouder than of her red cheeks.

c. Preceded by a sb. in comb. = proud of...

1682, etc. [see PURSE-PROUD]. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* viii. 354, I could make four or five spans of.. good and well-matched oxen..and I am now becoming a little ox-proud. 1904 *Globe* 27 Oct. 4/4 No one can prevent the woman who is jewel-proud..from bedecking herself with gems on every possible and a few impossible occasions.

2. Highly sensible of, or elated by, some honour done to one; feeling oneself greatly honoured by some act, fact, or relation; taking pride or having high satisfaction in something; in early use (as still in *dial.*) sometimes merely = gratified, pleased, glad. Often const. *of*, or with *inf.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1414 Wið gold, and siluer, and wið srud, Þis sonde made ðe mayden prud. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 59 Pacience was proude of þat propre seruice, And made hym muirth with his mete. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 262 Pelleus of the proffer was proude at his hert. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. iii. 191 Faire Cousin, you debase your Princely Knee, To make the base Earth prowd with kissing it. 1677 DRYDEN *Apol. Heroic Poetry* Ess. (Ker) I. 182 The author of the *Plain Dealer*, whom I am proud to call my friend. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 308 A divine ambition, and a zeal, The boldest patriot might be proud to feel. 1784 BURNS '*There was a lad*' iv, He'll be a credit to us a', We'll a' be proud o' Robin. 1902 LD. KITCHENER in *Westm. Gaz.* 30 July 5/1 This..will, I am sure, be well understood by the Army I have been so proud to command.

3. Having a becoming sense of what is due to or worthy of oneself or one's position; unwilling to stoop to what is beneath one; characterized by lofty self-respect; feeling or showing a proper pride.

1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* II. 205 *F.* You're strangely proud. *P.* So proud, I am no Slave: So impudent, I own myself no Knave. 1761 GRAY *Sketch* 1 Too poor for a bribe and too proud to importune. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc., Burns* (1857) I. 233 Many a poet has been poorer than Burns; but no one was ever prouder. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady Clara Vere de Vere* ii, Your pride is yet no mate for mine, Too proud to care from whence I came.

4. *transf.* Of actions, etc.: Proceeding from or indicating pride; arrogant, haughty, presumptuous; arising from lofty self-respect.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 379 Ther was..many a proud word spoke also. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* vi. 17 There be sixe thinges, which the Lorde hateth...A proude loke, a dyssemblynge tonge [etc.]. 1701 *Stanley's Hist. Philos., Biog.* 9 This Philosophy [the Stoick] has..charmed a World of People by its Proud and Ostentatious Principles. 1790 COWPER *Mother's Picture* 110 Higher far my proud pretensions rise—The son of parents pass'd into the skies. 1853 tr. *F. Bremer's Homes New World* II. xxvii. 311 The Indians, like the Greenlanders, look down upon the white race with proud contempt.

5. That is a ground or cause of pride; of which one is or may be proud (now usually in good sense); affording high satisfaction or gratification.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xix. 8 Þai ere on heghe, and has þaire delite in proude honurs and vayn. *a* 1577 GASCOIGNE *Herbs, Weeds*, etc. Wks. (1587) 304 Not one of these rebuketh avarice And yet procureth prowd pluralities. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* XXV, Let those..Of publike honour and proud titles bost. 1746-7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1767) I. 57 (*Tombs*) Where is Honour, with her proud Trophies of Renown? 1831 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Ellistoniana*, One proud day to me he took his roast mutton with us in the Temple. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xlviii, 'It is a proud sight', said the secretary. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 44 The proud inheritance of their stainless loyalty.

II. 6. As a poetic or rhetorical epithet. **a.** Of persons, their name, etc.: Of exalted station, of high degree, of lofty dignity; lordly.

a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 5 in *O. E. Misc.* 102 Eorles prute, knyhtes egleche. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 147 A noþere ladye proude and nuwe. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. viii. 1148 Donald-Erchsone-Heggeboud King wes xiiii. winter provd. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 50 Nature neuer fram'd a womans heart, Of prowder stuffe then that of Beatrice. 1742 GRAY *Spring* ii, How low, how little are the Proud. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* VI. i, High though his titles, proud his name, Boundless his wealth as wish can claim. 1854 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 180/1 In the grave will be no space For the purple of the proud.

b. Of things: Stately, majestic, magnificent, grand, 'gallant', splendid. (Referring to aspect.)

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 301/41 A noble churche huy founden þare, with walles faire and proute. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3249 Ring and broche war selli prude. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 435 With pelur and pall & mony proude rynges. 1530 PALSGR. 321/2 Prowde or stately, *fier.* 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, Tis not yet prowde day: The neat gay mist[r]es of the light's not vp. 1678 WOOD *Life* 28 June (O. H. S.) II. 410 The ruins..do shew that it hath been a verie statelie and proud fabrick. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xv, And through the waters view on high The proud ships sail, and gay clouds move. 1840 THIRLWALL *Greece* VII. lv. 91 Ecbatana..one of the proudest cities of the ancient world.

† **c.** *transf.* Highly pleasing (to other senses), 'grand'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus minor*) 705 Persawand prowd sawoure þare Of sottyne [sodden] flesche.

7. Characterized by great vigour, force, or vitality, such as indicates or suggests pride: in various applications. † **a.** Of warriors (or their acts): Valiant, brave; mighty; esp. in phr. *proud in pres* (*prece*), valiant in conflict (see PRESS *sb.*¹ 1 b).

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 57 To Marke þe king þai went Wiþ knistes proude in pres. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2132 To purvey a pepull pruddest of werre. *Ibid.* 6719 Preset hym with payne, & with proude strokes. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlvii, Thenne he wente to the dece, Be-fore the pruddust in prece. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccl. 371 The ii squiers within were right hardy and prowde. 1592 CONINGSBY *Jrnl. Siege Rouen* in *Camden Misc.* I. 58 Thus have you the most prowd sally that any capten here can tell of to their memorie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 27 The youthful Prince, with proud allarm, Calls out the vent'rous Colony to swarm.

b. Of animals: Spirited, high-mettled; marked by vigorous and fearless activity; moving with force and dignity. (Chiefly *poet.*)

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3714 Bestys that be proude: As boors, lippardys, and lyouns. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. ii. 21, I haue dogges my Lord, Will rouze the proudest Panther in the Chase. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 858 The Fiend repli'd not,.. But like a proud Steed reind, went hautie on, Chaumping his iron curb. 1780 COWPER *Table-Talk* 523 Give me the line that ploughs its stately course Like a proud swan, conquering the stream by force.

c. Of the sea or a stream: Swelling, swollen, high, strong, in flood.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* XXXVIII. 11 Here shalt thou laye downe thy proude and hye wawes. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 91 Which falling in the Land, Hath ouerie petty Riuer made so proud, That they haue ouer-borne their Continents. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* CXXIV. 5 Then the proud waters had gone ouer our soule. 1828 BUCHAN *Ballads N. Scot.* I. 247 The wind was loud, the stream was proud, And wi' the stream gaed Willie. 1894 *Field* 1 Dec. 838/1 In the big rivers of upper Sweden and Norway, the grayling lives in the turmoil and 'proud' water.

d. Of organic structures: Overgrown, exuberant, too luxuriant; swelling or swollen, tumid. (*a*) Said of the sap: Swelling; rising or circulating vigorously; also, said locally of plants, or parts of them, as buds, shoots, grain. (See also WINTER-*proud*.) (*b*) Applied to overgrown flesh in a healing wound: see also PROUD FLESH.

[1586 A. Day *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 78 *Metaphora*..as if we should say..corne by the stately length and weighty eare it carrieth, to be proud.] 1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, III. iv. 59 As we..wound the Barke, the skin of our Fruit-trees, Least being ouer-proud with Sap and Blood, With too much riches it confound it selfe. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 219 Used by Physitians for taking down of proud swelling wounds. 1648 Markham *Housew. Gard.* III. x. (1668) 79 Now sap in flowers is strong and proud. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 32 About the beginning of March (when the buds begin to be proud and turgid). 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xxxiv. 152 Ten acres of wheat, which, after Christmas, seemed proud. 1825 Brockett *N. C. Gloss., Proud*, luxuriant. 'Corn's varra proud.' 1844 Stephens *Bk. Farm* II. 515 If the winter has been open and mild, the autumn-wheat plant will have grown luxuriantly,..so..that it may have become *proud*, that is, in a precocious state of forwardness for the season.

8. Sensually excited; 'swelling', lascivious. ? *Obs.*

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. x. 26 In ashes and sackcloth he did array His daintie corse, proud humors to abate. 1593 Shaks. *Lucr.* 712 The flesh being proud, Desire doth fight with grace. 1641 Hinde *J. Bruen* vii. 27 Who having made their flesh proud by pampering, do now..cast off all feare of God.

b. *spec.* Of certain female animals, as bitches, mares, elephants: In a state of sexual excitement; 'in heat'. ? *Obs.*

1575 Turberv. *Venerie* vii. 17 A fayre Bitch..the whiche you may make to goe proude in this wyse. 1590 Cokaine *Treat. Hunting* B iij b, A Brach is..nine daies full proude. 1615 tr. *De Monfart's Surv. E. Indies* 17 To take them [wild elephants]..they make vse of a female, when shee goeth proud, in her heate [etc.]. 1727 Bradley *Fam. Dict.* I. Ee j b/2 Make Broth thereof and of this give her some twice or thrice, and she will infallibly grow proud. 1781 P. Beckford *Hunting* (1802) 62 Watch over the bitches with a cautious eye, and separate such as are going to be proud, before it be too late.

9. *dial.* or *local.* 'Large; projecting in any direction; of a roof: high-pitched'; also 'said of a fulcrum when it is placed too near the lever end' (*E. D. D.*); and in other transferred uses: see quots.

1825 Jamieson, *Proud*, applied to a projection in a haystack, during the act of rearing it, whence it needs dressing in a particular quarter. 1857 P. Colquhoun *Comp.* 'Oarsman's Guide' 13 It has been the custom to fill oars very square, to make them row proud; but there are few men capable of enduring proud oars for any length of time..not rowing the stroke out is attributable to these proud fillings. 1886 *S. W. Linc. Gloss.* s. v., 'The nails [in a horseshoe] stand out too proud'; 'The board's a bit too proud, it wants spoke-shaving off.' *Mod.*, 'You are too proud': said of or to a person who, trying to raise something with a crowbar or other lever, places the point too far under the object to be lifted (= too far beyond the fulcrum).

10. *Phrases.* **a.** *Proud tailor*: a local name for the goldfinch, from its showy plumage.

1770 D. Barrington in *Archæologia* (1775) III. 33 A goldfinch still continues to be called a proud tailor in some parts of England. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 151 *Fringilla Carduelis*, Goldfinch, Thistle-Finch, Proud Tailor. 1876–82 *Yarrell's Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) II. 118 *note*, In some of the Midland counties it is termed 'Proud Tailor'.

b. *To do* (a person) *proud* (colloq.): to make proud, confer an honour upon, gratify highly.

1819 *Metropolis* I. 220 'You do me proud', said the general. 1837 Thackeray *Ravenswing* i, Madam, you do me proud. 1884 *Milnor* (Dakota) *Teller* 22 Aug., The people of Milnor have done themselves proud in building a school house. 1899 *Daily News* 1 June 6/4 The sun did himself proud...For once the tents were not actually crammed throughout the afternoon.

†**c.** *To make it proud*: to behave proudly or haughtily. *Obs.* (See Make *v.*[1] 68 b.)

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 263 She can make it full prowde with iapes and with gynnes. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 486 Þis hogy best..His sette to swolo covetous men Þat in erþe makyȝt hit prowd and towȝe.

†**C.** as *sb. Obs.*

1. A proud person; one of high degree.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13696 Pirrus with that proude presit to þe temple, Weddit þat worthi, & as wif held. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 24 Wes neuir proud of sic auctoritie Moir wirschip wan. *a* 1586 in Pinkerton *Anc. Scot. Poems* (1786) 190 He luifit that prowde in paramouris.

2. Pride. *rare.* (*Prude* (*ü*) was also early southern ME. spelling of *pryde*, Pride.)

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 (Harl. MS.) Alle þat is in þe wordle oþer it is fals couetise of flesch, or fals couetise of yen, or prowde of lif.

D. as *adv.* Proudly, in a proud manner (in various senses).

13.. *Cursor M.* 28515 Lucheri has don me scrud Me-self and bere my bodi prud. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1793 in *Macro Plays* 130 Heyl, prinse, proude prekyd in palle! 1534 More *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1272/2 Men maye call hym a foole that beareth hymselfe prowde, because he ietteth about in a borowed gown. 1857 [see 9 above].

E. *Comb.* **a.** parasynthetic, as *proud-blooded, -crested, -minded, -paced, -pillared, -quivered, -spirited, -stomached*: see also Proud-hearted. **b.** adverbial, as *proud-blind* (blinded by pride), *-exulting, -glancing,* †*-pied* (proudly or splendidly variegated), † *-pight, -prancing.*

1599 *Broughton's Let.* ix. 32 Put on your spectacles you purblind and *proud-blind Pharisee. 1759 Mason *Caractacus* Poems (1774) 261 *Proud-crested soldier! 1796 *Poetry* in *New Ann. Reg.* 168 To leave him, *proud-exulting in his pains. 1596 Shaks. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 132, I am as peremptorie as she *proud minded. 1616 *Marlowe's Faust.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 120/2 On a *proud-pac'd steed, as swift as thought. *c* 1600 Shaks. *Sonn.* xcviii, When *proud pide Aprill (drest in all his trim) Hath put a spirit of youth in euery thing. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 11191 Many a *proude pight pynacle Stode a-boute that tabernacle. 1901 L. F. Begbie in *Academy* 28 Sept. 258/1 *Proud-prancing Æschylean words. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xiii, *Proud-stomached teachers.

†**Proud,** *v. Obs.* [OE. *prútian*, ME. *prouden*, f. *prút* Proud *a.*]

1. *intr.* To be proud; to behave proudly.

a 1000 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1161 in Napier *O. E. Gloss.* 32/1 *Fastu*, .i. *elatione*, prutunge. *c* 1000 *Corp. Chr. Coll. Cantbr. MS.* 191, 29 Þæt hi wyllon modiȝȝan oððe prutian. *Ibid.* 168 Hwanon hi modigian maȝon oððe prutian. *c* 1325 *Deo Gratias* 18 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 129 A noþur Mon proudeþ as doþ a poo. 1382 Wyclif *Job* xv. 20 Alle his daȝis the vnpitous man proudeth. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Henry Gt.* 117 There prowdeth Pow'r, here Prowesse brighter shines.

b. To be lively or wanton. (Cf. Proud *a.* 8.)

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 264 Mirie time is Auerille..ȝong man wexeþ iolif, & þan proudeþ man & wiif.

2. *trans.* To make proud; to puff up with pride.

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 153/12 Nor she was depressed wiþ reproues ne prouded wiþ hir preisynges. 1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XVI. cii. 403 Yee whom Nature hath or Fortune prowded. 1606 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Trophies* 1333 As Sin breeds Sin, and Husband marr's the Wife, Sister prouds Sister, Brother hardens Brother, And one Companion doth corrupt another.

Hence †**Prou·ded** *ppl. a.*, made proud, overswollen; †**Prou·der,** ? one who behaves proudly.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. lii. 236 The prouded Flesh from sins excesse to waine. 1565 W. Allen *Def. Cath. Doctr. Purgatory* II. viii. 191 Goddes Churche..hathe by the spirite of God beaten downe your proudders, the Arrians: the Macedonians: the Anabaptistes. 1577 Fulke *Confut. Purg.* 298 [quoting prec.] Our prowders the Arians.

Proudens, obs. form of Prudence.

†**Prou·dfall.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Proud *a.* + (?) Fall *sb.*[1]] ? The front hair, the forelock.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy.* 3025 The shede þurghe the shyre here shone as þe lilly, Streght as a strike, straght þurgh the myddes, Depertid the proudfall pertly in two, Atiret in tressis trusset full faire.

Proud flesh. [See Proud *a.* 7 d (*b*).] Overgrown flesh arising from excessive granulation upon, or around the edges of, a healing wound.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 78 An hori elde wounde þat haþ summe greete crustis, or ellis..sum gret proud fleisch to hiȝe [Lat. *carnem superfluam grossam*]. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50 b/2 Aboue the ordinary fluxions, therin engendreth proude fleshe. 1685 Boyle *Enq. Notion Nat.* vii. 323 In wounds, proud-flesh, and perhaps funguses, are as well produced and entertained by the aliment brought to the wounded part, as the true and genuine flesh. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 80 If fungus, commonly called proud-flesh, should appear, a dressing of dry lint will mostly soon repress it. 1880 M. Mackenzie *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 526 The formation of 'proud flesh' on the edges of the wound.

Hence **Prou·d-flesh** *v. trans.*, to cause a growth of proud flesh upon (in quot. *fig.*).

1876 S. Lanier in *Life & Lett. B. Taylor* (1884) II. xxviii. 693 The additional forcing of such a tendency..becomes positively hurtful through proudfleshing the artistic conscience.

Proudful (prau·dfŭl), *a.* Now *dial.* [f. Proud *a.* + -ful: cf. Prideful.] Full of pride; abounding in pride; proud. (In quot. 1900 as *adv.*)

1340 *Ayenb.* 217 Prouduol clobinge ne wynþ naȝt of god. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 81 [They] began to delet [= delate] his proudfull ambitioun and disdainning of the pepill. 1881 W. C. Smith in *Mod. Sc. Poets* III. 243 She leaves his proudfu' mither Draggin through the dowie heather. 1900 'Zack' (Gwen. Keats) *Tales Dunstable Weir* (1901) 135 (Devon dial.) He moved that free and yet that proudful I couldn't but call to mother to mark him.

Prou·d-hea·rted, *a.* Having a proud heart or spirit; proud, haughty.

? *a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 1491 Proude-herted Narcisus. 14.. in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. 25 The horss hath xxv propertes,..iiii off a lyon..prowd-herted, brod-brestid, iiii good legis, and a stowte stern. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 Oft dois hautane proud-hartit men to wyn los in armes, mare for pride na prow. 1593 Shaks. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. i. 98 And so, prowd-hearted Warwicke, I defie thee. *a* 1803 *Young Benjie* iv. in Child *Ballads* IV. (1886) 382/1 And he was stout, and proud-hearted, And thought o't bitterlie. 1861 Trollope *Framley P.* I. xi. 236 It is hardly possible that the proud-hearted should love those who despise them; and Lucy Robarts was very proud-hearted.

So **Prou·d-heart** *sb.*, a name for a proud-hearted person; *a.*, proud-hearted.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. v. 45 Pernel proud-herte [C. vii. 3 proute-herte] platte hire to grounde,..And beo-hiȝte to him þat vs alle maade, Heo wolde [etc.]. 1819 Keats *Lamia* II. 285 Leaving thee forlorn..For all thine impious proud-heart sophistries. 1887 Morris *Odyss.* II. 324 Those young and proud-heart lords.

Proudish (prau·diʃ), *a.* [f. Proud *a.* + -ish [1].] Somewhat proud, rather proud.

1658 Cokaine *Trappolin* IV. i, I do remember my self well enough, yet Eo, Meo, and Areo, have made me something proudish. 1688 Penton *Guard. Instruct.* (1897) 44 Especially when they are a little proudish. 1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* VI. i, He said this with a proudish air.

†**Prou·dling.** *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ling [1].] A proud person; a 'son' or 'daughter of pride'.

a 1618 Sylvester *Henry Gt.* 152 Milde to the Meek, to Proudlings sterne and strict. 1628 Sir W. Mure *Doomesday* 196 There, the Ambitious..Of base contempt is made the pryse; The Proudling pestred downe.

†**Prou·dly,** *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. as prec. + -ly [1].] Of proud manner; proud-looking.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 2136 Duk Nestor was ful of wratthe and ire Toward Antenor, that proudely sire.

Proudly (prau·dli), *adv.* Forms: see Proud *a.* and -ly [2]. [Late OE. *prútlice*: see -ly [2]; ME. *prudeliche.*] In a proud manner; with pride.

1. With excessive self-esteem; with an attitude or air of superiority; haughtily, arrogantly.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* lviii. (1889) 178 Prutlice [*superbe*] witan. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.*..577 Þa onswerede þe an swiðe prudeliche, þus, to þe prude prince. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 534 Fyrumbras ansuerde him agayn prouteliche & sayde;..'Ich hem wolde wel conquere wiþ my swerd trenchaunt'. 14.. *Tourn. Tottenham* 30 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 84 How prudly among vs thy doȝter he craues. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 192 b, He aunswered contemptuously & proudlye. 1621 Molle *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. x. 178 [She] thinketh the proudlier of herselfe. 1671 Milton *Samson* 55 Proudly secure, yet liable to fall By weakest suttleties. 1788 Cowper *Negro's Compl.* 56 Prove that you have human feelings, Ere you proudly question ours! 1831 Foster in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 197 A long and proudly imperious reign of corruption.

b. With lofty satisfaction or self-respect; with a high sense of honour done to one, or of what is worthy of one; with elation or exultation.

1753 A. Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 23 Rather than drag a feverish Life under an huge Load of Misery, he proudly resolves to put an End to his Sufferings. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 290 A rule which, as far back as the days of the Plantagenets, had been proudly declared by the most illustrious sages of Westminster Hall to be a distinguishing feature of the English jurisprudence. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 79 A conquest which is proudly contrasted with the petty exploits of the first Cæsar in the same island.

2. With an aspect or manner suggesting pride; grandly, magnificently, splendidly; †gallantly, valiantly (quot. *c* 1420); with spirited and dignified movement; with vigour or force, exuberantly.

c 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 313 Eac hiȝ prutlice ȝymaþ þæs miotacismus ȝefieard. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virt.* 107 Ne he ne scal to prudeliche bien isc(r)edd. 13.. *K. Alis.* 3413 (Bodl. MS.) Many stede there proudely lep. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 371 A chamber full choise.., þat proudly was painted with pure gold ouer. *c* 1420 *Brut* 370 Proutly & manly he quitte hym on his aduersarye. *a* 1547 Surrey *Æneid* II. (1557) C ij, The pillers eke proudly beset with gold, And with the spoiles of other nations. 1597 Shaks. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. ii. 130 The Tide of Blood in me,–Hath prowdly flow'd in Vanity, till now. 1670 Capt. J. Smith *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 73 The best season is when the Sap is ready to stir, not when it is proudly stirring. 1671 Milton *P. R.* IV. 34 An Imperial City..With Towers and Temples proudly elevate On seven small hills. 1899 F. T. Bullen *Way Navy* 40 We swept proudly up to the anchorage off Buncrana.

Proudness (prau·dnės). Now *rare.* [f. Proud *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being proud; pride.

1. Lofty self-esteem, arrogance, haughtiness.

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* ix. 116, I synnit..In he exaltit arrogance and folye, Prowdnes, derisioun, scorne and vilipentioun. 1552 Latimer *Serm. Gospels* iv. 173 He fell..in suche a hatred and proudenes agaynst God. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* K j, Thair proudnes is intolerable. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph.* 465 Isaiah accumulates words, to express the haughtiness of Moab..as if we were to say 'pride, prideful, proudness, pridefulness'. 1902 E. H. Cooper *20th Century Child* xii. (1905) 231 They [crabs] should be kept in a bucket for a week, said a small child firmly, 'to calm down their proudness'.

2. Proud show, splendour, magnificence.

1606 Warner *Alb. Eng.* XVI. ci. 401 Nature wrongd by Arte, of Prowdnes more than need.

Proues, -ese, -esse, obs. ff. Prowess. **Prouey(e,** obs. f. Purvey. **Prouffer, -ffre,** obs. ff. Proffer. **Prounze,** obs. Sc. form of Prune *v.*[1]

Proustite (prū·stait). *Min.* [a. F. *proustite* (1832), after J. L. Proust, a French chemist, the discoverer: see -ite [1].] Native sulpharsenide of silver, occurring in crystals or granular masses of a cochineal-red colour; also called *ruby silver* or *light-red silver ore.*

1835 C. U. Shepard *Min.* II. II. 120 Proustite. Aphotistic Melacone-Blende. 1872 *Catal. Min. W. Nevill* 20 Proustite in large crystals. 1893 Chapman *Blowpipe Pract.* 156 Proustite..is recognized by its deep or bright red colour.

Prout(e, Prouwis, obs. ff. Proud, Prowess.

Provable, prouveable (prū·văb'l), *a.* Also 4–5 **prevable,** (5 **-bulle**), 6 **proov(e)able.** [a. OF. *pro(u)vable* (*c* 1225 in Godef.) that can be proved, worthy of approbation, ad. L. *probābil-is* Probable. The form *prevable* is f. *preve* (see Prove); *proveable* (usual from 17th to early 19th c.) affects direct formation from Prove *v.*]

1. Capable of being proved; of which the truth or validity can be established; demonstrable.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5414 And if thee thinke it is doutable, It is thurgh argument provable [*orig.* c'est bien par argument prouvable]. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 7 It is not aȝen þe feiþ, or prouable aȝen þe trowþ. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. xv. (1634) 79 They seem to say somewhat by reason proveable, yet..there is no stedfast certainty in their reasons. 1651 Baxter *Inf. Bapt.* 272 He makes it fully proveable from Scripture. 1729 Butler *Serm., Hum. Nat.* i. *note*, [This] is a mere question of fact..not proveable immediately by reason. 1873 M. Arnold *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 280 This being proveable from Scripture. 1889 *Spectator* 23 Nov., The steady prosecution of every provable ease of sanitary neglect.

†**2.** Such as approves itself to the mind; worthy of acceptance or belief; plausible; = Probable 2.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 118 Whenne þou shal fynde dyuers tokenynges & contrary, holde þe alldayes to þe bettyr & more preuable party. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 2359 3it is prouable yᵗ crist lufed the Sinagoge wele more. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 327 It is more prooveable to affirme, that he was buried at Horsted here. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 230 The Spaniards did giue their discharge in such prouable maner, that the captaines..were satisfied of the false opinion.

†3. Worthy to be approved; commendable, praiseworthy, meritorious. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xlii. 8 Thou shalt ben lerned in alle thingus, and prouable [1388 comendable] in the siȝte of all men. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 135 Of whom are tolde prevable and famous þinges [L. *feruntur fuisse insignia*]. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxvi, As prest knyȝte, and preuabulle, With schild and with spere. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 427 b/1 He proufferyd hym to god in al thynges pryuables and wythoute confusyon in his werkys.

†4. That proves or turns out well; that yields a profit. Cf. PROVE *v.* 10. *Obs. rural.*

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 474 The most proveable pig is the cheapest, though dearest at first cost. 1884 *Cheshire Gloss., Provable*, said of corn that yields well.

Hence **Provabi·lity, Pro·vableness,** the quality of being provable; demonstrability.

1864 WEBSTER, *Provableness.* 1902 *Month* May 453 The Church..affirms the provability of the Divine existence. 1908 SIR E. RUSSELL in *Hibbert Jrnl.* July 773 There is at present no such evident provableness in them as can make them effective in motive.

Provably, proveably (prūˑvăbli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY². Cf. AF. *provablement* (Act 25 Edw. III. Stat. v. c. 2, 1351–2).] In a provable manner: **†a.** so as to approve itself to the mind, with likelihood (*obs.*); **b.** as may be proved; demonstrably.

1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1853) 77 It semeth preuabli to feithful men that newe determinaciour of fleshli prelatis is suspect of eresie eithir of errour. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 8 þus prouabli a feiþful man miȝt in ȝering manj messis geit on a day seuenti [*MS.* þewenti] þowzand ȝer of pardoun. 1460 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 379/1 If eny persone..therof provably be atteinte. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Titus* 26 If thou knowe any man of that maners and vpright lyuinge, that no faulte can prouеably be layed to him. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VIII. 119/1 Supposing her to be, provably, Lucy Hamblin. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Oct. 392/2 The most provably conservative of all religious rites.

† Proval. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. PROVE *v.* + -AL: cf. OF. *prouvaille* proof (in Godef.); also *trial.*] The act of proving or testing; = PROOF *sb.* 4; something that proves or tests.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 325 [A Prison] is..a forced tryall of a mans patience,..a prouall of a mans friends, and a revengement of his enemies.

Provand (prɒˑvănd). Also 4–5 **provande.** [= MLG. and early mod.Du. *provande* (Plantin, Kilian, Hexham 1678); app. ad. F. *provende*: see PROVEND *sb.* In quot. 1481 immediately from Flemish; but in earlier examples perh. from OF.]

Food, provisions, provender; *esp.* the food and fodder provided for an army.

c 1341 [see b]. ?*a* 1400 *Cursor M.* 3317 (Fairf.) Prouande [*other MSS.* fodder] and hay þou sal finde boun. *c* 1450 *Bk. Curtasye* 608 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 319 A pek of prouande on a day; Euery horse schalle so muche haue. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 60, I wolde ofte sende them for prouande [*orig.* wt seynden om prouande]. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. *** iij b, That their Soldiors, in steade of pay with money, should be payed in Prouand, which was bread and cheese. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 267 Cammels..haue their Prouand Onely for bearing Burthens. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Provand*, provender. 1890 G. HOOPER *Wellington* 141 The Marshal..got some provand from that unwasted country.

b. *attrib.* Cf. PROVANT 3.

c 1341 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 541 In Canabo empt' pro j Provandpok. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. (10 b), Turning their Prouand money..into their owne purses.

Provang, obs. form of PROBANG.

Provant (prɒˑvănt), *sb.* Also 5–7 **provent**(e. [app. a. MLG. *provant*, later form of *provande* PROVAND; perh. sometimes confounded with PROVENT *sb.* Formerly *provaˑnt.*]

1. Provand, provender; an allowance of food.

c 1450 *Mankind* 61 in *Marco Plays*, The chaff, to horse xall be goode provente; When a man ys for-colde, þe straw may be brent. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 22 From the flesh pots of Egipt, to the Prouant of the Lowe Countreyes. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. i, One peaze was a souldier's provant a whole day, at the destruction of Jerusalem. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 34 On the Shoulders of the Coolies they load their Provant, and what Moveables necessary. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VI. viii. (1861) 224 It serveed off a deep coat pocket, stored with bread and cheese, which provant rolling among the armies, occasioned a fearful scrambling between the Swedes and Dutchmen. 1885 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (1887) III. 96 Then she applied herself to making ready the wants of the way, to wit provaunt and provender.

†2. One who deals in provant; a sutler. *Obs.*

1608 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in One* I. i, Oh, gods of Rome, was Nicodemus To bear these braveries from a poor provant!

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* **a.** Of or belonging to the provant or soldier's allowance; hence, of common or inferior quality. (Cf. AMMUNITION *sb.* 3.) *arch.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* III. i, *Step.*..He swore it was a Toledo. *Bob.* A poor provant rapier, no better. 1627 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 118 The provant wine ordained for the army being frozen, was divided with hatchets. 1628 R. S. *Counter-Scuffle* C j, Commanders, That hither come, compell'd by want, With rustie Swords, and Suits Prouant. *a* 1639 WEBSTER *Appius & Virg.* I. iv, All our provant apparel's torn to rags. [1819 SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* ii, The good wheaten loaves of the Flemings were better than the provant rye-bread of the Swede. 1863 SALA *Capt. Dangerous* I. i. 16 Those that handle the backsword and are quick at finish with the provant rapier.]

†b. That serves or engages for provant; mercenary; also in *Comb.* as **provant-man,** a mercenary.

c 1624 LUSHINGTON *Resurr. Serm.* (1659) 43 Why yet do they say they were asleep? The reason is, they are..mercenary Souldiers, hired to it by the Priests with a large piece of money. The Provantman will undertake to say any thing, yea, to do any thing for money. 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wed.* I. i, Hang him, lean, mercenary, provant Rogue.

Hence **† Provant** *v. trans.*, to provision. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* 6 Yarmouth..should not onely supply her inhabitants with plentifull purueyance of sustenance, but prouant and victuall moreouer this monstrous army of strangers.

† Pro·vant-ma·ster. *Obs.* [f. PROVANT *sb.* + MASTER *sb.*¹; cf. Du. *provand-meester* (Kilian; mod. *proviand-*), G. *proviant-meister.*] The officer in charge of the commissariat; the commissary; also ? a supplier of or dealer in provisions.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 399 When the Scythians understood that Darius with his great Army stood in need of victuals, they sent unto him a Provant-master with these presents or gifts, a Bird, a Mouse, a Frog, and five darts. *a* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. II. v. (1903) 244 Agayne our Prouant masters for apparrelling the soldier, dealt as corruptly as the rest, not sending halfe the proportion of Apparrell due to the soldier. 1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* II. xviii. (1668) 97 According to the opinions of antient Husbandmen and other provant Masters.

Prove (prūv), *v.* Forms: *α.* **prove,** etc.; *β.* **preove, preve,** etc.: see below. Inflected **proved, proving**; Pa. pple. also (orig. in Sc. legal use) **proven.** [a. OF. *prove-r* (11th c. in Littré), in mod.F. *prouver* = Pr. *proar*, Sp. *probar*, Pg. *provar*, It. *probare*:—L. *probāre* to test (a thing) as to its goodness, to try; to approve; to make good, prove, demonstrate; f. *prob-us* good. In OF. the Lat. *o* when unstressed became *o*, later *ou* (*probāre, prover*; so *provant, prové, provons*), but in the stressed syllable, *ue* (*oe, eo, ẽ*), later *eu* (*probat, prueve*, later *preuve*), as in the sb. *preuve* PROOF. In modern F. all forms of the verb are levelled under *ou* (*prouver, prouve*). In ME. the two OF. inflexional types gave origin to two concurrent forms of the vb., *prove* and *preove, preve.* In Standard Eng. *prove* alone survives; *preve* is seldom found after 1500, but was usual in literary Scotch, and still exists (written *preeve, prieve, preave, preeave*) in Sc. and north. Eng. dialects. Cf. the parallel phonetic history of MOVE *v.* The pa. pple. *proven*, orig. Sc., from *preve*, follows the strong vbs., e. g. *cleave, cloven, weave, woven.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. Present stem.

α. 2–3 **prouwe,** 2–7 **proue,** (3 **proui, -y, y-proue**), 4–5 **prof, profe,** 4–6 *north. dial.* and *Sc.* **pruve, prufe, prowe,** 5 *Sc.* **pruff,** 5–6 **prouve, proufe,** 6 (**prooeyve**), *Sc.* **pruiff, proife** (*pa. pple.* **prute**), 6–7 **prooue, proove,** (7 **proov**), 5– **prove.**

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 He..prouwede deð for al moncun. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 93 Proue ech man him seluen. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12632 Com to morn, & prof [*v.r.* proue] þy day. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 99 He perceyved and i-proved þe deceyvynge of Edrik. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11665 As prouit is of old. 1472 *Presentm. Juries* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 23 It may be prowyd. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 363 As it mycht weill be prute [*rime* mute]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 181 b, Alexander in prouvyng maisteries would not bee matched but with kynges. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 222 b, Propheceyes, wherof the ende prooued some trewe. 1576 *Lichfield Gild Ord.* (E.E.T.S.) 27 Prooeyvinge the saide supplycacion. 1599 CHAPMAN *Hum. Dayes Myrth* Wks. 1873 I. 71 You are come to tempt and proove at full the spirit of my wife. *c* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1235 Experience can proife. 1652 GATAKER *Antinom.* 13 Such .. arguments proov nothing.

β. 3–5 **preoue,** 4–5 **proeue, -ve, prefe,** 4–6 **preue, preve,** 4–8 **prieve,** 5–6 **pref, preiue, preif, prewe,** 6 **preaue, pryve,** *Sc.* **preiff, prief,** 7 (8 *Sc.*) **prive.** See also the contracted form PREE.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Hwon heo is ipreoued hit ȝeið:..Vor al so preoueð God his icorene. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. iii. 120 (Camb. MS.) Ne I ne proeue nat thilke same reson. *c* 1386 — *Merch. T.* 994 Thexperience so preueth euery daie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 88 Which in som cas upon believe Stant more than thei conne prieve. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XII. 39 And putteþ forþ presompcions to preouen þe sothe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 412/2 Prevyn, or provyn. *a* 1450 *Cursor M.* 5374 (Fairf.) Wele ys him has hap to prefe. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. xiii. 14 Ffire preueþ golde. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IV. (*Fox's Confess.*) xvii, Or heid, or feit, or paynchis let me preif. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 12 Nane be so pert to prewe..Of thair awin blude to mak ane king agane. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. xii. 18 Her countenaunce and her likely hew..do surely prieve That yond same is your daughter. *c* 1600 *Scot. Poems 16th C.* (1801) II. 186 Priests, prief you men. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* I. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 272 To prive thy sonne,.. Spaines heire Apparant. *a* 1758 RAMSAY *Masque* 184 Skink 't up, and let us prive.

2. *Pa. pple.* Illustration of the form **proven** (also 6 -in). (Properly in passive.)

c 1536 NISBET *New Test. in Scots* (S. T. S.) III. 335 It is evidently knawin ande cleirly provin. 1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happines* 8 When a number serveth not necessitie, all are proven to be weak. 17.. *Erskine's Princ. Sc. Law* (1890) 598 A verdict of 'not proven' is allowable—and common—in Scotland, and involves acquittal and dismissal from the bar. 1818 R. P. KNIGHT *Symbolic Lang.* (1876) 175 Some who had proven themselves prolific. 1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Wolfgang & Henry of Melctal* Wks. 1846 I. 317/1 Did not this same..man..call thee a felon? not having proven thee such. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 225 A verdict of Not Proven indicates suspicion, but a want of proof of guilt. 1850 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) V. 224 Whatever can be proved from his mouth .. may be regarded as proven *a fortiori.* 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 1390 Being after all their foolish fears..only proven a blooming boy. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 247 It is generally assumed..; but this is by no means proven.

B. Signification.

I. To make trial of, try, test.

1. *trans.* To make trial of, put to the test; to try the genuineness or qualities of; to try, test. *arch.* exc. in technical uses (see b, etc.).

c 1200 [see A. 1 *α*]. *a* 1225 [see A. 1 *β*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9373 þis noblemen..þat in armes iproued beþ binorþe & bisoupe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8115 (Cott.) þe might o þam þou latt vs proue. 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* i. 3 The prouyng of ȝoure feith werchith pacience. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 43 How þe fadir taght his son for to prufe his frende. 1526 TINDALE *John* vi. 6 This he sayde to prove hym, For he hym sylfe knewe what he wolde do. 1585 JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 27 No flesh nor bone Can preif the honnie we from Pinde distill. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Thess.* v. 21 Proue [WYCLIF 1382 prove, 1388 preue ȝe, *Rhem.* prooue, TINDALE to *Geneva* examen] all things: hold fast that which is good. 1704 OLDMIXON *Blenheim* xxii, In vain they prove again the bloody Field. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* III. 340 Nor did he turn aside to prove His Brothers' wisdom or their love. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud., Crit. & Gosp. Hist.* (ed. 2) 160 To prove all things—to try the Spirits whether they be of God. [The prevailing use in Bible of 1611 (34 instances) and retained in Revised Version 1881–85.]

b. To subject to a testing process (any natural, prepared, or manufactured substance or object).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 7 Syluyre examynd in fire, proued of þe erth, purged seuenfald. 1428 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 1 þat metaill..whilk was proved and founden fals. 14.. *Ibid.* 61 All maner of mesurys..schall be schewed and prevyd. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* I. xvii. 165 As golde is proued in the fournes. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 328 He saw a Gentleman cheapning and proving Swords. 1788 J. MAY *Jrnl. & Lett.* (1873) 50 This afternoon I proved my rifle-gun. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 135 The monster cannon now only requires to be vented and proved.

c. *Arith.* To test the correctness of (a calculation). Also *intr.* in *pass.* sense.

Sometimes understood in sense 5.

1806 HUTTON *Course Math.* I. 15 There are three different ways of proving Multiplication. *Ibid.* 16 Multiplication is also very naturally proved by Division. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 542 My friend's moral arithmetic was wrongly squared, and wouldn't prove.

d. *Coal-mining.* (See quot. 1883.)

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. viii. 124 The coal has been proved, if not worked out, under every part of it. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining, Prove,* ..to ascertain by boring, driving, etc., the position and character of a coal seam, a fault, &c...To examine a mine in search of firedamp, &c., known as proving the pit.

e. To take a proof impression of (composed type or an electro- or stereotype plate).

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 590/1 [The engraver] proved a plate in different states, that he might ascertain how far his labours had been successful. 1847 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 958 The plate is..sent to the printer to prove.

†2. *intr.* To make a trial (*of* something), esp. by tasting; to taste (*of*). Cf. PREE *v. Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3656 þou bidd him rise þar-of to proue. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 1113 Geue thay of that tre had preuit, Perpetuallye thay mycht haue leuit. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 36 Some of my company proved of them, and they caused vomits and purging.

3. *trans.* To find out, learn, or know by experience; to have experience of, to experience, 'go through', suffer; also with compl., to find by experience (a person or thing) to be (something). Cf. APPROVE *v.*¹ 9. *arch.*

c 1175 [see A. 1 *a*]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4383 If i liue þou sal me proue An iuel freind to þi be-houe. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 228 That thoughe a man had hym delyvered than The same peryll wolde he have proved agayne. 1588 ALLEN *Admon.* 10 Other inconueniences which they had proued, and mighte easely fall againe. 1662 COKAINE *Tragedy of Ovid* v. ii, I may prove The like sad destiny Clorina did, Should I become your Wife. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* II. xiii, They only shall his Mercy prove. 18.. M. ARNOLD *Farewell* x, In the world I learnt, what there Thou too wilt surely one day prove, That will, that energy, though rare, Are yet far, far less rare than love.

†4. To try, endeavour, attempt, strive. Usually const. with *inf.*, also with *if, whether, how, and.* Cf. APPROVE *v.*¹ 8. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 347 Euer he proued with nithe and ond, To bring him into care. 1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* XV. 26 Forsoth Macedonye and Achaye proueden for to make sum collacioun. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 183, I shall prove with al my myghte To breke there bothe spere and sheilde. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 304, I sall preif the morne..To bring Coillis to the Court. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 6 He wyl proue and do the best he can to make the same decree and

his questions to accorde. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIII. xix. 487 They within the towne were driven .. to plucke off the lether from their shields & bucklers, and make them soft in skalding water, and prove [*couart*] how they could eat them. *a* 1610 PARSONS *Leicester's Ghost* (1641) 13, I did also prove To winne their handmaids.

†**b.** *intr.* or *absol.* To set oneself to do something; to try, strive, essay. *Obs. rare.*

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* A j, From any example, either of ancient or modern, that have proved in this kind. *a* 1659 OSBORN *Observ. Turks* Wks. (1673) 272 Yet he proved against this inconvenience, with as much caution as a by-past error is capable to admit.

II. To make good, establish.

5. *trans.* To establish (a thing) as true; to make certain; to demonstrate the truth of by evidence or argument. (The subject may be a person, a fact, evidence, etc.)

In this sense the Sc. pa. pple. *proven* is often used, esp. in the verdict 'Not proven', which is admitted, besides 'Guilty' and 'Not guilty', in criminal trials in Sc. Law. See examples in A. 2.

a. With subord. cl., or obj. and compl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 So þet þe witnesse ne preoue heom ualse. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 23 Ha is an hundred degrez ihehet toward heuene hwil ha meidenhad halt, as þat frut preoueð. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 95/98 I-chulle proui þat he ne miȝte a-liue beo. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 259 þat ooth was i-preved untrewe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 218 Here is I-prowid that the sowle sueth the condycionys of the bodyes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 101 b, He went about also to proue hym selfe a Germayne. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 63 b, Thother goeth about to proue that the world is eternall. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* Introd., I shall take up no time in proving this matter to be a duty. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. § 5. 137 Able as he proved himself, his task was one of no common difficulty. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 60/2 The plaintiff and the surveyor proved that the *I. C. U.* carried proper lights.

b. with simple obj.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 18 Y wyl no þyng seye But þat ys preued by crystes feye. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 300 Who so seyth of trouthe I varye Bid hym proven the contrarye. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 345 As it fil afterward þe soþe was i-preoved. 1428 in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 4 Any thyng agayne ye kynges pease yat myght be proved apon hym lawfully. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 33 An example is a maner of argumentation, where one thyng is proued by an other. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 33 If they should be forced to prooue descent. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* ix. 186 A thousand witnesses cannot prove any point more clearly than one testimony of conscience doth. 1782 G. SELWYN in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. vi. 563 The endeavour to prove too much has made more Atheists than any book wrote on purpose to establish Infidelity. 1837–8 SIR W. HAMILTON *Logic* xxvi. (1866) II. 39 To prove, is to evince the truth of a proposition not admitted to be true, from other propositions the truth of which is already established. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lady G.'s Courtship* lxx, When my footstep proved my coming.

c. *To fend and prove*: see FEND *v.* 2.

6. To show the existence or reality of; to give demonstration or proof of by action; to evince.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1077 Proued was son his sari pride. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodera*) 186 Scho went on to pref hir arte. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 3476 No man shall eschef Frome yhow this day, his manhed for to pref. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 105 Ev'ry Knight is proud to prove his Worth. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* I. (1886) 2 They should prove their love of him whom they had not seen, by love of their brothers whom they had seen.

7. To establish the genuineness or validity of (a thing or person); to show to be such as is asserted or claimed.

1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 41 The holy crosse was provyd by resyng of a Dede man. 1531 in *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (1898) 33 Your seid Orator hath noo especyaltie ne wrytyng prouyng the seid contracte. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. iii. 365 It is very hard to prove a Witch. 1866 NEALE *Seq. & Hymns* 89 If the purple proves the King.

b. *spec.* To establish the genuineness and validity of (a will); to obtain probate of.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 22/1 By the seid Testament yet nought proeved. 1521 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 120 Item in expenses..of the will cowd be proved. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. iii, You can proue a Will, master Doctor, you can proue nothing else. 1726 S. SEWALL *Diary* 28 Mar., I prov'd Elder Preston's Will. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 435 The heir's joining would supply the want of proving the will. 1885 *Whitaker's Alm.* 421 One [executor] alone is competent to prove a will and carry out its provisions.

8. *intr.* for *refl.* To show itself to be (something); to be shown or found by experience or trial to be (so and so); to turn out (to be). **a.** with complement (sb., adj., or infin. phr.).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 704 Wel nyȝe pure paradys moȝt preue no better. 1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 101 Which offence preveth to be done by the consent [etc.]. 1551 T. WILSON *Logike* (1580) 73 A ragged Colte maie proue a good horse. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* x. vi. (1886) 147 Dreames proove contrarie. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* IV. xi. 35 If old sawes prove true. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 83 One accident, that might have proved of great consequence. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 65 For Things said false, and never meant, Do oft prove true by accident. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 285 When the disease proves violent. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 107 The land..nearest to us was Wollaston Foreland, which, by my late surveys, proves to lie in latitude 74° 25'. 1870 TYNDALL *Lect. Electr.* 1 This gas when collected proves to have the specific gravity of hydrogen.

b. With adv. or advb. phrase, as *to prove well* (obs. or dial.), to turn out well; now only with such advbs. as *how, so, otherwise.*

1447 *Shillingford Lett.* (Camden) 119 So hit proveth by the seide boke of Domesdey. *c* 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (E.E.T.S.) 146 Howe the yere schuld preue, afftyr that Crystmes day fallyth vpon ony day off the weke..Qwydyr y[t] schuld preue fayr or foule. 1575–85 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* (Parker Soc.) 327 Such marriages seldom or never prove well. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 79 Ships which have proved as well at sea, as those that are made in Spain. 1695 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 482 Engineer Richards has proved the..new invented mortars, which proved to admiration. 1794 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 98 In case the weather should be then in our favour; but it proving otherwise, we returned to Plymouth. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., 'How did that beast prove?' is a question often asked of the butcher by the farmer. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 157 Breeders are beginning to understand that it is to their interest to have their sheep prove well.

†**c.** *To prove well*: to be well seen, to be evident. *Obs. rare.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 547 (Harl. MS.) Ful big he was of braun and eek of boones, That preuede wel, for ouer al þer he cam At wrastlynge he wolde bere away þe Ram. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* x. viii. 425 He is a grete enemy to alle good knyghtes, and that preueth wel, for he hath chaced oute of that Countrey syr Tristram.

9. To come to be, become, grow. *arch.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 3 This Thomas..went.. after to Paris, and proued best learned of al men in his time. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 136 Neither..will other races in that soile proue blacke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 814 To Birds their Native Heav'ns contagious prove, From Clouds they fall, and leave their Souls above. 1842 TENNYSON *Lord of Burleigh* 66 Then her countenance all over Pale again as death did prove.

†**10.** *intr.* To turn out well; to prosper; to thrive; to succeed. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 659 Ye shul se wel thanne How þat oure bisynesse shal thryue & preeue. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/2 Provyn, or chevyn, *prosperor.* 1543 *Act* 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 17 § 1 Standils or Storers, likely to prove and to be Timber-trees. *?a* 1550 *Hye Way to Spyttel Ho.* 690 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 55 Inholders that lodge hoores and theues, Seldon theyr getyng ony way preues. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xxvi. 39 Orpyne proueth wel in moyst shadowy places. 1604 E. HAKE *No Gold, No Goodnesse* in Farr *S. P. Jas. I* (1848) 255 Nothing proves where gold is skant. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 376 All the Eggs laid under one Hen do not always prove.

†**11.** *trans.* = APPROVE *v.*1 6. *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Kyng William his dedes,..[beep] worþy to be i-preved. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4942 Part of þat pepull prouyt hit for wit. 1545 T. FORSTER *Disc.* in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 33 He thinketh that that adventure would be proved; for he saith..the cardinal is..smally beloved in Scotland.

12. Prove up. (*U. S.*) To adduce or complete the proof of right to (something); *spec.* to show that one has fulfilled the legal conditions for taking up (a grant of government land), so that a patent may be issued. Also *absol.*

1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 49 As I had advertised to prove up, I persuaded him to stay a week longer..and be one of my witnesses. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 95/2 As they 'prove up' those claims in the fulness of time, each will get her one hundred dollars. 1893 *Kansas Hist. Coll.* (1896) V. 91 'Money to loan to prove up' was the device on many a little board building.

†**Prove,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [f. PROVE *v.*: cf. obs. F. *prouve* a probe (1549 in Godef.), also PROOF *sb.* 15 a.] A surgeon's probe.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* L iv, The maner to take theym [seames] of is to put the tayle of the proue vnder the fyst, & to cut the threde of the sayd tayle of the proue, and in puttynge the flat of the proue aboue the lyppe wherby y^e^ threde is drawen out, for drede of dyuydynge the wounde.

Provеable, -ably: see PROVABLE, -ABLY.

†**Prove·ct,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōvect-us* advanced, pa. pple. of *prōvehĕre*: see next. Cf. obs. F. *provect* (1545 in Godef.).] Advanced (in years); mature, adult. **b.** *sb.* Something grown or become old.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. iv, Litle infantes assayeth to folowe.. the faictes and gesture of them that be prouecte in yeres. 1630 DAVENANT *Cruel Brother* II, Dull Caytife, leaue these abortiue Prouects, And talke in the newest fashion. 1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* Ep. Ded. A iij, It is the nature of some trees not to bring forth fruite until they come to be provect.

Provect (prove·kt), *v.* [f. L. *prōvect-*, ppl. stem of *prōvehĕre* to carry or conduct forward, to advance, f. *prō*, PRO-1 I + *vehĕre* to carry.]

†**1.** *trans.* To carry forward or onward. *Obs.*

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 17 They were miraculously provected, and, as it were, carried along in the ayr. *a* 1776 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 103 A continual fever, which..is too often provected to malignity.

2. *Philology.* To change or 'mutate' a consonant in the direction of the sound-shift (*lautverschiebung*) formulated for Teutonic in Grimm's Law (LAW 17); *esp.* in Celtic, to change a voice consonant into a breath consonant of the same series (e. g. *d* to *t*, *v* to *f*).

1861 WHITLEY STOKES *Middle-Cornish Poem* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* App. 83 *G* is provected into *h* after *y* in *y hyller* (*gyller*). 1877 RHŶS *Lect. Welsh Philol.* ii. 85 As an initial, it [*gw* reduced to *w*] was some time or other modified from *w* to *v*, which was subsequently provected into *f*. 1879 RHŶS in *Academy* 23 Aug. 144 Even supposing..that the Teutons were by nature endowed with a sort of a *lautverschiebung* sense, whereby they provected the consonants of other nations.

Provе·ctant. *Math.* [f. L. *prōvect-* (see prec.) + -ANT: cf. *evectant.*] In *Invariant Algebra* (*Quantics*): A covariant considered as the resultant of the operation of a provector on a contravariant.

1858 [see PROVECTOR].

Provection (prove·kʃən). [ad. late L. *prōvectiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōveh-ĕre*: see above.]

†**1.** Advance, proficiency; advancement. *Obs.*

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 264 Master Duncan Liddel was then of that maturity of age and provection of skil in most of the disciplines mathematical. 1660 J. LLOYD *Prim. Episc.* 8 He [Clemens Alexandrinus] saith, that here in the Church the provections or proficiencies of Bishops, Presbyters, Deacons, be imitations of the angelical glory.

2. *Philology.* **a.** The sound-shift (*lautverschiebung*) of consonants formulated for Teutonic langs. in Grimm's Law; *esp.* in Celtic, the mutation of voice consonants to breath consonants (e. g. of *g, d, b, v* to *k, t, p, f*), which occurs in certain circumstances in the Celtic languages.

1861 WHITLEY STOKES *Middle-Cornish Poem* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* App. 83 Observe the provection [of *d* to *t*] after *y*; the reason being that *y* stands for *yt=ate*; thus: *ma-y trehevys* [from *drehevys*]. 1873–5 RHŶS in *Revue Celtique* II. 331 Other instances of this kind of provection of mute consonants following *l* or *r*. 1877 — *Lect. Welsh Philol.* ii. 67 When *gg* becomes *cc* and the like: this kind of mutation may, in default of a more appropriate term, be called *provection. Ibid.* vii. 348 When it is said..that the *f* of [*feather*] is the *p* of [πτερόν] subjected to provection.

b. The carrying on of the final letter of a word to the succeeding one.

1868 KEY *Philol. Ess.* 177 The *t* [in *tother*] is due to.. Provection, having been transferred from the end of the preceding word, just as in 'for the nonce', in place of 'for then once'. 1872 F. HALL *Rec. Exemp. False Philol.* 6 A like instance of the provection of *n* is seen in the 'no nother cause of varyaunce' of Sir Thomas More.

3. The carrying forward of something into the place of something else; substitution.

1891 RHŶS *Stud. Arthur. Leg.* vii. 165 To be explained as a result of another mythological provection, which in some instances thrust the Culture Hero into the place of the more ancient head of the Celtic pantheon.

Prove·ctor. *Math.* [See VECTOR and PROVECT.] **a.** *Quaternions*: see quot. 1853. **b.** Name for a particular kind of operator in the theory of Invariant Algebra.

1853 SIR W. R. HAMILTON *Quaternions* (1866) I Successive vectors, such as AB and BC, or B–A and C–B, are occasionally said to be vector and provector. *Ibid.* 4 If a provector BC be added to a vector AB, the sum is the transvector AC; or in symbols, I..(B–A)+A = B; and II..(C–B)+(B–A) = C–A. 1858 CAYLEY *Coll. Math. Papers* II. 514 The Provector operating upon any contravariant gives rise to a contravariant, which may of course be an invariant. Any such contravariant, or rather such contravariant considered as so generated, may be termed a Provectant.

Proved (prūvd), *ppl. a.* Forms: see PROVE *v.* [f. PROVE *v.* + -ED 1.]

1. Tried, tested; hence, That has stood a trial or test; approved, trustworthy, trusty.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 25 þe temptaciouns of proued men. 1451 CAPGRAVE *St. Aug.* (E.E.T.S.) 14 He, with ful good a-vise, sent hem Austyn, a preued maystir. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 36 The best proued men that they coulde finde. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle* Title-p., Search herein, and thou shalt find, of prooued remedies quickly. 1850 LYNCH *Theo. Trin.* ix. 176 The saved companies of heaven will be..happy societies of proved men.

2. Shown to be true, or to be as stated; demonstrated. Hence, †Known as such, notorious (*obs.*).

14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 77 in *Anglia* XVIII. 297 þis is prowyd thinge for þe suth [*MS.* syth]. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 207 [She] said he was 'a provid thief, & all his kinne'; and apon that, he callid her 'provid hoore'. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* xi. 326 A custom of proved antiquity.

3. Of which probate has been granted.

1890 *Whitaker's Alm.* 640 (*heading*) Where to find a proved will.

Hence **Pro·vedly** *adv.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] lxxvii. 221 One would thinke it strange,..yet it is provedly true. 1892 R. KIPLING in *Pall Mall G.* 24 Mar. 3/2 Having..reverence only for that which was indubitably and provedly stronger than themselves. 1901 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. VIII. 455/1 Of the plays contained in the present volume two only are provedly his.

Proveditor (prove·dităi), also in It. form ‖ **Proveditore** (provedĭtō·re). Also *α.* 7 **proveditour, -videto(u)r, -vidator,** 7 **-viditor**; *β.* (as It.) 6–7 **providitore,** 7 **-vidatore,** 9 **provv-**; *pl.* **-veditori** (7 **-vidatory**). [ad. obs. It. *proved-*, mod. *provveditore*, provider, purveyor, agent-n. from *provedere* to PROVIDE: so in F. *provéditeur.*]

1. The title of certain officers of the Venetian republic: e. g. a commissioner or delegate who acted as adviser to the commander of a military force; the governor of a dependency; a governor, overseer, inspector.

a. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 32 We came too an anker vppon good wyll and request of the Proveditor. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 97 With the armie they sende diuers of their gentlemen as legats or prouiditors. 1668 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 222/2 The Proveditor of Candia Seignior Lorenzo Pisani. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 216 Joseph..was Grand Proveditor of that country. 1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Italy* III. 82 Besides these the Venetians have..a common proveditor who takes care of the bridges and keeps the city neat. 1832 tr.

Sismondi's Ital. Rep. xvi. 361 The patriots, warned in time, arrested the proveditor himself.

β. 1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 82 They create a *Prouediture*, who (out of Venice) is of no lesse authoritee, than the Dictatour was wont to be in Rome. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxvi. 242 Both the City and the Harbour are commanded by a very fine Castle, where the Proveditore.. resides. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiv, 'I protest against such a combat', said the Venetian *proveditore*.

2. A purveyor, caterer, steward. Also *fig.*

α. 1697 T. SMITH *Voy. Constantinople* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 30 Nor did I ever see any in their Fish-Markets, or one of them brought to the Ambassador's Table by the Providetor for curiosity. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) XI. vii. 164 He..made the liberality of heaven the instrument of his vanity and the very proveditor for his lust. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* ix. (1840) 163 Our new providitor ordered some of our negroes to plant it. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 288 Ready money in open market..being found upon experience to be the best proveditor of any. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iii. (1862) 130 He..is proud, he says, to be that gentleman's proveditor. 1872 *City Press* 20 Jan., A committee dinner of the Ironmongers' Company took place at the hall, Mr. Webster being the proveditor.

β. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 38 This well meaning *Pater patriæ*, and prouiditore and supporter of Yarmouth [the herring]. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. Sect. viii. 113 The entertainment, that S. John's Proveditore the Angel gave him. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 420 Can any one dare to make him [Christ]..his providetore for such things as can only feed his pride, and flush his ambition?

3. Comb. *Proveditor-general* [cf. GENERAL *a.* 10].

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3706/1 Proveditore-General Molino, who has the Chief Command of the Venetian Forces in Italy. 1724 *Briton* No. 23. 100 Vinegar, who is Proveditor-General of Cudgels for the inferior Class of Combatants at the Bear-Garden. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 275 By the help of our proveditor-general we fared very well. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 80 Physician to the Proveditor-General [of Candia].

Provedore (prɒvĭdōə·ɹ). Also 6 **proveador, -vedor**, 7 **-vido(u)r**, 7–9 **-vidore**, 8 **-viedore**. [ad. various Romanic forms, as Pg. *provedor*, Sp. *proveedor*, ? Venetian dial. *providore*, all the agent-n. from the vb. repr. L. *prōvidēre* to PROVIDE; cf. prec. and F. *pourvoyeur* PURVEYOR.]

1. A chief officer; a commander, governor, overseer; = PROVEDITOR 1.

1578 in HAKLUYT *Voy.* (1600) III. 701, I talked with the *Prouedor* and the Captaine. 1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten* 4/2 By fauour and good will of the *Proueador*, which is the chiefe officer of the Admiraltie. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 6 The Gouernor of the Iland [Zante]..whom they call the Prouidore, with two Consiglieri, all gentlemen of Venice. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Proveditor*, (..as it were a providour) a great Military Officer among the Venetians. 1805 T. LINDLEY *Voy. Brazil* 130 Till they should obtain the permission also of the provedore of the custom-house.

2. A purveyor, caterer, steward; = PROVEDITOR 2.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 355 A Providore, who looks abroad into the Country for the supply of his Charge. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* 249 The Proviedore, or Steward of the Monastery, had taken great Care all along. 1814 SCOTT *Swift's Wks.* II. 182 *note*, Mr Richard Estcourt, a player.. was *Providore* of the Beef-steak Club. 1878 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* I. xiv. 231 Watching our *proveedor*, as he went about collecting things by ones and twos.

fig. 1693 *The Rake, or Libertine's Relig.* Pref. A ij b, [He] considers the whole Creation as only his Garden and Confectionary, and the God of it as no more than his Providore. 1826 T. I. WHARTON in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 151 Jewels and diamonds to be sold by Robert Bell, humble provedore to the sentimentalists.

†**3.** A storehouse, a larder. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1658 R. FRANCK *North. Mem.* (1821) 68 To observe.. what stock of provisions is stored in their providors.

Proveist, obs. Sc. form of PROVOST.

Proven (prūˑvˈn, prōᵘˑvˈn), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. (orig. Sc.) of *preve*, PROVE *v.*, after strong vbs. as †*chese* (*choose*), *chosen*, *cleave*, *cloven*, *weave*, *woven*.]

1. = PROVED 2. (Orig. in *Sc. Law*: see note s. v. PROVE *v.* 5.)

1653 R. BAILLIE *Dissuas. Vind.* (1655) 63 This is no answer to a proven challenge. 1829 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Penn & Ld. Peterb.* Wks. 1846 I. 534/1 They never abandon a proven falsehood or an iniquitous demand. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 264 We must accept it as a proven fact.

2. = PROVED 1. pseudo-*arch.*

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* IV. 150 He..Had got his proven sword into his hand. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & L.* 27 Gawain..Ask'd me to tilt with him, the proven knight.

Provenance (prɒˑvĕnănsˌ). [a. F. *provenance* (provˈnāns) *Dict. Acad.* 1835, f. *provenant*, pres. pple. of *provenir* to come forth, arise, ad. L. *prōvenīre*: see PROVENE.] The fact of coming from some particular source or quarter; origin, derivation.

1861 C. W. KING *Ant. Gems* (1866) 80 Supposing this statement as to the provenance of the hoard to be essentially true. 1884 A. LANG *Custom & Myth* 13 He would have some difficulty in guessing its provenance, and naming the race from which it was brought. 1893 J. T. BENT *Ruined Cities Mashonaland* vi. 204 Beads of doubtful provenance, though some of them may be considered as Egyptian of the Ptolemaic period. 1906 H. B. SWETE *Apocalypse* Introd. ii. § 5. 25 How hard it is to determine the date and provenance of Jewish apocalypses.

Provençal (prɒvānsàlˌ), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6–7 **provenzal**(1, 7–8 **provencial**. [a. F. *provençal* of Provence:—L. *prōvinciāl-is* PROVINCIAL: see PROVENCE.] **A.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to Provence and its inhabitants. (See next.)

1589 NASHE *Pref. Greene's Menaphon* (Arb.) 10 Those that are neither prouenzall men, nor are able to distinguish of Articles. 1723 POPE *Let. to Lady* 26 Sept., Pieces of the old provençal poets. 1819 KEATS *Ode to Nightingale* 14 Dance, and Provençal song, and sunburnt mirth! 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. IV. 220 The high Provençal patriotism of the Troubadour. 1902 *Speaker* 5 Apr. 9/2 The Provençal shepherd does not drive his flock but leads it.

B. *sb.* **1.** An inhabitant of Provence.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* 31 The Gascoin is hot... The Prouenciall is haughtie and cannot indure to be reprooued. 1804 C. B. BROWN tr. *Volney's View Soil U.S.* 136 A collateral wind, called, by the Provençals, the mistral. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, Her mother was a Provençale. 1902 *Speaker* 5 Apr. 9/1 With all his imagination, the Provençal betrays a curious realism of his own.

2. The Romanic language spoken in Provence.

1671 J. GAILHARD *Pres. St. Italy* (ed. 2) 173 About Piemont..they speak a corrupt Italian, which hath most of the Provenzal in it. 1743 COLLINS *Ep. to Hanmer on Edit. Shaks.* 40 The soft Provencial pass'd to Arno's stream. 1901 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 484 One wished that the periodical should be bi-lingual and the other that it should be solely in Provençal.

Hence **Provençalize** *v.*, *trans.* to influence by or assimilate to Provençal modes.

1903 H. LYNCH *G. Paris' Med. Fr. Lit.* 95 It is probable that we have lost the earliest lyric poetry of the Provençalised school.

Provence (‖ prɒvānsˌ prɒˑvĕnsˌ). [a. F. *Provence*:—L. *prōvincia* PROVINCE.

The southern part of ancient Gallia (*Narbonensis*), which came under Roman rule long before the other parts, was familiarly styled (*nostra*) *Provincia*, 'the (or our) province'.]

The name of a former province in the south-east of France east of the Rhone; used *attrib.*, as in *Provence oil*, olive oil from Provence.

In *Provence rose*, the word is an error for *Provins*, a town in N.E. France, where this rose was cultivated.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. i. 653 The third kind are they which some call Roses of Prouince. 1765 H. ST. JOHN *Let. to G. Selwyn* 11 Jan. in Jesse *S. & Contemp.* (1843) I. 347 My brother desires you would be so good as to send him some very good Provence oil. 1850 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* 1053/2, 55 *R[osa] centifolia*..Provence or Cabbage rose. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 July 10/1 The misnamed Provence rose was first introduced into France by the Crusaders at Provins (Seine and Marne).

†**Provencion,** obs. erron. form of PREVENTION 2 a: cf. PRO-^{1} 3.

a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 109 Also by his power Legantine he gaue by prouencions, all benefices belongyng to spirituall persones.

Provend (prɒˑvĕnd), *sb. Obs.* or *arch.* Also 4–6 **provende**. [a. F. *provende* (12th c. in Littré) † a prebend, a supply of food, provender = It. *profenda*, †*provenda*, provender, med.L. *provenda* (13th c. in Du Cange):—Romanic type **prōvenda* (whence also OSax. *prôvenda*, OHG. *pfrovinta* (G. *pfründe*), MLG., MDu. *proven(d)e*, ON. *prǒvenda*, *prǒfenda*, etc.); altered form of L. *præbenda*, *prēbenda*, PREBEND (with *pro-* for *præ-*, *pre-* (see PRO-^{1} 3), and Romanic *v* from *b*); cf. PROVOST, and OF. *provoire* for *prevoire*:—*presbyt'rium* priest. See also PROVENDER, and PROVAND, PROVANT, PROVIANT, representing the same word.

(Cf. Tobler in Cohn's *Suffixw.* 81, Körting *Rom. WB.* no. 7360.) Diez (s. v. *prebenda*) suggests that the word has been influenced by L. *prōvid-ēre* to PROVIDE.]

1. = PREBEND 1; also, the portion or allowance of food supplied to each inmate of a monastery; stipend.

[1292 BRITTON II. xvii. § 6 Touz prelatz et religious demaundauntz tenementz estre apurtenauntz a lour eglises ou a lour provendes.] *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 210 Þei rene þam prouendes, þorgh power þat þei haue. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6931 If we seen hym wynne honour Richesse or preis thurgh his valour Prouende rent or dignyte. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 415/2 The other dayes he gaue his prouende to poure peple. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In monasteries, when the religious go to meals, they are said to go to provend. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. *Monk of Casal-Maggiore* vii, Brother Anthony .. Drove him [the ass] before him .. Safe with his provend to the convent gate.

2. Food, provisions; *esp.* (in early use always) dry food for horses, as corn and hay; = PROVENDER 2.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10730 Mete & drynke, & hors prouende. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 65/1 Prouende, *pabalum*, *i.* *a* 1687 COTTON *Winter* XXX, With Hail instead of Provend fed. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 423 He gives us an elaborate account of the provend and *cuisine*. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., 'Tis a proud horse that won't carry its own proven. 1900 CROCKETT *Fitting of Peats* iii. in *Love Idylls* (1901) 24 It shall never be said that Adam Home took another man's horse and provend without asking his leave.

†**Provend,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To supply with provender; to feed, to fodder.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 30 Do throughly prouend wel your Horsse. *c* 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 67 I'll fodder an Provon the Tits for the.

Provender (prɒˑvĕndəɹˌ *sb.*^{1} Also 4–5 **provendre**, 5 **-dour, -dere, -dyr**, 6 **provander, prawnder**. [a. OF. *provendre* (13th c. in Godef.), a phonetic variant of *provende* PROVEND.]

†**1.** A prebend. *Obs.*

[1306 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 219/1 Le Roi & les ditz Countes & Barons..deivent presenter a les Provendres, & les Eglises Parochieles.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 419 Cathedral chirchis þat han prouendris approprid to hem. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 95 Þe monkes were disparpled, and what þey hadde was i-ordeynet to provendres to clerkes [L. *in præbendas clericorum redactis*]. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 32 And porchace 3ow prouendres while 3oure pans lasteþ. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. vi. in *Anglia* VIII. 167/27 Anoþere..whan hee hadde a prouendour menely sufficient to hym..receyued anoþer prouendere þat was gretter of dignite and rentys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/2 Prouender.. (*K.* provendyr, benyfice, *S.* prebend, benfyce, *P.* probender, benfice), *prebenda*.

2. Food, provisions; *esp.* dry food, as corn or hay, for horses, etc.; fodder, forage. In reference to human beings, now *humorous*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 35 Seruices ulessliche of hors, of carten, oþer prouendres to ham, oþer to hare children. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 243, I fynde payne for þe pope and prouendre for his palfrey. *a* 1400 *Siege of Troy* 409 in *Archiv neu. Spr.* LXXII, Provandre, corn and hay. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* XXXVII. (1870) 216 The Camel..kneeled downe to haue eaten hys prouender. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 91 b, And in unwilling mouth my meate and yrksome prawnder greene. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 11 They must be dyeted like Mules, And haue their Prouender ty'd to their mouthes. 1703 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 2 Meat, Drink, Bed, Fire, Provender; with these it must be every ones care to furnish himself. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiii, The coxswain had examined the provender in the ship. 1863 HOLLAND *Lett. Joneses* iii. 53 He..salutes any flag under which he can win plaudits and provender. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Jan. 12/1 The vacant canonry of St. Albans —at present a stall without provender.

3. *Thieves' slang.* (See quot.)

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant., Provender*, he from whom any Money is taken on the Highway. 1725 *New Cant. Dict., Provender*, Money taken from any one on the Highway.

†**Provender,** *sb.*^{2} *Obs.* Also 4 **prouendere, -dre**. [In sense 1; ME. *provendere*, a. OF. *provendier, -der* (11th c. in Godef.):—L. *præ-, prēbendārius* PREBENDARY, f. *præbenda* prebend: see PROVEND *sb.* In sense 2, perh. for *provander*, f. PROVAND + -ER^{1}.]

1. A prebendary.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 81 Of þe þan is þis house þat are was prouendere, now is religiouse. *Ibid.* 261 Neuer bisshop, ne person, ne riche prouendere [*printed* perronendere], Ne erle, ne baron, ne knyght, ne squiere. 1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) I. 50 Nowe is losell for his songes, personer and prouendre alone, with whiche many thriftye shulde encrease.

2. A purveyor, one who provides supplies. *rare.*

1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) B vj b/2 For if thou liue in court, thou must rewarde this rable.. Butlers and Butchers, prouenders and Bakers.

†**Provender,** *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. (?) (Perhaps an error of some kind.)

1643 MILTON *Divorce* iv. 9 Even then most unquencht, when the importunity of a provender burning is well anough appeas'd.

Provender (prɒˑvĕndəɹˌ *v.* [f. PROVENDER *sb.*^{1} Cf. OF. *provender* to furnish with or to take provender, to provide with a prebend, f. *provende* PROVEND.]

†**1.** *trans.* To provide with a prebend or benefice.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 149 She blesseth þise bisshopes ..Prouendreth persones and prestes meyntyneth.

2. To provide (horses, etc.) with provender; to fodder. Also *fig.*

1584 *Leycesters Commw.* (1641) 151 The white Paulfrey when hee..is well provendred, is proud and fierce. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* Wks. 1851 III. 90 Their resolved decree of reducing into Order their usurping and over provender'd Episcopants. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 207 That the Horse be well provender'd, and drink but little over Night. 1905 HOLMAN-HUNT *Pre-Raphaelitism* I. 438 He had our horses stabled and provendered.

Hence **Provendering** *vbl. sb.*, the providing of provender.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* (1746) III. xxv. 172 Let me make an End of provendering my Beast. *a* 1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1630) 183 The provendering of his horse is a dispatching of his Iourney.

†**Provendrer.** *Obs.* [f. PROVENDER *sb.*^{1} + -ER^{1}; cf. PROVENDER *sb.*^{2} 1, also *fruiterer*, *upholsterer*.] The holder of a prebend; a prebendary.

[1347–8 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 219/1 Thomas de Trillek Provendrer de la Provendre de Matton en Eglise de Welles.] 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 145 Prouendreres, persuns, Preostes heo meyntenep. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 211 Alle siche ben symonieris þat occupien bi symonye þe patrimonye of Crist, be þei popis..or provendereris.

†**Provendry.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PROVEND *sb.* + -RY.] = PREBEND 1, 2: cf. PREBENDRY.

[1327–8 *Year Bk.* 41 *Edw. III* (1600) 5 b, Le roy port Quare impedit vers W. leuesque de Sarum del prouendry appelle Minor pars altaris in ecclesia beate Marie Sarum.] 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 292/2 A Prouandry [*pr.* Promandry], *prebenda*, *prebendarius qui habet prebendam*. 1708 *Termes de la Ley* 469 Provendry in the Church of Sarum, is called the lesser part of the Altar in the Church of St. Mary 41 E. 3. 5. b.

†**Provene,** *v. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *provenir*, or ad. L. *prōvenīre* to come forth, arise, originate, f. *prō*, PRO-^{1} 1 a + *ven-īre* to come.] *intr.* To come as proceeds or produce; to proceed, arise (*from* any source of revenue or profit).

1505 *Will of W. Clarke* (Somerset Ho.), The cropp therof provenyng. 1584 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 270/2 To transport þe samin and all vtheris mynerallis and metalles and vtheris thingis provening thairof..beyond sea. 1733 tr. *Renaudot's Acc. India & China* 63 The Sums provening

from this great Quantity of Gold are distributed to those of the Royal Household.

Provenience (provī·niĕns). [f. L. *prōvenient-em*, pr. pple. of *prōvenīre* to PROVENE: see -ENCE. Preferred to PROVENANCE by those who object to the French form of the latter: cf. CONVENANCE, CONVENIENCE.] = PROVENANCE.

1882 *Century Mag.* Aug. 632/2 Wherever..its *provenience* is stated, I received the information from General Cesnola in person. 1895 A. J. EVANS in *Jrnl. Hellenic Stud.* XIV. 276 Engraved stones of other types.. of uncertain provenience were obtained in Candia. 1899 R. ELLIS in *Class. Rev.* 131/2 The readings reported as coming from the Gyraldinus were not always to be treated as if we had any certainty of their provenience.

† **Prove·nient,** *a. Sc. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōvenient-em*: see prec.] Forthcoming.

1554 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. App. 601/1 Wt all þe..Contributionis and taxationis of oure said realme and dominionis to be falling or provenientis sen þe deceiss of oure said derrest fathir.

† **Prove·nsion,** obs. erron. form of PREVENTION 2 a: cf. PRO- 1 3.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. ii. § 8. 158 The King..promised to take order with the Popes Provisions and Provensions, that so learned men might be advanced.

† **Pro·vent.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *prōvent-us* a coming forth, produce, supply, increase, f. *prōvent-*, ppl. stem of *prōven-īre* to come forth, PROVENE. So OF. *provent* (1382 in Godef.).] = PROVENUE.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 361 This kynge divided alle his proventes [L. *proventus suos*] into ij. partes. *Ibid.* VIII. 335 He..occupied the wolles of alle men, and the ix^the^ parte of alle cornes, of which proventus he commaunded lordes of townes that were nye to þeym to ȝiffe an answere. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 57 Offrynges, and oþer parishall prouentes or profittes. 1544 *Supplic. to Hen. VIII* (E.E.T.S.) 47 There greate lordships and domynions, with the yerely prouentes of the same. 1593 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 26/2 þat hir maiestie is lykwyis infeft in lyverent in..all proventis rentis and emolumentis of the same propirtie. 1664 EVELYN *Pomona, Aphorisms Cider* 45 A Neighbour having a good provent of Purelings (an Apple of choice account with us).

Provent(e, obs. variant of PROVANT.

Proventricular (prōventri·kiŭlăr), *a.* [f. next + -AR 1.] Pertaining to the proventriculus.

1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 319/1 The secretion of the proventricular or gastric glands is analogous to the gastric juice in man. 1874 COUES *Birds N. W.* 683. 1895 *Athenæum* 30 Mar. 412/3 A description of the proventricular crypts he had found in..the African tantalus.

‖ **Proventriculus** (prōventri·kiŭlŭs). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. *prō-*, PRO- 1 + *ventriculus* VENTRICLE, dim. of *venter* belly.]

a. *Ornith.* The glandular or true stomach of birds, which lies between the crop and the gizzard.

1835–6 OWEN in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 319/1 The proventriculus varies..in form and magnitude in different birds. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 51 In adult Birds, the digestive tract is characterized by the absence of teeth.., and by the presence of a horny beak, and of a muscular gizzard placed posteriorly to a glandular proventriculus. 1886 *Athenæum* 30 Jan. 171/3 The ostrich's proventriculus.

b. A glandular expansion of the lower part of the œsophagus in some Mammalia.

1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 52 The proventriculus of the Dormouse and Beaver.

c. In Invertebrata: in some insects, the crop or ingluvies, an expansion of the œsophagus having thick muscular walls armed with horny prominences; in worms, a muscular crop.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 411 The proventriculus leads posteriorly into a narrow, thick-coated canal. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 665/2 The intestinal canal [of the larva] commences as a short œsophagus, which ends in a proventriculus.

† **Pro·venue.** *Obs.* [a. obs. F. *provenu* (1670 in Godef.) produce, revenue, prop. pa. pple. of F. *provenir* to come forth, arise: cf. PROVENT.] The sum arising from something; the proceeds, returns, produce, profit, revenue.

1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* (ed. Ward) 9/2 The rich and dainty provenues of our gardens and orchards. 1671 HOWE *Van. Man* (ed. Rogers) I. 424 Born to consume such an estate, and devour the provenue of so many farms and manors. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* I. 25 By the Provenue (or Produce) of the Kersies and Tin, bought with the £1000 lent.

Prover (prū·vəɹ). Also 4 -ere, 5 -ar, -owr, (prower), 5–6 **provour**; *β.* 4 **preuere,** 5 **prever.** [In sense 1, f. PROVE + -ER 1: = OF. *proveor, prouvour.* In 2 = Anglo-L. *probātor* (Bracton, Fleta II. lii. §§ 42, 44), AF. *provour, pruvour* (Britton).]

I. 1. One who tries, tests, or puts to the proof. In quot. 1686, an assayer of metals. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* vi. 27 A stalwrthe prouere [1388 preuere, Vulg. *probatorem*] Y ȝaf thee in my puple, and thou shalt wite, and preue the weie of them. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. iii. 67, I am rewarder of all gode men, & a mighty prover of all deuoute men. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* vi. 27 The haue I set for a prouer of my harde people, to seke out and to trye their wayes. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2194/4 Chief Prover (or Assay-Master General of the Empire of Germany).

b. An instrument or apparatus for testing.

1751 D. JEFFERIES *Treat. Diamonds* (ed. 2) 18 An instrument useful for examining the size and depth of any diamond, called a prover. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XIII. 10 Woollen and linen provers.

c. *Engraving.* A skilled workman employed to print proof impressions: cf. PROVE *v.* 1 e.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 289 In the principal houses there are generally employed from two to six men..whose duty it is to print proof impressions only [of an engraved plate]; they are called *provers.* 1900 *Daily News* 18 Sept. 8/4 Process block prover on Albion Press wanted.

II. † 2. One who confesses a felony and gives evidence against his accomplices in order to secure their conviction; one who turns king's or state's evidence; one who undertakes to prove a criminal accusation against another: = APPROVER 1 1. *Obs.*

[1235–6 *Bracton's Note-bk.* (1887) III. 174 Appellum unde duellum..inter quemdam probatorem et alium quemdam quem idem probator de societate appelauit contra coronam ..Regis. 1275 *Act* 3 *Edw. I* (1st Stat. Westm.) c. 15 Ceus queux sont appellez de provurs taunt come le provur vist. 1292 BRITTON I. ii. § 16 Qe les Corouners receyvent les reconisaunces de felonies fetes par provours en presence del viscounte.] *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 69 Oiþer he schal dampne þe prouar, or..schal iuge þe vngilty. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 111/2 He knowleched diverse Felonies and Tresons, and becam a provowr. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 264 Jugement is done before a juge be a provour and a defendour and witnes. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* III. ii. 344 A Prouour .. must beginne with confession of his owne fault, before he may be permitted to burthen an other man. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. 851/2 Suffer neither the said prouer, nor defender to take any of their weapons. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxv. 330 He is called an approver or prover, *probator*, and the party appealed or accused is called the *appellee.*

3. One who shows something to be true; a demonstrator. *rare.*

1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* III. II. App. 34 He will bring several Testimonies to prove it...And on such Occasions.. he is a most unmerciful Prover. 1850 BROWNING *Christmas-Eve* iv, Truth remains true, the fault's in the prover.

Proverb (prǫ·vəɹb), *sb.* Also 4–7 **proverbe.** [ME. a. F. *proverbe* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōverbium* an old saying, adage, proverb, in late L. also a byword, f. *prō-*, PRO- 1 1 + *verb-um* word + *-ium*, collective suffix, hence app. 'a (recognized) set of words put forth'; cf. *adāgium* adage.]

1. A short pithy saying in common and recognized use; a concise sentence, often metaphorical or alliterative in form, which is held to express some truth ascertained by experience or observation and familiar to all; an adage, a wise saw.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 250 (299) Prouerbes kanst þi self I-now and woost Aȝens þat vice. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xvi. 44 Loo! eche man that seith euery where..a prouerbe in thee shal take it to..As the modir, so and hir douȝter. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* iv. (Arb.) 7 It is a comyn prouerbe, An Enemyes mouth saith seeld wel. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 122 What neede I heape all these together, seeyng Heiwoddes Prouerbes are in Printe? 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 47 As the Prouerbe in Englande is, Set a Knaue on horsebacke, and you shall see him shoulder a Knight. 1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 58 For it is merry in Hall, where beards wagge all, according to that olde right English Prouerbe of our Ancestours. 1659 HOWELL *Lexicon, Proverbs* a iv, Proverbs may not improperly be called the Philosophy of the Common Peeple, or, according to Aristotle, the truest Reliques of old Philosophy. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 437 What is a proverb, but the experience and observation of several ages, gathered and summed up into one expression? 1840–1 WRIGHT & HALLIWELL (*title*) The Proverbs of King Alfred. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* II. IV. xii. 159 Hence it was that those words..passed..into a proverb. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 162 Sambo, with his stock of proverbs, the ready money of human experience.

b. *spec. The Book of Proverbs,* a didactic poetical book of the Old Testament, consisting of maxims ascribed to Solomon and other authors.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11904 Salamon seyþ, þat ys wys, Yn a boke of Prouerbyys. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 48 Of Salomon and the proverbes, Of Macer al the strengthe of herbes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 212 b, Than shall it be veryfyed that Salomon sayth in his prouerbes. 1635 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afft. Consc.* i. 14 This Book of Proverbs is compared to a great heape of gold rings rich and orient severally; and every one shining with a distinct sense by itselfe. 1880 W. W. NEWTON *Serm. Boys & Girls* (1881) 203 He turned to the third chapter of Proverbs and read it over.

c. Phr. *To a proverb,* to an extent that has become proverbial; proverbially.

1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (1767) II. xiii. 231 That revengeful disposition, of which your sex have been accused even to a proverb. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. Pref. 7 To depend on foreigners, partial, to a proverb, to their own country. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor,* etc. 482 A country, swampy even to a proverb. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 275 The new chief justice, Sir Robert Wright, was ignorant to a proverb.

2. a. A common word or phrase of contempt or reproach, a byword; † hence *transf.* a person or thing to which such a phrase is applied: = BYWORD 2 (*obs.*).

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* ix. 7 And Irael shal be into prouerbe and into fable, to alle puplis [1535 COVERD. shall be come a byworde and fabell amonge all nacions]. 1535 COVERDALE *Hab.* ii. 6 Shall not all these take vp a prouerbe agaynst him, and mocke him with a byworde..? 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Deut.* xxviii. 37 And thou shalt be a wonder, a prouerbe & a commune talke among all people. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* 173 One of the Glories of his Age was become a Proverb. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1851) III. 34 He should take care not to be made a proverb.

b. *transf.* A thing that is proverbial or a matter of common talk.

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. III. 13 Abdera a Town of Thrace, noted for the simplicity of the Inhabitants which grew even to a proverb. 1707 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. iii. (ed. 22) 10 Buckinghamshire Bread and Beef is a Proverb for their Goodness. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 509 ₱ 8 Mr. Hobson,..when a Man came for a Horse, ..obliged him to take the Horse which stood next to the Stable-Door...From whence it became a Proverb..to say 'Hobson's Choice'. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. ii. 61 Siberia goes for a proverb for *cold*: India is a proverb for heat. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* III. iv. § 21 (1864) 212 The mental absorption of Archimedes is a proverb.

† 3. An oracular or enigmatical saying that requires interpretation; an allegory, a parable. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *John* xvi. 25, I haue spokun to ȝou thes thingis in prouerbis [*gloss* or derke saumplis]; the our cometh, whanne now I schal not speke to ȝou in prouerbis, but opynly. 1526 TINDALE *ibid.* 29 His disciples sayd vnto hym: loo nowe speakest thou playnly, and thou vsest no proverbe. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* i. 6 To vnderstand a prouerbe, and the interpretation; the wordes of the wise, and their darke sayings. 1841 TRENCH *Parables* i. (1877) 7 Those are called 'proverbs' in St. John, which, if not strictly parables, yet claim much closer affinity to the parable than to the proverb, being in fact allegories.

4. A play of which a proverb is taken as the foundation of the plot. Called in French *proverbe*; in Eng. chiefly used of French plays so called.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.,* etc. 994/1 *Proverb*..In dramatic literature..the term has been applied to short pieces, in which some proverb or popular saying is taken as the foundation of the plot...Carmantelli was the most successful writer of proverbs at the time of their highest popularity. 1879 JOS. KNIGHT in *Athenæum* 28 June, [in reference to the *Comédie Française*] in England] The comedies or the proverbs of Musset meanwhile defy the translator, and their representation calls for a class of acting of which our stage knows nothing. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 20 July 50/3 She [Comtesse de Chambrun]..was fond of acting in her own private theatre... Sometimes she wrote a 'proverb' herself, and created the principal part.

5. *pl.* A name for various round games played with proverbs or popular sayings.

A common form is the guessing of such a saying by asking questions of the circle of players, whose answers must introduce in order each word of the proverb.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.,* as *proverb-card, -hunting, -monger, -wisdom*; *proverb-like* adj. and adv.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIV. vii, Proverb-like our name is worn. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 274 A Pack of Proverb-Cards, lately printed, and curiously engrav'd with Figures. 1857 MRS. GATTY *Leg. Tales* (1858) 4 A genuine proverb-monger—he who chills off your enthusiasm by a tame truism. 1902 F. E. HULME *Proverb-Lore* 89 Proverb-hunting is a very pleasant recreation.

Proverb (prǫ·vəɹb), *v.* [f. prec. sb.; cf. med.L. *prōverbi-ārī,* It. *proverbiare* to speak in proverbs.]

1. *trans.* To utter in the form of a proverb; to speak of proverbially; to make a byword of.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 244 (293) Þis wise clerkes that ben dede han euere this prouerbed to vs ȝong. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 41 You haue most learnedly prouerbed it, commending the vertue of patience or forbearance. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 203 Am I not sung and proverbd for a Fool In every street? 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Philos. Proverbs,* Nations proverb each other; counties flout counties. 1841 LD. J. MANNERS *Eng. Trust* ii. 64 One short month should hear his dastard name Proverbed as emblem of disgrace and shame.

2. To furnish or provide with a proverb. *rare.*

1592 SNAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 37, I am prouerb'd with a Grandsier Phrase, Ile be a Candle-holder and looke on.

3. *intr.* To utter or compose proverbs. *rare.*

1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 580 All thir pains tak'n to seem so wise in proverbing, serves but to conclude them downright Slaves.

Hence **Pro·verbed** *ppl. a.*

1788 BURNS *Let. to Mrs. Dunlop* 2 Aug., Unlike sage proverb'd wisdom's hard-wrung boon. 1845 S. TURNER *Rich. III,* Pref. 8 A regular story, corresponding with this proverbed King's real story, or rather biography.

Proverbial (provə·ɹbiăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. late L. *prōverbiāl-is,* f. *prōverbi-um*: see PROVERB *sb.* and -AL. So F. *proverbial* (1556 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Resembling, characteristic of, or of the nature of a proverb; expressed in a proverb or proverbs.

1432–50 [implied in PROVERBIALLY 1]. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xviii. 507 b, Jesus did vouchsafe to aunswere hym by a riddle and a prouerbiall saying. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 98 Although proverbs bee popular principles, yet is not all true that is proverbiall. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 509 ₱ 1 Delivered in his own homely Maxims, and a Kind of Proverbial Simplicity. 1908 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 338 Popular expressions of proverbial wisdom.

2. That has passed into a proverb, or into common talk; used or current as a proverb; notorious.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xliv. 14 The name of them flew comonly abrode among proverbyall figures in way of reproche. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 71 That grounded tranquilitie, which made it prouerbiall to the world, *No heauen but Arcadie.* 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 ₱ 2 What Hudibras says of such Disputants, which is so true, that it is almost Proverbial. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 45 The proverbial London fog owes its density and darkness to the smoke.

† 3. Addicted to the use of proverbs. *Obs.*

1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 138 He was a most Proverbial Jenkin, and could twit his testy Wife with store of such Proverbs as these.

† B. *sb.* **a.** One addicted to the use of proverbs. **b.** A proverbial saying, a proverb. *Obs.*

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 39 Why, what doth this prouerbial with vs? *a* 1673 J. CARYL in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. ii. 12 In our proverbials, to take a thing in snuff, is to take it in anger. 1778 *Learning at a Loss* II. 157 A few more pretty Proverbials.

Hence **Prove·rbialism**, a proverbial saying.

1846 in WORCESTER, citing *N. Amer. Rev.*

Prove·rbialist. [f. as prec. + -IST.] One who originates, uses, or records proverbial sayings.

1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. Supernum. No. 5. 2/2 He [Solomon] was so celebrated a Proverbialist. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 317 *note*, Luckily for the proverbialist, the good Pope knew nothing of the Greek language. 1898 *N. & Q.* 9th Ser. II. 430/2 If Ray is the only proverbialist who notes it.

Proverbia·lity. [f. PROVERBIAL *a.* + -ITY.] **a.** The quality of being proverbial. **b.** Addiction to the use of proverbs.

1852 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* 27 Feb. (1889) I. 216 To show why Books of that kind are dull: what sort of writers ought to be quoted &c.; proverbial writers: and what constitutes proverbiality. 1892 *Athenæum* 11 June 758/2 Coarseness and 'proverbiality' are the only leading features we can detect in the scanty fragments of Sophron.

Prove·rbialize, *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To make or utter proverbs. Hence **Prove·rbializing** *vbl. sb.*

1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 125, I forbear from any farther Proverbializing. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 129 Perhaps the best specimen of Sancho's proverbializing.

2. *trans.* To make or convert into a proverb; to use proverbially; to speak of in a proverb. *rare.*

a 1827 GOOD cited in WEBSTER (1828–32).

Proverbially (prǫvə́·rbiăli), *adv.* [See -LY 2.]

1. In a proverbial manner; by way of, by means of, or as a proverb; according to the proverb.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 55 Of whom hit was seide proverbially that his lyfe was lyke to his doctryne, slepenge not in bedde, and tastenge neither wyne ne flesche. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiii. 9 As we say proverbyally in English, to looke uppon one as the divile looketh over Lincoln. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 621 A coward braggart is prouerbially called a Lion of Agla. *a* 1754 FIELDING *1st Olynthiac Demosth.* Wks. 1766 IX. 240 It is proverbially said, that if a man preserves the wealth he attains, he is greatly thankful to fortune. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 204 His ancestors.., though originally English, were among those early colonists who were proverbially said to have become more Irish than Irishmen.

2. To a degree that has become proverbial, or matter of common talk; notoriously.

1665 GLANVILL *Def. Vanity Dogm.* 15 So uncertain and proverbially inconstant a cause as the Winds are. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 313 The name of Benedict Arnold has become proverbially contemptible. 1892 MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* ii. 96 The argument from silence is proverbially dangerous.

Prove·rbic, *a. rare.* [f. L. *prōverbi-um* or Eng. *proverb* + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of proverbs.

1902 F. E. HULME *Proverb-Lore* 123 The Talmud as a mine of proverbic wealth.

Proverbio·logy. [f. L. *prōverbi-um* PROVERB + -O)LOGY.] The scientific study of proverbs; *transf.* proverbs collectively. Hence **Proverbio·logist,** a student or investigator of proverbs.

1868 *Q. Rev.* July 243 The richness of Spanish proverbiology is like 'good wine that needs no bush!' 1893 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 216/1 His excellent book is..sure to meet with a hearty welcome on the part of all proverbiologists.

†**Pro·verbize,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PROVERB *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To style or call proverbially.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 653 For house-hold Rules, read not the learned Writs Of the Stagyrian (glory of good Wits): Nor his, whom (*i. e.* Xenophon), for his honysteeped stile, They proverbiz'd the Attick Muse yer-while.

Provett (pruve·t). *rare.* [Aphetic form of EPROUVETTE.] An eprouvette, an instrument for testing the strength of gunpowder.

1817 *Sporting Mag.* I. 107 Employed by the Board of Ordnance, to make their proveets for ascertaining the strength of gunpowder.

†**Prove·xity.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [Ultimately from L. *prōvect-us* advanced, pa. pple. of *prōvehĕre*: see PROVECTION. For the form, cf. *convex, convexity.*] An advanced condition or state.

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Provexity..*, greatness of age, the being well grown in years, or well studied in any Art.

†**Provey**, obs. variant of PURVEY *v.*

†**Proviable,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [a. OF. *proveable* (13th c. in Godef.), var. of *por-, pourveable*, 'qui pourvoit à tous les besoins': see PURVEYABLE.] ? Suitable, convenient; or ? get-at-able.

1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 176, I desyre that and [=if] John Berney..can mete wyth Dallyng, that fals undre eschetor, in onye place proviable, that he may [be] by force brought to Castre..to be kept yn hold.

†**Proviance.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 4 pruwiance. [a. OF. *proveance* (13th c. in Godef.), variant of *por-, pourveance, -voyance*, semi-popular representatives of L. *prōvidĕntia*: see PURVEYANCE.] Provision; providence.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 213 In þe tyme come a knycht..I treu, of goddis pruwiance—Quhare þe maydine abad hir chance. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarche* 6197 Thocht presentlye, be Goddis prouiance, Beistis, fowlis, and fyschis in the seis, Ar necessar, now, for mannis sustenance.

Proviant (prǫ·viănt). Also 7 **proveant,** 9 **proviand.** [a. G. *proviant*, Du. *proviand*, in It. *provianda*, apparently an altered form of *provenda* PROVEND, influenced by OF. *proveant* providing, *proveance* provision. Brought into Eng. by soldiers who served in the Thirty Years' War, 1618–48.

The German word is treated by Kluge as from the It.; but *provianda* is not in Florio 1598–1611, who has only *provenda* 'provander for horses or fodder for cattle'. Diez referred the word to L. *providenda* things to be provided.]

Provision; food supply, esp. for an army; commissariat; = PROVAND, PROVANT 1.

1637 R. MONRO *Exped.* I. 7 Receiving all necessaries fitting for our march, as ammunition, proviant, and waggons, for our baggage. 1647 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1814) VI. 270/1 That all Regiments..be put and kept in equality, either in Money, Proveant, or Provision, according to their strength. 1832 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) II. xii. 313 We want for nothing in the way of earthly proviant, and have many reasons to be content and diligent. 1885 A. FORBES *Souvenirs* (1894) 135 On one occasion, before Plevna, his imperturbable coolness stood him in good stead in the matter of 'proviand'.

b. *attrib.* = PROVANT 3 a.

1637 R. MONRO *Exped.* I. 5 We were entertained on proviant bread, beere and bacon. 1870 *Daily News* 5 Dec., It was the wheel of his [own] gig that he had seen stuck on to the proviant waggon. 1880 A. FORBES in *19th Cent.* VII. 233 Marshall was hustling proviant columns up along the line of communications.

Pro-vicar: see PRO-¹ 4.

Pro:-vice-cha·ncellor. [f. PRO-¹ 4 + VICE-CHANCELLOR.] One of the deputies appointed by the vice-chancellor of a university on his election; an assistant or deputy vice-chancellor.

1660 WOOD *Life* 30 June (O.H.S.) I. 320 The same day the doctors and provicechancellor at home put off the Act. 1663 *Ibid.* 23 Sept. 492 When they were there the provicecancellor and the 24 proproctors placed them. 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 35 (1754) 185 The gentlemen.. went to Dr. Dobson, president of Trinity college, who was at that time pro-vice-chancellor. 1898 *Daily News* 10 Oct. 9/1 The new Vice-Chancellor..appointed as his Pro-Vice-Chancellors the Principal of Hertford, the Provost of Queen's, the Master of University, and the President of Corpus.

Providable (prǫvəi·dăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. PROVIDE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being provided.

1891 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXVIII. 224/2 He would have provided for Rousseau had Rousseau been providable for.

Providator, providatory: see PROVEDITOR.

Provide (prǫvəi·d), *v.* Also 5–6 **provyde,** *Sc.* **-wyde, -wide, 6 -vyd.** [ad. L. *prōvid-ēre* to see before, foresee, look after, attend to, be cautious, f. *prō*, PRO-¹ + *vidēre* to see. Cf. PURVEY, a doublet of this through OF., in earlier Eng. use. *Provide* was app. introduced in 15th c. as a direct repr. of the L. verb in certain senses, and its use may have been promoted by the fact that *providence* was already in use for *purveyance.*]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To foresee. *Obs.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ix, So vncouthly hir werdes sche deuidith, Namly In 3outh, that seildin ought prouidith. 1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 91 Euident and sufficient signes, whereby maye be prouided & foresene the aborcement before it come. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* Ded., Seuere and wiser patriots..prouiding the hurts these licentious spirits may doe in a state. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.* 137 Of especiall counsell and advice, in providing and foreseeing the event of any deepe designes.

2. *intr.* To exercise foresight in taking due measures in view of a possible event; to make provision or adequate preparation. Const. *for, against.*

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3556 Huge boolys of metal.. Brent[en] al that kam be-syde: Ther koude no man hym provyde To save him that he was brent. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 47 Men of Lacedemonia provide for a batelle ageyne men of Micena. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 132/2 Go to Christes gospell & loke on his first miracle, whither he might not haue prouided for wine without miracle. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 689 The olde adage, saiyng in tyme of peace, prouide for war, and in tyme of war, prouide for peace. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. xi. (1848) 131 We may be often sollicitous to provide against many Evils and Dangers that possibly may never reach us. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 393 The first duty of a state is to provide for its own conservation. 1878 JEVONS *Prim. Pol. Econ.* i. § 2. 10 Suffering from misfortunes which could not have been provided against. 1883 E. T. PAYNE in *Law Times* 27 Oct. 432/2 An inn or hotel is an establishment, the proprietor of which undertakes to provide for the entertainment of all comers, especially travellers.

†**b.** To see to it or take care beforehand; to make provision (*that* something shall not happen). *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 186, I wil be ware and afore provide, That of no fowler I wil no more be japed. 1509 FISHER *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 296 To..prouyde by her owne commaundement that nothynge sholde lacke. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. 181 We must prouyd..that by no prerogatyfe he vsurpe apon the pepul any such authorysyd tyranny. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 801 To prouide that a thing happen not, *precaueo. Ibid.* 803 To prouide that one take no harme, *cauere alicui.*

c. To make it, or lay it down as, a provision or arrangement; to stipulate *that.* Cf. PROVIDED 5, PROVIDING *pr. pple.*, PROVISION 5.

1423 [see PROVIDING *pr. pple.*]. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 b, The Mayers wyfe of the citie prouided in her wyll, that she would be buried without any pompe or noyse. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. (S.T.S.) 116 Qⁿ sa our lawis provydes, that the eldest succeides. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 13 Another regulation, providing that every person who was found slain should be supposed to be a Frenchman, unless he were proved to be a Saxon. 1891 *Law. Rep., Weekly Notes* 72/2 The clause did not provide that the costs of references..should be in the discretion of the arbitrators.

II. 3. *trans.* To prepare, get ready, or arrange (something) beforehand. Now *rare.*

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 216 What pyne or greef ye for me prouyde, Without any grogyng I shall hit abyde. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* x. 620 Wallace in haist prouidyt son his ost. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 b, Of certayne benefytes that god hath prouyded for vs. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* vi. 7 In the sommer she prouideth hir meate, & gathereth hir foode together in y^e haruest. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* V. i. P 103 He had provided a gown of coarse dark cloth, and a little red horse-hair beard.

†**4.** *intr.* To prepare, make preparation, get ready. Const. with *inf.*, or *absol. Obs.*

1493 *Petronilla* (Pynson) 105 Felliculla gan afore prouyde, Maugre flaccus, to lyue in maydynhede. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 165 He prouyded to sende men and victualles to strengthen the castels of Flynt and Rutlande. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 195 Let them not thinke to begin anie long warre, much lesse to continue it, unlesse they throughly provide aforehand. 1616 HIERON *Wks.* I. 589 Your respectiue saluting vs, your prouiding to entertaine vs. 1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. i, But stay, my Prouisance comes, prouide the while, I'lle call for't anone. 1692 tr. *Sallust* 116 He toyls, provides, and..sets all his Trains and Engines at work by Treachery to ruine Hiempsal. 1727 POPE *Th. Var. Subj.* Swift's Wks. 1755 II. I. 231 Very few men.. live at present, but are providing to live another time.

†**b.** *trans.* with *vbl. sb.* (*provide your going* = prepare or make ready to go). *Obs.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. iv. 36 Prouide your going, Choose your owne company, and command what cost Your heart ha's mind to.

5. *trans.* To supply or furnish for use; to yield, afford. Const. †*to* (obs.), *for*, or with dative.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 37 Al that longyth to thy necessyte Shal be provydyd be god and me. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 10 Al thyng that God and nature hath prouydyd to hym. 1552 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion*, The bread and wyne for the Communion shall be prouyded by the Curate, and the churchwardens, at the charges of the Parishe. 1581 in *Confer.* III. (1584) R iv, Prouide me ynke and paper, and I will write. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 186 Such cooling fruit As the kind hospitable Woods provide. 1772 *Junius Lett.* lxviii. (1820) 344 This very act provides a remedy for such persons. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xxvi, The contractors..do honestly provide the convicts the rations prescribed by the Government.

6. To furnish or appoint (an incumbent) *to* a vacant benefice (rarely, a person *to* a pension); *esp.* of the pope: To appoint (a person as successor) *to* a benefice not yet vacant, thus setting aside the right of the patron. Cf. PROVISION *sb.* 4, PROVISOR 1. Now only *Hist.*

[1388 *Act* 12 *Rich. II*, c. 15 Item qe null liege du Roy..passe le meer..pur soy providre ou purchacer ascun benefice de seinte Esglise ove cure ou sanz cure en le dit roialme.] 1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25 Ther arn ij. other persones provided to the same bysshopriche yet lyvyng, beforn my seyd adversarie. 1580 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 324 His brother german, being lauchfullie providit to ane yeirlie pensioun.., wes slane,..in quhais place the said Alexander, being providit to the said pensioun, bruikit the samin peciabillie. 1593–4 *Exch. Rolls Scott.* XXII. 393 Johnne Balfour, providit of auld to the chapellanie of Sanct Thomas. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 59 Shevez posted to Rome..and was himself provided to the Archbishoprick. 1887 LUPTON *Life Colet* 121 He was provided, in 1504, to the vacant see of St. David's. 1899 TREVELYAN *Eng. Age Wycliffe* 120 The Papal power of 'providing' to benefices.

III. 7. To equip or fit out (a person, etc.) with what is necessary for a certain purpose; to furnish or supply with something implied. In quot. 1628, to provide or furnish with a lodging.

1465 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* VII. 321 *note*, Gevin..in parte of sustentacione of him unto the tyme that he be bettir providit, ten poundis. 1536 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd to Colney for to provide hym selfe away xij*d*. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 121 They do take so much fish, that they do prouide the whole kingdome for all the yeare. 1628 EARL MANCH. in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 268 Werden tells me he hath provided you not far from the Parliament. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) B ix b, The first Builder is sufficiently provided by his workman to testifie his cost. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xliii, I..mean to look out for another situation; so provide yourselves, gentlemen, if you please.

†**b.** *refl.* To equip or prepare oneself, to make oneself ready, prepare (*to do* something, *for* or *against* something). Cf. 3 and 4. *Obs.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlvii. 182 [They] ordeyned & prouyded theym self soo, that they fered but lytyl Subyon or nouȝte. *c* 1594 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 2 A speciall commaundement..that they should generallie provide themselves to goe with him the Sonday followinge..to the church. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 89 You Neice prouide your selfe. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iii. 7 *King...* Therefore prepare you... *Guild.* We will our selues prouide. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. x. 212 Hence the Sea running Southward, provides itself to entertain a nameless Brook. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* x. ii. (1856) 469 If we will provide ourselves against the devil who never misseth any opportunity..to tempt us.

8. To furnish or supply (a person, etc.) with something. Often in indirect passive. **a.** Const. *with.*

14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 98 With help of her..So prudently with vertu hus to provyde. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 3 How that this realme, with nobillis owt of nummer, Gydit, provydit sa mony ȝeiris hes bene. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* I Prouided with all complete prouisions of Warre. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Yng. Lady's T.*

II. 167 His valet [was] provided with phosphoric matches, by which he had now lit a taper. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 71 They..provide themselves with sweet cakes, bread, dates. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 151 The waiter then provided me with a ham sandwich.

†b. Const. *of*. *Obs.*

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 160 Howbeit the good townes be prouyded of vitels. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) P iij, Provyde you of trew contricion and patience. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 172 Viassius.. providing him of a ship, sent him away. 1723 CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Treat. Archit.* I. 142 When an Architect is not provided of an able Painter fit to manage a Work of this kind.

†c. Const. *in*. *Sc. Obs.*

1586–7 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 61 [He] sall..provyid and furneis his majesteis hous and haill tabillis..in naiprie, fyireweschell, and tyneveschell.

9. *intr.* with *for*: to make provision *for* a person, his needs, etc. Often in indirect passive.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Chron.* xxiii. 5 Therfore wyl I prouyde for him. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. v. 105 His wonted Followers Shall all be very well prouided for. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 194 The old King seeing his sonnes thus well match'd, and Polimero so well provided for and setled. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 202 Thus hath the wisdom of the nation..been employed for ages, in providing properly for the poor, and yet they are not properly provided for. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 44 The essential duty of every man being to provide honestly for himself and his family.

†Pro·vide, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *prōvidus* foreseeing, f. *prōvidēre*: see prec.] Prudent, foreseeing, provident.

c 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 445 He was moderate in cures temporalle, provide in counsaille [WALSINGHAM *Chron.* 'In curis temporalibus providus'].

Provided (prəvai·dĕd), *ppl. a.* and quasi-*conj.* [Pa. pple. of PROVIDE *v.*]

I. *ppl. a.* **†1.** Prearranged, preconcerted. *Obs.*

1562 *Burgh Rec. Peebles* 4 Oct. (Rec. Soc.) 280 The greit providit slauchteris oppresiones and skaithis done to ws.

2. Prepared, ready; in a state of readiness.

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 136 Demosthenes being sent for to declaime amiddest the multitude, stayd and saide, I am not yet prouided. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, III. i. 132 With what a sharpe prouided wit he reasons. *a* 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 89 Hawlaffe came in the night..hee hasted to Adelstanes Tent, but he was provided, and in armes. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xiv. 284 The company was..well armed, and provided for all events.

3. Furnished or equipped (with what is needed).

1873 TRISTRAM *Moab* xii. 217 *note*, Offering an easy opportunity for a rightly provided collector. 1880 J. E. WATT *Poet. Sk.* 45 (E.D.D.), I was ance weel providit, an' deemed mysel' thrang, A-boukin' an' bleachin' haill wabs o' new sheetin'.

4. That is supplied, furnished, or afforded.

1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 446 Man..makes for the provided room Where the old friends want their fellow. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Sept. 3/2 Heligoland..was not..an average tourist's haunt. It was less..in the matter of 'provided' amusements.

b. *Provided school*, a public elementary school provided by the local education authority, under the Education Act of 1902.

[1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII*, c. 42 § 7 A school maintained but not provided by the local education authority. *Ibid.* § 8 Where the local education authority or any other persons propose to provide a new public elementary school. *Ibid.*, That a school provided by the local education authority, or not so provided, as the case may be, is better suited to meet the wants of a district than the school proposed to be provided.] 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 July 2/2 The House stopped at.. the management of provided schools; the whole question of the Voluntary (or unprovided) schools has still to come. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 17 Oct. 5/7 What guarantee is there that they would not turn the school into a 'provided' or Board School?

II. *pa. pple.* and quasi-*conj.*

5. With the provision or condition (that); it being provided, stipulated, or arranged (that): used chiefly in legal and formal statements; also, in general use, more loosely: On the condition, supposition, or understanding (that). **a.** with *that*.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xiv. (1885) 143 Provided alway, that no man be harmyd..in the arrerages off such livelod. 1488 *Act 4 Hen. VII*, c. 3 Provided alwey that this present Acte begyn to take effecte at the fest of Annunciacion of oure Lady next coming, and not afore. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 71, I take your offer, and will liue with you, Prouided that you do no outrages On silly women, or poore passengers. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb.* § 15 in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 16 Prouided that they exceed not the number of Twentie. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 575 Provided that, if such child should die before 21..the reversion should go to other persons named. 1879 BAIN *Higher Eng. Gram.* 113 Provided that all is safe, you may go.

b. without *that*: = if only.

[1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 17 Always prouided, if the Turk sent not an armie into Italy.] 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. ii. 210 (2nd Qo.) Now or whensoeuer, prouided I be so able as now. 1611 — *Cymb.* I. iv. 166. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 60 For the common sort of People, provided you'll give them Drink enough, they are wholly at your service. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 30 P 4 Provided there be a Pudding upon the Table, no matter what are the other Dishes. 1857 BUCKLE *Civilis.* I. xiv. 761 The circumstances..may always be known, provided the evidence is ample and authentic. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 60 Provided the temperature remain the same the volume which a gas occupies is inversely proportional [etc.].

Providence (prɒ·vidĕns), *sb.* [a. F. *providence* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōvidēntia* foresight, precaution, providence, f. *prōvidēre* to PROVIDE: see -ENCE.]

†1. The action of providing; provision, preparation, arrangement; chiefly in phrase *to make providence*, to make provision. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* In this sense, and in b, *dial.* also (prɒvəi·dĕns).

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 8785 Yiff thow lyst maken prouydence Off any konnyng or scyence. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 115 God schalle make providence [of a king] after hym [TREVISA God schal purveie, L. *providebit Deus*]. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) R iij b, Sodeyn death came to the fathers, and no prouidence made for the doughters. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* e v b, That they maye make suche prouidens and remedy that the vengeaunce of God do not fall on the poore peopel. 1878 *Cumberland Gloss., Providance*, a providing of victuals, etc.

†b. That which is provided; a supply, a provision. Cf. PROVIDING *vbl. sb.* b. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 5 Expense pro prouidenciis contra viagium Prucie.] 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 68 Yn every castelle..or towne he wolde hafe grete prouidence of vitaille, of cornys, of larde, and beoffes. [1706 PHILLIPS, *Providentia*, Providence... In some old Records, Provision of Meat or Drink.] 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss., Providance* (with the *i* long), the matters or supply provided; to wit, the meat and other eatables for a burial entertainment; the cakes,..&c. for a tea-party.

2. Foresight, prevision; *esp.* anticipation of and preparation for the future; 'timely care' (J.); hence, prudent or wise arrangement, management, government, or guidance. Also, an instance of this.

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* vi. 17 In his weis it shal shewe itself to them, and gladsumli in alle prouydence [*gloss* or bifore ordeynyng, 1611 in every thought, *R. V.* purpose], it shal ayen come to them. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 203 He made Edwyn his lieutenant,..and thus be providence Of alle thinges wel begon He tok his leve. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. vi. 43 The Archebisshop .. by Merlyns prouydence lete purueye thenne of the best knyghtes that they myghte gete. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 189 b, In compassyng and bryngyng greate thynges to passe, there lacked no industrie, nor prouidence. 1622 BACON *Hist. Gt. Brit.* Wks. 1879 I. 796/1 In this matter the providence of king Henry the seventh was in all men's mouths. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 379 This is not to exclude that providence of tracing premisses into consequences and causes into their effects. 1867 MAURICE *Patriarchs & Lawg.* vi. (1877) 134 The creature who bears His image is intended to exercise providence.

b. Regard to future needs in the management of resources; foreseeing economy, thrift, frugality.

1608 HEYWOOD *Rape Lucrece* III. v. Wks. 1874 V. 209 We must be carefull, and with providence Gulde his domestick businesse. 1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 105 They that spend more then they haue, want gouernment: they that spend all, Prouidence. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. xiii. § 1 (1876) 117/2 [It] renders the increase of production no longer exclusively dependent on the thrift or providence of the inhabitants themselves. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* 8 When there should have been providence there has been waste. 1885 LD. PEMBROKE in *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 2/1 The providence which is all that is necessary in a rich country like ours to bring material prosperity to the labouring class.

3. In full, *providence of God* (etc.), *divine providence*: The foreknowing and beneficent care and government of God (or of nature, etc.); divine direction, control, or guidance.

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 161 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Þe prouidens of þe prince þat paradis weldes. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xiv. 3 Thou, fader, governest bi prouydence [Gr. πρόνοια, 1388 puruyaunce]. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 35 Almyȝty god, whos prouidence in hys ordinaunce faileþ noȝt. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 121/2 He was in hys chyldhode sette to studye whereby dyuyne prouydence he floured in double science. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 57 Nature by her prouidence, mindeth vnto vs a certaine immortalitie. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 132 What else is Prouidence, than the will of God vttered foorth with Reason, and orderly disposed by vnderstanding? 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 471 Thy Bookes .. are miraculously Translated by her [i. e. the Virgin Mary's] speciall prouidence. 1676 W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 36 Creation and prouidence are the issues of the same Being and Power. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 38 Providence which is..the administration of heaven's government in the world. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. vii. (1864) II. 150 That the ordinary providence of God gave place to a perpetual interposition of miraculous power.

†b. The lot assigned to one by Providence. *Obs. nonce-use.*

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Camb.* (1662) I. 152 Stephen de Fulborn..Going over into Ireland to seek his Providence (commonly nicknamed his fortune)..became..Bishop of Waterford.

4. Hence applied to the Deity as exercising prescient and beneficent power and direction.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. 321 Whom if yee Nature call (saith One) yee call him not amis... Or Prouidence, whose acting power doth all begin and end. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 219 No Man is too little and despicable for the notice of Providence, however he may be overlook'd by his Fellow-Creatures. 1704 DE FOE in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 88 What Providence has reserved for me he only knows. 1842 ALISON *Hist. Europe* lxxviii. X. 1013 Moreau expressed a fact of general application, explained according to the irreligious ideas of the French Revolution, when he said, that 'Providence was always on the side of dense battalions'. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Queen of L.* II. 59, I am not one to fly in the face of Providence.

b. *transf.* A person who acts or appears in the character of Providence. *colloq.*

1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 86 'They might be little Providences on earth', said my friend, 'and they are, for the most part, jockeys and fops'. 1886 P. S. ROBINSON *Valley Teet. Trees* 28 Man is the Providence of the goose and..it is well that we should.. generously condescend to sympathy with it. 1895 *Daily News* 30 May 6/5 The Providence of the officers who were sent to stay at St. Petersburg was Mlle. Georges.

5. An instance or act of divine intervention; an event or circumstance which indicates divine dispensation. *Special providence*, a particular act of direct divine intervention.

1643 [ANGIER] *Lancash. Valley of Achor* 1 Gods eternall Counsells..are in time turned into..Prayers, Prayers into Providences, and Providences into Praises. 1651 MRQ. ORMONDE in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 279 The King being by an eminent and high providence escaped the bloody hands of the Rebells is arived at Paris. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. x. 175 How can he sweeten the bitterest providences! 1861 PEARSON *Early & Mid. Ages Eng.* 233 Here the event would no doubt be classed by some modern religionists under the head of special providences. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) II. ii. 11 The miracle of the Thundering Legion was a special providence.

b. Applied esp. to a disastrous accident, or fatality, regarded as an act of God. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1740 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) I. 290, I was informed of an awful providence. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* lxxxv. III. 292 The phrase a providence..in New England..appears to be more frequently used for that which is disastrous but which is at the same time to be regarded and submitted to as the act of God. 1814 *Connecticut Courant* 1 Mar. 3/2 Distressing Providence.—On Wednesday last as John N. Olcott..was scating on Connecticut river..he..broke in and drowned.

Hence **Pro·vidence** *v. nonce-wd., trans.* to act the part of Providence towards; to be a providence to.

1901 *Pall Mall G.* 28 May 4/1 She grew up in an obscure country parsonage..providenced by a high-minded..father.

†Pro·vidency. *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōvidenti-a*: see prec.] The quality of being provident; foresight and preparation; = prec. 2.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 258, I haue..often doubted whether Saint Ambrose deserued more commendation for his prouidencie in attempting such a matter: or the emperor for his patience and obedience in taking the same in so good part. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 204 Yet we haue not been wanting in our prouidency. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxviii. § 1. 327 Of prescience of future euentes, prouidencies, the knowing of thinges neuer seene before; and such other actions.

Provident (prɒ·vidĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *prōvidēns, -ēntem*, pres. pple. of *prōvidēre* to PROVIDE. Cf. F. *provident* (16th c. in Godef.).]

1. Foreseeing; that has foresight of and makes provision for the future, or for some future event; exercising or characterized by foresight. *Provident society* = *Friendly society* (FRIENDLY *a.* 8).

1429 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 143 Provident, with Brutus Cassius; Hardy as Hector, whan tyme doth require. 1487 [implied in PROVIDENTLY 1]. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* vi. 67 b, He is like to a prouident and circumspect builder, that buildeth his house, nor for a vain braggue or shewe onely. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 50 By Solomon God sends the Sluggard to school to the Ant, to learn a provident Industry. 1694 ADDISON *Virg. Georg.* IV. 189 Each provident of cold, in summer flies Thro' fields and woods to seek for new supplies. 1783 BURKE *Affairs India* Wks. XI. 315 The order..was (for its matter) provident and well considered. 1846 *Lit. Gaz.* 7 Nov. 957/2 National Provident and Benevolent Institution. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxi, It was fortunate that Humphrey had been so provident in making so large a quantity of hay.

2. Economical; frugal, thrifty, saving.

1596 BP. W. BARLOW *Three Serm.* iii. 133 Let the poore be prouident in a plentifull haruest. 1655 JER. TAYLOR *Guide Devot.* (1719) 54 Thou wilt be more provident of thy Time and of thy Talent. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arcite* III. 527 A Prince so gracious and so good, So just, and yet so provident of blood! 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 124 If we are not exceedingly provident in Regard to serving out Provisions, we must all inevitably starve. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iii, He will always be poor, because he never was a provident man.

Providential (prɒvide·nʃăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *prōvidēntia* PROVIDENCE + -AL. So F. *providentiel* (18–19th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

†1. Of the nature of or characterized by providence or foresight; provident, prudent. *Obs.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 758 Sure some mischief will come of it Unless by providential wit Or force we averruncate it. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Vindic. Dutch War* 17 Neither is it providential for a weak Prince.. to run Precipitously into a War. 1794 T. TAYLOR *Pausanias* I. 33, I especially admire..his providential care with respect to future contests. *a* 1845 HOOD *Open Question* xiii, The tender Love Bird—or the filial Stork? The punctual Crane—the providential Raven?

2. Of, pertaining to, or ordained by divine providence. † *Providential right*, the 'divine right' of kings (obs.).

1648 *Eikon Bas.* x. 83, I do not think that I can want any thing which providentiall necessity is pleased to take from me. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* I. i. 34 The necessity of a Providential Regiment of the parts of the Universe. 1695 J. SAGE *The Article* Wks. 1844 I. 345 Sure I am, here [i. e. in Knox's Letter] is the providential right, so plainly taught that no glosses can obscure it. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. v. Wks. 1874 I. 94 A providential disposition of things. 1768 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 277 Unless sickness or other providential accident hinders him. 1869 M. PATTISON *Serm.* (1885) 187 The existence of a first cause and providential governor.

b. That is, or is thought to be, by special interposition of providence; opportune; lucky, fortunate. (Now the most common use.)

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1858) 264, I knew nothing that night of the supply I was to receive by the providential driving of the ship nearer the land. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* 25 [It] was by them considered as a providential escape. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* II. i. 27 Petersen caught another providential fox.

B. *sb.* A providential occurrence; an interposition of Providence. *rare.*

1658-9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 267 If you consider affairs in the providentials; all providences have rather bent that way. 1893 *Boston Congregationalist* 14 Sept., Providentials... To consider whether certain particular occurrences were specially prepared to fit certain exigencies.

Hence **Provide·ntialist,** *nonce-wd.*, a maintainer of the 'providential' or divine right of sovereigns.

1695 J. Sage *The Article* Wks. 1844 I. 343 [Knox] may chance to be honoured as a Father by the Providentialists.

Provide·ntially, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a providential manner.

†**1.** With foresight; providently, prudently. *Obs.*

1614 Raleigh *Hist. World* v. i. § 10. 366 The victuallers, which the Consull Iunius, more hastily than prouidentially, had sent before him towards Lilybæum. 1619 J. Chamberlain in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 184 Enabling himself to live more providentially hereafter.

2. By the ordination of divine providence.

1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 64 But there is another Species of accession which is providentially naturall and is made by the cooperation of divine and humane nature from whence a property is acquired. 1654 Cromwell *Speech* 12 Sept. in *Carlyle*, A desire..to be quit of the power God had most providentially put into my hands, before he called me to lay it down. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 432 ₱ 2 The Geese were providentially ordained to save the Capitol. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* 111 Pines and lettuces..don't grow Providentially sweet and large unless we look after them.

b. By special intervention of Providence; by special chance; opportunely, fortunately. (Now the most common use.)

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. viii. 179 Providentially it was so. 1771 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 68/2 Providentially a happier temper prevailed in general. 1838 Dickens *Nich. Nick.* xv, Several frowns and winks from Mrs. K., which providentially stopped him. 1888 Burgon *Twelve Good Men* I. i. 34 A great separation was thus providentially averted.

So **Provide·ntialness.**

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Providentialness*, the Happening of a Thing by divine Providence, Providential effect.

Pro·vidently, *adv.* [f. Provident + -ly 2.] In a provident manner.

1. With foresight and providing care; prudently.

1487 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 403/2 The Kyng..hath been besied..so that [neither] his Grace nor yet his moost Honorable Councill myght..provydently make Leesez [etc.]. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 74 Did he enuie them, or els did he prouidently forsee vnto them bothe, when he tooke theim bothe from vs. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 137 He prouidently foresaw in what danger the Oguzian state stood. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. Introd. ii. 51 Our laws might be providently made, and well executed, but they might not always have the good of the people in view. 1889 Gretton *Memory's Harkb.* 61 He brought first a clean handkerchief, which his bed-maker had providently supplied.

b. With economy that looks ahead; thriftily.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 228 The ant..more prouidently employing her paines then the grasshopper. 1607 *Stat. in Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 57 Providentlie to lay out for the schole wants. 1641 *Epitaph* in Hissey *Holiday on Road* (1887) 404 Prudently simple, providently wary, To the world a Martha, and to heaven a Mary. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* v. Prol., Providently to save Charges.

†**2.** = Providentially *adv.* 2, 2 b. *Obs.*

1600 Hakluyt *Voy.* III. 708 And also prouidently defeated their dangerous and almost ineuitable fire-works. 1681 E. Murphy *State Ireland* § 18 Providently one John Mackeevir going by.

So **Pro·videntness** *rare*, the quality of being provident or foreseeing.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Providentness*, Thriftiness, Savingness. 1761 *Ascham's Wks., Toxoph.* 83 Companions of shotinge, be providentness [*earlier edd.* prouidens], goode heede geving, true meetinge, honest comparison.

Provider (prəvəi·dəɹ). Also 6 -or. [f. Provide *v.* + -er 1.] One who provides or supplies; a purveyor. *Lion's provider*: see Lion 2 f.

1523 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 34 No purveyor, providor, or taker of victualls for the King's howshould. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. Pref., This chaplayne of the deuyll was a generall prouyder for the oyled fathers there. 1698 G. Thomas *Pensilvania* 41 Gratitude to our Plentiful Provider, the great Creator of Heaven and Earth. 1774-1831 Lion's provider [see Lion 2 f.]. 1827 D. Johnson *Ind. Field Sports* 91 We heard at a distance the Pheâll (commonly called the Lion or Tigers provider) which is a jackal. 1852 Jerdan *Autobiog.* II. viii. 88 Our skilful provider for popular curiosity brought over Buonaparte's coachman. 1879 *Daily News* 25 Mar. 4/7 Mr. Whiteley,..equally well known as the Universal Provider.

Hence **Provi·deress,** a female provider. *rare*—0.

1611 Cotgr., *Pourvoyeuse*, a Prouideresse, or Purueyeresse.

Providetor, -our, obs. forms of Proveditor.

Provi·ding, *vbl. sb.* [f. Provide *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Provide; furnishing, supplying; provision; †preparation (*obs.*).

1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 282 Mony enough for the prouiding of all things needfull. 1616 [see Provide 4]. 1760-72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 122 The auctioneer and bidders proved of Mr. Snack's providing. 1885 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 843/2 Little or none of the money has been of English providing.

b. That which is provided; outfit; *spec.* a bride's stock of linen and household requisites (*Sc.*); also, a stock of food or equipments.

1820 *Glenfergus* III. xxxii. 255 Rachel's apparel and 'providing'..were packed up in trunks, chests, and boxes. 1854 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 614 His sweetheart..has managed..to save money enough to buy what is called her 'providing', which comprises the napery and other household linen. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 3/1 All our providings and personnel were such as in India nobody supposes he can do without. 1900 Crockett *Fitting of Peats* iii. in *Love Idylls* (1901) 23, I will put plenty of providing for man and beast behind the park dyke.

Provi·ding, *pr. pple.* and quasi-*conj.* [The pr. pple. of Provide *v.* used absolutely.] **a.** *pr. pple.* with *that.* Making the proviso or stipulation *that*, it being provided or stipulated *that*; = Provided 5 a.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 Prouydyng euir more that thei..may have [etc.]. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 33 Provydyng alwey that she be made sewr of hire levving. 1579 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 177 Providing alwyis that the said Andro beir not forther eventure of the said money nor he dois of his awin propir geir and himself. 1632 Lithgow *Trav.* VI. 246 Hee cared little for our Faith, and Patience, prouiding, that our purses could answere his expectation. 1901 *Times* 2 Oct. 3/6 The owners have unanimously expressed their willingness to proceed to arbitration..providing that all sections..were agreeable to this course.

b. quasi-*conj.* (without *that*). On condition that; in case that, if only; = Provided 5 b.

1632 Lithgow *Trav.* x. 495 The Woull..is nothing inferiour to that..of Spaine: providing they had skill to fine, Spin, Weaue, and labour it as they should. 1795 Earl Malmesbury *Diaries & Corr.* III. 198 Freytag proposes a concert, providing somebody will pay for it. 1839 Geo. Eliot in *Life* (1885) I. 50 Always providing our leisure is not circumscribed by duty. 1874 Ruskin *Fors Clav.* xlv. 203 Providing they pay you the fixed rent.

Providitor, Providore: see Proved-.

Province (prɒ·vins). Also 4 (*Sc.*) prowince, 5 prouynse. [a. F. *province* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. L. *prōvincia* an official duty, a charge, a province. Of uncertain derivation: that which offers itself at first sight, from *prō*, Pro- 1 + *vincĕre* to conquer (although it may in later times have affected the application of the word) does not explain the earliest known use in Latin. See Walde *Lat. Etym. Wbch.* s. v.

1904 W. M. Ramsay in *Expositor* Oct. 243 A 'Province' to the Roman mind meant literally a 'sphere of duty', and was an administrative, not a geographical fact; the Province of a magistrate might be the stating of law in Rome, or the superintendence of a great road, or the administration of a region or district of the world; but it was not and could not be, except in a loose and derivative way, a tract of country.]

1. *Rom. Hist.* A country or territory outside Italy, under Roman dominion, and administered by a governor sent from Rome. (In L. also the official charge or administration of such a territory.)

a 1380 *St. Augustin* 64 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 62 Austin þe doctour..Boren was in þe prouince of Affrican. 1382 Wyclif *Acts* xxiii. 34 Whanne he hadde rad, and axid, of what prouynce he was,..knowinge for he was of Cilice. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 100 Tessaile.., A prouynce appropret aperte to Rome. 1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 144 His Ethnarchy reduced into a Romane Prouince, and the gouernment thereof committed vnto Pontius Pilate by Tyberius Cæsar. 1755 W. Duncan tr. *Sel. Orat. Cicero* xi. (1816) 389 You obtained a consular province. 1904 W. M. Ramsay in *Expositor* Oct. 244 The Province was the aspect in which Rome presented itself to the people of Asia; and conversely the Province was the form under which the people of Asia constituted a part of the Empire.

†**b.** The country of Provence in South Eastern France, which was one of the earliest Roman provinces. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 140 b, He marched through the myddest of Italye..tyll he came in to prouynce of Fraunce. *Ibid.* 219 Ther be in the French prouince a people called Valdois. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Idolatry* II. (1640) 28 Massile, the head Towne of Gallia Narbonensis (now called the Province).

2. An administrative division of a country or state; any principal division of a kingdom or empire, esp. one that has been historically, linguistically, or dialectally distinct, as the provinces of Ireland, Spain, Italy, Prussia, Russia, India, and the old provinces of France. Formerly sometimes applied to the shires of England.

1382 Wyclif *Esther* iii. 13 And the lettris..ben sent bi the corouris of the king to alle his prouyncis. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 259 Franconia is, as it were, þe myddel prouynce of Germania, and hab in þe est side Thuryngia, in þe west Sueuia. *Ibid.* II. 87 The prouince of Yorke extendethe hit oonly now from the arche of the floode of Humbre on to the floode of Teyse. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxv. 119 þe land..es diuided in xii. prouincez. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. xc. 67 Thenne Hengiste beganne his Lordshyp ouer the Prouynce of Kent. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, I. i. 120 Aniou and Maine? My selfe did win them both: Those Prouinces, these Armes of mine did conquer. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 182 My perambulation through the Provinces or Shires of Britaine. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* II. 274 The Lord President..left the Prouince of Mounster to meet the Lord Deputy at Galloway in Connaght. 1625 N. Carpenter *Geog. Del.* II. xv. (1635) 260 Our mountainous Prouinces of Deuon and Cornwall haue not deserued so ill.. 1706 Phillips s. v., The United Provinces of the Netherlands, the Seven Northern Provinces of the Low-Countries, that made a firm Alliance at Utrecht, A.D. 1579, by which they united themselves, so as never to be divided. 1794 Mrs. Radcliffe *Myst. Udolpho* i, On the pleasant banks of the Garonne, in the province of Gascony. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 35/2 They divided the country into four provinces, viz. Ulster, Leinster, Munster and Connaught, each of which had its King. 1841 W. Spalding *Italy & It. Isl.* III. 383 Corsica..is still a province of that kingdom [France]. 1908 *Whitaker's Alm.* 491/1 The Central Provinces [of India] were formed in 1861 out of territory taken from the North-West Provinces and Madras.

†**b.** Applied to the North American Colonies of Great Britain, now provinces of the Dominion of Canada; also formerly to several of those which after the War of Independence united to form the United States of America.

Of the latter, chiefly applied to those colonies which were denominated provinces in their charters, some being so termed from the first, others only at a later date. Generally, but not universally, colonies having a royal governor, and some having proprietary governors, were 'provinces'.

1622 (Aug. 10) *Grant* in *Capt. John Mason* (Prince Soc.) 180 All that part of y^e maine land in New England..w^ch the said S^r Ferdinando Gorges and Capt. John Mason.. intend to name y^e Province of Maine. 1682 (Mar. 4) *Charter Chas. II to W. Penn* in Poore *Fed. & St. Constit.* II. 1510 We do hereby erect the aforesaid Country and Islands into a Province and Seigniore, and doe call itt Pensilvania. 1691 I. Mather in *Andros Tracts* II. 289 Now that the Massachusets Colony is made a Province. 1717 *Commission to J. Wentworth (N. H. Provl. Pa.* II. 712), We have constituted and appointed Samuel Shute Esq. our Captain General and Governor in chief in and over our Province of New Hampshire, in New England, in America. 1758 *Commission to F. Bernard (N. J. Docts.* IX. 23), The Division of East and West New Jersey in America, which we have thought fit to reunite into one Province and settle under one entire Government. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VI. 55 In the year 1791 it [Canada] was divided, by an act of the British parliament, into the two provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. 1878 *Whitaker's Alm.* 246 By an act passed in 1867, the provinces of Canada (Ontario and Quebec), Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, were united under the title of 'Dominion of Canada', and provision was made..for the admission at any subsequent period of the other provinces and territories of British North America. 1898 E. B. Greene *Provincial Govnr. in Eng. Colonies of N. A.* 15 When James Duke of York became king, New York ceased to be a proprietary colony and became a royal province.

c. *fig.* A main division of any 'realm'.

1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 172 Our earth is but a province of a wider realm. 1880 Swinburne *Stud. Shaks.* 73 Their spotted souls..hovering for an hour..on the confines of either province of hell.

3. *Eccl.* The district within the jurisdiction of an archbishop or a metropolitan (in quot. 1377 applied to a diocese); formerly, also, that within the jurisdiction of a synod of a Presbyterian church.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 562 Euery bisshop..is holden, Thorw his prouynce to passe and to his peple to shewe hym. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 291/1 Write to the Chirche of York for that Provynce. 1454 *Ibid.* V. 249/1 The Clergie of the Province of Caunterbury. 1580 *Register of Privy Council Scot.* III. 277 The diocie or province of Louthiane. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 181 The Provinciall Synods in both Provinces. 1649 (*title*) An Apologetic Declaration of the conscientious Presbyterians of the Province of London. 1852 Hook *Ch. Dict.* 617. 1861 J. G. Sheppard *Fall Rome* xii. 644 To the parochial cities were attached bishops, to the provinces metropolitans, to the dioceses patriarchs.

b. One of the territorial divisions of an ecclesiastical or ecclesiastico-military order, as the Knights Templars, the Franciscans, the Jesuits, or of the Propaganda.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v., The general of the order has several provinces under him. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 110/2 Although they [the Jesuits] had also their respective generals residing at Rome, yet their authority over the distant convents of the various provinces was very limited. 1848 *Secr. Societies, Templars* 244 Besides these offices of the Order [the Templars] there were the Great-priors, Great-preceptors, or Provincial Masters..of the three Provinces of Jerusalem, Tripoli, and Antioch.

4. More vaguely, A country, territory, district, or region; a part of the world or of one of its continents.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 332 His sonne Edward þe prince, & fiftene for his sake, þre hundred of þe prouince, knyghtes wild he make. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* IV. viii, They came in to the prouynce of the apes. 1555 Eden *Decades* 52 Owre men fownde certen trees in this prouince [Cartagena], which bore greate plentie of sweete apples. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. x. 151 Distinct seas, taking their names from the Provinces they bathe. 1752 Johnson *Rambler* No. 142 ₱ 7 The whole province flocks together as to a general festivity. *Ibid.* No. 165 ₱ 14 Some had long moved to distant provinces.

5. *pl.* A comprehensive designation for all parts of a country outside the capital or chief seat of government; e.g. of France apart from Paris, or England apart from London. Cf. Provincial A. 4.

[Of French origin, and referring to the old Provinces of France as distinct from L'Île de France and its capital Paris. Cf. Littré, *la province* 'all that is in France outside the capital (often with the notion of that which is behind in fashion, manners, or taste)'. Sometimes also in the plural *les provinces* (1671 in Mme. de Sévigné). In reference to England chiefly an expression of the London newspapers, or of London actors who 'star the provinces'.]

[1638 Baker tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III.) 31 This sweete ayre of the wide world, and these dainties of the spirit, which are not common in our Provinces.] 1804-6 Syd. Smith *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 168 Those opinions go down by the mail-coach, to regulate all matters of taste for the provinces. 1849 Thackeray *Pendennis* xix, She had..starred the provinces

with great eclat and had come back to London. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* Ser. I. vi. 341 The provinces differ from Paris in the nature of the social warfare. 1882 PEBODY *Eng. Journalism* xii. 88 In the provinces, as in London, Liberal journalists outnumber the Conservatives. 1882 FREEMAN in *Longm. Mag.* I. 89, I have even known a New York paper speak of the rest of the United States as 'the provinces'. — [see PROVINCIAL *a.* 4]. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 442 Mr. Pastor's company all came back from giving pleasure to what English writers would call 'the provinces'. 1896 *Law Times* CI. 573/2 The full force of the Bench is required to deal effectually with the work in London and the provinces.

6. *Nat. Hist.* A faunal or floral area less extensive than a 'region'; a sub-region.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* 19 Certain areas of the earth's surface are inhabited by groups of animals and plants..not found elsewhere...Such areas are termed Provinces of Distribution. 1885 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) 96 The sea and land may be divided into..distinct areas or provinces, each peopled by a peculiar assemblage of animals and plants.

II. 7. The sphere of action of a person or body of persons; duty, office, business, function, department.

a 1626 BACON *Q. Eliz.* Mor. & Hist. Wks. (Bohn) 480 This is not a subject for the pen of a monk, or any such cloistered writer...Certainly this is a province for men of the first rank. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* xxii, This word province signifies a charge, or care of business, which he whose business it is, committeth to another man. 1702 *Clarendon's Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. 2 It is a difficult Province to write the History of the Civil Wars of a great and powerful Nation. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 32, I rose softly, and dressed myself, a Province I was grown very alert at. 1775 *Sterne's Sent. Journ.* III. 192 (*The Story*) My province was.. to carry home the goods. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 149, I presume it is quite out of our Province. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 103 It is neither in my province, nor in my power, to remedy them. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 262 The province of the cook, is to dress the meat according to the modern costume, and.. to dish it up in an elegant manner. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 657 James had invaded the province of the legislature. 1888 M. ROBERTSON *Lombard St. Myst.* xii, How he had secured an entrance..it is not our province to inquire.

III. *fig.* from I.

8. A department, division, or branch of learning, science, art, government, or any subject.

1709 BERKELEY *The. Vision* § 115 The two distinct provinces of sight and touch. 1710 — *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 101 The two great provinces of speculative science,..Natural Philosophy and Mathematics. 1756–82 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* (ed. 4) II. xi. 262 He early left the more poetical provinces of his art, to become a moral, didactic and satiric poet. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. vii. § 8. 296 In the provinces of erudition and polite letters..some tendency towards a coalition began to appear. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* II. xii. (1879) 505 In the provinces of Æsthetics and Morals.

†**9.** *Zool.* and *Bot.* A sub-kingdom. *Obs. rare.*

1866 OWEN *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* I. Pref. 9 Illustrations ..will be found in the chapters on the Articulate Province and other parts of the 'Lectures on Invertebrates'.

IV. 10. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Of, belonging or pertaining to a (or the) province, as *province cost, man, seal, store*; **province-line**, see quot. 1809.

1648 B. PLANTAGENET *Descr. New Albion* 6 Having obtained under the Province Seal my grant of my Manor of Belvill. 1758 L. LYON in *Milit. Jrnls.* (1855) 14 There was a regiment of province men come up to Schenacata. 1758 S. THOMPSON *Diary* (1896) 20 We eat supper and breakfast on Province cost. 1763 J. WOOLMAN *Jrnl.* (1840) 114 Going down the river to the province-store at Shaniokin. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III. 277 The bay itself..is intersected by what is called the province-line; that is, by the forty-fifth degree of north latitude, which is the southern boundary of Lower Canada.

Provincial (provi·nʃăl), *a.* and *sb.* [a. F. *provincial* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *prōvinciāl-is*, f. *prōvincia*: see prec. and -AL.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to a province or provinces.

1. Of or pertaining to an ecclesiastical province.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 56 For whiles fortune is þi frende, Freres wil þe louye .. and for þe biseke, To her priour prouyncial a pardoun forto haue. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 40 þe mynystris prouyncials, to whom only .. be grauntid leue to resceyue freris. 1483 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* IV. (1520) 33/1 Yf the cause were shewed in the provyncyall counsel of bysshops. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 109/1 That the clargye of this realme hath..by a constytucion prouincial prohybited any boke of scripture to bee translated into the englyshe tonge. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 70 b, It was necessarye to haue a lawfull counsell, eyther prouincial, or general. 1578 *2nd Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* vii. § 18 Provinciall assemblies we call lawful conventions of the pastors doctors and uther eldaris of a province. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xiii. Wks. 1851 III. 444 Not Presbytery but Arch-Presbytery, Classical, Provincial, and Diocesan Presbytery. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* p. xxxvii, A Law made in a Provincial Synod is properly term'd a Provincial Constitution. 1851 HUSSEY *Papal Power* i. 4 He had good reason to appeal from a provincial judgment of his case.

2. Of or belonging to a civil province, *e.g.* an ancient Roman province, or a province of a modern country or state; rarely, of an English county.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 15, I am a poore wretched vnderling, and no prouinciall man, neither warden of my company. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* I. ii. (1821) 36 By the perswasion of the Provinciall rebells. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. iii. (1739) 4 In this provincial way of Government of Britain, under the Roman Lieutenants. 1690 TEMPLE *Misc.* II. iv. *Poetry* 36 The common People used that [Latin language] still, but vitiated with the base allay of their Provincial Speech. 1796 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 363, I believe that place has more of the stuff of a good provincial capital, than any town in England. 1804 *Europ. Mag.* XLV. 35/2 At the head of these four provincial Kings [of Ulster, Leinster, Munster, and Connaught] was placed a supreme Monarch. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. viii. 307 The provincial land was tributary to the state. 1874 PARKER *Goth. Archit.* II. 283 These round towers, or campaniles of Ravenna seem to constitute a provincial type.

b. Of the American provinces or colonies of European states, *esp.* of the British colonies; colonial. Cf. B. 4 b. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1688 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 228 At a Meeting of the Deputy Governor and Provinciall Councill. 1760 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 59/2 The whole regular, and no small part of the provincial force, which remained in Canada. 1764 *Answ. to Queries on Govt. Maryland* 16 Like the provincial rattle-snake coiled up, whose poison is best prevented by a switch. 1776 *N. Jersey Archives* Ser. II. I. 55 Elected..to represent the County of Bergen in Provincial Congress, to be held at Trenton. 1882 FREEMAN *Lect. to Amer. Audiences* II. iv. 320 The word *provincial* was, with a near approach to accuracy, often applied to your Thirteen Colonies, while they were still dependencies of Great Britain. 1898 E. B. GREENE *The Provincial Govnr. in Eng. Colonies of N.A.* Pref. 5 The term 'Provincial Governor' has been chosen to designate the chief executive of the Royal and proprietary colonies.

†**3.** Having the relation of a province to a sovereign state. Also *fig. Obs.*

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 243 He being a Prince of a Prouinciall iurisdiction. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* Epit. (1612) 363 As of the aforesaid Countrie called Angel or Angulus, now prouincial to Denmarke. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* Ep. Ded. 1 The Argument of it [this Book] is Provincial to Physick. 1685 DRYDEN *Pref. Albion & Albanius* Ess. (ed. Ker) I. 272 The other parts of it..are still as much provincial to Italy, as..in the time of the Roman Empire. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* I. I. i. (1737) 2 The whole Provincial Britain..was..divided into Britannia Prima, Britannia Secunda, and Maxima Cæsariensis.

4. Of or belonging to a province or provinces as distinguished from the nation or state of which it or they form a part; local; hence (inaccurately), of the 'provinces' (see PROVINCE 5) as distinguished from the capital (the usage of which is taken as national); situated in 'the provinces'.

(A French idiom, referring orig. to the provinces of France).

1638 BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 190 You know provinciall spirits [orig. (1624) *esprits provinciaux*] are extremely greedy. 1674 DRYDEN *Prol. at Opening New House* 22 That, like the ambitious monarchs of the age, They give the law to our provincial stage. 1772 GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks *Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 17 Those many barbarisms which characterize a provincial education. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* Pref. 3 Provincial or local words are of three kinds, the first, either Saxon or Danish, in general grown obsolete from disuse. 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 154 An article in a provincial paper of recent date. 1844 LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* ix. § 2 (1862) 128 In Paris and the great provincial towns. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 142 Merchants resident at Bristol and other provincial seaports. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 113 His [Shakspere's] patriotism was too national to be provincial. 1882 FREEMAN *Lect. to Amer. Audiences* II. iv. 320 In Great Britain there are no provinces, for every spot of the land has equal rights with every other. Little Pedlington is no more provincial than London.

b. *transf.* Said of foxhunting outside the 'shires'.

1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* I. v. 35, I could have made you, now, a particular neat *provincial* boot; but with this pattern it's exceedingly difficult to attain the correct appearance for the flying countries. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 4/2 Good sport has not been confined to the shires. ..Provincial packs have enjoyed their full share.

5. Having the manners or speech of a province or 'the provinces'; exhibiting the character, especially the narrowness of view or interest, associated with or attributed to inhabitants of 'the provinces'; wanting the culture or polish of the capital.

[*a* 1745 SWIFT (J.), A country 'squire having only the provincial accent upon his tongue, which is neither a fault, nor in his power to remedy.] 1755 JOHNSON, *Provincial*,..rude; unpolished. *a* 1774 HARTE *Eulogius* Poems (1810) 385/2 His mien was awkward; graces he had none; Provincial were his notions and his tone. 1817 CHALMERS *Astron. Disc.* vi. (1852) 136 Christianity is not so paltry and provincial a system as Infidelity presumes it to be. 1864 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1878) II. 126 'Tristram Shandy'.. Its mirth is boisterous. It is provincial. 1864 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* ii. (1875) 77 The provincial spirit, again, exaggerates the value of its ideas for want of a high standard at hand by which to try them.

6. *Provincial Letters*, the collection of letters of Blaise Pascal 1656–7, called (in ed. 1657) *Les Provinciales, ou les Lettres écrites par Louis de Montalte, à un Provincial de ses Amis*, letters written by L. de M. to a provincial of (= among) his friends.

1659 (*title*) An answer to the Provinciall Letters [of B. Pascal] Published by the Jansenists, Under the Name of Lewis Montalt. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 658/1 Whether there may not be something in the *Provincial Letters* of that very spirit which they are attacking.

†**7.** = PROVENÇAL. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 309 A dight vine in prouyntial manere That lyke a busshe vpstont.

†**b.** *erron.* Of roses of Provins: see PROVENCE.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 288 Would not this Sir, and a Forrest of Feathers,..with two Prouinciall Roses on my rac'd Shooes, get me a Fellowship in a crie of Players? 1633 FORD *Broken H.* I. ii, That I myself..have wrought To crown thy temples, this Provincial garland.

B. *sb.* [Absolute or elliptical uses of the adj.]

†**1.** A variety of the game of backgammon. *Obs.*

13.. *MS. Kings* 13 *A. XVIII* (Brit. Mus.) lf. 159/1 Prouincial. Est etiam alius ludus qui vocatur prouincial.

2. *Eccl.* The ecclesiastical head of a province; the chief of a religious order in a district or province.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 178 A powhe ful [*v. r.* pokeful] of pardoun þer with Prouincials lettres. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in Todd 3 *Treat. Wyclif* 125 To abbotes & priours, mynistris & wardeyns, & to þise provynciales & to þe popes chapileyns. 1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 Frere Willyam Cokar, than beande prouincial of the Quite Freris of Scotlande. 1534 LEE in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 41 We receyved your lettres by the provyncial of the Augustyn ffriers. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 69 These Generalls have under them their Provincialls as Lievtenants in every Province or State of Christendome. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 32. 215 A Hooker in his Country Cottage may be as upright and conscientious as his Provincial invested with his Pastoral Staff. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 111/2 The general [of the Jesuits] receives monthly reports from the provincials, and quarterly ones from the superiors of professed houses.

†**b.** Applied to a procuress (*cf.* F. *abbesse*). *Obs. slang.*

c 1640 [SHIRLEY] *Capt. Underwit* III. i, New yeares guifts From soder'd virgins and their shee provintialls Whose warren must be licenc'd from our office.

†**3.** The governor of a province. *Obs.*

1590 R. HICHCOCK *Quintess. Wit* 59 Those Cities which are vsed to liue free, or accustomed to gouerne themselues by their Prouincialls. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 77 Thou suffredst him..to resist the Romane Prouinciall Florus.

4. A native or inhabitant of a province (Roman or modern); in *pl.* auxiliary troops raised in a province; formerly applied to the native Irish.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* (1657) 54 They took Roman names when they were provincials. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 118 (Rebell. Earl of Tyrone) So as if the Spaniards should land the Lord President might be enabled to keepe the Prouincials from reuolt. *Ibid.* 274 Lord Barry with 1600 Prouincials vnder him. *a* 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 674 The Inhabitants of Arabia Petræa, which were never yet Provincials of the Turkish Empire. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxii. (1869) I. 615 The grateful provincials enjoyed the blessings of his reign. 1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* III. (1810) 268 To be sent to America..to discipline and organize the Spanish provincials. 1907 GRIFFITH JOHN *Voice fr. China* xi. 245 Mr. Peng was..like most of his fellow provincials bitterly anti-foreign.

b. An inhabitant of the North American Colonies before the revolution; applied esp. to those engaged in military service. Cf. A. 2 b.

1758 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 72/2 He embarked upon Lake George with near 16000 troops, regulars and provincials. 1759 *Ibid.* 33/2 The French .. collected all the regular troops and provincials, which they could draw from all their posts about the lakes. 1775 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 49 We obtained an exact account of the number of Provincials that were killed and wounded in the battle [of Lexington] of the 19th ultimo. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. xiii. 196 Nine thousand and twenty-four provincials, from New England, New York, and New Jersey, assembled on the shore of Lake George.

5. One who dwells in or comes from the 'provinces' as distinguished from an inhabitant or native of the capital; hence, a 'countrified' person.

1711 SHAFTESBURY *Charac.* (1737) II. II. II. i. 133 This we may observe in the hardy remote Provincials. 1775 T. SHERIDAN *Art Reading* p. x, By the aid of which all foreigners and provincials may..acquire a just pronunciation. 1843 tr. *Custine's Empire of Czar* II. 153 On the same principle that, in France, the Provincial distrusts the Parisian. 1865 LOWELL *New Eng. Two Cent. Ago* Prose Wks. 1890 II. 73 After that time they sank rapidly into provincials, narrow in thought, in culture, in creed.

†**6.** An ordinance of a provincial synod; also, a rescript addressed to an ecclesiastical province. *Obs.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Ware the Hawke* 133 Decrees or decretals ..Or els provincials. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* I. 5 And the Kings of Scotland, as appeereth in an antient Roman Provincial, had next place before Castile. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 317 Considering that Provincial in Lindwood, where the Arch-Deacons are enjoyned in their visitations, diligently to take into their care .. the fabrique of the Church.

†**7.** A provincial synod: cf. PROVINCE 3. *Obs.*

1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 25 A partie conceaveing himself wronged by a session, may appeall to the Provinciall and Superintendent, (Presbyteries were not as yit erected). 1643 R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1841) II. 70 At our last Provinciall in Glasgow we resolved to be no longer silent. 1654 LAMONT *Diary* (Maitl.Cl.) 81 The fast (appointed by the prouinciall of Fyfe, at Kirkekaldie, 1654).

†**8.** A kind of lizard. *Obs. rare.*

1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 301 Take the dung of a Lyzart, (which is called a Provincial)) and beate it into powder.

9. In other elliptical uses: e.g. a provincial newspaper.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Apr. 2/1 All four men included here are commonly given a full report in the *Times*, and on first-class occasions a full report in the greater provincials.

Provi·ncialate. [f. PROVINCIAL *sb.* 2 + -ATE 1.] The office or period of office of a provincial; ecclesiastical headship.

1906 *Tablet* 29 Sept. 482 It was during his Provincialate that the fourth Congregation of Westminster took place.

Provincialism (provi·nʃăliz'm). [f. PROVINCIAL *a.* + -ISM. So mod.F. *provincialisme.*]

1. *Politics.* Attachment to one's own province,

its institutions, interests, etc., before those of the nation or state of which it is a part; provincial patriotism; desire for the autonomy of the province or provinces rather than national unity.

1820 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* I. 245/2 The prevalence of a spirit of provincialism—and the factions into which the capital was split. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1867) III. 27 The inherent view of the Netherland polity was already a tendency to decentralisation and provincialism. 1873 *Spectator* 23 Aug. 1061/1 The Welsh themselves admit that the meeting tends to maintain their provincialism, their separateness, and their pride of pedigree. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 26 June 4/3 The keynote of Spanish life, both in town and country, is provincialism. His *pueblo* and his province are infinitely more to a Spaniard than his mother country.

2. Provincial character or peculiarity; the manner, fashion, mode of thought, etc., which characterize a particular province, or 'the provinces' generally, as distinct from that which is (or is held to be) national, or which is the fashion of the capital; hence, narrowness of view, thought, or interests, roughness of speech or manners as distinct from the polish of the court or capital.

1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* (1876) 296 There is a provincialism of mind as well as of accent—a nationality of counties. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* II. 491 It might be said that there was narrowness and provincialism in this. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 204 Perhaps the narrowest provincialism is that of Self. 1872 — *Dante* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 182 Dante was..incapable of intellectual provincialism. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Oct. 2/2 This idea was fostered by the London Unionist Press, but that Press was afflicted with a sort of metropolitan provincialism.

b. with *a* and *pl.* A peculiarity confined to a certain area; a local peculiarity or variety.

1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* 127 Ecclesiastical architecture has its provincialisms like dialects. 1848 *Rickman's Goth. Archit.* (ed. 5) p. xxxvii, Windows of this character are common in the northern part of Oxfordshire, and may be considered as a provincialism.

3. *esp.* The manner of speech characteristic of a particular province; with *pl.*, A local word, phrase, or peculiarity of pronunciation which is not part of the standard language of a country.

1793 MARSH *Michaelis' New Test.* I. iv. § 13. 176 Inscriptions..of singular service..in explaining the provincialisms and idiotisms. 1798 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 221 Perhaps you will find many of the expressions provincialisms, which are familiar to my ears. 1851 GALLENGA *Italy* I. III. ii. 305 The style was thought to be harsh and uncouth; the language full of Lombard provincialism. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 28 Buchanan, Bellenden, and Johnston had their provincialisms and peculiarities, as Livy the Paduan, and Sallust the Sabine had.

Provincialist (prově·nʃălist). [f. as prec. + -IST.]

1. A native or inhabitant of a province, or of the 'provinces', as distinct from the capital; = PROVINCIAL *sb.* 4, 5.

Originally in reference to the French provinces.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xli. (1674) 57 Provincialists are more troubled at the immodesty of an Officers favorite, than at a foul insolency committed by a Townsman. 1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* I. 26 A fact of which the mere Provincialists..do not appear to be yet sufficiently apprized. 1817 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXXII. 204 Such practical skill comes of itself in condensed masses of population, and it is this which gives the Londoner his advantage over the provincialist. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 969 He thus spared the [ancient Roman] provincialists those burthens which must else have alighted upon them. 1871 H. R. HAWEIS *Thoughts for Times* (1872) 44 His ways are inscrutable to small-minded provincialists.

b. (See quot.) *rare*⁻⁰.

1882 OGILVIE, *Provincialist*, one who uses provincialisms.

c. An actor in 'provincial' theatres.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 4/3 The grievance at the Théâtre Français might well be aired by our 'provincialists', both male and female.

2. A supporter or advocate of provincialism, or of the rights or claims of a province. Cf. PROVINCIAL *sb.* 4, 4 b.

1708 OCKLEY *Saracens* (Bohn) 446 There was only a small party, supported by a few provincialists, in the interest of Abdallah. 1766 *Gazetteer* 11 Feb. 1/2 The latest accounts from New-York..seem to indicate, that a repeal of the Stamp Act will only encrease those provincialists to further demands.

Provinciality (provinʃi,æ·liti). [f. PROVINCIAL *a.* + -ITY.] The quality or condition of being provincial; the pettiness or narrowness of interests, feeling, or view that is apt to be associated with this; an example of this, a provincial trait.

1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 243 This Scotch spirit, this provinciality of public zeal, pervades the pamphlet before us. 1864 M. ARNOLD *Ess. in Crit.* ii. (1875) 70 In the bulk of the intellectual work of a nation which has no centre, no intellectual metropolis..there is observable a note of provinciality. Now to get rid of provinciality is a certain stage of culture. 1869 — *Cult. & An.* Pref., In what we call *provinciality* they [the Nonconformists] abound, but in what we may call *totality* they fall short. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Aug. 1/1 The petty personalities, the mean ambitions, and narrow provincialities of too many of his opponents.

b. *spec.* in reference to speech or writing.

1782 T. WARTON *Eng. Poems Rowley* 46 That circumstance must have added greatly to the provinciality, and consequently to the unintelligibility, of the poem. 1798 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) V. 150 A hardness in sounding the consonants, which mark the provinciality of Derbyshire and Lancashire. 1805 *Monthly Mag.* XX. 30 The provinciality of their accent..greatly offends the English ear.

Provincialize (provi·nʃălaiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To write or speak in a provincial dialect.

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XVI. 306 As it appears that Peter provincialized and was unlearned, he probably wrote in the vernacular tongue.

2. *trans.* To make provincial; to give a provincial character or name to.

1829 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVI. 171 That nothing be done which would have the effect of provincialising the literature. 1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2392 None of your correspondents have provincialized the names of our water-birds. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 31 Dec. 2/1 Every branch of [Indian] expenditure, in fact, that was not of necessity Imperial..was provincialized.

3. *intr.* To become provincial.

1892 *Black & White* 6 Aug. 150/1 Men's minds do not always widen, they sometimes 'provincialise' with the process of the suns.

Provi·ncially, *adv.* [f. PROVINCIAL *a.* + -LY 2.] In a provincial manner or capacity.

1628 J. DOUGHTY *Serm. Church-schismes* 25 About Lent and autumne they ordained councels provincially to be held. 1681 NEVILE *Plato Rediv.* 79 We have the same Foundations that all other Aristocracies have, who Govern but one City, and have no Territory but what they Govern Provincially. 1704 *Addr. Durham* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4049/1 We.., the Clergy of this Diocese, having been already Provincially Represented to Your Majesty.

Provi·ncialship. [f. PROVINCIAL *sb.* + -SHIP.] The office or dignity of a provincial in an ecclesiastical or religious order.

1629 WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* iii. 29 His place..was Prefect of the English Mission, which is now by dispensation from the Pope conuerted into a Prouinciall-ship. 1679 OATES *Narr. Popish Plot* 7 The Father General of the Society of Jesus.. had conferred the Provincialship upon Thomas White. 1867 R. PALMER *Life P. Howard* 79 The provincialship was made an honorary title.

Provinciate (provi·nʃi,ĕt), *sb.* [f. L. *prōvincia* PROVINCE + -ATE 1.] = prec.

1857 G. OLIVER *Cath. Relig. Cornw.* 465 Filling the office of the provinciate from 1806 to 1810.

† **Provi·nciate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ATE 2.] Reduced to the state of a province.

1671 R. MACWARD *True Nonconf.* 19 Restoring the jews to their own Land, Religion and Laws, but only with a provinciat liberty.

Provi·nciate, *v.* [f. as prec. + -ATE 3.] *trans.* To reduce to the condition of a province or of provincials. Hence **Provi·nciated** *ppl. a.*

1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* (1635) 209 *note*, He means the Provinciated part of Britaine. 1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 56 When there was a Designe to Provinciate the whole Kingdome. 1783 W. F. MARTYN *Geog. Mag.* II. 391 The greatest part of Britain becoming provinciated. 1881 W. MARSHALL *Hist. Scenes Perth.* 374 The provinciated Britons were employed to cut down the woods.

Provine (prəvəi·n), *v.* [ad. F. *provignier* (3rd s. *provigne*), *-vaignier*, *-veignier* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), f. OF. *provain*, mod.F. *provin* :—L. *prō-pāgin-em* young shoot, slip, or layer. See PROPAGATE *v.*] *trans.* To propagate (a vine or the like) by layering. Also *absol.*, and *intr.* in *pass.* sense. Hence **Provi·ning** *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 31 Now also to prouyne is not the werst [L. *Nunc et propago iure ducetur*]. *a* 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. xii. (1589) 14 The father and mother sendeth them out in couples as it were by prouining or propagation. [*Margin*] Prouining, or propagation, is when a man layeth a branch of a..tree into the ground, so that it taketh roote of it self. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 198 This was not the right Cinnamon-tree, but.. 'twas impossible to make it provine. 1866 FLEMING & TIBBINS *Fr. Dict.* II. 844/1 *Provignement*,..provining. *Provigner*, to provine, to lay a branch of a vine in the ground to take root, to layer.

Proving (prū·viŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see PROVE *v.*; also 3 **preofunge**, 6 **preeving.** [f. PROVE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of PROVE *vb.*

1. Testing, trial, probation; † experience. Now *arch.* or *techn.* (See also 6.)

c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 335 Man, woltou make a god prouing, Wher þu loue þe heuene king? *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 19 Þai at haf felid the suetnes in þaire saule.., and knawis it be prouynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Jas.* i. 3 The prouyng [1388 preuyng] of 3oure feith werchith pacience. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 18 Hegh preuyng of our fay. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1366 [He] Bad him stay at ease till further preeving. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 287 (*Gun-maker*) Proving..consists in loading each barrel with a ball of its own size upon as much powder as the ball weighs. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* i. (1862) 112 A proving of men's temperance..in the midst of abundance.

† **2.** A proof, a demonstration. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 Sutel preofunge is þet heo was muchel one, þe heold so silence.

3. The obtaining probate (of a will).

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 25 For provyng of testamentys. 1633 SPELMAN *Prob. Wills* Wks. 1723 II. 129 The ancient manner of opening, publishing, or as we call it, proving of Wills.

4. The action of showing to be true, genuine, or valid; demonstration.

a 1533 FRITH *Another Bk. agst. Rastell* 336 The proving of good works doth neither make for purgatory nor against it. 1827 WHATELY *Logic* II. iii. (ed. 2) 246 One might.. define Proving, 'the assigning of a reason or argument for the support of a given proposition'. 1898 SIR W. CROOKES in *Daily News* 8 Sept. 6/3 It has been said that 'Nothing worth the proving can be proved nor yet disproved'.

† **5.** Turning out; issue; thriving. (PROVE *v.* 10.)

a 1529 SKELTON *El. Rummyng* 185 God gyve it yll preuynge.

6. *attrib.* chiefly in sense 1, in names of things used in some testing process: see quots.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Proving-press*, an apparatus for testing the strength of iron girders, and other castings, by pressure. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Proving-machine*, one for testing the resistance of springs or the strength of materials...*Proving-pump*, a forcing-pump for testing boilers, tubes, etc. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Proving-hole*, a small heading driven to find and follow a coal-seam lost by a dislocation. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 July 5/2 Experiments are being made at the Sandy Hook proving grounds.

Proving (prū·viŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That proves, in various senses: Trying, testing; affording proof; thriving: see the verb.

1620 *Form of Service* in Sprot *Scott. Liturgies Jas. VI* (1901) 5 After experience both of thy manifold goodness and proving corrections. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 26 To think, that one such proving lad should make recompense ..for those many weak ones. 1824 H. CAMPBELL *Love Lett. Mary Q. Scots* Pref. 9 The proving argument was in them.

Provinour. In 5 **provynour.** [a. OF. *provigneur*, agent-n. from *provignier*: see PROVINE *v.*] A propagator. (In quot. app. a multiplier or disseminator of a narrative.)

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 277 Go fforth thow dreme! I sende the By all the placys wher thow hast be; I send the to thy provynours, By all the pathys & the tovrs.

† **Provi·sal.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as PROVISE *v.* + -AL.] An arrangement, provision.

1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 28 So were the difficulties of making new provisals wonderfully great.

† **Provi·se,** *sb. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōvīs-um*, neut. pa. pple. of *prōvidēre* to PROVIDE; cf. PROVISO.] That which is provided or arranged beforehand; a provision, arrangement; a stipulation, proviso.

1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 50 Here is the Copye of the provyse for the lyuelote of the churche. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xi. 22 The grauntour maye make a prouycion in his graunt...And this prouyse had, the landes be charged and the person discharged. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 148/7 A Prouise, *prouisum, i.*

† **Provi·se,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōvīs-*, ppl. stem of *prōvidēre* to foresee, PROVIDE.]

1. *trans.* To foresee; = PROVIDE *v.* 1.

14.. in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 178 Men provysyde before þat the vyntage..shulde come owre Scheters Hylle. 1625 WALTER *Diary* (Camden) 84 A fleet of seven or nine Hollanders not far from, provising some disturbance in their ships, drew near.

2. To provide, furnish, or supply beforehand.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. iv, The dogge provysed and broughte with hym fals wytnes.

Provision (provi·ʒən), *sb.* Also 4–6 with *y* for *i*, *c* for *s*, *ou* for *o* (5 *Sc.* **-wisioune**, 6 **-vysshion**, **-vytyon**, *Sc.* **-visiun**, 7 **-vission**). [a. F. *provision* (1320 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōvīsiōn-em* a foreseeing, forethought, precaution, providing, prevention, n. of action f. *prōvidēre* to PROVIDE.]

† **1.** Foresight, PREVISION; *esp.* (with trace of sense 2) foresight carefully exercised; looking ahead. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 22 For all cometh of Jhesu—Conseul, confort, discrecion, and prudence, Provysion for sight and provydence. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iv. (1570) C vj b/2, But goodly vertue a lady moste ornate Within gouerneth with great prouision. *c* 1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 276 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 89 Giue with good. will, and auoyde thy ennemye with prouisyon.

2. The action of providing; seeing to things beforehand; preparing, or arranging in advance; the fact or condition of being prepared or made ready beforehand.

1456 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 292 Payd to Joh. Wedurby..for þe provicion and makyng of these premisses of the welcomyng of oure Souerayn lady the quene. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 [Phormion] þersauand thir tua princis entir in his scule, ..but prouisione, he began to teche the ordour of the veyris. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. ii. (Arb.) 67 Letts both go spend our litle store, In the prouision of due furniture. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 28. 1655 MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 6 According to occasion given and means afforded, *Ex re natâ*, and no need of Provision before-hand. 1879 HUXLEY *Hume* i. (1881) 15 Due provision for education..is a right and, indeed, a duty of the state.

b. *esp.* The providing or supplying of necessaries for a household, an expedition, etc.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonce* v, This thre felawes made so grete prouysyon of flour for to make theyr pylgremage. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* D viij b, Such necessaries and prouisions as are to be made, as of Butter, Cheese, Hering, Wood, Cole, and other whatsoeuer. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 52, I would not have him live at his owne provision, (especially in France) it will hinder his profiting, and onely further him with some few kitchen and market phrases. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colonial Corn* 23 It is the same surplus of population above the provision of necessaries, that is availing for the promotion..of the arts of peace.

c. Phr. *To make* († *have, take*) *provision*, to make previous arrangement or preparation *for*, or for the supply or benefit of; to provide *for*. † *To*

put provision to, to provide against (*obs.*). † *To take provision of*, to have recourse to (*obs.*).

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 321 The man imprisonede askede respite that he myȝhte make ordinaunce and prouision for his wife and childer. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 272 Quhill eft for him prowisioune we may mak. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 435 þe wardeyns shuld..pay for their costes vnto such tyme that provision myght be taken howe such charge & coste shuld be boron. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxvii. 101 But yf thou putte a prouysyon therto shortly, thou shalt, are thre dayes be passed, see thy self beseged wythin the cyte. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. 241 All this season the kynge of Englande made great provisyon to come into France. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 111 Some prouysyon for the second bretherne, by the ordur of law, also wold be had. 1622 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 209 If there were not a present surrendry made, England must take provision of arms. 1766 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 II. 358 The more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Vanderput & S.* viii. 125 No provision made for his daughter's residence. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 64/2 Provision should be made for the illustrations of the lectures by monster diagrams.

3. The action of God in providing for his creatures; the divine ordination and over-ruling of events; the providential dealing of the Divine Being; providence; the action of Providence.

c 1450 *Mankind* 188 in *Macro Plays* 8 To..yelde ws wndur Godis provycyon. 1483 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* III. (1520) 27/1 In his dayes peas was over all the worlde through the provysyon of the very god. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 90 When the prouysyon of God sendyth vs sesonabul weddur. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 13 The conservatioun, provisioun, protectioun and governans quhilk God hes of all his creaturis. 1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. x. 32 If we woulde consider all things well, we shall see the provision of God marvellous in it.

4. *Eccl.* Appointment to a see or benefice not yet vacant; *esp.* such appointment made by the pope in derogation of the right of the regular patron: cf. PROVIDE *v.* 6. Also, the document conferring such an appointment. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1350–1 *Act* 25 *Edw. III*, Stat. iv. (Stat. of Provisors), Et en cas qe dascune Erceveschee, Eveschee, dignite ou autre quecunqe benefice, soit reservacion, collacion, ou provision faite per la courte de Rome, en desturbance des eleccions, collacions ou presentacions [etc.].]

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 416 Bigynne we at eleccioun or provysyouns of þe pope. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 339 þe kyng fordede provisiouns þat þe pope hadde i-graunted, and hoted þat no man schulde..brynge suche provisiouns uppon peyne of prisonement. 1538 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 142 The statute of Kynge Rycharde the seconde..of prouisyon and premunire. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 62 The Bishops of Rome..drew away all the wealth of the realm by their provisions and infinite exactions. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. viii. 107 Papal provisions were the previous nomination to such benefices, by a kind of anticipation, before they became actually void; though afterwards indiscriminately applied to any right of patronage exerted or usurped by the pope. 1852 HOOK *Ch. Dict.* 617. 1899 *Reg. John de Grandisson* III. Pref. 5 He held this Office till his Provision to the Bishoprick of Exeter.

5. Something provided, prepared, or arranged in advance; measures taken beforehand; a preparation, a previous arrangement; a measure provided to meet a need; a precaution.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* I. xcix. 73 Augmentynge his Kyngdome by knyghtly bataylles, and other worldly prouycyons. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. i. 15 Excepte ther be joynyd some gud prouysyon for theyr [the seeds'] spryngyng vp and gud culture. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* I. xvii. (1634) 91 Hee hath given us provisions and remedies. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 497 By how much less the tender helpless Kind, For their own Ills, can fit Provision find. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 129 It will follow..that a provision which was proper for the time, may not be now effectual. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* ii. 33 There was no step for a mast, nor provision for a rudder. 1907 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 538 Trinity College is not, however, a sufficient provision for the educational needs of Ireland.

6. A supply of necessaries or materials provided; a stock or store of something.

1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 68 þat þei [monks and nuns] schuld not fayle of here dayly prouysion. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lvii. 193 He..hath slayn my men & led awaye all my bestes & prouysyon. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* civ. 16 He called for a derth vpon the londe and destroyed all the prouysion of bred. 1578 BOURNE *Inventions* 3 He [ship's surgeon] .. to have all such prouisions as is meete for his purpose in readinesse, to the end to dresse the hurt men. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 59, I stayed here to gett some prouisions, as hoopes, tallow, tarre, pitch, wine, bread. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. § 27 The Provision of Words is so scanty in respect of that infinite Variety of Thoughts, that Men..will..be forc'd often to use the same Word, in somewhat different Senses. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 57 The Wood, and other numberless Country Provisions. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 202 Here they deposit their provision of nuts and acorns.

† **b.** *transf.* A warrant for such a supply. *rare.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Fffiv b, I sende the a prouision, to the entente that a shyp maie be gyuen the.

7. *spec.* A supply of food; food supplied or provided; now chiefly *pl.* supplies of food, victuals, eatables and drinkables.

[See 1451, *a* 1533 in 6.]

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 394 The English for want of provisions were forced to breake up Siege. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* II. 402 With that Both Table and Provision vanish'd quite. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 35 ¶ 8 She condemns me to live upon salt provision. 1773 *Observ. State Poor* 65 A period, wherein the price of provisions is exorbitant. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 75/1 A variety of wholesome and nutritious roots cultivated in [Jamaica] are called by the name of *ground provisions*; such as the yam [etc.]. 1860 NARES *Naval Cadets' Guide* 68 *Wet provisions.* Beef, pork, suet, vinegar, rum and lime juice... *Dry provisions*, Peas, oatmeal, chocolate, tea, flour, raisins, sugar. 1866 *Morn. Star* 8 Mar., Mr. Poland said..he should contend that tea was not 'provisions' within the meaning of the Act. Mr. Baylis said he should contend that it was. If a provision merchant were victualling a ship, and did not put tea amongst his provisions, he would not be considered to have provisioned her.

8. Each of the clauses or divisions of a legal or formal statement, or such a statement itself, providing for some particular matter; also, a clause in such a statement which makes an express stipulation or condition; a proviso.

Applied in English History to certain early statutes or ordinances. *Provisions of Oxford*, ordinances for checking the king's misrule, and for the reformation of the government, drawn up at a meeting of the barons (nicknamed the Mad Parliament) held at Oxford, under the leadership of Sir Simon de Montfort, in 1258 (38 Henry III). Among the chief of these provisions were that parliaments should be held thrice in the year, and that four knights should be chosen by the freeholders of each county to ascertain and lay before parliament all wrongs committed by the royal officers. The refusal of the King to abide by these Provisions led to the Barons' War in 1264.

1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 74/2 So alwey, that this Provision be not available or beneficiall to the persones aforenamed. 1523 [see PROVISE *sb.*]. [1701 *Cowell's Interpr.* s.v., The Acts to restrain the exorbitant abuse of Arbitrary Power made in the Parliament at Oxford 1258, were called *Provisiones*, being to provide against the King's Absolute Will and Pleasure.] 1781 T. GILBERT *Relief Poor* 14, I think some Provisions may be introduced into this Bill..for encouraging the Marriage of Persons who have been placed out by the Parishes as Servants or Apprentices. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 106 The principles and the provisions of the Bill would have shown..precisely what we wanted. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. xi. 330 These provisions struck at the heart of the presbyterian party. 1878 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* viii. (1900) 204 The half-brothers of..Henry III..had been banished in consequence of their opposition to the Provisions of Oxford.

† **9.** A commission or percentage charged on mercantile transactions by an agent or factor. *rare.*

(So F. *provision*, Ger. *provision*, in same sense.)

1589 WOTTON *Lett.* (see ed. 1907 I. 228), I have..two billes of exchaunge to his factor in Stode, there to receave the like summ in the currant money of that Cuntrie, without any manner of provision as the merchantes call it, a pacefied word for it. 1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 135 For Courtagie of Exchanges, whether in drawing or remitting, usually one *per mille* is allowed for Provisions for drawing and remitting, each half *per cent.* *Ibid.* 170 Provision is the Reward the Factor receives from his Principal..for his trouble.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, mainly in sense 7, as *provision-bag, -basket, -boat, contractor, -craft, -dealer, -depot, -merchant, -money, -sack, -trade*; **provision-ant**, the provident ant; **provision-ground**, in the W. Indies, etc., ground allotted for the growing of food-stuffs; **provision-making**, the making of provision; **provision-pay**, pay in kind.

1838 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 379 They were careful like the *provision-ant. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xvi. 168 Our *provision-bags were of assorted sizes. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 394 One of the principal thieves was..in a *provision-boat along-side. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 27 May 3/2 A *provision contractor of the first eminence. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xxxviii. V. 45 Crews of the *provision-craft and ships of burthen. 1834 *Picture of Liverpool* 73 Mr. Edward Thomas, *provision dealer. 1766 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 155/2 Great damage was done to the *provision-grounds. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, The 'provision grounds' of the Negros are very interesting. 1564 BECON *Wks.* Gen. Pref. A v, With hospitalitie, or *prouision making for the poore. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Provision-merchant*, a general dealer in articles of food. 1692 S. SEWALL *Lett.-Bk.* (1886) I. 7 Some of the *Provision-Pay was Wheat, which I sold, for Indian Corn. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog-Myrtle & Peat* IV. ii, The latest canons of..retail *provision-trade taste.

Provision (provi·ʒən), *v.* [f. prec. Cf. F. *provisionner* (1556 in Godef.).] *trans.* To supply with provisions or stores; *esp.* to supply with a stock of food. **b.** *intr.* (for *refl.*) To supply oneself with provisions; to lay in provisions.

[1805: see PROVISIONED *ppl. a.*]. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 47 Maize..is depended upon, for provisioning the canoes. 1818 TODD, *Provision*, to supply with provision. 1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 428 Tempted to laugh at the style in which the Wyatts have provisioned. 1851 DIXON *W. Penn* xxiii. (1872) 203 Every man had to be provisioned for the longer term. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 101 He raised a regiment of horse and provisioned it.

Hence **Provi·sioning** *vbl. sb.*

1868 HELPS *Realmah* xii. (1876) 335 The provisioning of the town for a protracted siege. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiv. 339 An excellent point for the gathering and provisioning of armies.

Provisional (provi·ʒənăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PROVISION *sb.* + -AL. So obs. F. *provisionnal* (*c* 1485 in Hatz.-Darm.), mod.F. *provisionnel*.]

1. Of, belonging to, or of the nature of a temporary provision or arrangement; provided or adopted for present needs or for the time being; supplying the place of something regular, permanent, or final; also, accepted or used in default of something better. *Provisional callus*: see quot. 1856.

1601 J. WHEELER *Treat. Comm.* 41 Hee and they were glad and fayne to come to a prouisionall agreement. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 68 Sir Arthur Sauage..was appointed prouisionall Gouernour of the Prouince of Connaght. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 192 The Church should not be without a provisional Pastor. 1803 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 148 Look at the power given to the President by the provisional government of Louisiana. 1856 DRUITT *Surg. Vade Mecum* 217 The formation of what is called a provisional callus, that is to say, a ferrule of new bone encircling both fragments. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* XI. i. (1875) 399 The intellectual spirit does not regard its conclusions as being at any time final, but always provisional. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 158 This primary caudal fin..is only a provisional formation.

† **b.** Preparatory, preliminary. *Obs.*

1619 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 83 That Sessions consultatory and Provisional shall be private, but Sessions wherein they discuss and conclude shall be publick.

† **2.** Characterized by or exhibiting careful foresight; provident. *Obs. rare.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 523 Either from a pressing necessity, or a foreseeing and prouisionall carefulnes. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 370 The Wise God that foresaw this Sin..was not wanting in providing a fit provisional Remedy against it. 1763 GOLDSM. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) II. 505 This provisional care in every species of quadrupeds, of bringing forth at the fittest seasons.

† **3.** Of, belonging to, or done with a proviso; conditional. *Obs.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Provisional*,..done by way of *Proviso*. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Provisional*..belonging to a Proviso. 1808 BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 3 There is enough in it to afford an ample justification to the provisional acceptance your Lordship has been pleased to give to it.

4. Of or relating to provisions or supplies. *rare.*

1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 228 Both words [plenty and abundance]..are metaphorically applied to the provisional state of the country, to its eatable stock. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 509 From Covent garden..we must take a peep at the other points of provisional concentration about town.

B. *sb.* **1.** Something that is provisional.

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Aug. 3/1 'Provisional' labels had to be issued while the real stamps were being engraved. The collector treasures a 'provisional' above most things.

† **2.** One for whom provision is made; one provided for. *Obs.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 316 A Popish Pervert and a Protestant Convert are indeed two different Provisionals.

Hence **Provisiona·lity**, provisionalness.

1821 *Examiner* 821/2 Open your eyes..and you will see that provisionality itself is infused into all the branches of your system. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 765/1 There was a terrible provisionality about the whole business.

Provi·sionally, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a provisional manner; as a temporary measure.

1602 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 247 We are content prouisionally to warrant your proceedings in any thing you doe or publish in Our name. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2729/3 The Place..is given provisionally to the Count de Clermont; till the arrival of the Elector of Bavaria. 1793 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 149 His personal virtues..make him the fittest to authorize this arrangement provisionally. 1878 NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* III. ii. 266 This hydrogen is always mixed with another substance, provisionally called helium.

Provi·sionalness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being provisional.

1874 MORLEY *Compromise* 168 It is no reason why [they] should think solely of the utility and forget the equally important element of its provisionalness. 1891 CHEYNE *Bampton Lect.* p. xxviii, Our arguments must for the most part bear the stamp of provisionalness.

Provisionary (provi·ʒənări), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. PROVISION *sb.* + -ARY 1.]

1. = PROVISIONAL *a.* 1.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 86 His Lordship..appointed Sir Iohn Barkeley to supplie his place of Prouisionarie Gouernour of the Prouince of Connaght. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xv. I. 456 A provisionary scheme intended to last only till the coming of the Messiah. 1794 HERON *Inform. Powers at War* 30 A provisionary government was appointed. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* iii. 58 In practical life probable evidence only raises a provisionary belief.

† **2.** That foresees and provides for the future; provident; = PROVISIONAL *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lii. (1739) 93 To cast the government of the persons of their Wards out of the view of the Lords provisionary care. 1699 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) II. II. i. iii. 89 [Nature's] provisionary Care and Concern for the whole Animal. 1784 SIR J. REYNOLDS *Disc.* xii. (1876) 47 The provisionary methods Demosthenes and Cicero employed to assist their invention.

3. Of or pertaining to papal provisions: see PROVISION *sb.* 4.

1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* II. i. 436 The Archbishop of York., was by the pope's provisionary bulls translated to Canterbury. 1856 MRS. H. O. CONANT *Eng. Transl. Bible* iii. (1881) 19 *note*, The sale of these provisionary grants was a source of large income to the Papal courts.

† **4.** Of or pertaining to provisions or food-supply; = PROVISIONAL *a.* 4. *Obs. rare*—1.

1613–18 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 41 For his prouisionary reuenues..the Kings Tenants..payd no money at all; but onely Victualls, Wheate, Beifes, Muttons [etc.].

5. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a proviso, a provision, or provisions (in a law, etc.).

1774 BURKE *Amer. Tax.* 8 The preamble of this law..has the lie direct given to it by the provisionary part of the act.

Provi·sioned (-ənd), *ppl. a.* [f. PROVISION *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] Supplied with provisions; *esp.* furnished with a stock of food.

1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 40 We were now pro-

visioned, but were still in want of water. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 414 The ships of war were not half manned or half provisioned. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Nov. 2/1 We clattered down to the second 'Hospice'—a sort of provisioned hut—and took what luncheon we could get.

Provi·sioner. [f. PROVISION *v.* + -ER 1.] One who provisions; one who supplies or deals in provisions. Hence **Provi·sioneress**, a female provisioner.

1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* vii. 102 Provisioners .. who bring fresh milk in bottles. 1894 — in *Cosmopolitan* XVII. 58 The display was on either side of the provisioner's door. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 79 Then arose the provisioneress and .. set the table by the fountain.

Provi·sionless, *a.* [f. PROVISION *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no provision; without provisions.

1796 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 236 The air clipt keen, the night was fanged with frost, And they provisionless! 1894 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 9 June, There is the suffering of those whose interests are directly affected by the strike, the penniless purses and the provisionless pantries.

Provi·sionment. [f. PROVISION *v.* + -MENT.] The supplying or supply of provisions.

1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. xxiii. 363 His last remaining anxiety was for the provisionment of Barcelona. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 42 Profiting by the facilities afforded .. towards the provisionment of his capital.

† **Provi·sive,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōvīs-*, ppl. stem of *prōvid-ēre* to PROVIDE + -IVE.] **a.** Conditional, contingent; = PROVISIONAL *a.* 3. **b.** Prudent, foreseeing; = PROVIDENT *a.* 1.

1650 HOBBES *De Corp. Pol.* 186 Declarations .. concerning Future Actions .. Promissive .. or Provisive, as for example, 'If this be done or not done this will follow'. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. IV. 443 God therefore is the Maker and Provisor, and his good wil is the effective, contentive and provisive Virtue.

Proviso (prōvəi·zo). Pl. **-oes** (6–7 **-os**). [a. L. *prōvīsō*, abl. neut. sing. pa. pple. of *prōvid-ēre* to PROVIDE, as used in med.L. legal phrase *prōvīsō quod* 'it being provided that' (1350 in Du Cange).]

‖ **1.** The L. ablative absolute = 'it being provided', used conjunctively. *Obs. rare.*

1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* (1635) 47 Not extendable for the debts of the party after his death: *proviso*, not to put away the land from his next heire. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. xiv. 350 If this be an excursion, let it be pardoned, *Proviso*, that we remember that the Planets have the great hand in this remarkable Tempest.

2. A clause inserted in a legal or formal document, making some condition, stipulation, exception, or limitation, or upon the observance of which the operation or validity of the instrument depends; a condition; hence, generally, a stipulation, provision.

1467 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 421 Item, [the price] for do makenge of provyso is xx.*d.* 1473 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 84/2 Grauntes made by us .. excepte and forprised oute of this proviso. 1485 *Act* 1 *Hen. VII*, c. 9 Notwithstondyng eny acte ordenance graunt or proviso in this present parliament made. 1489 in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 93 With the same condicions and provisoes. *Ibid.* 94. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 15 The seid acte of restitucion wyth the Provysowes conteyned in the same. 1610 *Histrio-m.* VI. 236 Sirs, those provisos will not serve the turn. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) Advt., The papists *per proviso* were such as had provisoes in that act [the Act of Settlement]. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 260 Lucerne will grow very well in clay land, with proviso the ground works well. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 298 The Major Premise of the sophism is not true except with a proviso or limitation. 1878 F. HARRISON in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 692 There are some other provisoes with which I think it is necessary to guard Austin's analyses of primary legal notions.

† **b.** *Trial by proviso*: a trial at the instance of the defendant in a case in which the plaintiff, after issue joined, did not proceed to trial. *Obs.*

[1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Proviso*, .. if the plaintife or demandaunt desist in prosecuting an action, by bringing it to a triall, the defendant or tenent may take out the *venire facias* to the Shyreeue: which hath in it these words, *Proviso quod*, &c. to this ende, that if the plaintife take out any writ to that purpose, the shyreeue shall summon but one Iurie vpon them both.] 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxiii. 357 The defendant .. willing to discharge himself from the action, will himself undertake to bring on the trial... Which proceeding is called the trial by *proviso*; by reason of the clause then inserted in the sheriff's *venire*, viz. '*proviso*, that if two writs come to your hands .. you shall execute only one of them'.

3. *Naut.* See quot. 1867.

1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ix. 45 To more a Prouiso, is to haue one anchor in the riuer, and a hawser a shore, which is mored with her head a shore. 1710 in J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Proviso*, a stern-fast or hawser carried to the shore to steady by. A ship with one anchor down and a shore-fast is moored *a proviso*.

Provisor (prōvəi·zəɹ, -ɔɹ). [ME. *provisour*, a. AF. *provisour* (quot. 1339 in 1) = F. *proviseur* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *prōvīsōr-em* a provider, agent-n. f. *prōvīd-ēre* to PROVIDE.]

I. 1. The holder of a provision or grant (esp. from the pope) giving him the right to be presented to a benefice on the occurrence of the next vacancy. (See PROVISION *sb.* 4.) *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

Statute of Provisors, the act 25 Edw. III, 1350–1, enacted to prevent the granting of these provisions by the pope; subsequent laws to the same effect were also so called.

[1339 *Year Bk. Mich.* 13 *Edw. III*, pl. 3 (Rolls) 5 Et il, nient aresteant la prohibicion, a la request dun provisour, .. fist clore le huys del Eglise .. en contempt du Roy, et encontre la prohibicion. 1350–1 *Act* 25 *Edw. III*, Stat. IV, Et en cas qe les presentes le Roi, ou les presentes dautres patrons .. soient desturbez per tieles provisours .. adonqes soient les ditz provisours attaches per lour corps.]

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* III. 142 Heo is priue with þe Pope, Prouisours hit knowen. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 303/1 The penaltee of the Statutes of provisours. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 349 The King .. granted them a Pardon for all offences against the Statutes of Provisors. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. viii. 111 Sharp and penal laws were enacted against provisors. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. ii. 104 Morton had gone beyond the limits of the statute of provisors in receiving powers from Pope Innocent. 1886 L. O. PIKE *Year Bks.* 13 & 14 *Edw. III*, Introd. 61 The Provisor became practically the King's presentee at a time when the Abbey was not vacant.

II. One who provides, purveys, or takes charge.

[In many specific uses in med.L.; cf. Du Cange: *Provisores Ecclesiarum* nuncupati Laici, qui earum bona & possessiones administrabant... *Provisores Exteriorum*, apud Præmonstratenses .. 'ad quos pertinet exteriora providere'. .. *Provisor Monasterii*, cui thesaurus Monasterii commissus erat.]

† **2.** One who is in charge; a manager, a supervisor; an agent, a deputy. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 224 There be nou many suche, I gesse, That lich unto the provisours Thei make here prive procurours, To telle hou ther is such a man, Which is worthi to love. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. i. 40 Whan þou hast crist .. he shal be þi prouisour, þy true procutour in all þinges. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* IV. ii. K iv, That kynge is not wel fortunat that lesith hym to whom his auctorite delegate aperteyneth who .. was prouysour of al the royame. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1535) 154 b, And reson whiche is prouisour declareth.

† **3.** One who provides or cares for another; a provider; a guardian, protector. *Obs.*

1503 HAWES *Examp. Virt.* VII. xliv, A kynge to be .. Vnto his subiectes .. a good prouysour. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XIX. xiv. (1620) 724 The prouisors are the commanders, as the husband ouer his wife; parents ouer their children and masters ouer their seruants: and they that are prouided for obey. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxxvii. 312 The poor Licentiat Gaspar Jorge, who termed himself Auditor Generall of the Indiaes, great Provisor of the deceased and Orphelins, and Superintendent of the Treasure of Malaca. 1677 [see PROVISIVE]. 1730 T. BOSTON *View Covt. Grace* (1771) 162 Their Shepherd, Provisor, Protector, King, Husband, Head.

† **4.** One who has charge of getting provisions; a purveyor; the steward or treasurer of a house, a monastery, etc. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1498 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 390 Item, .. giffin to the Gray Freris prouisour in Striuelin, to the bigging, lxvj lib. xiij s. iiij d. 1574 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 364 The saidis ministeris, redaris, and provisor of oure Soverane Lordis hous. 1578–9 *Ibid.* III. 93 The said Alexander being provisour of the saidis houssis .. payment sould have bene maid to him. 1584 *Ibid.* 655 Cuikis, and utheris provisouris of victuellis. 1631 HEYLIN *St. George* 106 The Caterer forsooth, or Provisor generall of Hogs-flesh for the armie. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici, Athanasius* 142 Provisor General of Pork for the Army. 1848 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. *Luther* 360 John Kestner of Wittenberg, provisor of the Cordeliers.

† **5.** = PROVEDITOR 1. *Obs. rare.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* II. (1599) 84 The army .. but little disposed (specially the prouisors of the Venetians) to put them selues any more in the arbitrement of fortune. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 280 As touching these prouisors whom they send in person with their armies vppon the land.

6. *R. C. Ch.* An ecclesiastic assisting an archbishop or bishop, and acting in his stead; a vicar-general; a deputy-inquisitor.

[Cf. Du Cange: *Provisor Episcopi*, Qui ejus vices gerit, nostris *Grand-Vicaire*.]

c 1560 FRAMPTON *Narration* in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xx. 231, I was sent for, and brought before the Bishop, the two Inquisitors, and the Provizor. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 453 The Bishop of Mexico, and his Prouisor. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 252 The Lord Nicholas Donati Generall Prouisor and Inquisitor in the Kingdome of Candia. 1625 *Gonsalvio's Sp. Inquis.* 44 Where all the Inquisitors .. sit in their seates of Maiestie, and besides them the Prouisor, as they tearme him, or deputy Ordinary of the Diocesse. 1823 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. 623 D. Francisco Castanedo, Canon of the holy Church of Jaen, Provisor and Vicar-general of that diocese. 1841 J. L. STEPHENS *Centr. Amer.* (1854) 10 A Roman Catholic priest .. on his way to Guatimala by invitation of the Provisor, by the exile of the Archbishop the head of the church.

Provisorily (prōvəi·zərĭli), *adv.* [f. PROVISORY + -LY 2.] In a provisory way; provisionally.

1801 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 278/1 The elections must provisorily be suspended. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* XXXIX. (1870) II. 396 It can only .. be admitted provisorily. 1892 *Monist* II. 199, I thus formed provisorily the view that Nature has two sides—a physical and a psychological side.

Provisorship (prōvəi·zəɹʃip). *rare.* [See -SHIP.] The office or position of a provisor.

1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* I. i, What's my place? The provisorship o' the horse? 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. XXVII. (1739) 122 The King hath no power thereby to confer Church-livings by Provisorship.

Provisory (prōvəi·zəri), *a.* [ad. F. *provisoire* or ad. med.L. **prōvīsōri-us*: see PROVISOR, -ORY 2.]

1. Subject to a provision or proviso; conditional.

1611 COTGR., *Provisoire*, prouisorie, conditionall, implying a limitation, including a prouiso. *a* 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 442 'Abide in me, and I in you'; if we take it provisory, Abide in me, and know that I shall then abide in you; or let me abide in you, or that I may abide in you. 1857 MAYNE REID *War-Trail* lxv, 'If yet in time'—ay, such provisory parenthesis was in my mind.

† **2.** Granting an ecclesiastical provision. *Obs.*

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 744 He was likewise by the Popes prouisorie Bulles, translated to Canterbury.

3. = PROVISIONAL *a.* 1.

1788 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 540 There remains an expression in the *Arret*, that it is provisory only. 1830 R. KNOX *Béclard's Anat.* 275 Bichat, M. Dupuytren, .. and others, have admitted that these external and internal ossifications are provisory. 1895 *Daily News* 20 June 5/7 It has been resolved .. that the nomination of a Provisory Government will be the best way out of the difficulty.

4. That makes provision for eventualities.

1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 222 To communicate secrets, delivered to her in strictest confidence, and imparted by her again with equal caution and provisory care, was the choicest occupation of her .. life.

Provo, Provoe (prōvō·), a spelling of PROVOST, representing a pronunciation after F. *prévôt* (*prevo*, formerly *prĕvō·*); cf. PROVOST *sb.* 7.

c 1675 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Satire Follies Age* Wks. (1752) 112 But if I laugh when the court-coxcombs show, To see the booby Sotus dance provoe; .. To me the name of railer strait you give. 1692 *Siege Lymerick* 6 The Prisoners were immediately put into the Provo's Custody. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4183/4 Duncan Robinson .. was .. sent to the Provo's. 1746 M. HUGHES *Jrnl. Late Rebell.* 7 The Duke .. ordered that seven Rebels should go down into the Well, take their dead Bodies out and bury them; which the Captain of the Provo saw done.

Provocable (prǫ·vōkăb'l), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *prōvocābil-is*, f. L. *prōvocāre* to PROVOKE; see -ABLE.] = PROVOKABLE.

1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. xxiii. § 5 Vespasian .. scarce prouocable to reuenge practice of treason. 1673 O. WALKER *Educ.* (1677) 55 Pardoning injuries .. and not provocable to injure another. 1770 RAWLINS *Serm. Worcester* 8 An unsteady Man, unmerciful, of a Spirit easily provocable, and revengeful.

Hence **Provocabi·lity.**

1834 *Autobiog. Dissenting Minister* 174 Cultivate a habit of placidity, in preference to .. provocability.

Provocant (prǫ·vōkănt). *rare.* [a. F. *provocant* (18th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) or ad. L. *prōvocānt-em*, pr. pple. of *prōvocāre* to PROVOKE.] One who provokes.

1894 WEYMAN *My Lady Rotha* xviii, It was very evident she was the provocant.

† **Pro·vocate,** *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *prōvocāt-us*, pa. pple. of *prōvocāre* to PROVOKE.] Provoked, stimulated, incited. Const. as *pa. pple.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Y, wyllenge to folowe the descriptores of the storye .., and as provocate thro thexemple of theim. *Ibid.* 15 Thro whiche labour .. grete men schalle be prouocate to exercise.

† **Pro·vocate,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *prōvocāt-*, ppl. stem of *prōvocāre* to PROVOKE.] *trans.* To provoke, call forth, incite.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 363 Guiderius .. did prouocate gretely the hate of the Romanes ageyne him. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 41/5 To Prouocate, *prouocare*.

Hence † **Pro·vocating** *ppl. a.*, provoking. *rare.*

1774 DIBDIN *Waterman* I. i, What a provocating creature!

Provocation (prǫvokē·ɪ·ʃən). [a. F. *provocation* (12–13th c.), ad. L. *prōvocātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōvocāre* to PROVOKE.] The action of provoking.

I. † **1.** The action of invoking the office of a court or judge; *esp.* the action of appealing to a higher ecclesiastical court against a judgement; an appeal.

1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25, I made an appell and a procuracie, and also a provocacion, at London. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 6 There to be diffinitiuely .. adiudged .. without any appelacion or prouocacion to any other .. courte. 1604 PARSONS *3rd Pt. Three Convers. Eng.* 434 This insolent bragg and prouocation to scripture by these artificers. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 72, I shall define such an Appeal to be a Provocation from an Inferiour to a Superiour Judge. *Ibid.*, A Provocation is every Act whereby the Office of the Judge or his Assistance is ask'd and implor'd. [1894 MRS. HOPE *First Divorce Hen. VIII* 337 Bonner repeated his protest, and presented Henry's 'provocation'.]

† **2.** The action of calling out to fight; a challenge, a defiance. *Obs.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* IX, The frensshman prouoked the Janueye to bataylle... The Januey accepted the prouocacion & came in the day assigned in to the felde. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxiv. 44 By meanes of prouocacion on eyther party vsed, lastly the Romaynes Issued oute of the Cytie and gaue Batayl to the Brytons.

3. The action of calling, inviting, or summoning; invitation, summons. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by 4.

1548 LD. SOMERSET *Epist. Scots* C j, God .. Whose callyng & prouocacion, we haue & will followe, to the beste of oure powers. *a* 1569 KINGESMYLL *Man's Est.* xiii. (1580) 97 Following the prouocation of the Prophete, whiche calleth men to the consideration of God's mercie by this call. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* Pref., I daily expected .. a card to drink tea with Misses Fairscribe, or a provocation to breakfast, at least, with my hospitable friend. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 116 The sudden light that leapt At the first word's provocation, from the heart-deeps where it slept.

II. 4. The action of inciting; incitement, impulse; instigation; an incentive, a stimulus.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 2076 Qwhat he did agayn þat nacion, þai made hym prowocacion. 1451 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* (E. E. T. S.) 71 Whan he was compelled be þe prouocacion of natur to go to bed and to rest. 1511–12 *Act* 3 *Hen. VIII*, c. 22 *Preamble*, The Kyng of Scottis .. cruell and haynous provocacions of Werre hath moeved .. ayenst your Highnesse. 1602 J. CLAPHAM *Hist. Eng.* I. 56 Those common prouocations of vices, namely sumptuous Galleries, hote bathes, and exquisite banquetings. 1678 R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* V. xi. 134 It is a constant Incitement

and Provocation, and lively Incouragement to every Man, to forsake Evil. 1848 W. H. Bartlett *Egypt to Pal.* xii. (1879) 265 If his statements were true, he had some provocation to call them by some of the hard names which he bestowed upon them. 1858 Doran *Crt. Fools* 112 It does not appear that wit was always the provocation to royal laughter.

5. The action or an act of provoking or exciting anger, resentment, or irritation.

1539 Bible (Great) *Ps.* xcv. 8 Harden not youre hertes, as in y* prouokacion. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 38 § 2 To the vtter destruction of their own soules, and the prouocacion of the terrible wrath of god. 1618 Rowlands *Sacred Mem.* 34 Then answered he, O faithlesse generation, How long shall I endure your Prouocation? 1736 Butler *Anal.* I. ii. (1874) 46 Suppositions..that he must be incapable of offence and provocation. 1876 Black *Madcap V.* xvii, You ought not to give way to your temper, under whatever provocation.

b. A cause of irritation, anger, or resentment.

1716 Addison *Freeholder* No. 40 ¶ 1 Writing is indeed a Provocation to the Envious and an Affront to the Ignorant. 1819 Wordsw. *Waggoner* iv. 178 This complicated provocation A hoard of grievances unsealed. 1878 T. L. Cuyler *Pointed Papers* 170 A most irritating provocation is thrown like a torpedo at our feet.

Provocative (prɒvɒ·kătiv), *a.* and *sb.* [As adj. a. obs. F. *provocatif* (1486 in Godef.), or ad. late L. *prōvocātīv-us*: see Provocate *ppl. a.* and -ive; as sb. ad. L. *prōvocātīv-um* neut. sing.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Having the quality of provoking, calling forth, or giving rise to (const. *of*); *spec.* apt or tending to excite or enrage; stimulating, irritating.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemplar* II. Ad Sect. xii. 99 Not to be hasty, rash, provocative, or upbraiding in our language. 1791 Paine *Rights of Man* (ed. 4) 44 The people..accosted him with reviling and provocative language. 1812 L. Hunt in *Examiner* 7 Dec. 769/1 Hard of digestion or provocative of fever. 1832 tr. *Sismondi's Ital. Rep.* xv. 331 Pescara..determined on adopting the part of provocative agent instead of rebel. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* v. 208 Rich endowments have not been found in practice invariably provocative of mental activity.

2. *spec.* Serving to excite appetite or lust.

1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vitellard* 65 To seeke after meats and provocatiue drugs, to enflame and stirre vp their beastly lustes. 1769 E. Bancroft *Guiana* 381 Diseases..have been augmented by cookery, with its stimulating provocative arts.

B. *sb.* **1.** That which provokes, excites, or draws forth; an incentive.

1638 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (ed. 2) 118 The Pagans..made the fury and anger of the English meere provocatives of scorne and laughter. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 5 To examine into the several Provocatives of Laughter in Men of superior Sense and Knowledge. 1878 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 66 Vanity is another provocative of lies.

2. *spec.* Anything that excites appetite or lust; *esp.* an aphrodisiac. (The earliest sense.)

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 1608 Þei receyuen eeke prouocatyues Tengendre hem luste. *a* 1631 Drayton *David & Goliah* 734 His locks of hayre,..Tost to and fro, did with such pleasure moue, As they had beene prouocatiues for loue. 1790 Burke *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 127 Swallowing down repeated provocatives of cantharides. 1817 Coleridge *Biog. Lit.* 236 Men of palsied imaginations..greedy after vicious provocatives.

Hence **Provo·catively** *adv.*, in a provocative manner, provokingly; **Provo·cativeness**, provokingness.

1661 H. D. *Disc. Liturgies* 59 To convince us, over whom he so provocatively insults. 1882 Stevenson *New Arab. Nts.* II. 192 A red flower set provocatively in her corset. 1682 R. Burthogge *Argt. Infants Bapt.* (1684) 83 Sensible of the great Provokativeness, and of the as great Unfitness and Undecency of it. 1881 Ruskin in *19th Cent.* Oct. 526 It is..only when he has lost his temper that the inherent provocativeness comes out.

Provocatory (prɒvɒ·kătəri), *a.* (*sb.*). *rare.* [ad. late L. *prōvocātōri-us*, f. L. *prōvocātor*, agent-n. f. *prōvocāre* to Provoke: see -ory 2. So obs. F. *provocatoire* (Cotgr. 1611).] Calculated or tending to provoke; = Provocative *a.*

1630 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Bawd* Wks. II. 97/2 Amorous actions, prouocatory gestures, effeminate glances. 1870 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Nov. 2 It is impossible that provocatory action should be undertaken. 1892 *Times* 2 Feb. 8/6 It is scarcely to be feared that any combative or provocatory course..will be adopted.

†**b.** As *sb.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1611 Cotgr., *Provocatoire*, a Prouocatorie; a writing, etc., whereby one is prouoked; a challenge.

Provocatrix (prɒvɒkē·triks). [a. late L. *prōvocātrix*, fem. of L. *prōvocātor*, agent-n. from *prōvocāre* to Provoke. So F. *provocatrice* (Littré).] A female provoker or challenger.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 23 Feb. 4/6 Cries this scribe..it is for England, the provocatrix, that M. Jaurès reserves his favours.

Provokable (prɒvō·kăb'l), *a.* [f. Provoke *v.* + -able: cf. the earlier Provocable.] Capable of being provoked or excited to anger or impatience.

1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 188 The inferior gods, .. being also irascible, and therefore provokable by our neglect of them. 1711 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1737) I. 41 An unsteddy, changeable, easily provokable, and revengeful man.

Provoke (prɒvō·k), *v.* [a. OF. *provoke-r* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *provoquer* (learned word taking the place of the earlier *purvuchier*), ad. L. *prōvocāre* to call forth, challenge, appeal, excite, f. *prō*, Pro-1 + *vocāre* to call.]

I. †**1.** *trans.* To call forth, call upon, call for, invoke; to summon, invite. Also *absol. Obs.*

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 29 The peple..knelid down tofore him and prouoked the goddes vnto his ayde and helpe. 1483 *Caxton's Chron. Eng.* III. (1520) 25 b, Hircanum her sone she prouoked to the bysshopryche. 1589 Puttenham *Eng. Poesie* I. viii. (Arb.) 33 Horace..was..prouoked to be Secretarie of estate to Augustus th' Emperour. 1667 Waterhouse *Fire Lond.* 123, I humbly provoke the Nation to humiliation before God. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* II. 771 The Herdsmen..provoke his Health in Goblets crown'd. 1708 Pope *Ode St. Cecilia* 36 But when our Country's cause provokes to Arms, How martial music ev'ry bosom warms!

†**2.** *intr.* To call to a judge or court to take up one's cause; to appeal (*from* a lower *to* a higher ecclesiastical tribunal). *Obs.*

1533 Cranmer *Let. to Boner* in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1715) III. App. 46, I have provoked from his Holyness to the General Counsell. 1666 J. Sergeant *Let. of Thanks* 113 Tertullian is the unlikeliest man in the world to provoke to the Scriptures. 1682 Dryden *Relig. Laici* 346 Even Arius and Pelagius durst provoke To what the centuries preceding spoke.

†**b.** *trans.* To bring or carry (an appeal). *rare.*

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 3 Where..any of the Kinges Subjectes..haue vsed to pursue provoke or procure any appele to the See of Rome.

†**3.** *trans.* To call out or summon to a fight; to challenge, to defy. *Obs.*

1484 [see Provocation 2]. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 258 Them wold he haue prouoked to exarmouche. *a* 1578 Lindesay (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 347 Thair was ane combatt of singular battell betuix the laird of Drumlanrick and the laird of Hempsfeild quho provockit wther in barras to fight to deid. 1657–83 Evelyn *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 383 Tertullian..provokes all the world to contradict it, if they could. 1697 Dryden *Æneid* VI. 252 Swoln with applause, and aiming still at more, He now provokes the sea-gods from the shore.

II. 4. To incite or urge (a person or animal) *to* some act or *to do* something; to stimulate to action; to excite, rouse, stir up, spur on. Also with *simple obj.* or *absol.* Now *arch.* except as involving mixture of 5.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 45 Bothe Numetor and the ij. breþer were provokede in to the dethe off Amulius. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/2 Provokyn, or steryn to good, or badde. 1462 *Litt. Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 128 Diuers..Weuers..for ther singuler profit, provokyn and stere diuers marchauntz and othour to bryng in..people..not born vndir the Kynges obeisaunce. 1526 Tindale *Heb.* x. 24 Let vs consyder one another to provoke vnto love, and to good workes. 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* xviii. 28 They cried loude, and prouoked themselues with knyues & botkens. 1600 Shaks. *A. Y. L.* I. iii. 112 Beautie prouoketh theeues sooner then gold. *c* 1600 — *Sonn.* 1, The bloody spurre cannot prouoke him on. 1671 R. MacWard *True Nonconf.* 10 To alleage, that the Prophets did not provock to such courses. 1743 J. Morris *Serm.* ii. 46 He..provokes them who are rich to liberality. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* I In the hope that these pages may provoke others to come forward.

b. *transf.* To stir up, agitate.

1675 Hobbes *Odyssey* XII. 167 And with our Oars in hand provok'd the Deep.

5. To incite to anger (a person or animal); to enrage, vex, irritate, exasperate. Also *absol.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 51 Anthiocus Magnus, provokede thro that, had occupiede alle Egipte [Trevisa, Antiochus was wroop]. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 17 For all this they synned agaynst him, and prouoked the most hyest in the wildernesse. *Ibid.* xciv. [xcv.] 8 Harden not youre hertes, as when ye prouoked in tyme of temptacion in the wildernes. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* (1776) 231 A shadow provokes the asp. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. iv. (1841) I. 74 You had better let her alone, you will but provoke her. 1800 Mrs. Hervey *Mourtray Fam.* I. 90 Mrs. Mourtray, quite out of patience,..exclaimed, 'you are really enough to provoke a saint'. 1880 Mrs. Forrester *Roy & V.* I. 47 'Don't provoke me', exclaims Netta.

6. To excite, stir up, arouse (feeling, action, etc.); to give rise to, call forth.

1533 Gau *Richt Way* 16 Thay that prouokis ony ewil desir..in thair selff or in oders with sangis or wordis. 1610 Shaks. *Temp.* I. ii. 140 My Tale prouokes that question. 1653 Wilkins *Gift Prayer* vi. 51 The meditation of his bounty and goodness will provoke Love and Gratitude. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 301 Their natures are too opposite ever to provoke mutual desire. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 263 The discussions it has provoked, and the train of experiments it has induced. 1881 Froude *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. v. 233 The Oxford revivalists had provoked the storm, but had no spell which would allay it.

b. *transf.* To excite, give rise to, induce, bring about (a physical action, condition, etc.).

1551 Turner *Herbal* I. M iv, Saffron..hath the propertye..to prouoke vryne. 1563 T. Gale *Antidot.* II. 15 It prouoketh slepe, the temples beynge annoynted with it. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 207 Lukewarm water will not sooner provoke vomiting, then thou dost the Lord to vomit thee out of his mouth. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 262 All things which provoke great Secretions, especially Sweat. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) II. xii. 262 Does the yeast-plant stand alone in its power of provoking alcoholic fermentation?

Hence **Provoked** (prɒvō·kt), *ppl. a.*, having received provocation; irritated, angry, annoyed.

1552 Huloet, Prouoked, *concitatus, impulsus.* 1698 Vanbrugh (*title*) The Provok'd Wife: a Comedy. 1719 De Foe *Crusoe* (1840) II. vi. 151 There may be a time when provoked mercy will no longer strive.

Provo·ke, *sb. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. An act of provoking; a provocation; a challenge; a cause of offence.

1773 J. Ross *Fratricide* II. 589 (MS.) By just provoke made ireful. 1824 Scott *Let. to Ld. Montagu* 14 Apr., Were you to consider this letter as a provoke requiring an answer.

2. An invitation.

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 375 He regretted to hear that Sunday was our only open day, but finally, summing up courage, he hazarded a provoke for Sunday.

Provokee (prɒvokē·). *nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ee 1.] One who is provoked.

1827 Carlyle *Germ. Rom.* III. 130 The provokee, therefore, determined that the plebeian provoker..should never more speak to him.

†**Provo·kement.** *Obs.* [f. Provoke *v.* + -ment. Cf. obs. F. *provoquement* (15–17th c. in Godef.).] The action of provoking; that which provokes, instigates, or excites; a provocation.

1553 Brende *Q. Curtius* IV. 55 b, Thou hast done it without enye peruokement [*ed.* 1570 prouokement] of my parte. 1581 J. Bell *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 391 Speciall prickes and provokementes to sturre vpp such as were fallen. 1597 Beard *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 462 Giges..vsurped the crowne at the prouokement of the Queene his mistresse. 1644 Fary *God's Severity* (1645) 20 Notwithstanding the daily provokements and grievances that are done against him by the children of men.

Provoker (prɒvō·kəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.] One who or that which provokes (in various senses); a challenger, instigator, inciter, irritator, etc.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 435 A noble yonge man, Hew by name,..toke the batelle for the kynge, and did sle his provoker. *a* 1541 Wyatt *Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. 62 My provokers..That without cause to hurt me do not cease. 1605 Shaks. *Mach.* II. iii. 27 Drinke, Sir, is a great prouoker of three things. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 162 Fear..is a just próvoker of our tears. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 47 ¶ 11 Men who are such Provokers of Mirth in Conversation, that it is impossible for a Club or Merry-meeting to subsist without them. *a* 1860 J. A. Alexander *Gosp. Christ* xxx. (1861) 401 The foolhardiest provoker of temptation.

Hence **Provo·keress,** a female provoker.

1611 Cotgr., *Concitatrice*, a concitatrix; incitresse, prouokeresse.

Provoking (prɒvō·ukiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Provoke; stirring up, incitement, provocation.

1530 Palsgr. 259/1 Provokyng to angre, *irritation.* 1535 Coverdale 1 *Kings* xv. 30 With y* prouokynge wherwith he displeased the Lorde God of Israel. 1591 Percivall *Sp. Dict., Açomamiento*, prouoking, stirring vp.

Provoking (prɒvō·ukiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That provokes.

1. That incites or instigates; provocative.

1530 Palsgr. 321/2 Provokyng or movyng to a thynge, *incitatif.* 1630 Massinger *Renegado* II. iv, Provoking dishes passing by, to heighten Declined appetite. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 52 God therefore left him [Adam] free, set before him a provoking object, ever almost in his eyes.

2. Causing anger or irritation; exasperating, irritating.

1642 J. Shute *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 163 As he shall be powerfull, so he will be provoking and cruell. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* Pref. (1684) 6 The abuse of mercy, which is of all sins the most provoking. ? 1710 Lady M. W. Montagu *Lett., to Mrs. Hewet* (1887) I. 29 It is a provoking thing to think..we should always be asunder so many dirty miles. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 327 This answer, far more provoking than a direct refusal. 1884 *Fortn. Rev.* June 812 Joseph, unquestionably, must have been a very provoking younger brother.

Hence **Provo·kingness.**

1840 L. Hunt *Leg. Florence* II. ii, You take Ways o. refined provokingness to wreak it.

Provo·kingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.]

1. In a way that incites, instigates, or tempts.

1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 78 The women did sit, when admitted..: for them to lie along, [was] esteemed too provokingly lasciuious. 1731 A. Hill *Adv. Poets* Epist. 12 What they daily heard, and saw, so provokingly praised. 1887 J. Ashby Sterry *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 221 When rosy lips, like Cupid's bow, Assault provokingly invite.

2. In an irritating manner; so as to cause irritation; exasperatingly; to a provoking degree.

1786 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 28 Nov., He smiled a little provokingly, and said, 'We agree'. 1881 Geikie in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 238 Your progress becomes provokingly slow and laborious.

†**Provolu·tion.** *Obs. rare*−1. [ad. L. type **prōvolūtiōn-em*, n. of action f. *prōvolvĕre* to roll or tumble forwards, prostrate oneself (before another).] A tumbling down; prostration.

1664 H. More *Myst. Inig.* I. xxi. § 5 This Anniversary Provolution therefore of a Penitent upon the floor at the feet of a formal Confessor..is no part of true Christian Discipline.

Provost (prɒ·vost), *sb.* Forms: α. 1 præ(?prǽ)-fost, -uost, -fast, -uast, -fest. β. 1 pro(?pró)-fost, 2–6 prouost, 4 prouast, prouos, 4–6 provest, *Sc.* -west, 4, 8 proves, 5 -veste, 5–6 provost, -voste, 6–7 -vist, 7 *Sc.* -veist, 4– provost. See also Prevost, Provo. [Corresponds to OE. *profost* (?*pró-*), beside *prafost* (?*prǽ-*), and also to early OF. and Anglo-Fr. *provost* (12th c.), found beside *prevost* (mod.F. *prévôt*); representing early med.L. *propositus*, occurring beside and in the sense of *præpositus*, 'a prefect, president, head, chief, overseer, director, commander', sb. use of *præpositus*, placed, or set before or over, placed at the head, appointed as chief, pa. pple. of *præpōnĕre*, f. *præ* before + *pōnĕre* to place, put.

As to the etymological and phonetic relations of the OE. and Teutonic forms, see Note below.]

One set or placed over others; a superintendent, president, head, chief; used generally as an equivalent of the uses of PRÆPOSITUS in ancient and med.Latin, and of the descended terms in French and other languages, and *spec.* as the proper title of certain ecclesiastical and secular officers in England and Scotland, or as a rendering of French *prevost, prévôt*, formerly used to designate various officials: see Cotgr. s. v. *Prevost*, and cf. PREVOST.

I. In ecclesiastical and scholastic use.

1. The head or president of a chapter, or of a community of religious persons; in conventual bodies properly the official next in rank to the abbot, = PRIOR 1 (in quot. *c* 1375 the prioress of a body of nuns); also the chief dignitary of a cathedral or collegiate church, corresponding to the existing dean (but see DEAN 1 4). Now chiefly *Hist.*

a. *c* 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (MS. *c* 1000) lxv. (1885) 124 Be mynstres prafaste [*MS. F. c* 1100 profaste]... þurh þæs geendebyrdan profostes [*MS. T. c* 1075 prauostes] misfadunge. *a* 1066 *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 233 [Witnesses] Gisa bisceop, and Ælfsie abbod, and Wulzeat abbod, and Ælfnoð mynster prauost.

β. *a* 900 *Martyrol.* 20 Mar. 42 Þa ondranc se þæs wætres ond sealde hit þæm breðer-þe him ætstod, þæs mynstres profoste [*v.r.* prauast]. 970 (Aug. 10) in *MS.* '*Ritual of Durham*' lf. 84/2 (ed. 1840 p. 185), Be suðan wudigan gæteæt aclee on west sæxum on laurentius mæssan dæzi on wodnes dæzi ælfsize ðæm biscope in his getelde aldred se profast ðas feower collectæ on fif næht aldne mona ær underne awrat. *c* 1000–1100 [see *a. c* 961]. *a* 1122 *O. E. Chron.* an. 1066 Ða cusen þa munecas to abbot, Brand prouost. forðan þæt he wæs swiðe god man. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 307 Þar dowchtyre..of his hand þe vail scho [Ephigenea] tuk ..& wes mad proves but wene Of twa hu[n]dricht virginis clene. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 688 Abbotis of ordouris, Prowestis and priouris. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* VI. 1 Wyngham .. Ther is a Provoste, VI. Prebendaries, besydes othar Ministers of the Churche. 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 194 All Denis, Archdenis, Subdenis, Chantouris, Subchantouris, Provestis, Personis, Vicaris. 1641 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 520/1 Ane dissolutione made be the proveist and first prebendar of the Colledge kirk of Corstorphine with advyse and consent of George Lord Forrester of Corstorphine vndoubted Patrone of the said Provesterie. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 177/1 (Benedictine Rules) That the Provost or Prepositus be chosen by the Abbot to whom he must be subject. 1824 G. CHALMERS *Caledonia* III. III. viii. 307 In place of the nunnery [of Linncluden], he established a collegiate church, consisting of a provost, and twelve canons. 1878 *Clergy List* 458 The Episcopal Church in Scotland..United Diocese of Moray, Ross, and Caithness..Provost of the Cathedral [Inverness] the Bishop. *Ibid.* 459 St Ninian's Cathedral [Perth] John Burton, Provost. 1898 *Beverley Chapter Act Bk.* (Surtees) I. Introd. 40 At York, Hugh the Chanter says, on Thomas rebuilding the Canons' Hall he..'established a Provost [*Præpositum constituit*] to preside over them and provide for them'.

b. In modern use, a rendering of Ger. *propst*, Da. *provst*, etc., as the title of the Protestant clergyman in charge of the principal church (*hauptkirche*) of a town or district.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 414 b, The fellowes or prebends of that Colledge [at Eluange = Elbing] haue authority to chuse the Prouost, as they commonly call him. 1780 tr. *Von Troil's Iceland* 173 The provost and minister of Hiardarholt..is justly celebrated. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 23 The Danish clergy consists of bishops, provosts, and ministers. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 507 Support..from their two provosts—patricians of Nürnberg—in the appointment of evangelical preachers.

†**c.** Applied by Caxton to a Mohammedan muezzin [mistransl. obs. F. *provoire* a priest].

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* clxx. 252 On the cornes ben hye towres, vpon whiche the prouostes were woonte to goo vp at certayn howres for to warne and somone the peple to praye.

2. The specific title of the heads of certain educational colleges.

In earlier instances, a survival from the ecclesiastical establishments in which these originated; in later instances an extension of the name to subsequent foundations. The title is borne by the heads of Oriel, Queen's, and Worcester Colleges at Oxford, King's College, Cambridge, and Trinity College, Dublin; also of Eton College, and now or formerly of certain other colleges in England, Scotland, the United States, etc.

1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 45/2 The Provost and the College of the same place [Eton]. 1531–2 *Act* 23 *Hen. VIII*, c. 19 Archedeacons maisters prouostes presidentes wardens felowes bretherne scholers. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1887) 241 Being himselfe prouost of the kings colledge in Cambridge. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. v. § 47. 270 That D. Potter cannot leave being Provost of Q. Colledge. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 40 There is an University at Dublin..wherein are a Provost and seven Senior and Ruling Fellows. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 45 He..professed Theology in the Coll. of S. Salvator at S. Andrews, whereof he was made Provost. 1812 *Orig. Charter Columbia Coll.* (1836) 35 The trustees of Columbia college have, by their petition, prayed that the provost of the said college may be eligible as a trustee of said college. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. III. i. § 8. 374 From a press established at Eton by himself, provost of that College. 1846 N. F. MOORE *Hist. Sk. Columbia Coll.* 78 The trustees determined to divide the powers and duties of the presidential office between a president and an officer to be styled Provost.

transf. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. ix. 93 He concludes with a Curator or Provist of the whole Discipline [Plato's Sacred College].

II. A secular officer, etc.

†**3.** One appointed to preside over or superintend something; usually the representative of the supreme power in a district or sphere of action; formerly used as a translation of various Latin titles, as *præpositus, prætor, proconsul, procurator*, etc.; also in the sense of viceroy, prime minister, and the like. Sometimes without explicit reference to his delegated or appointed position, = Ruler, chief, head, captain, etc.: see **4.** *Obs.*

a. *a* 900 *O. E. Martyrol.* 13 Aug. 144 Valerianus, Decies prafest þæs caseres. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* v. 16 Þa comun Israela folces prafostas [Vulg. *præpositi filiorum Israel*] & clypodon to Pharaone & þus cwædon. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 309/33 *Prepositus*, gerefa, oððe prafost.

β. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* VI. (*Thomas*) 9 Gundoforus.. þare kynnge..has send his proveste here Abney [*orig.* præpositum Abbanem], bis[i]lly fore to spere A man, þat sic palace can make. ?*c* 1400 *Warres of Jewes* (Laud MS. 22) in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1840) II. 105 Pylot was provost under that prynce ryche. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* IV. 1028 The prouost of perse was there also. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 110 A kingis provost may have na mare power na has his maister. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (1495) III A Provoste or Capytayne of men of warre. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1480 The prowde prouoste of Turky lande. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xi. 87 He [Darius] send his prouest tasifernes vitht gold and siluer to lacedemonia. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. (1591) 25 Flauius Sabinus they ordeyned Prouost of the citty [L. *urbi præfecere*]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VIII. xi. 289 Their Pretor or Provost [L. *prætor*] named Millionius, spake these words. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 145 Free-Schooles...Some of them..are commonly in the gift of the King, or his Provost or Substitute, in that behalfe.

†**b.** *transf.* Applied to the archangel Michael as leader of the heavenly host. *Obs.*

1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. ii. (1859) 3, I wil bringe hym bifore Mychael the prouost of heuene. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Compl. Soule* 267 Wks. 1897 III. p. lix, Sere prouost Michael graciows. 1521 in *Market Harb. Records* (1890) 216 The holy Archangell Mychell, the provest off paradyse.

4. An officer or official in charge of some establishment, undertaking, or body of men; an officer who had the management of a royal or feudal establishment and the collection of dues; a ruler, manager, steward, overseer, keeper. Now *Hist.*

The title *prevost, prévôt* was formerly extensively given in France to officials having administrative and judicial functions: see Cotgrave s. v. *prevost*, and cf. PREVOST 2.

1340 *Ayenb.* 37 Þe greate [thieves] byeþ..þe ontrewe reuen, prouos, and bedeles, and seruons þet steleþ þe amendes, and wyþdraȝeþ þe rentes of hire lhordes. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 8 (Camb. MS.) Trygwille prouost of the Kynges hows [*regiæ præpositum domus*]. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* xx. 28 And Phynees, the sone of Eliazar, sone of Aaron, was prouost of the hows. 1382—*Isa.* xxii. 15 Weend in to hym, that dwelleth in the tabernacle, to Sobnam, prouost of the temple. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6812 Taylagiers, and these monyours, Bailifs, bedels, provost, countours. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* div b, The Architect .. is .. the Hed, the Prouost, the Directer..of all Artificiall workes, and all Artificers. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iv. 136 A Prouost ouer the horses which draw the Artillery. 1611 COTGR., *Prevost des Monnoyes*, the Prouost of the Mint; the Iudge of controuersies arising by reason of the Mint, or among Mintmen. 1615 BEDWELL *Arab. Trudg., Amir, Præses fidelium*, The prouost of the faithfull. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3219/4 Mr. John Braint, Provost of His Majesty's Mint at the Tower of London. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 342 (At the Mint) A provost,..blanchers, moniers, &c. 1863 H. COX *Institt.* III. ix. 727 Relieving them [burgesses] from the interference of Royal provosts in the collection of the King's revenue.

†**5.** The chief magistrate of a town. **a.** In obsolete or historical uses, esp. (*b*) in reference to French, Flemish, or other foreign cities, in which also it sometimes passes into sense **6.**

[*a* 1135 *Leges Willelm. Conq.* (MS. *c* 1230) I. ii. § 1 E si aucuns vescunte u provost mesfait as humes [de sa baillie]. [And if any sheriff or provost does wrong to the men of his jurisdiction.] *Ibid.* v. Cil kis claimed, durrad [al gr(efe) s(ive) al provost aveir] pur la rescussiun viii den. [He who claims them shall give to the provost for the recovery 8 pence.] 1200 *Charter Ipswich* in Gross *Gild Merch.* II. 115 Reddendo per annum rectam et solitam firmam ad terminum Sancti Michaelis per manum Gippeswici prepositi ad scaccarium nostrum. [*transl.* I. 7, Paying annually at our Exchequer the right and customary ferm at Michaelmas term, by the hand of the provost of Ipswich.] 1292 BRITTON I. iii. § 1 Le provost de chescune vile. 1306 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 270/1 Le Provost des Villes.] 1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 378/1 The Office of Provost of your Towne of Middelton, in the forsaid Countie [Kent].

(*b*) *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 294 Þe prouest of þe toun [Bruges] a wik traytour & cherle, He þouht to do tresoun vnto his lorde þe erle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 164 The cristene folk that thurgh the strete wente.. hastily..for the Prouost sente. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. ccxxxi. 263 This foresayde Charlis was sore hated of the prouoste of Brudgys. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* vii. 15 Than they sent for yᵉ provost of Gerone. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* ciij, The hygh prouost of these marchants,. kepeth his bank vnder exchang to all people—conuertynge leade into golde. [1611 COTGR. s. v. *Prevost, Prevost des Marchands à Paris*, the Lord Mayor of Paris; different from the Prouost of Iustice, who is called, *Le Prevost de Paris.*] 1706 PHILLIPS, *Provost of Merchants*, the chief Magistrate or Mayor of the City of Paris in France.

b. *spec.* The title of the head of a Scottish municipal corporation or burgh; equivalent to *mayor* in England: cf. MAYOR 1.

The provosts of some of the more important corporations, viz. (in 1908) Edinburgh (since *c* 1486), Glasgow (since 1690), Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, are styled *Lord Provost.*

[13.. in *Sc. Stat.* (1844) I. 683 [319] Et facto hujusmodi sacramento osculari debet prepositum et vicinos si frater Gilde fuerit.] 1387 *Charters &c. of Edinb.* (1871) 35 Androw Yutsoun prowest of the Burgh of Edynburgh. ? 1495 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 219 The provest of the toune beand present. *a* 1515 *Interl. Droichis* 21 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 315 Prowest, baillies, officeris, And honerable induellaris,..Of all this fair towne. 1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 29 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 94 The prouestis and ballies of euiry burgh. 1639 DK. HAMILTON in *H. Papers* (Camden) 70 A letter of yours derected to the prouist and balleifes of Edinburg. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., The provost of Edinburgh has the title *lord.* 1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 7 Aberdeen...Its civil government is vested in a provost, denominated lord provost, 4 bailies, a dean of guild, treasurer, and town-clerk, a town-council, and 7 deacons of the incorporated trades. 1882 GRANT *Old & New Edinb.* II. 278/1 In 1377 John of Quhitness first appears as Provost or Prepositus, on the 18th of May. *Ibid.* 278/2 Patrick Hepburn, Lord Hailey [*c* 1486] was the first designated 'my Lord Provost', probably because he was a peer of the realm.

†**6.** An officer charged with the apprehension, custody, and punishment of offenders. *Obs.*

In France many of the officials called *prevost* (*prévôt*) were specially charged with the keeping of public order and the apprehension, custody, trial, and punishment of offenders, for which they had considerable powers of summary jurisdiction: hence the military use in **7.**

? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1611 Be-teche þam þe proveste [of Paris] in presens of lordez, O payne and o perelle þat pendes there too. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. clxxxv. 564 The kyng commaunded hym and sayd: Prouost, get you men togyther well horsed, and pursewe that traytour syr Peter of Craon. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 118 Here comes Signior Claudio, led by the Prouost to prison. *Ibid.* III. ii. 219 Prouost,..Claudio must die to morrow: Let him be furnish'd with Diuines, and haue all charitable preparation. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. xix. 552 A few dayes after hee sent a provost..to take this Sorcerer. 1611 [see 5 a (*b*)]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 289 (Netherlanders Commonwealth) Among the apprehenders, the chiefe are called Prouosts, and they of old had power to hang vagabonds. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* XXVII, 'Fetch the provost', exclaimed another. 1873 J. LEWES *Census* 1871. 204 (Guernsey) The provost or Queen's sheriff [cf. PREVOST 2 b].

7. *spec. Milit.* An officer of the military police in a garrison, camp, or the field: see PROVOST-MARSHAL, and *provost-sergeant* in **9.**

In this sense usually pronounced *provō* (after F. *prévôt*) and sometimes written PROVO.

1692–1746 [see PROVO]. 1799 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) I. 37, I wish you would send the Provost here... Until some of the plunderers are hanged it is vain to expect to stop the plunder. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red-Coats* 44 Perhaps she had less cause for bitterness..owing to her superior position as the wife of the Provost.

b. Short for *provost-cell*: see **9.**

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**8.** An assistant fencing-master. (So F. *prévôt.*)

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 97 Of fence..there is not onely Masters to teache it, wyth his Prouostes [*Wks.* (*ed.* 1761) provosters] Vshers Scholers and other names of arte and Schole. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, We..do give leave and licence to our provost, Acolastus-Polypragmon-Asotus, to play his master's prize, against all masters whatsoever. 1615 in Strutt *Sports & Past.* III. vi. § 22 They which desire to be taught at their admission are called scholars, and, as theyr profit they take degrees, and proceed to be provosts of defence.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **provost-cell**, a cell for confining military prisoners; †**provost-place**, in phr. *to sit provost-place*, to preside; †**provost-seal**, the official seal of a provost of a borough; **provost-sergeant**, a sergeant of the military police: cf. sense **7.**

1902 WEBSTER Suppl., **Provost cell*, in the British service, a military prison for soldiers confined, by order of the commanding officer or by sentence of court martial, for periods not exceeding forty-two days. 1748 J. WALLIS in *Gentl. Mag.* (1779) XLIX. 495 If the proud gentleman that thinks himself slighted should happen to sit *provost-place as they call it, he sits at the head of his table in all the agonies of concealed ill-nature. 1466 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 322 Undre the *Prowost seall of the saide citte. 1868 *Regul. & Ord. Army* ¶ 824 The *Provost Serjeant is to cause the prisoners to wash themselves once a day.

Hence, chiefly *nonce-wds.*, †**Pro'vostage**, some impost duty in some countries; **Pro'vostess**, a female provost; in quot. (after Ger. *pröpstin*) applied to the prioress of a (Protestant) conventual foundation; **Provosto'rial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a provost, provostal.

1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 281 The ship *Jenny* arrives at Bilboa, and there Bradson sells 1640½ quintals of fish..and delivers for *provostage 2½ per cent. in specie of fish. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Mar. 2/1 The dismantled apartments are hung with the portraits of the Abbesses since the Reformation...One looks, instinctively, for Aurora von Königsmark; and she, having been only *provostess, is missing..! Certainly she is the lady of Quedlinburg. 1855 J. STRANG *Glasgow & Clubs* (1856) 212 During his *provostorial sovereignty the provost haugh was purchased.

[*Note.* The forms of this word in the cognate continental langs. are ON. *prófastr* (*c* 1160 in Norway), Icel. *prófastur*, Norw. *provast, -est*, MSw. *provast, -est, proast, -est, proost*, Sw. *prost*, MDa. *provæst, -est*, Da. *provst* (*propst*); MLG. *provest, prôfst, prôst*, MFris., MDu. *provest*, MDu. also *proo(f)st*, Du. *proost* (*provoost*); OHG. *probost, -ist*, MHG. *probest*, Ger. *probst, propst*: all in eccl. sense. It is not clear whether the OE. *prófost* was historically connected with any of these, except as representing the same Latin word; *prafost* stands quite alone. The length of the stress-vowel in OE. can only be determined by inference; most lexicographers have marked it as long, as in ON.; but

Pogatscher (*Lautl. der Gr. Lat. Lehnworte im Altengl.*) gives reasons for short *a* and *o* (so Sievers and Napier); the *o* in Ger. and Du. appears also to have been short. Pogatscher takes *præfost* as repr. late L. or Romanic *prepost-* from *præpositus*, and *profost*, late L. or Romanic *propost-* from *propositus*; which latter gave OHG. *probost* and all the continental cognate forms. The early 12th c. *prouost* = *provost* might mean either the OE. *pro-vost* or the Anglo-Fr. *provo'st*. While the Teutonic langs. have favoured the *propost-* form, the Romanic have preferred the *prepost-* from *præpositi-*, though in earlier times they had also forms in *pro-*. Cf. OF. *prevost*, also *provos(t, pourvost, prouvos(t, preuvost, proost, prost, pros* (Godef. *Compl.*), Anglo-Fr. *provost*, mod. F. *prévôt*; Pr. *prebost*, Sp., Pg. *preboste*, It. *prevosti*, formerly also *provosto* (Florio).]

Pro·vost, *v. rare.* Also **provo'** (cf. PROVO). [f. prec. sb. sense 7.] *trans.* To hand over to the provost-marshal to be dealt with summarily and (formerly) to receive corporal punishment. Hence **Pro·vosting** *vbl. sb.*

Apparently a short-lived word used *c* 1837.

1837 MAJOR RICHARDSON *Brit. Legion* ix. (ed. 2) 241 Men found to be incorrigible, have first been provosted, then marched forth disgracefully by beat of drum from their regiments. 1837 C. SHAW *Mem.* II. xxxv. 541 There is a good deal of provosting, of which I rather approve, as it prevents serious punishments. 1839 A. SOMERVILLE *Hist. Brit. Legion* iii. 69 He [an officer] was a decided enemy to provo'ing. *Ibid.* xi. 242 In four months he had been eleven times provosted, and once flogged by sentence of a court-martial.

Provostal (provǫ·stăl), *a. rare.* [f. PROVOST *sb.* + -AL, after obs. F. *prevostal* (Cotgr. 1611), mod.F. *prévôtal*.] Of or pertaining to a provost.

1611 COTGR., *Prevostaire*, prouostall, of a Prouost. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Provostal*, of or pertaining to a Provost. 1706 in PHILLIPS. 1905 *Daily News* 10 Aug. 6 It is earnestly to be hoped..that no 'confeesion' will be created in any mayoral or provostal bosom by the selection of such a date as the 13th, and such a day as Friday.

[Provoster, error for PROVOST.

The quot. cited in Richardson from Ascham *Toxoph.* is given s. v. PROVOST 8, q. v.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Buckingh.* (1662) I. 131 Fellow and Provoster of Eaton.]

Provost-marshal. Also 6 **propheost-, 6, 9 -martial.** [f. PROVOST *sb.* 6, 7 + MARSHAL *sb.*, commonly held to be an irregular representation of OF. *prevost des mareschaus* (*de France*), 'provost of the marshals (of France)', 15th c. in Littré: see Note below.]

An officer (= PROVOST 6, PREVOST 2) attached to a military or naval force, whose duties and powers have varied at different times and in different countries. Now, in the army: An officer appointed to a force in camp or on active service, as the head of the police, having duties which include the preservation of order, the prevention of pillage, the custody of prisoners charged with offences till trial, the carrying into effect of the punishments awarded, etc. In the navy, the 'Master-at-Arms' of the ship in which a court-martial is to be held (being the Chief Petty Officer in charge of the ship's police) is appointed by warrant Provost-marshal for the occasion.

1535 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, II. 237 They wer..arrayned before the propheest marshall and capitannes, and ther, upon ther awne confessions, adjudged to die. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 12 b, The lorde Darcie..sent forth his Prouost Marshal, which scarcelie with peyne refrayned the yomen archers. 1571 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 102 Tak the personis, and use thame as presoners, and deliver thame to the Provest Marcheall. 1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 157 They shall by the Provost Martiall be punished. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXIX. xxix. 731 Amongst whom was Hanno also the Provost Marshall [*præfectus*], a noble young gentleman. *a* 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 342/1 The Boatswain serves for a Provost-Marshal. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Provost-Marshal*, ..also an Officer in the Royal Navy, who has charge of the Prisoners taken at Sea. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1835) IV. 455 The appointment of Assistant Provost Marshals, I am sorry to say, is but too necessary. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* lxi, I was put under the custody of the provost-martial. 1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 275 The Officer appointed to the situation of Provost-Marshal has the rank of Captain in the Army: the appointment is one of great responsibility, and requires the utmost vigilance and activity. 1897 GEN. H. PORTER in *Cent. Mag.* June 211 Provost-marshal's guards seized all available citizens .. and impressed them into the service. 1908 *Admiralty Memo. on Court-Martial Procedure* 35 The Convening Authority .. shall, by warrant..appoint a provost-marshal to take the accused into his custody and safely keep him until he shall have been delivered in due course of law.

b. Used as equivalent of obs. F. *prevost des mareschaux* and of other names of semi-military officers of public order.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn prevost de mareschaulx*, a prouoste Marshall, that hath in charge to hang vp theues. *c* 1620 FLETCHER & MASS. *Lit. Fr. Lawyer* v. iii, *Provost.* I have been provost-marshal twenty years, And have truss'd up a thousand of these rascals. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vi, They bore the palm [as the object of fear and execration] over every hangman in France, unless it were their master, Tristan l'Hermite, the renowned Provost-Marshal, or his master, Louis XI. *Ibid. passim.* 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 261 A provost-martial of the name of Aichili traversed Swabia and Franconia..; it is calculated that within a small district, he hung forty evangelical preachers on trees by the roadside.

c. The chief police official of some of the colonies in the West Indies, etc.

1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. iii. 204 Governors and Officers in the West Indies..Peter Forbes Esq.; Provost Marshall. *Ibid.* 205 Bermuda..George Tucker, Esq.; Secretary and Provost-Marshal. [Given also as the title of an official in Barbadoes, Leeward Islands, South-Carolina.] 1908 *Whitaker's Alm.* 539 The Bahamas..Provost-Marshal and Commandant of Constabulary. *Ibid.* 542 Barbados.. Provost-Marshal.

[*Note.* The functions of the *prevost des mareschaus de France* in the 15th c. appear to have been those of a military provost-marshal, although they were subsequently extended and changed; thus Cotgrave 1611 explains *Prevost des Mareschaux* as 'A Prouost Marshall (who is often both Informer, Iudge, and Executioner) punishes disorderlie Souldiors, Coyners, Free-booters, high-way robbers, lazie rogues, or vagabonds, and such as weare forbidden weapons'; Littré has '*prévôt des maréchaux*, an officer appointed to watch over the safety of the highways within the limits of a *généralité*, called also *prévôt de la maréchaussée* [i. e. provost of the marshalcy]'; in which the military functions have disappeared. For these Littré has *prévôt de l'armée, prévôt du régiment*, and in the navy, *prévôt général de la marine*, and *prévôt marinier*. The 15th c. F. *prevost des mareschaus* might have been rendered 'marshals' provost', but it is not easy to see how it became *provost-marshal*, unless perhaps under the influence of *court-martial, law martial*, and the 16th c. confusion of *marshal* and *martial*, whereby we find also *law marshal* and *provost martial*, showing that the latter was sometimes at least taken to be 'war provost'.]

Provostry (prǫ·vəstri). Now *Hist.* [f. PROVOST + -RY: cf. F. *Provoterie*, local name (in Godef.), variant of OF. *prevosterie* the tribunal of a *prévôt*.]

†1. The office or jurisdiction of a provost. Formerly applied to a Roman prætorship or prefecture; also to the provostship of a Scottish burgh.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. iv. 58 (Camb. MS.) Certes the dignite of the prouostrye [*præturæ*] of Rome was whylom a gret power, now is it nothyng but An Idel name. *Ibid.*, What thyng is now more owt cast than thylke prouostrye. 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) I. xxxix. (1859) 43 He shalle spoylen the thy worshyp and of thy prouostry with grete shame and shendeshyp. 1545 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 214 His office of prouestry quhilk he had of the said tovnn. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* VI. (1677) 383 There had been a long and old emulation betwixt the two Families..for the Wardenry of the middle Marches, and the Provostry of Jedburgh.

2. The benefice of a collegiate provost: see PROVOST 1; the revenue derived from such a benefice; rarely, the office of provost of an educational college; = PROVOSTSHIP 1 b. Now *Hist.*

c 1450 T. BECKINGTON *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 164 Amovyd and pryved perpetually frome provestre of the same collage Royall. 1548–9 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1885) 5 The parsonage ther is appropriat to the Provostrie of Wells. 1581 in Grant *Burgh Sch. Scotl.* II. xv. (1876) 446 An Act of Parliament ordaining all provostries and prebends to be given to scholars. 1641 [see PROVOST *sb.* 1 β]. 1702 *Anguis in Herba* 48 She had conceded to her Luxemburg with its Provostry. 1889 HUNTER-BLAIR tr. *Bellesheim's Hist. Cath. Ch. Scot.* III. 222 To retain..the provostry of St. Mary's and the rectorship of the University. 1898 *Beverley Chapter Act Bk.* (Surtees) I. Introd. 38 In the latter part of its existence, the Provostry of Beverley was a peculiar institution.

†c. The residence of a provost. *nonce-use.*

1825 LOCKHART *Let.* 18 July in *Life Scott*, A superb *dejeuner* in the Provostry [at Trinity College, Dublin].

Pro·vostship. [f. PROVOST + -SHIP.]

1. The office or position of a provost: e. g. **a.** of a Roman prefect; **b.** of the provost of an ecclesiastical or educational college; **c.** of the provost of a municipal corporation, esp. in Scotland; **d.** of an officer of public order (in quot. as a title).

a. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* II. iii. 38 b, During that office [viz. of Dictator], all other magistrates were abrogated except the Tribunate or Prouostship of the Commons. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIV. xii. (1622) 213 But whom shall any mans dignitie warrant, seeing the Prouostship [*præfectura*] of the citie auailed not? 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* VI. x. § 12. 579/2 Piso..was advanced to the Provostship of the City of Rome.

b. 1514 in Burton & Raine *Hemingbrough* 381 The preferment of the Priour of Drax..to the provestship of Hemmyngburgh. 1549 LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 67 Hauynge the profyt of a Prouestshyp and a Deanry, and a Personage. 1623 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1849) II. 390 The provostship of Eton seems not to be so assured to Sir William Beecher. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 199 He was preferred..vnto..the Prouostship of Beuerley. 1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5231/1 The Provostship of Oriel-College in Oxford. 1871 FRASER *Life Berkeley* ii. 18 He entered Trinity College in June 1682...He was raised to the Provostship in August 1699.

c. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 150 [She] dischargit the lord Ruthven of his provistschipe and maid the laird of Kinphans prowest and captane of the toun. 1820 RANKEN *Hist. France* VII. v. i. 393 The townhall was rebuilt..under the provostship of the celebrated Miron. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* I. 23 On Thursday, June 29, the whole community of the borough [Ipswich, an. 1200] elect two bailiffs to take charge of the provostship of the borough.

d. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* vi, 'And it please your noble provostship' answered one of the clowns; 'he was the very first..to cut down the rascal whom his Majesty's justice most deservedly hung up.'

†2. A collegiate society, house, or church under a provost. *Obs.*

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* IV. 201 A little royal town ..containing a collegiate-church or provostship. *Ibid.* 202 Oberndorf, a provostship of regular canons of the order of St. Augustine. *Ibid.* 324 Coppenberg, a noble provostship of Præmonstratenses..seated on an agreeable eminence.

Pro·vosty. *rare.* Now only *Hist.* [a. OF. *provosté* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), var. of *prevosté*, mod.F. *prévôté*: = med.L. *præpositātus*; also repr. OF. *provostie* (15th c. in Godef.), MLG. *prōvestîe*, MG. *probistîe*, G. *prostei, propstei*, Du. *proosdij*: see -Y.] = PROVOSTSHIP, in various senses; *esp.* (= F. *prévôté*) the jurisdiction of the *prévôt de Paris*, the supreme officer of the Châtelet, and that of the *prévôt de l'Île de France*, the chief officer who had charge of the safety of the highways of Paris and its environs.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 30 Benet the chorle Is lieutenant Of the baylly of amyas ARD of the prouostye [*de la prevostie*]. 1483 — *Gold. Leg.* 289 b/2 Phelyp hadde taken of the Senate the prouostye of Allexandrye. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 375 The prouosty, or chief rule or offyce, was in ye handes of the cytezeyns of Parys. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* I. II. 68 One Nicholas Poulin, a Lieutenant in the Provosty of the Isle of France. 1849 SHOBERL tr. *Hugo's Hunchback* 154 Robert d'Estouteville, knight..keeper of the provosty of Paris [*garde de la prévôté de Paris*].

†Provulgate, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *provulgāt-*, ppl. stem of *provulg-āre*: see PROVULGE.] *trans.* To make public, publish, promulgate; to disseminate, propagate.

a 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 331/2 These decrees were prouulgated ouer all Italy. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* II. 40 Lyons, Leopards, Beares, Wolfes, Hyens, and such lyke.. afterward being provulgated into these parts of Europe.

†Provulga·tion. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [n. of action f. L. *provulgāre*: see next and -ATION.] Publication, promulgation.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. Ded. A ij b, Some which I deemed most worthy the prouulgation in our natiue tongue.

†Provu·lge, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *provulg-āre* to make known publicly, f. *prō*, PRO-[1] 1 a + *vulgāre* to publish, f. *vulg-us* the people. Cf. obs. F. *provulguer* (16th c. in Godef.).] *trans.* To make publicly known, proclaim; = PROMULGE.

1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 1 Any outlawrie..had or provulged ageynst any person. 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 12 § 12 Any excommengement..or any other censures.. to be fulminate, prouulged, declared, or put in execucion.

Provysowe, obs. f. PROVISO.

Prow (praʊ), *sb.*[1] Now chiefly *literary.* Forms: 6 **proo,** 7 **proe, pro**; 6–8 **prowe,** 7 **prou, -e,** 7– **prow.** [a. F. *proue* (in 14th c. *proe, proue*), or ad. the cognate *proa* (Pg., Sp., Cat., Pr., Genoese), in It. *prua*; all prob. ultimately from L. *prōra*, a. Gr. πρῷρα, earlier πρώϊρα prow. For details, and the pronunciation, see Note below.]

1. The fore-part of a boat or ship; the part immediately about the stem.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 231 They had a west and north weste wynd in the proos of theyr shyppe. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 129 To auoid the necessitie of turning about in these seas, the ships haue prows at both ends, and are pointed each way. *Ibid.* 252 A shel-fish..fashioned with a keele like to a barge or barke, with a poupe embowed and turned vp: yea and armed as it were in the proe with a three-forked pike. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 244 He used the Helme of a Ship for a Seale..like as Pompeie [had] the Stemme or Pro thereof in his coines. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* V. 188 The brushing oars and brazen prow [*rimes* row, below]. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 74 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm. 1830 TENNYSON *Arab. Nts.* V, The sparkling flints beneath the prow [*rimes* low, flow]. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 27 The pointed prow and flat bottom of the boats. 1853 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* (ed. 3) 172 From this part it tapers in plan, and rises in section, to the prow and stern. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* III. 277 Anchors are cast forthwith from the prows, sterns laid on the sand.

†b. Formerly sometimes applied specially to the fore gun-deck holding the bow-guns, and hence to a discharge of shot from these. Cf. CHASE *sb.*[1] 6. *Obs.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 566 They..came vpon our quarter star-boord: and giuing vs fiue cast pieces out of her prowe, they sought to lay vs aboord. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* ii. 10 The Prow is the Decke abaft the Fore-castle, whereon lyeth the Prow peeces. *Ibid.* xiii. 60 Giue him..your prow and broad side as before. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Prow* of a Ship, is that part of her Fore-castle which is aloft, and not in the Hold; and is properly that which is between the Chase and the Loofe.

†c. Phr. *Prow and poop*, the whole ship; *fig.* the whole. *Obs.*

1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xvii. (1634) 691 As if the enclosing of Christ under bread were (as the proverbe is) the prowe and poupe of godlinesse. *a* 1632 in Lithgow *Trav.* VII. 328 Both Proue and puppe, do answere to the Helme.

2. A point or pointed part projecting in front, like the prow of a ship; *spec.* in *Zool.* = PROBA 2.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Prow*, ..Also a point advancing it self out of a building, as the Prow out of a Ship. 1812–16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* (1819) I. 209 If a prow, in the form of a wedge, be drawn through a fluid [etc.]. 1819 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. i. 232 A guiding power directs the chariot's prow Over its wheeled clouds. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 (*Sponges*) The back of the 'C'[-shaped spicule] is the *keel* or *tropis*; the points are the *prows* or *proræ*.

3. *transf.* A ship. *poet.* (Cf. KEEL *sb.*[1] 2.)

1738 GRAY *Propertius* iii. 51 Prows, that late in fierce

Encounter mett. 1819 Byron *Juan* II. clxxiv, At last her father's prows put out to sea.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *prow gun, ornament, side*; **prow-decked** *a.*, having an ornamental prow; **prow-shaped** *a.*, of the shape of a ship's prow, i. e. projecting in a point in front.

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* IX. 131 Nor place the neighbour Cyclops *their* delights, In braue Vermilion *prow-deckt ships. 1790 Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 41 The grabs attacked at a distance with their *prow-guns. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 394/2 High pressure steam, length of stroke, and *prow-shaped bows..are not all necessary for speed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 200 The small head, with narrow forehead presenting marked interfrontal ridge—the prow-shaped cranium—indicates the worst pathological type. 1653 H. Cogan tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxvi. 267 Rocks and shelves of sand, which were on the *Prow side.

Hence **Prowed** (prəud) *a.*, having a prow.

1884 A. J. Evans in *Archæologia* XLIX. 46 A wooden bridge..supported on pillars..prowed so as to look like a row of vessels breasting the current. 1895 K. Meyer *Voy. Bran* I. 18 The prowed skiff in which Bran is.

[*Note.* The loss of the *r* of L. *prōra* in the Romanic *proa* is unusual, but is said to be exemplified in Genoese, which may be the source of the other Mediterranean forms, and of It. *prua* and F. *proue*. But F. *proue* might also represent a Romanic **prōda* (or **prōta*) preserved in It. *proda* prow, brink, which may have arisen from L. *prōra* by dissimilation, *r* becoming *d* after *r* preceding, as in It. *rado* = L. *rārus* rare. But some would refer It. *proda* to OHG. *prort, prot* (= OLG. *brood*) prow, brink. See Diez s.v. *prua*, Körting s.v. *prora*, and articles there referred to.

The earlier Eng. spellings *proo, pro, proe* point to the pronunciation (prō); but *proo* may also have meant (prū) = F. *proue*. *Prow, prowe*, are ambiguous: Dryden and Scott rime *prow* with *below, glow*; Shelley with *flow*, but also with *now*; Tennyson in 1830 with *low, flow*, but later with *brow* and *now*. Walker 1791 cites 5 orthoepists for each pronunciation. Smart 1836 gives only (prō). It is possible that there were in 16th c. two forms (prō) and (prū), corresp. to Romanic *proa*, F. *proe*, and to F. *proue* respectively, the form (prū) being in 18th c. diphthongized to (prau); but this pronunciation may also have arisen in the 18th c., as in *prowl*, merely from the ambiguity of the spelling *ow*.]

† **Prow** (prū), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 pru, pruu, prw, 3–5 prou, 4–6 prowe, 4–7 prow, (5 prow3). See also Prew. [ME. *pru, prou*, a. OF. *pru, prou* (earlier *prod, prot, prut, prout*) profit, advantage (= It. *prode*, Sp., Pg. *pro*), subst. use of OF. *pru, prou* (*prod, prud*), It. *prode*, adj.: see next. Cf. Improve *v.*[2]] Advantage, profit, benefit, weal, good.

c 1290 *Beket* 356 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 116 þe bischopriches fullen boþe, In-to þe kingus hond, For-to onder-fonge al þe prov þare-of. *Ibid.* (Percy Soc.) 302 That he myȝte the more prou afonge. 1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 10717 As weyl haue þe quyke, þe pru, As þe dede. *c* 1330 — *Chron.* (1810) 278 His barons did also for þe comon prow. 13.. *Cursor M.* 29470 (Cott.) þe neuent es for þin aun pruu [C. *Galba* prow]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Nun's Pr. T.* 130, I shal my self to herbes techen yow That shul been for youre hele and for youre prow. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* xcviii. ix, It maye bee for his prowe, To thynke on it. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 144 Dissaitfullie..he gart him trow, That he wrocht ay for his plesour and prow. *c* 1570 *Pride & Lowl.* (1841) 34 Syr..gladlye would I doon ye prowe, If in this matter I had halfe the skyll.

Prow (prau, bef. 1600 prū), *a. arch.* [ME. a. OF. *prou* adj. (earlier *prod, pro, prud, pru*, nom. *proz, prus*), in later OF. *preu*, mod.F. *preux* = It. *prode*, Pr. *proz, pro*:—late L. **prōdis*, neut. *prōde* (in Itala), = the first element in L. *prōd-esse* to be useful or profitable, to do good: see Proud, also the ME. forms Preu, *pru, prew, preus*, corresp. to later OF.] Good, worthy, valiant, brave, gallant.

(A doublet of the earlier *prūt, prūd*, Proud, introduced anew in the French sense, after *proud* was specialized in its English sense = *superbus*. App. obsolete from 16th c. (cf. Preu), but the superlative *prowest* was much affected by Spenser, whence it has come down in later poets. Some modern writers have also revived the positive *prow*.)

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 115 He þat hauys a long nose rechinge to þe mouth, ys prow and hardy. *a* 1555 Philpot *Exam. & Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 360 Christ, our most prowest Master, keepeth silence of them. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* I. iv. 41 The prowest knight that ever field did fight. *Ibid.* III. iii. 28 Proofe of thy prow valiaunce Thou then shalt make. 1591 Harington *Orl. Fur.* xlvi. vii, The noblest, stoutest, and the prowest knight. 1671 Milton *P. R.* III. 342 Angelica His Daughter, sought by many Prowest Knights Both Paynim, and the Peers of Charlemane. 1818 Hallam *Mid. Ages* (1872) I. i. II. 52 They might claim to be the prowest knights in Europe. 1851 C. L. Smith tr. *Tasso* III. lix, A man more wise of head or prow of hand. 1869 Tennyson *Pelleas & Ettarre* 342 From prime to vespers will I chant thy praise As prowest knight and truest lover. 1898 T. Hardy *Wessex Poems* 69 Carl Schwartzenberg was in the plot, And Blücher, prompt and prow.

† **Prow**, *v. Obs. rare.* In 4 prowe, prou. [f. Prow *sb.*[2] or *a.*; possibly, 'to prow', in *him to prow, the folk to prow* = 'for advantage to him, to the people', was mistaken for a verb infinitive. Cf.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8820 When þe kyng herde of þer vertu, þat þey myght falle þe folk to prw, He had longyng for hem to go..þe stones to Bretaigne for to brynge.]

intr. To be of advantage; to be profitable or beneficial. Const. *to* or *dative*.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 298 þat no þing suld be left, þat myght to Inglond prowe. 13.. *Cursor M.* 27127 (Cott.) And es he for a fule to trou, þat will noght do þat mai him prou.

Prow, Malay boat: see Proa. **Prowd(e**, obs. f. Proud. **Prowdence**, obs. f. Prudence.

† **Prower.** *Obs. rare.* Also 4 -or, -our. [ad. OF. *provere-s* nom. (13th c. in Godef.), obl. *proveur*, var. of *porveor* Purveyor, f. *por-, purveeir* to Purvey.] 'Purveyor, provider of necessaries' (Skeat, *Notes to P. Pl.*).

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 255 My prowor and my plowman, Piers shal ben on erthe [*v. rr.* prowyour, purveour; C. xxii. 260 prower, *v. rr.* prowour, prouour, puruyour]. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* IV. viii. 467 Crist which was..oure beest prower, ordeyned al that was best for us to haue.

Prowere, obs. f. Prore, prow of a ship.

Prowess (prau'ės). Now chiefly *literary*. Forms: 3–5 prouesse, 3–7 prowesse, prowes, 4–5 pruesse, 5 prowez, -is, -ys, prouwis, prouese, -es, proes, -esce, 5–6 prosse, 5–7 proesse, 6 pruice, prowse, 6– prowess. [ME. *prowesse*, a. OF. *proec(c)e, -eisse, -oise*, in mod.F. *prouesse* = Prov., Sp. *proeza*, Cat. *proesa*, It. *prodezza*: f. *pro, prou*, Prow *a.* and -ess[2]. (In 15–17th c. often a monosyllable.)]

1. Valour, bravery, gallantry, martial daring; manly courage, active fortitude.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 397/163 More prouesse ne miȝte be þan was of þis knyȝte. 1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 279 Vor þe noble kinne þat þou art of & vor þi prowesse iwis. *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 118 Of pruesse had he fame. 1375 Barbour *Bruce* IX. 503 Schir yngerame vmphrevell, that ves Renownit of so hye prowes. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 154 That euery man..sholde haue hope to come to glorie of a Prynce or of an empyre, by prosse and vasselage. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 200 Science, proesce, devocion, equyté, Of moste estate his magnanimité. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1207, I aught as prynce him to prise for his prouese. *c* 1489 Caxton *Blanchardyn* xxix. 109 Thourgh þe..hyghe proesse of Blanchardyn. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lv. 188 His hye prowes was suche that no paynym durst abyde him. *Ibid.* lix. 207 By the prowess of .xiiii. persons. 1567 Drant *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. Hij, Prease on with luckie foote to where thy pruice calleth the. 1586 Warner *Alb. Eng.* I. v. (1612) 16 Philoctes trustlesse of his prowse. 1603 Owen *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 209 A mightye, and valiant gentleman of no small power or prowes. 1610 Holland *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 7 Whom they matched every way in manhood and proesse. 1667 Milton *P. L.* XI. 789 First seen in acts of prowess eminent And great exploits. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xli. (1869) II. 548 Their prowess was always conspicuous in single combats. 1809 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) IV. 538 So glorious a display of the valor and prowess of his troops. 1877 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 216 Military distinction is no more possible by prowess.

b. An act of bravery; a valiant deed; a daring feat or exploit. (Chiefly in *pl.* = deeds of valour.)

1340 *Ayenb.* 59 þe zenne of þan þet zuo bleþeliche recordeþ hare dedes and hare prowesses. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 205 Vayne glory of this forsayde proesses. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 13 By these men, worthie prowesses haue been dooen. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. ix. 352 To do those actes and prowesses which shall be spoken of. 1843 Carlyle *Past & Pr.* III. i, If he speaks of his excellencies and prowesses.

† **2.** Moral goodness or excellence; virtue. *Obs.*

c 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (E.E.T.S.) 138 What oþer þing semeþ hele of corages but bounte and prowesse. *c* 1386 — *Wife's T.* 273 (Ellesm.) For god of his goodnesse [6 *texts* prowesse, prouesse] Wole that of hym we clayme oure gentillesse.

† **Prowessed** (prau'ėst), *a. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + *-d* = -ed[2], app. through a misunderstanding of the superl. *prowest* (see Prow *a.*) in Spenser and Milton.] Endowed with prowess; valiant.

1717 E. Fenton *Odyss.* XI. Poems 111 Feminine Deceit, To them more fatal than the prowess'd Foe. 1726 Pope *Odyss.* XVIII. 139 Our freedom to thy prowess'd arm we owe.

Prow'essful, *a. rare.* [f. Prowess (in 16–17th c. *prow's, prowse*) + -ful.] Full of prowess; valorous, valiant.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* Argt. 3 Nimrod vsurps: his prow's-full Policy, To gain himselfe the Goal of Soveraignty. 1608 *Ibid.* II. iv. IV. *Decay* 839 But, the brave Prince cleaves quicker then the rest His slender Firr-poles, as more prow's-full prest. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* I. i. (1660) 3 Worthy prowesfull exploits performed in Martiall services. 1899 J. H. Metcalfe *Earldom Wiltes* 9 The Scropes have been no less distinguished and prowess-full in the battle-field.

Prowl (praul), *v.* Forms: *a.* 4–6 prolle, (5 pralle), 6–8 proll, prole, 7 prool(e. *β.* 6–7 proule, prowle, 7–8 proul, 7– prowl. [ME. *prolle-en*, origin unknown: there is app. no related word outside English. The change to *proul, prowl*, was at first merely one of spelling (cf. Bowl *sb.*[1]), but has since *c* 1750 perverted the pronunciation from (prōl, prōul) to (praul).]

1. *intr.* Originally, To go or move about, esp. in search of or looking for something; hence, to go, rove, roam, or wander about, in search of what can be found, esp. of plunder or prey, or with predatory intent. Orig. chiefly of persons; in mod. use (cf. Prowling *ppl. a.*, quot. 1667), characteristically of wild beasts, or men acting like them.

a. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 859 Though ye prolle ay ye shul it neuere fynde Ye been as boold as is Bayard the blynde That blondreth forth. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Prollyn, as ratchys, *scrutor*. 1530 Palsgr. 667/2, I prolle, I go here and there to seke a thyng, *je tracasse*... The felowe prolleth aboute, but it cometh nat to effecte. 1579 Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 160 [Wolves] Priuely prolling two and froe. 1608 Topsell *Serpents* (1658) 655 Some do prole after Wasps, and kill them. 1687 Dryden *Hind & P.* III. 413 You..range around the realm without controll Among my sons, for Proselytes to prole. 1735 Somerville *Chase* I. 309 [Robbers] Then proling far and near, whate'er they seize Becomes their Prey.

β. 1538 [see Prowling *vbl. sb.* 8]. 1563 B. Googe *Eglogs* viii. (Arb.) 68 Whose gredy Pawes, do neuer ceas, in synfull fluds to prowle [*rime* soule]. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 802 The nightly Wolf, that round th' Enclosure proul'd To leap the Fence; now plots not on the Fold. 1778 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* Aug., I then prowled about to choose some book. 1791 *Ibid.* 1 Aug., We determined.. to prowl to the churchyard, and read the tombstone inscriptions. *c* 1850 Neale *Hymn*, '*Christian, dost thou see them*' i, How the troops of Midian Prowl and prowl around. 1866 Alger *Solit. Nat. & Man* I. 20 The leopard prowls through the jungle alone. 1888 Besant *Inner House* v, We have prowled about the old building.

† **b.** To search, seek *for* something (without moving about). *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 J. Russell *Bk. Nurture* 280 Youre hed ne bak ye claw, a fleigh as þaughe ye sought, ne youre heere ye stryke, ne pyke, to pralle for a flesche mought. 1687 *New Atlantis* III. 520 Thoughtful and dull..Stood Bavius, proling for his barren Muse.

† **c.** *fig.* To seek for gain or advantage in a mean, grasping, or underhand way; to 'cadge'. *Obs.*

a. 1530 [see Prowling *vbl. sb. a*]. 1550 Crowley *Waie to Wealth* Wks. (1872) 145 Purchaisinge and prollynge for benefices. 1563–87 Foxe *A. & M.* (1596) 261/1 An other pretie practise of the pope to proll for monie, was this. 1669 Marvell *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 272 A Corporation of your dignity dos not proll for advantage upon gentlemen your neighbours.

β. 1550 Bale *Eng. Votaries* II. N ij, This legate..went banketynge and prowlynge from bishope to bishope. 1603 H. Crosse *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 129 It is not equall..for a man to liue prowling and shifting by the labours of other men.

† **2.** *trans.* To obtain (something) by stealth, cheating, or petty theft; to get in a clandestine way; to pilfer, to filch. *Obs.*

1530 *Proper Dialogue* in *Rede me*, etc. (Arb.) 137 What soeuer we get with sweate and labour That prolle they awaye with their prayour. 1592 Warner *Alb. Eng.* IX. xlvii. (1612) 220 For from my fault could not, as chanst, the Somner prole a fee. 1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 132 If we found any breach in any wall of a house, we would prie what we could proule from thence. *a* 1677 Barrow *Pope's Suprem.* Wks. 1687 I. 183 By how many tricks did he proll money from all parts of Christendom?

† **b.** *intr.* To plunder, steal, pilfer. *Obs.*

1571 Campion *Hist. Irel.* II. v. (1633) 84 Surfeited with flesh and acquauitae all the Lent long, prolled and pilled insatiably without neede. 1573 Tusser *Husb.* (1878) 143 The champion robbeth by night, And prowleth and filcheth by day. 1658 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* II. 4 That he, who hath no hope of another world, be made to shark and prole to get some of this.

† **c.** *trans.* To plunder, rob (a person). *Obs.*

1603 Florio *Montaigne* 503, I overwhelme and contemne it then in great, by retayle it spoyles and proules me. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 111 Were it not for prolling or molesting the People, his Majesty would give Mr. Bayes the Patent for it.

3. To traverse (a place or region) esp. on the look out for prey; to traverse stealthily. † In quot. 1649, to steal in through (*obs.*).

a 1586 Sidney *Arcadia* II. Poems (Grosart) II. 64 He proules each place, still in new colours deckt, Sucking one's ill, another to infect. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. V* cclxxv, The invading Brine Prolls everie Seame. 1750 Gray *Long Story* 45 Who prowl'd the country far and near. 1879 Miss Yonge *Cameos* Ser. IV. xx. 213 He prowled the streets in disguise.

Prowl (praul), *sb.* [f. prec. vb.] An act or the action of prowling; roaming or roving about, esp. in search of plunder or prey. *On* or *upon the prowl*, prowling about.

1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 54 A poor miserable thief had been all night upon the prowl. 1836 W. Irving *Astoria* II. xxviii. 118 The Crow Indians..are apt to be continually on the prowl about the skirts of the mountains. 1876 'Annie Thomas' *Blotted out* iii. 31 Let us clear off this business as soon as we can, and then go out for a prowl. 1895 *19th Cent.* Sept. 482 Through all the intricacies of their hunting prowl we followed them.

Prowler (prau'ləi). Forms: *a.* 6–7 proller, 7–8 proler. *β.* 6– prowler, (6 prouler). [f. as prec. + -er[1].] One who prowls; one who goes about on the look-out for what he can find or seize; one who sneaks about in search of prey or plunder; also, † one who seeks gain or advantage by any underhand or dishonourable means; a parasite, a 'sponge'; a pilferer, impostor, cheat, plunderer (*obs.*).

a. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 28 b, He is a good proller for the bely. *a* 1520 *Vox Populi Vox Dei* 712 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 292 Customers and comptrollers, Purvyours and prollers. 1550 Lever *Serm.* (Arb.) 63 Couetous greedyguttes and ambicious prollers. 1632 Burton *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. viii. (ed. 4) 366 No sharkers, no Cunnicatchers, no prolers. 1735 Somerville *Chase* IV. 398 O'er the dank rushy Marsh The sly Goose-footed Proler [the otter] bends his Course.

β. 1587 North *Guevara's Diall Pr.* IV. vii. (1568) 125 b, Greedy gluttons, and shameles prowlers. 1670 Milton *Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 130 Suttle Prowlers, Pastors in Name, but indeed Wolves. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XV. 712 Some prowler of the wilds. 1861 Dickens *Tom Tiddler* i, You attract all the disreputable vagabonds and prowlers.

†Prow·lery. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as prec. + -ERY.] The action or practice of a prowler; a mode of plunder or dishonest gain; a swindle.

a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 51 Before the month of March expir'd, thirty-seven monopolies, with other sharking prouleries, were decried in one proclamation.

Prow·ling, *vbl. sb.* Forms: see PROWL *v.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb PROWL in various senses.

a. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Prollynge, or sekynge, *perscrutacio.* 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Prolyng for a promocyon, *ambition.* 1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIV. lxxx. 339 Seauenth Henry..Of his Retriuers Proolings much (as well he might) repented. 1687 *New Atlantis* II. 194 Such proling is unworthy our great Name.

β. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1584 By prowlynge and lyenge ye fryers wolde all haue. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 173 There would not be that insolency of Popish Recusants, that licence of Rogues and wanderers, that prouling of Officers. 1908 *Daily News* 6 July 6 All the odds and ends that he picks up on his prowlings along the coast.

Prow·ling, *ppl. a.* Forms: see PROWL *v.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That prowls, in various senses.

a. 1565 DRANT *Reply to Epit. on C. Scotte by R. Shacklock,* No golden Andwerpe, no of truth they seke no gold of thyne, A cheat of thanks for popysh priests to cram their prolling pine. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estiennes World of Wonders* 137 Prolling pettifoggers. 1710 *Life of Stilling-fleet* 116 The Patent 13th Jacobi to explain it, was called a Proling Patent and of no Effect in Law.

β. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 66 The gredy carle and prowling poller, that is neuer filled. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 183 A prowling Wolfe, Whom hunger drives to seek new haunt for prey. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Behaviour* Wks. (Bohn) II. 385 There are asking eyes, asserting eyes, prowling eyes; and eyes full of fate. 1882 *Pall Mall G.* 10 July 4/1 The system of prowling hansoms may be gainful to cabdrivers, and perhaps..convenient to the public.

Hence **Prow·lingly** *adv.* (in mod. dicts.).

Prown(e, obs. forms of PRUNE *sb.* and *v.*

Prowor, -our, variants of PROWER *Obs.*

†Prow·ous, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PROW *sb.*² or *a.* + -OUS.] Brave, valiant: = PROW *a.*

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 91 He þat berys it with hym shal be prowous and hardy. 1422 *Ibid., Priv. Priv.* 176 By Speche of the Pepille, a coward may be as Prowos as Ector of troi.

Prowse, Prowte, obs. f. PROWESS, PROUD.

†Prox (prɒks). *U. S. local* (*Rhode Islana*). *Obs.* [abbrev. of PROXY: see quot. 1843.] (See quots., and cf. PROXY *sb.* 4.)

1698 *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* (1861) III. 333 Voted, That Capt'n Nathaniel Coddington, Capt'n Robert Carr, are appointed to open the prox votes on the day of Election. 1768 *Ibid.* VI. 551 Upon this plan..only one prox will be printed. 1816 PICKERING *Vocab. U.S.* s. v. *Proxies,* The abbreviation *Prox* is also used in Rhode Island, for the Ticket; that is, the List of Candidates at Elections. 1843 STAPLES *Ann. Providence* 64 Such of the colony as could not attend the General Assembly had the right to send their votes for these officers by some other persons; hence the origin of the terms prox, and proxy votes, as applied to the present mode of voting for state officers in Rhode-Island.

†Prox·enete. *Obs.* Also 7 -et. [a. F. *proxénète* (16th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *proxenēta,* ad. Gr. προξενητής a negotiator, agent, agent-n. f. προξενεῖν to be one's πρόξενος (see next), to manage for another.] One who negotiates something, esp. a marriage; an agent, go-between, match-maker.

1659 H. MORE *Immort. Soul* III. iii. xiii. (1662) 203 He being the common proxenet or contractor of all natural matches and marriages betwixt forms and matter. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xli. 341 To supply the place of a.. Proxenete or Mediator. 1813 F. DOUGLAS *Anc. & Mod. Greeks* 108 He then applies to some respectable matron ..who assumes the name and character of the ancient Proxenete.

‖ Proxenus (prɒksēnŏs). Also in Gr. form **proxenos.** Pl. **proxeni** (-ai). [mod.L., a. Gr. πρόξενος, f. πρό, PRO-² + ξένος a guest, stranger.] In *Gr. Antiq.,* A resident citizen of a state appointed by another state to represent and protect its interests there: see quot. 1842. Hence *transf.*

1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* III. xxi. 193 Laco son of Aimnestus, was *proxenus* of Sparta. 1842 SMITH *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 491/1 The office of proxenus..bears great resemblance to that of a modern consul or minister-resident...When a state appointed a proxenus, it either sent out one of its own citizens to reside in the other state, or it selected one of the citizens of this state, and conferred upon him the honour of proxenus. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxv. VIII. 375 Nikias.., the friend and proxenus of Sparta at Athens. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 18 Oct. 5/1 Mr. Childs..has been to them a sort of British proxenos in Philadelphia.

Proxeny (prɒ·ksėni). [ad. Gr. προξενία, f. πρόξενος PROXENUS: so F. *proxénie.*] The office or function of a *proxenus*; the system of *proxeni.*

1842 SMITH *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 491/2 Privileges..not necessarily included in the proxeny. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. vi. II. 518 No multiplication of proxenies (or standing tickets of hospitality) between the important cities. 1890 *Smith's Dict. Antiq.* I. 979/1 The Delphian decree..conferring the proxeny on the Athenian priestess Chrysis.

Prox·ically, *adv. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. PROXY + -ICAL + -LY².] In the way of a proxy or substitute; as representing another.

1828 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 113, I must thank you on my own part, as well as proxically for Mrs. S.

Proximad (prɒ·ksimæd), *adv. Anat.* [f. as next + *-ad*: see DEXTRAD.] In the direction of its point of attachment: opp. to DISTAD.

1803 BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 167 In both kinds of extremities, Proximad will signify towards the proximate aspect. 1808 — *Muscular Motions* 395 Where the olecranon is drawn proximad upon the anconal aspect of the humerus. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 536/2 The shoulder is proximad of the elbow, the elbow is proximad of the wrist.

Proximal (prɒ·ksimăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *proximus* nearest + -AL.]

1. †a. Lying very near or close *to* something: in quot. *fig. Obs.* **b.** Proximate, immediate. *rare.*

1727 *Philip Quarll* 71 Qualifications so proximal and suitable to my Inclinations. 1828 in WEBSTER. 1884 *American* VII. 233 The proximal cause of the glory.

2. *Anat.* Situated towards the centre of the body, or the point of origin or attachment of a limb, bone, or other structure: opp. to DISTAL.

1803 BARCLAY *New Anat. Nomencl.* 7 The first, second, and third, or what I would call the *proximal, medial,* and *distal* phalanxes. *Ibid.* 124 We may..denominate the end [of a limb] which is nearest to the trunk the *Proximal* end, and that which is farthest from it the *Distal.* 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 213 A third bone..articulates only with the carpal bones on the proximal and distal sides of it.

b. *transf.*

1882 D. HOOPER in *Standard* 10 Oct. 2/2 The drainage-pipes are..very imperfectly..connected at their proximal or house termination. 1886 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XXVIII. 650 A brace or bracket made out of an unhewed piece of timber, generally the proximal portion of some big branch.

B. as *sb., ellipt.* for *proximal end* or *part.*

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

Hence **Prox·imally** *adv.*, in a proximal position; towards or near the proximal part or end.

1880 DUNCAN in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 140 The second is partly hidden proximally, by the meeting of the side armplates. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 581 The colour change beginning at the tips and advancing proximally.

Proximate (prɒ·ksimăt), *a.* [ad. late L. *proximāt-us,* pa. pple. of *proxim-āre* to draw near, approach, f. *proxim-us* nearest.]

1. Closely neighbouring, immediately adjacent, next, nearest (in space, serial order, quality, etc.); close, intimate (quot. 1864).

1597 [implied in PROXIMATELY 1]. 1755 JOHNSON *Pref. to Dict.* P 48 Words are seldom exactly synonymous...It was then necessary to use the proximate word; for the deficiency of single terms can very seldom be supplied by circumlocution. 1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 138 Parts of the..valley are distinguished by [the name] of some proximate village. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* i. (1876) 27 Crete, with which both Assyria and Tyre were in proximate intercourse.

b. Coming next or very near in time, closely approaching.

1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1847) I. 61/1 A distinct form of imperative for the proximate and distant future. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VII. lxiii. 197 In choosing him for their prince, the nobles..may have looked to another proximate vacancy. 1889 *Science* 4 Oct. 228 The enormous consumption of petroleum and natural gas..raises the question as to the..proximate exhaustion of the supply.

2. Coming next (before or after) in a chain of causation, agency, reasoning, or other relation; immediate: opposed to *remote* or *ultimate.*

Proximate principle, constituent, or *element* (*Chem.*), one of those compounds of which a more complex body is directly made up, and which are therefore first arrived at in the process of analysis: so *proximate analysis.*

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xii. 114 We hastily conclude that impossible, which we see not in the proximate capacity of its Efficient. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 6 May, The proximate cause of her breach with Sir Ulic Mackilligut. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 271 The proximate principles of vegetable and animal bodies. 1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* Introd. § 295 Readings that are explicable by the supposition of a common proximate original.

3. Nearly accurate or correct; approximate.

1796 in Morse *Amer. Geog.* I. 667 The proximate breadth behind the toes. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 281 In searching for a proximate notion of the extent of the carnage. 1863, 1902 [implied in PROXIMATELY 3].

†Proximate, *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *proximāre*: see prec. and -ATE³.] (See quot.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Proximate,* to aproach or draw neere.

Prox·imately, *adv.* [f. PROXIMATE *a.* + -LY².]

1. In an immediately adjacent situation (in space, serial order, etc.); next; closely.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 32 b/2 On that parte which nexte and proximately thervnto is situated. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 283, I manifestly drew near..and proximately adored them.

2. In the way of immediate agency, etc.; by direct relation; as the next (preceding or following) term in a series of causes or the like; immediately: opposed to *remotely* or *ultimately.*

1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. v. 105 Was it not proximately in my nearer Parents? 1691 — *Nat. Ch.* i. 2 Tho' it meant Christ remotely and eminently, it meant his Successors proximately. 1745 WESLEY *Answ. Ch.* 18 Faith.. is Proximately necessary thereto; Repentance, Remotely. 1878 GLADSTONE in *19th Cent.* Mar. 594 Where our partners ..are both more proximately and more deeply concerned than ourselves.

3. With approach to accuracy; approximately.

1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. 361 This .. may proximately be regarded as the amount of gold which England annually requires to maintain her metallic currency. 1902 J. H. ROSE *Napoleon I,* I. xii. 297 The same remark is proximately true of the literary life of the First Empire.

Prox·imateness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact of being proximate; nearness in position.

1881 WESTCOTT & HORT *Grk. N. T.* II. 217 The question of its remoteness or proximateness to the two extant MSS. remains undecided.

†Prox·ime, proxim, *a. Obs.* [ad. L. *proxim-us* nearest, superl. adj. f. *prope* near.]

1. Next in position, adjacent: = PROXIMATE *a.* 1.

1651 (impl. in PROXIMELY). 1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* xx. 200 The agitated parts of the Brain begetting a motion in the proxime Æther. 1832 W. STEPHENSON *Gateshead Poems* 65 They..Would sit proxime and snatch a stolen kiss.

2. Next in causation, reasoning, etc.: = PROXIMATE *a.* 2.

1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 264 The punishment it self which is the remote term and the obligation to it, which is the proxime term of pardon. 1693 J. BEAUMONT *On Burnet's Th. Earth* I. 46 We must not look after proxim Causes in Nature for it. 1725 WATTS *Logic* III. I. § 1 The three terms are called the remote matter of a syllogism; and the three propositions the proxime or immediate matter of it.

Hence **†Prox·imely** *adv. Obs.* = PROXIMATELY.

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* P 295 Although simility doth proximely include familiarity.

‖ Proxime accessit (prɒ·ksimi ækse·sit). [Lat. phr. = 'he (or she) has come very near (or next).'] A phrase indicating that the person in question has obtained the next place in merit to the actual winner of a prize, scholarship, etc.; hence as *sb.* applied to the person himself, or his position. Also *colloq.* abbreviated *proxime.*

1878 LOCKHART *Mine is Thine* I. xi. 224, I..was *proxime accessit* for the Chancellor's medal at Cambridge. 1882 SIR F. LEIGHTON in *Standard* 11 Dec. 3/2 They had.. reserved an honourable mention, as *proxime accessit.* 1896 J. S. COTTON in *Academy* 13 June 488/3 He won the Ireland in his second year, though for the Hertford and the Craven he came out only as proxime.

†Proximio·rity. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. L. *proxim-us* (see PROXIME *a.*) + L. *-ior,* suffix of compar. degree + -ITY. (The correct formation f. L. compar. *propior* nearer, would be **propiority.*)] The fact of being nearer; greater proximity.

1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. i. vi. 32/1 If to the Proximiority which the Moon has to the Earth, by moving in her Eclipsis, there be added that Proximiority which she hath in her Eccentrick (or opposite Angles).

Proximity (prɒksi·mĭti). [a. F. *proximité* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *proximitāt-em* nearness (etymologically, state of being nearest, 'nextness'), f. *proxim-us* nearest: see PROXIME.] The fact, condition, or position of being near or close by; nearness, neighbourhood: **a.** in space.

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* I. (1599) 16 The proximitie and neighbourhood of Myllan with France. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 9 Tempt not Contagion by proximity, and hazard not thy self in the shadow of Corruption. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxv. 67 The effect of the proximity was a strong adhesion of the bodies. 1845 MCCULLOCH *Taxation* I. iii. (1852) 101 Our proximity to Ireland. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 286 Owing to the close proximity to the sea.

b. in abstract relations, as kinship (the earliest use: usually in phr. *proximity of blood*); affinity of nature, nearness in time, etc.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XIII. ii, By reson of proxymyte I oughte haue them, syth th[e] cometh none nerrer heyre than I am. 1521 LD. DACRE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 283 Bi reason of the nerenes and proximitie of blood. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 327 Marriages in proximity of blood are amongst us forbidden. 1762 WARBURTON *Doctr. Grace* Pref., A dark conceit and a dull one have a great proximity in modern wit. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. iii. 201 Nor is it to this day decided..whether the order of the stocks, or the proximity of degree, shall take place. 1876 GLADSTONE *Homeric Synchr.* 69 The inferences..are in favour of the Poet's proximity in time to the War of Troy.

Hence **Proxi·mitive** *a.* [irreg., on false analogy], of, belonging to, or arising from proximity.

1888 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Phantom Future* II. vi. 85 To get farther from a proximitive influence which was becoming too strong for her.

‖ Proximo (prɒ·ksimo). [L. *proximō* (sc. *mense*) 'in the next month'.] In or of next month. (Following the ordinal numeral denoting the day.) Abbreviated *prox.*

1855 *N. & Q.* ser. I. I. 10 Of the common phrases *ultimo, instant,* and *proximo.* 1864 WEBSTER s.v., On the 3d proximo. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 18 Dec. 4/4 About the 1st proximo.

Proximocephalic (prɒksimosĭfæ·lik), *a. Anat.* [f. *proximo-,* taken as combining form of L. *proximus* nearest + Gr. κεφαλή head + -IC: cf. *cephalic.*] *prop.* Nearest or next to the head.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 536/2 In numbering the individual elements [the carpal bones] the first is the most proximo-cephalic, that is the scaphoid.

†Prox·imous, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *proximus* (see PROXIME *a.*) + -OUS.] = PROXIMATE *a.* 2.

1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 390 This righteousness then is the proximous cause operating to salvation.

Proxy (prɒ·ksi), *sb.* Forms: 5 procusie, prokecye, 6 prockesy; 5 proccy, proxci, 6-7 proxi, -ie, -ye, (6 proxe, 7 procsey), 6- proxy. [= *proc'cy,* contracted from PROCURACY, as *Proctor* from *Procurator.*]

I. 1. The agency of one who acts by appoint-

ment instead of another; the action of a substitute or deputy: = PROCURACY 1, PROCURATION 2.

Chiefly in phr. *by proxy*, by the agency of another; by or through a substitute; not in person.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 414/2 Prokecye, *procuracia.* 1530 PALSGR. 258/2 Prockesy, *procuration.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 146 b, [They] by proxie affied the young Lady. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* 234 The voice by Proxi hold I not the least. 1647 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lxvi. (1739) 155 They..appeared either personally or by proxy. 1762–71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) III. 193 Not content to acquire glory by proxy. 1850 HT. MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* II. IV. xiii. 174 The marriage had taken place by proxy. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 170 Which latter may even vote by proxy.

† 2. A document empowering a person to represent and act for another; a letter of attorney: = PROCURACY 2, PROCURATION 2 b. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 149 By A procuratour..in whos procusies whas i-conteyned that [etc.]. *c* 1475 *Harl. Contin. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 501 This proccy redde and expressede, syr Iohn Busche, speker..rehersede þese wordes. 1484 *Indenture* in G. T. Clark *Cartæ Glamorgan* (1893) IV. 396 A proxci ofe theire fulle auctorite commyttede to the same Richarde. 1561 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 126 A sufficient proxye or letter of atturney. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 421 The Warrant and Authority..which we in English call a Proxy.

b. *spec.* A writing authorizing a person to vote instead of another, at an election, a meeting of shareholders, etc., or as formerly in the House of Lords; hence, a vote so given. (Cf. also 4.)

1587 HARRISON *England* II. viii. (1877) I. 175 The consent of this [upper] house is giuen by each man seuerallie, first for himselfe..then..for so manie as he hath letters and proxies directed vnto him. 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. to* 19 *Propos. both Ho. Parl.* 25 They shall not be admitted to sit in the House of Peers, but onely to give their Proxies to such Protestant Lords as they shall chuse. 1648 *Art. Peace* xi. in *Milton's Wks.* (1851) IV. 517 That no Nobleman or Peer of this Realm ..shall be hereafter capable of more Proxies then two, and that blank Proxies shall be hereafter totally disallowed. 1808 *Hansard's Parl. Debates* X. 1053 The house then divided on lord Arden's motion: Contents 52, Proxies 32—84; Non-contents 45, Proxies 39—84. The numbers .. being equal, the non-contents, according to the usage of the house, carried it. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 82 Has not the Duke of Wellington at this moment..the proxies of fifty peers in his pocket? 1868 *Jrnls. Ho. Lords* 31 Mar. 99/2 Standing Order xxxii *a.* Ordered, That the Practice of calling for Proxies on a Division shall be discontinued.

1832 LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* xii. 97 Representation, in its primary political sense, means..holding another's proxy. 1840 ARNOLD in *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. ix. 201, I cannot hesitate for an instant which side to take, and I will send you my proxy without a moment's hesitation. 1880 *Beeton's Everybody's Lawyer* 1287 Whoever votes upon the authority of an unstamped proxy is liable to the same penalty as the person who executed it. 1900 *Whitaker's Alm.* 433 *Stamps and Taxes* Proxy to vote at a meeting o. o. rd.

3. A person appointed or authorized to act instead of another; an attorney, substitute, representative, agent. (Cf. PROCTOR 2, PROCURATOR 2.)

1614 JACKSON *Creed* III. xxxii. § 4 They..thus absolutely betrouth them to his Proxy or principall Agent here on earth. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Elegie to M. D. Hill* 178 Make mee thy Proxie. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. ii. 168 Another privilege is, that every peer..may make another lord of parliament his proxy, to vote for him in his absence. 1812 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1838) IX. 237, I am very much ..flattered by your having been my proxy at the Installation of the Knights of the Bath. 1878 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1898) I. iv. 181 Don Federigo her uncle as her proxy received the nuptial ring.

b. *fig.* of things.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xiii. (1840) 67 Where the deed could not be present, the desire was a sufficient proxy. *a* 1683 OLDHAM *Passion Byblis* Poet. Wks. (1686) 135, I should myself have gone Nor made my pen a Proxy to my Tongue. 1853 PATMORE *Poems, Girl of All Periods* (1906) 422 Twixt her shapely lips, a violet Perch'd as a proxy for a cigarette.

† 4. *U. S. local* (*Rhode Isl. and Conn.*). orig. A written vote for the legislative assembly sent by a deputy: hence, loosely applied to the voting-papers or votes generally (cf. quot. 1843 s. v. PROX); and hence to the election or day of election. *Obs.*

1660 (Apr. 11) in *Conn. Col. Rec.* I. 346 The remote Plantations that use to send Proxies at the Election by their Deputies. 1679 *Rhode Isl. Col. Rec.* (1861) III. 30 Voted,..that Capt'n Samuell Gorton and Mr. Caleb Carr shall open the proxies. 1755 DOUGLASS *Summary* (1760) II. 89 (Rhode I.) Formerly..the proxies or voters never exceeded 1300:..and anno 1749, the proxies were only 888. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* I. v. 32 The written votes or ballots which through a mistake or else abuse of terms, the statutes occasionally call proxies. *a* 1816 *Connecticut Newspr.* (Pickering), Republicans of Connecticut, previous to every proxies you have been assaulted on every side...On the approaching proxies we ask you to attend universally. 1816 PICKERING *Vocab. U.S.* 156 This use of the term *proxies* is not known..in any of the States, except Rhode Island and Connecticut. It is also used sometimes as equivalent to *election*, or *election-day*. 1828 in WEBSTER. 1846 in WORCESTER.

II. † 5. *Eccl.* Provision or entertainment for a visiting bishop or his representative; an annual payment by incumbents to the ordinary, in commutation of this; = PROCURACY 3, PROCURATION 3. *Obs.*

1534 HEN. VIII in J. Bacon *Liber Regis* (1786) p. xiv, Except only suche annuell and perpetuall rentts, pensions, ..proxis, and fees for officers, as before specyally ys mencyoned. 1661 J. STEPHENS *Procurations* 37 The Bishop of Meth..had a Proxie of 15*s.* 4*d* payable yearly out of the Commandery of Kells. *Ibid.* 46 'Twas noted that the same which we call Proxie or Procuracy, is termed by the Canonists *Procuratio*, because that in every Visitation the persons visited procured necessary provision for the Visitors..But afterwards .. Proxies [were] reduced to a certain sum of money payable yearly in the nature of a Pension to the Ordinary, who had power of visitation. 1725 SWIFT *Let. to Sheridan* 28 June, The other fifty must go in a curate and visitation charges,—proxies I mean. 1848 in WHARTON *Law Lex.* [but see PROCURATION 3, quot. 1895.]

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*; done by proxy, as *proxy help, marriage, prayer, vote*; **proxy-man,** = sense 3; **proxy-wedded** *a.*, wedded by proxy.

1696 *Growth Deism* 16 Whether an Oath of Abjuration laid upon the Jacobites Proxy-men, will put an end to this Corruption. 1716 *Rhode Isl. Col. Rec.* (1861) IV. 208 This act has no reference to proxy votes, which are to be signed according to former custom. 1843 W. R. STAPLES *Ann. Providence* 65. *a* 1845 HOOD *Stag Eyed Lady* vi, And drummed with proxy-prayers Mohammed's ear. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* I. 33 She to me Was proxy-wedded with a bootless calf At eight years old. 1900 *Everybody's Mag.* III. 574/1 It all comes of those proxy marriages.

Hence **Pro·xy** *v. intr.*, to act or vote by proxy (*rare*); **Pro·xyhood, Pro·xyship,** the office or function of a proxy or substitute.

a 1832 MACKINTOSH cited in Worcester (1846) for Proxy *v.* 1776 in Doran *Mann & Manners* (1876) II. xiii. 301 My *proxyhood made a pompous article in the Italian Gazettes. 1674 BREVINT *Saul at Endor* xvi. 394 The same Correspondency, and *Proxiship between these Spirits, and their Images.

Proye, obs. form of PREY.

Proyn(e, obs. form of PREEN *v.*[2], and PRUNE.

Prozoic (prozō·ik), *a. Geol.* [mod. f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO-[2] 1 + *ζωή* life + -IC; cf. F. *prozoïque* (Huet).] Belonging to the period before the appearance of life on the earth.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1877 F. M. ENDLICH in *11th Rep. U. S. Geol. & Geog. Surv. Territories* (1879) 66 This occurrence of prozoic rocks is one of great interest...We found that the prozoic granite..disappeared altogether in the main chain, except northward.

Prozoosporange, -zygapophysis: see PRO-[2].

Prozymite (prō·ziməit). *Eccl. Hist.* [ad. late Gr. *προζυμίτης*, f. *προζύμιον* leaven, f. *πρό* before, etc. + *ζύμη* leaven.] One who uses leavened bread in the Eucharist: a hostile appellation for members of the Greek Church. (Cf. AZYMITE.)

1850 TORREY *Neander's Ch. Hist.* VI. 418 [At Byzantium in 1054] The two parties called each other by the heretical names, Azymites and Prozymites. 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U. S.) II. 76 The Latins retorted [to the stigma 'azymites'] with 'prozymites'.

Prozymogen (prozəi·mŏdʒen). *Phys. Chem.* [f. Gr. *πρό*, PRO-[2] 1 + ZYMOGEN.] A substance produced by certain cells in the stomach of a newt, afterwards converted into a zymogen.

1900 *Lancet* 11 Aug. 447/2 As the cell parted with its zymogen a new substance—prozymogen—was produced by the nucleus at the expense of the chromatin.

Pru, var. of PROW *sb.*[2] and *v.*, PREU, PROO.

Pruan, -ant, obs. forms of PRUNE *sb.*

† Pruance. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. *pru*, PREU, PROW *a.* + -ANCE.] Prowess.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8150, Y no miȝt it nouȝt ful rede, þe pruaunce of Wawaines dede.

† Pruce. *Obs.* Forms: 4 pruys, 4–5 prus, 4–8 pruce, 5–7 pruse, (5 prewce, prews(e, 8 pruss, pruche). [ME. *a. Prus*, a. AF. *Pruz, Prus, Pruys*; *β. Pruce*, a. AF. *Pruce*, mod.F. *Prusse*, Prussia: see PRUSSIAN, and SPRUCE *sb.*]

1. *Geog.* Prussia.

[? *a* 1300 in *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 238 De c de stokfisshe venaunt del Pruz, quart.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 53 Abouen alle nacions in Pruce. [1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* 1 En les parties de Barbarye et de Pruz. *a* 1440 WALSINGHAM *Hist. Angl.* (Rolls) II. 197 Dominus Henricus..profectus est in le Pruys.] 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 169 Of the commoditees of Pruse. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 254 In this yere Ser Herry, erl of Derby, sailed into Prus. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 11 Six Hulks from Hull..Which had them oft accompanied to Pruce.

b. *Of Pruce*: Of or from Prussia; hence, Made (*a*) of Prussian or spruce fir wood, (*b*) of Prussian leather. Cf. SPRUCE *sb.*

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* 109 Presentanti dominum cum j tabula commensali de Prucia.] 1462 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* Bundle 37, No. 4 b, 1 mensa de prewse. 1495 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 38 Unam cistam de pruce. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* 1307 Some for defence would leathern bucklers use..others shields of Pruce.

2. *attrib.* **a.** Of Prussia, Prussian; comb. *Pruceland, Pruceman.* **b.** Of spruce fir, as *pruce beer*; *pruce chest, coffer, hutch, table* (but in these prob. orig. = Prussian, without specification of the wood).

a. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 392 If I sent ouer see my seruauntz to Bruges, Or in-to Pruslonde my prentys [*v. rr.* pruys londe, Pruce lond, spruce land; C. VII. 279 prus, spruce, pruys lond]. 1390 *Earl Derby's Exped.* 51 Per manus Nichel Pruceman [Here app. a surname]. 1402 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 16 Pro cariagio iiij^{or} carect[atarum] cum prusware. *c* 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* in Hallïw. *Nugæ Poet.* 7 An hundreth marke of pruce money syne.

b. 1448 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 12, j. pruce hutche. 1463 *Ibid.* 23 As for the prews coffre alwey I wille remayne to my hefd place. 1478 *Maldon, Essex, Court-Rolls* Bundle 50, No. 6 Attachiatus est per 1 pruce tabyll. 1480 *Ibid.* Bundle 51, No. 4 Attachiatus est per 1 pruce chest. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 204 Of colour darke yellowish, like unto pruse Byer. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 379 Turned into pruche or spruss beer.

Prud, prudder, -est, obs. ff. PROUD, *-er, -est.*

Prude (prūd), *a.* and *sb.* [a. mod.F. *prude* adj. and sb., said of a woman in same sense as the Eng. (Molière in Littré), in OF. *prude, prode, preude*, in a laudatory sense, good, virtuous, modest, respectable; either a back-formation from *prudefemme* (cf. PRUDHOMME) or a later fem. form of *prod, pro, pru*: see PREUX, PROW *a.*]

A. *adj.* That maintains or affects extreme propriety of speech and behaviour, especially in regard to the relations of the sexes; excessively modest, demure, or prim; prudish: usually applied adversely. Now *rare.*

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 318, I can't understand what you and my prude Cousin Aurelia mean by being belov'd. 1752 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 449 He is jealous, prude, and scrupulous. 1900 H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scot. 18th C.* (1901) III. ii. 95 The prudest might go and enjoy Vanbrugh's *Provoked Husband*..under guise of innocently listening to Corelli's Sonatas.

B. *sb.* A woman who maintains or affects excessive modesty or propriety in conduct or speech; one who is of extreme propriety: usually applied adversely with implication of affectation.

1704 CIBBER *Careless Husb.* v. i, For you I have..stood the little Insults of Disdainful Prudes, that envy'd me perhaps your Friendship. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 102 ₱ 5 *Prudes*, a Courtly Word for Female Hypocrites. 1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Aug., He is an actual male prude! 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* Prol. 141 If our old halls could change their sex, and flaunt With prudes for proctors, dowagers for deans. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* III. x. 195 Prudes and puritans may disapprove our present form.

Hence **Pru·delike** *a.*, of the nature of, or characteristic of, a prude; **Pru·dely** *adv.*, in the manner of a prude.

1718 *Freethinker* No. 145 ₱ 7 The same idle Charms, by which the gay Pamphilus ensnared the prudelike Honoria. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Expost. Odes* iii. 22 Scorning Moderation's Prude-like stare. 1883 *Mem. Alex. Maclean* 125 Mock her not, ye prudely pure.

Prude, obs. form of PROUD.

Prudence (prū·dĕns). Also 6 *Sc.* prowdence, proudens. [a. F. *prudence* (13th c. in Littré), ad. L. *prūdēntia* foresight, sagacity, skill, prudence, contr. from *prōvidēntia* PROVIDENCE.] The quality of being prudent.

1. Ability to discern the most suitable, politic, or profitable course of action, esp. as regards conduct; practical wisdom, discretion.

1340 *Ayenb.* 125 Prudence lokeþ þane scele þet hi ne bi becaȝt. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 9 With a mantelle of prudens clad thou be. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 77 Enarming me, With fortitude, prowdence, and temperance. *c* 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S. T. S.) vi. 39, I will ..pleiss hir proudens to imprent it. *a* 1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xi. (1640) 102 Prudence is a vertue by which a man doth worke rightly to happinesse. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 3 Beyond all bounds of prudence and discretion. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* I. ii, You so forget All prudence in your fury. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* vii, Prudence, the soul's stern sacristan.

b. An instance of this; a prudent act.

1667 WATERHOUSE *Fire Lond.* 36 In despight of those wonted prudences, and usual resistances. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1897) 291 A night when the ordinary prudences and severities of conscience might be..placed behind the perceptions.

† 2. Wisdom; knowledge of or skill in a matter. Cf. JURISPRUDENCE. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1019 For, gyf hym wantis sic prudence [to answer questions], he suld nocht cum in ȝour presence. 1382 WYCLIF *Eph.* iii. 4 As ȝe redinge mown vndirstonde my prudence in the mysterie of Crist. 1388 — *Jas.* Prol., In othere epistolis..hou myche fro oure otheris making discordith, I leue to the prudence of the redere. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Baruch* iii. 9 Harken with your eares, that you may know prudence. 1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* IX. (1701) 350/2 He..resigned himself to the most exact prudence of the Magi to be formed. *a* 1859 R. CHOATE *Addresses* (1878) 235 In his [Webster's] profession of politics, nothing..worthy of attention had escaped him; nothing of the ancient or modern prudence.

† 3. Foresight, providence. *Obs.*

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. xi. § 6 (1622) 320 Then must it be, either by Chance, or by Prudence. 1685 BOYLE *Eng. Notion Nat.* vi. 239 'Tis my settled opinion that Divine prudence is often at least conversant in a peculiar manner, about the actions of men.

† 4. Alleged term for a 'company' of vicars. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* F vj, A Prudens of vikeris.

† Pru·dency. *Obs.* [ad. L. *prūdēnti-a*: see prec. and -ENCY.] = prec.

1539 TAVERNER *Gard. Wysed.* II. 8 b, To fense our selfes agaynst the wyly and craftye foxes with columbyne prudencie. 1620 J. PYPER tr. *Hist. Astrea* I. x. 361 Change to the better, I call prudency, But to the worse shewes small discretion. 1656 S. HOLLAND *Zara* (1719) 77 How many Inchantments expect a period from the prudency of my Courage.

Prudent (prū·dĕnt), *a.* [a. F. *prudent* (*c* 1300 in Godef. *Compl.*), or ad. L. *prūdēns, -ēntem* foreseeing (very rare), knowing, skilled, experienced, versed in a thing, sagacious, circumspect, contr. from *prōvidēns* PROVIDENT, with weakening or entire loss of the notion of 'foreseeing'.]

1. Of persons (rarely of inferior animals): Sagacious in adapting means to ends; careful to follow the most politic and profitable course; having or exercising sound judgement in practical affairs; circumspect, discreet, worldly-wise.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xvi. 8 The sones of this world ben more prudent [*Vulgate* prudentiores] in her generacioun than the sones of liȝt. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Doctor's T.* 110 She was so prudent and so bounteuous. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxv. 246 As a primat most preudent I present here sensyble Buschopys of the lawe with al the cyrcumstawns. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 508 Thai suld..wirk efter hir wordis, that woman wes so prudent. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* I. v. (1660) 29 That most prudent Prince King Henry the Seventh. 1667 Milton *P. L.* VII. 430 So stears the prudent Crane Her annual Voiage, born on Windes. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* vi. (1841) I. 36 All rash adventurers are condemned by the prudent part of mankind. 1842 Tennyson *Two Voices* 415 The prudent partner of his blood..Wearing the rose of womanhood. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 74 A prudent man will avoid sinning against the stranger.

† **2.** Wise, discerning, sapient. *Obs.* (exc. as included in 1).

a 1425 *Wyclif's Bible* Matt. xi. 25 Thou hast hid these thingis fro wijse men and ware [*MS. New Coll.* 67 prudent]. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 13 Be the sentence of prudent Salaman. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* xi. 25 Thou hast hyd these thynges from the wyse and prudent, and hast opened them vnto babes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 129 The philosophour socrates, quhilk vas iugit to be the maist prudent man in the vniuersal varld. 1579 W. Wilkinson *Confut. Familye of Loue* Ep. Ded., Salomon the sonne of holy Dauid a prudent Kyng.

3. Of conduct, action, etc.: Characterized by, exhibiting, or proceeding from prudence; politic, judicious. *The prudent*: that which is prudent.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* III. 3707 Þorus þer prudent medyacioun..With kyng Thoas she myȝt eschaunged be. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* v. (Percy Soc.) 22 They folowed not theyr fleshe so vycious, But ruled it by prudent governaunce. 1673 *Lady's Call.* II. i. § 17 'Tis prejudice enough against the prudentest advice, that it comes from their parents. 1707 Hearne *Collect.* 30 Sept. (O. H. S.) II. 57 'Tis the prudenter Way not to know it. 1790 *Bystander* 247 Then touching upon the prudent, he entreated it might remain some little time a secret. 1845 S. Austin *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. III. i. 29 His..prudent and enlightened policy had ever been crowned with ultimate success. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 127 There were those to whom William found it prudent to be gentle.

Prudential (prudeˈnʃăl), *a.* (*adv.*), *sb.* [f. L. *prūdēntia* Prudence + -al. Cf. med.L. *prūdentiālis* (9th c. in *Acta Sanct. Boll.* (1887) 64).]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of, belonging to, or of the nature of prudence; involving prudence; characterized or prescribed by forethought and careful deliberation.

1641 Ld. Digby *Sp.* 21 Apr. in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 227 We must not piece up..the Defailance of Prudential Fitness, with a Pretence of Legal Justice. 1652 E. Walsingham (*title*) Arcana Aulica: or..Manual of Prudential Maxims for the States-man And the Courtier. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 181 ¶ 7 To this I might add many other religious, as well as many prudential Considerations. 1770 *Junius Lett.* xli. (1820) 217 Here, too, we trace the little prudential policy of a Scotchman. 1863 Fawcett *Pol. Econ.* II. vi. (1876) 195 The life of a hired labourer can exert no influence.. towards cultivating prudential habits.

b. in New England: cf. next sense and B. 1 a.

1644 *First Cent. Hist. Springfield, Mass.* (1898) I. 175 Power to order in all the prudential affaires of the Towne.

2. Of persons: Exercising prudence; (in New England) Appointed to conduct the affairs of a town, society, etc.: cf. B. 1 a.

1642 H. More *Song of Soul* I. II. lxxix, Prudentiall men and of a mighty reach. 1648 *N. Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg.* (1850) IV. 30 It is this day ordered by..the prudentiall men for the affaires of the Towne that [etc.]. 1795 J. Sullivan *Hist. Maine* 221 In the year 1661, seven men were chosen to take care of the town affairs, under the denomination of prudential men. 1823 Scott *Peveril* iv, The side of the Puritans was also deserted at this period by a numerous class of more thinking and prudential persons, who never forsook them till they became unfortunate.

† **3.** as *adv.* = Prudentially. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 381 The hoost of Southwork..al thing wrouȝt prudenciall, as sobir man & wise.

B. *sb.* **1.** *pl.* **a.** Matters that fall within the scope or province of prudence; *esp.* (in *U. S.*) matters of local government and administration for which there is no need to go to the law courts: cf. quots. 1644 in A. 1 b. and 1648, 1795 in A. 2.

1646 *Col. Rec. Massachusetts* 4 Nov. II. 180 Every townshipe or such as are deputed to order the prudentialls thereof, shall have power to present to the Quarter Court all idle and unprofitable persons. 1648 T. Hill *Serm. Truth & Love* 32 Divers things may be..better, and more safely settled as Prudentials, as Humane Constitutions, then as Divine Constitutions. 1697 *Boston Rec.* (1881) VII. 228 Voted that the prudentials of the town is left to the judgment and discretion of the Selectmen. 1774 E. Wheelock in F. Chase *Hist. Dartmouth Coll.* (1891) I. 263 Agreed with Frederick Earnest..to take the care of the kitchen, and inspect and conduct the prudentials of it. 1891 F. Chase *ibid.* I. 565 The condition of the College in its prudentials was such as might well have led any one to hesitate to take the helm.

b. Prudential considerations.

1658–9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 23, I hear prudentials much pressed upon us, why we should not call the old Peers. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. x. (1840) 322 Prudentials restrain him in all his other actings with mankind. 1838 Southey *Lett.* (1856) IV. 565 As regards the prudentials of such an engagement, there will be additional means more than equal to any additional expenditure.

† **c.** Prudential faculties. *Obs.*

1679 R. Mayhew in Spurgeon *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxv. 4 Will not a man that is not defective in his prudentials secure his jewels? 1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 282 He puts forth his prudentials in providing for his safety.

† **2.** A prudential maxim or precept. *Obs.*

1719 De Foe *Crusoe* 184 Religion joined in with this Prudential, and I was convinced [etc.]. 1734 Watts *Relig. Jwv.* xlii. (1789) 119 The maxims of that philosopher are everlasting truths; and his prudentials will stand the test in all ages.

3. A person who urges prudence. *rare.*

1864 De Morgan in Graves *Life Sir W. Hamilton* (1889) III. 604, I shall shock all the mathematical prudentials by standing up for the bare uncloaked infinitesimals.

Prudentialism. [f. prec. + -ism.] A system or theory of life based upon, or having chief regard to, prudential considerations; also *pl.* prudential principles.

1835 De Quincey in *Tait's Mag.* II. 549 With respect to Paley, and the naked prudentialism of his system, it is true that..Paley disclaims that consequence. *a* 1866 J. Grote *Exam. Utilit. Philos.* ii. (1870) 28, I have called utilitarianism..superficial, because..it rests so much on mere prudentialisms. 1898 A. B. Bruce in *Expositor* July 10 It is better far to have the hero with all his drawbacks than to have nothing in human life that rises above prudentialism, commonplace, and humdrum.

So **Prudentialist**, one who is professedly guided by, or acts from, prudential motives.

1833 Coleridge in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 403 Mr. Legality, a prudentialist offering his calculation of consequences as the moral antidote to guilt and crime. *a* 1860 J. Younger *Autobiog.* xxv. (1881) 318 The dogmas of starch prudentialists.

Prudentiality (prudenʃiˌæˈlĭti). *rare.* [f. as prec. + -ity.] The quality of being prudential; prudential nature or character.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 9 Being uncapable of operable circumstances, or rightly to judge the prudenciality of affairs. *a* 1849 H. Coleridge *Ess.* (1851) II. 103 Being more personal and subjective than episcopal prudentiality would allow, at least in public worship.

Prudentially (prudeˈnʃăli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -ly 2.] In a prudential manner; in accordance with prudence; on prudential grounds.

1641 Ld. Digby *Sp.* 21 Apr. in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. (1692) I. 227 What is Prudentially and Politickly fit for the good and preservation of the whole. 1710 Strype *Life Grindal* I. vii. 71 This he ordered prudentially as well as piously. 1828 Southey in *Q. Rev.* XXXVII. 572 Marriages..when prudentially deferred. 1893 Gladstone in *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 5/2 The manifestation of the opinion may have been prudentially restrained.

Prudentialness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] = Prudentiality.

1666 J. Sergeant *Let. Thanks* 63 The prudentialness of their obligation..was enough to make them miscarry. 1681 *Impartial Acc. Nat. & Tendency late Addresses* 17 They would have esteem'd themselves very..unsufficient Judges of the prudentialness of that exercise of Royal Power.

Prudently (prūˈdĕntli), *adv.* [f. Prudent *a.* + -ly 2.] In a prudent manner; with prudence, circumspection, discretion, or practical wisdom; discreetly, wisely, judiciously.

1382 Wyclif *Luke* xvi. 8 The lord preiside the fermour of wickidnesse, for he hadde don prudently. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. ii, He dothe prudently and wysely whiche taketh good hede to the ende. 1538 Starkey *England* II. i. 143 Remedys prudentely to be applyd to such sorys and dyseasys. 1694 Kettlewell *Comp. Persecuted* 151 That I may answer..so prudently, as not to prejudice myself. 1776 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* xiii. I. 365 Constantius had very prudently divided his forces. 1828 Disraeli *Chas. I*, II. ii. 68 It sometimes happens..that old officers act more prudently than happily. *Mod.* Others prudently waited for further news.

So **Pru·dentness**, prudence (Bailey, II. 1727).

Prudery (prūˈdəri, prūˈdri). [ad. F. *pruderie* (Molière 1666), f. *prude* Prude: see -ery.] The characteristic quality of a prude; the character of being prudish; excessive regard for the proprieties in speech or behaviour; extreme or affected modesty or demureness.

1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 126 ¶ 2 If she has any Aversion to the Power of inspiring so great a Virtue..she..is still in the State of Prudery. 1716 Lady M. W. Montagu *Let. to Lady Rich* 20 Sept., Good..ladies long since retired to prudery and ratifia. 1745 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 49, I intend to have infinite fun with his prudery about this anecdote. 1813 *Salem Gaz.* 2 July 4/1 A lady in the west end of the town has carried her prudery so far, as to separate the writings of male and female authors in her library. 1880 Vern. Lee *Stud. Italy* IV. iv. 174 Ecclesiastical prudery would suffer no woman on the stage.

b. *pl.* Prudish acts or words.

1828 Scott *F. M. Perth* iv, She has stopped my mouth over-long with her pruderies and her scruples.

† **Prudhoˈmme.** Also as Fr. ‖ **prud'homme** (prüdom). [a. F. *prud'homme*:—OF. *prod(h)ome*, oblique case, f. *pros*, obl. *prod*, *pro*, Prow *a.* + *om*, obl. *ome*, *homme* man.]

(The nom. appears to have been orig., as in Prov., *prozom*, *prosom*, i. e. *pros* + (*h*)*om*; but *prosdom*, *prodom*, occur, app. with intrusive *d* from obl. *prodome*. Tobler suggests as the orig., nom. *pros d'ome*, obl. *pro d'ome*, with prep. *de*.)

1. *Hist.* A man of valour and discretion, a 'good man and true'; a knight or freeholder who was summoned to sit on the jury or to serve in the king's council.

[1292 Britton I. xxxi. § 6 Tauntost face jurer xii. des plus leaus prudeshommes qe eux verité presenteront des articles. *Ibid.* II. xxvii. § 5 Adounc face le viscounte trier xii. prodeshommes [twelve good men. *Note.* The word *prodehomme*, as well as the similar ..*good and lawful man*, implied the possession of a freehold].] 1701 *Cowell's Interpr.*, *Prodes Homes*, this is a Title often given in our old Books to the Barons, or other Military Tenents, who were call'd to the King's Council, and was no more than *Discreti & Fideles Homines*. 1865 Kingsley *Herew.* vii, The chatelain sent word to Baldwin that the newcomer was a prudhomme of no common merit. 1883 W. J. Loftie *Hist. London* I. v. 128 The 'prudhommes' were arrayed at every election, at every hustings, against the lesser folk.

‖ **2.** A member of a French tribunal appointed to decide labour disputes.

1887 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Feb. 14/1 The English law..confounds prud'hommes with arbiters, which is a capital fault. The prud'hommes called on to decide certain particular cases deliver what in reality are judgments.

† **Prudhommie.** *Obs. rare.* In 5 preud-hommye, prudommye. [a. OF. *prudhommie* (15th c. in Littré), in mod.F. *prud'homie*, f. *prud'homme* (see prec.) + *-ie*, -y.] The character of a 'prudhomme'; approved loyalty and discretion.

c 1477 Caxton *Jason* 28 b, I put myn armee and my men vnder the conduyte of youre preudhommye and your wysedom. 1490 — *Eneydos* i. 11 Renommed of beaulte, wysedome, and prudommye, scyence, prowesse, valyaunce.

Prudish (prūˈdiʃ), *a.* [f. Prude + -ish 1.]

1. Having the character of a prude; maintaining or affecting extreme propriety of behaviour.

1717 Pope *Challenge* vii, Should you catch the prudish itch. 1766 [Anstey] *Bath Guide* xv. 32 A prudish old Maid By Gaiety brought to Despair. 1801 Mar. Edgeworth *Pop. Tales, Contrast* (1832) 109 Fanny was neither prudish nor censorious. 1880 L. Stephen *Pope* ii. 38 We need not be prudish in our judgment of impassioned poetry.

2. *fig.* Of things: Extremely prim, formal, or rigid.

1771 Smollett *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug. Let. ii, The trees are planted in prudish rows. 1886 *Edin. Rev.* CLXIII. 133 A verse, not fettered in its movements, or prudish in its expressions. 1888 Lowell *Fitz Adam's Story* Poems (1891) 505/2 There was a parlour in the house, a room To make you shudder with its prudish gloom.

Comb. 1825 J. Neal *Bro. Jonathan* II. 176 The window was..set full of nice, prudish-looking..quaker flowers.

Prudishly (prūˈdiʃli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a prudish manner; with prudery.

1742 Pope *Dunc.* IV. 194 Nor wert thou, Isis! wanting to the day, (Though Christ-church long kept prudishly away). 1742 H. Walpole *Lett. to Mann* (1834) I. 199 No yeoman's daughter could have acted more prudishly. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. vi. 259 They prudishly despised the anatomic study of the human figure.

Prudishness (prūˈdiʃnĕs). [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality of being prudish; prudery.

1840 Hood *Up Rhine* 68 A shrinking delicate female, with sensitive feelings, nearly akin to prudishness. 1887 Miss Braddon *Like & Unlike* vi, She withdrew herself suddenly from her lover's arm, with a touch of prudishness.

Prudist (prūˈdist). [f. Prude + -ist.] One who makes a principle or practice of strict propriety.

1894 C. H. Cook *Thames Rights* 111 The prudists are simply blasphemous. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 5/1 Prudists to-day ask severely, 'What are we coming to? Are we again to see the licence of the directoire period?'

Prudity (prūˈdĭti). *nonce-wd.* [f. Prude *a.* + -ity.] = Prudery.

1891 M. Maartens *Old Maid's Love* I. ix. 86 He recoiled equally from the one old woman's purity—prudity—and from the other old woman's vulgar innuendos.

Prue, var. Preu *Obs.* **Pruen, pruin(e,** obs. ff. Prune *sb.* **Pruesse, pruice,** obs. ff. Prowess. **Pruf, -e, -ff,** obs. Sc. ff. Proof, Prove.

Pruinate (prūˈinĕt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [f. L. *pruīna* hoar-frost + -ate 2.] = Pruinose.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pruinatus*, *Pruinosus*,..pruinate: pruinous.

Pruinescence (prūˌineˈsĕns). *Nat. Hist. rare*—°. [f. as prec., after *efflorescence*, etc.] The condition of being pruinose. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pruinose (prūˈinōus), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. L. *pruīnōs-us* frosty, f. *pruīn-a* hoar-frost: see -ose.] Covered with a fine whitish powdery substance giving the appearance of hoar-frost; frosted.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 284 *Pruinose*,..when the splendour of the surface is somewhat obscured by the appearance of a bloom upon it like that of a plum, but which cannot be detached. 1847 W. E. Steele *Field Bot.* 54 Barren stem pruinose. 1861 Hagen *Synops. Neuropt. N. Amer.* 70 Sides yellow pruinose, with a broad superior brassy-brown stripe. 1887 W. Phillips *Brit. Discomycetes* 165 Cup sessile,..chalky white, pruinose.

Pruinous (prūˈinəs), *a.* [ad. L. *pruīnōs-us*: see prec. and -ous.]

† **1.** Of or pertaining to frost; frosty. *Obs.*

1588 J. Harvey *Disc. Probl.* 97 Much icie and pruinous cold to be expected. 1686 Goad *Celest. Bodies* II. ix. 284 In a Frosty morning the pruinous Atoms lye floating in the Air.

2. = Pruinose. *rare*—°. See Pruinate.

Prunable (prūˈnăb'l), *a. rare.* [f. Prune *v.*2 + -able.] Capable of being pruned.

a 1750 A. Hill *Wks.* (1753) I. 248 Of a less grateful and prunable kind. 1801 Bentham *Mem. & Corr.* Wks. 1843 X. 372 The prunable matter would be completed.

† **Prunall.** *Obs.* [ad. F. *prunelle* a sloe, also the pupil of the eye: see Prunella 1.] The pupil of the eye.

1597 Lowe *Chirurg.* I. xi. (1634) 31 Eyes overwhelmed with some cataract or faye which covereth the prunall, called the windowe of the eye. 1600 Vaughan *Direct. Health* (1626) 89 Some other times the Prunall of the eye is grieued.

Prune (prūn), *sb.* Forms: see below. [a. F. *prune* (13th c. in Littré):—med.L. *prūna*, fem. sing. from *prūna*, neut. pl. of L. *prūn-um*, a. Gr. *προῦν-ον*, later form of *προῦμν-ον* a plum.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

4 prunne, 4– prune; 5–6 proyne, 6 prown, preune, 6–7 proine, 7 prewyn, pruine, 7–8 (9 *dial.*) pruin, pruen, pruan, 8 pruant.

1345–6 Prunnes [see B. 2]. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 74 Drie prunis [*v. r.* prunes] of damascenes. *c* 1430 Prune [see B. 2]. 1481–90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 338 On Crystemas even my Lord resseyved be the caryer..iiij. lb proynes. 1519 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 52 Item, iij lb of Prownys. 1530 Prune [see B. 1]. *c* 1532 Du Wes *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 1073 Preunes. 1598 Proines [see B. 2]. 1602 *How to Choose Gd. Wife* III. iii. (1614) G j b, Pies, with Raisins, and with proines. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 93 Longing .. for stewd prewyns. *Ibid.* 103. *Ibid.* 110. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 26 The fruit..they..preserue..as Pruines. 1658 Phillips, *Jubeb*,..a kind of Pruan [1696 Pruen, 1706 Prune]. 1659 Wood *Life* 9 Apr. (O. H. S.) I. 277 Lemmons, oranges, pruins. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4790/4, 24 small Barrels of new..Pruants. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 20 Old Rags, Paper, Cards, Pruens, &c. 1719 *Accomplisht Lady's Delight* (ed. 10) 21 To make Conserve of Pruants. 1719 W. Wood *Surv. Trade* 94 Wines, Brandies, .. Pruans, Linins and wrought Silk. 1773 Pruin sauce [see B. 5].

B. Signification.

†1. The fruit of the plum-tree; a plum; also, the tree, *Prunus domestica*. *Obs.* (exc. as in c. and 2).

1530 Palsgr. 259/1 Prune a kynde of frute, *prune*. 1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vii. 37 Gardens.. filled with..prunes, abricots, dates & oliues. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 319 In Drying of Peares, and Prunes, in the Ouen, and Remouing of them often as they begin to Sweat. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 247 Peach, Apricot, Prunello's, Figs, Prunes,..and all those we call Wall-Fruit.

†b. *Damask prune* = Damson: see Damask 2. [*c* 1400: see A.] 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 22 The damaske prune rather bindeth than lowseth. 1579 J. Jones *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. xvi. 29 Also Medlars, Peaches, Cheries, Grapes,..damaske proynes so they be sweete.

c. *U. S.* A variety of plum suitable for drying.

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 12/2 Prunes grow in many countries, and it is said California is 'full of them'...The crop in 1900 was about 140,000,000 pounds. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Sept. 5/1 After three years the prunes grow, the deep-blue ripe fruit being most plentiful at the end of August and beginning of September.

2. The dried fruit of several varieties of the common plum-tree, produced in France, Germany, Southern Europe, California, etc., and largely used for eating, raw or stewed; a dried plum. Formerly distinguished as *dry prune*.

(The finest kind imported from France are also called *French plums*.)

1345–6 *Ely Sacr. Rolls* (1907) II. 130 In ij lb. de Prunnes empt. 1*s.* 4*d.* *c* 1400 Drie prunis [see A.]. *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 40 Do dates perto..and raysyns and prunus also. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 52 Plante þe cofynne a-boue with Prunez, & with Datys. 1584 Cogan *Haven Health* cv. (1636) 104 The Damasin Plummes are woont to be dried and preserved as figges, and are called in English, Prunes. 1598 *Epulario* Bij, Stuffe them with sweet hearbes, dry proines, soure grapes. 1633 Hart *Diet Diseased* I. xvi. 63 In France and Spaine..they drie their plummes..these kinds wee commonly call..prunes. 1752 Berkeley *Th. Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 503 Stewed prunes, and other diet of an opening kind. 1893 E. H. Barker *Wand. Southern Waters* 295 Upon the sill were plums laid out on wooden trays to dry in the sun and become what English people call prunes.

3. *transf.* The dark reddish purple colour of the juice of prunes; also called *prune-purple*. Also *attrib.*

1884 *Chr. World* 17 Jan. 52/1 All wool Rich Ottoman Dress material..in..Prune. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Sept. 4/1 Prune and a large variety of greys are likewise on the list of fashionable colours. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 1/3 Miss Debby arrayed in a prune silk gown.

4. Phrase. *Prunes and prism*: see quot. 1855. Thence, applied to a prim and mincing manner of speaking, and to superficial 'accomplishments'.

1855 Dickens *Dorrit* II. v, 'Father is rather vulgar, my dear. ... Papa .. gives a pretty form to the lips. Papa, potatoes, poultry, prunes and prism, are all very good for the lips: especially prunes and prism. You will find it serviceable in the formation of a demeanour, if you sometimes say to yourself in company or on entering a room, "Papa, potatoes, poultry, prunes, and prism, prunes and prism."' *Ibid.* vii. *heading*, Mostly, Prunes and Prism. 1888 *Brit. Weekly* 28 Sept. 353/1 He has none of the 'prunes and prism' style, and is, perhaps, addicted to strong language. 1892 W. G. Jenkins in *Amer. Ann. Deaf* Apr. 91 Surface accomplishments, the prunes and prisms of education.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (see also sense 3), as *prune-packer, plum, sauce, -stone*; **prune-juice**, the juice of prunes; also *attrib.* in reference to its colour (see 3); **prune-tree**, (*a*) a plum-tree (now in sense 1 c); (*b*) *Prunus occidentalis*, a West Indian timber-tree (*Treas. Bot.* 1866).

1863 Aitken *Sc. & Pract. Med.* (1866) II. 729 The so-called '*prune juice' expectoration characteristic of the third stage of pneumonia. 1873 T. H. Green *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 91 A rusty or prune-juice colour. 1905 *Daily News* 8 Dec. 6 The French *prune-packers, it is said, often import Californian prunes, ..repack them,..and sell them to the Americans. 1891 *Ibid.* 24 Oct. 5/4 *Prune plums, damsons, and bullaces are the principal other fruit. 1773 Goldsm. *Stoops to Conq.* II, To men that are hungry, pig, with *pruin sauce is very good eating. 1599 Peele *Sir Clyom.* Wks. (Rtldg.) 500/1 This fear hath made me beray myself with a *proin-stone that was not digested. 1617 *Janua Ling.* 98 The *prune tree and cherry tree do wither with frost. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 18 Sept. 5/1 A peach or apricot seed is planted, and when the little tree is a year old it is cut to the ground, and a piece of live prune-tree fastened to it.

Prune (prūn), *v.*[1] *Obsolescent.* [ME. *prune, pruyne, proyne*, of uncertain origin, but in its phonetics apparently French; agreeing in form with Prune *v.*[2], of which it has been supposed to be a specialized fig. application. This is not impossible; but Prune *v.*[2] is not found till later, nor was it common till about 1550, and its original, OF. *proignier*, is not used in this sense.

To identify them, it would be necessary to assume that in Anglo-Fr. (?in Falconry) the verb had acquired this changed use, and been taken into Eng., long before its original French sense was adopted. Evidence of the vb. in Anglo-Fr. has not been found. There appears to be some relationship between this and the synonymous *prene*, Preen *v.*[2] Cf. the Chaucer quot. *c* 1386 in A. β.

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4– prune, (5 prowne, 6–7 prewne).

1390– Prune [see B.]. *c* 1450 *Bk. Hawkyng* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 298 Put her oute a-gayn to prowne and spalch herself, and a-non after that proynyng draw her in agayn. 1592, *a* 1625 Prewn(e [see B. 4; Pruning *vbl. sb.*[1] c].

β. 4 pruyne, 5–7 proyne, 6 proine, proign, 6–7 proin, proyn.

a 1380 Pruynen [see B. 1 b]. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Merch. T.* 768 (*Corp. MS.*) He kembiþ him and proyneþ him and pikeþ [*so Cambr., Petw., Lansd.*; *Ellesm.* preyneth, *Heng.* prayneth, *Harl.* 7334 pruneth]. 1508 Proyne [see B. 1]. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 133 That they may..proine and picke their feathers. 1588 Proign [see Pruning *vbl. sb.*[1] b]. 1623 B. Jonson *Underwoods, Celebr. Charis* v, Where I sit and proin my wings After flight.

γ. *Sc.* 5–6 prunze, 6 prunza, pronze, prounze, prwnze, prunzie.

c 1450 Holland *Howlat* 21 Birdis..Pransand and prunzeand, be pair and be pair. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Mariit Wemen* 374, I wald me prunza plesandly in precius wedis. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* v. iii. 50 A standand place quhar skarthis with ther beikis, Forgane the son, glaidlie thaim pronze and bekis. *c* 1560 Prounze [see B. 2 b]. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxvii. 56 Persaue..þe papingo þat prwnzeis. *a* 1585 Montgomerie *Flyting* 86 As proud as ȝee prunzie, ȝour pennes sall be plucked.

B. Signification.

1. Of a bird (or any being so figured): To trim or dress the feathers with the beak: = Preen *v.*[2] 1. **a.** *trans.* (*refl.*, or with the feathers, etc. as *obj.*)

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 75 For there he [i. e. the eagle] pruneth him and piketh, As doth an hauk. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xvi. 63 As a byrde that pruneth or pycketh her. 1508 Fisher *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 154 There she proyneth & setteth her feders in ordre. 1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. iii. 36 She gins her feathers fowle disfigured Prowdly to prune, and sett on every side. 1704 Swift *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 235 Friend, said the Bee (having now prun'd himself). 1735 Pope *Donne Sat.* iv. 186 Where Contemplation prunes her ruffled wings. 1820 Scott *Abbot* vii, The falcon instantly settled on his wrist, and began to prune itself. 1874 Holland *Mistr. Manse* v, The pigeon pruned his opal breast.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* for *refl.*

a 1380 *Pistill of Susan* 81 þe popeiayes perken and pruynen for proude. 1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* lxiv, The birdis ..said, 'wele is vs begone,..We proyne and play without dout and dangere'. 1649 G. Daniel *Trinarch., Hen. IV* lxxiv, Harry prunes safe, and brings fresh feathers on T' enlarge his wing.

2. Of a person: To trim, dress up with minute nicety; to prink, deck out, adorn. **a.** *trans.* (or *refl.*): cf. Preen *v.*[2] 2. (In quot. *c* 1450, ironical.)

c 1386 [see A. β]. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xvii. (Shaks. Soc.) 164, I xal prune that paddok and prevyn hym as a pad. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. v. 80 His hair enoynt weill prunzeit ondir that. 1599 B. Jonson *Cynthia's Rev.* Induct., Another ..with more beard than brain prunes his mustaccio. 1629 Massinger *Picture* IV. ii, The younger Prunes up himself, as if..he were To act a bridegroom's part. 1737 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 220 Adorn thy mind the more within, And prune thy person less. 1789 E. Darwin *Bot. Gard.* II. 13 So Ninon pruned her wither'd charms.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* for *refl.*

c 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 95 Swa ladeis will not sounze With waistit wowbattis rottin, Bot prowdly thay will prounze, Quhair geir is to be gottin. 1678 Dryden *All for Love* Epil. 13 He grows a fop..Prunes up, and asks his oracle, the glass, If pink or purple best become his face. 1684 Otway *Atheist* III. i, A vain, pert, empty Rogue, That can prune, dance, lisp, or lie very much.

†3. *refl. fig.* To plume oneself, pride oneself. *Obs.*

1643 Trapp *Comm. Gen.* xi. 7 He turned Nebuchadnezzar a grazing among beasts, for pruning and priding himself upon this Babel. 1657 W. Blois *Mod. Policies*, etc. (ed. 7) E iij b, The Great Turk may justly exsult and prune himself in discourses of this nature. 1672 Marvell *Reh. Transp.* I. 43 Divines..who pruned themselves in the peculiar Virulency of their Pens.

†4. *trans.* To set in order. *Obs. rare.*

1592 Warner *Alb. Eng., Æneidos* 195 A hunting was generally appoynted,..the Standes were prewned; the Toyles pitched.

Prune (prūn), *v.*[2] Forms: α. 5 prouyne, 6–7 proin(e, proyne; β. 7 pruin(e, pruyn(e, 6– prune. [In 15th c. *prouyne*, in 16th c. *proine*, a. OF. *proöing(n)ier, proögnier*, later *proignier*, in 16th c. *progner, prougner*, to prune or cut back (the vine): cf. *L'aultre sa vigne y prougne ou taille* (E. Damernal ed. 1597).

The ulterior history of the OF. is uncertain; it is quite distinct in sense and form from *provaigner, provigner* to layer a vine-shoot; Provine *v.*; although in mod. F. dialects the latter is reduced to *preugner, progner*.]

1. *trans.* To cut or lop superfluous branches or twigs from (a vine, tree, or shrub), in order to promote fruitfulness, induce regular growth, etc.; to trim.

α. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Falling fr. God* II. (1859) 87 As long as a man doth proine his vines, doth dig at the roots, and doth lay fresh earth to them, he hath a mind to them, he perceiveth some token of fruitfulness. 1553 T. Wilson *Rhet.* (1580) 49 He is coumpted no good Gardener, that..doeth diligently proine his old Trees, and hath no regard either to ympe or graffe young settes. 1670 W. Hughes *Compl. Vineyard* 15 In Germany..they Proin not their Vines the first year.

β. 1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1577) 93 The tree..by the high way giues more shadowe to the passenger, than fruite to the owner that prunes it. 1611 Bible *Lev.* xxv. 3 Sixe yeeres thou shalt prune thy Vineyard. 1624 Capt. Smith *Virginia* II. 26 Vines..covered with fruit, though never pruined nor manured. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 1 Like Trees new lopped and pruned. 1870 Yeats *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 76 In France, the vine is pruned down to the size of a gooseberry bush.

b. *absol.*

1584 R. Scot *Discov. Witchcr.* IX. ii. (1886) 136 Times and seasons to sowe, to plant, to proine. 1612 Drayton *Polyolb.* iii. 357 Heere set, and there they sowe; here proine, and there they plant. 1648 Sanderson *Serm.* (1681) II. 243 What Husbandman would plow and sow and plant and prune..if he did not hope..to Inn the fruits? 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Montaigne* Wks. (Bohn) I. 347 On the whole, selfishness plants best, prunes best, makes the best commerce, and the best citizen.

2. To cut or lop off (branches, boughs, shoots).

α. 1572 Mascall *Plant. & Graff.* (1575) 12 Ye must proyne or cut the braunch of commonlye in winter. 1612 *Two Noble K.* III. vi. 242 Doe men proyne The straight yong bowes that blush with thousand blossoms? 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 432 A Tree..[with] the lower boughes onely maintained, and the higher continually proined off.

β. 1612 Woodall *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 390 After the dead boughs are pruned off. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 99 [They] should have their bottom side-shoots carefully pruned, cutting them close to their stem.

3. *fig.* To 'cut down', mutilate (quot. 1565); to rob, spoil (quot. 1640); *esp.* to cut down or reduce by rejecting superfluities; also to rid or clear *of* what is superfluous or undesirable.

α. 1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 244 Many a thyng, yt ys no nay, Mot be prouyned, & kut a-way, And yshape of newe entaylle. 1565 Jewel *Repl. Harding* (1611) 274 It is neither indifferent, nor true dealing, thus to nip, and to proine the Doctours sayings. 1608 Machin *Dumb Knight* III. i. F j b, Hee proind him well and brought him vp to learning. 1640 Howell *Dodona's Gr.* 50 They might oppresse, spoyle, rob, peele, proyne, and grubbe them up at pleasure.

β. 1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 49 Howe they [laws] are to bee pruned and reformed from time to time. 1659 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* XII. (1701) 475/1 When I considered, how difficult it were so to prune it [a treatise], as to please all Persons. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 135 ¶ 10 Some..Authors ..began to prune their Words of all superfluous Letters. 1796 Southey *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 201 [The lamp] has three branches;..a small pincers to prune it, and a bucket to deposit the snuff in. 1838 Prescott *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) II. xx. 194 Pruning it of all superfluous phrases.

b. To take away or remove (superfluities, deformities).

c 1680 Waller *On Earl of Roscommon* 9 Horace will our superfluous Branches prune. 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. v. 77 Even *magna carta* itself..only pruned the luxuriances that had grown out of the military tenures. 1869 Tozer *Highl. Turkey* II. 117 Establishing a standard and pruning away deformities [in language].

Pruned (prūnd, poet. prū'nĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] *arch.* [f. Prune *v.*[1] + -ed[1].] Trimmed, as a bird's feathers with the beak; also *fig.*: see Prune *v.*[1]

1595 Barnfield *Sonn.* vii, My siluer Swan is swimming: Against the sunne his pruned feathers trimming. 1641 G. Sandys *Paraphr. Song Sol.* v. iv, Black as the newly pruned Crow.

Pruned, *ppl. a.*[2] [f. Prune *v.*[2] + -ed[1].] Trimmed, as a tree or shrub, by cutting off superfluous branches, etc.; cut off, as a superfluous branch; also *fig.*: see Prune *v.*[2]

1552 Huloet, Pruned and cutte, *resex, sectiuus*. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. Disc. xiv. 11 Peace sheds no blood but of the pruned vine. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 8/2 A persecuted cause, they no doubt reflect, flourishes like a pruned fruit tree.

†Prune'l. *Obs.* Also 6 -elle, 6–8 -ell. [a. F. *prunelle*, a variant of *brunelle* Brunel; so G. *prunelle* (obs. *braunelle*), med.L. *brunella, prunella*: see Prunella 2.] The herb Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*); formerly often including the Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*).

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* I. xc. 132 There be two kindes of Prunell. The first is called Bugle. And the second reteyneth still the name of Prunell. *Ibid.* 133 Prunell..is also a soueraigne remedie against that disease which the Brabanders do name *den Bruynen*, that is, when the tongue is inflamed and waxeth blacke and is much swollen, so that the generall remedies haue gone before. 1597, 1611 [see Brunel]. 1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 25 The

sowing of the seede of Trefoyle, or Clauers, Melilot, Prunel, Milfoyle, &c. . .doth much inrich Meddowes. 1727 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Cut*, Take some prunel or else some nettles, and [apply to a cut]. *Comb.* 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 78/2 Prunelle-water.

Prunelet (prū·nlĕt). [f. PRUNE *sb.* + -LET (app. arbitrarily).] 'A liquor made from sloes or wild plums' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade* 1858).

Prunella[1] (prune·lă). Also 7–9 **prunello**; *β.* 8 **prenel**, 9 **prunelle**. [Of uncertain history: identical with mod.F. *prunelle*, but this is cited by Littré only from 1780, though it may occur earlier. Littré derives the name from *prunelle*, sloe, in reference to its dark colour. The forms *prunella*, *-ello* have the appearance of It. or Sp., but do not occur in dicts. of these langs. in the 17th c.; they may have been merely Eng. grandiose alterations, as in some words in *-ada*, *-ado*, etc. The *β* form *prunelle* follows the French.]

1. A strong stuff, orig. silk, afterwards worsted, formerly used for graduates', clergymen's, and barristers' gowns; later, for the uppers of women's shoes.

Leather and prunella: a misquotation and misapplication of Pope's 'leather or prunella': see LEATHER *sb.* 1 d.

1656 *Bk. Values* in Scobell *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* (1658) 474 Wrought Silks called. . Prunellos, broad, the Ell oo. 15. oo. 1670 LADY M. BERTIE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 21 Upon the Queene's Birthday most wore. . plaine black skirts of Morella, Mohair, Prunella, and such stuffs. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 199/1 Bachelors of Art. . have a full Gown. . of Stuff, Silk, Prunella, or the like. 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* IV. 204 Worth makes the man, and want of it, the fellow; The rest is all but leather or prunella. *a* 1761 CAWTHORN *Poems, Wit & Learning* (1771) 191 He. . Gave him a robe of sleek prunella. 1811–1879 [see LEATHER *sb.* 1 d]. 1864 SALA *Quite Alone* I. i. 2 Everybody. . trips in soft sandalled prunella, or white satin with high heels. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Prunella*, *Prunello*, a stuff only rescued from complete oblivion by Pope's famous couplet.

β. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4706/4 For Sale. . , black Prenels and Russerines. 1840 J. P. KENNEDY *Quodlibet* ix, Agamemnon Flag. . in boots of drab prunelle. 1857 JAMES *Hist. Worsted Manuf.* x. 362 There were different sorts of lastings, as prunelles wrought with three healds.

2. (See quot. A modern trade use.)

1904 *Woollen Draper's Terms* in *Tailor & Cutter* 4 Aug. 479/3 *Prunella*, a superior make of doeskin having a fine diagonal twill on it.

3. *attrib.* Made or consisting of prunella.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 41 He wears his Prunella Gown, as chearily as he does his Honesty. 1862 RUSSELL *Diary North & South* (1863) II. 20 White jean trousers, strapped under a pair of prunella slippers. 1872–6 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *Lasting Cloth*, a material similar to prunella cloth. 1907 in *Daily News* 2 Oct. 4, I brushed her [Marie Antoinette's] pretty black prunella shoes.

Hence **Prune·lla'd** *a.*, wearing prunella gowns.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* xv, Nods the prunella'd bar, attorneys smile.

‖ **Prune·lla**[2]. *Bot.* [Bot. L., alteration of *Brunella*, generic name in Tournefort and Linnæus, recently restored in English Floras. *P. vulgaris* is said to have been so named from being a specific against the disease *brunella* or *prunella*: see BRUNEL, PRUNEL, and Note to next.] A genus of herbaceous labiates, of general distribution in both temperate zones. *P. vulgaris*, Self-heal, is a common weed in Britain. (Formerly also taken to include the Bugle, *Ajuga reptans*.)

[1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xc. 133 The second kinde is also called *Consolida media*, but most commonly *Prunella* or *Brunella*: in English Prunell.] 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 74/2 This vngvent is also excellent. . for sore throtes, when as we intermixe the same with water of Prunella. 1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* (1729) 205 May. . Flowers in Prime, . . Pansis, Prunella, purple Thalictrum. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Prunella*. . also the Herb Self-heal, good against a Quinsy, and other Diseases of the Mouth and Jaws. 1844 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. II. vi. 158 All over the wide fields of earth grows the prunella or self-heal.

‖ **Prune·lla**[3]. *Obs.* Also 9 **prunelle**. [mod.L., earlier *brunella*, according to 16th c. writers, orig. the L. name of an infectious epidemic called in Ger. *die bräune* or *breune* (Grimm), in Du. *de bruyne*, lit. 'the browns' or 'brownness', in which the tongue was covered with a brown crust. *Brunella* was thus a dim. of med.L. *brūnus* brown: cf. *jaundice*, F. *jaunisse*, and such names of diseases as *whites*, *yellows*, *blues*, etc. The corruption *prunella* may have been due to High German pronunciation, or to a later fancied etymology, taking it as dim. of L. *prūna* 'burning coal'. See also BRUNEL, PRUNEL, PRUNELLA[2], name of the herb reputed as a specific for the disease; and Note below.]

1. *Path.* A name given to the Hungarian or camp-fever which prevailed among the imperial troops in Germany in 1547 and 1566, considered by Hecker to have been petechial. In later times, applied to other disorders of the throat or fauces, esp. to quinsy: see quots. In quot. 1658 app. used for Inflammation.

1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* I. v. 20 Many use Phlebotomy . . supposing to prevent hereby the prunella in wounds. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 83 The spaw water avails nothing in. . plurisies, prunella's, poysons. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Prunella*, is sometimes taken for *Apthæ*, White, Black or Red, sometimes for a Quinsie or the Hungarick Fever. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prunella*. . . term for *Angina pectoris*; also, for *Cynanche*; also, for thrush, *Aphthous stomatitis*.

2. *Pharmacy.* Chiefly in comb. **prunella salt, prunelle salt**, in mod.L. *sal prunellæ*, *prunellæ sal*, also *lapis prunellæ* 'prunella stone', SAL-PRUNELLA, name for a preparation of fused nitre.

So called as used for the disorder of the throat.

1627 *Pharmacop. Lond.* (ed. 3) 189 Lapis Prunellæ. 1669 tr. *Schroder's Dispensatory* 254 Lapis Prunellæ, Nitre tabulated or prepared. 1681 [see SAL-PRUNELLA]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Sal Prunellæ*. . is sometimes called *Lapis Prunellæ*, and *Crystal Mineral*; being usually given to cool and provoke Urine in Feavers and Quinsies. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. ii. 103 Put to it 4 Pounds of Bay Salt, . . 2 Ounces of Prunella Salt. 1830 MAUNDER *Dict., Prunella*, purified saltpetre. 1864 WEBSTER s. v., *Prunella salt*, or *prunella*, fused niter, molded into cakes or balls, and used for chemical purposes. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 740 *Prunelle Salt* or *Nitrum tabulatum*, fused saltpetre.

[*Note.* For the etymology of *brunella*, and the derivation thence of the name of the herb, cf. quots. under BRUNEL, PRUNEL, and PRUNELLA[2], also Gerarde *Herbal* (1636) 508.

As to the camp-fever of 1547, 1566, see Hecker *Epidemics of the Middle Ages*, Eng. tr. by Babington, ed. 3, 1859, 277–8. Grimm cites Kirchhof (1602) *Milit. Discipl.* 202 'viel seucht und krankheiten (im lager), sonderlich die breune'. Kilian (1599) has 'Bruyne. . oris vitium cum linguæ tumore, exasperatione, siccitate, & nigredine: vnde et nomen teutonicè habet, vulgo *brunella*: quo nomine et herba vocatur quæ huic morbo medetur'. As to *sal prunellæ*, Boerhaave, *Elem. Chemiæ* (1732) 389, says (tr. P. Shaw 1741 II. 245), This has obtained the name of *sal prunellæ* from the Germans, who observing that a certain kind of epidemical camp-fever, attended with a dangerous black quinsey, which they call *die braune*, was happily cured by the use of this powder; they thence called it by that name: and for the same reason they give the same appellation to the plant self-heal or *prunella*, because this cures the same distemper.

Prunella, variant of PRUNELLO.

Prunelle: see PRUNEL, PRUNELLA[1, 3], PRUNELLO.

Prunello (prune·lo). Also 7, 9 **prunella**, 8 **-elle**, 9 **-elloe**. [Altered from obs. It. *prunella* 'any kind of little plumbe or Prune' (Florio), dim. of *pruna* (mod. *prugna*) plum, prune. Cf. F. *prunelle* (*-ele c* 1270 in Godef. *Compl.*) a sloe.]

† **a.** Name for a variety of plum or prune, fresh or dried. *Obs.* **b.** The finest kind of prunes or dried plums, made from the greengage and other varieties.

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Prunellas*, a fruite like small Figges, good for restoratiue, and to comfort the heart. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* III. i, Nor julips, Nor guaiacums, prunellos, camphire pills, . . come not near your old woman. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* II. (1669) 120 The fruit at first is green. . a little bitter, like our Prunelloes. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 168 We sell abundance of Prunes and Prunelles, as the Large and the Small. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. iii. 239 Lay them drying till they be as dry as Prunello's. 1786 SIR J. E. SMITH in *Mem.* (1832) I. 195 Dined at Brignolle, famous for the *Prunes de Brignolle*, which we have corrupted into Prunellas. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. of Customs* (1821) 185 Prunelloes are a sort of French Prunes, of which large quantities are annually gathered in Provence. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Prunelloe*, a popular name for the *Prunum brignolense*.

Prunello, variant of PRUNELLA[1].

Pruner (prū·nəɹ). Forms: see PRUNE *v.*[2] [f. PRUNE *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] One who prunes trees or shrubs.

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 75 (Virgil *Ecl.* I. 57) Vnder a Rock side here will proyner chaunt [*canet frondator*] merrie ditties. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxi. (1592) 322 The inuention. . of the proiner of Vines. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xiii. (1614) 25/2 These grafts. . were cut downe by the Pruiner. 1761 BEATTIE *Hares* 86 An ancient Wood. . By pruner's axe yet unprofaned. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Eclogue* IV. 40 Glebe shall be free from the harrow, the vine no pruner fear.

fig. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Economy* I. 256 Youth is fair virtue's season, virtue then Requires the pruner's hand. 1876 SPURGEON *Commenting* 4 Calvin. . was no trimmer and pruner of texts.

Prung, obs. form of PRONG *sb.*[2]

Pruni·ferous, *a. rare.* [f. L. *prūn-um* PRUNE *sb.* + -(I)FEROUS.] Bearing plums or stone-fruits; drupiferous.

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* II. iv. § 7. 112 Trees may be distinguished according to their Fruit or Seed. . Pruniferous. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 119/1 Pruniferous Trees. . bear Fruit with Stones in them. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbadoes* 174 Shrubs and plants of the Pruniferous kind.

Pruniform (prū·nifōɹm), *a.* [f. mod.L. *prūniform-is*: see -(I)FORM.] Having the form or appearance of a plum.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pruniformis*, . . pruniform.

Pruning (prū·nin), *vbl. sb.*[1] *arch.* Forms: see PRUNE *v.*[1] [See -ING[1].] The action of PRUNE *v.*[1]; preening. **a.** Of birds.

c 1450 [see PRUNE *v.*[1] A. a]. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* A vj, An hawke wolde not be letted of hir proynyng. 1555 DIGGES *Prognost.* B ij b, If they busy them selues in proyning or washing. . looke for rayne. 1611 COTGR., *Onction feable*, the pruining, or annointing which a Hawke giues her feathers, by the moisture she sucks from her Crupper.

b. Of a person: see PRUNE *v.*[1] 2.

1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 256 Those [women] that are faire with that filthy spunging, proigning, painting, and pollishing themselues. *a* 1652 A. WILSON *Inconstant Ladie* II. ii, Your prunings, paintings, and bare necks.

c. *concr. fig.* from use in Falconry.

a 1625 FLETCHER *Love's Pilgr.* III. ii, Dare she think. . My love so fond. . That I must take her prewnings: stoop at that sh'has tyr'd upon?

Pru·ning, *vbl. sb.*[2] Forms: see PRUNE *v.*[2] [f. PRUNE *v.*[2] + -ING[1].] The action of PRUNE *v.*[2]

1. Of plants: see PRUNE *v.*[2] 1.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Castratio arborum*, the ofte cuttyng or prunyng of trees. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 6 Trees. . loaden with wood, for want of proyning. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 108 Pruning makes a tree look handsome. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 50/2 Pruning is better done in the latter months of the year, when the leaves have fallen.

b. *concr.* (*pl.*) Portions cut off in pruning.

1832 *Planting* 4 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, Affording a quicker return of profit in prunings and thinnings. 1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* vii, The prunings of the shrubbery.

2. *fig.*: see PRUNE *v.*[2] 3.

a 1603 Q. ELIZ. in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) I. 10, I plucke up the goodlisome herbs of sentences by pruning. 1625 BACON *Ess., Studies* (Arb.) 9 Naturall Abilities are like Naturall Plants, that need Proyning by Study. 1907 *Nation* (N. Y.) 23 Nov. 471/1 The prunings and chastenings of his fancy.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, esp. in the name of tools or implements used in pruning, as *pruning-bill*, *-chisel*, *-saw*, *-scissors*, *-shears*, PRUNING-HOOK, -KNIFE.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXX. iii, Thou. . Nor planting care didst slack, nor pruning paines. 1822 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* 319 The Pruning-Bill is generally a hooked blade. . attached to a handle of from one to four feet in length. *Ibid.*, The Pruning-Saw is a blade of steel, serrated in what is called the double manner on one side. *Ibid.* 320 The Pruning-Shears differ from the common sort, in having a moveable centre for the motion of one of the blades, by which means, instead of a crushing-cut, they make a draw-cut.

Pru·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. PRUNE *v.*[2] + -ING[2].] That prunes (*lit.* or *fig.*): see PRUNE *v.*[2]

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* CCCXXV, Soe stands the vineyard of Humanitye. . Where pruneing Lawes lye by. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Cousin Nicholas* iv, Under the pruning and training hand of a skilful master.

Pru·ning-hook. *arch.* [f. PRUNING *vbl. sb.*[2] + HOOK *sb.* 3.] A curved cutting implement used for pruning. Also *fig.* (cf. PRUNE *v.*[2] 3).

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* ii. 4 They shall beate their swords into plow-shares, and their speares into pruning hookes [*marg.* or, sythes]. 1688 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. ix. 354 The great Husbandman of Souls takes this Course with his spiritual Vines, to add the Pruning-hook of his Judgments to the more gentle Manurings of his Mercy. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 577 When peaceful Vines from Pruning-hooks are free. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard.* I. 261 The Gard'ner. . will have Occasion for a Pruning-Hook to trim them.

Pru·ning-knife. A knife used for pruning. Also *fig.* (cf. PRUNE *v.*[2] 3).

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. XXX. (1612) 147 Bacchus [needeth thee] for prewning Knives. *c* 1610 in *Alleyn Papers* (1843) 39 And, if it thee please, use eke thy proinynge knife. 1717 BERKELEY *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 575 They wear each by his side a broad pruning-knife. 1851 DICKENS *Let. to Miss M. Boyle* 21 Feb., You will not be alarmed by my use of the pruning-knife.

Prunoid (prū·noid), *a.* [f. L. *prūn-um* PRUNE *sb.* + -OID.] Having the shape of a plum; ellipsoidal. So **Prunoi·dean** *a.*, *Zool.*, belonging to the suborder *Prunoidea* of radiolarians, characterized by an ellipsoidal lattice-shell.

1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 875 A lattice-shell, . . in shape spherical, ellipsoidal (prunoid), discoidal [etc.]. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Prunoidean*.

Prunt (prunt). [perh. a provincial form of *print*.] A piece of ornamental glass, frequently of the blackberry form, attached or laid on to a body of glass, as a vase: also the tool with which this ornament is moulded or impressed with its pattern. Hence **Pru·nted** *a.*, ornamented with prunts.

1891 *Sale Catal. Glass Wks. Stourbridge*, No. 204 Pair of large fluted tools. 205 Three prunts. 1902 *Jrnl. Archæol. Inst.* Mar. 3 The 'prunts' on early glass. 1907 *Academy* 11 Oct. 6/1 The remarkable series of vessels from Anglo-Saxon graves, of which. . the prunted vases appear to be the earliest, and to have been imported into England in the latter half of the sixth century.

‖ **Prunus** (prū·nŭs). [L. *prūnus* plum-tree, ad. Gr. *προύνος* = *προύμνη*; also (*prūnus silvestris*) a sloe-bush.]

1. *Bot.* A genus of trees and shrubs, N.O. *Rosaceæ*, containing the common sloe, bullace, plum, apricot, myrobalan, and many other species or sub-species, bearing drupaceous fruits.

1706 in PHILLIPS.

2. In *Oriental Pottery.* A representation of a Chinese and Japanese species, *P. mume*, on porcelain, etc. Hence *prunus decoration*.

1878 A. W. FRANKS *Catal. Coll. Oriental Pottery* (ed. 2) 245 The plum-tree or prunus (Chinese *mei*, Japanese *mume*. .) forms the decoration of the pottery, erroneously termed 'may-flower' or 'hawthorn' pattern. 1898 *Daily News* 11 July 10/5 A bowl of fine pale green jade, carved on the exterior with birds and prunus in low relief. 1905 BUSHELL *Chinese*

Art I. 111 The *prunus* because it throws out flowering twigs from its leafless stalks up to extreme old age. 1908 C. F. Bell *Let. to Editor, Prunus decoration* is now more generally understood as decoration with the sprigs of the flowers and thorny stems of the Chinese wild plum.

Prunze, obs. Sc. form of Prune *v.*[1]

Prunzeandlie: see Pronzeand.

Prurience (prūˑriĕns). [f. as Prurient: see -ence.]

1. The physical fact or sensation of itching.

a 1688 Cudworth *Immut. Mor.* (1731) 83 Pruriences and Titillations of the Body.

2. *fig.* Mental itching or craving.

1829 I. Taylor *Enthus.* ix. 231 An irresistible prurience asking for the marvellous. 1837 [see Pruriently]. 1879 F. Harrison *Choice Bks.* (1886) 29 This literary prurience after new print unmans us.

3. = Pruriency 3.

1781 Cowper *Conversat.* 31 There is a prurience in the speech of some, Wrath stays him, or else God would strike them dumb.

Pruriency (prūˑriĕnsi). [f. as prec.: see -ency.]

1. The quality of itching, itchingness. *rare.*

1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 164 An incipient putrefaction which begets a pruriency or itching in the blood. 1814 Cary *Dante* (Chandos) 90 Each one Plied quickly his keen nails, through furiousness Of ne'er abated pruriency.

2. *fig.* The quality or condition of mental itching.

1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 151 ¶ 2 A general Impatience of Thought, and a constant Pruriency of inordinate Desire. 1824–9 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 142/1 We have scourges in store for the pruriency of dissatisfaction.

3. Liking for or tendency towards impure or lascivious thought; an instance of this.

1795 Roscoe *Lorenzo de Medici* I. i. 51 A pruriency of imagination, not excuseable at any time of life. 1867 Burton *Hist. Scot.* (1873) I. vi. 225 The pruriency that stains the classical mythology. 1880 'Ouida' *Moths* 40 She will have learned what..the wrapt-up pruriencies intend.

Prurient (prūˑriĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *prūriens, -entem*, pres. pple. of *prūrīre* to itch, long, be wanton. Cf. obs. F. *pruriant* (1598 in Godef.).]

1. That itches physically, itching. *rare.*

1639 ['I find the word in use in 1639, but in a passage not worth citing' (Todd 1818)]. 1648 Herrick *Hesper., To Detractor*, Some numbers prurient are, and some of these Are wanton with their itch; scratch, and 'twil please. 1832 Tennyson *Pal. Art* 201 In filthy sloughs they [swine] roll a prurient skin, They graze and wallow.

2. *fig.* Having an itching desire or curiosity, or an uneasy or morbid craving. *rare.*

1653 Gauden *Hierasp.* Pref. 14 Politick affectations of piety, which grow as scurfe or scabs, over those prurient novelties of opinion. 1664 H. More *Myst. Iniq.* II. i. ii. § 1. 212 Upon which fiery and prurient itch after the knowledge of Futurities Providence has cast this bridle. 1850 Kingsley *Alt. Locke* xiv, The reading public..in its usual prurient longing after anything like personal gossip. 1859 Tennyson *Vivien* 485.

3. Given to the indulgence of lewd ideas; impure-minded; characterized by lasciviousness of thought or mind.

1746 Smollett *Reproof* 176 Debauch'd from sense, let doubtful meanings run, The vague conundrum, and the prurient pun. 1774 Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* lxv. (1840) III. 451 Marston..gratifies the depravations of a prurient curiosity. 1836 *Johnsoniana* I. 37 Solitude is the surest nurse of all prurient passions. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) II. vi. 202 His morality is..far superior to the prurient sentimentalism of Sterne.

4. Unduly forward or excessive in growth.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 66 The teeth [are sometimes]..buried..by a prurient growth of the substance of their own gums. 1844 N. Paterson *Manse Gard.* II. 192 By pinching off the prurient bud, good keeping bulbs may be secured. 1850 R. Simpson *Mem. Worth* v. 71 To prune the prurient branches of some promising fir.

5. *Bot.* Applied to plants which cause an itching or slightly stinging sensation. *rare.*

1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1887 *Nicholson's Dict. Gard., Prurient*, stinging; causing an itching sensation. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Prurient*, see *Pruriens*. *Pruriens*,..applied to certain plants or parts of plants furnished with hairs, because these are readily driven into the skin and then detached, causing considerable itching.

6. *Comb.*, as *prurient-minded* adj.

1899 Kipling *Stalky* iii. 91 But about those three [boys]. Are they so prurient-minded?

Pruˑriently, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a prurient manner. **a.** With itching or uneasy desire. **b.** With lascivious inclination or suggestion.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* II. III. i, All things..are got into hot and hotter prurience; and must go on pruriently fermenting, in continual change. 1840 — *Heroes* vi. (1858) 352 Examine the man who lives in misery because he does not shine above other men;..pruriently anxious about his gifts and claims. 1907 *Academy* 9 Mar. 234/1 Pruriently presenting to the mind pictures which have no merit but their salaciousness.

Pruriginous (prurīˑdʒinəs), *a.* (Also 8 -genous, 9 -ginious.) [ad. F. *prurigineux* (1495 in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. late L. *prūrīginōs-us* adj., f. *prūrīgo, -inem*: see next and -ous.]

1. Affected by or liable to prurigo or itching; pertaining to or of the nature of prurigo.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pruriginous*, full of the itch. 1705 Greenhill *Embalming* 164 Their Blood becoming Pruriginous..wou'd..produce Mange, Scabs and Leprosies. 1742 C. Owen *Serpents* II. 151 Its Bite..produces..pruriginous Pain in the Flesh. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 814 A general eruption which was in parts very pruriginous.

†2. Characterized by mental itching, curiosity, or uneasiness; irritable, excitable, fretful. *Obs.*

1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 99 [He] hath not yet purged the pruriginous humor of his scoffing braine. 1678 R. L'Estrange *Seneca's Mor.* II. ix. (1696) 198 In these [brooding or morose] Dispositions there is a kind of pruriginous Phancy that makes some People take delight in Labour, and Uneasiness.

†3. As a term of abuse; cf. Mangy *a.* 3. *Obs.*

1712 [Oldisworth] *Odes Horace* III. 17/2 Heinsius unfortunately fell into that Prurigenous blunder, by having too much regard for Julius Scaliger. 1825 Hogg in *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 113 If thou'rt a Cotquean by my soul, I'll split thy pruriginous nowl.

‖ **Prurigo** (pruərəiˑgo). [L., an itching, lasciviousness, f. *prūrīre* to itch.] An itching; *spec.* in *Path.*, a diseased condition of the skin attended by a violent and chronic itching, and characterized by the presence of flat slightly red papules, and a thickening of the part affected. Formerly including other irritant skin diseases. Also *attrib.*

a 1646 J. Gregory *Posthuma* (1650) 102 A Fever hee had, but not of anie acute kinde: an unsufferable Prurigo over all his bodie. 1706 Phillips, *Prurigo*, an itching or tickling, an Itch. 1831 J. Davies *Manual Mat. Med.* 144 The skin ..becomes the seat of a very lively pricking, of prurigo, and of an abundant perspiration. 1876 Bristowe *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 357 According to the latter authority, prurigo is a disease of remarkable intractableness, if not incurable.

Pruˑriousness. *rare.* [f. **prurious*, repr. late L. *prūrīōs-us* adj., f. *prūrīre* to itch (see -ous) + -ness.] = Pruriency 3.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VII. 432 Outraged nature inciting them to avenge the mortification of the body by the pruriousness of the mind.

†Pruˑrit. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *prurit* (16th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *prūrīt-us*.] = Pruritus.

1597 Lowe *Chirurg.* v. xi. (1634) 146 Vngula..happeneth after Ophthalmies evill cured: it is accompanied with prurit, teares, and rednesse.

†Pruˑritan, *a.* and *sb. Obs. nonce-wd.* Satirical perversion of *puritan*, in allusion to L. *prūrītus* itching.

1589 Nashe *Pasquil's Returne* Wks. (Grosart) I. 95 *Pasq.* ..I frequented the Churches of the Pruritane Preachers... *Marf.* I pray you, Syr, why doe you call them Pruritanes? *Pasq.* A *pruritu.* They haue an itch in their eares.

†Pruritaˑtion. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [n. of action from assumed L. **prūrītāre*, freq. of *prūrīre* to itch.] A continual or recurring itching; *fig.* a restless desire, a craving.

1654 Z. Coke *Logick* 9 A pruritation and itch after knowledge (innate to every man).

Pruritic (pruəˑritik), *a.* [f. next + -ic.] Pertaining to or of the nature of pruritus.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 490 It [urticaria] is a frequent complication of many pruritic dermatoses.

‖ **Pruritus** (pruraiˑtəs). [L. *prūrītu-s* (*u*-stem), f. *prūrīre* to itch. In mod.L. sometimes erron. *pruritis* after words in -itis.] Itching; *esp.* itching of the skin without visible eruption. (Sometimes used as synonymous with *prurigo*.) Also *fig.*

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 248 Rubedo *id est* reednes, pruritus *id est* icchinge.] 1653 Jer. Taylor *Serm. for Year* I. xxiii. 299 If there be a *pruritus* or itch of talking, let it be in matters of Religion. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pruritus*, the Itch, a dry Unevenness of the Skin, caused by Saline fixed Particles, pricking the Skin. 1799 Hooper *Med. Dict., Pruritis*, a violent itching of the skin. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 606 Hebra protested against the indiscriminate use of the names 'prurigo' and 'pruritus'.

†Pruˑrity. *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. stem of L. *prūrīre* (see above) + -ity.] = Pruriency 3.

1600 Thynne *Epigrams* xiii. 1 Pruritie of wemenn, by lecherous direction, Seekes pluritie of men.

Prus, pruse, pruss, obs. variants of Pruce.

‖ **Prusiano** (prūsiāˑno). [Sp., = Prussian.] A finch or bunting (*Passerina versicolor*) of Mexico and Texas, so called from its Prussian blue colour.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†Pruss. *Obs. rare.* [var. of Pruce.] Pruce or spruce beer.

1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 337 A liquor called *Pruss*, which is only an infusion of the bark of a tree.

Prussian (prvˑʃăn), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *Prussiān-us* adj., f. *Prussi-a*: see Note below. So F. *prussien*.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to Prussia or its inhabitants; also, designating things actually or reputedly coming from Prussia.

Prussian carp, a smaller form of the common carp, now naturalized in England and other countries.

1702 Toland *Acc. Court of Prussia* (1705) 36 'Tis at Berlin that his Prussian Majesty dos commonly keep his Court. 1754 [W. Faucitt] (*title*) Regulations for the Prussian Infantry. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) II. 422 A Prussian Author..has lately favoured the World with various productions. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 260/2 The Crucian Carp, or Prussian Carp..is another species of this genus now naturalized. 1844 W. Siborne *Hist. War in 1815* ii. (1894) 67 The Commander of the Prussian Army in this memorable campaign, the veteran Marshal Prince Blücher von Wahlstadt. 1852 G. W. Johnson *Cott. Gard. Dict.* 531/2 *Lactuca*, Lettuce...Imperial Grand Admirable, Prussian, Large Roman. 1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* VII. 815 This tendency to over-legislation has long been the predominating evil feature of Prussian administration.

2. Prussian blue: a deep blue pigment of great body and covering power, consisting essentially of hydrated ferric ferrocyanide, $Fe'''_4(Fe''Cy_6)_3 \cdot 18(H_2O)$, generally mixed with varying quantities of potassioferrous ferricyanide, $(KFe'')_2Fe'''Cy_6$.

Called *Prussian* from being accidentally discovered by Diesbach, a colour-maker in Berlin, in 1704, and announced as a pigment in the Berlin Miscellanies for 1710. (See T. Thomson *Chemistry* ed. 3, 1807, Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 741.)

Hence the uses of *Prussian* in Chemistry and Colouring, also Prussiate, Prussic, Prussous, etc.

1724 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 17 A Process for making the Prussian blue. 1732 J. Peele *Water-Colours* 45 Prussian Blue is next to the Ultramarine for Beauty. 1807 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 329 This powder was called Prussian blue; and the method of procuring it remained concealed, because it had become a lucrative article of commerce, till Dr. Woodward published a process in the Philosophical Transactions for 1724. 1838 Mrs. Marcet *Conversations Land & Water* xi. (1848) 104 Prussian blue and carmine are derived from the animal kingdom. 1868 E. L. Ormerod *Brit. Soc. Wasps* 14 Prussian-blue, known to washerwomen as stone-blue. *attrib.* 1848 Thackeray *Bk. Snobs* xxi, Her relations with the Prussian-blue trade.

b. *adj.* and *sb.*, as name of the colour of this substance, sometimes called *royal blue*; also *sb.*, applied to a person dressed in a blue uniform or coat. In Dickens, prob. a variant or intensive of 'true blue'.

1837 Dickens *Pickw.* xxxiii, 'Vell, Sammy', said the father. 'Vell, my Prooshun Blue', responded the son. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/2 We have no doubt that the true solution [of 'my Proosban blue'] is simple enough. The expression is a reference to a public-house sign common enough in the Pickwickian age, and often pictorially presented, namely, the portrait of the 'King of Prussia' in a blue uniform. *Mod.* The colour varies from azure to Prussian blue.

c. Prussian brown, Prussian green, pigments derived from or allied to Prussian blue.

1842 Francis *Dict. Arts, Prussian Green*, a celebrated pigment, consisting of an imperfect Prussian blue, containing excess of the oxyde of iron, to which the yellow tincture of French berries is added. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. (1888) 95 *Prussian Green.*—The sediment of the process of making Prussian Blue from bullock's blood or horns, before it has had the hydrochloric acid added to it. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts, Prussian brown*, a fine deep brown colour obtained by adding the yellow prussiate of potash (ferrocyanide of potassium) to a solution of sulphate of copper.

†3. Hence, *Chem.* **Prussian acid** = Prussic *acid*; **Prussian alkali**, potassium ferrocyanide.

1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 134 Yielded a blue precipitate on adding the Prussian Alkali. 1796 Kirwan *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 487 *Prussian*, or *Prussiated alkali*, formerly called the phlogisticated alkali, is an alkali united to a particular tinging substance by the intermediation of iron, calcined. *Ibid.* 488 Iron..forms, with the Prussian acid, compounds of two different kinds; the one fully saturated, the other unsaturated. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 757 A determinate quantity of the Prussian alkali must be tried previously.

B. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Prussia (the ethnic territory, the duchy, or the kingdom).

1677 E. Browne *Trav. Germany* 82 To the Classis, or Natio Saxonum, were reduced Saxons..., Prussians, Livonians. 1746 H. Walpole *Lett.* (1846) II. 112 The King of Sardinia..has made himself as considerable in the scale as the Prussian. 1844 W. Siborne *Hist. War in 1815* ii. (1894) 67 He was eminently fitted to be both the representative and the leader of the Prussians. 1879 *Smith's Smaller Hist. Eng.* xxxv, 310 The Prussians strained every nerve to reach the field [of Waterloo].

[*Note.* The name *Prussia* (in early writers *Pruscia, Pruschia, Prucia, Prusya, Prusia*) was a deriv. of *Pruzzi, Prutzci, Pruci, Prussi, Prusi*, latinized forms, in the mediæval writers, of the name of a Lithuanic or Balto-slavonic people, who inhabited a territory now included in the provinces of East and West Prussia, which was conquered in the 12th c. by the Knights of the Teutonic Order, and afterwards became a dukedom or duchy, at length under the rule of the elector of Brandenburg, who in 1700 thence assumed the title of *König von Preuszen*, King of Prussia. The German forms are *ein Preusze* a Prussian, *Preuszen* Prussians and Prussia. For the French and ME. forms see Pruce. Other med.L. names were *Borussi*, and *Prut(h)eni*, whence the adj. *Prut(h)enicus* Prutenic.]

†Pruˑssianated, *a. Chem. Obs.* [f. Prussian *a.* 3 + -ate[3] + -ed[1].] = Prussiated.

1791 Pearson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 321 Prussianated alkali of tartar occasioned no alteration.

Pruˑssianism. [f. Prussian *a.* + -ism.] The national spirit or political system of Prussia.

1856 *Mem. F. Perthes* II. xxiv. 362 Germanism is a noble thing unless it be a synonym for Prussianism. 1896 *Daily News* 11 June, Arrogant, overbearing Prussianism.

Prussianize (prvˑʃănəiz), *v.* [f. Prussian *a.* + -ize.] *trans.* To render Prussian or like Prussian in organization or character. Hence **Pruˑssianized** *ppl. a.*, **Pruˑssianizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Prussianizaˑtion**, the action or process of Prussianizing; **Pruˑssianizer**, one who Prussianizes.

1861 M. Arnold *Pop. Educ. France* 167 To Prussianise his people or to Americanise it. 1872 *Spectator* 7 Sept. 1132 The attempted Prussianisation of the separated provinces of France. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 7 Nov. 10/1 The very embodiment of didactic bureaucracy and Prussianized pedagogy. 1891 *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 250/2 The recent efforts of Japan to prussianize her institutions. 1893 *Cycl. Rev. Current Hist.* (U. S.) III. 365 The 'Prussianizing' of Germany. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Oct. 2/1 The Prussianisers have received a set-back by the decision of the Supreme Court in the Lippe-Detmold Regency case in favour of Count Ernest of Lippe Bielefeld.

Prussiate (prʊ·s-, prʊ·ʃiĕt), *sb. Chem.* [a. F. *prussiate* (Morveau, etc. *Nomencl. Chim.* 1787), f. *pruss-ique* PRUSSIC + -ATE[1].] A salt of prussic acid; a cyanide. Also, a ferro- or ferri-cyanide, as *yellow prussiate* (of potash) = potassium ferrocyanide, K_4FeCy_6; *red prussiate* (of potash) = potassium ferricyanide, $K_6Fe_2Cy_{12}$.

c 1790 tr. *Lavoisier's etc. Tabl. Chem. Nom.* (*Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 598), Names newly invented or adopted..Prussiate of potash..Prussiate of iron. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. i. i. 11 The prussiat of alkali. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 360 The prussiates of ammonia, lime, barytes, &c. 1842 PARNELL *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 68 The red prussiate of potash is as delicate and characteristic a test for protoxide of iron, as the yellow prussiate of potash is for the peroxide. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 598 Ferrocyanide of potassium or Yellow prussiate of potash.

Pru·ssiate, *v. Chem.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To convert into a prussiate.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 504 They make use of the same sort of Berlin blue in Prussiating their alkali.

Hence **Pru·ssiated** *ppl. a.*, converted into a prussiate; combined with prussic acid.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 356 The prussiated Metals heated to redness. 1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 334 The prussiated alkalies also precipitate muriate of alumine. 1826 — *Elem. Chem.* II. 537 The prussiated alkalis decompose..all metallic solutions.

Prussic (prʊ·sik), *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *prussique* ('acide prussique, matière colorante du bleu de Prusse', Morveau, etc. *Nomencl. Chim.* 1787), f. *Prusse* Prussia + *-ique*, -IC. See PRUSSIAN *a.* 2.] Of, pertaining to, or derived from Prussian blue. Chiefly in *Prussic acid* = HYDROCYANIC *acid*, CNH.

1790 KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 121 We are only acquainted with six animal acids.. They are, Lactic,.. Saccho-lactic,..Bombic,..Formic,..Sebacic,..Prussic acid. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 355 Scheele has shewn that the red oxide of mercury takes the colouring matter from Prussian blue; and this property is employed for obtaining Prussic acid. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 108 The vegetable prussic acid is procured by distilling laurel leaves, or the kernels of the peach, and cherry, or bitter almonds. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 388/2 *Hydrocyanic acid*.. obtained by Scheele in 1782..as it was procured, though intermediately, from Prussian blue, it was originally called prussic acid. 1881 *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* XLIX. 23 No more poisonous agent can be found than prussic acid.

† Pru·ssin. *Chem. Obs.* Also -ine. [f. PRUSS-IAN *a.* 2 + -INE[5] (as in *chlorine*, etc.).] An early name for CYANOGEN, CN (or a polymer of it), as a derivative of Prussian blue.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 247/1 Cyanogen..is a gaseous compound sometimes termed *Prussine* or *Prussine gas.* 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 742 *Prussin*, or *Prussian*, a name applied by Graham to a hypothetical radicle, C_3N_8 = Cy_3 or Pr, polymeric with cyanogen, which may be supposed to exist in the ferro- and ferricyanides.

† Pru·ssite. *Chem. Obs.* [a. F. *prussite*, f. *Prusse* Prussia: see -ITE[1] 4 b and PRUSSIAN *a.* 2.] **a.** (*a* 1800) = *Prussian alkali*, potassium ferrocyanide. **b.** A sulpho-cyanate, as *prussite of potash*, KCyS. So **† Pru·ssous** *a.*, in *prussous acid*, early name for sulphocyanic acid (CN.HS).

1791 MACIE in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 388 From this solution Prussite of Tartar..instantly threw down a very copious Prussian blue. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 428 Precipitation by Soda would answer better than by Prussite. 1809 R. PORRETT in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXVII. 99 This liquor I have named..*prussous acid*, and its salts *prussites*, of which the liquid B contained one in solution, namely the prussite of potash. 1819 CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 325 Sulphocyanic acid was discovered by Mr. Porrett in 1808..he first called it prussous acid.

Prut (prʊt), *int.* and *sb.* Also 4 tprut, 8 prute. [Echoic, repr. a slight explosive sound, as of breaking wind.]

1. An exclamation of contempt.

c 1300 in Langtoft *Chron.* (MS. Fairfax 22, lf. 4), Tprut! Skot riveling, In unsel timing crope thu out of cage. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3014 And seyþ 'prut for þy cursyng, prest!' *a* 1779 D. GRAHAM *Janet Clinker's Orat.* Writ. 1883 II. 150 If they had tell'd me tuts, or prute no, I laid them o'er my knee, and a com'd crack for crack o'er their hurdies. 1870 LUBBOCK *Orig. Civiliz.* viii. 282 From pr, or prut, indicating contempt.

2. The sound of a rifle shot.

1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 837/2 To the prut of the magazine rifles was added the under chorus of the clicking mechanism. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Jan. 2/1 Time passed; the fight, short anyhow, dwindled to prut..prut..prut-prut..prut.

Prut, prute, obs. forms of PROUD.

† Prutenic (prute·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *Prutenic-us*, f. *Prut(h)en-i* Prussians: see IC. Cf. F. *pruténique.*] Prussian; in *Prutenic tables*, the Copernican planetary tables published in 1551 by Erasmus Reinhold (*Cælestium Motuum Prutenicæ Tabulæ*); so named in compliment to Albert, Duke of Prussia. Also as *sb.* in *pl.* **Prute·nics**, the Prutenic tables.

1615-16 H. BRIGGS *Let.* 10 Mar. in *Ussher's Lett.* (1686) 36 Concerning Eclipses..Mullerus in his *Phris. Tabulis* hath mightily discouraged me, for he hath weakned the Prutenicks, my Foundation, in three places of his Book at least. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* i. Wks. 1851 IV. 22, I trust anon..to perfect such Prutenick tables as shall mend the Astronomy of our wide expositors. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Prutenick Tables*, certain Tables for the finding out of the Celestial motions..First publisht in the year 1551.

So **† Prute·nical** *a.*, in same sense.

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* I. xxix. (1636) 79 Taught by Reinoldus in the beginning of his Prutenicall Tables. 1640 WILKINS *New Planet* I. (1707) 152 The Man that calculated the Prutenical Tables from Copernicus his Observations.

Pruu, Prw, var. PROW *sb.*[2] and *v. Obs.*, profit.

Pruwiance, Pruys, var. PROVIANCE, PRUCE.

† Pry, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 6 prie. [Derivation unknown.] A local name of the small-leaved lime or linden (*Tilia parvifolia*). Also *pry-tree.*

1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 79 Lop popler and sallow, elme, maple, and prie. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 355 The wild kind [of Lime-tree] bearing a smaller leaf than the other, by which I suppose, he [Evelyn] means the Tree which they call the Pry-tree, which grows the most plentiful in Essex.

Pry (prəi), *sb.*[2] Now only *dial.* Also 7-8 prie, 9 prye. [Derivation unknown.] A name given locally to various rigid glaucous grasses and species of *Carex*, esp. *C. panicea.* Also *pry-grass.*

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* I. iii. 7 Harsh, reddish, blewish spirie and prie-grass bewray a cold, vnkind ..soile. *Ibid.* ix. 22 Rushes, ranke sower grasse, Prie and Quitch-grasse. 1798 R. DOUGLAS *Agric. Surv. Roxb.* 108 Different species of *Carex*, here called pry, and by Ainsworth interpreted sheer-grass. 1877 SIR W. ELLIOT in *Hist. Berw. Nat. Club* (1879) VIII. 454 *note*, *Prye*, *Pry*, is called 'the bottom of *spret*', which alone is eaten by sheep when the spret gets old and hard. Several plants are included under this term, as:—*Poa trivialis*,..*Holcus lanatus*... *Carex panicea* also is considered a prye grass, as are other species of *Carex.*

Pry (prəi), *sb.*[3] [f. PRY *v.*[1]]

1. An act or the action of prying; a peeping or inquisitive glance.

1750 C. SMART *Noon-piece* 50 Secluded from the teizing pry Of Argus Curiosity. 1817 KEATS *To* —— 30 They seldom meet the eye Of the little loves that fly Round about with eager pry.

2. An inquisitive person. Cf. *Paul Pry*, PAUL 3. *a* 1845 HOOD *Ode to Rae Wilson* vi, The spy On fellow souls, a Spiritual Pry. 1874 R. BLACK tr. *Guizot's Hist. France* III. xxix. 152 Froissart is an insatiable pry who revels in all the sights of his day.

Pry (prəi), *sb.*[4] Also **pray.** *dial.* and *U. S.* [f. PRIZE, PRISE *sb.*[4], with final *s(e)* lost as in *pea, cherry*, etc.: cf. PRY *v.*[2]] An instrument for prying or prizing; a lever or crow-bar; = PRIZE *sb.*[4] 1.

1823, 1828 [see PRY *v.*[2]]. *a* 1825 [see PRIZE *sb.*[4]]. 1872 TALMAGE *Serm.* 45 The enemies of this book have tried to marshal on their side the astronomer's telescope and geologist's pry. 1884 *Science* 22 Feb. 226/2 A dozen strong wooden poles served us as pries over many a lake and river bar of sand, gravel, and mud.

Pry (prəi), *v.*[1] Also 4-6 prien, 4-7 prie, prye, 5 pri. [ME. *prien*, of unknown origin.

The verbs PIRE and PEER, which come near in form and sense, are of later appearance.]

1. *intr.* To look, *esp.* to look closely or curiously; to peep or peer, to look narrowly; to peer inquisitively or impertinently; to spy.

c 1306 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 222 After socour of Scotlond longe he mowe prye, Ant after help of Fraunce wet halt hit to lye? *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 96 At þe last lelly a litel hole he findes. Þere pried he in priuely. *Ibid.* 5019 Burgeys with here burdes..weyteden out at windowes..to prie on þe puple þat priked in þe stretes. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 114 Whanne..day gan at my wyndowe in to prye. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxii, The long[ë] day thus gan I prye and poure Till phebus endit had his bemes bryght. 1571 *Latimer's Serm. at Stamford* 92 b, Spying, tooting, and looking, watching & prying [*ed.* 1550 catching], what they might heare or see against the sea of Rome. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 38 b, [They] bryng their wares to the light, and prie, and pore on them. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 159 Thus..glide obscure, and prie In every Bush and Brake. 1750 GRAY *Long Story* 65 They.. Into the Drawers and China pry. 1858 DORAN *Crt. Fools* 71 He went prying about into the corners of the hall.

2. *Pry into*: to search inquisitively into (something secret or private); to investigate curiously or impertinently; to make private investigations into.

1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 323 To prye into this Arcanum. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 4 To prie into the most profound mysteries of Nature. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. iii. 114 Endeavour to pry into the nature..of the Almighty. *a* 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. (1861) V. 196 A longing to pry into those mysteries of the grave from which human beings avert their thoughts.

b. *gen.* To inquire into or investigate closely.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. viii. (1660) 92 To occasion them to prie more narrowly into these curious and nice manners or bearing, which numbers of them so sleightly passe over. 1638 WILKINS *New World* I. (1707) 9 Not..to be rejected, but rather to be pry'd into with a diligent Enquiry. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* I. iii. 23 If strictly pried into, will be found owing to natural Causes. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 54 He pries into all the stratagems of Camillus.

† 3. *trans.* To look for, look through, or look at closely; to observe narrowly. *Obs.*

1553 *Respublica* III. iv. 760 What nowe, brother Honestie? what prye ye this waie? Is there eni thing here that ys yours, can ye saie? 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91, I pryed al quarters. 1632 J. PORY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. III. 276 An horseman of the enemy prying the King steadfastly in the face, said [etc.].

b. *Pry out*: to search or find out by prying.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 32 b, He secretly sent wise espialles..to searche & prye oute of what progeny thys misnamed Rycharde was dissended. 1760 DODD *Hymn to Gd.-Nature* Poems (1767) 4 Never..to pry out littleness and faults, Where merit claims my praise.

Pry (prəi), *v.*[2] *dial.* and *U. S.* [Shortened from PRIZE, PRISE *v.*[3], app. through confusing the final consonant with the *-s* of the 3rd pers. sing. pres.: cf. PRY *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To raise or move by force of leverage; to force up; = PRIZE *v.*[3] Hence **Pry·ing** *vbl. sb.*

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words & Phrases* 292 *Pray*, or *Praise*, or *Prize*, or *Pry*, to lift any thing with a lever—the lever is called a *pray* or *lewer*...To pray a door or lid open, is to open it with a handspike, or lever of any sort. 1828 WEBSTER, *Pry*, to raise or attempt to raise with a lever. This is the common popular pronunciation of *prize* in America. The lever used is also called a *pry.* 1850 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. iii. 209 This seems to be the only lever to pry them over with. 1858 [see HUB[1] 3]. 1878 *Scribner's Mag.* XVI. 56/2 You must pry it up with a stick or trowel. 1897 GEN. H. PORTER *Campaigning w. Grant* ix. 146 In prying off the cross ties. 1903 [In *Eng. Dial. Dict.* from Suffolk and Essex. Common with workmen in many parts.]

Pryan, prian (prəi·ăn). *dial.* [a. Corn. *pryan, prian* clayey ground (Jago).] A Cornish miner's term for soft white clay. Also *attrib.*

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Pryan Tin*, is a sort of Tin that is found mix'd with a Gravelly Earth, sometimes White, but usually Red. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Pryan*, ore in small pebbles mixed with clay. 1882 JAGO *Cornw. Gloss., Pryan lode*, a flookan lode, as a soft clayey vein of tin.

Prycate, prycket(te, obs. ff. PRICKET. **Pryce,** obs. f. PRICE, PRISE, PRYSE. **Pryck, Pryde, Pryef,** obs. f. PRICK, PRIDE, PROOF.

† Pryelle. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *prayel, pra(i)el, preël* (mod.F. *préau*):—med.L. *prātell-um*, dim. of *prāt-um* a meadow. Cf. MDu. *pryel, prieel* (mod. *prieel*).] An open space in the middle of a cloister, an open court.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 45 Rolande the handwerker Shall make my pryelle [F. *mon prayel*] An hegge aboute.

Pryer, var. PRIER. **Pryght,** obs. pa. t. of PRICK *v.* **Prygnatory,** obs. f. PRENOTARY.

Pry·ing, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PRY *v.*[1] + -ING[1].] The action of PRY *v.*[1]; narrow peering or examination; inquisitive search.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VIII. i. § 9. 377 There with a narrow prying was sought out the fibra, or veine of the heart on the left side. 1894 *Athenæum* 24 Feb. 238/3 Their prying into every detail of private life.

Prying, *vbl. sb.*[2]: see PRY *v.*[2]

Pry·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. PRY *v.*[1] + -ING[2].] That pries; unduly or impertinently curious; inquisitive; diligently inquiring.

1552 HULOET, Priynge knaues, *limaces uiri.* 1608 D. T[UVIL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 90 b, A prying eye, a listning eare, and a prating tongue, are all birds of one wing. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 20 Such things as..no prying historian is able to discover. 1778 FOOTE *Trip Calais* III. Wks. 1799 II. 365 She is as suspicious and prying as a customhouse officer. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 57 Analyzed in turn, by the most dextrous and prying anatomists of England, France, Germany, and Italy, but with no satisfactory result. 1845 JAMES *A. Neil* II. iv, They are a sad prying, gossiping race.

Pry·ingly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a prying manner; narrowly, closely, inquisitively.

1628 GAULE *Pract. The.* (1629) 50 That they will dare pryingly to sift out. 1720 S. PARKER *Biblioth. Bibl.* I. 427 Without examining too pryingly and sollicitously into the reasons of so unparallel'd a Transformation. 1853 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XX. 424/2 The writer appears to have wandered pryingly into the alleys and by-places.

Pryis(s, obs. f. PRICE *sb.*[1], PRIZE *v.*[1] **Pryk(e, prykk,** obs. ff. PRICK. **Prykel(le, prykyl,** obs. ff. PRICKLE. **Pryket, -ett(e,** obs. ff. PRICKET. **Prylle,** obs. f. BRILL *sb.*[1], PRILL[1]. **Pryme, Prymer,** obs. ff, PRIME, PRIMER.

Pry·-pole. [f. PRY *v.*[2] or *sb.*[4] + POLE *sb.*[1]] A pole used as a 'pry' or lever.

1828 J. M. SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* (ed. 2) 188, 7. Assists number 3 at the lever, slings and unslings the gun, and lashes it to the pry-pole. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* (1862) 123 One prypole, fitted with a prypole rope.

Prys, obs. f. PRICE, PRIZE *sb.*[1], *v.*[1], PRYSE.

Prysage, Prysar, obs. ff. PRISAGE[1], PRIZER[1].

† Prysauntere. *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. OF. *prisautier, prinsautier* (12th c. in Godef.), mod.F. *primesautier* precipitate in action, presumptuous, f. OF. *prin saut* 'first leap'.] (See quot.)

c 1440 *Partonope* 6842 Comenly suche menne mow not last Prysaunteres suche folke callyth he..Suche last not but lytylle while. [*Fr.* Qui ne sont pas si prinsautier Qui s'espargnent dusqu'al tierc jor.]

Pryse, pryce. *Hunting. arch.* Also 4 priis, 5 prise, 6 prys. [ME. a. OF. or AF. *pris* 'taken', pa. pple. of *prendre* to take, or OF. *prise* 'taking, capture', thence formed: cf. PRISE *sb.*[1], PRIZE *sb.*[3]] In phrase *to blow the pryse*, i. e. to blow 'Taken!' or 'Capture!', to sound a blast on the hunting-horn as a signal that the stag is taken. Also *transf.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2749 Tristrem on huntinge rade,..Hé blewe priis as he can þre mot oþer mare. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* xxxiv. (1904) 99 Þan shuld..who so is grettest of þe hunters blowe þe pryce at couplyng vp. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. vi. 125 Thenne kynge Arthur blewe the pryse and dyghte the herte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* X. xii. 123 And blew the prys triumphall for his [Orodes'] deth. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lii. 177, I can mew a sparhawke, and I can chase the herte and the wyld bore, and blowe the pryce.

1802 SCOTT *Cadyow Castle* xvii, Sound, merry huntsmen! sound the pryse!

Pryse, pryss, obs. ff. PRICE, PRISE, PRIZE.

‖ **Prytaneum** (pritănī·ŭm). *Gr. Antiq.* Also 9 -eium, -eion. [L. *prytanēum*, a. Gr. πρυτανεῖον, f. πρύτανις: see next.] The public hall of a Greek state or city, in which the sacred fire was kept burning; *esp.* in ancient Athens, the hall in which those who had done distinguished service to the state (and also foreign ambassadors) were entertained at the public charge, together with the successive presidents of the senate.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLI. 1108 At Cizicum, he gave freely to the Prytaneum. 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* II. IX. 335 A Publick House, or *Prytaneum*, wherein they ate on the great Feasts of the publick Games. 1846 GROTE *Greece* I. XIV. I. 380 He assigned to the new hero a consecrated spot in the strongest and most commanding portion of the Sicyonian prytaneium. 1865 — *Plato* I. I. 13 Like the public hearth or perpetual fire maintained in the prytaneum of a Grecian city.

b. *transf.* A public hall or house.

1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 86 Last of all feasts the Professors in the room called the *Prytaneum*, which is now used as the Divinity-Schools. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. XI. 27 The hearth and Prytaneion of the English nation. 1888 *Athenæum* 7 July 31/1 The poet and the novelist, the historian and the sage, will then live blithe and blameless in the Prytaneum.

‖ **Prytanis** (pri·tănis). *Gr. Antiq.* Pl. -nes (-nīz). Also 7 in Anglicized form prytan, -ane. [L. *prytanis*, a. Gr. πρύτανις a prince, ruler, chief, at Athens a president.]

1. In ancient Athens, A member of that division of the Council of Five Hundred which was presiding at the time.

1656 J. HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1700) 79 The Prytans were a Committee or Council sitting in the Great Hall of Pantheon. 1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., All the fifty *prytanes* of the tribe did not govern together during those five weeks; but in companies, ten at a time, chosen by lot; seven days each company. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* xii. 372 The prytanes referred their case to the council.

2. The chief magistrate of a Greek state, as of Rhodes, Lycia, or Miletus.

1682 WHELER *Journ. Greece* III. 267 He was Prytane, or Chief Magistrate among them. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* XIV. X. § 22 The decree of those of Pergamus:—'When Cratippus was prytanis, on the first day of the month Desius'. 1868 *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Prytaneium*, Officers called *prytanes* (πρυτάνεις) were entrusted with the chief magistracy in several states of Greece, as Corcyra, Corinth, Miletus.

3. *transf.* A president, chief.

1847 GROTE *Greece* II. X. III. 101 It is probable also that the functions of that senate [the Areopagus], and those of the prytanes of the naukrars, were of the same double and confused nature. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* XVII. 317 In polytheism that conception is necessarily obscured, showing itself dimly either in the *Prytanis*, or President of the Immortals, such as Zeus; or in Fate.

Hence **Pry·tan** *a. rare*, pertaining to or consisting of prytanes; presiding in the Council of Five Hundred at Athens; **Pry·tanize** *v. intr.*, of a division or individual: to exercise the prytany; whence **Pry·tanizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* II. I. VI. 95 Every prytan body of fifty was divided into five committees of ten each; and its period of office into five of seven days each. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. XXXVI. IV. 484 *note*, Conformable to their order in prytanising, as drawn by lot for the year. *Ibid.* 485 *note*, First in the order of prytanising tribes for the year.

Prytany (pri·tăni). *Gr. Antiq.* Also prut-. [ad. Gr. πρυτανεία, f. πρύτανις PRYTANIS.]

1. The presidency of the Athenian senate; the office or dignity of a prytanis. Also *transf.*

1885 *Trans. Amer. Philol. Assoc.* XVI. 169 If Schömann's older view is correct, the presiding officer..must always belong to the tribe which holds the prytany at the time. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* XV. 286 Modified by a weak reminiscence of the old kingship in the not very effective sovereignty (or *prytany*) of Zeus.

2. Each of the ten divisions of the Athenian Council of Five Hundred during its presidency; also the period of five weeks during which each division presided.

1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* I. XXXI. 115 If these officers did not carry their rents before the ninth prytany, they were to pay double. 1847 GROTE *Greece* II. XI. III. 163 *note*, The division of the year into ten portions of time, each called by the name of a *prytany*..[does] not belong to the Solonian Athens. 1886 *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 216/1 A building called a Tholos, in which statues were dedicated and sacrifices were performed by the prutanies.

Pr'ythee, obs. form of PRITHEE.

Pryys, obs. form of PRICE *sb.*[1]

P.S., a common abbreviation of L. *post scriptum*, POSTSCRIPT, often pronounced as written (pĭ·e·s).

1757 J. LIND *Lett. Navy* II. 62 This defect is remedied by a law mentioned in the P.S. 1842 ORDERSON *Creol.* XVIII. 221 As a little P.S...we will here note. *Mod.* (At end of a letter.) P.S. Since writing the above I have received your telegram, and am relieved to know that the missing luggage has turned up. Good-bye!

Ps-, Words beginning with this consonant combination (with the exception of a few interjectional monosyllables, *psa, pshaw, pst*) are all taken or formed from Greek, in which language the combination is frequent, and has been represented from about B.C. 550 by the single letter Ψ, ψ.

The only words in *ps-* which go back to Old English times are the ecclesiastical terms *psalm* sb. and vb., and *psalter*. *Psalterion* and *psaltery* appear in the 13th c.; *pseudo*, and some five of its compounds, occur in Wyclif. All the other *ps-* words are of Modern English formation, few before 1600, the great majority of the 19th c. In *psalm* the initial *p* was dropped already in OE., as in OF. and the cognate languages, and in English has never been restored in pronunciation (as it has been in French and German). This appears to have served as a precedent for dropping the *p* in the pronunciation of other words, an unscholarly practice often leading to ambiguity or to a disguising of the composition of the word. As the *p* is now pronounced in French, German, and other languages, as well as by Englishmen in reading Greek, and by many scholars in English also (there being no organic defect in the English mouth to prevent it), it is here marked, except in the *psalm, psalter* group, as an optional pronunciation which is recommended especially in all words that retain their Greek form (e.g. *psora, psyche*), and in scientific terms generally, which have not been irretrievably mutilated by popular use.

Psa: see PSHAW.

Psalidodect (ps-, sæ·lidode·kt), *a. Comp. Anat.* [f. Gr. ψαλίς, ψαλιδ- a pair of shears + δήκτης biter, f. δάκνειν to bite.] (See quot.)

1896 COPE *Primary Factors Org. Evol.* VI. 318 Inferior molars work within superior molars, but not between them. Psalidodect mastication.

Psalloid (ps-, sæ·loid), *a. Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *psalloïdes*, irreg. f. Gr. ψάλλειν (see PSALM) + εἶδος form: see -OID.] Resembling a stringed instrument: applied to a part of the *fornix* of the brain (*corpus psalloïdes*), from the lines on it suggesting the strings of a musical instrument, whence also called *lyra* (see LYRA 4).

[1756 DOUGLAS tr. *Winslow's Struct. Hum. Body* (ed. 4) II. 245 For which reason the Ancients called it Psalloides and Lyra. 1811 HOOPER *Med. Dict., Psalloides*...Applied ..to the inner surface of the fornix of the brain.] 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1029/1 Resembling a psalter, harp, or *cithara*: psalloid. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Psalloid*...Resembling a harp in shape.

Psalm (sām), *sb.* Forms: see below. [ad. L. *psalm-us*, a. Gr. ψαλμ-ός a twitching (of the strings of the harp), the sound of the cithara or harp, a song sung to the harp, f. ψάλ-ειν to twitch, twang, play (with the fingers), sing to a harp (in LXX and N.T.). The OE. (*p*)*sealm* was cogn. with OHG. *salm, salmo*, also *psalmo, -ma* (MHG. *salm, salme, psalme*, Ger. *psalm*, pl. *-en*, Du. *psalm*), ON. (*p*)*salmr* (mod. Icel. *sálmur*, Norw. *salm(e* m. (*salma* f.), MSw. (*p*)*salm*, Sw. *psalm* (*p* mute), Da. *salme* (*psalme*), all from L.; whence also OF. *salme, saume, psalme*, (*p*)*seaume*, F. from 15th c. *psaume* (= psōm), Pr. *salme, psalm(e*, Cat. *salm*, Sp., It. *salmo*, Pg. *psalmo*. From the early forms in the cognate langs. as well as Eng., it is seen that the initial *p* was often dropped at an early period; in many of the langs. it has been restored after the L. and Gr. original, and in that case is also pronounced. Eng. is almost alone in spelling *ps*, and sounding only *s*. The ME. spelling (*p*)*saume*, and modern pronunciation (sām), are due to F. (*p*)*saume*: cf. *balm, calm*, etc.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1– **psalm,** 1 **psealm;** 4–7 **psalme,** 7 *Sc.* **pschalme,** (6 **spalme,** 7 **sphalme**).

*c*961 Hu fela psealma [see B. 2]. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 129/41 *Canticum*, psalm æfter hærpansang. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 Hwose wule mei siggen þesne psalm. 13.. *Cursor M.* 18889 (Cott.) Þe psalm [*Gött.* salme] sais, thoru þe haligast. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* XXII. 9 Þis psalme is songen in þe office of ded men. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. XXIX. (Bodl. MS.), Þe one and fifti psalme..is a psalme of penaunce. 1599 *Acc.-Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 242 A service booke with spalmes. 1605 *Montgomerie's Poems* (S.T.S.) Notes 388 The XXIIJ Sphalme translait be Montgumry. 1626 BERNARD *Isle of Man* (1627) 260 A Psalme of mercy. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* 40 Singing of Psalms. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 380 Psalmes with instruments musicall.

β. 1–3 **sealm,** 1–5 **salm,** 2 **selm** (3 Orm. **sallm**).

*c*825 *Vesp. Psalter* XVIII[I]. 50 Salm ic cweoðu. *c* 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* Contents 6 [ch.] xix, Þa sealmas. *c* 1175 Of þe salm [see B. 1]. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 61 Ðe spekð..ðurh ðene selm. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15579 Upponn hiss hallȝe sallme. 1388 WYCLIF *Jas.* V. 13 Seie he a salm [1382 psalme]. *c* 1400 Saulm [see B. 2]. *c* 1420–30 *Primer* (E.E.T.S.) 31 Y schal seie salm.

γ. 3 **saume,** 3–6 **salme,** (4 **same**), 5 **saulme.**

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 66/447 He bi-gan one saume of euesongue. *c* 1300 Same [see B. 2]. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* XXVI[I]. 11, I shal synge and saie salme to our Lord. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Salme, *psalmus*. 1530 PALSGR. 265/1 Salme of saulter, *pseaulme*. *c* 1597 HARINGTON *Nugæ Ant.* (1779) II. 158 Singing salmes, and himms, and spiritual songs.

B. Signification.

1. In a general sense: Any sacred song that is or may be sung in religious worship; a hymn: esp. in biblical use. (In quot. *c* 1175 applied to the Creed.) Also more generally, any song or ode of a sacred or serious character.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* XCIV. [XCV.] 2 In salmum wynsumie we him. *c* 825 *Vesp. Hymns* III. in *O. E. Texts* 403, & salmas ure we singað [*Isa.* XXXVIII. 20]. *c* 1000 [see A. α]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Þe salm þet heo alle þus writen wes ihaten. Credo. efter þan formeste word of þe salm. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* [XV[I]. 3[4] Alle laud loute þe, and sing to þe sal, And salme sai to þi name with-al. 1382 WYCLIF *Col.* III. 16 In salmes, and ymnes, and spiritual songis, in grace syngynge in 3oure hertis to the Lord. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 31/2 Hymnes & psalmes & other orasouns haue they. 1645 MILTON *At Solemn Music* 15 Hymns devout and holy Psalms Singing everlastingly. 1838 LONGF. (*title*) A Psalm of Life. What the heart of the young man said to the Psalmist.

2. *spec.* Any one of the sacred songs or hymns of the ancient Hebrews which together form the 'Book of Psalms' (see b); a version or paraphrase of any of these, esp. as sung (or read) in public or private worship. (The prevailing use throughout.)

Psalms for the day: the particular psalms appointed for each day so that the whole Psalter is said or sung in the course of a definite period, e.g. a week or (as in the Church of England), a month. *Proper psalms*: see PROPER *a.* 2. † *Seven Psalms*: (spec.) the seven PENITENTIAL psalms.

c 961 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* Contents 6 [ch.] x, Hu fela psealma on nihtlicum tidum to singenne synt...xviii, Hu fela sealma þurh þa sylfan tida sceolan beon gecwedene. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvi. 9 Þæt ic Gode swylce sealmas singe. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Þis witeȝede dauid þe þe salm scop in þe saltere. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7969–70 (Cott.) Of al þe psalmes o þe sauter, þis psalme [*Gött., etc.*, salme] o penance has na per. *c* 1300 *Beket* 1084 He..seide furst þe set sames [*S. Eng. Leg.* I. 137/1086 þe seuen salmes] and siþþe þe letanye. *a* 1340, 1398 [see A. α]. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1768 When gloria efter þe first saulm es said. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Table and Kalendar, expressing the Ordre of the Psalmes and Lessons, to bee sayd at Matyns and Euensong. 1660 WOOD *Life* Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 359 The singing of psalmes after supper..on the Lord's day. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 ₱ 6, I had one Day set the Hundredth Psalm. 1856 *Amy Carlton* 35 They now read the psalms for the day, taking each a verse in turn. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 May 7/2 The Psalm [cvii] is usually read as part of the simple services which take place on Sunday on ships at sea. For that reason it is known as the Sailors' Psalm.

b. *The Psalms, the Book of Psalms.* Name of one of the books of the Old Testament, forming the hymn-book of the Jewish church, and used also in Christian worship from the earliest times; the Psalter. Often called *the Psalms of David*, in accordance with the belief that they, or part of them, were composed by David king of Israel.

In Luke xxiv. 44 used for that division of the Old Testament containing the Psalms: = HAGIOGRAPHA.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiv. 44 Alle ða awritteno sindon in æ moses & witȝo & salmas of mec. 1382 WYCLIF *ibid.*, Alle thingis..whiche ben writun in the lawe of Moyses, and in prophetis, and in salmes, of me. 1581 *Acc.-Bk. W. Wray* in *Antiquary* XXXII. 117 Another boke of St. Chrysostomes upo' the salmes. 1817 D'OYLY & MANT *Bible* II. *Psalms* Introd., The Book of Psalms..contains the productions of different writers. These..are called however the Psalms of David, because a great part of them were composed by him. 1896 ADENEY *How to read the Bible* II. I. IV. 88 Even in the reading of the Psalms we cannot afford to neglect..the historical method.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *psalm-droner, -expounder, -maker, -poet, -translator*; *psalm-quoting, -saying, -singing* sbs. and adjs.; **psalm-melo·dicon** (see quot.); **psa·lm-singer,** one who sings psalms; *spec.* one who maintains the singing of (biblical) psalms (as opposed to hymns) in public worship; † **psa·lm-song** *Obs.*, (*a*) in OE. (*sealmsang*), the singing of psalms; (*b*) in Ormin (*sallmsang*), the Book of Psalms (or the Hagiographa: see 2 b); **psa·lm-tone,** any one of the Gregorian tones or chants to which the Psalms were (or are) sung; **psalm-tune,** a tune set to a metrical version of a psalm. See also PSALM-BOOK, -WRIGHT.

1866 J. H. NEWMAN *Gerontius* iv. 27 Who..gave...Each forfeit crown To *psalm-droners And canting groaners. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* XXIII. 1 A solempne *salm maker of Yrael. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, **Psalm Melodicon*, an instrument invented in 1828 by Schuhmacher Weinrich. It was a wind instrument with keys and ventages, imitating the tone of several orchestral instruments. 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 208 Hopkins and Sternhold, or the more modern *Psalm-Poets. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1499/1 The *psalmsaying friars brought him to his standing, & there left him. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 211 He was the best *psalm-singer in the whole congregation. 1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Warres* III. 61 At this *psalm-singing and these night-sermons, tumults were raised in both Cities, between such as favoured and such as hated them. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B.* II. XI. 280 The psalm-singing old seamen of the Commonwealth. *c* 1050 *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* (1885) VIII. 319 Mid *sealmsange godes lof up ahebban. *c* 1200 ORMIN 14291 Þa bokess..wærenn Moysæsess boc, & Sallmsang, & Profetess. 1889 W. S. ROCKSTRO in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 655/2 The Gregorian *Psalm-Tones are..the oldest Melodies now known to be in existence. *Ibid.* 656/2 The Psalm-Tones..are eight in number—one in each of the first eight Modes. 1709 WATTS *Lyric Poems* Pref., Wks. 1813 IX. 224, I have too often fettered my thoughts in the narrow metre of our old *psalm-translators. 1632 (*title*) All the French *Psalm tunes with English words. Being a collection of Psalms accorded to the verses and tunes generally vsed in the Reformed Churches of France and Germany. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Aristocr.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 80 To an American, whose country is whitewashed all over by unmeaning names..or named at a pinch from a psalm-tune. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN *St. Thomas of Aquin* I. 549 In the above *psalm-words, three things are touched upon.

Psalm, *v.* Also 1 **salmian**; 4 **salme**. [f. prec. sb.: cf. *to hymn*.]

1. †**a.** *intr.* To sing psalms. *Obs.* **b.** *trans.* To sing or celebrate in psalms.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelm., MS. M.) cvii. 1 Ic singe and sealmige [L. *cantabo et psalmum dicam*]. *a* 1300 *E. E. Psalter* vii. 18, I sal..salme [L. *psallam*] to name of lauerd heghist es. *a* 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xlii, To psalme & synge the louynges of god wyth goostly myrthe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. IV. *Handie-crafts* 72 That we her subjects .. Psalming his praise, may sound the same the higher. 1622 H. SYDENHAM *Serm. Sol. Occ.* (1637) 30 He that only sings unto God..he doth but talk of his wondrous workes; but he that Psalmes it..he glories in his holy Name. 1849 tr. *St. Augustine's Expos. Ps.* lxviii. III. 315 He psalmeth to His name, that worketh unto His glory.

2. *trans.* To say or sing a psalm to or over. *rare.*

1800 KEATINGE in Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 51 We cured our wounds with oil, and by a soldier called Juan Catalan, who blessed us and psalmed us,..we found our Saviour Jesus Christ was pleased to give us strength. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* II. 342 He who psalms a sick man, or fancies that the oil from his saint's lamp will heal him of all his complaints.

Hence **Psalmed** *ppl. a.* (in quot. ? composed as psalms, or in the form of sacred poetry); **Psa·lming** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *St. Erkenwolde* 277 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 272 He says in his sothe psalmyde writtes: þe skilfulle & þe vnskathely skeltone ay to me. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* III. lix, The Psalming Harp was 'bove thy swaying Scepter priz'd. *Ibid.* v. lii, My psalming Tongue Made th' Orbs suspend their vsual Song, To hear Cœlestial Hymns the glist'ring Quires did throng. 1850 *Elder's House* 141 Sweet the psalming, borne on high.

Psa·lm-book. In 1 **sealm-bóc*, 2–3 **salm boc.** [Cf. ON. *psalma-bók*, mod. Icel. *sálma-bók*, Norw. *salmebok*, Sw. *psalmbok*, Da. *salmebog*; Ger. *psalmbuch*, Du. *psalmboek*.] †**a.** The Book of Psalms: see PSALM *sb.* 2 b. *Obs.* **b.** A book or volume containing the Psalms, esp. a metrical version of them for use in public worship.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 Bete we gerne, and ben afterward þe edinesse þe þe salm boc of specð. 1579–80 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 266 That houshaldaris have Bybillis and Psalme buikis. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* 40 Every one that can reade is to have a Psalm-book. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, See this bundle of ballads..I wheedled an old woman out of these, who loved them better than her psalm-book. 1842 I. WILLIAMS *Baptistery* I. iv. (1874) 42 'Tis Israel's Psalm-book sweet by inspiration wrought.

Psalmic (sælmi·k, sā·mik), *a. rare.* [f. PSALM *sb.* + -IC, or ad. Chr. Gr. ψαλμικ-ός, f. ψαλμός PSALM: cf. F. *psalmique*.] Of, pertaining to, or having the character of a psalm or psalms.

1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 581 The sudden ebullition of a psalmic chorus. 1875 J. MORISON in *Expositor* I. 194 Who has a right to say that the wings of the Psalmic bards were so feeble that [etc.]? 1898 J. ROBERTSON *Poetry & Relig. Ps.* xiii. 323 The greater part of the seventh chapter of Micah is quite psalmic in thought and expression.

Psalmist (sā·mist, sæ·lmist). [ad. late L. *psalmista* (5th c. Jerome), f. *psalm-us*: see -IST. In OF. *psalmistre* (12th c.), *psalmiste, salmiste, saumiste, samistre*; mod.F. *psalmiste*. Cf. Ger., Du., Da. *psalmist*.]

1. The author of a psalm or psalms; almost always with def. art. as a title for David considered as the author of the Psalms, or as a designation of the author of any one of them.

1483 CAXTON *Cato* G viij b, As the psalmyste sayth. 1539 BIBLE (Great) 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 2 The noble Psalmist of Israel. 1623 GOUGE *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* § 4 The Psalmist noteth it as a branch of Gods incomparable glory. *a* 1720 J. HUGHES *Div. Poetry* 23 She tun'd to pious notes the psalmist's lyre. 1838 [see PSALM B. 1]. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* iv. 103 To say out of the depth of your own experience what the Psalmist said. 1890 KIRKPATRICK *Bk. Psalms* I. Introd. i. 10 The Psalmists celebrate *the moral law* as the guide of human conduct. 1895 *Ibid.* II. xliv. 235 A Maccabaean Psalmist.

2. *Eccl.* A member of one of the minor clerical orders (formerly recognized in some sections of the Church) discharging the functions of a chorister or cantor. *Hist.*

1565 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* II. iii. (1567) 98 The Psalmistes or Singers office was, to singe the Psalmes. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* xi. 140 As if all that are made Priests among you were Psalmists, Sextens, Readers, Exorcists, Torch-bearers, Subdeacons, and Deacons before. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 184 Some in that [*i. e.* the Roman] Church exclude a Bishop; and others therein make nine Orders, by including the Bishop and Psalmist. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IX. ii, Choristers and Monks and Priests And Psalmists there, and Exorcists. 1901 BP. J. WORDSWORTH *Ministry of Grace* 197 Psalmists or choirmen are not mentioned in the Church till the latter half of the fourth century.

3. As the title of a book of psalmody, or of a tune-book for use in public worship.

1842 (*title*) The Psalmist. 1858 (*title*) The Congregational Psalmist: a Companion to all the New Hymn-books, providing Tunes, Chorales, and Chants [etc.].

4. *fig.* One who extols or 'sings the praises' of some one or something. *rare.*

1884 *West. Morn. News* 11 Sept. 4/3 The psalmists of the rising diplomatist tell how..he succeeded in Syria.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1).

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xvi, A kind of Psalmist solemnity. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* IX. iii. (1872) III. 86 Going out to witness it, with something of a poetic, almost of a psalmist feeling. 1892 ESPINASSE *Voltaire* xi. 177 He breaks forth into almost Psalmist-like praises of the wisdom and beneficence of the Creator.

†**Psalmister.** *Obs.* Also **salm-**. [a. OF. (*þ*)*salmistre*: see prec.] **a.** A person appointed to sing psalms: = prec. 2. **b.** = prec. 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 195 þat .. 3e have psalmystres [HIGDEN *psalmicines*] or saienge of psalmes of þe psawtre fourty nyȝtes. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 58 The salmistere seith to God, 'I am parteneer of alle that dreden thee'. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 6 He may seye with þe psalmystre: 'Torrentes iniquitatis conturbauerunt me'. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/1 A Salmister, *psalmista*.

†**Psa·lmistry.** *Obs.* [f. PSALMIST + -RY.] The office or work of a psalmist in either sense.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 101 In sanctuar for to make ceremonie, Witht..psalmistrie for to be said and sung. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* i. 10 From such a kind of Psalmistry, or any other verbal Devotion, without the pledge and earnest of sutable deeds. 1650 J. COTTON *Sing. Ps.* 37 He would inspire some or other Member of the Church with such a.. Spirit of Psalmistry.

Psa·lmless, *a. rare.* [f. PSALM *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a psalm; unaccompanied by a psalm.

1623 HOLYDAY *Serm.* (1626) 16 You shall never find him in a Psalmelesse action.

Psalmodic (sælmǫ·dik), *a.* [f. Gr. type **ψαλμῳδικ-ός* (cf. late Gr. *ψαλμῳδικῶς*, Eustathius *c* 1160): see PSALMODY and -IC, and cf. F. *psalmodique*.] Of or pertaining to psalmody; having the style or character of psalmody. *loosely* = PSALMIC.

1749 *Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 31 Psalmodic Musick thus improved comes nearer to Recitative. 1774 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* xlv. (1840) III. 148 The..design was..to accommodate every part of the service to the psalmodic tone. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. lvii, Pegasus has a psalmodic amble. 1898 J. ROBERTSON *Poetry & Relig. Ps.* xiii. 323 The books of Nahum and Habakkuk have each a chapter entirely psalmodic in construction.

So **Psalmodial** (-ōu·diăl), **Psalmodical** (-ǫ·d-) *adjs.*

1848 K. H. DIGBY *Compitum* I. 315 Their language became psalmodial. 1795 MASON *Ch. Mus.* 170 If Queen Elizabeth patronized Cathedral Music exclusively, she did not interdict Psalmodical. [Cf. quot. 1774 above.]

Psalmodist (sā·mŏdist, sæ·lm-). [f. PSALMODY + -IST, or f. PSALMODIZE: see -IST.]

1. One who practises or is skilled in psalmody; a singer of psalms.

1659 HAMMOND *On Ps.* Pref. ¶ 2 The Spirits and inflamed Affections, and Voices of Psalmodists. 1740 *Univ. Spectator* 19 July 1/3 A young Man, who was a Member of a Society of Psalmodists. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* III. 370 Like a company of psalmodists in a country church.

b. = PSALMIST 2. ? *Obs.*

1726 J. HEALEY *Prim. Liturgy* 11 Let the Psalmodist say, To the praise of God, let us sing a Part of the — Psalm, verse the — &c. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 400 The Canonists make nine Orders in the Church, reckoning the Psalmodist and the Tonsura into the Number.

†**2.** A writer of psalms: = PSALMIST 1. *Obs.*

a 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* vi. 252 The writers of these Hagiographa might be termed psalmodists. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. III. i. 15 Plato's Rapsodist..seems exactly parallel to..the Jewish Psalmodist. 1886 W. R. SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 29/1 He [Solomon] is not recognized as a psalmodist by the most ancient tradition.

b. The author of a metrical version or paraphrase of the Psalms for singing: cf. PSALMODY 1 b.

1885 DIXON *Hist. Ch. Eng.* III. 495 *note*, The English Psalmodists, Cox, Whittingham, Heath, and others, were at work in this reign.

Psalmodize (sā·mŏdəiz, sæ·lm-), *v.* [ad. med.L. *psalmōdizāre* (Du Cange), f. *psalmōdi-a*: see -IZE.] *intr.* To practise psalmody; to sing psalms. Hence **Psa·lmodizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 620 Secular chanons, of great humilitie, To synge and psalmodise oure sauiour vnto. 1759 J. G. COOPER tr. *Gresset's Ver-vert* II. 45 In short, the bird perform'd his part In all the psalmodising art. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* (1818) II. VII. 173 A kind of nasal psalmodizing.

Psalmody (sā·mŏdi, sæ·lmŏdi), *sb.* Also 5 **salmody**, (6 **salmede**). [ad. late L. *psalmōdia* (4th c. in Jerome), a. Gr. ψαλμῳδία singing to the harp, f. ψαλμῳδός psalmist, f. ψαλμός psalm + ᾠδή song; in Chr. Gr., psalm-singing, composing of psalms.]

1. The action, practice, or art of singing psalms (or sacred vocal music in general, including hymns and anthems), esp. in public worship.

Now almost exclusively used of the art or practice.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 1 Lord persayue my wordis þt is þe psalmodye of my mouth. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4051 All þe matyns tyme he stode, And psalmody sange and sayde. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 317/1 A Salmody, *psalmodia*. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 2272 In prayer and psalmody for his helthe and solace. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* 1 Cor. xiv. 26 Let all your Gifts, whether of Psalmody, or Doctrine, or Languages, or Revelation, or Interpretation, be used to Edification. *a* 1711 KEN *Sion* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 363 When God the grace of Psalmody infus'd. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 327 The passion for psalmody itself is a portion of the history of the Reformation.

attrib. 1868 STEVENSON *Let.* July in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 31/1 As we went home we heard singing... It was a psalmody class.

b. The arrangement of psalms for singing; hence, psalms and hymns so arranged, collectively.

1554–5 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 399 Paid for a boke of salmede, ij s. 1718 WATTS (*title*) A Short Essay toward the Improvement of Psalmody. *Ibid.* Wks. 1813 IX. 7 We are to suit part of our psalmody to the gospel-state, as well as borrow part from the Old Testament. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* vii. 89 Milton's paraphrase of the Psalms belongs to history, but to the history of psalmody, not that of poetry.

†**2.** The Book of Psalms. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. iii. in Ashm. *Theatr. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 139 Thus spoken by the Prophet yn the Psalmody.

†**3.** The place where psalms are sung; the choir of a church. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* Pref. A vij, It is reported, that he went often into the Psalmody and sung himself.

Psa·lmody, *v. rare.* [In 15th c., ad. F. *psalmodier* (12th c. in Littré); in mod. use f. prec. sb.] **a.** *intr.* = PSALMODIZE. **b.** *trans.* To celebrate as in psalmody; to 'hymn'. Hence **Psa·lmodying** *vbl. sb.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xli. (Shaks. Soc.) 388 Of qwyche hefne and erthe eche tyme pshalmodyeth. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) 260 They herde the sayd Joseph and his bretheren whiche songen and psalmodyed. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.* (1857) IV. 119 The French Revolution ..is an event..still to be celebrated and psalmodied. 1850 — *Latter-d. Pamph.* I. 10 My dear household, cease singing and psalmodying; lay aside your fiddles, take out your work-implements, if you have any.

†**Psa·lmograph.** *Obs.* [ad. late L. *psalmograph-us*, a. Gr. ψαλμογράφ-ος, f. ψαλμ-ός psalm, + -γραφος writing, a writer. So mod.F. *psalmographe*.] The author of a psalm or psalms: = PSALMIST 1.

1542 BECON *David's Harp* viii. Wks. 1564 I. 159 As the Psalmograph saith: The vngodly hath the ouerhand, and the pore is brent. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 216/1 The sayeng of king Dauid the Psalmograph. 1657 J. SMITH *Myst. Rhet.* 145 The Psalmograph having in the former part of the 2. Psalm spoken of the terrors of Gods indignation.

So †**Psalmo·grapher,** †**Psalmo·graphist** *rare*—[0], in same sense; †**Psalmo·graphy** *rare*—[0], the writing of psalms.

1611 LOE *Blisse Bright. Beauty* (1614) 52 (T.) The psalmographer setteth him out, in the person of Solomon, to be of surpassing beauty. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 10 The Psalmographers Prophecy, if applyed to these times will prove..an exact History. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Psalmography*, the writing of Psalms. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Psalmographist*, a Writer of Psalms.

†**Psa·lmonize,** *v. Obs. rare*—[1]. [irreg. ? after *harmonize*, or error for *psalmodize*.] *intr.* To sing psalms: = PSALMODIZE.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 416 b/1 In syngnyng, psalmonysyng, & glorefyeng god.

†**Psa·lmwright.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 **psalm-, sealmwyrhta**, 2 **salmwurhta**, 3 **psalm-, salmwurhte, salmwrihte, -wruhte.** [f. PSALM *sb.* + OE. *wyrhta* worker, WRIGHT.] = PSALMIST 1.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 82 Efne se psalmwyrhta understod on hwilcum ȝedeorfum þis mennisce lif is ȝelogod. *c* 1000 — *On O. & N. Test.* (Grein) 1 Swa swa se sealmwyrhta þus sang. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 For þon cweð þe salmwurhta. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 256, & sigge mid te salmwurhte, 'Corripiet me justus [etc.]'. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 3 Dauid þe salmwrihte spekeð ibe sauter. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 215 þus seiþ þe salmwruhte dauiþ ibe sawter.

Psalmy (sā·mi), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PSALM *sb.* + -Y.] Apt or disposed for a psalm.

1858 BAILEY *Age* 113 When once a man feels sermonish or psalmy.

Psa·loid, *a.*, an alteration of PSALLOID, due to an assumed derivation from Gr. ψαλίς, ψαλιδ- pair of shears, also a vault (= L. *fornix*): see quots.

Psaloid from ψαλίς is as incorrectly formed as *psalloid* from ψάλλειν; its correct form would be **psalidoid*.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Psaloides, adj.* (As if *Psalidoeides*, which, correctly, it ought to be, from ψαλίς, an arched work: terminal *-ïdēs*.) *Anat.* Resembling an arch; arch-like; arched: psa'loid... The *Corpus psaloides* is another term for the *Fornix*, simply meaning the arched body. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Psa'loid*, like an arch, arched.

Psalter (sǫ·ltəɹ). Forms: see below. [In OE. (*þ*)*saltere* (= OHG. *psalteri, -tare*, mostly *saltari, -târe, -teri*, MHG. *salter*, Ger. *psalter*; ON. (*þ*)*saltari*, Icel. *saltari*, Sw. *psaltare*, Da. *salter* (*psalter*)), ad. L. *psaltērium*. In ME. *sauter*, a. AF. *sauter* = OF. *sautier* (*ps-*), *saltier, saullier* (*ps-*), in F. *psautier* (16th c.) = Pr. (*þ*)*salteri, sauteri*, Sp., It. *salterio*, Pg. *psalterio*; all:— L. *psaltērium*, a. Gr. ψαλτήριον a stringed instrument played by twanging, f. ψάλλειν to twang; also in Christian Greek and Latin writers (e.g. Jerome *a* 420) a name for the 'Psalms of David'. The initial *ps-*, rare in OE. and ME. as in OF., frequent from 14th c., has been the established spelling from 16th c., but the *p*, pronounced in Fr., Ger., Du., etc., remains mute in Eng. The *l* was preserved in OE., was inserted occasionally in ME. as in OF., and usually from 15th c.; it is now always pronounced.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *α.* 1–3 **saltere.** *β.* 2–6 **sauter, sawter,** 3–5 **sautere,** 4 **sautre, -tir,** 4–5 **sawtere,** 5 **sauteer, sawtyr, -tre,** 6 **sater.** *γ.* 4–6 **salter, -tere,** 5 **saulter, sawlter.**

α. *a* 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xix. [xxvii.] (1890) 242 Þæt æghwelce dæge alne saltere..asunge. *c* 1000, *c* 1175 Saltere [see B. 1]. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 113 Bi ðessere holi mihte is iwriten on ðe saltere.

β. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 155 On ane stude in þe sauter. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *Cott. Hom.* 215 Þus seiþ .. dauiþ iþe sawter. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11616 (Cott.) Þan com þe propheci al cler, To dede, þat said es in sauter [*other MSS.* clere, sautere]. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 47 So seiþ þe sauter and sapience boþe. *?a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3317 The sexte hade a sawtere semliche bowndene. 1430–40 Lydg. *Bochas* IX. xiv. (MS. Bodl. 263) 420/1 Vpon a vers write in the Sauteer. *c* 1440 *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 720/1 *Hoc psalterium*, a sawtyr. 1530 Palsgr. 265/1 Sauter a boke, *psaltier*. 1547–8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 317 Item, for vj new sawters in englisshe for the quyer.

γ. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 566 A prophet til hym dere, And makare of þe saltere. 1474 Caxton *Chesse* 67 Dauyd preyseth moche in the sawlter the trewe labourers. *c* 1540 *Invent.* in *Trans. Lond. & Middx. Archæol. Soc.* IV. 371 Itm on bothe sydes the quyer iij salters.

2. α. 1 **psaltere.** β. 4 **psauter, psawtre, 4–5 psautere, 4–6 psawter.** γ. **5– psalter (5 psaltyr, 6 spalter).**

α. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 202 Cimbalan oððe psalteras.

β. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* Prol. 3 Þis boke is cald þe psautere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 195 þat ȝe have psalmystres or saienge of psalmes of þe psawtre fourty nyȝtes. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xxv. 261 David seythe in the Psautere. 1511 Fabyan *Will* in *Chron.* (1811) Pref. 5 To say oon tyme our Lady psawter.

γ. *c* 1470 Psaltyr [see B. 6]. 1509 Fisher *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 295 Many other prayers & psalters of Dauyd. 1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* I. 2546 And deuoutely say .. Dauyd spalter holly knelynge with great reuerence. 1530 (*title*) The Psalter of David, in Englishe.

B. Signification.

I. 1. The Book of Psalms, as one of the books of the Old Testament.

a 900 [see A. 1]. *c* 1000 Ælfric *On O. & N. Test.* (Grein) 7 Se saltere ys an boc, þe he [David] ȝesette þurh god betwux oðrum bocum on þære bibliothecan. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Dauid þe þe salm scop in þe saltere. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Dauid, iðe sauter, cleopeð hine dogge. *a* 1300, 1362, 1474 [see A. 1 β, γ]. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Introd., The Psalter shalbe red through once euery Moneth. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* III. xxxiii. 202 The Psalter was compiled, and put into the form it now hath, after the return of the Jews. 1782 Priestley *Corrupt. Chr.* II. IX. 152 [Pay] by twenty repetitions of the psalter. 1864 *Reader* 11 June 740 We put ourselves in a right position towards the Psalter by regarding it as the national Hymn-book of the Jewish people.

b. A translation or particular version (prose or metrical) of the Book of Psalms: e. g. a Latin, English, Chinese Psalter; the Prayer-book Psalter, the Scotch Metrical Psalter, etc.

Roman, Gallican, and *Hebraic Psalters*: the three successive forms of the Latin version of the Psalms, prepared by St. Jerome; the first a slight recension of the Old Latin text, after the LXX; the second a more thorough recension, based on Origen's Hexaplar text of the LXX; the third a new translation by Jerome from the Hebrew. The first was adopted in the Roman liturgy; the second was extensively used in Gaul, and north of the Alps, and was subsequently adopted in the Vulgate, in which Jerome's Hebraic Psalter (which properly belonged to the Vulgate) failed to supersede it. *Prayer-book Psalter*, the English version of the Psalms used in the Book of Common Prayer, and not displaced by the later version in the Bible of 1611.

c 1050 *Charter of Leofric* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 275 Nu ðaer synd..tropere and II. salteras and se þriddan saltere swa man singð on Rome. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 183 Ierom..amended also þe sauter of þe seventy þat was þoo i-used wel nyh in alle chirches, and þat psauter was eft appeyred, and he translated it newe aȝen ;..þat sauter [is] i-cleped þe Frensche sawter, psalterium Gallicanum; ȝit he made þe þridde translacioun of þe psawter from word to word. 1549 (*title*) The Psalter or Psalmes of Dauid after the Translacion of the great Bible, poynted as it shall be songe in Churches. 1723 Gibson *Life Spelman* in *S.'s Wks.* Pref. C j b, In the Year 1640 he [John Spelman] publish'd the Saxon Psalter from an ancient MS. of Sir Henry's. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 250 Dr. R...fetched out of his closet a Chinese psalter, sent him as a curiosity by the cardinal de Tournon. 1889 H. E. Woolbridge in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 752 Sternhold's translations [1549], [are] the nucleus of the metrical Psalter which has come down to us. 1905 W. Aldis Wright in *Westm. Gaz.* 29 July 2/1 Coverdale's first translation of the Bible was published in 1535, and he was employed in producing the Great Bible of 1539, known as Crumwell's, and the edition of April 1540, which first had Cranmer's preface. From the versions of the Psalms which appeared in these three Bibles the Prayer-book Psalter has been formed.

c. A copy of, or a volume containing, the Psalms, esp. as arranged for liturgical or devotional use.

c 1000 *Canons of Ælfric* § 21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 350 Þa halgan bec, saltere & pistol-boc & godspell-boc & mæsse-boc. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 Verslunge of hire sautere, redinge of Englichs, oðer of Freinchs, holi meditaciuns. *?a* 1366 Chaucer *Rom. Rose* 431 A sauter held she faste in honde. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 41 Deuyn officis..out taken þe sautir, of wheche þei may haue breuyaries, þat is smale sauteris or abreggid. 1431 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 27 Also iiij grayels & ij sawters. 1603 Knolles *Hist. Turks* (1638) 164 Hauing a Psalter in his hand. 1833 J. Holland *Manuf. Metal* II. 74 In an old psalter, written and illuminated by Eadwine, a monk, about the time of king Stephen.

† 2. A selection from, or portion of, the Psalms, said or sung at a particular service or for a particular purpose. *Obs.*

In the quots. applied to the psalms recited in the Office of the Dead.

c 1000 in Thorpe *Dipl. Angl. Aevi Sax.* (1865) 614 Ælc gemænes hades broður [singe] twegen salteras sealma..vi. mæssan. oððe .vi. salteras sealma. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 244 Sauteres deden he manie reden, þat god self shulde his soule leden Into heuene. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 26 Euery brother and sister shal payen..a peny to a sauter for ye dedes soule. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3101 Tylle he hadde sayde hurre sawter alle. 1508 Kennedie *Flyting w. Dunbar* 318 Thow says for thame few psaltris, psalmis, or creidis.

3. *transf. Our Lady's psalter*: a name given to the rosary on account of its containing the same number (150) of Aves as there are psalms in the Psalter; also, a book containing this. *Jesus psalter*: a form of devotion consisting of 15 petitions, each beginning with a tenfold repetition of the name Jesus (which is thus said 150 times).

1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 220 So myȝt pardoun be gotun to sey yche day a lady sawter. 1425 *Ord. Whittington's Alms-ho.* in Entick *London* (1766) IV. 354 Say three or two sauters of our lady at the least: that is to say, threies seaven Ave Marias, with xv Pater Nosters, and three credes. 1500 *Will of Odingsellis* (Somerset Ho.), A paire of small corall bedys with the hoole psalter of our lady. 1605–6 *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 5 § 25 No person..shall bring from beyond the Seas, nor shall print, sell, or buy any Popish Prymers, Ladies Psalters, Manuells, Rosaries, Popishe Catechismes. 1632 *High Commission Cases* (Camden) 305 That we are as carefull in printeing the Bible as they are of their Jesus' psalter. 1888 *Guardian* 21 Nov. 1766/1 The version in the Anglican manual already mentioned..retains the title of *Jesus Psalter*, while by its direction that each principal petition should be said once, instead of ten times, it abolishes the reason for which the name of Psalter was applied.

4. Applied to certain old Irish chronicles in verse (*Psalter of Cashel, Psalter of Tara* or *Temor*).

1685 Stillingfl. *Orig. Brit.* v. 270 This Psalter of Cashel is one of the most Authentick Histories among them, and so called because done in Verse. 1793 Hely tr. *O'Flaherty's Ogygia* II. 240 A book..which we call the Psalter of Temor, in which are compiled the archives of the Kingdom. 1830–3 W. Carleton *Traits & Stories Irish Peas.* (1860) I. 117 *note*, There were properly only two Psalters, those of Tara and Cashel. The Psalters were collections of genealogical history, partly in verse. 1893 Joyce *Short Hist. Irel.* 31 A book of annals called the Psalter of Cashel was compiled by Cormac Mac Cullenan.

II. 5. A stringed musical instrument: = Psaltery 1. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 202 Cimbalan oððe psalteras oððe strengas ætrinan saca hit ȝetacnað. *a* 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 278/11 *Sambucus*, saltere. *a* 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlviii[i]. 4, Y..shal open in þe sauter myn purpose. 14.. *Eger & Grine* 265 in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 362 Shee laid a souter upon her knee Thereon shee plaid full lovesomlye. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 320/1 A Sawtre (*A.* Sawter), *nablum, organum, psalterium*. 1552 Huloet, *Psalter*:..also an instrument of musicke lyke a harpe. 1632 Quarles *Div. Fancies* II. lxxvii, T' one makes the Sermon, t' other tunes the Psalter. 1878 B. Taylor *Deukalion* I. i. 19 The strings of the psalter, The shapes in the marble, Our passing deplore.

† b. *Her.* Applied to a kind of wind instrument. *Obs. rare.*

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 56/2 He beareth Azure, a psalter. .. This may also be termed, a Recorder, or a Shawm, or a Wyate...Note that all these kind of wind Instruments, or any other, which receiueth the sound from the wind of the mouth of a man are euer placed in Armes with their mouth vpwards.

III. 6. *Comb.* **Psalter-book** = senses 1 and 2.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Dauiþ in þe salter boc. 13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 308/72 In þe sauter-book it is I-write also. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* XI. 1393 A Psaltyr buk Wallace had on him euir. 1545 Joye *Exp. Dan.* v. 61 What els is the psalter boke then the glasse of the most holy trinite? 1551–2 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 96 For a sawter booke, xvj d. 1559 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 411 Payd for iiij sater bookes.. xij *s.* 1571 in Nicolson and Burn *Hist. & Antiq. Westmorld. & Cumbld.* (1777) II. 90 Also four psalter books in metre.

† Psa·lterer. *Obs.* In 4 **sautreour, sauterer, sawtrer.** [ME. *sautreour*, app. an Anglo-Fr. formation from *sautre*; subseq. conformed to Eng. agent-sbs. in -er.] A player on the psaltery.

In first quot. used as = psaltery, app. for the sake of rime.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11386 Many mynestrales þorow out þe toun, Som blewe trompe and clarioun, Harpes, pypes, and tabours, Ffyþeles, sitoles, sautreours. Belles, chymbes, and symfan. 1382 Wyclif 2 *Kings* iii. 15 Now forsothe bryngith to me an sawtrer. And whanne the sawtrer songe [etc.].

Psalterial (psæl-, sɒltī·riăl), *a. Anat.* and *Zool.* [f. Psalteri-um + -al.] Pertaining to the psalterium (in either sense: see Psalterium 3).

1865 *Reader* No. 140. 429/2 Only the psalterial fibres. 1880 Bastian *Brain* 274 The mode in which the Corpus Callosum and the Fornix are united posteriorly by the psalterial fibres. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Psalterial*, as, the psalterial aperture of the reticulum; the psalterial laminæ.

Psalterian (psæl-, sɒltī·riăn), *a.* [f. L. *psaltēri-um* Psaltery, Psalter + -an.] **a.** Of, like, or having a sound like that of, a psaltery. **b.** Pertaining to, or having the style of, the Psalter.

1819 Keats *Lamia* 114 Then once again the charmed God began An oath, and through the serpent's ears it ran Warm, tremulous, devout, psalterian. 1893 A. H. Keene in *Academy* 11 Feb. 121/1 Mrs. Barbauld's *Hymns in Prose for Children* with their psalterian stateliness.

‖ Psalterion (psæl-, sɒltī·riɒn). Also 3 **salteriun.** [In ME. a. OF. *sal-, sar-, saterion* (Wace 11th c.), mod.F. *psalterion*, ad. L. *psaltērium*; in mod. use a transliteration of Gr. ψαλτήριον Psaltery, Psalter.]

1. = Psaltery 1. Now *poet.*

c 1205 Lay. 7000 Of harpe & of salteriun, of fiðele & of coriun. 1530 Palsgr. 165 *Psalterión*, a psaltrion. 1579 North *Plutarch, Themistocles* (1895) I. 283 He could no skill to tune a harpe, nor a violl, nor to playe of a psalterion. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 275 The only tolerable Instrument they have is the Psalterion. 1875 Browning *Aristoph. Apol.* 5677, I sent the tablets, the psalterion, so Rewarded Sicily. 1897 F. Thompson *New Poems* 31 My fingers thou hast taught to con Thy flame-chorded psalterion.

2. *R. C. Ch.* = Psalter 1 or 2.

1893 *Month* Feb. 221 With regard to Vespers, the Psalterion lays down the law in this way.

Psa·lterist. [f. Psalter + -ist.] = Psalterer.

1891 F. Thompson *Sister-Songs* (1895) 56 Yon Apollonian harp-player, Yon wandering psalterist of the sky.

‖ Psalterium (psæl-, sɒltī·riŭm). [L. *psaltērium*, ad. Gr. ψαλτήριον Psaltery, Psalter.]

I. 1. = Psaltery 1. (Not in Eng. use.)

1872 *Sacristy* Aug. I. 201 The *psalterium*, which must not be confounded with the *psalterion* of the 13th century, was a little portable harp. 18.. *S. Kensington Art Handbk.* No. 5. 35 The psalterium was a kind of lyre of an oblong square shape...It was played with a rather large plectrum.

2. = Psalter 1 or 2. (Not in Eng. use.)

1882 in Ogilvie: hence in later Dicts.

II. 3. *Anat.* and *Zool.* **a.** = Lyra 4. Cf. Psalloid. **b.** The third stomach of a ruminant; the omasum or manyplies.

1857 Dunglison *Med. Dict., Psalterium*, Lyra. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex., Psalterium*, another name for the Lyra. 1868 Owen *Vertebr. Anim.* III. 473 The muscular walls..close the entry to the first and second cavities, and, drawing that of the psalterium, nearer to the gullet, conduct the remasticated bolus into the third cavity. 1871 Huxley *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* viii. 379 When this portion of the stomach is slit open, longitudinally, the lamellæ fall apart like the leaves of a book, whence it has received the fanciful name of the *Psalterium* from anatomists, while butchers give it that of *Manyplies*. 1879 Wright *Anim. Life* 11 After the mass has been thoroughly ground down by the teeth, it is again swallowed, when it passes along the oesophagus into the third stomach, called the manyplies, or psalterium.

Psaltery (sɔ̄·ltəri), *sb.* Forms: α. 3–5 **sautre,** 4 **sawtree, sauteray,** 4–5 **sawtrie,** -ye, 4–6 **sautrie,** 5 **sawtre, sautry,** -trie, 5–6 **sawtrey,** 5 (–9) **-try,** 6 **sawtery, saltry**; β. 4 **psautery,** 6 **psautry,** 6–7 **psalterie**; 5– **psaltery.** [a. OF. *sallere, sautere*, and *sauterie, psalterie* (12th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *psaltērium*, ad. Gr. ψαλτήριον; a learned form from L. for the name of the instrument, after *sautier* had become confined to the Psalter; subseq. superseded by *sauterion, psalterion*. Retained in Eng. as the name of the instrument (rarely in error put for *psalter*).]

1. An ancient and mediæval stringed instrument, more or less resembling the dulcimer, but played by plucking the strings with the fingers or a plectrum; differing from the harp in having the soundboard behind and parallel with the strings.

Chiefly in biblical translation or reference (after L. *psaltērium* of the Vulgate, usually rendering Heb. *nēbēl*), or in vague poetic or rhetorical use; mostly coupled with other instruments.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xxxii[i]. 2 Schriues to lauerd, in harpe and sautre Of ten stringes to him singe yhe. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxii. 2 In psautery of ten cordis syngis til hym. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Miller's T.* 27 And all aboue ther lay a gay Sautrie [*v.rr.* Sautrye, sawtrie] On which he made a nyghtes melodie. *?c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) App. H. 245 Nas þer noman in londe þat so muche of song couþe..Ne of sautrie ne of corium. *a* 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 35 [He] gretlech yaff hym to gle, To harp and to sautre. *c* 1450 Holland *Howlat* 757 The psaltery, the sytholis, the soft sytharist. *a* 1529 Skelton *Replyc.* 340 Dauid..harped so melodiously..in his decacorde psautry. 1530 Palsgr. 265/1, 2 *Saltry*,..*Sautrie* an instrument. *a* 1557 in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 197 Bothe his harpe and sawtrey he [Apollo] defide. 1607 Shaks. *Cor.* v. iv. 52 The Trumpets, Sackbuts, Psalteries, and Fifes, Tabors, and Symboles, and the showting Romans. 1700 Dryden *Flower & Leaf* 358 The sawtry, pipe, and hautboi's noisy band. 1808 Scott *Marm.* IV. xxxi, Sackbut deep, and psaltery, And war-pipe with discordant cry. 1864 Pusey *Lect. Daniel* i. (1876) 33 The Psaltery, as described by S. Augustine, corresponds with the 'Santour', as recognised..on the bas-relief of Babylon.

† 2. = Psalter 1, 2. *rare.*

1628 J. Hume *Jewes Deliv.* v. 82 The princely Prophet throughout all his Psalterie makes out onely a generall confession of Gods blessings. 1822 Lamb *Elia* Ser. I. *Dream-children*, She knew all the Psaltery by heart, ay, and a great part of the Testament besides. 1890 Healy *Insula Sanctorum* 156 The entire psaltery seems to have been recited during the daily office at least at certain times of the year.

b. = Psalter 4. *rare*$^{-1}$. (*erron.*)

1809 Campbell *O'Connor's Child* vi, Their tribe, they said, their high degree, Was sung in Tara's psaltery.

† Psa·ltery, *v. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. In 4 **sautrien.** [ME., prob. repr. an AF. or OF. *sautrier*, f. *sautier*, Psalter.] *intr.* To play on the psaltery.

1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. XVI. 208 Ich can..Noþer sailen ne sautrien ne singe with þe giterne.

Psaltress (sɔ̄·ltrĕs). *rare*; now only *poetic.* [app. short for *psaltreress*, fem. of *psaltrer*, Psalterer.] A female player on the psaltery.

c 1559 R. Hall *Life Fisher* (1655) 3 [John's] Head was beg'd of King Herod, at a banquet of Wine by a Psaltresse, or woman dancer. 1652 Benlowes *Theoph.* IX. liv, Rare Psaltresse, with Heav'n-drops inebriate. 1835 Browning *Paracelsus* V. 666 Earth is a wintry clod: But springtide, like a dancing psaltress, passes Over its breast to waken it. 1875 — *Aristoph. Apol.* 98 Chantress and psaltress, flute-girl, dancing-girl.

Psammite (psæ·məit, sæ·məit). *Min. rare.* [a. F. *psammite*, f. Gr. *ψάμμος* sand + -ITE: cf. Gr. *ψαμμίτης* sandy.] A fine or smooth-grained sandstone: see quot. 1859.

1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* Pref. 9 Other words, used for the purpose of defining substances hitherto classed by us under a more general category..such as 'arenes', 'psammites', &c., I have thought it advisable to convert at once into English terms. *Ibid.* App. 178 The species of sandstone called grey-wackes by the Germans, and psammites by M. Brogniard. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Psammite*,..a term in common use among Continental geologists for fine-grained, fissile, clayey sandstones, in contradistinction to those which are more siliceous and gritty. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* xiv. 299.

Hence **Psammitic** (-i·tik) *a.*, pertaining to, containing, or of the nature of psammite; consisting, as a sandstone, of fine rounded grains.

1847 in WEBSTER. 1879 [see PSEPHITIC].

Psammo- (psæmo, sæmo), before a vowel **psamm-**, repr. Gr. *ψαμμο-*, combining form of *ψάμμος* sand, entering into some scientific terms. **Psammobiid** (-ōu·biɪid), *Zool.*, a bivalve mollusc of the family *Psammobiidæ*, typified by the genus *Psammobia* [Gr. *βίος* life]; so **Psammo·bioid** *a.* ‖ **Psa·mmocarcino·ma**, *Path.* (pl. **-ata**), a carcinoma containing concretions resembling sand (Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890). **Psammodontid** (-odɒ·ntid), *Ichth.*, a fish belonging to the extinct *Psammodontidæ*, a family of rays with flat quadrate teeth, typified by the genus *Psammodus* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth]. **Psammolithic** (-li·þik) *a.*, *Geol.* [Gr. *λίθος* stone], consisting of sandstone: used of groups of strata. **Psammophilous** (-ɒ·filəs) *a. Bot.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving], sand-loving, frequenting or growing in sandy soil, as an insect or a plant. ‖ **Psa·mmophis** [Gr. *ὄφις* snake, serpent], name of a genus of snakes, a sand-snake or desert-snake; hence **Psa·mmophid, Psa·mmophine** *adjs.*, of or belonging to the family *Psammophidæ*, and subfamily *Psammophinæ*, typified by *Psammophis*. ‖ **Psa·mmosarco·ma** *Path.* (pl. **-ata**), a sarcoma or fleshy tumour with sand-like calcareous particles.

1869 TRIMEN & DYER *Flora Middlesex* 361 In the list of *psammophilous species..the majority do not show a decided bias for any soil. 1901 *Lancet* 26 Jan. 251/1 A *psammosarcoma as large as an orange had grown from the falx cerebri, compressing both prefrontal lobes.

‖ **Psammoma** (psæmōu·mă). *Path.* Pl. **-o·mata.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *ψάμμος* sand + *-ōma* as in *carcinoma*, etc.] A tumour containing calcareous particles like grains of sand; usually occurring in the membranes or other parts of the brain.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 433 Psammoma is a for the most part very vascular tumor..most often of cellulo-sarcomatous nature..distinguished by the constant occurrence of variously abundant, round or rounded concentrically laminated chalky masses. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 241 Occasionally psammomata are found attached to the choroid plexuses.

† **Psammu·rgical,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *ψάμμο-s* sand + *-εργός, -ουργος*, working, worker + -ICAL: cf. METALLURGICAL.] A word meaning literally 'pertaining to the working of (or in) sand'; an esoteric term in Alchemy: see quot.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* Pref. A ij b, A heauenlye water or rather diuine of the Chymistes..wherof potable gold, and that philosophers stone much spoken of, but not yet fond, consisteth. Hereupon also is the name geuen vnto the art calling it Psammurgicall and *misticall*, and Annophysiall and holy, and greatest; as thoughe it had certaine secreate letters, and such as it should be conueniente to kepe and restrain the profane commun people from.

Psarolite (psæ·rolәit). *Palæont.* [f. Gr. *ψάρ* starling (or *ψᾶρός* speckled) + *λίθος* stone (see -LITE); app. rendering G. *starstein*, f. *star* starling + *stein* stone.] Name for the silicified stems of tree-ferns found in the Permian or Lower New Red Sandstone, from the speckled markings which they exhibit in section. Also **Psa·ronite** [f. mod.L. *Psaronius*, the generic name (L. *psārōnius*, name of some precious stone; Pliny) + -ITE].

1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Psaroltes* or *Psaronites*... From this speckled appearance, which is visible to the naked eye, these fossils have also obtained the popular name of *Staaren-stein*. 1865 *Ibid.*, *Psaronites* also occur in the Upper Coal-measures of France, United States, &c. [1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* vi. 129 The stems of the tree-ferns of the Carboniferous [age] strengthened themselves by immense bundles of cord-like aerial roots, which look like enormous fossil brooms, and are known under the name Psaronius.] 1882 OGILVIE, *Psarolite, Psaronite.*

Psauter, psawter, -tery, -try, obs. ff. PSALTER, PSALTERY. **Psaw:** see PSHAW.

‖ **Pschent, p-skhent** (psχent). *Egyptol.* [a. Gk. *ψχέντ*, = Egyptian Demotic *p-skhent*, i.e. *p* def. article 'the' + *skhent*:—Hierogl. *sekhen, sekhent, sekhet, sekhte*, the double crown of Egypt.] The double crown of ancient Egypt, combining the white crown of Upper Egypt with the red crown of Lower Egypt, used after the union of the two kingdoms under Menes. (See Budge, *Decrees of Memphis* (1904) II. 32.)

The word came into use through the discovery of the Rosetta Stone in 1798; in this, line 9 of the Egyptian text has a hieroglyph read *sekhet*, line 26 of the Demotic text has *p-skhent*, and line 44 of the Greek text has *ψχέντ*.

[1802 PLUMTRE in *Gentl. Mag.* LXXII. 1108 In the midst of which shall be the crown called *ψοχεντ* (an Egyptian word probably). 1809 PORSON in Clarke *Greek Marbles* 64 The *basileia* called ΨΟΧΕΝΤ.] 1814 T. YOUNG in *Archæologia* XVIII. 69 There shall be placed in the midst of them ..the crown Pschent, which ornament he then wore. 1857 BIRCH *Anc. Pottery* (1858) I. 87 *Mut*, the mother goddess, the companion of Amen-Ra, wearing on her head the *pschent* or Egyptian crown. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xvi. 431 The King is crowned with the pschent. 1888 *Chambers' Encycl.* I. 22/2 These are the largest figures of Egyptian sculpture, being 66 feet high from the feet to the *pschent* with which the king's head is covered.

Pselaphognath (ps-, sī·lăfognæ:þ). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Psēlaphognatha* neut. pl., f. Gr. *ψηλαφᾶν* to grope about + *γνάθος* jaw.] A member of the *Pselaphognatha*, a division of diplopod *Myriapoda*, having the second pair of jaws pediform. So **Pselaphognathous** (-ɒ·gnăþəs) *a.*, belonging to this division.

Psellism (ps-, se·liz'm). *Path.* [ad. Gr. *ψελλισμός* stammering, f. *ψελλίζειν* to stammer, f. *ψελλός* stammering. Cf. mod.F. *psellisme* (Littré).] Any defect of enunciation, as stammering, lisping, etc., due either to nervous affection or to malformation of the vocal organs. So **Psellismo·logist, Psellismo·logy,** *nonce-wds.*

[1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict.*, *Psellismus*, defect of speech. 1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*] 1856 *Househ. Words* Nov. 464 Professors of Psellismology have existed for some time past. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Psellism.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Psephism (ps-, sī·fiz'm). *Gr. Antiq.* Also in Gr.-Lat. form **psephi·sma,** pl. **-ata.** [ad. Gr. *ψήφισμα*, f. *ψηφίζειν* to vote, prop. with pebbles, f. *ψῆφος* pebble.] A decree enacted by a vote of a public assembly, esp. of the Athenians.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Psephism* (*psephisma*), a decree, Statute, Law or Ordinance. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Greece* I. xxvi. (1715) 149 No Psephism shall pass to the Commons, before [etc.]. 1860 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 41/1 In the Athenian Democracy,.. in the time of its most complete ascendancy, the popular Ecclesia could pass Psephisms (mostly decrees on single matters of policy), but laws, so called, could only be made or altered by..the Nomothetæ.

Psephite (ps-, sī·fәit). *Min.* [mod. f. Ger. *psephit*, F. *pséphite*, f. Gr. *ψῆφος* pebble, round stone + -ITE[1] 2 b.] A breccia or conglomerate composed of pebbles or small rounded stones. Hence **Psephitic** (-i·tik) *a.*, of, of the nature of, small pebbles; composed as a conglomerate of small rounded pebbles or stones.

1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* xiv. 299 The clastic rocks, which he divides into the psephitic (from *ψῆφος*, a small stone); the psammitic, and the pelitic.

Psephomancy (ps-, sī·fomænsi). [f. Gr. *ψῆφος* pebble + -MANCY.] See quot.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Psephomancy*, .. a Divination by Pebble-Stones, distinguished by certain Characters, and put as Lots into a Vessel; which, having made certain Supplications to the Gods to direct them, they drew out, and according to the Characters, conjectured what should happen to them. 1852 ROGET *Thesaurus* § 511.

† **Psetta·ceous,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. L. *psētta* (Pliny), a. Gr. *ψῆττα* a turbot or other flat fish + -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the group of flat fishes.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., The Psettaceous, or plain and spinose, have a spine that seemeth to be divided in the midd'st.

Psettine (ps-, se·təin), *a.* (*sb.*) *Ichth.* [f. mod.L. *Psettīnæ* pl., f. *Psetta*, name of the typical genus: see prec. and -INE[1].] Belonging to the subfamily *Psettinæ* of flat fishes, including the turbot, brill, etc. **b.** *sb.* A fish of this subfamily.

Pseuchomachy, variant of PSYCHOMACHY *Obs.*

Pseuchrolutist, obs. variant of PSYCHROLUTIST.

Pseud-aconitine to **-axis:** see PSEUDO- 2.

† **Pseu·dapostle.** *Obs.* Also **pseudo-apostle.** [ad. Gr. *ψευδαπόστολος* (2 Cor. xi. 13), f. *ψευδ-* (see PSEUDO-) + *ἀπόστολος* APOSTLE.] A false or pretended apostle.

[*c* 1449: see PSEUDO.] 1555 LATIMER *Let. Sir E. Baynton* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1322/1 And what the pseudoapostles [*ed.* 1583 pseudapostles], aduersaries to saynt Paule, woulde so haue taken them. 1624 BP. HALL *Serm. Phil. iii.* 18 Rem. Wks. (1660) 14 For these Philippian Pseudapostles; Two wayes were they enemies to the Cross of Christ. 1709 *Let. to Ld. Mayor* 4 This sanguinary Pseudapostle. 1721–1800 BAILEY, *Pseudapostle.* [1846 WORCESTER, *Pseudo-apostle.*]

So † **Pseu·daposto·lical** *a. Obs.*

1605 M. SUTCLIFFE *Brief Exam.* 61 An idle declamation in prayse of this pseudapost[o]licall petition.

‖ **Pseudechis** (ps-, siū·dekis). *Zool.* [mod.L. generic name, f. Gr. *ψευδ-*, PSEUD(O- + *ἔχις* viper.] A genus of very venomous snakes of family *Colubridæ*, series *Proteroglyphæ*, subfamily *Elapinæ*, including the Black Snake or Purple Death-adder, *P. porphyriacus* of Australia. Hence attrib. *pseudechis poison, poisoning.* Also **Pseude·chic** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Pseudechis.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 811 The toxic proteids of the poison of pseudechis. *Ibid.* 812 Cobra poison contains proto-albumose, and so does pseudechis poison. *Ibid.* 824 In the case of pseudechis poisoning. *Ibid.* 822 Effects of the injection of pseudechic venom.

Pseudelephant, -elminth: see PSEUDO- 2.

‖ **Pseudepigrapha** (ps-, siūdèpi·grăfă), *sb. pl.* [a. Gr. neut. pl. of *ψευδεπίγραφ-os* 'with false title', f. *ψευδ-*, PSEUD(O- + *ἐπιγράφειν* to inscribe (see EPIGRAPH). Cf. APOCRYPHA.] A collective term for books or writings bearing a false title, or ascribed to another than the true author; spurious writings; *spec.* applied to certain Jewish writings composed about the beginning of the Christian era, but ascribed to various patriarchs and prophets of the Old Testament. Also *sing.* in anglicized form **Pseudepigraph** (-e·pigrɑf).

1692 RAY *Disc.* 37 The Verses now extant under the Name of Sibylline Oracles are all suspected to be false and pseudepigrapha. 1884 C. A. BRIGGS *Bibl. Study* 155 The book of Jubilees of the first century and other pseudepigraphs of the time. 1886 — *Messianic Proph.* xiii. 412 We have an example of such a pseudepigraph in Ecclesiastes. 1906 H. B. SWETE *Apocalypse* Introd. xv. § 1. 170 The Jewish pseudepigrapha bear the names of Old Testament patriarchs, kings, or prophets.

Hence **Pseudepi·graphal, Pseudepigra·phic, -ical** [see EPIGRAPHIC], **Pseudepi·graphous** *adjs.*, pertaining to or having the character of pseudepigrapha; falsely or erroneously ascribed to some author; spurious; **Pseudepi·graphy** [see EPIGRAPHY], false ascription of authorship.

a 1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 388, I will not set my rest upon a *Pseudepigraphal Testimony. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 6 Amongst these Pseudo-Epigraphal Pamphlets of such early Pretensions, must be plac'd St. James's Proto-Evangelion. 1904 H. A. A. KENNEDY *St. Paul's Concept. last Things* ii. 65 The pseudepigraphal literature of Judaism anterior to and contemporary with St. Paul. 1879 J. JACOBS in *19th Cent.* Sept. 498 Its history is obscured by a mass of *pseudepigraphic writings. 1867 *Sat. Rev.* 30 Mar. 408/2 Into the wild chaos of so-called *pseud-epigraphical writings..*they threw their own gospel.* 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 17. 296 To conclude the Orphick Poems to have been *Pseudepigraphous. 1894 G. C. M. DOUGLAS in *Lex Mosaica* 75 [That] the whole of the prophets and historical books are pseudepigraphic or pseudonymous. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sc.* etc., **Pseudepigraphy*, the ascription of false names of authors to works.

† **Pseudepi·scopy.** *Obs. rare.* Also 8 pseud-episcopacy. [f. Gr. *ψευδεπίσκοπος* a spurious bishop: see EPISCOPY.] The rule or existence of a spurious or pretended bishop or bishops.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Pref. 2 A long usurpation and convicted Pseudepiscopy of Prelates [*altered in* 18*th c. edd. to* pseudepiscopacy].

Pseudeponymous (ps-, siūdèpɒ·nimәs), *a. Gr. Hist.* [f. Gr. *ψευδεπώνυμος* falsely named after some one (f. *ψευδ-* PSEUDO- + *ἐπώνυμος* given as a name) + -OUS: see EPONYM, EPONYMOUS.] That gives an erroneous name to the year, that is wrongly named (as archon of the year).

1853 GROTE *Greece* II. xc. XI. 673 *note*, This decree.. bears date on the 16th of the month Skirrophorion (June), under the archonship of Nausikles. This archon is a wrong or pseud-eponymous archon.

Pseudhæmal to **-imago:** see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseu·dism. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *ψευδ-ής* false + -ISM.] A false statement.

1899 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 424 Conventional pseudisms have been incessantly meted out to him.

‖ **Pseudisodomon** (psiūdɪ,əisɒ·dŏmɒn). *Anc. Arch.* [neut. of Gr. *ψευδισόδομος* adj. (Vitruvius), f. *ψευδ-* (see PSEUDO-) + *ἰσόδομος* (see ISODOMON).] A method of building in which the courses were of unequal height, length, or thickness, but the blocks alike in each course. Hence **Pseudiso·domous** *a.*, of the nature of or pertaining to this.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 593 In case they be not euen laid nor ranged streight, but that some part of the wall is thicker than others, they terme it Pseudisodomon. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pseudisodomon*,..a kind of Building, the Walls of which are made of Stone of an unequal Thickness. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 222 (ed. 2) 219 The walls are isodomous or pseudisodomous, often with oblique joints.

Pseudo (psiū·dɒ, siū·dɒ), quasi-*adj.* (*sb., adv.*) [The combining element PSEUDO- as a separate word.] False, counterfeit, pretended, spurious. † Also *absol.* (Now usually hyphened to the following noun: see PSEUDO- 1.) † **b.** *sb.* (with *pl.*) A false person, a pretender. † **c.** *adv.* Falsely. *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 308 Hou men shal knowe siche pseudoes. *Ibid.* 479 Many pseudois may speke myche wiþ-oute ground. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 190 It were thanne litel nede Among the men to taken hiede Of that thei hieren Pseudo telle, Which nou is come forto duelle. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 55 Ffor thou and other pseudo han marrid hem in the way. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 342 So manye pseudo or false Apostlis. *Ibid.* 343 What so greet myscheef schulde bi likelihode haue come bi habundaunce of ricches in tho pseudo, as came bi her pouerte in hem, whanne thei diffameden the trewe Apostlis. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 42 Such *Pseudo* apostles was among vs sometimes. 1679 in *Reg. Synod of Dunblane* (1877) 150 By the said Bishop and a committee of his *pseudo* Synod deposed from the exercise of my ministrie. 1810 SCOTT *Let. to Morritt* 2 Mar. in *Lockhart*, Luxuries which, when long gratified, become a sort of pseudo necessaries. 1854 MRS.

OLIPHANT *M. Hepburn* II. 221 'Your reverent worship has acquaintance with my kinswoman', said the pseudo youth.

Pseudo- (ps-, sizdo), before a vowel usually **pseud-**, repr. the Gr. combining element *ψευδο-*, *ψευδ-*, 'false, falsely', from stem of *ψευδ-ής* adj. false, *ψεῦδ-os* falsity, falsehood, *ψεύδ-ειν* to deceive, cheat, *ψεύδ-εσθαι* to be false, speak falsely. Forming in Greek many compounds; with sbs., as *ψευδομάρτυς, -τυρ* false witness, *ψευδαπόστολος* false apostle or messenger, *ψευδάριθμος* a false number, *ψευδάργυρος* mock-silver; with adjs. or adj. formatives = falsely, as *ψευδολόγος* speaking falsely, *ψευδόπλουτος* feigned to be rich; and sometimes with verbs, as *ψευδοποιεῖν* to falsify.

Some of these Gr. substantives and adjectives were adopted in later Latin, esp. terms of natural history, as *pseudanchūsa* bastard alkanet, *pseudosphĕx* false wasp, *pseudosmaragdus* false emerald, and words of Christianity, as *pseudapostolus, pseudochrīstus, pseudoprophēta*, etc. In later times, *pseudo-* was prefixed also to L. words, as *pseudoflāvus* bastard yellow, *pseudoliquidus, pseudopastor* (Jerome). Thence it became common in med.L., as in *pseudodoctor, pseudonuncius*, etc.: see Du Cange.

In English, *pseudo-* appears first in Wyclif, viz. in adaptations of L. words of the Vulgate, as *pseudochrist, pseudoprophet*, and in words formed after these, as *pseudo-clerk, pseudo-frere* (= friar), *pseudo-priest*. Few examples occur in the 15th and 16th c., and in these *pseudo* was usually written separately, as an adj.: see prec. word. But after 1600 the combination of *pseudo-* with a sb. became common: at least 20 examples appear before 1700, and 20 more before 1800. By 1800 *pseudo-* had become a living element prefixable at will, instead of the adjective *false* or *spurious*, to any sb., and the examples during the 19th c. are very numerous. To adjectives *pseudo-* began to be prefixed in the 17th c.; but examples are not numerous till the 19th c., when the use with an adj. became nearly as free as with a sb.

In this dictionary, words in *pseudo-* are dealt with in three groups: 1. Those in which the two elements have their obvious and ordinary sense, *pseudo-* being thus equivalent to an adj. or adv.

2. Scientific and technical terms, not in general use, in which either the element with which *pseudo-* is combined, is not a separate word in English, or if it is, the combination is a permanent term, with a special meaning.

3. Important combinations and compounds, in general use, or of long history, or having derivatives: these are treated as Main words.

1. Prefixed to any noun or adjective, forming combinations, mostly nonce-wds., with the sense 'false, pretended, counterfeit, spurious, sham, falsely so called or represented; falsely, spuriously, apparently but not really'. Here *pseudo-* is properly hyphened.

As *pseudo-* can be prefixed to any word almost as freely as it can be qualified by 'false' or the like, the possible combinations are unlimited in number, and no purpose would be served by giving a long list. Instead of this, a catena of quotations is given in chronological order to illustrate the use, a. with a substantive, b. with an adjective.

a. Prefixed to sbs.

[*c* 1380: see PSEUDO-CHRIST, PSEUDOPROPHET.] *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 176 Siche novelries of pseudo-freris shulden prelatis and alle men aȝen stonden. *Ibid.* 200 And so pseudo-clerkes..spuylen symple men as wolves doone sheepe. *Ibid.* II. 173 ȝif pseudo-preestis prechen amys. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 158 Nicephorus mentioneth a Pseudo-Moses of the Iewes..destroied..with his Complices in a like rebellion. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. iv. (ed. 3) 195 So must I needs..bitterly taxe those tyrannising Pseudopolititians. 1649 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* II. To Rdr., A Combination or Faction of Pseudo-Polititians, and Pseudo-Theologitians, Heretics and Schismaticks. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 365 Praestigious sacrificers, and pseudo-presagers. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 130 He derides the Vanity..of the Pseudomedick. *a* 1658 J. DURHAM *Exp. Rev.* xiv. i. 500 This doctrine was urged against the Pseudo-nicodimites. 1674 G. THOMSON (*title*) 'Ορθομέθοδος 'Ιατρο-χυμικὴ..The Character of an Ortho-Chymist and Pseudo-Chymist. 1680 G. HICKES *Spirit of Popery* 2 This Rebellious Pseudo-Minister. *Ibid.* 70 Twenty six..of these Heroical Pseudo-Zealots. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1737) I. 165 These may be term'd a sort of pseudo-asceticks. 1743 POPE *Dunc.* Mock-Advt., A certain Pretender, Pseudo-Poet, or Phantom, of the name of Tibbald. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* (1779) II. lxiii. 192 This pseudo-enthusiast proposed to visit the great church. 1753 — *Cnt. Fathom* (1784) 208/2 The pseudo-parson was very much affected by this generous proffer. 1755 *Monitor* No. 1. I. 8 Pseudo-patriots, who under the mask of liberty and public virtue, concealed their self-interested..designs. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xvi. 248 The writ of *quare impedit* commands the disturbers, the bishop, the pseudo-patron, and his clerk, to permit the plaintiff to present a proper person..to such a vacant church. 1787 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 240 These Pseudo-evangelists pretended to inspiration. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 617 Whether in the character of legislator or pseudo-legislator. 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* viii, O'er taste awhile these pseudo-bards prevail. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* 304, I..propose..that we use the term *Pseudo-Gentleman*, to signify gentleman in its..abused sense. 1835 SOUTHEY *Doctor* Interch. ix. III. 27 As justly entitled to the name of the Koran as the so called pseudo-bible itself. 1838–9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* III. III. iii. § 18. 13 A dogmatic pseudo-philosophy, like that of Paracelsus. 1844 in *Archæol. Jrnl.* (1845) I. 347 The pseudo-isle of Purbeck. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. xx. 213 Inlaid with mock arcades in pseudo-perspective. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1883) I. 418 They..have no pseudo-gentility to support. 1859 SAXE *Poems, Progress* 190 The march of Progress let the Muse explore In pseudo-science and empiric lore. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 54 Those who..vented their hatred of Paul in the Pseudo-Clementines. [Cf. *Ibid.* I. 677 The forgeries known as the Clementine Homilies, the Clementine Recognitions.] 1887 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 2/7 The artisans' dwellings..the sites of which were sold to pseudo-philanthropists so cheaply. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 9 Sept. 3/7 Pseudo-education is spoiling born workers and stifling thinkers in the birth.

b. Prefixed to adjs.

[1664: see PSEUDO-CHRISTIAN.] 1673 H. MORE *Brief Reply* App. 3, I add superstitious..; and by superstitious, I understand pseudoreligious, if I may so speak, that is, false or depraved religious worship. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 235 A Pseudo-perpetual motion made by the descent of several guilt bullets upon an indented declivity. 1684 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Feb., A pseudo-politic adherence to the French interest. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 19 Pope's..translation of Homer, which, I do not stand alone in regarding as the main source of our pseudo-poetic diction. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 585 The literary, or rather the pseudo-literary history of the first half of the sixteenth century. 1841 THACKERAY *Men & Coats* Wks. 1900 XIII. 604 In a sort of pseudo-military trim. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 503 In one of the Aristotelian or Pseudo-Aristotelian treatises. 1854 DE QUINCEY *Autobiog. Sk.* Wks. II. 271 As yet.. false taste, the pseudo-romantic rage, had not violated the most awful solitudes. 1865 PUSEY *Eiren.* 365 The pseudo-reformed and unbelieving philosophers of those times. 1872 LOWELL *Milton* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 65 Impertinent details of what we must call the pseudo-dramatic kind. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 113 Too deeply ingrained..to be perverted by any provincial or pseudo-patriotic prepossessions. 1886 *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 427 Scholastic fancies.. clothed with pseudo-logical forms. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 658 The pseudo-localising symptoms..are apt to lead to an erroneous opinion as to the exact position of the new growth.

2. Special combinations: nearly all terms of modern science, (*a*) indicating close or deceptive resemblance to the thing denoted by the second element, without real identity or affinity with it; or sometimes simply denoting an abnormal or erratic form or kind of the thing; (*b*) denoting something which does not correspond with the reality, or to which no reality corresponds, as false perceptions, errors of judgement or statement.

The second element is properly Greek, but very frequently Latin, and occasionally English; in the last case almost always hyphened, but not so usually in the other two except when the full form *pseudo-* is used before a vowel.

These words, like those in 1, are practically unlimited in number; the more important are entered in their alphabetical places as main words; others of less importance follow here.

Pseud-aconitine (formerly **-itia**) *Chem.*, a highly poisonous alkaloid occurring in *Aconitum ferox* (also **pseudo-aconitine**). (Improper use of prefix.) ‖ **Pseudæsthe·sia** *Path.* [mod.L.: cf. ANÆSTHESIA], false or depraved sensation, as that occurring apparently in an amputated limb. **Pseudambula·crum** *Zool.* (pl. **-a**), name for each of five spaces or areas resembling ambulacra in certain Crinoids; so **Pseudambula·cral** *a.*, simulating an ambulacrum, or of the nature of a pseudambulacrum (*Cent. Dict.*). **Pseudamœ·boid** *a. Zool.*, deceptively resembling an amœba. ‖ **Pseudaphia** (-æ·fiă) *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ἁφή touch], false or perverted sense of touch (Mayne 1858, Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890). **Pseuda·posema·tic** *a. Zool.* [Gr. ἀπό away, σῆμα sign, mark], applied to deceptive markings or colouring of an animal, having a tendency to repel the attacks of another species, e.g. by suggesting something dangerous or unpleasant. †**Pseudarachnidan** (-ăræ·knidăn) *a.*, of or pertaining to a division of the Tracheate Arachnida, also termed Adelarthrosomata, containing the Pseudo-scorpions, *Solpugidæ*, and Harvestmen; as *sb.* an arachnidan of this order. ‖ **Pseudarthro·sis** *Surg.* (pl. **-oses**) [Gr. ἄρθρωσις articulation], the formation of a false joint, as when the two parts of a fractured bone fail to unite. **Pseudata·xic** *a. Path.*, resembling but not really of the nature of ataxy. **Pseuda·xine** *a. Zool.*, applied to a group of *Cervidæ* or deer closely resembling the Axis (AXIS 2). **Pseuda·xis** *Bot.* (also **pseudo-axis**; pl. **-es**), an apparent axis or main shoot formed by the series of stronger branches of the successive bifurcations in dichotomous branching. **Pseude·lephant** *Zool.*, an animal resembling an elephant, as a mastodon. **Pseu·delminth, pseudhelminth**, *Path.* [Gr. ἕλμις, ἑλμινθ- worm], something deceptively resembling an entoparasitic worm. ‖ **Pseude·lytron** (pl. **-a**) *Entom.*, a spurious or degenerate elytron or wing-sheath in certain insects. **Pseude·mbryo** *Zool.*, a spurious embryo; a term applied to various larval forms in sea-urchins, starfishes, and sponges; hence **Pseudembryo·nic** *a.* ‖ **Pseudence·phalus** *Path.* [Gr. ἐγκέφαλος brain], a monster having a vascular tumour in place of the brain (Dunglison 1844). ‖ **Pseudepiploon** (-ĕpi·plo1ŏn) *Ornith.*, a membrane in the abdomen of certain birds, resembling the epiploon in mammals, but not investing the intestines; hence **Pseudepiplo·ic** *a.* **Pseude·pisema·tic** *a. Zool.* [Gr. ἐπί upon, σῆμα sign, mark], applied to markings or colouring deceptively resembling those called *episematic*, which serve to allure or attract other individuals of the species. **Pseudhæ·mal, pseudo-hæmal** *a. Zool.* [Gr. αἷμα blood], of or pertaining to the circulating fluid in some invertebrates, analogous to but not really blood, and to the vessels which contain it. ‖ **Pseudhalteres** (-hælti·ē·rīz) *sb. pl. Entom.* [see HALTERES], a name for the *pseudelytra* (see above). ‖ **Pseudima·go** *Entom.*, an imperfect imago or winged stage in certain insects, as the *Ephemeridæ*, succeeding the pupal stage: also called *subimago*; hence **Pseudima·ginal** *a.* **Pseudo-aca·cia**, the tree *Robinia Pseudacacia* (= ACACIA 1 2, LOCUST-TREE 2). **Pseudo-aco·nitine** = *pseudaconitine*. **Pseudo-a·lkaloid** *Chem.*, a substance allied to the alkaloids, but not strictly one of them. **Pseu·do-a·ngle** *Geom.*, an angle in non-Euclidean geometry. **Pseudo-apople·ctic** *a. Path.*, simulating apoplexy. **Pseudo-articula·tion** *Zool.*, a structure having the appearance of an articulation but not really forming one. **Pseudo-a·xis** = *pseudaxis* (see above).

(*Continued on next page.*)

[1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 171 Böhm and Ewens have physiologically studied the alkaloid of Aconitum ferox under the name of **pseudaconitia*.] 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 777 The variety of aconitia obtained from this plant has been very improperly termed pseud-aconitine or pseud-aconitia. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pseudæsthesia*. 1855 J. R. REYNOLDS *Dis. Brain* viii, Pseudaesthesiae are common. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 133 Each **pseud*-ambulacrum is furrowed by a longitudinal groove. 1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. iii. 57 [These] can revert at will to a **pseud*-amœboid and repent state. 1890 POULTON *Colours Anim.* xvii. 337 **Pseudaposematic* colours.. are special..instances of Procryptic colours..and deceptively resemble Aposematic colours. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 302 **Pseudarachnidan* Condylopes. This Class, which is formed from the Tracheary Arachnidans of Latreille, differs from the preceding principally in the organs of Respiration and Circulation. *Ibid.* 303 The most remarkable genus of the second Order of Pseudarachnidans is one described in the Linnean Transactions in which the posterior legs exhibit a raptorious character. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pseudarthrosis*. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 290 Extremities of bones in stumps after amputation diminish in pseudarthrosis. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 388 There were motor disorders..at first **pseudataxic*. 1877 A. H. GARROD in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 18 *Dama vulgaris* [etc.]..are intimately allied to the **Pseud*-axine group. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 157 The apparent primary shoot, which in fact consists of the bases of consecutive bifurcations, may..be termed a **Pseud*-axis or Sympodium. *Ibid.* 158 Two principal forms of Cyme may be distinguished, according as a Pseud-axis..is formed or not. 1767 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 38 A **pseud*-elephant, or *animal incognitum*. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* cites COUES. 1866 COBBOLD *Tapeworms* Introd. 9 Sometimes these **pseudelminths* are really so worm-like that a mere naked eye examination is insufficient to determine their nature. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvii. 370 **Pseud*-elytra twisted, attached to the anterior leg. 1840 WESTWOOD *Classif. Insects* II. 294 *note*, The pseudelytra [Mr. Newman] considers as analogous to the tippets of the Lepidoptera. 1877 **Pseud*-embryo [see *pseudoproct* below]. 1880 W. S. KENT *Infusoria* I. 191 The coalescing amœbiform zooids.. form by repeated segmentation a pseud-embryo, or so-called ciliated larva. 1883 W. F. R. WELDON in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 640 In all the Anatidæ..the representative of the horizontal septum is attached to the ventral abdominal wall,..so that it does not cover any of the intestine coils. *Note.* This septum has been mentioned by various authors...From its resemblance to a modified Mammalian mesentery, I would propose to call it '**pseudepiploön*'. 1890 POULTON *Colours Anim.* xvii. 337 **Pseudepisematic* colours .. are special instances of Anticryptic colours.., and may depend for success upon the deceptive resemblance to Episematic colours. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. iii. 562 In the Hirudinidae..a system of vessels homologous with the **pseud*-haemal system exists. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* i. 57 In the Arthropoda no segmental organs or pseud-haemal vessels are known. 1840 WESTWOOD *Classif. Insects* II. 292 These organs have been termed **pre*balanciers, præhalteres, **pseud*halteres, pseudelytra, or anterior wings. 1836–9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 880/2 The condition of the insect previously to this change [i.e. after throwing off the pupa-covering, but before ridding themselves of the delicate enveloping membrane] has been called by Mr. Curtis the **pseudimago* state. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (1880) 195 It is only a half complete insect, and is termed the *pseud-imago*, or false image. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav. N. Amer.* 69 It produces..the **pseudo*-acacia, or locust-tree. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 19 May 7/1 The acacia to be tried is..the pseudo-acacia introduced from North America, where it is called the locust tree. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 5 They might be some **pseudo*-alkaloid.., such as kreatine or kreatinine, amides rather than alkalies. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 666 In **pseudo*-apoplectic attacks the application of cold to the head, blistering [etc.]..are the best remedial measures. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1204 Possibly the last transverse **pseudo*-articulation is incorrectly so considered.

Pseudo-, combining form. **2.** Special combinations. *(Continued from preceding page.)*

‖ **Pseudo-baci·llus** (pl. **-i**), false bacillus, one of the minute fat crystals sometimes found in sputum. ‖ **Pseudo-bacte·rium** (pl. **-ia**), a formation simulating a bacterium. ‖ **Pseudobasi·dium** *Bot.* (pl. **-ia**), name for formations resembling and accompanying the basidia in certain fungi. ‖ **Pseudoble·psia** (erron. **-blepsis**) *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *βλέψις* looking, sight], false or perverted vision (= *pseudopsia*). ‖ **Pseudobrachium** (-brēi·kiŏm) *Ichth.* (pl. **-ia**) [mod.L., f. L. *brachium* arm], the elongated base of the pectoral fins, resembling an arm, in pediculate fishes; hence **Pseudobra·chial** *a.* (Gill cited in *Cent. Dict.*). **Pseu·dobranch** (-brænk), ‖ **Pseudobra·nchia** (pl. **-iæ**), ‖ **Pseudobra·nchium** (pl. **-ia**), *Ichth.* [Gr. *βράγχια* gills], names for an organ or structure in certain fishes, resembling, but not having the function of a gill; hence **Pseudobra·nchial** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a pseudobranch, etc.; **Pseudobra·nchiate** *a.*, furnished with or having a pseudobranch, etc. **Pseudobroo·kite** *Min.*, oxide of titanium and iron, occurring in small tabular crystals resembling brookite. **Pseudo-bu·lb** *Bot.*, the enlarged base of the stem (resembling a bulb but solid) in many epiphytic orchids. **Pseudo-bu·lbar** *a. Path.*, applied to a form of paralysis, in symptoms but not in origin, resembling bulbar paralysis (Billings 1890). **Pseudo-bu·lbil** *Bot.*, an outgrowth producing antheridia and archegonia, which sometimes takes the place of the sporangia in ferns. **Pseudobu·lbous** *a. Bot.*, apparently but not really bulbous; of the nature of or having a pseudobulb. **Pseudo-ca·rcinoid** *a.* and *sb. Zool.* [Gr. *καρκίνος* crab], applied to certain macrurous crustaceans which simulate brachyurous ones or crabs (Huxley). **Pseu·do-ceratophorns** (-serătǫ·fŏrəs) *a. Zool.* [Gr. *κέρας, κερατ-* horn, *-φορος* bearing], apparently horn-bearing; resembling the buds of horns. ‖ **Pseudocerca·ria** *Zool.*, a stage in certain *Gregarinida* resembling a *Cercaria*. ‖ **Pseudochromia** (-krōu·miă) *Path.* [Gr. *χρῶμα* colour], false or perverted perception of colour (Dunglison 1857, Billings 1890). **Pseudochronism** (-ǫ·krŏnĭz'm) [after ANACHRONISM], a false dating, an error in date. **Pseu·dochrono·logist**, a false chronologist, one who attributes a false date to some occurrence. **Pseudo-chry·salis** *Entom.* = *pseudopupa* (see below). **Pseudochry·solite** *Min.* [cf. Gr. *ψευδοχρυσόλιθος* (Diodorus Siculus)], a mineral resembling chrysolite. **Pseu·docœle** (-sēl) *Anat.* [Gr. *κοῖλος* hollow], (*a*) applied to the body-cavity of certain invertebrates, derived from spaces developed secondarily in the mesoblast, not directly from the blastocœle or original cavity of the embryo; (*b*) applied to the fifth ventricle of the brain; hence **Pseudocœ·lian** *a.* in sense (*b*), **Pseudocœ·lic** *a.* in sense (*a*), **Pseudocœ·lome** [cf. CŒLOME] = sense (*a*). ‖ **Pseu·docolume·lla** *Zool.*, a structure in corals simulating a columella (see quot.); hence **Pseudocolume·llar** *a.* **Pseudo-co·mmissure** *Zool.* [mod.L. *pseudocommissūra*], a kind of commissure, consisting of connective tissue, not of nerve-substance [see COMMISSURE 4], joining the olfactory lobes in certain batrachians; hence **Pseudo-commi·ssural** *a.* ‖ **Pseudoconcha** (-kǫ·ŋkă) *Ornith.* [see CONCHA 4 c], a turbinated structure in the nose of birds, in front of and below the turbinal proper. **Pseu·docone** *Entom.*, a fluid or gelatinous cone in the eyes of certain *Diptera*, as distinct from the solid crystalline cone in the eyes of other insects; also *attrib.* or *adj.* **Pseudo-co·rneous** *a. Zool.*, composed of a substance simulating true horn, as the base of the horn in the pronghorn antelope, which consists of agglutinated hairs. ‖ **Pseudoco·rtex** *Bot.*, a false cortex, as that formed by the secondary branches closely adpressed to the main branch in certain seaweeds (*Cent. Dict.* 1890, *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). ‖ **Pseudoco·sta** *Zool.* (pl. **-æ**) [L. *costa* rib], each of the slightly projecting parts between the septa of certain corals. **Pseudoco·state** *a.*, (*a*) *Bot.* applied to a leaf in which the veins are confluent so as to form an apparent marginal or intramarginal vein (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); (*b*) *Zool.* having pseudocostæ. † **Pseu·docotyle·don** *Bot. Obs.*, a name for the germinating threads of the spores of cryptogams, formerly considered analogous to the cotyledons of phanerogams (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). So ‖ **Pseudocotyle·donæ** (mod.L.) *pl.*, cryptogamous plants. **Pseudo-cri·sis** *Path.* (see quot.). **Pseu·do-croup** *Path.*, a disorder simulating croup, as *laryngismus stridulus* (Dunglison 1853). **Pseudo-cu·bic, -cu·bical** *adjs. Cryst.*, said of a composite crystal of lower symmetry simulating a simple one of the cubic system. **Pseudocu·mene** *Chem.*, a hydrocarbon isomeric with cumene, being a modification of trimethylbenzene, $C_6H_3(CH_3)_3$, occurring in coal-tar oil. ‖ **Pseudocyclo·sis** *Biol.* [mod.L.: see CYCLOSIS], 'the apparent circulation of food-particles within the body of an amœba' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). ‖ **Pseudocyesis** (-səi,ī·sis) *Phys.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *κύησις* conception], spurious conception or pregnancy (Dunglison 1842). **Pseu·docyst** (-sist) [see CYST], (*a*) *Zool.* a protoplasmic body occurring in certain *Gregarinida*; (*b*) *Bot.* each of several protoplasmic bodies formed by the breaking up of the filaments of certain *Protophyta*; (*c*) *Path.* a false cyst, as a part of the peritoneal cavity closed by adhesion of the viscera in peritonitis. ‖ **Pseudodelti·dium** *Zool.*, a simple shelly plate which takes the place of the deltidium in certain brachiopod shells. **Pseu·do-di·ke** *Geol.*, a fissure filled up with sedimentary or other matter, having the appearance of a dike (DIKE 9, 9 b). ‖ **Pseudodiphthe·ria** *Path.*, a disease simulating diphtheria: also *attrib.* as *pseudodiphthĕria bacillus*; so **Pseu·do-diphtheri·tic** *a.* [cf. DIPHTHERITIC]. **Pseudo-di·stance** *Geom.*, distance in non-Euclidean geometry (*Cent. Dict.*). **Pseu·dodont** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *ὀδούς* tooth], having horny epidermic teeth, as the *Ornithorhynchus*. **Pseudo-erysi·pelas** *Path.*, any inflammatory disease resembling erysipelas; so **Pseu·do-erysipe·latous** *a.* † **Pseudo-erythrin** *Chem.*, 'an old name of ethylic orsellinate' (Watts *Dict. Chem.*). ‖ **Pseudofila·ria** *Zool.*, a stage in the development of certain *Gregarinida*, resembling a thread-worm of the genus *Filaria*; hence **Pseudo-fila·rian** *a.* **Pseu·do-folia·ceous** *a. Bot.*, simulating a leaf, leaf-like. **Pseu·do-frui·t** *Bot.*, a fruit formed by growth and modification of other parts besides the ovary (e. g. a fig, a strawberry, etc.): = PSEUDOCARP. **Pseudogale·na** *Min.*, native zinc sulphide, resembling lead sulphide or galena: = BLACK JACK 2, BLENDE. ‖ **Pseudoga·ster** *Zool.*, a spurious gastric cavity produced by fusion in sponges. ‖ **Pseudoga·strula** *Embryol.*, an invaginated blastosphere simulating a gastrula. **Pseudo-ge·neral** *a.*, in *Path.* applied to a kind of paralysis simulating general paralysis. **Pseudogene·ric** *a. Nat. Hist.*, apparently but not really generic; having the character of a pseudo-genus. **Pseudo-ge·nus** *Nat. Hist.*, a spurious genus of animals or plants, e. g. one based upon forms which are really stages in the development of some species. ‖ **Pseudogeusia** (-giū·siă), **-geu·stia** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *γεῦσις* taste, *γευστός* to be tasted], false or perverted sense of taste. **Pseudogyne** (-dʒin) *Entom.* [Gr. *γυνή* female], one of the agamic females of aphides and other insects, which reproduce parthenogenetically; so **Pseudogynous** (-ǫ·dʒinəs) *a.* **Pseudogyrate** (-dʒəi·rĕt) *a. Bot.* [Gr. *γῦρος* ring], said of a fern having the annulus confined to the vertex of each sporangium (*Treas. Bot.* 1866). **Pseudohæ·mal** *a.* = *pseudhæmal* (see above). **Pseu·do-hallucina·tion** *Psychics* (see quot.). **Pseu·do-hea·rt** *Zool.*, each of several tubular organs, formerly described as hearts, forming a communication between the body-cavity and the pallial chamber in brachiopods. **Pseudoherma·phrodite** *a. Biol.*, apparently hermaphrodite but actually unisexual; hence **Pseudoherma·phroditism**, apparent hermaphroditism, as that due to an abnormal structure of the external sexual organs (*Cent. Dict.* 1890; *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Pseudo-hexa·gonal** *a. Cryst.*, said of a composite crystal of lower symmetry simulating a simple one of the hexagonal system. **Pseudo-hype·rtrophy** *Path.* [see HYPERTROPHY], enlargement of an organ by growth of fat or connective tissue, with atrophy of its proper substance; so **Pseudo-hypertro·phic** *a.*, applied to a form of paralysis caused by pseudo-hypertrophy of the muscles. ‖ **Pseudola·bium** *Zool.*, a part in chilopodous Myriapoda (see quot.); hence **Pseudola·bial** *a.* **Pseudo-la·teral** *a. Bot.*, 'having a tendency to become lateral when it is normally terminal, as the fruit of certain *Hepaticæ*' (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Pseudoleuchæmia** (-liŭkī·miă) (erron. **-leucæmia, -leukæmia**), ‖ **Pseu·doleucocythæ·mia**, *Path.* [see LEUCHÆMIA, LEUCOCYTHÆMIA], names for HODGKIN'S DISEASE, as resembling leuchæmia, but not involving increase in the number of leucocytes. **Pseudo-leucocyte** (-liū·kŏsəit) *Path.*, a morbid formation resembling a leucocyte. **Pseudo-lichen** (-ləi·kĕn) *Bot.*, a parasitic fungus resembling a lichen, but without the presence of an alga in the thallus. **Pseudo-lo·bar** *a. Path.* (see quot. 1895). **Pseudomalachite** (-mæ·lăkəit) *Min.*, hydrous phosphate of copper, occurring in dark-green masses resembling malachite. **Pseudo-me·mbrane** *Path.*, a false membrane (see MEMBRANE 1 d); hence **Pseudomembra·nous** *a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or characterized by a pseudo-membrane. **Pseudomemory:** see quot. **Pseudo-meta·llic** *a.*, resembling, but not of the nature of, a metal; of lustre: see quot. **Pseudo-mi·ca**, a mineral simulating mica. **Pseu·do-mo·nocotyle·donous** *a. Bot.*, falsely or apparently monocotyledonous, either by union of the cotyledons into one mass, or by abortion of one of them; so **Pseu·do-mo·nocotyle·don**, a pseudo-monocotyledonous plant. **Pseudomo·rphia, -mo·rphine** *Chem.* [see MORPHIA, MORPHINE], one of the alkaloids contained in opium; also called *oxymorphine*. ‖ **Pseudomorula** (-mǫ·rŭlă) *Embryol.*, an aggregate of unicellular organisms or spores resembling a morula; hence **Pseudomo·rular** *a.* **Pseu·domultilo·cular** *a. Bot.*, apparently but not really multilocular; so **Pseu·do-multise·ptate** *a.* ‖ **Pseu·do-navice·lla, -navi·cula** (pl. **-æ**) *Zool.* [see quot. 1867], an elliptical spore with pointed ends, forming a stage in the development of certain *Gregarinida*; hence **Pseu·do-navice·llar, -navi·cular** *adjs.* ‖ **Pseu·doneuro·ptera** *sb. pl. Entom.*, an order of insects in some classifications, resembling the *Neuroptera* but with incomplete metamorphosis; hence **Pseu·doneuro·pter** *sb.*, **Pseu·doneuro·pterous** *a.* **Pseudopara·lysis** *Path.*, a disease simulating paralysis; so ‖ **Pseudoparaple·gia.** **Pseudo-pa·rasite** *Biol.*, an organism apparently but not really or strictly parasitic; e. g. an external parasite, a commensal, or a saprophyte; so **Pseu·do-parasi·tic** *a.* ‖ **Pseudoparenchyma** (-părĕ·ŋkimă) *Bot.*, a tissue in fungi resembling parenchyma, but composed of interlaced and united hyphæ; hence **Pseu·doparenchy·matous** *a.* ‖ **Pseudopa·resis** *Path.*, a disease simulating paresis; an apparent or spurious paresis (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Pseu·do-pa·rthenoge·nesis**, a form of reproduction: see quot. 1870. **Pseudo-pediform** (-pe·difōrm) *a. Zool.* [L. *pes, ped-* foot: see **-FORM**], having the form of a pseudopodium, pseudopodial. ‖ **Pseudope·rculum** *Zool.*, a secondary lid or operculum closing the aperture of the shell in certain gastropods; hence **Pseudope·rcular** *a.*, belonging to or of the nature of a pseudoperculum; **Pseudope·rculate** *a.*, furnished with a pseudoperculum. ‖ **Pseudoperi·dium** *Bot.*, that form of peridium or investment occurring in an æcidium (1832 Lindley, *Introd. Bot.* 207). **Pseudo-perio·dic** *a.*, 'quasi-periodic' (*Cent. Dict.*); 'approximately periodic' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*). **Pseu·dophone** (-fōun) *Acoustics* [Gr. *φωνή* sound], an apparatus invented by Dr. S. P. Thompson for investigating the phenomena of hearing, and producing acoustical illusions, esp. as to the direction of sound. **Pseu·do-pigmenta·tion** (see quot.). **Pseu·doplasm** *Path.* [Gr. *πλάσμα*: see PLASMA], a tumour or morbid formation of heterologous tissue. **Pseu·dopore** *Zool.*, a 'false pore' in sponges, connected with a *pseudogaster* (see above). **Pseudo-posse·ssion** *Psychics*, a mental state simulating 'possession' (see POSSESSION 5). **Pseudo-pre·gnancy** *Path.*, a condition or affection simulating pregnancy (1860 Tanner *Pregn.* i. 7). **Pseudo-prese·ntiment** *Psychics* (see quot.). **Pseudo-pri·mitive** *a.*, apparently but not really primitive. **Pseudoprobo·scis** *Entom.*, a structure simulating a proboscis. **Pseu·doproct** *Zool.* [Gr. *πρωκτός* anus], (*a*) the anal opening in the pseudembryo of an echinoderm; (*b*) a term suggested instead of PSEUDOSTOME in relation to sponges; hence **Pseudopro·ctous** *a.* ‖ **Pseudopsia** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *ὄψις* seeing, vision], false or perverted vision; a hallucination or illusion of sight (Billings 1890). ‖ **Pseudo-pu·pa** *Entom.* (pl. **-æ**), a name for the 'coarctate pupa' constituting one stage of certain insects, as those which undergo hypermetamorphosis; hence **Pseudopu·pal** *a.* **Pseudo-ramo·se** *a. Bot.* [L. *rāmus* branch], forming false branches, as the filaments of certain algæ, in which the terminal part detaches itself,

and then attaches itself laterally to a special cell (heterocyst) of the filament. **Pseu·do-ray** *Geom.*, a ray or straight line in non-Euclidean geometry (*Cent. Dict.*). **Pseudorga·nic** *a.*, †(*a*) applied to the elements sulphur and phosphorus, as occurring generally but not universally in organized bodies (*obs.*); (*b*) applied to inorganic formations closely resembling organic structures. **Pseudo-rheuma·tic** *a. Path.*, simulating rheumatism. **Pseu·do-rhombohe·dral** *a. Cryst.*, applied to a composite crystal of lower symmetry simulating a simple one of the rhombohedral system. **Pseudoscinine** (-ρ·sinəin) *a. Ornith.*, belonging to the *Pseudoscines*, an anomalous group of OSCINES, containing the lyre-bird and some other Australian birds. ‖ **Pseudosclero·sis** *Path.*, an affection simulating sclerosis (see quot.). **Pseudo-sco·rpion** *Zool.*, an arachnid or pseudarachnidan of the group *Cheliferidæ* or *Pseudoscorpionidæ*, resembling little scorpions, without tail or poison-glands. ‖ **Pseudo·soulum** *Zool.* [see OSCULUM 3 a], a 'false osculum' in sponges, connected with a *pseudogaster* (see above); = PSEUDOSTOME 2. **Pseudosema·tic** *a. Zool.* [Gr. σῆμα sign, mark], belonging to or characterized by deceptive markings or colouring imitating some other species or object; pertaining to or exhibiting mimicry. **Pseudose·ptate** *a. Nat. Hist.*, (*a*) apparently but not really septate; (*b*) having pseudosepta (*Cent. Dict.*). ‖ **Pseudose·ptum** *Zool.* (pl. -a), a septum in corals not corresponding with or representing a mesentery. **Pseudosi·phon** *Zool.*, name for the vertical trace (continuous with the siphon) in the plug of the shell in certain fossil cephalopods; hence **Pseudosi·phonal** *a.*; also **Pseudosiphu·ncle** = *pseudosiphon*. † **Pseu·doskink**, †-**scink** *Obs.*, a kind of lizard resembling a skink. ‖ **Pseudo·smia** *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ὀσμή smell], false or perverted sense of smell (Dunglison 1853). ‖ **Pseudospe·rmium** *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. σπέρμα seed: cf. *achænium*], a small indehiscent fruit in which the pericarp invests the seed so closely that the whole fruit resembles a simple seed; so **Pseudospe·rmic, Pseudospe·rmous** *a.*, of the nature of such a fruit. **Pseudosphe·re** *Geom.*, (*a*) a surface having constant negative curvature (as a sphere has positive); (*b*) a sphere in non-Euclidean geometry; so **Pseudosphe·rical** *a.*

(*Continued on next page.*)

1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* ii. (ed. 4) 105 In diphtheria the *pseudo-bacillus appears less frequently. 1884 *Science* 13 June 739 *Pseudobacteria were produced by the heating of blood. 1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict.*, **Pseudoblepsis*. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pseudoblepsia*, a generic name, used by Cullen, for perversion of vision. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Pseudoblepsia*, false vision; hallucination of sight. 1884 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 43 This gill is not functional—it receives only already aërated blood, and is therefore known as a false gill or *pseudobranch. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* iii. 161 A *rete mirabile*, which lies in the inner side of the hyomandibular bone, and sometimes has the form of a gill. This is the *pseudobranchia*. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 205 An accessory organ in the form of an opercular gill,..different from a *pseudobranchium. 1878 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XVI. 398 *Pseudobrookite. Occurs in minute tabular crystals. 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 58 The *Pseudobulb is an enlarged aërial stem, resembling a tuber, from which it scarcely differs. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVI. 477/2 (Orchidaceæ) By degrees large masses of pseudo-bulbs are formed by a single individual. *Ibid.*, Some of the species of Dendrobium are remarkable for having the *pseudo-bulbous form at one end of their stem, and the common state at the other. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 19 *Oncidium pubes*. A pretty little pseudo-bulbous plant; bulbs 2 inches long. 1860 COBBOLD in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 105 The existence [in the giraffe] of *pseudoceratophorous epiphyses permanently invested by a hairy integument. 1888 RÖLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 861 (Gregarinida) A 'pseudofilaria' stage, followed by a '*pseudocercaria' stage, i.e. one with a slender tail and large body like a *Cercaria*. 1683 T. SMITH *Acc. Prusa* in *Misc. Cur.* (1708) III. 61 Mahomet..in his Alcoran..is guilty of vile and absurd *Pseudo-chronismes. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* I. iii. 63 Some will needs be such *Pseudo-Chronologists, that they make those three Pastors to have flourished..more than 400 years later. 1879 RUTLEY *Study Rocks* xi. 187 *Pseudo-chrysolite..occurs as rounded pebbles in sand. 1887 A. SEDGWICK in *Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Mar. 491 The adult body cavity [in the Cape species of Peripatus] comes entirely from *pseudocœle; the enterocœle has no part in its formation. This statement applies also to the heart and pericardium. These are both *pseudocœlic, and have nothing to do with enterocœle. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* VIII. 136/1 Three kinds of surfaces..viz.: entocœlian, lined by endyma; ectocœlian, covered by pia; and *pseudocœlian, with no distinct membrane. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudocœlom*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pseudocœlom*,..false cœlom. One of the interstitial spaces found in certain of the *Invertebrata*, not lined with epithelium. 1888 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 210 The more prominent septa extend to the centre of the corallite, and then either unite..or curve round each other ..forming a structure to which the name of *pseudocolumella has been given. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudocolumellar*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* [1882 WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Techn.* 420 In the frog..[the lobes] are united by connective tissue constituting a **pseudo-commissura*.] 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 547 This *pseudoconcha separates the vestibule of the nose from the internal nasal cavity. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 502 The *pseudocone eyes of *Diptera Brachyura*. 1888 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XLIV. 213 *note*, The flattened or rounded interspaces between the septa of these corals, which stand out slightly in relief, are generally termed **pseudo-costæ*. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 308 What green have we in Mosses or Ferns, or other *Pseudocotyledonæ, more intense than in Ulva? 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudocrisis*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pseudo-crisis*, an apparent crisis occurring in the course of acute lobar pneumonia, consisting in a temporary fall of 2° F. to 7° F., with a subsequent rebound. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* vi. § 166 Complicated structures in which twelve orthorhombic crystals are united into a single *pseudo-cubic combination. 1881 *Nature* 24 Feb. 398/2 The isometry of radiate *pseudocubical groups. ..in *Stylorhynchus*..collects into a central spherical mass, the *pseudocyst. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 648 The density of the walls of these pseudo-cysts and their very restricted vascularity doubtless explains this retention. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 180 A triangular prominence called a *pseudo-deltidium. 1895 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* III. 498 This pseudo-deltidium is a primitive character, and arises in an early stage of the development. 1849 DANA *Geol.* xvii. (1850) 655 Another small *pseudo-dike, six inches wide. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pseudo-diphtheria*, term for membranous pharyngitis or tonsillitis closely resembling diphtheria in its symptoms. 1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* ii. (ed. 4) 105 A micro-organism..named the pseudo-diphtheria-bacillus. 1895 S. T. ARMSTRONG in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 515 The difficulty of distinguishing..the diphtheritic from the *pseudo-diphtheritic inflammation. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pseudo-erysipelas*...An inexact term for conditions resembling erysipelas. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 340 In so-called phlegmonous, or *pseudo-erysipelatous inflammations. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 403 This substance is the result of the action of boiling alcohol on erythrin..Heeren has distinguished it by the name of **pseudo-erythrin*. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 94 The *pseudo-filaria passes into the condition of the adult Gregarina. 18.. UNDERWOOD in *Bulletin Illinois State Lab.* II. 6 *Pseudo-foliaceous forms, in which the thallus is lobed, the lobes assuming leaf-like forms. 1887 H. M. WARD tr. *Sachs' Physiol. Plants* XXVIII. 464 The Fig..is a so-called *pseudo-fruit. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 242 As it has much the aspect of Galena, and yet contains little or no lead, it has been called *Pseudo Galena. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 791 (Porifera) Such fusion frequently leads to the enclosure of spaces really external to the sponge-body, which form a false gastric cavity (*pseudogaster) opening by a false osculum (pseudosculum s. pseudostome) and false pores (pseudopores). 1888 SCLATER in *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sc.* Feb. 349 The outer layer of the *pseudogastrula forms in later stages the wall of the embryonic vesicle. 1882 J. M. CROMBIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 557/2 They occur only in a gonidial or rudimentary state, constituting the *pseudo-genus *Lepraria* of the older botanists. 1855 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pseudogeusia*, false taste. 1857 *Ibid.*, **Pseudogeustia*, pseudogeusia. 1884 *Nature* 15 May 69/1 The solitary egg of the female [aphis]..develops into a gall-making aphis, the foundress *pseudogyne. This produces..winged young (emigrant pseudogynes). 1851 *Zoologist* IX. p. cxlii, This class of phenomena might be called *Pseudogynous, that is, falsely or imperfectly female. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. p. xvii, A *pseudo-hallucination is a quasi-percept not sufficiently externalised to rank as a 'full blown' hallucination. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* viii. 465 It is probable that these '*pseudo-hearts' subserve the function both of renal organs and of genital ducts. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudohexagonal*. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* vii. § 308 Fig. 261 represents a crystal of witherite, and illustrates the pseudo-hexagonal aspect of many crystals in this [the orthorhombic] system. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis*, a rare disease of infancy and childhood...**Pseudohypertrophy*. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 184 Duchenue's paralysis, in which pseudo-hypertrophy occurs. 1883 PACKARD in *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XXI. 201 (Chilognaths) The sternite of the sub-basilar plate is usually a very large plate ..with teeth on each side, and forms the 'labium' of Newport. It may..be termed the '*pseudolabium'. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pseudoleukæmia*, enlargement of the spleen and lymphatic glands with anæmia, or Hodgkin's disease. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pseudoleucæmia*. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 654 The *pseudo-leucocytes that are present in the blood in trypanosomiasis. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pseudoleucocythæmia*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, **Pseudo-lobar pneumonia*, a syn. for *Lobular pneumonia*. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 146 The case may have been one of pseudo-lobar or mixed pneumonia. 1835 SHEPARD *Min.* II. II. 122 *Pseudo-Malachite. Hemi-prismatic, copper-barite. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 399/2 A consistence little..superior to that of mucous *pseudo-membranes. 1878 HABERSHON *Dis. Abdomen* (ed. 3) 21 The disease termed *pseudomembranous stomatitis. 1882 tr. *Ribot's Dis. Mem.* 186 *Pseudo-memory..consists in a belief that a new state has been previously experienced, so that when produced for the first time it seems to be a repetition. 1728 NICHOLLS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 407 A *pseudo-metallick Substance, by the Miners term'd *Glist*. 1828-32 WEBSTER s.v., Pseudo-metallic luster is that which is perceptible only when held towards the light; as, in minerals. *Phillips*. 1849 DANA *Geol.* ix. (1850) 515 The *pseudo-mica was nothing but altered chrysolite. [1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 74 *Pseudomonocotyledones.] 1832 LINDLEY *Introd. Bot.* 188 A cohesion of the cotyledons takes place in those embryos, which Gærtner called *pseudomonocotyledonous, and Richard macrocephalous. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* ii. (ed. 6) 26 A Pseudo-monocotyledonous embryo occasionally occurs,..of which one cotyledon is wanting through abortion. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudomorphia*. 1836 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XXX. 179 M. Pelletier announces the discovery of two new substances in opium, which he terms Paramorphine and *Pseudomorphine. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 194 Pseudomorphine ($C_{17}H_{19}NO_4$). 1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 5 To recognize the true loculation of fruit..above all of those that are *Pseudo-multilocular or cellular. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 393 Sporidia 8, fusoideo-filiform, straight or curved, *pseudo-multiseptate. 1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 367 The Gregarinidae..multiply by..dividing into a multitude of minute objects called *pseudo-navicellae from their resemblance in shape to the ship-like diatoms (naviculae). 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* ii. 94. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudonavicula*. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 245 This condition is permanent in the *Pseudoneuroptera, Neuroptera, and Orthoptera. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudoparalysis*. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pseudoparalysis*, spurious paralysis. A syn. for *Dystaxia*. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 37 *Pseudo-paraplegia. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pseudoparasites*, ectozoa. 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 1139 *Pseudo-parasitic plants, or Epiphytes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Pseudo-parasites*, including those plants which only attack dead tissues,.. Such plants are pseudo-parasitic. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 245 Those Protophytes which contain chlorophyll live chiefly in water, or at least in damp localities, sometimes as pseudo-parasites. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 258 The space between the enveloping layer and the coils of the ascogonium is filled by a *pseudo-parenchyma. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudoparenchymatous*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* § 75 I. 214 *Pseudo-parthenogenesis. It is the process familiarly exemplified in the *Aphides*. Here, from the fertilized eggs laid by perfect females, there grow up imperfect females, in the pseud-ovaria of which there are developed pseud-ova. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 112 In a second class of cases, females with a more or less imperfect reproductive apparatus produce either ova, as..the 'workers' amongst the social Hymenoptera..; or embryos, as in the case with *Aphis*...This form of asexual genesis is called 'pseudoparthenogenesis'. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. I. 5/2 Body provided with variable *pseudopediform prolongations. 1879 *Engineering* 5 Sept. 194/1 A new instrument..to which he [Dr. S. P. Thompson] has given the name '*pseudophone'. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 316 *Pseudo-pigmentation or pseudo-melanosis is a gray or blackish coloration, caused by the presence of sulphide of iron. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 265 Traumatic influences, ..(among which we must reckon the *pseudo-plasms). 1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 97 [Certain tumours] were accordingly termed pseudo-plasms or neo-plasms or new growths. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 65 A duplication of personality..a *pseudo-possession, if you will—determined in a hysterical child by the suggestion of friends. *Ibid.* 644 What I shall..call *pseudo-presentiments, i.e...hallucinations of memory which make it seem to one that something which now..astonishes him has been prefigured in a recent dream. 1896 *Ibis* Jan. 11 The Ratite shoulder-girdle seems more primitive, and it is difficult to suppose that its condition is secondary and due to retrogression, or, in other words, that it is '*pseudo-primitive'. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 430 The *pseudo-proboscis is much shorter than the body. 1877 F. H. BUTLER in *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 631/2 The pseud-embryo or echinopædium..becomes..wedge-shaped; at its broad end appears the mouth or pseudostome, and at the other the anus or *pseudoproct. 1887 SOLLAS *ibid.* XXII. 416/1 (Sponges) In one sense the oscule is always a pseudostome; it would be better if the term *pseudoproct* could be substituted. 1899 D. SHARP in *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 273 The vesicular larva [of the Bee]..changes to a *pseudo-pupa...The majority..wintering as pseudo-pupae. 1887 *Entomologist's Mag.* Dec. 149 The female larva [of the Phengodini] goes through a *pseudo-papal state prior to the final moult. 1858 CARPENTER *Veg. Phys.* § 25 In plants and animals, four of the [elements] are universally present, and are called organic; two are found very generally present, and are called *pseud-organic. 1898 *Nature* 2 June 118/1 Some of the '*pseudorganic' structures described in rocks might really be the casts or replacements of dried streaks. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 70 To explain the relationship of the *pseudo-rheumatic troubles to the urethral discharge. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* Index, *Pseudo-rhombohedral crystals. [1880 P. L. SCLATER in *Ibis* Ser. IV. IV. 345 To place the Acromyodi abnormales of Garrod..at the end of the Passerine series under the name *Pseudoscines. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pseudosclerosis*, name given by Westphal to cases presenting many of the symptoms of disseminated sclerosis, but in which no anatomical lesions were discovered. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 303 Two Orders..which may be denominated, *Pseudo-scorpions and Phalangidans. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 378 The Pseudo-scorpions resemble the Scorpions. 1890 POULTON *Colours Anim.* xvii. 336 Mimetic Resemblance and Alluring Colouration are called *Pseudosematic Colours, because they usually resemble Sematic or Warning and Signalling Colours. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pseudosematic*, belonging to protective disguises, as, *e.g.*, the leaf-like appearance of the leaf-insect. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* I. xx. 331 Tabulate tubes of two sizes, the larger of these being furnished with radiating *pseudosepta. 1883 HYATT in *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* XXII. 258 The central trace compares with the *pseudosiphon of the plug. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudosiphonal*, **Pseudosiphuncle*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 693 There are.. certain *Pseudoscinks..sold by Apothecaries, that are nothing else but a kinde of water Lizard. 1835 HENSLOW *Princ. Bot.* II. vi. 277 In *pseudospermic Fruits..we may include all fruits whose pericarp is so closely attached to the seed, that it cannot readily be distinguished from one of its integuments. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudospermium*. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1849 BALFOUR *Man. Bot.* § 531 Such fruits are called **pseudo-spermous*.., and are well seen in the grain of wheat. 1883 BALL in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 664/2 Were space really *pseudospherical, then stars would exhibit a real parallax even if they were infinitely distant. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* II. ii. 233 It is clear to us what we are to think of as a spherical or pseudo-spherical surface, but not clear what can be meant by a spherical or pseudo-spherical space, designations which we meet with..without any help being given to us in comprehending their meaning.

Pseudo-, combining form. **2.** Special combinations. (*Continued from preceding page.*)

Pseudo-spi·racle *Zool.*, a structure or marking in certain insects and arachnidans, resembling a spiracle but not perforated. ‖ **Pseudospora·ngium** (also anglicized -spora·nge) *Bot.*, an organ resembling a sporangium, but producing gemmæ instead of spores. **Pseu·dospore** *Bot.*, (*a*) a peculiar spore in certain parasitic fungi, also called a TELEUTOSPORE; (*b*) a reproductive bud: = GEMMA 2 b. **Pseudosqua·mate** *q. Zool.*, apparently but not really squamate or scaly. **Pseu·do-stalacti·tical** *a.*, simulating a stalactite. **Pseudoste·reoscope**, a binocular microscope in which inversion of the image is not corrected; hence **Pseu·dostereosco·pic** *a.*, **Pseu·dostereo·scopism.** ‖ **Pseudosti·gma** *Zool.* (pl. -ata), each of two respiratory organs resembling stigmata in certain acarids; hence **Pseudostigma·tic** *a.* ‖ **Pseudostra·tum** *Geol.* (pl. -a), a mass of rock resembling a stratum but not produced by deposition. **Pseudosy·mmetry** *Cryst.*, simulation of higher symmetry, as in certain composite crystals. **Pseudo-syphilis** (-si·filis) *Path.*, a disease simulating syphilis; hence **Pseu·do-syphili·tic** *a.* **Pseudo-tetra·gonal** *a. Cryst.*, said of a composite crystal of lower symmetry simulating a simple one of the tetragonal system. **Pseu·dotetra·merous** *a. Entom.* [see TETRAMEROUS], belonging to the division *Pseudotetramera* of beetles, having tarsi apparently four-jointed, a fifth joint being very small and hidden. **Pseudotrache·al** *a. Entom.*, simulating a trachea; having a series of rings like those of the trachea. **Pseudotri·merous** *a. Entom.* [see TRIMEROUS], belonging to the division *Pseudotrimera* of beetles, having the tarsi apparently three-jointed, one of the four joints being very small and hidden. **Pseudo-unise·ptate** *a. Nat. Hist.*, apparently but not really uniseptate. **Pseudo-u·ric** *a. Chem.*, an organic acid, $C_5H_6N_4O_4$, in composition allied to uric acid; hence **Pseudo-u·rate**, a salt of pseudo-uric acid. **Pseudo-ve·lum** *Zool.*, a kind of velum in some *Scyphomedusæ*, distinct from the true velum of the *Hydromedusæ*; hence **Pseudo-ve·lar** *a.* **Pseudovi·perine** *a. Zool.*, resembling a viper but not venomous; belonging to the group *Pseudoviperæ* or *Acrochordidæ* of serpents, called in English 'wart-snakes'. **Pseudo-visco·sity**, a property of some solids resembling viscosity; plasticity. **Pseudo-volca·nic** *a.*, apparently but not properly volcanic; belonging to or produced by a pseudo-volcano. **Pseudo-volca·no**, a burning mountain that emits smoke, flame, or gases, but no lava. **Pseu·do-whorl** *Bot.*, an apparent whorl produced by displacement of leaves or other members, originally arranged spirally, to the same level around the axis. **Pseudoxanthine** (-zæ·nθəin) *Chem.*, a leucomaine resembling xanthine, occurring in muscular tissue.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 714 In spiders..the open ventral spiracles of the scorpion are replaced by *pseudo-spiracles; these..in *Epeira cancriformis*,..are dark red spots with an elevated rim and centre exactly resembling spiracles, except that they are not perforated. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Pseudo-sporange, pseudosporangium, a simulated sporangium. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 71 These *pseudospores are at first produced in chains, but ultimately separate. 1900 *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, *Pseudospore*,..a gemma or asexual vegetative bud. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 425 Either part is rugate or *pseudo-squamate. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1873) 450 A hard *pseudo-stalactitical stone. 1892 *Jrnl. Queckett Microsc. Club* July 45 Orthostereoscopism and *pseudostereoscopism. *Ibid.* 51 *note*, The first arrangement..when applied to the compound microscope gave *pseudostereoscopic pictures...There was transposition without a cross-over; it was, therefore, a *pseudostereoscope. 1884 MICHAEL *Brit. Oribatidæ* I. ix. 130 The *Pseudo-stigmata. .. The conspicuous organs ordinarily called stigmata, one on each side. *Ibid.* 131 Each pseudo-stigma has an organ proceeding from it .. which I call a *pseudo-stigmatic organ. 1833-4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 766/1 The great mass of basalt..lies in a *pseudostratum of most irregular thickness. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pseudosymmetry.* 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* Index, Pseudo-symmetry. **1819** BYRON *Juan* I. CXXXI, Their real lues, or our *pseudo-syphilis. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVII. 343 Mercury, with its *pseudo-syphilitic cutaneous affections. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* Index, *Pseudo-tetragonal crystals. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 862/2 The third tribe, *Phytophaga*..is..composed of *pseudo-tetramerous insects. 1900 MIALL & HAMMOND *Harlequin Fly* ii. 70 The salivary ducts..have a ring ('*pseudotracheal') structure. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 407 Sporidia .. becoming *pseudo-uniseptate. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 745 The *pseudo-urates are easily obtained by the action of the acid on the corresponding hydrates, carbonates, or acetates. 1866 ODLING *Anim. Chem.* 140 *Pseudo-uric acid is a recent discovery. 1881 LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 555/2 The edge of its [the medusa's] disc..is not provided with a velum (hence 'Acraspeda' of Gegenbaur), excepting the rudimentary velum of Aurelia and the well-developed vascular velum (*pseudo-velum) of Charybdæa. 1894 *Daily News* 22 Aug. 5/3 It is this *pseudo-viscosity of ice that enables a glacier to accommodate itself to the bed over which it flows. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 394 The fires from which many minerals derive their form and aggregation are either volcanic or *pseudo-volcanic. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 499 Volcanic Rocks..are divided into true volcanic and pseudo-volcanic;..the second comprehending clays and ironstones, indurated and partially melted by the heat from beds of burning coal. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 419 *Pseudo-volcanos are so called, because, like volcanos, they emit smoke, and sometimes flame, but never lava...Most of these are coal mines which have accidentally taken fire. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 368 Each cycle of segments or turn of the spiral produces a whorl, which therefore, strictly speaking, is a *pseudo-whorl, because resulting from subsequent displacement. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 87 *Pseudoxanthine, ..whose resemblance to xanthine has led to some confusion. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Dict.*, *Pseudoxanthin*...Leucomaine found by Gautier in muscular tissue..resembling xanthin.

Pseudo-apostle: see PSEUDAPOSTLE.

Pseudo-archaic (ps-, siūdo$_1$aɪkē·ɪk), *a.* Having the appearance or profession of being ancient, but not really so; artificially archaic in style, language, etc. So **Pseudo-a·rchaism**, false or artificial archaism; **Pseudo-a·rchaist**, one who invents or uses sham archaisms, esp. in language.

1882 SYMONDS in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 320 These fragments of a genuinely antique composition make the pseudo-archaism of the ballad..more glaring. 1883 C. C. PERKINS *Ital. Sculpture* III. iv. 344 *note*, It is possibly a pseudo-archaic work of the fifteenth century. 1895 J. A. H. MURRAY in *Nation* (N. Y.) 3 Oct. 239/1 The 'word' *derring-do* (if it be a word) belongs only to nineteenth-century pseudo-archaists. 1904 H. BRADLEY *Making of English* 228 Spenser's language, 'pseudo-archaic' as it may be called.

Pseudo-articulation, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudocarp (ps-, siū·dokāɹp). *Bot.* [mod. f. PSEUDO- + Gr. *καρπός* fruit. In F. *pseudocarpe*, mod.L. *pseudocarpus*, *-carpium*.] Term for a fruit formed by the modification and enlargement of other parts of the flower besides the ovary, or of parts of the plant not belonging to the flower.

a 1835 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 50/1 Of spurious fruits, or pseudocarps.—In *Pollichia* the bracteas are fleshy, and therefore resemble fruit. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 518 Sometimes the..series of..changes induced by fertilisation extends also to parts which do not belong to the ovary, and even to some which have never belonged to the flower...A structure of this kind (such as the fig, strawberry, and mulberry) may be termed a *Pseudocarp*. 1877 BENNETT tr. *Thomé's Bot.* (ed. 6) 405 The fleshy calyx-tube..of the rose forms an edible pseudocarp known as the hip.

So **Pseudoca·rpous** *a.* (also -ca·rpious), of the nature of or pertaining to a pseudocarp.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1031/2 Pseudocarpious. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pseudocarpous*.

Pseudo-ca·tholic, *a.* and *sb.* [PSEUDO- 1.]

A. *adj.* Falsely or erroneously called or claiming to be catholic.

1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 413 The pseudocatholike papists. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. XV. (1614) 918 Not written in hatred of their Nation, because they are Spaniards, but of their Pseudo-catholike Religion. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 May 2/3 The..minority who wish to turn the Church of England into a pseudo-Catholic sect.

B. *sb.* A Catholic falsely so called.

In 17th c. a hostile term for Roman Catholic.

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 106 The whole rout of Pseudo-catholikes. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* X. 17. 1849 W. FITZGERALD tr. *Whitaker's Disput.* 480 Such are the popish pseudo-catholics, who have derived their catholic errors not from the scriptures, but from the inventions of men.

So † **Pseudo-catho·lical** *a.*, **-catho·licism.** *Obs.*

1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 17 The whole cluster of Pseudocatholicall scribblers against vs. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* Pref. A j b, That Principle which obliges them .. to Advance their Pseudo-catholicism, and to extirpate Heresie.

Pseudo-ceratophorus, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudo-Christ (ps-, siū·dokrəist). [ad. late L. *pseudochrīstus* (Itala *a* 200), Gr. *ψευδόχρῑστος* (Mark xiii. 22): see PSEUDO- and CHRIST.] A false Christ; one pretending to be the Christ or Messiah.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 402 þer shulen rise, seiþ Crist, pseudo-Cristis and pseudo-prophetis. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 123 That absurd pseudochrist Hacket had so many followers. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. III. 127 Some Pseudochrist or Antichrist..in the apostles times. 1865 tr. *Lange's Comm. Mark* xiii. 11 (ed. 6) 131/2 Be on your guard against the seductions of the pseudo-Christs.

Pseu·do-Chri·stian, *a.* [= late L. *pseudochristianus*, *c* 360.] Falsely called or professing to be Christian; *sb.* a Christian falsely so called, a pretended Christian. So **Pseu·do-Christia·nity**, false or spurious Christianity; **Pseu·do-Christo·logy**, a false or erroneous Christology.

1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 158 They questioned how it might be, euen as the Pseudochristians do. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 101 The fraudulent End that this pseudo-Christian Church might drive at. 1685—*Paralip. Prophet.* xlvi. 408 The Earthly Church drunk up the flood by proselyting those Barbarians to its Pseudo-Christianity. 1865 tr. *Lange's Comm. Mark* xiii. 5 (ed. 6) 131/1 Pseudo-Christs, pseudo-Christianities, false prophets. 1877 SCHAFF *Christ & Christianity* (1885) 172 The..humanitarian pseudo-Christologies of the nineteenth century.

Pseudo-cla·ssic, *a.* That pretends or is mistakenly held to be classic. So **Pseudo-cla·ssical** *a.*; also **Pseu·do-classica·lity, Pseudo-cla·ssicism**, false or spurious classical style, sham classicism.

1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd., Poems 1890 II. 202 The impertinence of our pseudo-classicality. 1871 — *Pope* Prose Wks. 1890 IV. 8 A pseudo-classicism, a classicism of red heels and periwigs. 1887 *Athenæum* 8 Oct. 461/3 Given over to rococo triviality or elephantine pseudo-classicism. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Sept. 3/2 A solid-looking stone mansion, ..built in the pseudo-classic style.

Pseudocœle, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudodipteral (ps-, siūdo$_1$di·ptĕrăl), *a. Anc. Arch.* [f. late Gr. *ψευδοδίπτερ-ος* (Vitruv.) + -AL; see PSEUDO- and DIPTEROS: in F. *pseudo-diptère*.] Having, as a temple or other building, a single peristyle or surrounding row of columns, placed at the same distance from the walls as the outer of the two rows in the DIPTEROS. So † **Pseudodi·pter**, ‖ **Pseudodi·pteron**, a building of this type; also, **Pseudodi·pterally** *adv.*

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Pseudodipter.* 1706 *Ibid.*, *Pseudodipteron*,..a kind of Temple among the Ancients, which was surrounded with but one Row of Pillars; yet the Row from the Wall was set at the Distance of two Rows. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* II. 304 We have pseudodipteral, pseudology, ..and many similar words. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 74/1 The temple of Venus and Roma...This main edifice was.. remarkable as being not only decastyle, but pseudo-dipteral also. 1842-76 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. s. v., *Temple*, The pseudo-dipteral temple was constructed with eight columns in front and rear and with fifteen on the sides, including those at the angles. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 471/1 The portico of University College, London, is pseudo-dipterally arranged, the returning columns on the ends or sides not being carried through behind those in front.

Pseudodox (ps-, siū·dŏdɒks), *sb.* [ad. Gr. *ψευδόδοξ-os* holding a false opinion, *ψευδοδοξία* a false opinion or notion; f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *δόξα* opinion.] A false or erroneous opinion. So **Pseu·dodox, † Pseudodo·xal** *adjs.*, of the nature of, or holding, a false opinion; **Pseu·dodoxy** [after *orthodoxy*, etc.], the holding of false opinions.

1615 T. ADAMS *Engl. Sicknesse* ii. Wks. (1629) 337 To maintaine the atheisticall..*pseudodox, which iudgeth evill good and darknesse light. 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* ii. 13 One Proposition, truely Orthodox (though.. it seeme a Paradox, or Pseudodox). 1858 MAYHEW *Upper Rhine* Introd. (1860) 8 In this the modern Arcadia, the pseudodox still lingers. 1720 T. GORDON *Creed Indep. Whig* p. i, There is not a Tenet which can justly be called *Pseudodox. 1638-48 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* ii. 127 Strange *Pseudo-doxal fancies. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 157 That the new name of blind obedience..is a Pseudo-doxall tenet. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* x. § 28 There is no *pseudodoxy so great, but may be muzled from doing much harm..without either death, imprisonment, or mutilation. 1879 MCCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 760 Pseudodoxy..designates a false or deceptive opinion, and hence is employed for *superstition* and *error*.

Pseudo-erysipelas, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudo-Go·thic, *a.* That pretends or is erroneously held to be Gothic (in style), and is not; sham-Gothic; also as *sb.*

1876 FREEMAN *Hist. Sk.* 201 The Renaissance inherited from the pseudo-Gothic of Italy. 1902 *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 136 It is difficult to understand how they could be deceived for a moment by the pseudo-Gothic style of the 'Castle of Otranto'.

Pseudograph (ps-, siū·dogrɑf). [ad. late L. *pseudograph-us* (Cassiod.), a. Gr. *ψευδογράφ-os* drawing or writing falsely, a writer of falsehoods: see PSEUDO- and -GRAPH.]

† **1.** 'A counterfeit writer' (Cockeram, 1623). *Obs. rare*—°.

2. A spurious writing; a literary work purporting to be by another than the real author. (Cf. PSEUDEPIGRAPHA.)

1828-32 WEBSTER, *Pseudograph*, *Pseudography*, false writing. 1864 *Athenæum* 27 Aug. 274/3 The..cleverest.. people are..deceived by pseudographs. 1866 *Reader* 31 Mar. 317/2 A pseudograph of the thirteenth century. 1905 J. ORR *Probl. O. T.* viii. 249 Views differ as to how the book is to be regarded—whether as a pseudograph (forgery) or as a free composition in the name and spirit of Moses.

Pseudo·grapher. *rare*—¹. [f. as prec. + -ER: see -GRAPHER.] A false writer; in quot. one who counterfeits another's handwriting, a forger.

1818 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 438 M. Villette, a pseudo-grapher of the greatest eminence, counterfeited the handwriting and signature of Marie Antoinette.

Pseudo·graphize, *v. rare*—¹. [f. as PSEUDOGRAPH + -IZE.] *intr.* To write (in quot. to spell) falsely.

1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 159 If we account this error [*president* for *precedent*] typographical, there must have been a wide-spread conspiracy among old printers to pseudographize.

Pseudography (ps-, siudo·grăfi). [ad. Gr. *ψευδογραφία* false drawing, writing, or description, f. *ψευδογράφ-os*: cf. late L. *pseudographia* (*a* 525): see PSEUDOGRAPH and -GRAPHY.] False writing.

1. The writing of words falsely, i. e. not according to the sound, or not according to usage; false, incorrect, or bad spelling; an instance of this.

1580 G. HARVEY *Lett. Wks.* (Grosart) I. 104 See what absurdities thys yl fauoured orthographye, or rather Pseudography, hath ingendred. 16.. B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* I. iv,

To add a superfluous letter, as there are too many in our pseudography. 1734 HEARNE *Collect.* 17 May, Shakespeare wanted learning. He was guilty of pseudography, sometimes perhaps designedly. 1804 MITFORD *Inquiry* 408 Those who would make our speech bend to what he justly calls our pseudography.

2. False argument. *rare.*

1603 Sir C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* xxii. 467 Most absurd Pseudographie is this in Astrologie.

Pseudogyne, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudoism (ps-, siū'dŏ₁iz'm). *nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. PSEUDO- + -ISM: cf. PSEUDISM.] (See quot.)

1879 McCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 760 The word *pseudoism* is of recent formation, and means a general inclination to the false, which shows itself in thoughts, words, and doctrines, as well as in acts and in the social intercourse of life.

Pseudolatry (ps-, siudǫ'lătri). *rare.* [ad. Chr. Gr. *ψευδολατρεία* (Cyril): see PSEUDO- and -LATRY.] False worship; the worship of false gods.

1879 McCLINTOCK & STRONG *Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* VIII. 760 Pseudolatry has also penetrated into the Christian Church.

Pseudologer. [f. Gr. *ψευδολόγ-ος* speaking falsely, a liar + -ER¹.] A maker of false statements, a (systematic) liar. So **Pseudolo'gical** *a.* [cf. Gr. *ψευδολογικ-ός* false], pertaining or relating to pseudology (hence **Pseudolo'gically** *adv.*); **Pseudo'logist** [in Gr. *ψευδολογιστ-ής*], (*a*) = *pseudologer*; (*b*) one versed in pseudology (sense 2).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Pseudologer*, a false teacher, a liar. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 19 July 77/1 He was hampered by the inferiority of the *pseudological tools of his day. 1867 VISCT. STRANGFORD *Selection* (1869) II. 43 *Pseudologically speaking, the first intimation..rested on a miscalculation rather than a direct falsehood. 1805 *Miniature* No. 26 (1806) II. 65, I hear..that a work is in the press, and will speedily be published, entitled The *Pseudologist or Complete Liar, in twenty-one volumes folio, with complete indices. 1867 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Jan. 10 Everybody..becomes, by the very nature of things, a comparative pseudologist.

Pseudology (ps-, siudǫ'lŏdʒi). [ad. Gr. *ψευδολογία* false speaking, f. *ψευδολόγ-ος*: see prec. and -LOGY.]

1. False speaking; the making of false statements, esp. when humorously represented as an art or system; the 'art of lying'.

[1577 FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 327 That part of cunning where in you are better learned, called *Pseudologia.*] 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pseudologie* (Gr.), a false speaking, or lying. 1727 SWIFT *Art Polit. Lying* Wks. 1755 III. I. 119 Not..according to the sound rules of pseudology. 1805 *Miniature* No. 26 (1806) II. 65 It is not my intention..to enter into a disquisition upon the noble art of Pseudology.

2. The science or subject of false statements; a false or pretended science.

1867 *Pall Mall G.* 4 Jan. 10 Laying the foundation of the new science of comparative pseudology. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Nov. 3/2 To prevent his further researches in this insanitary section of the field of Pseudology ['occultism'].

Pseudomancy (ps-, siū'dǫmænsi). [ad. med.L. *pseudomantīa*, a. Chr. Gr. *ψευδομαντεία* (Cyril), f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *μαντεία* divination: see -MANCY.] False or pretended divination. So **Pseudoma'ntic** *a.*, of or pertaining to pseudomancy; ‖ **Pseudoma'ntis** [a. Gr. *ψευδόμαντις*], **Pseudoma'ntist,** a false prophet or diviner.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 371 Alexander, a pseudomantist, ..rotted loathsomely, and so died, miserably eaten up of worms. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pseudomancy*, a false or counterfeit Divination. 1894 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. VI. 358/2 The same..wonderfully pseudomantic remark. 1901 D. SMITH in *Expositor* Aug. 145 A vulgar charlatan, strikingly like the pseudomantis, Alexander of Abonoteichos. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 596 Every kind of pseudo-mantic literature was to be rooted out.

Pseudomania (ps-, siūdomē'niă). *rare.* [f. PSEUDO- + -MANIA after *kleptomania.*] A mania for lying; an insane tendency to make false statements. Hence **Pseudoma'niac,** a person affected with pseudomania.

1895 W. S. LILLY in *19th Cent.* Oct. 629 Most of us have personally known sufferers from pseudomania. I once heard of a pseudomaniac who excused himself on the ground that he did not care to plagiarise from fact. 1903 — in *Fortn. Rev.* June 1009 There is a class of pseudomaniacs just as there is a class of kleptomaniacs.

Pseudoma'rtyr. [mod. a. Gr. *ψευδομάρτυς*, *-τυρ* false witness, f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *μάρτυς*, *-τυρ*, witness, MARTYR. So in med.L. and F.] A false or pretended martyr; a martyr falsely so called.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1362/2 What trust is to be given to the words of such pseudomartyrs [as Campion]. 1610 DONNE (*title*) Pseudo-Martyr. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pseudomartyr*, a false witness or martyr.

So **Pseu·do-ma·rtyrdom.**

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* II. 155 Beware of that dangerous Rock of pseudo-Martyrdome.

Pseudo-membrane, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudomorph (ps-, siū'dǫmǭf). [mod. f. Gr. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *μορφή* form: cf. Gr. *ψευδόμορφ-ος* disguising one's form. So in Ger.; F. *pseudomorphe.*] A false or deceptive form; *spec.* in *Min.* a crystal or other body consisting of one mineral but having the form proper to another, in consequence of having been formed by substitution, or by chemical or physical alteration.

1849 DANA *Geol.* App. II. (1850) 731 This author..described certain dolomitic pseudomorphs. 1876 A. H. GREEN *Phys. Geol.* (1877) 27 We find crystals of Quartz having the exact shape and angles of a rhombohedron of Carbonate of Lime. Such a crystal is called a *Pseudomorph*..of Quartz after Carbonate of Lime. *Ibid.* 185 These crystals [of salt] being afterwards dissolved leave a cast which is filled up by sediment, and so models in sand or mud are formed, known as Pseudomorphs. *attrib.* 1871 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XII. 111 Recent analysis of Pseudomorph Corundums.

So **Pseudomo'rphic** *a.*, pertaining to, or of the nature of, a pseudomorph; **Pseudomo'rphism,** the formation or occurrence of pseudomorphs, or the condition of a pseudomorph (in quot. 1871 with reference to plants); **Pseudomo'rphose** (-ōus) *a.* = *pseudomorphic*; **Pseudomo'rphose** (-ōuz) *v. trans.*, to convert into a pseudomorph; **Pseudomorpho'sis** (pl. -o'ses), conversion into a pseudomorph; **Pseudomo'rphous** *a.* = *pseudomorphic.* [Cf. mod.F. *pseudomorphique, -morphisme, -morphose, -morphoser.*]

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 299 The *pseudomorphique crystals of quartz. 1894 *Thinker Mag.* V. 342 Phenomena like the devitrification of natural glasses oscillate from paramorphic to pseudomorphic. 1849 DANA *Geol.* App. II. (1850) 731 An article on *pseudomorphism. 1871 *Jrnl. Bot.* IX. 253 The term 'Pseudomorphism' suggested as a convenient substitute for those cases where a plant abandoned the facies of the Natural family to which it belonged, and assumed that of another. *a* 1822 E. D. CLARKE *Cadmium* 7 Stalactites..had coated over the crystals of other bodies, and destroyed them; appearing in hollow *pseudomorphose forms. 1888 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* Aug. 452 A crystal of augite ..moulded by hornblende and partially *pseudomorphosed. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* iii. 45 Most strange and incredible *pseudomorphoses of mineral substances. 1816 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (1819) p. xcii, Minerals exhibiting impressions of the forms peculiar to the crystals of other substances are said to be *pseudomorphous. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 40 Fossil shells are often pseudomorphous,—or mere casts..of cavities once occupied by shells.

Pseudo-morphia, -morphine, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudonym (ps-, siū'dŏnim). Also **-yme.** [f. med. or mod.L. type **pseudōnymum*, a. Gr. *ψευδώνυμον*, neuter of *ψευδώνυμ-ος* under a false name, falsely named, f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *ὄνομα* name. Cf. HOMONYM, SYNONYM.] A false or fictitious name, *esp.* one assumed by an author.

1846 WORCESTER, *Pseudonyme*, a false name. *Qu. Rev.* 1847 DE QUINCEY *Sp. Mil. Nun* § 8 As a Frenchman says,.. 'Chance is but the *pseudonyme* of God for those particular cases which he does not choose to subscribe openly with his own sign manual'. 1860 HOLLAND *Miss Gilbert* xiv. 254 We would not invade the secret of the musical masculine pseudonym she has assumed. 1886 *Lit. World* 1 Oct. 209/1 Owen Meredith,..under which pseudonym the present Lord Lytton first appeared as an author.

b. *Nat. Hist.* A name erroneously applied to some other species than that to which it properly belongs; e. g. *Nasturtium* is a pseudonym of *Tropæolum majus*, or Indian Cress.

1884 COUES in *Auk* Oct. 321 *Pseudonym.*..(In a special zoological sense) A nickname; a vernacular name, inadmissible in onymy.

So † **Pseudo'nymal, Pseudony'mic** *adjs.* [f. as next + -AL, -IC] = PSEUDONYMOUS.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pseudonymal*, that hath a false or counterfeit name. 1837 BEDDOES *Let.* Mar., Poems (1851) p. xcviii, I only print it..for such readers as the pseudonymic lawyer mentioned. 1874 *Supernatural Relig.* II. II. vii. 141 The..pseudonymic literature of the first centuries.

Pseudonymity (ps-, siūdoni'mĭti). [f. med. or mod.L. *pseudōnym-us* (see next) + -ITY: cf. *anonymity.*] The character or condition of being pseudonymous; the use of a pseudonym or assumed name.

1877 *World* VII. No. 169. 14 Shielded by the mask and cloak of pseudonimity. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Apr. 423/1 The momentary fad for anonymity and pseudonymity.

Pseudonymous (ps-, siudǫ'nimǝs), *a.* [f. med. or mod.L. *pseudōnym-us* (a. Gr. *ψευδώνυμ-ος*: see PSEUDONYM) + -OUS. Cf. F. *pseudonyme* adj.]

1. Bearing or assuming, esp. writing under, a false or fictitious name; belonging to or characterizing one who does this.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pseudonymous*, that has a counterfeit Name. 1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 8 The Pseudonymous Inconsiderableness of those Libelling Insults. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) Advt., Whether the person be of known and established character, anonymous, or pseudonymous. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXVII. 532 The pseudonymous refugees of political persecution. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 10 A Parisian has just taken the trouble to write a book..to unmask all his pseudonymous contemporaries.

2. Written under an assumed or fictitious name; bearing the name of another than the real author.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., The greater epistles of St. Ignatius, &c., are usually supposed to be pseudonymous. 1882 HALKETT & LAING (*title*) A Dictionary of the Anonymous and Pseudonymous Literature of Great Britain. 1906 H. B. SWETE *Apocalypse* Introd. xv. § 1. 170 A Christian apocalypse, if pseudonymous, would naturally have been attributed to an Apostle.

Hence **Pseudo'nymously** *adv.*, in a pseudonymous manner, under a false or fictitious name.

1836 in *Byron's Wks.* (1846) 428/2 Pieces published anonymously or pseudonymously. *a* 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Jerry Jarvis's Wig*, A stuff by drapers most pseudonymously termed 'everlasting'. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1276 [Languet's] *Vindiciae contra tyrannos*, published pseudonymously in 1579.

Pseudonymuncle, -uncule. [f. L. type **pseudōnymuncul-us*, dim. of *pseudōnymus*: see prec. and -UNCLE.] A petty or insignificant person who writes under a pseudonym.

1875 READE *Wand. Heir* Pref. 22 She makes the public believe 'C. F.' is a clue to her whole name; so she is not a Pseudonymuncule. 1875 SWINBURNE *Chapman* 71 The dirty tactics of a verminous pseudonymuncle.

Pseudoparalysis, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

‖ **Pseudoperipteros, -on** (psiūdǫpĕri'ptĕrǫs, -ǫn). *Anc. Arch.* Also 7 (after F.) **pseudoperipter.** [a. late Gr. *ψευδοπερίπτερος* (Vitruv.), f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *περίπτερος* PERIPTER, -EROS. In F. *pseudo-péripière* (Littré).] A form of temple or other building with free columns forming a portico in front (and sometimes in rear) as in a peripteral building, but the rest of the columns engaged in the walls instead of standing free. Hence **Pseudoperi'pteral** *a.*, having the structure of a pseudoperipteros.

1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Pseudoperipter* [1706 *Pseudoperipteron*], a sort of Temple, where the side Pillars were put in the Wall of the inner Side of the Temple. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 288 (ed. 2) 317 Temples.. pseudo-peripteral with engaged columns around. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 410/1 There are but two known examples of Greek antiquity of a pseudo-peripteral structure—the gigantic fane of Jupiter Olympius at Agrigentum, and the nine-columned edifice at Pæstum. 1883 CLARKE tr. *Reber's Anc. Art* 219 It would be difficult to decide whether this peculiar pseudo-peripteros [at Agrigentum] owed its conformation to the building-stone at disposal.

Pseudopod (ps-, siū'dǫpǫd). *Biol.* Also **-pode.** [In sense 1, ad. mod.L. PSEUDOPODIUM; in sense 2, f. Gr. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *ποδ-*, *πούς* foot; in sense 3, f. mod.L. *Pseudopoda* neut. pl.]

1. *Zool.* and *Bot.* = PSEUDOPODIUM.

1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* v. 101 The processes or pseudopods [in *Magosphæra planula*] grow gradually longer, thinner, and more pointed. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 596 Cells with elongated blunt pseudopods.

2. *Zool.* A process or projection serving as a foot in the larvæ of certain insects. (Cf. PRO-LEG.)

1900 MIALL & HAMMOND *Harlequin Fly* ii. 33 Pseudopods, or provisional larval feet, occur in most of the families.

3. *Zool.* A member of the former division *Pseudopoda* of Infusorians, comprising those having pseudopodia (now usually classed as Rhizopoda).

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pseudopodal (ps-, siudǫ'pŏdăl), *a. Biol.* [f. mod.L. *Pseudopod-a* (see prec.) + -AL.] **a.** Belonging to the *Pseudopoda* (see prec. 3); having pseudopodia. **b.** = next.

1880 W. S. KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 236 *Monas obesa*... Body elongate..the periphery usually produced at variable points into one or more..pseudopodal prolongations.

Pseudopodial (ps-, siūdǫpō'diăl), *a. Biol.* [f. PSEUDOPOD-IUM + -AL.] Of the nature of, pertaining to, or connected with a pseudopodium.

1865 CARPENTER in *Intell. Observer* No. 40. 290 The most delicate pseudopodial threads. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 135 Nucleated corpuscles..which throw out very long pseudopodial prolongations.

So **Pseudopo'dian** *a.*, in same sense; **Pseudopodio** (-pǫ'dik) *a.* = PSEUDOPODAL.

1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* Apr. 298 Representing the sarcode that filled the chambers, pseudopodian tubules and stolon passages. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pseudopodic.

‖ **Pseudopodium** (ps-, siūdǫpō'diŭm). *Biol.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *-podium*, ad. Gr. *πόδιον*, dim. of *πούς*, *ποδ-* foot.]

1. *Zool.* In certain Protozoa (esp. Rhizopoda), Each of a number of processes temporarily formed by protrusion of any part of the protoplasm of the body, and serving for locomotion, prehension, or ingestion of food. Also, a similar formation in an amœboid cell, as a leucocyte.

1854 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. (1861) 265 Finger-like processes, called pseudopodia, which it appears to have the power of shooting out from any part of its substance. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 18 Each pseudopodium is evidently, at first, an extension of the denser clear substance (*ectosarc*) only. 1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 17 *note*, The term 'pseudopodia' was given by von Siebold to replace Dujardin's more descriptive phrase 'changeable processes' (*expansions variables*).

b. The tapering caudal extremity or 'foot' of a Rotifer, serving for swimming, attachment, etc.

1898 SEDGWICK *Textbk. Zool.* I. viii. 299 The posterior end of the body tapers, and is called the foot or pseudopodium; ..the joints are often telescopically retractile.

2. *Bot.* A false pedicel or foot-stalk; applied to certain elongations of the stem in mosses, as those supporting the gemmæ in *Aulacomnion*, or the sporogonium in *Sphagnum.*

1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes fr. Page Nat.* 32 Several species of mosses are furnished with gemmæ or pseudopodia, which consist of powdery or granulated heads terminating an elongated and almost leafless portion of the stem. 1876 J. H. BALFOUR in *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 161/2 In Sphagnum, the sporogonium is fully developed within the epigonal leaves, and when complete the axis beneath it elongates, forming the pseudopodium.

Pseudo-pore, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudoprophet (ps-, siūdǫprǫ·fĕt). [ad. late L. *pseudoprophēta* (Itala *a* 200), Gr. *ψευδοπροφήτης* (Matt. xxiv. 11): see PSEUDO- and PROPHET. So F. *pseudo-prophète* (13th c. in Littré).] A false prophet; one who falsely pretends to be a prophet, or who prophesies falsely.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 394 And þes newe ordris.. ben clepid of Crist pseudo-profetis. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 708 Pseudo prophetes, false sodomytes. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 180/1 An heremit, whose name was Peter, dwelling about Yorke..This pseudoprophet or false foreteller of afterclaps. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 199 At Medina is the Pseudo-prophets Sepulchre. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* III. 203 As soon as a preacher, or pseudo prophet..gets followers enough, he..sets up for an independent chief and 'medicine man'.

So **Pseudopro·phetess,** a false prophetess; **Pseudoprophe·tic, -ical** *adjs.*

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* ii. 21 'Which calleth herself a Prophetess', but is indeed a *Pseudoprophetess .. and seducer of my servants. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* v. iv. (1713) 406 That Chair of Infallibility that he and his *Pseudoprophetick Body boast they sit in. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 45 The fantasticall books of Brigit full fraught with such *pseudoprophetical wonderments. 1664 H. MORE *Exp.* 7 *Epist.* (1669) 130 The Bestian and Pseudoprophetical power ..is burnt and destroyed.

Pseudoprostyle (ps-, siūdǫprō·stəil), *a.* and *sb. Arch.* [f. PSEUDO- + PROSTYLE.] (See quot.)

1881 *Archit. Publ. Soc. Dict., Pseudoprostyle,* a portico projecting less than an intercolumniation; a term used by Hosking. 1886 in *Encycl. Dict.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pseudopsia, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudoscope (ps-, siū·dǒskǫup). [f. PSEUDO- + -SCOPE.] An optical instrument invented by Wheatstone, containing two reflecting prisms which can be so adjusted as to produce an apparent reversal of the convexity or concavity of an object.

1852 WHEATSTONE *Physiol. Vision* § 23 in *Phil. Trans.* II As this instrument conveys to the mind false perceptions of all external objects, I have called it the Pseudoscope. 1855 H. SPENCER *Princ. Psychol.* (1872) I. III. x. 380 When looked at through the Pseudoscope, convex objects seem concave. 1879 H. GRUBB in *Proc. Royal Dubl. Soc.* 180 If we place it in a pseudoscope—*i. e.* an instrument which enables us to view the right picture with the left eye, and the left with the right—it stands up like a solid body, just the reverse of the effect in the stereoscope.

So **Pseudoscopic** (-skǫ·pik) *a.*, pertaining to the pseudoscope; involving apparent reversal of convexity and concavity, or other optical illusion (hence **Pseudosco·pically** *adv.*); **Pseudoscopy** (-ǫ·skǒpi), the use of the pseudoscope; the production of optical illusions such as are caused by it.

1857 GROVE *Contrib. Sc.* in *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1874) 444 With terrestrial objects the effect of the binocular..is in many instances pseudoscopic. 1872 *Contemp. Rev.* XIX. 411 When we look pseudoscopically at the face of a plaster bust, or at the outside of a mask, it is only after a lengthened gaze that such 'conversion of relief' occurs.

Pseudoscorpion, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseu·dosoph (-sǫf). [ad. Gr. *ψευδόσοφ-ος* falsely wise, f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *σοφός* wise: cf. *philosoph.*] One who falsely affects, or supposes himself, to be wise; a pretender to wisdom. So **Pseudo·sopher, Pseudoso·phical** *a.*, **Pseudo·sophy** [Gr. *ψευδοσοφία*]. (All *nonce-wds.*)

1863 DE MORGAN *From Matter to Spirit* Pref. 25 This will only be done by the pseudosophs. 1884 SWINBURNE *Misc., Wordsw. & Byron* (1886) 112 The excuse which may be pleaded alike for the transatlantic and the cisatlantic pseudosopher. 1885 *Ibid., Lamb & Wither* 197 Disbelievers in his pseudosophy. 1902 — in *Q. Rev.* July 31 So consummate and pseudosophical a quack.

‖ **Pseudostoma** (psiudǫ·stǒmă). Pl. **pseudostomata** (-ǫstǫ·mătă). [mod.L. Cf. Gr. *ψευδόστομα* the false or blind mouth (of a river), f. *ψευδο-*, PSEUDO- + *στόμα* mouth.]

1. *Anat.* A point on the surface of a serous membrane, regarded by some as the mouth of one of the absorbents or lymphatic vessels which begin in such membranes.

1886 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict., Pseudostomata, .. Anat.* Flattened connective-tissue corpuscles passing up from the interior to the surface of the serous membranes. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pseudostoma,* one of the deeply-stained areas seen under the microscope in a silver-stained section of endothelium. Klein believes many of them to be the stained processes of connective-tissue cells.

2. *Zool.* = PSEUDOSTOME 1.

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pseudostoma...* Also, the oral opening of an Echinoderm larva (echinopædium).

3. *Zool.* A synonym of *Geomys,* a genus of American rodents with external cheek-pouches (called in Eng. *pocket gophers* or *pouched rats*).

1823 *Long's Exped. to Rocky Mts.* III. 231.

Hence **Pseudosto·matous** *a.*, pertaining to a pseudostoma, or having pseudostomata (sense 1).

Pseudostome (ps-, siū·dǫ|stǫum). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *pseudostoma*: see prec.]

1. The mouth or oral opening of the pseudembryo of an echinoderm.

1877 [see *pseudoproct* s. v. PSEUDO- 2].

2. In a sponge, a false osculum or excurrent opening, the mouth of a secondary canal arising from fusion; also called *pseudosculum* (see PSEUDO- 2).

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 416/1 (*Sponges*) The opening..to the exterior being termed a false oscule or pseudostome. The faulty use of the term oscule..is here obvious; for in one sense the oscule is always a pseudostome.

3. A rodent of the genus PSEUDOSTOMA (sense 3).

So **Pseudo·stomine** *a.*, belonging or allied to the genus *Pseudostoma*; having external cheek-pouches, as a pocket-rat; **Pseudostomo·sis,** the formation of a pseudostome (sense 2); **Pseudostomo·tic** *a.*, pertaining to or exhibiting pseudostomosis; **Pseudo·stomous** *a.* [Gr. *ψευδόστομ-ος* having false mouths], belonging to a pseudostome, or having pseudostomes (sense 2).

1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 416/1 In some sponges ..secondary independent openings, deceptively like oscules, are added. This pseudostomosis is due to a folding of the entire sponge, so as to produce secondary canals or cavities. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pseudostomine..Pseudostomotic..Pseudostomous.* 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pseudostomotic..Pseudostomous.*

Pseudostratum, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pseudovary (ps-, siudǫ·vări). *Zool.* Also in Lat. form **pseudovarium** (-ǫvē·riǝm), pl. -ia. [ad. mod.L. *pseudovārium,* f. Gr. *ψευδο-* (PSEUDO-) + *ovārium* OVARY.] **a.** The ovary or generative gland of certain imperfect female insects which reproduce parthenogenetically, and usually viviparously, as in aphides. **b.** = *Proligerous pellicle*: see PROLIGEROUS *a.* 1. So **Pseudo·val** *a.*, pertaining to or containing pseudova (see below); **Pseudova·rian** *a.*, pertaining to a pseudovary; **Pseudo·viduct,** the duct of a pseudovary; **Pseudo·vum** (pl. -ova), an ovum or egg produced by a pseudovary, and developing without fertilization; a parthenogenetic ovum.

1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* § 75 I. 214 In the *Aphides*.. from the fertilized eggs laid by perfect females, there grow up imperfect females, in the pseud-ovaria of which there are developed pseud-ova. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* Introd. 112 This form of asexual genesis is called 'pseudo-parthenogenesis', and the reproductive gland a 'pseud-ovarium'. *Ibid.,* The 'pseudovaria' [in certain dipterous larvæ] being destitute of any 'pseudoviduct'. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 383 It tears the pseudoval sac. *Ibid.* 447 The young are developed within organs which resemble the ovarioles of the true females..and may be termed pseudovaries. The terminal or anterior chamber of each pseudovarian tube is lined by an epithelium. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 302 The so-called pseudova have been distinguished from the eggs.

Pseudo-velum, etc.: see PSEUDO- 2.

Pshalmody, obs. form of PSALMODY.

Pshaw (pʃǭ, ʃǭ), *int.* and *sb.* Also 8 **pshah, sha, 'pshaw,** 8–9 **psha,** 9 **p'shaw, (psa, psaw).** [A natural expression of rejection.]

A. *int.* An exclamation expressing contempt, impatience, or disgust.

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing Master* III, *Mons.* Pshaw! wat do you tell me of the matche! 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Dec., Why, it seems your pacquet-boat is not lost: pshah, how silly that is. 1710 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bickerstaff's Burying* 15 Sha, sha; I tell thee thou art mistaken. 1798 FRERE, etc. in *Anti-Jacobin* No. 31 (1852) 174 'Pshaw! what, ever blundering!—you drive me from my patience. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 162 P'shaw, exclaims some old sportsman. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. xiv, 'Pshaw!' was the peevish ejaculation of Mr. Dare. 1887 J. W. GRAHAM *Neæra* I. x. 110 Psa! it is excusable in a woman. *Ibid.* II. v. 168 Psaw!

B. as *sb.*

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 438 ₱ 3 Pishes and Pshaws, or other well-bred Interjections. 1768 BARETTI *Mann. & Cust. Italy* I. 277 To answer me with an angry pshaw. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Her precious Leg* x, She writh'd with impatience more than pain, And uttered 'pshaws!' and 'pishes!' 1845 STODDART *Gram.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* I. 179/1 *Pish* and *pshaw* .. express different shades of contempt, the latter showing more of ill humour and vexation than the former.

Pshaw (pʃǭ, ʃǭ), *v.* [f. prec.]

1. *intr.* To say 'pshaw!' Often with *at.*

1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xvii, My father travelled homewards..in none of the best of moods—pshawing and pishing all the way down. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, And why pshaw at my Lord Mayor, sweetheart? *a* 1864 [see PISH *v.* 1]. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 455 Don't 'Pshaw!' at me.

2. *trans.* To depreciate or show contempt for by saying 'pshaw!'

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxix. [xxii.], They psha'd the French fleet. 1901 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 247/1 He pshawed his melancholy vapours.

Psht, pshut (pʃt, pʃʊt), *int.* [A natural utterance of whispered sound: cf. *pst, whisht.*] An utterance enjoining caution or expressing impatience.

1770 FOOTE *Lame Lover* III. Wks. 1799 II. 84 Pshut!—Somebody's coming. 1868 YATES *Rock Ahead* I. viii, 'Psht!' said the old gentleman to himself.

Psicho-, Psicro-, erron. ff. PSYCHO-, PSYCHRO-.

Psilanthropic (psəilænθrǫ·pik), *a.* [f. as next + -IC: cf. *philanthropic.*] Of, pertaining to, or in accordance with psilanthropism.

a 1834 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 13 The purport was to give a psilanthropic explanation and solution of the phrases, Son of God and Son of Man.

Psilanthropism (psəilæ·nθrǒpiz'm). [f. eccl. Gr. *ψιλάνθρωπ-ος* merely human (f. *ψιλός* bare, mere + *ἄνθρωπος* man) + -ISM.] The doctrine that Jesus Christ was a mere man.

c 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 260 The conclusion is, that between the Homoousian scheme and mere Psilanthropism there is no intelligible medium. 1825 — *Aids Refl.* (1848) I. 163 The true designation of their characteristic tenet..is Psilanthropism, or the assertion of the mere humanity of Christ. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 368 He embraced..the 'Psilanthropism' of the sect.

So **Psila·nthropist,** one who holds this doctrine = HUMANITARIAN I.; **Psila·nthropy** = PSILANTHROPISM.

c 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 241 Against those *Psilanthropists who as falsely, as arrogantly, call themselves Unitarians. 1883 *Ch. Q. Rev.* XV. 280 Socrates ..says he cannot treat Nestorius as a Psilanthropist. 1864 WEBSTER, **Psilanthropy.* 1876 E. MELLOR *Priesth.* vii. 339 To allege that [they] see in the phrase, 'son of man', nothing more than a barren psilanthropy.

Psilo- (psəilo-, səilo-), before a vowel **psil-,** combining form of Gr. *ψῑλός* bare, smooth, mere, used in a few scientific terms:

Psiloceratite (-se·rătəit) *Palæont.* [Gr. *κέρας, κερατ-* horn + -ITE 1], a fossil cephalopod of the Jurassic genus *Psiloceras.* **Psilodermatous** (-dəː·rmătəs) *a. Zool.* [Gr. *δέρμα, δερματ-* skin, DERMA + -OUS], having the skin naked or without scales, as an amphibian of the *Psilodermata.* **Psilology** (-ǫ·lŏdʒi) *nonce-wd.* [see -LOGY], mere or empty talk. **Psilopædic** (-pī·dik) *a. Ornith.* [Gr. *παῖς, παιδ-* a child + -IC], of a bird: hatched naked or without down; opposed to *ptilopædic.* **Psilo·sophy** *nonce-wd.* [see -SOPHY], shallow philosophy; so **Psilo·sopher.**

1888 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 22 In studying the *Psiloceratites of Central Europe. 1820–30 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 33 Schools of *psilology (the love of empty noise) and misosophy. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 88 A more exact distinction may be drawn by using the terms *ptilopædic* and **psilopædic*..respectively for those birds which are hatched feathered or naked. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale) Suppl., **Psilosopher,* a would-be or pretended philosopher. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* iii. (1882) 34 *note,* I was decried as a bigot by the proselytes of French Phi- (or to speak more truly, *Psi-)losophy. *Ibid.* x. 85 Their adoption of French morals with French psilosophy.

Psilomelane (psəilǫ·mĕlein). *Min.* Also **-melan.** [f. PSILO- + Gr. *μέλαν,* neuter of *μέλας* black.] A common ore of manganese, a hydrated oxide, occurring in smooth black amorphous masses, or in botryoidal or stalactitic shapes.

Chemically it is a mechanical combination of the hydrated dioxide and protoxide, the latter often partly replaced by other protoxides, chiefly baryta and potash.

1831 *Trans. Royal Soc. Edin.* II. 130 The name psilomelane..is formed in allusion to the black colour and smooth hematitic shapes of the mineral. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* III. (1872) 367 The principal ores of manganese are *Pyrolusite* and *Psilomelane,* both binoxides, the former anhydrous, the latter containing 1 per cent. of water.

Hence **Psilomela·nic** *a.*, of or of the nature of psilomelane; **Psilome·lanite** = PSILOMELANE.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 479/2 The writer found [in a manganese nodule dredged up by the 'Challenger' expedition]..a total of 21·04 per cent. of the psilomelanic part. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornw.,* etc. 610 Psilomelanite [is found] at Upton Pyne, and near Launceston. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 255/1 Psilomelanite and braunite ..are hydrated peroxide and sesquioxide of manganese.

‖ **Psilosis** (psəilōu·sis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *ψίλωσις,* n. of action from *ψιλοῦν* to strip bare, make bald: see -OSIS.]

1. *Path.* A stripping bare, as of hair or flesh.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 368 In psilosis or sprue, the œsophagus is denuded of epithelium. *Ibid.* 776 'Psilosis' (ψιλός, bare) is suggested by Phin in one of his valuable papers as a substitute for 'sprue'.

2. *Greek Gram.* The substitution of a *tenuis* for an aspirate, as in *βάπτω* for *βάφω,* or of the *spiritus lenis* instead of the *spiritus asper.*

1904 J. H. MOULTON in *Expositor* May 361 Occasional deaspiration is part of the general tendency towards psilosis which started from Ionic influences and became universal, as modern Greek shows.

Hence **Psilotic** (psəilǫ·tik) *a.*, of or pertaining to psilosis.

† **Psi·lother, -othre.** Also 5 **-otre,** 7 **psyl-.** [ad. L. *psīlōthrum,* or a. F. *psilothre*: see next.]

1. A substance that removes hair; a depilatory.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi. 59 A Psilothre..is a paste whiche..doeth foorthwith cause the haires to fall out. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 204 Every Psylother..doth not only attenuate, but evell hairs.

2. *Herb.* Bryony (*Bryonia dioica*), supposed to have a depilatory property.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 917 Wattrid cucumber seed, or comyn grounde, Lupyne, or psilotre, kest on the grounde.

‖ **Psilo·thron.** *Obs.* Also 7 **psylo-, psilothrum.** [L. *psīlōthrum,* a. Gr. *ψιλώθρον* a depilatory, f. *ψιλοῦν* to bare, with instrumental suffix.]

1. = prec. 1.

[*c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 294 þou schalt anointe al þe place with psilatro [i. e. *cum psilatro*]. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* 35 *Psilotrum,* depilatorium idem.] 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 59 The milk..With the gall of an hedghog, and braine of a Bat, it is a psilothron. *Ibid.* 131 [etc.].

2. = prec. 2.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. i. II. 149 There is a certain wild white vine, which..others [call] Melothron or Psilothrum... This know the curriours well who dresse skins, for they use it much. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Psilothron*, the Herb Briony or white Vine.

Psithurism (psi·þiŭriz'm). *rare.* [irreg. for *psithyrism*, ad. Gr. *ψιθύρισμα* or *ψιθυρισμός*, f. *ψιθυρίζ-ειν* to whisper.] Whispering; a whispering noise, as of leaves moved by the wind.

1872 M. COLLINS *Pr. Clarice* II. xix. 218 Psithurism of multitudinous leaves made ghostly music. 1875 — *Blacksmith & Scholar* (1876) II. 12 The wind wooed them with a whispering psithurism.

Psittac (psi·tæk). *rare.* Also .5 psitake. [ad. L. *psittac-us*, a. Gr. *ψιττακός* parrot.] A bird of the genus *Psittacus*; a parrot.

[c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvii. 274 And there ben manye Popegayes that thei clepen Psitakes in hire langage.] 1881 *Academy* 1 Oct. 252/1 To him parrots are psittacs.

Psittaceous (psitē'·ʃəs), *a. Ornith.* [f. L. *psittac-us* parrot (see prec.) + -EOUS.] Of or belonging to the parrot family of birds, *Psittacidæ*. So **Psitta·cean, Psi·ttacid** *adjs.* (in mod. dicts.).

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ii. 71 The Psittaceous or Parrot tribes.

Psittacine (psi·tăsəin), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *psittacīnus*, f. *psittacus* parrot.] Of or belonging to a parrot or to the parrot family; *fig.* parrot-like. b. *sb.* A bird of this family.

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Sept. 343/2 The glibness of these psittacine politicians. 1890 A. B. MEYER in *Ibis* Jan. 26 On the Coloration of the Young in the Psittacine Genus *Eclectus*. 1895 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 348/3 Showing that it was completely psittacine.

Psittacinite (psitæ·sinəit). *Min.* [Named 1876; f. as prec. + -ITE[1] 2.] A hydrous vanadate of lead and copper, of a parrot-green colour, occurring as a pulverulent coating on quartz.

1876 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. III. XII. 36 Psittacinite occurs sometimes associated with gold. 1893 CHAPMAN *Blowpipe Practice* 197 Psittacinite from Montana.

Psi·ttacoid, *a.* [f. Gr. *ψιττακ-ός*, parrot + -OID.] Like or akin to the *Psittacidæ* or parrots.

1895 in *Funk's Standard Dict.*

So ‖ **Psittaco·sis** (see quot.).

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 May 10/1 The *British Medical Journal* sounds a note of warning to those who make pets of parrots. These birds are the source of a disease, psittacosis, which has lately occurred at Genoa. The disease takes the form of malignant pneumonia.

Psoadic (psoæ·dik), *a.* [irreg. f. next + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the psoas muscle.

185. OWEN (Annandale 1882), The psoadic plexus. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Psoadicus*,..of or belonging to the loin, or to the *psoæ* muscles: psoadic.

Psoas (psō·u·ăs). *Anat.* [Properly pl. of *psoa*, a. Gr. *ψόα*, usually in pl. *ψόαι*, acc. *ψόας*, the muscles of the loins. From the rare occurrence of the sing., the pl. *psoas* has been erroneously taken as sing.] The name of two muscles of the hip: (*a*) *Psoas magnus*, a large flexor muscle of the hip-joint which arises from the lumbar vertebræ and sacrum and is inserted along with the iliac into the lesser trochanter of the femur; cf. ILIOPSOAS. (*b*) *Psoas parvus* or *minor*, a muscle (inconstant in man) which in many mammals forms a powerful flexor of the pelvis upon the spine.

a. sing. *psoa*, pl. *psoas*.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Psoa*, a great muscle beginning at the 11th rib, and going through the bowels to the privie-members. 1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Psoas*, Muscles of the Loins, which proceed from about the two lowermost Vertebræ of the Thorax. 1777 HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXVII. 610 Where the colon passes over the psoas and iliac vessels.

β. psoas taken as sing.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Psoas Magnus*, or *Lumbalis*..*Psoas Parvus*. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* ii. 49 The *psoas minor*..is a protractor of the pelvis.

b. *attrib.*, as *psoas abscess, muscle*, etc.

1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 153 The disease called psoas abscess. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 214, I .. carried it upwards by the side of the psoas muscle. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 3 The two psoas muscles.

Hence **Psoa·tic** *a. rare* [irregular] = PSOADIC; **Psoi·tis** (see quot. 1842).

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Psoitis*, inflammation of the psoas muscles. 1877 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XVI. 96 Psoitis also occurs..as an independent disease.

‖ **Psora** (psō·rā). [L. *psōra*, a. Gr. *ψώρα* itch, mange, = L. *scabies*.] A contagious skin disease; scabies, the itch.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Psora*, the scabbado, or scabbiness with pustles. 1803 tr. *Heberden's Comment.* xxiii. (1806) 115 There is an appearance exactly like it..yet differs from the true psora by being very little, if at all infectious. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Psora*, the Itch. ..Also, mange, applied to men and beasts. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 551 From his [Celsus'] time down to that of Willan we find the names Psora and Lepra applied loosely to all kinds of squamous diseases.

‖ **Psoriasis** (ps-, sorəi·ăsis). [mod.L., a. Gr. *ψωριᾶσις*, f. *ψωριᾶν* to have the itch, f. *ψώρα* itch. The etymological pronunciation is (psōəri|ē'·sis), but that given is in ordinary use.] A disease of the skin, characterized by the appearance of dry reddish patches covered with glistening imbricated scales.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Psoriasis*, a dry itching Scab. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 324 Psoriasis is not contagious. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* I. 81 The psoriasis commonly appears on the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet.

attrib. & *Comb.* 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 748 A profuse eruption, of a psoriasis character. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON *Archives of Surgery* IX. No. 36. 365 Covered with psoriasis-lupoid eruption of a very severe character. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 559 A psoriasis patient.

Hence **Psoriatic** (psōəri|æ·tik) *a.*, of the nature of or affected with psoriasis; *sb.* one who suffers from psoriasis; **Psoria·tiform** *a.*, having the form or appearance of psoriasis.

1883–4 *Med. Ann.* 50/2 Applied to the psoriatic patches. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 534 Ichthyosis..is sometimes found in psoriatic families. *Ibid.* 558 There are psoriatiform, gyrate, and popular forms of seborrhœa. *Ibid.* 571 The view which would convert our psoriatics..into a class of neurotics and cripples.

Psoric (psō·ə·rik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. Gr. *ψωρικ-ός*, f. *ψώρα* PSORA. In F. *psorique*.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to psora or itch.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 203 He had psoric excoriations on the legs.

B. *sb.* A remedy for the itch [cf. Gr. *ψωρικά*].

[1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Psorica*, Medicines against the Scab.] 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Psoric*..a medicine for curing the itch.

So **Pso·roid, Pso·rous** *adjs.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Psorodes*,..having or full of itch: psorous..*Psoroides*,..resembling *psora* or itch: psoroid.

‖ **Psorophthalmia** (psōərɒfθæ·lmiă), also **pso·rophthalmy.** [mod.L. f. Gr. *ψώρα* itch, or *ψωρός* itching + OPHTHALMIA: cf. F. *psorophthalmie*.] Scurfy inflammation of the eyes.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Psorophthalmy*, scurviness of the brows, with an itch. 1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Psorophthalmia*. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Psorophthalmy*, an Ophthalmy, or Inflammation of the Eyes with itching. 1780 WARE (*title*) Remarks on the Ophthalmy, Psorophthalmy, and purulent Eye. 1803 WITTMAN *Trav. Turkey* 539 Psorophthalmy is common among the Syrians and Egyptians. 1858 in MAYNE.

Hence **Psorophtha·lmic** *a.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Psorophthalmic*,..of or belonging to psorophthalmy.

Psoro·ptic, *a. Path.* [Arbitrarily f. Gr. *ψώρα* itch, after *sarcoptic*.] Of the nature of psora.

1900 *Field* 7 July 46/3 Sarcoptic mange when the burrowing mites are the invaders, and psoroptic mange when the common surface mite is the cause of the itching and other effects.

Psorosperm (psō·rəspəɹm). [f. as prec. + Gr. *σπέρμα* seed.] An individual of a group of Sporozoa (*Psorospermiæ*), parasitic protozoa found in the mucous membranes, muscles, and liver of domestic animals, and sometimes in man.

1866 COBBOLD *Tapeworms* 8 The human psorosperm. [1876 *Beneden's Anim. Parasites* 253 The disease of silk worms, known by the name of 'pébrine', has been attributed to the development of psorospermiæ.] 1880 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* IX. 494 Psorosperms have thus far only been found twice in the liver of man. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1003 The prevalence of a disease caused by psorosperms ..in the lower animals.

So **Psorospe·rmial, Psorospe·rmian, Psorospe·rmic** [= F. *psorospermique*], *adjs.*, of, belonging to, or of the nature of *Psorospermiæ*; **Psorospermo·sis,** the occurrence or development of psorosperms in animals.

1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 368 Observations..on the psorospermial sacs obtained from the hair of a peasant. 1875 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* III. 655 The Miescherian (or Raineyan or psorospermian) sacs. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 209 Psorospermosis could not be induced..by rubbing in psorospermial material obtained direct from the livers of other rabbits. 1898 *Ibid.* V. 174 The pébrine disease, which is caused by a psorospermial organism. 1899 *Ibid.* VIII. 879 The disease was a cutaneous psorospermosis.

Pst, *int.* [So in Ger.] A whispered signal for silence.

1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Aug. 576/1, I said, 'Pst, pst'. 'Qui vive?' he whispered.

Psucology, obs. form of PSYCHOLOGY.

Psychagogic (ps-, səikăgɒ·dʒik), *a.* [ad. Gr. *ψῡχαγωγικός* attractive to the mind, persuasive, f. *ψῡχαγωγία* winning of the mind, persuasion, f. *ψῡχαγωγός*: see next. In mod.F. *psychagogique*.]

1. Influencing or leading the mind or soul; persuasive, attractive.

1846 GROTE *Greece* I. xvi. I. 573 When we examine the psychagogic influences predominant in the society among whom this belief originally grew up. 1871 MORLEY *Vauvenargues* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 15 Essential conditions of psychagogic quality.

2. (= Gr. *ψῡχαγωγός*.) Conjuring up or evoking the spirits of the dead. *rare*[−1].

1892 *Edin. Rev.* CLXXV. 423 In the play of the 'Choëphoræ' [Agamemnon's] royal shade, powerful in the realm of death, is wrought upon by the long psychagogic odes to succour his avengers.

3. *Med.* (See quots.)

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Psychagogic*,..having power to arouse or restore consciousness or mental activity. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Psychagogic*,..epithet applied to restorative medicines.

So **Psychago·gical** *a.*, that leads the mind; hence **Psychago·gically** *adv.*, persuasively.

1822 GROTE *Anal. Infl. Nat. Relig.* II. ii. § 6. 139 The mental (or psychagogical [*ed.* 1875 psychological]) machinery of the priest-hood is excellent; but they are unhappily deficient in physical force. 1849 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 645 Has any more versed and profound master in criticism, before or since, authentically and authoritatively, ..psychagogically, propounded..the Dogma?

Psy·chagogue (-ăgɒg). [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* PSYCHE + *ἀγωγός* leading, leader; in form = Gr. *ψῡχαγωγός* leader of departed souls, said of Hermes. So mod.F. *psychagogue*.]

1. One who directs or leads the mind. *rare.*

1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 343 All this must be effected and enforced by the physician, as a psychagogue or instructor of the mind.

2. One who calls up departed spirits; a necromancer.

1843 LIDDELL & SCOTT *Grk. Lex.*, Ψυχαγωγός,..as *subst.* a necromancer, psychagogue. 1882 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 5/4 Our modern psychagogues, the members of the Psychical Society, have not been much more fortunate in calling up spirits than their ancient models.

3. *Med.* (See quot.)

1867 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol.* (ed. 3), *Psychagogues*..,medicines which resuscitate, as in cases of syncope.

Psy·chal, *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* PSYCHE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the soul; spiritual; psychical.

1844 POE *Mesmeric Revelation* Wks. 1864 I. 111 Certain psychal impressions which of late have caused me much anxiety and surprise. *a* 1849 — *Marginalia* xxxvi. ibid. III. 505 To reconcile the psychal impossibility of refraining from admiration, with the too-hastily attained mental conviction that, critically, there is nothing to admire. 1854 WEBSTER cites BAYNE. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Sept. 2/3 Ah God, that loves should roses be! Their thorns our psychal pains.

Psychalgia to **Psychasthenia:** see PSYCHO-.

Psyche (psəi·*ki*, səi·*ki*). [a. Gr. *ψῡχή* (in L. *psȳchē*) breath, f. *ψύχειν* to breathe, to blow, (later) to cool; hence, life (identified with or indicated by the breath); the animating principle in man and other living beings, the source of all vital activities, rational or irrational, the soul or spirit, in distinction from its material vehicle, the *σῶμα* or body; sometimes considered as capable of persisting in a disembodied state after separation from the body at death.

In Mythology, personified as in 1c. By Plato and other philosophers extended to the *anima mundi*, conceived to animate the general system of the universe, as the soul animates the individual organism. By St. Paul (developing a current Jewish distinction between *ruaχ*, *πνεῦμα*, spirit or breath, and *nephesh*, *ψυχή*, soul) used for the lower or merely natural life of man, shared with other animals, in contrast with the *πνεῦμα* or spirit, conceived as a higher element due to divine influence supervening upon the original constitution of unregenerate human nature: see PSYCHIC *a.* 2, PSYCHICAL 2. (For this and other developments in pre-Christian Judaism, and the N. T. writings, see R. H. Charles, *Hist. of the Doctrine of a Future Life*, 1899.)]

1. The soul, or spirit, as distinguished from the body; the mind.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iv. 61 Why the *Psyche* or soul of Tiresias is of the masculine gender. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 279 The two essentials in the composition of all sublunary things were, by the ancient Greeks, termed *psyche* and *kyle*, that is, spiritus et materia, soul and body. 1877 tr. *Virchow* in Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) II. xv. 407 If I explain attraction and repulsion as exhibitions of mind, as psychical phenomena, I simply throw the Psyche out of the window, and the Psyche ceases to be a Psyche. 1879 LEWES *Study Psychol.* 73 The most accredited [ancient] thinkers not only detached Man from Nature, but the Mind from the Organism; they invented a Psyche as the source of all mental phenomena. 1888 *New Princeton Rev.* Mar. 272 Psychology is the science of the *psyche* or soul. 1896 P. GARDNER *Sculptured Tombs Hellas* 24 The psyche, to Homer, is not in the least like the Christian Soul, but is a shadowy double of the man, wanting alike in force and wisdom. 1905 E. J. DILLON in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 287 It is difficult to realise the position and to picture the psyche of Rozhdestvensky [the Russian admiral who fired on the North Sea fishing fleet].

† b. The animating principle of the universe as a whole, the soul of the world or *anima mundi*.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* Notes 138/2 Such is the entrance of Psyche into the body of the Vniverse, kindling and exciting the dead mist. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 21. 388 This is taken by Plotinus to be the Eternal Psyche, that actively produceth All Things, in this Lower World, according to those Divine Ideas. *Ibid.* § 23. 406 But in other places..he frequently asserts, above the Self-moving Psyche an Immovable and Standing Nous or Intellect, which was properly the Demiurgus.

c. In later *Greek Mythology*, personified as the beloved of Eros (Cupid or Love), and represented in works of art as having butterfly wings, or as a butterfly; known in literature as the heroine of the story related in the *Golden Ass* of Apuleius. Hence *attrib.* in sense 'like that of Psyche', as in *Psyche-knot* (of hair), *Psyche-mould, Psyche task.*

1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxi, In the Psyche-mould of Mirah's frame there rested a fervid quality of emotion sometimes rashly supposed to require the bulk of a Cleopatra. 1895 S. B. KENNEDY in *Outing* (U. S.) Oct. 8/2 Do you think this Psyche knot suits the special cut of my features? 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 2/4 After many Psyche tasks Fate-encumbered now unravelled, Hoping there's no more to do. 1904 *Ibid.* 30 Nov. 4/2, I am not quite sure I know what is

'a Psyche knot', which was what the lady's jet-black hair was transformed to.

2. a. (After Gr.) A butterfly.

1878 EMERSON *Soc. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) I. 373 The poor grub..expands into a beautiful form with rainbow wings... The Greeks called it Psyche, a manifest emblem of the soul. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 396/1 Lovelier than any psyche of the sun floating with moons of velvet jet on wings of heaven's blue.

b. *Entom.* A genus of day-flying bombycid moths, typical of the family *Psychidæ*.

1832 RENNIE *Conspect. Butterfl. & Moths* 44 Psyche (Schrank [1801]). The Brown Muslin (*Psyche fusca*)..; pale greyish-brown, without spots;..the female without wings. 1857 STAINTON *Man. Brit. Butterfl. & Moths* 165 Family xi. Psychidæ...The female of *Psyche*, not only without wings, but deprived of legs or antennæ...The males fly by day in search of the females.

3. *Astron.* Name of one of the asteroids.

1883 *Chambers' Encycl.* s. v. *Planetoids*, No. 16. Psyche, [discovered] 1852, Mar. 17 [by] De Gasparis.

4. A cheval-glass; also *psyche-glass*.

[Mod.F. In *Dict. Acad.* 1835. Said to be so called from Raphael's full-length painting of the fabled Psyche.]

1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. v, 'How low the room is..!' said Caroline;..'And I see no Psyche'. 1887 *Athenæum* 18 June 803/3 A girl combing her fair hair before a psyche.

Hence **Psyche'an** *a. rare*, of or pertaining to Psyche; **Psy'cheism** (see quot. 1895).

1828 *Lights & Shades* II. 186 You might have sprained it [your ankle] with more grace in a Psychean quadrille. 1849 J. W. HADDOCK (*title*) Somnolism and Psycheism, otherwise Vital Magnetism, or Mesmerism: considered Physiologically and Philosophically. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Psycheism*, the somnolent condition induced by mesmerism; now most commonly termed the hypnotic state.

Psychiater (ps-, səikəi'ătəɹ). [mod. f. Gr. *ψῡχή* PSYCHE + *ἰᾱτήρ, ἰᾱτρός* healer, physician. So mod.F. *psychiatre* (Littré).] One who treats mental disease: an alienist.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Psychiater*, one who treats diseases of the mind—a Mad-doctor. 1884 *Scotsman* 30 Aug., The psychiater, to whose sympathetic care the unfortunate victim of morbid incitements..is to be committed. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Dec. 4/7 Professor Kraft Ebing, the renowned psychiater of the Vienna University.

Psychiatric (-iæ'trik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as prec. + -IC: cf. Gr. *ἰᾱτρικ-ός* of or pertaining to a healer or to medicine.] Of or pertaining to psychiatry.

1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) Ed. Pref., He turned his attention to the revival of the study of psychiatric medicine. 1890 H. ELLIS *Criminal* ii. 37 [Lombroso] initiated..a psychiatric museum. 1896 *Daily News* 22 Sept. 5/2 The introduction of psychiatric institutions under State control.

B. *sb.* **Psychia'trics** (rarely **-atric, -atrik**). The theory or practice of psychiatry.

1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 1 When we come to the study of psychiatrics proper—the doctrine of the diseases of the mind. 1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Yearbk. Med. & Surg.* 179 On Psychiatrik in its Legal Relations. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 Aug. 3/2 Psychology,..sociology, criminology, psychiatrics, have pronounced it guilty.

So **Psychia'trical** *a.*; **Psychia'trically** *adv.*

1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 287 There is in these words ethically and psychiatrically an important intimation of the dangerous weakness of man. 1884 *Scotsman* 30 Aug., Both parties—the psychiatrical and the philanthropic. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 37 [They] work at the subject from the psychiatrical point of view.

Psychiatrist (ps-, səikəi'ătrist). [f. next + -IST.] A student or professor of psychiatry.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897 URQUHART in *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LII. 320/2 It recalled..the attention of psychiatrists to the physical basis of mental aberration.

Psychiatry (-əi'ătri). [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* PSCYHE + *ἰᾱτρεία* healing, medical treatment (f. *ἰᾱτρός* healer). Cf. mod.F. *psychiatrie* (1867 in Littré).] The medical treatment of diseases of the mind.

1846 in WORCESTER, citing *Monthly Rev.* 1862 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med. & Surg.* 167 Reports in Psychiatry. 1886 A. B. BRUCE *Mirac. Element Gosp.* v. 183 A problem in psychology and psychiatry. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 3 May 1092 The intervention of psychiatry in the reform of criminals.

Psychic (psəi'kik, səi'kik), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. Gr. *ψῡχικ-ός* of the soul or life: in mod.F. *psychique*, as in English.]

1. Of or pertaining to the human soul or mind; mental; = PSYCHICAL *a.* 1.

1873 WAGNER tr. *Teuffel's Hist. Rom. Lit.* I. 422 In its refined descriptions of psychic events the poem recalls Virgil's manner. 1883 *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 14 The varied stimuli, psychic and physical. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 131 Among women his psychic balance was so oddly upset that he grew nervous and returned unhappy.

b. Characterized by being susceptible to psychic or spiritual influence.

1905 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 12 The Welsh are what is termed a 'psychic' race—that is, their senses are very highly strung, which gives them a tendency to second sight, or clairvoyance, also clairaudience and telepathy.

c. Physically delicate or frail; 'spirituelle'.

1891 H. HERMAN *His Angel* 14 The girl was a frail and delicate creature..with tiny, pointed, psychic, rosy-tipped hands.

2. Pertaining to, or characterized by, the 'lower soul' or animal principle, as distinguished from the spirit or 'higher soul'; natural, animal; = PSYCHICAL 2.

After St. Paul's use of *ψυχικός*, 1 Cor. ii. 14, etc.

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 259 It was necessary that the Logos..should..by preoccupation have neutralized the action of the natural (or psychic) element throughout all the years of his continuance among men. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* ix. 376 What St. Paul calls the flesh and the mind, the psychic and the bodily life. 1889 *Bibliotheca Sacra* July 399 The psychic, or animal, man, is the natural man of this present age.

3. = PSYCHICAL *a.* 3.

[1881 *Dr. Gheist, an Autobiogr.* 39 When the 'psychic figure' disappears, or is sucked back into the body of the medium.] 1887 F. JOHNSON *New Psychic Stud.* i. 7 These studies are termed psychic in a modified sense; they pertain not to the ordinary operations of the mind, but to the unusual, such as thought-transference, somnambulism, mesmerism, clairvoyance, spiritualism, apparitions of the living, haunted houses, ghosts [etc.]. 1895 MRS. BESANT in *Daily Chron.* 15 Jan. 5/5 A man..possessing some psychic gifts.

b. *Psychic force*, a supposed force, power, or influence, not physical or mechanical, exhibiting intelligence or volition, and assumed as the cause of certain so-called spiritualistic phenomena.

1871 W. CROOKES in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* July 17 Respecting the cause of these phenomena, the nature of the force to which ..I have ventured to give the name of *Psychic* [etc.]. 1874 CARPENTER *Ment. Phys.* II. xvi. (1879) 632 The table was actually raised, either by his own 'psychic force', or by the agency of disembodied spirits. 1900 tr. *Flammarion's Unknown* vi. 228 We are compelled to admit the existence of an unknown *psychic force*, emanating from the human being, and capable of making itself felt at great distances. 1908 SIR W. CROOKES *Let. to Editor*, It is not improbable that Sergeant Cox might have suggested the term *psychic force* to me in conversation before June 1871.

B. *sb.* **1.** One who is particularly susceptible to 'psychic' influence (see PSYCHICAL 3); a 'medium'.

1871 E. W. COX *Let. to W. Crookes* in *Q. Jrnl. Sci.* July 19, I venture to suggest that the force be termed the *Psychic Force*; the persons in whom it is manifested in extraordinary power *Psychics*; and the science relating to it *Psychism*, as being a branch of *Psychology*. 1874 — *What am I?* II. II. xxiii. 289 He had previously exhibited considerable power as a Psychic. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 1 Nov. 507/2 Hypnotisms, mesmerisms, spiritualisms, and spiritisms, the two latter kept rigidly separate by the orthodox psychic.

2. *Ch. Hist.* See quot., and cf. 2 above.

1874 J. H. BLUNT *Dict. Sects* (1886), *Psychics*, a party name given to the orthodox by the Tertullianists, who called themselves 'Spirituals'...The distinction was drawn from St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians, where he writes of the *ψυχικός*..and the *πνευματικός*.

Psychical (ps-, səi'kikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.]

1. Of or pertaining to the soul or the mind; mental, as distinguished from *physical*; *spec.* in *Path.*, due to mental affection or influence.

(By Henry More distinguished from intellectual; ? = spiritual.) *Psychical blindness, deafness*, inability of the brain to interpret impressions received by the visual or auditory organs; *psychical paralysis*, see quot. 1893.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. III. xxiii, The first we name Nature Monadicall, The second hight Life Intellectuall, Third Psychicall. *Ibid.* Interpr. Gen. Q iv, I understand by life Psychicall, such centrall life as is capable of Æon and Ahad. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ix. (1858) 36 This physical or psychical infirmity..I have..thought right to publish. 1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 18 The proper subject of our inquiries—spirit in its relation to corporeal life, organism in its relation to psychical life. 1874 BUCKNILL & TUKE *Psych. Med.* (ed. 3) 28 The psychical symptoms must then inevitably arrest our attention first in the study of Insanity. 1877 FOSTER *Phys.* III. ii. (1878) 397 The difficulty of distinguishing between the unconscious or physical and the conscious or psychical factors. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* s. v., *Psychical blindness*, soul-blindness. *Psychical deafness*, word-deafness. 1893 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Psychical paralysis*, a paralysis dependent upon psychical defect.. Hysterical paralysis may be considered a psychical paralysis. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 566 Such symptoms as hysteria, neurasthenia and psychical over-strain.

b. Dealing with mental phenomena.

1854 BUCKNILL *Crim. Lunacy* 14 The purely psychical school of insanity has scarcely gained a footing in this country.

2. Representing Gr. *ψυχικός*: Of or pertaining to the animal or natural life of man, as opposed to the spiritual (*πνευματικός*). (See PSYCHE, note.)

The Gr. *ψυχικός* in 1 *Cor.* ii. 14, xv. 44, 46, is opposed to *πνευματικός* spiritual, and is rendered in the Vulgate by *animālis* (whence in Wyclif *beestli*), in Tindale, Cranmer, Coverd., Geneva, and 1611 by *natural(l*, in Rheims by *sensual* and *natural*.

1708 H. DODWELL *Nat. Mort. Hum. Souls* 46 The Psychical Body must be cloathed upon with a Pneumatical Body, must be transformed and transfigured, like the glorious Body of Christ. 1872 LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* iii. 92 The word of God is described..as having..an analytical efficacy which separates as clearly between the spiritual and psychical elements of man's immaterial nature, as between the life of sensation and the life of motion in his corporeal nature. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xx. (1878) 263 A life which, notwithstanding the possession of a spiritual faculty, persists in being animal, or psychical only, is by divine decree transitory and perishable. 1882 *Ch. Q. Rev.* Apr. 128 To try the effect of psychical and carnal methods, because apparent failure attends the use of spiritual methods.

3. Of or pertaining to phenomena and conditions which appear to lie outside the domain of physical law, and are therefore attributed by some to spiritual or hyperphysical agency. *Psychical research*, investigation of such phenomena.

It has been objected that, as these phenomena, etc. are not explained by ordinary known psychical facts and relations, it is an assumption to class them as 'psychical'.

1882 (Feb. 20) *Proc. Soc. Psych. Res.* I. (1883) p. v, The name of the Society is..The Society for Psychical Research. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 5 'Psychical' phenomena. [*Note.*] The specific sense which we have given to this word needs apology. But we could find *no* other convenient term, under which to embrace a group of subjects that lie on or outside the boundaries of recognised science. 1888 BARING-GOULD in *Chambers' Encycl.* s. v. *Apparitions*, In 1882 a Society for Psychical Research was founded for the scientific and systematic investigation of reported apparitions, clairvoyance, haunted houses, hypnotism, thought-reading, and the phenomena called spiritualistic. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 14 May 3/2 Why, he asks, call the subject matter of their investigation 'psychical research', when it is really, so far as it is a legitimate matter for scientific inquiry, only a branch of morbid psychology?

4. *Psychical moment*: see PSYCHOLOGICAL *a.* 2 b.

1904 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Nov. 633 The position of vantage indicated as the psychical moment to strike in.

Psy'chically, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a psychic or psychical manner; with reference to the soul or mind; mentally.

1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superstit.* (1851) 76 What is sleep psychically considered? 1856 *Lamps of Temple* (ed. 3) 105 A little Leo IX—more like him personally and psychically than any other pope. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 97 A state psychically or physically abnormal.

Psychicism (ps-, səi'kisiz'm). [f. PSYCHIC *a.* + -ISM.] The theory or study of psychical or so-called spiritualistic phenomena. So **Psy'chicist,** one who studies psychicism or pursues psychical research.

1885 *Athenæum* 21 Feb. 247/2 We felt it our duty to submit this extraordinary case to an eminent psychicist. 1887 GURNEY *Tertium Quid* I. 254 We psychicists render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's. 1892 *Daily News* 4 Mar. 5/1 More alluring than the theories of Psychicism.

Psychics (ps-, səi'kiks). [f. PSYCHIC *a.*, after earlier sbs. in *-ics* = Gr. *-ικά*: see -IC 2.]

1. The science of psychical or mental phenomena; psychology.

1811-31 BENTHAM *Logic* App., Wks. 1843 VIII. 284/1 Somatology,.. or somatics; psychology, psychognosy, or psychics—to one or other of these denominations will every branch of science, which has for its subject the field of, to us, perceptible existence.., be found referable. 1864 WEBSTER, *Psychics*, psychology. 1908 MISS B. HARRADEN *Interplay* 334 The joint researches in psychics and physics.

2. = *Psychical research*: see PSYCHICAL *a.* 3.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

Psychism (ps-, səi'kiz'm). [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* PSYCHE + -ISM; in sense 1, ad. F. *psychisme*.]

1. See quot.

1857 W. FLEMING *Vocab. Philos.* 407 *Psychism*..is the word chosen by Mons. Quesne (*Lettres sur le Psychisme*, Paris, 1852) to denote the doctrine that there is a fluid, diffused throughout all nature, animating equally all living and organized beings, and that the difference which appears in their actions comes of their particular organization.

2. The attribution of a living soul to the universe, or to inanimate objects and natural phenomena; = ANIMISM.

1890 HATCH *Influence Grk. Ideas* ix. 246 A survival of the primitive psychism which peopled the whole universe with life and animation.

3. The doctrine or theory of the existence of forces unexplainable by physical science in connexion with so-called spiritualistic phenomena.

1871 [see PSYCHIC B. 1]. 1899 GIBIER (*title*) Psychism: Analysis of Things Existing.

4. The character of being psychic or mental.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

So **Psy'chist, a.** A psychologist; **b.** One who believes in psychic force, or who engages in psychical research (*Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1886).

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Psychist*, one who makes a special study of Psychics [= psychology]. 1900 W. W. PEYTON in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 493 The healing of a leper may be done by suggestion, as the psychists tell us.

Psycho- (psəi'ko-, səi'ko-), before a vowel regularly **psych-**, repr. Gr. *ψῡχο-, ψῡχ-*, combining form of *ψῡχή* breath, life, soul. In modern use, since the 17th c., taken as a formative in the sense of 'mind', 'psychic organism', 'mental', 'psychical', mainly in scientific compounds, for the more important of which see their alphabetical places. The following are chiefly 19th century formations. (The second element is properly from Greek, but in some cases from Latin.)

Psycha'lgia [Gr. *ἄλγος* pain], (see quot.). † **Psycha'ndric** *a.* [irreg. f. Gr. *ἀνηρ, ἀνδρ-* man], ? pertaining to the mind of man. **Psychasthe'nia** [ASTHENIA], (see quot. 1908); hence **Psychasthe'nic** *a.*, pertaining to or affected with psychasthenia. **Psycho-au'ditory** *a.*, connected with the mental perception of sound (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Psy'choblast** [-BLAST], the germ from which the psychic organism is (hypothetically) developed. **Psychoce'ntral** *a.*, having its centre in the mind. **Psychoco'ma** [COMA 1], mental stupor. **Psychodo'meter** [cf. HODOMETER], an instrument proposed for measuring the duration of mental processes. **Psycho-e'thical** *a.*,

of or pertaining to inborn moral ideas. **Psycho·fugal** *a.* [after CENTRIFUGAL], tending away from the mind. **Psychogeusic** (-giū·sik) *a.* [Gr. γεῦσις taste], relating to mental perception of taste. **Psychognosy** (-ɒgnō·sis), also in mod.L. form **psychognosis** (-ɒgnōu·sis), (*a*) the investigation or knowledge of mental phenomena; (*b*) thought-reading. **Psycho-histo·rical** *a.*, pertaining to the history of the mind or soul. **Psycho-hy·lism** [HYLISM], the belief that the soul is material; so **Psycho-hy·list**, one who holds this belief. **Psycho·latry**, excessive reverence for the soul; worship of departed spirits. **Psy·cholepsy** [Gr. λῆψις seizing], 'possession', ecstasy; so **Psychole·ptic** *a.*, characterized by psycholepsy. **Psychomo·nism** [MONISM]: see quot. **Psychoneuro·logy**, the division of neurology which deals with psychology. **Psychoneuro·sis**, mental disease, *esp.* without organic lesion or recognized mental weakening. **Psycho·nomy** [see -NOMY], the branch of psychology dealing with the laws of mental action. **Psychonoso·logy** [NOSOLOGY], the branch of medical science which treats of mental disease (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1853). **Psycho-o·ptic** *a.*, relating to the mental perception of sight (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Psycho-o·smic** [Gr. ὀσμή smell], pertaining to mental perception of smell (Billings *Med. D.* 1890). **Psychopa·resis** [PARESIS], mental debility. **Psycho·petal** *a.* [after CENTRIPETAL], tending towards the mind. **Psycho·phony** [Gr. φωνή voice]: see quot. **Psycho·ptic** *a.*, producing vision of the mind or soul. **Psychopy·rism** [Gr. πῦρ fire], the belief that fire is the substance of the soul; so **Psychopy·rist**, one holding this belief. **Psycho-re·flex** *a.*, of or pertaining to 'reflex' action of the mind. **Psycho·rrhagy**, ‖ **Psychorrha·gia** [Gr. ῥαγή breaking, rupture], detachment of the soul or psychic element; hence **Psychorrha·gic** *a.* **Psy·chorrhythm**, an alternating or rhythmic psychic condition (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*). **Psychosa·rcous** *a.* [Gr. σάρξ, σαρκ- flesh], having a spiritual body. **Psy·choscope**, a means or instrument for inspecting the mind or soul. **Psycho-senso·rial** *a.*, of or pertaining to percepts not produced by any real action on the senses; so **Psycho-se·nsory** *a.* (Billings 1890). **Psycho-sociolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to sociology as connected with psychology. **Psycho-soma·tic** *a.* [Gr. σῶμα body], pertaining to both mind and body (*Cent. Dict.*). **Psycho·sophy**, the philosophy or metaphysics of mind (*Cent. Dict.*); so **Psycho·sophist**. **Psychothe·ism** [Gr. θεός God], the doctrine of the absolute spirituality of God. **Psycho-vi·tal** *a.*, pertaining to the mind as connected with life. **Psychozo·ic** *a.*, of or belonging to the geological period of living creatures having souls or minds, i. e. the human period.

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Psychalgia*, painful melancholy state of mind. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Diss. Physick* 21 The great *Psycandrick as well as Somandrick Secret of the Chymical Grand Elixir. 1906 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 229 All the neuroses should be classified with neurasthenia under one generic title *Psychasthenia. 1908 E. WORCESTER *Relig. & Med.* (N. Y.) 115 Psychasthenia..a form of nervous weakness in which the psychical element is dominant. *Ibid.*, *Psychasthenic patients find it difficult to come to a decision..and this inability troubles them. 1889 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 12/1 Instead of the association of mental atoms, we are coming to the idea of segmentation of a *psychoblast, if we may invent such a term. 1892 *Monist* II. 293 In experimental psychology, psychopetal, psychofugal, and *psychocentral processes are distinguished. 1883 CLOUSTON *Clin. Lect. Mental Dis.* i. 18, I can devise no better name than the usual one of Stupor...'*Psychocoma' would express this condition. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Psychodometer. 1892 D. HACK TUKE *Dict. Psychol. Med.* II, *Psychodometer*, an instrument for measuring the rapidity of psychic events. 1892 *Psychofugal [see *psycho-central*]. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, **Psychogeusic centre*, supposed centre for perception of taste, in the gyrus uncinatus. 1891 *Daily News* 16 Feb. 3/6 '*Psychognosis' at the Royal Aquarium.—This is the title which M. Guibal has adopted for a new and certainly very remarkable development of..the thought-reading process. 1811-31 *Psychognosy [see PSYCHICS 1]. 1840 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 60, I am going to write a tragedy...It will be *psycho-historical. 1682 H. MORE *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 194 There being nothing absurd in Psychopyrism but so far forth as it includes *Psycho-Hylism, and makes the soul material. *Ibid.* 193 There is no more harshness in calling him Psychopyrist, than if he had called him *Psycho-Hylist. 1868 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 229 There is that *psycholatry in it which is characteristic of the writer. 1878 MAX MÜLLER *Lect. Orig. & Growth Relig.* ii. 116 Psycholatry. Lastly, great reverence is paid to the spirits of the departed. 1886 MAUDSLEY *Nat. Causes & Supernat. Seemings* 351 Theologian and philosopher alike exhibit the strained functions of a sort of *psycholepsy. *Ibid.* 352 His success in such *psycholeptic sleights of thought. 1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 497 Their *psychomonism asserts..one thing only exists and that is my own mind. 1865 R. T. STOTHARD (*title*) *Psychoneurology: A Treatise on the Mental Faculties, as governed and developed by the Animal Nature, 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1883 CLOUSTON *Clin. Lect. Mental Dis.* i. 18 The insane temperament or *neurosis insana*, or, to keep up uniformity of the classification, *Psychoneurosis. 1803 J. STEWART *Opus Maximum* Title-p., *Psyconomy; or, the science of the moral powers. 1841 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* II. 76 *Psychonomy*, or the laws of mind, comprising the study of Languages, Metaphysics, Jurisprudence and Religion. 1865 R. BEAMISH (*title*) The Psychonomy of the Hand; or, the Hand an Index of Mental Development. 1883 CLOUSTON *Clin. Lect. Mental Dis.* i. 18 When the morbid condition is one of mental enfeeblement it is called Dementia or Amentia...It might be called *Psychoparesis. 1892 *Psychopetal [see *psychocentral*]. 1876 A. BLACKWELL *Kardec's Medium's Bk.* 447 **Psychophony*, the communication of spirits by the voice of a speaking medium. 1744 'J. PHILANDER' (*title*) The Golden Calf, the Idol Worship,..with Account of the *Psychoptic Looking Glass, lately invented by the author. 1682 *Psychopyrism [see *psycho-hylism*]. 1681 H. MORE *Answ. Lett. Psychopyrist* To Rdr., in *Glanvill's Sadducismus* (ed. 2), The *Psychopyrists..make the Essence or Substance of all created Spirits to be Fire. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 338 The doubtful relation of the optic thalamus to *psycho-reflex mimetic movements. 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* I. 263, I propose to use the Greek word ψυχορραγῶ..'to let the soul break loose', and from which I form the words **psychorrhagy* and **psychorrhagic*. *Ibid.* 270 A clairvoyant excursion (of a more serious type than the mere psychorrhagies already described). *Ibid.* II. 75 Those phantasms of the living which I have already classed as psychorrhagic. 1902 W. M. ALEXANDER *Demonic Possession in N. T.* i. 33 They [demons] are 'half spirits' and are therefore possessed of a semi-sensuous or *psycho-sarcous constitution. 1885 MYERS in *Proc. Soc. Psych. Research* May 61 Somnambulism, double-consciousness, epilepsy, insanity itself, are all of them natural *psychoscopes. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 71 The first attempts of his rude psychoscopes to give precision and actuality to thought will grope among 'beggarly elements'. *Ibid.* I. 463 If Baillarger did not carry his view of hallucinations to this length, the whole development exists by implication in the term by which he described them—*psycho-sensorial. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 775 In those patients who experience such *psycho-sensory auræ there is a strong tendency to mental derangement. 1903 GREENSTREET tr. *Duprat* (title) Morals: A Treatise on the *Psycho-Sociological Bases of Ethics. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 22 (1822) I. 176 A part of wisdom which our modern *psychosophists are so apt to forget. 1842 MARG. FULLER in *Mem.* (1862) I. 246 It would seem to approach the faith of some of my friends here, which has been styled *Psychotheism. 1877 LE CONTE *Elem. Geol.* (1879) 269 The *Psychozoic era, or era of Mind. *Ibid.* 561 The Neolithic commences the Psychozoic era, or reign of man.

Psychodynamic (ps-, səi·kodinæ·mik), *a.* [f. PSYCHO- + DYNAMIC *a.*] Of or pertaining to mental powers or activities. Hence **Psychodyna·mics**, the science of the laws of mental action.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 134 *Psychodynamics.* From the biological stand-point our first division of the Organism is into Affective and Active, which division represents the reception of stimulus, and the discharge of force: sensation, and movement. *Ibid.* 142 Here we may note two Psychodynamic laws, 1°, of Irradiation, and, 2°, of Restriction. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 July 1/3 He was appointed assistant to the Professor of Psycho-Dynamics.

Psychogenesis (ps-, səikoⱼdʒe·nèsis). [f. PSYCHO- + GENESIS 4.]

1. The genesis or origin of the soul or mind.

1838 *Fraser's Mag.* XVII. 27 Was there any tradition on the earth, below the earth, or above the earth, of the Psychogenesis? 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 226 Psychogenesis..teaches that Instinct is organized Experience, i. e. undiscursive Intelligence. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reason* 262 Whether we look to the psychogenesis of the individual or that of the race.

2. Origin or evolution due to the activity of the soul or mind itself.

1881 MIVART *Cat* 526 This mode of origin may—as opposed to the hypothesis of natural selection—be fitly termed Psychogenesis. 188. — in *Forum* VII. 102 (Cent. Dict.) Specific change must be, above all, due to the action of an organism's innermost life:..it must be a result of a process of psychogenesis.

So **Psychogene·tical** *a.*, of or pertaining to psychogenesis; **Psychogene·tically** *adv.*, in relation to, or in respect of, psychogenesis; **Psychogeny** (-ɒ·dʒèni) = PSYCHOGENESIS 1.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 140 All such distinctions are psychological, not psychogenetical. 1874 J. FISKE *Cosmic Philos.* I. 1. viii. 221 Psychogeny..endeavours to interpret the genesis of intellectual faculties and emotional feelings in the race, and their slow modifications throughout countless generations. 1879 LEWES *Study Psychol.* 157 The Psychologist must include Psychogeny in his investigations, as the Physiologist includes Embryogeny. 1881 *Jrnl. Specul. Philos.* XV. 161 Hardly a day passes in which there is not an observation to enter in the diary, which is of value psychogenetically. 1889 *Athenæum* 5 Jan. 12/1 Psychogenetically Mr. Romanes's position is opposed to all we know or can conjecture as to the beginnings of mind in the animal world or in the human individual.

Psychogeusic, etc.: see PSYCHO-.

Psychogony (-ɒ·gŏni). [ad. Gr. ψῡχογονία generation of the soul, f. ψῡχο-, PSYCHO- + -γονία begetting, generating.] = PSYCHOGENESIS 1. So **Psychogo·nic** [ad. Gr. ψῡχογονικ-ός], **Psychogo·nical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to psychogony.

[1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 214 Plutarch..., in his Timæan psychogonia,..does at large industriously maintain the same.] 1874 SIDGWICK *Meth. Ethics* (1877) 185 The psychogonical question of their origin, and the ethical question of their validity. 1886 *Athenæum* 21 Aug. 235/3 It deals rather with psychogony, or how mind came to be what it is, than with psychology, or the description of mind as it is.

Psy·chogram (ps-, səi·kɒgræm). [f. PSYCHO- + -GRAM.] A 'spirit-writing'; a writing or message supposed to come from a spirit, or to be produced by psychical agency.

1885 in Pember *Earth's Earliest Ages* (1893) Pref. 13 Pains in the lower part of the back, which cease as soon as the psychogram is completed. 1896 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 426 This psychogram, as Mr. Rogers calls it, certainly competes in interest with the now famous skeleton hand of Professor Röntgen.

Psy·chograph. [f. as prec. + -GRAPH.] An instrument by means of which psychograms or spirit-writings are written; also = PSYCHOGRAM. So **Psycho·grapher** [see -GRAPHER], an instrument or medium by which spirit-writings are written.

1854 DICKENS *Lett., to Rev. J. White* 7 Mar., A thing called a Psychographer, which writes at the dictation of spirits. 1876 A. BLACKWELL *Kardec's Medium's Bk.* 447 *Psychographer*...A person who writes by psychography; a writing medium. 1882 'M. A. OXON.' *Psychography* (ed. 2) 11 The book is illustrated by thirty fac-similes of Psychographs thus obtained. *Ibid.* 12 He..obtained his..Psychographs by the simple process of putting blank paper on the table of his room.

Psychographic (ps-, səikoⱼgræ·fik), *a.* [f. next + -IC.] Of or pertaining to psychography; in quot., in sense 2.

1884 *Manch. Exam.* 1 Nov. 5/1 Mr. Gladstone has paid a visit to..the spirit-writing medium..witnessing psychographic phenomena of a very high order.

Psychography (ps-, səikɒ·grăfi). [f. Gr. ψῡχο-, PSYCHO- + -γραφία, -GRAPHY.]

1. The history, description, or delineation of the mind or soul, or of mind in the abstract; the descriptive branch of PSYCHOLOGY.

[*a* 1850: cf. *Autopsychography* s.v. AUTO-.] 1883 SAINTSBURY in *Academy* 20 Jan. 36/3 This faculty of what may be called psychography, of drawing the landscape of moods with atmosphere and environment suitable and complete. 1895 W. ARCHER in *Daily Chron.* 6 Nov. 3/1 You aim, then, at a sort of spiritual biography of your subject—what has recently been called a psychography.

2. Supposed 'spirit-writing' by the hand or intervention of a medium; cf. PNEUMATOGRAPHY 1.

1876 A. BLACKWELL *Kardec's Medium's Bk.* 447 *Psychography*, the writing of spirits by a medium's hand. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Sept. 3/1 He laughed at the Psychical Society...But he would slate-write before anybody. Psychography, he called it.

Psychohylism, etc.: see PSYCHO-.

Psychologer (ps-, səikɒ·lödʒəɹ). [f. PSYCHOLOG-Y + -ER[1]: cf. *astrologer*.] = PSYCHOLOGIST.

1848 HARE *Guesses* Ser. II. (ed. 2) 44 He..may be a skilful logician or psychologer, but has no claim to the high title of a philosopher. 1851 MANSEL *Proleg. Logica* ii. 52 In the present state of Psychology..no one division having been so universally adopted by philosophers,..as to render imperative its adoption as the division κατ' ἐξοχήν of psychologers.

Psychologian (-ɒlōu·dʒiăn). [f. mod.L. *psȳchologia* PSYCHOLOGY + -AN.] = PSYCHOLOGIST.

1860 W. G. WARD *Nat. & Grace* I. 288 It is commonly held..by psychologians. 1873 — *Ess. Philos. Theism* (1884) I. 123 We consider that no really profound psychologian can be..a phenomenist.

Psychologic (-ɒlɒ·dʒik), *a.* [f. as PSYCHOLOG-Y + -IC.] Of or belonging to psychology.

a 1787 MATY *Germ. Writers to* 1780 (T.), His psychologic knowledge and experience. 1809 W. TAYLOR in *Crit. Rev.* Ser. III. XVI. 453 The psychologic part of the commentary. 1895 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* xiv. 304 Force it into a psychologic mould and conduct it by psychologic methods. 1903 MYERS *Human Personality* I. 319 Interesting from a psychologic, as well as clinical point of view.

Hence **Psycholo·gics**, *rare*, psychological matters or doctrines; psychology.

1819 SHELLEY *P. Bell Third* VI. xiv, Five thousand crammed octavo pages Of German psychologics.

Psychological (ps-, səikɒlɒ·dʒikăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. as PSYCHOLOG-Y + -ICAL.]

1. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of psychology; dealing with or relating to psychology.

1812 D'ISRAELI *Calam. Auth.* Pref. 5, I would paint what has not been unhappily called the psychological character. [*Note*] From the Grecian *Psyche*, or the soul, the Germans have borrowed this expressive term. 1818 COLERIDGE *Diss. Sc. Method* ii. 40 Shakespeare was pursuing two Methods at once; and besides the Psychological Method, he had also to attend to the Poetical. [*Note*] We beg pardon for the use of this insolens verbum: but it is one of which our Language stands in great need. We have no single term to express the Philosophy of the Human Mind. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xv. 382 Whether the minds of men and women are or are not alike; are obviously psychological questions. 1879 G. ALLEN *Colour Sense* iii. 27 To trace out a few of the main steps in the evolution of such organs, from the strictly psychological point of view.

2. Loosely used for PSYCHICAL: Of or pertaining to the objects of psychological study, of or pertaining to the mind, mental: opposed to *physical*.

1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xvii. 272 Powers peculiar to that psychological unity which we call the mind. 1823 BENTHAM *Not Paul* 258 Some physical process, to which in so many minds, the psychological effect in question has, by the influence of artifice on weakness, been attached. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 63 The greatest variations, both in structure and in psychological characters. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* lxxxii, Discourse about the Suez Canal..can be carried on without any psychological effort. 1907 ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trin.* xi. 223 Different generations have lived on very different psychological levels, and with very different degrees of psychological intensity.

b. *Psychological moment*, = F. *moment psychologique*, applied to 'the moment in which the mind is in actual expectation of something that is to happen' (Hatzfeld *Dict. Général*); the psychologically (or rather, *psychically*) appropriate moment; often misused for 'the critical moment', 'the very nick of time', without any reference to psychology or to the mind.

The French expression arose in Paris in December 1870, during the Siege, when it was asserted to have been used by the German *Kreuz Zeitung* in reference to the bombardment of the city, and explained to mean that, as the bombardment had as its aim to act upon the imagination of the Parisians, it was necessary to choose the very moment when this imagination, already shaken by famine and perhaps by civil dissension, was in the fittest state to be effectively acted upon. (Sarcey, *Le Siège de Paris*, 1871, p. 263; Eng. tr. p. 242.) But the phrase with its explanation was due to an error of translation, in which the expression actually used by the German journal, *das psychologische Moment*, the psychological 'momentum', potent element, or factor, in the case (see MOMENTUM 5, MOMENT 9), was mistaken for *der psychologische Moment*, the psychological moment of time. The article in the *Neue Preussische* (Kreuz) *Zeitung* of 16 Dec. 1870, p. 1, col. 3, says that very cogent psychological considerations spoke against opening the bombardment before the hopes built by the Parisians upon the raising of the siege by armies of relief should be overthrown; and continued 'in all considerations the psychological momentum or factor must be allowed to play a prominent part, for without its co-operation there is little to be hoped from the work of the artillery'. Thus attributed to German pedantry, the nonsensical *moment psychologique* was ridiculed by the Parisians, and became a jocular phrase or 'tag' for 'the fitting or proper moment'; and with this connotation it has passed equally nonsensically into English journalese.

1871 tr. *Sarcey's Siege of Paris* x. 243 The phrase became current and even fashionable. One used to say 'I feel hungry; it is the psychological moment for sitting down to table'. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 3/4 Unless we cable to New York, there is nothing to do but to forego turns and commissions at the very psychological moment. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 2/1 The Prince is always in the background, and turns up at the psychological moment—to use a very hard-worked and sometimes misused phrase. 1901 *Scotsman* 17 Mar. 7/5 This was the psychological moment of the whole operations and .. De Wet took advantage of it. 1907 *Expositor* Sept. 270 'Hour' in this Gospel means..a psychological moment in the evolution of the Messianic consciousness full of significance for the Saviour's purpose.

B. *sb.* (elliptical use of adj.: cf. MEDICAL B. 1). A student or professor of psychology.

1863 READE *Hard Cash* II. 355, I have accumulated..a large collection of letters from persons deranged in various degrees, and studied them minutely, more minutely than most Psychologicals study anything but Pounds, Shillings, and Verbiage. *Ibid.* III. 366 Oh, logic of psychologicals!

Hence **Psycholo·gicalism** *nonce-wd.*, a psychological system or practice.

1893 J. REINACH in *Athenæum* 1 July 14/3 Midway between the naturalism of M. Zola and the 'psychologicalism' (the barbarous word must be forgiven) of M. Bourget.

Psycholo·gically, *adv.* [-LY 2.] In a psychological manner; in relation to psychology.

1830 MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 63 That the whole of Hobbes's system..depended on his political scheme; not indeed logically, as conclusions depend upon premises, but (if the word may be excused) psychologically, as the formation of one opinion may be influenced by a disposition to adapt it to others previously cherished. 1839 *Fraser's Mag.* XX. 712 Which, contemplated historically, psychologically, morally,..holds out..abundant matter. 1879 GLADSTONE *Glean.* I. i. 57 A certain reception of Christ, not easy to describe psychologically.

Psychologism (-ɒ'lŏdʒiz'm). *Philos.* [f. PSYCHOLOG-Y + -ISM.] Idealism as opposed to sensationalism: see IDEALISM 1.

1858 O. A. BROWNSON *Wks.* V. 230 The philosophy of old school Presbyterianism in so far as it recognizes the activity of the subject at all..is mere psychologism. 1874 MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* II. App. II. 479 The philosophic revolution which began with Descartes..manifested itself in the two forms of Psychologism (or Idealism), and Sensualism,—represented by Descartes and Malebranche on the one side, and by Locke and Condillac on the other. 1907 in *Expositor* July 27 The transcendental logical tendency which, excluding all empiricism and psychologism, aims to deduce the fundamental characteristics and categories of knowing from pure concepts.

Psychologist (ps-, səikɒ'lŏdʒist). [f. PSYCHOLOG-Y + -IST: cf. *physiologist*.] One who makes a study of, or is skilled in psychology; a student or teacher of the science of mental phenomena.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Psychologist*, one who treats concerning the soul. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. vi. 113 Many eminent physiologists and psychologists visited the town. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xi. (1862) 30 A metaphysician, or as some of my contemporaries would affect to say, a psychologist. 1859 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 290 The real point of separation between the à priori and the à posteriori psychologists.

Psychologize (ps-, səikɒ'lŏdʒəiz), *v.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To study or treat of psychology; to theorize, speculate, or reason psychologically.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XL. 255 *note*, When a man comes to bound the subjects of human enquiry, by showing how in nature the human mind does, and can become possessed of the matter of its knowledge, he is then..psychologizing. 1884 W. JAMES in *Mind* IX. 5 Why, since the feeling has no proper subjective name of its own, we should hesitate to psychologise about it as 'the feeling of that relation'.

2. *trans.* To analyse or describe psychologically.

1856 MASSON *Ess., Milton's Youth* 46 When, by psychologizing a man, it is supposed we can tell what course of life he is fit for. 1891 F. M. WILSON *Primer Browning* 16 He is as interested in psychologising a Paris jeweller as a queen.

3. To render psychological.

[1811–31: implied in PSYCHOLOGIZATION: see below.]

4. To subject to 'psychical' influence.

1885 A. P. SINNETT *Karma* II. 11 Quite unaware of the fact that he had been psychologized so as to wish this. 1886 *Atlantic Monthly* Nov. 592/1 Is the non-concurrence of the obstinate juryman in a righteous verdict owing to an honest conviction, or has he been unconsciously psychologized by the lawyer who has the biggest fee in his pocket?

Hence **Psycho·logizing** *vbl. sb.*; also **Psychologiza·tion,** the action of making psychological.

1811–31 BENTHAM *Lang.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 318/2 Spiritualization or psychologization, in so far as any name of any physical substance, operation, or quality [is applied] to any correspondent .. psychological substance, operation, or quality. 1860 *Chr. Remembr.* XL. 477 No doubt that psychologizing is dangerous.

Psy·chologue (-ŏlɒg). *rare*⁻¹. [a. F. *psychologue* (Ch. Bonnet 1760 in Hatz.-Darm.), f. L. type **psȳchologus*: see next.] = PSYCHOLOGIST.

1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 178 Psychologues like Sulzer might declare that the scourge of right thinking was to be found in 'those philosophers who..assume that they have overthrown by a single smart trope truths only to be known by combining a multitude of observations'.

Psychology (ps-, səikɒ'lŏdʒi). Also (erron.) 7 psuco-, 7–8 psyco-, 8 psicho-. [ad. mod.L. *psȳchologia* (16th c.), f. Gr. ψῡχο-, PSYCHO- + -LOGY; in F. and Ger. *psychologie*. See note below.]

The science of the nature, functions, and phenomena of the human soul or mind.

Comparative Psychology, the study of mind or intelligence as developed in man and animals.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) 13/2 *Anthropologia*, the Description of a Man, or the Doctrin concerning him. Bartholine divides it into Two Parts; viz. *Anatomy*, which treats of the Body, and *Psycology*, which treats of the Soul. *Ibid.* 22/1 *Psucologie*, which Treats of the Soul. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. 354 Psychology, or the Theory of the human Mind, with that of the intellectual Principles of Brute Animals. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 187 A circumstance very interesting with respect to Psichology. 1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1877) I. viii. 129 Psychology..strictly so denominated, is the Science conversant about the phaenomena or modifications, or States of the Mind, or Conscious Subject, or Soul or Spirit, or Self or Ego. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* IV. iv. (1857) I. 241 Hugo de St. Victor.. the first of the scholastic writers who made psychology his special study. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 486 Psychology is, with respect to mankind, the history of the mental faculties. 1879 HUXLEY *Hume* II. i, Psychology is a part of the science of life or biology...As the physiologist inquires into the way in which the so-called 'functions' of the body are performed, so the psychologist studies the so-called 'faculties' of the mind.

b. A treatise on, or system of, psychology.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. II. 779 He [Mr. John Seymour] had likewise just completed the printing of a volume from the French intituled 'Psychology'. 1866 FERRIER *Grk. Philos.* I. x. 231 The doctrine taught in all our logics and psychologies. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 110 The Philosophy of Spinoza results in the Psychology of Hume.

[*Note.* Neither this word nor any of the group existed in Greek. *Psychology* began, in the modern Latin form *psychologia*, in Germany in the 16th c. It is said by Volkmann von Volkmar, *Lehrbuch der Psychologie*, 1875, I. 38, to have been used by Melanchthon as title of a prelection, and it was employed by J. T. Freigius in 1575; but was introduced into literature, 1590–97, by Goclenius of Marburg and his pupil Casmann (*Psychologia anthropologica. sive animæ humanæ doctrina*). It was thenceforth usual to consider *Psychologia* and *Somatotomia* or *Somatologia* as the two parts of *Anthropologia*, and in this sense the word is found frequently in the medical writers of the 17th c., as in Blancard's *Lexicon Medicum*, 1679, and in French in Dionis, *Anatomie de l'Homme*, 1690. Our first Eng. quot. of 1693 is from a transl. of Blancard. In French, according to Hatzfeld-Darmesteter, it had been used in the 16th c. by Taillepied in the sense of 'the science of the apparition of spirits'. In a philosophical sense, it was used by some (Latin) writers, as by Thomas Govan (*Ars Sciendi sive Logica*, 1682), by whom *Physica* or Natural Science was divided into the domains of *Pneumatologia* the science of spirits or spiritual beings, and *Somatologia* or *Physiologia* the science of material bodies; *Pneumatologia* contained the three subdivisions, *Theologia* the doctrine of God, *Angelographia* (incl. *Demonologia*) the doctrine of angels (and devils), and *Psychologia* the doctrine of human souls. The modern sense begins with Chr. von Wolff (*Psychologia Empirica* 1732, *Psychologia Rationalis* 1734); followed by Hartley in England 1748, and Bonnet in France 1755. The term was also employed by Kant, but was not much used in the modern languages before the 19th c.]

†**Psychomachy** (ps-, səikɒ'măki). *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *psȳchomachia* 'conflict of the soul' (title of a poem of Prudentius *c* 400); cf. Gr. ψυχο-μαχία 'fight for life' (Polybius); f. Gr. ψυχή life, soul + μάχη fight.] Conflict of the soul.

1629 GAULE *Holy Madnesse* 112, I haue prophesied the number, order, and event of a Mysticall Pseuchomachie. 1656 BLOUNT *Glosso.*, *Psychomachy*, a war betwixt the soul and body. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Psychomachy*, a conflict, or war of the Soul.

Psychomancy (ps-, səikɒ'mænsi). [ad. Gr. type *ψῡχομαντεία, f. ψῡχόμαντις a necromancer: see PSYCHO- and -MANCY.]

†1. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 165 Psychomancy, divining by mens souls, affections, wills, religious or morall dispositions.

†2. Divination through communication with the spirits of the dead; necromancy. *Obs.*

1684 I. MATHER *Remark. Provid.* (1856) 150, I dare not believe that the Holy God or the true Samuel would seem so far to countenance necromancie or psycomancy as this would be, should the soul of Samuel really return into the world when the witch called for him. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. II. XXVIII. (1852) 503.

b. Occult intercommunication between souls or with spirits.

1865 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Dec. 710 American novels..are constantly running off into a strange religious transcendentalism, and psychomancy, and all sorts of mystic extravagances. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 11/1 He found so many facts beyond his power of explanation, that..he concluded to start a rational search into psychomancy.

So **Psychoma·ntic** *a.*, of or pertaining to psychomancy. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Psychometer (-ɒ'mĭtəɹ). [f. PSYCHO- + -METER (cf. PSYCHOMETRY: in sense 1 as in *geometer*).]

1. One who has the psychometric faculty, or practises psychometry (sense 1).

1863 DENTON *Nature's Secrets* 97, I have repeatedly tried to influence the minds of Psychometers, when making examinations, and at all times without success. 1878 J. R. BUCHANAN *Psychophysiol. Sc.* 72 The psychometer is not allowed even to see the manuscript, which is used by placing it on the centre of his forehead. 1903 *Daily Rec. & Mail* 10 Sept. 5 If you be a good psychometer you will by and bye be able to see as in a mental photograph the person who formerly possessed the object.

2. A means of, or (supposed) instrument for, appreciating the quality and powers of a mind.

1867 O. W. HOLMES *Guard. Angel* xiii. (1891) 157 To know whether a minister, young or still in flower, is in safe or dangerous paths, there are two psychometers. 1889 G. HUNTINGTON in *Chicago Advance* 31 Jan., I seriously believe that I have grown an intellectual inch...Is there such an instrument as a psychometer, do you know?

Psychometric (-me'trik), *a.* [f. next + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of psychometry (in either sense).

1854 J. R. BUCHANAN *Lect. Neurolog. Syst. Anthropol.* 124 Old manuscripts requiring an antiquary to decipher their strange old penmanship, were easily interpreted by the psychometric power. 1878 — *Psychophysiol. Sc.* 73 Physicians who..use their psychometric power for the diagnosis of the condition of patients at a distance. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 22 Mar. 7/7 According to Mr. Brailey, the psychometric influence of relics and charms has been proved.

So **Psychome·trical** *a.* = prec.; **Psychome·trically** *adv.*, according to psychometry, in the manner of a psychometer; **Psycho·metrist,** one who practises psychometry; = PSYCHOMETER 1.; **Psycho·metrize** *v.*, *trans.* to practise psychometry upon; to deal with psychometrically.

1868 DIXON *Spir. Wives* II. 253 She was a medium possessed of *psychometrical powers. 1863 DENTON *Nature's Secrets* 130 A lady who, on examining a specimen *psychometrically, not only goes to the spot from which the specimen was obtained, but has the sensation of travelling while doing so. 1900 *Referee* 4 Mar. 2, I enter into rivalry with the palmists and *psychometrists and prophets and prophetesses. 1903 W. T. STEAD in *Review of Rev.* July 32/1 A psychometrist..was to give a demonstration of her capacity. 1863 DENTON *Nature's Secrets* 99 The complete identification at times of the Psychometer with the thing *psychometrized..is one of the remarkable facts developed by our experiments. 1894 P. TYNER in *Boston Arena* June 44 Through the sense of physical touch..one is first brought, on 'psychometrizing' an object, into a vivid perception of an aura or atmosphere surrounding it.

Psychometry (ps-, səikɒ'mĕtri). [f. Gr. ψῡχο-, PSYCHO- + -μετρια measuring; lit. 'soul-' or 'mind-measuring', but the application in sense 1 does violence to the etymology.]

1. The (alleged) faculty of divining, from physical contact or proximity only, the qualities or properties of an object, or of persons or things that have been in contact with it.

1854 J. R. BUCHANAN *Lect. Neurolog. Syst. Anthropol.* 125 The influence of Psychometry will be highly valuable..in the selection from candidates for appointments to important offices. 1863 DENTON *Nature's Secrets* Introd. 9 Mrs. Denton, by means of this science of Psychometry, professes to be able, by putting a piece of matter..to her forehead, to see, either with her eyes closed or open, all that that piece of matter, figuratively speaking, ever saw, heard, or experienced. 1903 W. T. STEAD in *Review of Rev.* July 33/2 An experiment in psychometry.

2. The measurement of the duration and intensity of mental states or processes.

1883 *Athenæum* 7 July 20/2 He [Mr. F. Galton] has established by his example and initiation the science of psychometry, and pointed to the line of inquiry on which the scientific portions of psychology can alone become scientific. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 2/1 Dr. Scripture's experiments in the psychometry of time, energy, and space.

Psy·cho-mo·tor, *a.* [f. PSYCHO- + MOTOR.] Inducing movement by psychic or mental action; involving such movement.

1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* XIV. 699 Neither do I see any advantage to be gained from the use of the term 'psycho-motor' to denote voluntary movements. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Psycho-motor centres*, brain-centres producing voluntary movements. *P.-m. nerve-fibres*, cortico-muscular nerve-fibres. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 392 This phenomenon has been described under the name of psycho-motor verbal hallucination.

Psycho-neurology to -osmic: see PSYCHO-.

Psychopannychy (psəikɒpæ'niki). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [ad. med.L. *psȳchopannychia*, f. Gr.

ψῡχο-, comb. f. *ψῡχή* soul + *παννύχιος* lasting all night.] All-night sleep of the soul; a state in which (according to some) the soul sleeps between death and the day of judgement. So **Psy·chopanny·chian** (psəi·kŏˌpănni·kiăn), **-pa·nnychist, -pa·nnychite,** one holding this doctrine; **Psychopa·nnychism,** the doctrine of the psychopannychists; **Psy·chopannychi·stic** *a.*, pertaining to the psychopannychists or their belief.

[1545 CALVIN (*title*) Psychopannychia, qua refellitur [eorum] error, qui animas post mortem usque ad ultimum iudicium dormire putant.] 1872 tr. *Lange's Comm. 1 Thess.* iv. 13. 73/1 Calvin and others oppose with reason the *Psychopannichians. 1877 SHIELDS *Final Philos.* 195 The first of these views was known as *psychopannychism, or the total sleep of the soul. 1659 GAUDEN *Tears Ch.* 283 No more..than the Saducees might deny and overthrow the resurrection against Christ; or the *Psychopannuchists, the souls immortality. 1891 *New Rev.* July 29 Another state, either *psychopannychistic, that is, of sleep till the resurrection; or of reward, punishment, or suspense. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. I. xii, Go now you *Psychopannychites! 1682 — *Annot. Glanvill's Lux O.* 110 Unless we will be so dull as to fall into the drouzie dream of the Psychopannychites. 1642 — *Song of Soul* III. I. iii, Plain death's as good as such a *Psychopannychie. 1847 BUCH tr. *Hagenbach's Hist. Doctr.* II. 139 A revival of the earlier notion of the death of the soul..under the milder form of the sleep of the soul (*Psychopannychy*).

Psychopath (ps-, səi·kopæþ). [f. PSYCHO- + Gr. *-παθής*, f. *πάθος* suffering. Cf. *neuropath*, etc.] One affected with psychopathy; a mentally deranged person.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Jan. 3/2 Psychopathy...We give M. Balinsky's explanation of the new malady. 'The psychopath..is a type which has only recently come under the notice of medical science...Beside his own person and his own interests, nothing is sacred to the psychopath'. 1890 *Univ. Rev.* 15 Mar. 310 He was what Russians call a 'psychopath', a being whom Russian laws refuse to punish even for murder. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exper.* 7 From the point of view of his nervous constitution, Fox was a psychopath or détraqué of the deepest dye.

Psychopathic (ps-, səikopæ·þik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. PSYCHOPATHY + -IC.]

1. a. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of mental disease. **b.** Subject to or affected with mental disease, mentally deranged. **c.** Engaged in the treatment of mental disease.

1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 65 A public address to the psychopathic physicians of Germany. 1901 *Lancet* 20 Apr. 1126/2 This condition..proves its psychopathic basis. 1902 W. JAMES *Varieties Relig. Exper.* 157 He [Bunyan] was a typical case of the psychopathic temperament, sensitive of conscience to a diseased degree.

2. Of or pertaining to the treatment of disease by 'psychic' means, as by hypnotism.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

B. *absol.* as *sb.* = PSYCHOPATH.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 Miss F. P. COBBE in *Daily News* 13 Apr. 7/7 They are 'psychopathics'—a term which Prof. James, of Harvard University, employs to denote an inborn aptitude to immoral actions in any direction.

Psycho·pathist. [f. PSYCHOPATHY + -IST.] One who studies or treats psychopathy or mental disease; an alienist.

1854 BUCKNILL *Crim. Lunacy* 7 Whether the doctrines of spiritualism or of materialism find favor with psychopathists is of the utmost importance. 1894 tr. *Swedenborg's Spir. Columbus* ix. 147 The Psychopathist and physician are furnished with materials for the treatment of social corruption in all its phases.

Psy·cho·patho·logy. [f. PSYCHO- + PATHOLOGY.] The pathology of the mind; the science of mental disease. Hence **Psy·cho-patholo·gical** *a.*; **Psy·cho-patho·logist,** a student of or expert in psycho-pathology.

1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 70 Psychopathology has not yet acquired sufficient light respecting these critical processes. 1863 *D. D. Home's Incidents Life* Introd. 15 To the psychopathologist..this detail may serve to advance an important scientific purpose. 1892 *Nation* (N. Y.) 15 Sept. 203/3 A volume on saints, in which the whole subject of hagiology will be investigated from a psychopathological point of view. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Psychopathology*, the science treating of the legal aspect of insanity. Also, the pathology of insanity.

Psychopathy (ps-, səikǫ·păpi). *Path.* [f. Gr. *ψῡχο-*, PSYCHO- + *-πάθεια* from *πάθος* suffering: hence sense 1 is etymologically correct; sense 2 follows *homœopathy, hydropathy*, etc.: see -PATHY.]

1. Mental disease or disorder; 'mental disorder considered apart from cerebral disease' (Billings).

Sexual psychopathy, mental disease connected with sexual disorders.

1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 343 The cure of the psychopathies..is different according to their several forms. 1885 [see PSYCHOPATH]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 312 Influenza may set up psychopathy. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Dec. 4/7 Professor Kraft Ebing's fame dates from the publication of his work on sexual psychopathy.

2. The treatment of disease by 'psychical' influence, e. g. by hypnotism.

1891 *Blackw. Mag.* 406 Mesmerism is to psychopathy what alchemy was to chemistry. 1893 *Century Mag.* July 435 The importance of adopting psychopathy as a means for the relief of disease.

3. (See quot.)

1863 DENTON *Nature's Secrets* 95 All fossil remains of animals are imbued with the feelings of the animals of which they formed a part, and, under their influence, the Psychometer..feels all that was felt by them...This branch of Psychometry may be termed Psychopathy.

Psychopetal, etc.: see PSYCHO-.

Psycho-physic (ps-, səikofi·zik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *ψῡχο-*, PSYCHO- + *φυσικ-ός* physical.]

A. *adj.* = PSYCHO-PHYSICAL, esp. in *psycho-physic law*, 'the law expressing the relation between a change of intensity in the stimulus and the resulting change in the sensation' (Billings).

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* 404 The psychophysic law requires that the just observable difference shall be a constant fraction of the mean of the two stimuli.

B. *sb.* Commonly in pl. **Psycho-phy·sics.** [= Ger. *Psychophysik* (Fechner 1859): see PHYSIC *sb.* 1, PHYSICS.] The science of the general relations between mind and body; *spec.* the investigation of the relations between physical stimuli and psychic action in the production of sensations; 'experimental psychology' (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1879 LEWES *Stud. Psychol.* 184 It has been found possible to introduce quantitative relations between stimuli and sensations, and a new branch of science, called Psychophysics, has arisen. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 30 Jan. 2/3 Mr. F. Galton was to lecture at the Royal Institution on 'The Just-Perceptible Difference'...It turned out to be a discourse on the somewhat vague science known to experts as psychophysics.

Psycho-phy·sical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL; cf. *physical.*] Of or pertaining to psycho-physics; having to do with psychology and physics, or the connexion of the psychical and the physical.

Psycho-physical law = PSYCHO-PHYSIC *law*. *Psycho-physical methods*, 'methods of experimenting in determining the sensibility for small differences of sensation' (Billings). *Psycho-physical movement*, 'a hypothetical activity assumed by Fechner to explain the discrepancy between the increase of the stimulus and that of the sensation' (Billings).

1879 in WEBSTER Suppl. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 442 In my eyes, nothing is gained in the way of clearness by the invention of the name 'psycho-physical occurrence', or 'psycho-physical process'. I admit that the expression may have a meaning when applied to a single element, in which, as I said before, we conceive physical and psychical stimulations to exist together. 1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 43 Artificial displacements of the psycho-physical threshold, 1903 MYERS *Hum. Personality* II. 142 The psycho-physical parallelism—which insists that every mental phenomenon must have a physical correlative.

Psycho-phy·sicist. [f. PSYCHO-PHYSIC + -IST.] One versed in psycho-physics.

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. Introd. 44 We look..for aid to the most recent group of physiological inquirers, to the psycho-physicists. 1901 *Oxford Mag.* 4 Dec. 141/1 The experimental school of the modern psycho-physicists is ignored.

Psy·cho-physio·logy. [f. PSYCHO- + PHYSIOLOGY.] The department of physiology which deals with mental phenomena; physiological or experimental psychology. Hence **Psy·cho-physio·logical** *a.*, of or pertaining to psycho-physiology; **Psy·cho-physio·logist,** a student or teacher of psycho-physiology.

1839 S. ADAMS (*title*) Psycho-Physiology, viewed in its connection with Mysteries of Animal Magnetism and other Kindred Phenomena. 1839 *Amer. Bibl. Repos.* Ser. II. I. 367 The great centre of psycho-physiological sympathy. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Aug. 1 How far do numbers alter the case?—we mean from the psycho-physiological point of view. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 10 Feb. 3/1 The modern experimental psycho-physiologist shows that the unity of consciousness on which the supposed unity of the ego is based is a mere illusion.

Psy·choplasm (-plæz'm). [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* soul, mind + *πλάσμα* anything formed, PLASM.] A name for the basis of consciousness conceived as a substance corresponding and correlative to PROTOPLASM. Hence **Psychopla·smic** *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of psychoplasm.

1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 118 The vital organism we have seen to be evolved from the Bioplasm, and we may now see how the psychical organism is evolved from what may be analogically called the Psychoplasm...The movements of the Bioplasm constitute Vitality; the movements of the Psychoplasm constitute Sensibility. *a* 1881 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metempiric* (1883) 219 This leads to the question of the evolution of foci or monads from impersonal consciousness or psychoplasm. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Psychoplasmic.

Psychopomp (ps-, səi·kopǫmp). [ad. Gr. *ψῡχο-πομπός*, f. *ψῡχή* soul + *πομπός* conductor, guide.] A conductor of souls to the place of the dead.

In Greek, a name applied to Charon; more commonly to Hermes, the Anubis of Egypt, and to Apollo (Plut. 2. 758 B).

1863 W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Trad. & Folk Lore* 111 The other Aryan psychopomp, the cow. 1879 M. D. CONWAY *Demonol.* I. II. v. 129 The appearance of mice prognosticated of old the appearance of the præternatural rat-catcher and psychopomp.

Hence **Psychopo·mpal, Psychopo·mpous** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to a psychopomp. *rare.*

1855 BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 8 The god of psychopompous function, round Circling the sun with fourfold force. 1885 STEWART *'Twixt Ben Nevis & Glencoe* xxxix. 291 The psychopompal vehicle, the 'fiery chariot' in which the spirit was conveyed.

Psychopyrism to **-sensory**: see PSYCHO-.

‖ **Psychosis** (ps-, səikōu·sis). Pl. **-oses** (*-ōu·sīz*). [a. late Gr. *ψῡχωσις* animation, principle of life, f. *ψῡχόω* I give soul or life to: but in mod. use taken as = condition of the psyche or mind.]

1. *Path.* Any kind of mental affection or derangement; esp. one which cannot be ascribed to organic lesion or neurosis (cf. NEUROSIS 1).

1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 11 The nosography which aims at exhibiting the phenomena, the natural history, and the so called system of psychoses. 1874 MAUDSLEY *Respons. in Ment. Dis.* i. 33 No wonder that the criminal psychosis, which is the mental side of the neurosis, is for the most part an intractable malady, punishment being of no avail to produce a permanent reformation. 1879 LEWES *Stud. Psychol.* 26 Pathologists call it a psychosis, as if it were a lesion of the unknown psyche.

2. *Psychol.* A change in the psychic state; an activity or movement of the psychic organism, as distinguished from neurosis (NEUROSIS 2).

1871, 1882 [see NEUROSIS 2]. 1907 RAMSAY in *Expositor* Sept. 213 Feelings, moods, emotional consciousnesses or psychoses.

Psycho-socio- to **-sophy**: see PSYCHO-.

Psychostasy (-ɒ·stăsi). Also in Gr. form **psychostasia** (-stē·ziă). [ad. Gr. *ψῡχοστασία*, f. *ψῡχή* life, soul + *στάσις* putting, setting, weighing.] A weighing of souls; in *Anc. Mythol.* supposed to take place during a combat, the combatant having the lighter soul being slain.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 397 (ed. 2) 527 The *Psyche* or *Eidolon* appears floating away from dying persons on the vase..at the psychostasy. 1871 P. SMITH *Anc. Hist. East* ix. § 21 (1881) 177 The judgement of the dead is often represented on coffins and in the Ritual, under the figure of weighing the souls (*psychostasy*). 1892 W. E. BARNES *Test. Abraham* 71, I have failed to detect any clear description of the Psychostasy in the Apocalyptic literature.

Psychostatics (-stæ·tiks). [f. Gr. *ψῡχή* soul + *στατικ-ός* pertaining to weighing: see prec. and STATICS.] **†a.** = PSYCHOSTASY. *Obs.* **b.** *Psychol.* The study of the conditions of mental phenomena.

1719 *Freethinker* No. 149 P 1 Sufficient to warrant my calling this Paper by the mechanical Term of Psychostaticks; or, in plain English, the Weighing of Souls. 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 115 The conditions of these [organic] phenomena .. may be classed (by a serviceable extension of the term statics) under the heads of Biostatics and Psychostatics. 1879 W. L. COURTNEY in *Fortn. Rev.* Sept. 326 The Criticism of Mr. Lewes on Kant is that he confused a question of Psychogenesis, or the growth of intelligence, with a question of Psycho-statics (if the expression may be allowed), that is, an analysis of the developed human mind.

So **Psychosta·tic, Psychosta·tical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to psychostatics; hence **Psychosta·tically** *adv.*, in reference to psychostatics.

1719 *Freethinker* No. 149 P 5 Beneath this Psychostatical Experiment, One may see a mixt multitude, made up of several of the Religious Orders in the Romish Church. 1874 LEWES *Probl. Life & Mind* I. 121 Corresponding with the Biostatical laws..there are three Psychostatical laws. *Ibid.* 216 The Mind, considered psychostatically. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Psychostatic.

Psychotheism: see PSYCHO-.

Psycho-therapeutic (ps-, səi·koþerăpiū·tik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. PSYCHO- + THERAPEUTIC.]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the treatment of disease by 'psychic', i.e. hypnotic, influence.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 5/2 For the study of mesmerism, hypnotism, and other psychic phenomena and their adaptation to the cure and prevention of disease, the London Psycho-Therapeutic Society was inaugurated yesterday.

B. *sb.* in pl. form **Psy·cho-therapeu·tics.** The subject of the treatment of disease by 'psychic', i. e. hypnotic, influence.

1887 Miss F. P. COBBE in *Contemp. Rev.* June 797 Who will step forward and help to clear the way for this science of Psycho-Therapeutics? 1889 C. L. TUCKEY (*title*) Psycho-Therapeutics; or, Treatment by Sleep and Suggestion. 1900 HOPKIRK tr. *Moll* (*title*) Hypnotism: Including a Study of the Chief Points of Psycho-therapeutics and Occultism.

So **Psy·cho-therapeu·tical** *a.* = PSYCHO-THERAPEUTIC; **Psy·cho-therapeu·tist,** one skilled in or practising psycho-therapeutics; **Psy·cho-the·rapy** [Gr. *θεραπεία* medical treatment], the treatment of disease by 'psychic' methods.

1902 *Academy* 12 Apr. 388/1 For two and a half centuries a *psycho-therapeutical institution has flourished in hundreds of English towns and villages, but it is usually called a Friends' Meeting. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 4/4, 'I would suggest', said Mr. Arthur Hallam, of the *Psychotherapeutists or Mind-Healers, 'that you come and see us at work'. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 June 4/2 Though the word '*Psychotherapy' be new, and popular in America—the land of Faith-Healers—mental therapeutics acting through the 'unconscious mind' is no new thing.

Psychotic (-ɒ·tik), *a.* [f. Gr. type **ψῡχωτικ-ός*, f. *ψύχωσις*: see PSYCHOSIS and -OTIC.] **a.** Of or pertaining to psychosis. **b.** = PSYCHAGOGIC *a.* 3.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Psychotic*, psychagogic. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Psychotic*, belonging to Psychosis. Also, used as synonymous with *Psychagogic* or *Analeptic.*

Psycho-vital, -zoic: see PSYCHO-.

Psychrolute (ps-, səi·krŏl·l*ut*). [ad. Gr. *ψῡχρολούτ-ης* a bather in cold water, f. *ψῡχρολουσία* bathing in cold water, f. *ψῡχρός* cold + *λούειν* to bathe.] One who bathes in the open air daily throughout the winter; *spec.* a member of a society formed *c* 1840 to promote this practice.

1872 Bp. Selwyn in Morgan *Univ. Oars* (1873) 302 Many were also psychrolutes, bathing in winter in all states of the river. 1897 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* LI. 339/2 [Sir L. Shadwell] was president of the Society of Psychrolutes, the qualification for the membership..being the daily practice of bathing out of doors from November to March.

So † **Psychrolu·tist** *Obs.* (*erron.* pseuchro-), an advocate of bathing in cold water.

1702 Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* I. iv. (1709) 181 Every Physician will in the next Age be a Pseuchrolutist.

Psychrometer (-ǫ·mĭtəɹ). *Meteorol.* [f. Gr. *ψῦχρό-s* cold + -METER; lit. a measurer of cold, a low-temperature thermometer. Badly employed in current use.] *orig.* A thermometer; now, An instrument for measuring the relative humidity of the air; a wet-and-dry-bulb thermometer; a kind of hygrometer.

1727-41 Chambers *Cycl.*, *Psychrometer*, an instrument for measuring the degree of coldness of the air; more usually called thermometer. 1838 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVII. 533/2 Two thermometers are now mounted on the same scale, and the indications of the wet and dry bulbs seen at the same time. This instrument has been termed a psychrometer. 1876 Davis *Polaris Exp.* ix. 219 In it were placed the standard thermometer, the wet and dry bulb psychrometers.

Hence **Psychrome·tric, Psychrome·trical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the psychrometer or to psychrometry; hygrometrical; **Psychro·metry**, the ascertainment of the degree of humidity of the atmosphere by means of a psychrometer.

1864 Webster, Psychrometrical instruments...Psychrometrical observations. Psychrometry. 1880 *Nature* 4 Mar. 426/2 The values deduced..agree with the observed only with a psychrometric difference of 4°.

‖ **Psychrophobia** (ps-, səi·krofōu·biă). Also in anglicized form, † **psy·chrophoby.** [mod.L. f. Gr. *ψῦχρό-s* cold + -PHOBIA.] Dread of or sensitiveness to cold; *esp.* dread of cold water.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Psychrophobia* [*ed.* 1731 Psychrophoby], a Fear of, or an Aversion to cold Things. 1830 Maunder *Dict., Psycrophobia*, a dread of anything cold. 1853- in Dunglison.

Psychrophore (ps-, səi·krŏfoəɹ). *Surg.* [f. Gr. *ψῦχροφόρ-os* carrying cold, f. *ψῦχρός* cold + *-φόρος* bearing: see -PHORE.] (See quot.)

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict., Psychrophore*, a double-current catheter without an eye; for the application of cold to the urethra, also called refrigerating sound.

† **Psy·chrote·chny.** *Obs.* Also ‖ -techne. [f. as prec. + Gr. *τέχνη* art.] (See quot. 1730-6.)

1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1141 Specious hopes to attempt something in Psychrotechne. 1730-6 Bailey (folio) Pref., *Psychrotechny*, the Art of Distillation by Means of Cold.

Psychurgy (ps-, səi·kɹdʒi). [f. Gr. *ψῦχο-*, Psycho- + *-εργία* working: cf. Auturgy.] Mental operation or activity.

1896 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 10 Oct. 4 The Director of the Laboratory of Psychology and Psychurgy at Washington.

Psycology, obs. form of Psychology.

‖ **Psycter** (psi·ktəɹ). *Gr.* and *Rom. Antiq.* Also **psykter.** [a. Gr. *ψυκτήρ* a wine-cooler, agent-n. f. *ψύχειν* to breathe, blow, cool.] A jar for cooling wine.

1849 Smith *Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antiq.* (ed. 2), *Psycter*, a wine-cooler,..sometimes made of bronze..or silver. 1857 Birch *Anc. Pottery* (1858) II. 67 The psycter, or cooler to prepare it [wine] for drinking.

Psy·ctic. *rare.* Also *erron.* psychtic. [ad. Gr. *ψυκτικ-ός* cooling, sb. pl. *τὰ ψυκτικά* refrigerants.] A cooling medicine; a refrigerant.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Psyctica*, cooling Medicines.] 1846 Smart Suppl., *Psychtics*, refrigerating medicines. 1864 Webster, *Psychtic*, a refrigerating medicine.

‖ **Psydracium** (psidrē·siŏm). Pl. **-ia.** *Path.* [med.L., ad. Gr. *ψυδράκιον* a white blister on the tongue-tip, said to be caused by lying, a lie-blister, dim. of *ψύδραξ*, L. *psydrax*, pl. *psydraces*, f. *ψυδρός* lying, false.] (See quots.)

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Psydracia*,..are little Ulcers of the Skin of the Head, like those which are wont to burn the Skin. [*Ibid.*, *Psydraces*,..are little Pustles or Pimples, which break out upon the Skin, like Bubbles, by reason of the Winter Cold.] 1726 Quincy *Lex. Phys.-Med.*, *Psydracium*, is a pointed white Pustule or Tumor upon the Skin, containing a serous Humour. 1842 in Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1890 in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*

Hence **Psydra·cious** *a.* (*erron.* -eous), pertaining to or of the nature of psydracia.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 473 *note*, Psydracious pustules may accidentally present themselves. 1842 Burgess tr. *Cazenave's Man. Dis. Skin* 138 The successive development of psydraceous pustules. 1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Psydracious.*

Psyllic (psi·lik, si·l-), *a. rare.* [f. L. *Psylli*, Gr. Ψύλλοι, an African people, famed as snake-charmers.] Of or pertaining to snake-charming.

1861 Gosse *Rom. Nat. Hist.* Ser. II. 288 Fatal terminations to these exhibitions of the psyllic art now and then occur.

† **Psy·lly.** *Obs. rare.* Also in L. form ‖ **Psyllium** (psi·liŏm). [ad. L. *psyllium*, a. Gr. *ψύλλιον*, f. *ψύλλα* flea.] The herb *Plantago Psyllium*; = Fleawort.

1598 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 176 The dropsie-breeding, sorrow-bringing psylly, Here called fleawort. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 239 Psyllium, Fleawort, is good for the vlcers thereof. 1706 Phillips, *Psyllium*, the Herb Flea-bane or Flea-wort.

Pt-. Words beginning with this combination of consonants are all (with the exception of the fancifully mis-spelt *ptarmigan*) from Greek, in which the combination is frequent.

In English, the *p* of initial *pt-* is commonly omitted in pronunciation, so as to confound words in *pt-* with those in *t-*. As the *p* is pronounced in French, German, and other languages, as well as by Englishmen in reading Greek, and by some scholars in English, the full form is here given as an optional pronunciation often to be preferred. Few of the words are in familiar use.

Ptarmacan, -gan, obs. forms of Ptarmigan.

Ptarmic (ptä·ɹmik, tä·ɹmik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. L. *ptarmic-us*, a. Gr. *πταρμικ-ός* causing to sneeze, f. *πταρμός* a sneeze: see -IC.]

A. *adj.* Exciting or causing sneezing; errhine.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Ptarmicus*, causing to sneeze; sternutatory: ptarmic.

B. *sb.* A substance that excites sneezing.

1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 66 The use of Ptarmicks does rather encrease..a defluxion of humours from the head. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 203 Those, who have habituated themselves to snuff for years, can hardly be excited to sneeze by the most violent ptarmics.

So ‖ **Pta·rmica** [L., a. Gr. *πταρμική*] name of a plant, sneezewort, now botanically called *Achillæa Ptarmica*; **Pta·rmical** *a.*, ptarmic.

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 179 Ptarmicall or neezing powder, when its used for Errhins. 1706 London & Wise *Retir'd Gard.* 97 Ptarmica, or Eternal Flower. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 69 This Sap..becomes..ptarmical, carminative, sudorifick, diuretick. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 397 You have now in Flower..double Ptarmica or Sneezing-wort.

Ptarmigan (tä·ɹmĭgăn). Forms: *α.* 6 **termigan, termigen,** 7 **termigant, termagant, tormichan,** 8 **tormican, tarmichen, tarmachan.** *β.* 7- **ptarmigan,** (9 **ptarmacan, -gan**). [In Lowland Sc. use before 1600; = Gaelic *tàrmachan*; ulterior history and origin unknown; see Note below. Originally with initial *t*; the spelling with *pt* appears first in Sibbald 1684, and was app. pseudo-etymological, after words from Greek, presumably *ptarmic, ptarmical*, then known in medicine. Being unfortunately taken from Sibbald by Pennant in 1768, it has passed into ornithological and general English use.]

A bird of the grouse family (*Lagopus alpinus* or *mutus*) which inhabits high altitudes in Scotland and Northern Europe, the Alps and Pyrenees. The plumage changes from ash-grey and black in summer to white in winter. Also called the White or Rock Grouse. **b.** The name is extended generically to other species of *Lagopus*, as *L. albus* of Europe and Asia, *L. rupestris* of N. America, etc.

α. 1599 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 180/2 They discharge ony persone quhasumeuir..To sell or by ony..partridgis muir foullis blak cokis aithehenis Termiganis. 1600 *Ibid.* 236/2 Termigenis. 1621 *Ibid.* 628/2 Termigantis. 1617 Jas. I *Let. to Ld. Tullibardine* in Gray *Birds W. Scotl.* (1871) 230 The known commoditie yee have to provide capercaillies and termigantis. 1618 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* F j, Capons, Chickins, Partridge, Moorecoots, Heathcocks, Caperkellies and Termagants. 1685 *Sc. Acts Jas. VII* (1820) VIII. 475/2 That all persons forbear to Slay any Muirfoul, Heathfoul, Partridge, Quail, Duck or Mallard, Taile or Ataile or Tormichan from and after the first day of Lent to the first of July. 1726 *Macfarlane's Geog. Collect.* (S. H. S.) I. 222 Black cock, muire fowles, tarmichen. *c* 1730 Burt *Lett. N. Scotl.* xxi. (1754) II. 169 The Tormican is near about the Size of the Moor-Fowl (or Groust). 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 461 Grouse, heath-fowl and Tarmachans in abundance inhabit every hill.

β. 1684 Sibbald *Scotia Illustr.* II. III. iii. 16 Lagopus Avis *Aldrov.* Perdix alba *Sabaudis*...Nostratibus the *Ptarmigan*. 1768 Pennant *Zool.* I. 206 The tail of the Ptarmigan consists of sixteen feathers. 1808 *Sporting Mag.* XXXII. 214 A number of muir fowl..ptarmacans, rats, mice &c. 1810 Scott *Lady of L.* II. xxv, His eagle eye The ptarmigan in snow could spy. 1868 Q. Victoria *Life Highl.* 68 Albert left me to go after Ptarmigan.

b. 1893 Newton *Dict. Birds* 389 It is to [the Willow-Grouse, *Lagopus albus*] that belong, almost without exception, the thousands of birds sold in our markets as 'Ptarmigan'.

Comb. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Sept. 3/1 Ptarmigan-shooting would be tame sport were it not for the savagery of the sublime and sterile surroundings.

[*Note.* The existing Gaelic *tàrmachan* evidently goes back, through the cited *tarmichen* and *tormican*, to *tormichan* in 1685, and prob. much earlier. It has the form of a diminutive of *tàrmach* (cf. *balachan*, dim. of *balach* boy, *tulachan*, dim. of *tulach* hillock, etc.); and *tàrmach* is given as a synonym in living use in Armstrong's and the Highland Society's Dictionaries. The word has thus all the appearance of being native; *à priori*, also, it is natural that the name of a bird found only on the Highland mountains should have been Gaelic. But *tàrmach* has no obvious derivation in Gaelic; and some Celtic scholars think that it may be a foreign word which has put on a Celtic guise. On the other hand, the word, if not from Gaelic, is without any etymology in Lowland Sc., for *termagant* can only be considered a popular perversion of the 'sparrow-grass' order.]

Ptenoglossate (pt-, tē·nogl*ǫ*·sĕt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. *πτηνό-s* feathered + *γλῶσσα* tongue + -ATE 2.] Of certain molluscs: Having no median teeth on the odontophore, but a large number of lateral teeth resembling the barbs of a feather.

Ptenopleural (pt-, tē·nopl(ū·răl), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Ptēnopleura* (f. Gr. *πτηνό-s* feathered + *πλευρά* the side) + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the *Ptenopleura*, a division of the *Insectivora*, represented by the flying lemurs; having the sides winged or alate; having a flying membrane.

Pteranodont (pt-, tĕræ·nodǫnt), *sb.* (*a.*) *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Pteranodon*, f. Gr. *πτερ-όν* wing + *ἀνόδους, -οδοντ-* toothless.] A pterosaur of the genus *Pteranodon*, characterized by the absence of teeth. **b.** *adj.* Belonging to this genus.

1882 Geikie *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. iii. § 1. 811 Pterosaurs have likewise been obtained characterized by an absence of teeth (*Pteranodonts*). 1885 C. F. Holder *Marvels Anim. Life* 202 The great bat-like creature..was at one time very common on this continent [America], and was a flying reptile known as the Pteranodon. It differed from the European Pterodactyles in being toothless.

‖ **Pteraspis** (pt-, tĕræ·spis). *Palæont.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *πτερόν* wing + *ἀσπίς, ἀσπιδ-* shield.] A fossil genus of ganoid fishes of the Devonian age.

1857 in H. Miller *O. R. Sandst.* viii. (ed. 23) 149 *note*, *Cephalaspis rostratus* is a *Pteraspis*; and Prof. Huxley and Mr. Salter describe *Cephalaspis Lewisii* and *Lloydii* as *Pteraspides*. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 354 Pteraspis, with the cephalic shield finely striated or grooved, composed of seven pieces.

Hence **Pteraspi·dian** *a.*, belonging to this genus.

1872 W. S. Symonds *Rec. Rocks* vii. 257 Remains of Pteraspidean fishes. 1887 *Athenæum* 4 June 741/2 A canal system..in the shields of pteraspidian fishes.

Ptere (ptīəɹ, tīəɹ). *Zool.* [a. F. *ptère*, ad. Gr. *πτερόν* feather, wing.] A wing-like organ or part; *spec.* in sponges, A lobe of the prora, pleura, or tropis of a cymba.

1887 Sollas in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 418/1 (Sponges) By growing towards the equator the opposed proral and pleural pteres may conjoin.

‖ **Pterichthys** (pt-, tĕri·kþis). *Palæont.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *πτερόν* wing + *ἰχθύς* fish.] A fossil genus of fishes of the Devonian period, having a pair of wing-shaped lateral appendages.

1842 H. Miller *O. R. Sandst.* iii. (ed. 2) 70 There are none of the fossils of the Old Red Sandstone which less resemble anything that now exists than its Pterichthys. *Ibid.* vi. 140 The oar-like arms of the Pterichthys and its tortoise-like plates. 1873 Dawson *Earth & Man* v. 98.

So **Pteri·chthyid,** a member of the family of fishes typified by the *Pterichthys*.

1862 Dana *Man. Geol.* 279 The Pterichthyids, or 'winged fishes'..have no caudal fin for swimming, but, instead, a pair of powerful paddles.

Pterideous (pt-, tĕri·diəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Pteridex* (f. Pteris) + -ous.] Belonging to the tribe *Pteridex* of ferns, typified by the genus *Pteris*. 1858 in Mayne *Expos. Lex.*

Pteridо- (pt-, teridǫ), before a vowel **pterid-**, combining form of Gr. *πτερίς, πτεριδ-* fern. **Pteridography** [-GRAPHY], a description of ferns. **Pteridology** [-(o)LOGY], that branch of botany which treats of ferns; hence **Pteridolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to pteridology; **Pteridо·logist,** one versed in the study of ferns. **Pteridoma·nia** *nonce-wd.*, a mania or enthusiasm for ferns. **Pteridо·philist** [Gr. *φίλ-os* loving], a lover of ferns; so **Pteridо·philism,** love of ferns. **Pteridophyte** [ad. mod.L. *Pteridophyta* pl., f. Gr. *φυτόν* plant], a member of the *Pteridophyta*, a division of plants including the ferns and their allies; a vascular cryptogam.

1884 Bower & Scott *De Bary's Phaner.* 299 The..literature..of *Pteridography and Palæontology. 1854 *Phytologist* V. 151 The author intends the 'glossary' as a general, not as a *pteridological one. 1892 *Gard. Chron.* 27 Aug. 245/1 The British Pteridological Society. 1856 W. L. Lindsay *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 13 Many ladies have..taken a high stand as Algologists and *Pteridologists. 1866 Moore in *Treas. Bot.* 917 One of the principal genera into which the old genus *Aspidium* is broken up by modern pteridologists. 1866 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Sept. 10 He has studied *pteridology for forty years. 1882 Moore in *Gard. Chron.* XVII. 672 Mr. James Backhouse, who, in the annals of pteridology is not unknown to fame. 1855 Kingsley *Glaucus* (ed. 2) 4 Your daughters..have been seized with the prevailing '*Pteridomania', and are collecting and buying ferns. 1866 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Sept. 10 Our own *pteridophilism being of a less pronounced and practical kind. *Ibid.*, *Pteridophilists being, after all, in plain English, nothing but lovers of ferns. 1897 *Nature* 11 Nov. 45/2 The bryophyte-like ancestors of the *pteridophytes.

Pteridoid (pt-, te·ridoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *πτερίς, πτεριδ-* fern + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Of the nature of or allied to the ferns, filicoid. **b.** *sb.* A fern-like plant; a pteridophyte.

1866 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Sept. 10 His treatise on the culture of pteridoids...Cultivation of the pteridoid forms of life.

‖ **Pterion** (pte·riǫn). *Anat.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πτερόν* wing (referring to the wing of the sphenoid); one of a series of terms in *-ion* (after *κρανίον, ἰνίον*) used in craniology and craniometry.] The H-shaped suture of the wing of the sphenoid with the parietal, frontal, and temporal bones.

1878 Bartley tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* II. ii. 234 *Pterion*..., the region where the frontal, parietal, temporal, and sphenoid bones meet, in the form of an H. 1888 Flower in *Anthropological Jrnl.* Aug. 7 In the region of the pterion in the

male, the squamosal articulates with the frontal on the right side for a space of 4 mm. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 168 The seat [of temporal headache] is about opposite the pterion on each side.

‖ **Pteris** (ptē·ris, tī·ris). *Bot.* [L. (Pliny), a. Gr. *πτέρις* a fern with feathery leaves.] Name of a widely diffused genus of ferns, of which the best known is *P. aquilina*, the common Bracken.

1706 PHILLIPS, *Pteris*, Fern or Brake; the Herb Osmund. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 61 *Pteris* presents a remarkable case of the alternation of generations.

‖ **Pterna** (ptē·rnă). [mod.L., a. Gr. *πτέρνα* heel.] † **a.** *Anat.* The heel-bone, *os calcis*. *Obs.* **b.** *Ornith.* The heel-pad or sole of the foot in birds.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Pterna*, see *Calx*. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pterna*, the second Bone of the Foot. 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Ptero- (pt-, tero), before a vowel **pter-**, combining form of Gr. *πτερόν* feather, wing; an element of many scientific words. **Pterobranchiate** (-bræ·ŋkiĕt) *a. Zool.* [Gr. *βράγχια* gills], of or pertaining to the *Pterobranchia*, an order of pteropods in the classification of J. E. Gray, or a subsection in Lankester's classification of molluscoids; so **Pterobra·nchious** *a.*: see quot. **Pteroca·rdiac** *Zool.* [Gr. *καρδία* heart], (*a*) *adj.* denoting an ossicle in the stomach of the crayfish, which is wing-like in shape; (*b*) *sb.* the pterocardiac ossicle. **Pteroca·rpous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], having winged seeds or fruit (Mayne). ‖ **Pteroca·rpus**, a genus of tropical timber trees, N. O. *Leguminosæ*. **Pterocy·mba**, a cymbate flesh-spicule of a sponge having winged or expanded proræ, giving an anchor-like figure; hence **Pterocy·mbate** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Pteroglo·ssal** *a.* [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue], having a tongue finely notched or divided like a feather, as a toucan of the genus *Pteroglossus*; so **Pteroglo·ssine** *a.* **Ptero·grapher** [Gr. *-γράφος* writer], a writer on feathers or plumage. **Ptero·graphy** [-GRAPHY], the description of feathers or plumage; hence **Pterogra·phic, Pterogra·phical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to pterography. **Pte·rolite** *Min.* [Gr. *λίθος* stone]: see quot. **Ptero·logy** [Gr. *λογία*, -LOGY], the department of entomology which deals with the wings of insects; hence **Ptero·lo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to pterology. ‖ **Pteropæ·des** *sb. pl. Ornith.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *παῖς, παιδ-* child], birds which are fully fledged when hatched; hence **Pterop·ædic**, of or of the nature of the Pteropædes. ‖ **Pterope·gum**, pl. **-a** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πηγός* fastened], the socket of the wing of an insect; hence **Pterope·gal, Pterope·gous** *adjs.* **Pte·rorhine** *a. Ornith.* [Gr. *ῥίς, ῥιν-* nose], of or pertaining to the *Pterorhīna*, a division of *Alcidæ* or auks having the nostrils feathered (*Cent. Dict.* 1890). **Pterosti·gma** *Entom.* [Gr. *στίγμα* spot, mark], a peculiar mark or spot on the wings of some insects, esp. Hymenoptera; the stigma; hence **Pterosti·gmal, Pte·rostigma·tic, Pte·rostigma·tical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or characterized by a pterostigma. ‖ **Pterothe·ca** *Entom.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *θηκή* sheath], the wing-case of an insect in the pupa.

1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 436/1 A serious error has been made in comparing the contractile stalk of the *Pterobranchiate polypide to the 'funiculus' or cord-like mesentery of Eupolyzoa. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pterobranchius*, applied by Blainville to an Order .. of the .. *Pteropoda*, having the *branchiæ* in form of wings or fins: *pterobranchious. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 103 A small ossicle, the '*pterocardiac', articulates with either outer angle of the cardiac. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 319 A small curved triangular antero-lateral or pterocardiac ossicle. 1866 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jrnls.* (1873) I. ii. 48 One tree of which bark cloth is made, **pterocarpus*, is abundant. 1887 SOLLAS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 417/2 A common form of anchorate, the **pterocymba*, results. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 585 Particular styles of imbrication of the cubital coverts with certain structural peculiarities—osteological, myological, visceral, and *pterographical. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Min.*, **Pterolite*..an altered lepidomelane, found in fan-shaped or feather-shaped aggregations. 1885 *Standard Nat. Hist.* IV. 3 A few birds remain so long within the egg that the feathers are developed when the shell bursts,..these might be called *Pteropædes. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 372 **Pteropega* (the Wing-socket), the space in which the organs for flight are planted. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pteropega*, *Entomol.*, applied by Kirby to the portion of the mesothorax and metathorax to which the superior and inferior wings are attached: *pteropegous. 1861 HAGEN *Synops. Neuropt. N. Amer.* 9 *Pterostigma triangular. *Ibid.*, Wings with obscure black veins, *pterostigmal spot absent. *Ibid.* 149 Two angulose bands, the one nodal, the other *pterostigmatical. 1886 *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* 265 The wider venation and..the brown pterostigma without darker nebula separate this species from all related ones. *Ibid.* 288 Wings pale, yellow in the pterostigmatical part. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 250 The breast (*pectus*) ..from which proceed the wing-cases (**Ptero-theca*) and leg-cases (*Podo-theca*).

Pteroclomorphic (pt-, tĕrǫklomǭ·rfik), *a. Ornith.* [irreg. f. mod.L. *Pterocles* (f. Gr. *πτερόν*, PTERO- + *κλείς* key) + Gr. *μορφή* form + -IC.] Having the structure and affinities of the *Pteroclidæ*, a family of sand-grouse typified by the genus *Pterocles*.

1868 HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 304 The tarso-metatarsus is quite Pteroclomorphic.

Pterodactyl (pt-, terodæ·ktil). *Palæont.* Also **-yle.** [ad. mod.L. *Pterodactylus*, f. Gr. *πτερόν* wing + *δάκτυλος* finger.] A winged reptile or pterosaur of the extinct genus *Pterodactylus*.

1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 123 The pterodactyle might flit again through umbrageous groves of tree-ferns. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* viii. 205 The Pterodactyles, the reptile bats of the Mesozoic. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. ii. § 2. 813 The earliest known birds present characters of strong affinity with the Deinosaurs and Pterodactyles.

attrib. 1883 *Century Mag.* Dec. 201/1 Colossal monsters of the Pterodactyl period.

Hence **Pterodactylian** (pt-, terodækti·liăn) *a.*, of or belonging to the pterodactyl, or the genus *Pterodactylus*; *sb.* an animal of this genus; **Ptero·dacty·lic, Pterodac·tylous** *adjs.*, of the nature of a pterodactyl; **Pteroda·ctylid**, an animal of the pterodactyl family; **Pteroda·ctyloid** *a.*, having the form or characters of a pterodactyl.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Pterodactylous. 1884 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 2/2 The very pterodactylic-looking blue-clad fishers. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pterodactylian. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, Pterodactylid, -oid.

Pteroid (pt-, te·roid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *πτερόν* feather, wing, or (irreg.) *πτερίς* fern + -OID.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Resembling a wing.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

2. *Bot.* Resembling a fern; fern-like, PTERIDOID.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

B. *sb.* A slender bone or ossified ligament in the pterodactyl extending from the carpal region towards the humerus. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Pteroma** (ptĕrō·mă). Pl. **-ata.** [L. *pterōma*, a. Gr. *πτέρωμα* the colonnade of a temple.]

1. *Arch.* The walk between the cella and the columns of the peristyle of a Greek temple; the *ambulatio*.

1846 ELLIS *Elgin Marb.* I. 72 The walks round the exterior of the body of the temple were called *pteromata*.

2. *Ornith.* Also **pterome.** (See quot.)

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pteroma*, applied by Illiger to the internal *tectrices* of the wings, which are generally longer than the others: a pterome.

Pterope, -opid, -opine: see PTEROPUS.

Pteropod (pt-, te·rǫpǫd). *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pteropoda*: see next.] A mollusc of the class *Pteropoda*.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 269 The Pteropods.. having no means of fixing themselves like most of the bivalves, float continually in the ocean. 1883 C. F. HOLDER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/1 With what grace the little pteropod Cleodora moves along! *attrib.* 1894 S. J. HICKSON in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 470 The pteropod ooze has only twenty-five per cent. of carbonate of lime.

‖ **Pteropoda** (pt-, tĕrǫ·pŏdă), *sb. pl. Zool.* [mod. L., = Gr. *πτερόποδα*, neuter pl. of *πτερόπους* wing-footed.] A class or division of *Mollusca*, having the mesopodium or middle part of the foot expanded into a pair of lobes, like wings or flippers (the *pteropodium*), with which the animal swims.

1835 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 113 Pteropoda...Able to swim by means of two lateral musculo-cutaneous finlike expansions. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 7 The pteropoda only inhabit the sea, and swim with a pair of fins, extending outwards from the sides of the head. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 651 The Pteropoda or Wing-footed Molluscs.

Hence **Ptero·podan** *a.*, pertaining to the Pteropoda; *sb.* a pteropod.

‖ **Pteropodium** (pt-, teropō·diŏm). *Zool.* [mod. L., f. as prec.: see PODIUM 2 b.] The foot, or mesopodium, of a pteropod: see PTEROPODA. Hence **Pteropo·dial** *a.*, of or belonging to the pteropodium.

1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 673/2 The pteropodial lobes of the foot. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pteropodium.

Pteropodous (pt-, tĕrǫ·pŏdəs), *a.* [f. PTERO-POD-A + -OUS.] Of or belonging to the Pteropoda; pertaining to or characteristic of a pteropod.

a 1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* VII. 287/2 *Paracephals.* By this term Blainville designates Cuvier's Gasteropodous and Pteropodous Classes of Molluscs. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 121 Mr. Adams observed the pteropodous fry of Cypræa annulus ..adhering in masses to the mantle of the parent.

‖ **Pteropus** (pt-, te·rŏpŭs). *Zool.* Pl. **-i.** Also in anglicized form **pte·rope** (*-ǫp*). [mod.L., ad. Gr. *πτερόπους* wing-footed.] A genus of tropical and sub-tropical bats having membranous wings, known as flying foxes or fruit-bats; an animal of this genus. Hence **Pte·ropid, Pte·ropine** *adjs.*, belonging to or having the characteristics of the *Pteropidæ* or flying-fox family.

1835 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* III. 149 Mr. Bennett called the attention of the Meeting to a Pteropine Bat..recently..obtained from the neighbourhood of the river Gambia...In one of the two other species of *Pteropi* previously obtained, .. the same backward position of the wings exists. 1887 *Athenæum* 26 Mar. 421/1 A new genus of pteropine bats. 1890 *Ibid.* 5 Apr. 438/3 Not unlike a Pteropus or flying fox. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pterope.

Pterosaur (pt-, te·rosǭr). *Palæont.* [ad. mod. L. *Pterosaurus*, f. PTERO- + Gr. *σαῦρ-ος* (= *σαύρα*) lizard.] A member of the *Pterosauria*, an extinct order of Mesozoic saurian reptiles, having the fifth digit of each fore-foot prolonged to a great length for the purpose of supporting a membrane for flight.

1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 346 Pterosaurs..or Flying Saurians. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. iii. § 1. 810 According to a recent enumeration made by Mr. Cope..there were known 18 species of deinosaurs, 4 pterosaurs, 14 crocodilians.

Hence **Pterosau·rian,** *adj.* of the nature of a pterosaur; of or belonging to the order *Pterosauria*; *sb.* a pterosaur.

1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VI. III. ii. § 1. 778 The pterosaurians or flying reptiles..were likewise peculiar to Mesozoic time. 1888 *Nature* 19 Apr. 599/1 The Pterosaurian skull..resembles more the Lacertilian than any other type of Reptile skull.

Pterotic (pt-, tĕrǫ·tik), *a.*[1] (*sb.*) *Anat.* [f. Gr. *πτερόν* wing, + *-otic* in *periotic, pro-otic*, etc.] Applied to a wing-like expansion of the petrosal bone or periotic capsule, occurring in some vertebrates. **b.** as *sb.* The pterotic bone or expansion.

1870 FLOWER *Osteol. Mammalia* x. 150 A lamelliform expansion of the upper edge of the periotic (*pterotic*, Parker) forms part of the lateral wall of the cranium. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 106 In Fishes, it appears as a bone projecting at the postero-external angle of the roof of the skull. It is called the pterotic. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Ptero·tic, *a.*[2] *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πτερωτός* winged + -IC.] Winged.

1884 BLACKMORE *Tommy Upm.* II. vi. 89 A frame of unusual elasticity, partaking rather of the pterotic character.

‖ **Pterygium** (ptĕri·dʒiŏm). [L., a. Gr. *πτερύγιον* little wing, fin, dim. of *πτέρυξ* wing.]

1. *Anat.* (See quot.) ? *Obs.*

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Pterygium*, is the Wing or round Rising of the Nose or Eye, or the Process of the Bone *Sphenoides* which is like a Wing...Also the Nymphæ of a Womans secret Parts.

2. *Path.* **a.** A diseased condition of the conjunctiva of the eye: see quots.

1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Pterygium*, or haw in the eyes called unguis. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 144 Pterygium generally grows as a flat triangularly-shaped tumour on the ocular conjunctiva, at the inner corner of the eye. 1884 G. TURNER *Samoa* xi. 137 Connected with diseases of the eye, pterygium is common.

b. A growth of the epidermis over the nails.

1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives of Surg.* X. No. 38. 147 The nail-fold over the lunula is prolonged forwards, over the bed, as a fan-shaped, fleshy pterygium.

3. *Entom.* (See quot.)

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. 381 *Pterygium*..., in under-wings this is a small wing-like appendage, fixed at the base of the wing in some Lepidoptera.

4. *Bot.* Term applied to petals and other appendages when shaped like wings.

1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pterygo- (pt-, te·rigo), before a vowel **pteryg-**, combining form of Gr. *πτέρυξ, πτερυγ-* wing, fin.

1. In general sense of 'wing', 'fin', or 'wing-like appendage'.

Pte·rygoblast *Ichth.* [Gr. *βλαστός* germ], a germinal fin-ray. **Pte·rygobra·nchiate** (-bræ·ŋkiĕt) *a., Zool.* [see BRANCHIATE], of a group of isopodous crustaceans: having feathery gills. ‖ **Pte·rygopo·dium** *Ichth.* [Gr. *ποῦς, ποδ-* foot], one of the claspers of a shark, etc. **Pte·rygospe·rmous** *a., Bot.*, having winged seeds (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Pterygo·steum** *Entom.* [Gr. *ὀστέον* bone], one of the nervures or veins of an insect's wing. **Pte·rygosto·me** [Gr. *στόμα* mouth], the space between the anterior edges of the carapace in crabs and other crustacea; hence **Pterygosto·mial, Pterygosto·mian** *adjs.*

1884 J. A. RYDER in *Rep. U.S. Commission Fish* (1886) 985 The term..*Pterygoblasts refers to the protoplasmic bodies from which the embryonic fin-rays are developed. 1897 PARKER & HASWELL *Text-bk. Zool.* II. 157 In all recent Elasmobranchs the male has, connected with the pelvic fins, a pair of grooved appendages—the claspers or *pterygopodia—which subserve copulation. 1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 367 The *pterygostome has a smooth channel parallel with the sides of the buccal area. 1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 341 The edges of the carapace pass completely in front of the bases of the limbs, and then turn suddenly forwards, parallel with one another and with the axis of the body, as the *pterygostomial plates of Milne-Edwards. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 780/1 *Pterygostomian portions of the carapace. 1893 STEBBING *Crustacea* v. 52 On the under side [are] the pterygostomian regions, 'the wings of the mouth'.

2. Used as combining form of PTERYGOID, denoting attachment or relation to the pterygoid processes of the sphenoid bone.

Pterygo-malar (-mē·lăr) *a.*, belonging to or connected with the pterygoid process of the sphenoid and the malar bone. **Pterygo-ma·xillary** *a.* [L. *maxilla* jaw], belonging to or connected with the pterygoid processes and the superior maxillary bone. **Pterygo-pa·latal, -pa·latine** *adjs.*, of or belonging to the pterygoid and the palatine bones. **Pterygo-pharyngeal** (-fări·ndʒiăl), **-phary·ngean** *adjs.*, connected with the pterygoid process and the pharynx. **Pterygo-quadrate** (-kwǫ·drĕt)

a., pertaining to or combining the pterygoid and quadrate bones. **Pterygo-sphe·noid** *a.*, belonging to the pterygoid and the sphenoid bones; sphenopterygoid. **Pterygo-spi·nous** *a.*, pertaining to the pterygoid process and the spine of the sphenoid. **Pterygo-sta·phyline** *a.* [Gr. *σταφυλή* uvula]: see quot. 1858. **Pterygo-trabe·cular** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pterygoid and the trabeculæ of the skull.

1859 Owen in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XVII. 150/1 On the inferior surface the palato-nasal, the pterygo-sphenoid and the *pterygo-malar vacuities. 1840 G. V. Ellis *Anat.* 68 The constrictor is attached behind the *pterygo-maxillary ligament. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 89 The pterygo-maxillary [fissure] runs up between the posterior border of the maxilla and the adjacent pterygoid process. 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 37 The *Pterygo-palatine canal, ..gives passage to vessels, and is completed by a process of the palate bones. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pterygo-pharyngean. 1886 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 220 The *pterygo-quadrate cartilage..varies considerably in depth at different points. [1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, **Pterigostaphilinus Externus*, is a Muscle which moves the Uvula]. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pterygostaphylinus*, of or belonging to the pterygoid process of the sphenoid bone and *uvula*: *pterygostaphyline. 1886 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 222 A well-marked *pterygo-trabecular eminence.

Pterygode (pt-, te·rigōud). *Entom.* [f. mod.L. *pterygōda* pl., f. Gr. *πτερυγώδης*: see next.] Each of two movable appendages on the pronotum and thorax of certain Lepidoptera; the patagium.

[1834 tr. *Latreille* in *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 336 Before the superior wings of these Insects are two species of epaulettes—*pterygoda*—which extend posteriorly along a portion of the back on which they are laid.] 1895 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 264 The pterygodes are purplish black at base, with a large patch of white before the terminal fringe.

Pterygoid (pt-, te·rigoid), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [ad. Gr. *πτερυγοειδής*, contr. *πτερυγώδης* like a wing, f. *πτέρυξ*, *-υγ-* wing: see *-oid.*] Having the form or appearance of a wing, wing-like, wing-shaped.

1. *Pterygoid process* (*πτερυγοειδὴς ἀπόφυσις*, Galen): Each of two processes of bone descending (on each side) from the junction of the body and great wing of the sphenoid bone.

The *external pterygoid process* is a process or extension of the alisphenoid, or great wing of the sphenoid, having no independent centre of ossification, and is in no vertebrate a distinct part. The *internal pterygoid process* is in origin a distinct bone, the *pterygoid bone* proper, which in lower vertebrates remains distinct and freely articulated, but in mammalia is ankylosed with the sphenoid, and sutured with the palatal bone. (In fishes there are several distinct pterygoid bones.) The external and internal pterygoid processes (or bones) are also called the *pterygoid plates*.

1722 Quincy *Lex. Physico-Med.* (ed. 2) 12 *Aliformes Musculi*, are Muscles arising from the Pterygoide Bone, and ending in the Neck of the lower Jaw. 1741 Monro *Anat.* (ed. 3) 119 It runs above the inner Wing of the pterygoid Process. 1808 Barclay *Muscular Motions* 504 The pterygoid processes of the sphenoides. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 162/1 The auditory bone..and the pterygoid apophyses are fixed to the skull as in the tortoises. 1881 Mivart *Cat* iii. 70 Two complex bony plates:..each of these is called a pterygoid plate.

b. Connected with the pterygoid processes.

Pterygoid fossa, the deep concavity between the external and internal pterygoid plates. *Pterygoid muscles* (external and internal), the muscles of mastication which arise from the respective pterygoid processes, and are inserted into the lower jaw-bone, to effect its forward-and-backward and lateral movements. *Pterygoid ridge*, the ridge traversing the outer surface of the alisphenoid which gives attachment to the external pterygoid muscle. *Pterygoid tubercle*, the rough prominence on the lower jaw for attachment of the internal pterygoid muscle.

1746 R. James *Introd. Mouffet's Health's Improv.* 4 The external Pterygoide Muscles, and some Fibres of the Masseter, draw the intire inferior Jaw forwards. 1869 *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.* XI. 583 A single pterygoid tooth was found in the matrix. 1872 Humphry *Myology* 44 Bounding the orbit behind, and filling up the wide pterygoid fossa on the side of the skull. 1881 Mivart *Cat* 70 The very small space included between this last and the hamular process, is called the pterygoid fossa.

2. *Pterygoid chest*, a form of the thorax in which the shoulder-blades stick out on each side.

1870 S. Gee *Auscult. & Percussion* I. ii. 27 It is instructive to compare the raising of the shoulders and the non-prominence of the shoulder-blades with the opposite conditions in the opposite form of chest, the pterygoid. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 202 The first [abnormal form of chest] named alar or pterygoid by Galen and Arctæus and in our own day by Dr. Gee.

B. *sb.* a. The pterygoid bone. b. Each of the pterygoid muscles.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pterygoides*, the Processes and Muscles of the Wedge-like Bone.] 1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 239 In the substance of a muscle, as in the masseter and pterygoid. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 179 The palatine and pterygoids forming the roof of the mouth. 1875 Huxley in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 754/2 Each pterygoid is a triradiate bone.

So **Pterygoi·dal** *a.*; **Pterygoi·dean** *a.* (*sb.*).

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Pterigopalatinus*, The Tendon of this passes over the Pterigoidal Process. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXV. 58/2 The descending part of the parietal and pterygoïdean bones. *Ibid.* 59/1 The jugal proceeds from the posterior angle of the orbit..touching a little behind and below the pterygoïdean. 1851 Mantell *Petrifactions* iii. § 3. 199 Saurians without pterygoïdal teeth.

‖ **Pterygota** (pterigō·tă), *sb. pl.* *Entom.* [mod.L.,. f. Gr. *πτερυγωτός* winged.] A primary division of Insects, containing all the winged kinds. Hence **Pte·rygote** *a.*, furnished with wings, winged; belonging to the *Pterygota*.

1878 Bell tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 245 This indifferent condition of the organisation is developed along two distinct lines in the Pterygota. 1898 Packard *Textbk. Entomol.* 83 In the embryo of pterygote insects, an intermaxillary segment has not been yet detected.

‖ **Pteryla** (pt-, te·rilă). *Ornith.* Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L. (Nitzsch 1833), f. Gr. *πτερ-όν* feather + *ὕλη* wood.] A definite clump, patch, or area of feathers, one of a number on the skin of a bird, separated by *apteria* or featherless spaces.

Of such patches or areas Nitzsch in his System of Pterylography (Halle 1840, Eng. tr. by Dallas 1867) recognized eight, viz. the spinal, ventral, neck-, wing-, tail-, shoulder-, femoral, and crural tracts, to which Prof. Newton adds the head-tract, and tract of the oil-gland. The distinctness of these varies greatly in different orders and groups of birds.

1867 tr. *Nitzsch's Pterylography* (Ray Soc.) 3 The feathered regions of the bodies of birds, to which I give the name of feather-tracts (*pterylæ*, Federnfluren). 1894 Newton *Dict. Birds* 744 Feathers..are generally restricted to well-defined patches or tracts, which in 1833 received from Nitzsch..the name of *pterylæ*..or 'feather-forests', in opposition to the *apteria*, or featherless spaces, which intervene.

Pterylography (pt-, terilo·grăfi). *Ornith.* [f. Pteryla + -graphy.] The scientific description of, or a treatise on, the pterylosis of birds.

1867 (*title*) Nitzsch's Pterylography, translated from the German. 1870 Rolleston *Anim. Life* Introd. 49 The ulna carries the 'secondaries'..of pterylography.

Hence **Pte·rylogra·phic, -ical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to pterylography; descriptive of pterylæ; **Pte·rylogra·phically** *adv.*, in respect of pterylography. So **Pte·rylolo·gical** *a.* [as if f. **pterylology*], of or pertaining to pterylosis.

1867 tr. *Nitzsch's Pterylography* (Ray Soc.) 43 The most important pterylographic characters of these [Diurnal Rapacious Birds] consist in the presence of an aftershaft on the contour-feathers. *Ibid.* 83 This group, although inferior to the preceding in extent, is nevertheless, much more variable pterylographically. 1896 Newton *Dict. Birds* Introd. 69 He [Dr. Cornay] also seems to have been aware of some pterylological differences exhibited in Birds.

Pterylosis (pt-, terilō·usis). *Ornith.* [f. Pteryla: see *-osis.*] The arrangement or disposition of the pterylæ, or of the feathers, of birds.

1874 Coues *Birds N. W.* 590 Of the pterylosis it may be observed, after Nitzsch, that the general character is perfectly scolopacine. 1885 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 175 The pterylosis of this Cuckoo is not widely different from that of *Cuculus*.

‖ **Ptilinum** (ptilī·năm). *Entom.* [mod.L., arbitrarily f. Gr. *πτίλ-ον* down, a plumelet.] A peculiar structure in some dipterous insects: see quot.

1899 *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 442 About one-half of the Diptera possess a peculiar structure in the form of a head-vesicle called 'ptilinum'. In the fly emerging from the pupa this appears as a bladder-like expansion of the front of the head; being susceptible of great distension, it is useful in rupturing the hard shell in which the creature is then enclosed. In the mature fly, the ptilinum is completely introverted and can be found only by dissection.

Ptilo- (pt-, tilo), before a vowel **ptil-**, combining form of Gr. *πτίλον* a soft feather, a plumelet.

Ptilocerque (-sō·ik) *Zool.* [Gr. *κέρκος* tail], an elephant shrew of the genus *Ptilocercus*, having a long tail with distichous hairs towards the end; the pen-tailed shrew. **Ptiloge·nesis,** the genesis or growth of feathers (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895). **Ptilolite** *Min.* [see *-lite*], 'hydrous silicate of aluminum, calcium, and potassium, found in delicate tufts made up of short capillary crystals' (Chester). **Ptilopædic** (-pī·dik) *a. Ornith.* [Gr. *παῖς*, *παιδ-* child + *-ic*], of birds: hatched with a complete covering of down.

1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.*, *Ptilocerque. 1886 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* Ser. III. XXXII. 118 *Ptilolite, derived from *πτίλον*, down, in reference to the light, downy nature of its aggregates. 1887 *Min. Mag.* VII. 115 Ptilolite is gradually decomposed by strong sulphuric acid. 1884 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 88 Probably all præcocial birds are also *ptilopædic, and all psilopædic birds altricial, but..many altrices, as hawks and owls, [are] also ptilopædic. 1885 *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 146/2 The rails and cranes, the typical members of which are præcocial and ptilopædic.

‖ **Ptilosis** [1] (pt-, tilō·usis). *Path. Obs.* [a. Gr. *πτίλωσις* disease of the eyelids, f. *πτίλος* sore-eyed: see *-osis.*] A disease of the eyelids, attended with inflammation and loss of the eye-lashes (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*, *Ptylosis*, when the Brims of the Eye-lids being grown thick, the Hairs of the Eye-brows fall off. 1799 Hooper *Med. Dict.*, *Ptilosis*.

Ptilo·sis [2]. *Ornith. rare.* [f. Gr. *πτίλ-ον* soft feather, down + *-osis.*] Plumage; also, the arrangement of the feathers, = Pterylosis.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Ptilosis*..term applied by Illiger to the assemblage of feathers or to the plumage of birds. 1872 Coues *Key N. Amer. Birds* 5 All a bird's feathers, of whatever kind and structure, taken together, constitute its *ptilosis* or Plumage.

Ptisan (ti·zăn, tizæ·n), *sb.* Forms: α. 5 **thisan**(e, **tizanne, tysane,** 5–6 **tysan,** 6 **-ant**(e, 6–8 **tisan,** 6–9 **tisane,** 8 **tissane.** β. 6 **ptysan**(e, **ptisant,** 7 **ptizand, -anne, phtisan,** 8 **ptisen,** 8–9 **ptissan,** 9 **ptisanne,** 6–9 **ptisane,** 6– **ptisan.** [a. F. *tisane* (14th c. *tizanne*, 16th c. *ptisane*) = Pr. *tisana, tipsana*, Sp. and It. *tisana*, ad. L. *ptisana* (also in med.L. *tipsana*), a. Gr. *πτισάνη* peeled or pearl barley, also a drink made from this, f. *πτίσσειν* to peel, to winnow, to crush or bray as in a mortar.]

1. A palatable decoction of nourishing and slightly medicinal quality; originally a drink made of barley, barley-water (simple or with admixture of other ingredients); now often applied more widely.

α. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cxv. (Bodl. MS.), Of barlich ischeled and isode in water is a medicinable drinke ymade þat phisicians clepen Thisan. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 139 In þe v. day he took þikke tizanne [*v. r.* tysan]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 494/2 Tysane, drynke, *ptisana*. 1567 Turberv. *Epitaphs*, etc. 97 b, They will refuse the Tysants taste. 1596 Danett tr. *Comines* (1614) 15 A little of the tysan the Earle had drunke of. 1709 Mrs. Manley *Secret Mem.* I. 126 He could not confine himself to Wine and Water, or Tissanes. 1854 Badham *Halieut.* 119 Paul of Ægina advises that the patient quaff a light tisane.

β. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* II. xxi. (1541) 34 b, Ptysane is none other than pure barley, braied in a morter, and sodden in water. 1544 Phaer *Regim. Life* (1553) G j b, Drynke a ptisane made of barley, lyquyryce, prunes, and the rotes of fenel. 1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 8 b, And of cleane Barly and puer Water, is made that excellente Water called Ptisant. 1612 *Enchir. Med.* II. 227 In the stead of wine, wee must vse Ptizand. 1643 J. Steer tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* vii. 30 Let his drinke be phtisan. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 15 The benefit I had by the drinking of Ptizanne. 1699 Garth *Dispens.* III. (1700) 36 Thrice happy were those Golden Days of old When dear as Burgundy, Ptisans were sold. 1772 T. Percival *Ess.* (1777) I. 327 He had drank about a pint of the ptisan. 1858 [see 2]. 1885 Burton *Arab. Nts.* III. 94 The old woman ceased not to..ply him with ptisanes and diet-drinks.

†2. Peeled or husked barley. *Obs. rare.*

[1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. clxx. (Bodl. MS.), Tipsana..is barliche istampid in a morter & furste dried & scheled.] 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 33 Vnlesse it be taken with Ptisane, or husked Barly alone. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Ptisana*, barley pounded and made into balls; also, a drink made of farinaceous substances boiled in water and sweetened; a ptisan, tisane, more correctly, perhaps, ptissan.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *ptisan-broth, -vender.*

1590 Barrough *Meth. Physick* 228 Minister againe Ptisane broth. 1815 *Paris Chit-chat* (1816) I. 61 Narrow-brimmed hats, fit only for ptisan venders.

Hence **Pti·san** *v. trans.*, to feed with ptisan; **Ptisa·nery** [Fr. *tisanerie*], the making of ptisan; the place in a hospital where ptisan is made.

1844 Tupper *Twins* XXI, I am obliged to coddle her, and feed her, and ptisan her, like a sick baby. 1843 Le Fevre *Life Trav. Phys.* I. i. vii. 147 He would not allow that anything French could be innocent, not even its ptisannery.

†**Ptish** (ptiʃ), *int.* and *sb. Obs.* = Pish!

1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 16 Sundry ptishes, face-makings, shaking of their heads, and diuerse verie disdainfull exclamations.

Ptisic, -ick(e, -ike, -ique, obs. ff. Phthisic.

Ptochocracy (pt-, tōkŏ·krăsi). [f. Gr. *πτωχός* poor, a beggar + *-cracy.*] Government by beggars, the rule of paupers; a governing body consisting of the poor; *loosely*, the poor as a class.

1774 Burgh *Pol. Disquisitions* I. II. iv. 50 The British government..is neither absolute monarchy nor limited monarchy, nor aristocracy, nor democracy,..but may be called a ptochocracy (the reader will pardon a new word) or government of beggars. 1831 *Examiner* 140/2 Consistently the King has a Pension List for Charity to the Ptochocracy. 1878 Gladstone *Glean.* (1879) I. 182 To make its argument good, it should have shown the imminence of a ptochocracy.

Ptochogony (pt-, tōkŏ·gŏni). [f. as prec. + *-γονία* begetting, generation.] The begetting or production of beggars.

1839 Syd. Smith *Lett. to Archd. Singleton* iii. P 21 The whole plan of the Bishop of London is a ptochogony—a generation of beggars. He purposes..to create a thousand livings of 130*l* per annum each. 1852 H. L. Mansel *Let.* in *Oxford Univ. Commission Evid.* I. 20 It is..desirable that the dark as well as the bright side of academical ptochogony should be fully considered.

Ptocho·logy. [f. as prec. + *-logy.*] The scientific study of pauperism, unemployment, etc.

1891 W. Tuckwell in *Review of Churches* 15 Dec. 174 The parson..is, by vertue of his office, an adept in what Dean Mansel used to call ptochology, the science which estimates and classifies pauperage, mendicancy, unemploy.

Ptolemæan (tŏlĕmī·ăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7–8 **-mean.** [f. L. *Ptolemæ-us* (see next) + *-an.*] = Ptolemaic *a.* 1 and *sb.*

1647 Boyle *Let. to Hartlib* 8 Apr., Wks. 1744 I. Life 23 The dissenting opinions of the Ptolemeans, the Tychonians, the Copernicans. 1861 Max Müller *Sci. Lang.* I. 17 Although the Ptolemæan system was a wrong one, yet even from its eccentric point of view, laws were discovered determining the true movements of the heavenly bodies.

Ptolemai·an, *a.* [f. as next + *-an.*] = next, A. 2.

1905 *Blackw. Mag.* May 629/1 [An] inscription of the Ptolemaian epoch.

Ptolemaic (tŏlĕmē·ik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. Πτολεμαῖ-ος (L. *Ptolemæus*) Ptolemy + *-ic.*]

A. *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to Ptolemy, a celebrated astronomer who lived at Alexandria in the second century A. D.

Ptolemaic system or *theory*: the astronomical system or theory elaborated by Ptolemy in his *Μαθηματικὴ σύνταξις* (cf. Almagest), in which the relative motions of the sun, moon, and planets were explained to take place around

the earth, which was supposed to be stationary; it was, with modifications, the accepted theory till the time of Copernicus and Kepler.

1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* I. v. 209 After the Ptolemaick number and order of the planets had past uncontradicted for very many ages. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 345 ¶ 3 The chief Points in the Ptolemaic and Copernican Hypothesis are described with great Conciseness and Perspicuity. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It.* (1898) VII. ix. 45 The doctrine of the Sphere..embraced the exposition of Ptolemaic astronomy.

2. Of or pertaining to the Ptolemies, the Macedonian Greek rulers of ancient Egypt from the death of Alexander the Great to Cleopatra.

1771 RAPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 484 The Ptolemaic gold coins in the Pembroke collection. 1875 RENOUF *Egypt. Gram.* 65 Those of the Ptolemaic and Roman periods. 1904 R. C. JEBB *Bacchylides* (Proc. Brit. Acad.) 1 The MS. is a fine uncial, with traits of the Ptolemaic type.

B. *sb.* An adherent of the Ptolemaic theory (see A. 1); a Ptolemaist.

1751 HUME *Ess.* xii. (ed. 2) 251 A Copernican or Ptolemaic, who supports each his different System of Astronomy. 1906 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 594 There are left a few Ptolemaics who believe that the earth is the centre of the heavenly host.

Hence (all in reference to A. 1) **† Ptolema·ical** *a.* = A. 1; **† Ptolema·id** *a.*, resembling the arrangement of spheres, etc. in the Ptolemaic theory; **Ptolema·ism**, the Ptolemaic principle; **Ptolema·ist**, one who holds the Ptolemaic theory.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. ii. (1712) 40 The same Argument urged from the *Ptolemaical Hypothesis. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V*, cclxxxiii, To involve the Stade Within his Sphære; a Structure *Ptolomaid. 1874 MASSON *Milton* (1877) I. 48 The *Ptolemaism of Milton's astronomical scheme. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 163 Until the Copernicans have convinced the *Ptolemaists.

Ptomaic (pt-, tōmē·ĭk), *a.* [f. PTOMA-INE + -IC. The etymologically correct form would be *ptomatic*: cf. next.] Of or pertaining to ptomaïne.

1904 *Daily News* 18 June 3 Some time ago he was seriously ill through ptomaic poisoning.

Ptomaïne (pt-, tō·u·mē,əin). *Chem.* [ad. It. *ptomaina*, blunderingly formed by Professor Selmi of Bologna, f. Gr. πτῶμα fallen body, corpse: see -INE 5. As the Gr. combining stem is πτωματ-, the correct form of the word is *ptomatine*.

Prof. Selmi's first paper in *Annali di Chimica* (1876) LXII. 165, announced the body as 'la *ptomaina* o prima alcaloide dei cadaveri'; but this was partly corrected in his work of 1878 to *ptomaina*; it is to be regretted that the full correction to *ptomatine* was not made at its reception into English, which would also have prevented the rise of the illiterate pronunciation (tōmē·ĭn) like *domain*.]

The generic name of certain alkaloid bodies found in putrefying animal and vegetable matter, some of which are very poisonous.

1880 *Year-bk. Pharmacy* 40 The identification of these alkaloidal substances, or *ptomaines*, is of great interest to toxicologists. 1881 *Pharmaceutical Jrnl.* 28 May 984/2 The discovery of Professor Selmi as to the formation of poisonous alkaloids, which he calls ptomaïnes, in the human body after death. 1884 *Athenæum* 26 Apr. 534/3 These 'cadaveric' alkaloids, or 'ptomaines' as they have also been called. 1891 *Lancet* 3 Oct. 752 The chemical ferments produced in the system, the albumoses or ptomaines which may exercise so disastrous an influence.

b. *attrib.*, as *ptomaïne absorption, poisoning.*

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 5/3 All the medical witnesses agreed that death was due to ptomaine poisoning. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 215 Ptomaine erythemas, due to shell-fish, etc., may present considerable resemblance to small-pox initial rashes.

Hence **Pto·maïned** *ppl. a.*, infected with ptomaine; **Ptomaï·nic** *a.*, of or pertaining to ptomaïne or the ptomaïnes (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895).

1898 G. W. STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartoum* xi. 94 We went to a Greek café and lunched on ptomained sardines.

So **Pto·mato-a·tropine, ptomatropine**, *Chem.* [f. Gr. πτωματ- + ATROPINE], a ptomaïne which resembles atropine in its physical action.

1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Ptomatropine.* 1899 CAGNEY *Jakseh's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 189 Mention should be made also of ptomato-atropin, a basic compound which has been discovered in the latter [i. e. putrid sausage].

‖ **Ptosis** (ptō·sis). [a. Gr. πτῶσις falling, fall.] A falling, prolapsus: **a.** *spec.* Drooping of the upper eyelid from paralysis of the elevator muscle.

1743 tr. *Heister's Surg.* (1763) I. 390 Of Relaxation and Tumor of the Eye-lids, termed Phalangosis and Ptosis. 1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 310 Wounds of the lower part of the forehead or eyebrow, are sometimes followed by the disorder named *ptosis*, in which the upper eyelid hangs down. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 681 Ptosis of the right upper eyelid appeared.

b. Prolapsus of any of the viscera. *rare.*

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 587 To discuss ptosis of the abdominal organs. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 Aug. *Epit. Curr. Med. Lit.* 34 The relative frequency and importance of ptosis of the various organs.

Hence **Ptotic** (ptō·tik) *a.*, pertaining to or affected with ptosis.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Ptyalagogue (pt-, təi·ălăgŏg). *Med.* [f. Gr. πτύαλ-ον spittle, saliva (f. πτύ-ειν to spit) + ἀγωγός leading, eliciting.] (See quots.)

[1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Ptyalagoga*, a word used by physicians to express such medicines as promote a copious discharge of the saliva.] 1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Ptyalagogue*, applied to medicines which promote or increase the flow of saliva. 1895 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Ptyalagogue*..the same as Sialagogue.

Hence **Ptyalagogic** (-ŏ·dʒik) *a.*, of the nature of a ptyalagogue. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.* (mispr. *-ogoic*).

Ptyalin (pt-, təi·ălin). *Physiol. Chem.* [f. Gr. πτύαλ-ον spittle, saliva + -IN 2.] An amylolytic ferment in saliva, discovered by Leuchs, 1831.

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 39 Ptyalin and pyin may be regarded as water-extracts of saliva and pus. 1872 HUXLEY *Phys.* vi. 141 The saliva..contains a small quantity of animal matter, called Ptyalin. 1907 A. RAVENHILL *Pract. Hygiene* 188 The ptyalin (the active ferment in the saliva) of which the function is to convert insoluble starch into soluble sugar.

Ptyalism (pt-, təi·ăliz'm). [ad. Gr. πτυαλισμός expectoration, f. πτυαλίζειν to expectorate, f. πτύαλον: see prec.] Excessive secretion or flow of saliva; salivation.

[1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Ptyalismus*, salivation, or a great flux of spitting.] 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 361 Mercury..is a cause of the copious secretion of the Saliva, which is the cause of a Ptyalism. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 37 Harrassed by an almost incessant ptyalism. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 202 Moderate use of mercury, short of ptyalism.

So **Pty·alize** *v. trans.*, to induce ptyalism in, to salivate. **Pty·alose** *Chem.*, the sugar formed by the action of ptyalin on starch (*S. S. Lex.* 1895).

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 392 It is not necessary to ptyalize the patient severely.

† Pty·chode. *Bot. Obs.* [f. Gr. πτύχ-ώδης in folds or layers, f. πτυχή a fold + -ειδης = -form.] Hartig's name for a supposed membrane lining certain vegetable cells; in reality the contracted protoplasmic layer in contact with the cell-wall.

1849 *Ray Soc. Rep. & Pap. Bot.* 222 He was led to these researches by Hartig's investigations upon the structure of cells, and his assumption of their possessing a more internal membrane which lines their interior, and which he denominated a Ptychode.

Ptychodont (pti·kodɒnt). *Palæont.* [f. Gr. πτυχή fold + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] Having the crowns of the molar teeth folded, as in the fossil genus *Ptychodus*. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Ptysmagogue (pti·zmăgɒg). *Med. rare.* [f. Gr. πτύσμα spittle, expectoration.] = PTYALAGOGUE.

1730–6 BAILEY (folio), *Ptysmagogue*, a medicine which discharges spittle, whether it amounts quite to a salivation or not. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Ptyxis** (pti·ksis). *Bot.* [a. Gr. πτύξις folding.] (See quot.)

1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* (ed. 6) 132 *note*, *Ptyxis*..is coming into use as a general term for the folding, etc., of single parts. *Ibid.* 133 The *Ptyxis* (or folding) of an individual leaf,..should be distinguished from the arrangement in the bud of the leaves of a circle or spiral in respect to each other.

Pu, pu', Sc. forms of PULL.

† Pu·ant, *a. Obs. rare.* [a. F. *puant*, pres. pple. of *puer* formerly *puir*:—pop. L. *putīre* for L. *pūt-ēre* to stink.] Stinking. Hence **† Pu·antly** *adv.*

a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* III. 143 Your brethe yt ys so felle And so puauntely dothe smelle. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 161 The bodies of rich-men..are more puant and stinking then the bodies of poore men.

Puarpure, variant of PUERPERE *Obs.*

Pub (pʊb), *sb. low colloq.* [Shortened from PUBLIC *sb.* 4.] A public house, an inn.

1865 E. C. CLAYTON *Cruel Fortune* II. 155 The wealthy proprietress of a busy 'pub'. 1890 F. W. ROBINSON *Very Strange Family* 70 A barmaid from a Waterloo Road pub.

Hence **Pub** *v. intr.* (with *it*), to frequent 'pubs'.

1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ii, We decided that we would..hotel it, and inn it, and pub. it..when it was wet.

Pu·bble, *a.* Now only *dial.* [Of obscure origin; cf. EFris. *pumpel*, LG. *pümpel* a fat burly person.] Fat, well filled, plump.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* ii. F ij b, Yf they bothe be dreste, The Pecocke, and the pubble hen, the Pecocke tasteth best. 1567 — *Epist.* I. iv. D vij, Thou shalt fynde me fat, and wel fed, as pubble as may be. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 99 If the wheate bee a pubble, proude and well-skinned corne. 1691 RAY *N. C. Words* 56 *Pubble*, fat, full: usually spoken of corn, fruit and the like. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., 'As pubble as a partridge', broad-breasted, stout.

† Puber (piū·bəɹ). *Obs.* [a. L. *pūber*, also *pūbēs, -er-em* adj., that has attained puberty, as sb. a youth, f. *pūbēs* PUBES.] A youth; one who is between the age of puberty and maturity.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 7742 Hy beþ icliped puberes, þat hys a word of lawe. 1545 *Records of Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 86 Thomas Young, puber.

Puberal (piū·bĕrăl), *a.* [ad. late L. *pūberāl-is* (*Gloss. Cyril.* in Quicherat), adj. f. *pūber*: see prec. and -AL.] Of or at the age of puberty.

1836–7 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* (1870) I. App. 411 They are found in all puberal crania. 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* V. 483 The period of puberal development.

Pu·berate, *a. rare.* [f. L. *pūber* (see above) + -ATE 2.] = prec.

1880 MUIRHEAD tr. *Ulpian* viii. § 5 Both males and females, and whether puberate or impuberate, may be adopted.

Pu·bertal, *a. rare.* [irreg. f. next + -AL.] Of or pertaining to puberty.

1897 *Atlantic Monthly* Oct. 555 Until the beginning of the pubertal changes, growth is relatively very slow.

Puberty (piū·bəɹti). [ME. *puberte* = F. *puberté* (1474 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *pūbertās, -tāt-* the age of maturity, the signs of puberty, f. *pūber* or *pūbēs*: see PUBER.]

1. The state or condition of having become functionally capable of procreating offspring, which is characterized by various symptoms in each sex, as by the appearance of hair on the pubes, and on the face in the male.

In England the legal age of puberty is fourteen in boys and twelve in girls, but the actual time of development varies in different climates and environment and with different individuals.

1382 WYCLIF *Mal.* ii. 14 Bitwixe thee and the wijf of thi pubertee [*gloss*, that is, tyme of mariage]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. v. (Bodl. MS.), Er þei come to þe 3ere of puberte. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iv. 29 Oure 3ong illustir princis be ane tendir pupil, ande nocht entrit in the aige of puberte. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 344 Though hee knew old age he was never acquainted with puberty, youth, or Infancy. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 68 When they arrive near the age of puberty. *a* 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 352 In towns, women reach puberty sooner than they do in the country.

b. *attrib.* Connected with the attainment of the age of puberty.

1908 *Athenæum* 11 Apr. 444/1 Puberty rites, which are found in full vigour notably in Australia. *Ibid.* 444/2 Dr. Webster supposes these societies to arise on the basis of the puberty institutions.

2. *transf.* Of plants: The state or stage of bearing flowers or fruit. *rare.*

1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 454 All Trees have, I think, after they arrive at the age of puberty,..more slender shoots at the extremities of the branches. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 224/2 We prevent the full flow of the sap ..and thus advance the age of puberty and bring on a fruit-bearing state.

Puberulent (piūbe·rĭūlĕnt), *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pūber* in the sense 'downy' + -ULENT, after *pulverulent*, etc.] Covered with down; pubescent. So **Pube·rulous** *a.*

a 1864 GRAY cited in WEBSTER for *Puberulent. 1881 BAKER in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVIII. 278 A shrub..with puberulent, white..branchlets. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 231 Cranberry ..peduncles capillary, erect, *puberulous. 1888 — *Flora Brit. India* V. 625 Leaves..puberulous or hoary beneath.

‖ **Pubes** (piū·bīz). [L. *pūbēs, -is* the pubic hair; the groin, private parts.]

1. The pubic hair.

c 1570 W. WAGER *The longer thou livest* 1572 (Brandl) In adolencie when Pubes was springing. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pubes*, the Hair on the Privy Parts. 1706 in PHILLIPS.

2. The hypogastric region, which in the adult becomes covered with hair.

1682 T. GIBSON *Anat.* (1697) 7 The Pubes, which in the adult or ripe of age is covered with hair. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 484 The pyramidalis muscle is placed in the abdominal wall close above the pubes.

b. Erron. for *os pubis*, the pubic bone: = PUBIS 1.

1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 304 The pelvic arch..consists [on each side] of three pieces—the ilium, ischium, and pubes —which are usually anchylosed together.

c. Erron. pl. of PUBIS (in sense 1) for *ossa pubis*.

1841 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr. Med.* 29 In the female..the rami of the ischia and pubes are smoother on their inner surface. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 190 In Reptiles we find a pair of separate bones, usually called the pubes.

† 3. = PUBERTY 1. *Obs.*

1637 T. MORTON *New Eng. Canaan* (1883) 142 After hee attaines unto the age which they call Pubes.

4. *Zool.* and *Bot.* = PUBESCENCE 2, 3.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 58 The acquisition of certain organs, &c. as of teeth, pubes, feathers, &c. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pubes..Bot.*,..a term for the kind of down on the leaves..of certain plants: pubescence.

Pubescence (piūbe·sĕns). [a. F. *pubescence* (= med.L. *pūbēscentia* in Du Cange): see PUBESCENT and -ENCE.]

1. The fact or condition of arriving at puberty; also = PUBERTY 1.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 216 Solon divided it into ten Septenaries, because in every one thereof a man received some sensible mutation, in the first is Dedentition or falling of teeth: in the second Pubescence. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 91 Young men when entering upon or emerging from pubescence.

2. *Bot.* The soft down which grows on the leaves and stems of many plants; the character or condition of being pubescent or downy.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. xviii. (1765) 211 *Pubescence*.. is an Armature, by which Plants are defended from external Injuries. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 151 Herbaceous plants,..with a simple pubescence. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 288 *Marrubium*...Hoary, pubescence almost woolly.

3. *Zool.* The soft down which occurs upon certain parts of various animals, esp. insects.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xliv. 203 In this disease when the animal [flesh-fly] is dead..its almost invisible pubescence grows into long hairs. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxx. (1856) 261 The downy pubescence of the ears.

† Pube·scency. *Obs.* [ad. med.L. *pūbēscentia*: see prec. and -ENCY.] The quality or stage of being pubescent, puberty.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 50 Maturation, from crude pubescency unto perfection. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* IV. 116 The Genuine Teeth, which first appear before Pubescency.

Pubescent (piūbe·sĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *pubescent* (1516 in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *pūbēscens*, *-ent-*, pres. pple. of *pūbēsc-ĕre* to become downy or hairy, to attain puberty, to ripen, flourish; inceptive verb f. *pūbēs* PUBES.]

1. Arriving or arrived at the age of puberty.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xii. 210 That women are menstruant, and men pubescent, at the year of twice seven, is accounted a punctual truth. 1822–34 (*Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 86 Occurring, not only in pubescent, but even adult males.

2. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Having pubescence; covered with short soft hair; downy.

1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* I. xiv. (1765) 37 *Pubescent*, downy. 1828 Stark *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 347 Antennæ filiform or setaceous; body pubescent. 1857 Henfrey *Bot.* § 98 A pubescent surface is covered closely with short soft hairs.

B. *sb.* A youth at the age of puberty.

1894 G. S. Hall in *Forum* (U. S.) May 301 The young pubescent often shows signs of many insanities of intellect, will, and especially feeling.

Pubic (piū·bik), *a.* [f. PUBES + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or connected with the pubes or pubis.

1831 R. Knox *Cloquet's Anat.* 115 Forming one of the sides of the pubic arch. 1842 E. Wilson *Anat. Vade M.* 110 The posterior pubic ligament..uniting the pubic bones posteriorly. 1872 Mivart *Elem. Anat.* 179 The pubis, or pubic bone, forms the inner part of the thigh-socket.

Pubi·gerous, *a. Anat.* [f. L. *pūbi-*, stem of PUBES + -GEROUS.] Bearing downy hairs.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pubio-, assumed combining form of PUBES (of which the L. stem is actually *pubi-*).

This appears to be the usual form in modern L. anatomical terms, as *pubio-femoralis*, *-prostaticus*, etc., whence also in the English equivalent forms *pubio-femoral* (so mod.F.), *pubio-ischiadic*, *-ischiatic*, *-prostatic*, *-sternal*, *-umbilical*, *-urethral*. But in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890 only the corresponding forms in PUBO- are given as Eng., and in *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895 most of those in *pubio-* are referred to *pubo-*.

Pubiotomy (piūbio·tŏmi). *Surg.* [f. PUBIO- + -TOMY.] The operation of section through the *symphysis pubis*, esp. in obstetric practice.

1880 Allbutt & Playfair *Syst. Gynæcology* 634 It is beyond the scope of my article to deal with symphisiotomy, pelviotomy, and pubiotomy.

Pubis (piū·bis). [In sense 1 short for L. *os pūbis* the bone of the groin; in sense 2, variant of PUBES.]

1. That portion of the innominate bone which forms the anterior wall of the pelvis.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 32 b/2 We .. place the Boxes on the bone Pubis in the flanckes. [1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pubis os*,..the share Bone.] 1706 Phillips s. v. *Coxæ Os*, In Infants it consists of three Bones, viz. Ilium, Ischium, and Os Pubis.] 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s. v. *Innominatum*, Os Innominatum .. composed of three bones; viz. the ilium, the pubis and the ischium, only connected by cartilages. 1854 Owen *Skel. & Teeth* (1855) 61 The pubis and ischium on each side have coalesced with the ilium to form the lower boundary of the widely-perforated acetabulum.

2. Erroneously = PUBES 2.

1681 tr. *Willis' Rem. Med. Wks.* Vocab., *Pubis*, that part of the privy-parts, where the hair grows. 1800 *Med. Frnl.* IV. 164 If I could succeed in bringing the occiput to the pubis. 1811 A. T. Thomson *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 18 Applied to the pubis as a poultice.

Puble, obs. variant of PEBBLE.

Publes, **-lesch**, obs. forms of PUBLISH.

Public (pv·blik), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: *α.* 5–6 **publyke**, 5–7 **-ike**, **-ique**, 6 **-icque**, **-yche**, **-yque**, 6–7 **-icke**, *Sc.* **-icte**, 6–8 **-ick**, 7 **-iq**, 6– **public**. *β.* 5 **puplik**, 7 **-icke**, **-ique**. [ME. *publike*, *-ique*, a. F. *public* (1311 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *pūblicus*, in early L. *poplicus*, f. *populus* (later *popul-us*) PEOPLE. (The change to *pūblicus* appears to have taken place under the influence of *pūbes*, in the sense 'adult men', 'male population'.)]

In general, and in most of the senses, the opposite of PRIVATE.

The varieties of sense are numerous and pass into each other by many intermediate shades of meaning. The exact shade often depends upon the substantive qualified, and in some expressions more than one sense is vaguely present; in others the usage is traditional, and it is difficult to determine in what sense precisely the thing in question was originally called 'public'.

I. Pertaining to the people of a country or locality.

1. Of or pertaining to the people as a whole; that belongs to, affects, or concerns the community or nation; common, national, popular.

1513 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge, An other Balade to auctour* 20 (E. E. T. S.) 201 One of thy clientes..Hath chaunged newly, o mayde..Thy legende latine to our language publique. 1563 Winjet *Wks.* (S. T. S.) II. 21 To ..confound all, bayth priuat and publict, bayth hallowit and prophane. 1570–6 Lambarde *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 7 So that they be well employed, both in the publique service, and in their own particular. 1632 Sanderson *Serm.* Ep. Ded., Who..can out of private wrongs worke publike good. 1657 Heylin *Hist. Ref.* I. ii. 23 The publique Liturgy in the vulgar tongue. 1687 A. Lovell tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 241 In the month of November there was..at Caire..a publick Rejoicing, because the Turks had taken two Castles in Hungary. 1780 Bentham *Princ. Legisl.* xviii. § 9 These may be termed public offences or offences against the State. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 19 At this period there was no taste in the public mind to restrain vague imaginations. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 457/2 It may be said that there are contracts which ought to be declared void for reasons of public policy, or, to use a more correct expression.., reasons of public utility. 1904 *Whitaker's Almanac* 409/2 Public Record Office, Chancery Lane. Contains a collection of the National Records since 1100. *Mod.* The event was celebrated by a public holiday.

2. Phrases from 1.

a. In various phrases (mostly obsolete) rendering or suggested by L. *res publica*, as †*public state*, †*thing* (also †*thing public*), the commonwealth or state; *public good*, *weal* (also †*good* or *weal public*), *public wealth*, the common or national good or well-being; †the commonwealth or state; also †*common public* = common good. Cf. COMMON *a.* 5 b.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* xi. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 195 This was his laboure for the publique thinge. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 445 The gode publique of youre royaumes. 1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 137/1 Aynst alle vertue and ordre of welle puplike. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* v. i. 160 The Emperour Lucyus..Dictatour or procurour of the publyke wele of Rome. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* Title, The avaunceyng and preferryng the comyn publique of the Royaumes of England and of Fraunce. 1483 *Grants Edw. V* (Camden) p. xliii, The fyrst institucion of the thynge public there made by Romulus. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* vii. 33 He..that for his partyculer wele wyll leue y^e^ publike & comyn wele. 1538 Bale *Thre Lawes* 170 A great occasyon of peace and publyque welth. *a* 1628 F. Grevil *Inquis. Fame & Hon.* viii. Poems (1633) II. 54 It therefore much concernes each publike State To hoyse these costlesse sayles up to the Skye. 1632 Sir T. Hawkins tr. *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 180 The affaire .. is of so great consequence, that..the weale-publike is either shaken, or confirmed. 1671 Milton *Samson* 867 To the public good Private respects must yield. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. Poems (1761) 102 To the public weal Attentive none he [Jason] found.

b. *Public* (formerly *common*) *act*, *bill*, *statute*: a parliamentary act or bill which affects the community at large; cf. PRIVATE *a.* 7 b.

1678 Publick Bills [see PRIVATE *a.* 7 b]. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. Introd. iii. 85 Statutes are either general or special, public or private. A general or public act is an universal rule, that regards the whole community. 1863 H. Cox *Institut.* I. iv. 19 Of modern Acts of Parliament, the principal division is into *public* and *private*.

c. *Public office*: a building or set of buildings used for various departments of civic business, including the POLICE OFFICE (q. v.), judicial, police, and coroner's courts, the meeting-place of the local authority, the departments of municipal officials, etc.

1792 *Act* 32 *Geo. III*, c. 53 § 3 A certain Publick Office within the Liberty of Westminster known by the Name of The Public Office in Bow Street. 1826 *Hone's Every-Day Bk.* I. 768 On the 8th of June, 1825, a publican..was charged at the Public Office, Bow-street, by Mr. John Francis Panchaud, a foreigner. 1839 [see POLICE COURT]. 1885 J. T. Bunce *Hist. Corp. Birmingham* II. 547 Formerly, and until the opening of the Council House, the Town Council met at the Public Office, and the Borough Surveyor's department was established there, as also were the offices for the police. 1891 *B'ham Daily Gas.* 2 Mar. 7/8 Birmingham Public Office. First Court.—Saturday.

d. (†*The*) *public opinion*: the opinion of the mass of the community: see OPINION *sb.* 1 b.

3. Done or made by or on behalf of the community as a whole; authorized by, acting for, or representing, the community.

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 61 He should be constrained to stand to the publique judgement appointed by you. 1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 248 Those grand duties, and publique performances of Polity, or of Pietie. 1637 *Scotch Prayer Bk., Communion* Rubric, For the decent furnishing of that Church, or the publike relief of their poore. 1796 H. Hunter tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) III. 515 To return to our public Assemblies...Nothing can be more inconsistent with the gravity and wisdom of a deliberative Assembly than acclamation. 1839–77 Public prosecutor [see PROSECUTOR 3]. 1879–1902 Public prosecution [see PROSECUTION 5 d]. 1890 Ld. Esher in *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 734/1 A public prosecution, ordered by an official of the Crown, for what was considered to be a public object.

b. In the ancient universities: Belonging to, made or authorized by, acting for or on behalf of, the whole university (as distinguished from the colleges or other constituents): as *public disputation*, *examination*, *lecture*, *schools*, *hall*, *theatre*, *library*; *public orator*, *lecturer*, *professor*, *reader*, etc.

In some of these connexions, 'public' has given way to 'University', as *University Library*, *lecturer*, *professor*, *reader*, or to special designations as '*examination schools*', *Bodleian Library*, *Sheldonian Theatre*, etc. In others the adj. is now often taken to mean 'open to all members of the university' or even 'open to the public generally', as in 4, or 'performed publicly' as in 5.

[1522 *Camb. Univ. Stat.* (*Docmts. of Commission*, 1852, I. 431), Statuimus ordinamus et volumus ut unus aliquis orator publicus eligatur.] 1550 Udall tr. P. Martyr (*title*), A discourse or traictise of Petur Martyr..the publyque reader of diuinitee in the Uniuersitee of Oxford. 1614 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* III. 35 There is an intention of erecting a new publique library in Cambridge in imitation of that of Oxford. [1636 *Corpus Statut. Univers. Oxon.*, Tit. III. § 1 (1888) Cum..conducat ut Scholares non solum sub publico sed etiam sub privato regimine contineantur; Statutum est quod omnes Scholares .. in aliquod Collegium vel Aulam admittantur. *Ibid.* Tit. IV, De Lectoribus Publicis. — Tit. VI. i. § 3 In Scholis Artium publicis Disputationes..habeantur. — Tit. XVII. vii, De Publico Universitatis Oratore.] 1645 Public orator of the University [see ORATOR 5]. 1656 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 205 Dr John Wilson, the public professor [of Music], the best at the lute in all England. 1731 *Ordinationes* in *Laudian Code* (1888) Appx. 320 The Public Librarian. *Ibid.*, The University Orator..to make a Speech in Commemoration of the Benefactors to the University in the Public Theatre once in the year. 1773 [J. Napleton] (*title*) Considerations on the public exercises for First and Second Degrees in the University of Oxford. 1810 *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* 56 The Public Examinations are held twice a year. *Ibid.*, A testimonial will be given him by one of the Public Examiners. 1814 Dyer *Hist. Univ. Camb.* I. 247 You enter the quadrangle that forms the public schools through the portico of the public library. 1862 *Oxf. Univ. Cal.* 134 The First Public Examination before the Moderators, ..the Second Public Examination before the Public Examiners. [So 1909.] 1900 *Cambr. Univ. Cal.* 683 Unless the Fellow hold the office of Professor, Public Orator, Registrary, or Librarian in the University.

4. That is open to, may be used by, or may or must be shared by, all members of the community; not restricted to the private use of any person or persons; generally accessible or available; generally levied (as a rate or tax). Also (in narrower sense), That may be used, enjoyed, shared, or competed for, by all persons legally or properly qualified.

Sometimes involving the sense, Provided or supported at the public expense, and under public control: as in *public elementary school*, and often in *public baths*, *public library*, *public park*, and the like. A thing may also be 'public' at once in senses 4 and 5, as *public worship*, or in 1, 3, 4 and 5, as *public meeting*. See also PUBLIC SCHOOL, in various senses.

1542 Udall in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 6 Xenocrates.. readynge a publique lecture in philosophie. 1561 T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) K iv b, To make great Theatres, and other publique buildings. 1617 Morvson *Itin.* I. 77 Each Church hath a little market place..and a publike Well. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship*-Title-p., The Publique Worship of God. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IV. i. § 11 In publique assemblies, if the weaker party can so subsist as not to be conquered, it conquers in reputation. 1707 Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* III. xi. 386 A fair publick Library free for all Strangers in Term-time. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 59 His property was sold at public biddings. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 211 There was a public road, right from our place to that of our 'salesman'. 1821–30 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* vi. (1856) 346 We were..very angry, and had recourse to one of these new things called public meetings... It was held on the 2d of December 1817. 1855 *Act* 18 & 19 *Vict.* c. 122 § 3 In the construction of this Act .. the following terms shall have the respective meanings herein-after assigned to them..'Public building' shall mean every building used as a church, chapel, or other place of public worship; also every building used for purposes of public instruction; also every building used as a college, public hall, hospital, theatre, public concert room, public ball room, public lecture room, public exhibition room, or for any other public purposes. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 23 Jan. 5/2 On January 23, 1849, the first public baths in London, those at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, were opened. 1908 Dec. 21 *Act* 8 *Edw. VII*, c. 66 § 1 An act to prevent disturbance of Public Meetings...§ 2 This Act may be cited as the Public Meeting Act, 1908.

b. *Public education*, education at school, as opposed to being 'privately educated'; also education at a PUBLIC SCHOOL as distinguished from a private school.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. (1887) 183 Of priuate and publike education, with their generall goods and illes. 1797 Godwin *Enquirer* I. vii. 59 Public education is best for ..a..healthful mind. 1835 Arnold *Let.* 15 Apr. in Stanley *Life* (1845) I. 421 Public education is the best where it answers...I should certainly advise anything rather than a private school of above thirty boys.

c. Professionally at the service of the public: as a tradesman, dealer, etc.

1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 244 A public dealer can always afford to keep up a finer display of plants..than any private gentleman whatever.

d. *Public woman*, †*commoner*; a prostitute; = *common woman* (COMMON *a.* 6 b).

1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xix. 56 b, [He] caused to be clothed two publique Turkish women, with very rich apparrell. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* IV. ii. 73 Oh, thou publicke Commoner. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 287 To banish thence all the publick Women. 1892 E. Reeves *Homeward Bound* 194 The houses of the 'public women' (as they are still styled in modern places).

5. Open to general observation, sight, or cognizance; existing, done, or made in public; manifest; not concealed. Also of an agent: Acting in public.

a 1548 Hall *Chron., Rich. III* 28 b, Ther inwarde grudge could not refrayne but crye out in places publike, and also priuate. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* i. 19 A publike exemple of infamie. 1597 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* V. xix. § 2 The Church, by her publike reading of the Booke of God, preacheth onely as a witnesse. 1641 Brome *Jov. Crew* II. i, Will you up to the hill-top of sports..? No, that will be too publique for our Recreation. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 10 ¶ 7 The Count de Mellos..had made his Publick Entry into that City with much State. 1874 Blackie *Self-Cult.* 23 A certain awkwardness and difficulty in the public utterance of thought.

†b. Easily seen, conspicuous, prominent. *Obs.*

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/2 The ninth [vein] is very publique, lyinge in the necke, and is called the Iugularis vayne.

†c. Of a person: That is before the public. *Obs.*

1650 Hubbert *Pill Formality* 19 He is not so openly manifested to be wicked as the publike profane person. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* (1840) 287, I was not so public here as to be very well known. 1727 P. Walker *Life Cameron* in *Biog. Presb.* (1827) 294 Mr. George Barclay..was very publick at that Time, and had his Hand at many a good Turn.

d. Of a book, writing, etc.: (chiefly in phr. *made public*) Made accessible to all; published; in print. ? *Obs.*, or merged in 5.

a 1641 Bp. Mountagu *Acts & Mon.* iii. (1642) 159 The Prophets, whose writings were publique, and extant amongst the Jews. 1657 Austen *Fruit Trees* Ep. Ded., Your *Legacy of Husbandry* (and other pieces made publique by your means). 1716 Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) V. 264 Dr. South ..hath many publick Works extant. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* (1783) II. 451 The first of his dispatches has never been made public.

6. Of, pertaining to, or engaged in the affairs or service of the community; *esp.* of a person: occupying an official or professional position; also, holding a position of general influence or authority.

1571 Chillester tr. *Chelidonius' Instit. Chr. Princes* Title-p., A Hystorie..very necessarie to be red not only of all Nobilitie and Gentlemen, but also of euerie publike person. 1654 Trapp *Comm. Ezra* i. 5 Men of publike places. 1783 Johnson in *Boswell* (1887) IV. 178 With how little real superiority of mind men can make an eminent figure in publick life. 1817 *Parl. Deb.* 10 July, The community at large, who knew Mr. Ponsonby only as a public man. 1861 Earl Russell in *Times* 16 Oct., When I embarked in public life. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 1/3 Public men are made for public affairs, not public affairs for public men.

b. *Public notary, notary public*: see Notary *sb.*

7. Of or pertaining to a person in the capacity in which he comes in contact with the community, as opposed to his private capacity; official.

1538 Starkey *England* I. ii. 61 Both in the pryuate and publyke state of euery man. 1676 Hobbes *Iliad* I. 307 Two publick servants of the king were there. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 10 ¶ 1 Effects..upon the publick and private Actions of Men. 1725 Butler *Serm.* v. 80 Every man is to be considered in two capacities, the private and publick. 1864 [see Private *a.* 6].

8. Devoted or directed to the promotion of the general welfare; public-spirited, patriotic. Now chiefly in **b.** *public spirit.*

1607 Norden *Surv. Dial.* v. 200 Some will be peruerse, and wilful, and hinder the best publike action that is. 1652 Howell *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 78 Known to be a good Patriot, and of a publike soul. 1665 Dryden & Howard *Indian Queen* IV. i, Would it not breed Grief in your public heart to see her bleed? 1847 Emerson *Repr. Men, Napoleon* Wks. (Bohn) I. 370 Napoleon had been the first man of the world, if his ends had been purely public.

b. 1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 382 Private Persons with publike Spirits, are of a goodnesse Angelicall. 1691 T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xix, Men of publick Spirits. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 294 ¶ 1 The greatest Instances of publick Spirit the Age has produced. 1803 *Censor* Sept. 107, I am not influenced by motives of private revenge, but by a public spirit. 1836 Sir H. Taylor *Statesman* xxiii. 167 Discretion, knowledge of mankind, public spirit, a spirit of justice.

II. 9. With extended, international, or universal reference. **a.** Of or pertaining to the nations generally, or to the European, Christian, or civilized nations, regarded as a single community; general; international; esp. in *public law.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 304 A publique war was attempted against the Barbarians. 1581 Hamilton *Cath. Traictise* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 103 Quhat vther nor the Romane kirk..be publict concilis hes condemnit all heretikes. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* iv. xvii. (1848) 274 For almost all the publique Quarrels in Christendome. 1792 Burke *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. 1826 VII. 99 In contradiction to the whole tenour of the publick law of Europe. 1842 Alison *Hist. Europe* (1850) XIII. xcii. § 68. 552 A declaration was ..signed by all the powers,..which..proscribed Napoleon as a public enemy, with whom neither peace nor truce could be concluded. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 9 Races separated from each other by seas and mountains acknowledged..a common code of public law.

b. Of, pertaining, or common to the whole human race; = Common *a.* 1 b. *rare.*

1653 H. Whistler *Upshot Inf. Baptisme* 3 Whereby the guiltinesse of Adams sinne (as the publique Trustee for Man-kind) originally tainteth Children. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* I. 630 The Sun..In Iron Clouds conceal'd the Publick Light. 1858 Hawthorne *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 44 Enjoying the public sunshine as if it were their own household fire.

III. 10. *Comb.*, as (from 8) *public-hearted, public-minded* (Webster 1828), adjs.; hence *public-heartedness, public-mindedness*; *public-voiced* adj. Also Public-spirited.

1647 Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 246 Their publick-heartedness, and joynt concernment in the good Cause. 1692 South *Serm.* (1697) I. 412 By the publick-mindedness of particular Persons. 1757 Dyer *Fleece* II. Poems (1761) 105 Public-hearted Roe, Faithful, sagacious, active, patient, brave.

B. *sb.* (the adj. used absolutely or elliptically).

1. † a. The community or people as an organized body; the nation, the state; the commonwealth; the interest or well-being of the community; = L. *rēs pūblica.* Usually construed as singular. *Obs.*

1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 2 Whosoeuer attempteth any thing for the publike. 1611 B. Jonson *Catiline* v. vi, Hee's scarce a friend vnto the publike. 1640–1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 92 For the better furtherance of the service of the publict. 1673 Ray *Journ. Low C., Venice* 154 Though the public be not so rich as it hath been, yet will it soon recover itself. 1699 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) II. I. iii. iii. 63 In a civil State or Publick, we see that a virtuous Administration..is of the highest service. 1764 Burn *Poor Laws* 209 Sustained, not at the expence of such parish or place, nor of the county,..but of the publick, to be paid out of some such rate as the land tax. 1769 Blackstone *Comm. IV.* xi. 151 If both these points are against the defendant, the offence against the public is complete.

b. The community as an aggregate, but not in its organized capacity; hence, the members of the community.

In the latter sense now usually const. as plural.

1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft.* Pref. (1848) 9 The favourable Reception that the public has hitherto vouchsafed to what has been presented it. 1711 Steele *Spect.* No. 258 ¶ 2 Another Project which..will give the Publick an Equivalent to their full Content. 1781 Cowper *Let. to J. Newton* 5 Mar., One would wish, at first setting out, to catch the public by the ear, and hold them by it as fast as possible. 1796 Burke *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. VIII. 257 The publick is the theatre for mountebanks and impostors. 1808 *Times* 6 Feb., The Nobility, Gentry, and the Public, are respectfully informed, that [etc.]. 1821–30 Ld. Cockburn *Mem.* vi. (1856) 371 There was a feeble murmur against the ejection of what the few murmurers termed 'The Public'. 18.. E. Jesse *Notice at Hampton Court* in *Pall Mall G.* 9 Nov. (1891) 3/1 'The public is expected to protect what is intended for the public enjoyment.' 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 408/1 The public and the Profession were alike urgent in calling for sweeping reforms.

† c. The world at large, mankind. Cf. the adj. 9 b. *Obs. rare.*

1699 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) II. I. ii. iii. 30 The Mind ..readily discerns the Good and Ill towards the Species or Publick.

2. With *a* and *pl.* A particular section, group, or portion of a community, or of mankind.

1709 Shaftesb. *Charac.* (1711) I. II. iii. ii. 111 They..enjoy the common Good and Interest of a more contracted Publick. 1794 Paley *Evid.* I. i. (1817) 29 That general disbelief.. which..prevailed amongst the intelligent part of the heathen public. 1815 W. H. Ireland *Scribbleomania* 30 *note*, They would make no impression on a public accustomed to quartos of original poetry by the month. 1817 Coleridge *Biogr. Lit.* I. iii. 49 A shelf or two of Beauties, elegant Extracts and Anas, form nine-tenths of the reading of the reading public. 1843 Ruskin *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 21 There is a separate public for every picture, and for every book. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* 3 The British public will not long ask this question without helping itself to the answer. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 May 4/5 The outside public appear disposed to take Mr. C—— at his own valuation. 1894 M. G. Tarde in *Pop. Sci Monthly* XLV. 458 While it is the most capricious of publics it is also the most sheeplike.

3. *In public*: **a.** In a place, situation, condition, or state open to public view or access; openly, publicly: opposed to *in private*; so *into public* (rare). † Also, in or into a published form, in or into print (*obs.*).

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 916 Nor renne fro house to house to convers in publike [*gloss* in comon place]. 1612 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. i. 197 Follow vs, We are to speake in publique. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 156 Their helpes in both publique and private, being few. 1642 T. Lechford *Plain Dealing* To Rdr. (1867) 3, I have..presumed to enter into publique, for these reasons. 1662 Gurnall *Chr. in Arm.* verse 17. II. ix. (1669) 294/1 They read it at home, and hear it preacht powerfully in the publick. 1689 Evelyn *Let. to Pepys* 12 Aug., The roome where he us'd to eate and dine in publiq. 1727 Swift *Country Post* 2 Aug., Wks. 1755 III. I. 177 They having of late appeared very much in publick together. 1778 Miss Burney *Evelina* (1791) I. xxii. 119 She would never more take me into public. 1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vict.* c. 89 § 13 The inquiry shall be held in public before an officer.

† b. In a public or collective capacity. *Obs.*

1633 Holcroft *Procopius, Persian Wars* I. 8 Bestowing many benefits upon their City in publique, and on particular men.

4. Short for Public house. *colloq.* Cf. Pub.

1709 *Churchw. Acc. St. Dunstan's, Canterb.*, For the Improvement of its [the newly-planted tree's] growth, aiourned to the publick and moistned it to the Root. 1799 Southey *Let. to T. Southey* 5 Jan., 'What, don't you keep a public?' 1824 Scott *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, He is a statesman, though he keeps a public. 1840 Arnold *Jrnl.* 23 July, in Stanley *Life* (1845) II. App. C. 426 Iron foundries and publics have no connexion with mere book literature. 1863–5 J. Thomson *Sunday at Hampstead* I. ix, We can take our beer at a public. 1899 Sir A. West *Recoll.* I. ii. 67 There was a 'public' called the 'Half-Way House'.

b. *attrib.* Of the public house.

1756 Whitefield *Life & Jrnls.* 3 My Mother..kept me in my tender Years from intermeddling in the least with the public Business. 1807 Crabbe *Parish Reg.* II. 124 He..Felt the poor purse, and sought the public door. 1844 Dickens *Mart. Chuz.* xiii, I suppose it was something in the public line.

† Public, *v. Obs. rare.* [ad. obs. F. *publicque-r* (in Godef.) or ad. L. *pūblic-āre*, f. *pūblic-us* Public.] *trans.* To make public, to publish.

1487 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 179/1 That nane of þame tak apoune hand..to public or vse ouþer bullis or processis purchest or to be purchest. 1542 *Sc. Acts Mary* (1814) II. 424 */2 To publicte þis constitutioune. 1570 Levins *Manip.* 122/37 To publike, *publicare.*

† Pu·blical, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as Public *a.* + -al.] = Public *a.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 248 þer suld all publicall honor and wurshup sese betwix þe fadur & þe son.

Publican (pʊ·blikăn), *sb.*[1] Forms: *a.* 3–4 pupp-, puplicane, 4–5 -an. *β.* 4 publycan, 4–7 publicane, 5– publican. [*a.* F. *publicain* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *pūblicān-us* a farmer-general of the revenues, later a tax-gatherer, f. *pūblicum* the public revenue, neut. of *pūblic-us* Public. In the ME. form *puplican*, a. OF. *poplican*, a by-form influenced by *pople, puple*, People *sb.*]

1. *Rom. Hist.* One who farmed the public taxes; hence, a tax-gatherer. (Chiefly in Scriptural quotations or allusions.)

a. *c* 1200 Ormin 9295 Puplicaness comenn þær, Att himm to wurrþenn fullhinedd. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 328 Schrift schal beon edmod, ase was þe Pupplicanes, & nout ase was þe Pharisewus. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 397 Whi etiþ your Maistir wiþ puplicans? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxv. 414 Of puplicans sen prince am I.

β. 1340 *Ayenb.* 175 þe farizeus..onworþede þane publycan. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 912 (Harl.) Such was þe confessioun of þe publican [so 3 texts; *Ellesm., Lansd., Seld.* Puplican, -e]. 1548 Udall *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 12 Publicans, that is to saye, the customers and takers vp of tolles. 1596 Shaks. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 42 How like a fawning publican he lookes. 1600 Holland *Livy* xxv. i. 545 The captaine..had beene aforetime a Publicane or farmer of the citie reuenues. 1853 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. II. 191 The publicans were outcasts among the Jews, because, having accepted the office under the Roman government of collecting the taxes imposed by Rome upon their brethren, they were regarded as traitors to the cause of Israel. 1855 J. H. Newman *Callista* xvi. (1881) 181 A clerk..in the *Officium* of the society of publicans or collectors of *annona.*

b. *transf.* Any collector of toll, tribute, customs, or the like. Also *fig.*

1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 64 Nothing writt'n but what passes through the custom-house of certain Publicans that have the tunaging and the poundaging of all free spok'n truth. 1650 Jer. Taylor *Holy Living* II. v. § 4. 122 We are not angry with Searchers and Publicans..; but when they break open trunks, and pierce vessels, and unrip packs, and open sealed letters. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 37 Outrages and exactions such as have, in every age, made the name of publican a proverb for all that is most hateful. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 2/1 Next to Drink, the greatest Publicans of the British Exchequer are Death and Gambling on the Stock Exchange.

† 2. *transf.* One who is regarded as 'a heathen man and a publican' (Matt. xviii. 17); one cut off from the church; an excommunicated person.

1303 R. Brunne *Handl. Synne* 11649 A publycan ys, yn oure sawe, A synful man, oute of þe lawe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathon*) 12 Quha in hopyne syne is tane, þe ewangell callis 'publicane'. *a* 1651 Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 81 We, not one or two, but the whole church, must hold him as a publicane; that is, as one cutt off frome the bodie of Christ.

3. One who keeps a public house; a licensed victualler; a keeper of an ale-house or tavern.

1728 Bailey, *Publican*,..also a Keeper of a publick House, a Victualler or Alehouse-keeper. 1744 N. Salmon *Pres. St. Universities* I. 416 It seems now to be the Business of most Publicans to propagate Vice and Disorder. 1817 W. Selwyn *Law Nisi Prius* II. 1033 An action by a publican, for beer sold. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Nov. 536 A profound politician in the eyes of a metropolitan publican. 1880 McCarthy *Own Times* IV. lxi. 354 A large proportion of the publicans carried on a respectable trade.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *publican* † *lede* (= race), *sin, state, tenant*; *publican-ridden* adj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13292 (Cott.) O puplicane lede was he, And als a man o gret pouste. *a* 1652 J. Smith *Sel. Disc.* viii. 382 No extortioner, nor unjust, nor guilty of any publican-sins. 1685 Bunyan *Pharisee & Publican* Wks. (1845) 103 Love..did cover with silence this his publican state. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 May 8/1 'A priest-ridden people is to be pitied, but a publican-ridden people is to be despised.' 1906 *Ibid.* 28 Mar. 2/1 To say..that the publican-tenant is in any sense a free agent is absurd.

Hence **† Pu·blican** *v. nonce-wd., trans.* to treat or regard as a publican. (Cf. Luke xviii. 10, 11.)

1648 C. Walker *Hist. Independ.* I. 2 To Pharisee themselves, and Publican all the world besides [cf. Pharisee *v.*].

Pu·blican, *sb.*[2] *Eccl. Hist.* Forms: 5 **Popelican, -quan, 7 Poblican, 6– Publican.** [ME. *popelican*, a. OF. *popelican, publican*, ad. med.L. *Pop(e)licān-us, Publicān-us*, altered from med. Gr. Παυλικιαν-ός (*v* = *v*) Paulician, in allusion to, or by confusion with, L. *pūblicānus* Publican[1].]

A name applied to the Paulicians of the South of France in the 12th c.

[*a* 1225 Ralph of Coggeshalle *Chron.* (Rolls) 122 Temporibus Ludovici regis Franciæ, qui genuit regem Philippum, cum error quorumdam hæreticorum qui vulgo appellantur Publicani, per plures provincias Galliæ proserperet. *c* 1250 Matt. Paris (*ad ann.* 1236), Gallice etiam dicuntur ab aliquibus Popelicani.] 1481 Caxton *Godeffroy* xli. 80 Nygh by was a castel right strong, wherin alle the popeliquans of the lande were withdrawen. *Ibid.* lii. 94 And there was disputed ayenst this popelican. 1573 Stow *Ann.* (1592) 213 There came into England 30. Germanes,..who called themselues Publicans... They denyed matrimony, and the sacraments of baptisme, and the Lords supper, with other articles. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* IX. viii. IV. 180 The Archbishops of Lyons and Narbonne..sate in solemn judgment on some, it should seem, poor and ignorant men called Publicans.

Publicanism (pʊ·blikăniz'm). [f. Publican[1] + -ism.] The fact or profession of being a publican: in quot. 1903, antithetic to Pharisaism.

1638 W. Sclater *Serm. Experimentall* 110 Amos his mean education; Matthew his Publicanisme; Paul his persecution. 1903 D. M'Lean *Stud. Apostles* x. 145 We believe the utter hollowness of Pharisaism to have been a main cause of the revolt into Publicanism on the part of some Jews.

† Pu·blicate, *v. Obs.* [f. L. *pūblicāt-*, ppl. stem of *pūblicāre* to Publish.] *trans.* To publish, make publicly known.

1540 in Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1548) 246 b, Many other errors holden, saied, publicated and taught by hym. 1659 Gauden *Tears of Ch.* I. xiv. 115 Little sins in them [the Clergy], (if publicated) grow great by their scandall and contagion. 1745 Fielding *True Patriot* No. 7 Wks. 1775 IX. 300, I have communicated my thoughts to you thereon, which you may suppress or publicate as you think meet. 1808

SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) II. 66 The 'Monthly Review' publicates me and Duppa as being one D. Manuel.

Publication (pʊblikēi·ʃən). Also 5 **pupplicacion.** [ME. *publicacion*, a. OF. *publicacion* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), in mod.F. *publication*, or ad. L. *pūblicātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *pūblicāre* to PUBLISH.] The action of publishing, or that which is published.

1. The action of making publicly known; public notification or announcement; promulgation.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 433 Anselme..demede þat Sodomytes schulde be accorsed every Sonday. But afterward he undede þat doynge, for publicacioun [HIGDEN *publicatio*] of vice. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* (E.E.T.S.) 107, xj ger aftir his deth was no gret pupplicacion mad. 1553 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 140 To mak publicatioun and intimatioun heirof at the marcatt crossis. 1655 *Providence* (R.I.) *Rec.* (1893) II. 89 Ordred yᵗ ye Publication of mariage shall be vnder ye hand of a Magistrate set upon some eminent Tree in ye Towne streete. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iv. 375 The Publication of the Gospel to us Gentiles. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* II. 577 Who could be allowed to speak of secret publication?

b. *spec.* in *Law.* Notification or communication to those concerned, or to a limited number regarded as representing the public. Cf. PUBLISH *v.* 1 b.

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* VI. xiii. 223 The Iudge may not..proceede to the publication of the testament, vnlesse there be lawfull proofe, or sufficient prescription for the testators death. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v., In Chancery.. we say a cause is come to Publication, when the Plaintiff hath exhibited his Bill, the Defendant answered, and witnesses are examined. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xi. 150 The communication of a libel to any one person is a publication in the eye of the law. 1837 *Act 1 Vict.* c. 26 § 13 Every will executed in manner hereinbefore required shall be valid without any other publication thereof. 1897 *Daily News* 21 Oct. 8/3 The Law of Libel...A man may tell his wife a thing, and that is not publication; or he may tell his next door neighbour, and that is.

2. The issuing, or offering to the public, of a book, map, engraving, photograph, piece of music, or other work of which copies are multiplied by writing, printing, or any other process; also, the work or business of producing and issuing copies of such works.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 216 My bookes,..with the publication of which you charge me as blameable. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* Pref. (1848) 29, I should not be destituted of a very just Excuse for the Publication of it [this Treatise]. 1786 COWPER *Let. to W. Churchey* 13 Dec. (in *Sotheby's Catal.* 29 Apr. (1897) 21), I know well that publication is necessary to give an edge to the poetical turn. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* iv, With an author's anxiety to rush into publication. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 3 Sept. 3/2 Some publishers think that to deposit the usual copies required by law at the Public Libraries constitutes publication.

b. A work published; a book or the like printed or otherwise produced and issued for public sale.

The first quotation may belong to 2.

1656 COWLEY *Poems* Pref., I have lost the Copy,..which makes me omit it in this publication. 1780 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1848) 656/2 One instance..of a foreign publication in which mention is made of *l'illustre Lockman*. 1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 7 They were originally separate publications. 1831 D. E. WILLIAMS *Life & Corr. Sir T. Lawrence* I. 141 Writers in the periodical publications of the day. 1846 MCCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 751 The diffusion of books and periodical publications.

†**3.** The making of a thing public or common property; confiscation. (A Latinism.) *Obs. rare.*

1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i, The rich men..proscrib'd And publication made of all their goods. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* IV. viii. 304 To redeem maydens from prostitution and publication of their bodies.

Publicatory (pʊ·blikētəri, -ətəri), *a. rare.* [f. late L. *pūblicātor*, agent-n. f. *pūblicāre* to PUBLISH: see -ORY 2.] Of or pertaining to publication; intended for publication.

1702 *Parl. Orig. Rights Lower Ho. Convoc.* 32 A Mandate Publicatory of Archbishop Bancroft. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 131 Byron's Hours of Idleness was not without publicatory enticements.

Publice, obs. Sc. var. of *publis*, PUBLISH.

Public house. (Now often with hyphen.)

1. A building belonging or open to the community at large; one provided for some public use or purpose; a public building. *Obs.* exc. with allusion to sense 2.

1574 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 21 That he was the firste that inuented in Greece to haue publique or common houses founded at the charges of the common welth..where the sick might be cured, and the poore refreshed. 1617–20 [see PUBLIC SCHOOL 2]. *c* 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* (1903) 319 The publike house of the Citty, where this and all publike feasts are kept. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. I. ii. (1737) 310 The Town of Glasgow have built a new Port, and named it Port-Glasgow, with a large Publick-House. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Apr. 10/2 Lord Avebury..said there were now public-houses all over the country, not for the sale of beer, but for the use of books.

2. A house for the entertainment of any member of the community, in consideration of payment.

a. An inn or hostelry providing accommodation (food and lodging, or light refreshments) for travellers or members of the general public; usually licensed for the supply of ale, wines, and spirits. Now commonly merged in b.

1669 WOOD *Life* 26 June (O.H.S.) II. 163 He was asham'd to go to a publick house [*for his meals*], because he was a senior master, and because his relations lived in Oxon. 1679 FRANCE *Narr. Pop. Plot* 12 Not beeing at home, but at a publique House hard by. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 155 ᴘ 2 Mr. Spectator, I Keep a Coffee-house...Good Mr. Spectator, ..Say it is possible a Woman may be modest and yet keep a Publick-house. 1715 *Royal Proclam.* 5 Jan. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5292/2 Taverns, Chocolate Houses, Coffee Houses, or other Publick Houses. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* II. 151 Every night they were entertained by private families, there being no public-houses at so remote a distance. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 165 Fattening some of the earliest broods, in order to supply public houses, and such families as require turkeys early in the season.

b. In current restricted application: A house of which the principal business is the sale of alcoholic liquors to be consumed on the premises; a tavern.

1768 FOOTE *Devil on Two Sticks* II. (1778) 33 Step into the first publick-house to refresh you. 1812 COLERIDGE *Lett., to Southey* (1895) 598 A large public house frequented about one o'clock by the lower orders. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 4 Lucky would it be for his wife and her eight children if there were no public-house in the land. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XIV. 688/1 In nearly all countries the nature of the trade carried on in public-houses has subjected them to a much more rigorous police supervision than ordinary trades.

†**3.** A brothel. Cf. F. *maison publique*, Ger. *öffentliches Haus. Obs. rare*—¹.

1785 TRUSLER *Mod. Times* I. 87 Who never loses sight of her till she is picked up and taken to a public house.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *public-house club, -keeper, licence, parlour, score, sign, trust*, etc.

1704 in Trott *Laws Brit. Plant. Amer.* (1721) 256 No Publick House-keeper within this Province [New Jersey] shall suffer any Person or Persons to tipple and drink in his House on the Lord's Day. 1725 (*title*) The Publick-House-Keeper's Monitor. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. ii. ᴘ 3 The landlord was..overwhelming me with public-house civility. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxvi, They talked about them over their pints of beer at their public-house clubs. 1854 H. SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 143 Much as public-house scores are kept now. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) 690/1 [In Ireland] Public-house licences are generally held by shopkeepers. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. vi. 192 [He] wanted to promote himself to some honour or other in the public-house line. 1893 J. ASHBY STERRY *Naughty Girl* v, He would have..painted tea-trays and public-house signs.

Publicist (pʊ·blisist). [a. F. *publiciste* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*), Ger. *publicist*, f. L. (*jus*) *publicum* public law: see -IST.]

1. One who is learned in 'public' or international law (PUBLIC *a.* 9); a writer on the law of nations.

1792 BURKE *Pres. St. Affairs* Wks. VII. 99 The two German courts seem to have as little consulted the publicists of Germany, as their own true interests. 1801 H. C. ROBINSON *Diary* (1869) I. v. 113 A distinguished publicist, to use the German term, the eminent political writer and statesman Friedrich Gentz. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 307 The cheapness of food is..justly considered by Vattel, and the publicists, as a chief purpose of political association. 1861 *N. Brit. Rev.* May 173 Plato was a publicist when he wrote the Laws and the Republic; Aristotle was a publicist when he wrote the Politics;..Machiavel was a publicist in the Prince, Hobbes in the Leviathan, Montesquieu in the 'Esprit des Lois'. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* x. (1876) 128 Problems which baffle the publicist and amaze the economist.

2. *loosely.* A writer on current public topics; a journalist who makes political matters his speciality.

1833 *Westm. Rev.* Jan. 195 We hear of editors, reporters, writers in newspapers, and sometimes 'publicists', a neological term; but the world..does not assign the definite meanings to these terms. 1863 S. EDWARDS *Polish Captivity* I. 78 Certain German publicists point with an air of triumph to the fact that Prussia has constructed a railroad from Posen to Breslau. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* x. § 2. 752 The hacks of Grub Street were superseded by publicists of a high moral temper and literary excellence.

attrib. 1895 P. MILYOUKOV in *Athenæum* 6 July 25/3 The influence of the publicist polemics of the year.

Hence **Publici·stic** *a.*, of or pertaining to publicists. So **Pu·blicism**, the occupation or profession of a publicist; public journalism.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* III. 150 To divide his Biography, as Moser did his Publicistic Materials, into separate letter-boxes. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. Comm. (ed. 2) 127 The political or publicistic elements of *civitas*. 1885 *Society in London* 279 He has taken up publicism as he has taken up many other things. 1894 *Athenæum* 10 Nov. 634/2 Of publicistic and photographic accounts of Japan..we have more than enough.

Publicity (pʊbli·sĭti). [ad. F. *publicité* (*a* 1694 in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. med.L. *pūblicitās, -tātem*, f. L. *pūblic-us* PUBLIC.] The quality of being public; the condition or fact of being open to public observation or knowledge.

1791 HAMILTON tr. *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. Introd. 4 The sacrifices it makes by this publicity, are amply compensated by the advantages it derives from it. *a* 1832 BENTHAM *Draught of Code* iv. Wks. 1843 IV. 316 Publicity is the very soul of justice. 1841 D'ISRAELI *Amen. Lit.* (1867) 611 The studious composed their works without any view to their publicity. 1869 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* I. 89 The only guarantee of public honour is publicity, for the only protection rogues have is secrecy.

attrib. 1846 in *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. (1903) 5/1 [Marriott ..in the year 1846 registered as an article of utility an] improved publicity omnibus. 1907 *Instal. News* Sept. 4/1 The..fantastic publicity schemes now in vogue.

Publicly (pʊ·blikli), *adv.* [f. PUBLIC *a.* + -LY 2.]

1. In a public manner; in the presence or with the knowledge of people generally; with publicity; in public; openly; without concealment.

1567 *Ælfric's Test. Antiquitie* Title-p., The auncient fayth ..here publikely preached, and also receaued in the Saxons tyme. 1569 in Dunlop *Confess.* (1722) II. 637 Thereunto war added secret Prayers publictlie made within the Houses. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 130 Yet once againe proclaime it publikely. 1644 *Direct. Publ. Worship* 7 All the Canonicall Books of the Old and New Testament..shall be publiquely read in the vulgar Tongue. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 6 ᴘ 11 The Soldiers murmured publickly for Want of Pay. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 379 Those books were not publicly exposed to sale.

2. By the public or community; by or with public or common action or consent; officially; collectively, as a community; also, †in a way common to all, commonly, generally, universally (*obs.*).

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxii. 112 b, These Sacquas [water carriers]..are waged either publikely, or of som in particular. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 142 The Athenians erected him such a one publiquely in the market place. *a* 1729 S. CLARKE *Serm.* (1734) III. 88 Able to be publickly beneficial to Mankind. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Apr. 2/2 Provisions which will very largely close the door to all publicly-managed elementary schools. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 13 Apr. 4/4 Eventually no publicly-paid teacher would be allowed to give denominational teaching.

Publicness (pʊ·blikněs). Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being public, in various senses; publicity, notoriety, openness; the fact of pertaining to or affecting the community as a whole; †devotedness to the public interest; †the condition of being commonly accepted, prevalence.

1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. Pop. Articles* 16 The truth of beleefe depends not vpon the publicknes of an exposition, but vpon the soundnesse thereof. 1641 W. HAKEWILL *Libertie of Subject* 137 The King may not exact money for passage in and out of his Court gates, because of the publikenesse of his Person. 1643 W. GREENHILL *Axe at Root* Ep. Ded., Publiquenesse of dangers calls for publiquenesse of spirits. 1662 BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 68 Pope Alexander VII. not enduring the publiqueness of this Cardinal's amours, sent him legate to Romania. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* viii. 442 Differenc'd from each other by the publickness or privateness of the things taken away. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) III. xxix. 173 His objections as to the publicness of the place. 1828 WEBSTER s.v., The publicness of a sale. 1844 EMERSON *Lect., Yng. Amer.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 305 The timidity of our public opinion is our disease, or, shall I say, the publicness of opinion, the absence of private opinion. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., The publicness of a resort.

Public office; see PUBLIC *a.* 2 c.

Public school. A school which is public, in senses varying with time and place.

The Latin *publica schola* goes back under the Roman Empire to the fourth (and by implication, the first) century A.D., and also appears in the Capitula of Louis the Pious A.D. 829, in the sense of a school maintained at the public expense, national or local.

[381 ST. JEROME *Interpr. Chron. Euseb.* ii. (A.D. 89), Quinctilianus ex Hispania Calaguritanus, qui primus Romae publicam scholam et salarium e fisco recepit, claruit. 829 *Capitula Hlodowici Pii* (Mon. Germ. Hist., Leges 37), Suggerimus ut morem paternum sequentes saltem in tribus congruentissimis imperii vestri locis scolæ publicæ fiant.]

1. In England, originally, A grammar-school founded or endowed for the use or benefit of the public, either generally, or of a particular locality; and carried on under some kind of public management or control; often contrasted with a 'private school' carried on at the risk and for the profit of its master or proprietors. In recent English use (chiefly from the 19th century), applied especially to such of the old endowed grammar-schools as have developed into large boarding-schools, drawing, from the well-to-do classes of all parts of the country or of the empire, pupils, who in the higher forms are prepared mainly for the ancient universities or for the public services, and to some large modern schools established with similar aims. As it is a general characteristic of these large schools that order is maintained and discipline administered to a great extent by the elder pupils themselves, this has come to be a recognized feature of the English public school, and is often the prominent notion in such phrases as 'a public school education' or 'training', 'the English public school system', and the like.

The Latin form appears in the 12th c., and is frequent from the 14th c. as applied to an endowed free grammar-school. The English form *public school* is known from 1580, and was no doubt used earlier. Down to the 18th c. it was very generally opposed to 'private school', and education in a 'public school' was also contrasted with education at home under a tutor. The term was officially used in 1860 in the appointment of a Royal Commission, and in 1867 in 'An Act for the better government and extension of certain Public Schools'. As this act applied to the ancient endowed grammar-schools or colleges of Eton, Winchester, Westminster, Harrow, Rugby, Charterhouse, Shrewsbury, these have sometimes been spoken of as 'the Seven Public Schools'; but the name is generally used to include these and more than twenty other large schools, ancient and modern, of similar organization, which are not separated by any definite line from other endowed schools that depend upon a more local constituency.

[*c* 1180 *Hist. Bury St. Edmunds* (Rolls) I. 126 Hic ergo [Canutus rex] tam..benignus..fuisse memoratur ut per urbes et oppida publicas instituens scolas magistris deputatis.. pueros..litteris tradidit imbuendos de ratione fiscali sumpti-

bus constitutis. 1364 (Apr. 7) in *Vict. County Hist. Surrey* II. 155 Hugone de Kingston..pedagogo, ut informacioni et doctrine dictorum puerorum .. in dicta villa intenderet, et scolas publicas gubernaret. 1437 (Feb. 23) in *Vict. County Hist. Lincoln* II. 430 [The Chapter] monuerunt pauperes clericos in persona Prepositi eorundem, quod adeant scolas publicas et addiscant effectualiter. 1558 (*a* Mar. 8) in Wilkins *Concilia* IV. 166 Qui in locis insignioribus publicas scholas salario publico vel privato tenent.]

1580 *Let. Privy Counc.* 18 June, in Strype *Life Grindal* 254 All such schoolmasters as have charge of children and do instruct them either in public schools or private houses. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. 186 In publicke schooles this swaruing in affection from the publicke choice in no case can be. 1604 *Act 1 Jas. I*, c. 4 § 8 No person shall keepe any schoole .. except it be in some publike or free Grammer Schoole, or in some such noblemans..or gentlemans..house as are not recusants. 1649 in *Perfect Diurnall* 26 Mar., That some Public Schools for the better education and principling of youth in virtue and justice would soberly be considered of and settled. 1663 (Dec. 4) in *Vict. County Hist. Bedford.* II. 165 Wee the Warden and Schollers of.. New Colledge [Oxford] have..elected Mr John Allanson, clerke..to bee Schoolemaster of the publique free Grammer Schoole in .. Bedford. 1673 Abp. of Armagh in *Essex P.* (Camden) 113 An Account of the Publique Schooles within the Province of Ulster...There is a free schoole for the Diocesse of Meath, with a Salary according to the Act..of about 40*l.* p. ann. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *St. Eng.* 385 London. (*Heading*) Publick Schools and Colleges. The first is Westminster School...St. Paul's School...Merchant-Taylors School...Belonging to Christ's Hospital is another famous Grammar Free-School...That at Ratcliff was founded by Nicholas Gibson, Grocer of London. 1713 Berkeley *Guard.* No. 62 ¶ 8, I regard our public schools and universities, not only as nurseries of men for the service of the church and state [etc.]. 1741 Middleton *Cicero* Ded. 7 Your Lordship..by Your education in a public School and University, has learnt from Your earliest youth [etc.]. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* III. v, This worthy man having observed the imperfect institution of our public schools, and the many vices which boys were there liable to learn, had resolved to educate his nephew, as well as the other lad..in his own house. 1760 Foote *Minor* I. i, He has run the gauntlet thro' a public school, where, at sixteen, he had practis'd more vices than he would otherwise have heard of at sixty. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 372. 1820 *F. Westley's Catal.* 1 Dec., Elementary Publications recommended as Reward Books for Sunday and other Public Schools. 1828 Arnold *Let.* 14 Mar. in Stanley *Life*, I never ran down public schools in the lump, but grieved that their exceeding capabilities were not turned to better account. *a* 1832 Crabbe *Posth. Tales* xix. 223. 1839 W. Lovett & J. Collins, etc. *Chartism*, To erect public halls or schools for the people throughout the kingdom. 1847 (*title*) Fagging: is it hopelessly inseparable from the discipline of a public school? 1848 Moberly *Winchester Serm.* II. Pref., What then..is a public school? and wherein does it essentially differ from a private one?.. A public school is one in which the government is administered, in greater or less degree, with the aid of the pupils themselves: a private school is one in which the government is altogether administered by masters. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Feb. 4/2 Our Public Schools..(by which phrase we never mean real public schools like the Board schools at all, but merely schools for the upper and middle classes) are in their existing stage primarily great gymnasiums. 1899 A. F. Leach *Hist. Winchester Coll.* ii, The only working definition of a Public School then is that it is an aristocratic or plutocratic school which is wholly or almost wholly a Boarding School, is under some form of more or less public control, and is..'non-local':—a 'Boarding Academy for young Gentlemen', which draws its pupils from all parts of the Country, and is not a Private Adventure School.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *public school boy, man, system, training*, etc. (esp. connoting the qualities which the discipline and spirit of a public school are held to impart).

c 1843 G. Moberly in Stanley *Arnold* (1845) I. iii. 191 Hardly to be found among public-school men. 1844 Stanley *Ibid.* (1845) 112 The peculiarities which distinguish the English public school system from almost every other system of education in Europe. 1874 Burnand *My time* xxiii. 205 He had not had a public-school training. 1899 Kipling *Stalky* 164 Talking..of public-school spirit and the traditions of the ancient seat. 1901 *Athenæum* 27 July 121/1 The task of estimating public-school influence on the nation at large.

†**2.** Formerly applied to the lecture-room or class of the professor of any faculty in a university or similar institution for advanced study or higher learning. *Obs.*

[1829: see above]. 1582 Allen *Martyrd. Campion* (1908) 6 Thither [to Douai] he went where after a yere's great diligence and many exercises done booth in house and publike scholes, he proceeded bachilier of divinitie. *c* 1590 Marlowe *Faust.* i. 88 I'll have them fill the public schools with silk, Wherewith the students shall be bravely clad. 1617–20 Moryson *Itin.* (1903) 319 The publike schoole at Strasburg was not reputed an universitie yet gave the degrees of Bachelors and Masters of Artes, having a publike house for that purpose, and publike schooles where learned Professors did read. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* iv. xlvi. 370 That which is now called an University, is a Joyning together, and an Incorporation under one Government of many Publique Schools, in one and the same Town or City.

3. In Scotland, British colonies and dominions, and the United States of America: A school provided at the public expense and managed by public authority for the use of the community of a defined district, as part of a system of public (and usually free) education.

The term has been used in New England and Pennsylvania from the 17th c., and has been adopted in all States of the American Union. An early synonym was 'free school', and a later one in some States, 'common school', which is now however generally confined to a school of the lowest grade or 'public elementary school'. In Scotland, the name was made official by the Education Act of 1872: see quot. Scottish 'Public' Schools were by the Code of 1908 classed as *Primary, Intermediate*, and *Secondary*, a classification based solely on the extent of their curriculum. In some colonies the division is into First, Second, and Third Class Public Schools.

1644 *Acts of United* (New Engl.) *Colonies* (1859) 20 Prompt to extend their care for the good of publike Schooles. 1683 *Pennsylv. Frame of Govmt.* § 10 The Governor and Provincial Council shall erect and order all public Schooles. 1711 (May 9) *Boston Town Records* VIII. 80 [To] be invested and laid out in some Real Estate for the use of the Publick Lattin School. 1785 (May 20) *Ordinance U. S. Congress*, There shall be reserved the lot No. 16 of every township for the maintenance of public schools within the said township. 1853 tr. *Siljeström's Educ. Instit. U.S.* 15 Public schools is the name given to all schools which are supported by the public, and which are therefore under public control. 1873 *Pennsylv. Constit.* § 10 The general assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of public schools, wherein all the children of the commonwealth above the age of six years may be educated. 1894 G. H. Martin (*title*) Evolution of the Massachusetts Public School System. 1903 *Manual of Public Schools of Boston*, [Classified as] Normal, Latin, and High Schools, Grammar Schools, Primary Schools, [and] Kindergartens.

1872 *Act* 35 & 36 *Vict.* (Scotl.) c. 62 § 25 Every school under the management of the school board of a parish shall be deemed a parish school, and every school under the management of the school board of a burgh shall be deemed a burgh school, and all such schools are hereby declared to be public schools within the meaning of this Act. *Ibid.* § 26 There shall be provided for every parish and burgh a sufficient amount of accommodation in public schools available for all persons resident in such parish or burgh [etc.]. 1882 *Act* 45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 18 § 1 This Act may be cited as the Public-Schools (Scotland) Teachers Act, 1882. 1908 *Scotch Education Code* § 12 An Inspector or sub-Inspector may visit any public school, or any other school subject to inspection at any time without notice. 1909 *Let. to Editor*, In Scotland, apart from the official and legal use of the words 'public school', the term is now generally used in the sense of an elementary day school under a school board.

1904 *Cape of Good Hope C.S. List* 267 Public Schools. Course of Instruction...Class III. To include at least reading, writing, arithmetic, outlines of history and geography, and lessons on natural objects. *Ibid.* 268 (List of) The First Class Undenominational Public Schools.

Pu·blic-spi·rited, *a.* Characterized by public spirit (Public *a.* 8 b); animated or prompted by zeal for the public good; directed to the common welfare.

1677 Yarranton *Eng. Improv.* 157 There is one publick spirited Man lately come into that Countrey. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 442 ¶ 3 Good or Ill-natur'd, Publick-spirited or Selfish. 1783 Burke *Rep. Affairs Ind.* Wks. XI. 269 The act..is not only disinterested, but generous, and publick-spirited. 1878 Bosw. Smith *Carthage* 358 A new nobility of wealth, who..were not more farsighted or more public-spirited than their predecessors.

Hence **Pu·blic-spi·ritedly** *adv.*, with public spirit; **Pu·blic-spi·ritedness.**

1654 Whitlock *Zootomia* 382 The Spirit of Charity, the old Word for publike Spiritednesse. 1707 E. Chamberlayne *Pres. St. Eng.* 1. (ed. 22) 50 Many eminent Qualifications, as Dexterity, Sagacity,..Publick spiritedness. 1847 Webster, Public-spiritedly. 1860 Mill *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 72/1 The 'local' or 'middle class' examination for the degree of Associate, so laudably and public-spiritedly established by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. 1883 *Kendal Mercury & Times* 23 Nov. 5/1 The promptings of a noble public-spiritedness.

Publish (pʊ·blɪʃ), *v.* Forms: see below. [ME. *puplise, -ish, poplis*, etc., and *publisshe, publisce*, etc., f. OF. *puplier, poploiier*, (later) *publier*, ad. L. *pūblicāre* to make public, publish, confiscate, f. *pūblic-us* Public. The OF. *pup-, pop-* forms either represented a popular L. *poplicare* (cf. early L. *poplicus, poblicus* = *publicus*, and med.L. *pupplicare* in 15th c. eccles. documents), or were due to later influence of OF. *pople, peuple*, ad. L. *populus* People. The normal Eng. repr. of OF. *publier* was Publy: cf. Carry *v.* *Publish* may repr. an AF. **publir*, **puplir* (not found), but was app. due to imitation of verbs etymologically ending in *-ish* (-ish 2): cf. *astonish, distinguish, famish, vanquish*. The spelling *publice* may have been influenced by L. *publicāre*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–5 **puplis(e, -lissh(e, -lich(e, poplis, pupplis, -lisch(e, 4–6 -lish(e, 5 puplyssch, -llise, pupples, -lys(s)h(e, 6 puplice, lyche.**

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 90 Þe folk that ascaped ..puplised it fulle wide. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* I. 339 Men of þis world .. wolen haten hem þat puplisshen it. *Ibid.* III. 247 Þus is heresye..pupplischid in londis. 1382 — *Matt.* i. 19 Joseph ..wolde not pupliche [1388 puplische] hir. *c* 1400 *Cursor M.* 29540 (Cott. Galba) He þat poplist it furth. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 911 Als be þe apostil es pupplist. *Ibid.* 1953 So þat it be..puplist. 1452 *Paston Lett.* I. 230 Hit is opunly puplysschid. 1484 *Certificate* in *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 41 To pupples and declare..the treuth. 1509 *Sel. Cas. Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) 200 That the abbot of Salop shuld puplice & openly say. *Ibid.* 201 Reportes thus puplished. 1530 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 79 To be denownsyd and puplychyd.

β. 4–6 **publice, -lis(s)he, -lis(s)ch(e, 5 -lesch, -les(e, -lisce, 5–6 -lys(s)h(e, 6 -lis, 5– publish.**

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 101 No þinge þat is pryue publice [C. xiii. 38 publisshe] þow it neuere. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 445 Freris wold not here þis publischt. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 147 þat were i-publesched [*v.rr.* puplisched, publesed] in þe Synod Nicena. *c* 1400 *Brut* 330 Þis same Piers told & publissed þe trewþe. *c* 1450 *Prov.* in *Deutsch. Neuphil.* (1906) 55 Hyde and haue: publyssh & nou3t haue. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 66 Publisshing to his connyng your fauour. 1480 Publish [see B. 1 b]. 1509 Fisher *Fun. Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 308 To publysshe the doctryne and fayth of cryste. *c* 1520 Nisbet *N. T. in Scots, Acts* iv. 17 That it be na mare publisit in to the pepile. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S. T. S.) 200 The Pandectis .. was publischeit be Iustiniane. 1588 in T. Morris *Provosts of Methven* (1875) 72 To be red and publicit. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 38 Bot the truth of the mater is nocht publised.

B. Signification. To make public.

I. 1. *trans.* To make publicly or generally known; to declare or report openly or publicly; to announce; to tell or noise abroad; also, to propagate, disseminate (a creed or system).

c 1330 [see A. *α*]. 14.. *Cursor M.* 24731 (Fairf. MS.) Of þe concepcioun of our lauedi puplist bi an angel on þe see. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 436 When this murder was published, all people cryed vnto God for vengeaunce. 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 219 At the very moment that the Sun came to the Equator, he publish'd the new year. 1782 Miss Burney *Cecilia* v. x, She now resolved to publish her resolution of going..to St. James's-square. 1896 'M. Field' *Attila* iv. 106 Do not publish Your shame, for your own sake.

b. *spec.* in *Law. To publish one's will*: see quot. 1898. *To publish a libel*: to communicate a libel to one or more persons.

1480 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 59 Neuer wyllyng myne seyd mynde, wyll, and intent, so be me published, notified, and declared vpon the seyd feoffament, in any maner of wyse to be changyd. 1607 Cowell *Interpr.* s. v. *Libell*, A criminous report of any man cast abroad, or otherwise vnlawfully published in writing. 1649 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 200, I doe publish and declare this to be my last will and testament. 1768 Blackstone *Comm.* III. viii. 126 The defendent, on an indictment for publishing a libel, is not allowed to allege the truth of it by way of justification. 1897 *Encycl. Laws Eng.* s. v. *Defamation*, The plaintiff..establishes a primâ facie case, as soon as he has proved that the defendant published to some third person actionable words. 1898 *Ibid.* s. v. *Publication*, Wills are said to be published when they are properly executed before witnesses.

†**c.** *refl.* To become known, to declare itself; cf. F. *se publier. Obs. rare*—1.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3/2 All badde accidents publishe themselues at the full Moone, more then at other times.

2. *esp.* To announce in a formal or official manner; to pronounce (a judicial sentence), to promulgate (a law or edict); to proclaim. † *To publish war*, to declare war (*obs.*).

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 290 Þei maken þe iuge erre and pupplische a sentence contrarie to trewþe. 1485 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 524 That ye doo publisshe this our Commaundement vnto all thinhabitantes of our said Citie. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 b, Such Ecclesiastical lawes as.., when they be ons published, shalbe obserued. 1759 Robertson *Hist. Scot.* VII. Wks. 1813 I. 521 Meanwhile, she commanded the sentence against Mary to be published. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* iii. § 3. 125 The Charter was published throughout the whole country.

b. To ask (the banns of marriage); also, †to announce or put up the names of (persons intending marriage) (*obs.*).

1488 in *Prymer* (E. E. T. S.) Introd. 171 The Banys were asked & publisshed the xiij daye of Janyuer. 1572 tr. *Buchanan's Detectioun* F iij b, Theire sche taried with Bothwell, quhile the banes weir publishing. 1651 *Essex Antiquarian* (Mass.) VII. 45 Mr. Phillips of Rowley, having been published, writes to the General Court saying that there is no one [clergyman] to marry him. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, Saying after the accustomed manner: I publish the Banns of Marriage between M of ——, and N of ——. 1678 *Providence Rec.* (1894) V. 325 John Whipple junr., and Rebecah Scott widdoe..were published in way of Marriage by a writting fixed upon a publick place in the sayd Towne. 1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* iv. ii, It is my orders..that you publish these banns no more. 1841 Lytton *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, The Banns on her side will be published with equal privacy in a church near the Tower.

†**3.** To proclaim (a person) publicly as something, or in some capacity or connexion; also, (without compl.) to denounce, to 'show up'. *Obs.*

1382 [see A. *α*]. 1470 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 233/2 They have deserved to be puplysshed as fals Traytours. 1577 Hanmer *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 6 Our Saviour..is published by an oath, Christ and Priest. 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* II. i. 98 How will this grieue you,..that You thus haue publish'd me? 1676 Ray *Corr.* (1848) 124 Mr. Oldenburgh hath published him as a considerable author. 1733 Pope *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 59 In this impartial glass, my Muse intends.. to..Publish the present age.

†**b.** To bring under public observation or notice; to give public notice of. *Obs.*

1529 More *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 211/2 It were peraduenture a thinge not conuenient, after those witnesses published, to bring proues a freshe vpon the principall mater. 1647 N. Bacon *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. li. (1739) 89 Goods found shall be published by the Finder to the Neighbourhood. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* xiv. § 11 While cursed Cham publisht and disclosed the nakedness of their father. 1709–10 Steele *Tatler* No. 142 ¶ 7 [A diamond box] to be published on Monday which will cost Fourscore Guinea's.

c. To expose to public view. *rare.*

a 1860 Alb. Smith *Lond. Med. Stud.* (1861) 73 Having

arrived at the Hall, put your rings and chains in your pocket, and, if practicable, publish a pair of spectacles. 1885 W. W. Story *Poems, Eng. Husb. to It. Wife* vii, I cannot, like Sarto, publish your face In every Madonna, Sibyl, and Saint.

4. *spec.* To issue or cause to be issued for sale to the public (copies of a book, writing, engraving, piece of music, or the like); said of an author, editor, or *spec.* of a professional publisher.

[*c* 1450 Pecock *MS.* (in *Quaritch's Catal.* (1887) I. No. 54), That no person cristen..after sufficient pupplishing of this book to hem schulde have eny excusacioun for this that thei knowe not the lawe..of her lord god.] 1529 More *Dyaloge* 1. Pref., Wks. 106/1, I am now driuen..to this thirde busynes of publishynge and puttynge my boke in printe my selfe. 1611 Bible *Transl. Pref.* 10 He could no sooner write any thing, but presently it was caught from him, and published, and he could not haue leaue to mend it. 1709-10 Steele *Tatler* No. 115 ¶ 6, I shall here publish a short Letter which I have received from a Well-wisher. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 33/1 Literary productions..when they are circulated abroad and published with the author's consent they become common property. 1908 *Oxford Univ. Gaz.* No. 1255 (*Imprint.*) Printed by Horace Hart, M.A., Controller of the University Press, at his Office in the Press, in the Parish of St. Thomas; and published by him at the Depository, 116 High Street,..in the City of Oxford.

b. To make generally accessible or available for acceptance or use; to place before or offer to the public. *Obs.* exc. as said of doing this by the medium of a book, journal, or the like.

1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 186 The old Artificers..would not have their workes smoothered up in some private corners, so were they very careful in publishing them. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 5 Two Jewish Rabbins..were the first who published the Hebrew character in separate types. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 287 Mr. W. assures us that he will publish his medicine as soon as its efficacy is established. 1824 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VI. 207/1 [A small bust of the Duke of York...On the back are engraved the words] 'Published by T. Hamlet, Aug. 16, 1824'. 1842 Grove *Corr. Phys. Forces* (1874) 63 The celebrated Leonard Euler had published a somewhat similar theory.

†**5. a.** *trans.* To people, populate (a country, etc.). **b.** *refl.* To propagate itself; to multiply, breed. *Obs.* (Cf. Peoplish *v.*)

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6485 (Petyt MS.) Forto puplise þe lond & tile. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. 77 (Camb. MS.) How gret is the diligence of nature, ffor alle thinges renouelen and pupllisen hem with seed I-multiplyed. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xxxviii. 301 Forto pubplysche that Contre [Fr. *pour peupler la terre*]. 1577 Hellowes *Gueuara's Chron.* 193 This temple [of Peace] in authoritie was most auncient,..with priestes most published, and in deuotion most esteemed.

II. †6. *trans.* To make public property, to confiscate (rendering L. *pūblicāre*). *Obs.*

1533 Bellenden *Livy* III. x. (S. T. S.) I. 287 Than was ane law made þat mont aventyne sall be publist and dividit amang þe pepill. *Ibid.* III. xix. II. 27 Baith þe gudis of appius claudius and Spu. Oppius war confiscate and publist be þe tribunis. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 457 His goodes also ought by the ciuile Magistrate to be published.

Publishable (pʊ·blɪʃáb'l), *a.* [f. prec. + -able.] That may be published or made public; liable to, fit for, or intended for publication.

1811 Southey *Lett.* (1856) II. 226 They .. would..have been dead before that part of the correspondence was publishable, according to her will. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 317 The two new cantos of Don Juan, which he says have been sent back to Lord Byron, to be softened into something like a publishable shape. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* July 326 It is not a publishable story.

Published (pʊ·blɪʃt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 -isht. [f. as prec. + -ed 1.]

1. Made generally known; publicly announced or declared; officially promulgated or proclaimed; of a book, etc., issued or offered to the public.

1605 Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 236 Dar'st thou support a publish'd Traitor? 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 32 One of your publisht Orders. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xi. 117 In my published lectures, I have endeavoured [etc.].

2. Exposed or exhibited to public view. *rare.*

1839 Bailey *Festus* ix. (1852) 109 The published bosom and the crowning smile—The cup excessive. 1863 Kinglake *Crimea* (ed. 3) I. xiv. 245 The proffered Caesar and his long-prepared group of Captains—sitting published on the backs of real horses.

Publisher (pʊ·blɪʃəɹ). [f. as prec. + -er 1.]

1. One who publishes or makes something public; one who declares, announces, or proclaims publicly. Now *rare.*

1453 in *Ep. Acad. Oxon.* (O.H.S.) I. 320 The first publisheris of the seide sclandirful noysyng. 1538 Elyot, *Præco, onis*, a cryar, a publysshar of thynges. 1554 *Let. Q. Mary to Justices in Norfolk* in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* (1681) II. *Rec.* II. No. 14. 259 The Authors and Publishers of these vain Prophesies and untrue Bruits. 1646 H. Lawrence *Comm. Angells* 138 Preachers and publishers of peace. 1796 *Look at Home* 13 The Publisher of the Gospel of the Grace of God. 1878 Newcomb *Pop. Astron.* II. i. 106 The first publisher of a result or discovery, supposing such result or discovery to be honestly his own, now takes the place of the first inventor.

2. One who publishes a book or literary work:

a. One who as author, or esp. as editor, gives it to the public; 'one who puts out a book into the world' (J.). Now *rare.*

1654 *Whitlock's Zootomia*, The Publisher [Sir John Birkenhead] to the Reader. 1657 Rawley *Bacon's Resuscitatio* (1661) 181 Written by his Lordship in Latin; and Englished by the Publisher. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 25/1 Publisher, is one that causeth a booke to be printed after the death of the author. 1726 Swift *Gulliver*, The Publisher to the Reader. The author of these Travels, Mr. Lemuel Gulliver, is my ancient and intimate friend. 1775 Johnson *Journ. West. Isl.* Wks. 1816 VIII. 353, I have yet supposed no imposture but in the publisher.

b. *Comm.* One whose business is the issuing of books, newspapers, music, engravings, or the like, as the agent of the author or owner; one who undertakes the printing or production of copies of such works, and their distribution to the booksellers and other dealers, or to the public. (Without qualification generally understood to mean a *book-publisher.*)

1740 Dyche & Pardon, *Publisher*,.. among the Booksellers, is one that has his name put at the bottom of pamphlets, news-papers, &c. though the property is in another person, to whom he is accountable for the sale, &c. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 392/1 Petty dealers, or venders of small ware, like our publishers. 1802 Montefiore (*title*) The Law of Copyright, being a Compendium of Acts of Parliament and Adjudged Cases, relative to Authors, Publishers, Printers [etc.]. 1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xxxi. (ed. 3) 315 The Publisher, is a bookseller; he is, in fact, the author's agent. 1836 *Act 6 & 7 Will. IV*, c. 76 § 20 Be it enacted, That the Printer, Publisher, or Proprietor of every Newspaper shall, within Twenty-eight Days after the last Day of every Calendar Month, pay or cause to be paid the Duty chargeable on all and every Advertisement..contained in or published with such Newspaper. 1840 Hood *Up Rhine* Introd. 1 On learning from my Publisher that in one short fortnight the whole impression of the present work had been taken off his hands. *Mod.* Mr. Henry Frowde is the publisher.

3. One who puts anything into circulation; e.g. one who issues counterfeit paper money or the like; an 'utterer'. *rare.*

1828 in Webster.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *publisher dealer, -fighter.*

1897 *Q. Rev.* July 93 How many of the modern publisher-fighters would work a proud heart to death in paying off a colossal debt? 1902 *Daily Chron.* 19 Nov. 3/4 The French publisher-dealers of the [eighteenth] century.

Hence *nonce-wds.* **Pu·blisheress,** a female publisher; **Pu·blishership,** the position or function of a publisher.

1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 27 Authorship and publishership have become so identified in one common interest. 1888 *Bow Bells Weekly* 15 June 376/2 Mrs. Frank Leslie, the American publisher (or publisheress).

Pu·blishing, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ing 1.] The action of the vb. Publish, in various senses.

1. = Publication 1.

c 1425 Wyntoun *Cron.* v. 3828 Þat fully thretty dayis Sentens of ded or banyssynge Be haldyn in wryt but publissynge. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 401 Longe afore þe publisshyng or openyng of the statute aforsaid. 1561 T. Norton *Calvin's Inst.* I. viii. § 5. 17 In the very publishing of the law his face did shine. 1660 *Providence* (R. I.) *Rec.* (1893) II. 126 It being the first tyme of publishing [of banns]. 1752 Foote *Taste* II. Wks. 1799 I. 24 Will not the publishing of our crimes trumpet forth your folly?

2. *spec.* The action or business of issuing a book or books, etc.: see Publisher 2 b; = Publication 2. Also *attrib.*

1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Publication de livres*, a publishing, or setting forth of bookes. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 535 This Author..promises the publishing of a Treatise about Insects. 1706 *License Q. Anne to Tonson*, He hath ..humbly besought Us to grant him Our Royal Privilege and Licence for the sole Printing and Publishing thereof for the Term of Fourteen Years. 1828 Scott *Let. to Mrs. Lockhart* 24 Oct. in *Life*, In book shops and publishing houses. 1885 *Athenæum* 26 Sept. 407/1 One of the mysteries which surround current French publishing.

†**Pu·blishly,** *adv. Obs.* In 4–5 publis-, publesly, puplishily. Irregular form for Publicly.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 1317 Thelamonyus publisly [*v.r.* publesly] Affermand þat he cruelly Of hys hondes suld thole þe ded. *c* 1468 in *Archæol.* (1846) XXXI. 329 Than the byshope shewid hyme and my ladye, bothe, the manner, and in hight wordes puplishilye fyaunced aither other.

Publishment (pʊ·blɪʃmĕnt). Now *rare.* [f. Publish + -ment.] The action of publishing; publication, proclamation, announcement; *esp.* in *U. S.*, publication of the banns of marriage.

1494 Fabyan *Chron.* VII. ccxxix. 259 Ye Cardynall made sharpe processe agayn prestys, yt noresshed cristen moyles, & rebuked them by open publysshement. 1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 989 The before-said publishment of assurances at Pauls-Crosse. 1722 S. Sewall *Diary* 14 Feb. (1882) III. 303 Went to James, and order'd our Publishment [i. e. of intended marriage]. 1750 *Acts & Laws Connecticut* 144 If any Person..shall presume to Deface or pull down any Publishment set up in Writing, as aforesaid, before the expiration of eight Days,..every such Person.. shall be Fined the Sum of Six Shillings. 1857 Holland *Bay Path* xv, His fourteen days of publishment at last expired. 1887 in *Pall Mall G.* 30 Nov. 5/2, I..must request the publishment of this letter in your next issue.

†**Pu·bly,** *v. Obs.* Also 4 puple. [a. F. *publie-r*, ad. L. *pūblicāre.*] *trans.* To publish.

13.. *St. Gregory* 309 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 63 þo was hit pupled, & nouȝt ihud þat al þe eorldom was hire owe. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* II. vi. 101 He made hit to be cryed and publyed thrughe al his oost. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xix. 64 Whiche name within few dayes was so publyed, that it was knowen thrugh all the land.

Pubo-, assumed combining form of L. *pūbēs* (of which the actual stem is *pūbi-*, and the modern L. and F. assumed form Pubio-). The form *pubo-* is indefensible etymologically, but is recognized in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890, and *Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1895, as the current English form in combinations having the sense 'Of or belonging to the pubes or os pubis, in conjunction with (some other part)'. Such are the adjs. **pubo-femoral,** belonging to the pubes and the femur (as in *pubo-femoral ligament*), **pubo-iliac,** **pubo-ischiatic** (as in *pubo-ischiatic bone*), **pubo-prostatic** (as in *pubo-prostatic ligaments*), **pubo-tibial,** **pubo-vesical,** belonging to the pubes and the bladder (as in *pubo-vesical ligaments, muscles*), etc.

1890 in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict. Ibid., Pubo-ischiatic bone*,.. the combined ischium and [os] pubis (Henle). 1895 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Puccinia** (pʊksi·niă). *Bot.* [Named after T. Puccini, an Italian anatomist.] A large genus of minute parasitic fungi, N.O. *Uredineæ*, the species of which are heteroecious. The best-known species, *P. graminis*, grows as an æcidium on the leaves of the barberry, and its spores produce the *Uredo* or rust on wheat, rye, oats, and grass.

1861 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* II. 210 A small fungus, the Bramble *Puccinia.* 1875 Bennett & Dyer *Sachs' Bot.* 247 The second form of fruit [produced upon the leaves of Berberis] was at one time considered a distinct genus of Fungi, and described under the name of Æcidium; but this term is now only used to designate a particular form of fruit in the cycle of development of Puccinia.

Hence **Pu·ccinoid** *a.*, allied in form to Puccinia.

1874 Cooke *Fungi* 201 The Æcidium which from the same disc produces the puccinoid resting spores.

Puccoon (pʊkū·n). Forms: 7 pohcoon, pochone, poughkone, 7–8 *pl.* pocones, 8 pochoon, pecoon, poccoon, puckoon, 8- puccoon. The Virginian Indian name of a North American plant or plants yielding a red dye: originally, as it appears, of the Red Puccoon or Blood-root, *Sanguinaria canadensis*, N.O. *Papaveraceæ*, and Hoary Puccoon, *Lithospermum canescens*, N.O. *Boraginaceæ*. Now applied also to the Hairy Puccoon, *L. hirsutum*, and Yellow Puccoon, *Hydrastis canadensis*, N.O. *Ranunculaceæ*, the root of which dyes yellow.

1612 Capt. Smith *Map Virginia* 13 *Pocones* is a small roote that groweth in the mountaines, which being dryed and beate in powder turneth red. *c* 1616 Strachey *Trav. Virginia* (1849) 64 Their heads and shoulders they paint oftennest, and those red, with the roote pochone. *Ibid.* 192 Poughkone, the red paint or die. 1705 Beverley *Hist. Virginia* II. iv. (1722) 120 They have the Puccoon and Musquaspen, two Roots, with which the Indians use to paint themselves red. 1714 Lawson *Hist. Carolina* 172 They sometimes use pecoon root, which is of a crimson color. 1836 *Backwoods of Canada* 243 The blood-root, sanguinaria, or puccoon, as it is termed by some of the native tribes. 1887 T. Hempstead in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 677 Puccoon, and clematis with plumy locks.

Puce (piūs), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *puce* sb. :—L. *pūlex, -icem* a flea; *couleur puce* flea-colour (17th c.).]

a. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (orig. *puce colour*): Of a flea-colour; purple brown, or brownish purple.

1787 Best *Angling* (ed. 2) 83 Dip a feather in *aqua fortis*, put it on the ash,..and it will make it a cinnamon, or rather a puce, or flea colour. 1791 Hamilton tr. *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. I. ii. 32 Colours inclining to red on the one hand and black on the other, such as mordoré and puce colour. 1820 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 197/2 A rich twilled sarcenet pelisse, of a peuce colour. 1834 Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* I. 10 The old black gown (which was dyed puce for me at Dumfries). 1893 J. Ashby Sterry *Naughty Girl* ix. 79 His puce silk suit, his muslin cravat.

b. As *sb.* = puce colour.

1882 *Garden* 16 Sept. 260/1 Blooms of..rich dark puce, suffused with maroon. 1897 *Daily News* 25 June 2/6 The mountains had all put on..the purple puce of twilight. 1900 F. H. O'F. in *Lond. Let.* 26 Jan. 133/1 Varying shades ..from palest peach to deepest puce.

c. Comb. *Puce-coloured*, adj.

1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 212 The puce-coloured oxide of lead. 1874 Garrod & Baxter *Mat. Med.* 410 Cochineal yields when crushed a puce-coloured powder.

†**Pu·celage.** *Obs.* Also 6 pusellage, 7 pucellage. [a. F. *pucelage* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), *pucellage*: see Pucelle and -age.] The state or condition of being a 'pucelle' or girl; maidenhood, virginity.

a 1536 *Calisto & Melib.* B ij, To inioy your yongh & pusellage. 1569 *Ane Tragedie* 70 in *Satir. Poems Reform.* x, He brocht agane with vs his pucelage. 1643 Sir T. Browne *Relig. Med.* I. § 10 The tryall of the Pucellage and Virginity of women. 1783 *Char.* in *Ann. Reg.* 14/2 Their state of pucelage is denoted by their having rings..on their wrists.

Pucellas, erron. variant of Procello.

Pucelle. Forms: 5–9 puce·lle; 5–7 pucell, 5–6 pusell, 5 pusshell; 6–7 pu·cel, 6 pusel, -elle, puzel, -ell, pu·ssel, pussle, 7 pusil, pusle, puzzel, puzzle. [a. F. *pucelle* (püse·l), OF. *pucele*, earlier *pulcele* (11th c.) :—*pulcela, pulcella* (*c* 881 *Eulalia*) :—late L. *pūlicella* (*a* 511 *Capitul. Chlodwig*, in Pertz IV. 5) a young girl; so Pr. *piucella, pieucela*, OCat. *punceyla*, OSp. *pun-, poncella*, OPg. *pucella* (from F.), Rhæt. *purscella*,

It. *pulzella*, *pulsella*. With sense 2, cf. LG., EFris. *pusseł* (? from F.) a dirty slovenly person, esp. woman, a slattern (Doornk.-Koolman).

For the origin, Diez suggested a late L. **pullicella*, dim. of med.L. *pulla* chicken, pullet, fem. of *pullus* young animal, chicken; the difficulty of which is that the Romanic form of *pulla* is *polla*, which ought to have given OF. **polcele*, F. **poucelle*. Gröber *Archiv Lat. Lex.* IV. 451 assumes a popular L. **pūellicella* (cf. *dominicella*), dim. of *pūella*, pop. L. for *puella* (*u* being lengthened as in *fuit*, *fuisset*, F. *fut*, †*fust*, *fut*). From **pūellicella*, the forms *pūlicella*, *pūlcell(a)*, *pulcele*, *pucele*, *pucelle*, form a regular phonetic and graphic series for F. The late L. *pūlicella* might also be a dim. of L. *pūlex*, *pūlic-em* flea: but such a derivation is inconsistent with the sense.]

1. A girl, a maid. *Obs.* (exc. as Fr.).

c 1430 LYDG. *Commend. Our Lady* 54 Medecyne to mischeves, pucelle withouten pere. 1439 in *Archæologia* XXI. 36 In that other partie ys a pusell knelyng wt a lambe. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 144 Whan the pucell vnderstode this worde she was right glad. *c* 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 494 A! gentil pusel! make good chere. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. xiv. (1573) 77 b, This Girle is a metely good pussel in a house, neuer idle, but euer occupied and busy. 1575 CHURCHYARD *Chippes* (1817) 147 Lyke pucell pure, a pearle in peace and warres. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 23 Three prety puzels az bright az a breast of bacon. [1814 BYRON in Moore *Life* (1830) I. 553 My passion can wait, till the *pucelle* is more harmonious.]

b. *spec.* The Maid of Orleans, Joan of Arc. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

(Usually mentioned as her French appellation: in 16th c. sometimes taken as her surname.)

[*c* 1431 HEN. VI in Monstrelet *Chron.* II. IV. cv. 442 Celle femme, qui se faisoit nommer Jehenne la Pucelle.] *c* 1450 *Brut* 439 The wicche of Fraunce that was callid th[e] 'Pusshell'. [*a* 1490 WILL. WORCESTER in *Wars Eng. in Fr.* (Rolls) II. II. 760 Quædam mulier, vocata Pucelle de Dieu, capta est ab Anglis. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. 641 To shewe vnto you somewhat of y^e^ mayden or pucell, which y^e^ Frenshmen named *La pucele de Dieu*.] *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 109 Hauyng in his company Ione the Puzel, whom he vsed as an oracle. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, I. ii. 110 Excellent Puzel, if thy name be so. *Ibid.* I. iv. 107 Puzel or Pussel, Dolphin or Dog-fish, Your hearts Ile stampe out with my Horses heeles. *Ibid.* III. ii. 38 Pucell that Witch, that damned Sorceresse. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. *Lady's Answ.* 285 Or Joan de Pucel's braver name. 1874 GAIRDNER *Lancaster & York* VII. (1875) 133 The Pucelle..threw herself into the town [of Compiègne].

† 2. A drab, a slut, a courtesan. *Obs.*

[*c* 1520 *Marr. of London Stone* in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 161 Here begynneth the maryage of London Stone and the fayre pusell the bosse of Byllyngesgate.] 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 78 Yee shall not haue any Gentlewoman almost, no, nor yet any droye or pussle in the Cuntrey, but they will carye in their hands nosegayes. 1607 tr. *Stephens' Apol. Herodot.* 98 (N.), Some filthy queans, especially our puzzles of Paris. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A *Pusle*, trull, or stinking wench. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *A dirty Quean*, a very Puzzel or Slut.

‖ **Puceron** (*pūˑsɒroṅ*, *pūˑsrɒṅ*). [F., deriv. of *puce* flea: cf. CHAPERON.] A plant-louse or aphis. (Applied by Tucker to some insects (Coleoptera or Heteroptera) which dart about on the surface of water; also, erroneously, by Hill to the *Podura* or spring-tail and its allies, *Collembola* of Lubbock.)

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 20 *Podura*...This genus comprehends the Pucerons of Reaumur, and other of the French writers. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. of Nat.* (1834) I. 358 The little pucerons in water frisking nimbly about, as if delighted with their existence. 1840 HEREMAN *Gardener's Libr.* II. 171 Aphis Rosae, Rose Louse...Synonyms.—Brown Rose Louse.—Red puceron.

Pucherite (*pūˑχĕrəit*). *Min.* [ad. G. *pucherit* (1871 Frenzel), after the Pucher mine in Saxony, where it was found.] Vanadate of bismuth found in brilliant reddish-brown crystals.

1872 DANA *Min.* App. I. 12 Named pucherite from the locality. 1892 *Ibid.* 755 Pucherite..in the closed tube decrepitates.

† Pu·chersum, *a. Obs.* (?)

(The editor suggests 'devilish'; but *poker*, demon, is not found till 250 years later. *Pother*, *puther*, which might have given *puthersome*, 'troublesome, perplexing, difficult', is also much later.)

13.. *Cursor M.* 2182 (Cott.) Iapheth had suns seuen, Aparti puchersum to neuen [*Gött.* sinful for to neuen], Gomer, madan, iena, magog, Tubal, tiras, and mosog.

Puck (*pŭk*), **pook** (*puk*), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 1 *pūca*, 3–4 (9 *Sc.*) puke, 4–7 pouke, 5 powke, 6 pooke, 9 pook, pouk. *β.* 6–7 pucke, 7– puck. *γ.* 9 *dial.* poake. [OE. *pūca* = ON. *púki* a mischievous demon. Cf. W. *pwca*, *pwci*, Ir. *púca* (POOKA). Cf. POKER *sb.*[2], PUG *sb.*[2]

The ulterior history of the name and the question whether it was originally Teutonic or Celtic, is unsettled.]

An evil, malicious, or mischievous spirit or demon of popular superstition. **a.** Treated as a unique being, and in middle Eng. (*the pouke*) commonly identified with the biblical devil; from the 16th c. (with capital P) the name of a fancied mischievous or tricksy goblin or sprite, called also Robin Goodfellow and Hobgoblin. (In this last sense commonly *Puck*.)

α. a 1000 in Napier *O. E. Glosses* xxiii. 2 *Larbula* [i.e. *larvula*], puca. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 120 in *O. E. Misc.* 76 Hwen deþ schal cume Al hit wurþ heom bi-nume, And he bitauht þe puke [*rime* bruke]. 13.. *St. Gregory* 243 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 62 Ȝeo mad þe croiz vppon his brest fforte hit saue fram þe pouke. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 62 Þenne haþ þe Pouke pouwer Sire *Princeps huius mundi*, Ouer suche Maner Men. *Ibid.* XI. 158 Nigromancye and perimancie þe pouke to Rise makeþ. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XIII. 161 Ne noither hete, ne haille, ne non helle pouke. *Ibid.* XVI. 264 Oute of þe poukes pondfolde no meynprise may vs fecche. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 341 Ne let the Pouke, nor other euill sprights,..Fray vs. 1757 W. THOMPSON *Hymn to May* XXXIII. 6 Ne let hobgoblin, ne the pouk, profane With shadowy glare the light.

β. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. I. 40 You are that shrew'd and knauish spirit Cal'd Robin Good-fellow. Are you not hee, That frights the maidens...? Those that Hobgoblin call you, and sweet Pucke, You do their worke, and they shall haue good lucke. *Ibid.* V. I. 438–42 As I am an honest Pucke..We will make amends ere long: Else the Pucke a lyar call...And Robin shall restore amends. 1627 DRAYTON *Nymphidia* XXXVI, He meeteth Pucke, which most men call Hobgoblin. *Ibid.* XXXVII, This Puck seemes but a dreaming dolt, Still walking like a ragged Colt, And oft out of a Bush doth bolt, Of purpose to deceive us. *a* 1635 CORBET *Iter Bor.* Poems (1647) 11 Turne your clokes Quoth he, for Pucke is busie in these Oakes:..Then turne your Cloakes, for this is Fairie ground. 1637 B. JONSON *Sad Sheph.*, Persons of the play:..Puck-hairy, or Robin-Goodfellow. *Ibid.* III. iv, O Puck, my Goblin! I have lost my belt. *c* 1745 (?) GRAY *Characters of Christcross row* Wks. 1884 I. 211 Pleased with his Pranks, the Pisgys call him Puck. 1831 RITSON *Fairy T.* 44 Puck, *alias* Robin Goodfellow, is the most active and extraordinary fellow of a fairy that we anywhere meet with. 1834 MARY HOWITT *Sk. Nat. Hist., Monkey*, Monkey, little merry fellow,..Full of fun, as Puck could be; Harlequin might learn of thee! 1864 LE FANU *Uncle Silas* II. vi. 88 And why the puck don't you let her out?

b. with *a* and *pl.* One of a class or number of such demons, goblins, or sprites.

c 1000 *Boulogne Glosses to Prudentius* in *Germania* N. S. XI. 388 *Uagantes demonas*, wandrizende pucan. 13.. *Coer de L.* 566, I wis, sere kyng, quod Ser Fouke, I wene that knyght was a pouke. *Ibid.* 4326 He is no man, he is a pouke. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1593) 229 The countrie where Chymæra that same pooke Hath goatish bodie, lyons head and breast, and dragons taile. 1614 *Sco. Venus* (1876) 34 And that they may perceive the heavens frown, The Poukes & Goblins pul the couerings down. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. I. ii. (1624) 43 Those which Mizaldus cals *Ambulones*, that walke about midnight on great Heathes and desart places, which..draw men out of the way, and leade them all night a by way;..we commonly call them Pucks. 1824 J. M^c^CULLOCH *Highl. Scotl.* II. 350 They are here, water spirits, and pucks, and witches.

c. *transf.* A person having the character or habits attributed to Puck; in ME. a wicked man, a 'devil'; now, one given to mischievous tricks, esp. a mischievous child or youngster.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1922 A deceyour..Good is a man eschewe swich a powke. 1852 MUNDY *Our Antipodes* (1857) 192 Sharp and intelligent, but terribly spoilt, nothing could be done..without the interposition of this little meddlesome Puck. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 July 1/3 How much longer is a political Puck to be allowed to play the very mischief with a national interest of such present magnitude?

d. Often entering into place-names.

946 in Birch *Cart. Sax.* II. 575 Þa land-gemæru þe sceotaþ dun to Pucan wylle. 11.. *Chron. Monast. de Bello* [Battle] (1846) 11 Per Puchehole usque at Westbece, juxta terram de Bodeham. 1312 *Close Roll* 5 *Edw. II* m. 3 in *Calr.* 426 Pukenhale [co. York]. 1906 KIPLING (*title*) Puck of Pook's Hill.

e. *Comb.* **† puck-bug,** a bugbear, a malignant spectre; **puck-led** *a.* (*dial.*): cf. PIXY-LED.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 That night in forrest to vs pouke bugs [L. *immania monstra*] gastlye be tendred. 1852 ALLIES *Antiq. Worcestersh.* (ed. 2) 418 The peasantry in Alfric [Worcs.], and those parts, say that they are sometimes what they call Poake ledden; that is, that they are occasionally waylaid in the night by a mischievous sprite whom they call Poake. 1889 GISSING *Both of this Parish* I. xii. 246 To be a-puckledden by fancy.

Puck, *sb.*[2] [Origin uncertain: see Note below.]

1. (Also *puck-bird.*) The nightjar or goatsucker.

1883 SAWYER *Sussex Nat. Hist.* II. 8 The 'puck.' would fly before her, and she did not dare to cross its path. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 97 In many places..it is considered that animals either become blind or are infected with disease after being sucked [by the nightjar]. The country-people in West Sussex call this complaint 'puck' or 'puckeridge'—perhaps from Puck, a malignant spirit—and the bird itself 'puck bird'.

2. A disease in cattle attributed to the nightjar.

1834 YOUATT *Cattle* 362 In some parts of Surrey, under the name of the *puck*, the fore-quarter, or the side, is the part mostly affected. 1879 DALZIEL *Diseases Dogs* (1892) 14 Anthrax,..a disease of cattle, known in the vernacular as..'quarter ill', 'joint ill', 'hasty', 'puck', 'shoot of blood', &c.

[*Note. Puck*, *puck-bird*, and *puckeridge* are all rural names of the Goatsucker or Nightjar: it is not clear whether the two latter are compounds of *puck*, or whether this is itself short for one or other of them. As the bird is the object of much obloquy and even superstitious dread, it is quite possible that its name is derived from PUCK *sb.*[1], either as being 'Puck's bird', or itself a puck or demon-bird; but the composition and meaning of *puckeridge* then remain unexplained. The conjecture of some that the latter may be derived from PUCK *v.* to hit, strike, and *ridge*, OE. *hrycg* back, from the notion of its striking the backs of sheep and cattle and thus inflicting on them a fatal distemper (see PUCKERIDGE, quot. 1789) would app. withdraw the group from any connexion with PUCK *sb.*[1], except as a secondary association. But *-ridge* may be an oral corruption of some other word.]

Puck (*pŭk*), *sb.*[3] [Origin obscure: cf. PUCK *v.*] A flat india-rubber disk used for a ball, in bandy or hockey on the ice in Canada.

1891 *Field* 7 Mar. 334/3 The ball (or 'puck', as it is called) is a flat piece of india-rubber, circular in shape, about two inches thick, and with a diameter of about four inches. The game is played with, usually, seven a-side, and no striking with the stick is allowed, only pushing the 'puck' along the ice. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIII. 409/2 These men handle the little innocent rubber puck as Paderewski handles the black keys of a piano.

Puck (*pŭk*), *v. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [? f. root *puk-*: see POKE *v.*[1]] *trans.* To hit or strike; to butt.

[*c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) II. 12 Hee also would to the threshing of the cock, pucke with hens, blindfold, and the like.] 1861 CLAYTON *Frank O'Donnell* 57 The ball was struck here and there, often pucked up in the air, then let again before it reached the ground. 1870 KENNEDY *Fireside Stories Irel.* 37 (E. D. D.) The ram and the cow pucked her with their horns.

Hence **Puck** *sb.*[4] (*dial.*), a stroke; a stroke at the ball in the Irish game of hurling.

1900 *19th Cent.* XLVIII. 306 The rival hurlers..meet together in wild rivalry for a puck at the ever flying ball. 1906 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Irish Yesterdays* 95, I gave William a puck in the chest.

Puck, *sb.*[5] Short for PUCKFIST 1, q. v.

Puck, dial. var. POOK *sb.*, a haycock.

‖ **Pucka, pakka** (*pŭˑkä*), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anglo-Ind.* Also 8–9 **pukka, pucker,** 9 **pucca, puckah, pukkha.** [a. Hindī *pakkā* (*pŭkkā*) cooked, ripe, mature; hence, thorough, substantial, permanent: cf. CUTCHA.] **a.** Applied to the larger of two weights of the same name: Of full weight, full, good; also, genuine, thorough. **† b.** Strong, severe; malignant, as a fever. *Obs.* **c.** Sure, certain, reliable; thorough, out-and-out. **d.** Permanent, esp. as an appointment. **e.** Permanent, as a building; solidly-built, of stone or brick and mortar.

a. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 205 The Maund Pucka at Agra is double as much [as the Surat Maund]. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1837) II. 43 It should be in sufficient quantities to give 72 pucca seers for each load. 1857 LD. LAWRENCE in Bosw. Smith *Life* (1883) II. I. 11 Your Lahore men have done nobly..Donald, Roberts, Mac, and Dick are all of them, *pucca* trumps. 1893 G. ALLEN *Scallywag* I. 44 That's a good word...Is it pucker English, I wonder. **b.** 1765 MARTIN in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 219 Malignant fevers,..here termed *pucker fevers*, meaning (in the natives language) strong fevers. 1774 BARKER *ibid.* LXV. 206 Pucker fevers. 1788 STOCKDALE *Indian Vocab.* (Y.), *Pucka*, a putrid fever. **c.** 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 102/1 Maha Rajah said it was necessary to witness it to make it pukka. 1858 COL. KEITH YOUNG in *Diary & Corr.* 1902) App. D. 329 On receiving pucka information..that the Insurgents were at Singpore. **d.** 1800 *Misc. Tracts in Asiatic Ann. Reg.* 160/1 Near it the Nurbudda springs from a small pucka-coond or well that furnishes a perennial stream. 1866 TREVELYAN in *Fraser's Mag.* LXXIII. 215 The Dawk Bungalow; or, Is his Appointment Pucka? **e.** 1784 *Calcutta Gaz.* 22 Apr. (Y.), The House, cook-room, bottle-connah, godown, etc., are all pucka-built. 1811 MRS. SHERWOOD *Henry & Bearer* 2 A lady, who lived..in a large puckah house near the river. 1862 TORRENS *Trav. Tartary* 321 *Pucka* is an adjective, and when applied to a road, means it is a metalled one; when to a wall, that it is solid masonry. 1897 *Daily News* 17 June 5/7 At Dhubri all pakka buildings have been demolished.

B. *sb.* **a.** A weight or system of weights which is larger than 'cutcha'. **b.** A copper coin not now used; also *pucka piece.* **c.** A building material of permanent nature, such as brick.

1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* XXXIII. II. 9 Fort William was built..of Brick and Morter called Puckah, a Composition of Brick-dust, Lime, Malasses, and cut Hemp. *c* 1813 MRS. SHERWOOD *Ayah & Lady* I. 12 I'll make her a present of two puckah, to purchase cotton for a beginning.

‖ **Puckauly** (*pŭkɔˑli*). *Anglo-Ind.* Also 8 **buccaly,** 8–9 **puckally,** 9 **puckalie, pacauly.** [a. Hindī *pakhālī* a water-carrier, f. *pakhāl* a large water-skin.] A water-carrier; also, a water-skin.

1789 MUNRO *Narrative* xiii. 183 Another very necessary establishment..which is two *buccalies* to each company: these are two large leathern bags, for holding water, slung upon the back of a bullock. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 21 Dec. 4/1 Black doctors, authorised Puckallys, Drummers. 1803 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1844) I. 334 A puckalie from each corps of Native infantry in camp. 1803 PERCIVAL *Ceylon* V. 102 Water..brought by means of bullocks in leathern bags, called here puckally bags.

[Puck-ball, alleged syn. of PUFF-BALL 1, PUCKFIST 1: app. a misprint in Bailey's Folio.

[1708 KERSEY, *Puck-fist* or *Puff-ball*, a kind of Mushroom full of Dust. So 1721– BAILEY (octavo).] 1730 BAILEY (folio), *Puck-ball, Puck-fist*, a Kind of Mushroom full of Dust. 1755 JOHNSON, *Puckball* or *puckfist* (from *puck* the fairy, a fairy's ball). Hence in mod. Dicts.]

Pucker (*pŭˑkəɹ*), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. A ridge, wrinkle, or corrugation of the skin or other substance, or a number of small wrinkles running across and into one another; esp. one caused in sewing together two edges of cloth, etc., by keeping the one edge fuller than the other, or by drawing the thread too tightly, so as to make the seam shorter than the cloth on either side.

1744–50 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* VI. III. 54 The Tasker does not make use of those sweeping horizontal Strokes..if he does, he will beat up the Straw in Puckers. 1773 JOHNSON, *Ruff*...2. Any thing collected into puckers or corrugations. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 146 If, on the bed of roses..there be but a single leaf that has a pucker in it. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* x, The chin..was drawn in with unnatural seams and puckers. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* ii, His face..was screwed up to the scrutinising pucker. 1875 *Plain Needlework* 14 If this be done, even by one thread per stitch, a pucker must necessarily ensue.

2. *fig.* A state of agitation or excitement; a flutter, a fuss. *colloq.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 164 Mrs. Jewkes..sat down by me, and seem'd in a great Pucker. 1801 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Angelina* iii, Pe not in a pet or a pucker! 1883 J. PAYN *Thicker than Water* xiii, The few things that did not agitate Mrs. Sotheran, or, to use her own homely phrase, 'put her into a pucker'. 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xxix, I told William when we first missed her..and he was in such a pucker about her..that [etc.].

3. *Comb.*, as *pucker-mouthed* adj.

1851 SCHOOLCRAFT 30 *Yrs. Indian Tribes* 377 A tall, not portly, red-mouthed, and pucker-mouthed man.

Pucker (pv·kəɹ), *v.* [Evidenced in the end of the 16th c., prob. earlier in colloquial use. The form is that of a frequentative: see -ER 5. The root is prob. to be found in POKE *sb.*[1], *v.*[2] (*dial. pok, pock*), POCKET, the notion being that of forming small bag-like or purse-like gatherings; cf. PURSE *v.* in sense 'to wrinkle up', and F. *pocher, faire des poches* to bag, to pucker. Verbs of this class often shorten or obscure the original vowel: cf. *clutter, flutter, sputter, stutter*, etc.]

1. *intr.* To contract or gather into wrinkles, small folds, cockles, or bulges; to become drawn together into irregular wrinkles or corrugations; to cockle. Often with *up*.

1598 FLORIO, *Saccolare*, to pucker or gather or cockle as some stuffes do being wet. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, May I be numd with horror, and my vaines Pucker with sing'ing torture. 1670 SIR S. CROW in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 The silke..beeing ill woven, will shrink and pucker. *a* 1845 HOOD *Two Peacocks of Bedfont* xxv, Ancient lips that puckered up in scorn. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* xxvi. (1879) 235 His waistcoat..had a propensity to pucker up over his chest. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 368 To ensure a hard film.. which will not pucker up.

2. *trans.* To draw together or contract into wrinkles, bulges, or fullnesses; to draw (the skin, lips, etc.) into ridges and furrows; to draw a seam too tight, so as to make the material bag on either side; to gather one side of (a seam) more fully than the other, either as a fault in sewing, or intentionally for some purpose. Often with *up*.

1616 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 423 The nether parts .. are crumpled and puckered untowardly. 1639 R. YOUNG *Sin Stigmatized* 19 Hee fell downe and not being able to rise againe had his belly puckered together like a sachell, before the chamberlain could come to help him. 1712 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 301 ¶ 9 An hideous Spectre,..his Skin puckered up in Wrinkles. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 237 Their dress is very becoming; with jackets, the sleeves puckered and tied in puffs, with coloured ribbons. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 172/1 A continuation of the canal puckered up into numerous folds. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* III. 62 Cynthia had finished her dozen of shirts, without a gusset set awry, a seam puckered, or one deviation from a right line. 1886 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* x. 116 Your pretty face will not be always puckered into wrinkles.

b. *absol.* To make puckers or bulges in sewing.

1862 FLORENCE WILFORD *Maiden of Our Day* 98 When she observed poor Fan's big stitches and tendency to pucker. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asph.* II. 149, I get my thread entangled, and begin to pucker, and the whole business goes wrong.

c. *trans.* To form by puckering or gathering.

1753 in *Lond. Mag.* Sept. 396 Puff and pucker up knots on your arms and your toes; Make your petticoats short.

Puckered (pv·kəɹd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].] Drawn into puckers, wrinkles, or folds, as the skin, or as cloth, purposely or unintentionally, in sewing.

1611 COTGR., *Renfrongné*, furrowed, as an angrie brow; wrimpled, crumpled, puckered. 1755 JOHNSON, *Ruff*, a puckered linen ornament, formerly worn about the neck. 1796 A. C. BOWER *Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 163 My leilack bonnet I have had altered..; it is now made in what they call a puckered bonnet. 1818 *La Belle Assemblée* XVII. No. 108. 87/1 Innumerable rows of puckered muslin. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 131 He heard the shipmen speaking low With anxious puckered brows.

† Pu·ckerel. *Obs.* Also 6 **puckrel.** [dim. of PUCK *sb.*[1] with suffix *-erel, -rel*: cf. *cockerel.*] A little puck or demon; an imp.

c 1580 JEFFERIE *Bugbears* III. iii. in *Archiv Stud. Neu. Spr.* (1897), Puckes, puckerels, hob howlard, bygorn and Robin Good-felow. 1593 G. GIFFORD *Dial. conc. Witches* (Percy Soc.) 9 She had three or foure impes, some call them puckrels, one like a grey cat, another like a weasel.

Pu·ckerer. *rare.* [f. PUCKER *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which puckers.

1775 in ASH. 1846 in WORCESTER; and in mod. Dicts.

Puckeridge (pv·kĕridʒ). [Origin obscure: connected with *puck-bird*; see Note s. v. PUCK *sb.*[2]] A name of the nightjar; also, a disease of cattle attributed to the stroke or bite of the nightjar.

1789 G. WHITE *Selborne, Fern-Owl* (1875) 334 The country people have a notion that the fern-owl, or churn-owl, or eve-jarr, which they also call a puckeridge, is very injurious to weanling calves, by inflicting, as it strikes at them, the fatal distemper, known to cow-leeches by the name of puckeridge. 1885 [see PUCK *sb.*[2] 1].

Puckering (pv·kərĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PUCKER *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PUCKER, or its result; a drawing together or gathering of cloth, the skin, etc., into wrinkles or irregular folds.

1611 FLORIO, *Crespatúra*, a puckring in any cloth or clothes. 1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (1807) 98 Stricture from the Puckering of the inner Membrane of the Œsophagus. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 115/1 The flower should be circular, without puckering or frilling. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 4 Mar. 615/3 How can zinc be laid..without puckering? 1875 *Plain Needlework* 14 Puckering in seaming is caused by the children holding the right elbow close to the right side.

Puckering (pv·kərĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That puckers. (*trans.* and *intr.*)

1766 [ANSTEY] *Bath Guide* Epil. 287 Where oft, I ween, the Brewer's Cauldron flows With Elder's mawkish Juice, and puckering Sloes. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 380 A double 'puckering string', such as our grandmothers used in their workbags. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 354/1 A puckering frown of ripples upon the pool.

Pucker-needle: see PUCK-NEEDLE.

Puckery (pv·kəri), *a.* [f. PUCKER *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Given to puckering; marked with puckers.

1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. vi. (1872) II. 110 A..close-fisted old gentleman..with puckery much-inquiring eyes. *c* 1860 FARADAY *Forces Nat.* i. 42 The gold-leaf is puckery. 1888 F. M. CRAWFORD *With Immortals* I. iv. 81 A milliard of puckery, peppery, self-satisfied scientists.

2. That draws the mouth together; astringent.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* (1881) II. 180 These grapes are better than puckery cider apples. 1887 H. P. WELLS in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 451 To the human palate it is dry, insipid, and puckery.

Puckery, obs. form of PUGGREE.

† Pucket. *Obs. dial.* (See quots.)

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 222 Gather them off in the Winter, taking away the Puckets which cleave about the Branches, and burning them. *Ibid.* 330 *Puckets*, nests of Caterpillars, or such like Vermine. 1674 RAY *S. & E. C. Words* 74 *Puckets*, nests of Caterpillars, *Suff.* 1787 in GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* Suppl.

Puckfist (pv·kfist). Also 7 **puc-, pukfist, puckfoyst, 7-9 puckfoist.** See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [app. f. PUCK *sb.*[1] + FIST *sb.*[2] Cf. PUFFFIST, -FOIST, which appears about the same date.]

1. The Puff-ball, *Lycoperdon Bovista.* Also abbreviated *puck.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. v, I'll blow him into aire, when I meet him next: He dares not fight with a puck-fist. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* x. (1623) T iij, Next vnto Brimstone [for smoking bees] is the smoake of Bunt or great Pucfists, Tuchwood, or Mushrums. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Bee*, The narcotic, or stupefying fume, is made with the..large mushroom, commonly known by the name bunt; puckfist, or frog-cheese. *Ibid.*, Cut off a piece of the puck, as large as a hen's egg, and fix it in the end of a small stick,..which place so that the puck may hang near the middle of an empty hive. 1893 *S. E. Worc. Gloss.* s.v., I shud like a drap o' drink, fur I feels as dry as a puck-fyst.

2. A term of contempt for an empty braggart.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I, To be enamour'd on this dusty turf, This clod, a whoreson puck-fist. 1605 *TryallChev.* IV. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 328 Giue me leaue to incounter this puckfist, and if I doe not make him cry *Peccavi* say Dicke Bowyer's a powdered Mackrell. 1637 SHIRLEY *Example* II. i, Lady, he is no man..A very puckfist. *Jacinta.* What's that, I pray? *Vain.* A phantom, a mere phantom. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xviii, A base besognio, and a puckfist.

attrib. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* xxiv. Wks. (1630) 3/2 Then loue him; else his puckfoist pompe abhorre.

† 3. A close-fist, a niggard. (? an erroneous use.)

1608 R. MIDDLETON *Epigr.* (1840) 13 Old father pukfist knits his arteries, First strikes, then rails on Riot's villanies. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* III. ii, *Pierce.* A grazier's may—— *Fer.* O they are pinching puckfists! *Trun.* And suspicious.

Puckish (pv·kiʃ), *a.* [f. PUCK *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Of the nature of or characteristic of Puck; impish, mischievous, capricious. Hence **Pu·ckishness.**

1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. § 3. 365 Her delight..broke out in a thousand puckish freaks. 1891 G. MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. iv. 52 His Puckish fancy jack-o'-lanterning over it. 1900 *Academy* 28 Apr. 365/1 The jeering sea had puckishness enough to return upon its steps.

† Puckle. *Obs.* [OE. *púcel*, f. *púca*, PUCK *sb.*[1] + *-el*, -LE I.] A kind of bugbear.

c 1000 *Boulogne Glosses to Prudentius* in *Germania* N. S. XI. 394/242 *Faunos*, wude wasan. *Priapos*, pucelas. *c* 1450 Poucle [see PUCK-NEEDLE]. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. XV. 153 The hell waine, the fierdrake, the puckle, Tom thombe, hob gobblin,..and such other bugs. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* 180 That Phuca is a Celtic superstition from which the word Pook or Puckle was doubtless derived.

Pucklike (pv·kˌlaik), *a.* [f. PUCK *sb.*[1] + -LIKE.] Like, or in the manner of, Puck; cleverly mischievous, puckish, imp-like.

1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* II. xii, There was something of a Puck-like malignity in the temperament of Lord Marney. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 2/1 In a delightful mood of Puck-like satire.

Pu·ckling. *nonce-wd.* [f. PUCK *sb.*[1] + -LING[1].] A little Puck.

1890 N. P. *To Sylvie* in *Life Lewis Carroll* (1898) 289 Though I still shall hold Thee, and that puckling sprite, thy brother, Dear.

Pu·ck-nee·dle. [f. PUCK *sb.*[1] + NEEDLE.] A name for different weeds having needle-like or beaked fruit, as Shepherd's needle (*Scandix Pecten*), and Stork's-bill (*Erodium*). So **Pucker-needle.**

[*c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 2 Acus muscata major, anglice pouclesnedele.] 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 564 *Puck-needle* is a weed that is often abundant on such lands as are hard tilled. 1836 W. D. COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* 27 *Pookneedle*, Cocle, an injurious weed. 1853 *Ibid.* 67 *Pookneedle*, Cockle, or Shepherd's needle... The sharpened end of the seed vessel of the wild geranium, probably fairies' needle;..called *Beggar's needle* in Worcestershire. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 77 Common Shepherd's needle. ..These fruits are bright green..and sharp enough to merit the names applied to the plant of..Pucker-needle [etc.].

Puckoon, variant of PUCCOON.

Pud (pvd). [Of unknown origin. Cf. PAD *sb.*[3], also Du. *poot* paw.] A nursery word for the hand of a child or fore-foot of some animals.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. iv. 14 Excoriation or fleaing the Podes [may be set as an equivalent] for giving leather to the Pudds. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Distant Correspondents*, The Kangaroos..with those little short fore puds. 1865 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 296 The child's tiny white puds pat the jolly cheeks and pull the yellow beard.

Pud, pudde, obs. ff. POOD, a Russian weight.

Pudden, puddening: see PUDDING *sb.* and *v.*

Pudder (pv·dəɹ), *v. Obs.* or *dial.* [Of unknown origin: the quot. from *Ancren Riwle a* 1225 appears to contain the word, which otherwise is not known till near 1600. App. distinct from *pudder*, collateral form of POTHER *sb.* and *v.*]

1. *intr.* To poke or stir about with the hand or a stick; (of an animal) to poke or rout, with bill or snout; to dabble in water, mud, or dust.

[*a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 [He] lið euer iðen asken, & fareð abuten asken & bisiliche stureð him..& bloweð þerinne, & ablent him sulf; paderet [*MS. T.* puðeres] & makeð þerinne figures of augrim.] 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 175 Fishes..Some almost alwaies pudder in the mud Of sleepy Pools. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* X. lxxi. I. 306 Some peck and pluck it with their hookt bils, others pudder into their food with their broad nebs. 1611 COTGR., *Bourbetter*,..to paddle, or pudder, in the myre. 1639 T. DE GRAY *Compl. Horsem.* 153 He will not drinke much, but pudder long with his nose in the water. 1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* (1843) 2 To pudder in the rubbish, and to raise dust in the eyes of more steady Repayrers.

2. *intr.* To go 'poking' *about*; to potter; to meddle and muddle, to dabble (*in*).

1624 BACON *Let. to Sir H. May*, You may perhaps think me partial to Potycaries, that have been ever puddering in physic all my life. 1643 T. GOODWIN *Trial Christian's Growth* II. ii. (1650) 69 Many..who have gone pudding on (as I may so speak) in the use of other meanes. *a* 1677 BARROW *Serm.* xxii. Wks. 1687 I. 307 We shall obtain vast benefit, much greater than we can hope to get by puddering in the designs or doings of others. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 443 Listen to the natural talk of those carriers, puddering about with their lanterns.

Hence **Pu·ddering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, poking, pottering, muddling, meddling; † *puddering-pole*, a pole to poke with.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 139 In other mens letters they keepe a puddering, they open and reade them. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., Leave to lay his eggs in his own nest, which is built beyond the reach of every mans puddering pole. 1811 LAMB *Notes Specimens fr. Fuller* Wks. (1895) 270 One feels the ashes of Wicliffe gliding away out of the reach of the Sumners, Commissaries, Officials, Proctors, Doctors and all the puddering rout of executioners of the impotent rage of the baffled Council.

Pudder, *sb. rare*[−1], archaic or erroneous variant of PUDDLE *sb.*

1889 STEVENSON *Master of B.* iii, We found the body of a Christian..lying in a pudder of his blood.

Pudder, obs. or dial. var. of POTHER *sb.* and *v.*

Pudding (pu·diŋ), *sb.* Forms: 3-4 **poding,** 4-6 **podyng,** (6 **-ynge**), **puddyng**; 5 **podding, -yng,** (6 **-ynge**); **poodyng**; **puddingh**; 5-6 **puddynge**; 6 **pooding, pooddyng,** *Sc.* **puding**; 6- **pudding,** (6 **-inge,** 6-9 *dial.* and *vulgar* **pudden, -in,** 8 **puden**). [ME. *poding, puddyng*: derivation uncertain: see Note below.]

I. 1. The stomach or one of the entrails of a pig, sheep, or other animal, stuffed with a mixture of minced meat, suet, oatmeal, seasoning, etc., boiled and kept till needed; a kind of sausage: for different varieties, see BLACK, HOG'S, WHITE PUDDING. Now chiefly *Sc.* and *dial.*

c 1305 *Land Cokayne* 59 Þe pinnes beþ fat podinges Rich met to princez and kinges. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 62 He eet many sondry metes, mortrewes and puddynges. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 42 Puddyng of purpaysse..putte þis in þe Gutte of þe purpays. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 220/2 Hagas, puddynge (*S.* hakkys, puddyngys). 1530 PALSGR. 259 Puddyng, *boudayn*. *Ibid.* 265 Sausedge a podyng. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* cxlix. (1636) 146 Of the inward of beasts are made Puddings, which are best of an hog. 1592 NASHE *Four Lett. Confut.* (1593) 28 Euery thing hath an end, and a pudding hath two. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* (1660) 178 Pudding which is called the Haggas or Haggus, of whose goodnesse it is vain to boast. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. II. iii. 81 In lower Germany they supply the meale with bacon and great dried puddings, which puddings are sauory and so pleasant. 1659 HOWELL *Proverbs, Lett. Advice*, There must be Suet as well as Oatmeal to make a Pudding. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 269 ¶ 8 He had sent a string of Hogs-puddings..to every poor Family in the Parish. 17.. '*Get up & bar the door*' vii, in Herd (1776), And first they ate the white puddings, And then they ate the black. *a* 1801 R. GALL *Elegy Pudding Lizzie* vii, The puddings, bairns, are just in season—They're newly made. 1819 *Sporting Mag.* V. 32 In Suffolk, black puddings made in guts are called links.

† b. A stuffing like the above, roasted within the body of the animal. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, II. iv. 498 That rosted Manning Tree Oxe with the Pudding in his Belly. 1771 E. LONG *Trial of Dog* '*Porter*' in *Hone's Every-day Bk.* II. 203 His worship had him [a hare] roasted, with a pudding in his belly.

2. (Chiefly *pl.*) The bowels, entrails, guts. Now *dial.* and *Sc.* [So OF. *bodeyn*, bowel, 14th c. in Godef.]

1444 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 208 Quod nullus deinceps lavet lez poodynges ad le condites sub consimili pena. 1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 1157 Tak thare, said he, the puddyngis, for thy parte. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 245 The Fox..did bite and scratch the young man so sore, that his puddings gushed out of his side. 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 107 They [windy tumours] are sometimes in the..capacity betwixt the puddings and periton. 1796 PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 356 An antient monument in stone, of a Knight lying prostrate in armour, with what they call his puddings, or guts, twisted round his left arm, and hanging down to his belly. 1847 LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 255 Dar to touch me,—and I'll let the light into your puddens.

† **3. a.** ? Some kind of artificial light or firework. **b.** A kind of fuse for exploding a mine. (Cf. F. *boudin* and *saucisson* in Littré.) *Obs.*

1527 in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 185 Payd to hym þat bayre þe podyngs for bothe nyghts..vj d. 1549 *Ibid.*, Payd to þe boye þat bere þe podyngs j d. 1691 *Treaty betw. Eng. & Denmark* in Magens *Insurances* (1755) II. 634 Under Contraband Goods are understood..Cannons, Muskets,.. Granadoes, Puddings, Torches, Carriages for Ordnance.

4. *Naut.* **a.** A wreath of plaited cordage placed round the mast and yards of a ship as a support; a dolphin. **b.** A pad to prevent damage to the gunwale of a boat; a fender. **c.** The binding on rings, etc., to prevent the chafing of cables or hawsers. (So F. *boudin.*)

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) lf. 59 b, *Puddings*, are Roapes nailde rounde to the Yarde-armes.. close to the ende..to saue the Robbins from galling a sunder vpon y^e yards...Also the seruing of the Anchor with Roapes to saue the Clincke of the Cabill from galling against the Iron is called the Pudding of the Anchor. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 80 Shew me the Gentleman, crys he, that can knot or splice, or make a Pudding as it should be. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea-painter's Log* 149 The bow of such boats is protected by a large fixed fender, or 'pudding' of cocoa-nut-fibre rope.

5. *fig.* Applied to a stout thick-set person.

1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-Bks.* II. 31 What could possibly have stirred up this pudding of a woman?

II. 6. A preparation of food of a soft or moderately firm consistency, in which the ingredients, animal or vegetable, are either mingled in a farinaceous basis (chiefly of flour), or are enclosed in a farinaceous 'crust' (cf. DUMPLING), and cooked by boiling or steaming. Preparations of batter, milk and eggs, rice, sago, tapioca, and other farinaceous substances, suitably seasoned, and cooked by baking, are now also called puddings.

The earliest use (connecting this with 1) apparently implied the boiling of the composition in a bag or cloth (*pudding-bag* or *-cloth*), as is still often done; but the term has been extended to similar preparations otherwise boiled or steamed, and finally to things baked, so that its meaning and application are now rather indefinite.

a. with *a* and *pl.*, as an individual thing.

1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1545) 80 b, Take oyle of roses, crumes of bread, yolkes of egges, & cowes mylke, wyth a litle saffron, seeth them togyther a lytle as ye wolde make a pudding. 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1162 A pudding made of milke, cheese, and herbs, *moretum*, *herbosum moretum*. 1692 TRYON *Good House-w.* ix. 75 In Puddens it is usual to mix Flower, Eggs, Milk, Raisins or Currants, and sometimes both Spice, Suet, the Fat or Marrow of Flesh, and several other things. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 346 One solid dish his week-day meal affords, An added pudding solemniz'd the Lord's. 1736–7 LD. CASTLEDURROW *Let. to Swift* 17 Jan., Your puddings..are the best sweet thing I ever eat. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* vii. 70 In boiled Puddings, take great Care the Bag or Cloth be very clean...If you boil them in Wooden-bowls, or China-dishes, butter the Inside before you put in your Batter: And all baked Puddings, butter the Pan or Dish, before the Pudding is put in. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pudding*, a kind of food very variously compounded, but generally made of meal, milk, and eggs. 1851 *Rep. Juries Gt. Exhibition* (1852) 55 *United States.*—Maize-flour, commonly called..'corn-flour' in the U. S...is extensively used for puddings and other purposes in that country.

b. Without *a* or *pl.*, as name of the substance.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 87 Mr. Clerk's Lives of famous men,..such as Mr. Carter of Norwich, that used to eat such abundance of pudden. 1685 S. WESLEY *Maggots, Tobacco Pipe*, For that can best as you may quickly prove Settle the wit, as Pudding settles Love. 1716 POPE *Let. to Earl Burlington*, If you can dine upon a piece of beef, together with a slice of pudding. *a* 1721 PRIOR *Merry Andrew* 33 Mind neither good nor bad, nor right nor wrong, But eat your pudding, slave, and hold your tongue. 1876 G. MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* xviii, Our English pudding, a fortuitous concourse of all the sweets in the grocer's shop. *Mod.* Pudding is usually eaten after meat.

c. With defining word, expressing the essential ingredient, as *apple-*, *bread-*, *fish-*, *lemon-*, *marrow-*, *meat-*, *milk-*, *pease-*, *plum-*, *potato-*, *rice-*, *sago-*, *steak-*, *suet-pudding*, etc. Also *Christmas pudding* (CHRISTMAS **4**), *Sussex pudding*, *Yorkshire pudding*. (See also these words.)

1616 [see MARROW *sb.*[1] 5]. 1711 [see PLUM PUDDING]. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* 6 The many sorts of Pudding he made, such as Plain Pudding, Plumb Pudding, Marrow Pudding, Oatmeal Pudding, Carrot Pudding, Saucesage Pudding, Bread Pudding, Flower Pudding, Suet Pudding. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* vii. 68 Calf's-Foot Pudding. *Ibid.* 697 Stake-Pudding...Let your Stakes be..Beef or Mutton. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 181 To make a Yorkshire Pudding to bake under Meat. 1825–9 MRS. SHERWOOD *Lady of Manor* IV. xxiv. 142 Their having a tansy pudding at Easter. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. iii, A delicious lemon pudding. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 654/1 A Sussex pudding, or great boiled dumpling filled with meat instead of fruit.

d. Proverb. (See also PROOF *sb.* 4.)

1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* III. Argt. 23 The proof of th' Pudding's seen i' th' eating. 1790 WINDHAM *Speeches Parl.* 4 Mar. (1812) I. 189 Let us..apply to the British Constitution a homely adage,..—that 'the proof of the pudding is in the eating'. 1900 *Athenæum* 21 July 97/3 After all, the proof of a pudding is in the eating.

7. *fig.* Material reward or advantage: esp. in allit. antithesis to *praise*. (Without *a* or *pl.*)

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 54 Where, in nice balance, truth with gold she weighs, And solid pudding against empty praise. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. lxxix, He turn'd, preferring pudding to *no* praise. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* I. iv, Your own degree of worth or talent, is it..measurable by the conquest of praise or pudding it has brought you to?

8. *transf.* Anything of the consistency or appearance of a pudding (in sense 6).

1731 P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 61 Without the ..danger of making what, in the Language of Distillers, is termed a Pudding. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* I. i. (1760) 5 Danger of coagulating the Malt, or what Distillers call, making a Pudding. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 92 The soaking rains have made a pudding, even of the pasture.

b. *spec.* (In recovering oil from waste suds.)

1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 51 Tanks are prepared to receive the suds...The thicker portion at the bottom is..run into a filter-bed of sand and gravel, through which the..water gradually filters, leaving the solid and greasy matter behind. This is laid in cloths and called 'puddings', which are pressed in hydraulic or steam presses till all the oil is squeezed out.

9. *slang.* Poisoned or drugged liver, etc. used by burglars, dog-stealers, etc. to destroy dogs or render them insensible. (Cf. PUDDING *v.*[1], q. 1858.)

1887 HORSLEY *Jottings fr. Jail* I. 17 There was a great tyke lying in front of the door, so I pulled out a piece of pudding..and threw it to him. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 7/1 He was found in possession of a dog collar and lead, a muzzle, and a quantity of prepared liver known as 'pudding'.

† **10.** = JACK-PUDDING. *Obs.*

c 1675 VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Sat. Follies Age* Wks. (1752) 111 And play the pudding in a May-day farce. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 163 No Pudding shall be suffer'd to be witty, Unless it be in order to raise Pity.

III. 11. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Of a pudding or puddings, as *pudding-eater*, *-eating*, *-maker*, *-manufactory*, *-race* (RACE *sb.*[2] 9); also *pudding-like* adj. **b.** Used in the making or consumption of pudding, as *pudding-book*, *-bowl*, *-cloth*, *-crock*, *-dish*, *-mould*, *-pan*, *-plate*, *-spoon*, *-stick*.

1865 (*title*) Massey and Son's Comprehensive *Pudding Book, containing above one thousand Recipes. *a* 1584 *Tom Thumbe* 89 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* II. 181 He sate vpon the *Pudding-Boule, the candle for to hold. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* (ed. Tauchn.) 177 Bylot's Island stands above the ice like a pudding-bowl wrong side up. 1495 *Will of Geffereys* (Somerset Ho.), *Podding crokke. 1829 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 163 The Devil, dressed like a collier, with smutty face and *pudding-dish hat. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* 23 Let not Englishmen therefore be asham'd of the Name of *Pudding-Eaters. *Ibid.* 6 In the Esteem of this *Pudding-eating Monarch. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* L iij, The pulters, cokes, *puddyng makers. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* 5 This John Brand, or Jack Pudding,..his Fame had reached France, whose King would have given the World to have had our Jack for his Pudding-Maker. 1874 LISLE CARÉ *Jud. Gwynne* I. iv. 116 If not in the way of your *pudding manufactory. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 July 8/5 Lining a *pudding-mould with thin slices of bread and butter. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* § 116. 190 In an old *pudding pan, or a frying-pan, keep them always stirring. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* ix, The *pudding-plates had been washed in a little tub. 1787 BURNS *To a Haggis* 2 Fair fa' your honest sonsie face, Great chieftain o' the *puddin-race! 17.. E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (1750) 183 Mix it with a broad *puddingstick; not with your hands.

c. Special Combs.: † **pudding-ale**, cheap ale, probably 'from its being thick like pudding' (Skeat); **pudding bree, broo**, *Sc.*, the water in which puddings (sense 1) have been boiled; **pudding-cake**: see quot.; † **pudding-cart**, an offal or refuse cart (cf. sense 2); **pudding-face**, a large fat face; hence **pudding-faced** *a.*; † **pudding-filler** (from sense 2), one who lives to eat, a glutton; **pudding-fish**, = PUDDING-WIFE 2 (Hamilton *Dict. Terms* 1825); † **pudding-gut**, the entrail or skin used in making puddings (sense 1); **pudding-head**, a stupid person; hence **pudding-headed** *a.*; **pudding-heart**, soft-heart, coward; † **pudding-house**, (*a*) the stomach or belly (*vulgar*); (*b*) an offal house; **pudding-meat**, the meat stuffing for a pudding (sense 1); † **pudding-pack**, = *pudding-tobacco*; **pudding-pipe**, the pod of an Indian tree, *Cassia fistula*, hence called *pudding-pipe tree*; † **pudding-pit**, ? a pit into which offal is thrown; **pudding-poke**, the long-tailed tit, *Acredula rosea*; † **pudding-sleeve**, a large bulging sleeve drawn in at the wrist or above; also *attrib.*; hence **pudding-sleeved** *a.*; † **pudding-tobacco**, compressed tobacco, made in rolls resembling a pudding or sausage [cf. F. *boudin de tabac*]; **pudding-turnip**, a variety of turnip; † **pudding-wright**, one who makes puddings. Also PUDDING-BAG, -GRASS, -PIE, etc.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 220 Peny ale and *podyng ale she poured togideres For laboreres and for low folke. 17.. *Get up & bar the Door* ix. in Herd (1776) II. 160 What ails ye at the *pudding-broo, That boils into the pan? *Ibid.* x, Will ye kiss my wife before my een, And scald me wi' pudding bree? 1875 *Sussex Gloss.*, **Pudding-cake*, a composition of flour and water boiled; differing from a hard dick in shape only, being flat instead of round. 1562 in Strype *Stow's Surv.* (1754) II. v. xxi. 411/1 The *Pudding-Cart of the Shambles shall not go afore the Hour of Nine in the Night, or after the Hour of Five in the Morning. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) IV. xlv. 297 Let me see what a mixture of grief and surprize may be beat up together in thy *puden-face. 1784 J. BARRY in *Lect. Paint.* ii. (1848) 94 The hatchet or the pudding face. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. ii. 23 Four boys going to school, very *pudding-faced. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 69 Sic *pudding-fillaris, discending down frome millaris, Within this land was nevir hard nor sene. 1598 FLORIO, *Scrizzolto*..., a reede that cookes vse to blow the *pudding guts before they fill them. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* 17 O wou'd..this little Attempt of Mine may stir up some *Pudding-headed Antiquary to dig his Way through all the mouldy Records of Antiquity. 1867 in Dickens *Lett., to Miss Hogarth* 16 Dec. (1893) 649 Surely it is time that the pudding-headed Dolby retired into the native gloom from which he has emerged. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *2nd Pt. Artevelde* III. i. 70 Go, *pudding-heart! Take thy huge offal and white liver hence. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* P iv b, What a commotion there was in his entrayles or *pudding-house for want of food. 1609 ROWLANDS *Knaue of Clubbes* 24 His pudding-house at length began to swell. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 5 The pudding-house at Brooke's wharfe. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* App. 355 A Kind of *Pudding-Meat, consisting of Blood, Suet, Groats, etc. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 781 Impose so deep a Taxe On all these Ball, Leafe, Cane, and *Pudding-packs. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxxvii. 1242 *Cassia fistula*. *Pudding Pipe tree... Cassia fistula..may also be Englished Pudding Pipe, because the cod or pipe is like a pudding. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 Pudding Pipe-tree, *Cassia*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 233. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 47 The person, that vnder his hand-writing hath stiled him..the bag-pudding of fooles, & the very *pudding-pittes of the wise, or honest. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* 239 It [wren's-nest] is otherwise, and more descriptively at least, called a *pudding-poke's nest. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2186 The P[arus] caudatus is the 'pudding-poke'. 1708 SWIFT *Baucis & Philemon* 120 He sees..About each arm a *pudding-sleeve. 1720 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 97 The Whiggs and the Enemies of the Universities, who all go in Pudding-sleeve Gowns. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, He..never.. prayes but for a pipe of *pudding tabacco. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence's Eunuch* II. ii, Cookes, *pudding-wrights.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pu'ddingish** *a.*, of the nature of a pudding; **Pu'ddingize** *v. trans.*, to make a pudding of; **Pu'ddingless** *a.*, without pudding.

1866 R. BUCHANAN in *Academy* 15 June (1901) 506/1 Right stately sat Arnold..With *puddingish England serenely disgusted. 1726 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dumpling* 20 Physick is only a *Puddingizing or Cookery of Drugs. 1855 *Househ. Words* XII. 168 We went *puddingless that Christmas-day.

[*Note.* ME. *poding*, mod. *pudding*, and F. † *bodin*, *boudin*, have so many points in common that, but for the difficulties of form, they would at once be identified as the same word. They both appear first in the 13th century, had at first exactly the same sense (still retained in Sc.), and agree to a great extent in their transferred uses. Even the difference of form is not insuperable; *p* for Fr. or L. *b* occurs also in *purse*, L. *bursa*, F. *bourse*, and the existence of Eng. words in *pud-* (see below) might by a species of folk-etymology facilitate the substitution here; final *-in* might be identified with Eng. *-ing*; the interchange of *-ing* and *-in* is actually seen in the later *puddin*, *pudden*. The identity of the words, though highly probable, cannot however be held to be proved, and the matter is rendered more uncertain by the absence of any certain derivation of the Fr. word. In the same sense, It. has or had *boldone* (Florio), and L. *botulus*; the former appears to be closely akin to F. *boudin*; with the latter connexion is more difficult, though to its stem *bot-* some would refer *boudin* and *bouder* to pout the lips. Leaving the Fr. aside, the origin of the Eng. word has been sought in a stem **pud-* to swell, bulge, inferred from rare OE. *puduc*, 'struma', wen, Westphal. dial. *puddek* lump, pudding, LG. *pudde-wurst* black-pudding, *puddig* thick, stumpy (Brem. Wbch.); cf. also Eng. dial. *pod*, Sc. *pud* belly, *poud* boil, ulcer, and PODGE, PUDGE; but it is not at all certain that the notion of swelling enters into the original sense. Mod.F. *pouding* (1754) and *poudingue*, mod.Du. *podding*, mod.LG. *pudding*, *pudden*, *buddin*, Ger. *pudding*, Da. *budding*, Sw. *pudding*, are all from the Eng. word in its current sense; the Irish *putog* and Gael. *putag* (in this sense) are also from Eng.]

Pudding (pu'diŋ), *v.* Also (*dial.* and *vulgar*) **pudden.** [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To supply or treat with pudding or a pudding-like substance.

? *a* 1600 I. T. *Grim, Collier Croydon* II. i, Now I talk of a Pudding,..I am old dog at it. Come Ione, let's away, I'le pudding you. 1858 LEWIS in Youatt *Dog* (N.Y.) v. 175 Thieves..are said to have a method of quieting the fiercest watch-dogs by throwing them a narcotic ball, which they call 'puddening the animal'. [See PUDDING *sb.* 9.] 1882 FREEMAN in Stephens *Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 264 So Mrs. Macmillan and her doctor..bathed me and dosed me and puddinged [*i.e.* poulticed] me behind and before.

2. *Naut.* To wrap with tow as a protection against chafing. See PUDDING *sb.* 4.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 162 To Pudden the Yards, to nail Pieces of old Rope round them, to preserve them from galling. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiv, He was afraid to pudding an anchor on the fore-castle. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 142 'Puddening the anchors',.. or 'clapping a service on the cable'.

Hence **Puddening** (pu'd'niŋ) *vbl. sb.*, *Naut.* etc.: see quots. and cf. PUDDING *sb.* 4.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Anchor*, The ring is..covered with a number of pieces of short rope,.. called the puddening, and used to preserve the cable from being..chafed by the iron. *Ibid.*, *Puddening*,..a thick wreath, or circle of cordage, tapering from the middle towards the ends, and fastened about the main-mast and fore-mast of a ship, to prevent their yards from falling down, when the ropes by which they are usually suspended are shot away in battle. 1866 W. HENDERSON *Folk Lore N. Counties* 12 Much importance attaches to the baby's first visit to another house, on which occasion it is expected that he should receive three things—an egg, salt and white bread or cake. Near Leeds this ceremony is called *Puddening*.

Pu·dding-bag. A bag in which a pudding is boiled. Also *transf.* and *fig.* Cf. *pudding-poke*.

1626 in NARES (Halliw.), [A piece of Sail-cloth] about half a yard long, of the breadth of a pudding-bag. 1713 STEELE *Englishman* No. 40. 262 From the purple Bishop and his horned Mitre to the bare-legged Capuchin with his picked Pudding-bag. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana* Wks. 1812 IV. 207 Turning, like Pudding-bags Men inside out. 1881 DUFFIELD *Don Quix.* II. 538 The house of this lady is in a pudding-bag without any opening at the bottom. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 32 The penduline form of the nest [has] obtained for the bird [British Long-Tailed Titmouse] the names of..Poke pudding or Poke bag... Pudding bag (Norfolk).

† Pu·dding-grass. *Obs.* Pennyroyal.

1538 TURNER *Libellus, Origanum*..est herba quam uulgus appellat Peny ryall, aut puddynge gyrse. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 106 b, Puddyng grasse. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 477 Pennyroyall..vsed to be put into puddings,..and therefore in diuers places they know it by no other name then Pudding-grasse. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 Pudding-grass, *Mentha*.

Pudding-pie. A name for various forms of pastry; *esp.* a dough pudding containing meat, baked in a dish; a tart made with pie-crust and custard: see quot. 1829.

1593 *Bacchus Bountie* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) II. 272 He brought with him a pudding pie, pretilie powdered with such hot spices as his countrie..doth afforde. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* IV. iv, Exchange wenches Coming from eating pudding-pies on a Sunday At Pimlico or Islington. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 547 Some cry'd the Covenant instead Of Pudding-pies and Ginger-bread. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pudding-pie*, a piece of meat plunged in batter and baked in a deep dish, thus partaking of the nature of both pudding and pie,..a 'toad in a hole'. 1829 HONE *Year-bk.* 361 The pudding-pies are from the size of a tea-cup to that of a small tea-saucer. They are flat..made with a raised crust, to hold a small quantity of custard, with currants slightly sprinkled on the surface. *c* 1900 *Beeton's Every-day Cook. Bk.* 402/2 Folkestone Pudding-Pies.

b. *attrib.*, as *pudding-pie man, woman*.

c 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1890) VII. 77 At every Corner, and in every street, This Pudding-pye-Woman be sure you oft shall meet. 1705 HEARNE *Collect.* 6 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 117 A Pudding Pye man with whose Puddings .. the first Founders of the Society were..pleas'd.

† Pu·dding-prick. *Obs.* A slender wooden skewer (see PRICK *sb.* 14) with which the ends of a gut containing a pudding were fastened. Often in similative phrase: see quots. 1562, 1611.

a 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2122 As huksters they hucke and they stycke, And pynche at the payment of a poddynge prycke. *a* 1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) I vj, Hys proue shall not be worth a podynge prycke. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Epigr.* VI. xix, A pooddyng pricke is one, a mylpost is an other. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Arbre*, (We say of one that hath squandered away great wealth) hee hath thwitten a mill-post to a pudding pricke.

Pu·dding-stone. A composite rock consisting of a mass of rounded pebbles cemented together by a siliceous matrix; conglomerate.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s. v. *Oculatus lapis*, What we call the pudding stone, a stone formed of a great number of pebbles, of a small size, immersed, and formerly bedded, in a flinty cement, little less hard than the stones themselves, [or] not at all so. 1774 STRANGE in *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 40 Confusedly concreted together, like a pudding stone. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 434/1 Pudding stones differ from breccias, by being composed of rounded fragments, either of marble or hard stones.

b. *attrib.*, as *pudding-stone marble, rock, stratum*.

1806 *Gazetteer Scotl.* (ed. 2) 295 The pudding-stone rocks near the village of Oban. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 799 Puddingstone marbles; a conglomerate of rounded pieces. 1894 MRS. DYAN *All in a Man's K.* (1899) 55 A mere rift between the great puddingstone rocks.

† Pu·dding-time. *Obs.* The time when pudding or puddings are to be had; hence *fig.*, a time when one is in luck; a favourable or useful time.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. ix. (1867) 80 This geare comth euen in puddyng time rightlie. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* IV, Here he comes in pudding-time to resolve the question. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 30 P 4 The ordinary Salutation is, Sir, I am glad to see you, you are come in Pudding-time. *a* 1720 *Song, Vicar of Bray*, When George in pudding-time came o'er, And moderate men look'd big, sir. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr., S.W. & by W. & W.*, He came in pudding-time, and was invited to dinner.

Pu·dding-wife.

1. a. A woman who sells puddings or sausages. ? *Obs.* **b.** A professional or expert maker of puddings (sense 1: *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). Now *dial.*

1448 *Maldon, Essex, Court Rolls* Bundle 27 No. 1 b, Cristiana podyngwyf alias fisshwyf vendidit salmones fetidos in mercato. 15.. in Dugdale *Monast. Angl.* (1817) I. 443/2 Sche shall pay for a gown to her grome coke and her podingwief by the yere ij*s*. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 217 When Pudding-Wives were launcht in cockquean Stools; For falling foul on Oyster-women's Schools.

2. The Florida blue-fish (*Platyglossus radiatus*); also called *pudding-fish*.

1734 MORTIMER *Carolina & Bahamas* in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 The Pudding-Wife. Round the Eye spread seven blue Rays. 1876 GOODE *Fishes Bermudas* 17 *Turdus oculo radiato* (the Pudding-Wife) is a young specimen of *Chærojulis radiatus*.

Puddingy (pu·dinji), *a.* [f. PUDDING *sb.* + -Y.] Having the appearance, shape, or consistency of a pudding; pudding-like.

1709 *Rambl. Fuddle-Cups* 7 The Spark, in his Puddingy Robes. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 441 A face ruddy, plump and puddingy. 1888 R. S. SURTEES *Hillingdon Hall* 91 A roll puddingy white neckcloth replaced the sea-green silk one. 1898 *Daily News* 11 Mar. 3/1 Some soft, puddingy figure, stuffed with sawdust, with something faintly resembling a human face upon the..head.

Puddle (pv·d'l), *sb.* Forms: 4–5 **podel**, (4 **-elle**, 5–6 **-ell**), 5 **popel, pothel**, 5–7 **puddel**, (6 **-elle, -il**, 6–7 **-ell**), 6 **poddell, podle**, 6 *Sc.* **pwdyll**, 6–7 **pudle**; 6– **puddle**. [ME. *podel, puddel*, app. dim. from OE. *pudd* ditch, furrow (*puddas* 'sulcos' in Prudentius Gloss; cf. dial. *pudge, pudgell*), = G. dial. *pudel, pfudel* a puddle. W. *pwdel* is from Eng. Cf. next, also PLUD.]

1. A small body of standing water, foul with mud, etc. or with a muddy bottom, now always shallow, as those left in depressions of the ground in a road or footpath after rain; a small dirty pool. † Formerly in wider sense, including larger collections of water, as a pond, or a pit full of water, or even an extensive slough or swamp (quot. 1596).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 54 He did Harald bodv do drawe vp also tite, & þorgh þe podels it drouh, þat foule were & deppest. *a* 1400 *Cath. Epist.* (MS. Douce 250) 2 *Pet.* ii. 22 (Paues 220) þe sowe þat waschep hyre in þe podel wiþ mukke al fyled. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Popel, slothe, or podel (*H.* pothel), *lacuna*. 1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. clxiv. 173/1 A sowe dooth laye herself in a fowle puddel. *c* 1534 NISBET *N. Test. in Scots, Prol. Rom.* (S.T.S.) III. 347 That thou sulde returnne (as anne swynne) vnto thinne auld pwdyll agaynne. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 40 His younger sonne in a smal puddel was strangled & drouned, 1555 EDEN *Decades* 122 The vyllage it selfe, is in a maryshe, and in maner a standynge puddle. 1572 HULOET, Podle, or slowe. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 657 Thy sea within a puddels wombe is hersed, And not the puddle in thy sea dispersed. 1596 E. BARTON in Purchas *Pilgrims* (1625) II. VIII. x. 1359 They being intrenched..neere to a long puddle or moorish ground, of some foure miles long, in breadth some seuen or eight Rods. *a* 1632 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (Rtldg.) 308 Every path hath a puddle. *a* 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 128 Preferringe the pudle before the pearle. 1742 H. BAKER *Microsc.* II. v. 90 Every Puddle can .. present us with living Wonders. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 136 A way-side puddle which receives the muddy drainage of the road.

b. *transf.* A small pool of any liquid. See also quot. 1726.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 5/1 The Air for want of Motion will grow thick and muddy; such a Valley may.. be call'd a Puddle, or Bog of Air. 1883 W. M. WILLIAMS in *Knowledge* 20 July 35/2 Pale slices of meat spread out in a little puddle of pale, watery liquid.

2. *fig.* or in figurative allusion, esp. with reference to moral defilement, or to false doctrine, etc. regarded as polluting: cf. *sink*.

1533 MORE *Apol.* v. Wks. 854/2 The preacher stumbleth at the same stocke, and falleth into the same puddell that Tyndall didde. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* iii. 30 The puddle and synke of al myschiefe. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* IV. 170 Dost thou see then in what a Puddle of Filth Impiety doth wallow. 1787 J. HOWIE *Plain Reasons for Dissent.* 179 Swimming down the impure puddle of Erastianism. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XX. vi. (1872) IX. 119 He stalks loftily through this puddle of a world, on terms of his own.

b. *fig.* A confused collection or heap; a state of confusion or embarrassment; a muddle, mess. Now only *colloq.* or *dial.*

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* IX. (1592) 135 Seeing that in the middes of that Puddle of humors ech liuing wight hath a Soule dwelling. 1608 DEKKER *and Pt. Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 136, I am neuer out of one puddle or another. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XX. 123 This thoughtless jumble of terms, this confused puddle of phrases. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) II. 157 This drawing-room..without her would have been a puddle of wasteful failure.

3. Foul or muddy water such as is found in puddles (= *puddle water* in 6 a). Chiefly *fig.* or in figurative allusion: cf. 2. Now only *dial.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. iv. 137, I rather fansie..to folowe the founteines of the first Authours, then the brokes of abredgers, which often bring with them much puddle. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 53 b/1 His drinck, foule and impure puddle, yea, & stinckinge water. 1681 CROWNE *Hen. VI*, IV. 64 Hard roots my only food, Foul puddle all my drink. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* Wks. VI. 96 When that monster was obliged to fly with his wife Sporus, and to drink puddle. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VII. ii, One..of a great house; the least drop of whose blood was worth an ocean of plebeian puddle.

4. A preparation of clay, or of clay and sand, mixed with water and tempered, used as a watertight covering for embankments, lining for canals, etc. Also called *puddling*.

1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Navig.* 365 *Puddle*, an article of great use in completing canals where the soil is leaky, or unfavourable for holding the water. 1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 29 Water..must be excluded..by a lining of puddle. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 353 *note*, Puddle is formed by a mixture of well-tempered clay and sand reduced to a semi-fluid state, and rendered impervious to water by manual labour, as by working and chopping it about with spades.

attrib. 1839 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* II. 21/2 They are formed..with an upright 'puddle wall' in the centre. *Ibid.* 109/2 The want of a puddle lining. 1872 *Daily News* 13 July, The offices of the contractors..as well as the puddle waggons and working plant, were washed away.

5. *dial.* A muddler: a bungler.

[Eng. Dial. Dict. has 'One who is slow, dirty, inefficient, or unmethodical at work, a bungler, a muddler'.]

1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. v, I remember when I was quite a boy hearing her called a limping old puddle. 1835 CARLYLE *Jrnl.* 1 Jan. in Froude *C.'s Life in London* I. 18 A foot which a puddle of a maid scalded three weeks ago.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (See also sense 4 and PUDDLE *v.* 7) **a.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* (in sense 1 or 3): Such as is found in puddles; dirty, muddy, thick, polluted: said esp. of water.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel.* Wks. II. 335 Þei grutchiden agens þis water, and drunken podel water of þe canel. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1676) 760 To see Antonius..so easily to drinke puddle water, and to eat wild Fruits and Roots. 1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* 12 Hee knowes how of puddle ale, to make a cup of English wine. 1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 374 As if one, to put away one spot in his face, should wash himself in puddle mire. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* I. iii, I would fain let their puddle-blood flow an hour or two longer. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xciv, I would consent to drink puddle-water.

b. *Comb.* as *puddle-hole; puddle-deep, -like* adjs.; **† Puddle dock, † Puddle wharf**, names of a place on the Thames at Blackfriars (see quots. 1598, 1720); **puddle-duck**, the domestic duck; **puddle-poet**, a contemptuous designation.

a 1637 B. JONSON *Discov., Ingeniorum discrimina* 5 They write a verse as smooth, as soft as cream...They are cream-bowl, or but *puddle-deep. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* IV, To surprize her,..pop her in at *Puddle-dock, and carry her to Graves-end in a paire of oares. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* i. 8 He seems to dip his pen, or rather his pia mater, in puddle-dock. 1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 4 (1713) I. 25 To Libel, Calumniate, and throw Puddle-dock Wit in the Face of Superiors. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* I. III. 229 On the Banks of the River Thames, are the Wharfs of Puddle Dock, used for a Laystall for the Soil of the Streets; and much frequented by Barges and Lighters, for taking the same away. 1610 *Manchester Court Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 252 A *puddle hoale which he or his familie doth vse [as] a privye. 1833 *Boston, Lincoln*, etc. *Herald* 16 Apr. 4/2 Jane Hays..found drowned in a puddle-hole used for washing potatoes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* I. iii. § 1 It seems the *puddle-poet did hope that the jingling of his rhymes would drown the sound of his false quantity. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 297 Then is there..Puddle Wharfe, a water gate into the Thames, where horses vse to be watered, and therfore being filed with their trampeling, and made puddle like,..it is (as I suppose) called *Puddle Wharf.

Puddle (pv·d'l), *v.* Forms: see prec.; also 7 **poodle**. [f. PUDDLE *sb.*; cf. Du. *poedelen*, LG., G. *pud(d)eln* to dabble or splash in water, also G. *butteln, buddeln* to dabble or paddle in mud, etc. F. *puddler*, G. *puddeln*, etc. to puddle (iron) are from Eng.]

1. *intr.* To dabble or poke about, esp. in mud or shallow water; to wallow in mire; to wade through puddles; *fig.* to busy oneself in an untidy or disorderly way; to 'muddle' or 'mess' about.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 411/2 Popelon, or pothelyn, or grubbyn yn the erthe. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 78 The drosse of the Riddle or Searce must be cast about the edges of the Pond: and also within the same, to cause them to be pudling in the myre. 1846 THACKERAY *Cornhill to Cairo* v, Children..are playing and puddling about in the dirt everywhere. 1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 421 The little creatures pass half their day puddling about in the water in all the beauty of nakedness.

fig. 1591 BRUCE *Serm.* vi. M viij, Tha multitude..haue.. gone to mumchances, mumries, & vnknawin language, wherein they pudled of befoir. 1633 *Fife Witch Trial* in *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* (1796) XVIII. App. 654 Let honest men puddle and work as they like. 1639 R. JUNIUS *Sin Stigmat.* Pref. (T.), I were very simple, if..I should poodle in a wasp's nest, and think to purchase ease by it! 1680 BUNYAN *Mr. Badman* To Rdr. (1905) 7, I know 'tis ill pudling in the Cockatrices den. 1768–74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 115 We may puddle about for ever without getting up a drop of ink to write with. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* II. viii. (1872) I. 100 Then they puddled considerably..in the general broils of the Reich. 1864 *Ibid.* XVI. v. VI. 171 He puddles about, at a great rate.

b. *trans.* To bring or get into some specified state by 'puddling'; in quots. *refl.*

1759 *Compl. Lett.-writer* (ed. 6) 224 Mrs. Langford.. puddled herself into a minuet. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIV. viii. (1872) V. 255 Men enough did puddle themselves to death on the clay roads.

2. *trans.* To bemire; to wet with mud or dirty water.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 4296, I fell into ane midding..As I was pudlit thair, God wait Bot with my club I maid debait. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* viii, Tablecloths puddled with melted Ice.

3. To make (water) muddy or dirty. Also *fig.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* **ij b, The other..shall neuer puddle or annoy the course of the cleere running water. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 273 It was immediately puddled with the Mud of Heresy. 1870 ROSSETTI

Jenny xxi, So the life-blood of this rose, Puddled with shameful knowledge, flows.

b. To muddle, confuse; to sully the purity or clearness of.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 143 Something sure of State,.. Hath pudled his cleare Spirit. 1650 H. MORE *Observ.* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 81 His phansie is pudled so and jumbled in the Limbus or Huddle of the Matter. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* III. 130 Such extremes, I told her, well might harm The woman's cause. 'Not more than now', she said, 'So puddled as it is with favouritism'.

4. To reduce the surface of the ground, earth, clay, etc., into mud or puddle, by trampling and 'poaching' it when wet; hence, *spec.* to knead and temper a mixture of wet clay and sand so as to form a plastic mass impervious to water, used for various purposes. See PUDDLE *sb.* 4.

1762 [see PUDDLING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 239 The soil dug over and puddled as a base. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 157 Rendering the surface completely puddled, to use a term employed in ground works, and thereby to retain water equally with any clay. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 1/1 The soil is then puddled round them. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 24 This layer had been levelled to receive a stratum of clay, a yard in thickness, and firmly puddled. 1880 MISS BIRD *Japan* I. 85 The rice crop..needs to be 'puddled' three times, *i. e.* for all the people to turn into the slush, and grub out all the weeds and tangled aquatic plants, which weave themselves from tuft to tuft, and puddle up the mud afresh round the roots.

b. To cover or line with puddle; to render water-tight by the application of puddle.

1810 in Southey *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 391/2 Mr. Tuke .. bequeathed..To seven of the oldest navigators, one guinea for *puddling* him up in his grave. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 179 It will be necessary to puddle the seams of the rock on that side of the well in which it dips downwards. 1850 *Beck's Florist* 235 If there is a small bog contrived in a shady corner, by puddling the bottom of a basin of stones with some tenacious clay. 1897 BAILEY *Princ. Fruit-growing* 246 Puddling the roots [of trees]..to be shipped any distance..consists in sousing the roots in a thin mud or paste of clay.

5. *Iron Manuf.* To stir about and turn over (molten iron) in a reverberatory furnace, so as to expel the carbon and convert it into malleable iron.

1798 [see PUDDLING *vbl. sb.* 3 b]. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 702 The fine metal obtained by the coke is puddled by a continuous operation, which calls for much care and skill. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 253 This iron was.. puddled in some rude fashion into blooms or masses weighing about a hundred.

6. *Gold-mining.* To work (clayey or sticky wash-dirt) with water in a tub so as to separate the ore.

1859 [see PUDDLING *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1864 ROGERS *New Rush* II. 26 There, in a row, the tub and cradle stands, The owner puddling with unchartered hands. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 597 These buckets were hoisted up..and their contents emptied into a big tub, where they were puddled.

7. *Comb.* (from sense 5: perh. orig. PUDDLED 4, cf. PUDDLING *vbl. sb.* 3 b): **puddle-ball**, a rounded mass of iron formed in puddling; **puddle-bar**, a flat bar formed by passing a *puddle-ball* between *puddle-rolls*; **puddle-steel**, steel made by puddling. Also, **puddle-roll**: see quot. 1858; **puddle-train**, a train of *puddle-rolls*.

1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 104/2 Improvements in rolling puddle balls or other masses of iron. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Puddle-rolls*, a pair of large heavy rollers with grooved surfaces, between which [puddled] iron is passed, to be flattened into bars. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 108 In this state it is called a puddle-bar. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 234 Turning out 600 tons of malleable iron and puddle steel weekly.

Puddled (pʊ·d'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED 1.]

1. Rendered muddy or turbid by stirring, as water in a puddle; dirty, miry, foul. Also *fig.* (formerly sometimes, Muddled, confused, puzzled).

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 17 Fill a great pot with the puddled water. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* V. i. 173 Great pailes of puddled myre. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 221 The reeks and fumes of thy puddled brain. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. i. (1869) 5 Spouting out torrents of puddled politics from his mouth. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipopodr.* II. iv. § 2. 172 Better go to the ..pure original spring..than drink from puddled streams.

2. Turned into or filled with puddles.

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xvi, One..let the fragment of his torch fall hissing on the puddled ground. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* iii. 67 All were wet from paddling through the puddled ground.

3. Converted into PUDDLE (*sb.* 4); covered or lined with puddled clay so as to be water-tight.

1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 240 Earth in this puddled state becomes so dense as to resist the impression of water, which can by no means penetrate it. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 353 The canal..is confined within a puddled channel to prevent leakage. 1871 *Daily News* 21 Sept., A very considerable quantity of the puddled clay..had been removed.

4. *Iron Manuf.* Purified from carbon and rendered malleable by stirring up and turning over in a reverberatory furnace: see prec. 5, 7.

1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 49 The puddled ball to be put under the shingling hammer and rolled into rough bars, by some called 'puddled bars'. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 179 The production of puddled steel.

Puddler (pʊ·dlə1). [f. PUDDLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who puddles: chiefly in technical senses.

1. A workman employed in puddling iron.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 84 When in this semi-fluid state the puddler introduces an iron rod. 1894 BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 420 The flame may be made oxidising, neutral, or reducing, at the will of the puddler.

b. An implement or machine for puddling iron.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v., Mechanical puddlers have assumed two forms. 1. The Mechanical Rabble...2. The rotary puddling-furnace. 1894 BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 421 The so-called 'puddlers' invented by Mr. Samuel Danks of Cincinnati.

2. One who works clay, etc. into puddle, or who covers or lines something with puddle: see PUDDLE *v.* 4.

1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 251/1 This is smoothed over with 'puddlers' mine' which is a soft hematite made into a paste with water. 1899 *Daily News* 7 June 9/1 The puddlers, who must reach the clay, have had to go down as far as 63ft.

3. One engaged in puddling for gold: see PUDDLE *v.* 6.

1883 KEIGHLEY *Who are You* 55 The puddlers' horses are all at rest. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 285 He was not a miner, a speculator, a reefer, nor an engine-driver, a clerk, or puddler.

Puddler, dial. var. PODLER (young coal-fish).

Puddling (pʊ·dliŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PUDDLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PUDDLE; also *concr.* (see 2). **1.** *gen.*: see the verb, sense 1.

1758 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 516 We are well after four hours' walking, wondering, and puddling.

2. The process of converting clay, etc. into puddle, or of lining or covering something with puddle to make it water-tight; also *concr.* = PUDDLE *sb.* 4. Also *attrib.*

1762 J. BRINDLEY in S. Hughes *Mem.* (Weale's Papers Civ. Engin. 1844 I. 47), [It is said that when in his evidence he was making frequent use of the expression] puddling, [some of the members were anxious to know what puddle really was]. 1796 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIV. 238 The system of puddling in embankments made near to the sea. 1834–47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 125 To construct the interior of the dam with well-tempered clay, called puddling. 1861 SMILES *Engineers* I. 353 So to work the new layer of puddling stuff as to unite it with the stratum immediately beneath.

3. The process of decarbonizing cast iron by stirring and turning it over continuously in a furnace, so as to render it malleable.

(The operation is described minutely by Dr. Beddoes in *Phil. Trans.* (1791) LXXXI. 173, but the word not used.)

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 699 The second operation completes the first, and is called *puddling*. 1861 FAIRBAIRN *Iron* 9 In 1783–4, Mr Cort of Gosport introduced the processes of puddling and rolling. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v., Silicon and phosphorus are also largely removed by puddling.

b. *attrib.*, as *puddling forge, furnace, process, roll* (= puddle-roll, PUDDLE *v.* 7).

1798 D. MUSHET in *Phil. Mag.* II. 14 One of the principal operations well known by the name of the Puddling Process. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 334 When the cake of metal is broken into lumps of a convenient size, it is taken to the puddling furnace, where it is heated with coals, without the aid of an artificial blast. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 704 Cylinders .. which serve to draw out the ball, called puddling rolls, or roughing rolls. 1862 *Edin. Rev.* CXVI. 226 Cinder is the refuse of the puddling forge.

4. In *Gold-mining*: see PUDDLE *v.* 6. Also *attrib.* as *puddling machine, tub.*

1859 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 133 The cradle..proved very ineffectual in liberating it [the gold] from the stiff clay ..which suggested the use of a puddling tub in its stead. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* v, The wash-dirt has to be..subjected to a puddling machine.

Pu·ddling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That puddles, in various senses: see the verb. (In quots., a vague term of contempt: = MUDDLING, PIDDLING *ppl. adjs.*)

1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 184 You paltry, puddling puppy. 1777 LADY SARAH LENNOX in *Life & Lett.* (1901) I. 260 At a little pudling bathing place of my brother's by the sea. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* I. 105 Rescued..from the absurd and puddling management of its inconsistent mother.

†**Pu·ddlish,** *a. Obs.* [f. PUDDLE *sb.* + -ISH 1.] Partaking of the nature of a puddle; puddly.

1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 24 Here the colour of the water changed; and was of a puddlelish and sandy red colour. *Ibid.*, Thick puddleish water.

Puddly (pʊ·dli), *a.* Also 6–7 pudly, -lie, 7 pudley. [f. PUDDLE *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Having the quality of a puddle, or of 'puddle' (*sb.* 3); muddy, turbid, as water or other liquid; more generally, Foul, dirty. Now *rare* or *dial.*

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 75 They will driue down the pudly matter to the bottom. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* IV. xvi. 650 In a pudlie and troubled water. 1734 SWIFT *Let. to Faulkener* Wks. 1841 II. 725/2 Is it not sufficient to see a luminary like this now shining in a meridian lustre, but anon set for ever in a puddly cloud? 1861 CLAYTON *Frank O'Donnell* 69 O to see him tossing in the mud and his fine coat and cap all puddly.

2. Full of or abounding in puddles.

1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. vii, Plashing in the cold puddly ruts. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men* ii, You find a place..not quite so puddly as other places.

Puddock, Sc. var. PADDOCK *sb.*1, frog; obs. f. PADDOCK *sb.*2, enclosure; dial. var. PUTTOCK 1.

Puddy (pʊ·di), *a.* ? *dial.* [cf. PUD, hand, paw; also *pud* Sc., belly.] 'Short, thick-set' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); stumpy; pudgy.

1842 ALB. SMITH in *Punch* II. 24 The olive branches.. poking their little puddy fingers into the creams. 1849 — *Pottleton Leg.* 283 One or two little girls had squeezed the keepsakes..so tightly in their little puddy hands. 1874 JEFFERIES *John Smith's Shanty* in *Toilers of Field* (1892) 196 Their red 'puddy' fists were fat.

Pudency (piū·dĕnsi). [ad. late L. *pudĕntia*, f. *pudĕns*, *-ĕntem*, pr. pple. of *pud-ēre* to make or be ashamed: see -ENCY.] Susceptibility to the feeling of shame; modesty, bashfulness.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. v. 11 She..did it with A pudencie so Rosie..That I thought her As chaste, as vn-Sunn'd Snow. 1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 4 Where Hypocrisy too often puts on the mask of pudency. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Considd.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 425 There is a pudency about friendship, as about love. 1902 GILDERSLEEVE in *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XXIII. 135 Unless we are taught to observe, we do not notice the pudencies of Homer.

Pudendal (piūde·ndăl), *a.* [f. PUDEND-UM + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the pudenda; pudic.

1799 [see PUDICAL *a.*]. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* IX. 395, I have never divided with it the pudendal artery. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxix. 441 It [granuloma] is practically confined to the pudendal region.

Pude·ndous, *a. rare.* ? *Obs.* [f. L. *pudend-us* (see next) + -OUS.] To be ashamed of; shameful.

1680 *Counterplots* 36 Disclosing those pudendous enormities which he had done. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* ii. 29 A feeling laughable in a priestess, pudendous [1808 shameful] in a priest!

‖ **Pudendum** (piūde·ndŭm). Usually in pl. **pudenda.** [L., neuter gerundive of *pudēre* to cause shame, ashame, lit. 'that of which one ought to be ashamed', used as sb., commonly in pl.] The privy parts; the external genital organs.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. xlviii. (Bodl. MS.), Also for schame þese partyes hatte *þudenda* þe schamelich parties.] 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 15 She [Hottentot] will immediately pull by her flap, and discouer her pudenda. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iv. 449 The original Sources of the Shame relating to the Pudenda are probably the Privacy requisite [etc.]. 1841 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr. Med.* (1855) 33 These parts, closing and surrounding the genital fissure, altogether constitute the pudendum.

†**Puder, Puderer,** obs. ff. PEWTER, PEWTERER.

1507 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 1 Duas parapsides de puder. 1588 *Calr. Laing Charters* (1899) 289 [Twelve] patinarum *lie* puder plaittis. 1598 in Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 222 *note*, The plumers, puderers, glaciares, and paynters.

†**Pudeswale,** obs. form of PADUASOY.

1656 *Bk. Values* in Scobell *Acts & Ordin. Parl.* (1658) 474 Wrought Silks called..Pudeswaies.

Pudge1 (pʊdʒ). *dial.* and *colloq.* Also *Sc.* **poodge** (pödʒ, püdʒ). [Origin obscure; app. to a certain extent identical with PODGE. Not known before 19th c. Connexion with Sc. *pud* belly, and with *pud-* in PUDDING has been conjectured; but the phonetic change would need explanation.] A short thick-set or fat person or animal; anything short and thick.

1808 JAMIESON, *Pudge*, any very small house, a hut, *Perths.* 1880 *Ibid.*, *Pudge* [ed. 1825 *Pudget*], (1) a term applied to a short, thick set animal or person; also, to a person who feeds well; (2) anything short and stout, or small and confined, as a house, a hut. 1892 E. L. WAKEMAN in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 28 July, The old town has always seemed to wish the glamor of immortality on its own account; for its wigged pudges of rulers, its wicked old slave traders. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 8/5 The tight shoe ages the face appallingly, the tight glove makes a shapeless 'pudge' of the hand.

Pudge2 (pʊdʒ). *dial.* [? Connected with OE. *pudd* furrow, ? ditch (see PUDDLE *sb.*). Cf. Sw. *puss* puddle, plash.] A puddle.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 31 While countless swarms of dancing gnats Each water pudge surround. 1821 — *Vill. Minstr.* II. 32 He whisk'd o'er the water-pudge flirting and airy. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pudge*, a ditch or grip.

Pudgy (pʊ·dʒi), *a.*1 [In form and sense a deriv. of PUDGE1, and a doublet of PODGY, both forms being frequent in Thackeray, to whom the current use is app. largely due. If PUDSY, *pudsey* (1754) was the same word, it would be the earliest member of the group, which otherwise appears only in the 19th c.; but its connexion is doubtful.] Short and thick or fat.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Our Parish* i, The vestry clerk.. is a short, pudgy little man in black. 1837 THACKERAY *Ravenswing* i, Their fingers is always so very fat and pudgy. 1840 — *Catherine* ii, A fat, pudgy pale-haired woman..leaning on the Captain's arm. 1862 *Athenæum* 27 Sept. 403 A very short, pudgy omnibus.

Pudgy (pʊ·dʒi), *a.*2 *dial.* [f. PUDGE2 + -Y.] Muddy, miry.

1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 162 And litter'd straw in all the pudgy sloughs.

Pudibund (piū·dibʊnd), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *pudibund-us* easily ashamed, bashful, modest, also shameful, f. *pudēre* to make or be ashamed; cf. F. *pudibond* (16th c. in Littré).] †**a.** That is a subject of shame; shameful. *Obs.* **b.** Modest, bashful, prudish. Also †**Pudibu·ndous** *a. Obs.*

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 253 And yf any man..doth burne in the pudibunde places. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pudibund*, *Pudibundous*, shame-fac'd, bashful, modest, honest. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Dec. 785/2 To outrage the pudibund soul of their countryman. 1900 A. LANG in *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 363/2 English literature became the most 'pudibund'..the world has ever known.

Hence **Pudibu·ndity** (*pedantic*), **Pu·dibundness**, bashfulness, prudery.

1727 Bailey vol. II, Pudibundness. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Jan. 100 Only the pudibundity of the Editor of this Review prevents us from at once vindicating..the Great F. B. 1893 *Ibid.* 4 Feb. 126/2 We cannot approve the editor's pudibundity in omitting a few 'indecent words'.

Pudic (piū·dik), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 5 -ique, -yke, 6 -ick, (*Sc.* -ict), 5–7 -ike. [a. F. *pudique* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *pudīc-us* shamefaced, modest, chaste, f. *pud-ēre* to make or be ashamed.]

†**1.** Having a keen sense of shame; modest, chaste. *Obs.*

1490 Caxton *Eneydos* vii. 32 To enterteyne hir pudeyque chastyte in perpetuall wydowhed. *Ibid.* ix. 36 To kepe thy pudyke chastyte vnhurte. *Ibid.* 37 Pudike. 1562 Knox *Ressoning Crosragnell* (1563) B ij, An honest & pudick matron. 1581 N. Burne *Disput.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 172 Modest and pudict behauiour cumlie for vemen. 1610 Tofte *Hon. Acad.* III. 141 Modest and pudike Cynthia.

2. *Anat.* = Pudendal.

1807–26 S. Cooper *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 471 The external pudic branch of the femoral artery. 1863–76 Curling *Dis. Rectum* 25 The pain..deeply seated in the pudic region.

B. *sb. Anat.* The pudic artery.

1827 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 195/2 There was not much bleeding from the divided external pudic. 1874 Van Buren *Dis. Genit. Org.* 3 The arteries come from the internal pudics.

†**Pu·dical,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -al.]

A. *adj.* **a.** = Pudic *a.* 1. **b.** = Pudic *a.* 2.

1513 Bradshaw *St. Werburge* II. 224 Blessed Werburge so glorious and pudicall. 1799 Hooper *Med. Dict., Pudical artery*, pudendal artery. A branch of the internal iliac.

B. *sb. Anat.* = Pudic *sb.*

1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 463 The origin and course of the external pudicals are more fully traced.

Pudicity (piudi·sĭti). Now *rare.* [ad. F. *pudicité* (1417 in Godef.), substituted for OF. *pudicicie* (13–15th c.), ad. L. *pudīcitia*, f. *pudīc-us*: see Pudic.] Modesty, chastity.

1567 Fenton *Trag. Disc.* i. (1898) I. 47 Absolute experience of her undoubted pudicitie. 1645 Pagitt *Heresiogr.* (1647) 10 They broke the lawes of all pudicity and honesty. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 109 Her pudicity awed me in the midst of transport. 1879 M. Pattison *Milton* iii. 37 The pudicity of his behaviour and language covers a soul tremulous with emotion.

†**Pu·dify,** *v. Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *pudē-re* to make or be ashamed + -fy: the L. form would have been *pudefacĕre*: cf. *patefacere*, *rubefacere*.]

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pudify*, to make ashamed, to make to blush, to be ashamed.

Pudisway, obs. form of Paduasoy.

†**Pu·dlay.** *Obs.* See quots.

1679 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 171 *Pudlaies*, Pieces of Stuff [= timber] to do the Office of Hand-Spikes. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 230 *Pudlays*, Pieces of Stuff to do the Office of Leavers, or Hand-spikes.

†**Pu·dor.** *Obs.* Also 7 -ore, -our. [a. L. *pudor* shame, modesty, f. root of *pud-ēre* to make or be ashamed. So F. *pudeur* (16th c. in Hatz.).] Due sense of shame; bashfulness, modesty.

1623 Cockeram, *Pudor*, shamefastnesse. 1639 G. Daniel *Ecclus.* Induct. 12 The Muse..Has sung the beauties of devine Pudore: His second Love, the Darling of his Soule. 1659 Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* I. 615 There is a Pudor in it, it was kept secret, some great Lords never knew it. 1686 Aglionby *Painting Illustr.* III. 121 An Air of Pudour and Sanctity that strikes the Spectator with Respect.

Pudsy (pu·dzi), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 8 pudsey. [?Connected with Pud hand, paw. If related to *pudgy*, it is an earlier form.] Plump.

1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1781) VII. xliii. 211 He..took the little thing from me, kissed its forehead, its cheek, its lips, its little pudsey hands. 1774 T. Hutchinson *Diary* 27 Oct., I was determined..to kiss one of their little pudsey hands. 1831 Fr. A. Kemble *Record Girlhood* (1878) II. 264 A fat, red, round, staring, pudsy thing! 1869 Mrs. Whitney *Hitherto* v, His pudsy hands upon his dimpled knees.

B. *sb.* A term of endearment (primarily to a baby).

a 1756 Mrs. Haywood *Wife to Lett* III, Here, Pudsy, read this—Read, Pudsy, it's prettily turned.

‖ **Pudu** (pu·du). [Native Chilian name.] The venada, *Pudua humilis* or *Cervus pudu*, a very small species of deer, native to Chili.

1886 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* (1896) 185. 1903 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 47 The tiny little pudu-deer of the Chilian Andes.

Pue, obs. f. Pooh, Pew *sb.*[1,3] *v.*[1]; var. Pew *v.*[2]

‖ **Pueblo** (pwe·blo, pwe·blo). [Sp., = people, population, town, village:—L. *popul-us* People.]

1. A town or village in Spain or Spanish America; esp. a communal village or settlement of Indians.

In American Archæology applied to a communal or tribal dwelling of the aborigines of New Mexico, etc. *Pueblo Indians*, partly civilized and self-governing Indians, dwelling in pueblos, in New Mexico and Arizona.

1818 *Amer. St. Papers, Foreign* (1834) IV. 307 There was in almost every valley a pueblo of peaceful and submissive Indians. 1845 W. H. G. Kingston *Lusitanian Sk.* II. xxvii. 233 Pueblos scattered about in every direction shewed that the land was still the habitation of man. Near each pueblo were numerous horses and colts feeding. 1875 T. W. Higginson *Hist. U. S.* ii. 10 The Pueblo Indians, in New Mexico,..seem to have a civilization of their own. 1879 H. George *Progr. & Pov.* VII. v. (1881) 346 Reduced to private ownership..as even the pueblo lands of San Francisco.. were reduced. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 86 The Pueblos, or small walled towns that are scattered over this valley, are extremely picturesque.

2. Short for *Pueblo Indian*: see above.

1850 G. A. McCall *Lett. fr. Frontiers* (1868) 497 The Pueblos were admitted to the rights of citizenship by the Mexican government under Iturbide. 1891 *Chambers' Encycl.* VIII. 482/1 The Pueblos..are making steady progress in civilisation and education.

†**Puella·rity.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [f. L. *puellār-is* girlish (f. *puella* a girl) + -ity.] (See quot.) So **Pue·llile, Pue·llular** *adjs.* (*nonce-wds.*), proper to little girls.

1623 Cockeram, *Puellaritie*, girlishnesse. 1861 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Aug. 123 In many cases [they] are trivial and puellular, if we may be allowed to coin a much-needed feminine for puerile. 1891 *Guardian* 29 Apr. 682/2 [The tale] would be too puellile—may we coin a word?—for strictures, had not the writer challenged them by her introduction.

Puer, obs. f. Pure *a.*, var. Pure *sb.* (sense 5).

†**Pu·erice.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *puerīti-a* boyhood, childhood, f. *puer* a boy, child; cf. obs. F. *puerice* (16th c.).] Boyhood, childhood.

1481 Botoner *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) b iij, They can sey no reason how olde age entrith souner in the man after adolescence, no more than doeth adolescence aftir puerice, callid childhode. 1660 Gauden *Brownrig* 143 He drank in learning not..by drops, but as a sponge.., even in his puerice or minority.

Puericulture (piū·ĕrikv·ltiŭr). [ad. mod.F. *puériculture* (Littré), f. L. *puer* a child + *cultūra* Culture.] The rearing of children, as an art, or branch of sociology.

1901 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 6 Apr. 857/2 The defence of childhood (puericulture, suckling, weaning). 1904 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 6 France is..realising the enormous importance and the urgency of this question of 'pueri-culture', as the experts call it.

Puerile (piū·ĕrəil), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *puerīl-is* boyish, childish, f. *puer* a boy, child: see -ile. Cf. F. *puéril*, *-ile* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), perh. the immediate source.]

1. Of, pertaining or proper to a boy or child; youthful, boyish, juvenile. Now *rare* exc. as in 2.

1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.* To Rdr. (1860) 13 Let the.. reader mend what he sees amiss in these puerill exercises. *a* 1695 Wood *Ath. Oxon.* (1721) II. 602 [Franciscus Junius] was..educated in puerile Learning at Leyden in Holland. 1784 Cowper *Tiroc.* 458 Our public hives of puerile resort. 1852 Blackie *Stud. Lang.* 7 There is no subject of puerile inculcation that more imperatively calls for a good teacher.

b. Of respiration: Characterized by the louder pulmonary murmur found in children, which in adults is usually a sign of disease.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 526 Distinguished by M. Laennec by the name of puerile or tracheal. 1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 289 Respiration was inaudible over the whole of the right side, but was puerile on the left. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 131 Should the opposite lung be healthy and free to act, puerile breathing will probably be heard on that side.

2. (*Depreciative.*) Merely boyish or childish, juvenile; immature, trivial.

1685 *Remonstr. to Parl.* in Somers *Tracts* I. 211 Moved with an Itch of being in Print, they publish their own puerile Conceptions. 1751 Earl Orrery *Remarks Swift* (1752) 78 They are trifling and I had almost said puerile. 1809–10 Coleridge *Friend* (1865) 196 It is mere puerile declamation. 1868 Farrar *Seekers* Concl. (1875) 332 The puerile ostentation, which we have had to point out in Seneca.

B. *sb. pl.* (= L. *puerīlia*). Childish things, conditions, or productions.

1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* I. i. 27 Which seek..to reduce ancient Churches, of long growth, of tall and manly stature, to their pueriles, their long coats and cradles. [1899 'Anthony Hope' *King's Mirror* ii, A man's *puerilia* are to himself not altogether puerile; they are parcel of the complex explanation of his existent self.]

Hence **Pu·erilely** *adv.*, in a puerile fashion; **Pu·erileness,** = Puerility; **Pu·erilize** *v. trans.*, to make puerile.

1727 Bailey vol. II, Puerilely..Puerileness. 1751 *Female Foundling* I. p. v, A Narration of Events which are visibly fictitious,..or puerilely extravagant. 1791 J. Learmont *Poems* 75 Puerileness of things And playful trifles held thee fast. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 322 Its long-pucrilized fancy will bear an endless repetition of them. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Sept. 2/3 He..is puerilely grateful for the present of a wooden pipe.

Puerility (piū,ĕri·lĭti). [a. F. *puérilité* (15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *puerīlitās*, *-tātem*, f. *puerīlis*: see prec.]

1. The condition of being a child; childhood; in *Civil Law*, the age between seven and fourteen.

1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 34 Seinge the indigent puerylite of them. 1575 Fenton *Gold. Epist.* (1577) 259 Puerilitie, being the seconde age, continueth from seuen to fourteene years. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* I. vii. 24 A Reserve of Puerilitie wee have not shaken off from Schoole. 1849 Ruskin *Sev. Lamps* v. § 3. 139 There would be hope if we could change palsy into puerility.

2. The quality of being puerile; (mere) childishness, triviality.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 282 Who..playeth pranckes of puerilitie and childishnesse. 1662 Stillingfl. *Orig. Sacr.* III. iii. § 1 In nothing did Epicurus more discover the weakness and puerility of his judgement. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 523 ¶ 5 Downright Puerility, and unpardonable in a Poet that is past Sixteen. 1827 Macaulay *Ess., Machiavelli* (1887) 45 That a shrewd statesman..should, at nearly sixty years of age, descend to such puerility is utterly inconceivable. 1907 *Academy* 16 Nov. 143/2 The puerility of this attempt is..astonishing.

b. With *a* and *pl.* An instance of childishness in behaviour, work, or speech; a thing that embodies or displays childishness. (In quot. 1779, juvenile productions.)

c 1450 *Mankind* 813 in *Macro Plays* 30 Ewyr to offend, & euer to aske mercy, þat ys a puerilite. 1692 Dryden *St. Euremont's Ess.* 363 Relaxing sometimes to very great Puerilities. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 279 ¶ 5 Those trifling Points and Puerilities that are so often to be met with in Ovid. 1779 Johnson *L. P., Cowley* Wks. II. 7 Of the learned puerilities of Cowley there is no doubt, since a volume of his poems was..printed in his thirteenth year. 1830 Scott *Demonol.* iii. 116 The genius of Milton alone could discard all these vulgar puerilities. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 245 Not a vermilion-daubed puerility, with a glory in Dutch leaf..but a good, genuine, hearty representative of English flesh and blood.

†**Pue·rper,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 5 *corruptly* **puarpure.** [ad. L. *puerper-us*: see next. Cf. OF. *puerpre* Puerpery.] Parturient.

c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4978 Thi puarpure wombe childyng godson intacte and cloos.

Puerperal (piu,ə·ɪpĕrăl), *a.* [f. L. *puerper-us* parturient, bringing forth children (f. *puer* a child + *-par-us* bringing forth) + -al. So F. *puerpéral* (1835 in *Dict. Acad.*).] Of, pertaining to, accompanying, or ensuing upon parturition.

1768 T. Denman (*title*) Essays on the Puerperal Fever, and on Puerperal Convulsions. 1791 Cowper *Iliad* XVI. 225 Ilithya, arbitress Of pangs puerperal. 1874 Bucknill & Tuke *Psych. Med.* (ed. 3) 350 The term Puerperal Insanity, Mania, or Madness, is by different writers employed in a restricted or a comprehensive use.

Hence **Pue·rperally** *adv.* (in *Cent. Dict.*).

†**Puerpe·rial,** *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *puerperi-um* Puerpery + -al.] Of or pertaining to child-birth. **b.** As *sb.* (*pl.*) things or matters pertaining to child-birth.

1628 Gaule *Pract. The.* (1629) 116 What preparation for Puerperials? What ready helpe of a Midwife? 1648 Beaumont *Psyche* XIX. vi, With puerperial pain. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 256 The Tulip..is a blessed..Remedy for Puerperial After-Pains.

Puerperous (piu,ə·ɪpĕrəs), *a. rare.* [f. as Puerperal + -ous.] = Puerper.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Puerperous*, that beareth children, or causeth to bear and bring forth, or to be delivered of a child. 1658 in Phillips.

Pue·rpery. *rare.* Also in Lat. form **puerpe·rium.** [ad. L. *puerperi-um*, f. *puerper-us*: see Puerperal.] Child-birth; 'confinement'.

1602 Fulbecke *2nd Pt. Parall.* 60 As there is one conception of two twinnes, so there is one puerperie, though it bee finished at diuers times. 1652 J. Mayer *Comm. Prophets* 56 [They] make it plain that such a puerpery was to be expected. 1890 *Lancet* 5 Apr. 750/2 Illustrating the clinical history of nephritis in pregnancy and puerpery.

Puet(t, Pufellow, obs. ff. Pewit, Pew-fellow.

Puff (pŭf), *sb.* Forms: 3, 6 puf, 3–7 puffe, 6 pufe, *Sc.* pwf, 5– puff. [n. of action cognate with Puff *v.* q. v.]

1. An act of puffing; a short impulsive blast of breath or wind; an abrupt emission of air, vapour, or smoke; a whiff. Also *fig.* †*By puffs* (quot. 1579), by fits and starts, intermittently.

(A possible OE. instance of *pyf* has been suggested as the original reading in K. Ælfred's *Boeth.* XX. (1899) 47: Ac seo orsorhnes gæð scyrmælum swæðer windes [pyf]; where MS. B has *ðyf* = *þyf*, perh. for *þyf*. See Napier in *P. B. Beitr.* XXIV. 245 Note 1. Others would read *ðys* or *þys* = ON. *þyss* uproar, tumult.)

a 1255 *Ancr. R.* 122 Hwo nule þunchen þeonne wunder of an ancre þet a windes puf of a word auelleð? *Ibid.* 142 Þes deofles puffes, þet beoð temptaciuns. *a* 1400 Hylton *Scala Perf.* (W. de W.) II. xviii. (1507) Piv, A lityl puffe of wynde..sholde soone caste hym downe. 1530 Palsgr. 259/1 Puffe of wynde, *bouffee*. 1579 Tomson *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 435/1 It is not inough for a man to teache by puffes, but he must frame himself neuer to bee wearie in taking paines to edifie the Church of God. 1582 Stanyhurst *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 66 Eeche pipling puf doth amaze me. 1667 Flavel *Saint Indeed* (1754) 60 Like a candle blown out with a puff of breath. 1781 Cowper *Conversation* 245 The pipe, with solemn interposing puff, Makes half a sentence at a time enough. 1842 Macaulay *Ess., Fredk. Gt.* (1887) 695 Between the puffs of the pipe. 1887 Bowen *Virg. Æneid* III. 357 Canvases heave and swell with the puff of the South wind gale.

b. An act of puffing as an expression of contempt; a scornful gesture.

1585 Stow *Surv.* (1908) I. p. lxv, We aunswered it was by act of comon counsayle, whereat he made a pufe. 1598 Dallington *Meth. Trav.* B iv, This is a better purchase then the Italian huffe of the shoulder, or the Dutch puffe with the pot, or the French apishnes, which many Trauellers bring home.

c. The sound of an abrupt or explosive emission of air, or the like.

1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest.* (ed. 4) 309 The phenomenon which I have termed the auricular puff, simple, or veiled, frequently accompanies the cavernous respiration and cough. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xxx. 411 [Walrus] rising at intervals through the ice in a body, and breaking it up with an explosive puff that might have been heard for miles. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1021 This murmur ..may be a short systolic 'puff' having a very limited area of audibility.

d. *concr.* A small quantity of vapour, smoke, or the like, emitted at one momentary blast; a whiff.

1839 tr. *Lamartine's Trav. East* 12/1 Giving to the wind

the puffs of smoke from their pipes of red clay. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* v. 32 Suddenly from her side..Darted a puff of smoke, and floated seaward. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 118 Puffs of vapour were rising at various points.

e. *slang* and *dial.* Breath, 'wind'.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 137 Taking the puff out of most of the nags. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 387 Sustaining three more savage charges, the last..far from pleasant, as my horse had all the puff taken out of him.

2. A swelling caused by inflation or otherwise; a blister, tumour, protuberance, excrescence.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Hecta*,..a lyttelle puffe, whiche riseth in breadde whanne it is baken. *Ibid.*, *Clauus*,..also puffes growing in the stemmis of great trees. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xvii. (1887) 76 The vehement vpright wrastling..taketh awaie fatnesse, puffes, and swellinges. 1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 21 Having thus plumed him of that puffe of Feathers, with which he buoy'd himself up in the Aire. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 5 The Iron to be without knots, puffs, or flaws. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 59 Men and women alike wear armlets, and in..the women..you see puffs of flesh growing out from between them.

b. In costume, A rounded soft protuberant mass formed by gathering in the stuff at the edges and leaving it full in the middle as if inflated. Also, a similar mass formed of ribbons or small feathers, or by rolling in the ends of the hair on the head.

a 1601? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* I. 124 Nor doe I enuie Polyphemian puffes, Swizars slopt greatnesse. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 52 See my wife.. Busied to starch her French purles, and her puffs. 1617 [see PUFFED *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1666-7 PEPYS *Diary* 4 Feb., Mrs. Steward, very fine, with her locks done up with puffes, as my wife calls them. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 98/1 Half Sleeves..are made..with Puffs, or ruffled in the turn-up. 1729 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 244 Her lappets tied with puffs of scarlet ribbon. 1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 26 May 510/2 Bonnets .. with velvet flowers and delicious puffs, composed of a mass of small feathers. 1889 *Latest News* 5 Sept. 7 Puff of muslin, forming a panier. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 3/2 The beautifully arranged forehead puff that almost all Parisians affect.

3. A kind of fungus; = PUFF-BALL 1. *dial.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Tuber*, a puffe growyng on the ground lyke a musherone or spunge. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. i. 313 The rootes be round and swollen like to a Puffe or Turnep. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 133 All the sort of those Puffes and Toadstooles. 1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Puff*, a puff-ball.

†**b.** Some kind of apple: also called PUFFIN (2 3).

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 291 Apples be so divers of Form and Substance..; some consist more of Air than Water, as your Puffs called *Mala pulmonea.*

4. †**a.** An instrument like a small bellows, formerly used for blowing powder upon the hair. *Obs.* **b.** A small pad of down or other flossy substance, for applying powder to the hair or skin. More fully POWDER-PUFF.

1658 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 163 To eject powder in your hayre, Here is a pritty puff. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 478 ₱ 13 On the other [side], Powder Baggs, Puffs, Combs and Brushes. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 5 ₱ 11 If the hair has lost its powder, a lady has a puff. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) IV. 507 The pediculus pubis is best destroyed by calomel mixed with starch powder, and applied by means of a down puff. 1908 *Lady* 10 Dec. 1106/3 'Beauty Box' containing .. one box of face powder, with swansdown puff,..is sent post free.

†**c.** A small vessel for sprinkling scent. *Obs.*

1436 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 15 *note*, Unum puff argenti pro aqua rosarum spargenda.

5. A name for various kinds of very light pastry or confectionery; now *esp.* a piece of puff-paste (usually three-cornered), or a light porous cake, inclosing jam or the like; also, a light confection resembling a macaroon. In quot. 1908 = PUFF-PASTE. (So LG. *puffe, puffe-brodt.*)

1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 353 Panis levis qui dicitur 'pouf'. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1778) 164 To make German Puffs. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 195 Lemon Puffs..Chocolate Puffs..Ratafia Puffs. 1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1808) II. 11 The hostess there had just made some puffs, and begged me to eat one. *a* 1845 HOOD *Sweets of Youth* 3, I used to revel in a pie, or puff. 1864 Jam-puffs [see JAM *sb.*² c]. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Aug. 7/1 In pastry nothing is so heavy as puff that has failed.

6. *fig.* An inflated speech or piece of display; an empty or vain boast; vainglory or pride; vain show, showy adornment; inflation of style, bombast; brag, bluff. ? *Obs.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Art Poetry* A iij, Put out no puffes, nor thwackyng words. 1632 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* xix. 331 The Idolatrous Philistins..all in their Puffe, and Iollity, swelling with pompe and pride. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 250 A blind puff of pride and vanity of Mind. 1747 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) II. 166 It's all Puff, he has but a very indifferent Person. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIII. 93 A real or pretended challenge..generally believed, however, to be mere puff. 1819 SCOTT *Let. to Ld. Montagu* 3 Oct. in Lockhart *Life*, We gave our carriage such additional dignity as a pair of leaders could add, and went to meet him [Prince Leopold] in full puff. 1821 ARNOLD *Let.* 25 Apr. in Stanley *Life & Corr.* I. 65 Any thing like puff, or verbal ornament, I cannot bring myself to.

†**b.** Anything empty, vain, or unsubstantial; a 'thing of nought'. (Cf. *breath.*) *Obs.*

1580 BABINGTON *Exp. Lord's Prayer* (1596) 46 He careth not for the puffes of this world, birth, beautie, wealth or wit. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxciii. 1197 A man would haue thought, that all that euer had beene done in the person of Dauid had been but a puffe. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Magnif.* 336 Honour is but a puffe, Life but a vapour.

7. Undue or inflated praise or commendation, uttered or written in order to influence public estimation; an extravagantly laudatory advertisement or review of a book, a performer or performance, a tradesman's goods, or the like.

(In quot. 1602 the inflated praise of a flatterer.)

[1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 46 Blowne up with the flattering puffes Of spungy sycophants.] 1732 *London Mag.* I. 81 Puff is a cant word for the applause that writers and Book-sellers give their own books &c. to promote their sale. 1742 CIBBER *Let. to Pope* 5, I am really driven to it (as the Puff in the Play-Bill says) At the Desire of several Persons of Quality. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 110 The puff of a dunce, he mistook it for fame. 1779 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. ii. 1794 C. PIGOT *Female Jockey Club* 78 The amount..is consumed in paying newspaper puffs. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 13 Dec., My name would be only useful in the way of puff, for I really know nothing of the subject. 1889 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 159 The last puffs written for a morning concert.

8. Applied to a person. **a.** One who brags or behaves insolently, or who is puffed up or swollen with pride or vanity; a boaster, a braggart. *arch.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. iii, The one a light voluptuous reueller, The other, a strange arrogating puffe, Both impudent and ignorant inough. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) II. 253 John Fastolfe, Knight..the Stage hath been overbold with his memory, making him a Thrasonical Puff, and emblem of Mock-valour. 1850 WHIPPLE *Ess. & Rev.* (ed. 3) I. 392 The age groaned under a company of lewd, shallow-brained puffs, wretches who seemed to have sinned themselves into another kind of species.

†**b.** One who praises extravagantly or unduly, esp. from interested motives; a writer of puffs: = PUFFER 2. *Obs.*

1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 10 June (1774) III. 199 Lady Hervey, who is your puff and panegyrist, writes me word..that you dance very genteelly. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. Wks. 1799 I. 337 The fellow has got a little in flesh, by being puff to the play-house this winter. 1789 SHERIDAN *Critic* I. i, [*Name of a character*] Mr. Puff, a gentleman well known in the theatrical world.

c. *slang.* A decoy in a gambling-house.

1731 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 25/1 Officers established in the most notorious Gaming-Houses...5. Two Puffs, who have Money given 'em to decoy others to play. 1755 *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. x. 225, I..now and then ventured a Guinea at the other Banks in Earnest, to prevent any Suspicion of my being a Puff.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Some of these may be from the stem of PUFF *v.*) †**a.** *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is like a puff in senses 2-6. Puffed, inflated, swelling (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.*

1472 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 1, j pall of blew puffe feathers in manner of scaloppys. 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* i. (1878) 36 Like a Swartrutters hose his puffe thoughts swell, With yeastie ambition. 1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* II. vii, Mean'st thou that wasted leg, puffe bumbast boot?

b. *Comb.*, as (in sense 1) *puff-roar*, *-wind*; (in sense 5) *puff-tart*; (in sense 7) *puff-master*, *-purveyor*, *-trap*, *-writing*; †**puff-bagged** *a.*, wearing puffed 'bags' or breeches; **puff-box**, a box to hold toilet-powder and a powder-puff; **puff-breeches**, puffed or inflated breeches; †**puff-cole**, a variety of cole or cabbage (see quot.); †**puff-doctrine**, vain or empty doctrine; **puff-fish**, a fish of either the *Tetrodontidæ* or *Diodontidæ*; also called, from their habit of inflating themselves with air, *globe-fish*, *swell-fish*, or *puffer*; in quot. a *Tetrodon*; **puff-leg**, a humming-bird of the genus *Eriocnemis*, having tufts of down upon the legs; **puff-netting** = *leaf-netting* (see LEAF *sb.* 17); **puff-pig**, local name in Newfoundland for the porpoise (= *puffing-pig*, s. v. PUFFING *ppl. a.* 1); †**puff-ring**, (app.) a counterfeit ring made hollow instead of solid; **puff-shark**, a Californian species of dog-fish, *Catulus uter*; **puff-stone**, local name for the soft porous marlstone of the Middle Lias; **puff-throated** *a.*, having a puffed or inflated throat; **puff-wig**, a puffed or full wig; †**puff-wing**, an inflated or prominent 'wing' or projection on the shoulder of a dress.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. ii, Great drops of water, such as fall from a *puff-bagged man in a top sweat. *c* 1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk. Jas. I & Chas. I* (1898) 260 The huge *puff-breeches of the time. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 135 The top-leaues and heads of Cole that are but a little closed, which we commonly call *Puffe-cole. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 11 This Pontifician *puffe-doctrine of preparatory workes. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 407 There were little *puff-fish, sometimes as round as a puff-ball, sometimes as flat as a pancake. 1874 WOOD *Nat. Hist.* 318 The Copper-bellied *Puff-leg...The 'puffs' ..look like refined swan's down. 1762 *Harangues Celebr. Quack-Doctors* Ed. Let., To the Orator of Orators, and *Puff-Master-General of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. 1882 *Puff Netting [see *leaf-netting* s. v. LEAF *sb.* 17]. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 91 At the mention of the *puff-pig, the local name for the common porpoise, we indulged ourselves in a childish laugh. 1908 *Athenæum* 11 Apr. 442/2 According to Hazlitt,..the rejected *puff-purveyor was none other than Charles Lamb. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1228/1 Like a *puffe rynge of Paris, holowe, lighte and counterfait in deede. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G j b, Puffe ringes, and quaint conceits. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 57 East, weast and Southwynd, with *pufroare mightelye ramping. 1908 C. F. HOLDER *Big Game at Sea* 118 (Illustration), The *Puff Shark of California and Its Eggs. *c* 1640 J. SMYTH *Hundred of Berkeley* (1885) 175 In this towne [Dursley] is a rocke of a strange stone called a *Puffe stone. 1742 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 252 That soft, easy-to-be wrought Stone at Great Banington, called Puff-stone, prodigiously strong and lasting. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 100 Tufa, tophus, puff-stone or marl stone is a porous soft stone. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Aug. 5/3 Before each man was a *puff tart and a glass of ginger-beer. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazon* ii. (1864) 36 A species of *puff-throated manikin, a little bird which flies occasionally across the road. 1796 *Mod. Gulliver's Trav.* 172 News-paper, *puff-trap, yields supply of game. 1702 FARQUHAR *Inconstant* I. i, Here, sirrah, here's ten guineas for thee; get thyself a drugget suit and a *puff-wig, and so I dub thee Gentleman-Usher. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 69 Much lyk to a *pufwynd, or nap that vannished hastlye. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. i, You shall see 'hem flock about you with their *puffe wings, and aske you, where you bought your lawne. 1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 58 *Puff-writing is one of the strange trades in London.

Puff (pʊf), *v.* Forms: 3-5 **puffe(n**, 4-7 **poff(e**, 5 **pouff(e**, 5-7 **puffe**, 7- **puff**. Pa. t. and pple. **puffed** (pʊft); 3, 6 **pufte** (*pa. t.*), 4 **poffed**, 6 **poffte** (*pa. pple.*), 5-9 **puft**. [ME. *puf* sb. and *puffen* vb. appear together in Ancren Riwle, early in 13th c., as well-established words, the verb implying an OE. **puffian*, existing beside the recorded form *pyffan* (imper. *pyf*, pa. t. *pyfte*):—OTeut. **puffōjan* and **puffjan*. (Or OE. *pyffan* might perh. itself give ME. *puffen* in the same way as OE. *kycgel* appears in Ancren R. as *cuggel*, later *cudgel*.) Of onomatopœic origin, representing the action and sound of emitting from the lips a puff of breath. Kindred forms, either from OTeut. or formed afresh, appear in MDu. *puffen* to puff, blow, early mod.Du. *pof* 'bucca, buccarum inflatio; bombus, flatus, sclopus' (Kilian); *pof* 'puff', *pofbal* 'ball blown or puffed up' (Hexham); *poffen*, 'flare, sufflare, buccas inflare; turgere, ampullari' (Kilian); 'to puf, blow, swell up, to boast, brag, vaunt' (Hexham).

Other senses of *puffen*, *poffen*, in LG. and Du., and thence in mod.Ger., Da., Sw., as to strike with an audible knock, to pop, thump, bang, crack, or simply to strike, and of the cogn. sb. in the corresponding sense of an audible blow, etc., may have been developed from the same original word, or may be later echoic formations expressive of sudden noise; cf. F. *pouf*, 'an exclamation expressing the noise of something falling', with derived vb. *pouffer*; also F. *soufflet*, from *souffler* to blow.]

1. *intr.* To blow with a short abrupt blast or blasts; to emit a puff of air or breath; to escape as a puff. *To puff out, up*, to issue, arise in puffs.

[Cf. *c* 1000 in Napier *OE. Glosses* i. 1886, *Spirantis, i. sufflantis*, [*gl.*] piffendes. *Ibid.* 4931 *Exalauit*, ut apyfte. *Ibid.* xviii. 42 *Efflauit*, pyfte. *c* 1000 in *Techmer's Ztschr.* (1885) II. 121 Pyf on þinne scyte finger.]

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 124 Vor nouðer ne mei þe wind..fulen þine soule þauh hit puffe on þe, bute ȝif þi sulf hit makie. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 776 Eolus..toke his blake trumpe faste And gan to puffen and to blaste. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 350 When the windes cease puffing. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 50 Like foggy South, puffing with winde and raine. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* iv. 14 Thy breath is in thy nostrils, ever ready to puff out. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. xi. § 1. 53 The bellows puff until the coal is excited to a furious glow. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* vii, The air puffing up off the blue twinkling Bay of Biscay.

b. To breathe quick and hard, as when out of breath from running or other exertion; to breathe hard, pant violently; often, *to puff and blow*; hence, to run or go with puffing or panting. Also (*b*) *trans.* with *out*: to utter breathlessly or with panting (quot. 1599); (*c*) *trans.* in *causal* sense: to cause to puff, to put out of breath (chiefly in *pa. pple.*: see PUFFED 3).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 87 He shal haue a penaunce in his paunche and puffe at ech a worde. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiii. (1887) 119 To be hoat and chafe, to puffe and blow, to sweat. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* (1871) 59 [He] came lazily waddling in, and puffed out, Pork, Pork, Pork. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. i. 230 Flamins Doe..puffe To winne a vulgar station. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 165 ₱ 4 Puffing and blowing as if .. very much out of Breath. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) v. xvii, After toiling and puffing up to the very top of the building. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 955 They puff after trains.

c. To send forth puffs or whiffs of vapour or smoke, as a steam-engine, or a person smoking tobacco; to move *away*, *in*, *out*, with puffing, as a locomotive or steamboat.

1781 COWPER *Conversation* 248 The dozing sages drop the drowsy strain, Then pause and puff—and speak, and pause again. 1849 D. G. MITCHELL *Battle Summer* (1852) 222 The railway engines are puffing out of Paris. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, Sanders..puffed away at his cigar. 1870 MRS. RIDDELL *Austin Friars* i, Where the trains now go puffing in and out of Cannon Street Terminus. 1894 *Outing* (U. S.) XXIV. 372/2 A light rain was falling as the steamer puffed away from the South Stack Lighthouse.

†**2.** *intr.* To blow abruptly from the lips as an expression of contempt or scorn; to say 'pooh!' or the like; to speak or behave scornfully or insolently, to swagger. *Puff at*, to express contempt of, to defy scornfully, to pooh-pooh. *Obs.*

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 25 Yf ye hadde seen hym chaunge his colour, pouff, blowe, as a man cruell prowde and owterageouse. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 42 The King fumed,..Princes puft, Bar[o]nz blustered, Lordz began too

loour. 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* x. 5 As for all his enemies, he puffeth at them. *c*1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 137 Thus lye they low who did most proudly puff. 1677 OTWAY *Cheats of Scapin* II. i, One that frowns, puffs, and looks big at all Mankind.

3. *trans.* To drive, impel, or agitate by puffing; to blow *away, down, off, out, up*, etc. with a quick short blast; to emit (smoke, steam, etc.) in puffs.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 266 3if a miracle nere þet pufte adun þene deouel þet set on hire so ueste. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 16 Piries and plomtrees were puffed [C. VI. 119 poffed] to þe erthe. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxxxi. (W. de W.) L viij b/1 Powder..hath that name for it is puft wyth þe wynde. 1567 DRANT *Horace, Epist.* II. i. G vj, That huffes it vp and puffes it downe. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 74 In three days sayling wee shal too Candye be puffed. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 623 When the clearing North will puff the Clouds away. 1720 GAY *Trivia* II. 191, I thirsty stand.., See them puff off the froth, and gulp amain. 1796 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xi, My feelings are not puffed about with every attempt to move them. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xlvi, As he puffed the cigar-smoke out of his mouth. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* 138 Bullets which puffed up the white dust all around him.

†**b.** To blow short blasts (with mouth or bellows) upon (a fire) to make it burn up. *Obs.*

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. i, That's his fire-drake, His lungs, his Zephyrus, he that puffes his coales. 1698 TUTCHIN *Whitehall in Fl.* iii, Embers...Which Fate puffs up unto a blaze. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Colemira* 52 She..Foments the infant flame, and puffs it into life.

c. To blow *out*, extinguish with a puff.

1547 *Bk. Marchaunt*es c ij b, Some poore foole..stycketh vp a candell vpon a pyller, and oure marchaunt anone snatcheth and puffeth it out. 1621 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* (1678) 51 This breath shall puff thee out. 1752 YOUNG *Brothers* I. i, Those That would make kings, and puff them out at pleasure. 1879 J. TODHUNTER *Alcestis* 104 Yet we go out, Like candles puffed, not willingly. We die.

d. To smoke (a tobacco-pipe or cigar) in intermittent puffs or whiffs.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. iii. (1820) 179 Here the old burgher would sit..puffing his pipe. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* vi, The farrier was puffing his pipe rather fiercely. 1875 H. JAMES *R. Hudson* i, Rowland..lighted a cigar and puffed it awhile in silence.

e. To apply powder with a powder-puff: with the powder, or the surface, as object. Also *absol.*

1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Character* (1851) 5 Job..tried to puff, but his unsteady hand..sent forth the powder above, below, about, but not upon the head. 1909 *Lady* 7 Jan. 34/3 Afterwards puff on a little rice powder. *Ibid.* 21 Jan. 116/1 The skin should then be puffed over with her Beauty Powder.

f. To drive or cause to move with puffing.

1903 *Smart Set* IX. 147/1 He puffed his automobile up the drive.

4. To cause (something) to swell by puffing or blowing air into it; to blow *out* or *up*; to inflate; to distend by inflation, or in any way, as by stuffing or padding, or, in costume, by bunching up the stuff in rounded masses.

1539 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 173 Apparelled in whyte Satten puffed out with crymsen sarcenet. 1592 GREENE *Def. Conny Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 69 What say you to the Butcher..that hath pollicies to puffe vp his meate to please the eye? 1679 BLOUNT *Anc. Tenures* 11 He should dance, puff up his Cheeks, making therewith a sound. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 561 The Huntsman.. puffs his Cheeks in vain. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 152 This method of puffing itself up, is similar to that in pigeons, whose crops are sometimes greatly distended with air. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 618 The cheeks ..drawn in and puffed out by the respiratory movements.

b. *intr.* To swell *up* or become distended or swollen.

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Lemon*, Should the Lemon-Slips happen to puff or turn sower in the Vessels, wherein they are kept. *Ibid.* s. v. *Sweetmeats*, Wet Sweetmeats are..subject to sour and puff, which proceeds from the moistness of the fruit. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 238 They [wind-galls] will not rise and puff up. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 119 When exposed..to a gradually increased fire, it [opium] begins to melt and to puff up.

c. *trans.* To adorn with puffs; to dress the hair in puffs. See PUFF *sb.* 2 b.

1891 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Amer. Girl in London* 293 The hairdresser..she puffed and curled me.

5. *fig.* (*trans.*) To 'inflate' or cause to 'swell' with vanity, pride, ambition, or the like; to make vain, proud, or arrogant; to elate, exalt in mind; *rarely*, to cause to swell with anger, to enrage (quots. 1555, 1815). Usually with *up*; most commonly in pa. pple. *puffed up.*

1526 TINDALE *Col.* ii. 18 Causlesse puft vppe with his flesshly mynde. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Cor.* viii. 2 Knowlege puffeth a man vp, but loue edifyeth. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 240 Kynge Iohn..was puffed vp with anger. 1634 HEYWOOD *Maidenhead Lost* II. Wks. 1874 IV. 122 There is no change of Fortune Can puffe me or deiect me. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 480 Not stain'd with cruelty, nor puft with pride. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 257 Victory had not puffed him up. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 156 Being puffed up with rage, they commenced an attack on the temporary paling. 1863 E. V. NEALE *Anal. Th. & Nat.* 223 Its tendency is to puff men up with a persuasion of their own greatness.

†**b.** (with *up.*) To exalt unduly in position or authority. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* ix. 11 Shal I leaue my swetnes and my good frute, and go to be puft vp aboue the trees? 1612 BACON *Ess., Judicature* (Arb.) 456 Puffing a Court vp beyond her bounds for their own scrappes and aduantage.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* xiii. 44 No more then a speciall endorsement could make to puffe up the foreman of a Jury.

6. To praise, extol, or commend in inflated or extravagant terms, usually from interested motives; *esp.* to advertise with exaggerated or falsified praise. Also with *off* (now *rare* or *obs.*).

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 232 Full-blown Bufo, puff'd by ev'ry quill; Fed with soft Dedication all day long. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 27 Sept. (1775) II. 228 Sir Charles Williams has puffed you (as the mob call it) here extremely. 1750 *Ibid.* 12 Oct. (1774) III. 55 Where she will ..puff you, if I may use so low a word. 1759 SARAH FIELDING *C'tess of Dellwyn* II. 283 The Captain proceeded ..by puffing off himself. 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 60 To puff his performances into notice. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 150 The only way a quack-medicine gets very celebrated, is, by its being constantly puffed off in advertisements. 1813 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 29 June, Each puffed the other in alternate compliments, which were mutually accepted. 1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy Bk. Prop. Law* ii. 7 You may falsely praise, or, as it is vulgarly termed, puff your property.

b. *absol.* (also with dependent clause). To tell or say to the praise of any one.

c 1750 W. STROUD *Mem.* 10 He wanted me to..puff for him (as he called it) that he had a large estate in Warwickshire. 1791 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode to my Ass* x, I could say such things about myself—But God forbid that I should puff!

c. *intr.* To bid at an auction for the purpose of inflating or raising the price: cf. PUFFER 2 b, PUFFING *vbl. sb.* 4 b.

7. *Comb.*, as †**puff-loaf** *a.*, **that 'puffs' loaves,** i. e. causes them to swell up. (See also prec. 9 b.)

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* iii. in *Holinshed* (1587) II. 23 The colerake sweeping of a pufloafe baker.

Puff (pʊf), *int.* Also 6 **poff.** [Echoic. Soalso MDu. *puf.*] A representation of the act of blowing in puffs; also, of blowing abruptly from the lips; hence, an expression of contempt (cf. POOH).

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 277 Puf! this smoke dos me mych shame. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxvi. (Arb.) 59 Puf said the foxe,..be ye so sore aferd herof? 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 89 Puffe, is there not a feather in this ayre A man may challenge for her? *c* 1620 ROWLANDS *Paire of Spy Knaves* (Hunter. Cl.) 20 I'le teach thee..To take Tobacco like a Caualeere. Thus draw the vapor thorow your nose, and say, Puffe, it is gone, fuming the smoke away. 1620 *Swetnam Arraign'd* I. ii. A iv, Puffe, giue me some ayre, I am almost stifled, puffe, Oh, my sides! 1870 Miss BRIDGMAN *Ro. Lynne* I. iv. 55, 'I have found it so'—puff, puff [smoking a cigar].

Pu·ff-adder. [a. S. Afr. Du. *pof-adder*: see PUFF *v.*] A large and very venomous African viper (*Bitis* or *Clotho arietans*), which puffs out or inflates the upper part of its body when excited.

1824 BURCHELL *Trav.* I. 469 It is well known in the colony by the name of the *Pof-Adder* (Puff Adder). Its venom is said to be most fatal. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* viii. 279 The puff-adder..is a heavy..sluggish animal, very thick in proportion to its length. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, But who will call the Puff Adder of the Cape..anything but ugly and horrible? 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* 643 *Bitis arietans*, Puff-Adder. *Hab.* Africa and Arabia.

Pu·ffatory, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. PUFF *v.*, after such words as *laudatory.*] Having the quality of 'puffing', or of a 'puff': see PUFF *v.* 6, *sb.* 7.

1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 85 Used as a peg to hang a note-puffatory upon. 1854 G. GILFILLAN in Watson *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1892) 395 Authors are better of seeing all reviews, unless the helplessly puffatory or malignantly abusive.

Pu·ff-ball. [f. PUFF *sb.* (sense 3) or *v.* + BALL *sb.*[1]; so Du. *pof-bal*: see PUFF *v.*]

1. A fungus of the genus *Lycoperdon* or of some allied genus; so called from the ball-like shape of the ripe spore-case, and its emission of the spores in a cloud of fine powder when broken. (Some of the species are edible in an unripe state.)

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1653) 34 And filleth the Earth with Wind,..and makes it swell and rise like a Puff-ball. 1702 *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1364, I find the Dust of the ..Puff-Ball to be the minutest Powder that I ever saw. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxxii. (1794) 502 Common Puff-ball is roundish, and discharges its dust by a torn aperture in the top. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 25 Intoxicating the bees..by filling the hive with the smoke of an ignited puff-ball. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footnotes fr. Page Nat.* 199 The giant puff-ball (*Bovista gigantea*)..increases from the size of a pea to that of a melon in a single night.

fig. 1826 PUSEY in Liddon, etc. *Life* (1893) I. iv. 87 [Writing from Berlin..he states that] Tholuck was initiated a few days since,..and that great puff-ball Marheineke delivered addresses in Latin. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 221 A poisonous puff-ball of pride.

b. *collect.* The powdery spores of a species of *Lycoperdon* used as a styptic.

1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 173 Over which..it will still be right to apply Puff-Ball,..or some such substance,.. to retard the fall of the eschar as long as possible.

2. = POWDER-PUFF 1 a; also *transf.* and *fig.*

1821–2 SWAINSON *Zool. Illustr.* II. Plate 99 The disproportionate size of the head [of the puff-bird] is rendered more conspicuous by the bird raising its feathers so as to appear not unlike a puff ball. 1860 *Macm. Mag.* Sept. 380/1 The puff-ball of the dandelion. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 396/1 The exquisite little white puff-balls of dogs.

Pu·ff-bird. Any bird of the American family *Bucconidæ* or fissirostral barbets, so called from their habit of puffing out their feathers.

1821–2 SWAINSON *Zool. Illustr.* II. Plate 99 There is something very grotesque in the appearance of all the Puff birds.

1895 C. DIXON in *Fortn. Rev.* Apr. 144 The Bucconidæ or puff-birds with forty-three species.

Puffed, puft (pʊft), *ppl. a.* [f. PUFF *v.*]

1. Blown up, inflated; distended by inflation.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 38/2 It is as a blowen bladder, or a puffed thing, as ye tearme it here. 1598 FLORIO, *Fogliata*, a kinde of thin light puft paste meate made in Italie. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 585 The last is that which is called puft paste, being of all other the most daintiest and pleasantest in taste. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 63 Where with puffed cheek the belted hunter blew His wreathed buglehorn.

b. Swollen or distended in any way; stuffed or padded so as to swell out; gathered in so as to produce a soft swelling mass, as in costume.

1536 in *Archæologia* (1812) XVI. 24 There must be provided..a cast or puffed Ymage of a princesse apparailled in her Robes of Estate. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 949 Thy huff'd, puff'd, painted, curl'd, purl'd wanton Pride. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 169 They weare great large puffed breeches, gathered close aboue the knees, and each puffe made of a diuers light colour. 1862 *Ladies' Gaz. Fashion* Jan. 8/1 Very small puffed under-sleeves.

2. *fig.* Inflated or swollen with vanity, pride, etc. Also *puffed-up*: cf. PUFF *v.* 5.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 88 b, Puffed presumpcion, passeth not a poynct. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] lxviii, They are but puft minds, that bubble thus above Inferiours. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxiii, Poor sons of puft-up Vanity, not Fame. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 317 The puffed-up agents of great English manufacturers.

b. Inflated or bombastic in language or style.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1363/2 With simplicitie of words, and not with puffed eloquence. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B.* II. i. 15 [He] has something of a puffed and uneasy pomp.

3. Put out of breath by exertion; 'blown'.

1813 MOORE *Post-bag* ii. 60 On his Lordship's entering puffed. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* IV. 246 Fleet I was of foot:.. behind I heard the puff'd pursuer. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* xviii, You look rather puffed.

Hence **Puffedness** (pʊ·ftˌnės); also **Pu·ffed-up-ness** (*nonce-wd.*).

1648–60 HEXHAM, *Bolsterachtigheydt*, Puffednesse, or Swolne up in the cheeks. 1887 *Chicago Advance* 14 July 447 A Quaker lady..gave a sermon in a single sentence 'Beware of puffedupness'.

Puffer (pʊ·fəɹ). [f. PUFF *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which puffs.

1. A person or thing that blows in short abrupt blasts, or emits puffs of smoke, steam, etc.: as a tobacco-smoker, a steam-engine or steamboat, etc.

1629 ABP. HARSNETT *Rules Chigwell Sch.* in *Vict. Co. Hist., Essex* (1907) II. 544 [The Latin schoolmaster was to be] a man..of a grave behaviour, of a sober and honest conversation, no tipler nor Haunter of ale houses, no Puffer of Tobacco. 1664 COTTON *Scarron.* I. Wks. (1765) 9 Jove..made him [Æolus] King of all the Puffers. 1801 in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. (1901) 10/2 [On Christmas Eve, 1801, the first load of passengers ever moved by the force of steam was conveyed by Trevithick's locomotive] 'Captain Dick's Puffer' [as it was called—through Camborne]. 1901 *Scotsman* 19 Dec. 5/4 One of the crew of the puffer had fallen overboard.

b. Local name of various birds: see quots.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 220/1 Among upwards of 160 species of birds, natives of or killed in England, are the following,..a kind of Puffer not described. 18.. ATKINSON *Prov. Names Birds*, Puffer, North England for Blue Titmouse, *Parus cærulea*. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Puffer*.. 2. The little grebe, *Tachybaptes fluviatilis*. n[orth] Y[or]ks. *Yks. Weekly Post* (Dec. 31, 1898).

c. A puff-fish: see PUFF *sb.* 9 b. (*U. S.*)

1846 WORCESTER, *Puffer*,..a small sea-fish. 1864 WEBSTER, *Puffer*..3. A fish of the genus *Diodon*; globe-fish.

d. A porpoise: cf. *puff-pig* (PUFF *sb.* 9 b), *puffing-pig* (PUFFING *ppl. a.* 1). (*U.S.*)

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

2. One who extols a person or thing in inflated terms, and usually for some interested reason; a writer of 'puffs' (see PUFF *sb.* 7).

c 1736 HOGARTH in A. Dobson *Life* iv. (1883) 33 What the puffers in books call *the great style of history-painting*. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 12 Oct., He is..a prodigious puffer—now of his fortune, now of his family. *a* 1788 N. COTTON *Fable* Poems (1810) 25/1 Now, like the doctors of to day [He] Retains his puffers too in pay. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 273 The gross devices resorted to by puffers of quack medicines.

b. A person employed by the vendor to bid at an auction for the purpose of 'inflating' or running up the price and inciting others to buy.

1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* (1822) III. 213 It is only slipping a puffer or two at them..and they may be raised to any price. 1818–19 LEIGH *New Pict. London* (1823) 101 (Mock Auctions) Associates, called puffers, are in waiting to raise the article beyond its value. 1867 *Act* 30 & 31 *Vict.* c. 48 § 3 'Puffer' shall mean a person appointed to bid on the part of the owner. 1877 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* 168 The sale of real estate by auction is now regulated by an act which renders invalid every such sale where a puffer is employed.

†**c.** A teacher who 'inflates' his pupils with superficial knowledge; a 'crammer'. *Obs.*

1786 CUMBERLAND *Observer* No. 28 I. 270 The Polishing Puffers..who are endowed with the happy faculty of instilling arts and sciences into their disciples, like fixed air into a vapid menstruum.

3. Something that puffs up or inflates one with pride or the like. Cf. PUFF *v.* 5.

1789 J. BROWN *Sel. Rem.* (1807) 141 My knowledge but an accursed puffer up! A murderer of my soul!

4. A bucking-kier: see BUCKING *vbl. sb.*[1] and KIER. Also in comb. *puffer-pipe.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Puffer*, a vat in which goods are boiled in an alkaline solution... *Puffer-pipe*, the vertical axial pipe in a kier in which cotton goods are washed during the bleaching process.

Puffery (*pʊ*·fəri). [f. PUFF *v.* or PUFFER: see -ERY. Cf. obs. Du. *pofferie* 'boasting, bragging, or vaunting' (Hexham).]

1. The practice of the 'puffer'; inflated laudation, esp. by way of advertisement.

1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1819) II. lxvi. 46 There would be no partial judgments, no puffery. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. ii, An epoch when Puffery and Quackery have reached a height unexampled in the annals of mankind. 1893 *Times* 10 Feb. 10/2 No puffery and no trickery could beguile either the Bourses or the private investors.

2. Puffs collectively, frills or frilling of puffs: see PUFF *sb.* 2 b.

1860 *Illustr. Lond. News* 25 Feb. 198/1 All that hoops, powder, and puffery can do for them has been done. 1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* lx, The whiteness of her neck [was] veiled with white puffery of tulle. 1884 *Punch* 1 Mar. 100 In pufferies of all sizes dressed.

† Pu·ff-fist, -foist. *Obs. rare.* [f. PUFF *sb.* or *vb.* stem + FIST *sb.*[2], FOIST *sb.*[3], *crepitus*. Cf. PUCKFIST of same date.] = PUFF-BALL 1.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clxii. 1386 Puffes Fistes [*Index* Puffe Fistes], are commonly called in Latine *Lupi crepitus*, or Woolfes Fistes:..in English Puffes Fistes, and Fussebals in the north. 1634 WITHER *Emblemes* xxiii. 85 That uncleanly mushrum ball Which in some countries wee a Pufffoyst call.

Puffin[1] (*pʊ*·fin). Forms: 4 **poffoun**, -in, (5 **popbyn**), 6 **puffing**, 4–7 **puffyn**, 7–8 **puffen**, 6– **puffin**. [ME. *poffin, popbyn*; in latinized form, pl. *poffones*; also *puffyn*. Origin unascertained: see Note below.]

A sea-bird of the genus *Fratercula*, of the family *Alcidæ* or Auks; *esp.* the common *F. arctica*, found abundantly on the coasts of the N. Atlantic, having a very large curiously-shaped furrowed and parti-coloured bill.

Formerly erroneously supposed by some to be wingless, and by others reckoned as a fish, its flesh having a fishy taste and being allowed to be eaten in Lent.

1337 *Caption of Seisin* (of Scilly) 5 May (Duchy of Cornwall), Ran[ulphus] de Albo Monastrio tenet Insulam de Sully et r[eddit] inde ad idem f[estu]m *Di*[midium] marce vel ccc poffouns. 1366 *Ministers' Acc.* Bundle 823 No. 22 (P.R.O.), Idem respondet de vs de poffon' hoc anno. 1367 *Ibid.*, Exitus chacee cuniculorum et Poffonum. *a* 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (1778) 98 Insula Rascow..inculta cum cuniculis et avibus vocatis popbyns. 1502 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* II. 155 Item..to ane man of the laird of Cesnokkis that brocht puffingis to the King, xxviijs. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Ph. Sparowe* 454 The puffin and the tele Money they shall dele To poore folke at large. 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Puffyn a fysshe lyke a teele. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* VI. 65 Puffins, Birdes less then Dukkes having grey Fethers like Dukkes. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 35 b, The Puffyn..whose young ones are thence ferretted out, being exceeding fat, kept salted, and reputed for fish, as comming neerest thereto in their taste. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* xviii. 166 Puffins, whom I may call the feathered fishes, are accounted even by the holy fatherhood of Cardinals to be no flesh but rather fish. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Puffin*, a sort of Coot or Seagull, supposed to be so called from its round belly; as it were swelling and puffing out. 1736 SHERIDAN *Let. to Swift* 12 May in *Swift's Corr.* (1768) IV. 159, I have twenty lambs..as plump as puffins. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 30 Known by the fishermen as sea parrots or coulternebs; but more generally designated in books as puffins.

b. Erroneously applied to a species of Shearwater (*Puffinus anglorum*, family *Procellariidæ*), found in the Isle of Man and the Scilly Islands.

1674 RAY *Collect. Words, Water Fowl* 94 The Puffin or Curviere: Puffinus Anglorum. This bird builds on a little Island called the calf of Man at the South End of the Isle of Man and also upon the Silly Islands, but is nothing such a thing as is described in Aldrovandus: for that is feather'd and can fly swiftly. 1678 — *Willughby's Ornith.* 333 The Puffin of the Isle of Man, which I take to be the *Puffinus Anglorum*. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 298/2 The Puffin of the Isle of Man, or the Mancks Puffin..is something less in body than a Tame Pigeon. 1884 *Varrell's Brit. Birds* IV. 21 The Manx Shearwater is the commonest species of the genus in the British seas...It owes its trivial name to Willughby, who speaks of it as the Puffin of the Isle of Man.

c. Applied locally in Ireland to the Razor-bill.

1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 217 Razor bill (*Alca torda*)...Puffin (Antrim).

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *puffin-cock, -hole*; **puffin-auk**, = a.

1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* II. 199 The cries of the sand-piper, the puffin-awk; the screaming gull. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VIII. 133/1 Absorbed in the pastime of probing puffin-holes in search of eggs. 1902 N. HOWARD *Kiartan* II. 32 Nay, they shall fight like puffin-cocks.

[*Note.* Suggestions as to the origin of the name *puffin* have mostly supposed some connexion with the verb or sb. *puff* or the adj. *puffy*. Thus it has been conjectured to refer to the 'puffy' or corpulent appearance of the bird (quot. 1678), or esp. to the plumpness of the young, formerly considered a delicacy (cf. the simile 'as plump as a puffin'); also to the soft downy clothing of the young (Prof. A. Newton). Others have sought an explanation in the remarkable 'puffed-out' beak, or in a puffing sound uttered by the bird or its young when seized. Caius (1570) expressly declares that the name is derived 'a naturali voce *pupin*'. But, as the ME. forms of the name are spelt *poff*, and the earliest known association of the bird under this name was with Cornwall and Scilly, it is evident that these conjectures rest on insecure bases. The name may even have come from Cornwall, and its change to 'puff-' may be due to 'popular etymology' in English. The erroneous sense b, is due to Ray, who mistook young specimens of the shearwater from the Isle of Man for puffins, and applied to them the name *Puffinus anglorum* (applied by Gesner to the real puffin), which has unhappily been retained in ornithological nomenclature.]

† Pu·ffin[2]. *Obs.* [app. f. PUFF *v.* or *sb.*: in sense 1, perh. with some notion of connexion with prec., which by 1600 was prob. popularly associated with puffing. The other senses appear to be more or less distinct formations from *puff*.]

1. Applied in contempt or reproach to a person puffed up with vanity or pride.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. iv, What shall we doe with this same Puffin [Dapper] here Now hee's o' the spit? 1631 BRATHWAIT *Whimzies, Neuter* 67 What will this puffin come to in time? 1661 *Sir H. Vane's Politics* 7 Before.. that swoln Puffin rose to that growth and immense grandure.

2. Some kind of fish, also called *fork-fish*: see FORK *sb.* 16. Also *puffin-fish*.

1598 FLORIO, *Bastango*,.. a forke-fish, it is like a ray; some call it a puffin-fish. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 261 The Puffen or Fork-fish..lieth in await..ready to strike the fishes that passe by with a sharpe rod or pricke that he hath. 1617 MINSHEU *Ductor*, A Puffen, or Forke-fish... Est enim furcatâ caudâ et aculeatâ, vt sagitta.

3. Name of a variety of apple: = PUFF *sb.* 3 b. Also *puffin-apple*.

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 47 A Puffin, otherwise called an 100. shillings, *Malum pulmoneum*. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.*, A puffin apple, *Malum pulmonium*. 1755 in JOHNSON.

4. = PUFF-BALL 1. *rare*—[0]. (? error.)

1755 JOHNSON, *Puffin*...3. A kind of fungus filled with dust.

5. *pl.* ? Some inferior kind of meal or flour: see quot.

1587 J. HOOKER *Descr. Exeter* in Holinshed *Chron.* III. 1022/1 In this extremitie the bakers and housholders were driuen to seeke vp their old store of puffins and bran, wherewith they in times past were woont to make horssebread.

Puffiness (*pʊ*·finés). [f. PUFFY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being puffy.

1. Puffed-up or inflated condition (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1668 *H. More's Div. Dial.* I. To Rdr. A iij, The Levity and Puffiness of their Spirits has carried their conceptions..above the levell of common Sense. *a* 1750 A. HILL (T.), Some of M. Voltaire's pieces are so swelled with this presumptuous puffiness. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 204 (ed. 2) 193 A puffiness in the treatment of the folds is observable in the draperies. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 321 The patient's attention is first attracted to the malady by the puffiness of the lower eyelids.

2. Inclination to puff or pant, short-windedness.

1813 *Examiner* 10 May 297/2 His breathing puffiness, and inarticulate enunciations.

Puffinet (*pʊ*·finet). [f. PUFFIN[1] + -ET *dimin.*] A local name of the Black Guillemot.

1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 326, I guess this..to be the same with the Puffinet of the Farn Islands, which they told us was of the bigness of a Dove. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 218 Black Guillemot...Puffinet (Farn Islands).

Puffing (*pʊ*·fiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PUFF *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PUFF: and derived senses.

1. The action of blowing in short blasts, panting as one out of breath, emitting puffs of steam, etc.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* x. v. (Tollem. MS.), A lytel puffynge of wynde quykeþ and tendeþ leye. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* B ij b, So stepe be these bankes on eyther syde and depe.., that who goeth straight doune shalbe in daunger of tumbling, & the commer vp so sure of puffyng & payne. 1582 MULCASTER *Positions* xx. (1887) 84 To eager walking..encreaseth puffing and blowing. 1714 *Spect.* No. 558 P 4 Another, after a great deal of puffing, threw down his Luggage. 1849 F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* iii. (1851) 41 The loud puffing of an engine announces the approach..of empty carriages.

† 2. *concr.* ? A powder-puff. *Obs. rare.*

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. vii. 112 [He] never went without a small Box of Powder, or dried Meale and his Puffings.

3. The action of distending something by blowing; blowing up, inflation. Also *fig.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* v. xlii. (W. de W.) k v/2 Puffynge and wyndynge of the guttes. 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Puffyng up, *inflation*. 1593 [see b]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 431 A Musk-cat..doth loosen and dissolve all thick puffings or windiness in the interior parts. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 269/1 Thresh not Wheat but as you Eat it, for fear of Pufting and Fustiness.

b. The action of distending anything by stuffing or padding, or by gathering in; esp. in costume, the making of puffs (PUFF *sb.* 2 b); also *concr.* a puffed formation.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 146 It is not..your floury iaggings, superfluous enterlacings, and puffings vp, that can any way offend God, but the puffing vp of your soules. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Hymn of Alms* 206 The puffing of his Periwig. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. I. 225 (*Mrs. Mosse*) A satin riband fastened in a peculiar bow, something between a bow and a puffing behind. 1896 A. H. BEAVAN *Marlbor. Ho.* ix. 162 A black sunshade, edged with a puffing of white chiffon.

4. *fig.* The action of praising or extolling in inflated language for a purpose, esp. by way of advertisement; interested laudation or commendation.

1754 A. MURPHY *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 91 The above is not in the ordinary Way of puffing, but to promote the real Benefit of the Community. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Success* Wks. (Bohn) III. 119 In this life of show, puffing, advertisement, and manufacture of public opinion,

b. Bidding at an auction for the purpose of inflating or raising the price.

1858 LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* iv. 22 You may..appoint a person to bid for you at the sale, in order to prevent the estate from being sold at an undervalue. This is generally termed puffing.

attrib. 1901 *Times* 16 Nov. 14 By the Puffing Act, 1867, it is provided [etc.].

5. *attrib.* **Puffing tube**, a blow-pipe.

1883 DAY *Indian Fish* 68 (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) Malabar puffing tube, with darts used for killing fish.

Pu·ffing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That puffs: see the verb.

1. Blowing in puffs; panting violently; sending forth puffs of steam, etc. *Puffing-pig*, a name for a small species of porpoise (U. S.).

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Panaretus* 707 If the puffing gales Into the Deep transport her huffing sails. 1620 *Swetnam Arraign'd* (1880) 9 From whence comm'st thou in such a puffing heate? 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 167 *Balæna Physeter*..the puffing, or spouting Whale. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 248 One brawny Smith the puffing Bellows plyes. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. in Pacific* iii. 28 Shoals of a small kind of porpoise, commonly called puffing pigs.

2. Uttering scornful ejaculations; haughty in demeanour; swaggering. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks. (Grosart) II. 97 A cooling carde of misfortune to pluck down y[e] puffing peate of prosperitie. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 80 Thou huffing, puffing, sconce-building ruffian.

3. Becoming inflated or swollen; swelling up.

1661 BOYLE *Phys.-Chem. Ess. Salt-Petre* § 8 Unless it chance, that the puffing matter do blow the coal too soon out of the crucible. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xx. 259 The willows are sappy and puffing.

† 4. *fig.* Bombastic, 'swelling'. *Obs.*

1567 DRANT *Horace, Art Poetry* B vij, He that doth belch out puffinge rymes. *a* 1592 GREENE *Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 203 The puffing glorie of the loftie still shadowing wanton conceipts.

† 5. That puffs up; inspiring pride or arrogance; elating. *Obs.*

1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* IV, Thee whom [Philosophy] hath taught to moderate Thy mounting thought, nor to be eleuate With puffingst fortunes. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* XIII. vii, No puffing hopes, no shrinking fears them fright.

6. That praises extravagantly; putting forth 'puffs' or inflated commendations.

1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epil., As puffing quacks some caitiff wretch procure, To swear the pill, or drop, has wrought a cure. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXV. 187 Without the quackery of puffing advertisements.

Hence **Pu·ffingly** *adv.*, with puffing.

1598 FLORIO, *Tremidamente*, swellingly, puffingly. 1611 COTGR., *Bouffément*, puffingly. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 157 Dobson and his dame coming diffidently but puffingly up the avenue. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 98/2 A fat Turkish apothecary puffingly struggles up our ship's side.

† Pu·ffkin. *Obs. rare*—[1]. In 7 **pufkin**. [f. PUFF *sb.* + -KIN.] A little puff: applied to a light or flighty woman.

1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* III. i, The best..are but flesh and blood, And now and then..., when the fit's come on 'em, Will prove themselves but flirts, and tirliry-pufkins.

Pu·ffless, *a. rare.* [f. PUFF *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Breathless, out of breath. *slang* and *dial.*

1882 J. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* 151 To sprachel puffless up to these heigh attics, O! what a task.

2. Of dress: Without puffs or fullness.

1899 *Daily News* 7 Oct. 8/5 Flat, high collars without stiff lining, puffless sleeves, and the slight fulness at the waist.

Pu·fflet. *nonce-wd.* [f. PUFF *sb.* + -LET.] A very little puff or whiff.

1848 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poet. Wks. (1879) 206 The scarce discernible pufflet of smoke and dust is a revolution. 1883 *Daily News* 24 May, A pufflet or airy stream of..smoke.

Pu·ff-pa·ste. [f. PUFF *sb.* or *vb.*-stem: cf. *puff paste* in PUFFED 1.] *Cookery.* A fine kind of flour paste, made very light and flaky by successive rollings and butterings.

1611 COTGR., *Gasteau feuilleté*, a cake of puffe-past. 1611 FLORIO, *Foglidta*, light-paste or puffe-paste [1598 puff paste]. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. ii. 65 For the making of puffe-past of the best kind, you shall take the finest wheat flowre [etc.]. 1633 MARMION *Antiquary* IV. i, An artificial hen made of puff-paste. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* viii. 75 *Puff-Paste.* Take a quarter of a Peck of Flour, rub fine half a Pound of Butter, a little Salt,..roll it up, and roll it out again; and so do nine or ten times, till you have rolled in a Pound and half of Butter. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. 6, I followed up the observations..and had several practical lessons in the manufacture of puff-paste and other laminated confectionery.

b. *fig.* Applied to persons or things of a light, flimsy, or unsubstantial character.

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 38 [*To a dandy*] Avoide, puffe paste, avoide. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 169 Such store of this puffe-past of vaine-glory had I swallowed downe my throat. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 266 There is indeed material intellectual Puff-past; Pinners-hall has nothing like it. 1845 *Gentl. Mag.* I. 390/2 It is seldom that Guides..to what are called Watering-places..are anything more than *puff*-paste.

Hence **Pu·ff-pa·sted** *a.*, ? baked in or made of puff-paste; so also **Pu·ff-pa·stry**, fine pastry made with puff-paste; **† Pu·ff-pa·sty**, a 'pasty' or pie made of puff-paste.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 231 Puff-pasted cock. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo, Knight's Epist.* iii, Could you find no body else to beg Puff Pasties of? 1853 MISS SHEPPARD *Ch. Auchester* xiv, Boiled custards, puff pastry, and our choicest preserves.

Pu·ff-pu·ff. [Echoic: cf. PUFF *int.*] An imitation of the sound of repeated puffing by a steam-engine; hence, a nursery name for a locomotive, or a railway train.

1870 Miss Bridgman *Ro. Lynne* II. xiv. 307 With a puff-puff the train slowly passed out of Hampton Station. 1886 Ruskin *Præterita* I. iii. 87 In this present age,..people don't give their children toy bricks, but toy puff-puffs. 1889 P. H. Emerson *Eng. Idylls* 64 The stillness was broken only by the short sharp puff puff of the engines. 1894 H. Drummond *Ascent of Man* 214 The child who says *moo* for cow,..or *puff-puff* for train, is an authority on the origin of human speech.

Puffy (pʊ·fi), *a.* [f. PUFF *v.* or *sb.* + -Y.]

1. a. Of wind: Blowing in puffs or short intermittent blasts, gusty; also, characterized by such wind. **b.** Of a person or animal: Easily caused to puff, or breathe quick and hard; short-winded. **c.** Of a sound: Dull, muffled.

1616 T. Adams *Soul's Sickness* Wks. 1861 I. 486 He lives at a high sail, that the puffy praises of his neighbours may blow him into the enchanted island, vainglory. 1799 J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* 222 The former gives them [horses] better wind; the latter renders them puffy. 1831 Brewster *Nat. Magic* ix. (1833) 220 The glass loses its power of ringing..and emits only a disagreeable and puffy sound. 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* i, I am too puffy to enjoy hill-climbing. 1894 *Times* 25 July 11 A strong puffy off-shore wind was blowing.

2. Swollen or inclined to swell, by or as by puffing or inflation; turgid, tumid, puffed out; of persons, fat, corpulent: usually also implying soft, flabby, wanting in firmness.

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 12 House-Spiders .. have a very puffy light body of an Oval figure. 1676 Wiseman *Chirurg. Treat.* I. xxvii. 143 Emphysema is a light puffy Tumour easily yielding to the pressure of your fingers. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* vi. 47 Puffy Land, which naturally swells up, instead of subsiding. 1828 Landor *Imag. Conv.* Wks. 1846 I. 340/2 The oriental train and puffy turban. 1865 Miss Braddon *Sir Jasper* xiv, Blanche Harding lounged in the downiest and puffiest chair by the fire in her spacious bedroom. 1874 Wood *Nat. Hist.* 278 The [owl's] round, puffy head, the little hooked beak just appearing from the downy plumage. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 3/2 The shoulder deserted by the puffy sleeve.

b. Having the quality of puffing up, or causing to swell as if inflated. *rare*—1.

1718 Rowe tr. *Lucan* IX. 1348 The puffy Poison spreads, and heaves around, Till all the Man is in the Monster drown'd.

3. *fig.* Having an empty or unsubstantial air of importance; puffed up, vain, swelling, inflated, turgid, bombastic. *rare.*

1599 Marston *Sco. Villanie, Lect. prorsus indignos*, Passe on ye vaine fantasticke troupe Of puffie youths. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 18. 321 A puffy conceit and opinion of knowledge. 1679 Dryden *Troil. & Cress.* Pref., Ess. (Ker) I. 224 He distinguished not the blown puffy style from true sublimity. 1751 Lavington *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) Pref., Puffy Pretensions to extraordinary Revelations. 1853–8 Hawthorne *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1879) II. 157 A rather puffy and consequential man.

4. *Comb.*, as *puffy-bodied, -faced* adjs.; † **puffy-light** *v.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, ? to give a puffy lightness to.

1610 W. Folkingham *Art of Survey* I. x. 28 Being..intermedled by the plow with the soyle, it puffie-lights and party colours the same. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* Mar. 360/2 A puffy-faced little man, with an overgrown body. 1859 Atkinson *Walks & Talks* (1892) 260 One of the puffy-bodied, pasty-faced Sunbury lads.

Pufloafe: see PUFF *v.* 7.

† **Puff.** *Obs.* [An early by-form of PUFF *sb.*: cf. TUFT.] = PUFF *sb.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. ii. (Tollem. MS.), With a stronge blaste, oper a pufte of wynde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2648 All his [a spider's] webb A puft of wynde away reues. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IV. xii. 122 With a puft of aynd, the lyfe furth went. 1615 Chapman *Odyss.* v. 65 With pace as speedy as a puft of wind. 1785, 1795 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

Puft, *ppl. a.*: see PUFFED.

Pug (pʊg), *sb.*[1] Now only *dial.* [Origin unascertained. It occurs much earlier than PUG *sb.*[2], and does not appear to be connected with it.]

1. The husks of any kind of small seed which are separated in cleaning it; the chaff of wheat or oats, the awns of barley, etc.; the refuse corn separated in winnowing.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 1079 Mast, chasteyn, yef hem [boars] pugges of thi corn [*orig.* vilia excrementa]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* XVIII. vii. I. 562 The chaffe and pugs [*palea*] that come of Barly, is supposed to be as good as the best. *Ibid.* vi. 20 The best way to keep onions, is in corn chaf, and such like pugs. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 338 Clean seed, cleared of the black husk, or pug, as we call it. 1854 Miss Baker *Northants. Gloss., Pug*, the integument or chaff of small seeds, turnips, candy-tuft, &c.

2. The refuse from the cider-press. Hence **pug-drink**, water cider (Grose *Prov. Gloss.* 1787). *dial.*

1893 *Wilts. Gloss., Pug*..the pulp of apples which have been pressed for cider.

Pug (pʊg), *sb.*[2] [Of unknown origin and history; it is not certain that branches I and II belong to the same word. Exc. in sense 1, the earliest examples of which have *pugges* (? pl. used collectively), not known before 1600; but some senses may have been earlier in colloquial use.]

I. Applied to a person, etc.

† **1.** A term of endearment for a person (rarely an animal); also applied to a bauble or doll. *Obs.*

1566 Drant *Horace, Sat.* II. iii. G iv, If in a couche, a fyne fleesde lambe a kinge shoulde cause to ryde, And geve it rayments neate and gay .. And call it pugges and prety peate [*Rufam aut Pusillam appellet*]. 1578 Whetstone *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* I. iii, Nay, nay, sayes he (good pugges) no more of this. 1580 Sir G. Carey in J. H. Jeayes *Catal. Charters Berkeley Castle* (1892) 330 My sweete pugge, .. thi absens will make the returne of thy swete cumpany the more welcum to me. 1602 Marston *Ant. & Mel.* II. i, [To little boy] Hah Catzo, your master.. cals for your diminutive attendance...Good pugge, give me some capon. 1602 — *Antonio's Rev.* III. iv, I have had foure husbands my selfe. The first, I called, sweet duck: the second, deare heart: the third, prettie pugge. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *M'amie, Ma belle m'amie*, my prettie Pug (so fooles, hugging their bables, tearme them). *Ibid., Marmouselle*, a little puppie, or pug to play with.

† **2.** A courtesan, mistress, harlot, punk. *Obs.*

(Quot. 1600 apparently belongs here.)

1600 Sir R. Cecil *Lett.* 24 Sept. (Camden) 33 If you did ..remember the Lo. Admyrall and the Lord Threasurer with a couple of Pugges or some *vscough baugh* or some such toyes, it would shew that you do not neglect them, whoe, I protest, are to you wonderfull kynde. 1607 Dekker & Webster *Westw. Hoe* II. ii. D.'s Wks. 1873 II. 307 The Lob has his Lasse,..the Westerne-man his Pug, the Seruing-man his Punke. 1611 Cotgr. s.v. *Gouge, Gouge as Vouge*,..a Souldiors Pug, or Punke; a Whore that followes the Camp. *Ibid., Saffrette*,..a flirt, queane, gixie, pug, punke. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. iii, He married Gargamelle,..a jolly pug [orig. *belle gouge*] and well mouthed wench. 1678 Dryden *Kind Keeper* Epil. 18 But all the female fry turn pugs, like mine. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pug, Pugnasty, a meer Pug*, a nasty Slut, a sorry Jade, of a Woman. 1708 T. Ward *Eng. Ref.* (1716) 16 Who ever knew a Royal Fancy Stoop thus to stich a Pug as Nancy? 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* V. 83 If Miss prove peevish, and will not gee, Ne'er pine..at the wanton Pug.

† **3.** A bargeman. *Western pugs*, men who navigated barges down the Thames to London: cf. *Western bargee* (quot. 1666 s.v. BARGEE). *Obs.*

1591 Lyly *Endym.* IV. ii, In a Westerne barge, when with a good winde and lustie pugges one may goe ten miles in two daies. 1592 Greene *Disput.* C j, Iack Rhoades, a reformed Man, and a Crosbite...I doubte the sandeyde Asse, will kicke like a Westerne Pugge: if I rubbe him on the gaule. 1603 Dekker *Wonderfull Yeare* F iij b, Euen the Westerne Pugs receiuing money there [in plague time], haue tyed it in a bag at the end of their barge, and trailed it through the Thames. 1611 W. Austin in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyr. Verses, Slept in his clothes like Westerne Pugge Sans Monmouth Cap or gowne of Rugge.

† **b.** ? A ship's boy. *Obs.*

1598 W. Phillip *Linschoten* I. xcvi. 179 The officers and most of the sailers were on land, none but pugs [Du. *putgers*] and slaues being in the ships: for .. wheresoeuer they anker, presently they goe all on land, and let the shippe lie with a boy or two in it. *a* 1680 Butler *Rem.* (1759) I. 77 [Ulysses] ty'd his deafen'd Sailors..to the Mast,..rather venture drowning, than to wrong The Sea-pugs chaste Ears with a bawdy Song.

4. In servants' vocabulary: An upper servant in a large establishment.

1847–78 Halliwell s.v., In large families, the under-servants call the upper ones *pugs*, and the housekeeper's room is known as *pugs'-hole*. 1860 *Athenæum* 17 Nov. 664 Servants have become a separate estate..with their own distinction of ranks, the 'Pugs' and the 'Tags'. *Mod. Newspr.*, The stillroom-maid, coming up to Pug's Parlour for orders.

II. An imp, a dwarf animal, etc.

[In 5, the word agrees completely in sense with PUCK *sb.*[1], but is not easily accounted for as a mere phonetic variant of that word; senses 6–12 do not occur with PUCK.]

† **5.** A small demon or imp; a sprite; Puck.

1616 B. Jonson *Devil an Ass* Dram. Pers., *Satan*. The great diuell. *Pug*. The lesse diuell. 1635 Heywood *Hierarch.* IX. 574 Diuels in Sarmatia honored, Call'd *Kottri*, or *Kibaldi*; such as wee Pugs and Hob-goblins call. 1664 Butler *Hud.* II. iii. 635 Agrippa kept a Stygian pug, I' th' garb and habit of a dog, That was his tutor. 1678 *Ibid.* III. i. 1415 This is your Business, good Pug-Robin, And your Diversion, dull dry Bobbing T'entice Fanatics in the Dirt. [1822 W. Irving *Braceb. Hall* (1823) II. 163 Those sprites which Heywood in his Hierarchie calls pugs or hobgoblins.]

6. A monkey, an ape. Also applied, like 'monkey', to a child. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* III. 184 Pugs and Baboons may claim a Traduction from Adam as well as these. *c* 1733 D. Mallet *Cupid & Hymen* 102 Those Jack-puddings pug and parret. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* (1810) VII. xliii. 234 Take away the pug, said I, to the attendants... They rescued the still smiling babe. 1793 *Carlop Green* (1817) 132 Pugs, bears, and dancan' dogs, And raree-showers.

b. As *quasi*-proper name of an ape. (Cf. *Jacko.*)

1698 J. Crull *Muscovy* II. 322 The Monkey by chance came jumping out with them...Poor Pug was had before his betters. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 499 ¶ 4, I heard her call him dear Pugg, and found him to be her favourite monkey. 1815 *Zeluca* II. 218 Pug was on my shoulder. 1863 Robson *Tyneside Songs* 64 As regard poor pug aw've had my say.

7. Originally *pug-dog*: A dwarf breed of dog, resembling a bull-dog in miniature; on account of its affectionate nature much kept as a pet.

Here there may be some connexion with sense 1: cf. quot. 1611[2] there.

a. [1731 Bailey, *Pug*, a Nickname for a Monkey, or Dog.] 1749 Garrick *Lethe* 22 A fine Lady..keeps a Pug-dog, and hates the Parsons. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 290 Several others might be added, such as the pug-dog, the black breed, and the pointer. 1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Hand of Glory*, Then half arose..His little pug-dog with his little pug nose. 1851 D. Jerrold *St. Giles* ii. 11 You'll be thinking of keeping pug-dogs and parrots next.

b. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 148 The little pug dog or Dutch mastiff has quitted London for Padua, I perceive...Every carriage I meet here has a pug in it. 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XII. 7 Portrait of Dutch pugs. 1821 *Joseph the Book-Man* 133 My Lady, in her parlour snug, Is still delighted with her pug. 1876 *World* V. No. 119. 4 A veritable pug of pugs, with large soft loving eyes.

8. A *quasi*-proper name for a fox; = RENARD.

1809 Mar. Edgeworth *Absentee* viii, There is a dead silence till pug is well out of cover, and the whole pack well in. 1848 Kingsley *Yeast* i, Cunning old farmers rode off ..to some well-known haunts of pug. 1858 R. S. Surtees *Ask Mamma* xv, Pug..turns tail, and is very soon in the rear of the hounds.

b. Also, in dialectal use, a *quasi*-proper name for a lamb, a hare, a squirrel, a ferret, a salmon.

See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

9. *dial.* Applied to anything short and stumpy; a dwarf.

1837 J. F. Palmer *Dialogues Devon. Dial.* Gloss. 74 Pug ..is used for anything short, thick and irregularly orbicular; thus Pug-faced, Pug-nosed [etc.]. 1903 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

10. Also *pug-moth*: Collectors' name for geometrid moths of the genus *Eupithecia.*

1819 G. Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 363 *Geometra* [*Eupithecia* (Curtis)] *rufifasciata.* The red-barred Pug. *Ibid.* 406 *Geometra singulariata.* The grey Pug. *Ibid.* Index, Pug-moth, beautiful. 1832 Rennie *Conspect. Butterfl. & Moths* 132 The Beautiful Pug..the Green Pug ..the Brass Pug [etc.: 33 species so named]. 1869 Newman *Brit. Moths* 116/2 The little moths which constiute the genus *Eupithecia*, or, as called by collectors, 'Pugs'.

11. In full *pug-engine*: A small locomotive used chiefly for station or shunting purposes; a contractor's engine.

1880 W. Aitken *Rodgerson's Doug* Poems (1893) 156 No a shift of the waggons, or shunt with the pug. 1887 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 3/1 A pug engine was engaged shunting a number of waggons within the works when it exploded. 1901 *Daily Express* 28 Aug. 6/3 While twenty navvies were returning home on a pug engine..the engine overturned at a curve on the line and fell down the embankment.

† **12.** A short cloak worn by ladies about the middle of the eighteenth century (Planché). *Obs.*

(Doubtful sense: in quot. cited it may mean a pug-dog.)

1740 L. Whyte *Poems* 63 The Cape .. now is grown a demi-cloke,..To keep the Hero warm and snug, As any lady's velvet Pug.

III. 13. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (from II): see sense 9, and *pug-dog* (sense 7), *pug-engine* (sense 11), *pug-moth* (sense 10); **pug-face**, a face compared to that of a monkey; a squat flat-nosed face; **pug-fox**, a small-sized, blunt-nosed variety of fox; **pug-peal**, a young grilse or salmon; **pug-slut**, the female of a pug-dog; **pug-trout**, a sea-trout. See also PUG-NOSE, -NOSED.

1897 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 311 The natives grinning with delight at the sight of their *pug-faces in the mirror. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 10/1 The importers have..brought over many *pug foxes, small-sized animals with too great a love for life underground ever to lead hounds far across country. 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict.* c. 109 § 4 All migratory fish of the genus salmon, whether known by the names.. salmon..peal, herring peal, may peal, *pugg peal,..or by any other local name. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 137 My favourite dog, a small *pug-slut, about two years and a half old. 1865 Couch *Brit. Fishes* IV. 211 *Sea Trout.* Grey Trout...*Pugtrout.

Hence **Pu·glet**, a little pug (in quot., monkey); **Pu·gship**, the personality of a pug.

1681 T. Flatman *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 46 (1713) II. 45 As if he had sent the Lady Apess with a Puglet or two to have squeal'd and scream'd at us. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 3 This sable livery of their pugships is not of long duration—it is merely an ornament of youth.

Pug (pʊg), *sb.*[3] [See PUG *v.*[2]; cf. also PUG-MILL.] Loam or clay comminuted, thoroughly mixed, kneaded, and prepared for brickmaking and other purposes. Also *transf.*: see quot. 1904.

1872 Mrs. Millet *Parsonage* iii. 55 The walls of the house were built of 'pug', which means simply well-pounded mud. 1876 S. Wood *Gd. Gardening* (ed. 2) 41 Form this compound into a very stout pug or mortar by chopping, treading, &c. 1904 Major A. Griffiths 50 *Yrs. Public Service* xvii. 236 When by-and-by the 'kerf' thus formed was to be carried on to the 'pug', or raised platform from which the machine was fed, it was duly cut at the bottom of the heap...I could follow the 'kerf' to the 'pug'.

b. *Comb.* PUG-MILL, q. v.; **pug-cylinder**, the cylinder of a pug-mill. (These may be from PUG *v.*[2]) Also **pug-hole**: see quot.

1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 187 There are boxes..upon each side of the pug cylinder containing sand. 1870 Symons *Life Draper* vii. 61 Bowden was a great brick-making place. Deep pits from which the clay had been excavated, known as 'pug holes' abounded in every direction.

‖ **Pug** (pʊg), *sb.*[4] *Anglo-Ind.* [Hindī *pag* foot-print.] The footprint of a beast.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 12 Dec. 7/3 There are not many sensations worth getting up for so early..; but to see the first 'pug' of the tiger's track on the wet path is one of them. 1882 Flower *Unexpl. Baluchistan* iv. 114 We with difficulty kept sight of the pugs of a camel which had preceded us. 1889 Baden-Powell *Pigsticking* 55 The goat has a square pug with blunt points to his toes.

Pug (pʊg), *sb.*[5] *slang.* abbrev. of PUGILIST.

1858 A. Mayhew *Paved w. Gold* II. xii. 184 He was known by his brother pugs to be one of the gamest*hands

in the ring. 1888 'R. Boldrewood' *Robbery under A.* xx, He was fond of talking about 'pugs' as he'd known intimate.

Pug (pŭg), *v.*[1] Now only *dial.* [Origin obscure: perh. more than one word.]

1. *trans.* To pull, tug.

1575 *Appius & Virginia* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 120 What tugging, what lugging, what pugging by the ear. 1717 Marchant *Diary* 30 Mar. in *Sussex Archæol. Coll.* (1873) XXV. 180 George pugg'd clover in the forenoon. 1790 Grose *Provinc. Gloss.* (ed. 2). 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 211 Nae thing was prosperin' there and thrivin', But tirlin' roofs and rafter-rivin', And pullin' down and puggin'.

2. To dirty by overmuch handling.

1885 Sharland *Ways Devon. Village* iv. 55 To learn to handle things without pugging and pawing them.

Pug (pŭg), *v.*[2] [Origin obscure: cf. Pug *sb.*[3] and Pug-mill.

If the group began with the vb., and sense 1 is properly put here, the word is prob. onomatopœic, expressing the action and accompanying dull heavy sound of pounding or ramming a stiff but yielding body such as clay.]

I. 1. *trans.* To poke, punch, strike.

1809 Wolcott (P. Pindar) *Middlesex Election* I. xxix, I'd quickly pug their guts.

II. 2. To temper (clay) for brickmaking, by kneading and working it into a soft and plastic condition, as in a pug-mill. Hence **Pugged** (pŭgd), *ppl. a.*; **Pu·gging** *vbl. sb.*

Originally done by treading and stamping with the feet, which was prob. the original 'pugging': cf. Ure *Dict. Arts* (1839) 184 'The next step is to temper the clay, which is generally done by the treading of men or oxen. In the neighbourhood of London, however, this process is performed in a horse-mill. The kneading of the clay is..the most laborious but indispensable part of the whole business [of brick-making]..The more it is worked, the denser, more uniform, and more durable, the bricks which are made of it.'

1843 *Mech. Mag.* XXXIX. 193 The most useful properties of 'ciment', when well pugged or kneaded with the clay, was to hasten the drying, and to diminish the contraction. 1843 Parkes in *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 374 It is requisite that the clay be well washed and sieved before pugging. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 348/1 The bricks were all burned in close kilns constructed with soft bricks set in pugged clay. 1884 C. G. W. Lock *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 105 The compound was pugged, moulded, and strongly pressed.

b. To trample or tread (ground) into a muddy and sticky mass, as is done by cattle near gates or drinking-places; to Poach or *potch*.

1881 *Daily News* 4 June 5/5 The pugged and sticky sheep-folds could not be brought by plough and harrow into anything like suitable mould.

III. 3. To pack or fill up (a space) with pug, cement, etc.; *esp.* to pack the space under a floor with earth, old mortar, sawdust, or other substance to prevent the passage of sound: cf. Pugging *sb.*

1823 (implied in Pugging *sb.*]. 1870 *Eng. Mech.* 28 Jan. 488/1 Will any kind reader inform me of a material that will answer all the purposes of pugging floors? 1880 *Libr. Univ. Knowl.* (U.S.) V. 876 Wood, well pugged with cement, is strongly recommended by many architects..for girders and beams. 1906 *Pall Mall G.* 19 Mar. 2/3 Residents in semi-detached villas with the usual slender walls, or even in flats with the floors warranted duly 'pugged'.

4. To thrust, poke, or pack into a space. *dial.*

1854 Miss Baker *Northants. Gloss.* s.v., 'That small house is pugged in between two high ones.' 'The two families live pugging together.'

Pug (pŭg), *v.*[3] *Anglo-Ind.* [f. Pug *sb.*[4]] *trans.* To track by footprints. Hence **Pu·gging** *vbl. sb.*

1866 Newall *Eastern Hunters* 6 You never would take the trouble to learn pugging, though it is so essential an acquirement in wood craft. 1882 Floyer *Unexpl. Baluchistan* 18 To comment with considerable point on each false move the young man made in his pugging (tracking). 1889 Baden-Powell *Pigsticking* 57 We called up the headman of the beat and asked him if he could pug...'Of course I can pug. My work is pugging criminals.'

† Pu·ggard. *Obs. rare*[−1]. ? *Thieves' Cant.* [perh. f. Pug *v.*[1] + -ard.] A thief.

1611 Middleton *Roaring Girl* v. i, Cheaters, lifters, nips, foists, puggards, curbers.

Puggaree, -ery, var. forms of Puggree.

Pugged (pŭgd), *a.* [f. Pug *sb.*[2] + -ed [2].] Formed like the nose of a pug-dog.

1847 H. Merivale *Omoo* xx, With a viciously pugged nose.

Pugged, *ppl. a.*: see Pug *v.*[2]

Puggee, variant of Puggy *sb.*[2]

† Pu·ggered, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. Perh. a variant of Puckered.

1653 H. More *Antid. Ath.* II. xi. (1712) 73 Nor are we to cavil at the red pugger'd attire of the Turky, and the long Excrescency that hangs down over his Bill. 1706 Phillips, *Puggered*, as the red puggered Attire of the Turkey.

Pu·gginess. *dial.* [f. Puggy *a.*[2] + -ness.] Moistness from perspiration; clamminess.

1858 Mrs. Gatty *Aunt Judy's T.* ii. (1859) 26 Whenever ..some active exertion has brought a universal puggyness over the juvenile frame.

Pu·gging, *sb.* [f. Pug *v.*[2] 3 + -ing [1].] See quot. 1823, and Pug *v.*[2] 3.

1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 392 *Pugging*, the materials composed of bricks and mortar, &c., introduced between the joists of floors, in order to prevent the communication of sound, or to deaden it in the interval from one story to another. 1884 Spon *Mechanic's Own Bk.* (1893) 341 A thick layer of old mortar or plaster, known as 'pugging'.

Pugging, *vbl. sb.*: see Pug *v.*[2], 3.

† Pu·gging, *ppl. a. Obs. rare*[−1]. Meaning uncertain.

Usually taken as = thieving, thievish; if so, it may be pr. pple. of Pug *v.*[1] as if = pulling down or off; cf. Puggard. But some think it a mispr. for Prigging. In Devonsh. dialect *pug-tooth* = eye-tooth (E.D.D.).

1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 7 The white sheete bleaching on the hedge,..Doth set my pugging tooth an edge, For a quart of Ale is a dish for a King.

Pu·gging screw. [Pug *v.*[2]] A screw for compressing peat, etc.

1862 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 634/2 [Mr. Brunton's] process in subjecting freshly-dug peat to the action of a pugging screw, working in a conical case, the bottom of which is pierced by small holes.

Puggish (pŭ·gish), *a.* [f. Pug *sb.*[2] + -ish [1].] Resembling or characteristic of a pug, in various senses (as monkey, pug-dog), or a pug-nose.

1742 Richardson *Pamela* III. xxx. 197 The apes of imitation..were wont to hop and skip about, and play a thousand puggish Tricks. 1807-8 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* XII. 10, I touch not what concerns their praise, Or wreathes their puggish pates with bays. 1826 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. II. 308 (*Young Gipsy*) Nothing visible but their tails, (the one, the long puggish brush of which I have already made mention, the other a terrier-like stump). 1828 Scott *Diary* June in *Lockhart*, His son, a puggish boy, follows up the theme. *a* 1849 Poe *Wks.* (1864) I. 136 Doomed to perpetual contemplation of their noses—a view puggish and snubby.

Puggle (pŭ·g'l), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* [Freq. from Pug *v.*[2] 1; see -le 3.] *trans.* To push or poke a stick or wire down (a hole, etc.) and work it about in order to clear the hole.

1863 *Trans. Essex Archæol. Soc.* II. 186 *Puggle*, to poke out, as to puggle the ashes, a drain, or anything that is encumbered with rubbish. 1899 *Let. to Rev. C. B. Mount*, The man gave me a wire and told me to puggle the pipe. I have puggled it several times, but the water does not come. 1905 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. IV. 486/2 To get a rat or rabbit out of a hole by inserting a stick and working it about was to 'puggle'.

Puggree, puggaree (pŭ·grĭ, pŭ·gărĭ). Also 7 puckery, 8 pukree, 9 pugree, -aree, puggri, -gry, -gery, pagri. [a. Hind. *pagrī* a turban.]

1. A light turban or head-covering worn by Indian natives.

1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 140 Eastern People..such..as wear Turbans, Mandils, Dustars, and Puggarees. 1696 Ovington *Voy. Suratt* 314 With a Puggarie, or Turbant upon their Heads. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 93 A Green Vest and Puckery (or Turbat). 1845 Sir W. Napier *Conq. Scinde* II. i. 224 The Mohamedan Belooch always obeys him who wears the Puggree. 1893 Forbes-Mitchell *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 287 The latter wore voluminous thick puggries round their heads.

2. A scarf of thin muslin or a silk veil wound round the crown of a sun-helmet or hat and falling down behind as a shade.

1859 Dickens in *All Year Round* 30 July 332/1 A 'Puggery' is a long slip of white muslin which is bound round the hat and formed into a fantastic bow, with tails behind. 1866 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 741 A silk coat, a puggree, boots, and white cords, adorned the wealthier. 1885 *Times* 20 Feb. 6/1 Officers and men were attired in red serge tunics,..sun helmets and puggarees. 1901 B. Shaw *Three Plays for Purit., Capt. Brassbound* I. 215 He wears the sun helmet and pagri, the neutral-tinted spectacles, and the white canvas Spanish sand shoes.

Hence **Pu·gg(a)reed** *a.*, covered with or wearing a puggree.

1881 Mrs. C. Praed *Policy & P.* I. 13 A broad-brimmed puggareed hat. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Aug. 3/1 A graceful wave of his green, puggareed soft slouch hat.

Puggy (pŭ·gi), *sb.*[1] [f. Pug *sb.*[2] + -y.]

† 1. A term of endearment used to women and children. See Pug *sb.*[2] 1. *Obs.*

1611 Beaum. & Fl. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* III. v, Begon, begon my juggy, my puggy, begon my love, my deere. 1719 D'Urfey *Pills* IV. 44 My Juggy, my Puggy, My Honey, my Bunny. 1721 Bailey, *Puggy*, a soothing Word to a little Child, or a Paramour, as My little Puggy.

2. A monkey; = Pug *sb.*[2] 6. *Sc.*

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 392/2 'See that wee body sittin' on the man's shoother'...'That's a puggy, man'. 1897 C. M. Campbell *Deilie Jock* I. 29 I've heard talk o' some missing link, atween men and puggies.

3. Quasi-proper name for a fox: = Pug *sb.*[2] 8.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 134 Puggy, thinking it time to shift, got into a drain.

‖ **Puggy** (pŭ·gi), *sb.*[2] Also **puggee**. *Anglo-Ind.* [Hindī *pagī*, f. *pag* Pug *sb.*[4]] A tracker.

1879 *Times of India* Overland Suppl. 12 May (Y.), Good puggies or trackers should be employed to follow the dacoits. 1883 Ld. Saltoun *Scraps* II. 258 The 'puggy' is one of a caste, who..obtain the name from their skill in following foot-tracks, or 'pugs'. 1889 Baden-Powell *Pig-sticking* 56 In pugging boars, the usual method is for four or five trackers or 'puggees' to start together.

Puggy (pŭ·gi), *a.*[1] [f. Pug *sb.*[2] + -y.] Resembling the face or nose of a monkey or pug-dog; having such a face or nose; squat-faced; pug-nosed.

1722 Ramsay *Three Bonnets* III. 78 'Tis gowd that maks some great men witty, And puggy lasses fair and pretty. 1893 Stevenson *Catriona* 110 My affection for my King, God bless the puggy face of him, is under more control. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 Nov. 6/5 Its puggy little nose has quite a smashed-in appearance, and when the animal looked in a mirror it also must have noticed that, for it smiled an almost cynical smile.

Puggy (pŭ·gi), *a.*[2] *dial.* [f. *pug* vb. dial., to perspire (Halliwell).] Moist, clammy.

1814 *S. Pegge's Anecd. Eng. Lang., Suppl. Grose's Gloss., Puggy*, moist, arising from gentle perspiration. A puggy hand. North. 1825 in Brockett *N. C. Gloss.* 1896 Hare *Story My Life* III. xv. 329, I remembered being sick as a child from the puggy smell of its hideous interior. It was just as puggy to day, but I was not sick.

Pugh, obs. form of Pooh.

Pugil[1] (piū·dʒil). *arch.* [ad. L. *pugill-us* a handful, f. root *pug-* as in *pug-nus* fist.] Etymologically, A handful; but from the 17th century defined as 'as much as can be taken up between the thumb and the next two (or sometimes three) fingers'; a little handful or big pinch.

1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 237 b, Gave a certain Phisition..of this salt one lytle handfull or Pugill. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 17 Take Violets, and infuse a good Pugill of them in a Quart of Vineger. 1729 *Enquiry Causes Epid. Dis.* 42 Take of Roman Wormwood two Pugils (a Pugil is what two Fingers and a Thumb hold). 1747 Wesley *Prim. Physic* (1765) 68 Add two Pugils of dry'd Elder Flowers. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iv, The old gentleman..opened it [a snuff-box] and felt for the wonted pugil.

† Pu·gil[2]. *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *pugil* a boxer, f. root *pug-*: see prec.] One who fights with his fists; a boxer, pugilist.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xi. 207 That which expresseth pugills, that is, men fit for combat and the exercise of the fist. *a* 1670 Hacket *Abp. Williams* I. § 44 (1692) 37 He was no little one, but *Saginati corporis bellua*, as Curtius says of Dioxippus the Pugil.

Hence **† Pu·gilar** *a.*, pugilistic.

1636 Sanderson *Serm. on Ps. xix.* 13 P 37 So doth St. Pauls ὑπωπιάζω, 1 Cor. 9. which is an athletique pugilar word: as those that beat one another with their fists.

Pu·gilant, *a. rare*[−1]. [ad. late L. *pugilāns, -āntem*, pres. pple. of *pugilārī* to box, f. *pugil*: see prec.] Boxing, fighting.

1882 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVI. 432 Robert Grosseteste, pugilant, he, as well as literary; fighting his way to self-justification in stout English.

† Pu·gilate. *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *pugilātu-s* boxing, f. *pugilārī*: see prec. Cf. F. *pugilat, -illat.* (1570 in Hatz.-Darm.).] Boxing.

1768 *Woman of Honor* III. 37 A pitiful complaisance,..erected these black-guard battles into the dignity of the pugilate of the antients. 1817 *Sporting Mag.* L. 15 *note*, It seems as if this Gymnic exercise were more common in Palestine than the pugilate.

† Pugilation. *Obs.* [ad. L. *pugilātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *pugilārī* to box.] Fighting with the fists, boxing.

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pugillation*, the exercise of Champions, or of those that fight with fists. 1718 Ozell *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 108 Very skilful too at boxing, and at that kind of exercise which was called Pugilation.

Pugilism (piū·dʒiliz'm). [f. L. *pugil* boxer, Pugil[2] + -ism.] The art or practice of fighting with fists; boxing. Also *fig.*

1791 Hampson *Mem. J. Wesley* III. 48 Pugilism and cock-fighting, and the rest. 1812 (*title*) Pancratia, or a History of Pugilism. 1877 Talmage *Serm.* 255 Men have made it the ring in which to display their ecclesiastical pugilism. 1882 Masson in *Macm. Mag.* XLV. 250 Feats of strength, pedestrianism, and pugilism. 1890 *Spectator* 9 Aug., We do not find him hastening from the dinner-table to the diary, to enter up his last achievement in conversational pugilism. He leaves that to a Boswell.

Pugilist (piū·dʒilist). [f. as prec. + -ist.] One who practises the art of boxing; a boxer, a fighter; *fig.* a vigorous controversialist.

1790 T. Fewtrell (*title*) Boxing Reviewed..Comprehending a complete description of the Principal Pugilists. 1899 R. Munro *Preh. Scot.* vii. 238 One scene represents two pugilists with a crested helmet between them.

Pugilistic (piūdʒili·stik), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. prec. + -ic.] Of or pertaining to pugilists or pugilism.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 122 He reached the summit of pugilistic fame. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* iv, He had been engaged..in a pugilistic encounter.

b. as *sb.* A pugilist. *nonce-use.*

1827 Southey *Let. to G. C. Beaford* 10 June, What? will-we, nill-we, are we thrust Among the Calvinistics—The covenanted sons of schism, Rebellion's pugilistics.

So **Pugili·stical** *a. rare*; hence **Pugili·stically** *adv.*, in a pugilistic manner.

1840 Hood *Kilmansegg, Her Misery* xvii, Pugilistical knocks, And fighting cocks. 1847 Lytton *Lucretia* II. Prol. (1855) 142 Sure that it was a proper thing to resent pugilistically so discourteous a monosyllable. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 758/1 They were most pugilistically inclined.

† Pu·gillary. *Obs.* [f. L. *pugillār* writing-tablet, f. *pugillār-is* adj. that can be held in the hand: see Pugil[1] and -ary [2].] A writing-tablet.

1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 620 Many pugillaries, styles, and stands with ink in them.

Pugio·niform, *a. Bot.* [f. L. *pugiōn-em* dagger + -i)form.] Dagger-shaped.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pugioniformis*..pugioniform.

Pu·g-mill. [app. f. Pug *v.*[2] + Mill *sb.*[1]; but the vb. has not yet been found in this sense as early as *pug-mill*, so that the relation may be the reverse.] A machine for comminuting, thoroughly mixing, and working clay and other materials into a plastic state for making bricks and pottery; also, a similar machine for triturating ore, etc.

1824 *Mech. Mag.* No. 33. 78 The introduction of machines called pug-mills, into which the prepared earth is wheeled. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 533 [The tread of men and oxen] has of late been superseded by the clay or pug mill, which is a very eligible, though simple machine. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 555 Like the brickmaker's blind horse which goes round and round his pug-mill.

Pugnacious (pʊgnē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *pugnāx*, *-ācī-* combative (f. *pugn-āre* to fight, f. *pugn-us* fist) + -OUS: see -ACIOUS.] Disposed to fight; given to fighting; quarrelsome; contentious.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* IV. xiv, Plato affirms Idees; But Aristotle with his pugnacious race As idle figments stifly them denies. 1776 PENNANT *Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 328 [The whitethroat] A shy and wild bird..; seems of a pugnatious disposition. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* i. 10 These pugnacious Florentines, whose personal feuds and hatreds ..were infinitely more real and vivid.

Hence **Pugna·ciously** *adv.*, in a pugnacious manner; **Pugna·ciousness**, pugnacity.

1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 64 The strength..and pugnaciousness of the Ram well represent Cyrus and his Successours. 1829 PALMERSTON *Opinions & Policy* (1852) 102 If the nation is overflowing with so much pugnaciousness. 1847 WEBSTER, Pugnaciously. 1871 E. P. WHIPPLE *Success & its Conditions* 69 A politician weakly and amiably in the right is no match for [one] tenaciously and pugnaciously in the wrong. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 334 We valiantly and pugnaciously insist upon the verbal truth.

Pugnacity (pʊgnæ·sĭti). [ad. L. *pugnācitās*, f. *pugnāx*: see prec. So mod.F. *pugnacité* (rare).] The condition or character of being pugnacious; tendency or inclination to fight; quarrelsomeness.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. viii. § 4, I like better that entrie of truth which commeth peaceably..then that which commeth with pugnacitie and contention. 1613 CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Pugnacitie*, striuing, or contending. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. ii. II. 320 The turbulence and pugnacity of the heroic age. 1880 L. STEPHEN *Pope* V. 133 Bentley had provoked enemies by his intense pugnacity.

†Pu·gnant, *a.*[1] *Obs.* [ad. L. *pugnāns*, *-āntem*, pres. pple. of *pugn-āre* to fight.] Conflicting, hostile, opposed, repugnant.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 110 Thee fate's are pugnant, God, his ears quight stifned in hardnesse. 1645 USSHER *Body Div.* (1647) 228 Rites of Religion, which are pugnant to God's word. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xix. 552 Governed by..contrariety of pugnant humours.

Hence **†Pu·gnancy,** conflicting quality.

1660 BURNEY *Κέρδ. Δῶρον* (1661) 106, I so..bear rule in these great Courts, that the Ballances of Justice are kept even, Prerogative and priviledge having no pugnancie.

†Pu·gnant, -aunt, *a.*[2] *Obs.* [An intermediate form between POIGNANT and PUNGENT. Cf. OF. *pongnant*, *puignant*, early variants of *poignant*, from *poindre*, *puindre*, *pugnre*:—L. *pungĕre* to pierce.] Piercing, poignant.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1879 The God of Love an arowe took; Ful sharp it was and pugnaunt. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 224/2 Your wordes..be somewhat pugnant and sharpe.

Pugna·stics, *sb. pl. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pugn-us* fist, after *gymnastics*.] Pugilistic performances.

1830 H. ANGELO *Remin.* II. 65, I soon found my sisters, who were taken into a house during my pugnastics.

Pugna·tic, *a. rare*—[1]. [irreg. f. L. *pugnus* (see prec.) after *dramatic*.] = next.

1818 *Blackw. Mag.* II. 439 On the 15th, while he employed the pugnatic method, he had a distinct pricking sensation in his thumbs.

Pu·gnatory, *a. rare*—[0]. [ad. L. *pugnātōri-us*, f. *pugnātōr-em* fighter, f. *pugnāre* to fight: see -ORY [2].] Of or pertaining to a fighter or fighting.

1656 BLOUNT, *Pugnatory*, of or belonging to a fighter.

†Pu·gne, *v. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pugne-r* (1478 in Godef.), or ad. L. *pugn-āre*.] *intr.* To fight.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13347 Among Gregeis be-gan he [Troilus] pugne, That thei made many a lothely groyne.

Pugniard, Pugnicion, -ycion, Pugnisshe, obs. forms of PONIARD, PUNITION, PUNISH.

Pug nose, pug-nose (pʊ·gnōʊz). [f. PUG *sb.*[2] 6 or 7 + NOSE *sb.*] A short nose with a wide base sloping upward; a short squat or snub nose.

1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xxiii. (1791) I. 132 Perhaps, you may persuade her that her pug nose is all the fashion. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* I. iv, A pallid wretch with a pug nose..and marked with the small-pox. 1840 [see PUG *sb.*[2] 7a]. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 311 A squint, a pug-nose, mats of hair,..betray character.

Hence **Pug-nosed** (pʊ·gnōʊzd) *a.*, having a short snub nose; whence **Pugno·sedness.**

Pug-nosed (*pug-nose*) *eel*, a deep-sea species of eel, *Simenchelys parasiticus*, found off the Newfoundland bank, having a short and blunt snout.

1834 *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 39, I well remember Gibbon, a heavy pugnosed fellow. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. & Met. Philos.* (1850) I. VI. III. v. 186 It is obvious also that all notions of an ideal form of hollowness or of pugnosedness (we use Aristotle's favourite illustration) must be out of the question. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 232 The Horse-fish..was called by De Kay 'Blunt-nosed Shiner'...This name, sometimes varied to 'Pugnosed Shiner' [etc.].

†Pu·gny. *Sc. Obs. rare*—[1]. [Variant of POYGNÉ, *punje*, OF. *poigniée*, L. *pugnāta*.] Fighting.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 116 Suppos he pas to do sum pugny of were that be prouffitable to his lorde.

Pu·g-pile, *sb. Hydr. Engin.* [f. PUG *v.*[2] (? 4) + PILE *sb.*[1] 3. (But the sense of *pug* is not clear.)] One of a series of piles dovetailed into each other.

1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Pug-piles*, piles mortised into each other by a dovetail joint. They are also called *Dovetailed Piles*. 1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

So **Pu·g-pi·le** *v. trans.*, to plank or line with pug-piles; hence **Pu·g-piling** *vbl. sb.*

1805 Z. ALLNUTT *Navig. Thames* 23 Sills at the bottom of the River to be pug-piled. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 591 *Pug-piling*, dove-tailed or pile planking.

Pugree, -ry, variants of PUGGREE.

Puh, Puhn, obs. ff. POOH *int.*, POON (a tree).

Puind, obs. f. POIND. **Puinde,** obs. pret. of PING *v.*[1] **Pui'nee, puiney,** obs. ff. PUISNE.

Puir, Sc. form of POOR, PURE.

Puiranis, pureanis = poor ones, poor people.

1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 371 Syne help the puiranis, as the cause recordis. 1581 *Ibid.* xliii. 50 Pureanis promouit that na man wald presume.

Puirteith, -tith, Sc. var. POORTITH.

Puisane, variant of PISANE *Obs.*

Puisne (piū·ni), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **pui'nee, pu'nee, puiney, pusney,** 7–8 **puisny,** 8 **puisnee**: see also PUNY. [a. OF. *puisne* (12–13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), in mod.F. *puîné* (see PUNY), f. *puis*:—L. *postea*, or Romanic **postius, -um*, f. *post* after + *né*:—L. *nāt-us* born.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Born later; younger; junior (in appointment, etc.). Now only in legal use.

[1315 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 357/1 Monsr. Henri de Cobeham le puisne.] [1579: see PUNY *a.* 1.] 1613 CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Puiney*, younger borne. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Elegy on Marg. Wyts* 78 Under her Virgin-sway Her puisne Orphan-sisters to defray. 1705 in Hearne *Collect.* 30 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 152 Being his Puisne Chancellor by 7 years. 1724 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 6307/3 The Poor Knights..began the Procession.., the Puisné going foremost.

b. Applied to an inferior or junior judge in the superior courts of common law: for the present official definition, see quot. 1877.

(Not now in common professional use in England, but current in the colonies and dominions beyond the sea.)

[*a* 1577, 1643, etc.: see PUNY *a.* 1.] 1688 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. IV. 136 Mr. Serjeant Stringer..is made puisné judge of the King's Bench. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. iv. 41 The judges of this court are at present four in number, one chief and three *puisné* justices. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) IV. v. 55 Sir John, though nearly ninety, still sat as senior puisne judge in the Court of King's Bench. 1877 *Act* 40 & 41 *Vict.* c. 9 § 5 A puisne judge of the High Court of Justice means for the purposes of this Act a judge of the High Court other than the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Master of the Rolls, the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and the Lord Chief Baron. 1882 SERJT. BALLANTINE *Exper.* xxx. 296 The puisne judges who have occupied the Bench during the last generation. 1907 *India List* 191 Puisne Judges of a High Court.

2. Later, more recent, of subsequent date. Now only in legal use.

[1628: see PUNY *a.* 2.] 1655 FULLER *Hist. Camb.* 63 No mention in this visitation of Gonvil Hall (the Pusnie House in Cambridge), as if so late and little, that the Commissioners did oversee it. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 124 There would upon such a Supposition follow an Eternity that had a beginning, an Eternity that was puisne to some other thing or some other Eternal. 1885 SIR R. BAGGALLAY in *Law Rep.* 12 Q. B. Div. 430 As regards the further advance they were incumbrancers puisne to the plaintiffs. 1889 SIR A. KEKEWICH in *Law Times* LXI. 71/2 Powers of sale are to be found in second and other puisne mortgagees.

†3. Small, insignificant, petty: now spelt PUNY.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iv. 46 As a puisny Tilter, y^t spurs his horse but on one side. 1635 [GLAPTHORNE] *Lady Mother* III. ii. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 158 More cunning then to be ore reacht By puisne cosnage. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 281 He..can not be dismayed at the puisnee threats.. of the lesser factions. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* (1819) III. clii. 161 Frighten a puisne race of peers.

B. *sb.* **†1.** A junior; an inferior, an underling; a novice; = PUNY *sb. Obs.*

[1548, etc.: see PUNY *sb.*] 1598 E. GILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 40 Why thou young puisne art thou yet to learne, A harper from a shilling to discerne? 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. iv, To prey vpon pu'nees and honest citizens for socks, or buskins. 1616 — *Epigr.* xcvi. *To Y. Donne*, Let pui'nees', porters', players' praise delight. *c* 1640 [SHIRLEY] *Capt. Underwit* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* II. 340 Preach to the puisnes of the Inne sobrietie. 1663 *Flagellum, or O. Cromwell* (1672) 29 Wherein Mr. Pym, Hambden, and other Puisnes with Cromwel, mainly busied themselves.

2. *spec.* A puisne judge: see A 1 b.

[1608: see PUNY *sb.* 4 b.] 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 169 In Pratt's time at least, viz. anno 1725, the Puisnes were not in the secret. 1907 *Cambr. Mod. Hist. Prospectus* 87 The Lord Chief Justices, the Chief Baron and five puisnes upheld the plea that no patent for sole printing restrained the rights of the University Press.

Hence **Pui'sneship,** the office and function of a puisne judge. Cf. PUNYSHIP.

1825 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Observ. Peel's Sp.* (1830) 53 The thousands a year salaries of the minor and common law Chiefships, and Puisneships, and Masterships.

Puissance (piū·isăns, piu,i·săns, pwi·săns). *arch.* Forms: see below. [a. F. *puissance* (12th c. in Littré), f. *puissant*: see PUISSANT and -ANCE.

Not reckoning the final *e*, the Fr. is a disyllable (pwi,sā·ns); hence the historical pronunciation in Eng., exemplified from Lydgate to J. M. Neale, is (pwi,sā·ns), later (pwi·săns); but a trisyllabic (pu,isā·ns), now (piū·isăns), appears in 16th c., esp. in Spenser, and is found in some later poets, and since 1790 has been favoured by the Dictionaries, although before Walker all orthoepists exc. Sheridan had approved of (pwi·săns) or (piu,i·săns); the last is also used by some 19th c. poets. Shaks. and Tennyson have both (pwi·săns) and (piu,i·săns); Milton always the former.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

5 puiss-, pysaunce, puysshaunce, peusawns, 5–6 puiss-, puyss-, puis-, puys-, pusaunce, 6 puysance, -auns, puissence, pusans, *Sc.* **pusi-, puss-, pissance, piscence, 6–7 puisance, 5– puissance.**

1420 G. STOKES *Let. to Hen. V* in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 70 The grete manhode myghtynesse and puissaunce. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 139 That his Pusaunce be not emblemyshit. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 60 Oure lorde god most of puysshaunce. 1449 J. METHAM *Amor & Cleopes* 302 Returnyd to Rome with hys oste & pysauns. 1503 DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 108 Beistis that bene of moir piscence. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxiii. (Percy Soc.) 165 So great and huge of puysaunce. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. x. 79 The pissance quhilk in just battell, Slane in defence of thair kynd countre fell. 1519 *Interlude Four Elements* (Percy Soc.) 42 A lorde I am of gretter pusans. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 192 b, Of puyssance sufficient to inuade, and likely to recouer the duchy of Guyen. 1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* § 29 Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 94 Albeit he haif wit and pissance thairto. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* XXV. 15 My pen thy princely pussance sall report. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* V. § 4. 215 Such is Loves puisance.

B. Signification.

1. Power, strength, force, might; influence.

1420, 1422 [see A]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 25 Where been..Rome and Cartage, moost soverayn of puisaunce? *c* 1507 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 202 She will helpe to promoote me to the uttermost of her puyssaunce. 1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 33 He spairis no lord for his piscence, Na clerk for his intelligence. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 3 To prove his puissance in battell brave. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iii. 52 O flye to Scotland, Till that the Nobles, and the armed Commons, Haue of their Puissance made a little taste. 1644 BULWER *Chiron.* 128 The puissance of the Right Hand proceeds from a veine *fine pari.* 1667 MILTON *P. L.* V. 864 Our puissance is our own, our own right hand Shall teach us highest deeds. *a* 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circ.* I. (1874) 141 This stroke..From eyes of too much puissance was shed. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 12 Ah! they little know the Puissance of the Cake of Barley Bread! 1868 LONGF. *Dante's Inf.* V. 36 There they blaspheme the puissance divine.

b. The persons in whom power is vested.

1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxviii. 89 Now to revenge fair Helen, had Argos' chiefs, her puissance, Set them afield.

† 2. *concr.* An armed force. *Obs.*

1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 177/1 If this puyssaunce come into this Reame. 1452 *Acts Privy Council* (1835) VI. 120 To have the leding..of oure saide puissance upon the see. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lviii. 201 These two kynges fought one agaynst the other, pusaunce agaynst pusaunce. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 339 Cosen, goe draw our puissance together.

† b. A number, a crowd, a 'power' of people. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxvii. (Shaks. Soc.) 261 3e se weche peusawns of pepyl drawyth hym to, ffor the mervaylys that he hath wrowth. *c* 1502 in Grose *Antiq. Rep.* (1808) II. 286 *note*, In is solempnites was a great and a right pleasant puysauns of people.

† Pui·ssancy. *Obs. rare.* [f. as prec. + -ANCY.] The quality of being powerful; power, potency.

1562 BULLEYN *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 23 b, Some greater, and of more puissancie. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 312 Alexander..had neuer bin deliuered aliue, but for the puisancy of his horsse.

Puissant (piū·isănt, piu,i·sănt, pwi·sănt), *a. arch.* Forms: 5–6 **puyss-, puissaunt(e, 6 puys-, pus-, -ant, -aunt, -a(u)nte,** *Sc.* **puss-, pissant,** 6–7 **puisant,** 6– **puissant.** [a. F. *puissant*, earlier *poissant*, also *possant, pussant, poussant* (Godef. *Compl.*):—Romanic type **possent-em*, pr. pple. of L. *posse* to be able, substituted for L. *potent-em*.

Some scholars explain the F. form in *puiss-* as influenced by the verbal forms *puis, puisse*: others suppose a Romanic **possient-em* for *possent-em*. The Fr. *puissant* is a disyllable (pwi·sāñ), as is also historically the Eng. (pwisā·nt, pwi·sănt), from 15th c. to Matthew Arnold; so always in Sidney, Shaks., Drayton, and Milton, while Henry More, Shenstone, and others have (piu,i·sănt), in 3 syllables; one or other of these was approved by all 18th c. orthoepists except Sheridan and Walker; these, following Spenser, give (piū·isănt), which is generally preferred by later dictionaries.]

Possessed of or wielding power; having great authority or influence; mighty, potent, powerful.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 12 A mighti and a puissant woman. *c* 1510 *Gesta Rom., Addit. Stories* I. 429 In Rome a puyssaunte Emperour. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* V. Prol. 65 But quham na thing is worthy nor pissant. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 37 Thys grete and puysant armaye. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* CXXXVIII. 513 Y^e sowdan rode on a pusaunt horse, and Huon..folowed hym on the pusaunt mare. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* II. xvi. (S. T. S.) I. 156 Mare pussant þan afore. 1563 WINȜET *To Knox* Wks. (S. T. S.) I. 138 A pissant patroun of 3our cause. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 281 It was greate beautie to beholde theyr puyssant array. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 85 Wise Counsellours, stout Captaines, puissant Kings. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. i. 207 The Queene is comming with a puissant Hoast. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xvi. 28 Or who from France a puisant Armie brings? 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. IV. xxxix, And with puissant stroke the head to bruize. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 351 His puissant Sword unto his side Near his undaunted heart was ty'd. 1750 SHENSTONE *Ode to Indolence* viii, And thou, puissant queen! be kind. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Bacchanalia* 63 The puissant crowned, the weak laid low.

Hence **Pui·ssantness,** puissance, power. *rare*—[1].

1552 J. ASTLEY in *Ascham's Eng. Wks.* (1904) 123 Not by the puisantnes of others who were knowne to be his open enemyes.

Puissantly (see prec.), *adv. arch.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a puissant manner; with power, strength, or influence.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 45 Whan youre nobille castelle and towne of Calix was beseigid..he puissauntly rescued it. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxii. 500 To resyst pusantly agaynst his enemyes. 1592 WYRLEY *Armorie* 150 Puissantly the Frenchmen doth he daunt. 1658 J. WEBB *Cleopatra* VIII. II. 11 Who most puissantly served the Queen's resentment.

Puit, -e, obs. forms of PEWIT, PUT.

Puitternell, obs. Sc. variant of PETRONEL.

Puja, pujah, variants of POOJAH.

† Puke, *sb.*[1] *Obs.* Also 5-6 pewke, (5 pewyke), 6 puck(e, pook(e, peuk. [Late ME. *pewke, puke,* a. MDu. *puuc, puyck,* name of the best sort of woollen cloth (1420 in Verdam); in mod.Du. *puik* the best, the most excellent, the choice of anything, also as adj. 'excellent'; so LGer. *pük* (as in *püke ware* ware of superior quality, as cloth or linen), WFris. *puwck,* NFris. *pük*: ulterior origin unknown. Its use to designate a colour is found only in Eng. Not connected with F. *puce.*]

1. A superior kind of woollen cloth, of which gowns were made. Also *attrib.*

1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 354 He axsethe for makenge of a longe gowne of pewke, ij.s. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 120, vj pair of hosen of puke. 1545 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) II. 63 A new gowne of ffrenche puke lyned withe saten. 1555 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 86 Item vj yards of black puck, xviij^{s}. 1562 *Ibid.* 166 One gowne of fyne puke garded with veluett and furred with budge, xxvj^{s}. viij^{d}. 1566 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 257 In the Shopp. A sadd coller brod clothe iiij yerds xij^{s}...a pooke viij yerds xliiij^{s}. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV,* II. iv. 78 Wilt thou rob this Leatherne Ierkin, Christall button.. Puke stocking, Caddice garter? 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. i. (1620) 2 The rest and remnant thereof was spent on a Ierkin of fine Puke [orig. *sayo de velarte*].

2. A colour formerly used for woollen goods: as it was produced by galls and copperas, it must have been a bluish black or inky colour, but it is variously described: see quots. Also *attrib.*

Prob. originally the usual colour of the cloth (sense 1).

1530 PALSGR. 253/2 Pewke, a colour, *pers.* 1538 ELYOT, *Pullus,*..russette, sometyme blacke, but rather puke color, betwene russet & black. *c* 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 82 Sume strange coullor or die as french puke. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. vii. (1877) I. 172 His coat, gowne, and cloake of browne, blue, or puke. 1598 FLORIO, *Pauonaccio cupo,* a deepe darke purple or puke colour. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 92 The colour of this Camell is for the most part browne or puke. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. v. (1660) 124 To dye wool of a puke colour, take Galls..and boyle your wool or your Cloth therein..halfe an hour: then take them up, and put in your Coperas into the same Liquor, then put in your wool again. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Mixing colour,* If..you would needs have your Cloth of three Colours, as of two dark and one light, or contrary; supposing Crimson, Yellow or Puke.

Puke (piūk), *sb.*[2] [f. PUKE *v.* (But the connexion of sense 3 is doubtful.)]

1. An act of vomiting, a vomit.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 80 This [Pill] generally begins its Operation with a Puke of yellow slimy Matter. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. lxi. 242 It gave him first a puke, then a fever. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 26 She..had two pukes, which might have been occasioned by increasing the squills to four grains.

2. An emetic, a vomit.

1743 *London & Country Brew.* III. (ed. 2) 226 Which Compound, one would think, more fit for a Puke, than a grateful, cordial, stomachic Bitter. 1775 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 95 Yesterday Patty was seized, and took a puke. *a* 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Poems* (1850) II. 332 He never once alludes to purge or puke.

3. *U. S.* a. *slang.* A disgusting person. b. *vulgar.* A nickname for a native of Missouri.

1838 HALIBURTON *Clockmaker* Ser. II. xix. 289 The suckers of Illinoy, the pukes of Missuri..and the corncrackers of Virginia. 1847 ROBB *Squatter Life* 152 Captain and all hands are a set of cowardly pukes.

4. *Comb.* **Puke-weed** (*U.S.*), *Lobelia inflata,* employed as an emetic.

1853 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*

Puke (piūk), *v.* [Known first as used by Shaks. 1600; but the derivative *pukishness,* which implies an adj. **pukish,* and this a sb. or (?) vb. *puke,* is found of date 1581. Origin unknown.

It has been suggested that it might represent an earlier **spuke* (unrecorded), from the Indo-Eur. root *spu-, speu-* (whence OE. and OHG. *spīwan,* to spew, spit, L. *spuĕre,* etc.), which is app. also the origin of a mod.Flem. *spukken,* LG. *spucken* (whence mod.Ger. *spucken*) to spew, spit; but the late appearance of the English word and the absence of historical links make this a bare conjecture.]

1. *intr.* To eject food from the stomach; to vomit.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 144 At first the Infant, Mewling, and puking in the Nurses armes. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess of Malfi* II. i, Our duchess Is sick a-dayes, she pukes, her stomach seethes. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* I. Wks. 1720 IV. 311 You puk'd at the sight of her. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* IV. 153 As one of Woodward's patients, sick, and sore, I puke, I nauseate,—yet he thrusts in more. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* II, li, Their bench'd and gaudy boats, Wherein some joking and some puking sit. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 486 A most debilitating sickness supervened, with excessive efforts to puke.

2. *trans.* To eject by vomiting; to vomit.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 102 It helpeth them that puke vp choler. 1655 CULPEPPER *Riverius* IX. vii. 265 Pewking forth a thin waterish Humor by Salivation. 1689 G. HARVEY *Curing Dis. by Expect.* iv. 19 They run no small risque of puiking their gross slimy Humours into their Lungs. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Treat. Dis. Children* (ed. 4) II. 243 After the child had puked-up a great quantity of meconium. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. liv. 182 She is bleeding from her mouth, she is puking up all her blood.

3. To cause to vomit, to treat with an emetic.

1739 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 669, I then ordered him..Eight or Ten Grains of Turbith mineral, which scarce puked him. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 536 Inoculating for the chicken pox..and puking infant radicals.

Puke, obs. and dial. form of PUCK.

Puker (piū·kəɹ). [f. PUKE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who pukes or vomits.

1846 in WORCESTER.

† 2. A medicine causing puking; an emetic. *Obs.*

1714 GARTH *Dispens.* III. 28 The Griper Senna, and the Puker Rue, The Sweetner Sassafras are added too.

Puking (piū·kiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the vb. PUKE; vomiting. Also *attrib.* **puking fever** = *milk-sickness* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890).

1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. ii, I feel a horrible puking myself. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* I. i, To be racked with perpetual puking. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Treat. Dis. Children* (ed. 4) I. 105 This spontaneous puking is not attended with any violence to the stomach.

Puking (piū·kiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That pukes; also *fig.*

1691 *Weesils* i. 4 If puking Conscience thus can make you squeak. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 534 No evasion sly, Nor sober shift is to the puking wretch Indulged apart. 1799 M. UNDERWOOD *Treat. Dis. Children* (ed. 4) I. 105 It is a saying with some experienced nurses, that a puking child is a thriving child.

† **Pu·kish,** *a.*[1] *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. PUKE *sb.*[1] + -ISH 1.] Somewhat puke-coloured.

1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* viii. D viij b, Bare foote, hyr lockes about hyr heade, ytuckde in pukishe frocke [L. *nigra succinctam vadere palla*].

† **Pu·kish,** *a.*[2] *Obs. rare*$^{-0}$. [See PUKE *v.*] Addicted to puking. Hence † **Pu·kishness.**

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* x. (1887) 56 Such, as be troubled with weaknesse, or pewkishnesse of stomacke.

Pukka, var. PUCKA. **Pukree,** obs. f. PUGGREE.

Puku, variant of POOKOO.

Pu·ky, *a. rare.* [f. PUKE *v.* + -Y.] Inclined to puke or vomit; sickly.

1864 G. MEREDITH *Sandra Belloni* xxxiii, He was rendered peaky and puky only by people supposing him so.

Pulane, Sc. var. POLAYN, *Obs.,* knee-armour.

Pulas: see PALAS, E. Indian tree.

Pulaxe, Pulce, obs. ff. POLE-AX, PULSE.

† **Pulch.** *Obs.* A kind of small fish: see quot.

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* xix. 180 Gulls, Guffs, Pulches, Chevins, and Millers thombs are a kind of Jolt-headed Gudgins.

Pulche, obs. f. POLISH *v.*; see also PULQUE.

Pulchrify (pʊ·lkrifəi), *v. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pulcher, pulcer,* acc. *pulchr-um, pulcr-um* beautiful + -FY.] *trans.* To beautify, adorn, embellish.

1795 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* i. (1797) 3 It was necessary that Senor Don Raimundo Aruspini should pulchrify his person. *Ibid.* viii. 96 [A hat] sent to be pulchrified by a hatter at Coruña.

Pulchritude (pʊ·lkritiūd). Also 5-7 pulcri-, 6 pulc(h)ry-. [ad. L. *pulchri-, pulcritūdo,* f. *pulcher, pulcer* beautiful: see -TUDE.] Beauty.

Rare in British use since 17th c.; more used in U. S.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1109 Of som fair lusty lady, þat of pulcritude Were excellent al othir. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 213 Equalite of complexion.., rectitude of stature, and pulcritude of figure. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 90 b, Your noble persone, so formed and figured in shape and stature with force and pulchritude. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 94 There is great pulchritude and comliness of Proportion in the Leaves. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Agst. Apion* II. (1755) IV. 388 He represented God as.. superior to all mortal conceptions in pulchritude. 1804 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 275 Both mother and grandmother cried out against me, notwithstanding my present pulchritude. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 468/2 Possessing little or no pulchritude.

b. With *a* and *pl.* A beauty.

1625 SHIRLEY *Love-Tricks* III. ii, To make ditties and ferses upon her mistress' beauties and pulchritudes. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 583 It was thought to be a pulchritude in their stile.

So † **Pul·chritudeness** (*erron.*) in same sense.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* i. (1870) 119 Suche a brydge of pulcritudnes, that in all the worlde there is none lyke. 1547 — *Brev. Health* CCXCVII. 97 b, Beauty, fayrenes, or pulcritudines, the whiche is a deceyvable grace.

† **Pul·chrous,** *a. Obs. rare.* In 5 pulcrious, 6 pulcruse. [f. L. *pulcher, pulchr-* beautiful + -OUS.] Beauteous, fair.

c 1475 *Partenay* 1263 The seffe child Ffromont..Inly wel formed, pulcrious of face. *c* 1540 BOORDE *The boke for to Lerne* A iij b, It ..reioyseth a mannes harte to se..the pulcruse prospecte.

Pulcrow: see *pull-crow* in PULL- 2.

† **Pulder,** obs. Sc. f. PEWTER: cf. PUDER.

1573 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 269 Thre dosane of Flander pulder plaittis.

Pulder, -ir, -re, obs. forms of POWDER.

Puldron, obs. form of POULDRON.

Pule (piūl), *v.* Also 6 **pewle, puil, peule.** [In 16th c. also *pewle, peule,* perh. ad. F. *piaule-r* (16th c. *pioler* in Littré), dial. *piouler, piuler,* to cheep, chirp, whine = It. *pigolare,* Neap. *piolare* to cheep as a chicken; of echoic origin. But the Eng. may be merely parallel to the French.]

1. *intr.* To cry in a thin or weak voice, as a child; to whine, to cry in a querulous tone.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. xiv. Wks. 1182/2 Yet canne thys peuyshe gyrle neuer ceace whining and pulyng for fear. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 148 Ye soules that lye pewling in the paynles paynes of his pikepurce purgatoire. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 41 We wring our selves into this wretched world, To pule, and weepe, exclaime, to curse and raile. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* v. ii, Wherefore should I pule, and, like a girl, Put finger in the eye? 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 151 ¶ 1 When he is puling for bohea tea and cream. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 39 Don't come puling to me when it's too late.

2. To pipe plaintively, as a chicken, or the young of any animal; also said of the cry of the kite.

1598 FLORIO, *Vulpare,* to crie or pule like a kite. 1611 COTGR., *Pepier,* to peepe, cheepe, or pule, as a young bird in the neast. *Ibid., Piauler,..*to pule, or howle (as a young whelpe). 1631 R. H. *Arraignm. Whole Creature* v. 40 Hunger..makes the Lyons roare,..the Chicke chirpe, the Kite pule. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Poultry,* In case she hears any one pule, she must presently see if the little Animal does not require some Help to get out of the Shell.

3. *trans.* To utter or say (something) in a whining or querulous tone.

1535 *Goodly Primer, Dirige* (1848) 232 We have..piteously puled forth, a certain sort of psalms..for the souls of our Christian brethren and sisters. 1594 DRAYTON *Idea* v. 6, I say, You Love, you peule me out a No. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Temple* 43 A second [puppet priest] pules, 'Hence, hence profane'. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 In limbo pent it pules a curse.

† 4. *intr.* To pine or waste away. Cf. PULING 2.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 214 All other kinde of Cattell when they are sicke consume and pule away by little and little, onely Goates perish suddenly.

Pule, *sb.* [f. PULE *v.*] The action of puling; whining or plaintive utterance; a whine.

1893 F. ESPINASSE *Lit. Recoll.* ix. 367 The melancholy book..made by Matthew Arnold the theme of some of his melodious pule.

Pule, obs. f. PILLOW; Sc. var. POOL *sb.*[1]

Puleal, -eol, variants of PULIOL.

† **Pu·lege.** *Herb. Obs.* Also 5 **pulegye.** [a. F. *pulège,* L. *pūlegium* (also *pūleium*), supposed to be f. *pūlex* flea.] The herb Pennyroyal: cf. PULIOL.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 76 Tak..þe rotys of Pulegye, þat ys pulyol. *c* 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) i, Whan þei pasture of .ii. herbes, þat one is clepid Sorpol [? serpyl], and þat other puligin [*v.rr.* pulegium, puligium], þei be stronge and fastrennynge. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 364/2 Take Rue, Sentorye, Pulege, Agrimonye, Mintes.

Puler (piū·ləɹ). [f. PULE *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who pules; a whining, weakly person.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1895) III. 7 When they sawe other..tenderly brought up like pulers. 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* II. ii, Flaxen-haired men are such pulers, and such piddlers, and such chicken-hearts. 1662 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Ruggle's Ignoramus* v. ii, I am not such a puler as Mistress Katharine to be Sea-sick. 1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 490 The puler at last has qualms.

† 2. A young bird, a fledgeling. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Pepieur,* a peeper, cheeper; puler. 1618 LATHAM *2nd Bk. Falconry* (1633) 56 To leaue her, and returne to the Eyas, Brancher, or Puler.

† **Pu·leray.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. ? Name of an obsolete fabric of silk or silk and worsted.

1719 [STEELE] *Spinster* 346 Many woollen stuffs, and stuffs mixed with silk, and even silks themselves are..laid aside;..some of them are quite lost, and thrown out of sale, such as brillants and pulerays, antherines and bombazines.

† **Puleyn.** *Obs. rare.* Also 4-5 **poleyne.** [a. OF. *po(u)lain* (1280 in Godef.), transf. use of *poulain* colt.] A slide for lowering casks into a cellar; = PULLEY *sb.*[2]

[1236 *Close Roll* 21 *Hen. III* m. 20 Ad iij pulinos faciendos ad discarocanda vina regis ibidem. 1313-14 *Calendar of Inq. post mortem* V. 265 [Rendering..2s. 9d. yearly at the castle of Norwich for a custom called] Pipe and Puleyn.] *c* 1357 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 560 Et Will'o de Stottesyete pro puleyns et aliis necessariis faciendis..xiiij d. 1373 in Riley *Lond. Mem.* (1868) 369, 20 poleynes, 2 wyndyng poleys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 407/2 Poleyne, *troclea.*

Puliall, variant of PULIOL.

Pulica·rious, *a. nonce-wd.* [f. L. *pūlicāri-us* of or belonging to fleas, f. *pūlex, pūlic-em* flea; cf. *pūlicāria* (sc. *herba*) flea-bane: see -OUS.] Of the nature of a flea, of the flea kind.

1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xvii. 4 Has he multiplied himself into a host of pulicarious dragons—bug-dragons?

So † **Pu·licary** *a. Obs.*

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 358 Psyllium is a pulicary hearb so called from..its seed.

Pulicat(e, variant of PULLICATE.

Pulicine (piū·lisəin), *a. rare.* [f. L. *pūlex, pūlic-em* flea + -INE 1.] Of or relating to fleas.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pulicine,* of or pertaining to a Flea. 1851 *Zoologist* IX. p. cxlv, My own pulicine experiences would excite some surprise.

† **Pulick mountain, pulimountayn,** obs. ff. *poly-mountain* (POLY c); cf. also PULIOL b.

1657 C. BECK *Univ. Charac.* K ij, Pulick mountain. 1562

TURNER *Herbal* II. 133 b, Serpillum that is in gardines is called for the moste parte in Englande creping thyme, and about Charde pulimountayn.

Pulicous (piū·likəs), *a. rare.* Also *erron.* **pulicious.** [ad. L. *pūlicōs-us*, f. *pūlex* flea: see -OUS.] Abounding in fleas; fleay.

1658 PHILLIPS, *Pulicous*, full of fleas. 1721–90 in BAILEY. 1843 LE FEVRE *Life Trav. Phys.* I. xviii, A pulicious fever, caused by lying upon an old leathern sofa, prevented me from closing my eyes. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 197 We slept in our clothes across a very pulicious mattress.

So **Pu·licose** *a.*, infested with fleas, flea-bitten; *Path.* resembling flea-bites; **Pulico·sity**, the condition of being infested with fleas.

1730 BAILEY (folio), **Pulicose*, abounding with or full of Fleas. [Hence in J., etc.] 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 637 Pulicose or petechial spots were at one time supposed to be in every instance the result of debilitating and putrid fevers. *Ibid.* 638 Simple pulicose scurvy.—Exhibiting from the first a pulicose or flea-bite appearance. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Pulicosity*, abundance of Fleas. 1809 *European Mag.* LX. 20 He could not get a wink of sleep.. from the extreme pulicosity of the beds.

Puling (piū·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PULE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PULE; whining, plaintive piping; a complaint.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* II. v. (1557) 83 The women will..ofte complayne and vexe their housbandes, and angre them withe peuysshe puelynge. 1625 BACON *Ess., Masques & Triumphs* (Arb.) 540 Let the Songs be Loud, and Cheerefull, and not Chirpings, or Pulings. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxix, Be a man, Jack, and have no more of this puling.

† b. One who pules; a weakling. *Obs.*

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1895) I. 29 Catoes sonne..was such a weake pulinge, that he could not away with much hardnesse.

Puling (piū·liŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PULE *v.* + -ING 2.] 1. Crying as a child, whining, feebly wailing; weakly querulous. Mostly *contemptuous.*

1529 MORE *Suppl. Soulys* Wks. 299/2 So much and in suche wise as we sely pore pewling sowles neither can deuise nor vtter. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 185 A wretched puling foole, A whining mammet. 1648 MILTON *Tenure Kings* (1650) 6 The unmaskuline Rhetorick of any puling Priest. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 474 While yet thou [Britain] wast a grov'ling puling chit. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* II. i, [She] is not one of the puling, sentimental sort.

† 2. Pining, ailing, weakly, sickly. *Obs.*

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* F j b, How weake and pewlyng his childhode. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* II. Wks. 1873 III. 382 As well as puling stomacks are made strong By eating against Appetite. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) II. 126 Lean land will serve for puling pease and faint fetches. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Puling*, sickly, weakly, crazy.

Hence **Pu·lingly** *adv.*

1600 DEKKER *Gentle Craft* Wks. 1873 I. 42 Mistress, be rul'd by me, and do not speake so pulingly. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wilts.* (1662) III. 146 An erected soul, disdaining pulingly to submit to an infamous death. 1904 C. L. MARSON *Folk Songs Somerset* I. p. xi, The so-called cultured people lament pulingly that we have been forgotten in the Divine Almonry.

† **Pu·liol.** *Herb. Obs.* Also 5 pylyol(e, -eol, 5–6 pulyol(e, 5–7 -ial(l, 6 -ioll, -iole, -yall, pilliall, 7 puleall. [a. OF. *puliol, poulieul, poliol* (14th c. in Godef.):—L. type **puleiolum*, dim. of *puleium, pulegium* pennyroyal (or ? ad. L. **poliolum*, dim. of *polium* POLY). Cf. mod.F. *pouliot* (with different suffix) pennyroyal (Littré), also F. dial. *polieu, poulieu, pouillu* thyme (Godef.).]

The name of some aromatic herbs. **a.** (also **puliol royal**) = PENNYROYAL, *Mentha Pulegium.* **b. Puliol mountain**, perh. the same as *poly-mountain* (POLY c); but sometimes identified with Wild Thyme, *Thymus Serpyllum*: cf. PELLAMOUNTAIN.

[Cf. 1450 *Alphita* 150/2 *Pulegium regale*, gliconeum idem, simile est calamento minori. *Pulegium ceruinum uel montanum*, serpillum, [herpillum] idem, minora habet folia quam alia. gallice puliol, anglice Brotheruurt... *Pulegium* quando simpliciter ponitur pro regale intelligitur. *Ibid.* 167/1 *Serpillum* .. gallice serpoul uel tymbre uel puliol. *Ibid.* 31/2 s.v. *Calamiten. Ibid.* 120/2 s.v. *Montanum serpillum.* 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 672 Pennie royall [called] *Pulegium regale* for difference sake between it and wilde Time, which of some is called *Pulegium montanum.*]

a. [*c* 1265 *Voc. Names Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 555/1 Chaudes herbes... *Pulegium, i.* puliol, *i.* hulwurt. *Ibid.* 557/20 *Origanum, i.* puliol real, *i.* wdeminte.] 14.. *Stockh. Med. MS.* I. 19 in *Anglia* XVIII. 295 Take eysyl & pulyole ryale And camomylle. *Ibid.* 35, viij [ounces] of puliol reall. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 601/25 *Pelegum, anglice* Pylyole. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pyleol ryal, *origonum.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* B ij b, Take puliall and garlek and stampe it wele togeder. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 360 Sum bad hir tak erb pilliall. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxv. 232 This herbe is called..in English Penny Royal, Pulioll Royall. 1611 COTGR., *Pouliot*, Penniroyall, Pulial royall. 1706 [see b].

b. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 399/1 Pylyol mounteyne, herbe, *Pulegium. c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 104 Take puliol montayne, þat is to say hullewort and wasshe hit clene. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxvi. (1870) 289 These thynges folowynge doth purge Melancoly: quyckbeme,..pulyall mountane. 1545 ELYOT *Dict., Clinopodium*, the herbe whiche is called Puliole mountayne. 1657 C. BECK *Univ. Charac.* K ij, Puleall of the mountain. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Puliol*, or *Puliol-Mountain*, a sort of Herb; *Puliol-Royal*, the same as Penny-Royal.

Pulisch(e, -ish(e, -ysh(e, obs. ff. POLISH *v.*

Pulk 1 (pʊlk). Now *local.* Forms: *α.* 3–5 **polk**, 5 **polke**; *β.* 5–7 **pulke**, 7 **pulck**, 5– **pulk.** [ME. *polk*, app. dim. of OE. *pól*, ME. *pōl(e* (in 15th c. also *pull*) POOL *sb.*1 Cf. CHINK.] A small pool, especially of standing water; a small pond or water-pit; a shallow well or tank; a puddle, a plash; a small lake or 'broad'.

c 1300 *Havelok* 2685 On þe feld was neuere a polk [*rime* folk] þat it ne stod of blod so ful, þat þe strem ran intil þe hul. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2886 Mine hors þe water vp brouȝt, Of o polk in þe way. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/1 Polke..or pul yn a watur (*H.* pulk water, *P.* polke, or pulke water), *vortex.* 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 842 It is easie for a woman to goe to a pond or pulke standing neare to her doore. 1674–91 RAY *N. C. Words* 56 A *Pulk*, a Hole of standing Water, is used also for a Slough or Plash of some depth. 1678 *Coll. Conn. Hist. Soc.* VI. 186 The Highway..very chargeable to mayntayne by reason of swamps pulcks and Hoales that lye in the said Highway. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pulk*, a hole full of mud, or a small muddy pond. Otherwise a *pulk-hole*, a shallow place containing water. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broads* i. (1884) 7 In the little 'pulks' or miniature Broads, which everywhere open off the river, are lilies..in dazzling abundance.

b. Comb. *pulk-hole.*

a 1825 [see above]. 1887 JESSOPP *Arcady* 55 The turf in the pulk hole or bog lands.

† **Pulk** 2. *north. dial. Obs.* A chest of drawers; a bureau.

1577 *Wills & Inv. N. C.* (Surtees) I. 415 A pulke of mazer xxvj^{s} viij^{d}. 1590 *Ibid.* II. 197 Myne uncle Barker's debt book, lyeinge in..a dresser ther, the key whereof is in a pulke in the perlor. 1596 *Ibid.* 297 *note*, The standinge pulke in the hall.

‖ **Pulk** 3, **polk** (pʊlk, pɒlk). [a. F. *pulk*, a. Pol. *polk*, Russ. ПОЛКЪ *polk*^{u} a regiment, an army.] A regiment of Cossacks. Also *transf.*

1791 *St. Papers* in *Ann. Reg.* 198/2 It is permitted to all citizens to serve in the army in any regiment or pulk. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 302 Two pulks of cossacks, each pulk consisting of 500 men. 1848 THACKERAY *Contrib. to 'Punch'* Wks. 1886 XXIV. 195 Now charging a pulk of Chartists. 1861 W. H. RUSSELL in *Times* 22 Oct., A squadron of cavalry..whose saddlery accoutrements..and uniforms would not be tolerated in a polk of Cossacks of the Black Sea.

‖ **Pulka** (pʊ·lkă). Also *erron.* **pulkha, pulk.** [a. Finnish *pulkka*, Lapp. *pulkke*, (acc. to Friis, more purely) *bulkke, bulke.*] A Lapland travelling-sledge in shape like the front half of a boat, drawn by a single reindeer.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 35 Confined in one of those carriages or pulkhas. 1808 ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* I. 177 No rein-deer bids her pulkha fly. 1858 B. TAYLOR *North. Trav.* ix. 84 These pulks are shaped very much like a canoe; they are about five feet long, one foot deep, and eighteen inches wide, with a sharp bow and a square stern. You sit upright against the stern-board, with your legs stretched out in the bottom. 1881 DU CHAILLU *Land Midn. Sun* II. 79 Numerous pulkas..were scattered around. 1885 S. TROMHOLT *Aurora Borealis* I. 108 The sleigh would capsize quicker than the Pulk.

† **Pull**, *sb.*1 *Obs.* [OE. *pull*, found beside *pól*, POOL *sb.*1 (q. v.); cf. also Welsh *pwll* in same sense: the relations between these forms are obscure. (The Sc. *pule, puil* (pül) is = Eng. *pool.*)] A pool. (In the OE. example, a pool in a stream.) **b.** *Comb.* **pull-reed**, *dial.*: see *pool-reed*, POOL *sb.*1 3.

c 1075 *Grant by Offa* (*c* 779) in Birch *Cart. Sax.* I. 326 Of seȝes mere in þæs pulles heafod..of ðorn brycge in þone pull, & æfter þam pulle in baka brycge..in dodhæma pull, of þam pulle eft in Temede stream. 1199 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 8/2 Terram de Hunfrideheved..et partem polli que dicitur Kierkepolle. *a* 1300 *Joseph & Jacob* 18 Hi floten swiþe riued bi dich & bi pulle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 1032 A sobur brook amydde or ellis a welle With pullis [L. *lacunis*] faire. 1847–78 HALLIWELL, *Pull-reed*, a long reed used for ceilings instead of laths. *Somerset.*

Pull, (pul), *sb.*2 [f. PULL *v.*]

I. The act, action, or faculty of pulling.

1. An act of pulling or drawing towards oneself with force: a general term, including both a momentary pluck, wrench, or tug, and a continued exercise of force. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pul, or drauȝte.., *tractus.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 There were two hangemen ready and eche of them a payre of tonges read hote: at the three first pulles he helde his peace. 1609 S. W. *Marie Magd. Fun. Teares* 53 She beheld thy armes and legges racked with violent puls, thy hands and feet boared with nayles. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* iv. 82 If the Lord draw not the soul, and that with an omnipotent pull, it can never come from itself to Christ. 1795 Mrs. E. PARSONS *Myst. Warning* I. x. 178 He rang the bell...After waiting..he was about to repeat the pull. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* viii. (1883) 77 There is a pull from above, and there is a push from below. 1883 GILMOUR *Mongols* 154 With a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together, round goes the wheel.

b. The force expended in pulling or drawing; pulling power or force (with or without the production of motion); draught, traction, strain; the force of attraction. Also *fig.*

1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 505/1 If the stock [of an anchor] were very short, the pull of the cable would tend..to drag the end of the stock along the bottom. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* II. i. § 1 We may have pressure without motion, or dead pull. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xvii. 319 The sides of the glacier are acted upon by an oblique pull towards the centre. 1863 — *Heat* xiv. § 692 (1870) 480 The entire pull of the sun being then exerted upon it. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 745/1 The amount of this magnetic pull may be very considerable.

c. The drawing or dragging of a weight; the exertion of carrying one's own weight up a steep ascent against the force of gravity. (Cf. 8.)

1841 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. iv. 70 The next night left.. for Königsberg, a long pull of fifty-eight hours in a diligence. 1861 SYMONDS in *Life* (1895) I. iv. 179 A stiff pull it was that brought us to the top. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) vii. 158 The work had been simply a stiff pull against the collar. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 209 A good steady pull must necessarily land the tourist on the summit.

2. Specific or technical uses of sense 1.

a. *Printing.* A pull of the bar of the hand-press (see PULL *v.* 14); hence, an impression taken, or a page or part of one printed, by this; now *spec.* a rough 'proof', taken without an overlay and the adjustments necessary for a finished impression.

First, second pull, the part of the forme printed at the first or second pull of the bar in the early presses, in which more than one impression of the platen was sometimes necessary to cover a large forme; so *forme of one pull.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 393 When a Form of one Pull comes to the Press. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 358 Having pulled the First Pull,..he turns the Rounce about again,..and then Pulls his second Pull. 1787 *Printer's Gram.* 328 That which causes a Soft Pull is putting in pieces of felt or pasteboard.

1885 J. COLEMAN in *Longm. Mag.* V. 500 Previous to its suppression, they gave me a 'pull' of it [an article]. 1900 UPWARD *Eben Lobb* 41 Take away that pull and bring me a revise directly. There are five mistakes in one par of 'Talk'. 1909 H. HART in *Let.*, To a printer the difference between 'a pull' and a 'finished impression' is, that the one has no preliminary making-ready, and the other has.

b. A pull at the bridle in order to check a horse; *spec.* in *Racing*, a check dishonestly given to a horse in order to prevent his winning.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 123 He will run thro' at the Speed he begins with, or nearly so, because every Horse..requires to have a Pull. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 1258 The pull and hustle are effective bridle manipulations... The horse, which..is so free..a goer as on no occasion to require the pull and hustle, is the very one that will be benefited by it when running in. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. ii. § 2 (ed. 2) 381/2 It is easier to go into the saddling enclosure and select a winner of a steeplechase, barring accidents and pulls.

c. A pull at an oar; hence, a short spell at rowing; a passage or journey in a rowing-boat.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.*, § 283 We had a hard pull with our oars to get on board the buss. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv, Whalemen make the best boats' crews in the world for a long pull. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* vi, The college eight was to go down..to the reaches..for a good training pull. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Apr. 221/2 The oarsman gave a lusty pull.

d. The act of pulling the trigger of a fire-arm; also, the force required to pull the trigger.

1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* xxxvi, He had never known the pull of a pistol to be so heavy before. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 186 As the angles given are similar to the action when pulling the trigger with the finger, it is necessary to know this when trying the pulls of guns. 1900 *Daily News* 5 Sept. 3/2 Armed with the Lee straight-pull rifle.

e. The act of drawing a card.

1715 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Basset Table* 52 The Knave won Sonica,..And, the next Pull, my Septleva I lose.

f. *Cricket.* A hit which brings a ball pitched to the off side round to leg. So in *Golf*, a hit which causes the ball to swerve in its flight towards the left (i.e. of a right-handed player).

1892 *Daily News* 29 June 2/7 The veteran E. M. Grace brought off some most alarming pulls. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 3/2 The 'pull', which is simply an artistic method of placing the ball where the field is not. 1903 H. H. HILTON in *Low Concerning Golf* 66 When the wind is coming from the player's right the presence of a slight pull adds many yards to the length of a drive.

g. *Long pull* (in public-house phraseology): the supply to a person of an amount of intoxicating liquor (usually beer) exceeding that for which he asks.

Understood to be so called from the extra pull given by the publican at the beer-pump (cf. sense 6).

1908 *Times* 3 Nov. 4/5 (Parl. Rept.) He [Mr. Asquith] would not say they [licensing bench] actually imposed conditions as to what was called the 'long pull', but they certainly had the power to do so. *Ibid.* 19 Nov. 6/5 (A member of committee) The licensing justices were to be empowered also to attach to the renewal of a licence a prohibition of what was known as 'the long pull'.

† 3. A turn or bout at pulling each other in wrestling or any struggle; a trial of strength of body, will, determination, argument, etc.; a bout, a set-to; often in *to stand* or *wrestle a pull. Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1809 Þe firste pul so harde was set þat þeyr brestes to-gyder met... Ilk oþer pulled. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 164 For manye a man that may nat stonde a pul It likyth hym at wrastelyng for to be. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7996 Thei [Trojans] vnnethe stode hem a pul. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4480 At Auerice now haue here a pul. *Ibid.* 5232 Þer-with þis land hath wrastled many a pul. *a* 1568 *O wrechit Man* 39 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 210 Aganis his dynt thow may nocht stand ane pow. 1588 DRAKE in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 32 We..mynd with the Grace of God, to wressell a poull with him. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1749) II. xxxvi. 243 We have just now had another pull. Upon my word, she is excessively..unpersuadable.

b. *fig.* A single effort or act likened to pulling; a 'go'.

1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* II. 244 It's of no use my trying to get in more than a word at a pull,..he would only stop me twenty times. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 54 The opportunity both desired of having the first 'pull' at their new master.

4. The power or capacity of pulling instead of being pulled; advantage possessed by one party, course, or method over another; esp. in phrase *to have a* or *the pull of, on, upon,* or *over* some one. *The pull of the table,* in gambling games, the advantage possessed by the dealer or banker.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* v. vii. (1886) 82 They have a verie cold pull of this place, which is the speciall peece of scripture alledged of them. 1781 BURGOYNE *Ld. of Manor* III. i. 61 Oh, you'll have quite the pull of me in employment. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Pull,* an important advantage possessed by one party over another. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xli, That they may know what their chances are, and who naturally has the pull over them. 1890 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. xv. 255, I think, on the whole, I have the pull of him. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 131 There's no particular pull in it. 1893 *Spectator* 10 June 767 Economy is the unquestionable 'pull' of vegetarianism.

b. *spec.* Personal or private influence capable of being employed to one's advantage. *U. S. slang.*

1889 *Chr. Union* (N. Y.) 17 Jan. 68 The sole difference being that B had a 'pull' on the [excise] Board and A had none. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* 51, I have got a pull, and any one who has got a pull can do a great deal. 1897 in *Daily News* 28 May 6/4 Appointed to commissions because, to use an American expression, they had a political pull.

5. A long or deep draught of liquor.

[Perh. in origin a different word: cf. PULL *v.* 12.]

1575 *Gamm. Gurton* v. ii, And when ye meete at one pot, he shall haue the first pull. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 510 He swallowed down both..at two or three pulls. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 74 He calls for a Quart, and bids the Child take a hearty Pull. 1835-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 319 Who's for a pull of grog? suppose we have a pull, gentlemen—a good pull, and a strong pull, and a pull altogether, eh! 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 377 The oxen..seemed to enjoy, not a little, a vigorous pull of good rain water. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* iv. (1872) 61 A long and deep pull at the water-skin.

II. Concrete senses.

6. That part of a mechanism with which a pull is exerted; a handle or the like; often in *comb.*, as *beer-pull* (the handle of a beer-pump), *bell-pull*; also, an instrument or device for pulling.

1810 in G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 438 She..laid the pull of the bell over the end of the bed. 1823 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 344 There was a parlour, Aye, and a carpet and bell-pull too! 1864 Beer-pull [see BEER *sb.*[1] 4]. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child of the Jago* 43 The landlady hung hysterical on the beer-pulls in the bar. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 12 Apr. 3/5 'Pulls', too, may be procured; rubber pulls, threads, and tubes that run beneath the suave performer's clothes as the pipes and wires run invisibly under London.

†**7.** Some kind of draw-net. *Obs. rare*—[1].

c 1303 *Reg. Pal. Dunelm.* (Rolls) III. 40 Duæ sagenæ quæ vocantur 'Tol et Pul'.

8. A part of a road where more than ordinary effort is necessary; *esp.* a steep ascent. (Cf. 1 c.)

1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* IV. 130 This dairy woman was fain to get out to walk up this pull. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 63 If the roads were without pulls, a greater weight might be taken. 1855 CHAMIER *My Travels* III. iv. 101 The..track..is a severe pull, and a most disagreeable, fagging one.

9. *Combinations*: see PULL-.

†**Pull,** *sb.*[3] *Obs.* [a. F. *poule* fowl, orig. chicken:—late L. *pulla,* fem. of *pullus* young of any animal. Cf. PULLET.] A bird of the poultry kind, a fowl. In comb. *pull-fowl.* Also *pull-bill, -roll* (poultry-bill, -list).

1604 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 312 The giveing of allowance of all the Poultry in the Pull-Rowles, Pull-Bills.. and other particular Breivements of the Household. *a* 1688 J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* (1693) 16 Here is plenty both of wild and tame Fowls, Pull-Fowls, Hens, Dukes, Goose, &c.

Pull (pul), *v.* Forms: 1 **pullian,** 4-5 **pullen, -yn,** 4-7 **pulle, pul,** 4- **pull,** (6 **puyll, polle, poull**; *Sc.* and *n. dial.* 5-8 **pow,** 8-9 **pou, pu',** 9 **poo, poogh**). [OE. *pullian* (with compound *a-pullian*), rare, and of uncertain etymology.

It has been compared with LG. *pülen* to shell (peas, etc.), husk, decorticate, strip, pick, pluck, pinch, tear (*Bremisches Wbch.* III. 372), also *pülen, pülken,* MDu. *polen,* 'decorticare' (Kilian), EFris. (Saterland) *pülje,* NFris. *pillin, pöle*: cf. MLG., LG. *püle,* Du. *peul* husk, cod, shell. But there are great difficulties both of sense and form. If *pull* and *pluck* both went back to OTeut. a primitive connexion between them would be conceivable, but historical evidence of this is entirely wanting.

The OE. instances known show already three senses or uses; but all belong to the general notion of *pluck, snatch* (with fingers, claws, or beak), rather than to that of *draw with sustained force or effort,* as in modern use. The former is therefore assumed as the primary sense.]

I. In senses akin to *pluck.*

1. *trans.* To pluck or take away (anything) by force from where it grows or is set or attached; = PLUCK *v.* 1. **a.** To pluck or draw out (feathers, hair, etc.). *Obs.* or *dial.*

[*c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 362 gif þu nimest wulfes mearh and smyrest mid hraðe ða stowe þe þa hær beoð of apullud [*v. r.* -od] ne geþafoð seo smyrung þæt hy eft wexen.] *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 200 To the Crowe he stirte and that anon And pulled hise white fetheres euerychon.

c 1400 *Pol. Poems* xxvi. 10 Here federes were pulled, she myght nat fle. 1586 MARLOWE 1*st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i, That Tamburlaine That..as I hear, doth mean to pull my plumes. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI,* III. iii. 7 Wee'le pull his Plumes.

b. To pluck or draw up by the root (plants, e. g. turnips, carrots, flax). See also *pull up* (31 b).

c 1350 *Nom. Gall.-Angl.* 236 *Homme en gardeyn arace nauet,* M[an] in þe gerde pullith nepus. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 How it [flax] shold be sowen, weded, pulled, repeyled, watred, wasshen, dryed, beten. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xii. (1614) 507 The herbe is..sowne as other herbs, in due time pulled and dried. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* ii, To burn their nits, an' pou their stocks [cabbages], An' haud their Halloween. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 345 Their tops being of a darker green and stronger, which continued..until they [turnips] were pulled.

c. To pluck, gather, cull, pick (fruit, flowers, or leaves) from the trees or plants on which they grow. Now chiefly *Sc.* (*pu', pou, pow*).

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 128 þe sote-sauerende [sweet-savouring] frut sone to pulle. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxi. 5 Thei shul not pulle grapes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 405/2 Plukkyn, or pulle frute, *vellico, avello.* *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliii. 398 To wheche Roser men gon..the flowres to pullen In gret hast. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxi. 26 An ald þaid aver, Schott furth..to pull the claver. 1685 DRYDEN *Hor., Epode* ii. 30 He joys to pull the ripen'd pear. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 107 Hopp yards where they were at work pulling hopps. 1721 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc., Yng. Laird & Edin. Katy* iii, We'll pou the daisies on the green. 1724 — *Royal Archers Shooting* viii, Haste to the garden then bedeen, The rose and laurel pow. 1794 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1862) III. 240, I pulled above 3000 peaches and nectarines. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* vii. (1858) 136 We had delayed..until the better fruit had been pulled.

†**d.** To gather or collect (other produce). *Obs.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. iv. 3 b, They pul from the said Sapins [fir trees] great abundance of rosin.

e. *intr.* To bear or admit of plucking or pulling.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 57 They [pease] pull the best when they are the most feltered togeather. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 6 Sept. an. 1774, They [beans] may not pull so easily in dry weather.

2. *trans.* **a.** *To pull caps*: to snatch or pull off one another's caps; hence, to scuffle, to quarrel: see CAP *sb.*[1] 9. So *to pull wigs.*

1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxxiv. 224 If either of you have any inclination to pull caps for the title of Miss Belmont, you must do it with all speed. 1785, etc. [see CAP *sb.*[1] 9]. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* vii. (1824) 120 A pair of Amazons pulling Caps. 1823 J. SIMPSON *Ricardo the Outlaw* II. 183 A man..for whom half the females of Paris were pulling caps. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 183 Twelve halls of justice might be provided—for the worst of which the judges at Westminster would pull wigs.

b. To snatch, steal, filch. *slang.*

1821 HAGGART *Life* (ed. 2) 63, I pulled a scout, and passed it to Graham. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 414/1 We lived by thieving, and I do still—by pulling flesh.

†**3.** *trans.* and *intr. Cards.* To draw a card from the pack; hence *fig. To pull for prime* (also *to pull prime*), to draw for a card or cards which will make the player 'prime'. (Cf. PLUCK *v.* 2 d, PRIME *sb.*[2] 6.) In last quot., to draw lots. *Obs.*

1593 DONNE *Sat.* ii. 86 Hee..spends as much tyme Wringing each Acre, as men pulling Prime. 1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* IV. ix, Faith Sir my rest is up, And what I now pull, shall no more afflict me Then if I plaid at span-counter. *a* 1625 — *Woman's Prize* I. ii, My rest is up, wench, and I pull for that Will make me ever famous. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Jordan* iii, Riddle who list, for me, and pull for Prime. *Ibid., Ch. Militant* 134 The world came both with hands and purses full To this great lotterie, and all would pull.

4. *intr.* To snatch or tear *at* something; *spec.* of a hawk: To tear or pluck at food; to feed by snatches.

1826 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Observ. Hawking* 14 [The young hawk may be] allowed for a short time to pull upon a stump or pinion, from which he can get but little meat. 1852 R. F. BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* vi. 65 Sometimes she is allowed to pull upon a stump. 1883 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falconry Brit. Isles* Gloss., *Pull through the hood,* to eat through the aperture in the front of the hood. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iii, The cattle..lingering..to pull at a particularly tempting tuft of bush grass growing in the moist ditches which ran along each side of the highway.

5. *trans.* By metathesis of object: To strip (a bird) of feathers, or †(a sheep or other beast) of wool or the like (*obs.*), by plucking; = PLUCK *v.* 5. Now *rare* or *dial.*

To pull a crow with another: see CROW *sb.*[1] 3 b.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 176 gif him þince þæt he sceap pullige, ne bib þæt god. *c* 1350 *Nom. Gall.-Angl.* 310 M[an] pyndith a gray gose..And pulluth [*deplume*] a coppid larke. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 17 What Schep that is full of wulle Upon his back, thei [the shepherds] toose and pulle, Whil ther is eny thing to pile. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 9 Take smale byrdys, an pulle hem an drawe hem clene. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 78 Ffesaunte rosted,..pull him dry. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 838 To pull or plucke geese, *deplumare anseres.* 1597 LOWE *Chirurg.* (1634) 35 Take an olde Cocke and pull him quicke, bruse him well, and kill him. 1662 [see CROW *sb.*[1] 3 b]. 1727 *Philip Quarll* 17 One cast the Animal, and the other two pull'd the Fowls. 1851 *Beck's Florist* 19 [A labourer says] I'd pull a lot of sparrows, or maybe some blackbirds and thrushes, and then cut 'em down the back, and fill their bodies full of bread.

b. In *Tanning,* To remove the hair or wool from (hides or skins) with a pulling-knife; also, in *Hat-making,* To free (fur) from the long hairs.

1578-9 *Proclam. Q. Eliz.* 28 Feb., From Shroue Tuesday ..vntill the last day of June..no maner of person or persons ..shall pull or clippe, or cause to be pulled or clipped, any maner of wooll fell. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 15 Feb. 377/1 The fur..is then 'pulled'—that is, the long hairs or 'kemps' are removed with a curved knife, and sold to upholsterers.

†**6.** *fig.* (or in *fig. phrases*). To strip (a person) of his property or money; to fleece; to despoil, rob, plunder, cheat; = PLUCK *v.* 6. *To pull a finch, pigeon, plover,* etc., to fleece a simple or unsuspecting person: see the sbs. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 654 And priuely a fynch eek koude he pulle. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 126 3e..plucked and pulled hem anon to þe skynnes. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5984 If I may grype a riche man, I shal so pulle him, if I can. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 972 3e princis..That pullis the pure ay. 1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Returne* Wks. (Grosart) I. 130 The same King Lewes..vrged with extreame necessitie ..beganne at the last to pull the Church himselfe. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* II. iv. 33 Hee's a yong fat gosling to pull. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 146 They pull pigeons in gaming houses.

II. To draw with force; to move or try to move or remove by such action.

7. *trans.* To exert upon (anything) a force that tends to snatch, draw, or drag it away; to drag or tug at.

c 1000 *Epist. Alex. ad Aristot.* in *Anglia* IV. 152 þær eac cwoman hreaþemys..and þa on ure ondwlitan sperdon and us pulledon. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8295 þai..wold haue led the lord o-lyue to þe towne, But the stoure was so stithe & stedis so thicke, Thai pullid hym with pyne, but passid þai noght. 1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 835 To pull, or plucke the haire, *vellico.* 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxi, After they [the shampooers] haue well pulled and stretched your armes. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. i. 6 The sun and the earth mutually pull each other. 1878 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIV. 653, I shall pull your coat-tail. *Mod.* Don't pull my hair; you hurt me. He complains that another boy pulled his ears.

b. *To pull by the ear, nose, sleeve,* etc., orig. perh. to draw or move by pulling at these parts; subseq. to gain attention, or to inflict corporal chastisement or insult, by such means.

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1265 Pulden prestes by þe polle & plat of her hedes. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1853) 116 Such is our dulness and forgetfulness, that we must oft be taught and put in remembrance,..and, as it were pulled by the ear. 1677 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* iv. (1704) 148 This would pull them by the sleeve, and bid them look on the covetous Gehazi. *a* 1688 W. CLAGETT 17 *Serm.* (1699) 330 Their consciences had pulled every one of them for it at certain times. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 268 ₱ 2, I very civilly requested him to remove his Hand, for which he pulled me by the Nose. 1793 J. WILLIAMS *Life Ld. Barrymore* 79 Compelled to pull him by the tail.

c. *To pull a bell*: to pull the bell-rope or handle in order to ring the bell; so *to pull a punkah* (i. e. its rope).

a 1815 in G. Rose *Diaries* (1860) II. 438 He put out his hand to pull the bell. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* i. 25, I was engaged to pull a punkah in the house of an English lawyer.

d. *To pull* (also *draw*) *one's leg*: see LEG 2. *To pull the long-bow*: see LONG-BOW 2.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxx, What is it makes him pull the long bow in that wonderful manner? 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Green Shutters* 216 He had pulled his leg as far as he wanted it. 1905 *Athenæum* 22 July 122/3 We ..suspect that some Irish harper was 'pulling the author's leg' when he gave it.

e. *To pull the strings, wires*: see the sbs.

8. To draw, drag, or haul with force or effort towards oneself (or into some position so viewed or pictured); generally with an adv. or phrase expressing direction. For use with particular advbs., see senses 20-31.

a 1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 60 A caudron he let fulle Wiþ seþing oile vol Inou; and let him þer-Inne pulle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 219 Tyl pardoneres haued pite and pulled hym in-to house. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 15837 (Trin.) And as þei to & fro him pulde: his body was stounde. 1562 *Child-Marriages* 99 As she was goynge for Turves, he..pullid her to bed to hym. 1687 *New Hampshire Prov. Papers* (1867) I. 581, I did with much difficulty pull Wiggins off the deputy governor. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 58 Holding a Handkerchief about their neck with both hands they pull it sometimes this way, and sometimes that way, as if they were out of their wits with Grief. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxx, He placidly pulled his nightcap over his ears. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 31 She had pulled her blonde perruque all awry in her vexation. 1898 ROWE, etc. *Rowing* (Badm. Libr.) 26 The oarsman [will] meet his oar. By this phrase is meant that he will pull his body to his oar at last instead of his oar to his body, thus very considerably shortening his stroke.

b. *To pull in* or *to pieces,* etc., to separate the parts of (anything) forcibly; to destroy, demolish; also *fig.* to analyse and criticize unfavourably; = *pick to pieces* (PICK *v.*[1] 11). *To pull an old house on one's head*: see HOUSE *sb.*[1] 18.

1552 ELYOT *Dict., Distraho..*to plucke or pull in peces. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Acts* xxiii. 10 The Captaine, fearing lest Paul should haue bene pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers [etc.]. 1642 C. VERNON *Consid. Exch.* 88 Wary how they pull an old house upon their owne heads. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* Ded., Public Conversations, where every body pulls and is pulled to pieces. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 251 The complexional disposition of some of your guides to pull every thing in pieces. 1884 H. SMART *From Post to Finish* xx, But what cannot one pull to pieces?

9. *intr.* To perform the action of pulling; to

exert drawing, dragging, or tugging force. Often with *at* = sense 7. Also *fig.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 68 To see hem pulle in þe plow aproche me by-houez. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1607 Sith he pullith at his croke, So fast in to the flesh it toke. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 110 Than pane with passioun me opprest, And ever did Petie on me pow. 1694 *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 131 Notwithstanding that the Rope of its own accord doth pull or draw very hard. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 162 ¶ 3 When Ambition pulls one Way, Interest another, Inclination a third. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. v, Taking the knot in my hand, [I] began to pull; but not a ship would stir. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 405 The lever at which it [the spring of a watch] pulls is lengthened as it grows weaker. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 179 In double-acting engines .. the piston-rod forces upwards as well as pulls. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v. *Pon*, 'Poo away me lads'. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 78 He pulled, but could not draw it up. *Mod.* You want a horse that pulls well.

b. *spec.* Of a horse: To strain (esp. habitually and persistently) against the bit.

1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* ix. (1809) 106 My horse, who pulls like the devil, was off with me in a jiffey. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 1258 When the free-going horse is pulling somewhat harder than [his rider] thinks it prudent to indulge him in, he is checked by a steady and firm use of the bit. 1907 *Cavalry Training* (Gen. Staff War Office) iii. § 84 Many horses never pull unless they are going beyond a certain pace, when..they get so excited that they pull very hard or run away.

c. To struggle, wrestle; to exert oneself, work hard. Cf. PULL *sb.*[2] 3. *rare.*

1676 HOBBES *Iliad* xvi. 106 The sweat ran down his limbs; nor could he well, Though mightily for breath he pull'd, respire. 1829 THACKERAY *Let.* in *Pendennis* Introd., I have been pulling away at the Greek play and trigonometry.

d. Phr. *Pull devil, pull baker* (†*parson*), *Pull dog, pull cat*, an incitement to effort in a contest between two persons or parties for the possession of something; hence as *sb.* denoting such a struggle; also *attrib.*

The origin of *pull devil, pull baker*, is unascertained.

1792 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes to Kien Long* ii. 128 That most important contest then is o'er; Pull Dev'l, pull Parson, will be seen no more. [1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, Then my mither and her quarrelled, and pu'ed me twa ways at anes,..like Punch and the Deevil rugging about the Baker at the fair.] 1828 ABERNETHY *Lect. Anat., Surg.*, etc. 276 It is such a regular pull-baker pull-devil concern, it is quite shocking. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* x, 'Pull devil, pull baker!' cried the women. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 2/1 In practice tariffs are determined by the pull-devil-pull-baker principle. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 22 Mar. 3/4 It's pull dog, pull cat wi' man and woman, ever since the days of the apple.

e. To move, go, go on, or proceed by pulling or by some exertion of force; cf. 28 d.

1877 M. REYNOLDS *Locom. Engine Driving* I. viii. (ed. 5) 131 The guard got up on the step of the engine, when they pulled gently down to the scene. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 251 We'll pull out of this place, Bess, and get away as far as ever we can.

†**10.** *trans.* To take away forcibly or with difficulty; to tear off, to wrench away. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 7289 His pray [was] fro hym puld, & his pepull slayn. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* III. vii. 3 Than the soule [is] immedyatly pulled and separate from the body by naturall dethe. 1542–5 BRINKLOW *Lament.* (1874) 117 It is hyghe tyme to pull from them that wycked Mammon. 1603 DEKKER *Grissil* (Shaks. Soc.) 10, I, that have..from my father Pull'd more than he could spare. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* I. 322 Subtillie devisd'e only for private gaines, Which you pull from the simple as you list. 1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 11 To pull the poore mans bread out of his belly.

†**b.** *Arith.* To subtract. *Obs.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xiii. D iv b, If you haue made two stations, pull the lesse Quotient from the great. 1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* vii. (1577) 30 You must pul the heigth of the Equinoctiall from the Horizon.

11. *fig.* **a.** To draw or move by force or influence other than physical; to bring forcibly into or out of some state or condition. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10489 Parys full priuely sho pulled into councell. *c* 1483 H. BARADOUN in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 290 Anon ther is some obstacle or thyng That pullyth me thens, magre of my might. 1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 71 To pull the pride of Gods enemy an ase lower. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 38 When long-suffering hath spent it selfe in pulling them to repentance. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengzebe* I. i, Thou should'st have pull'd the Secret from my Breast, Torn out the bearded Steel to give me Rest. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* xv. 349 Their wrongs and blasphemies ascend the sky, And pull descending vengeance from on high.

†**b.** To bring or draw (evil, calamity) *upon.* *Obs.* (superseded by DRAW *v.* 31).

1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* B iv b, Bi pulling vpon your self that vengeaunce of God. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. 1. i. (1651) 2 Crying sins..which pull these several plagues..upon our heads. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* I. 333 Sin pulls sickness upon us. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 333 To pull mischief on one's pate.

12. To take a draught or drink of (liquor); to draw or suck (a draught of liquor) into the mouth; to drink from (a vessel); also *pull off.* Also *absol.*

[Perhaps orig. suggested by Du., LG. *pull-en*, EFris. *püll-en* to drink (esp. from a jug or bottle), to tipple, f. obs. Du. *pulle* (mod. *pul*), LG. *pulle*, EFris. *pülle*, *pül* a jug, stone bottle, held by continental etymologists to be a shortening of MDu. *ampulle* AMPUL; but evidently viewed in Eng. as a sense of the native vb.: cf. PULL *sb.*[2] 5.]

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* v. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 169 That twoo Fflemmynges togedere wol undertake..or they rise onys. to drinke a barelle fulle, of gode berkyne: so sore they hale and pulle. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xiv. (Shaks. Soc.) 142 Syr, in good ffeyth oo draught I pulle. 1595 *Locrine* II. ii. 147 This makes us work for company To pull the tankards cheerfully. 1608 HEALEY *Discov. New World* 59 Now so many stoopes must hee pull of, or else hee is held an vngratefull, vnmannerly fellow. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* xxviii. (1883) 79/2, I set a bowl of punch before them..which they pulled off plentifully. 1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* 22 Give us the keg, we'll pull a little Deady.

b. *intr.* To draw or suck *at* (a pipe, cigar, etc.).

1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xv, Joe..pulled hard at his pipe. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* v, He sat there..and pulled at his empty pipe.

13. *trans.* Uses implying an adv. †**a.** = *pull down* (24) (*obs.*). **b.** = *pull off* (26 a).

a. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 1 Let them pull all about mine Eares, present me Death on the Wheele. *a* 1621 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* II. i, I'le pull your courage, King. *a* 1623 — *Wife for Month* v. iii, His ranke flesh shall be pull'd with daily fasting. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 158 These last fitts of discontent..have soe pulled the Queene that she may want strength to see another sommer.

b. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. App. 641 They pull their coats. The field is worked row by row and hill by hill.

III. In technical senses, with specific objects expressed or understood.

14. *trans. Printing.* In the old hand-press, To draw (the bar of the press) towards one, so as to press down the platen upon the sheet or forme; also *intr.* or *absol.* Hence, To print upon (a sheet) or from (a forme) in this way; to make or take (an impression, proof, or copy) by printing; to print off.

a. *trans.* 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 7 Then..Running in the Carriage, [he] Pulls that Sheet. *Ibid.*, If the Impression of the last Pulled Side, stands within the Impression of the first Pulled Side. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 336 He lays another sheet.. upon the Tympan-sheet.., and Pulls these two sheets. Then he..turns the other side of the Register-Sheet.. and Pulls upon that the second side of the Register-sheet. *Ibid.* 357 The Press-man..Pulls the Bar towards him. 1876 TREVELYAN *Macaulay* (1880) I. 172 The sheets had been pulled. 1881 *Times* 4 Jan. 3/6 The remainder of the bitumen film is removed and impressions are pulled from it like any other etched plate. 1882 J. SOUTHWARD *Pract. Print.* (1884) 418 One of them pulls or works the [hand] press. 1900 *Pall Mall Mag.* Oct. 179 A few copies were pulled before the disaster occurred.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. li, He appointed them to pull at the Presses of his Printing-house, which he had set up. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. ¶ 7 He..turns down the Frisket and Tympan on the Form..and Pulls as before. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 365 His Companion that Pulls..casts his eye upon every single sheet.

15. *intr.* or *absol.* To pull an oar so as to move a boat; to row; to transport or convey oneself in a boat; to proceed by rowing.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 20 Come along, pull away, Boys. Now, my choice Lads. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 498 *Pull away*, an expression usual among English Seamen, when they are Rowing. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 230 They exerted their utmost strength in pulling out to sea. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 511 He ordered his men to pull for the beach. 1859 GREEN *Oxf. Stud.* i. (O. H. S.) 17 Familiar to Oxford men pulling lazily on a summer's noon to Godstow. 1907 GRIFFITH JOHN *Voice fr. China* xi. 222 We pulled out and anchored in mid-stream.

b. *trans.* To pull (an oar or sculls); hence, to row, to propel (a boat) by rowing; to transport or convey in a boat by rowing.

To pull one's weight, to row with effect in proportion to one's weight. *To pull stroke*: see STROKE *sb.*

1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 35 And oft on Sundays, scorning land,..I've pulled a girl, with blister'd hand, And bleeding heart, through Chelsea Reach! 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxi, You know old deaf Stapleton, whose wherry we have so often pulled up and down the river? 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xiv. 36 The next day we pulled the agent ashore. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxx, Lady Kew still pulls stroke oar in our boat. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i, The girl rowed, pulling a pair of sculls very easily. 1897 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 6/3 In boating phraseology, he 'pulled his weight'..; he was not a mere passenger.

c. Of a boat: (*a*) *intr.* with passive sense: To be pulled or rowed. (*b*) trans. *to pull* (*so many*) *oars*, to be fitted for, or be rowed with (so many) oars.

1804 in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1845) V. 496 She should be fitted so as to pull thirty-eight sweeps and two skulls. 1805 J. SMITH in *Naval Chron.* XV. 75 The other [boat], from pulling heavy, not being able to get up. 1829 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 127/1 She pulls six oars. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xiii, The boats pulled in shore.

16. *trans.* To arrest in the name of justice. Also, to make a raid on (a gambling house, etc.). *slang.* Cf. *pull up* (31 d).

1811 *Lex. Balatr.* s. v., To be pulled; to be arrested by a police officer. *c* 1811 in Farmer *Musa Pedestris* (1896) 77 He had twice been pull'd,..but got off by going to sea. 1871 *Figaro* 15 Apr. 5/2 The police 'pulled' every Keno establishment in the city. 'Pulling' is the slang for seizing the instruments, and arresting the players and proprietors. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* xxxiv, He pulled me, and I was fined two pounds by the beak.

17. *Racing.* To hold in or check (a horse), *esp.* so as to cause him to lose in a race. Also *absol.* In quot. 1906 *fig.* to check, keep back.

c 1800 S. CHIFNEY in H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* v. (1856) 84 The phrase at Newmarket is, that you should pull your horse to ease him in his running...He should be enticed to ease himself an inch at a time. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Good for N.* xxviii, If you were there [at the Derby], you'll agree with me that Belphegor was pulled. 1888 SIR C. RUSSELL in *Times* 26 June 4/4 If jockeys pulled horses in order to prevent them from winning. 1889 *Tablet* 6 July 11/2 Whether a jockey rides to win or has been bribed to pull. 1906 R. KIPLING in *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Oct. 16/1 My point is that the books were 'pulled' simply and solely because they were not sold to the 'Times' on terms which would have enabled the 'Times' to undersell the booksellers.

18. *Cricket.* To strike (a ball) from the off to the leg side; also *transf.* with the bowler as obj. So in *Golf*, to drive a ball widely to the left. Also *absol.* = DRAW *v.* 14.

1884 *Lillywhite's Cricket Ann.* 122 His tendency to pull lost him his wicket more than once. 1892 *Daily News* 17 June 3/7 In trying to pull a ball, he was easily caught at mid-on. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 June 6/2 At 119 Briggs was bowled in attempting to pull Martin. 1897 RANJITSINHJI *Cricket* 156 There are players who can pull with great effect. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Aug. 3/1 Errors of style which cause you to top, slice, or pull your strokes [at golf]. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Sept. 4/7 At the *fifth* Vardon pulled his second under a fence.

IV. Phrases. **19. a.** *To pull a face, faces*: to draw the countenance into a grimace, to distort the features: see FACE *sb.* 6 b; *to pull a* (*sanctimonious*, etc.) *face*, to put on an expression of the specified kind; *to pull a long face*: see LONG *a.*[1] 1 c.

1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pull-faces*, to distort the features. *a* 1845 HOOD *T. Trumpet* xxviii, Just suppose.. You see a great fellow a-pulling a face. — *Ode to Rae Wilson* iv, No solemn sanctimonious face I pull. 1855 THACKERAY *Rose & Ring* vi, The Lord Chancellor..pulled a very long face because the prince could not be got to study the Patlagonian laws. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* I. 162 Don't pull sucht a long face.

b. *To pull foot*, also *to pull it*, to run away, to take to one's heels; to run with all one's might. See FOOT *sb.* 29. *colloq.*

1804 FESSENDEN *Yankee Doodle* Poems 96 She flew straight out of sight As fast as she could pull it. 1818 [see FOOT *sb.* 29]. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xi. (1842) 251 The whole crew pulled foot as if Old Nick had held them in chase. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Pull feeat*, 'Thoo'l hae te pull feeat te owertak 'em.'

c. Other phrases mentioned under senses.

Pull caps, wigs: see sense 2; *p. a crow*, 5; *p. by the ear, the nose*, etc., 7 b; *p. a finch*, 6; *p. on one's head*, 8 b; *p. one's leg, p. the long bow*, 7 d; *p. in* or *to pieces*, 8 b; *p. a pigeon, a plover*, 6; *p. for prime*, 3; *p. the strings, the wires*, 7 e; *p. one's weight*, 15 b.

V. With adverbs.

20. Pull about. *trans.* To pull from side to side, this way and that way; *colloq.* to treat roughly, unceremoniously, or as a subject for arbitrary operations.

17.. *Cock Robin's Courtship*, In came the Cuckoo .. He caught hold of Jenny, and pulled her about. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Pulling-time*, the evening of the fair-day when the wenches are pulled about. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xviii. IV. 230 More than three years before, they had pulled him about and called him Hatchetface. 1865 W. WHITE *E. Eng.* II. 67 He's hevin' his place pull'd about. 1905 E. F. BENSON *Act in Backwater* xix. If there is one thing I dread, it is being pulled about by a professional man [i.e. a surgeon].

21. Pull apart, asunder. *trans.* To separate by pulling.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 100 And Pers, for puire teone pollede hit a-sonder. 1545 ELYOT *Dict., Distractio*, separacion, alienacion, or pullynge away, or a sunder. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Distrahere cohærentia*, to pull a sunder or seperate thyngs ioyned. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* v. (1813) 68 Either carefully pulled, or cut asunder with a sharp instrument; as the case may require.

22. Pull away. a. *trans.* To pluck or snatch away; to withdraw or remove by force.

† *Pull away the shoulder*, to turn away, turn a deaf ear.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 185 Þe grave i-pulled away, he spak to seint Cuthbert. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. vi. (1554) 104 Whan he gan away the mantel pul. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 152 Pulle euery blacke away that thou may fynde. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 290 The Azamoglans, tribute children,..are collected from among the Christians, from whom..they are pulled away yeerely perforce. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* vii. 11 They refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* ix. 187 If men..pull away the shoulder from you, and will not be concerned about your troubles.

b. *intr.* (Cf. 15 and AWAY 7.)

23. Pull back. a. See simple senses and BACK *adv.* **b.** *trans.* To draw or keep back (in space or in progress). **c.** To date further back. †**d.** To subtract. † **e.** To remove, withdraw.

1559 BP. SCOT in Strype *Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. vii. 12 Ther be two thinges that do..as it were, pull me backe from speaking. 1574 BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* xix. (1577) 51 You must pull backe so much from the poynt that the shippe hath sayled by, as the heygth of the pole doth shewe vnto you. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 298 Then must the beginning of Cyrus raigne be pulled back an 11. yeares. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 217 The cause must be pulled back by opening the Liver Vein. 1701 STANHOPE tr. *Augustine's Medit.* ii. 6 The wickedness of my own heart dismays and pulls me back. *Mod.* He caught cold on the way home, which has pulled him back considerably.

24. Pull down. a. See simple senses and DOWN *adv.*

[1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVI. 73, I prayed pieres to pulle

adown an apple.] 1530 PALSGR. 669/1 Pull hym downe out of the tre. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 554 That temporal punishment which the Corinthians pull'd down upon their heads. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xlvi, He should pull down the blind.

b. *trans.* To demolish, lay in ruins, destroy (a building).

1513 in G. P. SCROPE *Castle Combe* (1852) 291 *note*, Saynd hye wold polle don the tyllys of my hos. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 219 The house should be pulled downe. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Luke* xii. 18, I wil pul downe my barnes, and buylde greater. 1677 *Providence Rec.* (1895) VIII. 16 Such as haue set vp fences in ye Common..the Councell shall cause them to be pulled downe. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) III. 294 This Day they began to pull down the Printing House by the Theater. 1891 *Law Rep., Weekly Notes* 78/2 Desirous of pulling the house down and building a new one on its site.

c. To seize and bring to the ground; to overcome (a hunted animal).

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 76 P 1 The last Stag that was pull'd down. 1886 HAWLEY SMART *Outsider* i, You weren't within half a field of the fair unknown when they pulled the fox down.

d. To lower or depress, in health, spirits, size, strength, value, etc.; also, to 'bring low', to humble, humiliate. † *To pull down a side* = to pluck down a side: see PLUCK *v.* 3 b.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxv. vi, I did pull down my self, fasting for such. 1607 *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 53/2 They haue two tons of sassafras, which if thrown on the market.. will pull down the price for a long time. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* iv. ii, If I hold your card, I shall pull down the side, I am not good at the game. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 260 A fit of common sickness pulls thee down With greater ease. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 9 Mar. 600 Paper-money pulls down the value of gold. 1890 *Spectator* 23 Aug., To pull down the average.

e. To depose or dethrone (a sovereign) violently; to overthrow (a government) by force.

1828 MACAULAY *Ess., Hallam* (1872) 71 In such times a sovereign like Louis the Fifteenth..would have been pulled down before his misgovernment had lasted for a month. 1855 — *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 442 One at least of the Apostles appears to have lived to see four Emperors pulled down in little more than a year. *Ibid.* xviii. IV. 163 That the author..wished to pull down the existing government there could be little doubt.

25. Pull in. a. See simple senses and IN *adv.* *To pull in one's horns*: see HORN *sb.* 5 b.

† **b.** *trans.* To get into one's possession. *Obs., rare.*

1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* (1871) 2 Whate money pull they yn by probates of testamentes.

† **c.** To withdraw from use or view. *Obs.*

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 5 You say, pull in the Scriptures, for we will haue no knowledge of Christ. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* III. i, All my spirits..Pull in their powers, and give me up to destiny.

d. To rein in (one's horse); hence *fig.* Also *intr.* or *absol.* To check or bring oneself to a stop in any course.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. v. 42, I pull in Resolution, and begin To doubt th' Equiuocation of the Fiend. 1780 T. TWINING in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 78, I must pull in, or my letter will never end. 1792 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 9, I pull in pretty sharply, and slowly descend. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 11 Let us pull in a little, and take it quietly.

26. Pull off. a. See simple senses and OFF *adv.* *To pull off one's hat*, etc., to uncover the head in salutation or reverence.

c 1000 [see sense 1]. *c* 1450 *M. E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 92 Pul of þe croppes, and clippe hem wyþ a peyre sheris on smale peces. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 157 Thow plukkis the pultre, and scho pullis off the pennis. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 83 Pull off my bootes and spurres. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 82 Every man has not the good fortune..to pull off his hatt and make a leg with an air. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. iv. 57, I pulled off my clothes. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) I. 259 Carefully and slowly pull off the petals. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Seine* 42 They pulled off their hats to one another with great civility.

b. *Musketry. To pull off*, to pull the trigger so as to deflect the shot from its true aim.

c. *Sporting.* To win (a prize or contest); hence (*slang*) to secure (some benefit); to succeed in gaining or effecting (something).

1870 *Figaro* 9 Nov. 5/1 These sweepstakes, in which the commissioners are always to 'pull off' the money. 1883 MRS. E. KENNARD *Right Sort* v, Now and again..Jack Clinker managed to pull off some 'good thing' on the turf. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* 126 We haven't pulled it off this time, mother. 1902 ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 44 'I've got a fine thing for you, if you can pull it off!'

27. Pull on. a. See simple senses and ON *adv.*

† **b.** *trans.* To induce, promote, cause; *to pull on wine*, to provoke thirst. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* VI. vi, Age, pul'd on with paines, all freshness fretteth. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* G iij, To haue some shooing horne to pull on your wine, as a rasher of the coles, or a redde herring. 1609 TOURNEUR *Fun. Poem Sir F. Vere* 282 Punishments that justly pull On death. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 37 For a whetstone, to pull on a cup of wine, we have dryed Neats tongues. 1670 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* iv. iii, That crime thou knowest..Shall an unknown and greater crime pull on. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lx, Boots pulled on without stockings. 1894 DOYLE *Mem. S. Holmes* i. 7 He pulled on his large macintosh.

28. Pull out. a. See simple senses and OUT *adv.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1914 Yf þat tre war tite pulled oute..with al þe rotes aboute. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 938 He prekis in-to þe palais to pull out þe quene. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xiv. 5 Whiche of you shall haue an asse, or an oxe, fallen into a pitt, and will nott straight waye pull him out on the saboth daye? 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, iv. vii. 19 We are like to haue biting Statutes Vnlesse his teeth be pull'd out. 1642 J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 206 The Dogge..will presently flie in ones face, and bee ready if he can to pull out ones throat. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* 10 Mar. III. 133 He pull'd out a pen-knife & stabb'd Mr. Harley. 1742 P. FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Art Poetry* 626 He fell in on purpose, and..Will hardly thank you if you pull him out.

† **b.** *trans.* To draw the lining out through slashes in (a sleeve or garment) so as to display it. Const. *with*, usually in the pa. pple. See PULLER 2, PULLING *vbl. sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1553 in J. C. Jeaffreson *Middlesex County Rec.* (1886) I. 14 Unum par calligarum de panno laneo pulled oute with sarsenett. 1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 38 Undersleves of playne yellowe clothe of gowlde pulled oute under the armes with greene golde sarsenet. *a* 1603 *Q. Eliz. Wardr.* in *Leisure Ho.* (1884) 677/2 A pair of sleeves of gold, pulled out with lawn.

† **c.** To extend in length; to draw (a line). *rare.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xxxv. Lij, Pull out from the centre a right line to the like number of degrees.

d. *absol.* or *intr.* Of a locomotive engine or train: To move out of a station; to draw out; hence, of a person: To go away, take one's departure; cf. 9 e; to row out: see 15. Also, to withdraw from an undertaking, to 'get out'. Chiefly *U. S.*

1884 *Missouri Republican* 24 Feb. (Farmer *Amer.*), He knows that if he keeps his money in the..business..he will lose it all, and so he has pulled out. 1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* viii. 146 For a minute or two they stood looking at one another, and then Doc 'pulled out'. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 18 The train that was to take me on.. was nearly ready to 'pull out', as the phrase goes in America.

29. Pull through.

a. See simple senses and THROUGH *adv.*

b. *trans.* To get (a person) through a difficult, dangerous, or critical condition or situation; to bring (a thing) to a successful issue; to accomplish.

1856 READE *Never too late* li, Youth and a sound constitution began to pull him through. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* viii, 'We shall pull him through, please God', said the Doctor. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 16 Oct. 3/2 The work..is now in good hands, and will be pulled through.

c. *intr.* (? for *refl.*) To get through sickness, a trial, or an undertaking with effort or difficulty; to succeed in accomplishing or enduring something difficult or severe. Also with *through* prep.

1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxvii, Bless your heart,..I shall be all right. I shall pull through, my dear. 1856 READE *Never too late* xv, You pulled through it, and so will he. 1879 E. K. BATES *Egypt. Bonds* I. x. 233 She is very ill.. but she may pull through after all. 1885 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 June 2/3 He is likely to pull through and pay a hundred cents on a dollar. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* 172, I must pull through the business alone.

30. Pull together.

a. *trans.* See sense 8 and TOGETHER.

A rider is said to 'pull his horse together', when, by means of his legs and his reins, he makes it 'collect' or gather itself together.

b. *To pull oneself together*: to gather with an effort one's faculties or energies; to rouse or recover oneself; to rally.

1872 *Punch* 29 June 269/1 The process of pulling myself together and picking myself up. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xiii, I realized this in a moment, and pulled myself together with an effort. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. xcvi. 349 It [the Republic] can pull itself together in moments of danger.

c. *intr.* To act in unison; to work in harmony; to co-operate; also, to agree, 'get on' together.

1799 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 302/2 In the marine language of admiral Mitchel, they pulled heartily together. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* I. 133 Ye pulled together with one mind. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii, It was a ship's company which *pulled every way*, as the saying is, when there was nothing to demand union: but let..danger appear..then they all *pulled together*. 1884 SIR R. BAGGALLAY in *Law Times Rep.* 14 June 467/2 Where tenants for life and trustees did not pull together, sales could not in such cases be effected.

31. Pull up. a. See simple senses and UP *adv.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10858 And pull vp a port, let hom passe furthe. 1451 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* (E. E. T. S.) 13 Þat same nyth þei pulled up sail & stole þe schip from hir. 1488 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 268 To pulhope pylys that was dryuen downe with flodys. 1766 G. WILLIAMS *Let.* in *G. Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 42 After he has pulled up his stockings. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxvi. 264 One by one we pulled up the boats.

b. To drag out of the ground, or from where it is rooted or set, with the object of removal or destruction; to root out, demolish.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* i. 10, I haue set thee to dai vp..that thou pulle vp, and destroye, and springe abrod, and waste. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xx, Whanne the flaxe was growen and pulled vp. 1532 *Act 23 Hen. VIII*, c. 18 The said fishgarthes, piles, stakes,..and other engines.. to be auoyded, and pulled vp. 1668 *Plymouth Col. Rec.* (1857) VII. 143 Molesting him..in pulling vp his fence. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 112 The weeds themselves must be pulled up by the root. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* 348 The allusion is to pulling up the stakes of a tent.

† **c.** To lift up, raise with an effort. *To pull up one's head, pull oneself up*, to assume an erect attitude. Also, to pluck up, rouse up (one's heart, spirits, courage). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 219 With that he pulleth up his hed And made riht a glad visage. *a* 1400-50 *Alexander* 2074 Þan pullis him vp þe proude kyng. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 606 Into the churche when thou dost gon, Pulle uppe thy herte to Crist, anon. 1460 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1178 Up he pullede hys herte. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 161/2 Now they pull vp their spirits. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Joel* iii. 10 Let those that are weake and fearefull pull up their spirits. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Hist.* IV. vi. § 1 The people..pulled up their courage for a while.

d. To cause to stop; to stop; to arrest, to apprehend; *esp.* to apprehend and take before a magistrate; hence, to reprimand, reprove, rebuke.

1623 in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 392 A man, thinking nothing, pulled up his coach, and so made the horse start a little. 1800 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* IV. 254 A few evenings since I had pulled him up on Hounslow Heath. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Pull* or *pull up*, to accost; stop; apprehend; or take into custody; as to pull up a *Jack*, is to stop a post-chaise on the highway. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* I. 170 He was next day pulled up before the big wigs. 1836-9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Last Cab-driver*, [He] avowed his unalterable determination to 'pull up' the cabman in the morning. 1864 M. CREIGHTON *Let.* 24 Aug. in *Life & Lett.* (1904) I. i. 12 Fellows won't stand being pulled up for breaking one school rule, when they know you break another. 1884 J. HALL *Chr. Home* 119 It is difficult..before the company, to 'pull up' a boy, or to lecture a girl.

e. To tighten (reins) by drawing them towards oneself; to bring (a horse) to a standstill by doing this; also *transf.* to check (a person) in any course of action, esp. a bad course.

1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsemen* (1809) 35 Of course you drop the reins entirely on that side, and pull them up sharp, with both hands, on the other. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, Two horsemen pulled up their steeds beneath a wide oak. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* x. 295 Socrates is at once pulled up if he whispers. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 169 Well, I'll go slower; but pull me up if I forget to keep the brake on.

f. *absol.* Of a driver, etc.: To bring a horse or vehicle to a stop; also, of a horse or vehicle: To stop, come to a standstill.

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* lv, The coachman pulled up. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxii, He pulled up at an inn. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 314 [The horse] took fright, and galloped off..After he had gone about three-quarters of a mile, he pulled up, and one of the men was sent to secure him. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* x. 86 A carriage pulled up..close by the bridge.

g. *refl.* and *intr.* for *refl.* To check or stop oneself in any course of action.

1808 E. S. BARRETT *Miss-led General* 42 He pulled up now, surely?—No—played upon tick. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xliii, He pulled himself up short, in the fear lest he were going again to be false. 1883 LD. RANDOLPH CHURCHILL *Sp. Edinb.* 20 Dec., It is time, and high time, to pull up. Concede nothing more to Mr. Parnell.

h. *intr.* To advance one's position in a race or other contest.

1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 155/1 At forty yards Harding invariably led by a yard or more, but from this onward Cary pulled up, passing him at about sixty yards.

Pull-, the stem of PULL *v.* (or PULL *sb.*2) in comb.

1. With advbs., forming sbs. or adjs., as *pull-away, -in, -off, -out, -over, -through, -to, -up*, (*a*) *sb.* the act of pulling in the direction specified; (*b*) *adj.* that pulls or is pulled in the direction specified; also **pull-off** (of a gun) = PULL *sb.*2 2 d; **pull-out**, withdrawal from an undertaking or affair; **pull-through**: see quot. 1891; **pull-to**, (*a*) in *Weaving*, = *lay-cap* (see LAY *sb.*8 1 b); (*b*) see quot. 1899. Also PULL-BACK, -DOWN, -OVER, -UP, q.v.

1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* App. I. 446 Turning with an appealing look to the trader, he points out the bareness of the royal *pull-away boys. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 July 4/2 Then there is the *pull-in [of the fish], the flash of the brilliant bit of rainbow leaping its life out on the deck. 1859 *Musketry Instr.* 17 It is erroneous to suppose that by loosening the sear or any other pin an easier or lighter *pull off is obtained. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 23 Dec. 3/5 A fine copy of Charles Lamb's 'Beauty and the Beast';..enclosed in a specially-printed paper pull-off case, on which is printed the title-page. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 7/2 The Committee..were also agreed as to the drag pull-off recommended [for the rifle]. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* II. 139 Something good for the *pull out. 1881 *Daily News* 4 Aug. 5/2 First the box with a lid, then the cupboard with a door, then the perfected 'pull-out' drawer. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 3 Feb. 2/3 Orders have been issued that a '*pull-through' is always to be used in future, this consisting of a piece of stout gimp or similar material with which the tow or rag for clearing the barrel is pulled through from breech to muzzle. How long will this 'pull through' last on service? 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 533/2 Running a pull-through down the barrel of his rifle. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pull-to* (Weaving), the upper part of the lay, lathe, or batten, which is used to beat up the weft. Also called the lay-cap. 1899 H. C. HART in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 11 The weed is dragged in to the beach as it floats near with a pull-to, a very long-handled, two-pronged fork with bent or hooked tines.

2. With sbs.: used *attrib.* in sense 'used by, for, or in pulling', = PULLING *vbl. sb.* 5; as *pull-line, -rod, -trigger*; also **pull-bell**, a bell rung by a cord, as distinct from a handbell; **pull-boat**, a boat that is propelled by pulling a rope; **pull-cock**, a tap worked by pulling a handle or lever (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **pull-crow**, †**pul-**

crow *a.*, for pulling crows: cf. PULL *v.* 5; **pull-devil**, a bundle of fish-hooks fastened back to back, to be jerked through a shoal of fish (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **pull-drive, pull-stroke,** = PULL *sb.*[2] 2 f; **pull-iron,** (*a*) in a horse-drawn car, the iron tongue by which the swingletree is attached to the car; (*b*) in a railway car, a bolt or lug to which the chain of a draught horse may be attached (*Cent. Dict.*); **pull-piece,** a string or wire by which a clock may be made to strike at will; **pull-tail, pull-tow** (*dial.*): see quots.

1552 *Inv. Ch. Goods* (Surtees No. 97) 53 One litle *puyll bell. 1883 G. H. BOUGHTON in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 172/2 It is a treat to see a powerful young Dutchwoman handle a rope on a *pull-boat. 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Nov. 383/2 Like the hook-stroke and the 'pull-drive, it is well illustrated here. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 8 Jan. 7/3 He played for runs. Most famous of all his strokes was his pull-drive. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pull-iron*, the piece at the hind end of the tongue of a street-car by which it is attached to the car. 1878 M. BROWNE *Pract. Taxidermy* ii. 25 There are...two unattached cords of some strength, called the *pull line and the forked line, which latter is attached...to the two staves nearest the bird catcher at the intersection of the top line. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pull-piece* (*Horology*), the wire or string...by pulling which the clock is made to strike. 1903 *Motor. Ann.* 296 Look for stretch in the *pull-rods, and wear off the braking surfaces. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 25 Aug. 7/3 Trott was run out through running a doubtful one off a *pull stroke of his partner's that soared, only to be dropped by Blythe. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* xliii, She...reclined on a heap of *pull-tails—the refuse after the straight straw had been drawn—thrown up at the further side of the barn. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, **Pull-tow, pull-tow-knots*, the coarse and knotty parts of the tow, which are carefully pulled out and thrown aside, before it is fit to be spun into yarn. 1895 *Daily News* 17 July 2/1 The range officers began testing the *pull triggers for all who had made scores of 86 and upwards.

Pullable (pu·lăb'l), *a.* [f. PULL *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being pulled.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 26 Apr. 1/2 If he and his rivals were wooden crocks sent round by 'pullable' machinery.

‖ **Pu·llace, -ase.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. an erron. variant of PULLEY (perh. founded on the pl. *pulleis*, influenced by *windas, windlass*).] A pulley.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 107/2 *Pullases*, turning things on the top of the [weaving] Frame, by which with the help of the tradles the Spring-staves are raised up and down. *Ibid.* xviii. (Roxb.) 130/2 Drawing it [a battering ram] higher or letting it lower, by means of chaines and pullaces as it hung in it[s] carriage.

†Pullai·le, -ay·le. *Obs.* Forms: *α.* 4 polyle, 5 -aile, -ayl(e, -ayll(e, -eyl, 6 polell. *β.* 5 pullaylle, -aille, -aile, -ayle. [a. OF. *polaille* (13th c. in Godef.), *poulaille*, f. *poule* chicken, fowl (see PULL *sb.*[3]) + *-aille*, collective suffix:—L. *-ālia*: cf. Pr. *pollayllia*, It. *pollaglia*.] Poultry.

α. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 57 My polyle þat is penne-fed & partrykes bope. *c* 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 979 (MS. R.) The kyte, That me byreve wolde my polaile [*v.r.* pullaille]. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 158 The sleihty fox smal polayl doth oppresse. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xii. (Arb.) 29 How goo your eyen so after the poleyl? 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* I j b, The inwarde yelowe skynne of mawes of the polell.

β. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7045 With caleweys, or with pullaille, With coninges, or with fyn vitaille. 1481 BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) F iv, Grete habondaunce...of ..hennys capons and of othir pullaile. *a* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 17 The diverse kindes of pullayle, conyes, wild fowl & tame.

† Pullan, var. of POLAINE, a kind of sail-cloth.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 46 Item, for vj[m] j[c] xl fut of sarris pullan and plank to the said schip and xiiij pece of barrotis; ilk fut xij deneris.

Pullane, Sc. var. of POLAYN *Obs.*, knee-armour.

Pullao, variant of PILAU.

† Pulla·rian, *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *pullāri-us* (f. *pull-us* young animal, chicken: see PULL *sb.*[3]) + -AN.] Of or pertaining to chickens or fowls (in quot. the sacred chickens used for divination).

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 330 Papyrius Cursor oppugning Aquilonia, the pullarian auspicator.

Pullastrine (pulæ·strəin), *a. Ornith.* [f. Zool. L. *pullastræ*, pl. of L. *pullastra* young hen, pullet (f. *pullus*: see prec. and -ASTER) + -INE[1].] Of or pertaining to the *Pullastræ*, a group of gallinaceous birds, comprising the Curassows, Mound-builders, and Pigeons (Lilljeborg 1866).

As proposed by Sundevall, 1836, *Pullastræ* included the Curassows, Lyre-bird, Plantain-eaters, and Pigeons.

1875 COPE *Check-list N. Amer. Batrachia* 56 Struthious, Pullastrine, and Clamatorial Birds. 1887 — *Orig. Fittest* I. ii. 114 The Pullastrine birds are a generalized group.

So **Pulla·striform** *a.*, having the pullastrine form; resembling the *Pullastræ*.

1887 COPE *Orig. Fittest* I. ii. 122 Inferior in possessing.. Pullastriform and Struthious Birds.

† Pulla·tion. *Obs. rare*[−0]. [ad. L. *pullātio* hatching, f. *pull-us* young animal: see -ATION.]

1623 COCKERAM, *Pullation*, a hatching of chickins. So 1656 in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Pullayle, var. of PULLAILE *Obs.*

† Pullay·ly. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 polaly. [a. OF. *pollalie* (1418 in Godef.), var. of *poulaille*, PULLAILE.] Poultry.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pullayly, or pullay (*K.* pullery, *S.* pullayly, or pullayle), *altile, volatile.* 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 269 For purveying of..certain piggs and polaly.

Pu·ll-back. [f. phr. *to pull back*, PULL *v.* 23.] **1.** The action or an act of pulling back.

1668 DRYDEN *Evening's Love* Epil. 14 In the French stoop, and the pull-back o' the arm. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 146 An occasional wrench and pull-back of the arms gave him considerable pain. 1903 A. MACLAREN *Last Leaves* ii. 21 There is very little conscious check or pull-back when we contemplate doing them again.

2. That which pulls back; that which opposes progress or action; a retarding influence; a check; = BACK-SET *sb.* 1, DRAWBACK *sb.* 4. (Very common in 17th c.) Now *colloq.* and *dial.*

a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm. on* 1 *Cor. ix.* 24, Wks. 1867 II. 98 Let us not fear all or any of our adversaries or pull-backs. 1604 HIERON *Wks.* I. 541 There are so many delayes, and so many pul-backs. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 31 Dec., I fear when all is done I must be forced to maintain my father myself.. which will be a very great pull back to me in my fortune. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 21 Oct., Your disorders are a pull-back for your good qualities. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 354 Which (having expended much to relieve her) was a great Pull-back, as the good old Woman called it. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northants. Gloss.* s.v., 'He has had so many pull backs, he could not get on'.

3. A contrivance or attachment for pulling something back. **a.** See quot. 1703. **b.** A contrivance for pulling the fullness of a woman's skirt to the back, so as to make the front hang quite plain.

1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 100 Smiths in London ask'd me 6*d.* per Pound for Casements.., if they made them with Turn-bouts .. or Cock-spurs, and Pull-backs at the Hind-side to pull them to with. 1885 'TIC ROMA' *St. Peter & Cock* xvi. 210 She laid her scissors on the pull-back. 1890 *Standard* 10 Mar., As for the 'pull-back', it seems to be on the wane, not so much because it was a hindrance to progression, but because it did not suit more than a small minority of figures.

Pull-bell to **Pull-devil**: see PULL-.

Pull-doo (pu·ldū). *U. S.* The American coot.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Pull-doo*, a small black duck found in the bays and inlets of the Gulf of Mexico...The word is probably a corruption of *poule d'eau*, i.e. water-hen.

Pu·ll-dow·n. [f. phr. *pull down*, PULL *v.* 24.] **1.** The act of pulling down, or fact of being pulled down. In quots. *fig.*

1588 R. BROWNE *New Years Guift* (1903) 34 Yet all theis were the pulldowne of Antichrist. *a* 1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* 1 *Pet. v.* 5 P 5 Though he have many heart-breaks and pull-downs, and many times no countenance to shew it.

2. In the organ, A wire which pulls down a pallet or valve when the key is depressed, thus admitting wind to the pipe.

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 50 The lower part..lying outside the great sound-board, is called the pull-down. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* v. (1878) 39 The pull-down [is] a small piece of wire connected with the tracker by another hook; and which by pulling the pallet down, or open, admits the wind to the pipes. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 49 Holes made ..to accurately fit the pull-down wires.

Pull-drive: see PULL-. **Pulle,** obs. f. POLE *sb.*[1]

Pulled (puld), *ppl. a.* [f. PULL *v.* + -ED[1].]

1. Plucked (as feathers, fruit, flowers).

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 19 Bolsters and pillows made.. of scalded feders and drie pulled feders to gedre. 1903 KIPLING 5 *Nations* 40 To a couch of new-pulled hemlock.

2. Denuded of feathers, etc., as a bird; plucked; stripped of wool or hair, as a skin or hide.

Pulled fowl, fowl baked, then skinned and boned, and the flesh cut up and put into a rich white sauce.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 177 He yaf nat of that text a pulled hen. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 516 To suelly the in stede of a pullit hen. 1682 DRYDEN *Satyr* 190 So by old Plato man was once defin'd, Till a pull'd Cock that Notion under-min'd. 1897 *19th Cent.* Nov. 736 The other half is covered with pulled skins waiting to be taken into 'shop'.

3. Drawn; moved, extended, etc., by pulling.

Pulled bread, irregular pieces pulled from the inside of a newly baked loaf, which are put into the oven again, and re-baked till crisp. *Pulled elbow*: see quot. 1902.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 402 Toast or 'pulled' bread or biscuits often well replace bread. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. *Epit. Curr. Lit.* 58 The abnormal condition known as 'pulled elbow'..supposed to be due to subluxation of the head of the radius.

b. *Cricket* and *Golf.* See PULL *v.* 18.

1892 *Field* 7 Mar. 349/1 'Pulled' balls will invariably meet with punishment in some shape or form. 1897 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 387/1 Hoylake may exact a sterner punishment for a 'sliced' or 'pulled' ball.

4. (Also *pulled down.*) Reduced in health and strength, or depressed in spirits; 'dragged'; fagged. Cf. PULL *v.* 24 d.

1801 NELSON *Let.* 2 May (in *Sotheby's Catal.* 15 June (1897) 20), I am dreadfully pulled down. 1831 MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 224 Found him looking a good deal pulled. 1884 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* 334 His leg [is] now really fairly well, but he looks pulled.

Pullein, obs. form of POLLAN.

Pullen (pu·lĕn). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *α.* 4 pullan, 5 -layne, 6 -lain, -lyn, poullayne, 6–7 pulleyn, -e, -lein, -e, -lin, 7 -lyne, poulen, 8 *dial.* pulling, 6– pullen. *β.* 5 polayn, 6 -eyn, pol(l)ayne, polleine, -en. [Origin obscure; app. a. OF. *poulain, puleyn, polan* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) young of any animal (:—pop. L. *pullān-us, -um*, deriv. of *pullus* young animal), identified in Eng. with *poullaille*, PULLAILE, poultry.]

1. Poultry; barn-door or domestic fowls; the flesh of these as food. Also *attrib.*, as *pullen market.*

α. 1329 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) II. 102, xij pullan prec. 18*d.* *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 67, v. disson pullayn for Gely. xij. dd. to roste. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccciii. 701 Mylke, chese, pulleyn, and other thynges. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 177 Where pullen vse nightly to pearch in the yard. 1591 NASHE *Prognost.* 10 Hennes, Capons, Geese, and other pullin. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 220 To mingle hens or pullins dung especially with their meat. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Turkey*, They are cur'd in the same manner as Pullen is. 1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s. v., The Pullen market in Newcastle. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 150 I'm not a goin' to hev' my pullen and lambs run'd away wi'.

β. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* C ij b, Take whete..and fede hennys or chykynnes therwith, and fede yowre hawke with thessame polayn. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvi. 18 With right good chepe, as well of pollen, as of other vitailes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 146 Gyue thy poleyn meate in the mornynge. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) H iij b, Diuers vermine destroye corne, kill Polleine.

2. Chickens collectively; young; rarely, a chicken; *fig.* a child. (Cf. OF. *polle* girl.)

1631 *Celestina* Prol. A vij, Your craven Kites press upon our Pullen, insulting over them even in our own houses, and offring to take them even from under the hens wings. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. IV. iii. 73 Whatever they [Puffins] eat in the day, they disgorge a good part of it in the night into the mouths of their Pullen. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s. v., 'Thoo little uneasy pullen', you tiresome child.

Puller (pu·lər). [f. PULL *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which pulls, in various senses of PULL *v.*

1. One who plucks, draws, or drags (often with an adverb, as *puller down, on, out*); a plucker, a drawer; a gatherer or reaper; a rower.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* l. 6 My bodi I 3af to the smyteres, and my chekes to the pullers. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, III. iii. 157 Proud setter vp, and puller downe of Kings. 1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* v. i, I was but a pumper, that is, a puller-on of gentlemen's pumps. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xv We were really good pullers [of oars]. 1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. I. 174 The pullers walk in the furrows, between the ridges. 1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Stabbed in Dark* iv, It was a heavy climb, even with the pullers and pushers.

b. In specific and technical applications: see quots. (Often with prefixed word indicating the thing pulled, as in *fur-puller* (FUR *sb.*[1] 10), *pole-puller* (POLE *sb.*[1] 5 c), etc.)

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xxiv. P 15 Though the Puller Lays on Sheets, Lays down the Frisket, Lays down the Tympans and Frisket, Runs in the Carriage, [etc.], Picks the Form, Takes off the Sheet, and Lays it on the Heap, yet all these Operations are in the general mingled and lost in the name of Pulling. 1861 *Illustr. Times* 5 Oct. 221 To each gang of [hop-]pickers there is appointed a pole-puller. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 21 Aug. 7/1 Fur-pulling is hard and dirty work... At the best, the pullers can only earn 11*s.* or 12*s.* a week. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 258 A rotating trap which simply defies trickery on the part of the trap puller or his assistants. 1894 DOBSON *18th Cent. Vignettes* Ser. II. 198 He was his own puller, collater, sewer, forwarder, headbander, coverer, and finisher [in bookbinding]. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Sept. 10/6 Saw-mills.—Puller out for bench.

2. An instrument or machine for pulling: see quots.; in quot. 1542–3 **†***pullers out* = *pullings-out* (PULLING *vbl. sb.* 4).

1542–3 *Privy Purse Exp. P'cess Mary* (1831) 96 A payr of wrought Sleves, & pullers out for an Italian gowne wrought. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 425/2 The Volsella, or Puller, or Tweezers..is an Instrument..by which they take forth a peece of a bone which is corrupt and moueable. 1892 *Daily News* 28 June 5/3 The pullers are stated to be fixed at the end of the rows, in suchwise that each machine is pulling over 50 punkas.

3. A horse that pulls: see PULL *v.* 9 and 9 b.

1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 125 Mr. Wake rolled the thong of his whip round the stick, to be better able to encounter his puller. 1880 MISS BRADDON in *World* 14 Jan. 15 He's one of the best horses I ever rode, but a confounded puller. *Mod.* A capital draught-horse, a willing puller.

†4. *Puller on*: a provocative of thirst: see *pull on*, PULL *v.* 27 b. *Obs.*

1608 HEALEY *Discov. New World* 68 A seruice of shooing-hornes..of all sorts, salt-cakes, red-herrings, Anchoues, and Gammons of Bacon,..and aboundance of such pullers on. [1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Drink. Cust.*]

† Pu·llery. *Obs.* Forms: 5 **pulare,** 6 **pullery, -rye, -rie,** 7 **pullary.** [app. a. F. *poulerie* a place in which fowls are reared = POULTRY 2.] A place where fowls are reared; also, domestic fowls collectively; = POULTRY 2, 3.

1488 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 90/2, xviij pulare price of þe pece iij d. 1535 BP. GARDINER in *Chron. Calais* (Camden) 165 That such pullery and wylde-foule maye passe by Graveling as ye require. 1552 HULOET, Pultrye or pullerye feadynge at large, *pascilis, passalis. Ibid.*, Pullerye keper, *gallinarius.* 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (1593) 30 b, They..had in one night..all the whole progenie of their Pullerie taken away. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 59 Thou art afraid of kites for thy pullary.

Pullery, obs. form of PILLORY.

† Pulleson, var. PELISSON *Obs.*, a fur gown.

1689 in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 109, 3 halberts and one pulleson with several old..twilled coats.

Pullet (pu·lĕt). Forms: *pl.* 4–5 **poletes, polettes, -ys,** 5 **poullettis, pulettis,** 6 **pullettes**; *sing.* 5–6 **poullet,** 6 **poulet,** 6– **pullet** (7 **pullit**). [a. F. *poulet* young fowl, chicken, dim. of *poule*.

Cf. also F. *poulette* fem. young hen. The early instances, being pl., do not show whether the sing. was then *polet* or *polette*.]

1. A young (domestic) fowl, between the ages of chicken and mature fowl; but formerly often used more loosely; *spec.* and *techn.* a young hen from the time she begins to lay till the first moult, after which she is a full-grown hen or fowl.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 267 'I haue no peny', quod pers, 'Poletes [*v. rr.* pulettis, pultys; B. VI. 282 poletes; C. IX. 304 polettes] to bugge'. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Take Polettys y-rostyd, & hew hem. *c* 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 10 Goo into the pultrie, Bye poullettis, One poullet [Fr. *poulle*] & two chekens, But no capon Ne no cocke bringe not. 1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poullet, *poulet, poucin.* 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. (1586) 158 b, The yoong Pullets are better for laying then sitting. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Impr.* (1746) 161 A Law, that nothing but Chickens or young Pullits fed in the Camp should be brought to him at his Meals. 1680 WOOD *Life* 18 May (O.H.S.) II. 486 Haill-stones..as big as pullets' eggs. 1764 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xviii. (1766) I. 289 Chickens and pullets are extremely meagre. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 217 Pullets commence laying before sitting-hens, as they do not moult the first year.

fig. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Let. viii. (1535) 122 Ye that be auncyent teachynge vs, and we obedient, as olde fathers and yonge pullettes, beinge in the neste of the senate.

2. Name of a bivalve mollusc, *Tapes pullastra*, more fully *Pullet Carpet-shell*.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1901 E. STEP *Shell Life* 136 The Pullet Carpet-shell (*T. pullastra*)...The colouring is in some specimens very suggestive of the plumage of a speckled hen, [whence] probably..the mollusk has got the name of Pullet, which is locally applied to it on parts of the Devon coast. *Ibid.* 137 The Banded, the Pullet, and the Cross-cut are used in different parts..as human food.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pullet-broth*, † *sperm.*

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 32 *Bard.* With Egges, Sir? *Fal.* Simple of it selfe: Ile no Pullet-Sperme in my brewage. 1747 tr. *Astruc's Fevers* 176 He may use simple or emulsioned pullet-broth.

Pullet, error in Phillips, etc. for PALLET *sb.*[2] 2.

† **Pulletier.** *Rom. Antiq. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pouletier* poultry-keeper, poultry-dealer, f. *poulet* chicken.] The keeper of the sacred chickens observed for purposes of augury. Cf. PULLARIAN.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. 382 The principall pulletier chaunced to be stricken with a lavelin. 1601 — *Pliny* x. xxi. I. 279 They that by their *tripudium solistimum* (*i.* their heartie feeding) observed by the pullitiers, shew good successe.

Pulletrie, obs. form of POULTRY.

Pulley (pu·li), *sb.*[1] Forms: see below. [ME. a. OF. *polie* (*c* 1150 in Godef. *Compl.*), mod.F. *poulie* = Genevese dial. *polie*, Prov. *polieja*, It. *puleggia*, Sp. *polea*, Pg. *polè*; also med.L. *polea, polegia*, orig. a neuter pl. of med.L. *polegium* (Prov. *poulejo*, obs. It. *puleggio*):—Romanic type **polidium*, prob.:—Gr. **πολίδιον* little pivot or axis, dim. of *πόλος* POLE *sb.*[2] See G. Paris in *Romania* XXVII. 484. Cf. also MLG. *polleie, -eide, -eige, -ege, -eine*, a windlass, the wheel of a well (Lexer). The variant *polyve, polyff* may have been due to mistaken analogy with such words as *hastive*, HASTY, *jolif*, JOLLY, MASTIFF, *masty*, of which the two forms were used together in 14–15th c.

Others have suggested as the source Gr. **πωλίδιον*, dim. of *πῶλος* a colt; cf. OF. *poulain* a colt, also = PULLEY *sb.*[2], and *poulier* a pulley.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–5 **poley, poyle,** *pl.* **poliees, poylleyes; polye, pole,** 5–6 **polley, polie,** 6 **polly.**

1324 *Acc. Exch., K.R.* Bd. 165 No. 2 lf. 17 b, Pro vij Haussers et aliis cordis ad poleys. *Ibid.* 20 In ij Ruellis seu Poleyis ereis. 1481 Polley [see B. 1]. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 Poleis with Stroppes. *Ibid.* 37 Poles of iij sheves and colkes of brasse. 1495 *Ibid.* 201 Polyes. 1495 *Ibid.* 204 Poliees with iiij colkes of Brasse. 1497 *Ibid.* 247 Snachepoylleys & other smale poyles. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* vii. (1888) 49 Lyke vnto a Polly to drawe water with. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 116 b, To the top of the masts were fastned polies with cordes.

β. 4–5 **puly,** 5 **pulie,** *pl.* **-eis; pouley, pwlly,** 5–9 **pully,** 6 **poolly, poully, -ie, powley,** *pl.* **pulleis;** *Sc.* **pillie,** *pl.* **-eis;** 6–7 **pullie, -ye,** 6–8 **pooly,** 7 **pullee,** *pl.* **-eies;** 6– **pulley.**

1396 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 123 Et in ij trendelys.. et mangnum puly, 10*d.* 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxviii. 140 To euery ladder moost be ordeyned thre pouleyes. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* I. 358 For tua schyffis with xiij puleis. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 139 Some fyll the boket with a rope slydyng in a pooly. 1528–9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 347 Paide for a pully for the sacrament and for a roppe to the same. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Gij, In forme of a poully. 1545 *Aberdeen Regr.* XIX. (Jam.), Tua pilleis pertening to the wobteris craft. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., Their Compas, their Carde, their Pulleis, their Ankers, were founde by the skill of witty Geometers. 1568 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 130 To William, torner, for turnynge of the powleys. 1603 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 281 For lainge of a geaste and makinge of the pullee. 1603–4 in Swayne *Sarum Churchw. Acc.* (1896) 154 A Candlestake and pullye, 13*s.* 4*d.* 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* ix. (1634) 73 Pulleies and Cranes of all sorts. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Plover*, A Pooly or Cord to carry it. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 11 The pulley is the third mechanic power.

γ. 4–5 **polyve, -ive,** 6 **polyff.**

c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 176 Ther may no man out of the place it dryue For noon engyn of wyndas ne polyue [*v.rr.* poliue, palyue]. 1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 201 Item [paid] for iij. grete polyves, ij.s. ?*a* 1500 *Debate Carpenters Tools* 155 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* I. 84 Than be-spake the polyff, With gret stronge wordes and styffe.

B. Signification.

1. One of the simple mechanical powers, consisting of a grooved wheel mounted in a block, so that a cord or the like may pass over it; used for changing the direction of power, esp. for raising weights by pulling downward. Also, a combination of such wheels in a BLOCK (*sb.* 5), or system of blocks in a TACKLE, by means of which the power is increased. *Fixed pulley*, a pulley the block of which is fixed. *Frame pulley*, a pulley in which the wheels or sheaves are fixed in a frame.

1324 [see A. *α*]. *c* 1386 [see A. *γ*]. 1426–7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 465 Pro j puly pro feretro, xijd. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiii. (Arb.) 96 The welle where the two bokettys henge by one corde rennyng thurgh one polley. 1485–6 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 45 Sengle poleis with Colkes of brasse. 1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 240 Pulleyes for the Clowdes and curteynes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 42 They haue a Pully..wherwith they hoyse vp the Corne to the very Rafters of the house. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 170 A Basket which they let down by a Rope that runs in a Pully. 1839 G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 68 In the pulley, as in the lever, time is lost as power is gained.

† **b.** Used as an instrument of torture, or part of one. *Obs.*

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* II. iii. (1886) 18 The complaint of anie one man of credit is sufficient to bring a poore woman to the racke or pullie. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 15 A little pulley would have stretch't your wise and charitable frame higher it may be three inches further. *a* 1711 KEN *Blandina* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 520 Then on the Rack the Saint they stretch, Her Limbs with Screws and Pulleys retch.

2. A wheel or drum fixed on a shaft and turned by a belt or the like for the application or transmission of power; usually used so as to increase speed or power.

With specific prefix, as *brake-pulley* (a wheel acting as a brake), *driving-pulley*, etc.; also *cone-pulley* (CONE *sb.*[1] 15), *dead pulley* (DEAD *a.* 23), *differential pulley* (DIFFERENTIAL *a.* 4 b), *fast pulley, fast and loose pulleys* (FAST *a.* 11), *grip pulley* (GRIP *sb.*[1] 9), *guide pulley* (GUIDE *sb.* 13), *loose pulley* (LOOSE *a.* 9); also *conical pulley* = *cone-pulley*; *crowning pulley*, a pulley-wheel with convex rim, which tends to keep the belt in place by centrifugal force; *parting pulley, split pulley*, a pulley-wheel made in two parts for convenience in mounting.

1619 *Vestry Bks.* (Surtees) 174 P[d] for mendinge the pullies for the bell ropes, viij d. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 323/1 The Struck Wheel, or Pulley [of a Jack], that about which the Chain or Rope goes to turn the Broach about. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 50 They are apt to permit a slipping of the bands on the surface of the driving-drums or pulleys. 1873 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Factories* 67 The brake pulley must always be placed on the slack side of the belt, where the bottom pulley is the driver. 1884 W. S. B. MCLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 164 The driving belt is first taken round a fixed pulley, round a guide pulley, the driving pulley, and finally round another guide pulley. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Sept. 9/4 The cable cars..were stopped.. owing to a grip-pulley breaking at the..cable station.

3. *fig.* from senses 1 and 2.

1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* 109 The Cauuinist maist bauld of al vil afferme..that ve be certane pilleis, or ingeynis ar liftit vp to heauin be ane incomprehensibil maner. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 12 They are..pullies to draw on their..destenies. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 41 We must examine all the windings and Labyrinths of our whole Frame, and see, by what Pullies and Wheels all the operations of our Minds are performed. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Clubs* Wks. (Bohn) III. 93, I prize the mechanics of conversation. 'Tis pulley and lever and screw.

4. *Anat.* **a.** The grooved articulating surface of certain joints; a trochlea. **b.** A cartilaginous loop by which the direction of a tendon passing through it is changed.

5. *attrib.* and *Combinations*, as *pulley-block, -case, -chain, -cord, -rope, -shaft, -shell, -spoke, -stand, -twine, -wheel*; also **pulley-box,** (*a*) a broad pulley-wheel, a drum or cylinder; (*b*) in the draw-loom, a frame containing the pulleys for guiding the tail-cords (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **pulley-check,** a contrivance which prevents the return of the cord through the block; **pulley-clutch,** (*a*) a clasping device for attaching a pulley-block to an overhead rafter or the like (Knight); (*b*) a clutch by which a loose pulley is connected with the shaft (Funk); **pulley-drum,** the block or shell in which the sheave or sheaves are mounted; **pulley-frame:** see quot.: also called *gallows-frame*; **pulley-gauge,** a tide-gauge in which a cord, having a float at one end and a weight at the other, runs over a wheel connected with the pointer; **pulley-mortise** *sb.*, = *chase-mortise*: see CHASE *sb.*[3] 6 and MORTISE *sb.* 2; hence **pulley-mortised** *a.*; **pulley-piece, stile,** one of the vertical side-pieces of a window sash-frame, in which the pulleys are pivoted; **pulley-sheave** († *Sc.* **pillie-scheve**), the sheave or grooved roller over which a rope runs in a pulley-block; **pulley-stone:** see quot. 1859.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 311 To the *pulley block V is hung the counterpoise W. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. XXXI. 22 Wrought-Iron Pulley Block, with cast-brass or iron sheaves. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 364 Cords passing from this *pulley box..over guides,..communicate the motion..to the bobbins. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 293 The *pulley-case is moved in the slide. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 40 **Pulley-frames*, the gearing above a pit, upon which the pulleys are supported. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xi. 117 Our tide-register was on board the vessel, a simple *pulley-gauge, arranged with a wheel and index. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2019 The lower tier of timbers..are either notched to them, or are what is called **pulley mortised* into them. 1827 *Fowler Corr.* 577 (MS.) Oak sills and *pulley-pieces. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xiv. 192 A little Horse at the End of the *Pulley-Rope. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 51 In this way, the *pulley-shaft of the teagle would require too great a speed. 1566 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 169 (Jam.) Item, fyve *pillie schevis of braiss, ane of thame garnesit with irne. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 593 The face of the *pulley-stile of every sash-frame ought to project about three-eighths of an inch beyond the edge of the brick-work. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* i. § 2. 84 The curious fossils called, in Derbyshire, Screw, or *Pulley-stones. 1859 PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Pulley-stones*, a familiar term for the hollow casts or moulds of the joints and stems of encrinites. 1373 in Riley *Lond. Mem.* (1868) 369, 2 wyndyng poleys, 2 skeynes de *poletwyne. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 230 A *pully-wheel, fastened to the arbor or axis of the hand that points to the hour.

Pu·lley, *sb.*[2] [Alteration of PULEYN, a. F. *poulain*, in same sense (1280 in Godef.), transferred use of *poulain* colt; in form confused with PULLEY *sb.*[1] In the same way the Promp. Parv. explains *poleyne* as '*troclea*', a pulley, and Godef. VI. 347 erroneously explains OF. *poulain* as 'poulie', which is corrected in the Compl.] A kind of ladder used by brewers' draymen in lowering barrels into a cellar; also called a slide or skid, and in the north of England a gantry. Also *attrib.* as *pulley-rope.*

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. v. 26 It is a pully; by a pully-rope wine is let down into a cellar. 1901 *Law Jrnl. Rep.* LXX. *Chancery* 680/2 It was necessary to attach to the tailboard of the dray a slide, or what in the trade is called a pulley, down which the cask was slid.

Pu·lley, *v.* [f. PULLEY *sb.*[1]: cf. F. *poulier.*]

1. *trans.* To raise or hoist with or as with a pulley. Also *fig.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 41 His hairie tuft, or loue-locke he leaues on the top of his crowne, to be pulld vp, or pullied vp to heauen by. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 24 A mine of white stone..is between a white clay and chalk at first, but being pullied up, with the open air it receives a crusty kind of hardness. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 15 These of themselves are not sufficient to pully man up to eternal happiness.

2. To furnish or fit with a pulley; to use with or work by means of a pulley. Hence **Pulleyed** (pu·lid) *ppl. a.*

1767 JAGO *Edge-Hill* III. 526 Their heavy Sides th' inflated Bellows heave, Tugg'd by the pulley'd Line. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's End* 164 There is no..hydraulic contrivance nor pulleyed hoist to facilitate the ascent.

Pu·lleyless, *a.* [f. PULLEY *sb.*[1] + -LESS.] Without a pulley or pulleys.

1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk. Bk.* vii, Pulleyless windows and lockless doors.

Pulleyn, var. *polen* (see POLEN WAX), PULLEN[1].

Pulleyne (kind of cloth): see POLAINE *Obs.*

† **Pulley-piece**[1]. *Obs.* [*Pulley* here is app. a corruption of POLAYN.] = GENOUILLERE 1.

1611 COTGR., *Pompes*, armour, called Pullie-peeces, for the knees. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 166/1 Pullie peeces or Pulley-pies, Armour for the Knees.

Pulley-piece[2]: see PULLEY *sb.*[1] 5.

Pullicate (pu·likĕt). ? *Obs.* Also 8–9 **pulicat(e,** 9 *dial.* **pollicate.** [From *Pulicat*, name of a town on the Madras coast, in Tamil *pala Vêlkādu* 'old Velkādu'.] **a.** A coloured handkerchief, originally made at Pulicat. **b.** Later (from *c* 1785), A material made in imitation of these, woven from dyed yarn; also = *pullicate handkerchief*, a checked coloured handkerchief of this material. Also *attrib.*

a. [Cf. 1519 G. CORREA *Lendas da India* (1860) II. 567 Roupas pintadas e tecidas de côres que se fazem em Paleacate, que he costa de Choramandel. *Yule's transl.* Painted cloths and other coloured goods, such as are made in Paleacate, which is on the coast of Choromandel.] 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) XVIII. 704/2 *Pullicat*...The inhabitants are principally manufacturers and fishermen, who manufactured the handkerchiefs that took their name from this town.

b. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* XII. 114 Manufactured pulicates of a very superior colour or cotton pulicate handkerchiefs. 1808 *Useful Projects in Ann. Reg.* 131/2 For drying of dyed yarn and pullicates (a kind of coloured chequed cotton handkerchiefs) a higher temperature..is required. 1820 J. CLELAND *Rise & Progr. Glasgow* 95 The same year [1785] pullicate handkerchiefs were begun to be made. 1880 A. SOMERVILLE *Autobiog.* 59, I wrought all that day on his loom, finishing 16 napkins of a 10/100 pulicate. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 571 A pulicat or gingham weaver at St. Ninians.

Pulling (pu·liŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PULL *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of PULL *v.* in various senses.

1. Plucking, picking, gathering.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 24 Who 3af Jacob in to pulling awei [1388 rauyschyng], and Irael to wasteres? 1530 PALSGR. 259/1 Pullyng awaye, *abstraction.* 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 84 With often digging, and pulling of the leaues. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 57 The

best time for pulling of pease is in wette weather. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* i. (1868) 78 Holding his way in spite of pullings at his cloak and whisperings in his ear. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 261 It grows naturally in tufts or clumps, and is gathered by pulling. 1875 JAS. GRANT *One of the* 600 ii, I fear there will be a great pulling of caps among the housemaids [see PULL *v.* 2 a].

2. Stripping of feathers, wool, etc.; plucking; the freeing of furs from long coarse hairs (in full *fur-pulling*: see FUR *sb.*[1] 10).

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pullynge, or plukkynge of fowle, *deplumacio*. 1578–9 *Proclam. Q. Eliz.* 18 Feb., The inordinate pulling of marchantable woull fels. 1796 W. MARSHALL *W. England* II. 183 The whole [geese] are subjected to the operation of 'pulling'. 1897 *19th Cent.* Nov. 740 After the pulling (that is the removal of the longer and coarser hairs) the skins are again dried.

3. Drawing with force or effort.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pullynge, or drawynge, *traccio, tractus*. 1562 in *Shropsh. Parish Docts.* (1903) 61 For polyng downe of the rode loft iiij[s]. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* ii. 38 What forced pullings and drawings to make proper terms to stretch for the covering and palliating unproper actions. 1676 TOWERSON *Decalogue* 374 The pulling of death upon us with our own hands. *a* 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. v. 139 He would make the rigours of the sabbath give way to the pulling of an ox or a sheep out of the ditch.

b. In various specific and technical uses: see quots., and senses of PULL *v.*

1676 MOXON *Print Lett.* 2 The pulling off at the Press. 1869 BLAKE-HUMFREY *Eton Boating Bk.* (1875) 54 *note*, Silver Oars and Steerage [were given] to the winners of the Pulling. 1894 STEAD *If Christ came to Chicago* 371 The present system of arbitrary pulling is simply a regulation system under the mask of arbitrary arrest. 1899 W. G. GRACE in *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Aug. 2/1 They should be severely reprimanded if they show any tendency towards pulling [in cricket].

c. *Racing.* The dishonest checking of a horse.

1861 *Times* 31 Dec., The public 'pulling' of horses is too dangerous a precedent to be frequently resorted to. 1888 *Daily News* 30 June 5/1 He strenuously denied every allegation of pulling.

d. Of a horse: see PULL *v.* 9 b.

1907 *Cavalry Training* (*War Office*) iii. § 84 The usual causes of pulling are:—Excitability, Pain, Fear, Freshness and want of work, Hard mouth, Bad breaking.

4. That which is produced by pulling: see quots. † *Pullings-out*, rich linings drawn out for display, esp. through slashes in the sleeves of a garment: see PULL *v.*[1] 28 b (*obs.*).

1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 23 After that agayne translated into lyninge pullinges oute. 1564 in Fairholt *Costume* Gloss. s.v., Two pullingsowte of blake cipers wrought with Venice gold. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Poolins*, the fat which is stripped or pooled off the intestines of a slaughtered animal. 1863 BRIERLEY *Chron. Waverlow, Trevor Hall* iii. 50 Like a pokeful o' pooins ut they couldno' get a single eend eawt on.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pulling-hook, -rope*; 'moved by oars, rowing-', as *pulling launch, pinnace*; also † **pulling clock**, a clock with weights pulling on a barrel; **pulling-jack**, a jack which acts by contraction instead of expansion; **pulling-knife**, a fleshing-knife (FLESHING *vbl. sb.* 7); **pulling-trees** (*dial.*): see quot.

1733 BUDGELL *Bee* I. 37, I do give and devise to Mr. John Mills..my *Pulling Clock in my Bed Chamber. 1573 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 36 A *pulling hooke handsome, for bushes and broome. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 752 The poles [are] drawn up by a tool for the purpose, which is termed a dog or pulling-hook. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pulling-jack*, a hydraulic device for lifting or pulling heavy weights. 1894 *Times* 7 July 7/5 The gun was afterwards put on board an ordinary *pulling pinnace. 1895 KIPLING in *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct., She took the *pulling-rope, and stepped out boldly at the boy's side. 1895 *E. Anglian Gloss.*, **Pulling-trees*, the part [of a plough] to which the horses are attached.

Pu·lling, *ppl. a.* [See -ING 2.] That pulls.

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Familie* i, What do these loud complaints and pulling fears? 1894 DOYLE *Mem. S. Holmes* 29 Sometimes it is a pulling jockey. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 6/3 The brew served by the handle-pulling damsel.

† **Pullion,** obs. form of PILLION [1], a saddle, etc., and of BULLION [4], trunk-hose.

1526 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 13 To Elizabeth my doghtour my pullion of wolsted. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 24 He wore a pair of pullion breeches.

Pull-iron, -line: see PULL-.

Pullisch, -ish, etc., obs. forms of POLISH *v.*

Pu·llisee-, -shee. *Sc.* Also **pilly-shee.** [Either var. of *pulley-sheave* (PULLEY *sb.* 5), or the pl. *pullisees* may be for *pullases*, from PULLACE, -ASE.] A pulley.

1728 RAMSAY *To Starrat* 19 Pullisees Can lift on highest roofs the greatest trees. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xix, Having fastened a kinch of ropes beneath her oxters, I let her slide down..by way of a pilly-shee.

Pullman (pu·lmăn). [From the name of the designer, George M. Pullman of Chicago.] In full, *Pullman car* (*saloon*): a railway carriage constructed and arranged as a saloon, and (usually) with special arrangements for use as a sleeping-car.

1874 Miss KINGSLEY in *C. Kingsley's Life & Lett.* (1879) II. 319 On the 15th we left Omaha in the magnificent Pullman car which was our home for the next fortnight. 1875 *Midld. Railw. Co.'s Time Tables* April, On and after April 1 trains of the celebrated American Pullman Drawing Room and Sleeping Cars will be run between London (St. Pancras) and Liverpool (Central) station. 1876 *World* V. No. 112. 14 One may ask whether the Great Western might not be expected to have a Pullman attached. 1877 *Daily News* 21 Nov. 5/6, I was as glad to hire it as though I had obtained a Pullman saloon. 1878 F. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railway* 673. 1894 *Daily News* 5 Oct. 4/5 The locomotives, tenders, and all the front part of the train up to the Pullman were wrecked.

b. *attrib.*

1885 S. BAXTER in *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 698/2 The traveller ..goes to sleep in his Pullman berth. 1893 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* 54 The Pullman porter shouts to her to look out. 1896 in *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Nov. 2/3 The first Pullman trains were run in this country in 1875...I saw in the summer of that year the very first Pullman train running South through the Trent Valley.

Hence **Pu·llmanize, Pullman-car** *vbs., intr.* to travel in a Pullman car. *nonce-wds.*

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 271 After three or four days' Pullmanising. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 9 May 6/1 Caravanning ..finds its parallel in America in Pullman-carring.

† **Pullock,** obs. var. POLLACK, a fish.

1823 T. BOND *E. & W. Looe* 124 Young pullock and conger eels are taken with a rod and line.

Pullock, var. PUT-LOG. **Pullony,** obs. f. POLONY [2] (sausage). **Pullorie,** obs. f. PILLORY.

† **Pu·llous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *pullus* dark-coloured + -OUS.] Of a dark colour; blackish.

1698 B. ALLEN in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 377 The Body is of a Pullous Colour.

Pu·ll-over. [f. phr. *to pull over*: see PULL *v.*]

1. The action or an act of pulling over or from side to side; also *attrib.* or as *adj.* having the function of pulling over.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Jan. 6/1 The overhead line is on one side of the street only, there are no cross or pull-over wires.

2. A gap in the coast sand-hills where vehicles can be pulled over to the beach; a cart-road over a sea-bank. *local* (Eastern counties).

1883 *Lincoln Chron.* 16 Mar., The sea swept over the pull-over at Sutton. *c* 1900 E. P[EACOCK] in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s. v., There is a broad, but very heavy pull-over opposite the New Inn and Vine Hotels at Skegness.

3. *Hat-making.* A silk or felt cover or nap drawn over a hat body; also, a hat so made.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

Pullow, obs. variant of PILAU.

Pull-piece, -rod: see PULL-.

Pulls (pulz), *sb. pl.*[1] *n. dial.* [app. = MDu., MFlem. *pôle, peule, puele, pole*, Du. *peul* husk, shell, pod.] The chaff or husks of rapeseed, pulse, or grain.

1788 W. MARSHALL *Yorksh.* II. 40 The seed is cured..in the chaff or pods—provincially, 'pulls'. *Ibid.* Gloss., *Pulls*, the shells or chaff of rape and other pulse. 1877 *Holderness Gloss., Pulls*, the husks of oats.

Pulls, *sb. pl.*[2] [f. PULL *v.*] Short straw which falls out when the straight straw is drawn; also called *pull-tails*: see PULL- 2; also, heads of corn broken off from the stalks in threshing.

1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. 1. 268 The straw here weighed..does not include the short and broken, which goes away in what is technically termed 'falls' or pulls. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss., Pulls*, most usually applied to the heads of corn dispersed on a barn-floor, after thrashing.

Pull-stroke to **Pull-trigger:** see PULL-.

Pullulant (pv·liŭlănt), *a.* [ad. L. *pullulānt-em*, pr. pple. of *pullulāre*: see next.] Budding.

1889 *Scots Observer* 4 Jan., Certain pullulant *ébauches* of definition. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 8 Aug. 3/1 Where we find a pullulant world of new ambitions and brilliant promises.

Pullulate (pv·liŭlĕ[1]t), *v.* Also 7 -at. [f. L. *pullulāt-*, ppl. stem of *pullulāre* to sprout out, spring forth, spread, grow, increase, f. *pullul-us*, dim. of *pullus* young of any animal, chick.]

1. *intr.* **a.** Of a growing part, shoot, or bud: To come forth, sprout out, bud.

1619 H. HUTTON *Follies Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 50 Yet they, more urgent, whiles he would conceale, Like Hydra's heads did pullulate, renew. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 253 Beneath the bark of a tree they pullulate into branches. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 723 Others whose pinions are but just beginning to pullulate. 1872 T. HINCKS in *Pop. Sci. Rev.* XI. 339 The sexual buds of the zoophyte..sometimes ..pullulate from a portion of the common substance.

b. Of a seed: To sprout, to germinate. Of a plant or animal: To send out shoots or buds, to propagate itself by budding; to breed, to multiply: now usually with the connotation of rapid increase.

1621 T. GRANGER *Exp. Eccles.* vii. 12. 175 The swellings and diseases of the body, whose root remaineth still within, and pullulateth againe after the same, or some other manner. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi* Κοινή xi. 130 Seed doth not pullulate but after some little time. 1891 DU MAURIER *P. Ibbetson* 14 Those rampant, many-footed things that pullulate in damp and darkness under big flat stones.

c. *Path.* To put forth morbid growths.

1775 NOURSE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 438 The surface of the intestines..began to pullulate, throwing up small grains of fluid from every point.

2. *intr. transf.* and *fig.* **a.** To be developed or produced as offspring, to spring up abundantly.

1657 FITZ-BRIAN *Gd. Old Cause dress'd in prim. Lustre* (1659) 6 Superstition..would in time have pullulated, and budded forth afresh. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) I. 89 [They] may..see good spring up and pullulate from evil, as naturally as chickens do from eggs. 1890 *Times* 6 Oct., One of those lower forms of Christianity which pullulate so freely in the religious soil of the United States.

b. *intr.* To teem, to swarm.

1835 SOUTHEY *Doctor* xc. III. 153 The Egyptian mind seems always to have pullulated with superstition. 1883 W. H. RUSSELL in *19th Cent.* Sept. 490 As to the beggars, they pullulate in the place.

Hence **Pu·llulating** *ppl. a.*, budding, sprouting.

1738 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. vi. I. 277 Religious liberty which would have stifled this pullulating Evil in the Seed. 1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) I. 384 In our own evil days of rankly pullulating heresy and blasphemy. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 183 In the fresh pullulating grains of the glume.

Pullulation (pvliulē[1]·ʃən). [n. of action from PULLULATE *v.*: see -ATION.] The action of pullulating; sprouting, germination; generation, production. Also, the product of this; offspring, progeny.

1641 R. BROOKE *Eng. Episc.* II. vi. 87 Some of these Tenets ..have beene the base pullulations of spirits enslaved to false ends. 1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 29 The Generations or Pullulations of the Heavenly and Earthly Nature. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* III. ii. 257 In some places..especially between the Tropicks, such a Pullulation of Men and Beasts may be supposed to be. 1890 E. JOHNSON *Rise Christendom* 123 Virtues then fructify; in their pullulation, purity of heart is acquired.

b. *spec.* in *Biol.* Generation or reproduction by budding; in *Path.*: see quot. 1897.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 22 Granulating pullulations..consist of exudations of coagulating lymph from the vessels. 1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* xiv. 23 The formation of a new cell by pullulation from the walls. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pullulation*, budding, or sprouting. Also, a morbid growth or sprouting of tissue.

Pull-up. [f. vbl. phr. *to pull up*: see PULL *v.* 31 e.]

1. The act of pulling up a horse or vehicle; a sudden stop; hence *fig.*

1854 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xviii, All his business plans had received a check, a sudden pull-up. 1883 FR. M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxxiv, Next they heard wheels, and the pull up at the door.

2. A place for pulling up; a stopping-place for riders or drivers. Also *attrib.*

1887 *Advertisement*, This inn affords one of the most tempting positions for a pull-up house on the road. 1899 *Daily News* 27 May 4/1 A humble little coffee-shop, which is a good pull-up for carmen. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 30 Apr. 8/1 A favourite 'pull up' for cyclists.

Pully-hauly (pu·li,hŏ·li), *a.* and *sb. colloq.* Also **pulley-, -hawl(e)y, pull'e-haul'e.** [f. PULL *v.* + HAUL *v.* + -Y.] **a.** *adj.* Consisting of, or characterized by, pulling and hauling. **b.** *sb.* The action or work of pulling and hauling.

a. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 192 It was a complete pully hawly contest on the part of Martin. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northants. Gloss.* s. v., 'I hate such pully-hawly-waik'.

b. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* s. v., To have a game at pully hawly, to romp with women. 1877 *Q. Rev.* CXLII. 69 The ropes with which the old Norsemen played their favourite game of pully-hauly against one another. 1906 *Temple Bar Mag.* Jan. 57 There is the halliard-chanty, sung when the topsail or topgallant yards are being hoisted by pully-hauly or strength of arm.

Hence **Pully-hau·l** *v.*, to pull or haul with all one's strength; **Pu·lly-hau·ling** *vbl. sb.* (in quot. 1872 applied to unskilful bell-ringing).

1872 ELLACOMBE *Ch. Bells Devon*, etc. iii. 225 Hence it is, by way of ridicule, called 'Pully hauling'. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 30 Nov., Then commenced such a scrimmage for the mastery, such a pully-hauling and kicking of shins, as was remembered for months after. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss., Pully-haal*, to pull by main force. 1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. African Sk.* iii. 79 When the boys are pully-hauling [a tree] down the slope.

Pullyn(e, obs. form of PULLEN [1].

Pullysh(e, -ysshe, obs. forms of POLISH *v.*

† **Pulme.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pulmo.*] The lungs.

1553 UDALL tr. *Geminus' Anat.* A vj/1 Here foloweth of the Pulme, called of some, the Lightes and Lounges. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xviii. 27 Men say that it [Veronica] will heale all vlcers, inflammations and harmes of the Pulme or Lunges.

† **Pu·lment.** *Obs.* Also 4 **polment.** [ad. L. *pulment-um* sauce, condiment; food generally.]

1. Pottage.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 190 Esau fro felde cam, Saȝ ðis pulment, hunger him nam. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 628 At þis ilke poynte sum polment to make. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 45/1 [She] delyueryd to hym brede and the pulmente that she had boyled. 1514 BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondyshm.* 3 Sterynge the pulment Of peese or frument, a noble meete for lent.

2. A poultice or the like.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 256/1 Take pulverisatede Chalcke, put therto Vineger, and make therof a pulmente, spreade it on a cloth and apply it theron. *Ibid.* 256/2 Boyle Oatenmeale in Vineger, till that resemble a thicke pulmente, or pappe, and applye this thereon.

† **Pulmenta·rious,** *a. Obs. rare*—[o]. [f. L. *pulmentāri-s* of the nature of a relish + -OUS.]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Pulmentarious*, of or belonging to, or made with, Pottage or Gruel.

Pulmo- (pv·lmo), shortened from PULMONI-, combining form of L. *pulmo, pulmōn-em* lung; occurring in various terms of zoology, anatomy, etc., as ‖ **Pulmobranchiæ** (-bræ·ŋki,ī) *sb. pl.*, lung-sacs: see quots.; hence **Pulmobra·nchial, Pulmobra·nchiate** *adjs.*, having, or breathing by means of, pulmobranchiæ. **Pulmo-ca·rdiac** *a.* [CARDIAC], pertaining to the (left) lung and heart (see quot.). **Pulmo-cuta·neous** *a.* [CUTANEOUS], pertaining to

or supplying the lungs and skin: applied to two main arterial trunks in the frog, from each of which arises a pulmonary and a cutaneous artery. **Pulmo-ga·stric** *a.*, pertaining to the (left) lung and stomach (see quot.). **Pulmoga·steropod, -ga·stropod,** *a.* belonging to the *Pulmogastero·poda*, the pulmonate or air-breathing gastropods; *sb.* one of these. **Pu·lmograde** [after PLANTIGRADE, etc.], *a.* belonging to the *Pulmo·grada*, a synonym of *Discophora* or jelly-fishes, so called from their swimming by alternate expansion and contraction of the body, resembling that of the lungs in breathing; *sb.* a pulmograde hydrozoon, a jelly-fish. **Pulmo-hepa·tic** *a.* [HEPATIC], pertaining to the lung and liver (see quot.). **Pulmo·meter** [-METER], an instrument for measuring the capacity of the lungs, a spirometer; so **Pulmo·metry,** measurement of the capacity of the lungs, spirometry. **Pulmo-tra·cheate** *a.*, breathing by means of lung-sacs (or lung-books) as well as tracheal tubes, as the majority of spiders.

1875 CAMBRIDGE in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 272/2 Arachnids breathe by..**pulmo-branchiæ*, said to be a compound of the gill of fish and the lung of mammals. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pulmo-branchiæ*, the modified gills of certain animals (Arachnids, air-breathing Mollusca) adapted for air-breathing. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, **Pulmobranchial.* 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pulmo-branchial.* [1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 119 **Pulmobranchiata*, M. de Blainville's name for his first order of his second subclass of his *Malacozoa*.] 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 403 All the *pulmobranchiate Gasteropoda are not terrestrial; our fresh waters abound with various species that respire air by a similar contrivance. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pulmo-cardiac region*, portion of thorax where the heart is covered by a thin layer of lung. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert. Anim.* iv. 185 The hindermost, or *pulmo-cutaneous, passage ends in the pulmonary and the cutaneous arteries. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 176 The apparently simple branches into which the *truncus arteriosus* divides, are, in fact, each made up of three separate trunks, the pulmo-cutaneous trunk behind, the aortic arch in the middle and the carotid trunk in front. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pulmo-gastric region*, region of thorax where an edge of the left lung lies over the stomach and spleen. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., **Pulmogrades* .. the name of a tribe of Acalephans. 1843 OWEN *Comp. Anat., Invert.* 106. 1848 E. FORBES *Naked-eyed Medusæ* 75 The affinities of the Pulmograde Acalephæ. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **Pulmo-hepatic region*, region of thorax where an edge of lung covers the liver. 1814 E. KENTISH (*title*) An account of Bathe .. with the Description of a *Pulmometer, and Cases showing its utility in ascertaining the state of the Lungs in Diseases of the Chest. 1870 S. GEE *Auscult. & Percuss.* I. ii. (1893) 35 Instruments which have been invented for registering the respiratory movements and powers:..spirometers, pulmometers, pneumatometers, anapnographs. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v. *Spirometer*, This mode of measurement has been called Spirometry, as it was formerly called *Pulmometry.

Pulmonad (pv·lmŏnæd), *adv. Anat.* [f. L. *pulmo, pulmōn-* lung + *-ad* as in DEXTRAD.] Towards or to the lungs.

1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 232 That which from the system carries the sanguineous fluid pulmonad, or towards the lungs; and that which from the lungs carries it systemad, or towards the system.

Pulmonal (pv·lmŏnăl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *pulmōnāl-is* (irreg. for *pulmōnāris*), f. *pulmo, pulmōn-em* lung: see- AL.] = PULMONARY *a.*

1856-8 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 571 Respiration in some tracheal, in others pulmonal. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 149 The lung has no pulmonal artery.

Pulmonar (pv·lmŏnăr), *a.* [f. L. type **pulmōnār-is*, f. *pulmo, -mōnem* lung: see -AR.] Having lungs or analogous organs; pulmonate; *spec.* belonging to the arachnid order *Pulmonaria*.

‖ **Pulmonaria** (pvlmonē·riă). *Bot.* [med.L. fem. (sc. *herba*) of L. *pulmōnāri-us* beneficial to the lungs, f. *pulmo, pulmōn-em* lung; so called from its assumed virtue in curing disease of the lungs, as supposed to be indicated by the spotted leaves resembling the lungs.] A genus of boraginaceous plants; lungwort.

The British species is *P. officinalis*, Bugloss Cowslip.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxv. 125 This herb is called of the Apothecaries .. *Pulmonaria* and *Pulmonalis*, in Latine *Pulmonis herba*, that is to say Lungewurt, or the herbe for the lunges. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v., The common spotted pulmonaria, or..sage of Jerusalem, is esteemed an excellent medicine in many of the disorders of the lungs. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xvi. (1794) 178 Gromwell, Pulmonaria, Cerinthe, and Viper's Bugloss, have the tube of the corolla naked. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 173/2 The Pulmonarias are amongst our most interesting spring flowers.

†Pulmona·rious, *a. Obs. rare*—0. [f. as prec. + -OUS.] (See quot.)

1658 PHILLIPS, *Pulmonarious*, diseased in the Lungs.

‖ **Pulmonarium** (pvlmonē·riŭm). *Entom.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., neut. of L. *pulmōnārius*: see prec.] A membrane separating the ventral and dorsal parts of the abdomen in some insects, and containing the spiracles or respiratory openings.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxvi. 713 If you examine the abdomen of the mole-cricket.., you will easily discover the true spiracles in the folds of the *pulmonarium*, which separates the back of that part from the belly.

Pulmonary (pv·lmŏnări), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *pulmōnāri-us*, f. *pulmo, pulmōn-em* lung: see -ARY [1]. Cf. F. *pulmonaire*.]

1. Of, pertaining to, situated in, or connected with the lungs. (Chiefly *Anat.*)

Pulmonary artery, the main artery, or each of its two branches (right and left), which conveys the blood from the heart to the lungs for aeration. *P. circulation*, the course of the blood from the heart to the lungs and back to the heart, as distinguished from the general or *systemic* circulation. *P. valves*, a name for the three semilunar valves at the entrance of the pulmonary artery. *P. veins*, the veins which convey the aerated blood from the lungs to the heart.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pulmonary Vessels*, are those which carry the Blood from the Heart to the Lungs, and back again,..the Pulmonary Vein, and the Pulmonary Artery. 1779 *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 351 A larger animal imparts a greater quantity of its pulmonary air to the inflammable air. 1826 GOOD *Bk. Nat.* (1834) I. 306 The blood is first received into the heart on the pulmonary side. 1848 QUAIN *Anat.* (ed. 5) 1149 Each bronchial tube..enters a distinct pulmonary lobule, within which it undergoes still further division, and at last ends in the small cellular recesses named the air cells or pulmonary cells.

b. Constituting a lung or lung-like organ; of the nature of a lung. *Pulmonary pouch, sac*, a lung-sac.

1834 *Penny Cycl.* II. 232/1 The external apertures of these, termed spiracles,..are transverse chinks, corresponding in number with the pulmonary pouches [in *Arachnida*]. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 13 Respiration of air by pulmonary sacs is neither universal in man's sub-kingdom, nor unknown out of it.

c. Carried on by means of lungs.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxviii. 50 Yet their [birds'] respiration is perfectly pulmonary. 1869 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Rept. & Birds* Introd. 5 To be succeeded by pulmonary respiration.

2. Occurring in or affecting the lungs (chiefly *Path.*); of or pertaining to disease of the lungs.

1727-41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Pulmonary consumption, or consumption of the lungs. 1793 BEDDOES *Consumption* 139 Giving the pulmonary ulcers an opportunity to heal. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 364 In some pulmonary complaints, the respiration of air slightly tainted by the admixture of chlorine has been resorted to as a stimulant. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* I. 17 The dusky or livid hue of some cardiac and pulmonary diseases.

b. Affected with or subject to lung-disease, esp. consumption; consumptive. Also *transf.* Of the quality associated with the consumptive.

1843 THACKERAY *Jérôme Paturot*, Fond of inventing such suffering angels..pale, pious, pulmonary, crossed in love, of course. 1862 — *Philip* ii, If you want a pulmonary romance, the present won't suit you. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 281 Inclined to regard the voyage..as unsuitable to the pulmonary invalid.

3. *Zool.* Having lungs, lung-sacs, or pulmonary organs; distinguished from *tracheary*, as *pulmonary arachnids*; also, distinguished from *branchiate*, as *pulmonary* or pulmonate *molluscs*.

1833 DOUBLEDAY in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 278 We could never separate the Pulmonary from the Trachean Arachnida, or Branchiferous from the Pulmonary Gasteropod Mollusca.

B. *sb.*

†1. = PULMONARIA. [Cf. F. *pulmonaire* (Cotgr.).]

1658 PHILLIPS, *Pulmonary*, the herb Lungwort.

2. *Zool.* A pulmonary arachnidan, as a spider or a scorpion.

1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xix. 281 Latreille.. divides his Arachnidans into two Orders, *Pulmonaries*, or those that breathe by *gills*, and *Trachearies*, or those that breathe by *spiracles* in connection with *tracheæ*.

Pulmonate (pv·lmŏnĕt), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *pulmōnāt-us*, f. *pulmo, -mōn-em* lung: see -ATE [2] 2. In F. *pulmoné*.] Having lungs, as the higher vertebrates, or lung-like respiratory organs, as the orders *Pulmonata* of gastropod molluscs and *Pulmonaria* of arachnids. **b.** *sb.* A pulmonate mollusc (or, less usually, arachnid).

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Pulmonates, Pulmonata*, the name of an order of Gastropodous Mollusks, including those which breathe air. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* iii. 363 As late as the Carboniferous period there were only reptiles, insects, and pulmonate mollusks. 1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 663/2 There is one genus of slug-like Pulmonates which frequent the sea-coast.

So (in same sense) **Pu·lmonated** *a.*

1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 410 In the Snail and the generality of pulmonated Gasteropoda. *a* 1854 E. FORBES *Lit. Papers* i. (1855) 22 The absence of pulmonated vertebrata from the older formations should be expected.

Pulmoni- (pvlmōn·ni), the full combining form of L. *pulmo, pulmōn-em* lung, as in **Pulmonibra·nchiate, Pulmo·nigrade,** *adjs.* and *sbs.*: see *pulmobranchiate, pulmograde* under PULMO-.

1847 WEBSTER, **Pulmonibranchiate*, having the branchiæ formed for breathing air...(A term applied to certain mollusks.) 1864 *Ibid.*, *Pulmonibranchiate*, one of an order of mollusks having the branchiæ formed for breathing air. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 36 The term *pulmonigrades has been applied to these animals [gelatinous Medusæ].

‖ **Pulmonia** (pvlmōu·niă). *Path.* [mod.L., f. L. *pulmōn-em* lung. In F. *pulmonie*, in 16th c. *poulmonie*.] A name for disease of the lungs.

1844 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 320 In this state of mind she was attacked by measles and pulmonia. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pulmonia*, Phthisis pulmonalis, Pneumonia. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pulmonia*, old term the same as *Peripneumonia*.

†Pulmo·niac, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [irreg. f. L. *pulmōn-em* lung, after words from Gr., as *cardiac, demoniac*.] = PULMONIC *a.* 3.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* I. xiv. 28 Some Medicaments ..corroborate some parts by a specifical virtue, as Cephalick ..the head..Pulmoniack, Hepatick, the Lungs, Liver [etc.].

Pulmonian (pvlmōu·niăn). *Zool.* [f. L. *pulmōn-em* lung + -IAN.] A pulmonate gastropod.

1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIV. 322/1, 1. Nudibranchians...4. Pulmonians without an operculum...5. Operculated Pulmonians.

Pulmonic (pvlmo·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) [a. F. *pulmonique* (Paré 16th c.), f. as prec.: see -IC.]

1. = PULMONARY *a.* 1.

1702 W. COWPER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1183 Liquors.. Injected into the Pulmonick Arteries pass to their Veins. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 265 The pulmonic air..sent forth by respiration. 1799 J. BAILEY in *Med. Jrnl.* (1800) III. 128 The blood is propelled with less energy to the pulmonic system. 1854 BUSHNAN in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 63 This ventricle receives its blood partly from a systemic, partly from a pulmonic auricle.

2. = PULMONARY *a.* 2.

1661 [see PULMONICAL, quot. 1658]. 1666 G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* xxvi. (1672) 68 Pulmonique Consumption, or Consumption of the Lungs. 1725 CHEYNE *Health* i. § 5 (1787) 9 Subject to nervous or pulmonick distempers. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 292 Where pulmonic inflammation was dreaded. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 151 For months together the pulmonic symptoms prevailed.

3. Remedial or curative in disease of the lungs; good for the lungs. ? *Obs.*

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 187/2 Tincture of Guajacum, or Pock-wood..is Pulmonick, and profitable against Catarrhs.

B. *sb.* **1.** A remedy for disease of the lungs; a medicine good for the lungs. ? *Obs.*

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 17/1 It is a good Pulmonick, profitable against the Phthisick, Consumption, Pining. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 273 Our true Pulmonics consist of such Particles as..cannot be..assimulated by it [the blood].

2. A person subject to or affected with disease of the lungs; a consumptive person.

a 1735 ARBUTHNOT (T.), Pulmonicks are subject to consumptions, and the old to asthmas. 1893 *Edin. Even. Dispatch* 1 Apr. 2/2 Passing the winter at that recruiting ground for pulmonics—the Cape.

†Pulmo·nical, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = prec. adj.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 55 b/1 Autumne, enimye to all pulmonicalle woundes. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 105/1 [Recipe for] a Pulmonicall potione. 1658 R. WHITE tr. *Digby's Powd. Symp.* (1660) 40 Half of them who dye in London, dye of phthisicall and pulmonicall distempers [1661 cited by EVELYN *Fumifugium* 1. 13 as 'pulmonic']. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Pulmonical*, belonging to the Lungs or Lights.

Pulmoniferous (pvlmoni·fĕrŏs), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *pulmōn-em* lung + -FEROUS.] Bearing or having lungs (or lung-like organs); pulmonate; *spec.* belonging to the group *Pulmonifera* (= *Pulmonata*) of gastropod molluscs.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 621/2 The pulmoniferous Mollusca. 1851-9 BRODERIP in *Man. Sci. Enq.* 400 The terrestrial or pulmoniferous Mollusca (land-shells).

b. Containing the lungs or lung-sacs.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., The pulmoniferous somites of an arachnidan.

So **Pulmo·nifer,** a pulmoniferous gastropod.

Pulmono-, irreg. combining form of L. *pulmo, -ōn-em* lung, sometimes used instead of PULMONI- or PULMO-, as in **Pulmonobra·nchiate, -branchous** (-brae·ŋkĕs) *adjs.* = *pulmobranchiate*; **Pulmonoga·stropod** *a.* and *sb.*, *pulmogastropod* (*Cent. Dict.*): see PULMO-.

1824 J. E. GRAY in *Ann. Philos.* Aug. 107 On the Natural Arrangement of the Pulmonobranchous Mollusca. 1849 CRAIG, *Pulmonobranchiate*, belonging to the order Pulmonobranchiata. 1855 *Knight's Eng. Cycl., Nat. Hist.* III. 65 Affording a good character for dividing the Land Pulmonobranchous Mollusca into two families.

Pulp (pvlp), *sb.* [ad. L. *pulpa* the fleshy portion of the animal body; also, the pulp of fruit, the pith of wood: cf. F. *poulpe* (R. Estienne 1539), *polpe, pulpe* (Cotgr. 1611).] A soft, moist, homogeneous or formless substance or mass: in various applications.

1. The fleshy succulent part of a fruit; also, the soft pith in the interior of the stem of a plant.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 154 Gourds without seeds, hauing onely but a soft pulpe within. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxix. 269 The right Fenell hath round knottie stalkes ..filled with a certaine white pithe or light pulpe. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* III. 179 Take the marrow or pulp of cassia. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 338 There is another Sort like a Curan, has a white Pulp. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* vii. (1794) 74 *note*, The apple also has a firmer pulp. 1832 TENNYSON *Pal. Art* (ed. 1833) li, Ambrosial pulps and juices.

2. Any soft muscular or fleshy part of an animal body; the fleshy part of the limbs, hands, fingertips, etc.; the soft substance of internal parts or organs, as the spleen, the intervertebral disks, etc.; the soft nervous substance which fills the interior cavity of a tooth.

(This may have been the earliest sense in Eng., as in L.)

1611 COTGR., *Polpe*, the pulpe; brawne or fleshie part of the bodie. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 815 These two together with the fourth doe make the pulpe or calfe of the

Leg. 1685 Boyle *Enq. Notion Nat.* 297 If..you carefully stop the upper Orifice with the Pulp of your Finger. 1713 Steele *Guard.* No. 26 P 6 It is not for me to celebrate the lovely height of her forehead, the soft pulp of her lips. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 311/2 There was a gelatinous pulp, analogous to the pulps which secrete teeth. 1848 Carpenter *Anim. Phys.* 144 The matter composing this little body, which is termed the pulp, is gradually converted into the ivory of the tooth. 1858 O. W. Holmes *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1883) 183 He..touched the..corner of his right eye with the pulp of his middle finger.

3. A soft formless mass; esp. of disintegrated organic matter, produced by moistening and trituration or by boiling.

1676 Worlidge *Cyder* (1691) 108 One end..may serve to contain the fruit, the other the vessels for the pulp. 1692 Sir T. P. Blount *Ess.* 67 They boyl the bodies of their Dead, and afterwards pound them to a pulpe. 1792 *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 145 Nine acres of the land..was almost an entire pulp. 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 839 A determinate quantity of potatoes was reduced with water to a pulp. 1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xxxviii. (1856) 346 The trodden paths around our ship are in muddy pulp, adhering to the boots. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 161 Beet pulp for fattening cattle.

b. *spec.* The fibrous material, as linen, wood, etc., reduced to a soft uniform mass, from which paper is manufactured; paper-pulp.

1727–41 Chambers *Cycl.* s.v. *Paper*, Paper is chiefly made among us of linen or hempen rags, beaten to a pulp in water. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 377 The most eligible mode of adjusting the thickness of the paper would be by varying the proportion of the surface of the cylinder, which is covered with pulp. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 749 The first idea of a machine for converting pulp into paper, originated in France, the inventor being an ingenious workman of the name of Louis Robert. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 637 It is only necessary to put the wood into one end of the machine, and take out at the other the pulp ready for being converted into paper. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 May 9/3 Rags are no longer available in sufficient quantities for paper-making. Hence the resource to vegetable fibres such as wood-pulp..Experts regard the pulp re-made from old newspapers as about equal to calico pulp.

c. Ore pulverized and mixed with water, in which condition the dross is washed out; slimes. *Dry pulp*, dry crushed ore.

1837 J. T. Smith tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 164 Each of these being hollowed in the middle like a funnel, received a fluid pulp, composed..of clay and water. 1872 Raymond *Statist. Mines & Mining* 137 The bullion, pulp, and tailings were tested by assay. 1877 *Ibid.* 24 Ten pans, holding 1 ton each of dry pulp.

4. *fig.* **a.** Appearance of pulpiness (of texture).

1801 Fuseli in *Lect. Paint.* ii. (1848) 383 The beauties of oil-colour, its glow, its juice, its richness, its pulp.

b. Something of a 'pulpy' character, without stability, strength, or 'backbone'.

1878 T. L. Cuyler *Pointed Papers* 164 The difference is clearly marked between the boy who has moral pluck and the boy who is mere pulp.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** esp. in technical terms referring (*a*) to the preparation of pulp for making paper (sense 3 b), as *pulp-chest, factory, industry, -strainer, -ware, pulp-making* sb. and adj., *pulp-made* adj.; or (*b*) to the pulp of the teeth (sense a), as *pulp-cell, -fissure*, etc.; also *pulp-assay* (sense 3 c), *pulp-hole, -pit*, etc. **b.** Spec. Comb.: **pulp-board**, a kind of millboard made directly from paper-pulp, instead of being made like pasteboard from paper; **pulp-boiler**, = *pulp-digester*; **pulp-canal**, the pulp-cavity in the fang of a tooth; **pulp-capping**, the covering the soft interior of a tooth by artificial means; **pulp-cavity, -chamber**, the space in the interior of a tooth which contains the pulp; **pulp-digester**, a machine for reducing paper-stock and obtaining the fibre free from extraneous matter; **pulp-dresser, -engine, -grinder, -machine**, machines used in the preparation of paper-pulp; **pulp-meter**, an apparatus for measuring the amount of pulp required for a specified thickness of paper; **pulp-mill**, a mill in which wood is reduced to paper-pulp; also, a factory in which pulping is carried on; **pulp-nodule, -stone**, an excrescence of dentine in the pulp-cavity of a tooth; **pulp-washer**, a machine for removing impurities from paper-pulp; **pulp-wood**, wood suitable for making paper-pulp.

1881 Raymond *Mining Gloss.*, **Pulp-assay*, the assay of samples taken from the pulp after or during crushing. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. Prec. Met. U.S.* 123 Pulp assays averaging about $130 per ton. 1904 *Let. to Editor fr. Jas. Spicer & Sons*, There are strawboards, made, (as the name implies) from straw, and *pulp boards, (white and coloured), various qualities, all made direct from the pulp. — *Let. fr. J. Dickenson & Co.*, A Millboard is a Pulp Board of a dark color, made from old Rope, Bagging, etc., and also finished by mechanical pressure, without the aid of paste. 1845 Owen *Odontography* II. Descr. Plates 16 The large central vascular or *pulp canals. 1875 *Dental Cosmos* XVII. 507 The success attending *pulp-capping. 1840 Owen *Odontography* I. II. iv. 245 The *pulp-cavity in old teeth becomes occupied by a coarse bone. 1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* (1878) 54 Each [tooth] is supplied with blood vessels and nerves, which unite in a common *pulp chamber. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 350 A box..kept full of pulp from the *pulp-chest. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 9/1 The Factory Inspectors..never see the *pulp-holes where all the bad jam and lemon-peel are thrown. 1858 Greener *Gunnery* 387 From the *pulp-made cartridge paper. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 2/1 Probably in the near future half the sawing-mills and paper- and *pulp-making mills which supply Europe will be transferred to Finland from Norway and Germany. 1853 Ure *Dict. Arts* II. 350 The *pulp-meter which is driven in connection with the paper machine. 1898 *Daily News* 26 July 5/7 He has started *pulp mills and lumber mills, and he has made other valuable mineral finds. 1872 L. P. Meredith *Teeth* (1878) 132 It is a very hard matter to decide whether *pulp nodules exist or not. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 528/1 The [coffee-] bean falls over into a sieve below, and the skin is dragged behind the cylinder and escapes by a spout to the *pulp-pit. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 742 Irregular calcification, with the formation of *pulp-stones, frequently leaves some living pulp. 1900 *Montreal Witness* 13 Feb. 4/5 The tariff of dues on *pulpwood. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 6/2 The district..contains a great pulpwood forest, besides 3,000,000,000 ft. of pinewood.

Pulp, *v.* [f. Pulp *sb.*, in various senses.]

1. *trans.* To reduce to pulp or to a pulpy mass.

1662 [see Pulping]. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* xv. (1697) 368 Conserve of Old-Red-Roses pulped. 1741 *Compl. Fam. Piece* I. ii. 122 Some love the Gooseberries only mashed, not pulped through a Sieve. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) I. 327/1 By pulping the roots and mixing them with a full allowance of chaff, every animal gets its fill. 1898 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 378 The whole work, of which 10,000 copies had been prepared, was seized by Savary and pulped.

†**2.** To make pulpy, give a pulpy appearance to.

1704 Steele *Lying Lover* III, That [patch] so low on the Cheeks pulps the Flesh too much.

3. To remove the surrounding pulp from (coffee-beans, or the like).

1791 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 180 The saving of time in pulping, peeling, picking it [coffee] clean. 1793 B. Edwards *West Ind.* II. v. iv 295 The other mode is to pulp it [the coffee] immediately as it comes from the tree. 1894 [see Pulper 2].

4. *intr.* To become pulpy, to swell with juice.

1818 Keats *Song*, '*Hush, Hush! tread softly*', My Isabel's eyes, and her lips pulp'd with bloom. *a* 1821 — *Extracts fr. Opera*, A kiss should bud upon the tree of love, And pulp and ripen richer every hour. 1852 R. H. Stoddard *Poems* 32 The buried seed begins to pulp and swell In Earth's warm bosom.

Hence **Pulped** (pʌlpt) *ppl. a.*, reduced to pulp.

1806 A. Hunter *Culina* (ed. 3) 154 Put the soup into a stew-pan, with..the pulped pease. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 1/1 Crushed oats and cake, mixed with pulped turnips, for a midday feed.

Pulpa·ceous, *a. rare*—1. [f. L. *pulpa* pulp + -aceous.] Of a pulpy consistency.

1853 Kane *Grinnell Exp.* xl. (1856) 363 Symmetrically embanked round with the pulpaceous material which he had excavated from the ice.

†**Pu·lpament.** *Obs. rare.* Also in L. form, pl. -a. [ad. L. *pulpāmentum* the fleshy part or meat of animals, food prepared mainly from bits of meat, f. *pulpa* Pulp *sb.*] **a.** A pulpy preparation of food; in *pl.* delicacies. **b.** A pulpified mass, as the chyle.

1599 B. Jonson *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vii, How now, monsieur Brisk? what! Friday night, and in affliction too, and yet your pulpamenta, your delicate morsels! 1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 233 The grosser and more solid Parts..dissolved into minuter Particles, so as to mix more equally with the fluid, and with that to make one Pulpament, or chylous Mass.

†**Pulpatoo·n.** *Obs.* [Cf. Sp. *pulpeton*, augm. of *pulpeta*, 'a slice of stuffed meat.'] A dish made of rabbits, fowls, etc., in a crust of forced meat.

1637 Nabbes *Microcosm.* III. 109, I then send forth a fresh supply of Rabits, Pheasant, Kid, Partridge, Quaile,..with a French troope of Pulpatoones, Mackaroones, Kickshawes, grand and excellent. 1728 E. Smith *Compl. Housew.* 41 To make a Pulpatoon of Pigeons..Half roast six or eight Pigeons, and lay them in a Crust of Forc'd-meat..: Scrape a pound of Veal, and two Pounds of Marrow, and beat it together in a Stone Mortar.

Pulper (pʌ·lpəɹ). [f. Pulp *v.* + -er 1.]

1. A machine for reducing fruit, straw, roots, paper-stock, etc. to pulp; a pulp-machine.

1862 *Times* 12 June, Reaping and grass-mowing machinery with root-slicers, pulpers, chaff-cutters. 1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Pulper*,..a machine for reducing paper stock to pulp. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 1/1 Great saving can be effected by the use of the root pulper and chaff cutter.

2. A machine for removing the external pulp or rind from the coffee-bean.

1874 Knight *Dict. Mech.* 584/1 The berries..pass to the pulpers..The pulper is a stout frame supporting a fly-wheel, shaft, and barrel. 1894 Walsh *Coffee* (Philad.) 92 There are times..when it is impossible to pulp coffee; the pulpers may get out of repair.

3. A maker of or worker in paper-pulp.

1884 *Standard* 13 Mar. 5/2 [Articles] 'turned out' of a papier maché pulper's shop by hundreds of thousands.

Pu·lpify, *v.* [f. Pulp *sb.* + -fy.] *trans.* To reduce to a pulp or pulpy condition.

1871 Huxley *Anat. Vertebr. Anim.* viii. 381 These actions [of rumination] are repeated until the greater portion of the grass which has been cropped is pulpified. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 291 Lower forearm much crushed and almost pulpified.

Pulpily (pʌ·lpĭli), *adv.* [f. Pulpy *a.* + -ly 2.] In a pulpy or flabby manner.

1879 W. Collins *Rogue's Life* vi, A smooth double chin resting pulpily on a white cravat.

Pu·lpiness. [f. as prec. + -ness.] The quality or state of being pulpy; softness, flabbiness.

1846 Worcester, Pulpiness. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 357 Appreciating critics who write about its [a picture's] fruitiness, and juiciness, and pulpiness, and downiness, and peachiness. 1879 W. Collins *Rogue's Life* ix, There was a delicacy and propriety in the pulpiness of his fat white chin. 1901 *Weekly Reg.* 11 Oct. 442 This elasticity, or rather pulpiness, in regard to religion in boarding schools.

Pulping (pʌ·lpiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. Pulp *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of Pulp *v.*; reduction to pulp. Also *attrib.*, as *pulping-house, -mill, -sieve.*

1662 R. Mathew *Unl. Alch.* § 116. 192 Run it through a pulping Sive, and wash with clean water the still or the Lymbeck. 1793 B. Edwards *West Ind.* II. v. iv. 295 A pulping mill, consisting of a horizontal fluted roller, about eighteen inches long, and eight inches in diameter. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* XCV. I. 215 After the coffee is gathered, it is taken to the pulping-mill. 1865 *Times* 15 Apr., Houses for thrashing, grinding, pulping, cooking. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. xx. 485 Water agitated by the pulping-engine of a paper manufactory. 1883 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 527/2 The pulping-house and other necessary buildings have to be erected.

Pulpit (pu·lpit), *sb.* Also 4 **pulput**, 4–6 **-pitte, -pite**, 4–7 **-pet**, 5–7 **-pitt**, (5 **pol(l)epyt, pulpytte, -pyte**, 6 **-pyt(t, -pette, -pete, poulpet, pilpett**). [ad. L. *pulpit-um* (med.L. *pulpitum*) a scaffold, platform, stage, in med.L. a pulpit in a church; cf. OF. *pulpate*, also *pepistre* (1357 in Godef. *Compl.*), *pulpistre, pupistre, pulpitre, poupitre*, mod.F. *pupitre.*]

1. In reference to ancient times: A scaffold, stage, or platform for public representations, speeches, or disputations. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 101 In þat hous poetes and gestoures uppon a pulpet rehersede poysees, gestes, and songes. 1535 Coverdale 2 *Chron.* vi. 13 Salomon had made a brasen pulpit [1611 scaffold],..vpon the same stode he. 1556 Withals *Dict.* (1568) 62 b/1 A pulpit, *suggestus, podium.* 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 241 Herod Agrippa..being gone up into the pulpit appointed for orations..was suddenly strooken from heaven. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* III. i. 229 That I may Produce his body to the Market-place, And in the Pulpit as becomes a Friend, Speake in the Order of his Funerall. 1611 Bible *Neh.* viii. 4 And Ezra the scribe stood vpon a pulpit of wood [*marg. Heb.* towre of wood]. 1683 Kennett tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 29 Demosthenes..lost that credit in the Camp which he gained in the Pulpit.

2. A raised structure consisting of an enclosed platform, usually supplied with a desk, seat, and other accessories, from which the preacher in a church or chapel delivers the sermon, and in which in some denominations the officiating minister conducts the service. Hence, *to occupy the pulpit*, to preach, or to conduct divine service.

(The earliest and also the usual sense in Eng.)

[*c* 1200 Jocelin *Cronica* (Camden) 30 Unde et pulpitum jussit fieri in ecclesia et ad utilitatem audiencium et ad decorem ecclesie.] *c* 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 302 He stode vp in pulpite, þe office forto do. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Somptn. T.* 574 With prechyng in the pulpit ther he stood. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 649/20 *Hoc pulpitum*, polepyt. 14.. *Nom.* ibid. 719/28 *Hoc pulpitum*, a pollepyt. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxii. 391 (Add. MS.) Sone after come a persone into the pullpite, ande prechide. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 30 That my soule..may be preyd fore in the pulpet on the Sunday. *c* 1520 Nisbet *N. Test. in Scots* (S.T.S.) III. 275 The first lessoun at the first messe, quhilk is sungin in the pulpet. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Commination*, The prieste shal goe into the pulpitte and saye thus. 1582–8 *Hist. James VI* (1804) 291 A certaine minister, at his sermone in Glasgow, was pullit out of the pulpet, and buffittet be the Lord of Minto, for bakbytting and sclaundering. 1650 Evelyn *Diary* 4 Aug., In the afternoone [I] wander'd to divers churches, the pulpits full of novices and novelties. 1777 Priestley *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. Pref. 31 The doctrines publicly preached in the pulpits. 1866 G. Macdonald *Ann. Q. Neighb.* i, Out of the pulpit I would be the same man I was in it. 1870 F. R. Wilson *Ch. Lindisf.* 111 In front of this low screen..stands the oak pulpit.

b. In other than Christian places of worship.

1583 W. Harborne in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. I. 169 [Santa Sophia, Constantinople.] The pillers on both sides of the church are very costly and rich, their Pulpets seemely and handsome; two are common to preach in. 1718 Lady M. Montagu *Let. to C'tess of Bristol* 10 Apr., Mosque of Soly-man...On one side is the pulpit, of white marble.

c. *fig.* The place from which anything of the nature of a sermon, as a moral lecture, is delivered.

a 1616 Beaumont *On Tombes in Westminster*, Thinke how many royall bones Sleep within these heap of stones;..Where from pulpits seal'd with dust, They preach, 'In greatnesse is no trust'. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Reft., Occas. Medit.* IV. v, The whole World would be a Pulpit, every Creature turn a Preacher. 1868 Lynch *Rivulet* CXLVI. i, A boat the pulpit whence He spake.

3. *transf.* The occupants of the pulpit, the preachers; Christian ministers or the Christian ministry as occupied with preaching.

1570 E. Googe *Pop. Kingd.* IV. (1880) 69 Do not the pulpettes of the Pope, perswade this martiall might? 1695 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 50 The Bar, the Pulpit and the Press Nefariously combine To cry up an usurped pow'r And stamp it right divine. 1784 Cowper *Task* II. 332, I say the pulpit ..Must stand acknowledg'd, while the world shall stand, The most important and effectual guard, Support, and ornament of virtue's cause. 1854 Emerson *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 187 We reckon the bar, the senate, journalism, and the pulpit peaceful professions; but you cannot escape the demand for courage in these. 1863 W. Phillips *Speeches* xvi. 343 It is the duty of the pulpit to preach politics. 1882, 1901 [see Pew *sb.*1 2 c].

b. As title of a collection or periodically published series of sermons.

1823 — (*title*) The Pulpit: a Collection of Sermons by emi-

nent living Ministers. 18.. (*title*) The Christian World Pulpit. 18.. (*title*) The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit.

4. Applied to other places elevated so as to give the occupant a conspicuous position, or enable him to direct or address others.

† **a.** An elevated royal pew or seat in a church.

?1370 *Robt. Cicyle* 59 (Vernon MS.) Ye kyng to churche com ful riht..And in his bouht a sleep him tok In his pulput as seip þe bok. 1485 *Rutland Papers* (Camden) 22 The King and the Quene..shall retourne to their seages roiall and of estate, in the said pulpitt, wherin when they are sett, the rulars of the quere shal begynne this postcommon, *Intellige* [etc.].

b. † The poop of a ship, from which directions were given (*obs.*); the harpooner's standing-place on a whaler.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. iii. 46 Eneas tho .. Maid ansuer from the pulpit of the schip [L. *puppi ab alta*]. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 250 All vessels regularly engaged in this fishery are supplied with a special apparatus, called a 'rest' or 'pulpit', for the support of the harpooner as he stands on the bowsprit.

c. An auctioneer's desk or platform. Now *local.*

1738 FIELDING *Hist. Reg.* II. Wks. 1784 III. 329 Why are you not at the auction? Mr. Hen has been in the pulpit this half-hour. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. i, Come, get to your pulpit, Mr. Auctioneer. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 9 June 2/2 The Exchange and W. Bell's pulpit are at the service of every broker and auctioneer. 1889 *N. W. Line. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Of or belonging to a pulpit, as *pulpit bible, cushion, door, stair*, etc.

1631 WEEVER *Anc. Fun. Mon.* 49 A beaten-out pulpit cushion. 1641 *Rutland MSS.* (1905) IV. 531 Payd for the pulpet velvet and the velvet of the carving, xli. xvjs. 1848 G. STRUTHERS *Hist. Relief Ch.* v. in *United Presb. Fathers* 278 Mr. Boston heard the pulpit door open. 1900 CROCKETT *Fitting of Peats* i. in *Love Idylls* (1901) 5 The top of the shut pulpit Bible.

b. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the pulpit as the place of preaching, as *pulpit eloquence, key, oratory, service, style, thunder*, etc.

1609 *Ev. Woman in Hum.* I. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Another in a rayling pulppet key Drawes through her nose the accent of her voice. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* Pref., Wks. 1851 III. 334 The Prelats and thir fellow-teachers..whose Pulpit-stuffe .. hath bin the Doctrin and perpetuall infusion of Servility and wretchedness to all thir hearers. *c* 1686 SOUTH *Serm., Prov. xxii.* 6 (1727) V. i. 31 Filled with Wind and Noise, empty Notions and Pulpit-tattle. 1751 J. BROWN *Shaftesb. Charac.* 33 In France, the applauded pulpit eloquence is of the enthusiastic..species. 1895 J. J. RAVEN *Hist. Suffolk* 204 With caricature as well as pulpit-thunder he carried the war into the enemy's quarters.

c. Referring to the occupant of a pulpit (often uncomplimentary), as *pulpit drone, drum, mountebank, orator*; *pulpit-thumper*, etc.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1566) I ij, Though this appeere a proper pulpet peece, Yet whan the fox preacheth, then beware your geese. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. V* lxx, And Pulpit Drums awake the Iland round; All Boanerges. 1650 MILTON *Tenure Kings* (ed. 2) 47 That men may yet more fully know the difference between Protestant divines and these pulpit firebrands. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* II Your weapons of offence..you might have reserv'd for some of your pulpit-officers. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 72 (1713) II. 191 How do they make one of these Pulpit-thumpers? 1705 HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* IV. (1721) 226 The Pulpit-prater (that has his Religion in his Tongue and Eyes, I mean, his Sermon-Notes). 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 564 Henceforth those Pulpit-Drones ..let not a braggart of a Frenchman praise. 1824 SOUTHEY *Bk. of Ch.* xiii. (1841) 230 Though he [Bp. Pecock] censured these pulpit-bawlers, as he called them. 1828 WEBSTER, *Pulpit-orator*, an eloquent preacher.

d. Special Combs.: **pulpit-cloth**, an ornamented cover of the reading-desk of a pulpit; **pulpit-cross**, a cross set up in a burying-ground or in a place where there was no church, from the steps or raised base of which sermons were often preached; a preaching-cross; † **pulpit-friar**, a preaching friar; **pulpit-glass**, a sand-glass placed on a pulpit to indicate the time to the preacher; † **pulpit-man**, a preacher; † **pulpit-prayer**, a prayer said in the pulpit (as distinguished from those read in the service).

1552 in *Inv. Ch. Surrey* (1869) 44 One *pulpit clothe. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ¶ 2 He has likewise given a handsome Pulpit-Cloth,..at his own Expence. 1598 STOW *Surv.* (1603) 333 About the middest of this [Pauls] Churchyeard is a *Pulpit Crosse of timber, mounted vpon steppes of stone,..in which are sermons preached ..euery Sundaye in the forenoone. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 165 Iohn Cacedus the *pulpitte fryer of the order of saynt Frances. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 4 Nov. 4/7 Probably the most modern *pulpit-glass in existence is that which adorns the pulpit of the Chapel Royal, Savoy. It is timed for eighteen minutes only, and was placed in the chapel in 1867. [Cf quots. 1591, 1852, s.v. HOUR-GLASS.] 1582 ALLEN *Martyrd. Father Campion* (1908) 8 Many Protestantes .. ever afterward contemned their vulgar *pulpit men in comparison of him. 1681 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Nov., Dr. Hooper..is one of y^e^ first rank of pulpit men in the nation. 1684 BAXTER *Twelve Argts.* § 20. 35 They have all that you have (*Pulpit Prayer and Sermon, and sometimes a Chapter). 1697 BURGHOPE *Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 92 Every pulpit-prayer made by a man's private spirit is valued much above the Common Prayer.

Hence (mainly *nonce-words*) † **Pu·lpitable, Pu·lpital, Pu·lpitary, Pulpi·tic, Pulpi·tical** *adjs.*, connected with, appropriate to, or characteristic of the pulpit as the place of preaching; hence **Pulpi·tically** *adv.*, in a pulpitical manner; **Pu·lpitful**, enough to fill a pulpit; **Pu·lpitish** *a.*, resembling a pulpit performance or preaching; **Pu·lpitism**, a characteristic of language or style of preachers and sermons; **Pu·lpitless** *a.*, lacking a pulpit or a place as preacher; **Pu·lpitly** *adv.*, with regard to the pulpit or preaching; **Pulpit-o·latry**, 'worship' of the pulpit or of preaching.

1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund* II. 84 This the exordium of my *pulpitable functions. *Ibid.* 511 The famous *pulpital performances of..Friar Gerund. 1846 POE *Colton* Wks. 1864 III. 27 He converses fluently,..but grandiloquently, and with a tone half tragical, half pulpital. 1784 J. BROWN *Hist. Brit. Ch.* (1820) I. 120 The *pulpitary contention between Popish and Protestant preachers was great. 1845 *Ecclesiologist* IV. 117 A slight poetical licence, a mere *pulpitic exaggeration. 1775 ASH, Suppl., *Pulpitical. 1885 CLARK RUSSELL *Strange Voy.* I. xvi. 229 Not a little impressed by the pulpitical twang and rattle of his north-country notes. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. eccxlv. 123 To proceed then regularly and *pulpitically; I will first shew you, my beloved [etc.]. 1680 V. ALSOP *Mischief of Imposit.* xiii. 99 Whether he gave..any encouragement..to vomit up a whole *Pulpitful of Gall. 1847 WEBSTER, *Pulpitish. 1881 *Ch. Rev.* No. 589. 177 The common-places and *pulpitisms which have gone so far to make volumes of sermons odious. 1889 *Chicago Advance* 7 Feb., Some of them are *pulpitless, and some..want a change of pulpit. 1872 H. W. BEECHER *Lect. Preaching* I. 24 As it is dangerous personally, so it is dangerous *pulpitly. 1853 *Ecclesiologist* XIV. 409 The *pulpitolatry of another arrangement is almost incredible.

Pu·lpit, *v.* [f. PULPIT *sb.*] **a.** *trans.* To provide with a pulpit, or place in the pulpit. **b.** *intr.* To officiate in the pulpit, to preach. Hence **Pu·lpited** *ppl. a.*, **Pu·lpiting** *vbl. sb.*

1529 MORE *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 151/1 Yet would thei long to be pulpeted. *c* 1540 *Old Ways* (1892) 39 Affter he had doone with his pulpitynge. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* (1659) 84 It is not necessarie .. that Men should sit all thir life long at the feet of a pulpited Divine. 1729 BYROM *Jrnl. & Lit. Rem.* 19 Feb. (Chetham Soc.) I. II. 330 He said..that he was in priest's orders, but..that he had done with pulpiting. 1865 E. BURRITT *Walk Land's End* vi. 209 Mat and seat the rotunda..; pulpit at the central column of the great buildings such men as her preaching rolls may supply. 1867 O. W. HOLMES *Guard. Angel* xiii, The young girl sat under his tremendous pulpitings. 1904 *Edin. Rev.* July 147 Orderly, vulgarised, materialised, pulpited, prosperous England.

Pulpitarian (pulpitē·riăn), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. PULPIT *sb.* + *-arian*, as in *trinitarian*, etc.] A preacher, a pulpiteer; also, one who regards the pulpit or preaching as the chief feature of worship.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 139 You may take away the Pewes, where all are Pulpitarians. *a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* I. (1692) 90 Directions, that had netled the aggrieved Pulpitarians. 1860 *Medical Times* 15 Sept. 266/1 Some of the most 'popular' of..modern pulpitarians.

B. *adj.* Savouring of the pulpit; sermonical.

1887 *Daily News* 15 Oct. 3/6 Some fastidious critics may consider Dr. Bayne's style somewhat pulpitarian.

Pulpiteer (pulpitī·ə·r), *sb.* [f. PULPIT *sb.* + -EER.] A preacher by profession; usually with contemptuous implication.

1642 HOWELL *Twelve Treat., True Inform.* (1661) 16 By the incitement of those fiery pulpiteers. 1679 *Answ. to Appeal fr. Country to City* 15 Against his Over-hot Churchmen we'l set the Mechanique Pulpiteers and Tub preachers. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 464 The mouths of the High Church pulpiteers were encouraged to open as loud as possible. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 20 A heated pulpiteer, Not preaching simple Christ to simple men. 1861 TULLOCH *Eng. Purit.* i. 27 Travers..seemed by far the more clever and successful pulpiteer.

Hence **Pulpitee·r** *v. intr.*, to preach; chiefly in **Pulpitee·ring** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1812 *Religionism* 11 If your men a pulpiteering go. 1877 T. SINCLAIR *Mount* (1878) 48 A commonplace everyday pulpiteering king. 1883 *Spectator* 23 June 811 A thoughtful Scotchman who has no weakness for pulpiteering.

Pu·lpiter. [f. PULPIT *sb.* or *v.* + -ER¹.] A preacher, a PULPITEER.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 163 O most gentle pulpiter (Spedding's emendation; *Folios* Iupiter], what tedious homilie of Loue haue you wearied your parishioners withall. 1681 HICKERINGILL *Vind. Naked Truth* II. 4 As some Pulpiters have also had. 1894 *Speaker* 2 June 613/1 The sanitary drain-maker does more for morals than the pulpiter.

Pu·lpitize, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. PULPIT *sb.* + -IZE.] **a.** *intr.* To pulpiteer, to preach. **b.** *trans.* To discuss or deal with in the pulpit. Hence **Pu·lpitizing** *vbl. sb.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 240 Cryed up even to pulpitising. 1798 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. Poole* (1895) 18 Parson Warren did certainly *pulpitize* much better. 1875 *Contemp. Rev.* XXV. 798 The whole subject of how to encounter these enigmas..must be popularised and pulpitised.

Pu·lpitry. [f. PULPIT *sb.* + -RY.] The work or service of the pulpit; preaching; the conventional talk of the pulpit; sermonizing.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XV. XC. (1612) 389 For Fare And greater Ease than Studie them or Pulpetrie can spare. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. ¶ 1 To teach thus were meer pulpitry to them. 1861 K. H. DIGBY *Chapel St. John* (1863) 55 But perhaps you do not like pulpitry.

Pulpless (pv·lplĕs), *a.* [-LESS.] Lacking pulp.

1778 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 268 Barren Strawberry.. the fruit is dry and pulpless. 1875 *Dental Cosmos* XVII. 521 Ridiculous demands, such as for devitalization of pulps in pulpless teeth.

Pulpose (pv·lpōus), *a. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. L. *pulpōsus* fleshy, f. *pulpa* PULP.] = PULPOUS.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pulposus*..of the consistence of pulp; having or full of pulp; pulpy: pulpose.

So † **Pulpo·sity**, pulpousness. *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1721 BAILEY, *Pulposity*, fulness of Pulp, Substance, etc.

Pulpous (pv·lpəs), *a.* [ad. L. *pulpōs-us* (see prec.): cf. F. *poulpeux* (1539 R. Estienne in Hatz.-Darm.).] Of the nature of or consisting of pulp; resembling pulp; pulpy.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 561 The leaues verily that this graine Rice doth beare, be pulpous and fleshy. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 119 A small mass of pulpous substance for the Brain. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pear Tree*, This flower is succeeded by a pulpous fruit. 1796 DE SERRA in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 503 A soft and pulpous matter, like that which is found in unripe antheræ. 1876 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxix. 397 The special type of youthful blackguard..more or less blackly pulpous and swollen.

Hence **Pu·lpousness,** *rare*, pulpy consistency.

1727 in BAILEY vol. II.; whence *1755 in JOHNSON; and in mod. Dicts.

Pulpy (pv·lpi), *a.* [f. PULP *sb.* + -Y.] Of the nature of, consisting of, or resembling pulp; soft, fleshy, succulent; also *fig.* flabby.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 860 Long'st thou for Butter? bite the poulpy part [of coco] And never better came to any Mart. 1694 J. RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 The hard-bill'd [birds] touch not pulpy fruits. 1799 KIRWAN *Geol. Ess.* 330 Moist, pulpy, incoherent, argillaceous masses. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 417 The pulpy matter of the brain. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xvii, Some score or two of years ago all these were little red-coloured pulpy infants. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxxix, His mind was perhaps a little pulpy from that too exclusive diet. 1905 J. H. MCCARTHY *Dryad* 263 To make its way through ground as muddy and pulpy as a swamp.

‖ **Pulque** (pu·lke). [Sp. Amer. *pulque*, of uncertain origin.

According to F. X. Clavigero *Istoria antica del Mexico* 1780–81 (Eng. trans. 1787 I. 435), neither Sp. nor Mexican, but from Araucanian *pulcu*, the generic name for the intoxicating beverages used by the Indians. See J. Platt in N. & Q. 9th S. IX. 226 (1902), where other suggestions are also mentioned.]

A fermented drink made in Mexico and some parts of Central America from the sap of the agave or maguey (*Agave americana*).

1693 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2848/1 The Viceroy Commanded, That the Indian Natives should not..consume any Mays in the making of a Drink common among them, called *Pulche*. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 729 Pulque is the usual wine or beer of the Mexicans, made of the fermented juice of the Maguei. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* I. v. (1850) I. 133 The older guests continued at table, sipping *pulque*, and gossiping about other times. 1900 *Speaker* 8 Sept. 619/2 The peon with money only bought pulque or gambled.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **pulque-brandy**, a strong intoxicating spirit distilled from pulque.

1888 MRS. M. E. BLAKE & MRS. SULLIVAN *Mexico* 12 A corner cantine has its handful of quiet pulque-drinkers.

Pulsant (pv·lsănt), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *pulsānt-em*, pr. pple. of *pulsāre*: see next.] Pulsating.

1891 H. TUCKLEY *Under the Queen* 254 An atmosphere which is pulsant still with the mighty issues over which noble women have wept, and great men have bled, for a thousand years.

Pulsate (pv·lse·it), *v.* [f. L. *pulsāt-*, ppl. stem of *pulsāre* to push, strike, beat, freq. of *pellĕre*, *puls-* to drive, strike, beat.]

1. *intr.* To expand and contract rhythmically, as the heart or an artery; to exhibit a pulse; to beat, throb. (Chiefly in scientific use.)

1794 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* I. x. 49 The heart of a viper or frog will continue to pulsate long after it is taken from the body. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* (1814) 215 From the moment the heart begins to pulsate till it ceases to beat, the aeration of the blood is constant. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 239 It has been asserted that the brain cannot pulsate in the closed cranium.

b. *fig.* or in figurative allusion, of life, feeling, etc.

1847 EMERSON *Poems, Saadi* vii, Leaves twinkle, flowers like persons be, And life pulsates in rock or tree. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iv, What strains and strophes of unwritten verse pulsate through my soul when I open a certain closet in the ancient house where I was born! 1883 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 2318 The Punic blood of his descent is visibly pulsating in his style.

2. *intr. gen.* To strike upon something with a rhythmical succession of strokes; to move with a regular alternating motion; to exhibit such a movement; to beat, vibrate, quiver, thrill.

1861 *Times* 22 Oct., The air pulsates with the flash of arms in the sunlight. 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) I. p. cii, The sensation excited..by that undulation pulsating on our tympanum. 1881 G. FORBES in *Nature* 18 Aug. 361/1 Dr. Bjerknes reproduces this experiment by causing two drums to pulsate in concord, the one above the other. 1884 H. SPENCER in *19th Cent.* Jan. 10 The spectroscope proves .. that molecules on the Earth pulsate in harmony with molecules in the stars.

3. *trans.* To agitate with a PULSATOR (sense 2).

1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 322 The stuff to be pulsated.

Hence **Pu·lsating** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.* in sense 3, as *pulsating-pan*); **Pu·lsating** *ppl.a.*, that pulsates, exhibiting a pulsation or pulse.

1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* 247 An aneurism is generally a pulsating tumour, arising from a dilated, ruptured, or wounded artery, and filled with blood. 1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 312 Heart replaced by pulsating sinuses.

1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 322 We throw marked diamonds into the pulsating-pan, and we never fail to recover them.

Pulsatile (pʊ·lsătil, -oil), *a.* Also 6 -yle, 7 -il. [f. L. type **pulsātilis*, f. *pulsāre*, *pulsāt-*: see prec. and -ILE.]

1. *Anat.* and *Physiol.* Having the capacity or property of pulsating or throbbing, as the heart, an artery, a tumour, etc.; exhibiting pulsation.

† *Pulsatile vein*, old name for an artery, *spec.* the aorta.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* H j b, The braunche of the vayne pulsatyle that commeth fro the left syde. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 11 You could no sooner press this Pulsatile Tumour with your Fingers, but [etc.]. 1858 H. SPENCER *Ess.* I. 332 Every heart is at first a mere pulsatile sac. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* x. (1873) 432 Such pulsatile structures are called lymphatic hearts.

b. Of, or characterized by, pulsation; pulsatory.

1684 J. P. tr. *Fambresarius' Art Physic* I. 64 Under the Pulsatil Actions are comprehended the Motions of the heart. 1728 NICHOLLS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXV. 444 Such a Tumor will rather have a pulsatile Dilatation, than a Pulsation, for its true Diagnostick. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 647 Instances..of the common tendency towards 'pulsatile or rhythmic activity' manifested by all living matter.

2. Of a musical instrument: Played by striking or percussion; percussive: see PERCUSSION 2 c.

1769 *Mus. Dict.* 194 (T.) The rattle, among the ancients, is a musical instrument of the pulsatile kind. 1864 ENGEL *Mus. Anc. Nat.* 102 The Assyrians employed in their musical performances stringed, wind, and pulsatile instruments in combination. 1887 *Athenæum* 5 Nov. 612/3 The 'pulsatile instruments covered with skin' begin with the hymnal Mridanga, said to be invented by Brahma himself, and its modern form, the Bánya and Tabla.

Hence **Pulsatility** (-i·lĭti), the quality of being pulsatile (sense 1).

1835-6 *Todd's Cyc. Anat.* I. 243/1 The distinguishing characteristic of the third form of nævus is its pulsatility. *Ibid.* 460/2 A pulsatility scarcely inferior to that of an aneurism.

‖ **Pulsatilla** (pʊlsătĭ·lă). *Bot., Pharm.* Also anglicized 6 **pulsatill**, 7 -il. [med.L., dim. of *pulsāta* beaten, driven about; according to Linnæus *Philos. Botan.* 166 'from the beating of the flower by the wind': cf. the name ANEMONE.

Cf. also Pena & Lobel *Stirpium Adversaria Nova* (1570) 114 Pulsatilla, an Sylvestris Anemone. Huius comosi et tremuli seminum pappi quia huc atque illuc vel levissimo quoque flatu pultarentur, Pulsatillam barbari vocitarunt, Anemonemque.]

The Pasque-flower, a species of Anemone (*A. Pulsatilla*); in Tournefort, *c* 1700, a generic name; now in *Bot.* the name of a subgenus including this (then called *P. vulgaris*) and other species; also, in pharmacy, the extract or tincture of this plant.

[1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxii. 420 Passe flower is called in Latine *Pulsatilla*.] 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxxiii. 309 In English Pasque flower..and after the Latin name Pulsatill. [1706 PHILLIPS, *Pulsatilla*, a Plant call'd Pasque-Flower, the distilled Water of which is excellent for cleansing and curing Wounds.] 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 727 Bednar [has recommended] for some cases [of whooping-cough] the extract of pulsatilla. 1890 *Daily News* 7 Jan. 6/2 Take at the same time three drops of tincture of pulsatilla every half hour until relief is obtained. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Pulsatilla*, the herb of *Anemone Pulsatilla* and *A. pratensis*, and of *A. patens*, var. *Nuttalliana*, collected soon after flowering..; diaphoretic and emmenagogue.

Pulsation (pʊlsē·ʃən). [ad. L. *pulsātiōn-em*, n. of action f. *pulsāre*: see PULSATE.]

1. The action, or an act, of pulsating or pulsing.

1. The movement of the pulse in a living animal body; rhythmic dilatation and contraction, as of the heart, an artery, etc.; beating, throbbing.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 F ij b, Yf there be all redy vehement pulsacyon, in such wyse that there is no more hope of the curacyon of the sayd partyes. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 859 This motion of the Arteries is called *pulsus* or pulsation..which is absolued by dilatation and contraction. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 9 In a greater Louse you might see this pulsation of her heart through her back also. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 229 The pulsation of the artery was not felt. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 501 Dilatation and pulsation of the larger veins.

b. with *pl.* A beat, throb (of the heart, an artery, etc.); = PULSE *sb.*[1] 1 c.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. I. xxxvii, The Physitians hold, that in evry well dispos'd body, ther be above 4000 Pulsations evry hour. 1747 H. BROOKE *Fables, Female Seducers* Poems (1810) 413/2 Her frame with new pulsations thrill'd. 1834 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 659 The affection is distinguished by the pulsations of the heart appearing more audible in the back..than in the region of the heart itself.

c. *fig.* Cf. PULSE *sb.*[1] 2.

1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xvi, It could neither give fire by pulsation, nor receive it by sympathy. 1848 H. ROGERS *Ess.* (1874) I. vi. 327 The pleasure..of beholding the pulsations, so to speak, of intellectual life. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 15 Apr. 3/1 A little book..warm with the pulsation of individual thought.

2. *gen.* Rhythmical beating, vibration, or undulation: cf. PULSE *sb.*[1] 4.

1658 J. ROWLAND *Mouffet's Theat. Ins.* 1104 They [worms] move from place to place with a certain drawing and pulsation. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xii, As a dove.. Some dolorous message knit below The wild pulsation of her wings. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Art* Wks. (Bohn) III. 17 The pulsation of a stretched string or wire gives the ear the pleasure of sweet sound.

b. with *pl.* A beat, a vibration, an undulation; = PULSE *sb.*[1] 4 b.

1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ix. (1833) 243 A low continuous murmuring sound beneath his feet, which gradually changed into pulsations as it became louder. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii. 52 No sound heard but the pulsations of the great Pacific! 1866 DK. ARGYLL *Reign Law* iii. (1867) 137 The pulsations of the wing in most birds are so rapid that they cannot be counted. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xi. 171 In the open sea, the wave or pulsation is propagated, but the mass of the water..remains stationary.

II. 3. The action of striking, knocking, or beating; with *pl.* A stroke, knock, blow; in quot. 1891 one made by a pulsator (see PULSATOR 2).

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pulsation*, a beating, striking, knocking or thumping. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. viii. 120 The Cornelian law *de injuriis* prohibited pulsation as well as verberation; distinguishing verberation, which was accompanied with pain, from pulsation, which was attended with none. 1891 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 322 A large flap of wood bestows a smart box on the ear,..on the surface of no. 2 pan. I estimated the number of these pulsations at 110 per minute.

Hence **Pulsa·tional** *a.* (*rare*), of, pertaining to, or characterized by pulsation.

1882 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 636 The striations seen athwart the tail..would be explained..as due to the observed pulsational manner in which the envelopes are raised.

Pulsative (pʊ·lsătiv), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *pulsāre*: see PULSATE and -ATIVE.]

1. = PULSATILE 1, PULSATORY. Now *rare.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lxi. (Bodl. MS.), þis veyne hatte pulsatif and is nedefulle to bringe quantite of blood and spurtes to þe lunges. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 112 It is riȝtful þat an arterie schulde arise vpward from bynebe, for þe blood þat is in him is sutil, & his meuynge is pulsatif. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* I. vi. 4 Great inflamations..doe induce payne, and pulsatiue dolour. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. IV. xii. 348 A pulsative pain of the teeth. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 786 Others..have laid bare to us the very pulsative heart of America.

† **2.** = PULSATILE 2. *Obs.*

1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* iv. 176 All other Musical Instruments..whether Pulsative or Pneumatick.

Hence **Pu·lsatively** *adv.* (in quot., with a blow or ? a series of blows).

1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* XV, Handling him by the head, against the wall, pulsatively, [he] stirs up the muffled drum of his outer ear.

Pulsator (pʊlsē·təɹ, pʊ·lsătəɹ). [agent-n. in L. form from *pulsāre*: see PULSATE and -OR.]

1. One who or that which knocks or strikes: see quots.; in quot. 1753 the Death-watch. *rare.*

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pulsator*, one that knocks or strikes. 1730-6 BAILEY (folio), *Pulsa'tor*, the plaintiff or actor. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, *Pulsator*, a name given by some writers to that species of beetle, commonly known among us by the name of the death-watch. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pulsa'tor*, a striker, a beater. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* XX, The pulsator, with pointed toe.., would make a progress in a direct line.

2. A machine, working on the principle of the jigger, for separating diamonds from the earth in which they are found.

1890 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Feb. 2/1 The residue of divers stones of divers sorts and sizes is then jogged about with more water in the 'pulsator'...The machine is a huge framework of graduated sieves and runlets. 1901 *Ibid.* 1 July 8/2 The finer material is graded by the screens of the trommel, and passes direct to the four compartments of a pulsator or jigger of the type used at Kimberley.

3. = PULSOMETER 2.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., *Pulsator*, a name for the *Pulsometer*.

Pulsatory (pʊ·lsătəri), *a.* [f. PULSATE: see -ORY[2].] Having the quality of pulsating; characterized by or of the nature of pulsation; acting or moving in intermittent pulses.

1613 WOTTON *Let. to Sir E. Bacon* 27 May, in *Reliq.* (1672) 418 These external evils do not so much trouble us, as an inward pungent and pulsatory ach within the skull. 1747 LANGRISH *Muscular Motion* iii. § 129 in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV, Let us now..examine whether the nervous Æther is transmitted from the Brain to the Heart, in a pulsatory Manner, at equal Distances of Time. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 535 A pulsatory motion is always felt by the fingers when applied to a leaden water-pipe. 1878 G. B. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 206 A merely intermittent or pulsatory current.

b. = PULSATILE 1.

1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 4 A pulsatory swelling at the fore part of the elbow joint. 1868 DUNCAN tr. *Figuier's Insect World* Introd. 12 Malpighi and Swammerdam..discovered in different insects a pulsatory organ occupying the median line of the back, which appeared to them to be a heart.

Pulsche, obs. form of POLISH *v.*

Pulse (pʊls), *sb.*[1] Forms: *α.* 4-5 **pous**, **powes**, 4-6 **pouce**, 5 **pouse**, **powce**; *β.* 4-6 **puls**, 6 **poulce**, **poulse**, **pulce**, 5- **pulse**. [ME. *pous*, *pouce*, a. OF. *pous* (*c* 1175 in Godef. *Compl.*), *pousse*:—L. *puls-us* (*vēnārum*) the beating of the veins, f. *puls-*, ppl. stem of *pellĕre* to drive, beat; altered in mod.F. to *pouls*, and in late ME. to *pulse* after L.]

1. The 'beating', throbbing, or rhythmically recurrent dilatation of the arteries as the blood is propelled along them by the contractions of the heart in the living body; esp. as felt in arteries near the surface of the body, e. g. in the wrists and temples; usually in reference to its rate and character as indicating the person's state of health; often in phr. *to feel* († *taste*) one's *pulse*. (A pulse also occurs exceptionally in the veins.)

Formerly sometimes construed erron. as a plural.

α. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 9011 He tasted his pous, saw his vryn, He seide he knew his medycyn. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 822 His pouce es stille, with-outen styringes. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 151 A fisician lerneþ diligentli his signes, in veyne, in pows. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Jonathas* 604 He sy hire vryne & eeke felte hir pous. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVII. xv. 712 They..felte his pouse to wyte whether there were ony lyf in hym. 1530 PALSGR. 257/1 Pouce of the arme, *pouce*.

β. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. i. (Tollem. MS.), þe arteries takeþ þe spirite of þe herte, and bereþ forþe to make þe puls. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/2 A Pulse, *pulsus*. 1530 PALSGR. 158 The poulce of a mannes arme. *Ibid.* 259/1 Pulce of mannes arme, *poux*. 1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* VII. 95 Phisitions..take counsell at the pulse. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 55 Giue me your hand, and let mee feele your pulse. 1773 T. PERCIVAL *Ess.* II. 65 In twenty minutes my pulse rose to 88. In half an hour they sunk to 82. 1876 FOSTER *Phys.* I. iv. (1879) 155 The average rate of the human pulse or heart-beat is 72 a minute.

b. *Venous pulse*: see quot.

1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *P[ulse]*, *venous*, a term applied..1. To a pulse carried on from the arteries through the capillaries into the veins, *e.g.* in a secreting salivary gland. 2. To the backward propagation of a pulsation, *e.g.* in tricuspid regurgitation, when pulsation is seen in the great veins and the liver. 3. To variations of pressure in the great veins due to the movements of respiration.

c. Each successive beat or throb of the arteries, or of the heart. Usually in *pl.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xlvii. (1869) 94, I tastede his pouces, but..i fond nouht, in sinewe ne in condyt ne in veyne. 1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. 92 To take hede to the mutacion of his poulces. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 41 At every pulse of the Auricle you might see the bloud passe through this Channel into the heart [of the lamprey]. 1710 J. CLARKE *Rohault's Nat. Phil.* (1729) I. 193 If we will be at the Trouble to count how many Pulses of the Artery there are in the first twenty Vibrations. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* II. 726, I, whose pulses stirred not at javelins showered in the fray.

d. As a vague or incidental measure of time.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 32 For the space of ten pulses. *Ibid.* § 366 A Spoonfull of Spirit of Wine, a little heated, was taken, and it burnt as long as came to 116. Pulses.

† e. *concr.* The place where the pulse occurs or is felt; esp. in the wrist; also an artery or 'pulsating vein'. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* III. 1065 (1114) Per-with his pous and pawmes of his hondes þei gan to frote. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxxxvii. (Tollem. MS.), The saphire keleþ moche in hete of brennynge feueres yf he is honged ny3e þe pulses and þe veynes of þe herte [L. *juxta venas cordis pulsatiles*]. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Q iv b, Wastyng of a brawne, and chyefly of a poulce, so that whan it is pynched it abydeth vpryght. 1614 W. B. *Philosopher's Banquet* (ed. 2) 16 The Artiries..are also called Pulses. 1623 COCKERAM, *Pulse*, a beating veine.

† f. Excessive or violent throbbing, palpitation.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 4 [It] strengthneth the heart, emboldneth it, and driveth away the pulse and pusillanimity thereof.

2. In various figurative or allusive uses, denoting life, vitality, energy, feeling, sentiment, tendency, drift, indication, etc.; with *pl.*, a throb or thrill of life, emotion, etc.

c 1540 [see b]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 92 Thinke you I beare the Sheeres of destiny? Haue I commandement on the pulse of life? 1619 VISCT. DONCASTER in *Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 201 Setting downe my observations upon the pulse of the affayres which I am neerer to feele. 1745 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 91 All this will raise the pulse of the stocks. 1804 WORDSW. '*She was a phantom*' iii, And now I see with eye serene The very pulse of the machine. 1865 R. S. HAWKER *Prose Wks.* (1893) 43 Had this instrument [a barometer], the pulse of the storm, been preserved, the crew would have received warning of the..hurricane.

b. Phr. *To feel* († *try*) *the pulse* († *pulses*) *of* (fig.): to try to discover the sentiments, intentions, drift, etc. of; to 'sound'.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden) I. 288 Godwinus, having no small confidence, after hee hadd once felte his pulses and perceaued his diet. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* a iv, I have runne over some pieces of them, only as to feele their pulse, and informe my selfe of their language and Country. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 263 With whom my Lord had occasion to talk and to feel his Pulse. 1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* 5 He only who has felt the pulse of an age can tell us how fast or slow its heart really beat towards evil or towards good.

† **3.** A stroke, blow, impact; an attack, assault. (Cf. *impulse*, *repulse*, and PULSE *v.* 3 b.) *Obs.*

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1024/1 The commons..ran all into the towne; and there ioine themselues togither to abide the pulse. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* II. iv. 309 Every bodie that is moved by an externe pulse is inanimate. *a* 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. ii, The quick and effectual pulse of the water upon the Rudder.

4. The rhythmical recurrence of strokes, vibrations, or undulations; beating, vibration.

1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Kouὴ* xv. 218 Like the pulse of the flowing Sea. 1660 BOYLE *New Experim. Phys.-Mech.* xxvii. 208 So weak a pulse as that of the ballance of a Watch. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* xvi. 100 That there is such a fluid body..which is the *medium*, or Instrument, by which the pulse of Light is convey'd. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxvii, The measured pulse of racing oars Among the willows. 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 157 Pulse of waters blithely beating, Wave advancing, wave retreating.

b. Each of a rhythmical succession of strokes or undulations; a single vibration or wave; a beat.

1673 NEWTON in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 350 To suppose that there are but two figures, sizes, and degrees of velocity or force, of the ethereal corpuscles or pulses. 1704 — *Optics* (1721) 326 The Vibrations or Pulses of this Medium ..must be swifter than Light. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & B.* IV. xi, When the ear receives any simple sound, it is struck by a single pulse of the air, which makes the ear-drum and the other membranous parts vibrate. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Evening* i, The last faint pulse of quivering light.

c. *Pros.* and *Mus.* A beat or stress in the rhythm of a verse or piece of music.

1885 J. LECKY in *Philol. Soc. Proc.* p. v, Varieties of metre were caused (*a*) by altering the division and coalescence of pulses, as in passing from dactyl to anapest..(*b*) by altering the number of pulses into which the stress-group was divided (substitution of triplets in binary metre, and of duplets in ternary).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (almost all in sense 1 or 2). **a.** attrib., as *pulse-beat, -beating, -place, -rate, -stroke, -throb, -tick.* **b.** objective, etc., as *pulse-counter, -feeling* sb., adj., *pulse-like, -moving, -quickening, -stirring* adjs. **c.** Special Combs.: **pulse-breath** *Path.* (see quots.); **pulse-curve** = *pulse-tracing*; **pulse-glass**, a glass tube with a bulb at each end, or at one end only, containing spirits of wine and rarified air, which when grasped by the hand exhibits a momentary ebullition, which is repeated at each beat of the pulse; †**pulse-pad** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [PAD *sb.*[2] 3], humorous appellation for a medical man; **pulse-tracing**, the curve traced by a sphygmograph, indicating the character of a pulse-wave; †**pulse-vein** *Obs.*, a 'vein' or blood-vessel in which there is a pulse, an artery; †**pulse-watch** *Obs.*, Floyer's name for a sand-glass used for estimating the rate and character of the pulse; **pulse-wave**: see quot. 1897.

1841 EMERSON *Addr., Method Nat.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 222 We do not take up a new book, or meet a new man, without a *pulse-beat of expectation. 1862 C. R. HALL in *Trans. Med.-Chirurg. Soc.* XLV. 167 By the term '*pulse-breath', I wish to signify..an audible pulsation communicated to the breath as it issues from the mouth by each beat of the heart. 1881 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Breath, pulse*, a term applied to a pulsatile movement of the expired air in cases of phthisis, where there is a large cavity either close to the heart and the aorta, or separated from them only by indurated structures. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. iv. P 3 The little *pulse-counter set himself about reviewing the patient's situation. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, **P[ulse] *curve.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 239 *note*, The pulse curve is usually anacrotic. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. ix. 56 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) The instrument called a *pulse-glass is a glass tube with a bulb at each end of the form represented. 1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* I. (1585) 6 The paine [of an abscess] is *pulslike beating mixt with pricking and some itching. 1706 BAYNARD in Sir J. Floyer *Hot & Cold Bath.* II. 202 These *Pulse-pads, these Bedside Banditti. 1644 G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 262 They say, that divers who were esteemed dead have been annointed with old Oyl in the five principal *pulse-places, and revived. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 799 The temperature had fallen to 99°; the *pulse-rate was 110. 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poems* (1847) 86 Feel every *pulse-stroke thrill of good. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict. in Florence* vi, One whom each fainter *pulse-tick pains. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 314 This change is only maintained during the bath; after it the *pulse-tracing returns to its former standard. 1658 A. FOX *Würtz' Surg.* v. 353, I called for help, intreating them to cut the *pulse vein on my left temple. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 17 Dec., Sir Joh. Floyer [is printing] an Invention of a *Pulse-Watch w^ch being nicely set and adjusted to a Man's Constitution tels him when his Blood & that is out of order. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* Pref., I caused a Pulse-Watch to be made which run 60 Seconds, and I placed it in a Box to be more easily carried, and by this I now feel Pulses. 1753 [see PULSILOGE]. 1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 348 When the tonicity of the arteries is less than it should be, their walls yield too much to the *pulse-wave. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., P[ulse]-waves*, the component elements of the apparently simple movement of the pulsating artery, as detected by the sphygmograph. These are chiefly the summit wave, in which the line of ascent ends; the tidal or first secondary wave, due to the distension of the arteries; and the dicrotic or great secondary wave, produced probably by the aortic recoil.

Pulse (pʌls), *sb.*[2] Forms: (3 pols-, 4 pols', puls'), 5–7 puls, 6 poulse, poultz, *dial.* pousse, 7 powse, pulce, 8–9 *dial.* pouse, 6– pulse. [a. OF. *pols, pouls, pous* (Godef.), in mod.Norm. dial. *pouls*, in other dialects *poul, pou* :—L. *puls* pottage made of meal, pulse, etc. See also PULTS.]

1. The edible seeds of leguminous plants cultivated for food, as peas, beans, lentils, etc. **a.** *collective singular*: sometimes const. as *pl.*

1297 [see PULSE-CORN]. 1355–6 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 6 De j quarterio pols' vendito. 1388–9 *Ibid.* 53 Et de xij d. de puls' vendito. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiii. 77 Whiche of it selfe is lest among al pulse. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 644 In Cods the Poulse, the Corn within the Ear. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 570 Pulse (as we call them) that is..such graine as is inclosed in coddes or huskes. 1694 WESTMACOTT *Script. Herb.* 22 Field Beans and Powse do feed horses. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 215 Daniel ate pulse by choice—example rare! *a* 1822 *Old Rime* in *Gentl. Mag.* XCII. I. 15/1 Thee eat thy pouse, and I will drink my beer. 1826 SOUTHEY in *Q. Rev.* XXXIII. 406 A soup composed merely of a few pulse. 1865 SIR T. SEATON *Cadet to Colonel* ix. 165 To search for and secure all grain, flour, pulse, and food of every description.

b. with *a* and *pl.* A kind or sort of such seeds.

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. v. 52 The priest may not loke vpon a beane, for that it is iudged an vncleane puls. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VII. iv. 505 They sowed their land for bread and pulses, which they vsed. 1681 tr. *Belon's Myst. Physick* 47 All sorts of Milk-meats, Sauces, Pulces, Fruits. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 141 There are several other Pulses or Seeds mentioned in many Authors. 1758 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. (1760) 86 The least of all pulses is the lentil.

2. a. *collective sing.* (sometimes const. as *pl.*) Plants yielding pulse; esculent leguminous plants.

1388–9 *Abingdon Acc.* (Camden) 53 Et de xij d. de stramine puls' vendito. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 304 Deriued of the moste vsed Poultz called cicer. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 260 All kyndes of pulse, as beanes, peason, tares, and suche other. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 110 Where Vetches, Pulse, and Tares have stood, And Stalks of Lupines grew. 1760–72 tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) I. 123 Here are no pulse or pot-herbs of any kind. 1807 CRABBE *Parish Reg.* I. 141 High climb his pulse in many an even row. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 48 Pulse grows everywhere.

b. *individual sing.* (with *pl.*) An esculent leguminous plant, or a species of such.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 55 For fodder now is tyme, and euery puls.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pulse crop*, †*-shell* (*shale*), *-stick* (cf. *pea-stick*), *tribe*; also PULSE-CORN.

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal, Sat.* xiv, A pulse-shale more I value, than the whole town's praise. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* iii. (1794) 39 The leguminous or pulse tribe. 1830 *Kyle Farm Rep.* 35 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A luxuriant pulse crop of itself fertilizes the soil. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* vii, A hook and a bit of worm on it,.. or a blow-fly, hung from a hazel pulse-stick.

Pulse (pʌls), *v.* Also 6 pulce. [ad. L. *pulsāre* to push, drive, strike, beat, freq. of *pellĕre* to drive, strike, beat. In sense 1 prob. in part from F. *pousser*, formerly *polser, poulser* (15th c. in Littré); in other senses more directly connected in use with PULSE *sb.*[1], and *pulsate, pulsation*, etc.]

†**1.** *trans.* To drive, impel; to drive *forth*, expel. *Obs.* (exc. as in 4).

1549 *Compl. Scot.* XV. 125 Necessite pulsis and constrenes me to cry on god. *Ibid.* XVI. 139 3our ignorance, inconstance, ande inciuilite, pulcis 3ou to perpetrat intollerabil exactions. 1573 TWYNE *Æneid* X. (1584) Q v, Pulst forth through spite from princely throne [L. *Pulsus ob invidiam solio*]. 1586 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 111 The Douglassis wes pulsit up to this be thame quha advanceit thameselffis to be farrest in his Hienes secreitis. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1752) 203 The heart..doth..cast it [the blood] forth, and pulse it to all, even the extremest parts.

2. *intr.* To beat, throb, as the heart, etc.: = PULSATE 1 (but now only in literary use).

1559, 1664 [see PULSING *ppl. a.*]. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. XXXVII. 82 For the Umbilical Arteries of a live Child being bound, as yet cleaving to the Mother.. they pulse between the Ligature and the Child. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 35 The Heart, when separated wholly from the Body in some Animals, continues still to pulse for a considerable time. 1864 DUTTON COOK *Trials of Tredgolds* II. 118 The heart pulsed very, very feebly; his eyes were closed again. 1895 F. E. TROLLOPE *F. Trollope* I. i. 6 The warm blood pulsed beneath high-waisted gowns.

b. *fig.* or in figurative allusion, in reference to life, energy, influences, feelings, etc.: = PULSATE 1 b: cf. PULSE *sb.*[1] 2.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 105 The mass Of nature's lives and wonders puls'd tenfold. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* V. § 1. 216 The throb of hope and glory which pulsed at its outset.. died into inaction or despair. 1888 *Times* 26 June 9/5 The outward and sensible expression of the never-resting flow of thought, action, and feeling which pulses through it [London].

3. *intr. gen.* To perform or exhibit a rhythmic movement; to beat, vibrate, undulate: = PULSATE 2.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. i. (1872) 88 Playing and pulsing like sunshine or soft lightning. 1873 J. GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* iv. 41 The heat of the sun..pulses through the great piles of ice that cumber the higher elevations of Alpine countries. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* June 117/1 The thermal water..pulsed out of the cleft of the rock. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* II. vii. 285 You could hear the regular galloping of a horse, pulsing in the dark like some muffled pendulum.

¶ **b.** To make recurrent sallies or attacks.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* I. iv. (1872) 30 His studies were.. pulsing out with impetuous irregularity now on this tract, now on that. 1865 — *Fredk. Gt.* XX. v. (1872) IX. 89 Such charging and recharging, pulsing and repulsing, has there been. *Ibid.* VII. 146 Broglio, on the other hand, keeps violently pulsing out, round Ferdinand's flanks.

4. *trans.* To drive or send out in or by pulses or rhythmic beats.

1819 KEATS *Isabella* vi, The ruddy tide Stifled his voice, and pulsed resolve away. 1861 LOWELL *Washers of Shroud* ii, Pale fireflies pulsed within the meadow-mist Their halos, wavering thistledowns of light. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Ins.* II. iii. 371 Life is not dead, but living?..coming down and out, always;..pulsed into us, not set outside of us to grasp and define.

†**Pu·lse-corn.** *Obs. rare.* Also 3 polscorn. [f. PULSE *sb.*[2] + CORN *sb.*[1]] = PULSE *sb.*[2] 1 a, 2 a.

1297 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) II. 174/2 (Cheddington) Polscorn. 1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* 24 b, All sortes of pulse corne, as Pease, Beanes, Tares, and Fitches.

Pulseful (pʌ·lsiful), *a. rare.* [f. PULSE *sb.*[1] + -FUL.] Full of pulses, pulsations, or throbbing.

a 1861 D. GRAY *Poet. Wks.* (1874) 193 The partridge cowers beside thy loamy flow In pulseful tremor.

Pulseless (pʌ·lsiles), *a.* [f. as prec. + -LESS.] **1.** Having or exhibiting no pulse or pulsation, as a body in which the heart has ceased to beat.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) VIII. xxiii. 100 While warm, though pulseless, we pressed each her hand with our lips. 1822 SHELLEY *Hellas* 142 His cold pale limbs and pulseless arteries. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* viii. (ed. 2) 302 In shock the injured person lies pale, faint,.. almost pulseless.

2. *fig.* and *gen.* Devoid of life, energy, or movement; void of feeling, unfeeling, pitiless (quot. 1856); motionless; lifeless.

1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* II. ix, There he stood, the pulseless man, The calculating lord. 1861 E. S. KENNEDY in *Peaks, Passes*, etc., Ser. II. I. 170 So often as she came, so often there floated on the pulseless air the gentle moan 'Mort Aratsch'. 1873 W. S. MAYO *Never Again* xxxii, Better than Joys of pale and pulseless Life, The agony of Strife.

Hence **Pu·lselessness.**

1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Pulselessness*, asphyxia. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 20 July 85/2 [He] points out the difference between the meanings of the terms asphyxia and apnoea, the former standing for pulselessness and the latter for breathlessness.

‖ **Pulsellum** (pʌlse·lʌm). *Zool.* Pl. **-a.** [mod. L., f. *puls-*, ppl. stem of *pellĕre* to drive, after FLAGELLUM.] A modified form of flagellum found in spermatozoa and certain infusorians, serving to propel the body through a liquid medium.

1880 KENT *Infusoria* I. 429 Among the free-swimming monoflagellate Infusoria as at present known, where the locomotive appendage without exception fulfils during natation the rôle of a tractellum, its recognition by such title in contradistinction to a propelling organ or pulsellum is uncalled for. 1885 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 859/1 The flagellum of the Flagellata is totally distinct from the pulsellum of the Bacteria.

Pulshe, obs. form of POLISH *v.*

†**Pulsidge.** *Obs.* Humorous blunder for PULSE.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 25 You are in an excellent good temperalitie: your Pulsidge beates as extraordinarily, as heart would desire.

Pulsi·fic, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *puls-us* PULSE *sb.*[1] + -FIC.] Producing or causing the pulse or pulsation of the arteries; also, characterized by pulsation, pulsatory, throbbing.

1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* VIII. xix. 314 Cruell symptomes doe follow, as pulsifique paine, a feaver, restlessnesse. *Ibid.* XX. vii. 772 The oppression of the vitall and pulsifick faculty by a cloud of grosse vapours. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iii. § 17. 161 A pulsifick corporeal quality in the substance of the heart itself, is very unphilosophical and absurd. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 425 The pulsific Motion of the Blood continually thrusting on. 1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Pulsific*, that which causes or excites pulsation. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Pu·lsiloge.** *Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *pulsilogium*, f. *puls-us* PULSE *sb.*[1], after *horologium*, HOROLOGE.] (See quots.)

[1753 CHAMBER *Cycl. Supp., Pulsilogium*, a name given by authors to a pulse-watch, or instrument to measure the celerity of the pulse.] 1812 *Edin. Rev.* XX. 185 Sanctorio.. applied the pendulum to determine the quickness of the pulse, forming what he called a *pulsiloge*, in which the string suspending a ball was gradually shortened, till its vibrations corresponded with the beats.

Pulsimeter (pʌlsi·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *pulsus* PULSE *sb.*[1] + -METER. Cf. PULSOMETER.] An instrument for measuring the rate or force of the pulse. Also *attrib.*, as *pulsimeter watch.*

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* 1894 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 26 May 1132/1 The advantages claimed for the 'Pulsimeter' watch are economy of time, accuracy of record, and the possibility of taking the pulse in the dark without any inconvenience to the patient.

Pu·lsing, *vbl. sb.* [f. PULSE *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PULSE: rhythmical beating, throbbing, or flowing.

1839 BAILEY *Festus* xix. (1852) 281 Ceaseless as the pulsings of the blood. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. XV, The pulsings of his own soul, if he have any soul, alone audible. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 133, I could hear..the pulsing of the sea.

Pu·lsing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2].] That beats, throbs, or flows with rhythmic cadence.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 359 This oyll anointed vpon the pulsing veynes, where they appeare moste. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 4 If you divide the Bee..near the necke, you shall..see the heart beat most lively, which is a white pulsing vesicle. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 250/2 The pulsing torrent rushes through the arteries.

Pulsion (pʌ·lʃən). Now *rare.* [ad. L. *pulsio, -ōn-em*, n. of action from *pell-ĕre, puls-* to drive, push.] The action of driving or pushing. In first quot., the beating of the pulse.

1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* V. iii. (1678) 107 There may ensue..a deadly interception of the pulsion of the brain. 1656 tr. *Hobbes' Elem. Philos.* (1839) 214 One motion is pulsion or driving, another traction or drawing. Pulsion, when the movent makes the moved body go before it; and traction, when it makes it follow. 1731 S. HALES *Stat. Ess.* I. 111 If this great quantity [of sap] were carried up by pulsion or trusion. 1836–48 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Clouds* I. iv, Pulsion, and prension.

attrib. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 363 Acquired malformations [of the œsophagus]—Pressure pouches...pharyngeal pouches, pharyngoceles, pulsion diverticula.

Pulsive (pʌ·lsiv), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. L. *puls-*, ppl. stem of *pell-ĕre* to drive, impel + -IVE.]

1. Having the quality of driving or impelling; constraining, compelling; impulsive; propulsive.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, What I here speake is forced from my lips By the pulsive straine of conscience. *a* 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. i. § 85 The Tractive and Pulsive forces upon swimming Bodies. 1888 R. G. H[ILL] *Voices in Solitude* 83 The whirl of the wheels went on at length With the pulsive strain of their started strength.

†2. Beating or throbbing as the heart, etc. *Obs.*
1611 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Coriat's Commend.* Wks. II. 91/1 Such a straine That shall euen cracke my pulsiue pia mater In warbling thy renowne by land and water. 1630 — *Descr. Eng. Poetry* ibid. 248/2 In end my pulsiue braine no Art affoords, To mint or stamp, or forge new coyned words.

Pulsometer (pʌlsɒ·mɪtəɹ). [irreg. f. L. *pulsus* Pulse *sb.*[1] + -meter, after *barometer*, etc.]

1. = Pulsimeter.
1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pulsometrum*, term for an instrument for measuring or calculating the variations of the pulse: a pulsometer.

2. A name for a kind of steam-condensing vacuum-pump, with two chambers so arranged that the steam is condensed in, and the water admitted to each alternately: so called from the pulsatory action of the steam. Also *pulsometer pump*. (Not being a *measuring* instrument, it is preferably called *pulsator*.)
1875 Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Pulsometer*,..a form of vacuum pump. 1881 *Mechanical World* 24 Dec. Advt., The Pulsometer Engineering Company Limited. 1891 *Daily News* 2 Sept. 3/1 The water is heated by means of a horizontal tubular boiler, a six-horse power engine, a centrifugal pump, and two pulsometer pumps. 1900 F. T. Bullen *Idylls of Sea* 265 My heart worked like a pulsometer.

†**Pu·lsor.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [agent-n. from L. *pellĕre*, *puls-* to drive, impel: see -or 2.] One who or that which drives or impels.
1666 J. Smith *Old Age* (1676) 242 The great artery..is to us the most apparent Pulsor; we can feel the blood to be forced along its Cavity.

Pulsshe, obs. form of Polish *v.*

Pult, parallel form of Pilt *v.* and *sb. Obs.*

Pultaceous (pʌltēi·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *puls*, *pultem* pap, pottage + -aceous.]

1. Of the nature or consistency of pap or of a poultice; soft, semi-fluid, pulpy.
1668 *Phil. Trans.* III. 751 He first denyeth, that the Testes are glandulous or pultaceous. 1738 Stuart *ibid.* XL. 327 A soft white pultaceous Matter. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 71/1 In infancy the brain is extremely soft, almost pultaceous. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 403 Pultaceous or even solid food may be remarkably well borne.

2. Of the nature or class of pulse.
1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* III. 667 Barley, peas and other pultaceous grain.

Pultar, -er, etc., **Pulterer, Pult(e)rie**, obs. forms of Poulter, etc.

Pultas, obs. or dial. form of Poultice.

†**Pu·lter.** *Obs. rare*[−1].
In quot. prob. an error for *pultre*, Poultry, fowls. (The whole passage is composed in the language of falconry, and some of the allusions are obscure.)
1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* II. 165 But þe blernyed boynard þat his bagg stall, Where purraileis pulter was pynnyd ffull ofte, Made þe ffawcon to ffloter and ffiussh ffor anger, That þe boy hadd be bounde þat þe bagge kepte.

Pultes, -ess, -ice, obs. or dial. ff. Poultice.

†**Pulti·fical**, *a. Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *puls*, *pultem* pottage + -fic + -al.]
1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Pultifical*,..wherewith Pottage, Pap, or such like meat is made.

Pultis(e, -oss, Pultre, Pultron(e, -oon, -owne, obs. ff. Poultice, Poultry, Poltroon.

†**Pults.** *Obs. rare.* [app. ad. med.L. *pultes* any victuals prepared by boiling (Du Cange), pl. of L. *puls*, *pultem* pap, pottage (see Pulse *sb.*[2]); cf. It. *pulta*, *polta* 'grewell, battre, or pap' (Florio).] Soft boiled food, pap, pottage.
c 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* S ij, Geue vnto the pacient.. two pennye weightes of bay beris made to pouder wyth a soft Egge or pults, without doubt the pacyent shalbe made hole.

‖ **Pultun** (pʊ·ltʊn). *E. Ind.* Also **pultan, -on, -oon.** [Hindī *paltan*, ad. Tamil and Telugu *paṭālan*, ad. Eng. *battalion* (the Eng. word having been first adopted in Southern India).] A regiment of infantry in India.
1800 Wellington in Gurw. *Desp.* (1834) I. 21*, I..shall probably destroy some campoos and pultans, which have been indiscreetly pushed across the Kistna. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 294 *Campos* and *pultuns* (battalions) under European adventurers. 1895 Mrs. B. M. Croker *Village Tales* (1896) 60, I know lots of Sahibs in a pultoon (i. e. regiment) at Bareilly.

‖ **Pulu** (pū·lū). [Hawaiian.] A fine yellowish silky vegetable wool obtained from the base of the leaf-stalks of the Hawaiian tree-ferns, *Cibotium menziesii*, *C. chamissoi*, and *C. glaucum*.
1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Pu-lu*, a species of brown thistle-down imported from the Sandwich islands, to mix with silk in the manufacture of hats. 1864 in Webster. 1888 Hillebrand *Flora Hawaii Is.* 546 The base of the leaf stalks is densely covered with a soft and glossy yellowish wool, which is used for stuffing mattresses and pillows, and under the name of pulu forms a regular article of export to California.

†**Puluere**, obs. f. Pilliver, pillow-case, pillow.
c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 681 He wende ful witerly sche were in is armes; ac peter! it nas but is puluere.

†**Pu·lver**, *sb. Obs.* [ad. L. *pulver-em* (nom. *pulvis*) powder, dust.] Powder, dust.
1502 Atkynson tr. *De Imitatione* III. ix. 204 Good lorde, I speke to the of my presumpcion, natwithstandinge that I am but puluer & asshes. 1535 Stewart *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 423 In puluer small gart birne thame euerie one. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 28/1 Mixe these prænominated pulvers..addinge heerunto the Suger.

b. **Pulver Wednesday** = Ash-Wednesday.
c 1454 Agnes Paston in *P. Lett.* I. 270 Wretyn at Norwyche on Pulver Wedenesday.

†**Pu·lver,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *pulver-āre*, f. *pulver-*: see prec.] *trans.* To reduce to powder, to pulverize. Hence †**Pu·lvered** *ppl. a.*, †**Pu·lvering** *vbl. sb.*, sprinkling of ashes; *pulvering day*, Ash Wednesday.
1621 G. Sandys *Ovid's Met.* VII. (1626) 129 As pulvered flints [*ed.* 1632 lime of flints] infurnest under ground By sprinkled water fire conceive. 1754 T. Gardner *Hist. Dunwich* 193 On pulvering Days, when Disposition of the said Lands was made, but not confirmed till St. Nicholas's Day. 1778 [implied in Pulverer].

Pulverable (pʊ·lvĕrăb'l), *a.* [f. as prec. vb. + -able.] Capable of being crushed or ground down to powder; pulverizable.
1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Pulverable*, hard things (as oyster-shells) brought to pouder. 1680 Boyle *Produc. Chem. Princ.* IV. 167 Some liquid substances afforded by wounded plants, that..turned into consistent and pulverable bodies. 1789 Nicholson in *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 274 If a little mercury be added to melted zinc, it renders it easily pulverable. 1869 J. E. Halliday in *Student* II. 228 Trap-rock,..very soft and pulverable.

Pulveraceous (pʊlvĕrēi·ʃəs), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [f. L. *pulver-em* powder, dust + -aceous.] Covered or sprinkled with powder; pulverulent.
1864 Gray in Webster.

†**Pulverain.** *Obs.* [Corruption of Fr. *pulvérin* (*c* 1600 in Littré), = It. *polverino*, f. *polvere*:—L. *pulverem* powder.] A powder-horn, esp. one for priming-powder. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Pu·lveral,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *pulvĕr-em* Pulver *sb.* + -al.] In the state of powder.
1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 178 Solid..or pulverall, which must be snuffed up.

†**Pu·lverate,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *pulverāt-*, ppl. stem of *pulverāre* to powder: cf. Pulver *v.*] *trans.* To reduce to powder, to pulverize.
1615 G. Sandys *Trav.* 65 They litter them in their owne dung, first dried in the Sunne and puluerated. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 60 Some cannot be so exactly pulverated by beating.

Pulveration (pʊlvĕrēi·ʃən). [ad. L. *pulveratiōn-em*, n. of action f. *pulverāre*: see prec.] Reduction to powder or dust; pulverization.
1623 Cockeram, *Pulueration*, a beating into powder. 1733 Tull *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* v. 43 No further..than the Hoe-Plow could turn it up, and help it in its Pulveration. 1866 C. W. Hoskyns *Occas. Ess.* 103 The deep and perfect pulveration of the soil.

‖ **Pulverators** (pʊlvĕreitō·rēz), *sb. pl. Ornith.* [mod.L., pl. of *pulverātor*, agent-n. from L. *pulverāre* to powder; in F. *pulvérateurs* (Buffon 1771).] Birds which habitually roll themselves in the dust, as the *Rasores*.

†**Pulveratricious** (pʊlvĕrătrĭ·ʃəs), *a. Obs.* [f. mod.L. *pulverātrix*, *-trīc-em* (see next) + -ious.] Of, belonging to, or characteristic of birds that roll themselves in the dust.
1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Introd., Birds, which.. are pulveratricious and wild; as the Peacock, japonian, and turky. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* III. ii. 371 The colour of the feathers..comes near to that of pulveratricious birds. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 313/1 Pulveratricious [is] an earthly kind of colour, mouse-colour. *Ibid.*, *Pulveratriceous*, covered with a dusty colour.

‖ **Pulveratrix** (pʊlvĕrēi·triks). *Ornith. rare.* Pl. **-atri·ces.** [mod.L., fem. of *pulverātor*, agent-n. from *pulverāre* to powder (sc. *avis* bird); in F. *pulvératrice* (Littré).] A bird which cleanses itself by wallowing in dust.
Cf. Aristotle's κονιστικοί, *Hist. An.* 9. 49 B, 10.
1770 G. White *Selborne* 8 Oct., Ray remarks that birds of the *Gallinæ* order, as cocks and hens, partridges and pheasants, are *pulveratrices*, such as dust themselves... Common house-sparrows are great *pulveratrices*, being frequently seen grovelling and wallowing in dusty roads.

†**Pulve·reous,** *a. Obs. rare*[−0]. [f. L. *pulvere-us* dusty (f. *pulver-em* powder, dust) + -ous.]
1656 Blount, *Pulvereous*, dusty, of dust, full of dust.

†**Pu·lverer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Pulver *v.* + -er[1].] A pulverizer, an instrument for pulverizing the soil.
1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 54 *note*, If used as a Pulverer and Compressor of fallows, this acting Bar ought to be set deeper.

Pulverescence (pʊlvĕre·sĕns). *Bot.* [f. as next + *-escence*: see -ence.] Incipient powderiness; tendency to become powdery.
1828 R. K. Greville *Sc. Cryptog. Flora* VI. 338 Hoary, with a white pulverescence. 1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pulverescentia*..of a vegetable surface when covered with a kind of *farina*..as in the *Chenopodium purpureum*: pulverescence. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pulverescent (pʊlvĕre·sĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *pulver-em* dust + -escent.] Tending to fall into powder; becoming powdery.
1805 Musket in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 168 It was..found to be very fine ore of iron in a pulverescent state.

Pulverilentous, obs. f. Pulverulentous.

Pulverine (pʊ·lvĕrin). Also -in. [Cf. It. *polverina* dust, fine powder.] Ashes of barilla.
1836 in Smart. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, *Pulverine*, barilla ashes.

Pulverizable (pʊ·lvĕrəizăb'l), *a.* [f. Pulverize *v.* + -able. So F. *pulvérisable* (Littré).] Capable of being pulverized or reduced to powder.
1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* II. 60 Boil them until they are pulverisable. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* I. xi. 462 An earthy pulverizable matter. *c* 1865 J. Wylde in *Circ. Sc.* I. 18/2 Tin becomes pulverisable..at high temperatures.

†**Pu·lverizate,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [ad. *pulverizāt-us*, pa. pple. of late L. *pulverizāre* to Pulverize.] Pulverized, reduced to powder.
1471 Ripley *Comp. Alch.* XI. vi. in Ashm. (1652) 182 Lyke as Saffron when yt ys pulveryzate.

†**Pu·lverizate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *pulverizāre*: see prec.] *trans.* = Pulverize.
1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 49 b/1 That all these Poulders be verye diminutlye pulverisated. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 1/2 Pulverisate it verye smalle. 1604–13 R. Cawdrey *Table Alph.*, *Puluerisated*, beaten or broken into dust, or powder.

Pulverization (pʊlvĕrəizēi·ʃən). [n. of action f. late L. *pulverizāre* to pulverize: cf. F. *pulvérisation* (Oudin 1642).]

1. The action of pulverizing; reduction to the state of powder or dust.
[1657 *Physical Dict.*, *Pulverication*, bringing to pouder.] 1658 Phillips, *Pulverisation*, a breaking to dust, a reducing into powder. 1763 Mills *Pract. Husb.* II. 197 Brought to that state of pulverization, in which alone plants can thrive well. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 64 Rains, alternate frosts, and thaws, greatly assist its pulverization.

b. *techn.* The separation (of a liquid) into minute particles, as spray.
1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-Bk. Med.* 207 Method of rendering Medicated Liquids Respirable by Pulverisation. 1863 *Ibid.* 421 Pulverization of liquids for Therapeutic Purposes.

c. *fig.* Crushing morally, reducing to nullity, utter demolition (of arguments, statements, etc.).
1873 Morley *Rousseau* II. i. 42 This criticism..marks a beginning of true democracy, as distinguished from the mere pulverisation of aristocracy. 1884 *Chr. World* 13 Mar. 192/5 The complete pulverisation of their case by the Minister whom they approached. 1897 *Windsor Mag.* Jan. 282/2 That the *Saturday Review* devote to your pulverisation two pages and a 'par'.

2. *concr.* A pulverized product or material.
1896 in *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 18 Mar. 11/3 The pulverizations gradually find a place on the lowest levels of the ocean.

Pulverizator (pʊ·lvĕrəizēi·təɹ). [Agent-noun from late L. *pulverizāre* to pulverize: so mod.F. *pulvérisateur* (Littré).] An instrument for reducing to powder; also, an apparatus for scattering powder or ejecting liquid in the form of spray.
1890 *Kew Bulletin* 191 It is mixed as a powder..and blown with 'pulverizators' on to the vine leaves. 1894 *Dublin Rev.* Oct. 433 There have been many patents taken out in Russia for injectors or pulverisators.

Pulverize (pʊ·lvĕrəiz), *v.* [ad. late L. *pulverizāre*, or F. *pulvériser* (Paré 16th c.), †*polveriser* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. L. *pulver-em*: see Pulver *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To reduce to powder or dust; to comminute, to triturate. Also *refl.*
1585 T. Washington tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxii. 60 b, A drugge..which being puluerised and tempered in water, they rubbe vppon..the bodye. 1605 Sylvester *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 1142 The zealous Prophet with just fury mov'd..pulveriz'd their Idol. *c* 1790 Imison *Sch. Art* II. 69 Let it dry, and then pulverize it. 1868 Rogers *Pol. Econ.* xii. (1876) 154 Cultivable land must be pulverised and watered. 1869 J. Martineau *Ess.* II. 235 The solid ground of life was pulverizing itself away.

b. *techn.* To divide (a liquid) into minute particles or spray.
1807 J. Barlow *Columb.* VI. 230 Stroke after stroke with doubling force he plied, Foil'd the hoar Fiend and pulverized the tide.

2. *fig.* To demolish or destroy, to break down utterly; to 'smash'.
1631 Massinger *Believe as you List* I. ii, You shall..Feel really that we have iron hammers To pulverize rebellion. 1684 Baxter *Twelve Argts.* Post. M ij, Between both which Truth and Peace is broken, and the Church pulverized. 1813 *Examiner* 17 May 313/1 Which, like a clap of thunder, has pulverized..chimerical hopes. 1864 J. H. Newman *Apol.* iii. (1865) 117 The theory of the *Via Media* was absolutely pulverized. 1895 Col. Maurice in *United Service Mag.* July 428 The four battalions..were..pulverised and driven helter-skelter partly among the defendants.

b. To dissipate in minute portions. *rare.*
1834 Sir W. Hamilton *Discuss.* (1852) 373 The responsibility was so pulverized among a passing multitude of nameless individuals.

3. *intr.* To crumble or fall to dust; to become disintegrated. Also *fig.*
1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 147 If they are ploughed in November or December, the rains, snow, and frost, make them pulverize easily. 1860 Emerson *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 394 The stern old faiths have all pulverized. 1866 Lawrence tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 267 Sometimes these varieties [of limestone] pulverise to a crystalline sand.

4. *intr.* Of a bird: To roll in the dust; to take a dust-bath. *rare.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Hence **Pu·lverized** *ppl. a.*; **Pu·lverizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxiv. 288 That..pul-

verized Dose. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 29 The man that lived there must be dried up sufficiently for pulverising. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 363 Manures are found to enrich the best pulverised soil. 1832 CARLYLE *Misc., Death Goethe* (1857) III. 110 The wrecks and pulverised rubbish of ancient things. 1832 *Planting* 37 (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) The pulverizing action of the sun and air.

Pulverizer (pʌ·lvĕrəizəɹ). [f. PULVERIZE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who or that which pulverizes; an instrument or machine that reduces to powder; also *techn.* one that reduces a liquid to spray.

1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 724 The high conservative, Fraser! the pulveriser of Voluntaryism, Radicalism, and Popery! 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 July 58/1 For the best subsoil pulveriser, £10. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 18 There are also spray-producing douches..absurdly named water pulverizers. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 23 May 12/1 The crushing of the ores by the pulverizer.

Pulverous (pʌ·lvĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *pulver-em* dust + -OUS.] Powdery; dusty.

1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 24 Soils.. are stiff or light; that is, tenacious or pulverous. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 13 Oct., The trees and the herbage were powdered thick with pulverous particles.

Pulve·rulence. [f. as next, as if from a L. **pulverulentia*: see -ENCE.] Dustiness, powder.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Pulverulence*, dustiness. 1837 J. T. SMITH tr. *Vicat's Mortars* 131 This movement is obliged to be subdivided..into an infinite number of partial contractions, whence arises pulverulence.

Pulverulent (pʌlve·rĭʔlĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *pulverulent-us* dusty, f. *pulver-em* dust, powder: see -LENT. So mod.F. *pulvérulent* (1801 in Littré).]

1. Consisting of or having the form of powder or dust; powdery.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pulverulent*, dusty, of dust, full of dust. 1806 SAUNDERS *Mineral Waters* I. 20 The glutinous part of wheat flour, [which is] dry and pulverulent. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 316 In Lycopodium..the pulverulent thecæ occupy the upper ends of the shoots. 1883 *Athenæum* 11 Aug. 183/2 The announcement by M. Spring that a pressure of 5,000 atmospheres caused pulverulent matters to aggregate into crystalline masses.

2. Covered with powder or dust; dusty; spec. in *Entom.* and *Bot.*

1744 AKENSIDE *Poet*, On shelves pulverulent, majestic stands His library. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 275 *Pulverulent*, ..covered with very minute powder-like scales. 1828 R. K. GREVILLE *Sc. Crypt. Flora* VI. 338 Peritheciа..white and pulverulent.

3. Of very slight cohesion; crumbling to dust.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 500 Calcareous stone is also found in the pulverulent form; and of this kind is chalk. 1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* II. 381 Ashes, sand, and light pulverulent scoriæ. 1856 CARPENTER *Microsc.* 373 A thallus ..which has no very defined limit, and which, in consequence of the very slight adhesion of its component cells, is said to be 'pulverulent'. 1882 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* II. II. iii. 91 A rock is said to be..pulverulent, when it readily falls to powder.

4. Pulverizing. *rare. erroneous.*

1864 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 260 The pulverulent effect [on masses of stone] of original precipitation to glacier level from two or three thousand feet above.

5. Of birds: Characterized by or addicted to lying or rolling in the dust.

1828 in WEBSTER. 1869 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Rept. & Birds* v. 410 Partridges have, like the Quail, the pulverulent instinct.

Hence **Pulve·rulently** *adv.*, in a powdery or dusty manner. † **Pulverule·ntous** *a.* (in quot. pulveri-), pulverulent. *Obs. rare.*

1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1594 We have many sorts [of myrrh]..great and small, fat and dry, pulverilentous like, pale and more red. 1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 113 Corolla pulverulently rough within.

Pulve·rulous, *a. rare.* [From *pulverulent*, with change of suffix.] = PULVERULENT.

1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 219 About an ounce of the vitreous acid (not the opaque or pulverulous) should be dissolved in three ounces of the acid.

Pulvil (pʌ·lvil), *sb. arch.* Also 7 polvil, 8 pulville, -ile. [ad. It. *polviglio*: see PULVILIO.] Cosmetic or perfumed powder for powdering the wig or perfuming the person.

1691 *Islington Wells* 13 Saluted by the Fragrancy Of Powder de Orange, Jesmine, Pulvil, or something else. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xlvi. 375 Great Ladies.. with their..Polvil, Postillo's and Cosmeticks. 1700 FARQUHAR *Constant Couple* I. i, How many pound of Pulvil must the Fellow use in sweetening himself from the smell of Hops and Tobacco? *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *Burlesque Elegy* vi, The huge wig, in formal curls arrayed, With pulvile pregnant.

b. *transf.* Applied to snuff; also, any impalpable powder, as magnesia.

1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* XIX. *Farewell Snuff* i, The precious pulvil from Hibernia's shore. 1807 *Edin. Rev.* XI. 117 Adding but a little of the water at a time..and carefully and patiently rubbing it up with the refractory pulvil.

c. *attrib.* or *adj.* Of perfume; perfumed.

1690 *Songs Costume* (Percy Soc.) 187 To play at ombre, or basset, She a rich pulvil purse must get.

† **Pu·lvil,** *v. Obs.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To powder or perfume with pulvil. Hence † **Pu·lvilled** *ppl. a.*

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* IV. i, Have you pulvill'd the Coachman and Postilion that they may not stink of the Stable when Sir Rowland comes by? *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Sat. agst. Woman* 100 The sooty negro, and the pulvill'd beau.

‖ **Pulvilio, -villio** (pulvi·lyo). *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* [a. It. *polviglio* fine or subtile powder, cosmetic powder, deriv. of *polve, polvere* powder.] = PULVIL.

1675 WYCHERLEY *Country Wife* IV. i, I have dressed you ..and spent upon you ounces of essence and pulvillio. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 63 ¶ 3 The Flowers perfumed the Air with Smells of Incense, Amber-greese, and Pulvillios. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* I. i, His vest of silk..showing a profusion of frill, slightly sprinkled with the pulvilio of his favourite martinique. 1892 LD. LYTTON *King Poppy* I. 235 The jewell'd box Wherein he carried his pulvilio.

attrib. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* II. i, Since you have these two Pulvillio Boxes, these Essence Bottles [etc.]. 1901 GUY BOOTHBY *My Indian Queen* i, The multitude of patch and pulvillio boxes.

Pu·lvilized, *ppl. a.* [f. PULVIL *sb.* + -IZE + -ED.] Powdered and perfumed with pulvilio.

1788 BURNS *Let. P. Hill* Lett. (1887) 172 The pulvilised, feathered, pert coxcomb, is so disgustful in my nostril that my stomach turns.

Pulvi·llar, *a.* [f. L. *pulvill-us* little cushion + -AR.] Of or pertaining to a pulvillus; cushion-like, pad-like. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pulville, Pulvillio: see PULVIL, PULVILIO.

‖ **Pulvillus** (pʌlvi·lʌs). [L., contr. from *pulvīnul-us*, dim. of *pulvīnus* cushion.]

1. A little cushion; in *Surgery*, see quot. 1897.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pulvilli*, the same with *Splenia*.] 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pulvillus*, a little Pillow, or Cushion; also a Bolster us'd by Surgeons in dressing Wounds. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pulvillus*,..a small cushion or pillow. In Surgery..a small olive-shaped mass of lint used for plugging deep wounds.

2. *Entom.* A cushion-like process on the feet of an insect, by which it can adhere to a vertical surface as a wall, or in an inverted position to a ceiling or the like; a foot-cushion.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxiii. 386 *Pulvilli*,.. cushions of short hairs very closely set; or of membrane, capable of being inflated, or very soft; or concave plates, which cover the underside, or their apex, of the four first joints of the Manus or Tarsus. *Ibid.* xxxv. 676 These organs are furnished with a sucker or *pulvillus*. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvii. 119 The pulvilli or foot cushions of flies. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 666.

Hence **Pulvi·lliform** *a. Entom.*, resembling a pulvillus, cushion-like.

‖ **Pulvinar** (pʌlvəi·năɹ), *sb.* Also 6 -are. [a. L. *pulvīnar* a couch, orig. neuter *pulvīnāre* of *pulvīnāris* adj., f. *pulvīn-us* cushion, pillow.]

1. *Rom. Antiq.* A couch or cushioned seat of the gods; also, the cushioned seat in the circus.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* V. lii. 213 In that one high feast and solemne dinner of Iupiter, can a Pulvinar be celebrated, or a sacred Table be spred and furnished in any place, but in the Capitoll? 1606 — *Sueton.* 60 Himselfe beheld the Circeian Games..sometime out of the Pulvinar, sitting there with his wife onely and children. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 290 (ed. 2) 323 The ornaments of the spina of the Roman Circus, among others the pulvinar.

2. *Surg.* A small pillow or cushion; sometimes, a medicated cushion or pad. ? *Obs.*

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 53/2 But an hower therafter applye this little pulvinare on thy Eyes. 1811 *Hooper's Med. Dict.*, *Pulvinar*.., a medicated cushion. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

3. *Anat.* The posterior inner tubercle of the optic thalamus.

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1890 H. GRAY *Anat.* (ed. 12) 685 Its posterior extremity..internally forms a well-marked prominence, the posterior tubercle or pulvinar. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 337 A case of symmetrical softening of the pulvinar.

b. The cushion of fat by which the non-articular part of the acetabulum is filled up.

Pulvinar (pʌlvəi·năɹ), *a.* [ad. L. *pulvīnār-is*: see prec.] Of or pertaining to a pulvinus.

1883 *Science* I. 179/1 The pulvinar parenchyma is composed in greater part of finely porous cells.

So **Pulvina·rian** *a.* [f. L. *pulvīnāri-s* or *pulvīnāri-us* + -AN], cushion-like, pulvinated.

a 1886 SIR S. FERGUSON *Ogham Inscript.* (1887) 31 The casts of these pulvinarian cope-stones..exhibit many imperfections.

Pulvinate (pʌ·lvinĕt), *a.* [ad. L. *pulvīnāt-us* made into or like a cushion, f. *pulvīn-us* cushion: see -ATE[2]. In F. *pulviné*, Cotgr. 1611.] Pillowy, cushion-like, pulvinar; in *Bot.* and *Entom.*, cushion-shaped, swelling or bulging like a cushion.

1824 R. K. GREVILLE *Flora Edin.* 235 G[*rimmia*] *pulvinata*, stems short, pulvinate. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 328 *Pulvinate*, when in consequence of being depressed in one place, it seems to puff out in another. 1863 BERKELEY *Brit. Mosses* Gloss., *Pulvinate*, forming cushion-like masses.

Hence **Pu·lvinately** *adv.*, *Bot.*, in a pulvinate manner. Also **Pulvina·to-** comb. form, as *pulvinato-echinulate* adj., echinulate and partly pulvinate.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pulvinately. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 415 Surface pulvinato-echinulate.

Pulvinated (pʌ·lvineitĕd), *a.* [as prec. + -ED.]

1. *Arch.* Swelling or bulging; especially applied to a frieze having a convex face.

1773 J. NOORTHOUCK *Hist. London* 598 It has the pulvinated or swelling freeze. 1817 RICKMAN *Archit.* (1848) 30 It was once the custom to work the Ionic frieze projecting like a torus...When thus formed it is called *pulvinated*. 1831 *Fraser's Mag.* IV. 281 The curvilinear, or pulvinated frieze occurs in not a single Grecian example. 1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 223 (ed. 2) 219 The shaft either diminished in a right line or pulvinated.

2. *Bot.* Having a pulvinus.

1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 113 With pulvinated leaves (i. e. those provided with a pulvinus) their periodical movements depend..on the cells of the pulvinus alternately expanding more quickly on one side than on the other.

3. *Entom.* = PULVINATE *a.*

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex. Pulvinatus...Entomol.* Applied by Kirby to the prothorax when, being depressed at one point, it appears swoln out at another..: pulvinated.

Pulviniform (pʌlvi·nifɔɹm), *a.* [ad. mod. L. *pulvīniform-is*, f. L. *pulvīn-us* cushion + -FORM. So mod.F. *pulviniforme*.] Cushion-shaped.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pulviniformis*,..pulviniform.

Pulvinule (pʌ·lvinĭuːl). *Bot.* [ad. L. *pulvīnul-us*, dim. of *pulvīn-us* cushion, pillow, bank. (Also used in L. form.)]

1. One of a number of excrescences, sometimes like minute trees, rising from the thallus of lichens.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pulvinula*..term by Acharius for filaments,..often imitating small bushes or cushions, which are raised from the superior surface of the thallus of certain lichens, as the *Parmelia glomulifera*: a pulvinule.

2. A heap of naked spores.

1874 COOKE *Fungi* (1875) 39 There is great variability in the compactness of the spores in the sori, or pulvinules. *Ibid.* 144 The winter spores are in solid pulvinules.

‖ **Pulvinus** (pʌlvəi·nʌs). *Bot.* [L. *pulvīnus* cushion, pillow.] Any cushion-like swelling or expansion of a stem or petiole; *esp.* a protuberance or enlargement at the foot of the petiole of some leaves, when large, turgid, and contractile, forming a special organ for movement of the leaf.

1857 HENFREY *Bot.* § 77 In woody Dicotyledons there is generally a little protuberance under the cicatrix, which is termed the *pulvinus*. 1880 C. & F. DARWIN *Movem. Pl.* 112 The summit of the petiole is developed into a pulvinus, cushion, or joint (as this organ has been variously called), like that with which many leaves are provided. 1906 *Athenæum* 23 June 768/3 Mimosa..has in its pulvinus a structure which allows of the free play of the leaf.

Pu·lviplume. *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *pulviplūma*, f. L. *pulvi-s* dust + *plūma* plume, feather.] Powder-down.

1890 COUES *Field & Gen. Ornithol.* 129 Such plumulæ, from being always distributed over with dry scurfy exfoliation, are called *powder-down*... I call them *pulviplumes*.

† **Pulvi·scle.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. L. *pulvisculus*, *-um* small dust, dim. of *pulvis* dust.] A fine powder, a dust.

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 62/1 Take Rue, Betonye [etc.]..make heerof a fine pulviscle, and use it with your meates.

‖ **Pulwar** (pʌ·lwāɹ). *E. Ind.* Also pulwaar, pulwah. [Hindī *palwār*.] A light keelless native boat used on the rivers of Bengal, 'carrying some 12 to 15 tons' (Yule).

1765 HOLWELL *Hist. Events*, etc. I. 69 We observed a boat ..making for Patna: the commandant dispatched two light pulwaars after her. 1793 W. HODGES *Trav. India* 39 Besides this boat, a gentleman is usually attended by two others; a pulwah for the accommodation of the kitchen, and a smaller boat. 1798 S. WILCOCKE in *Naval Chron.* (1799) II. 63 They have another kind of boats, which they call *pulwahs*. These are very long, low, and narrow...They are sculled instead of being rowed. 1860 C. GRANT *Rural Life Bengal* 7 The Pulwar is a small description of native travelling boat, of neater build, and less rusticity of character,

† **Pulwere,** obs. f. PILLIVER, pillow-case, pillow.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 672 He wend to haue laugt þat ladi loueli in armes; & clipte to him a pulwere.

Puly (piū·li), *a.* [f. PULE *v.* + -Y.] Given to puling; whining; sickly.

a 1688 BUNYAN *Solomon's Temple Spiritualized* li, The church of Christ is of herself a very sickly puely thing. 1861 SALA in *Temple Bar Mag.* III. 25 The puly shabby piety which prompts some people..to be perpetually scrawling begging-letters to Heaven.

† **Puly,** *Herb.*, var. of POLY. (Cf. PULIOL.)

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 60 Digestiues of fleume. Persely..Sinuy, Puly, Maioram, Peniroyall.

Pulyal, -yol, var. PULIOL *Obs.*

† **Pulypyk.** *Obs.* ? Some sort of pickax: cf. *pole-pike* s. v. POLE *sb.*[1] 5 c.

1360-61 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 562 In..uno pulypyk empt. pro minera de Heworth.

Pulysh(e, obs. form of POLISH *v.*

Pulza-oil (pu·lzăˌoil). A fixed oil obtained from the seeds of the Physic-nut (*Curcas purgans* or *Jatropha Curcas*), a native of Tropical America, but now generally cultivated in all tropical countries for the oil, which is used in medicine as a purgative, as well as for various domestic purposes.

1866 *Jrnl. Royal Soc. Arts* 17 Aug. 634/2 *Pulza Oil.*— Under this name, a considerable commerce is carried on in the Cape de Verd Islands, in the oil obtained from the seeds of the *Jatropha Curcas*, a euphorbiaceous plant...About 350,000 bushels of the seed are gathered and exported annually to Portugal, where the oil extracted is called purqueira oil, and is used principally for burning.

Puma (piū·mă). [a. Sp. *puma* (pū·ma), a. Peruv. *puma*.] A large American feline quadruped, *Felis concolor*, also called COUGAR.

1777 ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* IV. (1783) II. 17 The Puma and Jaguar, its [America's] fiercest beasts of prey, which Europeans have inaccurately denominated lions and tigers,

possess neither the undaunted courage of the former, nor the ravenous cruelty of the latter. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xii. (1879) 269 The Puma, or South American Lion, is not uncommon. 1898 C. F. LUMMIS *Mexico* xiv. 164 The proper name of the American lion to-day is Puma; and that is an Inca word that Pizarro found in the Fifteen-thirties among the Andes. The animal has a range 5000 miles long; but its Peruvian name .. by now is accepted, not only in all Spanish countries, but wherever English is spoken.

Comb. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 72/2 We had been wading a river on a puma-hunt.

b. The flesh of this animal.

1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1852) 116 It turned out to be Puma; the meat is very white, and remarkably like veal in taste.

Pumblenose, var. POMPELMOOSE *Obs.*, shaddock.

Pumeise, -eyse, obs. ff. PUMICE. **Pumel, -elle**, obs. ff. POMMEL. **Pumelo**, var. POMELO.

‖ **Pu·mex.** *Obs.* [L. *pūmex.*] = PUMICE *sb.*

1589 GREENE *Tullies Loue* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 201 Seeke not sir to wring water out of the pumex. 1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 471 Expressions..so penetrating as might dissolve an heart as hard as Adamant into waters, and eyes as dry as Pumex into floods of tears. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 319 A Pumex stone fired, and quenched twice in white wine. 1792 MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 42 There is no appearance of pumex nor vestiges of fire about it.

Pumgarnade, -granad, etc., obs. ff. POMEGRANATE.

† **Pu·micate**, *v. Obs. rare*—°. [f. L. *pūmicāt-*, ppl. stem of *pūmicāre*, f. *pūmex.*] *trans.* To smooth with pumice. So † **Pumica·tion.**

1623 COCKERAM, *Pumicate*, to make smoothe. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pumication*, a making smooth with a Pumice-stone.

Pumice (pʊ·mis), *sb.* Forms: see below. [ME. *pomis, -ys*, a. OF. *pomis* (*a* 1250 in Godef.), *pumis*, ad. late L. *pūmicem*, for cl. L. *pūmex, -icem*, It. *pomice*; a learned form for the popular F. *ponce*: see POUNCE *sb.*[2] In 16th c. gradually assimilated (*pomis, pomise, pomice, pumice*) to the Latin form; under the influence of which some now pronounce (piū·mis). (So in It., Florio has *pumice* as var. of *pomice*; Cotgr. *pumice* as syn. of *ponce.*) The *β* forms, *pumish* (*pomege*), were perh. due to Ital. influence; but cf. Eng. *-ish* in verbs for F. *-iss. Pumy, pummy*, prob. arose out of the reduction of *pumis stone* to *pumi-stone.* (The L. word had been taken in OE. in the form *pumic*; with this the ME. forms had no historical connexion.)]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 5–7 **pomys**; 5 **pomeys, -yce, pumys, -yce**; 6 **pomis, -aise, -ayse, -ice**; **pommes, -ice**; **pumise, -yse, -eise, -eyse**; 6–7 **pomise, pummise**; 7 **pumis**; 7–9 **pummice**; 6– **pumice.**

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 606/12 *Pumex*, pomys. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 408/1 Pomeys, or pomyce, *pomex.* 1483 Pumys [see β]; Pomyce [see B. 1 b]. 1523 Pommes [see B. 1 c]. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Sj b, That they be blowen out agayne lyght pomissis. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* ¶ v, A pumyse made hote. 1552 HULOET, Pomaise for parchment,..lyke a pomayse. 1579 Pommice [see B. 1 c]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 463 Being more narrowlye examined and vewed, was espyed to be a very pumeyse. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Esponja*, a spunge, a pumise. 1591 Pumice [see B. 1 d]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 104 A Pummise put in wine. *Ibid.* 318 White and crumbly like a Pomys. 1615 Pumis [see B. 1 a].

β. 5 **pumysch, -e, pomege**; 6 **poumysshe, pumishe**; 6–7 **pumish.**

1422–3 Pumysch [see B. 1 c]. *c* 1450 *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 682/29 *Hic pumex*, pomege. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/2 A Pumysche (*A.* Pvmys), *pumex.* 1530 PALSGR. 257/2 Poumysshe for a scryvenar, *pomys.* 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Latebrosus*, A pumish full of little holes. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* xx. 407 It makes the bread extream dry, and like a pumish.

γ. 6 **pommie, -y, pummie, pumey, pumi (stone)**; 6–7 **pumie, -y**, 7 **pummy.**

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* III. (1575) 33 b, With flint and Pommy was it wallde by nature halfe about. 1567 *Ibid.* VIII. 105 The walles were made Of Pommy [pumice] hollowed diuersly and ragged Pebble stone. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 93 Pumie stones I..threwe: but..From bough to bough he lepped light, And oft the pumies latched. 1595 PEELE *Anglorum Feriæ* 26 Thetis in her bower Of pumey and tralucent pebble-stones.

B. Signification.

1. a. A light kind of lava, usually consisting of obsidian made spongy or porous by the escape of steam or gas during the process of cooling.

14.., *c* 1440 [see A. *α*]. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* A vij b, Of the seconde sort is the Pumeise [*printed* Pumelse] concrete of froth as Isidore witnesseth. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 242 Much ground about it [Ætna] lies waste by meanes of the eiected pumis. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 164 Vast quantities of pumice or scoria of different kinds. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 331 The island of Lipari contains a mountain entirely formed of white pumice. 1854 F. C. BAKEWELL *Geol.* 86 Pumice is a well known volcanic product of a white colour, and so light that it swims upon water.

b. With *pl.* A piece or block of this substance.

c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 47/21 Goo fecche a pomyce And of the best papier, My penknyf, my sheris. 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 63 For foure pumyses to him,.. xij d. *c* 1550, 1581, 1607 [see A. *α*]. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Feb., In anno 1630, it [Vesuvius] burst out.., throwing out huge stones and fiery pumices. 1779 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 82 This curious substance has the lightness of a pumice.

c. As a material used for smoothing or polishing (parchment, etc.), or removing stains; as an absorbent of ink, moisture, etc.; as proverbial for its dryness.

[*a* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 100 Of felle ascafen mid pumice.] 1422–3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 619 Et in incausto, pumysch, cera rubea, empt. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 142 Penne, paper, ynke, parchment,..pommes,..thou remembre. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 58 The greatest blot is taken off with the Pommice. 1580 *Ibid.* 374 If thou attempt againe to wring water out of the Pommice. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. iv, Could the pummise but hold vp his eyes at other mens happines. 1665 SOUTH *Serm., John* i. 11 (1718) III. 305 To oppress, beggar, and squeeze them as dry as a pumice. 1849 R. V. DIXON *Heat* I. 207 A U-shaped tube filled with sulphuric pumice..to prevent the vapour of the water in the aspirator reaching the desiccating tubes B and C. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* VI. liv. 229 *note*, A copy of one book..of Martial,..smoothed with pumice, and elegantly bound, was sold for 3*s.* 4*d.* 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* i. 2 The new, the dainty volume,..fresh with ashy pumice. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xii. (ed. 2) 193 The stone largely used for scouring paint under the name of pumice.

† **d.** *fig.* or *allusively*, esp. in reference to its qualities in c. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Farew. to Folly, Fr. Dante*, The pumice that defaceth memory,.. Is but a stomach overcharged with meats. 1638 COWLEY *Loves Riddle* III. i, For I have Eyes of Pumice. *a* 1643 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iii, I cannot weep, mine eyes are pumice. *a* 1658 CLEVELAND *On Rom. iv.* 25 Wks. (1677) 166 Marble can weep, whilest we are Pumices.

2. a. *attrib.* Consisting of or resembling pumice; † **pumice hoof**, a 'pumiced' hoof: see PUMICED 2. **b.** *Comb.*, as *pumice-like* adj., PUMICE-STONE, q.v.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 20 b, The two,.pillars of Porphyre..of a pumish or tawnie colour. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 169 A kinde of white hard substance..pumish-like and spungy. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 89/1 Terms used..as to Horse-Shooing...Pomise, or Flat Hoofe. 1811 PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr., Bahama* (ed. 3) 665 The pumice lands soon imbibe the rain. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. (1879) 63 A firmly-cemented conglomerate of pumice pebbles.

Pumice (pʊ·mis), *v.* Forms: see prec. [f. prec. sb.: cf. L. *pūmicāre* to smooth with pumice-stone, F. *poncer* POUNCE *v.*[3]] *trans.* To rub with pumice; to smooth, polish, trim, or clean by rubbing with pumice.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 293/2 To Pumysche (*A.* Pumyce), *pumicare.* 1552 HULOET, Pomaisen or trimme parchment, *pumico.* 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Esponjar*, to sponge, to pumise. 1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* II. vi. 58 Pounded Rossin both finely searced and lightly pummiced. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal, Sat.* viii. 154 *note*, The Italians to this day have the fashion of pumicing their skin to get off the haire. 1797 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XV. 250 When dry to be pumiced over, so as to make the whole perfectly dry and smooth. 1873 E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 393/2 The slab is then pumiced to reduce it to a level surface.

Hence **Pu·micing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1552 HULOET, Pomaysynge or trymmynge wyth pomaise, *pumigatio.* 1852 MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 438 The leather..passes under the pumicing cylinders.

Pumiced (pʊ·mist), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ED[1].]

1. Rubbed smooth with pumice.

1552 HULOET, Pomaysed, *pumigatus.* 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Diogenes & Plato* Wks. I. 456/1 They who have pumiced faces and perfumed hair.

2. Applied to a horse's hoof that has become spongy on account of disease. Hence *transf.* of a horse-shoe adapted to such a hoof.

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 324/2 A flat or pomised shooe, having one side thick and the other thin,..is used for flat and pomised Hoofs. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXII. 349 With well-bred hunters, pumiced feet are, nineteen times in twenty, the effect of fever. 1861 WALSH & LUPTON *Horse* XXX. (1877) 542 The sole..is always either flatter than natural, or absolutely convex, and its horn is brittle and spongy, constituting what is termed the 'pumiced foot'.

Pumiceous (piʊmi·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *pūmice-us* (f. *pūmex, -icem*) + -OUS.] Consisting of pumice; having the character or texture of pumice.

1676 H. MORE *Remarks* 10 If one side be pumiceous..and the other metalline, the metalline will gravitate on the pumiceous or spungie side. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 416, I should..call them pumiceous mixtures. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* ii. 35 Pompeii was overwhelmed with light-coloured pumiceous lapilli.

Pumice-stone (pʊ·mis,stoun, pʊ·mistoun), *sb.* Forms: see below and PUMICE *sb.*

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. [1 **pumicstan**]; 7 **pumick(e stone.**

[*c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 148/3 *Pumex*, pumicstan.] 1613 JACKSON *Creed* I. To Rdr. E j, The Pumicke stones did flie about mens eares in the open fields. 1648 MACFARLANE *Geog. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 516 In this town ther ar abondance of pumick stonis floating upon the water.

β. 6 **pomise, pummyse stone**, 7 **pumis stone**; 6– **pumice-stone.**

1576 BAKER *Jewell of Health* 4 What is it..than to desire wool from an Asses backe, or to wryng water out of a Pummyse stone? 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Pierre ponce*, a pomise stone. 1590 Pumice stone [see B. d]. 1681 GREW *Musæum* III. I. vi. 321 An ash-colour'd Pumis Stone.

γ. 6 **pumishe**, 6–7 **pumish stone.**

1550 T. HOBY *Trav.* (1902) 52 Pumishe stones which are so light that they flee upp with the flame and so fall in the asshes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. *Scot.* 24 A lighter body and spungeous..in maner of a pumish stone.

δ. 6 **pumistone, pumy stone**, 6–7 **pumie, pummie**, 7 **pummy stone.**

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 2 The substance..spongie, not vnlike a thicke Pummie stone. 1579 Pumie stones [see B. a]. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. v. 30 A gentle streame, whose murmuring wave did play Emongst the pumy stones. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 183 Like a fast sponge or a smooth pumie-stone. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 123 Small cinders and pummy stones of Mont Aetna.

B. Signification.

a. A stone composed of pumice: = PUMICE 1 b.

1550 [see A. *γ*]. 1576 [see A. *β*]. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 89 Tho pumie stones I hastly hent, And threwe: but nought availed. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 567 By reason of..fistulous porosities therin, like a pumish stone. 1681 GREW *Musæum* I. i. 9 The Bones of a Humane Leg and Foot..in some places rarified like a Sponge or Pumice-Stone. 1767 HAMILTON in *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 6 The pumice-stones, falling upon us like hail. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* (1849) 409 A plain..strewed with pumice stones and other volcanic reliques.

b. As a substance: = PUMICE *sb.* 1 a.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 153 Repleat with Sulphur, Pitch and Pumy Stone. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxv. 197 Other thicke matter which dissolves into ashes, into pumice stone, or such like substance. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 184 The fire was mixed with prodigious quantities of brimstone, sand, pumice-stone, and ashes. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. v. 162 Filled with fragments of pumice-stone.

c. As a thing of use: = PUMICE *sb.* 1 c.

1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 857 A Pumish stone vsed to make parchment smooth, *pumex.* 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 544 To slick, polish, & smooth them again with the pumy stone. 1662 PEPYS *Diary* 25 May, Trimming myself ..with a pumice stone. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 350 Scribes offer their pens and ink and pumice-stone to Hermes. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 221/2 The body now receives a staining coat, after which it is well rubbed down with pumice-stone.

† **d.** *fig.*: cf. PUMICE *sb.* 1 d. *Obs.*

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* II. To Rdrs., Wks. (Grosart) II. 145 Although shee hath not the Pumistone of learning to pollish her words with superficiall eloquence. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) Title-p., Beeing a right Pumice stone, apt to race out idlenes with delight, and follie with admonition. 1622 DONNE *Serm., John xi.* 33 (1640) 160 To weep for other things, and not to weep for sin..this is a spunge dried up into a Pumice stone. 1647 OWEN *Death of D.* Wks. 1852 X. 333 Is not this rather a pumice-stone than a breast of consolation?

e. *attrib.*

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 319 The affected parts thereby assume..a pumice-stone consistency.

Hence **Pu·mice-stone** *v. trans.* = PUMICE *v.*

1851 *Ord. & Regul. R. Engineers* xix. 88 Putting up Lining Paper,..pumice-stoning,..and sizing. 1887 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 867/1 The parchment..of a still more ancient MS. pumice-stoned to an even surface.

Pumiciform (piū·misifɔm), *a. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *pūmiciform-is*, f. L. *pūmex, -icem*: see -FORM.] Having the form, appearance, or texture of pumice.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pumiciformis, Geol.* resembling pumice stone in appearance, as the *Lava pumiciformis*: pumiciform.

Pumicose (piū·mikōus), *a. rare.* [ad. L. *pūmicōs-us* (Pliny), like pumice, f. *pūmex, -icem*: see -OSE.] Of the nature or appearance of pumice.

1811 PINKERTON *Petralogy* I. 504 Fragments amorphous, blunt. Weight, pumicose. 1845 SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* I. App. 435 A pumicose deposit.

† **Pu·micous,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. as prec.: see -OUS.] = prec.

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* I. 7 b, This Pumicous substaunce, intersited betwene the sayd scales or crustes is the cause that some haue sayd, the scull to be condited and made of two walles.

† **Pu·mil,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *pūmil-us, pūmil-is* dwarfish.] Dwarf, dwarfish, diminutive.

1776 *Evelyn's Sylva* 377 Which is a Pumil dwarf kind, with a smaller leaf slow of growth.

‖ **Pumilio, pumilo.** *Obs. rare.* Also **pomilio.** [L. *pūmilīo, pūmilō* a dwarf, f. *pūmilis*: see prec. Cf. obs. It. *pomilione* 'a Dwarfe or Pigmey' (Florio 1611).] A dwarf; a diminutive person, or plant.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 237 *margin*, He was (belike) some Pomilio or litle dwarfe. 1776 *Evelyn's Sylva* 36 The warmer regions produce the tallest and goodliest trees and plants..far exceeding those of the same species, born in the cold North, so as what is a giant in the one, becomes a pumilo, and in comparison, but a shrubby dwarf in the other.

Pumill, obs. f. POMMEL. **Pumis, pumish, pummace,** obs. ff. POMACE, PUMICE.

Pummel, *sb.*, a parallel form of POMMEL *sb.*

Pummel (pʊ·m'l), *v.* Also 6 **pumble, poumle, poumile.** [An alteration of POMMEL *v.*, in accordance with pronunciation now more usual.] *trans.* To beat or strike repeatedly, esp. with the fist; to pound, thump. **b.** *intr.*

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 44 Thei turne him cleane out of his owne doores, and pumble hym about the pate. *Ibid.* xii. 118 Poumleyng and beating theym. *c* 1563 *Jack Jugler* in *Four Old Plays* (1848) 34 You would poumile him ioylile a-bout the pate. 1608 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays in One, Tri. Death* v, Your pate I would pummel. 1791 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Ass* Wks. 1792 II. 401 Dragg'd, kick'd, and pummell'd, by a beggar's brat. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, A desire to pummel and wring the nose of the aforesaid Stiggins. 1878 E. C. G. MURRAY *Russians of To-day* 49 Mujicks continue to pummel one another, and to be pummelled by their superiors.

b. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* vi, 'You villain!'..cried he, pummelling at him as well as he could. 1842 S. LOVER

Handy Andy iii, With Dick fastened on him, pummelling away most unmercifully.

Hence **Pu·mmelled** *ppl. a.*, **Pu·mmelling** *vbl. sb.*

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) I. 146 Our lot hath been nothing but cudgelling upon cudgelling, pummelling upon pummelling. 1887 TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. viii. 170, I..gave him as good a pummelling as my heart desired. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 6 May 7/2 The pampered and pummelled English boys who buy food and fury so dear.

Pummelion, Pummelnose, Pummelo, -low: see POMMELION, POMPELMOOSE, POMELO.

1885 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 77/1 Water-melons, jack-fruit, pummeloes, and plantains. 1905 SIR J. K. LAUGHTON in *Let.* 19 Mar., I gather that now the name *pummelow* has been partially adopted in the West Indies, and has come thence to England; but..45 or 50 years ago this name was special to China; the Amoy pummelow, with a pink rose flesh, was specially noted.

†**Pummet.** *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. F. *pommette*, in OF. *pumete* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), a little ball, dim. of *pomme* apple: see -ETTE.] A ball used in the old game of troll-madam.

1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 12 They [Ladies] may haue in the ende of a Benche, eleuen holes made, intoo the which to trowle pummetes, or Bowles of leade, bigge, little, or meane, or also, of Copper, Tynne, Woode, eyther vyolent or softe, after their owne discretion; the pastyme Troule in Madame is termed.

Pummice, obs. f. POMACE, PUMICE.

Pummy, Pummyse: see POMMEY, PUMICE.

Pump (pʊmp), *sb.*[1] Also 5–7 **pompe, pumpe,** (5–6 **pomp, poompe,** 6 **poumpe**): see also PLUMP *sb.*[2] [Late ME. *pumpe, pompe,* = early mod.Du. *pompe,* Du. *pomp,* LG. *pumpe, pump,* mod.Ger. *pumpe*; whence Da. *pompe,* Sw. *pump*; also Fr. *pompe.*

Machines for raising water were in ancient and mediæval use, but no trace of the name *pump* appears before the 15th c. This is, as yet, known first in Eng. *c* 1440, in the sense of a ship's pump, for pumping out the bilge-water, in which use it was quite common 1450–1500. In Du., LG., HG. not recorded in this sense before the 16th c.; in Fr. cited 1517 in Hatz.-Darm.; in Du. *a* 1556 in Verwijs & Verdam, in Ger. *c* 1550 (Hans Sachs in Grimm). Plantijn 1573 gives for Du. only the sense 'bilge', *de pomp des schips,* 'l'ossec de la navire, sentina', *pompen, wtpompen,* 'vuider l'ossec, sentinam expurgare'; but Kilian 1599 has *pompe* in sense both of a ship's pump, and a pump generally. In Du. dialects, *pompe* is found *a* 1463 in sense of a pipe or tube of wood or metal, or a stone conduit, for the conveyance of water under ground, a sense also found in Frisian, and in some Low German dialects. In view of these dates and various senses, it is not easy to form any inference as to the language in which the word arose; but the probability lies between English and Dutch (or Low German); in either case it was prob. first in nautical use. The primary sense seems to lie between that of 'pipe, tube', and an echoic formation from the sound of the plunger striking the water. In favour of the latter cf. the collateral form *plumpe,* PLUMP *sb.*[2], found as early as 1477, also LG. *plumpe* pump; and conversely Ger. *pump* the hollow sound of a blow, *pumpen* to make such a sound (Grimm), admittedly echoic. The Cat., Sp., Pg. *bomba* (pump), viewed by Diez as the source of the French, may have been derived from F. *pompe,* but is more prob. an independent though analogous echoic formation. The It. is *tromba,* orig. = trumpet, tube; but Venetian, and some other north It. dialects have *pompa* from Fr. or Ger.]

I. 1. A mechanical device, commonly consisting of a tube or cylinder in which a piston, sucker, or plunger is moved up and down by means of a rod, or rod and lever, so as to raise water by lifting, suction, or pressure, the movement of the water being regulated by a suitable arrangement of valves or clacks; from early times used on board ship to remove bilge-water; also, from 16th c., for raising water from mines, wells, etc.; now, a generic term for a great variety of machines and mechanical devices for the raising or moving of liquids, compressing or rarefying of gases, etc.

Pumps are variously qualified according to the principle of action, manner of construction, means of operating, purpose, etc., as *force, lift, lifting, suction pump*; *burr-, centrifugal, centripetal, chain-, double-acting, jigger-, oscillating, post-, rope, rotary, spiral pump*; *hand-, steam-pump*; *air-, beer-, bicycle-, bilge-, breast-, circulating, dental, donkey-, dredging, feed-, gas-, mining, oil-, pneumatic, saliva, stomach pump,* etc.; for many of which see the specific words.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Pumpe of a schyppe, or oþer lyke, *hauritorium.* 1466 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 205 For a pompe .. for the spynas. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 41 Toppe sailes..j, pumps..ij. 1495 *Ibid.* 259 Poompes by the mayne meste j & by the mayne meson maste j. 1505 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 137 Item, payit for carying of tua treis quhilk suld be pompes to the schip. 1507 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 562/4 (Sion) 1 pompe. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 9 b, As the whele gothe .. to blowe the bales or to dray any water lyke a pompe, as there be in Cornwall and dyuers other places. 1530 PALSGR. 256/2, 259/2 Pompe .. Pumpe of a shyppe, *pompe.* 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The Pumpe, the pumpes-well, the pumpes brake, the pumpes can, the pumpes chaine, the spindle, the botes, the clap. *a* 1628 PRESTON *Breastpl. Love* (1631) 191 Their actions doe not come as water from a spring but as water from a pompe, that is forced and extorted. 1649 BP. REYNOLDS *Serm. Hosea* v. 4 The putting of a little water into a Pumpe makes way to the drawing out of a great deale more. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xli. (1663) 162 Cannons of Wood, made like unto the Pumps of Ships. 1688 The Bur-Pump, or Bildge-Pump [see BURR-PUMP]. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pump,* The forcing Pump..acts by mere impulse or protrusion, and raises water to any height at pleasure. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 143 New river water and that of Couvent-garden pump. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 2 The mines..are kept free from water by means of pumps. 1810 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* (1839) 122/1 All hands were called to the pumps, which were kept working continually. 1829 *Nat. Philos.* I. *Hydraulics* ii. 10 (Usef. Knowl. Soc.) Of pumps..the simplest and most common is the ordinary lift, or Household Pump. 1835 SIR J. ROSS *Narr. 2nd Voy.* vi. 85 To repair the feeding pump. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 2 Nov. 11/1 The composition..is taken up by a little instrument called a 'pump', which afterwards throws it out in a compressed state.

fig. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 54 The Pumpe of Witt beats faire and younge, And trills a Coppie. 1649 HOWELL *Pre-em. Parl.* 12 Put his hand to the pump, and stop the leaks of the great vessell of the State.

b. In figurative or allusive phrases.

1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. (Arb.) 70 When I arriue within the ile of Doggs, Don Phœbus I will make thee kisse the pumpe. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Descr. Holland* in *Rem.* (1759) I. 270 That always ply the Pump, and never think They can be safe, but at the Rate they stink. *a* 1754 Draught on Aldgate Pump [see DRAUGHT *sb.* 35 b]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'Put 'em under the pump', suggested a hot-pie man. [Cf. PUMP *v.* 4.] 1839 H. AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* iii, If he don't tip the cole without more ado, give him a taste of the pump, that's all. 1860 J. BROWN *Lett.* (1907) 137, I am very dull, somehow out of spirits and the pump off the fang. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of Silcotes* xxxi, You might as well have argued with the pump. 1873 *Slang Dict.* 149 *Draft on Aldgate Pump,* an old mercantile phrase for a fictitious banknote or fraudulent bill.

c. As employed in medical treatment, esp. at a place where a mineral spring is used: cf. PUMP *v.* 4 b, PUMP-ROOM, etc. †*Dry-pump*: see quot. 1631 and cf. PUMPING *vbl. sb.* (*obs.*).

1631 JORDEN *Nat. Baths* xvii. (1632) 135 Wee haue a Pump out of the hot Bath, which wee call the dry Pump, where one may sit in a chaire in his cloathes, and haue his head, or foot, or knee pumped. 1676 [see 3]. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 13 (At Bath) The hot pumpe that persons are pumpt at for Lameness. 1758 (*title*) tr. Limbourg's Dissertation sur les Bains, etc., or A Dissertation on Baths of Simple Water by Immersion, the Pump and Vapour. 1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 295, I advised the Patient to go to Bourbon to try the Hot Pump. 1804 *Med. Jrnl.* XII. 241 It should be had fresh from the pump, and then there cannot exist a doubt of its being superior in strength to the celebrated Tunbridge chalybeate. 1806 Dry Pump [see PUMPING *vbl. sb.* a]. *c* 1900 [see PUMP-ROOM].

d. *transf.* Applied to the heart, the sucker or proboscis of an insect, the lachrymal glands (as shedding tears: cf. PUMP *v.* 6).

1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 295 A proboscis, which is at once an awl proper for piercing the flesh of animals, and a pump by which it sucks out their blood. 1825 BUCKSTONE *Bear Hunters* I. ii, Your pumps have been at work—you've been crying, girl. 1832 BRYANT *To Mosquito* xi, On well-filled skins..Fix thy light pump, and press thy freckled feet. 1885 A. W. BLYTH in *Leisure Hour* Jan. 24/1 Parts of Bios sleep, but never the whole; the central pump ever goes. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 345 The action of the lymphatic pump depends upon the respiratory movements. 1899 *Ibid.* VII. 249 Whenever the power of the cardiac and respiratory pumps is not sufficient to raise the blood from the splanchnic area.

†**2.** The 'well' or 'sink' of a ship where the bilge-water collects, and whence it is pumped out.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K vj, The stynche of the pumpe in shippes. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Sentina,* the pumpe of a shyp, a place where all fylthe is receyued. 1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* Pref., The pompe of the shyppe if it be not auoyded is noyous to the shippe & all that are therein. 1577 EDEN & WILLES *Hist. Trav.* 290 The spyces are so corrupted by thinfection of the pompe and other filthinesse of the shyppes.

†**b.** *fig.* = 'sink'. *Obs.*

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* H. xviii. (1821) I. 67 The tyrane Gillus, pump of every vice [orig. *tot malorum sentina*] is vincust. *Ibid.* II. 10 Uncouth lust, the pomp of all mischeif, amang the pepil. 1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. iv. 138 The king [drove out the Jews]..and they (as the poompe of all skuruines, not knowing wher to become) laye cowring vnder hedges.

†**c.** In the following perh. = Du. dial. and Fris. *pompe,* a pipe or conduit for conveying water. *Obs.* (But the sense may be 1.)

1535–6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 370 Paid..ffor a pompe yat lythe to brynge the water owt of ye diche into ye ponde.

II. [from the vb.]

3. An act of pumping; a stroke of a pump. Also *transf.*

1676 WOOD *Life* 23 June (O. H. S.) II. 350, I went to the Bath for the recovery of my hearing... I received at the drie pump in the King's bath nine thousand two hundred and odd pumps on my head in about a fourtnight's time. 1698 W. KING tr. *Sorbière's Journ. Lond.* 16 In an air Pump,.. the Cat died after 16 Pumps. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* ii, I came to my corner, when the round was over, with very hard pumps in my chest. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 May 2/1 Lying sideways..he hears the pump, pump, of his heart.

4. a. An attempt at extracting information from any one, by exhaustive or skilful questioning: cf. PUMP *v.* 7 b, 8 b. **b.** One who is clever at this.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 204, I was the easier indeed; because, for all her Pumps, she gave no Hints of the Key [etc.]. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Apr. 5/5 Forbes had Scotch inquisitiveness. He was truly a pump. But when one was tired of being pumped, one could set him talking about events he had witnessed.

5. A representation of the action of or sound accompanying pumping.

1883 E. THRING *Theory & Pract. Teaching* v. 53 It is useless pumping on a kettle with the lid on. Pump, pump, pump. The pump-handle goes vigorously..but the kettle remains empty.

III. 6. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** General: attributive, as *pump gear, lift, machinery, pit, station, stroke, work*; forming part of or belonging to a pump, esp. on board ship, as *pump-bolt, -bore, -bucket* (= BUCKET *sb.*[1] 2), *-carling, -cistern, -cheeks* (= CHEEK *sb.* 13 d), *-clack* (= CLACK *sb.* 5), *-cylinder, -dale* (= DALE[3] 1), *-foot, -leather, -nail, -piston, -plunger* (= PLUNGER 2 a), *-shoe, -spindle, -switch, -tube, -valve*; used in making, working, etc. pumps, as *pump-augur, -bit, -boat, -can, -log, -shaft, -trough*; objective, as *pump-clip, -holder* (of a pneumatic tire pump), *-maker, -making, -scraper, -sinker, -sinking*; also *pump-driven, -like* adjs.; **b.** Special combs.: **pump-back,** a wooden casing over a chain-pump to receive the water when raised (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **pump-barrel,** the tube or cylinder of a pump; †**pump-bathing,** bathing in which the water is pumped on the body or part of it: cf. sense 1 c; **pump-bob,** the mechanism by which the motive power is applied to the action of the pump-rod at the top of the pump-shaft of a mine; **pump-borer,** †(*a*) a borer of tree-trunks for pump-barrels; (*b*) local name of the Spotted Woodpecker; **pump-box,** (*a*) the casing or cap of a pump; (*b*) the casing or box in a pump containing one of the valves; **pump-cart,** an irrigation cart carrying a pump; **pump-chain,** the chain holding the disks of a chain-pump; **pump-coat,** a canvas covering round a pump on the deck of a ship to prevent water getting through into the hold; **pump-head, -hood**: see quots.; **pump-hook**: see quot.; **pump-house,** (*a*) the pump-room of a spa; (*b*) a place in which pumps are made; (*c*) a pumping station; **pump-kettle,** 'a convex perforated diaphragm placed at the bottom of a pump-tube to prevent the entrance of foreign matters; a strainer' (Knight); **pump-lug,** an appendage (cf. LUG *sb.*[2] 3 a) on the cross-head of a locomotive by which the plunger of the feed-pump is worked; †**Pump Parliament,** a nickname for the Long or Pension Parliament of Charles II: see quot.; **pump-spear, -staff,** a pump-rod; **pump-stock,** the body of a pump (Webster 1847); **pump-stopper,** *Naut.,* a plug for stopping a pump-barrel; **pump-thunder,** a bird, the American bittern; the stake-driver; **pump-vale** = *pump-dale.* See also PUMP-BRAKE, etc., and cf. verbal combinations in PUMP *v.* 14.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 57 Cylindrical cavities for.. *pump-barrels. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 226/1 The ether.. being discharged therefrom as fast as received, like as the water is in *pump-bathing. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 227, I brought to the assistance of her commanding officer two heavy *pump-boats. 1789 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Cheville de potence de pompe,* a long *pump-bolt. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. M., Pump-bolts,*..are two pieces of iron,..one serves to fasten the pump-spear to the brake, the other as a fulcrum for the brake to work upon. 1756 BLAKE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 6 Without incurring the inconvenience of enlarging the *pump-bores. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4487/3 A Wharf fronting the River of Thames,..called the *Pump-boarer's Wharf. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2191 The greater and lesser spotted woodpecker..are known by the most appropriate name of 'pump-borer'. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 443 The two hollow sides were made big enough to contain a *Pump-box in the midst of them both. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 41/1 The valves upon the *pump bucket. *a* 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) lf. 60 b, *Ye *Pump-Can,* is the Cann which they drawe water in to poure in to the pumpes and this is a greate Can. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.,* **Pump-carlines,* the framing or partners on the upper deck, between which the pumps pass into the wells. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 972 The water is drawn off in a spout to the nearest *pump-cistern. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 190/2 The common *pump clack, moving on a leather joint. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 294 This tube is continued down to the *pump cylinder. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* viii, A rusty pump-cylinder gurgled, and clicked, and bubbled. *a* 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) lf. 60 b, *Ye *Pump-dale* is as it were the Trough wherein the water doth run alongst the Deck out to the skupper holes. 1800, *c* 1850 [see DALE[3] 1]. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. M.,* **Pump-gears,* any materials requisite for fitting or repairing the pump. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.,* **Pump-head,* an arrangement for causing all the water raised by a chain-pump to be directed into the discharge-spout instead of permitting a part to be thrown off by centrifugal force. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 6 June 8/3 The Lea-Francis [bicycle] carries the abolition of clips to the extent of brazing the *pump-holders to the down tube. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. M.,* **Pump-hood,* a short semi-cylindrical frame of wood, serving to cover the upper wheel of a chain-pump. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.,* **Pump-hook,* an iron rod with an eye and a hook, used for drawing out the lower pump-box when requisite. 1742–9 J. WOOD *Descr. Bath* (1765) II. III. v. 269 The Conduits..three are enclosed within Rooms; the chief of which is, for its Eminence, stiled the *Pump House. 1801 R. WARNER *Hist. Bath* v. v. 327 Building a pump-house or pump-room, in which the invalids might be supplied with water from a covered pump. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 114 The Portsmouth pump-house .. supplied 1,236 feet of hand pumps. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 329 Expensive

machinery of the *pump kind. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 322 Payed..for a pompe to the seid Ship—iiijs. & for a Clampte iiijs. & a *pompe lether—iiij*d*. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 972 Although from 20 to 30 fathoms be the common length of a *pump-lift, it sometimes becomes necessary to make it much longer. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child of the Jago* 39 The sufferer's screams had a *pump-like regularity. 1857 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* I. v. 16 That men in fine weather throw away their storm-sails, and heave overboard their *pump-machinery. [*a* 1490 *Plump-maker: see PLUMP *sb.*²]. 1623 *Canterb. Marriage Licences* (MS.), John Poole of Canterbury, pompemaker. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1042 The worshipful company of pump-makers. 1534 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* VI. 235 For tua hundreth *pomp nale xvd. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 3 The Carpenter..is to haue the..pumpe-nailes, skupper-nailes, and leather. 1677 J. VERNEY 19 May in *V. Mem.* 469 The people about town call this the *Pump Parliament, alluding, as a little water put into a pump fetches up a good deal, so [etc.]. 1888 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 61 To give the *pump-plunger a travel of ⅛ in. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Pump-scraper*, a round plate used for cleaning out the pump-barrel. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 36 Three summers were consumed in sinking the *pump shaft. 1534 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1882) III. 569/2 (Richmond), 2 *pump shoes *4*. 1827 G. DARLEY *Sylvia* 38 Uds my life! is their father a *pump-sinker? 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXX. 418 In draining, *pump-sinking, and other similar occupations. 1789 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* G iv, The *pump-spear..draws up the box, or piston, charged with the water. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 26 Sept. 6/1 We..punctured tyres six times, and sustained one half-hour's delay through a broken *pump spindle. *a* 1600 '*Now, Gossop, I must neidis begon*' 25 in *Bannatyne Poems* (Hunter. Cl.) 1080 If she be laik it may be soon espyed, The *pompstaff and the maner hols will try it. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 164 The steam is conducted along the *pump-station from the main pipe to the pump. 1836 T. WICKSTEED in *Trans. Inst. Civ. Engin.* I. 118 The cylinder was 80 inches, the *pump stroke 9½ feet. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Stake-driver*, the American bittern..called from its cry..pile-driver, *pump-thunder, thunder-pumper, etc. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 212 Putting him into the *pump-trough, Straw came and pumped upon him. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 96 The *Pump-vale which is the Trough, wherein the Water that is pumped out runs along the Ship sides and so out of the Scoper holes. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 190/2 A model, showing the principal *pump valves used by mining engineers. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Pump-valve*, the moveable interior part or lid of a pump. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money Chas. & Jas.* (Camden) 112 For *pump work and water carriage in Hyde Park.

Pump (pʊmp), *sb.*² Also 6 **poumpe, pompe,** 6–7 **pumpe.** [Of obscure origin; no word similar in form and sense has been found in other languages.

Suggestions have been offered of its identity with prec., and with POMP *sb.*, but without satisfactory grounds. The Ger. *pumpstiefel* and *pumphosen*, which have been compared, are so called from their tubular or pipe-like legs; and there does not appear in the early use of *pumps* any clear connexion with *pomp* or show. It may have been an echoic word, suggested by the dull flapping sound made by slippers, as distinct from the stamp of heavy shoes.]

A kind of light shoe, originally often of delicate material and colour, kept on the foot by its close fit, and having no fastening; a slipper for indoor wear; hence (in 17–18th c.) applied to a more substantial low-heeled shoe of this character, esp. one worn where freedom of movement was required, as by dancers, couriers, acrobats, duellists, etc.; now *spec.*, a light, low-heeled shoe, usually of patent leather and without fastening, worn with evening dress and for dancing. See also PINSON².

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. iii. 124 Their shoes are not fastened on with lachettes, but lyke a poumpe close aboute the foote. 1578 FLORIO *1st Frutes* 2 b, I wil buye me a payre of Pantofles and Pumpes. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 66 Thy Pump..when the single sole of it is worne. 1598 FLORIO, *Scarpini*...Also dancing pumps or little shooes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. ii, The gallant'st courtiers kissing ladies' pumps. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 14/2 Pumps are shooes with single soles and no heels. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Pumps*, a sort of Shooes without Heels us'd by Rope-dancers, Running Foot-men, &c. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* 172 They were not like our English Shoes..; being rather what we call Pumps, than Shoes. 1728 W. STARRAT *Epistle* 8 in Ramsay *Poems* (1877) II. 274 Well hap'd with bountith hose and twa-sol'd pumps. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 547 The flat-heel'd drudges now are thrown aside For the high pumps with toes of peeked pride. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. x, He was a very tall man, standing in his pumps six feet three inches. 1880 *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 Slippers, called pumps, which have only one sole and no insole, are also sewed in the old-fashioned way.

b. In Phrases (esp. in alliterative conjunction with *pantofle*: cf. PANTOFLE b). *To keep toe in pump* (*dial.*), to keep quiet or calm, not to get excited.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 23 One standing all vpon his pumps and pantables will be aboue a Shomaker. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 55 Not in the pantofles of his prosperitie..but in the single-soald pumpes of his aduersitie. 1607 BEAUMONT *Woman Hater* I. ii, To it shall be bidden..All pump and pantofle, foot-cloth riders. 1831–4 S. LOVER *Leg. Irel.* 172 So keep your tongue in your jaw, and your toe in your pump. 1863 TROLLOPE *Rachel Ray* xxiv, Keep your toe in your pump, and say nothing.

c. *attrib.*, as *pump shoe, tie.*

1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2484/4 Charles Russel, aged 14 years, ..Woolen Stockins, Pitch'd and Tarr'd, Pump Shooes..; went away from his Master.., about 10 weeks since. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 8/4 The new pump tie is the generally accepted shoe.

Pump (pʊmp), *v.* Also 6 **pompe, poump,** 6–7 **pomp.** [f. PUMP *sb.*¹; cf. Du. *pompen*, G. *pumpen*, F. *pomper*, etc.]

I. Literal senses.

1. *intr.* To work a pump (in early use, always a ship's pump); to raise or move water or other fluid by means of a pump.

1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 463 Thow spewit, and kest out mony a lathly lomp, Fastar than all the marynaris coud pomp. 1530 PALSGR. 670/2 Pumpe a pace, for our shyppe leaketh. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (1840) 12 The men ..told me that I..was as well able to pump as another. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 207 A good engine for hoisting and pumping is on the ground.

2. *trans.* To raise or remove (water or other fluid) by means of a pump. Chiefly with *out, up.*

1530 PALSGR. 670/2, I pumpe up water by a pompe. 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Sentino*, to pumpe vp water out of a shyppe. 1653 BOGAN *Mirth Chr. Life* 560 Thou hast many a leake, and..a great deale of water in thee..pump it out at thine eyes, ere thy ship sink. 1742–9 J. WOOD *Descr. Bath* (1765) I. i. viii. 70 If the hot Waters are kept from the Air, and pumped up directly from the Spring. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* II. 15 If this part of the apparatus be air-tight, the mercury may be pumped up into the tube. 1872 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 272 A 9-inch pipe through which they pump the water. *Mod.* To pump the air out of a receiver.

3. To free from water, etc. by means of a pump or pumps. Said simply in reference to a ship; of other things usually with extension, as *to pump dry* or *empty*.

c 1650 DENHAM *Old Age* 132 In a ship..some sweep the deck, some pump the hold. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 34 Pumping a leaky Vessel. 1864 WEBSTER s.v., *To pump a ship*, to free it from water by means of a pump. 1890 *Ibid.* s.v., They pumped the well dry. ◊

4. To put (any one) under a stream of water from a pump: **a.** as a rough arbitrary punishment (in quot. 1838 *intr.* with *upon*); **b.** in medical treatment; cf. also PUMPING *vbl. sb.* ? *Obs.*

a. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* I. iv, A Divell in a most gentlewomanlike apparition. It had been well to have pumpd her. Is shee gone? 1642 *Ord. & Declar. both Ho., Lords Day* 8 They conveyed him to the pump and pumpt him. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. Wks. 1720 I. 345 Pump him soundly, impudent fellow! 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 19/1 Publicly admonished for having been concerned in a riot, and in pumping a bailiff. 1838 D. JERROLD *Men of Char.* I. viii. 251 Warn't you once pumped upon?..Nor never in the Stone Jug?

b. 1631 [see PUMP *sb.*¹ 1 c]. 1631, 1797, 1840 [see PUMPING *vbl. sb.*]. 1758 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1861) III. 511 Advised him to go to the Bath to have his hip pumped.

5. *To pump up*: to inflate (a pneumatic tire, or the like) by pumping air into it.

c 1892 *colloq.* I must pump up my bicycle first. 1903 *Motor Ann.* 302 These tyres..are pumped up like an ordinary pneumatic.

II. Transferred and figurative senses.

6. To draw or force up or out, in a manner likened to the working of a pump; to move up, draw out, pour forth, or eject: said of the shedding of tears, the motion of the blood, the ejection of projectiles from a gun (especially a machine-gun), etc.

1604 DEKKER *1st Pt. Honest Wh.* xiii. Wks. 1873 II. 72 Sheel pumpe water from her eyes..in faster showers, Then Aprill when he raines downe flowers. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 152 The waters, which the Sun is there incessantly pumping up. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *Brit. Columbia* XXX, Unmindful of the rifle-shots which Cardie..would keep pumping at them [geese]. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 614 The blood is then pumped [by the heart] into the soft brain tissue. 1901 ST. J. BRODRICK in *Daily Graphic* 14 Nov. 6/2 Undiluted censure has been pumped upon us for the burning of Boer houses

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1837 MARRYAT *Dog-fiend* ix, She vow'd she was so happy that she pump'd with both her eyes. 1899 *Daily News* 17 Nov. 7/5 Our men were exposed to fearful odds, especially with two quick-firers pumping at them.

7. *trans.* To subject (a person or thing) to a process likened to pumping, with the object of extracting something; to obtain something from by persistent effort; also, to drain, exhaust.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. iii, You shall be emptied, Don; pumped, and drawne Drie, as they say. 1667 FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1754) 137 Others must pump their memories. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Introd., The author, tired of pumping his own brains. 1881 W. B. JONES in *Macm. Mag.* XLIV. 128 The farm is clean pumped out of capital once in every generation.

b. *spec.* To subject (a person) to such a process in order to elicit information; to ply with questions in an artful or persistent manner.

1656 *St. Papers, Dom.* CXXX. 49 (P.R.O.), I know not what Mr Provost means by his directions to you; I have been pumping of him, but he..will tell me no more. 1659 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) IV. 300 Fleetwood sent Deane ..to Sir Art. Haslewrigg to pumpe him. 1751 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 398, I am going to pump Mr. Bentley for designs. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxx, Pumping the old lady, who willingly told all she knew.

8. To extract, raise, or bring forth by means likened to the working of a pump, i.e. by persistent or factitious effort or art. Cf. PUMPED *ppl. a.* 1.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 763 These words of Venom base Which thou hast from their native Place, Thy stomach, pump'd to fling on me. 1742 YOUNG *Night Th.* VIII. 1322 O how laborious is their Gaiety! They scarce can..Pump sad Laughter, till the Curtain falls. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. V. P 6, I was no longer in a situation for him to pump anything out of me. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Aug. 3/2 After a good deal of pumping-up of indignation we reach the climax of the argument.

b. To elicit (information, etc.) by such means. Const. *out of* a person.

1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* IV. iii, I'll stand aside whilst thou pump'st out of him His business. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 31 Jan. (O.H.S.) I. 174 The whole design..was.. to pump and Fish some things out of them. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xiv, It..occurred to him, that he might pump something out of the servant about the family.

9. *intr.* To work or exert oneself in a way likened to pumping, to labour or strive **a.** *for* the obtaining or gaining of something.

1633 MARMION *Antiquary* II. i, Not to feed you With further hopes, or pump for more excuses. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N. T.* John v. 43 [They should] rest satisfied in the secret testimony and silent applause of their own consciences, without pumping for popular applause. 1844 THACKERAY *Crit. Rev.* Wks. 1886 XXIII. 213 In endeavouring to account for his admiration, the critic pumps for words in vain.

b. for the eliciting of information.

1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 211 Expecting a..lecture of their disease to be read thereon [on urine] which many physicians make a shift to do, pumping with a few considerable previous queries. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* I. ii. § 158 (1740) 119 So he goes on with his Friend Booth, pumping about this same Reward, but nothing, in certain, came out. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. ix, 'Well, are you in a hurry?' said Lord Eskdale, gaining time, and pumping.

10. To work with action like that of the handle or piston of a pump: see quots. **a.** *trans.*

1803 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXI. 400 (*Clock-making*) The upper detent G being pumped off with the locking piece F, from the pins in the wheel A.

b. *intr.*

1887 M. ROBERTS *West. Avernus* 241 A hand-car coming along..with some section hands working it along by means of the lever, 'pumping', as it is commonly called. 1888 AMÉLIE RIVES *Quick or Dead* XX. (1889) 234 She found the organ unlocked, and thought she would see if she could get the sexton to pump for her. 1908 C. F. HOLDER *Big Game at Sea* VII. 118 This is known as 'pumping' from the up-and-down motion of the rod..; after some practice the motion is readily acquired, and the fish brought in with astonishing celerity.

11. *trans.* (in quot. *refl.*) To work *up* as with a pump; to excite. (Cf. 5.)

1844 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch, Punch in East* iii, I heard him roar out praises of, and pump himself up into enthusiasm for, certain Greek poetry.

12. To cause to pant violently for breath from excessive exertion; to put completely out of breath. Also with *out*. Usually in *passive*.

1858 [see PUMPED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1880 in Mrs. P. O'Donoghue *Ladies on Horseback* (1881) 317 A Mexican senora, whose favourite pace is a stretching gallop without cessation, until her steed is perfectly pumped out. 1887 H. D. TRAILL in *Macm. Mag.* July 177/1 Their patience, which is already showing manifest signs of distress, will be completely 'pumped' before long. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E. C. Africa* iii. 36 Although pumped after our climb, we hurried across the plateau.

13. *intr.* Of the mercury in a barometer: To rise and fall instantaneously in the tube as a result of sudden local alterations of pressure or of mechanical disturbance.

1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iv. (ed. 2) 79 *note*, Minute changes, unobservable..owing to the pumping of the quicksilver, when the motion of the ship is violent. 1905 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 230 When the wind rises in a typhoon, it blows in gusts and the mercury heaves in the barometer ('pumps' is the more usual expression).

III. 14. *Comb. Pump-* is used to qualify names of mechanical contrivances in which an essential part moves out and in, like the plunger of a force-pump, as *pump-centre, -cylinder, -drill, -screw, -spring*.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 497, M, the pump spring to the detent. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 243 A curious little contrivance, known to English tool-makers as the 'pump-drill'. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 83 Although the plate may be set true with the pump centre, it is liable to be drawn a little in fixing. *Ibid.* 216 [The] Pump Cylinder..[is] a sliding telescopic gauge used by chronometer makers for taking heights. 1901 *J. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffolding* 52 Two sets of uprights are used, one set having pump screws and the other being provided with wedges.

Pump, *int.* [Echoic.] A sound so represented; *adv.*, with this sound: see quot.

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 2/1 A certain number [of bullets] with great regularity went pum—pum—pump into the earth-work.

Pu·mpable, *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. PUMP *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being pumped. Hence **Pumpabi·lity.**

1881 W. WILLIAMS in *Knowledge* No. 5. 88 The pumpability of the air from the receiver shows that [etc.].

Pumpage (pʊ·mpĕdʒ). [f. PUMP *v.* + -AGE.] The work done at pumping, the quantity pumped.

1881 *Sci. Amer.* XLIV. 361 The pumpage for last year amounted to 21,120,792,786 gallons. 1893 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 6 Nov., The total average pumpage is given as 9,071,835 gallons.

Pump-ball, obs. synonym of PUMPET, PUMPING-BALL: see the latter.

Pu·mp-bra·ke. The handle of a (ship's) pump, esp. one having a transverse bar for several persons to work at it; = BRAKE *sb.*[4] 1 b.

a 1625 *Nomencl. Nævalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) lf. 60 b, *Ye Pump-brake* Is the handle theie pumpe by in the ordinary sort of pumpes. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pump*, The *Pump-Brake*, by which the People pump up Water. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 683/2 As the captain came on deck .. the cook struck him over the head with a pump brake, knocking him down.

Pumpe, obs. form of POMP, PUMP.

Pumped (pʊmpt), *a.* [f. PUMP *sb.*[2] + -ED[2.] Wearing pumps; having pumps on.

1600 J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* 325 Some dames are pumpt, because they liue in pompe, That with Herodias they might nimbly daunce, Some in their pantophels too stately stompe. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 48 Splay feet [of a sailor] pumped and festooned on the instep with a bunch of ribbon. 1836–9 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, New Year.* As if we were duly dress-coated and pumped, and had just been announced at the drawing-room door.

Pumped (pʊmpt), *ppl. a.* [f. PUMP *v.* + -ED[1.]

1. Obtained by pumping. *Pumped-up* (*fig.*), raised by an effort likened to pumping; artificially worked up; laboured: cf. PUMP *v.* 8.

1792 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Rights Wom.* v. 209 Lover-like phrases of pumped up passion. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xii, A basin of fresh pumped water. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Oct. 6/2 The mob orator, with his sham indignation and pumped-up enthusiasm.

2. *Pumped-out* (also *pumped*), exhausted or out of breath with exertion; winded: cf. PUMP *v.* 12.

1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* liii, The first thing that attracted his attention was his own pumped-out steed.

Pumpee·. *nonce-wd.* [f. PUMP *v.* + -EE[1] 2.] One who is pumped upon: see PUMP *v.* 4 a.

1834 [see PUMPER[1] 1].

Pumpelmousse, variant of POMPELMOOSE *Obs.*

Pumper[1] (pʊ·mpəɹ). [f. PUMP *v.* + -ER[1.]

1. One who or that which pumps or works a pump; *spec.* † (*a*) the official in charge of the pump-room (at a spa) (*obs.*); (*b*) one in charge of the pumping-machinery in a mine, etc.; a pumpman; (*c*) one engaged in a business in which pumping is the characteristic operation, e.g. *brine-pumper.*

1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* x, The flame lasted about two minutes from the time the pumper began to draw out the air. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6127/3 The Mayor..of the City of Bath having appointed Carew Davis..Pumper of all the Bath-waters. 1742–9 J. WOOD *Descr. Bath* (1765) I. II. xii. 224 The Pump House was immediately put under the Care of an Officer that bore the name of the Pumper. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr., The pumper [at Bath], with his wife and servant, attend within a bar; and the glasses, of different sizes, stand ranged in order before them. 1834 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 647 To have gone and assisted at the ceremony of immersion,—whether as pumper or pumpee, I should not have cared. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 18 Aug. 6/7 The accounts .. show that during the past year a rate of 2d. upon all brine pumpers realised £3,921.

b. An exertion, race, or the like which pumps or puts one out of breath. *colloq.*

1886 in *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*

2. *U. S.* An oil-well from which the oil is pumped up, as distinguished from a natural spring.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Pumper**[2]. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PUMP *sb.*[2] + -ER[1.] (See quot.)

1623 MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* v. i, I was but a pumper, that is, a puller-on of gentlemen's pumps.

‖ **Pumpernickel** (pu·mpəɹnik'l). [G., also † *pompernickel* (in use 1663); also (earlier) a lout, a booby. Origin uncertain.] Bread made (in Germany) from coarsely ground unbolted rye; wholemeal rye bread: associated esp. with Westphalia.

[The name was app. unknown in F. Moryson's time: cf. *Itin.* (1617) III. 50 That West-Phalians deuoure .. browne bread (vulgarly *cranck broat*, that is, sicke bread).]

1756 NUGENT *Gr. Tour, Germ.* II. 80 Their bread is of the very coarsest kind, ill baked, and as black as a coal, for they never sift their flour. The people of the country call it *Pompernickel.* 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* ii, The devil take you, and your Westphalian ham, and pumpernickel! 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* May 604/1 It [dhurra] makes a coarse but not unpleasant bread rather resembling pumpernickel.

† **Pu·mpet, po·mpet.** *Typogr. Obs.* Also 7 pompett. [a. obs. F. *pompette* a puff of ribbons, etc. in dress, = med. L. *pompeta* (1485 in Du Cange); also 'a pumple, or pimple on the nose, .. *pompette d'imprimeur*, a Printers Pumpet-ball' (Cotgr.). Ulterior origin uncertain; prob. connected with *pompon*, of which in some senses it was a synonym: cf. also PUMPING-BALL.]

Usually **pumpet-ball**: The ball, originally covered with sheep-skin, formerly used by printers for inking the type; an ink-ball. Cf. BALL *sb.*[1] 13. Also called *pump-ball, pumping-ball.*

[1598: cf. PUMPING-BALL.] 1611 COTGR., *Pompette d'imprimeur*, a Printers Pumpet-ball..wherewith he beates, or layes Inke on, the Formes. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xii, If..they did not sacrifice the Printers pumpet-balls [Fr. *les pompettes*] at Moreb, with a new edge set upon them by text letters. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Pumpet-bal.* 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Pompet*, a printer's inking-ball.

Pu·mp-ha·ndle, *sb.* The handle by which a pump, esp. the ordinary hand- or house-pump, is worked; also *transf.* (see quot. 1794).

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Pump* or *Plow Handles*, the long projecting timbers, on the hind part of the Carriages, on which the foot-board is placed. *Ibid.* I. 121. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 252 The quantity of water raised by each stroke of the pump-handle is just as much as fills that part of the bore in which the piston works. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxi, He ceased swinging [his]..arms to and fro like a pump-handle. 1883 [see PUMP *sb.*[1] 5].

b. *attrib.* Applied to movement resembling the working of the handle of a pump.

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 108 The pump-handle shake [of hands] is the first which deserves notice. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* I. ix, One after the other gave him her hand, which Sam accepted with a pump-handle movement.

Hence **Pu·mp-handle** *v. trans.* (*colloq.*), to shake in greeting (a person's hand, or a person by the hand) as if working a pump-handle; to move (an arm, etc.) in such a manner; also *intr.*; **Pu·mp-handler,** a hand-shake of this nature.

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxi, Exchanged the salute for a most hearty old English pump-handler. 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxii, In an instant the four were..pump-handling each other's arms as if they were going into ecstasies. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* xx, He and Sir Henry were pump-handling away at each other.

Pu·mping, *vbl. sb.* [f. PUMP *v.* + -ING[1.] The action of the verb PUMP in various senses.

† *Dry pumping*, pumping water on any particular part for curative purposes, without immersing the body. *Obs.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 421 Notwithstanding their pumping with 3 pumps, heauing out water with buckets,.. the shippe was halfe full of water ere the leake could be found and stopt. 1631 JORDEN *Nat. Bathes* xvii. (1632) 132 The vse [of Bath waters] is either generall to the whole body, as in bathing; or particular to some one part, as in bucketing or pumping. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 154 And oh! (he cry'd) what street, what lane, but knows Our purgings, pumpings, blankettings, and blows? 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 509 To pour water on those who practised what we term medical pumping. 1806 *Guide to Watering Places* 27 Pumping in the King's and Queen's bath, *2d.* each hundred strokes; at the dry pump, *4d.* each hundred strokes. 1840 *Orig. Bath Guide* 39 An apartment.. for *douching* or dry pumping, *i. e.* pumping on any particular part of the body. 1900 *Daily News* 18 Jan. 3/2 The harsher sound of the pumping of the Maxims, Hotchkiss, .. and machine guns in general. *Ibid.* 27 July 8/5 Great Damage by Brine Pumping.

b. *fig.* See PUMP *v.* 7.

1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 91 Can Patience itselfe indure their tedious pumping for improper phrases. 1678 *Quack's Academy* 7 A Previous pumping, by apt and wary Questions. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xiii. P 5, I got out of her, though by hard pumping, that Don Ambrosio's castle was but a short league from Ponte de Mula. 1881 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* II, By a judicious course of pumping, I shall find out exactly how I'm situated.

c. *concr. pl.* Proceeds of pumping.

1800 *Hull Advertiser* 27 Sept. 2/1 For sale by the candle, ..7 casks olive pumpings.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pumping-trough, -well*; esp. in reference to the machinery used in raising or moving water in mines, water-works, or sewage-systems, air in refrigerators, etc., as *pumping-chamber, -engine, -plant, -shaft, -station.*

1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 47 It may be drained dry..by Pumping, or other Engines. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 213 The plaintiff was pulled out of the pumping-trough. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 289/2 Being deprived of the pumping well and drain from Wapping. 1868 *Daily News* 31 July, All the sewage..has to be lifted, and for this purpose there are four pumping stations. 1893 *Ibid.* 5 July 5/7 The Wheatley seam..access to it is obtained from the pumping shaft by a cage. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Apr. 5/3 He went to the pumping-room.. to ask when the refrigerator would be started.

Pu·mping, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING[2.] That pumps; in quot. 1812, issuing as from a pump; in 1856, resembling the working of a pump.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* ix, The firemen terrified are slow To bid the pumping torrent flow. 1856 A. R. WALLACE in *Ann. Nat. Hist.* July 27, A female Mias..uttering at intervals a loud, pumping grunt.

† **Pu·mping-ball.** *Obs.* [History obscure. As obs. F. *pompette* was synonymous with *pompon*, it seems possible that *pumping-ball* was corrupted from **pompon-ball* = pumpet-ball.]

= PUMPET-*ball*; also called by Florio *pump-ball.*

1598 FLORIO, *Tudice*, a printers inke bals, called pumping bals, wherewith they beat the letters in the forme lying vpon the presse. [1611 a Printers inke-balles or pump-balles.]

So † **Pu·mping-nail,** a nail used in fastening the leather on a printer's ink-ball, or 'pumping-ball' to the stock.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. vi. P 21 For Pelts or Leather, Ball-Nails or Pumping-Nails, Wool or Hair.. the Press-man generally eases the Master-Printer of the trouble of choosing. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 301/1 Pumping Nails, with round Heads. [Cf. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* 6 Ball nails, tacks or clouts used for fastening on the coverings of the old ink-balls.]

Pumpion, variant of POMPION, pumpkin.

Pumpkin (pʊ·mpkin). Also 7–9 **pompkin,** 8–9 **pumkin,** 9 (*U. S.*) **punkin.** [An altered form of *pumpion* (see POMPION), with the ending conformed to the suffix -KIN. In U. S. the *m* is often further assimilated to the *k*, the word being pronounced (pʊ·ŋkin), and sometimes spelt *punkin*, esp. in comb.]

1. The large fruit of a cucurbitaceous plant (*Cucurbita Pepo*), egg-shaped or nearly globular with flattened ends; widely cultivated for the fleshy edible layer next to the rind, which is used in cookery, esp. for pies, and as a food for cattle; in *U. S.* applied *spec.* to particular varieties in distinction from the *squash.*

[1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 67 He would come over to us, to helpe recruite our pumpkin blasted braines.] 1670 D. DENTON *Descr. New York* (1845) 3 Tobacco, Hemp, Flax, Pumpkins, Melons, &c. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pompion* or *Pumpkin*, a sort of Fruit of the nature of Melons. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 155 Cotton-Seeds, made like those of Pumkins. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. by Loire* 63 A single pumpkin could furnish a fortnight's pottage. 1852 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., The Opera* VII. 127 A born nigger with mere appetite for pumpkin.

b. The plant producing this fruit; a trailing annual, growing often to a great length, having heart-shaped five-lobed leaves, and flowers of a deep yellow. Also called *pumpkin-vine.*

1698 FRYER *E. India & P.* 105 Planted with..Pompkins, Cucumbers, Gourds. 1729 *Dampier's Voy.* III. 455 *Great Pumkin*, its fruit striated, round, but somewhat flattish, mixt with white and red, but within yellow. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xvii. 463 A wall of enclosure overgrown with wild pumpkins.

2. *fig.* a. Applied contemptuously to the body or person; hence 'a stupid, self-important person' (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*). Cf. POMPION 3.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* II. i, But I ain't a pumpkin, the Squire he knows that. 1878 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiavelli* (1898) II. ix. 332, I wish to rid myself of this pumpkin of a body. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Nero* II. i, I'll let Rome know how pumpkin Claudius died [cf. *pumpkinification* below].

b. *U. S. slang.* A person or matter of importance; esp. in phrase *some pumpkins* (or *punkins*).

a 1848 RUXTON *Far West* 178 Afore I left the settlements I know'd a white gal, and she was some punkins. 1852 BRISTED *Upper Ten Thousand* 216 We being punkins were of course among the invited. [*Note*] A slang expression of young New York for people of value and consequence. 1887 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 3/1 Driving..from Piccadilly to Hammersmith, he [H. W. Beecher] quaintly said: 'London is some pumkins, I tell you'—a profound Americanism, which is supposed to convey a wholly unatterable approbation and surprise.

3. A sea-cucumber. (Eastern U. S. *local.*)

1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iv. 102 Stripping the sea-cucumbers that they called pumpkins.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pumpkin-chip* (CHIP *sb.*[1] 2 b), *ground, kind, -shell, -vine*; *pumpkin-coloured, -purple* adjs.; **pumpkin gourd** = sense 1; **pumpkin lantern,** a lantern made of the rind of a pumpkin hollowed out so as to be translucent; **pumpkin-pie,** a pie of which pumpkin is a chief ingredient; in U. S. considered especially appropriate to Thanksgiving day; **pumpkin-pine,** a variety of the White Pine: see quot.

1862 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* (1870) 21 Preserves made of *pumpkin-chips. 1873 SUSAN COOLIDGE *What Katy did at Sch.* 12 She saw a big, *pumkin-coloured house. 1882 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 515 *Cucurbita Pepo*, Pompion, or *Pumpkin Gourd. 1799 WASHINGTON *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 223 The large lot..is to have oats sown on the potato and *pumpkin ground. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. 181 A dish of the *pumkin kind, dressed after their way. 1844 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. v, Something more than a *pumpkin-lantern is required to scare manifest and irretrievable Destiny out of her path. 1817 J. PALMER *Jrnl. Trav. U. S.* (1818) 241 Two dishes..peculiar to New England,..toast dipped in cream and *pumpkin pie, 1844 WHITTIER *Pumpkin* 24 Ah! on Thanksgiving day.. What calls back the past, like the rich Pumpkin pie? 1894 *Daily News* 29 Nov. 6/3 A very favourite dish, especially among the poorer classes of America, is pumpkin pie—pronounced 'punkin'. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* III 145 Of the white pine the lumberers distinguish two varieties, one of which they call *punkin pine..The name punkin (pompion) they employ on account of the softness and fine grain of the wood. 1898 C. K. PAUL tr. *Huysman's En Route* ii. 27 Clad in robes of gamboge,..gooseberry-red, *pumpkin-purple and wine lees. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. v. 82 Crop it [hair] forthwith, and that in the true *pumpkin-shell fashion. 1844 WHITTIER *Pumpkin* 32 Telling tales of the fairy who travelled like steam, In a pumpkin-shell coach, with two rats for her team! 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* ix. (1872) 142 He had patches upon his cranium as bald as a pumpkin shell. 1840 J. BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 67 Weeds, potato and *pumpkin vines, and other vegetable matters.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pu·mpkinish** *a.*, resembling or akin to a pumpkin; **Pu·mpkinism,** ? pompous behaviour or language; **Pumpki·nity,** the nature or quality of a pumpkin (after *divinity*); also **Pumpkinifica·tion** [suggested by the travesty (ascribed to Seneca) of the apotheosis of the Roman emperor Claudius Cæsar under the title of 'apocolocyntosis', Gr. *ἀποκολοκύντωσις* transformation into a pumpkin, f. *κολοκύνθη* pumpkin], **Pu·mpkinify** *v.*, **Pu·mpkinize** *v.*, to make a pumpkin of, dyslogistic terms for extravagant or absurdly uncritical glorification.

1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* V. I. 602 *note*, Seneca wrote a satire on the deification of Claudius to which he gave the name of *Apocolocyntosis* (or *pumpkinification). 1904 *Spectator* 15 Oct. 559/1 The writer .. has .. given us, not an apotheosis, but a pumpkinification of the Emperor William II. 1899 *Athenæum* 8 July 71/3 The unhappy Emperor Claudius, who has gone down to posterity as mercilessly '*pumpkinified' by Seneca. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Dec. 721/1 The phrases whereby the *pumpkinifier constructs

his pumpkin. 1849 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Nigger Question* (1872) VII. 101 All this fruit..so far beyond the merely *pumpkinish and grossly terrene, lies in the West India lands. *a* 1835 MRS. HEMANS in H. F. Chorley *Mem.* (1837) II. 18 There will be an outpouring of spirit of *Pumpkinism upon me the moment I get back. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* V. l. 601 The senate decreed his divinity, Seneca translated it into *pumpkinity.

Pu·mpkin-head. *U. S. colloq.* **a.** A head having the hair cut short all round: see quot. 1781. **b.** A big head like a pumpkin. **c.** A person having a pumpkin-head (cf. *Round-head*). **d.** A man with a head compared to a pumpkin, a stupid fellow, a dolt.

1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 195 Newhaven is celebrated for having given the name of pumkin-head to all the New-Englanders. It originated from the Blue Laws, which enjoin every male to have his hair cut round by a cap. When caps were not to be had, they substituted the hard shell of a pumkin, which being put on the head..the hair is cut by the shell all round the head. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. iii. 70 Children..with great pumpkin heads.

Hence **Pu·mpkin-headed** *a.*, having a head compared to a pumpkin, stupid.

[1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 126 Like pumpion headed Solonists they looke.] 1835-40 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* (1862) 244 They ain't got two ideas to bless themselves with, the stupid, punkin-headed, consaited blockheads!

Pumpkinification, etc.: see PUMPKIN.

Pu·mpkin-seed. **a.** The flattish oval seed of the pumpkin. **b.** A fresh-water fish of North America, *Lepomis gibbosus*, the sun-fish, pond-perch. **c.** Applied locally in *U. S.* to a yacht-built sailing-boat, and to a row-boat having the shape of a pumpkin seed.

1781 S. PETERS *Hist. Connecticut* 243 Maize..is planted in hillocks three feet apart, five kernels and two pumkin-seeds in a hillock. 1857 GRAY *First Lessons Bot.* (1866) 8 In the pumpkin-seed,..it is less than an eighth of an inch long. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer., Pumpkin-Seed*,.. common in fresh-water ponds and lakes. They are so called from their form. In the river St. Lawrence I have seen them from six to eight inches in length. 1862 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 243 The bream, Whose on'y business is to head up-stream, (We call 'em punkin-seed). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 64 The 'Pumpkin seed' and the perch are the first trophies of the boy angler.

Pumple, obs. and dial. variant of PIMPLE.

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xxx. (1539) 51 Except they haue many small pumples and springes about the rotes. 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlv. (1631) 252 Like a pumple the childes age of a sore. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin, New Morality* 296 Flaming cheek and pumple nose.

Pumplemousse, -mus, -nose, var. POMPELMOOSE *Obs.*

Pu·mpless, *a.* [See -LESS.] Without a pump.

1899 *Daily News* 9 Nov. 8/1 The majority depend upon pumpless wells.

Pu·mpman. Also **pumpsman.** A man who works a pump; *spec.* one who attends to the pumps in a coal or other mine.

1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 45 That subterraneous Water..never failed..to contribute greatly to the increase of the Pump-mens Labour. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 8/2 The Pennsylvania coal strikers threaten to call out the engineers and pump-men, which would result in the flooding of the mines. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 191/1 [He] speculates on which of his two pumpsmen will prove the weaker.

Pu·mp-rod. A rod (ROD *sb.* 9 a) connecting the piston or plunger of a pump with the motive power; in mines a heavy iron or wooden beam or system of beams.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 178 A pull at both ends of the beam, at the one end by the weight of the pump-rod. 1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 101/1 The beam and pump-rods, sometimes weighing many tons. 1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 192 The whole column of pumps in a shaft is worked by a single pump-rod.

Pu·mp-room. A room or building where a pump is worked; *spec.* a place at a spa where the medicinal water is dispensed for drinking, etc.

The latter use arose at the King's Bath in Bath (England) where early in the 18th c. a building was erected for the shelter of the users (drinkers and bathers) of the water, which was supplied from the cisterns by pumping; the buildings were in course of time elaborated, features of the *Kursaal* being added; the name has been adopted and applied to buildings serving the same purpose at other spas.

[1707 W. OLIVER *Pract. Diss. Bath-Waters* v. (1719) 68 The Inconveniencies [at Bath],..are much less, since the erecting a new Pump, and a convenient warm and dry Gallery to walk in.] 1742-9 J. WOOD *Descr. Bath* (1765) I. II. xi. 222 As the Passage on that Side the Bath was no more than nine Feet broad, the Corporation resolved [*c* 1704] to place the Pump Room over it. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. i, The pump-room which is crowded like a Welsh fair. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 68/2 (Bath) At the King's bath is a handsome pump-room, where the gentlemen and ladies go in a morning to drink the waters. 1828 *Orig. Bath Guide* 26 The Great Pump-room is 60 feet long.. In the centre of the south-side is the pump. 1838 *Murray's Handbk. N. Germ.* 407/2 Dr. Struve's establishment [at Dresden]..consists of baths and a pump-room. *c* 1900 *Guide Buxton* 12 The chalybeate water is also obtained at the Pump Room. At the western end of the Pump Room is the Public Pump, which is supplied from the same spring.

Pu·mp-tree. A length of tree-trunk used as the body or stock of a hand-pump, or as a water-pipe; the stock, barrel, or cylinder of a pump.

1617 in Earwaker *Sandbach* (1890) 136 Item a Levill and a staffe vj^d^..pumptree v^s^. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Pump*, The *Pump-Tree*, which is that Part that stands more above the Earth, or Top of the Well. 1829 R. STUART *Anecd. Steam Engines* I. 306 Employed..for boring the wooden pipes or pumptrees, used to convey water. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 352/2 In Cornwall the cast iron pump-trees exposed to the action of mine water were very speedily destroyed.

Pu·mp-water. Water obtained from below the surface of the soil by means of a pump, as distinguished from *rain-water, spring-water*, etc.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. iv. 115 Very many Pump-waters will not bear Soap, as Rain-waters..will do. 1769 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 142 Some I put into very hard pump-water. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 169 The coldest pump-water that can be procured.

Pu·mp-well. **a.** A casing or compartment in a ship in which the pumps work; the 'well' of a ship. **b.** A well having a pump combined with it; a receptacle in which water is collected to be removed by pumping.

a. [1626 CAPT. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The Pumpe, the pumpes-well.] 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Archipompe*, the pump-well. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 28 Dec. 3/3 The unhappy man was found suspended in the pump-well of the ship.

b. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 358 If a running stream cannot be obtained..a pump-well..may supply its place. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* viii, A nose like the handle of a pumpwell. 1882 *Rep. to Ho. Repr. on Prec. Metals of U.S.* 652 The rest..is..collected by pipes into the pump-well, whence it is pumped up back to the supply tanks, near the pans. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* xiii. 197 A pump-well that ran poison.

Pumy, pumyce, etc.: see PUMICE, -STONE.

Pun (pʌn), *sb.*[1] Also 7-8 **punn.** [Appears first, with its cognate PUN *v.*[1], soon after 1660. Of unascertained origin: see Note below.]

The use of a word in such a way as to suggest two or more meanings or different associations, or the use of two or more words of the same or nearly the same sound with different meanings, so as to produce a humorous effect; a play on words.

1662 DRYDEN *Wild Gall.* I. i, A bare Clinch will serve the turn; a Carwichet, a Quarterquibble, or a Punn. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 37 Wits both ancient and modern ..that never ..received their improvements by employing their time in puns and quibbles. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 92 If this..be no quibble, but a pun. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 15 What of Whims and Shams, Punns and Flams, Stultiloquious Dialogs? 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 P 6 Having pursued the History of a Punn,..I shall here define it to be a Conceit arising from the use of two Words that agree in the Sound, but differ in the Sense. 1727 POPE, etc. *Art Sinking* x. 97 The Paronomasia or Pun, where a word, like the tongue of a jackdaw, speaks twice as much by being split. 1746 SMOLLETT *Reproof* 176 Debauch'd from sense, let doubtful meanings run The vague conundrum and the prurient pun. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, III. v. 74 Laud..turned out Archy, the King's fool, for a pun [viz. for saying as grace 'Great praise be to God, and little Laud to the devil', or words to that effect]. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Miss Mitford* I. v. 157 Even Shakespeare's magic is not proof against the artillery of puns.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pun-hater, -trap*; *pun-abhorring, -admiring, -proof, -provoking* adjs.

1721-2 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 39. 204 It is no wonder that a punning monarch produced a race of punning and pun-admiring liege subjects. 1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistress* xi, The tufted basil, pun-provoking thyme. 1830 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Rem. Freshman* (1872) 448 The intolerant pun-hater. 1839 MORIARTY *Husband Hunter* III. 202 [He] frequently laid pun-traps and quibble-springes of which he took advantage. 1884 W. E. HENLEY in Ward *Eng. Poets* III. 230 A good and cheerful talker, whose piety was not always pun-proof.

Hence (*nonce-words*) **Pu·nless** *a.*, void of puns; **Pu·nlet,** a little pun; **Pu·nnage,** punning; **Pu·nnic, Pu·nnical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or characterized by puns; **Pu·nnigram** [after *epigram*], a punning saying or *mot*; **Punno·logy,** the subject or study of puns.

1716 SWIFT (folio broadsheet), God's Revenge against Punning...[Signed] 'the *Punless and Penyless J. Baker, Knight'. 1864 *Realm* 6 Apr. 8 Let our ingenious dramatists try their hands at a punless burlesque with some real fun and interest in it. 1819 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 287 The *punlet, or pun-maggot, or pun intentional. *a* 1849 POE *Marginalia* Wks. 1864 III. 564 Such chapters of *punnage as Hood was in the daily practice of committing to paper. 1713 BIRCH *Guard.* No. 36 *heading*, What Rebuses exalt the *Punnic fame! 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* xxxix. (1754) 204 Punning is not intirely banish'd from the pulpit...Some persons have alledged..that this pun-ick art is of divine institution. 1780 R. GRAVES *Euphrosyne* II. 150 *Punnical. 1835 *Tait's Mag.* II. 420 Much that is merry and wise, punnical and entertaining. 1888 HUXLEY in *Life* (1900) II. xiii. 211 You..have already made all possible epigrams and *punnigrams on the topic. *a* 1744 POPE (Jod.), He might have been better instructed in the Greek *punnology. 1826 *Examiner* 179/2 The extreme antiquity of some of the described incidents and punnology.

[Note. *Pun* was prob. one of the clipped words, such as *cit, mob, nob, snob*, which came into fashionable slang at or after the Restoration. Longer equivalents, found *a* 1676, were PUNNET and PUNDIGRION; the former app. a dim. of *pun*. It has been suggested that *pun* might originally be an abbreviation of It. *puntiglio*, small or fine point, formerly also a cavil or quibble ('cavillazione, sottigliezza nel ragionare, o nel disputare', *Vocab. Della Crusca*), a pun being akin to a quibble; and that *pundigrion* might perh. be a perversion, illiterate or humorous, of *puntiglio*. This appears not impossible, but nothing has been found in the early history of *pun*, or in the English uses of *punctilio*, to confirm the conjecture.]

Pun, *sb.*[2] Also 8 punn. [Related to PUN *v.*[2]]

1. A layer or bed of clay to prevent leakage. ?*Obs.*

1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Navig.* 365 A bed (technically a *punn*) of clay, to prevent the water weeping through the arches.

2. A punner, a pounder, a rammer. *local.*

1905 J. T. MICKLETHWAITE *Let.* 15 Sept. (MS.), *Pun*, a sort of great pestle for beating mortar.

Pun (pʌn), *v.*[1] [Goes with PUN *sb.*[1]]

1. *intr.* To make puns; to play on words.

1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 33 Whether or no punning, quibling, and that which they call joquing, and such other delicacies of wit..might not be very conveniently omitted? 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Pun*, to quibble or play with words. 1727 SWIFT *God's Rev. agst. Punning* Wks. 1755 III. I. 171 One Samuel an Irishman, for his forward attempt to pun, was stunted in his stature. 1729 in Pope *Dunc.* I. 63 *note*, A great Critick formerly..declared He that would pun would pick a Pocket. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. (1819) 292 Edgar in Lear, who, in imitation of the gipsy incantations, puns on the old word *mair*, a hag. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii, I punned and jested.

fig. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. ii, Here, here, master; how it [wine] puns and quibbles in the glass!

2. *trans.* To bring or drive by punning.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 P 2 The Sermons of Bishop Andrews..are full of them [puns]. The Sinner was punned into Repentance. 1888 CRAWFORD *With Immortals* II. xii. 131 To be punned to death, sir, would be equally horrible.

Pun, *v.*[2] [Early and dial. var. of POUND *v.*[1]]

1. *trans.* = POUND *v.*[1] in various senses.

1559-1903 [see POUND *v.*[1] 1 β, 2 β].

2. *spec.* (in technical use). To consolidate by pounding or ramming down (as earth or rubble, in setting poles, etc., or making a roadway); = POUND *v.*[1] 6.

1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 8 The materials shall be..well punned, rammed and beaten down. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 196 Too much stress cannot be laid upon good sound punning. The earth, as it is thrown in, should be thoroughly well punned at every stage. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 95 The material used for the puddle..should be carefully punned in thin layers so as to secure that no vacuities are left in any part.

b. To work *up* to a proper consistency with a punner.

1825 W. PARSONS in *Fowler Corr.* (*priv. printed* 1907) 534 Barrow lime mortar and washed sand made through a fine riddle and punned up to a proper consistency, using as little water as possible. (1907 *Note*, Well worked up with a 'pun', a wooden implement something like a great pestle.)

Hence **Pu·nning** *vbl. sb.*; also in comb. **pu·nning-block,** a mechanical rammer.

1838 SIMMS *Public Wks. Gt. Brit.* 33 The operation of punning or packing performed, until the brickwork is complete. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 190 No matter how well the punning and ramming may be done after the pole is planted,..a considerable time will always elapse before the earth settles back to its former condition.

‖ **Puna** (pū·nă). [Peruvian, in sense 1.]

1. A high bleak plateau in the Peruvian Andes; *spec.* the table-land lying between the two great chains of the Cordilleras at an elevation of more than 10,500 feet.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. i. (1614) 721 There are other Deserts in Peru, called Punas, where the Ayre cutteth off mans life without feeling. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 93 *Vicunnas*,..breeding..in cold and desert-Places, which they call *Punas*. 1860 GOSSE *Romance Nat. Hist.* 50 It snuffs the thin air..in those loftier ridges which the Peruvians term *punas*, where the elements appear to have concentrated all their sternness. 1885 J. BALL in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XXII. 6, I am inclined to place the lower limit of the Alpine zone on the *puna* at about 12,000 feet.

2. Difficulty of breathing arising from a too rarefied atmosphere; mountain sickness.

1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Puna*, a sickness common in the elevated districts of S. America. 1845 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* XV. (1873) 322 The short breathing from the rarified atmosphere is called by the Chilenos 'puna'. 1903 *Longm. Mag.* July 218 José..was suffering from puna.

3. *Comb.* **Pu·na-wind,** a cold dry wind which blows from the Cordilleras across the Puna.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Puna, Punahlite, var. POON, POONAHLITE.

Punai·se, pune·se. *Obs.* exc. as Fr. Forms: α. 6- **punaise** (piunē·z); also 6 **punayse,** 6-8 **punese** (piunī·z), 7-8 **puneze, punice,** 8 **punaize.** β. 6-8 **punie,** 7 **puny, -ee** (piū·ni). [a. F. *punaise* (pünē·z) a bed-bug, prop. fem. of the adj. *punais* stinking, fetid. The form *punee, punie* arose as a false singular of *punese*: cf. *cherry, Chinee*.] A bed-bug. Also, with defining words, applied to other noxious insects.

α. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* iii. (1570) B vj/2 Make thee readye..For lise, for fleas, punaises, mise and rattes. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 138 Gnates, puneses, flies. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lx. 402 The leaues..driueth away the stinking punayses. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 356 The said punices ought to be lapped in a reddish clout of a carnation colour. 1669 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* II. i, They sleep so soundly that Puneses cannot wake 'em. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. I. 437 His Flea, his Morpion, and Punese, H' had gotten for his proper ease. 1712 COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 61 Nor..will it so much as suffer any Punaises, or Bugs..to live. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. (1818) I. 142 On dissecting the brain of a woman there were found in it abundance of vermicles and punaises.

β. 1598 FLORIO, *Cimici*, a kinde of vermin in Italie that.. biteth sore, called punies or wall-lise. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xxix. iv, Punies or wall lice, the most ill-favored and filthie vermine of all other, and which we loth and abhorre at the verie naming of them. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* clxvi, Called a wall-louse or puny in English. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. vii. ii. 171 The Great Winged Punee. *Cimex sylvestris alatus major.* 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Rasberry bush*, The Strawberry-Bushes are infested with Field-Punies.

‖ **Punatoo** (pʊnătū·). [Cingalese.] The preserved pulp of the fruit of the palmyra palm, used as food. 1858 in SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade.*

Punay, variant of PUNYE *Obs.*

† **Punce,** obs. var. POUNCE *sb.*[1] 4.

1660 HEXHAM *Dutch Dict., Brytel*, a Punce to engrave with.

Punce, dial. var. POUNCE *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]; obs. f. PUNCH *sb.*[1] 2 c; var. PUNSE *Obs.*, var. PULSE *sb.*[1]

Punch (pʊnʃ), *sb.*[1] Also 5-6 **punche,** 6 **ponche.** [app. a collateral form of POUNCE *sb.*[1], used in certain senses, chiefly related to uses of PUNCH *v.*[1]; or shortened from PUNCHEON[1], with which it is synonymous in nearly every sense.]

† **1.** A dagger; = PUNCHEON[1] 1. *Obs. rare.*

c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 474 (*Stage direction*, Here shalle ye iiij Iewys pryk yer daggeris in iiij quarters yes sayng).. Wt thys punche I shalle hym pryke.

2. An instrument or tool for pricking, piercing, perforating, or making a hole in anything; esp. for making holes or cutting out pieces of a particular shape; also for enlarging a hole already made, driving a bolt, etc. out of a hole (*starting punch*), or forcing a nail beneath the surface after it has been driven (*driving punch*). The name is also extended from the simple instrument to an appliance or machine of which it forms the essential part.

A punch may be actuated by percussion or by pressure; and, according to its purpose, the working end may be sharp, pointed, blunt, or hollow with a cutting edge; a punch for cutting out pieces of a particular shape may also impress a design upon these, and thus combine senses 2 and 3.

1505 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 100, j. hamer de ferro; j. punche. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 139 To graffe bytwene the barke and the tree..thou must haue made redy a ponche of harde wode with a stoppe and a tenaunt on the one syde. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 43 Item v ponchys, one ponce with a stame iij[d]. 1546 LANGLEY *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. x. 77 The Squire the Lyne the Shaue the Pricker or Punche were diuysed by Theodor a Samian. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 189/1 A Punche, *punctorium, pugio.* 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 6 Drills are used for the making such Holes as Punches will not conveniently serve for. *Ibid.* 11 You must then make a Steel Punch to the size and shape of the hole you are to strike,..place the point of the Punch where the hole must be, and with the Hand-hammer..punch the hole. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 214 The punch used in cutting nails consists of a cube of steel. 1833 *Ibid.* II. 340 Far from becoming brittle, it will yield to the blows of the hammer and to the punch, which is used to enlarge the holes. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 660 In each of these apertures, there is a punch for the purpose of piercing the cards, slips, or pasteboards with holes. 1865 H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 27 Taking care to cut by a circular punch of an inch diameter, a hole in each bill. 1886 J. M. CAULFEILD *Seamanship Notes* 8, 2 Punches, 1 Starting, 1 Driving.

b. Often with a prefixed defining word indicating (*a*) the user or use, as *conductor's p., cooper's p., hand p., pinking p., pipe-slotting p.*; or (*b*) the substance punched or the nature of the hole or impression made, as BELT *p., buttonhole p., eyelet-p., leather p., nail p., paper p., rail p., sheet-metal p., ticket-p., wad-p., wadding-p.* (But any of these, or of the following, may, when its kind is known from the context, be called simply 'punch'.) Also **bell-punch,** a conductor's or ticket punch having a signal-bell which announces the punching of a ticket; **centre** or **centering-p.**: see CENTRE *sb.* 19; **cold-p.,** a punch used for perforating cold metal; **duplex p.,** (*a*) a punch having a counter die on the opposite jaw; (*b*) one whose force is derived from the rolling action of two levers on a common fulcrum; **gang p.,** a number of punches arranged in a single stock; **hollow p.,** a hollow circular chisel-edged punch used for cutting smooth holes in yielding material; **rasp p.**: see RASP *sb.*[1] 5; **ratchet p.,** a screw punching machine operated by a lever, pawl, and ratchet-wheel; **sheriff's p.,** an instrument formerly used by sheriffs in some ancient cities and boroughs for punching a mark on a freeman's copy or certificate of freedom at the time when he recorded his vote; **spring p.,** a punch which is drawn back after each stroke by means of a spring.

1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 22 Smiths call all Punches they use upon cold Iron, Cold-Punches. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, The hollow punch is employed to make holes for rivets in leather..and on other occasions where a smooth, round hole is to be cut out of a yielding material. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 50 Deeply-cut furrows and meaningless scratches, put on by the dozen with a shading-punch. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 May 5/2 Upon entering the flesh the front of the bullet acts like a wadding-punch.

c. *Surgery.* An instrument formerly used for extracting the stumps of teeth. (Also, in 8 **punce.**)

1742 *Edin. Med. Ess.* V. I. 461 The Punce has much better Effect in pushing from within outwards than in the common Way it is employ'd to thrust the Roots of Teeth from without inwards. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Punch*, a surgical instrument, used for extracting the stumps of teeth. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Punch*,..name for a now obsolete form of dental elevator.

3. A tool or machine for impressing a design or stamping a die upon or into some material; in *Coining* and *Die-sinking*, a hardened steel cameo for forming a die; in *Type-founding*, a steel die having a letter cut in relief on its face, for making the intaglio impression in the copper matrix from which types are cast; in *Plastic Art*, a rod, handle, or wheel-rim having a figure or pattern upon it in relief for impressing a design on clay or any plastic material.

1628 in H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 81 Patternes for the punches and stampes for his majesties coyne in the mynt. 1638 in *Dom. St. Papers* CCCLXXII. Nos. 13 & 14 Cutting the Punches and Matrices belonginge to the Castinge of one sorte of letters. 1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* I. (1686) 97 Number and Mark every piece..with a small iron or steel Punch. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (ROXB.) 264/2 He [Punchard] beareth vert, a Punch, or Letter Punch, Argent...These are steele on the end whereof the letters are cut so that they are punched into the Matrice. 1822 BEWICK *Mem.* 59 Crests on silver and seals of various kinds, for which I made all the new steel punches and letters. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* iii. (1876) 27 The idea of making the punch itself the vehicle of an ornamental design, as well as the die, marks another epoch in the art [of coinage]. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* II. 436/2 [In printing music] zinc has been of late used instead of pewter: the punches make a clearer impression. 1892 *Labour Commission* Gloss. No. 3 *Punch*, the top half of the prints in which bolsters [of knives] are made. 1904 *Athenæum* 21 May 656/2 A passage from the 42-line (Mazarin) Bible is closely imitated by types cast in leaden matrices produced by punches of hardened lead, obtained..from wooden punches.

4. A mason's chipping tool; = PUNCHEON[1] 2 b. ? *U. S.* 1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

5. a. A post supporting the roof in a coal-mine: cf. *punch-prop* in 7. **b.** See quot. 1875. Cf. PUNCHEON[1] 4.

1462 *Anct. Deed B.* 3217 (P.R.O.) Cum idem Willelmus ..dederit eisdem..omnia ligna sua boscum et subboscum.. pro *punches* et *proppes* faciendis. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1833/1 *Punch* 5 *Carpentry*, Studding used to support a roof.

6. *Hydraulic Engin.* A lengthening block or extension piece placed on a pile that has been driven too low to be reached by the ram; a dolly. Evidently derived from the *driving-punch* in sense 2.

1875 in KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *punch-cutter, -holder, -projector, -receiver*; *punch-struck* adj.; **punch-mark,** a mark punched on metal, a coin, etc.; **punch-plate, punch-prop,** † **punch-rod**: see quots.

1789 (*title*) A Specimen of Printing Types...By William Colman, Regulator, And Richard Austin, *Punch-Cutter. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 595/1 Types..can be obtained by means of punch-cutters and letter-founders. 1896 T. L. DE VINNE *Moxon's Mech. Exerc., Printing* 403 The leading punch-cutter of his time. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 660 This plate *g*, shown also in section, is called the *punch-holder. 1853 HUMPHREYS *Coin-Coll. Man.* ii. (1876) 18 The back has a *punch mark in four rough compartments. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Notes Coins* 1 The earliest of all known coins exhibit on the reverse only a shapeless punch-mark. 1888 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* (1900) 90 A hole drilled through the point of intersection of these two scratches and through centre punch-mark on opposite side, will be both at right angles to the axis of, and exactly diametrically across the piston-rod. 1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 334/2 This *punch plate..prepared for making a single row of holes, has a number of holes drilled in it in one line, at such distances apart as are suitable to the nature of the work to be executed. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 660 These wires are called the *punch-projectors. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 40 *Punch-prop, a short prop, set upon a crowntree or balk, where it does not support the middle of the roof, on account of the place having fallen before the timber was set. Also, a short prop, about 14 or 15 inches long, placed by a hewer under his sump or backend, when he is under apprehension of its dropping down before he has got it kirved sufficiently far. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 88/2 *Punch-rod, is [a] With or Wreathen stick turned about the Head of a fire punch, to hold it on to the hot Iron. 1900 H. HART *Cent. Typogr. Oxf.* 141 Each of these sets consists of 24 *punch-struck matrices for Greek Alphabets, of which I have only cast..example types of the alphas and omegas.

Punch (pʊnʃ), *sb.*[2] [f. PUNCH *v.*[1]] An act of punching; a straight or thrusting blow, in mod. usage generally one delivered with the fist; also (*obs.* or *dial.*) a kick; cf. POUNCE *sb.*[1] 7.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong., Horion*, a blow, as *je te bailleray vn tel horion que, &c.* I will giue thee such a punch, that, &c. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 75 No sooner had he let go his Foot, but he gave him a punch on the Belly. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 18 [He] aimed a punch at Harry's stomach. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, By a punch on the ribs [he] conveyed to Rory Bean it was his rider's pleasure that he should forthwith proceed homewards. 1820 BYRON *Morg. Mag.* lxiv, He gave him such a punch upon the head. 1840 HOOD *Up Rhine* 47, I couldn't help making a punch at the fellow's head.

Punch (pʊnʃ), *sb.*[3] (Also 7 **punce, paunch.**) [Origin uncertain; stated by Fryer, who travelled in Western India 1672-81, to be the Marāṭhi (and Hindī) word *pānch* (Skr. *pañchan*, Pers. *panj*) five, from its five ingredients, which may show an explanation then current in the East: but see Note below. The name is evidenced as early as 1632. Beside it, in 17th c., foreign writers have a name with a second element apparently representing *punch* (Du. *palepunts, -ponts*, Ger. *palepunz, -bunze*, Fr. *bolle-, bouleponge*), which is not explained by any eastern lang., but which appears to be an imperfect (perh. originally native) echo of the Eng. 'bowl o' punch', a phrase already very common in the 17th century. Mod.Du. *pons, punch*, Ger., Da., Sw. *punsch*, Fr. *punch*, in 18th c. *ponche*, Sp., Pg. *ponche*, are all from Eng. See Note below.]

1. A beverage now generally composed of wine or spirits mixed with hot water or milk and flavoured with sugar, lemons, and some spice or cordial; but varying greatly in composition with time and place. Usually qualified by the name of a principal constituent, as *arrack, brandy, claret, gin, milk, rum, tea, whisky, wine punch.*

How to mix Drinks (New York, 1862) describes 68 kinds.

1632 (Sept. 28) R. ADDAMS *Let. to T. Colley, Merchant at Pattapoli* (Ind. Off. Rec. O.C. 1449), I am very glad you have so good compani to be with all as Mr. Cartwright, I hop you will keep a good house together and drincke punch by no allowanc. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Punch*, a kind of Indian drink [1696 (ed. 5) *adds* made of Lime-Juice, Brandy, and other Ingredients]. 1662 EVELYN *Diary* 16 Jan., I accompanied the Duke to an East India vessell that lay at Blackwall, where we had entertainment..Amongst other spirituous drinks, as punch, etc. they gave us [etc.]. 1665 R. HEAD *Eng. Rogue* I. lxxv, Going into China-row, (a street so called in Bantam) to drink Punce and tea. *Ibid.*, I never came ashore, but I drank very immoderately of *Punce, Rack, Tea*, &c. which was brought up in great China-Jugs holding at least two Quarts. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Phys.* 34 Rum..is ordinarily drank amongst the Planters, as well alone, as made into Punch. 1679 LOCKE in Fox Bourne *Life* (1876) I. viii. 426 *note*, Punch, a compounded drink, (to be had) on board some West India Ships. 1683 W. HEDGES *Diary in Bengal* 8 Oct., Our owne people and mariners..are now very numerous and (by reason of Punch) every day give disturbance. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 192 Their [sea-faring men's] drinking of that Liquor called Punch is also very Inimical to Health; For the Lime-Juice, which is one of the Ingredients.., is in its Nature, fierce, sharp and Astringent, apt to create griping Pains in the Belly. 1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 589/1 Make a pleasant and grateful sort of Punch.. with the following *quantities*. ℞ Fair Water: Brandy A. a Quart: choice pure Lime-juice a Pint: double refined Sugar lb j. mix and dissolve, and if you so please, add one Nutmeg grated. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 157 At Nerule is made the best Arach or Nepa de Goa, with which the English on this Coast make that enervating Liquor called *Paunch* (which is Indostan for Five) from Five Ingredients. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 9 We went the old way of all Sailors, the Punch was made, and I was made drunk with it. 1725 N. ROBINSON *Th. Physick* 216 Punch. ..The Ingredients are Brandy, Rack, or Rum, Water warm or cold, Lemon-juice, Sugar, and sometimes a little Milk is added, which denotes it Milk-Punch. 1739 ELTON in Hanway *Trav.* (1762) I. I. v. 15 We treated them with punch till our brandy was expended. 1811 R. FENTON *Tour Quest Genealogy* 13 Punch, whose basis was strong green tea, richly inspissated with jellies.

b. In phr. *bowl of punch.*

1658 T. ALDWORTH *Let. to T. Davies* in *W. Hedges' Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) III. App. 194 Your Company, which wee haue often remembered in a Bowle of the cleerest punch, hauing noe better Liquor. 1671 KIRKMAN *Eng. Rogue* III. xxii, We had good sport over a bowl of Punch. 1675 TEONGE *Diary* (1825) 4 [On board the Ship *Assistance.*] I..dranke part of 3 boules of punch, (a liquor very strainge to me). 1685 J. DUNTON *Lett. fr. New-Eng.* (1867) 14 That which was the most esteem'd by every one was a large Bowl of Punch, a Liquor of that Noble and Divine Original that all the Gods and Goddesses..contributed to its Composition. 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. i. 6, I set a bowl of punch before them, made with my treacle and sour ram's-horn juice. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 462 The captain..promising to regale him with a bowl of rum punch in the kitchen. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, A bowl of punch was carried up.. and a grand carouse held in honour of his safety.

β. Foreign adaptations app. of *bowl o' punch.*

[1653 BOULLAYE-LE-GOUZ *Voy. & Obs.* 516 Bolleponge est vn mot Anglois, qui signifie vne boisson dont les Anglois vsent aux Indes faite de sucre, suc de limon, eau de vie, fleur de muscade, & biscuit rosty.] 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 18 [In 1638 at Surat] every man was at liberty..to drink *Palepuntz*, which is a kind of drink consisting of Aquavitæ, Rose-water, juice of Citrons and Sugar. 1671 H. O. tr. *Bernier's Relat. Voy. in 1604* in *Voy. & Trav.* (1745) II. 241 Since that they have taken care..that their people shall not drink so much *Bouleponges*. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* i, § 6 *Pale-puntz*, here [England] vulgarly known by the name of Punch; a Drink..very usual amongst those that frequent the Sea, where a Bowl of Punch is an usual Beverage. 1684 J. MORRISON tr. *Struys' Voy.* xxxvi, There are many Strangers who destroy themselvs with drinking of a Liquor much in use there, called *Palepunshen*, being compounded of Arak, Sugar, and Raisins. [1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 96 The Francks use a Beverage there [in Persia], which they call a Bowl of Punch, and is cooling [*orig.* (1682) Les Francs y usent d'un breuvage qu'ils appellent Bolponze, qui rafraichit.]

† **2.** Applied in Barbados to a drink fermented from sugar. *Obs.*

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 32 [Besides strong drinks made from potatoes, cassavie, and plantine] Punch is a fourth sort: and of that I have drunke: it is made of water and sugar put together; which in tenne dayes standing will be very strong. 1660 in HOWELL *Lex. Tetraglotton.*

3. With *a* and *pl.* **a.** A bowl or drink of punch. **b.** A party at which punch is drunk.

1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 156 Brontin..Bethought himself, A Punch of Nappy Liquor In a Cold Winters Night was no false Latine. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr., There was a committee-room, which..had been converted into a bar, and there the consumption of rum-punches was enormous. 1871 *Daily News* 5 Jan., One battalion invites another to what they call a punch. 1888 *Scott. Leader*

26 Oct. 3 A 'punch' was given at Cherbourg on Wednesday night in honour of the officers of the Russian fleet. 1901 W. CHURCHILL *Rich. Carvell* i, He mixed a punch or a posset as well as any one in our colony.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *punch-club, -glass, -kettle, -ladle, -maker.* See also PUNCH-BOWL, etc.

1807 E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* III. 125 The Premier armed himself with the punch-ladle. 1815 *Edin. Rev.* XXV. 230 Frequents punch-clubs too frequently. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xvii, A house..where the punch-kettle is never allowed to cool. 1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* v, Was it the punch, or the punch-maker who intoxicated him?

Hence (*nonce-words*) **Pu·nchery** [after *brewery*, etc.], a place where punch is prepared; **Pu·nchifier**, a punch-maker; **Pu·nchless** *a.*, without punch; **Pu·nchy** *a.*, of the nature of punch.

1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 119, I have..made it a standing order, that the punch be made in the *punchery. 1824 *Ibid.* XV. 706 Our youthful friend is a promising *punchifier. 1821 *Ibid.* X. 562 Breakfastless, milkless, tealess, soupless, *punchless. 1843 DICKENS *To Felton* 2 Mar. *Lett.* (1880) III. 47 A complication of *punchy smells.

[*Note.* As to the origin of the name *punch*, Yule thought that 'there is something of Indian idiom in the suggestion of Fryer'. But there are serious difficulties. The word for 'five' in the Indian vernaculars, Hindī, Guzarātī, Marāṭhi, etc., is *pāṅch* (in Anglo-Indian formerly spelt *paunch*), while the drink has uniformly been *punch*, and was by Fryer spelt *paunch* app. only to support the alleged derivation. The combining form of *pāṅch*, however, is *panch-* with short *ă* (= Eng. *ŭ* in *but*), as in Hindī *panchāmrit* a mixture of five substances, *panchbhodra* a sauce of five ingredients, *panchgāvya* the five products of the cow, etc.; and it has been suggested that *punch* may have been short for some such compound, as, in fact, *panchāyāt* 'a council of five' has been colloquially shortened to *panch*, PUNCH *sb.*[6] But the history of English pronunciation shows that *punch* was in the early 17th c. pronounced not with the *u* in *punt*, but with the *u* in *pull, put*, as it still is in the north of England, and was by Dr. Johnson ('Who's for Poonsh?': see PUNCH-BOWL quot. 1791); which is confirmed by the 17th c. foreign renderings *punts, puntz, punsch*, etc. Now *punch*, so pronounced, does not represent either *pāṅch* or *panch* in Indian languages; which makes its origin from that source improbable. Moreover, the number of ingredients does not seem to have been at any time so fixed as to give origin to a name; some early writers give four, some only three, some six; since Fryer's time it has been usual to say 'five', but the fifth has been very variously specified. As several early passages show that punch was especially a seaman's drink, the Rev. C. B. Mount has suggested that the name originated not in India, but on the way thither, and may have been a sailors' shortening of *puncheon*, as that to which sailors would look for their allowance of liquor. See *N. & Q.* 10th s. IV. 401, 18 Nov. 1905, and subseq. articles to 27 Jan. 1906.]

Punch (pʊnʃ), *sb.*[4] and *a.* Now chiefly *dial.* [Of uncertain origin. No words certainly related are found outside English.

It has been suggested that it is short for PUNCHEON[2]; cf. Bav. dial. *punzon* a cask, also a short thick person or thing (Wedgwood); also that it is connected with BUNCH. But as Pepys, in quots. 1669 in PUNCHINELLO 2, and in A here, records the use of both *Punchinello* and *Punch* as appellations for a short and thick person or thing, it is highly probable that *Punch* in this sense, as well as in the next word, was in its origin short for PUNCHINELLO. As it is not certain whether the sb. or adj. was the original, the senses are here arranged chronologically, on the hypothesis that the adj. B was an attrib. use of the sb. A, and that an elliptical use of the adj. gave rise to the much later sb. C.]

A. *sb.* A name for a short fat man, or for anything short and thick. Cf. PUNCHINELLO 2. ? *Obs.*

1669 PEPYS *Diary* 30 Apr., Staying among poor people there in the ally, did hear them call their fat child Punch; which pleased me mightily, that word being become a word of common use for all that is thick and short. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Punch*, a thick short Man. 1836 T. D. FOSBROKE in *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 241/2 A juvenile figure of the best height, 5 f. 10 inch.; taller or shorter men being generally ill-made, knock-kneed, or Punches.

B. *adj.* Short and thick, stout. Now only *dial.* Said esp. of horses, and so leading to use in C.

1679 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1418/4 Taken away from two Grooms on Monday,..a little gray punch Stoned Horse, hath all his paces,..about 14 hands. 1680 *Ibid.* No. 1476/4 A strong punch Nag, with a star, trots all. 1702 *Ibid.* No. 3855/4 He is a short punch Man. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v., In the Manage, a Punch Horse, is a well-set, well-knit Horse; short-back'd, and thick-shoulder'd, with a broad Neck, and well lined with Flesh. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 195 Garrick..was..'a short punch man, very lively and bustling'. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Punch*, short, fat.

C. *sb.* One of a breed of heavy draught horses (in full *Suffolk Punches*), characterized by a short and very thick-set body and neck, and short legs.

1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLI. 37 The breed of horses, denominated Suffolk Punches. 1831 YOUATT *The Horse* 38 The Suffolk Punch, so called from his round punchy make. *Ibid.* 39 The Punch is not what he was. 1852 *P. Parley's Ann.* 261 Riding..not on hunters or blood mares, but on sturdy Suffolk punches.

Hence **† Punch'd, † Pu·nching, † Pu·nchion** *adjs.*, of horses = PUNCH *a.*: see B. above. *Obs.*

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3881/4 A thick punching Horse between 5 and 6 years old. *Ibid.* No. 3959/4 A bright bay Nag,..short Punch'd, well Barrell'd. 1709 *Ibid.* No. 4523/4 Stoln.., a bright Bay Nag, near 14 hands high, a very strong Punchion Horse.

Punch (pʊnʃ), *sb.*[5] [Short for PUNCHINELLO.]

1. The name of the principal character, a grotesque hump-backed figure, in the puppet-show called Punch and Judy. (The name *Judy* for 'Punch's wife' appears to be later.) Also *attrib.* in *Punch and Judy show*, etc.: see also 3.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 16 P 2 When we came to Noah's Flood in the Show, Punch and his Wife were introduced dancing in the Ark. *Ibid.* No. 44 P 5 He makes a prophane lewd Jester, whom he calls Punch, speak to the Dishonour of Isaac Bickerstaff. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. 1. 193 Some fam'd for numbers soft and smooth, By lovers spoke in punch's booth. *a* 1790 in Hone *Every Day Bk.* II. 504 Can't you see by my hunch, sir,..I am master Punch, sir. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* i, Remaining behind the curtain unseen, like the ingenious manager of Punch and his wife Joan. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *English Spy* II. 65 Old Punch with his Judy. 1828 [J. P. COLLIER] (*title*) Punch and Judy...Accompanied by the Dialogue of the Puppet-show [etc.]. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. i. 25 At the best a Punch and Judy play. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xi, There were picturesque beggars, Punch-and-Judy shows. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xix. (ed. 3) 192 Ramsgate 'sands'..a rendezvous of Punch and Judy men, nigger minstrels, donkey-drivers, and the like.

b. In allusive phrases, e. g. *as pleased as Punch.*

1813 MOORE *Let. to Lady Donegal* in *Diary* VIII. 137, I was (as the poet says) as pleased as Punch. 1818 — *Fudge Fam. Paris* ii. 78 While Saxony's as pleased as Punch. *Ibid.* vi. 82 Give me the useful peaching Rat; Not things as mute as Punch, when bought. 1873 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) II. 102, I am as pleased as Punch at the thought of having a kind of denizenship, if nothing more, at Oxford. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkb.* 287, I was proud as Punch, for then I was trusted..to ride a journey by my own little self.

c. *Punch's voice* [F. *voix de Polichinelle*]: see quot.

1894 GOULD *Dict. Med.* etc. *Sci., Punch's Voice*, a peculiar bell-like, or ringing tone of voice, like that assumed by Punch in the Punch and Judy shows. It is sometimes heard among the insane, and has [etc.].

2. The title of a well-known comic weekly journal, published in London, of which 'Mr. Punch' is the assumed editor. Also *attrib.*

1841 (July 17) (*title*) Punch, or the London Charivari. 1856 WHYTE MELVILLE *Kate Cov.* viii, She with her knitting, and I with the last Punch. 1856 *Men of the Time* 543 One of his younger brothers..is on the 'Punch' staff.

3. *Comb.*: **punch-man**, the owner or operator of a **punch-show**, or Punch and Judy show.

1861 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 47 'How are you getting on?' I might say to another Punchman. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* v, Little punch-shows on the Riva.

‖ **Punch** (pʊntʃ), *sb.*[6] *East Indies.* Short for PANCHAYAT; a council of five persons.

1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. viii. vii. 487 All real power was usurped by the army, who exercised it by means of delegates called punches. 1864 C. W. KING *Gnostics* 199 In our times, with the Sikhs, to hold a Punch, or council of five was the formal mode of deliberating. 1867 J. C. MARSHMAN *Mem. Havelock* (1890) IV. 145 Their movements were regulated by punches or councils of five.

Punch *a.*: see PUNCH *sb.*[4]

Punch (pʊnʃ), *v.*[1] Also 4-6 **punche**, 5-6 **pounch**, 6 **ponch(e**, 7 **punsh**, *Sc.* **punsche**. [app. a collateral form of POUNCE *v.*[1]; cf. the two forms *ponson* (or *punson*) and *punchon* in PUNCHEON[1]. Perhaps also regarded as a by-form of PUNGE *v.*]

I. † 1. *trans.* To stab, prick, puncture with or as with a pointed instrument; = POUNCE *v.*[1] 6. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/1 Punchyn, idem quod prykkyn. 1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* IV. x. 31/2 A hote fume, that poncheth [*ed.* 1582 puncheth, L. *pungente*] and nyppeth the senowes of the stomake. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* V. vii. 346 That they might punch him with bodkins. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 2 A Proboscis..by which he [the flea] both punches the skin, and sucks the blood through it.

† **b.** *fig.* To pierce, prick (the heart, conscience, etc.). *Obs.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 57 Euer punched, stimulated and pricked with the scrupulous stynges of domesticall sedicion and ciuile commocion. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 13 The same sweorde..whose edge hath punched and stricken the Jewes hertes. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. v, Does thy hart With punching anguish spur thy galled ribs?

2. To poke or prod, esp. with a stick or other blunt implement. Now in U. S. and Colonial use, To drive cattle (by prodding them on).

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxxiv. 21 For that that ȝe punchiden [1388 hurliden, Vulg. *impingebatis*] with sydis, and shuldris, and with ȝour hornis wynewiden alle seek beestis. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. cxxvii, Diogenes..beholding a young springal as he slept.., he pounched the same with his staffe. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* VI. ii. 22 Pounching me with the butt end of his speare. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VI. 126 With a goad he punch'd each furious dame. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 313, 2 other lords [were] puncht with the butt ends of muskets. 1833 J. A. ROEBUCK *Sp. Ho. Comm.* 13 June, The police..punched with their staves, women [etc.]. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. ii. 40 He..with his elbow punched the maid. 1872 C. D. WARNER *Backlog Studies* 21 (U.S.) It is time to punch the backlog and put on a new forestick. 1886 KENDALL *Poems* 207 At punching oxen, you may guess There's nothing out can 'camp' him. 1894 *Home Missionary* (N. Y.) June 68 In the end of each stick is a sharp iron spike, with which they punch the beasts and force them into the cars. Hence the cowboy is sometimes called the 'cow-puncher'.

b. To put *out*, or stir *up* by punching or poking.

1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* vii. 189 To punch out the eyes of an adversary. 1867 F. H. LUDLOW *Brace of Boys* 275 They became galvanically active the moment they were punched up, and fell flat the moment the punching was remitted. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 281 A..beadle ..punched up a kneeling peasant.

3. To deliver a sharp blow or forward thrust at; *sp.* to strike with the closed fist; to beat, thump. *To punch the ball*: to take exercise with the punching-ball.

1530 PALSGR. 670/2, I punche, *je boulle, je pousse*...Whye punchest thou me with thy fyste on this facyon: *pour quoy me boulles tu*, or *pour quoy me pousses tu de ton poyng en ce poynt*? [Cf. *Ibid.* 472/2, I bunche, I beate, *je pousse.* He buncheth me and beateth me: *il me pousse et me bat.*] 1627 in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) III. II. ii. App. 11 The Defendants..kick'd and punch'd the Plaintiff's Wife. *a* 1690 G. FOX *Jrnl.* (1827) I. 166 They rudely haled me out, and struck and punched me. 1823 W. S. ROSE tr. *Ariosto* VI. lxv, Now grappl'd from behind, now punch'd before, He stands and plies the crowd with warfare sore. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, A fourth was busily engaged in patting and punching the pillows..arranged for her support. *Ibid.* xix, [He] eased his mind by punching the head of the inventive youth. 1889 JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* v. 233 Punching their opponents on the nose. 1892 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 3/2 During the early morning walking and punching the ball occupied the attention of the crew.

b. To strike with the foot; to kick; = BUNCH *v.*[1] b. *north. dial.*

Cf. Sc. *punce*, to strike or thrust with the sole of the foot, not to kick with the toe: said of a person in bed, or a child in the lap; see POUNCE *v.*[1] 4.

1538 [see PUNCHING *vbl. sb.*]. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Punch*, to kick or strike with the foot. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Punch*, to kick with the feet, not with the fist, as explained by Dr. Johnson. 1889 WESTALL *Birch Dene* II. ii. 15 If he ever comes to Birch Dene he'll get his shins punched.

II. 4. To pierce or cut (anything) in the manner of a punch (see PUNCH *sb.*[1] 2) so as to make a hole or holes in or through it; to perforate or make holes in (a plate of metal, a sheet of cloth or paper, etc.).

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, V. iii. 125 My Annointed body By thee was punched full of holes. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 248 To punch the lap of the ear, and to hang some ornament there. 1713 J. WARDER *True Amazons* (ed. 2) 126 A piece of Tin Plate punched full of Holes. 1846 GREENER *Sc. Gunnery* 271, 18-8th plate was easily punched by a charge of two and a half drachms coarse or three drachms fine. *Mod.* A railway official came to punch our tickets.

b. With the hole or perforation as object.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 7 A piece of..Iron hath an hole punched a little way into it. *Ibid.* 12 With the Hand-hammer..punch the hole. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* ii. (ed. 3) 22 The method of punching holes in iron plates. 1868 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 183 All these scorings would seem to have been puncht with a sharp tool.

c. *Telegraphy*: see quots.

1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 116 The Perforator, which prepares the message by punching holes in a paper ribbon. *Ibid.* 132 The messages are punched and transmitted in batches of five or six. 1900 *Daily News* 3 Aug. 4/6 The message is previously 'punched' out on a paper ribbon, and once the ribbon is placed on the transmitting machine the message reproduces itself at the receiving office at great speed on another ribbon there. 1901 H. M°HUGH *John Henry* 79 I've just punched out a parcel of paragraphs which I shall turn in to Tommy.

d. To take *out* (a piece) by punching.

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. 358 They are..punched out of boot or shoe leather. 1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 333/2 In some cases the part punched out is the object in view, as in cutting the blanks for coin, buttons, &c.

5. *intr.* To penetrate, pierce, cut (as a punch).

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P 1 To manage and command it while it is Punching into the Copper. 1865 *Athenæum* No. 1974. 270/3 In 'punching' through the armour of an ironclad.

Punch, *v.*[2] *colloq. rare*[−1]. [f. PUNCH *sb.*[3]] *intr.* To drink punch.

1804 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1836) II. 412, I dined and punched at Lamb's.

Punchayet, variant of PANCHAYAT.

Pu·nch-bowl. [f. PUNCH *sb.*[3] + BOWL *sb.*[1]]

1. A bowl in which the ingredients of punch are mixed, and from which it is served with a ladle.

1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 624 Subscriptions are making in the citty for a gold punch bowle of good value, to be presented to admirall Russell. 1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1865) I. 134 A Valley, in form of something shap'd like a Punch-bole. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1776, 23 Mar., Garrick sometimes used to take him [Johnson] off, squeezing a lemon into a punch-bowl, with uncouth gesticulations, looking round the company, and crying 'Who's for Poonsh?' 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. viii, They..get what pleasure they can out of a punch-bowl.

2. *attrib.* Resembling a punch-bowl. Hence *sb.* (*a*) A round deep hollow between hills or in a hillside: cf. BOWL *sb.*[1] 3 c. † (*b*) A kind of wide river-boat.

1855 J. R. LEIFCHILD *Cornwall Mines* 27 The whole business is confined to the interior of the punch-bowl hollow. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 289 Among hills, the unhealthy spots are enclosed valleys, punch-bowls. 1902

Words of Eyewitness 251 On the high ridges..more Boers, ..scanning the punchbowl below them with field-glasses. 1870 Dasent *Annals* I. xii. 140 Then there was the water, and the funnies, cutters, wherries, punchbowls, and half-deckers that thronged the river daily.

Punch'd, *a.* (of a horse): see Punch *sb.*[4]

Punched (pʊnʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. Punch *v.*[1] + -ed [1].]

1. Of metal-work: Beaten, hammered, wrought; *repoussé*; = Pounced *ppl. a.*[1] **1.** *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

1415 *Mandate of Hen. V to Corporation of York* in Drake *Eboracum* (1736) App. 17 Item 2 petitz ewers d'argent, d'orrez, l'une chased et l'autre pounched. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 85 Item, a cop with a couir ouregilt and punchit. 1861 W. R. Wilde *Catal. Antiq. R. Irish Acad.* 632 The details of the punched or hammered-up ornament.

2. Perforated or pierced with a punch.

1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 122 The two lines of larger holes in the punched paper. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 18 July 8/4 Small punched holes, overcast with button-hole stitch. 1904 *Ibid.* 28 July 8/5 Broderie Anglaise, which we call punched or eyelet-hole embroidery.

b. *Bot.* = Perforated 1 c.

1793 Martyn *Lang. Bot., Punched* leaf.

3. *Punched out*: said of a wound with a defined edge.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Surg.* II. 616 Edges [of ulcer] punched out, perpendicular, irregular. 1898 Hutchinson in *Arch. Surg.* IX. No. 34. 129 He described the sore as 'punched out'. 1900 *Daily News* 19 Jan. 3/4 The wounds both of entrance and of exit [of Mauser bullets] were small, and presented a clean punched-out appearance.

Puncheon [1] (pʊ·nʃən). Forms: *α.* 4 **ponson**, 5 **-syon**, 6 **-sion**; 5 *Sc.* **pouncioun**, **pownsown**, 7 **pounceon**; 4–5, 7 **punson**, 5 **-soune**, **-sion**, 6 **-cion**. *β.* 4 **ponchong**, 5 **-choun**, 5–6 **-chon**, 6–7 **-chion**; 5 **pounchion**, 5–6 **-eon**, 6 **pownchion**; 5 *Sc.* **pwncheon**, 5–6 **punchon**, **-oun**, 5–8 **-chion**, 6 *Sc.* **-schion**, **-scheown**, 6–8 **-chin**, 7 **-tion**, **-ction**, 6– **puncheon**. [*a.* OF. *poinçon*, *poinchon* (13th c. in Godef.), *ponçon*, *ponchon*, *poinson*, mod.F. *poinçon*, a boring, graving, or stamping tool, an awl, punch, stamp; also, a king-post, a strut in a builder's centre, etc.; = Pr. *pounchoun*, Sp. *punzon*, Pg. *punção*, It. *punzone*, †*ponzone* a bodkin or any sharp-pointed thing, 'a pounce, a pouncer, a little stamp or printer's letter' (Florio): all masc.:—late L. or Com. Rom. **punctiōn-em*, a deriv. of *puncta* point, or late L. **punctiāre* (Sp. *punzar*, OSp. and Pg. *punçar*) to prick, punch, work with a punch. Generally held to be a distinct word from cl. L. *punctiōnem* fem., pricking, punction. Hence also Ger. *punzen*, *bunzen* a metal-worker's punch.]

I. Name of various pointed or piercing instruments.

†**1.** A short piercing weapon; a dagger.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* I. 545 Syne in hys capitole wes he [Cæsar]..Slayne with a pu[n]soune rycht to the ded. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9352 Some In his body bar a tronchoun, As it were put In with a ponchoun. *c* 1420 Wyntoun *Chron.* IV. xxv. 2339 Pai stekyt hym [Cæsar] .. Withe scharpe pvnsionnys [*v. rr.* pownsownys, etc.]. 1558 Phaer *Æneid.* VII. iv, Their .. puncheons close in staues they beare. 1694 Motteux *Rabelais* V. x. 45 Poinadoes, Skenes, Penknives, Puncheons.

2. A pointed tool for piercing; a bodkin. **b.** A marble-worker's tool, ?a mason's pointed chisel. Now *rare*. †**c.** A graving tool, a burin; = Pounce *sb.*[1] 4 (*obs.*).

1367–8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 571 In operacione iiij petr. et di. in calibem pro dictis secur., ponsones, chissels. *Ibid.* 574 Pro reparacione viij punsons cum calibe. 1397 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. cxix, Instrumenta operariorum. Item ij haks et j pyk...Item ij ponchong' cum j craw. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Punchoun, *stimulus*, *punctorium*. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 174, iiij pounchions of Iron & Steele. *Ibid.* 215, iiij pownchions. 1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 121 b, Bored or stricken through with many strokes of a small punchin or small nayle. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Poinson de fer*, an yron bodkin or ponsion. 1596 Lodge *Marg. Amer.* 63 He with a punchion of steele in a table of white alablaster engraved this. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* III. viii. 74 Having first loosed the pith of either of them with a wooden puncheon. 1659 Torriano, *Burino*, a graving-toole, a pounceon. 1660 *Act 12 Chas. II*, c. 4 (Bk. Rates), Punsons & Gravers for Goldsmithes. 1662 Evelyn *Chalcogr.* 4 Those who Carve with the cheezil, or work in Bosse with the Puntion, as our Statuaries do. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 413 Swedish Ships..loaded with Awls, Punchins and such Tools. 1873 E. Spon *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 386/2 The pieces..are thickly grooved, bolstered with the puncheon.

3. An instrument for punching or stamping figures, letters, etc. on plate or other material; also, for making dies for coining and matrices for casting type; = Punch *sb.*[1] 3. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* II. 222 For the cunze irnis and the punschionis for the samyn. 1562–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 227 The tursell .. togidder with twa punscheownis, the ane berand the saidis letteris..and the uther berand the saidis crescentis and thirsell. 1594 R. Ashley tr. *Loys le Roy* 21 To make Characters for imprinting, it is requisite first to haue ponchions of steel, softned by the fire, on the which they graue with counter-ponchions hardned. 1604 in Devon *Iss. Exchequer Jas. I* 352 For making and graving certain puncheons for the shaping of his Majesty's picture upon the said pieces of largess. 1670 in Hart *Cent. Print. Oxf.* (1900) 163, I can furnish y^e^ Latin Matrices, but the Greek Punctions are not found together. 1677 in A. Ryland *Assay Gold & S.* 41 The Company of Goldsmiths have caused to be made..punchions of steel, and marks at the end of them, both great and small, of these several sorts following. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. xi. 287 (Oxford, Clarendon Printing-House) An Office for the Letter-founder, furnished with Furnaces, Punchions, Matrices, Moulds [etc.]. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 346 The puncheon makes the dye, and the counter-puncheon is the dye when it is made; the machines produced are puncheons, but not puncheons made at the Mint. 1818 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVIII. II. 330 The matrix and puncheon had not made his heart callous.

II. In building and carpentry.

4. A short upright piece of timber in a wooden framing which serves to stiffen one or more long timbers or to support or transmit a load; a supporting post; a post supporting the roof in a coal-mine; formerly also a door-post.

1466 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 93 With a purloyn on..the said sparres with punchions fro the bemes to bere the same. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* IX. 1140 Mynouris sone thai gert perss throw the wall, Syn pouncioun fyryt, and to the ground kest all. 1519 Horman *Vulg.* 142 b, The dore felle of from the puncheon, *fores cardini exciderunt*. 1617 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 205 The particians shall bee maide with .. punchions and studds of oake. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 7 Jambs, Posts, or Puncheons of Doors. 1710 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* II, *Punchins*, in Architecture, are short pieces of Timber placed to support some considerable Weight: They commonly stand upright between the Posts...Those that stand on each side of a Door are called Door Punchins. 1729 Desaguliers in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 204 The 7th Figure represents the Crane with the walking Wheel, the whole turning round upon the strong Post or Puncheon S. 1815 W. Marshall *Rev.* IV. 132 The principal appropriation of the Underwood is to Puncheons or Supporters for the Coal-Pits. 1825 J. Nicholson *Operat. Mechanic* 572 *Puncheons*; short transverse pieces of timber, fixed between two others for supporting them equally..sometimes called *studs*.

5. A piece of timber with one face roughly dressed, or a split trunk, used for flooring and rough building. *U.S.*

1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 61 A floor of puncheons or split plank were laid, and covered with grass and clay. 1855 W. Sargent *Braddock's Exp.* 84 A roof of puncheons, rudely shaped with the broad-axe. 1892 *Review of Rev.* July 22/2 The cabin was an odd little structure, whose floor was of puncheon.

III. 6. *attrib.* † **a.** Armed with a sharp point like a puncheon (sense 1), as *puncheon pole*, *spear*, *staff. Obs.* **b.** Made of puncheons (sense 5), as *puncheon floor*, *stool*, etc. (*U.S.*)

a. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 82 Euery one in his hande a Punchion spere, wherewith..foyned and lashed alwayes one at another, two for two. 1577 Punchion staffe [see Push *sb.*[1] 3]. 1579–80 North *Plutarch* (1676) 130 He did teach his Souldiers to carry long Javelins or Punchion-staves. 1600 Holland *Livy* XXVII. XXVIII. 650 Others from the turrets of the gate pelted the enemies with stones, and pushed at them with punchion poles [L. *sudibus*].

b. 1850 Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* s.v., Split logs, with their faces a little smoothed with an axe or hatchet..laid upon sleepers, make a puncheon floor. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 316/2 The rude home of the plantation darky—a home with log walls, a puncheon floor. 1894 H. Gardener *Unoff. Patriot* 99 Suddenly she swung her fat body about on the puncheon stool and gave a tremendous snort.

c. puncheon iron = sense 3.

1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* II. 358 Ane hammyr, turcas, and othir punschioun irnis.

Puncheon [2] (pʊ·nʃən). Now *rare* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 5 **poncion**, **pwncion**, 6–8 **punchion**, (6 **ponchion**, **-cheon**, **punshion**, **-chon**, *Sc.* **pontioune**, **puncioune**, **-cheoun**, **-sion**, **-s(i)oun**, **-schioun**, **-tion**, 6–7 **punshon**), 8– **puncheon**. [*a.* OF. *ponçon* (13th c.), *poinchon* (13–14th c.), *ponchon*, *poinçon* (13–16th c.), also *ponson* (14th c.), *poinson* (14–16th c.) in Godef. The forms both in OF. and Eng. are identical with those of Puncheon [1]; Italian also has *punzone* for both; but connexion of sense has not been found, and Fr. lexicographers treat them as separate words.] A large cask for liquids, fish, etc.; *spec.* one of a definite capacity, varying for different liquids and commodities.

As a liquid measure it varied from 72 (beer) to 120 (whisky) gallons.

1479 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* I. 134 Gevin..to John of Tyre to by a pwncion of wyne. 1503 *Ibid.* II. 384 For the fraucht..of ane pipe and ane punschioun brocht hame with stuf for the King. 1532 *Ibid.* VI. 156 For ane puncioune of wyne iiij*l.* vs. 1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII*, c. 14 In the Parliament holden..in the first yere of the reign of Kyng Richarde the thirde..it was establisshed that .. every tercyan or poncheon [of wine should contain] lxxxiiij galons. 1546 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 53 Ane pairt of the punsionis of the saidis wynis are full of salt watter. 1554 in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Adm.* (Selden) II. 61, xv tonne ij ponchions of wyne. 1571 Digges *Pantom.* III. xi. R iv, Sundrie kindes of wine vessels, as the tunne, the pipe, the punshion, hogsheads, buttes, barrels. 1572–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 190 Ane punsoun of talloun. 1576–7 *Ibid.* 603 Ane punsioun of salmond. 1593–4 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XXII. 401 Tua tunnis, tua puntionis, and twa bunnis of Inglis beir. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 122 Andro Bartayne..slew sa mony piratis, that mony puncheounis full of thair powis he sent to Scotland, in gifte, to the king. 1670 Narborough *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 45 As much Salt..as filled a Punchion. 1706 Phillips s.v., Punchion..of Prunes from 10 to 12 Hundred Weight. 1833 Marryat *P. Simple* XXXII, She had a puncheon of otto of roses on board.

Puncher (pʊ·nʃəɹ). [f. Punch *v.*[1] + -er [1].] One who or that which punches, thumps, perforates, or stamps; an instrument for doing this.

1681 Grew *Musæum* I. v. i. 95 In the upper Jaw, five before; not Incisors, or Cutters, but thick Punchers. 1691 A. Haig in J. Russell *Haigs* xi. (1881) 332 When the chartour came to the Great Seall it cost to the Chauncellour 12 lib., and to the punschearis 4 lib., and to the keaper of the seall four rex-dollars. 1762–71 H. Walpole *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* II. 250 He was a rival..who used puncheons for his graving, which Johnson never did, calling Simon a puncher, not a graver. 1823 J. Badcock *Dom. Amusem.* 96 The puncher, a steel instrument. 1876 Preece & Sivewright *Telegraphy* 132 When a wire is kept going at its full speed two punchers, one adjuster or sender, and three writers, are employed. 1880 *Scribner's Mag.* July 355 The very next puncher of our tickets. 1883 R. Haldane *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 140/2 Puncher.—This instrument is used for beating or punching those articles which are too heavy to be taken in the hands and rubbed. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 16 Aug. 7/1 Palmer, a powerful 'puncher' of the over-tossed ball, made some splendid drives to the off.

b. *U. S.* Short for *cow-puncher*: cf. Punch *v.*[1] 2.

1894 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 355 In the handling of these savage animals the punchers are brave to recklessness. 1905 S. E. White *Rawhide* viii, The punchers in their daily rides gathered in the range ponies.

Punchery, Punchifier: see Punch *sb.*[3]

Pu·nch-house. [f. Punch *sb.*[3]: cf. *ale-house.*] A tavern where punch is supplied; *esp.* in India, an inn or tavern frequented by sailors.

1671–2 in Wheeler *Madras in Old Time* (1861) III. 423 It is..enorderd and declared hereby that no Victullar, Punch-house or other house of Entertainment shall be permitted to make stoppage at the pay day of their wages. 1697 *Ibid.* I. xiv. 320 Having in a Punch house upon a quarrel of words drawn his sword. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xxiv. 298 The English have Punch-houses, where the European Soldiers make Oblations to Bacchus. *a* 1805 A. Carlyle *Autobiog.* (1861) 307 A company of seven or eight, all clergymen, supped at a punch-house in the Bow, kept by an old servant of his. 1859 J. W. Palmer *New & Old* 264 (Cassell's), Sailors, British and American, Malay and Lascar, [belong] to Flag Street, the quarter of punch-houses.

Punchinello (pʊnʧine·lo). Forms: *α.* 7 **polichinello**, 7–9 **polichinelle**, 9 **policinello**, **pulc(h)inello**. *β.* 7 **puntionella**, **punchonello**, 7–8 **punch(i)anello**, 7–9 **punci-**, 8–9 **ponchi-**, 7– **punchinello**. *γ.* 7 **pugenello**. [In the form *polichinello*, app. ad. Neapolitan dial. *Polecenella* (whence also F. *Polichinelle*, 1680 in Hatz.-Darm.) name of a character of the puppet theatre; = It. *Pulcinella*. Origin uncertain. See Note below.]

1. Name of the principal character in a puppet-show of Italian origin, the prototype of Punch; hence applied to the show (and quot. 1666 in *β*, to the exhibitor); sometimes to a living performer.

[Cf. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 8 Oct., The King, before whom the puppet plays I saw this summer in Covent-garden are acted this night.]

α. 1666 Pepys *Diary* 22 Aug., I with my wife..by coach to Moorefields, and there saw 'Polichinello', which pleases me mightily. 1668 *Ibid.* 2 May, [At the Duke of York's playhouse] A little boy, for a farce, do dance Polichinelli. 1668 *Ibid.* 31 Aug., Thence to the Fayre, and saw 'Polichinelle'. 1818 Lady Morgan *Autobiog.* (1859) 195 Sanky went off without calling when he heard of a workbox and Polichinelle. 1827 Disraeli *Viv. Grey* V. iv, A long grinning wooden figure, with great staring eyes, and the parrot nose of a pulcinello. 1880 Warren *Book-plates* x. 110 Garnished about with festoons of roses, a branch of oak, mask and pulchinello, quiver and pan-pipe. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 331 They are simply Judy-puppets in the Policinello of conventionality.

β. 1666 *Overseers' Bks., St. Martins in-the-fields* 29 Mar., Rec. of Punchinello, y^e^ Italian popet-player, for his booth at Chareing Crosse £2 12 6. 1668 H. More *Div. Dial., Schol.* (1713) 570, I question not but the Quakers..would play the part of the Puppet or Punchinello in the Antelude of the Pageant. *a* 1680 Butler *Sat. on Imit. French* 101 And the worst Drols of Punchinellos Were much th' ingeniouser Fellows. 1683 *Norwich Crt. Bks.* 22 Dec. (1905) 173 Peter Dolman has leave to show a motion called his Majesty's Puntionella, at the Angel. 1709 *Rambl. Fuddle-Cups* 7 A Barthol'mew-Fair Punchanello. 1728 Swift *Mullinix & Tim.* Wks. 1755 III. II. 211 The world consists of puppet-shows; Where petulant conceited fellows Perform the part of Punchinelloes. 1797 Mrs. Radcliffe *Italian* xxii, See signor, there is Punchinello. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* I. xx. 142 Puncinello squeaked and beat his mistress at every corner. [1860 *Once a Week* 24 Mar. 281/1 (Stanf.) Harlequins, mysterious-looking dominoes, punchinelli, and dresses of all periods.]

γ. 1667 Dryden *Sir Martin Mar-all* v. ii, *Rose.* I know no way so proper for you, as to turn Poet to Pugenello. 1668 Shadwell *Sullen Lovers* v. 96 Enter a boy in the habit of Pugenello, and traverses the Stage.

2. *transf.* Applied to any person, animal, or thing, thought to resemble the puppet, esp. in being short and stout. Cf. Punch *sb.*[4]

1669 Pepys *Diary* 20 Apr., Going away with extraordinary report of the proof of his gun, which, from the shortness and bigness, they do call Punchinello. 1683 Tryon *Way to Health* 478 We have no fatted Swine, fatted Oxen or Punchonello's amongst us: neither have we any of Pharoah's lean Kine. *a* 1769 Johnson in Boswell *Life* (Maxwell's Recollections), [Being told that Gilbert Cowper (who was short and very stout) called him the Caliban of literature] 'Well' [said he], 'I must dub him the Punchinello'. 1834 Mary Howitt *Sk. Nat. Hist., Monkey*, Monkey, little merry fellow, Thou art Nature's Punchinello. *c* 1835 *Comic song*, '*The great Mogul*', The great Mogul, as I've heard people say, Was a fat little Punchinello.

3. *attrib.*

Punchinello voice = *Punch's voice* (PUNCH *sb.*[5] 1 c).

1797 BURKE *Let. Mrs. Crewe* Corr. (1844) IV. 417 The shame and misfortune of our country would make one almost mad, if these punchinello statesmen did not sometimes come out to make us laugh. 1853 W. O. MARKHAM tr. *Skoda's Auscult.* 283 The intensity of the râles..; the punchinello voice accompanying the pectoriloquy.

[*Note.* There is every probability that the Eng. *polichinello* and F. *polichinelle* are derived from the Neapolitan word, and that *Punchinello*, although evidenced somewhat earlier, and actually given (prob. in error) as the name of the puppet-showman, was an English alteration. The Italian word is said in the *Vocabolario Napoletano* of 1789, to be a corruption of the name of a comedian *Puccio d'Aniello*, originally a peasant of Acerra, whose uncouth physiognomy is said to have served as the model for the mask of the character; another conjecture cites the name of one *Paulo Cinella*, said to have been a buffoon at Naples. Setting aside these legends or conjectures, it has been pointed out that It. *pulcinella* is dim. of *pulcina* chicken, and according to Quadrio and Barretti, cited by Pianigiani *Vocab. Etimol. della lingua Ital.*, 1907, in the Neapolitan dial. *pollecenella* is dim. of *pollecena*, the young of the turkey-cock, to the hooked bill of which the nose of the mask bears a resemblance.]

Pu·nchiness. [f. PUNCHY *a.*[1]] Squatness.

1850 L. HUNT *Autobiog.* I. iii. 116 The other master.. was a short stout man, inclining to punchiness.

Punching (pʊ·nʃiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PUNCH *v.*[1] + -ING [1].] The action of the verb PUNCH in various senses; also, a marking produced by punching.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Punchynge, or bu(n)chynge (S. prykkynge), *stimulacio, trusio.* 1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* VIII. xvii. 1236/2 Cause of hurtynge and of punchynge [L. *punctionis*; 1398 styngynge] of mans bodye. 1538 *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), For the .. punching of him with his feytt in the wame. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 18 Punching is not applicable to cast iron, nor to small and deep, or very large, holes in any metal. 1892 *Daily News* 26 Oct. 2/1 A patent leather shoe is ornamented round the top with perforated punchings.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*; in names of tools used for making holes, as *punching bear* (= BEAR *sb.*[1] 7), *iron, machine, nippers*, etc.; **punching-ball**, an inflated ball held in position by elastic bands or supported on a flexible rod, which is punched with the fists as an athletic exercise; so **punching bag, punching block**; **punching match**, a boxing match, a fight; **punching room**, the cutting room in a glove manufactory; †**punching staff** = *puncheon-staff* (PUNCHEON *sb.*[1] 6 a): a lance, a spear.

1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 182/2 Dumb-bells,..traveling-rings and *punching-bag, may be taken to develop different groups of muscles. 1900 CONAN DOYLE *Green Flag*, etc. 118, I turned it into a gymnasium...You'll find all you want there: clubs, *punching ball, bars, dumb-bells, everything. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Punching-bear*, a machine for making holes in sheet-metal, operated by simple lever power or by hydraulic pressure. 1594 T. NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 87 Pritch-aule, spunge, blacking tub, and *punching yron. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 77 At the late *punching match. 1844 STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 869 The markings are confined to the ears, and consist of.. holes made with *punching-nippers. 1562 J. SHUTE tr. *Cambini's Turk. Wars* 17 b, Manye layde holde of the Pikes and *punchinge staves of theyr enemies. 1590 BARWICK *Breefe Disc.* 2 b, For horsemen, a Launce, a punching staffe, Pistoll or mace.

Pu·nching, *ppl. a.* [f. PUNCH *v.*[1] + -ING 2.] That punches: see the verb.

1602 [see PUNCH *v.*[1] 1 b]. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xiii. P2 The Counter-Punch of A ought to be Forged Triangularly, especially towards the Punching End.

Punching, Punchion, *adjs.* (of a horse): see PUNCH *sb.*[4] **Punchion,** obs. f. PUNCHEON[1] and 2.

†**Punchite,** obs. form of PANCHAYAT.

1827 D. JOHNSON *Ind. Field Sports* 141 Accustomed to decide their disputes by punchite.

Puncho, -chon, obs. ff. PONCHO, PUNCHEON.

Punchy (pʊ·nʃi), *a.*[1] [f. PUNCH *sb.*[4] + -Y.] Short and stout, thick-set, squat, stumpy.

1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* viii. (1809) 102 If your horse is of the short punchy kind. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 40 The plaintiff being short and punchy. 1823 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* 330 A beautiful punchy little pony.

Punchy, *a.*[2]: see PUNCH *sb.*[3]

Punck, obs. form of PUNK *sb.*[1]

†**Punct,** *sb. Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* punt. [ad. L. *punct-um* point.] = POINT *sb.*[1] in various senses.

1. A dot, spot, speck: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 2.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Marble purpurites..is rodye wiþ punctis amonge. 1516 *Inv. Roy. Wardr.* (1815) 24 Ane saferon with punctis of gold.

2. A stop in punctuation: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 3 a.

c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 34 The round punct concludes an assertion.. The tailed punct concludes an interrogation.

3. a. *Sc.* An item, detail: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 5. b. A particle, jot: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 6.

1499 *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XI. 393 The Punctis to be Inquirit at the Inqueist. 1563-4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 263 The saidis Lordis ordinis Johne Johnestoun to insert thir puntis in the saidis bukis. *c* 1575 BALFOUR *Practicks* (1754) 172 He fulfillit not the punctis and clausis contenit in the said infeftment. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 270 Exact in the least punct of the measure thereof.

4. As a measure of time, or of the magnitude of an eclipse: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 10, 11.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* IX. ix. lf. 94/1 (Bodl. MS.) A quadraunt conteyneþ sixe houres and an houre foure punctes, and a puncte ten momentes. 1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* II. viii. 35 For the quantitie of these Eclipses, the Astronomers deuide into .xii. equall partes, as well the Diameter of the Sunne as of the Moone. And these partes they call fyngers, punctes or prickes.

5. *Geom.* = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 18.

1639 NABBES *Encomium on Steeple at Worc.* Wks. 1887 II. 239 Infinite in shew As those small puncts, from whose concretion grow What else may be divided. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 273 As number [depends] on a unite, and a line upon a punct or point.

6. A moment, instant: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 23.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiii. 29 Now is cum the extreme lattir punct. 1561 EDEN *Arte Nauig.* Pref., At the same instant & punct of time it maketh day in one place & nyght on the opposite parte. 1695 ALINGHAM *Geom. Epit.* 34 At the same punct of time.

†**Punct,** *v. Obs. rare.* [Collateral form of POINT *v.*[1] and [2], after med.L. *punctāre*.]

1. *trans.* To appoint: = POINT *v.*[2] 2. *Sc.*

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 169 With all vthyr condecionis as it is punctyt in Thomas Kantis tak.

2. To prick, pierce: = POINT *v.*[1] 1.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 28 b, Her breste she puncted, her fayre here she tare.

Puncta, pl. of PUNCTUM.

Punctal (pʊ·ŋktăl), *a.* (*sb.*) *rare.* [In quot. *c* 1400, perh. an error for PUNCTUAL *a.* 1. In quot. 1897, rendering med.L. *punctālis* (Wyclif), f. *punct-um* point: see -AL.]

A. *adj.* †a. Of the nature of a point or puncture (*obs.*). b. Occupying a point in space.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 104 Make smale cauteries punctale, þat is to seie as smal as þe eende of a pricke, bitwene ech whirlebon of þe necke. 1897 M. DZIEWICKI *Wyclif's De Logica* III. (1893) p. xviii, If every punctal atom is and remains eternally the same, then the elements would remain in their compounds. *Ibid.* p. xxiii, His idea of the universe—one material being, made up of punctal atoms, filling all possible space.

B. † *sb.* A dot, speck, small spot. *Obs. rare.*

1688 J. CLAYTON in *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 990 The white Owl..all the Feathers upon her Breast and Back being Snow-white, and tipp'd with a Punctal of Jet-black.

Punctate (pʊ·ŋktĕt), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *punctātus*, f. L. *punct-um* point: see -ATE[2] 2. Cf. It. *puntato*, F. *pointé*.]

1. *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* Marked or studded with points or dots; having minute rounded spots, or (esp.) depressions resembling punctures, scattered over the surface; of the nature of or characterized by such markings.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* III. v. (1765) 183 *Punctate, dotted*; when it is besprinkled with hollow Points or Dots. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 270 *Punctate*, beset with many points. 1847 J. HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 253 Elytra..very thickly and finely punctate. 1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Wom.* ix. (ed. 4) 52 The mucous membrane..has often a punctate appearance.

b. In advb. comb. with other adjs., as **pu·nctate-sca·brous,** scabrous with minute dots or points; **pu·nctate-stri·ate** (**-stri·ated**), having striæ or streaks marked with dots, or formed of dots arranged in rows; **pu·nctate-su·lcate,** having furrows marked with dots. (Cf. PUNCTATO-.)

1833 G. R. WATERHOUSE in *Entomol. Mag.* I. 210 Elytra delicately punctate-striated. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 196 Glumes..slightly punctate-scabrous. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 181 Shell..smooth or punctate-striate.

2. *Path.* Having or coming to a definite point.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 390 The impulse [of an aneurysm] is rarely punctate.

†3. *Geom.* = PUNCTATED 1. *Obs.*

[1704 NEWTON *Enumer. Linearum* (1711) 74 Punctatam, quæ conjugatam habet Ovalem infinite parvam id est punctum.] 1860 TALBOT tr. *Newton's Enumer.* 13 That which has an infinitely small conjugate oval, i. e. a conjugate point, the punctate hyperbola.

4. Having or ending in a point; pointed. *rare*—[0].

1828 WEBSTER, *Punctate, Punctated.* [1.] Pointed. 1847 — *Punctate, Punctated.* 1. Pointed; ending in a point or points. Hence in later Dicts.

Pu·nctated, *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.]

†1. *Geom.* Having a conjugate point or acnode: see CONJUGATE *a.* 6 a. *Obs. rare.*

[1704: see prec. 3.] 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Punctated Hyperbola*, is an Hyperbola whose Oval Conjugate is infinitely small, that is, a *Point*. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*

2. = PUNCTATE 1.

1752 SIR J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 544 The Cat-a-Mountain, ..with the upper spots virgated, the lower punctated. 1781-5 J. LATHAM *Hist. Birds* II. 541 Punctated Cuckow. 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 84 Small punctated opacities on the posterior surface of the cornea.

3. = PUNCTATE 4. *rare*—[0].

1775 ASH, *Punctated*, drawn into a point. 1828 [see PUNCTATE 4].

‖**Punctatim** (pʊŋktē·tim), *adv. nonce-wd.* [L. in form, f. *punct-um* point, after *verbātim*. Cf. late L. *punctātim* briefly, concisely.] Point for point; = PUNCTUATIM b.

1816 *Q. Rev.* XV. 346 We shall give our extracts verbatim, literatim, and, if we may use the expression, punctatim.

Punctation (pʊŋktē·ʃən). [ad. L. type **punctātiōn-em*, n. of action from med.L. *punctāre* (It. *puntare*) to point.]

1. †a. = PUNCTUATION 3, 3 b. *Obs.*

1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 536 Let the Reader be carefull of reading these..words..with due punctation of them. 1748 J. MASON *Elocut.* 26 There is..so much Irregularity introduced, into the modern Method of Punctation, that it is become a very imperfect Rule to direct a just Pronunciation.

†b. *Heb. Gram.* The insertion of the vowel-points and accents; = POINTING *vbl. sb.* 2 b. *Obs.*

1642 CUDWORTH *Lord's Supper* 38 In the Hebrew the words..according to a severall Punctation..may be expounded severall ways. 1693 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* 225 The true punctation of the proper Name.

2. *Nat. Hist.*, etc. The action of marking or fact of being marked with points or dots; the condition of being punctate; also *concr.* one of such dots, a series of such dots.

1852 DANA *Crust.* I. 154 Two minute punctations. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 482 The woody fibres do not exhibit punctations. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 242 It lacks the punctations of the rash of scarlet fever.

‖3. [repr. Ger. *punktation.*] A laying down of points; a stipulation; a contract or agreement.

1864 EDERSHEIM tr. *Kurtz's Ch. Hist.* III. 221 The Electors of Mayence, Triers, and Cologne, together with the Archbishop of Salzburg..assembled together in a spiritual congress at Ems (1786), and resolved upon the restoration of a German Roman Catholic National Church, independent of Rome, in the so-called Emser Punctation. 1890 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 332 The 'punctation of Olmutz' as it was called was signed 29 Nov. 1850.

Punctato- (pʊŋktē·to), combining advb. form of mod.L. *punctātus*, with other adjs. = PUNCTATE 1 b; as **puncta·to-stri·ate, -su·lcate.**

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xlvi. 303 The terms punctato-striate, or punctato-sulcate, signify that striæ or furrows are drawn with puncta in them.

Puncta·tor. *Heb. Gram.* [Agent-n. f. med.L. *punctāre* to point.] One who inserts the vowel (and other) points in writing; applied esp. to the Masoretes, who invented the points.

1723 MATHER *Vind. Bible* 294 The punctators used to point Scheva under Thau in the word Aschith.

Puncti·cular, *a. rare.* [f. med. or mod.L. **puncticulum* a minute point + -AR.]

†1. Of the size or appearance of a small point or dot; extremely minute. *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* III. 51 Water in glasses, wherein a watchfull eye may..discover the puncticular Originals of Periwincles and Gnats.

2. Characterized by small dots or specks.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Puncticularis*, having small points; applied to fevers, etc.: puncticular.

So **Puncti·culate** *a.* = PUNCTULATE.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Punctiform (pʊ·ŋktifɔ̄m), *a. Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* [ad. L. type **punctiformis*, f. *punct-um* point: see -FORM.]

1. Having the form of a point, puncture, or dot.

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* I. 301 The female [thread-worm] has a small punctiform aperture a little below the head. 1856 W. L. LINDSAY *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 143 A small, black, punctiform Fungus.

2. Formed of, or presenting the appearance of, a number of points or dots; punctate: esp. in pathology, of eruptions, etc.

1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 601/2 These animals appear as a punctiform homogeneous mass. 1861 HAGEN *Syn. Neuropt. N. Amer.* 11 A band upon the middle and punctiform lines at the eyes. 1886 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* I. 208 Instead of being punctiform [the rash of Scarlatina] may in rare cases consist of large, irregular, slightly raised maculæ.

Punctigerous (pʊŋkti·dʒĕrəs), *a. Zool.* [f. L. *punct-um* point + *-ger-* bearing + -OUS.] Applied to the eyes of some molluscs, and other invertebrates: Consisting of mere eye-spots without a lens: opp. to *lentigerous*.

1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 680/2 We have in one sub-class the extremes of the two lines of development of the Molluscan eye, those two lines being the punctigerous and the lentigerous.

Punctilio (pʊŋkti·lio). Forms: α. 6-7 **puntilio,** 7 **-illo, -illio, -iglio.** β. 7 **punctiglio,** 7-8 **-illo, -illio,** 7- **punctilio.** [a. It. *puntiglio* and Sp. *puntillo*, dim. of *punto* point; = L. type **puncticulum*; later with *punct-* after Latin. Cf. F. *pointille* (ad. It.) *c* 1560.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Prol., Standing upon the puntilio of honour hauing been challenged. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 61 *note*, Who stands on the puntiglio of his honour. 1626 T. H. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 290 Animosityes, reuenges, quarrels, puntilloes. 1626, etc. Puntilio [see B. 5]. 1630 EARL STRAFFORD in Slingsby *Diary* (1836) 324 Concerning that Punctillo. 1642 Puntillo's [see B. 4]. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 207 As for the little cavills and punctiglios, concerning the receiving of Giovanni Joakim and the like. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xi. Wks. 1851 III. 420 With reason, conscience, honour, policy, or puntilios. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* v. § 23. 423 [To] descend..from their punctilioes. 1666 TEMPLE *Let. Godolphin* 1 Apr., Wks. 1757 I. 257 To lay by the puntiglio. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 181 Tim'd according to the nice Punctillo's of nicking the Opportunity. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* III. xxxviii. 28 The noble Lord talks of Spanish punctillios.

B. Signification.

†1. A small or fine point or mark, esp. one of those on a dial (with play on sense 5). *Obs. rare.*

1596 HARINGTON *Ulysses upon Ajax* Cv b, He shall finde the

Puntilio of his honour blunted. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i. (1600) E j b, To the perfection of Complement (which is the dyall of the thought..) are requirde these three Projects: the Gnomon, the Puntilios, and the Superficies: the Superficies is that we call Place; the Puntilios, Circumstance: and the Gnomon, Ceremonie.

†2. The highest point, acme, apex; a high projecting point or tip (sometimes with mixture of sense 4). *Obs. rare.*

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii. (1601) D 3 b, He that is yet in..his Course..& hath not toucht the Puntillio or point of hopes. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 1 A three-fold knowledge of religion..of pinacles or puncti1io's, high and curious points in the building.

†3. A minute point of time, a moment, an instant; = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 7. *Obs.*

1620 BP. J. KING *Serm.* 24 *Mar.* 23 Let no man..tye him to canonicall houres, and atomes, and puntilio's of time, *tempus, tempus, statutum tempus.* 1659 *Unhappy Marksman* in *Harl. Misc.* (1809) IV. 4 In that punctilio of time wherein the bullets struck him..he is in an instant disanimated. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 235 To leave the pointing out of this puntilio of time to God only.

†4. A minute point, detail, or particular; a particle, whit, jot; a trifling point; a thing of no importance, a trifle. *Obs.* (exc. as in 5).

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* IV. xvi. 323 He is zealous of the least puntillo's of his Masters honour. 1642 CHAS. I *Treaty at Oxford* Wks. 1662 II. 257 If every Punctilio must be forced to be sent forwards and backwards a hundred miles. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 330 When one of the parties..will not..abate a single punctilio. 1815 J. ADAMS *Wks.* (1856) X. 131 We have never..lost any one punctilio of those rights or liberties.

5. A minute detail of action or conduct; a nice point of behaviour, ceremony, or honour; a small or petty formality. Formerly sometimes, A fine-drawn or fastidious objection, a scruple.

1599 [see 1]. 1626 J. PORY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 245 The Bishop stood upon his punctilios. 1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* I. ii, Guzman..observes the full punctilios of his nation. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 50 He professes a mortal Hatred to Ceremonies, and yet has more Punctilios than a Jew. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* I. ii, To trifle with me at such a juncture as this!—now to stand on punctilios! 1809–10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 248 In consequence of some punctilio, as to whose business it was to pay the compliment of the first call. 1836 H. ROGERS *J. Howe* ii. (1863) 17 He [Laud] was ready to visit the omission of the most trifling ecclesiastical punctilios with relentless severity.

b. (without *pl.*) Strict observance of or insistence upon minutiæ of action or conduct; petty formality in behaviour; punctiliousness. ? *Obs.*

1596, 1615 [see A]. 1676 D'URFEY *Mme. Fickle* I, i, My Lord was as unmannerly a Fellow as I ever saw,..Ha, ha, ha—He a Noble man, and puntilio no better. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶ 2 [She] takes the Whole of this Life to consist in understanding Punctilio and Decorum. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xxxvi. 271 People of birth stood a little too much on punctilio. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Spectre Bridegr.*, The preliminaries [of the marriage] had been conducted with proper punctilio.

†c. (?) A punctilious person. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 47 A Male-content standing upon his worth like some of our high Puntilios scorned to sort himselfe with any of his ranke.

†6. A (or the) precise point or fact. *Obs. rare.*

1654 VILVAIN *Theol. Treat.* ii. 76 By their doctrin al depends on the peremptory punctilio of Gods.. Decree. 1683 F. HODELSTON in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1860/5 Treasonable Practices to a Punctillio of Rebellion, contriving the Murder of Your Person.

7. *attrib.* (or *adj.*) and *Comb.*

1660 MILTON *On Griffiths Serm.* Wks. 1851 V. 396 Should they who were left sitting, break up, or not dare enact aught..for the punctilio wanting of a full number? 1702 VANBRUGH *False Friend* v. i, The injury's too great for a punctilio satisfaction. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* Poems (1769) I. 40 The nice punctilio-mongers of this age, The grand minute reformers of the stage.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Punctilionist,** one who is scrupulous about punctilios, a stickler about small points of behaviour or proceeding; **Punctilioship,** punctilious performance (= sense 5 b).

1714 SAVAGE *Art of Prudence* 183 Punctiliosity is tiresome. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 200 A compliance ..which we could wish to see more frequent with other punctilionists of the drama.

Punctilio·sity. *rare.* [f. next: see -OSITY.] = PUNCTILIOUSNESS.

1858 MASSON *Milton* (1859) I. 454 A kind of sweet, modest punctiliosity is the virtue he strives to paint.

Punctilious (pʊŋktiˑliəs), *a.* Also 7 **puntillious,** 7–8 **punctillious.** [ad. F. *pointilleux, -euse,* f. *pointille,* ad. It. *puntiglio:* = mod.It. *puntiglioso.*] Attentive to punctilios; strictly observant of nice points or details of action or behaviour.

1634 ROWLEY *Noble Souldier* IV. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* I. 307 His deeds were so Puntillious. 1653 H. COGAN *Pinto's Trav.* lxv. (1663) 263 These Jacas are the most punctillious ..Nation of the world. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 425 On each punctilious pique of pride, Or gloom of humour. 1858 BUCKLE *Civilis.* (1873) II. viii. 585 The punctilious honour of a Spanish gentleman has passed into a byeword. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 225 The punctilious if not pedantic precision which has reformed the whole scheme of punctuation.

Punctiliously, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY[2].] In a punctilious manner; with precise or scrupulous attention to minute points of action or conduct.

1770 JOHNSON *False Alarm* Wks. (1787) X. 20, I have thus punctiliously and minutely pursued this disquisition. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lvi, Sternly and punctiliously greeting each other, like two duellists before they take their ground. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 10 So conspicuous an example of good faith punctiliously observed.

Punctiliousness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being punctilious; scrupulous attentiveness to small points of conduct.

1685 *Gracian's Courtiers Orac.* 168 Punctiliousness is tiresome. There are whole Nations sick of that Nicety. 1838 MISS MAITLAND *Lett. fr. Madras* xxi. (1843) 218 He is a good man, but gives great offence by his punctiliousness about minor matters. 1882 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. vi. 252 They had their periods of outward repentance and ceremonial punctiliousness.

†Punctille. *Obs. rare.* Also **puntille.** [ad. F. *pointille*: see PUNCTILIO; influenced by L. *punctum* and med.L. dim. *punctillum.*] = PUNCTILIO 5, 5 b.

1610 J. MORE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 87 It was a hard matter to give them contentment in such punctilles. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1649) 277 Their first meeting..was not without some of that Emulation and Puntille which is ordinary in their Sex.

†Punction. *Obs.* [ad. L. *punctiōn-em,* n. of action from *pungĕre, punct-* to prick. Cf. F. *ponction* (16th c. Calvin, Paré), Sp. *punzion,* It. *punzione.*] The action or an act of pricking or puncturing; a prick, a puncture. Also *fig.*

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* III. I. xv. 106 For the cure of synnowes hurte by punction. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 53 b, A punccion and pricke of hys synfull conscyence. 1677 W. HARRIS tr. *Lemery's Chym.* (ed. 3) 254 Its Emetick quality..can proceed from nothing but a punction made in the stomach. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 99 The Punction of Plants, and the Pruning of Vines.

b. A pricking sensation.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/1 With bitinge payn, with continuall punctions. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 202 Goats cheese also represseth all dolors and punctions. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 387/2 A Punction, or Punctious feeling.

†Punctious, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. prec.: see -OUS.] Of the nature of a 'punction'; pricking.

1688 [see prec. b].

Punctist (pʊŋktist). [f. L. *punctum* POINT + -IST.] One who holds the vowel-points in the Hebrew Scriptures to be authoritative.

1859 T. S. HENDERSON *Mem. E. Henderson* iii. 118 *note,* Mr. Henderson..had become a punctist before 1811,.. though he never went to the full-length of the writer abovementioned, who vindicated even for the pause-accents 'the signature of a divine hand'.

Punctiuncle. *nonce-wd.* [ad. L. *punctiuncula,* dim. of *punctio.*] A very minute or trifling point.

1874 F. HALL in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXIX. 328 All the punctiuncles of the Quinquarticular Controversy.

†Punctive, *a. Obs. rare*—[1]. [app. f. L. *punctum* point + -IVE.] In quot. app. Making straight for a point.

1612 R. DABORNE *Chr. turn'd Turke* I. i, Who like a ship vnman'd..doth seeme to make a course Direct and punctiue, till we see it dash Against some prouder Sylla.

Puncto, obs. var. of PUNTO[1].

Punctograph (pʊŋktŏgraf). *Surg.* [ad. G. *punktograph,* f. L. *punct-um* point: see -GRAPH.] An instrument for ascertaining the precise position of a foreign body imbedded in the bodily tissues.

[1901 *Lancet* 4 May 1292/1 For the surgical localisation of foreign bodies, such as bullets embedded in the tissues, he [Dr. Rosenthal of Munich] had, in conjunction with Surgeon-General Professor von Angerer, devised an instrument called the 'punktograph'.]

Punctorious (pʊŋktōˑriəs), *a. rare.* [f. L. **punctōri-us* (in *punctōrium* a piercing instrument) + -OUS.] Having the quality or property of pricking or puncturing. So **†Punctory** *a. Obs.*

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 273 Sting not punctorious. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 432 Paine if punctory, is in the membranes; if pulsatorie in the arteries.

Punctual (pʊŋktiuăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. med.L. *punctuāl-is* (Grosseteste *c* 1210), f. L. *punctu-s* (*u*- stem) a pricking, a point: see -AL. Cf. F. *ponctuel* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

I. †1. *Surg.* **a.** Of the nature of a point or puncture; = PUNCTAL *a.* a. **b.** Used for making punctures, sharp-pointed, as a cautery or other surgical instrument. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 271 Sum men maken punctual cauterijs in þe maner of a cros vpon dindimum, & þan aftirward helip it vp. 1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* P iij, The fourth [cautery] is named punctuall, which hath the poynte sclendre and rounde. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 20 b/1 We may, in steade of the crooked lancet, vse our punctuall instrument.

II. †2. Of, pertaining to, or made by, a point or dot; of or belonging to punctuation. *Obs. rare.*

1609 J. DOULAND *Ornith. Microl.* 54 If you finde two Semibreefe Rests after a perfect Breefe, it shall remaine perfect, vnlesse punctuall Diuision come betweene. 1818 COLERIDGE in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) I. Introd. § 2 His days, months, and years, as the stops and punctual marks in the records of duties performed.

b. *Geom.* Of or pertaining to a point: as *punctual co-ordinates,* the co-ordinates of a point.

†3. Of the nature of or resembling a point or speck; small, minute (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. § 8 Many may be well seene in the passages of governement and policie, which are to seeke in little and punctuall occasions. 1613 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Punctuall,* small, or of no great force. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* III. xxiv. (1647) 154 The infinitenesse of punctual occurrences. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VIII. 23 This Earth a spot, a graine, An Atom, with the Firmament compar'd And all her numberd Starrs, that seem to rowle Spaces incomprehensible..meerly to officiate light Round this opacous Earth, this punctual spot.

†b. as *sb.* A minute point, a subtlety. *rare.*

1610 G. FLETCHER *Tri. over Death* xii, Let the..schools these punctualls Of wills, all good, or bad, or neuter diss.

III. †4. Bearing directly on the point; to the point, to the purpose, apposite, apt. *Obs.*

1612 BACON *Charge touching Duels* Wks. 1879 I. 680/2 It is so punctual, and hath such reference and respect unto the received conceits. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Punctuall,..*short, and direct to the purpose. 1629 PRYNNE *Ch. Eng.* 59 Nothing can be more full and punctuall to our present conclusion. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 347 If a man would compile a story..for the demonstration of Providence, could he frame a more punctuall one?

b. Express, direct; explicit, definite. *arch.*

1615 T. ADAMS *Spir. Navig.* 33 The sea is full of monsters. Innumerable and almost incredible are the relations of Travellers in this punctuall demonstration. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg.* Pref. 5 Saint Augustine is punctuall.. that the severall Latine Translations in his time, could not be numbred. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 179 A plain and punctual testimony. 1862 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. i. III. 169 The Polack King..left his Dominions shared by punctual bequest among his five sons.

IV. 5. Exact in every point; precise, accurate. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 536 If any do not find so punctual an agreement as hee expects. 1630 DAVENANT *Cruel Brother* IV. H 2 b, Be nimble then: and tell me punctuall truth. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 8 Those predictions..have had their punctuall accomplishment. 1752 SIR H. BEAUMONT *Crito* 5, I should as soon think of dissecting a Rainbow..as of forming grave and punctual Notions of Beauty. 1852 SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss. Philos.*, etc. 436 The punctual accuracy of our statement.

b. Of time or date: Exact or precise. Now *rare* or *arch.* Cf. 8.

1639 FULLER *Holy War* IV. ix. (1647) 183 About this time (though we find not the punctuall date thereof) happened the death of Reinoldus Fredericks. 1657 W. MORICE *Coena quasi Κοινὴ* II. 130 We doe not binde..ourselves to a precise and punctual instant. 1710 WHEATLEY *Ch. of Eng. Man's Comp.* § 23 As to the punctual time when the posture of kneeling [at Holy Communion] first began, it is hard to determine. 1826–7 DE QUINCEY *Lessing* Wks. 1859 XIII. 258 Nothing obliges the poet (like the painter) to concentrate his picture into one punctual instant of time.

c. Occurring at a precise point of time; exactly or aptly timed; timely. *rare.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xx. (1623) 974 Sir William Stanley Lord Chamberlain to King Henry (by whose punctuall reuolt from K. Richard he had principally achieued the crown). 1816 WORDSW. *Ode Thanksgiving Day* i, Hail, orient Conqueror of gloomy Night!..Whether thy punctual visitations smite The haughty towers where monarchs dwell; Or [etc.].

d. Of or belonging to a precise place. *rare.*

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VIII. 610 The human nature unto which I felt That I belonged..Was not a punctual presence, but a spirit Diffused through time and space. 1843 DE QUINCEY *Ceylon* Wks. 1859 XII. 10 Whereas human nature has ever been prone to the superstition of local consecrations ..it is the usage of God to hallow such remembrances by removing..all traces of their punctual identities.

†6. Dealing with a matter point by point; minute, detailed, circumstantial. (Often with mixture of sense 5.) *Obs.*

1628 P. SMART (*title*) The Vanitie and Downe-fall of Svperstitiovs Popish Ceremonies,..A Sermon..containing not onely an Historical relation of all those severall Popish Ceremonies and practises.., But likewise a punctual confutation of them. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1726) 40 A punctual relation of all the circumstances. 1772 NUGENT tr. *Hist. Fr. Gerund.* IV. v. 108 Having..given a punctual topographical description of Anthony Zote's house.

V. 7. (Of persons, or their actions or attributes.) Attentive to, or insisting upon, points or details of conduct; punctilious.

a. Strictly or minutely observant of ceremony or convention; formal, ceremonious. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1609 [implied in PUNCTUALLY *adv.* 5]. 1618 WITHER *Motto Nec Curo* Juvenil. (1633) 560 Stand upon their points of honour so As if their Credit had an overthrow ..if in ought they misse Wherein the accomplisht Gallant punctuall is. 1626 MEADE in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 220 It was one of the most punctual coronations since the Conquest. 1632 W. SALTONSTALL *Pict. Loq.* D v, [He] gives his words such a punctuall stiffe pronunciation. 1702 *Eng. Theophrast.* 110 To have to do with a punctual, finical fop. 1725 C. PITT *Vida's Art Poetry* II. (1726) 39 So much on punctual niceties they stand. 1866 B. TAYLOR *Serapion* Poems 344 A hard cold man of punctual face.

b. Strictly or minutely observant of rule, principle, or obligation; attentive to duty; strict, precise, particular, scrupulous. Now *rare* or *arch.* exc. as implied in 8.

1598 [implied in PUNCTUALLY *adv.* 5]. 1625 BACON *Apophth.* § 294 A gentleman that was punctual of his word. 1668 DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 44 We are not altogether so punctual as the French, in observing the lawes of Comedy. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 373 What these command, Those execute with Speed, and punctual Care. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* iv. 37 His punctual discharge of his duties.

c. Precise, accurate, exact, careful of details (in statement or action). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. l. 332 Cid Hamete, the most punctuall Searcher of the very moats of this true History. 1636 POCKLINGTON *Sunday no Sabbath* (1637) 22 S. Nyssen is more punctuall and cleere: the Lords day (saith he) begins at cockcrowing. 1728 POPE *Dunc., M. Scriblerus on Title* (1743) I. 39 *n.*, That accurate and punctual man of letters. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1871) II. I. 190 *n.*, The punctual contemporaneous Collector has named him with his pen.

8. *spec.* Exactly observant of an appointed time; up to time, in good time; not late. (Also of actions.) The prevailing current sense.

In *punctual to* this sense is a contextual use of 7 b.

1675 NEVILE tr. *Machiavelli's Marr. Belphegor* Wks. 527 He borrowed mony..but..he was not over-punctual to his day. 1694 CONGREVE *Double Dealer* v. x, *Mask.* Madam, you will be ready? *Cyn.* I will be punctual to the minute. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1766) II. 41 He [Sir E. Godfrey] was a punctual man to good hours: so his servants were amazed when he did not come home. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 127 The undeviating and punctual sun. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I, Every body was punctual, every body in their best looks. 1875 MRS. RANDOLPH *Wild Hyacinth* I. 54, I do wish you would be more punctual.

†Pu·nctualist. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. prec. + -IST.] One who discusses or treats of points of conduct or ceremony.

1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. i. Wks. 1851 III. 152 Bilson hath decipher'd us all the galanteries of Signore and Monsignore, and Monsieur as circumstantially as any punctualist of Casteel, Naples, or Fountain Bleau could have don.

Punctuality (pʊŋktiu,æ·lĭti). [f. PUNCTUAL + -ITY. Cf. med.L. *punctuālitās* (Wyclif 1361); F. *ponctualité* (1629 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

I. The quality or character of being punctual (in various senses), or an instance of this.

1. Exactness, accuracy, precision; regularity; minuteness; preciseness; circumstantialness. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlvii. 313 To recount with all the punctualitie, & truth that he vsually doth. 1631 MASSINGER *Emperor East* I. ii, I have..With curious punctuality set down, To a hair's-breadth, how low a new-stamp'd courtier May vail to a country gentleman. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 62 P 9, I can relate, with great punctuality, the lives of all the last race of wits and beauties. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* v, St. Mark, with his usual punctuality, notes that they [the Gadarene swine] were 'about two thousand'.

†**b.** (with *a* and *pl.*) An instance of precision or accuracy; a small point, a nicety, a detail. *Obs.*

1661 FELL *Dr. Hammond* 95 His Memory, 'twas..faithful to things and business, but unwillingly retaining the contexture and punctualities of words. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* IV. i. 140 Which Punctualities..did not so much conduce to preserve the Text. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 12 She understands good Breeding to a Punctuality. *a* 1734 NORTH *Exam.* III. viii. § 44, I kept no Journal...Therefore I am sensible that many Punctualities are here wanting.

2. Formality, ceremoniousness; formal style: = PUNCTILIO 5 b. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1629 MASSINGER *Picture* II. ii, The state were miserable if the Court had none Of her owne breede..With forme and punctuallity to receiue Stranger Embassadours. 1742 AKENSIDE *Let. to Dyson* Poems (1845) 15 Those precisenesses of form and punctuality. 1755 JOHNSON *Let. to B. Langton* 6 May in *Boswell*, Your own elegance of manners, and punctuality of complaisance.

†**b.** (with *pl.*) = PUNCTILIO 5. *Obs.*

1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Warres* IV. 88 All punctuallities are vaine if unusefull, and foolish if harmfull. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 112 P 1 He that too long observes nice punctualities.

3. Precise observance of rule or obligation; strictness in the performance of duty; scrupulousness. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1640 HOWELL *Dodona's Gr.* 169 Those that..hereafter should serve other Princes with that punctuality as Sophronio had done. 1689 D. GRANVILLE in *Surtees Misc.* (1858) 95, I did faithfully, and with as much punctuallity as I was able, discharge those trusts. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. x. 406 The resolution of the English at the fire, and their trustiness and punctuality elsewhere, was the general subject of conversation. 1863 A. BLOMFIELD *Mem. Bp. Blomfield* II. ix. 185 Scrupulous punctuality in all his engagements.

b. (with *pl.*) An instance of strictness in conduct; a point of duty or right. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1639 LD. DIGBY, etc. *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 74 There were so many circumstances that might tempt and lead them from the exact punctualities of a sincere conveyer. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 70 P 5 Ready to exact the utmost punctualities of right, and to consider every man that fails in any part of his duty, as without conscience. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Chr.* 131 What..must have been the feelings of the Hebrew, when told that all his punctualities had been thrown away?

4. Exact observance of an appointed time; the fact or habit of being in good time. (The prevailing current sense.)

1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* IV. iii, *Joseph.* O, madam, punctuality is a species of constancy—a very unfashionable custom among ladies. 1849-50 W. IRVING *Mahomet* viii. (1853) 29 The troops..summoned..arrived at the appointed time with a punctuality recorded by the Arabian chroniclers as miraculous. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xlv, She is always a pattern of punctuality.

5. The character of a geometrical point; the fact of having position but no magnitude. *rare*⁻¹.

1881 G. S. HALL *German Cult.* 230 The very possibility of unspaciality or punctuality must be inferred as negative instances from indeterminate extension and movement.

II. 6. *pl.* Particulars or characteristics of punctuation. *nonce-use.*

1825 LAMB *Let. old Gentlem.* Wks. 1870 III. 306 He must be a thorough master of vernacular orthography, with an insight into the accentualities and punctualities of modern Saxon, or English.

Punctually (pʊ·ŋktiuălĭ), *adv.* [f. PUNCTUAL + -LY 2.] In a punctual manner.

†**1.** By or as by pricking; in the way of puncture, or (*fig.*) of compunction. *Obs. rare.*

1631 R. BOLTON *Comf. Afflt. Consc.* 134 'They were pricked in their heart'. *Marg.* The word in the originall signifieth to vexe, rent, and wound punctually. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Acts* ii. 37 Punctually pricked and pierced.

†**2.** To the point, directly; explicitly, expressly; definitely, with direct aim, point-blank. *Obs.*

Quot. 1570 appears to belong here.

1570 BP. LESLEY *Let.* 15 Jan. in Robertson *Hist. Scot.* App. 67 For the retiring of her forces puntyvally for lack of aid. 1615 BYFIELD *Expos. Colos.* ii. 19 It is a most happy ability to speak punctually, directly to the point. 1638 ROUSE *Heav. Univ.* x. (1702) 152 Christ our Master punctually and expressly doth call for excellent Fruits of his Desciples. 1657 HAWKE *Killing is M.* Pref., This pestilent and perilous Libel, which punctually leveleth at the ruin and fate of his Highness. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 68 Shooting punctually, Levill by a dispart 206. Paces.

3. Precisely, exactly, accurately, in every point or detail. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. viii. 450 A kinde of writing with small stones, by meanes whereof, they learne punctually the words they desire to know by heart. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. § 14. 240 The Question is so punctually stated..that there is no possibility of any subterfuge left. 1738 BIRCH *Milton* App., M.'s Wks. I. 69 Had the Memorandum been punctually dated. 1887 STEVENSON *Bks. which influenced me* Wks. 1895 III. 284 To understand that he is not punctually right, nor those from whom he differs absolutely wrong.

†**4.** Point by point; in detail; minutely, circumstantially. (Often with mixture of sense 5.)

1620 E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 533, I should now punctually search the seuerall Authors, and Inuenters of Lawes, amongst different Nations..but that would bee too long. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* XX, This Chapter cannot punctually be answer'd without more repetitions than now can be excusable. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 31 The Papal Brief being read, and Jetzer Examined punctually of all his Confession. *a* 1741 CHALKLEY *Wks.* (1766) 26 He told me this Dream so punctually.

5. With careful attention to, or insistence upon, points or details of conduct; with strict observance of rule or obligation; strictly, scrupulously, carefully, punctiliously. Now *rare* exc. as in 6.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 117 The other officers will more punctuallie performe their dutie. 1609 OVERBURY *St. France* (1626) 28 No men stand more punctually vpon their Honours in matter of Valour. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xii. 251 The people..dealt very fairly and punctually with us in all their agreements and bargains. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* II. 538 Never was resolution more punctually observed. 1859 LEWIN *Invas. Brit.* 78 Cæsar..found..that his orders for preparations had been punctually obeyed.

6. With strict observance of the appointed time; at the precise time. (Now the prevailing sense.)

In the early quots. contextual, the sense being really 3 or 5.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* IV. § 161 All those..who were sent for, appeared punctually at the hour that was assigned them. 1691 RAY *Creation* I. (1692) 54 The Heavenly Bodies .. punctually come about in the same Periods to the hundredth part of a Minute. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesm.* ii. (1845) I. 18 [He] sends them up punctually by the time. 1896 SIR J. RIGBY in *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 614/2 If the instalments were not punctually paid, the building society would come down on the property. *Mod.* You can't expect the trains to arrive punctually on Christmas Eve.

Pu·nctualness. Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -NESS.] = PUNCTUALITY (in quots., in senses 1, 3).

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlviii. 318 That you may see the punctualnesse and good maners of my Husband. *a* 1652 J. SMITH *Sel. Disc.* VI. viii. (1821) 265, I will not here dispute the punctualness of these traditions..though I doubt not but the main scope of them is true. 1690 MARLBOROUGH in Wolseley *Life* (1894) II. 165 Nobody..shall with more punctuallness observe them [orders]. 1711 FELTON *On Classics* (1718) 94 The most Literal Translation of the Scriptures..is generally the best; and the same Punctualness which debaseth other Writings, preserveth the Spirit and Majesty of the Sacred Text.

†**Pu·nctuary,** *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [ad. late or med.L. *punctuārius*, f. *punctu-s* pointing, point + -ARY.] Depending upon the Masoretic or other pointing of the Hebrew text of Scripture.

[1575 SIXTUS SENENSIS *Biblioth. Sancta* I. 168/1 Στιγματική, sine Punctuaria exponendi Methodus]. 1657 W. MORICE *Cœna quasi* Κοινή II. 129, I perceive Sixtus Senensis ..was deceived, when telling us of a Stygmatical or punctuary interpretation of Scripture, he addes, that it is peculiar to the Hebrews.

Punctuate (pʊ·ŋktiu,ēt), *v.* [f. med.L. *punctuāre* (Du Cange) to prick, point, appoint, etc., whence It. *puntuare*, F. *ponctuer* (*c* 1500), f. L. *punctu-s* (*u*-stem) pointing, point.]

†**1.** *trans.* (?) To point out, note. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* IV. ix. (vol. I) 331 You haue set such a luster upon that great City, and haue punctuated vnto me so many remarkeable things, and nouelties thereof, in the Letter you pleased to send me.

2. *Nat. Hist.* To mark with points or dots, esp. with small depressions resembling punctures. (? Usually in pa. pple.: see also PUNCTUATED 1, and PUNCTATE, -ED.) *rare.*

(?) 1818 R. P. KNIGHT *Symbolic Lang.* (1876) 105 A large white flower, the base and centre of which is..punctuated on the top with little..cavities, in which the seeds grow.

3. To insert the stops or punctuation-marks in (a sentence, etc.); to mark or divide with points or stops. Formerly *to point* (POINT *v.*¹ 3). Also *absol.*

1818 TODD, *To Punctuate*, to distinguish by pointing. 1841 [see PUNCTUATED 2]. 1848 *Where to Stop, and Why* 3 Some men punctuate according to vague ideas of sense [etc.]. 1884 P. ALLARDYCE *How to Punctuate* 52 All rhetorical questions are not thus punctuated. 1902 DE VINNE *Correct Compos.* 246 A knowledge of grammar is of great value in enabling a compositor to punctuate properly.

b. *fig.* †(*a*) To put a 'period' or stop to; to interrupt so as to bring to a close (*obs.*). (*b*) To interrupt at intervals (as a speech) by exclamations, etc.; to intersperse or 'dot' *with.*

1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 29 June, I am glad you have come in to punctuate my discourse, which I fear has gone on for an hour without any stop at all. 1882 *Standard* 17 Mar. 3/1 That speech [Mr. Forster's] was..punctuated throughout with cries of 'Release the suspects'. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 131 Mr. Gladstone's speech was an expansion of his postcard, punctuated by cheers. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Oct. 9/4 The Miramar links are long and well punctuated with difficult hazards.

4. To give point to; to emphasize, accentuate.

1883 TALMAGE in *Chr. Globe* 829/2 Telling the Custom House officer, 'There is nothing in that trunk but wearing apparel', and putting a 5 dol. gold piece in his hand to punctuate the statement. 1898 *Nat. Rev.* Dec. 501 To punctuate his perjury he added this remark.

Pu·nctuate, *a. Nat. Hist.* = next, 1.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pu·nctuated, *ppl. a.* [f. prec. vb. + -ED 1.]

1. Marked with, or composed of, dots; dotted: = PUNCTATE 1. (Chiefly *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.*)

1818 [see PUNCTUATE *v.* 2]. 1821-34 J. FORBES tr. *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) III. i. 393 The pleura in the state of acute inflammation presents a punctuated redness. 1893 TUCKEY *Amphioxus* 173 The mesoblastic somite boundaries indicated with punctuated lines.

2. Having the punctuation marks or stops inserted.

1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 128/1 It must not be supposed that those [stops] which are usually inserted even in well punctuated books are sufficient [as a guide to reading].

‖ Punctuatim (pʊŋktiu,ēi·tim), *adv.* [mod. L., f. *punctu-s* point, after *verbatim*, *literatim.*] a. 'Point for point'; with exact agreement in every point or detail; **b.** with exact correspondence of punctuation.

1623 T. POWELL *Attourn. Acad.* 166 The Originall must..be so exactly set downe and drawn, that all the following Processe and proceeding, may be tyed to agree with it *punctuatim.* 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v., *Verbatim, literatim, et punctuatim*, word for word, letter for letter, and point for point.

Punctuation (pʊŋktiu,ēi·ʃən). [ad. med.L. *punctuātiōn-em*, n. of action from *punctuāre* to PUNCTUATE. Cf. F. *ponctuation* (1540 in Hatz.-D.).]

†**1.** The pointing of the psalms; the pause at the mediation. *Obs. rare.*

a 1539 in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 56 Your dyvyne seruice to be treateably song..with good pause and punctuation. 1782 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 18 *note*, The punctuation of the Psalms in the English Psalter, where a colon is constantly placed in the middle of a verse,..expresses this *Mediatio*, or breath-place.

2. The insertion of the vowel (and other) points in writing Hebrew and other Semitic languages (or those using a Semitic alphabet); the system of such points: = POINTING *vbl. sb.*¹ 2 b.

1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 230 The punctuation of the Hebrew Text was an invention of the Masorites. *Ibid.* 272. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 93/1 It is now generally considered..that the whole system of punctuation was first introduced by the Masorites. 1870 J. F. SMITH *Ewald's Heb. Gram.* 37 There was formed gradually in the Massoretic schools..a set of reading signs..the so-called punctuation. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 9) XI. 600/1 A means of preserving not merely the consonants of this text but the exact punctuation and intonation of the synagogue.

3. The practice, art, method, or system of inserting points or 'stops' to aid the sense, in writing or printing; division of written or printed matter into sentences, clauses, etc. by means of points or stops. The ordinary sense.

1661 BOYLE *Style of Script.* Pref. (1675) 13 That there pass no mistakes of the punctuation. For..if the stops be omitted, or misplaced, it does..oftentimes quite spoil the sense. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 263 The expectation of a settled Punctuation is in vain, since no rules of prevailing authority have been yet established. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 389 Punctuation is a modern art. The ancients were entirely unacquainted with the use of our commas, colons, &c. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 248 *note*, On the punctuation of this..verse [Rom. ix. 5] a great controversy has arisen. 1895 W. A. COPINGER *Trans. Bibliogr. Soc.* II. ii. 113 As to punctuation..the *Lactantius*, printed at Subiaco in 1465, has a full point, colon, and note of interrogation.

b. *transf.* Observance, in reading or speaking, of the pauses, as indicated by the points or stops.

1807 ROBINSON *Archæol. Græca* V. xvi. 489 They were enjoined to pay the most scrupulous attention to punctuation...They often read the Fables of Æsop. 1863 MISS BRADDON *J. Marchmont* II. ii. 25 The good woman's talk ..rambled on in an uninterrupting stream, unbroken by much punctuation.

†**4.** The action (or result) of marking by pricking or puncturing. *Obs. rare.*

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 390 The punctuation which the natives call tattow.

5. *Nat. Hist.* = PUNCTATION 2.

1866 E. C. RYE *Brit. Beetles* 107 The elytra exhibit very coarse punctuation.

6. *attrib.*, as (sense 3) *punctuation mark.*

1860 PRESCOTT *Elect. Telegr.* 88 Forty-one indications, corresponding to the letters in the alphabet, the numerals, and punctuation-marks.

Hence **Punctua·tionist**, one who practises, studies, or treats of punctuation (sense 3).

1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* xii. 553 The line..may end in the middle of a phrase where the most lavish punctuationist could not bestow a comma.

Punctuative (pʊ·ŋktiu,ḗtiv), *a.* [f. as PUNCTUATE *v.* + -IVE: see -ATIVE.] Of, pertaining to, or serving for punctuation (sense 3).

1855 J. RUSH *Philos. Hum. Voice* viii. (ed. 4) 154 The nature, or, if I may so call it, the punctuative intonation of this feeble cadence is such, that the ear allows a speaker either to pause after it, or to proceed in his discourse. 1874 M. COLLINS *Transmigr.* II. ii. 45 The note of interrogation is unknown in their punctuative system. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 187 The punctuative particles [in Corean]..giving in words the force of the comma, the colon, and the period.

Punctuator (pʊ·ŋktiu,ḗtəɹ). [a. med.L. *punctuātor*, agent-n. f. *punctuāre* in PUNCTUATE.] One who punctuates.

1. *Heb. Gram.* = PUNCTATOR.

1659 BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 255 The word..being without points was ambiguous, or capable of two significations, of which the one was followed by the translator, the other by the punctuators. 1880 W. ROBERTSON SMITH in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 600/1 (*Hebrew Lang.*) The work of the punctuators was perhaps completed in the 7th century.

2. One who inserts the points or stops in writing or printing.

1846 WORCESTER, *Punctuator*, one who punctuates; punctuist. *S. Phelps.* 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 30 May 713/2 The sadly unintelligent punctuator of the *Times*.

†**Pu·nctuist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *punctu-s* pointing + -IST.] = prec.

1836 SMART, *Punctuist*, one skilled in punctuation. 1853 J. OWEN (of Thrussington) *Comm. Hebr.* App. 372 To connect 'forty years' with 'grieved', was the work of the Punctuists, and this mistake the Apostle corrected.

Punctulate (pʊ·ŋktiŭlḗt), *a. Nat. Hist.* [ad. mod.L. *punctulāt-us*, f. *punctulum* (see PUNCTULE), after *punctum*, *punctāt-us*.] Marked or studded with punctules; minutely punctate.

1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 237 Thorax quadrate, disk punctulate. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 309 Fruit black, punctulate.

Pu·nctulated (-ḗtėd), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ED.] †*a.* Consisting of small points or dots; dotted. *Obs.* b. *Nat. Hist.*, etc. = prec.

1685 H. MORE *Paralip. Prophet.* xxxi. 280 A perpetual *Porticus*, noted with three Lines, of which the middle is punctulated or made by points. *Ibid.* 281 The middle line, viz. that which is punctulated drawn through the midst of this walk. *a* 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 140 The Basis of this [stone] is flat and striated, the Ridges between the Striæ being punctulated. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 242 Elytra..thickly, finely, and distinctly punctulated.

Punctulation (pʊŋktiulḗ·ɪ·ʃən). *Nat. Hist.*, etc. [f. mod.L. *punctulāt-us* after prec. ppl. adj. + -ATION.] The condition of being punctulate; minute punctation; also *concr.* a number or mass of punctules.

1801 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 292 The..darker coloured places in the punctulations. 1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 244 The..less opacity of the elytra and abdomen, and the deeper and wider punctulation of the latter. 1858 GEIKIE *Hist. Boulder* vii. 119 Glossy scales..ornamented with a very minute punctulation.

Punctule (pʊ·ŋktiul). Also in Lat. form **punctulum** (pʊ·ŋktiŭlŏm), pl. **-a.** [ad. L. *punctul-um*, dim. of *punctum* point.] A small point; *Nat. Hist.*, etc., a small punctum.

1640 WILKINS *New Planet* II. (1684) 82 What is this unto the vast frame of the whole Vniverse, but *punctulum*, such an insensible Point? 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* I. v. iii. 405 And what is the earth and the ambient air with respect to the immensity of the universe? It is a point, a punctule.

‖ **Punctum** (pʊ·ŋktŏm). Pl. **puncta.** [L. 'point', orig. neuter of *punctus*, pa. pple. of *pungĕre* to prick: cf. POINT *sb.*[1]]

†1. A point, in various figurative senses. *Obs.*

c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ix. 33 Mongst the quadruplicitie Of elementall essence, *Terra* is but thought To be a *punctum* squared to the rest. *a* 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* II. ix. § 4 (1622) 298 God is that *Punctum*,..from whom, euery Creature..doth proceede:..and vnto whom, they bee destinated. *a* 1679 T. GOODWIN *Knowl. God* II. v, The punctum of which [assertion] lies in this, that in our Christ, God and man are become one person. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 95 Which sentence is a Species of discrete Quantity, that has no permanent *punctum*.

†2. A (geometrical) point: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 18.

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxii, Like a Piramide, lessening it selfe by degrees, till it grows at last to a *punctum*, to a nothing. 1735 H. WALPOLE *Let. to R. West* 9 Nov., They plod on in the same eternal round, with their whole view confined to a punctum, *cujus nulla est pars*.

†b. A mere point of time, an instant: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 7. *Obs.*

1682 BOYLE *2nd Pt. Contn. New Exp.* v. viii, I cast a flie into it, which died in one punctum of time.

†3. A chief or main point (see POINT *sb.*[1] A. 5), as opposed to *punctilio* (PUNCTILIO 4). *Obs.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* Pref. 2 Though not the Punctilio's, yet the Puncta's the full points.

4. *Nat. Hist.* and *Path.* A minute rounded mark or visible object; a speck, dot; a minute rounded spot of colour, or of elevation or depression (esp. the latter), upon a surface: = POINT *sb.*[1] A. 2.

1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 195 The least Creature that we can see without the help of Art, is a Mite, it resembling a little white *Punctum* or Point. 1808 *Med. Jrnl.* XIX. 164 The dark puncta of the petals and capsules afford this essential oil. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 245 In many of the hawkmoths..it [the skin of the pupa] is covered with impressed puncta. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 478 These papules..often disclose a central punctum.

b. *Punctum lachrymāle*, pl. *puncta lachrymālia* (also *lachrymal punctum*, or simply *punctum*), the minute orifice of each of the two lachrymal canals at the corner of the eye. *Punctum saliens* (cf. SALIENT *a.* 3), the first trace of the heart in an embryo, appearing as a pulsating point or speck.

For the origin of the latter cf. Aristotle *Hist. Anim.* VI. iii. τοῦτο δὲ τὸ σημεῖον πηδᾷ καὶ κινεῖται.

[1651 HARVEY *De Generat. Animalium* 49 Apparet punctum sanguineum saliens, quod jam movetur (ait Aristoteles).]

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Lachrymale punctum*, an Hole made in the Bone of the Nose, by which the Matter that makes Tears, passes to the Nostrils. *Ibid.* s. v., In the growth of an Egg you see a little Speck or Cloud,.. which growing gradually thicker, acquires a kind of slimy Matter, in the middle whereof you see first this *Punctum saliens* (a little Speck that seems to leap). 1780 BLIZARD in *Phil. Trans.* LXX. 243 The steel pipe was passed into the inferior punctum. 1812 *Edin. Rev.* July 169 To discover the origin of the *punctum saliens* in the incubated egg.

5. In mediæval music. a. (See quots.)

[1879 HELMORE *Plainsong* 8 The Point (Punctum), having the value of a short note (*i. e.* a Semibreve).] 1901 H. E. WOOLDRIDGE *Oxf. Hist. Mus.* I. 116 The *punctum* or old grave accent, which signified a descending note, and the *virga* or old acute accent, which was used when the note ascended...The *virga* became the *longa*..and the *punctum* the *brevis*..of Discant. 1905 *Gram. Plainsong* 12 There are three forms of the single note: the square note or punctum, the tailed note, or virga, and the diamond.

b. A kind of inflexion used in singing collects, etc.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Rom. Rite* 304 When the Prayer concludes with *Qui vivis* or *Qui tecum*, the Punctum only is used, as above in *Spiritus Sancte Deus*.

†**Punctuo·sity.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as if from a L. **punctuō-sus* or Eng. **punctuous* (cf. Sp. *puntuoso*) + -ITY.] = PUNCTUALITY 1.

1733 *Shelton's Quix.* IV. vi. 43 (Dublin ed.) To recount with all the Punctuosity [*edd.* 1620, 1652, etc., punctualitie; Sp. *puntualidad*] and Truth that he usually doth.

Punctuation (pʊŋktiŭrḗ·ɪ·ʃən). [n. of action f. PUNCTURE *v.*: see -ATION.]

1. The action or operation of puncturing; in quot. 1733 in reference to a pricking sensation.

1733 CHEYNE *Eng. Malady* II. viii. § 5 (1734) 197 Headachs either behind or over the Eyes, like a Punctuation. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 167 Mr. Squire, in place of the puncturation of Volckmann..prefers to scarify the skin with regular linear parallel incisions.

2. *Nat. Hist.* The condition of being punctured, pitted, or dotted; = PUNCTATION 2, PUNCTUATION 5. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Puncture (pʊ·ŋktiŭ), *sb.* [ad. L. *punctūra* prick, puncture (Celsus), f. *punct-*, ppl. stem of *pungĕre* to prick: see -URE.]

1. An act, or the action, of pricking; a prick; perforation with a sharp-pointed instrument or object; in recent use *spec.* an accidental perforation of a pneumatic tire, as of a bicycle.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 16 If þat he be woundid in þe heed eiþer haue ony puncture of ony senewe. 1601? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* III. 98 The pressure of my haires, or the puncture of my heart, stands at the seruice of your sollide perfections. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. iii. 75 The Loadstone of Laurentius Guascus, wherewith..whatsoever needles.. were touched, the wounds and punctures made thereby, were never felt. 1765 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 157 The king of Denmark,..afflicted with a dropsical disorder, underwent..the operation of the puncture. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Ser. v. xxiii, A slight puncture will let out all the wind in the bladders. 1872 YEATS *Tech. Hist. Comm.* 153 The galls were the produce of the puncture of an insect. 1893 *Cycling* 28 Jan. 48/3 The specially thick outer cover renders burst or puncture practically impossible.

b. *fig.* A 'pricking'.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* II. ii. 132 Although he feels no sensual punctures and natural sharpnesses of desire. 1780 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) III. 114 Henry felt the puncture of a want which even Emma could not accommodate.

†c. A sensation of pricking; a pricking pain. *Obs.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ₱ 4 Our Africanus lives in the continual Puncture of aching Bones and poisoned Juices.

2. A mark, hole, or wound made by pricking.

1565 J. HALLE tr. *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 4 If there be any Puncture in the sinewes. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* V. xii. 251 The female Aspe hath foure, but the male two teeth, whereby it left this impression, or double puncture behinde it. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 391 His corpulence, his colour, and his punctures [tattoo-marks]..were very distinguishing marks of his rank. 1821 CRAIG in *Lect. Drawing* vii. 398 Making new scratches or punctures with the etching-needle. 1896 *Daily News* 27 June 8/4 The cyclist wrestling with a compound puncture and a refractory lamp.

†b. *Bot.* A prickly point on a surface. *Obs.*

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* Explan. Terms 385 *Scabrum*, rough, covered with rigid Punctures raised above the Surface.

c. *Zool.* A minute rounded pit or depression in a surface, as if made by pricking: cf. PUNCTUM 4.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†3. The pricking part, the point. *Obs. rare*[−1].

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 17 b/2 A hollowe knife...The puncture or poyncte of the same.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (chiefly in reference to pneumatic tires, or to surgery).

1893 *Cycling* 15 July 445/3 The Puncture-Proof Pneumatic Company's trade-mark. *Ibid.* 448/2 By all means have puncture proof tubes. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 160 The study of puncture pyrexia [i.e. pyrexia produced by puncture of certain portions of the cerebral cortex]. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 20 Aug. 377 The puncture needle is then passed through the skin. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 12 Oct. 9/4 As an outcome of the plethora of cheap tyres attention has been re-directed towards puncture-preventing devices.

Hence **Pu·nctureless** *a.*, free from punctures; that cannot be punctured.

1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Punctureless*, in *entom.*, without punctures; smooth. 1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 7 May 7/5 He rides a peculiar wheel with punctureless tyre.

Pu·ncture, *v.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. *trans.* To subject to puncture; to pierce with a sharp point; to prick; to perforate: esp. in *Surgery*. Also said of the instrument.

1699 GARTH *Dispens.* v. 350 With that he drew a lancet in his rage, To puncture the still supplicating sage. 1793 WELDON (*title*) On puncturing the bladder. 1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 112 When a large artery is only punctured, and not completely cut through. 1896 *Daily News* 4 Dec. 2/1, I punctured the tire within one mile of the start.

b. *spec.* To mark (the skin) with punctures; to tattoo.

1784 *Cook's Voy.* II. ix. 176 They differ in being of a darker colour, with a fiercer aspect, and differently punctured. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* VI. vi, His bare, brawny throat was punctured with sundry devices. 1859 J. C. CURTIS *Hist. Eng.* (1874) 5 All the Britons punctured their bodies.

c. *Nat. Hist.* To mark with spots or dots resembling punctures: chiefly in *pa. pple.*

1847 [see *puncturing* below]. 1860 HARTWIG *Sea & Wond.* vi. 82 The Narwal..is of a grey-white colour, punctured with many white spots.

d. *fig.* To 'prick'.

1896 *Nation* (N.Y.) 25 June 497/2 A few of the fallacies.. which Prof. Nicholson punctures. 1908 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 633 [He] may..touch [him]..with satire and even puncture him with epithet.

2. To make (a hole, etc.) by pricking.

1831, 1865 [see PUNCTURED 2]. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 701 If a hole is punctured by a fine needle in the bladder.

3. *pass.* and *intr.* or *absol.* To get a puncture: said of a pneumatic tire, or *transf.* of the cycle or rider. *colloq.*

1893 *Cycling* 15 Apr. 226/3 It was agreed that whoever punctured stood drinks round. *Ibid.* 1 July 401 I'm punctured! Have you got a repairing outfit? 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Apr. 3/2 During the last few years I have only punctured twice on the road.

Hence **Pu·ncturing** *vbl. sb.* (in quot., marking as with punctures, punctation), and *ppl. a.*

1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 238 Variable..in the more or less frequent puncturing of the thorax. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 385 Keeping up a little pressure on the wound after the puncturing instrument has been withdrawn.

Punctured (pʊ·ŋktiŭd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec.]

1. Pricked, pierced, perforated. Also *fig.*

1672 R. VEEL *New Court Songs* 6 In vain the Surgeon does apply Soft Balsom to a punctur'd Heart. 1797 ABERNETHY *Surg. & Phys. Ess.* III. 97 One of the punctured places ulcerated. 1896 WELLS *Wheels Chance* ix. 62 Just then the other man in brown appeared..wheeling his punctured machine. 1898 BURR *Bicycle Repairing* ix. 135 To fix a burst casing and a punctured tire.

2. Made by puncturing; composed of punctures.

1807–26 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 401 A punctured wound, penetrating the side of the œsophagus. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* iii. (1833) 43 The punctured pattern usually worked..round the edges of that garment [a shroud]. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i. *note*, William of Malmesbury, sub anno 1066..says that the English 'adorned their skins with punctured designs'. 1908 *Athenæum* 24 Oct. 516/3 The ornamentation of these beakers consists of small punctured dots arranged in parallel lines.

3. *Nat. Hist.* Marked with dots resembling punctures; punctate. 1860 [see PUNCTURE *v.* 1 c].

Pund, Pundar, obs. ff. POIND, POINDER.

Pund(e, -age, obs. or dial. ff. POUND, -AGE.

Pünder, obs. f. PONDER, POUNDER.

Pundfald, obs. Sc. form of PINFOLD.

†**Pundela·n.** *Sc. Obs. rare*[−1]. Derivation and sense unknown: app. some kind of strong place.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 159 Sekyrly now may 3e se Be tane the starkest pundelan, That ewyr 3our lyff-tyme 3e saw tane.

†**Pundi·grion.** *Obs. rare.* [app. related, either as earlier form or derivative, to PUN *sb.*[1], q. v.] A pun, a quibble.

1676 R. L'ESTRANGE *Counsellor Manner's Last Legacy* xvi. (1710) 23 Quibble, pun, punnet, pundigrion, of which fifteen will not make up one single jest. [Cf. *c* 1680–90 W. BLUNDELL in *Cavalier's Note Book* (1880) 185 Quibble, pun, punnet, pundigrion...I find these words in Counsellor Manners' last legacy, printed 1676.] 1812 SOUTHEY *Omniana* I. 103 Many..will lose their friend rather than their jest, or their quibble, pun, punnet or pundigrion. 1820 — *Wesley* I.

493 Thomas Adams had as honest a love of quips, quirks, jests, punnets, and pundigrions as Fuller the Worthy himself.

‖ **Pundit** (pʊ·ndit). Also 7 pendet, 8 pundeet, 9 pundet, pandit. [a. Hindī *paṇḍit* :—Skr. *paṇḍita* learned, skilled; as sb., a learned man. So Pg. *pandito, pòdito* (16–17th c.), F. *pandit*, formerly *pandite, -decte.*] A learned Hindu; one versed in Sanskrit and in the philosophy, religion, and jurisprudence of India.

The *Pundit of the Supreme Court* (in India) was a Hindu Law-Officer, whose duty it was to advise the English Judges when needful on questions of Hindu Law. The office became extinct on the constitution of the 'High Court' in 1862. In Anglo-Indian use, *pundit* is applied also to a native Indian, trained in the use of instruments, and employed to survey regions beyond the British frontier and inaccessible to Europeans. 'The *Pundit* who brought so much fame on the title was the late Nain Singh, C.S.I.' (Yule.)

1672 H. O. tr. *Contn. Bernier's Emp. Mogol* III. 159 Their first study is of the Hanscrit, which, is a Language..not known but by the Pendets. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 146 Into Places of Trust and Authority he puts only Brachmins, or their Substitutes, viz. Pundits.. for Physicians. 1783 Justamond tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 60 The Pundits or Bramin lawyers, still speak the original language in which these ordinances were composed. 1792 T. Maurice *Ind. Antiq.* I. Pref. 87 In an ancient Shaster .. translated by Colonel Dow's pundeet. 1837 Miss Maitland *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 86 Then there is the Pundit, or principal Hindoo law expounder—a Bramin. 1862 Max Müller *Chips* (1880) I. v. 119 All our great Sanskrit Scholars..used to work..with a Pandit at each elbow, instead of the grammar and dictionary.

b. *transf.* A learned expert or teacher. (*colloq.* and *humorous.*)

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* III. 73 For English pundets condescend Th' observatory to ascend. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 15 Mar. 296 A point upon which the doctors of etiquette and the pundits of refinement will differ. 1896 Saintsbury *Hist. 19th Cent. Lit.* v. 213 Hallam..an honoured pundit and champion of the Whig party.

Hence **Pu·nditly** *adv.* (*nonce-wd.*), in the manner of a pundit, in a learned way; **Pu·nditship**, the position or office of a pundit; Hindu scholarship.

1868 G. Stephens *Runic Mon.* I. 94 Also punditly, theoretically, by a careful comparison of all the Staverows. 1873 F. Hall in *Scribner's Mag.* VI. 464 The shallowness of contemporary Punditship.

Pundlar [1], *local.* Also 7 poundlar, 7–9 pundler. [Altered form of ON. *pundari* steelyard, f. *pund* Pound *sb.*[1] (weight).] The name given in Orkney and Shetland to the steelyard or Danish balance with movable fulcrum.

1628 in G. Barry *Orkney Isl.* App. (1805) 473 That every pundlar be justed and made equal with the King's pundlar. 1693 Wallace *Orkney* 93 *Pundler*, a Beam marked with the marks of their weight, which hath a stone on the one end, and a Hook at the other end for hinging up the Cassie [basket]. 1898 *Shetl. News* 26 Mar. (E. D. D.), From very early times it [the Bysmar] was with the Pundlar the universal steelyard, or weighing machine of Scandinavia.

Pundlar [2], variant of Poindlar *Sc. Obs.*

Pundle (pʊ·nd'l). [Origin obscure: cf. *bundle.*]

†**1.** (See quots.) *Obs.* ? *dial.*

1706 Phillips (ed. 6), *Pundle*, as 'She is a very Pundle', *i. e.* an ill shap'd and ill dress'd Creature. 1736 Ainsworth *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, *Pundle*, a short and fat woman. [Hence in Johnson and mod. Dicts.]

2. Local name for the wigeon. ? *Obs.*

[Cf. *Pandle-whew*, s. v. Pandle.]

Pundler, var. Poindlar *Sc. Obs.*, Pundlar [1].

‖ **Pundonor** (pundonō·r). [Sp. *pundonor*, contr. of *punto de honor* point of honour.]

a 1648 Ld. Herbert *Life* (1886) 205 The Spaniards do so much stand upon their pundonores. *a* 1648 — *Hen. VIII* (1683) 234 And this was the end of the Cartels and Pundonores betwixt these two great Princes. 1829 W. Irving *Granada* I. xxxvi. 330 They stood not much upon the pundonor and high punctilio.

Pundre, obs. form of Ponder, Pounder.

Pune, var. Poon, East Indian tree.

Punee, pu'nee, puney, obs. ff. Puisne, Puny.

Punee, punese, -eze, obs. ff. Punaise.

†**Pung**, *sb.*[1] *Obs. rare.* [OE. *pung* = NFris. *pung*, MLG. *punge*, MDu. *pong, pungh*, LG., Du. dial. *pung*, Flem. *ponk*; OHG. **pfung, fung* (in *scazfung*); ON. *pungr* (Sw., Da. *pung*); Goth. *puggs* a purse; cf. also med.L. *punga*, med.Gr. *πουγγή, πουγγίον* a purse. See Bung *sb.*[2], and Spung.] A purse.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* 391 *Cassidele*, pung. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1728, Y have the y-sent,..with gold a litel punge [*so also Laud MS.*], For thow hast yeris yonge.

Pung (pʊŋ), *sb.*[2] *U. S.* [Shortened from *tompung*, or (?) *tow-pung*, corruptions of an Indian word akin to Chippeway *odābān, odābānak*, Montagnais *utāpān*, Abnaki *uda*ⁿ*ba*ⁿ*gan* 'instrument for drawing' or 'that on which something is drawn', the rude sledge on which Indians transport their goods. The same word in a northern Algonkin dialect has given the Canadian *tarbogin, tarbognay*, whence Toboggan.

See Trumbull in *Trans. Amer. Phil. Soc.* 1872, 25; Klein in *Herrig's Archiv*, 1876, LV. 455.]

A one-horse sleigh or sledge used in New England; also, a toboggan. (Loosely applied also to a two-horse sleigh.)

[1798 *Dennie's Farmer's Museum*, Roxbury..that famed town which sends to Boston Mart The gliding Tom Pung and the rattling cart.] 1840 Longf. in *Life* (1891) I. 359, I drove on to Hartford, sitting on top of the mail-bags, which were piled in an uncovered pung. 1851 F. Cooper *Pioneers* i. 15 *note*, The 'pung', or 'tow-pung', which is driven with a pole. 1876 *Forest & Stream* 24 Aug. 33/2 The wheeler..wound up by turning the pung upside down in a snowdrift.

b. (See quot.)

1901 *Scribner's Mag.* XXIX. 503/1 This old pung [here = boat: cf. Pungy] 'll do to carry home fish in a pinch.

Hence **Pung** *v. intr.*, to 'coast' on a sleigh, to toboggan.

1892 Howells *Mercy* I. xii, A gait which..exposed him to the ridicule of such small boys as observed his haste, in their intervals of punging...One who dropped from the runner of a sleigh..jeered him for the awkwardness with which he floundered out of its way in the deep snow.

Pung, Pungar, obs. ff. Punk *sb.*[1], Punger.

†**Punge,** *v. Obs.* [ad. L. *pung-ĕre* to prick, puncture. Cf. *punje*, Punye *v.*]

1. *trans.* To prick, pierce; to push or drive with a pointed instrument, to goad.

c 1320 R. Brunne *Medit.* 567 þey punged hym furþe þurgh euery slogh. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. ix. 88 A pyk is in þe potent to punge a-doun þe wikkede. 1382 Wyclif *Rev.* i. 7 Thei that pungeden [*gloss* or prickeden] him. 1570 Foxe *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 502/1 This byrde..punged them with her beacke, plucked them by the skynne and fethers, and in all places hurted them.

2. To affect pungently; to cause to smart; to sting. Also *absol.*

1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 295 [A nettle] by the Greeks sometimes called *Cnide*, because it punges mordaciously. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 7000 The smoak and soot of herbs and wood punge the eye.

Hence † **Pu·nging** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxi. 5 In spittynge buffetynge and pungynge with the thornes. 1670 Maynwaring *Physician's Repos.* 90 Mixing alkalyes with acids, the acidity is destroyed, the punging quality is taken away.

Pungence (pʊ·ndʒĕns). *rare*[—1]. [f. L. *pungentem* Pungent: see -ence.] = next, 2.

1810 Crabbe *Borough* I. 86 Around the whole rise cloudy wreaths, and far Bear the warm pungence of o'er-boiling tar.

Pungency (pʊ·ndʒĕnsi). [f. as prec.: see -ency.] The quality of being pungent.

1. The quality or property of pricking; the fact of having a sharp point or points. *rare.*

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Pungency*, a pricking, grieving or nipping. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* I. 52 Oblong particles, angular and pointed, which may perchance exstimulate the Stomach, (by its netling pungency) like a heap of needles. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments*, etc. 407 Any Substance which by its Pungency can wound the Worms.

2. The quality of having a pungent smell or taste; such smell or taste itself; in more general sense, a stinging, irritant, or caustic property.

1676 Grew *Luctation Menstruums* i. § 11 The pungency of Ginger lyeth in a sulphureous and volatile Salt. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 295 The violent pungency of the slimy substance...If the smallest quantity but touch the skin..it burns it like hot oil. 1856 Kane *Arct. Expl.* I. xiv. 155 The air had a perceptible pungency upon inspiration. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 126 Carbonate of Ammonia should be..combined with syrup of tolu, liquorice or treacle, to soften its pungency.

b. *transf.* A stinging sensation, esp. of taste.

1792 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 295 [*Agaricus lactifluus*] abounding with white milky juice, at first mild, but at length leaving a slight pungency in the throat.

3. *fig.* in various senses (see Pungent **2, 3**): Keenness; eagerness, intensity of desire or other feeling; intense painfulness, poignancy; severity, incisiveness, causticity; piquancy.

1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. § 19 The pungency of forbidden lust is truely a thorne in the flesh. 1768 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 526 The pricks of conscience will.., stimulate our resolution..; and their repeated pungency will produce effects that could not have been worked by strength. 1800 *Charac.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 37/1 Camoens beheld it with a pungency of grief which [etc.]. *a* 1862 Buckle *Civilis.* (1869) III. ii. 110 The large amount of truth contained in this bitter taunt increased its pungency.

Pungent (pʊ·ndʒĕnt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *pungent-em*, pr. pple. of *pung-ĕre* to pierce, prick; substituted for the earlier Poignant in many of its senses; cf. the intermediate Pugna(u)nt [2].]

1. Pricking, piercing, sharp-pointed. Now only in *Nat. Hist.*, e.g. of leaves having stiff sharp points or prickles, or of a part or organ having a sharp point or serving for puncture.

1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* II. i, Beneath it a blouddie Toe, betweene three Thornes pungent. 1606 Chapman *Gentleman Usher* II. i, A Rush which now your heeles doe lie on here..Was whilome vsed for a pungent speare. 1750 tr. *Mem. R. Acad. Surg. Paris* I. 75 Cutting or pungent instruments. 1787 Withering *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) I. 359 Terminating in a very sharp-pointed pungent leaf. 1880 Günther *Fishes* 563 The pectoral [fin] has a pungent spine.

2. *fig.* (of pain or grief). Sharp, keen, acute, poignant; causing or inflicting sharp pain; keenly painful or distressing.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 48/2 The dolour not so pungent and sharp. 1684 T. Hockin *God's Decrees* 325 Intolerably pungent grief and sorrow. 1708 J. Philips *Cyder* I. 5 With pungent Colic Pangs distress'd he'll roar. 1736 Lediard *Life Marlborough* I. 216 A very pungent Domestick Affliction. 1842 Dunglison *Med. Lex.* s. v., Pain is said to be pungent, when it seems as if a pointed instrument were being forced into the..part.

b. Of appetite or desire: Keen, eager; piercing. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1710 Bp. Bull *Serm.* ix. Wks. 1827 I. 226 To gratify a present pungent, languishing appetite. 1735 Somerville *Chase* III. 240 Hunger keen, and pungent Thirst of Blood. 1850 Mrs. Browning *Vis. Poets* cxxxv, Burns, with pungent passionings Set in his eyes.

3. Keenly or strongly affecting the mind or feelings: with various shades of meaning (now usually with allusion to sense 4). †a. Pointed, telling, convincing. *Obs.*

1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 194 Throw unwillingness to heare so pungent arguments, they were not insisted upon. 1661 Pepys *Diary* 25 Aug., A very good and pungent sermon..discoursing the necessity of restitution. 1726 De Foe *Hist. Devil* II. vii. (1840) 260 That which is still more pungent in the case.

b. Sharp in reproof, trenchant, severe; biting, caustic, incisive, acrimonious, sarcastic, satirical.

a 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Wilts.* (1840) III. 324 No author ..hath so pungent passages against the pride and covetousness of the court of Rome. 1693 Dryden *Disc. Satire* Ess. (ed. Ker) II. 100 Satire..consisting..chiefly in a sharp and pungent manner of speech. 1848 D'Israeli *Chas. I*, I. viii. 266 His conversations and his letters..seem to have been occasionally free and pungent. 1874 L. Stephen *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 363 A few pungent epigrams.

c. Exciting keen interest or curiosity; mentally stimulating; piquant.

1850 Robertson *Serm.* Ser. III. ix. 118 Every amusement and all literature become more pungent. 1854 Mrs. Gaskell *North & S.* xxiii, She was pungent, and had taste, and spirit, and flavour in her.

d. Exciting or stimulating to the senses. *rare.*

1879 G. Allen *Col. Sense* xii. 232 Red is the pungent and stimulative colour,..green is the restful and reparative colour.

4. Affecting the organs of smell or taste (or the skin, etc.) with a sensation resembling that produced by pricking; of the nature of such smell, taste, or sensation; penetrating and irritant.

1668 Wilkins *Real Char.* 92 Ground-pine..a small creeping plant..of a pungent sent. 1675 Grew *Disc. Tasts* iii. § 11 *Cortex Winteranus*..is very Pungent upon the Tongue. 1742 Shenstone *Schoolmistr.* 102 Pungent radish, biting infant's tongue. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 103 A white vapour, exceedingly acrid and pungent. 1871 Tyndall *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. ii. 36 Chlorine and sodium are elements, the former a pungent gas.

b. (*Path.*) Said of the fevered skin.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 722 If..the skin be still hotter..and more pungent to the touch. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 93 The skin [in pneumonia] is dry and pungent.

5. as *sb.* (or *absol.*) A pungent substance; an irritant, esp. of the nerves of taste.

1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) III. 447 External and internal pungents. 1863 Bates *Nat. Amazon* iv. (1864) 85 Capsicum-pepper bushes..and lemon-trees; the one supplying the pungent, the other the acid, for sauce to..fish.

Hence **Pu·ngently** *adv.*, in a pungent manner; with pungency; **Pu·ngentness**, pungency (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

1842 S. Lover *Handy Andy* ii, As you very properly and pungently remark, poor Egan is a spoon. *a* 1864 Hawthorne *Mother Rigby's Pipe* i, The pungently aromatic smoke. 1883 Villari *Machiavelli* IV. x. 207 His verses are..often satirical and pungently vivacious.

Punger (pʊ·ngəɹ). Now *dial.* Also 7 pungar. [Of uncertain origin: has been conjectured to represent, in some way, Gr. *πάγουρ-ος*, L. *pagūrus*, Fr. *pagure* (1552 in Hatz.-Darm.).] The large edible crab, *Cancer pagurus.*

1586 Bright *Melanch.* vi. 28 The softer shel, or crustie are cray fish, the crab, the lobster, the punger. 1611 Cotgr., *Carbasse*, the Crab-fish tearmed a Pungar. 1681 Grew *Musæum* I. v. iv. 120 The Claw of the Punger, or the Velvet-Crab, called Pagurus. 1820 T. Mitchell *Aristoph., Com.* I. 215 Their food was young pungers. 1830 tr. *Aristoph., Knights* 76 They ate pungers instead of medic grass.

Pungi, Hindu nose-flute: see Poogye.

†**Pu·ngitive,** *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *pungitīv-us* (Du Cange), irreg. f. L. *pung-ĕre* to prick, after *fugitīv-us*, etc., instead of the regular L. form **punctīv-us*, not found. So F. *pongitif*, 16th c. in Paré (Littré).] Having a pricking or stinging quality; sharp, keen, pungent.

c 1480 Henryson *Test. Cres.* 229 Angrie as ony Serpent vennemous, Richt pungitiue with wordis odious. 1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* Prol. v, Thame to reserue fra rewmes pungitiue. 1586 Ferne *Blaz. Gentrie* 93 The pungitiue pricke of necessity. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* iv. 48 Through their acidity they are rendred vellicating and pungitive. 1710 T. Fuller *Pharm. Extemp.* 133 It abounds with a smart pungitive, volatile Salt.

Hence † **Pu·ngitively** *adv. Obs.*, in a stimulating manner.

1617 Collins *Def. Bp. Ely* II. ix. 400 The priest was to be possessed of a copy of the law, that he might obserue it punctually for his owne selfe. Not onely so, Sir, but pungitively for others.

Pungled (pʊ·ng'ld), *a. dial.* [Origin uncertain.] a. Shrivelled or shrunken, as grain.

1823 E. Moor *Suffolk Wds.* 297 Wheat, from mildew, or other cause, not being plump grained, is said to be pungled —sometimes pingled. *a* 1825 Forby *Voc. East Ang., Pungled*, shrivelled and become tough; as winter fruit overkept, but not turned rotten; also grain shrivelled with heat or disease. *a* 1886 T. W. Harris *Insects injur. to Veg.* (1862) 235 The *Thrips cerealium*,..sometimes infests wheat,

in Europe, to a great extent... It is supposed to suck out the juices of the seed, thus causing the latter to shrink, and become what the English farmers call pungled.

b. Pinched, or pecuniarily embarrassed.

1881 Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Word-Bk., Pungled*, embarrassed in money matters. 'If Mr. — had a large income he would not be so pungled as he is'.

Pungy (pʌ·ŋi). *U. S. local.* [Origin obscure: cf. Pung *sb.*[2]] In Massachusetts, 'A small boat like a sharpey'; in Chesapeake Bay, A kind of fast-sailing schooner used in the oyster-trade; also, a canoe used in oyster-dredging. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1880 G. A. Townsend *T. Chesapeake* 29 They launched the pungy, not alone. 1891 W. K. Brooks *Amer. Oyster Cult.* 166 The vast fleet of pungies and canoes. 1899 W. Churchill *R. Carvel* xi, The big ship was already sliding in the water as I leaped into my pungy.

Puniard, obs. form of Poniard.

Punic (piū·nik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 5 -yk, 6 -ik, 7 -ike, -icke, -ique, -icque, 7–8 -ick. [ad. L. *Pūnicus*, earlier *Pœnicus*, f. *Pœnus* a Carthaginian; f. Gr. Φοῖνιξ Phœnician, Carthaginian; also purple. Cf. F. *punique* (15th c. in Littré).]

A. *adj.* **1.** Belonging to Carthage; Carthaginian.

Punic Wars, the three wars between the Romans and Carthaginians waged between B.C. 264 and 146.

1533 Bellenden *Livy* I. viii. (S.T.S.) I. 46 Efter þe end of þe first punyk batall. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 89 Our countreymen name it Tartessos, the Carthaginians Gadir [*margin* Or Gadiz], which in the Punicke language signifieth the number of seven. 1869 Lecky *Europ. Mor.* (1877) II. v. 302 Complete dissolution of Roman morals began shortly after the Punic wars. 1908 P. E. More in *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 608 The Punic language was still spoken by the lower order.

b. †*Punic apple* (L. *Pūnicum mālum*, also absol. *Pūnicum*), the pomegranate; so †*punic-tree*. *Punic wax*: see quot. 1848.

[*c* 1440: see B. 1]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* I. 398 The territorie of Carthage challengeth to it selfe the Punicke apple: some call it the Pomegranat. 1641 G. Sandys *Paraphr. Song Sol.* iv. i, Thy Cheeks like Punicke Apples are. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* x. 373 Soon as the punic-tree..itself shall with its bloody blossoms cloathe. 1848 Wornum in *Lect. Paint.* 350 *note*, Punic wax (*cera Punica*) was..the common yellow wax, purified and bleached by being boiled three times in sea-water, with a small quantity of nitre... This wax was the Greek substitute for oil in painters' colours.

c. Having the character attributed by the Romans to the Carthaginians; treacherous, perfidious. *Punic faith*: see Faith *sb.* 11 b.

1600 Holland *Livy* xxi. iv, Crueltie most savage and inhumane, falshood and trecherie more than Punicke. 1738 H. Brooke *Tasso's Jerus. Del.* II. (1810) 376/1 Yes, yes, his faith attesting nations own; 'Tis Punic all, and to a proverb known! 1796 Burke *Reg. Peace* i. Wks. VIII. 125 An invective against the ministry of Great Britain, their habitual frauds, their proverbial punick perfidy. 1853 W. Stirling *Cloister Life Chas. V* 237 Astonished that a commander of so much experience should have put any trust in the Punic promises of a Moor.

†**2.** Purple; = Puniceous. *Obs.*

1501 Douglas *Pal. Hon.* I. xlvi, Purpour colour, punik and skarlote hewis. 1607 R. C[arew] tr. *Estienne's World of W.* 296 A punick colour, that is, yellow drawing to a red.

B. *sb.* †**1.** = *Punic apple*: see A. 1 b. *rare.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 951 Graffyng is tassure In hem of euery fruit—punyk & serue.

†**2.** An inhabitant of Carthage, a Carthaginian.

1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* (1614) 66 The Punikes called God, Bal, (from whence came those names Hannibal, Adherbal, and such like). 1696 Brookhouse *Temple Open.* 13 The Punicks, the Sons of Cham, put in a Caveat.

3. The Carthaginian tongue, a Semitic language, an offshoot of Phœnician and allied to Hebrew.

1813 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 269 The Maltese is immediately derived from the modern Arabic, without any intervention from the Punic. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 646/2 Plautus.. inserts in the *Pœnulus* whole passages in Punic.

†**Pu·nical,** *a. Obs.* [f. as Punic *a.* + -al.] = Punic *a.* In quot. 1606 = Punic *a.* 2.

Punical pome = Punic apple: see Punic *a.* 1 b.

c 1430 Punical pome [see Pome *sb.* 1]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 21 From whiche tyme the batelles punicalle began to sprynge. 1559 Morwyng *Evonym.* Pref., Put in wryting by men that used the Punicall or els the Arabicke tonge. 1606 Birnie *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 10 Men ranking themselves under stately standerts and punicall pinsels displayed.

So †**Pu·nican** [cf. L. *Pūnicānus*] = Punic *sb.* 2.

1595 *Polimanteia*, etc., sign. Y, You who haue surpassed the false punicane, gaining that brand of trecherie which once was Carthage due.

Punice, obs. f. Punaise (bed-bug), Punish.

Punicean (piuni·s-, -i·ʃiăn), *a.* [f. L. *pūnice-us* (see next) + -an.] = next: cf. Phœnician.

But in first quot. *fruit punicean* app. = *Punic apple.*

1866 J. B. Rose tr. *Ovid's Met.* v. 142 Fruit punicean From bended bough with maiden hand [she] had ta'en And eaten seven grains. *Ibid.* VIII. 212 Nisus, who, midst his hairs of honoured grey, One only tress punicean had. *Ibid.* 398 Forth from the rock welled the punicean blood.

Puniceous (piuni·ʃĭəs), *a.* Also 8 *erron.* -ious. [f. L. *pūnice-us* Punic; also red, purple-coloured (f. *Pūnic-us* Punic, with suffix *-eus*) + -ous.] Of a bright red, purplish-red, or reddish-yellow colour: cf. Phœnicuous.

1730 Bailey (folio), *Puniceous* (in Botan. Writ.) of a scarlet Colour. 1768 [W. Donaldson] *Life Sir B. Sapskull* II. xxv. 212 To stimulate the flavour of the punicious fluid. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Puniceous*, in *entom.*, purplish-red or crimson; having the color of a pomegranate.

Punicin (piū·nisin). *Chem.* [See -in 1.]

†**1.** [f. L. *pūnicum* pomegranate.] (See quots.)

1855 Garrod *Mat. Med.* 154 The root-bark [of the Granaceæ] contains..tannin, and a principle called *Punicine* has also been detected. 1866 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 746 *Punicin*, an acid uncrystallisable substance obtained from the bark of the pomegranate tree.

2. [f. L. *pūnicus* purple.] The colouring matter obtained from the purple whelk (Purple *sb.* 3); the purple of the ancients.

1879 Schunck in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXV. 595 This colouring matter [formed by insolation from the chromogen of the mollusc]..is not identical with indirubin or any known member of the indigo group, and it being, as I think, a substance *sui generis*, I propose to call it *Puniciu.*

Punie, obs. form of Punaise, Puny.

Punily (piū·nili), *adv.* [f. Puny *a.* + -ly 2.] In a puny manner; weakly.

1775 H. Walpole *Let. to Conway* 22 Jan., Lord Rockingham, very punily, and the Duke of Richmond joined and supported the motion. 1827 W. Kennedy *Fitful Fancies* 85 The narrow shell In which the creeping creature man Loves punily to dwell.

Puniness (piū·ninės). Also 8 **punyness.** [f. Puny *a.* + -ness.] The state or quality of being puny; littleness and feebleness; pettiness.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Puniness*, Weakliness, Tenderness, Unthrivingness, spoken of Children. 1740 Cheyne *Ess. Regimen* 66 The Frequency of nervous..Distempers now,.. the Stuntedness, Punyness and Feebleness, so conspicuous among the better Sort. 1871 Morley *Carlyle* in *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. (1878) 175 The same sense of the puniness of man in the centre of a cruel and frowning universe.

Punish (pʌ·niʃ), *v.* Forms: see below. [a. F. *puniss-*, extended stem (in *punisse, punissant*, etc.: see -ish 2) of F. *punir*:—L. *pūnīre* to punish, in earlier L. *pœnīre*, f. *pœna* = Gr. ποινή fine, penalty, requital, punishment, Pain *sb.*[1]]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4 **puniss-en, -yss-en, punyes, punich, punyzsh,** 4–5 **punysch(e, punnishe,** 4–6 **puny(s(e, -yssh(e** ; 5 **punice, -yce, -ych, -es(o)h, pugnysshe,** *Sc.* **pwnys,** 5–6 **punysh,** 6 **punnysch, punis,** *Sc.* **punise, -isse, -eise, -eish, -eis(s, -ische, -yss, pwnis,** 6–**punish** (7 **punnich**).

1340 *Ayenb.* 148 Hou he ssel his broþer chasti..oþer his seriont..punissi. 1340 Ypunyssed [see B. 1 b]. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* iv. 6 A sorowful gast, punyschand þe self for synne. *Ibid.* xxvi. 14 Suffire me noght forto fall swa that thou punyes me in hell. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4068 Puniched at þe hardest. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. III. 69 To punisschen [1377 punyschen] on pillories..Brewesters, Bakers. *c* 1375 Punyst [see B. 1]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 425 [Thei] moten be puny3shid. 1380 Punysshe [see B. 1 b]; punnishe [see B. 1 c]. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7235 Therfore god shal him punyce; But me ne rekketh of no vyce. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 525 My lord of York hath dyvers straunge commissions fro the Kyng.. to punych them by the fawtes to the Kyngs lawys. *c* 1470 Henry *Wallace* VII. 1264 Wallace with force pwnyst [thaim] rygorusly. 1489 Caxton *Faytes of A.* I. xv. 40 That suche men be pugnysshed. 1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lix. 22 Puness him for his deid culpabile. 1530 Palsgr. 670/2 That God punissheth them for their great vyce. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lxxxiii. 257 For the whiche synnes he hath ben by me sore punyshyd. 1533 Gau *Richt Vay* 51 To punis al his inimis. 1538 Starkey *England* I. iii. 90 And when hyt plesyth hym other wyse to punnysch vs, then we must lake. 1544 Punish [see B. 1]. 1562 Punisses [see B. 1 c]. 1563–7 Buchanan *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (1892) 9 He sal punyss.. the writar. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 191 Without God puneis thair cruell vice. 1582 J. Hamilton *Cath. Traict. Epist.*, in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 78 The leuing God puneishit thame. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 127 To punise offenderis. 1612 Pr. Chas. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. III. 104, I deserve to be punniched for my ill fortune.

β. 4 **ponis, -esche,** 4–5 **-ysch(e,** 5 **-ysse, -ysshe,** 5–6 **ponysh,** 6 **poynysse.**

c 1375 *XI Pains of Hell* 220 in *O. E. Misc.* 217 Vche cursid dede ponyschid truly. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 39, I schal al bipinke to ponesche hem wiþ eendelees peyne. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 57 To ponysse mysdoers and trespasours. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* I. 166 Therfore he hath ben ponyshyd. 1538 in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Relig. Ho.* (1892) 80 He lovethe vertew and wyll poynysse vyse.

γ. 4–5 **punch, -e, punsch(e.**

1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 747 3e schulle be punched & put in paine for euere. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 221 Punschynge of evel doers. *Ibid.* VIII. 315 For he schulde nouȝt be i-punsched by þe lawe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Punchyn, or chastysyn',..*punio, castigo.* *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* viii. (Shaks. Soc.), *Joachim.* Punchyth me, Lorde, and spare my blyssyd wyff Anne. 1460 Punchid [see B. 1].

B. Signification.

1. a. *trans.* As an act of a superior or of public authority: To cause (an offender) to suffer for an offence; to subject to judicial chastisement as retribution or requital, or as a caution against further transgression; to inflict a penalty on.

1340, etc. [see A. *α*]. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 86 Bettir is þat þu For þis trespace be punyst nov, þan þar-fore þu be punyste sare, Quhare pardone sal be neuir mare. 1460 Capgrave *Chron.* (Rolls) 162 Alle thoo malefactores were punchid with iii. maner peynis; for thei were first drawe, than hange, and last brent. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 19 b, Crucifye and punysshe thy body with werkes of penaunce. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 8 Tenant in taile after possibylity of yssue extinct shall never bee punished of wast. 1651 Hobbes *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 144 'Tis against the Law of Nature, To punish the Innocent. 1754 Richardson *Grandison* II. xxxi. 306 The violators of the social duties are frequently punished by the success of their own wishes. 1884 S. R. Gardiner *Hist. Eng.* IX. lxxxviii. 12 The King was not without hope that some legal means of punishing them might be found.

b. To requite or visit (an offence, etc.) with a penalty inflicted on the offender; to inflict a penalty for (something).

1340 *Ayenb.* 74 Al þet hit vint ine þe zaule of gelte of dede, of speche, of þo3te.., al uorbernþ and clenzeþ and þer byeþ ypunyssed, and awreke. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 408 God may not for3ete þis trespas but punysshe it in his tyme. 1484 Caxton *Fables of Æsop* II. Pref., The Athenyens..wold haue demaunded a kynge for to punysshe alle the euyll. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 56 Throw him was.. Piracie puneist. 1769 Blackstone *Comm.* IV. i. 7 It is clear, that the right of punishing crimes against the law of nature..is in a state of mere nature vested in every individual. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 484 The spirit of the law..was that no misdemeanour should be punished more severely than the most atrocious felonies.

c. *absol.* To inflict punishment.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 40 Upon þe ferþe synne God ceessiþ never to punnishe. 1562 Winjet *Cert. Tractatis* i. (S.T.S.) I. 8 God punissis oftymes in ye samyn thing quhairin man offendis. 1605 Shaks. *Lear* III. iv. 16 But I will punish home. 1715 De Foe *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 9 God does not punish that way. *a* 1716 South *Serm.* (1744) X. vi. 180 To punish is properly an act of a superior to an inferior.

†**2. a.** To fine (a person). **b.** To exact (money due) *from* a person. *Obs.*

1572 Huloet, To punish, *pecunia multare.* 1591 Horsey *Trav.* (Hakl. Soc. No. 18) App. 289 A desperate debte owinge by the chauncelere Shalkan..was violentely puneshed from him and payd the Companye. 1700 Tyrrell *Hist. Eng.* II. 819 He whose Dog..shall be found Unlawed, shall be punished Three Shillings.

3. *transf.* To handle severely; to inflict heavy damage, injury, or loss on. Also *absol.*

In various slang, colloquial, or jocular uses: as, To inflict severe blows upon (an opponent in a boxing match); to thrash, belabour, maul; extended to handling severely in other forms of contest (e. g. football, cricket, boat-racing); also, jocularly, to make a heavy 'inroad' on (a stock of provisions, wine, etc.), to consume or diminish severely; to urge (a horse) by severe application of whip or spur; in *dial.* or *colloquial* use, to cause pain or suffering to, to hurt; see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 22 He lost his science after he had been a good deal punished. *Ibid.* XLVIII. 187 In his prime no one could punish him. 1825 C. M. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 242 We..drank freely—punished his claret. 1839 Thackeray *Fatal Boots* xii, We punished her cellar too. 1848 — *Van. Fair* liii, He punished my champagne. 1856 H. H. Dixon *Post & Paddock* xii. 209 If a foolish lad punishes his beaten horse unnecessarily. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* i. 16 They [*sc.* sjamboks] are very tough and supple.. and punish tremendously. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 384/3 Phlox divaricata is very pretty, but how the slugs and snails do punish it! 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/7 The Oxonian's [bowling] was..severely punished, both batsmen scoring a 3 hit off one over. 1896 Doyle *Rodney Stone* xix, The smith, although he laughed at his own injuries, had none the less been severely punished.

Hence **Punished** (pʌ·niʃt) *ppl. a.*

c 1806 Sir R. Wilson *Cape Gd. Hope* in *Life* (1862) I. App. ix. 375 It is also remarked..that..the backs of punished men require all the care and skill of the surgeon. 1866 S. B. James *Duty & Doctr.* (1871) 32 Evil is personified in a punished Satan.

Punishability (pʌ·niʃăbi·liti). [f. next + -ity. So mod.F. *punissabilité* (in Littré).] The quality or fact of being punishable; punishableness.

1868 Bain *Ment. & Mor. Sci.* iv. xi. 404 Granting these two postulates, Punishability..is amply vindicated. 1876 *Westm. Rev.* No. 98. 441 To inquire how the notion of Right and Wrong..is linked to that of punishability.

Punishable (pʌ·niʃăb'l), *a.* [f. Punish *v.* + -able. Cf. F. *punissable* (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), perh. the immediate source.] Liable to punishment; capable of being punished. **a.** Of a person.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. i, Tenauntes for terme of lyfe..be punysshable of waste by the statute:..but at the comon lawe before that statute they were nat punysshable. 1699 Burnet 39 *Art.* x. (1700) 117 No man is accountable, rewardable or punishable, but for that in which he acts freely. 1749 Fielding *Tom Jones* (1775) III. 94, I think it is a pity these hags are not punishable by law. 1874 Sidgwick *Meth. Ethics* iv. iii. 408, I should be legally punishable if I omitted the act.

b. Of an offence: Entailing punishment.

1548 Udall, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 24 b, Wherfore emonge the Jewes, onely periury is punyshable. 1632 Massinger *City Madam* I. i, 'Tis more punishable in our house Than *scandalum magnatum.* 1766 Blackstone *Comm.* II. xviii. 278 It is not an offence punishable in a criminal way at the common law. 1846 McCulloch *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 637 An attempt was made to repress it, by treating it as a punishable offence.

Hence **Pu·nishableness,** the quality of being punishable; **Pu·nishably** *adv.*, in a punishable manner or to a punishable degree.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Punishableness*, Capableness or liableness to be punished. 1786 A. Gib *Sacr. Contempl.* 272 In respect of guilt or of punishableness. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 173 The guiltily and punishably poor. 1860 Pusey *Min. Proph., Amos* v. 20 The soul is a witness to its own deathlessness, its own accountableness, its own punishableness.

Punisher (pʌ·niʃəi). Forms: 4 **punysere,** 6 *Sc.* **punissar, -er**; 4 **punyscher, -are,** 4–6

-yssher(e, 6- punisher; 4 punser, punscher. [f. PUNISH *v.* + -ER[1]. Cf. F. *punisseur* (14th c.), in OF. *punissere*, which may be the source.] One who punishes, one who inflicts a penalty.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 36 Noght trowand god punyschare of synnes. *Ibid.* l. 5 Rightwise punysere of syn. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 23 Helper, punscher [*v.rr.* punser, punyscher] of trespas. 1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 59 Ane rygorous punissar of our synnis. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 17/2 A Punisher of Impiety. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xlv. 353 Not to say anything about my poor sister—she is her own punisher. 1861 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxii, He received the blow, drew forth his schoolboy knife, and stabbed the punisher.

b. *Boxing slang.* A hard hitter.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 71 Smith was the heaviest man and a right-handed punisher. 1817 *Ibid.* L. 38 They are both active punishers, and a good battle is expected. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlvii, A fine fellow!—a severe punisher.

c. *transf.* A thing that hits one hard; a heavy or severe task.

1827 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 138, I had nearly fifty miles' road-work this day, which..is a punisher.

Punishing (pʊ·nĭʃĭŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PUNISH *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the vb. PUNISH; an instance of this; punishment.

c 1375 *XI Pains of Hell* 222 in *O. E. Misc.* 217 Þis schal be here ponyschyng. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 737 Fore-þi I thole þis punysing. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 2 The punysshinges of god ben as abysmes without bottom. 1630 EARL MANCH. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 271 The punishing of rogues and idle persons. 1659 MILTON *Civil Power* Wks. 1851 V. 317 He himself uses it to thir punishing. 1835 MARRYAT *Pirate* vi, You will see what effect your punishing may have upon him.

Punishing (pʊ·nĭʃĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PUNISH *v.* + -ING[2].] That punishes; chastising, punitive.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xx. 8 Thi pouste punyesand be funden til all thi faas. 1624 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* (1641) 114 That the punishing Angell might passe over them. 1659 HAMMOND *On Ps. ciii.* 9, 10 Par. 506 He takes off his punishing hand again.

b. *slang* or *colloq.* Hard-hitting.

1820 J. H. REYNOLDS *Fancy* (1906) 69 With..clenched hands, firm, and of punishing size. 1866 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 427 Some punishing hitter of the opposite side has come in. 1894 *Daily News* 24 May 5/4 An accomplished wicket-keeper..and a punishing batsman.

Puniship, variant of PUNYSHIP *Obs.*

Punishment (pʊ·nĭʃmĕnt). Forms: see PUNISH *v.* [a. AF. *punisement* (13th c. in Britton) = OF. *punissement*, f. *punir* to PUNISH: see -MENT.]

1. The action of punishing or the fact of being punished; the infliction of a penalty in retribution for an offence; also, that which is inflicted as a penalty; a penalty imposed to ensure the application and enforcement of a law.

[1292 BRITTON I. ix. § 1 Aukun plus simple punisement, solum la manere del fet.] 1413 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) IV. ix. 62 A wonder greuous thynge it semeth to me that.. he that hath mysdone shalle passe withoute punysshement. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xi. (Shaks. Soc.) 108 His endles punchement may nevyr sees. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 53 He was takyn..to the vtmest peynys and ponissement of dethe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* civ. 7 He is the Lorde oure God, whose punyshmentes are thorow out all the worlde. *c* 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxiii. 29 How can ie flie from helles ponischment? 1631 MAY tr. *Barclay's Mirr. Mindes* I. 313 He desired that that Army..should take punishment of him for deceiuing the King. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxviii. (1695) 192 We must, wherever we suppose a Law, suppose also some Reward or Punishment annexed to that Rule. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. ii. Wks. 1874 I. 40 Divine punishment is what men chiefly object against, and are most unwilling to allow. 1817 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 817 The rule now laid down is, that it is the crime and not the punishment, which makes a man infamous. 1875 J. P. HOPPS *Princ. Relig.* x. (1878) 31 There are punishments that are inflicted from without, and punishments that naturally and of necessity grow out of offences.

2. *slang* and *colloq.* Severe handling; belabouring, mauling; orig. that inflicted by a pugilist upon his opponent; extended to football, cricket, and other contests; pain, damage, or loss inflicted (without any retributive or judicial character) as in PUNISH *v.* 3; also *dial.* and *colloq.*, pain, suffering, misery: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* xii. 209 The heavy punishment in which Clift and some of the old school delighted, is very much gone out. 1860 *Times* 18 Apr. 9/4 After these tremendous rounds Sayers still came up fresh, and showed not half the awful marks of punishment visible all over Heenan. 1862 THACKERAY *Adv. Philip* iv, Tom Sayers could not take punishment more gaily than they do. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iii, Stopping to examine his arms and hands, as if to see what punishment he has received in the Fight. 1882 *Daily Tel.* 19 May, The punishment Hill [the bowler] was receiving caused Bates to relieve him at 26. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 11 Dec. 10/1 He can ride horse or camel from early morning till late at night without showing punishment. 1885 LD. WOLSELEY in *Times* 22 Jan. 5/4 While severe punishment was being inflicted on enemy by all other parts of square.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1844 *Regul. & Ord. Army* 120 All punishment drill is to be carried on in the Barrack-Yard or Drill-Ground. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 35/2 He remembered the 'punishment cell', and descended the ladder, shrugging his shoulders. 1905 *Macm. Mag.* Nov. 34 The rule that a punishment-book should be kept was established in the Navy. *Ibid.*, Croker..told a young captain that the Admiralty did not like officers who had a long punishment-list.

† **Punishworthy,** *a. rare.* [irreg. f. PUNISH *v.* + WORTHY.] Deserving of punishment.

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 403 All of you..merit punishment.., but you indeed most..being the greatest, and therfore most vnfit to be ill, but ill beeing most punishworthy.

Punition (piūni·ʃən). Now *rare.* Forms: 5- puni-, (5 pugny-), 5-6 puny-, (6 *Sc.* pwni-); 5-6 -cio(u)n, -cyon, -ssion, -ssyon, (5 -sshon), 6 -sion, etc., 6- -tion. [a. F. *punition* punishment (14th c. in Littré), ad. late L. *pūnītiōn-em*, n. of action from *pūnīre* to PUNISH.] The action of punishing; infliction of chastisement; punishment.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 276/1 The said merchantz, shall paie double the value of the Subsidee..wyth outen any other punicion. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 98 God shewed her gret punissyon for her pride. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 449 Why..amendest the not..for the pugnycion that thou hast suffred. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. x. 23 Sair pwnitioun of Greikis dred scho. 1549 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1576 Yet se if thou can cause him feare Goddes terrible punission. 1615 SIR E. HOBY *Curry-combe* iii. 109 The time after this life is for punition, not for purgation. 1657-83 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 85 Means for the punition of tyrants, and the vices of men. 1830 *Fraser's Mag.* II. 301 The doom of restitution and punition.

Hence **Puni·tional** *a.*, of, pertaining to or of the nature of punishment; whence **Puni·tionally** *adv.*

1824 BENTHAM *Mem.* Wks. 1843 X. 548 There should be no responsibility, punitional or compensational. 1826 — in *Westm. Rev.* Oct. 494 Every lawyer..might and should be made punitionally and compensationally responsible.

Punitive (piū·nĭtĭv), *a.* [a. F. *punitif, -ive* (16th c. in Godef.), or ad. med.L. *pūnītīv-us* (Bonaventura *c* 1260), f. L. *pūnīt-*, ppl. stem of *pūnīre* to PUNISH: see -IVE.] Awarding, inflicting, or involving punishment; retributive, punitory.

In early quots. freq. with *justice*; since 1880, commonly of a military expedition to chastise a savage people.

1624 BP. HALL *Serm. on Is. xxxii.* 37, Woe bee to them.. that, by the dam of their bribes, labour to stop the due course of punitive Iustice! 1695 J. EDWARDS *Perfect. Script.* 95 This punitive way of dealing with Achan. 1739 J. TRAPP *Right. over-much* (1758) 6 The utmost rigour of punitive justice. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* IV. iv. iv. § 2 P 67 The legislative, punitive, and judiciary powers. 1881 *Times* 26 Sept. 5/1 Probably a punitive expedition will be undertaken next winter. 1897 *Lit. World* 22 Oct. 312/1 A British Punitive Expedition captured Benin City.

Hence **Pu·nitively** *adv.*, by way of punishment; **Pu·nitiveness,** punitive quality.

1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. i. (1868) 478 As if Christ were somehow punitively handled in our place. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Punitiveness,* punishing Nature or Quality. 1908 H. R. MACKINTOSH in *Hibbert Jrnl.* July 920 A similar inference as to the punitiveness of God.

Punitory (piū·nĭtərĭ), *a.* [f. mod.L. type **pūnītōrius*, f. L. *pūnītor* a punisher: see -ORY[2].] Inflicting or involving punishment; = PUNITIVE.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn., Punitory Interest,* is a Term in the Civil Law, for such Interest of Money as is given for Delay, or Breach of Trust. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 43 Of avoidable evils..some are prudential, such as labour, troubles, self-denials..; others punitory, which we draw upon ourselves by our ill conduct and wilful mismanagement. 1859 MILL *Liberty* v. 172 The preventive function of government..is far more liable to be abused, to the prejudice of liberty, than the punitory function. 1880 *Times* 31 Jan., It had been originally intended that the punitory expedition should have started in October.

Punk (pʊŋk), *sb.*[1] *Obs.* or *rare arch.* Forms: 6-7 punck(e, 7 punke, punque, (pung), 7-9 punk. [Appears *c* 1600; of unknown origin.] A prostitute, strumpet, harlot.

1596 LODGE *Incarn. Deuils* Wks. (Hunter. Soc.) IV. 69 He hath a Punck (as the pleasant Singer cals her). 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 179 She may be a Puncke: for many of them, are neither Maid, Widow, nor Wife. 1607 MIDDLETON *Michaelm. Term* III. i. E ij b, I may grace her with the name of a Curtizan, a Backslider, a Prostitution, or such a Toy, but when all comes to al tis but a plaine Pung. 1785 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Odes to R..A.'s* iii. Wks. 1812 I. 84 Like a poor pilloried Punk he bawled. 1894 GLADSTONE *Horace's Odes* I. xxxv. 25 The fickle herd, the perjured punk, Fall off. *Comb.* 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. iii, This is a trauell'd punque-master. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Expostul. Ode* xvi. Wks. II. 249 If Empresses will Punk-like kiss and drink.

Hence † **Punk** *v. intr.*, to have to do with punks.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 212 We scorn to Punk, or to be drunk.

† **Punk,** *sb.*[2] *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. connected with PUNCH *sb.*[1] and *puncture.*] A punch.

1670 E. BROWN in *Phil. Trans.* V. 1198 They cut them out into round pieces with an Instrument like a Shomakers Punk.

Punk (pʊŋk), *sb.*[3] Chiefly *U. S.* [Of obscure origin. For the senses cf. FUNK *sb.*[1] 2, SPUNK.

Perh. N. Amer. Indian: cf. PUNKY *sb.* Some conjecture a clipt form of *spunk* 'touchwood, tinder' (in Stanyhurst 1582).]

1. Rotten wood, or a fungus growing on wood, used in a dry state for tinder; touchwood, amadou.

c 1707 J. CLAYTON *Virginia* in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 149 As the East-Indians use Moxa [in blistering], so these burn with Punk, which is the inward Part of the Excrescence or Exuberance of an Oak. 1756 J. BARTRAM in Darlington *Mem.* (1849) 206 They [Indians]..shoot red-hot iron slugs, or punk, into the roof, and fire the house. 1908 E. T. SETON *Two Little Sav.* III. viii. 321 Caleb worked on the hollow log..With the hatchet he cleared out all the punk and splinters inside.

2. A composition that will smoulder when ignited, used to touch off fireworks.

1869 ALDRICH *Story of Bad Boy* 92 The smaller sort of fireworks, such as pin-wheels, serpents, double-headers, and punk warranted not to go out.

3. Chinese incense: cf. *joss-stick* (JOSS 3).

1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 10 May 5/8 The burning of innumerable sticks of bamboo punk, which sent forth a faint, sickening odor.

4. *Comb.*: **punk-box,** a tinder-box; **punk-knot,** a protuberance in wood, indicating inward decay (*Funk's Stand. Dict.*); **punk-oak,** the water oak, *Quercus aquatica*; **punk-wood** = sense 1.

1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* I. 46 As soon would you be tempted to pull out your meerschaum and punk-box in a cathedral. 1883 E. INGERSOLL in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 427/2 She opened a flint-and-tinder box, and struck a spark into the punk-wood.

‖ **Punkah, punka** (pʊ·ŋkă), *sb. E. Indies.* Forms: 7 punkaw, panhah, panha, (8 *erron.* punker, -ar), 9 (pankah, phoonka), punk-ha, punkah, punka. [a. Hindī *pankhā* a fan, orig. a hand-fan:—Skr. *pakshaka* fan, f. *paksha* wing.]

1. 'A portable fan, generally made from the leaf of the palmyra' (Yule and Burnell).

In first quot. erron., an attendant who fans with a punkah.

a 1625 W. FINCH *Observ.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* IV. iv. vi. 439 The King sits in his chaire of State, accompanied with his Children and chiefe Vizier..no other without calling daring to goe vp to him, saue only two Punkaw's to gather wind. 1672 H. O. tr. *Bernier's Gt. Mogul* III. *Dehli & Agra* 4 Having a servant or two to fan one by turns, with their great Panhahs or Fans. 1800 *Misc. Tracts in Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 336/2 Over her head was held a punkar. 1828 *Asiat. Costumes* 45 The punk-ha, or fan, represented in the plate, is the leaf of the palmyra. 1834 [A. PRINSEP] *Baboo* II. viii. 140 Fair hands were gently waving a punkah over my face. 1903 G. W. FORREST *Cities of India* v. 132 Punkas and water were brought.

2. A large swinging fan made of cloth stretched on a rectangular frame, suspended from the ceiling or rafters, and worked by a cord so as to agitate and freshen the air in hot weather.

Mentioned under the Arabic name *khaish* خيش or *mirwahat-al-khaish*, in 12th c., referred to 8th or 9th c.

1807 (Sept. 15) LD. MINTO in *Life & Lett.* (1880) 27 The punkah vibrates gently over my eyes. 1812 MAR. GRAHAM *Jrnl. Resid. India* 29 The punka (a large frame of wood covered with cloth)..is suspended over every table, and kept swinging, in order to freshen the air. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* V. 153/1 Strong brass hinge-hooks for punkahs. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 41 The punkah is a straight board some two feet in width, and is put up diagonally across the centre of the room, hung from the ceiling or rafters by stout ropes: to this board is attached, by means of rings, a deep frill, or vallance, about eighteen inches in depth.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *punkah-board, -cord, -fan, -fringe, -pulling, -rope*; **punkah-coolie,** a native Indian servant who works a punkah; also **punkah-wallah** [cf. *competition-wallah*, s.v. COMPETITION 3]; whence **punkah-wallahing** (*nonce-wd.*), the occupation of a punkah-wallah.

1859 LANG *Wand. India* 245 The idea of the poor men paying for punkah coolies! 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 118 What well-regulated female can make dress an object in a society of a dozen people..; or music, when her audience consists of a Punkah-wallah and a Portuguese Ayah? 1870 J. W. KAYE *Sepoy War* v. ii. II. 273 There were..none to pull the punkah-ropes. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 41 Punkah fringes, 20 R[upees]. *Ibid.*, The punkah boards and ropes are landlords' property. 1890 SARAH J. DUNCAN *Social Depart.* 259 He had never, in the whole course of his punkah-wallahing, been told to stop before. 1896 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Flotsam* x, The servant..resumed his place at the punkah-cord. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 637 There is no class of native here to accept punkah-pulling as an occupation.

Hence **Pu·nkah** *v.*, to fan with a punkah (*trans.* and *absol.*).

a 1625 W. FINCH *Observ.* in Purchas *Pilgrims* IV. iv. vi. 433 Portraitures of the King in state sitting amongst his women,..behind one punkawing, another holding his sword. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 245 What would it cost to punkah the whole regiment during the hot season?

† **Punkatee·ro.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. PUNK *sb.*[1]; after such Sp. words as *mulatero* muleteer.] A purveyor of punks; a procurer, pander.

1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt* IV. i. F ij, Punckes, punkateeroes, nags, hags, I will ban.

† **Pu·nker.** *Obs.* [f. PUNK *sb.*[1] or *v.* + -ER[1].] One who frequents the company of punks.

1736 ADDISON tr. *Petronius Arbiter* 87 He was a great Punker, and nothing that wore a Cap came amiss to him.

Punker, obs. erron. f. PUNKAH.

† **Punke·tto.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [app. an arbitrary formation from *puncto*, PUNTO[1], with It. dim. ending *-etto.*] A minute point of behaviour.

1608 BEAUM. & FL. *Tri. Hon.* i, No more standing on your punctilios and punkettos of honour.

Punk-fist, corruption of PUCKFIST, associated with PUNK *sb.*[3] 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Punkin, U. S. dial. f. PUMPKIN.

† **Punkish,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PUNK *sb.*[1] + -ISH[1].] Resembling a punk; meretricious.

1616 T. ADAMS *Plain-Dealing* (1861) I. 28 These punkish outsides beguile the needy traveller..Such a house is like a painted whore; it hath a fair cheek, but rotten lungs.

† **Pu·nkling.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. as prec. + -LING[1].] A little or young punk.

a 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. i, Squiring puncks and puncklings up and down the city.

Punky (pʊ·ŋki), *sb. U.S. local.* Also punkie. [See quot. 1794, and cf. Lenape, *ponk, punk*, light ashes, dust, powder, *pongus* sand-fly, *ponxu* full of sand-flies.] A minute fly or midge, common in some parts of the north-eastern States of America, which bites severely. Also *attrib.*

[1794 G. H. LOSKIEL *Mission Indians N. Amer.* III. 79 The most troublesome plague..especially in passing thro' the woods, was a kind of insect, called by the Indians *Ponk*, or Living Ashes.] 1876 *Forest & Stream* 13 July 368/2 Hands tingling from punkie bites. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 642 Sandy beaches or gravelly points are liable to swarm with midges or punkies.

Punky (pʊ·ŋki), *a.* Chiefly *U.S.* [f. PUNK *sb.*3 + -Y.] Containing, or of the nature of, punk or touchwood; of fire, smouldering.

a 1876 H. BUSHNELL in *Life & Lett.* x. (1880) 209 The fire is punky and only smokes. 1880 *Northwest. Lumberman* 24 Jan., For punky knots the general rule is to allow the whole scale of the log for defects. *Ibid.*, A buyer should be allowed..one-half the scale of the punky log.

Punler, variant of POINDLAR *Sc. Obs.*

Punless, Punlet: see after PUN *sb.*1

Pu·nnable, *a.* [f. PUN *v.*1] Capable of being punned upon; susceptible of puns.

1840 T. HOOK *Fitzherbert* I. xv, It was a punable word, but he could not make it tell. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 2/1 The Browns, Whites, Blacks, Greens, Longs, Shorts, Smiths, Finches, and all the hosts who own punnable names.

Punnage: see after PUN *sb.*1

Punne, obs. form of *pun*, POUND *v.*1

Punner[1] (pʊ·nəɹ). Now *rare.* [f. PUN *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who makes puns; a punster.

1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* I. i, A paltry old fashion'd wit and punner of the last age. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 561 Alsop..hath been Quibler and Punner in ordinary to the dissenting party. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Oct., The greatest punner of this town next myself.

Punner[2] (pʊ·nəɹ). [f. PUN *v.*2: a variant of POUNDER *sb.*2] One who or that which puns or rams earth, etc.; *spec.* a tool for ramming earth about a post or the like. Hence **punner-bar,** a punner and crow-bar combined.

1611 [see POUNDER *sb.*2 2]. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 193 The 'punner bar' should invariably accompany Marshall's borer. *Ibid.* 194 The upper end of this is tapered down to the form of a chisel, with the point tempered to deal with stones,..the lower end,..shaped like a punner, is employed for ramming and consolidating the soil around the pole. *Ibid.* 196 The hole [in which a pole is set] should not be hastily filled up, but ample time be given to the punners to do their share of the work.

†**Punnet**[1]. *Obs. rare.* [app. a dim. of PUN *sb.*1] ? A little pun. 1676–1820 [see PUNDIGRION].

Punnet[2] (pʊ·nĕt). *local.* Also **punnit.** [Of obscure origin: perh. f. *pun*, dial. for POUND *sb.*1 + ET.] A small round shallow chip basket, used chiefly for fruit or vegetables. Less correctly = POTTLE[1] 2.

1822 LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* Index, *Punnet*, a small flat basket from four to twelve inches in diameter, and one to two inches deep, formed of split wood or shavings of timber. 1849 ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Leg.* xxxix, Baskets of flowers—being punnets borrowed from the market-garden. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 29 May 3/7 The high and conical [bonnets]..suggest strawberry punnets turned upside down upon the head. 1906 *Spectator* 29 Sept. 437/1 Thin paper lining a frail punnet where Lay filberts woodland-brown.

b. *Comb.*, as *punnet-crowned, -shaped* adjs.

1892 *Daily News* 29 Mar. 2/4 Some of the new hats have high, punnet-shaped crowns. *Ibid.* 4 July 9/2 Punnet-crowned bonnets were the principal wear.

Hence **Pu·nneted** *ppl. a.*, packed in punnets.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 12/1 The Perth strawberry crops are heavy, and for the first time large quantities of punneted berries are to be sent down South.

Punnic, -ical, Punnigram: see PUN *sb.*1

Punning (pʊ·nĭŋ), *vbl. sb.*1 [f. PUN *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The making of puns.

1670 (see PUN *v.*1 1]. 1690 NORRIS *Refl. Cond. Hum. Life* (1691) 58 This great Mystery of Disputation is nothing else but a meer Tossing of Words backward and forward, sometimes without any meaning, which is Canting; and sometimes with more Meanings than one, which is Punning. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 P 1 That [false wit] which consists in a Jingle of Words, and is comprehended under the general Name of Punning. 1719 SWIFT *Art of Punning* Wks. (1841) II. 413 Punning is a virtue that most effectually promotes the end of good fellowship, which is laughing. 1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 26/1 During the reigns of James and..Charles, punning was the language of the Pulpit as well as of the Court. 1864 *Round Table* 18 June 12/1 Philadelphia has a world-wide reputation for punning. To be a Philadelphian is to be a born punster.

Punning, *vbl. sb.*2, stamping: see PUN *v.*2

Punning (pʊ·nĭŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PUN *v.*1 + -ING 2.] That puns or makes puns.

1683 DRYDEN & SOAME tr. *Boileau's Art of Poetry* II. *Epigram*, A Corporation of dull Punning Drolls. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) IV. 378 Such as have nothing to recommend them but a punning jingle of words. 1879 A. H. SAYCE in *Academy* 23 The Tyrrhenians, whom only a punning etymology made Tyrseni.

Hence **Pu·nningly** *adv.*, in a punning manner; with a pun or play on words.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* 32/2 Endemon punningly demands from what information Mr. Steevens has framed his dogmatic opinion. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. III. iii, The Plebeian 'Court of Cassation', as Camille might punningly name it, has done its work. 1893 *Times* 6 May 17/1 A picture punningly named 'Reflections'—shows a wide stretch of shore—with a donkey standing in the midst.

Punnology: see after PUN *sb.*1

Punque, obs. form of PUNK *sb.*1

†**Punquette.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. *punque*, PUNK *sb.*1] ? A little or young punk. So † **Punquetto.** (One of the forms may be a misprint.)

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. i, To his Cocatrice or Punquetto, halfe a dozen Taffata gownes or Sattin Kirtles. 1610 — *Alch.* II. i, You shall start vp yong Vice-royes, And haue your punques, and punquettes [*printed* punquettees].

Punsch(e, obs. form of PUNCH *v.*1

Punscheown, -ion, obs. ff. PUNCHEON 1.

†**Punse.** *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also 6 punce. [Variant of PULSE *sb.*1; ? through association with *punse*, POUNCE *v.*, to beat.] = PULSE *sb.*1

a 1584 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 274 My vaines with brangling like to brek—My punsis lap with pith. *Ibid.* 977 Thy punsis renuncis All kynd of quiet rest. *a* 1600 — *Misc. Poems* xliv. 31, I quake for feir—my puncis lope.

Punse, punss, obs. (Sc.) and dial. ff. POUNCE *sb.*1 and *v.*1

Punsh, Punsh(i)on, -s(i)oun, -son, -soune, obs. ff. PUNCH *v.*1, PUNCHEON 1 and 2.

Punster (pʊ·nstəɹ). [f. PUN *v.*1 + -STER.] A professed maker of puns; one addicted to or skilled in punning. (In first quot., a quibbler.)

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. i, To be a Theme for legal Punsters, and Quiblers by the Statute:..to discompose the gravity of the Bench. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 P 2 That learned Monarch [James I] was himself a tolerable Punnster. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiv. III. 471 [Jane, the King's Professor of Divinity] was so unfortunate as to have a name which was an excellent mark for the learned punsters of his University. Several epigrams were written on the double-faced Janus.

Hence **Pu·nstress** (*nonce-wd.*), a female punster.

1825 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xxi. 279 Anne..is a decided punstress.

Punt (pʊnt), *sb.*1 [OE. *punt* (in 10–11th c. glossaries), ad. L. *ponto* a kind of Gallic transport (Caes. *B. C.* III. 29), also a floating bridge, a pontoon (Gellius *a* 175, Ausonius, Digest); in later sense referred to L. *pons, pontem* bridge. Cf. also MDu. *ponte*, Du. *pont* fem., 'ferry-boat, pontoon', MLG. *punte, punto*, LG. *pünte, pünto* ferry-boat, mud-boat, repr. the same L. word.

OE. *punt* was, from its vocalization, prob. an ancient word, representing a survival of the Latin word in Britain; but it may have been only in local use, in which also it seems to have continued during the ME. period, though no example has yet been noted. But *punt-boat* is found in the Maldon (Essex) Records of date 1500 as a current word, and it is noteworthy that the literary use begins with Phil. Holland, a native of that county, who in his translations uses it, evidently as a familiar term, to render various L. words, e. g. *linter, navis, ratis, alveus, arbor cavata.*]

1. A flat-bottomed shallow boat, broad and square at both ends; formerly used widely as a name for a raft, dug-out, river ferry-boat, float, lighter, etc.; also = PONTOON 2; now *spec.*, a boat of this kind propelled by means of a long pole thrust against the bottom of the river, or shallow water (see quot. 1892).

c 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 166/2 *Pontonium*, punt. *c* 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Voc.* ibid. 181/31 *Pontonium*, flyte. *Caudex*, punt...*Trabaria*, anbyme scip. *a* 1100 *Voc.* ibid. 287/33 *Pontonium*, flyte. *Trabaria*, i. *caudex*, punt, *i. pontonium.*

1500, 1552 [in *pontebots*, etc.: see 3]. 1568 WITHALS *Dict.* 10 a/2 *Lintres sunt nauiculæ fluuiales, ex arbore cauata factæ*, as puntes or troughes be. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVI. ix. 589 Much ado he [Fulvius] had, for the great scarcitie of timber & wood, to make punts [*rates*] and boats for to set over his armie. 1603 — *Plutarch's Mor.* 1294 She searched for them in a bote or punt made of papyr reed [ἐν βάρδι πανρίνῃ]. 1615 J. R. *Trade's Incr.* in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 308 Fishing, which now we use in crayers and punts. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 40 The Emperour (who yet had never greater vessell than a Punt or Yaugh upon the Danuby). 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 322 One large float with sides to it, like a punt or ferry-boat. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789) F iv b, Punts are a sort of oblong flat-bottomed boats ..used by shipwrights and caulkers. 1789 PORTLOCK *Voy.* xi. 228 The carpenter, assisted by the cooper and three other hands, began to build a punt of twelve feet long, six feet wide, and about three feet deep. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* I. 14 Lighters, Barges, and Punts employed in the trade of the river Thames. 1817 J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 156 Procuring a boat, usually called a punt, and fixing it at some little distance from the shore, they fling their lines and quietly seize the finny prey. 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-roads* 28 The ships, so called, of Philippe de Valois' fleet were little else than punts of very great length, carrying one mast and a sail, but about fifteen hundred men. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxi, A man cutting sedges in a punt in the lode. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xx. 289 It was a fine day, and we resolved to go out in a punt. 1892 *Row. Alm.* 206 (Rules for Punting, Thames Punting Club) A punt is a flat-bottomed craft without stem, keel, or stern-post, and the width at each end must be at least one-half of the width at the widest part.

†**2.** An ingot, shaped with two square ends like a punt. *Obs.*

1895 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 2/1 'Punts' [of silver]..weighing upwards of 4629 ounces, and of the value of about £700.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: as *punt-boat, -builder*; **punt-fisher,** one who fishes from a punt; so **punt-fishing**; **punt-gun,** a gun used for shooting water-fowl from a punt; so **punt-gunner, punt-gunning**; **punt-pole,** the long pole used in propelling a punt; **punt-shooter, -shooting** = *punt-gunner, -gunning*; **punt-stick** (*U. S.*) = *punt-pole*; **punt-well,** a well in a fishing-punt in which to deposit fish.

1500 *Maldon Crt.-rolls* (Bundle 59, No. 3), De Roberto Jacobbe pro custum. 11 *pontebots et pro bigis xiid. 1552 (Dec. 4) *Admir. Court, Libels*, Bundle 21, No. 64 (Valuation at Lowestoft) Finding there ffowr punte boots and a cocke bote..did..vallew the sayed puncte boote[s] and cocke bote at twelve pounds tenn shillings. 1849 J. FORBES *Phys. Holiday.* i. (1850) 3 He sins..worse than the *punt-fisher. 1816 COL. HAWKER *Instr. Sportsmen* (1824) 354 The barrel of a *punt-gun..should..be about seventy or eighty pounds weight. 1886 WALSINGHAM & GALLWEY *Shooting* (Badminton) II. 276 Double-barrelled Punt Gun: Bore 1¾ in.; weight, 200 lbs.; length 9 ft. 6 in. 1892 C. R. B. BARRETT *Essex* 29 The punt-gun was hoisted out from the little cabin. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 2754 Colonel Hawker was the first *punt gunner in Great Britain. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 2/2 A man needs to be uncommonly strong and hardy to pursue *punt-gunning without endangering his health. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xx. (1894) 165 Unable to reach the bottom with the spear she had used as a *punt-pole in the shallower water. 1897 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 5/1 *Punt sailing is becoming quite a popular pastime on the Upper Thames, so much so that a Thames Punt Sailing Club has been started. 1900 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Jan. 8/3 These *punt-shooters are not as a rule naturalists...Their object is to kill wild fowl for the market. 1816 COL. HAWKER *Instr. Sportsmen* (1824) 367 Those, who fancy *punt-shooting such a dangerous amusement. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* § 2754 (*heading*) Hampshire Coast Punt Shooting. 1905 W. E. GEIL *Yankee in Pigmy Land* xiii. 194 The crossing of the swift Semleki in native dugouts propelled by *punt sticks. 1901 *Pall Mall G.* 7 May 10/1 Anglers attribute the absence of trout in their baskets and *punt-wells to the cold winds.

Punt (pʊnt), *sb.*2 [ad. F. *ponte* (in both senses), 1718 in *Dict. Acad.*, or Sp. *punto* point.

The connexion of the two senses is obscure and disputed. Littré treats them as the same word, and refers both to Sp. *punto*. But Hatz.-Darm. treats the two senses as distinct words, taking *ponte* 'point' as ad. Sp. *punto*, but *ponte* 'the player against the bank' as a deriv. of *ponter*, PUNT *v.*1, app. unconnected with *punto*, and of unknown origin. English writers have in general identified them.]

1. = PUNTER 1 1.

1704 D'URFEY *Hell beyond Hell* 94 Th' Assembly meets, and on the board, Scatters, like Jove, the dazling hoard; Salutes the Punts with Bows and Dops. [1794 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 44 Each ponte is furnished with a livret or book, containing a suit of thirteen cards.] 1850 [see sense 2].

2. In the game of faro: A point.

1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 338 Terms used at Faro. *Ponte* or *Punt*, a Point. The punter or player.

Punt, *sb.*3 [Goes with PUNT *v.*3] An act of punting.

1. *Football* (Rugby). A kick given to the ball dropped from the hands, before it reaches the ground. (Cf. DROP-KICK, PLACE-KICK.)

1845 *Rules Footb. Rugby School* § 7 Kick out must not be from more than..twenty-five yards [out of goal] if a punt, drop, or knock on. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v. 109 The mysteries of 'off your side', 'drop kicks', 'punts', 'places', and the other intricacies of the great science of foot-ball. 1881 *Laws Rugby Union* § 28 A Fair Catch is a catch made direct from a kick or a throw forward, or a knock on by one of the opposite side, or from a punt out or a punt on.

2. *transf.* An upward jerk. *rare.*

1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* iv. 85 A grunt and squeal of the windlass; a yaw, a punt, and a kick, and the *We're Here* gathered herself together to repeat the motions.

Punt, *sb.*4 *Glass-making.* = PUNTY 1, PONTIL.

1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 171 At this stage another implement, called a punt or pontil is brought into use. This is a solid iron rod of a cylindrical form smaller and lighter than the tube used for blowing.

Punt, *sb.*5 [cf. PUNTY 2.] The hollow at the bottom of a wine-bottle: = KICK *sb.*2 1.

1863 T. G. SHAW *Wine, Vine, & Cellar* xxiii. 363 To label each bottle..in large letters,..on a piece of paper..gummed into the punt or hollow part of the bottom of the bottle.

Punt (pʊnt), *v.*1 [ad. F. *ponter*, in same sense (in *Dict. Acad.* 1718); according to Hatz.-Darm., of unknown origin. Cf. PUNT *sb.*2] *intr.* At certain card-games, as basset, faro, and baccarat: To lay a stake against the bank.

1706 [implied in PUNTER 1]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 323 P 12 From Eleven at Night to Eight in the Morning Dream'd that I punted to Mr. Froth. 1715 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Basset-table* 68 Wretch that I was! how often have I swore, When Winnall tallied, I would punt no more. 1738–9 *Act* 12 *Geo. II*, c. 28 § 3 Every person..who shall ..play, set at, stake, or punt at..ace of hearts, pharaoh, basset, and hazard. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 360 Punting for half crowns at a neighbouring hall. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* II. xi, I shall punt low, and never lose more than a guinea a night.

b. *slang* and *colloq.* To bet upon a horse, etc.

1873 [implied in PUNTER 1 2]. 1887 *Pall Mall G.* 13 Sept. 2/1 Resolving to punt, I selected a horse which was given as the favourite. 1898 *Re eree* 4 Sept. 11/4 (Farmer) While Paul is punting with the outside book-makers.

Hence **Pu·nting** *vbl. sb.*1

1797 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 332 The information charged her with unlawfully playing, staking and punting at the game of Faro. 1855 THACKERAY *Newcomes* x, What must have been the venerable Queen Charlotte's mind when she heard ..of his punting at gaming-tables?

Punt, *v.*[2] [f. PUNT *sb.*[1]]

1. *trans.* To propel (a punt or other boat) by thrusting a pole against the bottom of the river, etc.; to propel or shove off, in the manner of a punt. Formerly called *poling*: see POLE *v.* 6.

1816 SIR H. DOUGLAS *Milit. Bridges* 45 The pontoons are rowed or punted to their respective stations. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* II. 116 She [*sc.* a raft] got aground, and had to be punted off with poles. 1885 *Athenæum* 16 May 637/1 A young lady standing in a boat, which she punts from bank to bank.

b. *intr.* or *absol.* To propel a punt, or any boat in the manner of a punt; = POLE *v.* 6 b.

1846 LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. II. 274 Will Shakespeare and another were sitting in the middle, the third punted. 1847 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 275, I .. punted up to a single goose..and killed him. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* iv. 100 Others are punting over the small intersecting streams.

2. *trans.* To convey in a punt, or by punting.

1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. ix, They had just been punted over the river. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* viii. 334 Two Makubas punted me several miles up the river.

Hence **Pu·nting** *vbl. sb.*[2]; also *attrib.*

1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* xxi. 418 They preferred punting to paddling. 1870 *Daily News* 10 Oct., 50 years ago, when it was not the fashion to regard..the Nile as a punting and canoeing stream. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* xx. 290 The punter, very nearly got upset, holding on stoutly to his punting-pole when it stuck in the mud. 1888 *Rowing Almanack* 189 Rules and Regulations for Punting, by the Thames Punting Club.

Punt, *v.*[3] [Goes with PUNT *sb.*[3] History obscure: prob. in origin a dialect word.

In Northamptonsh., *punt* appears as a variant or modification of *bunt*, a word widely used in midland and southern dialects, from Cheshire to Kent, and Devon to E. Anglia, in the sense 'to push, butt, strike with the head, horns, or feet, to bump, raise, lift up'. Miss Baker's *Gloss. Northamptonsh. Words*, 1854, has *bunt* 'to kick or strike with the feet', *punt* 'to push with force, to raise by a push; to push with the head as a calf does a cow'. These words appear to be nasalized variations of BUTT and PUT (in its original sense), prob. of onomatopœic origin or modification.]

1. *Football* (Rugby). *trans.* To kick (the ball), after dropping it from the hands, before it reaches the ground. Also *absol.*

1845 *Rules Footb. Rugby School* § 5 *Try at goal*...The ball when punted must be within, when caught without, the line of goal. 1885 *Daily News* 19 Feb. 2/8 Bowen secured [the ball] and punted it into touch in the home twenty-five. 1889 *Pauline* VIII. 36 From the scrummage..Houseman obtained the ball and..passed to Turner, who punted into touch.

b. To get (a goal) by punting: see PUNTED *ppl. a.*[2]

2. To strike, hit, knock. *rare.*

1886 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 52 To see a stout Flamand of fifty or thereabouts solemnly punting, by the aid of a small tambourine, a minute india-rubber ball, to another burgher of similar aspect, which is the favourite way in which all ages and sexes take exercise on the *digue*. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky* 174 M'Turk's knee in the small of his back cannoned him into Stalky, who punted bim back.

Hence **Pu·nting** *vbl. sb.*[3]

1893 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 2/6 Cambridge..got further towards the Oxford line by the aid of Neilson's punting. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 250/1 This 'punting into touch' is a very favorite means of gaining ground.

Pu·nt-about. *Football.* [f. PUNT *v.*[3] + ABOUT *adv.*] The kicking of a ball about for practice at odd times; also, a football used for this.

1845 *Rugby Misc.* 178 The impatience with which place-kicking is..regarded at punt-about. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v, 'Hurrah! here's the punt-about,—come along and try your hand at a kick'. The punt-about is the practice ball, which is just brought out and kicked about anyhow from one boy to another.

‖ **Punta'l.** *Obs.* Also 6 (*anglicized*) **Pointall.** [a. Sp. *puntal*, f. *punto* point.] Properly, the name of a block-house on a point of sand at the entrance into the harbour of Cadiz; extended to a similar defensive work elsewhere; in Eng. usually plural, and treated as a common noun.

1587 *Spanish War* 1585–7 (Navy Records Soc. XI. 163) The White Lion being commanded..to ride as near to Puntales [*MS.* Pointall] as might be. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3845/2 There were in Cadiz Bay 3 or 4 French Men of War.., who retired above the Puntals before the Entrance. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 197 To ride without the town of Callao, out of the command of the puntals or castles there. 1745 TINDAL *Contin. Rapin* III. xxvi. 569/1 The French men of war, and the gallies, that lay in the bay [of Cadiz], retired within the puntals.

Punted (pʊ·ntĕd), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. PUNT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[2] + -ED.] **a.** Frequented by punts. **b.** Propelled as, or conveyed in, a punt.

1847 ALB. SMITH in *Illustr. Lond. News* 12 June 374 Upon the punted Thames a fisher wight Is watching where his float is idly dangling. 1887 J. ASHBY STERRY *Lazy Minstrel* (1892) 23 And as the white sail passed along, A punted Poet sang this song!

Punted, *ppl. a.*[2] *Football.* [f. PUNT *v.*[3] + -ED[1].] Obtained by punting: see PUNT *v.*[3] 1 b.

1864 *Field* 3 Dec. 386/3 The School claimed a 'punted' goal, which, by the rules of High House is not allowed to count.

Puntee, variant of PUNTY 1.

Puntel, var. PONTIL [cf. Sp. *puntel*].

1864 in WEBSTER s.v. *Pontee.*

Punter[1] (pʊ·ntəɹ). [f. PUNT *v.*[1] + -ER[1].]

1. A player who 'punts' or plays against the bank at certain card-games: see PUNT *v.*[1]

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Punter*, a Term us'd at the Game of Cards call'd *Basset*. 1781 G. SELWYN *Diary* 22 June, I.. called in at Brooks's...Hare in the chair: the General chief Punter, who lost a 1000. 1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* (Faro) 335 The banker turns up the cards...The punter may at his option set any number of stakes..upon one or more cards chosen out of his livret [a suit of 13 cards, with four others called *Figures*]. 1891 HOFFMANN *Baccarat* 13 The player on his [the croupier's] right, who for the time being is dealer, or 'banker'. The other players are punters.

2. *transf.* A small professional backer of horses; also, a gambler in stocks and shares.

1873 in *Slang Dict.* 1884 *Graphic* 15 Nov. 507/2 Many 'punters' anxious to retrieve past losses. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Feb. 6/1 The punter, having no longer the company's daily traffic returns..to play with. 1903 M'NEILL *Egregious English* 185 Round it there has grown up a specious and parasitical finance which is rapidly transforming the English into a nation of punters.

Pu·nter[2]. [f. PUNT *v.*[2] + -ER[1].] In earlier use, one who goes fishing or shooting in a punt; often = *punt-gunner*; later, one who punts or manages a punt.

1814 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 91 All over Poole harbour..according to report of punters..the same..scarcity prevailed. 1886 WALSINGHAM & GALLWEY *Shooting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 243 The wildfowl shooter who uses a punt and swivel-gun is known as a 'punter' or 'puntsman'. 1906 *Daily News* 16 Sept. 6 Pangbourne, the sylvan haunt of the Thames angler, the summer retreat of the Saturday-to-Monday punter.

Puntiglio, -ilio, etc., obs. ff. PUNCTILIO.

Puntil, variant (in Dicts.) of PONTIL.

†**Puntilion.** *Glass-making. Obs. rare*[−1]. [ad. obs. It. *pontiglio, punteglio*: cf. PUNCTILIO.] = PONTIL, PUNTY 1.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 42 Small..bubbles of glass..being crack'd off from the Puntilion whilst very hot.

Punting, *vbl. sb.*: see PUNT *v.*[1, 2, 3].

Puntion, obs. form of PUNCHEON[2].

Puntist (pʊ·ntist). [f. PUNT *sb.*[1] + -IST.] One who practises punting; = PUNTER[2].

1894 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 6/4 Our leading amateur lady puntist. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 9 July 7/6 The ever-increasing number of puntists to be seen afloat..on the Thames.

Puntman (pʊ·ntmæn). Pl. **-men.** [f. PUNT *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]] = PUNTSMAN, PUNTER[2].

1863 in C. W. Hatfield *Hist. Notices Doncaster* (1866) I. 94 A puntman..stalking to a flock of wild-ducks in the twilight. 1894 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 5/2 In the early part of the eighteenth century a puntman named John Reeves, at Essex Stairs, near the Temple, gained a good living by taking anglers out in his boat.

Punto[1] (pʊ·ntō). Also 6–8 (in senses 1–3) **puncto.** [a. It. or Sp. *punto*:—L. PUNCTUM.]

†**1.** A small point or detail; an atom, particle, jot; a moment, instant. (In first quot. with play on sense 3). *Obs.*

1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* IV. vii, It must be done like lightning...'Tis nothing, and 't be not done in a—*punto*! 1623 ABP. WILLIAMS *Let. to Buckhm.* in Hacket *Life* (1692) I. 150 This..is expected to the utmost *punto*. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 82 He will no more surpass one Puncto of Time.

†**2.** A small point of behaviour: = PUNCTILIO 5.

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 69 Amongst souldiers that stand much upon their Punctos. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 3 Where that [reputacion] is not, it must be supplied by Puntos and Complementes. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* V. xiv, The Neapolitane Gentry, who stand so on the puntoes of their honour, that they preferre robbery before industry. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 119 Every body..begged I would not put a meer puncto to orders in the balance against such a prospect. 1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xv. I. 249 Establishing a punto, founded in diametrical opposition to common sense and humanity.

b. Phr. *In punto* = in point (POINT *sb.*[1] D 4 a).

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* IV. iv, And do they weare Cioppino's all? *Wit.* If they be drest in *punto*, Madame.

†**3.** *Fencing.* A stroke or thrust with the point of the sword or foil. *Punto dritto*, a direct thrust. *Punto riverso*, a back-handed thrust; also adverbially = in the position for such a thrust. *Obs.*

[1595 SAVIOLO *Practise* I. K ij, Your dagger commaunding his Rapier, you maie giue him a *punta*, either *dritta*, or *riversa*.] 1596 LODGE *Incarn. Diuels* Wks. (Hunter. Soc.) IV. 23 His hat without a band, his hose vngartered, his Rapier *punto r'enwerso*. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. iii. 26. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man. in Hum.* IV. vii, I would teach these nineteene, the speciall rules, as your *Punto*, your *Reuerso*, your *Stoccata*..till they could all play very neare, or altogether as well as my selfe. 1620 *Swetnam Arraign'd* I. ii, My rapier, swash...Ile put you to the Puncto presently. 1624 FORD *Sun's Darling* II. i, I'll drill you how to give the lie, and stab in the punto.

†**4.** A pricking pain: = PUNCTION b. *Obs.*

1617 COCKS *Diary* 8 Feb. (Hakl. Soc.) 235 Mr. Totton fell into an extreme payne of puntos (or stitches).

5. *Glass-making.* = PONTIL, PUNTY 1.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 582 (*Glass-making*) Another workman now applies the end of a solid iron rod tipped with melted glass, called a *punto*, to the nipple or prominence..and thus attaches it to the centre of the globe. *Ibid.*, An assistant nips it off from the *punto* with a pair of long iron shears, or cracks it off with a touch of cold iron.

†**6.** attrib. *Punto beard*, a pointed beard. *Obs.*

1659 SHIRLEY *Hon. & Mammon* I. ii, I can looke upon your buffe And punto beard.

Punto[2] (pu·ntō). *Cards.* Also **ponto** (pɒ·ntō). [a. Sp. *punto* point.] (See quots.)

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Ombre*, If either of the red Suits be Trump, the Ace of that Suit, call'd *Punto*, [is] the fourth [trump]. 1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 616 *Punto* is the Spanish Ace [in Quadrille]. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 120 Fourth, if the trump suit be red, comes the ace of the trump suit, called *Ponto*; if black there is no Ponto. 1878 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 13 In Diamonds and Hearts, when trumps, the Ace takes rank before the King. It is called Punto (pronounced Poon'to) in Spanish and English. Quadrille players sometimes call it, corruptly, Ponto.

Puntsman (pʊ·ntsmăn). Pl. **-men.** [f. *punt's*, gen. of PUNT *sb.*[1] + MAN *sb.*[1]; cf. *batsman*, etc.] = PUNTER[2].

1881 GREENER *Gun* 531 It being the desire of puntsmen to pot as many birds as possible by one shot. 1882 JEFFERIES *Bevis* II. 30 The puntsman being too idle to bale till compelled, the space between the real and the false bottom was full of water. 1886 [see PUNTER[2]]. 1904 LD. ROSEBERY *Sp. at Glasgow* 5 Dec., In the history of every puntsman there comes a critical moment..when he has to make a decisive choice whether he will go overboard with the pole, or whether he will remain in the punt without the pole.

Punty, ponty (pʊ·ntĭ). *Glass-making.* Forms: 7 ponte, 7–9 **-ee**, 9 **punty, -ee, ponty.** [app. ad. F. *pontil*: see PONTIL.]

1. An iron rod used in glass-blowing: see quots. Called also PUNT, PUNTO, POINTEL, PONTIL.

1662 MERRETT in App. to tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 364 *Ponte* is the Iron to stick the Glass at the bottom for the more convenient fashioning the neck of it. *Ibid.* 365 *Tower* is the Iron on which they rest their Pontee when they scald the Glass. 1843 G. DODD *Days at Factories* 269 The whole was transferred from the tube to a rod called the 'punty'. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 483 A long iron rod called a ponty. 1876 BARFF *Glass & Silicates* 90 The workman sits during this operation in a seat with arms, laying the pontee on them. 1883 H. J. POWELL *Glass-Making* x. 56 The working rod or 'puntee'..is used for holding a vessel during the later stages of manipulation, by means of a seal of glass. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 133 A lad standing ready with an iron-holder, called a 'punty', slips it on to the end of the bottle...Held by the punty the bottle is taken to the leader of the party.

2. A round hollow made on a glass object to remove the mark made in breaking it off the punty-rod; hence, a small circular or oval hollow made as an ornamentation on glass.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Supp. s.v., A glass decanter.. is said to be cut in punties when the ornamentation consists of dots or cup-like depressions, usually circular but sometimes oval.

3. *Comb.*, as *punty-mark*; **punty-iron, -rod,** †**punty-stake,** see quots.; **punty-sticker,** a workman who sticks a quantity of melted glass on the punty.

1662 MERRETT in App. to tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 364 *Pontee stake* is the Iron whereon the Servitors place the Irons from the Masters when they have knock'd off the broken pieces of Glass. 1839 URE *Dict Arts* 582 The workman having..taken possession of the globe by its bottom or knobbed pole attached to his punty rod,..carries it to another circular opening, where he exposes it to the action of moderate flame. 1849 PELLATT *Glass Making* 101 Another workman then gathers upon a ponty-iron a small piece of Glass. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Ponty-sticker.* 1909 JULIAN A. OSLER in *Let.* 3 Mar., To finish the glass neatly, a round hollow is made—not primarily as an ornament, but to remove the punty-mark.

Puntyvally, obs. (Sc.) f. PUNCTUALLY (sense 2).

Puny (piū·ni), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 **puney,** 6–7 **punie, punye,** 7 **punay, punee.** [Phonetic spelling of PUISNE, q.v.]

A. *adj.* †**1.** Junior; inferior in rank, subordinate: = PUISNE *a.* 1, 1 b. *Obs.*

a 1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 64 The officer before whom the Clerke is to take the essoyne, is the puny Justice in the common pleas. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 296 Appealing..from the lower house of punys Burgesses to the higher house of auncient Barons. 170. in CELIA FIENNES *Diary* 278 The Lord High Steward askes ye Lords one by one beginning with the puny Lord, so to the highest. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* Wks. 1755 IV. I. 191 Put on the critick's brow, and sit At Wills' the puny judge of wit.

†**2.** Later, recent: = PUISNE *a.* 2. *Obs.*

1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Mr. Cozens* 29 Composed by some vaine and illiterate Monkes of punie times. 1648 — *Plea for Lords* 373 No precedents of puny date within time of memory. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt.* II. Pref. A 2 b, Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of Parliament..were not knowne nor heard of till punier times than these.

†**3.** Raw, inexperienced; that is a novice or tyro.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 36 How the yong whelpe of Talbots raging wood, Did flesh his punie-sword in Frenchmens blood. 1602 HERRING tr. *Oberndoerffer's Anat.* A iij b, No Commander will prefer the punee and fresh-water Souldier before the auncient and well-disciplined Warriour. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* i. 21 These terrors may disturb some small pretenders and puny novices. 1712 W. ROGERS *Voy.* (1718) 244 Neither do I think it half so bad as these puny marriners tell us.

4. Of inferior size, force, or importance; minor; petty, weak, feeble; small, diminutive, tiny.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 86 Arme, arme my Name: a punie subiect strikes At thy great glory. 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. iv. 74 And twentie of these punie lies Ile tell, That men shall sweare I haue discontinued schoole Aboue a twelue moneth. 1692 E. WALKER *Epictetus' Enchir.* viii, The puny loss shall not disturb your mind. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1739 (1831) I. 113 Some puny scribbler invidiously attempted to found upon it a charge of inconsistency. 1838 EMERSON *Addr., Lit. Ethics* Wks. (Bohn) II. 208 The great

idea, and the puny execution. 1898 G. W. Steevens *With Kitchener to Khartum* 139 The River was punier than ever and the belt of bush thin.

b. esp. of human beings and animals: Of small growth and feeble vitality; undersized and weakly.

1604 Shaks. *Oth.* v. ii. 244 Euery Punie whipster gets my Sword. 1647 Trapp *Comm. 1 Tim.* v. 1 Lash him not with the scourge of the tongue, as a puny-boy. 1664 Power *Exp. Philos.* 28 Muffet calls this Insect *Locustellum* or a puny-Locust. 1693 C. Mather *Wond. Invis. World* (1862) 125 He was a very Puny Man, yet he had often done things beyond the strength of a Giant. 1742 Young *Nt. Th.* IX. 2203 Each flow'r, each leaf, with its small people swarm'd, (Those puny vouchers of Omnipotence!). 1875 Jowett *Plato, Rep.* Introd. (ed. 2) III. 39 They..did not wish to preserve useless lives, or raise up a puny offspring.

†**B.** *sb. Obs.*

1. One younger or more recent than another or others; a junior.

1565 Jewel *Def. Apol.* (1611) 94 Therefore S. Augustine saith, Deus docuit Petrum per posteriorem Paulum...Thus God instructed Peter by Paul his punie, that was called after him. 1603 Florio *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 324 The eldest..child shall succeed and inherit all; where nothing is reserved for Punies, but obedience. 1628 Jackson *Creed* IX. xviii. § 3 Much less did the ancient poets..borrow their fancies..from the Jewish rabbins, who were their punies.

2. A junior or recently admitted pupil or student in a school or university, or in the Inns of Court; a freshman. Also *fig.* or *allusively* (leading to sense 3).

1548 Patten *Exped. Scotl.* L vj Like yᵉ play in Robin Cooks skole, whear bicaus the punies may lerne thei strike fewe strokes, but by assent & appointement. 1590 J. Stockwood *Accidence* A j b, The Booke to the Punies and Petits of the Grammar Schoole. 1607 *Christmas Prince* (1816) 1 They whome they call Fresh-menn, Punies of the first yeare. 1673 *Lady's Call.* I. i. § 19 As if vice now disdain'd to have any punies in its school.

3. A raw or inexperienced person; a novice, tyro.

1589 Nashe in Greene *Menaphon* Pref. (Arb.) 8 The idle vsage of our vnexperienst and illiterated punies. 1607 Tourneur *Rev. Trag.* I. iii, I see thou'rt but a puny in the subtill Mistery of a woman. 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. iv. § 23. 204 Punies in Logick, know that universall affirmatives are not simply converted. 1688 H. Wharton *Enthus. Ch. Rome* 55 He was no puny in this Art.

4. An inferior, a subordinate; a person of small account.

1579 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 61 [To reap] displeasure of my worshipfullist dearist frendes...Contempte and disdayne of my punyes and underlings. 1626 C. More *Sir T. More* 2, I..who know my selfe a verie puney in comparison of so manie famous men. 1658 Osborne *Jas. I*, 23 The Swis, though owners of brave actions, are yet so farre their Punies in the learning of trade. 1711 *Countrey-Man's Let. to Curat* 4 Sacheverell Himself is but a puny for an oculist in comparison of him.

b. A junior judge; = Puisne *sb.* 2.

1608 A. Willet *Hexapla in Exod.* 526 That the punies and inferiour Iudges should deliuer their opinion first.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) †**Pu·ny** *v. trans.*, to make puny or insignificant, to dwarf; **Pu·nyish** *a.*, somewhat puny; **Pu·nyism**, puny character.

1649 Cleveland *Epitaph* ii, To puny the Records of time By one grand Gygantick Crime. 1832 Wilson in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 865 Feeblish faces that must frown, punyish figures that must strut. 1791 Paine *Rights of Man* (ed. 4) 70 The punyism of a senseless word like Duke, or Count, or Earl, has ceased to please.

Puny, obs. form of Punaise, bed-bug.

Punyard, obs. form of Poniard.

†**Pu·nye, punze,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* Also 4 poiné, punay. [a. F. *poignée*, in OF. also *puinnie, pugnie, puignie, -nee, puygnye*, etc. handful: = Pr. *ponhada*:—L. type **pugnāta*, f. L. *pugnus*, F. *poing* fist: see Poigne and -ade.] A handful of men (soldiers).

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3241 Þe kinges..seyd, gret schame hem was bifalle, Þat Arthour wiþ a litel punay Hadde ydriuen hem oway. *Ibid.* 5905 Michel wonder had Leodegan, Þat swiche a litel poine of man So fele in so litel þrawe So manliche had yslawe. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. viii. 129 Thai mycht on fors dissevyr that punze, Quhilk thaime assaiȝeit thekyt with pavys hie.

Punye, punze, -zie (pi·nʸe), *v. Sc.* [ad. F. *poign-*, pres. stem of *poindre* to pierce: see Poin *v.*, Punge, and for the form cf. Sc. *cunze, cunzie*, Coin.] *trans.* To prick, pierce; to spur.

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* v. 606 The prent off luff him punȝeit at the last. *Ibid.* VII. 1198 The punȝeand hed the plattis persyt rycht. 1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 164 His steed he punzied wi' his heel.

Hence **Pu·nzie** *sb. Sc.*, a prick, a stab.

1819 W. Tennant *Papistry Storm'd* 175 Strange! that ae punzie on the back Should sooner bring that carl to wrack.

Punze, Sc. var. Poygné *Obs.*, fight, skirmish.

Punzet, var. Poignet *Obs.*, a bracelet.

Punyness, variant of Puniness.

†**Pu·nyship.** *Obs.* Also 6 punie-, 6–7 puni-. [f. Puny + -ship.] The position, status, or character of a 'puny'; juniority; inferiority. Also with possessive as a mock title.

1581 Mulcaster *Positions* v. (1887) 32 Reading..must needes acknowledge and confesse her puniship to writing. 1599 Nashe *Lenten Stuffe* 51 In the puniership or nonage of Cerdicke Sandes, when the best houses and walles there were of mudde. 1624 Bp. Mountagu *Gagg* 18 Shall wee believe your Puniship or them? 1680 Hickeringill *Refl. Late Libel on Curse-ye-Meroz* 5 Undermining other mens good name, lest they should shine to eclipse and benight their twinckling Puny-ships.

Puoy, variant of Poy *sb.*¹ and 2.

Puozzolana, variant of Pozzolana.

Pup (pʊp), *sb.*¹ Also 8 pupp. [Shortened form of Puppy *sb.* Cf. Pup *v.*¹

(Hence, *pup, puppy* are not parallel to *babe, baby, Tom, Tommy*, in which the form in *-y* is later and diminutive.)]

1. A young dog, a whelp, a young puppy. *In pup, with pup*: (of a bitch) pregnant.

1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 219 A Pupp with two mouths and one head. 1820 J. H. Reynolds *Fancy* (1906) 35 Farewell to bull, and stake, and pup. 1840 R. H. Dana *Bef. Mast* xxii. 66 A fine, promising pup, with four white paws. 1854 E. Mayhew *Dogs* (1862) 195 To discover whether a bitch is in pup. 1873 E. A. Freeman *Let.* 21 Dec. in Stephens *Life* (1895) II. vii. 78 We have also a big Newfoundland pup growing up.

2. *fig.* Applied contemptuously to a person.

In quot. app. with some allusion to Liripoop 2 (see also Lurry and Poop *sb.*²).

1589 R. Harvey *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 16 Why haue you not taught some of those Puppes their lerrie?

3. Applied to the young of the fur seal.

1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Pup,*..a young seal. 1886 F. H. H. Guillemard *Cruise Marchesa* I. 196 The lamb-like bleat of a pup is audible above the rest. 1895 *Outing* (U. S.) XXVII. 23/2 An inexperienced hunter..started out to kill his first seal and in some way managed to steal a hood pup, without alarming its parents.

4. (See quot.)

1904 Eliz. Robins *Magn. North* xvi. 285 'That's the pup where my claim is'. 'The what?' 'Little creek; call 'em pups here [on the Yukon in Alaska]'. *Ibid.* xvii. 297 Above the pup, on the right, there's a bed of gravel.

5. Phrase. *To sell* (any one) *a pup*, to swindle by selling something on its prospective value.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 May 5/2 There is a poetical phrase in our language, 'to sell a man a pup'. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Nov. 6/2 The consensus of military opinion is..that Colonel Swayne's disaster was due to the native levies 'selling him a pup'.

6. *Comb.*, as *pup-breeder.*

1905 Theodora Wilson (*title*) Our Joshua,..Octogenarian, Celebrity, and Pup-Breeder, According to me, his Wife.

Pup, *sb.*² *College slang.* Abbreviation of Pupil, humorously associated with Pup *sb.*¹ Cf. Cub *sb.*¹ 3.

1871 'M. Legrand' *Cambr. Freshm.* 343 He rushed off exultant to his Coach, whom he discovered surrounded by 'pups'.

Pup, *v.*¹ [Shortened f. Puppy *v.*] *trans.* and *intr.* To bring forth pups, to litter. Hence **Pu·pping** *vbl. sb.*, also *attrib.*

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Dog*, If they are all over white; that is, pupp'd without any Spot upon them. 1787 Hunter in *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 260 She pupped on the 24th of February 1787, and had six puppies. 1845 Youatt *Dog* xiii, The pupping usually takes place from the sixty-second to the sixty-fourth day. 1877 F. Whymper *Sea* I. ii. 40 The seals were landing in the coast, it being the pupping season.

Pup (pʊp), *int.* and *v.*² [Cf. *pup pup* in med.L., 8–9th c. (Du Cange).] Imitation of an inarticulate sound made with the lips; in quot. 1560 as a verb: = Pooh, Pooh-pooh.

1560 Neville *Let. to Throgmorton* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* (1863) VII. iv. 294 The queen would pup with her lips: she would not marry a subject. 1599 Massinger, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, *Eugenia.* 'Slight! an you laugh too loud, we are all discovered. *Simonides.* Nay, an I should be hanged, I cannot leave it. Pup! there 'tis. (Bursts into a laugh.)

Pup, obs. f. Poop *sb.*¹; dial. f. Poop *v.*¹

‖**Pupa** (piū·pă). Pl. **-æ.** [mod.L. (Linnæus *Syst. Nat.* 1758 I, 340), a use of L. *pūpa* girl, doll. Cf. Ger., Da. *puppe*, Sw. *puppa*, Du. †*poppe, pop, popje*, doll, nymph, chrysalis, = Romanic *puppa* doll.]

1. An insect in the third and usually quiescent state (of complete metamorphosis), preceding that of the imago or perfect insect; a chrysalis.

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. I. 67 The states through which insects pass are four: the egg; the larva; the pupa; and the imago. 1849 H. Miller *Footpr. Creat.* viii. 154 A mummy, in their apprehension, was simply a human pupa, waiting the period of its enlargement. 1868 Duncan tr. *Figuier's Insect World* i. 32 In another fortnight these pupæ become perfect insects.

b. A stage in the development of some other invertebrates, as cirripeds, holothurians.

1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 298 Other important alterations take place, during the passage of the locomotive pupa into the fixed young Cirripede. 1900 E. R. Lankester *Treat. Zool.* iii. 5 When the Auricularia assumes a barrel shape, before changing into a Holothurian..the mouth has again passed up to the anterior pole, and the anus down to the posterior. This form is called the Pupa.

2. *Conch.* Name of a genus of pulmonate molluscs: a chrysalis-shell.

3. *attrib.* (See also Pupa-case.)

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. I. 68 Linné has called it the *pupa* state, and an insect when under this form a *pupa.* 1851 Carpenter *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 527 This is particularly the case in the Pupa state. 1862 *All Year Round* 13 Sept. 8 It assumes the pupa form, and is enclosed in a hard case, remaining motionless and to all appearance inanimate.

Hence **Pu·padom, Pu·pahood** (*nonce-wds.*), the condition of a pupa.

1893 E. A. Butler *Househ. Insects* 39 The grub..passes very rapidly through the resting-stage of pupadom. *Ibid.* 169 It would..be just as devoid of influence as if it had died in pupahood.

Pu·pa-case. [f. prec. + Case *sb.*² 2 b.] The horny case or sheath of a pupa or chrysalis.

1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* III. xxxi. 241 The wings..remain attached to the puparium or pupa-case. 1841 T. R. Jones *Anim. Kingd.* xv. 300 The imprisoned dragon-fly splits its pupa-case along the back. 1895 Miall *Aquatic Insects* 176 The pupa-cases are fixed to the rocks in clusters, which resemble small wasps' nests.

Pupal (piū·păl), *a.* [f. Pupa + -al.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a pupa; nymphal.

1866 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* xiii. (ed. 4) 530 The caterpillar or maggot, and cocoon or pupal stages. 1877 Huxley *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vii. 449 A quiescent pupal condition is interposed between the active larval and the active imaginal states. 1907 *Athenæum* 22 June 764/2 For seventeen years the pupæ of this species [of locust] remain underneath the ground...This long subterranean vigil is not necessarily one of usual pupal inaction.

Puparial (piupē·riăl), *a.* [f. next + -al.] Of or pertaining to a puparium.

1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 665 The duration of the puparial stage is from a fortnight to three weeks.

‖**Puparium** (piupē·riŭm). [mod.L., f. Pupa + -arium, after *herbarium, vivarium*, etc.] The coarctate pupa of some Diptera and other insects, the case of which is formed by the last larval skin.

1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* iii. I. 71 The envelope of cased-nymphs, which is formed of the skin of the larva.. may be conveniently called the puparium. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 665 The puparium is a dark brown or black, cylindrical segmented body.

Pupate (piū·pe·ĭt), *v.* [f. Pupa + -ate³ 1.] *intr.* To become a pupa or chrysalis.

1879 in Webster Suppl. 1881 El. A. Ormerod *Man. Injurious Ins.* 15 Commonly they quit the leaves and pupate in the ground. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 394 If they lived long enough to pupate, the pupa perished.

Pupation (piupē·ĭ·ʃən). [n. of action f. prec.] The formation of the pupa.

1892 *Circular Board Agric.* (*Raspberry Moth*), When the time arrives for pupation, the caterpillar scoops out a hole in the pith of the canes..in which it turns to a chrysalis. 1893 E. A. Butler *Househ. Insects* 29 After several moults, the time for pupation arrives.

†**Pu·p-barn.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [app. f. MLG. *puppe, pup*, MDu., MFris. *poppe*, Du., Fris. *pop* doll (ad. L. *puppa, pūpa* girl, doll, puppet) + *barn* Bairn.] ? A doll.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/1 A Puppe barne (*v. r.* Pwbarne) *popa, pupa, pupula.*

†**Pupe.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *pupe* pupa.] = Pupa I.

1842 Brande *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Pupe*, the name of the oviform nymphs of Lepidopterous insects. *Ibid.*, *Pupa*, a genus of land snails, so called from the resemblance of the shell to the pupe, or chrysalis of an insect. [Hence in Dicts.]

Pupelo (piupī·lo, piū·pĭlo). *U.S. local.* A name in New England for cider-brandy.

1851 S. Judd *Margaret* I. vii, There were five distilleries for the manufacture of cider-brandy, or what was familiarly known as pupelo. *Ibid.* viii, They drink pupelo and rum.

Pupiform (piū·pĭfŏrm), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *pūpiformis*, f. Pupa: see -form.]

1. Having the form or appearance of a pupa.

1897 *Naturalist* 75 The almost exactly pupiform [*printed* pupæform] shape of the typical *A[seca] tridens.*

2. Resembling in shape a shell of the genus *Pupa.*

1854 Woodward *Mollusca* II. 166 *Cylindrella cylindrus*: ..shell cylindrical or pupiform, sometimes sinistral.

Pupigenous (piupi·dʒĭnəs), *a.* [f. L. *pūpa* + *-genous*, f. -gen I + -ous.] = Pupiparous.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pupigerous (piupi·dʒĕrəs), *a.* [f. Pupa: see -gerous.] Of a larva: Forming a Puparium; having the pupa enclosed within the last larval skin.

1884 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* II. 406 In the other group [of diptera], which are always pupigerous, the perfect insect escapes from the larval skin through a..circular opening.

Pupil (piū·pĭl), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–6 pupille, 6 -yll, 6–7 -ill, pupile, 7– pupil. [a. F. *pupille* masc. and fem. (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *pūpillus, pūpilla* orphan, ward, minor.]

1. An orphan who is a minor and hence a ward; in *Civil* and *Sc. Law*, a person below the age of puberty who is under the care of a guardian.

1382 Wyclif *Jas.* i. 27 To visite pupilles [*gloss* that is, fadirles or modirles, or bothe], and widewes in her tribulacioun. 1487 *Sc. Acts Jas. III* (1814) II. 177/2 Accioun & complaintis made be kirkmen wedowis orphanis & pupillis. 1530 Palsgr. 259/2 Puple within age, *pupille.* *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 239 The French kyng..claymed to haue the order and mariage of the yonge lady, as a pupille ward and orphane. 1615 Sylvester *Job Triumphant* xxiv, They pluck the Pupill from the tender Brest. 1754 Hume *Hist. Eng.* (1761) I. viii. 168 The chancellor..was the guardian of all such minors and pupils as were the king's tenants. 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 116 § 3 (Scotland) The judicial factor appointed to such pupil, minor, or lunatic.

2. One who is under a teacher or instructor; one who is taught by another; a scholar; a disciple.

1563 Foxe *A. & M.* 1543 There is but one in al thuniuersitie, that when he was a young man was my pupill. 1605 *Stow's Ann.* 1427 The Earle of Worcester and the Lord Zouche who had beene his puples when they were brought vp in Cambridge. 1700 Wallis in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 314 Every tutor with his pupills. 1812 Sir H. Davy *Chem. Philos.* 6 This distinguished teacher..is said to have had a class of 2000 pupils. 1876 Grant *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 161 The ordinance requiring the pupils of the grammar school

of Glasgow to speak Latin only. 1891 E. Peacock *N. Brendon* I. 120 He took pupils to increase his income. 1894 Fowler *Adamnan* Intr. p. 78 Laisren was a pupil of St. Columba.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** *appositive* (in sense 1): In the state of pupilage or nonage; under age, infant; also *fig.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xxiv. § 26 Francis the yong King was taken away by death, and another pupill King crowned, euen Charles his younger brother, and ninth of that name. *a* 1635 Naunton *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 27 Espying his time fitting, and the Soveraignty in the hands of a pupil Prince. 1644 Milton *Areop.* (Arb.) 57, I hate a pupil teacher, I endure not an instructer that comes to me under the wardship of an overseeing fist. 1659 Torriano, *Pupilla*, a pupil-woman. 1700 J. A. Astry tr. *Saavedra-Faxardo* II. 255 Fear was a necessary Tutor to this Pupil People. 1887 *Westm. Rev.* Sept. 103 The custody of his pupil children.

b. in sense 2, as *pupil-master*; *pupil-like* adj. and adv.; **pupil-room** (at Eton), the room in which a tutor takes his pupils; also, the preparation and other work done there by a pupil. See also Pupil-monger, -teacher.

1593 Shaks. *Rich. II*, v. i. 31 Wilt thou, Pupill-like, Take thy Correction mildly, kisse the Rodde? 1766 *Let.* in *Hist. Hawtrey Fam.* (190.) I, Mr. Norbury used to sleep in his pupil-room in a press-bed. 1850 J. Struthers *Life* in *Poet. Wks.* I. p. xxxvii, The pupil-master was a remarkably quiet man. *c* 1860 W. Cory *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 577 He has done a good deal of extra work for me in pupil-room. 1899 A. Lubbock *Mem. Eton* i. 5 [He] was..allowed to roast them [chestnuts] over the pupil-room fire while pupil-room was going on.

Hence (from sense 2) **Pu·pildom, Pu·pilhood,** the condition of a pupil; **†Pu·piless,** a female pupil; **Pu·pilless** *a.*[1], without pupils.

a 1849 Poe *E. B. Browning* Wks. 1864 III. 424 During the epoch of his *pupildom in that school. *a* 1785 T. Potter *Moralist* II. 221 The *pupiless, the friend, the sensible and accomplished companion. 1854 E. Forbes *Opening Disc. in Nat. H. Chair* in Wilson & Geikie *Life* xv. (1861) 554 None who remained constant to the beautiful studies of his *pupilhood. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. x, Sometimes accompanied by his hopeful pupil; oftener, *pupil-less.

Pupil (piū·pĭl), *sb.*[2] Also 6–7 **-ill**; and in L. form. [a. OF. *pupille* fem. (14th c. in Godef.) = It., Pr. *pupilla*, Sp. *pupila*; ad. L. *pūpilla* pupil of the eye, the same word as *pūpilla* female child (see prec.). Cf. Baby *sb.* 3.]

1. The circular opening (appearing as a black spot) in the centre of the iris of the eye, which expands or contracts in regulating the passage of light through it to the retina; the apple of the eye.

a. in Latin form.

[1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* v. vii. (1495) 112 The blacke of theye..is callyd Pupilla in latyn for smalle ymages ben seen therin. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 249 þe place þat is clepid pupilla, þat is þe poynt of þe iȝe.]

1670 *Phil. Trans.* V. 1027 They contract much their pupilla or sight-hole of the Eye. 1718 J. Chamberlayne *Relig. Philos.* I. xii. § 23 The Number of them [*sc.* rays] is much fewer than if they were immediately received in a greater Opening of the Pupilla without this hole.

β. in English form.

1567 Maplet *Gr. Forest* 5 It [the Carbuncle] so warreth with the pupill or the eiesight, that it sheweth manifolde reflexions. 1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseud. Ep.* III. xx. 156 If beholding a candle we protrude either upward or downeward the pupill of one eye, the object will appeare double. 1685 Boyle *Enq. Notion Nat.* vii. Wks. 1772 V. 232, I consider then that what is called the pupil or apple of the eye, is not (as it is known) a substantial part of the organ, but only a round hole or window made in the uvea, at which the modified beams of light enter, to fall upon the chrystalline humour. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 388 The pupils of the eyes were much dilated. 1877 Black *Green Past.* ii, [Her eyes] were large and they had dark pupils.

2. *fig.* and *transf.*; in *Entom.* The dark central spot of an ocellus.

1599 Davies *Immort. Soul* 49 The Wit, the pupill of the soules clear eye. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 79 Beloculus is a white stone, having a black pupil. 1826 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 286 *Ocellus*, an eye-like spot in the Wings of many Lepidoptera, consisting of annuli of different colours, inclosing a central spot or pupil.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pupil change, contractor, dilator, reaction*; *pupil-contracting, -dilating* adjs.

1868 Garrod *Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) 415 Medicines which act upon the eyes...Pupil Dilators (Mydriatics)...Pupil Contractors (Myositics). 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 775 The course of the pupil-dilating fibres is more circuitous. *Ibid.* VII. 87 Optic atrophy, failure of pupil reaction. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Dec. 1644 Such concomitant affections as muscular palsies and pupil changes.

Hence **Pu·pilless** *a.*[2], (of an eye) having no pupil.

a 1849 Poe *Berenice* Wks. 1864 I. 442 The eyes were lifeless and lustreless, and seemingly pupilless. 1881 E. Warren *Laughing Eyes* (1890) 81 The pupilless eyes of marble busts.

†Pupil (piū·pĭl), *v. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **-ell.** [f. Pupil *sb.*[1]] *trans.* To treat as a pupil; to teach.

1599 Porter *Angry Wom. Abingd.* (Percy Soc.) 28 Haue I seene thee Pupell such greene young things, and with thy counsell Tutor their wits? 1612 Heywood *Apol. Actors* I. 30 It becomes my juniority rather to be pupil'd my selfe then to instruct others.

Pupilabi·lity. *nonce-wd.* ?Pupillary nature.

In quot. with punning allusion to the pupils of the eyes.

1761 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* IV. i, What can he mean by the lambent pupilability of slow, low, dry chat, five notes below the natural tone..unless..the voice..forces the eyes to approach not only within six inches of each other—but to look into the pupils?

Pupilage, pupillage (piū·pĭlĕdʒ). [f. Pupil *sb.*[1] or L. *pūpill-us* + -age.]

1. The condition of being a minor or ward; the period of this condition; nonage, minority.

1590 Spenser *F. Q.* II. x. 64 By meanes whereof their uncle Vortigere Usurpt the crowne during their pupillage. 1690 Locke *Govt.* II. viii. § 105 The Father..might thereby punish his transgressing Children even when they were Men, and out of their Pupilage. 1783 Burke *Affairs India* Wks. XI. 258 A measure..professing to relieve the Nabob from a state of perpetual pupilage. 1877 E. R. Conder *Bas. Faith* iii. 103 This protracted pupilage is needed by his moral nature.

b. *fig.* Said of the world, a country, etc.

1605 Daniel *Queen's Arcadia* Wks. (1717) 183 They live as if still in the golden Age, When as the World was in its Pupillage. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. xiv, Moses Law, by which we were kept in pupillage and minority. 1777 Robertson *Hist. Amer.* (1783) III. 269 Thus the colonies are kept in a state of perpetual pupillage. 1871 Earle *Philol. Eng. Tongue* § 329 The period when our language was in a state of pupillage.

2. The condition or position of being a pupil or scholar; pupilship.

a 1658 Cleveland *Gen. Poems* (1677) 61 Come all the Brats of this Expounding Age To whom the Spirit is in Pupilage. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 87 P 10 To raise themselves from pupillage by disputing the propositions of their teacher. 1846 J. Baxter *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. p. ii, At the period of the Duke's pupillage at Westminster school, there were annual town-and-gown conflicts between the scholars and the boys of Tothill Fields. 1882 Carpenter in *19th Cent.* Apr. 543 In the days of my medical pupillage the brewers' draymen were the terror of every hospital surgeon in London.

Pupil age. [f. Pupil *sb.*[1] 1 + Age *sb.*; app. due to erron. analysis of prec.] The age during which one is a pupil; minority; nonage.

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 106 Since the old dayes of goodman Adam, to the pupill age of this present twelue a clock at midnight. 1607 — *Cor.* II. ii. 102 His Pupill age Man-entred thus, he waxed like a Sea. 1631 Massinger *Emperor East* II. i, Your pupill age is past'd, and manly actions Are now expected from you. 1817 Godwin *Mandeville* II. 92 You were..prepared at the pupil age of seventeen to play the part of a fox.

Pupilar, -ary, -ate: see Pupillar, etc.

Pupildom, -ess, -hood: see Pupil *sb.*[1]

Pupiled, Pupilize: see Pupilled, Pupillize.

Pupillage: see Pupilage.

Pupillar, pupilar (piū·pĭlăr), *a.*[1] [ad. L. *pūpillār-is* belonging to a pupil, orphan, or minor. Cf. F. *pupillaire.*] = Pupillary *a.*[1]

1832 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXI. 577 Charles I..estimated a House of Commons by its ancient standard, when—at best—in a pupilar and elementary state of transition. 1888 R. Garnett *Emerson* ii. 56 The young schoolmaster..for a season retrograded into the pupillar condition.

Pu·pillar, pu·pilar, *a.*[2] = Pupillary *a.*[2]

1887 A. M. Brown *Anim. Alkaloids* 53 In injecting them hypodermically, they determined pupilar dilatation.

Pupillarity, pupilarity (piūpĭlæ·rĭtĭ), *Civil* and *Sc. Law.* [a. F. *pupillarité* (14th c.), ad. med.L. **pūpillāritās*, f. L. *pūpillār-is* Pupillar *a.*[1]: see -ity.] The state of being below the age of puberty; the period during which a person remains in this state.

1583–4 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 641 His tutour..during the yeiris of his pupillaritie. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj., Stat. Robt. I* 29 Be reason the heire is within age (within the yeares of pupillaritie). 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 83 The stages of life principally distinguished in law are, *pupillarity*, *puberty* or *minority*, and *majority*. A child is under pupillarity from the birth till fourteen years of age, if a male, and till twelve, if a female. 1818 Scott *Hrt. Midl.* v, 'Very true, gudewife, .. we are *in loco parentis* to him during his years of pupillarity.' 1869 *Act* 32 & 33 *Vict.* c. 116 § 7 (Scotland) Demand..intimated to the Grantor, whether of full age or in pupillarity or minority. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* I. § 197 A minor who has passed the years of pupillarity shall have the assistance of a curator.

b. *loosely.* Childhood. *rare.*

1846 *Blackw. Mag.* LIX. 666 The deep-seated mischief of ..mispronunciation in a Cockney whose years of pupilarity have been passed on the spot of his birth.

Pupillary, pupilary (piū·pĭlărĭ), *a.*[1] [ad. F. *pupillaire* (1409 in Godef.), or L. *pūpillāris* Pupillar *a.*[1]] **a.** Of or pertaining to a person in pupillarity. **b.** Belonging to a pupil or scholar.

Pupillary substitution (Rom. Law): nomination of a substitute to take on the death in pupillarity of an institute who had succeeded; in effect, a testament made by a father for his child living or posthumous, to take effect in the event of the latter dying under puberty and before he could make one for himself. (Muirhead *Inst. Gaius*, etc. 597.)

a. 1611 Cotgr., *Pupilaire*, Pupillarie, of or belonging to a Pupill. 1756 Nugent tr. *Montesquieu's Spir. Laws* I. xix. xxiv. (1878) 329 The testator..may leave the vulgar substitution..and put the pupillary into a part of the testament, which cannot be opened till after a certain time. 1855 Thackeray *Newcomes* lxv, Rosey was in a pupillary state..her duty was to obey the wishes of her dear Mamma. 1880 Muirhead *Ulpian* xxiii. § 8 A parent may make a pupillary substitution even to his disinherited children.

b. 1848 Lowell *Biglow P.* Poems 1890 II. 2, I behold how those strains..bewitch the pupillary legs, nor leave to the pedagogic an entire self-control. 1868 M. Pattison *Academ. Org.* iv 56 Scholarships and exhibitions are stipends enjoyed by students in the pupillary state.

Pu·pillary, pu·pilary, *a.*[2] [f. L. *pūpilla* Pupil *sb.*[2] + -ary: cf. prec. So mod.F. *pupillaire.*] Of or pertaining to the pupil of the eye.

1793 Young in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 178 The lateral parts of the pupillary margin of the uvea. 1807 — in *Med. Jrnl.* XVII. 405 A brownish grey, which is of the deepest colour in the Pupilary Ring. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 836 The pupillary diameter is subject to a considerable range of variation.

Pupillate (piū·pĭlĕt), *a. rare.* Also **pupilate.** [ad. med.L. *pūpillāt-us*, f. *pūpilla* Pupil *sb.*[2]: see -ate[2] 2.] = Pupilled.

1858 Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, *Pūpillātus*, applied to the wings of birds and of butterflies when they present circular spots of divers colours, representing..an eye, and in the centre of which exists a black spot resembling a pupil: pupillate.

†Pu·pillate, *v. Obs. rare*–[0]. [f. L. *pūpillāre* + -ate[3].] *intr.* (See quot.) So **†Pupillo·nian** [L. *pūpillōn-em*], one who cries like a peacock.

1623 Cockeram, *Pupillate*, to cry like a Peacocke. 1600 Nashe *Summers last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 132 This *Pupillonian* in the fooles Coate shall haue a cast of martins, & a whiffe.

Pupilled, pupiled (piū·pĭld), *a.* [f. Pupil *sb.*[2] + -ed 2.] Having a central spot in the ocellus resembling a pupil; pupillate.

1819 G. Samouelle *Entomol. Compend.* 421 *Noctua pupillata.* The pupilled Dart. 1895 A. G. Butler in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 19 Mar. 254 Small ocelli..touched with black, and pupilled with blue.

Pupilless[1, 2]: see Pupil *sb.*[1, 2].

Pupillize, pupilize (piū·pĭlaiz), *v.* [f. L. *pūpill-us* Pupil *sb.*[1] + -ize.] *intr.* and *trans.* To teach a pupil or pupils; to take pupils; to 'coach'. Hence **Pu·pillizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1822 J. Power *Let. to J. Lynes* 17 Jan. in *Parr's Wks.* (1828) VIII. 634 He still continues at Clare Hall, and has been much engaged in pupillizing (as they call it at C.). 1844 J. T. Hewlett *Parsons & W.* xiii, Private pupilising was in vogue at that period. 1856 J. H. Newman *Callista* viii. 65, I am his bully, and shall pupilize him some day.

Pupillometer (piūpĭlo·mĭtəɹ). [f. L. *pūpilla* Pupil *sb.*[2] + -o)meter.] An instrument for measuring the size of the pupil of the eye. So **Pupillo·metry,** the measurement of the pupil of the eye.

1890 Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Pupillometer. 1899 *Nature* 18 May 72/1 Method for rapidly measuring the dimensions of small objects independently of their distance. Application to pupillometry and to laryngometry.

†Pu·pil-mo:nger. *Obs.* [f. Pupil *sb.*[1] + Monger.] One who makes it his business to take pupils; *esp.* a tutor at Cambridge University.

a 1662 Fuller *Worthies, Northampt.* (1662) II. 291 He [J. Preston] was the greatest Pupil-monger in England in mans memory. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pupil-mongers*, tutors at the Universities, that have many Pupils, and make a Penny of them. 1773 W. Cole in Peacock *Stat. Cambridge* (1841) App. A. 1 My learned Friend, Mr. Farmer, Fellow and Pupilmonger of Emanuel College.

So **†Pu·pil-mo:ngering** *vbl. sb.*

1833 Wordsw. *Let.* 17 June in Chr. Wordsw. *Mem.* (1851) II. 264 You are at an age when the blossom of the mind are setting, to make fruit; and the practice of pupil-mongering is an absolute blight for this process.

Pupilship (piū·pĭlʃip). [f. Pupil *sb.*[1] + -ship.]

1. The condition or position of being a pupil.

1581 Marbeck *Bk. Notes* 616 The Church of Israel was vnder the lawe..vnto the time of Christ, when she waxed strong, and then hir pupilship ended. 1879 W. Senior *Trav. & Trout in Antipodes* (1880) 84 To-day you commence your pupilship to me. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 6/3 Time was when pupilship at this school was by nomination.

2. A fund for the education of a pupil: see quot.

1861 J. E. Philipps *Mission. Pupils* 10 We require in addition to these missionary studentships, what I would call missionary pupilships—means for supporting and educating lads, in the time intervening between School and College.

Pupil teacher (piū·pĭl,tī·tʃəɹ). A boy or girl preparing to be a teacher, who spends part of the period of preliminary education in employment as a teacher in an elementary school under the supervision of the head teacher, and concurrently receives general education either from him or in some place of higher education.

The system was introduced into England from Holland in 1839–40, the pupil teachers being originally bound as apprentices, a plan which came to an end after 1870. The system has undergone many changes; its history up to 1902 is told at length in a *Memorandum on the history and prospects of the Pupil-Teacher system*, issued by the Board of Education in that year.

1838 Dr. Kay in *4th Ann. Rep. Poor Law Comm.* App. B. No. 3. 250 In the normal school at Haarlem..certain of the most intelligent scholars..were selected to be trained to the occupation of teachers...Those pupil teachers would constantly acquire a greater degree of skill and knowledge. 1846 *Min. Comm. Counc. Educ.* 21 Dec., To carry into execution the Minute of the Committee of Council on Education of the 25th day of August 1846, respecting the Apprenticeship of Pupil Teachers. [In the Minute of 25 Aug. called 'Apprentices'.] 1858 J. Payn *Foster Brothers* x, The plan of pupil teachers was then in its infancy. 1861 M. Arnold *Pop. Educ. France* 108 Pupil-teachers—the sinews of English primary instruction, whose institution is the grand merit of our English State system, and its chief title to public respect. 1884 *Chr. World* 19 June 453/2 The pupil-teacher, as a rule, we fear, learns little and teaches less. 1907 [see b].

b. *attrib.*, as *pupil-teacher system*, etc.; **pupil-teacher centre,** a central institution where the pupil-teachers of a town or locality may receive

their general education. (Introduced as '*Central Classes*' about 1874; much developed 1888–98.)

1897 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 5/3 A Committee to inquire into the working of the pupil-teacher system in England and Wales. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 2/2 It should be noted that the London School Board have just had surcharged the cost of their pupil-teacher training-centres. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 6/6 A compulsory subject..for pupil-teacher candidates. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 July 2/1 There are, at this moment, some 20,000 pupil-teachers, of the ages 16 to 18, attending institutions called pupil-teachers' centres. 1907 *Memo. on Pupil-Teacher syst.* § 50 Obviously it would not be possible to drop the Pupil Teacher system as a source for the supply of adult teachers.

¶ 'Pupil teacher' in Milton: see PUPIL *sb.*[1] 3 a.

Hence **Pupil-tea·cherdom,** the body or institution of pupil-teachers; **Pupil-tea·chership,** the post or office of a pupil-teacher; **Pupil-tea·chery,** the work or position of a pupil-teacher.

1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 June 3/1 How can you complain about the teachers..now that we've opened *pupil-teacher-dom to all alike? 1876 T. HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 122 If I could not get a *pupil-teachership in some London school.. I could stay with you and be governess to Georgina and Myrtle. 1890 W. E. HENLEY *Views & Rev.* (1892) 132 Herself [George Eliot], too, has been variously described: as 'Apotheosis of *Pupil-Teachery'.

‖ **Pupipara** (piupi·pără), *sb. pl. Entom.* [mod. L., neuter pl. of *pūpipar-us* bringing forth pupæ (f. *parĕre* to bring forth).] A division of *Diptera* in which the young are born in, or ready to pass into, the pupal state. Also called *Nymphipara.*

1874 LUBBOCK *Orig. & Met. Ins.* iii. 41 The case of the so-called Pupipara not constituting a true exception. 1878 BELL *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 259 The complete fusion of the ventral chord into one somewhat long knot, in the parasitic Pupipara.

Hence **Pupiparous** (piupi·părəs) *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Pupipara*; producing or bringing forth young already advanced to the pupal state.

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* III. xxix. 65 *Pupiparous*, continuing in the matrix of the mother during the larva state, and coming forth in that of *pupa.* 1835, 1844 [see NYMPHIPAROUS]. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 311 Pupiparous insects suck the blood of mammals and birds.

‖ **Pupivora** (piupi·vŏră), *sb. pl. Entom.* [mod. L. neuter pl. of *pūpivor-us* devouring pupæ.] A division of hymenopterous insects containing those, such as the Ichneumon flies, which deposit their eggs in the larvæ of other insects, chiefly *Lepidoptera.* Hence **Pu·pivore** [as in F.], a member of the *Pupivora*; **Pupivorous** (piupi·vŏrəs) *a.*, of or pertaining to the *Pupivora*; devouring the pupæ of other insects; parasitic on pupæ.

The name *Pupivora* was introduced by Latreille 1806–9, as that of his second family of Hymenoptera. They correspond nearly to the *Entomophaga* of Westwood.

1836 SMART, Pupivorous. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., Pu'pivora, *Pupivora.*

Puple, obs. form of PEOPLE, PUPIL *sb.*[2]

Puplich(e, -is(e, -ish(e, etc., obs. ff. PUBLISH.

Puplicke, -ik, -ique, obs. ff. PUBLIC.

Pupoid (piū·poid), *a. Conch.* [f. PUPA + -OID.] = PUPIFORM 2; akin to the genus *Pupa.*

Puppe: see PUP *sb.*[1] 2; obs. form of POOP *sb.*[1]

Puppet (pu·pĕt), *sb.* Also 6 **pupette, pup-pette,** 6–8 **puppit,** 7 **pupet.** [A later form of POPPET, q. v., which has lost some senses and developed others, and has generally a more contemptuous connotation.]

1. A contemptuous term for a person (usually a woman): cf. POPPET *sb.* 1; but in sense app. associated with 2 or 3 below: a dressed up 'mere doll' or figure of a woman.

1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* I. (1625) 69 If she be faire, then a spectacle to gaze on; if foule, then a simpring puppet to wonder on. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1831) 39 Is it not a shame, that women..should make themselves such pictures puppets and peacocks as they do? 1661 EVELYN *Tyrannus* 11 A Fregat newly rigg'd kept not half such a clatter in a storme, as this Puppets Streamers did when the Wind was in his Shrouds. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xv, A pretender..to the favour of the scornful puppet [Catharine]. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. vi. 102 But tell me now, ye curséd puppets, Why do ye stir the porridge so?

2. A figure (usually small) representing a human being; a child's doll; = POPPET *sb.* 2. With quot. 1837, cf. POPPET *sb.* 2 b. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 46 The rootes are..made like litle puppettes and mammettes which come to be sold in England in boxes. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D viij, Puppets or Babies for Children the groce *vis.* viij*d.* 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Inig.* II. II. xxi, Having noted how Lactantius compared the Idols of the Heathen to the little Puppets that little Girls used to play with, and that the said Idols were but great Puppets for old Fools to play with. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 500 ₱ 3 The motherly airs of my little daughters when they are playing with their puppets. 1837 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech of Folkest.*, Where did you get this pretty doll..? asked Susan, turning over the puppet. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* ii, I looked upon it as a sort of doll—a puppet.

† **b.** Contemptuously applied to an image or other material object which is worshipped; an idol; = POPPET *sb.* 2 c. Also *fig. Obs.*

1555 W. WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. x. 215 Thei [Tartars] make theim selues litle pupettes of silke or of felte, ..and do them muche reuerence. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 56 At each end [of the tomb] was placed a Puppet or Pagod to protect it. 1664 [see 2]. 1809 COLERIDGE *Sibyll. Leaves, Tombless Epitaph*, The hollow puppets of a hollow age, Ever idolatrous, and changing ever Its worthless idols.

3. A human figure, with jointed limbs, moved by means of strings or wires; *esp.* one of the figures in a puppet-show; a marionette; = POPPET *sb.* 3.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Gesticulator*, he that playith with puppettes. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 931 Like as a Puppit placed in a play, Whose part once past all men bid take away. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 257, I could interpret betweene you and your loue: if I could see the Puppets dallying. 1667 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 61 They are but as your *Automata*, those artificial Machines or Images called Puppits. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. xii, You look like a puppet moved by clockwork! 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* vii. (1819) 70 The adjustment of the wires and strings by which a puppet is moved.

b. *fig.* A person (usually one set up in a prominent position) whose acts, while ostensibly his own, are suggested and controlled by another; = POPPET *sb.* 3 b. (Cf. 9 a, below.)

[1550: see POPPET *sb.* 3 b.] 1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit* (1621) E iv, Those Puppets..that speake from our mouths, those Anticks garnisht in our colours. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 25 To make the people see..that their Plantagenet was indeed but a puppit, or a Counterfeit. 1768 H. WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 81 He hoped by keeping the memory of Simnel's imposture, to discredit the true duke of York, as another puppet, when ever he should really appear. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa* Introd. 194 God's puppets, best and worst, Are we. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. iv. § 3. 206 Charles remained for some while a puppet in the hands of Herbert.

† **c.** A living personator in dramatic action; an actor in a pantomime. *Obs.*

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV* Induct., *Bohan.* What were those Puppets that hopt and skipt about me year whayle [=erewhile]? *Ober.* My subiects. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 39 You come with Letters against the King, and take Vanitie the puppets part, against the Royaltie of her Father. *a* 1668 DAVENANT *Play-Ho. to Lett* I, All the dry old Fools of Bartholomew Fair are come to hire our house,..numberless Jack-puddings: the new motion men of Norwich, Op'ra-Puppets. [1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. § 19 All the absurdities of the puppet-show, except the discourses, are retained in the pantomimes, the difference consisting principally in the substitution of living puppets for wooden ones.]

† **4.** A little dog; a whelp; = PUPPY 1, 2. *Obs.*

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 147 The great curres..the litle puppets. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 336 She replied, Persa was dead; meaning her whelp or puppet. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. ix. 183/2 Whelpes, or Puppits, are..whelped blind.

† **5.** = POPPET *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

a 1619 FLETCHER *Wit without M.* II. ii, A maide makes conscience of halfe a Crowne a weeke for pinnes and puppits.

6. A lathe-head; = POPPET *sb.* 5.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Turning* I. 207 Then set your Puppets, and wedge them tight up. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. viii. 356/2 The Puppets, are the square peeces of wood..which have the..Iron Pinns in, upon which the work is turned. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 208 Upon a strong table of wood..are fixed three cast-iron puppets or uprights.

† **7.** *Naut.* (See quot.) (Cf. POPPET *sb.* 6.)

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 8 *Screws*, bed or barrel, for raising the heads of large masts.., are made of elm, and consist of two puppets, a bed, and a sole: the puppets are four feet nine inches long, have their lower parts round.., and are cut with a screw; their..head, is larger, and is either eight-square or round.

† **8.** A pupa. (Employed to render Du. *popken.*)

1670 *Phil. Trans.* 2079 (Acct. of Swammerdam's *Hist. Insect. Generalis*, Utrecht, 1669) The manner how the Worms and Caterpillars turn into Puppets [Swammerdam 24 De maner op welke de Wurmen ende de Rupsen in Popkens veranderen]. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s.v., Puppets.. the name given by Swammerdam to the nymphæ of animals, which he distinguishes from the chrysalises by this simple name, calling these the *gilt puppets*, from their golden colour.

9. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **a.** Appositive (in senses 3 and 3 b): That is a puppet, *lit.* and *fig.*; managed by the will of another.

a 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 196 He is but a Puppet Saint, that moves he knows not how. 1715 ROWE *Lady J. Grey* IV. i, Their puppet queen reigns here. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* xxiii. 286 She very much reminds us of those puppet-heroines, for whom the showman contrives to dialogue without any skill in ventriloquism. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 299 Scotland would have been a smaller Poland, with a puppet sovereign, a turbulent diet, and an enslaved people.

b. General attrib. uses and Combs. (chiefly in sense 3): 'of a puppet or puppets', as *puppet-body, -drama, -fight, -land, -maker, -mover, -prompter, -stage, -string, -teacher, -theatre, -work*; *puppet-like* adj. and adv.; **puppet-man, -master,** the manager of a puppet-show. Also PUPPET-SHOW, PUPPET-VALVE, etc.

1870 G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* (1898) 62 What silly *puppet-bodies danced on strings. 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* III. ii. § 19 The subjects of the *puppet-dramas were formerly taken from some well-known and popular stories. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* 265 The dolls threw stones behind them, and other dolls forthwith arose to people *puppetland. 1611 COTGR., *Poupetier*, a babe-maker, or *puppet-maker. 1731 SWIFT *Strephon & Chloe* 285 From yonder *puppet man inquire, Who wisely hides his wood and wire. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* V. v. (1631) 96 Fidlers, Rushers, *Puppet-masters, Juglers. 1745 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. vi, The landlady.. fell foul on both her husband and the poor *puppet-mover. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 312 With limbs of British oak and nerves of wire, And wit that *puppet-prompters might inspire. 1594 NASHE *Terrors of Night* Wks. (Grosart) III. 236 Comes some superfluous humour of ours..and erects a *puppet-stage, or some such ridiculous idle childish inuention. 1842 E. MIALL in *Nonconf.* II. 857 [The human understanding] is destined to higher ends than to be a sort of *puppet-string in the hands of state ecclesiastics. 1602 DEKKER *Satiromi.* 93 Hold, silence, the *puppet-teacher speakes. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. 224 The rude transportable *puppet theatres in which Goethe first saw Faust represented. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 102 Th'are very Men, not Things That move by *Puppet-work and Springs.

Hence † **Pu·ppet** *v.*, (*a*) *intr.* to play the puppet (sense 1 or 3 c); (*b*) *trans.* to dress like a puppet (? sense 1); **Pu·ppetdom, Pu·ppethood, Pu·ppetism** (*nonce-wds.*), the condition of a puppet (sense 3 b); **Puppe·tical** *a.*, pertaining to a puppet.

c 1620 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Trag. Barnavelt* II. ii, Good Ladies, no more Councells: This is no time to *puppet in. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* v. viii. (1718) 277 Whom thy fond indulgence decks And puppets up in soft, in silken weeds. 1891 ELIZ. R. PENNELL in *Mary Wollstonecr.'s Rights Wom.* Introd. 23 Not to substitute for the old sham sensibility of *puppetdom the new sham sexlessness of emancipation. 1885 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Sept. 369/2 The dethronement or reduction to *puppethood of native dynasties. 1759 *Compl. Let.-writer* (ed. 6) 225. My Punch (to use a *puppetical expression). 1801 LD. CAMPBELL *Let.* Apr. in *Life & Corr.* (1881) I. 69 The intimacy between him [Addington] and Pitt continues as great as ever, and no doubt of his *puppetism any longer remains. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 120 It was then..that the idea of puppetism came into his mind.

Pu·ppet-clack. [Cf. CLACK *sb.* 5.] = PUPPET-VALVE.

1744 DESAGULIERS *Exper. Philos.* II. 472 If the Steam is stronger than you want, it may lift up the Valve, and go out. This is commonly call'd the *Puppet Clack.* 1829 R. STUART *Anecd. Steam Engines* I. 188 The return of the water is prevented by the usual means of a puppet-clack, or valve. 1844 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* VII. 275/2 Stop the engine, open the puppet clack, and fill the boiler.

Puppet-head, variant of POPPET-HEAD.

Pu·ppetish, *a. rare.* Also 6 **popetish.** [f. PUPPET *sb.* + -ISH[1].] Pertaining to or of the nature of a puppet. (Cf. PUPPET 2 b.)

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. H iv, Holye water makyng, for procession and sensinge wyth other Popetish gaudes. 1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xxvi. 174 He began to raine strokes vpon the Puppetish Moorisme, ouerthrowing some, and beheading others.

† **Pu·ppetly,** *a. Obs. rare.* Also 6 **popetly, puppitly.** [f. as prec. + -LY[1].] = prec.

c 1550 BALE *K. Johan* (Camden) 17 You, Clargy,..With your latyne howrs, scimonyes, & popetly playes. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* in Arb. *Garner* III. 267 This puppitly and peasantly cur [the Spaniel gentle]. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 448 Puppetly Idols lately consecrated to vulgar adoration.

Pu·ppet-play, *sb.* Also 7 **poppet-play.**

1. A play or dramatic performance acted by means, or with the aid, of puppets; usually with dialogue spoken by a concealed person or persons.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 292 My iniectiue hath relation to such as count al Artes puppet-playes, and pretty rattles to please children, in comparison of their confused barbarous lawe. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. ii, And blow vp gamster, after gamster, As they doe crackers, in a puppet-play. 1633 R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacraments* I. 131 They make a mere apish Pageant and Poppet play of this Sacrament. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. v, What he lost to sharpers, and spent upon country dances and puppet-plays. 1850 MARSDEN *Early Purit.* xii. 339 Every stage, every table, every puppet-play scoffed at the puritans.

2. The playing or acting of puppets.

1591 NASHE *Pref. Sidney's Astr. & Stella* in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 223 Let not your surfeted sight, new come from such puppet play, think scorne to turn aside into this Theater of pleasure. 1849 WHITTIER *Calef in Boston* 21 Of your spectral puppet play I have traced the cunning wires.

Hence **Pu·ppet-play** *v.* (*nonce-wd.*) *trans.*, to bring or drive by means of puppet-play or jugglery.

1649 *Trag. Massenello* 75 Do you not see yourselves puppet-plaid into a new war?

Pu·ppet-play·er. Also 6–8 **poppet-.** [f. PUPPET *sb.* + PLAYER.] † **a.** A performer in a pantomime (*obs.*). **b.** One who manages or exhibits a puppet-play.

1552 HULOET, Puppet plaier, *Circulator, Gesticulator.* 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 3 Feb., The Isle du Palais..The front looking on the greate bridge is possess'd by Mountebanks, Operators, and Puppet-players. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Presbyt. Meeting-Ho.* (1709) 14 The Wire in the Finger of the Poppet-Player. 1857 *Chamb. Jrnl.* VII. 124 Italy, the native land..of modern puppetry, must.. at a very early period have sent her puppet-players abroad.

So **Pu·ppet-play·ing,** the performance of puppet-plays.

Puppetry (pu·pĕtri). Also 6 **popatrye, popetry(e, -ie,** 7 **puppettry.** [f. PUPPET + -RY.]

1. Mimic action or representation as of puppets; masquerade, mummery; false semblance, make-believe; artificial or unreal action; *spec.* applied to idolatrous or superstitious observances (in 16th c. often in form *popetry*, with play on *popery*).

1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man, Duty of Kings*, 53 b, Let not oure most holy father make them no moare dronken with vayne names, with cappes of mayntenaunce, and like babels, as it were popetry for children. 1530 — *Answ. More* Wks. (1573) 256/1 No dumme popetrie or superstitious Mahometrie, but signes of the testament of God. 1549

LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 30 The Deuyl..his office is to hinder religion..to teach al kynde of popetrie. 1644 EVELYN *Diary* 24–5 Dec., The pupetry in the Church of the Minerva [in Rome], representing the Nativity. 1794 COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 233 Whoe'er Turn with mild sorrow from the victor's car And the low puppetry of thrones, to muse On that blest triumph. 1872 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 55 Preconcerted pathos and puppetry of passion done to order.

2. Puppet-play; debased dramatic action.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* I. C j b, Nay, we must now haue nothing brought on Stages, But puppetry, and pide ridiculous Antickes. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 252 The pageantries and puppetries of Bartholmew Faire. 1857 [see PUPPET-PLAYER]. 1879 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* iii. (1895) 182 Remove[Iago]..and we have but the eternal and vulgar figures of jealousy and innocence, newly vamped and veneered and padded and patched up for the stalest purposes of puppetry.

†**3.** 'Get-up' or dress as of a puppet. *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* III. viii. 216 Now doth the body led by senceless will..Raue, talke idely as 'twere some deity Adorning female painted puppetry. 1638 FORD *Lady's Trial* II. i, With this language, Bold man of arms, shalt win upon her, doubt not, Beyond all silken puppetry.

4. Something compared to a puppet or set of puppets. †**a.** *pl.* False or pretended divinities. *Obs.*

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* IV. ii. 157 The true God did vouchsafe them [the Romans] that increase of their Empire, when their own puppettries [*hii quos deos putant*] never did them a penyworth of good.

b. An unreal or artificial character in literary fiction; a set of such characters.

1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Artif. Comedy Last Cent.*, What was it to you if that..half-reality the husband was over-reached by the puppetry—or the thin thing..was persuaded it was dying of a plethory? 1885 G. MEREDITH *Diana* i, A great modern writer..groaned over his puppetry, that he dared not animate them..with the fires of positive brain-stuff. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 3/1 Fully furnished with the stage properties and puppetry of a Highland romance, but..singularly destitute of romantic atmosphere and colour.

Pu·ppet-show. Also 7 poppit-, 8 poppet-. [f. PUPPET *sb.* 3 + SHOW *sb.*] A show, display, or exhibition of puppets; *esp.* a dramatic performance with or of puppets; a puppet-play.

1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 138 The devil may buy his soul for a Poppit-shew. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Sept., Here was 'Bartholomew Fayre', with the puppet-showe, acted to-day. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 16 ¶ 2 Prudentia..had bespoke on the same Evening the Poppet-Show of The Creation of the World. 1818 SCOTT *Let.* 10 Sept., I would much sooner write an opera for Punch's puppet-show. 1857 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-Bks.* (1870) II. 351, I..saw a fair, with puppet-shows, booths of penny actors, merry-go-rounds, clowns, boxers.

attrib. 1742 FIELDING *Miss Lucy in Town* (1762) 180 You must strip yourself of your poppet-shew dress. 1749 — *Tom Jones* XII. vi, The puppet-show man ran out to punish his Merry Andrew.

Hence **Pu·ppet-show·er, Pu·ppet-show·man,** a man who exhibits or manages a puppet-show.

1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5329/3 Rope Dancers, Poppet Shewers. 1820 *Edin. Rev.* XXXIV. 278 The puppet-showman at a Venetian Carnival. 1855 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 347 Tumblers, hand-organists, puppet-showmen,..and all such vagrant mirth-makers.

Pu·ppet-va·lve. Also poppet-valve. [f. PUPPET *sb.* + VALVE; in allusion to its movement.] A disk valve which is opened by being bodily lifted from its seat, not by turning upon a hinge. Earlier called *puppet-clack.*

1829 [see PUPPET-CLACK]. 1864 in WEBSTER. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 41 The engines are fitted with puppet-valves and 'cross variable cut-off', which is worked by the engineer. 1887 D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 108 Sketches showing the construction of a conical metal lift or puppet valve and seating. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Poppet-valve*, same as *Puppet-valve.*

†**Pu·ppify,** *v. Obs. rare.* [f. PUPPY *sb.* + -FY.] *trans.* To make a puppy of; to befool.

1642 HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 91 Never was there a poor people so purblinded and Puppified, if I may say so, as I finde them to be. 1660 — *Parly of Beasts* 29 Never any who did fool and puppifie themselfs into such a perfect slavery and confusion.

†**Pu·ppily,** *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -LY 1.] Characteristic of a puppy; puppy-like.

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 67 (1713) II. 168 He has found out a new Tory Popish-Plot upon his Puppily Courant; some body or other, if he don't lie, made his Printer tipsie. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* Wks. 1883 VI. 355 This impertinent heart is more troublesome to me than my conscience...I shall be obliged to hoarsen my voice and roughen my character, to keep up with its puppily dancings. 1795 R. CUMBERLAND *First Love* in *Brit. Theat.* XVIII. 46, I wish you would..not insult my ears with that puppily word honour.

†**Pu·pping,** obs. var. PIPPIN 2 (early mod.Du. *puppingh*).

1617 MINSHEU *Ductor* 9783 A pupping-apple or Pippin.

Pupplich(e, -is(e, -isch(e, obs. ff. PUBLISH.

†**Pu·pprelle.** *Obs. rare*—1. [f. next + -REL: cf. *cockerel, pickerel.*] A little puppy.

1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* III. 130 Gentlewomen were driuen to eate their little puppprelles, in whom before they took great pleasure.

Puppy (pʊ·pi), *sb.* Also 5–6 popi(e, 6 pup(p)ee, 6–7 puppie. [Corresponds in form, and, to a certain extent in sense, to F. *poupée* (in 13th c. *popee*, Littré) a doll, a woman likened to a doll as a dressed-up inanity, a lay figure used in dressmaking or as a butt in shooting; also, contextually, a plaything, hobby, toy (e. g. *il en fait sa poupée*), whence app. in Eng. 'a dog used as a plaything, a toy dog', a sense unknown to French.' The *doll-* and *woman-*senses of F. *poupée* are usually represented in Eng. by PUPPET *sb.* 1, 2. But *puppet* and *puppy* are not always distinct; *puppet* (sense 4) was in early use synonymous with *puppy* (sense 1 or 2), and in dialects *puppy* is still widely used in the sense of *puppet*, esp. in *puppy-show* for *puppet-show.*

F. *poupée* has no cognate form in the other Romanic langs.; it appears to have been an anomalous French formation on the stem of Romanic *pupp-a* for L. *pūpa* girl, doll, puppet, but the use of L. and Rom. *-āta*, F. *-ée* in such a sense is apparently unparalleled.]

†**1.** A small dog used as a lady's pet or plaything; a toy dog. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f iv b, Smale ladies popis that beere a way the flees. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 277 Lytel popies, that serueth for ladies, weere sumtyme bellis, sumtyme colers ful of prickis for theyr defence. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. cxl, Of doggues there ben diuerse sortes...There ben litle minxes, or pupees that ladies keepe in their chaumbers..to playe withall. *Ibid.* II. xviii. 271 When he sawe in Roome straungiers carrye young puppees in their armes to plaie withall. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Eng. Dogs* S iii, Of the Spaniel gentle,..Melitœus...These puppies the smaller they be, the more pleasure they prouoke. 1655 CAPEL *Tentations* 15 A foolish woman may in her foolish affection dote upon a puppy more than on her gold.

2. A young dog, a whelp.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 3 One that I brought vp of a puppy: one that I sau'd from drowning, when three or foure of his blinde brothers and sisters went to it. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. v. 11. *c* 1680 EARL DORSET *To Edw. Howard, on his plays* 30 And though 'tis late if justice could be found, Thy plays, like blind-born puppies, should be drown'd. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 302 In less than a month the puppy begins to use all its senses. 1858 YOUATT *Dog* xiii. 348 A bitch that was often brought to my house was suckling a litter of puppies.

b. By extension, A young seal; = PUP *sb.*1 2. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

3. Applied to a person as a term of contempt; especially, in modern use, a vain, empty-headed, impertinent young man; a fop, a coxcomb.

In quot. *a* 1613 perh. = F. *poupée* a lay figure or dressed-up person.

1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 404 Pappe with an hatchet for such a puppie. 1597 G. HARVEY *Trimming Nashe* 1 To the polypragmaticall .. Puppie Thomas Nashe. *a* 1613 OVERBURY *A wife, &c.* (1638) 179 There is a confederacy between him and his clothes, to be made a puppy. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) IV. vii. 19 That opinion of a poor shallow-brain'd puppy, who [etc.]. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 14 Nov., Sir Richard Cox, they say, is sure of going over lord chancellor, who is as arrant a puppy as ever eat bread. 1738 — *Pol. Conversat.* 110, I did a very foolish thing yesterday, and was a great Puppy for my Pains. 1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) I. 342, I should be a most affected puppy if I did so. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 17 June 3/6 There are only two classes amongst street smokers—namely puppies and blackguards. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* ii, A clever, sensible young man; has no conceit about him like the puppies of our day.

†**b.** Applied to a woman in sense of F. *poupée*: a (mere) doll. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 42 Who..hath no wittie, but a clownish dull flegmatike puppie to his mistres.

†**c.** Applied to women in various figurative senses from 1 or 2. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Hee & Shee Conny-Catcher* Wks. (Grosart) X. 241 Holding such Maidens as were modest, fooles, and such as were not, as wilfully wanton as my selfe, puppies, ill brought vppe and without manners. 1602 *2nd Pt. Ret. fr. Parnass.* I. vi. 471 You light skirt starres..By glomy light perke out your doutfull heads: But when Don Phœbus showes his flashing snout, You are skie puppies [*i. e.* lesser dog-stars] straight your light is out. *a* 1693 URQUHART *Rabelais* III. xxxiv, Other such like Queanish flurting Harlots..and such like Puppies [FR. *telles mastines*].

4. †**a.** = POPPET 2, PUPPET 2. *Obs.*

1659 TORRIANO *It.-Eng. Dict.*, *Pupa*..a childs babby, puppy, or puppet to play withal.

b. A north and east country equivalent of PUPPET *sb.* 3; see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

5. A white bowl or buoy used in the herring-fishery to mark the position of the net nearest the fishing-boat (*Cent. Dict.*).

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *puppy-clumsiness, -cup* (see CUP *sb.* 2 b), *-hunting, -pertness, -picture, -play, -stage, stake, style*; *puppy-like, -looking* adjs.; **puppy-biscuit,** a finer kind of dog-biscuit; **puppy-drum,** a young or small-sized drum-fish; **puppy-fish,** a name of the angel-fish, *Squatina Angelus*; **puppy-god,** a puerile divinity; **puppy-headed** *a.*, stupid; **puppy-love** (*contemptuous*): cf. *calf-love*; **puppy-peeping** *a.*, looking with half-closed eyes like a puppy; †**puppy-snatch,** a snare; **puppy walker,** one who takes hound-puppies to 'walk'; so *puppy walking*; **puppy-water,** the urine of a puppy, formerly used as a cosmetic.

1895 F. ANSTEY *Lyre & Lancet* XI. 111 Ought a schipperke to have meat? Mine won't touch *puppy biscuits. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* i. 6 The characteristic *puppy-clumsiness of their limbs. *Ibid.* ii. 35 It seems..to be agreed that no dog or bitch can qualify for a *puppy cup after two years of age. 1893 *Outing* (U. S.) XXII. 94/2 Small drum from eight to twelve inches in length are caught in set nets in the shoal waters of Pamlico Sound about Hatteras...They are called '*puppy-drum' by the natives. 1883 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit.* II. 327 *Rhina squatina.* Names,—Angel-fish...Fiddle-fish, from its shape. Puppy-fish. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* IV. xxxiv. 195 They..were brought up without any of these *puppy-gods helpes [*sine tot diis puerilibus*]. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 107 A tame Cheater, hee: you may stroake him as gently, as a *Puppie Greyhound. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 159, I shall laugh my selfe to death at this *puppi-headed Monster. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* II. ii, Let me catch you no more *Puppy-hunting about my Doors. 1839 KING LEOPOLD *Let. to Q. Vict.* in *Daily News* 10 Feb. (1899) 5/7 Without that *puppy-like affectation which is so often found with young gentlemen of rank. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* III. 256 The *puppy-looking animal who came with her. 1907 *Black Cat* June 4 He adored her with all the fatuous idolatry of *puppy love. 1895 G. MEREDITH *Amazing Marriage* XVI, [A prize fighter] sat on the knee of a succouring seconder,..*puppy-peeping, inconsolably comforted. 1795 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Tales Hoy* Wks. 1812 IV. 390 With *puppy-pertness, pretty pleasant prig. 1692 J. SMYTH *Scarron., Travesty 2nd Bk. Virgil's Æneis* 10 So he by either means might catch Us Trojans in a *Puppy-snatch. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. III. iv. § 2. 174/2 Those who do not care for *puppy stakes. 1880 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 2/7 Four dogs are now left in for the Puppy Stakes. 1887 *Field* 27 Aug. 362/2 The toast 'Success to fox-hunting, and the *puppy walkers of England'. 1900 *Daily News* 13 June 8/4 The events of the hunting man's year, beginning with *puppy-walking, the training of the hunter, and cub-hunting. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellam.* I. Wks. 1722 II. 93 You spend it him in Coach-hire, *Puppy-water and Paint, every day of your Life. 1730 SWIFT *Misc., Lady's Dressing Room*, With Puppy-water, Beauty's Help, Distill'd from Tripsey's darling Whelp.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Pu·ppycide,** the killing of a puppy or puppies; **Pu·ppyess,** a female puppy (sense 3).

1791 *Bon Ton Mag.* Mar., Title-p. 2, 1. Portrait of a Modern Puppy. 2. Portrait of a Modern Puppeyess. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 5 July 9/2 It is to be hoped that the crime of puppycide..may be checked.

Puppy (pʊ·pi), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* and *trans.* To bring forth puppies; to whelp, litter; to pup.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 83 Bitches that puppie in hast bring forth blind whelpes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 355 A young whelpe..such an one as the bitch puppied the same morning. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 51 A Bitch that had newly puppied. 1736 BAILEY (folio), *Pup*, to bring forth puppies, to puppy.

Pu·ppy-dog. A child's word for PUPPY *sb.* 1, 2.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 460 Here's a large mouth..That..Talkes as familiarly of roaring Lyons, As maids of thirteene do of puppi-dogges. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 934 Of Monkeys, Puppy-Dogs, and Cats. 1702 S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* IV. 262 A Puppy-Dog, that's within a few Hours of the Age of Seeing, is as blind as another that's newly whelp'd. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 428 Like puppy-dogs, they delight to..pull at all who come near them.

†**b.** *Puppy-dog water* = *puppy-water* (PUPPY 6). 1663–4 PEPYS *Diary* 8 Mar., Up with some little discontent with my wife upon her saying that she had got and used some puppy-dog water, being put upon it by my Aunt Wight..who hath a mind..to get some for her ugly face.

Puppydom (pʊ·pidəm). [f. PUPPY *sb.* + -DOM.] **a.** = PUPPYHOOD. **b.** Puppies collectively.

1857 READE *White Lies* iii, The fate of this is to outgrow his puppydom, and be an average man. 1891 HANNAH LYNCH *G. Meredith* 5 The bites and barks of literary puppydom at his heels. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 2/1 Mrs. B...nurses them through all the troubles of puppydom to old age.

Puppyhood (pʊ·pihud). [f. as prec. + -HOOD.] **1.** The state of being a puppy (sense 2); the early period of a dog's life.

1750 COVENTRY *Pompey Lit.* I. iii. (1785) 11/2 The puppyhood of little Pompey. 1848 J. MILLS *Life Foxhound* i, When I was at walk at the home of my puppyhood, the hospitable farm-house. 1881 G. ALLEN *Evolutionist at Large* 185 When a dog has once been brought up from puppyhood under a master.

2. The quality or character of a puppy (sense 3). 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* xiv, That six feet of puppyhood makes a perpetually recurring eclipse of our friendship.

Puppyish (pʊ·pi,iʃ), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ISH 1.] Of the nature or character of a puppy (sense 3).

1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary, Let.* 14 Apr., He is conceited, self-sufficient, and puppyish. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 34 Your stage fops are to be..silly in stays, puppyish in pantaloons.

Puppyism (pʊ·pi,iz'm). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The character, style, or manners of a puppy (sense 3); impertinent conceit, affectation, 'side'.

1784 *New Spectator* No. 21. 6 There was a grand display of puppyism. The front boxes were much crowded with beardless young fellows. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Family Biog.* II. 123 The affectation and puppyism of literature are less tolerable and more ridiculous than the puppyism of all other puppies in the world. 1862 THACKERAY *Adv. Philip* xl, What do you know of him, with his monstrous puppyism and arrogance?

Pupsie, pupsy, a nursery or playful alteration of PUPPY: cf. *Betsy, Popsy.*

1611 COTGR., *Chien de damoiselle*, a pupsie, little dogge.

Pur[1], *dial.* Also 8 purr. [OE. in *pur lamb*, of uncertain origin.] **a.** A ram or wether lamb; also *pur-lamb, pur-hog.* **b.** *transf.* A male child, a boy.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xii. 5 Nyme ælc mann an lamb..Pæt lamb sceal beon anwintre pur lamb clæne and unwemme. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* Gloss., *Pur-lamb*, male lamb. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* s.v., In Dorsetshire a purr signifies a boy, also a male lamb. 1817 W. STEVENSON *Agric. Dorset* 411 Pur-

lambs are sold to dealers, etc. from Somersetshire, and other districts, where breeding flocks are not so generally kept as in the upland parts of Dorsetshire. 1883 *Standard* 21 Apr. 5/8 The lambs..are nearly all purs. 1888 Elworthy *W. Somerset Word-bk., Pur*, a male lamb..Seldom used in W. Som., but is the regular term in E. Som. and Dorset. *Ram* or *wether* is the common term in W. S.

†**Pur**[2], **purr.** *Cards. Obs.* [Origin unascertained.] A name given to the knave or Jack in the game of post and pair (see Post *sb.*[4]). Also *attrib.* **pur-chop, pur-dog,** ? a card which would take the knave.

1592 Lyly *Midas* v. ii, Mine armes are all armarie, gules, sables, azure, or, vert, pur, post, pare, &c. 1616 B. Jonson *Masque Christmas*, Enter .. Post and Pair, with a pair-royal of aces in his hat; his garments all done ouer with Pairs and Purs. *Ibid.*, Post and Pair wants his pur-chops, and his pur dogs. *a* 1618 Davies *Witties Pilgr.* Wks. 1878 II. 38/1 Some, hauing lost the double Pare and Post, Make their aduantage on the Purrs they haue: Whereby the Winners winnings all are lost, Although, at best the other's but a Knaue.

Pur, obs. f. Poor, Porr, Purr, Purree.

Pur-, *prefix.* The usual AF. form of OF. *por-, pur-*, mod.F. *pour-* :—L. *pōr-, prō-*, prep. and prefix (see Pro- *prefix*[1]). The form in which this prefix came into early ME. through OF., still retained in numerous words as *purchase, purfle, purlieu, purloin, purport, purpose, purpresture, pursue, purvey*, and their derivatives, as well as in the earlier forms of some words in which it has been since altered to the L. form, as *promenade*, etc. See the individual words.

Puraill, -rale, -rall, var. of Porail *Obs.*, poor people.

†**Puralé, pu·ralee.** *Old Law.* Forms: 3–4 **purale, pouralee,** 4 **puralee, puraley, porale,** 5 *Sc.* **pureale,** (*Hist.* 6–7 **pur-,** 6–8 **pourallee,** 7 **purallie**). [AF. *purale*(*e* (latinized *puralea*) = OF. *por-, puralee* a going through, f. OF. *por-, pur-, pouraler* to go through, traverse, f. *por-, pur-* :—L. *prō-*, forth; here interchanging with *par-* (:—L. *per-*) in OF. *paraler* to go through. Taken as AF. and ME. equivalent of L. *perambulātio*, Perambulation, sense 3. (See also Pourallee.)]

1. A perambulation made to determine the boundaries of a county, manor, parish, or district; *esp.* one made to ascertain the boundaries of a royal forest and to disafforest lands encroached upon by the crown.

[1201–2 *Rotulus Cancell. ann.* 3 *Johan.* (1833) 49 Willelmus Ruff' reddit compotum de c. s. ne fieret puralea bosci de Waleshale. 1292 Britton II. xvii. § 9 Et en mesme la manere soit fete puralee pur contek des parties. [*transl.* In the same manner perambulation shall be made in case of a difference between the parties. Cf. Bracton III. 402 Item cadit assisa in perambulationem propter incertitudinem, de consensu partium prædicto modo.] 1305 *Anc. Petit.* 13200 in *Mem. de Parl.* (Rolls) 9 La ou la purale fut fete par comaundement nostre seigneur le Roy en Ingelwode. 1305 *Ordinacio Foreste* 33 *Edw. I*, En droit de ceux qui terres & tenemenz sount deaforestez par la dite puralee, & qui demaundent davoir commun denz les boundes des forestes. 1323–4 *Tower Roll* (Manwood *L. Forest* xx. 134 b), Ici comence le proces de la puraley de Winsor, fait en le Countie de Surrey. *c* 1330 *Ann. London*, an. 1306 in *Chron. Edw. I & II* (Rolls) I. 146 Super absolutione iuramenti domini regis Angliæ de foresta, quæ vulgariter et Anglice dicebatur *porale*. *Ibid.* an. 1310, *ib.* I. 175 Richerus de Reffham eligitur in maiorem. ..Fecit etiam cum suis aldermannis *la purale* in civitate.]

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 307 Þe erle for þam alle with luf bisouht þe kyng [Edw. I.]..Withoute any delay do mak þe purale Be a certeyn day, Sir, þat pray we þe. *Ibid.*, He suore on his fayth..To mak þe purale, it suld not be delaied, With suilk men suld it be, þat þei suld hald þam paied. *Ibid.* 309 First þe nemnid alle þo, þe purale suld make, þat þorgh þe reame suld go, þe boundes forto stake. *Ibid.* 314, & for þe purale, set with certeyn bounde, þorgh þe lond suld be delaied no lengere stounde. 14.. *Ass. William* (an. 1184) in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 379 Sua þat fra þin furth wyth breyff of pureale na wyth nayn oþir breyff he may tyn oþir al or part of þe sayd land bot gif it war throu a breyff of rycht. *a* 1634 Coke *Instit.* IV. lxxiii. *Courts Forest* (1797) 304 Some Letters Patents of the perambulations or purallies of forests made by king E. 3..which we have seen.

2. From the middle of the 14th c., sometimes applied (in Law French) to the piece or tract of land between the wider bounds of a forest and the restricted bounds as fixed by perambulation, and thus passing into the sense of Purlieu, q.v.

The exact history of this transfer of sense is not evidenced; it was prob. at first an incorrect popular use of the term; but it appears to have been already established before 1344 (when the L. *perambulatio* appears in the same sense), and thus within ten years of the date at which Robert of Brunne used *puralé* in the original sense. *English* examples have not yet been found before 1482, when the word evidently appears as Purlieu; but *purallee, pourallee*, was used by Manwood and by other legal writers as identical with *purlieu*, and the form *purley* has come down from the 16th c. to modern times in the comb. *purleyman* as variant and spoken form of Purlieu-man, q.v.

1344 *Inqt. conc. Whittlewood Forest* (*For. Proc. Tr. of Rec.*, No. 281, skin 7), Et quod R. le B. de S. est communis malefactor de uenacione domini regis effugans feras a foresta in perambulacionem, et sic effugatis feris facit stabilias inter forestam et perambulacionem. 1370 *Cartulary of Eynsham* (O. H. S.) II. 107 Quod quidam Thomas de Langeley..fecit quandam perambulacionem citra forestam de Wychewode, elargando bundas predictas: et..quod predictus hamelettus [Haneberghe] est infra les pural[ees] eiusdem foreste. 1372 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 313/1 (46 Edw. III) Sur qoi supplie la dite Commune..qe gentz de pays purront chaser le Purale sanz reez ou stableye faire, sanz estre attache, endite, ou empesche par Forester ou autre Ministre. 1377 *Ibid.* 368/1 (51 Edw. III), Item supplient..qe nul homme soit empeche ne greve en temps a vener, par cause q'il ad chace ou chacera dedeinz le Poralee, ou aillours hors de le bounde du Forest. 1378 *Ibid.* III. 43/2 (2 Rich. II), Item supplient les Communes, q'ils puissent avoir lour Porales come y soloit avant ces heures, selonc le purport del Grande Chartre..; & qe Perambulation ent soit faite, com il fuist en temps du Roy Henry.

1598 Manwood *Lawes of Forest*: (*title-p.*) a Treatise declaring what Purallee is. *Ibid.* xx. § 1. 127 Purlieu, or Pourallee, is a certain Territorie of ground adioining vnto the Forest..which Territorie of ground was also once Forrest, and afterwards disafforrested againe by the perambulations made for the seuering of the new Forrestes from the old. 1726 C. Kirkham (*title*) Two Letters to a Friend, the First Shewing and Demonstrating by Law the Rights and Privileges of Pourallees or Free-Hey. [1909: see Purlieu-man.]

‖ **Purāna** (purā·nă). Forms: 7 **poran(e, 9 pooraun, poorána,** 8– **purāna.** [Skr. *purāṇá* belonging to former times, f. *purā* formerly. Cf. F. *pourana*, formerly *pouran, puran.*] One of a class of sacred poetical works in Sanskrit, containing the mythology of the Hindus. Also *attrib.*

1696 Toland *Christianity not Myst.* 31 To say it bears witness to itself, is equally to establish the Alcoran or the Poran. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 275 In which Language are written the Porane, or Sacred History. 1798 *Brit. Critic* XI. 120 From the numerous *puranas* and ancient *dramas* of India, many scattered rays of information are to be collected. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Christ & Krishna* vii. 25 He disputes the point as to the early existence of literature of the Purâna order.

Hence **Pura·nism,** the religious system taught in the Puranas.

1882 Pidgeon *Engineer's Holiday* II. 225 Buddhism has been replaced in India by Puranism, a religion based on an immense extension and perversion of the early Vedas.

Puranic (purā·nik), *a.* (*sb.*) Also **pauranic, -ik** (pauurā·nik), **pooranic.** [f. prec. + -ic. *Pauranic* follows the Skr. *paurāṇika.*] Of or pertaining to the Puranas.

1809 Colebrooke *Jains* in *Asiat. Res.* IX. 295 The Jainas, with whom the legendary story of their saints also seems to be engrafted on the Pauranic tales of the orthodox sect. 1869 Max Müller *Rig Veda* I. 244 In the epic and pauranic literature this Diti has grown into a definite person. 1889 J. M. Robertson *Christ & Krishna* xii. 59 The Krishna Birth-Festival here departs from the Purânic legend.

b. *absol.* as *sb.* (*a*) A Puranic work or author. (*b*) A believer in the Puranas.

1808 Wilford *Sacr. Isles* in *Asiat. Res.* VIII. 350, I shall give a few specimens..in the very words of the Pauranics. 1878 G. Smith *Life J. Wilson* iv. 103 Rama Chundra, formerly a Pooranik, would defend the Christian religion.

†**Pu·rantism.** Altered form of Puritanism.

1602 Warner *Alb. Eng.* x. liv. 242 It is but part of Maiestie, through Purantizme declynde.

Puraventure, erron. var. of Peradventure.

Purbeck (pɔ̄·ubek). Name of a peninsula on the Dorsetshire coast; in full, Isle of Purbeck; used *attrib.* to designate the stone quarried there, or things made of this, and the geological formation there typically developed.

Purbeck beds *Geol.*, the three strata of the Purbeck series, reckoned as the uppermost members of the Oolite formation, or the lowest of the Wealden. **Purbeck marble,** the finer qualities of Purbeck stone, formerly much used in ornamental architecture. **Purbeck stone,** a hard limestone obtained from Purbeck, and used in building and paving.

[1205 *Rot. Litt. Pat.* (1835) I. 1. 53/2 Dedimus licenciam..S. Cicestr' Episcopo quod possit ducere marmor suum de Purbicc'. 1410 in Rogers *Agric. & Pr.* (1866) III. 401/3 Purbrick stone. 1598 Stow *Surv.* (1908) I. 272 The next yeare [1423, they gave] fifteene pound..to the saide pauement [of the Guildhall], with hard stone of Purbecke.] *a* 1691 Boyle *Hist. Air* (1692) 207 A very experienced mason informed me that the Cathedral of Salisbury is made of Purbeck-stone, which in the air..will moulder away. 1812 *Monthly Mag.* 1 Dec. 396/1 The Purbeck strata are 410 feet. 1828 Bakewell *Introd. Geol.* (ed. 3) xii. 274 The Purbeck beds are by some geologists classed with the oolites. 1845 J. Phillips in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 632/1 Columns, chimney-pieces, and other architectural uses for which the 'Purbeck marble' is celebrated. 1850 Forbes in *Mem. Geol. Surv., Org. Rem.* III. Pl. v. 3 New forms of marine Purbeck mollusca. 1850 *Ecclesiologist* XI. 113 A trefoil-headed niche with Purbeck angle-shafts.

b. *absol.* (*a*) = *Purbeck stone*; a Purbeck paving-stone. (*b*) Any one of the Purbeck strata.

1766 Entick *London* IV. 82 The floor is paved with Purbeck. 1771 Luckombe *Hist. Print.* 319 The Press-Stone should be marble, though sometimes Master Printers make shift with purbeck. 1833 T. Hook *Widow & Marquess* iv, Savile had been polishing the purbecks of Portland-place. 1871 Lyell *Elem. Geol.* xx. (1885) 286 Thick beds of chert occur in the Middle Purbeck. *Ibid.* 289 Between forty and fifty mandibles..have been found in the Purbecks.

Hence **Purbe·ckian** *a.*, of or pertaining to the Isle of Purbeck, or to the Purbeck beds.

1885 Geikie *Text Bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) 788 Upper or Portland Oolites—Purbeckian, Portlandian, Kimmeridgian. *Ibid.* 799 The Purbeckian group has been divided into three sub-groups.

Purblind (pɔ̄·ublәind), *a.* Forms: α. 3 **pur blind,** 4 **pure blynde,** 6 **pour, poure,** 6–7 **pore, poare, poore blind** (etc.), 8 **pur blind.** β. 6 **poore-blynd,** 6–7 **pur-blinde,** 7 **pore-, poare-, pure-blinde,** 7–8 **pur-blind.** γ. 3, 6–7 **purblinde,** 5–6 **purblynde,** 6–7 **purblynd,** 6–**purblind**; 6–7 **purreblind**; 6 **poore-, poure-blind,** 6–7 **pourblind**(e; 6–8 **poreblind,** (6 **purblinde, purblynde,** 9 **perblind**). See also Spurblind. [In 13th c., and sometimes later, as two words, *pur, pure blind*, perh. *pure* adv. entirely, quite, or, as some suggest, OF. *pur-, pour-* intensive. But if this sense (which appears in the first quotation) was the original, it had come before 1400 to mean something less than blind, and was soon written as one word, the first element of which was in the 16th c. variously represented as *poor, pore, pour.*]

†**1.** Quite or totally blind. *Obs. rare.*

The sense appears certain in quot. 1297; in those of the 16th and 17th c. it is doubtful.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 7713 Wo so bi king willames daye slou hert oþer hind Me ssolde pulte out boþe is eye & makye him pur blind. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* III. i. 181 This wimpled, whyning, purblinde waiward Boy,..don Cupid. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* II. i. 12 Speake to my goship Venus one faire word, One Nickname for her purblind Sonne and her. 1615 Brathwait *Strappado*, etc., *Love's Labyrinth* 63 But we by Cupids meanes, that pur blind boy, obtaine by death we could not earst enioy.

2. Of impaired or defective vision, in various senses: †**a.** Blind of one eye (*obs.*). **b.** Short-sighted, near-sighted. **c.** (Sometimes app.) Long-sighted, dim-sighted from age. **d.** Partially blind; almost blind; dim-sighted, generally, or without particularization.

a. 1382 Wyclif *Exod.* xxi. 26 If eny man smyte the eye of his seruaunt, or of hondmayden, and make hem pure blynde [1388 makith hem oon iȝed; Vulg. *et luscos eos fecerit*; LXX καὶ ἐκτυφλώσῃ], he shal leeue hem free for the eye that he hath drawun out. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Purblynde, *luscus.* 1617 Morvson *Itin.* III. 16 The French haue a good Prouerbe, Entre les aueugles, les borgnes sont les Roys: Among the blinde, the pore blind are the Kings.

b. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. lxi. 83 In the chase, sir Olphert of Guystels, was taken, for he was purblynde [orig. *car il auoit courte veue*]. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. 367 The dung..is singular good for those that be poreblind or short sighted. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 870 Pore-blinde Men ..haue their Sight Stronger neare hand, than those that are not Poreblinde; And can Reade and Write smaller Letters. 1735–6 in *Swift's Lett.* 10 Feb. (1766) II. 227, I was in hopes you would have mended, like my purblind eyes, with old age. 1853 Dunglison *Med. Lex., Purblind*, myopic.

c. 1621 Molle *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* III. xvii. 202 Eies that are turned, that are poare-blind. 1794 G. Adams *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* II. xvii. 308 The apparent paradox of the pur-blind, or those who can scarcely see a small object at arm's length, yet discovering those that are very remote.

d. 1531 Elyot *Gov.* III. iii, But a weighty or heuy cloke, fresshely glitteringe in the eyen of them that be poreblynde. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Agst. Contention* II, It is more shame for hym that is whole blynd, to call hym blinkerd, that is but pore blynd. 1605 Willet *Hexapla Gen.* 308 Her eyes ..dull and heauie, which made her poore blind, or to looke a squint. 1621 T. Williamson tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 56 Some are borne starke blinde, and some purblinde. 1751 Smollett *Per. Pickle* lxxiv. (1779) III. 13 Reconnoitering the company through a glass, for no other reason but because it was fashionable to be pur-blind. 1868 Miss Braddon *Charlotte's Inher.* I. i, Old Nanon the cook, purblind, stone-deaf, and all but imbecile.

†**e.** Applied to the hare. *Obs.*

c 1280 *Names of Hare* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 He shal saien on oreisoun In þe worshipe of þe hare..þe brodlokere, þe bromkat, þe purblinde, þe fursecat. 1592 Shaks. *Ven. & Ad.* 679 And when thou hast on foote the purblind hare, Marke the poore wretch.

f. *fig.* Of things: Dimly lighted.

1719 D'Urfey *Pills* III. 66 He was hir'd, To light the Purblind Skies. 1898 J. Hollingshead *Gaiety Chron.* i. 17 Small .. windows, blinking purblind at the busy .. thoroughfare.

3. *fig.* Having imperfect perception or discernment; lacking or incapable of clear mental, moral, or spiritual vision; stupid, obtuse, dull.

1533 More *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1078/2 Maister Masker..is not..so pore blinde but that he seeth well in dede, that y^e meate which Christ speaketh of here, is our sauiour Christ himselfe. 1596 Drayton *Leg.* iv. 84 Which their dull purblind Ignorance not saw. 1629 Prynne *God no Impostor* 31 Mans darke, or purblinde carnall reason. 1660 W. Secker *Nonsuch Prof.* 313 Man is such a pur-blind creature, that he cannot unerringly see a day before him. 1859 Kingsley *Misc.* (1860) I. 118 Foresight as short and as purblind as that of the British farmer.

Purblind (pɔ̄·ublәi·nd), *v.* [f. prec.: cf. *to blind.*] *trans.* To make purblind; to impair the sight of. Also *fig.* Hence **Purbli·nded** *ppl. a.*

1572 R. H. tr. *Lauaterus' Ghostes* iv. 16 Poare blynded men whome the Greekes call *Μύωπες*. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 31 A..purblinded Argus, all eyes and no sight. 1651 Howell *Venice* 175 This Signory..doth not admit the falshood of any interessed opinion to purblind Her own proper understanding. 1831 Carlyle *Sart. Res.* III. iii, Were he not as has been said, purblinded by enchantment. 1874 W. Jones *N. Test. Illustr.* 595 The eagle..can, by frightening and purblinding the animal [chamois], make it leap the precipice.

Pu·rblindly, *adv. rare.* [f. as next + -ly[2].] In a purblind manner.

1847 in Webster, citing Scott. 1909 *Dundee Advertiser* 24 Feb. 6/2 To advance purblindly upon the problem..is to intensify the mischief.

Purblindness. [f. PURBLIND *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being purblind (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1552 HULOET, Purblindnes, *Luscio.* 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 903 [They] cure the dulnesse or purblindnesse of their eyes with the powder of wilde Marjoram. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 22 A thin plate of gold.. cures bleared eyes, or purblindness. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x, The Professor's keen philosophic perspicacity is somewhat marred by a certain mixture of almost owlish purblindness. 1859 C. LYELL in *Darwin's Life & Lett.* (1887) II. 207 To believe the eye to have been brought to perfection, from a state of blindness or purblindness.

Purcatorie, -y, obs. ff. PURGATORY. **Purce, -er,** obs. ff. PURSE, -ER. **Purcelain(e, -lan(e, -line, -llan,** etc., obs. ff. PORCELAIN, PURSLANE.

Purceynt, var. PURCINCT *Obs.*

†**Pur charite** [Anglo-Fr.], var. *par charity*: see PAR *prep.* 1.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IX. 169 Ich praye þe..pur charite.. Awreke me of þese wastours.

Purchasable (pɜ·ɹtʃəsăb'l), *a.* Also **purchaseable.** [f. PURCHASE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be purchased. †**a.** That may be obtained in any way; acquirable; procurable (*obs.*). **b.** Capable of being or liable to be bought for money.

1611 FLORIO, *Acquistéuole,* acquirable, purchasable. 1691 LOCKE *Lower. Interest* 43 Money being the Counter-ballance to all other Things purchasable by it. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 371 (France) No public office is henceforth hereditary or purchaseable. 1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* III. i. § 2 I. 516 [The] exchange value of a thing,..the command which its possession gives over purchaseable commodities in general. 1879 S. HIGHLEY *Magic Lantern* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 234/1 The stock article of the shops..purchasable for about three guineas.

Purchase (pɜ·ɹtʃĕs, -ăs), *sb.* Forms: *α.* 3 **porchas,** 5 **-ches.** *β.* 4 **pourchas, -chees,** 7 **-chace.** *γ.* 3–6 **purchas,** 4 *Sc.* **chass,** 4– **purchase,** (4–6 **-ches,** 4–7 **-chace,** 5 **-ches(s)e,** 5–7 **-chasse,** 6 **-chaz**). [ME., a. OF. *por-, pur-,* later *pourchas* masc. (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), f. *porchacier, por-, pur-, pourchassier* to PURCHASE. The 15th c. *purchace* is merely a graphic alteration of *purchas* (cf. *ace, ice, mice*), whence mod. *purchase* after the vb.; but the 17th c. *pourchace, purchasse,* were prob. influenced by F. *pourchasse,* OF. *porchace* fem., a parallel form to *porchas* masc.]

I. The act or action of purchasing.

†**1.** The action of hunting; the chase; the catching or seizing of prey; hence, seizing or taking forcibly or with violence; pillage, plunder, robbery, capture. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1745 So þat men of porchas come to him so gret route. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 331 Forthi to maken his pourchas He [Covoitise, as a robber] lith awaitende on the pas. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* 1946 Poems (S. T. S.) II. 145 Ane reuand wolf, that leuit vpoun purches On bestiall. 1596 Z. J. tr. *Lavardin's Scanderbeg* iii. 91 [The Turks] being scattered and dispersed..here and there about purchase and pillage. 16.. *Robin Hood* in Thoms *E. E. Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 110 Being overjoyed at the great purchase he had made. 1703 M. MARTIN *West. Isl. Scot.* 299 They [two eagles] commonly make their purchase in the adjacent isles and continent, and never take so much as a lamb or a hen from the place of their abode. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 216 We were bound now upon traffick, and not for purchase...They told us they were come into the South Seas for purchase, but that they had made little of it.

†**2.** Attempt or effort to obtain, procure, bring about, effect, or cause something; endeavour; attempted instigation; machination; contrivance, management. *Obs.*

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 695 Yif thou him slest, bi hire purchas, On the falle swich a cas, As fel [etc.]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 534 The king, throu goddis grace, Gat hale vittering of his purchass. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2389 Alle pleyes be deuysed By his avys and his purchace. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxvii. 50 Desyryng them, that they wolde make no yuell purchase agaynst hym. *Ibid.* 375 Ye Kynge of England made moche purchace to have the doughter of therle of F. to haue been married to his son Edward. *a* 1533 — *Huon* cxliii. 533 His nephue and..his men, who were newly slayne by the purches of the abbot of Cluney.

†**b.** Hence, The actual bringing about or procurement of any deed or event. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* vii. 27 Ouer grete haste thou makest to the purchas of thy deth. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1832 Diuers maydens louyng a chaste mynde From vilany ben saued by her purchase.

†**3.** The action or process of procuring, obtaining, or acquiring for oneself in any way; acquisition, gain, attainment. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. 12039 Sir henri of alemaine..Wende to þe court of rome, to make som purchas. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6051 Yn alle 3oure moste purchace Comþ 3oure deþ sunnest yn place. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 53 It ys no purchas of no good lose, but of enuye. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Purchase, *adquisicio.* 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iv. 45 Many faders & moders ben moche desyrous..to make purchases, & to gader goodes for the bodyes of theyr children. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xviii. (Arb.) 53 No doubt the shepheards ..trade [was] the first art of lawfull acquisition or purchase, for at those daies robbery was a manner of purchase.

†**b.** Concubinage. *Obs.*

[Cf. OF. *enfant, fils de porchas,* bastard child, 13th c.]

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26284 Bot he be yong o suilkin state þat he mai wijf forbere na-gate Oþer o spous or o purches. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. xi. 72 Son to the bustuus nobill Sarpedon, In purches get a Thebane wenche apon.

4. The action of making one's profit or gaining one's sustenance in any way; esp. of doing this in an irregular way, as by begging, or by shifts of any kind; shifting for oneself.

Quots. 1570, 1571 are obscure. To live *on one's purchase,* i. e. on what one can make in any way. To leave one *to his purchase,* i. e. to shift for himself, to his own resources. *Obs.* or *Sc.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 256 His purchas was wel bettre than his rente. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6840 To winne is alwey myn entent; My purchas is better than my rent. 1570 *Exning Par. Reg.,* The 4 of Februarye was buryed one Fookes a pore man that cam to the towne of his purchase. 1571 *Boxford Par. Reg., Buryinges,* 3 Tho. Walle yt wente of his purchase the xijth of Maye. 1710 RUDDIMAN in Douglas *Æneis* Gloss. s. v., He lives upon his purchase as well as others on their set rent. 1808 JAMIESON s. v., We still say, *He lives on his purchase,* of one who has no visible or fixed means of sustenance. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiv, Dousterswivel's brow grew very dark at this proposal of leaving him to his 'ain purchase'. 1825 JAMIESON s. v., *To Live on one's Purchase,* to support oneself by expedients or shifts. It had originally signified living by depredation.

†**b.** A pursuit by which gain or livelihood is obtained; an occupation. *Obs.*

1588 T. HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy.* 14 b, If euery Oyster had pearle in them, it [oyster-fishing] would be a very good purchase, but there is very many that haue no pearles in them. 1623–33 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night Walker* I. i, Thou hast no Land, Stealing is thy own purchase. 1658 SLINGSBY *Father's Leg.* in *Diary* (1836) 208 It were very strange for them who practise that Trade long, to gain by the purchase.

5. *Law.* The acquirement of property by one's personal action, as distinct from inheritance. Also *fig.*

[1292 BRITTON II. ii. § 4 Purchaz pora estre en plusours maneres.] *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Monarchy* ix, The grete lordis off þe lande..by reason..off Mariages, purchasses, and oþer titles, shall often tymes growe to be gretter than thai be now. 1463 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 201 Euery creature that I haue hadde lande of..as well that which came by inheritaunce as by porches. 1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* Prol., If the owner make a true pee degre or conueyaunce by discente or by purchace. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* (1574) 4 Purchase is called the possession of landes or tenementes that a man hath by his dede or by his agreemente. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. iii. 215 These three princes therefore, king William, queen Mary, and queen Anne, did not take the crown by hereditary right or descent, but by way of donation or purchase, as the lawyers call it. 1848 WHARTON *Law Lex., Purchase,..* an acquisition of land in any lawful manner, other than by descent, or the mere act of law, and includes escheat, occupancy, prescription, forfeiture, and alienation.

6. *spec.* Acquisition by payment of money or of some other valuable equivalent; buying. (Now the ordinary sense.)

[1560 BIBLE *Jer.* xxxii. 8 Bye my field, I praie thee..: for the right of the possession is thine, and the purchase belongeth vnto thee.] 1621 *Ibid.* 11, I bought the field..and weighed him the money...So I tooke the euidence of the purchase. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 337 He would make his first Purchases of little Jewels. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 459 To sell it, and to apply the money in the purchase of other lands. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* ii, We turned into Miss Black's shop, where I wanted to make a purchase. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. ii, She had only stopped her caprices and her purchases when the room would not hold another thing of beauty.

b. The action, practice, or system of buying commissions in the army; payment made for an appointment or promotion in the commissioned ranks.

The system was finally abolished in 1871.

1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* I. i. 4 An ensign's commission, presented me without purchase, in one of the Scots brigade regiments in the pay of Holland. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 400/2 In the navy, in the regiment of artillery, and in the corps of engineers and marines, the commissions are conferred without purchase. 1871 *Punch* 29 July 31/2 The Queen, by Royal Warrant, will put an end to all Purchase in the army.

7. *fig.* Acquisition at the cost of something immaterial, as effort, suffering, or sacrifice.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxii. 195 Our Senses and Experience .. are the Talents, .. to be..employed in the purchase of Justice, Peace, and true Religion. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* vii. § 21 (1687) 65 They that pay thus dear for damnation well deserve to enjoy the purchace. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 515 But if the purchase costs so dear a price, As soothing Folly or exalting Vice. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* 58 Has the Son of God..made a compleat purchase of all the blessings of salvation for us?

II. The produce of the action: that which is purchased or acquired.

†**8.** That which is obtained, gained, or acquired; gains, winnings, acquisitions; *esp.* that which is taken in the chase, in pillage, robbery, or thieving, or in war; the prey of an animal or hunter; spoil, booty, plunder; a prize; in later use, chiefly, a prize, or booty, taken by a privateer. Also *fig.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1738 Of willeuol men [he] him gaderede a gret route, & bi het hom god inou of porchas þat god hom sende. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3759 Geve off thy gold and off thy purchase To eerl, baroun, knyght, and servaunt off mace. *Ibid.* 6462 He gaff the ryche and the lowe, Off hys pourchas, good inowe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 213 Y-temptid to geddyr mony or Purchas of the placis wyche he is sende to. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III,* III. vii. 187 A Beautie-waining, and distressed Widow,.. Made prize and purchase of his wanton Eye. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii, Pack vp all the goods and purchase, That we can carry i' the two trunkes. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 106/2 A Dutch Caper..having it seems been ten months at sea without meeting with any purchase. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* 1 Dec. (1857) III. 406, 36 of their privateers are laid up at St. Malloes, finding little purchace of late. 1721 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (Bohn) 313 Several other jobs I told him of by which I made pretty good purchase. 1725 — *Voy. round World* (1840) 3 To go anywhere that the advantage of trade, or hopes of purchase should guide us.

†**b.** An advantage gained or possessed. *Obs.*

c 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* II. 1333 Perfor, madame, taketh heed her-to, I pray, Lese not 3our holde, lese not 3our purchase, Lete mekenesse dwelle wyth swych a fresch may! *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 65 A best hath a mothe, but he spekkyt not, Of God we have that fayre purches. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 89 Jewellers..have made good Purchase by buying Jewels here, and carrying them into Europe to be Cut and Set, and returning sell them here.

†**c.** *spec.* A vessel falling to a pilot's turn to conduct; also, the sum earned as pilotage. *Obs. rare.*

1550 *Egerton MSS.* 2118 lf. 3 [If a ship wanting a pilot fire a gun when passing Dover, the pilot] who oweth the tourne may follow his purchase into the Downes & there shall not be denyed lett ne disturbed [by other pilots]. 1609 *Cinque Ports Crt. Loadmonage* ibid. lf. 35 The said John is to paye the one halfe of the purchase unto the fellowshipp of the Trinity House of Dover.

†**9.** Property acquired or obtained by one's own action or effort. *Obs.* (So in Anglo-L. and AF.)

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 86 We se alle day in place þing þat a man wynnes, It is told purchace, whedir he it hold or tuynnes. 1444 *Maldon, Essex* A. lf. 32 b, It shall be leefull to euery man that purchasith eny hous or londe with in the Burgh for to devyse his purchas.

10. The annual return or rent from land; in the phrase *at so many years' purchase,* used in stating the price of land. Also *fig.*, in phrase *not to be worth* (*an hour's, a day's,* etc.) *purchase,* not to be likely to last the length of time mentioned.

1584 WHETSTONE *Mirour for Mag.* 29 b, The most pernicious Broaker..he helpeth him to sell free land at fiue yeres purchase. 1625 BACON *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 545 Land purchased at Sixteene yeares Purchase, wil yeeld Six in the Hundred. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 21 A Lease for a single life is generally valued at seven years Purchase. *a* 1722 FOUNTAINHALL *Decis.* (1759) I. 11 The Earl was ordained to sell these lands at nine years purchase. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxix, The doctor says that, with his short neck, his life is not worth two years' purchase. 1893 FORBES-MITCHELL *Remin. Gt. Mutiny* 246 The life of General Walpole would not have been worth half an hour's purchase.

11. That which is purchased or bought.

1587 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* II. ix. (1877) I. 204 Now all the wealth of the land dooth flow vnto our common lawiers, of whome, some one hauing practised little aboue thirteene or fourteene yeares is able to buie a purchase of so manie 1000 pounds. 1603 SHAKS. *Ham.* V. i. 117 A Lawyer... Will his Vouchers vouch him no more of his Purchases, and double ones too, then the length and breadth of a paire of Indentures? 1816 *Niles' Reg.* 3 June 334/2 The whole of that fine tract in Indiana territory, generally called Harrison's purchase, is now surveyed, and will be offered for sale. 1884 PAE EUSTACE *Outcast* 22 With a proud and swelling heart he entered in possession of his purchase.

b. *fig.*

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvii. § 1 Are not soules the purchase of Jesus Christ? 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 53 Here lies the purchase, here the wretched spoil Of painful years and persevering toil. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) I. iii. 158 The precious fruit or purchase of each moral victory.

c. A (good, bad, dear, etc.) bargain. ? *Obs.*

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 17 Too deare a purchase for so short a breath. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 382 Who now but Arcite mourns his bitter fate, Finds his dear purchase, and repents too late? 1812 *Gen. Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 147 The total loss of the besiegers..amounted to upwards of 4850. This might perhaps be thought a dear purchase. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* vi, She could not pronounce her words,..so I thought she was no very high purchase.

†**12.** The price at which anything is or may be purchased or bought; purchase-money. Also *fig.*

a 1718 PENN *Maxims* Wks. 1726 I. 844 The Purchase [of this Treatise] is small. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* V. 366 Insolvent worlds the purchase cannot pay.

III. [f. PURCHASE *v.* 7. Cf. also 8 b above.]

13. Hold or position for advantageously exerting or applying power; the advantage gained by the application of one of the mechanical powers; mechanical advantage, leverage, fulcrum.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 26 Fix..the Post ..with such a regard always to the Weight, that the Purchase and Security may be an Overballance for it. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 54 The further it goes the more Power it will gain, and thereby increase its own Purchase. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 253 The weight..was gaining more and more purchase upon the mast, as it heeled more outward. 1802 PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xiii. § 1 The head of an ox or a horse is a heavy weight, acting at the end of a long lever, consequently with a great purchase. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 339 The streets of Florence, being flagged instead of paved, are..dangerous for riding—the horses having no purchase for their hoofs. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. x. 66 If I could have calculated on a safe purchase for my foot. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Arm.* viii. 142 He might be enabled to bend his bow with a greater purchase. 1883 *Daily News* 29 Jan. 5/2 Unfilled door and window-spaces allowing entrance and purchase to the gale.

14. A device or appliance by means of which power may be brought to bear with advantage; any contrivance for increasing applied power; *esp. Naut.* such a device consisting of a rope, pulley, windlass, or the like.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 37 That the Angles of the Purchase may be as obtuse as possible, for

the Facility of gaining the same with smaller Force. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 241 When we came to make purchases to raise her again,..[we] found she did not hang so heavy. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* 198 The compound purchase, called the Runner and Tackle. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 455 We had no other means of performing this singular evolution than by attaching purchases to the ice from the ship. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 47 A derrick was rigged over the main-hatch with a double chain purchase attached.

15. *fig.* A 'hold', 'fulcrum', or position of advantage for accomplishing something; a means by which one's power or influence is increased.

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 232 A politician, to do great things, looks for a power, what our workmen call a purchase; and if he finds that power, in politics as in mechanics, he cannot be at a loss to apply it. 1809 KNOX & JEBB *Corr.* I. 547 This may give us a purchase, by which we may gain over people, from irreligion, to religion. 1853 MIALL *Bases Belief* II. xvii. (1861) 97 They diminish the amount of evil to be contended with, and they provide a firmer purchase for the power which contends with it. 1868 LIDDON *Serm. Spec. Occas.* vii. (1897) 150 The will has a subtle but strong purchase over the understanding in matters of belief.

IV. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: in sense 6, as *purchase-book,-deed, -making, -price, -sum*; in sense 6 b, as *purchase officer, system*; in sense 13, as *purchase-block* (BLOCK *sb.* 5), *-fall* (FALL *sb.*[1] 26), *gear, power, -tackle*; also **purchase-land**, land acquired by purchase. See also PURCHASE-MONEY.

1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 148/2 With the assistance of double and single *purchase-blocks. *c* 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 36 Purchase or shoulder blocks are used for masting, dismasting, or heaving down, or heaving off vessels on shore, or anything where immense strain is required. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, **Purchase-book*, ..the name given to a book..containing an account of all the purchases made. 1907 *Expositor* Dec. 498 The description of *purchase-deeds in the time of Jeremiah is suggestive of Babylonian usage. 1898 C. BRIGHT *Submar. Telegraphs* iv. 150 Not only can the cable be cut in shallow water near the coast by any small steamer with *purchase gear that will raise an anchor, but [etc.]. 1485 in *Somerset Medieval Wills* (1901) 254, I bequethe to Henry, my sonne, all my *purchesse londes that I haue purchessed oute of the manor of Comtone. 1891 *Daily News* 5 Mar. 3/5 That they should re-open the whole question of purchase and the terms granted to *purchase officers. 1884 *Sword & Trowel* Feb. 49 Jesus paid the *purchase-price. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Sept. 7/2 To issue 370,000 fully paid shares to the old company as purchase price for the undertaking. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 122 *note*, The term *Purchase-Tackle has of late years been applied to this kind of block.

Purchase (pə·ɪtʃĕs, -ăs), *v.* Forms: *α.* 3 **purchas(s)i, -chasy**, 3–4 **-chacy**, **-i**, **-e(n**, 3–6 **-chase**. *β.* 4 **pourchase**, 4–6 **-chace**, **-chasse**, 5 **-chasshe**, **-chaas**. *γ.* 3 **purchaci**, **-chasy**, 3–5 **-chacen**, 4–5 **-chasen**, 4 **-chascе**, **-chaysse**, **-chaise**, **-checе**, 4–6 **-chas**, **-chass(e**, **-chess**, 4–7 **-ches**, 4–8 **-chace**, 5 **-chese**, 4– **purchase**; (5 **perchess**). [ME. a. AF. *purchacer*, = OF. *por-, pur-, pourchacier, -chassier, -chasser* (11th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) to seek for, seek to obtain, procure, or bring about, f. *por, pur, pour*:—L. *prō* for + *chacier, chassier, chasser*:—pop. L. *captiāre* to catch, hunt, CHASE; cf. It. *procacciare* to endeavour to get, to procure. (The ONF. dialect forms *porcachier*, and *por-, purcacier, pourkacier, pourkachier*, do not appear to be represented in Eng.)]

I. †1. *trans.* To try to procure or bring about; to contrive or devise (esp. something evil) *to* or *for* a person. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9685 Þat hii ne ssolde purchasy non uvel Þe king ne non of his. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 He..þet deþ oþer porchaceþ ssame oþer harm to oþren. 1422 in E. Déprez *Études de diplomat. angl.* (1908) 37 Yat the saide Johan Moreau..ne purchase ne do no noyowse thyng..to owre seide rewme. 1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* 76 Wel they apperceyued certaynly that themperour pourchassed for them alle the euyl that he myght. 1483 — *Cato* g j b, Whan they seken and purchasen the losse and the dethe of yonge chyldren. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 74 ȝe, vndir the cullour of frendschip, purchessis my final exterminatione.

†b. With subordinate clause or infinitive. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 162 Wherof thou thenkest to deserve Thi princes thonk, and to pourchace Hou thou myht stonden in his grace. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4231 Wher thow..dist purchace Thy temptaciοun to enchace. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 408b/1, I shalle soo pourchaas to sette suche a clothe in thy lommes. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Fraiss.* I. cxl. 168 Duke Johan of Brabant, purchased greatly that yᵉ erle of Flaunders shulde haue his doughter in maryage. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 73 My mortal enemeis purchessis to raif my liberte.

†2. To exert oneself for the attainment of some object; to endeavour; to strive. *Obs.* **a.** *refl.*

[= OF. *se porchacier* 's'efforcer, s'activer' (11th c.).]

[1292 BRITTON v. xii. § 3 Le tenaunt se purchace de amesurer la dowarie [*transl.* let the tenant proceed for admeasurement of the dower].] *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7344 Þey..byddem go purchace Þem best, To seke oþer lond & lede. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* li. 331 Pharans purchased him that ilke day..that he hadde geten hym An Asse.

b. *intr.*

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* 191, I wote not how many poure pylgryms that wente pourchasshyng yf they myght fynde ony vytaylles in the countre. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxlvii. 177 The Cardynall..purchased somoche that a truse was taken bytwene yᵉ kynges of Englande and of Fraunce. *a* 1533 — *Huon* lxxxii. 253 He purchaseth for your deth. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. ii. 52 That I shold Purchase..for a little part, and vndo a great deale of Honour. 1674 EARL ESSEX *Let.* 17 Mar. (1770) 104 Mr. justice Jones purchased hard for it [to be made chief Justice].

†3. *trans.* To bring about, cause, effect, produce; to obtain, procure, manage. Const. *to* or *for* a person, or with dative. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 216 Nil Ich me nothing auentour, To purchas a fole gret honour. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 496 And went..to hunt & play, Forto purchase thame venysoun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. 129 The werre wol no pes purchace. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 232 None ought not to complayne my deth, sith that I have purchaced it myself. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvii. 231 Ye haue founde here an yll brother, syn he hath purchased for you so moche yll. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 176 As a Priest, he did earne, and purchace peace. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. *Acts Convict.* (1699) 285 Accused, and pursued be vertue of Crimes purchast be him.

†b. *intr.* To arrange, make provision, provide. Const. *for. Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 775 Ffor wynd and weder almyghty god purchace And brynge hire hoom. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 176 In every ffelaship so for thysilf purchace. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* lxxxiii, Lyke the lyonesse..of all her faons she loueth best hym that best can purchace for hym self. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxii. 93, I trust I shall purchase for suche a capitayne, that ye shal be all reconforted.

II. †4. *trans.* To procure for oneself, acquire, obtain, get possession of; to gain. *Obs.*

[*a* 1135 *Leges Wilhelm. Conq.* (MS. *c* 1230) I. xiv, Li apelur jurra sur lui..que pur haur nel fait ne pur auter chose, se pur sun dreit nun purchacer.] *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 87/32 Þat huy [Ursula] þe purchace clene maidenes: with þe to habbe in þi boure. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 360 Corineus .. wende alond to honti .. Vor to porchassi hom mete. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14463 He purchased hym, þorow robberye, Men ynowe, & fair nauye. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 992 He hopeth for to lyue longe and for to purchacen muche richesse for his delit. *c* 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 38 All thynges þe which the church of Saynte Marye..lawfully hath i-purchased [L. *adepta est*]. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. 100 It sal be ane lang tyme or the romans can purches sa grit ane armye contrar ȝou. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* I. iv. 11 The water .. purchaseth from the lead an euill qualitie. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 314 If..two or three united Cantons purchase any bootie by their peculiar Armes. 1703 M. MARTIN *Western Isles* 287 With these rude hooks, and a few sorry fishing lines, they purchas'd fish for their maintenance.

b. To obtain from a constituted authority (a mandatory or permissive instrument, as a brief, a licence, etc.); *spec.* in *Law, To purchase a writ*, to sue out, to obtain and issue a writ; hence, to commence an action. *Obs.* exc. *Hist.*

[1292 BRITTON II. xvii. § 4 Si le bref fust purchacé avaunt la disseisine.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19606 And þar-on purchest he þar breue For to seke..Cristen men. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 6 Whan Macmorgh hade the kynges lettres thus y-purchasede. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 238 b, All thoe yᵗ purchasen letters of any Lordes court. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 153 He could not alienate one acre without purchasing a licence. 1876 DIGBY *Real Prop.* v. § 2. 222 *note*, 'Purchasing' a writ was the usual expression for commencing an action by suing out a writ, for which the usual fees must be paid, notwithstanding the provision of Magna Carta (c. 40), 'Nulli vendemus..justitiam'.

†c. To gain, get to, reach (a port). *Obs. rare*—[1].

?1587 R. TOMSON *Voy. W. Ind.* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 582 One of the shippes of our company..went that night with the land: thinking in the morning to purchase the port of S. John de Vllua.

5. *spec. Law.* To acquire (property, esp. land) otherwise than by inheritance or descent; sometimes, to get by conquest in war. *Obs.* or *arch.*

[1278 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 10/2 Pur ceo qe la terre est de ancient demene le Roy u nul neste put purchaser par la commune ley.] 1303 [implied in PURCHASER 2]. *c* 1330 [see PURCHASED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 433 Ga purches land quhar euir he may, For tharoff haffys he nane perfay. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. de P. R.* VI. xiv. (Bodl. MS.), Þe fadir .. purchaseth lond and heritage for his children alwey [L. *acquirere..non desistit*]. *c* 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 30 Al hys thoght & all hys wylle, was nyghte & day, wyth all hys myȝht to wend in-to Irland..to do hym yn adventur, lond to purchace yn vnked land. 1435 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 487/1 The Manoirs, Londes,..and Possessions, purchaced or amortised. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 15 § 4 Yf eny bondeman purches eny landes..in fee symple. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iv. 14 His faults in him..Hereditarie, Rather then purchaste. 1682 [see PURCHASED].

†b. *intr.* To acquire possessions; to become rich. *Obs.*

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1342 Swilk men purchaces and gaders fast, And fares als þis lyfe suld ay last. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 608 He [the Reve] koude bettre than his lord purchace; fful riche he was astored pryuely. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 194 Riht so is Covoitise afaited To loke where he mai pourchace. 1623 WEBSTER *Devil's Law-case* IV. i, Were all of his mind, to entertain no suits But such they thought were honest, sure our lawyers Would not purchase half so fast. 1623–33 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night-Walker* I. i, Why should that Scrivener..Purchase perpetually, and I a rascal?

6. *trans.* To acquire by the payment of money or its equivalent; to buy. (Now the chief sense.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 252 And purchace al þe pardoun of Pampiloun & Rome. 1393 *Ibid.* C. IV. 32 And porchace ȝow prouendres while ȝoure pans lasteþ. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 602/18 *Peronizo*, to purchase. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* XXV. 10 The field which Abraham purchased of the sonnes of Heth. 1611 COTGR., *Acheter*, to buy, to purchase. *a* 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* v. (1728) 339 He that received money of the People for purchasing things for the Sacrifices. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. iv. 214 To buy wool for her majesty's use, to purchase oyl for her lamps. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, 'We must purchase our tickets,' said Mr. Tupman.

b. *fig.* To obtain, acquire, or gain (something immaterial) at the cost or as the result of something figured as the price paid; *esp.* to acquire by toil, suffering, danger, or the like; to earn, win; to bring upon oneself, incur (mischief).

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret., Gov. Lordsh.* 51 He þat gyues his good to hem þat hauys no myster, he purchases no louynge þerof. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliii. 476 For be that deth he hym Ouercam, And purchaced lif to Every Cristen Man. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 405, I..do purchasse malgre to remembre of evidenses lakkyng by negligence. 1521–2 *Wolsey* in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 335 þat þou may purches hevyn to mede. 1548–77 VICARY *Anat.* Ep. Ded. (1888) 6 [They] purchased eternal prayse by their study and cunning in Phisicke and Surgery. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. i, The Honours he has gain'd are justly his; He purchas'd them in War. 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 68 P 4 He that commends himself, never purchases our Applause; nor he who bewails himself, our Pity. 1741 tr. *D'Argen's Chinese Lett.* XX. 141 At length they all perish'd, and made the Japonese purchase their Death by the Loss of 3000 of their Soldiers. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. XXX. 180 Dearly, indeed, do I purchase experience! 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 183 The victory was purchased by the death of Rhiwallon.

III. 7. *Naut.* To haul in, draw in (a rope or cable); *spec.* to haul up (the anchor) by means of the capstan; hence, to haul up, hoist, or raise (anything) by the aid of a mechanical power, as by the wheel-and-axle, pulley, or lever. Cf. PURCHASE *sb.* III.

From quot. *a* 1625 this appears to have arisen as a nautical use of sense 4, with the notion of 'gaining', applied at first to hauling in a rope with the two hands so as to 'gain' one portion after another, and to have been extended to hauling with the capstan, and so at length to the advantage gained by any mechanical power.

1567 *Admiralty Crt. Act* XII., 29 May, [Commission is awarded]..to recover, purchase, wey and bring to lande one sonken or wrecked shipp. *a* 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) lf. 60 b, To Purchase Wee Call the gaining or Coming in of a Roape by our haling of it in with our handes, or heauing of it in at yᵉ Capstaine or otherwise Purchasing; as the Capstaine doth purchase apace that is it drawes in the Cabell apace, or the Tackles doe purchase, and the Contrarie where wee cannot purchase with the Roape, Tackle, or the like Neate. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* I. xvi. (1692) 80. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 141 Pendants of the Main and Foremast ought to be as big as the Shrowds, since they purchace a great Weight of Boats and Anchors. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 180 In purchasing the anchor, the cable parted, and I lost it. 1768 J. BYRON *Narr. Patagonia* (ed. 2) 28 We were usually obliged to purchase such things as were within reach by means of large hooks fastened to poles. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 143 In this situation a strong hawser..being passed under one of the arms of the anchor,..the whole suspension was in that manner purchased. *Ibid., note*, A piece of strong timber overlaying the bows of a vessel, containing sheaves, or a roller for purchasing the anchor. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* ii, Purchase the anchor I could not; I therefore slipped the cable. 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, After one or two attempts, he lowered down the steps and contrived to bump her [an old lady] on the first, from the first he purchased her on the second, and from the second he at last seated her at the door of the carriage.

Purchased (pə·ɪtʃĕst), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED[1].]

†1. Obtained by effort, entreaty, or the like; acquired, procured, gotten; of land, Acquired otherwise than by inheritance. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 87 Heritage þat lyues & leues to þe eldest sonne, Purchaced þing men gyues, woman weddyng to mone, Or tille a man is strange for his seruise oftsone. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/1 Purchest (*A.* Purchessyde), *adeptus*. 1568 BIBLE (Bishop's) *Eph.* i. 14 Unto the redemption of the purchased possession. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 90 You haue among you many a purchast slaue. 1682 WARBURTON *Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 90 Purchased estates, acquêt or conquêt...Strictly, acquet is such as is purchased before marriage.

†b. Incurred by one's act or conduct. *Obs.*

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle* IV. iii, He is dead, Grief of your purchas'd anger broke his heart.

2. Bought with money or other equivalent.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XIII. lxxvi, An English autumn, though it hath no vines..Hath yet a purchased choice of choicest wines. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 44 Purchased roses decked her furrowed cheeks.

Purchase-money. The sum for which anything is or may be purchased. Also *fig.*

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Wks.* (1764) II. 293, I would part with the purchase-money, for which I have less regard. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 57 The purchase money of farms is estimated upon the amount of rent. 1832 HART. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* ix, Labour is still the purchase-money of everything here. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 259 He..retained the proceeds..with which to pay off his purchase-money.

Purchaser (pə·ɪtʃĕsəɹ). Forms: 4 **purchasour**, 5 **-oure**, **-owre**, **purchesur**, 6 **-asser**, 6–8 **-asor**, 6– **purchaser**. [ME., a. AF. *purchasour*, = OF. *porchaceor*, later *pur-, pourchaseur*, agent-n. from *porchacier, pourchasser* to PURCHASE.]

†1. One who acquires or aims at acquiring possessions; one who 'feathers his nest'. *Obs.*

In quot. *c* 1386, many explain *purchasour* as 'conveyancer',

which is possible; but cf. quot. 1591 and PURCHASE *v.* 5 b, quot. 1623-33.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1105, Y se men þat purchasours are, þat coueyte catel with sorwe & kare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 318 A Sergeant of the Lawe..Of fees and robes hadde he many oon, So greet a purchasour was nowher noon; Al was fee symple to hym in effect; His purchasyng myghte nat been infect. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 6427, I haue lyued as a sowdyor A poure man but no purchasoure. 1591 GREENE *Disc. Coosnage* (1592) 11 Think you some lawyers coulde be such purchasers, if al their pleas were short, and their proceedinges iustice and conscience?

†**b.** One who procures or brings something about. *Obs. rare*—1.

1653 WHITFIELD *Treat. Sinf. Men* vi. 25 Is he not the Author and purchasor of peace?

†**c.** *Mining.* See quot. 1747; cf. CAVER. *Obs.*

? 1556 in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 95 That no Purchasors shall let or stop any Miners from any Wash-trough at any time. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* s. v. *Mineral time*, Purcassers [are] Poor People that daily go to the Mines, with their Hammers, Bags, or Penny-wiskets, searching in the Deads that are daily drawn and tem'd on the Hillocks, for any Bits of Ore that they can find therein. *Ibid.*, Also Purchasers are all to go away from the Works when that time is expired.

2. *Law.* One who acquires land or property in any way other than by inheritance.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9453 Also with purchasours ryȝt so hyt fareþ, Alle þat þey bygge, here eyrës bareþ. *c* 1540 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 71 Yf anye suche inherytor or purchessor absent them selfes [etc.]. 1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* viii. § 539. 235 If husband and wife be joynt purchasers unto them and unto the heires of the husband of lands. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xiv. 220 The first purchasor..is he who first acquired the estate to his family, whether the same was transferred to him by sale, or by gift, or by any other method, except only that of descent. *Ibid.* xv. 241 If I give land freely to another, he is in the eye of the law a purchasor. 1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 106 § 1 (Act for Amendment of Law of Inheritance), The Words 'the Purchaser' shall mean the Person who last acquired the Land otherwise than by Descent, or than by any Escheat, Partition, or Inclosure.

3. One who purchases for money; a buyer.

1625 MASSINGER *New Way* II. i, I must have all men sellers, and I the only purchaser. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 511 ¶ 4 The Purchaser..pays down her Price very chearfully. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 371 He was instantly discerned to be a fit purchaser of every thing that nobody else would buy. 1902 E. L. BANKS *Newsp. Girl* 129 Plenty of things are not for sale until a purchaser comes.

Purchasing (pē·ɪtʃėsiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb PURCHASE in various senses. In quot. 1747, the gathering of ore from the waste heap: cf. PURCHASER 1 c.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5197 In water and londe [is] his purchaceyng. Boþe hij eteth flesshe and fysshe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 579 And swa thar purchesyng maid thai. 1386 [see PURCHASER 1]. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxx. 164 As they wente in purchasynge of prayes. 1595 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 733 Monye.. for the purchasing of some competent landes. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxxvi. (1674) 188 The purchasing of Eternity to her name. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* 53, Sauntle [is] the first pee or bit of Ore that the Cavers find in a morning by Purchassing. 1800 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1886) II. 193 A fund..for the purchasing Potatoes.

b. *attrib.*, as *purchasing power, value.*

1675 EARL ESSEX *Lett.* (1770) 221, I am not in a purchasing condition. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* XIII. 640/1 If we could suddenly double the whole quantity of sovereigns and their equivalents in England, the purchasing value of each coin would..be reduced to exactly one half of its former amount. 1863 FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* II. iv. (1876) 137 The cost of living is augmented, and wages possess less purchasing power.

Purcholis, -ious, obs. forms of PORTCULLIS.

Pur-chop: see PUR 2.

†**Purcinct,** *sb. Obs.* Also 4 **pursaunt, poursent,** 4-5 **purseynt,** 5 **-cynct.** [a. AF. *purceynt(e* = OF. *porceinte*, sb. fem., *porceint*, sb. masc., from *porceindre*:—L. *prōcingĕre, prōcinctus*: see next and PROCINCT.] = PRECINCT *sb.*, PROCINCT *sb.*[1]; compass.

[1292 BRITTON VI. v. § 3 Hors de la purceynte del Counté ne est nul tenu a receyvere somounse. 1304 *Year Bk.* 32 *Edw. I*, Trin. Term (Rolls) 261 Dens la purceynt de meisme le bois.] 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1034 Vch pane of þat place [the new Jerusalem, *Rev.* xxi. 12] had þre ȝatez, So twelue in poursent I con asspye. [Some read *poursent*, and explain as 'pursuit, sequence, order'.] 13.. *Ibid.* B. 1385 Þe place, þat plyed þe pursaunt wyth-inne, Was longe & ful large. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xi. 8 ȝif eny man comme with in the purseynt of the temple, be he slayn. 1437 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 503/1 The suburbes and the Purseynt of ye same citee. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 29 § 1 Viewe of fraunciplegge within the purcynct of the seid Manoir.

†**Purcinct, purseynt,** *ppl. a. Obs.* [a. OF. *porceint, -saint* (:—L. *prōcinctus*), pa. pple. of *porceindre*:—L. *prōcingĕre*: see PROCINCT.] Girt about, enclosed; = PRECINCT *ppl. a.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8914 Ne quest take of endytement Yn holy cherche, oþer ȝerde purseynt.

Purcoloys, -culleis, obs. ff. PORTCULLIS.

Purcy, Purcyfant, obs. ff. PURSY, PURSUIVANT.

‖**Purdah** (pē·ɹdă). *E. Indies.* Also **purda, pardah, parda** (*erron.* **purdow, purder**). [a. Urdū and Pers. پردہ *pardah* veil, curtain.]

1. A curtain; *esp.* one serving to screen women from the sight of men or strangers.

1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 64/1 A purdow, or skreen, of a yellow kind of gauze, being dropt before the door. 1809 LD. VALENTIA *Trav.* I. 100 He led me to a small couch close to the purdah, and seated me on his right hand ..between his mother and himself, though she was invisible. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eöthen* i, They passed through no door, but only by the yielding folds of a purder. *a* 1858 D. WILSON in *Life* (1860) II. xv. 126 Purdahs or curtains of all colours hung from the crenated arches.

b. As typical of the seclusion of Indian women of rank; hence *fig.* the system of such seclusion.

1865 *Daily Tel.* 25 Nov. 8/6 As an Occidental, she will not like that tame bird's life inside the lattice cage and the purdah which Oriental wives must bear. 1893 W. S. BURRELL & EDITH E. CUTHELL *Indian Mem.* 23 The veil of the purdah hangs less heavily over Mahommedan than over Bengali women. 1905 *19th Cent.* Mar. 486 The purdah has been hardly any drawback to the women born with any talent for ruling.

2. A striped cotton cloth, or other material, of which curtains are made.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Purdah*, an Indian cotton cloth, with white and blue stripes, used for curtains, etc.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly in reference to sense 1 b, as *purdah lady, walla* [see WALLAH], *woman*; *purdah party, system*; *purdah-like* adj.

1847 MRS. SHERWOOD in *Life* xxi. (1854) 356 Amina was.. particularly dark for a purdah walla, or one, according to the Eastern custom, who is supposed always to sit behind a purdah, or curtain. 1894 S. S. THORBURN *Asiat. Neighbours* iv. 68 Of all his [Peter the Great's] social reforms, the greatest was the abolition of the purdah system for Russian ladies. 1902 *19th Cent.* Nov. 818 Purdah women are a comparatively small proportion of their sex.

Hence **Purdahed** (pē·ɹdăd) *a.*, screened or secluded by a purdah; curtained; 'cloistered'.

1832 MRS. MEER ALI *Observ. Mussalmans India* I. xiv. 380 The hour is passed in lively dialogues with the several purdahed dames.

Pur-dog: see PUR 2.

Purdo·nian. Also **-ion, -ium.** [f. *Purdon*, name of the introducer.] Trade-name of a form of coal-scuttle.

1851 W. S. BURTON *Trade Catal., Lond. Internat. Exh.*, Purdonion. 1856 H. LOVERIDGE *Trade Catal.*, Purdonian. 1870 *Auction Catalogue* 29 Apr., A cocoanut mat, cinder sifter, japanned purdonium and scoop. 1901 *Ibid.*, An iron curb fender and oak coal purdonium with scoop and liner.

Purdy (pē·ɹdi), *a. rare.* Now *dial.* Surly, ill-humoured.

1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lover* v, 'Slife, one shan't speak to you one of these days, you are grown so purdy. 1672 — *Miser* IV, Why you saucy fellow you, what's to do with you? Ha, are you so purdy? *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Purdy*, surly; ill-humoured; self-important.

Pure (piūə), *a.* (*sb., adv.*) Forms: 3-5 **pur,** 4- **pure.** (Also 4 **puȝr, por(e,** 4 (6 *Sc.*) **puyr(e,** 5 **poure,** 5-6 **pewr(e, puer,** 6 **peur.**) [a. OF. *pur*, fem. *pure* (12th c. in Littré), = Pr. *pur*, Sp., It. *puro*:—L. *pūru-s* clean, clear, unmixed, pure, chaste, etc.]

I. In physical sense.

1. a. Not mixed with anything else; free from admixture or adulteration; unmixed, unalloyed; often qualifying names of colours. **b.** *esp.* Not mixed with, or not having in or upon it, anything that defiles, corrupts, or impairs; unsullied, untainted, clean. **c.** Visibly or optically clear, spotless, stainless; in quots. 1481, 1652, clear, transparent. Rarely const. *from.*

(There is a wide range of sense here, but lines of division cannot well be drawn among the quotations, many of which unite more than one shade of meaning.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 184 So clene is al so þat lond & mannes blod so pur [*v. rr.* puir, pure]. *Ibid.* 3178 O cler leom wiþoute mo þer stod fram him wel pur. *c* 1300 *St. Brandan* 313 Caliz and cruetz, pur cler crestal. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 227 So was hit clene & cler & pure, þat precios perle þer hit was pyȝt. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 82 A present al of pure Red gold. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XIII. ii. (Bodl. MS.), To make pitte water clene and pure. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* III. vi. 140 The mone is not so pure that the sonne may shyne..thurgh her as thurgh an other sterre. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vii. 15 At the well-head the purest streames arise. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 42 To have his minde..like unto a pure, bright looking-glasse. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 7 One reads them with the pure glass of Gods word: the other by his own false and fallacious perspicils. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 53 Full many a gem of purest ray serene, The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 508 To filter off a crystal draught Pure from the lees. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 33/1 There can be but one proper species of red;..all other shades being adulterations of that pure colour, with yellow, brown, &c. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 308 If alcohol be re-distilled, and reduced to two-thirds, you will obtain it very pure. This is what is called Rectified Alcohol. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 42 The morning air pure from the city's smoke. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 414 A mixture of prussian blue and cochineal pink..in preference to a pure blue. 1853 W. GREGORY *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 3) 74 In consequence of the great solvent power of water, it is never found pure in nature. 1869 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 187 The snow was of the purest white.

†**d.** Intact, unbroken, perfect, entire. *Obs. rare.*

1607 TOPSELL *Fourf. Beasts* 716 Twenty of these hornes pure, and so many broken.

e. Of a musical sound or voice: Free from roughness, harshness, or discordant quality; smooth, clear: *spec.* in *Mus.* and *Acoustics*, said of tones that are perfectly in tune, i. e. whose vibration-ratios are mathematically exact, so as to give no beats: esp. as opp. to *tempered.*

1872 F. JACOX *Aspects Authorship* iii. 44 The pure and most tuneful voice of Miss Clara Novello. 1873 HALE *In His Name* vi. 49 The voice was a perfectly clear and pure tenor. 1889 J. LECKY in Grove *Dict. Mus.* IV. 70/2 If..all the consonant intervals are made perfectly smooth and pure, so as to give no beats, the tuning is then called Just Intonation.

II. In non-physical or general sense.

2. Without foreign or extraneous admixture; free from anything not properly pertaining to it; simple, homogeneous, unmixed, unalloyed.

Pure naturals: see NATURAL *sb.* 5.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 166 Þere nys neyther..Pope, ne patriarch þat puyre reson ne schal make þe meyster of alle þo men. 1487 in *Surrey Archæol. Soc. Collect.* III. 163, I Elizabeth Uvedale..in my pure widowhood make and ordain my will. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. ix. (ed. 2) 47 In the time of Elisa 6: Dido, the Phœnicean or Punike, which she carried into Africa, was pure Hebrew, as were also their letters. 1642 *Answ. Observ. agst. King* 23 'Tis Adams pure naturalls, impure nature that makes a Subject covet to be a King. 1734 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 81 The Sadducees profess'd to follow the pure text of Scripture, or to interpret it according to the literal sense. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* vi. (1870) 148, I know at once, or by Immediate Inference,—that is, by an act of Pure Thought. 1882 MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* 130 The strain at a point is said to be pure strain if the principal axes (axes of the strain ellipse) are not rotated by the strain.

b. In reference to descent or lineage: Of unmixed descent, pure-blooded.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilȝear* 20 In point thay war to parische, thay proudest men and pure. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 286 To people the towne with pure Englishe men. 1827 ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 137 He was an Indian of pure blood. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. i. 24, I consider Attila to have been a pure Hun. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvii, That horse..is very nearly a pure Arab.

c. *Law.* Having no condition annexed; absolute, unconditional. *Pure alms*: cf. ALMOIGN 2.

[Cf. cl. L. *pūrus*, unconditional, absolute; med.L. *pūra (et perpetua) eleēmosyna* (*a* 1100), AF. *pure (et perpetuele) almoigne*; also F. *pur et simple* (Montesquieu 1747).]

1536-7 *Award..conc. St. Bartholomew's Hosp., Oxford* 3 Feb., The which said Hospital, King Edward the third.. gave and granted unto the predecessors of the said Provost and Scholars [of Oriel]..in free pure and perpetual alms. 1713 *Act* 13 *Anne*, c. 6 § 8 To have and to hold the said Canonship or Prebend to the said Colwell Brickenden..and his Successors..in pure and perpetual Alms. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Obligations* 151 [If] one be conditional or deferred for a term, while the other is a pure and simple engagement. 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* II. § 244 Sabinus and Cassius think that a conditional legacy to him is valid, but not a pure one.

d. Of a subject of study or practice: Restricted to that which essentially belongs to it; not including its relations with kindred or connected subjects. (Often denoting the simply theoretical part of a subject, apart from its practical applications, as in *pure mathematics*; opp. to APPLIED 2, MIXED 7.) Also said of a student or practitioner who confines himself to one particular subject or branch of a subject.

1641 WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. ii. (1648) 12 Mathematicks ..is usually divided into pure and mixed; and though the pure doe handle only abstract quantity..that which is mixed doth consider the quantity of some particular determinate subject. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 14 ¶ 5 The difference between pure science, which has to do only with ideas, and the application of its laws to the use of life. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* s. v., In England..the profession is ostensibly divided into three distinct branches, viz. *pure* physicians, or those who profess to act only in medical cases; *pure* surgeons, or those who practise surgery alone; and surgeon-apothecaries, or general practitioners. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 752/2 Pure Mechanism, or Applied Kinematics: being the theory of machines considered simply as modifying motion. 1903 R. B. CARTER *Doctors & Work* i. 4 A small number of operating, or so-called 'pure' surgeons. *Mod.* He is a pure physicist; he does not know chemistry.

e. *Logic.* Of a proposition or syllogism: opp. to MODAL *a.* 4.

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius his Logic* I. XXVIII. 112 A Pure Enunciation is that in which it is not express'd how the Parts cohere..Modal, in which it is. *Ibid.* II. XIV. 60 A Pure [Syllogism] is that which consists of Propositions pure. ..Modal either of one or both Modal. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. ii. § 4 When a proposition merely expresses that the predicate is connected with the subject, it is called a *pure proposition*; as, every true christian is an honest man: But when it includes also the way and manner wherein the predicate is connected with the subject, it is called a *modal proposition*; as, when I say, it is necessary that a true christian should be an honest man. 1827, 1870 [see MODAL *a.* 4].

f. *Gram.* (*a*) In Greek (*καθαρός*), of a vowel: Preceded by another vowel. Of the stem of a word: Ending in a vowel. Of a consonant (as *s*): Not accompanied by another consonant. (*b*) In Arabic, etc., of a syllable: Ending in a vowel, open.

1650 E. REEVE *Introd. Gr. Tongue* 24 Nounes ending in δα, θα, ρα, or pure α, do make the Genitive in ας. *Ibid.*, Adjectives in ης, having ος not pure [e. g. *εὐπατρις, εὐπάτριδος*]. 1776 J. RICHARDSON *Arab. Gram.* v. 14 [Syllables] are divided into *pure* and *mixed*; the pure consisting only of one consonant and one vowel,..the mixed of two consonants joined by a vowel. 1818 BLOMFIELD tr. *Matthiæ's Gr. Gram.* I. 218 Verbs pure, whose final syllable -ω is preceded by a diphthong. 1870 E. ABBOTT tr. *Curtius' Gr. Gram.* I. vi. 57 In the formation of the acc. sing. of Masc. and Fem., the

true vowel-nature of the stem declares itself, *πόλι-ν, πολύ-ν*; and the voc. sing...contains the pure vowel stem.

3. Taken by itself, with nothing added; . . . and nothing else; nothing but . . ., nothing besides . . ., no more than . . .; mere, simple.

Often in phr. *pure and simple*, following the sb. (cf. 2 c).

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 794 He isei þat he moste attenende Vor pur meseise vorfare. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (*Paulus*) 1026 For pure pytte & loy þai gret. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 Many .. diez for pure elde withouten sekeness. 1494 Fabyan *Chron.* v. cvii. 81 The .iii. sonnes of Mordred were constrayned of pure force to seche stronge holdes for theyr refuge. 1593 Shaks. *2 Hen. VI*, II. i. 157 Alas Sir, we did it for pure need. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* iv. xix, Knowing no more how to sway a sceptre then a pure clown to manage a sword. 1724 A. Collins *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 79 This distinction is the pure invention of those who make the objection. 1861 M. Pattison *Ess.* (1889) I. 38 His delay in setting out was due to pure procrastination and dilatoriness. 1875 Jowett *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 29 That of which we are speaking is knowledge pure and simple.

b. In emphatic or intensive sense: Nothing short of . . ., absolute, sheer, thorough, utter, perfect, complete.

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1917 H⁊ was..pur mesel þo & he bicom in is baptizinge hol of al is wo. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1817 Pelleus..sourdit into soure greme, And Priam reprouyt as a pure fole. 1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 36/1 Contynuyng alwey in his pure malice and envy. 1611 Chapman *May-Day* v. Plays (1889) 303/1 His master hath such a pure belief in his wife, that he's apt to believe any good of her. 1794 Godwin *Cal. Williams* 182, I believed that misery more pure than that which I now endured had never fallen to the lot of a human being. 1870 Ruskin *Let.* in *Athenæum* 30 Sept. (1905) 428/3 Dickens was a pure modernist—a leader of the steam-whistle party *par excellence*. 1902 Buchan *Watcher by Threshold* 145 A lot of pure nonsense.

† **c.** That is the thing itself, not something else; true, real, genuine; very. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 2308 He..sede he was purost eyr to be icrouned to kinge. *Ibid.* 8609 In a toun in barcssire.. out of þe erþe pur blod sprong ywis. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 704 Wel nyȝe pure paradys moȝt preue no better. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Knt.'s T.* 421 The pure fettres of his shynes grete Weren of his bittre salte teeres wete. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6656 He .. persed his Armure,..That it come to his fflesche pure. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1162/2 Til the pure panges of death pulled their heart fro their play.

III. Free from corruption or defilement.

4. Free from admixture of anything debasing or deteriorating; unadulterated, uncorrupted, uncontaminated; conforming accurately to a standard of quality or style; faultless, correct.

13.. *K. Alis.* 84 Thus he asaied the regiouns, That him cam for to asaile;—In puyr maner of bataile. 1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 214 Mi ladi..is the pure hed and welle And Mirour and ensample of goode. 1526 Tindale *Jas.* i. 27 Pure devocion and undefiled. 1540 Palsgr. *Acolastus* Ep. to King A iij b, In suche places of your realme as the pureste englyshe is spoken. 1617 Moryson *Itin.* I. 182 At Geneua many French Gentlemen and Students comming thither .. did speake pure French. 1788 Gibbon *Decl. & F.* I. (1838) V. 21 The purest disciples of Zoroaster escaped from the contagion of idolatry. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 165 They had been oppressed, and oppression had kept them a pure body. 1882 Peabody *Eng. Journalism* xvi. 124 His taste, if severe, was pure.

5. Free from moral defilement or corruption; of unblemished character or nature; unstained or untainted with evil; guiltless, innocent; guileless, sincere. Rarely const. † *of* (obs.), *from* (arch.). Often absol., *the pure* (*sc.* persons).

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxiii. 4 He..þat is pure in werkis and clen in thoghtis. 1481 Caxton *Myrr.* I. xiv. 48 To saue his sowle whiche God hath lent to hym pure and clene to thende that he shold rendre it such agayn. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* v. 8 Blessed are the pure in herte. *Ibid., Acts* xx. 26, I am pure from the bloud of all men. *Ibid., Titus* i. 15 Unto the pure are all thynges pure. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 506 Nature her self, though pure of sinful thought. 1719 Watts *Hymns* I. lxxxvi, How should the sons of Adam's race Be pure before their God? 1790 Paley *Horæ Paul.* Concl., His morality is everywhere calm, pure, and rational. 1849 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 171 A friendship as warm and pure as any that ancient or modern history records. 1851 Tennyson *To Queen* vii, Her court was pure; her life serene. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 265 He protested.. that his hands were pure from the blood of the persecuted Covenanters.

† **b.** Applied mockingly to Puritans; also to Quakers. *Obs.*

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* I. i, Lucia, new set thy ruffe; tut, thou art pure, Canst thou not lispe 'good brother', look demure? 1601 B. Jonson *Poetaster* iv. i, To helpe 'hem to some pure landresses, out of the citie. 1785 G. A. Bellamy *Apology* II. 45 My mother, from being one of the pure ones, had changed her religion to that of a methodist.

6. Sexually undefiled; chaste.

c 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 8 Alle clad in white, in tokyn of clennes, Lyke pure virgines. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 209 That blissit Marie remaines still puir virgine. 1591 Shaks. *1 Hen. VI*, v. iv. 83 And yet forsooth she is a Virgin pure. 1671 Milton *P. R.* I. 134. 1771 tr. *Horstius' Parad. Soul* App. 21 Hail you, the Sea's bright Star, Who God's pure Mother are. 1904 *Hymns A. & M.* No. 55 A maiden pure and undefiled Is by the Spirit great with child.

7. Free from ceremonial defilement; fit for sacred service or use; 'clean'.

1611 Bible *Ezra* vi. 20 The Priestes and the Leuites were purified together, all of them were pure, and killed the Passeouer. 1613 Purchas *Pilgrimage* II. xvi. (1614) 199 His [a Jew's] wife hath prepared his dinner, pure meats purely dressed.

IV. 8. *slang* or *colloq.* (? orig. *ironical*). A general term of appreciation: Fine, excellent, capital, jolly, nice, splendid. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1675 Wycherley *Country Wife* III. i, I was quiet enough till my husband told me what pure lives the London ladies live abroad with their dancing, meeting and junketing. 1695 Congreve *Love for L.* v. ii, O I have pure news, I can tell you, pure news. *a* 1720 Vanbrugh *Journ. to London* I. ii, A slice of it [goose pie] before supper to-night would have been pure. 1734 Mrs. Delany in *Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 508 Well, is it not pure that we shall meet in a fortnight? 1747 Garrick *Miss in her Teens* II, The door's double locked, and I have the key in my pocket. *Biddy.* That's pure. 1884 Henley & Stevenson *Deacon Brodie* I. iii. Sc. 3 (1892) 35 O, such manners are pure, pure, pure!

b. In conjunction with another adj.: *Pure and . . .* = nice and . . ., fine and . . .; excellently, satisfactorily; thoroughly (= C. 1: cf. 2 above). Now *dial.* (See And *conj.* 4.)

1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* II. xiv, They [*sc.* hogs] were all pure and fat. 1788 Charlotte Smith *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 271 You would have been pure and happy to drive about in a one-horse chaise. 1769 Romaine *Let.* 27 Oct. (1795) xxvii. 122, I saw Lady H— —, who was pure and well. 1865 *Let. to Editor*, In answer to the question 'How do you do?' in Cornwall..they say 'Pure and well, thank you'.

c. *dial.* Quite well, in good health: = Purely 4 b.

1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. IX. 527/1 The word pure is commonly used in Gloucestershire to express being in good health... 'I hope, Zur, the ladies be all pure.' 1900 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

B. *sb.* (or *absol.*)

1. That which is pure; purity. *poet.*

a 1625 Lodge *Misc. Pieces* ii. Wks. 1883 IV, Her eies shrowd pitie, pietie, and pure. 1667 Milton *P. L.* viii. 627 Union of Pure with Pure. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 735 How heaven's own pure may seem To blush. 1874 Tennyson *Vivien* 35 The mask of pure Worn by this court. 1898 G. Meredith *Odes Fr. Hist.* 6 Earth's warrior Best To win Heaven's Pure.

† **2.** 'Pured' fur: see Pured 2, Puree[1]. *Obs.*

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 215 For lyning of the said Tanne weluss goune within with puyr.

† **3.** A kept mistress. *Obs. slang.*

1688 Shadwell *Sqr. Alsatia* II. i, Where's..the Blowing, that is to be my Natural, my Convenient, my Pure. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pure*, a Mistress. 1725 in *New Cant. Dict.*

4. A 'pure' physician or surgeon: see the adj., sense 3 d. *Med. colloq.*

1827 *Lancet* 15 Dec. 434/2 Do the Pures profess a kind of surgery in the abstract? 1843 Sir J. Paget *Let.* 19 Dec. in *Mem.* vi. (1901) 148 The election of the pures in London was not I am told general. [*Note*, The 'pures' were the surgeons in consulting practice.]

† **5.** [Cf. Pure *v.* 1 b.] *Tanning.* Dogs' dung or other substance used as an alkaline lye for steeping hides. Also in *comb.* as *pure-collector, -finder, -finding.* (Also spelt *pewer, puer.*)

1851 Mayhew *Lond. Labour* II. 142 Dogs'-dung is called 'Pure', from its cleansing and purifying properties. *Ibid.*, The name of 'Pure-finders'..has been applied to the men engaged in collecting dogs'-dung from the..streets. *Ibid.*, There are about 30 tanyards..and these all have their regular Pure collectors. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Puer*, a tanner's name for dogs' dung. *Ibid., Pure, Pewer.*

C. *adv.*

1. Absolutely, entirely, thoroughly, quite.

In early use from sense 3 b of the adj.; in 18th c. *slang* or *colloq.*, from sense 8 b; now *dial.* or *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1542 He bicom sone þer after pur gidy & wod. 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 2499 He says 'our ille dedys er pur ille wroght, Bot our gud dedis pur gud er noght'. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 170 þe pris of a plouȝ-lond.. To aparaile þat pyler were pure lytel. *c* 1491 Caxton *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 89 It is pure easy..to folow god and serue hym in tyme of tranquylite. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 37 This yere [1522] departed Reucline, a pure aged man [*ætate gravis*]. 1710 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 23 Sept., Ballygall will be a pure good place for air. 1750 *Let.* 29 May in *Mrs. Delany's Life & Corr.* (1861) II. 548 Your amiable and worthy sister is pure well. 1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 78 The course will be pure swampy in some parts.

2. Purely, in various senses; simply, merely; rightly; chastely. *poet. rare.*

c 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 590 A kynge shude be right besy and studious To gouerne his Roiaulme & his people pure. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* v. i. 86 For his sake, Did I expose my selfe (pure for his loue) Into the danger. 1602 — *Ham.* III. iv. 158 O throw away the worser part of it, And liue the purer with the other halfe.

3. Qualifying an adj. of colour (chiefly *white*): Purely, with no admixture of any other colour.

(Not always clearly distinguishable from *pure* adj.: cf. a pure white rose: a rose whose colour is a pure white.)

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 182 So clene & vair & pur ȝwit among oþere men hii beþ. 1530 Palsgr. 259/2 Pure white sylke, *soye bissine.* 1611 Shaks. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 22. *a* 1618 Sylvester *Spectacles* xxxiv, The Lily (first) pure-whitest Flow'r of any. 1853 W. Gregory *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 3) 256 Gold is distinguished by its pure yellow colour.

D. *Comb.*: **a.** parasynthetic, as *pure-blooded, -bosomed, -coloured, -eyed, -mannered, -minded, -sighted*, etc. **b.** adverbial and complemental, as *pure-bred, -driven, -living, -washed.*

1886 C. Scott *Sheep-Farming* 157 Breeding *pure-blooded rams for sale. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 10 Specimens of *pure-bred domestic fowls. 1634 Milton *Comus* 213 O welcom *pure-ey'd Faith, white-handed Hope, ..And thou unblemish't form of Chastity. 1896 Abp. Benson in *Nat. Church* Feb. 51/2 Pray we for a temperate, a *pure-living people. 1819 Shelley *Peter Bell* VI. xxxiv, The most sublime, religious, *Pure-minded poet. 1596 Spenser *Hymn Heavenly Love* 276 All earthes glorie.. [will] Seeme durt and drosse in thy *pure-sighted eye. 1801 Bloomfield *Rural T.* 86 On the *pure-wash'd sand.

Pure, *v.* [a. OF. *purer*:—L. *pūrāre* to purify (with religious rites), f. *pūrus* Pure.]

† **1.** *trans.* To make pure; to cleanse, purify, refine (*lit.* and *fig.*). *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 1340 Hampole *Prose Tr.* 16 þat saule þat es purede in þe fyre of lufe of Godd. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1116 þou may..pure þe with penaunce tyl þou a perle worþe. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 þe whilk pissemyres kepez bisily and pures þe gold and disseuerez þe fyne gold fra þe vnfyne. *c* 1460 G. Ashby *Dicta Philos.* 90 Ye must pure youre selfe fyrst withoute blame. 1581 T. Howell *Deuises* (1879) 217 As fyre by heate the Golde doth fine and pure. 1608 Middleton *Fam. Love* III. iii, If you be unclean..you may pure yourself. 1635 Heywood *Hierarch.* v. 242 The Light, pur'd and refin'd.

b. *Tanning.* To cleanse (hides) by steeping them in a bate or alkaline lye. (Cf. Pure *sb.* 5.)

1883 *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 366/2 They [calf-skins] are then unhaired and fleshed in the usual manner, pured with a bate of dog's dung. 1907 *Camb. Mod. Hist. Prospectus* 100 Bating or puring as it is called, is a process by which all but a very small amount of the natural grease is removed from the skin.

† **2.** (?) *intr.* To become pure. *rare.*

c 1315 Shoreham *Poems* i. 67 And alegge he to senne falleþ, Her ne moȝe nauȝt pury Of serewnessche.

Pure, obs. form of Pore *v.*, Poor.

Pureanis, i. e. *pure anis*: see Puiranis.

Pure-blind(e, obs. forms of Purblind.

† **Pured,** *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Also 5 **purid, -yd.** [f. Pure *v.* + -ed[1].]

1. Purified, cleansed; refined.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 633 Gawan was for gode knawen, & as golde pured. *c* 1400 Maundev. (1839) xx. 217 Bordured alle aboute with pured Gold. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 173 Wedyde the cokkelle frome the puryd corne. 1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xvii. K j b, Mercury..About the ayre castinge his pured lyght. 1513 *Bradshaw's St. Werburge, Balade to Auctour* (E.E.T.S.) 200 This delicious werke Thus surely sette by pured science.

2. Of fur: Trimmed or cut down so as to show one colour only. (Cf. Pure *a.* 1 a.)

Pured gris or *grey*, the grey fur of the back of the squirrel in winter, without any of the white of the belly. *Pured calabre, miniver*, the white belly part of these furs, with the dark or grey sides trimmed off. (Cf. also b, and Puree.)

Beside pured miniver (*minutus varius puratus, menever puree*), the 14–16th c. records have also *m. v. dimidio puratus*, half-pured miniver, in which a narrow strip of the grey colour was left at the edges. (John Hodgkin.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 154 With pelure pured apert þe pane ful clene. *Ibid.* 1738 In a mery mantyle..furred ful fyne with fellez, wel pured. [1363 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 279 Et q'ils ne usent..Cloche, Mantel, ne Goune, fururez de menevoir purez.] *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* cccxxxi, þe mantyl þt was furuyd wt puryd gray. *c* 1450 *Brut* 434 Thanne was don on the Bisshop an abbite..of fyne Scarlet furrid with purid werke. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 505 Their wyfes, may use and were the forseid Furres of Mattrones, Fumes, Letyce, pured Grey, or pured Menyver. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 221 Payit to Pyeris Mainiryng, Maister of the Quenis wardrob, for vj tymir of pured calabar to the samyn, ilk tymir xxxiijs. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 43 For xvj bakkis of pured gray; ilk pece xvjd.

b. *ellipt.* as *sb.* 'Pured' miniver: cf. next.

c 1435 *Chron. London* (1905) 95 Ther was putte vpon the bisshop a cardynall habyte off Skarlette furred with puredd. *c* 1450 *Ibid.* 131 A ffreryes coope of ffyne scarlett ffurred with puryd. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Merlin* 4460 In the kynges tyme ..that aftyr the schal regnen in pured & palle.

‖ **Puree[1], purray.** *Obs.* Also 4 **purree,** 5 **purry.** [a. AF. *purée*, for F. *puré*, pa. pple. of F. *purer*: see Pure *v.*] = Pured 2 b, i. e. pured or pure white miniver, the belly fur of the grey squirrel in winter, used in the furring of garments.

(In the London Letter Bks. in AF. form *puree*; in 15th c. Sc. as *puray, purray.*)

1351 *Lett. Bk. F. Lond.* lf. 208 Furree de Pellure come de meneueyr, Gris, Purree, Destranlyng, Popell' Desquirels, Bys des Conyns des leures. 1365 *Lett. Bk. G. Lond.* lf. 162 b, Item q' nul del mister entremelle ventres de calabre en furours de puree [in Lett. Bk. H. lf. 39 *in fururis puratis*] ne de menever ne de Bissh [tr. in Riley *Mem. Lond.* (1868) 329 No one of the trade shall mingle bellies of calabre with furs of puree, or of minever, or of bisshes]. 1429 *Sc. Acts Jas. I* (1814) II. 18 þat na man sal weir clathis of silk na furringis of mertrikis, funzeis, puray, na grece, na nane oþir riche furring bot allanirly knychtis [etc.]. 1455 *Sc. Acts Jas. II* ibid. 43 The vþir lordis of parliament to haif ane mantill of rede rycht sa oppinnit befor and lynyt with silk or furryt with cristy gray, grece, or purray, togiddir with ane hude of the sammyn clath, and furryt as saide is.

‖ **Purée[2]** (pūre). Rarely in anglicized form **purry.** [F. *purée* (*puree de pois* pea-soup, 1314 in Hatz.-Darm.), of uncertain and disputed origin.

Hatz.-Darm. take *purée* as the ppl. sb. from the OF. vb. *purer*, in sense 'to squeeze, press out'. Others would identify it with OF. *porée* (see Porray), from which it cannot always be separated in sense: cf. med.L. *purea, pureya*, as well as *porea* (1231 in Du Cange), in sense 'pea-soup'. See Scheler, Littré, Brachet.]

A kind of broth or soup made of vegetables, meat, or fish, boiled to a pulp and passed through a sieve. Also *fig.*

1824 Byron *Juan* xv. lxxi, Alas! I must leave undescribed the gibier, The salmi, the consommé, the *purée* [*rime* way]. 18.. — *Let. to Bowles* Wks. (1846) 603/2 *note*, This stanza contains the *purée* of the whole philosophy of Epi-

curus. 1887 G. R. Sims *Mary Jane's Mem.* 84 Mutton cutlets fried in cod liver oil with pury. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 392 Pounded fish may be cautiously given, pounded mutton or beef in purée. 1897 *Ibid.* II. 521 A purée of potato.

Purel(l, Sc. var. Porail *Obs.*, poor people.

Purely (piūˑ·li), *adv.* [f. Pure *a.* + -ly 2.] In a pure manner or degree: in various senses.

1. Without (physical) admixture, esp. of anything that stains or impairs; cleanly, clearly, spotlessly.

1509 Hawes *Past. Pleas.* xx. (Percy Soc.) 97 The fayre carbuncle, so ful of clerenes, That in thee truely dyd moost purely shyne. *c* 1600 Drayton *Elegy to Lady I. S.* 65 The Sunnes rayes..Bent on some obiect, which is purely white. 1824 Miss Mitford *Village* Ser. I. (1863) 120 The purely grey rouleau..showed its mixture of black and white. 1864 Tennyson *Aylmer's Field* 458 The soft river-breeze..on him breathed Far purelier in his rushings to and fro.

† b. So as to make pure or clean; so as to cleanse. *Obs.*

1576 Baker *Jewell of Health* 232 b, Washe dilygentlye and purelie the bodie. 1611 Bible *Isa.* i. 25, I will..purely purge away thy drosse. 1669 Worlidge *Syst. Agric.* 27 It may be purely separated from its Husk by a Mill. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. P 15 These Ribs must be purely Smooth-fil'd and Pollish'd.

2. Without mixture of anything different (in non-physical or general sense); simply, merely; exclusively, solely; . . . and nothing else: often implying 'entirely' (cf. b, and Entirely 3).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4219 We alle..neuer-more for no man mowe be deliuered..but purli þourh 3our help. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 47 þat þei putte not glosis vnto þe reule..but..sympliche and pureliche to seie & to write þe reule. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. v. 45 Lete no þyng be gret or hye or acceptable to þe, but purely god. 1552 Huloet, Purely, *liquido, mere, pure, puriter, Syncere.* 1662 J. Davies tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 5 Whether they had been..set there in the air purely for show. 1710 Berkeley *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* § 122 Reasonings and controversies purely verbal. 1883 Gilmour *Mongols* xxxi. 362 The Government duty they have to perform seems to be purely formal. 1890 *Academy* 8 Nov. 415/2 There were .. no children of origin purely Egyptian.

† b. Of degree or extent: Absolutely, thoroughly, perfectly, completely, fully, utterly, entirely. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 1512 þe king louede is wif anon so purliche & so vaste þat al is herte onliche on hire on he caste. 1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 260 Ne [may] masse make pees amonges cristene peple, Tyl pruyde be purelich fordo. *c* 1400–50 *Alexander* 187 And þe province of Persee purely distruye. 1585 J. Hilton *Recant.* in Fuller *Ch. Hist.* (1655) x. vi. § 27 The said Errours..I utterly abjure, forsake, and purely renounce. *a* 1656 Hales *Gold. Rem.* III. *Serm.*, etc. (1673) 44 A Gentleman .. purely ignorant, yet greatly desirous to seem learned.

† c. Really, actually, truly, genuinely. *Obs.*

1297 R. Glouc. (Rolls) 3323 Icholle make þi sulue..Abbe al þe fourme of þe erl as þou were purliche he. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 226 He haþ the power þat seynt peter hadde, He haþ pureliche þe pot with þe same salue.

d. *Law.* Without conditions, unconditionally.

1427 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 327/1 Y^e^ open declaration..subscribed pureli and simply. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies* (1662) I. 183 This his gift was a gift indeed, purely bestowed on the colledge, as loded with no detrimentall Conditions. 1880 Muirhead *Gaius* III. § 113 If I have stipulated purely, he may stipulate conditionally.

3. Without mixture of anything deteriorating or debasing; without blemish, corruption, baseness, or uncleanness; faultlessly; properly, rightly, correctly; guilelessly, innocently, chastely.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 To behaue you purely, &..to apply yourselfe to labour in the seruyce of god. 1537 (*title*) The Byble, whych is all the holy Scripture: In whych are contayned the Olde and Newe Testament truelye and purely translated into Englishe by Thomas Matthewe. 1606 Shaks. *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 169 Faith and troth, Strain'd purely from all hollow bias drawing. 1674 T. Flatman *To Mr. Faithorn* 6 One line speaks purelier Thee, than my best strain. 1823 Byron *Juan* XIV. xcii, Or Germany, where people *purely* kiss.

b. So as to be ceremonially clean.

1613 [see Pure *a.* 7].

4. *slang* or *colloq.* Finely, excellently, capitally; nicely, satisfactorily, very well. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1695 Congreve *Love for L.* II. ii, You can keep your countenance purely, you'd make an admirable player. 1712–13 Swift *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Jan., Am I not purely handled between a couple of puppies? 1756 A. Murphy *Apprentice* II. ii, That will do purely. *a* 1845 Hood *Last Man* xxi, To see me so purely drest.

b. *dial.* Quite well, in good health. (Used predicatively like an adj.; cf. *well, ill, poorly.*)

1809 Mar. Edgeworth *Absentee* xvi. (*Tales* 1825 X. 321), If the ladies' prayers are of any avail, you ought to be purely. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., 'How's thy mam?' 'Purely, thank ye.' 1857 Hughes *Tom Brown* I. ii, Well I never! you do look purely. 1859 Thackeray *Virgin.* xxxiv, 'I hope the dear ladies are well, sir?' 'The ladies are purely.'

Pureness (piūˑ·nės). [f. Pure *a.* + -ness.] The quality of being pure; purity.

1. Freedom from admixture; simplicity, homogeneity.

c 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 322 þis soft metell led, nat of so gret puernesse. *a* 1618 Raleigh (J.), An essence..of absolute pureness and simplicity. 1675 R. Vaughan *Coinage* 14 A proof of the pureness of the metal. 1695 Ld. Preston *Boeth.* v. 240 His knowledg..remaineth in the Pureness & Simplicity of its Presence.

2. Freedom from defilement or blemish; cleanness; faultlessness, correctness.

1528 Paynell *Salerne's Regim.* O ij b, Many fynnes and skales betoken the purenes of the fyshes substance. *a* 1568 Ascham *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 144 In all this good proprietie of wordes, and purenesse of phrases which be in Terence. *a* 1698 Temple *Ess. A. & M. Learn.* Wks. 1760 I. 157 Great Pureness of Air, and Equality of Climate.

3. Freedom from moral blemish; innocence; sincerity; chastity.

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* XIV. xxxv. (1495) 480 Mount Synay hyghte the mount of purenesse and of clennesse, for none myght come to the mount but those that were clene in bodi and in soule. 1526 Tindale 2 *Cor.* i. 12 With godly purenes. 1591 Spenser *Daphn.* xxx, She in purenesse heauen it self did pas. 1624 Quarles *Sion's Sonn.* xv. 7 Virgin pureness. 1708 H. Dodwell *Nat. Mort. Hum. Souls* 149 To manage all Disputes..with..Pureness from Humane Passions. 1840 Clough *Dipsychus* I. ii. 41 And thou, clear heaven, Look pureness back into me.

4. Ceremonial cleanness.

[Cf. quot. 1398 in 3.] 1607 *Schol. Disc. agst. Antichr.* I. ii, 78 Holy purenes from all communion with vncleane Gentiles. 1643 Milton *Divorce* II. vi. Wks. 1851 IV. 77 Inflicting death..for the mark of a circumstantiall purenes omitted.

Purete, -ty, obs. forms of Purity.

Purfle (pə̄ˑıf'l), *sb.* Forms: 4 porfyl, -fil, purf(i)el, 4–5 purfil(e, -fyle, 4–6 -fyl, 5–6 -fell, -full, 6 -ful, -fyll, -fele, -phell, 6– purfle. Also (in sense 2) 6 purflue; (in sense 3) 7 porfil(e, -phile, 7–8 pourfil. See also Profile. [a. OF. *porfil* (*c* 1215 in Godef.), later *pourfil* (1316, and 1611 in Cotgr. in sense 2), a border or edge; = Pr. *perfil*, Sp. *perfilo*, med.L. *perfilum*, It. *profilo*, Profile; prob. verbal sb. from *profilare, perfilāre*, etc.: see Purfle *v.*]

1. A border; *esp.* a wrought or decorated border; the embroidered border or edge of a garment.

In ordinary use app. obs. after 1610; revived as an archaism in 19th c. (But cf. quot. *c* 1758 in Purfle *v.* 1.)

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 216 Of precios perle in porfyl pyȝte. 1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. IV. 102 Til..perneles porfyl [*v.rr.* purfil, purfyl] be put in heore whucche. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 57 A lewde wretche to were a skarlet gowne, Withe a blac lamb furre without purfile of sable. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Purfyle of a clothe, *limbus.* *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 30 This astate that ye use of gret purfiles and slitte cotes. 1530 Palsgr. 259/2 Purfyll or hemme of a gowne, *bort.* *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 2 b, The Trapper of his Horse, Damaske gold, with a depe purfell of Armyns. 1609 Holland *Amm. Marcell.* XIV. vi. 10 Inner garments..beset with long jagges and purfles. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* II. *Irel.* 148 They cast ouer these their mantells or shagge Rugges..with a deep fringed purfle. 1730 Bailey, *Purfile*, a Sort of antient Trimming for Womens Gowns, made of Tinsel, Thread, &c., called also Bobbin-Work. 1813 Hogg *Queen's Wake* 292 Furnaced pillars..upright ranged in horrid array, With purfle of green o'er the darksome gray. 1821 Joanna Baillie *Met. Leg., Lady G. Baillie* Concl., Betty's skill Leaves her in purfle, furbelow, or frill, No whit behind. 1894 *Athenæum* 5 May 571/2 The portrait of the gracious court lady in her ruff and purfles.

b. = Purfling 1 c (as of a violin).

1706 Phillips (ed. Kersey), *Purfle*...Also a kind of Ornamentation about the Edges of Musical Instruments, particularly of Viols, Violins, &c. 1905 Haweis *Old Violins* 125 He runs his purfle into his monogram with attendant flourishes.

† 2. *Her.* A bordering line. *Obs.*

1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1597) 90 b, This pale was giuen after it had a chiefe; because they were both of one colour, there goeth no purfle betweene. 1572 Bossewell *Armorie* II. 27 That terme is so frequented, because two colors, or any mettal or colour, be gradately inferred one into the other, that no partition but onely the Purflue maie be seene betwene them.

† 3. The contour or outline of anything; a representation of the outline; = Profile *sb.* 1, 3. *Obs.*

In this sense app. a new adoption from Fr., and there from It. Soon superseded by *profile.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXXV. x. II. 535 Hee woon the prise and praise from them all in making up the pourfils and extenuities of his lineaments. 1610 Guillim *Heraldry* II. iii. 42 The naked and bare proportion of the outward lineaments thereof, or the outward Tract, Purfle, or shadow of a thing. *Ibid.*, The Portraicting out of any thing vmbrated, is nothing else but a sleight and single draught or Purfle, traced out with a Pensill. 1669 A. Browne *Ars Pict.* 83 Draw the lines of porphile (i. e. the outmost stroak) of a Face with lake and white.

† b. *In purfle*, as seen from one side; = *in profile* (Profile *sb.* 2). *Obs.*

1605 B. Jonson *Masque Blackness*, The backs of some were seen; some in purfle, or side; others in face. 1686 Aglionby *Painting Illustr.* 132 Cimabue his Picture is yet to be seen, made in Porfil. *Ibid.* 268 All the left Side was seen in Porfile. 1706 Phillips, *Pourfil*, (a Term in Painting) as A Face drawn in Pourfil, i. e. side-way; a Side-face.

Purfle (pə̄ˑıf'l), *v.* Forms: 4–5 purfile, -fyle, 5 -fill, 5–6 -fell, -fyll, 5–7 -fel, 6 -fyl, -fulle, -phle, 6– purfle. Also 7 (sense 5) pourfil(l, pourfle. [a. OF. *porfiler* (1371 in Godef.), later *porphyler, pourfiler* to border, adorn the border of, adorn, = Pr., Sp. *perfilar*, It. *profilare*, med.L. *perfilāre* (Du Cange), f. L. *prō* or *per* + *filum* thread: see Profile *v.*]

1. *trans.* To border; to decorate with a wrought or ornamental border; *esp.* to adorn (a robe) with a border of thread work or embroidery; to trim with gold or silver lace, pearls, fur, etc. *arch.*

c 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 19 Hir wede, Purfiled with pellour doun to the teon. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Prol.* 193, I seigh his sleues ypurfiled at the hond With grys. *c* 1460 *Wisdom* Stage Dir., in *Macro Plays* 36 A mayde, in a wyght clothe of golde..purfyled with menyver. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xxvii. 74 Kyng Ryons had purfyled a mantel with kynges berdes. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxxv. 240 Robes of cloth of gold, & fourred with Ermynes, & purfylled all with precyous stones. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 83 Item for blake crewle to purfulle the rosys vjd. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VIII* 214 The knightes of the bath in violet gounes with hoddes purfeled with Miniuer lyke doctors. 1611 Cotgr., *Pourfiler d'or*, to purfle, tinsell, or ouercast with gold thread, etc. *a* 1625 Fletcher *Woman's Prize* III. ii, Line the gown through with plush perfumed, and purfle All the sleeves down with pearl! *c* 1758 W. Thompson *Hymn to May* ix, A silken camus, .. Purfled by Nature's hand! 1803 W. Taylor in *Ann. Rev.* I. 332 Like a garment embroidered in chenille, and purfled with beads, and spangles, and foil. 1840 H. Ainsworth *Tower of Lond.* (1864) 4 The Bishop of Ely, who, in his character of lord high chancellor, wore a robe of scarlet, open before, and purfled with minever.

fig. 1607 *Lingua* IV. ii. in Hazl. *Dodsley* IX. 417 This [*Tragedus*] gorgeous-broider'd with rich sentences, That [*Comedus*] fair and purfled round with merriments.

† b. To work (a design) in embroidery. *Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* XIII. xi. I. 392 To weave and purfle letters in their cloths, after the manner of embroiderie.

c. *intr.* or *absol.* To do purfling; 'to hem a border', *Cent. Dict.*

† 2. *trans.* To give to (leaves, flowers, etc.) a border or edge of a particular kind; to ornament with such a border: in *pa. pple.*, denoting the outline, contour, or distinctive colouring of the edge.

1562 Bulleyn *Bulwark, Bk. Simples* 49 b, Leaues .. purfled aboute with iagges, or small teeth like a sawe. 1578 Lyte *Dodoens* II. lii. 212 The great Tulpia, or rather Tulipa ..of colour very diuers..and purfled about the edges or brimmes with yellowe, white, or red. 1640 Parkinson *Theat. Bot.* IV. v. 428 Flower..consisting of five small pure white leaues, pointed at the ends, and sometimes a little purfled about the brims, and with a wash of purple.

3. In technical applications. † a. *Her.*, etc. To border or edge with a line of a different colour or tincture. (See also Purfled *ppl. a.*[1] 2.) *Obs.*

1634 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xxvi. 91 A faire blew deepned with lake, and purfled with liquid gold.

b. *Arch.*, etc. To ornament (the edge or ridge of any structure) *with* crockets, etc.: cf. Purfled 3.

1849 Rock *Ch. of Fathers* II. vi. 108 All the edges [of the mitre] were purfled with a border of exquisitely-wrought crockets in silver gilt. 1852 *Ibid.* III. i. 390 To this chest [shrine] the goldsmith..gave an architectural form: it had ..its tall crest purfled with knobs of sparkling jewels to run along the ridge of its steeply-pitched roof.

c. To adorn (the back or belly of a violin or other instrument) with a border of inlaid work: see Purfler, Purfling 1 c.

4. In vague or extended sense: To adorn, ornament, beautify.

c 1470 Henryson *Mor. Fab.* VIII., *Preach. Swallow* ix, Flouris..Quhilk..Phebus with his goldin bemis gent Hes purfellit and payntit plesandly. 1592 Greene *Upst. Courtier* D ij, A nose, Autem nose, purphled pretiouslie with pearle and stone like a counterfait worke. 1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 94 The close Meshes whereof, are purfled with curled veines. 1871 R. Ellis *Catullus* i. 2 Who shall take thee, the new, the dainty volume, Purfled glossily, fresh with ashy pumice [*arida modo pumice expolitum*]?

† 5. *trans.* To draw in profile, to outline; to draw. Also *absol.* or *intr. Obs.*

1601 Holland *Pliny* XXXV. x. (1634) II. 539 Apelles..had no sooner pourfiled a little about the visage, but the king presently tooke knowledge there by of the partie that had played this pranke by him. *Ibid.* xii. 551 [She] used ordinarily to marke upon the wall the shaddow of her lovers face by candle light and to pourfill the same afterwards deeper, that so shee might enjoy his visage yet in his absence.

Purfled (pə̄ˑıf'ld), *ppl. a.*[1] [f. prec. + -ed 1.]

1. Bordered; *esp.* having a decorative or ornamental border; bordered with embroidery, gold lace, fur, etc.; fringed; in vaguer use, embroidered, decorated. Also *fig.*

c 1470 *Compl. Christ* 284 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 178 What shalle than prophyte þi gowne purfylled? 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* 141 So many purfled garmentes furred with non sequitur With so many penyles purses hath no man sawe. 1600 Holland *Livy* VII. i. 250 All of the Patritij, sitting like Consuls, with their purfled and pourpled long robes in yvorie chaires of estate. 1634 Milton *Comus* 995 Flowers of more mingled hew Then her purfl'd scarf can shew. *a* 1717 Parnell *Misc.* (1807) 30 The purfled border deck'd the floor with gold. 1870 Rossetti *Poems, Jenny* 117 But must your roses die, and those Their purfled buds that should unclose?

b. *transf.* Of a person: Decorated with purfling.

1362 Langl. *P. Pl.* A. II. 9 Penne was I war of a wommon wonderliche cloþed, Purfylet with pelure þe ricchest vppon eorþe. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 30 Thus she shall be beter purfiled and furred thanne other ladies and gentill women. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 2/1 The Austrian knights with mace and battle-axe, the plumed and purfled *Landvogts* from Bern.

† c. *transf.* Applied as a border. *Obs.*

1652 Collier in *Benlowes' Theoph.* Pref. Verses, But brighter Theophil behold, Whose Vest is wrought with purfled Gold.

† 2. *Her.* Said of a charge having a bordering line, or a border or edging of another tincture: see also quot. 1868, and cf. Purflewe. *Obs.*

1562 Leigh *Armorie* (1597) 91 The Fesse was first, & then the Cantone was giuen in rewarde. Being of one colour,

they are not purfled. *Ibid.* 180 b, iii Cheuernes, Humettes, counterchanged, Purfled Argent. Ye cannot say bordured, because *nothinge* may be bordured, that is Humette w^tin y^e Escocheon. 1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1882) 129 *Purfled*: when applied to a Mantle, implies that it is lined or guarded with fur; and when to Armour, that the studs and rims are of another metal.

3. *Arch.*, etc. (See quots.)

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* Gloss. 591 *Purfled*, ornamented in a manner resembling drapery, embroidery, or lace-work. 1842–72 GWILT *Archit.* Gloss., *Purfled.* 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* VI. 12 b, The tall and narrow south transept, with its .. flying and attached buttresses, perforated parapets, and purfled pinnacles.

†**4.** *vaguely.* Variegated. *Obs.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 110 b, So thou dost line the earth With purfeld streames of blew and white.

Pu·rfled, *ppl. a.*[2] *Sc. rare.* 'Short-winded, esp. in consequence of being too lusty' (Jamieson 1808–24); plethoric.

1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 15 The language is out of condition—fat and fozy, thickwinded, purfled and plethoric.

Purfler (pə·ɹflə). [f. PURFLE *v.* + -ER[1].] One who purfles; *spec.* one who inlays the ornamentation in violins.

1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 53 The prince of purflers was Stradivarius.

†**Pu·rflewe,** *a. Her. Obs.* Also 6 -ffleu, 7–8 -flew. [Obscurely f. PURFLE *v.* or *sb.*; app. orig. *purflewé.*] Having a bordure of a fur,

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 190 b, The first is plaine,..commonly called embordured...The vii is termed purfflеu, which is, when that the bordure is occupied with anye of the nine furres afore rehersed. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* I. v. (1611) 19 A bordure purflewe, Verrey. Note heere that this terme purflewe is common to all the furres before handled so often as they are vsed in bordures. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Bordure*, If the Bordure consists of Ermins, Vairy or any of the Furs, the Term is, Purflew of Ermins.

So †**Pu·rflewed** *ppl. a. Obs.*

1868 CUSSANS *Her.* (1882) 68 Armorists formerly used several distinctive terms in blazoning a charged Bordure, to signify the nature of such a charge: as *Enaluron*, if charged with Birds;..and *Purflewed*, if composed of a Fur. This method is now obsolete.

Pu·rfling, *vbl. sb.* [f. PURFLE *v.* + -ING[1].]

1. Bordering, *esp.* the ornamenting of the edge or border of anything; also *concr.* ornamental bordering work, trimming, furring, fringing, etc.

1388 *Calverley Charters* (1904) 204 Pur j furrure de gray pur mesme la goune oue la perfulyng du mesme et la lynure du chaperon. 1483 *Wardr. Acc.* in *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 45 To the furring of every harneys and purfiling of every sadell. ?*a* 1500 *Assembly of Ladies* 527 The coller and the vent, Lyk as ermyne is mad in purfeling. 1611 COTGR., *Pourfileure*, purfling; a purfling lace or work; baudkin-worke; tinselling. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* III. xii. 236 Especially where slashings and purfling..are out of symmetry. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 May 13/2 Where is the hood and the volupere, Wimple and coif with their purfilings?

b. *Arch.* The ornamentation of an edge or ridge: see PURFLE *v.* 3 b.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* II. 106 A purfling of crockets in silver.

c. The inlaid bordering or marginal decoration with which the backs and bellies of violins and the like are often finished.

1848 J. BISHOP tr. *Otto's Violin* i. *note*, Some authors mention only two strips for the purfling, in which case the number of pieces would be reduced to 12. 1884 HAWEIS *Musical Life* I. 228 The purfling, more or less deeply embedded, emphasizes the outline of the violin. It is composed of three thin strips of wood, ebony, sometimes whalebone, the centre of two white strips. 1892 W. H. C[UMMINGS] in *Athenæum* 1 Oct. 457/3 A seventeenth century viol di gamba..remarkable for its beautiful 'purfling' of ebony and ivory. *attrib.* 1908 MISS HARRADEN *Interplay* 265, I noticed how well he used the purfling chisel.

†**d.** *vaguely.* ? Decking, adornment. *Obs.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 150 Pritty-fac'd diuell ..that infects the heart, With painting, purfling and a face of Art. 1630 — *Eng. Gentlem.* (1641) 60 To spend the whole Morne till the Mid-day in tricking, trimming, painting and purfling.

†**2.** *Her.* A border or contour line. *Obs.*

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xi. 120 They be not incorporated one with another, but are diuidedly seuered by interposing the purflings. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 148/2 Purfling, Hatching with a Pencill, as Herald Painters finish up their Work.

†**3.** Drawing in outline, outlining. Cf. PROFILE.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 525 As for the Greeke writers,.. they all doe jointly agree in this, That the first pourtrait was nothing els but the bare pourfling and drawing onely the shaddow of a person.

Purflue, obs. var. PURFLE *sb.* (sense 2).

Pu·rfly, *a.* ? *Sc. rare.* = PURFLED *ppl. a.*[2]

1832 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Johnson* (1872) IV. 94 The purfly, sandblind lubber and blubber, with his open mouth, and face of bruised honeycomb; yet already dominant, imperial, irresistible! 1832 — *Note Bk.* 18 Jan., in Froude *Life* (1882) II. 231 A very large, purfly, flabby man.

†**Pu·rgable,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *purgābilis*, f. *purgāre* to PURGE: see -BLE. Cf. PURGEABLE.] Capable of being, or that has to be, purged.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Cor.* iii. 13 *note*, Whosoever hath any impute matter of Venial sins or such other dettes to Gods iustice paiable & purgable, must into that fire.

†**Pu·rgament.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *purgāment-um*, f. *purgāre* to cleanse, PURGE: see -MENT.]

1. That which is removed or rejected in the process of cleansing; *spec.* that which is excreted from an animal; excrement; filth, offscourings.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 295 In the..bowells of the fish,.. where what nutriment hee [Jonah] had amiddest those purgaments and superfluities, the Lord knoweth. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. ix. § 5 For the humors, they are commonly passed ouer in Anatomies, as purgaments, whereas [etc.]. 1609 J. RAWLINSON *Fishermen* 38 The very paring, and filth, and purgament, and off-scouring of all things. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 298 And then Atrides th' army purify'd, And threw into the sea the purgament.

b. *transf.* An outgrowth; = EXCREMENT[2] 1.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* ii. 48 These calumnies..that hairs are a Purgament of the body altogether unprofitable.

2. = PURGATION 1 b. *rare.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* xii. 131 The Beard..serves not for ornament..nor for a covering, nor for purgament.

3. That which purges; a purge, purgative. *rare*[−0].

1828 WEBSTER, *Purgament*, a cathartic. *Bacon.* [Prob. due to a misunderstanding of quot. 1605 in 1.]

†**Pu·rgate,** *v. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. L. *purgāt-*, ppl. stem of *purgāre*: see PURGE *v.*[1] and -ATE[3] 5.] *trans.* To purge, purify.

1795 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XVIII. 122 It is by means of fear and pity that the passions are to be purgated.

Purgation (pɔɪgē·ʃən). Also 6 pour-; 4–6 -acion. [a. OF. *purgacion* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), ad. L. *purgātiōn-em*, n. of action from *purgāre* to PURGE.] The action of purging.

1. The clearing away of impurities; the cleansing of anything from impure or extraneous matter; purification.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 749 þat it [*sc.* the river Xanthus] made a ful purgacioun Of al ordure & fylþes in þe toun. 1564 *Brief Exam.* ***** iv b, You woulde make a purgation of these thynges. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 273 Purgation like to separation, is the clarification of impure liquor, having a thick sedement and spume by decoction. 1756 *Monitor* No. 74 II. 215 Such a total purgation of Augeas's stable..might possibly excite too great a noise. 1809 PINKNEY *Trav. France* 237 A century will pass before Lyons will recover itself from this Jacobin purgation.

b. *spec.* The discharge of waste matter from the body; excretion or evacuation; now only the evacuation of the bowels, esp. by means of a cathartic; the administration of cathartics; purging.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 482 Alsa It is lyk to poycion men takis fore purgacione. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 120 Maade for

Poems (1689) 21/2 When all the Purgatorian flames have past. 1841 J. H. NEWMAN *Tract XC* 25 Another doctrine, purgatorian, but not Romish, is that said to be maintained by the Greeks at Florence.

B. *sb.* A believer in purgatory.

a 1550 *Image Ipocr.* IV. 191 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 441 So be ther Sophrans,.. Purgatorians, Chalomerians, And Ambrosians. 1772 (Mar.) JOHNSON in *Boswell*, We must either suppose that passage to be metaphorical, or hold, with many divines and all the Purgatorians, that departed souls do not all at once arrive at the utmost perfection. 1839 J. ROGERS *Antipapopr.* 272 Important to be upheld by the rigid purgatorian.

b. A soul in purgatory.

1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 304 The soules of those poore Purgatorians.. returned backe.

†Purgato'rious, *a. Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [f. as prec. + -OUS.] Belonging to or connected with purgatory.

1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. (1851) 372 To som such purgatorious and superstitious Uses.

Purgatory (pə̄ɹgătəri), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3-7 purgatorie, 4-5 -tori, 5-6 -torye, 4- **purgatory**; (also 4 purcatorie, 4-6 -ory, 6 pourgatory). *β.* 4 purgatore, 4-6 -toire, 5 -tor. [ad. med.L. *purgātōri-um* (in St. Bernard *c* 1130, in sense 'a means of cleansing'), absol. use of neuter of *purgātōri-us* adj. cleansing, purifying, f. *purgāre* to cleanse, PURGE. Perh. immed. a. AF. *purgatorie* (Godef. *Compl.*) = OF. *purgatoire*, whence the *β* forms.]

1. A condition or place of spiritual purging and purification; *spec.* in Roman Catholic belief, a state 'in which souls who depart this life in the grace of God suffer for a time, because they still need to be cleansed from venial sins, or have still to pay the temporal punishment due to mortal sins, the guilt and the eternal punishment of which have been remitted' (*Cath. Dict.*).

a 1225 *Aucr. R.* 126 Anhonged, oðer ine purgatorie, oðer iðe pine of helle. *a* 1300 [see FIRE A. 1c]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 73 Purgatorie þe ssel seawy hou god clenzeþ veniel zenne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 248, I shal punisshen in purcatory or in þe put of helle Eche man for his misdede. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 207 The man which lith in purgatoire. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* v. xiv. 5510 Morys..askyt in his prayere þat he sulde noucht de befor þat her he tholit his purgator. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22876 Prayer abreggeth purgatory. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 207 Aboue this lowest hell there is another hell called purgatory. 1534 in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 36 He wold prove purcatory by a certayne vers in the Saulter. 1562 *Articles of Religion* XXII, The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory ..is a fond thing vainly inuented. 1626 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iv. I. iii. (ed. 2) 522 Purgatory, Limbus Patrum, Infantum, and all that subterranean Geography. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2) s. v., The Council of Trent, Sect. 15, defines, that there is a Purgatory, and that the souls detained there, are benefitted by the prayers of the faithful. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 352 The doctrine of a purgatory seems innocent in itself, or, rather, salubrious ..: it is only the absurd notion..of praying or buying souls out of purgatory, that renders it a heresy repugnant to reason, to religion, and to common sense. 1853 FABER *All for Jesus* 357 That the name of Purgatory was first authoritatively given to the Intermediate State in 1284 by Innocent IV. 1885 *Catholic Dict.* (ed. 3) 702/2 All the souls in Purgatory have died in the love of God, and are certain to enter heaven. 1898 A. G. MORTIMER *Cath. Faith & Practice* II. 352 The comparison of the differences between the Eastern and Western doctrines of Purgatory .. strongly inclines one to the Western view.

b. *Saint Patrick's Purgatory*:

A name given to a cavern on an island in Lough Derg, co. Donegal, where, according to legend, Christ appeared to St. Patrick and showed him a deep pit wherein whoever spent a day and a night could behold the torments of hell and the joys of heaven.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 199/2 Seint paterik..makede ane put in Irlonde, þat seint patrike purgatorie is icleoped zeot. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 305 The thrydde thynge of the Purgatory of Seynte Patrikke is ascribede to Seynte Patricke the secunde. 1703 *Irish Act 2 Anne* c. 6 § 26 Whereas, the Superstitions of Popery are greatly increased and upheld by the pretended Sanctity..of a place called St. Patrick's Purgatory in the County of Donegall [etc.]. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. ii. 430 The Purgatory of St. Patrick, the Purgatory of Owen Miles,..were among the most popular and widespread legends of the ages preceding Dante.

2. *fig.* Any condition, place, or thing having the characteristics ascribed to purgatory; a place or state of temporary suffering, expiation, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 489 By god in erthe I was his purgatorie For which I hope his soule be in glorie. 1490 CAXTON *How to Die* (1491) 7 The Infyrmyte tofore the deth is lyke aȝ a purgatore. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* XXV. 2 We that ar heir in hevins glory [at Court], To ȝow that ar in purgatory [at Stirling in distress]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* I. vii. 19 Those who first called England the Purgatory of servants, sure did us much wrong. 1725 T. THOMAS in *Portland Papers* VI. (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 98 Half way to North Allerton is a very bad piece of road which goes by the name of Purgatory. 1756 FOOTE *Eng. fr. Paris* I. Wks. 1799 I. 105 And you really think Paris a kind of purgatory. 1807 W. IRVING in *Life & Lett.* (1864) I. 186 We have toiled through the purgatory of an election. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* II. 199 The paradise of other women was her purgatory.

†b. That which purges from sin; an expiation.

1563-4 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Pref., We knew not Christ's most precious blood to be a sufficient purgatory for all our sins. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. G j, Women are so late ere they fall to devotion, and take it ordinarily but as a Purgatory of the offences of their youth.

†3. A purgation, a cleaning out. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 75 The fire of Alchumie hath wrought such a purgation or purgatory in a great number of mẽs purses in England, that it hath clean fir'd them out of al they haue.

4. *U.S.* **a.** A cavern (cf. sense 1 b). **b.** A deep narrow gorge or ravine, with vertical or steep sides; also, a brook flowing through such a gorge. Usually as a place-name.

1766 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 12 Hunted in Purgatory with Mr. Dean and Mr. Penniman [for botanical specimens] this afternoon, but found nothing. 1787 MORSE *Amer. Gazetteer, Sutton*, a township in Worcester co., Massachusetts...The cavern, commonly called Purgatory, is a natural curiosity. 1888 J. D. WHITNEY *Names & Places* 160 Along the coast of New England, and in the interior, narrow ravines with nearly perpendicular walls are called 'purgatories'. 1902 A. MATTHEWS *Purgatory River* 1 *note*, There are in New England several small brooks to which the name of Purgatory is given, either because they drain swamps, or flow through or near rock chasms which are called Purgatories.

5. A hole under a fire-place, covered with a grating through which the ashes may fall; also, the grating which covers it. *local.*

1866 Mrs. H. WOOD *Elster's Folly* iii, The 'purgatory' in Mr. Jabez Gum's kitchen consisted of a hole, two feet square, under the hearth, covered with a grating, through which the ashes and the small cinders fell. 1874 — *Mast. Greylands* xxiii, Sister Ann, in taking one of the irons from between the bars of the grate, let it fall with a crash upon the purgatory. 1897 R. M. GILCHRIST *Peakland Faggot* ii. 20 Et's onpossible, wi' them purgatories on th' harstone, to keep ashes fro' flyin.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *purgatory fire, legend, pain, -raker, suffering*, etc.; **purgatory hammer**, popular name of stone axes found in prehistoric graves in Ireland; **purgatory hole** (*local*) = sense 5.

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 472 Til alle in purgatory pyne, þis messe be mede & medicyne. *c* 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* I. xii. in *Anglia* VIII. 148/18 She gat graunt..at she shulde passe to paradys wiþ-outen purgatory peyne. 1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* Wks. (1563) 198 Where thys place of Purgatorye is; none of oure purgatorye rakers or proctoures thereof is able to declare. 1596 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 247 The great yeare of Iubile in Edward the thirds time..three hundred thousand people romed to Rome for purgatorie pils and paternal veniall benedictions. 1692 BP. OF ELY *Answ. Touchstone* 27 Purgatory-fire; which..they have kindled already, and would have us believe Souls are now frying therein. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann. Scot.* vi. 135 The stone hammer.. popularly known in Scotland almost till the close of last century [as] the Purgatory Hammer. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* viii. 224 Purgatory Hammers, for the dead to knock with at the gates. 1895 [T. PINNOCK] *T. Brown's Black Country Ann.* (E. D. D.), What bad luck to drap yer weddin ring in the purgatory hole.

Hence **Pu'rgatory** *v. trans., nonce-wd.*, to put into purgatory or a situation of pain.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xxi, Blanche Creamer..was purgatoried between the two old Doctors.

Purgatory (pə̄ɹgătəri), *a.* [ad. post-cl. L. *purgātōri-us*, f. *purgātōr-em* cleanser: see PURGATOR and -ORY 2.] Having the quality of cleansing or purifying; = PURGATIVE *a.*; of or pertaining to purgation. *Purgatory prison* = PURGATORY *sb.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 390 Thei shul be clensed clereliche & wasshen of her synnes In my prisoun purgatorie. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. XXIV. 33 þi sorowe is satisfactory and purgatory. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* B iv, Clensing whiche he calleth Purgatorie. 1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 21 Plutarch..tells us, that Infernal Punishments are Purgatory and Medicinal. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 339 Every man who has served in an assembly is ineligible for two years after...This purgatory interval is not unfavourable to a faithless representative. *a* 1834 COLERIDGE *Aids Refl.* (1854) 256 *note*, Remorse is no Purgatory Angel.

Purge (pə̄ɹdʒ), *sb.* [f. PURGE *v.*^{1}, or (in sense 2) a. F. *purge* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) = It., Sp. *purga*. Sense 1 is not cited in Fr. before 1690.]

1. That which purges; *spec.* an aperient medicine, a purgative.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1593) 164 Rubarbe, Scamonie,.. and such like purges. 1641 HINDE *J. Bruen* XXXVII. 116 The Physitian that gave him a gentle purg so wisely, and the patient that took it so well. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 173 Vomits and Purges are so much alike in their Operations. 1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* IV. 301 The complaint was peculiarly obstinate and resisted the use of purges. *fig.* 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* IV. v, Ben Ionson ..brought vp Horace giuing the Poets a pill, but our fellow Shakespeare hath giuen him a purge that made him beray his credit.

2. The act of purging; purgation; ridding of objectionable or hostile elements.

1598 FLORIO, *Purga*, a purge, a purgation, a cleansing. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. ii. § 38 The preparative for the purge of paganism out of the kingdom of Northumberland. 1893 S. R. GARDINER *Hist. Gt. Civil War* IV. lxviii. 272 The adoption of a purge in place of a dissolution [of Parliament].

b. *spec. Pride's Purge*, a name given in *Eng. Hist.* to the exclusion of those members of the Long Parliament who were suspected of Presbyterian and Royalist leanings, by Colonel Pride, on the 6th of December, 1648.

1730 OLDMIXON *Hist. Eng.* 354 Every act of the governing powers, from Prides Purge to the death of the King, is illegal. 1756 HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1841) V. 274 This invasion of the Parliament commonly passed under the name of Colonel Pride's Purge. 1893 S. R. GARDINER *Hist. Gt. Civil War* IV. lxviii. 273 One hundred and forty-three [members of Parliament] affected by Pride's Purge.

3. *Comb.* (partly from the verb-stem): **purge-cock, purge-flax** = *purging cock, flax* (PURGING *ppl. a.* 2 b); **†purge-humors**, that which purges humours.

188. *Sci. Amer.* Supp. 8897 When it becomes necessary to empty the receiver, use is made of a *purge-cock. 1853 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VIII. 36/1 Mill Mountain or *Purge Flax. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. III. *Magnif.* 1053 Fasting, ..Quick healths preserver, curbing Cupids fits, Watchfull, *purge-humors, and refining wits.

Purge (pə̄ɹdʒ), *v.*^{1} Forms: 3-4 puyrgi, 4 purgi, -gen, porgy, 4-5 purche, porge, 5 pur-, por-, poorgyn, powrg, 5-6 pourge, 4- purge. [a. OF. *purgier, -ger* (12th c. in Littré) = It. *purgare*, Pr., Sp., Pg. *purgar*:—L. *purgāre* to cleanse, in early L. *pūr-igāre*, f. *pūr-us* PURE (cf. *cast-īgāre, nāv-igāre*).]

A. Illustration of Forms.

c 1290 *Beket* 425 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 118 He ne miȝte him puyrgi nouȝt. 13.. *S. Eng. Leg.* (MS. Bodl. 779) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXII. 408/40 Hou ic myȝt I-porged be. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 7 Syluyre..purged seuenfald. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 459 He purchede and clensede þe covetise of his fadir. *a* 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 122 A medicine for to porgyn þe stomak. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 240 Whan the stomake is purchet and clenset. 1434 MISYN *Mending of Life* v. 115 Fro all filth of mynde & body hym-self powrg. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 409/2 Poorgyn, or clensyn, *purgo*. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* 106 There the Pope porged himself of certeyn crimes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. 36 That they maye..pourge theym that they may pourge other. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 65 Well picked and pourged.

B. Signification.

1. *trans.* To make physically pure or clean; to cleanse; to rid of whatever is impure or extraneous; to clear or free *of, from.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvi. 4 þe fournas þat purges metall. *a* 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 145 A good watir to purgyn a mannys face of sprotys. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 167 To syft it and purge it [the seed] sa that al thing be put to profit. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* iii. 12 He.. will pourge his floore. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 64 When Augea saw that his stable was purged by art, and not by labour. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* III. x. § 5 They purge the barley from the bran. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 317 Purging the yarn, one halfpenny a hank. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* II. xxiv. 355 If water be thoroughly purged of its air.

†b. To prune (a tree); to snuff (a candle). *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *John* XV. 2 Every braunche that beareth frute will he pourge [1611 he purgeth it, Gr. *καθαίρει*, L. *purgabit*] that it maye bringe moare frute. 1574 HELLOWES tr. *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 73 Dresse the vines, purge the trees. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 591 Snuffers wherewith the lampe was purged. 1620 THOMAS *Lat. Dict., Averrunco*, to purge vines with a vinehooke.

†c. *humorously.* To clear or 'clean' out; to empty. *Obs.*

1604 HIERON *Preachers Plea* Wks. I. 493 [They] beguile the people and cozen them of their money, purging their purses and scouring their bags.

2. To make figuratively or ideally pure or clean, to free from moral or spiritual defilement; to rid *of* or free *from* sin, guilt, fault, error, or evil of any kind; to rid of objectionable, alien, or extraneous elements or members; = PURIFY 2, 4.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxii. 6 þou has purged my hert. 1415 HOCCLEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 32 Ryse vp & purge thee of thy trespas. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* III. Wks. (1573) 55 Yet was not Lazarus caried into purgatory to be purged of his sinnes. *a* 1582 BUCHANAN *Let. to Randolph* Wks. (1892) 58, I am besy wt our story of Scotland to purge it of sum Inglis lyis and Scottis vanite. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. vi, Let's cleanse our hands, Purge hearts of hatred. 1624 *More's Utopia* (title-p.), Translated from the Latin by Raphe Robinson,..newly corrected and purged of all Errors. 1798 *Anti-Jacobin, New Morality* I From mental mists to purge a nation's eyes. 1871 H. MONCRIEFF *Pract. Free Ch. Scot.* (1877) i. 15 The Kirk-session may revise or purge the [communion] roll at any period. 1873 EDITH THOMPSON *Hist. Eng.* XXXIII. P 8 As the Parliament seemed likely to come to an agreement with him [Charles], it was 'purged',.. more than a hundred members opposed to the army party were thus shut out. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* vii. 60 He insisted that the Senate must be purged of its corrupt members. 1885 S. COX *Expos.* ser. I. xiii. 157 A truth which will purge and raise the tone of our moral life.

†b. To free from ceremonial uncleanness or defilement; = PURIFY 3. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 77 Whan the Prestes weren dede, The temple of thilke horrible dede Thei thoghten purge. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 36 When mourning altars, purgd with enimies life, The black infernall Furies doen aslake. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXI. xlvi. 419 Which straunge tokens being purged and cleered by an expiatorie sacrifice.

3. *transf.* To remove by some cleansing or purifying process or operation (*lit.* or *fig.*); to clear *away, off, out*; to expel or exclude; to void.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 22 þat oure synnes swa be purged. 1340 *Ayenb.* 132 Blipe he is huanne þet he may his [kueade humours] purgi and keste out. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 134 To purge vryne. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* v. 7 Pourge [1560 (Genev.) Purge out] therfore the olde leven. 1568 BIBLE (Bishops') *Isa.* I. 25, I shal..purely purge away thy drosse. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 4 Nature ..will..help it self by purging the contused blood through the orifice. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* v. 150 From thine eye the darkness purge. 1873 EDITH THOMPSON *Hist. Eng.* XXXIV.

† 11 The Presbyterian members, who had been 'purged' out by Pride, again took their seats. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 312 To purge away the crime appears to him..a duty.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*

1805 SOUTHEY *Let. to C. W. W. Wynne* in *Life* (1850) II. 346 This sort of leaven soon purges off.

4. *Med.* Said of a medicine, or of one who administers it: To empty (the stomach, bowels, etc.); to deplete or relieve (the body or, now only, the bowels) by evacuation.

a 1400–50, 1422 [see A]. [1483 CAXTON *Cato* e viij b, Hit [mustard] purgeth and maketh clene the brayne.] 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IX. xiv. (1614) 908 When they were to sacrifice, they purged themselues first,..and by vomit emptied their bodies. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 210 Palmeto Wine..purges the belly and helpes obstructions. 1702 J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 139 The next Day the Patient must be Purg'd, and a Paregorick given him that Night. 1804 ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 175 On the second morning he was again purged. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 262 Cheadle speaks of cases being 'purged to death'.

b. *refl.* and *intr.* (In quot. *c* 1645, to vomit.)

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* x, He must nedes go purge hym. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 213 Hee purged continually. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 33, I did purge so violently at sea. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 86 The Boy may do well again; but he must purge and Vomit. 1778 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (ed. 8) 45 He awaked sick, vomited and purged considerably.

c. *absol.* To induce purgation; (of a drug) to act as a purge.

1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* Annot. 27 The roote is that, whereof is made our sneesing powder. It purgeth extreemely by vomit. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Rose* v, What is fairer then a rose? What is sweeter? yet it purgeth. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 285 In the quick and frequent Pulse we Purge little, because Purging accelerates the Pulse. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 190 Larger doses purge. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 446 Medicines which purge actively.

5. To clear (oneself or another, one's character, etc.) of a charge or suspicion of guilt; to establish the innocence of; to exculpate; *spec.* in *Law*, by assertion on oath, with the support of compurgators, or by wager of battle. **a.** *refl.*; **b.** *trans.*

a. *c* 1290 *Beket* 423 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 118 I-loked him was to puyrgi him þoru3 clergie, 3if he mi3te. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 67 Knowe þi synne to vs, 3if þou be gylty, or ellys pourge þe þere-of lawfully. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. viii. 249 This man..offreth to deffende and purge himself by champ of bataylle. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 18 To purge him of such crimes as they shuld ley to his charge. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 393 He so well purged himself, that he was again restored to his Office. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 26 They were required to purge themselves by oath. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 48 Archbishop Arundel had to purge himself from a like suspicion. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men, Bp. Wilberforce* II. v. 15 Full opportunity [was] given him [Dr. Hampden] to purge himself of all suspicion of false doctrine.

b. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12640 He plesit the prince, & purgit his fame. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 42 Purgyng and declaryng his innocencie concernyng the murther of his nephewes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 62 Yet I speake not this to defende or pourge the Magistrates. 1577–87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1113/1 Wiat did purge me that I knew nothing of his stirre. 1678 *Trans. Crt. Spain* 101 That Reason ought to purge me from being the Author of the publick misery. 1768 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. xxvii. 437 When facts..rest only in the knowledge of the party, a court of equity applies itself to his conscience, and purges him upon oath with regard to the truth of the transaction.

6. *Law.* To atone for (an offence, etc.) by expiation and submission, in order to relief from penalties; to 'wipe out' (the offence or sentence).

1681 STAIR *Inst. Law Scot.* (1693) I. xiii. § 14. 122 By payment at the Barr, it was allowed to be purged. 1687 *Assur. Abb. Lands* 196 That is only true where the Violence is not purged, but here the violence is purged by obtaining the Pope's Grant. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxi. 486 A plain direct act of bankruptcy once committed cannot be purged, or explained away by any subsequent conduct. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 373 The Court said, that justification for heriot service on seisin of the ancestor, was an acceptance of the heir as tenant, and purged the forfeiture. 1894 *Daily News* 10 May 2/3 [The accused has] taken steps to purge the sentence of outlawry passed upon him in consequence of his non-appearance at the Justiciary Court, Edinburgh, for trial. 1897 *Encycl. Law* s. v. *Contempt of Court*, It is necessary for a person judged to be in contempt to clear or purge his contempt.

b. *Sc. Law.* To call upon (a witness) to clear himself by oath or affirmation of any implication of malice or interest before giving evidence; usually in passive *to be purged.*

1753 in *Stewart's Trial* App. 27 Katharine Maccoll, servant to the pannel,..being solemnly sworn,..purged of malice and partial council, and examined and interrogate, depones, That [etc.]. 1829 *Evans & Ruffy's Farmer's Jrnl.* 14 Sept. 294 The witnesses were sworn and purged according to the Scotch form. 1858 POLSON *Law & L.* 97 Witnesses are brought into court upon a diligence, and before they can be examined, they must be purged.

7. *refl.* and *intr.* (also *pass.*). Of a liquid: To clear itself, to become or be made clear or pure by settlement or defecation. Also *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 38 Some warm excesses.. Were construed youth that purged by boiling o'er. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 5 b, Water not well purged, but heavy and ill-tasted. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 45 After it [the water] has been in the cask a day or two it begins to purge itself. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 309 Every current charged with sediment must purge itself in the first deep cavity which it traverses, as does a turbid river in a lake.

8. Combs. of the vb. stem: see PURGE *sb.* 3.

† **Purge,** *v.*2 *Obs. rare.* [app. for **porge*, ad. L. *porgĕre*, contr. form of *porrigĕre* to reach out, extend, put forth, f. *por-* = *prō* forth + *regĕre* to lead straight.] *intr.* To issue forth.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* v. lxi. (Bodl. MS.) 30 b/1 þe veynes purgeþ oute of the lyuour as þe arteries and woosen out of þe herte and þe senewes oute of þe brayne. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. xlii, Thear are but two wayes for this soule to haue, When parting from the body, forth it purges.

Purgeable (pɔ̈·ɹdʒăb'l), *a.* [f. PURGE *v.*1 + -ABLE. Cf. PURGABLE.] Capable of being purged.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxiv. § 7. 292 When the Physitian giueth a purge, it worketh twō thinges; the one is, to make some certaine humour more liquid and purgeable then the rest. 1678 in Fountainhall *Decis.* (1759) I. 10 The Lords declared that they will find that *mora* purgeable at the bar. 1802–12 BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 188 An interest not purgeable by release.

Purged (pɔ̈dʒd), *ppl. a.* [f. PURGE *v.*1 + -ED 1.]

1. Cleansed, clarified, purified; freed from impurity or defilement.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* c vij, Take a quantyte of poorke..and porgede grece. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. Prol. 56 The purgit air with new engendrit heit. 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 I. 24 High, & purged Soules Leaue Time & Place, to dull earthporing fooles. 1788 V. KNOX *Winter Even.* II. v. i. 107 They write not to the people, but to the purged ear of a few speculatists. 1836 MRS. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* I. xviii, My purged, once human heart.

† **2.** Washed away (as sin). *Obs.*

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E. E. T. S.) 433 That saved I hope fully to be For purged synnes that were in me.

† **Purgement.** *Obs. rare*−1. [a. OF. *purgement* (14th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *purgāmentum*: see PURGAMENT.] Purgation, purification.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 442 b/1 Thys purgemente or wasshyng may sygnefye the purete and clennesse that the preest oughte to haue.

Purger (pɔ̈·ɹdʒəɹ). [f. PURGE *v.*1 + -ER 1.] One who or that which purges. *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1460 *Wisdom* 966 in *Macro Plays* 67 Very contrycyon.. Þat ys purger & clenser of synne. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 72 Penaunce whiche is the very purger of synne. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 180 We shall be call'd Purgers, not Murderers. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 138 Such men doe continually vomit choller, and are called ..purgers of choller vpward. *Ibid.*, Purgers of choller downward. 1641 S. MARSHALL *Fast Serm. bef. Ho. Com.* 40 Bee yee purgers and preservers of our Religion. 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. ii. 35 The purgers of the Kirk were not subjected to the approval of the Privy Council.

† **b.** *spec.* A purgative, a cathartic. *Obs.*

1562 TURNER *Baths* 10 Let the sicke purge him selfe with cassia fistula or suche..lenitiue or gentell purger. 1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 2 This purger is the only scammony, the rest somewhat milder simples. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Gangrene*, Briony..being a great Purger it must be corrected.

† **c.** An expurgator of books. *Obs.*

1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 39 The Popish purgers authorised to maine and mangle Authors.

Purgery. [a. F. *purgerie* (1838 in Littré), f. *purger* to PURGE: see -ERY.] (See quots.)

[1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Purgerie*, a bleaching or refining room for sugar.] 1864 in WEBSTER. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Purgery*, the portion of a sugar-house where the sugar from the coolers is..allowed to drain off its molasses.

Purging (pɔ̈·ɹdʒiŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PURGE *v.*1 + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PURGE.

1. Purgation; cleansing, removal of impurities, faults, or errors.

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xix. 21 Eche that towchith the watris of purgynge, shal be vnclene vnto the euen. — 2 *Pet.* i. 9 Receyuynge forȝetingnes of the purgynge of his olde trespassis. *a* 1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgatory* F vj, Wherfore should theyr inuencyon of purgatorye serue but to be a place of purgynge, punishment, and penaunce. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 90 b, Therupon thei fel to weaping and purging of them selues. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lx, Any other Engine for the purging the River of Thames from Obstructions. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 165 The purging and washing of Yarn is now pretty well understood. 1867 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* I. viii. 276 Purging of the lists of saints.

† **b.** *concr.* That which is washed away, or removed as refuse. *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVII. cliv. (1495) 705 The codde of all manere of codware and pourgynge: wyth the whyche swyne ben fed. 1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann., Germanie* vi. (1622) 271 It lay as nought worth, like other purging of the sea.

2. *spec.* The excretion or evacuation of refuse matter, esp. (now always) from the bowels, generally by means of a purgative; = PURGATION 1 b.

1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Counsel* i, Cordials of Pity give me now, For I too weak for Purgings grow. 1656 RIDGLEY *Pract. Physick* 122 Purging was continual with decoction of Mallows, Fennel,..Rheubarb, Senna, made like Claret. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 225 Vomiting and frequent purging of a bilious humour. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 908 Recurrent purging and vomiting.

3. Clearing from a charge or suspicion; exculpation; = PURGATION 4.

1726–31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 21 They are ..obliged to swear themselves innocent, or endure the shame and punishment...This they call purging.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *purging day, faculty*, etc.: **purging-cock,** a cock for discharging sediment, dregs, or refuse from a steam-boiler, etc.; † purging place, (*a*) purgatory, (*b*) a privy.

1553 *Epit. on Gray* in Furnivall *Ballads fr. MSS.* I. 435 Nor flerynge ones the porgynge plase Devysed by the pope. 1577 HELLOWES *Gueuara's Chron.* 29 He buylt in all streetes in Rome publique purging places. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 34 The feast of Lupercalia.. on the vnfortunate daies of the moneth of Februarie, which are called the purging daies. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 21 Supping warm brothes, helps the purging faculty.

Purging (pɔ̈·ɹdʒiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That purges.

1. Cleansing, purifying.

1598 GRENEWEY *Tacitus' Ann.* XII. ii. (1622) 157 That punishment and purging sacrifices of incest should bee sought. 1882 F. W. H. MYERS *Renewal of Youth*, etc. 264 The purging sacrament of pain.

2. *spec.* That induces purgation of the alimentary canal; purgative, aperient, cathartic.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 79 b, So haue the old autores gyuen vnto diuerse herbes a purgyng vertue. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 143 Let your purging Medicines be such as purge downward onely. 1696 SALMON *Fam. Dict.* 203 Purge with Mecoacan-Ale, or some such-like easie Purging-Ale. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 235 Purging Waters.—There is no County scarce in England, but discovers some of these Springs. 1729 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Foss.* I. 73 A like flat Body..was found in sinking the Purging-Well at New-Cross, near Deptford. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Richmond, Surry*,..On the ascent of the hill are wells of purging mineral water, to which a great deal of company resort. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* XXVII. 338 The purging mixture of Epsom salts.

b. In names of plants having purgative qualities: **Purging agaric,** a fungus, *Polyporus officinalis*; **purging broom,** *Spartium purgans*; **purging buckthorn,** *Rhamnus catharticus*; **purging cassia,** *Cassia Fistula*; **purging flax,** *Linum catharticum*; **purging grain,** *Sesamum*; **purging nut,** the seed of *Curcas purgans* (*Jatropha Curcas*) or Barbadoes nut; also, the seed of *Croton Tiglium*; **purging thorn,** *Rhamnus catharticus.*

1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 223 *S[partium]. Purgans.* *Purging Broom. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 256 *Purging Buckthorn. Woods and hedges near Norwich. 1778 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* (1789) 174 *Linum catharticum*, *Purging-flax. *Anglis.* 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 *Purging Grain, Oily, *Sesamum. Ibid.* 320 *Purging Nut, *Croton. Ibid.* 324 Purging Nut, *Jatropha.* 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 151 It appears..that the croton plant is the same which produces the seeds known in commerce as the Indian purging-nut. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 5/2 The Jatropha Curcas, or purging-nut of the Philippine Islands.

Purgunnah, variant of PERGUNNAH.

† **Purgy,** *a. Obs. rare*−1. [f. PURGE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y.] Of purging quality; purgative.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 79 Later writers haue founde..a purgy vertu in diuerse herbes.

† **Purie.** *Obs.* [? early ad. F. *purée*, or var. of PORRAY, *porrey*: cf. also Sc. *purry* pottage.] ? Broth or ? pottage.

? *a* 1500 *Chester Pl.* vii. 136 Nowe will I..pull out that I have in my poke, and a pigges foote from pudding purie.

† **Purifaction.** *Obs. rare.* Also **purefaction.** [irreg. f. PURIFY: see PETRIFACTION.] = next.

1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* i. § 3. 39 The ceremoniall emundations or purifactions which they prescribe. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6129 Of the Sea-waters capableness of Purefaction.

Purification (piūəɹifikē·ʃən). [a. F. *purification* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. L. *pūrificātiōn-em* (Pliny), n. of action from *pūrificāre* to PURIFY.] The action or process of purifying.

1. Freeing from dirt or defilement; cleansing; separation of dross, dregs, refuse, or other debasing or deteriorating matter, so as to obtain the substance in a pure condition.

1598 FLORIO, *Purificatione*, a purification, a clensing, a scouring, a clearing. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 11 *Purification*, is a separation of any Liquor from its feces. 1661 BOYLE *Unsuccessfulness of Exp.* i. Wks. 1772 I. 327, I discerned a considerable difference in the operations of several kinds of salt-petre even after purification. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 465 He is minute in his directions for its purification and preparation. 1835 URE *Phil. Manuf.* 66 The art of the tallow-chandler. Purification of spermaceti.

b. *Eccl.* See quots., and cf. PURIFY 1 b.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 49 He..takes the purification and ablution as usual, cleanses the chalice.. with a purificator. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) App., *Purification*, as distinct from ablution, is the pouring of wine into the chalice after the priest's communion, the wine being drunk by the priest. This purification is not of ancient date.

2. Ceremonial or ritual cleansing; freeing of a person or thing from uncleanness by appropriate rites; *spec.* the observances enjoined upon a woman after child-birth by the Jewish law; hence formerly applied to the churching of women.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 147 A question was maad of Joones disciplis of purificacioun, þat men hadden of baptim. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 276 (Harl. MS.) þe lawe was þat tyme, that eche woman shuld go to chirche, in tyme of hire purificacion. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) I. 31 Our ladies purificacion that she made in the temple as the vsage was than. 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer*, The Order of the Purificacion of weomen. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 34 The feast of Lupercalia .. is ordeined for a purification. 1789 BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 103 The Mahometan, as well as the Jewish religion, enjoins various bathings, washings, and purifications. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. I. iv. 83 More than half of one book of the [Brahminical] Code is filled with rules about purification.

b. *The Purification of St. Mary* (*of our Lady*,

etc.), also simply *the Purification*: a name in the Western Church for the festival (Feb. 2) of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (see PRESENTATION 1) by the Virgin Mary on the completion of 'the days of her purification' (Luke ii. 22); also called CANDLEMAS.

1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 49 Þe secunde morspeche shal bene aftir þe Purificacioun of our leuedy. Þe thred, aftir þe feste of Phelip and Iacob. 1444 *Paston Lett.* I. 50 Wretyn .. the Wednesday next to fore ye Fest of the Purificacion of Our Lady at London. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 22 b, After the Purificacion of our Lady, the Kyng created Sir Charles Brandon Viscount Lisle. 1670 PETTUS *Fodinæ Reg.* 18 To hold from the Feast of the Purification next, for 40 years. 1880 F. MEYRICK in *Dict. Chr. Antig.* II. 1140/2 The Purification...As first instituted, this was not a Festival of St. Mary, but of our Lord; and so it has always remained in the Eastern church.

c. *attrib.* **purification flower** (see quot.).

1866 *Aunt Judy's Mag.* I. 116 Annie asked about its [the snow-drop's] names, and she mentioned..'the morning star of flowers', 'fair maid of February', 'purification flower'.

3. Moral or spiritual cleansing; freeing from moral defilement or corruption; clearing from taint of guilt.

1660 JER. TAYLOR *Worthy Commun.* iii. 62 Water [in baptism] is the symbol of purification of the soul from sin. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* II. 131 A person who, for the purification of his soul, ought to remain in Purgatory a hundred thousand years. 1833 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1849) I. ii. 50. 168 [Rousseau's essay] on the question 'Have the arts and sciences contributed to the corruption or purification of morals?' 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* (1850) 34/1 To make his prison a place of purification and improvement, not of demoralisation and corruption.

4. Freeing from fault or blemish (in ideal or general sense); the action of clearing from debasing or corrupting elements.

1753 SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* i. (1784) 12/2 You..are one of those consummate connoisseurs, who, in their purifications, let humour evaporate, while they endeavour to preserve decorum. 1793 T. BEDDOES *Demonstr. Evid.* 132 The purification of the Greek grammar from a few of its absurdities. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 395 Zwingli demanded..the purification of the council from the ungodly. 1861 WRIGHT *Ess. Archæol.* II. xiv. 59 The invention of printing..contributed towards the final purification of the English language.

Purificative (piŭ·rifike·itiv), *a. rare.* [a. F. *purificatif, -ive* purificatory (14th c.), f. *purifier* to PURIFY: see -IVE.] = PURIFICATORY *a.*

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 3 b/2 The body is puryfyed and wasshyd by the nytree whyche is a spece of Salte puryfycatyff. 1611 COTGR., *Purificatif*, purificatiue, purifying.

Purificator (piŭ·rifike·itəɹ). [Agent-n. in L. form, f. L. *pūrificāre* to purify: see -OR. In sense 1 identified with PURIFICATORY *sb.*: see -OR 3.]

1. *Eccl.* A cloth used at communion for wiping the chalice and paten, and the fingers and lips of the celebrant.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 29 The Subdeacon cleanses the chalice with the purificator. 1890 *Ch. Times* 5 Sept. 844 The purificator, or napkin, used for cleansing the chalice and paten after the ablutions is laid on the chalice.

2. One who purifies: = PURIFIER 1; in quot., one who performs magical purifications. *rare.*

1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* I. ii. vi. 414 The conjurers, purificators, mountebanks, and charlatans.

3. An apparatus for purifying gases or other substances: = PURIFIER 3. *rare.*

1898 H. R. HAWEIS in *Westm. Gaz.* 6 May 2/1 This admirable purificator receives all the vapours, gases, and impurities which escape from the first fire-chamber.

Purificatory (piŭ·rifike·itŏri), *sb.* [ad. med. L. *pūrificātōrium*, subst. use of neut. of late L. *pūrificātōrius*: see next and -ORY 1.] = prec. 1.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Purificatory*, the little linen cloth with which the Priest wipes the Chalice. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Mundatory* or Purificatory, a cloth of linen or hemp..used for cleansing the chalice.

Pu·rificatory, *a.* [ad. late L. *pūrificātōrius* adj. (*c* 375 in Ambrose) cleansing, f. ppl. stem of L. *pūrificāre* to PURIFY: see -ORY.] Having the quality of purifying; tending to purification.

1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXI. xvi. 856 If he be washed in the fountaine of regeneration..he is..freed from all paynes, eternall and purificatory. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sc.* (1857) I. 220 His vertues are arranged as physical, moral, purificatory, theoretic, and theurgic. 1881 MONIER-WILLIAMS in *19th Cent.* Mar. 511 For use in purificatory ceremonies. 1882 WESTCOTT in *Dict. Chr. Biog.* (1887) IV. 139/2 A vast scheme of purificatory chastisement.

Purified (piŭ·rifəid), *ppl. a.* [f. PURIFY + -ED 1.] Made pure; freed from admixture or defilement; cleansed: see the verb.

a 1515 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxvi. 41 Hail, purifyet perle! 1623 WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 325/2 This purifyed Gold is more estimed then the minerall. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* 495 The specific gravity of purified coal-gas is liable to much variation. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 27 That purified religion..of which he speaks.

Purifier (piŭ·rifəi,əɹ). [f. as prec. + -ER 1.]

1. A person who purifies (in various senses); a cleanser; a refiner.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* Pref. i. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 121 O pitewouse puryfyer of Soules. 1611 BIBLE *Mal.* iii. 3 He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of siluer. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 91 The predicted Shilo, who is to be their purifier, king, prophet, and high-priest. 1826 [HALLAM] in *Edin. Rev.* XLIV. 5 *note*, One of the earliest purifiers of English style from pedantry. *a* 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* 284 Addison the noblest purifier of English literature.

2. A thing that purifies (in various senses).

1660–2 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Jas. ii.* 24 Faith is a great purger and purifier of the soul. 1793 BEDDOES *Lett. Darwin* 70 Oxygene air, which .. deserves to be considered as the true sweetner or purifier of the blood. 1893 in Barrows *Parl. Relig.* II. 914 [Zoroastrianism] considers the sun as the greatest purifier.

3. An apparatus or contrivance for purifying; *spec.* **a.** An apparatus in which coal-gas is purified by passing it through or over lime or other substance; a gas-purifier. **b.** A separator to remove bran scales and flour from grits or middlings.

1834 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) X. 352/1 (Gas-light) A series of purifiers. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* 495 The gaseous products [of coal]..are passed through or over hydrate of lime, or through a mixture of quicklime and water, in vessels called purifiers, by which the sulphuretted hydrogen and carbonic acid gases are absorbed. 1856 in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 504 The gas is .. made to pass through a set of vessels..the purifiers. These contain milk of lime, or lime that has been recently slaked. In the former case it is named a wet-lime purifier, and in the latter a dry. 1884 *Bath Herald* 27 Dec. 6/4 [In a flour-mill] the most important machines are the 'purifiers'.

Puriform (piŭ·rifɔ·m), *a. Path.* [f. L. *pūs, pūr-*, PUS + -(I)FORM; cf. F. *puriforme*.] Having the form or character of pus; resembling pus.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 153 Puriform effusion and exudation take place. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* I. 203 Muco-gelatinous matter, which..resembled thick milk or a puriform fluid. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 466 Vesications..whose contents may become sanguineous or puriform.

Purify (piŭ·rifəi), *v.* Also 4 -yfie, 4–7 -ifie, 5 -efie, 5–6 -yfy(e; 6 *pa. pple.* (*Sc.*) **purifit, -feit.** [a. F. *purifi-er* (12th c.), ad. late L. *pūrificāre*, f. L. *pūr-us* pure: see -FY.]

I. *trans.* To make pure, in various senses.

1. To free from admixture of extraneous matter, esp. such as pollutes or deteriorates; to rid of (material) defilement or taint; to cleanse.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Puryfyyn, clensyn, or make clene. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xv. 54 The ayer purifyeth and clenseth hym selfe for to receyue the Impressyons of influences of this god. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 340, I..dulcely drank of eloquence the fontayne, Quhen it was purifit with frost, and flowit cleir. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 327 To purifie or pourge it [the metall] from drosse. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* III. xxxviii. 243 There used to be fires made..to purifie the aire. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 541 Th' officious Nymphs,..With Waters..From earthly dregs his Body purifie. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* 71 This sulphur may be purified..by washing it. 1837 GORING & PRITCHARD *Microgr.* 205 The mode of generating and purifying the oxygen gas. 1841 T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* XXVIII. 567 The air required for purifying the blood is, of course, continually changed.

b. *Eccl.* See quots. and cf. PURIFICATION 1 b.

1858 PURCHAS *Direct. Anglic.* 62 The Celebrant..first purifies the corporal..and then purifies the paten. 1876 SCUDAMORE *Not. Euch.* 806 In the Roman rite the Minister first 'pours into the Chalice a little wine for the Priest to purify himself'. 1885 *Cath. Dict.* (ed. 3) App. s. v. *Purification*, Innocent III...laid it down that the priest should always use wine to purify the chalice, and drink it, unless he was going to say another Mass.

2. To cleanse from moral or spiritual defilement; to rid of base motive or feeling; to free from taint of guilt or sin.

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* [i.] 8 Þou shalt purifie me, and y shal be made whyte vp snowe. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Prose Tr.* 14 When þe will and þe affeccyone es puryfiede and clensede fra all fleschely lustes. *c* 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die* 624 He shal be pourged cleene & purified, And disposid the glorie of god to see. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 122 By this gyfte of goostly scyence, the tonge of man or woman is purifyed & fyled. 1611 BIBLE 1 *John* iii. 3 Euery man that hath this hope in him, purifieth himselfe, euen as he is pure. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xxi. 420 Purifying his heart all manner of ways, fearful of every error and defect in his life. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Each did much to..purify the spiritual self-respect of mankind.

3. To make ceremonially clean; to free from ceremonial uncleanness. Formerly *spec.* of the churching of women (mostly in *pass.*).

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 310 Þe quene Margerete with childe þan was sche,..be kyng..went way, to se hir & hir barn, & with hir he soiorned, tille sho was purified. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 101 No man durste neyhe [to Mount Sinai], but he were purified and i-made all clene. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 75/2 Chyrchyn, or puryfyen, *purifico.* 1548–9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Purif. Weomen*, The woman that is purifyed, must offer her Crysome. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* I. 74 In the Consecrated stream..to wash off sin, and fit them so Purified to receive him pure. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxviii, The holy places [have been] purified from pollution by the blood of those infidels who defiled them. 1853 J. H. NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. I. iii. 138 Their priests washed and purified the altars where the Latin priests had said mass.

4. To free from blemish or corruption (in ideal or general sense); to clear of foreign or alien elements, esp. of anything that contaminates or debases.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 59 The kynge hauynge peace as well with foreyne princes,..as disburdened and purified of all domesticall sedicion. 1665 SPRAT *Hist. Roy. Soc.* I. 40 He saw the French Tongue abundantly purifi'd. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* III. 373 The country communes determined (April, 1530) that these churches too should be purified. 1890 *Spectator* 27 Dec., The desire of the Russian Government to 'purify' Poland of Germans.

5. *Law.* To make (a contract or obligation) 'pure' by freeing it from conditions; also, to fulfil (a condition) so as to render the obligation 'pure': see PURE *a.* 2 c.

1590 SWINBURNE *Testaments* 133 If he die, then is the condition said to be purified or extant, and so thou art to bee admitted, otherwise not. *a* 1624 — *Spousals* (1686) 130 Whether in this Case the conditional Contract be purified and made perfect Matrimony, is a Question. 1861 W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* s. v. *Obligation*, A conditional obligation, dependent on an event which may never happen, has no obligatory force until the condition be purified.

6. *transf.* with the thing removed as obj.: To cleanse or clear away. *rare.*

1399 GOWER *To Hen. IV*, 349 Al his lepre it hath so purified. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 2 He, who shineth in darkness, will..purify your pollutions.

II. 7. *intr.* for *refl.* To become pure.

1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* ix. (1672) 237 Water, if it stand, it putrifies: if it run, it purifies. 1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 580 He does not put it in water to purify. 1805 SOUTHEY *Let. to C. W. W. Wynn* in *Life* (1850) II. 347 Send them to new settlements, and let the old ones purify. 1852 MANNING *Gr. Faith* i. 21 Of the intermediate state of departed souls, purifying for the kingdom of God.

Pu·rifying, *vbl. sb.* [f. prec. + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PURIFY; cleansing, purification.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxi. 26 The fulfilling of dayes of purifiyng. 1526 TINDALE *John* iii. 25 There a rose a question betwene Jhons disciples and the Iewes a bout purifiynge. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 29 This purifing of wit,.. which .. we call learning. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* xi, Those ceremonies, those purifyings and offrings at the Altar. 1712 PRIDEAUX *Direct. Ch.-wardens* (ed. 4) 105 Without a long purifying in the Furnace of Affliction. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 25 Charcoal intended for purifying.

attrib. 1834 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) X. 352/1 The last step of the purifying process to which coal-gas is submitted. 1889 *Daily News* 11 Dec. 3/1 About 150 men were at work in one of the purifying sheds.

Pu·rifying, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That purifies; cleansing.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 19/1 We must, with puryfyinge medicamentes, purifye that. 1660 T. GOUGE *Chr. Direct.* xxi. (1831) 137 A purifying disposition ..detests sin..and strives against it. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* XII. XXX, The sight Of Heaven may kindle in the penitent The strong and purifying fire of hope. 1834 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) X. 352/1 (Gas-light) Fresh portions of the purifying material are supplied.

‖ **Purim** (piŭ·rim, ‖*pūrīm*). [Heb. פּוּרִים *pūrīm*, pl. of פּוּר *pūr*, a foreign word (perh. Assyrian or Persian) explained in Esther iii. 7, ix. 24, as = Heb. גּוֹרָל *gōrāl* lot.] A Jewish festival observed on the 14th and 15th of the month Adar, in commemoration of the defeat of Haman's plot to massacre the Jews: see Esther ix.

There are also several special or local Purims, in imitation of the original feast.

1382 WYCLIF *Esther* ix. 26 Fro that time these dayis be clepid Furim [1388 Phurym], that is, of lotis, forthi that fur, that is, lot, in to a pot was put. 1535 COVERDALE *ibid.* 28 They are the dayes of Purim, which are not to be ouerslipte amonge the Iewes. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* I. 523 As if we might consign A Purim, or a Feast to celebrate Some Victory. 1908 *Daily News* 17 Mar. 4 In a Jewish Leap Year Adar is doubled and Purim falls in Adar the Second, which is the thirteenth month. *attrib.* 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. vii. 183, I must go to the Purim ball with him and Leah.

Purine (piŭ·rəin). *Phys. Chem.* Also *unsystematically* **purin.** [ad. Ger. *purin*, according to the inventor, Emil Fischer, 'combined from the L. words *pūrum* pure, and *ūricum* uric (acid)'. By the Chemical Society spelt *purine*, as a base: see -INE 5.] A white crystalline basic substance $C_5H_4N_4$, of very complicated structure, which when oxidized forms uric acid ($C_5H_4N_4O_3$), and of which adenine, caffeine, xanthine, etc., are also derivatives, and known as *the purines* or members of the *purine group*. Also *attrib.*

(The group $C_5N_4H_4$ was so named by Fischer in 1884 as the source of derivatives then prepared and named by him, *methyl-purin* and *trichlor-methylpurin*; the substance itself was not isolated by him till 1898, 14 years after it had been named. See *Berichte d. deutsch. chem. Gesellsch.* XVII. 329 (1884), and XXXI. 2564 (1898).

1899 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXVI. I. 175 *Purine*, .. is a readily soluble, well crystallised substance, which forms salts both with acids and with bases, and as regards its character in general falls naturally in the series uric acid, xanthine, hypoxanthine, purine. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2163, 14 June 1461 Under the term 'purin' all the substances that contain the nucleus C_5N_4 may be included. *Ibid.*, The Estimation of Purin Bodies in food-stuffs...By the use of purin-free foods they ascertained the average amount of urinary purin in various individuals.

‖ **Puriri** (*pūrirĭ*). [Native Maori name.] A New Zealand tree, *Vitex littoralis* (N.O. *Verbenaceæ*), which yields very hard and durable timber. So *puriri tree.*

1842 W. R. WADE *Journ. N. Zealand* 200 *note*, Puriri, misnamed *vitex littoralis*, as it is not found near the seacoast. 1886 *N. Zealand Herald* 1 June 2/2 The land is.. finely sheltered by pretty clumps of puriri and other bush.

Purism (piūˑrizˈm). [ad. F. *purisme*, f. *pur* PURE: see -ISM.] Scrupulous or exaggerated observance of, or insistence upon, purity or correctness, esp. in language or style.

1804 MITFORD *Inquiry* 392 Before we attempt to exercise on our language the spirit of what the French used to call purism. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* VIII. 236 The purism of modern times and your fastidious delicacy..would not allow me to give this story at full length. 1860 MARSH *Lect. Eng. Lang.* xxvii. 598 The spirit of nationality and linguistic purism..has..purged and renovated so many decayed and corrupted European languages. 1869 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* 247 The strictest pureism in the ethics of costume. 1905 *Athenæum* 26 Aug. 269/2 The works and views of the writers on [French] grammar who upheld purism.

b. with *pl.* An instance of this; a scrupulously or excessively pure expression or principle.

1803 *Edin. Rev.* I. 254 The glory of illuminating his countrymen in purisms. 1844 *Blackw. Mag.* LVI. 144 The purisms of political delinquency had little share..in any remorse which Shah Soojah might ever feel.

Purist (piūˑrist). [ad. F. *puriste* (1586, applied to the Puritans), f. *pur* PURE; or (sense 2) f. L. *pūr-us* PURE + -IST.]

1. One who aims at, affects, or insists on scrupulous or excessive purity, esp. in language or style; a stickler for purity or correctness.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Purist*, one that affects to speak or write neatly and properly. [1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 185 English, in which you are certainly no *puriste*.] 1758 JORTIN *Erasmus* I. 443 Some Italian Purists, who scrupled to make use of any word or phrase, which was not to be found in Cicero. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 143 The greatest purists (hypocrisy apart) are often free-livers. 1837-9 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* (1847) III. 143 The use of quotations in a different language, which some purists in French style had in horror. 1842 *Murray's Hand-bk. N. Italy* 25/2 The cortile is a fine example of..the architecture which purists term *impure*—columns encircled by bands, story above story. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Greece* II. ii. ii. 275 The Macedonians were not acknowledged as genuine Greeks by the purists of Sparta and Athens. 1870 LOWELL *Lett., To C. E. Norton* 15 Oct. (1894) II. 74 As to words, I am something of a purist, though I like best the word that best says the thing.

2. One who maintained that the New Testament was written in pure Greek.

1835 MOSES STUART. 1907 *Expositor* Nov. 428 In the controversy of the Purists and Hebraists in the seventeenth century.

Hence **Puriˑstic, Puriˑstical** *adjs.*, characteristic of a purist; characterized by purism.

a 1872 MAURICE (Ogilvie *Supp.*), Bentham's puristical wisdom. 1877 SYMONDS *Renaiss. in It., Reviv. Learn.* (1897) II. vii. 319 The imitation of the ancients grew more puristic and precise. 1880 VERN. LEE *Stud. Italy* I. 5 This national Italian drama, unnoticed by the puristic eighteenth century. 1882 *Athenæum* 15 Apr. 474/3 He complains..that the Persian language is flooded..by Arabic words and phrases; and the whole book is a practical illustration of his puristic theory. 1908 *Edinb. Rev.* Apr. 460 Her puristical vanity.

Puritan (piūˑrităn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. L. *pūr-us* pure, or *pūritās* PURIT-Y + -AN. Perh. formed in French or mod.Latin: cf. F. *puritain* (Ronsard 1564), mod.L. *pūritānī* (in Du Cange). The appellation appears to have been intended to suggest that of the Καθαροί, Catharans, or Catharists, assumed by the Novatian heretics, and thus to convey an odious imputation.]

A. *sb.*

1. *Hist.* A member of that party of English Protestants who regarded the reformation of the church under Elizabeth as incomplete, and called for its further 'purification' from what they considered to be unscriptural and corrupt forms and ceremonies retained from the unreformed church; subsequently, often applied to any who separated from the established church on points of ritual, polity, or doctrine, held by them to be at variance with 'pure' New Testament principles.

According to Stow (see quot. 15..) the name was (? originally) assumed by congregations of Anabaptists in London; but this is probably an error, for otherwise it appears in early use always as a term of reproach used by opponents, and resented by those to whom it was applied: see quot. from Fuller 1655. Its application changed with time and the course of events. Originally, it was applied to those within the Church of England who demanded further reformation, especially in the direction of Presbyterianism; afterwards, naturally, to the same party when they were separated from the Church, and became the anti-episcopal Presbyterians, Independents, or Baptists, and consequently to the typical 'Roundheads' of the Commonwealth period, whose puritanism was sometimes little more than political. In later times, the term has become historical, without any opprobrious connotation, and has even, from its association with *purity* and *pure*, come to be treated, by those who in opinion agree more or less with the early Puritans, as a name of honour.

[15.. STOW in *Three 15th C. Chron.* (Camden) 143 About that tyme [1567] were many congregations of the Anabaptysts in London, who cawlyd themselvs Puritans or Unspottyd Lambs of the Lord.] 1572 J. JONES *Bathes of Bath* III. 24 Puritanes are they named, pure I wold they wer. *Ibid.* [see PRECISIAN]. 1572 [FIELD & WILCOX] *Admonition to Parlt.* Pref. A 1 b, They lincke in togither & slaunderously charge pore men..with greeuous faults, calling them Puritanes, worse than the Donatistes. 1572 WHITGIFT *Answ. to Admonition* 18 This name Puritane is very aptely giuen to these men, not bicause they be pure no more than were the Heretikes called *Cathari*, but bicause they think them selues to be *mundiores ceteris*, more pure than others, as *Cathari* did, and seperate them selues from all other Churches and congregations as spotted and defyled. 1573 T. CARTWRIGHT *Reply to Whitgift* 13 If you meane, that those are Puritanes or Catharans, which do set forth a true and perfect patern or platforme of reforming the church, then the marke of thys heresie reacheth vnto those, which made the booke of common prayer. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camd.) 29 Alleging..that I had greatly commendid thos whitch men call præcisions and puritanes. 1589 *Hay, any Worke for Cooper* 25 The Ministers maintenance by tithe no Puritan denieth to be unlawful. For Martin..., you must understand, doth account no Brownist to be a Puritan. 1589 NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 94, I knowe they are commonly called Puritans, and not amisse...They take themselues to be pure, when they are filthy in Gods sight. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 98 Though honestie be no Puritan, yet it will doe no hurt, it will weare the Surplis of humilitie ouer the blacke-Gowne of a bigge heart. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 46 The shearers (three-man song-men, all, and very good ones)..but one Puritan amongst them, and he sings Psalmes to horne-pipes. 1618 *King's Decl. conc. Sports* 6 (republ. 1633 10) Our pleasure likewise is, That the Bishop of that Diocesse take the like straight order with all the Puritans and Precisians .. either constraining them to conforme themselues, or to leave the Countrey. *a* 1625 J. ROBINSON in Drysdale *Hist. Presbyt. in Eng.* (1889) 5 *note*, The Papists plant the ruling power of Christ in the Pope; the Protestants in the Bishops; the Puritans in the Presbytery; we [Independents] in the body of the Congregation *of the multitude* called the Church. 1641 MILTON *Reform. Ch. Disc.* I. 16 All those that found fault with the Decrees of the Convocation..strait were..branded with the Name of Puritans. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 66 The English Bishops..began..urging the Clergy..to subscribe to the Liturgie, Ceremonies, and Discipline of the Church, and such as refused..were branded with the odious name of Puritanes, a name which in this notion first began in this year [1564]. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) 17 The Puritans..put on external appearances of great strictness and gravity. They took more pains in their parishes than those who adhered to the bishops. 1732-8 NEAL (*title*) The History of the Puritans or Protestant Non-Conformists. *a* 1779 WARBURTON *Alliance betw. Ch. & St.* III. iii, Those prudent and honest men..gave it as their deliberate judgment, 'That the Puritans ought to conform, rather than make a schism: and that the church men ought to indulge the others' scruples, rather than hazard one'. 1825 MACAULAY *Ess., Milton* (1887) 23 The Puritans, the most remarkable body of men, perhaps, which the world has ever produced. 1830 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 10 June, Is it not..an historical error to call the Puritans dissenters? Before St. Bartholomew's day they were essentially a part of the Church. 1845 JAMES *A. Neil* ii, His master was a rigid man, a Puritan of the most severe cast. 189. BP. RYLE *Light fr. Old Times* (1903) 339 This saintly old Puritan [Baxter]. 1903 F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 590 Those who strove for a worship purified from all taint of popery (and who therefore were known as 'Puritans') 'scrupled' the cap and gown..,and 'scrupled' the surplice.

b. *transf.* A member of any religious sect or party that advocates or aspires to special purity of doctrine or practice. (Cf. CATHARAN, CATHARIST.)

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* VI. xliii. (1663) 116 Novatus ..became himself the author and ringleader of his own heretical sect, to wit, of such as through their swelling pride do call themselves Puritans. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. viii. (1614) 378 The Persians are a kinde of Catharists or Puritans in their impure Muhammedrie. 1637 GILLESPIE *Eng. Pop. Cerem.* II. v. 24 The old Waldenses.. were also named by their adversaries, Cathares or Puritanes. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 67 We need not speak of the ancient Cathari or Primitive Puritans. 1709 J. JOHNSON *Clergym. Vade M.* II. 48 By the Puritans we are to understand the Novatians, who would not commune with the Catholic church under pretence that her communion was polluted. 1871 SIR W. W. HUNTER *Ind. Musalmans* 58 The Wahábis form..an advanced division of the Sunnis—the Puritans of Islám.

c. A member of any (non-religious) party or school who practises or advocates strict or extreme adherence to its principles; a purist.

1885 *Pall Mall G.* 20 May 1/1 The Crofters Holdings Bill has been received..very quietly by the Puritans of 'economic principle'.

2. Applied, chiefly in reproach or ridicule, to one who is, affects to be, or is accounted extremely strict, precise, or scrupulous in religion or morals.

The early Puritans were in many cases characterized by the prominence which they attached to personal religion, and by strictness and gravity of behaviour, with plainness of dress and manners; hence it was easy to look upon a 'puritan' as one who professed a higher standard of personal religion and morality than was usual.

1592 GREENE *Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 176 When I had discouered that I sorrowed for my wickednesse..they fell vpon me in ieasting manner, calling me Puritane and Presizian. 1612 RICH *Honest. Age* (Percy Soc.) 55 He that hath not for euery word an oath..they say hee is a puritan, a precise foole, not fitte to hold a gentleman company. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IX. i. § 67 (an. 1564) *Puritan* here was taken for the Opposers of the Hierarchie and Church-Service, as resenting of Superstition. But prophane mouths quickly improved this Nick-name, therewith on every occasion to abuse pious people. 1696 M. SYLVESTER *Life & Times Baxter* 32 When they had been called by that name awhile, the vicious Multitude of the Ungodly called all Puritans that were strict and serious in a Holy Life, were they ever so conformable! 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 26 Brought up among the strait-laced..puritans of the United States.

B. *adj.* a. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Puritans; strict and scrupulous in religious observances. b. That is a Puritan. (In quot. 1607 satirically used as = hypocritical, dissembling.)

1589 *Martrel. Tr., Epit.* A ij, The Puritans are angrie with me, I meane the puritane preachers. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* II. ii, I'll after him And..seeme to beare a part In all his ills, but with a Puritane heart. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 30 If a man would seeme (as I may say) a Puritan Papist, ..there is danger to fall into the suspition of an Hypocrite. 1638 LAUD *Diary* 29 Apr., There's a great concurrence between them [in Scotland] and the Puritan party in England. 1652 SANDERSON *Cases of Consc.* (1678) 192 To discover the weakness of the Puritan principles and tenents. 1806 in J. Thacher *Hist. Plymouth* (1832) 232 This is the 186th anniversary of the first landing of our puritan fathers. 1832 *Ibid.* 324 The venerable pastor of the pilgrims, and his puritan associates. 1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxvii, He was no less frugal in his repasts than in his Puritan attire. 1857 C. KINGSLEY *Let.* in *Life* (1879) II. 52, I am full of old Puritan blood. 1858 LONGF. *M. Standish* III. 40 Singing the hundredth Psalm, the grand old Puritan anthem.

Hence **Puˑritaness** (*nonce-wd.*), a female puritan; †**Purita·nian** (-eˑan) *a.* = PURITANICAL; Presbyterian; **Puˑritanly** *adv.*, in a puritan manner, towards Puritanism; †**Purita·no-paˑpist** *nonce-wd.*, a strict or austere papist, esp. a Jesuit.

1897 *Daily Tel.* 4 June 9/1 If our fair *Puritanesses press us much further. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 13 A blind conceit and opinion of their [Iesuits'] *puritanian holinesse. *Ibid.* 224 The Puritanean Consistorie, representing the ecclesiasticall state in Scotland. 1897 W. WALKER *Hist. Congregat. Ch. U. S.* 89 The see of London, the..most *Puritanly inclined. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 107 The *Puritano-papiste, Loyala.

Puritanic (piūˑritæˑnik), *a.* [f. PURITAN + -IC; after *Satanic*, etc.] Of or pertaining to the Puritans, = PURITAN *a.* (now *rare*); having the character or manner of a puritan; = next.

1606 CHAPMAN *M. D'Olive* Plays 1873 I. 214 That nose of his (according to the Puritannick cut) hauing a narrow bridge. 1782 W. MASON *Eng. Gard.* IV. 34/622 Too dark a stole Was o'er Religion's decent features drawn By Puritanic zeal. 1794 *Mass. Mag.* (U.S.) May 288 When those venerable puritanic sages landed at Plymouth. 1828 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I*, I. iii. 35 The puritanic party..starting up among all ranks of society. 1830 FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) II. 157 A puritanic simplicity and unworldliness. 1882 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xv. 5 The Puritanic divines are almost all of them against the taking of any interest upon money.

Puritanical (piūˑritæˑnikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] Pertaining to or characteristic of the Puritans, or of puritans generally; having the character of a puritan; marked by the strictness, plainness, or other quality of puritans. (Chiefly in disparagement. In quot. 1882-3 used as = PURITAN *a.*)

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. i, His wiues puritanicall coynesse. 1624 in Rymer *Fœdera* XVII. 616 Seditious Puritanical books and pamphlets, scandalous to our person or state, such as have been lately vented by some Puritanical spirits. *c* 1683 BURNET *Orig. Mem.* I. (1902) 71 The duke [of York] complained of this [insertion in the Bk. of Comm. Prayer] much to me as a puritanical thing. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. e j b, That Sect..was in Mahometanism the most Puritanical of all the Sects of the East. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 458 P 6 Every Appearance of Devotion was looked upon as Puritanical. 1878 T. CUYLER *Pointed Papers* 162, I do not want to be thought queer or puritanical. 1879 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* III. 84 That Fielding in his hatred for humbug should have condemned purity as puritanical, is clearly lamentable. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* 430/2 Pastor of a puritanical Calvinistic Congregation in.. Boston.

Hence **Puritaˑnically** *adv.*, in a puritanical way; after the manner of the Puritans.

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 41 Shee would do it so puritannically, so secretly I meane, that no body should heare of it. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* 9 Apr. (O.H.S.) I. 221 [He] was a little Puritannically inclin'd. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* II. xvii, The forehead, over which that stiff, harsh hair was so puritanically parted.

Puritanism (piūˑritănizˈm). [f. PURITAN + -ISM.]

1. The Puritan system; the doctrines and principles of the Puritans; Puritan opinion or practice.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 30 Let M. Phisician ..shew..that ever I have maintainid ani od point of puritanism, or præcisionism. 1601 ? MARSTON *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 220 Leaue praying for dead. 'Tis no good Caluianisme, Puritanisme. 1624 LAUD *Diary* 23 Dec., The same day I delivered my L. a little tract about Doctrinal Puritanism. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 7 Sept., 'Bartholomew Fayre', with the puppet-showe,..which had not been [acted] these forty years (it being so satyricall against Puritanism). 1736 WARBURTON *Alliance Ch. & St.* III. iii, At one season it [the danger] might arise from Popery, at another from Puritanism. 1900 MORLEY *O. Cromwell* V. v. 409 Militant Puritanism was often only half-Christian. 1908 P. T. FORSYTH in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 159 Puritanism is the mother church of Western democracy.

b. *transf.* (Cf. PURITAN A. 1 b, c.)

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 132, I could wishe.. that we all could direct the course of our lyfe..accordyng to this Puritanisme of Osorius. 1870 RUSKIN *Lect. Art* iii. 73 This Puritanism in the worship of beauty, though sometimes weak, is always honourable and amiable.

2. Excessive (or affected) strictness or preciseness like that observed by or attributed to the Puritans; puritanical behaviour or principles; precisianism.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 100 Vnder hypocrisie [I comprehend] al Machiauilisme, puritanisme, & outward gloasing with a mans enemie. 1633 PRYNNE *Histriom.* I. ii. 25 Licentious Christians, who make their will and lusts their law, may deeme it Puritanisme, or brand it for ouerstrict precisenesse. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 772 Scruples which grow out of excessive puritanism in style. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 175 That moderate austerity..which may, without puritanism, be recommended.

Puritanize (piŭ·rităn9iz), *v.* [as prec. + -IZE.]

1. *intr.* (with *it*). To act the puritan; to practise, conform to, or affect puritanism.

1625 BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 270 He faine would puritanize it.

2. *trans.* To make puritan, imbue with puritanism.

1648 *Persecutio Undecima* 13 So generally peevish and puritanized were the people. 1838 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* II. i. 55 *note*, Leicester succeeded in puritanizing, as Wood thought, the University. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* iii, He has been puritanized till he is good for nothing.

Hence **Pu·ritani·zed, Pu·ritani·zing** *ppl. adjs.*; also **Pu·ritani·zer,** one who puritanizes.

1836 *New Monthly Mag.* XLVII. 99 St. Paul's was a puritanized prosaic imitation of St. Peter's. 1847 BP. WILBERFORCE *Let.* in Ashwell *Life* (1879) I. x. 408, I cannot effectually guard the purity of the faith..from dishonesty of subscription on the side of Romanizers, if I wink at a like sin on the side of Puritanizers. 1857 BADEN POWELL *Chr. without Judaism* 173 The continued struggle between the Puritanising and the Catholicising extremes of the Reformation. 1882 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 162 Cranmer and the Puritanizing party.

Puritanly, etc.: see after PURITAN.

†**Pu·ritant.** *Obs. rare.* Alteration of PURITAN, after *Protestant*.

1604 HIERON *Popish Rime* Wks. I. 553 Many sundry sects ..The Caluinist, the Protestant, The Zwinglian, the Puritant. 1607 T. SPARKE *Brotherly Persuasion* 81 To burie and extinguish for euer the odious name of Puritants.

Purity (piŭ·rĭti). Forms: 3–6 **purete,** 4–5 **purte,** 4–6 **puryte,** 6 **purite, purety,** 6–7 **puritie,** 6– **purity.** [ME. *purte* (rare), a. OF. *purte* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.); but usually, from the beginning of 13th c. in the later F. form *pureté*, mod.F. *pureté*, and at length more fully conformed, as *purité, -itie, -ity*, to L. *pūritās, -tātem* (f. *pūr-us* PURE: see -ITY). Cf. Pr. *purtat, -etat, -itat*, It. *purità*, Sp. *puridad*.] The quality or condition of being pure, in various senses.

1. In physical sense: The state of being unmixed; freedom from admixture of any foreign substance or matter; absence of any other ingredient; *esp.* freedom from matter that contaminates, defiles, corrupts, or debases; physical cleanness.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 228 This corruptible body shall be indued with purite & incorupcyon. 1550 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1890) II. 430 French crownes..of the goodnes, purety, and waight, as they be curraunt in Fraunce. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 327 To..Sully the puritie and whitenesse of my Sheetes. 1727–46 THOMSON *Summer* 1267 This [bathing] is the purest exercise of health...Even from the body's purity the mind Receives a secret sympathetic aid. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 164 To insure the absolute purity of the ingredients. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xx. 138 Snow of perfect purity.

b. quasi-*concr.* Pure substance or part.

1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 5 þe purete of þe quinte essencie schal be sublymed aboue, & þe groste schal abide bynebe. *c* 1720 PRIOR *2nd Hymn Callimachus* 147 The nymphs.. from little urns Pour streams select, and purity of waters.

2. In non-physical or general sense: The state of being unmixed; freedom from any foreign or extraneous element, esp. from such as corrupt or debase; unalloyed or unadulterated condition; faultlessness, correctness.

1561 tr. *Calvin's 4 Godly Serm.* i. C iiij, To abolish al superstitions, yᵗ the true religion mai be set in her own puritie & holines. 1563 NOWELL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 21 The purity of the Latine tongue. 1661 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Nov., He shew'd that the Church of England was for purity of doctrine..the most perfect under Heaven. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref., in *Ess.* (ed. Ker) II. 254 From Chaucer the purity of the English tongue began. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. iii. 182 The metaphysical purity..of thought is the immateriality..of its object. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. Ind.* I. I. i. 35 The daughters of such connections, if they go on marrying Bramins for seven generations, restore their progeny to the original purity of the sacerdotal class. 1875 FREEMAN *Venice* (1881) 257 The slight touch of *Renaissance* in some of the capitals..in no sort takes away from the general purity of the style.

3. Of persons, their faculties, actions, attributes, etc.: Freedom from moral corruption, from ceremonial or sexual uncleanness, or pollution; stainless condition or character; innocence, chastity, ceremonial cleanness. (The earliest sense in Eng.)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 All muwen & owen holden one riwle onont purete of heorte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 202 þis chastete, þis clennesse, þis purte aceþ þet me loki þe herte uram euele þoȝtes. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22985 Whanne it is songe off good entente, In clennesse and in purete. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 145 b, Whan we be gyuen..to clennesse of vertue & purite of lyfe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 258, I could driue her then from the ward of her purity, her reputation, her marriage-vow. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Tim.* v. 2 Intreate..The elder women as mothers, the yonger as sisters with all puritie. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 427 No savage fierce ..Will dare to soyl her Virgin purity. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY (J.), Is it the purity of a linen vesture, which some so fear would defile the purity of the priest? 1729 LAW *Serious Call* vii. 109 Every thing about her resembles the purity of her soul. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* xxi, 'Tis said the lion will turn and flee From a maid in the pride of her purity. 1827 HEBER *Hymn* 'Holy, holy, holy' iii, Perfect in power, in love, and purity. 1905 W. SANDAY *Crit. 4th Gosp.* IV. 120 The strictest ritualistic purity was required of those who took part in the feast.

b. quasi-*concr.* An embodiment of purity; a stainless being. *nonce-use.*

1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. Wks. 1856 I. 14 She comes: creations puritie, admir'd, Ador'd amazing raritie.

Purkinjean (pɔ9ki·nʤiăn), *a. Anat.* and *Phys.* Also erron. **-gian.** [f. *Purkinje*, name of a Bohemian physiologist (1787–1869) + -AN.] Pertaining to or named after Purkinje: applied to various anatomical structures, etc., as the *Purkinjean capsules* in the cement of a tooth (see quot. 1854); *Purkinjean vesicle*, the nucleus of the ovum, discovered by Purkinje in 1825, also called *germinal vesicle* or *Purkinje's vesicle.*

So *Purkinje's cells*, large branching cells in the cortex of the brain; *Purkinje's fibres*, certain fibres in the ventricles of the heart, esp. in the fœtus; *Purkinje's figures*, visual figures produced by the shadows of the retinal blood-vessels cast by light (e. g. from a candle) entering the eye laterally.

1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 785/1 During the last stage of its continuance in the ovary the vesicle of Purkinje disappears. 1836–9 *Ibid.* II. 452/1 The Purkinjean or germinal vesicle. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 292 (Elephant's grinders) The cells..become confluent ..,their primitive distinctness being indicated only by their persistent granular nuclei, which now form the radiated Purkingian capsules. 1869 HUXLEY *Phys.* ix. (ed. 3) 248 If you go into a dark room with a single..candle, and..allow the light to fall very obliquely into the eye, one of what are called Purkinje's figures is seen. This is a vision of a series of diverging, branched, red lines on a dark field. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Purkinje's cells..Purkinje's fibres..Purkinje's figures..Purkinje's vesicle.

Purl (pɜ̄l), *sb.*¹ Forms: 6 **pyrl(e,** 6–9 **purle,** 7– **purl** (9, *in senses* 2, 5, *also* **pearl**: see PEARL *sb.*⁴). [In sense 1, app. orig. *pyrl(e*, f. *pyrl(e*, PIRL *v.* to twist ('I pyrle wyer of golde or sylver' Palsgr.). As to the other senses see Note below.]

I. 1. Thread or cord made of twisted gold or silver wire, used for bordering and embroidering. *Pearl purl*: see quot. 1882. *Silk purl*: see quot. 1899.

1535 *Rep. Dk. Rutland's Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 277 For vj plightes of fyne lawne for sleves for the Quene with bandes of pyrles of golde, besides workinge the same by my Lady. *a* 1586 SIDNEY (Webster), A triumphant chariot made of carnation velvet, enriched with purl and pearl. 1600 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) III. 502 One Frenche gowne of blacke vellat, with an edge of purle, and pipes of gold. 1611 COTGR., *Canetille*, (Gold, or siluer) Purle. [Cf. mod.F. *cannetille*, ribbon-wire, gold or silver thread, 'petite lame très-fine d'or ou d'argent tortillé' Littré.] 1621 in Elsing *Debates Ho. Lords* App. (1870) 141 They granted I should make purle upon condicion to be bound in 100ˡⁱ to give up an accompt of every parcell of gould and silver purle I should sell..; that through feare I was forced to condescend to seale the bond for not making any gold thread for this 2 yeares. 1797 *Boyer's Fr. Dict., Cannetille*,..purl or purfled gold or silver embroidery. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlew., Pearl-purl* is a gold cord of twisted wire, resembling a small row of beads strung closely together. Used for the edging of Bullion Embroidery. 1899 W. G. P. TOWNSEND *Embroidery* v. 82 (*Gold Threads*, etc.) *Bullion.*—The largest size of 'purl'...*Purl* may be either in gold or silver. It is made in a series of continuous rings rather like a corkscrew. *Ibid.* vi. 106 Purl is made of the finest gold wire twisted to form a round tube. *Ibid., Silk purl* in a variety of colours is made (over wire)...It is worked in the same way as the gold. 1900 DAY & BUCKLE *Art Needlework* xxix. (1901) 245 Flat gold wire is known by the name of 'plate', and various twisted threads by the name of 'purl'. [See esp. the two works last quoted here.]

attrib. 1620 in *Naworth Housek. Bks.* (Surtees) 145 Two ounseis of gould and silver purle for making a perle drissing for Mrs. Marie. 1899 W. G. P. TOWNSEND *Embroidery* vi. 108 Horse-tail silk for purl embroidery should be well waxed.

2. Each of the minute loops or twists with a row of which the edges of lace, braid, ribbon, and the like, are ornamented (in Fr. *picot*); hence, collectively, a series or chain of such loops. In the machine-made lace trade, a twisted loop on the edge of a piece of lace, net, or braid; also, a similar twisted loop in the fabric (not on the edge) of lace. Hence laces and braids characterized by such loops are known as *purl laces, purl braids*, and elliptically as 'purls'. (Cf. also PEARL *sb.*⁴)

1611 COTGR., *Canetille*, (Gold, or siluer) Purle; also, a small purle of needle-worke; or, a small edging (bone) lace. *Ibid., Canetillé*, set, wrought, or inriched, with purle; also, edged with a small (needleworke) purle, or bone lace. 1688 MIEGE *Fr. Dict.* II, Purl, *engrêlure petite bande à jour au bout de la dentelle.* 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Purl*, a kind of edging for Bone-lace. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Purle*, a narrow list, border, fringe, or edging. 1865 *Patent Specif.* No. 801 These extra warp threads thereby become warp weft threads, and they also form the purls...Intermediate weft threads..are caused to twist with the warp weft threads to produce combined twisted purl. To which the warp lacing threads attach the purls formed by the warp weft threads. 1867 W. FELKIN *Machine-Wrought Hosiery* 393 [A machine] producing, if wished, pearls either on one or both sides of the weaving edges. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 386/2 The loops that decorate the edges of Pillow Lace are called Pearls or Purls, and are made to any parts of the design that are disconnected in any way from the main body of the work. 1886 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/6 *Market Reptes.*..Business in Honiton braids and purls is far from being in a satisfactory condition. 1891 *Patent Specif.* No. 9483 A 'curl purl' is produced by the ordinary 'lap and press' process.

attrib. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Pearl-edge*, otherwise written Purl-edge. A narrow kind of thread edging made to be sewn upon lace as a finish to the edge; or projecting loops of silk at the sides of ribbons formed by making some of the threads of the weft protrude beyond the selvedge.

II. †3. 'The pleat or fold of a ruff or band' (Fairholt), as worn about 1600; a frill. *Obs.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 72 Your pinches, your purles, your floury laggings. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iv, It graz'd on my shoulder, takes me away sixe purles of an Italian cut-worke band I wore. 1604 MIDDLETON *Father Hubburd's T.* in Bullen *O. Pl.* VIII. 91 Many puffs and purls lay in a miserable case for want of stiffening. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 173 For working in curious Italian purles, or French borders, it is not worth the while. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* II. ii, My lord, one of the purls of your band is, without all discipline, fallen out of his rank. 1663 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* I. Wks. (1672) 9 Our Powders and our Purls Are now out of fashion.

4. *transf.* a. A minute 'frilling' on the edge of a petal or leaf. b. A frill of feathers on the breast of some fancy varieties of pigeon.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 596 The jagging of pinks and gilly-flowers [is] like the inequality of oak leaves or vine leaves, ..but they seldom or never have any small purls. 1765 *Treat. Dom. Pigeons* 126 The feathers on the breast open, and reflect both ways, expanding itself something like a rose, which is called the purle by some, and by others the frill. *Ibid.* 127 The feathers on the breast (like that of the owl) open, and reflect both ways, standing out almost like a fringe, or the frill of a shirt; and the Bird is valued in proportion to the goodness of the frill or purle.

III. 5. *Knitting.* (Often *pearl.*) An inversion of the stitches, producing a ribbed appearance of the surface. (See PURL *v.*¹ 4.) Chiefly in *Comb.*, as *purl-knitting, purl-stitch.*

Purl-edge, an edge made by 'taking off' the end stitches purl-wise; i. e. by turning the wires as in purl-stitch.

1825 JAMIESON, *Pearl*, the seam-stitch in a knitted stocking. *To cast up a pearl*, to cast up a stitch on the right side in place of the wrong; *Purl*, Teviotd[ale]. *Ibid., Purl*, the seamstitch in a knitted stocking. *Ettr. For.* 1885 MISSES BRIETZCKE & ROOPER *Needlew. & Knitting* II. 99 In *purl* knitting the needle is put through the upper part of the stitch towards the lower...Purl knitting is also called seamed knitting. *Ribbed* knitting is when plain and purl knitting is worked alternately. *Ibid.*, Let them knit alternately 2 stitches plain and 2 purl. *Ibid.*, The purl stitches.

[*Note.* The various senses above have been treated together rather for convenience, as all relating to the decoration of apparel, than from any certainty that they are all uses of the same word. The derivation of sense 1 seems clear. That sense 2 had the same origin is possible, if the *twist* given to the minute loops was the characteristic. Or it may be that, as the purl-edging of lace, etc. had a similar ornamental use to that of gold and silver purl, the name was extended from the one to the other; the possibility of this appears to be shown by Cotgrave's inclusion of both as meanings of F. *canetille*, in quot. 1611. The connexion of branches II. and III. is much more difficult to explain, and their inclusion must be considered as merely provisional; the latter may very well be a distinct word, and perhaps better spelt (as it often is) *pearl*. Minsheu in his *Ductor* suggested that *purle* was the same word as PURFLE, but this is historically as well as phonetically unlikely.]

Purl (pɜ̄rl), *sb.*² Forms: 6–7 **pirle, purle,** 7 **perle,** 7– **purl.** See also PRILL *sb.*² [In earliest form *pirle*, mod. dial. *prill*: possibly connected with PIRL *v.* to whirl, twist; but certainly akin to PURL *v.*², and the Norse vb. there mentioned.]

†**1.** A small rill in which the particles of water are in a whirl of agitation. *Obs.*

α. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1744–5) II. 79 Ther is a litle pirle of water. *Ibid.*, Thorowgh this wood rennith a pirle of water cumming out of an hil therby. 1584 *N. Riding Rec.* (1894) 231 They came nere a little becke or pirle of water called Slabecke. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 666 Receiving sundry pirles to it and many a running rilfe

β. *a* 1624 BP. M. SMITH *Serm.* (1632) 137 If the water at the well-head be corrupted, the streame, or perle running from the same, will not be wholesome.

γ. 1596 DRAYTON *Mortimer.* Q, Whose streame..Which on the sparkling grauell runns in purles, As though the waues had been of siluer curles. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Funeral Serm. C'tess of Carbery* 2 Watered with the purles flowing from the fountain of life. 1651 — *Serm. for Year* xvi. 204 So have I seen the little purles of a spring ȝweat thorow the bottom of a bank, and intenerate the stubborn pavement.

2. The action or sound of purling as a rill.

1650 H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Idle Verse*, The Purles of youthful blood. 1850 J. STRUTHERS *Poet. Wks.* II. 251 How fraught with life the gentle purl is Of her sweet breath. 1876 T. HARDY *Elhelberta* (1890) 180 The pleasant lake, the purl of the weir, the rudimentary lawns, shrubberies, and avenue, had changed their character quite. 1886 — *Mayor of Casterbr.* XXXVIII, The purl of waters through the weirs.

Purl (pɜ̄rl), *sb.*³ ? *Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Also ? **purle.** [Origin unascertained (? related to prec.).]

a. Formerly, A liquor made by infusing wormwood or other bitter herbs in ale or beer. *Purl-royal*, a similar infusion of wormwood in wine. **b.** Later, A mixture of hot beer with gin (also called *dog's nose*), sometimes also with ginger and sugar: in repute as a morning draught.

1659–60 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Feb., To Mr. Harper's to drink a draft of Purle. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) II. 341 As grateful to the Stomach as the best Purl-Royal, or Wormwood Wine. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 317 Friday..Twelve a-Clock...Drank a Glass of Purl to recover Appetite. *a* 1764 LLOYD *Fam. Epist.*, O Purl! all hail...Mum, Porter, Stingo, Mild and Stale. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* x, The landlady made us some purl. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, For, it would seem that Purl must always be taken early. 1903 *Licensed Traders' Dict., Purl*, hot beer with a glass of gin in it, re-christened 'dog nose' in later days.

c. *Comb.*: **purl-house**, a public house at which purl is sold and drunk (so **purl-boat**); **purl-man**, a man who sells purl.

1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 126 The 'Jolly Gardeners' was stuck up at a Purl-house. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 93/2 The river beer-sellers, or purl-men, as they are more commonly called. 1902 A. MORRISON *Hole in Wall* 70 The men were purlmen..selling liquor—hot beer chiefly, in the cold mornings—to the men on the colliers. *Ibid.* 102 The purl-boat swung round and shot off.

Purl, *sb.*[4] *slang.* or *colloq.* [Goes with PURL *v.*[4], sense 3, of which (notwithstanding the want of earlier instances of the verb) it is prob. the derivative sb. naming the act.] An act of whirling, hurling, or pitching head-over-heels or head-foremost; a header or cropper in the hunting-field; a spill, a heavy fall; an overturn, upset, capsize.

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 387 The purl was tremendous. 1829 *Ibid.* XXIV. 52 Mr. Tolemarsh got an awful purl over a gate. 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Africa* II. 248 Spite of numerous tumbles..I still kept ahead; but Piggy.. was soon close at my heels; and, at every purl I got, I fancied I felt his tusks. 1856 READE *Never too late* XXXVIII, They [canoes] went a tremendous pace—with occasional stoppages when a purl occurred. 1861 G. MEREDITH *E. Harrington* XX, There's a purl: somebody's down.

Purl, *sb.*[5] *Sc.* Also **purle.** A hard nodule of the dung of an animal, esp. of horse or sheep; also, 'dried cow-dung used for fuel' (Jam.).

1704 A. PITCAIRNE in Graham *Soc. Life Scot. in 18th C.* (1901) I. vi. 51 A handful of sheep's purles. 1799 *Prize Ess. Highl. Soc. Scot.* II. 218 (Jam.) The dung of the animal is excreted in small quantities, and in the form of small hard purls. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., The auld woman was gathering horse-purls.

Purl, *sb.*[6] [Echoic, from the bird's cry; cf. PIRR *sb.*[2], PURRE *sb.*[1]] A local name of the tern.

1885 SWAINSON *Provinc. Names Birds* 202 Common Tern. ..Great purl (Norfolk). *Ibid.* 203 Little Tern...Small purl (Norfolk).

Purl, *v.*[1] Also 6 **pyrl(e, pirl(e.** [f. *pyrle* PURL *sb.*[1]]

†**1.** *trans.* To embroider with gold or silver thread (PURL *sb.*[1] 1); to edge embroidered figures with gold or silver thread. Chiefly in *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

1526 in *Inv. Goods Dk. Richmond* in *Camden Misc.* (1855) 14 Item, ij Copes of clothe of golde of damask paned with crymsen velvet pirled. 1527 *Inv. T. Cromwell's Goods* (Public Rec. Office), A purse of black vellet pyrled with golde threde. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 b, Cloth of Tissue..poudered with redde Roses purled with fine gold. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1947/2 The lord maior, recorder, and aldermen,..who had crosses of velvet or satin pirled with gold. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* x, A baldrick, purl'd with silver. *a* 1622 AINSWORTH *Annot. Ps.* xlv. 14 Purled workes or grounds, closures of gold, such as precious stones are set in. 1688 HOLME *Armory* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 504/1, 4 cushions of cloth of gold Freezed and purled. *fig.* 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* I. iii, Is thy skin whole? art thou not purl'd with scabs?

2. *absol.* To border or edge with or as with purls (PURL *sb.*[1] 2). Chiefly in **Purled** *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, ornamented with or as with an edging of minute twisted loops.

1766 W. GORDON *Gen. Counting-ho.* 430, 10 yards plain purled gauze. 1865 *Patent Specif.* No. 801 The manufacture in twist lace machinery of plain or ornamental fabrics having purled edges obtained from warp threads. *Ibid.*, As I am about to purl on the sides of this weaving, I must suppose that I have six carriages, the two outside ones being for the time being ordinary twisting or fabric carriages to which the warp lacing threads attach the purls formed by the warp weft threads.

†**3.** To pleat or frill like a ruff; to frill the edge of; also *transf.* Chiefly in *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XIX. 29 Small, narrow, long and round, ragged or purled leaues. *Ibid.* XX. 31 The leaues.. be..a little cut, or purlde about the edges. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 59 Thy huff'd, puff'd, painted, curl'd purl'd wanton Pride. 1649 W. M. *Wand. Jew* (1857) 16 By his slash'd doublet, high galloshes, and Italian purld band [hee should be] a Frenchman. 1649 LOVELACE *Lucasta* 147 (T.) The officious wind her loose hayre curles, The dewe her happy linnen purles. *a* 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll* 116 Wrought Pillow's bring Pownc'd Law, Stitched Common-wealth, and purled King.

4. *Knitting.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) To invert the stitches so as to produce a furrow or 'seam'. (See PURL *sb.*[1] 5.)

a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Purle,* a term in knitting. It means an inversion of the stitches. The seams of stockings, the alternate ribs, and what are called the clocks, are purled. 1825 JAMIESON, *To Purl,* to form that stitch in knitting, or weaving stockings, which produces the hollow or fur. This is called the Purled or Purlin steek, and the stockings themselves Purled Stockings...It is to be observed, however, that *Purl* is merely a provincialism, *Pearl* being the common pronunciation of the S[cotch] term. 1885 MISSES BRIETZCKE & ROOPER *Needlework & Knitting* II. 99 As soon as the children can purl with ease. 1902 BARNES GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 209 Knitting her 'primrose edging', counting 'knit three, purl three'.

Purl (pɜːl), *v.*[2] See also PIRL *v.* [Goes with PURL *sb.*[2]: cf. also Norw. *purla* (Aasen, Ross) to bubble up, gush out as water, Sw. dial. *porla* to purl, murmur, ripple, gurgle (Björkeman).]

1. *intr.* Of water, a brook, etc.: To flow with whirling motion of its particles, or twisting round small obstacles: often with reference to the murmuring sound of a rill.

a 1586 [see PURLING *ppl. a.*]. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 81 From dry Rocks abundant Rivers purld. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* xi, From the rock a spring With streames of Lethe softly murmuring, Purles on the pebbles, and invites repose. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), To *Purl*, to run with a murmuring Noise, as a Stream does. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXI. 296 Swift o'er the rolling pebbles, down the hills, Louder and louder purl the falling rills. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 19 The gravel-paved brook..He often sat to see it purl along. 1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* iv, The brook that loves To purl o'er matted cress and ribbed sand.

2. *transf.* Said of a stream of air, breath, wind, the sound of a wind instrument or a voice, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucrece* 1407 From his lips did flie, Thin winding breath which purl'd vp to the skie. 1626, 1863 [see PURLING *vbl. sb.*[2]]. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Beucolick* iii, The soft, the sweet, the mellow note That gently purles from eithers Oat. 1847 *Whistle Binkie* (1890) II. 249 The saft wins pirlin through the trees.

b. *trans.* To utter with 'purling'.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper., Ecl. betw. End. Porter & Lycidas H.* i, Tell me why Thy whilome merry Oate By thee doth so neglected lye And never purls a note.

Purl, *v.*[3] Now *s. w. dial.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To purr, as a cat.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 301 A Noise much the same as a Cat when she purls. 1866 'NATHAN HOGG' (H. Baird) *New Ser. Poems Dev. Dial.* 71 Za zshore ez hur ole cat wid purdle, Ha wid'n du et in tother wurdle.

Purl *v.*[4] [In sense 1, app. a (? dialectal) variant spelling of PIRL *v.* (sense 2), and thus in origin closely related to PURL *v.*[1], but with a different sense-development.]

1. *intr.* To revolve or whirl round rapidly, as a wheel; to spin round, as a peg-top, a whirligig, etc.; = PIRL *v.* 2.

1792–1808 (in form *pirl*): see PIRL *v.* 2. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 104 In Wilts a shuttlecock is said to 'purl' when it spins in the air, after being thrown up in the air. 1881 *I. of Wight Words* (E.D.S.) s.v., He purled round like a top. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., [Warwicksh.] How that wheel goes purling round!

2. *intr.* To wheel *round* suddenly, as a horse.

1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* (1858) I. 360 All on a sudden a light glared upon the horse's face, who purled round in great terror, and flung me out of the saddle.

3. *trans.* and *intr.* To turn upside down, overturn, upset, capsize; to turn heels over head, turn a somersault. *dial.* and *colloq.*

1856 READE *Never too late* XXXVIII, They [natives] commonly paddle in companies of three; so that whenever one is purled, the other two come on each side of him, each takes a hand, and..they reseat him in his cocked hat [canoe], which never sinks, only purls. 1874 'S. BEAUCHAMP' *Grantly Grange* II. xii. 267 A good pleached hedge will purl you like a wall; turn you right over..unless you slant it. *Ibid.* 268 (E.D.D.) He hit the fence, and then purled over.

†**Purl,** *v.*[5] *Obs.* Variant of PROWL *v.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 415/1 Prollyn, as ratchys (or purlyn), *scrutor. Ibid.* 417/1 Purlyn, idem quod prollyn.

Purl, var. PIRL *v.*, to twist, spin.

Purled, *ppl. a.*: see PURL *v.*[1]

Purleiw, -lew(e, -ley, obs. ff. PURLIEU.

Purler (pɜːlər). *colloq.* [f. PURL *v.*[4] + -ER[1].] A throw or blow that hurls any one head-foremost; a knock-down blow; cf. PURL *sb.*[4]

1869 E. FARMER *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 6) 77 A 'purler' went Maxwell. 1878 JEFFERIES *Gamekeeper at H.* ix, Swung his gun round, and fetched him a purler on the back of his head. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 378 You were lucky if..you escaped the purler that stopped [his] ..forward career. *a* 1903 H. S. MERRIMAN *Tomaso's Fortune*, etc. (1904) 154 It was precisely the attitude of one who has had a purler at football.

Purley-man, variant of PURLIEU-MAN.

Purlicue (pɜːlikiuː), *sb. Sc.* Now *rare.* Also **parlicue, -lecue, -leycue, perlecue, -leque, -likew, pirlicue, -liecue, -liquey, purleycue.** [Origin and etymological form unascertained. See Note below.]

1. 'A dash or flourish at the end of a word in writing; a school-term, Aberd.' (Jamieson 1808.)

b. *pl.* 'Whims, particularities of conduct, trifling oddities, Angus.' (Jam. 1808.)

2. 'The peroration, or conclusion of a discourse; also used to denote the discourse itself, Strathmore, Roxb.' (Jam. 1825.)

3. See quot. 1825. (The practice is now obsolete.)

1825 JAMIESON, *Purlicue, Pirlicue, Parlicue*...The recapitulation made by the pastor of a congregation, of the heads of the discourses, which have been delivered by his assistants, on the Saturday preceding the dispensation of the sacrament of the Supper. *Scot. Orient.* pron[ounced] Pirlicue. Also, the exhortations which were wont to be given by him, on Monday, at what was called 'the close of the work', were thus denominated in other parts of S[cotland]. (I have been informed that the term has been sometimes extended to all the services on Monday.) 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiv, If you distaste the sermon, I doubt the pirlicue will please you as little. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* XXXVI, She would ware her life upon teaching them how to worship God properly, for that they were an ignorant wicked pack! A pirlicue which pleased them but little.

4. 'The space enclosed by the extended forefinger and thumb' (E. D. D.).

1825 BROCKETT *N. C. Gloss.* s.v., 'A spang and a purlicue' is a measure allowed in a certain game at marbles.

Hence **Pu'rlicue** *v., trans.* and *intr.* (In the Presbyterian Churches): to give a résumé of the preceding sermons at the close of a sacrament season.

1825 JAMIESON, To *Purlicue, Pirlicue, Parlicue.* 1860 J. WILSON *Presbytery of Perth* 53 He kept up to the last the now all but obsolete custom of pirliecuing;..going up to the pulpit at the close of the service, and giving his people an abstract of the sermons preached by his assistants on Communion occasions, with any remarks thereon which he thought necessary. 1876 W. M. TAYLOR *Ministry of Word* 177 They have been content to 'say away' on the passage, or, to use an expressive, Scotch word, they have 'perlikewed' awhile. 1867 [JAS. HUNTER] *Remin. Quinquagenarian* (Annandale), At the close it was the custom of our minister to parleycue the addresses of the clergymen who had preceded him. 1896 H. M. B. REID *Cameronian Apostle* vi. 96 *note*, Dugald Williamson..was in his time reckoned the best purleycueing member of the Presbytery.

[*Note.* It is generally assumed that the last part of this curious word is *cue* or F. *queue* a tail; the first part has been conjecturally referred to F. *parler* 'to speak', *par la* 'by the', and *pour la* 'for the', each being supposed to yield a plausible sense. The word is not known before Jamieson; and it is noteworthy that in his Dictionary of 1808, he recognized only senses 1 and 1 b; although a Scottish clergyman, sense 3 was app. unknown to him both then and when he prepared his 8vo ed. of 1818, and was added only in the Supplement of 1825.]

Purlieu (pɜːlɪiuː). Forms: 5 **purlewe,** 5–7 **purlew,** 6 **-liue,** 6–8 **-lue,** 7 **-lieue, -liew, -leiw; purly, -lie; pourlieu, -liew;** 8 **purleue, perlew;** 6– **purlieu;** also, *in comb.* 6 **purle, purley.** [Exemplified in 1482 in the form *purlew(e,* app. an erroneous alteration of *purley*, syncopated from *puʳraley*, the natural Eng. spelling (cf. *alley, city, army*) in the 15th c. of AF. *puralé, -alée*, taken in its transferred sense (PURALÉ 2).

For the history of *puralé, -alee* (puralē) in English between *c* 1330 and 1482 written evidence is wanting; in Anglo-Fr. legal documents it continued to be written *puralé, poralee* (examples of which, of 1370–78, in the sense 'purlieu' appear under PURALÉ 2); but, as an English word, it would naturally become *puraley, puraly* (puʳrāle, puʳrāli), and easily be syncopated to *purley, purly*, as still seen in the 16th c. and later, esp. in the comb. *purleyman*, which shows that this was the pronunciation even after the spelling was changed. *Purlew* may have originated in a scribal error, or as a pseudo-etymological spelling, erroneously associating the word with *lew, leu,* LIEU, place; app. it did not appear in law Fr. till later, when it was prob. taken over from Eng., and Gallicized as *purlieu*: see quot. 1574[1].]

1. A piece or tract of land on the fringe or border of a forest; originally, one that, after having been (wrongly, as was thought) included within the bounds of the forest, was disafforested by a new perambulation, but still remained in some respects, especially as to the hunting or killing of game, subject to provisions of the Forest Laws.

1482 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 224/1 Within his Forest of Rokyngham, and other Forests, Chaces within his Reame of Englond, or Purlews of the same. *Ibid.*, To the likly destruction of the same Forest, Chaces and Purlewes. 1533 J. HEYWOOD *Play Weather* (1903) 414 Rangers and kepers of certayne places, As forests, parkes, purlews and chasys. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* II. (1880) 21 Large fieldes, with medowes fayre and townes and parks and purlues large. [1574 in J. Dyer *Reports* (1592) 327 En le manor dun Fortescue de S. adjoynont al dit chace, come en le purlieu del chase ..le libertie del purlieu remayna unextincted.] 1574 in *Hist. Fortescue Fam.* (1880) 322 The next day..comes the boy that was wont to hunt that purlue. 1574 [see PURLIEU-MAN]. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* IV. iii. 77 Pray you (if you know), Where in the Purlews of this Forrest, stands A sheep-coat, fenc'd about with Olive-trees? 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos., Purlue*, a place neere ioining to a Forrest, where it is lawful for the owner of the ground to hunt, if hee can dispend fortie shillings by the yeere of freeland. *a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* IV. lxxiii. *Courts Forests* (1648) 303 Purlieu containeth such grounds which H. 2. R. 1. or King John added to their ancient Forests over other mens grounds, and which were disafforested by force of the statute of *Carta de foresta*, cap. 1 and cap. 3, and the perambulations and grants thereupon. *Ibid.* 305 (2 R. 2 No. 48) The Commons made Petition that men might enjoy their purlieus freely [*orig. F.* q'ils puissent avoir lour Poralés], and that perambulations might be made as was in the time of King H[enry] 2. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) IV. xvi. 455 In Henry the third's time..ther was much Land disafforested, which hath bin call'd pourlieus ever since. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 126 How far did the Purlews of this Forrest extend? 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 412 The King's officers were frequently attempting to recover the purlieus, or those lands adjoining the forests which had originally belonged to them, but had been disafforested by the charter of forests.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* A place where one has the right to range at large; a place where one is free to come and go, or which one habitually frequents; a haunt; one's bounds, limits, beat.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. § 51 Surely, though we place Hell under earth, the Devils walke and purlue is about it. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem., Cat & Puss* 31 Wing'd with Passion, through his known Purlieu, Swift as an Arrow from a Bow, he flew. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Pref., Wit has its walks and its purlieus, out of which it may not stray the breadth of an hair. 1744 *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 368, I design to enter upon winter quarters, and travel chiefly the perlews of my garden. 1830 in Cobbett *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 348 At the village of Hailstone, I got into the purlieu, as they call it in Hampshire, of a person well known in the Wen. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Bean-Stripe* 155 There's the palm-aphis..and his world's the palm-frond,..An inch of green for cradle, pasture-ground, Purlieu and grave.

†**b.** Phrase. *To hunt, follow one's game in purlieu, in the purlieus,* to pursue illicit love. *Obs.*

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV. i, He Hunts too much in the Purlues, would he would leave off Poaching. *a* 1634 RANDOLPH *Muses Looking-glasse* IV. iii, To such as hunt in Purly; this is something With mine own Game reserv'd. 1690 DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, He is weary of bunting in the spacious Forest of a Wife, and is following his Game *incognito*, in some little Purliew here at Thebes.

3. *pl.* **a.** *transf.* The parts about the border of any place; the outskirts. *arch.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. iii. 44 It had some fertile intervalls, especially in the skirts, and purlews thereof, as about mount Horeb. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 833 A place of bliss In the Pourlieues of Heav'n. 1712 BLACKMORE *Creation* (1786) 52 Venus, which in the purlieus of the sun Does now above him, now beneath him run. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xi, A wolf..was skulking about the purlieus of the camp. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxviii. 12 They pleased him, fresh from brawling courts And dusty purlieus of the law.

b. *fig.* The region forming the outlying part of anything abstract. Cf. PALE *sb.*[1] 5. *arch.*

1647 WARD *Simp. Cobler* 7 Rather to live within the pale of Truth where they may bee quiet, than in the purlievs, where they are sure to bee hunted ever and anon. 1664 ETHEREDGE *Comical Rev.* I. iii, I walk within the purlieus of the law. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 266 ¶ 4 To understand all the Purleues of this Game the better..I must venture my self, with my Friend Will. into the Haunts of Beauty and Gallantry.

4. An outlying district of a city or town, a suburb (*obs.*); also, the meaner streets about some main thoroughfare; a mean, squalid, or disreputable street or quarter. Also *attrib.*

1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 79 Sicilia was now become a purleiw, or suburbe-province of the Roman State. *a* 1625 FLETCHER *Chances* I. vi, Sure he's gone home: I have beaten all the purlieus, But cannot bolt him. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xlix, Two tatterdemalions whom he had engaged..about the purlieus of St. Giles's. *a* 1834 LAMB *Sir J. Dunstan* Misc. Wks. (1871) 390 A wretched shed in the most beggarly purlieu of Bethnal Green.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*purlieu dinner* (sense 4), *purley-hunter*; **purlieu-wood:** see quot.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. v. i, As a purly hunter, I haue hitherto beaten about the circuit of the forrest of this Microcosme. 1794 in Jas. Donaldson *Agric. Surv. Northampt.* 37 *Purlieu-woods* are those woods which are situate immediately in the vicinity of the forest. 1815 BYRON *Let.* Wks. (1899) III. 204 Murray has been cruelly cudgelled in his way home from a purlieu dinner, and robbed.

Purlieu-man, †purley-man (pɜ̄·limăn). Also 6 purle-, 7 purlie-man. [f. prec. + MAN *sb.*[1]] The owner of freehold land within the purlieu of a forest; *spec.* see quot. 1607.

1574 SIR J. FORTESCUE in *S. P. Dom. Eliz.* XCII, No. 34 (cf. *Hist. Fortescue Fam.* (1880) 315), I answered that I wold not myselfe..hunt my groundes, nor yet suffre anie purlemen to hunte them at anie tyme. *Ibid.* 316 Neyther my selfe, nor anie purleymen shall hunte anie of my groundes. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest*, title-p., What a Purallee man may doe, how he may hunt and vse his owne Purallee. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Purlie man* is he that hath lands within the purlieu, and being able to dispend forty shillings by the yeare of freehold, is upon these two points licensed to hunt in his owne purlieu. *a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* IV. lxxiii. *Courts Forest* (1648) 304 Seeing the wilde Beasts doe belong to the purlieu man *ratione soli*, so long as they remain in his grounds, he may kill them, for the property *ratione soli* is in him. 1793-4 CHRISTIAN in *Blackstone's Comm.* II. xxvii. 419 *note*, If deer come out of the forest into the purlieu, the purlieu-man may hunt and kill them, provided he does it fairly and without forestalling. 1909 R. W. RAPER *Let. to Editor* 29 Mar., I am or claim to be a Purlieu man or Purley man: Having a little land and a Cottage in a Purlieu lying between the Bishop's Chase, Colwall, Herefordshire, and the Kings Chase, Worcestershire (Old Malvern Forest). ..My Purlieu is so written, but always pronounced Purley.

Purlin (pɜ̄·lin). *Carpentry.* Forms: 5 (**perlion**), **purlyn, -lyon**, 6 **-lyne**, 7 **-lain, -linge**, 7–9 **purline**, 8– **-lin**, (9 **purling, perling**); 5–7 **purloyn(e**, 8–9 **-loin**. [History unascertained; the forms suggest a Fr. origin, with the prefix *por-*, *pour-*, in AF. *pur-*.] A horizontal beam, usually one of two or more, which run along the length of a roof, resting upon the principal rafters (which they cross at right angles), and lending support to the common rafters or boards of the roof.

1447 *Tintinhull Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 183 It. in perlionebus emptis ad idem opus. 1448–9 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 10 The principalles shalbe.. x inch thik with a purlyn in the Middes from one principall to a nother. 1484 *Indenture Waynflete* in Parker *Gloss. Archit.* s. v., The lower doobyll purlyon pece,..and the over purlyon for the seid floor. 1527 *Repairs at Drayton Manor* (Public Rec. Office), For sawynge of sparrs and syderasons and purlynes ij days. ij s. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 45 The Purlains for the Roof. *Ibid.* 72 Purloyns the same. *Ibid.* 73 The Purloynes the same. 1667 PRIMATT *City & C. Build.* 86 Four Purlines, being between eighteen and one and twenty foot long, and twelve and nine inches in thickness. 1714 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 July, Split the principal Rafter next that end, to the purloin. 1864 in Brighton *Sir P. Wallis* (1892) 154 The purloins of the deck were about twelve feet long. 1881 *Mechanic* § 1328 Common rafters..are notched slightly on the under side to fit over the purlins.

b. *attrib.*, as *purlin piece, post, rafter.*

1484 *Indenture Waynflete* in Parker *Gloss. Archit.* s. v., The lower doobyll purlyon pece. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Purlin-post*, a strut supporting a purlin. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* § 2046 Purline rafters.

Purlin: see PEARLING *sb.*, quot. *a* 1700.

Purling, *vbl. sb.*[1] [f. PURL *v.*[1] + -ING [1].]

†**1.** In sense 1 of the vb. *attrib.* as *purling wire.*

1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij, Purlynge wyer the dossen pounde iiiis. 1579 J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. x. 21 The Persian, Spanish, or Italian working of silks, as spinning, twisting, weuing sowing, imbroydring, aresing, counterfeyting, drawing, rasing, purling, buttoning, &c. *a* 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* I. ii, If he live..to your years, shall he spend his time in pinning, painting, purling, and perfuming as you do?

2. *Knitting*: see sense 4 of the vb.

1880 *Plain knitting*, etc. 11 Purling or knitting backwards should be the next step, as this is necessary for the completion of muffatees and stocking heels. 1902 BARNES GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 299 The knitting and purling may be made very easy.

Pu·rling, *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. PURL *v.*[2] + -ING [1].] The action of PURL *v.*[2]: chiefly referring to the sound.

1598 FLORIO, *Sorgimento*, a rising..a mounting, a purling, a billowing. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 230 A pipe a little moistned on the inside,..maketh a more solemn sound, than if the pipe were dry: but yet with a sweet degree of sibilation or purling. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 17 The purlings of Streams. 1863 MRS. OLIPHANT *Chron. Carl.* I. *Salem Ch.* vi, He..heard vaguely the polite purling of Masters's voice. 1891 — *Jerusalem* II. ii. 258 The purling of the little river under the olive-trees.

Pu·rling, *vbl. sb.*[3] [f. PURL *v.*[4] + -ING [1].] The fact of being capsized or thrown headlong.

1869 E. FARMER *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 6) 91 And with 'purling' and 'pumping' the field gets select.

Pu·rling, *ppl. a.* [f. PURL *v.*[2] + -ING 2.] That purls, as a rivulet or stream; rippling, undulating; murmuring.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xv. 1 Euery purling spring Which from the ribs of old Parnassus flowes. 1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep.* xxii. 97 With ev'ry little perling breath that blowes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 170 All instruments that have either returns, as trumpets; or flexions, as cornets; or are drawn up, and put from, as sackbuts; have a purling sound. 1632 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* II. i. E 3 Exceeding calme, By reason of a purling winde that flyes Off from the shore each morning. 1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint., Ps.* lxv, The fruitful flocks fill every dale, And purling corn doth cloath the vale. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 204 The whispering zephyr, and the purling rill. 1867 MISS YONGE *Six Cushions* xvi, The pathetic purling flow of talk. 1888 F. COWPER *Capt. of Wight* (1889) 293 The evening star flickered its glinting light across the purling water.

Purloin (pɜ(u)loi·n), *v.* Forms: 5–6 **perloyn(e**, 5–7 **purloyn(e**, (5 **pourloigne**), 7 **purloine**, 6– **purloin**. [a. AF. *purloigner* = OF. *porloigner, -lognier, -lunier, purloigner, -luignier, -luinier*, later *pourloign(i)er, -longnier*, f. *por-*, *pur-*:—L. *prō-* + *loing, loin*:—L. *longe* far; hence, 'to put far off or far away, to put away, do away with'. The sense 'make away with, steal' appears to be of English development.

The OF. *por-purloigner* tended to be confused in use with *porlongier*, and the learned *prolonger*, representatives of L. *prōlongare* to PROLONG. In Eng. *prolong* is rarely found in the sense 'purloin', but the obs. PROLOYN *v.* combined the senses of both verbs.]

†**1.** *trans.* To put far away; to remove; to put away; to do away with; make of none effect. *Obs.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 31 My duke doughty, demar of dampnacion, To princes and prelatis þat youre preceptis perloyned. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 394/2 Perloynyn, *idem quod* purloynyn. [*Ibid.* 417/1 Purlongyn, or prolongyn, or put fer a-wey, *prolongo, alieno.*] 1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 494/1 The seid Enditementz and Presentementz been purloyned, embesiled and put away. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 123 A Prince commands a Judge to execute the known Laws uprightly; he becomes corrupt, and sells, or otherwise purloyns judgment.

†**b.** To put out of the way, conceal. *Obs.*

1489 HEN. VII in *Epist. Acad. Oxon.* (O.H.S.) II. 559 The sayde bachelar hath..g[r]evously offendyd unto us in concellyng and pourloignyng þe sayde Thomas.

2. To make away with, misappropriate, or take dishonestly; to steal, esp. under circumstances which involve a breach of trust; to pilfer, filch.

1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI*, c. 2 § 1 Yf any souldier..doe sell give awaie or willfullie purloyne or otherwise exchaunge alter or putt awaye anye horse. 1594 DRAYTON *Ideas* lviii, For feare that some their Treasure should purloyne. 1684 WOOD *Life* III. 103 A.W...made 2 such exact catalogues of his books that nothing could be purloyn'd thence. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, I took..an opportunity of purloining his key from his breeches-pocket. 1880 *Chamb. Jrnl.* CCII. 367 Epileptics have an irresistible impulse to purloin whatever they can secretly lay their hands upon.

b. *absol.* or *intr.* To commit petty theft.

1611 BIBLE *Tit.* ii. 10 Not purloynyng, but shewing all good fidelitie. *a* 1635 BP. CORBET *Poems* (1807) 28 Thence goes he to their present, And there he doth purloyne.

†**c.** *trans.* To steal from, to rob (a person). *Obs. rare.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* vi. (1633) 19 If neighbours and friends send their Catars to purloyne one another.

3. *transf.* and *fig.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1651 Euidence to sweare That my poore beautie had purloin'd his eyes. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* 653 If they [weeds] be suffered to grow vp, sucke, purloine, and carrie away the sap and substance of the earth. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 1 Galleries purloined from the first floor of each house. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* I. 12 Slaves, kings, adventurers, envious of his name, Enjoy'd his labours, and purloin'd his fame. 1809 BYRON *Eng. Bards & Sc. Reviewers* 326 Lo! the Sabbath bard..Perverts the Prophets, and purloins the Psalms.

Hence **Purloi·ned** *ppl. a.*

1907 *Nation* 5 Oct. 13/1 Hermit crabs thrusting sharp nippers from the shelter of purloined whelk-shells.

Purloin, variant of PURLIN.

Purloiner (pɜ(u)loi·nəɹ). [f. PURLOIN *v.* + -ER [1].] One who purloins; a petty thief, a pilferer.

1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm. on Jas.* iv. 8 (Parker Soc.) 135 Gleaners of other men's goods, and pillers, and purloiners. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* CXVIII. 93 It may seem..Hard..to see Publique Purloyners..sit..upon the Lives of the Little Ones, that go to the Gallows. 1711 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 29 Wks. 1841 I. 325/1 Why these purloiners of the public cause such a clutter to be made about their reputations. 1791–1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit., Literary filchers*, We have both forgers and purloiners..in the republic of letters. 1865 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Dec. 3 It is not only in nude statues that we English are for the most part mere prosaic purloiners from the antique.

Purloi·ning, *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING [1].] The action of the verb PURLOIN; making away with; pilfering, filching.

1583 in *Yorksh. Archæol. Soc.* XVII. 256 For perloynynge of wreckes or goodes stolen upon the sea. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* II. vi. 63 Hee is also to discouer all manner of thefts or purloynings (whether of victualls or other matter). *a* 1827 J. WHYTE *Serm. Doctr. & Pract. Subj.* xiii. (1831) 231 The allowable purloining of your earlier days.

Purloi·ning, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING 2.] That purloins; pilfering, filching.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 283 Thinking it safe from yᵉ purloyning robber. 1602 *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* I. iv. (Arb.) 17 Let vs run through all the lewd formes of limetwig purloyning villanies.

Purloyn(e, -lyn(e, obs. ff. PURLIN.

Purly, obs. form of PURLIEU.

†**Purmein,** *v. Sc. Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *pourmene-r* (*-meine-*), earlier form of *promener*: see PROMENADE *v.*] *intr.* To walk about, take a walk.

1600 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 147 In privat conference purmeineing in the fields.

Purmenade, -ado, obs. Sc. ff. PROMENADE.

Purnancie, Purnele, Purnor: see PERNANCY, PARNEL, PERNOR.

Puro- (piū·ro), used as combining form from L. *pūs, pūr-* PUS, in a few pathological terms, instead of the more usual PYO- of Greek origin. **Pu·ro-hepati·tis,** suppurative hepatitis. **Pu·ro-lymph,** lymph containing pus-corpuscles, pyo-lymph. **Pu·ro-mu·cous** *a.*, consisting of or containing both pus and mucus, muco-purulent.

1857 DUNGLISON, *Puro-hepatitis..Puro-mucous.* 1869 G. LAWSON *Dis. Eye* (1874) 85 The iris at first appears hazy..; its surface then becomes partially or entirely coated with a film of puro-lymph. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 497 There was greenish yellow puro-lymph along the vessels up to the vertex.

Purpa·rley. *rare.* [app. alteration of POURPARLER after PARLEY.] = POURPARLER.

1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* I. iv. 50 After some purparley, at a privy audience, he came to what he called 'close quarters'.

†**Purpart.** *Law. Obs.* or *arch.* [= med.L. *prōpars, perpars* (in *Fleta*), *purpars* (1366) 'portio hæreditaria, seu divisio hæreditatis per partes' (Du Cange), f. *prō-* (OF. *por-*, *pur-*), or *per-* + *pars* part, portion: cf. *proportion.*] = PURPARTY.

1492 *Will Starky* (Somerset Ho.), Havendele or purpart. 1538 in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xc. 250, I wyl that Margery my wyfe shal have one egal part to her own propre use, in name of her purpart. *a* 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 335 There is a proviso, that euery one shall haue in her purpart, parcell of the lands holden in chiefe. 1790 *Dallas' Amer. Law Rep.* I. 354 The purparts of the valuation are not specified. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 511 If..the tenants or persons concerned, admitting the demandant's title parts and purparts, shall show to the Court an inequality in the partition.

Hence †**Purpa·rture** *Obs.*, in same sense.

1643 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc.) 99 Goods set out by the Collonells of this County for Mris ffarington of Wordet, purparture or fyft.

Purpa·rty. *Law. arch.* Forms: 4 **porpartie**, 4–5 **pour-, purpartie**, 5 **-ye**, 6–8 **purparty**, 7 **pourparty**. [a. AF. *purpartie* (Britton 1292) = OF. *por-* (1255 in Godef., in med. Anglo-L. *purpartia, propertia*), f. *por-pour-*:—L. *prō-* for, forth, etc. + *partie* division, part: see PARTY; cf. prec.] A proportion, a share, esp. in an inheritance.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl.* B. 520 lf. 7 b, þe writ of nouele deseisine aut of purpartie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 184 That ech of hem as Heritage His purpartie hath underfonge. *Ibid.* 364 Pourpartie. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 40 *Preamble*, The seid Manoris..were allotted to the purpartie and particion therof of the seid John Howard. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* I. xxiii, If three Coparceners be, and one of them alien her purparty. 1658 PHILLIPS, *To make Pourparty*, to sever the Lands that fall to partners, which before partition they held joyntly. 1793 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss M. Berry* 6 Oct., I am forced to eat all the game of your purparties, as well as my own thirds. 1856 *Bouvier's Law Dict.* (ed. 6) II. 405 To make purparty is to divide and sever the lands which fall to parceners. 1882 C. SWEET *Dict. Eng. Law* 659 Purparty is an old word for share or portion,..to hold land in purparty with a person is to hold it jointly with him.

†**Purpayne,** variant of PORT-PAIN *Obs.*

1513 W. DE WORDE *Bk. Keruynge* in *Babees Bk.* 270 Than knele on your knee tyll the purpayne passe eyght loues.

Purpays(se, -pess, -peys, obs. ff. PORPOISE.

†**Purpe·nse,** *v. Obs.* Also 6 pour-. [a. OF. *purpenser* (11th c.) f. *pur-, pour-* (:—L. *prō*

forth) + *penser* to think. Superseded in 16th c. by PREPENSE, so as to emphasize the notion of 'beforehand'.] *trans.* To think of, meditate or deliberate upon; to determine beforehand; to premeditate.

c 1400 *Beryn* 2214 A Cachepoll..so was he ful ensensid How he hym wold engyne, as he had purpensid. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 177/2 Purpensyng [in *Paston L.* I. 100 printed *prepensing*] that your said grete Ennemye and Adversarie Charles shuld conquere and gete by power and myght youre seid Reame of Fraunce. 1496 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 7 James Grame .. wilfully assentid and purpensed the murdre of oon Richard Tracy Gentilman, then his maister. 1512 *Helyas* in Thoms *Prose Rom.* (1828) III. 27 The said iniury (bi her commised and purpensed).

Hence † **Purpe·nsed** *ppl. a.* [after OF. *purpensé*], resolved, premeditated, planned, deliberate; esp. in *malice purpensed, purpensed malice*, the original form of *malice prepensed* or PREPENSE, q. v.

[*a* 1170 *Laws Will. I*, i. § 1 (Liebermann) 492 Autresi..de agwait purpensé [*v.rr.* purpensed, prepensed]. 1404 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 541/1 Si soit trovee qe ce soit fait par malice purpense.

1436 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 498/1 William Pulle..in awayte lyggyng, by assaute purpensed,).. the saide Isabell felonousely there than toke..and fro thens ledde. 1459 *Ibid.* V. 348/1 Contynuyng in their purpensed malicious and dampnable opynions. 1477 *Ibid.* VI. 193/1 Of the moost extreme purpensed malice. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* III. Wks. 238/2 In such a wilfull purpensed haynous cruell dede. 1538 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 106 b, Mourdour, by chaunce medley, and not of malyce pourpensed. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* iii. 30 A purpensed malice againste the goodnesse of God.

Also † **Purpe·nsedly, †Purpe·nsely** *adv.* = PREPENSELY.

1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 51/2 The yates of the same.. willfully and purpensely with fyere..[the Rioters] brent. 1496 *Act* 12 *Hen. VII*, c. 7 If any laie persone hereaftir purpensidly murder their Lord Maister or Sovereign immediate, that they hereaftir be not admytted to their Clergie.

† **Pu·rpie,** *sb. Sc. Obs.* [a. OF. *porpié* (13th c. in Godef.), later *pourpié, pourpied*, altered from *polpié, poulpied*, ad. med.L. *pulliped-em*, acc. of *pulli pes* or *pes pulli* (i.e. colt's foot), in mediæval lists of plant-names a regular synonym of *portulaca*: see *Sinon. Barthol., Alphita.*] = PURSLANE.

1568 SKEYNE *The Pest* (1860) 25 Latice, Cichorie, Purpie, Sourak. 1596 in *Analecta Scotica* II. 13 The seid of al sort of mawes, purpie, and sorrelis or sourochis. 1681 in *Thanes of Cawdor* (Spald. Club) 352 Purpie half ane unce.

Pu·rpie, *a.* A Scottish variant of PURPLE.

1661 LAMONT *Diary* 6 Aug. (1810) 173 He dyed of a purpie feaver. 1669 *Rec. Edin. Justic. Crt.* (1905) 1 She attended her brother who lay sick of a Purpie ffeuer. 1844 J. LEMON *Lays St. Mungo* 49 We laiggart a' our cheeks Wi' the bonnie purpie dye.

† **Purpit,** obs. abbrev. PERPETUANA; cf. PERPET.

1727 URING *Voy. & Trav.* 150 The goods they received was purpits, old sheets, caggs of tallow,..and powder.

† **Pu·rpitle.** *Obs. rare.* Also 5 **purpytyl, purpetill.** [app. a metathesis of OF. *pulpitre*, med. L. *pulpitrum*, var. of *pulpitum*, staging, scaffolding, raised platform, PULPIT: cf. quot. in Du Cange 'magnum pulpitrum fieri in altum ex traverso dicte ecclesie, in quo sunt aliquando cantores ad Missam'.] A choir-screen or organ-screen.

1354 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 91 In j clave cum una plate emp. pro hostio cameræ in le Purpitle, 8*d.* 1408 *Ibid.* 137 Pro j fundo in le purpytyl et pro hostio ibidem ad magnas organas, 18*d.* 1453 *Ibid.* 162 Rob. Wright operanti super le Purpetill dict[arum] organic[arum].

Purple (pɚ··p'l), *a.* and *sb.* Also 3 **purpel,** 4–5 **purpul,** 4–6 **-pyl,** 5 **-pyll,** 5–6 **-pylle, -pull, -e, -pil(l.** [ONorthumb. *purple*, early ME. *purpel, purpul*, altered from *purpre, purper* PURPUR, with *l* for *r* after preceding *r*, as in *marbre, marble.*

In the OE. *purpure*, ME. *purpre, purper*, PURPUR, the sb. use was the original, the adj. or attrib. use being later and derivative; but the form *purple, purpel*, appeared first in adj. or attrib. use, and only in the 15th c. supplanted *purpur* as the sb. But this adjective use of *purple* itself arose from the OE. sb.; the ONorthumb. *purple hræzle* showing, like the *purpre reaf* of the Hatton Gospels, a weakened form either of the OE. genitive *purp(ur)an* 'of purple', or of the derivative adjective *purpuren.* See also PURPUR.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of the distinguishing colour of the dress of emperors, kings, etc.; = L. *purpureus*, Gr. *πορφύρεος*, in early use meaning crimson; hence, imperial, royal.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John xix. 5 Eode forðon ðe hælend berende ðyrnenne beȝ & purple [*Lindisf. G.* purbple] hrægle [*Ags. Gosp.* purpuren reaf, *Hatton Gosp.* purpre reaf; L. *purpureum vestimentum*]. *a* 1225 *St. Marher.* xxvii, Ciclatoun ant purpel pal scaltou haue to wede. *c* 1330 *King of Tars* 364 In cloth of riche purpel palle. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 120 His purpul mantel his garnementis royalle. 1526 TINDALE *John* xix. 2 They did put on hym a purple garment. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* XXI. 144 Telemachus..Cast off His purple cloak.

b. Of persons: Clad in purple; of imperial or royal rank. *poet.* or *rhet.*

a 1704 T. BROWN tr. *Æneas Sylvius' Death Lucretia* Wks. 1709 III. II. 88 Shou'd my passive Body be pregnant by the purple Villain. 1742 GRAY *Adversity* 7 Purple tyrants vainly groan.

2. Of the colour described in B. 1, in its mediæval and modern acceptations.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. xciv. (1495) 585 Purpyl salt in Pathmos is so bryght and clere that ymages ben seen therin. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 38, j hole vestment of rede purpyl silke. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvi. (Percy Soc.) 115 With purple colour the flowres enhewed. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 172 b, He consecrated Anthony..Cardinall of Medone, setting upon his head a purple hatte. 1573–80 BARET *Alv.* P 879 The Purple, or violet colour, *conchylium.* 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. XXXVII. 55 That [pimpernel] whiche beareth the purple floures [of Adonis]. 1696 J. AUBREY *Misc., Appar.* (1784) 117 This Stranger was in a purple-shag gown. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* I. 382 Lousewort..Blossoms purple, much slenderer than the calyx. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* I. 71 When purple evening tinged the west. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. v, Heath-bell with her purple bloom. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 280 Purple...Equal parts of blue and red. *a* 1839 PRAED *Poems* (1864) I. 305 Beneath a purple canopy. 1879 O. N. ROOD *Mod. Chromatics* ii. 28 In the prismatic spectrum and in our normal spectrum we found no representative of purple, or purplish tints. This sensation can not be produced by one set of waves alone, whatever their length may be: it needs the joint action of the red and violet waves, or the red and blue.

b. Preceded by an adj. or sb. indicating the shade of colour, as *amethyst, bluish, dahlia, dark, dun purple*, etc. (for other instances of which, see the first element). See also B. 1 d.

1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 182 The three upright leaves are not so smoakie, yet of a dun purple colour. 1802 *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 497 Her whole skin was always more or less of a bluish purple colour. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* v. 202 That lovely dark purple colour of our Welsh and Highland hills is owing, not to their distance merely, but to their rocks. 1882 *Garden* 1 Apr. 210/3 The varieties..sent are.. rosy purple..dark livid purple..deep rose purple..venous purple. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 15 Oct. 8/2 Made in dahlia-purple crêpe de chine.

c. Of this colour as being the hue of mourning (esp. royal or ecclesiastical mourning), or of penitence.

1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 38 Item j nother purpyll chesebyll for gode fryday. 1493 *Petronilla* 119 With purple wede to the heuenly mancyon Hir soule went up the last day of may. 1542 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 46 Item a vestement purpull silke for good frydaye. 1868 MARRIOTT *Vest. Chr.* 174 The vestments..oftentimes..are purple, in times of fast, because of our mourning in respect of sin.

d. Used *poet.* to describe the colour of blood. (Properly said of the crimson venous blood, the colour of arterial blood being scarlet.) Hence, Bloody, blood-stained.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. vi. 29 A large purple streame adowne their giambeux falles. *Ibid.* viii. 36 The red blood flowed fresh, That underneath his feet soone made a purple plesh. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, v. vi. 64 See how my sword weepes for the poore Kings death. O may such purple teares be alway shed From those that wish the downfall of our house. 1605 *1st Pt. Ieronimo* (1901) II. v, And by that slaue this purple act was done. 1710 POPE *Windsor For.* 417 There purple Vengeance bathed in gore retires. *c* 1764 GRAY *Owen* 33 Where he points his purple spear, Hasty, hasty Rout is there. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. x, When Mathouse-burn to Melrose ran All purple with their blood. 1819 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xvi, A thought came like a full-blown rose, Flushing his brow, and in his pained heart Made purple riot.

3. *Rhetorically.* With reference to the qualities of this colour: bright-hued, brilliant, splendid, gaudy, gay; (of sin) deep-dyed, grave, heinous.

Purple patch, passage, piece, a brilliant or ornate passage, in a literary composition (after L. *purpureus pannus*, Hor. *De Arte Poet.* 15). So *purple patchwork.*

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Horace* 20 (E.E.T.S.) 142 Oft to beginnings graue and shewes of great is sowed A purple pace, one or more for vewe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* II. 62 All the Glories of the Purple Spring. 1742 GRAY *Ode Spring* 4 The rosy-bosom'd Hours .. wake the purple year! 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace* II. 379 One or two verses of purple patchwork, that may make a great shew. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* Introd. 51 Places once flaunting with purple prosperity. 1881 *Academy* 9 Apr. 256/2 A few of the purple patches scattered through the book may serve as a sample of the rest. 1895 E. GOSSE in *Cent. Mag.* July 451/2 Emphasizing the purpler passages with lifted voice and gesticulating finger. 1905 H. A. VACHELL *The Hill* vii. 147, I never said bridge was a purple sin.

b. *colloq.* 'Gorgeous', 'splendid', 'royal'.

1894 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Dec. 3/2 Who should I see..having a purple time of it but Padishah and Potter. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 19 May 6/3 You had one purple moment in your life—a sackful of coins, and scrambling them among boys.

B. *sb.*

1. The name of a colour. a. Anciently, that of the dye obtained from species of gastropod molluscs (*Purpura* and *Murex*), commonly called *Tyrian purple*, which was actually a crimson; b. in the middle ages applied vaguely to many shades of red; cf. PURPUR *sb.* 3; c. now applied to mixtures of red and blue in various proportions, usually containing also some black or white, or both, approaching on the one side to crimson and on the other to violet.

The various tints are frequently distinguished by the names of flowers, fruits, etc. in which they occur, as *auricula, dahlia, heliotrope, plum, pomegranate, wine purple*; also by special names, as *Indian, royal purple*; *magenta, mauve, solferino*, etc.: see these words.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purpul, *purpura.* 1530 PALSGR. 321/2 Purpylle, *pourpre.* 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 125/35 Purpil, *purpura, æ. a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1598) 447 Not that purple which we now haue..but of the right Tyrian purple, which was nearest to a colour betwixt our murry and scarlet. 1614 CHAPMAN in C. Brooke *Ghost Rich. III*, Poems (1872) 49 What does then Thy purple in graine, with these red-oker men? *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Mem. St.* Wks. (1711) 131 As the rose, at the fair appearing of the morning sun, displayeth and spreadeth her purples. 1720 OZELL *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* I. VII. 422 The first Prætor of Rome..was allowed the Prætexta, or Robe edged with Purple. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 347 Their plumage is glossed with a rich purple. 1815 BYRON *Destr. Sennacherib* i, His cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold. 1873 'SUSAN COOLIDGE' *What Katy Did at Sch.* xiii. 221 Painted in soft purples and grays. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 474 In the genera *Purpura* and *Murex* the secretion [of the hypobranchial gland], at first colourless, changes in sunlight to a purple or violet, used as a dye by the ancients, and known as 'Tyrian purple'.

d. The Tyrian dye, or any pigment of the above-mentioned colours.

With many defining words, expressing the composition, source, inventor, etc., as *alizarin, aniline, ethyl, madder, mineral, orchil* or *archil purple*; *French, Indian, London purple*; *Field's, Perkins's, regina purple*, etc. *Purple of Cassius* (also *purple powder of Cassius* C. 2) = *gold-purple* (GOLD[1] 10); named after Andreas Cassius (died 1673).

1638–56 COWLEY *Davideis* III. Note 26 The Purple of the Ancients was taken out of a kind of Shell-fish called Purpura. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts, Purple of Cassius*, gold purple, is a vitrifiable pigment, which stains glass and porcelain of a beautiful red or purple hue. *Ibid., Purple of mollusca*, is a viscid liquor, secreted by certain shell-fish, the *Buccinum lapillus*, and others, which dyes wool, &c. of a purple colour, and is supposed to be the substance of the Tyrian dye. 1853 W. GREGORY *Inorg. Chem.* (ed. 3) 220 With solutions of gold, salts of protoxide of tin produce a purple precipitate, the purple of Cassius.

2. Purple cloth or clothing; a purple robe; = PURPUR *sb.* 1. *Purple and pall*: see PURPUR *sb.* 1.

Now only in imitations of Latin or Greek, or of biblical language.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* X. 273 Marie wroght purpyll. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 281 b, The ryche gloton.. whiche was clothed in purpull & cloth of reynes. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xvi. 14 Lidia a seller off purple. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 173 Yclad in purple and pall. 1648 BP. HALL *Sel. Thoughts* § 13 The rich glutton .. clothed in purple and byss. 1850 S. DOBELL *Roman* I. Poet. Wks. (1875) I. 8 She wraps the purple round her outraged breast. 1894 GLADSTONE *Horace, Odes* II. xviii, No well-born maidens, my poor doors within, Laconian purples spin.

b. As the distinguishing dress of emperors, kings, consuls, and chief magistrates; hence *fig.*; spec. *the purple*, imperial, royal, or consular rank, power, or office. Also the colour of imperial and royal mourning.

c 1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe, & G.* (Roxb.) 15 Of purpill rede was his riall clothing This agnus dei born of a pure virgine. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* Ded. (Arb.) 5 No lesse confoundinge the order of thinges, than he whiche clotheth an ape in purple, and a king in sackecloth. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Esdras* iii. 2 King Darius made a great supper..to al that weare purple, and to the praetors. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 271 Constantine..laid aside the Purple..[and] became a Priest. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 320 A vile conceit in pompous words express'd, Is like a clown in regal purple dress'd. 1736 CHANDLER *Hist. Persec.* 111 They worship not God, but the Purple. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiv. I. 400 As soon as Diocletian and Maximian had resigned the purple. 1869 SEELEY *Lect. & Ess.* (1870) 67 The ablest generals are still frequently invested with the purple.

c. *The purple*: in reference to the scarlet colour of the official dress of a cardinal; hence the rank, state, or office of a cardinal; the cardinalate.

1685 BURNET *Trav.* 8 Dec. (1686) 231 He retains the unaffected simplicity and humility of a Frier, amidst all the dignity of the Purple. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3046/1 We are told that the present Duke of Modena..intends to quit the Purple, and to send back his Cardinals Cap to the Pope. 1786 W. THOMSON *Watson's Philip III*, VI. (1839) 321 The necessity of exchanging the ease of former familiarity for those ceremonies of respect which were due to the purple. ..The presence of the cardinal was uneasy to him. 1898 VILLARI *Life & Times Machiav.* II. vi. 237 He was raised to the purple.

d. In phrase *born, cradled in* (*the*) *purple*: said of a child of an imperial or royal reigning family; or by extension, of a noble or wealthy family, or of the highest or most privileged rank of any organization. (Commonly associated with sense 2; but, see, as to the origin, PORPHYROGENITE *a.*)

1790 BURKE *Let. M. Dupont* in *Corr.* (1844) III. 161 He was born in purple, and of course was not made to a situation which would have tried a virtue most fully perfected. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* (1876) II. x. 268 [Richard Cromwell] would probably have reigned as well as most of those who are born in the purple. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* VI. lv. 438 The old Whig party reserved the highest places for those cradled in the purple. 1884 LABOUCHERE in *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 208 True Liberals who have not had the good fortune to be born in the Whig purple.

3. Any of the species of molluscs which yielded the Tyrian purple (see 1), or any allied species; in mod. use, a mollusc of the genus *Purpura.* Also called PURPLE-FISH.

The species which yielded the Tyrian dye are believed to have been *Murex brandaris, M. trunculus*, and *Purpura hæmostoma* (see *Proc. Royal Soc.* X. 579); but all species of *Murex* and *Purpura* secrete the fluid to some extent.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Pourpre*, .. a shell fish called a Purple. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 306 Purples also be caught by means of some stinking bait. 1682 CREECH tr. *Lucretius* VI. 1072 The Purples blood gives Wool so deep a stain That we can never wash it out again. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. I. i. 5 The Tyrians, by taking away the Shells of the greater Purples, do come at that noble Juice. 1755 *Gentl. Mag.* XXV. 32 It belongs to yet another tribe, and is a Purple. 1901 STEP *Shell Life* 254 The Purple (*Purpura lapillus*), commonly known as Dog-

winkle, and in Ireland as Horse-winkle, is one of the commonest of marine snails.

4. †**a.** A purple or livid spot, botch, or pustule; also, the bubo of the plague (*obs.*). **b.** *pl.* A disease characterized by an eruption of purplish pustules; esp. PURPURA, but formerly often vaguely used.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purplys, sorys, *morbuli purpurei dicuntur.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/2 A Purpylle, *papula.* *c* 1530 *Hickscorner* (1905) 146 God punisheth..with great sickness As pox, pestilence, purple and axes. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 83 b, Whan they [children] waxe elder, than be they greved with kernelles,..swellynges under the chynne, and in England commonly purpyls, measels, and small pockes. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 194, I am glad at heart to hear the Duke of Feria is dead of the Purples. 1660 WOOD *Life* 3 Dec. (O.H.S.) I. 349 It is thought it is the spotted feaver or purples. 1755 JOHNSON, *Purples* (without a singular) spots of a livid red, which break out in malignant fevers. 1772 tr. *Life Lady Guion* II. 33 My daughter had the small-pox and the purples. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* 857 The term purpura, or the purples, denotes an affection characterized by a truly petechial eruption, or petechiæ.

c. *Purples*: swine fever.

1887 *Times* 1 Feb. 9/6 Swine fever..being known in different parts of Great Britain by the names of pig typhoid, pig distemper, purples, swine plague [etc.]. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Purples*, a common name..for Swine fever.

d. *Purples*: a disease in wheat caused by *Vibrio tritici* (see quots.).

1808 *Ann. Agric.* XLV. 236 *Purples*, *the*, 'ear-cockle' in wheat. *Ess.* 1881 EL. A. ORMEROD *Injur. Insects* (1890) 104 'Cockle galls' or 'Purples' are the small roundish or distorted growths sometimes found in wheat which give to the ear an appearance much as if purplish or dark-coloured peppercorns had taken the place of wheat-grains.

5. A purple flower. *Long purples*: see LONG *a.*[1] 17 c.

1840 BROWNING *Sordello* v. 295 Plucking purples in Goito's moss. 1905 *Academy* 18 Nov. 1198/1, I took his bunch of purples, and I charmed his heart away.

6. With *the*, applied to blood: cf. A. 2 d.

1804 R. COUPER *Poetry* II. 61 Tibb snyted Madge's muckle nizz, Till out the purple sprang.

C. Combinations and collocations.

I. Of the adjective.

1. General combinations: **a.** Parasynthetic, as *purple-berried* (having purple berries), *-eyed*, *-faced*, *-flowered*, *-headed*, *-hued*, *-leaved*, *-nosed*, *-robed*, *-skirted*, *-spiked*, *-tailed*, *-tipped*, *-topped*, *-veined*, *-vested*, etc. adjs.: freq. in specific names of animals and plants, e.g. *purple-berried bay*, *purple-tailed parakeet*. Hence such forms as **purple-back**, the purple-backed humming bird.

1430 LYDG. *St. Margarete* 25 This daysye with leves rede and white, Purpul-hewed. 1754 *Catesby's Nat. Hist. Carol.* I. 61 The Purple-berried Bay. 1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s. v. *Leaf*, The Cockscomb, the purple leaved Amaranth, *Ibid.* s. v. *Turnep*, The round red or purple topped turnip. 1781 LATHAM *Hist. Birds* I. 315 Purple-tailed Parrakeet. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 260 Purple-spiked Milk Vetch. *Ibid.* 333 Purple-eyed Succory Hawk Weed. 1841 LEVER *C. O'Malley* lxxxviii, A large purple-faced old major. 1841 BRYANT *Walk at Sunset* Wks. 44 Purple-skirted clouds curtain the crimson air. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne Page* I. 241 The golden-fruited and purple-berried leafage. 1887 R. B. SHARPE *Gould's Trochilidæ* Suppl. Pl. 38 *Zodalia Ortoni*. Quito Purpleback.

b. Qualifying the names of other colours, as *purple-black*, *-blue*, *-brown*, *-crimson*, *-green*, *-rose*, *-yellow* adjs.; also as sbs. See also PURPLE-RED.

1587 *Mirr. Mag., Induct.* xi, At length appeared Clad in purple blacke Sweete Somnus. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 91 Shell fishes that yeeld the purple crimson colour. 1835–6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 553/1 A..layer of a dark purple-brown pigment. 1882 *Garden* 22 July 65/2 Varying in colour from a deep purple-rose to a delicate rose-pink. *Ibid.* 2 Sept. 207/3 Agaricus violaceus, a splendid purple-yellow, growing among dead leaves. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 529 The surface of the spleen..is often found to be of a black or purple-green colour.

c. Adverbial, as *purple-beaming*, *-dawning*, *-dyeing*, *-glowing*, *-staining*, *-streaming* adjs.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. War* II. cxxii, Riuers dide With purple streaming wounds of her owne rage. 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Trumpet-shell*, The purple-dying liquor of the *buccinum*. 1760 FAWKES tr. *Anacreon, Odes* lxiv. 4 Safely shroud Me in a purple-beaming Cloud. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 465 The purple-staining whelk. 1898 *Month* Nov. 458 The purple-glowing heather.

2. Special collocations: **purple chamber**: see PORPHYROGENITE, and cf. B. 2 d; **purple-coat**, a person dressed in a purple coat; cf. RED-COAT; so **purple-coated** *a.*; **purple copper (ore)** *Min.*, a native sulphide of copper and iron; = ERUBESCITE; **purple fly**, a kind of anglers' artificial fly; **purple-man**, an Irish party name for one who has reached a certain degree or rank in the 'Orange' system; cf. ORANGEMAN; so **purple meeting**; **purple powder of Cassius**: see B. 1 d; **purple quartz**, the amethyst; also, a local name for fluorspar; **purple rash**, an eruption of purple pustules. See also PURPLE FEVER.

1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, An imperial princess *porphyrogenita*, or born in the sacred purple chamber itself. *Ibid.* xxi, You are a child of the purple chamber. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 200 The Lord Brooke his *Purple-coats..did most singular good service all this fight. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 July 1/3 The scarlet- or *purple-coated seminarists pause for breath. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 374 *Purple Copper Ore. 1881 RAYMOND *Gloss. Mining, Copper-ores*,.. purple copper (variegated or peacock ore, bornite, sulphide of copper and iron). 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 311 *Purple-fly. Dubbing, of purple wool, and a little bear's hair mixed [etc.]. 1830–3 W. CARLETON *Traits & Stor. Irish Peasantry* Ser. II. (1843) I. 199, I am a true blue, sir,—a *purple man. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 393 The very names of 'Orangeman' and 'Purpleman' are beneath the real elevation of their high and noble cause. 1906 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 8/2 Injuries inflicted on the roadside..after a '*purple' meeting in the Bush Side Orange Hall. 1823 URE *Dict. Chem.* 492/2 A plate of tin, immersed in a solution of gold, affords a purple powder, called the *purple powder of Cassius, which is used to paint in enamel. 1836 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* 1028 *note*, *Purple quartz or amethyst, is tinged with a little iron and manganese. 1896 *Cosmopolitan* XX. 450 The fluor-spar is locally known as 'purple quartz'. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 326 Purpura; *Purple, or Scorbutic Rash.

b. In names of species or varieties of animals characterized by a purple or purplish colouring, as *purple grackle*, *heron*, *kaleege*, *martin*, *sandpiper*, *sea-anemone*, *urchin*, etc.; **purple-bird**, **purple coot**, the purple gallinule of Europe: see PORPHYRIO; **purple-bullfinch** = *purple-finch*; **purple crow**, one of several species of small glossy E. Indian crows, as *Corvus senca*, *C. orru*, and *C. violacea* (*Cent. Dict.*); **purple-egg**, a purple sea-urchin, as *Arbacia punctulata*; **purple-emperor**, a butterfly: see EMPEROR 4; **purple-finch**, a common American bird, *Fringilla purpurea*: see FINCH 1 b; **purple gallinule**, (*a*) the bird *Porphyrio cæruleus* (PORPHYRIO); (*b*) of N. Amer., *Ionornis martinica*; **purple-shell**, (*a*) = B. 3; (*b*) an ocean snail of the genus *Ianthina*; **purple water-hen**, a water-hen of the genus *Porphyrio*; **purple whelk** = B. 3.

1775 *Purple Emperor [see EMPEROR *sb.* 4]. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* viii. 78 Above the sovereign oak a sovereign skims, The purple Emp'ror, strong in wing and limbs. 1754 *Catesby's Nat. Hist. Carol.* I. 41 The *Purple Finch. 1782 LATHAM *Hist. Birds* II. 462 *Purple Grakle. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Apr. 11/2 Orioles, crows, blackbirds, purple-grackles, redwing blackbirds, bobolinks, and terns make very pretty ornaments. 1837 GOULD *Birds Eur.* IV. Pl. 274 The food of the Purple *Heron consists of fish, frogs, mice, and insects. 1883 NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 581/2 The *Purple Martin of America, *Hirundo* or *Progne purpurea*,..being such a favourite bird in Canada and in the United States. 1837 GOULD *Birds Eur.* IV. Pl. 334 The Purple *Sandpiper. 1884 *Standard Nat. Hist.* I. 325 *Ianthina*, *purple shell, with the float supporting the eggs. 1855 P. H. GOSSE *Mar. Zool.* I. 61 The *Purple Urchin (*Echinus*] *lividus*) excavates hollows for itself in limestone rock, in which it resides. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 591 The genus *Porphyrio*, including the bird so named by classical writers, and perhaps a dozen other species often called Sultanas and *Purple Water-hens. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. VI. i. 129 The *Purple-Wilk with long plated Spikes.

c. As a distinguishing prefix in names of species or varieties of plants having purple flowers, leaves, etc., as *purple amaranth*, *beech*, *broomrape*, *camomile*, *cone-flower*, *cow-wheat*, *gromwell*, *groundsel*, *loosestrife*, *medick*, *melic*, *mullein*, *ragwort*, *spurge*, *willow*, etc.; †**purple apple**, the genus *Anona*; **purple bottle**, a moss, *Splachnum ampullaceum*, from the reddish pitcher-shaped apophysis; **purple grass**, (*a*) a garden variety of *Trifolium repens*: see quot. 1640; (*b*) *Medicago maculata*, Heart-clover or Spotted Clover (Deering *Catalog. Stirpium* 1738); **purple-heart** (-tree), of Guiana, *Copaifera bracteata* or *C. pubiflora*; of Trinidad, *Peltogyne paniculata*; of the W. Indies, *Copaifera officinalis*, yielding copaiba balsam (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); **purple lily**, (*a*) = MARTAGON; (*b*) an Australian genus (*Patersonia*) of flag-like plants, bearing showy blue or purple flowers; native lily (Miller); **purple-tassels** = *purse-tassels* (PURSE *sb.* 11); **purple-velvet flower**, Love-lies-bleeding (*Amaranthus caudatus*); **purple-wood** = *purple-heart*, the timber of this; **purple-wort**, one of various plants of which the flowers, leaves, or stems are purple; as, a dark-leaved variety of *Trifolium repens*; also, *Comarum palustre*; **purple wreath**, a tropical American twining shrub (*Petræa volubilis*) bearing violet flowers (*Treas. Bot.*).

1788 LEE *Bot.* App., *Purple apple, *Annona.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 486/2 Ornamental varieties of the common Beech..as ..the *Purple Beech, with purple leaves. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 792 *S[plachnum] ampullaceum*.. *Purple Bottle-moss. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1112 The *purple grasse spreadeth on the ground, the leaves are in some three in others foure or five on a stalke, of a sad greene colour, with a shadow of darke purple cast over them. 1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. 17 The *purple-heart-tree grows sometimes to the height of fourscore feet..; the wood is of a beautiful purple colour. 1845 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* (1846) 550 The Purple Heart, a Guiana timber tree of great toughness, whose timber is found invaluable for resisting the shock of artillery discharges. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xliii. 201 The small *purple Lillie. *Ibid.* 202 The red purple Lillie .. Some call the greatest kinde *Martagon*. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 118 Called..the purple faire haired Iacinth..and..of diuers Gentlewomen, *purple tassels. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xviii. 168 Called..in English floure Gentill..*Purple veluet floure. 1640 PARKINSON *Theatr. Bot.* Index 1743 *Purple wort or Purple grasse. 1736 AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* I. s. v. *Purple*, Purple wort, *Trifolium purpureum*.

II. Of the substantive.

3. General combinations: objective or obj. genitive, as *purple-dyer*, *-seller*, *-wearer*; *purple-producing*, adj.; instrumental, as *purple-clad*, *-dusted*, *-dyed*, *-edged*, *-lined*, *-stained*, *-tinged*, etc. adjs.; locative, as *purple-born* adj.; †**purple-father**, a cardinal: cf. B. 2 c; **purple gland**, the gland in some gastropods which yields the purple dye.

1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxiv, The hero of many a victory, achieved, says the *purple-born [Anna Comnena], in..her history, sometimes by his arms and sometimes by his prudence. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xxxiii. 45 Heare me, O you *purple-Clad Magistrates, You civill Rulers. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 383 The *purple-dusted butterfly. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 125 b, Not perceiuing..her owne *purple died face. 1904 W. M. RAMSAY *Lett. to Seven Ch.* xxix. 421 The Jews..were organised in trade-guilds, the *purple-dyers, the carpet makers, and perhaps others. 1875 POSTE *Gaius* I. com. (ed. 2) 90 The *purple-edged praetexta was generally laid aside by boys along with the bulla aurea..on the first Liberalia,..after the completion of their fourteenth year. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 47 A purple sin..Since *purple-fathers oft-times go vnto it. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 483 **Purple gland* = hypobranchial gland of Purpura. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* II. 31 The *purple-lined palace of sweet sin. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Phil.* Argt. AA a j, In this citie was also Lydia the *purpleseller. 1819 KEATS *Ode Nightingale* ii, With..*purple-stained mouth. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* XIX. 275 A mantle *purple-ting'd, and radiant vest. 1880 T. HODGKIN *Italy & Inv.* III. v. II. 426 The courtiers still contended for the smile of 'the *Purple-wearer'.

Purple (pɜ̄·rp'l), *v.* [f. PURPLE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make purple; to colour, stain, tinge, or dye with purple. Also *fig.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 41 In so moche that y schalle purpulle the mariantes [*margines purpurabo*] nye the hedes of þe gestes with a dowble ordre of yeres. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 138 Blood did purple ov'r the grasse. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 30 Yet not alone, while thou Visit'st my slumbers Nightly, or when Morn Purples the East. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 395 Was it then to be reserved for this ignominy, that we purpled the seas with our blood? 1831 J. WILSON *Unimore* VI. 5 The heather bloom..purples..The Moors and Mountains.

2. *intr.* To become purple.

1646, etc. [see PURPLING *ppl. a.*]. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* i, The landmark to the double tide That purpling rolls on either side. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* v, The heather was purpling on the hills. 1893 E. H. BARKER *Wand. Southern Waters* 87 It purpled and died away in grayness and mournful shadow.

Hence **Pu·rpling** *vbl. sb.*

1860 FARRAR *Orig. Lang.* 125 The deep purpling of an agitated sea.

Pu·rple-co·loured, *a.* [f. PURPLE *sb.* + COLOURED, or parasynth. f. *purple colour* + -ED 2.] Of the colour of, or coloured with, purple.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 1 b, It is Princes among those Gemes that be Purple coloured. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1 The sunne with purple-colourd face, Had tane his last leaue of the weeping morne. 1800 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 526 The purple-coloured glass stops 993 rays of light. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 466 At the bottom..we find a purple-coloured resin.

Purpled (pɜ̄·rp'ld), *ppl. a.* Also 5 **perpulid**. [f. PURPLE *a.*, *sb.*, and *v.* + -ED: cf. L. *purpurātus*.] Coloured, stained, tinged, or dyed purple; hence, blood-stained, dyed with blood; clothed in purple. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 44 Not..to be gilt bridils, peyntid sadels, ne siluern sporis, nor perpulid aray. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 184 A Princely Senate of proude purpled Cardinals. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 322 All with purpled hands, Dide in the dying slaughter of their foes. 1712–14 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 2 Not with more glories in th' etherial plain, The Sun first rises o'er the purpled main. 1804 J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* (1839) 9/2 Oh England! England! wash thy purpled hands Of this foul sin. 1821 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 201 Purpled Creeper. 1889 C. EDWARDES *Sardinia* 231 A cluster of bold purpled peaks.

†**Pu·rple fe·ver.** *Obs.* An old name for PURPURA; but also applied vaguely to other fevers attended with purplish cutaneous eruptions.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 804 The Lesser Infections, of the small Pocks, Purple Feavers, Agues, in the summer Precedent, and hovering all winter, do portend a great Pestilence in the summer following. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 61/2 We are in..great fear of the Plague, several persons being lately dead of a very malignant Purple-Feavor. 1728–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Purple*, The *purple fever*..is a kind of plague, or a malignant fever discovering itself in eruptions on the skin like the bites of bugs or fleas, or like grains of millet, or the small-pox; whence it is sometimes also called the *spotted* and *miliary* fever. *Ibid.* s. v. *Fever*, Eruptive Fevers are..attended with cutaneous eruptions. Such are those of the small-pox, measles, the petechial, the purple or scarlet fever, and the miliary fever. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Purple fever*, cerebro-spinal fever.

Pu·rple-fish. Now *rare.* [f. PURPLE *sb.* + FISH *sb.*[1]] A mollusc that yields a purple dye; = PURPLE *sb.* 3.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Bozina*, a trumpet,..a purple fish, *Buccina*, *purpura*, *murex*. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* lxxxii, The Purple-fish, whose liquor vsually, A violet colour on the cloth doth die. 1686 W. COLE *Purpura Ang.* (1689) 1 The Purple-Fish, which I found..on the Sea Coasts of Somerset-shire, and the shores of South-Wales opposite to it. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 454 *note*, The murex, a species of shellfish, called also the purple-fish.

Pu·rplely, *adv.* [irreg. f. PURPLE *a.* + -LY 2.] In a purple manner, with purple. So **Pu·rpleness,** the quality or condition of being purple.

c 1825 BEDDOES *Torrismond* I. i, The young lord..Like a young dragon on Hesperian berries Purplely fed, who dashes through the air. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Apr. 2/1 Standing on an unsubstantial purpleness of the unwavering furrows, were a host of monoliths.

Pu·rple-re·d. a. *adj.* Red inclining to or tinged with purple. b. *sb.* A purple-red colour.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxiv. 230 Wilde Tyme. The floures ..most commonly of a purple red colour. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 67 The people are all died purplered in it with Christs blood. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 271 Imparting to glass almost exquisite purple-red colour resembling the ruby. 1879 ROOD *Chromatics* xiv. 214 Every kind of pure red, from purple-red to orange-red.

Pu·rpling, *ppl. a.* Chiefly *poetic.* [f. PURPLE *v.* + -ING 2.] Becoming purple.

1652 CRASHAW *Carmen Deo Nostro* 29 Th' Babe's bright face, the purpling Bud And Rosy dawn of the right Royall blood. 1652 — *Mary Magd.* Wks. (1904) 261 The maiden gemme By the purpling vine put on. 1786 BURNS *To Mount. Daisy* ii, Upward-springing, blythe, to greet The purpling east. 1826 WORDSW. *Ode May Morning* i, From the purpling east departs The star that led the dawn.

Purplish (pə̄·rplish), *a.* [f. PURPLE *a.* + -ISH 1.] Somewhat purple; tinged with purple.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 54 Mint..hath in ye top of the stalkes a purplishe flour. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* (1658) 665 These Caterpillers are blackish-red, with spots or streaks going overthwart their sides, being half white, and half purpelish. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 137 If you put a piece of gold between two cards and expose it to a strong electric shock, you will obtain it in the state of a purplish oxide. 1886 *Century Mag.* XXXII. 274/1 The eggs..are greenish blue, with faint brown or purplish markings.

b. Qualifying adjs. and sbs. of colour.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Service-tree,* The branches, while young, have a purplish brown bark. 1828 SIR W. J. HOOKER *F. E. Smith's Eng. Flora* II. 14 Seed purplish-black. 1848 *Chambers' Inform. People* I. 368/1 Amethyst is a pure rock-crystal, of a purplish-violet colour. 1882 *Garden* 27 May 366/1 Spikes of purplish green flowers.

Purply (pə̄·rpli), *a.* [f. PURPLE *a.* or *sb.* + -Y.] Characterized by a purple colour or tint; purplish; also in *comb.* as *purply-brown, -gold, -grey.*

1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *May blossom,* That Part which is purply in the Flower..is good against the Squincy. 1842 G. DARLING in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. x. 4 He took Smelts of the salmon with their..dark purply fins. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 774/1 The warmth of the soft sienna browns, and the rich purity of the purply grays.

Purpoint, -pont, variants of POURPOINT.

Purport (pə̄·rpoɹt), *sb.* Also 5 **purpurt.** (See also PROPORT *sb.*2) [a. AF. = OF. *por-, purport* (13th c. in Godef.) produce, contents, f. *purporter*; see next. Formerly stressed *purpo·rt.*]

1. That which is conveyed or expressed, esp. by a formal document; bearing, tenor, import, effect; meaning, substance, sense.

[1278 *Rolls of Parli.* I. 10/1 Solum le purport de lur chartres.] 1455 *Ibid.* V. 306/2 Aftir the purportez and tenours of the same. 1466 in *Archæologia* (1887) L. I. 51 Our seyde graunt and lettres patentes accordyng to theffecte tenour and purport therof be and stond. 1495 *Stat.* 11 *Hen. VII,* c. 54 § 2 Lettres patentes..[shall be] effectuell in the lawe aftir the tenures and purpurtis of the same. 1596 SPENSER *F. Q.* v. ix. 26 High over his head There written was the purport of his sin. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 82 And with a looke so pitious in purport, As if he had been loosed out of hell. 1703 ROWE *Fair Penit.* II. ii. 578 To tell thee then the purport of my Thoughts. 1791 MRS. RADCLYFFE *Rom. Forest* viii, She resolved to acquaint Madame La Motte with the purport of the late conversation. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. xxii, I endeavoured..to give the general purport of what was actually said.

† b. Outward bearing. *Obs. rare*—1.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. i. 52 For shee her sexe under that straunge purport Did use to hide.

2. That which is intended to be done or effected by something; meaning, object, purpose, design, intention. Now *rare.*

1654 CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 Sept. (in *Carlyle*), What was the purport of it but to make the Tenant as liberal a fortune as the Landlord? 1751 EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 133 Writings of that sort,..framed to serve particular views, fulfill the purport of their creation, and then perish. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 127 The whole purport of the present remaining season, was nothing more than cutting the rock to a shape..for the reception of any structure whatever. 1863 MARY HOWITT *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xiv. 95 The purport of our steamer's visit to these shores is to promote exchange of commodities and commerce.

Purport (pəɹpō·ɹt, pə̄·rpoɹt), *v.* Also 6 pour-. [a. AF. = OF. *pur-, porporter* (*c* 1160 in Godef.), later *pourporter* to embody, extend:—late pop. L. **prōportāre* to carry or bear forth; cf. med.L. *prōportāre* (*præ-, por-*) to extend (12th c. in Du Cange). OF. had also the variant *proporter,* whence the Sc. form PROPORT, q.v.]

1. *trans.* To have as its purport, bearing, or tenor; to convey to the mind; to bear as its meaning; to express, set forth, state; to mean, imply.

[1300 *Lib. Custum.* I. 124, 28 Ed. I, Solom ceo qe lour chartre roiale le purporte.]

1528 GARDINER in Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xliv. 84 Like as our letters sent from Lyones..did purport. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 955/1 This coniunccion, if, purporteth alway a doute. ? 1561 T. PRESTON *Cambyses* in Hazl. *Dodsley* IV. 173 Your grace's message came to me, Your will purporting forth. 1676 *Ancaster MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1907) 458 [A silver cup] purporting a woman carrying a bucket on her head. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Teckely* III. 2 The Declaration also purported, That from the 15th of February, those Malecontents..should find the Emperor's Commissioners at Presbourg. 1780 D. BRODHEAD in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) III. 120, I..inclose copies of letters..purporting some of the above facts. 1858 MASSON *Milton* (1859) I. 5 It purports that some one from Oxfordshire..applied to the College of Arms to have his title recognised.

b. Followed by *inf.* (of a picture, statue, document, book, or the like; rarely of a person): To profess or claim by its tenor. (Said without pronouncing as to the truth or validity of the claim.)

1790 PALEY *Horæ Paul.* i. 10 This epistle purports to be written after St. Paul had been at Corinth. 1808 COLEBROOKE *Vedas* in *Asiat. Res.* VIII. 377 A transcript of what purported to be a complete copy of the Védas. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 232 The Declaration which purported to give them entire freedom of conscience. 1879 TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xxxiii. 220 A letter purporting to have been written by you. 1884 J. QUINCY *Figures of Past* 359 Jack Downing..who purported to accompany the presidential party and to chronicle its doings.

2. To mean, intend, purpose. *rare.*

1803 SOUTHEY *Let. to Coleridge* 3 Aug., After all, this is really nearer the actual design of what I purport by a bibliotheca than yours would be. 1814 — *Roderick* x. 348 That even in the extremity of guilt No guilt he purported. 1817 HAZLITT *Char. Shaks.* (1838) 107 Where he alters the letters which Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are taking with them ..purporting his death. 1872 ROBINSON *Bridge of Glass* II. ii. iv. 47 What Matthew purports doing, I don't know.

Hence **Purported** *ppl. a.,* professed, alleged.

1894 F. B. SHAW in *Daily News* 19 June 6/2 Your readers will now be able to form an opinion as to the authenticity of this purported discovery.

Purportless (pə̄·rpoɹtlés), *a.* [See -LESS.] Having no purport; meaningless, objectless.

1816 SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr. Waterloo* II. xx, The central storms which shake the solid earth,..Are not more vague and purportless and blind, Than is the course of things among mankind! 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. i. 24 A fourth asks purportless or impertinent questions.

Purpose (pə̄·rpəs), *sb.* Forms: 3–6 **porpos,** (4 **perpos,** 6 **porpose,** -puse); 4–6 **pourpos,** (4–5 **pourpoos,** 5–7 -pose, 6 -poose); 4–7 **purpos,** (4–5 *Sc.* -poss, 5 -poos, -pas, -passe, 6 -post, *Sc.* -pois, -e, -pes), (4–5) 6- **purpose.** [a. AF. = OF. *porpos, purpos, pourpos* (12th c. in Godef.) (later *propos,* after L. *prōpositum*), f. *porposer* to PURPOSE. With the forms in *-e* cf. OF. *por-, purpose* = *purpos* in Godef. (See also PROPOSE *sb.*)]

I. Simple senses.

1. That which one sets before oneself as a thing to be done or attained; the object which one has in view.

To answer or *serve one's purpose,* to be of use or service in effecting one's object, to do what one wants. † *To put one beside his purpose,* to disappoint or defeat him in his aim (*obs.*). See also CROSS-PURPOSE 1.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 362/8 And seide, 'mi porpos and mi wei: is nouþe to ende i-brouȝt!' *c* 1300 *Exec. Sir S. Fraser* in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 214 Al here purpos y-come hit ys to naht. *c* 1325 *Coer de Lion* 1367 Now frendes what is your perpos? 13.. *Cursor M.* 8402 (Gött.) Neyder i kepe to gabb ne glose, Bot say þe soth es my purpose. *c* 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 377 Who-so to knowe hit hath purpos [*v.r.* purpoos, purpose] Rede Virgile in Eneydos. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 184 That he his pourpos myhte atteigne. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iii. 46, I..warned hym of Aungiers purpos. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 27 Purpois dois change as wynd or rane. 1513 MOORE *Rich. III* 7 Oftner for ambition and to serve his purpose. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* vi. 26 For their sakes which sate att supper also he wolde not put her besyde her purpost. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 99 The diuell can cite Scripture for his purpose. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. ii, It would be answering no purpose. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 137 Yet I doubt not thro' the ages one increasing purpose runs. 1857 MAURICE *Ep. St. John* I. 2 Either will serve our purpose.

† b. with vb. of motion implied (cf. PURPOSE *v.* 4). *Obs.*

1401 J. HANARD in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 15 Oweyn was in porpos to Kedewelly..so Oweyn changed is purpos and rode to ȝens the Baron. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 166 My Lord, faire Helen told me of their stealth, Of this their purpose hither. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV,* I. i. 102 A-while we must neglect Our holy purpose to Ierusalem.

2. Without *a* or *pl.* The action or fact of intending or meaning to do something; intention, resolution, determination.

c 1315 SHOREHAM i. 2040 Þay hy nolde by goud purpos Ine hare flesche werche. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2655 Persiuerannse of purpos may quit you to lure, Your landys to lose, & langur for euer. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xi. 23 He..exhorted them all, thatt with purpose off hertt they wolde continually cleave vnto the lorde. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 219 If thou hast..purpose, Courage, and Valour. 1605 — *Macb.* II. ii. 52 Infirme of purpose: Giue me the Daggers. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 89 If nothing more than purpose in thy power; Thy purpose firm is equal to the deed. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 183 Honesty of purpose is no security for soundness of understanding. 1907 J. R. ILLINGWORTH *Doctr. Trinity* i. 10 No such thing as blind or unconscious purpose is conceivable.

† b. *To take purpose*: to determine, resolve. *Sc.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 143 He..left purpos that he had tane. 1559–66 *Hist. Est. Scotl.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 78 Suddenly shee tooke purpose to pass to the Castle. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 230 Thei took purpose to devid thame selfis..and to go in sindrie partes.

3. The object for which anything is done or made, or for which it exists; the result or effect intended or sought; end, aim.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 100 To this pourpos and to this ende This king is redy for to wende. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxcv. 231 So he taryed on that purpose tyll the ryuer of Marne was lowe. 1563 WINJET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* (S. T. S.) I. 71 *marg.,* Wtheris tractatis for this porpose. 1611 BIBLE *Matt.* xxvi. 8 To what purpose is this waste? *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 3 This was the Purpose of their meeting. 1764 BURN *Poor Laws* 197 That the laws for relieving their distresses..have not answered their purposes. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 334 In all feoffments and grants the word heirs is absolutely necessary for that purpose, and cannot be supplied by any other word whatever. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* ii. 52 Are these differences merely casual and accidental or have they a meaning and a purpose? 1900 F. H. STODDARD *Evol. Eng. Novel* v. 153 The novel of purpose. [Cf. *purpose-novel* in 14.]

† 4. That which one propounds; a proposition, question, or argument; a riddle; *pl.,* a game consisting of questions and answers (cf. CROSS-PURPOSE 2, CROSS-QUESTION *sb.* c). *Obs.*

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xlviii [xlix]. 4 Y..shal open in þe sauter myn purpose [*aperiam propositionem meam*]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 115, I..putte forþ sum purpos to preuen his wittes. 1548 *Compl. Scot.* Prol. 13 It is the nature of ane man that hes..ane ripe ingyne, that euerye purpos ande questione is familiar tyl hym. 1556 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* I. (1561) A iv b, Manye tymes they fell into pourposes, as we nowe a dayes terme them. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* III. x. 8 Oft purposes, oft riddles, he devysd, And thousands like..With which he fed her fancy. 1611 COTGR., *Opinion*: Opinion..also, the prettie game which we call Purposes.

† b. Discourse, conversation: = F. *propos. Obs.*

a 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 137 He called for Johne Knox,..with whome he began to enter in purpose, that he weryed of the world:' for he perceaved that men begane to weary of God. 1587 GREENE *Tritam.* II. Wks. (Grosart) III. 128 He thought it very fit to passe away the morning with such profitable purposes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 12 There will she hide her, To listen our purpose.

5. That which forms or ought to form the subject of discourse; the matter in hand; the point at issue. Now only in phr. *to the purpose* (formerly † *to purpose*): see 12 a; *from the purpose,* away from the point (*arch.*).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 72 But now to purpos lat vs turne agayn. *c* 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 39 Tharfor in haist will I hens To the purposs. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 90 It shall not be impertinent nor out of my purpose, if I do speak..of the kitchin of the great Turke. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 78 To talke of these proportions is in this place out of purpose. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. i. 120 Come: you are a tedious foole: to the purpose. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxiv. 92 He answered him so far from the purpose .. like a man that had lost his judgment. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 3 Oct., J. Minnes..said two or three words from the purpose, but to do hurt. 1703 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 32 For that I did not mention it there, I thought fit (since the Purpose required it) to do it here. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Purpose,* ..subject Matter of Discourse. 1868 [see 12 a].

† 6. Import, effect, meaning (of words); = PURPORT *sb.* 1; in phrase *to this, that,* etc. *purpose.*

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 264 He bad me take a Trumpet, And to this purpose speake. 1611 BIBLE *Judith* xiii. 3 She spake to Bagoas according to the same purpose [1895 *R. V.* words]. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. iv, There were several old contracts to that purpose. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. iv, With other common topics to the same purpose. 1789 BELSHAM *Ess.* I. 5 The advocates for philosophical liberty..reply to the following purpose:—'As all mankind' [etc.].

II. Phrases with prepositions.

7. **A purpose, a-purpose (o' purpose),** = *on purpose, of purpose.* (See A *prep.*2 2.) Now *dial.*

1530 A. BAYNTON in *Palsgr.* Introd. 11 He hath willyngly and a purpose..taken the greattar paynes vpon him. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 24 Which had been brought a purpose from Mexico. 1694 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccclvii. (ed. 6) 496, I came..yesterday a-purpose to tell you the Story. 1876 MRS. G. L. BANKS *Manch. Man* xiv, 'An accident done a-purpose,' chimed in Mrs. Clowes.

† 8. **For the purpose:** for instance, for example.

a 1704 R. L'ESTRANGE (J.), 'Tis common for double-dealers to be taken in their own snares, as, for the purpose, in the matter of power.

9. **In purpose.** a. *To be in purpose*: to be minded or disposed, to intend (*to do* something). Also occas. *to have in purpose. arch.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 115 He is ine wylle and ine porpos uor to uoryeuene..yef me him misdeþ. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 262 How he was in purpos to destroy hys realm. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 47 The Sawdon was in porpuse to a removyd those pyllers. *a* 1626 BACON *New Atl.* (1627) 3 We were sometimes in purpose to turn back. 1630 EARL MANCH. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 271 We are in purpose to have a commission to send Councillors and Judges. 1856 J. H. NEWMAN *Off. Universities* i. 1, I have it in purpose to commit to paper..various thoughts of my own, seasonable, as I conceive.

† b. With the design, in order (*to do* something); = *on purpose,* 11 b. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2643 If Parys..past into Grese, In purpas to pray or profet to gete. 1573 L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 213 Certain Souldiers came..in purpose to kill his master.

10. **Of purpose.** a. (Also † *out of purpose* (obs.), *of* (*a*) *set purpose.*) Purposely, designedly; = *on purpose,* 11 a. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 417 As wele with wynde dryven,

as of purpos to come..to the saide Havenes. 1531 TINDALE *Exp.* 1 *John* ii. 1 (1573) 393 Whosoeuer sinneth of purpose after the knowledge of truth. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 24 b, Whiche was thought to be done of a set purpose. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* x. xxvi. 371 A thousand horsemen of Capua, chosen out of purpose for that warre. 1611 BIBLE *Ruth* ii. 16 Let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her. 1741 MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) Pref. 5, I.. of Purpose omitted many. 1893 *Times* 22 Apr. (Leader), The whole of the arrangements..have been wrapped up, evidently of set purpose, in a cloud of ambiguities.

† **b.** With *inf.* or *that*: = *on purpose*, 11 b. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xviii. (*heading*), Saul geueth him his doughter of purpose, that the Philistynes mighte destroye him. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 301 In gaming with a Prince it is decent to let him sometimes win of purpose, to keepe him pleasant. 1670 BAXTER *Cure Ch.-Div.* 167 The Scripture is written in such words as men use, of purpose that they may understand it.

11. On purpose. a. (Also † *on set purpose.*) By design, as opposed to chance or accident; purposely, designedly, intentionally.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 92 Belike his wife..On purpose shut the doores against his way. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* Pref. 4 While one is looked for on set purpose many more will be gained .. by-the-by. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Illustr. Pol. Econ., Cinnamon & Pearls* i. 13 They had come out early on purpose. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* XXX, 'He has been accidentally shot.' 'Who by?' 'Mrs. Quest.' 'Then she did it on purpose.'

b. With *inf.* or *that*: With the express purpose mentioned; in order *to do* something; with the particular design or aim *that*. Also with *for*, † *to*: Expressly for. So † *upon purpose.*

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 41 How still the euening is, As husht on purpose to grace harmonie. 1635 R. BOLTON *Comfs Afft. Consc.* v. 133 Upon purpose, that he may more solemly vow, and resolve. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 35 Treasur'd up on purpose to a life beyond life. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* Wks. 1736 III. 161 When there is a society pensioned and set apart on purpose for the designing of them. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 166 [He] had thrust himself among our Friends,..on purpose to be sent to Prison with them. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 251, I may be placed where I am, on purpose that I may render essential help to the cause of God.

12. To (the) purpose. a. With relevancy to the subject or point at issue; (*to be*) *to the purpose*, (to be) pertinent, apposite, to the point. (See also 5.)

1384 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* (*Dido*) 954 Of his auentourys.. Tis nat to purpos for to speke of heyre. *c* 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 517 He no word wol to that purpos seye. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxiv. 34 As for Iob he hath nether spoken to the purpose ner wysely. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1949/1 She..receiued him with manie apt words and thanks, as was most to purpose. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. iii. 58 I'll tell you a story to the purpose. 1868 KEY *Philol. Ess.* 261 The examples..quoted by Bopp, are at first sight more to the purpose.

b. *To one's purpose*: useful or serviceable for one's purpose or ends.

[*c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 598 Whan it cam hym to purpos for to reste.] 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* A iij b, Tis to his purpose sometimes to deliver you the situation of the Countrey he discourses upon. 1668–9 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Mar., Looking over the books there,..[I] did find several things to my purpose. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 42 P 7 Caesar's Observation upon our Fore-fathers is very much to our present purpose.

c. *To* († *unto*) *purpose, to the purpose, to good, great, some, any*, etc. *purpose*: so as to secure the result or effect desired; with (a certain) effect; in an effective manner, effectively; *To little* or *no purpose*: with little or no effect or result; in vain. Also as adj. phr. predicatively.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 46 Unto purpos by cleer experyence, Beute wol shewe, thogh hornys wer away. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 159 By an order we deuise, we..frame our doynges to good purpose. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 237 b, In hys opynion, a generall counsel shuld be to little porpos. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 127 It was not the great multitude of ships..that could stand them to purpose, against noble harts. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iv. § 6 Although it serve you to purpose with the ignorant and vulgar sort. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 106 *Leo.* Hermione .. thou neuer spoak'st To better purpose. *Her.*..Why lo-you now; I haue spoke to th' purpose twice. 1611 BIBLE *Transl. Pref.* P 6 These..were worthily and to great purpose compiled together by Origen. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xiv. 411 Yet perchance he may get some almes of learning,..but nothing to purpose. 1677 MARVELL *Season. Argum.*, etc., Wks. 1776 II. 562 He feathered his nest to some purpose. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* (1692) 132, I wrote a letter to the best purpose I could. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 59. 25 His Letter may..be made Publick to Good Purpose. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* iii, I prithee be plain, man,.. or fetch some one who can speak to purpose. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Illustr. Pol. Econ., T. Tyne* vii. 129, I used to insist on this..but..to no purpose. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. vii. 230 Another young draughtsman in Florence, who lessoned me to purpose.

† **d.** *To purpose that*: in order that; to the end that. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. vii. 17 This was done, to purpose, that vppon Sunday, they would heare Masse on lande,..and receiue the Sacrament.

† **e.** *To bring, come, fall to purpose*: to bring or reduce to effect. *To come to one purpose*, to have the same effect, to come to the same thing.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 263 To stand agayne thar fayis mycht,..And ay think to cum to purpos *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 2, I wyll shewe you ..remedies with some other maters, that lightly wyll falle to purpose. 1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* II. vi. (1895) 205 It maketh nothing to thys matter, whether yow saye that sickenes is a griefe, or that in sickenes is griefe; for all cummeth to one purpose. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* C iv b, I haue begonne this order or rule, first with the Pedestale, (..Vitruuius.. begin neth first with the pillor, neuertheles they come to one purpose in the parfection).

13. From the purpose: see 5. **Out of, unto, upon purpose**: see 10 a, 12 c, 11 b.

III. 14. *attrib.* and *Comb.* Simple attrib. = adj., 'done, made, etc., with a purpose or object', as *purpose-episode, -journey, -work*; obj. genitive, as *purpose-breaker, -changer*; instrumental, as *purpose-directed* adj.; † **purpose messenger**, a messenger sent on purpose or express; **purpose-novel**, a novel written with a specific purpose, e.g. to defend or attack some doctrine, custom, or the like.

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 124 Wo is me that so many let-games, and *purpose-brekers ben maked wayters. 1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 567 With that same *purpose-changer, that slye diuel,..Commeditie. 1899 G. TYRRELL in *Month* May 497 Not in obedience to any *purpose-directed law. 1900 STODDARD *Evol. Eng. Novel* 188 It is not..the *purpose-episodes in the novels of Dickens that are the strongest pages. 1860 *Luck Ladysmede* (1862) I. 10 It was the abbot of Rivelsby who made a *purpose journey to Westminster. 1702 E. LLUYD *Let.* in E. Owen *Catal. MSS. relating to Wales* 506, I have been obliged to send *purpose messengers 60 or 70 miles for votes. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* IX. ii. (Rtldg.) 313 As Don Alphonso's patent was made out, I sent it by a purpose messenger. 1893 F. M. CRAWFORD in *Forum* (N. Y.) XIV. 594 The *purpose-novel is an odious attempt to lecture people who hate lectures, to preach at people who prefer their own Church. 1900 STODDARD *Evol. Eng. Novel* 177 The direction of the *purpose-work of the hero.

Purpose (pə̄·rpəs), *v.* Forms: 4– **purpose**; also 4–5 **purpos**, 5 **purpoos**, **perpos**(e, 4–5–6 **pourpose**, 6 **porpose**; *pa. t.* 5 **purpast**, 6 **-pest.** [a. OF. *porposer, purposer*, also later *pourposer*, parallel forms of *proposer* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.) to PROPOSE, with *por-, pur-, pour-* for L. *prō-*. PURPOSE is thus a doublet of PROPOSE.]

I. To put forth, propose, present.

† **1.** *trans.* To put forward for consideration, discussion, or treatment; to set forth, present to the mind of another; = PROPOSE *v.* 2. *Obs.*

[1292 BRITTON II. xvii. § 1 Issi qe les excepciouns al bref abatre soint purposez avaunt la excepcioun a la persone le pleyntif.] 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xxx. 15 Bihold that to day I have purposid in thi sist lijf and good, and aȝenward deth and yuel. *Ibid., Judg.* xiv. 13 Purpos the problemes that we heren. 1413 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) I. viii. To maken his compleynt, and purpoos his askynge. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxix, Merely purposynge to them some feigned question. 1633 FORD *Broken H.* I. iii, Mortality Creeps on the dung of earth, and cannot reach The riddles which are purposed by the gods.

† **b.** *absol.* or *intr.* To put forth remarks, questions, etc.; to discourse, converse, talk. Also with *it*. Cf. PROPOSE *v.* 5. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. xii. 16 Whom overtaking, she in merry sort Them gan to bord, and purpose diversly. 1598 MARSTON *Satyres* I. 138 He that can purpose it in dainty rimes Can set his face, and with his eye can speake.

† **2.** To put forward for acceptance; to offer, proffer, present; = PROPOSE *v.* 3 a, c. *Obs. rare.*

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 (Anc. Pet. 997) Nichol Brembre wyth his upberers, purposed hym the yere next after Johan Northamptone Mair of the same Citee. 1563 MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 287 This universall communion of the heavenly grace, whiche is porposed unto all [*mortalibus omnibus proposita*].

II. To set before *oneself* for accomplishment.

3. *trans.* To place before oneself as a thing to be done or attained; to form a purpose of doing (something); to design or resolve upon the performance of. Const. chiefly *inf.* (formerly with *for to*); also *that* and *clause, vbl. sb.*, and ordinary *sb.* Cf. PROPOSE *v.* 2 c, 4 b.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* i. 8 Forsothe Danyel purposide in his herte, that he were not defoulid of the borde of the kyng. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 5 Thus I..Purpose forto wryte a bok. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astrolabe* Prol. 1, I purpose to teche the a certein nombre of conclusiouns. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12296 Pirrus, full prest, þat purpost hom skathe. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* IX. 39 Off Kyrkcubre he purpost his passage; Semen he feyt. 1504 C'TESS RICHMOND tr. *De Imitatione* IV. vii. 269 So often pourposynge many good thynges. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 77 Thow purpest for to vndo our Lordis cheif In Paislay, with ane poysone. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 618/1 It is a capitall crime to devise or purpose the death of the King. 1623 GOUGE *Serm. Extent God's Provid.* § 10 A man may with himselfe plot and purpose this and that. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 12 P 13 My friend purposes to open an office. 1850 LYNCH *Theoph. Trin.* xi. 211 His mother purposed that he should be a preacher, and his own heart purposed it too. 1863 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* 16, I purpose ..keeping a sort of journal. 1873 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 156 The Artists whom it is purposed to employ.

† **b.** *refl.* To determine, make up one's mind, resolve. Const. *inf.* Also *intr.*, to determine *upon*.

c 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* x. 38 Than þei ordeyned and purposed hem anoon with grete and riche ȝiftes..to go seke and worschipp þe lord. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 88 When any of þam purposez him to sla him self. *c* 1425 *Cast. Perseu.* 132 in *Macro Plays* 81 Þese parcellis in propyrtes we purpose us to playe þis day seuenenyt. ? 1507 *Commynyc.* (W. de W.) A iij, Thou purposed the daye by daye To set my people in synnynge. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* xiii. 8 Euen from the beginning God purposed vppon thys sacrifice.

c. *passive.* To have as one's purpose; to be resolved or determined. (Cf. PURPOSED *ppl. a.* 2.)

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1868, I am not purpast plainly his prayer to here. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 70 The Emperour was purposed to send his ambassadors with vs. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. iii. (1647) 46 Peter Bishop of Aragnia in Italy was purposed here to lead his life. 1828 SCOTT *F. M. Perth* x, I am purposed instantly to return. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xiii. § 1. 263 The whole nation was.. fully purposed that the next brood of Æthelings..should be..Englishmen.

† **4.** *intr., refl.*, and *pass.* ellipt. for *to purpose* or *be purposed to go*: To be bound *for* a place. *Obs.*

1467 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 309, I shall purpose me thederward. 1473 SIR J. PASTON *ibid.* III. 88 The Erle of Oxenford..is purposyd into Skotlond. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Ann.* IV. xxxiii. (1604) 179 For Civilis also purposed thitherward. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 35 He purposeth to Athens. 1632 W. LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 92, I could get passage.., being purposed for Constantinople.

† **5.** *absol.* or *intr.* To have a purpose, plan, or design; esp. in the proverbial phrase *Man purposes* (now *proposes*), *God disposes*: see DISPOSE *v.* 7. (Cf. also PROPOSE *v.* 4 c, PROPONE *v.* 5.) Also, To mean (well or ill) *to* any one. *Obs.*

c 1450 [see DISPOSE *v.* 7]. 1530 PALSGR. 670/2 Man purposeth and God disposeth, *homme propose et Dieu dispose.* 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Scripture* III. 38 But homo proponit, Deus disponit: the Pope purposed, and God so disposed it. 1622 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Prophetess* IV. i, Nor did he e'er purpose To me but nobly. *c* 1634 [see DISPOSE *v.* 7]. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* (1851) 164 Lord, it is from thee, that I purposed well.

† **6.** *trans.* To design or intend for some purpose. Only in *pass.*: To be intended. *Obs.*

1387–8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 121 Hem that tofore werne purposed to be saintes. 1553 ASCHAM in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 14 My choise of quietnes is not purposed to lye in idleness. *a* 1568 — *Scholem.* (title-p.), Specially purposed for the priuate brynging vp of youth in lentlemen and Noble mens houses. 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* (1622) 200 [Domitian] sending a successor caused withall a bruit to be spred, that the prouince of Syria ..was purposed vnto him. 1676 WOOD *Ymil.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 152 Merchandize..such as was Reasonably purposed to Vend on the Coast of Tartaria.

† **7.** To imagine to oneself, fancy, suppose: cf. PROPOSE *v.* 2 d. *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$.

1494 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clxxxvi, Whan the Kynge had vnfolde the letter, and radde a parte therof, he smyled; wherof the lordes beynge ware, purposed the Kyng to haue receyued some iewellys or ioyous nouellys out of Englande.

¶ **8.** *trans.* To place before, prefer. (App. a literalism of translation.)

1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. x. K iij, By the vertue of prudence we purpose [Fr. *proposons*] the delytes spyrytuall vnto the temporalles and carnalles.

Purpose, obs. form of PORPOISE.

Pu·rposed (-əst), *ppl. a.* [f. PURPOSE *v.* + -ED^1.]

1. a. Done or made of set purpose; intentional.

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 84 Nocht be deliberacioun of purposit vertu. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* V. cxvi. 91 That this chylde was slayne by poyson, or by some other purposyd malice. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 13 Although it be wilfull and purposed murther. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 403 Much lesse was it a purposed lie. 1656–7 BURTON *Diary* (1828) I. 333 To..make the people believe it was only a purposed plot to try men's spirits. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 31 There was..a purposed vagueness in the first edition.

b. Proposed to be done or attained; intended; aimed at.

1474 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 409 To serue vs, in the same oure viage & purposed enterprise. 1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* 15 The purposed, chief, and perfect vse of Geometrie. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* 110 Prouiding pales, posts and railes, to impale his purposed new town. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* IX. 564 Forc'd round and round, she quits her purpos'd Way. 1877 M. ARNOLD *Rugby Chapel*, We, we have chosen our path—Path to a clear-purposed goal.

2. Possessed with a purpose; having a settled object. (Cf. PURPOSE *v.* 3 c.)

1530 PALSGR. 321/2 Purposed or full set upon a purpose, *resolu.* 1894 W. J. DAWSON *Making Manhood* 39 The surrendered soul is the purposed soul.

Hence † **Pu·rposedly** *adv.*, = PURPOSELY 1.

1548 RECORD *Urin. Physick* Pref. 1, I will wittingly, and purposedly passe them over. *a* 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* 178 The Capitol being set on fire, whether casually, or purposedly, it was not knowne. 1796 *Hist.* in *Ann. Reg.* 6 The real motive was purposedly kept out of sight.

Purposeful (pə̄·rpəsfŭl), *a.* [f. PURPOSE *sb.* + -FUL.] Having a purpose or meaning; indicating purpose or plan; designed, intentional.

1853 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* II. iii. § 24. 43 The purposeful variation of width in the border .. admits of no dispute. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 290 A singularly perfect and purposeful cosmic myth. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 207 The framework of the earth by its purposeful conformation evinces control in its establishment.

b. Having a definite purpose in view.

1865 *Spectator* 19 Aug. 930 A collection of anecdotes.. unworthy of the purposeful nation [the Scotch]. 1880 *Cornhill Mag.* XLII. 649 He had been happy, and purposefull, and hard-working 1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highways Derbysh.* xxx. 446 The smile..upon her shrewd, purposeful face.

Hence **Pu·rposefully** *adv.*; **Pu·rposefulness.**

1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* v. 240 It is much more pardonable to slay heedlessly than purposefully. 1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* xviii, Her feet pattering most purposefully along the flagged passages. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* vi. (1879) 148 He must not fix his vanity upon the thing

attempted, only his intention and his purposefulness. 1890 G. A. Smith *Isaiah* II. 226 This intellectual sense of righteousness, as reasonableness or purposefulness.

Purposeless (pə·ɹpəslés), *a.* (*adv.*). [f. Purpose *sb.* + -less.] Devoid of purpose. a. Done, made, or produced without purpose or design.

1552 Huloet, Purposeles, *absurdus*. Purposeles, or wythout purpose or reason, *absurde*. 1622 Bp. Hall *Contempl. O. T.* xvi. *Death Absalom*, There are busie spirits that love to cary newes though thanklesse, though purposelesse. *a* 1656 — *Serm. on Eccl.* iii. 4 Wks. 1837 V. 552 Prayer is ever joined with fasting in all our humiliations; without which, the emptiness of our maws were but a vain and purposeless ceremony. 1835 Sir J. Ross *Narr. 2nd Voy.* vi. 80 A purposeless waste of time.

b. Having no purposes, plans, or aims.

1868 *Daily News* 22 July, He looked limp and purposeless as a broken puppet. 1871 Smiles *Charac.* i. (1876) 12 Without a certain degree of practical efficient force..life will be indefinite and purposeless.

Hence **Pu·rposelessly** *adv.*, in a purposeless manner; aimlessly; **Pu·rposelessness**, lack of purpose, object, or use; aimlessness, uselessness.

1859 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XI. 82 She was..purposelessly unsympathetic. 1867 Miss Braddon *Run to Earth* (1868) II. xiii. 221 [He] would..lounge purposelessly about, sullen and gloomy. 1848 *Fraser's Mag.* XXXVII. 267 Repeating the same silly jingle of words with happy purposelessness. 1874-9 Purposelessness [see Dysteleology].

Pu·rpose-like, *a.* [f. Purpose *sb.* + -like.]

1. Having the appearance of being efficient, fit, or suitable for a purpose. *Sc.*

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 302 Devisit and dytit, be wis clerkis, and men of counsale, and expert in the lawis, and purposlyke. 1782 Sir J. Sinclair *Observ. Scot. Dial.* 16 A purpose-like person..a person seemingly well qualified for any particular business. 1816 Scott *Old Mort.* xxxviii, [She] should make a bed up for him at the house, mair purpose-like and comfortable than the like o' them could gie him. 1824 — *St. Ronan's* xv, Mrs. Dods ..seeing what she called a decent, purpose-like body.

2. Having a definite purpose; purposed.

1604 Bacon *Apol.* 60 [She] turned away from me with express and purpose-like discountenance. 1855 Ht. Martineau *Autobiog.* I. 315 In conversation no speaker could be more absolutely clear and purpose-like [than Browning].

Purposely (pə·ɹpəsli), *adv.* [f. Purpose *sb.* + -ly 2; cf. Partly.]

1. Of set purpose; on purpose; by design; designedly; intentionally; deliberately.

1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 17 It is ordyned..that no man take any Eyre[r], Gossehauke [etc.] nor purposly drive them oute of their covertes. 1551 R. Robinson tr. *More's Utop.* II. v. (1895) 165 They gladly here also the yong men; yea and do purposly prouoke them to talke. *a* 1656 Bp. Hall *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 123 A rude fellow spat purposely in his face. 1709 Pope *Ess. Crit.* 427 If the throng By chance go right, they [the learned] purposely go wrong. 1875 W. S. Hayward *Love Agst. World* 87 He had purposely waylaid her.

2. With the particular object specified; for the express purpose; on purpose; expressly.

1528 Knight *Let. to Wolsey* MS. Cott. Vitell. B. x. 32 (cf. Pocock *Rec. Ref.* I. xxviii. 57 To enduce his holynes to send a legat purposly for hyt. 1588 Shaks. *Tit. A.* III. ii. 73 As if it were the Moore, Come hither purposely to poyson me. 1694 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 369 A fine new yatch..built purposely for his majestie. 1787 Mme. D'Arblay *Diary* 6 Jan., The Queen herself came also, purposely to see him. 1882 Pitman *Mission L. Greece & Pal.* 175 He left Titus in Crete, purposely to ordain elders.

†3. To good purpose; effectively. *Obs.*

1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 416 To the intent the matter may the more easely and purposelye [orig. *facilius et majori cum fructu*] be broughte to passe.

Parposer (pə·ɹpəsəɹ). [f. Purpose *v.* + -er 1.] One who purposes. †a. One who states a proposition or propounds a question or argument. *Obs. rare* −1. b. One who has a purpose; one who intends or plans anything.

1481 Botoner *Tully on Old Age* (Caxton) I. ii. (R. Suppl.), How Caton was lerned in the lawe—a pleder and a purposer in the courtys. 1753 A. Murphy *Gray's-Inn Jrnl.* No. 23 The bloody Purposer of determined Vengeance. 1841 Arnold *Lect. Mod. Hist.* Inaug. (1842) 5 Perhaps I ought not to press the word 'purpose'; because purpose implies consciousness in the purposer. 1884 *American* VIII. 344 The persistent determination of its purposers.

Pu·rposing, *vbl. sb.* [f. Purpose *v.* + -ing 1.] The action of the verb Purpose; designing, planning; meaning, intention.

c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 326 Even as it was in purposynge, Right so was it aftir I-do. *c* 1450 Lovelich *Grail* xlvii. 153 Thus, be here fals purposing,..[they] beheveded On Aftyr Anothir, As wel the soster as the brother. 1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1199/2 In the shooting of this arowe of pryde, ther be diuers purposinges and apoyntinges.

Pu·rposing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ing 2.] That purposes; having a purpose; designing.

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* I. vi. (Skeat) I. 73 The rancoure of purposinge enuie. 1835 Chalmers *Nat. Theol.* I. II. i. 223 A living and purposing agent who moulded the forms. 1836 J. Gilbert *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 92 Plainly the result of purposing will effecting its ends.

Purpo·sitive, *a. rare.* [An alteration of next to assimilate the suffix to its etymological form as in *positive*.] = Purposive 2.

1890 B. Kidd in *Longm. Mag.* Sept. 506 The searching or feeling movements of the processes have a significantly purpositive effect.

Purposive (pə·ɹpəsiv), *a.* [f. Purpose *sb.* or *vb.* + -ive. (An anomalous form.)]

1. Characterized by being adapted to some purpose or end; serving or tending to serve some purpose in the constitution of things, esp. in the animal or vegetable economy.

1855 Sir J. Paget in *Lett. Educ.* 240 Things that we call inorganic, when we would distinguish them from living organisms—are yet purposive, and mutually adapted to cooperate in the fulfilment of design. 1879 *Cornh. Mag.* June 717 Its final outcome will be a purposive structure,—that is to say, a structure specially adapted to its peculiar function. 1894 G. Allen in *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 2/1 The stings of nettles are purposive, as stings. They act as protectors.

2. Acting or performed with conscious purpose or design.

1863 Owen *Lect., Power of God* (1864) 5 Admiring the rare degree of constructive skill, foresight and purposive adaption, in many artificial machines. *Ibid.* 6 To exemplify the purposive or adaptive principle in creation. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. i. § 19 (1879) 20 The most purely Volitional movements—those which are prompted by a distinct purposive effort. 1884 *Athenæum* 1 Mar. 283 In this work [Romanes 'Evolution in Animals']..we have..purposive intelligence distinctly opposed to natural selection.

3. Of or pertaining to purpose.

1899 J. Smith *Chr. Charac. as Soc. Power* 216 There is not a causal, but there is a purposive, connection here. 1905 *Outlook* 23 Sept. 390/1 The purposive aspect of Crabbe's writing.

4. Characterized by purpose and resolution.

1903 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 4/4 They are strong in mind and body, truthful and purposive, excellent leaders of the people of lower races. 1904 *Daily News* 10 Aug. 6 They have become aware of his practical talent,..his lucidity, integrity, and calmly purposive steadfastness.

Hence **Pu·rposively** *adv.*, in a purposive manner; purposely; **Pu·rposiveness**, the quality or fact of being purposive.

1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 2/1 Thus the subject community as a whole is definitely, even if not purposively, shut out from the kind of political evolution which has gone and goes on in the dominant one. 1876 E. R. Lankester tr. *Haeckel's Hist. Creat.* I. i. 19 [One] must necessarily come to the conclusion that this '*purposiveness' no more exists than the much-talked-of 'beneficence' of the Creator. 1876 Bastian in *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 248 Its movements, instead of being wholly at random, show more and more signs of purposiveness. 1909 J. W. Jenkinson *Experim. Embryology* 286 Purposiveness..is a characteristic of all organic functions and cannot be ignored.

Purpoure, -powr, -pre, obs. ff. Purpure.

Purpoynt, obs. form of Pourpoint.

†**Purpre·ss**, *v. Sc. Law. Obs. rare.* [Another form of Purprise *v.*, app. influenced by *purpresture*.] *intr.* To commit purpresture; to encroach on another man's land, etc.

a 1575 in Balfour *Pract.* (1754) 444 Sic ane man, beand my tenent and vassal, purpressis and usurpis aganis me, that is his over-lord of sic landis, in sa far as he has causit eare, teill, and saw my landis of N., or has biggit upon thame in sic ane place.

†**Purpressour.** *Obs. rare*−1. In 5 -ure. [In form an agent-n. from Purpress or F. *pourpresure* (see Purpresture), but the sense in the quotation is peculiar.] Apparently, A person appointed to inquire into purprestures.

1477 *Surtees Misc.* (1888) 27 That the purpressures come in this day xiiij day, to gyf their presentment bilongyng to their office.

†**Purprestor.** *Obs. Law.* [a. AF. *purprestour* one who encroaches, f. *purpresturé* (see next), with agent-suffix *-our*, -or.] (See quot. 1865.)

[1292 Britton I. xix. § 6 Et ceux qi serrount presentez deforceours et purprestours.] 1865 Nichols *Britton* II. 379 *Purprestour*, a purprestor, one who usurps or encroaches.

Purprestur (pəɹpre·stiŭ). *Law.* Also (*erron.*) 6 -tour, 7 -tor; 7–8 pour-. [a. OF. *por-, pur-, pourprestur* (13th c.), altered from *por-, pourpresure*, f. *por-, pur-, pourprendre* to occupy, seize, usurp, appropriate, environ, enclose, encroach upon, etc., f. *por-, pour-* (:—L. *prō-*), here intensive + *prendre* (:—L. *prædhendĕre*) to seize, take. Cf. med.L. *pur-, prōprestūra, purprisūra*, etc. (from Fr.), in Du Cange.] An illegal enclosure of or encroachment upon the land or property of another or (now only) of the public; as by an enclosure or building in royal, manorial, or common lands, or in the royal forests, an encroachment on a highway, public water-way, etc.

[*a* 1190 Glanville *Tract. de Leg. Angl.* IX. xi. (1776) 521 De Purpresturis. 1292 Britton I. xix. § 6 Et ausi soit enquis de totes maneres de purprestures fetes sur nous de terres et de fraunchises.] 1421 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 30 Allso we commaund..þat no man make noo purprestur ne stoppyng with trees ne stones ne with no othur filthe in the forseid Ryver, up the peyn aforsaid. 1598 Stow *Surv.* x. (1603) 84 Purprestures, or enchrochmentes on the Highwayes, lanes, and common groundes, in and aboute this cittie. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* II. lxxiv. § 1 Purpresture is, quhen ane man occupies vnjustlie anie thing against the King, as in the Kings domain..or in stoppin the Kings publick wayis, or passages, as in waters turned fra the richt course. *a* 1634 Coke *Inst. IV*, lxxiii. *Courts of Forest* (1648) 291 To be quit of asserts, and purprestures. 1754 Erskine *Princ. Sc. Law* (1809) 176 Purprestures draws likewise a forfeiture of the whole feu after it, and is incurred by the vassal's encroaching upon any part of his superior's property. 1875 Stubbs *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 36 note 2 To account for the essarts and purprestures made in the forests of Hampshire. 1879 E. Robertson in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 409/2 The offence of 'purprestur'..was an encroachment on the forest rights, by building a house within the forest, and it made no difference whether the land belonged to the builder or not.

b. A payment or rent paid to a feudal superior for liberty to enclose land or erect any building upon it.

c 1384 *Charter Rich. II*, ciii. in Arnolde *Chron.* (1502) D j b/2 Of alle maner custumes vsagis and ymposicions and also prepresturs and other thinges what so they bee that fall with in the fraunches of the forsaid cite. *c* 1450 *Oseney Reg.* 29, I haue i-ȝefe to þe forsaide chanons..in-to perpetuell almys, ffre and quite for all seruice and purprestur of here Gardeyne of Cudelynton. 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 461 Be suffraunce of þe Meire & Comenalte, which be poynt of Charter & tyme out of mynde haue had profit of purprestures.

Purpris, -ise, var. of Pourprise *Obs.*

†**Purpri·se,** *v. Sc. Obs.* [f. F. *por-, purprendre* (see Purprestur, and cf. Pourprise *v.*] *intr.* To make a purprestur or illegal encroachment; *trans.* To enclose or encroach upon. Hence **Purprising** = Purprision.

1480 *Acta Dom. Concil.* 74/2 Forfating of him..of his tennandry of Wester Corswod..for þe purprising apone þe said Schir Johne..in þe raising & vptakin of þe malis of þe said landis. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* II. xxii. 159 He quha commits purprestur within the kings burgh, tines that quhilk he wrangouslie bigges, or purprises.

So †**Purprise** *sb.* [cf. Pourprise *sb.*], an illegal enclosure, an encroachment; = next.

1448 Perpriss [see next]. 1531 in Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* 100 To enquere of the purprestur and purpryses w^t other comen noysauns.

†**Purpri·sion.** *Sc. Law. Obs.* Also 6 -prusioun. [a. OF. *porprison* (in med.L. *porprension-em* occupation, usurpation), n. of action f. OF. *por-, purprendre*: see Purprestur.] = Purprestur.

1448 *Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 401 Quhar thai find perpriss [to] merke it and put in writ and charge thame to reforme it within xi dais, and forberne vnder payne of perprisioune of the king. 1479 *Act. Audit.* 16 Oct. 91/1 The actioune ..aganis elizabeth nesbit..anent þe halding of a court of purprisione vppone þe landis of Raufburne wrangwisly haldin. 1497 *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* I. 17/1 Land..pertenyng to the kingis hienes be ressoun of eschet be purprision apon his hienes. 1545 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* VIII. 384 To Barre, messinger, lettres of purprusioun upoun the laird of Glenkirk..chargeing them baith to compeir in Edinburght. 1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 228/1.

Purpur *Obs.*, **purpure** (pə·ɹpiŭɹ), *arch. sb.* and *a.* Forms: see below. [In OE. *purpure, -an* (weak fem.), ad. L. *purpura* sb. fem.; thence in early ME. *purpre*, coinciding with OF. *purpre* (*porpre*, later *pourpre* = Pr. *porpra, polpra*, It. *porpora*:—L. *purpura*, whence learned F. *purpure*); also in ME. *purper, purpur*, and in 14th c. *purpure*, orig. with *-e* otiose, but at length associated with the suffix -ure, which has attracted various endings, as in *moisture, pleasure, vulture*. Cf. OHG. *purpura*, ON. *purpuri*, Goth. *paurpaura, -pura*, all from L.; thence MHG., MLG., Du. *purper*, Ger., Da., Sw. *purpur*. L. *purpura* was an early ad. Gr. πορφύρα name of the shell-fish or whelk which yielded the Tyrian purple, hence the purple dye, and cloth dyed with it. The last is the earliest sense in Eng. (Cf. also Porphyry.)

OE. *purpure* was only a sb., the adj. or attrib. use being expressed by its genitive *purpuran*, or later by a deriv. adj. *purpuren*: cf. OHG. *purpurîn* in Otfrid. The wearing down of either of these gave the 12th c. *purpre* and ONorthumb. *purple*, as attrib. and, at length, adj. forms. A similar phenomenon appeared in OHG. in the tendency to treat the genitive *purpurûn* as an adj.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1 **purpure, -an,** 2 **purpre, -en.**

c 893 K. Ælfred *Oros.* VI. xxx. § 3 Hie woldon..þa purpuran alecgan þa hie weredon. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark xv. 17 Hi..scryddon hine mid purpuran [*c* 1160 *Hatton G.* purpren].

β. 3 *pl.* **purpras,** 3–6 **purpre,** 3–5 *pl.* **-es,** 4 **porpre, 4–5 pourpre.**

c 1205 Lay. 2368, & clađes inowe pælles & purpras [*c* 1275 purpres]. *Ibid.* 5928 þa palles & þa purpres. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 8 Wiđ purpre wiđ pal. 13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1568 Ful gaye in gounes of porpre. 1340 *Ayenb.* 229 Hi ham cloþeþ..mid pourpre and mid uayre robes. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 (Harl. MS.) Y-clothid alle in purpre & bisse. 1483 Caxton *Gold. Leg.* 169 b/1 In roobes of pourpre. 1605 [see B. II. 1].

γ. 4–5 **purper, -pir(e, porpere, 5 purpere, -pyr(e.**

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xliv. 11 Þis quene is atirid wiþ.. purpire. 13.. *Cursor M.* 25465 (Cott.), Ne purperpall, nee pride o pane. *c* 1385 Chaucer *L. G. W.* 654 (Gg. 4. 27), Fleth ek the queen withal hire porpere [*v. rr.* purpre, purpyr, purpur] sayl. 1478 Botoner *Itin.* (1778) 88 Cum tribus robis de purpyre. 1488 *Inv.* in *Tytler's Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 393 Item a covering of variand purpir tarter.

δ. 4–7 **purpur,** (4 **-powr,** 4–5 **porpor,** 5–6 **purpour, -e, pourpour, -e,** 6 *Sc.* **purpoir**).

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1743 Penne sone was danyel dubbed in ful dere porpor. 1382 Wyclif *John* xix. 5 A clooth of purpur. *c* 1420 Purpour [see B. I. 1]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* 40 Cled With purpour silk. 1649 Eclston tr. Behmen *Ep.* i. 29 Cloathed with Christs Purpur-Mantle.

ε. 4– **purpure.**

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*VII Sleperis*) 192 Þis gud emperoure [Theodosius]..putand a-way purpure & chare. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1288 Palaisez proudliche pyghte, þat palyd ware ryche, Of palle and of purpure. 1494–1894: see B.

B. Signification.

I. *sb.* †1. Purple cloth or clothing; in earliest use, a purple robe or garment; *spec.* as the dress of an emperor or king; = PURPLE *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

Purpur (*purple*) *and pall*, also †*pall and purpur*, a favourite alliterative collocation (see also in A.), which prob. arose when *pall*, OE. *pæll*, began to lose the spec. sense of 'purple cloth', and to be used in the more general sense of 'rich clothing': see PALL *sb.* 1. Cf. also the variation *purper pall*: quot. 13.. in A. 7.

c 893 K. ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. iv. § 4 Hit næs þeaw mid him þæt æniz oþer purpuran werede buton cyningum. *c* 1205 Pælles & purpras [see A. β]. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1461 Ischrud & iprud ba wið pel & wið purpre. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4744 Desgysede in pourpre & bys. *c* 1375 [see A. ε]. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xvi. 19 Sum man was rich, and was clothid in purpur. *c* 1420 ?LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 306 Clad all in purpur was she more & lesse. *c* 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 443 With purpour and palle. 1494 FABYAN *Chron.* IV. lxiii. 42 This Caraucius had taken vpon hym to were the purpure. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. xi. 14 Ourspred with carpetis of the fyne purpour. 1614 BARCLAY *Nepenthes* (Arb.) 116 When in a robe of purpure I wedded the metamorphosed Daphne.

†2. The mollusc whence the purple dye was obtained; = PURPLE *sb.* 3. *Obs.*

(The original sense of the word in Gr. and L.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. viii. (Camb. MS.) 64 Men ..knowen whych water habowndeth most of Rede purpre, þat is..of a manere shelle fysh with whych men dyen purpre.

†3. A deep crimson or scarlet colour; = PURPLE *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 125 So Jesus..baar a crowne of þornes, and cloiþ of purpur. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* IV. xvii. 280 Purpre that we calle red repre. senteth the fire the moost noble of all iiii elementes. 1496 *Dives & Pauper* Comm. VIII. viii. 331/2 The chesyble betokeneth the cloth of purpure in whiche the knyghtes clothed hym in scorne.

b. *Her.* Purple as a colour or tincture; in engraving represented by diagonal lines from sinister to dexter.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (1856) I. 585 With baneris braid, and standertis in the air, Palit with purpoir, plesand and preclair. 1562 LEIGH *Armorie* 17 b, The whiche colour in armes, is Purple, and is blazed by this word Purpure, which is a princelye colour. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Purpure*, the Heralds Term for a Colour consisting of much Red and a little Black. 1894 *Parker's Gloss. Herald.*, *Purpure*..this colour, as it is considered by some, but tincture as it is allowed to be by others, is found but rarely in early rolls of arms.

II. *adj.* †1. = PURPLE *a.* 2: often as the distinctive colour of imperial and royal dress; = PURPLE *a.* 1. *Obs.*

[*c* 1160 *Hatton Gosp.* John xix. 5 Purpre reaf [*Ags. Gosp.* purpuren reaf.]

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* A. 1016 þe amatyst purpre with ynde blente. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bertholom.*) 56 Sete with stanis of purpure hew. *c* 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab., Preich. Swallow* 33 Thir Iolie flouris,..Sum grene, sum blew, sum purpour, quhyte & red. 1509–10 *Act* 1 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 Sylke of Purpoure Coloure. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 84 Those birdes with purpre [edd. 1623–9 purple, 1657 purpure] neckes called Penelopes. *c* 1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* II. 19 With purpure blush, soone as the morne displayes Heaven's cristall gates.

†b. Qualifying another adj. of colour. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab., Lion & Mouse* Prol. v, His chemeis was of chambelet pourpour broun. 1503 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* II. 209 For x elne wellus purpur violet.

2. *Her.* Of the colour called purpure: see I. 3 b.

1562 LEIGH *Armorie* (1597) 84 b, He beareth Purpure on a pale Sable, three imperial crownes, Or. 1799 *Naval Chron.* I. 393 Two eagles, purpure, beaked. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* (ed. 3) xiv. § 1. 153 Sometimes blazoned purpure instead of gules.

‖ **Purpura** (pɔ̄·ɹpiŭră). [L. *purpura* purple, ad. Gr. *πορφύρα* purple shell-fish, purple.]

1. *Path.* A disease due to a morbid state of the blood or blood-vessels, characterized by purple or livid spots scattered irregularly over the skin, with great debility and depression, and sometimes hæmorrhage.

Usually divided into *Purpura simplex*, the mild form, and *P. hæmorrhagica* or *maligna*, the severer form. Formerly used more widely, with many defining words.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Purpurea*, The going back of the eruptions in the white purpura is very often fatal. *Ibid.*, The red purpura, when the eruptions are struck back, is not attended with such sudden danger. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 234 The rash was succeeded by numerous livid spots, diffused over almost the whole body, and resembling those of the purpura, or the petechiæ sine febre, in their most dangerous form. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Purpura Hæmorrhagica*,..petechial fever. 1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 252 Purpura is due to a peculiar unhealthy condition of the blood and tissues.

2. *Zool.* A large genus of gastropods, including some of those which secrete the fluid whence the ancient purple dye was derived; a mollusc of this genus.

The common British and North Atlantic species is *P. lapillus*, which secretes a small quantity of the dye-liquid.

[1686 W. COLE (*title*) Purpura Anglicana, being a Discovery of a Shell-fish Found on the Shores of the Severn, in which there is a Vein containing a Juice, giving the delicate and durable Tincture of the Antient, Rich, Tyrian Purple.] 1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Purpura*, It has been usual with most authors to confound together the genera of the murex and purpura. 1847 CARPENTER *Zool.* § 924 The *Purpura*, a shell of comparatively small size,..very abundant..on our own coast.

Purpuraceous (pɔ̄ɹpiŭrē·ʃəs), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* (see prec.) + -ACEOUS.]

1. Purple-coloured. (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897.)

2. *Zool.* Of or pertaining to the *Purpuraceæ*, a family of gastropods of which *Purpura* is the typical genus. 1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

So **Purpura·cean** *a.* = prec. 2; *sb.* one of the *Purpuraceæ* (*Cent. Dict.*).

Pu·rpuramide. *Chem.* = PURPUREÏN.

†**Pu·rpurare.** *Sc. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. late L. *purpurāria* a female dyer in purple.] = PURPURESS.

c 1520 NISBET *Sc. N. T., Acts* xvi. 14 A woman, Lydda be name, a purpurare [Vulg. *purpuraria*, WYCLIF purpuresse] of the citee of Thiathyrenis.

Purpura·scent, *a. Zool.* [ad. pres. pple. of L. *purpurascĕre* to become purple, f. *purpurāre*: see PURPURATE *v.*] Passing into purple.

1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 549 Purpurascent Snake. *Coluber purpurascens*,..Violaceous-green Snake, with a pale line on each side the abdomen.

Purpurate (pɔ̄·ɹpiŭrĕt), *sb. Chem.* [f. as PURPUR-IC + -ATE [1] I c.] A salt of purpuric acid.

1818 PROUT in *Phil. Trans.* CVIII. 423 On the supposition then, that it be named the *purpuric acid*, its compounds with different bases must be denominated *purpurates*. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 747 Purpurates are all distinguished by their splendid purple colour; many are gold-green by reflected light.

Purpurate (pɔ̄·ɹpiŭrĕt), *a.* Also 5–6 **purpurat.** [ad. L. *purpurāt-us*, pa. pple. of *purpurāre*: see next.]

1. Purple-coloured, purple; also, 'purpled', clothed in purple. Also *fig. Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1422 HOCCLEVE *Learn to Die, Joys Heaven* Min. Poems 214 The shynynges of martirs with purpurat corones of victorie. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* VII. viii, Vitellius..Used a garment that was purpurate. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 16 Aurora..In crammysin cled and granit violat, With sanguyne cape, the selvage purpurat. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 280 His Senate of purpurate Cardinals.

† b. Born in the purple; of illustrious origin.

1669 *Address to hopeful yng. Gentry Eng.* Ep. Ded. A iv, Not their [the Nobles'] purpurate descent alone, but the unquestionable verity that the bloud is the vitals of the creature, warrants my assertion.

2. Of or pertaining to the disease *purpura.*

1846 in WORCESTER and in mod. Dicts.

†**Pu·rpurate,** *v. Obs.* [f. ppl. stem of L. *purpurāre* to make purple, to clothe in purple, f. *purpura* PURPUR.] *trans.* To make purple, empurple. Hence †**Pu·rpurated** *ppl. a.*

1642 G. EGLISHAM *Forerun. Rev.* 15 The concavities of his Liver greene, his stomach in some places a little purpurated with a blew clammy water. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 183 Those purpurated and elated Cardinals. 1804 *Miniature* No. 4 (1806) I. 57 Ode to Rainbow (*mock-sentimental*), Offspring of yonder ambient cloud, That purpurates the air.

Purpure: see PURPUR.

Purpureal (pɔ̄ɹpiŭ·rĭăl), *a.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. L. *purpure-us* (ad. Gr. *πορφύρεος* purple) + -AL.] Of purple colour; purple.

a 1712 W. KING *Art of Love* 1043 If by her the purpureal velvet's worn, Think that she rises like the blush of morn. 1814 WORDSW. *Laodamia* 106 Fields invested with purpureal gleams. 1831 MOIR in *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 964 That purpureal dye Which gave the Tyrian loom such old renown. 1879 TRENCH *Poems* 221 Meadows with purpureal roses bright.

Purpurean (pɔ̄ɹpiŭ·rĭăn), *a. rare.* [f. as prec. + -AN.] = prec.

c 1615 SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* ix, Some ar transported wt pur[pur]eayn dyes, And some most value greene about ye light. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Purpurean*, of purple, fair like purple, blewish. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 170 She twines the white and the purpurean threads.

†**Pu·rpured,** *a. Obs.* [f. PURPUR + -ED 2.] Clothed in purple; coloured or dyed purple; empurpled; = PURPURATE *a.* 1; also as *pa. pple.*

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Esdras* iv. 33 Thanne the king and the purprid men beheelden either in to other. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xlj. (Br. Mus. Add. 27944 f. 284) Þay [the Romans] halwede..hors of dyuers colours and purpurede [*purpureos*] to þe reynbowe. 1557 GRIMALD in *Tottell's Misc.* (Arb.) 120 Now corpses hide the purpurde soyl with blood. 1557–75 *Diurnal of Occurr.* (Bann. Club) 68 Ane psalme buik, coverit with fyne purpourit veluot. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* II. ii, Euerie bush lay deepely purpured With violets.

Purpureïn (pɔ̄ɹpiŭ·rĭ,in). *Chem.* [f. L. *purpure-us* (see PURPUREAL) + -IN; named after *orcein.*] A product of the action of ammonia on purpurin, which dyes a fine rose-red or amaranth-red. Also called *purpuramide.*

1863 STENHOUSE in *Proc. Royal Soc.* XIII. 145 This compound being in its mode of formation and physical properties very analogous to orceine, I have called it purpureine. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 749 Purpureïn or purpuramide is nearly insoluble in sulphide of carbon.

Purpureo- (pɔ̄ɹpiŭ·rĭo), combining form from L. *purpureus* adj. purple = PURPLE-; as *purpureo-cobalt*, *-cobaltic* adj.

1857 *Chem. Gaz.* XV. 188 The salts of purpureocobalt are often found among the direct products of the oxidation of ammoniacal solutions of cobalt. 1863 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 1052 Pentammonio-cobaltic Salts..may be divided into two groups, the *Roseo-cobaltic salts*, which have a red colour, varying from brick to rose-red, and the *Purpureo-cobaltic salts*, which are purple, or violet-red. *Ibid.*, Purpureo-cobaltic chloride, $Co_2Cl_3.5NH_3$.

Purpu·reous, *a. rare*$^{-0}$. [f. L. *purpure-us* adj. purple + -OUS.] = PURPLE *a.* Hence **Purpu·reously** *adv.*, purply, with purple colour.

1675 E. WILSON *Spadacrene Dunelm.* 54 As purpureously red as our genuine and best coloured Claret.

Purpurescent (pɔ̄ɹpiŭre·sĕnt), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* purple + -ESCENT. (The L. was *purpurāscens*: see PURPURASCENT.)] Inclining to or tinged with purple; turning purple. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

†**Pu·rpuress.** *Obs.* Also 4 -iresse, 7 -urisse. [f. L. *purpura* purple + -ESS; transl. late L. *purpurāria.*] A female seller of purple.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xvi. 14 Lidda.., purpuresse of the citee of Tiatirens [*v. r.*, a purpiresse, either womman makinge purpur; 1611 a seller of purple]. 1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Auth.* in *Comm. Ep.* 634 Paul cannot finde the purpurisse, nor Peter the Tanner.

Purpuric (pɔ̄ɹpiŭ·rik), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* PURPLE + -IC: cf. F. *purpurique.*]

1. *Chem.* Applied to a hypothetical acid ($C_8H_5N_5O_6$), the salts of which are purple or red.

1818 PROUT in *Phil. Trans.* CVIII. 421, I shall..call this principle the purpuric acid, a name suggested by Dr. Wollaston, from its remarkable property of forming compounds with most bases of a red or purple colour. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 747 Purpuric acid has never been isolated, being decomposed when its salts are treated with a stronger acid.

2. *Path.* Of or pertaining to, or of the nature of purpura or purples; marked by a purple rash (as a disease). (*Malignant*) *purpuric fever*, cerebro-spinal meningitis.

1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 56/2 The kidneys were found..with some purpuric..spots on their surface. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxiv. (1856) 311 Purpuric extravasations appeared on his legs. 1880 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* I. 191 One patient labouring under a severe purpuric Small-pox. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 577.

Purpuriferous (pɔ̄ɹpiŭri·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* purple dye + -FEROUS: in F. *purpurifère.*] Producing purple; also *Zool.*, of or pertaining to the *Purpurifera*, a division of gastropods containing those which yield the purple dye.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Purpuriferus*,.. applied by Lamarck to a Family (*Purpurifera*..) of the Trachelipoda..: purpuriferous. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* vii. (1876) 75 The class mollusca and purpurifera family.

Purpuriform (pɔ̄·ɹpiŭrifɔ̄ɹm), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Purpura* + -FORM.] = PURPUROID.

Purpurigenous (pɔ̄ɹpiŭri·dʒĕnəs), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* purple dye + *-genus* or -GEN [1] + -OUS.] = PURPURIPAROUS; as in *purpurigenous gland.*

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Purpurin (pɔ̄·ɹpiŭrin). *Chem.* Also (in commercial use) **-ine.** [f. L. *purpur-a* purple + -IN [1].] A red colouring matter, $C_{14}H_5O_2(OH)_3$, used in dyeing, orig. extracted from madder, hence called *madder-purple*; also prepared artificially by the oxidation of alizarin.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 785 Purpurine, the crude substance from which they profess to extract alizarine, is a richer dye than this pure substance itself. *c* 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* I. 421/2 Other principles may be extracted from madder, such as purpurine, alizarine, xanthine. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 749 Purpurin.

b. *Path.* (See quots.)

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Purpurin*, Prout's name for the red coloring matter found in the urine of some rheumatic patients. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Purpurin*,..2. A red colouring-matter sometimes present in the urine, and supposed by some to be indicative of rheumatism or hepatic derangement.

†**Pu·rpurine,** *a. Obs.* Forms: (1 purpuren), 3–4 **purprin,** 5 **purperyn,** 6 **purpuryng,** 8 **purpurine.** [OE. had *purpuren* adj., from *purpur*; ME. *purprin*, a. OF. *porprin*, *purprin* (12th c. in Godef.), mod.F. *purpurin* (15th c.), conformed to L. type **purpurīn-us*, f. *purpura* purple.] Of purple colour.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 151/24 *Clauus, uel purpura*, purpuren hræxel. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 16201 A purprin [*later texts* purpur(e) cloth þai on him kest, And gain to pilate broght. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 4375 þe playne purperyn see full of prode fischis. 1530 PALSGR. 321/2 Purpuryng of the colour of purpyll, *purpurin.* 1718 OZELL tr. *Tournefort's Voy.* II. 369 This fruit is very thin upon bunches which are branch'd and purpurine.

Purpuriparous (pɔ̄ɹpiŭri·părəs), *a.* [f. L. *purpura* purple + -PAROUS.] Producing or secreting purple, as a gland of some gastropods; see PURPURA 2.

1883 E. R. LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 652/1 Adrectal purpuriparous gland.

†**Purpurisse.** *Obs. rare*$^{-1}$. [ad. L. *purpuriss-um* (Pliny).] A kind of red or purple colouring matter, used by the ancients.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 169 They whyte theyr face .. with cerusse: And theyr lyppis and ruddis with purpurisse.

†**Pu·rpurize,** *v. Obs.* [f. L. *purpura* purple + -IZE.] *trans.* To make purple.

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 53 A shadow, purpurized under the obscuritie of veiles. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* IV. vi. 99 So being scarlet purpurized, it might be termed by either, and both appellations.

Purpuroid (pə·rpiŭroid), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Purpura*, generic name + -OID.] Akin in form or structure to the genus *Purpura* of gastropod molluscs. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Purpurous (pə·rpiŭrəs), *a. Path.* [f. PURPURA 1 + -OUS.] Of the nature of purpura.

1882 J. EDMUNDS in *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* LI. 112 If fresh vegetable juices are not regularly administered there arises a purpurous tendency.

Purpyr, -e, obs. forms of PURPUR.

Purr (pə·r), *sb.*[1] Also 7 purre, 7–9 pur. [Cognate with PURR *v.*] An act of purring; the soft murmuring sound made by a cat or other animal when pleased; also, any similar sound.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. ii. 20 Heere is a purre of Fortunes sir, or of Fortunes Cat. 1801 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Tears & Smiles* Wks. 1812 V. 70 The Cat amid the ashes purr'd, For purs to cats belong. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist., Mammalia* IV. 146 [The] voice [of the acouchi] is a short, rather sharp, plaintive pur. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* v. 129 The purr of satisfaction, which is made during both inspiration and expiration. 1898 *Daily News* 3 May 8/5 The heavier boom of the guns, and the cloth-tearing purr of the Maxims.

†**Purr** (pə·r), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* [Origin unascertained.] A small edible bivalve, *Tapes decussata*; also called PULLET. Also applied to allied species.

c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VIII. lxxiii, Marbled Smyrna Purr. .. A beautiful Bivalve finely lattic‡ed and marbled. 1776 DA COSTA *Conchol.* 275 *Chamæ*, Purrs, or Gapers.

†**Purr,** *sb.*[3] [Manx *purr* wild mountain boar (J. Kelly).] Name of a breed of wild pigs formerly found in the Isle of Man.

1861 WILSON & GEIKIE *Mem. E. Forbes* i. 30 The purrs, an odd-looking race of pigs, which are also dying out. 1890 A. W. MOORE *Surnames, etc. Isle of Man* 193 A curious breed of wild pigs, called purrs, which is now extinct.

Purr, var. PORR *sb.* (a thrust, etc.), PURRE[1], [2].

Purr, purre, ?*a. Obs.* or *dial.* [Of uncertain origin.] In purre (also 6 pour, 9 poor) oats, wild oats; so purr barley: see quots.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiii. 467 Also there is a barren Ote, of some called the purre Otes, of others wilde Otes. *Ibid.*, The Purwottes or wilde Otes. *Ibid.* xvi. 470 Pour Otes or wilde Otes, are in leaues and knottie strawes like vnto common Otes. 1847 HALLIW., *Purr-barley*, wild barley. 1888 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Gloss.*, *Poor oats*, wild oats. *Avena fatua.*

Purr (pə·r), *v.* Also 7–9 pur. [Echoic.]

1. *intr.* Of a cat or (occasionally) other feline beasts: To make a low continuous vibratory sound expressive of satisfaction or pleasure.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xlvi. 304 But the Cat, careless of these threats, purred, and held fast. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* xxii. (1789) 62 That its [goat-sucker's] notes are formed..by the powers of the parts of its wind-pipe, formed for sound, just as cats pur. 1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France*, etc. II. 231 An English lady once made me observe, that a cat never purs when she is alone. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* v. 129 The puma, cheetah, and ocelot likewise purr: it is said that the lion, jaguar, and leopard do not purr.

b. Said of other than feline animals.

1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 148 The young hens pur and leap. 1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 172 How these fish manage to purr in the deep, and by means of what organ they communicate the sound to the external air, is wholly unknown. 1899 G. A. B. DEWAR in *Longm. Mag.* Dec. 155 A night-jar is still 'purring', as Tom Hughes expressed it, from a belt of trees.

2. *transf.* a. Of persons: To show satisfaction by low murmuring sounds, or by one's behaviour or attitude; also, to talk on in a quiet self-satisfied way.

1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* II. i, We love to get our mistresses, and purr over them. 1789 WOLCOTT (P. Pindar) *Subj. Paint.* Wks. 1812 II. 204 The Doctor Who purring for preferment, slily mouses. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iii. 19, I never saw an author..that did not purr as audibly as a full-grown domestic cat..on having his fur smoothed in the right way by a skilful hand. 1889 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* III. xxiii. 337 His audience purred with sympathetic tenderness.

b. Of things: To make a sound suggestive of the purring of a cat, as that caused by rapid vibrations, the boiling or bubbling of a liquid, etc.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 61 The huming Bird .. never sitting, but purring with her wings, all the time she staies with the flower. 1747 HERVEY *Medit.* II. 51 He..blesses his good Fortune, if no frightful Sound purred at his Heels. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii, Mary placed it [the kettle] over the stove, where it was soon purring and steaming. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* xvi. 304 The soft-coal fire in the grate purred and flickered.

3. *trans.* To utter or express by purring.

1740 MARY GRANVILLE *Autobiog.* (1861) II. 117 Jenny Tic purred out what consolation she could. *a* 1771 GRAY *Death Favourite Cat* ii, She [the cat] saw; and purr'd applause. 1897 RHOSCOMYL *White Rose Arno* 70 'You said he was not to be murdered', purred Chapel.

Purr, *v.*[2], var. PORR *v. dial.*, to thrust, prod, etc.

Purr, *int.* Also 6 pyr, purre, 9 *dial.* pur. A call to pigs, and to turkeys.

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 98 They say in my contrye, when they cal theyr hogges to the swyne trought. Come to thy myngle mangle, come pyr, come pyr. 1560 T. BECON *Displ. Popish Mass* Wks. (1560) III. 50 Ye tarry for no man; but, having a boye to help you say Masse, ye go to your myngle mangle, and never call purre to you. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 289 Some discourses of mine, which were a mingle mangle cum purre, and I knew not what to make of my selfe. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk., Call-words to poultry*,.. Turkeys,..pur, pur, pur.

Purray, variant of DUREE[1].

Purre[1] (pə·r). Also 8–9 purr. [From the voice of the bird, whence also called *churre*. Cf. PIRR *sb.*[2], PIRR-MAW.] A local name of the Dunlin (*Tringa variabilis*), esp. in its winter plumage.

It is doubtful whether the name is historically connected with late OE. *pur* glossing Latin names of some birds.

[*c* 1000 *Ælfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 116/41 *Bicoca*, hæferblæte, *uel* pur [? = snipe]. *a* 1100 *Ags. Voc.* ibid. 285/10 *Onagratulus*, raradumbla, þæt his pur [?=bittern].] 1611 COTGR., *Alouette de mer*, the little sea foule called, a Purre. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* III. xiii. § 1 These Birds live about the Sea-shores, and fly together in flocks. At Westchester they call them Purres. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 279/2 In Chester we call..the Stint, or Junco ..Purres; they fly together by the Sea and Water side, in great flocks. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. VI. x. 190 Small birds of the crane kind,..the Dunlin, the Purre, and the Stint. 1837 R. DUNN *Ornith. Orkney & Shetl.* 88 In consequence of their change of plumage, they [dunlins] are considered to be a distinct species, and are then called the Purre or Stint.

†**Purre**[2]**, purr.** *Obs.* Also 7 pur. [Origin unascertained.] Water cider, ciderkin, perkin. (But see also quot. 1725.)

1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 142 The Feces..will not be lost, if you put it upon the Chaff, for then it meliorates your Pur, or Water-Cider, if you make any. 1676 — *Cyder* (1691) 113 Your cider will then be the worse, and so will your purre or ciderkin. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v., Ciderkin or Purre, a Drink for the meaner Sort of People. *Ibid.* s.v. *Seminary*, After having made any Cyder, Verjuice or Perry, they take the Must or Purr, which is the Substance of the Fruit, after the Juice is press'd out. *c* 1791 [see PERKIN[2]].

Purre, obs. form of PURR *sb.*[1], *a.*, *int.*

Purre, Purre-maw, dial. var. PIRR *sb.*[2], PIRR-MAW, the tern. **Purree,** obs. f. PUREE[1].

‖ **Purree** (pə·ri). Also purrhee, piuri.

A yellow colouring matter imported from India and China, from which the pigment INDIAN *yellow* is prepared. It is essentially the magnesium salt of purreic or euxanthic acid: see below.

1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 582 Purree, or Indian yellow, a body of unknown origin, used in water-colour painting, according to the researches of Stenhouse and Erdmann, is a compound of magnesia with a substance termed *purreic* or *euxanthic acid*. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 669 Purree ..is said to be formed from the urine of camels, elephants, and buffaloes, after the animals have eaten the fruit of the mangosteen. 1890 *Kew Bulletin* 49 Piuri is a yellow dye used chiefly in painting walls of houses, doors, and railings.

Hence **Purre·ic** *a. Chem.*, in *purreic acid*, an acid, $C_{19}H_{16}O_{10}$, obtained in pale yellow needles, which forms deep yellow compounds with the alkalis and earths. **Purrenone** [-ONE a]: see quot. 1857.

1852 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 4) 582 Purreic acid [see above]. *Ibid.*, A neutral crystalline sublimate, purrenone or euxanthone. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 518 When euxanthic acid is heated..a little above 212°, it melts, and a yellow sublimate of *purrenone* or *euxanthone* ($C_{40}H_{12}O_{12}$) is formed.

†**Purrell.** *Obs.* [Etymology unascertained; possibly = F. *burelle*, a barry stripe or barulet, in Heraldry.] A transverse stripe, or bar, made by one or several coloured weft threads, in a web of cloth (cf. LIST *sb.*[3] 4); ordered by Act 35 Eliz. c. 10 to be woven at the beginning and end of a piece, as evidence of its full length, and to prevent its subsequent fraudulent shortening.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 584/6 *Forago*, a lyste, or a purrel. [Cf. *Forago*, 'a dividing thread (in a web)', Lewis & Short; 'a thread inserted to distinguish a day's work', Riddle.] 1592 *Proclam.* 20 Jan., We also straightly charge and command all the said Weauers, that euery of them.. shall also shut one purrell through both the ends of the same [cloth], of some coloured yarne, euery such purrell to be three quarters of an inch breadth at the least. 1592–3 *Act* 35 *Eliz.* c. 10 § 2 Eiche Weavor..shall also at eche end of everie of the same Kersies weave one Purrell likewise of coloured Yarne of the bredthe of Thre Quarters of an Ynche at the leaste.

Purrer (pə·rəɹ). [f. PURR *v.* + -ER[1].] One who purrs, as a cat.

1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 561 The feline purrer of the hearth.

Purring (pə·riŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. PURR *v.* + -ING[1].] The action of the verb PURR.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* Scholia 162 The purring of catts. 1816 SHELLEY *Let. to Peacock* 17 July, Their hymns are the purring of kittens. 1888 ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. 209 The night-jar fills up his [the nightingale's] intervals with the softest purring.

b. attrib. *Purring thrill, tremor, vibration*: a peculiar thrill (like that felt in a cat when purring), present in certain conditions of the heart and great vessels, as aneurysm, and valvular lesions.

1833 J. FORBES *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (1834) 657 These symptoms are still more marked, if the purring-thrill accompanies the bellows-sound. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Purring Tremor.* 1876 *Trans. Clinical Soc.* IX. 151 Marked pulsation being visible in the second, third and fourth left intercostal spaces, over which also a well-pronounced purring thrill was felt. 1876 tr. *Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VI. 127 In palpating the finger feels a purring vibration over the cardiac apex.

Purring (pə·riŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. PURR *v.* + -ING[2].] That purrs: in various senses of the vb.

1699 POMFRET *Fortunate Complaint* 40, I would not change my chains For all the trophies purring Maevius gains. 1727 GAY *Fables* I. xxi. 18 She saw that, if his trade went on, The purring race must be undone. 1827 DARLEY *Sylvia* 17 His Hostess..Who at her purring wheel had been. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 354 He mellowed down into an amiable purring old gentleman.

Purrock, obs. dial. form of PARROCK.

†**Pursable,** *a. Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. PURSE *sb.* + -ABLE.] Possessed of money; financially able.

1610 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Cornw.* (1728) 12 If a worke ..proue verie likely to be profitable, he that discouereth it associateth himselfe with some purs-able person to counterbeare the charge with equall profit.

Pursaunt, variant of PURCINCT *Obs.*

Purse (pə·rs), *sb.* Forms: see below. [OE. and ME. *purs*, app. ad. late L. *bursa* purse (whence OF. *borse* (12th c.), F. *bourse*, Pr., It. *borsa*, Sp., Pg. *bolsa*); the later forms *pors*, *pours*, and those with final *e*, *porse*, *pourse*, *purse*, were evidently influenced by the Fr. word.

The initial *þ* for *b* is not certainly explained: influence of OE. *þusa*, *þosa*, ON. *þosi* bag, has been suggested. As to the loss of the final vowel, if the word was taken as a strong feminine, it would naturally have the form *purs*, in oblique cases *purse*. L. *bursa* (*byrsa*), a. Gr. *βύρσα* hide, leather, appears in the grammarians Servius and Donatus *c* 385, and appears to be confined to glossaries before A.D. 600; it is glossed *corium*. For history see Körting s.v.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 1, 3–6 purs, 3–4 pors, 4 pours.

a 1100 *Gloss Aldhelm* in Napier *OE. Glosses* (1900) 187/36 *Fiscus*, Purs *vel* Seod. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 62/293 Þe pors al amti was and peni bi-lefte non. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 110 Lyk a leperne pors lullede his chekes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 249 This Ring..Out of his Pours awey he dede. *Ibid.* II. 298 Bot crepe into mi purs ayein. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purs, or burs, *bursa*. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 10 Dooe ye after him that beareth the purs.

β. 3 (*in oblique case*), 4– purse, (4–6 porse, pourse, 5 porce, 5–7 purce, 6 pursse).

c 1250 *Lutel Soth Sermun* 39 in *O. E. Misc.* 188 Euer of þe purse þat seluer heo tulleþ. 1340 Porse [see B. 1]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 409 Seelde þey bereþ purse aboute. *c* 1440 Porce [see B. 8 b]. 1530 PALSGR. 657/1 Whyle I talked with the one of them, the other pyked my purce. 1545 *Rates of Customs* c ij, Porses for chyldren. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 26 He lay..sore sicke of the fluxe of ye pursse. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 88 Had they a standynge at shooters hyll..to take a pourse? 1611 Purce-emptier [see B. 10].

B. Signification.

I. A money-bag or -receptacle and its contents.

1. A small pouch or bag of leather or other flexible material, used for carrying money on the person; originally a small bag drawn together at the mouth with a thong or strings, now of various shapes and fastened in various ways.

a 1100 [see A. α]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Hit is beggares rihte uorte beren bagge on bac, & burgeises for to beren purses. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15967 (Cott.) Moder, i haf my maister sald,..And in mi purs þe pris i bere. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Þanne ssolle we betuene þe porse and þe wombe of þe glotoune: habbe a uayr strif. Þe wombe zayþ 'ich wylle by uol'. Þe purs zayþ 'ich wylle by uol'. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 301 Pore of possessioun is purse and in coffre. *c* 1399 CHAUCER *Purse* 1 To yow my purse..Complayn I, for ye be my lady dere: I am so sory now that ye been lyght. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 74 His purs full of gold. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 22 There is nothing in this worlde that agreeth wurs, Then dooeth a Ladies hert and a beggers purs. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 195 Preistis, keip no gold, Siluer nor cunze in zour purs. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 345 Put Money in thy purse. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. i, A heavy purse makes a light heart. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* clxiv. (1743) IX. 389 He is an impudent villain in deed, that will venture to cut a purse in the presence of the judge. 1884 MISS BRADDON *Ishmael* iv, The kind old man opened his purse, and gave all its contents to his pupil.

fig. 1898 *Daily News* 13 Jan. 5/1 The rather hard saying [attributed to Bp. Stubbs] that London has always been the purse, seldom the head, never the heart of England.

b. *transf.* Something drawn together tightly like a purse: cf. PURSE *v.* 4.

1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1729) II. iv. 170 We are forc'd to draw our Mouth into a Purse,..bite our Lips, or squeeze them close together.

2. A purse with its contents; hence *transf.* money, funds; esp. with qualifications, as *a common purse*, funds possessed and shared by a number of people in common; *a heavy* or *long purse*, wealth; *a light purse*, poverty; *the public purse*, the national treasury or wealth. *Privy purse*: see PRIVY *a.* 9.

c 1350 in *Eng. Gilds* 357 For commune profy3t vp-on þe commune porse. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 49 My purs was falle in grete rerage. 1432–43 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* I. (1827) Introd. 23 He and other of his craft have made a comyn purce to wythstond us. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 275/2 Kyngys purs, or burs, *fiscus*. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* i. 14 Cast in thy lott amonge us, we shal haue all one purse. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 8, I build my house..according to my purse. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 59 The report goes, she has all the rule of her husbands Purse. 1604 — *Oth.* III. iii. 157 Who steales my purse, steales trash. 1624 *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 34/1 Adversaries too potent in purse and friends for her to wage law with. 1640 *Ibid.* 81/2 To remain in France upon your own purse. 1652 J. WRIGHT tr. *Camus' Nat. Paradox* IX. 212 It was enough to let their Purses blood. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 87 If she make a private purse, which we are told by anti-matrimonialists,

all wives love to do. 1771 *Junius Lett.* lix. (1820) 308 Let bounties be increased as far as the public purse can support them. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* II. vii. 124 It requires a very considerable political developement for a nation to feel that the power of the purse is the surest safeguard of freedom.

b. Phrases (often in collocation with *person*): † *by* or *in the purse*, by fine (*obs.*); *purse and person*, one's money and oneself; † *to be out of purse*, to be the loser, to be out of pocket (*obs.*).

13.. *K. Alis.* 1798 That he wol you bete, and chast. By the top, and by the purs. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *C. T.* Prol. 657 In his purs he sholde ypunysshed be. *a* 1552 LELAND *Itin.* IV. § 3. 16 [He] was twise taken Prisoner, wherby he was much punished by the Purse. 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 69 Thee yoonger Troians..Round to me dyd cluster, with purse and person. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 138 My purse, my person, my extreamest meanes Lye all vnlock'd to your occasions. 1615 E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Garner* III. 635 The Owner and Adventurer of such a Buss shall not be out of purse. 1702 *Guide Constables* 8 Constables..which are out of purse for their charges. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* x, You feel so keenly in your own purse and person the consequences of inattention to business. 1866 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 261 (Forest Laws) Where the offender could not pay in purse, he had to pay in person.

3. A sum of money collected as a present or the like; a sum subscribed as a prize for the winner in a race or other contest.

1650 R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Warres* VII. 77 The same Merchants making a Purse..bought great store of Victuall, and therewith lading a Ship sent it to the Poore at Mechlin. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* xv. 496 His Friends made a Purse for him, when he was to travel to Ægypt. 1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6292/2 No Horse..shall be admitted to Run for this Purse, that ever won the Value of 10 l. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 20 Aug. 11/1 Few racing stables do pay their expenses in the money won in purses. 1891 *Sporting Life* 3 Apr. (Farmer), If any club or gentleman will give a purse for him to face the victorious one in the match referred to. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 31 Mar. 8/1 Payment of £500 per annum to [the] former mayor of the borough, [as] a mayoral purse to reimburse him for the expenses connected with the office.

4. A rendering of Arab., Pers., Turkish كيسة *kīsah*, *kiseh* 'purse', used in the Turkish empire for a definite sum of money.

The purse (*of silver*) is = 500 piastres; *the purse of gold* was = 10,000 piastres.

1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2198/1 The Sultana [offers] 4000 Purses, of 500 Crowns each. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 67 When they say a Purse, they understand five hundred Piastres, or fourty five thousand Aspres. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. VIII. iii. 195 *note*, Garouche or purses, each of five hundred dollars of four shillings value. 1796 J. MORSE *Am. Geog.* II. 462 The public revenue amounts to 89955 purses, at 500 piastres each. 1880 E. SCHUYLER in *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 435/1 The sum of 15,000 purses (900,000*l.*) was paid to Russia as a war indemnity.

5. A fragment of live coal starting out of the fire with a report; regarded as a prognostic of good fortune.

(According to some, it is a 'purse' when it rings or rattles, a 'coffin' when it falls dead.)

1766 GOLDSM. *Vic. W.* x, The girls..had their omens,.. purses bounced from the fire, and true love-knots lurked in the bottom of every teacup. 1863 SALA *Purse or Coffin* 49 One of those red-hot cinders we call, from the ringing sound they make when cold, 'purses', and sometimes, from their odd, long shape, 'coffins'.

II. A bag or bag-like receptacle generally.

† **6.** A bag carried for any purpose; a wallet, scrip, pouch. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 311 'Hastow auȝte in þi purs any hote spices?' 'I haue peper and pionés', quod she 'and a pounde of garlike'. 14.. *Tretyce* in *W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 50 Take heede to [the threshers] þat þey haue no poketes nor grete purses where as þey myght stelle and bere away your corne. 1466 in *Archæol.* (1887) L. I. 41 Item j lytill purse of yollowe and dyuers relekes within hyt. 1552–3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staff.* 88 A purce to bere the comunyon in. 1771 *Antiq. Sarisb.* 189 One chest containing relicks of the eleven thousand Virgins in four purses.

† **b.** *spec.* One of the official insignia of the Lord High Chancellor of England; = BURSE 1.

1677 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 37 Some mischievous persons to dishonour my Lord Chancellour crept through a window of his house..and stole the mace and the two purses. 1901 [see PURSE-BEARER 2].

† **c.** The *sporan* of the Highland dress. *Obs.*

1779 *Ann. Reg.* 230 The mutiny..was occasioned by Lord Frederick Campbell's having purchased at London purses for his regiment, which constitute a part of the Highland dress, and .. 3*s.* 6*d.* was stopped from each man for his purse.

† **d.** *fig.* Cf. POCKET *sb.* 3 c. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 308 What men þei [freris] shulden kille, oþer þer breþeren or aliens, þei holden ȝit in þeir purs. 1531 *Pilgr. Perf.* 117 b, Whiche .. at theyr deth fyndeth nothynge but vanite in the purse of theyr conscyence.

7. *transf.* **a.** *Organ-building.* A small leather bag formerly used in connexion with the pull-downs which passed through the bottom board of the wind-chest, to prevent the escape of wind.

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 28 To lead, instead of using the purse, the wire through the plates of steel or brass. 1881 W. E. DICKSON *Organ Build.* v. 66 This was formerly effected by 'purses' (French, *boursettes*), little leather bags, tied or otherwise attached to the pull-downs.

b. = COD *sb.*[1] 5; also a purse-net.

1879 HOLDSWORTH in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 247/1 The body of the net tapers away to the entrance to the purse. 1893 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* 126 A rabbit goes rolling over and over, entangled in the purse.

8. Applied to various natural receptacles (in animals or plants) resembling a bag or pocket; e. g. a pouch, a marsupium, a cyst, an ovicapsule.

1528 PAYNEL *Salerne's Regim.* b iij b, The parte that gothe to the purse of the galle. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. xiv. 816 With a naturall purse vnder her belly, wherein she putteth her young. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* III. x. (1678) 94 The Pericardium, or Purse of the Heart. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 28 Stamina..terminated at their Tops by small Caps or Purses called Apices. 1769 PENNANT *Zool.* III. 63 The females [of the skate] begin to cast their *purses* as the fishermen call them (the bags in which the young are included). 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 55 All fowls have..a..black triangular purse rising from the bottom of their eye just at the entry of the optic nerve. 1809 *Med. Jrnl.* XXI. 152 Each convolution is a kind of small purse or canal, closed externally by a double layer of cineritious and medullary matter.

b. *spec.* The scrotum.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 740 Knytte hym fast in his porce. 1569 R. ANDROSE tr. *Alexis' Secrets* IV. I. 29 To remedie the itche of the purse of the testicles. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* II. s. v. *Stoppage*, A Fomentation..which you are to apply to the Purse of the Beast.

† **9.** *Mining.* A small cavity filled with gold or other ore; = POCKET *sb.* 7 a. *Obs. rare.*

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vi. 220 Mines of mettall..which were found as it were in purses, and not in fixed or continued veines.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

10. a. Simple attrib., as *purse clasp*, *snap*; in sense 'that is like a purse, pursed up', as *purse lip*, *mouth*; **b.** objective or obj. genitive, as *purse-maker*, *-sewer*; esp. in colloq. and slang terms for a pickpocket or a swindler, as *purse-catcher*, *-emptier*, *-lifter*, *-snatcher*; so *purse-milking*, *-snatching* adjs.; **c.** locative, similative, parasynth., etc., as *purse-eyed* (see 1782 in 8), *purse-like*, *-lined*, *-lipped*, *-mad*, *-pinched*, *-shaped*, *-swollen* adjs.

1602 T. FITZHERBERT *Apol.* 8 A *pursecatcher vpon the high-way, &..a common horse-stealer. 1611 FLORIO, *Vnotaborse*, a nicke-name giuen to Lawyers or Phisicians, a *purce-emptier. 1886 *Pall Mall G.* 3 June 4/1 Worthy of ranking with Turpin, Paul Clifford, and the other celebrated purse-emptiers. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 599 Purse-eyed Mackrel, *Scomber Crumenophthalmus*. 1900 tr. Janssen *Hist. Germ. People* IV. 288 *Purse-lifters, loafers, depredators and thieves of all sorts. 1856 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 71 Body short, *purse-like. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* Pref. 4 Thrust the beggar out of dores That is not *Purse-lyn'd. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom.* 185 A *purse lip [forespeaks] a scraping sneak; and a blabber lip, a nasty slut. 1629 — *Holy Madn.* 324 Beetle-brow'd, *Purse-lip't. 1827 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* 245 The Dane, whom he described as a fool, *purse-mad. 1630 *Canterbury Marr. Licences* (MS.), Mathew Holt of All Saints', Canterbury, *pursemaker. 1907 *Daily News* 22 Apr. 2 [He] had bought the purses from Hayes in the belief that he was a master pursemaker. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. XV, Such a *purse-milking nation: Gown'd vultures, theeues, and a litigious rout Of coseners. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xviii, Maud with her sweet *purse-mouth when my father dangled the grapes. 1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* 14 *Purse-pinched and soule-pain'd. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 21 Jan. 6/3 Mother keeps him by going out to work as a *purse-sewer. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 85 The fruit terminating, and *purse-shaped. 1902 MCNEILL *Egreg. Eng.* 160 Gang of daylight robbers, *purse-snatchers, watch-snatchers. 1906 WHITING *Ring in New* 44 Two youths having been put away for a *purse-snatching case. 1823 *Coll. Poems* (ed. Joanna Baillie) 210 *Purse-swol'n neighbours.

11. Special Combinations: **purse-board**: see quot. and 7 a; **purse-boat**, a large boat used in fishing with a purse-seine for menhaden, mackerel, etc.; **purse-bouncer** (*slang*), a species of swindler; **purse-club**, a subscription club or guild; **purse-crab**, a crab of the genus *Birgus* living in burrows on the East Indian islands; **purse crew**, the crew of a purse-boat (*U.S.*); † **purse-cross**, a pecuniary loss or reverse; **purse davit**, a short strong davit attached to the gunwale and thwart of a purse-boat, to support the pursing blocks of a purse-seine; **purse-famine**, a scarcity of money; **purse gang** = *purse crew*; **purse-gill**, a marsipobranchiate fish; hence **purse-gilled** *a.* (*Cent. Dict.* 1890); **purse-girdle**, a girdle containing a receptacle for money, etc.; **purse-holder**, one who has charge or control of the funds of a society, party, nation, etc.; † **purse-hood**, a hood drawn together at the neck like the mouth of a purse; † **purse-leech**, a person greedy for money; **purse-line** = *purse-rope*; † **purse-mulgent** *a.*, draining or 'milking' the purse; **purse-penance**, a fine; **purse-penny**, *Sc.*, a penny retained in the purse for luck; also *fig.*; **purse-rope**, the cord used to close up the mouth of a purse-seine; **purse silk**, silk thread used for knitting purses, and embroidering; **purse spider** = PURSE-WEB *spider*; **purse-sucker** = *purse-leech*; **purse-tassel**, (*a*) a purse-string; (*b*) the Tassel-hyacinth, *Muscari comosum*; **purse-trick**, a species of swindling trick; **purse twist** = *purse silk*; **purse-weight**, the weight or sinker of a purse-seine; **purse-wire**, † (*a*) ? wire used in making purses; (*b*) the wire which passes through a purse in an organ (see 7 a).

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 50 That part of the bottom of the great sound-board, upon which these bags or purses are glued, is called the *purse-board. 1879 *U. S. Comm. Fish & Fisheries* V. 126 Besides these there are the 'purse' and 'mate' boats from which the seine is worked..The captain of the gang is in charge of the '*purse-boat'. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 11 Apr. 9/1 Described as 'the king of *purse-bouncers'—people who practised the 'purse-trick'. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 176 The guilds, or *purse-clubs, of the different companies of tradesmen are not modern inventions, but of Syriac origin. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* i, *Cancer Crumenatus*...*Purse-Crab. 1589 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) I. 233 Notwithstanding these *purse-crosses I find myself..able to carry the state of a gentleman with sufficiency. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* III. i, Well, a plague and *purse-famine light on the law! 1559 *Knaresborough Wills* (Surtees) I. 83 My *purse gyrdell. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IV. 88 The two sea-powers as *purse-holders. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) C ij, For the safeguard of your face..prouide a *purs-hood made of course boultering, to be drawn and knit about your collar. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. Ciii. 1085 Proud *Purse-Leaches, Harpies of Westminster. 1648 *Brit. Bellman* in *Harl. Misc.* VII. 625 So long as you harpyes, you sucking purse-leeches, and your implements be our masters. 1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* 364 In like manner this *purse mulgent physician not long since dealt with a gentlewoman. 1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* xliii. Wks. (1629) 590 You send me to Sheet-penances and *Purse-penances. 1708 M. BRUCE *Good News* 38 If I had these three *purse-pennies, I wad think nothing to go thorow all the world with them. 1671 MAYNWARING *Pract. Phys.* 62 Such that make a prey of Patients, and are *Purse-suckers. 1629 PARKINSON *Paradisus* 116 The whole stalke with the flowers vpon it, doth somewhat resemble a long *Purse tassel, and thereupon diuers Gentlewomen haue so named it. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Purse-tassels, *Muscari comosum*. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 14 Oct. 6/7 The boundless impertinence of the *purse-trick man. 1545 *Rates of Customs* C ij b, *Pursewyer the dossen pounde vs. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 50 The wire going through the purse is called the purse-wire.

Purse (pɜːs), *v.* [f. PURSE *sb.*: cf. *to pocket*.]

1. *trans.* To put into one's purse; to pocket. Also with *up*. Now *rare*.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6148 For shal y neuer, aftyr þys day, Purs pens, ȝyf þat y may. *c* 1400 *Plowmans T.* 178 Many be marchauntes of woll And to purs pennies wol come thrall. 1577 NORTHBROOKE *Dicing* (1843) 120 It is not lawfull to play for money, to wynne it, and purse it vp. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 642, I purs't it up, but little reck'ning made, Till now that this extremity compell'd. 1659 NOELL in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 416, I never purse one penny of it. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xxiii, Sum thanes their tennants pykt and squeist, And purst up all their rent. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xix. 177 I've not allow'd me time To purse the pieces.

† **2.** *fig.* In various senses: To pocket (an affront); to withdraw or keep back (a boast); to take possession of, shut up, confine. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1277 His prowd wordes er now al purst, For, in fayth, ful ill he durst Anes luke opon that knyght, That he made bost with to fyght. 1570 G. BUCHANAN *Detect. Q. Mary* (1572) K iij, He [Darnley] was constrainit in silence to purse vp his passit iniuries. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 192 When she first met Marke Anthony, she purst vp his heart vpon the Riuer of Sidnis. 1617 HIERON *Wks.* II. 314 A man is vtterly disgraced, if either he purse vp a disgrace, or else decline the fight when he is challenged. 1691 DRYDEN *King Arthur* III. ii, I am spell-caught by Philidel, And pursed within a net.

† **3.** *pass.* To be (well or ill) provided with money. *Obs.* (Cf. PURSED *ppl. a.* 2.)

c 1550 BALE *K. Iohan* (Camden) 71 With Iudas we love wele to be purste. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu quoque* D 4 b, *Purse*. The butcher and the baker then shall stay. *Spend*. They must till I am some what stronger purst. *a* 1652 BROME *City Wit* II. iii, How is she purs'd, Jack? is she strong that way?

4. *trans.* To contract, to draw together (the lips, brow, etc.) in wrinkles or puckers, suggesting the tightly drawn-in mouth of a purse. Often with *up*.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 113 Thou..didd'st contract, and purse thy brow together. 1668 CULPEPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. v. 9 If you cut a Muscle..it purses it self round and draws it self into it self like a ball. 1746 J. PARSONS *Hum. Physiog.* I. in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 14 Their Action is only to purse up the Mouth, as in whistling and blowing. 1839–47 TODD *Cycl. Anat.* III. 117/1, I have thus seen the superior aperture of the glottis..pursed up and closed. 1882 Miss BRADDON *Mount-Royal* I. viii, Lady Cumberbridge..pursed her lips and elevated her eyebrows.

b. *fig.* To collect, concentrate.

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. i. P 6, I looked hard at my master..and pursed up all my penetration to remark upon the effect of my intelligence.

c. *intr.* and *absol.* To become wrinkled, to pucker.

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 285 Her Brows purs'd, she wrinkled her Forehead. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* V. viii. (1811) 106 The maiden fanned away, and primmed, and pursed. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* VI. 183 His eyelids stiffened and pursed up.

5. *trans.* To close *up* like a purse. *rare.*

1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. xxiii. *Decay Beggars*, Was this a story to purse up people's hearts, and pennies, against giving an alms to the blind?

† **6.** *intr.* To steal purses, to rob. *Obs.*

1592 LYLY *Galathea* I. iv. 229 The trade of pursing neare shal faile Until the hangman cryes *strike saile*. *a* 1616 BEAUMONT & FLETCHER *Scornf. Lady* I. i, I'll purse; if that raise me not, I'll bet at bowling-alleys.

7. *U. S. trans.* To draw a purse-seine into the shape of a bag so as to close it. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *pr. pple.* Hence, **Pursing** *vbl. sb.* (also attrib.) and *ppl. a.*, as **pursing-block**, **-gear**,

-line, -weight, the block, etc., used in working a purse-seine.

c 1449 Pecock *Repr.* v. xiv. 555 The forbering of the bare touche ther of [money] and the forbering of the pursing or bodili bering ther of. *a* 1624 Bp. M. Smith *Serm.* (1632) 270 Abigail..describeth the same safety by a metaphor of safe binding or safe pursing.

1883 *Pall Mall G.* 2 June, Supp., Her rowlocks, pursing-gear &c. are nickel-plated. 1888. *Bulletin U. S. Nat. Museum* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* Suppl.), The pursing weight varies from 100 to 150 pounds. 1890 *Cent. Dict.* s. v. *Purse-line*, the line by means of which a purse-seine is pursed.

Pu·rse-bea·rer.

1. The bearer or carrier of a purse; one who has charge of the money of another or of a company; a treasurer, bursar.

c 1305 *Judas Iscariot* 114 in *E. E. P.* (1862) 110 Sippe oure louerd him makede apostle: to fondi his mod And sippe pursberer of his pans: to spene al his god. c 1475 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 804/39 *Hic nauicherus*, a pursberer. 1598 *Ord. for Prayer* in *Liturg. Serv. Q. Eliz.* (1847) 681 D. Bagshaw, the Pope's Judas or purse-bearer. 1630 Wadsworth *Pilgr.* vi. 58 The money which wee deliuered vnto him being our purse-bearer. 1840 Thackeray *Pict. Rhapsody* Wks. 1900 XIII. 320 There is Mr. James Fraser, our employer, master, publisher, purse-bearer, and friend.

2. *spec.* The official who carries the Great Seal in front of the Lord Chancellor in a receptacle called 'purse' or 'burse'.

1688 Luttrell *Brief Rel.* I. (1857) 429 The lord chancellor hath turn'd out Mr. Harris, his pursebearer. 1705 Hearne *Collect.* 28 Oct. (O.H.S.) I. 60 Mr. Wullaston made Purse-Bearer to the..Ld. Keeper. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 467 The Lord Chancellor..is preceded on his entry to the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms, bearing the Mace, the Purse-bearer carrying the Purse, which is supposed to contain the Great Seal, and his train is borne by a Trainbearer.

3. A pouched animal, a marsupial.

1851 Broderip *Note Bk. Naturalist* (1852) 161 The marsupiates, or purse-bearers.

So **Pu·rse-bea·ring** *a.*, pouched, marsupiate.

† **Pu·rse-bound,** *a.* Keeping one's purse tightly closed; averse to spending money; stingy.

1656 Heylin *Surv. France* Ep. Rdr. b, Nor was I purse-bound when I had occasion to see any of those Rarities, Reliques, and matters of more true antiquity.

† **Pu·rse-ca·rver.** *Obs.* = Purse-cutter.

c 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 320 Most cursed of clipperis and purse-kerveris. 1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 181 A purske[r]vere [*bursarum incisor*] in kuttinge of purses werþ i-cliȝt in his hondes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purskeruare.., *bursida.*

Pu·rse-cu·tter. A thief who cuts purses and abstracts their contents; a cutpurse.

c 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 697 Tyburne coloppys, and pursekytters. c 1515 *Cocke Lorells B.* 11 Players, purse cutters, money baterers. 1690 [see Purseless]. 1881 Besant & Rice *Chapl. of Fleet* II, Footpads and purse-cutters no longer infest the streets.

So **Pu·rse-cu·tting** *vbl. sb.*

1621 Bp. Sanderson *Serm. on* 1 *Cor. vii.* 24 § 27 Such as live by Stealing, and Robbing, and Piracy, and Purse-cutting.

Pursed (pɘ̄st), *ppl. a.* [f. Purse *v.* + -ed.]

1. Drawn into close folds or wrinkles; drawn together, puckered. Usually with *up.*

1665 Hooke *Microgr.* 148 The other..was usually purs'd or wrinckled in the bending of the knee. 1833 Ht. Martineau *Fr. Wines & Pol.* i. 4 His large light blue eyes and pursed-up mouth. 1838 Dickens *O. Twist* xvii, Mr. Brownlow looked apprehensively at Mr. Bumble's pursed-up countenance. 1891 S. Baring-Gould *Troubadour Land* ii. 28 She sat scowling, with pursed lips.

2. Supplied with money. (See also Purse *v.* 3.)

1893 'A. Hope' *Change of Air* xv, The unending talks with fellows like-minded and like-pursed.

Purseful (pɘ̄·ɹsful). [f. Purse *sb.* + -ful.] As much as fills a purse.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 62/283 A porsful of panes bi þe weie he fond. 1693 J. Dryden jun. in Dryden *Juvenal's Sat.* (1697) 364 Thy Teeth..a Purseful of dear Gold, The last Remains of all thy Treasure, hold. 1846 Mrs. Gore *Sk. Eng. Char.* (1852) 7 The unthrifty, who had flung about pursefulls of those bits of tin, began to hoard the new issue of the mint, as having more significance.

Pu·rse-fu·ll, *a. nonce-wd.* That has a full purse, opulent, wealthy.

1813 Mar. Edgeworth *Patron.* xix, Dr. Percy's next difficulty was how to supply the purse-full and purse-proud citizen with motive and occupation.

Purselain, -lan, obs. ff. Porcelain, Purslane.

Pu·rseless, *a.* [f. Purse *sb.* + -less.] Having no purse; without a purse.

1690 C. Nesse *O. & N. Test.* I. 346 The purseless traveller fears not the purse-cutter. 1867 R. Palmer *Life P. Howard* 3 As purseless, scripless and shoeless as the seventy-two disciples of Christ.

† **Pu·rse-ma·ster.** Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* A purse-bearer, treasurer, bursar.

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 43 Judas..was purs-mayster..& receyvyd in-to þe purs all þe monye. c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 110 þis clerk..went with hym, & he made hym his purs-maister. 1554 Knox *Faythf. Admon.* C 7 b, Iudas was pursemaister with Christ Jesus. 1665 J. Fraser *Polichron.* (1905) 218 The year after he entered his pursemaster.

Purse-net (pɘ̄·ɹsˌnet).

1. A bag-shaped net, the mouth of which can be drawn together with cords; used especially for catching rabbits, also as a fishing net.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vii, Men taketh hem with houndes, with grehoundes, with heyes, and with pursnettes. 1576 Turberv. *Venerie* 179 Set purse-nettes upon al the holes, or as many of them as you can finde. 1653 Urquhart *Rabelais* I. xl, I twist lines and weave purse-nets, wherein to catch coneys. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Rabbit*, The ferret is sent into a hole to force them out, and the purse-net, being spread over the hole, takes them, as they come out. 1883 F. Day *Indian Fish* 15 There are purse-nets and bag-nets, some with, others without, pockets. *fig.* 1611 Middleton & Dekker *Roaring Girl* IV. ii, We shopkeepers, when all's done, are sure to have 'em in our purse nets at length. 1675 V. Alsop *Anti-sozzo* iii. 109 If he has not got us into such a Cramp and Purse-nett that we shall never escape without loss of Bag and Baggage.

† **2.** See quot. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Pursenets*, goods taken upon Trust by young Unthrifts at treble the Value; also a little Purse.

3. *Comb.*: † **pu·rse-net-fish,** a basket-fish.

1671 Winthrop [see *net-fish*, Net *sb.*[1] 5].

† **Pu·rsepick.** *Sc. Obs.* = next: cf. Pickpurse.

1508 Dunbar *Flyting* 247 Herretyk, lunatyk, purspyk, carlingis pet. 15.. — *Musing allone* 12 Every pelour and purspyk Sayis, Land war bettir warit on me.

† **Pu·rsepi·cker.** *Obs.* A thief who picks purses; a pickpocket. So † **Pu·rse-picking.**

1549 Cheke *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 41 They have all their life after an unsavory smack thereof, and smell still toward day-sleepers, pursse-pickers. 1571 Buchanan *Ane Admonitioun* Wks. (1892) 34 Sufferis..purspykaris..to exercise thift and reif as ane craft. *Ibid.* Dishonour..to thevis in purspyking. 1622 J. Taylor (Water P.) *Thief* Wks. (1630) II. 121/1 He..may rob the pot, Steale himself drunke, and be his owne Purspicker, And chimically turnes his coyne to liquor.

Pu·rse-pride. Pride of purse or wealth; the self-esteem or arrogance of the wealthy.

a 1656 Bp. Hall *Sel. Th., Supernum.* iv, Wks. 1808 VI. 311 Even purse-pride is quarrellous, domineering over the humble neighbourhood. 1753 Murphy *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 62 The Insolence of Purse-pride. 1841 Hor. Smith *Moneyed Man* I. iii. 55 The infection of vulgar purse-pride.

Pu·rse-proud, *a.* Proud of wealth; puffed up on account of one's wealth.

1681 Hickeringill *Black Non-Conf.* b, Having great Interest, and great Power, and withal, Purse-proud. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xliii. (1841) II. 149, I think a purseproud tradesman one of the most troublesome and intolerable of all Men. 1781 Cowper *Hope* 18 The rich grow poor, the poor become purse-proud. 1838 Lytton *Alice* III. ii, I..could live happy in a garret, if this purse-proud England would but allow one to exist within one's income.

Purser (pɘ̄·ɹsəɹ). Also 5 **pursser, porser, pursor,** 6 **-our,** 5–6 **pursar,** 5–7 **purcer.** [f. Purse *sb.* + -er[1]: cf. *miller, banker*, and F. *boursier*, med.L. *bursārius* Bursar.]

† **1.** A maker of purses. *Obs.*

?1475 in *Coventry Leet Bk.* 479 Joh. Smyth..Taillour; Joh. Denton..laborer..; Will. Banburgh..purser. c 1481 Caxton *Dialogues* 41/4 Lyon the pursser [F. *boursier*] Hath pursses and pauteners. c 1515 *Cocke Lorells B.* 10 Sylke women, pursers, and garnysshers. 1638 Brathwait *Barnabees Jrnl.* III. (1818) 107 Where be thy masters? fellows? scholers? bursers? O Stamford! to thy shame, they'r all turn'd pursers. [Referring to its defunct university.]

† **2.** An officer charged with managing money matters and keeping accounts; a purse-bearer, treasurer. *Obs.* in general sense.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvi. 136 [*Judas loq.*] Of his penys purser was I. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/2 A Purser, *bursarius.* 1530 Palsgr. 259/2 Purser, *boursier.* 1677 Gilpin *Demonol.* (1867) 444 Rich men are but God's pursers; they do but 'carry the bag', and what is put therein, for public uses. 1816 Muir *Clydesd. Minstrelsy* 2 To rouse the clerk and purser wi' their sang.

b. The officer on board a ship who keeps the accounts, and usually has charge of the provisions.

In the Royal Navy the purser was originally the commissariat officer of the ship, but not the paymaster of the crew (who were paid at the end of the voyage or commission). In 1825, by Act 6 Geo. IV, c. 28, a portion of the wages of the crew was permitted to be paid to them monthly, and the duty of making these payments was assigned to the purser, who in 1842 was officially designated 'Paymaster and Purser'. In 1852 the title was changed to 'Paymaster', and the officer's duties in regard to money transactions on board ship were largely extended. In modern passenger-ships, the purser is the head of the stewards' department, and has general superintendence of the passengers and their comfort and requirements, checks their tickets, issues those taken on board, etc.

1458 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) I. 300 All maysterys, owneryes, purserys of al maner schyppys. 1486 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 21 Also paid William Peny then Pursor of the same ship for the vittell of the said..marriners for a weke. 1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 The owners maisters and pursers of Englyshe shyppes. 1627 Capt. Smith *Seaman's Gram.* viii. 34 A man of Warre hath onely a Purser. 1662 Pepys *Diary* 29 Aug., I..did begin to-night.. to look into the nature of a purser's account, and the business of victualling. 1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Purser*, an Officer in a King's Ship, who receives her Victuals from the Victualler, and is to take care that it be in good Condition, and well laid up and stowed: His Office is also to keep a List of the Men and Boys belonging to the Ship, and to set down exactly the Days of each Man's admittance into Pay. 1748 Anson *Voy.* II. ii. (ed. 4) 191 Our former Purser had neglected to take on board large quantities of several kinds of provisions. 1836 Marryat *Midsh. Easy* xxxviii, An old friend of his, a purser in the navy, who lived at Southsea. 1852 Apr. 5 *Order in Council*, Paymasters and Pursers to be designated Paymasters of the Navy. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade, Purser*, a kind of cabin steward or providore in a passenger ship.

c. In Cornwall, The treasurer or cashier of a mine, esp. one worked on the cost-book principle.

1832 Babbage *Econ. Manuf.* xx. (ed. 3) 202 The Purser and Book-keeper manage the accounts. 1839 De la Beche *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 566 In the generality of mines the purser is the chief officer. 1846 Addison *Law Contracts* I. i. § 1 (1883) 103 In mining companies carried on on the cost-book principle..the shareholders..are not liable upon bills..drawn..by the purser..of the company.

† **d.** *Purser-general*, the head of a body of pursers, in a district, or department of service.

1633 G. Gosnell *Let.* 4 July (Ind. Off. Rec. O. C. 1509), Mr. Turnour, Purser-Generall att Suratt, comends his love to you. 1657 T. Maynard in Thurloe *St. Papers* VI. 118 If somebody were joined with the purser-general by an order from his highness,..there would be much money saved.

† **3.** One who steals or cuts purses; a cutpurse, a pickpocket. *Obs.*

1649 W. M. *Wand. Jew* (1857) 64 § 3 All Executors that rob Orphans of their portions, are Theeves, and deserve more to be hanged then a Purser.

Hence **Pu·rsership,** the office of purser.

1600 Dekker *Fortunatus* E 3 b, Ile haue the purse for a-yeere, you the Hat..& when my pursourship ends, ile resigne, and cap you. 1864 in Webster (citing Totten); and in mod. Dicts.

Pu·rse-ring.

1. A ring, or one of the two sliding rings, closing a silk or leather purse.

1534 More *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xiv. (1847) 236 Like a purse-ring of Paris, hollow, light and counterfeit indeed.

2. The ring of a purse-seine, through which the pursing line runs. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Purse-seine (pɘ̄·ɹsˌsēˑn). A fishing-net or seine which may be pursed or drawn into the shape of a bag, used for catching shoal fish. Also *attrib.* **purse-seine-net;** *purse-seine fishery*, etc.

1883 *Fish. Exh. Catal.* 196 Model of mackerel purse-seine. 1883 Goode *Fish. Indust. U.S.* 66 There is..reason to believe that our great purse-seine fisheries for menhaden and mackerel, though perhaps not causing a decrease in the numbers of the fish, have kept them farther from the shore. 1883 *Pall Mall G.* 1 Sept. 9/1 To enable our fishermen to see the practical working of the celebrated purse seine net, as used by the United States fishermen for the capture of mackerel, herring, and other fish usually caught by the drift net. 1889 *Nature* XLI. 180/1 The purse-seine first came into general use in 1850.

Hence **Purse-seiner,** a vessel employed in purse-seine fishing. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pu·rse-string. Usually in *pl.*: The two threaded strings by drawing which the mouth of a purse is closed; hence in various *fig.* phrases, as *to hold the purse-strings*, to control the expenditure of money; *to tighten* or *loosen the purse-strings*, to be sparing, or generous, in spending money.

c 1412 Hoccleve *De Reg. Princ.* 4369 So haue I plukked at my purse strynges, And made hem often for to gape & gane. c 1530 *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) XX. p. lx, I shall brynge them to heuen gate..And lede them thyther by purse strynges. 1630 Davenant *Cruel Brother* II. i, Those whom Fathers Purse-strings hoise up to honour. *a* 1659 Bp. Brownrig *Serm.* (1674) I. v. 71 He endeavours to corrupt him..and so to tie the Holy Ghost to his Purs-strings. 1820 T. Mitchell *Aristoph.* I. 239 Cleon now finds it necessary to open his purse-strings. 1849 Cobden *Speeches* 20 The House of Commons..has to look after the purse-strings of the people. 1902 Brenan *House Percy* II. ii. 58 Refusing to loosen his purse-strings any further.

b. *attrib.* That is drawn like a purse-string.

1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 1 July 15 The stump (of the appendix) being buried by a purse string suture of catgut.

† **Pu·rset.** *Obs. rare*[−1]. [f. Purse *sb.* + -et. Cf. F. *boursette* (15th c.).] A small purse or bag.

1609 B. Jonson *Masque Queens*, 8 *Hagloq.*, The blood of the frog..I have been getting; and made of his skin A purset, to keep sir Cranion in.

† **Pu·rse-ta·ker.** *Obs.* A highwayman or robber who deprived persons of their purses.

1611 Cotgr., *Batre les chemins*, to belay the way, as purse-takers and boothalers doe. 1647 R. Stapylton *Juvenal* 147 Murdrers, mixt with pyrates, and purse-takers, Run-away slaves, hangmen, and coffin-makers. 1649 W. M. *Wand. Jew* (1857) 64 § 2 A brave Purse-taker is the Great-Turke of Cavileroes, to such bastardly Handy-Crafts.

So † **Pu·rse-ta·king.**

1596 Shaks. 1 *Hen. IV*, I. ii. 115, I see a good amendment of life in thee: From Praying, to Purse-taking.

Pursevant, -want, obs. Sc. ff. Pursuivant.

Pu·rse-web. A (spider's) web of the form of a purse. *attrib.* **Purse-web spider,** a spider of the genus *Atypus* which spins a close web against a tree; esp. the American species *A. abbatti.*

1888 McCook *Amer. Spiders* I. 325 The characteristic tube of the Purseweb spider is spun against the trunk of a tree, extending several inches above the surface of the ground and about an equal distance beneath it.

† **Pu·rsewort.** *Obs.* An old name for the weed Shepherd's purse.

a 1450 *Alphita* 34/1 *Capsellula, herba sanguinaria*, .. *bursa pastoris idem*, ..pursewurt. *Ibid.* 81/1 Purs[e]-uu[o]rt.

Pursey, Purseynt, var. Pursy, Purcinct.

† **Pu·rsick,** *a.* and *sb. Obs.* [f. Pursive with suffix substitution: possibly influenced by Sick.]

A. *adj.* Of a horse: = Pursive, Pursy *a.*[1] 1.

1610 Markham *Masterp.* I. xlviii. 99 Of the broken winded or Pursicke Horse. *Ibid.* ciii. 205 Looke he be not pursicke.

B. *sb.* Shortness of wind in a horse; pursiness.

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 292 If it continue, it will either grow to the Pursick, or else break his winde altogether. *Ibid.* 293 Of the Pursick. This is a shortness of

breath, and the Horse that is so diseased is called of the Italians, *Cavallo pulsivo*, or *Bolso*. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* II. 151/2 The shortness of Breath..[of a Horse], of some termed pur-sick.

Hence †**Pu·rsickness**, pursiness.

1610 Markham *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 490 Dry figges..are good for pursicknesse, coughes, and diseases of the lungs.

Pu·rsie. Sc. dim. of Purse *sb.*: see -IE.

1785 Burns *Jolly Beggars* Recit. iv, For mony a pursie she had hooked.

Pursiness (pə̄·ɹsinės). [f. Pursy *a.*[1] + -ness.] The state or condition of being pursy; short-windedness, breathlessness, dyspnœa.

14.. *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 708/37 (*Nomina morborum*) *Hec sinax, -cis*, pursenes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 294/2 A Pursynes, *cardia, cardiaca*. 1562 Turner *Herbal* II. 123 Rue .. is good .. agaynst pursines & shortnes of breath. 1611 Cotgr., *Pousse*, short wind, pursinesse. 1681 Worlidge *Dict. Rusticum* (1726) s. v., This Pursiness or shortness of Breath in Sheep is cur'd by cutting their Ears and changing their Pasture. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 464 Corpulent dyspnœa. Pursiness.

† b. Flatulence; internal stuffiness. *Obs.*

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* 649 [It] doth help the shortnesse of the breath, and ease the pursines of the stomacke. 1607 Markham *Caval.* III. (1617) 20 As he is outwardly full of vnsound fatness, so hee is inwardly stuft with much glut and pursines.

Pursing, *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*: see Purse *v.*

Pursive (pə̄·ɹsiv), *a. arch.* Also 5–6 -syf(e, 6 -sife, -cyfe. [a. (?) AF. *porsif*, app. phonetic var. of OF. *polsif*, in Cotgr. *poulsif*, mod.F. *poussif* (L. type **pulsīv-um*), f. OF. *polser*, F. *pousser* in sense 'to breathe with labour or difficulty' :—L. *pulsāre* to drive or agitate violently, freq. of *pellĕre* to drive. *Porsif* is given as Fr. in quot. 12.., and *pourcif* in Palsgr. 1530, but there is no evidence of its use in continental Fr., and the substitution of *r* for *l* was prob. English, perh. from some association with *purse*, which becomes evident in the later form Pursy.] Short-winded, broken-winded, asthmatic: originally said esp. of a horse.

(Cf. F. *cheval poussif*; *pousse* 'maladie des chevaux caractérisée par l'essoufflement, par le battement des flancs, et particulièrement par une interruption de l'inspiration'.)

12.. *Miracula S. de Montfort* (Camden) 68 Comitissa Gloverniæ habuit palefridum asmaticum, gall[ice] porsif'.] 1398 [see Pirre]. 1530 Palsgr. 321/2 Purcyfe, shorte wynded or stuffed aboute the stomacke, *pourcif*. 1552 Huloet, Pursyfe manne, *anhelator, anhelus*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* xx. xiii. II. 58 For the curing of foure footed beasts..broken winded and pursive. 1707 Floyer *Phys. Pulse-Watch* 157 If my Pulse be 90, I am always Pursive, but 95 makes me Asthmatick. 1831–43 Youatt *Horse* xii. 278 The pursive or broken-winded horse should not stand idle.. a single day.

Pursiveness (pə̄·ɹsivnės). *arch.* [f. prec. + -ness.] = Pursiness.

1552 Huloet, Pursifenes, *dipsnœa*. 1601 Holland *Pliny* II. (1634) 247 Hyssop is commended..for pursiuenesse and shortnesse of wind. 1602 Markham *Caval.* v. (1617) 10 There is..pursivenes in the Pease and fulsomnes in the Beanes. 1754 J. Bartlett *Farriery* 63 Distinguished in their symptoms from that pursiveness..we see in some horses.

Purslane, -lan(e, obs. ff. Porcelain.

Purslane (pə̄·ɹslėn). Forms: α. 4–5 purcelan(e, 6 -laine, -layne, -lline, -llyne, perseline, purselane, 6–7 -lain(e, 7 -lan, -lyn, purcellane. β. 5 porsulaigne, porceleyne, 6 -laine, -lene, -layn(e, -line, -llyne, 6–7 -lane. γ. 5– purslane; also (5 poslane), 6 purslayne, -lin, -land, pourslane, 7 purslan, -lein, pursslen, 6–9 purslain(e. [a. OF. *porcelaine* (*a* 1300 in Godef.), *pourcelaine* (still in Cotgr.), = It. *porcellana* (Florio); identical in form with the Fr. and It. words for Porcelain, q. v., and app. altered, by assimilation to that word, from L. *porcil(l)āca*, used by Pliny for the more usual L. *portulāca* (which is taken in botany as the name of the genus).]

1. A low succulent herb, *Portulaca oleracea*, widely distributed throughout tropical and warmer temperate regions, used in salads, and sometimes as a pot-herb, or for pickling. Also called *Common* or *Garden Purslane*. Formerly cultivated in English kitchen gardens, but now rarely met with.

α. *a* 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 34/1 *Portulaca* ..purcelan. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cyrurg.* 95 (Ashm. MS.) Wiþ ius of purcelane [*Add. MS.* poslane] or of sum oþere cold eerbe. 1563 Hyll *Art Garden.* (1593) 122 The Purselaine is much harmed by a long drooght. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 31 Leaues..not much vnlike to Purcelaine. 1590 Spenser *Muiopotmos* 199 Fat Colworts, and comforting Perseline. 1620 J. Mason *New-found-land* (1887) 149 Of herbes there are likewise lettise, purselyn, etc. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 36 ¶ 72 If Purselan or some other herbe were observed to do the like.

β. *a* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 10/2 *Andrago,..portacla, portulaca idem*, g^e. et angl. porceleyne. *Ibid.* 149/2 *Portulaca vel portacla*,..porsulaigne. 1527 Andrew *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* B iv, Water of porcelayn..is good for a person that spetteth blod. 1538 Turner *Libellus, Portulaca*,..ab anglis Porcellyne dicitur. 1551 — *Herbal* II. 103 Som vse porcellayn as a meat. 1561 Hollybush *Hom. Apoth.* 17 Let the same drincke water of Buglosse and Porcelene. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* cxl. § 2. 419 Called..in English Purslane and Porcelaine.

γ. *c* 1400 Poslane [see α]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/1 Purslane, herbe, *portulaca*. 1530 Palsgr. 259 Purslayne.., *pourselayne*. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* (1539) 23 b, Pourslane dothe mitigate the great heat in al the inward partes of the bodye. 1577 B. Googe *Heresbach's Husb.* (1586) 53 b, The Cucumber and the Gourd [com(̄] the fifth daie, Purslin [is] longer ere it come. 1633 in *Nawworth House. Bks.* 319 To Mrs. Orfeur's maide bringinge pursslen to my Ladie, ij^s. 1634 R. H. *Salermes Regim.* 145 To destroy Warts, nothing is better then to rubbe them with Purslaine. 1664 Evelyn *Kal. Hort.* 64 Sow also Lettuce, Purslan, Radish. 1693 — *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 199 Purslain is one of the prettiest Plants in Kitchen-gardens, which is principally used in Sallets, and sometimes in Pottages. 1796 C. Marshall *Garden.* (1813) xvi. 272 Purslane is a low growing succulent herb. 1864 Hawthorne *S. Felton* (1883) 355 Rose ate her frugal dinner (consisting chiefly of purslain, and some other garden herbs). 1857 Gray *First Less. Bot.* (1866) 15 Sometimes the embryo is coiled around the outside, in the form of a ring, as in the Purslane.

2. With qualification, denoting other species of *Portulaca*; also other plants similar in appearance or qualities to the Garden Purslane.

a. Crimson-flowered Purslane, *P. Thellussoni*; **Red-flowered P.**, *P. splendens*; **Yellow-flowered P.**, *P. aurea*. **b. Black Purslane** of N. America, *Euphorbia Preslii*; **Horse-P.** of the West Indies, *Trianthema monogyna*; **Milk-P.**, *Euphorbia maculata*; **Mud-P.**, *Elatine americana*; **Rock-P.**, the genus *Calandrinia*; **Sea-P.**, *Atriplex portulacoides*, and *Arenaria peploides*; (of the West Indies), *Sesuvium Portulacastrum*; **Siberian P.**, *Claytonia sibirica*; **Water-P.**, *Peplis Portula*, and *Isnardia palustris*; (of America), *Ludwigia palustris*; **Winter-P.**, *Claytonia perfoliata*; **Wild-P.**, *Euphorbia Peplis*.

1578 Lyte *Dodoens* v. xx. 575 Sea Purcelayne groweth vpon bankes..adioyning to the sea. *Ibid.* 575 The garden & wilde Purcelayne, do flower from after the moneth of June, vntill September. 1597 Gerarde *Herbal* cxl. ¶ 1. 418 There be diuers sortes or kindes of Purslane; one of the garden, and another wilde; and also two of the sea. 1678 Phillips s. v., Besides the common sort there are two others, viz. The Sea Purslane, called *Halimus*, and the Water Purslane, called *Alsine*. 1760 J. Lee *Introd. Bot.* App. 324 Horse Purslane, *Trianthema*. *Ibid.*, Tree Sea Purslane, *Atriplex*. *Ibid.*, Water Purslane, *Peplis*. 1772–84 Cook *Voy.* (1790) V. 1844 A considerable quantity of wild purslain, long-wort, pease, &c. 1857 Miss Pratt *Flower. Pl.* I. 198 The Sea Purslane (*Arenaria peploides*). *Ibid.* IV. 277 *A[triplex] portulacoides* (Shrubby Orache, or Sea Purslane)..is a plant having a woody stem, and foliage of silvery whiteness, and much succulence.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *purslane leaf, -leaved* adj., *poultice, seed*, etc.; **purslane-moth**, a zygænid moth (*Copidryas gloveri*) of North America; **purslane sphinx**, an American moth (*Deilephila lineata*) which feeds upon the leaves of purslane, etc.; **purslane-tree**, † (*a*) ? the wild arbutus (after Gr. ἀνδράχνη purslane, also arbutus); (*b*) a South African shrub, *Portulacaria afra*; **purslane-worm**, the larva of the purslane moth, which feeds on wild purslane.

1855 Delamer *Kitch. Gard.* (1860) 134 In proportion as the traveller approaches the German frontier, the more *purslane-leaves will he find in his vegetable soups. 1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 35 *C. Halimifolius*. *Purslane-leaved Cistus. 1818 *Art Preserv. Feet* 50 A third ensures you a happy relief from *purslain poultices chopped up with vinegar. *c* 1550 Lloyd *Treas. Health* L vij, *Pursland sede ..kylleth the wormes. 1664 Evelyn *Sylva* 61 An even Bed, which being made of fine earth, clap down with your Spade, as Gard'ners do for Purselain-seed. 1878 T. W. Harris *Insects Injur. Veget.* 638 *Purslane sphinx. 1604 B. Jonson *Cornwallis's Entertainm.* 60 Under yond' *purslane tree stood sometime my cradle. 1773 Johnson (ed. 4), *Purslan-tree*, a shrub proper to hedge with. 1794 T. Taylor *Pausanias's Descr. Greece* III. 48 In the temple of Promachos the remains of a purslain-tree are dedicated.

Purslet (pə̄·ɹslėt). [f. Purse *sb.* + -let.] A small or tiny purse or bag.

1869 A. Hume *Brit. Antiq.* 94 Another purse..has two smaller purslets attached to it, and opening from the interior, like the thumb and little finger of a glove.

Pursuable (pə̄ɹsiū·ăb'l), *a.* [f. Pursue *v.* + -able: cf. F. *poursuivable* (16th c. in Littré).] Capable of being pursued or prosecuted.

1611 Cotgr., *Poursuivable*, pursuable. 1678 Sir G. Mackenzie *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xix. § 14 (1699) 104 By the Common Law this was not pursuable. 1784 J. Barry in *Lect. Paint.* v. (1848) 187 An infinity of resource for adjusting the composition;..and this is equally pursuable in the lights and darks, in the middle tint, and in the reflexes.

Pursual (pə̄ɹsiū·ăl). *rare.* [f. Pursue *v.* + -al.] The action or fact of pursuing; pursuance.

1814 Southey *Roderick* xiv. 117 The busy spirit, who, with powerful call Rousing Pelayo's people, led them on In quick pursual. 1878 Villari *Machiavelli* (1898) II. v. 216 [Their] constant pursual of certain wise maxims of government.

Pursuance (pə̄ɹsiū·ăns). Also 7 pour-, 7–8 persuance. [f. as Pursuant: see -ance. Cf. OF. *pour-, prosuiance, poursivance* (Godef.).] The action, or fact, of pursuing, in various senses.

† **1.** The action of pursuing in order to catch or kill; chase: = Pursuit 2. *Obs.*

1648 (Sept. 20) Cromwell in Carlyle *Lett. & Sp.* (1871) II. 55 In pursuance of the remaining part of the enemy. *a* 1656 Ussher *Ann.* (1658) 243 Hoping .. to make him desist from any further pursuance after them. 1693 *Mem. Cnt. Tackely* IV. 62 Altho' orders had been given for a speedy pursuance of them, they could overtake but some few.

2. The seeking after or aiming at something; endeavour to attain; search; = Pursuit 6. (Now with *end, object*, or the like; formerly more widely.)

1640 Bp. Reynolds *Passions* x. 84 The love of both which is then onely Regular, when it is..Humble in the manner of pursuance, without swelling and curiositie. 1648 Milton *Tenure Kings* (1650) 43 In the pursuance of fame and dominion. *a* 1661 Fuller *Worthies, Yorks.* (1840) III. 421 He [Ripley]..studied twenty years together in pursuance of the Philosopher's stone. 1710 Norris *Chr. Prud.* viii. 391 As diligent in prosecuting our true and great End, as they are in the pursuance of their false and little ones. 1878 Stewart & Tait *Unseen Univ.* ii. § 50. 69 To start in pursuance of that object.

† **3.** The action or fact of following; that which follows or is consequent, a consequence. *Obs. rare.*

1596 Bacon *Max. Com. Law* viii. (1630) 40 Any accessory before the fact is subiect to all the contingencies pregnant of the fact, if they bee pursuances of the same fact.

4. The action of following out (a process); following on with or continuance of something; continuation, prosecution.

1605 Bacon *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 10 A man would thinke of the dayly visitations of the Phisitians, that there were a poursuance in the cure. *a* 1638 Chillingw. *Relig. Prot.* I. Ep. Ded. 2 It is..nothing else, but a pursuance of, and a superstruction upon that blessed Doctrine. 1713 Steele *Englishm.* No. 56. 363, I write to you in pursuance of my Letter which you printed on the Ninth. 1753 Hogarth *Anal. Beauty* 7 A great assistance to us in the pursuance of our present enquiry. 1859 Miss Cary *Country Life* i. (1876) 29 In pursuance of some train of thought.

† b. That in which any process is continued; the course, sequence, sequel.

1645 Milton *Colast.* Prose Wks. (1847) 220/1 What book hath he ever met with..maintaining either in the title, or in the whole pursuance, 'Divorce at pleasure'? 1704 Norris *Ideal World* II. vii. 330 The train and pursuance of our discourse requires that we should say [etc.].

5. The action of proceeding in accordance or compliance with a plan, direction, or order; prosecution, following out, carrying out. (The chief current sense.)

1660 *Trial Regic.* 46 In pursuance of that Order, I did receive, among other things [etc.]. 1672 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 35 We have publisht a proclamation in pursuance to his Maj^ties Letter prohibiting all persons to commence any suits [etc.]. 1770 Langhorne *Plutarch* I. 35 He freely offered himself, in pursuance of some oracle, to be sacrificed. 1816 *Gentl. Mag.* LXXXVI. I. 553 General Chartrand has been shot at Lille, in pursuance of his sentence, for having joined Buonaparte. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* IV. xii, When they reached London in pursuance of their little plan, they took coach and drove westward.

† **Pursu·and**, *ppl. a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* [f. Pursue *v.* + -and suffix; prob. identified with *pursuant* from OF.] Pursuing, conformable; also quasi-*sb.*, one pursuing, a pursuer: = Pursuant *sb.*

a 1300 *E. E. Psalter* xliii. [xliv.] 18 Fram þe voice of þe reproceand and þe o3ains spekand, fram þe face of þe enemy and of þe pursuand. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5028 Bope kinges & quenes & oþer kud lordes, perteli in alle a-paraile pursewend. ? *a* 1600 *Rules* in Drake *Eboracum* (1736) I. vi. 196 That corn brought to the market be pursuand, i. e. as good beneath in the sack as above.

Pursuant (pə̄siū·ănt), *sb.* and *a.* Also 4 **poursuiant.** [ME. a. OF. *por-, poursuiant*, pr. pple. of *por-, poursuir*, also *-suivir*, mod.F. *poursuivre* to Pursue, q. v. Subseq. conformed to AF. *pursuer* and *pursue* vb.]

† **A.** *sb.* One who prosecutes an action (at law); a suitor; a prosecutor. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* I. 167 These lovers..for that point which thei coveite Ben poursuiantz fro yeer to yere In loves Court. *Ibid.* 245 He, which was a poursuiant Worschipe of armes to atteigne. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* clviii. ii, At whiche parliament the pursuantes theim bond, At his decree and iudgement to stond. 1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 113 The pursuantes in euery suche writte of errour.. do pay like fees therfore. *a* 1657 W. Bradford *Plymouth Plantations* 8 (1602–6) Vexed with apparators, and pursuants, and ye comissarie courts.

B. *adj.* † **1.** Prosecuting (in a court of law). *Obs.*

1542–3 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 27 § 77 At libertie of the partie pursuant.

2. With *to*, rarely *upon*: Following upon, consequent and conformable to; in accordance with. *Obs.* or merged in b.

1648 *Art. Peace* xiii. in *Milton's Wks.* (1851) II, That the Proceedings .. shall be pursuant and according to his Majesties printed Book of Instructions. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 123 ¶ 4 They determined, pursuant to the Resolution they had taken.., to retire. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 154 If..the fine is levied pursuant to the deed.

b. quasi-*adv.* = Pursuantly.

1675 Ogilby *Brit.* Introd. 1 Pursuant to our method..we have concluded it necessary. 1712–13 Swift *Let. to Mrs. Dingley* 4 Jan. Lett. (1767) I. 215 The bishop of Clogher and Dr. Pratt made me dine with them to-day at lord Mountjoy's, pursuant to an engagement which I had forgot. 1847 C. G. Addison *Law of Contracts* I. i. § 1 (1883) 8 If the act has been performed pursuant to the previous request of the party making the promise. 1885 *Act* 48 & 49 *Vict.* c. 54 § 15 Every monition..served on him pursuant to any of the provisions of the first-mentioned Act.

3. Going in pursuit; following after, pursuing.

1691 J. Norris *Practical Disc.* 347 Nothing but what is pursuant of the End for which he Created us. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 648 Whom varnished fiction vainly woos, Of stern reality pursuant. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 12 Mar. 3/4 There is..the landing of the noble lord, the pursuant lady,.. and several other people, on an island.

Pursu·antly, *adv.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a way that is pursuant or consequent; accordantly. Const. *to*.

1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* II. lv. 153 b, It folowyth

pursueantlye that yt belongyth to the lawe of man. 1675 J. Howe *Living Temple* (1845) 167 We are here, pursuantly to the drift and design of the present discourse, to affirm a necessity. 1688 *Vox Cleri pro Rege* 31 Pursuantly.., 'It may be made appear, that [etc.]'. 1873 Browning *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* II. 872 Pursuantly, one morning—knock at door.. broke startlingly On household slumber.

Pursue (pŭsiū', -syū'), *v.* Forms: see below. [ME. a. AF. *pursiwe-r, pursue-r* (also *pursu-re*) = OF. *porsievre, porsieure, -sivre, -suire*, etc. (see Sue *v.*), mod.F. *poursuivre* = Pr. *perseguir, persegre*, Sp. *perseguir* and *proseguir*, It. *proseguire* and *perseguire*:—L. *prosequĕre, -īre, persequĕre, -īre*, popular forms of *prōsequī* and *persequī*, compounds of *sequī* to follow, which to a great extent ran together in Romanic. In ME. the L. form of the prefix, *prō-*, was sometimes, and *per-* frequently, substituted.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 3 **pursiwe(n, 4-5 -suwe, -sewe, 4-6 -sew, 5 -siewe, -syewe, -sywe, -suie, -suye, -su, -swe; 4- pursue.**

c 1290 *Beket* 945 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 133 ȝwane..luþere men pursiweden me; louerd, min help þov beo! 1340 Hampole *Pr. Consc.* 4450 Þan sal anticrist bygyn felly To pursue men thurgh tyrauntry. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19618 (Fairf.) Saule saule..qui pursewes þou me. *a* 1400 Pursywed [see B. 11 b]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1150 Pollux with his pupull pursu on the laste. 1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* (E.E.T.S.) 506/3889 þat with al his myȝt My deth pursuwet[h]. *c* 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 251 Heeryng this voys, after I shal purswe [*rime* remwe = remue]. 1449 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 150/1 At the sute of him whiche in this cas will pursuye. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* Table II. v. 7 How Balyn was pursyewed. *a* 1533 Ld. Berners *Huon* lix. 206 They were so hastyd and pursewyd.

β. 4 **poursuie, 4-6 -sewe, 5 -syewe, -sue, -su.**

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 117 Thei..lesen hope forto spede And stinten love to poursewe [*rime* hewe]. *Ibid.* [see B. 5 poursuie]. 1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 119 To poursu bataill. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* 150 Knowyng that he was poursyewed. 1487 Hen. VII in *Ep. Acad. Oxon.* (1898) II. 524 To be poursued unto us hereafter. 1596 Spenser *F. Q.* IV. vii. 30 Whom seeing flie she speedily poursewed.

γ. 4–5 **porsewe, -sue.**

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2474 Al þe puple..þat him porsewed hadde. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 167 And porsuede to haue be pope pryns of holychurche.

δ. ? 4 **persywe, 5–7 persew(e, 5–8 persue, 6 -seu, -schew.**

? *a* 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 (MS. γ) Persywed. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 24 Wan men schal..persew ȝow. 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/1 How that I persuede diverse billes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 To resyst and persewe the kynge. 1588 in *Lib. Offic. S. Andree* (Abbotsf.) 170 þat we nor nane..in our nayme sall perschew nor follow [etc.]. 1609 Skene *Reg. Maj.* 22 To persew his clame. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxx, Pekuah..entreated the princess not to persue so dreadful a purpose. *Ibid.* xxxii, Rasselas prepared to persue the robbers. 1779 Persued [see B. 10].

ε. 5 **prosew(e.**

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 133 Anthiocus..prosewede [1387 Trevisa pursuede] Triphon.

B. Signification. **I.** Transitive uses.

1. To follow with hostility or enmity; to seek to injure (a person); to persecute; to harass, worry, torment. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as implied in **2.**

c 1290, etc. [see A. α]. 1382 Wyclif *Matth.* v. 11 ȝee shulen be blessid, when men shulen curse ȝou, and shulen pursue ȝou. *Ibid., Acts* ix. 4, 5 'Saul, Saul, what pursuest thou me?'..'I am Jhesu of Nazareth, whom thou pursuest'. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 97 Loue your ennemyes, ..praye for them that persueth you. 1693 Pepys in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 212 To pursue you in the matter of the Prints soe farr beyond what in good manners I..would have done. 1750 Johnson *Rambler* No. 79 ¶ 12 Those may justly be pursued as enemies to the community of nature. 1855 Milman *Lat. Chr.* (1864) V. ix. viii. 415 To expel, or to pursue to death, a large part..of their subjects.

† **b.** To avenge, to follow with punishment. *Obs.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiii. 111 Thocht thair war nane his deith that wald persew, The michtie God he wald Reuenge his blude. 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 109 That with such vehemency he should pursue Faults proper to himselfe. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 654 No vulgar God Pursues thy Crimes, nor with a common Rod.

2. To follow with intent to overtake and capture or kill; to chase, to hunt.

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 241 þe pekok, and men pursue hym may nou3te fleighe heighe; For þe traillyng of his taille. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) viii. 30 Kyng Pharao persued þam. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Ps.* lxxi. 11 Pursue and take him, for there is none to deliuer him. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 314 Boreas in his Race..with impetuous roar Pursues the foaming Surges to the Shoar. 1783 Cowper *Epitaph on Hare* 1 Here lies, whom hound did ne'er pursue, Nor swifter greyhound follow. 1874 Green *Short Hist.* VIII. vii, To rout their other wing of horse as it returned breathless from pursuing the Scots.

b. *fig.* Said of the action of things evil or hurtful.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S. T. S.) 79 Ay quhen temptatioun dois zow persew. 1613 Shaks. *Hen. VIII*, IV. ii. 25 So went to bed; where eagerly his sicknesse Pursu'd him still. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 261 The worst inconvenience that pursued us. 1842 Borrow *Bible in Spain* VIII. 47 The cold still pursued me. 1895 Salmond *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* VI. iii. 647 The penalties of a selfish life and wasted opportunity pursue one beyond death.

3. To prosecute in a court of law, to sue (a person). Chiefly *Sc.*

1580 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 548 Persewing the said Alexander for mair nor ten thousand pundis. 1643 *Declar. Com., Reb. Irel.* 58 The Lords of his Majesties Privy Councell have given order that Nithisdail and Aboyne be cited, and criminally pursued of high Treason. 1688 *Pennsylv. Archives* I. 102 All..such Person or Persons shall be pursued with the utmost Severities and the greatest Rigor. 1876 *World* V. 8 She cannot be pursued in Germany, for there she has committed no crime. 1893 *Dict. Nat. Biog.* XXXIII. 403 She 'pursued' him in the Scottish courts in November 1703 for the sum of 500 *l.*

4. To follow, as an attendant; to come after in order, or in time. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 120 Schyr Jhon the Grayme,.. To Laynrik come, gud Wallace to persew. 1606 Shaks. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xii. 26 Fortune pursue thee. 1658 Bramhall *Consecr. Bps.* iii. 74 Here we see..how al things do pursue one another. 1700 Dryden *Meleager & Atalanta* 339 My son requires my death, and mine shall his pursue. 1755 Gray *Progr. Poesy* 64 Her track, where'er the Goddess roves, Glory pursue, and generous Shame. 1789 W. Gilpin *Wye* (ed. 2) 119 Grand woody promontories, pursuing each other, all rich to profusion.

b. To follow the course of (in description, etc.); to trace. *poetic.* In quot. 1883 = Follow *v.* 10.

1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* IV. 1 The Gifts of Heav'n my foll'wing Song pursues. 1712 Addison *Hymn*, '*When all thy mercies*' xi, Through every Period of my Life Thy Goodness I'll pursue. 1883 F. M. Peard *Contrad.* vii, Said Lady Molyneux, pursuing them with her eye-glass.

5. To sue for, to seek after; to try to obtain or accomplish, to aim at.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 154 In Rome, to poursuie his riht. *c* 1400 Maundev. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 152 Oþer iles þare er, wha so wald pursue þam, by þe whilk men myght ga all aboute þe erthe. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* v. 29 þat he may noȝt defendyn hym here, ne pursewyn his ryȝt. 1538 Starkey *England* 1. i. 7 For euer that wych ys best ys not of al men..to be persuyd. 1594 Kyd *Cornelia* III. iii. 83 He murdred Pompey that pursu'd his death. 1611 Bible *Ps.* xxxiv. 14 Seeke peace and pursue it. 1712 Steele *Spect.* No. 462 ¶ 4 He pursued Pleasure more than Ambition. 1874 Carpenter *Ment. Phys.* I. vii. (1879) 318 The mind instinctively pursues what is pleasurable.

† **b.** To make it one's aim or endeavour, to try (*to do* something). *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 82 Such Sorcerie..I schal eschuie, That so ne wol I noght poursuie Mi lust of love forto seche. *c* 1430 Lydg. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 67, I counsaile thow pursue all thy lyve To lyve in peas. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 62 Þi foote þou holde, And pursue for to passe þe beest. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. ccxxix. 308 People and men of warre, that wolde pursue to go into Castell.

† **6.** To seek to reach or attain to, to make one's way to. *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VI. 190 Than Cartlane craggis thai persewit full fast. 1508 Dunbar *Tua Maritt Wemen* 478 All my luffaris lele, my lugeing persewis. *a* 1520 — *Poems* ix. 84 To keipe the festuall and the fasting day, The mess on Sonday, the parroche kirk persew. 1611 Heywood *Gold. Age* II. i, Dianae's Cloyster I will next pursue. 1681 Dryden *Abs. & Achit.* 855 Here stop, my Muse..No Pinions can pursue Immortal height.

† **b.** To attack, assail, besiege. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* VIII. 498 Sotheroun marueld giff it suld be Wallace, With out souerance come to persew that place. 1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 81 Our auld ynemeis intendis to cum and persew the said house..to recover the samyn furth of the said lordis handis. 1583 *Ibid.* III. 567 A greit nowmer of wickit and seditious personis..persewit the houssis of the provest and ane of the baillies.

7. To follow (a path, way, course); to proceed along; = Follow *v.* 1 b. Now chiefly *fig.* In quot. 1390, to go through in reading, to peruse.

1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 46 For full enformacioun The Scole which Honorious Wrot, he poursuieth. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 120 They could not choose but chearefully pursue the same way of Art. 1697 Dryden *Virg. Georg.* III. 449 We too far the pleasing Path pursue. 1709 Steele *Tatler* No. 97 ¶ 2 To consider what Course of Life he ought to pursue. 1788 Jefferson *Writ.* (1859) II. 369, I..shall pursue the course of the Rhine as far as the roads will permit me. 1879 R. K. Douglas *Confucianism* iii. 72 The Sage..pursues the heavenly way without the slightest deflection.

8. To proceed in compliance or accordance with; = Follow *v.* 8. Now only with *method, plan, scheme, system*, and the like: see quots. 1817–79.

1426 Lydg. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9039 Al hys desyrs thow pursues. ? 1656 Bramhall *Replic.* vi. 241 This is not to alter the Institutions..of generall Councells..but..to tread in their stepps, and to pursue their grounds. 1728 Pope *Iliad* XI. 192 The king's example all his Greeks pursue. 1748 Smollett *Rod. Rand.* xiv, As we were going to pursue this advice. 1817 Jas. Mill *Brit. India* II. v. i. 315 The following scheme was invented and pursued. 1879 *Techn. Drawing* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 69/2 The same system is now to be pursued.

9. To follow up, carry on further, proceed with, continue (a course of action, etc. begun).

1456 Sir G. Haye *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 119 Nocht all men that pursewis bataill is nocht cled with that vertu of force. *c* 1586 C'tess Pembroke *Ps.* (1823) cxv. iv, Israel pursue Thy trust in God. 1596 Dalrymple tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* III. xxxvi. (S.T.S.) I. 191 Thay drew to pairties, and began to pe[r]sew the mater wᵗ swordes. 1601 Shaks. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 76, I cannot pursue with any safety this sport [to] the vppeshot. 1668 Dryden *Evening's Love* IV. i, This is the Folly of a bleeding Gamester, who will obstinately pursue a losing Hand. 1736 Lediard *Life Marlborough* I. 99 The Earl was resolved to pursue this good Success. 1759 Johnson *Rasselas* xxv, The Princess persues her enquiry. 1796 Jane Austen *Pride & Prej.* xxx, The subject was pursued no farther. 1802 E. Forster tr. *Arab. Nts.* (1815) II. 355 The brothers then pursued their journey.

b. *Law.* To carry on (an action); to lay (information); to present (a libel). Chiefly *Sc.* (Cf. 3 and 13 b.)

1478 *Acta Dom. Conc.* 3/1 þe accioun and cause persewit be William of Cavers..on þe ta part again Andro broun.. one þe tother part. 1530–1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII*, c. 12 The moytee thereof to be to him that pursueth the informacion for the same. *c* 1750 *Interlocutor* in J. Louthian *Process* (ed. 2) 152 The Lords Justice-Clerk and Commissioners of Justiciary, having considered the Libel pursued at the Instance of *A. B.* of —— [etc.]:

10. To follow as an occupation or profession; to carry on, practise; to make a pursuit of.

1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. cccxx. 735, I have..pursewed myne offyce, to the honoure of you and of your people. 1673 S. C. *Art of Complaisance* 25 When we enterprise any affair with hopes well conceived.. we pursue it with all perseverance. 1779 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIX. 363 He persued.. his studies, or his amusements without persecution, molestation or insult. 1851 Helps *Comp. Solit.* i. (1874) 2 Others may pursue science or art.

II. *Absolute* and intransitive uses.

11. To go in chase or pursuit.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2196 þe puple þanne porsewed forþ & of here prey þei missed. 1390 Gower *Conf.* III. 236 The womman fleth and he poursueth. 1611 Bible *Prov.* xxviii. 1 The wicked flee when no man pursueth. 1755 Gray *Progr. Poesy* 32 Now pursuing, now retreating, Now in circling troops. 1853 M. Arnold *Scholar Gypsy* xxii, Far on the forest-skirts, where none pursue.

b. *To pursue after*, to follow in pursuit, to chase; = sense 2. Also with *indirect passive.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 158 Peter..pursued after, Bothe iames & Iohan, Ihesu for to seke. ? *a* 1400 *Arthur* 574 Arthour on gret haste Pursywed after hym faste. 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Exod.* xiv. 9 And the Egyptians pursued after them. 1655 Fuller *Ch. Hist.* IX. vii. § 15 Left to be pursued after by hunger and cold. 1760–72 H. Brooke *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 66 To take every horse he had.. and to pursue after the fugitives.

† **c.** *To pursue for*, to seek or 'hunt' after.

1412–20 Lydg. *Chron. Troy* I. 1892 þei pursue ay for pluralite.

† **12.** To proceed with hostile intent against some one; with *on, upon, to*, to attack, assail. *Obs.*

13.. *E. E. Allit. P.* B. 1177 He pur-sued in to palastyn with proude men mony. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2773 To pursew On hom þat hir holdis, & vs harme dyd. *Ibid.* 4853 All þis wale pepull Are comyn to þis cost..And pursuyt to þis prouynse in purpos to venge Of harmys. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 158 þan þe Romans..wold suffre it no langer, & rase & pursewid opon hym, & drafe hym oute of þe cetie. 1480 Caxton *Cron. Eng.* clxiv. 148 Kyng edward..ordeyned men to pursue vpon hym—and dauyd ferselich hym defended. *c* 1500 *New Not.-b. Mayd* (Percy Soc.) 33 Yet yf that shrewe To hym pursue.

† **13.** To make one's suit; to sue, entreat. *Obs.*

1390 Gower *Conf.* II. 13 For after that a man poursuieth To love, so fortune suieth. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11431 þai..chosyn Antenor..with the grekes to trete, And pursew for pes. 1414 Brampton *Penit. Ps.* 25 To thi mercy I will pursewe, Wyth 'Ne reminiscaris, Domine!' *c* 1560 A. Scott *Poems* (S.T.S.) xi. 7 ȝe may wᵗ honesty persew, Gif ȝe be constant, trest, & trew.

b. *spec.* To sue in a court of law; to make suit as plaintiff or pursuer. In later use chiefly *Sc.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 302 For þere þat partye pursueth þe pele is so huge, þat þe kynge may do no mercy. 1389 *Eng. Gilds* 71 Yei shul pursu for her Catelle in qwat cowrte yat hem liste. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 29 Wherby þe man is lettyd of his ryȝt, be-cause he may noȝt pursewe in holy cherch-lawe. *c* 1470 Harding *Chron.* clviii. ii, That al Scottes, and other that were pursuyng Might there appere, their titles claimyng. *a* 1639 Spottiswood *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1677) 55 If they should happen to die intestate, it was made lawful to their nearest kinsmen to call and pursue for the same. 1756 Mrs. Calderwood *Journey* (1842) 226 He was bred a papist, but his mother..set on the protestant heir to pursue for his estate.

† **14.** To follow as an attendant or supporter. *Obs.*

c 1470 Henry *Wallace* IV. 197 He thaim comandyt ay next him to persew; For he thaim kend rycht hardyé, wis and trew. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1292 Heir I mak yow ane grant,..Ay to your presence to persew, with al my seruice.

† **15.** To follow or come after in order. *Obs.*

1485 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 332/2 The Dede and Fyne, wherof the tenoure persueth. 1529 More *Dyaloge* IV. xvii. Wks. 284/2 Rewarde or punishement, pursuing vpon all our dooinges. 1688 Holme *Armoury* I. i. 2 Lest..scandal do arise and effusion of blood do persue.

† **16.** To proceed continuously. In quot. *a* 1651, to go or come forth, issue. *Obs.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* lxiv. 6 In to ȝour garthe this day I did persew. *a* 1651 *Life Humphrey* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1867) II. 92 Those weighty words which pleasantly pursued out of his mouth. 1652 Loveday tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* III. 189 But we pursued on our way, resigning our selves to the protection and guidance of the Gods.

17. To continue (to do or say something); to go on (speaking). Also with *on.*

1500–20 Dunbar *Poems* xlvi. 12 Quhair did, vpone the tothair syd, persew A nychtingall, with suggurit notis new. 1583 T. Watson *Centurie of Loue* (Arb.) 129 In the other two staffes following, the Authour pursueth on his matter. 1665 Boyle *Occas. Refl.* IV. xi, But, (pursues Eusebius) this may supply us with another Reflection. 1718 Hickes & Nelson *Y. Kettlewell* I. § 33. 58 Notwithstanding this he persued on with all the Meekness of Wisdom. 1802 Mar. Edgeworth *Moral T.* (1816) I. iii. 17 'And I have buried the poor cat', pursued Forester: 'and I hope [etc.]'. 1837 Whewell *Hist. Induct. Sc.* I. ii. § 2 'Something of this', he pursues, 'may be seen in language'.

› Hence **Pursu'ed** *ppl. a.*, **Pursu'ing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **Pursu'ingly** *adv.*

1716 *Macfarlane's Geneal. Collect.* (1901) I. 136 He was

obliged to give his bond for the *pursued Sum. 1742 J. WILLISON *Balm of Gilead* (1800) xv. 197 Pursued shelterless sinners hearken to Christ's voice. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 206 How hise martirs shulen do in tyme of her *pursuynge. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 138 Bi strong pursuynge to deþ of alle trewe men. 1651 G. W. tr. *Cowel's Inst.* 58 If a swarm of Bees forsake my hive, they are said to be mine so long as they continue in my sight and that the persuing of them becomes not impossible. 1864 LONGF. *Wind over Chimney* x, No endeavor is in vain; Its reward is in the doing, And the rapture of pursuing Is the prize the vanquished gain. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 282 As a wall against the *pursuing enemy. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xviii. 520 The pursuing judgment of God. 1855 *Tait's Mag.* XXII. 422 Many women do love as eagerly..as *pursuingly—as Caroline Helstone is said to have done.

Pu·rsue, *sb.* (in *draw pursue*, etc.): see PERSUE.

† Pursue·ment. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. PURSUE *v.* + -MENT.] Pursuing; = PURSUIT 2.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 48 The seuerall vses, agreeing with their flights, their flights, or pursuements.

Pursuer (pŭ·siū·əɹ). Forms: 4 **pursuwer, -suere**, 5 **-suour**, 5–6 **persewar, -er**, 6 **perssouar**, 4– **pursuer**. [f. PURSUE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who pursues. **† 1.** A persecutor. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 138 Þei ben manquelleris & pursueris of crist. 1382 — 1 *Tim.* i. 13, I first was a blasfeme, or dispiser of God, and pursuwer [1388 pursuere], and ful of wrongis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. ii. 22 Nor Juno, Troianis persewar expres, Sall nevir mair failȝe in ȝour contrary. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* i. 16 b, So cruel persewers of cryst in his members. 1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 106 Desperate opposites and pursuers of all grace, of Christ and Christians.

† 2. = PURSUIVANT 1. *Obs. rare*—1.

1384–5 *Durh. Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 594, j pursuer de armes.

3. *Civil* and *Sc. Law.* A suitor; a plaintiff, a petitioner; a prosecutor.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1534, Ful many swyche pursuours þere ben, þat for vs take, & ȝeue vs nat a myte. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* clviii. i, Florence therle of Holand, and his compeers That claymed then the croune of Scotland..as pursuers, Came to kyng Edward. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 31 The demaundantes pleyntyffes or pursuers of the same accions. 1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 318 The saidis Gilbert Millar, persewar, and the said Johnne Hammiltoun comperand bayth personalie. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. II. iv. (1737) 375 The Lord Advocate..is the Pursuer of all Capital Crimes before the Justiciary. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 317 What is your suit, Euthyphro? are you the pursuer or the defendant? 1880 MUIRHEAD *Gaius* IV. § 37 There is the same fiction if he be either pursuer or defender in an action on the Aquilian law for wrongful damage to property.

† 4. A besieger, an assailant. *Sc. Obs.* Cf. PURSUE *v.* 6 b.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* I. XXX. I. 143 The seige lastit langer nor the perssouaris expectatioun was. *Ibid.*, The persewaris war all maist tint in the lang seiging.

5. One who follows after or chases with intent to capture; in quot. 1824, a suitor, wooer.

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Josh.* ii. 16 Gett you into the mountayne, lest the pursuers mete you. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 21 Quhill a persewar is following ony thing he wantis. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* II. iv. 284 Above 40,000 died by the Weapons of their merciless Pursuers, the Spanish Cavalry. 1824 BYRON *Don Juan* XII. XXXVII, Sometimes they accept some long pursuer, Worn out with importunity. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* 14 The fox turns with savage fury on his pursuer.

6. One who pursues some object or aim.

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. xiv. 70 A Generosity too rarely found to be presumed on, especially in the pursuers of Wealth. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 318, I [am] an eager pursuer of Truth. *a* 1745 SWIFT *Eng. Behav. Queen's Last Ministry* Wks. 1841 I. 499/1 Of his pleasures of which he had indeed been too great and criminal a pursuer.

Pursuing, Pursuingly: see PURSUE *v.*

Pursuit (pŭ·siū·t). Forms: *α.* 4 **pursut**, 4–5 **-suet**, 4–6 **-suyt(e**, 4–7 **-sute**, 5 **-suette**, 5–6 **-sewt**, 5–7 **-suite**, 6 **-suete, -syewte**, 5– **pursuit**. *β.* 4 **pourseut**, 4–7 **-suite**, 7 **-suyte**. *γ.* (mainly *Sc.*) 6 **persuyt, -sut, -sewt**, 6–7 **-sute, -suit**. [a. AF. *purseute, pursute*, OF. *por-, poursieute, poursuite* (1326 in Godef.), deriv. of *poursuivre*, after *suite* (:—pop. L. **sequita*) from *suivre*.] The action or an act of pursuing, in various senses.

I. † 1. Persecution, annoyance, ill-treatment. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 44 [To] haue mekenesse & pacience in pursuyt..and to loue hem þat pursuen vs. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 195 His suster, þat fleiȝ þe malice and pursuet of here stepdame. 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 304/2 Whiche þing shuld be to þe Merchantz..full grete hyndryng, and a poursuite infinite. 1629–39 SIR W. MURE *Ps*, cix. 31 Hee..The poore-man's right hand..from persute of such as wold Condemne his soule, setts free.

2. The action of pursuing, chasing, or following, with intent to overtake and catch or kill, a fleeing object, as a hunted animal or an enemy.

Curve of pursuit: see CURVE *sb.* 1.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 1783 So longe laste þe pursute and þe chas. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 135 The other that had be at the pursyewte & chaas of the paynemys. 1584 POWEL *Lloyd's Cambria* 87 The Danes fled as sheepe before him [Edmund Ironside], but he staied the Pursute by the wicked read of the traitor Edric. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 454 He..makes his Escape, and flies beyond Persuit of Huon-cries. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 240 All and each that passed that way Did join in the pursuit. 1809 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Disp.* IV. 565, I have been on the pursuit, or rather chace of Soult out of Portugal. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* I. iv. 51 The Marquis gave hot pursuit.

b. *In pursuit* (*of*): said of the pursuer; *in pursuit* formerly sometimes of the pursued, = in flight.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 128 My hounds..Slow in pursuit. 1660 *Chas. II's Escape fr. Worcester* in *Select. fr. Harl. Misc.* (1793) 379 [He] enquired of his brother Yates, what news from Worcester? who told him, that the king was defeated, and in pursuit. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xiii. 270 Like children in pursuit of a painted butterfly. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Span. Milit. Nun* Wks. 1854 III. 59 In pursuit of some flying game, [they] had wandered far.

† 3. The action of suing or entreating; a suit, request, petition, instance. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 34 Ffor which oppression was swich clamour And swich pursute vn-to the kyng Arthour. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8882 Syn I with prayer, ne with pursuet, preset not þeraftur. 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 361 After long pursewts made to the Kyng and his conseill. 1503–4 *Act* 19 *Hen. VII*, c. 28 *Preamble*, Meny persones..made instaunte & diligente pursuyte..to his Highnesse. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. i, Thy Mellida is chaste; Onely to frustrate thy pursuite in love, Is blaz'd unchaste. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Com.* Wks. 1755 II. I. 41 When a lover becomes satisfied by small compliances without further pursuits, then expect to find popular assemblies content with small concessions.

4. *Law.* An action at law; a suit; prosecution. In later use chiefly *Sc.*

[1349–50 SIR T. GRENEVILLE in Bp. Grandison *Reg.* (1897) II. 1086 Par queux torceuouses pursutes..vous avetz este sovent grevez de cuer.] 1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 57/1 To graunte me durynge my pursuyte..to walken at large. 1512 *Act* 4 *Hen. VIII*, c. 14 *Preamble*, To have made pursuete of their severall atteynders to be reversed. 1575 in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 419/1 The lang trubill..the laird of Lekky hes sustinet be the persewt of the Erll of Menteithe. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* III. vi. § 26 That pursuit for Tythes ought, and of ancient time did pertain to the spiritual Court. 1678 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* I. xvii. § 6 (1699) 89 Such a Criminal pursuit, as was intented. 1737 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. II. iv. 375 The Lord Advocate..concurs in all Pursuits before Sovereign Courts for Breaches of the Peace. 1832 AUSTIN *Jurisdr.* (1879) I. xvii. 417 It is often thought expedient to convert the offence into a crime. That is to say the pursuit of it is not left to the discretion of the injured party.

† 5. Attack, assault, siege. *Sc. Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 182 Dissymilance ȝcho had go mak persute, At all powere to perse the Goldyn Targe. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 152 To be stout and deliegent in the persuit of the said castell. 1590 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* IV. 533 For defens of the said burgh in tyme of foreyne persute. *a* 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 259 The toun of Edinbrughe..stellit cannonis on ilk ane of thir montis for persute of the castell.

II. 6. The action of seeking, or striving to obtain, attain, or accomplish something; search; † endeavour, attempt (*to do* something).

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 142 Paris should ne're retract what he hath done, Nor faint in the pursuite. 1636 W. BOSWELL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 152, I am in dayly poursuite of more [Medals]. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 294 One soul should both inspire, and neither prove His fellow's hindrance in pursuit of love. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 55 P 2 An immoderate Pursuit after Wealth and Riches. 1836 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (ed. 2) II. XXVIII. 395 You may hear men talk as if the pursuit of wealth was the business of life.

b. *transf.* The object aimed at; aim. ? *Obs.*

c 1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* III. iii, Hard-hearted father,..Was this the pursuit of thy policy? *a* 1732 GAY *Fables* II. xi. 8 Be virtue then your first pursuit. 1742 GRAY *Propertius* II. 52 Be love my youth's pursuit, and science crown my Age.

7. The action of following or engaging in something, as a profession, business, recreation, etc.; that which one engages in or follows.

1529 WOLSEY in *Four C. Eng. Lett.* (1880) 10 That expedicion be usyd in my persuts, the delay wherof so replenyshyth my herte with hevynes. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 97 Yet ceassed they not to follow the pursuite of their impietie in persecuting his happie memorie. 1774 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 489 Your constitution of mind is such, that you must have a pursuit. 1800 COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* Pref., Those..who follow Nautical Pursuits. 1862 SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* II. i. 2 In our daily pursuits we found much that served to illustrate our former speculations. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. § 1 (1882) 591 The pursuit of Physical Science became a passion.

† 8. The pursuing or following out *of* a plan, design, etc. *Obs.* (replaced by PURSUANCE 4.).

a 1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 68 Towards the pursuite of any worthy design. 1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* II. xxiv. 128 The doing of many things in pursuit of their Passions. 1655 tr. *Com. Hist. Francion* XII. 30 He made answer..in pursuite of the Instructions which he had received.

† 9. The action of going on with something already begun; a continuation, a sequel. *Obs.*

1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Sénault's Man bec. Guilty* 103 We shall see all these truths in the pursuit of this discourse. 1668 OWEN *Exp. Heb.* (1790) I. 131 Unless we look on the words as a pursuit of the first promise. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 15, I return now to the pursuit of our voyage.

† 10. Succession, sequence, serial order.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. x. § 10 It is order, poursuite, sequence, and interchange of application, which is mightie in nature. *Ibid.* xix. § 1 That men may know in what order or pursuit to read.

† Pursuite, *v. Sc. Obs.* [In 6 *persuite* for *pursuite*, f. prec.: cf. PERSECUTE.] *trans.* To persecute: = PURSUE *v.* 1.

1563 WINȜET *Four Scoir Thre Quest.* (S.T.S.) I. 67 We ar ..iniustlie persuitit, with sa grete rigour, as we war heretikis or apostatis. *Ibid.* 95 King Saull..persuitand the said Dauid iniustlie to the deth.

† Pursui·ter. *Obs.* Also 6 **poursuter**. [f. as prec. vb. + -ER 1, or f. *pursue, pursuit*, after *suitor*.] = PURSUER.

1542 PAGET *Let.* in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, IX. 229 The poursuters here of these matyers..hath bene Deformes and thAdmiralles Secretarye. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) B j, Love doth not equally love all his pursuiters.

Pursuivant (pŭ·ɹswivănt), *sb.* (*a.*) Forms: 4–5 **purs[eu]aunt**, 5–8 **purseu-, -sevant**, (5 **-syaunt**, 5–6 **-cyvaunt**, 6 **-ceu-, -ceva(u)nt, -civant, -suiaunt, -siuant, -syvant**, 6–7 **-suyvant**, 6–8 **-sueuant, -vant**, 7 **-suvant, -sivant**); 6– **pursuivant**, (7–8 **pour-**). Also *Sc.* 5 **pursevand, -sewand, -ant, -sephant, -siwant, -syfant, -cyfant**, 5–6 **perseuand**. [ME. a. OF. *por-, pur-, poursivant*, etc., mod.F. *poursuivant*, pr. pple. of *porsivre, poursuivre* 'to pursue, follow after', also used subst., = follower, suitor, pursuivant-at-arms, etc.]

1. Formerly, A junior heraldic officer attendant on the heralds; also one attached to a particular nobleman. Now, an officer of the College of Arms, ranking below a Herald.

In the English College of Arms there are three Kings of Arms, six Heralds, and four Pursuivants, styled respectively: Rouge Croix, Bluemantle, Rouge Dragon, and Portcullis; in the court of the Lyon King of Arms in Scotland there are three Heralds, and three (down to 1867, six) Pursuivants: Carrick, Unicorn, and March (formerly Bute), formerly also Dingwall, Ormond, and Kintyre; in the court of the Ulster King of Arms in Ireland there are two Heralds and four Pursuivants: Athlone, and St. Patrick nos. 1, 2, and 3.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 1321 Pursevantes and herauldes That crien ryche folkes laudes. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Purcyvawnte (*K.* purciwant). 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 278 [He] has first tane sik a beste..to bere in his schelde..or in blasoun apon his heraulde or persevandis brest. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* vi. *Father Wer* 49 Ane Unicorne..ane bill in breist he bure, Ane Pursephant semelie, I 3ow assure. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 64 It was proclamyd opynly with the kynges shreffe and two harraldes and two pursevanttes and a trumpet. 1572–3 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 190 Johnne Calder, Bute Pursevant. 1583 *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 560, I Robert Campbell, Carrik pursuevant..charged Maister Patrik Vaus..to content and pay. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Sir T. Wyatt* D.'s Wks. 1873 III. 85 Send for Heralds, call me Purseuants, Wher's the King at armes? 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 27 The four pursuivants..are also created by the earl-marshal. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 24/2 In ancient times, any great nobleman might institute his own pursuivant with his own hands and by his single authority. The Dukes of Norfolk had a pursuivant, called *Blanch-lyon*, from the white lion in their arms. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 10/1 He held the office of his Majesty's Unicorn Pursuivant for Scotland.

b. Also *pursuivant at* (*of*) *arms.*

1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 13 Any henche man, heralde, or purcevant at armes. 1658 PHILLIPS s. v., The four Pursuivants at Arms are those that attend the Heralds, and are called Bluemantle, Rougecrosse, Rougedragon, and Percullis. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. XXXII, The pursuivant-at-arms..Before the castle took his stand. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Nelson's Fun.* 19 Two Pursuivants at Arms, properly attired.

† 2. A royal or state messenger with power to execute warrants; a warrant-officer. *Obs.*

In Scotland, the heraldic pursuivants usually served summonses of treason, thus connecting senses 1 and 2.

1503 *Priv. Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 87 A purcevaunt belonging to my lord the Kinges Chambrelain. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* li. 31 One purseuaunt shal mete another, yee one poste shal come by another, to bringe the kinge of Babilon tydinges. 1569 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 132 A pursyuant that brought the proclamasyon. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXV. xli. 581 There was a speedie pursuivant or courrier sent throughout the battailons. 1603 OWEN *Pembrokeshire* vi. (1892) 50 These were sent for by lettres by a purcephant to make their repaire to the Counsell of the marches. 1628 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. (1688) 526 Men, taking upon them the Authority and Badges of the Queen's Pursivants, rambled up and down all over England with counterfeit Warrants. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 67 To let them still hale us, and worrey us with their banddogs, and Pursivants. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 206, One of the State-Officers, a Pursevant. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* vi, If he falls in with the pursuivant fellow who carries the warrant of the Privy Council.

† b. *transf.* and *fig.* = 'messenger'. *Obs.*

c 1530 tr. *Erasm. Serm. Child Jesus* (1901) 10 That great purseuaunt, Johan Baptist. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. x. 301 Her feet be Purseuants from Cupid sent, With whose fine steps all loues and ioyes conspire. 1631 DEKKER *Match Mee* V. Wks. 1873 IV. 212 Vnlesse he sent his Purseuant death for her.

3. A follower; an attendant. Also *fig.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IX. x. 133 Ane Butes..That pursevant tofor and squyer had be To Troiane Anchyses, fader of Enee. 1845 LONGF. *To a Child* xiii, Fear, the pursuivant of Hope. 1854 CDL. WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. vi. 167 Proposed to be captain of a body of armed pursuivants picked out for their savageness and hatred of Christians. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. *Falcon of Ser Federigo* 130 The sole pursuivant of this poor knight. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. 17 But sleep, the gracious pursuivant of toil, Came swiftly down.

† 4. A suitor (for a lady's hand). *Obs. rare.*

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel*, Then to this lady and soverayne of this palace, Of pursevantis ther presid in with many a diverse tale.

†**B.** *adj.* Pursuing, prosecuting. *Obs. rare.*

a 1577 Sir T. Smith *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 92 The party pursuiuant giueth good ensignes.

†**Pursuivant,** *v. Obs.* Forms: see prec. [f. prec.] *trans.* To send a pursuivant after; to pursue; to summon or arrest by a pursuivant. Also *fig.* Hence **Pursuivanting** *vbl. sb.*

1636 Prynne *Unbish. Tim.* Ded. (1661) 17 The late suspending,..pursevanting, vexing,..crushing of many learned ..Ministers. 1639 Fuller *Holy War* IV. xxviii. 218 Their navie was pursuivanted after with a horrible tempest. *a* 1662 Heylin *Laud* (1668) 197 Divers of them had been pursevanted for Printing of orthodox Books. 1687 R. L'Estrange *Brief Hist. Times* I. 84 Pursuivanting, Messengering, Sergeanting, Cooping-up, Squeezing, Rifling, Plundering, and Oppressing. 1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 199 He was pursevanted up to London..and was committed Prisoner to the Fleet.

Pursy (pɔ̄·ɪsi), *a.*[1] Also 5 **purcy**, 6 **poursye**, **porzy**, 6–8 **pursie**, 7 **purcie**, 7–9 **pursey**. [Later form of *pursif* Pursive, with the ending *-if* reduced to *-i*, *-y* as in *hasty*, *jolly*, *tardy*, etc.]

1. Short-winded, asthmatic, puffy; = Pursive.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 416/2 Purcy, in wynd drawynge, *cardiacus*. 1523 Fitzherb. *Husb.* § 84 Pursy is a dysease in an horses bodye, and maketh hym to blowe shorte, and appereth at his nosethrilles, and commeth of colde. 1528 Paynel *Salerne's Regim.* D ij, We ought to take good hede ..that we make not our selfe poursye. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 885 A pursie man, or that fetcheth his breath often, as it were almost windlesse. 1621 Quarles *Argalus & P.* (1678) 89 Thy pamper'd Steeds are pursie, drive away. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 51 Good Medicine to cure.. short-winded or pursy Horses.

2. Fat, corpulent.

[Due to the close association of short-windedness with fatness, and of this with the notion of a swollen purse or bag, as in Pursy *a.*2]

1576 Newton *Lemnie's Complex.* (1633) 133 They that bee by nature very porzy and grosse, live as long as they that be slender bodied. 1607 Walkington *Opt. Glass* i. (1664) 9 [He] was grown so pursie, that his fatness would not suffer him to fetch his breath. 1774 Goldsm. *Nat. Hist.* xx. (1776) 76 The neck, thick and pursy, is joined to the head. 1820 W. Irving *Sketch Bk., Christm. Day* § 20 A short pursy man, stooping and labouring at a bass-viol, so as to show nothing but the top of a round bald head, like the egg of an ostrich. 1862 Carlyle *Fredk. Gt.* xiv. i. (1865) V. 145 An elderly fat gentleman, pursy, scant of breath. *fig.* 1602 Shaks. *Ham.* III. iv. 153 In the fatnesse of this pursie times, Vertue it selfe, of Vice must pardon begge. 1654 Trapp *Comm. Neh.* i. 9 (1657) II. 45 Our short legges and pursie hearts cannot hold out here.

Pursy (pɔ̄·ɪsi), *a.*[2] [f. Purse *sb.* + -y.]

1. a. Of cloth, the skin, etc.: Having puckers, puckered; drawn together like a purse-mouth.

1552 *Act* 5 & 6 *Edw. VI*, c. 6 § 27 If..Cloth..prove either pursie, baudy, squally by Warp or Woof. 1613 J. May *Declar. Est. Clothing* v. 27 The mill leaues them shamefull in cockelles, baudes, pursey, narrower in some places than in other. 1835 Willis *Pencillings* II. xxi. 234 His heavy, oily black eyes twinkled in their pursy recesses. 1882 *Mrs. Raven's Tempt.* I. 4 Her pursy mouth softened.

b. Of clouds, ? Bagging, swollen; heavy.

1650 H. Vaughan *Silex Scint., Dawning* 21 The pursie Clouds disband, and scatter, All expect some sudden matter.

2. Having a full purse; rich, wealthy; purse-proud.

1602 Manningham *Diary* (Camden) 48 One said, yong Mr. Leake was verry rich, and fatt, 'True', said B. Reid, 'pursy men are fatt for the most part'. 1839 *Times* 21 Sept., Their pursy pride has been signally humbled. 1856 Emerson *Eng. Traits*, ix. *Cockayne* Wks. (Bohn) II. 64 The pursy man means by freedom the right to do as he pleases. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 4/4 He is the precise antithesis of the conventional 'moneyed man'. A less 'pursey' man it would be impossible to imagine.

†**Purtaunte.** *Cards. Obs. rare.* Also **paire taunt.** [app. f. Pair *sb.*[1] + F. *tant* so much, as much; i. e. scoring as much again as *pair-royal.* For reduction of *pair* to *pur-* cf. *peroyal* = Pair-royal.] In cribbage, Double pair-royal; four cards of the same denomination.

1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 72/1 Cribbidge. ..The Value of the cards is thus:..a paire Royall is 6, a double paire Royall or a purtaunte is 12. *Ibid.* 72/2 Noddy, and Cribbidge-Noddy... Each person has 3 cards and one turned up...They are thus markett,..a paire 4, paire Riall 12, a paire Taunt 24.

Purte, obs. f. Purity; obs. Sc. f. Poverty.

Purtenance (pɔ̄·ɪtɪnăns). *arch.* Also 4 **purteyn-**, 4–6 **purten-**, **purtynaunce**, **-ans**, 5 **pourtynans**, 5–7 **purtin-**, **portin-**, **portenaunce**, **-ance**, **-anse**, 7 **purt'nance** (**purtenants**). [ME. a. AF. **purtinaunce*, with change of prefix, for OF. *parten-*, *pertinence* (cf. *purtinaunt*, 1278, in Pertinent *a.* 1); thus an earlier form of Pertinence, corresp. in vocalization to Appurtenance, of which in later times it may have been taken as an aphetic form.] That which pertains or appertains, or forms an appendage, to that which is the principal thing; an Appurtenance.

†**1. a.** *Law.* That which pertains or is an appendage to a possession or estate. *Obs.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 251, I Jon Baliol þe Scottis King, I bicom þi man for Scotlond þing, With alle þe purtenance þertille. 1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 396/2 The Maner of Helston, with the Bourgh of the same, with the purtenauncz. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 62 § 1 The Maner or Lordshippe of Huntingfield with the purtenauncis in the Countie of Kent. 1525 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* II. cxcviii. (R.), That the duke of Lancastre shulde haue for euer..all the countrey of Acquitayne, with the purtenaunces.

†**b.** *fig.* and *gen.* = Appurtenance 2. *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* II. 71 To habben and to holden.. Wiþ þe purtinaunce of purgatorie in-to þe pyne of helle. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Sel. Wks.* III. 128 þo soule with his purtenaunses is better þen þo body. *c* 1449 Pecock *Repr.* II. xiii. 226 The tabernacle, the temple, alle the vessellis and purtenauncis ther to weren clepid holi.

2. The 'inwards' of an animal; = Pluck *sb.*[1] 6.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 410/1 Portenaunce, of a thynge, *pertinencia, in plurali excidie.* 1530 Palsgr. 257/1 Portenaunce of a beest, *fressevre.* 1532–3 *Act* 24 *Hen. VIII*, c. 3 The heades, neckes, inwardes, purtynaunces, legges, nor feete, shall be counted no parte of the carcases. 1539 Bible (Great) *Exod.* xii. 8 Se that ye eate..therof..rost w^t^ fire: the head, fete, & purtenance therof. [So 1611; 1885 (R.V.) the inwards.] 1592 Lyly *Midas* I. ii, I will only handle the head and purtenance. 1662 J. Wilson *Cheats* v. i, To dream .. Of a Calves head, and Purtenants (betokens) a Foreman, and his Fellows! 1760 Sterne *Tr. Shandy* III. xi, May he be damn'd in..his heart and purtenance, down to the very stomach! 1868 Browning *Ring & Bk.* v. 71 How she can dress and dish up—lordly dish Fit for a duke, lamb's head and purtenance.

Purtract, -trai(e)t, -trayt, -e, obs. ff. Portrait. **Purtraie, -tray, -treie, -trey, -e,** obs. ff. Portray *v.* **Purtraiture, -trato(w)re, -tra(y)ture, -tre(a)ture,** etc., obs. ff. Portraiture. **Purtred, -tured,** pa. pples. of Porture *v. Obs.* **Purtye,** obs. Sc. f. Poverty.

Purulage (piū·rɪ̆ŭlĕdʒ). *rare.* [From next, with change of suffix: see -age.] Applied to the contents of a liver abscess, in which there are other elements than purulent matter.

1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* xxiii. 363 Liver purulage has always a peculiar mawkish odour.

Purulence (piū·rɪ̆ŭlĕns). [ad. post-cl. L. *pūrulentia*, f. *pūrulent-us* Purulent: see -ence. So in Fr.] **a.** The fact of being purulent; the formation of pus; suppuration, festering. **b.** Purulent matter, pus.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 4 b/1 The purulence, or matter, is not engendred the first daye. 1599 — tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physiche* 346/2 If the wounde will yeelde no purulence. 1755 Johnson *Dict., Purulence, Purulency*, generation of pus or matter.

Purulency (piū·rɪ̆ŭlĕnsi). [f. as prec.: see -ency.] The quality or state of being purulent.

1597 Lowe *Chirurg.* (1634) 175 If with these ulcers there be purulency and rottenness. 1661 Lovell *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 115 The gall dropped into the eare with Womans milk, helps the purulencie thereof. 1732 Arbuthnot *Rules of Diet* iv. in *Aliments*, etc. (R.), Consumptions are induced by purulency in any of the other viscera. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 773 The nearest approach to purulency.

Purulent (piū·rɪ̆ŭlĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *pūrulent-us*, f. *pūs*, *pūr-* Pus: see -lent. So in Fr.]

1. Consisting of, of the nature of, or resembling pus, or corrupt matter; also *gen.* corrupt, putrid (*rare*).

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 3/2 The purulent matter was suncke to the grownde off the wounde. 1684 T. Burnet *Th. Earth* II. 88 Streams and rivulets of sulphureous liquors, and purulent melted matter. 1713 Swift *Salamander* 53 Wks. 1755 III. II. 77 It spews a filthy froth Of matter purulent and white. 1815 Kirby & Sp. *Entomol.* xii. (1818) I. 387 Some of the Œstri regale themselves on a purulent secretion with which they are surrounded. 1880 W. MacCormac *Antisept. Surg.* 226 During the whole time was no purulent discharge.

b. *fig.*

1611 Speed *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xvi. 77 Lord Fauconbridge is sent to sound their affections, and to draw the purulent matter to an head. 1727 Pope, etc. *Art of Sinking* 75 A discharge of the peccant humour in exceeding purulent metre. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIV. 506 Deal forth assertions purulent of slander.

2. Full of, forming, or discharging pus; suppurating, festering.

1615 Crooke *Body of Man* 387 If any small braunch of these vesselles be broken the Lungs become purulent and yeeld matter vp in coughing. 1688 South *Serm.* Matt. xxii. 12 (1729) II. viii. 297 To probe and search a purulent old sore to the bottom. 1833 J. Thomson *Lect. Inflam.* 443 The treatment of simple, purulent, or healthy ulcers.

b. Characterized by or accompanied with the formation of pus.

1834 J. Forbes *Laennec's Dis. Chest* (ed. 4) 185 Purulent infiltration. 1879 Harlan *Eyesight* v. 56 Purulent ophthalmia is one of the most dangerous diseases to which the eye is subject.

Hence **Pu·rulently** *adv.*, in a purulent manner; **Pu·rulentness,** purulency.

1727 Bailey vol. II, *Purulentness*, fulness of Matter or Corruption. *a* 1834 Coleridge *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 137 He shall be allowed to abuse as much and as purulently as he likes. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 425 Surrounding the purulently infiltrated part.

Purulo- (piū·rɪ̆ŭlo), combining form from assumed stem of L. *pūrul-entus* Purulent.

1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* (ed. 6) 285 The..purulent or purulo-fibrinous exudation. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 421 We recognise two forms of dysentery—the purulo-gangrenous and the fibrinous or pseudo-diphtheritic.

Puruloid (piū·rɪ̆ŭloid), *a. Path.* [irreg. f. as prec. + -oid.] Resembling or having the appearance of purulent matter; pyoid.

1866 A. Flint *Princ. Med.* (1880) 201 Presenting a purulent or puruloid appearance. 1880 Barwell *Aneurism* 99 'Cribriform cavities' containing..puruloid matter.

†**Purvey** (pɔ̄·ɪvē), *sb.* Also 6 **pervaie.** [f. next.]

1. The provision of a statute; = Purview 1.

1553 *Act* 1 *Mary* Sess. II. c. 7 § 1 Proclamations should have been made, according to the Purvey of the same Estatute. 1565 *Act* 8 *Eliz.* c. 8 § 1 Promoters..have..taken away by Virtue and Purvey of the said Estatute from divers poor Men..their Horse.

2. An arrangement, provision. *rare*—[1].

a 1535 More *How Sergeaunt wolde lerne*, etc. 70 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* III. 122 He made a good peruaie For euery whit by his owne wit, And tooke another waie.

3. The act of providing or supplying; that which is provided or supplied; *pl.* provisions.

1615 Chapman *Odyss.* XVII. 216 Those that used to furnish that purvey. 1678 Butler *Hud.* III. iii. 771 And when y' are furnish'd with all Purveys, I shall be ready, at your service.

4. A sum provided to meet current expenses: for specific use see quot. 1908. *local.*

1742 *Addingham* (Cumberld.) *Par. Bk.*, Collected by the Church Wardens..two Purveys thro the whole Parish 2^l^ 7^s^ 0^d^. 1794 W. Hutchinson *Hist. Cumberld.* I. 224 The rate assessed by purvey, about 30*l.* a year. 1838 *Addingham* (Cumberld.) *Par. Bk.*, 5 purvays Colected. 1839 *Ibid.*, 8 purvas Colected. 1908 C. C. Hodgson *Private Let.* 5 Nov., In this county [Cumberland], and it may be in others, the county rate used to be levied by 'purveys'. A Purvey was a sum of £100 and according as £100, £200 or £300 was required the Qr. Sessions ordered one, two, or three purveys to be levied. A certain sum was fixed against each Parish as its contribution to the purvey...This system was found in time to operate unfairly, and in 1810 a special Act of Parliament was obtained abolishing Purveys.

Purvey (pɔ̄ɪvē·), *v.* Forms: *a.* 3–4 **porvai(en**, **-vay(e**; 3–5 **-vei(en**, **-vey(e**; **purvei(en**, **-vey(en**, 3–6 **-vai(en**, 4–6 **-vaye**, 4–7 **-vei(e**, **-veye**, **-vay**, (4–5 *Sc.* **-way**, **-wey**), 5– **purvey**, (6–7 **-veigh**, **-veyghe**; 4–6 **pourveie**, **-vey(e**; 6 **poorvey**). (*Pa. t.* and *pple.* **purveyed**: in 5 *Sc.* **purvat**, **-vait**, **-voit**, **-ved**, **-vyde**, **-vyid.**) *β.* 4 **provei**, (*pa. pple.* **proveyd**, **-vyde**), 6 *Sc.* **provay**, *pa. pple.* **-uuait**, **-wyd.** *γ.* 4–5 **pervei(e**, **-vey(e.** (In all forms before 1620, *u* was commonly written for *v.*) [ME. a. AF. *por-*, *purveier*, *purveeir* = OF. *porveeir*, *-veoir*, *-veioir* (*je porveie*, *porvoie*), mod.F. *pourvoir*, = Pr. *provezir*, Cat. *provehir*, Sp. *proveer*, It. *provvidere*:—L. *prōvidēre* to Provide, f. *pro-* for + *vidēre* to see. The forms in *pro-*, *per-*, were assimilated to the L. prepositions. In ME. often stressed *purvey.*]

I. †1. *trans.* To foresee; = Provide *v.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter, Song Moses* 42 God gif thai.. puruayd thaire laste, that thai myght dye sikyrly. *c* 1374 Chaucer *Boeth.* v. pr. iii. 120 (Camb. MS.) It by-houeth nedes þat thinges þat ben to comyn ben yporueyid. *c* 1374 — *Troylus* IV. 1038 (1066) þat god purueieth thynge þat is to come. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 605/36 *Provideo*, to purveye, or to see byfore.

†**b.** To see before or in front of one; to have in view. *Obs. rare*—[1].

a 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xv. 8, I poruayd god ay in my sight..i puruaid him ay in my syght.

II. †2. To see to, attend to (something) in advance; to order, arrange beforehand; to fore-ordain; to bring (something) about by previous planning; = Provide *v.* 3. *Obs.*

[1292 Britton I. v. § 2 Qe il eyt tens de purveer lour respounse.] *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8311 (Cott.) þis wark..þou sal it puruai [*other texts*, deuise, ordaine] in þi thoght, Thoru salamon it sal be wroght. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 977 He gert purway..A mangery with glad chere. 1485 Caxton *Paris & V.* 40, I shal pourueye somme Iewels and money for our necessyte. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* x. ii. 54 To mak reddy for weyr, Purvay thar schippis, provyde armour and geyr. 1521 *Irish Act* 13 *Hen. VIII* in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 73 According unto the statutes in that behalfe purveyed. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Hen. VI* 131 b, What vitale was purueyed for this greate enterprise.

†**b.** *absol.* or *intr. Obs.*

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 115 After þis God schal purveie [L. *providebit Deus*]. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* I. xi. 51 To horsbak wente all the hoost, as Arthur had afore purueyed.

†**3.** *intr.* To take measures, arrange, or prepare beforehand. Const. *inf.* or *that.* Cf. Provide *v.* 4.

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron.* (1810) 74 þe Norreis [Northern people] purueied, to do him a despite. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom. I.* 2 (Harl. MS.) How þat his wif was a strompet, and which purveith in þat day that hire husbond shuld be ded. 1523 Ld. Berners *Froiss.* I. vi. 5 Than the quene secretly dyd puruey to go in to Fraunce. *a* 1533 — *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K v b, The good emperour pourueyed, that all they of his palais shouldę depart. 1604 Drayton *Owle* 1187 In mercy, let thy mightinesse purvay, To ransome from this eminent Decay. 1612 — *Poly-olb.* iii. 213 So nature hath purual'd, that during all her raigne The Bathes their natiue power for euer shall retaine.

†**4.** *intr.* To make provision or adequate preparation for some event or action, or for the supply of something needed. Const. *for*, *of* (*against*, *to*). Cf. Provide *v.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11700 Full prestly þe prest hase puruayet þerfore. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6788 But the maryner vp yede To purvey of that thei had nede. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 75 That it may be purveied for by so dew meens that [etc.]. 1490 Caxton *Eneydos* xxi. 77 Yf I had well thoughte to haue fallen in [this] inconuenyent ..I wolde haue purueied therto. 1502 Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 291 The Chaunceler..entendyng to purueye there ayenst. 1573–80 Baret *Alv.* P 889 To Purueigh for things

necessarie. 1658 *Whole Duty Man* Pref. 3 'Tis forward to purvey for pleasures and delights for us.

III. 5. *trans.* To provide, furnish, supply (something); = PROVIDE *v.* 5. **a.** Const. †*to* a person, etc., or with dative. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 348/97 Heo porueide hire riȝt feolonliche A poysun, strong i-nouȝ, For-to ȝiue þis ȝongue child to slen him. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1739 Þis false man..porueiede hom gode ssipes & in to þe se wende. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5566 Ther whiles the clerk Merlin Hem hadde y-puruaid a riche in. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxii. 8 God shal puruey to hym, my sone, the sacrifice. *c* 1485 *E. E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 42 To purway the a plas In heywyn to dweylle. 1519 *Four Elements* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 25 Go, purvey us a dinner..Of all manner of dishes. 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, Get thy wounds healed, purvey thee a better horse.

b. (*simply.*) Now in reference to articles of food, and as the act of a purveyor: cf. sense 9 and PURVEYOR 2.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 7921 (E.E.T.S.) 448 'Frende Youn', seyd þe king, 'Wiltow fiȝt for mi þing?' Oþer y schal anoþer puruay.' 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* viii. 21 We purueyen goode thingis, not oonli bifore God, but also bifore alle men. *c* 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 75 Wherfore a remedy puruey in hast. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 228 Being prouident in purueying victuals for her nourishment. 1638 SIR R. COTTON *Abstr. Rec. Tower* 15 The late Queene, Anno 1567. caused by Warrant of privie Seale a great quantity of Beere to be purveyed, transported and sold to her owne use beyond the seas. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 619 Such is all the mental food purvey'd. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xii. 234 The provisions..had been excellently purveyed under Ralegh's contract.

6. To furnish or supply (a person, etc.) *with* (†*of*) something; = PROVIDE *v.* 8. *arch.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 911 Þe kyng him porueide of poer inou. 13.. *Cursor M.* 25912 (Fairf.) Ilkan agh..puruay ham wiþ al þing fare. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 591 But for þat I was purueyed of a make I wepte but smal and that I vndertake. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 62 Þare he refreschez him and puruays him of vitailes. 1446 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 339 Vnto such tyme as he be pourveyd of a place. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 465 Had thai bene prouuait [*v.r.* prowydit] sa of schote of gvne..but perile thay had past. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* II. iii. 15 Give no ods to your foes, but doe purvay Your selfe of sword before that bloody day. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 940 His House with all convenience was purvey'd. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* viii, Thence he went back to London, was purveyed with a spy [etc.].

†**b.** Const. *for* (a purpose, etc.). *Obs. rare.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Eng. Wks.* 386 Þat þe clergy was sufficyently purveyed for lyfelode. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii. 38 Merlin..said Syr ye must puruey yow for the nourisshyng of your child. *Ibid.* xxviii. 75 Thenne was he [Ryons] woode oute of mesure, and purveyed hym for a grete hoost.

†**7.** To furnish (a person, etc.) with what is necessary, to equip; = PROVIDE *v.* 7. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (*Vincentius*) 77 Bot god þane purvoit þo þat he ferlyt quheyne þat cumyne mycht be. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Graal* xliv. 447 We scholen hem fynden most besy, And wers I-purveyed in Eche degre Thanne here Aftyr that they scholen be. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 205 b, The erle hoped, and nothyng lesse mistrusted, then to be assured and purueyed in that place.

†**8.** *refl.* (and *pass.*). To prepare or equip oneself; to take measures, get ready (*to do* something, *for* some event); = PROVIDE *v.* 7 b. *Obs.*

a 1330 *Syr Degarre* 481 A morewe the justes was i-set, The King him purueid wel the bet. *a* 1352 MINOT *Poems* III. 14 He bad his men tham purvay, Withowten lenger delay. *c* 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2264 He purveyd hym anon, To wend over the see fome. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 21 b, God sent hym [Pharaoh] a fayre warnynge to purvey hym before that sholde come after.

9. *intr.* (or *absol.* of sense 5 b). To furnish or procure material necessaries or the like; to act as purveyor (see PURVEYOR 2); *esp.* to make provision *for* a person, his needs, etc.; = PROVIDE *v.* 9. From 17th c. used chiefly or only of supplying victuals, and *fig.* from this.

c 1440 *Generydes* 5421, I will purvey for you another waye. 1480 CAXTON *Higden* VIII. ii. (Rolls) VIII. 525 By lycence of kyng Edward his fader he pourveyed for his ayde and helpe. 1514 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 56 To th' entent that every of them may provyde and purvey for hymselff wtin the said halff year. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IX. 1021, I [Adam] the praise Yeild thee, so well this day thou hast purvey'd. *a* 1711 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 121 This for his lust insatiably purveys. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 838 Dantzic reaped great advantages in purveying for the troops during the Seven Years' war. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 44 Frequented..by ten or twelve Connecticut smacks, which purvey for the New York market.

b. Const. *to. rare.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 55 Þe court of Rome..ordeynih..traytors of þis world, þat it peruey to þe temporal lif of sum man. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* C vij b, A good ensample how God purueyeth to them that haue deuocion in hym. 1796 BURKE *Let. Noble Ld.* 4 Their turpitude purveys to their malice. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* II. iii, Lute and lay espoused In adoration that purveys to sense.

Purvey·able, *a. rare.* [f. PURVEY *v.* + -ABLE.] †**a.** Provident, foreseeing, prudent. *Obs.* **b.** Procurable, obtainable.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ii. 53 (Camb. MS.) How þat nature..flitteth the gouernementz of thinges and by whyche lawes she purueyable [L. *provida*] kepith the grete world. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. xi. 286 b, And so, the physician abandoned, he tooke hym to meates purueiable.

Purveyal (pə*r*vē·ăl). *rare*⁻¹. [f. PURVEY *v.* + -AL.] The action of purveying or supplying; purveyance, supply.

1887 *Hour Glass* June 181 What may be called the purveyal of lecturers was a task surrounded with difficulties.

Purveyance (pə*r*vē·ăns). Forms: 3–4 (5) por-, 3–8 pour-, 3- pur-; 3–6 -vea(u)nce, (4 -ans), 3–6 -via(u)nce, (-ans), 4–6 -vya(u)nce, (-a(u)ns); 4 -veyonce, 4–6 -veya(u)nce, 4–7 -veia(u)nce, 5–6 -voyance, 5- purveyance, (6 -veigh-, -veygha(u)nce). Also 5 perveaunce, -viance; *Sc.* perwyans, pourwiance, purweans, -wians. (Bef. *c* 1620 commonly with *u* for *v.*) [ME. a. OF. *por-, purvea(u)nce* :—L. *prōvidēntia*: see PROVIDENCE. Subsequently conformed to the vb. *purveeir, pourvoir,* PURVEY, as F. *purvei-, pourvoyance*; in Eng., with shift of stress from *purvea·nce, pu·rviance,* to *purvei·-, purvey·ance.*]

†**1.** Foresight; foreknowledge of and provision for the future; = PROVIDENCE 2. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9387 Fol hardi he is inou ac al wiþoute rede, Hastif wiþoute porveance. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xciii. 8 Fulis withouten puruyaunce of þe toþer warld. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Wyþ-oute wyt and wyþ-oute poreyonce. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* V. vi. 83 (Camb. MS.) For which it nis nat yclepyd preuydence, but it sholde rather ben clepyd puruyaunce [*non prævidentia sed providentia potius dicitur*] þat byhooldeth from a-fer alle thinges. 1450–80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* 17 Thou maist with thi purveaunce and forsight helpe thi sugetis. 1567 *Test. Hen. Stewart* 130 in *Scot. Sat. Poems* I. 43 Quhair Venus anis gettis in hir gouernance..Wisdome is exilit and prudent puruoyance. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 166 For youth.. while it rometh without purueyaunce, makes marueilous a doe before it will die.

†**2.** The action of preparing, arranging, or ordaining; preparation, pre-arrangement; ordination, direction, government, management; = PROVIDENCE 1; PROVISION *sb.* 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11556 (Cott.) Qua herd euer ani slik Purueance sa ful of suike. *a* 1330 *Otuel* 666, & alle winter þe king of Fraunce, Lette maken his purueianse. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 241 He made perviaunce for meytes and dryukes and oþer thynges. 1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 200, I pray..that ye will make such purveyaunce therfor that it may be to myn delyveraunce. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 577 In-to þe sete I woll a-pere ffor my gestes to make porvyawns. *a* 1550 *Freiris of Berwik* 434 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 299 He had witt of all hir purveance to. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 67/2 The citizens of Dublin..made the best purueiance they could to defend their citie. 1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* xii. (1664) 132 The sweet sleepe of the senses, The fountain of sage Advice and good Purveyance.

†**3.** In full, *purveyance of God, divine purveyance*: = PROVIDENCE 3. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 137 Eterne god that thurgh thy purueiaunce Ledest the world by certein gouernaunce. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* Prol. I. 23 The hyhe almyhti pourveance, In whos eterne remembrance Fro ferst was every thing present. 1497 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfect.* D ij 2 Dispeyred on the purueaunce of almyghty god how they sholde be fedde. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1902 This yle of Ely by deuyne purueaunce With muddy waters is compased about. *a* 1555 PHILPOT *Exam. & W.* (Parker Soc.) 116 He was..born into this world by the divine purveyance.

†**4.** That which is ordained; an ordinance or statute, or a clause in one: cf. PROVISION *sb.* 8. In quot. 1632 = PURVIEW 1. *Obs.*

[1261 *Patent* 46 *Hen. III* m. 19 in *Rymer's Fœdera* (1816) I. 411 Diuers ordeinemens, purveaunces, e establisemens fez a Oxinford.] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11007 So þat atte laste hii broȝte him þer to To makie a porueaunce amendement to do. Imad it was at Oxenford þut lond uor to seyte. *Ibid.* 11047 Þe quene was ek biȝonde se & þe kinges breþeren al so, & euere þoȝte hou hii miȝte þe purueance vndo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11551 He made a purueance in hi, þat mani saccles suld it bij. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 439/1 Yhe yeerly moste renne in much gretter Dette, oo lesse than other purveance wer made. 1513 *Act 5 Hen. VIII*, c. 4 § 2 Every Piece so calendred against the Ordinances and Purveyances aforesaid. 1632 *Womens Rights* 391 The count had recited the whole purueyance of the act.

5. The providing or furnishing (of some necessary), *esp.* the purveying or provision of victuals.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 123 Me made grete purveaunce of vitailles for hym. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1737 Of vitayles þai made na purueance. 1540 MORYSINE *Vives' Introd. Wysd.* B vj b, They are greatte and longe purviaunce for a lyttell and short lyfe. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 75 b, He made greate purveighance of all thynges necessary for the coronacion of his Quene. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXII. 439 For purueyance of forage and fewell. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxxi. 233 The way of collecting the rents, both in money and purveyances of victuals, &c. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iii. 119 All along the coast..there was busy baking of biscuits and purveyance of provender.

6. *spec.* The requisition and collection of provisions, etc., as a right or prerogative; *esp.* the right formerly appertaining to the crown of buying whatever was needed for the royal household at a price fixed by the PURVEYOR, and of exacting the use of horses and vehicles for the king's journeys.

1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 32/2 Thabuse of the said purveaunce. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 40 He rewardid fifty thousande sak wolle for perveaunce. 1483 CAXTON *Cato* d v b, Therfore she counceylled unto the kynge..that he sholde make purueaunce and store of it. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II*, § 47 (1876) 29 A vallet of mestier purveiour of ale, who shal make the purveiance of ale. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. (1787) 189 He established the composition of the Pale, in lieu of purveyance and sess of soldiers. 1668 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (1669) 113 The King by his Prerogative hath had at all times the Right of Purveyance or Pre-emption of all sorts of Victuals neer the Court. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 288 By degrees the powers of purveyance have declined, in foreign countries as well as our own. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W. N.* III. ii. I. 477 Great Britain is..the only monarchy in Europe where the oppression of purveyance has been entirely abolished. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvii. (1877) 538 The prerogative of purveyance included, besides the right of preemption of victuals, the compulsory use of horses and carts and even the enforcement of personal labour.

†**7.** That which is purveyed; a supply, stock, provision (of victuals, arms, or other necessaries). Cf. PROVIDENCE 1 b. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11677 Vr water purueance es gan. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 176 A gardyn..In which that they hadde maad hir ordinance Of vitaille and of oother purueiance. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* VIII. 1004 Breid, ayll and wyn, with othir purweans. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. vi. 5 In a nother ship they had put all theyr purueyaunce. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 6 How Yarmouth .. should ..supply her inhabitants wth plentifull purueyance of sustenance.

†**b.** An armed force fitted out; armament; array. *Obs. rare.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 125 The ȝere next on hand ȝede þe Kyng of France To þe holy land, with his purueiance. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5734 He scholde without distaunce Come with alle his puruyaunce, That were lefft with-Inne the walles.

Hence **Purvey·ancer** *nonce-wd.*, purveyor.

1800 COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* II. xiv, Did the Duke make any of these provisos..when he gave you the office of army purveyancer?

†**Purvey·ant,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PURVEY *v.* + -ANT.] Foreseeing, provident.

1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 138 A kynge..sholde be Purveyaunt and Pensyfe of thynges that may come afteryrwarde. *Ibid.* 234 Who-so hath the voice meene betwen grete and smale, he is wise, Purueyaunt, veritable.

Purveyed (-vē·d), *ppl. a.* [f. PURVEY *v.* + -ED¹.] **1.** *ppl. adj.* †**a.** Pre-arranged, foreordained. †**b.** Equipped, prepared. **c.** Furnished, provided.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 141 Practique..techeth hou and in what wise Thurgh hih pourveied ordinance A king schal sette in governance His Realme. 1435 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 491/1 Wherfore, like it to your purveyed discretions, to pray [etc.]. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* II. ix. 86 But syr are ye purueyed, said Merlyn, for to morne the hooste of Nero..wille sette on yow. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxxii. 146 We be nat as nowe purueyed to gyue you a full answere.

†**2.** *pa. pple. Purveyed that*, provided that: see PROVIDED II. *Obs.*

1398 in Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) VIII. 61/1 Purvait that Heritages on bathe the Syds stand in the fourme and vertue as is compris'd within the Trewes. 1447 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 135/1 Purveied also, that noo man havyng any Graunte of..the King..of any Castels..bee stopped or prejudiced.

Purveyer, Purveyeress: see PURVEYOR.

Purvey·ing, *vbl. sb.* [f. PURVEY *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb PURVEY.

†**1.** Foreseeing, foresight; providence, prudence.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 958 (986) If ther myght ben a variaunce To wrythen out fro goddes purueynge. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* x. 23 Wisdam forsothe is to a man purueing [1388 Wisdom is prudence to a man].

†**2.** Preparation, arrangement, management; = PURVEYANCE 2. *Obs.*

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8170 Than he lete make purveing ..Into Ynde to take werre on hond. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 27 That which others have tak'n so strictly, and so unalterably into their own purveying.

3. The providing or procuring of supplies; foraging; = PURVEYANCE 5, 6.

1552 HULOET, Purueyghinge of corne or grayne, *frumentatio.* 1623 COCKERAM, *Lignation*, a hewing or purueying of wood. 1804 GILLESPIE in Duncan *Nelson* (1806) 220 The attention paid..to the victualling and purveying for the fleet. 1852 MISS YONGE *Cameos* (1877) I. xxviii. 235 His own household had neither wages, clothes, nor food, except what they obtained by purveying, in their case only a licence to rob.

Purvey·ing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That purveys; that manages the provisioning.

1789 B. RUSH *Med. Enq.* 70 The union of the purveying and directing departments of hospitals in the same persons.

Purveyor (pə*r*vē·ə*r*). Forms: see below. [a. AF. *purveür, -our,* = OF. *por-, pur-, pour-, proveor, -veour, -v(e)eur, -voieor* (13th c. in Godef.), in mod.F. *pourvoyeur,* agent-n. from OF. *porveeir,* mod.F. *pourvoir*: see PURVEY *v.* and -OR. The forms in *pro-* were assimilated to L. *prōvidēre.* Orig. stressed *purveou·r,* whence *pu·rveour, pu·rvior*; later conformed to *purvey* as *purvey·or.*]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α.¹ 4 purveür, -vaour, 4–5 pur-, pourveou·r.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4607 (Cott.) Do gett þe a good purueur [*F.* puruaour, *G.* purueour]. *Ibid.* [see B. 1]. 1390 Pourveour [see B. 3]. 1448 Purueour [see B. 1].

α.² 4 porveyou·r, purveyowr, -va(y)our, 4–7 -veyour, -e, 5–7 -veiour, -e, -veior, (7 pourveyour, -veyor), 6- purvey·or.

1340 *Ayenb.* 100 He ys uader, he is diȝtere and gouernour and porueyour to his mayne. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 4337 (Fairf.) Joseph þat noble puruayour. *a* 1430 *Ibid.* 11003 (Laud) Right was that the purveyoure Shuld come by-fore the

Sauyoure. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287 Pompeius beeyng declared in woordes & in title the purveiour of corne. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 164 As the purveior compounded. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm. on Matt. xxi.* 12 § 13 God is no purueyor for theeues and robbers. 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* II. 64 The Pourveyor of the expence of the army. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pourveyour*,..an Officer of the King, or other great personage.

α.[3] 4–5 **purvyour**, 5 **-viowre**, 5–6 **-viour**, 6 **vior**, *Sc.* **-vyar.**

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 13 To paie þe pore peple þat his puruyours toke, withoute preiere at a parlement. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/2 Purviowre, *provisor, procurator.* *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI* 161 Like a spedy purvior, whiche slacketh not tyme. 1569 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 132 Gevyn..to the Quen of Scottes purvyar ij s.

β. 4 **purvayer**, 5–7 **-veier**, **-veyer**, 7 **pur-, pourvoyer.**

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13208 (Fairf.) For-þi is he calde cristis puruayer. *c* 1449 Pureier [see B. 2]. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Marius* (1895) III. 217 Purveyer for all necessarie provision. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* II. 81 They haue certaine Caters and purueiers among them. 1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 186 The Carribbians were as it were the Pourvoyers of the French. 1683 *Apol. Prot. France* iv. 27 His Purvoyer could find no room for him in the Castle.

γ. 4–5 **provyour**, **-wyour**, **-weour**, **-wour**, **-uour**, **-wor**, **-wer.**

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 255 My prowor & my plowman Piers shal ben on erthe [*v.rr.* proweour, pourveour, prowyour; 1393 C. XXII. 260 prowour, prouour]. 1387 Provyour [see B. 1]. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 468 Crist..oure beest prower ordeyned al that was best for us to haue.

B. Signification.

†**1.** One who makes preparation or prearrangement; a manager, director, steward. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4337 (Cott.) Joseph, þat was god purueur [*v.rr.* -uayour, -ueour] A dai he went in to þe bour. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 147 As it were to þe comoun provyour of alle [L. *communi cunctorum provisori*]. 1448 HEN. VI in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 378 For .ij. purueours either of theym at .vj. d. by day.

2. One who procures or supplies anything necessary, or something specified, *to* or *for* others.

In *commercial use*: One who makes it his business to provide or supply victuals, etc., esp. one who provides luncheons, dinners, etc., on a large scale or for a large number; also in such denominations as 'Purveyor to their Majesties', or 'to the Royal Household', 'Universal Purveyor', etc.

1340 [see A. α.[2]]. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* 468 The wijsist purueier and tendirist louer. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1826) 461 This man served the parson as Purveyour of his poultrie. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* v. vi. 14 (1718) 269, I love the sea; she is my fellow-creature, My careful purveyor: she provides me store. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 312 The Spaniard..was their guide himself, and their purveyor also. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 127 b, Mr. Allingham has not proved himself an indolent purveyor for the dramatic corps. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 240 A shoemaker, or perhaps some other purveyor to our bodily wants. 1891 *Daily News* 15 July 3/3 Mr. Morton moved to reduce the vote by 50*l.* allowance to the purveyor of luncheons.

b. An official charged with the supply of requisites or of some necessary to a garrison, army, city, or the like; † in quots. 1787–91 an officer who provided timber for the navy (*obs.*).

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 68, I fynde by hys bokes of hys purveours how yn every castelle, forteresse, and cyte or towne he wolde hafe grete providence of vitaille. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 175 To heare of the Treasurer and purveiour generall of the armie in Armenia. 1787 G. WHITE *Selborne* i, The oaks of Temple and Blackmoor stand high in the estimation of purveyors, and have furnished much naval timber. 1791 GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 22 Besides these ancient officers of the forest, there is one of later institution. ..He is called the *purveyor*, and is appointed by the commissioner of the dock at Portsmouth. His business is to assign timber for the use of the navy. 1809 WELLINGTON *Let.* 13 Dec. in Gurwood *Desp.* V. 365 The usual allowances, which the Purveyor General of the British Army will pay. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Ralegh* I. xii. 232 Both Essex and Ralegh acted as purveyors of the fleet. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* July 122 The Purveyor-in-Chief was to furnish everything required for the hospital service.

3. A domestic officer who made purveyance of necessaries, lodging, transport, and the like for the sovereign (*king's* or *queen's purveyor*), or for some other great personage. Also *transf.* one who exacts supplies or contributions. Now *Hist.*

[1360 *Act* 36 *Edw. III*, c. 2 Que le heignous noun de purveour soit chaunge & nome achatour.] 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 194 He is overal A pourveour and an aspie. 1399 [see A. α.[3]]. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 581/17 *Exactor*, a Puruyour. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 189 As a purveyour goth be-forn to takyn an jn for his mayster. *a* 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* III. ii, I must needes haue your maisters horses..I am the Kings Purueyer, and I tell thee I will haue them. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Purveyor*, an Officer of the King or other great Personage, that provides Corn and other Victual for the house of him whose Officer he is. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* XXV, The Queen's purveyors had been abroad, sweeping the farms and villages of those articles usually exacted during a royal Progress. 1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 415 The hated name of purveyor was [1360] to be exchanged for that of buyer.

Hence **Purvey·oress**, a female purveyor.

1611 COTGR., *Pourvoyeuse*, a Prouideresse, or Purueyeresse.

Purview (pɜ̄·rviu). Forms: 5 **purveu**, **-vewe**, 5–7 **-vieu**, 6 **-vew**, 7– **purview**. [a. AF. *por-, purveu, purview* provided = OF. *porveu* (=OIt. *proveduto*), in mod.F. *pourvu*, pa. pple. of *porveeir*: see PURVEY). The word was used in the AF. statutes (*a*) in the phrase *purveu est* 'it is provided', to introduce that which is provided or enacted by the statute, and (*b*) in the phrase *purveu que* 'provided that', to introduce a special proviso, condition, or saving clause; hence as sb., the clause so introduced, the provision or proviso.

(*a*) 1275 *Act* 3 *Edw. I*, c. 1 Purveu est que nul y vengne mangor, herbiger, ne gisir en meson de religion, al cust de la meson. *Ibid.*, Et est porveu que les poinz avaundiz lient ausi bien nos Conseillers, come autre gent.

(*b*) 1377 *Act* 1 *Rich. II*, c. 15 Purveue toutfoitz que les dites gentz de seint eglise ne se tiegnent deinz les egliises ou sanctuaries par fraude ou collusion. 1423 *Act* 2 *Hen. VI*, c. 11 Purveux toutfoitz que laverrement soit receu par nostre Sr le Roy que le Capitain est en plein vie.]

1. The body of a statute, following next after the preamble, and beginning with the words 'Be it enacted'; the enacting clauses; that which is provided or enacted by a statute; hence, the provision, scope, or intention of an act or bill.

1461 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 468/1 Noo purvewe, provision, ne other thyng in this present Parlement made,..in any wise be hurtyng..vnto the Abbes and Convent aforeseid. 1533–4 *Act* 25 *Hen. VIII* c. 17 § 11 Provyded also that yf any person or persones hereafter..doo contrary to the purvew and remedy of this Acte. *a* 1677 HALE *Com. Law* III. (1716) 51 Many Times the Purview of an Act is larger than the Preamble or the Petition: and so 'tis here: For the Body of the Act prohibits all Appeals. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6) s. v., Thus a Statute is said to stand upon a Preamble and upon a Purview. 1850 GLADSTONE *Glean.* V. xlv. 200 We will assume then that the Statute intended..to include in its purview all the circumstances of the consecration of Parker.

†**b.** A provisional clause; a proviso. *Obs.*

1442 *Petit. for Ld. Scrop* in *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 41, 42 Ensyngly vppon which endosement was added a clause of Purveu, in this fourme that foloweth. Purveu toutz foitz, qe si trove soit a present [etc.]. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 309/1 Soo alwey that Richard erle of Salisbury..be not in eny wise by force or colour of this purviеu or exception hurt. 1755 JOHNSON, *Purview*, proviso, providing clause. [With quot. from Hale, *a* 1677 above.]

2. By extension, The scope or limits of any document, statement, scheme, subject, book, or the like; the purpose or intent; also, the range, sphere, or field of a person's labour or occupation.

1788 MADISON *Federalist* (Webster 1828), In determining the extent of information required in the exercise of a particular authority, recourse must be had to the objects within the purview of that authority. 1811 KNOX *Corr. w. Jebb* (1834) II. 30 Christianity..takes mankind as it is, and, in its purview, leaves out nothing. 1881 J. G. FITCH *Lect. Teach.* (ed. 3) 38 If we seek to classify the objects of instruction, so far as they lie within the purview of a school-teacher. 1884 J. SHARMAN *Hist. Swearing* i. 12 Questions that have influenced the mind of the writer in considering the purview of his book.

3. Influenced by VIEW: Range of vision, physical or mental; outlook; range of experience or thought; contemplation, consideration.

1837 RICHARDSON *Dict.*, *Purview*, the view forward: the forecast, the contemplation. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. viii. 247 There is a delusion, too, in this width of purview. You see the extent of horizon, but do not make out the roads. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Inspiration* ix. 222 A glimpse, a point of view that by its brightness excludes the purview, is granted, but no panorama. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 31 Jan., How was it that none of these facts seem to have come within the purview of her Majesty's Office of Works? 1904 S. J. WEYMAN *Abbess of Vlaye* XXII, In a twinkling she was hidden by the turn [of the road] from the purview of the castle.

†**Purvision**, obs. variant of PROVISION, influenced by PURVEY.

1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 2080 Letters..from the Pallatine of Vilna and the Kyng of Poole offering them large curtesie. This puruison [*later edd.* puruision] vnlooked for, greatly reuiued theyr heauye spirites.

‖ **Purwanah, parwānah** (pɜ̄ɹwā·nă). *East Ind.* Also 7 **pher-**, 8–9 **per-**; 7–8 **-wanna**, 8–9 **-wannah**, 9 **-wanah**, **-wunah.** [a. Urdū and Pers. پروانہ *parwānah*, a royal patent or diploma, warrant, commission.] A letter of authority; an order, licence, pass.

1682 SIR W. HEDGES *Diary* 10 Oct. (1887) I. 34 If we did not procure a Pherwanna from the Duan of Decca to excuse us from it. 1693 in J. T. WHEELER *Madras in Old T.* (1861) I. 281 (Y.), Egmore and Pursewankum were lately granted us by the Nabob's purwannas. 1764 *Ann. Reg.* 191 The late perwannahs..granting..exemption of all duties..shall be reversed. 1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 250/2 My servant returned..with the Rajah's acknowledgment of my letter, and a purwannah or pass through his dominions, written in the ancient Hindu character. 1849 E. B. EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 218 *note*, One of these officers..signed a parwánah for a merchant to transport goods through Sindh to Cábul free of toll.

Purwinkle, -wynkle, obs. ff. PERIWINKLE[2].

Pury, *a. Obs.*: see PUTRY, rotten, putrid.

Pus (pʌs). *Path.* Also 8 **puss.** [a. L. *pūs*, stem *pūr-*, viscous matter of a sore: cf. PURULENT.] A yellowish-white, opaque, somewhat viscid matter, produced by suppuration; it consists of a colourless fluid in which white corpuscles are suspended.

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Terap.* 2 F ij b, Hyppocrates.. teacheth vs that pus or suppuracyon is made wt some putrefaction. 1651 N. BIGGS *New Disp.* 243 The Pus is materially produced of bloud. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Ulcer*, A puss or corruption which retards the consolidating of the parts. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 123 The termination by suppuration is that process in animal bodies, by which the matter of sores or pus is formed. 1866 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 240 Pus is opaque, less viscid than mucus,..and in water sinks to the bottom.

fig. 1831 A. FONBLANQUE *Eng. under Seven Admin.* (1837) II. 105 A William infuses spirit of Reform, as a George.. would have infused pus of Boroughmongery.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pus-cell*, *-corpuscle*, *-production*, *-serum*; *pus-containing*, *-forming*, *-like*, *-producing* adjs.

1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* ii. 58 It would seem, that cancer-cells, like pus-globules, usually, if not always, become arrested in the liver, and do not pass through to become the germs of cancerous tumors in other organs. *Ibid.* 89. 1873 ROLFE *Phys. Chem.* 169 The pus-corpuscles are spherical irregular bodies about 1/2500 to 1/3500 of an inch in diameter. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 247 The extent of pus-formation will depend upon the severity of the inflammatory process. 1876 *Clin. Soc. Trans.* IX. 177 Discharge less in quantity and more pus-like. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 432 Disintegrated pus-cells. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 279 The pus cavity extended within two centimetres of the apex of the frontal gyrus.

Pusane, pusen, pusca, variants of PISANE, POSCA (vinegar-water). **Puscle, puscull, pusel, -ell(e**, obs. ff. PUSTULE, PUCELLE.

†**Pusesoun**, erron. obs. form of POISON *sb.*

a 1330 *Roland & V.* 297 And of þe smoc of þat toun, Mani takeþ þer of pusesoun, And dyeþ in michel wo.

Puseyism (piū·zi,iz'm). [f. the name of Dr. E. B. Pusey, 1800–82, professor of Hebrew and Canon of Christ Church at Oxford + -ISM.] A name given by opponents to the theological and ecclesiastical principles and doctrines of Dr. Pusey and those with whom he was associated in the 'Oxford Movement' for the revival of Catholic doctrine and observance in the Church of England which began about 1833; more formally and courteously called Tractarianism. Now little used.

Dr. Pusey's initials were appended to No. 18 (21 Dec. 1833, on Fasting) of the *Tracts for the Times*, and, of the ninety, seven were written by him. His academic and ecclesiastical position gave great weight to his support of the movement, and specially associated his name with it.

1838 STERLING in *Ess. & T.* I. (1848) cvii, Calvert..an Oriel man, a contemporary and friend of Froude's, but quite opposed to Puseyism. 1840 MRS. CAR. WILSON *Listener in Oxford* vi. 171 The acquiescence..in even the external peculiarities of Puseyism. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xv. (1891) 101 O Heavens, what shall we say of Puseyism, in comparison to Twelfth-Century Catholicism? 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 424 Puseyism is very far from being at one in principle with Romanism. It is only a conservative movement towards ancient doctrine—while Romanism has a principle, a life, an idea of its own. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Life Pusey* II. 139 It was apparently during the year 1840 that the use of the word 'Puseyism' became widely popular.

So **Pu·seyist** = PUSEYITE; also **Puseyi·stic, Puseyi·stical** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to the Puseyites or Puseyism. (All hostile terms.)

1849 *Eclectic Rev.* Jan. XXV. 27 Alloyed with..general Puseyistical religious leaven. 1850 MRS. BROWNING *Lett.* 13 Nov., Robert says it is as well to have the eyeteeth and the Puseyistical crisis over together. 1864 WEBSTER, *Puseyistic.* 1870 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. XXXI. 6 More than Romanists and Puseyists deserve.

Puseyite (piū·zi,əit). [f. as prec. + -ITE.] A follower of Pusey; a supporter or promoter of the Oxford or Tractarian Movement: see prec.

1838 WHATELY in *Life* (1875) 163 Oxford..has at present two-thirds of the steady reading men, Rabbinists, i.e. Puseyites. 1839 LD. BLACHFORD *Let.* 21 Jan., I heard the words 'Newmanite' and 'Puseyite' (a new and sonorous compound) from two passers-by. 1850 DISRAELI *Let.* 16 Nov. in *Corr. w. Sister* (1886) 250 Riding the high Protestant horse, and making the poor devils of Puseyites the scapegoats.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

a 1847 J. B. WHITE in Newman *Apol.* ii. (1904) 30/1 The most active and influential member of that association called the Puseyite party. 1851 DICKENS *Househ. Wds.* Xmas No. 5 A spruce young Puseyite Curate.

Hence **Puseyi·tical** *a.* = PUSEYISTICAL.

1844 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 139, I have exercised the children's minds greatly on the doctrine of Puseyitical reticence. 1845 *Bachelor Albany* (1848) 5 A man of much learning, eccentric habits, and Puseyitical opinions.

Push (puʃ), *sb.*[1] Also 6 **pussh**(e, 6–7 **pushe**, 8 *Sc.* **pouse.** [f. PUSH *v.*: cf. F. *pousse* (15th c.).]

1. An act of pushing; a continued application of force or pressure to move a body away from the agent; a shove, thrust. In early quotations, A blow, stroke, knock (*obs.*).

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 59 Pyrrhus with fast wroght twibbil in handling Downe beats with pealing thee doors..A broad gap yawning with theese great pusshes is opned. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. x. (1614) 156 Here might you see the strong walls shaking and falling, with the pushes of the yron ramme. 1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* I. i, When his spacious hand Had rounded this huge ball of Earth and Seas To give it the first push, and see it roll Along the vast abyss. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶ 3 She gives him a Push with her Hand in jest, and calls him an impudent Dog. *a* 1796 BURNS *Answ. Ep. fr. Tailor* ii, I gi'e their wames a random pouse. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 66 Just at the edge of the well, he gave him a push and threw him into it. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 28 Sept. 5/1 [It] is on the edge of a precipice, and..it needs but a push to send it toppling into the gulf below.

b. *spec.* in *Billiards.* A stroke in which the ball is pushed instead of being struck with the cue, or

in which the cue, the cue ball, and the object ball are all in contact at the time the stroke is made; also, in *Cricket* and *Golf*, a stroke in which the ball is pushed instead of being hit; a push-stroke.

1873 'CAVENDISH' & BENNETT *Billiards* 309 Push strokes may be divided into the half-push and the push. 1893 *Daily News* 16 Mar. 5/5 He would..prohibit what is called the 'push', and he would enact a rule by which the red ball on being put down from the billiard spot during a break should be placed on the pyramid spot.

c. *fig.* An exertion of influence to promote a person's advancement by one who is 'at his back'.

1655 LD. NORWICH *Let.* 1 June in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 318, I shall say much more to you..concerning this pushe (give me leave soe to call it). For whoe is there y^t^ now pusheth not for his interest? 1793 CAPT. BENTINCK in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 48 Your Lordship will judge whether in this you can give me a push. 1889 *Century* XXXVIII. 156 It is money or 'push' which secured the place that should have been awarded to merit.

2. A thrust of a weapon, or of the horn of a beast. Also *fig.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1835/2 At the Tourney .xij. strokes, wyth the sword, three pushes with the punchion staffe. 1589 *Late Voy. Sp. & Port.* 27 Being charged by ours..they stood..euen to the push of the pike, in which charge and at the push, Captaine Robert Piew was slaine. 1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. iii. 35 So great was the puissance of his push, That from his sadle quite he did him beare. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* ii. Wks. 1851 III. 209 Repaire the Achelaian horne of your Dilemma how you can, against the next push. 1712 *Loud. Gaz.* No. 4966/2 He Attack'd the Enemy with push of Bayonet. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iv, It was nothing but push and thrust. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 170 He..will not suffer them to go on a hunting party, where there would be risk of a push from a stag's horn. 1867 *Athenæum* 13 July 47/2 'All the fine pushes were caught in the wood,' or hide, of the shields.

†**3.** An attack, a vigorous onset. Also *fig. Obs.*

1563 GOLDING *Cæsar* III. xix. (1565) 77 They were not able to abyde one pushe [*unum impetum*] of us, but by and by tourned their backs. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* II. i, I will not stay the push. They come! 1677 EARL ORRERY *Art of War* 27 If the Push be vigorous, and the Resistance considerable. 1691 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 264 The Irish army consisted of near 30,000 men, and 'twas beleiv'd would try one push. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 706 The push And feeble onset of a pigmy rush. 1800 *Hist. Ind.* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 24/2 The Major determined..to make one push at them, that their escape, at least, might be prevented.

4. An effort, a vigorous attempt; a turn, bout, 'go'; chiefly in phrases *at one push, at the first push, to make a push* (*at, for, to do* something), *upon the push.* Now *rare.*

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 40 Many men that are able to pay their debts doo not..pay them presently at one push. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 10 Exact Reformation is not perfited at the first push. 1721 PERRY *Daggenh. Breach* 80 A great Number of Hands..wanting to make a Push as it was call'd, to turn the Tides out of the Levels. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 168 All their Art cannot make a thick-winded Horse run as long Pushes as one with..a better Wind. 1746 CHESTERF. *Let.* 8 Feb., He [Demosthenes]..at last made his strong push at the passions of his hearers. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* ix, The consciousness of having made a push,—of having thrown a die. 1818 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXIII. 21 The Rump made a grand push to make over the City of Westminster to the Whigs.

b. A determined advance; a pushing forward; in phr. *to make a push.* Const. *at* or *for.*

1803 NELSON in Nicolas *Dispatches* (1845) V. 192, I wish I could know to a certainty where they are bound. I think.. they will make a push at Messina. 1828 SIR W. NAPIER *Penins. War* VI. iii. (Rtldg.) I. 282 Making a 'push' of 400 miles. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 557 Argyle resolved to make a bold push for Glasgow. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* iii. 64 We made a push for the lake.

c. *slang.* (See quot.)

1873 *Slang Dict., Push,* a robbery or swindle. 'I'm in this push', the notice given by one magsman to another that he means to 'stand in'.

5. Pressure; *esp.* in *Building,* the thrust of an arch or the like.

1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 29 The Air that was in the Room..had been driven away up the Chimney, by the Push of the External Air. 1772 HUTTON *Bridges* 99 *Push,* of an arch, the same as drift, shoot, &c. 1807 — *Course Math.* II. 269 The area of the triangular bank of earth is increased in the same proportion as its horizontal push is decreased. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* IV. 167/1 The 'push' is thrown upon the cast-iron abutting piece. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 633 There is no forward push of the rib.

6. *fig.* The pressure of affairs or circumstances; the condition of being 'pushed'; a case or time of stress or urgency; a critical juncture, an extremity, a 'pinch'; esp. in phrases *at* (†*for*) *a push,* in an emergency; *to come, put, bring to the push,* i. e. to an extremity, hence to actual trial; cf. POINT *sb.*[1] 22 b. Sometimes fig. from 3.

1570–83 FOXE *A. & M.* 729/1 He..closely kept himselfe betweene both, till the pushe came that his helpe might serue at a pinch. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 202 To what a miserable push have they driven the World. 1644 in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. 102 The extreame push of affaires that the associated Countyes are now put to. 1671 MILTON *P. R.* IV. 470 If thou..wilt prolong All to the push of Fate. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 22 Chillingworth ..was a subtile and quick Disputant, and would several times put the Kings Professor to a push. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, At a Push,* at a pinch or strait. 1764 *Mem. G. Psalmanazar* 187 Till it came to the solemn push. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 146 When a push comes, he procures additional hands to get the hay up, or the oats in, or the potatoes planted. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 325 It was a hard push to make a newspaper pay.

7. Determined effort to get on; persevering energy; enterprise, esp. that which is inconsiderate of the rights of others.

1855 BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 31 Like what is called 'push' in a practical man, Sydney Smith's style goes straight to its object. 1881 in Nodal & Milner *Lancs. Gloss.* (1882), *Push,* energy, determination. He'll never make nowt on it—he's no push in him. 1893 PEEL *Spen Valley* 56 The stolid indifference and want of push and enterprise which has characterised agriculturists.

II. Concrete senses.

8. A 'press' of people; a crowd, throng. Now *rare* exc. as in 9.

1718 C. HIGGIN *True Disc.* 13 He is a..thieves' watchman, that lies scouting..when and where there is a push, alias an accidental crowd of people. 1754 J. POULTER *Discou.* 30 In order to be out of the push or throng. 1830 MONCRIEFF *Hrt. London* II. 1 He's as quiet as a dummy-hunter [pickpocket] in a push by Houndsditch. 1866 G. MEREDITH *Vittoria* xxix, A great push of men emerged from one of the close courts.

b. A moving school or shoal of fish. *dial.*

1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Skooal,* or *Push,* a shoal of fish pursuing their course.

9. *slang.* A 'crowd' or band of thieves; a gang of convicts at penal labour (Farmer); *esp.* in *Australia,* A gang of larrikins; hence, Any company or party; a 'crowd', 'set', 'lot'.

1884 DAVITT *Prison Diary* (1885) I. x. 95 The stocking-knitting party [in prison]..became known..as the 'upper ten push'. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 26 July 4/3 'Doolan's push' were a party of larrikins working, or supposed to be working, in a potato paddock near by. 1893 *Sydney Morn. Her.* 26 June 8/7 Day by day the new 'push' has become more daring. From chaffing drunken men and insulting defenceless women, the company has taken to assault, to daylight robbery. 1898 E. E. MORRIS *Austral Eng.* s. v., Its use began with the larrikins, and spread, until now it often means clique, set, party, and even jocularly so far as 'the Government House Push'. 1901 J. FLYNT *World of Graft* 16, I like him, an' the push likes him, 'cause he gives us rope. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* July 40/1, I was recruiting for my 'push' down in Durban. I used to go and get the fellows off the ships as they came in.

10. A flush of water. *dial.*

1886 COLE *S. W. Lines. Gloss., Push* (pronounced short, as Rush), a pool or puddle. The watter all stood in pushes. We'd such a push of watter agen our door, we had to let it off. 1894 *Daily News* 1 Nov. 3/5 The heavy push of water, which had long been looked forward to by anglers. 1895 *Ibid.* 7 Oct. 9/3 The heavy downpour in the early hours of yesterday morning ought to cause a 'push' of land water.

11. A contrivance or part which is pushed or simply pressed in order to operate a mechanism; a push-button.

1889 *Sci. Amer.* 18 May 313/1 The spring push, which was secured higher up on the door,..could be tampered with by patients so inclined. *c* 1890 F. E. POWELL *Electric Bells* 43 A push might be described as an automatic switch, as it is self-stopping when the pressure is removed. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 June 2/6 Push-tap valves..do not require a key, the driver simply having to press the push and the water runs off.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: see PUSH-.

Push (puʃ), *sb.*[2] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 6 **poushe, powsh(e, pushe,** 6–7 **pussh(e.** [Origin obscure.

Possibly a use of PUSH *sb.*[1], with the sense 'something that pushes or is pushed out or up': But it occurs 30 years earlier than any of the known senses of that word, as well as with spellings not found there, though occurring in the verb; and it is difficult to separate it entirely from MDu. and MLG. *pûst,* mod.Du. *puist,* pimple, blister, E.Fris. *pûske* (dim. of **pûs*) pustule, pock, blister, and many related words, from an app. onomatopoeic stem *pûs-* or *pûst-* to inflate, swell up; coinciding also in form with the stem of L. *pust-ula, pus-ula,* blister, pimple, pustule. If the word entered Eng. from any source at an early date as *puss,* or *pousse,* it might share the phonetic history of F. *pousser,* and become *push,* like PUSH *v.*]

A pustule, pimple, boil.

1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* III. vii. (1541) 59 b, Sometyme blacke poushes or boyles, with inflamation and moch peyne. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 71 'Εξανθήματα, that is, litle pymples or pushes. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* XXXV. 18 b, Asaphati is the greke worde. In Englyshe they be named whelkes or pushes the which be read. 1552 HULOET, Byle, botch, or powsh. *Ibid.,* Powshe, *Atheroma, Epinyctides..Tuberc ula*..a little powshe. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* (1641) 98/2 The pining Phthisik fils them all with pushes Whence a slowe spowt of cor'sie matter gushes. 1665 G. HARVEY *Advice agst. Plague* 4 Risings like blisters, or small tumors and pushes, some red, others yellow. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 422 Very useful for Pushes, Pimples, and Blemishes in the Face. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 41 In vernacular language, this species [a common phlegmon] is denominated a *push.* 1843 SIR T. WATSON *Princ. & Pract. Physic* II. 796 A very common ..pustular disease of the skin, usually called boil, in some parts of England a *push,* and by the learned *furunculus.*

Push (puʃ), *v.* Forms: *α.* 4 ?**pusse,** *pa. t.* **puste**; 4–5 **posshe(n**; 5–6 **pusshe,** 6 **puszshe, pushe, powshe,** 7– **push.** *β.* 6–9 *Sc.* **pouss,** 7–9 *Sc.* **pouse,** 9 *dial.* **poose** (**puss**), **powse** (**pauss**). See also Poss *v.* [a. F. *pousser,* with palatalization of *s* (cf. *brush, cuish, quash,* with F. *brosse, cuisse, casser*); in OF. *polser, poulser* (:—L. *pulsāre,* freq. of *pellĕre* to drive, push, beat), which gradually supplanted *bouter,* in OF. to strike, thrust, push (see BUTT *v.*[1], and cf. sense 3 below), as in Eng. *push* has supplanted PUT *v.*[1] in its early senses 'thrust, butt'.]

I. Of physical action.

1. *trans.* To exert force upon or against (a body) so as to move it away; to move by such exertion of force; to shove, thrust, drive (the opposite of *to draw* or *pull*). In early use comprehending the force of impact as well as of pressure, but now spec. applied to the communication of force by pressure in contact.

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1079 Horn þe wyket puste, þat hit open fluste. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4625, I..that was posshed in every side, That I nist where I might abyde. [Cf. *ibid.* 4479 s. v. Poss *v.* 1.] *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xlvi. 38 Þei lusshed hym, þei lasshed hym, þei pusshed hym, þei passhed hym. 1562 ROWBOTHUM *Playe of Cheastes* E v, If he pushe his Paune one steppe more. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* v. v. 25 It is more worthy, to leape in our selues, Then tarry till they push vs. 1611 — *Wint. T.* II. iii. 125 *Paul.* I pray you doe not push me, Ile be gone. 1755 JOHNSON s.v. *Push-pin,* A child's game in which pins are pushed alternately. 1833 *Manuf. Metal* (Cab. Cycl.) II. 269 Any one of them..being pushed the least degree too much or too little. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvii, The hindermost pushing the front ones faster than they would have gone of themselves. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 1122 The door, Push'd from without, drave backward to the wall. 1893 *Labour Commission,* Glossary 65/2 The tram containing the coal is sometimes pushed by the boy, and sometimes pulled by a pony. *Mod.* The nurse was pushing the perambulator and met the gardener pushing a wheel-barrow. The gradient being steep, an additional locomotive is here put on behind to push the train.

b. with an adverb or advb. phrase, expressing the direction, or way, in which the thing is moved, e. g. *to push back, down, in, out, onward, open,* etc.

c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 262 If any..schofte, pusche, or sperne any suster from her withe armes or scholders. 1530 PALSGR. 671/1 He pussched me awaye as harde as he coulde .. *il me rebouta,* or *me repulsa darriere luy tant quil peut.* 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 73 Will you not push her out? 1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xliv. 5 Through thee will wee push downe our enemies. 1663 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoic* xiii. (1685) 126 The Rose being pous'd up by the salt nitre which makes it vegetative. 1791 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* i, He was turning to go out when the man suddenly pushed him back, and he heard the door locked upon him. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 131 As the liquid became heated its vapour pushed the mercury before it along the tube. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 The mercury is pushed through the system much quicker than under ordinary circumstances. 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* I. i, She turned the key and pushed open the door. *fig.* 1781 COWPER *Hope* 659 To parry and push by God's word With senseless noise. — *Expost.* 690 The word of prophesy, those truths divine..Are never long vouchsaf'd, if push'd aside With cold disgust or philosophic pride.

c. To drive or repulse by force of arms; to drive in the chase.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 27 The Mallabars pushing them [our skiffs] and throwing fire-balls at vs. 1709 *London Gaz.* 4585/2 They charged our Horse, and broke in upon us; we rallied, and pushed them. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 238 After we had thus pushed the enemy's cavalry. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 492 The tenacious Crew Hang on the Track,..And push him [the fox] many a League.

d. To move, throw forward, or advance (a force) against opposition or difficulty.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 254 He intended to have pusht two hundred of his men on shore in his boats. *Ibid.* xiv. 286 To hinder us from pushing our men on shore. 1800 WELLINGTON in Gurw. *Desp.* (1834) I. 21* Some campoos and pultans, which have been indiscreetly pushed across the Kistna. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* II. xv. 158 Henry pushed his scouts along the road towards Windsor.

e. *absol.* To thrust others out (of one's way); to jostle, shove.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 236 Alternate they preside, and justling push To guide the dubious Scent. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 13 Rather than pay three-pence to one of the men on the quays, they stumbled, and panted, and pushed, under a load which was heavier than it need to have been.

f. *To push round the ale,* etc., *to push the bottle,* to pass the liquor from one to another in convivial drinking.

1829 LYTTON *Disowned* 7 Come, Mim, push round the ale. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* II. iv. 55 Thomson could push the bottle like a regular *bon vivant.*

g. *trans.* or *absol.*, in *Billiards.* To make a push-stroke: see PUSH *sb.*[1] 1 b.

1873 'CAVENDISH' & BENNETT *Billiards* 314 To push, the cue must be placed all but touching the player's ball.

h. *absol. Push off*: Of a person in a boat (and *transf.* of the boat), To push oneself away from the bank or the like; to shove off. *fig.* (*slang* or *colloq.*) To begin a game, etc. So to *push out* i.e. into the open water.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. x, Then, getting into my Canoo, I pushed off from Shore. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* III. 227 As M'Kenzie's canoes were about to push off. 1839 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. 119 The two Athenian galleys suddenly pushed out. 1865 J. THOMSON *Sunday up River* v. ii, We push off from the bank. *Mod.* We're all ready to play; push off!

i. (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., To Push,* to move a vessel by poles.

j. *intr.* To sit abaft an oar and propel a boat with forward strokes: as, to push down a stream.

2. *intr.* To thrust with a pointed weapon, stick, or the like (const. *at*); to tilt, fence; to use a spear, short sword, poniard, etc. *Obs.* or *arch.*

[1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VII. 96 Mi plouh-pote schal be my pyk and posshen atte Rootes, And helpe my coltre to kerue.] 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, II. i. 103 As manhood shal compound: push home. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XXVII. XXVIII. 650 Others ..pushed at them with punchion poles. 1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. ii, The Duke of Burgundy..pushes the finest of any man in France. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 511 That none shall dare With shortned Sword to stab in closer War:.. Nor push with biting Point, but strike at length. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* IV. 383 Let the green In years ..Push with the lance. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* V. 522 But Arac rode him down: And Cyril seeing it, push'd against the Prince.

fig. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1674 (1823) II. 57 When duke Lauderdale was hotly pushed at, he then promised.. that he would avoid all former errors. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 577 A bold and forward man, who pushed at every thing that might ruin the Church.

† **b.** *trans.* To stab with a weapon; to 'strike'. Also *fig.* (cf. PUT *v.*[1] 3 b). *Obs.*

1694 *Martens' Voy. Spitzbergen* IV. in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. (1711) 160 For the most part they do not much mind where they launce or push them [whales]. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i, *Man.* Right! there you push'd him home.

3. *intr.* To thrust or butt with the horns: chiefly biblical. Also *trans.* = PUT *v.*[1] 1 b. Now *dial.*

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* XXI. 29 Yf the oxe haue bene vsed to push in tymes past. [So 1611; 1885 *R. V.* gore.] *Ibid.*, 2 *Chron.* XVIII. 10 With these [horns] shalt thou puszshe all the Syrians [1611 push the Syrians], tyll thou brynge them to naughte. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* XXI. 32 If the ox shall push [COVERDALE gorre] a manservant or a maidservant. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 343 They fence, they push, and pushing, loudly roar. 1888 E. LAWS *Little Eng.* App. 421 *Push*, to butt like a cow.

4. *trans.* To thrust (a weapon); to thrust (a limb, organ, root, etc.) into some position; to put (anything) out in a projecting manner. *To push a face*: see FACE *sb.* 7 b.

1692 *Diary Siege Lymerick* Pref. A ij b, With so poor a Handful to push so bold a Sword, and carry so intire a Victory. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 115 Some kinds of weeds push their roots very far down... If there are any stones in the land, they push their roots among the stones. 1778 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 15 Oct., I never could get anything from her but by pushing a face. 1894 R. BRIDGES *Feast of Bacchus* I. 376 What has he to do to push his nose into our affairs?

5. *trans.* To thrust *out*, stick *out* (an organ or part). Of a plant: To send forth (a shoot, runner, root); also, to put *forth* (fruit).

1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* XXVII. 320 Some like Snailes push out their hornes till they be touched. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 405 [To] manifest its vigour by continual efforts to push forth more fruit of good works. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Feb. 32 In melon plants pushing runners: pinch off the end of the runners. 1849 *Florist* 252 To encourage the plants to push fresh roots.

b. *intr.* To stick out, project. Of a plant or stem: = PUT *v.*[1] 9.

1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* iii, A...cape..pushing out a long way into the sea. 1855 BROWNING *Childe Roland* xii, If there pushed any ragged thistle-stalk Above its mates, the head was chopped. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 80/2 Those plants which are pushing strongly will do all the better if the ground is forked between them.

6. *intr.* To exert pressure upon something in the way described in I.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, V. iv. 16 We may as well push against Powles as stirre 'em. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 83, I..push'd at Philip's garden-gate. *Mod.* Do not push against me. The fence is weak; if you push against it it will give way. Push with all your might; all push at once!

7. *intr.* To make one's way with force or persistence (as against difficulty or opposition). With various adverbs and preps.; esp. *to push on*, to press forward, to advance with continued effort.

1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* VI. 269 Now push we on, disdain we now to fear, A thousand Wounds let ev'ry Bosom bear. 1768 BYRON *Narr. Loss Wager* 122, I pushed into the next wigwam upon my hands and knees. 1804 MONSON in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 526 The enemy pushed after and many were either killed or wounded. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* II. xi, Pushing through the very narrow path of a very long field of very high corn. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* liii, For fear divine Philosophy Should push beyond her mark. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiv. 222 Cæsar, after a short rest, pushed on and came under their walls. 1892 GARDINER *Stud. Hist. Eng.* 11 He pushed inland to the Kentish Stour. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 600 Both the horny and granular layers push downwards wherever they can.

b. *To push one's way*, to make one's way by thrusting obstacles or opponents aside.

1781 COWPER *Expost.* 17 Whom fiery suns .. Forbid in vain to push his daring way To darker climes. 1884 R. W. CHURCH *Bacon* iii. 61 The shrewd and supple lawyers..who unscrupulously pushed their way to preferment. *Mod.* He pushed his way to the front of the crowd.

II. Of action other than physical.

8. *intr.* To put forth vigorous effort or endeavour; to press, be urgent in request or persuasion; to aim *at* with endeavour to attain; to try or work strenuously *for*, press *for*; to seek actively, labour *after*. Now *rare*.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* I. XXV. 30 Glory won in great exploits his mind did elevate..Which made him push at what his issue gate. 1601 in Moryson *Itin.* II. II. ii. (1617) 171 The King of Spaine meanes to make this place [Kinsale] the seate of the Warre..[in order] to push for England. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. v, Will he be Importunate, Foible, and push? 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. XV. 319, I had no occasion to push at a winter journey of this kind. 1728 RAMSAY *Gen. Mistake* 150 Macsomno pushes after praise. 1738 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* IV. 88 While the Presbyterians were pushing for their Covenant uniformity. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. XXVIII, By pushing at something beyoad that, I have brought myself into such a situation as [etc.]. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* I. 13 The manner in which the manufacturers 'pushed' for orders.

9. *trans.* To urge, press, incite, impel, drive (a person, etc.) *to do* something, or *to* († *upon*) some course; to urge or egg *on*.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 95 His wickit and ewill consall..allurit him and puffit [*v. r.* poussit] him fast fordwart to fight witht Inglischemen. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* 48 Nothing..but that which conscience would pouse any man upon all hazards to avow. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 332 Pushed on by the King of Ardra, he marched against the People of Fida. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (Rtldg.) 128 Apprehensions..that desperation should push the People upon Tumults. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphith.* 249 Then..might the Wild-Beasts be seen pushed on to fight. 1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* II. XXVIII. 138 He pushed his master to seek an occasion of quarrel with that monarch. 1812 JOANNA BAILLIE *Siege* III. ii, 'Tis a strange thing that women, who can't fight themselves, should so eagerly push us to the work. 1862 GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* IV. XI. (1873) 347 Shrinking from being pushed to greater lengths in Religion than we are prepared to go.

10. To impel (a horse, etc.) to greater speed; to urge *on*; *spec.* to urge (it) forward beyond its natural speed or endurance; also in reference to other animals, a steam-ship, etc.

1787 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II, To push (or put) on a Horse, *Pousser, lancer, piquer un Cheval.* 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 445 As I behold Each lovely nymph..Push on the gen'rous steed. 1832 STANDISH *Maid of Jaen* 18 The steeds with urgent speed were push'd 'Till lost in distance all was hush'd. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* IV, The car-driver managed to push his poor starveling to a canter. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 14 Sept. 5/2 Mr. Cunard denied that there had been any effort whatever to push the vessel [the Lusitania].

b. To force (a thing) into more intense action. Now *rare*.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 41 Orpiment..when pushed by a strong fire yields a great quantity of acrid volatile particles. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 603 By pushing the heat after the oil comes over. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 805 The fire, at first moderate, is pushed till the cucurbits are red hot.

11. To press forward, prosecute, or follow up, press with vigour and insistence (some action or operation); to urge, press (a claim, etc.); chiefly with advb. extension, esp. *to push on*; *to push it*, to press one's suit.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 179 Camillo's flight..doth push-on this proceeding. 1701 W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* iii. 52 Marcus was for pushing on his Blow. *a* 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. IV. 365 Since the churchmen pushed on so wicked a business. 1777 WATSON *Philip II* (1793) II. XIII. 136 If the Spanish commander..had pushed his operations with proper rigour, he must have made himself master of the town. 1827 *Examiner* 275/2 Such pupils..as chose to push their studies. 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* ii, They say Tom's pushing it strong there. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* lxiv. 85 So.. Push'd he his onward journey to Minos' haughty dominion.

b. Phr. *To push one's* († *a*) *fortune*, to engage actively in making one's fortune. Cf. FORTUNE *sb.* 5.

1657 SIR W. MURE *Hist.* 251 A man wittie and hardie, fit for pouseing a fortoune in these times. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. (1721) I. 190 You push'd not your Fortune to rise in either. 1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* xiv, We man to the bent, And pouse our fortune. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* I. i, It is high time for a brisk lad of seventeen, like thee, to push thy fortune in the world. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1876) I. XIII. 214 To glance at the operations of a small knot of middle-aged men who were pushing their fortunes in Paris. 1886 [see FORTUNE *sb.* 5].

c. To extend operations vigorously forward in space, or to more distant places.

1842 ALISON *Hist. Eur.* lxvi. § 83 (1848) XIV. 285 The approaches were pushed with great rapidity. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 94 They pushed their trade to still more distant parts. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 May 5/1 Hitherto Russia has been pushing her conquests in a region where there is no well-established authority and no clear boundaries.

12. To carry out (a matter, action, principle, etc.) to a farther point, or to the farthest limit. *To push through*, to press or carry by force to a conclusion.

1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 137 P 1, I think they have pushed this matter a little too far. 1779 *Mirror* No. 45 P 7 He must push to excess every species of extravagant dissipation. 1839 J. YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* i. (1847) 4 If we push our investigations to an earlier period. 1856 EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Cockayne* Wks. (Bohn) II. 64 Individual right is pushed to the uttermost bound compatible with public order. 1876 GREEN *Stray Stud.* 7 That peculiar temper.. which declines to push conclusions to extremes. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. XXXII. 489 If it [*viz.* a measure] is not pressing, neither party..cares to take it up and push it through.

13. To advance or try to advance or promote; to urge or press the adoption, use, practice, sale, etc. of (a thing); to exert oneself for the advancement or promotion of (a person); also with *forward*, *on*.

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 31 Journalists [are] employ'd to push and forward it. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 12 Jan., There is a transaction going on to send Sir Charles Williams to Turin; he has asked it, and it is pushed. 1758 JOHNSON *Let. to Burney* 8 Mar. in *Boswell*, Not that I mean to impose upon you the trouble of pushing them with more importunity than may seem proper. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, Every one who had a son ..whom he wanted to push forward in the world [etc.]. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 22 May 12/1 Pushing the sale of British goods. 1894 *Times* 28 Nov. 4/2 To correct your correspondent's misconception of the phrase 'pushing' a book.

b. To press, force, or thrust (something) *on* or *upon* a person for attention, acceptance, or adoption.

1723 R. WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 99 They were not fond of having one that was in the family, and on that score pushed on them. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 91 Physicians are too apt to push their prescriptions upon the healthy. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* XX. (1905) 210 There was another fact, which he never pushed upon anybody unasked.

14. To press or bear hard upon (a person) in dealing with him, to put to straits; *esp.* in *passive*, To be hard pressed or put to straits, as by lack of time, means, etc.; often with *for*.

1761 HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. viii. 171 Henry laying hold of so plausible a pretence, resolved to push the clergy with regard to all their privileges. 1867 J. R. BROWNE *Land of Thor* iii. 43 It is dreadful to see people so hard pushed to live. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 258 I'm a little pushed for time. 1893 RAYMOND *Gent. Upcott* ii, I'm a little pushed..and I thought perhaps you'd let me have a small matter of fifteen pound.

Hence **Pushed** (puʃt), *ppl. a.*

1658 BP. REYNOLDS *Lord's Supper* xii, Would not God, in the Law, accept of any but pushed, and dissected, and burned sacrifices?

† **Push,** *int.* (*sb.*). *Obs.* = PISH, TUSH, *int.*

1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. ii. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 294 Push! meet me: Ferdinand, I will. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. vi. 119, 2, Know you the quality of Lord Timons fury? 3 Push, did you see my Cap? 1624 *Trag. Nero* I. ii. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1882) I. 18 Push, it could not be like to this.

B. *sb.* An exclamation of 'push'; = PISH *sb.* *To make a push at*, to treat with disdain.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 38 There was neuer yet Philosopher, That could endure the tooth-ake patiently, How euer they haue writ the stile of gods, And made a push at chance and sufferance.

Push-, the stem of PUSH *v.*, or PUSH *sb.*[1], in combination. **a.** General: in the senses (*a*) moved or actuated by a push, or by pushing, as *push-bar*, *-pick*, *-tap*; (*b*) used for pushing, communicating a push, as *push-pedal*, *-piece*, *-rod*, *-work*. **b.** Special Combs: **push-ball**, a game in which a very large ball is pushed by the hands and bodies of the players towards the opponents' goal; also *attrib.*; **push-barred** *a.*, (*Billiards*) in which a PUSH (1 b) is barred or forbidden; **push-battle**, a game; **push-bicycle, -cycle**, an ordinary bicycle, propelled by the rider, as distinguished from one driven by a motor; **push-board**, some parlour game: see quot.; **push-button**, a button in an electric switch, which, when pushed, closes or opens the circuit; **push-car** *U. S.*, (*a*) a hand-car; (*b*) a bogie car used to connect an engine with a train which is on a ferry-boat; (*c*) a plate-layers' trolley; **push-cart**, a hand-cart; **push-halfpenny**, a game in which coins are pushed over a mark on a level surface; shove-halfpenny; **push-hole**, see quot.; **push-off**, the act of pushing a boat from the land; hence, an effective send-off in starting on any course; **push-plough** = BREAST-PLOUGH; **push-stroke**, in *Billiards*, *Cricket*, and *Golf* = PUSH *sb.* 1 b; **push-through**, a narrow passage through a boundary wall, etc.

1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 168/2 *Pushball was developed out of mere experiments into an organised game about the year 1895 by the Newtown Athletic Club near Boston U.S.A. The ball used is made after the same fashion as the ordinary round football used in the English Association game, but has a diameter of about 6 feet. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, **Push-bar*, a bar that sustains a pushing stress. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 8/1 Pointing to the extra push-bar exits and elaborate fire appliances. 1898 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 7/2 A new *push-barred record of 679. 1898 B. GREGORY *Side Lights Confl. Meth.* 520 In our all-including games, like *push-battle. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 9/5 Spring forks, which are considered debatable points on a *push bicycle, are now recognised as absolute essentials on the..motor cycle. 1906 *Ibid.* 10 Feb. 6/1 Playing a kind of bagatelle or *push-board. 1878 G. B. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* (1879) 376 The *push button or key used in short circuits serves to close the latter in a very simple manner. 1902 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 367/2 The subscriber presses a push button, and the two numbers to be connected are 'rung up' simultaneously. 1899 MORROW *Bokem. Paris* 224 Street hawkers with their heavy *push-carts. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 1 June 3/6 Anyone who has tried it, knows that a motor-cycle is as comfortable as a '*push-cycle' over the same piece of road, at double the speed. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Push-hole (*Glass-making*), a hole in the flattening-furnace for annealing and flattening plate-glass. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 8 May 5/2 He was the right person to give a *push-off to this newest venture of the Christian Social Union. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 16/2 Multiple disc-clutch, *push-pedals, foot-accelerator. 1908 *Ibid.* 19 Mar. 4/2 The two push-pedals performing the usual functions of disconnecting the clutch and putting on the brake. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 108/1 (Repeating Watch), P is the pendant-shank or *push-piece. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 132 For setting the hands a push piece.. is pressed with the thumb nail. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 115 The turf..they cut in the Moorelands in the Spring time

with an instrument call'd a *push-plow, being a sort of spade, shod somewhat in the form of an arrow. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 11 Aug. 5/5 *Push-pole, and the inevitable negotiation of the greasy pole. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Jan. 4/2 The inlet-valves are..placed immediately above the exhaust-valves, and actuated by rockers and vertical *push-rods. 1873 *Push stroke [see PUSH *sb.*¹ 1 b]. 1884 W. COOK *Billiards* 64 In order to play the push stroke successfully, it is necessary to hold the cue [etc.]. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 8/7 When the Prince was holing a short put at the home green, he cautioned his Royal Highness against giving the ball a push stroke. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 3/1 Drives between the off-side fielders, and push-strokes between the bowler and mid-on, and past mid-on. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 27 June 2/6 To provide *push-tap valves to the several troughs in this borough. 1888 *Athenæum* 18 Feb. 217 The side pieces of a Derbyshire stile or '*push through' in the churchyard wall. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 36 The *pushwork for setting the hands.

Pusher (pu·ʃəɹ). [f. PUSH *v.* + -ER 1.]

1. One who or that which pushes (*lit.* and *fig.*). Also in various technical uses.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Corneador*, a pusher with the hornes. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* v. i, The beggarly Pusher of his Fortune has all he has about him still only to shew. 1859 SALA *Tw. Round Clock* (1861) 135 The pushers of invalid perambulators. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life* i. *Fate*, Everything is pusher or pushed: and matter and mind are in perpetual tilt and balance so. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 87 Brickmaking: Clamp Process:.. Pusher-out. *Ibid.* 89 Flattening Glass Making..Pusher. 1884 A. M. MAYER in *Sport in Amer. Woods* II. 751 Boats.. with a broad stern in which was a roomy seat for the pusher to stand on while he plied his 'gaff'. This is the name given to the pushing-pole. 1885 [see PULLER 1]. 1895 *Nebraska State Jrnl.* 23 June 5/1 As a student he was known as a 'pusher'; a man who was first in his classes and first in all the doings of the college.

† b. (See quots.) *Obs.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Pushers*, Canary-birds new Flown that cannot Feed themselves. 1725 BRADLEY *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Canary bird.*

2. A part of a machine having or communicating a thrusting action; a machine having such parts.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 261 A pusher now acts behind the staple, and drives it home into the leather. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 38 Between the two shanks a strong ledge, called the pusher, can be drawn. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Pusher*, a form of bobbin-net machine..having independent pushers to propel the bobbins and carriages from front to back. 1882 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 484 The bobbins were acted on separately by a 'pusher' or governor.

Pu·shery. *nonce-wd.* [f. PUSH *v.* + -ERY; cf. *jobbery*, *puffery*, etc.] The practice of pushing.

1788 TWINING *Let.* 20 Jan. in Mme. D'Arblay *Diary*, I actually asked for this dab of preferment; it is the first piece of pushery I ever was guilty of.

Pushful (pu·ʃfŭl), *a.* [f. PUSH *sb.* + -FUL.] Full of 'push' (see PUSH *sb.*¹ 7); active and energetic in prosecuting one's affairs; self-assertive; pushing; aggressively enterprising.

1896 CH.-JUST. ALVEY (U. S.) in *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Jan. 5/2, I suppose Mr. Chamberlain, more than Lord Salisbury, is the present representative of that pushful spirit which makes England's attempts to advance her lines and extend her Empire on this continent a subject of national sensitiveness. 1896 *Gentlewoman* 23 May 692/3 The Pushful Woman. 1899 *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 550/2 A little pushful perhaps, and in danger of being a little vulgar.

Hence **Pu·shfully** *adv.*, **Pu·shfulness.**

1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Nov. 2 It is little like pushfulness to rely in this way on someone's book. 1907 *Academy* 17 Aug. 800/1 Be pushful and your nose will obtrude on society pushfully.

Pu·shing, *vbl. sb.* [f. PUSH *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PUSH in various senses.

1530 PALSGR. 259 Pusshyng, thrustyng, *rebovtement.* 1659 C. NOBLE *Mod. Answ. to Immod. Queries* To Rdr. 2 May we not take these bold disputes and questionings, as pushings at the feet of his present Highness? 1799 HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 244 With the same earnest pushing on to continual progress. 1885 MISS C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 471/2 With some pushing he made his way within.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pushing-pole*; **pushing-jack**, a form of jack (JACK *sb.*¹ 10) for moving or pushing a heavy object, as a railway-truck or the like, a short distance; † **pushing-master**, a teacher of fencing; **pushing-net**, ? = POUT-NET; † **pushing-school**, see quot. *a* 1700.

1698 FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* I. i, He appeared crowded about with a dancing-master, pushing-master, music-master, and all the throng of beau-makers. *Ibid.* II. ii, Sir, here comes the pushing-master. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Pushing-School*, a Fencing School. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 254 Two Bag Nets. Casting Net. Beach Net... Pushing Net. 1884 Pushing-pole [see PUSHER 1].

Pu·shing, *ppl. a.* [f. PUSH *v.* + -ING 2.] That pushes. a. Thrusting, shoving, driving.

1693 T. POWER in *Dryden's Juvenal* (1697) xii. 305 A Steer .. Forward he bounds his Rope's extended length, With pushing front. 1854 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems* (1904) 182 With pushing horns and clawed and clutching hands.

b. *fig.* That pushes forward; active, energetic, enterprising, keen to do business; also, intrusively forward, self-assertive, officious.

1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* Pref. 8 As for personal Courage, that of Augustus was not pushing. 1737 L. CLARKE *Hist. Bible* I. (1740) I. 33 Nimrod, a bold and pushing man. 1755 JOHNSON, *Pushing*, enterprising, vigorous. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* I. iv. 167 A pushing rising family. 1884 *Birmingham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 3/3 Assurance..Pushing Man Wanted.

Hence **Pu·shingly** *adv.*, **Pu·shingness.**

1847 WEBSTER, *Pushingly.* 1881 *Daily News* Leader 23 Mar., Avarice, ambition, and social pushingness.

Push-pin (pu·ʃpin). [f. PUSH- + PIN *sb.*¹ See also PUT-PIN.] A child's game, in which each player pushes or fillips his pin with the object of crossing that of another player.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. iii. 169 To see..Nestor play at push-pin with the boyes, And Critticke Tymon laugh at idle toyes. 1645 WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 60 Conditions made By Boyes, or Girles, at Push-pin, or at Cat. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper, Love's Play at Push-pin*, Love and my selfe (beleeve me) on a day At childish Push-pin (for our sport) did play: I put, he pusht, and heedless of my skin Love prickt my finger with a golden pin. 1775 ASH, *Pushpin*, a child's play in which pins are pushed with an endeavour to cross them. 1825 BENTHAM *Ration. Rew.* 206 Prejudice apart, the game of push-pin is of equal value with the arts and sciences of music and poetry. 1906 *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 350 It was poetry and not push-pin that comforted Mill when he fell into despondency.

b. *fig.* As the type of trivial or insignificant occupation; child's play, triviality.

1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 15 Our Authors Divinity might have gone to Push-Pin with the Bishop. 1788 COWPER *Let.* 21 Feb. in *Davey's Catal.* (1895) 20 Everything that we do is in reality important: though half that we do seems to be push-pin. 1820 *Examiner* No. 623, 191/2 This is the push-pin of literary reading.

c. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* in fig. sense.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 256 Come, let's hear a little of his Pushpin Labours. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 36 A meer childrens play and a worse than Push-pin diversion. 1780 COWPER *Table Talk* 547 Every effort ends in push-pin play.

‖ Pushtoo, -tu (pu·ʃtū), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Pashto.** [a. Pers. پشتو *paštō*, Afghan *păχtō*.

(The second consonant, written as *sin* with dot above and below, is pronounced by Western Afghans nearly as Pers. *shin* (ش or *sh*), by Eastern Afghans nearly as χ or *kh*; hence the name has been also transliterated as *Pukhto*, *Pakhtu*, *Pukshto*, and in many other ways. See Lepsius *Standard Alphabet*, and the Grammars and Dictionaries of Raverty, Trumpff, Bellew, Lorimer, etc.)]

The native name of the language of the Afghans, intermediate in character between the Iranian and Sanskritic families of the Aryan languages.

1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* II. ii. 168 The principal person present..repeats a Pushtoo verse, importing that 'Events are with God, but deliberation is allowed to man'. 1841 J. WILSON in G. Smith *Life* vii. (1878) 153 He talks nothing but Persian and Pushtoo. 1859 C. FORSTER *New Key for Recov. Lost Ten Tribes* 242 *note*, The Dictionary of the Pushtoo language. 1878 R. N. CUST *Lang. E. Indies* 29 The Pushtu, or Pakhtu, is the Language of the Afghans or Putáns.

Pusill (piū·sil), *a.* and *sb.*¹ *rare.* [ad. L. *pusillus* very small; cf. F. *pusil* feeble (16th c.).]

† **A.** *adj.* Small, insignificant, petty. *Obs.*

1623 COCKERAM, *Pusill*, small. 1640 G. WATTS tr. *Bacon's Adv. Learn.* IV. iii. § 3 To be enquired, by what efforts such a pusill and a thin-soft aire should put in motion such solid and hard bodies.

B. *sb.* † 1. A variety of pear. *Obs.*

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 170 Heere the Plum, the Damsen there The Pusill, and the Katherins peare.

2. A little or weak one, a child. *rare*—¹.

1884 BLACKMORE *Tommy Upm.* v, He has not doubted to encounter..the foes of the pusill committed to his charge.

Hence † **Pu·sillage** *Obs.*, littleness, smallness, insignificance; **Pu·silling** *rare*—¹ [cf. *weakling*], a small person, a dwarf.

1610 W. FOLKINGHAM *Art of Survey* Author to Wk. 8 Thy abortiue Limbes I rather chose In close concealement from this captious Age To smoother, ay, than rashly thus t'expose ..thy Pusilage. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-Killers* 107 Stand out of the way, you pusilling of a dwarf, you.

† **Pusill,** *sb.*², obs. var. of PUCELLE.

c 1610 B. JONSON *To Fletcher on Faithf. Shepherdess*, Lady, or Pusill, that wears mask or fan. 1624 MIDDLETON *Game at Chess* I. i. 282 To invite the like obedience In other pusills by our meek example.

† **Pu·sillani·me,** *a. Obs.* [a. F. *pusillanime* or ad. L. *pusillanimis.*] = PUSILLANIMOUS.

1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 1128/2 It were farre from reason, to thinke that he which hetherto for his estate hath liued in such abundance, should be so pusillanime. 1577 PATERICKE tr. *Gentillet* (1602) 46 We discouer our selues..to be of a pusillanime, base, and feeble heart.

Pusillanimity (piū:silăni·mĭti). Also 4–5 **pusillamite**, 5 **-animite.** [a. F. *pusillanimité* (14th c. in Godef., *pusillamité* 14th c. in Gower, *Mirour de l'omme*), ad. eccl. L. *pusillanimitās* (4th c.), f. *pusillanimis*: see next.]

The quality or character of being pusillanimous; lack of courage or fortitude; pettiness of spirit; cowardliness, timidity.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 210 Bot it is Pusillamite, Which every Prince scholde flee. *Ibid.* II. 12, 25. *c* 1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* i. in *Anglia* X. 334/27 So þat sumtyme for þe pusillanimite and febelnesse of spiryte he wote neyþer whebene hit comeþ or wheder hit goþ. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* II. xiii. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, IV. iii. 114 The Blood: which..left the Liuer white, and pale; which is the Badge of Pusillanimitie, and Cowardize. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 529 It is a great weakness and pusillanimity to be soon angry. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad.* VII. 313 *note*, The..pusillanimity with which they have long submitted to the oppressions of a few Arabs. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* XIV. vii. (1864) IX. 251 The shame of Germany at the pusillanimity of Louis of Bavaria wrought more strongly on German pride.

Pusillanimous (piūsilæ·nimәs), *a.* [f. eccl. L. *pusillanimis* (in Itala *a* 150, rendering Gr. ὀλιγόψῡχος) f. *pusillus* very small, petty + *animus* soul, mind + -OUS. Cf. F. *pusillanime.*]

1. Lacking in courage and strength of mind; faint-hearted, mean-spirited, cowardly.

1586 B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 194 A scoffe is the reward of shamefast and pusillanimous persons. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 III. 296 Where didst thou learne to be so agueish, so pusillanimous? 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V*, VII. Wks. (1831) 576/2 An indignity which no prince, how inconsiderable or pusillanimous soever, could tamely endure. 1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* iii, Nature..remains to the bad, to the selfish and the pusillanimous forever a sealed book.

2. Of qualities, actions, etc.: Proceeding from or manifesting a want of courage.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* I. 4 Com., Who can deny, that there are teares of manlinesse and magnanimity, as well as womanish and pusillanimous? 1698 W. CHILCOT *Evil Thoughts* ix. (1851) 110 What a cowardly and pusillanimous disowning of his power and goodness! 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xxiv, You are now anxious to form excuses to yourself for a conduct so pusillanimous. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 76 [Nero's] end, perhaps the meanest and most pusillanimous which has ever been recorded.

Hence **Pusilla·nimously** *adv.*; **Pusilla·nimousness** = PUSILLANIMITY.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 91 The rebells *pusillanimously opposing that new torrent of destruction, gaze awhile. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xl. IV. 87 He [John of Cappadocia] pusillanimously fled to the sanctuary of the church. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* xxxii, I was tormented by the delusion that I had behaved pusillanimously. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, **Pusillanimousness*, want of Courage. 1889 J. PEARSON in *Our Day* (U. S.) Sept., A veritable pusillanimousness had taken possession of that part of the people that really wanted the law enforced.

† **Pusi·llity.** *Obs.* [ad. post-cl. L. *pusillitās*, f. *pusill-us* little, petty.] Littleness, pettiness.

a 1619 FOTHERBY *Atheom.* Pref. (1622) 18 Mans most contemptible pusillitie & baseness. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxxiii, Without lessening God to the Pusillity of Man.

† **Pusk.** *Obs.* [ad. obs. F. *posque.*] = POSCA.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 526 Suspence in rewle, hem kepe with pusk condite, Ypuld in myddis of a day serene.

Pusle, Pusley: see PUCELLE, PUSSLEY.

Pusney, Pusoun, obs. ff. PUISNE, POISON.

Puss (pus). Also 6–7 **pus, pusse.** [A word common to several Teutonic langs., usually as a call-name for the cat (rarely becoming as in Eng. a synonym of 'cat'): cf. Du. *poes*, LG. *puus*, *puus-katte*, *puus-man*, Sw. dial. *pus*, *katte-pus*, Norw. *puse*, *puus*; also, Lith. *puz*, *puiž*, Ir. and Gael. *pus*. Etymology unknown: perh. originally merely a call to attract a cat.]

1. A conventional proper name of a cat; usually, a call-name.

a 1530 HEYWOOD *Johan & Tyb* (Brandl) 590, I haue sene the day that pus my cat Hath had in a yere kytlyns eyghtene. 1565 *K. Daryus* (ibid.) 181, I can fere the knaues with my grannams Cat. Pusse pusse, where art thou? 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. iv. in Hazlitt *Dodsley* II. 223 Esau left not so much [of the pottage] as a lick for puss, our cat. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Miça*, the terme to call a cat, as we saie 'pusse'. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *His Age* 89 Fore-telling..weather by our aches...True Calenders, as Pusses eare Washt o're, to tell what change is neare. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 214 The Spaniards, when they call them, say Miz, as we do Puss. 1841 S. WARREN *Ten Thousand a Year* xxxvi, 'Poor puss!' he exclaimed, stroking her.

b. Hence a nursery synonym or pet-name for 'cat'. Now mostly superseded by PUSSY.

1605 CHAPMAN, etc. *Eastw. Hoe* IV. i, When the famous fable of Whittington and his pusse shal be forgotten. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* IV. xvii. (1737) 71 The Bite of a She Puss [F. *chatte*]..was the Cause of his Death. 1744–5 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1862) 342 Have I told you of a pretty tortoiseshell puss I have? *c* 1840 W. E. FORSTER in Reid *Life* (1888) I. v. 135 A most delightful black kitten..; a most refined, graceful, intellectual, amusing puss.

2. Applied to other animals. a. A hare. In recent use only as a quasi-proper name.

1668 ETHEREDGE *She would if she could* IV. ii, If a leveret be better meat than an old puss. 1703 FARQUHAR *Inconstant* III. ii, Ah sir, that one who has follow'd the game so long.. shou'd let a Mungril Cur chop in, and run away with the Puss. 1709 O. DYKES *Eng. Prov. & Refl.* (ed. 2) 289 Makes a Hare of the one, and a Hound of the other, and only takes Puss's Part, to set the Dog after her. 1747 *Gentl. Mag.* 536 Now Puss in circling mazes flies. What glorious peals of musick rise! 1858 R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxviii, After scudding up the hill, puss stopped to listen and ascertain the quality of her pursuers.

b. As quasi-proper name for a tiger.

1837 *Heath's Bk. Beauty* 156 Puss—a remarkably fine animal..had fastened on the trunk of Falkiner's elephant.

3. Applied to a girl or woman; † a. Formerly, as a term of contempt or reproach (*obs.*); b. in current use, playfully, as a familiar term of endearment, often connoting slyness.

1608 DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* I. Wks. 1873 II. 111 This wench (your new Wife) .. This Shee-cat will haue more liues then your last Pusse had. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* v. iii, The bawdy Doctor, and the cosening Captaine, And Pvs my suster. 1663 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Aug., His wife, an ugly pusse, but brought him money. 1732 FIELDING *Mod. Husb.* IV. iv, I think her an ugly, ungenteel, squinting, flirting, impudent, odious, dirty puss. 1753 *School of Man* 95 The ingratitude, the villainy, says he, of the little Puss. 1846

DICKENS *Battle of Life* i, 'Somebody's birth-day, Puss', replied the Doctor. 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. v. 102 To think that the little puss should defend herself so coolly. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Ch. Fleet* II. ix, They could not have believed their daughter so sly and deceitful a puss.

4. Short for PUSS-MOTH.

1819 G. SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 431 *Cerura Vinula.* The Puss.

5. Puss in the corner: a game played by children, of whom one stands in the centre and tries to capture one of the 'dens' or 'bases' as the others change places; also, in a more elaborate form, a sailors' game in the British Navy.

1714 POPE *Mart. Scriblerus* I. v, I will permit my son to play at Apodidascinda, which can be no other than our Puss in a corner. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 81 The favourite one was Puss in the Corner... In this play, four Boys or Girls post themselves at the four corners of the room and the fifth in the middle, who keeps himself on the watch to slip into one of the corner places when the present possessors are endeavouring to supplant one another. 1864 KNIGHT *Passages Work. Life* I. i. 34 The King..caught Fanny Burney playing at puss-in-the-corner. 1866 *Daily Tel.* 8 Feb. 4/4 The necessities which frequently compel a Premier to make the reorganisation of his Cabinet a game of Puss-in-the Corner.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *puss-faced, puss-like* adjs.; **puss-gentleman**, a gentleman perfumed with civet (cf. *cat* = *civet-cat*, CAT *sb.*[1] 4).

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 284, I cannot talk with civit in the room, A fine puss-gentleman that's all perfume. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch Bk.* 59 The cobras are puss-like in their habits, and like petting. 1883 BESANT *Let Nothing You Dismay* ii, No poor puss-faced swab to fear fair fighting.

Puss, obs. form of PUS.

Pu·ss-cat. = PUSSY-CAT.

1565 *K. Daryus* (Brandl) 304 He shall go play with my mothers pussecat. 1598 FLORIO, *Micia*, a pusse-kat, a kitlin. 1604 W. TERILO *Fr. Bacon's Proph.* 171 in Hazl. *E. P. P.* IV. 274 The Pus-Cat and the Dogge, For safegard from the stealth Of Rats, and Mise, and Wolfe, and Foxe.

Pu·ss-clo·ver. *U. S.* The hare's-foot clover, *Trifolium arvense*: so named from its silky heads.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pussel, pussle, obs. forms of PUCELLE.

Pussley, -ly (pv·sli). Also **pusley.** A corruption of PURSLANE, common in U. S.

1861 N. A. WOODS *Pr. Wales in Canada & U. S.* 309 The instant the land is ploughed a weed called 'Pussley' makes its appearance... This, when boiled, is a most delicious and wholesome vegetable, the leaves being like spinach, and the branches in taste resembling sea-kale. In prairie settlements pussley is always a standing dish. 1870 C. D. WARNER *Summer in Gard.* (1886) 150, I doubt if any one has raised more 'pusley' this year than I have. 1888 *Amer. Nat.* XXII. 778 To select the most offensive among the worst weeds..among the annuals, especially in gardens, the purslane or 'pusley' perhaps takes the lead.

Pu·ss-moth. [f. PUSS + MOTH: see quot. 1806.] A large European bombycid moth, *Cerura* (*Dicranura*) *vinula*, having the fore-wings of a whitish or light grey colour with darker markings and spots.

1806 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VI. 228 This moth [*Phalæna Vinula*], from its unusually downy appearance, has obtained the popular title of the Puss Moth. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxi. (1818) II. xxii. 289 The caterpillar of the puss-moth.. and some others, instead of the anal prolegs, have two tails or horns. 1869 NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 216 When the caterpillars of the Puss-moth are about..to form their cocoons, the whole ground colour changes to a dull brown. 1881 EL. A. ORMEROD *Injur. Insects* (1890) 266.

Pusso-, combining form of PUSS, in humorous nonce-words: **Pussoma·niac**, one with a mania for cats; **Pusso·philist**, a lover of cats.

1890 *Sat. Rev.* 19 July 76/1 His master..is the reverse of a pussomaniac. 1891 *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 252/3 Cat lovers —pussophilists as J. S. Mill used to call them.

† **Pu·ssock.** *Obs. rare.* [f. PUSS + -OCK.] A term for an old maid; an 'old tabby'.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman D'Alf.* I. 26, I haue knowne since some old Maids Pussockes in comparison of her [my Mother] of greater yeeres and lesse Handsomnesse, that would call themselues..Girles and little pretty Maidens.

Pussoun, obs. Sc. and dial. form of POISON.

Pu·ss-tail. [f. PUSS + TAIL.] A popular name in U. S. for a common grass of the genus *Setaria* or Bristle-grass, in England sometimes called Foxtail. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pussy (pu·si), *sb.* Also 6–8 **-ie**, 8 **-ey**; *Sc.* **poussie, poosie.** [f. PUSS + -Y dim. suffix.]

1. A cat: used much in the same way as PUSS, but more as a common noun and less as a call-word.

1726 MRS. DELANY in *Life & Corr.* (1862) 124 My new pussey is..white, .. with black spots. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Sorrows Fav. Cat* vi, Ah mice, rejoice!..'Tis yours to triumph, mine's the woe, Now pussy's dead. 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl* III. 144 A saucer of milk put on the rug for pussy. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 119 He strokes the cat quite gently, and calls it 'poor pussy'.

2. Used as a proper name for the hare: cf. PUSS 2.

1785 BURNS *1st Ep. J. Lapraik* 3 Paitricks scraichan loud at e'en, And morning Poosie [*v. r.* poussie] whiddan seen. 1790 — *Tam o' Shanter* 195 As open pussie's mortal foes, When, pop! she starts before their nose. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Autumn* xxxii, Poor pussy through the stubble flies. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* II. 15 Away went pussy for her home.

b. A humorous name for a tiger: cf. PUSS 2 b.

1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* 535, I should have liked to have potted a pussy, particularly such a bloodthirsty brute as this one seems to be.

3. Applied to a girl or woman: cf. PUSS 3.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1877) I. 97 You shall haue euery sawcy boy..to catch vp a woman & marie her...So he haue his pretie pussie to huggle withall, it forceth not. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xvi, 'What do you think, pussy?' said her father to Eva. 1870 DICKENS *E. Drood* ii, I'd Pussy you, young man, if I was Pussy, as you call her.

b. A person who lives in another's house as an inmate; a 'house-cat'.

1904 MARIE CORELLI *God's Good Man* xxi, I shall invite Roxmouth and his tame pussy, Mr. Marius Longford.

4. In childish speech applied to something soft and furry, as a fur necklet, a willow or hazel catkin, etc.

1858 *Zoologist* XVI. 5858 Little children call their warm neck-comforters by the name of 'pussies'. 1882 *Garden* 4 Feb. 77/1 These catkins, 'pussies', and 'lambs'-tails', as the country people call them.

5. *Pussy-wants-a-corner*, an American name for *Puss in the corner*: see PUSS 5.

1897 GEN. H. PORTER *Campaigning w. Grant* in *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 349/2 [The manœuvres] now became more like the play of *pussy-wants-a-corner*.

6. a. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Soft and furry like a cat: cf. 4. **b.** *Comb.*, as *pussy-baudrons* (*Sc.*); **pussy-footed** *a.*, having a cat-like tread.

1863 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* v. (1886) 236 She was the most nice, soft, .. pussy, cuddly, delicious creature who ever nursed a baby. *Ibid.* 241 Little boys..who have kind pussy mammas to cuddle them. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* Nov. 653 Men who were beginning to walk pussy-footed and shy at shadows. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 52 Innocent as pussy-bawdrons thinking on the cream-jug.

Pussy (pv·si), *a.* [f. PUS *sb.* + -Y.] Full of pus. 1885 *Med. News* LIII. 695 The most pussy gland ruptured during extrication.

Pu·ssy-ca·t. A nursery word for a cat; also used in other senses of PUSSY *sb.*

1837 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xl, The term pussy cat may be considered tautological. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 169 Every boy knows the 'pussy-cats' of the willow. 1864 *Realm* 6 Apr. 1 What a purblind old pussy-cat, instead of the light and agile kitten we imagined was tripping before us! 1881 E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* ix, 'What a wild pussy-cat she is!' said her father, looking fondly at her, as she dashed abruptly from his side.

Comb. 1881 J. E. H. THOMSON *Upland Tarn* 26 Her noiseless pussy-cat-like ways.

Pu·ssy-wi·llow. A popular name in U. S. of the American glaucous willow, *Salix discolor*, in reference to its silky catkins.

1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* vi, He pressed through them to look for..pussy willows. 1897 W. D. HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 364 He begged her to let him keep one switch of the pussy-willows.

† **Pust, puyst.** *Obs.* [In quot. 1527 a. Du. *puist*, MDu. *pûst*; in quot. 1677 perh. a misreading of *push*.] A pustule; = PUSH *sb.*[2]

1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* Liv, Good for scabbes, puystes, and other impostumyng on the body. 1677 LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 43 The..nurse keepers..laid ceres to a pust under the arme which drive the malignity of it to the heart.

Pustle, obs. form of PUSTULE. Hence † **Pustled** *a. Obs. rare*[−1] = PUSTULATE.

1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* II. xxviii, Her hands with scabbes array'd, Her pust'led skin with ulcer'd excrements.

Pustulant (pv·stiŭlănt), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. late L. *pustulānt-em*, pr. pple. of *pustulāre* to PUSTULATE.] **a.** *adj.* Giving rise to the formation of pustules (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **b.** *sb.* An irritant affecting the skin and causing pustulation, as a solution of silver nitrate, croton oil, etc.

1871 GARROD *Mat. Med.* 317 The pustulants induce deeper action, and are sometimes of greater value than vesicants.

Pustular (pv·stiŭlăr), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *pustulār-is*, f. *pustula* PUSTULE: see -AR.]

1. Of, pertaining to, of the nature of pustules; characterized by pustules.

1739 HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 669 The pustular and leprous Eruptions increased daily. 1800 WOODVILLE in *Med. Jrnl.* IV. 256, I differ in opinion from Dr. Jenner in not imputing the pustular eruptions..to any adulteration of the vaccine matter employed in the inoculations. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 329 The five genera of pustular diseases. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 572 Petechial or pustular rashes.

2. *Bot.* and *Zool.* Having low glandular excrescences like blisters or pustules.

1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 393 *Sphæria fraxinea* [Fungus]. Black; roundish, convex, dotted... Nearly sitting, pustular.

Pustulate (pv·stiŭlĕt), *a.* [ad. late L. *pustulāt-us*, pa. pple. of *pustulāre*: see next.] Furnished with, or having pustules; pustulous, pustular.

(In quot. 1607, perh. an error for *pustulant*.)

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 615 If the worme bee cut asunder in the wound, there issueth out of her such a venemous pustulate matter, that poysoneth the wound. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 126 The smooth exterior sometimes graduates into the pustulate. 1852 — *Crust.* I. 90 Surface seriately pustulate, and pustules setigerous.

Pustulate (pv·stiŭlēt), *v.* [f. ppl. stem of late L. *pustulāre*, trans. and intr., f. *pustula* PUSTULE.] **a.** *trans.* To form into pustules. **b.** *intr.* To break out into or form pustules.

1732 STACKHOUSE *Hist. Bible* III. iv. (1749) 364/2 Besides the blains pustulated to afflict his [Job's] body, the devil ..instigated his wife to grieve his mind. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvii. 560 Sometimes the little vesicles [of prickly heat] may pustulate.

Pustulation (pvstiŭlē·ʃən). [ad. late L. *pustulātiōn-em*, n. of action from *pustulāre*: see prec.] The action of pustulating; formation of pustules; sometimes, also, blistering.

1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 155 Peculiar burning or tingling pain, which is very shortly followed by pustulation. 1876 BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 540 The pustulation of the chest with croton-oil or tartar-emetic ointment is rarely if ever justifiable. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 610 It is often necessary to await the healing of the pustulation. *Ibid.* 870 The slightest appearance of pustulation or blistering should be..treated on antiseptic lines.

Pustulatous (pvstiŭlē·tŏs), *a.* [f. PUSTULATE *a.* + -OUS.] = PUSTULATE *a.* *Pustulatous moss*: see quots.

1856 W. LAUDER LINDSAY *Pop. Hist. Brit. Lichens* 91 The 'Mosses' [i. e. crustaceous or foliaceous dye-lichens] are irregularly designated, the specific name in some being due..to their physical characters, as 'Tartareous or Pustulatous moss'. *Ibid.* 177 *Umbilicaria pustulata*..is largely imported by the London orchill-makers..under the commercial designation of Pustulatous Moss.

Pustule (pv·stiul). Also 6 **puscull, -cle**; 6–8 **pustle**, 7 **pustel.** [ad. L. *pustula* blister, pimple, pustule. Cf. F. *pustule* (13–14th c.).]

1. A small conical or rounded elevation of the cuticle, with erosion of the cutis, inflammatory at the base and containing pus; a pimple; formerly, sometimes, a blister.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VII. lxi. (1495) 276 Pustules ben callyd gaderynges of postumes and superfluyte in the vtter partyes of the body. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 190 Cossi ben litil pustulis & harde þat ben engendrid in þe face, & principali about þe nose. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxviii. 354 The same..cureth the sores and pustules of the gummes. 1718 QUINCY *Compl. Disp.* 91 Of manifest Service in ripening the Small Pox, where the Pustules rise with a pellucid Humour. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 168 The pustules of discrete small-pox are always larger than those of the other variety.

a 1529 SKELTON *Elynour Rummyng* 555 Wythe here and there a puscull Lyke a scabbyd muscull. 1600 F. WALKER *Sp. Mandeville* 41 With the continuall moystnes, they engender & bring forth certaine Puscles like Mushromps. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 32 To cool and heal any moist pustles. 1643 J. STEER tr. *Exp. Chyrurg.* vii. 27 Pustels or blisters are raised. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 46 It will there raise little Pustles or Blisters.

b. *Malignant pustule*, the carbuncular disease produced by the anthrax bacillus; = ANTHRAX 2. [1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. xix. 29 Anthrax is a malygne pustle.] 1864 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* 158 Anthrax (malignant pustule, carbuncular fever). 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* 443 Anthrax of the lips has nothing in common with malignant pustule.

2. a. *Bot.* A small wart or swelling, natural or caused by parasitic influences. **b.** *Zool.* A warty excrescence of the skin, as in the toad; a pimple.

1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (1796) IV. 392 *Sphæria maxima* [Fungus]. Large, thick, black, marked above with pustules. 1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 433 On the leaves of pears..and gooseberry trees, it exhibits itself at first in small yellow pustules, increasing in size until they effloresce in clusters of various shapes. 1869 GILLMORE tr. *Figuier's Rept. & Birds* I. 25 Toads, in colour are usually of a livid grey, spotted with brown and yellow, and disfigured by a number of pustules or warts.

3. *transf.* An eruptive swelling of the ground.

1849 MURCHISON *Siluria* xvi. 404 These subaërial volcanos ..are nothing more than superficial pustules. 1861 E. T. HOLLAND in *Peaks, Passes & Glac.* Ser. II. I. 95 Steaming excrescences of clay. The approach..is over beds of sand and clay, out of which they rise in variegated blotches and pustules of blue, white, red, and yellow.

4. *Comb.*, as *pustule-like* adj.

1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 87 They are produced in the flesh in small pustule-like tumours. 1845 *Florist's Jrnl.* 37 Peculiar to this plant is the property of producing pale pustule-like callosities on the branches.

Pustuliform (pv·stiŭlifōm), *a. Bot.* and *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *pustuliform-is*, f. *pustula* PUSTULE + -FORM.] Having the form of a pustule.

1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 654 The pustuliform verrucæ are rounded and unequal.

Pu·stulo-crusta·ceous, *a.* [f. *pustulo-*, combining form of L. *pustula* pustule + CRUSTACEOUS.] Covered with a pustulous crust or scab.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pu·stulose, *a.* [ad. post-cl. L. *pustulōs-us*, f. *pustula* pustule: see -OSE.] = next.

1882 J. T. CARRINGTON in *Zoologist* Mar. 107 *Portunus tuberculatus* is distinguished by its tubercular pustulose carapace.

Pustulous (pv·stiŭlŏs), *a.* [ad. L. *pustulōsus*: see prec. and -OUS. Cf. F. *pustuleux* (1549 in Godef.), perh. the immediate source.] Abounding in or characterized by pustules; pustular.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* V. i. 161 Anoynt the pustulous place wyth a lyniment folowing. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Pustulous*, full of Pustules, *i.* blisters, blaines, or wheales. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 352 A prescription 'for the great pustulous eruption and its degrees'. 1804 *Ibid.* XII. 536 That the pustulous disease produced in the vaccine patients in the Small-pox Hospital was the small-pox, I can safely aver. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* 707 Surface either smooth or somewhat

pustulous. 1852 — *Crust.* I. 109 Carapax..tubercular or pustulous above.

Put (put), *sb.*[1] Also 5–8 **putt** (see also next). [f. PUT *v.*[1]] An act of putting, in various senses.

1. An act of thrusting or pushing; a thrust; a push, a shove. Also *fig.* (with quot. 1748 cf. PUT *v.*[1] 3 b). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* = BUTT *sb.*[9]

c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4588 In his sadle he held him still, And smote Darel with so goodewill In middes of the sheld ful butt That Darel fell doun with that putt. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 231 A tender peronall, that myght na put thole. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* (1644) 117 When it begins at us, God knows ..who shall bide the next put. *a* 1598 ROLLOCK *Sel. Wks.* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 511 He will come and give them a putt, with sharpness and mercy. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 104 To help you to bear your burden, and to come in behind you, and give you and your burdens a put up the mountain. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* Wks. 1811 IV. 316 The dear creature..wanted to instruct me how to answer the Captain's home put. 1869 E. FARMER *Scrap. Bk.* (ed. 6) 60 The pig made a put at the closed..door.

2. The act of casting a heavy stone or weight overhand, as a trial of strength; a throw, a cast. (In this sense pronounced (pʊt) in Sc., and identified with PUT, PUTT *sb.*[2])

c 1300 *Havelok* 1055 Þe chaunpiouns þat put sowen, Shuldreden he ilc oþer, and lowen. *c* 1340 *Hymns Virg.*, etc. 73 Þe put of þe stoon þou maist not reche, To litil myȝte is in þi sleue. 1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 7 Sept. 780/2 After each put has been marked the ground is smoothed over. *Ibid.*, I noticed..the puts on several occasions knocked out the pegs of previous marks.

3. In phr. *forced put*: see FORCE-PUT.

The precise sense of *put* in this phrase is obscure.

4. In *Stock-jobbing* and *Speculation*: The option of delivering a specified amount of a particular stock or produce at a certain price within a specified time: see OPTION 4, and cf. PUT *v.*[1] 10 h.

1717 Mrs. CENTLIVRE *Bold Stroke for Wife* IV. i, Are you a bull or a bear to-day, Abraham? *3rd Stockbroker.* A bull faith; but I have a good putt for next week. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Eng. Spy* II. 139 For the call or put. *a* 1860 C. FENN *Eng. & For. Funds* (1883) 127 A 'Put' is an option of delivering stock at a certain time, the price and date being fixed at the time the option-money is given. 1893 BITHELL *Counting-H. Dict.* s. v. *Options*, When money is paid for the option of buying at a given price, the operation is called 'giving for the call'. When it is paid for the option of selling, it is called 'giving for the put'. Sometimes both operations are combined, and then it is called 'giving for the put and call'.

Put, putt (pʊt), *sb.*[2] [A differentiated pronunciation of prec.; of Scotch origin.]

1. *Sc.* = prec., sense 2.

2. *Golf.* (orig. *Sc.*) An act of 'putting': see PUT *v.*[2] 3; a gentle stroke given to the ball so as to make it roll along the putting-green, with the purpose of getting it into the hole.

1743 MATHIESON *Goff* in *Poems on Golf* (1867) 58 With putt well directed plump into the hole. 1857 *Chambers's Inform. for People* 694/1 One who can gain a full stroke on his opponent between two far-distant holes, frequently loses his advantage by missing a 'put' within a yard of the hole! 1863 in R. Clark *Golf* (1875) 137 The first hole was halved.. Drumwhalloch holin' a lang putt. 1901 *Scotsman* 9 Sept. 4/7 On the next green he got down his putt from a distance of.. twenty yards.

3. *fig.* in phr. *To make one's putt good* (Sc.), to succeed in one's attempt, gain what one aims at.

1661 RUTHERFORD *in Life* (1881) 28 Fearing I should not make my putt good. 1822 GALT *Steam-Boat* ix. (1850) 230 The mistress..made her putt good, and the satin dress was obligated to be sent to her. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 389 A man is said to have made his *putt gude*, when he obtains what his ambition panted for.

Put, putt (pʊt), *sb.*[3] *Obs. or arch.* [app. f. PUT *v.*[1]: cf. sense 22 d; but the history is not clear.] An old game at cards for two, three, or four players, somewhat resembling Nap, three cards being dealt to each player; the score at this game.

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) xv. 92 Putt is the ordinary rooking Game of every place. *Ibid.*, If you play at two-handed Putt (or if you please you may play at three hands) the best Putt-Card deals. *Ibid.* 93 Five up or a Putt is commonly the Game. 1711 E. WARD *Vulgus Brit.* IX. 99 Where day by day they us'd to sot, At All-fours, Cribidge, or at Put. 1725 YOUNG *Univ. Pass.* IV, *To Str S. Compton* 30 Since Apes can roast the choice castanian nut; Since Steeds of genius are expert at Put. *c* 1778 in F. Moore *Songs & Ball. Amer. Rev.* (1856) 192 Jack, thinking of cribbage, all fours, or of put, With a dextrous hand, he did shuffle and cut. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 267/1 He had heard an old tailor say that in his youth..'put' was a common public-house game. 1887 BESANT *The World went* XXIV, Bess..could play All-fours, Put, Snip-snap-snorum.

b. Comb. *Putt-card*, a card used in this game.

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) xv. 93 The best Putt-Cards are first the Tray, next the Deuce, then the Ace. 1711 J. PUCKLE *Club* 21 *note*, Bending one, to know where to cut a good Putt-card. *Ibid.* 23 Marking Putt-cards on the edge with the nail as they come to hand.

Put (pʊt), *sb.*[4] *Obs.* or *arch.* (*slang* or *colloq.*) Also putt. [Arose in 17th c. slang; origin unascertained.] A stupid man, silly fellow, blockhead, 'duffer'; *country put*, a lout, a bumpkin.

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* I. i, O fy, cousin; a company of Putts, meer Putts! *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Country-Put*, a silly, shallow-pated Fellow. 1710 *Tatler* No. 230 ¶ 7 The Third Refinement..consists in the Choice of certain Words invented by some pretty Fellows, such as *Banter, Bamboozle, Country Put* and *Kidney*. 1721-2 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 46. 247 They were metamorphosed into compleat smarts, and damn'd the old country putts, their fathers. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 100 ₱ 2 Peculiarities which would have denominated me a Green Horn, or in other words, a country put very green. 1802 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VI. 215 The buck, who scorns the city puts, And thinks all rich men noodles. 1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 92 The footmen of the House of Lords..keep clear of the borough-mongers and country puts of the lower house. 1859 THACKERAY *Virgin.* xliv, Look at that old putt in the chair: did you ever see such an old quiz? 1886 F. HARRISON *Ess.* 168 What droll puts the citizens seem in it all!

Put (put), *v.*[1] Pa. t. and pa. pple. **put** (put). Forms: see below. [Late OE. *putian* (? *pūtian*), represented *c* 1050 by the vbl. sb. *putung* (? *pūt-*), PUTTING; thence early ME. *pūten* and ? *puten*, later *putten, putt, put*. Beside this, late OE. had *potian* (11th c.), ME. *pōten* (see POTE *v.*), and *potten*; also, OE. *pytan* (repr. by *pytan út* in the OE. Chron., MS. F. (12th c.), anno 796, and *út ápytan*, put out, thrust out, Numbers xvi. 14), which app. gave southern ME. *puiten, puyte* (= *pūte*), and may even have been the source of the late ME. *pytten, pitten, pyt, pit*. Prof. Sievers thinks that the stem-vowel in OE. *pytan* (:—**pūtjan*) was certainly long, and in *putian* probably so, and suggests that the ME. shortening of the vowel was carried over from the pa. t. and pa. pple. *pytte, putte* from *pȳt-te, pūt-te*. The normal conjugation was pa. t. *put-te*, now *put* (cf. *cut*), in ME. and early mod. Eng. also *puttede, putted*; pa. pple. ME. *yput, iputte* and *putt*, now *put*, also in 14–16th c. *putted*. But in Sc. and north Eng. dialects, *put* (or rather its northern form *pyt, pit*), has been from the 15–16th c. conjugated as a strong vb., with pa. t. *pat*, pa. pple. *putten* or *pitten* (also in Eng. dialects *potten*); and perhaps the southern *ipitte* also arose out of **ipitten*. With these compare the northern inflexion of HIT, *hat, hutten* or *hitten*. The variant *pot, pott*, occurs as an existing dialect form, besides surviving in a differentiated form and sense as POTE. The differentiated vb. PUT[2], PUTT (pʊt), used in golf, and in Sc. also in 'putting the stone', is conjugated *putt, putted, putted*, and is thus quite distinct in Sc. from *pit, pat, putten*, as well as from the ordinary Eng. *put, put, put*.

For the earlier history evidence is wanting, but the various forms appear to be parallel formations from a stem *pŭt-, pot-*, whence app. also Da. *putte* to put, put in; but this appears in Kalkar only from the 17th c. Rietz gives a southern Swedish *putta* (with variants *pötta, potta*) in two senses: (1) = slå, stöta, knuffa til lindrigt (to strike, knock or push gently); (2) = sticka undan, ställa bort, 'putta i lomman' (to put out of the way (or conceal), put away, 'put in the pocket'). The Welsh *pwtio* and Gaelic *put* are from Eng. ME. had also a vb. *pulten, pilten* (see PILT), which was synonymous with *put*, and even occurs as a variant reading in 15th c. MSS., but could not be formally related. It became obs. (at least in the senses in question) before 1500. In the sense 'strike with the head or horns', ME. *putten* was in early use synonymous with *butten*, BUTT *v.*[1], by which it has been superseded in literary English; but some dialects retain *put* in this sense.]

A. Illustration of Forms and Inflexions.

I. From OE. *pūtian*, ME. *pūte-n, putt-en*, mod. *put*.

1. *Inf.* and *Present tense.* 1 ***putian**, 2–4 **pute(n**, 2–5 **putten**, 3–6 **putte**, 4–6 (also 7–9 in special senses: see PUT *v.*[2]) **putt**; 5 (–6 *Sc.*) **pwt**, 6 *Sc.* **powt**; 4– **put**.

c 1050 *Rule of Chrodegang* 99 Þurh deofles putunge.., an belæd. *c* 1375 Puttest [see B. 1]. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 669 A gungling raðe to him luteð, his snute him under puteð. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xv. 13 That ony man putte his soule for his frendis. *a* 1400 *R. Brunne's Chron. Wace* (Petyt MS.) 8880 Now makes assay, To putte þis stones doun [*Lamb. MS.* potte þe stones] if ȝe may. 14.. LYDG. *Lyke thyr Audience* 30 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 48 Thy lyfe to putt in morgage. 1479 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 265, I must pwt me in God, for her must I be for a season. 1528 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XV. 584 Tak the rentall of Fyf fra the Arsdan and powt in thes berar and his wyf. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 12 Thay quhilk..pwtis noth al thair traist ..in hime. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 236 Thou indeed puttest me hard to it.

2. *Past tense.* a. 3–6 **putte**, (4 **pudt**, 5 **pute**), 5–7 **putt**; 4– **put**.

c 1205 LAY. 18092 He smat hine uuenen þat hæued..And þat sweord putte in his muð. *a* 1300 Put [see B. 16 b]. 13.. Pudt, putte, put [see B. 1, 25]. *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 101 The worthi Scottis..putt thair hors thaim fra. *c* 1477 CAXTON *Jason* Y b, Peleus and his neuewe putte hem to poynte in armes. 1785 Put [see B. 1 d].

β. 4 **puttede, -ide**, 5 **-id, -yd**, 6 *Sc.* **puttit**, 6– **putted** (see PUT *v.*[2]).

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 66 And alle men that herden puttedyn in her herte. 1388 — *Matt.* xxvii. 29 And thei foldiden a coroun of thornes, and putten [*v.r.* (*c* 1390–1420) puttiden] on his heed. *c* 1449, 14.. Puttid, -yd [see B. 10 d, 25]. 1520 NISBET *Sc. N. T., Acts* XXVIII. 10 (S.T.S.) III. 124 Quhilkis..puttit [1388 WYCLIF puttiden] quhat thingis war necessarie. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 28 Than putted he in his hostes hande other.. v. thousande guldens.

3. *Past pple.* a. 4 **y-put, i-put(te, pute**, 4–7 **putte, putt**, 4– **put**.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1258 (Cott.) Quen we war put o paradis. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6135 To be putt til pastur strayt. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 207 Þere þe pore is put bihynde [1393 C. XVII. 50 yput, *v.r.* putte]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 9 His feet þat he hadde with *i*-putte [*v.r.* yput] seint Odo his tombe. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/2 Putte oute, *expulsus*. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emperors* in *Hist. Iustine* G g 4 His corpes was .. putte into the sepulchre. 16.. SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* xii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 58 Thy epitaph sall then be putt in prent. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xii, We might have put the royals on her.

β. 4–5 putted, 5 putet, puttid, -yd. See also PUT *v.*[2]

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2055 Þus sal þai..be putted til endeles pyne. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 3063 The folk.. in to the lake hadde puttid Daniel. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. de P. R.* VI. ii. (W. de W.) 187 He is putet [*MSS.* iput, iputte, put] asyde and buryed.

II. From OE. *potian*, ME. *pote, poote, potte*, mod. dial. *pot*.

1. *Present.* a. 1 **potian**, 4–5 **poten**, 6 **pote, poote**.

c 1000 Potedon [see POTE *v.* 1]. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xix. 18 To the slaȝter..of hym nȝ poote [*Vulg.* ne ponas] thou thi soule. — *Isa.* lv. 2 Whi poote ȝee vp siluer not in loeues? — *Mark* v. 10 He preide hym..that he shulde nat put [*v.r.* poten] hym out of the cuntreie. 1435–1530 [see POTE *v.* 1].

β. 4–5 **potte(n, pot, ȝott**.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8885 Ropes to drawe, tres to potte, þey schouued, þey priste, þey stode o strot. *c* 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 909 To pottyn [*v.rr.* putten, puten] hire in swich an aventure. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 283 Þey putteþ þeire lif [MS. γ a potteþ here lyf] for wommen. *Ibid.* 313 Þat he wolde putte [MS. γ potte] of þe fevere by deeþ. *Ibid.* 333 To putte [MS. γ pot] of alle manere lett of his speche. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1131 in *Macro Plays* 111 Speke þi neybour mekyl schame; pot on hem sum fals fame. *c* 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xlii. 348 But ȝif ȝe potten þerto Consaille. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III, *Mary Mag.* 1554 Pott don þe pryd of mamentes violatt!

2. *Past tense.* 4–5 **potte**, 5, 9 *dial.* **pot**.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 51 Þe senatoures..putte [MS. γ potte] hym..out of his kyngdom. *a* 1417 in *Cal. Proc. Chanc. Q. Eliz.* (1827) I. Introd. 13 Wheche Johan.. pot my land to ferme. 1881 J. SARGUSSON *Joe Scoap's Furneh* 16 (Cumbld. Gloss.), T' girt injin screamt, an off we pot.

3. *Past pple.* 4–5, 9 *dial.* **pot**, 5 **poot**.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 187 After þat Tarquinius was put [MS. γ pot] out of Rome. 1480 *Newcastle Merch. Vent.* (Surtees) I. 2 At the mony of the said fines.. be poot in the said box. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Pot, Pat*, has put, did put.

III. From OE. *pytan*, ME. *puite, puyt(e.*

Present. 1 **pytan**, 4 **puite, puyt(e.**

11.. *OE. Chron.* an. 796 (MS. F) Ceolwulf..let him pytan ut his eagan & ceorfan of his handa. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 923 Þin almesse þu shalt forþ puite [*rime* luite]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 100 And puiteþ forþ pruide to preisen þi-seluen. *Ibid.* XI. 42 And puyteþ forþ presumpciun. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 598/527 Auyse þe wel in þi þouȝt, Puyt þi strengþe in-to prou.

IV. From ME. *pytte(n, pitte(n, pyt*, mod. dial. *pit, pit*. (With *putte* and *pitte*, cf. *cutte* and *kitte*: CUT *v.*)

1. *Present.* Now only *north. dial.* and *Sc.* 4–5 **pitt, 5 pyt, 7 pitte, 6– pit**.

c 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Luke xii. 25 Who of ȝou..may adde [*v. r.* pitt] o cubite to his stature? *c* 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 33 In erþyne pot þou shalt hit pyt [*rime* hit]. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* I viij, Pitting sic men in thair kallendar for sanctes. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 32 Hammer to pitte the strickle with to make it keepe. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 69 What poor cot-folk pit their painch in. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXXVIII, If we didna pit hand til't oursell. 1865 G. MACDONALD *A. Forbes* 2, I jist dinna like to pit the lid ower him.

2. *Past tense.* a. 4 **pitte**; 9 *Sc.* **pit** (in E.D.D.).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 369 As he pitte forth his hond Upon my body, wher I lay.

β. 6– *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **pat**.

1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 48 The halie spreit..the quilk..pat in thaime the luiff of god. 1549 [see B. 10]. *c* 1650 in Sir R. Gordon *Hist. Earls of Sutherl.* (1813) 242 The messingers .. pat them all in such a fray. 1787 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* vi, Something..That pat me in an eerie swither. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Pat*,..did put.

3. *Past pple.* a. 4–5 **ipit, ypitte** (4 ? **pett**), 5–6 *Sc.* **pit**.

[13.. *K. Alis.* 7495 Þou art ful of þewes pett.] *a* 1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 268 Hou þi fairnisse is bi-spit, Hou þi swetnisse is i-betin and ipit. *c* 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Luke xii. 19 Thou hast many goodis kept [*v.r.* pit vp]. *c* 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 1119 With brymstoon resolute ypitte [*rime* slitte]. 1501 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 128 Ane masoun in Faukland that wes pit fra the werk.

β. 5, 7–9 *Sc.* and *north. dial.* **putten**, (5 **-yn**), 9 **pitten, potten** (in Eng. Dial. Dict.).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11434 Braunches..of bright Olyue.. puttyn O lofte. *c* 1450 *Merlin* I. 18 As touchynge this that is putten on my moder. ? *a* 1700 *Edom o' Gordon* iii. in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 430 She had nae sooner busket her sell Nor putten on her gown. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 113 A chubby-feac'd angel o' top on't they've putten. 1827 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* I. 52 (Northumbld. Gloss.) Aa've hewed and putten twee and twenty. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Putten*, put or placed.

B. Signification.

I. To thrust, push, and allied senses, in which the application of force is expressed.

†1. *trans.* To thrust, push (with or without resulting change of position), to shove; to knock. *Obs.*

In literary use after the 16th c. the sense 'thrust' occurs in contexts which make it indistinguishable from sense 10.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ȝif þu me puttest in þet eȝe, ic þin alswa, dunt a-ȝein dunt. *c* 1205 LAY. 30780 Þe an hine putte hiderward, and þe oðer hine putte ȝeondward. 13..

Cursor M. 12292 (Gött.) Leue sun, me say, queþer þu pudt [*Cott.* putte] þe child or nai? 13.. *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 359 3if eny mon a-gult a3eynes þe, Smyteþ or elles puiteþ þe. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/2 Puttyn, or schowwyn,..*impello, trudo, pello.*

b. To butt with the head or horns. Now *n. dial.*

c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xv. (1869) 10, j shulde putte and hustle þe yuel folk with myne hornes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 70 The beastes with theyr hornes wyll put bothe horses and the shepe, and gore them in theyr bellyes. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Put*, to push with the horns.

†**c.** *fig.* To urge, incite, instigate. *Obs.* See PUTTING *vbl. sb.*[1] 1 b.

†**d.** *absol.* or *intr.* To deal a thrust or blow, to give a push or knock; to push, knock (*at*, *on*, etc.). Now *north. dial.* To butt.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8890 When þey ofte hadde put & þryst & ilk man do what hym do lyst. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 11817 (Fairf.) þe parlesi puttis in his side [*Trin.* smoot his oon side]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. iv. (Tollem. MS.), When þe body..fongeþ soule, and lyf, and begynneþ to meue it selfe, and sprawle and putteþ with feet and hondis [orig. *manibus et pedibus calcitrare*]. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1357 The wyf fonde the dore faste,..Scho pute at the dore in hye. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6250 With' his croche on him he putt. 1504 *Sel. Cases Crt. Star Chamber* (Selden) 212 [Men on boats] with hookis & sparris of iron..puttith at the seid Brigge & greetly Fretith lowsith ..& castyth downe the stones. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 12 (E. D. S.) Whaugh, Mother, how she rowts! Ise varra Arfe, Shee'l put, and rive my good Prunella Scarfe. 1785 HUTTON *Bran New Wark* 17 They say she yance hed horns and put furiously.

†**e.** *intr. fig.* To make a push, to exert oneself.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. i. (1905) 7 Stay i' your place..and put not Beyond the spheare of your actiuity. 1619 FLETCHER *False One* iv. iii, If it be possible That an arch-villain may ever be recover'd, This penitent rascal will put hard.

2. *trans.* To propel (a stone or weight) mainly by the swing of the body from the right hand raised and placed close to the shoulder: as an athletic exercise. Usually in phr. *putting the stone* (*shot*, *weight*). See also PUT, PUTT *v.*[2] 2.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1044 For neuere yete ne saw he or Putten þe stone, or þanne þor. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 406 They haue made me here to put the stone. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xxiii. (1737) I. 223 He did cast the dart, throw the bar, put the stone. 1724, 1816 [see PUT *v.*[2] 2]. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 25 Lifting heavy weights, throwing the hammer and putting the stone. 1884 H. C. BUNNER in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 304/1 The Scottish-Americans will teach you to put the shot. 1889 *Boy's Own Paper* 7 Sept. 780/1 The same plan can be adopted for both putting the weight and the broad jump.

b. *intr.* Also *to put at* (or *with*) *the stone.*

For the later Sc. absolute use of this, see PUT *v.*[2] 2 b.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1033 Hwo so mithe putten þore Biforn a-noþer, an inch or more..He was for a kempe told. *Ibid.* 1051 þat heui ston, þat he sholde puten wiþe. *c* 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* I. 763 As well in wrestyllyng as puttyng at þe ston. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iv. 14 To leape, to daunce, & to put at y^e^ stone.

3. *trans.* To thrust or plunge (a weapon) † *home*, or *into* a body; to drive or send a missile *through*. Phr. *To put a* (*one's*) *knife into*, to stab; *to put a bullet through*, to shoot.

Now felt as a euphemistic use of sense 10.

c 1205 [see A. I. 2]. 1382 WYCLIF *John* xix. 37 Thei schulen se in to whom they pi3ten [*v. rr.* putteden, putten; Vulg. *transfixerunt*] thorw. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 16838 (Trin.) þe iewes made him þourȝe his side to put hit [a spear] sone anone. 1590 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scotl.* IV. 486 Threitnyt to put twa bullettis throw his heid. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 2 Weare thy good Rapier bare, and put it home. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 51 Mistresses, as a Man would desire to put his Knife into. 1894 [see KNIFE *sb.* 1 b].

†**b.** *fig.* (Cf. HOME-THRUST.)

1603 BEN JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii, That trick was well put home; and had succeeded too, But that [etc.]. 1657 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) I. 1 Their hypocrisie he putteth home to them. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) II. xii. 257, I should..find an opportunity to put it home to them.

4. *Coal-mining.* To propel (a tram or barrow of coal), orig. by pushing behind; now also by means of a pony, a stationary engine, etc. (Cf. PUTTER *sb.*[1] 6.) Also *absol.*

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* 36 These Persons..put or pull away the full Curves of Coals. *Ibid.* 39 [see CORF 2]. 1770–4 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* (1804) II. 159 They are employed .. in putting or drawing the coals. 1812 [see PUTTER *sb.*[1] 6]. 1851 GREENWELL *Coal-trade Terms Northumb. & Durh.* 7 The average day's work of a barrow-man, .. when putting alone, .. is equal .. to .. 3.0580 tons pushed a distance of one mile. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal Mining*, *Put*, to haul coal, etc. underground.

†**5.** To drive; to send by force or command. *To put again*: to drive back, repel. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 355 And how at thai war put agane And part of thair gud men wes slane. *Ibid.* XVII. 396 The defendouris..can thame payne Till put thair fais fors agane. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xiii. 13 Be thou not to gredi, lest thou be put a3een [Vulg. *ne impingaris*]. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 308 Paul primus heremita put vs him-selue Awey into wildernes þe werlde to dispisen. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1796 Fro Priam full prist put am I hider, As a messynger made at þis mene tyme. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 210 He hath..chasyd & put fro him all noble men.

b. *Naut.* Of the wind or a storm: To drive or cast (a ship) on or from shore, to sea, etc. ? *Obs.*

1569 SIR J. HAWKINS *2nd Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) III. 515 The ordinary Brise taking us,..put us, the 24th [June] from the shoare. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Romulus* (1595) 20 Certaine Troians, which..were by windes put to the Thvscane shore. 1612 DABORNE *Chr. turned Turke* B 2 b, Nay, then we are put from shore. 1730 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 229 One ..on her voyage was put ashore at Black Sod.

6. *trans.* To launch (persons, a boat, a fleet, etc.).

1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxviii. 75 All were put in a ship to the see. 1639, 1892 [see *put off* 45 n (*c*)]. 1877 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. III. xv. 132 He put a fleet to sea.

†**7.** *refl.* To embark on a sea voyage (*to*, *into*, or *in the sea*, *to sail*); = 8 a. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 441 In hy thai put thame to the se, And rowit fast with all thare mayn. *c* 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireh.* (1896) 134 He put hym to saylle at Melyford. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 39 Thai put thame in the see, and thocht to passe in Lombardye. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiv. 178 They were in nombre six knightes and þeire compayne, which putte them in to the see.

8. *Naut. intr.* To set out, set forth, proceed, take one's course (to sea, into harbour, etc.).

See also *put back*, 39 f; *put forth*, 42 k; *put in*, 44 f; *put off*, 45 n; *put out*, 47 j; *put over*, 49 e; *put to*, 51 e.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 21 My honest friend, Who but for staying on our Controuersie, Had hoisted saile, and put to sea to day. 1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 7 We putting for the shore of the Canaries..found a great seege. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 Insteed of goinge to the ilande of Trinidado, putt into a bay of the maine. 1612 DEKKER *If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 312 Thou putst into a Sea, thou canst not sound. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 379 With a view of preventing them from putting before the wind. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxviii. 57 Clearchus..after having put into Delos for shelter, returned to Miletus. 1890 *Temple Bar Mag.* June 180 He stepped into a fishing-boat and put to land. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 5/1 *Erin*..was among the first vessels to put down the bay this morning.

b. *intr.* To set out; to start; to pass, make one's way. *Obs.* exc. *U. S. colloq.*, to make off, be off, 'clear out'. Cf. *put off* 45 n (*b*), *put out* 47 j (*c*).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8987 Deffibus drogh furth.., Then Paris with prise put next after. *a* 1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1330 Foly hath a rome, I say, in euery route; To put where he lyst, Foly hath fre chace. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 231 Clear out, quit, and put—all mean 'be off'. 'Captain, now, you hush or put'. 1897 *Outing* (U. S.) XXX. 176/1 The pair..glanced apprehensively at me, then they put for home like a tandem team.

c. *intr.* Of a stream, etc.: To make its way, to flow (*into* or *out of* a larger piece of water). *U. S.* Also of sap: to flow (in some direction). *Obs.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* 37 Where you take any thing away, the sap the next summer will be putting. *a* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 616 In the fibrous [roots], the sap delighteth more in the earth, and therefore putteth downward. 1755 *N. Jersey Archives* XIX. 532 One Mile from Shrewsbury River, and about three Quarters of a Mile from a good Landing that puts out of said River. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 172 A small river which puts into a large bay on the south side of the Columbia.

9. *intr.* Of a plant: To shoot out or grow; to send forth shoots or sprouts; to sprout, bud; cf. *put forth* (42 g). Now *dial.*

1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 29 Some [graffes]..keeping proud and greene, will not put till the second yeere. *a* 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 653 The roots of trees do some of them put downwards deep into the ground. 1848 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IX. II. 367 The one arm..still shows life, and puts into leaf, and produces acorns. 1893–4 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Put*, to vegetate, as when a plant begins to show the first sign of buds. 'Aa see its aall reet; it's puttin'.

II. To move (a thing or person) physically into or out of some place or local position.

A weakening of the sense 'thrust' or 'push', with elimination of the notion of dynamic force; which is, however, often still traceable in senses 10 and 10 b.

10. *trans.* To move (a thing) so as to place it in some situation (with reference to the result rather than the process); to cause to get into or be in some place or position expressed or implied (see also the phrases with preps. and advs., 31–53); to place, lay, set.

The most general word for this sense, which cannot be so simply expressed by any other word or phrase, and which is more or less implied, literally or metaphorically, in nearly all the other senses that are still in use. The original notion of 'thrust', 'set or insert with some force' is still traceable in some contexts, esp. when followed by *into* or *in*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 Þis faȝe folc..speket alse feire bi-foren heore euencristene alse heo heom walde in to heore bosme puten. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Nout one monglinde honden, auh puten honden utward. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4762 (Cott.) Soruful war þai..þat had noght to put in þair mouth. *Ibid.* 15797 In þe forel þou pute þi suerd. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* iii. 10 For now the axe is putt [1388 put] to the rote of the tree. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxii, 235 Putteth 3oure honde vpon 3oure hede. 1434 *E. E. Wills* (1882) 102/10 A litel cofur to putte in his smale thynges. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. 5 The duc of guise..pat ane garnison of tua thousand men vithe in the toune of sanct quintyne. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 370 As he was putting the pot to his lips ready to drinke. 1623 B. JONSON *On Portrait Shakes.*, This Figure, that thou here seest put, It was for gentle Shakespeare cut. 1699 T. BROWN in R. L'Estrange *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 336 Put your Hand to your Heart and tell me fairly. *a* 1756 ELIZA HEYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 43 Put about an ounce of butter into a frying-pan. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 269 Bread, greens, potatoes, and a leg of mutton, A better sure a table ne'er was put on. 1818 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 573 Putting some ornamental Clumps of Trees or Shrubs to break the line. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxxi. 422 The patient..had an issue put into the top of the head. 1844 R. M. BEVERLEY *Ch. Eng. Exam.* (ed. 2) 150 When they are thus put on the rails..the train will go forward.. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 37 A sealed packet was put into his hands. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. § 35 You have put a railroad bridge over the fall of Schaffhausen. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* viii, Somebody put a drop under a magnifying glass. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/7 Mr. Cave put his next ball to leg for 2. *Mod.* He put the key in his pocket.

b. To remove, dismiss, expel, send away; to turn away, or divert *from*. *Obs.* or *arch.* Also *to put .. off*: to divert from, cause to give up. So *to put* BESIDE, BESIDES (B. 4 c), and BY (A. 16 c).

The original notion of 'thrust' or 'push' is often traceable; see also *put away* (38), *put off* (45), *put out* (47).

13.. *Cursor M.* 29355 Fra sacrament þai sal be put bot þai repent. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 267 Fortune..will put hym fro purpos þat he presys after. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virg.* 93 He puttiþ his hauke fro his fist. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 93 To putte a good man from his right. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxi. 537 Ye putte me from my worship now. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* xliii. 2 Why hast thou put thee from me? 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. viij b, Vppon the occasion of anie battaile, to put their horses from them. 1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subject* v. ii, Rashly I thought her false, and put her from me. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 118 Princess Elizabeth..was led in by the Traitor's gate; her own servants being put from her. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 331 Don't be put off this by any consideration of weight or expense. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Parish Hilby* xix, She could not put from her some feeling of pride.

c. To place (an article of apparel or an ornament) *on*, *upon* (also †*off*) the body. See also *put on*, *put off* (46 c, 45 d).

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xi. 12 He brou3t forthe the sone of the kyng, and putte vpon hym a dyademe. 1422 tr. *Secreta Secret., Priv. Priv.* 200 He..Put of hym his clothis and hym clothyd in Sake. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. xv, None ought to were and putte on hym the gowne of other. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 25 He putteth also a rynge on his Fynger. *Ibid.* 43 a, He hath put vpon him an albe and a Vestement. 1611 BIBLE *Luke* xv. 22 Bring foorth the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shooes on his feete.

d. *spec.* To place upon or affix *to* a writing or document (a title, seal, signature, name, etc.).

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. ii, Whenne to a certein book which y have mad y puttid this name, The rule of Cristen religioun. 1762 *North Briton* No. 12 To bring the name into contempt by putting it to two insipid tragedies. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 22/2 He put his seal to letters. 1864 J. H. NEWMAN *Apol.* iv. (1904) 132/1 To this number..I also put my initials. *Mod.* It seems to be in his handwriting, but he hasn't put his name to it. Put a tick against the names you know. Put a cross against the name of the candidate you approve.

e. To harness (a draught animal) *to* a vehicle; to place *in* the shafts of a cart, etc.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Iungo*, To couple or put horses in the carte..To put lions to draw the chariote...To put the horses to the carte. 1716 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5461/2 The Ammunition-Waggons should have the Horses put to them. 1815 MRS. PILKINGTON *Celebrity* II. 29 Whilst fresh horses were putting [= being put] to his chariot. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* v, He..put Billy [the pony] in the cart to draw him home.

f. To introduce (a male animal *to* a female, or *vice versa*) for breeding.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 37 What tyme of the yere the rammes shulde be put to the ewes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 126 b, Neither must you put him to a yoong mare. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 88 If two males be put to one female, they fight fiercely. 1758 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* (1759) 21 They are put to the bull about July. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. I. 221 The mares..if put to a good thoroughbred horse would produce good hunters.

g. To convey (a person, etc.) across a river, etc.; to transport; to set down on the other side.

a 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 184 Cattle..which came late, and could not be put over the river, lived very well all the winter without any hay. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 204, I went to the ferryman and told him if he would put me across that..I would pay him when I came back again. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* 61 He at once agreed to put me across the river in one of his large boats.

h. *Stock-jobbing.* To deliver (stock or produce) at a specified price within a specified time: cf. PUT *sb.*[1] 4.

1814 *Stock Exchange Laid Open* Gloss., *Put their Bears*, selling to put more to it, if the seller choose on a certain day at the same price. 1885 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 2/1 Those who desire to buy the option of 'putting'—i. e. delivering—Russian stock on the present basis of prices during the next six weeks. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 6/1 If his tone with regard to the political outlook is favourable operators will 'call' the stock; if otherwise, they hope to be able to 'put' it.

i. with abstract obj., in various shades of meaning: see quots. (See also the phrases mentioned under 54.)

c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 229 He that wroght her.. That put suche beaute in her face That made me coueten and purchace. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 3563 (Trin.) Whenne þat he bicomeþ olde Vnwelde putt at him a pulle. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III*, I. iii. 131 Let me put in your mindes, if you forget, What you haue beene ere this, and what you are. 1598 [see LIFE *sb.* 4]. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 219 Your Excellencies .. conduct .. has .. put new lives into the Ministers. 1812 CHALMERS *Jrnl.* 12 Mar. in *Life* (1851) I. 277, I..am greatly struck with the quantity of business which he [Doddridge] put through his hands. 1889 F. BARRETT *Under Strange Mask* II. xiv. 78 The thing had been put before her in such vivid reality.

III. To place or bring (a thing or person) in or into some relation, or into some condition, state, mode, or form.

** Where the notion of motion in space is subordinated to that of relation.*

11. To place (a thing or person) *in* or *into* the hands or power of, *in* or *under* the care of a person; †formerly also *in, to, unto* the person; †to commit or entrust *to* a person, to be dealt with, protected, etc. Often *refl.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 20795 (Fairf.) Putte al in him þat is of miȝt. *Ibid.* 25353 For-þi putte al in goddis hande. 1399 Langl. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 78, I put me in his power. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 2861 Let ane dryue to Dary & bede him dryffe sone, Or put him to my powere. 1429 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 330 The said William putt him to grace. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 207 All þe gudis att he had, he putt þaim vnto þe bisshopp. 1470–85 Malory *Arthur* XIX. v. 778 Now I put me holy in to your grace. 1553 *Respublica* II. ii. 507 Will ye putte yourselfe nowe wholye into my handes? 1583 Golding *Calvin on Deut.* XV. 90 Let vs put ourselues to his protection. 1588 Allen *Admon.* 38 A prince that was put to him for an ostage. 1662 Gerbier *Princ.* 26 Builders put their design to Master-Workmen by the Great, or have it Wrought by the Day. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 366 A very fine healthy young man put himself under my care for chancre. 1882 R. G. Wilberforce *Life Bp. Wilberf.* III. xv. 424 He wished 'to put himself in my hands' for our journey to Holmbury.

†**b.** To commit (a person) *to* another for the purpose of being educated or trained in a business; to place with; to apprentice *to. Obs.*

1632 Brome *Crt. Beggar* I. i, To put you to some Tellers Clearke to teach you Ambo-dexterity in telling money. 1716–20 *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 184 Tom was put Clerk to an Attorney in the Temple. 1772 Johnson 5 Apr. in *Boswell,* I would not put a boy to him, whom I intended for a man of learning.

12. To place, set, or cause to be in some place or position, in a general or figurative sense, or when the name of a thing or place stands for its purpose, as *to put* a person *to bed, to school, in ward, in prison, to put* a thing *to sale, on the market, on the stage,* etc.

1387 Trevisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 323 þe Kyng of Engelond..was i-putte in ward, in þe castel of Kelynswor̃pe. 1416 *Satir. Proclam.* in *Pol. Rel. & L. P.* 13 For my curtesie I was put to the Soudenys house & was made vsshер of halle. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/2 Puttyn a thynge to syllyn. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 117 Yong women, maydenes, shuldè be putte vnto scole to lerne vertuous thinges of the scripture. 1560 Daus tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 453 To put the kinges sonne or his brother in to the possession of Scotlande. 1561 Winȝet *Cert. Tractates* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 7 Putand in the place of godly ministeris.. dum doggis. 1620 E. Blount *Horæ Subs.* 106 That haue not been by any casualtie, or accident put behinde hand in the world. 1635 R. N. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 374 His goods were put to port sale. 1698 Fryer *Acc. E. India & P.* 122 Having others put over their heads. 1850 J. H. Newman *Serm. Var. Occas.* xii. (1881) 229 He was ever putting himself in the background. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxviii. 283 The landlords even strongly objected to their serfs putting their children to school. 1897 *Tit-Bits* 4 Dec. 172/2 If..some new patent is being put on the market, it is an opportunity that our traveller will not miss.

13. To place with or in, by way of addition; to add. Const. *to* (†*unto*), *in*. **a.** with material obj.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Take halfe a dosyn Chykonys ..þen putte þer-to a gode gobet of freyssȝe Beef. *Ibid.* 40 Þen put pouder Pepir, & þrow it þer-on. 1703 *Art & Myst. Vintners* 33 Put thereto a gallon of Milk. *Ibid.* 61 Then take 8 gallons of Soot and put to it. 1764 Eliz. Moxon *Eng. Housew.* (ed. 9) 82 Take twelve eggs, beat them well, put to them a pint of cream. *a* 1849 E. Elliott *More Verse & Prose* I. 21 Said Death to Pol Sly, 'Put no rum in thy tea'. 1891 *Gd. Words* Aug. 532/2 They put water to their wine.

b. with immaterial obj.

1382 Wyclif *Rev.* xxii. 18 If ony man shal put to to thes [Vulg. *apposuerit ad hæc*], God shal putte vpon him [*apponet super illum*] the plages writun in this book. 1535 Coverdale *Ecclus.* xviii. 6 There maye nothinge be taken from them, nothinge maye be put vnto them. 1623 Lisle *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref. 4 The invention of a thing..is very hard and rare: yet easie is it for a man to eeke and put somewhat thereto.

14. To place, insert, or enter (a name or an item) in a list, account, or table. Now more usually (esp. in certain connexions) *put down* (see 41 i).

1513–25 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* (K. O.), Put me in his wylle. 1611 Shaks *Wint. T.* IV. iii. 131 Let me be vnfold, and my name put in the booke of Vertue. 1611 Bible 1 *Chron.* xxvii. 24 Neither was the number put in the account of the Chronicles of King Dauid. 1687 Settle *Refl. Dryden* 27 The poorest Servitour in the University would tell him that putting so much upon a mans name, had signified placing so much to his account. 1692 Washington tr. *Milton's Def. Pop.* M.'s Wks. 1738 I. 535 Assure your selves, you are like to be put in the black List. 1735 J. Hughes tr. *Fontenelle's Dial.* II. i. (ed. 3) 62 They could not all be put into a Panegyrick, but into a Satyr they might. 1828 *J. H. Moore's Pract. Navig.* (ed. 20) 138 Those are generally put in a table, against the names of their respective places in an alphabetical order.

*** Where there is no notion of physical motion.*

15. To place (a thing or person) in a scale of estimation or a classification; to allot a place to in thought, opinion, or statement; †also, to regard or suppose (a thing) to be (so-and-so) (*obs.*).

To put..at: to estimate or price at (a certain value). † *To put at no reverence*: to hold in no esteem. † *To put before* to give the precedence to; so † *to put behind.*

1377 Langl. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 207 þe riche is reuerenced by resoun of his richchesse, þere þe pore is put behynde. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 390 Matheu..takiþ two bigynneris, Daviþ and Abraham;..Daviþ was putt bifore for worshipe and acordaunce, alsiȝ Abraham was bifore. *c* 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 31 No man owiþ to putt by-hynde goddis biddynge and þe byddynge of a synful man bifore. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4874, I put not vnpossible ȝon place for to take. *c* 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* 134 þe bodyes and þe Reliqes of .iij. holy kyngis were put at [*v. r.* had in] no reuerence. 1660 Barrow *Euclid* v. xiv. 103 If A be put equall to C, then C.B :: eA. Bf :: C.D.g. 1803 [see Income-tax], 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 288 The rental of this field is put too high at 50*s*. 1857 Ruskin *Pol. Econ. Art* Add. No. 8 § 5 There are three weighty matters of the law—justice, mercy, and truth; and of these the Teacher puts truth last...But men put, in all their efforts, truth first. 1865 — *Sesame* i. § 5 Whether you think I am putting the motives of popular action too low. 1890 *Lippincott's Mag.* Jan. 79 A circulation which a competent authority puts at three millions.

16. To convert or change *into* something else (*obs.*); *esp.* to translate or render *into* another language or form of expression.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) Prol. 5, I haue put this boke out of Latyn into frensch, and translated it aȝen out of frensch into englyssch. 1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 487 If a man would change any part of his Horses hair, as..take away the black hairs and put them into white. 1742 Fielding *Jos. Andrews* III. iii, We..put our small fortune [invested in effects]..into money. 1743 Emerson *Fluxions* 129 Put these Equations into Fluxions. 1893 Liddon, etc., *Life Pusey* I. i. 32, 'I never knew', Keble once said, 'how Pindar might be put into English until I heard Pusey construe him in his examination'.

b. To express (something) *in* spoken or written words; to turn *into* speech or writing, or *into* some particular form of speech or writing.

a 1300 *Sat. People Kildare* xi. in *E. E. P.* (1862) 154 Sleiȝ he was, þat his lore put in writte. *c* 1369 Chaucer *Dethe Blaunche* 54 Fables That..other poetes put in ryme. *c* 1542 Sir N. Uyllagon *Lam. & Pit. Treat.* Addr. in *Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) I, Put in writing the ordre and estate of my voyage. 1668–9 Pepys *Diary* 14 Feb., I do purpose to put in writing that which shall make the Treasurers ashamed. 1879 M. J. Guest *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xix. 185 Henry's principal plans.. were put into writing. *Ibid.* xxii. 218 Thoughts which they did not know how to put into words.

c. To express or state (in a particular way).

1699 Bentley *Phal.* xv. 481 Was ever any Declamator's Theme so extravagantly put? 1729 Butler *Serm. Forgiven. Injuries* Wks. 1874 II. 116 This natural notion of equity the son of Sirach has put in the strongest way. 1836 Marryat *Japhet* lxxiii, This new feature of the case, so aptly put by the old lawyer. 1867 *Gd. Words* 597/2 The French have such a brilliant, graceful, and ingenious way of 'putting things'. 1881 Saintsbury *Dryden* i. 13 One thing..I have never seen fairly put as accounting for the complete royalization of nearly the whole people. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 751/2 This was putting it strong. 1889 F. Pigot *Str. Journ.* 301 He heard a good story well put.

17. To assign or attribute one thing to another in some relation.

a. To assign or set (a quality, meaning, value, price) *on, upon, to* (†*in*) a thing.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 3 It is a fendis pride a synful creature to putte defaute in þe ordynaunce of crist. 1519 *Four Elem.* in Hazl. *Dodsley* I. 24 For physic putteth this reason thereto. 1530 [see Fault *sb.* 7 a]. 1608 Willet *Hexapla Exod.* 338 Our Sauiour reproueth the Pharisees for washing of their hands..because they put holinesse therein. 1657 Earl Monm. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 79 That high esteem which is deservedly put upon the Roman Affairs. 1668 Pepys *Diary* 25 Nov., I do see that he do continue to put a value on my advice. *a* 1708 Bp. Beveridge *Thes. Theol.* (1710) II. 155 Putting the best construction upon all men's words and actions. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 1 P 2 That was the Interpretation which the Neighbourhood put upon it. 1871 Freeman *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. § 2. 31 This too we need not doubt, at least in the sense which the great Survey enables us to put upon it. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 Chanc. Div. 463 A gloss is put upon these documents which they will not bear. 1890 *Temple Bar Mag.* Aug. 493 Watteau sometimes put ridiculously low prices upon his work.

b. To assign or ascribe (a thing) to something else as cause, reason, or basis; to regard or represent as based upon or arising from; to base, found, rest *upon.*

1722 De Foe *Plague* (1754) 222, I reflect upon no Man for putting the Reason of those Things upon the immediate Hand of God. 1729 Butler *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 155 A plain rule of life..has..put the principle of virtue upon the love of our neighbour. 1818 Cruise *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 597 It was said generally, and was not put upon any custom. 1864 J. H. Newman *Apol.* ii. (1904) 29/2, I would have no dealings with my brother, and I put my conduct upon a syllogism. 1884 Sir J. Stephen in *Law Rep.* 12 Q. B. Div. 282, I wish to put my judgment on the plain and broad ground already stated.

18. To apply *to* a use or purpose.

c 1400 Maundev. (1839) Prol. 3 The comoun peple, þat wolde putte here bodyes and here catell, for to conquere oure heritage. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* H iij b, To put remedye therto. 1568 Grafton *Chron.* II. 263 They put all their goodes vnto the Englishmens pleasures. 1604 E. G[rimstone] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. xv. 463 The Indians tilled and put to profite the Inguas lands. 1628 Earle *Microcosm.* xiv. (Arb.) 35 No man puts his Braine to more vse than hee. 1671 Milton *Samson* 37 O glorious strength Put to the labour of a Beast. *a* 1700 Locke (J.) The great difference in the notions of mankind is from the different use they put their faculties to. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* viii, To what uses are they to be put?

19. To set mentally or conceptually *in the place of* (something else); to substitute (one thing) *for* another, in thought or expression.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/2 To Putte a thinge for a noder, *reciprocare.* 1560 Bible (Genev.) *Isa.* v. 20 Which put darknes for light, and light for darkenesse. 1631 Gouge *God's Arrows* I. § 47. 83 Figuratively..a speciall put for the generall, it signifieth the pestilence. 1659 Sir A. A. Cooper in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 284 It is clearly a putting others in their place, and is setting up a thing that is quite contrary. 1715 tr. *Pancirollus' Rerum Mem.* I. 2 In Pliny, Purple is often put for the Chief Magistrate. 1865 Ruskin *Sesame* i. § 25 Putting ourselves always in the author's place. 1870 Reade (*title*) Put yourself in his place.

20. To establish or introduce and bring to bear (a state, condition, relation, or alteration) *in, on,* or *to* an existing thing, action, or state of things. Chiefly, now only, in special phrases.

† *To put (no) doubt* (obs.): to raise or 'make' (no) doubt. † *To put order to* (obs.): to take measures for (cf. *to take order* s. v. Order *sb.* 14). *To put an end, stop, period to*: to bring to an end, to stop, to cause to cease: see the sbs. So *to put a check, stopper, veto on* (= to check, stop, or forbid), and similar phrases.

1382 Wyclif *Gen.* iii. 15 Enemyte I shal put bitwix thee and the woman. *c* 1420 ? Lydg. *Assembly of Gods* 761 They hym comfortyd & bad hym put no dowte, Hys vttyr enemy Vyce to ouerthrow. 1485 Caxton *Chas. Gt.* III. I. xiv. 227 After that he had put and sette good estate..in spayne. 1526 Tindale *Acts* xv. 9 And he putt no difference betwene them and vs. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Lj, He ordennede, soddainely that..one put ordre to the deathe of his doughter. 1592 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1597) c. 114 To put ordour to all maters and causes Ecclesiasticall. 1601 [see Period *sb.* 5]. 1647 [see End *sb.* 22 c]. 1712 Addison *Spect.* No. 403 P 10 This Intelligence put a Stop to my Travels. 1760 *Impostors Detected* I. iii. I. 14 [This] put a sudden damp to their zeal. 1807–8 Syd. Smith *Plymley's Lett.* Wks. 1859 II. 137/2 Infamous and damnable laws..which have been put an end to by him. 1855 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 213 To solicit the Lords to put some check on the violence of the Commons. 1889 H. D. Traill *Strafford* viii. 101 These indecencies were speedily put a stop to. 1891 T. Hardy *Tess* xxxvi, 'What were you thinking of doing?' he enquired. 'Of putting an end to myself'.

b. To place, repose (trust, confidence, etc.) *in* (†*to*).

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 25 Over grete favoure and trust put to youre adversaries. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5 b, Puttynge theyr trust onely in spirituall or heuenly thynges. 1529 More *Dyalogue* I. Wks. 121/1 Those nygromancers..that put theyr confydence in the roundell and cercle on the grounde. 1535 Coverdale *Ps.* cxlv[i.] 3 Put not youre trust in prynces. 1847 Marryat *Childr. N. Forest* xvii, Of course I put implicit confidence in you. 1888 G. R. Gissing *Nether World* (1889) III. v. 94 He put no faith in Sidney's assertion.

21. To commit (the fate of something) *to* a risk or hazard; to stake *on, upon.*

1611 Shaks. *Cymb.* I. iv. 133 Would I had put my Estate, and my Neighbors on th' approbation of what I haue spoke. 16.. Bacon (J.), They durst not put it to a battle at sea, and set up their rest wholly upon the land enterprize. 1641 J. Jackson *True Evang. T.* III. 190 So farre as my interest in Religion goeth..I shall willingly put it wholly upon this issue. 1700 Dryden *Ovid's Met.* I. 239 When our universal state Was put to hazard. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 129 The resolution had been taken of putting all upon a battle. 1781 *Hist. Eur.* in *Ann. Reg.* 53/2 [It] obliged him, at no small hazard, to put all at the issue. 1885 *Manch. Even. News* 17 June 2/4 A Frenchman who had patriotically put his money on Reluisant.

b. To invest or venture (one's money) in.

1604 Moufet *Will* in *Health's Impr.* (1746) Life 27, I give thirtie Shillings, to be put into a Ringe. 1737 [S. Berington] *G. de Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 29 He put what was left, together with my little Stock, into that unfortunate Bottom. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* July 184/2 The poor people had put their substance into purchases of land.

c. *refl. To put oneself on* or *upon*: to entrust or commit oneself to the ruling or verdict of.

1660– [see Country 7]. 1712 Arbuthnot *John Bull* App. iii, So Jack resolved; but he had done more wisely to have put himself upon the trial of his country. *a* 1715 Burnet *Own Time* an. 1682 (1823) II. 330 The king being now resolved to live on his revenue, without putting himself on a parliament, he was forced on a great reduction of expenses. 1869 W. Longman *Hist. Edw. III,* I. ii. 39 Thomas de Berkeley, accused..' put himself on his country', and was consequently tried by a jury of twelve men.

**** Where a thing (usually non-material) is put in some relation to a person (or agent).*

22. To propose to or place before a person for consideration or answer; to propound (a question, supposition, etc.); †in first quot., to address *to* a person (*obs.*). *Put* (*the*) *case*: see Case *sb.*[1] 12. See also *put forth* (42 c), *put forward* (43 c).

Used with indirect (dative) and direct obj. in *to put one a question.*

c 1300 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 53 To love y putte pleyntes mo. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* xxvi. 174 But I putte þis cas; þou art contryte & sory in herte for þi synne [etc.]. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. V* 9 Put the case that we neither loued her nor her kynne, yet there were no cause why [etc.]. 1681 H. More *Exp. Dan.* 85 The Queen..put hard and weighty questions to him. 1827 Roberts *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 267 Whatever others assert who may have put the question. 1888 G. Gissing *Life's Morn.* II. ix. 73 He did not put to himself the plain alternative. 1888 Farjeon *Miser Farebrother* xvii, You are putting a riddle to me. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 24/1 He put me too hard a question.

b. *spec.* To submit (a point for decision) formally to the vote of an assembly.

1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 57 The question was putt whether the Ballott should be used in all cases? 1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 14 The Counsel..put it to the Vote who shall be their General. 1700–15 [see Previous 2 c].

1792–3 GIBBON *Autobiog.* (1896) 15 On the question being put, it was carried without a division. 1830 *Examiner* 778/1 The resolution was put and carried. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlv, Let us put it to the vote.

c. *To put it* : to present or submit a question, statement, etc. *to* a person for consideration or by way of appeal.

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. vi. 33 My aunt Hervey has put it to my mother, whether it were not best [etc.]. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 35 B—— put it to me if I should like to see Spenser as well as Chaucer. 1889 *Repent. P. Wentworth* I. ix. 183, I appeal to you; I put it to you to be frank with yourself. *Mod.* (Counsel cross-examining) 'I put it to you that you were not there at the time.'

†**d.** *Cards.* (*intr.*) In the game of PUT (*sb.*3) : app. To put it to the other player whether he will play out the hand; to challenge one's antagonist. (Also spelt *putt.*) *Obs.*

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) xv. 93 The eldest [hand] if he hath a good Game, and thinks it better than his Adversaries, puts to him, if the other will not or dare not see him, he then wins one, but if he will see him they play it out. *Ibid.* 96 Who would not put at such Cards?

23. To impose (something) *on, upon* (†*to*, †*unto*) a person, etc.

a. as a burden, charge, or obligation.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 134 þei putten grete penaunce unto men þere Cristis charge is liȝt. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xii. 4 Thi fader putte [1388 puttide] to vs moost hard ȝok. *Ibid.* 2 *Kings* xviii. 14 Al that thou puttist on to me, I schale beren. 1426 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 10 þe charge..þat is put vnto me. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flyting w. Dunbar* 254 Put I nocht sylence to the, schiphird knaif? 1550 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 87 To putt inhibitioun to the capitanis. 1568 [see IMPOST *sb.*1 1]. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* vii. 39 When God hath.. giuen vs the vpper hand of all assaultes that could be put vnto vs. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 7 We were very sensible of the obligation he had put upon us. 1735 LD. LYTTELTON *Lett. Persian* xxxi, The constraint that was put upon him. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 84, I have ..declared myself against putting any more Grammar upon Boys. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 10 Oct. 427/1 Heavy dues were put on cattle.

b. as an indignity, insult, censure, etc.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 347 We mai not pynche at þis lawe þat God himsilf ordeynede first, but ȝif we putten blasphemye on God þat he ordeynede folily. 1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat.* 85 b, Smytynge the..and many other greuous paynes puttynge to the. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Mal. i. 8 Will they..not..think that you put a scorne upon them? 1687 BURNET *Repl. Varillas* 21 A severe censure I had put on his works. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* v. 204 Putting indignities upon one another. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* III. 332 The contempt which lyric poets put upon instrumental music. 1870 J. E. T. ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 121 One humiliation after another would be put on the unhappy king.

c. as something unwelcome or unpleasant; sometimes, to saddle a person with. Now *rare* or *Obs.* Used occas. with favourable application (quot. 1718).

1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Rom. vii. 8 Sinne had not had such force to put itself upon us. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 23 Dec, Sir D. Gauden is mightily troubled at Pen's being put upon him, by the Duke of York. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XVI. 466 *note*, We have Virtue put upon us by Surprize, and are pleas'd to find a thing where we should never have look'd to meet with it. 1727 SWIFT *Art Polit. Lying* Wks. 1751 VI. 179 There wants nothing to be put upon the publick, but a false Author, or a false Cause. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) IV. 1 She put herself upon him for a saint. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 418 Putting upon you gifts of no real value.

d. something false or delusive, as a deception or trick.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 63 If I put any trickes vpon em. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. iii, You ha' there now Some Bristo-stone, or Cornish counterfeit You'ld put vpon vs. 1650, 1823 [see CHEAT *sb.*1 4 b]. 1688 BURNET *Lett. St. Italy* 115 They see such gross Deceptions put upon the World. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T.* (Chandos ed.) 252 C. suspected..that he was putting a joke upon him.

e. *To put the ass* or *fool upon* : to impose the name or character of ass or fool upon; to call or account an ass or fool. ? *Obs.* (See also FOOL *sb.*1 3.)

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 50 If any German will put the Asse vpon another cunningly, he will say, that the other was neuer in Silesia. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 40 Who merrily in familiar discourse was pleased to put the fool upon me for it. 1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 144 The public..have put the fool on me from my birth.

f. *absol. To put upon* : †(*a*) to play a trick upon, befool, impose upon (*obs.*); (*b*) to impose unfair or excessive tasks upon; to exact over-much from; to oppress, victimize. Chiefly in indirect passive.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. viii, Sir Joseph has found out your trick, and does not care to be put upon. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* III. vii, [He] advised him not to carry the jest too far, for he would not endure being put upon. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* I. ii. 54 'I should not have fancied Miss Harvey the sort of person to set up herself in defiance of me'. 'The more reason, Sir, if you'll forgive me, for your not putting upon her'. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 158 Sharp little women, who evidently could not be 'put upon'. 1890 MRS. H. WOOD *Ho. Halliwell* II. iii. 58 You remember..how she used to put upon me.

24. To lay the blame of (something) *on* or *upon*; to lay (crime or fault) to a person's charge, tax with; to charge *against*, impute *to*.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 174 þou puttes here on Crist consense of mayntenynge of þefte. 1382 — *Acts* xxv. 7 Jewis stooden aboute him..puttinge aȝens [him] manye and greuouse causis. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 15 þat Cristene men schulde nouȝt be dampned wiþ oute trespass i-put aȝenst hem, ar.ȝ i-previd. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 40 þe Jewes..put appone hym þat he had saide blaseſeme. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxi. 89 He dide me gret harme, & puttid þinges up on me þat I neuere þouȝte. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S. T. S.) 74 Tharfore suld men be wele avisit, or thai put crime till a man. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. 30 The whiche delyuerest Susanne from the infamye yt of wronge unto her was put. 1530 PALSGR. 671/2 You put upon me that I have hurte hym. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. vii. 70 What cannot you and I performe vpon Th' vnguarded Duncan? What not put vpon His spungie Officers? 1702 STEELE *Grief A-la-Mode* v. i, I'll try you for his Murder, which I find you'd put on me, thou hellish Engine! 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* iv, Because it [the mishap] was within a league of his castle, you put it on him?

**** *Where a person* (*or thing*) *is put to some condition, suffering, or action.*

25. To place *in*, bring *into*, or reduce (a person or thing) *to* some state or condition; as,

To put at ease, at rest; to put in doubt, fear, †*hope, mind, remembrance, trust; to put in* (or *into*, occas. †*to*) *action, adventure, communication, competition, execution, force, motion, order,* †*peace, play, possession, one's power, practice, print, readiness,* †*respite, shape,* †*suspense, tune, use,* †*work*, etc.; *to put on one's guard, on one's honour, on one's oath, on record,* †*to life, to rights, to silence, to sleep, in the wrong*, etc. : see also the sbs.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2425 (Göt.) Qui put þu vs in were, þat said þi wijf þi sister were? *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 275 To..putte yowe in sclaundre nowe and blame. *c* 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 767 A lewed man in this That he wol putte his wyf in Iupartie. 14.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* (A.) 54 He..puttyd to lyfe þat ded lay. 1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 424/1 Desiryng to be putte in certainete of certain Articles. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Tim.* ii. 14 Of these thynges put them in remembraunce. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* ix. 20 Put them in feare. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 30 This rule will I put in practise. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. v. 34 b, We had putte our gallies in order, with theyr flagges, banners [etc.]. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* I. 389 Put Jove in mind of this. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 51/2 The Lords..are not like a Jury, put upon their Oaths, but do it upon their Honor. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1685 (1823) II. 463 She was put upon the secret, and spoke of it to no person alive but to her confessor. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. i. 6 This put my mother into a great passion. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xvi, You have put me under an obligation which I never can repay. 1866 W. COLLINS *Armadale* III. xiv, It was decided that the servants should be put on board wages. 1892 SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 2 Q. B. D. 540 The person deputed ..to receive the proposal and to put it into shape.

b. With complement: To cause to be or become something; to make, render so-and-so: †(*a*) with sb.; (*b*) with adj. (usually *to put right* or *wrong*).

In Wyclif a freq. literalism of translation fr. Lat. *ponere.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 61 Pouerte pursued me and put me lowe. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 363 þat men..putte þe pope here heierste iuge. 1382 — *Lam.* iii. 11 He putte me desolat [Vulg. *posuit me desolatam*]. 1651 *Life Musculus* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1867) I. 303 Musculus was put void of his church. 1790 A. WILSON *Pack*, To think how aft I'm putten wud. 1835 J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) II. 138 He and Keble both being away puts everything wrong. 1885 *Law Times* 30 May 74/2 All that the tenants complained of could undoubtedly have been put right..in a very few hours. 1892 H. R. MILL *Realm Nat.* ii. 20 The least mistake..would put the calculation all wrong. *Mod.* Haven't you put the clock fast?

26. To subject (a person, etc.) *to* the suffering or endurance of something; as,

To put to †*pain,* †*pine, punishment, torture; to put to death, destruction, execution,* †*mischief; to put to* †*finance,* †*fine, ransom; to put to charge, expense, loss, straits, trouble; to put to* †*judgement, (the) proof, test, touch, trial; to put to the halter, the horn, the rack, the sword; to put to confusion, rebuke, shame; to put to the worse* or *worst*, etc.; *to put upon one's trial*, etc.: see also the sbs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10072 (Cott.) þa[t] he ne him put til hel pin. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 87 Whane þe pore pleyned that put were to wrongis. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8852 All the pepull to pyne put, and dethe at oure lust? *c* 1470 HENRY *Wallace* X. 722 Ye se the Scottis puttis feill to confusioun. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xv. 15 The kyng.. was deposed..and certayne of his counsellours..put to distruction. 1535 COVERDALE *Matt.* xxiv. 9 Then shal they put you to trouble. 1548–9 *Act* 34 & 35 *Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 32 No..persone..for Murther or Felony, shallbe put to his fyne. 1611 BIBLE *Heb.* vi. 6 They crucifie..the Sonne of God afresh, and put him to an open shame. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1148 Soon as they had him at their mercy, They put him to the cudgel fiercely. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, She had put herself to the expense of a long hood. 1832 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* III. xliii. 606 Foy ..put the defenders to the bayonet without distinction. 1891 *Sat. Rev.* 24 Jan. 99/1 Most of the insect and worm feeders are put to sore straits.

b. *spec.* To subject (a piece of ground) to the plough, or to the raising of a particular crop. Const. *to, into, under* the crop, etc. Cf. 18.

1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. II. 423 The field..was put into potatoes. *Ibid.* 524, I put the ground .. under early potatoes. 1847 *Ibid.* VIII. I. 112 It is stocked with cattle or put under the plough. 1861 *Ibid.* XXII. II. 294 The oat-stubbles being put to winter vetches. *Ibid.*, The land can be put to wheat.

27. To set (a person or animal) to do something, or upon some course of action. † Formerly sometimes with the notion of inciting, urging, or persuading. (*a*) with infin. or *to*.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 289 Selden is any pore yput to punysshen any peple. 1393 *Ibid.* C. VIII. 191 In alle kynne craftes..he putte me to lerne. 1530 *Act* 22 *Hen. VIII*, c. 4 To the great hurte of the Kynges true Subjectes puttynge their Childe to be prentyse. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xl. 132 She to be put to your doughter to teche hyr to speake ..the language of frenche. 1625 BURGES *Pers. Tithes* 21 How can they aduise, and put their Minister to sue Husbandmen for Tithes? 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 50 If we did..put Horses to perform Things which Nature never designed them for. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. I. 54 Horses..are put to work at three years old. 1889 PHILIPS & WILLS *Sybil Ross's Marr.* xx, I suppose they'll put me to herd the swine.

(*b*) with *on, upon.*

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 101 'Tis they haue put him on the old mans death. 1645 T. COLEMAN *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* 30 July 14 His folly might put him on the same way of resistance. 1662 H. MORE *Philos. Writ.* Pref. Gen. § 6 He can neither hit upon a right sense of things himself..or rightly pursue it, when he is put upon it by another. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words* Ded. P. Courthope, You were the first that Contributed to it, and indeed the Person that put me upon it. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. ix. 396 The strong addiction..to lucre often ..puts them on defrauding the authority that protects them. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LIII. 467/2 He had notice of facts which ought to have put him on inquiry. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 13 Sept. 580/2 The disappointment..might..put them upon some wild scheme.

b. *refl.* To set oneself *to*; to set about an action or course of action, etc.; to betake or apply oneself *to. arch.* or *dial.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 20 Summe putten hem to þe plouȝ and pleiden hem ful seldene. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* Prol. 33 Sum poyetis full prist þat put hom þerto. *a* 1400–50 *Alexander* 1483 Ilka bodi þat in þe burȝe lengis, Putt þam to prayris & penaunce enduris. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* v. viii. 174 Alle the Romayns with all their hoost put them to flyght. *c* 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 33/2 Whan the Vnicorne hath put hym to rest at a tree. 1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T.* (Chandos ed.) 256 Looking as queerly as cows generally do, while putting themselves to their speed. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* II. i. (1866) 96 Christ put Himself to His works of healing for this purpose.

c. To set to learn, study, or practise. Const. *to*, †*on*, †*upon* (something).

1389 R. WIMBELDON *Serm. Luke* xvi. 2 (1584) A viij, Why, I pray you, doe men put their sonnes to the Ciuill Law. *c* 1430 *Freemasonry* 30 Thys onest craft he putte hem to. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 23 They which are put to learning must not be *non proficientes*. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Hos. x. 11, I will put Ephraim to the saddle, Judah to the plow. *a* 1687 PETTY *Pol. Arith.* (1690) 113 Since the generality of Gentlemen, and some Noblemen, do put their younger sons to Merchandize. 1740 J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 58 This Custom of putting Boys upon the Greek Tongue, before they understand any Thing of the Latin. *Ibid.* 63 They are..put upon Versifying.

d. To direct or urge (a horse) towards something, esp. an obstacle to be cleared; also, to cause (a horse) to perform a particular pace, a leap, etc.: const. *to, at*, etc. *To put through* : to cause (a horse) to perform (a particular movement); *transf.* to cause (a person) to go through an exercise, course of study, etc.

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 4 A Rancke rider hath put his horse to a hedge, and lay in the ditch. 1766 [see PACE *sb.*1 6]. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. xxxix, Which puts my Pegasus to these grave paces. 1833 *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 38 The Major..will put the regiment through the 'Manual' and 'Platoon Exercise'. *Ibid.* 84 He [a horse] may be put to the leap. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* viii, Edward put the pony to a trot. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* ix, Mr. Pumblechook then put me through my pence-table. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* II. 406 He was not put through a course of searching educational inquiries. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. viii. 258 My father had himself put me through the two first books of Livy. 1891 'ANNIE THOMAS' *That Affair* II. ii. 23 She..puts the cob up the hill.

e. To set (cattle) to feed upon; to restrict (a person) to a diet or regimen of. Const. *to, on, upon.*

1620 MARKHAM *Farew. Husb.* xxii. (1668) 125 In the month of December, put your sheep and swine to the pease Reeks, and fat them for the .. market. 1840 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* I. III. 315, I..changed the food, and put the sheep on bran and oats. 1845 *Ibid.* VI. II. 364 All my ewes were put to turnips. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 585 To put the garrison on rations of horse flesh. 1888 *Times* 21 June 10/3 He was put upon bread and water. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 649, I put her on red medulla tabloids.

28. To force or drive (a person, etc.) to the performance of some action, e. g. of making a choice, playing a certain card; as,

To put to flight, to the run, to one's jumps, plunges, shifts, trumps, etc.: see also the sbs.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 271/2 Such possession..ought not to be..affermed, ne putte my seid Lord..to his action. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* D vij b, God dyde putt her to reason askynge to her why she had trespaced his commaundement. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* L ij b, Englande was put to a sore plunge through hir wylfulnes. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* III, Salomon beyng put to his choyse. 1651 H. L'ESTRANGE *Smectymnuus-mastix* 27 When Smectymnuus are put to instance they can onely tell us, that [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* IV. 386 Thank him who puts me loath to this revenge. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* ix. 207 If at the end of their course they were put to their option, whether [etc.].

†**b.** Const. *inf.* To oblige, compel, force, require, call upon *to do* something. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 5 Since I am put to know, that [etc.]. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iii. 110 You put me to forget a Ladies manners By being so verball. 1635 SIR H. BLOUNT *Voy. Levant* (1637) 102, I have divers times beene put to defend myselfe with my knife. 1651 *Life Father Sarpi* (1676) 22 The Father was never put to provide for himself while he was under the care of this good old man. 1654

BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* v. (1661) 97 Men are not put to prove negatives. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 305 He .. is reckon'd a great Master of his Sword. God grant he may never be put to use it! 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* vii, Put me not..to dishonour myself by striking thee with this weapon.

c. *To put* (a person) *to it.* (*a*) To force, urge, challenge, or call upon (him) to do what is indicated by the context. Chiefly in *passive.*

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A vj, A pleasant Gentleman (who could haue spoken sufficientlie, if he had bene put to it). 1607 J. NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* II. 38 When they are put to it, they come far short of some principall pointes required. *c* 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 146 I'le put him to't, before the play be plaide. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* vi. 245 Pride is no more put to't to obey, than humility is to govern. 1868 Miss BRADDON *Dead Sea Fr.* xviii, There is nothing a man of the world can't do when he's put to it.

(*b*) *spec.* To force (one) to do one's utmost; to reduce to straits; to drive to extremities; to hamper or embarrass. Now always in the passive and usually with an adv. of degree, as *hard, sore(ly, sadly, greatly put to it.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 101 Lord Angelo Dukes it well in his absence: he puts transgression too 't. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 179, I know this is difficult, and puts a man to it. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 286 Thou didst pose heaven it self and put God to it. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 66 *margin* The Hill puts the Pilgrims to it. 1699 SWIFT *Ballads* Wks. 1755 III. II. 63 [He] was sorely put to't in the midst of a verse, Because he could find no word to come pat in. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. 138, I was sadly put to it for a Scythe or a Sickle to cut it down. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 575 You see how we are put to it. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xiii, We were hard put to it ..to get it done in so short a time.

***** *To put a thing*: in pregnant senses of L. *pōnĕre.*

†**29.** To posit, suppose, assume. With obj. cl. (= *put case* in 22) or simple obj. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P 511 But lat vs now putte that ye haue leue to venge yow. 1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 95 And one being put, the other is put. 1626 W. FENNER *Hidden Manna* (1652) 74 Put that Christ did not dye for them. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick* 7 An End in Arts not conjectural..must be put when the means are put.

†**30. a.** To lay down (one's life) *for*, or *on behalf of. Obs.*

(A Latinism: *animam suam ponere pro...*)

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 363 Crist..puttide his lyf for his sheep. [Cf. Vulg. John x. 15 *Animam meam pono pro ovibus meis.*] 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 183 Whanne Kynges comeþ to strengþe þey putteþ [*v.r.* potteþ] þeire lif for wommen [Higden, *animas pro mulieribus exponunt*]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xciii. 423 (Add. MS.) If the housbond be myghty and good, he oweth to deffende here, and putt his life for here life. *c* 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. viii. 323 Redi forto putte her lijfis for witnessing of trouthe.

†**b.** To 'lay down'; to state, assert, affirm, declare as a fact. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1016 As poyetis han put, plainly þo two Were getyn by a gode on a grete lady. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 29 b/1 Saynt Bernard putteth iiii maners of love. 1529 MORE *Dyalogue* II. Wks. 183/2 Yᵉ holders of yᵗ oppinion do put, yᵗ no man maye for all yᵗ take vpon him to preache or medle as priest, til he be chosen by the congregacion. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* IV. ii. Wks. (1573) 324/2 The true faith putteth the resurrection, which we be warned to looke for euery houre. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* V. i. 196 As common bruite doth put it.

†**c.** To lay down as a rule or law; to ordain. (With *obj. cl.*) *Obs.*

c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden) 105 And forthermore ordeyneth, puttethe and stabylysshethe..that all statutys ordenaunces [etc.]. 1678 *Min. Bar. Crt. Stitchill* (1905) 83 Therefor the Judge .. putts inacts and decernes for futur trouble in tyme cummeng that every persons grasse [etc.].

IV. In combination or construction of the intransitive use with prepositions.

31. Put at —. *intr.* To strike at, proceed against, take measures against; to attack; to prosecute. [*fig.* from I d.] *Sc.* With *indirect passive.*

1547 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 69 The autorite to putt at thame baith in thair personis, landis, and gudis, quhill tha cum to obedience. *a* 1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. (Wodrow Soc.) I. 284 Gif the authoritie wald putt at me and my house, according to civile and cannon lawes. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S. T. S.) I. 322 The Douglassis pat sair at the Lord Lyndsay. 1583 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 599 Thay ar persewit and put at for the said publict act. 1616 SIR C. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 248 Sir Robert Rich puts hard at them for the extent of his land. 1866 GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss., Pit-at*, to dun; as 'the banker's beginnin' t'pit-at him for the bill'. [1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. iii. 73 Argyle advised Carstares that Simon should not be put at for this.]

†**32. Put for —.** *intr.* **a.** To make an attempt or effort to obtain; to try for; to strive to do or attain. *Obs.* Cf. *push for*, PUSH *v.* 8.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* 139 Let them..looke after it, or the man in the Moone put for it. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg.* i. 587 Henry againe doth hotly put for all. 1613 DANIEL *Hist. Eng.* I. (1621) 5 Many..were proclaimed Cæsars and put for the whole empire. 1646 FULLER *Good Th.* etc., *Wounded Consc.* (1841) 279 Now Satan being no less cunning..will put hard for our souls. 1676 C. HATTON in *H. Corr.* (1878) 122 Some of my Lᵈ Treasurer's creatures .. put for Sʳ. John Ernley['s] place, as commissioner of yᵉ Navy. 1739 *Encour. Sea-f. People* 39 The Superbe putting for it to lay the Admiral aboard, fell on his Weather Quarter.

†**b.** *Put fair for*: to 'bid fair' for; to be in a fair way of attaining. *Obs.*

1595 MAYNARDE *Drake's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 7 Had wee lanced under the forte at our first cominge to anchor, wee had put fayre to bee possessors of the towne. *a* 1677 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 135 Those Nations whose Historians put fair for the greatest Antiquity, are the Romans [etc.].

†**c.** To make for, argue for. *Obs.*

1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Gagg* 52 It would put for Hebrew or Syriacke, their mother tongue.

Put out of: see 48. **Put upon:** see 23 f.

V. Combined with adverbs, forming the equivalents of compound verbs in other languages.

†**33. Put aback.** *trans.* = *put back*, 39 a, b. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 332 It semeþ þat antecrist bi þis puttiþ cristis ordynaunce aback. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 181/2 True maters..were hyndred and put abakke. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. viii, The men of trouthe ben set alowe and put aback. 1530 PALSGR. 671/2 To put a backe from promocyon. *a* 1557 *Diurn. Occur.* (1833) 34 The saidis personis..was put abak be the lordis Ruthven, [etc.].

34. Put about.

a. See simple senses and ABOUT.

1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xv. 36 Fillinge a sponge with vynegre, and puttinge aboute [Vulg. *circumponens*] to a reede. 1766 AMORY *Buncle* (1825) III. 78 The bottle after dinner I put about pretty quick. 1768 LADY M. COKE *Jrnl.* 28 Aug., That Strange Girl that you remember was used to put herself about upon the Stage, almost all her Cloaths off.

b. *Naut. trans.* To lay or place (a sailing vessel) on the opposite tack. Also *transf.* to cause (a horse, a body of men, etc.) to turn round so as to face in another direction.

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug. i, Every time the vessel was put about, we shipped a sea. 1832 *Prop. Regul. Instr. Cavalry* III. 83 The..wing is..to be put about by Threes. 1842 MARRYAT *Percival K.* xix, The Stella was then put about, and the other broadside given. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxi, Put your horses' heads about and ride for Spalding.

c. *Naut. absol.* or *intr.* To turn on to the other tack; to go about. Also *transf.*

1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. v. 342 The proas..run from one of these Islands to the other and back again..without ever putting about. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl. Whale Fish.* 338 The main interests of my voyage obliged me to put about, and return to the northward. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 251 Down with the helm, and let us put about.

d. *trans.* To circulate, publish (a statement).

1781 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* May (1842) II. 34 Is it what she [Mrs. Thrale] put about in the morning? 1851 J. H. NEWMAN *Cath. in Eng.* 313 This has been put about as a discovery. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* II. v. 102 Who has put this lie about?

e. To trouble; to put to inconvenience, embarrass; to distress. (Orig. and still chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) Cf. *put out*, 47 f (*b*), (*c*), (*d*).

1825 JAMIESON, *To Put about*, to subject to inconvenience or difficulty;..as, 'I was sair put about to get that siller'. 1843 F. E. PAGET *Warden of Berkingholt* 149 You see I don't let a thoughtless word put me about, and you must'na neither. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* Introd. 6, I would not have been much put about, though my offer had been rejected. 1866 READE *G. Gaunt* (ed. 2) II. 297 Oh, don't put yourself about for me. 1890 DOYLE *Capt. 'Polestar', Little Sq. Box* 152 What's put you about, Hammond? You look as white as a sheet.

†**35. Put abroad.** *trans.* To spread abroad, unfurl, display. *Obs.*

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* I. 68 When in him shall be..the prime Of youth's spring put abroad. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Medit.* (Camden) 3 To giue notice..by putting abroad his flag. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 19 She puts aboard [1683 abroad] her Waste-clothes; she will fight us.

Put again: see 5. **Put apart** = *put aside*, 36 a.

36. Put aside.

a. See simple senses and ASIDE.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. ii. (Br. Mus. Add. 27944 f. 67 b/2) He hatte sepultus iburied. for he is iput aside iburyed vndir þerþe. 1535 COVERDALE *Susanna* 51 Put these two asyde one from another.

b. To lay aside out of use, etc.; = *put away*, 38 e; also to bury = 38 f (*d*).

1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ii, She told him he must put aside his uniform while in England. 1891 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 80/1 The salesman, seeing that the meat was bad, did not expose it for sale, but put it aside. 1892 TENNYSON *Charity* xiii, They put him aside for ever, and after a week..a widow came to my door.

37. Put asunder. *trans.* To separate.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xix. 6 Let not man therfore put asunder, that which god hath cuppled togedder. 1530 [see 52 b]. 1611 COTGR., *Separer*, to separate, sever, part,..put asunder.

38. Put away.

a. See simple senses and AWAY.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5700 (Cott.) He put þe hirdes all a-wai. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVI. lxii. (Br. Mus. Add. 27944 f. 202/2) The magnas drawe þ to iren in o cornere and putteþ it away in anoþer corner. 1530 PALSGR. 671/2, I dyd put hym awaye as harde as I coulde. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 209 Two may keepe counsell putting one away. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 9 Vexing this little creature, by threatning to put her away from the Prince. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s. v. *Veer*, The head of the vessel is put away from the wind. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* July 29/1, I had..put away the picture in despair.

b. *trans.* To send away, dismiss, get rid of; to reject; *spec.* to divorce. Somewhat *arch.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 361 þei semen alle Anticristis proctours to putte awey Cristis ordenaunce. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 269 þe kyng putte away his lawefui wif. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/2 Puttyn a-wey, or refusyn, *repudio, refuto.* 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xix. 9 Whosoever putteth awaye his wyfe (except hit be for fornicacion) and maryeth another, breaketh wedlocke. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 143 Put awaye thy dyspleasure and perdon me. 1599 *Aycliffe Reg.* in Sir C. Sharp *Chron. Mirab.* (1841) 36 A publycke admonition..for all maysters and dames to put away such servants..as wyll not usually come to churche. 1816 BYRON *Pris. Chillon* vii, He loathed and put away his food. 1890 *Univ. Rev.* 15 June 204 That is the last vanity that man learns to put away.

†**c.** To drive away, dispel; to do away with, abolish, put an end to. *Obs.*

a 1349 HAMPOLE *Comm. Love to God* Wks. 1896 I. 70 It..puttes a-wey wykked dredes & vices, & clenses þe thoght. *c* 1400 *Brut* 300 Philip of Valeys..cast & purposed .. to put awey þe sege. *a* 1450 MYRC *Festial* 49 The ensens he brent to put away þe stench of þe stabull þer scho lay. 1495 *Act* 11 *Hen. VII*, c. 2 § 5 It [shall] be laufull to ij of the Justices..to rejecte and put awey comen ale selling in Tounes. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 108 It putteth awaye cleane the Canker. 1873 MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* xxviii, Ask God to put it away out of your mind.

†**d.** To part with, dispose of, sell; = *put off*, 45 j.

1574 in *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* XX. 467 To sell..and put away his landis, heretagis [etc.]. 1607 *Stat.* in *Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 61 To sell give or putt away anye part of the landes. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) II. 348 He took two skins and a half..which he carried to Mr. Cutting's ship, and put it away there for twenty-four shillings.

e. To put (out of one's hands or immediate use) into a receptacle for safe keeping; to stow away; also, to lay by for future use (money, etc.); = *put by*, 40 g.

1843 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* IV. II. 398 The fruit should be.. carefully put away in bins. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxxix, I've put away money, only for you to spend. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 13 Sept. 330/1 Searching for the spectacles he had put away overnight. 1891 *Murray's Mag.* Mar. 373 She had put away her books, writing materials [etc.].

f. *slang* or *colloq.* (*a*) To consume as food or drink, take into the stomach. (*b*) To put in jail, to imprison. (*c*) To put in pawn, to pawn. (*d*) *dial.* To put in the grave, to bury.

1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xlviii, I never saw a man put away such an enormous quantity of provisions at one time. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 4 Aug. 2/1 Having been 'put away' since the previous October .. and only just now released. 1887 *Daily News* 22 Oct. 3/3 They have clothes and household effects..which, if need be, they can 'put away 'during the winter. 1889 DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xvi, He could put away more spruce beer than you would care to pay for. 1896 MRS. H. WARD *Sir G. Tressady* 148 It's three weeks now sen they put him away.

g. *slang.* To inform against, 'give away', betray.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 2 Aug. 4/3 It's all right, mate; I won't put you away. 1891 N. GOULD *Double Event* 184, I had an idea you put me away over the Derby.

39. Put back.

†**a.** *trans.* To thrust or force back, repulse; to refuse, reject. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Merlin* xxv. 460 Thourgh his prowesse thei were putte bakke and chaced to the town. 1530 PALSGR. 671/1 He had thought to take orders at this tyme, but he was put backe. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* iii. 16 As for Iacob thou didest chose him and put backe Esau. 1599 ? SHAKS. *Pass. Pilgr.* 334 Be thou not slack To proffer, though she put thee back.

b. To reduce to a lower position or condition; to retard, or check the advance of; †to revoke (*obs.*).

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* iv. 17 Their dronckennesse hath put them backe, & brought them to whordome. 1616 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 468 All subsidies and saulf conducts..whatsoever shalbe put back and extinguished. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 354 An ouerdrie nourishment in childhood putteth back stature. 1892 *Field* 7 May 695/1 Their one mistake..should not have..put them back to second place.

c. To move (the hands of a clock) back to an earlier position; to set back; also *fig.*

a 1745 SWIFT *Adv. Servants, Cook* § 28 When you find that you cannot get dinner ready at the time appointed, put the clock back. 1881 MRS. LYNN LINTON *My Love* III. ix. 157 She had put back her age ten years at the least. 1889 — *Thro' Long Night* I. xvii, Nor tears nor prayer can..put back the hand of time.

d. To prevent from coming on at the time appointed or expected; to defer; = *put off*, 45 c.

1885 J. PAYN *Luck Darrells* III. xlii. 184, I have taken upon myself to put the dinner back for an hour. 1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 189 The defeat of the former at Novara put back the unity of Italy.

e. To restore to its former place or position.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* XXV, I'll pit back the pick and shule whar I got them. *Mod.* When you've done with the book, please put it back on the shelf.

f. *intr. Naut.* To reverse one's course; to return to the port which one has left. (Cf. sense 8.)

1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 8 Aug. i, My aunt desired her brother to order the boatman to put back to Kinghorn. 1859 CORNWALLIS *Panorama New World* I. Introd. 6 The latter vessel..having a few days previously been compelled to 'put back', owing to..having sprung a leak. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 27 Feb. 136/2 The *Kate*..put back to Salcombe.

40. Put by. (See also BY *adv.* 2.)

a. *trans.* To thrust or set aside (*lit.* and *fig.*); to reject; to neglect, let alone; †to leave out, except (quot. 1594); † to give up, desist from.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 448 He wexid so fond on hur.. and evur sho putt hym bye. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxx. 30 Cum on thairfoir annone, All sircumstance put by and excusationis. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1716 Shal thys baggage put by the word of God? 1594 NASHE *Christ's T.* (ed. 2) To Rdr., Euen of the meanest and basest..I desire to bee

thought fauorably of, onely the bloud of the Harueys put by. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 221 A Crowne .. being offer'd him, he put it by with the backe of his hand. 1604 — *Oth.* II. iii. 172 For Christian shame, put by this barbarous Brawle. 1750 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) III. 24 He will be discouraged, put by, or trampled on. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* ii. § 90 There is no putting by that crown; queens you must always be.

b. To turn aside, ward off, divert, avert (a blow, or *fig.* a calamity, etc.). Also *absol.* ? *Obs.*

c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lit. Brit.* 271 He stept asyde, and well and warely put the stroke by. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polex.* II. 104 Almanzor..charg'd him with so much vigour ..that he scarce gave him leasure to put by, or avenge himselfe. 1682 FLAVEL *Fear* 10 An imminent..evil, which we see not how to escape or put by. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xxvii. 195, I was aware of his thrust, and put it by. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. vii. P 10, I had the good fortune to put by all his thrusts.

c. To turn aside, evade (a question, argument, etc.); to put off (a person) with an excuse or evasion: = *put off*, 45 g.

1618 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 42 When they were prest with any reason they could not put by. 1688 BURNET *Lett. St. Italy* 114 The Pope put it by in some general Answers. 1779 *Sylph* I. 241 How long will they remain satisfied with being repeatedly put by with empty promises? 1842 TENNYSON *Day-dream, The Revival* iv, The chancellor..smiling, put the question by. 1878 R. H. HUTTON *Scott* xv. 159 The medical men..tried to make him give up his novel-writing. But he smiled and put them by.

†**d.** To prevent (a person) *from* attaining or carrying out something; to divert *from*. *Obs.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 38 Which put by their young cosin from that expectation. 1609 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* VI. xi, Put by from this, the Duke of Yorke dessynes Another course to bring his hopes about. 1724 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 25 Considering..whether they should march to the relief of Casal, but the chimera of the Germans put them by. 1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* (1807) II. 177 The well-considered remonstrances of some of his nearest friends..put him by from his resolve.

†**e.** To drive out, dislodge (an enemy). *Obs.*

1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* II. 84 Cæsar went out of his campe..put by the garrison [*deiecto praesidio*], and possessed himselfe of the place.

†**f.** To remove, dispel; to rid one of. *Obs.*

1643 TRAPP *Comm., Gen.* iv. 14 This makes..others [call] for other of the Devills anodynes to put by the pangs of their wounded spirits. 1701 GREW *Cosm. Sacra* II. vi. 61 A Fright alone hath put by an Ague-fit, And mitigated a Fit of the Gout.

g. To lay aside (something out of use); to stow away; to lay by, save (esp. money) for future use.

1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T.* (1816) I. xvii. 142 A slate, which..the little girl had put by very carefully. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xx, The old gentleman had put by a little money that nobody knew of. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. v, They had better wait a few years .. until they shall have put by something. 1890 *Illustr. Lond. News* 9 Aug. 170/1 Herbs and roots and apples put by for the winter.

41. Put down.

a. See simple senses and DOWN *adv.* *To put one's foot down*: see FOOT *sb.* 28.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/1 To Putte downe, *calare..*, *commergere*, *deponere*, *deprimere*. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, As buckets are put downe into a well. 17.. *Laws of Cricket* in Grace *Cricket* (1891) 14 He that runs for ye Wicket that is put down is out. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* II. vi, Whereabouts..do you want me to put you down? 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xviii, She put down her needlework. 1897 HOWELLS *Landl. Lion's Head* 142 The new rooms were left..uncarpeted; there were thin rugs put down.

b. *trans.* To put an end to by force or authority, to suppress, repress, crush; †to bring into disuse, abolish (*obs.*).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 818 But, he [the Pope] may, þurgh no resun, þe sunday puttyn vp no dowun. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4084 Alle haly kyrk sal be put don. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 128, This gyfte suppresseth & putteth downe all carnalytees. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 111 It is impossible to extirpe it quite, Frier, till eating and drinking be put downe. 1636 SHERLEY in Bradford *Plymouth Plantation* (1856) 345 Here is no trading, carriors from most places put downe. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* II. ii, Sir Peter is such an enemy to scandal, I believe he would have it put down by parliament. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 65 Putting down a riot. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* vi. 121 The determination to put down opposition. 1891 *Law Times* XCI. 32/2 Putting down the fraudulent devices by means of which the pockets of..investors are..picked.

c. To depose from office, authority, or dignity; to dethrone, degrade. Somewhat *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* i. 52 He puttide doun my3ty men fro seete. *c* 1400 *Brut* 247 His fader was in warde in þe castel of Kenylworþ, and eke was put doun of his realte. *c* 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* IX. (1885) 129 Hyldericus kyng off Ffraunce..was putt doune by Pepyne son of Carolus Marcellus. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 38 Inspired with the spirit of putting down Kings and Princes. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xlvii. 477 Judges..were almost tools of the king, who could set them up and put them down at his pleasure.

d. To lower the presumption, pride, or self-esteem of; to 'take down'; to snub; to refute, put to silence.

a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 28 Þe toþer es tribulacyone, to putt hym downe with many scharpnes. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 143 Lord, Lord, how the Ladies and I haue put him downe. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* iv. 65, I scorne..To let a Bowe-bell Cockney put me downe. 1831 MACAULAY *Ess., Johnson* (1887) 181 With what stately contempt she put down his impertinence. 1888 KNOX LITTLE *Child Stafferton* xiv, The peremptoriness with which Lady Dorothy put him down.

†**e.** To overthrow, subdue, defeat (a person, an enemy). *Obs.* (merged in 'suppress' in b).

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6672 This Celidis, forsothe, fought with a speire, Polidamas to put doun, & his pride felle. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 1886 We shall put downe all that dare contest With vs. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. i. 93 To mount vp on a joynt-stoole, with a Iewes-trumpe, To put downe Cokeley. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* vi, The Levellers had opposed Cromwell, and he had put them down with the other troops.

†**f.** To lower in estimation; to excel, surpass, 'beat', etc., by comparison. *Obs.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 14 Ready to..die for griefe if he be put down in brauery neuer so litle. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. iii. (1651) 477 Lucullus wardrope is put down by our ordinary Citizens. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* Apol. 134 Holy Writ, Which for its Stile, and Phrase puts down all Wit. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 209 Her Rooms, anew at ev'ry Christ'ning drest, Put down the Court, and vex the City-Guest. 1754 RICHARDSON *Grandison* V. x. 56 Your brother is indeed enough to put all other men down.

g. To make away with, put to death, kill. Now chiefly *dial.*

1560 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* I. 535 Lufe..slais the saull, and puttis the bodie down. 1589 *Pap. Reg.* in Brand *Hist. Newcastle* (1789) I. 674 Alice Stokoe..did put downe herself in her maisters house in her own belt. ? *a* 1800 *Queen's Marie* xv. in Scott *Minstrel. Scot. Bord.*, Little wist Marie Hamilton..That she was ga'en to Edinburgh town And a' to be put down. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXI. 446 Word came that Eppy Telefer had 'put down' herself over night, and was found hanging dead in her own little cottage at daybreak. 1899 H. D. RAWNSLEY *Life & Nat. Engl. Lakes* 173 A dog that shows signs of worrying [sheep] is 'put down' at once.

h. To cease to keep up (something expensive); to stop the expense of, give up the use of.

1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* III. 120 In vain does he put down the carriage, dismiss the footman, and block up windows. 1888 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* II. vi, Since they had put down their carriage,..she had been able to go about so little.

i. To set down in writing, write down; to enter in a written account, list, etc.

(In first quot., ? to state in writing, or ? to lay down.)

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Familye of Loue* 26 b, Dauid George first put downe the principles of this sect. 1824 *Examiner* 397/2 Mr. Bolton put down his name for 200*l.* 1826 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 480, I have put you down in my will for a ring. 18.. MRS. CAMERON *Little Dog Flora* 5 They talked to each other in the way I shall put down. 1879 M. PATTISON *Milton* iv. 47 Milton consented to put down his thoughts on paper. 1885 G. ALLEN *Babylon* x, She was going to put herself down at a registry office. 1890 *Graphic* 9 Aug. 143/2 [Amendments] had been put down by members of the Opposition.

j. *fig.* To account or reckon; to estimate *as*, *at*; to take *for*; to count or attribute *to*.

1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* ix, I should have put you down for eighteen or nineteen at least. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Par. Hilby* xvii. 205 It was put down to his credit that he never complained. 1886 MRS. C. PRAED *Miss Jacobsen* iv, She mentally put him down at thirty-five. *Ibid.* v, Don't put it all down to pure Christian good feeling. 1890 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 7 June 358/1, I should..have put him down as a Yankee but for his accent.

k. To sink (a shaft, pit, etc.).

1875 R. F. MARTIN tr. *Havrez' Winding Mach.* 1 We found that we ought to put down an entirely fresh drawing pit. 1883 *Century Mag.* July 325/2 The searcher for brine put down a hole four hundred feet, and, instead of salt water, it discharged vast quantities of petroleum or..Seneca Oil.

l. In technical sporting use: (*a*) To cause (a fish) to swim low down; (*b*) To cause (a pointer or setter) to lie down.

1891 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 389 The descent of the mist.. 'puts down' the trout and prevents them from feeding. 1892 *Field* 7 May 695/3 Doon, who was put down by hand, moved a little as the gun was fired.

42. Put forth.

a. *trans.* To stretch forth, stretch out, extend (the hand or other member of the body, or a thing held in the hand). Now *rare* or *arch.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 28 'Peter!' quod a Plou3-man and putte forþ his hed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* VI. vii. (Br. Mus. Add. 27944 f. 70) The modir..puttiþ and profreþ forþ þe brest to bede þe child. 14.. HOCCLEVE *Mother of God* 33 Thyn hand foorth putte & helpe my distresse. 1535 COVERDALE 1 *Sam.* xiv. 27 He put forth his staff that he had in his hande. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 244 A little rivelet..that putteth forth his head neere unto the Castle De Vies. 1712–4 POPE *Rape Lock* III. 57 The hoary Majesty of Spades appears, Puts forth one manly leg. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxi, 'You are very unwell', the visitor said, putting forth her hand to take Amelia's.

b. To set forth; †to expose for sale (*obs.*); *fig.* to display, exhibit.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 42 Þanne telleþ þei of þe Trinite hou two slowen þe þridde..And puyteþ forþ presumpciun to preue þe soþe. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* XXVII. 17 Thei.. puttiden forth in thi fayris bawm, and hony, and oyle. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 641 His Regal State Put forth at full, but still his strength conceal'd. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 45 Light by light puts forth Geneva.

c. To set forth in words, propound, state, assert; †in quot. 1535, to utter (*obs.*).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 115 To putte forþ sum purpos to preuen his wittes. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 24 Another parable Jhesus putte forth [Vulg. *proposuit*] to hem. 1388 — *Judg.* xiv. 12 Y schal putte forth [1611 put forth] to you a probleme. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* CCXXV. 230 The kynges nedes were put forth and promoted as touchyng the kyngdom of Fraunce. 1535 COVERDALE *Iob* x. 1 Now will I put forth my wordes. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 336 Such were the opinions put forth by Sir Thomas Browne. 1884 *Brit. Q. Rev.* Apr. 352 The Theory put forth by our brethren in the United States.

†**d.** To thrust, push, or send into view or prominence, out of concealment, retirement, or privacy; to put out to service, etc.; in quot. 1482, to expose *to* something; *refl.* to push or put oneself forward, come forward; to offer oneself. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 40 Tho put hym forth a piloure bifor pilat, & seyde [etc.]. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 36 There we sawe..men and wemen..put forth to the gretnes of dyuers and menarrabulle peynes. 1530 PALSGR. 672/2 Let hym alone, he can put forthe hym selfe as well as any man in this courte. 1557 *Order of Hospitalls* C viii, The Thresorer..shall put forth any of the children of this Howse to service. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 171 Though I uncircumscrib'd my self retire, And put not forth my goodness. 1679–88 *Secr. Serv. Money* (Camden) 97 To Margaret Marshall, bounty..to put her children forth apprentices.

e. To put in operation, to bring into play; to exert (one's strength), lift up (one's voice); also †*to put it forth*, and †*refl.* to exert oneself (*obs.*).

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, If þe hunters here þat þe houndes renne wele and putte it lustely forth. *c* 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 963 Put the forthe boldly to ouerthrow Vertew. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* X. lxxiv. 544 Whanne sire Tristram wold put forth his strengthe and his manhode. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* viii. 1 Doth not wysdome crie? doth not vnderstondinge put forth hir voice? 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. § 3 When Virgil putteth himself forth to attribute to Augustus Cæsar the best of human honours. 1674 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* I. ii. 42 A good way of putting forth the Voice gracefully. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* iv. 64 If men would be serious, and put forth themselves. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 434 It was to no purpose, however, that the good Bishop now put forth all his eloquence. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 81/1 They put forth their best pace.

f. To issue, publish, put in circulation.

1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utop.* To P. Giles (1895) 8 If he be mynded to publyshe and put forth his owne labours. 1669 in Sir J. Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 313 Puttinge forth halfe-penys without the townes lycense. 1826 *Examiner* 11/2 'John'..is about to put forth a new daily Morning Paper. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 455 Jeffreys..advised James to put forth an edict declaring it to be his majesty's will and pleasure that the customs should continue to be paid. 1876 F. G. FLEAY *Shaks. Man.* II. ix. 242, I put forth in the year 1874 a chronological table of Shakespeare's plays.

g. (*a*) Of a plant: To send out (buds or leaves). Also *intr.* or *absol.*: To shoot, sprout, burst forth into bud, leaf, or blossom. Sometimes, of an animal: To produce (feathers, etc.); †also, to develop (a morbid growth).

1530 PALSGR. 672/1 This eglantyne tre putteth forthe very tymely. *Ibid.*, This peare tre putteth forthe all redye. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V*, v. ii. 44 Her Hedges..Put forth disorder'd Twigs. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 407 The standard [rose-tree] did put forth a fair green leaf..It is likely that if it had been in the spring time, it would have put forth with greater strength. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* VII. 310 Let th' Earth Put forth the verdant Grass. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 215 A Two year old Colt, that put forth a Bog-Spavin. 1865 TENNYSON *On Mourner* iii, The beech and lime Put forth and feel a gladder clime. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Family* 77, I may put forth angel's plumage.

(*b*) *intr.* for *refl.* Of buds, leaves, etc.: To sprout out, shoot out, come out.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 416 Who plucks the bud before one leafe put forth? 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii, In Acornes, Almonds,..the germ puts forth at the remotest part of the pulp. 1682 CREECH *Lucretius* (1683) 146 When flowers put forth, and budding branches shoot.

†**h.** *trans.* To thrust out; = *put out*, 47 b; (*b*) to put out (the eyes); (*c*) to extinguish (fire or light): = *put out*, 47 b (*b*), e (*b*). *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* ix. 25 As sone as the people were put forthe a dores [1611 put foorth]. 1530 PALSGR. 672/2, I shall put hym forthe at all adventures, put hym in afterwarde who wyll. *a* 1547 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 88 All them that putethe furthe anye mens or womens ees. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 31 [Phineus] put forth the eyes of his children had by his first wife. 1631 WEEVER *Fun. Mon.* 493 By the negligence of a Scholler forgetting to put forth the Lights of this Chappell..[it was] burnt to ashes.

†**i.** To turn out, dismiss from possession, fellowship, or service; to discharge, expel. *Obs.*

1545 in J. S. Leadam *Sel. Cas. Crt. Requests* (1898) 81 They [tenants] were dryuen to take copies of the Abbot for feare of puttyng forthe. 1564 HAWARD *Eutropius* VIII. xxiii, Certain legions..he dismiste & put forthe of wages. 1589 [see PUTTING *vbl. sb.*1 9]. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 445 He put him forth of pay, & tooke his horse from him by force.

†**j.** To lay out (money) to profit: cf. *put out*, 47 m (*b*). *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON-*Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i, I am determined to put forth some five thousand pound, to be paid me five for one, upon the return of myself, my wife, and my dog from the Turk's court. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* CXXXIV, Thou vsurer that put'st forth all to vse.

k. *intr.* To set out, start on one's way, esp. to sea; to make one's way forward. (Cf. *put out*, 47 j.) Now somewhat *arch.*

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 155 If any Barke put forth, come to the Mart, Where I will walke till thou returne to

me. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 18 Cyrus putting forth a little before the rest, viewed both Armies at a good distance. *a* 1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 241 Hugo de Moncada..puts forth with a few Galleys. 1821 SHELLEY *Time* 9 Who shall put forth on thee, Unfathomable Sea? 1843 WORDSW. *Grace Darling* 50 Together they put forth, Father and Child! Each grasps an oar.

43. Put forward.

† a. *trans.* To cause to 'go forward' or make progress; to further, advance. *Obs.*

1635 CROMWELL *Let.* 11 Jan., in *Carlyle* (1873) I. 77 It only remains now that He who first moved you to this, put you forward in the continuance thereof. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 288 Being wanted at Plymouth, to put forward the work of..the lantern.

b. To push into view or prominence, to make conspicuous; = *put forth*, 42 d. Also *refl.*

1611 BIBLE *Acts* xix. 33 And they drew Alexander out of the multitude, the Iewes putting [TINDALE, etc., thrustyng] him forward. 17.. SWIFT (J.), When men and women are mixed and well chosen, and put their best qualities forward, there may be any intercourse of civility and good will. 1849 [see FORWARD *adv.* 5]. 1886 AD. SERGEANT *No Saint* xi, People don't like to put themselves forward. 1888 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* I. ii, He wanted him.. to put himself forward and make a dash.

c. To advance for consideration or acceptance; to propound, advance, urge; to set forth, allege; to represent *as*: see FORWARD *adv.* 5.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 678 The Duke put forward a claim which..might have been fatal to the expedition. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xx, The girl put forward all manner of entreaties in vain. 1885 *Manch. Guard.* 20 July 5/5 Showing the groundlessness of the argument put forward by the Economist. 1885 *Law Rep.* 14 Q. B. Div. 792 A spurious child whom she puts forward as the child of her husband. 1889 H. D. TRAILL *Strafford* iv. 32 Several theories..have been put forward to account for Wentworth's apostasy.

d. *intr.* To press forward, advance, hasten on; to put oneself forward, come forward. ? *Obs.*

1599 MASSINGER, etc. *Old Law* IV. ii, Put forward, man! thou art most sure to have me. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* 1 Cor. ix. 24. 217 Many make a profession and put forward to an holy conversation. 1745 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. xii, Jones put forwards as fast as he could, notwithstanding all these Hints and Cautions, and poor Partridge was obliged to follow. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xix, Always putting forward to prevent Harriet's being obliged to say a word.

44. Put in. (Cf. INPUT *v.*)

a. *trans.* To thrust into or place within a receptacle or containing space; to insert, introduce: see simple senses and IN *adv.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5823 (Cott.) He put his hand in, fair in hele, And vte he drogh it als mesel. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurgie* 151 To fulfille þe wounde wiþ hoote oile of rosis & to putte in a tente. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xv. 236 Thei putt in fier, and brent hem ther-ynne. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xl. 130 When ther shypp was garnyssshed, they put in theyr horses and ther armure. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 43 And now about the Cauldron sing,..In chanting all that you put in. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* IV. vi, Come put in his legge in the middle roundell. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 329 A Gardener putting in a graff. 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xii, The old gentleman puts in his head at the door.

spec. (*b*) To put (a letter) in the post.

1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 15 Dec., I put in my letter this evening myself. 1814 *Owen's New Bk. Roads* 191 Letters and Packets..are..to pay, at the Office where they are put in, the full postage to London.

(*c*) To put into the ground (seed or plants); to sow or plant.

1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 474 Drills..for putting in bean, pea, and turnip crops. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. II. 425 Oats..are put in with the grass seeds in one ploughing.

(*d*) To place (a horse) between the shafts; to harness to a vehicle. Cf. *put to*, 51 c (*c*).

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxi, The horse was accordingly put in, and the chaise brought round. 1891 *Strand Mag.* Jan. 90/2 Tell them to put the horses in at once.

b. To install in or appoint to an office or position; sometimes with mixture of literal sense, as *to put in a caretaker, a bailiff*; so *to put in a distress, an execution.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 7 Whanne Odo was dede þis Elsinus..gat slyliche a maundmente of þe kyng, and was i-put in at Caunterbury. 1596 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. ii. 92 You..Haue caus'd him by new Act of Parliament, To blot out me, and put his owne Sonne in. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. iv. viii. 267 The archbishop is put in by the patriarch of Constantinople. 1829 *Examiner* 716/2 The conduct of Mr. Mores, in putting in an execution under these circumstances. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Cricketer's Tutor* 118 Whenever a man is put out, and if the bowling have become loose, put in a resolute hard hitter. 1836 [see DISTRESS *sb.* 3] 1887 BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xxii, She..had to put in a couple, as caretakers, at so much per week.

c. To present, or formally tender, as in a law court (a document, evidence, a plea, a claim, surety, BAIL, an APPEARANCE, etc.).

1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 499 There be many and diverse particuler billes put inne. 1557 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 265 Putyng yn suffycyent suirty for the payment. 1602 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 286 *Kin.* To prison with her...*Dia.* Ile put in baile my liedge. 1654 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 11 The Court ordered him a coppie thereof, and 14 dayes time to putt in his answere. 1742 FIELDING *Jos. Andrews* IV. ii, If they have put in the bans, I desire you will publish them no more without my orders. 1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 281 Colette may put in a claim. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 335 Gray hair No. 19 has just put in an appearance. 1888 *Times* 19 Apr. 12/3, I received..a letter from Mr. T. M. Kelly... (Letter put in.) 1891 *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 733/1 At the trial..the plaintiff..put in an information sworn by the defendant.

d. *intr.* To make a claim, plea, or offer: (*a*) to present or advance one's own claim, to apply *for*; to offer oneself as a candidate, to enter *for*, bid *for*; † to claim or profess to be, to set up *for* (*obs.*); (*b*) to interpose on behalf of some one or something, to plead or intercede *for* (quot. 1603).

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 103 They had gon down to, but that a wise Burger put in for them. 1607 — *Timon* III. iv. 85 *Lucil.* Put in now, Titus. *Tit.* My Lord, heere is my Bill. 1622 FLETCHER & MASSINGER *Span. Curate* I. i, A Woman..whose all-excelling Forme Disdaines comparison with any She That puts in for a fair one. 1627 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 376 Many most unfit Persons are now putting in for that place. 1712-3 STEELE *Guard.* No. 6 P 5 He puts in for the Queen's plate every year. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. vi. 530 Clodius was putting in at the same time for the Prætorship. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 16 July 65/1 Opposition without mercy to every Minister who puts in for re-election.

e. *trans.* To drive in, cause or compel to go in: (*a*) *Naut.* (a ship) into a port or haven; (*b*) *Falconry*, (the game) into covert. Cf. 5.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* (J.), Whom stormes put in there, are with stay embrac't. 1795 NELSON *Let. to McArthur* 25 July, in *Pearson's Catal.* No. 9 (1886) 29 The Agamemnon is put in here by bad weather. 1826 SIR J. S. SEBRIGHT *Observ. Hawking* (1828) 25 If the bird is put in, the second may be in the right style, as the hawk will then have time to get up to his pitch. 1852 BURTON *Falconry Valley Indus* viii. 78 They compare..her conduct, after she has 'put in' her quarry, to a cat's. [*Footnote*] To 'put in' the quarry is to drive it into a bush.

f. *intr.* To go in, enter:

spec. (*a*) *Naut.* to enter a port or harbour, esp. by turning aside from the regular course for shelter, provisions, repairs, etc.; (*b*) to make a call at a house for entertainment, or on a chance visit (now *rare* or *obs.*); (*c*) to fly into covert for safety, as a bird pursued by a hawk. In quot. 1612, to join, unite *with*.

1598 W. PHILLIP *Linschoten.* I. i, Lisbone, where some of our Fleet put in, and left vs. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 65 *Cassio.* How now? Who ha's put in? *Gent.* 'Tis one Iago. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 99 When Peever with the helpe of Pickmere, make apace To put-in with those streames. 1667-8 PEPYS *Diary* 16 Feb., Mr. Holliard put in, and dined with my wife and me. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (1840) I. x. 168 Here I put in. 1883 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falconry Brit. Isles* Gloss. 152 The place..where the quarry has 'put in'.

g. *trans.* To interpose (a blow, shot, etc.; a word or remark; also with the actual words as obj., usually preceding); to intervene with; to get in (a word). *To put in one's oar*: see OAR *sb.* 5 a.

16.. DIGBY (J.), A nimble fencer will put in a thrust so quick, that the foil will be in your bosom, when you thought it a yard off. 1693 *Humours Town* 30 A Man can no more put in a word with you, than with..some of our Coffee-House Holders-forth. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 145 At last the Seaman put in a Hint that determin'd it. 1821 BYRON *Juan* IV. xlix, The third..took The blows upon his cutlass, and then put His own well in. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* lii, My father..complicates the whole concern by puttin' his oar in. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 493 Wallop sate down; and Baxter himself attempted to put in a word. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* I. xi. 157 'Gently, Tom!' put in Mr. Channing. 1889 C. LARKING *Everything agst. her* III. v. 97 You may depend upon my putting in a word for you whenever I can.

h. *intr.* or *absol.* To intervene. ? *Obs.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* Induct., He has..kick'd me three or four times..for but offering to put in with my experience. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xc. (1674) 122 Unless your Majesty put in betwixt my misery, and my Creditors rage. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 254 [A Man] of a Temper so throughly Peaceable, that he had not hitherto put in at all.

i. *trans.* To furnish in addition, to 'throw in'; to insert as an addition or supplement.

1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* II. ii, These are arts Would not misbecome you, tho' you should put-in Obedience and duty. 1643 [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 7 But when God put the work into their hands, he put in skill. *a* 1708 [see 47 e (*a*)]. 1858 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* II. v, He..put in an untrained bass to her well-taught soprano. 1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng. fr.* 1689, 209 The Lords put in amendments which the Commons would not accept. 1891 MRS. L. ADAMS *Bonnie Kate* i, As though a painter had touched them with a brush fresh from 'putting in' a sunset.

j. To contribute as one's share of work or duty; to perform (a piece of work, etc.) as part of a whole, or in the midst of other occupations.

1890 *Standard* 14 Feb. 2/8 The Dark Blues resumed work yesterday..and put in some useful practice. 1891 *Gd. Words* May 338/2 He had to..'put in' his term of military service. 1892 *Pict. World* 9 Apr. 670/2 Nothing could induce that man to put in more than four chapels a week. *Mod.* I may be able to put in an hour's work in the evening.

k. *colloq.* To pass, spend, use up (a portion or period of time), usually by means of some occupation.

1863 C. B. GIBSON *Life among Convicts* II. viii. 105 A man with a sentence of twelve years, no matter how exemplary his conduct, must put in nine years. 1882 STEVENSON *Fam. Stud. Men & B.* 308 If he had to wait for a dish of poached eggs, he must put in the time by playing on the flageolet. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. K. Arthur* xliii, I couldn't do anything with the letters after I had written them. But it put in the time. 1892 *Field* 10 Dec. 893/1 They..'put in' the summer at some fashionable resort.

45. Put off.

a. See simple senses and OFF *adv.*

[1825: implied in PUT-OFF 3.] 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* viii. 125 Where..conductors and brakesmen..have nothing to do but hunt for dead-beats and put them off [i.e. off the train]. *Mod.* To save time, I had them put me off [from the steamer] at Gravesend. We took him in our boat and put him off at Godstow.

† b. *trans.* To drive off, repulse, repel; to dispel, drive away. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. iv. 8 (Camb. MS.) How ofte ek haue I put of or cast owt [orig. *dejecī*] hym..of þe wronges [etc.]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 369 He ves sa fortravalit To put of thame that hym assalit. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8582 Telamon..þe Troiens pursuet; Paris hym put of, & preset hym sore. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII*, c. 1 § 1 To put theym of at theire landyng. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* xiii. 61 If we be put off, charge them with all your great and small shot.

c. To postpone to a later time; to defer. Also *absol.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. (Brit. Mus. Add. 27944 f. 12 b), [Angels] doþ his hestes..in an instant and puttiþ nouȝt of for to a morwe. 1530 PALSGR. 673/2 It is put of for this tyme. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* (1882) II. 9 Farre from delaieng, or putting of poore mens causes. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* I. ii, All things are now in Readiness, and must not Be put off. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. 105, I am oblig'd to put off the Others to another opportunity. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 254 The departure of the galeon was put off. 1889 MRS. R. JOCELYN *Distracting Guest* II. xv. 227, I shall assuredly put our wedding off.

d. To remove or take off (clothes, or other things worn); to doff; to divest oneself (rarely another) of. (The opposite of *put on*, 46 c.)

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxx. 261 He put syr Gawayne to the werse, for he put of his helme. 1530 PALSGR. 673/2 Put of his bridell and gyve hym a locke of haye. 1535 COVERDALE *Song Sol.* v. 3, I haue put off my cote, how can I do it on agayne? 1698 J. CRULL *Muscovy* 152 Their Way of Saluting is by putting off their Caps. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 4 July i. § 10 Should he be so weak or ill as to require a servant to put off and on his clothes. 1891 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Jan. 281 The hawthorn put off her bridal veil.

(*b*) *fig.* To divest oneself of (a character, habit, or manner).

1526 TINDALE *Col.* iii. 9 Ye have put off the olde man with his workes, and have putt on the nue. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* vi. P 9 Putting off the courtier, he now puts on the philosopher. 1713 [see f]. 1889 *Repent. P. Wentworth* I. iv. 59 She met him very kindly,...Certainly she had put off the scornful princess for the day.

e. To 'put out of the way', make away with, kill. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 158 It war than spedefull that sik a man war put off for the better. 1868 ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.* s.v., Hev ye heared at au'd Mally at t' work'us has putten herself off?

† f. To dismiss, put away: (*a*) from one's mind or thought; (*b*) from one's service or employment. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2664 Hedis to þat, And puttis of þat purpos: let paris not wend. *Ibid.* 11416 To put of þat purpos he paynet him sore. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 32 The Clothiers all not able to maintaine The many to them longing, haue put off The Spinsters, Carders, Fullers, Weauers. *a* 1713 ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 58 Having put off his Husbandry, he had put off with it most of his Servants.

g. To dismiss or get rid of (as an importunate person or demand) by evasion or the like; to baffle or balk of his desire by giving something inferior or less acceptable (const. *with*).

Sometimes with mixture of sense c: to dismiss till a later time, bid to wait.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 141 The king put them of for that Season, and warned them to sue him about Michelmas. 1630 SANDERSON *Serm. on Prov. xxiv.* 10 § 8 Let no man think to put off this duty with the Lawyers question,—But who is my neighbour? 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 16 P 2 You may put them off with Shells, and Pebbles, or any Trumpery. 1846 JERROLD *Mrs. Caudle's Lect.* xv, Of course you've some story to put me off with. 1869 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* II. 2 Psychology has been put off with complimentary acknowledgments.

h. To divert *from* one's purpose; to hinder, debar; to dissuade *from* doing something. Now usually (without const.), to hinder (a person) from performing some act by diverting his attention.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. iv, Nor can his mirth, With whom I make 'hem, put me off. 1642 *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* x. § 646. 276 This exception shall not put off the grauntee of the piscarie in the same poole. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 276 We could not by any means put off the second Brother out of an Humour [that] had taken him to accompany us. 1890 FENN *Double Knot* II. vi. 114 Millet was put off from resuming the subject.

i. To pass, spend, get through (time). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. 376, I am here, Sir, putting off a part of my inch of time. *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 95 But what will serve the turn full as well, to put off half an Hour or so of Conversation. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxxvii, I am as stupid as he, to put off my time in speaking to such an old cabbage-stock. 1850 *Tait's Mag.* XVII. 727/2, I have purposely put off time, in order that if anybody was coming forward they might have an opportunity.

j. To dispose or get rid of (a commodity) by sale; to make to 'go off', to sell (? now *dial.* and *slang*); † to dispose of (a woman) in marriage.

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 368 The middlemost called Callinice, which was likeliest to be put off, remained in the world to expect when her beauty..would purchase her a husband. 1654 HOWELL *Let. to Sir E.*

Spencer 24 Jan., Of all Dowries exceeding £100 there should be two out of every cent deducted, for putting off hard-favour'd and poor Maids. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* xlv[i.] § 1 (1669) 404/1 As if it were of little more importance to marry a child, than it is to put off a horse or cow at a fair. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 390 He may put off every Pipe for the worth of Twopence. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. II. 295 As to oxen, I put off two lots in the year, one from the grass and the other from the yards.

k. To dispose of deceptively or fraudulently; to pass off for what it is not; to palm off (*? obs.*); to impose unwarrantably, foist *upon* some one.

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. i. § 4 To sophisticate metals, and then put them off for true Gold and Silver. 1740 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1792) I. 187 A plagiary is a man who steals other people's thoughts and puts them off for his own. 1780 *Newgate Cal.* V. 79 Great part of this counterfeit money was put off at country-fairs. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* LXXXIV. 243/2 Do you think it was quite right..to put him off on your uncle, if you didn't like him yourself?

†**l.** To set off; to make attractive, as food, etc.

1700 WALLIS in *Collect.* (O. H. S.) I. 326 Riding the great horse..is the expedient for putting-off the great house to good advantage. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 234 A Mackrel, dressed as soon as taken,..requires no Goosberries or rich Sauce to put it off.

†**m.** *Farriery.* To discharge, pass. *Obs.*

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 84 Low Feeding ..causes a Horse to put off his Meat before it has been sufficiently acted upon by the Stomach. *Ibid.* 103.

n. (*a*) *intr. Naut.* To leave the land; to set out or start on a voyage; also, to leave a ship, as a boat. (*b*) *intr.* To depart, leave a place, make off. *rare*, ? now only *U.S.* (cf. 8 b). (*c*) *trans.* To push off, send off (a boat) from the land, or from a ship. (= *put out*, 47 j.)

(*a*) 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. lxxix. 162 They did shoote such abundance of arrows..y^t they made our men put off. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 78 Let me cut the Cable, And when we are put off, fall to their throates. 1629 J. COLE *Of Death* 90 When the ship is putting off. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 66 A boat put off from one of the ships. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 153 The six, who ..remained in the barge, put off with her to sea. 1890 S. LANE-POOLE *Barbary Corsairs* I. ix. 98 In the summer..Barbarossa put off to sea.

(*b*) 1858 *Nat. Intelligencer* 22 July (Bartlett) Over fifteen thousand persons have deserted their homes in California, and put off by every means of conveyance for Fraser's river.

(*c*) 1639 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 312 He caused the boatsmen to put off the boat. 1892 *Black & White* 2 Jan. 25/2 It was too rough to put a boat off.

o. *slang* or *colloq.* = *put out* (47 f (*c*)).

1909 *Spectator* 12 June 927/1 People..forget that a horse can be 'put off' as easily as a man.

46. Put on.

***a.** *lit.* To place on or upon something; to superimpose: see simple senses and ON *adv.*: often with special implication, e. g. to put (a cooking-vessel) on the fire, (a play) on the stage, (a card) on another card already played; also, to fix or attach (a part) to some structure.

1711 *Milit. & Sea. Dict.* (ed. 4), The putting on of the Rudder is call'd, Hanging of it. 18.. *Nursery Rime*, Polly, put the kettle on, We'll all have tea. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 33 His head is not well put on. 1885 J. PAYN *Luck Darrells* II. xxiii. 137 It is possible..to get a through carriage put on at St. Pancras. 1889 F. C. PHILIPS *Ainslie's Courtship* II. vi. 63 A gorgeous spectacular piece ..put on with a reckless disregard of expense.

b. *trans.* To impose or inflict as a burden or charge. In quot. 1588, ? to 'lay on as a blow' (Schmidt). *To put it on*, to add to the price, to overcharge.

1382 WYCLIF 1 *Kings* xii. 4 The moost greuous 3ok that he hath putte on to vs. 1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* IV. i. 116 Finely put on indeede. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxi. 210 The fines were not fixed sums; the king could put on just what he liked. 1891 *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 5/3 If any 'brother' comes out with profane language we put on a nominal fine. *Mod. colloq.* Half-a-crown for that job! They know how to put it on!

c. To place (apparel or an ornament) upon one's person; to don; to clothe oneself (or another) with. Also *fig.* in scriptural language (cf. d); of a plant, to 'clothe itself' with (leaves or blossoms).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 226 He did on his maister clothyng, & putt on his ryng on hys fynger. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xiii. 14 Put ye on the lorde Jesus Christ [Gr. *ἐνδύσασθε*]. *Ibid., Ephes.* vi. 11 Put on the armour of god. 1628 EARLE *Microcosm.* xx. (Arb.) 41 Hee has not put on the quaint Garbe of the Age. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VI. v, Pray put on your hat. 1846 MRS. MURCER *Seasons* I. 8 You must ask Ann to put you on a great coat. 1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iv, Mrs. Venn has got up, and is going away to put on her things. 1883 MRS. F. MANN *Parish Hilby* xv, The wife had washed him up and put him on a clean jacket.

†(*b*) *absol.* To put on one's hat, to 'be covered'; also, to put on one's clothes, dress oneself (*Sc.*). *Obs.*

1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* II. i. Plays 1873 II. 344 *Tem.* When your yong man came to me: I pray let him put on, vnlesse it be for your pleasure. *Leo.* He..can endure the cold well enough bare-headed. 1636 MASSINGER *Gt. Dk. Florence* I. i, Nay, pray you, guardian, and good sir, put on. 1788 SHIRREFS *Jamie & Bess* II. ii, I thank you Branky, what's the news in town? Pit on, pit on; How's Simon? ? *a* 1800 *Queen's Marie* xii. in Scott *Minstr. Scot. Bord.*, O slowly, slowly raise she up, And slowly put she on.

d. *fig.* To take upon oneself, adopt, assume (a character or quality, real or feigned).

1526 TINDALE *Col.* iii. 10 [see 45 d (*b*)]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 This kyng..determined with hymself to put on the shape of a new man. ✠1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* I. iii, In Italy I put my Knighthood on. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iv. 187 The Duke hath put on a Religious life. 1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 113 A young stripling..who puts on airs of gravity. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. i. ✠8 Whim..determined her to put on the stranger, and receive my compliments with..coldness. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* June 20/1 The streets had put on their holiday look.

e. In mod. emphatic use: To assume deceptively or falsely; to affect, feign, pretend. *To put it on*, to pretend to something in excess of the fact.

1621 [see PUT-ON *ppl. a.* 2.] 1682 DRYDEN *Dk. Guise* III. i, 'Twas all put on that I might hear and rave. 1806 LADY JERNINGHAM in *Y. Lett.* (1896) I. 270 The first days the Duke supposed the illness a little Put on. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* x, I wonder if he puts it on or if he deceives himself. 1891 *Pict. World* 8 Aug. 166/1 That voice is put on. *Mod.* He is not so tired as all that; he is putting it on. The horse is putting it on with him; he knows the man can't ride.

f. To add, make an addition of. (*a*) To develop additional (flesh or weight). (*b*) To add (so much) to the charge or price.

1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 580 [They] put on no meat until they were put up to feed. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 4 The woman returned..in a state of robust health, having put on a stone in weight. 1900 MARIE CORELLI *Boy* II, I can never take sugar. I put on flesh directly. *Mod. colloq.* How much have they put on to the price?

(*c*) To add (runs, a goal) to the score at cricket, football, etc.

1882 *Daily Tel.* 24 June, Five wickets were at this point disposed of for 258 runs. Of these Giffen had put on 43. 1891 *Standard* 6 Nov. 6/5 After crossing over the visitors could only put on one more goal.

g. To lay, stake, bet (a sum of money).

[1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxii, Altamont put the pot on at the Derby, and won a good bit of money. *Ibid.* 'I put on the pot, sir'. 'You did what?' 'I laid my money on'.] 1890 *Standard* 21 July 4/4 The Defendant 'put on' for her 10*l.* upon Oberon for the Lincolnshire Handicap.

****†h.** To urge onward, encourage; to incite, impel (*lit.* and *fig.*); to promote (a state of things).

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 408 He was likely, had he beene put on To haue prou'd most royally. 1605 — *Lear* I. iv. 227 That you protect this course, and put it on By your allowance. 1642 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 170 They haue put them on to the shedding of blood. 1689 G. BULKELEY in *Andros Tracts* II. 86 Tis onely..my reall desire of the Common good which puts me on.

i. *intr.* To go faster, go ahead; to push on, hasten onward; to go on, proceed. ? *Obs.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 217 When none, though many kings put on [orig. *πολλῶν περ ὀόντων*], could make his vaunt. 1653 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 12, I am clearly of opinion he will now very speedily put on to make himself or some other..to be elected K. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* iii. § 3 (1669) 252/2 No stop nor halt in their way, but ever putting on. 1746 in G. Sheldon *Hist. Deerfield, Mass.* (1895) I. 548, I came up with Othniel Taylor, on horseback, and ordered him to put on faster. 1811 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXI. 447 If she walks, put on; if she puts on, run.

j. *trans.* To push forward (the hands of a clock, the time) so as to make it appear later. Also in fig. allusion.

1865 G. MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* xl, My belief, sir, is the clerks at Mortimer and Pennycuick's put on the time. 1885 C. H. EDEN *G. Donnington* i, Heigh-oh, I wish some good fairy would put the clock on. 1891 F. W. ROBINSON *Her Love & His Life* v. i, We can afford to put on the hands of the clock a few more weeks.

*****k.** To bring into action or operation; to cause to act; to apply; to exert. With various objects, as a screw, brake, or other part of mechanism; steam, gas; force, pressure; pace, speed, etc.; often implying increase of force or velocity. Also in fig. applications: see PRESSURE, SCREW, STEAM, etc.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VIII. xlii. 171 When we were within five miles of Harlowe-place, I put on a hand gallop. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 238 They [giraffes] do not put on the steam until you get within about sixty [yards of them]. 1867 *Gd. Words* 68/2 Now and then he even put on 'a spurt', as rowers say. 1889 G. ALLEN *Tents of Shem* III. xxxviii. 62 The driver put on the brake quick and hard. 1889 J. MASTERMAN *Scotts of Bestminster* vii, Ann would soon make me bankrupt if I didn't put on the screw occasionally. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xvii, He put on a fine turn of speed, and rang the bell. 1897 [see PRESSURE 7].

l. To set or appoint (a person) to some work or occupation, or to do something; in *Cricket*, to set (a person) on to bowl; to set or appoint (a train, steamer, etc.) to make regular journeys or voyages; to lay (a hound) on the scent.

1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* (1869) II. xxx. 354 They say he's not very good at talking English, but put him on in Greek and he never stops. 1889 F. PIGOT *Strangest Journ. my Life* 142 He put on good masters in subjects of which he only had a smattering himself. 1890 *Graphic* 11 Oct. 410/1 The Pacific Railway are putting on a line of powerful vessels to the East. 1891 *Standard* 12 Mar. 3/3 It was only when the day was well advanced that men were put on to clean it up. 1897 'TIVOLI' (H. W. Bleakley) *Short Innings* vi. 95 'I can't bowl slows', expostulated Tuckett. 'Then put someone else on', returned the inexorable senior.

47. Put out. (Cf. OUT-PUT *v.*)

***a.** See simple senses and OUT *adv.* 1–6.

1530 PALSGR. 675/2, I wene he be deed, he putteth out no breathe. 1693 LYDE *Retaking 'Friends Adventure'* 4 He ..then put out French Colours and fired a Gun, whereby we knew he was a Frenchman. 1831 FR. A. KEMBLE *Jrnl. in Rec. Girlhood* (1878) III. 68 Having put out my dresses for my favourite Portia for to-night. 1879 'CAVENDISH' *Card Ess., Clay's Decis.*, etc. 69 He put out four cards and took in the stock.

b. To thrust, drive, or send out of a place; to expel, eject, turn out; †to discharge (*obs.*).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 943 (Cott.) He put him oute..Vnto þe werld þar he was made. 1388 WYCLIF *Matt.* ix. 25 Whanne the folc was put out, he wente in, and helde hir hond. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* II. vii. 169 To helpe putte out þe fecis & wijnd & vrine. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/2 To Putte oute, *depellere*. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* v. 40 Then he put them all out..and entred in. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 132 He is..put out by the constables.

(*b*) To destroy the sight of, to blind (an eye), either by literally gouging it out, or by burning or other means. (See OUT *adv.* 4.)

11.. [see A. III]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 21451 (Cott.) His eien first put vte i sal. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 194, I shal..also put out thyn eyen. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 56 Will you put out mine eyes?..*Hub.* I haue sworne to do it: And with hot Irons must I burne them out. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 33 Betray'd, Captiv'd, and both my Eyes put out.

†(*c*) To expel, dismiss, put away. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 129 By þis word he puttide out sloupe, whanne he preiede his God. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. iii. C vj, Hym [the man chylde] lyketh to put out all thy fraudes and decepcyons.

(*d*) To put out of joint; to dislocate. (OUT *adv.* 19.)

c 1820 MRS. SHERWOOD *Penny Tract* 8 (Houlston's Juv. Tr.) Francis..had the misfortune to put out his ancle. 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 567/2 He put out his shoulder in one of the most dangerous deadlocks.

c. To remove or turn out of office, dignity, possession, etc.; to depose, dismiss. (See OUT *adv.* 4 b.) Now *rare* or *arch.*, exc. in sense 'to put out of play', in games, athletic contests, or the like; *esp.* in *Cricket*, to cause (a batsman) to be 'out'. (OUT *adv.* 4 c, 19 c.)

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 403 Pelias..dredde lest Iason..wolde werre in his londes and putte hym out. *c* 1420 *Brut* 345 He deposid & put out the Mayre of London. 1530 PALSGR. 675/1 He was baylyffe of the towne, but the lorde hath put hym out. 1694 EVELYN *Diary* 22 Nov., The same day..that Abp. Sancroft was put out. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 77 If a man puts out his lessee for years, or disseises his lessee for life.

1735 in Waghorn *Cricket Scores* (1899) 9 Upon London's second innings four of them were put out before they headed the county. 1744 J. LOVE *Cricket* III. (1754) Argt., Bryan is put out by Kips. 1890 *Field* 24 May 776/2 Although nearly put out..in the fifth round, his steady shooting eventually enabled him to win. 1890 *St. Nicholas Mag.* Aug. 830/2 So easily fielded as to result in putting out the batsman.

d. To extinguish, do away with, put an end to, destroy, abolish. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), His [goottes] galle putteþ oute dymnes of yȝen. 1580 SIDNEY *Ps.* IX. iii, Their renoune..Thou dost put out. *c* 1650 FULLER *Life H. Smith* S.'s Wks. 1866 I. 7 Those who .. bury their talents in the ground, putting them out, because they will not put them out, extinguishing their abilities because they will not employ them. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* 180 An odour which put out the former perfume. 1890 *Field* 24 May 776/3 A sharp left-hander put out Mr. Ellis's chance.

e. †(*a*) To strike out or delete (a writing, drawing, etc.); to expunge, erase, efface. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 675/1 There was a writynge upon his grave, but the weather hath put it out. *Ibid.*, Here was a horse properly paynted, but all his heed is put out. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lii. 9 Turne thy face fro my synnes, and put out all my myszdedes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 103 He sent to the foure Bishops againe, that they should put out that poynt of restitution. 1610 WILLET *Hexapla Dan.* 356 When he portraiteth the picture he putteth out the first lines [= outlines]. *a* 1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) II. 312 The Constantinopolitan Bishops put *a patre* into the Creed, the Western Churches *filioque*..; Leo III. put it out, and Nicolaus put it in again, and so arose the schism.

(*b*) To extinguish (fire or light, or a burning or luminous body). (See OUT *adv.* 6, 22 a.)

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 40 No wynde ne rayne coude quenche it ne put it out. 1530 PALSGR. 675/1 Rake up the fyre and put out the candell. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* Ep. Ded., It is your Glory, that you like not so to shine, as to put out the least Star. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 58 ₱ 1 All my idle Flames are extinguish'd, as you may observe, ordinary Fires are often put out by the Sunshine. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. II. 546 Water was used to put the fire out. 1889 AD. SERGEANT *Esther Denison* I. x, A draught from the door put out the candles.

f. (With person as obj.) (OUT *adv.* 5, 20.)

†(*a*) To baffle, foil, defeat. *Obs. rare.*

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 218 He beyng put out alle fro hys purpose, toke leue of the kyng.

(*b*) To cause to lose one's self-possession; to disconcert, discompose, confuse, embarrass.

1588 SHAKS. *L. L. L.* v. ii. 102 Euer and anon they made a doubt, Presence maiesticall would put him out. 1834 J. H. NEWMAN *Let. to R. F. Wilson* 15 June, You must not be at all surprised or put out at feeling the difficulties you describe. *a* 1849 POE *Diddling* Wks. 1864 IV. 268 He is never seduced into a flurry. He is never put out. 1886 MRS. C. PRAED *Miss Jacobsen* II. xiii. 203 You are so cool and composed, and nothing puts you out.

(*c*) To disconcert, disturb, or 'upset' (any one) in the course of his action, speech, calculation, etc.;

to interrupt or distract (an actor, orator, reciter, musician, or performer), so as to cause him to lose the 'thread' of his subject: see OUT *adv.* 5, 20.

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gentl. Dancing-Master* IV. i, My aunt is here, and she will put me out: you know I cannot dance before her. 1831 FR. A. KEMBLE *Jrnl.* in *Rec. Girlhood* (1878) III. 53 They put us out terribly in one scene by forgetting the bench on which I have to sit down. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 9 Aug. 165/1 The bill-brokers..are therefore put out in their calculations. *Mod.* I had learned my speech carefully, but she put me out by giggling.

(*d*) To cause to lose one's equanimity; to distress, 'upset' (mentally); in mod. use, to put out of temper, annoy, irritate, vex.

1822 LAMB *Let. to Wordsworth* 20 Mar., Deaths overset one, and put one out long after the recent grief. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxvi, He was a little put out for a moment, but then recovered himself. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxx, Sir Dene [was]..thoroughly put out with the captain. 1876 DORAN *'Mann' & Manners* I. Introd. 10 Mr. Fane was a very particular person, and was very easily put out.

(*e*) To put any one out of his way; to put to inconvenience.

1880 J. PAYN *Confid. Agent* I. 154 Stephen..was not the man to 'put himself out'—that is to say, to make the least sacrifice of independence.

**g. † To utter, pronounce, give forth (words, the voice). *Obs.* (*b*) To vent (in words, etc.). *rare.*

c 1340 *E. E. Psalter* xliv[v.] 1 Myn hert put out gode worde. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* e v b, The first worde to the houndis that the hunt shall owt pit Is at the kenell doore when he openys it. 1888 S. TYTLER *Blackhall Ghosts* II. xix. 120 All his anger was put out on poor me.

h. To put in exercise, exert; = *put forth*, 42 e.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 295/2 To Putt out vоce or strenght. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 124 Pray you put vp your Dagger, and put out your wit. 1659 GUTHRIE *Chr. Gt. Interest* II. iv. (1724) 171 Unless a Man..put out Faith in Christ Jesus..he cannot be saved. 1856 *Titan Mag.* July 4/1 I'm not putting out my strength. 1890 *Temple Bar Mag.* July 302 When she puts herself out to please.

i. To publish, issue, put in circulation; = *put forth*, 42 f. Now *rare.*

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 223/1 Tyndal hath put out in hys own name another booke entitled Mammona. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. IV. (1651) 280 To peruse those books of Cities, put out by Braunus, and Hogenbergius. 1697 C. LESLIE *Snake in Grass* (ed. 2) 141 There is a Primmer put out for the Quaker Children, by W. Smith. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* iii. Misc. Wks. 1736 III. 163 He put out a Coin, that on the reverse of it had a ship tossed on the waves to represent the Church. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 279 To put out a new Edition. 1879 MISS YONGE *Cameos* Ser. IV. xiv. 150 Injunctions were put out this winter..against carrying candles on Candlemas Day.

j. (*a*) *Naut.* To send or take (a vessel) out to sea. *rare.* (*b*) *intr.* To go out to sea; to set out on a voyage. (Said of a vessel, or person.) (*c*) *intr.* To depart, make off, go away; to set out. (Chiefly *U. S.*) (= *put off*, 45 n.)

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 190 If any ship put out, then straight away. 1610 — *Temp.* V. i. 225 As when We first put out to Sea. 1814 CARY *Dante, Paradise* II. 14 Through the deep brine ye fearless may put out Your vessel. 1835 *Niles' Reg.* 22 Aug. 436 Apprehending judge Lynch's law, he put out in a hurry. He was pursued and caught. 1842 MACAULAY *Lays, Armada* 11 Many a light fishing boat put out to pry along the coast. 1856 G. D. BREWERTON *War in Kansas* 42 We 'put out' in search of fire and a shelter. 1889 TENNYSON *Crossing the Bar* I, And may there be no moaning of the bar, When I put out to sea.

k. To stretch forth, extend, protrude (the hand or other member of the body); to extend from within an enclosing space; to cause to stick out or project; to display, exhibit, hang out (also *fig.*).

1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxviii. 28 The one put out his hande. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xi. 46 b, The port, at the entring wherof were put out all the flags.. of our gallies. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* IV. ii. 28 Let each take some: Nay put out all your hands. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 14 When he had put out the Colours of St. Mark, we shewed ours. 1889 F. M. CRAWFORD *Greifenstein* I. vii. 203 Putting out his hand to prevent the act. 1905 — *Soprano* V, As if he were going to feel her pulse, and tell her to put out her tongue.

l. = *put forth*, 42 g. Also *absol.* Now *rare.*

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 653 They forsake their first root, and put out another more towards the top of the earth. 1688 BURNET *Lett. St. Italy* 138 The Trees had not yet put out their Leaves. 1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 259 If the Sore seem to put out fungous or spungy Flesh. 1856 *Titan Mag.* Aug. 161/2 Roses..too sickly to put out their flowers. *absol.* 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 227 The grass and plants here are just putting out.

m. (*a*) To place (a person) away from home under the care of some one, or in some employment; to turn out (a beast) to graze or feed; to plant out (seedlings, young plants).

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv, As some weake breasted dame Giveth her infant, puts it out to nurse. 1639 *Rec. Dedham, Mass.* (1692) III. 65 Every Swyne that shalbe put out at liberty shalbe well and sufficiently Ringed. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s. v. *Bromsgrove*, A charity school for teaching, cloathing, and putting out 12 boys apprentices. 1852 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. I. 25 In the morning she [cow] was put out to grass. 1869 W. LONGMAN *Hist. Edw. III*, I. xix. 343 Their children were often put out to wet nurse with the native Irish. 1892 *Field* 17 Sept. 442/2 To raise plants from seed, and..[have] a vigorous healthy stock to put out annually.

(*b*) To lend (money) at interest, or lay it out to profit; to invest; also *fig.* to employ to advantage. Also (*U. S.*), To expend, lay out.

1611 BIBLE *Ps.* xv. 5 He that putteth not out his money to vsury. 1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. iv, With purpose, yet, to put him out I hope To his best vse? *c* 1650 [see d]. 1690 E. GEE *Jesuit's Mem.* 230 The said Dowry.. is put out to Rent, and assurance given for it. 1781 D. WILLIAMS tr. *Voltaire's Dram. Wks.* II. 248 Employing it to do good is to put it out to the highest interest. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Sept., If the opposing candidate did not have a rich father-in-law, who will put out money freely. 1893 *Nat. Observ.* 5 Aug. 290/1 The pound was put out to multiply itself.

(*c*) To give (work) to be done off the premises, or by some one not in one's regular employment.

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 226 Being .. unaccommodated of a Lathe of my own, I intended to put them out to be Turned. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 117 The farmer has availed himself of the power..to put out, as it is termed, the reaping of his wheat. 1846 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VII. I. 124 To let or put out the job at a certain rate per acre. 1884 MRS. G. L. BANKS *Sybilla*, etc. III. 49 Mrs. Price did not put out her washing. *Mod.* All work is done on the premises; nothing put out.

48. Put out of. (See OUT OF.)

a. *trans.* To remove or expel from (a place, or a status conceived as a place). *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3047 (Cott.) Oute of þe hus was pute agar, Hir sun a-pon hir bak sco bar. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 361 þei puttiden men out of chirche, and persueden hem in Cristis tyme. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* F vij b, God..made her to become lepre in soo moche that she was put oute of the town. 1530 PALSGR. 675/2 And I were as you, I wolde put my selfe out of the waye for a whyle. 1611 BIBLE *John* xvi. 2 They shall put you out of the Synagogues. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Remise Door* iii, It will oblige you to have a third horse, which will put twenty livres out of your pocket. 1779 G. KEATE *Sk. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 92 The new India silk handkerchief..which ..he had forgot to put out of his pocket.

† b. To expel or dismiss from the possession or occupation of property, office, etc.; to do out of. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7340 þai wit-in a tuel-moth stage War put vte o þair heritage. 13.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1206 Thai sschal..Put the out of thi kinges sete. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 45/1 Robbed..and put oute of his lande and godys. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xvi. 4 When I am put out of my stewardshippe. 1530 PALSGR. 675/2 All the crewe that was at Guynes is put out of wages. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. i. § 102. 468/2 The King..of Bohemia..is proscribed and put out of his Electorship. *a* 1715 BURNET *Own Time* an. 1679 (1823) II. 232 [The Duke of York] moved that the duke of Monmouth should be put out of all command.

c. To expel from one's thoughts, memory, etc.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Þet heo pute euerich worldlich þing.. ut of hire heorte. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. vi. 15 (Camb. MS.) Thou..by-weptest þat oonly men weren put owt of the cure of god. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* X. xxvii. 457 He putte all that oute of his thoughte. 1535 [see REMEMBRANCE 1]. *a* 1548 HALL *Chron., Rich. III* 29 b, To obliterate and put oute of memorie that note of infamie. 1816 [see HEAD *sb.* 53].

d. To remove, liberate, or extricate from a condition of.

To put out of misery or *pain* (euphem.), to dispatch or kill a wounded or suffering man or beast; also, to put an end to a state of mental suspense (by an unfavourable decision), to let one know the worst.

c 1480 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 287 To be put owt of dystress. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xlvi. 154 His grete youthe put hym out of his sorow.

e. To remove from the region or sphere of; to cause to be out of the condition of.

To put out of joint: see JOINT *sb.* 2.

1530 PALSGR. 675/2 To put you out of doute it is so in dede. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 235 To put the matter out of doubt. *a* 1586 [see JOINT *sb.* 2]. 1659-60 PEPYS *Diary* 9 Mar., I made a promise..to drink no strong drink this week, for I find that it puts me quite out of order. 1686 [see PATIENCE *sb.* 1 f]. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 10 Mar., I will not work you up into a fright, only to have the pleasure of putting you out of it. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 685 The English Commons had sometimes put him out of temper. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/4 The opposition of the Board of Trade..put that out of the question.

49. Put over.

a. *trans. Falconry.* Of a hawk: To pass (the food) on from the 'gorge' or crop to the stomach; to swallow. Also *transf.* and *fig.* ? *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* a vij, An hawke puttith ouer when she remeuith the mete from hir goorge in to hir bowillis. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 332 Sometimes..a hawke cannot well indew nor put over his meate. *a* 1656 BP. HALL *Sel. Th.* § 66 Death did but taste of Him, could not devour him, much less put him over. [1880 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v., Tak some milk to put owre your bite.]

† b. To defer, postpone: = *put off*, 45 c. (Cf. *carry over*, *hold over*.) *Obs.*

1528 HEN. VIII in Burnet *Hist. Ref.* II. Rec. xix, [If you] do thus delay, protract and put over the accomplishment of the Kings so instant desire. 1618 HALES *Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 16 Both these questions were put over to the next Session. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 210, I heard last weeke the day was putt over till Wensday last. 1828 WEBSTER, *To put over*..(2) To defer; to postpone. The court put over the cause to the next term.

c. To get over; *esp.* to get through (time); *absol.*, to get over the time, 'get along'. Now *dial.*

1593 *Pass. Morrice* (1876) 79 Which bad beginning was carelesly put ouer with the conceiued ioy of his presence. 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* (1865) I. 541 To engage him in discourse, and so put over the time. 1823 J. WILSON *Trials Marg. Lyndsay* iv. 11/2 The stranger offered..money; but she..said they could all put over very well till their father was set free. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* II. iv. (1872) 118 There ..he might put over the rigorous period of this present year.

d. To convey or take across or to the other side; to transport: see OVER *adv.* 5.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 36 To give them a faire gale to putt them over to the maine. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 49 By swimming they put the horses over. 1890 CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* II. xvi. 71 The helm was put over and the yacht's head fell off.

e. *intr. Naut.* To sail or go across, to cross.

1617 ABP. ABBOT *Descr. World* (1634) 283 Carthagena, a City in the maineland, to which he put over. *a* 1656 USSHER *Ann.* vi. (1658) 391 He put over from thence to Phocaea.

† f. *trans.* To hand over, to refer. *Obs. rare.*

1595 SHAKS. *K. John* I. i. 62 For the certaine knowledge of that truth, I put you o're to heauen, and to my mother.

† g. To transfer, make over. *Obs.*

a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vii. (1642) 432 To put over their wealth and possession unto their friends. *a* 1649 WINTHROP *New Eng.* (1825) I. 381 It were good he..paid his sister her £100 which he promised when I put over his land to him.

h. To knock over (with a shot). *colloq.*

1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxvii, That pistol..I've put over a parrot at twenty yards with it.

50. Put through.

† a. *trans.* (?) To get through, traverse, penetrate, cross. (Cf. 3.)

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 21 Quick-Sands (if not to thick) are often put through by Deals or Timber.

b. To cause to pass through any process; to carry (successfully) through; to carry out, bring to a finish; to get done with. Chiefly *U. S.*

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxi, I rayther think she's sickly, but I shall put her through for what she's worth. She may last a year or two. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. II. xliv. 163 Becoming accomplices in the jobs or 'steals' which these members were 'putting through'. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 379 Taking prompt action..to 'put through' a certain nefarious design.

c. In literal sense, as To put a telegram or telephonic call through between points; to place a person in telephonic connexion with another through one or more exchanges.

Mod. I have a call put through to Mr. X. Will you put me through to Birmingham, No. 1000?

51. Put to.

† a. *trans.* To add (actually or mentally). Also *absol.* Cf. 13. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vi. 27 Who of 3ou thenkinge may putte to [Vulg. *adjicere*] to his stature oo cubite? *c* 1460 ROS tr. *Belle Dame sans Mercy* 500, I may not put to, nor take away. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) II. xvi. 124 Besyde the .x. commaundementes of god..holy chyrche hath put to fyue. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 70 Pulling away some things, and putting to other some. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. § 7 When he cometh to a particular he shall have nothing to do, but to put to names, and, times, and places.

b. To exert, apply, put forth. *To put to one's hand*: to set to work at something; to render assistance. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xix. 10 The men putten to hoonde, and broujten into hem Loth. *c* 1450 *Merlin* iv. 70 Ye must put to grete besynesse to take the Duke. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 134 Putting to their diligence and industrie. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 1115 Whereunto also Clement..put to his helping hand. 1674 RAY *N. C. Words* 173 That so all Parties concerned may put to their fires at the same time. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxviii. 33 People think of the government as a great machine which will go on, whether they put their hand to or not.

† (*b*) *intr.* for *refl.*, or *absol.* To go to work, 'set to'. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 277 [She] deserues a Name As ranke as any Flax-Wench, that puts to Before her trothplight.

† c. *trans.* To attach, affix, 'set to' (as a seal or signature to a document). *Obs.*

1415 HEN. V in Madox *Form. Angl.* (1702) 16 Wee have, to these Vowes afore written, putto our sealles. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 145 Both partyes maade hit stronge by puttyng to þere seelys, euerych to oþer. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Staffs.* in *Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 2 In wittenes wherof.. we.. to thes presents interchaungeabli have putto our handes. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* vii. 36 They semed not to be engraven, but put to round about.

(*b*) To place (a male animal) with a female for breeding. Cf. 10 f. ? *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 37 Euery man maye not put to theyr rammes all at one tyme.

(*c*) To attach (a horse, etc.) to a vehicle (cf. 10 e); *transf.* (an engine) to a train.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ., Montriul* iv, I..bid him..get the horses put to. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxvi, You know how impossible my father would deem it that James should put to for such a purpose. 1841 LYTTON *Nt. & Morn.* I. i, Tell the post-boy to put-to the horses immediately. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* V. 142 A Scotch engine was being put to at Berwick.

d. To shut. Now *arch.* and *dial.*

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 82 (Harl. MS.) Anon he put to the dore ayen. 1535 COVERDALE *Judg.* iii. 23 Ehud gat him out at the backe dore, & put to [1611 shut] y^e dore after him, and lockte it. 1775 R. CUMBERLAND *Choleric Man* V. iii, I'll put the shutters to. 1828 *Examiner* 588/1 Shut the door and put to the window shutters. 1903 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Put to the door, put the door to.* [Many localities: Scotland to Huntingdon and Devon].

e. *Naut. intr.* To put in to shore; to turn in, take shelter.

1797 F. Baily *Jrnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 195 We pushed off..and after going about twenty miles, were obliged to put-to *on* account of the wind. 1807 P. Gass *Jrnl.* 163 We put to at a branch of fresh water, under high cliffs.

f. *pass.* To be reduced to straits: = *to be put to it*: see 28 c (*b*).

1803 *Pic Nic* No. 6 (1806) I. 221 He is,..like myself, hard put to at times for a little money. 1886 T. Hardy *Mayor Casterbr.* iv, We must needs be put-to for want of a wholesome crust. 1889 M. Gray *Reproach Annesley* II. ii, Terble hard putt to they be to beat out the time.

52. Put together. a. See simple senses and Together.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 417/2 Put to-geder, but not onyd, *contiguus*. 1690 Locke *Hum. Und.* I. ii. 9 Upon the first Occasion that shall make him put together those Ideas in his Mind and observe whether they agree or disagree.

b. *trans.* To combine, unite (parts) into a whole; to join, e.g. in marriage.

c 1440 [see a]. 1530 Palsgr. 671/2 Sythe they be ones put togyther by the lawes of holy churche, I wyll never put them asonder. 1651 H. More *Second Lash* in *Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 218 It is you that have put things together so ill-favouredly. 1687 Abp. Wake *Prep. for Death* 10 That those few directions I have here put together, may be as truly useful to you. 1793 Smeaton *Edystone L.* § 271 Every thing was ready in the yard for putting together.

† c. *refl.* To join, combine, unite. *Obs. rare.*

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) P v, The Quene and the ladies put them againe together for to geve Affranio a very bitter sopper.

d. To form (a whole) by combination of parts; to construct, compile, compose, compound.

1530 Palsgr. 676/1 He can spell, but he can nat put to gyther. 1638 Junius *Paint. Ancients* 18 Our mind putteth the whole figure out of those visible parts together. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 212/2 This figure can be taken to pieces and put together with the greatest ease. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* VI. 404, I put together some account of a series of incidents. 1889 Fr. A. Kemble *Far Away & Long Ago* xii, His figure was ill put together.

e. To combine mentally; to add or reckon together, to sum; often in *pa. pple.*, taken or considered together, in a body, collectively.

To put this and that together: to consider two facts or circumstances together and draw a conclusion from them. So *to put two and two together*: see Two.

1622 Mabbe tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 195 All this put together..was nothing, being compared with her retirednesse of life. 1707 J. Stevens tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 351 Put that and that together. 1748 Richardson *Clarissa* vii. (1810) 70 All these things put together, excited their curiosity. 1861 *Temple Bar Mag.* I. 468 He knew more than all the old school put together. 1865 Dickens *Mut. Fr.* III. xv, He puts this and that together.

f. *Cricket.* To make up, 'compile', as a 'score'.

1890 *Field* 31 May 784/3 Webbe and O'Brien..put together thirty-nine runs for the third wicket. *Ibid.* 21 June 919/2 The largest score they have ever put together in a first-class engagement.

53. Put up.

*a. *trans.* To put into a higher position; to raise; to lift: see simple senses and Up *adv.*, also the sbs. Back, Hair, Shutter, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5833 (Cott.) Þe water o þe flum þou ta And put it vp apon þe land. *a* 1400 *Sir Beues* 3040 Beues wiste wel and sede, Put vp a pensell, lest Saber vs drede. *a* 1500 *M.S. Ashm.* 344 lf. 19 (Chess) And must he nedis put vp his pon & mated in c. 1503 Dunbar *Thistle & Rose* 54 The purpour sone..Throw goldin skyis putting vp his heid. 1605 Shaks. *Macb.* iv. ii. 78 Why then (alas) Do I put vp that womanly defence? 1662 J. Davies tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 75 Married Women put up their hair within their Caps or Coifs. 1861 Hughes *Tom Brown at Oxf.* ix, There were others sneering..and that puts a fellow's back up. 1889 M. Gray *Reproach Annesley* v. i, Shopkeepers had hastily put up their shutters. 1897 Flor. Montgomery *Tony* (1898) 17 You will put up the windows in the tunnels, won't you?

spec. (*b*) To fix up for public view, to post up. Hence, of a cricketer: To score (so many runs); orig. to have them put up on the scoring board.

1833 *Act* 3 & 4 *Will. IV*, c. 46 § 113 Such rules..shall..be put up, either in print or in writing, on such place..as the ..council shall think proper. 1860 *Baily's Mag.* I. 428 Grundy put up 11 and 16. 1890 *Globe* 7 June 1/4 He put up notices requesting visitors to leave the plants alone.

(*c*) To set up or mount (a person, esp. a jockey) on horseback; to employ as a jockey.

1888 *Times* 26 June 4/5 Would they put up a jockey they believed to be dishonest? 1893 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 15 Apr. 183/1 Some trainers believe in putting up stable boys instead of jockeys.

(*d*) To put or bring (a play, etc.) on the stage for performance. Cf. *put on*, 46 a.

1890 F. Barrett *Between Life & Death* II. xxvi. 148 A new spectacle was..put up for rehearsal after Christmas. 1891 *New Rev.* Dec. 506 A manager..may 'put up' the 'Midsummer Night's Dream'.

b. *Hunting.* To cause (game) to rise from cover; to rouse, start.

?*c* 1475 *Hunt. Hare* 112, Y wylle ryde and putt her vp. 1575 Turberv. *Falconrie* 131 Let him which hath the Hearoner (that is the make Hawke) put up the Hearon. 1629 H. Burton *Truth's Triumph* 308 A spaniell..puts vp many a foule. 1711 Addison *Spect.* No. 131 § 2 In Town, ..I..put up such a Variety of odd Creatures, that they foil the Scent. 1805 Southey *Lett.* (1856) I. 345 Camp is in good health, and put up a hare. 1890 *Longm. Mag.* June 222 We put up a couple of tigers.

(*b*) *intr.* for *refl.* To rise: (in *Angling*) of a fish.

1600 Surflet *Countrie Farme* II. liv, When as the sappe putteth vp and commeth to the barke. 1890 *Field* 31 May 799/1 The trout that put up here and there were after a tiny speck of midge-like character.

c. *trans.* To cause to spring up or grow; of a beast, to develop or 'cut' (a tooth).

1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 549 It is reported, that hartshorn shaven, or in small pieces, mixed with dung and watered, putteth up mushrooms. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 321 These teeth are put up when the calf is six months old.

d. *Cricket.* To hit (a ball) so that it rises high.

1845 W. Denison *Cricketer's Compan.* p. ix, Had the chances from the ball being put up been taken advantage of. 1890 *Field* 31 May 799/2 Holden next put a ball up to long-on.

e. To 'raise' (a shout). *rare.*

1892 *Quiver* Mar. 359/1 They put up a great shout of admiration.

f. To raise in amount.

1890 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 758/1 His governor..had quite lately put his allowance up a hundred pounds. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 26 Nov. 617/2 Making preparations to put up the price still higher.

g. *colloq.* To show, exhibit (a game, play). *To put up an appearance* (*north. dial.* and *Sc.*), to make one's appearance.

1832 Hr. Martineau *Tales Pol. Econ.* II. iv, *Demerara* i. 10 A few of the sluggards who had not put up their appearance at the proper hour. 1892 *Field* 30 Jan. 133/3 Pettitt put up a good game..but it was not severe enough for the English champion. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 431/1 Able to put up a game at golf that the youngster will find hard to beat.

**h. † (*a*) To send or hand up to a superior for consideration; to present (a petition, etc.). *Obs.*

1362 Langl. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 34 þene Pees com to parlement and put vp a Bille, Hou þat Wrong aseyn his wille his wyf hedde I-take. 1439 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 9/1 In a Petition putte up to the Kyng. 1530 Palsgr. 676/1, I wyll put up a complaynt agaynst the. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* C iij b, The reuerend Elders of Martinisme had neuer put vppe any Billes of endightment against her the last Parliament.

(*b*) To offer (prayer or worship) to God or a divine being 'on high'; to present a petition to any exalted personage.

1641 [see Putting *vbl. sb.*1 9]. 1709 Strype *Ann. Ref.* I. xlvi. 502 Our church..put up prayers to God in the behalf of it. 1757 Hume *Ess., Nat. Hist. Relig.* § 4 (1788) II. 377 The Lacedemonians..always during war, put up their petitions very early in the morning, in order to be beforehand with their enemies. 1848 Thackeray *Van. Fair* lix, The coarse tyrant..to whom she had been forced to put up petitions for time, when the rent was overdue. 1889 F. C. Philips *Ainslie's Courtsh.* xiii, Prayers for fine weather were put up. 1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxv, At dinner I heard him put up thanks for what he was to receive.

† i. To bring (a person) up before a magistrate; to bring into court on some charge; to accuse formally. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 121 On a tyme he was ferd to be putt vp at þe sene [*in synodo accusari*]. 1526 Tindale *Matt.* x. 19 When they put you vp, take no thought howe or what ye shall speake. 1541 in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) II. 1194/2 All these were put up for railing against the Sacramentes and Ceremonies.

j. To propose for election or adoption.

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 2 Sinc mi grace amongst the rest was put up in the hous. *Ibid.* 3. 1682 *Eng. Elect. Sheriffs* 31 [They] both put up and Voted for Sir Humphrey Nicolson, and Mr. Box. 1692 R. L'Estrange *Fables* cxvi, The Beasts Met in Councel to Chuse a King. There were Several Put up. *a* 1859 Macaulay in *Encycl. Brit.* (1885) XIX. 137/1 Soon after this debate Pitt's name was put up by Fox at Brookes's.

(*b*) *intr.* for *refl.* To offer oneself for election; to stand as a candidate.

1705 Hearne *Collect.* 20 Dec., He..modestly declin'd it. The like did also Dr. Hudson, who was desir'd by divers to put up. 1890 Doyle *Firm Girdlestone* xviii, He put up at Murphytown in the Conservative interest.

(*c*) *fig.* To 'set up' *for*, offer (to do something).

1892 *Quiver* Sept. 872/2, I am not master enough of the occult sciences to put up for defending Dan's character as a charmer.

(*d*) *trans.* (with mixture of lit. sense): To bring forward (a person) to stand up and speak.

1889 Doyle *Micah Clarke* xxxv, What use to put a witness up, when he was shouted down..and threatened by the Chief Justice? 1890 *Blackw. Mag.* CXLVIII. 597/1 He was the only speaker the Conservatives could put up..to answer or criticise Mr. Gladstone.

k. To send or hand in (a communication) to be published in a church in the course of the service; esp. in reference to banns; also, to publish (banns).

1685 S. Sewall *Diary* 26 Mar., I put up a note to pray for the Indians. 1830 *Examiner* 396/2, I then went and put up the banns. 1842 Marryatt *Perc. Keene* xxxii, We are to be put up in church next Sunday, and it takes three Sundays. 1892 *Cornh. Mag.* July 46 Their banns had been put up in the East End parish.

l. To offer for sale by auction, or for competition.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4287/3 The Buyer to pay down 2 Guineas each Lot, or to be put up again. 1856 *Leisure Hour* V. 279/2 The lot was put up again, to be knocked down for six and threepence. 1892 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 3 Dec. 773/2 Oughtn't the post..to have been put up for public competition? 1899 Goldw. Smith *United Kingd.* I. 108 He [Richard I] put everything up to sale.

m. † (*a*) *intr.* ? To advance *to*, approach; or ? to make up *to*, address oneself *to* a person (*obs.*). (*b*) *trans.* To submit (a question, etc.) *to* a person: cf. 22, 22 b. *rare.*

?1728 Swift *Discovery* 17 Wks. 1755 IV. I. 298 With this he put up to my lord, The courtiers kept their distance due. 1906 *Harper's Mag.* June 68/1 When he finally put it up to me what I would do,—'I would depend', I answered, 'on what it was the woman has done'.

***n. To place in a receptacle for safe keeping; to stow away; to put into a bag, pocket, box, or the like; to lay aside out of use, put by (somewhat *arch.*); to lay up in store, lay by for future use (now *rare* or *obs.*); to pack up, do up, make up into a parcel, or place in small vessels or receptacles so as to be kept ready for use.

To put up one's pipes: see Pipe *sb.*1 1 e. (Cf. *put away*, 38 e; *put by*, 40 g.)

c 1368 Chaucer *Compl. Pite* 54, I haue put my compleynt vp agayne, ffor to my foos my bille I dar not shewe. 1382 Wyclif *Luke* xii. 19 Soule, thou hast many goodis kept [*v. r.* put vp] in to ful manye 3eeris. 1588 Shaks. *L. L. L.* iv. i. 109 Thou hast mistaken his letter..Here, sweete, put up this. 1637 Gataker *Serm., On* 1 *Tim. vi.* 6, I. 134 They might not pocket or put up ought to carry away with them. 1651 French. *Distill.* v. 125 Put it up in bottles. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XV. 406/1 It will keep sweet a very long time put up in good flour barrels. 1883 Mrs. F. Mann *Parish Hilby* iv, If you aren't for any more whist,..we may as well put up the cards. 1889 F. Barrett *Under Str. Mask* II. xiv. 76, I took the money..and put it up in the pocket-book. 1892 *Field* 21 May 778/1 The housekeeper..had put us up plenty of edibles and drinkables.

(*b*) To put into the sheath, to sheathe (a sword); also *absol.* to sheathe one's sword (cf. Draw *v.* 33 b). Also *fig. arch.*

c 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1123 Thai..Put up thair brandis sa braid, burly and bair. 1526 Tindale *John* xviii. 11 Put vppe thy swearde into the sheath [Gk. βάλε, Vulg. *mitte*]. 1592 Shaks. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 72, I do but keepe the peace, put vp thy Sword. 1602 Middleton *Blurt Master Constable* v. ii, *Font.* I'm arm'd: let him come in...*Imp.* Goe, goe, put vp. 1608 Dod & Cleaver *Expos. Prov.* 164 To be wary how we carry our tongues, that they be safely put up from doing of hurt, and never unsheathed. 1775 Sheridan *Rivals* v. iii, Put up, Jack, put up..—how came you in a duel? 1826 Scott *Woodst.* xxv, None shall fight duellos here...Put up, both of you.

(*c*) To shut up, enclose (a beast for fattening, a meadow for hay).

1607 Topsell *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 517 They put up a Hog to fatting. 1799 Washington *Writ.* (1893) XIV. 225 Before the period arrives for putting them up as porkers. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. II. 401 The stall beasts are ..put up in sheds in October. 1892 J. C. Blomfield *Hist. Heyford* 2 'Ings', or meadows put up for hay.

(*d*) To settle (any one) to rest or repose; to settle (a patient) in bed.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 36, I just applied simple dressing,.. putting him up in blankets, with no hope of his recovery. 1860–6 Flor. Nightingale *Nursing* 39 Everything you do in a patient's room, after he is 'put up' for the night, increases tenfold the risk of his having a bad night.

(*e*) To deposit, stake (a sum of money); to pay up. Also *absol. U. S.* and *Colonial.*

1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 16 Aug., A wealthy Bostonian yesterday wagered $1000, and put-up the money, that Mr. Blaine's majority in New York State would exceed 40,000. 1891 C. Roberts *Adrift Amer.* 126, I will pick you up if you choose to put up a couple of dollars.

o. (*a*) To lodge and entertain (man or beast).

1766 Goldsm. *Vic. W.* xxii, The hired horse that we rode was to be put up that night at the inn. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 375 Mr. Hunt..was 'put up' in the ground-floor of his Lordship's house. 1867 Trollope *Chron. Barset* xx, Mr. Robarts went to the inn, put up his horse, and then ..sauntered back up the street. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 129 Can you put us up for the night?

(*b*) *intr.* for *refl.* or *pass.* To take up one's lodging, to 'stop' (at an inn, etc.).

1727 *Philip Quarll* (1816) 32 We put up at the first cottage. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Oct. 483/1 The inns where their waggons put up. 1840 Dickens *Barn. Rudge* xxxv, Let's either go on to London, sir, or put up at once. 1884 D. C. Murray in *Graphic* Xmas No. 5/3 Would it not be better..to put up here for the night?

p. *fig.* † (*a*) *trans.* To 'pocket', submit to, endure, suffer quietly, patiently, or tamely (an affront or injury); 'to pass unrevenged' (J.) *Obs.* (now displaced by *put up with*: see (*b*)).

1573 G. Harvey *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 48 All this I put up quietly. 1600 W. Watson *Decacordon* (1602) 91 Abuses.. which, with honour, he can neuer put vp at their hands. 1604 Shaks. *Oth.* iv. ii. 181. 1628 Earle *Microcosm.* lv. (Arb.) 79 He can put vp any iniury sooner then this. 1752 Fielding *Amelia* ix. iii, He who would put up an arrest, would put up a slap in the face. 1832 *Philol. Museum* I. 477 The ridicule which the minister..might put up from his jocose friend.

(*b*) *To put up with*: to submit to (an injury), 'to suffer without resentment' (J., 1765): = (*a*); in wider sense, To bear, endure, tolerate, do with (anything inconvenient or disagreeable); 'to take without dissatisfaction' (T., 1818).

1755 P. Supple in *Connoisseur* No. 100. 605 All these indignities I very patiently put up with. 1761 Colman *Genius* No. 9 in *Prose on Sev. Occas.* (1787) I. 90 This loss ..would have been the least, and most easily to be put up with. 1839 De Quincey *Casuistry Rom. Meals* Wks. 1854 III. 280 Whether Pope ever put up with four o'clock dinners again, I have vainly sought to fathom. 1887 Jessopp *Arcady* viii. 235 [An] organ grinder..hunted out of London streets, where they will not put up with him.

****q. *trans. To put* (a person) *up to* (colloq.): (*a*) To make conversant with or aware of; to

inform of, instruct in (something, originally some artifice or expedient).

1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.* s. v., To suggest to another, the means of committing a depredation,..is termed, putting him up to it. 1824 *Hist. Gaming*, etc. 18 Those who had been 'put up' to the secrets, or made acquainted with the manner of doing the flats. 1828 *Examiner* 589/1, I want you to put the people at the inn up to my not coming. 1891 *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 357 He put me up to one or two things worth knowing.

(*b*) To stir up, instigate, incite, induce, persuade (*to* some action, etc., or *to do* something).

1824 in G. T. Curtis *D. Webster* (1870) I. 266 'You find it hard work enough this morning, I think', said Mr. Webster. 'Yes, Sir', said the boatman, 'it puts a man up to all he knows, I assure you'. 1849 E. FitzGerald *Lett.* (1889) I. 193 You must not believe however that it is only chance which puts me up to this exertion. 1889 M. Gray *Reproach Annesley* iv. i, Always putting them up to mischief. 1892 *Gd. Words* Sept. 584/1 He put me up to try to get into Harris's secrets.

***** r. To erect, set up (a building or other structure); to construct, build.

1818 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 573 The making a Bridge and putting up the Gates at the end of that walk. 1857–8 Sears *Athan.* xii. 102 A building which ..God put up carpenter-fashion. 1873 H. Spencer *Stud. Sociol.* xi. 287 Here are lighthouses we have put up to prevent shipwrecks. 1879 Trollope *Thackeray* i. 58 A bust to his memory was put up in Westminster Abbey.

s. To make up or compose by union of individuals or parts; *spec.* in *Angling*, to make up or construct (an artificial fly).

1892 *Harper's Mag.* May 870/1 Prussia, together with the remaining states, puts up sixteen army corps. 1892 *Field* 17 Sept. 454/1 When putting up a new fly, the wings, hackle, and body are painted over with the paraffin. *Ibid.* 10 Dec. 901/2 Our guest put up a cast of midges.

t. *fig.* To concoct or plan in combination with others; to prearrange, preconcert (a robbery, or any iniquitous or underhand piece of work). Orig. and chiefly *Thieves' slang*; see also Put-up *ppl. a.* 1.

1810–38 [see Put-up *ppl. a.* 1]. 1856 *Leisure Hour* V. 542/2 Her account..affords a good example of the style of 'putting up' a house robbery. 1892 *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 13 Aug. 790/1 Barclay put up a job to ruin old Overton.

VI. 54. In numerous idiomatic, proverbial, and other phrases, as *to put to the* Blush, *to the* Push; *to put in one's* Pocket, *in* Requisition, *into* (*out of*) *one's* Head, *into one's* Mouth, *out of* Countenance, *out of* Court, *out of* Joint, *out of the* Way; *to put the* Change *upon*, *a* (*good*, etc.) Face *upon*, *one's* Foot *in it*, *too fine a point upon it* (Point *sb.*1 B. 1 d), *one's* Shoulder *to*, Spurs *to*; *to put a* Bone *in any one's hood*, *the* Cart *before the horse*, *the finger in the* Eye, *one's best* Foot *foremost*, *one's* Nose *out of joint*, *one's hand to the* Plough, *pen to* Paper, *a* Spoke *in one's wheel*, etc., etc., for which see the sbs.

Put, putt (pvt), *v.*2 Pa. t. and pa. pple. **putted** (pv·téd). [The same word as prec., used in particular senses differentiated by pronunciation and by the use of the regular weak conjugation.

This is not merely the Sc. pronunciation of Put *v.*1, which in Sc. is conjugated *pit*, *pat*, *putten* or *pitten*; while this is *putt*, *puttit*, *puttit*, and in current use felt as a distinct verb. But the regular weak conjugation formerly occurred in Eng. with senses belonging to Put *v.*1]

† 1. *intr.* To push, shove, butt; = Put *v.*1 1 d. *To put on*: to push gently, nudge. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 Douglas *Æneis* IX. x. 91 The beste..Can allreddy wyth hornis fuyn and put. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 477 How everie wyfe on vther puttis, Bidding the bischop pay for his guttis. 1630 Rutherford *Lett.* (1862) I. vii. 54 It were time for us, by prayer, to put upon our master-pilot Jesus, and to cry, 'Master, save us: we perish'. 1637–50 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 436 He sent one who, putting on me, awakened me. 1768 Ross *Helenore* 38 (Jam.), I putted o' you for to set you free.

2. *trans.* To throw or hurl (a stone or weight) from the shoulder, as an athletic exercise; = Put *v.*1 2. *Sc.*

[*c* 1300–: see Put *v.*1 2.] 1724 Ramsay *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, When thou ran, or wrestled, or putted the stane. 1816 Scott *Antiq.* xxix, Auld Edie, that kens the rules of a' country games better than ony man that ever drave a bowl, or threw an axle-tree, or putted a stane. 1816 — *Old Mort.* iv, Would the bumpkins but wrestle, or pitch the bar, or putt the stone.

b. *intr.* = Put *v.*1 2 b.

[*c* 1300–1535: see Put *v.*1 2 b.] ? *a* 1800 *Rose the Red & White Lilly* xviii. in Scott *Minstr. Scot. Bord.*, O it fell anes, upon a time, They putted at the stane. 1820 [see Putter *sb.*2 1]. *Mod. Sc.* Let's try who can putt farthest!

3. *Golf.* To strike the ball gently and carefully (with the Putter), so as to make it roll along the surface of the Putting-*green*, with the object of getting it into the hole. Usually *intr.*; also *trans.* with the ball as obj. *orig. Sc.*

1743 [implied in Putter *sb.*2 2 a]. 1833 G. F. Carnegie *Golfiana* in R. Clark *Golf* (1875) 150 Well he plays the spoon and iron, but He fails a little when he comes to putt. 1857 *Golfer's Man.* in *Chambers's Inform. for People* 696/1 Some golfers put almost exclusively with a metal club, an iron or cleek. 1892 *English Illustr. Mag.* X. 59 It seems a little matter..to drive your ball up in one and 'put' into the hole in two more. 1894 *Times* 16 June 16/1 He..approached with his iron with great effect, and putted in most deadly style.

Put (put), *ppl. a.* Also 7 *Sc.* putt. [pa. pple. of Put *v.*1] Placed, set, appointed, etc.: see Put *v.*1 Usually with an adverb, as **put-aside** (in quot. *absol.*); **put-away** (Put *v.* 38 e); **put-down** (41: in quot., degraded, 41 c); **put-off** (45: in quots., † cast away, abject (*obs.*); deferred, postponed, 45 c); **put-out** (47: in quots., 47 f (*d*), m (*c*)). See also Put-on, Put-up *ppl. adjs.*

1868 Yates *Rock Ahead* I. viii, The *put-aside and rejected of Gilbert Lloyd. 1891 Kipling *Light that Failed* (1900) 261 It was this *put-away treasure that he was trying to find. 1860 Gen. P. Thompson *Audi Alt. Part.* III. cxliii. 126 It ought to be asked in parliament, if parliament was not a *put-down thing and a plaything of the minister. 1636 B. Jonson *Discov., Princeps*, I am a wretch and *put of man, if I doe not reverence and honour him. 1871 Mrs. H. Wood *Dene Hollow* xxxix, A put-off wedding sometimes brings ill-luck. 1899 F. V. Kirby *Sport E. C. Afr.* xi. 118 Grunting in a *put-out sort of way. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Oct. 10/3 The put-out work of some West End tailors.

Put, obs. f. Pit *sb.*1, Pith; var. Putt *sb.*1

Put- (put), the stem of Put *v.*1 in combination with adverbs, forming sbs. derived from adverbial combinations of the verb (see Put *v.*1 V.): as **put-back**, an act of putting back, or something that puts back; a set-back; **put-by**, an act of putting by or setting aside; † **put-forth**, an act of putting forth, or ? one who puts forth; in quot. an imposture, pretence, or ? an impostor, pretender; **put-out**, an act of putting out (in quot., of putting a player 'out' at baseball); **put-up**, a place to 'put up' in, a lodging, 'quarters'. Also rarely with a preposition, as **put-upon**, an act of 'putting upon' any one, or fact of being 'put upon' (see Put *v.*1 23 f); an imposition. See also Put-off *sb.*

a 1697 J. Aubrey *Lives, Hobbes* (1898) I. 333 For ten yeares together his thoughts were..chiefly intent on his 'De Cive', and..his 'Leviathan', which was a great *putt-back to his mathematicall improvement. 1549 Latimer *Serm. Ploughers* (Arb.) 36 There be so manie put offes, so many *put byes, so many respectes, and considerations of worldly wisedome. 1549 [see Put-off 1]. 1628 Feltham *Resolves* Ser. II. lvi. (1647) 175 The cast of the eye, and the put-by of the turning hand. 1581 Mulcaster *Positions* xxxix. 205 Learning empouerished in purses, though replenished in *putfurthes by such interceptours. 1896 Knowles & Morton *Baseball* 83 Every base that was run was ticked off..and every '*put-out' and every 'assist' was shown on the painted plan. 1891 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 564 We must get a *put-up at Queen's Gate. 1889 J. K. Jerome *Three Men in Boat* iv, The presence of your husband's cheeses in her house she would..regard as a '*put upon'.

† **Putage.** *Obs.* [a. OF. *putage* (Godef.), f. *pute* harlot, Pute + -age.] Fornication on the part of a woman; whoredom. (Cf. Putery.)

1480 Caxton *Ovid's Met.* XII. iii, Yt pleseth me better that men saye that Helayne is a good wyf than she had doon putage. 1670 Blount *Law Dict.*, *Putage*, fornicatio ex parte fœminæ. 1706 in Phillips (ed. Kersey).

† **Putai·le, -ay·le.** *Obs.* [In form = OF. *putaille* (Godef.) a body of harlots, a harlotry; but the sense appears to be that of Pedaile, q. v.] Rabble; (?) foot-soldiers.

13.. *Coer de L.* 1286 They slowe knyghtes and gret putayle Off Sarezynys that mys-belevyd. *Ibid.* 4291 Folk of armes ..fyffty thousent With other smal putayle, That ther com into the batayle. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xiii. 192 The saisnes..were well x ml. of horse-men, with-oute the putaile that ronne vp and down and robbed the peple.

† **Putain.** *Obs.* Also 4 -aine, (-eyn), 4–5 -ayn, 6 -ane, 7 pewtene. [a. OF. *putain*:—late popular L. **puttānem*, acc. of *putta*:—L. *pūtida* stinking, disgusting. (See Schwan *Gram. Altfr.* ed. 2, § 341, 352.)] A whore, a prostitute, a strumpet. *Fitz-a-putain* (Anglo-Fr.) = whoreson: see Fitz.

a 1300, etc. [see Fitz]. *c* 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 27 Puplicans and puteyns trowiden to him. 1560 Rolland *Seven Sag.* Prol. iii, Ane prydfull pure Putane, At quhais wordis men wald tak small disdane. 1603 *Philotus* lxxxiii, Fals pewtene, hes scho playit that sport, Hes scho me handlit in this sort?

‖ **Putamen** (piutē·mĕn). [L. *putāmen* that which falls off in pruning or trimming, husk, shell, f. *putāre* to prune.]

1. *Bot.* The endocarp of a fruit when hard and woody, as the 'stone' of a plum, etc.; rarely applied to the shell of a nut.

1830 Lindley *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 84 Fruit a drupe, with the putamen sometimes separating spontaneously from the sarcocarp. 1885 Goodall *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 176 A fragment of the hard shell of a nut or of the putamen of a drupe.

2. *Anat.* The outer zone or segment of the extra-ventricular portion of the grey matter of the brain (*nucleus lenticularis*).

1890 in Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 334 [Certain lesions] in the lenticular nucleus in its outer segment or putamen.

3. The tough membrane or skin which lines the inside of the shell of an egg.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Putaminous (piutæ·minŏs), *a. rare.* [f. L. *putāmen* (*-min-*) + -ous.] Of the nature of or pertaining to a shell, husk, or putamen.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guilleneau's Fr. Chirurg.* 26 b/2 Some putaminous substance chaunced to be theron [the teeth] hardened. 1660 Hickeringill *Jamaica* (1661) 28 The outward crust, or putaminous husk, being broken, appears full of little kernells, or nuts. Also in mod. Dicts.

† **Putanie.** *Obs.* [Cf. It. *puttana.*] = Putain (for which the instances may be misprints).

1566 *Pasquine in Traunce* 28 Some are called Celestines,.. other Carmilitanes, and some Putanies also. *Ibid.*, *note*, Putanies be those Nunes that we call the greene Friers on strawbery banke.

† **Pu·tanism.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. Putain + -ism: cf. F. *putanisme*, It. *puttanismo.*] (See quot.)

1696 Phillips, *Putanism*, the Trade and Living of a Whore. 1721 in Bailey, and in later Dicts.

† **Puta·tion.** *Obs.* [ad. L. *putātiōn-em*, n. of action from *putāre* to cleanse, prune, reckon, consider, think.]

1. The pruning or trimming of trees.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 50 Putacioun autumnal celebrate Is now in vyne & tre ther nys no coold. 1623 Cockeram, *Putation*, a lopping of trees.

2. The action of considering or reckoning; supposition, estimation.

1658 Phillips, *Putation*,.. thinking, reputing, or esteeming. 1670 Baxter *Life Faith* III. viii. 322 It is not possible ..by any putation, estimation, or misjudging whatsoever.

Hence † **Puta·tionary** *a.*, based on hypothesis or theory, suppositional; † **Puta·tioner**, a theorizer.

1657 G. Starkey *Helmont's Vind.* 86 An insufferable task for an old Putationer. 1658 — *Pyrotechny* III. ii, A lazie person, or a conceited Putationer. 1669 W. Simpson *Hydrol. Chym.* 207 In a putationary and consequently deceitful philosophy.

† **Putati·tious,** *a. Obs.* [f. L. *putāt-us*, thought, supposed, pa. pple. of *putāre* to think: see prec. and -itious 1.] Of a supposed, reputed, or imaginary sort.

1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* II. 50 An inhibition might be imposed on such putatitious, imaginary Physicians. 1671 J. Webster *Metallogr.* xxix. 380 The putatitious transmutation of Iron doth otherwise not happen. 1674 R. Godfrey *Inj. & Ab. Physic* 145, I found neither Truth nor Knowledge in my Putatitious Doctrine.

Hence † **Putati·tiously** *adv.*, supposedly, reputedly, in reckoning merely.

1660 H. More *Myst. Godl.* VIII. iv. 375 Even as Christ was righteous, who was not putatitiously and imaginarily righteous, but really so indeed.

Putative (piū·tătiv), *a.* [a. F. *putatif* (14–15th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), or ad. late L. *putātīv-us* (Tertullian *c* 200), f. *putāt-us*: see prec. and -ive.] That is such by supposition or by repute; commonly thought or deemed; reputed, supposed.

Putative marriage, in *Canon law*, a marriage which though legally invalid was contracted in good faith by at least one of the parties.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 331 Philippus,..fader putatiue of the noble conquerour Alexander. 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 92 John Beilbie, my sone putative. *a* 1548 Hall *Chron., Edw. IV* 196 Of al hys other putatyue (I dare not say fayned) frendes..he had bene clerely abandoned. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 688 Neither is the Scripture it selfe ashamed, to call Marie .. not the putatiue or supposed, but the true and naturall mother. 1681 Flavel *Meth. Grace* vi. 130 Let their blasphemous mouths call it in derision putative righteousness, (*i. e.*) a mere fancied or conceited righteousness; yet we know assuredly Christ's righteousness is imputed to us, and that in the way of faith. 1765 Blackstone *Comm.* I. xvi. 458 If such putative father, or lewd mother, run away from the parish, the overseers..may seize their rents, goods, and chattels, in order to bring up the said bastard child. 1858 Sears *Athan.* II. xi. 240 He [Christ] imparts not a putative, but a subjective, righteousness to the believer.

1811 (Febr.) Ld. Meadowbank in *Brymner v. Riddell* (Ct. of Session), Here there was a putative marriage, acknowledged by all the friends of both parties, and by the general admission..of the legality of that marriage. 1825 Rt. Bell (*title*) Report of a case of legitimacy under a putative marriage [Brymner v. Riddell] tried..1811. 1876 P. Fraser *Husb. & Wife Law Scotl.* (ed. 2) I. 152 The children born of such a putative marriage are, by the law of Scotland legitimate, though the marriage be null.

Hence **Pu·tatively** *adv.*, in a putative way or manner; supposedly, reputedly.

1716 M. Davies *Athen. Brit.* II. 220 He subjoin'd also that Christ did not really suffer, but only Putatively in people's Fancies. 1851 P. Colquhoun *Rom. Civ. Law* II. § 1078 Putatively married persons have the same privilege. 1903 McNeill *Egregious English* 109 Mr. Davidson is a Scot, and Mr. Yeats, putatively at any rate, an Irishman.

† **Pu·tatory,** *a. Obs. rare*—0. [ad. late L. *putātōrius*, f. *putāre* to prune.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr.*, *Putatory*, of or belonging to cutting, dressing or pruining of Trees.

† **Put-bone.** ? The knuckle-bone or astragalus.

1664 E. Browne in *Sir T. Browne's Wks.* (1836) I. 45 Mr. Osborne sent my father a calf, whereof I observed the knee joynt, and the neat articulation of the put bone, which was here very perfect. I dissected another bull's heart. *Ibid.* 48 In a putbone the unfortunate casts are outward, the fortunate inward.

Put-card: see Put *sb.*3

† **Pu·t-case.** *Obs.* [f. the phrase *put case*: Put *v.*1 22.]

1. The act of putting a case; a supposition or hypothesis.

1565 Jewel *Def. Apol.* IV. ix. § 3 What a foolishe putcase, and what a fond whatif is that, to saie, What if a Pirate inuade the Arke of Noe? 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 282 They with their innumerable perchances and put-cases do make the treatise of restitution so tedious.

2. A person skilled in putting cases; one who states or argues hypothetical cases.

a 1734 North *Lives, Ld. Guildford* I. 20 He used to say that no man could be a good lawyer that was not a put-case.

Putchamin, early form of Persimmon.

Putcher (pʊ·tʃəɹ). *local.* [The same as *putchen, -eon, -in,* recorded in the Eng. Dial. Dict. from Shropsh., Worcester, Warwick, Gloucestersh., in sense 'eel-basket, wicker eel-trap'. Origin unknown. Cf. Putt *sb.*[2]] A conical basket or wicker trap for catching salmon (see quot. 1885).

1873 *Act* 36 & 37 *Vic.* c. 71 § 21 (1) Licenses for fishing weirs, fishing mill dams, putts, putchers, fixed nets, and other fixed instruments or devices. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 51 Models of Salmon Nets..Weirs with fish-passes.. Putchers, [etc.]. 1884 *Daily News* 1 Sept. 6/7 In the [Severn] estuary large hauls were made with the nets and putchers in July and August. 1885 *Daily Tel.* 18 Aug., Putchers.. are funnel-shaped baskets of wicker-work set at right angles to the shore, into which the salmon press themselves in trying to press through, and are unable to return.

‖ **Putchuk, putchock** (pʊ·tʃŏk). Also 7 pochok, 8–9 putchick, 9 patchuk. [Dukhnī or Southern Hindustānī چوبک *pachak*; origin doubtful: widely prevalent as a trade name.] The root of the plant *Aplotaxis auriculata* (*Aucklandia Costus* of Falconer), a native of Kashmīr, exported to China and other Eastern countries, and used as a medicine and for making the Chinese joss-sticks. (*Native*) *green putchuk,* a name for the root of the Chinese *Aristolochia recurvilabra,* used in medicine.

[1588 T. Hickock tr. *C. Frederick's Voy.* 5 Aboundaunce of Opioum, Assa Fetida, Puchio, with many other sorts of drugs.] 1617 R. Cocks *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 294, 5 hampers pochok. 1704 in C. Lockyer *Trade Ind.* (1711) 77 Putchuck or Costus dulcis. 1727 A. Hamilton *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xi. 126 Nothing of it is usefull but the Root, called Putchock, or Radix dulcis. 1802 Capt. Elmore *Brit. Mariners Direct.* 129 Putchick, shark fins, olibanum. 1845 Stocqueler *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 34 Bombay..supplies..grain, oils, putchock, seeds, tobacco, and soap, from the northern coast. 1858 Simmonds *Dict. Trade Prod.,* Putchuk.

† **Pute,** *sb. rare*[−1]. [a. F. *pute* = Pr., Sp. *puta,* It. *putta,* late pop. L. *pūtta* :—L. *pūtida* stinking: cf. Putain.] A whore, strumpet, prostitute.

c 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 293 þei ben foule putis.

Pute (piūt), *a.* Now *rare* or *arch.* [ad. L. *putus* clean, pure, used in the phrase *purus* (*ac*) *putus* = *purissimus.*] In phrases *pure pute, pure and pute,* pure, clean, mere.

c 1619 Bp. Hall *Via Media* § 5 Arminius .. acknowledges faith to be the pure pute gift of God. 1657 Sanderson *Serm.* Pref. § 24 A pure pute Christian. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* II. iv. § 49 (1740) 256 Dangerfield had the Honour to be a single Discoverer of a pure and pute Sham-plot, Name and Thing. 1906 R. Kipling *Puck of Pook's Hill, Hal o' Draft* 240 Only you and I chance to be pure pute asses.

Pute, obs. form of Pit *sb.*[1]

Puteal (piūtĭăl), *sb. Rom. Antiq.* [a. L. *puteal,* (*-āle*), orig. neuter of *puteālis*: see next.] The stone curb surrounding the mouth of a well.

[1832 Gell *Pompeiana* II. xiii. 27 A marble mouth or *puteale.*] 1850 Leitch tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* (ed. 2) § 379 *note,* The Capitoline puteal has adopted a younger figure of Hermes. 1862 E. Falkener *Ephesus* I. iv. 63 Vestiges of a circular building, the small size of which renders it probable that it formed a puteal.

† **Pu·teal,** *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. L. *puteālis,* f. *puteus* pit, well.] Of or pertaining to a well or pit.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Puteal,* of or belonging to a pit or well. 1657 Tomlinson *Renou's Disp.* 219 The best water, therefore, is fontane, fluvial, and puteal water.

Puteanic (piūtĭæ·nik), *a. Chem.* [f. L. *puteān-us* pertaining to a well (f. *puteus* well) + -ic.] In *puteanic acid*: see quot.

[1834 Haenle in *Kastner's Archiv,* Nurnberg, XXVI. 399 Ich bezeichne sie daher .. mit dem Namen Brunnensäure (*Acidum puteanum*).] 1838 T. Thomson *Chem. Org. Bodies* 156 Puteanic acid..discovered, in 1835, by M. Haenlé, apothecary at Lahr, in the ochre which deposits abundantly in the wells of that neighbourhood... It is a resinous-looking body, transparent when in thin crusts, having a strong lustre, and a brown colour. It has no smell.

Puten, error for Petun, q. v., quot. 1600–14.

Puter, obs. form of Pewter.

† **Pu·tery.** *Obs.* Also 4 **putrie,** 4–5 **-erie,** 5 **putrye, -ree, -erye.** [a. OF. *put(e)rie* whoredom, f. *pute*: see Pute *sb.*: -ery [1].] Unchastity (properly in a woman); harlotry, prostitution.

c 1380 Wyclif *Wks.* (1880) 10 þes pharisees geten hem moo holderis vp for here putrie þan for here trewe prechyng. *c* 1386 Chaucer *Pars. T.* ¶ 812 What seye we eek of Putours þat lyuen by the horrible synne of putrie, and constreyne wommen to yelden to hem a certeyn rente of hire bodily puterie? *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xxiv. 30 We haue hir tane with putry playne. 1483 Caxton *G. de la Tour* lj, In puterye and in synne mortalle or dedely he [the deuylle] hath grete power.

Putfalle, obs. form of Pitfall.

† **Put-gallary, putt-,** var. of Pot-gallery, *Obs.*

1658 *Lease* in *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. (1908) IX. 212/2, 4 Putt Gallaries, or shedds, built over the mill stream upon the wharfe thereof, in Paris Garden.

† **Put-gally.** *Obs.* Also 6 **putt-.** [ad. Du. and Fl. *put-galg* a bascule to raise water from a well, in Hexham *put-galge* 'a swipe to drawe up water out of a well', in Kilian *put-galghe,* 'tollenon, pertica putealis'; f. *put* well, pit + *galge,* gallows, post of a draw-well.] A bascule or lever fixed on a high fulcrum and having a counterpoise on the handle, by means of which water is lifted from a well or pit; a swipe or sweep.

1584–5 *Indenture* 27 *Eliz.* in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. (1894) V. 348/2 With free egresse and regresse thorowe the same waye, and with free accesse, egresse and regresse to the Putt gally, findinge wherewith to drawe and carrye the same water aweye, And together also withe like accesse egresse and regresse to the litle well there. 1611 Cotgr., *Bascule,* a swipe, scoope, or put-gally to draw vp water withall.

† **Puther**[1], obs. form of Pewter.

1562 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) App. 206 A litle brasse pott, two puther dublers, two dishes of puther.

Puther[2], obs. and dial. form of Pother.

Putid (piū·tid), *a.* Now *rare.* [ad. L. *pūtid-us* stinking, foul, f. *pūtē-re* to stink: see -id [1].]

† **1.** Stinking, rotten, putrid. *Obs.*

1659 Gauden *Slight Healers* (1660) 21 Some putid or corrupt humors in the body.

2. *fig.* Foul, base; morally or intellectually 'rotten' or worthless. (Often merely a term of contempt or execration.)

1580 Fulke *Dang. Rock* xviii. Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 391 O putid and absurd slanders! 1635–56 Cowley *Davideis* I. Notes, Wks. (1669) 28 Made up..by the putid officiousness of some Grammarians. 1681 Baxter *Answ. Dodwell* iv. 28 A chain of forgeries or putid falshoods. *a* 1734 North *Exam.* III. vii. § 70 (1740) 556 He hath..framed so putid a Libel upon his Lordship. 1818 J. C. Hobhouse *Hist. Illustr.* (ed. 2) 216 To reject this narration as a putid fable.

Hence **Puti·dity** [ad. med.L. *pūtiditās, c* 1150 in Thomas *Thesaur.*], **Pu·tidness,** the quality of being putid, rottenness; **Pu·tidly** *adv.*

1659 Gauden *Tears Ch.* II. xvi. 199 High-tasted sawces.. applied to tainted meats, to make their putidness less perceptible. 1864 Webster, Putidity, Putidness. 1897 *Sat. Rev.* 7 May 552/2 What we most feebly and putidly nowadays call a lady-doctor.

Putlog, putlock (pʊ·tlɒg, -lɒk), *sb.* [The form *putlock* appears to have been the earlier; derivation obscure; ? from *put,* pa. pple. of Put *v.*[1]]

One of the short horizontal timbers of a scaffolding, on which the scaffold-boards rest; one end is inserted at right angles in a hole left in the wall for that purpose (*putlog-hole*), the other being supported by the ledger.

α. 1645 *Docum. St. Paul's* (Camden) 143, Putlocks for scaffolding 3763. 1688 R. Holme *Armoury* III. 262/1 Putlocks, pieces of Spar put into the Sides of the Wall to lay Boards on for the Bricklayer to stand and work up high Walls. 1727–41 Chambers *Cycl., Putlogs,* or *Putlocks,* in building. 1823 P. Nicholson *Pract. Build.* 591 Putlogs or Putlocks; in scaffolding, the transverse pieces, at right angles to the wall. 1866 *Standard* 12 June 7/2 The putlock..came away, and a bricklayer .. was precipitated from a considerable height to the ground.

β. 1703 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* 251 *Putlogs* .. pieces of Timber, or short Poles, about 7 Foot long. 1862 E. Falkener *Ephesus* iv. 85 The walls are for the most part disfigured by small square holes (like those left by putlogs). 1901 *Y. Black's Carp. & Build., Scaffold.* 89 Scaffold poles, putlogs, and boards are rented..most largely to builders.

b. *Comb.* **Putlog-, putlock-hole,** one of a series of small square holes left in the brickwork or stonework of a wall to receive the ends of the putlogs.

1757 Smeaton in *Phil. Trans.* I. 202 Putlock-holes for the scaffolding. 1878 McVittie *Christ Ch. Cathedral* 61 Small holes were found running through the wall at different heights, resembling putlock holes.

Hence **Pu·tlog** *v. trans.,* to insert in the manner of a putlog.

1908 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VII. 483/1 A beam putlogged into the north and south walls.

Put-off (pʊtɒ·f), *sb.* Pl. **put-offs.** [f. the verbal phrase *put off* (Put *v.* 45).] An act of putting off, in various senses.

1. An act of dismissing a question, argument, etc., or the person propounding it, by evasion or the like; a pretext for not doing something, or for deferring it till later (cf. 2); an evasion, a shift.

1549 Latimer *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 79 Nowe they haue theyr shyftes, and theyr putofs sainge, we maye not go before a lawe, we maye breake no order. 1549 E. Becke *Bible* (Matthew's) Prol., Then should neyther Goddes cause nor poore mans matters haue so many putoffes, so many put byes & delayes. *a* 1704 T. Brown *Dial. Dead, Friendship* Wks. 1711 IV. 59 He..repay'd my past Services with..base Put-offs. 1823 Bentham *Not Paul* 42 Promises, put-offs, evasions—and, after all, no performance. 1886 Stevenson *Kidnapped* xxii, I think I would have asked farther, but Alan gave me the put-off. 'I am rather wearied', he said.

2. An act of deferring or postponing something; postponement, delay, procrastination; a putting a person off to a later time.

1623 R. Carpenter *Conscionable Christian* 28 Instantly, as the occasion is giuen, without put-offs to aftertimes, or any tedious protraction. ? 1625 Jas. I in *Waller's Poems* (1711) p. ix, No Put-offs, my Lord, answer me presently. 1759 Franklin *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 425 What the governor's set-off could not effect, was to be reattempted by this put-off. 1827 Moore *Mem.* (1854) V. 157 Expecting..to receive a put-off from Lady Holland for the evening.

3. *lit.* A putting off or setting down a person from a vehicle or a vessel, esp. a boat. *rare.*

1825 Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 603 This delay .. is occasioned by 'laying to' for 'put offs' of single persons and parties, in Thames wherries.

Put-off, *ppl. a.* : see Put *ppl. a.*

Put-on (putɒ·n; stress var.), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of *to put on*: see Put *v.* 46.]

1. Placed upon the person, as clothing.

1894 Miss Broughton *Beginner* xii, The Russian net of her accurately put-on veil.

b. *transf.* of the person: Clothed, dressed (with qualifying adv., as *well* or *ill*). *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

1815 Scott *Guy M.* I, I'm no just that weel put on. 1887 Mabel Wetheral *Two North-Country Maids* xxiii, It changes lassies when they look so trim, and well put on. 1896 Barrie *Marg. Ogilvy* ix. (1897) 167 The first thing I want to know about her is whether she was good-looking, and the second how she was put on.

2. *fig.* Assumed, affected, feigned, pretended.

1621 Fletcher *Wildgoose Chase* III. i, With such a reverend put-on Reservation Which could not miss. 1775 Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* 28 Feb., He assumed no manner of superiority; nor yet..affected a certain put-on equality. 1884 Church *Bacon* iii. 58 The put on and worldly life.

† **Pu·tor.** *Obs. rare.* [a. L. *pūtor* stench, f. *pūtēre* to stink.] (See quot.)

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Putor,* a stink or ill savor.

† **Putour.** *Obs.* [app. AF. *putour,* collateral form of OF. *putier* Putyer.] A whoremonger; a pimp; a fornicator.

c 1386 [see Putery]. 1393 Langl. *P. Pl.* C. VII. 172 Lady, to þy leue sone lowte for me nouthe, That he haue pyte on me putour [*v. r.* putrour] of hus pure grace and mercy.

Put-out, *sb.* and *ppl. a.* : see Put-, Put *ppl. a.*

† **Pu·t-pin.** *Obs.* [f. Put *v.*[1] + Pin.] = Push-pin.

1592 Nashe *Foure Lett. Confut.* (1593) 52, I will play at put-pinne with thee for all that thou art woorth. 1658 J. Harrington *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* I. ix. (1700) 269 His Put-pin is pretty: The Emperor puts Power into the hands of the Electors; and the King of Poland puts Power into the hands of the Gentlemen. 1665 Glanvill *Scepsis Sci.* xxiii. 178 He..will not leave the Throne to play with Beggars at Put-pin, or be fond of Tops and Cherry-stones.

Putred, obs. erron. form of Putrid.

† **Pu·trede.** *Obs. rare.* Also **-ride.** [ad. L. *putrēdo* : see below.] Rotting, putridity.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 86 If þat þe membre be drie.. & þei han greet putride [MS. B. putrede] & rotschipe.

† **Putre·dinal,** *a. Obs.* Also 7 **putri-.** [a. F. *putrédinal* (16th c. in Godef.), f. late L. *putrēdo, -inem*: see Putredo and -al.] Proceeding from or characterized by putrefaction.

1574 J. Jones *Nat. Beginning Grow. Things* 18 It is the naturall heate, become putredinall or rotten. 1666 G. Harvey *Morb. Angl.* xv. 178 Lice..engendred out of their clammy sweat, by a putredinal heat that attends them.

† **Putre·dinous,** *a. Obs.* [ad. F. *putrédineux* (Cotgr. 1611), f. as prec.: see -ous.] = prec.; also *fig.* filthy, abominable.

1641 Burges *Serm. bef. Ho. Com.* 5 Nov. 60 All putredinous vermine of bold Schismaticks and frantick Sectaries glory in her ashes. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 35. 3/2 From Putredinous Humours this ill doth proceed. 1721 G. Cary *Phys. Phylactick* 209 Most Putredinous Sectaries.

‖ **Putredo** (piutrī·do). *Obs.* [Late L. *putrēdo* rottenness, putridity, f. *putrēre* to rot: cf. *torpēdo* f. *torpēre.*] Putrefaction; *spec.* in *Path.,* hospital gangrene (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*).

1704 F. Fuller *Med. Gymn.* (1718) 161 Accounting for things by Occult Qualities, Putredo's and the like.

Putrefacient (piūtrĭfē·ʃĭənt), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. L. *putrefacient-em,* pres. pple. of *putrefacĕre* to make rotten: see next.] = Putrefactive.

1883 *American* VI. 173 One of which is..a putrefacient poison. 188. *Alienist & Neurol.* IX. 363 Putrefacient action on the blood and tissues after the lapse of some hours.

B. *sb.* A putrefactive agent or substance.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

† **Putrefa·ct,** *v. Obs.* Also 7 **putri-.** [f. L. *putrefact-,* ppl. stem of *putrefacĕre* to make rotten, f. *putrēre* to be rotten (f. *puter, putr-* rotten) + *facĕre* to make.] *trans.* To make rotten, to putrefy.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33 b/2 To prevente the same [bone] to be..putrefacted and corrupted.

Hence † **Putrefa·cted** *ppl. a.,* putrefied; † **Putrefa·ctible** *a.,* capable of putrefaction; putrescible.

1602 Marston *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv, Vermine bred of putrifacted slime. 1634 Peacham *Gentl. Exerc.* I. xviii. 60 Grosse and putrefacted vapours, that issue from the eyes. 1651 Biggs *New Disp.* § 287 As often as any putrefactible or cadaverizable thing is ingested in the stomack.

Putrefaction (piūtrĭfæ·kʃən). Forms: 5–9 (*erron.*) **putri-,** 6 **putry-,** 5– **putre-**; 5 **-faccio(u)n, -faccyon, -factioun,** 6– **-faction.** [a. OF. *putrefaction* (14th c. in Littré), or ad. L. *putrefactiōn-em,* n. of action f. *putrefacĕre*: see prec.]

1. The action or process of putrefying; the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances, with its attendant unwholesome loathsomeness of smell and appearance; rotting, corruption.

In quot. 1432–50, applied to a corrupting pestilence.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 339 A grete dragon, thro the pestilente putrefaccion of whom moche peple diede in the cite. 1533 Elyot *Cast. Helthe* III. xv. (1541) 72 b, It shal be necessary for them..to be circumspecte in eatyng meate yᵗ shortly will receiue putrifaction. 1661 J. Childrey *Brit. Baconica* 55 Heat and moisture are the greater disposers to putrifaction. 1789 W. Buchan *Dom. Med.*

(1790) 63 Animal substances have a constant tendency to putrefaction. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxx, The body is never allowed to remain many hours unburied in the tropical climates, where putrefaction is so rapid. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 26 All the forms of putrefaction which are undergone by animal and vegetable matters are fermentations set up by Bacteria of different kinds.

b. Decomposition of tissues or fluids in a living body, as in ulceration, suppuration, or gangrene.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 51 þe which quytture schulde corrupte þilke lyme [= limb] & brynge him to putrifaccioun [*v. r.* putrefactioun]. 1460–70 *Bk. Quintessence* 21 Alle philosophoris seyn þat þe feuere contynuele is gendrid of putrifaccioun of blood and of corrupcioun of humouris in it. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 403 Mirrhe preserueth from putrifaction, both the intrals and all outward sores, wounds, and vlcers. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 9 That putrefaction is more contagious before maturitie than after. 1756 GRAY *Let. to Wharton* 25 Mar., I maintain that one sick rich patient has more of pestilence and putrefaction about him than a whole ward of sick poor. 1806 *Med. Jrnl.* XV. 492 It is attended with great debility, and there is frequently a great tendency to putrefaction and mortification.

†2. In reference to inorganic matter, esp. in *Alchemy*: The disintegration or decomposition of a substance by chemical or other action; also, the oxidation or corrosion of metals, etc. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. iii. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 148 And Putrefaccyon may thus defyned be After Philosophers sayings it ys of Bodyes the fleyng, And in our compound a dyuysyon of thyngs thre. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. v, Name the vexations, and the martyrizations of Mettalls...Sir, Putrefaction, Solution, Ablution, Sublimation [etc.]. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 291 Metals give Orient and Fine colours in Dissolutions..likewise in their Putrefactions or Rusts. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* viii. 128 A certain metallick body..that is of an easie solution and putrefaction.

3. *concr.* Decomposed or putrid matter.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. vi. § 11 The mosse vppon the wall, which is but a rudiment betweene putrefaction, and an herbe. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 39 In the midst is a hole, discending to the bottome, which receiues that putrefaction and vncleannesse, issuing from the melting bodies, which are laid there naked..exposed to the sunnes fiery rage. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 134 They would readily [deposit their eggs] in all Putrefaction, even in a mucilage of bruised spiders.

4. *fig.* Moral corruption and decay.

a 1631 DONNE *Select.* (1840) 164 We bring elements of our own; earth of covetousness, water of unsteadfastness, air of putrefaction, and fire of licentiousness. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 47 ¶ 14 Sorrow..is the putrefaction of stagnant life, and is remedied by exercise and motion. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. ix. 148 Rome, and the other cities of the Empire, had fallen into moral putrefaction. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 22, It is thanks to heretics that orthodoxy has been kept from putrefaction.

Hence †**Putrefa·ctious** (putri-) *a. Obs.*, of the nature of, or full of putrefaction; putrefying, putrid.

1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* D iij, Your complexion..shall be of a saffron colour; your cheekes, thinne; your nosethrils putrifactious;..your breath, noysome. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2178 Drunkennesse, whose putrefactious slime Darkens the splendour of our common wealth.

Putrefactive (piūtrĭfæ·ktiv), *a.* (*sb.*) Also 6–7 putri-. [a. F. *putréfactif, -ive* (14th c. in Littré), f. L. *putrefact-*: see PUTREFACT and -IVE.]

1. Causing or inducing putrefaction; putrefying.

1545 ELYOT *Dict.* H h vj *b*/1, *Sépticus*, .. putrifactife, or corrosife. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXVIII. ix. II. 321 Their bloud is corrosiue by nature, and putrifactiue. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clvi. 460 The medicines are either corrosiue, putrifactiue, or caustick. 1744 BERKELEY *Sîris* § 69 Where the obstruction is attended with a putrefactive alkali. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 99 The existence of some putrefactive ferment. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 165 Putrid softening is due to the invasion of putrefactive bacteria.

2. Of, pertaining to, produced or characterized by putrefaction; indicative of putrefaction. *Putrefactive fermentation*, putrefaction scientifically viewed as a species of fermentation.

1646 SIR T. BROWN *Pseud. Ep.* II. vi. 95 Making putrifactive generations correspondent unto seminal productions ..when the Oxe corrupteth into Bees, or the Horses into hornets. 1676 WISEMAN *Chirurg Treat.* (J.), If the bone be corrupted, the putrefactive smell will discover it. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chem.* I. 111 The third generates an alkaline salt;..this last sort takes the name of the Putrid or Putrefactive Fermentation. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 87 The authors..had mistaken for lice some other species of insects, which are not unfrequently found in putrefactive sores. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* X. 237/2 Fermentation is of three kinds: the vinous, producing alcohol; the acetous, yielding vinegar; and the putrefactive, of which the products are very variable and usually fetid.

†3. Undergoing or subject to putrefaction; putrefying; corruptible. *Obs.*

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clxxiii. 487 It cleanseth al putrifactiue humors. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xvii. Wks. (1677) 194 If momentary and putrefactive man can undiscerned and unburthen'd bear so much about him.

†B. *sb.* A substance which causes putrefaction; a putrefactive agent. *Obs.*

1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. clvi. 461 The corrosiues are weaker then the putrifactiues, and the putrifactiues are weaker then the caustickes.

Hence **Putrefa·ctiveness**, the quality of being putrefactive. 1864 in WEBSTER.

†**Putrefa·ctory**, *a. Obs. rare.* Also putri-. [f. as prec. + -ORY 2.] = PUTREFACTIVE *a.*

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 251 Their way is, to cut a man in pieces, and then put him into a Putrifactory Vessel.

Putrefiable (piūtrĭfəi,ăb'l), *a.* [f. PUTREFY + -ABLE.] Capable of being putrefied; putrescible.

1883 W. T. BELFIELD *Relat. Micro-Org. to Disease* 60 For absorption of putrefiable materials. 1884 *19th Cent.* Feb. 325 Some epidemic agent..which converts putrefiable impurities into a specific poison.

Putrefied (piūtrĭfəid), *ppl. a.* [f. PUTREFY + -ED 1.] Rendered putrid; rotten.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 202 *b*, Many other beestes and wormes be gendred of the erth onely, or other putrefyed matter, *a* 1640 J. BALL *Answ. to Canne* II. (1642) 55 As rotten and putrified stuffe to be cast out. 1724 R. WELTON *Chr. Faith & Pract.* 359 Their hearts are filthy and corrupt like those putrefied carcasses. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 370 The dung..is still to be considered as vegetables in a putrefied state.

Putrefier (piūtrĭfəi,ə1). [f. PUTREFY + -ER 1.] A putrefying agent. Also *fig.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 118 Putrefyers of the bloud. 1883 *Workshop Receipts* Ser. II. 296/2 A series of experiments upon putrefiers and antiseptics. 1895 *Voice* (N. Y.) 9 May 5/4 Who are the putrefiers of society to-day?

Putrefy (piūtrĭfəi), *v.* Also 5–6 putry-, 6–9 putrify. [a. F. *putréfi-er*, ad. L. *putrefacĕre* (see PUTREFACT), with the ending *-fy*, as if from a L. **putrificāre* (whence the spelling *putrify*): see PUTRIFICATION and -FY.]

1. *trans.* To render putrid; to cause to rot or decay with a fetid smell. Now *rare.*

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 117 This Galerius..hade the partes interialle of his breste and exterialle putrefiede [*putrefacto pectore*] and corrupte so soore..that [etc.]. 1528 ROY *Rede me* Epist. (Arb.) 25 For one rotten apple lyteil and lytell putrifieth an whole heape. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 90 They would but stinke, and putrifie the ayre. 1659 PEARSON *Creed* iv. (1662) 242 The bodies were often left upon the Crosse till the sun and rain had putrified and consumed them. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 184 God .. bids a plague Kindle a fiery boil upon the skin, And putrefy the breath of blooming health. 1863 *Intell. Observ.* IV. 103 (tr. *Pasteur's Researches*) Let us putrefy lactate of lime sheltered from air.

†b. *Alchemy* and *Old Chem.* To decompose chemically; to subject to any decomposing or destructive process, e. g. to oxidize. *Obs.*

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* v. li. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 160, I have the tought How thou the Bodys must Putrefy. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 14 Things are sooner putrefied in cloudy weather then in faire. *Ibid.* v. 118 Putrefie them together in Balneo the space of three dayes.

†c. *fig.* To corrupt morally or socially; to destroy the purity or soundness of; to render corrupt. *Obs.*

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* 1927 We charge you no more thys lawe to putryfye. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 260 Out vpon ranke and lothsome ribaldry that putrifieth where it should purify. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N. T.* Matt. v. 13 The World is putrified with the corruption of all sin.

2. *intr.* To become putrid; to decay with an offensive smell; to decompose, rot, 'go bad'.

1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. xxviii, Aboue the grounde if the body lye That by all reason it must putryfye. 1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* 37 Suche is the nature of hony, that it suffreth not the bodies to putrifie. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 134 He suffer'd those things to putrefy in Hermetically sealed glasses. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 314 In the cold arctic regions, animal substances, during their winter, are never known to putrefy. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 1010 Albumen and fibrin putrefy very quickly.

b. Of the tissues or fluids in a living body: To become putrid or gangrenous; to fester, suppurate.

c 1500 [see PUTREFYING *vbl. sb.*]. 1540–54 CROKE *Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 11 Myne old sores do breake out agayn, And are corrupte and putrefie. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 170 No Physitian can rightly cure any disease or wound until the venemous matter which putrifies inwardly be drawn out. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. v. 176 The blood would putrefy and become fetid.

c. *fig.* To become corrupt or decay, morally, socially, or in any non-physical sense.

1526 TINDALE 1 *Pet.* i. 4 An inheritaunce immortall and vndefiled, and that putrifieth not. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. § 4 The name of vnrighteous persons shall putrifie. 1675 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* 29 Raising up some persons thereby to be like salt among corrupted men, least all should putrifie and perish. 1720 T. BOSTON *Hum. Nat. Fourfold St.* (1797) 114 We putrified in Adam as our root.

Putrefying (piūtrĭfəi,in), *vbl. sb.* [-ING 1.] The action of the verb PUTREFY; putrefaction.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* III. xvi. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 143 And hete of Askys and balnys for putrefying. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxiii. 157 The venym that was within the wounde caused grete putrefyeng & rotyng of his flesshe.

Putrefying, *ppl. a.* [-ING 2.] That putrefies. a. *intr.* Undergoing putrefaction; rotting. Also *fig.*

1611 BIBLE *Isa.* i. 6 Wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores. 1746–7 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 157 Alas! a mass of putrefying clay. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Beagle* xi. 231 The ground is concealed by a mass of slowly putrefying vegetable matter. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 789 These 'putrefactive' bacteria are..present..in putrefying liquids.

b. *trans.* = PUTREFACTIVE *a*, I. *rare.*

1758 J. S. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 298 From a continual Use of putrefying Medicines.

†**Pu·trer.** *Obs. rare.* [f. *putrie*, PUTERY + -ER 1.] A whoremonger; a fornicator.

c 1393 [see PUTOUR]. ?14.. in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 90 Ye shall enquyre yf there bee putrer comon hasurdur contrary mayntener of quarels..or other comon mysdoers be dwellyng wythin the warde.

Putrescence (piutre·sĕns). [f. L. *putrēscent-em* PUTRESCENT: see -ENCE. Cf. F. *putrescence* (18th c. in Littré).] The action or process of rotting or becoming putrid; incipient or advancing rottenness.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. x. 202 They prevent.. putrescence of humors. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 22 Sept., You would not have me for fear of pain perish in putrescence. 1800 *Phil. Trans.* XC. 165 As soon as a great degree of putrescence has taken place, the luminous property of the fishes is destroyed. 1802 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XX. 213 Having always a putrescence *per se*, or tendency to putrify. 1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 197 (*Preserved Meats*) How did this putrescence arise?

b. *concr.* Putrescent or rotting matter.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. x, Nameless masses of putrescence, useful only for turnip-manure. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Aug. 2/3 The sanitary inspector described one of the lots as 'perished, diseased, and rotten'...Is the only penalty..the carting away of the putrescence and the burying of it at the bottom of the sea?

c. *fig.*; esp. Moral rottenness or corruption.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes, Luther*, The European World was asking him: Am I to sink ever lower into falsehood, stagnant putrescence, loathsome accursed death? 1865 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 141 A putrescence through the constitution of the people is indicated by this galled place.

Putrescency (piutre·sĕnsi). [f. as prec. + -ENCY.] The state or condition of being putrescent.

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 151 This..corrects the putrescency, blunts the acidity. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 148 When these bodies are only at the commencement of putrescency. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 33 Putrescency is no blemish, in the opinion of many nations...The inhabitants of Terra del Fuego find the putrid flesh of the whale and seal quite agreeable.

Putrescent (piutre·sĕnt), *a.* [ad. L. *putrēscent-em*, pr. pple. of *putrēsc-ĕre* to grow rotten, inceptive of *putrēre* to be rotten. Cf. F. *putrescent* (16th c. in Godef.).]

1. Becoming putrid; in process of putrefaction.

1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* in *Aliments* 257 The State of a putrescent Alkali. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 240 Scorbutus. In cold countries occurring after living on putrescent, salted animal food. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 225 Putrescent manures..all animal and vegetable substances which can be reduced through decomposition, fermentation, and putrefaction, into such a state as will render them fit to assist the melioration of the land. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter Air* 67 Bacteria were numerous in the exposed tubes, and soon afterwards all three of them became thickly muddy and putrescent.

2. Of, pertaining to, or accompanying putrescence.

1775 SIR E. BARRY *Obs. Wines Ancients* 10 Stronger Wines are more apt to degenerate..into a vapid, ropy, and at length a putrescent state. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 862/1 We find game, in a putrescent state, esteemed as a luxury. *fig.* 1876 BLACKIE *Songs Relig. & Life* 40 He saw God's features, in the dim putrescent light Of his own sick imaginings.

Putrescible (piutre·sĭb'l), *a.* [f. L. *putrēsc-ĕre* to grow rotten + -IBLE. Cf. F. *putrescible* (14th c. in Godef.), and PUTRIBLE.] Liable to rot or become putrid; subject to putrefaction.

1797 PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 28 It does not appear to be putrescible, nor form a viscid solution with water. 1815 MILLARD *Time's Telesc.* (1825) 87 The white cabbage is the most putrescible. 1878 TYNDALL in *19th Century* Mar. 505 The substances after having been superheated remain putrescible, though they do not putrefy.

Hence **Putrescibi·lity** [cf. F. *putrescibilité* (Littré)], the quality of being putrescible.

1800 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 393, I..suspect, that strong..muscular fibre..is not of easy putrescibility. 1881 TYNDALL *Floating Matter Air* 101 The putrescibility of pheasant..was exceeded by that of snipe, partridge, and plover.

Putrescine (piutre·sain). *Physiol. Chem.* Also erron. -in. [f. as prec. + -INE 5.] One of the ptomaines or cadaveric alkaloids: see quots.

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 36 Putrescine $C^4H^{12}N^2$.—Like the preceding ptomaines is obtained from the flesh of the mammifera and herring brines. It is a limpid, slightly oily liquid, the odour of which resembles that of sperm. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 588 Brieger ..has isolated and named a number of these ptomaines, such as putrescine, cadaverine, neurine, &c. 1897 *Ibid.* II. 788 Some [alkaloids] such as cadaverine, putrescine, and choline are but slightly poisonous. 1899 CAGNEY *Yaksch's Clin. Diagn.* V. (ed. 4) 188 These observers..established the identity of Brieger's putrescin with tetramethylendiamine.

†**Pu·trible**, *a. Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *putribilis* corruptible, f. *putrēre* to rot: see -IBLE.] Liable to become putrid; = PUTRESCIBLE.

1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vi. 97 Olives..breed a putrible and vnwholsome nourishment. *Ibid.* vii. 122 They..fill the body with crude and putrible humours.

Putrid (piū·trid), *a.* (In 6–7 *erron.* putred.) [a. L. *putrid-us* rotten, f. *putrēre* to rot, f. *puter* rotten. Cf. F. *putride* (14th c. in Godef.).]

1. Of organic bodies or substances: In a state of decomposition; rotten.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. Proem. (1599) 171 Quake guzzell dogs, that liue on putred slime, Skud from the lashes of my yerking rime. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* iv. 133 [He] made innumerable trials with the putrid Flesh of all sorts of Beasts and Fowls. 1750 tr. *Leonardus' Mirr.*

Stones 83 Coral cleanses putrid sores. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 234 Stagnant sea-water, like fresh, soon grows putrid. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Matt. & Spir.* (1782) I. x. 130 Only vegetable and animal substances ever become properly putrid and offensive. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* 350 Glad to appease their hunger on putrid horse-flesh.

2. Pertaining to, causing, proceeding from, accompanying, or infected with putrefaction; foul.

1610 HEALEY *Vive's Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* x. xi. 377 Whole heauen (perforce) shall see thy putred hew. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xviii. 50 From her there yet proceeds unwholesome putrid air. *c* 1750 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xviii. 24 Avoid the putrid moisture of the mead. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 87 Their bones Bleaching unburied in the putrid blast. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 351 Symptoms which are called typhoid or putrid, and which are indicative of septic infection of the whole body.

b. *Putrid fever*, a name for typhus fever; pythogenic fever; *putrid sore throat*, gangrenous pharyngitis; sometimes applied to diphtheria.

[*a* 1412 LYDG. *Two Merch.* 295 And putrida is causyd gladly thus.] 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* iii. 64 Spirit of Salt is very good in Feavers putrid. 1771 *Gentl. Mag.* XLI. 471/2 Mr. Poole, his wife, daughter and mother, who all died a few days ago of a putrid sore throat. 1774 PENNANT *Tour Scot. in* 1772, 305 Putrid fever, the epidemic of the coasts, originating from unwholsome food. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 682 The diseases called the putrid fever, and putrid sore throat are but of late date.

3. *fig.* (*a*) Morally, socially, or politically corrupt; æsthetically abominable. (*b*) Corrupting, noxious, noisome.

[1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* I. iv, Yon putred ulcer of my roiall bloode.] 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. xii. Wks. (1677) 18 The sedulous Bee..working that to honey which the putri'd Spider would convert to poyson. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii, Teaching to his Son all those putrid and pernicious documents, both of State and Religion. 1766 C. O'CONOR *Dissert. Hist. Scot.* 64 Quoting and ridiculing also, Some putrid Lines which he ascribes to Irish Bards. 1893 *Scotsman* 28 June 6 In respect to electoral morality Pontefract is putrid.

†**4.** Of soil (rendering L. *putris* in Vergil): Loose, crumbling, friable, mellow. *Obs.*

1635–56 COWLEY *Davideis* IV. 708 Here with sharp neighs the warlike Horses sound; And with proud prancings beat the putrid ground [*putrem quatit ungula campum*]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 281 Fat crumbling Earth [*putris glæba*] is fitter for the Plough, Putrid and loose above, and black below. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* (Nat. Libr. ed.) 161 A mellow, putrid, friable loam.

Hence **Pu·tridly** *adv.*, in a putrid manner; **Pu·tridness**, putrid condition, rottenness.

1889 J. M. DUNCAN *Clin. Lect. Dis. Women* x. (ed. 4) 60 A putridly decomposing bit of decidua, or of placental tissue. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 371 To begin to undergo a putridness. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 68 An Infecundity in the Earth, and a Putridness in the Air. 1903 *Daily Record & Mail* 2 June 4 The excuse made..was that the stores had revealed a tendency to putridness.

Putridity (piŭtri·dĭti). Also 7–8 *erron.* **putredity.** [f. as prec. + -ITY; cf. med.L. *putriditās* (*c* 1150 in Thomas *Thesaur. Nov. Lat.*), F. *putridité* (1794 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. The quality or condition of being putrid or rotten; rottenness; loathsome decay.

a 1639 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. iii. II. iv. (1651) 202 The whole malady proceeds from that inflammation, putredity, black smoky vapours. 1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* I. 92 The degree of freshness or of putridity. 1801 *Med. Jrnl.* V. 145 A true typhus, with symptoms of putridity. 1866 BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 16 Oct. (1876) 380 General corruption and putridity are the destruction of most bodies which they affect. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 34 According to some bacteriologists putridity is mainly due to the influence of micro-organisms.

b. *fig.* Moral or metaphorical rottenness.

1823 SOUTHEY *Lett.* 31 Oct. (1856) III. 408 Not against the principle of the government..but against the stagnation and putridity. 1873 'OUIDA' *Pascarel* I. 8 We—whose whole year-long course is one Dance of Death over the putridity of our pleasures. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 183 The emblem of purity and preservation from putridity.

2. *concr.* Putrid matter.

1790 CATH. M. GRAHAM *Lett. Educ.* 356 As we find the Deity has made putridity agreeable and wholesome to several of the animals, he might have made it so to all. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 448 The smoke and putridities, which taint the air of large cities. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1860) 197 The naked skin on the head of a vulture is considered as a direct adaptation for wallowing in putridity.

Putrifaction, obs. form of PUTREFACTION.

†**Putri·ficat,** *pa. pple. Obs.* [ad. L. type **putrificāt-us*, pa. pple. of **putrificāre*: see next.] Putrefied, become putrid.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* VI. xxx. in Ashm. *Theat. Chem. Brit.* (1652) 168 The Bodys be Putryfycat.

†**Putrifica·tion.** *Obs.* [n. of action f. L. type **putrificāre*, f. **putrific-us*, f. L. *putri-s* rotten: substituted for the actual L. *putrefacēre* to make to rot: see PUTREFY.] = PUTREFACTION.

1548 R. CROWLEY *Confut. Shaxton* D vij b, Seynge..that the putrification muste nedes be in a bodye, and that the qualities be no bodyes. 1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 245 The manna..kept without any putrification vntill the sabbath. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 16 (1619) 321 Like the graues full of putrification and rottennes.

Pu·triform, *a. rare.* [f. L. *putri-s* rotten + -FORM.] Of putrid form or appearance.

1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1878) 72 It is also subject to other changes which render it liable to putrefy with rapidity. This is noticed in bilious, albuminous and putriform saliva.

Putrify: see PUTREFY.

Putrilage (piŭ·trilēdʒ). Also 7 *erron.* **putre-.** [ad. L. *putrilāgo, -lāginem* rottenness, f. *puter, putri-s* rotten: cf. *cartilage*. So in mod.F. (Littré).] Putrid matter.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 485 Roots and herbs cocted to putrelage. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 201 The other humours..are forthwith transmuted into a slimy putrilage. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* p. cclxxvii, These [insects] were for a long time considered as the mere productions of filth and putrilage. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 257 The septic fever produced artificially in dogs by the injection of putrilage into their veins.

Putrilaginous (piŭtrilæ·dʒinəs), *a.* (Also 7 *erron.* **putre-.**) [f. L. *putrilāgin-em* (see prec.) + -OUS: perh. through F. *putrilagineux* (16th c. in Littré).] Of the nature or character of putrilage.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 33/1 First, the corrupted bone waxeth fattye, then blacke or put[r]ilaginous, that is, corroded. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 129 They ..expectorate the putrilaginous matter. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 99 A putrelaginous corrupt matter. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVIII. 694 The oil began to run apace from the putrilaginous mass.

†**Pu·trilency.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *puter, putris* rotten + -ENCY, after a type **putrilentia*: cf. *pestilentia* pestilence, f. *pestis* plague.] = PUTRILAGE.

1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 200 Softened stalks cocted to a putrilency.

†**Pu·tritude.** *Obs.* Also 7 putre-. [ad. L. type **putritūdo*, f. *puter, putri-s* rotten: see -TUDE.] The quality or condition of being putrid; putridity.

1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 76 Coperas .. keepeth the flesh moist and from putritude. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 160 That they may be long conserved without putretude and marcour. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 446/1 Putrifaction is the resolution of a naturall Putritude to make it more excellent.

†**Pu·triture.** *Obs. rare.* [f. assumed ppl. stem *putrit-* of L. *putrēre* + -URE; cf. F. *pourriture*, OF. *purreture*, f. **pourrir*:—L. *putrīre* for *putrēre* to rot.] Rotting; rottenness; putrefaction.

1569 STOCKER tr. *Diod. Sic.* II. xliv. 100 It [asphalt] is very excellent..to preserue dead bodies from ..putriture. 1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Sylla* (1898) III. 313 The chaunging of his flesh into this putriture wanne it straight againe.

†**Putry, pury,** *a. Obs. rare*—1. [Form and etymology uncertain.

Putry, if correct, was app. ad. L. *puter, -tris, -tre*, rotten, decaying, putrid; *pury*, if correct, may have been ad. F. *pourri* rotten, decomposed.]

Rotten, decomposed, formed by decomposition.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. iii. (Wks. 1633) H j b, Howle not thou putry [ed. 1602 pury] mould, groane not yee graues!

Putrye: see PUTTERY *Obs.*

Putt[1] (pŭt). *local.* Also 6 putte, 9 put. [Variant of BUTT *sb.*[13]: cf. also POT *sb.*[1] 5.] A small cart used on a farm, esp. for manure: = BUTT *sb.*[13] Also *attrib.* Hence **Pu·ttful.**

1508 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 56 It. a putteful of erth..iij[d]. 1766 WILLY in *Compl. Farmer* s. v. *Turnep*, I pulled them [turnips] before Christmas, and had fifteen putt loads. 1850 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 739 A low single-horse cart like a large wheelbarrow, called a three-wheel put, is common in the [Somerset] hills. 1888 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Wds., Putt*,..a heavy, broad-wheeled tipping cart, for manure. This is the 'fine' form of what is known as a *butt* or *dung-butt*. I never heard a labourer say *putt*.

Putt[2] (pŭt). *local.* Also 7 putte. [Variant of BUTT *sb.*[12]: cf. also POT *sb.*[1] 5 b.] A basket-trap for catching fish: cf. PUTCHER.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* IV. xi. (1611) 219 The skill of fishing..sometimes with nets, and sometimes with Ginnes, with puttes, Wheels, &c. *a* 1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. vi. in Hargrave *Law Tracts* (1787) I. 35 They had..granted these fishing-places,..at their several manors, by the names of rocks, weares, staches, boraches, putts. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. xvi. (Roxb.) 79/2. 1873 [see PUTCHER]. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Putts..are used..for taking salmon, shrimps, and various kinds of fish.

†**Putt**[3], Sc. var. POOT *sb.*[1], POULT, young bird.

1600 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) 236 (Jam.) Be ressone of the great slauchter of thair puttis and youngeanes.

Putt, var. form of PUT *sb.*[2], 3, 4, *v.*[2]

Putt, obs. form, or variant, of PUT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]; obs. form of PIT *sb.*[1]

Puttargo, obs. variant of BOTARGO, a relish.

‖**Puttee** (pʊ·tĭ). Also **putti, puttie, putty.** [Hindī *paṭṭī* band, bandage; cf. Skr. *paṭṭa* strip of cloth, bandage.] A long strip of cloth wound spirally round the leg from the ankle to the knee, worn as a protection and support to the leg by sportsmen, soldiers, etc. Also *attrib.*

[1875 F. DREW *Jummoo & Kashmir Territ.* 175 Leggings of a peculiar sort, a bandage about six inches wide and four yards long...This, which is called 'patāwa', is a much-cherished article of dress, and without doubt is a very good thing for mountain work.] 1886 GUILLEMARD *Cruise Marchesa* II. 193 The perspiring sportsman can now .. recover his breath and shake the gravel out of his putties. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 2/3, I would infinitely prefer the 'puttie', or long, light serge or flannel bandage wrapped tightly round the leg. 1900 *Daily Mail* 3 Dec. 4/6 To protect the legs [of the dog] from the strong needles of the thick gorse, he was provided with puttees. 1900 *Times* 24 Dec. (Yule), The Puttee leggings are excellent for peace or war, on foot or on horseback.

Hence **Pu·tteed, puttied** *a.*, clothed in or wearing puttees.

1900 *Daily News* 10 Apr. 2/4 One [soldier] with his puttied legs kicking aimlessly over the side, was singing.

Putter (pu·təɹ), *sb.*[1] [f. PUT *v.*[1] + -ER[1].] A person or thing that puts, in various senses.

1. A beast that pushes or butts with the head or horns: cf. PUT *v.*[1] 1. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* (pʊ·təɹ).

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxi. 29 If an oxe be an hornputter fro 3isterday and the thridde day hens. 1388 *Ibid.* 36 The oxe was a puttere. 1825 JAMIESON, *Putter*...2. An animal that butts with the head or horns.

2. One who or that which puts (in current senses of the vb., *lit.* and *fig.*); one who or that which places or sets; one who propounds a question, etc. Also with extension, as *putter to death, to flight*, etc.: see also 8.

c 1425 *Cursor M.* 3744 (Trin.) Skilful is iacob his nome þat is to say in riȝt langage Putter out of heritage. *a* 1515 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxv. 29 Haill,..puttar to flicht Of fendis in battale! 1581 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* III. lxxiii. 160 Euery man was a commaunder, and no man a putter in execution. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxxii. 509 The putters of Iesus and of his disciples to death. *a* 1704 R. L'ESTRANGE (J.), The most wretched sort of people are dreamers upon events and putters of cases. 1821 LAMB *Elia, Mackery End*, The putter of the said question. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B., Lying* (1876) 133 O love of truth!..putter of security into the heart.

†**3.** 'Prob., the horn or erector of the *cheffroun* or head-dress' (*Jamieson's Dict.* 1880). *Obs.*

1516 *Inv. R. Wardr.* (1815) 27 Item, ane cheffroun with ane putter with settis of perle siclik send to the quene in Ingland.

†**4.** An instrument for crimping a ruff; also called *putting-stick* or *poting-stick* (see POTE *v.*).

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 36 This instrument [must] be heated in the fire, the better to stiffen the ruffe... And if you would know the name of this goodly toole, forsooth the deuill hath giuen it to name a putter, or else a putting sticke. [1602: see POOTER.]

†**5.** See quot. and cf. PUTTERLING. *Obs. rare.*

a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 297 He had about 800 men..and six puttaris or schort peices of ordinans.

6. *Coal-mining.* A man or boy employed in 'putting' or propelling the trams or barrows of coal from the workings; a haulier; orig. one who pushed the tram or barrow from behind: see PUT *v.*[1] 4. Also *attrib.*, as *putter-boy, lad.*

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1848) 36 Barrow-Men, or Coal-Putters..put or pull away the full Corves of Coals. 1812 J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1857) I. 97 This work was done by putters and barrow-men, the latter pulling before, and the former putting or thrusting behind. 1880 *Daily News* 17 Sept. 6/3 Two putter lads were found jammed against some broken tubs. 1893 *Labour Commission* Gloss. s. v., The tram containing the coal is sometimes pushed by the boy, and sometimes pulled by a pony, hence the terms *hand-putters* and *pony-putters*.

†**7.** See quot. *Obs.* [Perh. a different word.]

1807 SIR R. WILSON in *Life* (1862) II. viii. 374 The road.. being made of putters or young trees.

8. With adverbs, forming compound agent-nouns corresponding to adverbial combinations of PUT *v.*[1] (branch V.): as *putter away, back, down, forth, forward, in, together*; **putter off,** † (*a*) one who shoots off or discharges a missile (*obs.*); (*b*) one who passes off something fraudulently (? *obs.*); (*c*) one who defers or postpones; **putter on,** † (*a*) one who urges on, an instigator, inciter; (*b*) one who puts something on, or affixes it to, something else, *esp.* a workman employed in doing this in various manufactures, etc.; **putter out,** (*a*) one who extinguishes; (*b*) one who deposits or lends money at interest; (*c*) one who puts an animal out to graze or feed; (*d*) see quot. 1865; **putter up,** (*a*) one who puts something up, in various senses (see PUT *v.*[1] 53); (*b*) *spec.* one who prearranges a robbery or other criminal proceeding (*slang*).

1552 HULOET, *Putter awaye, expulsor.* *Putter backe, *repulsor.* 1701 STANHOPE *St. Aug. Medit.* (1720) ix. 22 Come, thou *putter down of the proud and teacher of the Meek. 1869 TROLLOPE *He was right* XXXV, A republican, a putter-down of the Church, a hater of the Throne. 1824 *Examiner* 724/2 The fabricators and *putters-forth of such 'Narratives'. 1886 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* I. 746 William Squire, the putter-forth of the 'Squire Papers', was before their issue concerned in two hoaxes. 1632 BROME *Novella* v. i, The Chambermayde, a kind of *putter-forwards, Sir, to the businesse. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 97 Bolt Making:..*Putter-in. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XVIII. 379 Troy traines vp approued sonnes In deeds of armes: braue *putters off of shaftes. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Queere-cole-fencer*, a Receiver and putter off [of] false Money. 1803 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VII. 227 *note*, Fabius is the patron saint of delayers and putters-off. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 141 You are abus'd, and by some *putter on, That will be damn'd for't. 1613 — *Hen. VIII*, I. ii. 24 My good Lord Cardinall, they vent reproches Most bitterly on you, as putter on Of these exactions. 1864 A. MCKAY *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 254 He was a putter-on in a printwork. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 470 O know him, and become not the *putters out of the worlds light. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 48 Men Whose heads stood in their brests? which now we finde Each putter out of five for one, will bring vs Good warrant of. [Cf. quot. s. v. PUT *v.*[1] 42 j.] 1639 *Rec. Dedham, Mass.* (1892) III. 65 After the sayd owner or putter out of ye same Swyne shall haue knoweledge therof. 1795 J. AIKIN *Manchester* 239 A number of hands are also employed by the putters-out on account of the merchants in Manchester. 1865 BRIERLEY

Irkdale I. 125, I succeeded in obtaining a situation as putterout to a firm in Manchester. *Ibid. note*, Putterout is a term applied to the person who gives out the work to handloom weavers. 1767 *Misc.* in *Ann. Reg.* 220/1 Many a *putter together of long and short verse in Latin. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 45 Scissors Putter Together. 1812 J. H. Vaux *Flash Dict.*, **Putter up*, the projector or planner of a put-up affair, as a servant in a gentleman's family, who proposes to a gang of housebreakers the robbery of his master's house. 1859 Sala *Tw. round Clock* (1861) 137 The chief swineherd and I were friends. He was my 'putter-up' at skittles. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 75 Hosiery Manufacture:.. Putter-up. *Ibid.* 76 Boot and Shoe Making:..Putter-up. *Ibid.* 88 China, Porcelain, Manufacture:..Putter-up. 1891 *Pall Mall G.* 15 Sept. 2/3 [The bull] is..a beast of burden, or a putter-up of flesh for the benefit of the Madrid butchers.

Putter (pʊ·tər; in sense 1 also pu·tər), *sb.*[2] [f. Put, Putt *v.*[2] + -er [1].]

1. One who 'puts' or throws a heavy stone or other weight: see Put *v.*[1] 2, *v.*[2] 2. Chiefly *Sc.*

1820 Hogg *Wint. Even. T.* I. 265 'Thou's naething of a putter', said Meg,..; 'an thou saw my billy Rwob put, he wad send it *till* here'. 1884 H. C. Bunner in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 303/1 The champion..putter of the ponderous weight. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 915 Sprint-runners, putters of weights, wrestlers and the like.

2. *Golf.* a. A club used in 'putting': cf. Put *v.*[2] 3. *Driving putter*: see quot. 1881 and Driving *vbl. sb.* 3 b.

1743 Mathieson *Goff* in *Poems on Golf* (1867) 59 Let each social soul Drink to the putter, the balls, and the hole. 1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* I. 84 The putter is used where a short stroke is intended. 1833 G. F. Carnegie *Golfiana* in R. Clark *Golf* (1875) 151, I see Mount-Melville stand Erect, his driving putter in his hand. 1857 *Chambers's Inform. People* 693/2 The putter..is a short-shafted, stiff club, with a large, flattish head, and square face; it is used when the ball arrives within close proximity to the hole. 1877 Mar. M. Grant *Sun-Maid* ix, The 'putter' has expelled the mallet. 1881 Forgan *Golfer's Handbk.* 12 The two varieties of Putters are used for very different purposes. They are the most 'upright' fellows in the set...The 'Green Putter'..is employed on the putting-green...One function of the Driving-Putter..is to force a ball out of long grass... The Driving-Putter is fast falling into disuse.

b. A player who 'puts' (well or ill).

1857 *Chambers's Inform. People* 694/1 To be a good putter, is what all golfers aim at, and comparatively few ever attain. 1895 W. T. Linskill *Golf* (ed. 3) 21 A player who is a really good putter is often more than a match for the longest driver.

Putter (pʊ·tər), *v.*[1] *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [An onomatopœic word, akin to *patter* and *mutter*. Cf. the parallel Sw. *puttra* to mutter.] *intr.* To mutter; to grumble.

1611 Cotgr., *Brimboter*, to mumble, putter, mutter, grumble, or babble vnto himselfe. *c* 1903 J. H. in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (Norf.) s. v. *Puter*, She putters all day long.

Pu·tter, *v.*[2] *dial.* and *U.S.* var. of Potter *v.*: cf. Pudder. Hence **Pu·tterer, Pu·ttering** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*, **Pu·tteringly** *adv.* (all *U. S.*).

1882 *Century* XXV. 202 The aged grandfather of this group was usually absent after wood, or else puttering near the fire-place. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 479 So wanderingly, putteringly benevolent are some of his letters. 1894 Mrs. Alden in *Chicago Advance* 27 Dec. 448/3 If you two girls would stop your everlasting puttering over paint and embroidery, and do something. 1895 Sarah M. H. Gardner *Quaker Idyls* v. 85 He was a hard-workin' kind of a putterer. 1897 Kipling *Captains Courageous* iii. 82 But it's a putterin' job all the same.

†**Pu·tterling.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [f. Putter *sb.*[1] + -ling [1].] See quot.; ? = Putter *sb.*[1] 5, or a smaller form of it.

a 1670 Spalding *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) II. 353 They war weill furneschit..With pistollis, puterlinges, and vther armes.

‖ **Putti,** pl. of Putto. **Puttie, Puttied:** see Puttee, Putty *sb.* and *v.* **Puttier:** see Putty *v.*

†**Puttine.** *Obs. rare*—[1]. [ad. It. *puttin-o* little boy, dim. of *putto* boy.] = Putto.

1612 Peacham *Graphice* 117 Captive Fame is drawn as a Lady in a long black Robe painted with *Puttines*, or little Images with black wings, a Trumpet in her hand.

Putting (pu·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[1] Also 1 **putung,** 4 **pottyng.** [f. OE. **putian*, Put *v.*[1] + -ing [1].] The action of the verb Put, in various senses.

1. Pushing, shoving, thrusting. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c 1330 R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8891 And left þer pottyng many on, 3it stirede þey nought þe leste ston. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xii. 5, I sett noght by þaire stirynge na mare þan a geaunte dos at þe puttynge of a waik man. 14.. *R. Glouc.'s Chron.* (Rolls) 4313 þer was pultinge & ssouinge [*MS.* β. puttynge & schowynge] & stroc mony on. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 418/1 Puttynge, or schowynge, *pulsus*.

†**b.** *fig.* Instigation, incitement; urging, driving. *c* 1050 *Rule of Chrodegang* (E. E. T. S.) 99 Hation þæt þurh deofles putunge wæs an belæd, & lufian þæt þurh Godes godnysse gesceapon wæs. *a* 1340 Hampole *Psalter* xxxv. 12 þe hand of þe synful, þat is, þe puttynge of þe fende, stire me not till syn. 1599 H. Holland *Wks. R. Greenham* 2 He thought all afflictions to be puttings of him to God from slothfulnes.

†**c.** Driving out, expulsion, emission. *Obs.*

1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* vii. xxix. (Bodl. MS.), þe pacient trauaileþ..muche in drawing and putting of breeþ.

2. Sprouting, germination.

1615 W. Lawson *Country Housew. Gard.* (1626) 20 The growth of the Tree, couering of wounds, putting of buds. *Ibid.* 29 The first shew of putting is no sure signe of growth.

3. *Coal-mining.* The pushing or propelling of the trams or barrows of coal: see Put *v.*[1] 4.

1867 W. W. Smyth *Coal & Coal-mining* 150 The more the actual present workings are hampered by lowness and want of room, the higher will be the expenses of putting, &c. 1894 *Times* 11 Oct. 4/6 From putting, the lad, now recognized as a full-grown and properly-trained miner, passes to hewing.

4. *Naut.* The action of setting out or taking one's course (to sea, into harbour, etc.).

1590 Nashe *Pasquil's Apol.* 1. Wks. (Grosart) I. 247 This is euen at the first putting into harbour, to cast away the Shyp. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 328 The day of their putting to sea.

5. Placing, laying, setting, etc.: see Put *v.*[1] 10, 13.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 418/1 Puttynge, or leyynge, *posicio, collocacio*. 1665 Sir T. Herbert *Trav.* (1677) 39 At his [a corpse's] putting into the Sea the Captain of our Ship honoured his Funeral with the rending clamour of four Culverins. 1707 Mortimer *Husb.* (1721) II. 338 The time of putting of your Spirits into your Cyder. 1847 L. Hunt *Men, Women, & B.* I. vi. 109 We..were earnest only in the putting of cakes.

6. In various general and figurative senses: see Put *v.*[1] 10 i, 11, 12, 15–28.

148. Wriothesley *Chron.* (Camden) I. 87 With the image of his puttinge to death. 1613 Sir T. Lake in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 149 At their first putting into the world. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 32 It is by this act of putting that there is constituted the very intelligible though not further analysable idea of an objectivity which can be ascribed only to that which is, not to nothing.

†**7.** *Cards.* In the game of 'put' or 'putt': see Put *v.*[1] 22 e. *Obs.*

1680 Cotton *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) xv. 93 Sometimes they play without putting, and then the winner is he that wins most tricks. *Ibid.*, He that once hath the confidence to putt on bad Cards cannot recall his putting.

8. The exercise of throwing a heavy stone or weight from the shoulder: see Put *v.*[1] 2. In *Sc.* (pʊ·tiŋ).

c 1300 *Haveloh* 1042 Haulok stod, and lokede þer-til; And of puttingge he was ful wil. *Ibid.* 2324 Wrastling with laddes, putting of ston. *c* 1440 [see Put *v.*[1] 2 b]. 1871 L. Stephen *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) ii. 47 There is wrestling and putting of weights and dancing on holidays.

9. With adverbs, expressing the action of the adverbial combinations s.v. Put *v.*[1] V.: as *putting away, back, by, down, forth, in, off, on, out, to, together, up* (in various senses general and technical: see under the verb).

1382 Wyclif 1 *Pet.* iii. 21 The *puttinge awey of flesch of filthis. 1659 Ld. Lambert in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 473 It is not a putting it away but taking it in. 1892 *Temple Bar Mag.* Dec. 580 Tired and heated with final packings and puttings away. 1530 Palsgr. 259/2 *Puttyng backe, *repulce*. 1398 Trevisa *Barth. De P. R.* II. ii. (1495) 28 A myrrour of euerlastyng durynge without ony *puttyng betwene. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong., Interposement*, a putting or setting betwene. 1601 Shaks. *Jul. C.* I. ii. 231 At euery *putting by, mine honest Neighbors showted. 1530 Tindale *Pract. Prel. Expos. & Notes* (Parker Soc.) II. 334 Concerning the Cardinal's *putting down, I consider many things. 1598 Shaks. *Merry W.* II. i. 30 I'le Exhibit a Bill in the Parliament for the putting downe of men. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. xcv. 841 The serpent crepyth wyth preuy *puttynges forthe of scales. 1589 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1898) XVII. 353 His putting-furth of their Society without anie just cause should be noe prejudice unto him. 1847 Bushnell *Chr. Nurt.* II. ii. (1861) 261 Their every putting forth has a lying character. 1599 Minshɛu *Span. Gram.* 78 With a certaine disdaine and *putting-from with the hand. 1483 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 249/1 After the retourne or *puttyng in of any suche Offices. 1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apocalips* 18 This putting in of the Sunday in sted of the Sabbat day. 1668–9 Pepys *Diary* 19 Feb., I did propose to him my putting in to serve in Parliament. 1867 Ruskin *Time & Tide* ix. § 44 (1904) 53, I write you my letter straightforward, and let you see all my scratchings out and puttings in. 1580 Hollyband *Treas. Fr. Tong, Delay*, a delay, a *putting off. *c* 1680 W. Mountagu in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 332 The putting off of the motion. 1803 in *Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* VII. 229 Wilt thou never yet have done With puttings-off eternal? 1842 Manning *Serm., Obedience* (1848) I. 136 What a putting off of this lower life shall there be at that day! 1603 Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 120 Lord Angelo..awakens mee With this vnwonted *putting on. 1663 Butler *Hud.* I. i. 914 Honour is, like a Widow, won With brisk Attempt and putting on. 1860 Trench *Serm. Westm. Abb.* i. 7 A putting on of the armour of light. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 288 A [= on] payn of *puttyng oute of bothe his een. 1613–39 I. Jones in Leoni *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 72 The putting out of the Landing-place of the Stairs farther than the Range of the Rooms. 1630 Earl Manch. in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 271 The putting out of apprentices. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 197 He strengthed hyt with þe *puttynge to of hys seele. 1579 J. Loud in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. ii. 388 At the first putting to of the fire. 1856 'Stonehenge' *Brit. Rural Sports* 545/2 Putting-to is managed very differently, according to whether the horse is going in shafts or with a pole. 1890 'R. Boldrewood' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 187 The volunteers who had assisted at the ticklish business of putting to. 1626 Bacon *Sylva* § 821 In the first *putting up it cooleth in little portions. 1641 Milton *Animadvers.* ii. 18 The putting up of our Praiers. 1834 M'Culloch *Dict. Comm.* 1082 Employed..in embroidering, mending, bleaching, dyeing,..putting-up, &c.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: **putting-road,** a road along which coal is 'put' (see sense 3) in a mine; also **putting-stick,** = Putter *sb.*[1] 4, *poting-stick* (see Pote *v.*).

1887 P. M'Neill *Blawearie* 21 [The pit] has been stopped for some years, not because the '*putting roads' had become too far, or too heavy for the putters;..but because the seam had become utterly flooded with water. 1583 *Putting sticke [see Putter *sb.*[1] 4].

Putting (pʊ·tiŋ), *vbl. sb.*[2] [f. Put, Putt *v.*[2]] **1.** *Golf.* The action of striking the ball with the putter in order to get it into the hole.

1805 Forsyth *Beauties Scotl.* I. 84 The art..of so proportioning the force and direction of the stroke, or putting as it is called, that the ball may with few strokes be driven into the hole. 1857 *Chambers's Inform. People* 695/1 It is only by careful judgment that nicety in putting is arrived at. 1892 *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* X. 58 All golf..is divided into three parts—driving, iron play, and putting.

b. *Comb.* **Putting cleek,** a cleek used in putting; **pu·tting-green,** the part of the ground, usually kept smooth and clear of obstacles, around each **putting-hole,** where the ball is 'putted'; **putting-iron,** an iron putter (Putter *sb.*[2] 2 a).

1881 Forgan *Golfer's Handbk.* 13 The '*Putting Cleek'..is employed on the putting-green, but is a very treacherous weapon. 1905 Vardon *Compl. Golfer* 146 Whether it is a plain gun-metal instrument, a crooked-necked affair, a putting cleek, an ordinary aluminium, [or] a wooden putter. 1841 *Links o' Innerleven* iii. in *Poems on Golf* (1867) 61 Yet oft upon the *putting-green He'll rest to gaze upon the scene That lies round Innerleven. 1857 *Chambers's Inform. People* 695/1 Your ball..lies on the sward, or 'putting-green', within a dozen yards from the hole. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Nov. 3/1 Finding nothing to reward them in that, they [jackdaws] left it, to visit the *putting-hole of the clock-golf. 1857 *Chambers's Inform. People* 695/1 Should you be advised to substitute a *putting-iron for the *bonâ-fide* tool, shun the advice, and stick to the putter.

2. = prec. 8, which in Sc. is (pʊ·tiŋ).

Putting (pu·tiŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. Put *v.*[1] + -ing [2].] That puts: see the verb. Usually with adverbs, as †**putting-forth,** putting oneself forward, self-assertive, presumptuous (*obs.*); **putting-on,** employed in placing something on something else (in manufactures, etc.).

1621 Bp. Mountagu *Diatribæ* 28 Whatsoever we are we doe not vaunt: nor φανητιὰν [*misspr.* φανεταν], as many putting-forth fellowes use to doe. 1642 Rogers *Naaman* 128 What is so selfe putting forth, as an handmaid affecting the place of her mistresse? 1839 *Guide to Trade, Printer* 40 Putting-on Boys.

Putting-stone (pu·tiŋ-, *Sc.* pʊ·tiŋˌstōun). [f. Putting *vbl. sb.*[1] 8.] A heavy stone used in the athletic exercise of putting.

17.. Pope (J.), In some parts of Scotland, stones..are laid at the gates of great houses, which they call putting stones, for trials of strength. 1771 Pennant *Tour Scot. in* 1769, 214 Antient sports of the Highlanders..retained are, throwing the putting-stone, or stone of strength (*Cloch neart*), as they call it, which occasions an emulation who can throw a weighty one the farthest. 1863 W. C. Baldwin *Afr. Hunting* 221 Played quoits..and got through the time with the putting-stone.

†**Puttish** (pʊ·tiʃ), *a. Obs.* [f. Put *sb.*[4] + -ish [1].] Of the character of a 'put': see Put *sb.*[4]

1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 157/2 The rural squire, that puttish spark, Shines signal by the barber's mark.

‖ **Putto** (pu·tto). Usually in pl. **putti** (pu·tti), also 7 **puti.** [It. *putto*, pl. *putti*, boy, lad, stripling, ad. L. *putus* boy, child.] In *pl.*, Representations of children, nude or in swaddling bands, used in art, esp. in Italy in the 15th–17th c.

1644 Evelyn *Diary* 17 Nov., That stupendous canopy of Corinthian brasse [in St. Peter's]; it consists of 4 wreath'd columns..incircl'd with vines, on which hang little puti, birds and bees. 1649 — *Ibid.* 7 Sept., The staire-case and the ornaments of Putti about it. 1894 B. Berenson in *Nation* (N. Y.) 30 Aug. 157/2 It was his passion..for the expression of the joyful feeling that led Correggio to seize every chance to paint putti.

Puttock[1] (pʊ·tək). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 5 **puttok(e, potok,** 5–7 **puttocke,** 9 *dial.* **puttick, puddock.** [Found early in the 15th c. Origin uncertain; the ending seems to be the dim. -ock, OE. *-oc, -uc*, as in *bullock, hillock*.

The stem has been conjectured to be the **putt-* of OE. *pyttel*, Pittel, a name applied to the same birds, of which the ulterior etymology is obscure. Some have suggested derivation from L. *būteo* buzzard, or a kind of hawk, which might have given an OE. **bȳta*, and perh. a dim. **byttoc*.]

A bird of prey; usually applied to the Kite or Glede (*Milvus ictinus* or *regalis*); sometimes to the Common Buzzard (*Buteo vulgaris*).

Also, according to Swainson (*Prov. Names Brit. Birds*), sometimes incorrectly applied to the Marsh Harrier or Moor Buzzard, *Circus æruginosus*.

?c 1400 Lydg. *Æsop's Fab.* iii. 81 The hound..Witnesse tweyne brought in jugement, The wolf and the puttok. *c* 1400 *Plowman's Tale* 1338 Gledes and bosardes weren hem by; Whyt molles and puttockes token hir place. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* li. 370 (Add. MS.) The puttok come flyeng, and houyd ouer the henne and hire briddes. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 762/5 *Hic milvus*, a potok. 1496 *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xlvi. 87/2 Yf the kyte or the puttoke flee ouer the waye afore them. 1575 Gascoigne *To D. Dine*, A puttocke set on pearch Fast by a falcons side Will quickly shew it selfe a kight. 1668 Charleton *Onomast.* 65 *Accipiter Milvus regalis*.. the long-winged Kite, or Puttock. 1678 Ray *Willughby's Ornith.* II. viii, § 2 Of the common Buzzard or Puttock, called in Latine *Buteo*. 1817 J. Mayer *Sportsman's Direct.* (ed. 2) 184 The Grey Bob-tailed Buzzard or Puttock. 1827 Clare *Sheph. Cal.* 87 A shrilly noise of puddocks' feeble wail. 1881 *Standard* 2 Mar. 5 The kite, or glead, or puttock, is almost extinct.

†**b.** *fig.* Applied opprobriously to a person, as having some attribute of the kite (e. g. ignobleness, greed): cf. Hawk *sb.*[1] 3; *esp.* (from the kite's preying on chickens) a catchpole. *Obs.*

1605 *Tryall Chev.* II. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* (1884) III. 290 Peter, dost see this sword?..Whorson puttock, no garbage serve you but this? have at you. 1611 DEKKER *Roar. Girle* II. iii, *Adam.* Who comes yonder? *S. Dauy.* They looke like puttocks, these should be they. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* I. i. Plays 1873 III. 128 And such a flocke of Puttocks follow Cæsar. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Puttock*, a cormorant, a greedy fellow.

c. *Comb.*, as *puttock-grey, -hued, -like* adjs.

1447 *Crt.-Roll Gt. Waltham Manor, Essex* 26 July, Unus equus *puttokhewed* provenit de extranea infra istud dominium. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 14 The clawes of the Puttock-like Catch-poles. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2092/4 Stolen.., a large strong grey Gelding,..a kind of Puttock grey, low in flesh. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5854/3 Stolen,..a Puttock coloured Horse.

† Puttock[2]. *Naut. Obs.* [Origin obscure: see below.] The original name of the small or short shrouds connecting the lower shrouds with the top; also, where there is a top-gallant mast, the similar set connecting the topmast shrouds with the top-gallant top. After 1700 usually called **puttock shrouds**, and now *futtock-shrouds*, from an erroneous confusion of the word with FUTTOCK in the latter half of the 18th c.

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301) 100 *Puttocks*, are the small Shrowdes which goo from the Shrowdes of the Main, Fore and Missen masts and also to the Topmast shrowdes, if the Topmast have a topp gallant topp, the use whereof is to goo of the shrowdes into the Topp, for when the shrowdes come neare upp to the mast they fall in so much that otherwise they could not gett into the Topp from them. The Puttocks goo..above to a plate of Iron or to a Deadman-eie to which the Lanniers of the Topmast [MS. Foremast] Shrowdes doe come. 1627 CAPT. SMITH *Seaman's Gram.* v. 19 The top-Masts shrouds..are fastened with Lanniers and dead mens eyes to the Puttocks or plats of iron belonging to them, aloft ouer the head of the Mast. *Ibid.* 20 [as in *Nomencl. Navl.*]. *c* 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* [as in *Nomencl. Navl.*]. 1658 in PHILLIPS. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Puttocks* or *Puttock Shrowds* [as in *Nomencl. Navl.*]. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 113 The Puttock Shrowds binding the main Shrowds and Top-mast Shrowds together. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. viii. 81 One of the..dead-eyes was broke, as was also a main-shroud and puttock-shroud. [1769 FALCONER *Mar. Dict.* s. v. *Shrouds*, The topmast-shrouds are extended from the topmast-heads to the edges of the tops... The lower deadeye..is fitted with an iron band, called the foothook-plate, which passes through a hole in the edge of the top and communicates with a rope called the foothook-shroud, whose lower end is attached to the shrouds of the lower mast.] 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. M., Puttock* or *Foot-hook Plates*..are narrow plates of iron attached to the dead-eyes of the topmast shrouds. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk., Puttock-shrouds*, synonymous with *futtock*; a word in use, but not warranted.

fig. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* lxxiii, Expressing his hope that..he should be able to surmount the puttock-shrouds of despair, and get aloft to the cross-trees of God's good favour.

[*Note.* The form *puttock* was regularly used down to 1750 at least; but after that date it appears to have been, from similarity of sound, confused with FUTTOCK, the name of the middle timbers of the ship's frame, with which the *puttocks* had no manner of connexion. Hence in Falconer's *Marine Dict.* 1769, and app. in all later works, *puttock* is replaced by *futtock*; in the combinations given in FUTTOCK 2, *futtock hole, hoop, plate, rigging, shroud, staff, stave* belong to this erroneous substitution of *futtock* for *puttock*. As *futtock* was perh. orig. *foot-hook*, it has been suggested that *puttock* was = *pothook* (of which a form *pottock* occurs in 1707): but nothing in the sense appears to confirm this suggestion. Some allusive use of PUTTOCK[1] has also been conjectured. More probable is a connexion with Du. *putting*, applied in 1673 to the chains of the main shrouds, while *mars-putting* in 1702 renders F. *gambes de hune*, the puttock-shrouds. Cf. EFris. *pütting* (pl. *-s, -en*), Ger. *putting* or *pütting* (*-s, -en*), Da. *pytting* (*-er*), Sw. *pütting*, the iron links or chains by which the shrouds of the masts are secured to the ship's sides, the chains of the dead-eye; Ger. *puttingtaue*, Da. *pytting vanter*, Sw. *püttingsvant* = 'puttock-shrouds'. But the source of *putting* or *pütting* is unknown.]

Puttock[3] (pʊ·tək). Chiefly *north. dial.* Now *Obs.* or *rare*. [Derivation unascertained.] A make-weight; chiefly in comb. *puttock-candle.*

1674 RAY *N. C. Words* (1691) 56 A Puttock-Candle: the least in the Pound, put in to make weight. 1787 GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.*, Puttock-candle. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss., Puttocks, Inses*, or *Mak-weights*, small portions.. put into the scale to make up the required weight. 1887 PARISH & SHAW *Kentish Gloss., Puttock-candle*, the smallest candle in a pound, put in to make the weight.

‖ **Puttoo** (pʊ·tu). *East Indies.* [a. Hindī (Panjābī and allied langs.) *paṭṭū*, a. Old Kashmīrī *paṭu*, allied to Skr. *paṭa* woven stuff, cloth.] A fabric made of the coarse refuse hair of the Cashmere goat. Also *attrib.*

1857 Col. KEITH YOUNG *Diary, Siege of Delhi* (1902) 110 A puttoo coat and equally warm continuations, as Seymour calls them. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Puttoo*, a coarse thick fabric made of the refuse wool and long hair from the shawl goat, *Capra changra*. 1893 *Baily's Mag.* Oct. 263/2 A coat (Norfolk jacket style) and loose knickerbockers of puttoo.

Putty (pʊ·ti), *sb.* Also 7 **puttey, -ie, -ee**, 8–9 *Sc.* **potty.** [a. F. *potée* (12th c. in Hatz.-Darm.), used in senses 1, 5 a, b, below; orig. a potful, or the contents of a pot, f. *pot* POT *sb.*[1]]

1. A powder of calcined tin (amorphous stannic oxide), or of calcined tin and lead, used for polishing glass or metals; distinctively called *jewellers' putty*, also *putty of tin, putty powder.* (So F. *potée.*)

1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* II. xiii, The common putty, that is sold and used so much in shops, instead of being, as it is pretended and ought to be, only the calx of tin, is by the artificers that make it, to save the charge of tin, made.. but of half tin and half lead, if not far more lead than tin. 1670 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 93, I intend to grind with ordinary sand fine dressed, and polish first with chalk, after with putty. 1763 W. LEWIS *Comm. Phil. Techn.* 58 Fine powder, called putty prepared by calcining a mixture of lead and tin. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1241 When [tin is] heated to redness, with free access of air, it absorbs oxygen with rapidity, and changes first into a pulverulent gray protoxide, and by longer ignition, into a yellow-white powder, called putty of tin.

2. A fine mortar or cement made of lime and water without sand; distinctively called *plasterers' putty* or 'fine stuff'.

1633 GERARD *Somerset* (1900) 131 With them putte was soft dyett, which name wee still conserve in a wett and liquid morter for cementing stones together by Masons called Puttey. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 138 To mingle water and lime, and not to temper it too thicke, but to make it thinne like unto puttie. 1759 COLEBROOKE in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 47 What the bricklayers call fine stuff, or putty. *Note*, Putty is lime slacked, and, while warm, dissolved in water, and strained through a sieve. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 612 A thin and smooth coat spread over it, consisting of lime only, or, as the workmen call it, *putty*, or set. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man His Own Mechanic* § 1201 The mortar used for the white lines [in pointing] is what is technically called 'putty', that is to say, plasterer's putty, and not glazier's putty.

3. A cement composed of powdered whiting made into a stiff paste with raw linseed oil or occasionally other ingredients, used in fixing panes of glass, and for making up inequalities in woodwork, etc. before painting; distinctively, *glaziers' putty.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Putty*,..also a kind of Composition that Painters make use of to stop up Holes in Wood, &c. 1727–41 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Putty*, in its popular sense, denotes a cinericious kind of paste, compounded of whiting and linseed-oil beaten together to the consistence of a tough dough. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sc. & Art* I. 258 The nails are driven in a little below the surface of these boards, and the cavity is filled with glazier's putty. *Ibid.* 221 A mixture of oil-putty. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s. v., Some trades employ glue-putty, in which hot melted glue is substituted for the oil.

† 4. *Med.* Lead-plaster, diachylon. *Obs. rare*—[1].

1828 *Lancet* 28 June 388/1 *Plaster*, or *putty*, is a composition of oil and oxide of lead..it is sometimes called *lead plaster.*

5. In various transferred senses.

(**a.** and **b.** are senses of F. *potée*; they are given in Ogilvie's *Imperial Dict.* 1882, but have not been found in English or Scottish use.)

† a. *Pottery.* Glaze or glazing-slip for earthenware. **† b.** *Foundry.* The 'loam' of which moulds are made; a mixture of clay, horse-dung, and sand.

c. (*slang* or *colloq.*) Sticky mud at the bottom of a body of water.

1890 P. H. EMERSON *Wild Life* 60 My punt..may stick in the putty. 1902 *Work. Men's Coll. Jrnl.* VII. 367 The tide was running down..and the quant had to be used a good deal, the yacht sticking 'on the putty' more than once.

d. As the name of a colour, esp. in dress-materials: A light shade of yellowish grey; in full *putty-colour.*

1886 *Daily News* 16 Mar. 6/3 Another pretty colour with an ugly name is that called 'putty'. It is really a very sweet tone of grey with a touch of fawn in it.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *putty bed, colour* (hence *putty-coloured* adj.), *joint, mark, shade, state*; also *putty-faced, -like, -looking, -stopped* adjs.; **putty-blower**, a blow-tube for shooting pellets of putty (sense 3); **putty-cement**, = sense 2; **putty-eye**, a pigeon's eye having a thick fleshy cere; **putty-knife**, a knife with a blunt flexible spatulate blade for spreading putty (sense 3); **putty-powder**, = sense 1; **putty-root**, a rare N. American orchid (*Aplectrum hyemale*), the corm of which contains a glutinous matter sometimes used as a cement; **putty-work**, decorative work executed in a putty-like composition which hardens after it is moulded.

1902 *How to make Things* 33/2 [In bird-stuffing] the insertion of the artificial eyes, in a *putty bed, follows the operation of pinning the wings to the body. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 96 The boot-black drew a tin *putty-blower from his pocket, and took unerring aim. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 538 *Putty cement will stand longer than most stones. 1889 *Daily News* 4 Dec. 5/6 The Baroness..wore *putty-coloured silk with trimmings of handsome gold and fawn embroidery. 1906 H. BEGBIE *Priest* ii. 8 At one end was a great spread of folding doors putty coloured. 1838 *Civ. Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 330/1 A fine brick..to be..laid in what is called a close *putty joint. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Putty-Knife*,..used by glaziers and painters, to spread putty. 1901 *Y. Black's Carp. & Build., Useful Recipes* 51 Take a sharp-edged putty-knife.. and cut the paint off as low as you can without scratching the glass. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov. 5/4 Leaving a huge *putty-like cake of clay at the bottom. 1849–52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1009/1 The *putty-looking chalky matter often observed in the lungs. 1832 G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* x. 245 The outer surface being then covered with washed *putty powder, which is a combination of the oxides of tin and lead. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 817 Amorphous stannic oxide..is hard, and is therefore used for polishing stone and glass, and for sharpening and polishing steel, etc. The oxide used for this purpose is called *putty-powder*; it is sometimes a mixture of the oxides of tin and lead. 1895 *Oracle Encycl.* I. 598/2 The artist..next develops the figure with very delicate tools of steel wire..finally polishing with putty powder. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* 411 *Aplectrum hyemale*, the North American *Putty-root, is used for making a cement for china. 1881 YOUNG *Ev. Man his own Mechanic* § 561 They could not be *putty-stopped well enough.

Putty (pʊ·ti), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To cover or smear with putty; to fix, mend, or join with putty; to fill up (a hole, woodwork, etc.) with putty.

1734 CURTEIS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 267, I..stopt the Holes at the Bottoms with Corks; and..puttyed the Corks, that no Water could filtrate through them. 1771 J. ADAMS *Diary* 4 June, A glass mug broken to pieces and puttied together again. 1879 *Eng. Carriage Build.* in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 221/2 Any joints..are carefully puttied up with oil putty.

Hence **Pu·ttied** *ppl. a.*, **Pu·ttying** *vbl. sb.*; also **Pu·ttier**, one who putties, a glazier.

1775 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1892) I. 450 To detain them about a month to harden the puttying. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* ii, Cracked old houses where the painters and plumbers and puttyers are always at work. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 39 Fix the lens..and focus on a large sheet of puttied or ground glass.

Put-up, *sb.*: see PUT-.

Put-up (pʊtˌʌ·p), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of *to put up*: see PUT *v.*[1] 53.]

1. (orig. *Thieves' slang.*) Arranged or concocted beforehand, as a burglary, by conspiracy with other persons, as servants in the house; preconcerted, planned in an underhand manner: see PUT *v.*[1] 53 t. Often in phr. *a put-up job.*

1810 *Ann. Reg.* 296 The police officers are of opinion, that the robbery of the above cathedral is what is called, in the slang language, *a put-up robbery.* 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xix, At least it can't be a put-up job, as we expected. *Ibid.* xxxi, We call it a put-up robbery,..when the servants is in it. 1893 G. J. GOSCHEN in *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 3/1 Your acceptance of one amendment is part and parcel of your rejection of the other. It is a put-up job.

2. Rarely in other senses of *put up*, as 'a put-up statue' (PUT *v.*[1] 53 r), 'a put-up candidate' (53 j), 'put-up drugs' (53 n), 'put-up goods' (53 l).

b. *transf. Put-up price*, the up-set price at or above which something will be sold at an auction (see PUT *v.*[1] 53 l).

1895 *Daily News* 17 Aug. 5/3 The put-up prices are very low.

† Pu·ture, pu·lture. *Obs.* [a. AF. *puture* = ONF. *pulture* (Ph. de Thaun *Best.* 294), OF. *peuture, poture, pouture* (Godef.), food, nourishment, mod.F. dial. *pouture, peuture* food for horses, cattle, or pigs:—late L. type *pultūra*, in med.L. also *putūra* (Du Cange), supposed to be an irreg. deriv. of *puls, pultem* pap, porridge.] Food for man or beast; *esp.* in Forest Law, that meat and drink for themselves and their attendants, and food for their horses, hawks, and hounds, claimed by the foresters from every one within the bounds of the forest, and sometimes by other officers on an official circuit; also *ellipt.* the custom of giving or the right of demanding such entertainment.

In the ME. period common in the L. form *putura*, in Latin records; rare as an English word.

[*c* 1280 *Placita Coronæ* (1818) 219 Bene cogn[oscitur] quod forestarii sui capiunt puturam de omnibus et singulis tenentibus terras..infra metas chacearum suarum. 1343 *Placita apud Preston* 17 *Edw. III* (Blount), Johannes de Radecliffe..clamat unam Puturam in Prioratu de Penwortham..pro se et Ministris, equis, et garcionibus suis, per unum diem et duas noctes, de tribus septimanis in tres septimanas, *viz.* de victualibus, ut in esculentis, et poculentis. 1390–91 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 64 Pro putura pulletrie. *Ibid.* 96 Pro xxx multonibus..et pro putura eorundem.] 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II*, § 57 (1876) 44 He shal take for each doges puture j[d]. ob. a day. *Ibid.* § 59. 45 He shal have for each doges puture ob. a daye. [*a* 1634 COKE *Inst.* IV. lxxiii. *Courts Forest* (1797) 308 And after they claimed the same for all victuals for themselves, their servants, horses, and dogs, which was called *putura*. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict., Putura.*] 1881 W. BEAMONT *Acc. Frodsham* v. 31 Puture was the right to exact food and lodging for the lord's peace officers whenever they were making an official circuit through the district.

‖ **Putwary** (pʊtwā·ri). *East Ind.* Also **pat-, -war(r)ee.** [Hindī *paṭwārī*, f. *paṭṭā*: cf. POTTAH.] A village registrar or accountant under a zemindar.

1801 R. PATTON *Asiat. Mon.* 118 Officers who have been denominated *canongoes* and *putwaries*. The canongoe was the principal, and the putwary the subsidiary officer, in the department of control. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Putwarree*, a registrar or collector under an Indian zemindar, or land-holder. 1907 *19th Cent.* Nov. 714 As village putwaris they have almost the monopoly.

† Pu·tyer. *Obs.* Also 5 **puttyer.** [a. OF. *putier*: cf. *pute* (13th c. in Littré): see PUTE *sb.*] A whoremonger; = PUTOUR.

1480 CAXTON *Ovid's Met.* XII. iii, Ha what comyth this wenche here wyth this putyer in this contree? 1483 — *Cato* e v b, Somme ben kynges or dukes and the other are puttyers and ryght wycked and euyl.

Puwe, Puwit, obs. forms of PEW, PEWIT.

‖ **Puy** (pwī). [F. *puy*, in OF. *pui, poi* hill, mount, hillock:—L. *podium* elevation, height, in med. (Franco-) L. *podium, pogium* hill, peak.] A small volcanic cone; *spec.* one of those in Auvergne, France; also, in *Geol.*, generalized.

1858 G. P. SCROPE *Geol. Centr. France* 180 Among the puys of the Monts Dome we are enabled..to trace almost every stream of lava to the crater which marks the spot of its emission. 1878 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 203 There the traveller may see hundreds of volcanic cones, known locally as 'puys'. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* iv. 74 Clusters of small lateral cones or puys sprang up on their flank, like those on Mount Etna.

Puy, variant of POY *sb.*[1], a punt-pole.

Puy-: see PUI-.

Puynt, obs. form of POINT *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Puyste, variant of PUST *Obs.*, pustule.

Puyt(e, obs. form of PUT *v.*[1]

Puzel, puzzel, puzzle, obs. ff. PUCELLE.

Puzzle (pu·z'l), *sb.* Also 7 **pusle**. [Goes with PUZZLE *v.*, q. v.]

1. The state of being puzzled or bewildered; bewilderment; confusion; perplexity how to act or decide.

1607-12 BACON *Ess., Great Place* (Arb.) 280 While they are in the pusle of businesse, they haue noe tyme to tend theire health, either of body, or minde. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xxviii. [I. xxvii], Beyond them wee meete with nothing but the puzzle of the soul, and the dazle of the minds dimme eyes. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 59 Later Philosophers were at a great puzzle about it. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* I. vi. Wks. 1874 I. 112 The puzzle and obscurity, which must unavoidably arise from arguing upon so absurd a supposition as that of universal Necessity. 1767 G. WHITE *Selborne* x, Linnæus seems to be in a puzzle about his *mus amphibius*. 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 139 The result would be..utter puzzle and bewilderment.

2. A puzzling or perplexing question; a poser, 'problem', 'enigma'.

1655 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* App. xi. § 9 To the last puzzle propounded, whether these Archei [or seminal forms] be so many sprigs of the common soul of the world, or particular subsistences of themselves; there is no great inconvenience in acknowledging that it may be either way. 1760 GRAY *Wks.* (1884) I. 306 About the painting I have a great puzzle in my head between Vertue, Mr. D'Urry, and Bishop Tanner. 1823 LAMB *Elia, Poor Relations*, He is a puzzle to the servants, who are fearful of being too obsequious, or not civil enough, to him. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 397 It is a puzzle of some interest where they have retreated to.

3. Something contrived or made for the purpose of puzzling, or exercising one's ingenuity and patience; a toy or problem of this kind.

1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxv, He looked not unlike that ingenious puzzle, called *a reel in a bottle*, the marvel of children, (and of some grown people too, myself for one,) who can neither comprehend the mystery how it has got in or how it is to be taken out. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Puzzles*, various articles of turnery ware and carving; dissecting maps, and pictures for children. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 652 Like a puzzle chest in chest. 1872 ELLACOMBE *Ch. Bells Devon* Suppl. ix. 269 At p. 34 of *Devonshire Bells*, I have mentioned where some A B C puzzles are to be found. 1895 (*title*) The Puzzle Box. Containing six distinct puzzles.

b. *Chinese puzzle*: one of the ingenious puzzles made by the Chinese, in which the problem is to fit together the dissected pieces of a geometrical or other figure, to disentangle interlocked rings, to remove a string from an object without untying it, etc., etc. The name was app. first applied to the dissected square called *tangram*. Hence, *fig.* Any specially intricate puzzle or problem.

c 1815 [Pamphlet, *Brit. Mus.* No. 15,257 d. 18, containing upwards of 330 figures, formed out of the seven pieces of the 'tangram'] (*title*) A Grand Eastern Puzzle. The following Chinese puzzle is recommended to the Nobility, Gentry, and others, being superior to any hitherto invented for the amusement of the Juvenile World. 1844 *Juv. Missionary Mag. L. M. S.* I. 90 A real Chinese Puzzle.—Young people are fond of puzzles, and have often puzzled for hours over bits of wood called Chinese Puzzles, to very little purpose. 1859 MRS. GATTY *Aunt Judy's Tales* 60 Putting Chinese puzzles together into stupid patterns. 1874 S. W. WILLIAMS *Syllabic Dict. Chinese Lang.* 987 [*Ch'i ch'iao t'u*] The Chinese puzzle of seven pieces, the tangram. 1895 *Gentl. Mag.* vol. 278, p. 279 The Chinese religion may be said to be a Chinese puzzle. 1906 *Times* 1 Feb. (*Article*) Faulty Legislation: A statute is by this process converted into a sort of Chinese puzzle.

c. Short for PUZZLE-PEG.

1845 YOUATT *Dog* v. 113 There was the puzzle and the check-collar [as a punishment] for killing other dogs.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: attrib., 'of a puzzle', or appositive, 'that is or involves a puzzle', as *puzzle-poetry, -question, -solving, -word, -work*; in names of various mechanical contrivances presenting a puzzle or operated by some trick, as *puzzle-cup, -jug, -locket, -piece* (hence *puzzle-piecing*), *-ring*; **puzzle-lock**: see quot.; **puzzle-path, puzzle-walk**, a maze (MAZE *sb.* 4). Cf. also PUZZLE *v.* 5.

1882 *Hamilton Sale Catal.* No. 806 A two-handled *puzzle-cup painted with flowers. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Puzzle-jug. 1834-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 316/2 The *puzzle or combination lock. 1882 SIR E. BECKETT in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 746 It used to be supposed that locks which could only be opened by setting a number of rings or disks to a particular combination of letters could not possibly be opened by anybody who was not in possession of the secret; and hence they were also called puzzle-locks. 1891 *Daily News* 23 Feb. 5/5 Mr. T. had just been explaining to Mr. D. the secret of how to open a certain *puzzle locket. 1879 *Spectator* 6 Sept. 1134/2 We maintain that anything like a final reliance on anatomical *puzzle-piecing and dissection, on the part of the artist, would be a perfect illustration..of the instructive fable of the goose which was anatomised for the sake of her golden eggs. 1883 SIMCOX *Hist. Lat. Lit.* II. 447 The natural interest of Ennodius lay in the direction of *puzzle poetry. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 2 Apr. 4/7 The General Knowledge inquiry..has a tendency to produce the, rather unfair, *puzzle-question. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 321 Some curious specimens of linked or '*puzzle-rings'. 1900 *Daily News* 6 Dec. 4/4 Another *puzzle word competition was described at the North London Police-court. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 543/1 It is all *puzzle-work that to me.

Puzzle (pu·z'l), *v.* Forms: 6-7 **pusle, puzzell, 7 puzel, pussell, 7-8 puzzel, puzle, 7- puzzle.** [Appears in the end of the 16th c.; the cognate PUZZLE *sb.* is not known till somewhat later (*a* 1612), and appears from its sense to have been a derivative from the verb. Their etymology is obscure: see Note below.]

1. *trans.* †**a.** *orig.* To cause (any one) to be at a loss what to do or how to turn; to embarrass with difficulties; to put to a non-plus; to perplex, bewilder, confound: said of circumstances, material obstacles, etc. *Obs.*

(The quotations in brackets show transition to the modern sense c.)

[*a* 1380: see POSBLET.] *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 The passage verie troublesome by reason of whole trunckes and bodies of trees lyinge cross the mouth of that narrow ryver, over which men weare forced to carrie the bote upon theire shoulders by maine strength. And whilst wee weare theare pusled.. Baltizar..dropped overborde with his companion and sodenlie gott into the thicketts. *Ibid.*, Here will I leave our Captaine and his companie pusled in the bote and returne to speake of our conceipts aborde the shipp. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* IV. ii. 48 Thou art more puzel'd then the Ægyptians in their fogge. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 34 [Certain signs] assured us we were neere the shoare (the last storme had puzled us). 1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius, Goth. Wars* IV. xiv. 144 Their ships stood jumbled together like so many baskets..and thus puzzelling one another, they were the cheifest cause of the Enemies victory. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 188 The panting Throng In their own Footsteps puzzled, foil'd, and lost.

[1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. i. 6 Then commeth he to cast them into a ring..now there is he puzzelled. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* II. 19 So many great personages were pusled in a great uncertainty. 1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* III. Wks. 1873 III. 405, I am pussell'd in the choice. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 105 A large green Turtle, with her weight and struggling, will puzzle two Men to turn her. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciphr.* IV. § 2 This sort of arguments..may perhaps puzzle, but never will convince me.]

b. To perplex or bewilder (the brain, mind, understanding, will, wit): in late use passing into c.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 80 (Qo. 1) A hope of something after death? Which pusles the braine and doth confound the sence. 1604 *Ibid.* (Qo. 2), The dread of something after death..Puzels the will. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* III. i. § 7 They do far more puzzle our understandings than when we conceive them to be in God. 1666 SANCROFT *Lex Ignea* 29 All our Wit was puzzeld, and all our Industry tir'd out. 1754 SHERLOCK *Disc.* (1759) I. i, 42 Reveal Mysteries merely to puzzle the Minds of Men. 1831 *Society* I. 152 Fanny was puzzling her brain to think where she had heard the name before.

c. To perplex, put to a non-plus, or embarrass mentally, as or by a difficult problem or question; to pose. The current sense.

a 1634 RANDOLPH *Muse's Looking-gl.* III. iv. (R.), I very much fear there be some languages That would go near to puzzle me. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* I. xv. 54 It would puzzle men to conceive a way of expression of sufficient honour..for such a wonder-working Priesthood. 1668 — *Div. Dial.* (J.), A very shrewd disputant in those points is dexterous in puzzling others. *c* 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 273, I know these words have much puzzled interpreters. 1771 *Junius' Lett.* lxi. 319 He did it with a view to puzzle them with some perplexing questions. 1787 BURNS *Let. to Moore* 2 Aug., I..used..to puzzle Calvinism with so much heat and indiscretion, that I raised a hue and cry of heresy against me. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 14 Poor Will Honeycomb..even with his half century of experience, would have been puzzled to point out the humours of a lady by her prevailing colours. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 247 The disconsolate little cupola, with its flag of red bunting..may puzzle conjectures for our English brethren. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Eloquence* Wks. (Bohn) III. 35 Like a schoolmaster puzzled by a hard sum. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 407 Men are annoyed at what puzzles them. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. 162 The question has always puzzled me.

d. *refl.* To bewilder or perplex oneself; to exercise oneself with difficult problems.

1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* Pref. 37 We are apt to puzzle our selves with obscure Marks of Grace and doubtful Signs of our good State. 1720 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 316 After they had puzzled themselves here..two or three days. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 405 When he was young he had puzzled himself with physics. 1883 A. ROBERTS *O. T. Revis.* iii. 48 Many readers have doubtless puzzled themselves with the two different forms of the same word.

2. *intr.* (? for *refl.*) To be at a loss how to act or decide; to be bewildered; to be perplexed for a solution; to ponder perplexedly; to exercise oneself with the solution of a puzzle. Const. *about, over, upon.*

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 93, I my selfe..have pored and pusled vpon many an old Record. 1611 COTGR., *Metagraboulizer*, to dunce vpon, to puzzle, or (too much) beat the braines about. 1690 tr. *Five Lett. Inspiration* 115 Contradictions which the Divines..have not been able to reconcile, after puzling about it above three thousand Years. 1742 WARBURTON *Rem. Tillard* Wks. 1811 XI. 180 Our Advocate,.. puzzling on between his true and false Gods, hangs, like a false teacher as he is, between heaven and earth. 1803 BEDDOES *Hygëia* IX. 205, I dare say they would puzzle long before guessing what pattern I mean to propose to them. 1833 *Sporting Mag.* Jan. 210 Whenever the dog puzzles over the scent.

b. To search in a bewildered or perplexed way; to fumble, grope *for* something; to get *through* by perplexed searching.

1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. 27 Which dull smatterers in algebra labor to excruciate, puzzling for it in the six-fold method of discovery there taught. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, Are you puzzling in your pockets to seek your only memorial among old play-bills? 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) V. xlvii. 437 After puzzling through the floes, we reached a large berg. 1884 *St. James' Gaz.* 17 Oct. 6/1 The dogs are puzzling about for a bird or a rabbit in cover.

3. *trans.* To make puzzling; to complicate, involve, entangle (some matter or subject); to put into confusion, mix up, confound; to confuse or muddle (drawing). Now *rare.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* II. § 76 His parts were most prevalent in puzzling and perplexing that discourse he meant to cross. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 63 Let me think Thou art the judg, that I may not..pervert or puzzle right. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i, The ways of Heaven are dark and intricate, Puzzled in mazes. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 702/2 He [an artist] is never obliged to resort to trick or device, or to employ meretricious effects. He never has to 'puzzle' bad or doubtful drawing.

4. *To puzzle out*: to make out by the exercise of ingenuity and patience.

1781 COWPER *Charity* 473 While the clerk just puzzles out the psalm. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* (1879) 221 The inscriptions..were not sufficiently legible to induce us to puzzle them out. 1889 *Century Mag.* XXXVIII. 190 The bloodhound..can puzzle out a cold scent under the most adverse conditions.

5. Combinations of the verb-stem: **pu·zzle-brain**, (*a*) *adj.*, that puzzles the brain, brain-puzzling; (*b*) *sb.*, one who puzzles his brain about a subject; **pu·zzle-cap**, that which puzzles the cap or the head; a cap (*fig.*) which bespeaks a puzzled head; **pu·zzle-monkey**, a familiar name of the Chilian tree *Araucaria imbricata*, from the difficulty which a monkey would have in climbing it (also called *monkey-puzzle*); **pu·zzle-text**, one who makes a puzzle of a scripture text; **pu·zzle-wit** *a.*, that puzzles or would puzzle one's wit. Cf. also PUZZLE *sb.* 4.

1870 THORNBURY *Tour Eng.* I. v. 108 After all these *puzzle-brain theories, the result is..no great enlargement of knowledge. 1873 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 60 They are mostly crotchet-mongers and puzzle-brains. 1889 GRETTAN *Memory's Harkb.* 231 Another *puzzle-cap to me with regard to the hunting-field. *Ibid.* 275 This entirely put the puzzle-cap upon him as to my actual whereabouts. 1883 MRS. RIDDELL *Haunted River* i, A garden..adorned probably by a *puzzle-monkey and a stone vase. 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 11 Mar. 11/1 To see and paint the old forests of Araucaria imbricata, known in England as the puzzle-monkey tree, rather unreasonably, as there are no monkeys here to puzzle. 1837 *Gambler's Dream* I. 269 The petticoat *puzzletext curtsied to her young master and retired. 1861 WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xviii, What is called a 'monogram'—a thing not unlike the *puzzle-wit lock on a gate.

[*Note.* For the etymology of *puzzle* the first question is the relation of the sb. and vb. The vb. has been held to be derived from the sb., and the latter viewed as an aphetic form of APPOSAL or OPPOSAL. But the chronology of the words, and still more the consideration of their sense-history, seem to make it clear that the verb came first, and that the sb. was its derivative. In the light of this, the vb. has been referred to POSE *v.*[2], as a diminutive (or other derivative formation), as in *suck, suckle*. This is phonetically possible: cf. *nuzzle* from *nose*. But there are serious difficulties in the signification. Of the earlier sense of *puzzle*, as seen in the examples under 1 a above, no trace appears in the original sense of *pose* and *appose* 'to examine by putting questions', and it is only the derivative senses 2 of *pose* and 1 c of *puzzle* that come into contact. Thus their relation seems to be that of two words originally distinct, which (as in some other cases) have subsequently attracted each other. *Puzzle* was possibly the same verb of which the pa. pple. POSELET occurs late in the 14th c., app. in the sense 'bewildered, confused, confounded', and which, riming with *hoselet*, i. e. *hüselet*, HOUSLED, was prob. pronounced (pü·zëlet), which would regularly give by 1600 (pu·zled), later (pu·zled). The non-appearance of the verb during the intervening 200 years might be owing to its being one of the colloquial words which came into literary use in the 16th c. This is however conjectural and, even if true, leaves the ulterior derivation still to seek. (A verb of similar form appears in late OE. *puslian* 'to pick out best pieces of food' (Sweet), = Du. *peuzelen* to pick, to piddle, LG. *pöseln, pusseln*, Norw. *pusla*; but it is difficult to see in its sense any connexion with that of 'puzzle'.)]

Puzzlea·tion. *nonce-wd.* [f. prec. + -ATION.] Puzzled condition; state of perplexity.

1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* III. Wks. 1799 II. 133 They have got the old gentleman into such puzzleation, that I don't believe he knows what he wishes himself.

Puzzle-brain, -cap: see PUZZLE *v.* 5.

Puzzled (pu·z'ld), *ppl. a.* [f. PUZZLE *v.* + -ED[1].] **a.** Of a person, the mind, head, etc.: Nonplussed, bewildered, confused; perplexed to find a solution. **b.** Of a thing: Made puzzling; involved, complicated, intricate; †tangled (*obs.*).

1651 HOBBES *Leviath.* I. iv. 17 Coyned by Schoole-men, and pusled Philosophers. 1656-9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 130 *note*, If there were any, it was but a puzzled

nomination, and that very dark and imperfect. *a* 1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.* (1742) III. 167 Like a puzzled lump of silk, so that the man cannot draw out a thought to any length. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 145 They disentangle from the puzzled skein, In which obscurity has wrapp'd them up, The threads of politic and shrewd design. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 297 Their puzzled situation, under two sovereigns, over neither of whom they have any influence. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxiv, There came across his face a puzzled, dubious look.

Hence **Pu·zzledly** *adv.*, **Pu·zzledness.**

1655 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* App. iii. Summ. (1662) 6 Several instances of the puzzledness of Phansy in the firm conclusions of Sense, and of Reason. 1870 MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* I. 182 Her eyes..meet his, looking at her curiously, interestedly, puzzledly.

Puzzledom (pʊ·z'ldəm). [f. PUZZLE *sb.* + -DOM.] The realm of puzzle; the state of being puzzled; perplexity, bewilderment.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* lxxiv. (1810) VI. 377, I was resolved to travel with him into the land of puzzledom. 1851 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 577 Placing the reader in puzzledom. 1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* iii, He could not make out in the depths of his puzzledom what had gone wrong.

Pu·zzle-hea·ded, *a.* [f. PUZZLE *sb.*, or put for *puzzled* + HEAD *sb.* + -ED 2.] Having a puzzled head; having confused ideas.

a 1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, Mattaire..seems to have been a puzzle-headed man, with a large share of scholarship, but with little geometry or logick in his head. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 465 He [Harley] was really a dull puzzle-headed man. 1906 *Outlook* 14 July 40/1 A singularly puzzle-headed sentimentalism.

Hence **Puzzlehea·dedness**; so also **Pu·zzle-head,** a puzzle-headed person.

1874 LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* v, To survey the flames with open eyes of dull puzzleheadedness. *a* 1884 M. PATTISON *Mem.* v. (1885) 167 This anomaly can only be accounted for by a certain puzzle-headedness on the part of the Professor. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *R. Elsmere* xli, 'They don't see it in that light themselves'... 'No, .. because most men are puzzleheads'.

Puzzlement (pʊ·z'lmĕnt). [f. PUZZLE *v.* + -MENT.] The fact or condition of being puzzled; perplexity, bewilderment, confusion.

1822 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) III. 350 Four invitations to dinner on my list to-day, but, owing to some puzzlement about Holland House, lost all. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIII. 839 His mind between the two must be in a queer puzzlement. 1874 RUSKIN *Hortus Inclusus* (1887) 8 The puzzlement I have had to force that sentence into grammar! 1880 MCCARTHY *Own Time* IV. lxv. 472 To avoid the possibility of any historical misunderstanding or puzzlement hereafter.

b. Anything that puzzles; a puzzle.

1842 G. S. FABER *Prov. Lett.* (1844) I. 78 In short, Dr. Todd's ingenious puzzlement works altogether upon the false principle, that no more than four horns came up. 1881 *Spectator* 29 Oct. 1368 A puzzlement for some of the wisest antiquarian heads of Europe. 1893 *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IV. 313/2 Examiners in our own day are not always innocent of similar sprightly puzzlements.

Puzzle-monkey: see PUZZLE *v.* 5.

Pu·zzle-pate. [f. PUZZLE *v.* + PATE 1.] One who puzzles his pate; one who is puzzle-headed.

1775 T. MORTIMER *Ev. Man his own Broker* 88 *note*, Two or three puzzlepates said I had too much Divinity. 1864 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edinburgh* (1886) 220 A great scheme of philosophy which attracts those puzzle-pates who are much given to the habit of ultimate thinking.

So **Pu·zzle-pa·ted** *a.*, puzzle-headed; hence **Pu·zzle-pa·tedness.**

1795 G. WAKEFIELD *Reply and Pt. Paine* 12 This said Thomas Paine..shews himself but a puzzle-pated fellow. 1799 MRS. J. WEST *Tale of Times* II. 251 Monteith really has a very good heart, which excuses a little accidental puzzle-patedness. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* xix, He was very ignorant,—puzzle-pated as you may call it.

Pu·zzle-peg. [f. PUZZLE *sb.* or *v.* + PEG *sb.*1] A piece of wood, about a foot in length, pointed at one end and flattened towards the other, fastened to the lower jaw of a dog so that the pointed end projects a few inches in front, and prevents him from putting his nose close to the ground.

1819 *Sporting Mag.* IV. 264 The principal use of the puzzle-peg, appears to be that of worrying and fretting the animal to no purpose. 1870 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* I. I. iii. § 7. 56 By the constant use of this puzzle-peg..the dog loses, by habit, the tendency to stoop.

b. *fig.* A puzzling subject, a puzzle.

1845 *Zoologist* III. 947 This last insect, to use the term of its late..describer, has always been a 'puzzle-peg'.

Puzzler (pʊ·zlə1). [f. PUZZLE *v.* + -ER 1.] One who or that which puzzles; also, one who occupies himself with puzzles.

a 1652 BROME *Elegy on Schoolm.*, Hebrew the general puzzler of old heads. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* Pref. 4 No marvel if many of the Puzlers here be not so wel planed.. or perfected as is expected. 1762 J. H. STEVENSON *Crazy Tales* 93 Lawyers..these puzzlers and confounders..who embroil and complicate what should be simple. 1872 (*title*) The Puzzler's Manual, or monthly journal of enigmatical amusements. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* ix, My question..seems to me to be a puzzler.

Puzzle-text, -wit: see PUZZLE *v.* 5.

Pu·zzling, *vbl. sb.* [f. PUZZLE *v.* + -ING 1.] The action of the verb PUZZLE in its various senses.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* I. 6 He will neuer ranke them aright without helpe: and (God knoweth) with what puzzeling and toyle. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-cult.* 28 You can find out for yourself by a little puzzling why the three angles of a triangle..must be equal to two right angles. 1907 *Athenæum* 1 June 662/1 The puzzling of the Russians by rumour that the turning-flank-march of the Japanese was first by the Russian left, then by the Russian right.

Pu·zzling, *ppl. a.* [f. PUZZLE *v.* + -ING 2.]

1. Bewildering, confusing, perplexing; that puzzles one to solve or answer.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Forms & Qual.* I. Wks. 1772 III. 50 A more puzzling question it may be to some. 1705 BERKELEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 428 The grand puzzling question, whether I sleep or wake? 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 60 The various Turnings..of this Labyrinth, render it extremely intricate and puzzling. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argonauts* 176 This is a puzzling matter. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 204 The summit of the mountain is most puzzling and dangerous.

2. Bewildering oneself; laboriously trying to puzzle something out.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* liii, The Servant, says he, is a Puzzling Fool that heeds nothing. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 202 The puzzling Pack unravel Wile by Wile, Maze within Maze. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases* I. 96 Certain precise and puzzling minds.

Hence **Pu·zzlingly** *adv.*, in a way that puzzles one; **Pu·zzlingness.**

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Puzzlingness*, perplexedness, embarrassing Quality. 1881 M. A. LEWIS *Two Pretty G.* III. 87 A puzzlingly unamiable trait in her friend's character. 1894 *Naturalist* 58 Shade-grown forms..puzzlingly simulated the orange-flowered Plancheon's furze.

Puzzolana, -ane, -ano, etc., var. POZZOLANA.

Pwdyll, Pwf, Pwir, pwr, pwyr, Pwll, Pwn, Pwnt, Pwnzhe, Pwt, Pwynd, etc., obs. Sc. forms of PUDDLE, PUFF, POOR, POOL, PUN, POINT, POYGNÉ, POYNYE, PUT, POIND, etc.

Py, var. PEE *sb.*1 *Obs.*, kind of coat; obs. f. PIE.

Pya, variant of PIA 2.

‖ **Pyæmia** (pəi,ī·miă). *Path.* Also **pyemia,** and less correctly **pyohæmia.** [mod. L., f. Gr. *πύ-ον* pus, matter + *αἷμα* blood: see quot. 1880.] A condition of blood-poisoning accompanied by fever, caused by the presence in the blood of pathogenic bacteria and their toxic products, and characterized by the formation of multiple pus-foci in different parts of the body; septicæmia.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict., Pyæmia*, pyohæmia. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sc.* (1879) I. v. 156 Hospital wards where death was rampant from pyæmia. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 264 Pyæmia occurring after parturition constitutes one of the most common and fatal forms of so-called 'puerperal fever'. 1876 GROSS *Dis. Bladder* 267 Pyemia is most liable to occur in broken-down persons. 1880 FLINT *Princ. Med.* (ed. 5) 85 As the name denotes, pyaemia originally was supposed to be due to the entrance of pus into the blood. The disease is no longer attributed to the direct absorption, by the blood, of pus-corpuscles.

Pyæmic (pəi,ī·mik), *a.* [f. prec. + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of pyæmia; affected with pyæmia.

1859 J. Y. SIMPSON in *Nat. Encycl.* I. 149 The dangers of pyæmic poisoning. 1869 E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 123 Almost complete exposure of pyæmic patients to the open air. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 270 The feebleness of the pyæmic pulse is remarkable.

‖ **Pyal** (pəi·ăl), *a. E. Indies.* Also **pyall, pial.** [South Indian ad. Pg. *poyal* a jossing block or mounting stone, deriv. of Pg. and Sp. *poyo* a bench by the door:—L. *podium* raised place: see PODIUM.] 'A raised platform on which people sit, usually under the veranda, or on either side of the door of the house' (Yule). Also *attrib.* **pyal school.**

1873 E. C. GOVER in *Ind. Antiq.* II. 52 (heading) Pyal Schools in Madras. 1896 *Indian Mag. & Rev.* Jan. 39 Every village has its self-supporting pyall school, where boys and girls are taught simple lessons. 1898 *Mission Herald* (Boston) Apr. 153 In front of an earthen pial where I might sit.

Pyan, pyany, obs. forms of PEONY.

Pyanit, pyannet, -ot, obs. forms of PIANNET.

‖ **Pyarthrosis** (pəi,aiprō·sis). *Path.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *πύ-ον* pus + *ἄρθρωσις* jointing.] The formation of pus in a joint; suppurative arthritis.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1890 in BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pyaster, obs. f. PIASTRE. **Pyat,** var. PIET, magpie, etc. **Pybald,** obs. f. PIEBALD.

Pybble, pyble, obs. forms of PEBBLE.

Pycar(d, variants of PICARD *Obs.*, a sailing boat.

Pycche, pych(e, Pycele, Pyce, Pychar, -er, obs. forms of PITCH, PICKLE, PICE, PITCHER.

Pyche (pəitʃ). *n. dial.* Also 6 **piche,** 8–9 **poich,** 9 **pytch.** [? Phonetic variant of *pike*: cf. PIKE *sb.*2 2.] A bee-hive.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 115/29 Piche, *corbiculus.* 1775 J. WATSON *Hist. Halifax* 544 *Poich*, an Hive to take bees in after they have swarmed. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Pyche*, a bee-hive. 1882 *Lanc. Gloss., Pytch*, a hive for bees.

Pychel, obs. form of PIGHTLE, a small field.

Pycht, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of PITCH *v.*1

Pyck, Pyckage, obs. ff. PIQUE *sb.*1, PITCH *sb.*1, PICKAGE. **Pyckard, pycker,** var. ff. PICARD *Obs.*

Pycke, Pyckerylle, Pyclet, obs. ff. PIKE, PICK, PICKEREL, PIKELET.

Pycnaspideæ, Pycnaster: see PYCNO-.

Pycnid, -ide. *Bot.* [mod.F. *pycnide*] = next.

1867 J. HOGG *Microsc.* (ed. 6) II. i. 305. 1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms*, Pycnid, Pycnide, Pycnidium.

‖ **Pycnidium** (pikni·diŭm). *Bot.* Pl. **-ia.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πυκνός* thick, dense + dim. suff. *-ίδιον*.] The special receptacle in certain ascomycetous fungi in which the stylospores are produced.

1857 BERKELEY *Cryptog. Bot.* § 280 In *Erysiphe* the pycnidia appear frequently to arise from the transformation of one of the joints of the moniliform threads. 1882 VINES *Sachs' Bot.* 308. 1887 GARNSEY *De Bary's Comp. Morph. & Biol. Fungi* 225 Receptacles resembling perithecia..have been termed by Tulaine *pycnidia*, and the spores or gonidia formed in them *stylospores.*

Hence **Pycni·dial** *a.*, of or pertaining to a pycnidium; **Pycni·diophore** [-PHORE], a compound sporophore bearing pycnidia; **Pycni·diospore** [Gr. *σπόρος* seed], a stylospore developed inside a pycnidium.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Py·cnis.** *Bot.* Pl. **pycnides.** [mod.L.] A rare synonym of PYCNIDIUM.

Pycnite (pi·knəit). *Min.* [mod. (Haüy 1801) f. Gr. *πυκν-ός* thick, dense + -ITE 1.] A variety of topaz occurring in columnar aggregations.

1802 BOURNON in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 321 The stone called *schorlartiger beryl* by Werner (the *pycnite* of the Abbé Hauy). 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 31 Pycnite is a fibrous variety of topaz.

Pycno- (pikno), bef. a vowel **pycn-,** combining form of Gr. *πυκνό-ς* 'thick, dense', forming various terms. (Occasionally spelt *pykno-*; erron. *picno-*.)

‖ **Pycnaspi·deæ** *Ornith.* [Gr. *ἀσπίς, ἀσπιδ-* shield], in Sundevall's classification, a cohort of scutelliplantar passerine birds, having the planta or back of the tarsus studded with small irregular scales or plates; hence **Pycnaspi·dean** *a.*, belonging to the *Pycnaspideæ.* **Pycna·ster** [Gr. *ἀστήρ* star], a kind of sponge spicule. **Pycnoconi·dium** *Bot.* [CONIDIUM] = PYCNOSPORE. **Py·cnodont** *Ichthyol.* [Gr. *ὀδούς, ὀδοντ-* tooth], *a.* pertaining to or having the characteristics of the *Pycnodontidæ*, an extinct family of ganoid fishes typified by the genus *Pycnodus*, so called from the obtuse teeth on the palate and sides of the jaw; *sb.* a pycnodont fish; so **Pycnodo·ntoid** *a.* and *sb.* **Pycno·gonid** *Zool.* [Gr. *γόνυ* knee], a marine arthropod of the group *Pycnogonida*, somewhat intermediate between *Crustacea* and *Arachnida*, typified by the parasitic genus *Pycno·gonum*; a sea-spider. ‖ **Py·cnogoni·dium** *Bot.* [GONIDIUM] = PYCNOSPORE. **Pycno·gonoid** *Zool.* [-OID] *a.*, resembling or belonging to the *Pycnogonida*; *sb.* a pycnogonid. **Py·cnohydro·meter**: see quot. **Pycno·meter** [-METER], a specific gravity flask; see GRAVITY 4 d. ‖ **Py·cnometo·chia** (-*g*·kiă) *Gram.* [Gr. *μετοχή* participle], the close connexion or frequent use of participles or participial phrases; polymetochia; so **Py·cnometo·chic** (-*g*·kik) *a.*, containing or using many participles. **Pycnomo·rphic** *a.*, *Biol.* [Gr. *μορφή* shape, form], exhibiting dense formation or structure. **Pycnono·tine** *a.*, *Ornith.* [Gr. *νῶτος* back], belonging to a sub-family of passerine birds, *Pycnonotinæ*, the bulbuls or rock-thrushes, typified by the genus *Pycnonōtus.* **Py·cnospore** *Bot.* [Gr. *σπόρος* seed], = PYCNIDIOSPORE.

1899 EVANS *Birds* in *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* IX. 479 The metatarsus scutellated in front, and usually covered with small round scales behind (**pycnaspidean*) is especially strong in Pyroderus and Rupicola. 1888 SOLLAS in *Challenger Rep.* XXV. p. lxiv, **Pycnaster*, a minute aster with short conical strongylate actines. This..might be regarded as a variety of the chiaster. 1836 BUCKLAND *Geol. & Min.* I. 281 The habits of the family of *Pycnodonts appear to have been omnivorous. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 526 The Pycnodont group is now extinct. 1881 *Times* 6 Jan. 4/6 We are promised very shortly similar volumes .. on the *Pycnogonids or nobody-crabs, on the sqaweeds, and on certain groups of worms. 1877 W. THOMSON *Voy. Challenger* II. 349 The Pycnogonida..attained an enormous size in cold Arctic and Antarctic water. 1852 DANA *Crust.* II. 1383 Of this last class are nearly all the Entomostraca, and with them the *Pycnogonoids. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl., **Picnohydrometer*, a combination of the picnometer and hydrometer...Described in *Scientific American*, xxxiv. 340. 1858 THUDICHUM *Urine* 33 The weight of the urine required to fill the *pycnometer is then ascertained. 1881 *Nature* XXIV. 294 The specific gravity bottle or pyknometer. 1900 *Lancet* 30 June 1849/2 The cell shows a distinct *pyknomorphic condition. 1898 tr. *Strasburger's Text-bk. Bot.* (1903) 352 Conidia..termed *pycnospores or pycnoconidia.

Pycnostyle (pi·knəstəil), *a.* and *sb. Arch.* [ad. L. *pycnostȳlos* (Vitruvius), a Gr. *πυκνόστῦλος*, f. *πυκνός* dense + *στῦλος* column.] a. *adj.* Having close intercolumniation; having the space between the columns equal to one diameter and a half of a column. b. *sb.* A building having such intercolumniation.

[1563 SHUTE *Archit.* F j b, Picnostylos whose .. pillers standeth distant from echeother a Diameter, & a halfe or .2. at y* furdest.] 1697 EVELYN *Acc. Archit.* Misc. Wks. (1825) 391 The rest [of the columns]..plac'd as the pycnostyle closer to one another. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 466.

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 315/2 Within the court the colonnades were pycnostyle. 1849 FREEMAN *Archit.* 319 The wide intercolumniations of the later Grecian edifices probably came nearer to the primitive model than the old Doric pycnostyle.

Pycnotic (pikno·tik), *a.* In quots. pyk-. [ad. Gr. *πυκνωτικός*, f. *πυκνόειν* to condense.] Pertaining or relating to condensation: applied to a theory of the formation of matter.

1900 tr. *Haeckel's Riddle Univ.* 222 In fundamental opposition to the theory of vibration, or the kinetic theory of substance, we have the modern 'theory of condensation', or the pyknotic theory of substance. It is most ably established in the suggestive work of J. C. Vogt on The Nature of Electricity and Magnetism on the Basis of a Simplified Conception of Substance (1891). 1904 R. CHRISTIE in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 504 The pyknotic theory of substance differs from the kinetic theory, we are informed, in so far as the centres of condensation of the primitive ether are endowed with sensation and will.

Pycos(s, pycows, pycoys(e, obs. ff. PICKAX.

Pyctes, Pyctoure, -ure: see PICT *sb.*, PICTURE.

Py'd, pyde, Pydgion, obs. ff. PIED, PIGEON.

Pye, obs. f. or var. of PIE *sb.* and *v.* (in quot. 1547 = PIE *sb.*3 2); var. PEE *sb.*1, *Obs.*, a coat.

1536 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scott.* (1905) VI. 257 Deliverit ..to be ane ryding pye and ane pair of hois to the Kingis Grace. 1547 in *35th Dep. Kpr.'s Rep.* (1874) 195 A pye of all the names of such Balives as been to accompte pro anno regni regis Edwardi sexti primo.

Pyeannet, obs. f. PIANNET. **Pyebald, pyed-ball,** obs. ff. PIEBALD. **Pyece, Pyed,** obs. ff. PIECE, PIED. **Pyedema,** variant of PYŒDEMA.

Pye-dog, pie-dog (pəi·dɒg). *Anglo-Ind.* Also shortened pye. [f. Anglo-Ind. *pye, paë*, Hindī *pāhī* outsider.] An ownerless dog, a PARIAH-*dog*.

1864 *Daily Tel.* 9 Aug., In India..pariahs, or 'pye-dogs' as they are called, wander all the land over ownerless. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Hobson-Jobson, Pye*, a familiar designation among British soldiers and young officers for a Pariadog. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 17 Sept. 665 In the corner of the hut was the usual small fire and a sleeping pye-dog.

†**Pyela·rge.** *Obs. rare.* [Corrupt ad. F. *pelarge*, ad. Gr. *πελαργός* stork.] A stork.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* VI. ix. C j b, The ix fable is of the labourer and of the pyelarge...Amonge a grete meyny of ghees and cranes he took a pyelarge.

‖ **Pyelitis** (pəi,ĕlə·i·tis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πύελος* trough, pan, taken in sense 'pelvis' + -ITIS.] Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the pelvis of the kidney.

1842 in DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.* 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 81/2 Renal calculi..produce such atrophy of the kidney with pyelitis. 1878 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 50. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 444 If there is calculous pyelitis .. nephrotomy and extraction of the stone are the necessary measures.

Hence **Pyelitic** (-i·tik) *a.*, of, relating to, or of the nature of pyelitis.

1865-85 W. ROBERTS *Urin. & Ren. Dis.* III. v. (ed. 4) 521 Existence of a pyelitic tumour.

Pyell, obs. form of PILE *sb.*4

Pyelo- (pəi,ĕlo), combining form from Gr. *πύελος* trough, taken in sense 'pelvis'; in pathological and other terms, as ‖ **Pyelocysti·tis,** pyelitis accompanied by cystitis (Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890). **Pyelolitho·tomy,** the removal of a renal calculus by incision into the pelvis of the kidney (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **Pyelo·meter,** = PELVIMETER (Dunglison *Med. Dict.* 1844). ‖ **Pyelonephri·tis,** 'inflammation of the kidney and of the pelvis and calices' (ibid. 1842); hence **Pyelonephri·tic** *a.*

1856 A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 895 Suppurative nephritis ..called.., when there is coincident inflammation of the renal pelvis, pyelo-nephritis. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pyelonephritic.

Pyement, Pyemia, var. PIMENT *Obs.*, PYÆMIA.

Pyep, Pyepowder, Pyere, Pyerre, Pyerrye, obs. forms or variants of PEEP *v.*1, PIEPOWDER, PEER *sb.*, PIER 2, PIERRERIE.

Pyet, var. PIET; obs. Sc. f. PIED.

Pyetous, var. PIETOUS *Obs.* **Pyf, Pyfle,** obs. or dial. var. PITH, PIFFLE. **Pyg,** obs. f. PIG.

Pygal (pəi·găl), *a.* (*sb.*) *Zool.* [f. Gr. *πυγή* rump + -AL.] Of or pertaining to the rump or hinder quarters of an animal.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 469/1 Pygal callosities large. 1854 OWEN *Skel. & Teeth* in *Orr's Circ. Sc.* I. *Org. Nat.* 217 [In the tortoise] the ninth, tenth, and pygal plates, with the marginal plates of the carapace, do not coalesce with any parts of the endo-skeleton.

b. *sb.* (Short for *pygal plate* or *shield.*) The posterior median plate of the carapace of a turtle.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 LYDEKKER *Roy. Nat. Hist.* V. 45 In front the series is completed by a large nuchal plate, while behind it terminates in one or two pygals.

Pygarg (pəi·gaig). Forms: 4 **phigarg,** (figarde), 6 **pygarge,** 7 **pygargue, pigarge,** 7- **pygarg.** Also in L. form **pygargus** (4 **pigargus**). [ad. L. *pygarg-us* (Pliny), a. Gr. *πύγαργος* lit. 'white-rump', applied to a kind of antelope, a white-tailed eagle, and a sandpiper; f. *πυγή* rump + *ἀργός* white.]

1. A kind of antelope mentioned by Herodotus and Pliny: by some supposed to be the addax. In the LXX and Vulgate, whence in Wyclif, Douay, and Bible of 1611, used to render Heb. דִּישׁוֹן *dishon.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xiv. 5 This ben the beest that ȝe owen to eete; oxe, and sheep, and..phigarg [1388, figarde; 1609 (Douay), pygargue; 1611 and R.V., Pygarg]. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 56 b, The fielde is Veneris, a Pygarge, of the Sunne. This is an horne beaste, like a Goate bucke, but yet greater, and lesse then the Harte. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Pygargus*, a wild Beast like a Fallow Deer, so call'd because its back Parts are white.

2. (In L. form.) The osprey or sea-eagle.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XVIII. lxxxv. (Bodl. MS.) 282/2 Hugucione seiþ þat pigargus is a litel lowe brid. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. v. (1878) II. 32 Of hawkes and rauenous foules...Neither haue we the pygargus or gripe. 1752 SIR J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 331 The pygargus, the falco ..with the tailfeathers white and black at the end.

Pygeon, Pygg(e, obs. ff. PIGEON, PIG.

Pygges nye, pyggysny, var. PIGSNEY *Obs.*

Pyght, pyȝt, Pyghtell, Pyghtur, obs. forms of PIGHT, PIGHTLE, PICTURE.

‖ **Pygidium** (pəidʒi·diŏm, pəigi·diŏm). *Zool.* [mod.L., f. Gr. *πυγή* rump + dim. suff. *-ίδιον.*] The posterior part of the body in certain invertebrates, chiefly insects, crustaceans, and worms, when forming a distinct segment or division; the caudal or pygal segment.

1849 MURCHISON *Silvria* App. L. 545 *Pygidium*, or tail of some minute entomostraca. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* 188 *note*, The posterior [segment of a trilobite] when shield-shaped and combining two or more segments [is] the pygidium. 1872 NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 161 The crust exhibits three regions.—1, a cephalic shield; 2, a variable number of movable 'body-rings' or thoracic segments; and 3, a caudal shield or pygidium. 1899 D. SHARP in *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. 187 The last of such exposed dorsal plates [in Beetles] is termed pygidium.

Hence **Pygi·dial** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pygidium.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* v. 234 The hindermost segment of the body..divided at the end into two supports for the pygidial cirri.

†**Pygist.** *Obs. rare*—0. [f. Gr. *πυγή* rump + -IST; cf. Gr. *πυγίζειν, pædicāre.*]

1623 COCKERAM, *Pygist*, one that useth buggerie.

Pyglyng, var. PICKLING *Obs.*, kind of cloth.

†**Py·gmachy.** *Obs. rare*—0. [ad. Gr. *πυγμαχία* boxing, f. *πύξ* (stem *πυγ-*) with clenched fist, or *πυγμή* fist + *μάχη* fight.] Boxing.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pygmachy*, a fighting with Hurlbats or Clubs. 1658 in PHILLIPS.

Pygmæan, -mean (pigmī·ăn), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6- **pig-.** [f. L. *pygmæus* (see PYGMY) + -AN.]

†**A.** *sb.* = PYGMY *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* 85, I nowe compare a Pigmean or a dwarfte to a giant. 1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 191 Ther are also Pygmeans (men but a cubite in height) which riding on Goates and Rammes, do kepe warre with Cranes. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* v. xii. (1636) 558 They are meere lyes that are wont to be told of the Pigmeans. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. ii. I. 156 Aristotle writeth, That these Pygmæans liue in hollow caues & holes under the ground.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the pygmies; of the nature or size of a pygmy; diminutive, dwarfish.

1667 MILTON *P. L.* I. 780 Now less then smallest Dwarfs, in narrow room Throng numberless, like that Pigmean Race Beyond the Indian mount. 1676 HOBBES *Iliad* III. (1677) 37 Or like the cranes, when from the north they fly, The army of pygmæan men to charge. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 139 The tall, plump, brawny Youth Curses his cumbrous Bulk; and envies now The short Pygmean Race. 1904 *Speaker* 21 May 173/1 The expenditure of Japan..has been on a pigmean scale compared with that of Russia.

†**Py·gman.** *Obs.* Also 5 **pigmen.** [a. OF. *pigmain, pigman* (Godef.).] = PYGMY *sb.* 1.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 103 Þe land of Þe Pigmens [Fr. *pigmeines*], whilk er men of litill stature. 1482 CAXTON *Myrr.* II. v. 69 Peple that ben horned, and ar but ii cubits hye...This peple is callyd pygmans.

Pygment, obs. form of PIGMENT.

Pygmy, pigmy (pi·gmi), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 4-7 **pigmey** (4-6 *pl.* **-eis**), 5 *pl.* **pigmez,** 5-7 **pygmey** (*pl.* 5-6 **-eis, -eyes,** 7 **-eys**), **pygme,** 6 **pigmay, -mé,** 6-7 **pigmie,** 7 **pigmee, pygmie,** 6- **pigmy,** 8- **pygmy.** *β.* 5 **pygmew,** 5-6 **pigmew.** [In α form, ad. L. *pygmæ-us*, a. Gr. *πυγμαῖ-ος* adj. dwarfish, sb. a dwarf, a pygmy, f. *πυγμή* a measure of length from the elbow to the knuckles, also the fist (the pl. *pigmeis* in Wyclif being directly ad. L. *pygmæi*); cf. F. *pygmée*, Rabelais. In the *β* form, *pygmew*, ad. med.L. *pygmeu-s*, L. *pygmæus*, cf. *Andrew*, †*Grew, Hebrew, Jew, Matthew*, †*Pharisew*, also OF. *pigmeau* (Godef.), *pimeau* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *sb.*

1. One of a race (or several races) of men of very small size, mentioned in ancient history and tradition as inhabiting parts of Ethiopia or India; in later times generally supposed to be fabulous. In the last quarter of the 19th c. dwarf races were ascertained to exist in equatorial Africa, who may be the Πυγμαῖοι of Homer and Herodotus, and are now commonly spoken of as 'the Pygmies'.

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxvii. 11 Pigmeis that weren in thi touris hangiden her arewgirdlis in thi wallis bi cumpas. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* XV. cxx. (1495) 534 Pigmea is a countree in Ynde towarde the eest in mountaynes afore the occean. Therin dwelled the Pigmeis: men lytyll of body: vneth two cubytes longe, they gendre in the fourth yere and aege in the seuenth. Thyse..fyghte wyth cranes and destroyen theyr nestes, and breke theyr egges, that theyr enmyes be not multyplyed. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 100 Þai er sumwhat mare þan pigmez [*MS. C.* pygmeyes; Fr. *pigmeis*]. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 395/2 Pygmew [*S.* pygme], *pigmeus.* *c* 1520 L. ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* H ij b, Pigmeis be men & women, & but one cubite longe, dwellinge in the mountaynes of ynde. They be full growen at their third yere, & at their seuen yere they be olde. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 278, I will ..fetch you a hayre off the great Chams beard: doe you any embassage to the Pigmies. 1675 J. BARNES *Gerania* 21 Eucompsus had by this time pretty well confirmed us all in the opinion, that these were Pygmies. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Pigmy*, a sort of People, if there be any such, said to be not above a Cubit high. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 31 ¶ 2 That part of India which is said to be inhabited by the Pigmies. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iv. Wks. 1808 IX. 42 That the battle of Marignan was the battle of the Giants, that all the rest..were those of the Cranes and Pygmies. 1887 H. M. STANLEY *Darkest Africa* (1890) I. 251 A march of nine and a half miles on the 9th of November took us to a Pigmies' camp. 1898 G. BURROWS *Land of Pigmies* viii. 176 The term Akka, by which the Pigmies are known.

†**b.** Formerly applied to the chimpanzee and other anthropoid apes as the assumed originals of the pygmies of ancient story. *Obs.*

1699 E. TYSON *Ourang-outang* 1 That the Pygmies of the Antients were a sort of Apes, and not of Humane Race, I shall endeavour to prove in the following Essay...A Puny Race of Mankind, call'd to this day, *Homo Sylvestris*, The Wild Man: Orang-Outang, or a Man of the Woods. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. VII. i. 491 The Troglodyte of Bontius, the Drill of Purchas, and the Pigmy of Tyson, have all received this general name—oran outang, or wild man of the woods. 1778 CAMPER in *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 144 As the celebrated Dr. Tyson had found the organ of voice so similar to that of men in his Pigmy. 1863 HUXLEY *Man's Place Nat.* I. 8 This 'Pygmie', Tyson tells us, 'was brought from Angola';..sufficient to prove his 'Pygmie' to be a young chimpanzee.

2. *gen.* A person of very small stature; a dwarf.

1520 in *Archæologia* LIII. 17 A case of wode covered wt sylver..havyng a man and a woman called pygmeis. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 731/2 As very a manne is he that hath little stature, as hee that hathe a greate, and a Pigmay as a Geaunt. 1640 J. STOUGHTON *Def. & Distrib. Div.*, etc. ii. 67 Though a Gyant be taller then a Pygme, yet a Pygme upon his shoulders hath advantage of him. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 98 ¶ 2 A Woman, who was but a Pygmy without her Head-dress, appear'd like a Colossus upon putting it on. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 28 By her in stature the tall Amazon Had stood a pigmy's height.

b. *fig.* A person (or something personified) of very small importance, or having some specified quality in a very small degree. (Cf. GIANT A. 3.)

1592 KYD *Sol. & Pers.* II. ii. 91 Ile send some Crane to combate with the Pigmew. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. § 14 Though Giants in Wealth and Dignity, we are but Dwarfs and Pygmies in Humanity. 1760 DODD *Hymn Gd.-Nature* Poems (1767) 6 We stood Mere pigmies on the strand. 1860 READE *Cloister & H.* lxxiv, These are heathen arts, and we but pigmies at them. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. viii. 110 They were intellectual pigmies beside the real leaders of that generation—Clay, Calhoun, and Webster.

c. *transf.* A thing that is very small of its kind.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 967 The plant.. does not cease to vegetate, but it continues always a mere pigmy. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* x. (1874) 181 They took their place..among the pigmies and abortions of creation. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* ii. 49 Venus contains mountain ridges upwards of 25 miles in height, in comparison with which our giant Himalayas would appear like pygmies. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 12/1 Since the application of the dry process to photography..the detection of these planetary pigmies [asteroids] has been rendered much easier.

3. An elf, puck, pixy.

1611 COTGR., *Pigmée*, a Pigmey, dwarfe,.. elfe, twattle. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. xi, The Pygmies of Paracelsus, that is, his non-Adamicall men, or middle natures betwixt men and spirits. 1774-6 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 350 The Greek and Roman Poets reduced the character of this Deity [Eros] to that of a wanton mischievous pigmy. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* iv. 123 All tribes of Celtic origin assigned to..these silvan pigmies, more social habits. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* XVIII. 7 They the fairies, and the pigmies, Plotted and conspired against him.

B. *adj.*

1. Of or pertaining to the race of pygmies: see A. 1. (Partly attrib. use of the sb.)

a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* xiii. 240 The pygmie-warriour runs to fight In his dwarf-armour. 1704-5 POPE *Jan. & May* 461 Their pigmy king, and little fairy queen, In circling dances gamboll'd on the green. 1749 COLLINS *Ode, Pop. Superstit. Highl.* 143 In whose small vaults a pigmy-folk is found. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. III. 80 Bring fearful battle to the pigmy race, Bloodshed and death.

2. a. Of persons and animals: Of very small size or stature, dwarf.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 76 As a rare Painter draws.. Here a huge Cyclop, there a Pigmé Elf. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 65 Thou great baboune, thou Pigmie Braggart, thou Pamph[l]eter of nothing but peans. 1645 EVELYN *Diary* 22-24 May, A pigmy sort of spaniels. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 261 The pigmy Brood in ev'ry Furrow swims. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxxiii, 'You have him before you, young man', said the pigmy tenant of the cell, with an air of dignity. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. x. 153 The old showman..stirred up the souls of the pygmy people with one of the quickest tunes in the music book.

b. *gen.* Very small, diminutive, tiny. In *Nat. Hist.* often used in the names of species of animals that are very small of their kind. Also *fig.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 135 Prepar'd To whip this dwarfish warre, this Pigmy Armes From out the circle of his Territories. *a* 1678 MARVELL in *Casquet of Lit.* (1873) I. 309/2 An arrow hurtel'd ere so high..Goes but a pigmy length. 1763 CHURCHILL *Epist. to W. Hogarth* 438 Bid the Deep Hush at thy pigmy voice her waves to sleep. 1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 98 Pygmy Ape. 1781 LATHAM *Hist. Birds* I. 256 Pygmy Parrakeet. 1803–6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* vii, A six years' Darling of a pigmy size. 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIII. 399/2 *P[ithecus] sylvanus.* The Pigmy ape inhabits Africa, the East Indies, and Ceylon,..and, when standing on its hinder legs, measures about two feet in height. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 358 The smallest of all the pigs is, however, the pigmy hog (*Sus salvaninus*). 1898 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 6/2 The pigmy shrew..which really is the smallest mammal we have, and the least but one in all Europe.

C. *Comb.* as *pygmy-minded* adj.; **pygmy-weed,** an annual weed, *Tillæa simplex,* an inch or two high, found in the eastern United States.

1835 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1893) I. xiii. 320 One point in the plan did strike me as less pigmy-minded.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Py·gmy, pi·gmy** *v. trans.*, to make a pygmy of, to reduce to insignificance, to dwarf; **Py·gmydom,** the realm of pygmies; **Py·gmyhood, Py·gmyism, Py·gmyship,** the condition, position, or character of a pygmy.

1658 SAM. AUSTIN *Naps Parnass.* E ij, Stand off thou Poetaster from the Press, Who *pygmi'st Martyrs with thy dwarf-like verse. 1828 *Blackw. Mag.* XXIII. 598 They were pigmied to nothing in such a lordly neighbourhood. 1909 *Church Times* 23 July 120/3 This great..church towers high above everything. It pigmies the parish thurch. 1892 BOOTH-TUCKER *Catherine Booth* lxxvii. II. 162 Lilliputian nobodies from the land of *pigmydom strutted out. 1892 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 231 What we do not understand, we declare, from the height of our *pigmyhood, to be useless. 1837 BP. INGLIS *Let.* in E. Churton *Mem. J. Watson* (1861) II. 99 Do not laugh at our *pigmyism. 1862 *Temple Bar Mag.* V. 288 His *pigmyship.

Pygo- (pəigo), repr. Gr. *πῦγο-*, combining form of *πῦγή* rump, used in the formation of zoological terms. **Pygobra·nchiate** [Gr. *βράγχια* gills] *a.*, belonging to the *Pygobranchia,* a group of gastropods having the gills arranged round the anus; so **Pygobra·nchious** *a.* **Pygome·lian** [Gr. *μέλος* limb] *a.*, pertaining to or connected with a *pygo·melus*, a monster having a supernumerary limb behind or between the normal posterior pair; *sb.* a pygomelian animal. **Py·gopage** [ad. mod.L. *pygopagus*, f. Gr. *πάγος* that which is fixed or firmly set, f. *πήγνυναι* to fix, fasten], a monster consisting of twins united in the region of the buttocks; so **Pygo·pagous** *a.* **Py·gopod** [Gr. *πούς, ποδ-* foot], **a.** *adj.* of or pertaining to the *Pygopodes*, an order of aquatic birds, including the auks, grebes, and loons, having the legs set very far back; **b.** *adj.* of or belonging to the genus *Pygopus* or family *Pygopodidæ* of Australian lizards having rudimentary hind legs; *sb.* a lizard of this family; hence **Pygo·podous** *a.* **Py·gostyle** [Gr. *στῦλος* column], the vomer or triangular plate formed of the fused caudal vertebræ, which supports the tail-feathers in most birds; hence **Py·gostyled** *a.*, furnished with or forming a pygostyle.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pygobranchius,*..applied by Gray to an order (*Pygobranchia*) of the *Gasteropodophora* ...; *pygobranchious. 1894 BATESON *Variation* 401 *note*, *Pygomelian geese are often recorded. 1891 *Amer. Nat.* Oct. 894 The case of Rosa-Josepha is not entirely analogous and comparable to the two other *pygopages. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 5 Apr. 850 *Pygopagous twins..united together in the region of the nates and having each its own pelvis. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sc.* II. 226 The heat of such homothermous animals as the whale, the seal, the walrus, and the *pygopodous birds. 1875 W. K. PARKER in *Encycl. Brit.* III. 719/2 A ploughshare-shaped bone or *pygostyle. 1899 EVANS *Birds* in *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* IX. 47 The tail [of Hesperornis] was fairly long and broad, but had no pygostyle. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 238 Tail short (as to its vertebræ, which are *pygostyled).

Pygrall, Pygsnye, Pygymast, Pygyn : see PEGRALL, PIGSNEY, PEGGYMAST, PIGEON.

† Pygyn, obs. form of PIGGIN.

1334 *Black Bk. Denbigh* lf. 429 Reddendo domino per annum vj vasa et pygyn butiri.

† Py·hy, *int. Obs.* A representation of laughter; cf. TEE-HEE.

1589 *Hay any Work* (1844) 10, I cannot but laugh, *py hy hy hy.* 1589 *Martins Months Minde* Nashe's Wks. (Grosart) I. 198 Ha, he, tse, tse, py, hy, see fortunes wheeles, So how, Mad Martin hath turnde vp his heeles.

Pyic (pəi·ik), *a. rare*⁻⁰. [f. Gr. *πύ-ον* pus + -IC.] Of or pertaining to pus; purulent.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*

Pyin (pəi·in). *Phys. Chem.* [f. as prec. + -IN 1.] An albuminoid substance found in pus.

1845 TODD & BOWMAN *Phys. Anat.* I. 51 It is..stated, that the element which may be obtained from the young cells of areolar tissue is pyine. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 752 Pyin closely resembles mucin. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 39 Pyin can be obtained by agitating recently drawn pus with a 10 per cent. solution of sodium chloride.

† Py·ing, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. implied **pie* vb. (f. PIE *sb.*3) + -ING 1.] The alphabetical indexing of rolls and records: see PIE *sb.*3 2.

1658 *Practick Part Law* (ed. 5) 283 The keepers of the files of Declarations Hath for the filing, pying, and shewing the files of every Clerke for every Terme, 2*s.*

Pyione, obs. form of PEONY.

Pyjamas, pajamas (pəidʒā·măz, pă-), *sb. pl.* Also 9 **peijammahs, pie-, pyjamahs.** [a. Pers. and Urdū پاي جامه *pāē* (*pāy*) *jāmah*, f. Pers. پاي *pāē, pāy* foot, leg + جامه *jāmah* clothing, garment. In Persian, a sb. singular; in Eng. made plural with *-s*, after *breeches, drawers, trousers,* etc.] Loose drawers or trousers, usually of silk or cotton, tied round the waist, worn by both sexes amongst the Mohammedans, and adopted by Europeans, especially for night wear; in England often in trade use inaccurately applied to a sleeping suit of loose trousers and jacket.

1800 *Misc. Tracts* in *Asiat. Ann. Reg.* 342/2 Memorandum relative to Tippoo Sultaun's wardrobe...3d, pai jamahs, or drawers. *Ibid.*, Pai Jamahs. 1834 MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 188 In a pair of 'pigammahs' and a shirt. 1839 THACKERAY *Major Gahagan* iii, I stripped him of his.. peijammahs. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. v. 156 Equipped in our broad straw hats, shirts, light silk or muslin 'piejamahs'. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 108 He usually undresses, puts on his pajamas (the loose Turkish trouser). 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 360 Pyjamahs of red silk trimmed with gold lace. 1893 EARL DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 277 They wore the usual short blue silk cloak and loose white pyjamas. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 122/1 I'd as lief be seen in my pajamas.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sing. form), as *pyjama-suit, -trousers*; *pyjama-clad* adj.

1897 HUGHES *Medit. Fever* v. 188 It has the disadvantage over the pyjama suit of being more difficult to change. 1900 G. SWIFT *Somerley* 42 To make your pyjama-trousers look like trunk-hose. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 27 Apr. 6/4 The spectacle presented by the learned counsel, and the officials of the court, arranged in front of the pyjama-clad judge.

Hence **Pyja·maed** *a.*, clad in pyjamas.

1883 *World* 28 Nov. 18/2 Ten pyjamahed and betowelled unfortunates are standing..outside. 1890 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Sept. 2/3 A stranger who strolled into (say) the Lord Chief Justice's Court, pyjama-ed and not ashamed.

Pyjon, obs. form of PIGEON.

Pyk, -e, pykke, obs. ff. *pick*, north. f. PITCH *sb.*1

Pyk, Pykage, Pykar, Pykarelle, obs. ff. PICK, PIKE, PICKAGE, PICARD, PIKER 1, PICKEREL.

Pykas, -ax, pykeax(e, pykeis, pykes, obs. ff. PICKAX. **Pyke,** obs. f. PECK *v.*1, PICK *v.*1, PIKE, PIQUE. **Pykefork,** obs. f. PICKFORK.

Pykeled, var. PICKLED *ppl. a.*2 *Obs.*, speckled.

Pyker, Pykerel, -elle, Pykery, obs. ff. PICARD, PIKER 1, PICKEREL, PICKERY.

† Pykestole, -olle. *Obs.* [Origin unascertained.] Name of a play or sport formerly engaged in at Ripon on Easter Monday.

1439 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 235 Et in pane et cerevisio emptis pro ludentibus le Pykestolle in crastino Paschæ.. *id.* 1447 *Ibid.* 240 Et in solucione facta xv ministris ludentibus in crastino festi Paschæ..15*d.* Et in pane et cervis. emptis pro le Pykestole ludentibus ibidem eodem die, 14*d.*

Pykfork, Pykid, Pyking, Pykit, obs. ff. PICKFORK, PIKED, PICKING, PICKED, PIKED.

Pykk, -e, Pykkert, Pykkyll, Pykle, -let, obs. ff. PICK, PICARD, PIGHTLE, PICKLE, PIKELET.

Pykois(e, -oys, Pykrelle, Pykrie, -ry(e, Pykulle, -yl, Pyl, obs. ff. PICKAX, PICKEREL, PICKERY, PICKLE, PILE *sb.*, PILL *sb.* and *v.*

‖ **Pyla** (pəi·lă). *Anat.* Pl. **pylæ.** [mod.L., ad. Gr. *πύλη* a gate.] Each of the openings forming a communication between the cavities of the optic lobes of the brain and the iter.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pylagore (pi·lăgoəɪ). *Gr. Antiq.* Also in Gr. form **pylagoras.** [ad. Gr. *Πυλαγόρας*, f. *Πύλαι*, Thermopylæ (the older place of assembly of the Pythian Amphictyony) + *ἄγορα* assembly.] The title of one of the two deputies sent by each constituent tribe to the Amphictyonic Council.

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.*, Pylagore. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph., Com.* II. 76 Every Grecian state..sent to its meetings two deputies, one of whom bore the name of Pylagore, the other the appellation of Hieromnemon. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. x. 380 At Athens three pylagores were annually elected. 1846 GROTE *Greece* II. ii. II. 325 Æschines, himself a Pylagore sent to Delphi by Athens.

‖ **Pylangium** (pəilændʒəi·ŏm). *Anat.* [mod. L., f. Gr. *πύλη* gate + *ἀγγεῖον* vessel.] The undivided portion of the arterial trunk next the ventricle in the lower vertebrates.

1875 HUXLEY in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 763/1 *Pylangium* and *synangium*, together, are the equivalents of that portion of the heart which lies between the ventricle and the anterior wall of the pericardium. 1900 *Nature* 16 Aug. 365/1 Figures of the frog's heart, which, as regards the detailed structure of the pylangium..are wholly unconventional.

Hence **Pyla·ngial** *a.*, of or pertaining to the pylangium.

Pylar (pəi·lăɪ), *a. Biol. rare.* [f. Gr. *πύλη* (see PYLA) + -AR.] Pertaining to a pyla or pyle.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pylar, -ard, -aster, obs. ff. PILLAR, PILASTER.

Pylche, Pylcherd, obs. ff. PILCH, PILCHARD.

Pylcraft(e, obs. variant of PILCROW.

Pyle (pəil). *Biol. rare.* [ad. Gr. *πύλη* gate.] A small orifice, a pore; generally used in combination, as in MICROPYLE.

1890 *Cent. Dict.* cites COUES.

Pyle, obs. f. PEEL *sb.*2, PILE, PILL, PILLOW.

Pyle-, bef. a vowel **pyl-,** ad. Gr. *πύλη* gate, orifice, applied to the portal vein; irreg. used as combining form instead of the regular *pylo-*. **Pylemphraxis** (pəilemfræ·ksis) [Gr. *ἔμφραξις* stoppage, obstruction], obstruction of the portal vein (Mayne 1858). **Pylephlebitis** (pəi·lĭflĭbəi·tis) [PHLEBITIS], inflammation of the portal vein; hence **Pylephlebi·tic** *a.* **Pylethrombosis** (pəilĭθrɒmbō·sis), thrombosis of the portal vein.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 439 *Pylephlebitic abscesses in the liver. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Pylophlebitis.* 1880 R. C. DRYSDALE in *Med. Temp. Jrnl.* Oct. 8, Cases of pylephlebitis of adhesive type due to alcohol. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Pylethrombosis. 1905 H. D. ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 64 To diagnose pylethrombosis.

Pyleol ryal, pennyroyal: see PULIOL.

Pyler(e, Pylery, obs. ff. PILLAR, PILLORY.

Pylet, Pylewer, obs. ff. PELLET *sb.*2, PILLIVER.

Pylfer, Pylfry, obs. ff. PILFER, PILFERY.

Pylgreme, -grime, -grym(e, obs. ff. PILGRIM.

Pylie, Pylion, Pyliwe, obs. forms of PILY *a.*2, PILLION, PILLOW.

Pyll, Pyllar, -er, Pyllary, Pyllaster, obs. ff. PILE, PILL, PILLAR, PILLER, PILLORY, PILASTER.

Pylle, Pyllery, obs. ff. PILE, PILL, PILLORY.

† Pylletori, -ory, obs. forms of PELLITORY.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 107 b, The other new kynde of pylletori. *Ibid.*, Pylletoris is good for the tuth ach.

Pyllory(e, Pyllow(e, Pyllyon, obs. forms of PILLORY, PILLOW, PILLION.

‖ **Pylon** (pəi·lɒn). *Arch.* [a. Gr. *πυλών* a gateway, f. *πύλη* gate.] A gateway, a gate-tower; *spec.* in recent use, the monumental gateway to an Egyptian temple, usually formed by two truncated pyramidal towers connected by a lower architectural member containing the gate.

1850 LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 220 (ed. 2) 217 The principal structures begin with a pylon, that is, pyramidal double towers or wings (Strabo's ptera) which flank the gateway. 1862 FAIRHOLT *Up Nile* (1863) 406 A square panel in the entry of the great pylon records the visit of the French General Desaix and his myrmidons in 1799. 1893 BUDGE *Mummy* 33 The names of the places conquered by Thothmes were inscribed..on some of the pylons at Karnak.

transf. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 20 May 4/1 At each end of the bridge [over the Thames at Vauxhall], according to the design, there were two 'pylons'...The Bridges Committee recommended that these pylons should be omitted.

fig. 1905 W. SANDAY *Crit. Fourth Gosp.* vi. 185 The pylon of the Fourth Gospel is of course the prologue.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pylon-shaped* adj.

1890 RIDER HAGGARD & A. LANG *World's Desire* II. i, There on the pylon brow stood..Hathor's self. 1904 BUDGE *Guide 3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 70 Head-rest on a support, with a pylon-shaped opening in it.

Pyloric (pəilo·rik), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* [f. PYLORUS + -IC.] Of or pertaining to the pylorus.

1807 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCVII. 145 Two cavities; one large, which I shall call the cardiac portion, the other small, which I shall call the pyloric. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* (1856) 29 The pyloric orifice is on the posterior dorsal side. 1859 HUXLEY *Oceanic Hydrozoa* 9 A pyloric valve. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1883) 131 These unite with a cross-piece, the 'pyloric' ossicle, which arches over the roof of the pyloric division of the stomach.

B. *sb.* (*pl.*) The pyloric glands.

1885 *Field* 26 Dec. 896/1 When ascending into fresh water with their ova nearly ready for extrusion, their pylorics are loaded with fat.

Pyloro- (pəilō·ro), before a vowel **pylor-,** stem of Gr. *πυλωρός* (see next); a formative element in various pathological and surgical terms. **Pylore·ctomy** [ECTOMY], excision of the pylorus. **Pylo·ropla·sty** [see -PLASTY], plastic surgery of the pylorus. ‖ **Pylo·rosi·rrhus,** scirrhus of the pylorus.

1895 MORISON in *Lancet* 16 Feb. (*title*) A successful case of Pyloroplasty. 1900 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* No. 2040 257 Of his last 11 cases..2 were pylorectomies.

‖ **Pylorus** (pəilō·rŭs). *Anat.* [Late L. *pylōrus* the lower orifice of the stomach (Cæl. Aurel. 5th c.), a. Gr. *πυλωρός, πυλουρός* gatekeeper, porter, f. *πύλη* gate + *οὖρος* watcher, warder.] The opening from the stomach into the duodenum, which is guarded by a strong sphincter muscle; also, that part of the stomach where it is situated.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* III. v. (1631) 105 The guts are continued with the stomack at the right Orifice called the Pylorus. 1767 GOOCH *Treat. Wounds* I. 394 Its superior orifice, called also the cardiac, is on the left, and the inferior or pylorus, on the right side of this organ. 1808 BARCLAY *Muscular Motions* 543 The pylorus opens into the intestine. 1875 C. C. BLAKE *Zool.* 198 At the pylorus there is an annular membranous valve, near which the gall-duct opens.

b. An analogous part in invertebrates; e. g. the posterior opening of the stomach in insects; also,

the valvular structure which separates the gastric from the somatic cavity in the siphonophorous hydrozoans (the *pyloric valve* of Huxley).

1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xl. 99 The stomach...At its posterior end it terminates in the pylorus, a fleshy ring or sphincter formed of annular muscular fibres.

Pylot, -ott(e, Pylote, obs. ff. PILOT, PELLET 1. **Pylour, -owre, Pylowe, -lu, -lwe, Pylt(e, Pylwere, Pylyol, Pylyon,** obs. ff. PILLAR, PILLER, PILLOW, PILT, PILLIVER, PULIOL, PILLION.

Pym-, Pyn- were, for the sake of greater legibility, usually written by ME. scribes instead of *pim-, pin-*; for all such forms not found here, see the corresponding words in PIM-, PIN-.

Pymander, Pymentarie, -ye, Pyn, obs. ff. POMANDER, PIGMENTARY, PIN, PINE.

Pynacle (Caxton), erron. f. PIACLE, expiation.

Pyncheon, Pyncon, obs. ff. PINSON 1 and 2.

Pynd(e, obs. pa. t. and pple. of PIN *v.*, PINE *v.*; var. of PIND *v. Obs.*, to impound. **Pyndare, -er(e, Pyndfold(e,** obs. ff. PINDER, PINFOLD.

Pyne, obs. f. PEEN *v.* (to beat thin), PIN, PINE.

†Pyne doublet. *Sc. Obs.* [First element is obscure; cf. *pyn-* or *pee-doublet*, PEE *sb.*1] Supposed to be the same as JACK *sb.*2 1 b, a quilted and sometimes iron-plated doublet or coat of fence.

1713 EARL CROMERTY *Hist. Acc. Conspir. Earl Gowry* 61 Mr Alexander [Ruthven] being almost on his Knees, had his Hand upon His Majesty's Face and Mouth; and his Majesty seeing the Deponent, cry'd, Fy! strike him laigh, because he has a Pyne Doublet upon him. 1849 JAS. GRANT *Kirkaldy of Gr.* iv. 38 A breastplate, a jack or pyne doublet were usual parts of everyday attire.

Pyneable, Pyneon, Pynesse, -ice, obs. ff. PINE-APPLE, PINION, PINNACE.

†Py·nepeny. *Obs.* [f. (?)PINE *v.* + PENNY; cf. PINCHPENNY.] A niggard.

c 1412 HOCCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4095 Thow pynepeny [*v.r.* pynchepeny], ther ay mot þou slepe!

Pyne pig. *Sc.* [First element uncertain (? the same as in prec.); the second is PIG *sb.*2] A pot or an earthenware vessel (or sometimes one of tin or other material) for the keeping of money; a savings box. (Cf. *Penny-pig* s. v. PENNY *sb.* 12.)

1488 [see PIG *sb.*2]. 1825 JAMIESON, *Pyne Pig*, a vessel used for keeping money. 1881 J. LONGMUIR in *Mod. Scot. Poets* II. 45 [Why] keep your Savings' pyne-pig toom o' white or yellow?

Pynn-: see PINN-, PIN-.

Pynok, Pyno(u)n(e, Pyno(u)r, -owr, obs. ff. PINNOCK 1, PENNON, PINION, PINER 1. **Pynot,** dial. f. PIANNET. **Pynote,** obs. f. PINE-NUT.

Pynsal, Pynsell, -il, obs. ff. PENCEL, PENCIL. **Pynsen, -son, -soun,** var. PINSON 1 and 2 *Obs.* **Pynshe, Pynsor(e)s, -sours,** obs. ff. PINCH, PINCERS. **Pynstal,** obs. f. *pine-stall* (PINE *sb.*1 6). **Pyntche, Pynt(e, Pyntil, -ul,** etc., obs. ff. PINCH, PAINT *v.*1, PINT, PINTLE.

Pynun, pynyo(u)n, obs. ff. PINION, PENNON.

Pyo- (pəi$_{1}$o), before a vowel **py-**, repr. Gr. πυο-, combining form of πύον pus; used to form medical and pathological terms. **Pyoco·ccal** *a.* [Gr. κόκκος grain], pertaining to the || **Pyoco·ccus,** a microbe or coccus causing suppuration. || **Pyocœ·lia** [Gr. κοιλία cavity], the presence of pus in the abdominal cavity (Dunglison 1853). **Pyo·ctanin(e** [Gr. κτείνειν to kill], name given to methyl violet from its alleged power of checking suppuration. **Pyocy·anin** [CYANIN], a blue colouring matter, $C_{14}H_{14}NO_2$, obtained from blue or lead-coloured pus; so **Pyocya·nic** *a.* **Py·ocyst,** an encysted collection of pus, esp. in the lung. **Pyode·rmic** *a.* [DERMIC], of or pertaining to || **Pyode·rmia,** a purulent state of the skin. || **Pyodia·thesis,** a purulent diathesis. || **Pycede·ma** [ŒDEMA], œdema caused by purulent infiltration (Dunglison 1853). **Pyoge·nesis,** the formation of pus, suppuration; so **Pyogene·tic, Pyoge·nic** *adjs.*, of or pertaining to pyogenesis; producing pus. **†Pyohæ·mia,** = PYÆMIA (Dunglison 1842); hence **†Pyohæ·mic** *a.* = PYÆMIC (*Syd. Soc. Lex.* 1897). **Pyohæmotho·rax,** presence of pus and blood in the pleural cavities. **Py·olymph,** lymph containing pus corpuscles. || **Pyometra** (-mī·tră) [Gr. μήτρα womb]: see quot. **Pyonephri·tis** [NEPHRITIS], suppurative inflammation of the kidney; hence **Pyonephri·tic** *a.* || **Pyonephro·sis** [Gr. νεφρός kidney: see -OSIS], the presence of pus in the kidney; hence **Pyonephro·tic** *a.* || **Pyoperica·rdium,** the presence or a collection of pus in the pericardium. || **Pyophtha·lmia,** production of pus in the eye (Dunglison 1853). || **Pyopneumoperica·rdium** [PNEUMOPERICARDIUM], the presence of pus together with air or gas in the pericardium. || **Pyopneumotho·rax** [PNEUMOTHORAX], the presence of pus and air in the pleural cavities; = PNEUMOPYOTHORAX. || **Pyo·ptysis** [Gr. πτύσις spitting], expectoration of pus (Dunglison 1842). || **Pyorrhœ·a** [Gr. ῥοία flux], discharge of pus. || **Pyosa·lpinx** [Gr. σάλπιγξ a tube], the presence of pus in the Fallopian tube. || **Pyosepticæ·mia,** pyæmia together with septicæmia; hence **Pyosepticæ·mic** *a.* || **Pytho·rax** [THORAX], collection of pus in the pleural cavities. **Pyoxa·nthin, Pyoxa·nthose** [Gr. ξανθός yellow], a yellow colouring matter found with pyocyanin in blue suppuration.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 726 Potent also against the *pyococcal infections. 1897 *Ibid.* III. 715 Due to the *pyococci contained in the sputum they swallow. 1890 *Lancet* 11 Oct. 783/2 [He] has tried **pyoktanin*, the new aniline antiseptic, in several cases of suppurative ear disease. 1891 *Standard* 2 Feb. 5/2 Experiments with solutions of methyl violet, also called pyoctanine, a new pigment manufactured at Darmstadt. 1901 W. OSLER *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 4) 163 The *pyocyanic disease..is an extremely interesting form of infection with bacillus pyocyaneus. 1860 *Chem. News* II. 119/1 M. Fordos has..succeeded in extracting..blue matter to which he gives the name of *pyocyanine. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 752 Pyocyanin crystallises in needles or in rectangular flakes. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 40 A blue colour is often noticed on the dry bandages and linen which have been in contact with pus; this is due to pyo-cyanin. [1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pyocystis*, vomica.] 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pyocystis*, term for a cyst of pus, especially in the lung; a *vomica*: a pyocyst. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 911 Certain other clinical forms of *pyodermia have received special names. *Ibid.* 918 Impetiginous and other *pyodermic disorders. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Pyodiathesis*. 1847 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 116 The true doctrine of *Pyogenesis is a modification of that of 'secretion'. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 55 *note*, Pyogenesis must not be confounded with inflammation. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pyogeneticus*, ..*pyogenetic. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 70 The pyogenetic inflammation. 1897 *Ibid.* II. 86 Pyogenetic bacteria are as a rule present in varying numbers. 1839–47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 754/2 *note*, The *pyogenic membrane..lines the cavity of an abscess. 1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 137 On the Pyogenic or Suppurative Diathesis. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 73 Conditions of great virulence of the pyogenic microbes. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pyohemothorax; *Pyolymph. 1893 W. R. GOWERS *Dis. Nerv. Syst.* (ed. 2) II. 333 If a scalpel is passed over the surface, it removes a little pyo-lymph. 1860 TANNER *Pregnancy* iii. 181 The collection..of pus—*pyometra—in the [uterus]. 1876 BRISTOWE *The. & Pract. Med.* (1878) 831 The cholesterine was traced to a *pyonephritic cyst. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 308 Abscess of the kidney, with or without perinephritic abscess, and pyelitis, leading to *pyonephrosis. 1885 W. ROBERTS *Urin. & Renal Dis.* III. v. (ed. 4) 514 Contracted from the pressure of a *pyonephrotic tumour. 1853 DUNGLISON, **Pyopericardia*, a collection of pus in the pericardium. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 125 Successful cases of draining the pyo-pericardium have been published. *Ibid.* 776 Pyopericardium is occasionally acute in its manifestations. 1878 tr. *Von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 124 *Pyopneumopericardium has thus far been observed only a few times. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 214 In a few recorded cases a pulmonary cavity has perforated the pericardium and produced pyopneumopericardium. 1894 *Lancet* 3 Nov. 1033 The right side of the chest gave the physical signs of a *pyopneumothorax. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 537 Pyopneumothorax or gangrene of the lung. 1811 HOOPER *Dict.*, **Pyorrhœa*, a purulent discharge from the belly. 1878 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* VIII. 777 The treatment of chronic pyorrhœa. *Ibid.* X. 345 The accumulation of pus in the tube—*pyosalpinx—may even lead to ulceration of the mucous membrane. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 132 Other symptoms significant of a general *pyosepticæmic infection of the system are present. 1853 MARKHAM *Skoda's Auscult.* 319 Effusions of blood, or pus—Hæmothorax—*Pyothorax—into the pleural cavity. 1876 tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* IV. 611 Purulent pleuritis (pyothorax, empyema). 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 40 Minute yellow crystals of *pyoxanthin. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 752 After the separation of the pyocyanin, the chloroform retains in solution a yellow substance called *pyoxanthose.

Pyoid (pəi·oid), *a.* [ad. Gr. πυοειδής like pus, f. πύ-ον pus: see -OID.] Of the nature of or resembling pus; purulent.

1853 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s. v., Pyoid corpuscles or globules. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* 136 The cells are converted into pus, or pyoid cells. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 514 Soft, greasy, pyoid material.

Pyoine, pyon(e, -onie, etc., obs. ff. PEONY. **Pyonar, -eer, -er, -ier,** obs. ff. PIONEER. **Pyone,** obs. f. PEON. **Pyoning:** see PION *v. Obs.*

|| Pyosis (pəi$_{1}$ōu·sis), *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. πύωσις.] Formation of pus, suppuration.

1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pyosis*, a Collection of Pus in any part of the Body. 1706 in PHILLIPS (ed. 6). 1842 in DUNGLISON. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pyosis*, the process of pus-formation.

Pyot, Pyot(t)y, a magpie: see PIET.

†Pype, obs. f. PEEP *sb.*2, *v.*2, PIP, PIPE.

c 1470 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* IX. (*Wolf & Fox*) XXVI, It is ane side of salmond, as it wair, And callour, pypand like ane pertrik ee.

Pyp-grass (pəi·pi$_{1}$grɑs). [app. f. Du. *pijp*, formerly *pyp* pipe + GRASS.] A tall-growing South African species of grass, *Ehrharta gigantea*.

1854 P. L. SIMMONDS in *Pharmac. Jrnl.* XIII. 421 Something must be sown with the berry [of the Myrica] to screen its shoot..Pyp grass seed should..be prepared for the purpose. 1880 *S. Africa* (Silver & Co.), Of indigenous grasses which may be usefully employed to arrest drifting sands none are better than the Pyp grass.

Pypkin, obs. form of PIPKIN. **Pypoudre, pypowder,** etc., var. PIEPOWDER. **Pyppe,** obs. f. PIP, PIPE. **Pyppen, Pypyn(e,** obs. ff. PIPPIN. **Pypple,** obs. f. PEBBLE, PIPPLE. **Pypryge,** obs. f. PIPPERIDGE. **Pyquoys,** obs. f. PICKAX.

Pyr, variant of PURR *int.* (call to pigs).

Pyracanth (pəi·rărkænþ), || **pyracantha** (pəi·rărkæ·nþă). Also 8 **pyracanthe, piracanthy,** 9 **pyracanthus.** [ad. L. *pyracantha*, a. Gr. πυράκανθα, name of an unidentified shrub or plant, casually mentioned (but not described) by Dioscorides (I. xviii); applied by 16th c. botanists to the shrub here noted, and adopted by Linnæus as its specific name. See Note below.]

An evergreen thorny shrub, *Cratægus Pyracantha*, a native of southern Europe, bearing clusters of white flowers and scarlet berries; in England often trained against walls as an ornamental shrub; also called Christ's, Egyptian, or Evergreen Thorn.

1664 EVELYN *Sylva* XX. P 9 Some Pyracanths which I have removed to a Northern dripping shade. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 458 Phyllyrea here and Pyracantha rise, Whose Beauty only gratifies the Eyes. 1775 R. GOUGH in Nichols *Lit. Anecd. 18th C.* (1814) VIII. 614, I can talk only of..Pyracanthas and Syringas. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* vi, The long low parsonage house half-covered with China-roses and pyracanthus. *1878 T. HARDY *Return Native* II. v, A huge pyracanth now darkened the greater portion [of a house-front].

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pyracantha seed*; *pyracantha-leaved* adj.; **pyracanth-medlar,** the pyracanth (reckoned as a species of *Mespilus*).

1825 *Greenhouse Comp.* II. 83 *Celastrus Pyracanthus*, pyracantha-leaved Staff-tree, a low tree also from the Cape. 1834 MARY HOWITT *Sk. Nat. Hist., Old-fashioned Winter* 66 And the finches in their need Picked the pyracantha seed. 1842 J. B. FRASER *Mesopot. & Assyria* XV. 353 On the flanks of forests..there appear..*Mespilus Pyracantha*... Pyracanth medlar [etc.].

Hence **Pyraca·nthine** *a.* [-INE 1], of or belonging to the pyracanth.

1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* III. 255 Lips as red as pyracanthine berries.

[*Note.* The numerous Latin versions of Dioscorides left πυράκανθα unidentified, and merely latinized as *pyracantha*. According to Lobel *Adversaria* 438 (1576), this was derived from L. *pyrus* pear + Gr. ἄκανθα thorn, from the resemblance of the leaves to those of the wild pear ('arbusta cui facies et folium Pyrastri..propter foliorum similitudinem nonnulli Pyracantham vocant'). But this hybrid origin was, of course, impossible for the Greek word, and the name has been commonly taken as meaning 'fire-thorn', f. πῦρ fire + ἄκανθα thorn, and considered to be appropriate to the modern pyracanth, from its profusion of scarlet or flame-coloured berries. For the identity of this with the πυράκανθα of Dioscorides there is no other evidence.]

Pyracid, variant form of PYRO-ACID.

Pyracie, -acy(e, obsolete forms of PIRACY.

Pyrage, obs. erron. form of PIROGUE.

Pyral (pəi·răl), *a. rare.* [f. L. *pyra* PYRE + -AL.] Of or pertaining to a pyre.

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* iv. 57 After the pyrall combustion. *Ibid.* 61 More inflammable, and unctuously constituted for the better pyrall combustion. 1888 *Science* XII. 40 In connection with each house..was what the explorer calls a pyral mound. On this the bodies and effects of the dead were consigned to fire.

|| Pyralis (pi·rălis). Pl. **pyralides** (piræ·lidīz). Also (in sense 1) in anglicized form (from Fr.) **pyralide.** [ad. Gr. πυραλίς a winged insect supposed to live in fire, f. πῦρ fire; also a. obs. F. *pyralide* 'a fire-fly or worme bred in the fire' (Cotgr.).]

†1. A fabulous fly supposed to live in or be generated by fire. *Obs.*

1588 GREENE *Planetom. Venus Trag.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 60 As the flie Pyralis cannot liue out of the flame. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xvii. 41 His pain wes lyk the pyralide, A beist in birning that does breid. 1684 *Contempl. State Man* II. vii. (1699) 212 Place us in the Light and Bright One [i. e. flame] of thy Love; where like Pyralides and sacred Salamanders we shall live happy without Pain or Torment.

2. *Entom.* [mod.L., Schrank 1801.] A genus of moths typical of the family *Pyralidæ*. So **Py·ralid,** *a.* resembling or belonging to the *Pyralidæ*; *sb.* a moth of this family; **Pyrali·deous** *a.* = PYRALID *a.*; **Pyra·lidiform** *a.*, resembling the *Pyralidæ* in form or structure; **Pyra·lidine** *a.* = PYRALID *a.*

1859 STAINTON *Man. Brit. Butterfl. & Moths* II. 124 The Pyralidina are divided into two main groups:—1. The Pyralideous group. 2. The Crambideous group. The Pyralideous group is further divided into two main sections: 1. The Deltoides. 2. The Pyralites. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 12/2 In some of the vineyards..in France..great havoc has been wrought by the pyralis.

Pyrallolite: see PYRO- 2.

†Py·rame. *Obs. rare.* Also 4–5 **piram, -e,** 7 **piramee.** [Shortened from L. *pyramis* PYRAMID, perh. by taking *piramis, pirames* as a pl.]

1. Applied by Trevisa to the cone or pencil of rays entering the eye from any object; see PYRAMID *sb.* 2.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* III. xvii. (Harl. MS.) lf. 14 b/2 [Al þe lynes þat ben y-drawe from alle þe partyes of þe þing þat is i-seen, he makeþ a piramis [L. *faciunt piramidem*] in schape as a top [*Tollemache MS.* trompe],

& þe poynt þerof is in þe blak of þe eyȝe]. *Ibid.* 15/1 Perfor nedes yt nedeþ to have a piram [*ed.* 1495 pyrame] a schelde oþer a toppe of liȝt, & al þe piramis þo poyntes be in þe eyȝen & þe brode endes in þe þinges þat ben i-seyen. *Ibid.* (Add. MS.), Whanne þe liknes of þe þing comeþ to þe siȝt upon þese pirames [*ed.* 1495 piramis], þenne þe liknes of liȝt & colour passiþ by þe smale curtiles & humoures of þe eiȝe.

2. A pyramid, spire, or steeple: see PYRAMID 3.

1604 HIERON *Papists Rime Answ.* Wks. 1620 I. 574 Well may the heathen people boast Of piramees & churches cost.

†Pyra·mical, *a. Obs.* [irreg. f. L. *pȳramis*, a. Gr. *πύραμις* PYRAMID + -ICAL. The etymological form is PYRAMIDICAL.] = PYRAMIDAL *a.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* iv. xvii, That Great All, This His work's glory, made pyramicall. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* 167 Of a pyramical Figure, and not unlike to a Pine Apple.

Pyramid (pi·rămid), *sb.* Forms: see below. [Originally in form *pir-, pyramis*, pl. *pir-, pyra·mides* (piræ·midīz), later *pyra·mids*, a. L. *pȳramis* (med.L. also *pīramis*), pl. *pȳramidēs*, a. Gr. *πύραμις*, pl. *πύραμίδες* (perh. of Egyptian origin, but anciently explained by some as a deriv. of *πῦρ*, *πυρ-* fire, by others as f. *πῡρός* wheat, grain, as if a granary). The later form *pyr-, pi·ramide, pyramid* was app. after F. *pyramide* (in 12th c. *piramide*, Hatz.-Darm.). The pl. *pyramisis, pyramidies*, and sing. *pyr-, pyramidis, -es*, were popular or illiterate analogical formations.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

α. 4–7 **pi·ramis**, 6–8 **py·ramis**; *pl.* (4 syll.) 6–7 **pira·mides, pyra·mides**; (7 **pyra·midis, pyra·misis**, 8 **pira·midies**); also (3 syll.) 6–7 **pyra·mides** (*e* mute), **pyra·mids.**

The 3-syll. plurals *pyra·mides* (*e* mute), *pyra·mids*, retained the stress of *pyra·mi-des*; but it is only in verse that they can be distinguished from the 3-syll. *pyra-mides, pyra-mids*, with stress on first syllable, in *β*.

1398 Piramis [see PYRAME 1]. 1555, 1586 Pyramides, piramides [see B. 1]. 1570, 1651 Pyramis [see B. 2, 4]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 105 The Spire or taper, called piramis. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 40 *Lepidus.* I haue heard the Ptolomies Pyramisis are very goodly things. *Ibid.* v. ii. 61 Rather make My Countries high pyramides my Gibbet. 1619 *Pasquil's Palin.* XXXVIII, To cast your tall Piramides to ground. 1662 GERBIER *Princ.* 30 His Figures and Statues Colosses, his Pyramidis like those of Ægypt. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 78 Two piramidies full of pipes spouting water. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* V. 256 The Church hath a Pyramis or Spire.

1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* ii, Greece will the olde Ephesian buildings blaze, And Nylus nurslings their Pyramides faire. 1595 — *Sonn.* iii, Their huge Pyramids, which do heauen threat. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iii, Make it rich..Like the Pyramides: lay on epitaphs.

β. 6–7 **pyramide, piramide, 7 piramid, 7- pyramid**; *pl.* 7 **pir-, py·ramides, pi·ramids, py·ramyds, 7- py·ramids.**

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* p. xv b/1 The Pyramide which passeth cleane through the Trepane. *Ibid.* 7 b/1 The poynt a piramide of a Trepane. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 57 (1623) Though Pallaces, and Pyramids do slope Their heads to their Foundations. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 21 They take the flow o'th'Nyle By certaine scales i'th'Pyramid. 1632 W. LYNNESAY in Lithgow *Trav.* B iij, Memphis, in parch'd Ægypts soyle: Flank'd with old Piramides, and melting Nyle. 1638–56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 752 Numbers which still encrease more high and wide From One, the root of their turn'd Pyramide. *a* 1649 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* Wks. (1711) 10 My heart a living pyramide I raise. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch., Hen. IV* cccxxvi, Th' intent Stood, a true Piramid, in Government. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 1013 Satan..Springs upward like a Pyramid of fire, Into the wilde Expanse. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VIII. cxxxvii, Guessing at what shall happily be hid As the real purpose of a pyramid.

γ. sing. 6–7 **piramidis, 7 pyr-, piramides**; *pl.* 6 **piramidesses.**

1595 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* III. Introd. 38 The free mazons finishing..four of the topstones for the piramidesses. *Ibid.*, The base and spire of a piramidis. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* Pref. (1602) A ij b, He also was cast off from the highest Pyramides of fortunes wheele. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 306 A certaine tower built like a piramidis. 1642 VICARS *God in Mount* (title-p.), A Panegyrick Piramides, erected to the everlasting high honour of England's God.

B. Signification.

1. A monumental structure built of stone or the like, with a polygonal (usually square) base, and sloping sides meeting at an apex; *orig.* and *esp.* one of the ancient structures of this kind in Egypt.

1555 EDEN *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 49 The hugious heapes of stones of the Pyramides of Egypt. 1586 T. FORSTER *Pilgr. Mecca* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. I. 201 Without the Citie, sixe miles higher into the land, are to be seene neere vnto the riuer diuerse Piramides, among which are three marueilous great, and very artificially wrought. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV. iv, Place me, some god, upon a Piramis, Higher than hills of earth. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 129 Cheops, a King of Ægypt, & the builder of this *pyramis*. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 1 P 4, I made a Voyage to Grand Cairo, on purpose to take the Measure of a Pyramid. 1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 129 Nile shall pursue his changeless way: Those pyramids shall fall. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. lvi, By Coblentz..There is a small and simple pyramid;..Beneath its base are heroes' ashes hid. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* (1876) 48 The great pyramid of Cholula, the largest and most sacred temple in Mexico. 1843 PRESCOTT *Mexico* IV. vii. (1864) 253 [A Mexican *teocalli*] A stone building on the usual pyramidal basis; and the ascent was by a flight of steep steps on one of the faces of the pyramid. 1877 A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* I. 19 The Great Pyramid..towers close above one's head.

2. The form of a pyramid; in *Geom.* a solid figure bounded by plane surfaces, of which one (the base) is a polygon of any number of sides, and the other surfaces triangles having as bases the sides of the polygon, and meeting at a point (the vertex) outside the plane of the polygon.

Formerly sometimes extended to include the CONE, which differs in having a circular (or other curved) base, and a continuous curved surface between the base and the apex.

1398 Piramis [see PYRAME 1]. 1570 BILLINGSLEY *Euclid* II. def. x. 314 A Pyramis is a solide figure contained vnder many playne superficieces set vpon one playne superficies, and gathered together to one point. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1322 The shadow of the earth being round, groweth point-wise or sharp at the end, in maner of a cone or pyramis. 1620–55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 70 That Fire hath the Form of a Pyramis is evident. 1672 TEMPLE *Ess. Govt.* Wks. 1731 I. 105 The Rules of Architecture,..teach us that the Pyramid is of all Figures the firmest. 1795 HUTTON *Dict. Math.* s. v., A cone is a round Pyramid, or one having an infinite number of sides...The *axis* of the Pyramid, is the line drawn from the vertex to the centre of the base. When this axis is perpendicular to the base, the Pyramid is said to be a *right* one; otherwise it is *oblique*. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 367 The apical cell has..the form of an inverted triangular pyramid.

†b. Erroneously used for the vertex or point of a pyramid or similar figure. (Cf. CONE *sb.*1 14.)

1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* I. ii. § 21 A great Body of Light transmitting his rayes through a narrow hollownesse does by that small Pyramis represent all the parts of the magnitude. *Ibid.* v. § 6 The rayes of light passing through the thin air, end in a small and undiscerned pyramis.

†3. *Arch.* Any structure of pyramidal form, as a spire, pinnacle, obelisk, etc. Also applied to a gable. (Cf. PEDIMENT 1.) *Obs.* exc. as in 1.

[c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 397 Pykewalle (or gabyl), *Murus Conalis, piramis, vel piramidalis.*]

a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1710) I. 77 Ther be 3 great old Toures with pyramides on them. 1595 [see A. γ]. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy, Martianus' Topogr. Rome* VIII. xi. 1401 There stood a Pyramis or steeple in times past, under which they say P. Scipio Africanus lay enterred. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 585 [Lichfield Cathedral Church] doth mount on high with three pyramids or spires of stone. 1625 T. BROWNE in Darcie *Ann. Q. Eliz.* I. 82 A most rare Piramide of the Cathedrall Church of Saint Paul, in London, was strucken.. with fire from heaven. 1630 MILTON *On Shakespear* 4 What needs my Shakespear.. that his hallow'd reliques should be hid Under a Star-ypointing Pyramid? 1632 in E. P. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 302 The Carpenters.. have allwaies vsed to have the Cutting of.. ballesters, hauces, tafferrells, pendants and piramides. 1634 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 699 The piramides upon the little gable ends. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 60, I could observe..a square Minaret that spires into a Pyramid. *c* 1710, 1716 [see A. α].

4. Any material thing or object of pyramidal form; a number of things arranged or heaped up in this form, a pyramidal pile.

1570 DEE *Mathemat. Preface* 29 Make of Copper plates,.. a foursquare vpright Pyramis, or a Cone. 1597 [see A. β]. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 4 The top of this Peake or Pyramide [Teneriffe]..seldome without Snow. 1651 STANLEY *Poems* 77 Or when one flame twined with another is They both ascend in one bright pyramis. 1727 SWIFT *Gulliver, Pref. Let.* § 3 Smithfield blazing with pyramids of law-books. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 425 On each side of the altar, stands a pyramid of bones. 1831 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* x. (1833) 257 Among the remarkable exhibitions of mechanical strength and dexterity, we may enumerate that of supporting pyramids of men. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* XVI. (ed. 3) 137 Horse-chestnuts with massive pyramids of white blossom.

b. *Gardening.* Applied (orig. *attrib.*, hence also *simply*) to a tree, esp. a fruit-tree, trained in a pyramidal form. So *pyramid-trained* adj., *-training.*

[1646 EVELYN *Diary* Apr.–June, At the entrance of this garden growes the goodliest cypresse I fancy in Europ, cut in pyramid.] 1712 BYROM *Jrnl. & Lit. Rem.* (1854) I. I. 17 The pyramid yew trees are set in the nursery. 1882 *Garden* 14 Jan. 19/3 Long lines of pyramid Apples and Pears. 1887 NICHOLSON *Dict. Gard.* III. 47/1 Pyramid training is largely practised with Pear-trees...Pyramids may be procured worked either on the Pear stock or on the Quince. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/1 A pyramid trained tree consists essentially of an upright stem, and as many side branches as can be..trained without overcrowding.

5. *fig.* or *allusively* (from prec. senses).

1593 DRAYTON *Past.* IV. vi, He that to worlds pyramides will build On those great heroes..Should have a pen. 1600 [see A. γ]. *a* 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 129 An unsteddy and sharp pointed Pyramis of power. 1670 COTTON *Espernon* II. VII. 313 The most glorious Act of his life,..which.. ought to be plac'd on the highest Pyramis of his Fame. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* II. i, The apex of the pyramid of his ambition was at length visible. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 488 To me the whole theory looks like an inverted pyramid of inference tottering about upon its extremely narrow apex.

6. *Cryst.* A set of faces belonging to a single crystallographic form and, if symmetrically developed, meeting in a point; also, a form consisting of two such sets of faces on opposite sides of a common base.

1748 SIR J. HILL *Fossils* 154 Crystal..consisting..of eighteen sides, dispos'd in order of an hexangular column, terminated by an hexangular pyramid at each end. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 190 A salt, under the form of a solid with eighteen sides, terminated at each extremity by a pyramid of six faces. 1836–41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 663 Large right rectangular prisms, terminated by a four-sided pyramid. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 51 A group of triangular faces meeting in one point is called a pyramid. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 201 The terms proto- and deutero-pyramid have been applied by various writers somewhat ambiguously to the diplo-pyramidal figures, or, in crystallographic language, pyramids, which have been here termed isosceles octahedra.

7. *Anat.* Applied to various parts or structures of more or less pyramidal form; *spec.* (*a*) a mass of longitudinal nerve-fibres on each side of the medulla oblongata (some of which cross from one side to the other in the *decussation of the pyramids*); (*b*) each of the conical-shaped masses (distinctively called MALPIGHIAN *pyramids*) constituting the medullary substance of the kidney, projecting, and opening at the apices by papillæ, into the pelvis of the kidney; (*c*) see quot. 1842.

1805 *Med. Jrnl.* XIV. 329 The most important..pair of nerves is what was hitherto called the pyramids, this fascicle of nerves is the origin of the cerebrum, or the *hemispherii cerebri*. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict., Pyramid*, a small, bony projection in the cavity of the tympanum, which is excavated to lodge the muscle of the stapes. 1869 HUXLEY *Phys.* v. (ed. 3) 124 Into this [*pelvis* of the kidney], sundry conical elevations, called the *Pyramids*, project; their summits present multitudes of minute openings—the final terminations of the *tubuli*. *Ibid.* xi. 303 At the lower and front part of the medulla oblongata, these [efferent impulses]..cross over; and the white fibres which convey them are seen passing obliquely from left to right and from right to left in what is called the *decussation of the anterior pyramids*. 1881 BEHNKE *Mechanism Hum. Voice* (ed. 2) 36 The remaining two cartilages [of the larynx]..are the Pyramids, so called because of their shape. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* s. v., P[*yramid*] *of cerebellum*, lobule of inferior surface of vermis of cerebellum...*P-s. of Ferrein*...*P. of thyroid gland*...*P. of tympanum*, a small bony eminence in the tympanum, behind the fenestra ovalis, enclosing the stapedius muscle. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 355 Paralysis of the limbs and tongue.., due to softening in the left olive and pyramid.

8. *loosely.* A plane figure suggesting the profile of a pyramid; a triangular or cuneiform figure or formation, as a wedge-shaped body of men; a poem the successive lines of which increase or decrease in length; etc. (Cf. the sense 'gable' in 3.)

1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xi. (Arb.) 108 Of the Spire or Taper called Pyramis...In metrifying his base can not well be larger then a meetre of six,..neare the toppe [of the Pyramis] there wilbe roome litle inough for a meetre of two sillables, and sometimes of one to finish the point. ? 1650 *Don Bellianis* 194 The Emperor gathering his men in form of Pyramids. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* II. 10 In Chesse-boards and Tables we yet finde Pyramids and Squares. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 120 As for Altars and Pyramids in Poetry, he [Benlows] has out-done all Men that Way; for he has made a Gridiron, and a Frying-Pan in Verse. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 104 When the sun rose, the shadow of the peak was projected over sea and land..in a distinctly marked pyramid.

b. *Billiards. pl.* A game played (usually) with fifteen coloured balls arranged in a triangle, and one cue-ball: see quot. 1850, and *pyramid-spot.*

1850 *Bohn's Handbk. Games* 554 Pyramid.—This game.. can be played with any number of balls,..but the usual number is sixteen, viz. fifteen coloured, and one white. ..The fifteen coloured balls are placed on the table in the form of a triangle: the first, or point, being on the winning spot. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 1 June, I had played at pyramids by myself in the deserted billiard-room of the hotel.

†9. *pl.* (in form *piramides*). Name of some textile fabric: see quot. *c* 1605. *Obs.*

c 1605 *Allegations of Worsted Weavers* (B.M. Add. MS. 12504 art. 64), This Cloath [a Say] hath continewed his name and fashion till this day; but now lately by putting the same into coullours and twistering one thridd of one coullour with another of another coullour, beinge made narrowe, yt is now called Piramides. 1640 in Entick *London* (1766) II. 178 Piramides or Maramuffe, the piece, narrow.

10. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *pyramid-builder, -fashion*; *pyramid-like* adj.; **pyramid-rest** (*Billiards*), a cue-rest the head of which is arched so as to allow it to be placed over a ball which would otherwise be in the way; **pyramid-shell**, a gastropod shell of the family *Pyramidellidæ*; **pyramid-spot**, the spot on a billiard table where the apex of the pyramid is placed, between the centre and the top spot; **pyramid-text**, any ancient Egyptian text found in the Pyramids; **pyramid-wise** *adv.*, in the manner or form of a pyramid, pyramidally. (See also 4 b.)

1877 W. R. COOPER *Egypt. Obelisks* iii. (1878) 13 Deified *pyramid builders of the Vth dynasty. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. xii. 670 A mount of earth and stone fiftie fadome long every way, built *Pyramide-fashion. 1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 133 This gateway is the *pyramid-like building that one sees outside. *a* 1618 SYLVESTER *Wood-mans Bear* xliv, Like a pale *Pyramid pillar. 1821 BYRON *Sardan.* v. i. 65 Regal halls of *pyramid proportions. 1873 BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 28 The *pyramid or spider-rest is cut out at the bottom. *Ibid.* 83 Place the red again six inches nearer the *pyramid spot. 1894 MAHAFFY in *19th Cent.* XXXVI. 270 The study of the *Pyramid-texts, the documents of the Old Empire. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XV. xxxiv, Whose top *Pyramide-wise did pointed shew High, narrow, sharp, the sides yet more outspred. *a* 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 494 The haycocks..are made with a broad bottom and sharp top, pyramidwise.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **Py·ramid** *v. intr.*, of a group in a painting: to be disposed in a form suggesting

a pyramid, i. e. symmetrically about a central figure in an elevated position; **Pyramidaire** [after *millionaire*], a person to whom a pyramid is erected as a monument.

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 418 It contributes to the goodness of the picture..if by means of it [the light] the groups pyramid and unite well. *Note*, Fuseli objects that the principal figures and chief action in the *Raising of Lazarus* ..are crowded into a corner. He would have had them 'pyramid'. 1875 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* xi. *Immortality*, Every palace was a door to a pyramid; a king or rich man was a pyramidaire.

Pyramidal (pirӕ·midăl), *a.* (*sb.*) [ad. med. L. *pȳramidālis* (Du Cange): see prec. and -AL. Cf. F. *pyramidal* (1507 in Hatz.-Darm.).]

1. Of or pertaining to a pyramid; sloping, as an edge or face of a pyramid. *rare.*

1571 DIGGES *Pantom.* III. viii. R j b, The Pyramidall side HB. 1597 R. WRAG *Voy. Constantinople* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. i. 308 Two hils rising in a piramidall forme. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 90 Some were made of glass in a pyramidal shape. 1857 J. G. WILKINSON *Egypt. Pharaohs* 151 The pyramidal, or sloping, line was intended to insure the durability of a wall.

2. Of the nature or shape of a pyramid; resembling a pyramid.

1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 45 A Pyramidall and most steepe hil. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 61 High Pyramidall Cypresse-trees. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. i. 53 Plato..would compound the Earth of Cubical, and Fire of Pyramidal Atoms, and the like. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 159 The Lilac various in array,..With purple spikes pyramidal. 1816 SHELLEY *Let.* 22 July, Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 349 Conical and pyramidal crystallizations. 1874 MOTLEY *Barneveld* II. xxi. 385 One tall pyramidal gable of ancient grey brickwork.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* vi. Wks. 1851 III. 128 Prelaty if she will seek to close up divisions in the Church, must be forc't to dissolve and unmake her own pyramidal figure. 1872 MINTO *Eng. Prose Lit.* II. v. 368 That the most stable government is the pyramidal,—that rests on the widest basis of popular confidence.

b. *fig.* In recent journalistic use (after F. *pyramidal*): Astonishingly huge, colossal.

[1827 C'TESS GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 432 Madame de Montjoie has just told me that Miss Foote's success is *pyramidale*.] 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 3/2 The pyramidal ignorance of the average Englishman concerning the great Republic and her institutions.

3. Specific technical applications.

a. *Anat.* Applied to certain structures of more or less pyramid-like form, esp. to certain muscles in the abdomen, and in the nose (both often denoted by the L. *pyramidalis* used absol., sc. *musculus*). Also, Pertaining to or connected with the pyramids of the medulla oblongata, as in *pyramidal tract*, a tract of motor nerve-fibres in the spinal cord. Also *Path.* applied to a form of cataract in which the capsule of the crystalline lens is opaque and prominent at its centre.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) s. v., Muscles of the Nostrils and of the Abdomen called Pyramidales, or of a Pyramidical Figure.] 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s. v. *Nose*, The Nostrils are dilated by six Muscles, three on each Side, viz. the pyramidal, oblique Ascendant or Myrtiformis, and the oblique descendant. 1872 DARWIN *Emotions* vii. 190 The pyramidal muscle serves to draw down the skin of the forehead between the eyebrows, together with their inner extremities. 1879 CALDERWOOD *Mind & Br.* ii. 26 The most important of the cells are known as pyramidal. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 732 Sclerosis of the pyramidal tracts.

b. *Cryst.* Used in senses 1 and 2; also applied to the TETRAGONAL system, of which the square pyramid is a characteristic form.

1789 J. K[EIR] *1st Pt. Dict. Chem.* 69/1 A brown salt, which..forms white, pyramidal crystals. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 482 Fundamental forms of minerals...The Pyramidal, in which the crystals assume the form of an isosceles four-sided pyramid. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* v. 97 The Pyramidal includes the octohedron with a square base, and the right square prism.

c. Applied to particular species of plants having the flowers in a pyramid-like spike or cluster (often translating the specific name *pyramidalis*); also to fishes or other animals having the body or some part of a pyramid-like form.

1796 C. MARSHALL *Gardening* xix. (1798) 355 Saxifrage plants are usually potted to move into the house..as indeed the pyramidal in particular should be. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 390 Pyramidal Sucker. *Ibid.* 425 Pyramidal Trunk-fish. 1882 *Garden* 11 Feb. 89/1 Other native Orchises, such as..the Pyramidal Orchis.., live and flower in a garden, but do not increase or improve.

4. *Arith.* Applied to the several series of numbers, each beginning with unity, obtained by continued summation of the several series of POLYGONAL numbers; so called because each of these numbers, represented (e. g.) by balls, can be arranged according to a certain rule in the form of the corresponding pyramid (on a triangular, square, or polygonal base).

Thus the series of *triangular* numbers, 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21.. gives, by summation of successive terms, the series of *triangular pyramidal* numbers 1, 4, 10, 20, 35, 56...Similarly from the series of square, pentagonal, etc. numbers are obtained corresponding series of pyramidal numbers. The pyramidal numbers constitute the second (sometimes called the *third*) order of figurate numbers: see FIGURATE *ppl. a.* 3 b. The term was formerly extended (with ordinal numeral) to the succeeding orders of figurate numbers, each obtained similarly from the preceding by continued summation: see 1795 in b. (In quot. 1674 erroneously used.)

1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 663 Six is called the first Pyramidal Number; for the Units therein may be so placed, as to represent a Pyramis. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict., Pyramidal Numbers*, are the sums of polygonal numbers, collected after the same manner as the polygonal numbers themselves are found from arithmetical progressions. 1806 — *Course Math.* I. 224 Column c contains the sum of the triangular numbers, that is, the shot contained in a triangular pile, commonly called pyramidal numbers.

b. (as *sb.*) A pyramidal number.

1706 W. JONES *Syn. Palmar. Matheseos* 165 Pyramidals having their Names from their Number of Sides. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Pyramidal Numbers*, These are particularly called First Pyramidals. The sums of First Pyramidals are called Second Pyramidals;..and so on. Particularly, those arising from triangular numbers, are called Prime Triangular Pyramidals.

5. *Comb.*, as *pyramidal-shaped*, adj.

1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 108 The Yew forms a pyramidal-shaped tree. 1868 *Rep. U. S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 202 A weeping, pyramidal-shaped plant.

Hence **Pyramidalist** = PYRAMIDIST; *spec.* one who holds certain theories or beliefs about the pyramids of Egypt. So **Pyramidalism**, the body of theories or beliefs held by pyramidalists.

1877 PROCTOR *Myths & Marvels Astron.* 52 The facts most confidently urged by pyramidalists in support of their views. 1882 — *Gt. Pyramid* i. 11 Taylor, Smyth, and the Pyramidalists generally, consider this sufficient to prove that the pyramid was erected for some purpose connected with religion.

Pyramidally (pirӕ·midăli), *adv.* [f. PYRAMIDAL + -LY 2.] In a pyramidal manner; in the form of a pyramid.

1561 EDEN *Arte of Nauig.* II. viii. 34 The shadowe of the ..earth is pirамidallye sharpe. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 50 Vpon a base a too foot square, & hy,..a square pilaster rizing pyramidally of a fyfteen foote hy. 1671 GREW *Anat. Plants* ii. § 9 They stand both together pyramidally. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 84 Rising pyramidally..at least five hundred and forty feet above the sea. 1890 *Farmer's Gaz.* 4 Jan. 7/1 The shoots of a pyramidally trained tree.

†b. *fig.* in allusion to the embalmed bodies of the dead preserved in the pyramids: After the manner of a mummy. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xiii. 366 A man may be happy without the apprehension thereof: surely in that sence he is pyramidally happy. 1658 — *Hydriot.* v. 72 But to subsist in bones, and be but Pyramidally extant, is a fallacy in duration.

c. *fig.* Hugely, colossally: cf. PYRAMIDAL 2 b.

1891 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Feb. 275/1 So pyramidally ignorant is the British newspaper-man.

Pyramidate (pirӕ·midĕt), *a. rare.* [ad. late L. *pyramidāt-us*, f. *pȳramid-em*: see -ATE 2 2.] Fashioned as a pyramid; = PYRAMIDAL 2.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XIII. xix. 258 Experiments may be seene in diverse sorts of [perspective] glasses; as in the hollowe, the plaine, the embossed, the columnarie, the pyramidate or piked, the turbinall, the bounched. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlvi. IV. 289 *Pyramidate Fascia*,.. a band which juts out into an angle on one side.

So **Pyramidated** *a.*, formed with pyramids, or into a pyramid.

1805-17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 196 A crystal is named pyramidated, when the primitive form is a prism, and has a pyramid on each extremity. 1903 *Nature* 1 Oct. 530/2 Some of the pyramidated summits among the South American volcanoes.

Pyramides, pl. of *pyramis*: see PYRAMID.

Pyramidia, pl. of PYRAMIDION.

Pyramidic (pirămi·dik), *a. rare.* [f. PYRAMID + -IC; perh. after Gr. *πυραμιδικός*.] Of, like, or proper to a pyramid; heaped up, or lofty and massive, like a pyramid.

1743 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xix. 50 Their gold in pyramidic plenty pil'd. 1821 BYRON *Juan* v. LXXXVII, The enormous gate which rose O'er them in almost pyramidic pride.

Pyramidical (pirămi·dikăl), *a.* Now *rare.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] = PYRAMIDAL; in quot. 1628, enduring like a pyramid: cf. MONUMENTAL 4.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. i. II. iv. (1651) 18 [The heart] of a pyramidical forme, and not much unlike to a Pine-apple. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. LXXV, Though the Athenians demolished his Statues, yet they could not extinguish his more pyramidicall vertues. 1693 [see PYRAMIDAL 3 a]. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brew.* IV. (ed. 2) 322 They set six or eight Waggon Loads of Coal in a pyramidical Heap. 1867 BAKER *Nile Tribut.* XV. (1872) 270 The pyramidical hill beneath which I had fixed our camp. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 8/2 After the Switchback and the Great Wheel comes the Pyramidical Railway, which is being erected at the Devil's Dyke, near Brighton...The idea is to build a tower of varying height, round which a spiral track will carry a car from the top to the bottom.

Pyramidically (pirămi·dikăli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY 2.] In a pyramidical manner or form; pyramidally. (In quot. 1886 = PYRAMIDALLY c.)

1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* 28 Oct. (1857) IV. 298 A very noble bonefire..consisting of about 140 pitcht barrels, placed pyramidically on 7 scaffolds. 1871 NESBITT *Catal. Slade Coll. Glass* 70 Pyramidically-clipped trees. 1886 D. C. MURRAY *First Pers. Singular* xxiii, She is terribly rich. Awfully, colossally, pyramidically rich.

So **Pyramidicalness** (Bailey vol. II, 1727).

‖ **Pyramidion** (pirămi·diǫn). Pl. **-ia**, **-ions**. [mod.L., a. Gr. type **πυραμίδιον*, dim. of *πύραμις* PYRAMID. Cf. F. *pyramidion* (Littré).] A small pyramid; *spec.* in *Arch.*, the pointed pyramidal portion forming the apex of an obelisk.

1840 BONOMI in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit.* (1843) Ser. II. I. 161 The height of the pyramidion should be about a tenth of the whole length. 1850 J. LEITCH tr. *C. O. Müller's Anc. Art* § 224 Four-sided pillars on a low base, which diminish upwards and end in a pyramidion, usually of granite. 1877 W. R. COOPER *Egypt. Obelisks* i. (1878) 2 Its apex is abruptly terminated by a small pyramidion, whose faces are inclined at about an angle of sixty degrees.

b. *Cryst.* Used by Story-Maskelyne in naming figures formed from other solid figures by constructing a small pyramid upon each face of the original.

1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 167 Holo-symmetrical forms of this [the cubic] system:..2. The triakis-octahedron or the octahedrid pyramidion...4. The tetrakis-hexahedron or the cube-pyramidion..: the term pyramidion being employed in the case of forms in which a pyramidion or small pyramid composed of similar isosceles triangles surmounts every face of a simpler figure..: such a figure is then an isosceloheдron. *Ibid.* § 172 The figure presents the aspect of a cube each face of which is surmounted by an obtuse pyramid, and it may, on this account, be termed the cube pyramidion.

Pyramidist (pi·rămidist, pirӕ·m-). [See -IST.] One who investigates or is specially versed in the structure and history of the Egyptian pyramids.

1874 P. SMYTH *Our Inher. in Gt. Pyramid* v. xxi. 41 A scientific pyramidist..confines himself to stating..that the Great Pyramid was erected in the times of the Fourth Dynasty. 1883 PROCTOR *Great Pyramid* App. A. 187 The length of the earth's polar axis is assumed by pyramidists to be 500,000,000 pyramid inches.

Pyramidize, *v.* [f. PYRAMID *sb.* + -IZE.] *intr.* To form a pyramid; to converge towards a summit or apex: cf. PYRAMID *v.* Hence **Pyramidizing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1831 T. HOPE *Hist. Ess. Archit.* (1840) I. xi. 388 The gradual contraction and pyramidizing, as they rose higher, of the indispensable arches, and buttresses, and pinnacles and roofs. 1850 INKERSLEY *Roman & Pointed Archit. in France* 325 A very graceful pyramidising composition of two distinct portions.

Pyramido-, combining form from Gr. *πύραμις*, *πύραμιδ-*, PYRAMID, as in **Pyramido-attenuate** *a.*, pyramidally attenuated; †**Pyramido-prismatic** *a.*, of a form due to a combination of pyramid and prism.

1821 R. JAMESON *Man. Mineral.* 165 Pyramido-Prismatic Augite. 1846 DANA *Zooph.* (1848) 478 Summit branchlets.., arcuate and pyramido-attenuate.

†**Pyramidography** (also in L. form **pyramidographia**). *Obs.* [f. prec. + -GRAPHY.] A description of, or dissertation on, the pyramids.

1646 GREAVES (*title*) Pyramidographia: or a description of the Pyramids of Egypt. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Pyramidography*. 1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2091 By whom the Pyramidographia, the Roman Foot and Denarius are..traced out.

Pyramidoid (pirӕ·midoid). *Geom. rare.* [ad. mod.L. *pȳramidoīdes* (sc. *schēma*): see PYRAMID and -OID.] A solid figure in form approaching a pyramid, but of which the edges that meet or intersect at the vertex are curves, instead of straight lines as in a pyramid; as the *parabolic pyramidoid*, in which the vertical sections through the edges are parabolas instead of triangles.

[1655 J. WALLIS *De Sectionibus Conicis* Prop. IX, De Conoide et Pyramidoide Parabolico. *Ibid.* XIV, De Elliptico Pyramidoide et Conoide. 1656 — *Arithmetica Infinitorum* Prop. IV, Item, Pyramidoides vel Conoides Parabolicum..ad Prisma vel Cylindrum (super æquali base æqueraltum) est ut 1 ad 2.] 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Parabolick Pyramidoid*..so named by Dr. Wallis from its Genesis, or Formation. 1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* s. v. *Parabola*.

¶ Erroneously identified with a *parabolic spindle*.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* (ed. 2) II. s. v.; thence 1727 in BAILEY vol. II, and 1730 *folio*; 1839 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 746/2; and some recent Dicts.

So **Pyramidoi·dal** *a.*, **a.** Of or pertaining to a pyramidoid. **b.** Of the general figure of a pyramid upon a base of any shape.

1807 T. YOUNG *Nat. Philos.* II. 20 All pyramidoidal solids are equal to one third of the circumscribing prismatic or cylindroidal solids of the same height.

Pyramidon (pirӕ·midǫn). [f. PYRAMID, after *accordion*, *harmonicon*, etc.] A pedal organ-stop having wooden pipes in the form of an inverted pyramid, and producing very deep tones.

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 63 Pyramidon, a Pedal stop of 16 or 32 feet-tone. 1881 C. A. EDWARDS *Organs* 156 [The] Pyramidon has been mentioned in some works, but it was found impracticable to make this stop answer throughout the entire scale, and it therefore is abandoned.

†**Pyramidy**. *Obs. rare.* ? Illiterate form of PYRAMID (from pl. *piramidies* in PYRAMID A. *a*), used *attrib.*; or ? derived adj. = PYRAMIDAL.

1627 SPEED *England, Scot.* i. § 15 A Well, whose trickling drops turne (in Piramidy-wise) into hard stone. *c* 1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 33 Manborn hills..are in a Pirramidy fashion on y^e^ top. *Ibid.* 179 With four pirramidy spires on Each Corner.

Pyramis: earliest form of PYRAMID, q.v.

Pyramoid (pi·rămoid). *Geom. rare*—°. [ad. Gr. *πυραμοειδής* pyramid-shaped, f. *πύραμις* PYRAMID: see -OID.] = PYRAMIDOID (Webster 1864). So **Pyramoi·dal** *a.* = PYRAMIDOIDAL b.

1883 HEDDLE in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 354/2 Producing..in the hexagonal system 'pyramoidal' and 'gyroidal' forms.

Pyrantimonite, Pyrargillite, Pyrargyrite: see PYRO- 2.

Pyrate, Pyratic, etc.: see PIRATE, etc.

† **Pyraugue**, obs. form of PIROGUE.

1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 129 Pyraugues made of [Cedar].

‖ **Pyrau·sta.** *Obs. rare.* [L. (Pliny = *pyralis*), ad. Gr. *πυραύστης* a moth that gets singed in the flame; in obs. F. *pirauste* (Cotgr. 1611).] A fabulous insect supposed to live in fire.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 1121 So of the fire in burning furnace springs The fly Pyrausta with the flaming wings. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Pyrausta* or *Pyrogonus*, the Fire-Fly or Salamander-Fly; an Insect.

Pyrauxite: see PYRO- 2.

Pyrazine, Pyrazole: see PYRO- 3 c.

Pyre (pəiəɹ). [ad. L. *pyra*, a. Gr. *πυρά* a hearth, a place where fire is kindled, the place of a funeral fire, a funeral pile.] A pile or heap of combustible material, esp. wood usually, a funeral pile for burning a dead body: see PILE *sb.*[3] 3 d.

1658 BROWNE *Hydriot.*, Ep. Ded., When the Funeral Pyre was out, and the last Valediction over, Men took a lasting Adieu of their Interred Friends. 1712-14 POPE *Rape Lock* II. 41 With tender Billet-doux he lights the pyre. 1715 — *Iliad.* I. 72 For nine long nights through all the dusky air The pyres thick-flaming shot a dismal glare. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* I. xiv, Then hand in hand the victim band Roll in the dance around the funeral pyre. 1871 R. ELLIS *Catullus* xxxix. 4 Near the pyre they mourn Where weeps a mother o'er the lost, the kind one son.

attrib. 1848 HAMILTON *Sabbath* iv. 100 The fabled Phoenix was only reborn amidst its pyre-nest of incense.

Pyre, obs. f. PEAR, PEER, PIER[2]; var. PIRE *v.*

Pyre·ctic, *a.* [a. Gr. *πυρεκτικ-ός* feverish, f. *πυρέσσ-ειν* to be feverish: cf. PYRETIC.] Of, pertaining to, or affected with fever, feverish.

1822-34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 153 Thus shell-fish.. will sometimes excite great uneasiness with pyrectic heat. *Ibid.* IV. 291 The thirst and general irritation and pyrectic symptoms increase.

† **Pyree.** *Obs. rare.* [a. F. *pyrée* (Littré), f. Gr. *πῦρ* fire: cf. *πυρεῖον* a pan for coals.] The altar of fire in the religion of the ancient Persians.

1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 186 Albors..infamous in the Pyreë or Temple of Idolatrous Fyre, which has never gone out for fifty Ages. *Ibid.* 277 The Pyree he incinerated, and made other common fire be commixt with that they boasted they had from heaven.

† **Py·ren,** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. L. *Pȳrēnē*, Gr. Πυρήνη the Pyrenees.] = PYRENEAN *a.*

1613 HEYWOOD *Brax. Age* I. Wks. 1874 III. 179 White as the garden lilly, pyren snow, Or rocks of Christall. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* x. 183 He, to his Moores..o're the Pyren mountains jaunts.

‖ **Pyrenæ·mia.** *Path.* [mod.L. f. Gr. *πυρήν* fruit-stone, nucleus + *αἷμα* blood + -IA.] The presence of nucleated red corpuscles in the blood.

1890 in BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Hence **Pyrenæ·matous** *a.*, having nucleated red blood corpuscles. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

‖ **Pyrena·rium.** *Bot.* [mod.L. f. *pȳrēna* PYRENE[1] + -ARIUM.] A drupaceous pome: i. e. a pome containing pyrenes or 'stones', as those of the medlar and hawthorn. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyrene[1] (pəiəˑrīn). *Bot.* Also in L. form pyrēna, pl. -æ. [ad. mod.L. *pȳrēna*, f. Gr. *πῡρήν* fruit-stone.] The stone of a fruit; *esp.* one of those in a drupaceous pome.

1837 KEITH *Bot. Lex.* s. v., If a putamen is composed of several cells, each cell takes the name of pyrena, as in *Cornus.* 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vii. § 2. 296 The pyrenæ or stony inner portion of such carpels when drupaceous or composing a drupe of 2 or more stones. 1882 OGILVIE, Pyrene.

Pyrene[2] (pəiəˑrīn). *Chem.* (Also 9 **pyren.**) [f. Gr. *πῦρ* fire + -ENE.] A solid hydrocarbon ($C_{16}H_{10}$) obtained from the dry distillation of coal, crystallizing in microscopic laminæ.

1839 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 356 Pyren, was prepared from the last process by taking the ether which was employed for the purification of the chrysen, mixing it [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Nitrate of pyrenase; nitric acid forms with pyren a thick oily substance, which is purified by boiling with water and alcohol. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* III. 552 Pyrene is soluble in hot ether, and may be separated from chrysene by means of this solvent, which at a low temperature deposits it in microscopic rhomboidal plates...This hydrocarbon appears to have been first observed by Laurent. 1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* II. 592 Pyrene $C_{16}H_{10}$ and Chrysene are contained in the portion of coal-tar boiling above 360° (boiling point of anthracene).

b. *Comb.* as *pyrene-ketone, -quinone*, etc.

1895 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 350.

Hence **Pyre·nic** *a.*, of, belonging to, or derived from pyrene, as *pyrenic acid*, $C_{16}H_8O_5$, forming pale yellow plates.

Pyrenean, -æan (pirĕnīˑăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 Perennean, Pirenean. [ad. F. *Pyrénéen*, or f. L. *Pȳrēnæ-us* (f. *Pȳrēnē*, a. Gr. Πυρήνη, name of the daughter of Bebryx, beloved of Hercules, said to be buried on these mountains) + -AN.]

A. *adj.* Of or belonging to the Pyrenees. **B.** *sb.* a. A native of the Pyrenees. †b. *pl.* The Pyrenees.

1592 *Survay of France* To Rdr., The Pyrenæan mountaines towardes Spaine. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 201 Talking of the Alpes and Appenines, The Perennean and the riuer Poe. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Pyrenæan Mountains. 1693 MORDEN *Geogr. Rect.* (ed. 3) 178 The Province of Artois.. united to the Crown of France by the Pyrenæan Treaty [between France and Spain, 1659]. 1768 EARL MALMESBURY *Diaries & Corr.* I. 35 At fifteen posts from Bayonne you discover the Pyreneans. 1802 PINKERTON *Mod. Geog.* I. 275 The Pyrenean chain. *a* 1861 A. H. CLOUGH *Poems* (1862) 245 My Pyrenean Verses will you hear. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 8/5 Long circular capes in Pyrenean wool fabrics.

Pyrenees (pirĕnīˑz), *sb. pl.* Also 7 **Pyrenes, Pir-, Pyreneys, Pirhenese.** [a. F. *Pyrénées*, ad. L. *Pȳrēnæī* (sc. *montes*): see prec.] Name of the range of mountains separating France and Spain.

[1555 EDEN *Decades* Pref. (Arb.) 53 In the mountaines named Pyrinei th[e] inhabitantes burnt vp the wooddes.] 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 440 The South Pendicles of the high Pirhenese. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 27 These parts of the Pyreneys that border upon the Mediterranean are never without Theeves. 1693 MORDEN *Geogr. Rect.* (ed. 3) 206 Extending from the Pyrenes.. Southwards. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 683/2 Pyrenean Mountains, or Pyrenees. 1837 ALISON *Hist. Europe* VI. xlix. 510 Napoleon..felt with Louis XIV, that it was necessary there should be no longer any Pyrenees.

† b. *attrib.* (in sing. form **Pyrenee, -ey**). *Obs.* 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 598 A Serpent in the Pireney Mountains. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 27, I pass'd between som of the Pyreney Hills.

Pyreneite (pirĕnˑəit). *Min.* Also **-aïte.** [ad. Ger. *pyreneit* (Werner 1812), f. as prec.: see -ITE[1].] A variety of iron-lime garnet, greyish-black and of semi-metallic lustre.

1821 URE *Dict. Chem., Pyreneite*.. occurs in primitive limestone, in the Pic of Eres-Lids, near Bareges, in the French Pyrenees. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 192. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 754 Pyrenaite.

Pyrenic: see PYRENE[2].

Pyrenin (pəiɹīˑnin). *Phys. Chem.* [f. as PYRENE[1] + -IN[1].] Schwartz's name for the substance composing the nucleolus of a cell.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Pyrenium** (pəiɹīˑniŏm). *Bot.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *πῡρήνιον*, dim. of *πῡρήν*: see PYRENE[1].] The hypothecium of a nucleiform or angiocarpous apothecium, i. e. that of an angiocarpous lichen.

1866 *Treas. Bot., Pyrenium*, either the receptacle or perithecium of certain fungals. 1882 J. M. CROMBIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 554/2 (Lichens) When the pyrenium quite covers the nucleus it is said to be entire.

Pyrenocarp (pəiɹīˑnokāɹp). *Bot.* [f. Gr. *πῡρήν* (see PYRENE[1]) + *καρπός* fruit.] **a.** 'Any drupaceous fruit' (*Cent. Dict.*). **b.** = PERITHECIUM.

1889 BENNETT & MURRAY *Cryptog. Bot.* 355 The *Pyrenomycetes*, with pyrenocarps or peritheces (hymenia within flask-shaped bodies open at the neck).

Hence **Pyrenoca·rpous** *a.*, resembling, pertaining to, or having a pyrenocarp.

1871 LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 36 Apothecia pyrenocarpous verrucarioid.

Pyreno·deous, *a. Bot.* = next, A. So **Pyre·nodine** *a.*

1871 LEIGHTON *Lichen-flora* 4 Apothecia pyrenodine. *Ibid.* 36 Apothecia pyrenodeous.

Pyrenoid (pəiɹīˑnoid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *πῡρήν* (see PYRENE[1]): see -OID.]

A. *adj.* Resembling in form the stone of a fruit: see quots. *rare*—°.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pyrenoides processus*, the Tooth of the second Vertebra.] 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyrenoides*,..pyrenoid. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pyrenoid*, kernel-shaped. *Anat.* Epithet formerly applied to the odontoid process of the axis vertebra.

B. *sb.* A small colourless proteid body, resembling a nucleus, found in certain algæ and protozoa.

1883 *Science* I. 148/2 Schmitz finds in the chromatophors of many algæ more or less spherical bodies to which he gives the name of pyrenoids. 1895 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 629 The exact part played by the pyrenoid is very obscure, but there can be no doubt that it influences in some way the formation or deposition of starch by the protoplasm. 1901 G. N. CALKINS *Protozoa* 117 Chromatophores in which one or more deeply staining bodies—the *pyrenoids*—may be found.

‖ **Pyrenomycetes** (pəiɹīˑnoıməisīˑtīz). *pl. Bot.* [mod.L. *Pȳrēnomycētēs*, f. as prec. + *μύκης*, pl. *μύκητες* mushroom.] An order of ascomycetous fungi, characterized by the asci being formed in flask-shaped receptacles or perithecia. So **Pyre·nomyce·tous** *a.*, belonging to or of the nature of the *Pyrenomycetes*.

1874 COOKE *Fungi* 56 The hard, or carbonaceous Ascomycetes, sometimes called the Pyrenomycetes. 1882 J. M. CROMBIE in *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 559/1 (Lichens) Distinguishing them from certain pyrenomycetous fungi.

Pyrenous (pəiɹīˑnəs), *a. Bot. rare*—°. [f. as PYRENE[1] + -OUS.] Containing pyrenes or 'stones'; chiefly in comb. with a numeral.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyrenodes*, having or full of fruit-stones: pyrenous. 1890 *Cent. Dict., Pyrenous*, in *bot.*, containing pyrenes: used only in composition with a numeral: as *2-pyrenous*, *5-pyrenous*, etc.

† **Py·rergy.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πῦρ*, *πυρ-* fire + *ἔργον* work; properly **pyrurgy*: cf. PYRURGIAN.] Working in or with fire.

1651 NOAH BIGGS *New Dispens.* 220 P 297 She can perfect nothing without Pyrergy.

Pyretætiology: see PYRETO-.

Pyrethrine (pəiɹeˑþrəin). *Chem.* Also 9 -in. [ad. F. *pyrétrine* (Parisel, 1833): see PYRETHRUM and -INE[5].] The substance to which the sialagogic action of pyrethrum root is due; it appears, when pure, to be a white crystalline alkaloid. Hence **Pyre·thric** *a.*, in *pyrethric acid*, a substance obtained by the action of potassium hydroxide on pyrethrine.

1838 THOMSON *Organic Bodies* 815 To the acrid substance M. Parisel has given the name of pyrethrin. But it appears ..that it is not a simple vegetable principle as he supposed, but a compound of two oils and a resin. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. 1699 s.v. *Pyrethrum*, R. Buchheim, by evaporating to dryness the alcoholic extract of *Radix pyrethri*, and exhausting the residue with ether, obtained a crystalline substance, *pyrethrin*, which melted at the heat of the body, and was resolved by alcoholic potash into pyrethric acid and piperidine. 1895 DUNSTAN & GARNETT in *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXVII. 101 We propose provisionally to name it *pellitorine*. It is very probable that it is the same substance as that isolated..by Buchheim, in 1876, and named by him *pyrethrine*.

‖ **Pyrethrum** (pəiɹeˑþrŏm, -īˑprŏm). Also 6-7 (from Fr.) **pyrethre.** [L. *pyrethrum*, *-on* (Pliny) = sense 1, a. Gr. *πύρεθρον* feverfew: cf. *πυρετός* fever. In F. *pyrèthre*, in OF. *piretre* (13th c. in Hatz.-Darm.). Cf. PELLETER, PELLITORY.]

1. Originally, The name of the plant *Anacyclus Pyrethrum*, N.O. *Compositæ*, also called Pellitory of Spain, a native of Barbary, Arabia, and Syria, having a pungent root (*radix pyrethri*) used in medicine. Now so called only in pharmacy.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 107 b, Pyrethrum..hath a stalk & leues like vnto fenell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xix. 342 The roote of Pyrethre is hoate and dry in the thirde degree. 1583 *Rates of Customs* D vij, Pirtheum [*sic*] the pounde iii *d.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 350 To provoke him to neese, by blowing Pepper and Pyrethre beaten to powder, up into his nostrils. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 422 Take pyrethrum (wild or bastard pellitory) boil it in strong vinegar, so as to prevent the steam from having any vent. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyrethrum*, The pharmacopœial name for the root of the plant *Anthemis pyrethrum*, or.. *Anacyclus pyrethrum*, or pellitory of Spain.

2. *Bot.* A genus of composite plants, now often made a subdivision of *Chrysanthemum*; a plant of this genus, a feverfew.

As a current florists' name, usually applied to *Pyrethrum* (or *Chrysanthemum*) *roseum*, now grown in many colours, single and double, in summer-gardens in England; also to *P. parthenifolium aureum*, a free-growing hardy dwarf annual or biennial, extensively used for carpet-bedding and edging, having white flowers with yellow disks. Both species are natives of the Caucasus, Armenia, and Persia, and were introduced into England *c* 1803.

1882 *Garden* 13 May 322/3 There seems to be a growing taste for single-flowered Pyrethrums. 1907 *Outlook* 9 Nov. 596/1 New sorts.. which combine the virtues of the pyrethrum and daisy with the peculiar quality of the chrysanthemum.

b. In full, *Pyrethrum powder*: an insecticide made of the powdered flower-heads of *Pyrethrum tinctariæfolium* of Dalmatia, and of *P. roseum* and *P. carneum* of the Caucasus.

1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 599 The best preventives against bugs in beds are corrosive sublimate [and] pyrethrum powder. [1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Apr. 2/3 Another product [of Montenegro] is the 'pyrethrum' flower, which is dried and exported to Italy..for use as insect-powder.]

Pyretic (pəiɹˑ-, pirˑetik), *a.* and *sb.* [ad. mod.L. *pyretic-us*, f. Gr. *πυρετ-ός* fever: see -IC. Cf. Gr. *πυρεκτικός* PYRECTIC.]

A. *adj.* **1.** Of or pertaining to fever; producing feverish symptoms; tending to raise the bodily temperature.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyreticus*, of or belonging to fever: pyretic. 1875 H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 650 Whenever the bodily temperature falls below normal, pyretic treatment is demanded. 1894 BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xiii, If..pyretic action does not supervene, we shall save her life.

2. Used for the cure of fever, antipyretic.

1868 *Pharm. Jrnl.* Ser. II. IX. 347 An effervescing preparation, called..'Pyretic Salts', and also..'Effervescing Pyretic Saline'.

B. *sb.* A remedy for fever; a febrifuge, an antipyretic. *rare*—°.

[1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pyretica*, Medicines that cure Fevers.] 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Pyretics*, medicines good against Fevers. 1836 in SMART.

Pyreto- (pəiəˑr-, piˑrēto), before a vowel **pyret-**, combining form of Gr. *πυρετός* fever, entering into a few scientific terms. **Pyretætiˑology** [ÆTIOLOGY], the ætiology of fevers (Mayne *Expos. Lex.* 1858). ‖ **Pyˑretogeneˑsia, -geˑnesis** [Gr. *γένεσις* production], the production of fever (ibid.). **Pyretogeneˑtic, Pyretoˑgenous** *adjs.*, breeding or producing fever. **Pyretoˑgraphy** [-GRAPHY], a description of fevers (Mayne). **Pyretoˑlogy** [mod.L. *pyretologia* (R. Morton 1692): see -LOGY], the branch of medical science which treats of fevers.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 253 The absorption of *pyretogenetic substances. 1885-8 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. Med.* I. 44 The '*pyretogenous' material in symptomatic fever. 1799 HOOPER *Med. Dict.*, **Pyretology*, a discourse or doctrine on fevers. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xiii. 214 The study of the pyretology of the tropics.

Pyretoid (pəiə·r-, pi·rėtoid), *a.* [f. Gr. *πυρετ-ός* fever + -OID.] Resembling or simulating fever.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 461 Pseudo-pyretic, or pyretoid erythemata. *Ibid.* 464 A number of erythrodermias which are pyretoid.

Pyrewinkes: see PILLIWINKS.

‖ **Pyrexia** (pəir-, pire·ksiă). *Path.* Pl. **-iæ.** Also anglicized **py·rexy.** [mod.L., f. Gr. *πύρεξις*, f. *πυρέσσειν* (see PYRETIC). So F. *pyrexie.*] Febrile disease; fever.

1769 W. CULLEN *Nosol. Method.* Init. Synopsis, Class I. Pyrexiæ. Order i. Febres. *1776 — First Lines* I. § 6 Wks. 1827 I. 479 Pyrexiae, or febrile diseases..beginning with some degree of cold shivering, they shew some increase of heat. 1822–34 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 36 There is heat, thirst, and other concomitants of pyrexy. 1897 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 3/1 On Saturday there was moderate pyrexia, with loss of appetite and intestinal irritation.

Hence **Pyre·xial, Pyre·xic, Pyre·xical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or characterized by pyrexia; febrile.

1846 WORCESTER, *Pyrexical*, relating to fever; febrile. 1847 WEBSTER, *Pyrexial*, relating to fevers. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* 141 A pleasant drink in pyrexial conditions. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 144 During the pyrexial stage. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Pyrexic*, same as *pyrexial.*

Pyrgocephalic (pə̄:rgoʊsĭfæ·lik), *a.* [f. Gr. *πύργο-ς* tower + *κεφαλή* head + -IC, after *brachycephalic*, etc.] 'Tower-headed', an epithet descriptive of a form of skull having a highly arched vertex. So **Pyrgoce·phaly** (-se·făli), the condition of being pyrgocephalic.

1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthrop.* v. 176 Pyrgocephalic, elevated skull. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pyrgocephaly.*

Pyrgoi·dal, *a. rare*—°. [f. Gr. *πυργο-ειδής*, *πυργώδης* tower-like (f. *πύργος* tower: see -OID) + -AL.] Tower-shaped; consisting of a prism having a pyramid of corresponding base on one of its ends. (Cf. PYRAMIDATED.) 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyrgo·logist. *nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πύργος* tower, after *geologist*, etc.] One versed in the structure and history of towers.

1877 *Athenæum* 18 Aug. 218 Those who had the advantage..of hearing what fell from the lips of the great 'castellan' and pyrgologist.

Pyrgom (pə̄·rgɒm). *Min.* [ad. (by Breithaupt 1830) Gr. *πύργωμα*, that which is furnished with towers, a fenced city, f. *πύργος* tower; 'alluding to the grouping of its crystals', Chester.] An aluminous variety of pyroxene allied to sahlite: = FASSAITE b.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 190.

† **Pyrgopo·linize**, *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. L. *Pyrgopolinīcēs*, name of a swaggering soldier in the 'Miles Gloriosus' of Plautus, f. Gr. *πύργος* tower + *πόλις* city + *-νικης* conquering: see -IZE.] *intr.* To swagger, hector.

1605 G. POWEL *Refut. Epist. Puritan-Papist* To Rdr. 3 His Maiestie need not feare these pyrgopolinizing Champions, for all their desperate threats and big lookes.

Pyrheliometer (pəɹhĭ:liɒ·mĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. *πῦρ* fire + *ἥλιος* sun + -METER.] An instrument for measuring the amount of heat given off by the sun, by allowing the rays to fall perpendicularly for a given time upon water or mercury in a blackened closed shallow cylindrical vessel, and observing the consequent rise of temperature in the liquid.

1863 TYNDALL *Heat* xiii. 391 The radiation from the pyrheliometer is often intercepted, when no cloud is seen. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 398 Instruments for measuring the intensity of the sun's radiant heat have been devised by Herschel and Pouillet. The instrument of the latter he calls a *pyrheliometer.* 1883 *Science* I. 254/1 The new method of deducing the solar constant from pyrheliometer observations at the earth's surface.

Hence **Pyrheliome·tric** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or conducted by a pyrheliometer, as *pyrheliometric experiments.* 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyridine (pi·ridəin, pəiə·r-). *Chem.* [f. Gr. *πῦρ, πυρ-* fire + -ID[4] + -INE[5].] A colourless volatile liquid alkaloid (C_5H_5N) of offensive odour and poisonous quality, produced in the dry distillation of bone-oil and other bituminous matter. The inhalation of its vapour is said to be beneficial in asthma, etc.

Pyridine bases, the series of alkaloids, of composition $C_nH_{2n-5}N$, of which pyridine is the lowest member, and picoline, lutidine, collidine, parvoline, etc., other examples.

1851 T. ANDERSON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1853) XX. 253 The first of these [pyrrol bases], to which I give the name of pyridine. 1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 755 Pyridine is a colourless mobile liquid, having a most powerful and peculiar odour closely resembling that of picoline, and, like that alkaloid, causing a bitter taste in the mouth and back of the throat. 1881 *Ibid.* 3rd Suppl. 1699 Pyridine may be regarded as benzine having one of its CH groups replaced by nitrogen. 1888 *Daily News* 26 June, 7/7 The latest practice adopted by the German Government,..is that of mingling with the [methylated] spirit 'pyridine', an essence which gives the 'peculiarly offensive and characteristic odour' to a refuse of the gas-works which the men call 'devil water'.

b. *Comb.* as *pyridine-carboxylic acid*, a name for picolinic and nicotinic acids.

Hence **Pyri·dic** *a.*, of or related to pyridine; *pyridic group* or *series*, the series of pyridine bases: see above; **Py·ridone** = oxy-pyridine, C_5H_5NO; **Py·ridyl**, the radical C_5H_4N of pyridine.

1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* Introd. 11 Those..which are constantly present in prolonged putrefactive fermentations, belong to the pyridic and hydropyridic series; they do not differ widely from the poisonous bases of hemlock and tobacco. *Ibid.* 93 A base which seems to belong to the pyridic group.

Pyrie, variant of PERRY[1] *Obs.*, a pear-tree; *obs.* form of PIRRIE, a squall.

Pyriform (pəiə·ri-, pi·rifɔ̄im), *a.* Also **piri-.** [ad. mod.L. *pyriformis*, f. *pyrum*, erron. med.L. spelling of *pirum* pear + -FORM.] Of the shape of a pear, pear-shaped; obconic; differing from *oviform* in having a slight stricture at or near the narrow end. (Only in scientific or technical use.)

1741 MONRO *Anat. Nerves* (ed. 3) 77 The *Receptaculum Chyli*..is a..somewhat pyriform Bag. 1757 JOHNSTONE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 546 This calculus..was of a pyriform shape. 1863 *Wand. W. Africa* II. 36 The fruit..is a pyriform pod with crimson skin enclosing black brown seeds.

b. *Anat.* Denoting a muscle of the hip. Usually in L. form *pyriformis*, also *absol.* (sc. *musculus*).

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pyriformis, seu Iliacus Externus*, is a Muscle of the Thigh. 1841 RAMSBOTHAM *Obstetr. Med.* (1855) 4 The sciatic and pudic nerves, and the pyriform muscle. 1872 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 301 The Pyriformis arises from the front of the sacrum. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 859 The anterior wall of the pyriform sinus.

c. In comb. with another adj. expressing form.

1821 W. P. C. BARTON *Flora N. Amer.* I. 117 Root pyriform-bulbous. *Ibid.* 118 Germ pyriform-triangular.

So **Py·riformed** *a. rare*, = prec.

1874 *Archæol. Assoc. Jrnl.* Dec. 433 Both spoons are of the sixteenth century...The pyriformed bowl is stamped with the maker's mark, a rose.

Pyritaceous (pəiə·r-, piritē·ĭʃəs), *a. rare.* [f. PYRITES + -ACEOUS.] Of the nature of or containing pyrites.

1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 448 Sprinkled with yellow, bright pyritaceous specks or streaks. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 104 Pyritaceous limestone gives a grey powder, is not magnetic..detonates with nitre.

Pyrite (pəiə·rəit). Also 6 **pyrit**, 6–7 **pirrite.** [f. L. *pyrītēs*: see next. In F. *pyrite* (12th c.).]

† **1.** In early use (often *pyrit(e stone* = Gr. *πυρίτης λίθος*) = PYRITES 1; fire-stone. Later, in general sense of PYRITES 2. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 17 b, The Pirrite must with easie hand..enholden be. 1588 GREENE *Perimedes* Wks. (Grosart) VII. 62 Resembling the Pyrite stone. 1589 — *Tullies Love* ibid. 107 A Pyrit stone, which handled softly is as colde as ice, but pressed betweene the fingers burneth as fire. 1590 — *Never too late* (1600) 34 Like the pyrit stone, that is, fire without, and frost within. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* II. 41/2 The Pirrite is a kind of stone yellow. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. ii. 350 Hence sable Coal his massy couch extends And stars of gold the sparkling Pyrite blends.

2. *Min.* Native disulphide of iron (FeS_2), crystallizing in isometric forms, esp. in cubes and pyritohedra: one of the forms of *iron pyrites* (next, 2).

1868 DANA *Min.* 63 The pyrite of most gold regions is auriferous. Pyrite occurs abundantly in rocks of all ages, from the oldest crystalline to the most recent alluvial deposits. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.* s. v., Pyrite..is now only applied to the disulphide of iron which crystallizes in isometric forms.

‖ **Pyrites** (pirəi·tīz). Pl. (rare) † **pyri·tæ.** Also 6 **pirrites.** [L. *pyrītēs* (Pliny) fire-stone, flint, pyrites, a. Gr. *πυρίτης* 'of or in fire' (f. *πῦρ* fire), *πυρίτης* (sc. *λίθος*) 'a mineral which strikes fire, the copper pyrites of mineralogists' (L. & Sc.).

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 301 Pyrites (ita dictus, vel quod ex eo ignis excutiatur; vel quod ignei sit coloris) Arabibus Marcasita et Zeq nigrum.]

† **1.** In early use, vaguely, a 'fire-stone' or mineral capable of being used for striking fire. *Obs.*

Formerly the subject of fabulous statements.

1588 GREENE *Alcida* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 45 As the stone Pyrites once set on fire burneth in the water. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* XXI. v. (1620) 788 The Persian Pyrites pressed hard in the hand burneth it, whereupon it hath the name. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Pyritis*, a precious Stone, which burns the Fingers, if one holds it hard. 1750 *Leonardus' Mirr. Stones* 220 In a large Sense, all Stones that strike Fire may be called Pyrites. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 75 Pyrites is a name antiently given to any Metallic compound that gave fire with steel, exhaling at the same time, a Sulphurious or Arsenical smell.

2. In modern use: Either of the two common sulphides of iron (FeS_2), pyrite and marcasite, also called distinctively *iron pyrites*; also, the double sulphide of copper and iron ($Cu_2S.Fe_2S_3$), chalcopyrite or *copper pyrites.*

Used also generically to include many related sulphides and arsenides of iron, cobalt, nickel, etc., or of iron with another metal; e.g. **arsenical p.**, including Leucopyrite $FeAs_2$, and Mispickel $FeAsS$. FeS_2; **capillary p.**, native sulphide of nickel = MILLERITE[2]; **magnetic p.**, Fe_7S_8 = PYRRHOTITE; **spear p., white iron p.**, varieties of MARCASITE; **tin p.**, $Cu_2S(SnS_2.Fe_2S_3)$; **variegated p.**, $FeS.2Cu_2S$, = ERUBESCITE. Also COBALT, COCKSCOMB, HEPATIC *Pyrites.*

[1555 EDEN *Decades* 133 *margin*, These colers or floures are cauled Marchesites, Pyrites.] 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 17 b, Pirrites is a kinde of stone, yealow, like to the fire his flame. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 588 There is another fire stone going vnder the name of Pyrites or Marcasin, that resembleth brasse ore in the mine. 1694 SLARE in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 218 He..engrossed all the Pyrites or Copperas-stone to himself. 1748 SIR J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 615 The most common of all the species of striated Pyritæ. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 381 The heated Bath waters..owe their origin to the contact of common water with pyritæ, whose composition is iron, sulphur, and the vitriolic principle. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xii. (1852) 260 The Chilian miners were so convinced that copper pyrites contained not a particle of copper that [etc.]. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 354 Pyrite sometimes contains gold, and it is then called auriferous pyrites. 1880 DAWKINS *Early Man* x. 358 Fire was obtained in the Bronze age by striking a flint flake against a piece of iron pyrites. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 128/2 By modern mineralogists the term 'pyrites' has been extended to a number of metallic sulphides, and it is..now used rather as a group-name than as the specific designation of a mineral *attrib.* and *Comb.* 1864 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XVII. 118 The flue-dust of Pyrites-burners. 1896 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 11/1 Pyrites lodes..carrying over an ounce of gold to the ton, are now being opened up.

Pyritic (pəi-, piri·tik), *a.* [f. PYRIT-ES + -IC.] Of or pertaining to pyrites, containing or resembling pyrites.

1802 HOWARD in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 179 Bright shining spiculæ, of a metallic or pyritic nature. 1813 BAKEWELL *Introd. Geol.* (1815) 104 Yorkshire slate..is sometimes covered with thin pyritic configurations resembling trees, hence called 'dendritical'. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 5 May 2/1 The deep levels..where the ore becomes pyritic.

Pyritical (pəi-, piri·tikăl), *a.* [f. as prec. + -AL: see -ICAL.] = prec.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 58 A green copper ore in a pyritical matrix. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 419 The pyritical or marcasitical yellow copper ores. 1845 J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 673/1 Striped loam and plastic clay, containing a few pyritical casts of shells.

Pyritiferous (pəiə·r-, piriti·fĕrəs), *a.* [f. PYRITES + -FEROUS.] Yielding pyrites.

1828–32 in WEBSTER. 1847–8 H. MILLER *First Impr.* xii. (1857) 188 Here it trickles..through a pyritiferous shale. 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 391 All the siliceous pyritiferous ores are selected for this purpose.

Pyritify (pəi-, piri·tifəi), *v.* [f. PYRITES, after *petrify.*] *trans.* = PYRITIZE. So **Pyritifica·tion** = PYRITIZATION.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 94 Nature finds materials..as grounds and foundations for a pyritification. 1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* i. § 2. 27 fig., Stem of a young plant, pyritified.

† **Pyritish**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. PYRITE or PYRITES + -ISH[1].] Resembling that of pyrite or pyrites.

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 133 A pyritish smell arises about the well.

Pyritize (pəiə·r-, pi·ritəiz), *v.* [f. PYRIT-ES + -IZE.] *trans.* To convert into pyrites (as wood by replacement of the original substance by iron pyrites); to impregnate with pyrites. Hence **Py·ritized** *ppl. a.*; also **Pyritiza·tion**, conversion into pyrites.

1804 CHEVENIX in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 115 Professor Lampadius, in distilling some pyritized wood,..obtained the same substance. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxvi. 334, I use the term *pyritized* in reference to these altered rocks in contact with the trap which contain numerous and large crystals of iron pyrites. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* Feb. 124 Rarity of fossil Radiolaria...Their pyritization would tend to their ready destruction.

Pyrito- (pirəi·to, pəiə·rito), combining form of PYRITES, occurring in a few scientific terms. **Pyrito-bitu·minous** *a.*, containing pyrites and bitumen. **Pyritohedron** (-hī·drŏn, -he·drŏn), pl. **-hedra**, *Cryst.* [Gr. *ἕδρα* side, after *tetrahedron*, etc.], a form of pentagonal dodecahedron, or solid contained by twelve pentagons, common in crystals of pyrite; hence **Pyritohe·dral** *a.*, pertaining to or of the form of a pyritohedron. **Pyrito·logy** [ad. mod.L. *pyritologia*: see -LOGY], a treatise on, or the study of, pyrites.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 17 The Ores in which Allum owes its origin to the decomposition of Pyrites...1st. The purely pyritous...ad. The *Pyrito Bituminous. 1868 DANA *Min.* 62 Pyrite. Isometric; *pyritohedral...The cube..most common; the *pyritohedron..and related forms ..very common. Cubic faces often striated. 1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* § 190. 229 A remarkable combination of pyritohedron and octahedron is a not uncommon form of pyrites and cobaltite...The eight faces of the octahedron are equilateral triangles, and the twelve faces of the pyritohedron assume also a triangular form. [1725 J. F. HENCKEL (*title*) *Pyritologia, oder Kiesz Historie. 1757 (*title*) Pyritologia, or a History of the Pyrites.] 1828–32 WEBSTER, *Pyritology*, a discourse or treatise on pyrites.

Pyritoid (pirəi·toid), *a.* [f. PYRIT-ES + -OID.] Resembling or allied to pyrites.

1895 STORY-MASKELYNE *Crystallogr.* vii. § 190 Pyro-electricity..has no place in the case of the pyritoid minerals. *Ibid.*, Of the different pentagonohedra known on the pyritoid minerals the only one that is self-existent is the 'pyritohedron'.

Pyritose (pəiə·r-, pi·ritōus), *a.* [f. PYRIT-ES + -OSE: cf. next.] = next.

1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 382 When the ore to be smelted is pyritose and refractory, it may be roasted at first with a much stronger degree of fire than is used for ores that are fusible. 1842 *Mechanic's Mag.* XXXVI. 294 In Great Britain, where sulphate of iron from refuse pyritose coal and gypsum may be had almost for nothing.

Pyritous (pəiə·ritəs, pirəi·təs), *a.* [f. PYRIT-ES + -OUS; in F. *pyriteux.*] Of, of the nature of, or containing pyrites; characterizing, or characterized by the presence of, pyrites.

1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 180 More or less of the

pyritous smell is generally perceptible. 1794 SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 112 All pit coal is more or less pyritous. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 337 Pyritous Copper; Kupferkies; a metallic looking substance, of a bronze-yellow colour. 1852 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 235 Ravines, of which the pyritous strata have borne for ages the imposing names of 'Minas de oro!' 1881 BODDY *Hist. Salt* iv. 34 Those sulphates so prevalent in the..pyritous beds of the Lias.

†**Py·rity**, *a. Obs.* [f. PYRITE + -Y.] Containing pyrite or pyrites.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritol.* 175 Small or poor ores, which are commonly quartzy, mock-leady, and pyrity. *Ibid.* 302 Neither pyrity nor vitriolic.

Pyrk(e, obs. forms of PERK *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Pyrl(e, obs. forms of PIRL, PURL *sb.*[1] and *v.*[1]

Pyro (pəi·ro). *Photogr.* Abbreviation of PYROGALLIC *acid* or PYROGALLOL, extensively used as a developing agent. Often *attrib.* and in *Comb.*, as in *pyro-developer*, *-solution*, etc.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 294 The proper developing agent for collodio-bromide plates is..known as the alkaline pyro-developer. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 376/2 Take enough of the pyro solution in your developing tray to well cover the plate. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 44 Pyro and other photo chemicals are violent poisons. 1893 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XL. 747 Pyro is used in conjunction with sodium sulphate. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Aug. 14/2 One of the chief merits of the pyro-developed negative.

b. *Comb.*, indicating a mixture of pyrogallic acid with another substance, as a developer: e. g. *pyro-ammonia*, *-lime*, *-metol*, *-potash*, *-soda*; **pyro-carbonate**, pyrogallic acid with carbonate of soda.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 357/1 The pyro-lime developer becomes violet and brown in use. 1890 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 108 Now a word about developers. I have tried them all...Ferrous oxalate pyro-soda, pyro-potash, hydroquinone, etc. *Ibid.* 312, I have developed a good many dozens of exposures, and with pyro-ammonia or pyro-carbonate I have not yet got an unevenly developed film. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Mar. 18/2 A green-brown or brown-black colour, such as is given by a pyro-metol developer or pyro-soda not too heavily dosed with sulphite.

Pyro- (pəi·ro, piro), before a vowel or *h* sometimes **pyr-** (but more freq. *pyro-*), repr. Gr. πυρο-, combining form of πῦρ fire, forming the first element in many terms belonging to various arts and sciences. (The second element is properly of Greek, but sometimes of Latin or English origin.)

1. In various terms, chiefly scientific or technical, in the sense Of, relating to, done with, caused or produced by fire.

Pyroclastic *a. Geol.* [Gr. κλαστός broken: cf. CLASTIC], consisting of fragments broken through the action of volcanic fire, or comminuted in the process of eruption. **Pyrocone**, a cone of flame, as in the blow-pipe flame. **Pyro-engraver**, an artist who practises PYROGRAVURE or poker-work. **Pyrognomic** (-gnɒ·mik, -gnō·mik) *a.* [Gr. γνώμη means of knowing, mark, token]: see quot. **Pyrognostic** (-gnɒ·stik) *a. Min.* [Gr. γνωστικός pertaining to knowledge: after *diagnostic*, *prognostic*, etc.], applied to, or relating to, those characters of a mineral that are ascertained by means of the flame of a blow-pipe or of a Bunsen burner; so **Pyrogno·stics** *sb. pl.*, pyrognostic characters, or the branch of mineralogy that deals with them. †**Pyro·machy**, *Obs. nonce-wd.* [cf. Gr. πυρομαχεῖν to contend with fire], fighting with fire. **Pyromagne·tic** *a.*, applied to a dynamo invented by Edison, the working of which depends on the diminution of the magnetization of iron with increase of temperature. **Pyroma·nia**, insanity characterized by an impulse to set things on fire, incendiary mania; so **Pyroma·niac** *sb.*, one affected with pyromania; *adj.*, pertaining to or affected with pyromania; also **Pyromani·acal** *a.* **Pyrometamo·rphism** *Geol.*, metamorphism resulting from the action of heat; so **Pyrometamo·rphic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or characterized by pyrometamorphism. **Pyromo·rphous** *a. Min.* [Gr. μορφή form], having the property of crystallizing after fusion by heat (cf. *pyromorphite* in 2). **Pyrona·phtha**, an illuminant made from the waste products of the distillation of Baku petroleum. †**Pyronomics** (-nɒ·miks), †**Pyro·nomy** (-ɒ·nŏmi) [? after *economics*, *economy*], the phenomena and laws of the action of fire or heat. **Pyrophanous** (pəirɒ·fănəs) *a. Min.* [Gr. -φανης appearing; cf. *diaphanous*], having the property of becoming transparent or translucent when heated (cf. *pyrophane* in 2). ‖ **Pyropho·bia** *Path.* [see -PHOBIA], 'morbid dread of fire' (Billings *Nat. Med. Dict.* 1890). **Py·rophone** (-fōun) [Gr. φωνή voice, sound], a musical instrument devised by Kastner, having a series of glass tubes each containing two hydrogen flames burning close together, which by pressing down a key are caused to separate, and then produce a sound. **Pyropu·ncture** *Surg.*, 'puncturing with red-hot needles' (Billings); a puncture so made. **Py·roscope** [see -SCOPE], an instrument invented by Leslie, *c* 1825, for measuring the intensity of radiant heat, consisting of a differential thermometer having one bulb covered with silver. **Pyrosi·lver**, a trade name for electro-plated goods in which the silver is 'burnt in', i. e. fixed more firmly by means of heat. **Pyrosophy** (-ɒ·sŏfi) [Gr. σοφία wisdom], 'the knowledge of the nature and properties of fire or heat' (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*). **Py·rostat** [Gr. στατός standing: cf. *heliostat*, *thermostat*], 'an automatic draft-regulator for chimneys, smoke-pipes, and smoke-stacks' (*Cent. Dict.*). **Pyroste·reotype**, a printing plate in relief cast from an intaglio burnt in a wooden block by means of a blade, or of steel plugs, heated by a gas-flame; used esp. for printing music; also, short for *pyrostereotype process* (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875–84). †**Pyrotheo·logy**, the part of natural theology which is founded on the laws and phenomena of fire. **Pyrothonide** (-ɒ·þonəid) [Gr. ὀθόνη linen, sail-cloth], an empyreumatic oil, formerly used in medicine, obtained by burning linen, hemp, or cotton in a closed vessel.

1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 124 Breccias and tuffs, whether of *pyroclastic origin or not. 1897 GEIKIE *Anc. Volcanoes Gt. Brit.* I. 14 All kinds of pyroclastic detritus discharged from volcanic vents. 1880 W. A. ROSS in *Nature* XXI. 275/1 The blue *pyrocone produced by the blowpipe from an ordinary gas-burner. 1897 *Daily News* 27 Mar. 6/7 Henri Guénard, the eminent draughtsman, painter, aquafortist, *pyro-engraver, and engraver in colours. 1882 OGILVIE (Annandale), **Pyrognomic*, applied to certain minerals which, when heated to a certain degree, exhibit a glow of incandescence, probably arising from a new disposition of their molecules. 1849 DANA *Geol.* iii. (1850) 207 *note*, *Pyrognostic Characters.—In an open tube gives off a small quantity of water. 1851 RICHARDSON *Geol.* v. 76 Bromel, a French mineralogist,..being the first who classified mineral substances according to their pyrognostic qualities. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 66, I looke for Agrippas dreadfull *Pyromachy: for Cardans multiplied matter, that shall delude the force of the Canon. 1887 *Times* 9 Sept. 14/5 The *pyro-magnetic dynamo will allow of the waste heat being utilized for other purposes. 1842 DUNGLISON *Med. Dict.*, **Pyromania*. 1847 tr. *von Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* (Syd. Soc.) 293 An irresistible impulse to incendiarism (pyromania). 1867 MAUDSLEY *Physiol. Mind* 273 Instances of..homicidal monomania, kleptomania, pyromania, and suicidal monomania. 1887 *Amer. Jrnl. Psychol.* I. 191 *Pyromaniacs rarely incriminate themselves. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Apr. 7/2 A dangerous pyromaniac has been discovered in Brooklyn..[who] has set over twenty tenements on fire.. simply for the pleasure of seeing them burn. 1879 RUTLEY *Stud. Rocks* xii. 208 Commonly called metamorphic action, but which might more properly be designated *pyro-metamorphic action. *Ibid.*, *Pyro-metamorphism, by which rocks originally stratified..come to be subsequently acted on by heat, and so transformed into what are commonly called the metamorphic rocks. 1847 WEBSTER, **Pyro-morphous*, in mineralogy, having the property of crystallization by fire. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 39 *Pyronomics, hydrostatics, phrenology,..and other crabbed sciences. 1601 GILL *Treat. Trinitie* Wks. (1635) 220 They which understand the rules of *Pyronomie, know what I say. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pyronomia*, term for the doctrine of the nature and use of fire: pyronomy. 1836 SMART, **Pyrophanous*, rendered transparent by heat. 1882 *Nature* XXVI. 304/1 This phenomenon, which Kastner called the interference of flames, was the..starting-point of Kastner's *Pyrophone or Flame-Organ, which he patented in 1873. 1828 WEBSTER, **Pyro-scope*. 1832 *Nat. Philos.* II. *Therm. & Pyrom.* iv. 44 (U. K. S.) When one ball of the differential thermometer is smoothly covered with thick silver leaf, or inclosed in a polished sphere of silver, and the other ball is naked, it forms the pyroscope. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 78 Neal's Patent *Pyro-Silver Cutlery. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 244, I would willingly elude the experiment, and take the wings of the ancient *pyrosophy. 1846 J. C. BROWN tr. *Arbousset's Narr.* xxi. (1852) 309 Who can tell all the ingredients which may enter into the product of a pyrosophy so new? 1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist.* Pref. 7 That circumstantial examination..which hath been undertaken and executed by Fabricius, in his *pyro- and hydro-theology. 1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, **Pyrothonide*.

2. In names of minerals and rocks, usually indicating some property exhibited or alteration produced by the action of fire or heat; sometimes denoting a fiery red or yellow colour.

Pyrallolite (-æ·lŏləit) [Gr. ἄλλος other; Nordenskiöld 1820, in Ger.: see -LITE], an altered form of pyroxene, usually of a whitish or green colour, which changes colour when heated. †**Pyra·ntimonite**, obs. synonym of KERMESITE. **Pyrargillite** (-ā·ɹdʒiləit) [Gr. ἀργιλλος clay; Nordenskiöld 1833, in Ger.], an alteration product of iolite, which has a clayey smell when heated. **Pyrargyrite** (-ā·ɹdʒiɹəit) [Gr. ἄργυρον silver; Glöcker 1831, in Ger.], a dark red silver ore, a native sulphide of silver and antimony. †**Pyrau·xite**, obs. synonym of *pyrophyllite*. **Pyrosaurite** (-ɒ·ɹəit) [L. *aurum* gold; Igelström 1865, in Sw.], hydrate of magnesium and iron, which has a golden-yellow colour when heated. **Py·rochlore** (-klōəɹ) [Gr. χλωρός greenish-yellow; Wöhler 1826, in Ger.], a niobo-titanate of calcium, cerium, and other bases, occurring in octahedral crystals of a brown colour, becoming greenish-yellow when strongly heated. **Pyrochroite** (-krōu·əit) [Gr. χροιά colour; Igelström 1864, in Ger.], a pearly-white foliated hydrate of manganese, which becomes coloured when heated. †**Pyrochro·tite**, obs. synonym of *pyrostilpnite*. **Pyro·clasite** [Gr. κλάσις fracture], **Pyrogua·nite** [GUANO], names given to hard guano. **Pyro·melane** [Gr. μέλας black; C. U. Shepard 1856, 'because it turns black when heated', Chester *Names Min.*], a reddish mineral (prob. titanite), found in the gold sands of N. Carolina. **Pyrome·line** [Gr. μήλινος yellow; Kobell 1852, in Ger.], hydrous sulphate of nickel, pale yellow or greenish white. **Pyro·meride** [Gr. μέρ-ος part], a granitoid rock containing felspathic spherules thickly disseminated (Watts *Dict. Chem.*). **Pyromo·rphite** [Gr. μορφή form; Hausmann 1813, in Ger.], chlorophosphate of lead, occurring in green, yellow, or brown crystals; so called because the globule produced by melting assumes a crystalline form on cooling. †**Py·rophane** (-fēin) [Gr. -φανης appearing], a variety of opal which absorbs melted wax, and consequently becomes translucent when heated (cf. HYDROPHANE); also sometimes = FIRE-*opal*. **Pyro·phanite** [Gr. φανός bright; A. Hamberg 1890], titanate of manganese found in brilliant red crystals and scales. **Pyrophyllite** (-fi·ləit) [Gr. φύλλον leaf; R. Hermann 1829, in Ger.], a hydrous silicate of aluminium, occurring in foliated masses which exfoliate when heated. **Pyrophysalite** (-fi·săləit) [Gr. φυσαλλίς bubble; Berzelius 1806, in Sw.], a coarse, nearly opaque variety of topaz, which swells up when heated. **Pyropi·ssite** [Gr. πίσσα pitch; Kenngott 1853, in Ger.], a greyish-brown earthy friable substance, consisting of a mixture of hydrocarbons, which when heated melts into a mass resembling pitch. **Pyrore·tin** [Gr. ῥητίνη resin; Reuss 1854], a resin occurring in masses in brown coal, in the vicinity of basaltic dykes, in Bohemia; hence **Pyrore·tinite**, 'the part of pyroretin which dissolves in hot alcohol and deposits in cooling' (Chester *Names Min.*). **Pyro·rthite** [ORTHITE; Berzelius 1818] an impure mineral resembling orthite, but containing carbonaceous matter, and hence burning when strongly heated. **Py·roschist** (-ʃist), a highly bituminous schist or shale, which burns or yields inflammable gas when heated. **Pyrosclerite** (-sklī·ɹəit) [Gr. σκληρός hard; Kobell 1834, in Ger.], a green mineral allied to the chlorites, forming seams in serpentine: so called 'because a fragment becomes very hard when heated before the blow-pipe' (Chester *Names Min.*). **Pyrosiderite**: see PYRRHOSIDERITE. **Pyrosmalite** (-ɒ·zmăləit) [orig. (in Ger.) *pirodmalit* (Hausmann 1808), f. Gr. ὀδμαλέος stinking; altered by Karsten 1808, after Gr. ὀσμή smell], a chlorosilicate of iron and manganese, occurring in dark green or brown crystals, which when heated give off an odour of chlorine. †**Pyrosti·bite**, obs. synonym of KERMESITE. **Pyrosti·lpnite** [Gr. στιλπνός shining; Dana 1868], a sulphantimonide of silver, occurring in minute bright red crystals; also called *fire-blende*. †**Pyrote·chnite**, obs. synonym of THENARDITE.

1822 CLEAVELAND *Min.* (ed. 2) I. 426 **Pyrallolite*, this new mineral occurs both massive, and in crystals...This mineral..has received its name..in allusion to its changes of color from white to dark, and from dark to white, before the blowpipe. 1837 DANA *Min.* 256 Pyrallolite. Tersilicate of Magnesia. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 753 *Pyrallolite*, name of a series of decomposition-products of augite and occasionally of hornblende, consisting mainly of magnesian hydrosilicates. They blacken when heated, then burn white if in contact with the air. 1834 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* July 387 **Pyrargillite*. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 153/1 *Pyrargillite* occurs in four-sided prisms, with bevelled edges and massive. 1849 NICOL *Min.* 500 Dark *pyrargyrite or antimonial silver-blende. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 753 Pyrargyrite. Dark-red silver ore. Ruby silver.. occurring in rhombohedral crystals. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 179 *Pyroaurite...Perfectly soluble in muriatic acid. 1830 *Amer. Jrnl. Sc.* XVIII. 392 *Pyrochlore from Norway in zircon syenite. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 39 Pyrochlore occurs as an accessory in granite and syenite. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 177 *Pyrochroite,..Occurs in veins, 1 to 2 lines broad. 1856 C. U. SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci. & Arts* Ser. II. XXII. 97 The altered guano is composed..of two mineral species, which I have called *pyroclasite and glaubapatite. *Ibid.* 96 *Pyro-guanite minerals. The three following species occur at Mong's Island. *Ibid.* 96 *Pyromelane. Found in crystalline grains of the size of kernels of Indian corn. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 762 **Pyromeline*. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* 218 *Pyromeride..in addition to the usual quartz crystals, contains balls of felsite. 1814 ALLAN *Min. Nomencl.* 29 Brown and green lead ore..*pyromorphit. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Pyromorphite*, native phosphate of lead. 1794 KIRWAN *Min.*

(ed. 2) I. 291 It is said that some *pyrophanes are found in Armenia which are transparent while exposed to the sun, and opake at night. 1830 *Edin. Philos. Jrnl.* VIII. 183 The name *pyrophyllite is given to it on account of its exfoliation on exposure to heat. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 67. 62 Pyrophyllite, a mineral resembling talc in appearance and soapy feel. 1808 *Nicholson's Jrnl.* XIX. 33 Mineralogical Description .. of a Stone, called *Pyrophysalite. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc., s. v. *Mineralogy* 531/2 *Pyropissite. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 344 **Pyroretinite*, part of *Pyroretin of Reuss. 1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XL. 359 Four resins belonging to the retinite group., viz., Pyroretin, Reussinite, Leucopetrite, and Euosinite. 1828 WEBSTER s. v., *Pyrorthite is in black plates, thin and almost parallel. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Class.* (1878) 330 *Pyroschist is..very bituminous and ..dark-brown or black-coloured argillaceous shale. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 8. 82 They [nickel and chrome] occur also in the *pyrosclerite and Williamsite of Chester Co. Pa. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min., Pyrosclerite*, ..a micaceous mineral, one of the uncertain alteration products classed with vermiculite. 1816 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) III. 311 *Pyrosmalite or native Muriate of Iron. 1852 SHEPARD *Min.* (ed. 3) 160 Pyrosmalite..heated in a tube yields water. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 93 *Pyrostilpnite...Fireblende... Lustre pearly-adamantine. Color hyacinth-red.

3. In Chemistry, *pyro-* is prefixed to the name of a substance or to an adjective forming part thereof, in order to name a new substance formed by destructive distillation or other application of heat.

Names thus formed appeared first in the *Méthode de Nomenclature Chimique* of De Morveau, Lavoisier, etc. 1787. Many of the substances originally so called have subsequently received other names.

a. Prefixed to the adj. denominating an acid (†sometimes an ether or spirit), to form the name of a new acid, etc. The substances properly so denominated were themselves mostly acids, but sometimes anhydrides or other derivatives. **† Pyro-ace·tic** *acid* = PYROLIGNEOUS *acid*; **† pyro-acetic** *ether* or *spirit*, early name of ACETONE. **Pyro-aliza·ric** *acid*, $C_8H_4O_3$ = PHTHALIC *anhydride*. **Pyro-arse·nic** *acid*, $H_4As_2O_7$, an acid produced by the action of heat on arsenic acid expelling H_2O. **Pyrocamphre·tic** *acid*, $C_{10}H_{14}O_4$. **Pyro-catechu·ic** *acid* = *pyrocatechin*: see b. **† Pyro-ci·tric** = CITRACONIC. **† Pyrocome·nic** = PYROMECONIC. **Pyrofe·llic** = *pyrolithofellic*. **† Pyro-glu·cic** *acid* = *pyrodextrin*: see b. **† Pyro-guaia·cic** *acid* = GUAIACOL. **† Pyroki·nic** *acid* = QUINIDE. **† Pyrole·ic** = SEBACIC. **† Pyro-li·thic** = *pyro-uric*, CYANURIC. **Pyrolithofe·llic** *acid*, $C_{20}H_{34}O_3$: see quot. **Pyrolivi·lic** *acid* [OLIVIL], $C_{20}H_{26}O_5$. **† Pyroma·lic** = MALEIC. **Pyroma·ric** *acid*: see quot. 1866-8. **Pyromelli·tic** *acid*, $C_{10}H_8O_8$. **Pyrope·otic** *acid*: see quot. **Pyrophospha·mic** *acid*, $P_2NH_5O_6$. **Pyrophospho·ric** *acid*, $H_4P_2O_7$, a tetrabasic acid, produced as a glass-like solid, by the action of heat on phosphoric acid. **Pyroprace·mic** *acid* = PYRUVIC *acid*. **† Pyroso·rbic** = *pyromalic*, MALEIC. **Pyrosulphu·ric** *acid*, $H_2S_2O_7$ = $(HSO_3)_2+O$: see quots. **Pyrotere·bic** *acid*, $C_6H_{10}O_2$; also called *hexenoic acid*. **Pyro-u·ric** = CYANURIC. Also in the names of salts of these acids, as **Pyroarsenate, -citrate, -phosphamate, -sulphate**, etc. See also PYROGALLIC, PYROMECONIC, PYROMUCIC, PYROTARTARIC, PYRUVIC.

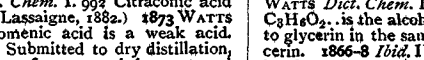
1815 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 281 The peculiar fluid, which Derosne has termed *pyro-acetic ether, but to which Mr. Chenevix is of opinion, the less definite name of pyro-acetic spirit will be better adapted. 1859 FOWNES *Man. Chem.* (ed. 7) 396 Acetone: pyroacetic spirit...A peculiar inflammable volatile liquid, designated by the above names. 1868 *Nat. Encycl.* I. 115 A..volatile inflammable fluid called pyro-acetic spirit. 1876 *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 296 *Pyrarsenate of soda, isomorphous with the pyrophosphate of that base. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 91/2 The methylated gallic ether or *pyrocatechuic acid. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 62 Dumas subjected the pyrocitric acid in *pyrocitrate of lead to an ultimate analysis by means of oxide of copper. 1810-26 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 216 **Pyro-citric Acid.* M. Lassaigne has given this name to an acid, produced by the destructive distillation of citric acid. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 338 Of pyrocitric and pyrotartaric ethers. 1863-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 992 Citraconic acid (Pyrocitric acid), $C_5H_6O_4$. (Lassaigne, 1882.) 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* 739 *Pyrocomenic acid is a weak acid. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 59 Submitted to dry distillation, lithofellic acid loses 1 atom of water and is converted into *pyrofellic acid. 1843 *Chem. Gaz.* 1 Dec. 725 *Pyro-guaiacic Acid obtained by the Distillation of Guaiacum Resin. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Pyrokinate*, .. a combination of pyrokinic acid with a salifiable base. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 430/1 *Pyrokinic acid is formed when kinic acid is distilled in a retort. 1836 SMART, **Pyrolithic*, an epithet applied to an acid obtained from uric acid. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pyrolithic acid*, the same as Pyro-uric acid. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 760 **Pyrolithofellic acid*, ..an acid oil produced by the dry distillation of lithofellic acid, the chief constituent of some kinds of oriental bezoar. 1847 WEBSTER, **Pyromalate* [citing URE]. 1810-26 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 225 When malic acid is heated out of the contact of air, it sublimes, and the sublimed crystals possess characters differing from those of the original acid. When thus altered, it has been called **pyromalic acid*. 1865-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* III. 784 Maleic Acid. (Pyromalic acid, Pyrosorbic acid.) 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 501 *Pyromaric acid. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 760 Pyromaric acid .. obtained by subjecting pimaric acid to dry distillation. 1882 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XLII. 850 Crystals of ammonium *pyromellate. *Ibid.* 851 *Pyromellic acid. 1851 *Chem. Gaz.* 15 Sept. 341 A new acid, to which he [Erdmann] has given the name of *pyromellitic acid. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 369 When pectin .. is heated to 200°, water and carbonic anhydride are evolved, and *pyropectic acid remains in the form of a black substance, insoluble in water, but soluble in alkaline liquids...Frémy deduces the formula $C_{14}H_{18}O_9$. 1864 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XVII. 237 It seems preferable to adopt the names given by Laurent... These are *pyrophosphamic and pyrophosphodiamic acids. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 766 Laurent (1850) suggested that these acids were amic acids derived from pyrophosphoric acid, the first being *pyrophosphamic acid*, $P_2NH_5O_6$, and the second *pyrophosphodiamic* acid, $P_2N_2H_6O_5$, and these formulæ have been confirmed by the more recent analyses. *Ibid.*, *Pyrophosphamate of Ammonium is obtained as a gummy mass. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 492 Phosphoric acid, after it has been exposed for some time to heat, yields, when saturated with bases, salts possessed of certain peculiarities, which have hence been termed *pyrophosphates. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 159 If common sodium phosphate be heated to redness, water is driven off, sodium pyrophosphate remains. 1832 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 380/1 Mr. Clarke..called the newly modified acid *pyrophosphoric acid. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* x. 334. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 539 Pyrophosphoric acid is converted into metaphosphoric acid when heated to redness, and into orthophosphoric acid when boiled with water. *Ibid.* 537 Intermediate between ortho- and meta-phosphates there are at least three distinct classes of salts, the most important of which are *pyrophosphates* or *paraphosphates*. 1837 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 339 *Pyroracemic acid. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 770 Pyroracemic acid is a liquid having a faint yellowish colour, smelling like acetic acid. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 363 Pyroracemic or Pyruvic acid, $C_3H_4O_3 = CH_3.CO.CO_2H$. 1865-8 *Pyrosorbic: see *Pyromalic*. 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXV. 669 Proofs that sulphuric and *pyrosulphuric acids are really distinct compounds. 1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 1140 Disulphuric, Pyrosulphuric, or Anhydrosulphuric Acid; Nordhausen Sulphuric Acid. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 582 Potassium pyrosulphate, $K_2S_2O_7$, is formed by heating K_2SO_4 with half its weight of H_2SO_4 till acid ceases to come off at an incipient red heat. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 776 **Pyroterebic Acid*..belonging to the acrylic series..is a liquid boiling at 210°, and smelling of butyric acid. *Ibid.*, **Pyroterebrate of silver*, $C_8H_9AgO_2$, crystallises with difficulty, and blackens on exposure to light. 1810-26 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 413 The liquid, when filtered and evaporated, yielded small white needles which were pure *pyro-uric acid. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 564 Cyanuric Acid...Scheele first described this acid under the name of *pyrouric acid*.

b. Prefixed to a sb. (Now often superseded by other names.)

† Pyrobe·nzoline = LOPHINE, $C_{21}H_{16}N_2$. **Pyrocatechin** (pəiːrōkæ·tĭtʃin), also called *catechol*, *pyro-catechuic acid*, and *oxyphenic acid*, $C_6H_6O_2$, produced by the dry distillation of catechu, kino, and other substances, forming broad white strongly shining laminæ, and rhombic or small rectangular prisms. **Pyrocoll** [Gr. *κόλλα* glue]: see quot. **Pyrode·xtrin**, a product of the action of a high temperature upon starch. **Pyrogly·cerin**, diglycerin = $C_3H_5(OH)_2.O.C_3H_5(OH)_2$. **Pyrogly·cide**, diglycide, $C_3H_5(OH).O_2.C_3H_5(OH)$. **Pyroguai·acin**, a crystalline substance, $C_{18}H_{18}O_3$, produced by the dry distillation of gum guaiacum. **† Pyroqui·nol** = HYDROQUINONE. **† Pyroste·arin**: see quot. See also PYROXANTHIN, -XANTHOGEN, and PYROXYLIN.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 263 *Pyrobenzoline (lophine). *Ibid.* 349 Catechin .. yields a crystallizable substance termed *pyrocatechin, or oxyphenic acid. 1878 KINGZETT *Anim. Chem.* 236 Pyrocatechin was discovered in human urine by Müller and Ebstein. 1897 *Allbutts' Syst. Med.* IV. 555 Mühlmann has put forward the view that the symptoms of Addison's disease are due to chronic poisoning with pyrocatechin. 1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XL. 295 The authors propose to call it *pyrocoll, because of its mode of formation from gelatin. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 359 Pyrocoll, $C_{10}H_6N_2O_2$, a product of the distillation of gelatin when free from fat but containing albumen, casein or gluten. 1858 *Chem. Gaz.* 1 May 178 *Pyrodextrine .. is precipitated by baryta. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 758 Pyrodextrin is a solid, brown, friable mass, shining and tough when moist. Inodorous and tasteless...[It] dissolves readily in water, forming a brown adhesive gum. 1861 *Chem. News* III. 111/2 *Pyroglycerine oxidises phosphorus, potassium, and copper. 1864-72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 894 The hypothetical body glycide, $C_3H_6O_2$..is the alcohol of the glycidic ethers, and is related to glycerin in the same manner as *pyroglycide to pyroglycerin. 1866-8 *Ibid.* IV. 771 **Pyrostearin*, the name applied by Berzelius to the less fusible portion of the distillate obtained by distilling empyreumatic oils with water.

c. Also in the derivative names of certain hydrocarbon compounds and groups: **Pyrazine** [AZO- + -INE], a ring-group; **Pyrazole** [AZO- + L. *oleum* oil], a compound; **Pyrone** [-ONE], a ring-group; the analytical formulæ of which respectively are



Hence *Pyrazoleblue*, a dye substance ($C_{20}H_{16}N_4O_2$).

1895 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* III. 349.

Pyro-acetic to -arsenic: see PYRO- 3 a.

Pyro-acid (pəiːrōæ·sid). *Chem.* Also 9 **† pyracid.** An acid formed from another acid by dry or destructive distillation: see PYRO- 3.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 47/1 The other animal acids ..are artificially produced...Such as the..animal pyroacids. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 11 Sometimes the saturating power of a vegetable acid is not altered by converting it into a pyroacid. 1866-8 [see PYROGEN b].

Pyro-aurite, etc.: see PYRO- 2.

† Pyroba·llogy. *Obs.* [Altered from PYROBOLOGY, after Gr. *βάλλειν*, to throw.] The study of the art of casting fire, i. e. of artillery.

1738 [see PYROBOLOGY, quot. 1728]. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. iii, He was enabled, by the help of..Gobesius's military architecture and pyroballogy, translated from the Flemish, to form his discourse with passable perspicuity.

Pyro-benzoline: see PYRO- 3 b.

† Pyrobo·lic, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. PYRO- + Gr. *βολή* a throw + -IC.] (See quot.)

(Perh. due to a misunderstanding of *parabolic*.)

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (ROXB.) 12/1 A pyrobolick Mirrour is such a Glass that casts forth fire in a moment of tyme by the suns heat.

† Pyrobo·lical, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -AL.] Relating to the art of casting fire, i. e. ? to artillery, or ? to fireworks. So **† Pyro·bolist** [F. *pyroboliste*, Ger. *pyroballist*], one who makes or manages artillery or fireworks; **† Pyrobo·logy** [F. *pyrobologie*, 18th c.], **† Pyro·boly**, the art of making or managing fireworks, pyrotechny.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s. v. *Pyrotechny*, Some call Pyrotechny by the name Artillery;..Others chuse to call it Pyrobology [*ed.* 1738 *adds* or rather pyroballogy], *q. d.* the Art of Missile Fires. 1729 SHELVOCKE *Artillery* III. 165 To fire several Pyrobolical Machines, which are used upon Rejoicing Occasions. *Ibid.* 169 Nothing..that may be of Use to the diligent and expert Pyrobolist. 1732 *Hist. Litteraria* III. 110 He called together the most expert of the Fire-workers and Pyrobolists. *Ibid.* IV. 114 If the Chinese have been so ancient in the Mystery of Pyroboly and Pyrotechnics.

Pyro-camphretic, etc.: see PYRO- 1, 2, 3 a, b.

Pyro-carbonate: see PYRO b.

Pyro-che·mical, *a rare.* [f. med. or early mod.L. *pyrochymia*, *-icus*, in F. *pyrochimie*, *-chimique*: see PYRO- 1 and CHEMICAL.] Pertaining to the chemical action of fire. Hence **Pyro-che·mically** *adv.*, by the chemical action of fire.

1839 G. ROBERTS *Dict. Geol.*, Pyro-chemically formed.. through the instrumentality of fire, as crystals of prismatic felspar on the walls of a furnace in which copper slate and ore have been melted.

Pyrodin (pəiːrōᵘdin). *Med.* [f. Gr. *πυρώδης* like fire + -IN¹.] A crystalline substance consisting essentially of acetyl-phenyl-hydrazine, $C_6H_5N_2H_2(C_2H_3O)$, used as an antipyretic.

1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Pyrodine*. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pyrodin*. 1899 CAGNEY *Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 352 Observed in cases of poisoning by naphthol, carbolic acid, pyrodin, and chinin.

Py:ro-ele·ctric, *a. Min.* [PYRO- 1.] Applied to certain crystals which on being heated become electrically polar, i. e. exhibit positive and negative electricity at opposite ends (the effects being reversed while cooling). Hence **Py:ro-electri·city**, the property of being pyro-electric.

1834 in *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 595/1 Pyro-electricity. 1853 *Pharm. Jrnl.* XIII. 112 The crystals..are..pyroelectric. 1864-72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 411 In Crystals:—Pyroelectricity. 1871 B. STEWART *Heat* § 167 Haüy was the first to remark that those crystals are pyroelectric which are deficient in symmetry. 1895 [see PYRITOID]. 1899 O. LODGE *Mod. Views Electr.* § 63 (heading) Pyro-electricity.

Pyro-engraver, -fellic: see PYRO- 1, 3.

Pyroet, Pyrog, obs. ff. PIROUETTE, PIROGUE.

1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 206 The Savages..transport Plants in their Pyrogs.

Pyrogallic (pəiːrogæ·lik), *a. Chem.* [f. PYRO- 3 + GALLIC *a.*²] Produced from gallic acid by the action of heat: in *pyrogallic acid*, an acid substance, $C_6H_6O_3$ (strictly a trihydric phenol, $C_6H_3(OH)_3$, hence systematically named *pyrogallol*), which crystallizes in long flat colourless prisms, soluble in water; much used as a reducing agent in photography (see PYRO) and otherwise. Hence *pyrogallic developer*, etc.

1836 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 4) 933 Pyrogallic acid has been analyzed by Berzelius under the name of gallic acid. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 86 Braconnot .. showed that when gallic acid is sublimed, it is converted into a substance possessing quite different properties...He therefore gave it the name of pyrogallic acid. 1856 E. A. HADOW in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 194 After the pyrogallic solution has apparently done its utmost. 1861 *Photogr. News Alm.* in *Circ. Sc.* (c 1865) I. 160/1 There are two methods of development; with pyrogallic acid and with gallic acid. 1869 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 417 On heating, gallic acid splits up into carbon dioxide and pyro-gallic acid or trihydroxyl benzol. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 103 A pyrogallic-acid developer.

Hence **Pyroga·llate**, a salt of pyrogallic acid; **Pyroga·llein**, a product of the action of air on an ammoniacal solution of pyrogallic acid; **† Pyroga·llin** (*rare*), **Pyroga·llol**, synonyms of pyrogallic acid.

1836 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 4) 933 Ammonia, soda, and potassa, form soluble *pyrogallates. 1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 98 The alkaline pyrogallates have..an affinity for the halogens. 1866-8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 758 *Pyrogallein, an uncrystallisable product. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 422 Heated to 410°, gallic acid is .. converted

into *pyro-gallin and carbonic anhydride. **1876** *Encycl. Brit. V.* 564/2 Trihydric phenols comprising .. pyrogallic acid (or *pyrogallol). **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 580 The remedies .. found most useful are tar, chrysarobin, and pyrogallol.

Pyrogen (pəi·rŏdʒen). *rare.* [f. PYRO- + -GEN; lit. 'fire-producer', or 'fire-produced'.] A term proposed in various senses. †**a.** A name for electricity considered as a material substance; the 'electric fluid'. †**b.** (See quot. 1866–8.) **c.** A substance which, when introduced into the blood, produces fever; a pyrogenetic agent.

a. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pyrogen*, a term proposed for electricity considered as a material substance possessing weight. **1864** in WEBSTER.

b. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 759 *Pyrogen*, a name applied by Dumas to pyro-acids and other products of the action of heat on organic bodies.

c. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 157 In 1875 I prepared a substance, which I ventured to call pyrogen, from putrid extract of flesh.

Pyrogeneous, erron. form of PYROGENOUS.

‖**Pyroge·nesis.** [f. PYRO- 1 + GENESIS.] The generation of fire or heat.

1858 in MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* **1890** in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyrogenetic (pəi·rəˌdʒĭne·tik), *a.* [f. PYRO- 1 + -GENETIC.] **a.** Having the property of producing heat, esp. in the body; thermogenetic. **b.** Having the property of producing fever.

1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Pyrogenetic. **1875** tr. *von Ziemssen's Cycl. Med.* I. 255 What the chemical natures of these pyrogenetic processes may be, we have never learnt. **1885** *Buck's Ref. Handbk. Med. Sc.* II. 226 Not the least curious phenomenon of the pyrogenetic mechanism is the influence that increases the resistance to cold. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 155 Artificial fever produced by the introduction of pyrogenetic substances.

Pyrogenic (-dʒe·nik), *a.* [f. as PYROGEN + -IC.] †**1.** *Geol.* = PYROGENOUS 1 a. *Obs. rare.*

1853 TH. ROSS *Humboldt's Trav.* III. xxxii. 370 The ancient pyrogenic rocks which I found near Parapara.

†**2.** *Chem.* Name for a supposed peculiar acid, now identified with formic acid. *Obs.*

1864–72 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 684 Tünnermann (Pogg. Ann. xv. 307) thought that he had discovered two peculiar acids, to which he gave the names of *pyrogenic* and *amylenic acids*.

3. *Phys.* and *Path.* = PYROGENETIC b.

1877 ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 80 Dr. Burdon-Sanderson found .. that by injecting certains fluids—which he terms 'pyrogenic'—..fever could be excited. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 157 The pyrogenic substance was perhaps a body analogous to the unformed ferments.

Pyrogenous (-ŏdʒĭnəs), *a.* Erron. **-geneous.** [f. as PYROGEN + -OUS.]

1. Produced by fire or heat. **a.** *Geol.* Of rocks: = IGNEOUS *a.* **2.** †**b.** *Chem.* Applied to a substance produced by the combustion of another substance.

1839 G. ROBERTS *Dict. Geol.*, *Pyrogenous*, ..produced by the agency of fire. **1845** J. PHILLIPS *Geol.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 760/1 The phenomena of pyrogenous rocks. **1858** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Pyrogeneus*, .. pyrogeneous. Applied by Berzelius to empyreumatic oils and resins, i. e. those produced by distillation of organic substances.

2. Producing fire, heat, or fever: = PYROGENETIC. **1890** *Cent. Dict.* s. v., Pyrogenous action in the blood. **1897** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Pyrogenous*...*a. Med.* Fever-producing, pyrogenetic.

Pyroglucic to **-gnostics**: see PYRO- 1, 3 a, b.

Pyrography. [f. PYRO- 1 + -GRAPHY.]

†**1.** A description of fire-arms. *Obs.*

1684 tr. *Agrippa's Van. Arts* xxii. 67 The several varieties of Guns and Fire-vomiting Engines, of which lately my self have written a..Treatise, Entituled *Pyrographiie*.

2. a. A method of wood-carving by means of heated metallic plates or cylinders in relief, by which the design is burned into the substance of the wood (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

b. The art of making drawings or designs on wood, bone, etc. by means of a heated metallic point: = POKER-WORK.

1891 MRS. MAUDE *Pyrography* iii. 43 Bone and Ivory form very delicate grounds for Pyrography in small work. **1895** MRS. STEVENS in *Proc. 14th Convent. Teach. Deaf* 366 The 'Legend of Sleepy Hollow', done in pyrography on the wood-work of a fire-place.

So **Pyrograph** *v. intr.*, to practise pyrography or poker-work; **Pyrographer, Pyrographist,** one who practises or is skilled in pyrography; **Pyrographic** *a.*, pertaining to, done by, or using pyrography; **Pyrogravure** (pəi·rəgrăviūə·r) = PYROGRAPHY 2 b, poker-work.

1891 MRS. MAUDE *Pyrography* iv. 56 The general tones of the animal to be *Pyrographed. *Ibid.* v. 80 Pyrographed frames for sepia drawings. **1811** JOS. SMITH in *Fowler Corr.* (1906) 204 To send you the *Pyrographic Picture you ordered of me. **1895** MRS. STEVENS in *Proc. 14th Convent. Teach. Deaf* 366 Some very fine specimens of pyrographic work. **1891** MRS. MAUDE *Pyrography* ii. 28 A very clever lady *Pyrographist. **1888** *Sci. Amer.* 9 June 353 *Pyrogravure is a new method of engraving in black, reddish brown, bister, etc., by the use of a red hot metallic point. **1901** *N. Amer. Rev. Adv.* Feb. 2 This panel and the rest of the wood-work are in pyrogravure.

Pyroguaiacic to **-kinic**: see PYRO- 2, 3 a, b.

Pyrogue, obs. form of PIROGUE.

Pyroheliometer: = PYRHELIOMETER.

‖**Pyrola** (pi·rŏlă). *Bot.* Also 7 **pirola**; and in anglicized form, 6 **pyrole**, 7 **pyrol.** [med. or mod.L. dim. of *pyrus*, med.L. for *pirus* pear-tree; in F. *pirole*. So called from the resemblance of the leaves to those of the pear-tree.] A genus of plants, type of the N.O *Pyrolaceæ*, often viewed as a sub-order of the *Ericaceæ*, consisting of smooth herbs, with running underground stems, evergreen usually entire and rounded leaves, and simple racemes of flowers; several of the species are known as *wintergreen*.

Formerly including some allied plants now removed to other genera, as *Moneses grandiflora* (*Pyrola uniflora*) and *Chimaphila* (*Pyrola*) *umbellata*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. xcii. 134 Pyrola groweth in shadowy places, and moyst wooddes. *Ibid.* 135 Greene Pyrole is also good to be layde vpon woundes, vlcers, & burnings. **1651** DAVENANT *Gondibert* II. vii. iii, New wounds..such..As balm nor juice of pyrol never heals. **1672** JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 67 Pirola, or Winter Green, that kind which grows with us in England is common in New-England, but there is another plant which I judge to be a kind of Pirola, and proper to this Country. **1834** MARY HOWITT *Sk. Nat. Hist., The Garden* xii, I found within another wood The rare Pyrola blowing.

Hence **Pyrolaceous** (-ēi·ʃəs) *a.*, belonging to the *Pyrolaceæ* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*, 1858).

Pyrolatry (pəirŏ·lătri). [f. PYRO- + Gr. λατρεία service, worship: cf. IDOLATRY.] The worship of fire, fire-worship.

1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. ix. 144 Their Pyrolatrie, or fire-worship, which they learnt from the Chaldeans. **1839** MOORE *Hist. Irel.* I. ii. 26 The Pyrolatry, or Fire-worship, of the early Irish. **1891** MAX MÜLLER *Phys. Relig.* 241 Anything like pyrolatry or worship of fire, as a mere element, is foreign to the character of the Greeks.

Hence **Pyro·later** (-or), [cf. IDOLATER], a fire-worshipper.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* VIII. *note*, The fires..having too near an analogy to the religion of the pyrolators.

Pyroleter (pəirŏ·lĭtəɹ). [f. Gr. πῦρ fire + δλετήρ destroyer.] An apparatus for extinguishing fire, consisting of a double pump by which solutions of hydrochloric acid and sodium bicarbonate are mixed in a cylinder, and the carbonic acid generated by the reaction is projected upon the fire.

1878 *Ure's Dict.* IV. 712 The pyroleter is a small double pump worked by hand, which sucks up from tubes on either side muriatic acid and a solution of carbonate of soda.

Pyroligneous (pəi·rəˌli·gnĭəs), *a.* [a. F. *pyro-ligneux* (De Morveau and Lavoisier, 1787), f. PYRO- + L. *lignum* wood.] Produced by the action of fire or heat upon wood. *Pyroligneous acid*: a crude acetic acid (wood vinegar) obtained by the destructive distillation of wood. So *pyroligneous alcohol, ether, spirit*, methyl alcohol.

[**1787** DE MORVEAU, LAVOISIER, etc. *Nomencl.* 150 Noms nouveaux: *Acide pyro-ligneux*. Esprit acide empyreumatique du bois.] *c* **1790** tr. *De Morveau's*, etc., *Table Chem. Nom.* (*Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 598) 21 Pyro-ligneous acid. Spirit of wood. **1810–26** HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 336 Liquid products of value are collected,..an impure vinegar called pyroligneous acid. **1822** P. TAYLOR in *Philos. Mag.* 31 Oct. 316 This spirit, which, from its greater resemblance to æther than to any other substance, I have called pyroligneous æther. **1861** *Photogr. News* 3 May 211/2 Pyroligneous Spirit, known also as pyroxylic spirit, wood alcohol, and wood naphtha. **1873** E. SPON *Workshop Receipts* Ser. I. 64/1 Some turpentine being drawn from green trees abound[s] with a pyroligneous acid. **1876** HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 336 Pyroligneous æther or wood naphtha,—a fluid quite distinct from mineral naphtha, which is a simple hydrocarbon.

So †**Pyroli·gnic,** †**Pyroli·gnous** *adjs.* in same sense; **Pyroli·gnate,** †**Pyroli·gnite** [so in Fr.; see -ITE[1] 4 b], a salt of pyroligneous acid, an impure or crude acetate.

1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 22 Acetate of Lime. Sometimes termed *Pyrolignate of Lime. *a* **1799** J. BLACK *Lect. Elem. Chem.* (1803) II. 374 An acid now called *pyro-lignic (pyro-xylic). **1805** NISBET *Dict. Chem.*, *Table Nomencl.* i. 359 *Pyrolignic radical*, basis of acid distilled from birch and other woods. [**1787** DE MORVEAU, LAVOISIER, etc. *Nomencl.* 208 *Pyro-lignite de chaux, etc.] *c* **1790** tr. *De Morveau's*, etc., *Tabl. Chem. Nom.* (*Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 598) 21 Pyro-lignite of lime, Pyrolignite of zinc, etc. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 223 The pyrolignite of iron called iron liquor in this country, is the only mordant used in calico-printing for black, violet, puce, and brown colours. **1790** KERR tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 260 The Combinations of *Pyro-lignous Acid with the Salifiable Bases. **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 21 Pyrolignous acid, about twice the strength of vinegar..possesses a dull, acidulous, offensive smack.

Pyroline, *Chem.*, var. of PYRROLINE.

Pyrolithic to **Pyrolivilic**: see PYRO- 3 a.

Pyrology (pəirŏ·lŏdʒi). *rare.* [ad. mod.L. *pyrologia*: see PYRO- 1 and -LOGY.] The science or study of fire or heat; now *spec.* that branch of chemistry which deals with the application of fire to chemical analysis, etc.

1669 R. WITTIE (*title*) Pyrologia Mimica; or an Answer to Hydrologia Chymica of W. Simpson..In Defence of Scarborough-Spaw. **1692** D. BOTTONI (*title*) Pyrologia Topographica, id est, de Igni dissertatio, juxta loca, cum eorum descriptionibus.] **1731** *Hist. Litteraria* III. 348 The Discoveries made by the modern Philosophers in Pneumaticks, Hydrology, Pyrology, &c. **1797** W. OKELY (*title*) Pyrology; or the Connection between Natural and Moral Philosophy. **1875** W. A. ROSS (*title*) Pyrology or Fire Chemistry.

Hence **Pyrolo·gical** *a.*, pertaining to or involving pyrology; **Pyro·logist,** one versed in pyrology.

a **1799** BLACK is cited by Webster (1828) for *Pyrologist*. **1881** W. A. Ross in *Knowledge* No. 7. 137 The young 'pyrologist', or blowpipe chemist. **1881** *Eng. Mechanic* 27 May 284/1 Even with his pyrological methods, he would have difficulty in determining the carbonic acid in a pinch of soot. **1883** *Ibid.* 20 July (*title*) Easy Lessons in Blowpipe Analysis and Pyrological Mineralogy.

Pyrolusite (pəi·rolīū·səit). *Min.* [ad. Ger. *pyrolusit* (Haidinger 1827), f. Gr. πυρο- (PYRO-) + λοῦσ-ις washing + -ITE[1]: from its use, when heated, for discharging colour from glass.] Native dioxide of manganese, MnO_2, a common ore of black or dark-grey colour and metallic lustre.

1828 *Edin. Jrnl. Sc.* IX. 304 An account of pyrolusite or prismatic manganese ore. **1839** DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 610 Pyrolusite, or grey and black ore, containing from 70 to 99 per cent. of peroxide of manganese. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 166 Pyrolusite parts with its oxygen at a red heat, and is extensively employed for discharging the brown and green tints of glass. Hence..whimsically entitled by the French *le savon des verriers*.

Pyromachy to **-malic**: see PYRO- 1, 3 a.

Pyromancy (pəi·rəmænsi, pi·rə-). Now *rare.* Forms: 4 **piromance, -aunce,** (**perimancie**), 5–6 **piromancy,** (5 **-cye,** 6 **-cie**), 5– **pyromancy,** (5 **-cye,** 6–7 **-cie,** 7 **-cy**). [a. OF. *piromance, pyromancie* (14th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. late L. *pyromantīa*, a. Gr. πυρομαντεία: see PYRO- and -MANCY.] Divination by fire, or by signs derived from fire.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* XI. 158 Nigromancye and perimancie. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 45 The craft..That Geomancie cleped is,..And of the flod his Ydromance, And of the fyr the Piromance. *c* **1400** [see HYDROMANCY]. **1496** *Dives & Paup.* (W. de W.) I. xxxvi. 77/1 Ydromancye, that is wytchecrafte done in the fyrè. *c* **1590** GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ii. 15 Thou art read in Magicks mystery, In Piromancy, to diuine by flames. **1630** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Water Cormorant* Wks. III. 12/2 By Fire he hath the skill of Pyromanty. **1855** SMEDLEY *Occult Sc.* 292 Pyromancy, by which conjectures were made from the motions of the sacrificial flame.

So **Pyromancer,** one who divines by fire; **Pyroma·ntic** *a.*, pertaining to or practising pyromancy; †*sb.* = *pyromancer*.

c **1400** *Apol. Loll.* 96 Þus are callid .. piromauncers þat wirkun bi þe fire. *c* **1590** GREENE *Fr. Bacon* ix. 71 The Pyromanticke Genij. **1608** DAY *Law Trickes* IV. ii, Skill in pyromantique rules. **1638** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 215 Many Witches, Sorcerers, Inchanters, Hydro and Pyromantiques, and other Diaboliques.

Pyromania to **-maric**: see PYRO- 1, 3 a.

Pyromeco·nic, *a. Chem.* [f. PYRO- 3 + MECONIC.] In *pyromeconic acid*, a crystalline bitter acid, $C_5H_4O_3$, occurring in large transparent tables; it is obtained by the dry distillation of meconic or of comenic acid. Hence **Pyrome·conate,** a salt of this acid.

1836 BRANDE *Man. Chem.* (ed. 4) 1023 Pyromeconic Acid. This acid is among the products of the destructive distillation of the meconic acid; it is a crystalline sublimate, which fuses at a temperature of about 250°. *Ibid.* The neutral pyromeconate of lead. **1838** T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 82 Pyromeconic acid .. was first examined by Robiquet in 1832. **1866–8** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 761 With bromine water it yields bromopyromeconic acid ($C_5H_3BrO_3$). .. Chloride of iodine converts it into iodopyromeconic acid ($C_5H_3IO_3$).

†**Py·romel.** *Obs.* [f. PYRO- + L. *-mel* honey.] An old name for treacle.

1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

Pyromelane to **-metamorphism**: see PYRO-.

Pyrometer (pəirŏ·mĭtəɹ). [f. PYRO- + -METER.] †**a.** *orig.* An instrument for measuring the expansion of solid bodies under the influence of heat. *Obs.* **b.** Any instrument for measuring high temperatures, usually those higher than can be measured by the mercurial thermometer.

Such instruments have been made on a variety of principles, depending on the expansion, contraction, or fusion of solids, the radiation, conduction, etc. of heat, the production of electrical or chemical action, etc.

1749 *Gentl. Mag.* XIX. 361/2 The Draught of an accurate Pyrometer or Instrument to measure the Extension or Contraction, of Metal, or other Rods,..invented by Mr. Withurst of Derby. **1793** W. & S. JONES *Catal. Optical*, etc. *Instr.* 8 Pyrometers, shewing the expansion of metals. **1796** KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 10, I..examined..their fusibility in various degrees of heat by the help of Mr. Wedgewood's pyrometer. **1812** SIR H. DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 73 Clay contracts considerably in dimensions by a very intense heat, and on the measure of its contractions the pyrometer of Wedgwood is founded. **1906** *Westm. Gaz.* 16 July 4/2 Special furnaces which are controlled by the assistance of electrical pyrometers. **1907** *Athenæum* 18 May 609/3 A modification of Prof. Féry's radiation pyrometer, which in principle consists of receiving in a concave mirror the total radiation of a hot plate.

Hence **Pyrome·tric, Pyrome·trical** *adjs.*, pertaining to a pyrometer or to pyrometry; of the nature of, or measurable by, a pyrometer; formerly said of effects due to the expansive power of great heat; **Pyrome·trically** *adv.*, in the manner of, or by means of, a pyrometer; **Pyro·metry,** the measurement of very high temperatures.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 20 This pyrometer [Wedgewood's] consists of two parts, one of which, called the Gage, serves to measure the degrees of diminution or contraction: the other consists of small cylinders of clay, called *Pyrometric Pieces. 1837 Herschel in Babbage *Bridgew. Treat.* App. 1. 237 The elevation of strata by pyrometric expansion of the subjacent columns of rock. 1839 Ure *Dict. Arts* 1016 Pyrometric balls of red clay, coated with a very fusible lead enamel, are employed in the English potteries to ascertain the temperature of the glaze kilns. 1791 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 107 The substances employed..must have been influenced in their length by *pyrometrical and hygrometrical effects. 1834–6 Barlow in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 460/2 *Pyrometrical beads*, technically called *trials*, ..are made in the form of small hoops, of Egyptian black clay. 1865 Miss Meteyard *Wedgwood* II. 160 Thos. and John Wedgwood..about 1740 introduced what they termed pyrometrical beads..formed of prepared clay. 1778 *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 419 (heading) An Essay on *Pyrometry and Arcometry. *Ibid.* 421 The occasion which led me to Pyrometry. 1830 Herschel *Stud. Nat. Phil.* 319 The dilatation of bodies by heat forms the subject of..pyrometry. 1897 Rose in *Mining Jrnl.* 30 Jan. 143/3 Pyrometry and the testing..of alloys continue to receive much attention.

Pyromorphite, -morphous: see Pyro- 2, 1.

Pyromucic (pəi·rōmiū·sik), *a. Chem.* [f. Pyro- 3 + Mucic: cf. F. *pyromucique* substituted for *pyromuqueux* (De Morveau and Lavoisier 1787).] In *pyromucic acid*, an acid, $C_5H_4O_3$, metameric with pyromeconic acid, produced by the dry distillation of mucic acid, and occurring in white glistening scales or needles. So *pyromucic alcohol, chloride, ether*, etc.

1794 G. Pearson tr. *De Morveau*, etc. *Table Chem. Nom.* 22 Radical of pyro mucic. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 284 Pyromucic acid has been lately discovered by M. Hontou Labillardière. 1836–41 Brande *Chem.* (ed. 5) 1072 When mucic acid is subjected to destructive distillation it yields..pyromucic acid.

Hence **Pyromu·camide**, an amide of pyromucic acid, $C_5H_5NO_2$; *Dipyromucamide*, $C_5H_6N_2O$; **Pyromu·cate**, a salt of pyromucic acid; **Pyromu·cyl**, the radical $C_5H_3O_2$ of pyromucic acid; also † **Pyromucous** *a.* = *pyromucic*, † **Pyromucite** = *pyromucate*.

1790 Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 263 Table of the Combinations of Pyro-mucous Acid with the Salifiable Bases. *Ibid.* 260 Pyro-mucite of lime. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 284 Pyromucate of barya is composed of acid 57.7 barya 42.2. 1847 *Chem. Gaz.* V. 85 Pyromucamide differs essentially from this body. 1866–8 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 763 The pyromucates of the alkali-metals are..difficult to crystallise. *Ibid.* 765 Dipyromucamide forms white, shining laminæ, easily soluble in alcohol and ether, less soluble in water. 1881 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XL. 715 Ethylamine pyromucate when distilled with phosphorus pentachloride yields pyromucyl chloride.

Pyronaphtha to **Pyronomy**: see Pyro- 1.

Pyrone: see Pyro- 3 c.

Pyrope (pəi·rōəp). Forms: 4 **pirope**, 7 **pirop**, 7–9 **pyrop**, 9 **pyrope**; also in Lat. form 6 **piro·pus**, 7–9 **pyro·pus**, (*pl.* -i). [a. OF. *pirope* (13th c. in Godef.), ad. L. *pyrōpus* gold-bronze, also a kind of gem, a. Gr. *πυρωπός* gold-bronze, lit. 'fiery-eyed', f. *πῦρ*, *πυρ-* fire + *ὤψ* eye, face.]

† **1.** In early use applied vaguely to a red or fiery gem, as ruby or carbuncle. *Obs.*

13.. *K. Alis*, 5682 Jacynkte, Piropes, Crisolites. 1553 Eden *Treat. Newe Ind.* (Arb.) 14 *Piropi* (whiche are a kind of Rubies or Carbuncles). 1602 Campion *Eng. Poesie* vii. in G. G. Smith *Eliz. Crit. Ess.* (1904) II. 345 The glossy Pirop faines to blaze, But toucht cold appeares, and an earthy stone. 1625 Lisle *Du Bartas, Noe* 154 Two pyrops are her eyes Or flaming carbuncles. 1795 Southey *Joan of Arc* II. 84 Rubies and amethysts..With the gay topaz,..and the emerald's hue, And bright pyropus.

2. *Min.* Applied by Werner, 1803 (*Pyrop*), to the Bohemian garnet or fire-garnet, a deep-red gem.

1804 *Edin. Rev.* III. 301 The pyrop, which has lately exfoliated from the class of garnets, has no difference but superior beauty. 1805–17 R. Jameson *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 91 Precious garnet, pyrope and iron-sand. 1840 Browning *Sordello* VI. 411 Cool citrine-crystals, fierce pyropus-stone. 1868 Dana *Min.* (ed. 5) 267 The original pyrope is the kind containing chrome. 1888 Rutley *Rock-Forming Min.* 112 Pyrope, or magnesia-alumina garnet.

Pyropectic to **Pyrophone**: see Pyro-.

Pyrophore (pəi·rŏfōəi). *rare.* [a. F. *pyrophore* (1762 in *Dict. Acad.*), ad. mod.L. *pyrophorus*.]

1. = Pyrophorus 1; also applied to a substance which takes fire on contact with water.

1884 Knight *Dict. Mech.* Supp., *Pyrophore*..a body which has the faculty of inflaming by contact with air or water.

‖ **2.** [prop. Fr.] A fire-fly of the genus *Pyrophorus*: see Pyrophorus 2.

1885 *B'ham Weekly Post* 26 Dec. 1/4 These insects had been brought from Mexico, where they are to be found in the forests. Their scientific name is the pyrophore.

Pyrophoric (-fŏ·rik), *a.* [f. next + -ic.] Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a pyrophorus; having the property of taking fire on exposure to air. Also **Pyrophorous** (-fŏrəs), *a.*

1828 Webster, *Pyrophorous*, pertaining to or resembling pyrophorus. 1836 Brande *Man. Chem.* (ed. 4) 1119 A residue..which burns like tinder when heated, and at a high temperature is pyrophoric. 1866–8 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 766 The pyrophoric character is exhibited by all the more easily oxidable metals. 1876 Harley *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 247 At a higher temperature this is completely decomposed, leaving a pyrophoric mixture of lead and carbon.

‖ **Pyrophorus** (pəirŏ·fŏrəs). Pl. **-i** (-əi). [mod. L., ad. Gr. *πυροφόρος* fire-bearing.]

1. *Chem.* Any substance capable (esp. in a finely divided state) of taking fire spontaneously on exposure to air. In early use applied *spec.* to *Homberg's pyrophorus*, a substance made by heating alum with lamp-black, starch, sugar, or flour.

1778 M. Cutler in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 204 That these acids may produce such appearances is probable from the easy experiment of Pyrophorus. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Jan. 20/1 There is a particular composition, known to chemists by the name of pyrophorus, because it possesses the property of being liable to spontaneous inflammation in the open air. It was composed by Homberg. 1842 Parnell *Chem. Anal.* (1845) 345 The metallic cobalt thus obtained acts as a pyrophorus when it comes in contact with the air. *c* 1860 Faraday *Forces Nat.* iv. 199 *note*, Lead Pyrophorous..is a tartrate of lead which has been heated in a glass tube to dull redness as long as vapours are emitted.

2. *Entom.* A genus of beetles (named by Illiger, 1809) of the family *Elateridæ* (see Elater [1] 2), found in tropical and subtropical America, containing the most brilliantly luminous 'fire-flies'.

Pyrophosphamic, -phoric: see Pyro- 3 a.

Pyro-photograph (pəi·rōfō·tŏgrɑf). [f. Pyro- 1 + Photograph.] A photographic picture burnt in on glass or porcelain. Hence **Pyrophotogra·phic** *a.*, of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a pyro-photograph, or of pyro-photography. **Pyro-photo·graphy**, a process in which heat is used to fix a photographic picture.

1869 *Photogr. Jrnl.* 15 Oct. 136 Pyro-photography, or fire-proof photography, is the production of transparent glass photographs by means of fusible pigments, the latter being attached to a film rendered sensitive to the action of light. *Ibid.*, The pigments of the pyro-photographic pictures. *Ibid.* 137 It is this almost incredibly delicate graduation of hygroscopic power, imparted to the film by exposure..to light, that is utilized for the production of pyro-photographs. 1875 H. Vogel *Chem. Light* xiv. 213 We shall see..that there are other means of producing such pyro-photographs. *Ibid.* xv. 257 Section ix.—Pyro-Photography with Salts of Chromium.

Pyrophyllite to **Pyrosilver**: see Pyro-.

Pyropus, L. form of Pyrope; var. Peropus *Obs.*

‖ **Pyrosis** (pəirō·sis). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. *πύρωσις* setting on fire, burning, f. *πυροῦν* to set on fire.] An affection characterized by a burning sensation in the stomach and œsophagus, with eructation of watery fluid; water-brash.

1789 Cullen *Mat. Med.* II. 248 The pyrosis, frequent in this country under the name of the Water-brash. 1843 R. J. Graves *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introd. Lect. 32 The preparation of bismuth used in pyrosis. 1847 E. J. Seymour *Severe Dis.* I. 9 The next morbid condition of the stomach is what is called pyrosis or water-brash.

Pyrosmalite: see Pyro- 2.

Pyrosome (pəi·rosōum). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Pyrosōma* (also in Eng. use), f. Gr. *πῦρ* fire (Pyro-) + *σῶμα* body.] An animal of the genus *Pyrosōma*, consisting of highly phosphorescent compound ascidians, the individuals being united into a free-swimming colony in the form of a hollow cylinder closed at one end.

1812 tr. *Peron's Voy. S. Lands* in *Pinkerton's Voy.* XI. 760 What..of those Pyrosomes shaped like an enormous finger of a glove..which cover the sea with their innumerable hosts? 1834 *Lancet* 20 Sept. 1013/2 Compound tunicata, as the pyrosoma and the botryllus. 1856 Woodward *Mollusca* III. 344 The Pyrosomes are often gregarious in vast numbers. 1883 C. F. Holder in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/2 The most glorious fire bodies of the sea, the salpa and pyrosoma, the latter a pelagic aggregation of individuals, forming a hollow cylinder, closed at one end, from five inches to five feet in length.

Pyrosophy to **Pyrosulphuric**: see Pyro-.

Pyrotartaric (pəi·rōtɑtæ·rik), *a. Chem.* [f. Pyro- 3 a + Tartaric; cf. F. *pyrotartarique*, substituted for *pyrotartareux* (De Morveau and Lavoisier 1787).] In *pyrotartaric acid*, $C_5H_8O_4$, a colourless crystalline substance, obtained by the dry distillation of tartaric acid. So *pyrotartaric anhydride*, $C_5H_6O_3$; *pyrotartaric ether*, etc.

1794 G. Pearson tr. *De Morveau*, etc. *Table Chem. Nom.* 15 Basis of Pyro-tartaric Acid. 1815 Henry *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 208 From the experiments of Fourcroy and Vauquelin, it appears that the pyrotartaric acid is a peculiar species. 1819 J. G. Children *Chem. Anal.* 280 Pyrotartaric acid..is solid, extremely acid to the taste, and reddens vegetable blues strongly. 1866 Odling *Anim. Chem.* 36 Diatomic Fatty Acid Series: $C_5H_8O_4$ Pyrotartric.

Hence **Pyrota·rtranil**, $C_{11}H_{11}NO_2$, formed by heating aniline with the acid; **Pyrotartrani·lic** *acid*, $C_{11}H_{13}NO_3$ (hence **Pyrotartra·nilate**, a salt of this); **Pyrota·rtrate**, a salt of pyrotartaric acid; **Pyrota·rtrimide**, the imide of this acid; and other derivatives. Also † **Pyro-ta·rtarous, -tarta·reous** *a.* = *pyrotartaric*; † **Pyrota·rta·rite, -ta·rtrite** = *pyrotartrate*.

1790 Kerr tr. *Lavoisier's Elem. Chem.* 261 The name of Pyro-tartarous acid is given to a dilute empyreumatic acid obtained from purified acidulous tartarite of potash by distillation in a naked fire. *c* 1790 tr. *De Morveau's*, etc. *Table Chem. Nom.* (*Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IV. 598) Pyrotartareous acid. *Ibid.*, Pyro-tartarite of lime. 1805 Nisbet *Dict. Chem.*, *Table Nomencl.* i, Pyrotartareous, Pyrotartrites. 1817 T. Thomson *Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 150 The French chemists..distinguished them by the names of *tartarous* and *pyrotartarous* acids; which were afterwards changed into those of *tartaric* and *pyrotartaric* acids. 1836 Brande *Man. Chem.* (ed. 4) 990 The pyrotartrates of ammonia, potassa, ... and lime, are very soluble. 1856 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* VIII. 172 Pyrotartranil. *Ibid.* 173 Pyrotartanilic acid is a very stable though rather weak acid. *Ibid.*, Pyrotartanilate of ammonia. 1866–8 Watts *Dict. Chem.* IV. 775 Pyrotartranil .. is easily soluble in .. aqueous alkalis, by which when heated it is converted into pyrotartranilic acid. *Ibid.*, Pyrotartrimide forms small needles or hexagonal plates belonging to the trimetric system.

Pyrote, obs. form of Pirate.

Pyrote·chnian. *rare*—°. [f. Pyrotechny + -an.] = Pyrotechnist.

1731 Bailey vol. II, *Pyrotechnian, Pyrotechnician*, a maker of fire works, one skill'd in Pyrotechny.

Pyrotechnic (pəi·rōte·knik), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *πυρο-*, Pyro- + *τεχνικός*, f. *τέχνη* art; or f. Pyrotechny + -ic.]

A. *adj.* Pertaining to pyrotechny.

† **1.** Of or pertaining to the use of fire in chemistry, metallurgy, or gunnery. *Obs.*

1704 J. Harris *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pyrotechnick-Art*, is the Art of Chymistry, so called..because Fire is the chief Instrument the Chymist makes use of in the separating.. the purer Substances of mixt Bodies. 1731 Bailey vol. II, *Pyrotechnick, Pyrotechnical*, of or pertaining to Pyrotechny [1736 (folio) *adds* or the art of gunnery].

2. Of or pertaining to fireworks, or the art of making or managing them; of the nature of a firework.

1825 C. M. Westmacott *Eng. Spy* I. 64 The pyrotechnic artiste. 1837 Sir F. Palgrave *Merch. & Friar* Ded. (1844) 11 The pyrotechnic cases in which the powder is to be contained. 1869 H. Ainsworth *Hilary St. Ives* II. xviii, The glories of extinct Vauxhall pale the modern pyrotechnic displays. 1873 *Board of Trade Notice* in Bedford *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (1875) 68 The Pyrotechnic Light, commonly known as a Blue Light, every 15 minutes.

b. *fig.* Resembling or suggesting fireworks; esp. said of a brilliant or sensational display of wit, rhetoric, etc.

1849 Miss Mulock *Ogilvies* xxiv, Sending forth his bon-mots in a perfect shower of scintillations, so that his conversation became quite a pyrotechnic display. 1897 'Ian Maclaren' (J. Watson) *Bonnie Brier Bush, Dr. Old School* iv. 133 This was considered to be rather a pyrotechnic display of Elspeth's superior memory than a serious statement.

B. *sb.* **1.** = Pyrotechnist. *rare.*

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* I. 470 Like the fiery wheel of some skilful Pyrotechnic.

2. *pl.* **Pyrotechnics. a.** = Pyrotechny 1, 3.

1729 Shelvocke *Artillery* III. 169 The whole Excellence.. of Pyrotechnics doth not consist in the Construction of Rockets. 1834 De Quincey *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 41 All subjects..from the 'Thirty-nine Articles..down to pyrotechnics, legerdemain..thaumaturgy and necromancy.

b. A display of fireworks; also *transf.* of lightning; in quot. 1840, the juggler's trick of pretending to eat fire.

1840 Barham *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. I. *Leech Folkest.*, He was eating fire!..the attention of the multitude was absorbed by the pyrotechnics of Mr. Merryman. 1856 B. Taylor *Eldorado* I. (1862) 10 Broad scarlet flashes of lightning, surpassing any celestial pyrotechnics I ever witnessed. 1861 N. A. Woods *Pr. Wales in Canada* 108 The long deferred fireworks for the people came off at last. The pyrotechnics were very fine. 1884 Roe *Nat. Ser. Story* IX, A great black cloud..was the background for the electric pyrotechnics.

c. *fig.* Brilliant displays. (Cf. A. 2 b.)

1901 *Spectator* 17 Aug. 220/1 Orchestral pyrotechnics can be infinitely more exciting. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 16 Aug. 3/1 An Edinburgh graduate, in the period illuminated there by the kindling pyrotechnics of Professor Blackie.

Pyrote·chnical, *a.* [f. as prec. + -al.]

† **1.** = Pyrotechnic A. 1. *Obs.*

1610 Healey *St. Aug. Citie of God* 169 The warlike artes were Minerva's charge, the pyrotechnicall, or such as worke in fire,..Vulcans. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp., Ball*, in the military and pyrotechnical arts, is a composition..of the combustible kinds, serving to burn and destroy, give light, smoak, stench, or the like. 1800 T. Green *Diary L. Lit.* (1810) 233 Count Rumford, with all his pyrotechnical devices.

2. = Pyrotechnic A. 2.

1755 Johnson, *Pyrotechnical*, engaged or skilful in fireworks. 1765 R. Jones *Fireworks* vi. 254 A variety of pyrotechnical representations. 1801 Strutt *Sports & Past.* IV. iii. 334 Some of the actors concerned in the pyrotechnical shows. 1862 M. Hopkins *Hawaii* 99 The pyrotechnical display created..the greatest astonishment.

b. *fig.* = Pyrotechnic A. 2 b.

1825 *Eng. Life* I. 194 All the warmth of her nature was exhausted by her manner: there was a sort of pyrotechnical blaze, without any real heat. 1898 *Chicago Advance* 17 Feb. 211/2 The hysterical and pyrotechnical fashion of the French.

Hence **Pyrote·chnically** *adv.*, in a pyrotechnical manner; by means of fireworks; *fig.* like fireworks.

1867 E. Dowden *Contemp. Rev.* VI. 51 He can mention 1789 without exploding pyrotechnically. 1883 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 3/1 Gala nights with Chinese lanterns and 'the mouse ran up the clock' done pyrotechnically.

† **Pyrotechni·cian.** *Obs. rare.* [f. Pyrotechnic + -ian, after *mechanician, physician*, etc.] One skilled in pyrotechny; a maker of gunpowder, etc., or of fireworks (= next).

1729 Shelvocke *Artillery* III. 169 To consult able Pyrotechnicians. 1731 [see Pyrotechnian].

Pyrotechnist (pəiərōte·knist). [f. next + -IST ; cf. *botanist*, etc.] One employed or skilled in pyrotechny; a maker or displayer of fireworks.

a 1791 STEEVENS in Boswell *Johnson* (1888) IV. 325 The authour of *The Rambler*..may be considered, on this occasion, as the ringleader of a successful riot, though not as a skilful pyrotechnist. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 613 The whole skill of the pyrotechnists..was employed to produce a display of fireworks which might vie with any that had been seen in the gardens of Versailles. 1858 T. R. JONES *Aquarian Nat.* 47 The azure, gold, and silver rain of the pyrotechnist.

b. *fig.* (Cf. PYROTECHNIC A. 2 b.)

1826 SCOTT *Diary* 2 Mar., The bankers will be persuaded that it is a squib which may burn their own fingers, and will curse the poor pyrotechnist that compounded it. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* III. x. 164 To hear the new preacher, the pyrotechnist of human logic and eloquence.

Pyrotechnite: see PYRO- 2.

Pyrotechny (pəiərōtekni). [a. F. *pyrotechnie* (1556 in Hatz.-Darm.) or mod.L. **pyrotechnia** (also formerly in English use), f. Gr. πυρο- PYRO- + τέχνη art.] The art of employing fire: with various connotations.

†**1.** (*Military pyrotechny.*) The manufacture and use of gunpowder, bombs, fire-arms, etc. *Obs.*

1579 DIGGES *Stratiot.* title-p., Whereto he hath also adioyned certaine Questions of great Ordinaunce, resolued in his other Treatise of Pyrotechny and great Artillerie, hereafter to be published. 1591 — *Pantom.* (ed. 2) 176 Certaine Diffinitions, taken out of my thirde Booke of Pyrotechnie Militarie, and great Artillerie. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* II. v. 89 Some as Beringuccio in his Pyrotechny affirmeth, have promised to make it red. 1696, 1728 [see 2].

†**2.** The use of fire in chemical operations or in metallurgy. *Obs.*

1592 DEE *Compend. Rehears.* vii. (Chetham Soc. Misc. I) 30 My three laboratories serving for Pyrotechnia. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 80 Mechanick experiments of Pyrotechny. 1696 PHILLIPS (ed. 5) s. v., Military Pyrotechny teaches the Art of making all sorts of Fire-Arms: Chymical Pyrotechny teaches the Art of managing Fire in Chymical Operations. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v., Pyrotechny is of two kinds, Military, and Chymical...Some reckon a third kind..viz. the Art of fusing, refining, and preparing Metals.

3. The making and managing of fireworks for scenic display, for military use, or as signals, etc.

1635 J. BABINGTON (*title*) Pyrotechnia or a discourse of Artificiall Fireworkes for Pleasure, in which the true grounds of ye Art are plainely and perspicuously laid downe. 1741 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Rocket*, In pyrotechny, an artificial fire-work. 1835 BURNES *Trav. Bokhara* (ed. 2) I. 176 All the fireworkers of Lahore seemed to be exerting their talents in pyrotechny. 1864 MOORE *Brit. Ferns* 94 The powdery spores [of *Lycopodium*]..are highly inflammable, and used in pyrotechny under the name of vegetable brimstone.

b. *fig.* (Cf. PYROTECHNIC A. 2 b, B. 2 c.)

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* LVIII. 328 [They] make such a noise in the world..with artificial volcanoes and puerile pyrotechny of all kinds. 1855 E. L. YOUMANS in *N. Y. Tribune* 23 Oct., Brilliant coruscations of thought, and a blaze of imaginative pyrotechny. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 277 A notable example of mystical pyrotechny.

Pyrotect. *nonce-wd.* [After *architect.*] A maker of fireworks, a pyrotechnist.

1851 LANDOR *Popery* 53 The premises of many a pyrotect have been blown up into the air, together with his crackers and serpents, and wheels and rockets.

Pyroterebic to Pyrothonide: see PYRO-.

†**Pyrotic,** *a.* and *sb. Med. Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *pyrōtic-us*, a. Gr. πυρωτικός burning, f. πυροῦν to burn.] = CAUSTIC A. 1, B. 1.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* XXVI. XVIII. (1678) 640 That medicine is said to be Pyrotick or Caustick, which by its acrimony and biting..burns and consumes the skin and flesh. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* VI. 205 Not unlike the impression of an actual Pyrotick. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl., Pyrotics*, .. remedies either actually, or potentially hot; and which, accordingly, will burn the Flesh, and raise an Eschar. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyroticus*,.. having power to burn; caustic: pyrotic.

Pyro-uric: see PYRO- 3 a.

Pyroxanthin (pəiərǫksæ·nθin). *Chem.* [f. PYRO- 3 b + Gr. ξανθ-ός yellow + -IN 1.] A yellow crystalline substance, $C_{15}H_{12}O_3$, contained in crude wood-spirit, and produced by the action of potash on one of the constituents of the heavy oil of wood-tar.

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 331 Eblanin or pyroxanthin. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 776 Pyroxanthin crystallises in long yellow needles.

Hence **Pyroxa·nthogen** *Chem.*, the constituent of wood-tar from which pyroxanthin is supposed to be formed (Watts *Dict. Chem.* 1866–8).

Pyroxene (pəiərǫksēn). *Min.* [f. Gr. πῦρ, πυρο- fire + ξένος stranger: so named by Haüy 1796, because he thought it 'a stranger in the domain of fire' or alien to igneous rocks.] A species including a large variety of minerals, all bisilicates of lime with one or more of various other bases, most usually magnesia and iron oxide, but also manganese, potash, soda, and zinc, or two or more of these.

Often identified with AUGITE, q.v.; but, according to Dana, *pyroxene* 'is properly the name of the species, while *augite* is only entitled to be used for one of its varieties'.

1800 *Philos. Mag.* VII. 254 He [Vauquelin] has analysed the pyroxene of Ætna. 1811 PINKERTON *Petral.* II. 475 Few fragments of augite or pyroxene. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. Gloss. 63 The modern Lavas of Vesuvius are characterised by a large proportion of augite (or pyroxene). 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* v. 108 White pyroxene, an anhydrous silicate of lime and magnesia.

attrib. 1862 [see PYROXENITE]. 1875 DAWSON *Dawn of Life* ii. 28 Pyroxene rock or pyrallolite.

Hence **Pyroxenic** (-e·nik) *a.*, pertaining to, having the character of, consisting of, or containing pyroxene; **Pyroxenite** (-ǫ·ksenəit), also **-yte** [see -ITE 1 2 b], a metamorphic rock consisting chiefly of pyroxene.

1828 WEBSTER, **Pyroxenic*, pertaining to pyroxene, or partaking of its qualities. 1830 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 328 Violent explosions, like those which, in 1822, launched from Vesuvius a mass of pyroxenic lava, of many tons weight, to the distance of three miles. 1893 *Nation* (N. Y.) 27 July 71/1 Bunsen's theory of pyroxenic and trachytic magmas forms the starting-point for all theories for the differentiation of magmas. 1862 DANA *Man. Geol.* § 8. 78 *Pyroxenite. ..Coarse or fine granular pyroxene rock, consisting of granular pyroxene of a grayish green or brown color. 1868 — *Min.* (ed. 5) 220 *Pyroxenyte* is a metamorphic rock consisting mainly of compact pyroxene of the Sahlite section.

Pyroxyle (pəiərǫ·ksil). *Chem.* Also erron. **-ile.** [a. F. *pyroxyle*, f. Gr. πυρ(ο- PYRO- + ξύλον wood (Pelouze, 1846; *Comptes Rendus* 23, 893).] = PYROXYLIN: chiefly as the Fr. name of gun-cotton.

1847 [see PYROXYLIN 2]. 1870 *Echo* 8 Nov., A chemical manufactory at Grenelle blew to pieces, with four men, who were making pyroxile for the Government. 1881 tr. *Verne's Myst. Isl.* III. 55 Our guns would bear..the expansion of the pyroxile gas. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 4/3 The heavy rains..hindered the pyroxyle from acting as the conspirators designed.

Pyroxylic (pəiərǫksi·lik), *a. Chem.* Also erron. **-ilic.** [f. as prec. + -IC.] Obtained from wood by means of fire, i. e. by dry distillation; chiefly in *pyroxylic spirit*, an early name for methyl alcohol (CH_4O), also called *wood-spirit*.

a 1799 [see PYROLIGNIC]. 1824 *Ann. Philos.* July 69 Pyroxylic spirit..is obtained during the rectification of pyroligneous acid. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 346 When wood is distilled for the purpose of obtaining acetic acid, the pyroxylic spirit is formed, and found in the aqueous liquid which comes over. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 125 Methylic Alcohol, Methylic Hydrate, Wood Spirit, or Pyroxylic Spirit.—This alcohol .. was first observed by Taylor in 1812 amongst the products of the destructive distillation of wood. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* (1880) 175 Creasote..is also obtained from oil of tar, or pyroxylic oil, and is contained in the smoke from wood.

Pyroxylin (pəiərǫ·ksilin). *Chem.* Also improp. **-ine.** [In 1, f. PYRO- + Gr. ξύλ-ον wood + -IN 1; in 2, ad. F. *pyroxyline* (Pelouze 1846), f. as PYROXYLE + *ine*, -IN 1.]

†**1.** = PYROXANTHIN. *Obs.*

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 1053 Pyroxiline is a name which I have ventured to give to a substance detected by Mr. Scanlan..and..called by him Eblanin [cf. PYROXANTHIN, quot. 1838].

2. Any one of the class of explosive compounds, including gun-cotton, produced by treating vegetable fibre with nitric acid, or with a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acids; chemically, they are nitrates of cellulose, $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_n$, in which a varying number of OH groups are replaced by ONO_2 groups. Thus, gun-cotton is *cellulose trinitrate* $\{C_6H_7(NO_3)_3O_2\}_n$. A solution of soluble pyroxylin forms COLLODION.

1847 DANA in WEBSTER, *Pyroxyline, Pyroxyle*, a term embracing gun-cotton and all other explosive substances which are obtained by immersing vegetable fibre in nitric acid, or a mixture of sulphuric and nitric acid, and then suffering it to dry. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 777 The term 'pyroxylin' is sometimes applied especially to the more highly nitrated compounds; but it is much better to use this term as a generic name for all the substitution-compounds formed by the action of nitric acid on cellulose, and to designate as 'gun-cotton' the most highly nitrated compound, trinitrocellulose,..the only one adapted for use in gunnery. 1883 *Hardwich's Photogr. Chem.* (ed. Taylor) 80 Photographic Pyroxyline is prepared with hot acids, heat being found remarkably to modify the products. *Ibid.* 158 In preparing a Pyroxyline for fluid and adhesive Collodion.

Pyrozone (pəiə·rǫzōun). *Pharm.* [f. PYRO- + OZONE.] An antiseptic substance containing three parts of hydrogen peroxide in a hundred parts of water. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

†**Pyrre,** obs. form of PIRR *sb.*1, a fit of temper or pettish humour.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xliii. 280 One displeased parent will do more harme vpon a head, if he take a pyrre at some toy, neuer conferring with any, but with his owne cholere, then a thousand of the thankfullest will euer do good.

Pyrré, variant of PERRIE *Obs.*, jewellery.

Pyrrey, obs. form of PERRY 2, pear-cider.

Pyrrhic (pi·rik), *sb.*1 and *a.*1 *Greek Antiq.* Forms: 6–7 **pir(r)hicke**, 7–8 **pyrrhick**, 8 **pyrric(k**, 8– **pyrrhic.** [ad. L. *pyrrhicha* or Gr. πυρρίχη a dance in armour, said to have been so named from one Πύρριχος the inventor; prop. an adj. qualifying ὄρχησις dance. Perh. through F. *pyrrique* (14th c. in Hatz.-Darm.).]

A. *sb.* The war-dance of the ancient Greeks, in which the motions of actual warfare were gone through, in armour, to a musical accompaniment.

1597–8 BP. HALL *Sat.* VI. i. 266 Or dance a sober pirrhicke in the field. 1776 BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* (1789) I. vi. 67 Proper for military dances called Pyrrhics in which the dancers are armed. 1906 *19th Cent.* Mar. 450 In Sparta.. all who were above five years of age learnt the Pyrrhic.

B. *adj.* Epithet of this dance; of or pertaining to this dance.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* I. iii, Do they not still Learn there..The Pyrrhic gestures, both to dance and spring In armour, to be active in the wars? 1632 HEYWOOD *Iron Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 306 Musicke strike A pirhicke straine. 1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* II Oct. II. xxxix, I now plainly see the prelude to the pyrrick dance in the north, which I have long foretold. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) II. 81 Their amusements are listening to songs..and dancing a sort of Pyrrhic dance, in which they go through some warlike attitudes, and leap about, flourishing their swords. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. lxxxvi. x (*Isles of Greece*), You have the Pyrrhic dance as yet: Where is the Pyrrhic phalanx gone?

So †**Pyrrhical** *a. Obs. rare* = B.; **Pyrrhicist** [ad. Gr. πυρριχιστής], a dancer of the pyrrhic.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 109 Dancing in such Antick Dances as resemble the Pyrrhical Saltation. 1842 SMITH *Dict. Grk. & Rom. Antig.* s. v. *Saltatio*, Three Pyrrhicists, two of whom..are engaged in the dance.

Pyrrhic (pi·rik), *sb.*2 and *a.*2 *Prosody.* Forms: 7–8 **pyrrhick**, 7– **pyrrhic**, 9 **pyrr(h)ich.** [ad. L. *pyrrhichius*, a. Gr. πυρρίχιος of or pertaining to the πυρρίχη or Pyrrhic (dance); as sb., short for *pes pyrrhichius*, ποὺς πυρρίχιος pyrrhic foot, a metrical foot used in the war-song: see prec.]

A. *sb.* A metrical foot in ancient Greek and Latin verse, consisting of two short syllables. Sometimes applied to a group of two unstressed syllables in modern accentual verse: see quots.

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* IV. iv, His Hyper, and his Brachy-Catalecticks, His Pyrrhicks, Epitrites and Choriambicks. 1749 J. MASON *Numbers in Poet. Comp.* 43 A Pyrrhic may possess any Place of the Verse except the last. But wherever it is, it gives a brisk Movement to the Measure. 1824 L. MURRAY *Eng. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. IV. ii. 372 A Pyrrhic has both the words or syllables unaccented; as, 'ŏn thĕ tall trēe'. 1871 ROBY *Lat. Gram.* I. xii. § 289 Of words ending in ă or ŏ a pyrrich or dactyl is rarely elided before a short syllable, except (1) in proper names; or (2) in first foot [etc.]. 1886 MAYOR *Eng. Metre* ii. 31 They intended to vary the ordinary rhythm by introducing an accentual pyrrhic. 1907 ORMOND *English Metrists* 175 A trochee he [Ruskin] prefers to name choreus, keeping the former term for what most writers call pyrrhic or dibrach.

B. *adj.* Consisting of two short syllables; composed of or pertaining to pyrrhics.

1749 J. MASON *Numb. Poet. Comp.* 16, I have exemplified the Pyrrhic, which contains two short Times, by two short Monosyllables, because every Word of two Syllables hath in the Pronunciation an Accent upon one of them, and in English Metre every accented Syllable is long; and therefore no English Word of two Syllables can properly exemplify a Pyrrhic Foot, which consists of two short ones.

Pyrrhic (pi·rik), *a.*3 [ad. Gr. πυρρικός, f. Πυρρός, L. *Pyrrhus*, name of a king of Epirus.] Of, pertaining to, or like that of Pyrrhus.

Pyrrhic victory, a victory gained at too great a cost; in allusion to the exclamation attributed to Pyrrhus after the battle of Asculum in Apulia (in which he routed the Romans, but with the loss of the flower of his army), 'One more such victory and we are lost'.

1885 *Daily Tel.* 17 Dec., Although its acceptance might secure for the moment the triumph of a party division, it would be indeed a Pyrrhic victory.

‖ **Pyrrhichius** (pirikiŭs). *Pros.* Forms: 6 **pirr-**, 6–8 **pyrrichius**, 7 **-ychius**, 8– **pyrrhichius.** The Latin form of PYRRHIC *sb.*2

1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 69 Two short [syllables] called *Pyrrichius* as ∪∪ *hyther*. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. xiii. (Arb.) 133 For your foote *pirrichius* or of two short silables ye haue these words [*mānĕ*] [*mōnĕy*] [*pēnĕ*] [*stīlĕ*] and others of that constitution or the like. 1702 ADDISON *Dial. Medals* Wks. 1730 I. 429 'My barber has often combed my head in dactyls and spondees. ..Nay', says he, 'I have known him sometimes run even into pyrrhichius's and anapæstus's'. 1818 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* IX. I. (1868) 589 *Hodie* is used as a pyrrhichius.

Pyrrhite (pi·rəit). *Min.* [Named in Ger. 1840, f. Gr. πυρρός reddish + -ITE 1.] A rare mineral, occurring in minute orange-yellow octahedral crystals: see quots.

1844 DANA *Min.* (ed. 2), *Pyrrhite*,..Primary form the regular octahedron. 1866–8 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* IV. 783 *Pyrrhite*, is the name given by G. Rose to a mineral occurring at Mursinsk in the Ural, in small orange-yellow octahedrons. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*, *Pyrrhite*, small, orange-red, octahedral crystals, not fully examined. Probably a columbate near pyrochlore.

Pyrrho-arsenite (pirǫ,ā·rsĕnəit). *Min.* [Named 1886, f. Gr. πυρρός reddish + ARSENITE.] An orange-red variety of BERZELIITE.

1890 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 in CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*

‖ **Pyrrhocorax** (pirǫ·kŏræks). *Ornith.* [L. *pyrrhocorax* (Pliny), a. Gr. πυρροκόραξ a red-beaked crow, f. πυρρός reddish + κόραξ crow.] A genus of crows, typical of the subfamily *Pyrrhocoracinæ*; the choughs; sometimes confined to the Alpine Chough, *P. alpinus*. Hence **Pyrrhoco·racine** *a.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Pyrrhocorax*, the Cornish Chough, a Bird having a red Bill. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* vi, It feeds on very hard fruits, as the Nutcracker and the Pyrrhocorax.

Pyrrholite (pi·rŏləit). *Min.* [Named 1862 (in Fr.), f. Gr. *πυρρός* reddish + -LITE.] An altered anorthite similar to polyargite.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 480 The name Pyrrholite has been given to a reddish lamellar mineral from Tunaberg [Sweden], which is very similar to polyargite.

Pyrrhonian (pirō·niăn), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 -ien, 8 -ean. [a. F. *pyrrhonien* (Rabelais, 16th c.), f. L. *pyrrhōnius, -eus* adj. and sb. (f. *Pyrrho*, Gr. Πύρρων, name of a sceptic philosopher of Elis: see definition s. v. PYRRHONISM): see -AN.]

A. *adj.* = PYRRHONIC *a.*

1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* § 159 The most pyrrhonian incredulity may be evinced. 1678 MANTON *Serm.* xiv. Wks. 1871 II. 321 The Pyrrhonian conceit that the whole world is but a fantasy. 1751 HUME *Ess. Hum. Underst.* (ed. 2) xii. III. 254 The natural Result of the Pyrrhonian Doubts and Scruples. 1908 *Hibbert Jrnl.* Apr. 586 The form of consolation offered us by the Pyrrhonian writers of the day.

B. *sb.* = PYRRHONIST.

1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. vi. § 38. 356 If he be a true Aristotelian, or Platonist, or Pyrrhonian, or Epicurean. 1683 DRYDEN *Life Plutarch* in *Pl.'s Lives* (1700) I. 18 The Pyrrhonians..who bring all certainty in Question. 1751 HUME *Ess. Hum. Underst.* (ed. 2) xii. II. 252 A Pyrrhonian cannot propose that his Philosophy will have any constant Influence on the Mind. 1900 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 432 If one has the misfortune not to be a Christian, it is wise to be a Pyrrhonian.

Pyrrhonic (pirō·nik), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 Pironik. [f. Gr. Πύρρων (see prec.) + -IC.] **a.** *sb.* = PYRRHONIST. **b.** *adj.* Of or pertaining to the sceptic philosopher Pyrrho, or to his doctrines (see next); purely sceptical.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 120 They followe the Pironiks, whose position and opinion it is, that there is not hel or misery but opinion. 1668 M. CASAUBON *Treat. Spirits* (1672) 155, I am no Sceptick or Pyrrhonick. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. ii. § 7 After these arose the sect of Pyrrhonics. 1831 I. TAYLOR *Pref. Ess. to Edwards' Freed. Will* 32 Such doctrines as the Pyrrhonic or the Stoic..have a claim to be listened to. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 13 Oct. 275/1 The inquiring, pyrrhonic spirit of the age is fatal to presumptions of this sort.

Pyrrhonism (pi·rŏniz'm). Also 8 pyrro-. [f. as prec. + -ISM. In F. *pyrrhonisme* (Pascal, 17th c.).] A system of sceptic philosophy taught by Pyrrho of Elis (*c* 300 B.C.), founder of the first school of Greek sceptic philosophy; the doctrine of the impossibility of attaining certainty of knowledge; absolute or universal scepticism; hence *generally*, scepticism, incredulity, philosophic doubt.

1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Pyrrhonism*, the Doctrine or tenets of Pyrrho. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac., Moralists* III. i, You,..tho you disown philosophy, are yet so true a Proselyte to Pyrrhonism. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 116 Driven into arrant pyrrhonism, as being wholly uncertain whether we know anything or not. 1863 F. JACOX in *Bentley's Misc.* LIV. 241 Another noble lord .. avows his disposition to extend his pyrrhonism .. to historical facts themselves. 1893 J. B. BROWN *Stoics & Saints* 12 A misinterpretation of the Socratic method was at the root of Pyrrhonism. 1899 S. L. WILSON *Theol. Mod. Lit.* 359 To lapse into the unreasoning pyrrhonism which would treat all history in the light of 'a laborious deception skilfully concocted'.

Pyrrhonist (pi·rŏnist). [f. as prec. + -IST.] A follower or disciple of Pyrrho; a professor of Pyrrhonism; one who doubts everything; a sceptic.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* I. i. B viii, Fye Gallus, what, a skeptick Pyrrhomist? 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 49/2 The distinguishing tenet of the Pyrrhonists was their asserting an absolute acatalepsy in regard to every thing. 1893 LIDDON, etc. *Life Pusey* (1894) I. ii. 45 Now he..was too much of a Pyrrhonist to think that any opinions, even when entirely negative, were certainly true.

Hence **Pyrrhoni·stic** *a. rare*, of the nature of a Pyrrhonist or of Pyrrhonism.

1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 146 Disciples of a radically and essentially Pyrrhonistic system of theosophy.

Pyrrhonize (pi·rŏnəiz), *v. rare.* [f. as prec. + -IZE.] **a.** *intr.* To practise Pyrrhonism; to doubt of everything. **b.** *trans.* To treat or transform sceptically.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xii. (1632) 322 It had beene to Pyrrhonize a thousand yeares agoe, had any man gone about to make a question of the art of Cosmography. 1898 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Biog.* (1850) II. 145 Any half-believing, half-rejecting, interpreter, who has pyrrhonised them into a series of myths.

Pyrrhosiderite (-səidi·rəit, -si·dĕrəit). *Min.* Also (erron.) pyrosiderite. [ad. Ger. *pyrrhosiderit* (Ullmann *a* 1813), f. Gr. *πυρρός* reddish + *σίδηρος* iron + -ITE 1.] A synonym of GOETHITE.

1830 J. H. BROOKE in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 495/1 Goethite; Pyrosiderite; Iron Froth. 1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.* etc. I. 439 Pyrosiderite. 1854 DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 129 Pyrrhosiderite. 1868 *Ibid.* (ed. 5) 170 In thin scale-like or tabular crystals, usually attached by one edge. Such is the original Göthite (Pyrrhosiderite) of Siegen.

Pyrrhotine (pi·rŏtəin). *Min.* [Named 1835 f. Gr. *πυρρότης* redness + -INE 5.] = PYRRHOTITE.

1849 J. NICOL *Min.* 452 *Pyrrhotine*, Breithaupt; magnetic iron pyrites. 1881 *Metal World* No. 21, 323 The ore of the Gap Mine is..a nickeliferous pyrrhotine,..and is extremely difficult to work.

Pyrrhotite (pi·rŏtəit). *Min.* [Altered by Dana, 1868, from prec.: see -ITE 1 2 b.] A widely distributed magnetic sulphide of iron, occurring massive and amorphous, having a granular structure, and a colour between bronze and copper-red.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 59 The niccoliferous Pyrrhotite is the one that affords most of the nickel of commerce. 1900 in *Daily News* 25 July 2/1 The first cross-cut which had entered a body of solid pyrrhotite 11ft., was continued until it had passed through the vein, here 27ft. 5in. wide.

Pyrrhous (pi·rəs), *a. rare.* [f. Gr. *πυρρός* reddish + -OUS.] Reddish. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyrrhuline (pi·rĭŭlăin), *a. Ornith.* [f. mod.L. *Pyrrhula*, generic name + -INE 1.] Of or pertaining to the genus *Pyrrhula* or to the subfamily *Pyrrhulinæ*, the bullfinches. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pyrrie, -y(e: see PERRY 1, 2, PIRRIE.

Pyrrol (pi·rŏl). *Chem.* Also -ole, pyrrhol. [f. Gr. *πυρρός* reddish + L. *oleum* oil.] A feebly basic, colourless transparent liquid, C_4H_5N, contained in bone-oil and coal-tar, having an odour like chloroform. Hence *Pyrrol-red*: see quot. 1877.

1835 F. F. RUNGE in *R. D. & T. Thomson's Rec. Gen. Sc.* I. 48 Pyrrol (red oil) in a pure state is a gaseous body possessing the odour of turnips. 1842 *E. Turner's Elem. Chem.* (ed. 7) 1180 Runge has described under the names of carbolic acid,..pyrrole, and cyanol,..compounds derived from coal tar. 1851 T. ANDERSON in *Trans. Roy. Soc. Edin.* (1853) XX. 249 A series of bases..which I designate provisionally by the name of pyrrol bases. 1875 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VII. 1035 Pyrrol-bases appear to be present, together with bases of the pyridine series, in tobacco-smoke. 1877 — *Fownes' Chem.* II. 375 By heating an acid solution of pyrrol, a red, flaky substance, pyrrol-red, is produced, containing $C_{12}H_{14}N_2O$.

Pyrroline (pi·rŏləin). *Chem.* [f. prec. + -INE 5, as an alkaloid.] = PYRROL.

1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VIII. II. 1728 *Pyrroline* (commonly called *Pyrrol*), $C_4H_5N = NH{\cdot}CH{\cdot}CH{\cdot}CH{\cdot}CH$. *Ibid.* 1729 Pyrroline..is a perfectly colourless, highly dispersive liquid, which, when quite pure, remains colourless for several days. 1895 MUIR & MORLEY *ibid.* IV. 366/2.

Pyruline (pi·rĭŭlăin), *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Pyrula*, generic name (f. L. *pirum, pyrum* pear) + -INE 1.] Related to the gastropod genus *Pyrula* or subfamily *Pyrulinæ*, having a pear-shaped shell, the pear-shells or fig-shells. So **Pyrulid** *sb.*, a gastropod of the family *Pyrulidæ*; **Pyruloid** *a.*, resembling the *Pyrulidæ* in general form.

† **Pyru·rgian.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. *πυρ-* fire, after *chirurgian*, CHIRURGEON: cf. Gr. *πυρ-εργής* working in fire.] One who treats wounds, etc. with caustic applications.

1684 *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* I. 34 Above all things Hippocrates his Golden Rule is to be observed by our Pyrurgian.

Pyruric, var. PYRO-URIC = CYANURIC.

‖ **Pyrus** (pəi·rŏs). *Bot.* [med. and mod.L. erroneous spelling of L. *pirus* pear-tree.] The genus of rosaceous trees and shrubs which includes the pear, apple, and their congeners; sometimes used as the English name of foreign species, esp. the scarlet pyrus, *Pyrus japonica.*

1894 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 4/7 Garden borders, bright with belts of daffodil, with sheets of crocus white and blue, with scarlet pyrus all ablaze against the whitewashed wall. 1897 MRS. E. L. VOYNICH *Gadfly* (1904) 87/1 The blossoming pyrus japonica that hung over the garden wall looked dark in the fading light. 1904 FARRER *Garden Asia* 42 The intense and glowing rubies of the creeping pyrus.

Pyruvic (pəirū·vik), *a. Chem.* [f. PYR(O- 3 a + L. *uva* grape + -IC.] In *pyruvic acid*, $C_3H_4O_3 = CH_3.CO.CO_2H$, also called *pyroracemic acid*, produced by the dry distillation of racemic or tartaric acid; a liquid smelling like acetic acid, and boiling at about 165° C. So *pyruvic alcohol* = acetyl carbinol, $CH_3.CO.CH_2OH$; *pyruvic aldehyde* = methyl glycoxal, $CH_3.CO.CHO$.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 65 Pyruvic acid is a yellowish, somewhat thick liquid. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* III. 332 A new acid termed pyruvic or pyroracemic acid. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* 707 Ordinary lactic acid is also produced..by the action of nascent hydrogen on pyruvic acid.

Hence **Pyru·vate**, a salt of pyruvic acid; **Pyru·vin**, or *glycide pyruvate*, $C_6H_8O_4$, a white crystalline substance obtained by distilling glycerin with tartaric acid.

1877 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* II. 357 The pyruvates crystallize well, provided that heat is avoided in their preparation. 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXV. 400 When glycerin is heated in a retort with tartaric acid, crystals of pyruvin are formed in the neck of the receiver.

Pyrwykes: see PILLIWINKS.

Pyrwynke, obs. f. PERIWINKLE 1, the plant.

Pyry, Pyrye: see PERRY 1, PIRRIE.

Pys, obs. f. PISS. **Pysan**, obs. pl. of PEASE *sb.* **Pysan(e**, var. PISANE *Obs.*, breast-armour. **Pysangh, Pysauns**, obs. ff. PISANG, PUISSANCE. **Pysche, pyse**, obs. ff. PISS. **Pyse**, obs. f. PEASE *sb.*, PICE. **Pysell**, obs. f. PIZZLE. **Pysemer, pysmar, pysmere**, etc., obs. ff. PISMIRE.

† **Pysma·tic**, *a. Obs. rare*−1. [ad. Gr. *πυσματικ-ός*, f. *πύσμα* question.] Interrogatory.

1652 URQUHART *Jewel* Wks. (1834) 292 Dialogismes, displaying their interrogatory part with communicatively pysmatick and sustentative flourishes.

Pyss(e, obs. ff. PIECE, PISS. **Pyssan(e**, var. PISANE *Obs.*, breast-armour. **Pyssell, Pyssemere, pyssmowre**, obs. ff. PIZZLE, PISMIRE. **Pystace**, obs. f. PISTACHIO. **Pystel, Pystell, -il(l, -le**, etc., obs. ff. PESTLE, PISTLE. **Pystelade**: see PASTELADE. **Pystiller, Pystolet, -ett(e**, var. PISTLER, PISTOLET *Obs.*

Pyt, Pytagru, -rwe, obs. ff. PIT, PUT *v.*, PEDIGREE. **Pytaille**, var. PEDAILE *Obs.*, foot-soldiery. **Pytch(e, Pytcher**, obs. ff. PITCH, PITCHER. **Pyte**, obs. var. *pight*, pa. t. of PITCH *v.*1 **Pyte, pytee, pytell**, obs. ff. PITY, PIGHTLE. **Pyteous, -evous, -ewous**, etc., obs. ff. PITEOUS. **Pyth**, obs. f. PITH; obs. pa. t. of PITCH *v.*1

Pythagorean (piþægŏrī·ăn, pəi-), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6 Pytha·goran, 6–7 Pythagorian. [f. L. *Pȳthagorē-us, -ī-us*, f. Gr. Πυθαγόρειος, f. proper name Πυθαγόρας Pythagoras + -AN.

At first spelt and pronounced *Pythago'rian*; the spelling was changed *c* 1600–34, but the pronunciation was still used by Cowley and Dryden. Bailey 1731 (vol. II) has *Pythago'rean*, in 1736 (folio) *Pythagore'an.*]

A. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Pythagoras, an ancient Greek philosopher and mathematician of Samos (6th c. B.C.), or to his system or school.

In early quots. often with allusion to the belief in the transmigration of souls, attributed to Pythagoras (whence the *transf.* use in b); sometimes to the consequent practice of his school of abstaining from animal flesh as food.

Pythagorean bean: see quot. 1858, and cf. BEAN *sb.* 4. *Pythagorean comma*: see COMMA 3. *Pythagorean letter*, the Greek Y, used by P. as a symbol of the two divergent paths of virtue and of vice. *Pythagorean lyre*, a lyre of eight strings said to have been invented by Pythagoras. *Pythagorean proposition* or *theorem*, the 47th of the 1st book of Euclid, namely, that the square on the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares on the other two sides: said to have been discovered by Pythagoras. *Pythagorean scale*, a scale of musical notes (nearly corresponding to the modern diatonic scale) attributed to Pythagoras: hence applied to the intervals of this scale, as *Pythagorean semitone, third*, etc. *Pythagorean system* (of Astronomy): see quot. 1704.

1579–80 NORTH *Plutarch, Dion* (1896) vi. 143 Archytas the Pythagorian Philosopher. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, If Pythagorian Axiomes be true, Of spirits transmigration. 1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg. Georg.* IV. (1684) 116 *note*, Upon this Pythagorean Opinion, 'That Bees derive from a Celestial strain'. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal's Sat.* iii. 373 There, love the Fork, thy Garden cultivate, And give thy frugal Frinds a Pythagorean Treat. 1694 HOLDER *Harmony* (1731) 116 The Pythagoreans, not using Tone Minor, but two equal Tones Major, in a Fourth, were forced to take a lesser Interval for the Hemitone; which is call'd their Limma, or Pythagorean Hemitone. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Pythagorean System*, is the same with the Copernican,..being maintained by Pythagoras and his Followers, and therefore is the most ancient of any. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* IV. ii, The Platonic system of ideas..was the invention of the Pythagorean school. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* I. 322 Desirous of imitating the Pythagorean abstinence and chastity. 1858 BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* s.v. *Nelumbiaceæ*, The 'faba Ægyptiaca', the Pythagorean bean,..is supposed by many to be the celebrated lotus of antiquity. 1878 W. H. STONE *Sci. Basis Music* v. 52 The third of the Greek scale was made by four fifths taken upwards, and is still called a Pythagorean third.

b. *transf.* Metamorphosed, transformed.

a 1667 COWLEY *Verses, on Chair made fr. Sir F. Drake's Ship*, This Pythagorean Ship (for it may claim Without presumption so deserv'd a Name, By knowledge once, and transformation now).

B. *sb.* A disciple or follower of Pythagoras.

1550 W. LYNNE *Carion's Cron.* 37 The Pythagorians taughte their doctrines priuatly amonge themselues. 1598–9 MARSTON *Sat.* I. iii, Giue him his fiddle once againe Or he's more mute then a Pythagoran. *a* 1612 SIR J. HARINGTON *Epigr.* I. lxviii, An use there was among some Pythagoreans, If we give credit to the best Historians, How they ..Did keep a wondrous strict and sparing diet. 1737 WHISTON *Josephus* (1812) II. XV. X. 368 These men [Essenes] live the same kind of life as do those whom the Greeks call Pythagoreans. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U. S.* I. i. 5 Nearly three centuries before the Christian era, Aristotle following the lessons of the Pythagoreans, had taught that the earth is a sphere.

b. *transf.* or *allusively.* A person whose doctrine or practice agrees with that attributed to Pythagoras.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 31 The Rhomish rotten Pithagoreans or Carthusian friers, that mumpe on nothing but fishe. 1709–10 STEELE *Tatler* No. 134 P 1 This ancient Pythagorean, who has as much Honesty as any Man living, but good Nature to an Excess. 1817–18 COBBETT *Resid. U. S.* (1822) 207 Nor have even the Pythagoreans a much better battery against us. Sir Richard Phillips..does, indeed, eat neither flesh, fish, nor fowl..But..his shoes and breeches and gloves are made of the skins of animals.

Hence **Pythagore·anism**, the Pythagorean philosophy; **Pythagore·anize** *v. intr.*, = PYTHAGORIZE *v.* 1 (*Cent. Dict.*, 1890); **Pythagore·anly** *adv.*, in a Pythagorean manner.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, **Pythagoreanism*, the Doctrine or Principles of the Pythagoreans. 1865 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Nov. 577 There is, by the way, a slight sniff of Pythagoreanism about the phrase 'appreciative numbers'. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded., I will tutour thee so *Pythagoreanly how to husband them in al companies.

Pythagoric (piþăgŏ·rik, pəi-), *a.* (*sb.*) Now *rare.* [ad. L. *Pȳthagoric-us*, a. Gr. Πυθαγορικός, f. Πυθαγόρας: see prec. So F. *pythagorique* (Rabelais, 16th c.).] = PYTHAGOREAN *a.*

1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 38 It may be a question, whether in that Pythagorick Oath. Οὐ μὰ τὸν, &c. they did not swear by God. *a* 1704 T. Brown tr. *Æneas Sylvius' Lett.* lxxxii, With more than Pythagorick Silence, you pass your melancholy Hours. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Ep.* II. i. 70 Ennius..Forgets his Promise, now secure of Fame, And heeds no more his Pythagoric Dream. 1881 Shorthouse *J. Inglesant* xvii, An ethereal sort of body—to use the Pythagoric phrase.

† B. *sb.* = Pythagorean *sb. Obs. rare.*

1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* xxvi, That..which the Pythagoricks did assert. 1678 Cudworth *Intell. Syst.* I. i. 22 An Ancient Opinion..delivered down by some..Pythagoricks.

† Pythago·rical, *a. Obs.* [f. as prec. + -al: see -ical.] = Pythagoric *a.* In quot. 1608 *allusively* (cf. Pythagorean A. b).

1570 Dee *Math. Pref.* ✠ iiij b, The Pythagoricall, and Platonicall perfect scholer.. may (like the Bee) gather, hereby, both wax and hony. 1608 Middleton *Trick to Catch Old One* IV. v, Pythagoricall rascal!..Ay, he changes his cloak when he meets a sergeant. 1638 Rawley tr. *Bacon's Life & Death* (1650) 19 Apollonius Tyaneus..In his Dyet Pythagoricall; A great Traveller; Much Renowned. 1696 Edwards *Demonstr. Exist. & Provid. God* I. 68 The Pythagorical Musick of the spheres.

Pythago·rically, *adv. rare.* [f. prec. + -ly 2.] In a Pythagorical manner; like a Pythagorean, or according to Pythagorean doctrine.

1609 Bp. W. Barlow *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 198 Pythagorically peremptorie without yeelding reason. 1683 J. Barnard *True Life Heylyn* 23 The Soul of St. Augustine (say the Schools) was Pythagorically transfused into the corps of Aquin.

Pythagorician (piþægŏri·ʃăn, pəi-). Now *rare.* [f. Pythagoric + -ian; cf. *arithmetician, logician,* etc. So F. *Pythagoricien* (Voltaire, 1768), perh. the immediate source.] = Pythagorean *sb.*

1752 Hume *Ess. & Treat., Rise Arts & Sc.* (1768) 71 Those sects of Stoics and Epicureans, Platonists and Pythagoricians could never regain any credit. 1768-74 Tucker *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 334 Plato and the Pythagoricians asserted the eternity of ideas and forms. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 336/1 The symbols of the Pythagoricians.

† Pythago·ricism. [f. as prec. + -ism.] = next.

1656 Blount *Glossogr., Pythagoricism,* the Tenets, or opinion of Pythagoras.

Pytha·gorism. ? *Obs.* [ad. Gr. Πυθαγορισμός, f. Πυθαγορίζειν to Pythagorize.] The principles and practice of Pythagoras; Pythagoreanism.

1653 H. More *Conject. Cabbal.* (1713) 156 Though Platonism be derived from Pythagorism, yet it has left out the Theory of the Earth's Motion. 1662 — *Philos. Wks.* Pref. Gen. P 5 To make for the discovering that Pythagorisme had relation to the Text of Moses.

Pytha·gorist. ? *Obs.* [ad. Gr. Πυθαγορισ-τής, f. Πυθαγορίζειν: see prec.] One who follows the principles or practice of Pythagoras; a Pythagorean.

1576 Fleming *Panopl. Epist.* 223 *margin,* Declare your selfe to be a right Pythagorist. 1652 Gaule *Magastrom.* xxvi, The sortilegious Pythagorist will suppute for me unlucky numbers. 1786 Polwhele tr. *Theocritus' Idyllia,* etc. II. 28 The absurd mortifications of the Pythagorists.

† Pytha·gorite. *Obs. rare*—1. [f. *Pythagor-as* + -ite 1.] A disciple of Pythagoras.

1660 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* IX. *Pythagoras* xvi. (1687) 503/2 Calling upon this account, some Pythagoreans (those of the System), some Pythagorites (those of the Homacoeion [ὁμακοεῖον the school of Pythagoras]).

Pythagorize (piþæ·gŏrəiz, pəi-), *v.* [ad. Gr. πυθαγορίζειν to be a disciple of Pythagoras; L. *pȳthagorissāre* to imitate Pythagoras. Cf. F. *pythagoriser* (Cholieres 1587) in sense 1.]

1. *intr.* To follow Pythagoras; to speculate after the manner of Pythagoras.

1610 Healey *Vives' Comm. St. Aug. Citie of God* X. xxx. (1620) 381 Plato Pythagorizing held that the Soules after death passed into other bodies. 1666 Bp. S. Parker *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 48 The latter Platonists..especially those of them that did most Pythagorize.

† **2.** To pass by transmigration. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1651 Biggs *New Disp.* 184 Peradventure the Shop of choler from the very thresh-hold of life hath Pythagorized into the private ware-house of the head.

† **3.** *trans.* To change (one person or thing) into another as by transmigration of souls. *Obs.*

1631 J. Done *Polydoron* 211 If our godlesse dainty Gallants were but so Pythagorized, how they would wish they had lived better. 1721 Ramsay *Morn. Interview* 253 O happiest of herbs! who would not be Pythagoriz'd into the form of thee, And with high transports act the part of tea!

Hence **Pytha·gorizing** *ppl. a.*; also **Pytha·gori·zer,** one who Pythagorizes, or follows the doctrine or practice of Pythagoras.

1677 Gale *Crt. Gentiles* II. iii. 19 These Pythagorising Gnostics..were professed enemies to Pietie. 1875 Lightfoot *Comm. Col.* 146 Satirised..as 'pythagorizers', in other words as total abstainers and vegetarians.

‖ **Pythia** (pi·þiă, pəi-). [a. Gr. Πῡθία (sc. ἱέρεια) the priestess of Pythian Apollo at Delphi, fem. of Πῡθιος adj. Delphic, f. Πῡθώ, a place-name (see Pythian). In F. *Pythie* (Rabelais).]

1. *Gr. Antiq.* The priestess of Apollo at Delphi, who delivered the oracles.

1842 L. Schmitz in Smith *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 668/2 When Greece was in its most flourishing state,..there were always two Pythias who took their seat on the tripod alternately. *Ibid.* 669/2 Over this chasm there stood a high tripod, on which the Pythia..took her seat whenever the oracle was to be consulted. *Ibid.* 671/1 In the days of Plutarch one Pythia was, as of old, sufficient to do all the work. 1844 Mrs. Browning *Dead Pan* xxx, Pythia staggered, feeling o'er her Her lost God's forsaking look.

2. *Zool.* A genus of gastropod molluscs.

Pythiad (pi·þiăd, pəi·-). [a. Gr. Πῡθιάς, Πῡθιαδ-, f. Πῡθία, pl. (sc. ἱερά) the Pythian games.] The period between two celebrations of the Pythian games. (Cf. Olympiad.)

1842 L. Schmitz in Smith *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 811/1 The chariot-race with four horses was not introduced till the second Pythiad. *Ibid.* 811/2 A Pythiad..ever since the time that it was used as an aera, comprehended a space of four years, commencing with the third year of every Olympiad.

Pythiambic, *a.* (*sb.*) *Ancient Pros.* [ad. mod.L. *pythiambic-us,* f. *Pȳthius* Pythian (versus *Pȳthius* hexameter verse) + *iambicus* Iambic.] The epithet or name of an episynthetic or composite metre consisting of a dactylic hexameter (Pythian verse) followed by an iambic colon.

There are two varieties according as the hexameter is followed (1) by an iambic dimeter, as in Horace *Epod.* 14 and 15; (2) by an iambic trimeter, as in *Epod.* 16.

1832 Pemble *Horatii Opera* p. xii, The First Pythiambic is a couplet consisting of the common Dactylic Hexameter and an Iambic Quaternarius..The Second Pythiambic is a couplet of the Dactylic Hexameter and Iambic Senarius. 1877-94 Gildersleeve *Lat. Gram.* 489. 1877 Wickham *Horace* I. 385.

Pythian (pi·þiăn, pəi·-), *a.* (*sb.*) [f. L. *Pȳthi-us* (a. Gr. Πῡθιος of Delphi, or the Delphic Apollo) + -an.

Πῡθιος is now generally held to have been derived from Πῡθώ or Πῡθων, the older name of Delphi and the surrounding region; but it was in ancient times connected with the legend of the πύθων or monstrous snake said to have been slain there by Apollo: see Python 1.]

Of or pertaining to Delphi, or to the oracle and priestess of Apollo there; also, of or pertaining to the games held near Delphi.

Pythian Apollo, Apollo in his legendary and oracular connexion with Delphi. *Pythian games,* one of the four national festivals of the Greeks, held near Delphi. *Pythian meter* or *verse* (L. *versus Pythius*), the dactylic hexameter; said to be so called either from its use in the Pythian oracles, or from the first song of triumph to Apollo on his victory over the Python.

1603 Pythian games [see Pythic]. 1655 Stanley *Hist. Philos.* III. *Socrates* v. (1687) 75/1 The Pythian Oracle. 1660 *Ibid.* IX. *Pythagoras* xiii. 502/1 To Discourse..in the Temple of Pythian Apollo to the Boys. 1667 [see Python 1 1]. 1797 Holcroft *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. lxiii. 430 Pindar mentions this victory in his first Pythian hymn. 1807 Robinson *Archæol. Græca* III. xxii, The Pythian Games were celebrated in honor of Apollo near Delphi..The most common opinion is that Apollo himself was the author of them after he had overcome Python, a serpent or cruel tyrant. 1842 L. Schmitz in Smith *Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* s.v. *Pythia,* Previous to Olympiad] 48 the Pythian games ..had been celebrated at the end of every eighth year, but [after Ol. 48. 3] they were held at the end of every fourth year. 1879 P. Brooks *Influence Jesus* iv. 268 The self-excitement of the Pythian damsel on her tripod. 1884 J. Tait *Mind in Matter* (1892) 255 The Pythian deliverances became very intermittent after the birth of Christ, and ceased finally in the time of the Apostles.

B. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Delphi; *spec.* the Delphic priestess; hence, one who is ecstatic or frenzied like the priestess; also, an appellation of the Delphic Apollo; hence *transf.*

1598 Marston *Sco. Villanie* II. vi. (1599) 201 But when I sawe him read my fustian, And heard him sweare I was a Pythian. 1821 Shelley *Adonais* xxviii, How they fled, When like Apollo, from his golden bow, The Pythian of the age one arrow sped And smiled! 1844 Mrs. Browning *Vis. Poets* clxxvi, If poets on the tripod must Writhe like the Pythian to make just Their oracles and merit trust. 1860 Ruskin *Mod. Paint.* V. IX. xi. § 10. 327 That Contest of Apollo with the Python..the victor deity..took his great name from it..the Pythian.

Pythic (pi·þik), *a.* [ad. L. *Pȳthic-us,* Gr. Πυθικός, f. Πῡθώ or Πῡθων: see prec.] = Pythian *a.*

1603 Holland *Plutarch* Explan. Wds., Pythick or Pythian games, were celebrated to the honour of Apollo Pythius, neere the city Delphos, with great solemnity. 1746 Francis tr. *Horace, Art Poetry* 559 A Youth..Who sings the Pythic Song. 1860 E. Falkener *Dædalus, Anc. Art* ii. 61 Conquerors in the Olympic and Pythic games.

b. Like or of the nature of the Pythian priestess; ecstatic, phrenetic.

1837 Carlyle *Fr. Rev.* I. IV. i, Count..d'Aintrigues..rises into furor almost Pythic. 1850 Masson *Ess., Wordsw.* (1856) 386 There was no tremendousness, nothing of the Pythic, in the nature of Wordsworth.

Pythogenic (pəiþo,dʒe·nik), *a.* [f. Gr. πῦθειν to rot + -γεν- producing + -ic.] Generated by or from corruption or filth; esp. in *pythogenic fever,* a name for typhoid or enteric fever.

1862 C. Murchison *Contin. Fevers Gr. Brit.* IV. 385 Pythogenic or Enteric Fever. *Ibid.* 388 These considerations induced me to suggest a few years ago, the name Pythogenic Fever derived from what I endeavoured to show was the cause of the fever. 1881 Tyndall *Floating Matter Air* I. 15 It was..no problematical pythogenic gas—that killed the worms, but a definite organism. 1898 P. Manson *Trop. Diseases* X. 179 Malta fever—a disease probably of pythogenic origin

So **Pythoge·nesis,** production or generation by or from filth; **Pythogene·tic** *a.* = Pythogenic.

1882 Ogilvie, Pythogenesis. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 702 The pythogenetic theory of Murchison..became untenable.

Python 1 (pəi·þŏn, pi·þŏn). [a. L. *Pȳthōn,* a. Gr. Πύθων, name of the serpent fabled to have been slain near Delphi by Apollo. So F. *python.*

The Gr. word is supposed to have been connected in some way with Πῡθώ or Πῡθων, the ancient name of the locality; and both, according to some, with πῦθειν to rot, πύθεσθαι to be rotten, because the serpent was said to have rotted there. According to one form of the legend, the oracle originally belonged to or was guarded by the serpent, and, on the extermination of the latter, became the oracle of Apollo.]

1. *Gr. Mythol.* The huge serpent or monster fabled to have been slain near Delphi by Apollo; hence *poet.* any monster or pestilential scourge.

1590 Peele *Polyhymnia* Wks. (1861) 571 Entering the lists, like Titan arm'd with fire When in the queachy plot Python he slew. 1603 Holland *Plutarch* Explanation of Words, Apollo Pythius..who tooke that name of Python there slaine by him and lying putrified. 1667 Milton *P. L.* X. 531 [Satan] Now Dragon grown, larger then whom the Sun Ingenderd in the Pythian Vale on slime, Huge Python. 1757 Akenside *Pl. Imag.* I. (Ald.) 94 The laurel boughs That crown'd young Phœbus for the Python slain. 1851 C. L. Smith *Tasso* IV. v, Hydras hiss, and Pythons whistling wail.

2. *Zool.* A genus of large non-venomous snakes inhabiting the tropical regions of the Old World, which kill their prey by constriction; the rock-snakes; popularly, any large snake which crushes its prey; loosely including the Boas of tropical America, etc. *Diamond python*: see quot. 1896.

1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 19/2 The murderous power and voracity of the Indian boas or Pythons. 1841 *Ibid.* XIX. 176/1 The size to which the Pythons grow is fully equal to that attained by the Boæ. 1847 Carpenter *Zool.* § 508 The true Boas are restricted to America; the name of Python being given to the large Serpents of Africa and India. 1865 Livingstone *Zambesi* IV. 89 Two pythons were observed coiled together among the branches of a large tree. 1896 *List Anim. Zool. Soc.* 605 *Python spilotes,* ..Diamond-Python. *Hab.* Australia.

3. *Comb.* as *python-like* adj., *python-slayer.*

1874 Geo. Eliot *Coll. Breakf. P.* 320 As Python-slayer of the present age. 1898 C. Reynolds in *Wide World Mag.* Oct. 93/1 The boy is knocked over by a blow from his [a conger's] python-like head.

Python 2 (pəi·þŏn, pi·þŏn). Also 7 **pithon(e.** [ad. late L. *pȳthō, -ōnem* (Vulg.) or late Gr. πύθων (New Test.), a familiar spirit, the demon possessing a soothsayer; in pl. πύθωνες persons speaking by professed divine inspiration, ventriloquists (Plutarch). In Gr. the same word in form as prec., but the sematology is not clear; in sense obviously related to πύθιος, Πυθία Pythia, and their derivatives.] A familiar or possessing spirit; also, one possessed by such a spirit and acting as its mouthpiece.

1603 Holland *Plutarch's Mor.* 1327 Those spirits speaking within the bellies of possessed folkes, such as in old time they called Engastrimithi [= ventriloquists],..and be now termed Pythons, entred into the bodies of Prophets. 1609 Bible (Douay) *Deut.* xviii. 11 Neither let there be a sorcerer, nor inchanter, nor that consulteth with pithone, or diviners [Vulg. *nec qui pythones consulat,* LXX ἐγγαστρίμυθος, Wyclif 1388 hem that han a feend spekynge in the wombe]. *Ibid., Isa.* xix. 3 They shal aske their idols, and their diviners, and Pythons, and Southsayers [Vulg. *pythones et ariolos,* LXX τοὺς ἐκ τῆς γῆς φωνοῦντας, καὶ τοὺς ἐγγαστριμύθους]. *Ibid.* Index II, Saul..In distresse he consulted a Pithon spirite. 1611 Bible *Acts* xvi. 16 A certaine Damosell possessed with a spirit of diuination [*marg. or,* of Python; 1881 R.V. *marg. or,* a spirit, a Python: Gr. πνεῦμα Πύθωνα (*v.r.* -os), Vulg. *spiritum pythonem*]. 1678 Phillips (ed. 4), *Python*..also a familiar or prophesying Spirit, or one possessed with it. 1880 W. E. Scudamore in Smith & Cheetham *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* s.v. *Python,* The attributes of the demon and the serpent were interchanged, ..The python slain by Apollo at Delphi was thought to have inspired the oracle before the god took his place..Hence..both in Jewish and Christian antiquity the name of python was given to prophesying spirits.

† Py·thoner. *Obs. rare.* In 5 **phitoner.** [f. **phiton,* Python 2, or f. OF. *phitonie* art of divination + -er 1: cf. next.] A soothsayer, a diviner.

c 1400 *Apol. Lóll.* 92 If þey sey to 30w, seek of Phitoneris and of diuineris, þat gnasten wiþ þer teþ in her chauntingis. *Ibid.* 95 Enchauntors are þoo þat in callun fendis to ken hem þingis..And swilk we callen phitoners.

Pythoness (pəi-, pi·þŏnės). Forms: *α.* 4-6 **phiton-,** 5 **phyton-, phetonesse, (fetonass),** 5-6 **phitones, phetonysse,** 7 **phytonisse.** *β.* 6-7 **pythonisse, 7 python-, phitonesse,** 6- **pythoness.** [a. OF. *phitonise* (13th c. in Godef. *Compl.*), ad. med.L. *phitonissa* (Du Cange); later F. *pythonisse,* ad. late L. Pythonissa, q. v.]

A woman supposed, or professing, to have a 'familiar spirit', and to utter his words; a woman having the power of divination or soothsaying; a witch. In the early examples, applied (after the Vulgate) to the witch of Endor (1 *Sam.* xxviii. 7): cf. also Pythonissa. In quot. 1823 applied to the Delphic Pythia.

1375 Barbour *Bruce* IV. 753 That quhilom did the Phitones [*MS. C* fetonass; *ed.* 1616 Pithonesse] That..Rasit, throu hyr mekill slycht, Samuell sperit als tit. *c* 1384 Chaucer *H. Fame* 1261 Iugelours, Magiciens and tregetours And Phitonesses [*Bodl. MS.* Phytonessys, *Caxt., Th.* phetonysses] charmeresses. 1513 Douglas *Æneis* I. Prol. 212 Lyke as the spreit of Samuell, I ges, Rasit to King Saul was by the Phitones. 1587 Golding *De Mornay* XV. (1592) 245 In a Pythoness or in a possessed person. 1649 Jer. Taylor *Gt. Exemp.* III. xiv. 23 Asking counsel of a Pytho-

nisse. 1702 ECHARD *Eccl. Hist.* (1710) 287 They were often followed by a Pythoness, a maid servant actuated by a spirit of divination [cf. Acts xvi. 16]. 1808 RANKEN *Hist. France* IV. i. 49 He employed the abbot..to consult a famous Pythoness or witch of these times. 1823 BYRON *Juan* VI. cvii, She stood a moment as a Pythoness Stands on her tripod. 1835 MISS SEDGWICK *Linwoods* (1873) I. 20 The pythoness Effie turned her art to good account.

Pythonic (pəi-, piþɒ·nik), *a.*[1] [ad. L. *pȳthōnic-us*, a. Gr. *πῡθωνικός* prophetic, f. *Πῦθων* PYTHON [2]. Cf. OF. *phitonique* in same sense.] Of or pertaining to divination; prophetic, oracular.

1658 BROMHALL *Treat. Specters* I. 70 They sought counsel of them that prophesie of future things, by a Pythonick or divellish spirit. 1825 T. M. HARRIS *Nat. Hist. Bible* s.v. *Asp*, A young woman [Acts xvi. 16] who had *a pythonic spirit*. 1906 G. G. COULTON *St. Francis to Dante* 82 Which was as much as to consult a pythonic spirit.

Pythonic (pəi-, piþɒ·nik), *a.*[2] [f. PYTHON [1] + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling (*a*) the python of mythology, or (*b*) the pythons of natural history; python-like, monstrous, huge.

1850 C. SANGSTER *Hesperus*, etc. 85 Wrestling with some Pythonic wrongs. 18.. *Science* VII. 242 (Cent.) A new species of reptile..almost pythonic in structure. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 504/1 Huge wooden sheds and pythonic iron pipes.

Pytho·nical, *a.* Now *rare.* [f. as PYTHONIC *a.*[1] + -AL: see -ICAL.] = PYTHONIC *a.*[1]

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Acts* xvi. 16 A certaine wenche hauing a Pythonical spirit. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Lev.* xx. 27 Man or woman, in whom is a pithonical or divining spirite.. they shal stone them. *Ibid.* 1 *Kings* xxviii. 7 There is a woman that hath a pithonical spirite in Endor [Vulg. *est mulier pythonem habens in Endor*]. *a* 1872 J. D. AYLWARD in *Ess. Relig. & Lit.*, Ser. III. (1874) 71 Revealing in his natural character the makings of an ecstatic saint, or of a pythonical medium.

Pythonid (pəi·þŏnid). *Zool.* [f. PYTHON [1] + -ID.] A snake of the family *Pythonidæ* or Pythons.

1895 in *Funk's Stand. Dict.*

So **Py·thoniform** *a.*, of the form or structure of the pythons; **Py·thonine** *a.*, of or belonging to the subfamily *Pythoninæ*, typified by the genus *Python*. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Py·thonism. *rare.* [f. PYTHON [2] + -ISM.] Intercourse with or possession by a pythonic spirit; occult power thence derived; divination.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* II. vi. § 16. 202 This is much like what another of their Doctors sayes,..that Elisha his raising the child to life, and curing Naamans leprosie [etc.] ..might all come to pass by the influence of the stars, or by Pythonisme. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Pythonism*, the art of prophecying by a divelish spirit.

‖ **Pythoni·ssa.** Now *rare.* Forms: 4–5 **phitonissa, -yssa,** 5–7 **-essa,** 6 **phætonissa,** 7– **pythonissa.** [Late L. *pȳthōnissa* (Vulgate), med.L. *phitonissa* (Du Cange), fem. of *pȳthō* PYTHON [2].] = PYTHONESS. (Often treated as proper name of the witch of Endor.)

[Cf. *Vulg.* 1 Chron x. 13 Eo quod..insuper etiam pythonissam consuluerit: LXX *ἐν τῷ ἐγγαστριμύθῳ.*]

c 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 210 Speke as renably..As to the Phitonissa [*v.rr.* -yssa, -essa] dide Samuel. 1586 *Tri. Trophes* 73 in Bond *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 430 In Phætonissa schoole, at Endor they were taught. 1608 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. iv, What heauenly breath of Phitonessaes powre (That rays'd the dead corpes of her friend to life). 1625 BACON *Ess., Of Prophecies* (Arb.) 535 Saith the Pythonissa to Saul; To Morrow thou and thy sonne shall be with me. 1825 *Ann. Reg.* 216/2 The oracles of the humble Pythonissa [Mme. Krudener] were declared seditious.

† **Py·thonist.** *Obs.* Also 6 **phitonist,** 7 **pithonist.** [f. PYTHON [2] + -IST.] One who professes to be possessed with, and to speak by the inspiration of, a familiar spirit; a soothsayer; a conjurer; a deceiving ventriloquist.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* VII. ii. 104 How the lewd practise of the Pythonist of Westwell came to light. 1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* Ep. Ded. A ij, The professions of the Phitonists, Sorcerers, Soothsaiers, Wissardes. 1601 DEACON & WALKER *Spirits & Divels* 126 That was cunningly deliuered by the Witch alone in her cell, she being a cunning Ventriloquist, as all Pythonistes are. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* IV. 100 His belly swell'd like Sybils raptur'd Priest, With hollow sounding noise like Pythonist.

Py·thonize, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -IZE. Cf. med.L. *pȳthōnizāre* (Du Cange).] *intr.* To act as a python, to soothsay.

1852–5 LYTTON in *Life*, etc. (1883) I. 99, I might have been a much smaller [man] if the poor maniac had never pythonised of my future.

Pythonoid (pəiþō·nɔid), *a* and *sb. Zool.* [f. PYTHON [1] 2 + -OID.] **a.** *adj.* Having the form or characters of a python; belonging to the sub-order *Pythonoidea* (the peropodous snakes), including the families *Pythonidæ*, *Boidæ*, and *Charinidæ*. **b.** *sb.* A snake of this division. Hence **Pythonoi·dean,** a pythonoid. 1890 in *Cent. Dict.*

Pythonomorph (pəiþō·nɒmɔ̄if). *Palæont.* [ad. mod.L. *Pȳthōnomorpha* pl., f. PYTHON [1] 2 + Gr. *μορφή* form.] One of the *Pythonomorpha*, a division of extinct reptiles allied to the existing *Pythonoidea*; a MOSASAURIAN. So **Pythonomo·rphic, Pythonomo·rphous** *adjs.*, belonging to or having the characters of a pythonomorph.

1880 NICHOLSON *Zoology* (ed. 6) 558 To regard the *Mosasauridæ* (= the *Pythonomorpha* of Cope [1875–8]) as an extinct group of the *Lacertilia*. 1887 HAUGHTON *Distrib. Anim.* 327 Whether or not they are..descendants of the lacertilian pythonomorphs..still remains to be determined. 1887 GÜNTHER in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 189/1 The former [order, Ophidians] is probably merely a specialized descendant of the latter [Lacertilians] or of the pythonomorphous reptiles, or perhaps of both. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, Pythonomorphic. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 12/2 The latest fossil skeleton discovered in Wyoming is one of the pythonomorphic saurians.

Pythy, obs. form of PITHY.

Pytis, -os, -ous(e, Pytoyable, obs. ff. PITEOUS, PITIABLE. **Pytt(e, Pyttel,** obs. ff. PIT, PITTEL. **Pytte, pyttye,** obs. ff. PITY. **Pytter-pattour, pytyr-patyr,** obs. ff. PITTER-PATTER. **Pytthe,** obs. f. PITH. **Pytuose, -ouse,** obs. var. PITEOUS. **Pytyable, Pytye, Pytyows,** obs. ff. PITIABLE, PITY, PITEOUS.

Pyuria (pəi,ū·ə·riă). *Path.* [f. PYO- + -URIA.] Discharge of pus with the urine.

1811 HOOPER *Med. Dict., Pyoturia, Pyuria*, a mucous or purulent urine. 1818–20 E. THOMPSON *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 302 Local diseases...Of the Secretions and Excretions..81 Pyuria. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 1141 The hydatid may suppurate and then burst into the pelvis and cause pyuria.

Pyx (piks), *sb.* Also 5–7 **pixe, pyxe,** (5–6 **pixt,** 6 **pixte, pyxk**), 5–9 **pix.** See also PYXIS. [ad. L. *pyxis*, a. Gr. *πυξίς* a box, f. *πύξος* box-tree.

The specific senses 2 and 3 were the earliest in Eng.; the general sense 'box' being late and only literary. Cf. PYXIS.]

1. A box; a coffer; a vase. *rare.*

1604 R. CAWDREY *Table Alph.* (1613), *Pyxe*, a boxe. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Pyx* (*pyxis*) a box, properly made of Box-tree. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 588 Some pyx to screen The full-grown pest, some lid to shut upon The goblin. 1885–94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Jan. IX, 'This box', and in her hands she took a pyx Square-cut, of dark obsidian's rarest green, 'Take'.

2. *Eccl.* The vessel in which the host or consecrated bread of the sacrament is reserved.

?*c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 41 When þe preste passez by vs with þe pyxe [*over an erasure*; *Cott. MS.* as wee don to Corpus domini; Fr. *contre Corpus Domini*]. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 The pix [TREVISA, box] in whom the sacramente was contenede, brekynge the chene, did falle, whiche was a pronosticacion contrary to the victory of the kynge [Stephen]. 1482 *Will Marg. Paston* in *P. Lett.* III. 287 Item, I bequeth to Margery Paston..my pixt of silver with ij. silver cruettes and my massebook. 1550 BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. cxix, They tell of kynge Steuen, that..the pixte fell out of hys tabernacle, at his coronacyon. 1554 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 166 For tassells for ye pyxk. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* V. xxii a. (1612) 115 We kisse the Pix, we creepe the Crosse, our Beades we ouerrunne. 1605–6 *Act* 3 *Jas. I*, c. 5 § 15 Any Altar Pix Beades Pictures or suche like Popish Reliques. 1756–7 tr. *Keysler's Trav.* (1760) I. 325 The pyx in which the host is kept, is made of lapis lazuli. 1850 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Ord.* 286 Clara..took from the altar the pix of ivory and silver which contained the Host. 1903 J. H. MATTHEWS *Mass & Folklore* iv. 63 A dove-shaped pyx of precious metal, suspended over the altar by a chain from the roof.

fig. a 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Bianca* xii, She lied,..And spat into my love's pure pyx The rank saliva of her soul.

3. At the Royal Mint, London, the box or chest in which specimen gold and silver coins are deposited to be tested at the *trial of the pyx*, i.e. the final official trial of the purity and weight of the coins, now conducted annually by a jury of the Goldsmiths' Company, under the direction of the King's Remembrancer.

1598 STOWE *Surv.* (1603) 55 To receyue them with an account, what summe had been coyned, and also their Pix, or Boxe of Assay. *a* 1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Misc. Poems* xxii, For gouerning the pix, A say-master hath studied all the tricks Of fineness and alloy. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1840) I. 311 This solemn weighing, by a word of art, they called the pix. 1745 LEAKE *Nummi Brit. Hist.* (ed. 2) 105 The trial or assay of the pix was established, as a check upon the master of the mint. 1789 *Chron.* in *Ann. Reg.* 230/2 Tuesday was held a trial of the pix of moneys coined at the Mint in the Tower of London. 1808 R. RUDING in *Archæol.* XVI. 165 The earliest notice of the pix which I have met with in any modern foreign mint is in the reign of Philip VI of France. 1870 *Act* 33 & 34 *Vict.* c. 10 § 12 A trial of the pyx shall be held at least once in every year in which coins have been issued from the Mint. 1871 (29 June) *Order in Council*, To make regulations respecting the trial of the Pyx. 1900 *Times* 5 July 7/3 The jurors' being [this year] called upon to examine not only the Pyx of the Mint of London, but that of the branch Mint of Perth, Western Australia, as well. 1901 (30 Jan.) (*title*) Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1901. *Ibid.* § 4 The coins to be set apart for the trial of the Pyx shall consist, in the case of gold coins, of one from every two thousand pieces ready for issue, instead of one from each journey weight as provided by 'the Trial of the Pyx Order in Council, 1871'.

† **4.** The mariner's compass, = PYXIS 3: cf. BOX *sb.*[2] 15 a. *Obs. rare.*

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 61, I see not that Natural Knowledge requires so exact a Pyx as Navigation useth. *c* 1710 BENTLEY in Hearne *Collect.* (O. H. S.) II. 460 Truth mix'd with error, shade with rays, Like Whiston, wanting pyx or stars, In ocean wide or sinks or strays.

5. *Anat.* The acetabulum; = PYXIS 2.

1864 in WEBSTER.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as, in sense 2, *pyx-canopy*; **pyx-cloth, -kerchief, -veil,** a cloth used to veil the pyx; in sense 3, *pyx-box, -chest*; **pyx-dinner, -feast,** an entertainment on the occasion of the trial of the pyx.

1833 R. MUSHET in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed 7) VII. 53/1 The other piece is ensealed in a packet, and put into a box, called a *pix box,..there to remain until the final trial of the pix by jury before the king. 1867 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XXXVIII. 107 There were two hundred and sixty three pyxes or deposits of gold coin in the Mint pyx-box. 1908 *Athenæum* 12 Sept. 21/3 A 'sacrament-house', which is supposed to have formerly swung as a kind of gigantic *pyx-canopy over the high altar. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 2 July 7/1 The *Pyx chest is brought to the hall and opened in the presence of a jury of goldsmiths, who examine the coins in regard to their number, weight, and fineness. 1496–7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 31 Item, a *pyx clothe for the hight auter, of Siper frenged with gold. 1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* 108 To make this pyx-cloth a piece of thick linen, about two feet square, was chosen. 1900 *Times* 3 July 7/3 The Goldsmiths' Company entertained in the evening all the officers engaged on the trial, together with the jurors and numerous other guests..at a banquet known as the '*Pyx Dinner'. 1697 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* 13 July (1857) IV. 251 Thursday next will be the *pix feast at Westminster, there being a jury of goldsmiths sworn to try all our money coyned in the Tower this last year.

Pyx (piks), *v.* [f. prec. sb.] *trans.* To place in a pyx. **a.** To reserve (the host) in a pyx. **b.** To deposit (specimen coins) in the pyx (PYX *sb.* 3); hence, To test (coin) by weight and assay. Hence **Pyxed** (piksd) *ppl. a.*, **Py·xing** *vbl. sb.*

a. 1546 BALE *First Exam. Anne Askewe* D ij, In al the xij. hondred yeares afore that was it neyther boxed nor pixed, honoured nor sensed unyuersallye. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* x. Pref. 890/2 Christ ordeined the supper to be a taking matter:..our masse men make it a matter not of taking, but of gasing, peping, pixing, boxing [etc.].

b. 1561 in *Rep. Comm. Roy. Mint* (1849) App. 22 After that the pyxed moneys is tolde by the teller. 1833 R. MUSHET in *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) VII. 52/2 This money..is carried to the mint office to undergo inspection, and to be pixed. 1866 *St. James' Mag.* Jan. 203 The finished and perfect coins are put up in bags of a given weight, ready for the final process of pyxing.

Pyxidate (pi·ksidēit), *a. Bot.* [ad. mod.L. *pyxidāt-us*, f. *pyxis, pyxidem* box: see -ATE [2] 2.] Having the form of a pyxis or pyxidium; opening, as a capsule, with a transverse slit; also, bearing pyxidia. Also, in same sense, **Py·xidated** *a.*

1753 CHAMBERS *Cycl. Supp.* s. v. *Heath-moss*, These [varieties of cup-mosses] are but very lightly pixidated, and the first of the two scarce distinguishably so. 1858 MAYNE *Expos. Lex., Pyxidatus*, having the form of a little box, as *Scyphorus pyxidatus*: pyxidate. 1897 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

‖ **Pyxidium** (piksi·diŭm). *Bot.* Pl. **pyxidia.** [mod.L., ad. Gr. *πυξίδιον*, dim. of *πυξίς* a box: see PYX.] A capsule opening by transverse dehiscence, so that the top comes off like the lid of a box.

1832 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 7) V. 42/1 When a capsule opens transversely, it is called a pyxidium. 1847 W. E. STEELE *Field Bot.* 123 Pimpernel...Fruit a pyxidium. 1857 HENFREY *Elem. Bot.* 143 The *Pyxidium* is a one- or more-celled, many-seeded fruit, the upper part of which falls off like a lid by circumscissile dehiscence.

‖ **Pyxis** (pi·ksis). Also 5, 8 **pixis.** Pl. **pyxides** (pi·ksidīz). [L. *pyxis*: see PYX.]

1. A small box or vase; a casket; = PYX 1, 2.

[1390 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 222 Item pro j pixide et tunder, fyryren et broches, j duc. xx s.]

1536 *Regr. Riches* in *Antiq. Sarish.* (1771) 190 Divers Pyxides of Ivory with clasps and without them, of silver, with many holy relicks. 1842 J. YATES in *Smith's Dict. Gr. & Rom. Antiq.* 812/2 Nero deposited his beard in a valuable pyxis, when he shaved for the first time. 1897 *Syd. Soc. Lex., Pyxis*, a small box for holding salves, medicines, etc. 1907 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 470 In ivory there is a cylindrical pyxis, pagan work of about the fourth century.

2. *Anat.* The acetabulum or socket of the hip-bone, into which the head of the thigh-bone is inserted.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 176 Eueri of hem haþ a box þat is clepid pixis, haunche & vertebrum sit þeron. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pyxis*, the Cavity of the Hip-bone, which is called *Acetabulum*. 1854–67 C. A. HARRIS *Dict. Med. Terminol., Pyxis*,..also, the acetabulum.

3. (In full *pyxis nautica*.) The mariner's compass. Also, the name of one of the southern constellations, often considered as part of Argo.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* I. xii. 61, I had not the accomodation of the Pyxis, nor any Horizontal Plate divided into more points of the Compass. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 177/2 *Pyxis nautica* (the Mariner's Compass), a southern constellation of Lacaille, placed in Argo.

4. *Bot.* **a.** = PYXIDIUM. † **b.** The theca of a moss. *Obs.* **c.** A cup-like dilatation of the podetium in lichens, having shields on its edge.

1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* i. (1858) 17 The *pyxis*, which throws off a cap, as in the Henbane. 1880 GRAY *Struct. Bot.* vii. § 2. 293 A Pyxis or Pyxidium is a dry fruit which opens by a circular line, cutting off the upper part as a lid.

5. *Zool.* **a.** A genus of land-tortoises, having as the only known species *Pyxis arachnoides* (Gray) of Madagascar and Mauritius. **b.** A genus of coleopterous insects, containing about 8 species (Dejean, 1834). † **c.** A synonym of *Productus*, a genus of Brachiopods (Chemnitz, 1784).

Pyynte, Pyzel(l, obs. ff. PINT, PIZZLE.

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